

# Oregon salmon forecasts

**Megan Sabal**

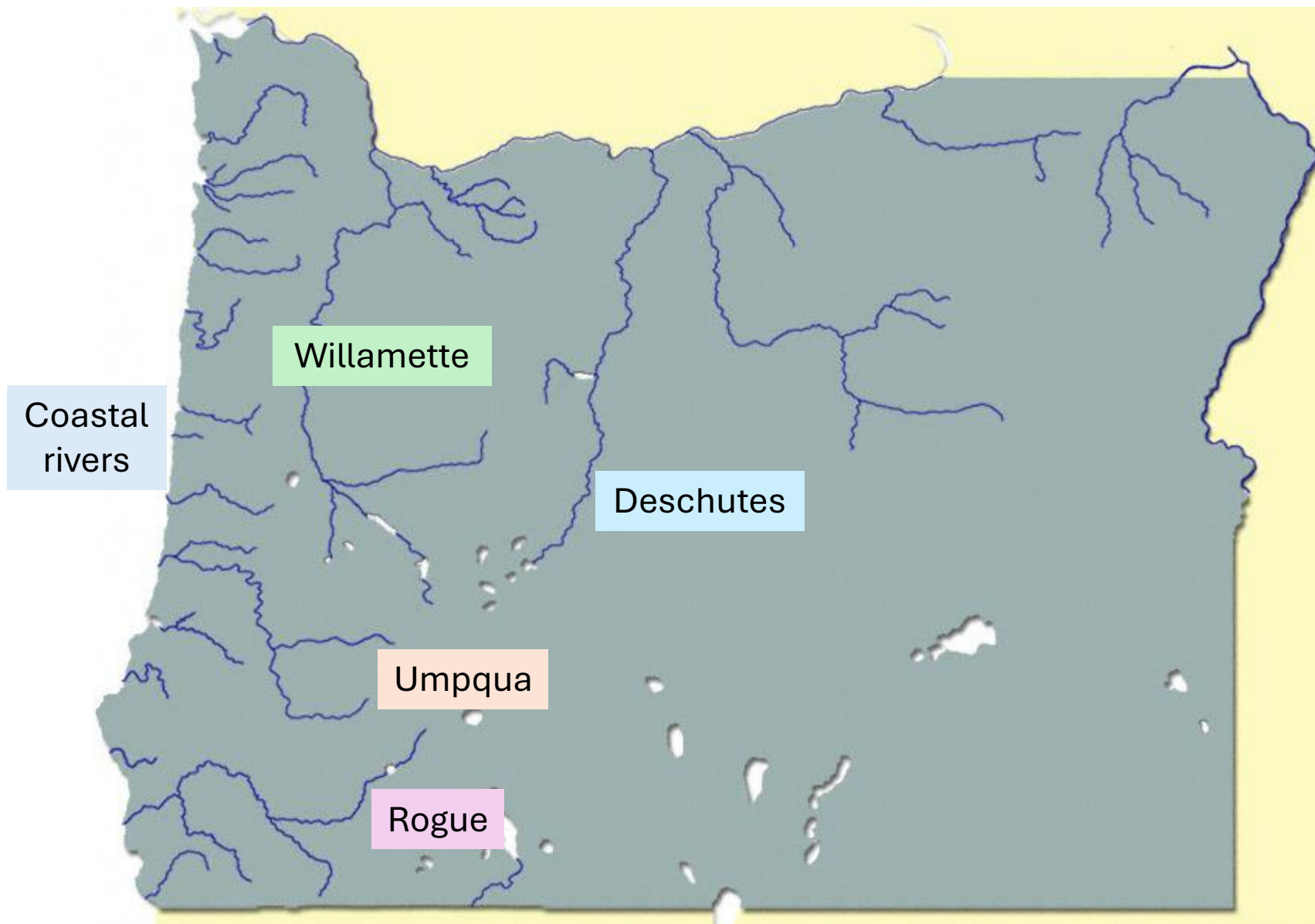
ODFW

9/11/2024

Forecasting Workshop



*10 total  
forecasts!*

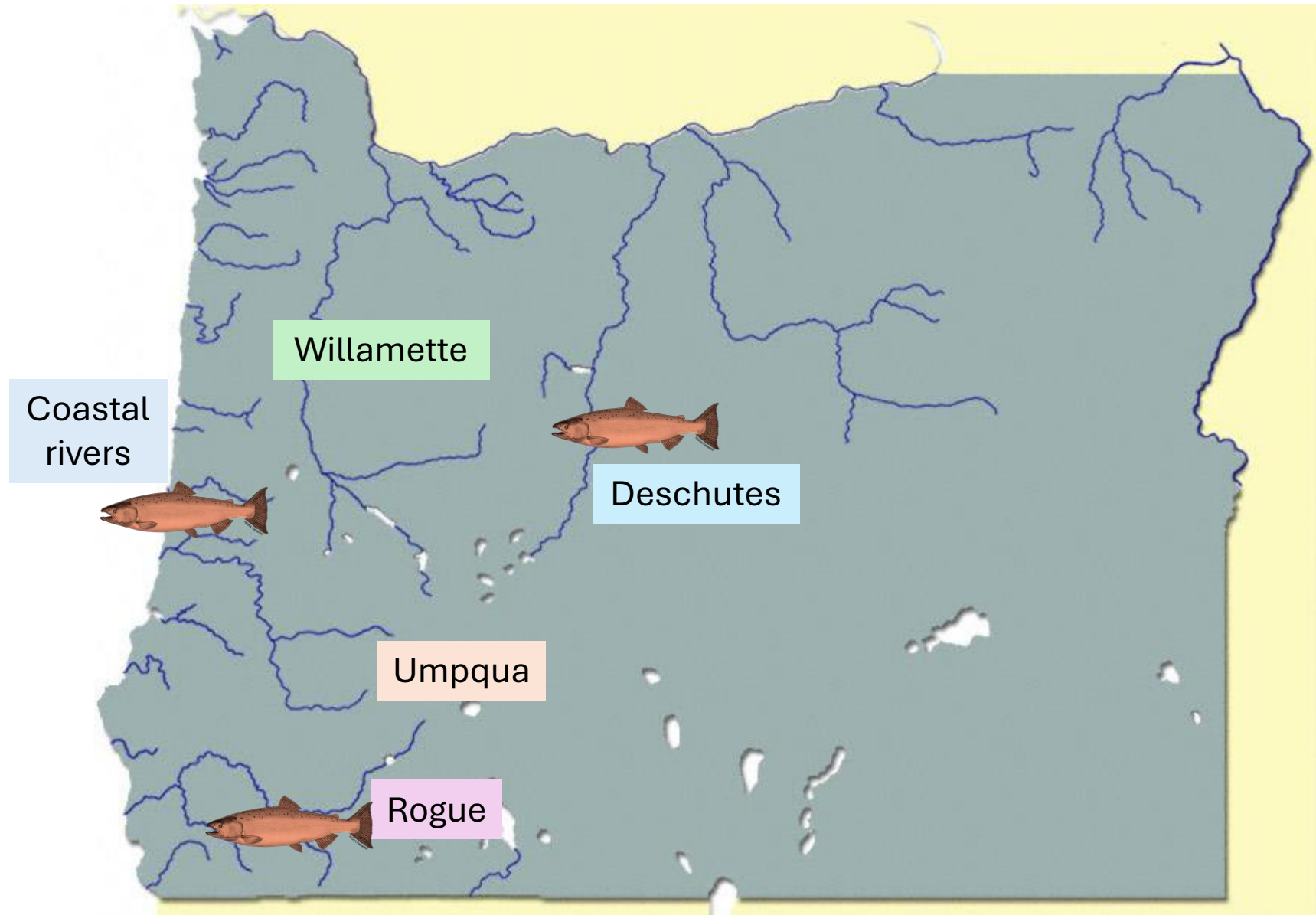


# Data In – I mostly didn't do this!

- Escapement:
  - Spawning ground surveys
  - M-R experiments
  - Dam counts
- By Age
- Environmental covariates
- Survival indices

