



Prioritizing Conservation Strategies of the Partnership

*Corinne Smith
The Nature Conservancy
Mat-Su Salmon Symposium
November 2015*

Strategic Action Plan

Conserving Salmon Habitat in the Mat-Su Basin



The Strategic Action Plan
of the
Mat-Su Basin Salmon Habitat Partnership
2008

Conserving Salmon Habitat in the Mat-Su Basin



The Strategic Action Plan
of the
Mat-Su Basin Salmon Habitat Partnership
2013 Update

What do we care about?

Salmon

Sockeye

Coho and Chinook

Pink and Chum



What do we care about?

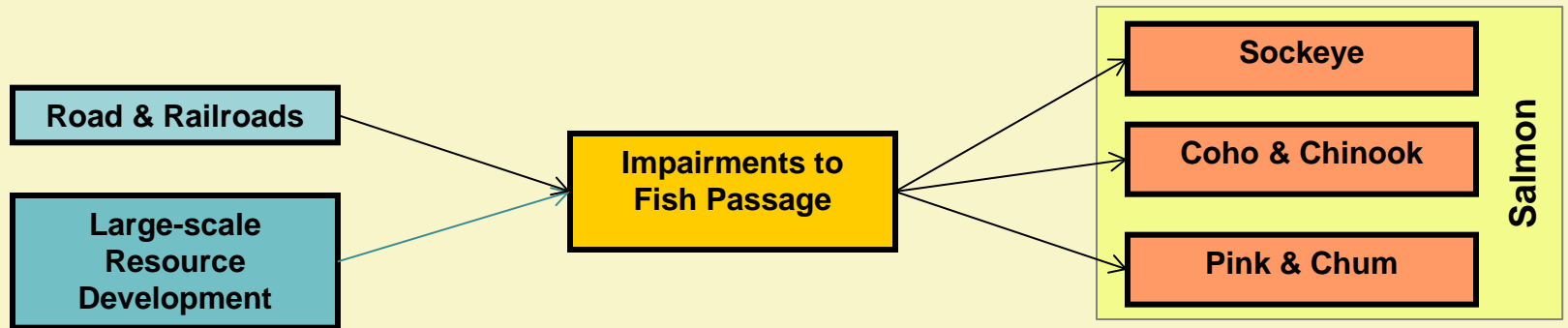
