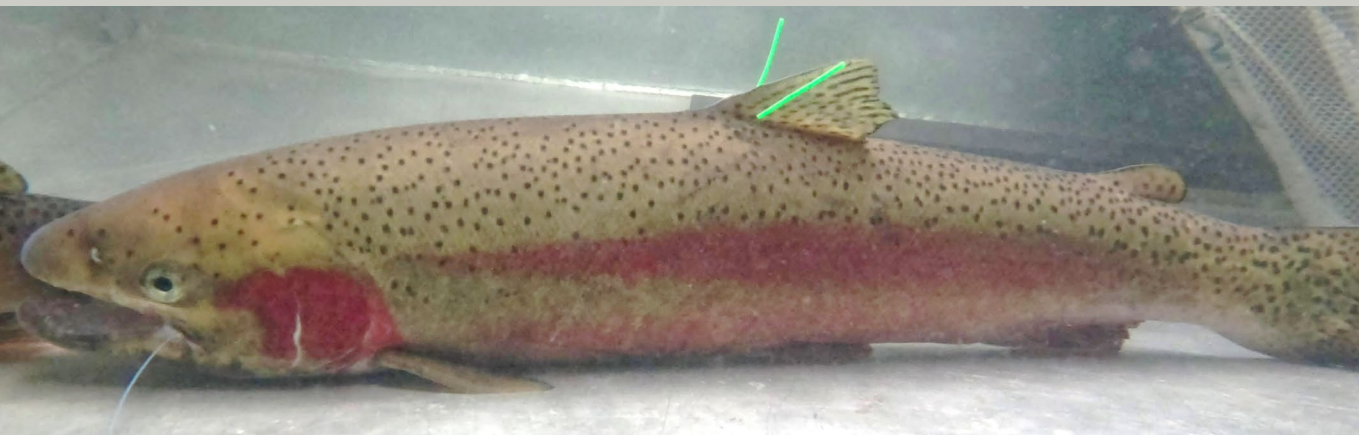


# A Long Swim Home: Adult Fish Migration in the Upper Deschutes Basin

Beth Bailey, Portland General Electric  
2025 Fisheries Workshop



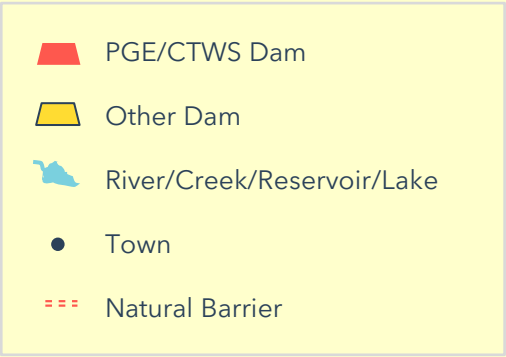




# Outline

- Overview of the basin
- Sockeye 2024
- Steelhead 2023-2024
- Chinook 2024
- Preview of 2025 runs

