## Application of Effectiveness Monitoring to Habitat Restoration Projects in the Columbia River Estuary

# May 16, 2012

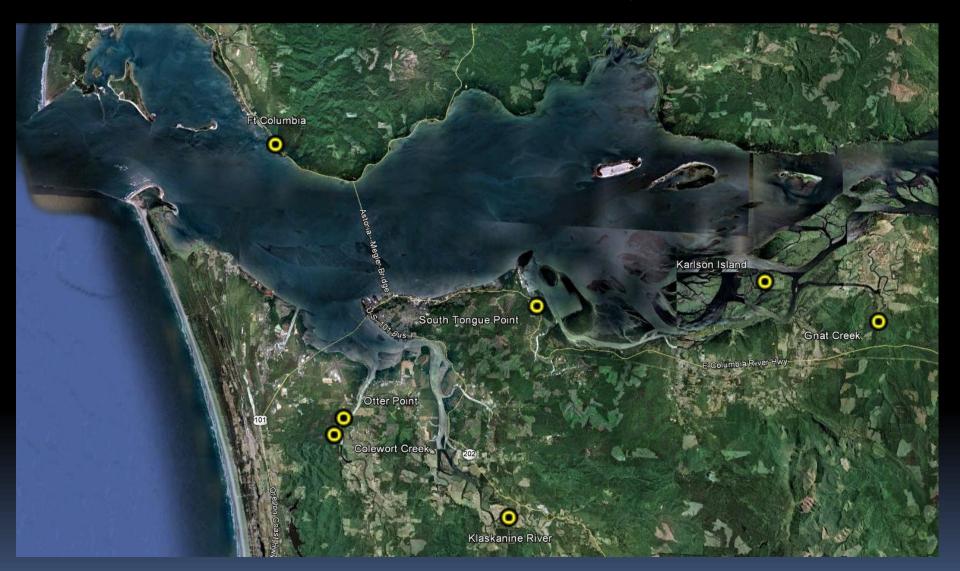
Matt Van Ess, Habitat Restoration Program Manager April Silva, Lead Ecologist

Columbia River Estuary Study Taskforce

Application of Effectiveness Monitoring to Habitat Restoration Projects in the Columbia River Estuary

- ✓ CREST Effectiveness Monitoring and how it assists in evaluating, planning, and designing restoration projects.
- ✓ Compare landscape change and fish community information at Fort Columbia and Fort Clatsop restoration sites.
- ✓ Discuss effectiveness of passive vs. active restoration approaches at Fort Columbia and Fort Clatsop.

#### **CREST 2012-2013 Restoration Project Locations**



#### Fort Columbia Tidal Reconnection

Wetland cutoff by Hwy 101 

- Fish passage culvert, wetland, LWD, reveg.
- **Completed Spring 2011**
- Pilot channel excavated
- Freshwater Wetland **Passive restoration** (Distributary of Chinook R.)

