

Chehalis Basin Strategy: Reducing Flood Damage and Restoring Aquatic Species

*Briefing Task Force on Washington Waters
January 15, 2016*



History of Flood Damage



March 1910



December 1933



January 1974

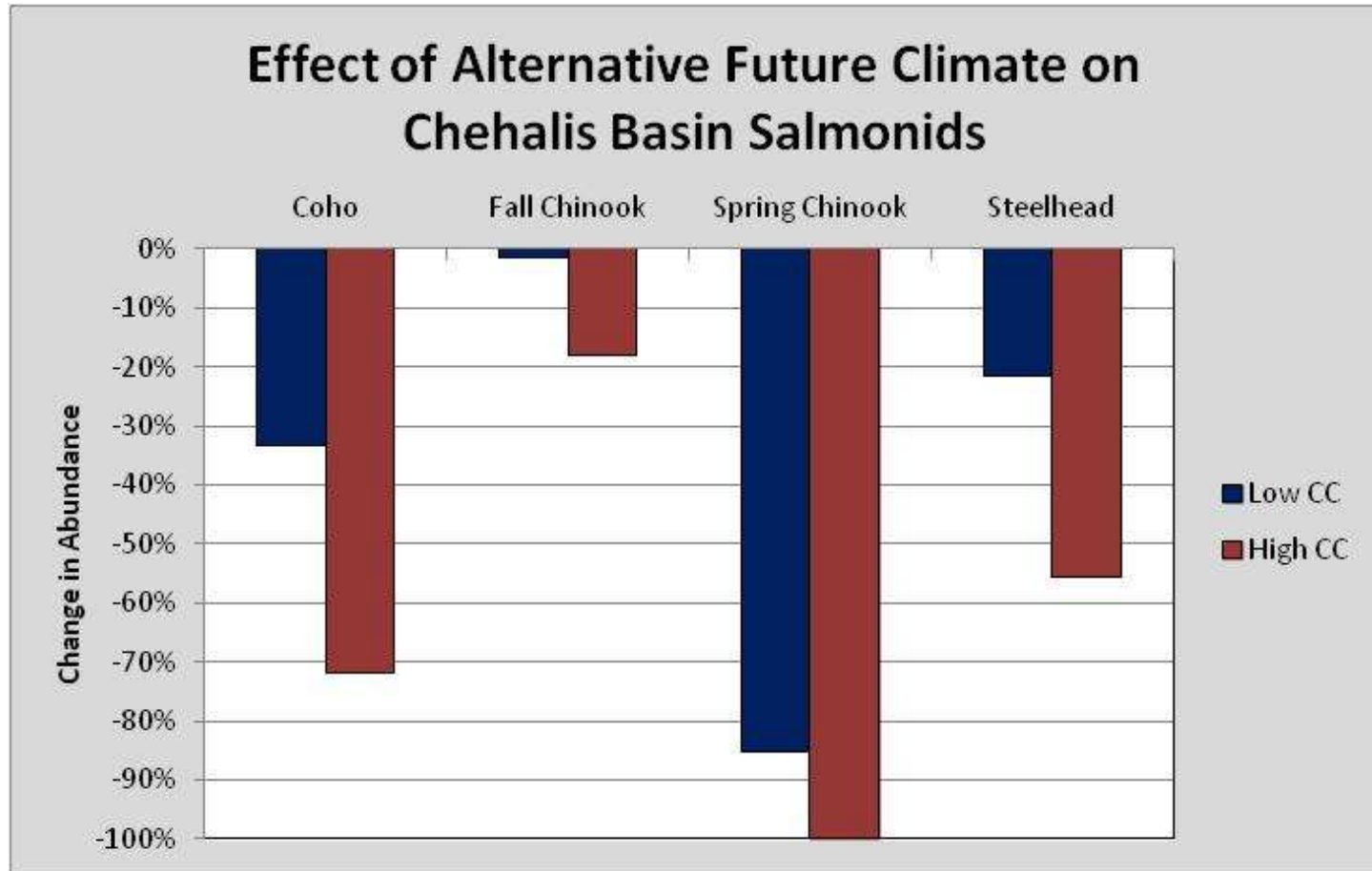


November 1990

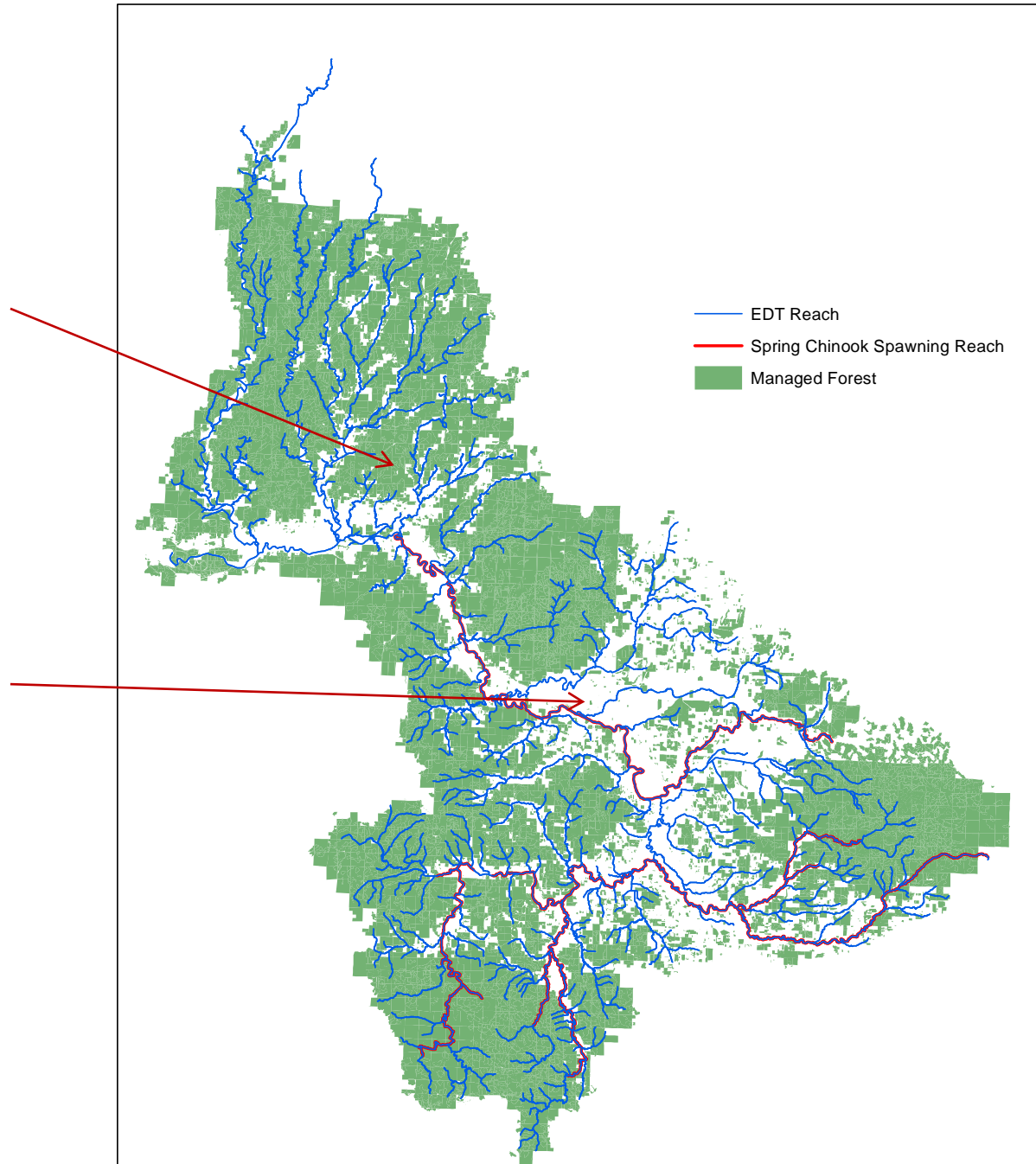
FEMA flood damage claims by river basin since 1978 (small % of total damages)

| River Basin | Damage Claims (Million) |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Chehalis | \$70.4 |
| Snohomish | \$46.4 |
| Skagit/Samish | \$18.5 |
| Cowlitz | \$18.0 |
| Puyallup/White | \$16.1 |
| Cedar/Sammamish | \$14.8 |
| Duwamish/Green | \$ 6.0 |
| Lewis | \$ 5.6 |
| Stillaguamish | \$ 5.4 |
| Nooksack | \$ 5.3 |
| The 51 other river basins combined | \$42 million |