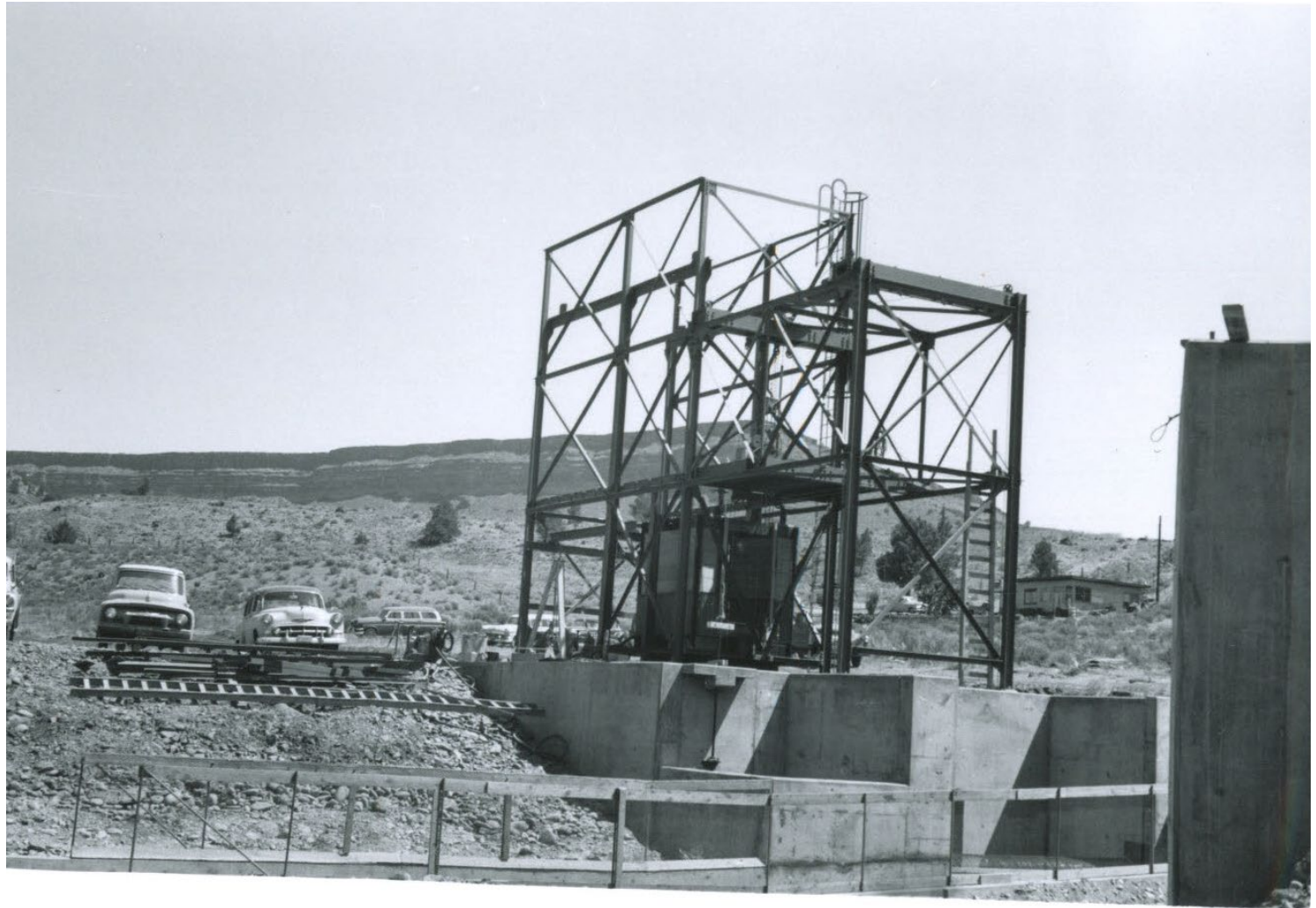






# Pelton Adult Fish Trap

At the downstream end of the Pelton Round Butte complex of dams a Buckley style fish trap built in 1956, that is used to collect adult salmon and steelhead.



AUG • 56





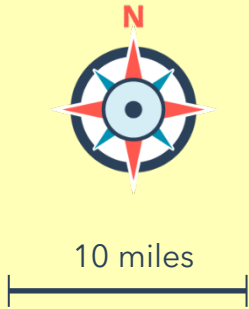
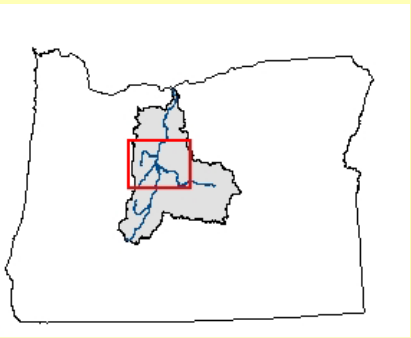
LM - this is a fish that was raised in the hatchery and dedicated to the reintroduction. They receive a LM clip at the hatchery before release.

