

**Round Butte, Wizard Falls, and
Fall River Hatcheries:
Five Year Review of Operational Goals,
2021 to 2025**



July 23, 2026



Review Process

- ◆ Evaluate consistency of program with documented Goals and Objectives (FERC Article 420)
- ◆ No on-site tour of Facilities and Operations
- ◆ Virtual meetings were held March 30, April 1 and April 2, 2026 with PGE staff, ODFW hatchery managers, ODFW Round Butte Mitigation Coordinator.



Review Criteria

- A. Federal, state and tribal fish management policies and directives
- B. Approved Hatchery and Genetic Management Plans (HGMPs)
- C. Endangered Species Act (ESA) directives between ODFW and NOAA Fisheries
- D. Relevant Best Management Practices (BMPs)



Review Criteria, continued

- ◆ In addition, the review considers hatchery goals identified in the Fish Passage Plan (PGE 2004), which focuses on re-introduction of salmon and steelhead upstream of the hydroelectric project with the ultimate goal of establishing self-sustaining harvestable populations.



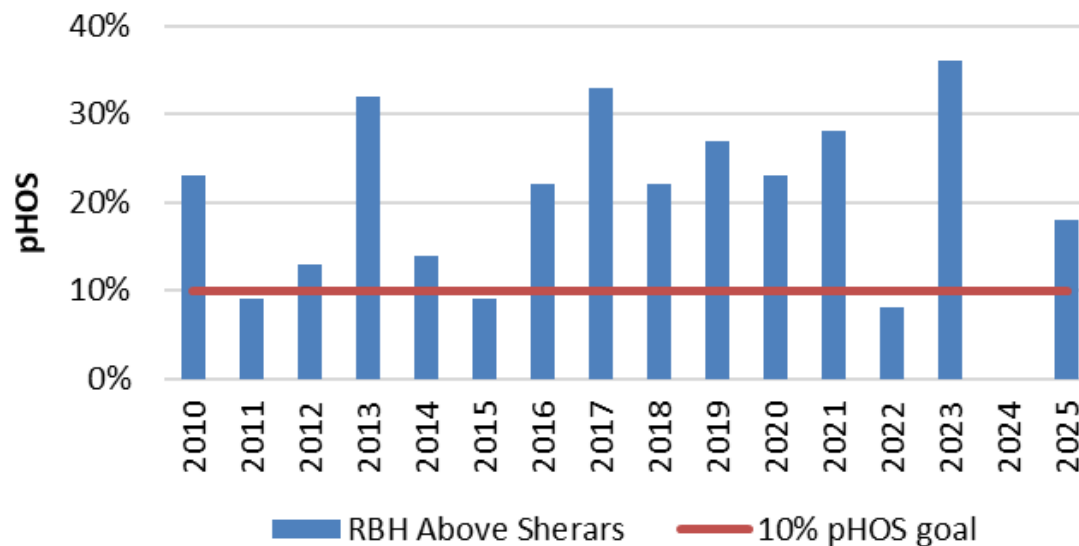
Program Consistency with Guidance Documents

- ◆ Programs were reviewed for consistency with 19 Federal, Regional, State and Tribal fish management plans or policies
- ◆ Found to be consistent with all but two policies:
 - **Native Fish Conservation Policy (ODFW)** due to high % of hatchery steelhead on the spawning grounds.
 - **Hatchery Scientific Review Group (HSRG) Recommendations** are not met for the steelhead program because pHOS exceeds 10%.



Hatchery Steelhead on Spawning Grounds

Steelhead Spawning in the Deschutes River



Hatchery Operations Review

- ◆ Review conducted using the Hatchery Program Reviewer (HPR), which includes 90 standardized questions about all phases of hatchery operations to evaluate:
 - Consistency with BMPs
 - Consistency with guidance on ecological effects of hatcheries on natural salmonid populations



Hatchery Operations Review

- ◆ Hatchery Operations Phases:
 - Broodstock Choice and Collection
 - Adult Holding and Spawning
 - Incubation, Rearing, and Release
 - Facilities
 - Monitoring and Evaluation, Effectiveness and Accountability



