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Washington

July 26, 2012

MEMORANDUM

TO: Council Members

FROM: Tony Grover, Fish and Wildlife Division Director

SUBJECT: Briefing from the Upper Snake River Tribes (USRT)

At the August 2012 Council meeting, Billy A. Bell, Chairman Fort McDermitt Paiute and Shoshone Tribe (USRT Commission Chair), Charisse Soucie (Chairperson Burns Paiute Tribe and USRT Commission Member), Nathan Small, Chairman Shoshone-Bannock Tribes (USRT Commission Member) and Terry Gibson, Chairman Shoshone-Paiute Tribes (USRT Commission Member), will provide an overview of the work and structure of the USRT organization to date. The USRT's are all descendents of the same people, from the same area and have historically managed and shared the same resources. These Tribal leaders will emphasize their common strategies for working together to achieve a unified vision for their fish, wildlife, and cultural resource goals within the Columbia River Basin.

Upper Snake River Tribes (USRT)

NPCC Presentation

8 August 2012

USRT Chairman Billy Bell
Chairman Ft. McDermitt Paiute-
Shoshone Tribe



USRT Charter

- Restore the Snake River Basin to a natural condition and facilitate tribal unity to protect and nurture all Compacting tribes rights, languages, cultures, and traditions



USRT Membership

➤ Burns Paiute Tribe

Burns, Oregon

➤ Paiute-Shoshone Tribe

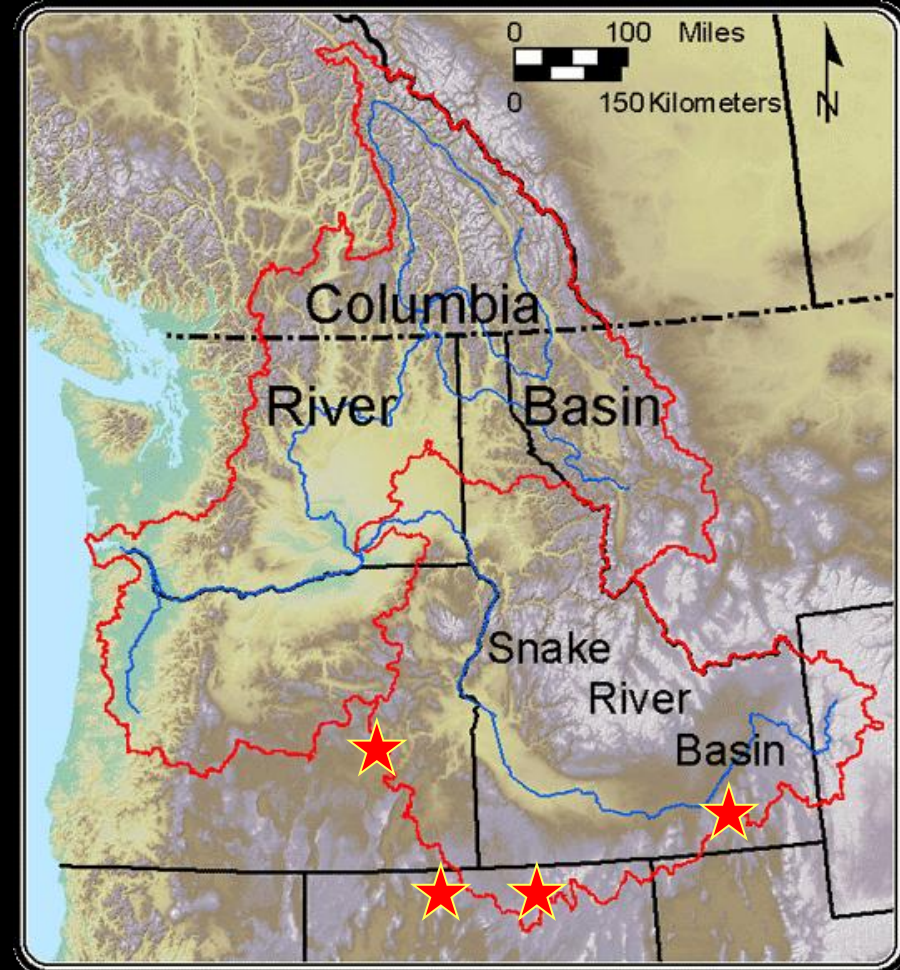
Ft McDermitt, Oregon/Nevada

➤ Shoshone-Paiute Tribes

Duck Valley, Idaho/Nevada

➤ Shoshone-Bannock Tribes (SBT)