RM- these are fish that come into the SWW with no clip and are given a RM clip. This means that they are from natural production.



AD- these are RBH fish that are hatchery raised and produced for mitigation and broodstock. When broodstock goals are met Chinook or steelhead may be passed above to bolster the reintroduction program.







# How do we know where the fish go?

A portion of the fish receive radio tags that allow us to monitor their movements.





17 fixed stations operated in 2023-2024

- 8 of those are operated by DVWD

Radio tagged fish

- Healthy fish are selected for radio tagging by
  - size
  - sex
  - clip
  - PIT tag
  - release location
- 91 steelhead (55%)
- 69 Chinook (42%)
- No sockeye were radio tagged in 2024





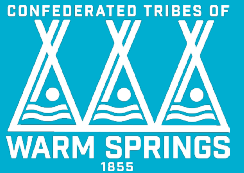
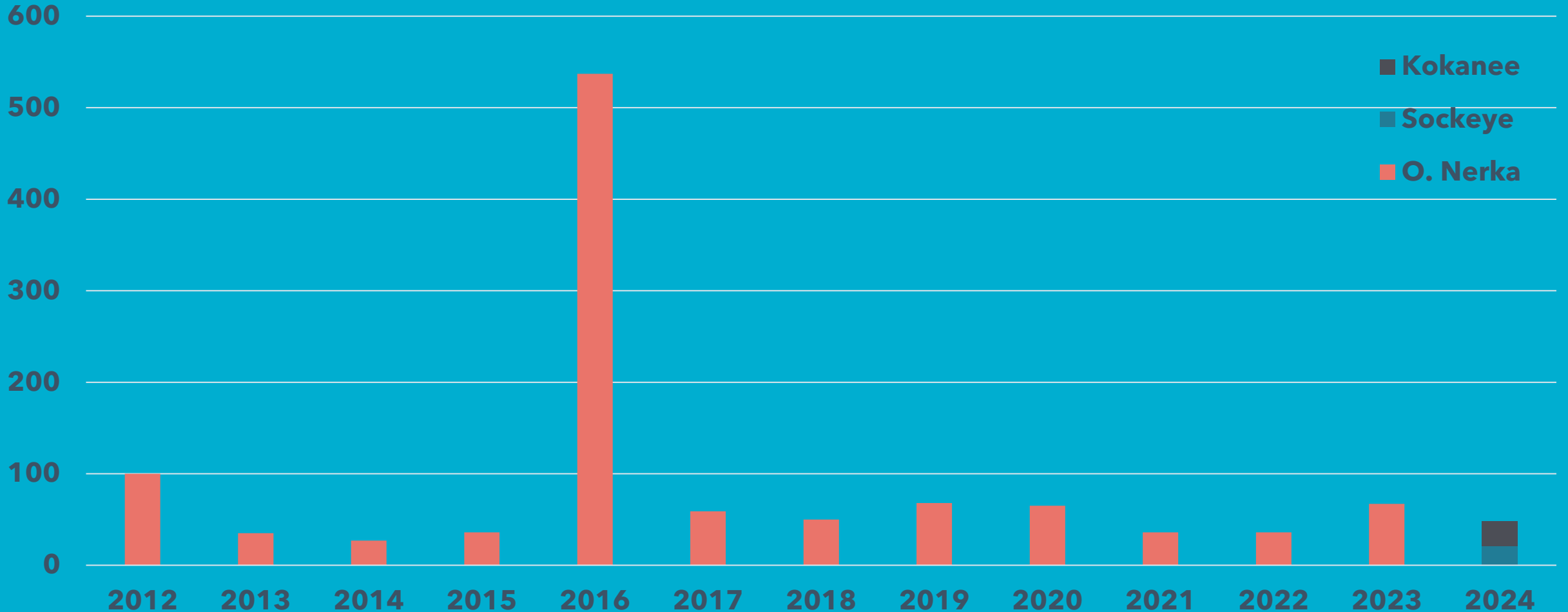
# 2024 Sockeye Returns

	Total
July	3
August	8
September	4
October	5
November	1
Run total	21

- All Sockeye captured at the Pelton Trap were passed above Round Butte Dam.
- No sockeye were radio tagged in 2024.
- 11 Males, 10 Females.



