

# Mat-Su Fish Passage Program: Policy and Practice



Coal Creek, Little Su Watershed



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U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service**

# Connecting Habitats

# Connecting Communities

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# Authorities



## State

Fishway Act '841'

Anadromous Fish Act '871'

## Federal

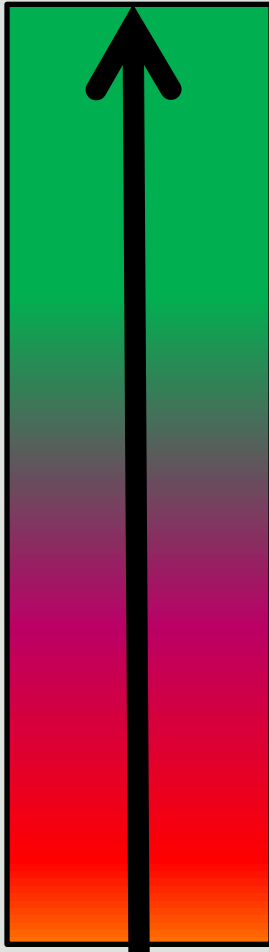
- Section 404 Clean Water Act ('Waters of the U.S').
- Section 10 of Rivers and Harbors Act ('Navigable waters').



# Policies

## Statewide Fish Passage MOA Between ADFG and DOT

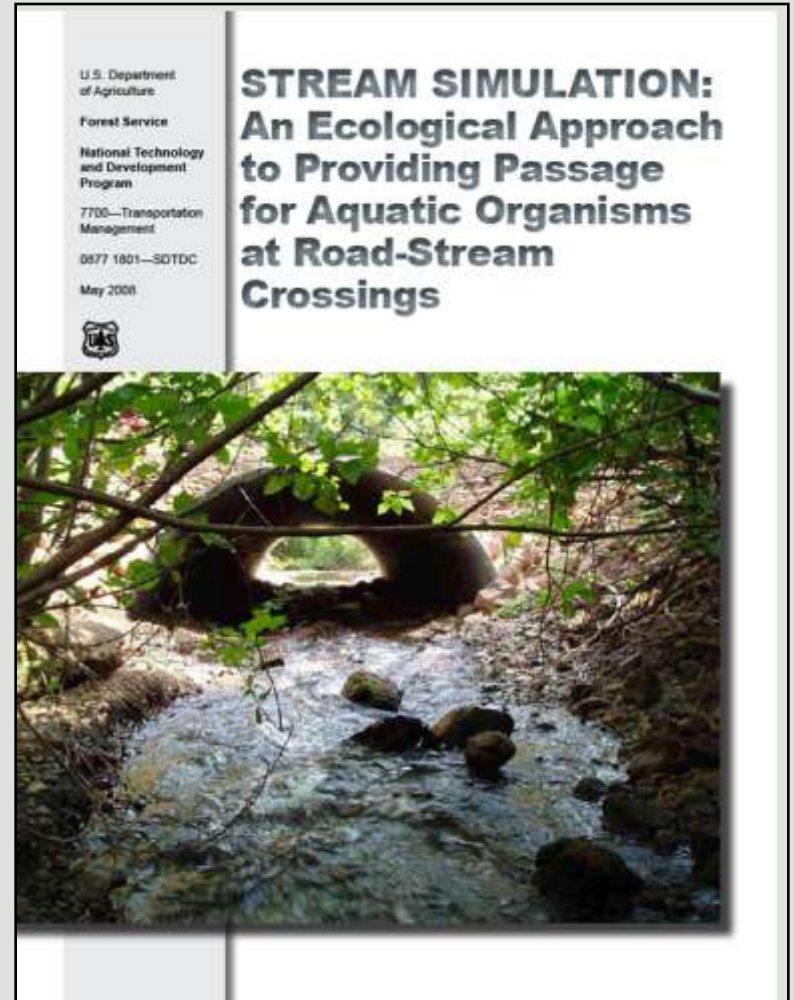
Better Policy



Anchorage

Kenai

