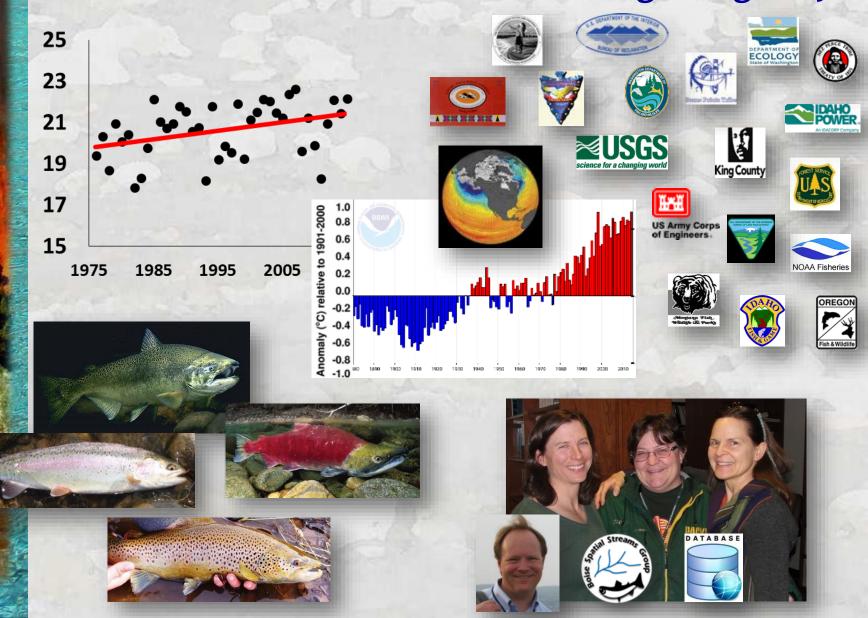
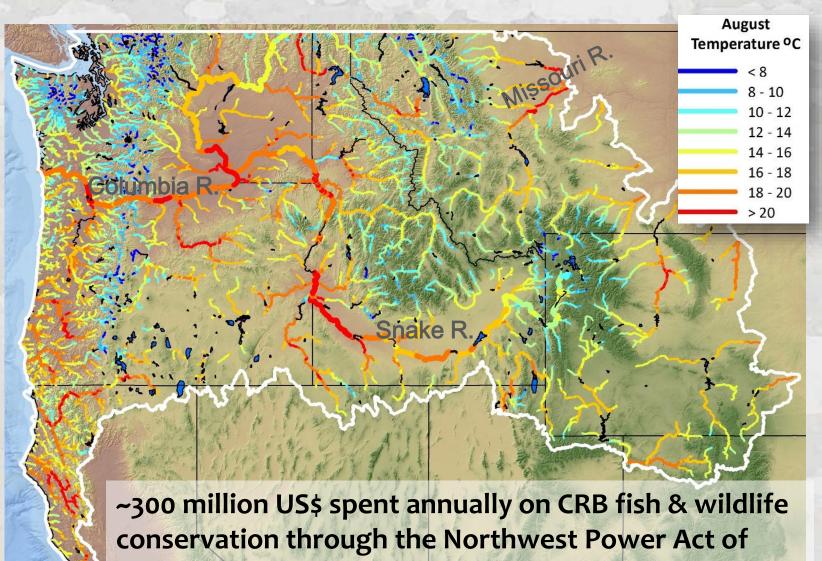
## Global Warming of Salmon and Trout Rivers in the Northwest: Road to Ruin or Path Through Purgatory?



## The Billion \$ Network of Concern 56,000 kilometers of rivers >100 cfs annual flow



1980 – Rieman et al. 2015

## **High Value Resources & Key Habitats**



## **Thermal Constraints on Cold-Water Fish Populations are Common...**

#### Symptoms include...

1) Migration delays & clustering in coldwater refuges 2) Selective gradients based on run timing 3) Mass mortality events: a) upriver stocks of Fraser river sockeye "disappear" b) spawning ground fish kills Keefer et al. 2010; Crozier 2011; Caudill et al. 2013 4) Fishing season closures CANADA 5) Fish disease outbreaks?

6) Shifting distributions Eby et al. 2014; Al-Chokhachy et al. 2016



High Water Temperature In Grande Ronde Kills 239 Adult Spring Chinook Columbia Basin Bulletin, August 14, 2009 (PST)



August 11, 2015 1:35 pm

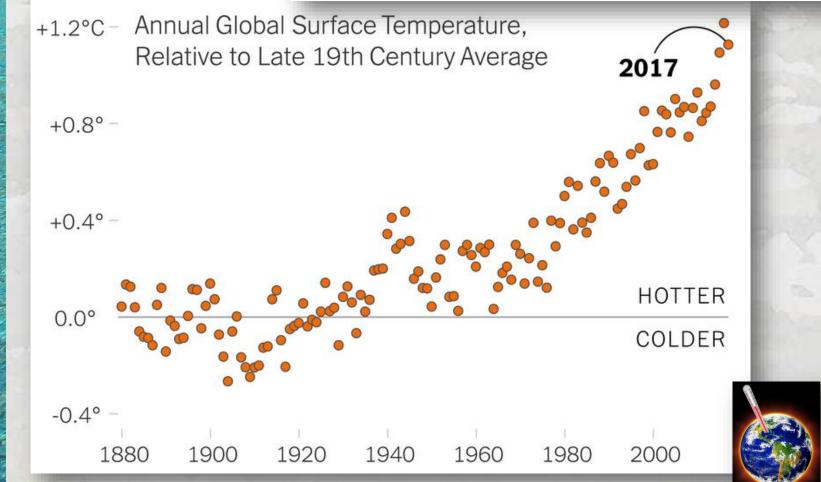
Updated: August 12, 2015

#### Fishing closures in southern Alberta due to hot weather

By Melissa Gilligan Online Reporter Global News

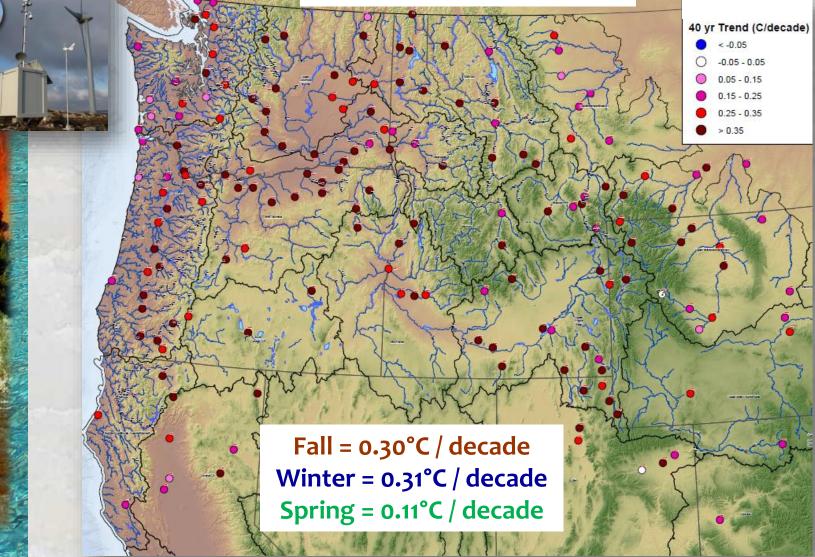
## Thermal Constraints Will be More Common 1880-2017 Global Air Temperature Trend