# Sockeye Returns





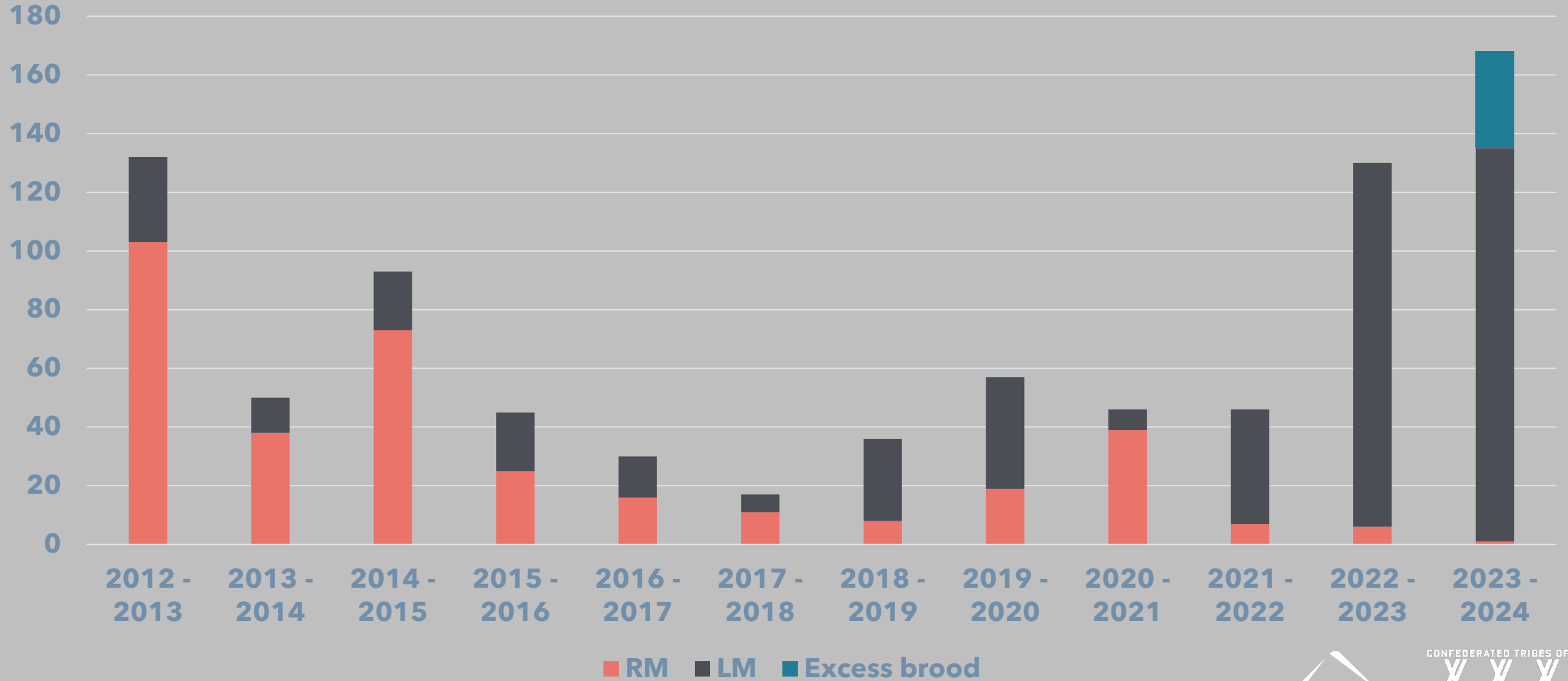
# 2023-2024 Steelhead Returns

- 133 LM steelhead, 1 RM steelhead
- 33 excess brood steelhead

Release location	LM/RM	Excess
LBC	127 (67)	0
Crooked River Mouth of McKay	0	8 (6)
Crooked River Boat Ramp (LBC)	7(2)	25 (16)

