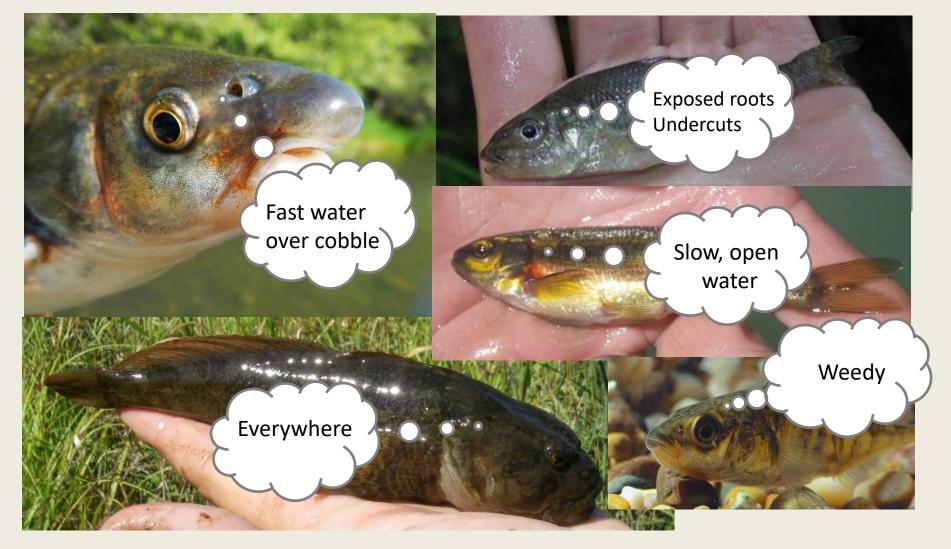
Oregon Chub (and those other off-channel habitat fish)





- -69 fish species in the Willamette
 - 36 native
 - 33 nonnative

Oregon Chub: only fish endemic to the Willamette River basin



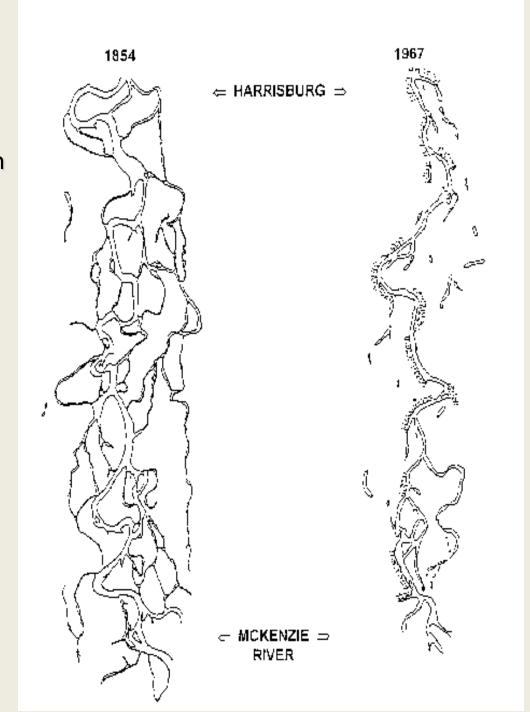


Film by Freshwaters Illustrated



Habitat Loss (from Sedell & Froggatt 1984)

~75% Reduction in shoreline





Reasons for decline

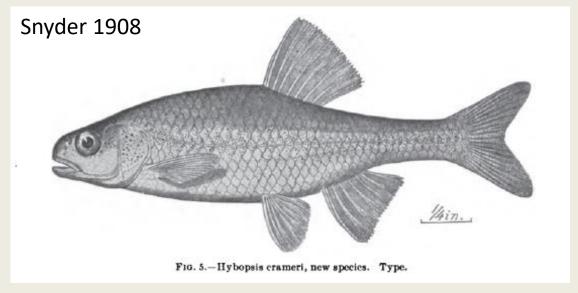


Reasons for decline



- Half of the fish in the Willamette are non-native
- Largemouth bass, bluegill (and other sunfish)

ESA History



- Petition to list: 1990
- Multi-agency Conservation Agreement: 1992
- Listed as Endangered: 1993
- Recovery Plan: 1998
- Downlisted to Threatened: 2010
- Delisted: 2015 First fish recovered under ESA

2010 Downlisting



US Army Corps Floodplain Study

Describe relationships between

- River flows,
- Habitat characteristics,
- Temperature regimes,
- Timing, frequency, duration, magnitude of connection, <u>and</u>
- Fish assemblage structure in off-channel habitats

Hydrologic Connectivity



What do we mean?

- Open water, direct connection to surrounding waterbodies
- Sites connect in different ways
 - Sloughs: high water flows through the site
 - Alcoves: only connect downstream

Hydrologic Connectivity

- Initial analyses
 - Positive relationship between flow and Oregon Chub abundance
 - Increased habitat
 - Movement
 - Impacts to nonnative fish
 - Trade-off: increased nonnative movement, lower nonnative dominance in sites
 - Risk: nonnative vegetation

How does this information inform restoration practices?

Connectivity and flow greatly dictate what species occur in an off-channel habitat

- 1. Understand what species are at your site
- 2. What processes are occurring and what processes have been lost due to management constraints
- 3. How restoring or augmenting processes would create desired conditions

Hydrologic connectivity:

Lower terraces so the river can access a slough

- Will it have flow through the slough?
- What species will be impacted, what will benefit?
- Weighing risks vs. benefits (e.g., nonnative access vs. connectivity)



Summer 2019: First Oregon Chub population documented in the mainstem Willamette River since 1967.



