South Central Oregon Adaptation Partnership: Effects of Climate Change on Fisheries



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Species of Concern... Bull trout

- •ESA listed as threatened
 •Cold thermal niche constrains populations to high-elevation refugia
- Habitats & populations are fragmented & isolated
 Occurs in small streams that are susceptible to disturbance
- •Spawns in fall & eggs incubate overwinter

Critical habitat



Species of Concern... Steelhead

•ESA listed as threatened Populations require fluvial connectivity to ocean Ocean cycles strongly affect freshwater abundance •Relatively warm thermal niche unsuitably cold upstream areas could serve as refugia Spring spawner after peak flows •Natal habitats occur in small streams susceptible to disturbance

Critical habitat

Species of Concern...

- Not ESA listed, but Regional Forester considers to be "sensitive species"
- Non-anadromous version of steelhead
- Relatively warm thermal niche

 unsuitably cold upstream
 areas could serve as refugia

 Spring spawner after peak
- flows
- Natal habitats occur in small streams susceptible to disturbance

Redband trout



Stream Habitats



Species of Concern... Lost River Sucker

Shortnose Sucker

 ESA listed as endangered Endemic species Main habitats are lakes but use inflowing streams for spawning •Distribution on FS lands limited to ~40 kilometers of stream on the Fremont-Winema NF

Critical habitats

Taking Climate into the Water Where Fish Live...



Taking Climate into the Water Where Fish Live...

Climate model (air temp & precip)

Regional patterns





Stream temperatures & flow





Stream reach patterns



GIS Data for Stream Flow & Temperature Scenarios Downloaded from Websites

VIC Streamflow Scenarios



Google "Stream flow Metrics"

Google "NorWeST stream temp"





Isaak et al. 2010. Ecol. Apps. **20**:1350-1371 Isaak et al. 2012. Climatic Change **113**:499-524. Luce et al. 2014. Wat Res Res DOI: 10.1002/2013WR014329 Ver Hoef et al. 2006. Environ Ecol Stat **13**:449-464. Ver Hoef & Peterson. 2010. Journal Am Stat Ass **105**:6–18.

Liang et al. 1994. J. Geophys Res **99**:14415–14428. Wenger et al. 2010. Water Res Res **46:**W09513. Safeeq et al. 2014. Hydrology and Earth System Sciences **11**:3315-3357.

Stream Hydrography Baseline for Fish 1:100,000 NHDPlus



Baseline (1970 - 1999)



>0.2 cfs summer flow <15% slope **Deleted intermittent channels**



~65% network reduction



Stream Temperature Database



NorWeST Temperature Model Accuracy



Obse

Stream Temperature Baseline

Temperature (°C) 16 14 12 10 8 6 Time 100

Baseline (1970-1999)

NorWeST ≈Stream Temp

August Mean Temperature (°C)





Future Climate Scenarios A1B 10 GCM Ensemble from CIG



Changes in Mean Summer Flows - Summary

	<u>All lands</u>	USFS lands
Baseline (1970-1999)	-	-
2040s (2030-2059)	-20.0%	-31.3%
2080s (2070-2099)	-29.5%	-47.1%

*VIC projections as modified by Safeeq et al. (2014)



Mean Summer Flows – 1980s



Mean Summer Flow (cms)

< 0.006
0.006 - 0.034
0.034 - 0.085
> 0.085



Mean Summer Flows – 2080s



Mean Summer Flow (cms)

< 0.006
0.006 - 0.034
0.034 - 0.085
> 0.085



Changes in Winter High Flows - Summary

Winter95 flow metric	All la	nds	USFS lands		
	Number <u>of Days</u>	Days Increase	Number <u>of Days</u>	Days Increase	
Baseline (1970-1999)	10.5	-	9.8	-	
2040s (2030-2059)	12.4	1.9	12.6	2.8	
2080s (2070-2099)	13.2	2.7	13.8	4	



Infrastructure impacts





Fall spawner egg & juvenile mortality

Winter High Flow Days – 1980s



Number of days that winter flow is among highest 5% for the year





Winter High Flow Days – 2080s



Number of days that winter flow is among highest 5% for the year





Changes in Summer Stream Temperature





Summer Stream Temperature – 1980s



> 20



Summer Stream Temperature – 2080s





Heterogeneity in Stream Warming Rates 923 sites in NorWeST database with >10 year records



Isaak et al. 2016. Slow climate velocities of mountain streams portend their refugia for cold-water biodiversity. Proc Nat Acad Sci

Heterogeneity in Stream Warming Rates 923 sites in NorWeST database with >10 year records +0.10°C/decade since 1968 < 0.1 0.1 - 0.20.2 - 0.30.3 - 0.40.4 - 0.5**Weather Stations** 0.5 - 0.60.6 - 0.70.7 - 0.80.8 - 0.9> 0.9 Temperature (°C

Air trend = 0.21°C/decade

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e velocities of mountain streams portend their ro er biodiversity. Proc Nat Acad Sci

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Time

Effects to Mid-Columbia River Steelhead Cascades Eastern Slope Tributaries & John Day River