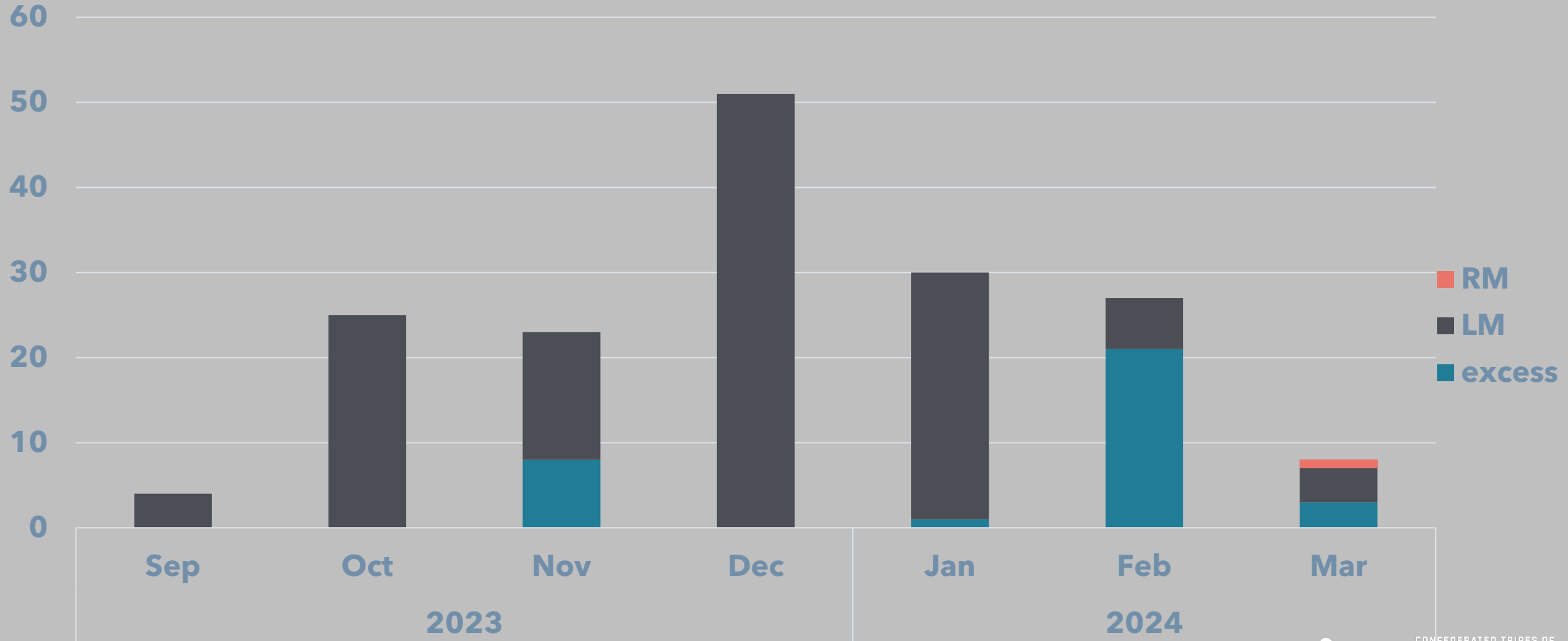


# Steelhead Returns

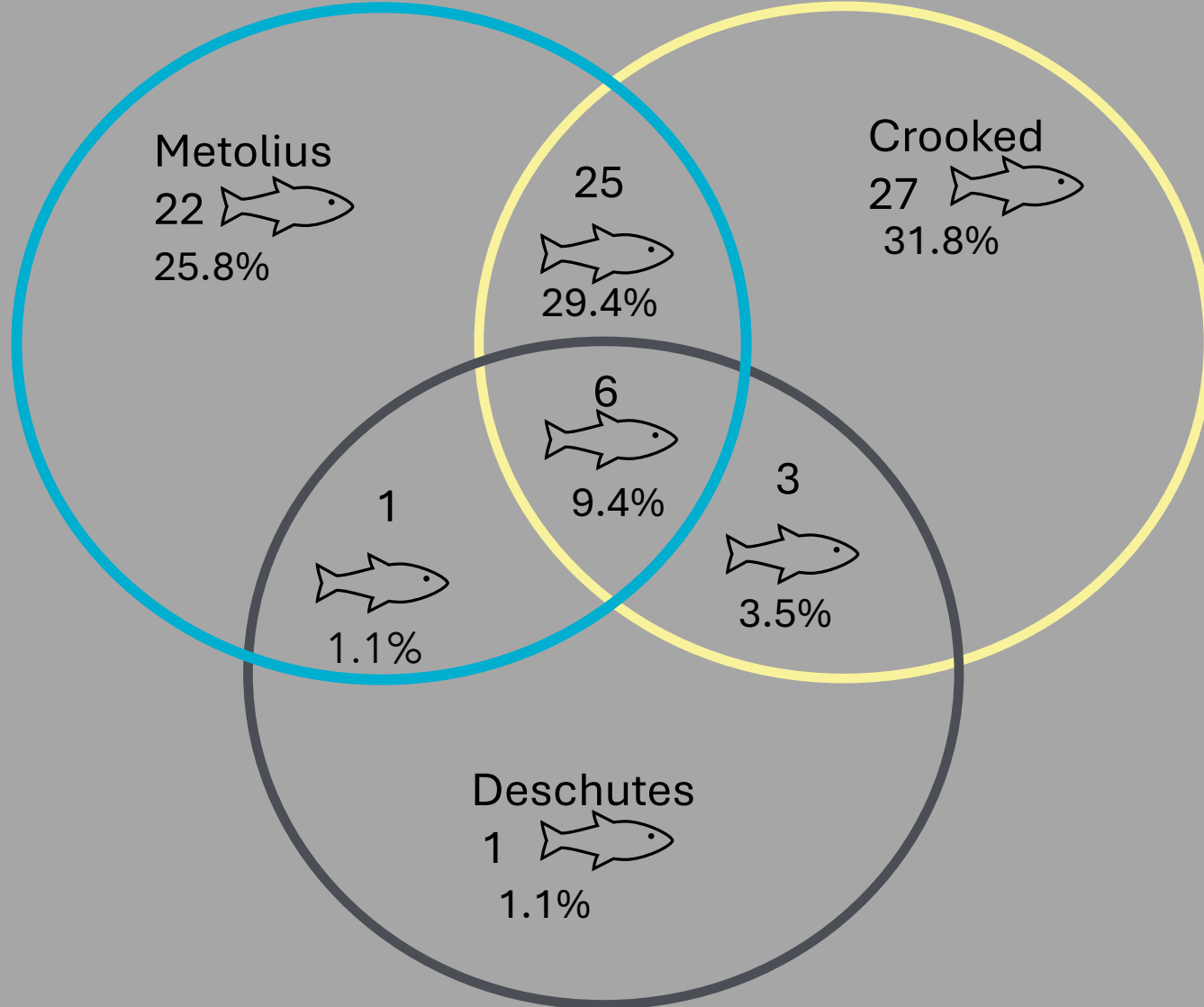




# Steelhead Timing



# Steelhead Migration





# Steelhead Kelts



- A kelt is a steelhead that has already spawned and will migrate back to the ocean, then return to freshwater the next year to spawn a second time.
- 20 steelhead kelts were collected at the SWW in spring of 2024.