Facilities and Fish Culture Observations

- ◆ While some of the program issues may be deviations from optimal practices, they do not necessarily merit program or facility modifications
- ◆ This review is not a full facility evaluation; rather focus on key issues that could potentially affect production goals
- ◆ Staff identified facility updates to aging infrastructure that are scheduled for the next 5-year period
 - Ladder and Trap, circular tanks, valves in Burrows raceways



Summary of Hatchery Operations

- ◆ In general, hatcheries are operated consistent with BMPs.
- ◆ High rankings for:
 - Facilities, broodstock collection, release practices, and accountability—both programs
- ◆ Lower rankings for:
 - M&E – lack of numerical goals for harvest, SARs, and pHOS
 - Adult Holding – lack of pathogen-free water, lack of natural water temperature regime



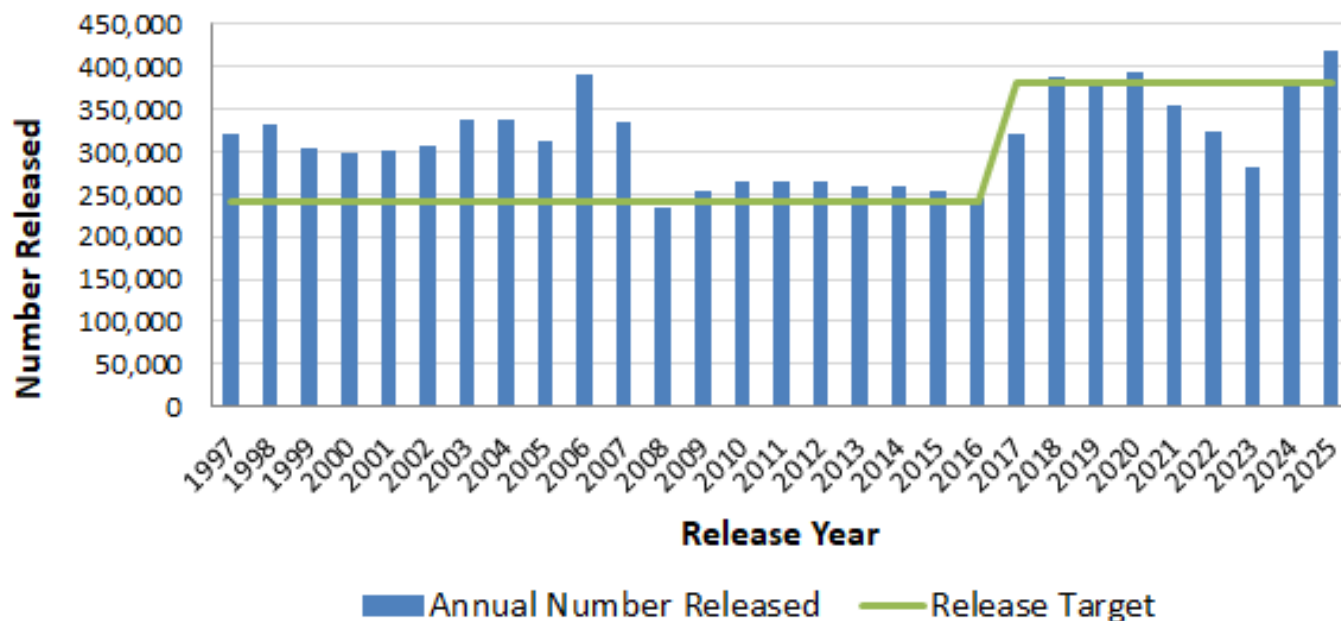
Hatchery Performance

- ◆ Numbers Released
- ◆ Size at Release
- ◆ Contribution to Harvest
- ◆ Reintroduction Goals