| Species   | Run    | System                                  | Output | Forecast approach(es) | Best, ensemble, static | New model(s) each year? | Contact                                   |
|-----------|--------|---|--------|-----------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|---|
| Chinook   | fall   | 16 coastal rivers in 4 strata           |        |                       |                        |                         | <b>Clemons</b>                            |
| Chinook   | fall   | Rogue River                             |        |                       |                        |                         | Mazur                                     |
| Chinook   | fall   | Deschutes River                         |        |                       |                        |                         | <b>Clemons</b>                            |
| Chinook   | fall   | Salmon and Elk Rivers                   |        |                       |                        |                         | <b>Riggers</b>                            |
| Chinook   | spring | Umpqua River (North and South)          |        |                       |                        |                         | <b>Sabal</b><br>( <b>Falcy</b> developed) |
| Chinook   | spring | Willamette River                        |        |                       |                        |                         | <b>Storch</b>                             |
| Chinook   | spring | Rogue River                             |        |                       |                        |                         | Samarin<br>( <b>Falcy</b> developed)      |
| Coho      | OCN    | Coastal OR rivers (natural)             |        |                       |                        |                         | <b>Suring</b>                             |
| Coho      | OPI-H  | Klamath to WA (hatchery) & CR (natural) |        |                       |                        |                         | Leeman; <b>Suring</b> ;<br><b>Sorel</b>   |
| Steelhead | winter | Rogue River                             |        |                       |                        |                         | Anthony                                   |

**Names** in bold are here  
at the workshop!



# Fall Chinook

| Species | Run  | System                        | Output                 | Forecast approach(es)   | Best, ensemble, static | New model(s) each year? | Contact        |
|---------|------|-------------------------------|------------------------|---|------------------------|-------------------------|----------------|
| Chinook | fall | 16 coastal rivers in 4 strata | Age-specific abundance | Naïve, ARIMA, Sibling w and w/o covariates, Kalman filter (ForecastR) | Best                   | Yes                     | <b>Clemons</b> |
| Chinook | fall | Rogue River                   | Age-specific abundance | Sibling   | Static                 | No                      | Mazur          |
| Chinook | fall | Deschutes River               | Age-specific abundance | Naïve, ARIMA, Sibling w/o covariates, Kalman filter (ForecastR)       | Best                   | Yes                     | <b>Clemons</b> |
| Chinook | fall | Salmon and Elk Rivers         | Age-specific abundance | Survival model; Cohort analysis                                       | Static                 | No                      | <b>Riggers</b> |

## Coastal

- Population forecasts rolled up to strata for PST management.
- Strata forecasts don't perform as well.
- Challenge: turn-around time.

