JCWC Coldwater Restoration Strategy

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Daniel Newberry, Executive Director Johnson Creek Watershed Council October 22, 2019

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The aquatics community within Oregon has amassed signifcant amounts of stream temperature data through their collective monitoring efforts in previous decades. As part of a Westwide effort, the NorWAST project has developed a comprehentive intergency stream temperature database for Oregon that consists of 18,774 summers of monitoring effort at 6,461 unique sites (map inset). Those data were used with spatialstatistical network models (details at the SNV/TARSW website:

www.fs.fed.us/rm/boise/AWAE/projects/

SpatialStreamNetworks.shtml) to develop an accurate stream temperature model (R² = 90%; RMSE = 1.0°C), which was then used to predict 30 high-resolution (1 kilometer) historical and future climate scenarios for streams and rivers in Oregon. This poster depicts a historical scenario of the mean August temperature from 1993-2011 for 60,000 kilometers of stream mapped to the 1:100.000-scale NHDPlus hydrography laver trimmed to exclude intermittent reaches and those >15% slope. NorWeST stream temperature scenarios and state temperature maps are available in user-friendly digital formats (e.g., ArcGIS shapefiles and .pdf files) from the project website (www.fs.fed.us/m/boise/AWAE/projects/NorWeST.html) and can also be viewed dynamically online using this webtool (www.sciencebase.gov/gisviewer/NorWeST/). Daily summaries (min/max/mean) of the temperature data used to develop the temperature model are also available through the website if permission was given for their distribution. All data are attributed to the original source agency and contributing biologists or hydrologists in metadata files. By providing open access to stream temperature information in user friendly for mats, the NorWeST project is facilitating coordination of monitoring activities among organizations, better conservation planning, and new research on temperature dynamics and thermal ecology.

The analytical infrastructure used to develop the Oregon stream temperature model consists of a new class of spatialstatistical model for data on stream networks that could also be used with water chemistry attributes (e.g., pH, alkalinity, conductivity, etc.), biological datasets (species occurrence, abundance, genetic attributes), or habitat surveys to provide a wealth of new information about streams. More details regarding those applications are provided in the references below and at the National Stream Internet Project website (www.fsfcdus/mbolse/AWCEprojects/

KEY REFERENCES

NorWeST Website: www.fs.fed.us/rm/boise/AWAE/projects/ NorWeST.html

Spatial Statistical Network Models

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Riparian Reforestation Strategy (2012)

- Long-term goal of 80% riparian canopy coverage
- Prioritizes riparian taxlots for planting/reforestation
- Uses the Heat Source model

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Riparian Restoration Priorities by Taxlot in Target Johnson Creek Subwatersheds





Fish passage: access to cold water

- >300 potential barriers to salmonids in JCW, mostly culverts
- 274 road/stream crossings assessed by JCWC in 2013-14
- 75% were barriers to salmonid migration
- Several tributaries are currently cold water refugia—but blocked
- Many cold springs and hyporheic flow

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Known Fish Passage Barrier Stream Crossings in the Johnson Creek Watershed



- Privately-owned Barrier
- Streams with year-round flow and nabital suitable for salmon and trout
- . ---- Streams with intermittent flow or lacking habitat for salmon and trout
- ✓ Major Arterial Roads



Prioritizing culverts according to cost-benefit

- APASS (Anadromous Fish **Pass**age Optimization Tool)--a decision support tool for optimizing barrier mitigation (2014).
- Considers project cost, spatial network location, habitat above barriers, passability
- Produced a list of 18 highest priority cost-benefit culvert replacement/removal projects

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Whole stream fish passage

- Further refine culvert prioritization by incorporating climate change concerns
- Several barriers in the "top 18" list are in natural cold water tributaries
- We are focusing on opening up those entire tributaries

North Fork Johnson Creek Culvert Projects

















Planned fish passage projects in the Kelley/Mitchell watersheds.



- Publicly-owned Barrier
 A Privately-owned Barrier
- -----Streams with year-round flow and habitat suitable for salmon and trout
- . ---- Streams with intermittent flow or lacking habitat for salmon and trout Major Arterial Roads











Clackamas Partnership

- Coalition of 4 watershed councils & 12 agencies
- Native fish restoration
- Awarded a \$3.4 million grant from OWEB for FY2019-2021, promised \$8.7 million over 6 years.
- JCWC: 4 fish passage projects, 2 habitat enhancement project, 1 stormwater planning project

Habitat enhancement in cold water areas







Figure 1 – Johnson Creek River Mile 0.5 Restoration Concept Plan

