

# Pacific Northwest Northern Pike Forum and Coordinating Group Update :

Northern Pike (*Esox lucius*)



# Northern Pike

(*Esox lucius*)



- Voracious ambush predator
  - Can consume prey (fish, ducks, bats, etc.) up to 60% of their body length
- State record in Montana
  - ~40 lbs and ~4 feet long!
- Non-native in Columbia River Basin outside of Saskatchewan River drainage in Montana
  - Introduced elsewhere legally and illegally

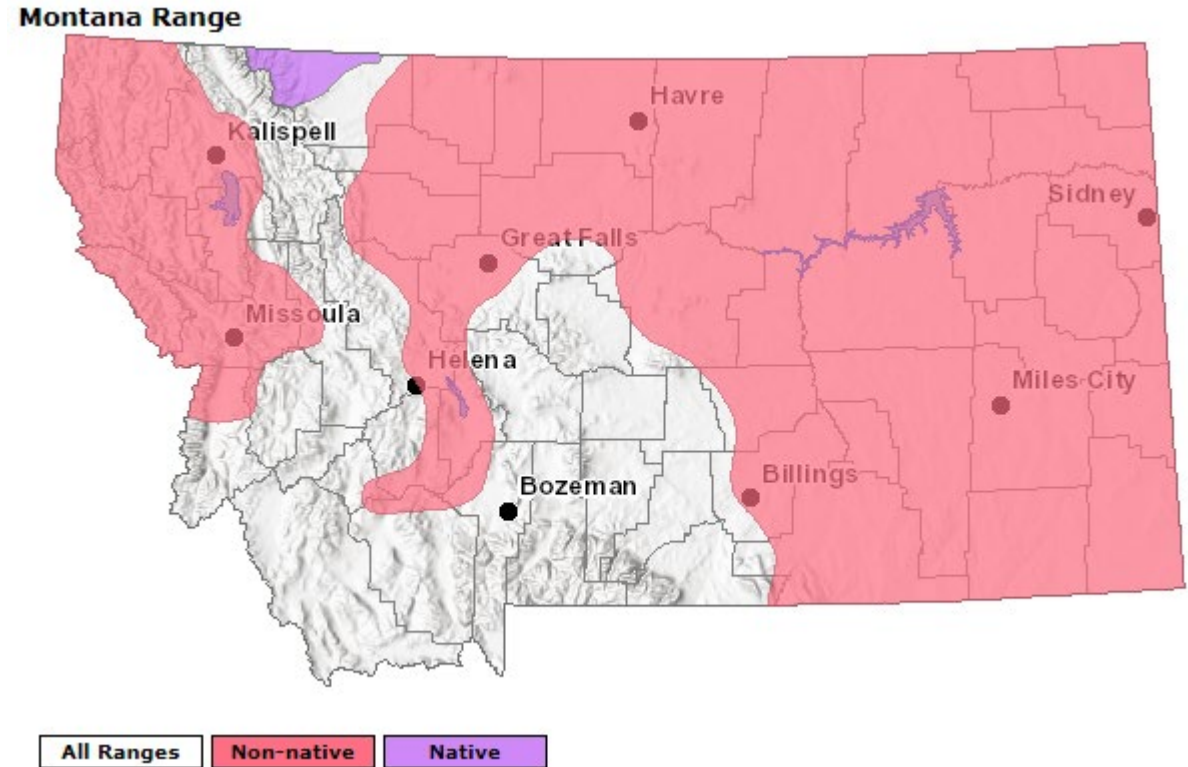


Image Credit: <http://fieldguide.mt.gov>

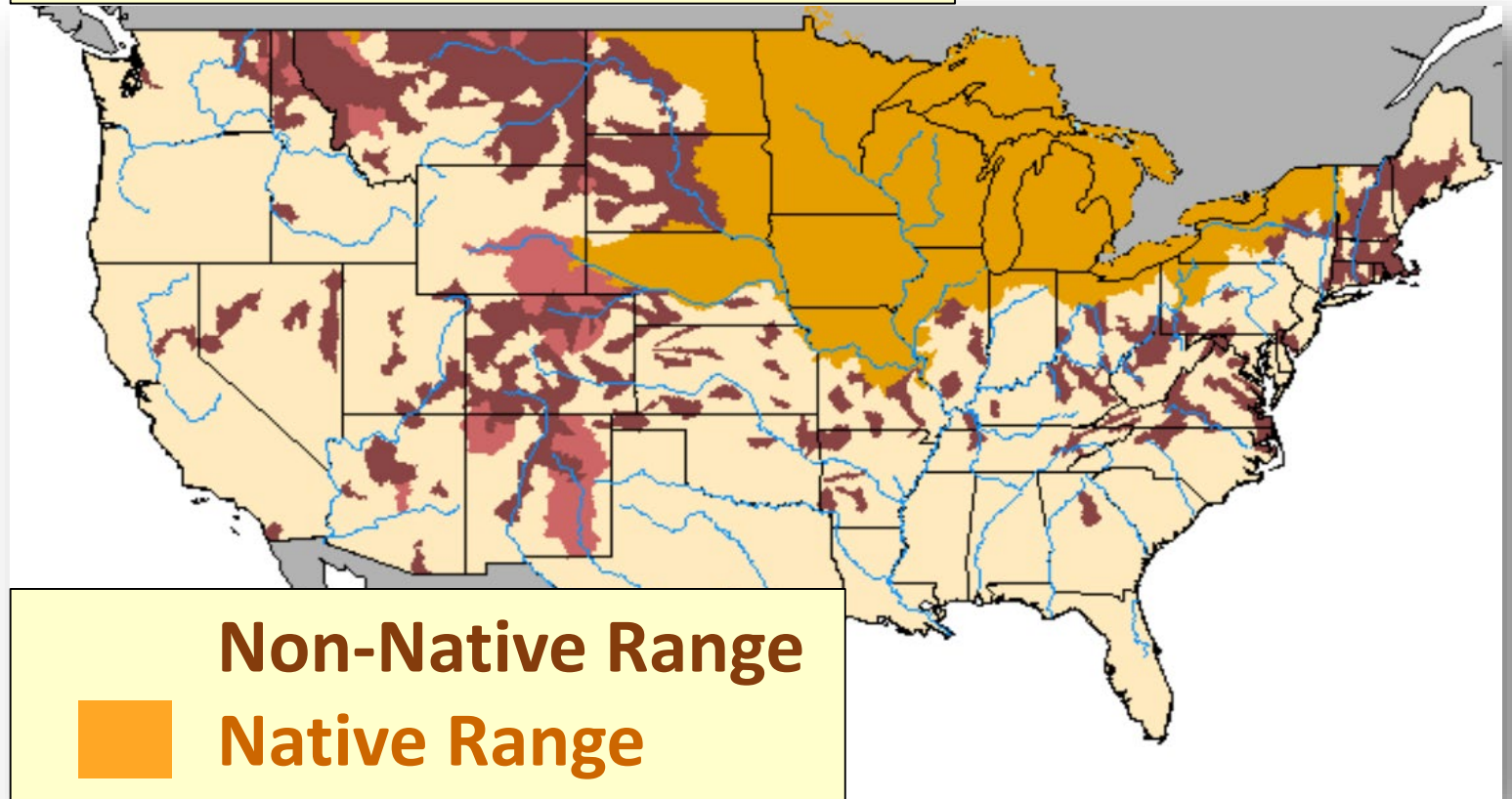
# Northern Pike

(*Esox lucius*)

- Montana
  - Native and Introduced Game Fish
- Idaho
  - Introduced Game Fish
- British Columbia
  - Native Game Fish and Invasive Species
- Washington
  - Invasive Species
- Oregon
  - Invasive Species
- Alaska
  - Native Game Fish and Invasive Species