## Rogue

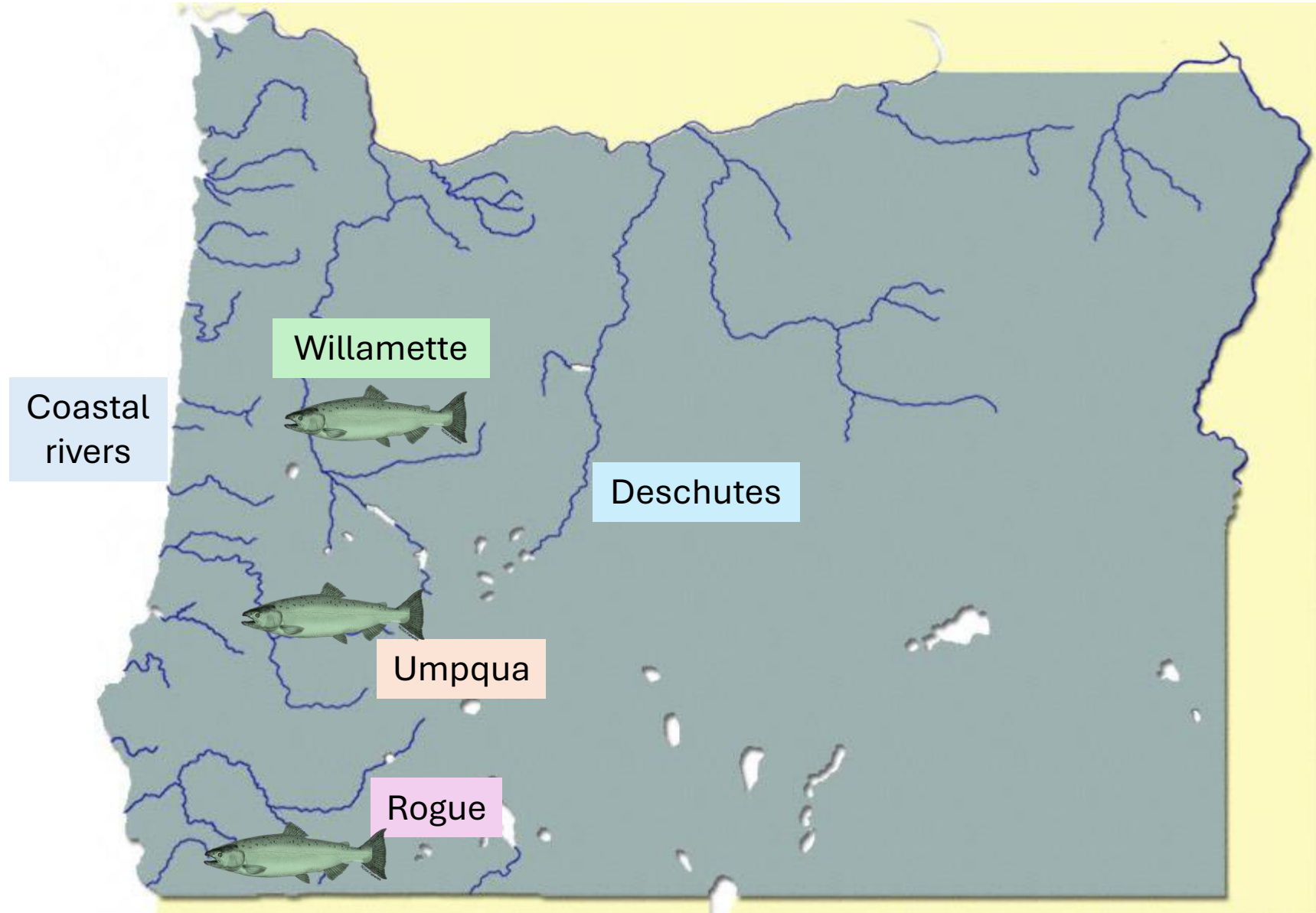
- Developed 10 years ago.
- Recently running high.
- Works well for purposes: to capture dramatic downturn.

## Deschutes

- Was particularly bad at forecasting!
- Currently not used anymore.

## Salmon and Elk

- Applies relevant CWT age-specific survivals to hatchery release #s. Sum across ages for total abundance.
- In progress: apply to natural fish.



# Spring Chinook

| Species | Run    | System                         | Output                         | Forecast approach(es)   | Best, ensemble, static | New model(s) each year? | Contact                                   |
|---------|--------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|------------------------|-------------------------|---|
| Chinook | spring | Umpqua River (North and South) | Abundance                      | ARIMA, NNAR, Sibling regressions; each with and without minimum summer flow covariate | Ensemble               | No                      | <b>Sabal</b><br>( <b>Falcy</b> developed) |
| Chinook | spring | Willamette River               | Age-specific abundance         | Sibling w and w/o covariates (state-space w/ sometimes time-varying parameters)       | Best                   | Sometimes               | <b>Storch</b>                             |
| Chinook | spring | Rogue River                    | Age-specific & total abundance | Sibling regression (age-specific) and ARIMA with covariates (total)                   | Ensemble               | No                      | Samarin<br>( <b>Falcy</b> developed)      |

## Umpqua

- No age data available.
- Used to set bag limits.
- Hasn't performed great – interest in updating.

