## Oregon's Coastal Plan: A Walk on the Wild (and Hatchery) Side

Lessons in: Conservation science Fish management Social/political engagement

> AFS Hatchery/Wild Symposium Ed Bowles ODFW

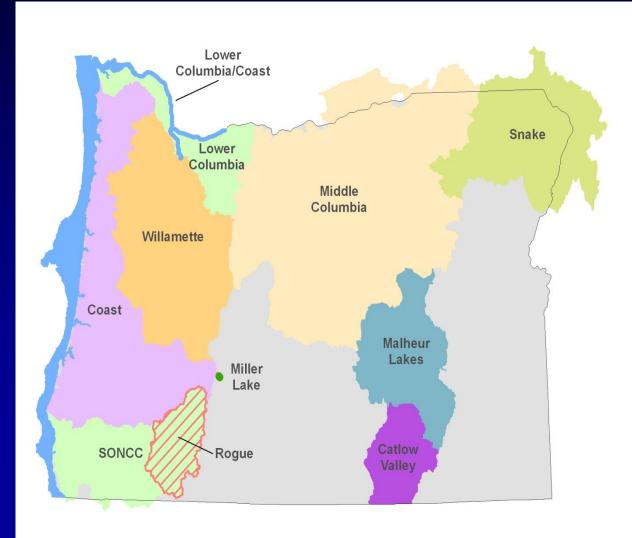
# Native Fish Conservation Policy Goals

- Prevent serious depletion of native species
   ... so that natural production of native fish is sustainable.
- Maintain and restore naturally produced native fish species ... to provide substantial ecological, economic and cultural benefits...
  Foster and sustain opportunities for sport, commercial and tribal fishers consistent with conservation...

### **Conservation and Recovery Plans Completed or in progress**

Plans for 22 of 28 anadromous salmonid species completed by 2015

Shifting from planning to implementation



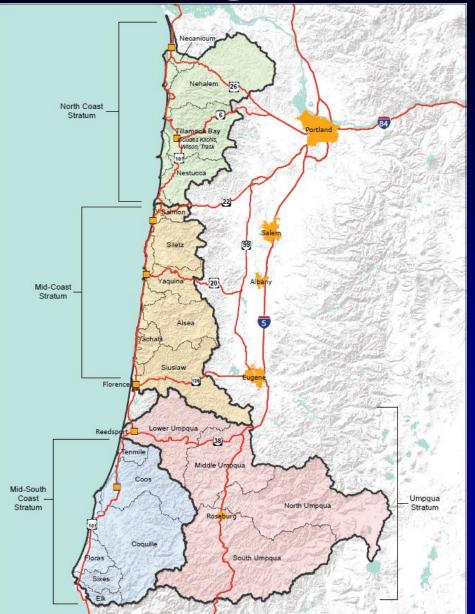
#### What's different about this plan?

• Multispecies

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- None ESA listed
- **Conservation & use**
- Portfolio approach

## **Planning Area and Species**



- Chinook
- Spring Chinook
- Winter Steelhead
- Summer Steelhead
- Chum
- Coastal Cutthroat
- Coho

### **Public Involvement**

- Nearly 2-yr process
- Professional facilitation
- Stakeholder Teams
- Town Hall meetings
- Legislative hearings
- Commission meetings



### **Common Ground and Tensions** (necessary for progress)

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- Love fish
- Support fishing
- Want good habitat
- Want vibrant economies

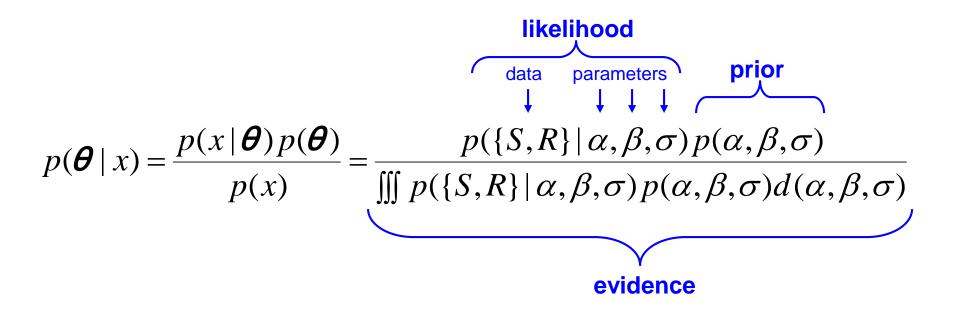
- Legislative fix
- Hatchery in every garage
   vs
  - Hatchery/harvest litigation
- ESA listings

