Klamath Basin Science and Funding Workshop - Ashland, OR

• Jonathan Birdsong – Director, Western Region; National Fish and Wildlife Foundation

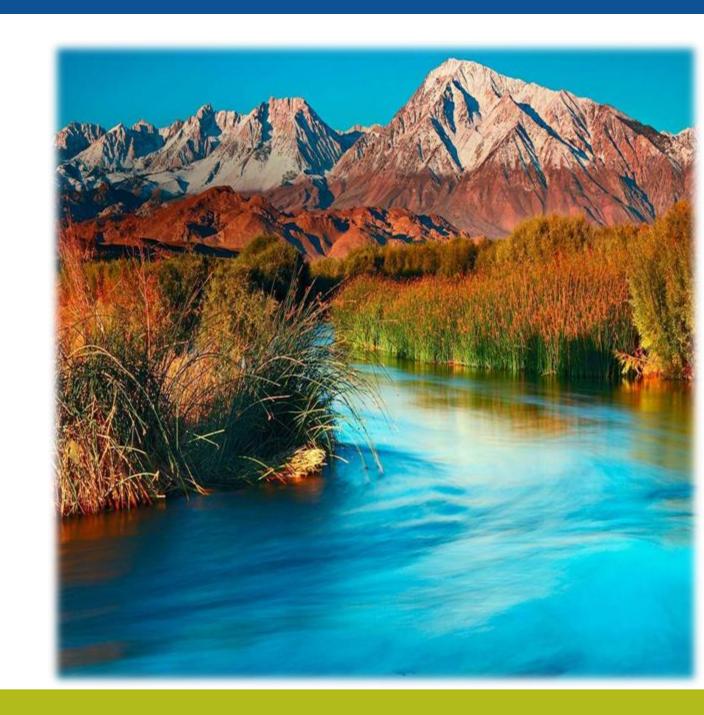






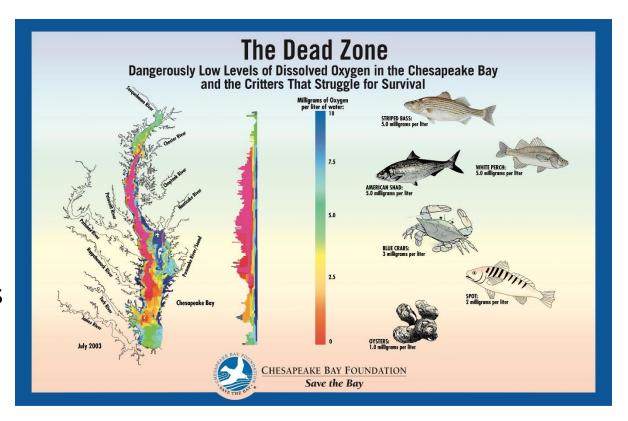
Presentation Topics

- NFWF Large Watershed Programs
 - Chesapeake Bay
 - Gulf of Mexico
 - Columbia Basin
 - National Programs America the Beautiful
- NFWF work in the Klamath Basin
- NFWF Business Plan California
- Discussion



Chesapeake Bay – Conservation Need

- 64,000 square mile watershed in six states and the District of Columbia
- Roughly 2/3 of native aquatic and terrestrial habitats across the watershed have been lost since European colonization
- Native terrestrial habitats replaced with developed land uses that contribute excess nutrient and sediment pollution
- Excess pollution degrades estuarine habitats and species



Current Conservation Context – NFWF

- 1999: NFWF engaged by EPA to accelerate local restoration actions and spur innovation in watershed restoration
- 2018: Updated, \$100M Chesapeake Bay Business Plan
 - Aligned NFWF programs with 2014 Chesapeake Bay Watershed Agreement watershed agreement TMDL
 - Articulated NFWF priorities to partner goals.
 - Targeted projects which provided innovation, and nexus between water quality improvement and species and habitat restoration.
- \$250M+, 1,500+ individual projects, \$265M+ in additional local leverage.







Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund (GEBF)

•\$2.54B in Funding:

- \$1.27B (50%) for barrier island & river diversion projects in Louisiana
- Remaining funds allocated by formula:
 - 14% each for Alabama, Florida, Mississippi (\$356M/state)
 - 8% for Texas (\$203M)
- **Purpose**: Fund <u>projects</u> that remedy harm to the type of natural resources (habitats, species) that were affected by the spill
- Consultation: with State resource agencies, FWS and NOAA
- **Timeline:** Funds to be paid over a 5-year period; final payment received in 2018





GEBF Funding Snapshot: 2013 - 2020

Gulf Environmental Benefit Fund (GEBF) established in May 2013

\$1.4B awarded to date (55%)

- 169 projects across all 5 Gulf States
- \$2.1B total impact based on leveraging from other sources (\$675M)
- Future obligations projected through 2023

Highlights:

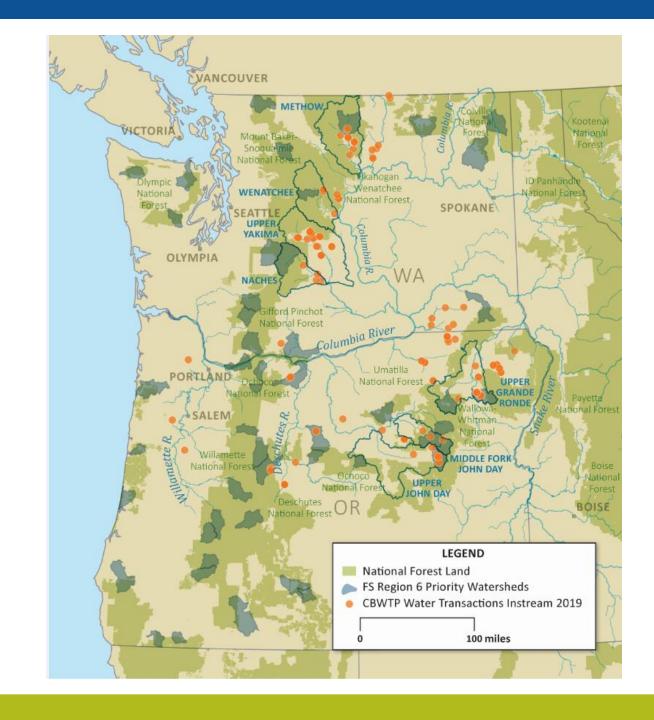
- Restoring barrier islands and advancing river diversions in Louisiana
- Bolstering wildlife populations such as sea turtles and shorebirds
- Improving fisheries management through better science and more accurate stock assessment



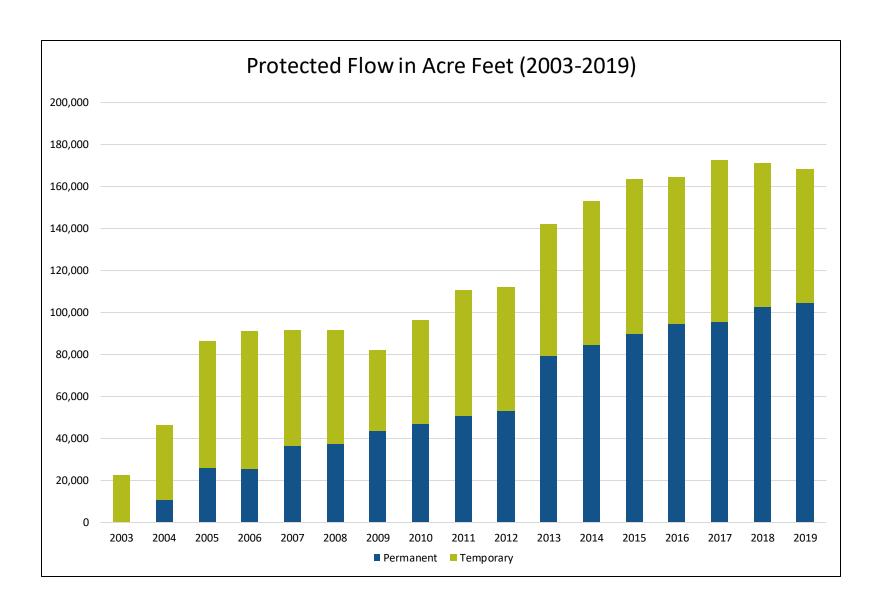


Columbia Basin Water Transactions Program

- Established in 2002, Partnership with BPA and in consultation with the Northwest Power and Conservation Council, work with landowners to dedicate water instream.
- Now working with USFS to align key watersheds where water transactions are taking place to build resilience.