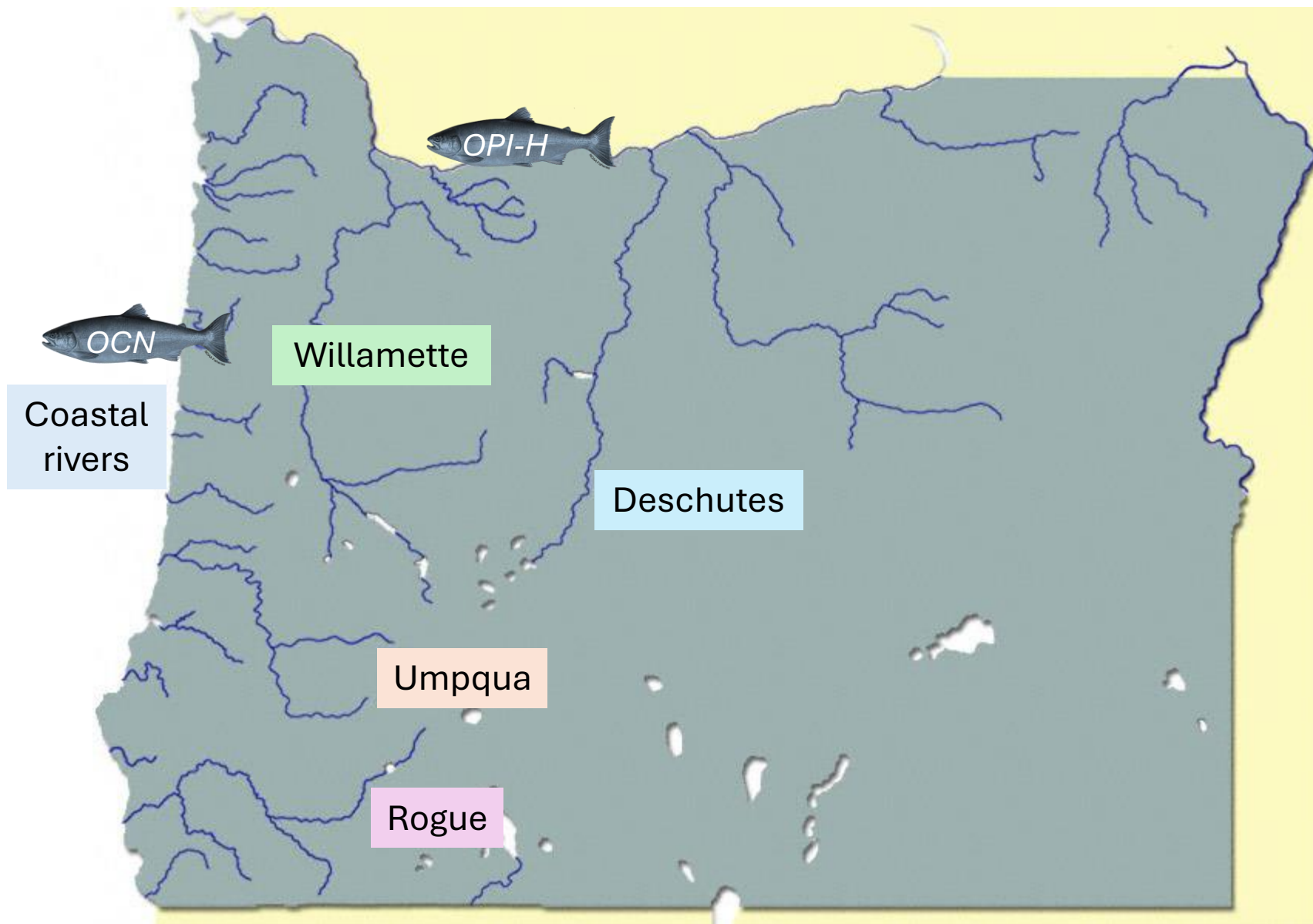
## Willamette

- Formal evaluation in 2016.
- Now “best” models updated only when they appear to be performing poorly.
- Age-specific error propagated via MCMC for total run.
- With cool Shiny app!

