

# *United*

*for the benefit of all*

*DR Michel, Executive Director*  
*Laura Robinson, Policy Analyst*  
*Columbia Basin Aquatic Invasive Species Team*  
*Meeting*  
*December 2020*

# UCUT Member Tribes



- **Coeur d'Alene Tribe (ID):**  
*2,188 Members | 335,500 acres*
- **Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation (WA):**  
*9,353 Members | 1.4 million acres*
- **Kalispel Tribe of Indians (WA):**  
*409 Members | 6,994 acres*
- **Kootenai Tribe of Idaho:**  
*145 Members | 2,200 acres*
- **Spokane Tribe of Indians (WA):**  
*2,621 Members | 156,000 acres*



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UPPER COLUMBIA  
UNITED TRIBES

# *UCUT Mission Statement*

To Unite the Upper Columbia River Tribes for the protection, preservation, and enhancement of Treaty / Executive Order Rights, Sovereignty, Culture, Fish, Water, Wildlife, Habitat and other interests and issues of common concern in our respective territories through a structured process of cooperation for the benefit of all people.



# UCUT Priority



*Northern Pike caught by the Spokane Tribe of Indians*

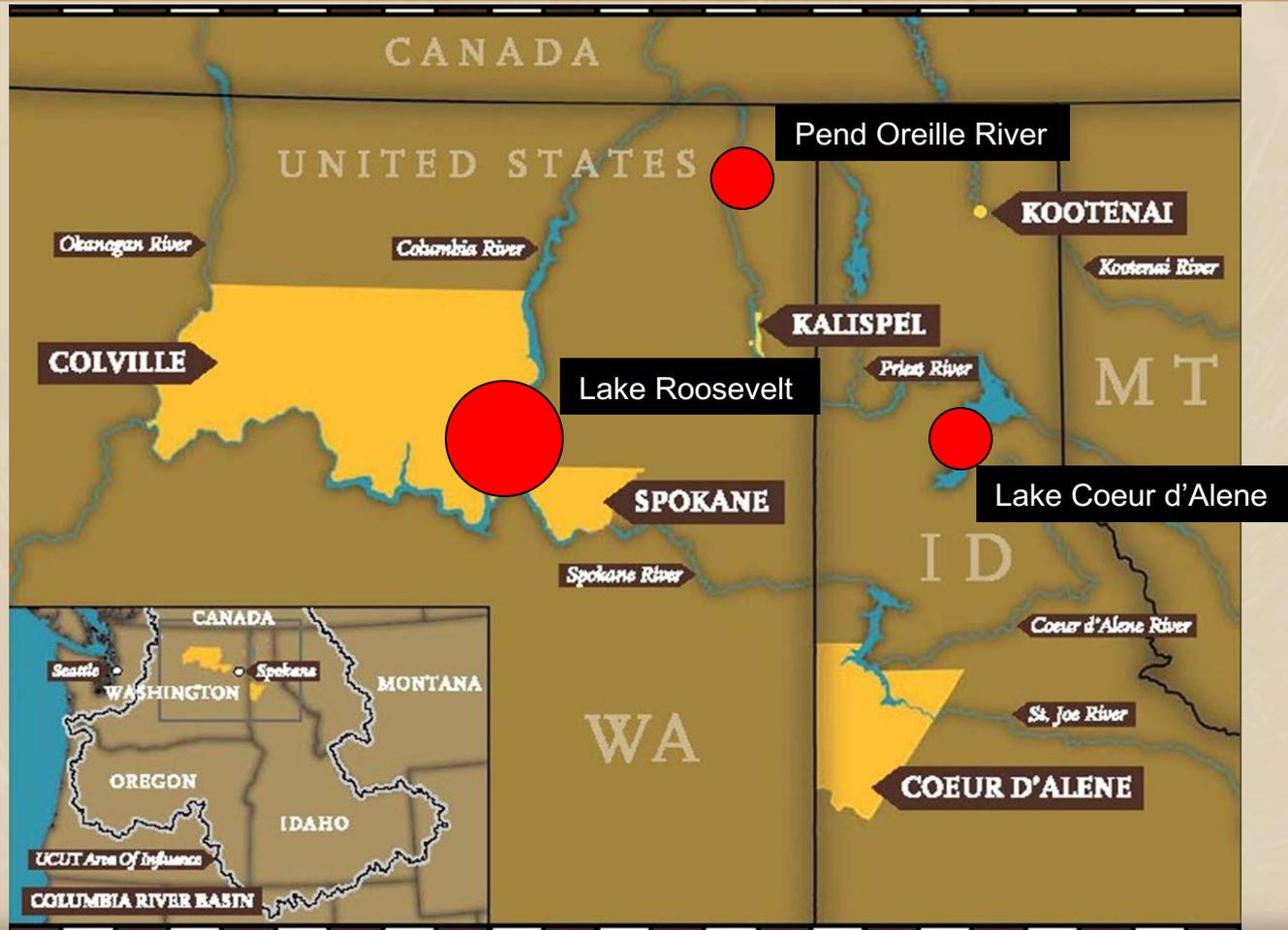


# UCUT Territories with Pike



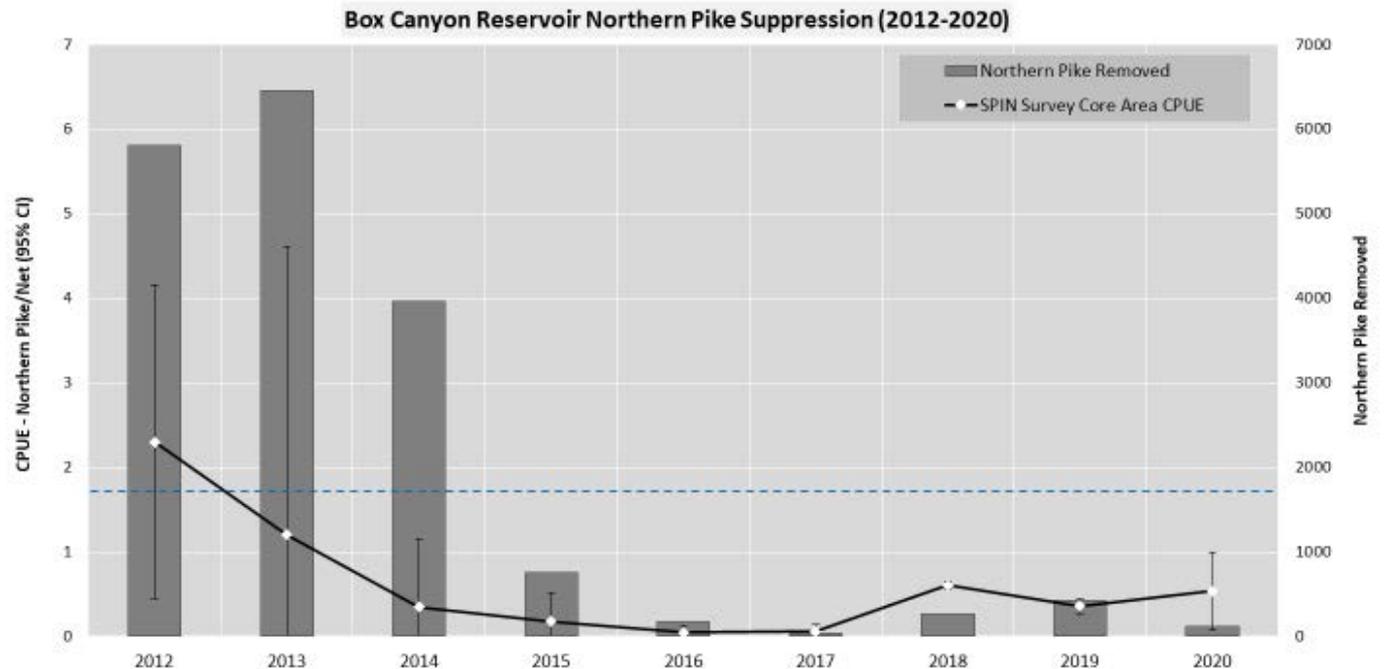
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# Kalispel Tribe Efforts