## Northern Pike Native Range



Map created on 5/6/2017, United States Geological Survey



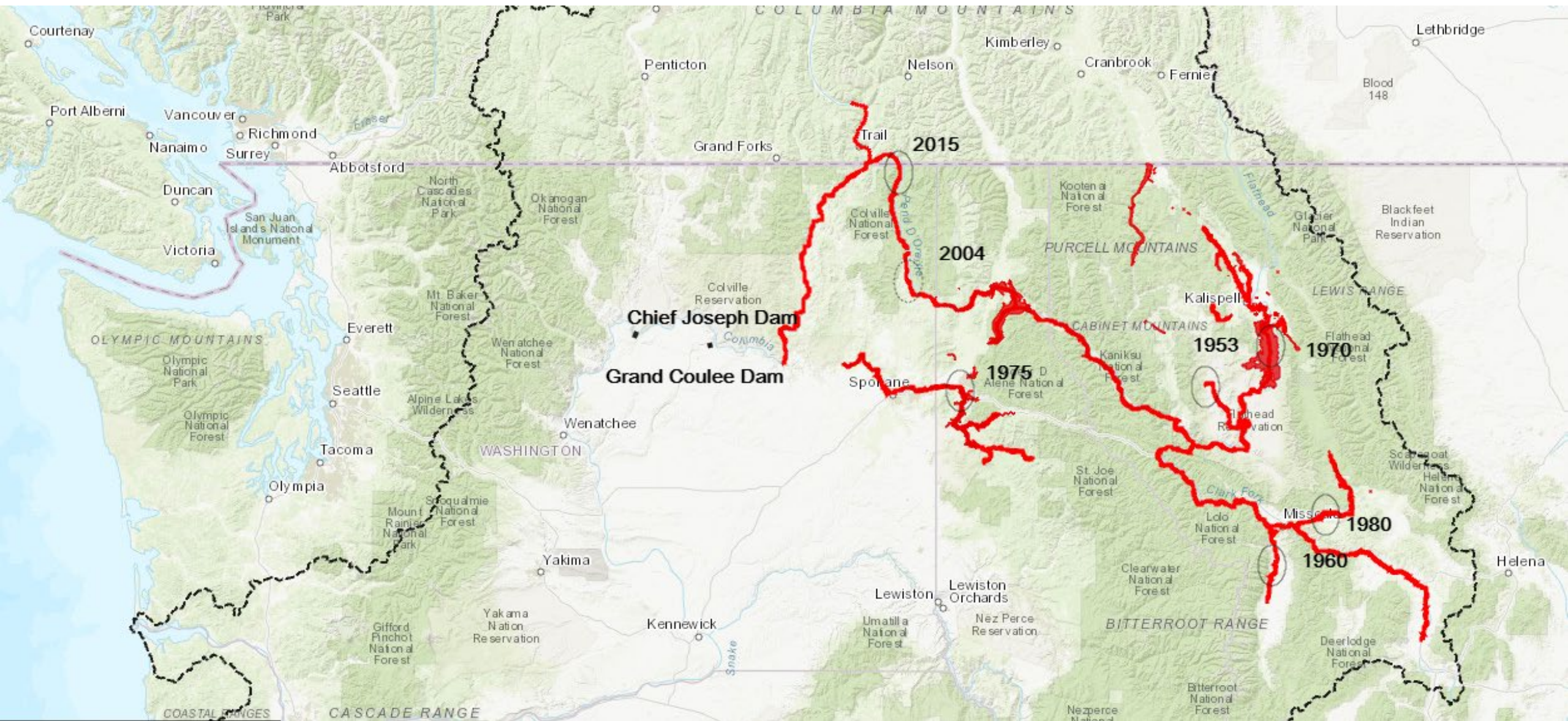


Image Credit: State of Washington Governor's Salmon Recovery Office





Image Credit: State of Washington Governor's Salmon Recovery Office



Northern pike are only two dams away (~58 river miles) from important Columbia River salmon spawning habitat, where Washington has invested billions in salmon and steelhead recovery.



