Northwest Power and Conservation Council

Wildlife Crediting Forum Draft Report

June 7, 2011

Introduction

- The report is the result of nearly one and a half years work by the Forum.
- Intended to provide a blueprint or framework for future discussions between Bonneville and regional fish and wildlife agencies and tribes on the development of agreements for meeting Bonneville's wildlife mitigation obligations.
- It is not intended to be applied to individual projects or to establish new policies outside of the legal mandates established by the Power Act.

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Background

- The Council chartered the Forum to provide advice on the crediting and accounting of wildlife habitat mitigation associated with the construction and inundation impacts of the Federal Columbia River Power System (FCRPS).
- The Forum consists of wildlife program managers representing tribes (14 in all) and state fish and game departments (Oregon, Washington, Idaho) impacted by FCRPS, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), and representatives from the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) and BPA Customers.

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Background

The instructions to the Forum were to make recommendations regarding the NPCC Wildlife Crediting Program (Program) with respect to:

- Developing a commonly accepted "ledger" of habitat units acquired by BPA
- Developing a common database for tracking, assigning and recording habitat units
- Resolving issues about accounting for habitat units
- Other issues related to wildlife crediting, including the use of Habitat Evaluation Procedures (HEP) or alternative evaluation procedures

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Major Areas of Accomplishment

- Establishment of a ledger depicting current status of BPA funded wildlife mitigation activities
  - Development of Standard Operating Procedures for future applications of HEP
  - Development protocols for determining the amount of credit BPA should receive for management actions that occur on Federal lands
  - Development of protocols for determining the amount of credit that BPA should receive for fish mitigation projects that benefit wildlife
  - Acceptance of the Fish and Wildlife Program loss assessments as the agreed upon measure of wildlife losses

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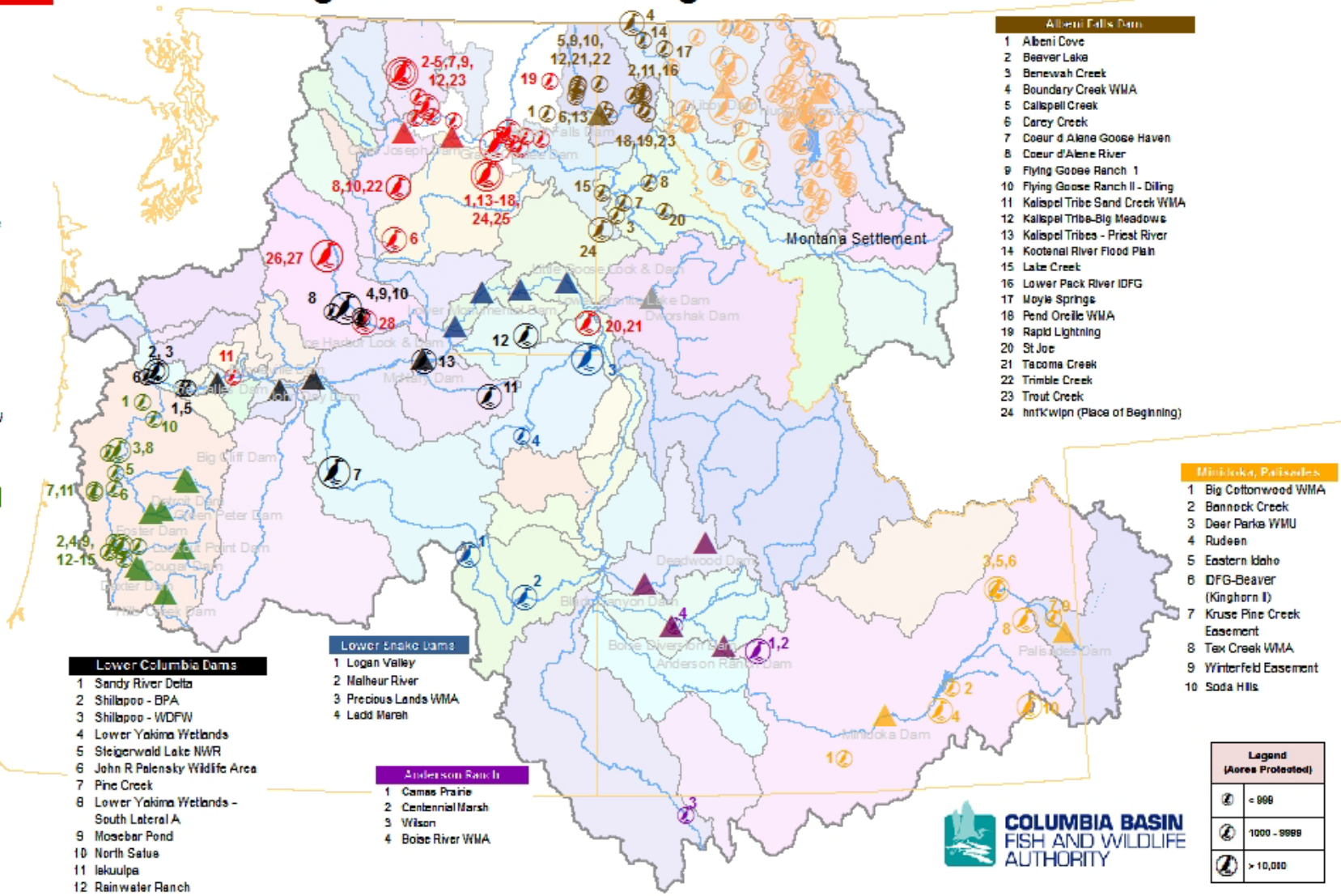
BPA Wildlife Mitigation Projects:
Wildlife Management Areas Assigned to FCRPS Dams



Chief Joseph / Grand Coulee

1. Hellgate Winter Range
2. North Omak Lake
3. Red Thunder WA
4. Tumwater Basin WA
5. White Lakes WA
6. Desert - WDFW
7. Eder
8. Sage Flat - WDFW
9. Scotch Creek - WDFW
10. West Foster Creek/ Dezellem Lake
11. Western Pond Turtle
12. Omak Lake WA
13. Blue Creek Winter Range
14. Cottonwood
15. Fox Creek
16. McCoy Lake
17. Tshimikain
18. Wellpinit Mtn WA
19. Little Pend Oreille NWR
20. Asotin Creek - BPA
21. Asotin Creek - WDFW
22. Sage Flat - BPA
23. Scotch Creek - BPA
24. Swanson Lakes - BPA
25. Swanson Lakes - WDFW
26. Wenas - BPA
27. Wenas - WDFW
28. Sunnyside - WDFW

Willamette

1. Canby Landing
2. Big Island
3. Baskett Butte
4. Yamhill Oaks
5. Buena Vista
6. Little Willamette
7. Lonestar
8. Zena
9. Sorenson
10. Tualatin River NWR
11. Muddy Cr / Marys River
12. Willow Creek
13. Willow Creek Additions
14. Coburg Ridge
15. Green Island