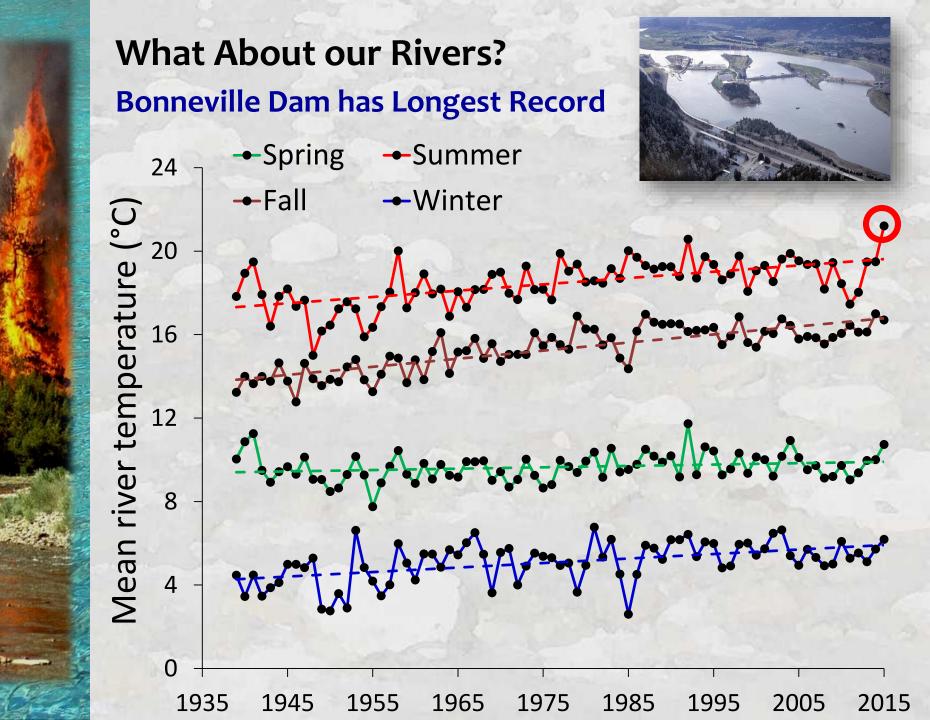
## NASA Ranks 2017 as the Second-Warmest Year on Record



## Regional Air Temp Trends (1976–2015) Global Historical Climatologic Network V3 Dataset

Summer = 0.35°C / decade





## Where are Other Long-term River Records? >220,000,000 hourly recordings >22,700 stream sites

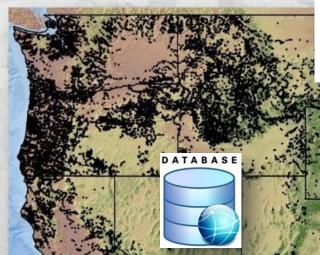
**NorWeST** 

**Stream Temp** 

Temperature (°C)

Time

UTBI-001

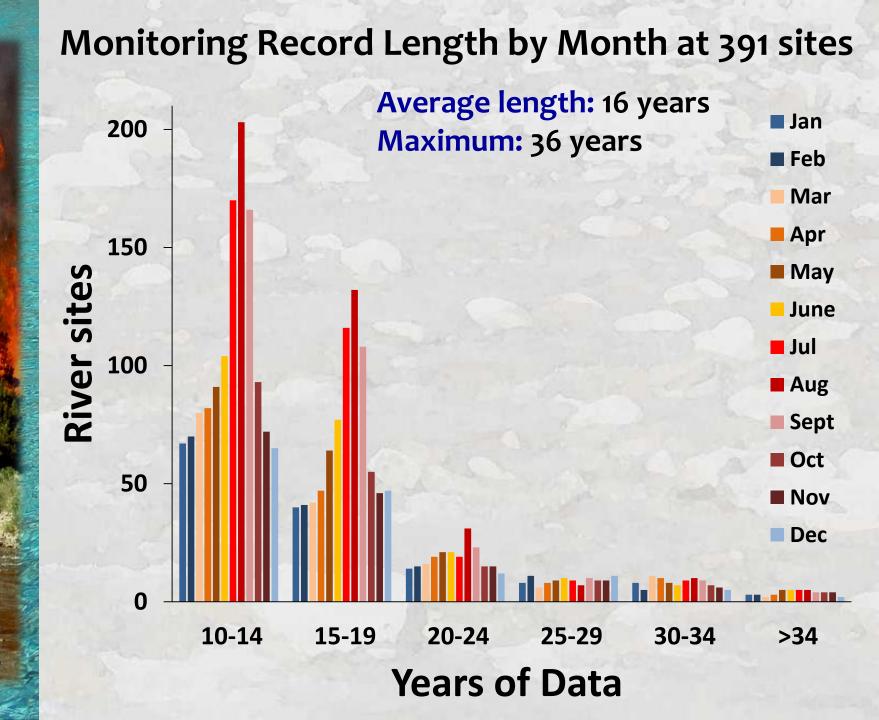


**Database query:** 

- How many sites have >10 years of monitoring during at least one month of year?
- 2) How many sites occur on rivers with >100 cfs flow?