Ecosystems



Sources of Stresses

Stresses

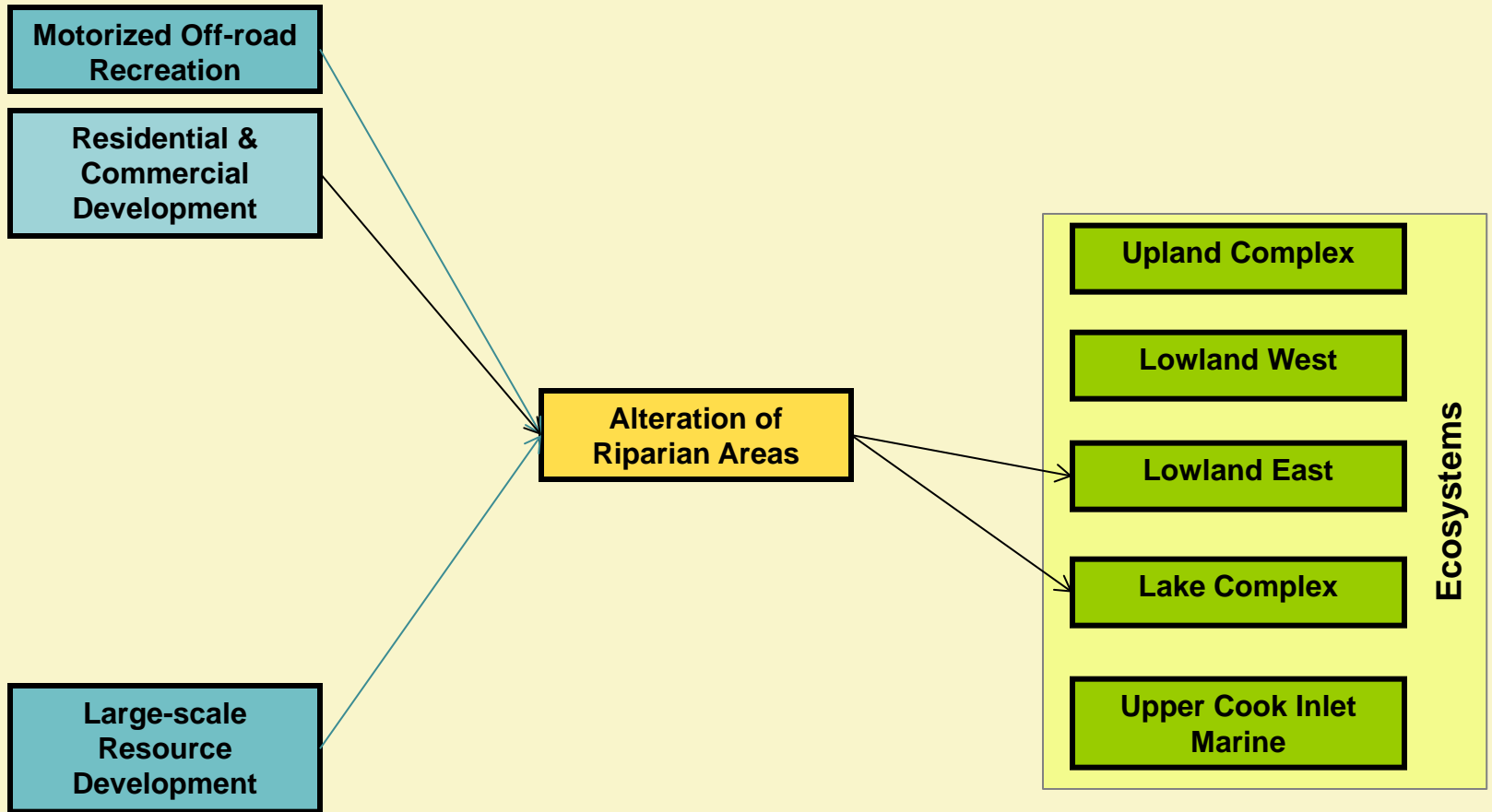
What we care about



Sources of Stresses

Stresses

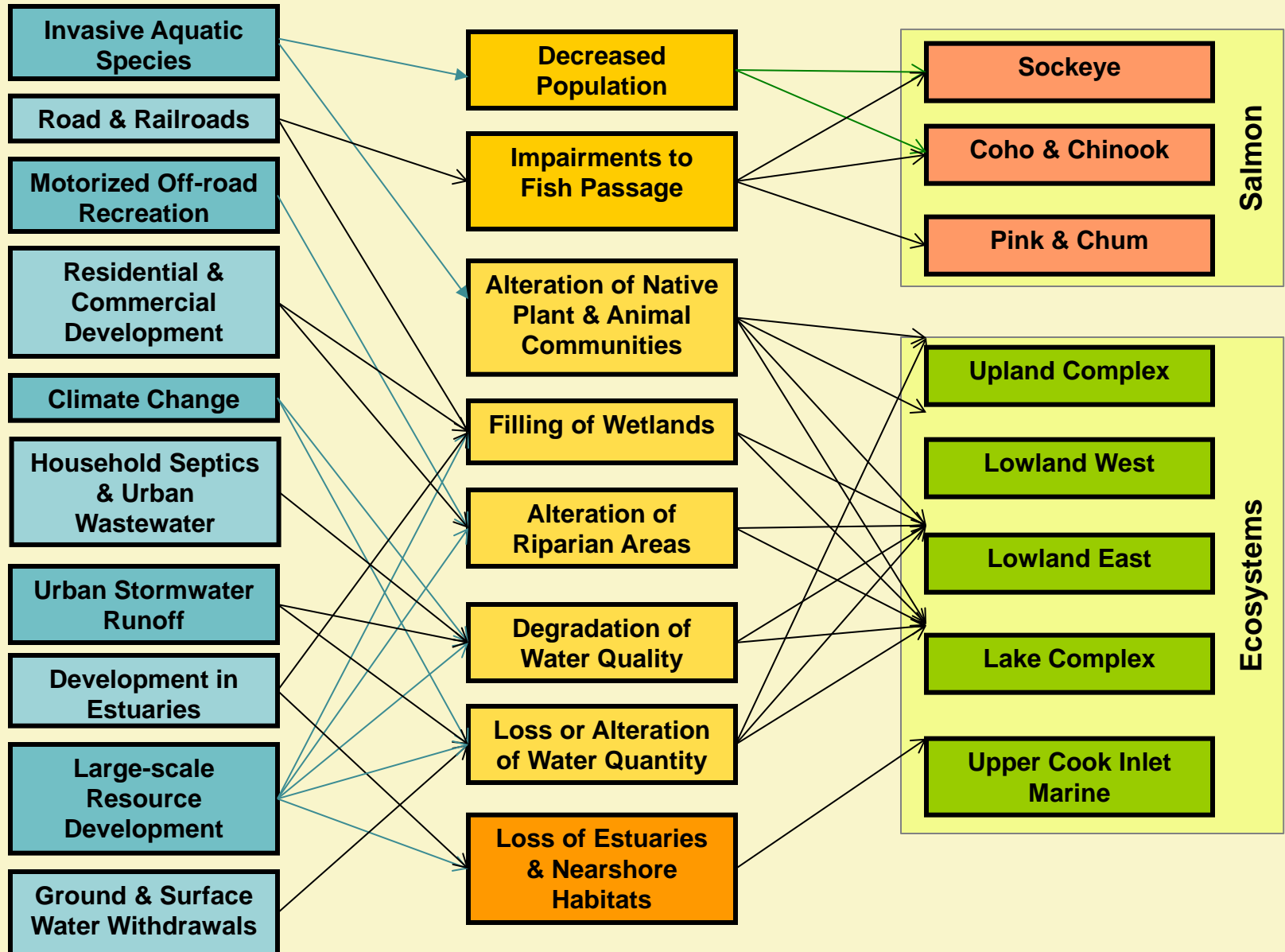
What we care about



Sources of Stresses

Stresses

What we care about



Conservation Strategies

1. Overarching Science Strategies
2. Alteration of Riparian Areas
3. Climate Change
4. Culverts that Block Fish Passage
5. Filling of Wetlands
6. Impervious Surfaces and Stormwater Pollution
7. Invasive Aquatic Species
8. Large-scale Resource Development