Fort Hall, Idaho



USRT Traditional Lands

**Burns-Paiute
Indian Reservation**

**Traditional Eastern
Shoshone & Bannock Lands**

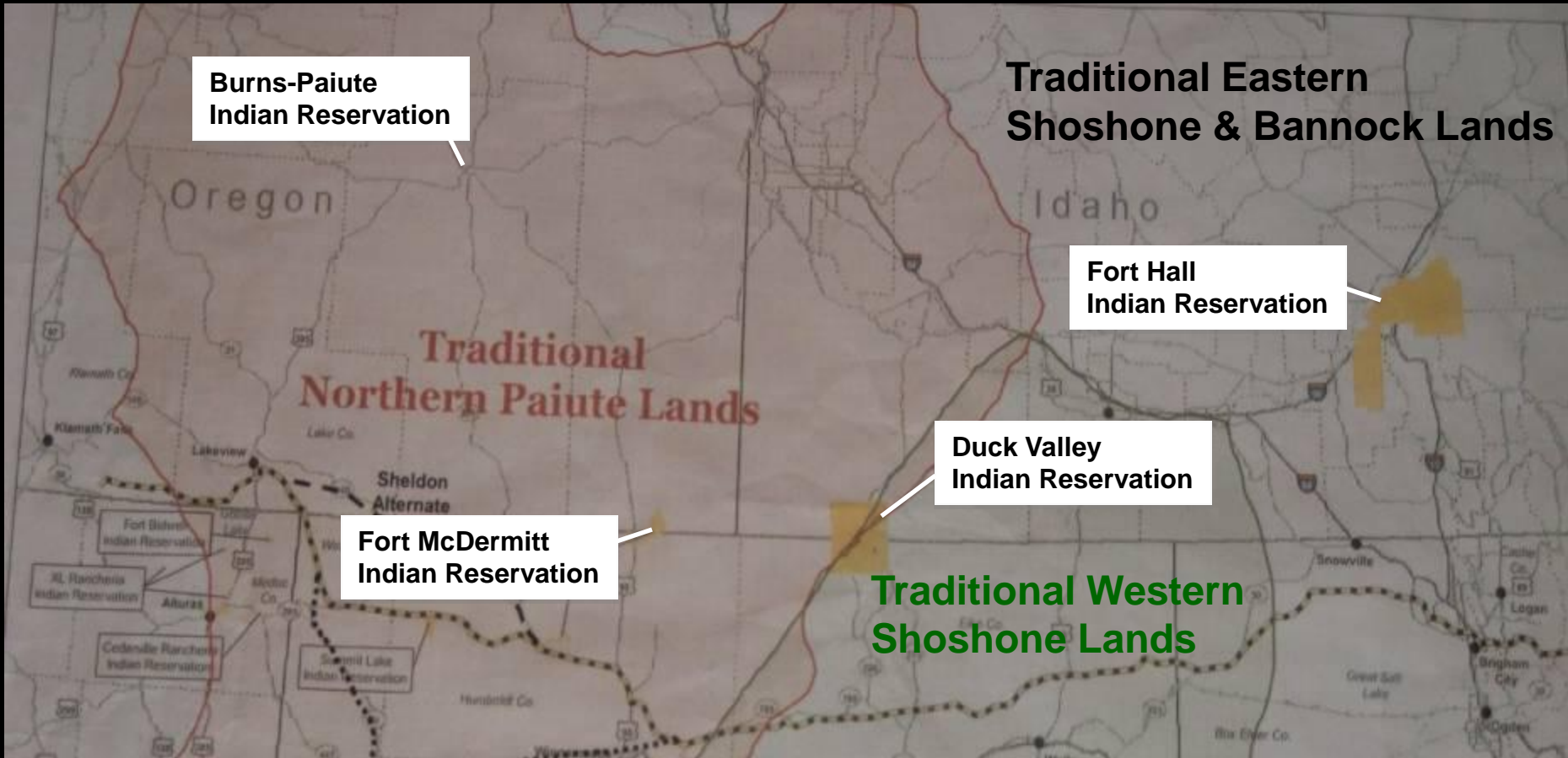
**Fort Hall
Indian Reservation**

**Traditional
Northern Paiute Lands**

**Duck Valley
Indian Reservation**

**Fort McDermitt
Indian Reservation**

**Traditional Western
Shoshone Lands**



Subsistence Hunting and Fishing

- The lower Snake River and tributaries (Boise, Payette, Weiser, Owyhee, Malheur, Burnt and Salmon Rivers.) were highly productive fisheries
- Historically, the average annual fish harvest for the Salmon River region, based on estimates from Hewes (1947), Rostlund (1952), and Walker (1993), was 233,555 fish (range 36,500-604,166), equaling roughly **700 lbs/person**
- Average annual fish harvest (SBT) from 1992-2006 was approximately 200 salmon/year, equaling **0.6 lbs/person**



Photo: SBT

Fish & Wildlife Program

Columbia River Basin Subbasins



Fish & Wildlife Program

Diverse Projects

- 198906201 Program Coordination and Facilitation Services provided through CBFWA
- 199501900 Burns-Paiute F&W Coordinator Middle Snake
- 199701900 Evaluate The Life History of Native Salmonids In The Malheur Basin
- 200000900 Logan Valley Wildlife Mitigation Project/ O&M
- 200002700 Malheur Wildlife Mitigation Project
- 198909803 Salmon Supplementation Studies in Idaho- Shoshone-Bannock Tribes
- 198906201 Annual Work Plan CBFWA
- 199107100 Snake River Sockeye Salmon Habitat and Limnological Research
- 199405000 Salmon River Habitat Enhancement M & E
- 199201000 Habitat Restoration/Enhancement Fort Hall Reservation
- 199505702 Southern Idaho Wildlife Mitigation Program
- 199505703 Southern Idaho Wildlife Mitigation Program
- 199500600 Shoshone-Bannock/Shoshone Paiute Joint Culture Facility
- 199701100 Enhance and Protect Habitat and Riparian Areas on the DVIR