Result: 391 river sites

>100 agencies

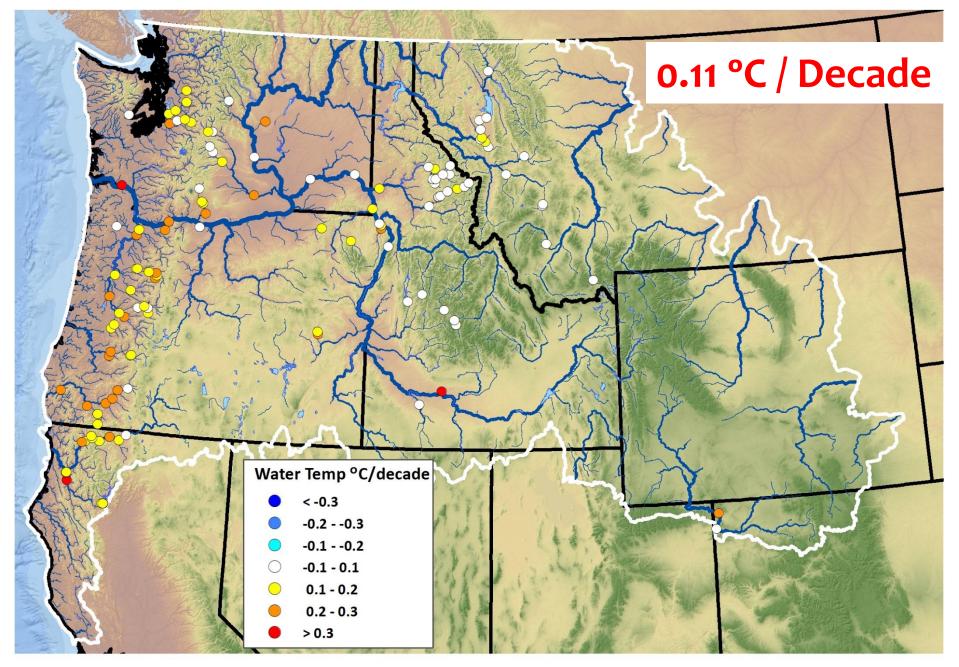


#### **Methods for Completing Time-Series:**

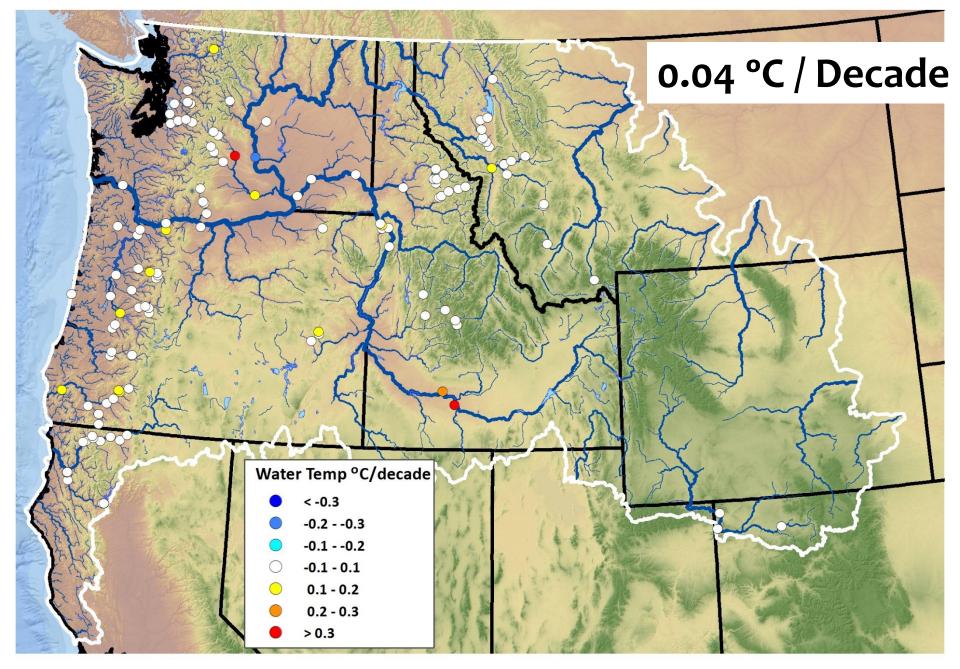
•Summarized monthly air temperatures for forty year period of 1976-2015 from Global Historical Climate Network V3 dataset for 168 sites

- •Summarized monthly river discharge from USGS NWIS, BOR HydroMet, & DART for 320 gage and dam sites
- •Aligned data series for RivTemp, air temperature, and discharge into twelve monthly matrices (40 years x 879 sites)
- •Imputed missing monthly RivTemp values using PCAs calculated with the MissMDA package in R (Missing Values with Multivariate Data Analysis)
- •Retained completed RivTemp time series if r > 0.8 between observed and fitted values (average r = 0.9)
- •Regressed RivTemp on year & calculated decadal trends for 20 & 40 year periods that end in 2015

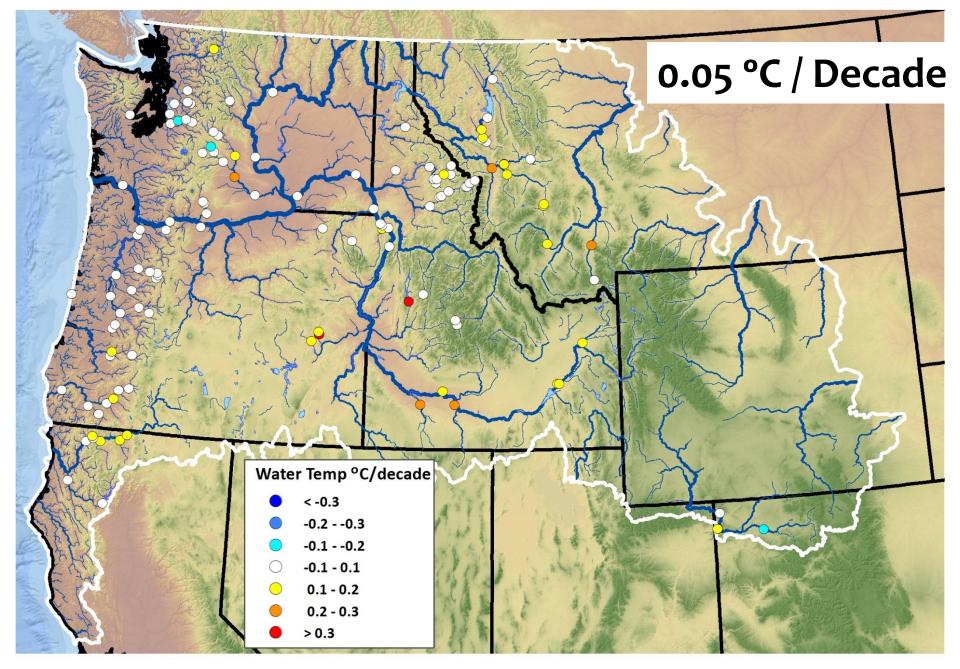
#### 40 Year (1976–2015) Monthly River Temperature Trend - January