- Largest Risk Increases in summer stream temperature
- Models predict stream temperatures outside optimal range increase of 37% and 33% respectively
- Reduction in available habitat, some of which is already in a degraded condition
- Winter peak flows & summer flow mostly maintained

and the second second	1200	Nu	mber of high flow	days	19 A. 19 A. 19			
Stream metric	Period –	<5	5-10	>10	-			-
Winter 95% flow	1980s	0.1%	24%	76%	- 1. S. S.		State Contraction States	
	2040s	0	12%	88%				and the second second
	2080s	0	9%	91%				
			m³/s			and a state of the		
		< 0.034	0.034-0.085	>0.085				
Summer flow	1980s	9%	14%	77%				
	2040s	10%	14%	76%				
	2080s	11%	14%	75%				
	-	1000		Stream ki	ilometers	100	Service -	
	1000	<8	8-11	11-14	14-17	17-20	>20	
August temp	1980s	0.4%	6%	19%	38%	26%	11%	
	2040s	0.1%	2%	12%	29%	39%	18%	
	2080s	0	1%	8%	23%	39%	29%	
						Constant of the		









Effects to Redband Trout Throughout Analysis Area

- Largest Risk Increases in summer stream temperature
- Summer base flows mostly maintained
- Models predict that by 2040 the majority of the redband occupied streams

will experience more than 10 days	with the highest 5% winter peak flows
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	200	Nu	mber of high flow	days			MPro
Stream metric	Period –	<5	5-10	>10			
Winter 95% flow	1980s	0.1%	26%	73%	The second		And the second second
	2040s	0	2%	98%			
	2080s	0	1%	99%			
			m ³ /s				
		< 0.034	0.034-0.085	>0.085	Section 1		The second second
Summer flow	1980s	17%	20%	63%			
	2040s	21%	20%	59%			
	2080s	23%	20%	56%			
				Stream ki	lometers		
		<8	8-11	11-14	14-17	17-20	>20
August temp	1980s	1%	8%	29%	38%	21%	4%
	2040s	1%	4%	19%	38%	29%	9%
	2080s	1%	5%	15%	35%	28%	16%





Effects to Lost River Sucker and Shortnose Sucker Upper Klamath Lake and Lost River Basin Recovery Units

- Largest Risk on National Forest streams Loss of stream flow
- Winter peak flows and summer flow remain similar to current modeled conditions
- Extensive modification of historic habitat, intermittent flows, isolation and

increasingly limited access between lake habitats and stream spawning habitats.

	200	Nu	mber of high flow	days			(in
Stream metric	Period	<5	5-10	>10			Million
Winter 95% flow	1980s	- 11	5%	95%	The Part	140	The second second second
	2040s			100%		C	and the second se
	2080s			100%		Care Mar	
	1.8-5		m ³ /s	30000	See der		
		< 0.034	0.034-0.085	>0.085	Conce of	-	
Summer flow	1980s	8.5%	8.5%	83%			States and the states of the states
	2040s	11%	8%	82%		Contraction of the second seco	
	2080s	13%	7%	80%			
	-	1.1		Stream ki	lometers	100	The second second
	2	<8	8-11	11-14	14-17	17-20	>20
August temp	1980s		- 64 - 5	3%	8%	66%	23%
	2040s			1%	5%	45%	49%
	2080s				4%	18%	78%





Effects to Bull Trout Odell Lake

- Largest Risk Increase in winter peak flows
- Models predict the highest 5% winter peak flows are expected to increase by 100% by 2080
- Summer stream temperatures not expected to increase significantly, but 10% estimated reduction in headwater summer bull trout habitat
- Core area already has a small population, fragmented habitat and limited spawning habitat
- Changes put population at high risk reduction in available habitat, direct redd effects, reduced headwater habitat availability

		Nur	nber of high flov	v days	1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1	2.718	200	- And
Stream metric	Period	<5	5-10	>10	-			
Winter 95% flow	1980s	100%	0	0		1000		
	2040s	11%	67%	22%				
	2080s	0	0	100%				
			m ³ /s					Million
	11-1-1	< 0.034	0.034-0.085	>0.085	SAL PAL	-	C.C.C.S.C.	- and
Summer flow	1980s	0	12%	88%				And the second second
	2040s	12%	10%	78%			- HF	
	2080s	12%	10%	78%			1000	
				Stream kile	ometers			
	1414	<8	8-11	11-14	14-17	17-20	>20	and the second
August temperature	1980s	85%	0	15%		arrest 1		L'Alantes
	2040s	85%	0	0	15%			
	2080s	85%	0	0	15%			

Bull Trout Habitat





Climate Vulnerability Could Provide a Context for Prioritizing Stream Restoration Efforts...

2013 Aquatic and Riparian Restoration Annual Report USDA Forest Service Pacific Northwest Region



- •Modifying road culverts...
- •Maintaining/restoring flow...
- •Maintaining/restoring riparian...
- •Restoring channel form/function...
- •Non-native species control...
- •Large woody debris...



Before





Forest Datasets Were Key to The Quality of This Assessment...



& Will Be Key to Improving Assessments in <u>Future</u> Decades...