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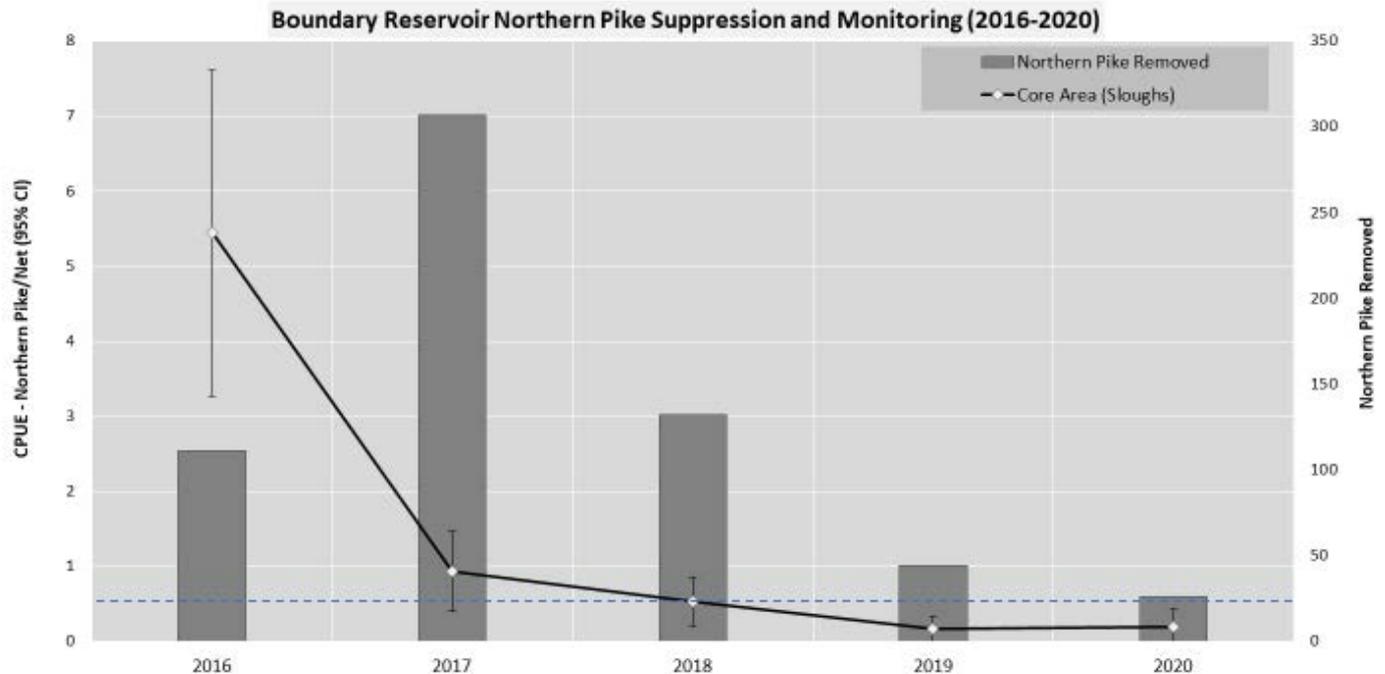
# Box Canyon Reservoir, WA



Dashed blue line is monitoring (SPIN) threshold for the "core area" of the reservoir: *Mean of 1.7 Northern Pike/net*



# Boundary Reservoir, WA

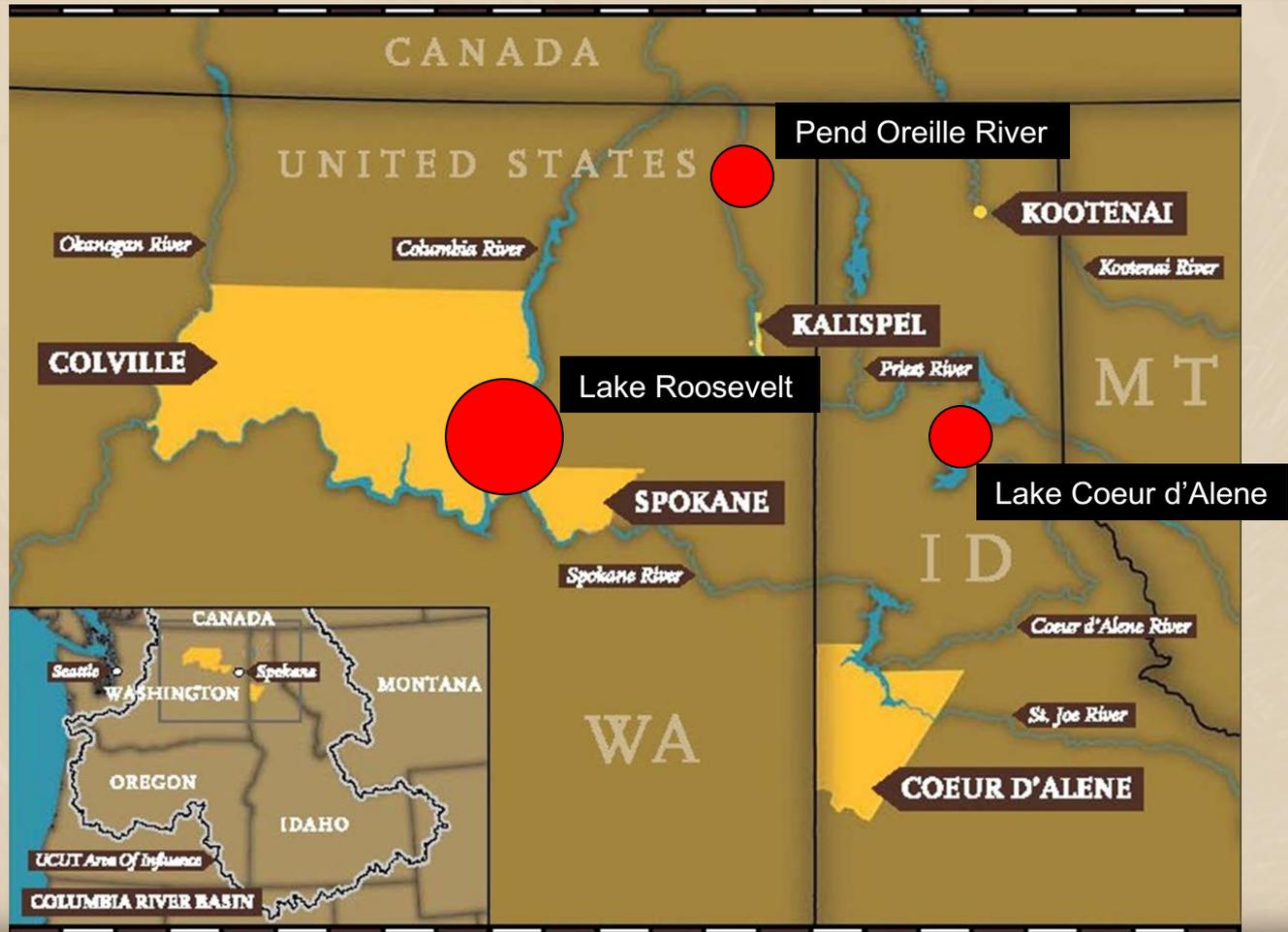


Dashed blue line is monitoring (SPIN) threshold for the reservoir: *Mean of 0.5 Northern Pike/net*