- 198815600 Implement Fishery Stocking Program Consistent With Native Fish Conservation
- 199501500 Lake Billy Shaw Operations and Maintenance and Evaluation (O&M, M&E)
- 200000900 Logan Valley Wildlife Mitigation
- 200002700 Malheur River Wildlife Mitigation
- 200302900 Assess Upper Malheur River Above
- 200712000 Malheur Subbasin Habitat Restoration and Fish Enhancement
- 200717100 Malheur River Subbasin Habitat
- 200709600 Wildlife Inventory and Habitat Evaluation of DVIR
- 200890400 Salmon River Basin Nutrient Enhancement
- 200890300 ESA Habitat Restoration

Fort McDermitt Paiute-Shoshone Tribe

- Has not received Fish and Wildlife Program funding to date
- Requesting funding to equally participate with co-managers in Fish and Wildlife Program coordination activities in 2013
- Future plans to develop a Fish and Wildlife Program on the reservation

Photo: Ft. McDermitt Paiute-Shoshone
Tribe Reservation



USRT

- The facilitation and coordination of USRT assists the Northwest Power and Conservation Council and Bonneville Power Administration in achieving Fish and Wildlife Program objectives in a cost effective manner consistent with legal rights of tribes



Photo: Snake River Birds of Prey

USRT

- USRT coordination and consolidation of common rights protection activities reduces stress on individual Tribal governments separated by hundreds of miles within the upper Snake River Basin
- USRT office in Boise, ID provides a focused location for member tribes and increases and improves communication to coordinate activities



Photos: Columbia Basin tribal delegation in DC



USRT Commission Meeting

Thank You

- Billy Bell – USRT Commission Chairman
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- Heather Ray – Executive Director
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