Lower Columbia Dams

1. Sandy River Delta
2. Shillapoo - BPA
3. Shillapoo - WDFW
4. Lower Yakima Wetlands
5. Steigerwald Lake NWR
6. John R Palensky Wildlife Area
7. Pine Creek
8. Lower Yakima Wetlands - South Lateral A
9. Moseber Pond
10. North Satus
11. Iakuulpa
12. Rainwater Ranch
13. Wanaket

Lower Snake Dams

1. Logan Valley
2. Malheur River
3. Precious Lands WMA
4. Ladd Marsh

Anderson Ranch

1. Camas Prairie
2. Centennial Marsh
3. Wilson
4. Boise River WMA

Albeni Falls Dam

1. Albeni Cove
2. Beaver Lake
3. Benewah Creek
4. Boundary Creek WMA
5. Calispell Creek
6. Carey Creek
7. Coeur d Alene Goose Haven
8. Coeur d'Alene River
9. Flying Goose Ranch 1
10. Flying Goose Ranch II - Diling
11. Kalispel Tribe Sand Creek WMA
12. Kalispel Tribe-Big Meadows
13. Kalispel Tribes - Priest River
14. Kootenai River Flood Plain
15. Lake Creek
16. Lower Pack River IDFG
17. Moyie Springs
18. Pend Oreille WMA
19. Rapid Lightning
20. St Joe
21. Tacoma Creek
22. Trimble Creek
23. Trout Creek
24. hnt'kwlpn (Place of Beginning)

Minidoka, Palisades

1. Big Cottonwood WMA
2. Bannock Creek
3. Deer Parke WMU
4. Rudeen
5. Eastern Idaho
6. IDFG-Beaver (Kinghorn I)
7. Kruse Pine Creek Easement
8. Tex Creek WMA
9. Winterfeld Easement
10. Soda Hills

Unresolved Issues

- Agreement on the application of the crediting ratio established in the Fish and Wildlife Program
- Agreement on how to deal with wildlife species benefiting from open water habitats resulting from reservoirs associated with dam construction
- Agreement on how to account for mitigation that occurred prior to the 1980 Power Act