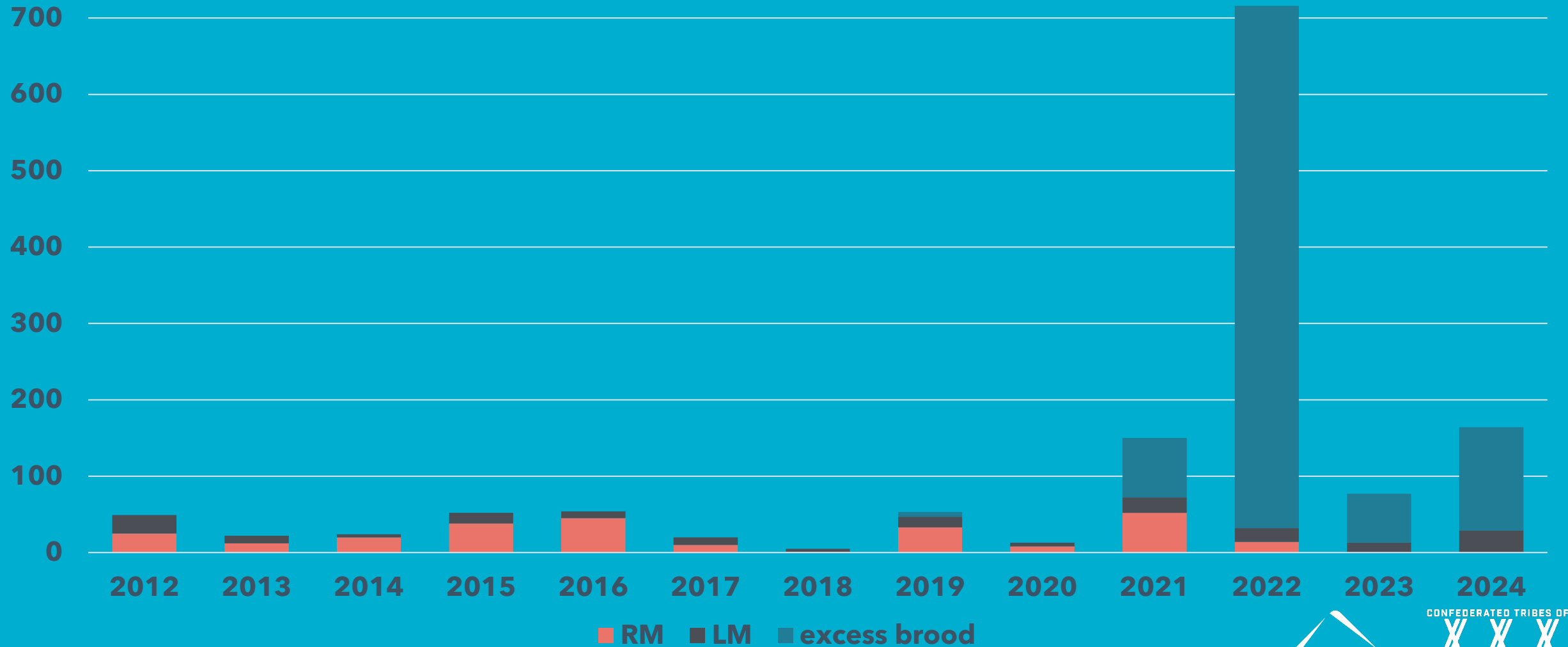


# 2024 Spring Chinook Returns

- 29 LM, 135 excess brood
- 19 Females, 145 Males
- 69 fish were radio tagged



# Spring Chinook Returns

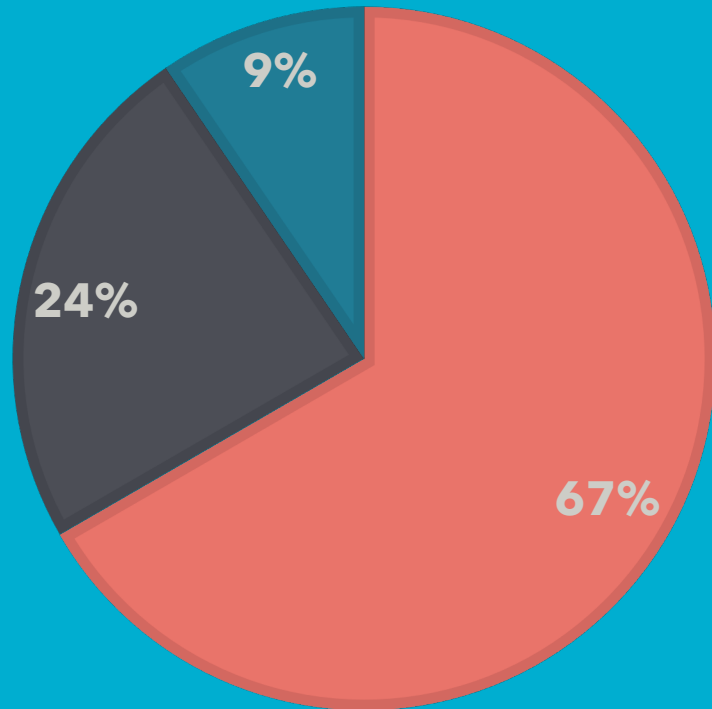




# Chinook Migration

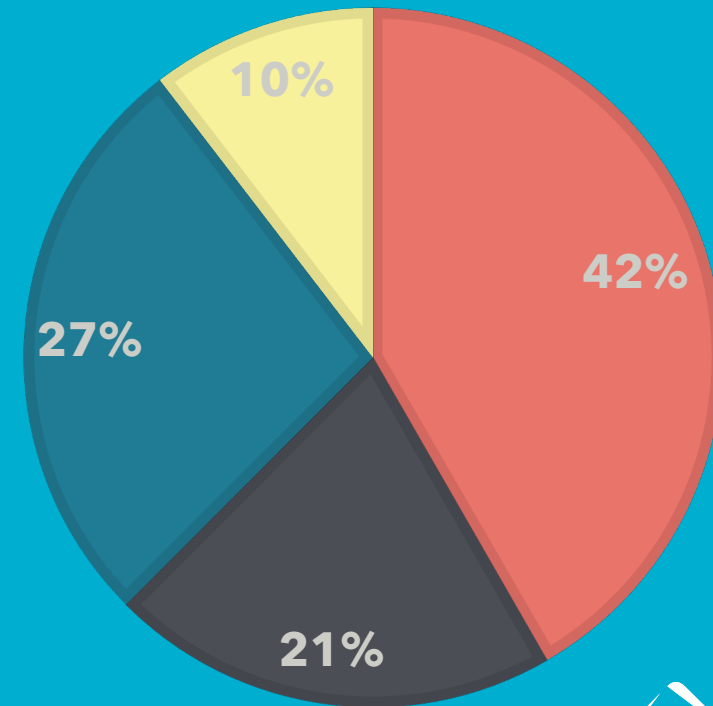
**METOLIUS RELEASES N=21**

■ Metolius ■ Deschutes ■ Crooked



**LBC RELEASES N=48**

■ Metolius ■ Deschutes ■ Crooked ■ unknown



# 2025 Chinook and Sockeye Preview

We are still collecting Chinook at the Pelton trap. The return has been better than originally forecasted, and we have been able to pass some excess brood.

290 Chinook have been passed upstream so far.

Still awaiting the first sockeye.



# 2024-2025 Steelhead Run Preview





# Questions?

**Contact:**  
**[beth.bailey@pgn.com](mailto:beth.bailey@pgn.com)**