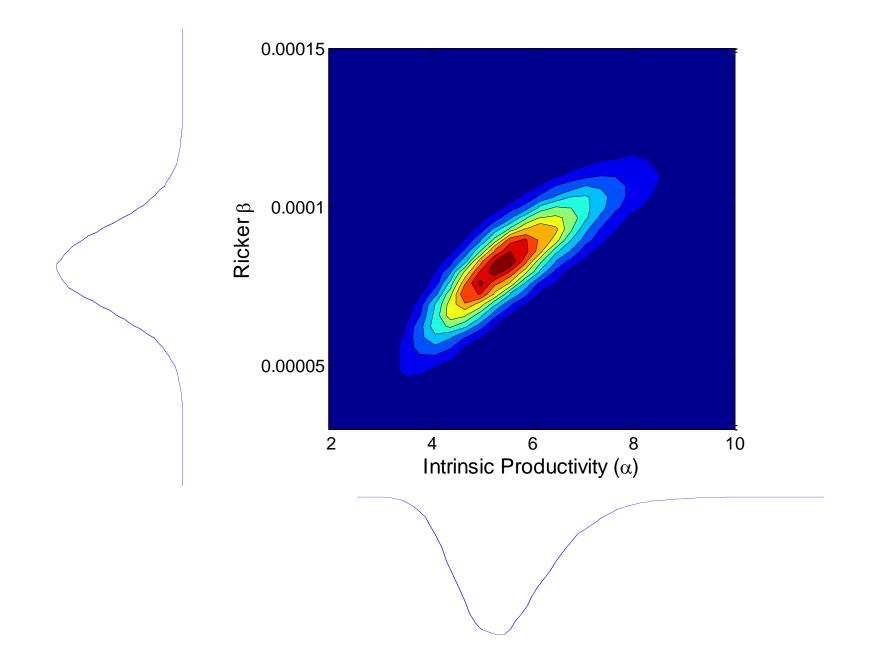
# Let's get planning!