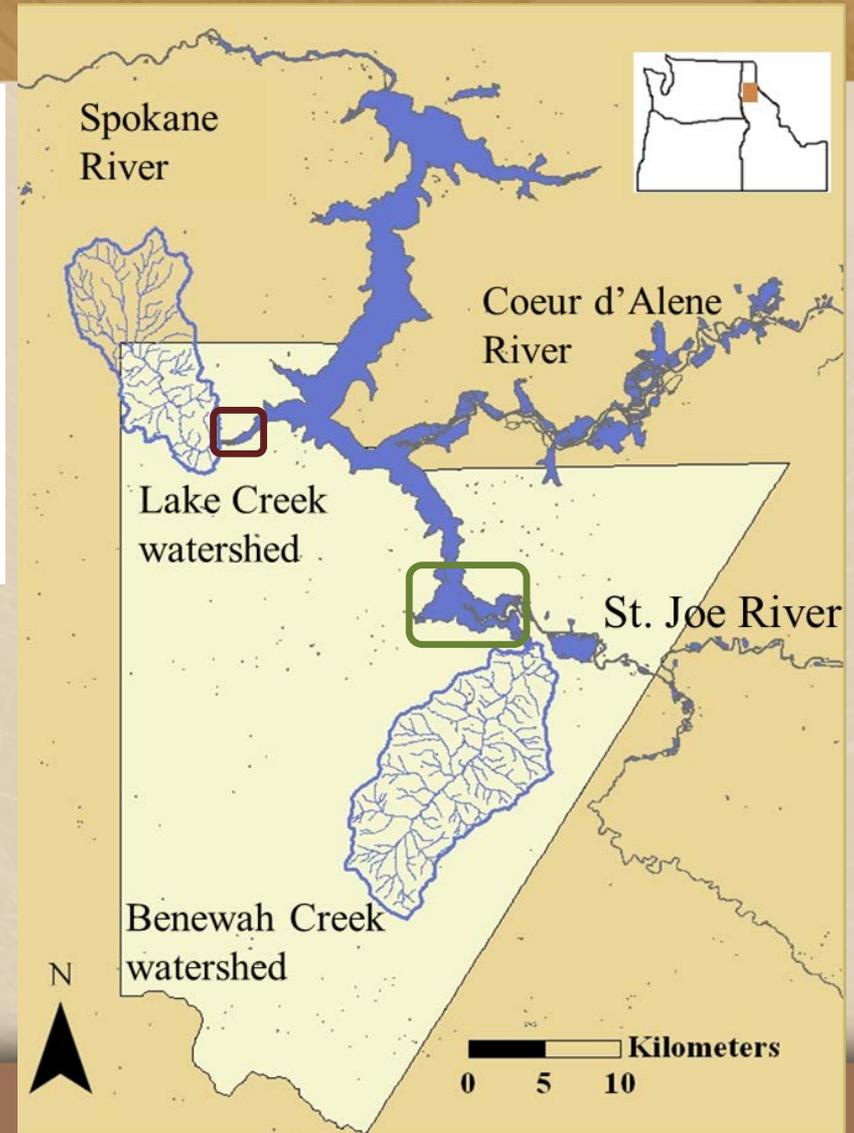
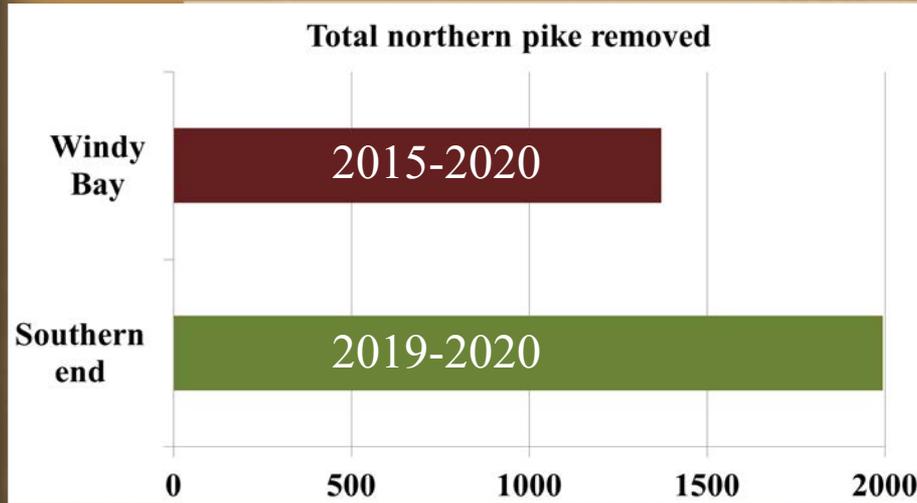
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# Coeur d'Alene Tribe Efforts



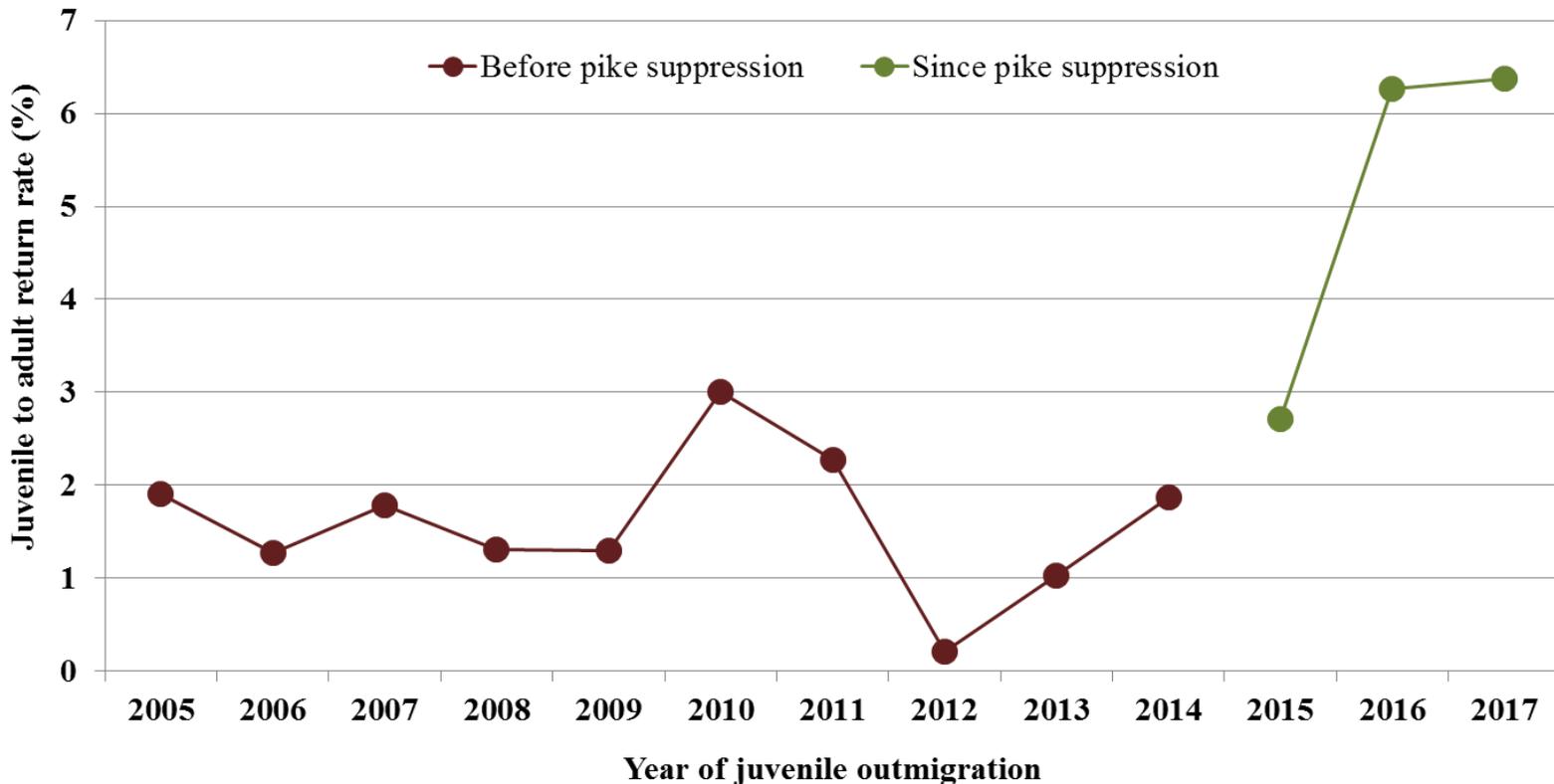
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# Lake Coeur d'Alene, ID