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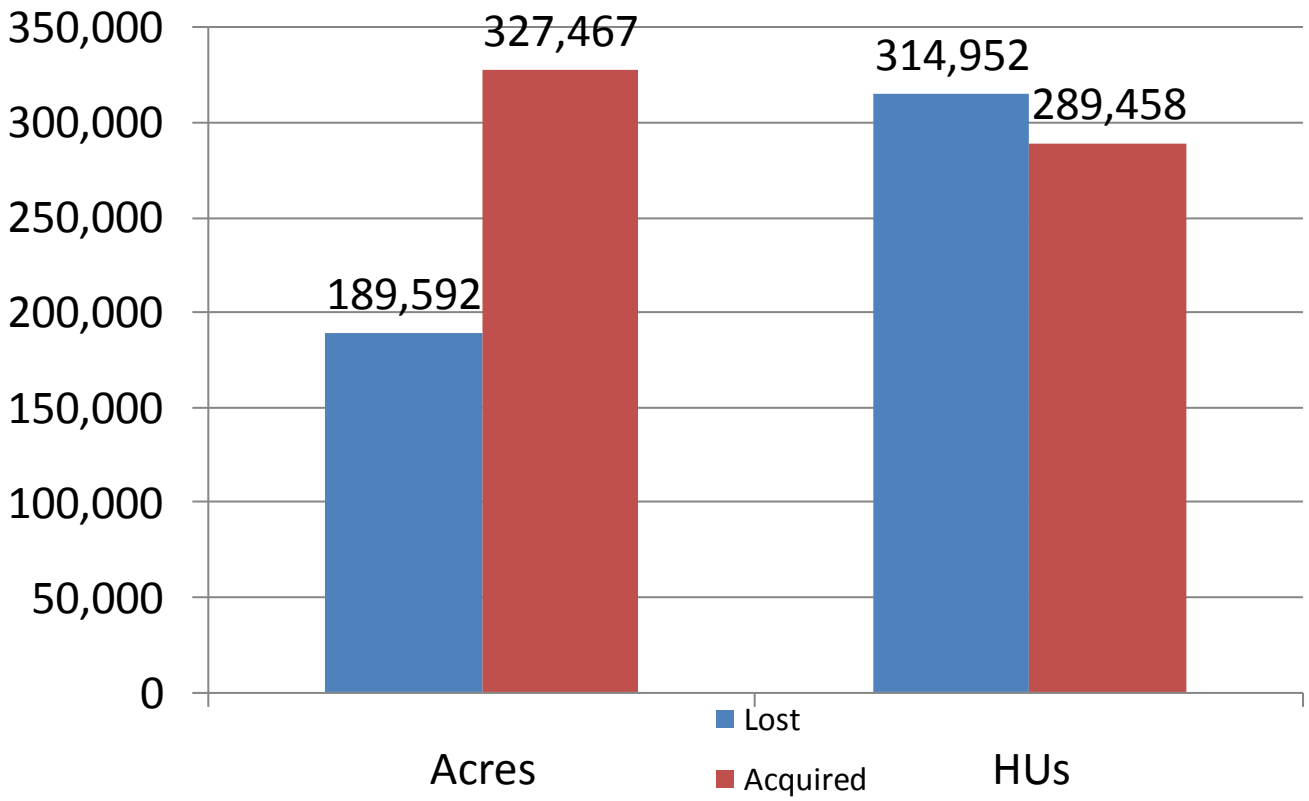
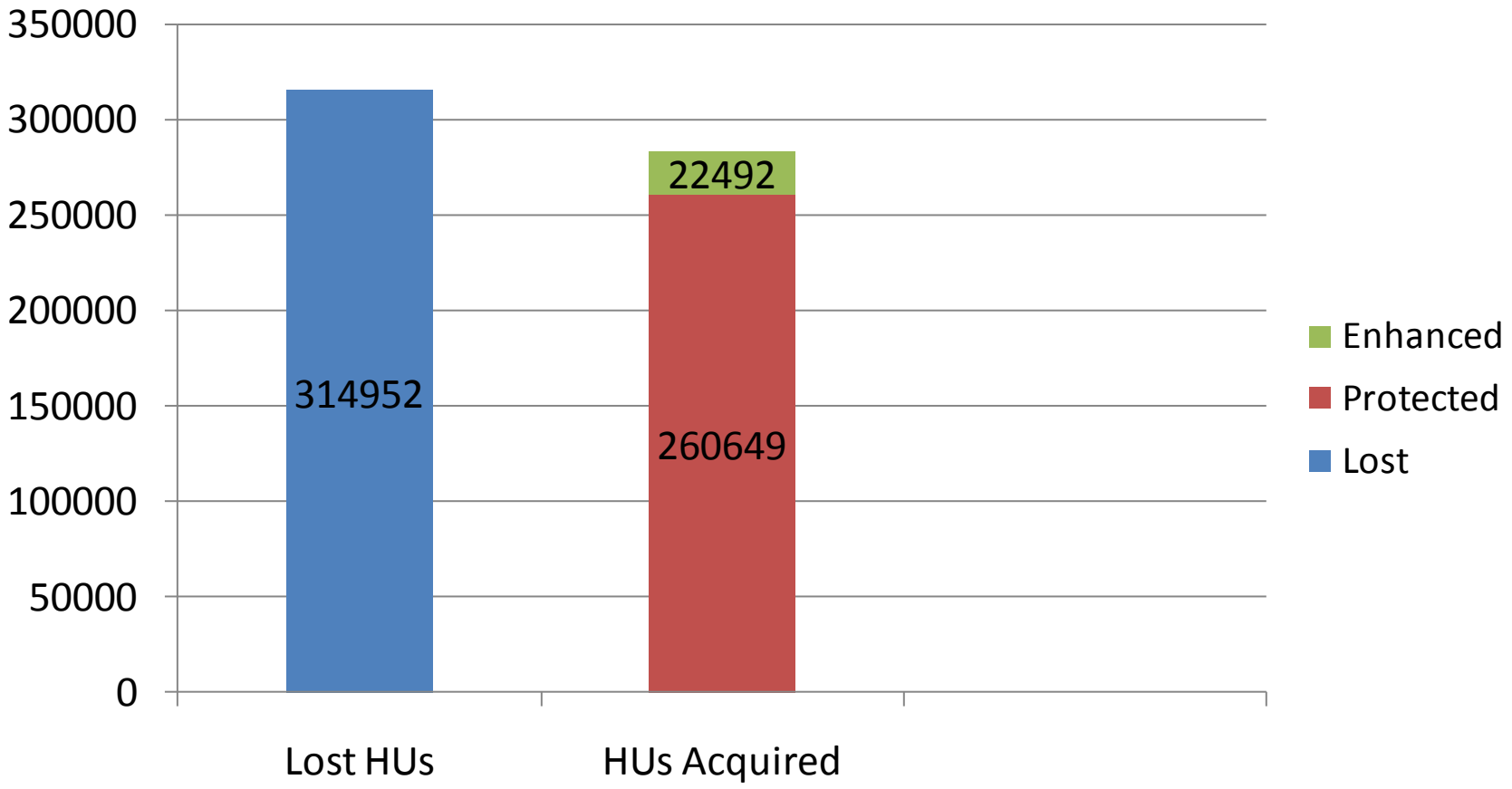
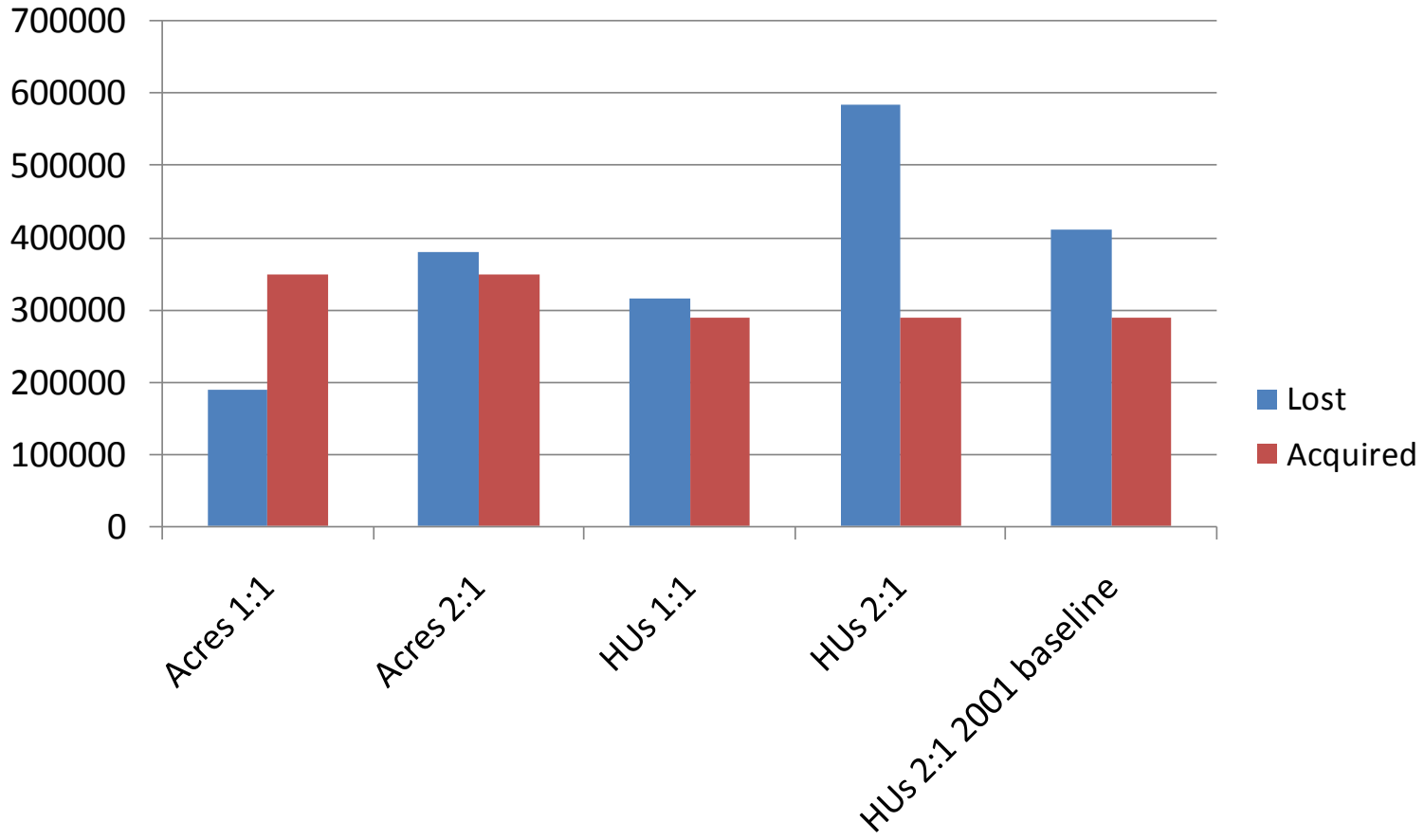
Acres and Habitat Units Lost/Acquired