Constructed Limits of Wetland

US

101

2

Previous "Perched" Culvert, 24" RCP

100 Acres

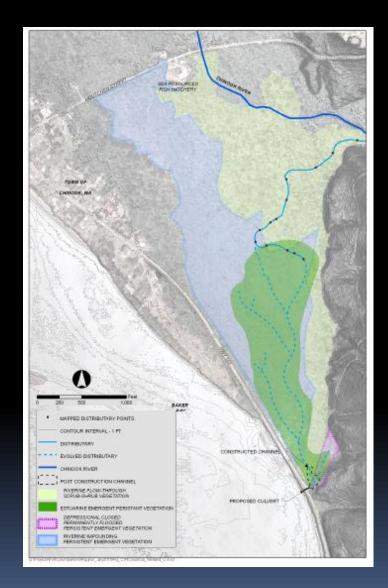


New 12' x 12' Culvert

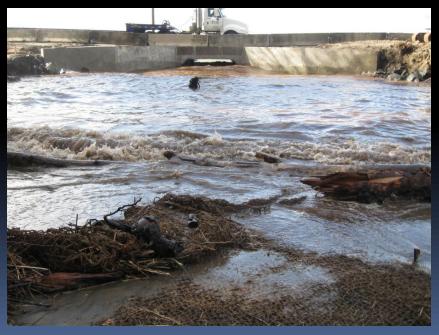


#### Fort Columbia Passive Restoration Design









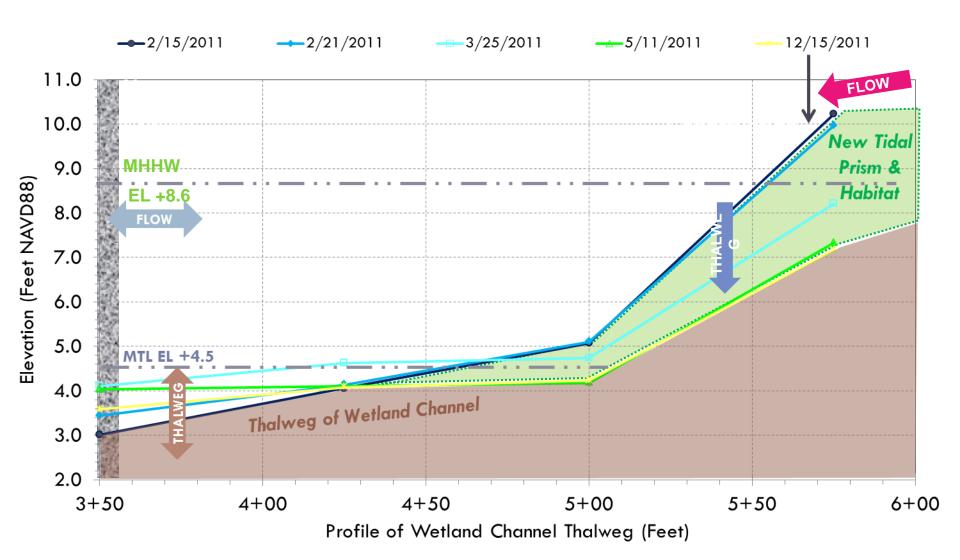


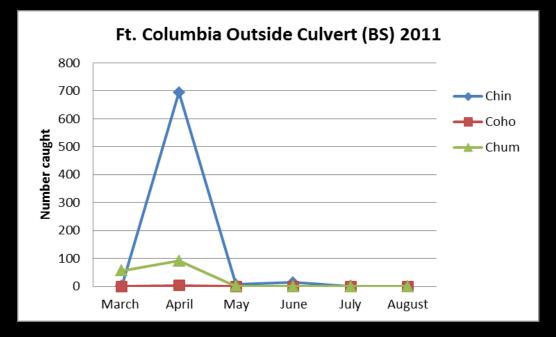


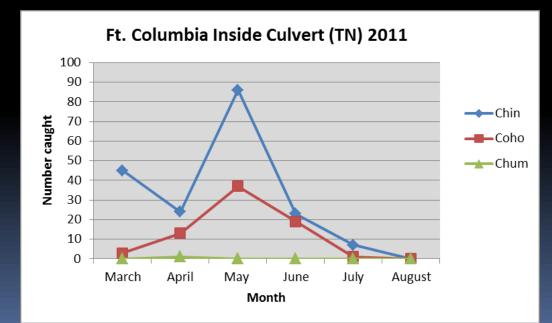
# **Fort Columbia Effectiveness Monitoring**

**Monitoring Metrics include: Fish Community** Trap net, Beach seine **Genetic samples** Water Quality Continuous data logging **Elevation/Landscape Cha** Channel cross sections **Photo points** Sediment accretion stakes Water level measurements **Plant species composition & cover** Vegetation transects Vegetation plots

# **Channel Profile Adjustment**









### Fort Clatsop

✓45 acre Wetland cut off by tidegate installation through Ft Clatsop Road.

✓ Tidegate removed.
bridge installed in 2007.



 Vegetation response in northern portion.

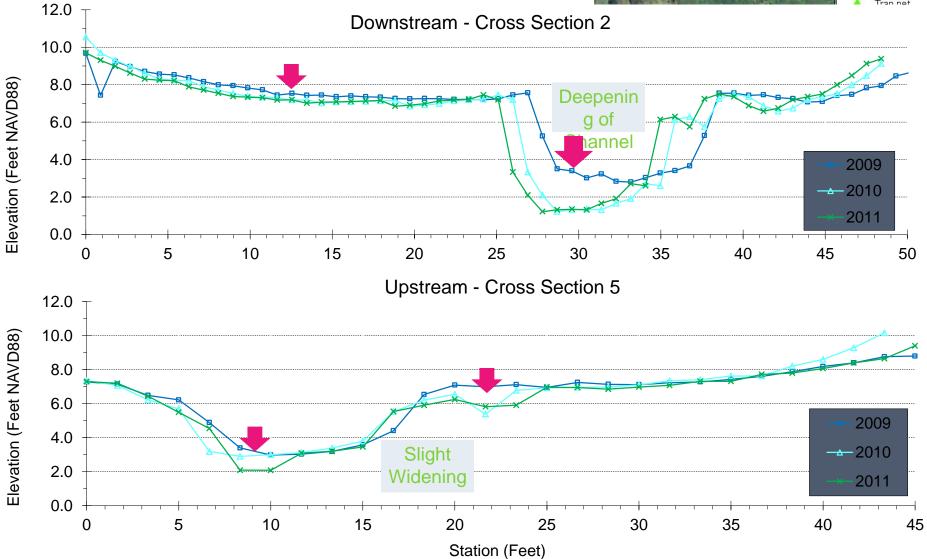
 ✓ Degraded wetland vegetation persists and no channel formation on southern area.