Climate Change

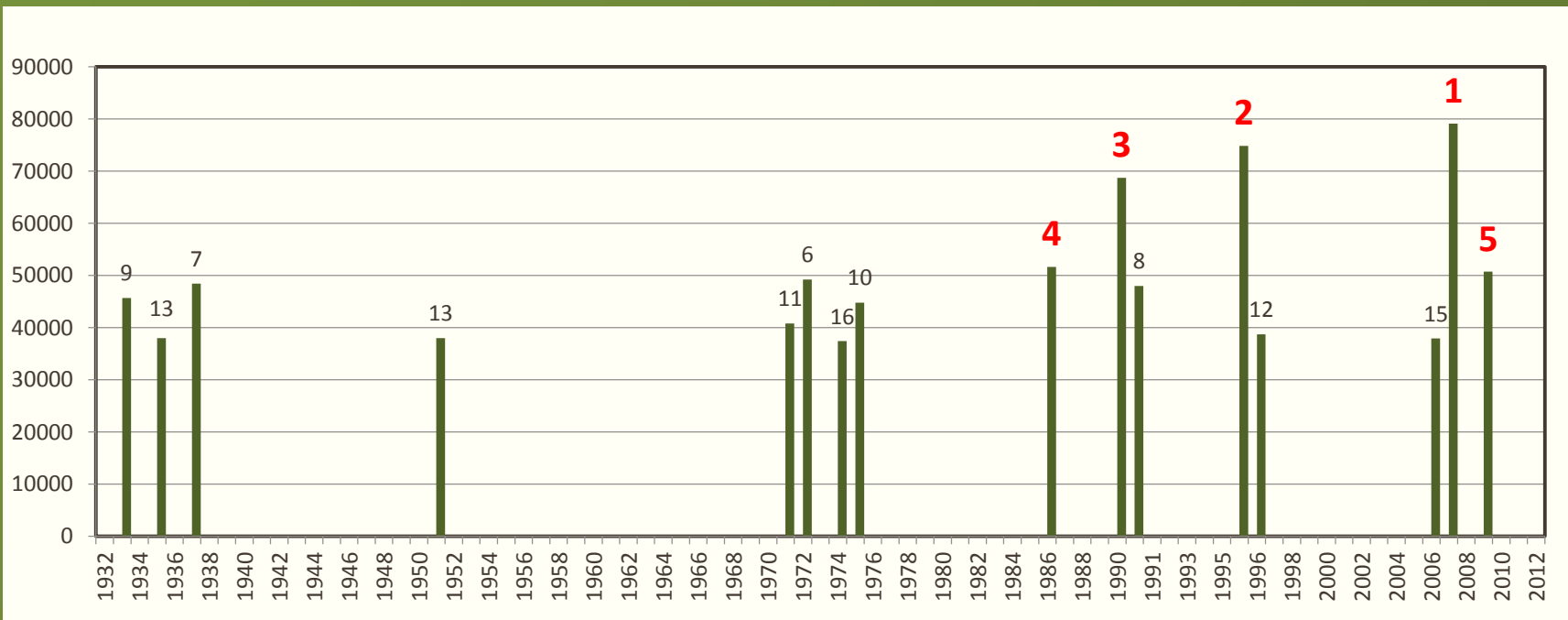


Habitat
Restoration
Can
Increase
Salmon
Populations
By
50%



The Floods Are Getting Worse

- I-5 closed in 1990, 1996, 2007, 2009
- Five largest flood events occurred since 1986



Current Biennium Actions

- Nov 2014 recommended initial strategy to move forward.
- Approved by Governor
- Legislature approved \$50m – July 1, 2015
- ½ for local flood and fish projects now
- ½ comprehensive assessment, programmatic EIS and Governor decision December 2016.

Economic Costs and Benefits of Initial Strategy

- Cost \$500M-\$600M
- Direct benefits \$720M based on historic record
- \$3.8B in total benefits including economic multiplier and intrinsic value of fish
- Interstate 5 closed for less than 1 day instead of 5 or more.
- Protect 2000 structures from a 2007 like flood.
- Up to 50 percent increase salmon and benefit for other aquatic species.