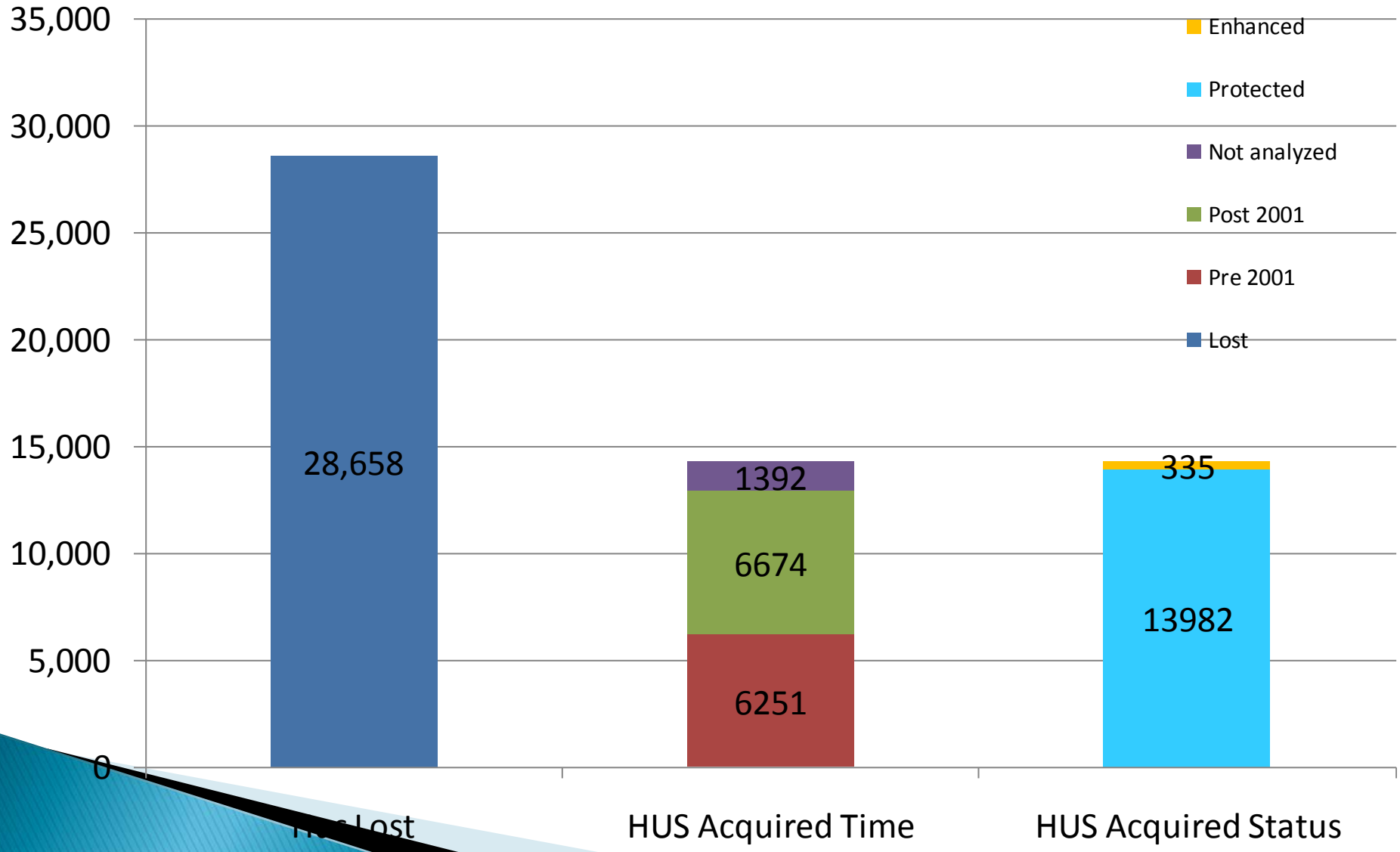
HU's Lost/Acquired



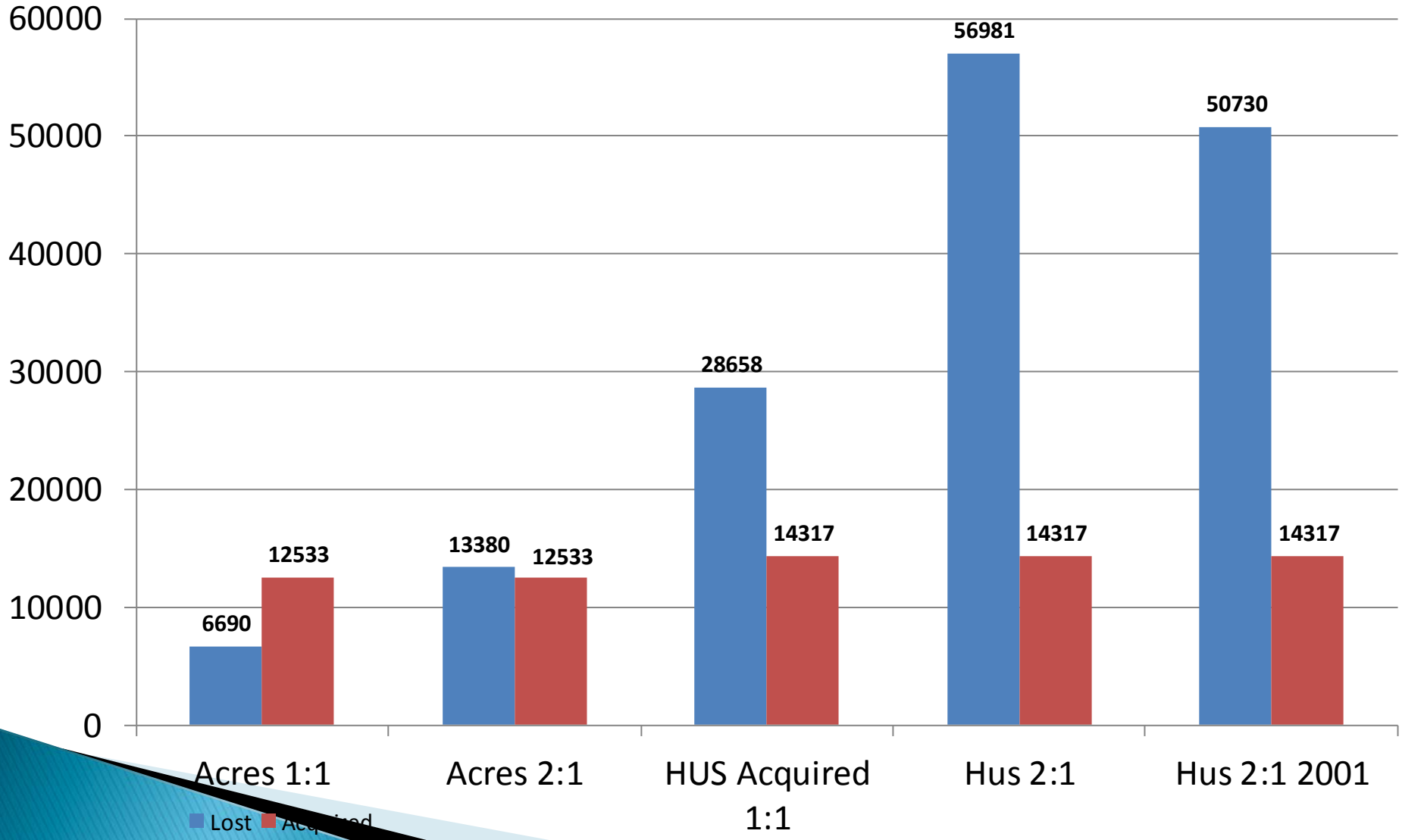
Policy Implications



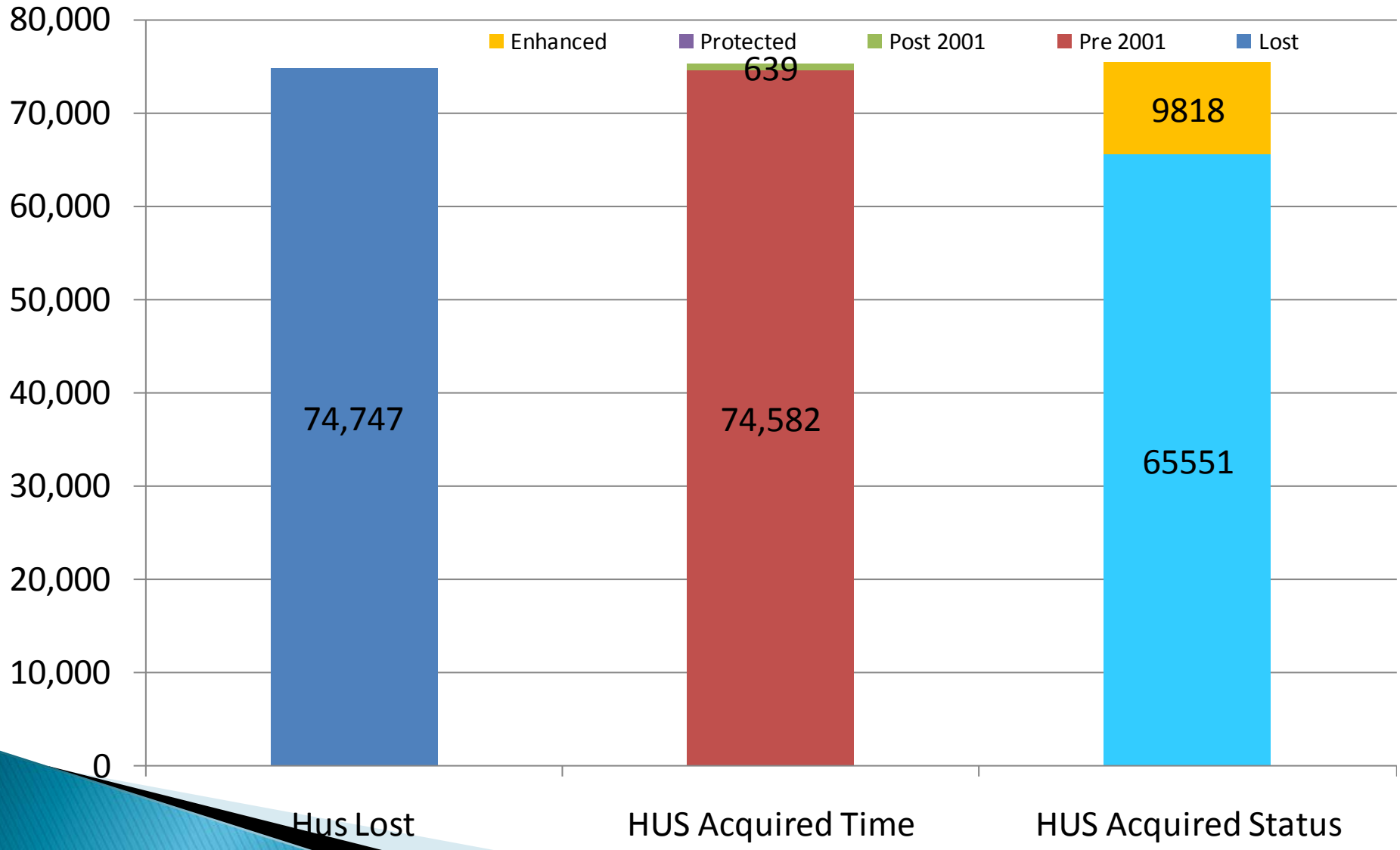