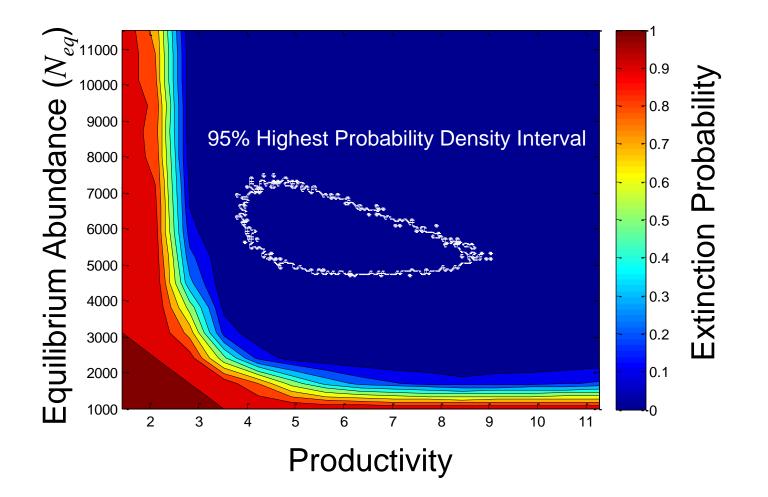
Start with best available science

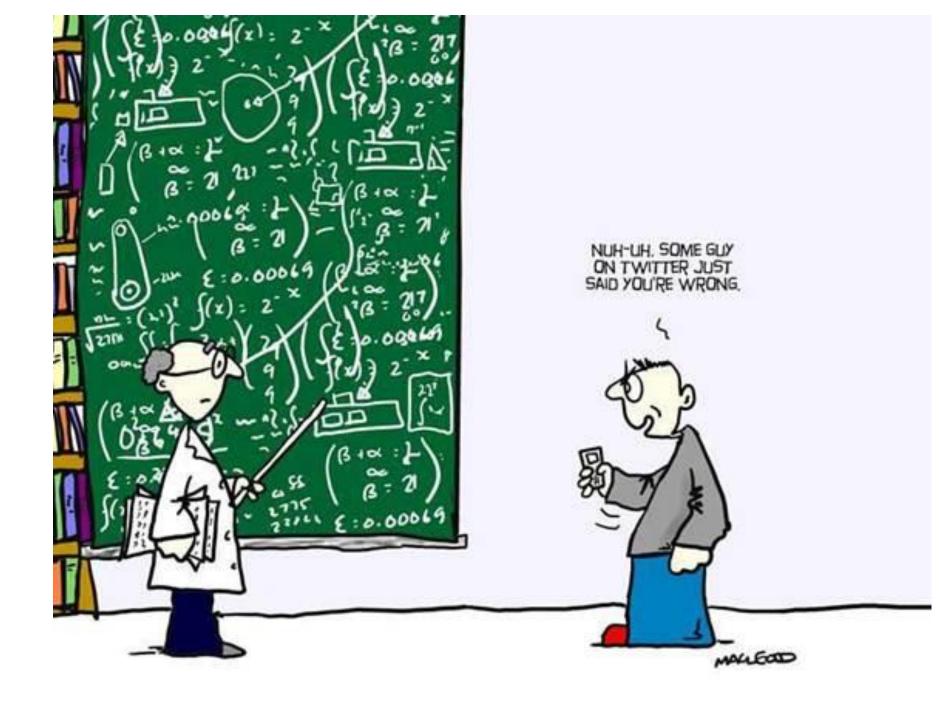


# Bayes' theorem of conditional probability can improve PVA

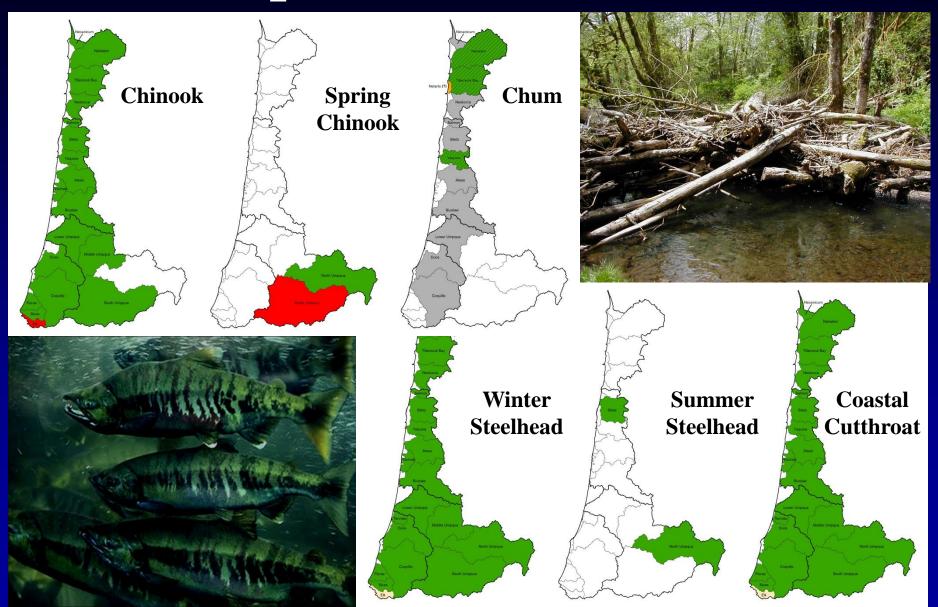








### **Species and Status**



# **Status and Limiting Factors**

• Current Status – remarkably good (except for chum and a few populations), though caution is warranted

• Desired Status – improve to ensure conservation and support fishing

- Limiting Factors
  - Hatchery: Yes (a few locations)
  - Harvest: Chinook, Spring Chinook
  - Other Species: Predation (pinnipeds, birds, non-native fish)
  - Habitat: Yes!

