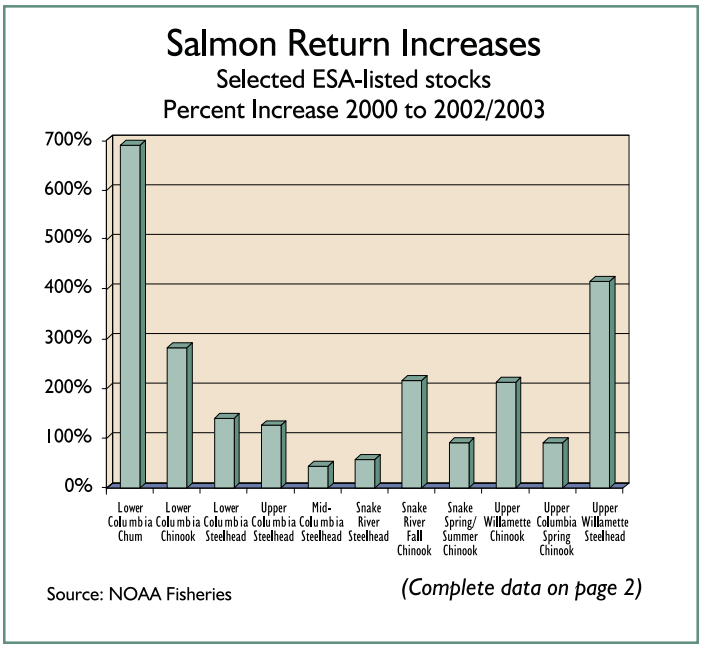
Federal Caucus

Columbia Basin Salmon Results Since 2000

Columbia Basin salmon runs are up dramatically

Salmon returns of nearly all stocks are up dramatically. Clearly, fresh-water conditions support the productivity of these stocks, especially when ocean conditions are good.



Federal actions for salmon since 2000

Hydro system improved

- Removable Spillway Weir installed at Lower Granite Dam on the Snake River to improve juvenile salmon and steelhead passage. Recent tests indicate that 98 percent of juvenile fish survive passage.
- New Bonneville Dam Second Powerhouse "Corner Collector," coupled with the existing screened bypass system, is expected to attract about 90 percent of juveniles at the powerhouse, and provide an estimated 98 percent survival for those fish.
- Tern predation on juvenile salmon down roughly 40 percent after 9,000 pairs of Caspian terns nesting in the Columbia River estuary were relocated. Terns were unharmed.
- Pikeminnow predation on juvenile salmon cut an estimated 25 percent by sport-reward fishery.

Habitat protected

- 14,680 acres of habitat secured for long-term benefits to anadromous fish.
- 700 miles of streams opened to salmon passage.
- In 2002 alone, nearly 200 miles of streamside habitat were protected for long-term benefits.

Hatcheries built

- Two major state-of-the-art salmon and steelhead production facilities built and operated.
  - From 2000 to 2003, over 27 percent of returning Yakima River spring chinook were the result of hatchery production at the Yakama Tribal Cle Elum Supplementation and Research Facility. Hatchery production supported a reopening of the fishery for spring chinook salmon in the Yakima River for the first time in many years.
  - In its first year of production, the Nez Perce Tribal Hatchery released over 1.1 million fall and spring chinook.

Harvests increased

- Spring chinook opened to mainstem Columbia River sport fishery in 2000 for first time since 1977. Fishery expanded in 2002 and 2003.
- Summer chinook fishery below Bonneville Dam opened in 2002, 2003 and 2004 for the first time since 1973.
- Fall chinook harvested at steady 23 percent to treaty Indian fisheries and 8 percent to non-Indian fisheries.

Recovery depends on comprehensive actions and cooperation by ALL the players.

Current Status of Select Pacific Northwest ESA-Listed Salmon Stocks

Stock	% of Wild/ Hatchery stocks	2000 Returns	2001 Returns	2002 Returns	2003 Returns	% Change 2000 to 2002/2003
Lower Columbia Chum	100% wild	2,500	2,000	4,000	20,000	+ 690%
Lower Columbia Chinook	50% wild 50% hatchery	18,908	37,569	72,468	*	+ 283%
Lower Columbia Steelhead	70% wild 30% hatchery	4,000	4,200	5,000	9,626	+ 141%
Upper Columbia Steelhead	20% wild 80% hatchery	7,796	20,837	15,867	17,652	+ 126%
Mid-Columbia Steelhead	70% wild 30% hatchery	23,448	28,138	33,765	*	+ 44%
Snake River Steelhead	15% wild 85% hatchery	115,161	259,145	218,718	180,672	+ 57%
Snake River Fall Chinook	40% wild 60% hatchery	3,696	8,915	12,351	11,732	+ 217%
Snake Spring/ Summer Chinook	20% wild 80% hatchery	51,835	192,632	101,226	98,763	+ 91%
Upper Willamette Chinook	20% wild 80% hatchery	37,594	52,685	83,136	117,600	+ 213%
Upper Columbia Spring Chinook	50% wild 50% hatchery	1,580	14,958	3,022	*	+ 91%
Upper Willamette Steelhead	75% wild 25% hatchery	3,200	10,100	16,500	*	+ 416%

Source: NOAA Fisheries

** Data not yet available for 2003. Percent of change from 2000 is calculated from 2002. Snake River sockeye, not included in chart, is currently in the experimental stage, supported almost exclusively by safety-net hatchery group.*