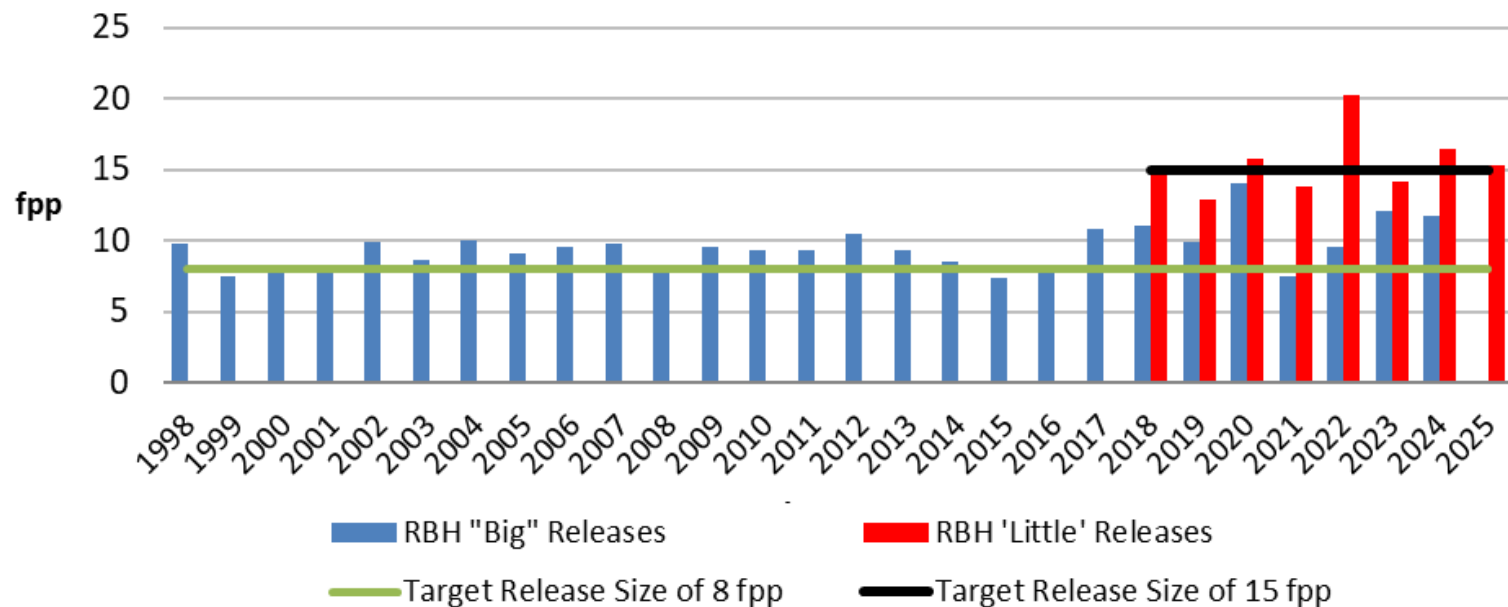
Spring Chinook Release Numbers

Spring Chinook Releases from Pelton Ladder



Size at Release of RBH Spring Chinook

Spring Chinook Fish Size at Release



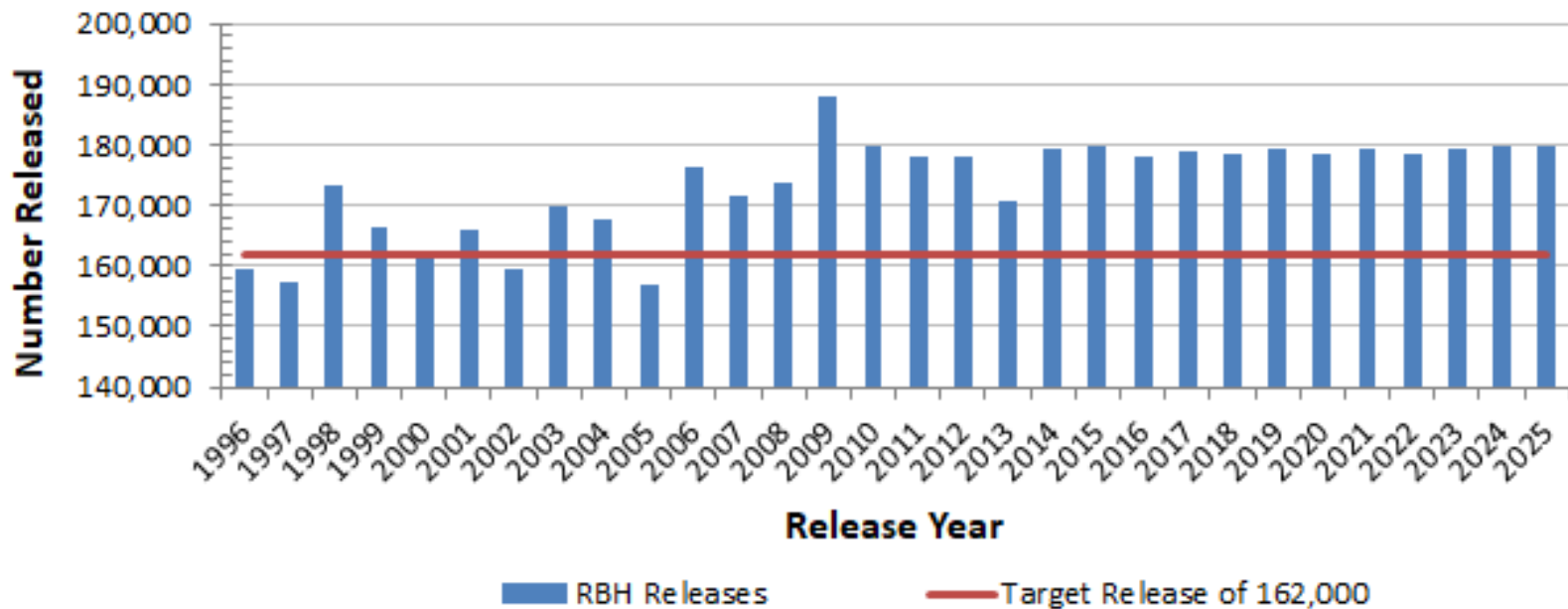
Spring Chinook Contribution to Harvest

- ◆ No harvest of Spring Chinook since 2018



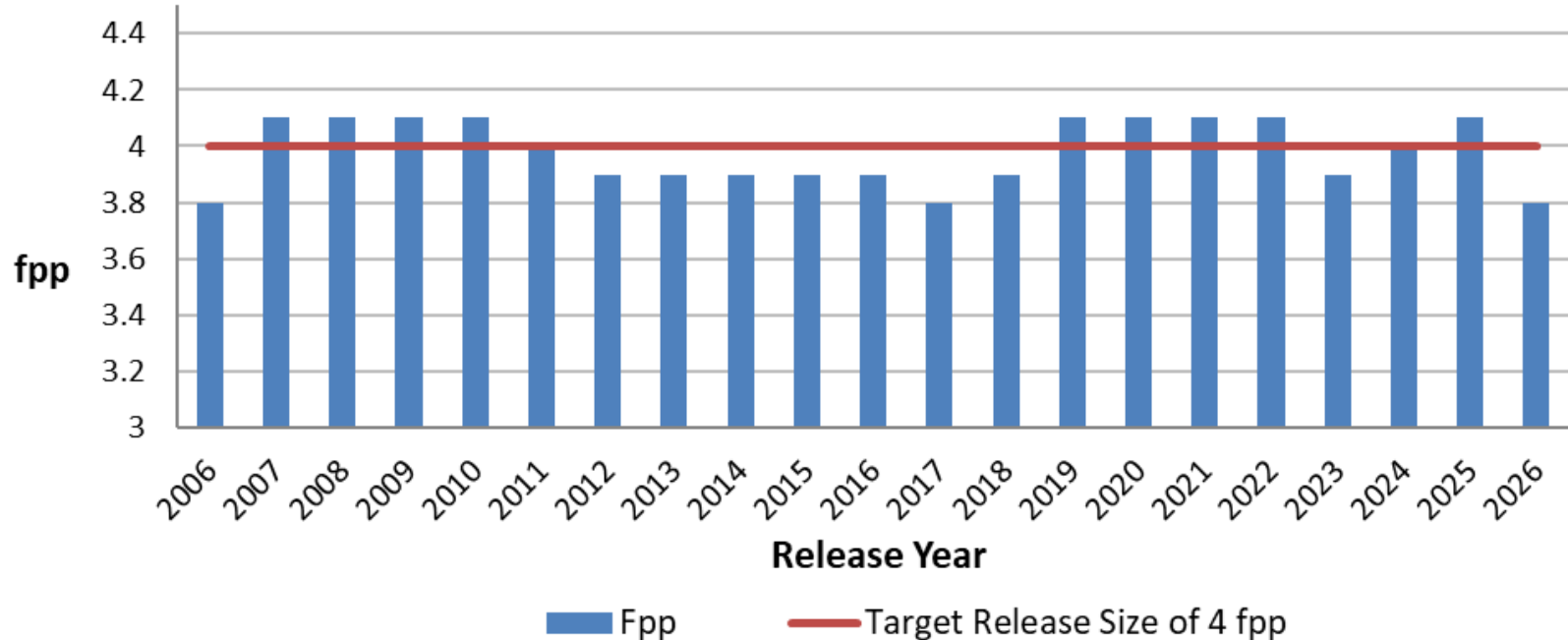
Steelhead Release Numbers

Steelhead Releases from RBH



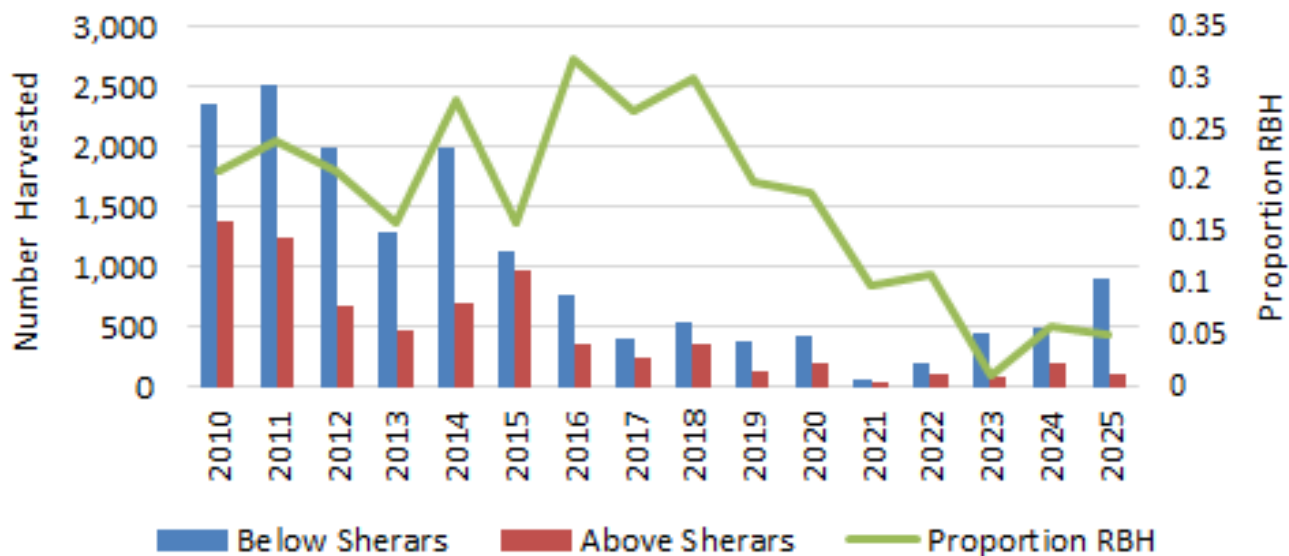
Size at Release of RBH Steelhead

Average Size at Release of RBH Steelhead