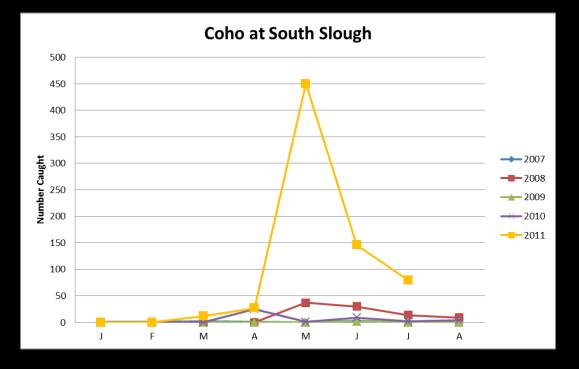
## Fort Clatsop Effectiveness Monitoring

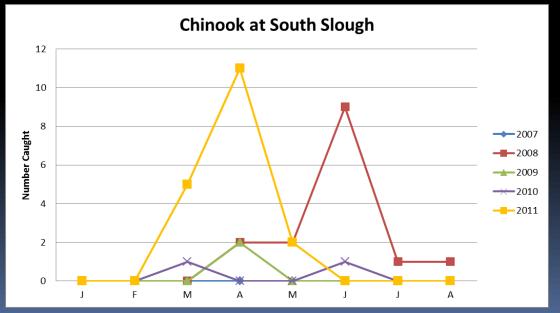
Monitoring Metrics include: **Fish Community** Trap net **Genetic samples Prey availability Prey utilization** Water Quality **Continuous data logging Elevation/Landscape Changes Channel cross sections Photo points** Sediment accretion stakes Water level measurements