Columbia Basin Water Transactions Program – successes to date



611 TRANSACTIONS

OVER **\$74.6 M** INVESTED IN CBWTP, **\$45.5 M** IN MATCH

12.3 MILLIONACRE FEET OF
WATER PROTECTED

OVER **900 CFS** PROTECTED

Intersection of National Programs America the Beautiful Challenge









- A one-stop-shop for implementers to easily access federal conservation funding from multiple agencies
- An opportunity for public-private partnerships to further leverage federal investments
- A means to deliver infrastructure related conservation funding on the ground in a fast manner
- A way to pool federal agency funding and expertise to support cross-boundary and/or landscape-scale restoration projects



Keys to Success

- 1) Collaboration and coordination
- 2) Engaging stakeholders and building capacity
- 3) Planning
- 4) Working at scale





Investments in the Klamath Basin

• Klamath Basin: Over \$14M under management with FWS and BOR to restore water quality, quantity, and aquatic and terrestrial habitats.

- Watershed Infrastructure: Partnership with the USFS to repair forest roads, restore stream connectivity and aquatic organism passage, and improve water quality.
- Forest Health and Prescribed Fire: Have funded projects on the Klamath, Shasta-Trinity and Six Rivers National Forests to build resilience and fuel breaks.





NFWF Business Plan and Conservation Framework



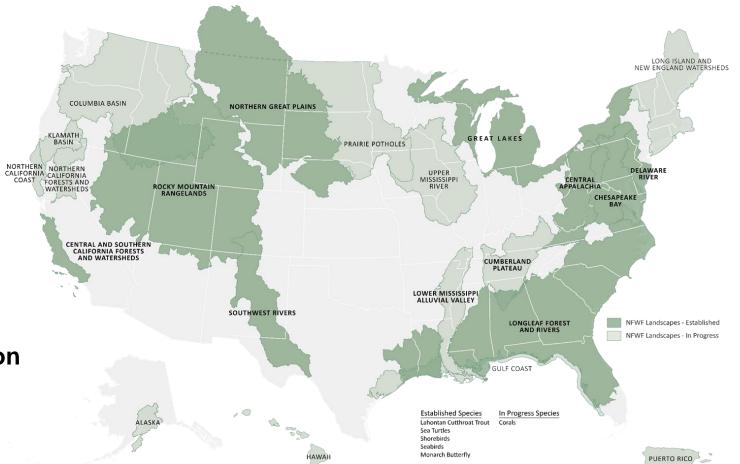




Conservation Need

Partnership Interest /
Investments

Measureable Conservation Outcomes





NFWF California Business Plan Vision

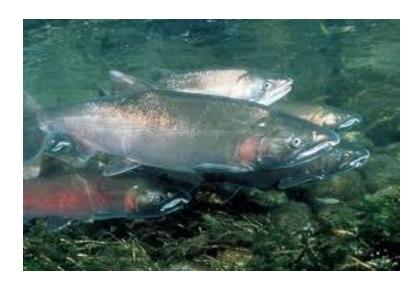


Protect and restore California's forests and watersheds from headwaters to the coast to advance species conservation and landscape resilience to future fire, drought, and other stressors