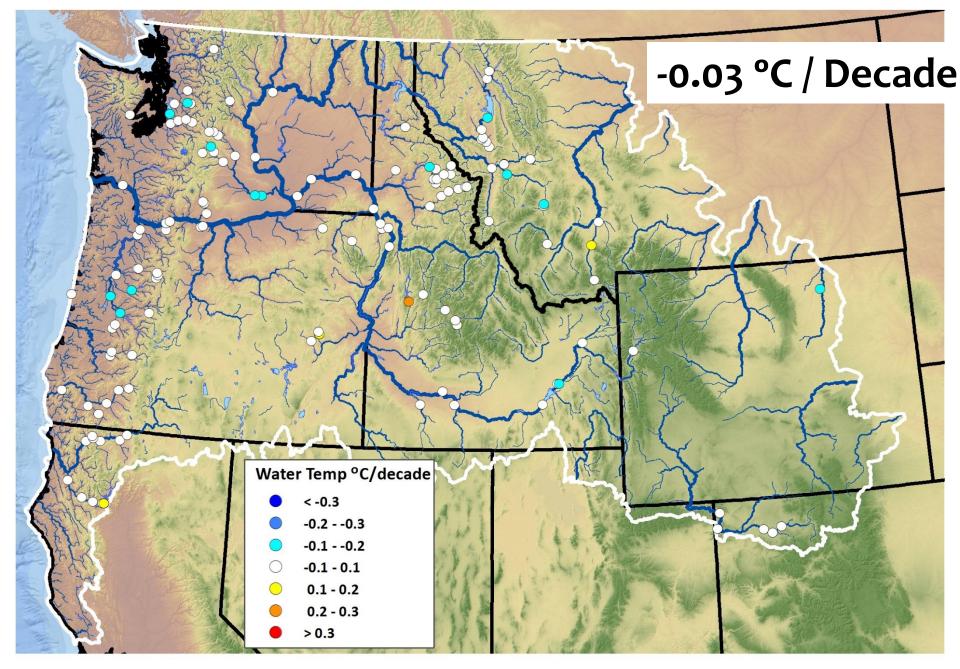
#### 40 Year (1976–2015) Monthly River Temperature Trend - February



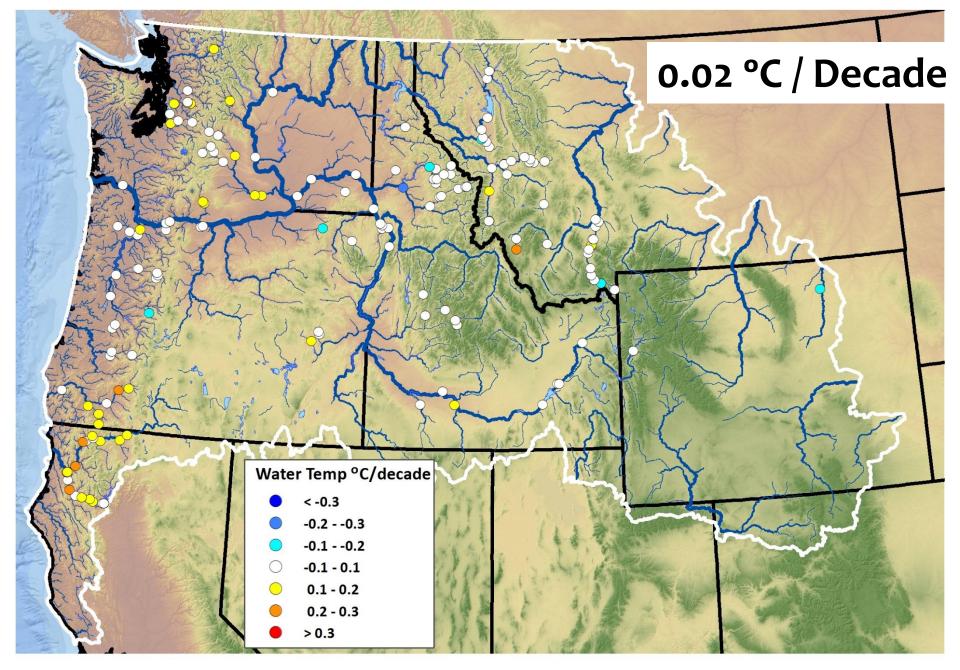
#### 40 Year (1976–2015) Monthly River Temperature Trend - March



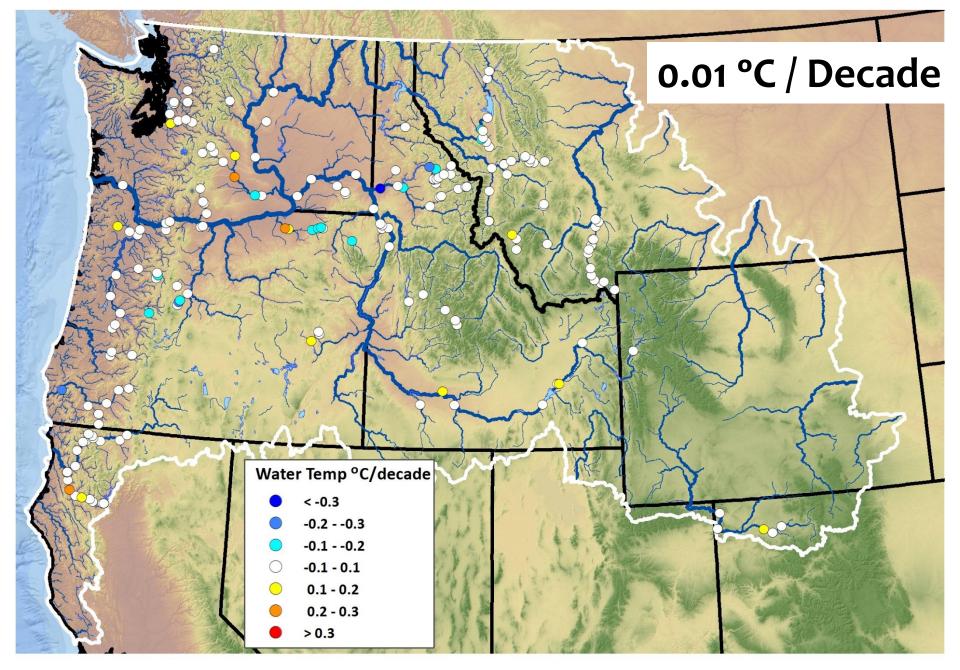
#### 40 Year (1976–2015) Monthly River Temperature Trend - April



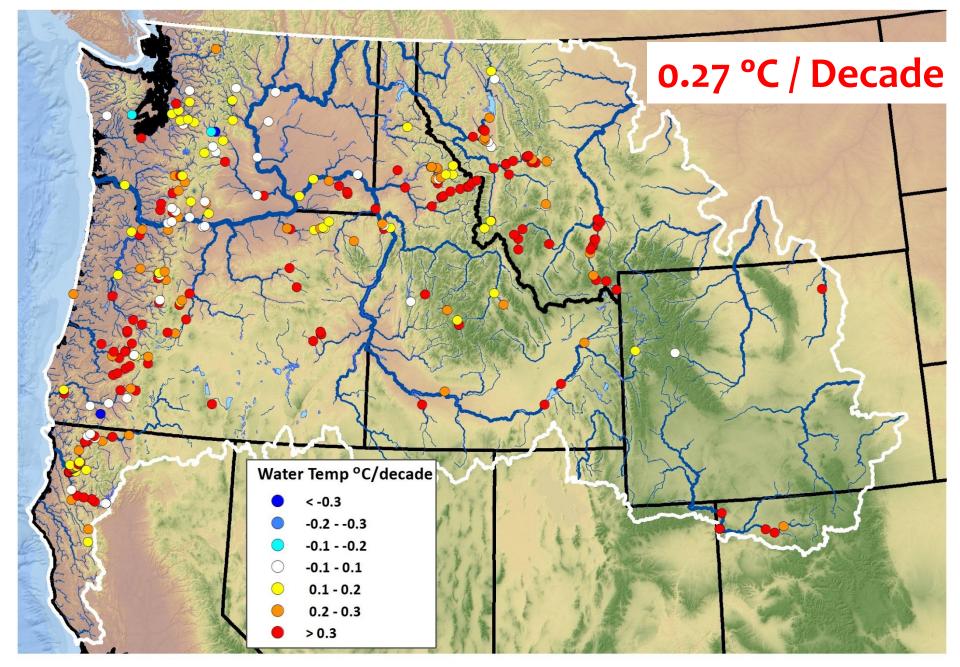
#### 40 Year (1976–2015) Monthly River Temperature Trend - May