## Rogue

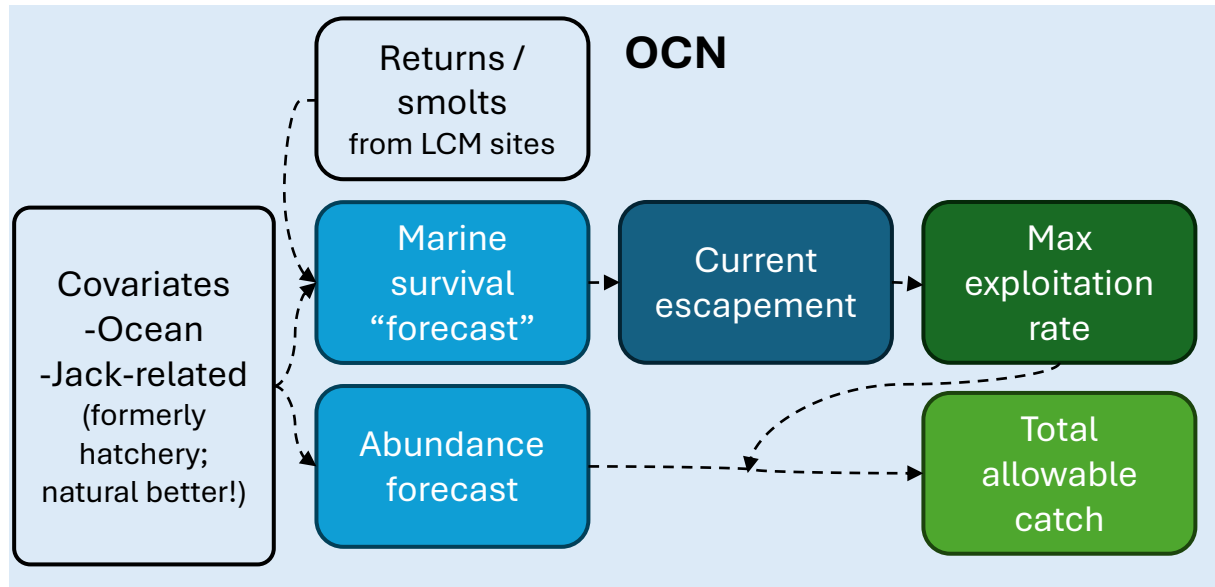
- Been used for recent 6 years.
- Typically done well but missed recent downturn.





# Coho

| Species | Run   | System                                  | Output                     | Forecast approach(es)              | Best, ensemble, static | New model(s) each year? | Contact                      |
|---------|-------|---|----------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| Coho    | OCN   | Coastal OR rivers (natural)             | Marine survival; Abundance | GAMs with oceanographic covariates | Ensemble               | No                      | <b>Suring</b>                |
| Coho    | OPI-H | Klamath to WA (hatchery) & CR (natural) | Abundance                  | ARIMA with covariates              | Ensemble               | Yes                     | Leeman; <b>Suring, Sorel</b> |