Northern Idaho



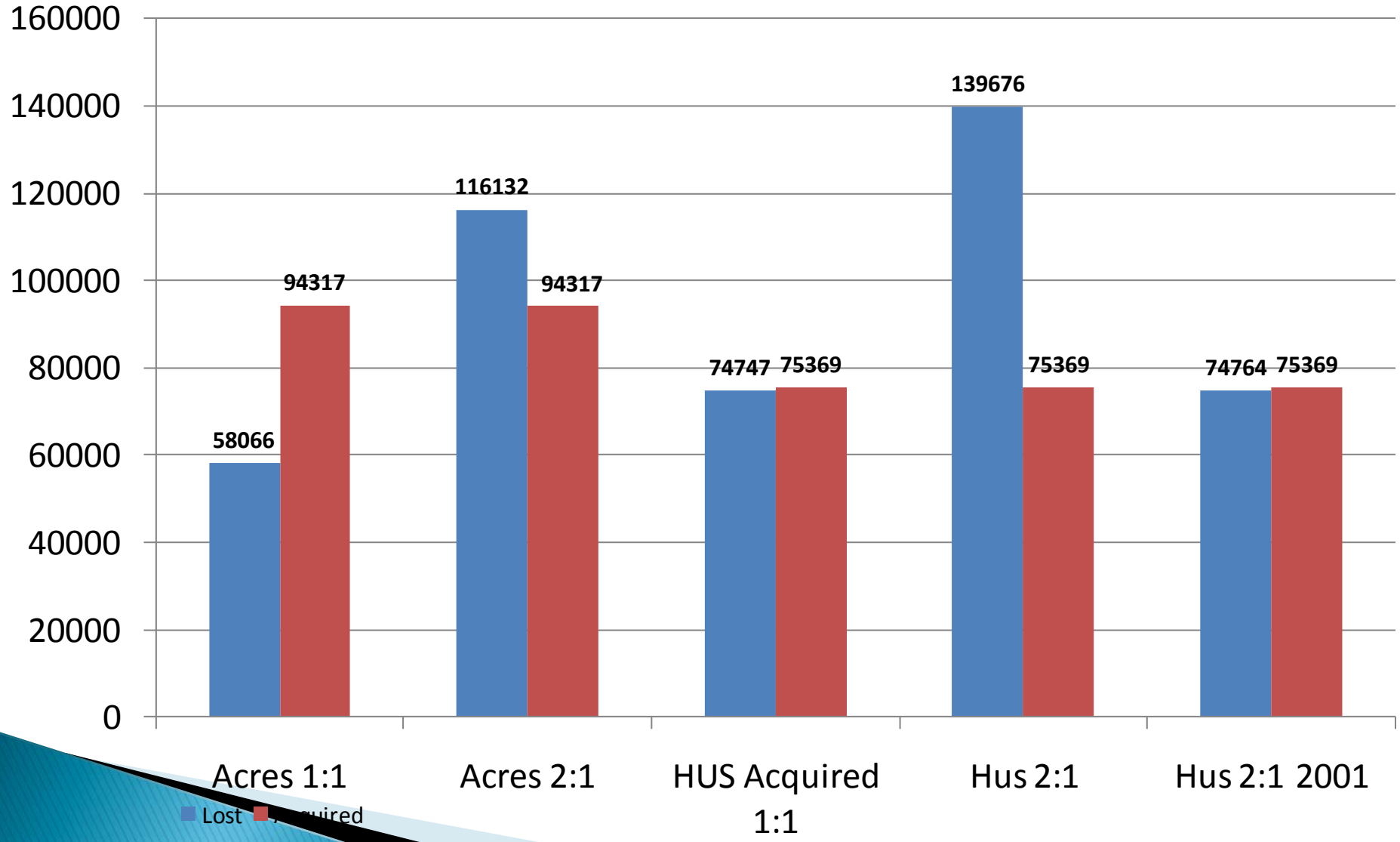
Northern Idaho with Policy



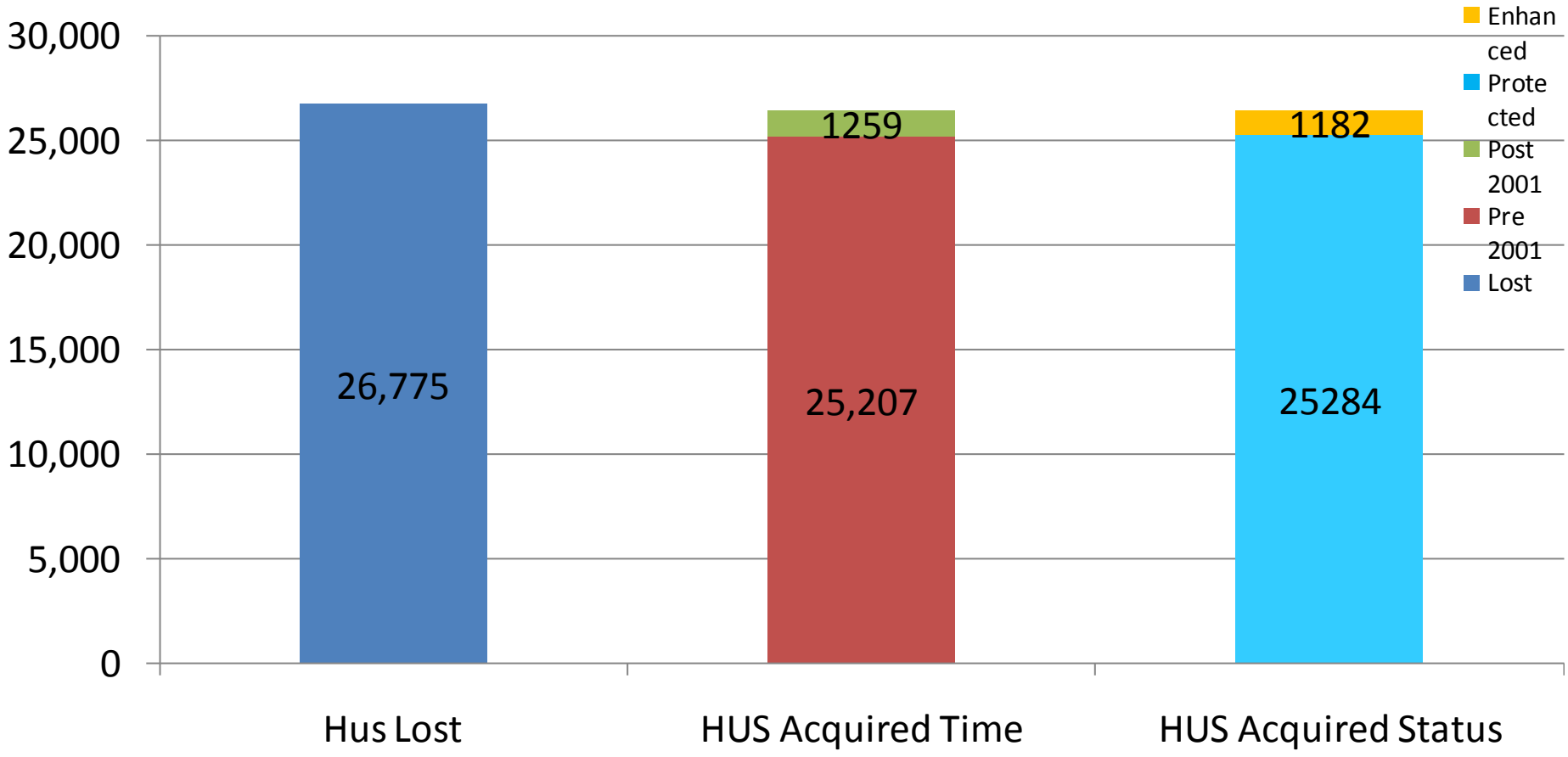