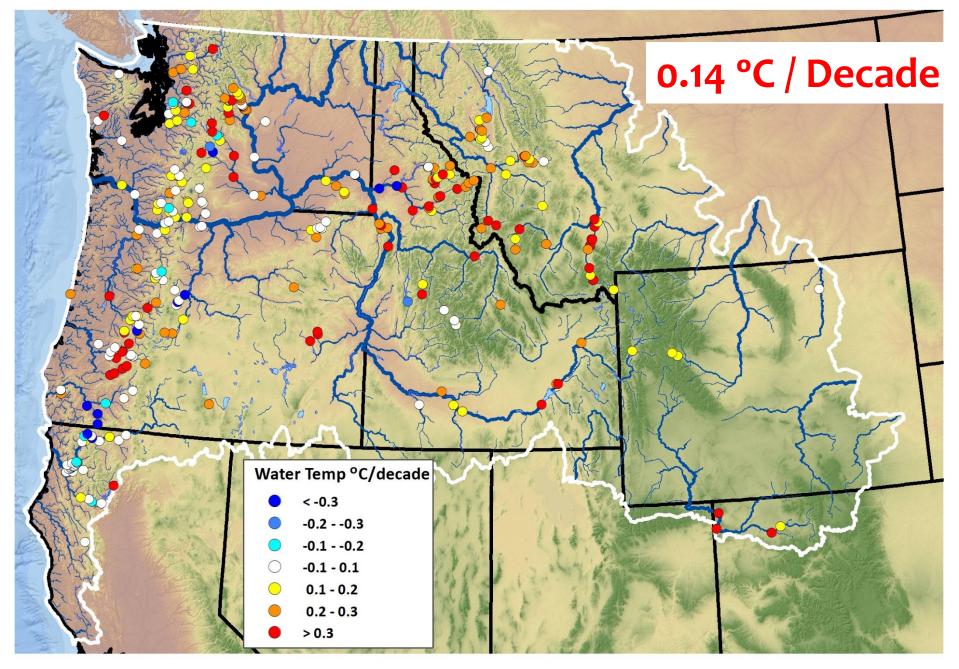
#### 40 Year (1976–2015) Monthly River Temperature Trend - June



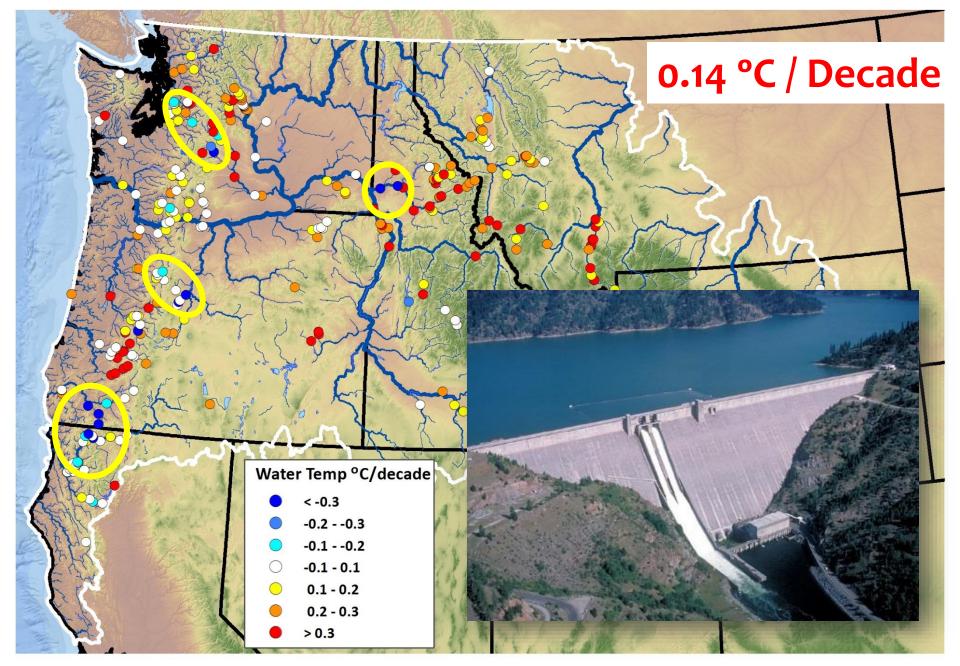
#### 40 Year (1976–2015) Monthly River Temperature Trend - July



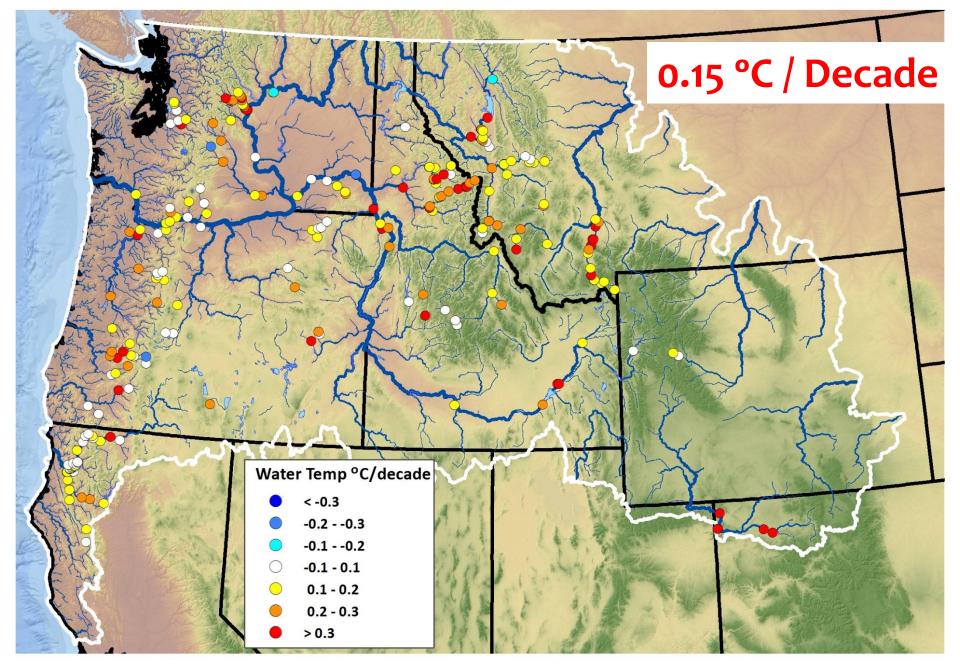
#### 40 Year (1976–2015) Monthly River Temperature Trend - August