# Windy Bay of Lake Coeur d'Alene, ID

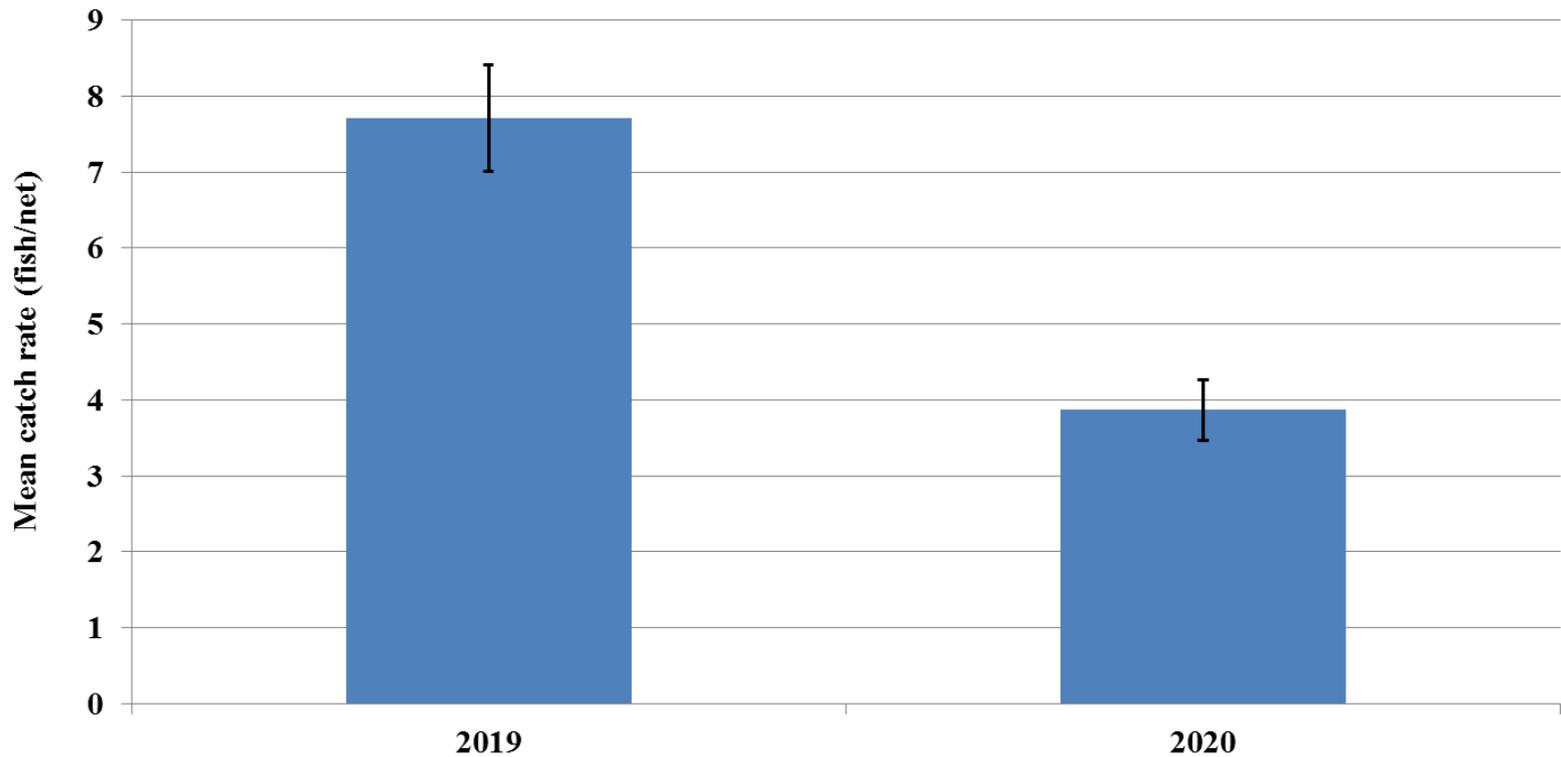
Lake Creek Cutthroat Trout response to suppression efforts



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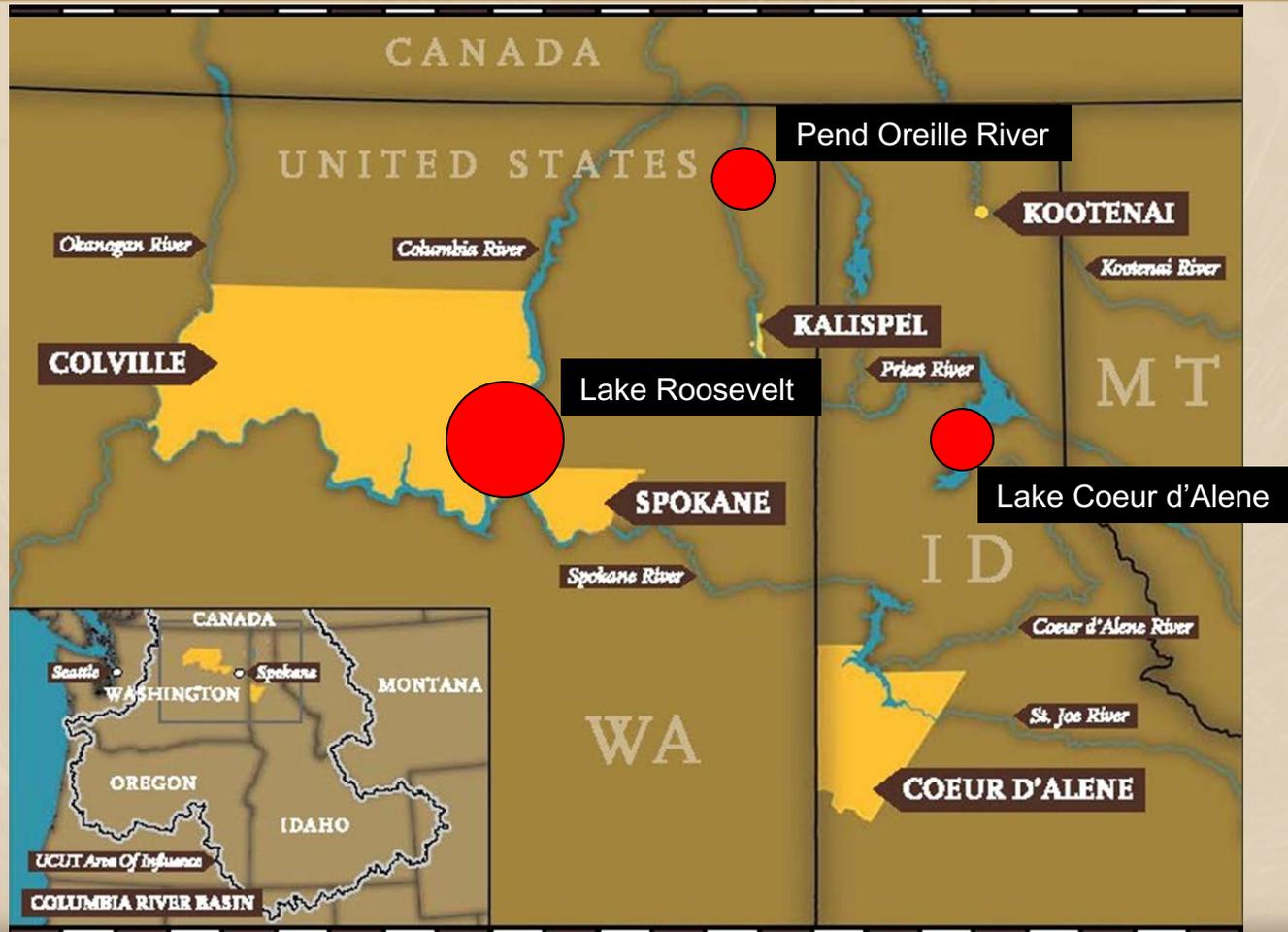
# *Southern end of Lake Coeur d'Alene, ID*