Lower Columbia



Lower Columbia with Policy



Lower Snake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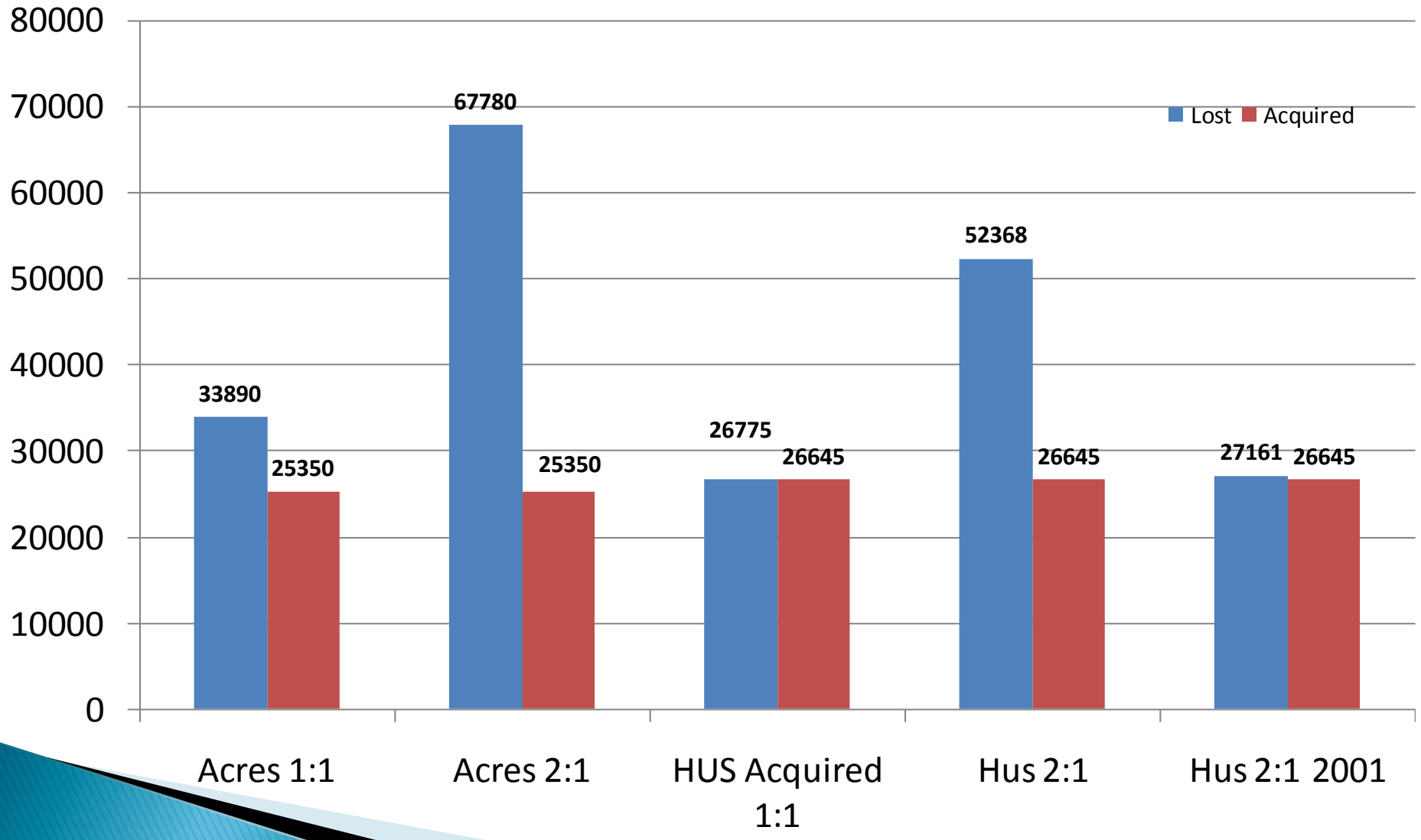