Northern Pike   
Chinook Salmon 



Image Credit: State of Washington Governor's Salmon Recovery Office





Image Credit:  
Dave Rutz (retired), Alaska  
Department of Fish & Game

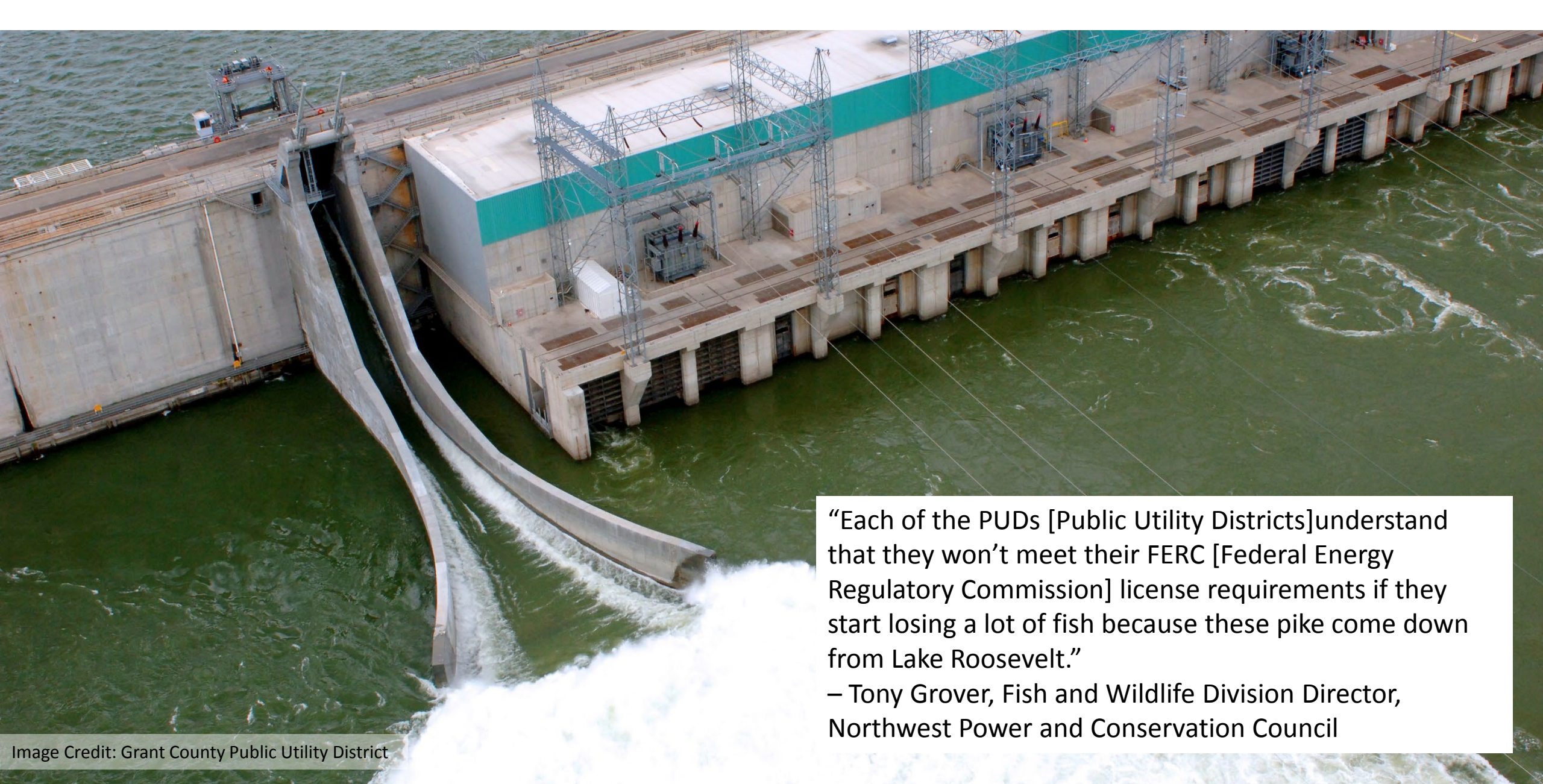


Image Credit: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers



“The Hatcheries Division is the largest single component of WDFW's [Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife's] Fish Program, with 298 FTE employees and a total operating budget of \$63.9-million during the 2011-2013 Biennium, including \$11.1-million from the State General Fund. ”





“Each of the PUDs [Public Utility Districts] understand that they won’t meet their FERC [Federal Energy Regulatory Commission] license requirements if they start losing a lot of fish because these pike come down from Lake Roosevelt.”

– Tony Grover, Fish and Wildlife Division Director,  
Northwest Power and Conservation Council

