

Pacific Lamprey Conservation Agreement



Clarification of Agreement

- Answering the tribes' **call for action**
- Bringing parties together to fill in gaps for implementation in the Columbia basin
- Developing implementation approaches in other regions

History

- Lamprey Summit I – 2004
 - Wakeup call that Pacific lamprey, a species of **major cultural importance** to Native American Tribes, are in significant decline.

History

- Lamprey Summit II – 2008
 - Call to action by the Tribes for a swift response through cooperative conservation to address continued declines.
 - FWS set to work with tribal, federal and state partners to develop a wide ranging Conservation Initiative (Tribal, Corps, BPA plans).

History

- Lamprey Summit III – 2012
 - Build upon the earlier summits and highlight progress on the tribes' call to action.
 - Broad commitment to conserving Pacific lamprey, solidified by agreeing to work collaboratively to ensure long-term persistence and to **support traditional tribal cultural use.**

Conservation Agreement Purpose

- Worked with partners on voluntary Conservation Agreement - mechanism to efficiently use limited resources and swiftly implement Pacific lamprey actions.
- Enhances opportunities for new funding to fill gaps in restoration actions, which are not addressed by USACE and BPA funding sources.

TRPLP 4.5.1.b Secure institutional and investment commitments

The tribes continue to work with regional agencies... other institutions to secure commitments that will improve lamprey habitat and passage and other key components to this Plan.....

Funding Opportunities

- Conservation agreements allows the USFWS to prioritize funds to address lamprey actions through tribal grants and National Fish Habitat funds and National Fish Passage funds.
- Also helps other federal agencies.
- Conservation agreements provide the USFWS a mechanism to efficiently distribute funds for lamprey restoration that entities may seek through appropriations.

Examples of other Agreements

- The Western Native Trout Initiative provided a mechanism to direct National Fish Habitat funds for restoration activities
- WNTI actually created a pot of money for conservation actions.

Examples of other Agreements

- Pallid Sturgeon – once Agreement was in place USBR used the plans and recommendations to guide their funding decisions and implement restoration actions.
- USBR feels that the lamprey Agreement will also facilitate this.

Lamprey Funding

- New funding and maintaining existing funding for lamprey restoration will have a much higher likelihood of success with a signed conservation agreement.
- CA does not impact current BPA and Corps funding. Increases the chance of obtaining new funding and maintaining existing funding directed towards lamprey from other federal sources.

Importance

- May lose ability to continue to work and fund these types of activities - without a Lamprey Conservation Agreement with multiple tribal, state and federal partners.

Examples of Action

Tributary Habitat (TRPLP 4.2.2)

- The tribes recommended agencies implement and comply with field actions found in the **Best Management Practices for Lamprey.**
- Guidance was a collaborative effort of the Conservation Initiative
- Progression of future efforts will happen through the Conservation Agreement commitments

Improving Mainstem Passage (TRPLP 4.1.1 & 4.1.2)

- Worked with the tribes to inspect and systematically evaluate adult passage.
- Worked with the Fish Passage Center (FPC) to modify the smolt monitoring program (SMP) to
 - Count and identify juvenile lamprey
 - implement condition monitoring program at John Day and have since expanded this to three more mainstem projects.

Research, Monitoring and Evaluation (TRPLP 4.6.1)

- FWS contributed to lamprey genetic research
- FWS conducted a range-wide climate change vulnerability assessment for Pacific Lamprey to inform
 - The threats to be addressed to help mitigate the climate shifts.
 - Improve the assessment to better guide future conservation actions.
- Monitoring abundance and condition through the Smolt Monitoring Program
- Evaluating distribution in the mainstem and planning studies to determine their habitat preferences.