**Northern pike response to suppression efforts**



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# Spokane Tribe Efforts

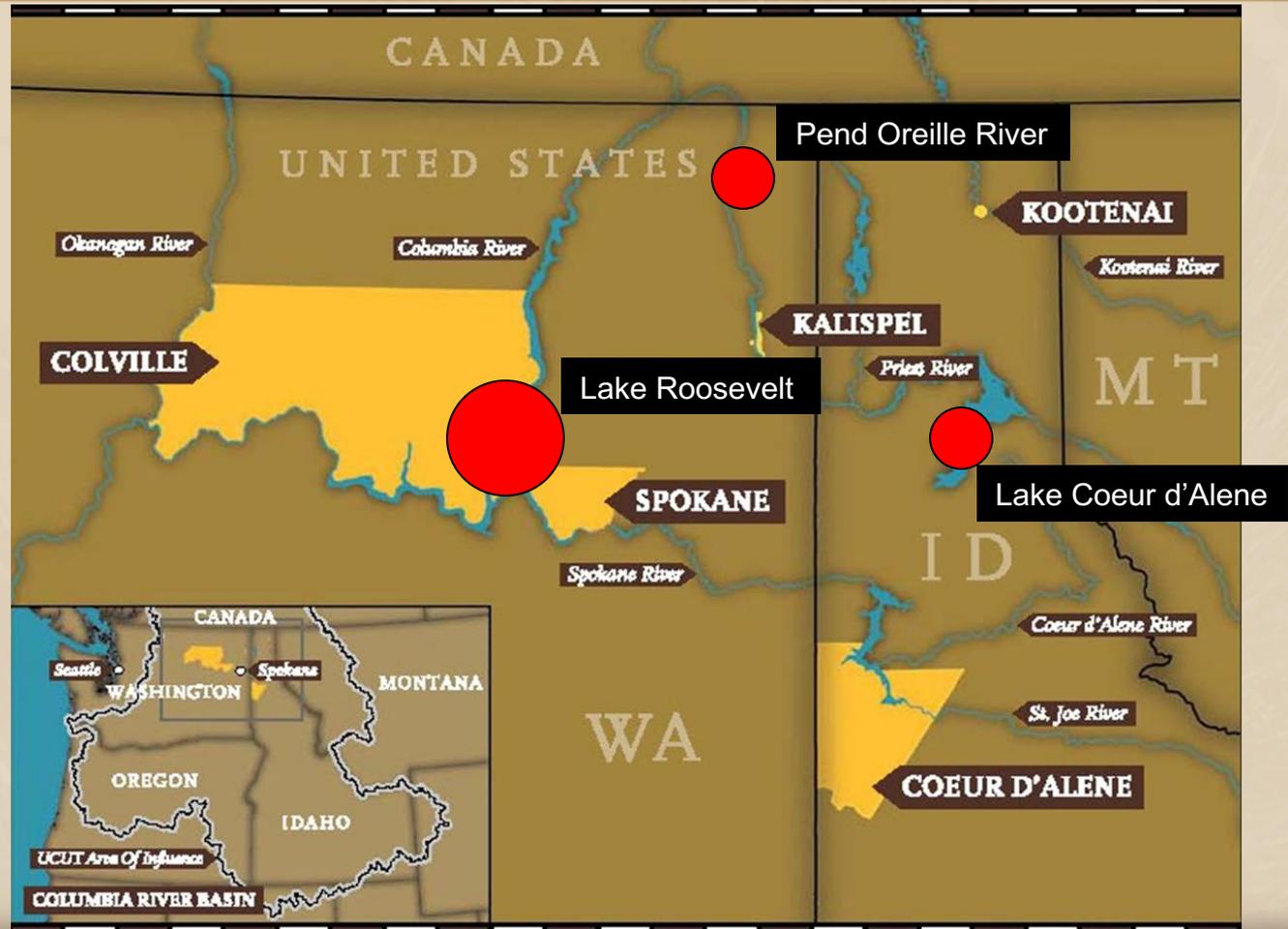


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# Lake Roosevelt Suppression



# Colville Tribe Efforts



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# Lake Roosevelt Suppression



# Lake Roosevelt Reward Program



## STOP THE SPREAD OF INVASIVE NORTHERN PIKE



Northern Pike (*Esox lucius*) are a Prohibited Species in Washington State. Anglers are encouraged to kill **ALL** Northern Pike caught. Harvested Northern Pike must be dead before anglers leave the water where they are caught.

**No minimum size or possession limit.**

Northern Pike are now present in Lake Roosevelt. This fish species is known to have negative impacts on native fish populations and popular sport fisheries. In addition, further spread of Northern Pike into downstream portions of the Columbia River poses a severe threat to Salmon and Steelhead recovery efforts.