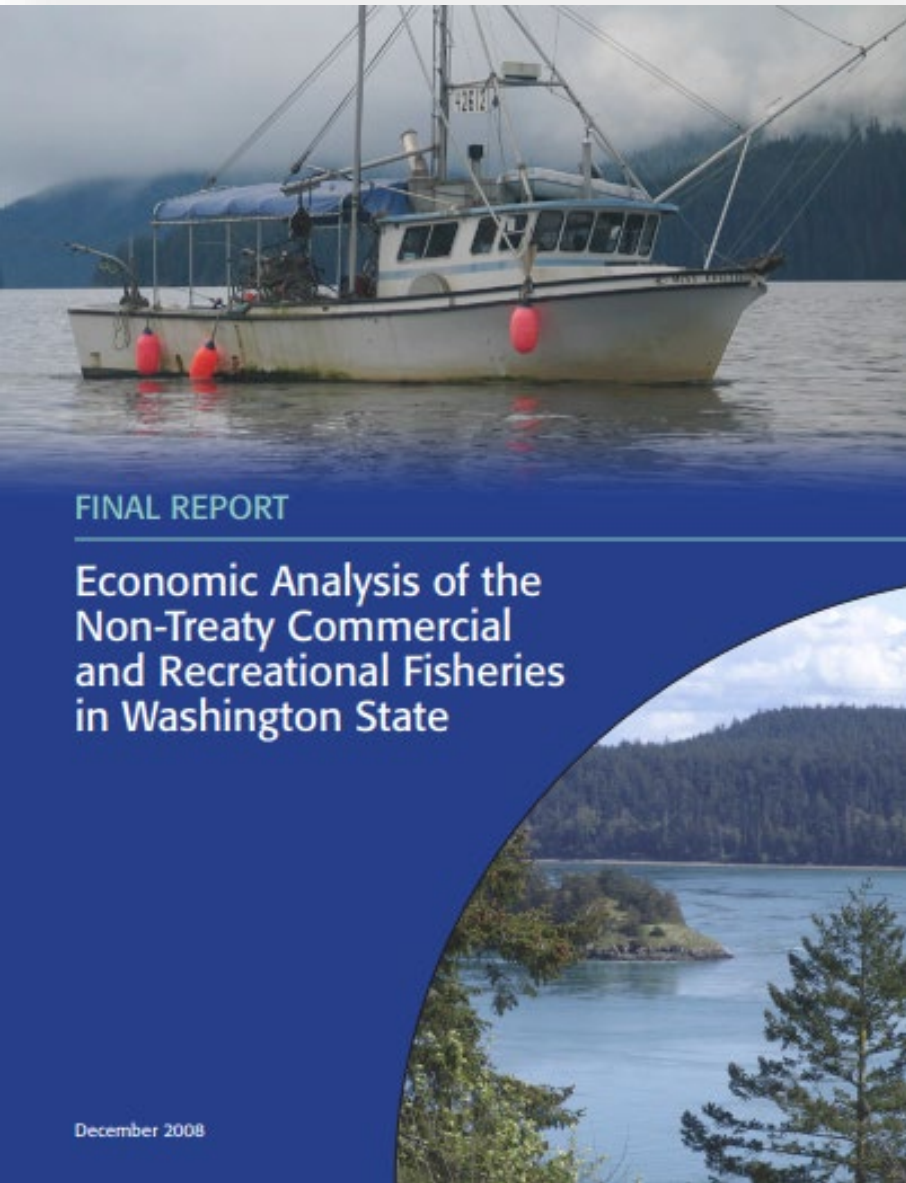
Image Credit: Grant County Public Utility District



Image Credit:  
Columbia River Intertribal Fisheries Commission







FINAL REPORT

# Economic Analysis of the Non-Treaty Commercial and Recreational Fisheries in Washington State

December 2008







WA Governor's Office

News and updates from Gov. Jay Inslee  
and his administration.

Mar 14 · 5 min read

## Inslee signs executive order to protect orcas, Chinook salmon

Both species are iconic to  
Washington and a vital part of  
tourism, maritime industries