# Slough Morphology





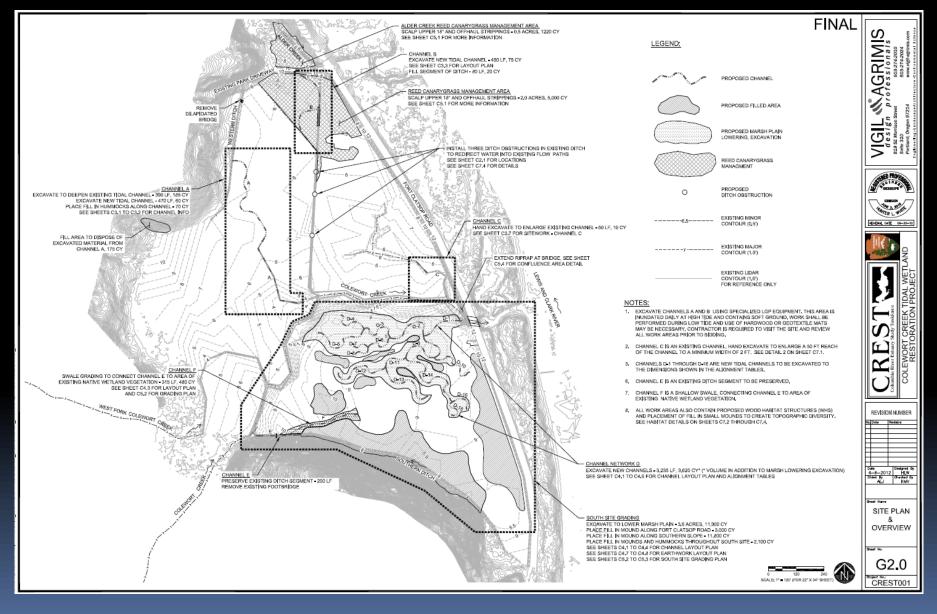




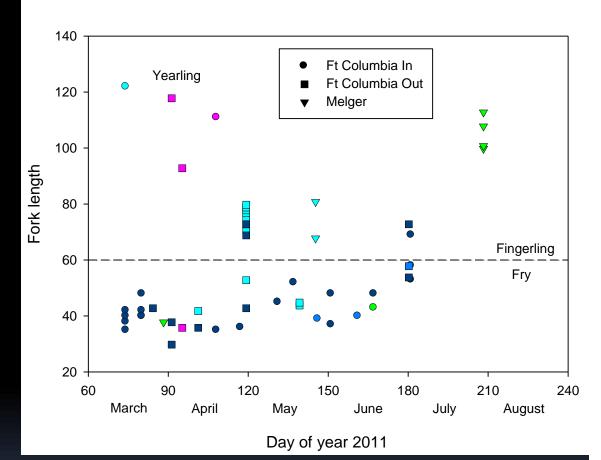
#### **Colewort Creek Restoration**

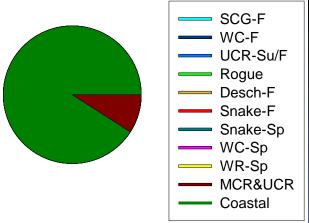
### ✓ Marsh plain lowering

✓1 mile of channel excavation and enhancement.

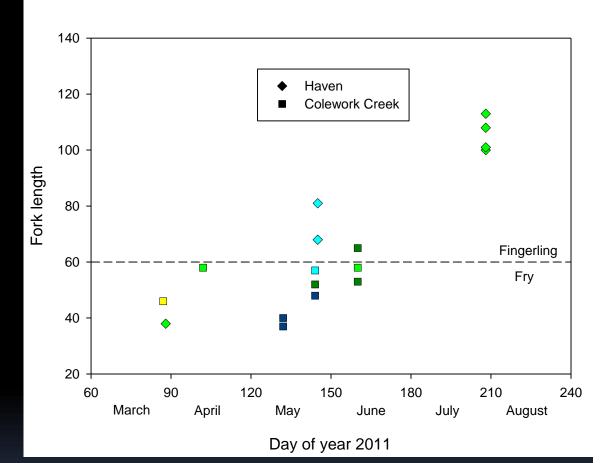


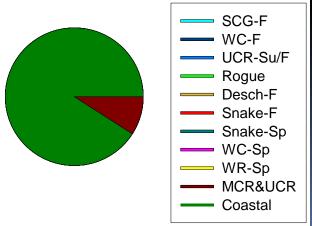
### 2011 Genetics Data – Mainstem Sites





### 2011 Genetics Data – Young Bay Sites





#### Pit Tag Array – Colewort Creek Restoration Site



Capture method: Dipnet Coordinator ID: JAR File id: JAR12086.SC3 Flags: AD Hatchery: SPRC Length: 66mm Migr\_yr: 2012 **Organization: USFWS** Release Site: SPRC Releas\_v\_time: 4/13/2012 10:15:00 River\_km: 269 Rear type: H (hatchery) t\_run: 3 t\_species: 1 (Chinook) Tag date: 3/26/2012 13:51:00 Tag ID: 3D9.1C2DD7E4E8 Tag\_rem: blank Tag site: SPRC Wt: blank

#### Application of Effectiveness Monitoring to Habitat Restoration Projects in the Columbia River Estuary

### Findings:

- $\checkmark$  Immediate response from juvenile salmon to restoration actions.
- ✓ Genetic data suggests that multiple genetic stocks are represented.
- ✓ Additional genetic analysis of CREST archived samples and at new restoration sites as they come on line would be informative.
- Passive and active restoration approaches are necessary based on restoration area conditions (topography, hydrology, soils).
- ✓ Effectiveness monitoring of CREST restoration sites should continue with fish community data collection where Scientific Take Permits can be obtained.

✓ Adapt monitoring methods and efforts to site specific projects goals.



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#### Fort Columbia 2011

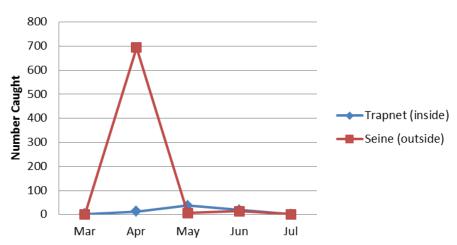
Mar

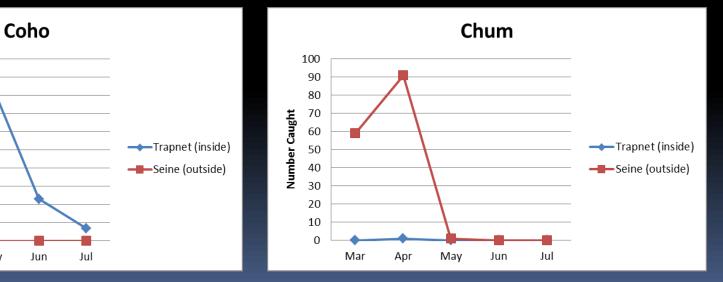
May

Apr

Number Caught

Chinook





#### Temporal Distribution of Coho at South Slough and Alder Creek 2007 - 2011