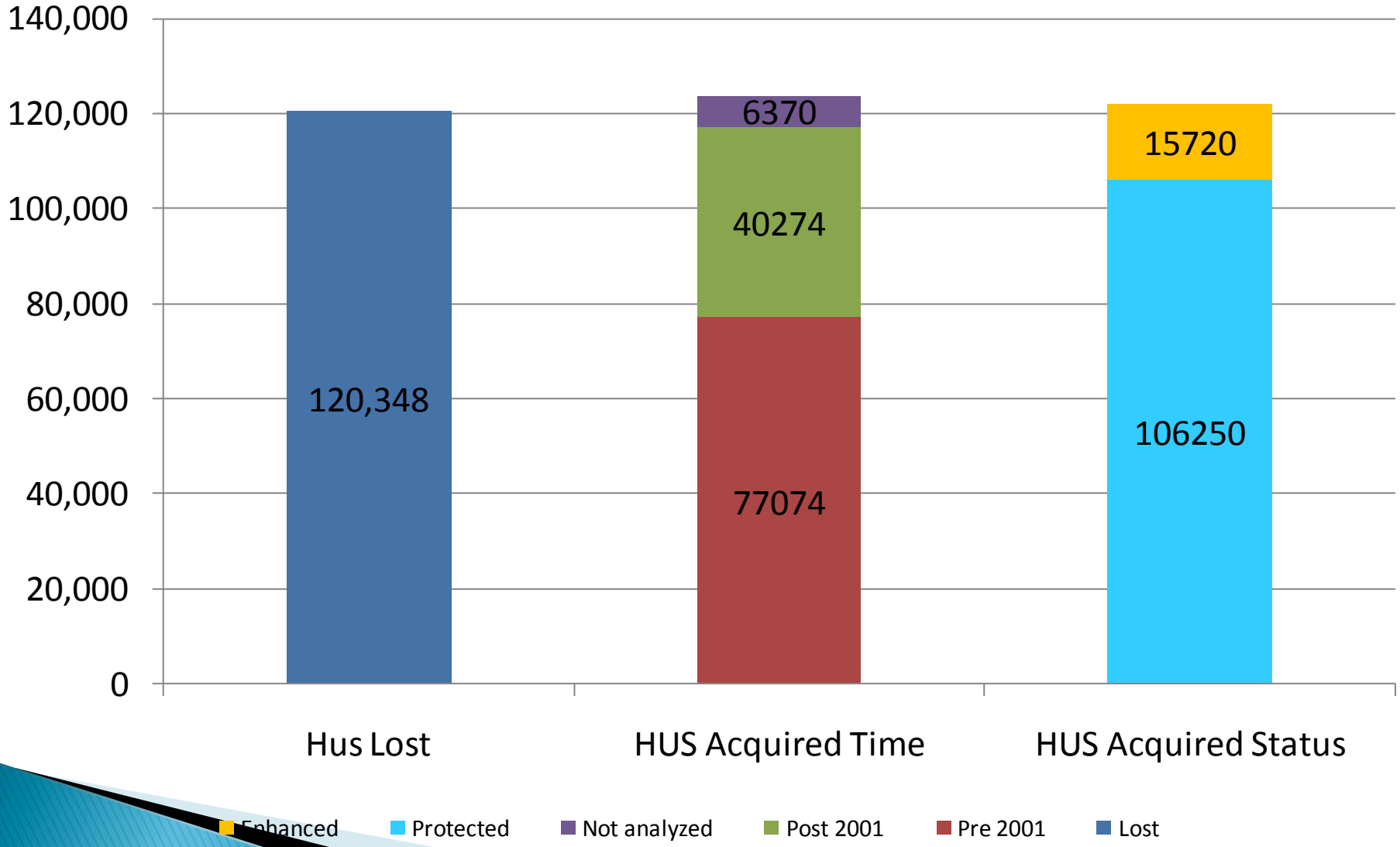
25,207
1182
25284
Hus Lost
HUS Acquired Time
HUS Acquired Status
Enhanced
Protected
Post 2001
Pre 2001
Lost