**It is illegal to transport or release live fish without a WDFW permit.**

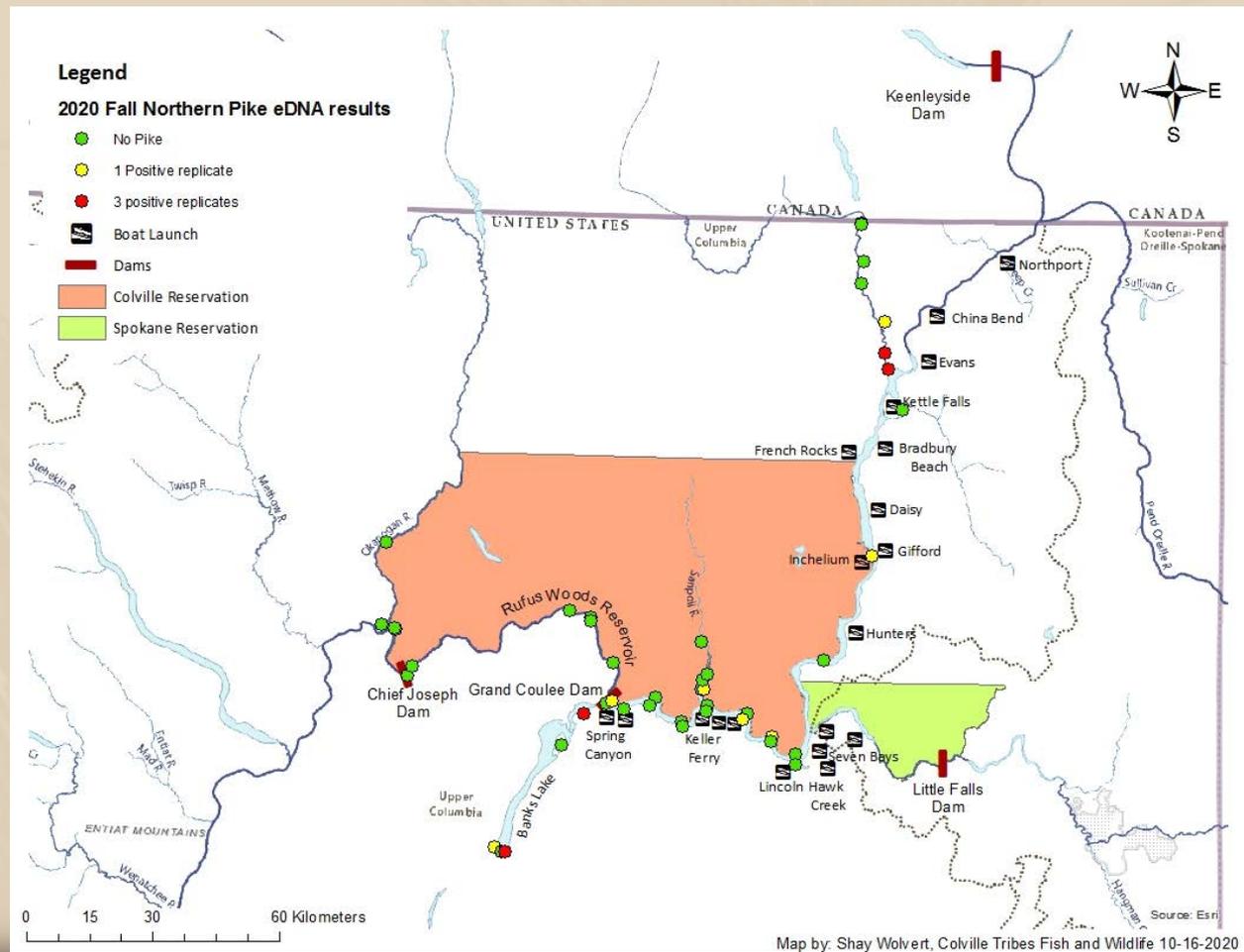
Penalty includes up to \$5,000 in Fines and A Year in Prison (RCW 77.15.250) and a person found guilty can also be ordered to pay all costs of capturing, controlling or killing those fish or their progeny (in excess of \$100,000).

If you see someone transporting or releasing live fish, please call the Washington State Patrol. They will contact the nearest WDFW officer.

Spokane County WSP Dispatch: 509-456-4101  
Stevens County WSP Dispatch: 509-684-7431



# eDNA Monitoring



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UNITED TRIBES

# UCUT Resolution



## UCUT RESOLUTION 2020-003 Northern Pike Resolution

**WHEREAS:** the Upper Columbia United Tribes is a duly constituted intertribal commission of the Coeur d'Alene Tribe, Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation, Kalispel Tribe of Indians, Kootenai Tribe of Idaho, and the Spokane Tribe of Indians, by authority of the Constitution and By-Laws for the Upper Columbia United Tribes (UCUT); and,

**WHEREAS:** under the Constitution and By-Laws of the UCUT, the UCUT Commission is charged with the duty of protection, preservation, and enhancement of Treaty/Executive Order Rights, sovereignty, culture, fish, water, wildlife, habitat, and other interests and issues of common concern; and,

**WHEREAS:** the UCUT Member Tribes manage nearly 2-million acres of reservation land and co-manage nearly 14-million acres of aboriginal territory; and,

**WHEREAS:** UCUT Member Tribes maintain management authority of the waters of their Reservations and off-Reservation areas; and,

**WHEREAS:** the UCUT Commission classifies Northern Pike, *Esox lucius*, as an aquatic invasive, non-native, prohibited species; and,

**WHEREAS:** the establishment and expansion of Northern Pike, throughout the Columbia Basin poses a serious threat to fish and wildlife resources important to the UCUT Member Tribes; and,

**WHEREAS:** the establishment and expansion of Northern Pike is exacerbated due to hydropower development and operations in the Columbia Basin and illegal introductions; and,

**WHEREAS:** UCUT Member Tribes actively implement measures to control Northern Pike, take action to reduce their spread, and prevent future invasions on the waters of their Reservations and off-Reservation areas; and,

**WHEREAS:** the UCUT Commission recognizes that consistent Northern Pike management and policies are necessary for the coordination and the success of measures implemented by the Member Tribes and other governments; and,

**WHEREAS:** the UCUT Commission acknowledges that adequate funding for Northern Pike is a high priority; and,

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:** that in light of collaborative efforts, the UCUT Commission advocates all appropriate agencies to fully fund the prevention, control, and eradication efforts identified in UCUT management of Northern Pike; and,

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** that the UCUT Commission will work with UCUT Member Tribes to develop Northern Pike policy that could be adopted by the UCUT Commission and all Member Tribes.

### CERTIFICATION

The Upper Columbia United Tribes adopted the foregoing RESOLUTION at a regular meeting held on the 15th day of June, 2020, at Spokane, Washington, with the required quorum present, by a vote of 5 FOR, 0 AGAINST, 0 ABSTAIN, 0 ABSENT.

Darrell Sam, Chairman, Upper Columbia United Tribes

Motion: Gary Aitken Jr.  
Second: Nick Pierre  
Voting Record: 5-0-0-0



UCUT  
UPPER COLUMBIA  
UNITED TRIBES

# UCUT Resolution



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Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission

1730 North Way 1, Olympia, Washington 98514-5040  
Phone (360) 488-1180 www.nifc.org FAX # 360-488-3009

October 3, 2020

Jared Erickson, Chair  
Upper Columbia United Tribes  
23 W. Main, Suite 434  
Spokane, WA 99201

Re: Support for Removal and Suppression Efforts of Northern Pike in the Columbia River Basin

Dear Chairman Erickson:

The Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission (NIFC) extends support for your efforts to enhance and further implement removal and suppression efforts of northern pike in the Columbia River Basin and within the reservation and off-reservation areas of the member tribes of UCUT. We recognize the necessary and valuable actions of the UCUT, particularly as it relates to our shared missions in protecting and restoring salmon populations for our tribal nations throughout the state, as well as our shared intertribal efforts in protecting and restoring watersheds and ecosystems that are home to the natural resources that are so integral to tribal communities, economies, and cultural ways of life.

The northern pike are an extremely harmful and destructive invasive species and efforts to further control their populations and removal should be implemented to the greatest extent possible. The state of common in Washington continues to face predation factors and habitat destruction that have only further exacerbated recovery efforts. Invasive species, such as the northern pike, contribute to these limiting factors of predation and habitat destruction through their consuming of key tributaries and spawning habitats for native fish, including salmon.