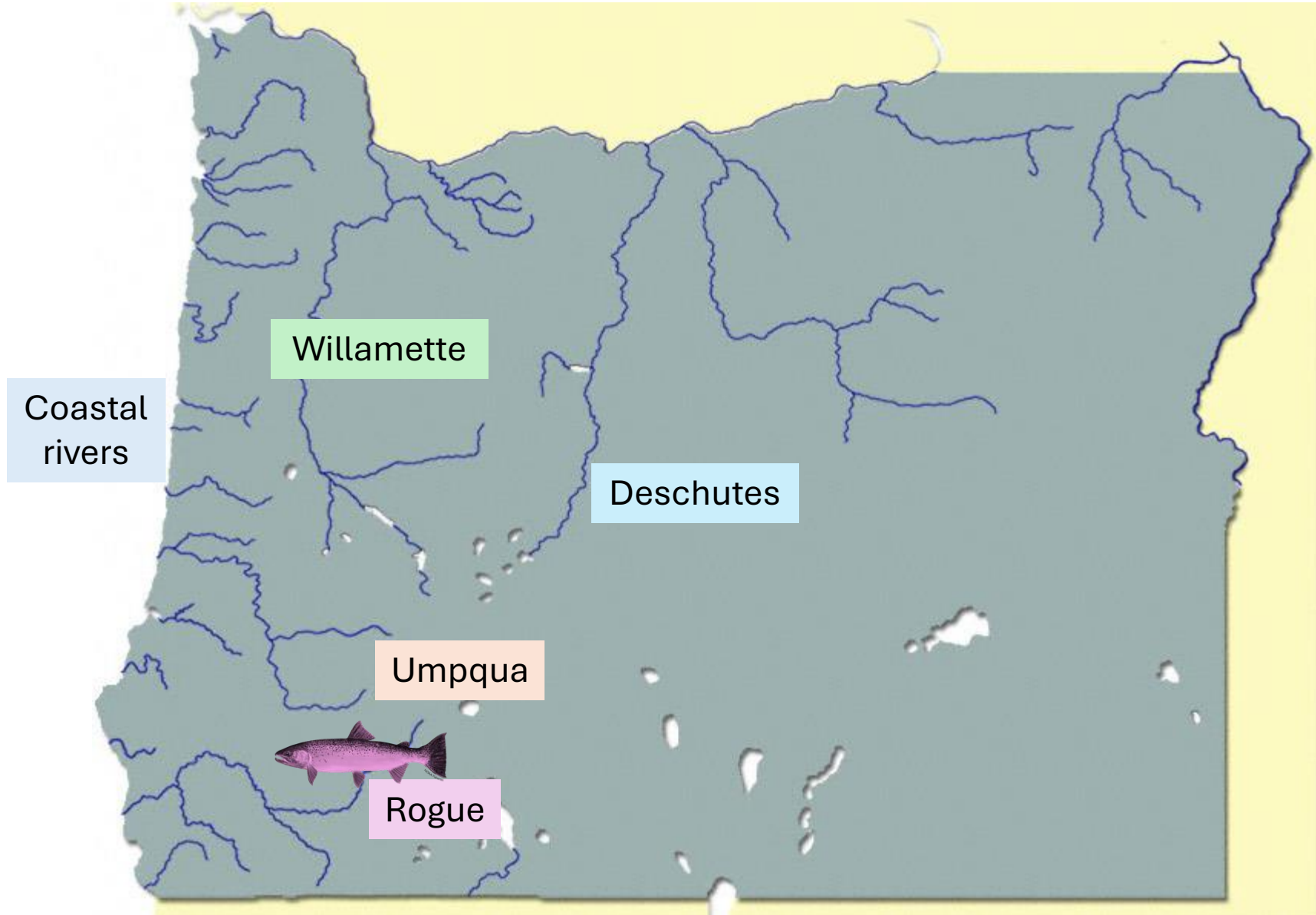


## OPI-H

- New method applied in 2024!
- Includes ocean covariates in top models.
- Models evaluated with 15 recent years of data (what is useful *now* vs *historic*)
- Covariates
  - Jack return data
  - Hatchery smolt releases (total and delayed)
  - Oceanographic indicators



Winter steelhead



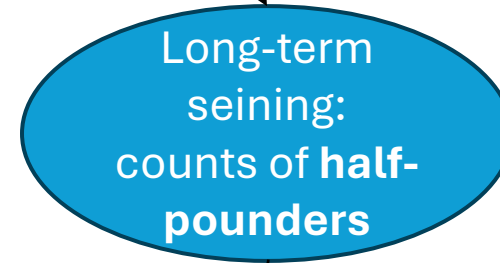
# Winter steelhead

| Species   | Run    | System      | Output    | Forecast approach(es) | Best, ensemble, static | New model(s) each year? | Contact |
|-----------|--------|-------------|-----------|-----------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|---------|
| Steelhead | winter | Rogue River | Abundance | Sibling               | Static                 | No                      | Anthony |