Photo: McKenzie River Trust

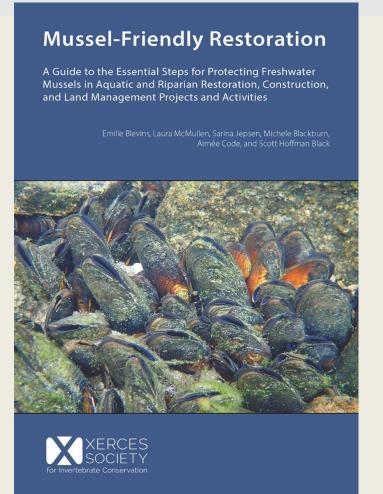
Nonnative Aquatic Plants

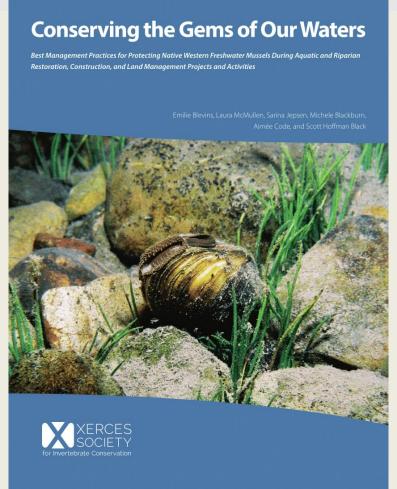


Freshwater Mussels

Crudely grouped: western pearlshell, floater, western ridged

 People often unaware of what mussels exists at project areas or during site evaluations





Lamprey

TO MINIMIZE ADVERSE EFFECTS TO PACIFIC LAMPREY (Entosphenus tridentatus)



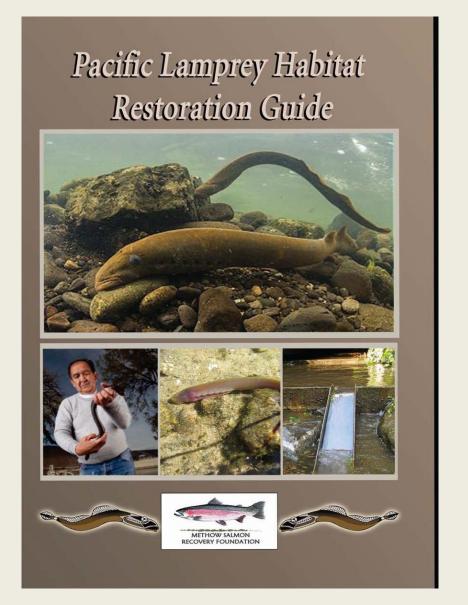
(Photo courtesy of U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service)

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service April 2010





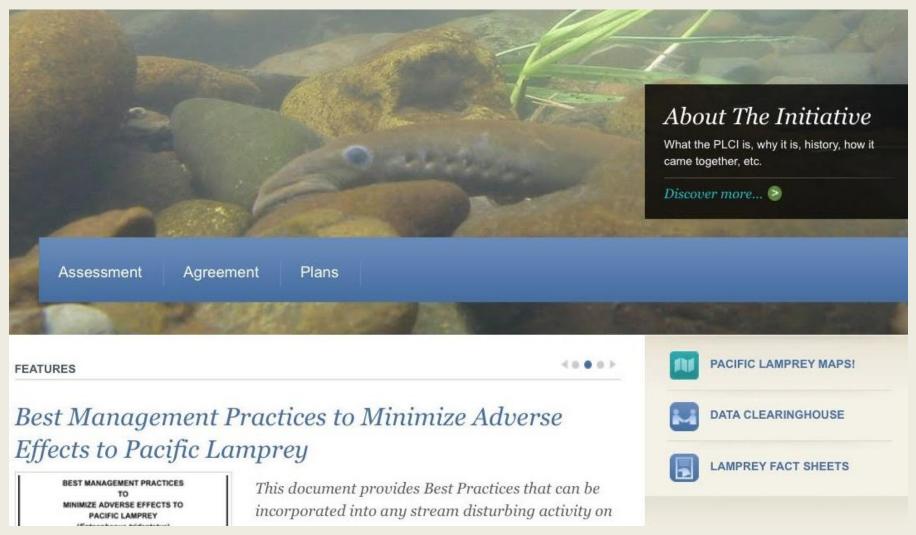






Pacific Lamprey Conservation Initiative

Website: fws.gov/pacificlamprey



ODFW has a companion draft conservation plan, should be published in 2020.

Beaver

Beaver ponds and dams benefit Oregon's native fish and other wildlife: control flooding and provide stable summer flow, recharge groundwater and raise water table

They can also be a pain to live and work around

Many nonlethal options for managing beaver:

- Beaver deceivers (culverts)
- Pond levelling devices (flooding)
- Translocation of problem beaver

BMPs for enhancing habitat for beaver

The Beaver Restoration Guidebook

Working with Beaver to Restore Streams, Wetlands, and Floodplains

Version 2.01, April 10, 2018



Photo credit: Worth A Dam Foundation (martinezbeavers.org)

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