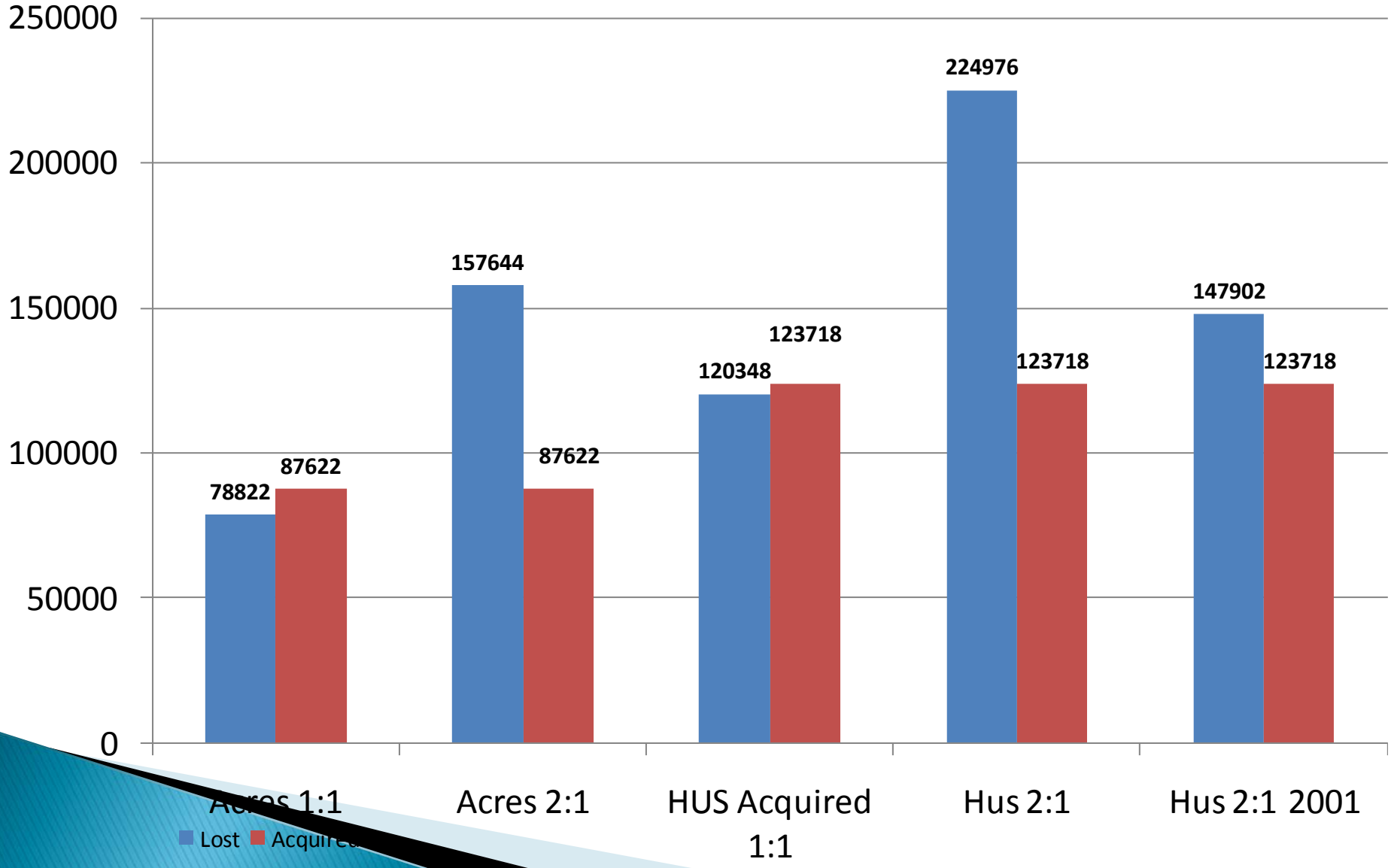
Lower Snake with Policy



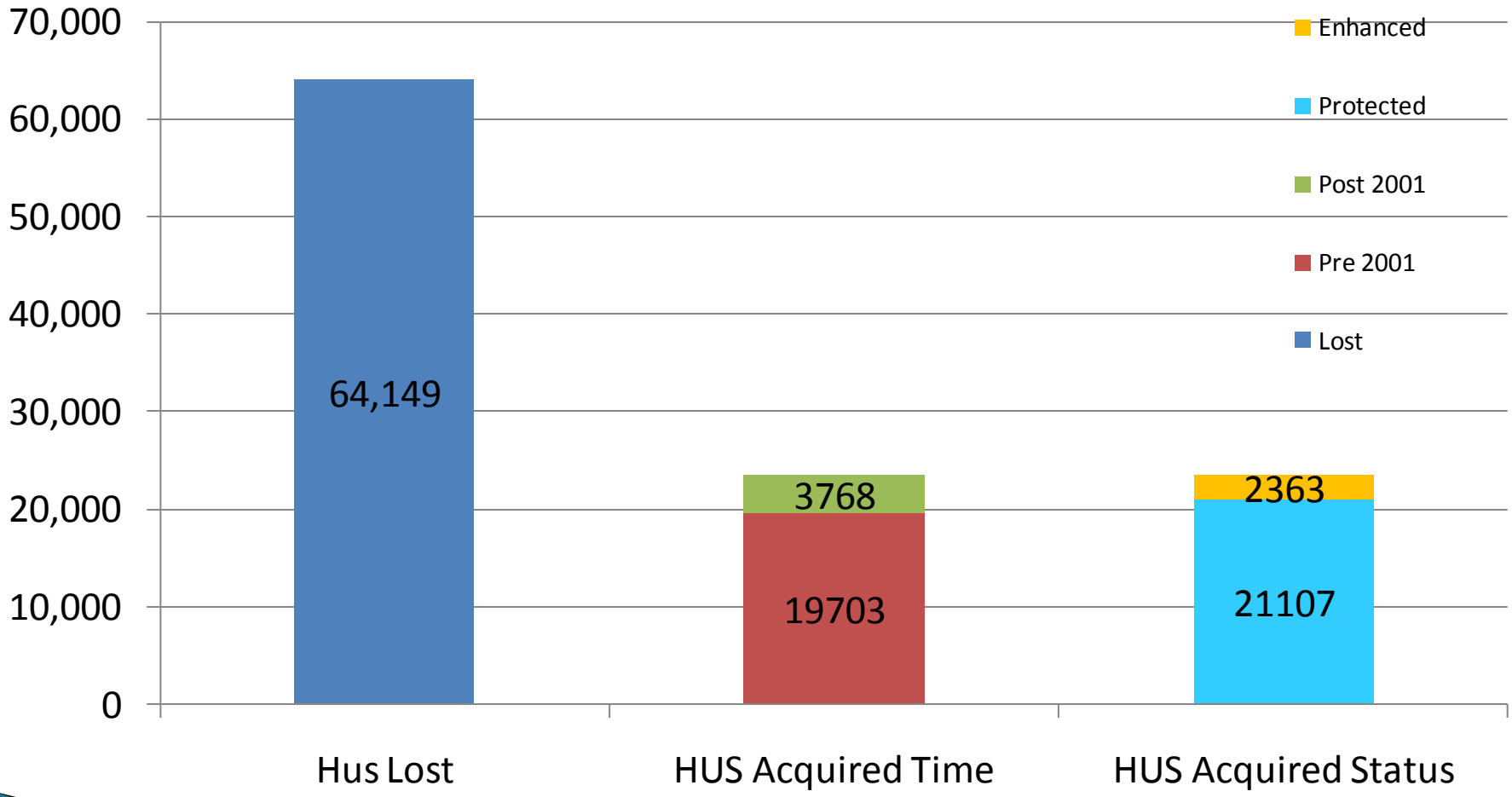
Upper Columbia



Upper Columbia with Policy



Upper Snake


70,000
60,000
50,000
40,000
30,000
20,000
10,000
0
Enhanced
Protected
Post 2001
Pre 2001
Lost
64,149
3768
19703
2363
21107
Hus Lost
HUS Acquired Time
HUS Acquired Status

Upper Snake with Policy