

Pelton Round Butte Fish Committee

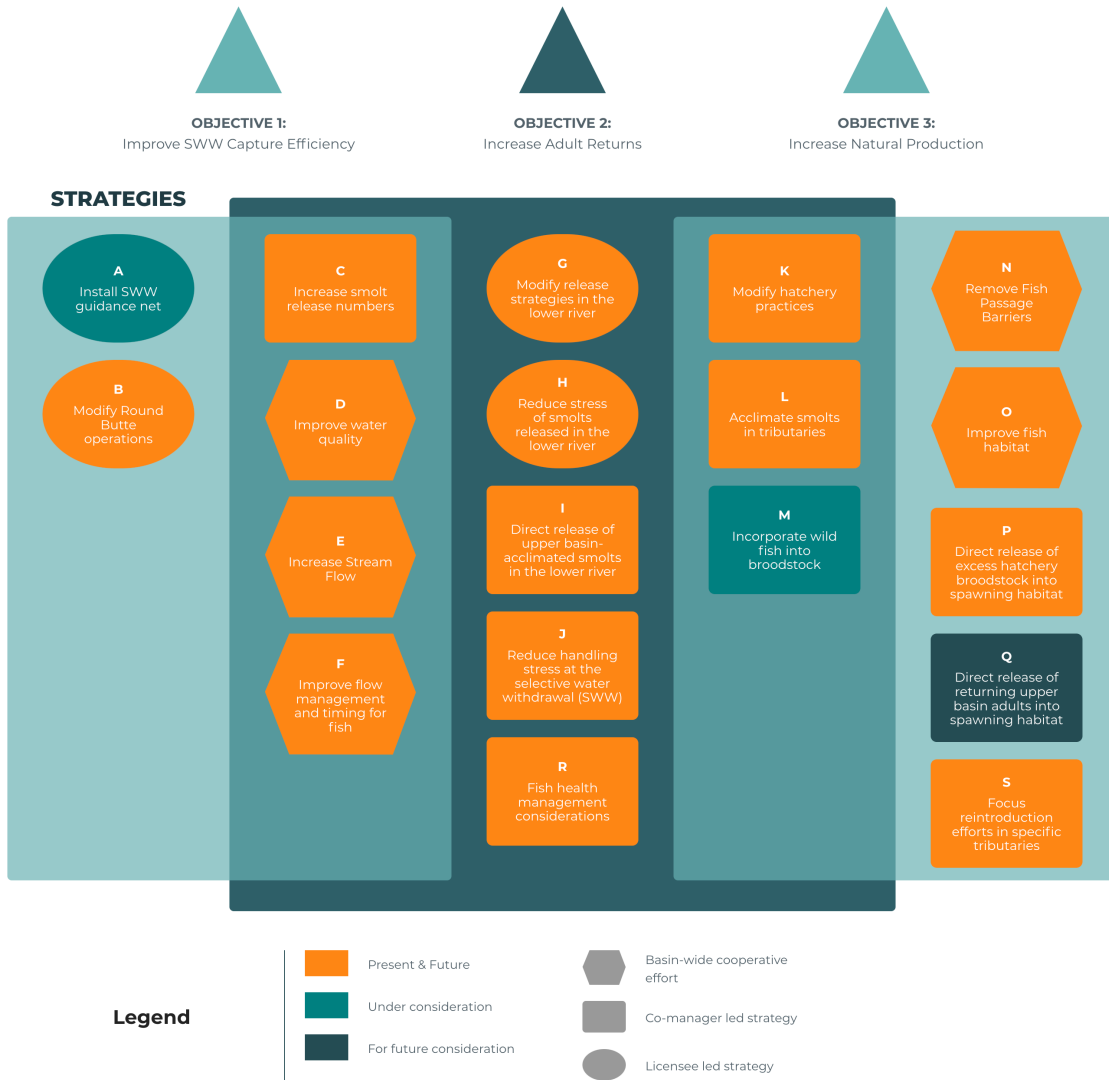
Reintroduction Road Map

The reintroduction road map is a high level guide to strategies current and future, to impact the goal of returning self-sustaining and harvestable runs of spring Chinook, sockeye and summer steelhead to the Upper Deschutes Basin. Learn more about the history and purpose of our work in the [Executive Summary](#).

The road map is organized by objectives with each strategy represented by a shape that indicates who is responsible and a color to illustrate whether strategies are current or planned.

Overview of Reintroduction Road Map

Goal: self-sustaining and harvestable runs of Chinook, sockeye, and steelhead.



S
Focus
Reintroduction
Efforts in Specific
Tributaries

STRATEGY

S: Focus Reintroduction Efforts in Specific Tributaries

Description: During early stages of the reintroduction effort, numbers of returning adults to any specific tributary may be too low to ensure the probability of pairing and spawning. To increase the probability of successful spawning, actions may be undertaken to increase the number of adults in a specific tributary. These actions could take place at either the juvenile or adult stage. An example already undertaken is the fish managers' decision to place additional hatchery Chinook salmon broodstock only in the Metolius River. Other changes that could be made in the future would be to shift the proportion of resources to a tributary by acclimating a disproportionate number of smolts or transporting all returning adults to that specific tributary. The concept would be that once a spawning population is established in one tributary, "excess" adults would be available to populate other tributaries through straying and/or a shift in focus of reintroduction efforts. The degree of program shift could be species specific and likely would entail a shift in the proportion of resources between tributaries rather than an abandonment of any specific tributary effort.

Anticipated Outcome: The goal of these actions would be to increase the number of adults in any one tributary in order to increase the probability of successful reproduction.

Evaluation Method: Radio tracking of adults and spawning surveys could be used to evaluate the number of adults spawning, while evaluation of the level of successful spawning could be monitored through operation of screw traps to capture outmigrating smolts in the tributary of focus.

Timeline: Present and Future – This strategy is currently being implemented to a limited degree; future shifts in reintroduction effort could vary in degree and scope.

Lead Organization/Agency: The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and The Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon are the authorities for fish management decisions in the basin.

Fish Committee Role: Where appropriate, information is brought to the Fish Committee for input.

Related Studies/Actions/Decisions:

2021 – ODFW and CTWSRO approved 2021 transfer of excess Warm Springs Hatchery spring Chinook broodstock into the Metolius River once all other hatchery and tribal needs were met.

2019 – ongoing – ODFW and CTWSRO provided direction that up to 200 excess Round Butte Hatchery spring Chinook broodstock could be transported to appropriate spawning habitat in the Metolius River.