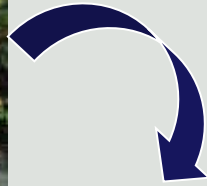
Mat-Su



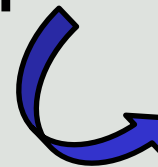
# Stream Simulation Design



**The Problem**



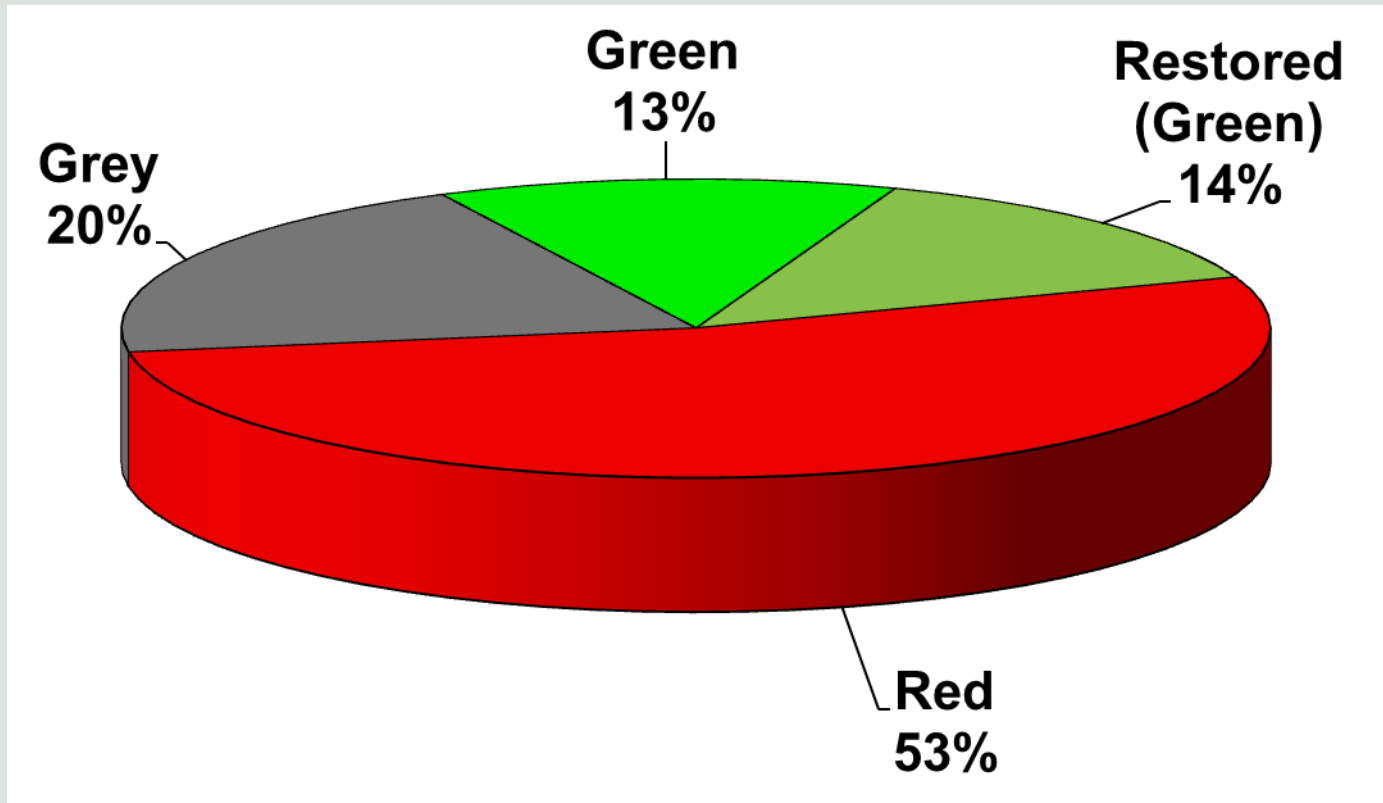
**The Reference  
Stream**



**The Solution**

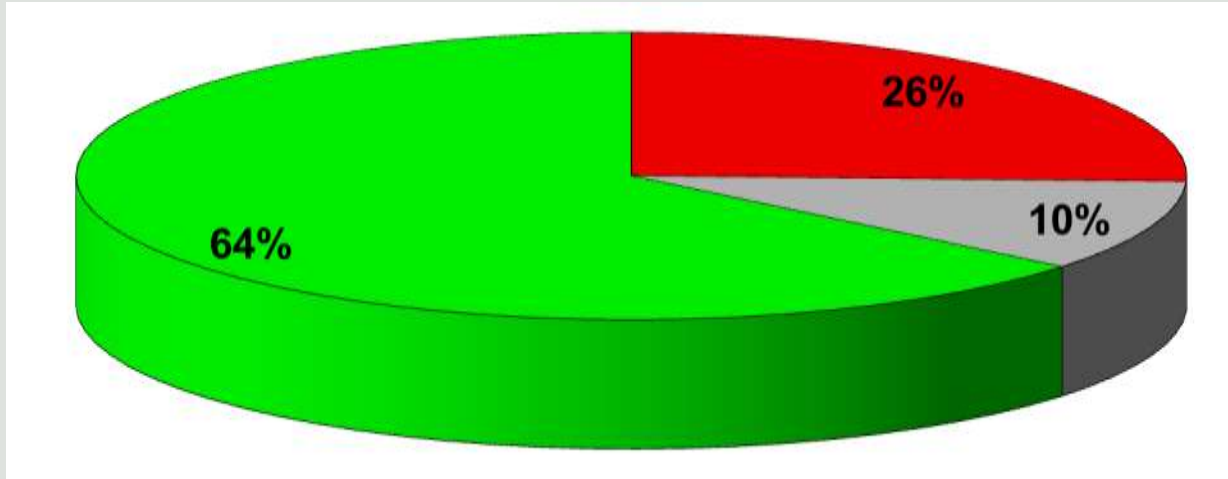


# Mat-Su Assessment



**587 Culverts  
(81 Restored)**

# Some Restoration Efforts

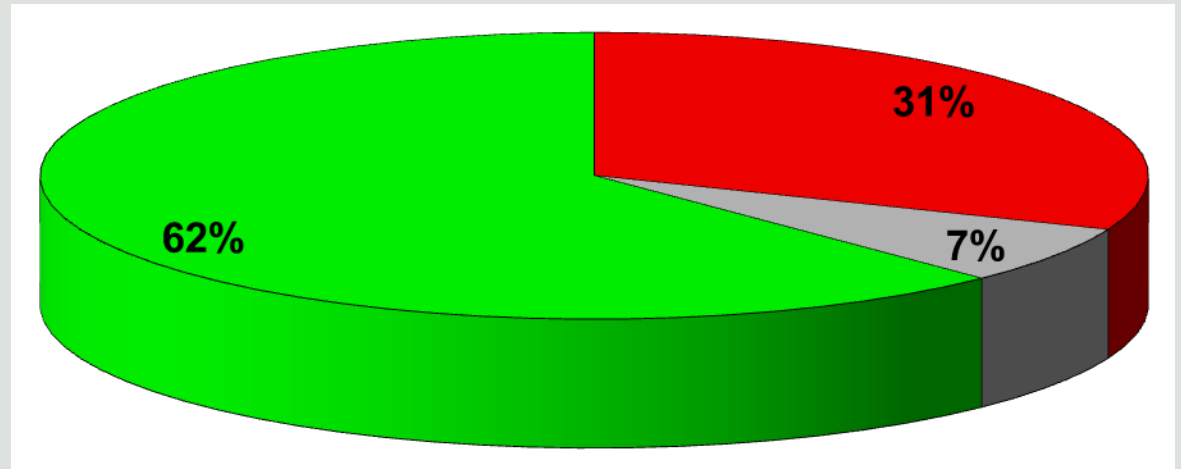