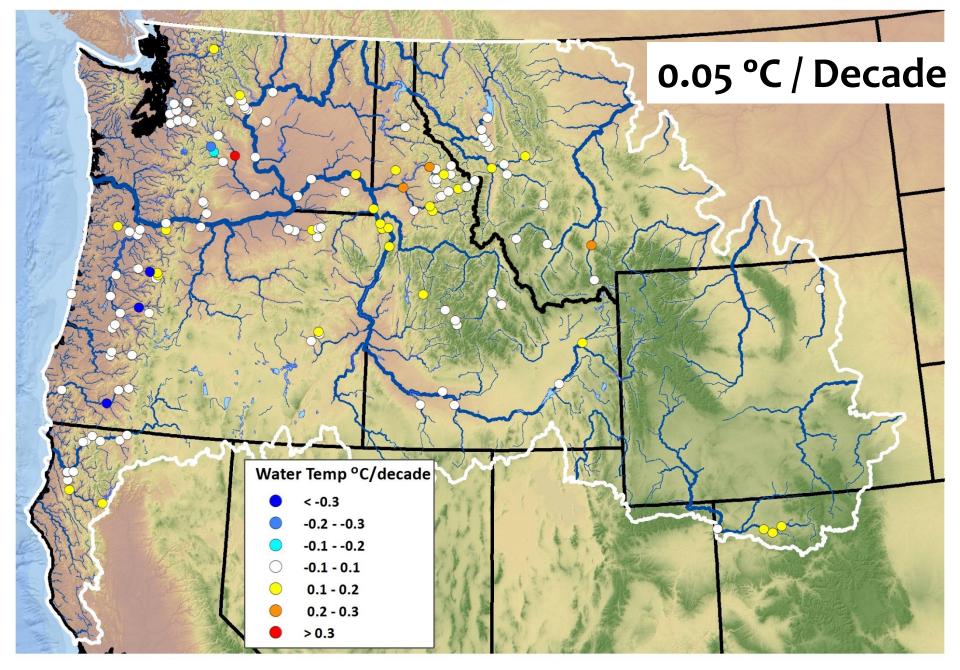
#### 40 Year (1976–2015) Monthly River Temperature Trend - August



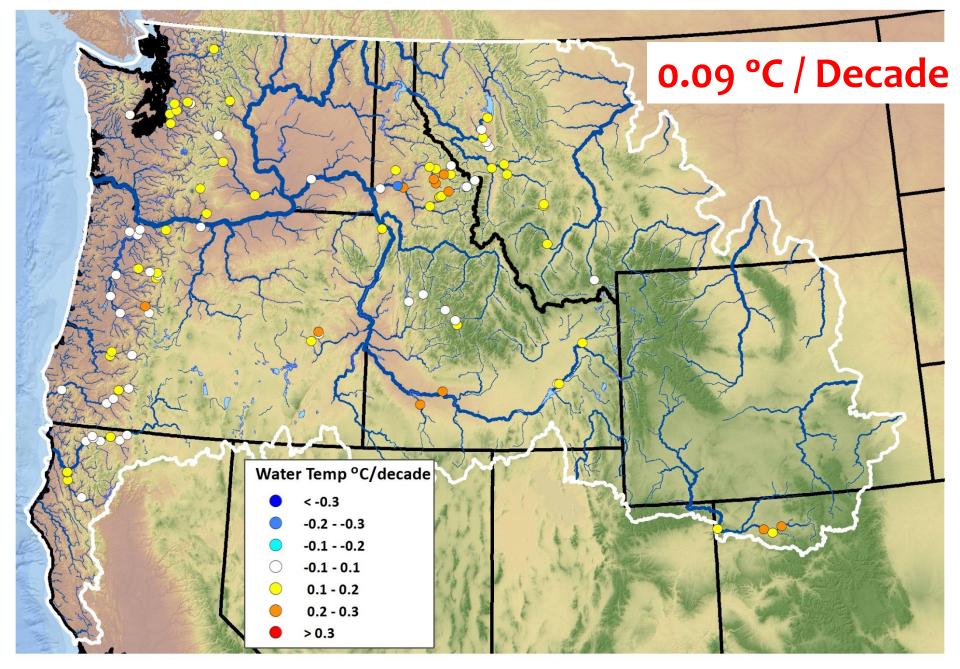
#### 40 Year (1976–2015) Monthly River Temperature Trend - September



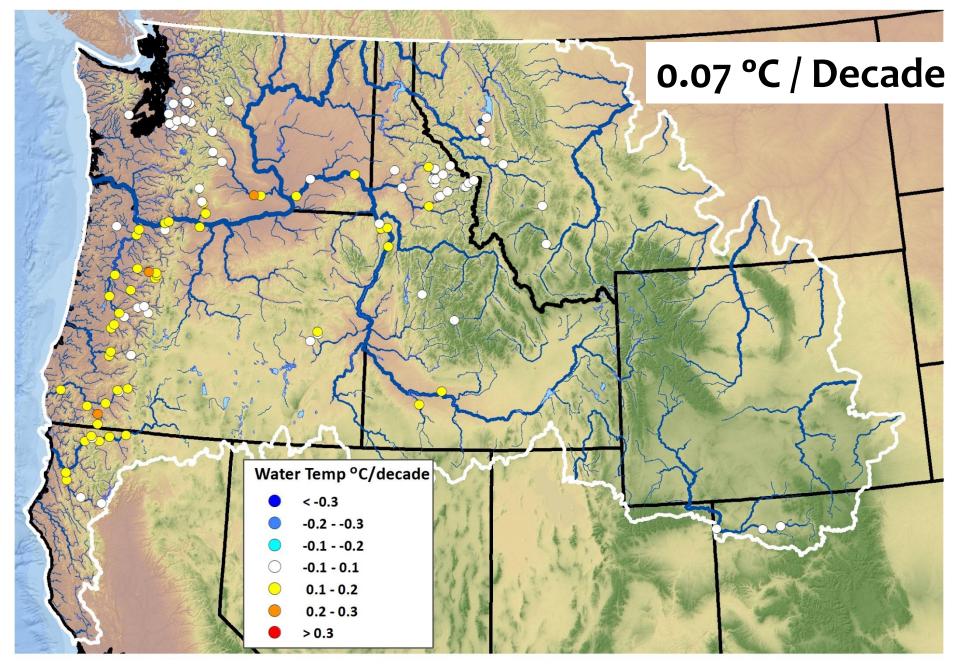
#### 40 Year (1976–2015) Monthly River Temperature Trend - October