**Management:** 300 half pounders correlates with 15<sup>th</sup> percentile of historic dam counts

Fishery closure @ 300 half pounders

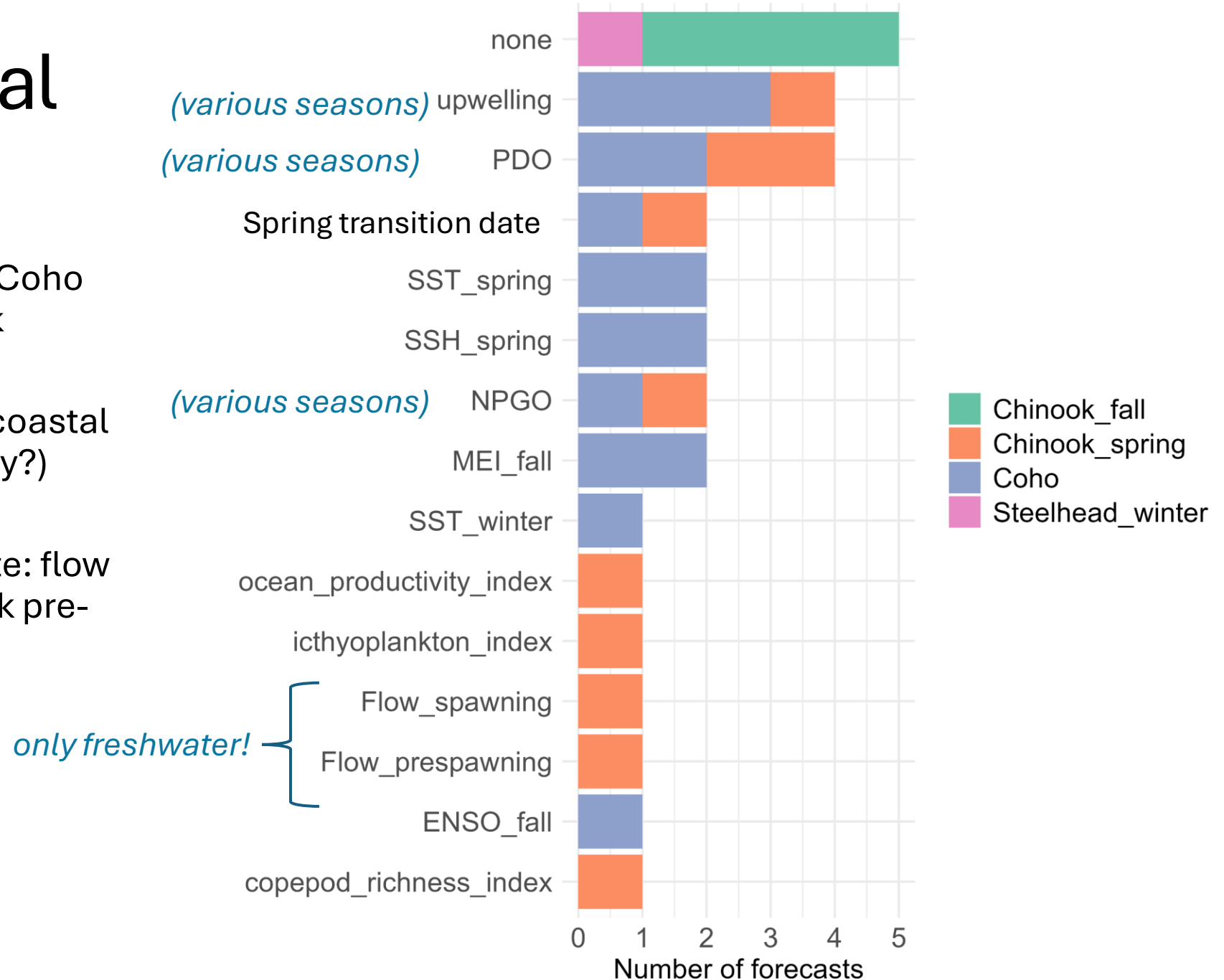
- Dam removed in 2010
- Can't validate
- New spawning surveys



**"Forecast":** half pounders predict total adults 2 years later

# Environmental Covariates

- Currently considered in Coho and (2/3) spring Chinook forecasts.
- Formerly considered in coastal fall Chinook. Never(rarely?) ended up in best model.
- Only freshwater covariate: flow related to spring Chinook pre-spawning or spawning.



# Shiny apps

Willamette spring Chinook (A. Storch)

<https://oscrpapps.shinyapps.io/WillClackRunApp/>

ForecastR

<https://psc1.shinyapps.io/ForecastR/>

# Questions / Discussion

## ***Possible topics***

- “Best” model VS. ensemble VS. static
- Non-stationarity
  - Fit to recent 15 years instead of entire timeseries
  - Time-varying parameters
- Shiny apps
- Covariates: for which forecasts are they helpful; which ones; how to choose
- Changing/losing data
  - New methods
  - Closed Gold Ray Dam on Rogue, hatchery closure, etc.

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# Sidebar: Covariate Selection

**Climwin:** tests many climate windows of single variable (van de Pol et al. 2016)

R packages

**Boruta:** finds all-relevant covariates to a response via machine learning (Kursa and Rudnicki 2010)