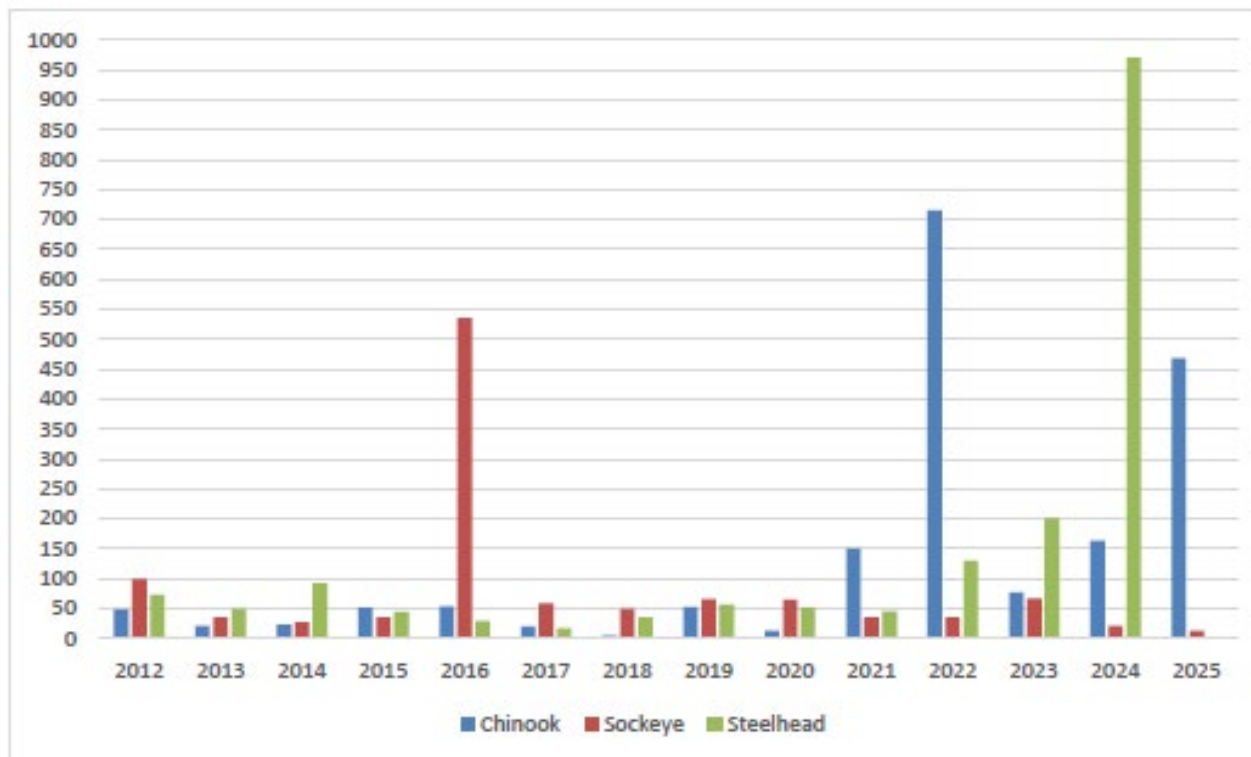
Hatchery Steelhead Harvest

Hatchery Steelhead Harvest on the Deschutes River



Reintroduction Goals

2025 Fish Passage Annual Report



Summary and Recommendations

- ◆ In general, hatcheries are operated consistent with BMPs.
 - RBH Spring Chinook recovery program – 79% compliance
 - RBH Spring Chinook harvest program – 76% compliance
 - RBH Steelhead recovery program – 80% compliance
 - RBH Steelhead harvest program – 69% compliance
 - Wizard Falls Steelhead recovery program – 78% compliance
 - Fall River Spring Chinook recovery program – 75% compliance
- ◆ Lower rankings for:
 - M&E – lack of numerical goals for harvest, adult survival, and pHOS
 - Adult Holding – lack of pathogen-free water, natural temperature regime



Summary and Recommendations

- ◆ The spring Chinook program is consistent with all identified guidance documents and directives
- ◆ The steelhead program is consistent with all but 2 of the relevant guidance documents
 - Does not meet HSRG standard for pHOS
 - Does not meet guidelines in Oregon's Native Fish Conservation Policy



Summary and Recommendations

- ◆ Steelhead program has continued to meet release goals
- ◆ Chinook program has not met release goals in some years due to low adult returns, not in-hatchery operations
- ◆ No significant fish culture issues were identified; however, there are risks associated with aging infrastructure



Acknowledgments

- ◆ Thank you to staff from PGE, ODFW, and CTWSRO for their willingness to share information related to this review



Questions?

The draft report is currently out for 30-day review

