Using Big Interagency Databases to Identify Climate Refugia for Idaho's Species of Concern



What is a Climate Refugia?

"... habitat that supports a locally reproducing population [or key life history stage] and has a high probability of doing so late this century"





Identifying Refugia Facilitates Climate-Smart Planning & Conservation Investing





Identifying refugia may also allay fears of species extinction

21st Century – View it as a Bottle-Neck





Refugia help navigate to the post climatechange world



World Population Prospects: The 2015 Revision. http://esa.un.org/unpd/wpp/

Operationalizing refugia concept requires: 1) Ecological knowledge

2) Current status assessment of habitat conditions & population distributions

3) Climate scenarios of broad extent and fine resolution

4) Species distribution models built from #1, #2, & #3

5) Engagement of a conservation community that collectively acts on the information

Data & Models

Climate-Flagship-Umbrella Species a.k.a. the "mules" of biodiversity conservation





#SageGrouse



- 1) Societally important (funding is possible)
- 2) Initially constrains the problem to something manageable
- 3) Database & model infrastructure for one species can be recycled for many species



All agencies under pressure to "do something"...

Many Agencies Collect Similar Types of Data with Similar Protocols...



Low : 7.1

Design and evaluation of an inexpensive radiation shield for monitoring surface air temperatures

Zachary A. Holden^{a,*}, Anna E. Klene^b, Robert F. Keefe^c, Gretchen G. Moisen^d



BIG FISH Datasets

>20,000 fish sample sites





USGS BISON (Biodiversity Information Serving our Nation) 260,000,000 species occurrence records



Data **≠** Database Data Aggregation QA/QC Data Cleaning

11



Temperature (°C)

Metadata & digital archiving in user-friendly formats



Data table structures & summaries

A	В	C
Stream: El	k Creek	
Georeference: 61	10234 E, 4	402546 W
Date	Time	Temp (*C
7/15/2005	21:23	15.59
7/15/2005	21:53	15.11
7/15/2005	22:23	14.64
7/15/2005	22:53	14.32
7/15/2005	23:23	13.86
7/15/2005	23:53	13.55





Databases Enable Efficient Queries, Summaries & Analyses



Creating & Maintaining Big Databases Are Full-Time Jobs for Technical Teams



Technology = Force Multiplier

Accurate models translated to "Real-World" Coordinates





Custom Websites are Key for Data Delivery & Fostering User-Communities (GIS data, software, maps, manuscripts, species occurrences, etc.) >45,000 web-visits/year & rapidly growing user communities



Real Fish-World Examples

Climate Boogeyman



Recreational Fisheries

Low Flows Prompt Fishing Closure On Upper Beaverhead River And Reduced Limits On Clark Canyon Reservoir

Wednesday, September 29, 2004 Fishing

High Water Temperature In Grande Ronde Kills 239 Adult



\$30 Billion on Fish & Wildlife Recovery Efforts in PNW Since 1980



Water Development

Need: High-Resolution Stream Scenarios

Global climate models Resolution: 1000's of kilometers



River network temperature & flow NorWeST





Regional patterns







OCH Water Eine 95.0 OCH Water Eine 93.7 m OCH Water Eine 93.7 m B-Oranoel Cole Filow 90.0



Database & Scenarios Create Synergies



Climate Vulnerability Varies by Species



Isaak et al. 2017. Big biology meets microclimatology. Ecol. Apps. doi:10.1002/eap.1501

Precise Distribution Models for Sensitive BIG FISH DATA Native Trout Species



Isaak et al. 2015. The cold-water climate shield: Delineating refugia for preserving native trout through the 21st Century. *Global Change Biology* **21:** 2540-2553

Models Yield Ecological Understanding



Bull Trout Probability Map





Bull Trout Probability Map





Bull Trout Probability Map

2080s



Cutthroat Probability Map



9,219 >0.1 habitats 8,519 >0.5 habitats 3,089 >0.9 habitats

>0.5

>0.1

>0.9

Cutthroat Probability Map



2040s

Cutthroat Probability Map



2080s



Website Provides Information in User-Friendly Digital Formats

Just Google "Climate shield trout"

Presentations & Publications

Table 1 Control Security Security Property Record Table Treasury on ST Control and Links Materix Table Table Table Security

Sectored to

Digital Maps & ArcGIS Shapefiles

Fish Data Sources



Distribution Monitoring



File formats: • ArcGIS files

pdf files

15 Scenarios:

- 3 climate periods
- 5 Brook invasion levels



Precise Spatial Information also Guides Efficient Data Collection & Monitoring...



Uber Efficiency has Arrived: Rangewide eDNA Bull Trout Project



Partners sampled...

2016: 3,000 stream sites 2017: 4,000 more site surveys planned 2018: 3,000 final site surveys Sample sites are already organized in a database!



Dynamic Web-data portal Delivers

Results at Website







Legend

RMRSAWAE_eDNAFieldCollectionSites_01

The Range-Wide Bull Trout eDNA Project - FS Web App Builder

Q,

eDNA Field Collection Sites (<10% slope)

- not sampled
- sampled, bull trout absent

-

Find address of place

sampled, bull trout present.

RMRSAWAE_eDNA_ClimateShieldPatches_01

Climete Shield Natal Hebitat Petches

<11°C and occurrence probability >0.25

RMRSAWAE_eDNADistributionSR_01

USPWS Spewning and Rearing Critical Habitat

RMRSAWAE_eDNAWatersheds_01

Bull Trout Distribution Watersheds



Query & download data by site, stream, HUC, DSP, species range

eDNA ByCatch is Important BiProduct...





Goal: Precise Models & Databases for All Species

High-resolution landscape models



DATABASE

 $\frac{\exp(a+bx\dots ny)}{(1+\exp[a+bx\dots ny])}$





Debris flow susceptible channel Thermally suitable - occupied Thermally suitable - unoccupied Projected habitat loss Road culvert fish barrier

Inter-Agency Databases Engage Everyone & Strengthen Conservation Networks





Coordinated Management & Conservation





Data Collected by Local Bios & Hydros







Management Decisions



Better Inter-Agency Information Enables Efficiency on Many Fronts...



⊴USGS





Anomaly (°C) relative to 1901-2000

Climate Change

Urbanization &

Population Growth

Climate Refugia put us on a Path to Preserve More Cool Critters in the Long-run