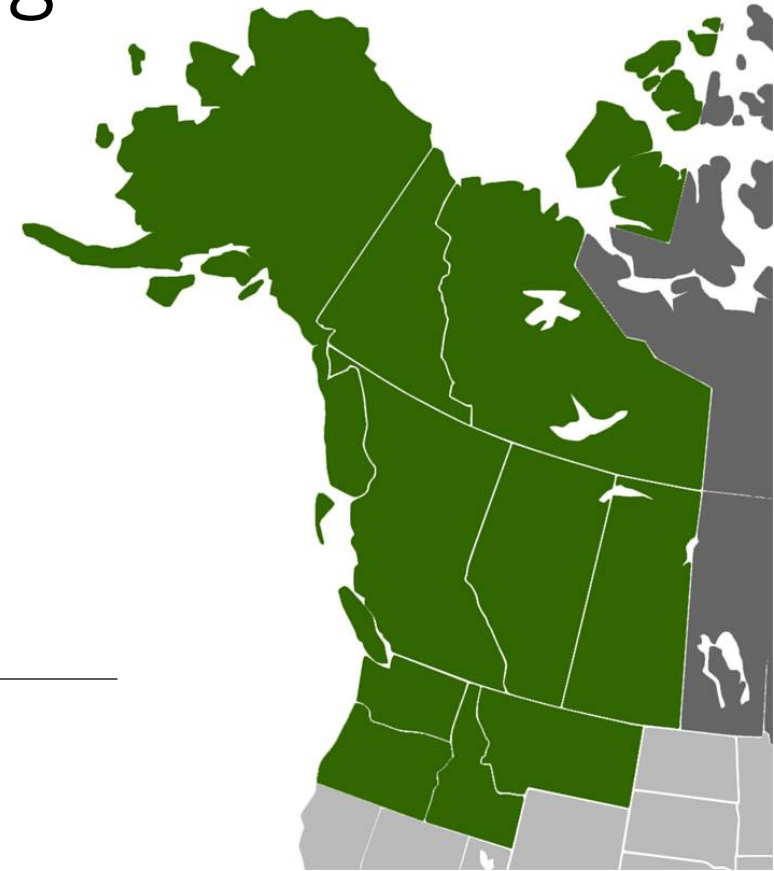
“The research now points to the Columbia River being one of the critical sources of Chinook salmon to this population [Southern Resident Killer Whales]. In the winter months they are right off the mouth of the Columbia River feeding on spring Chinook”  
– Ben Enticknap, Senior Scientist, Oceana



# Pacific Northwest Northern Pike Forum and Coordination Meeting



July 14, 2018  
1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.





# Known Risks and Potential Impacts



## Fish Harvest

### Tribal Harvest

- Tribal harvest valued at ~\$270K annually.
  - Kenaitze, Ninilchik, Eklutna, Knik tribal educational fisheries and Tyonek subsistence salmon fishery

### Commercial Harvest

- Commercial fishing industry valued at \$1.2 billion annually.
  - Cook Inlet and Prince William Sound commercial fisheries

### Recreational Harvest

- Recreational fishing industry valued at \$733 million per year.
  - Cook Inlet region recreational fisheries

## Species Recovery

- More than \$4.1 million invested in salmon and trout recovery since 2011.
  - Pike suppression and eradication projects (not including permanent staff time)

## Fish Hatchery Production and Returns

- More than \$2 million invested into hatchery production annually
  - Supports recreational fisheries in the Upper Cook Inlet Region

Cook Inlet Basin in Soutcentral Alaska where pike are not native and are considered an invasive species



## State of Alaska (region where pike are not native)



# Known Risks and Potential Impacts



## Fish Harvest

### Tribal Fisheries

- Commercial harvest value estimated at \$48.9 million in 2006.
- \$48.9 million does not reflect an economic value placed on personal use or ceremonial and subsistence use.

### Commercial Fisheries

- Commercial harvest valued at \$65.1 million in 2006.

### Recreational Fisheries

- 428,480 recreational anglers spent an estimated 904.8 million in 2006 on fishing-related equipment and trip-related items.

## Species Recovery

- More than \$731 million invested in salmon recovery since 1991.

## Fish Hatchery and Management Investment

- More than \$20 million invested annually by Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife.

## Hydropower Operating Permit Requirements

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# State of Washington

2018 Pacific NorthWest Economic Summit | Invasive Species Working Group





# Northern Pike

## Collaboration and Regional Solutions



- What's the potential cost to the economy and environment of the Columbia River Basin?
  - Northwest Power and Conservation Council leading a study—to be completed by May 2019
- What actions can the lower Columbia River Basin take to prevent impacts to salmon and steelhead?
  - Emergency response planning
  - Emergency response funding
- If spread continues, how can British Columbia, Oregon and Washington quickly respond and what's the long-term strategy?
  - Transboundary agreement or MOU?
- How can we work together to avoid illegal fish introductions?
  - Harmonized messaging

**Questions? Thanks!**

**Justin Bush, Executive Coordinator  
Washington Invasive Species Council  
State of Washington Recreation &  
Conservation Office**

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