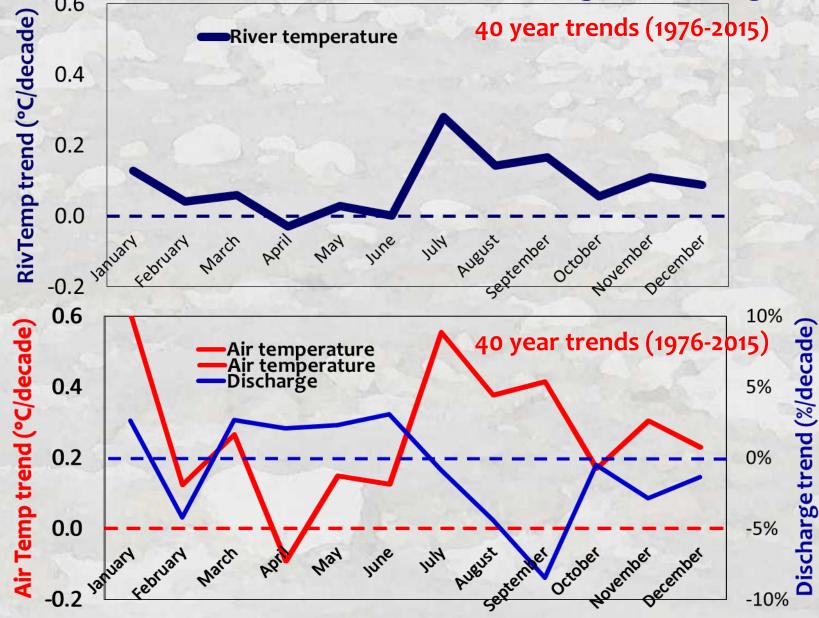
#### 40 Year (1976–2015) Monthly River Temperature Trend - November



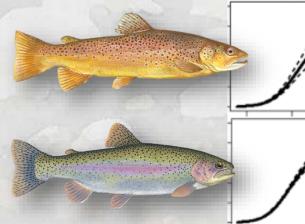
#### 40 Year (1976–2015) Monthly River Temperature Trend - December



## What's Driving River Temperature Trends? Monthly regional averages

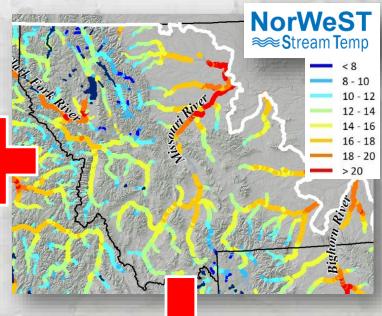


## Biological Consequences for Riverine Trout Populations August mean RivTemps



## <12 °C = Cold 5 10 15 20 12-18 °C = Optimal >18 °C = Warm (~22 °C MWMT)

Isaak et al. 2017. Big biology meets microclimatology: Defining thermal niches of aquatic ectotherms at landscape scales for conservation planning. *Ecological Applications* **27**:977-990.