Moreover, once established, northern pike are highly piscivorous early in life and can consume 70% of their body length, including feeding on juvenile and adult salmonids. Their highly adaptable nature makes them a threat to other rivers and watersheds in Washington, including coastal rivers and the Salish Sea. Evidence of northern pike in Alaska, for example, further exemplify this threat as pike have been shown to migrate through tributaries in the Cook Inlet of Alaska, further indicating their ability to colonize coastal rivers via ocean migration. Thus, northern pike not only threaten the viability of salmon populations and the health of our watersheds, but their impacts on salmon and salmon habitat therefore also impact Southern Resident Killer Whales (SRKW) prey base and prey availability, particularly those stocks in the Columbia River that are critical to SRKW migration and breeding.



THE CONFEDERATED SALISH AND KOOTENAI TRIBES OF THE PLATEAU NATION

P.O. Box 778  
Palo, Montana 59611  
409-273-7778  
FAX 409-273-2806  
www.cskt.org



A Confederation of the Salish,  
Kootenai and Lemhi Tribes

October 1, 2020

Jared Erickson, Chair  
Upper Columbia United Tribes  
23 W. Main Ave. 434  
Spokane, WA 99201

Dear Chairman Erickson,

The Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes (CSKT) share your concerns with non-native predatory fish species and their effects on native fishes. There is concern throughout the Lake Trout region as the mid-catchment around the ENA fishing of Bull Trout because of the predation impacts on Lake Trout. Although in Idaho and Washington State, Bull Trout have suffered as well. Large rivers such as the Lake Trout region, the Kootenai and Columbia Basins. We strongly encourage you to take necessary steps to Lake Trout to live. For many complex reasons, we were able to meet before the Lake Trout population approach carrying capacity.

Lake Trout and Northern Pike have been the primary system for decades before an ecological change in the food chain caused the expansion of these predatory fish and subsequently negative impacts on native fish. These non-native fish were released by sport fishermen, boats, public land and down in moving fish. Now, we are pushing back with a very active and expensive suppression program on Lake Trout. Although in Idaho and Washington State, Bull Trout have suffered as well and the expanding population immediately and more successfully to date. The difference was that, in those years, there was no introduction with an angle following and they could never return.

CSKT are also trying to suppress Northern Pike but not with an active suppression program because they are clearly not the limiting factor on native trout like Lake Trout are. The CSKT have removed and released several hundred Northern Pike. We have learned that suppression to be successful, aggressive removal tactics must be deployed at the early stages of invasion. This takes action and funding. Early action also helps the complete removal or at least lower the long-term costs of an effective suppression program for the long-term. The potential impact of our using quick and the threat to salmon populations is just simply uncalculable. We fully support any amount to get the necessary funding needed to address the issue of Northern Pike expanding and breeding established in the lower Columbia River.

Respectfully,

  
Rick Jensen is SRK  
National Resources Department Head  
Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes



UPPER SNAKE RIVER TRIBES FOUNDATION, INC.

413 W. Main Street, Suite 101, Boise, Idaho 83702  
(208) 333-7888

Chairman Jared Erickson  
Upper Columbia United Tribes  
23 W. Main Ave. 434  
Spokane, WA 99201

September 3, 2020

Re: Upper Snake River Tribes Foundation Support of the Upper Columbia United Tribes Northern Pike Resolution 2020-003

Dear Chairman Erickson:

The Upper Snake River Tribes (USRT) Foundation is composed of five federally recognized Indian tribes of the Upper Snake River region in Idaho, Nevada, and Oregon: the Burns Paiute Tribe, Fort McDowell-Paiute-Shoshone Tribe, Shoshone-Bannock Tribe of the Fort Hall Reservation, and Shoshone-Paiute Tribes of the Duck Valley Reservation. The five tribes have common shared interests to protect rights reserved through the United States Constitution, federal treaties, federal executive orders, and the Fort Boise Treaty of 1864, Bruneau Treaty of 1866, and Malheur Treaty of 1864), executive orders, inherent rights, and aboriginal title to the land, which has never been extinguished by USRT member tribes. USRT wishes to ensure the preservation, subsistence, and protection of the tribes' rights, resources, cultural practices, and practices and that these rights remain intact. These include but are not limited to hunting, fishing, gathering, subsistence use, and religious and ceremonial activities.

The establishment and expansion of Northern Pike (*Esox lucius*) throughout the Columbia River Basin poses a threat to fish and wildlife resources. Northern Pike are not native to the Columbia River Basin or within the boundaries of the states of Washington, Idaho, and Oregon. Northern Pike have been shown to be highly invasive and have established non-native populations in over 15 states and parts of Canada. Northern Pike also consistently occupy several spawning habitats in the upper Columbia River and most of Lake Roosevelt. Northern Pike have been captured as close as an entire spawning of Grand Coulee Dam. Spawning runs that destroy native fishes have been the anomalous waters of the Columbia River. Northern Pike are highly adaptable and have colonized and spread in Lake Roosevelt despite unsuitable spawning habitat and low population growth, where one adult female can produce up to 250,000 eggs. They have also been known to migrate through tributaries in the Cook Inlet of Alaska, indicating their ability to colonize coastal rivers via the ocean. Additionally, northern pike are omnivorous predators who become highly piscivorous to fish with the ability to consume up to 70% of their body length, and devouring juvenile and adult salmonids as well as other sport fish.

September 2020

Upper Snake River Tribes Foundation



# Coeur d'Alene Tribe Resolution

LAW AND ORDER  
REVISE AMEND TRIBAL CODE, CHAPTER 20,  
SECTIONS: 20-3.01, 20-8.01 & 20-18.01 CD'A RESOLUTION 125 (2020)

WHEREAS, the Coeur d'Alene Tribal Council has been empowered to act for and on behalf of the Coeur d'Alene Tribe pursuant to the revised Constitution and By-Laws adopted by the Coeur d'Alene Tribe by referendum November 10, 1984, and approved by the Secretary of the Interior, Bureau of Indian Affairs, December 21, 1984; and

WHEREAS the Coeur d'Alene Tribal Council has a responsibility to ensure the safety and well-being of its tribal members; and

WHEREAS the Tribal Council has the authority to enact laws and policies regarding the submerged lands and waters within the Coeur d'Alene Reservation including the authority to regulate hunting, fishing and trapping within the Coeur d'Alene Reservation.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED That the Coeur d'Alene Tribal Council hereby approves the Amendments to Chapter 20, Sections 20-3.01, 2 & 20-18.01 to read as follows:

20-3.01 Definitions

Insert:

(15) Invasive and Prohibited Species: Species that are not indigenous to the Reservation area, and are considered to have severe and deleterious impacts on resources that are important to the Tribe. For purposes of this Chapter, those species outlined by State of Idaho regulations as "Invasive" or "Prohibited" are herein adopted by reference unless otherwise adopted and defined by Tribal regulations.

- (a) Northern Pike – *Esox Lucius*
- (b) Muskellunge – *Esox masquinongy*
- (c) Any hybrids of the above species

20-18.01 Unlawful Possession of Game

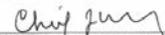
- (F) It shall be unlawful to waste and abandon sizeable, useful and edible portions of game and fish to feed such game to dogs, or other domestic animals, or throw away or dispose of edible portions or quantities of fish, game animals or game birds. Insert: Exceptions to this rule are those fish classified as invasive or prohibited.

Tribal Code Amendment, Chapter 20  
Resolution 125 (2020),  
09/10/2020,  
Page 1 of 2

Insert: (G) It shall be unlawful to have a live northern pike or muskellunge, or a hybrid of the two species, in possession when on the Reservation or on tribally managed waters of Coeur d'Alene Lake.

CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted at a meeting of the Coeur d'Alene Tribal Council held at the Tribal Headquarters Building, 850 A Street, Plummer, Idaho on September 10, 2020, with the required quorum present by a vote of 6 FOR 0 AGAINST 0 ABSTAIN 0 OUT

  
CHIEF J. ALLAN, CHAIRMAN  
COEUR D'ALENE TRIBAL COUNCIL

  
GENE H. JAMES, SECTREASURER  
COEUR D'ALENE TRIBAL COUNCIL

Tribal Code Amendment, Chapter 20  
Resolution 125 (2020),  
09/10/2020,  
Page 2 of 2



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# ATNI Resolution



## 2020 Virtual Annual Convention

RESOLUTION #2020-37

### NORTHERN PIKE IN THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST

#### PREAMBLE

We, the members of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians of the United States, invoking the divine blessing of the Creator upon our efforts and purposes, in order to preserve for ourselves and our descendants rights secured under Indian Treaties, Executive Orders, and benefits to which we are entitled under the laws and constitution of the United States and several states, to enlighten the public toward a better understanding of the Indian people, to preserve Indian cultural values, and otherwise to promote the welfare of the Indian people, do hereby establish and submit the following resolution:

**WHEREAS**, the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians (ATNI) are representatives of and advocates for national, regional, and specific tribal concerns; and

**WHEREAS**, ATNI is a regional organization comprised of American Indians/Alaska Natives and tribes in the states of Washington, Idaho, Oregon, Montana, Nevada, Northern California, and Alaska; and

**WHEREAS**, the health, safety, welfare, education, economic and employment opportunity, and preservation of cultural and natural resources are primary goals and objectives of the ATNI; and

**WHEREAS**, ATNI classifies Northern Pike, *Esox lucius*, as an aquatic invasive, non-native, prohibited species when not in their historical range; and

**WHEREAS**, the establishment and expansion of Northern Pike outside of their historic range poses a serious threat to fish and wildlife resources; and

**WHEREAS**, the establishment and expansion of Northern Pike outside of their historic range is exacerbated due to hydropower development and operations and, illegal introductions; and

**WHEREAS**, it is important to actively implement measures to control Northern Pike, take action to reduce their spread, and prevent future invasions on Reservation waters and off-Reservation areas; and

**WHEREAS**, ATNI recognizes that consistent Northern Pike management and policies are necessary for the coordination and the success of measures implemented by Tribes and other governments; and

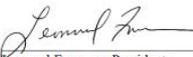
**WHEREAS**, ATNI acknowledges that adequate funding for Northern Pike is a high priority; now

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that ATNI does hereby advocate all appropriate agencies to fully fund research, prevention, control, and eradication efforts for Northern Pike; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that ATNI does hereby commit to developing strategies to further Tribal, regional, state, and federal policy as it relates to the prevention and suppression of Northern Pike.

#### CERTIFICATION

The foregoing resolution was adopted at the 2020 Virtual Annual Convention of the Affiliated Tribes of Northwest Indians, Portland, Oregon, on October 5 – 8, 2020, with a quorum present.

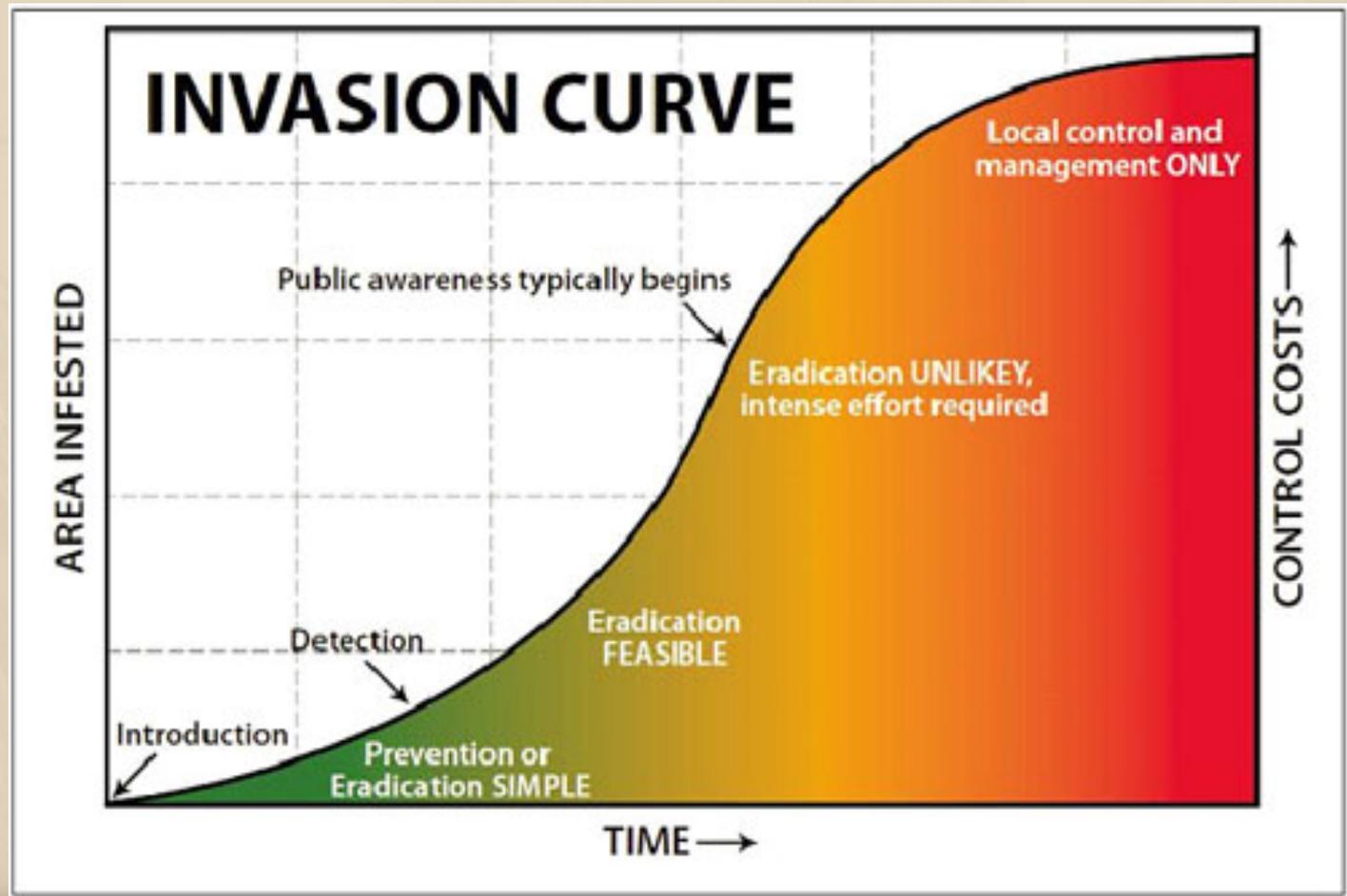
  
Leonard Forsman, President

  
Norma Jean Louie, Secretary



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# Act NOW to Reduce Spread



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# *What the CB AIS Team Can Do*

- Share the resolutions and continue to spread the word
- Collaborate with the UCUT Tribes, Washington, and Idaho
- Increase tools for early detection, prevention, and management
- Hold agencies accountable
- Continue to hold the pressure



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UNITED TRIBES



# Thank you

DR Michel  
Executive Director

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509.954.7631

Laura Robinson  
Policy Analyst

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503.970.4015

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