Conservation Agreement Feedback

- Received positive feedback and support from many partners for the Pacific Lamprey Conservation Initiative and Agreement
- Many partners have indicated they will sign the Conservation Agreement

Addressed Tribal Concerns

1. Explicitly recognized the advanced planning stages for Col. R.
2. Revised document to include TPLRP objectives
3. Clarified Conservation Team detail
4. Added Self Determination Act language
5. More defined strategy for RIPs (Spreadsheets)
6. Providing a defined strategy and timeline for specific conservation actions.

TRPLP Implementation

Umatilla Basin							Potential Funding Source	Implementing Entity
Actions	Objectives	Location	Status	Schedule	Conserv. Initiative			
Restoration								
Implement Improvements	lamprey to harvestable, self-sustaining levels within the basin	Subbasin wide						
			Supplement natural production by outplanting adults	Ongoing	Through 2018			
			Enhance summer stream flows for adult migration	Ongoing	Through 2018	CTUIR/BOR/USFWS		
			Develop and implement structural passage aids	Ongoing	2008-2013	CTUIR/USFWS		
			stream/floodplain habitat throughout subbasin	Ongoing	Through 2018			

TRPLP Implementation

Deschutes Basin Pacific Lamprey							
Category/Objective	Subobjectives	Tasks	Location	Status	Work in Progress	Implementing Entity	Funding Source
Research, Monitoring and Evaluation							
Identify lamprey abundance and distribution within subbasin.	Document historic adult and juvenile abundance and distribution	Collect anecdotal information; interview biologists, tribal elders and landowners with knowledge of lamprey	Subbasin wide	CTWSRO Ongoing 2008-2018 USFWS Completed			
	Document current adult abundance and distribution	Estimate tribal harvest and develop tributary spawning escapement est.		Ongoing 2008- 2018 New 2010-2018	Changes in distribution and abundance in response to actions		
	Monitor long-term juvenile index sites	Implemenet standardized electro fishing surveys		New & expanded every 3-5 years	Establish ammocoete index sites to determine changes in distribution and abundance		
	Monitor juvenile outmigration	Use exisiting technologies to monitor annual abundance		Expanded 2011- 2018	Changes in abundance in response to actions		
Identify biological characteristics	Determine adult and juvenile migration timing, size, age	Characterize maturation level, sex, and length at time of entry and spawning. Charaterize macrophthalmia out migration timing.	Subbasin wide	Ongoing through 2008 - 2018 New	Collaborate on adult tagging studies. Collaboration on PIT tag studies		
	Determine adult and juvenile tributary habitat use: timing, duration and age	Map spawning rearing and overwintering areas. Map ammocoete areas.		Expanded 2008-2018 New	Describe perfered habitat and environmental conditions throughout the life cycle. Collaboration on delta habitat use		
Identify in-basin lamprey limiting factors	Identify habitat limiting factors for adult migration	Locate & evaluate barriers to migration	Subbasin wide	New 2009- 2018	Collaboration through Conservation Initiative with information from other basins and data sharing		
	Identify habitat limiting factors for adult spawning	Assess sedimentation , water temperatures, water quality and stream flows on spawning areas		Expanded 2009- 2018 New	USGS & USFWS screen evaluations		
	Identify habitat limiting factors for juvenile rearing	Assess habitat limitations of channelization and scouring o frearing areas, lack of shade, and removal of large woody debris		Ongoing through 2018			
	Identify habitat limiting factors for juvenile outmigration	Identify & quantify screen impingement & entrainment associated with water withdrawl		New 2010-2018			
Develop Genetic Database	Subbasin genetic database development		Multiple Subbasins	Ongoing from 2008		Univ. Manitoba, USFWS, CTWSRO	
	Investigate lamprey attraction to pheromones			Unfunded - TPLRP		NMFS	
Standardize sampling methods and sampling designs to determine distribution of lamprey	Conduct workshops				USFWS conduct workshop on probalistic sampling design for ammocoetes	USFWS	

Tribal Support for Conservation Agreement

- Individual Tribes
- CRITFC Commission
- Summit III

Conservation Agreement

Questions?