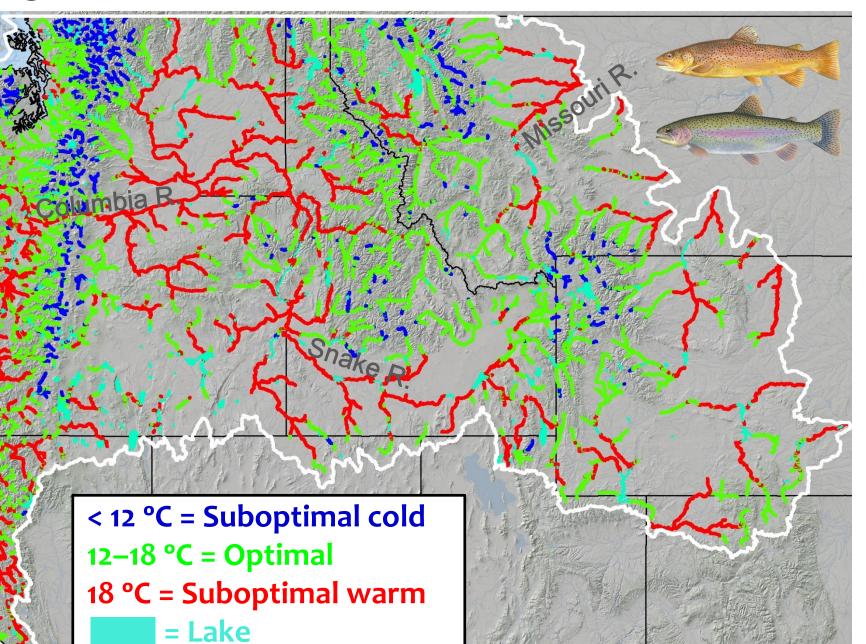


Cold

Optimal

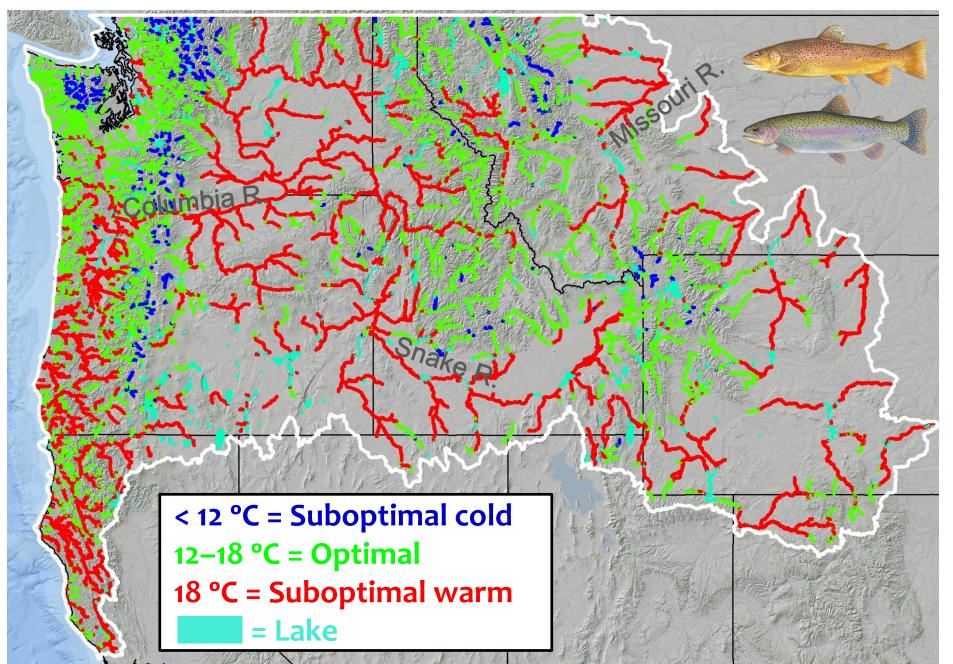
arm

## **Biological Consequences for Trout?**

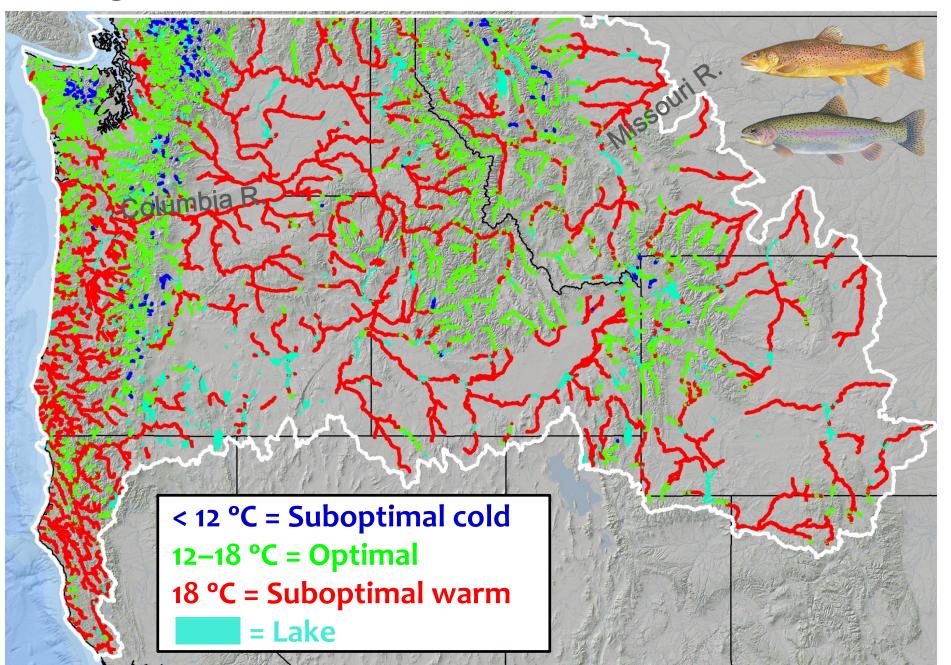


+0°C

## Biological Consequences for Trout? 2050: +1°C



## Biological Consequences for Trout? 2080: +2°C



## Biological Consequences for Trout? 2080: +2°C

Columbia B. C.				
<b>River kilometers that are:</b>	< 12°C	12-18°C	18-21°C	TOTAL
Baseline scenario	4,734	30,257	15,216	50,207
Mid century +1°C scenario	2,656 (-44%)	25,515 (-16%)	18,058 (18%)	46,230 (-8%)
Late century +2°C scenario	1,233 (-74%)	20,361 (-33%)	19,744 (29%)	41,340 (-18%)

< 12 °C = Suboptimal cold 12–18 °C = Optimal 18 °C = Suboptimal warm = Lake

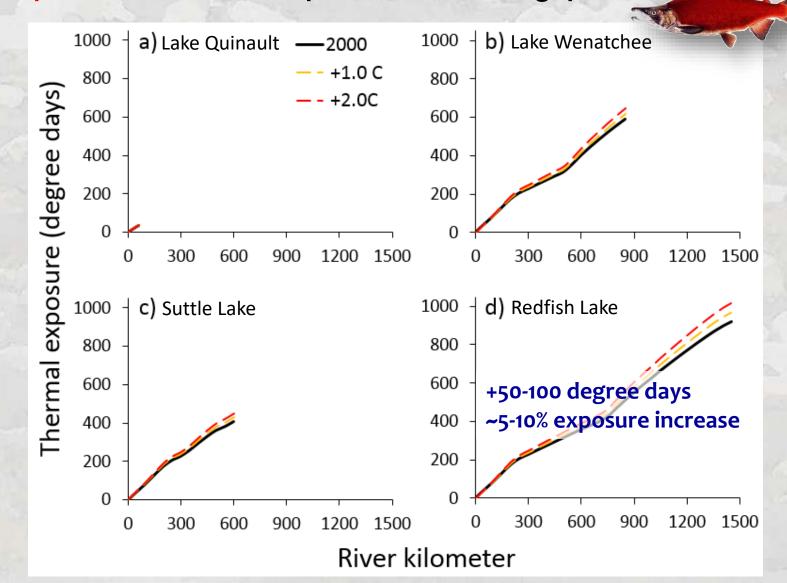
# Biological Consequences for Migrating Salmon?

d

A. Thermal exposure during adult sockeye migration Exp = River distance x temperature x swimming speed

### **Biological Consequences for Migrating Salmon?**

A. Thermal exposure during adult sockeye migration Exp = River distance x temperature x swimming speed



## **Options for Cooling Smaller Rivers**

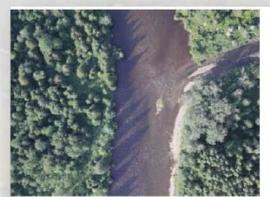
 Maximize riparian shade
Maximize summer flows
Restore channel complexity to force hyporheic exchange

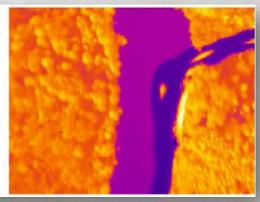






#### 4) Identify, protect, & enhance cold microrefugia







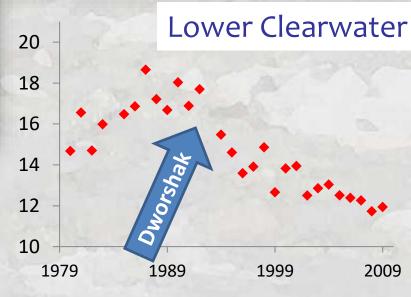
Drone mounted cameras

## Options for Cooling Largest Rivers are Limited...

## Options for Cooling Largest Rivers are Limited... Icebergs

#### Artificial Icebergs

#### Deep reservoir needed for cold water creation



## **Human Adaptation in Future Decades**

1) Accept that fish communities <u>in some rivers</u> will change & communicate that information to public

2) Develop emergency action plans for extreme years like 2015 (e.g., fish rescue operations, protocols for rapid suspension of fishing seasons)

3) Strategically target thermal restoration actions where benefits to cold-water fish populations are most likely

4) Anglers diversify tackle boxes to include plugs for bass, snakeheads, & TBD critters 5) Continue enjoying cold-water fisheries in many rivers this century



#### For more information:

Isaak, D.J., C. Luce, D. Horan, G. Chandler, and S. Wollrab. 2018. Global warming of salmon and trout rivers in the Northwestern U.S.: Road to ruin or path through purgatory? *Transactions of the American Fisheries Society* 147:566-587.

ArcGIS river temperature scenarios @ the NorWeST website: https://www.fs.fed.us/rm/boise/AWAE/projects/NorWeST.html