# **Hatchery Actions**

#### **Improved Conservation**

- Consolidate some programs (5)
- Reduce some hatchery releases (3)
- Reduce hatchery fish on spawning grounds
- Designate wild fish emphasis areas



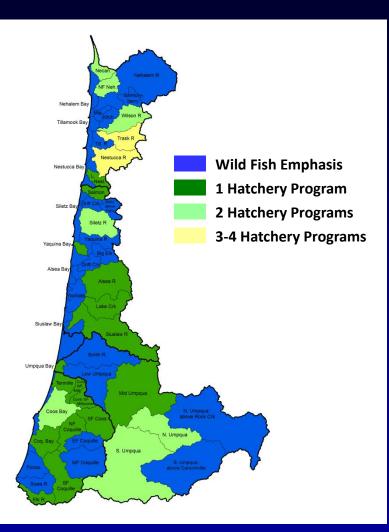
#### **Improved Opportunity**

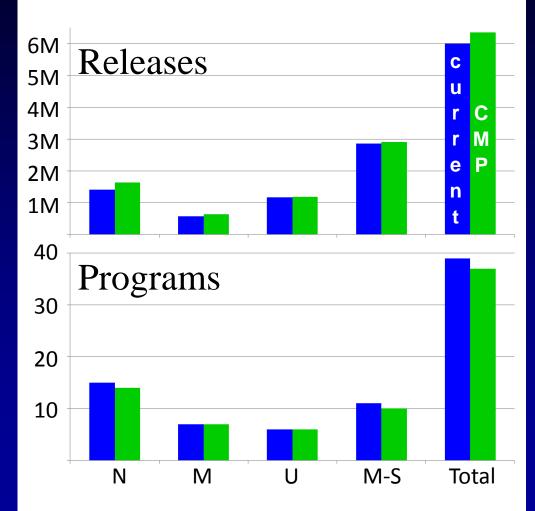
- Increase some hatchery releases

   (11)
- Add some new hatchery programs (3 ChS)
- Recognize hatchery emphasis areas



## **Hatchery Portfolio**





### **Harvest Actions**

#### **Improved Conservation**

- Sliding-scale harvest (wild)
- Protective periods (early run Chinook)
- Critical thresholds

#### **Improved Opportunity**

- Sliding-scale harvest
- Stable wild coho fisheries
- New wild StW harvest (3)
- New ChS fisheries (3)





#### **Predators**











#### **Example Focus Area: Elk River Chinook**

- Status: red to green
- Reduce H:W spawners
  - Reduce H prod
  - Improve homing
  - Increase H harvest; reduce W harvest
- Improve estuary habitat
- Improve upland habitat
- Increased RM&E
- Stakeholder partnerships



### **Passionate Participants**

#### **ODFW anti-hatchery bias**

- Close fisheries
- Shut down communities
- Economic collapse



#### **ODFW anti-wild bias**

- Hatcheries everywhere
- Genetic/ecological collapse
- Wild fish armageddon



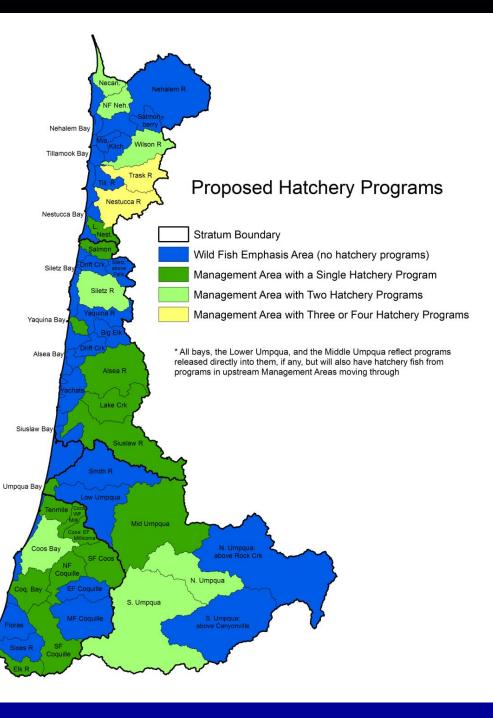
#### **ODFW conservation/use mandate**

- Blend of wild & hatchery emphasis areas
- Hatchery/harvest reform
- Better conservation, better fishing



#### Outcomes...

- Portfolio of hatchery and wild fish emphasis areas
- Largest codified "wild fish only" area in lower 48
- Sliding scale harvest
- Habitat emphasis
- \$3.5M Monitoring
- Hatchery BMPs
- OHRC
- Public/political support



## **Questions?**

#### http://www.dfw.state.or.us/fish/CRP/coastal\_multispecies.asp