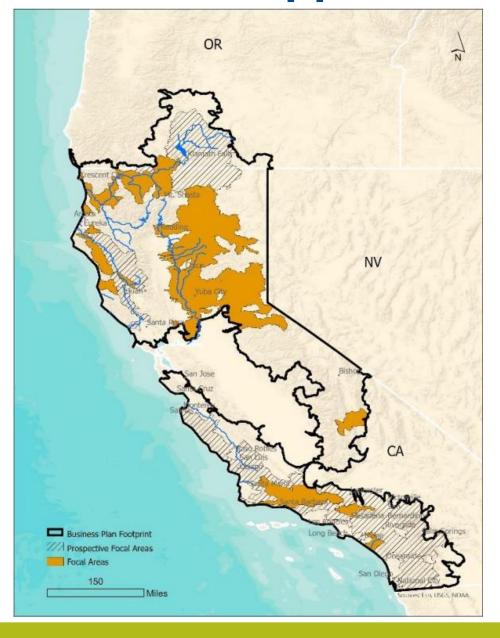
California Business Plan – Headwaters down approach

Key Species and Habitat

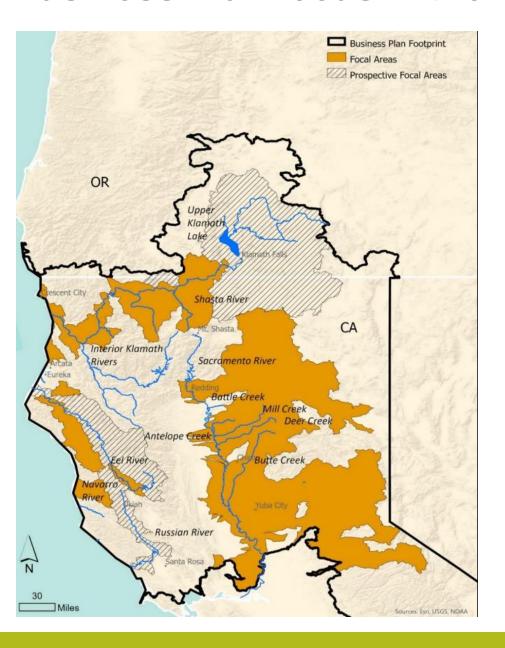
- Stand Density Index for forest species such as California Spotted Owl
- AOP's rectified and water replenished for native fish such as coho and chinook salmon and steelhead trout
- Meadows restored for species such as the California red-legged frog







Business Plan focus in the Klamath Basin

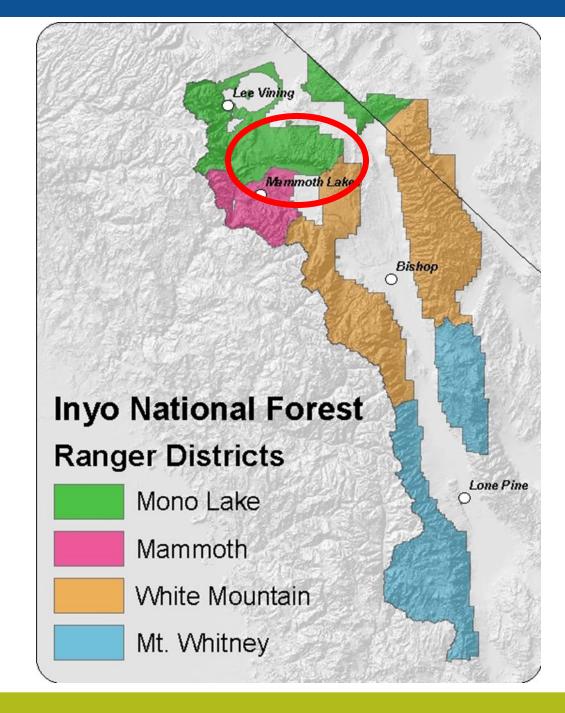


Continue funding and monitor projects which address:

- NOAA's priority reaches for SONCC coho in the Klamath Basin.
- Conservation actions that restore habitat important to the Los River sucker and the shorthnose sucker.
- Improve forest health and fish passage.

Using successes across the west

- Environmental Compliance
 - Klamath Basin
 - Stanislaus National Forest
- Build on Past Successes Inyo National Forest
 - 8,500 -15,000 AC of water/year
 - 30,000 metric tons of carbon avoided
- Opportunity to leverage State of California and the Wildfire Task Force
 - Craggy Vegetation



Opportunities for 2023

- Prioritization of projects, processes and working at scale.
- Work across jurisdictions.
- More opportunities to meet in person.





Discussion