*Wasilla  
Creek*

**\$2.2 million (18 projects)**

**N=39**

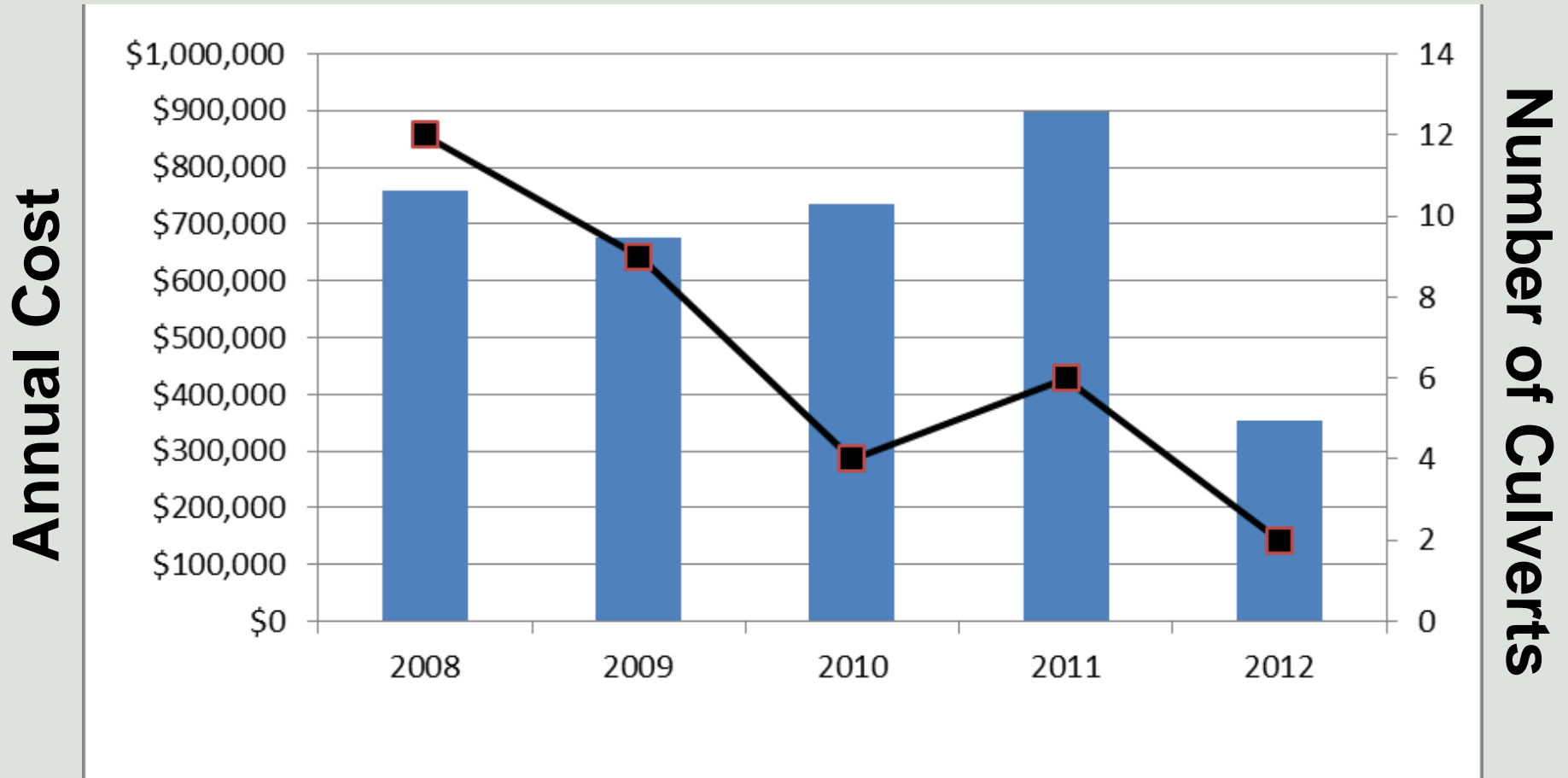
*Little Su*



**\$2 million (22 projects)**

**N=61**

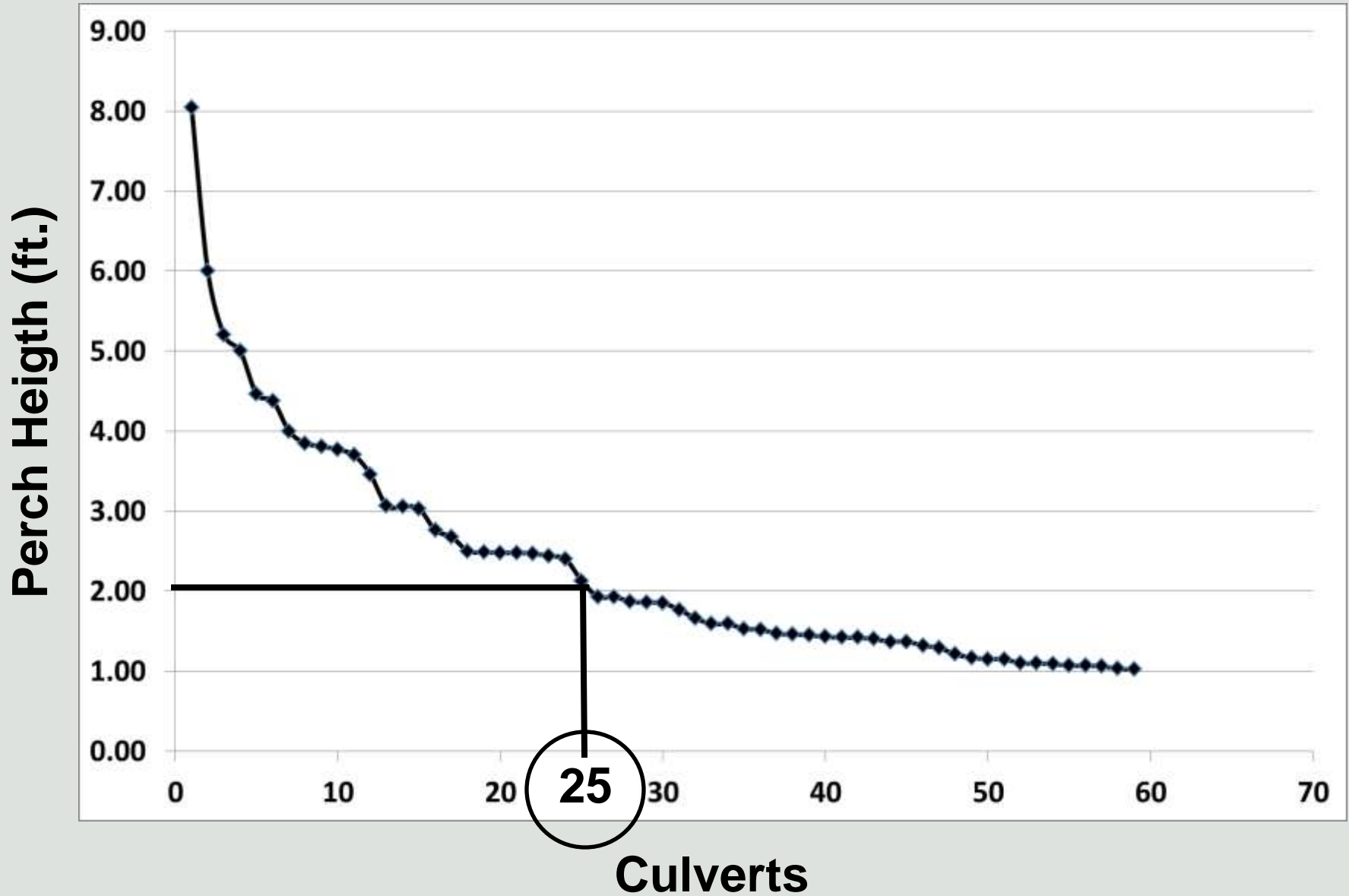
# Past Efforts MatSu



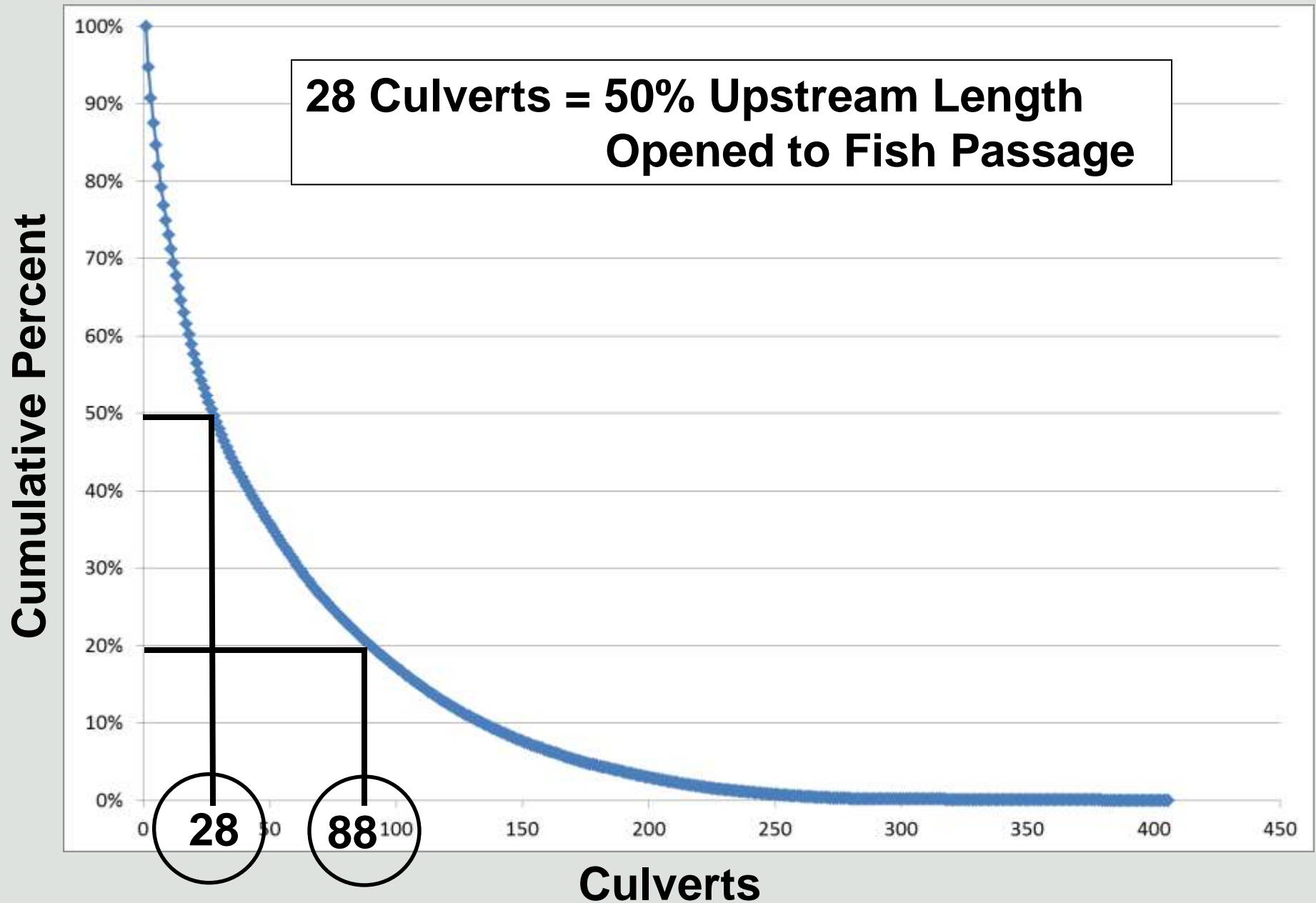
**1995-2012 (> \$6 million)**



# Future Efforts Perched Pipes



# Future Efforts Upstream Miles



# Future Efforts

- **\$4.3 million in Total Requests for 2013**
- **Estimated 30 Culverts over 3-4 Years**



**Proposed for Restoration**



**Finished Culvert**



**Shirley Town Bridge, Willow**



**Mile 5.5 on Oilwell Road**

## **2012 Floods (provisional)**

- **>100 year flood**
  - Little Su
  - Matanuska and Knik
- **50-100 year flood**
  - Talkeetna
- **25-50 year flood**
  - Montana Creek
  - Wasilla Creek



# Results of Flood

## Of the 81 Restored Crossings

- Only two had water overtop the road
- No failures
- Some experienced  $> 100$  year flood event
- Some bioengineering impacts

## MSB Recovery Taskforce

- Damage Assessment
- Policies
- Funding