9. Loss or Alteration of Water Flow or Volume
10. Loss of Estuaries and Nearshore Habitats
11. Motorized Off-Road Recreation
12. Wastewater Management

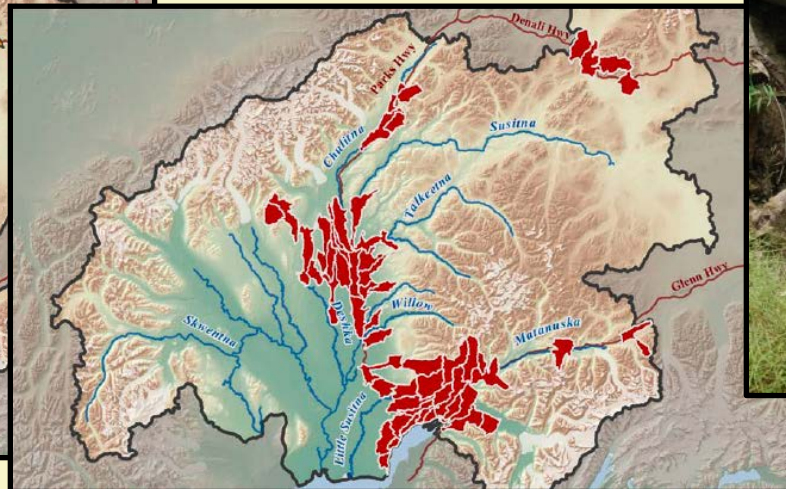
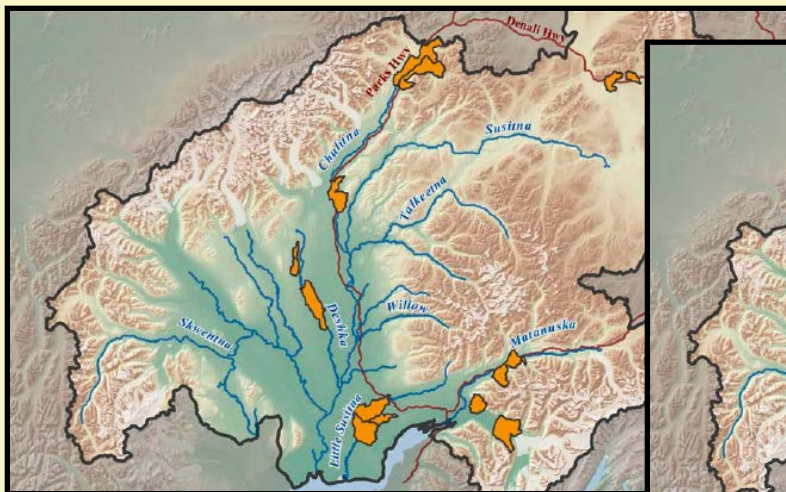
Setting Priorities

- 1. Science & Data Committee:** rank stresses and sources for Conservation Strategies
- 2. You:** feedback here at the symposium on priority Conservation Strategies

Setting Priorities

Stresses are ranked for

- Severity of Impact
- Geographic Scope



Setting Priorities

Sources are ranked for

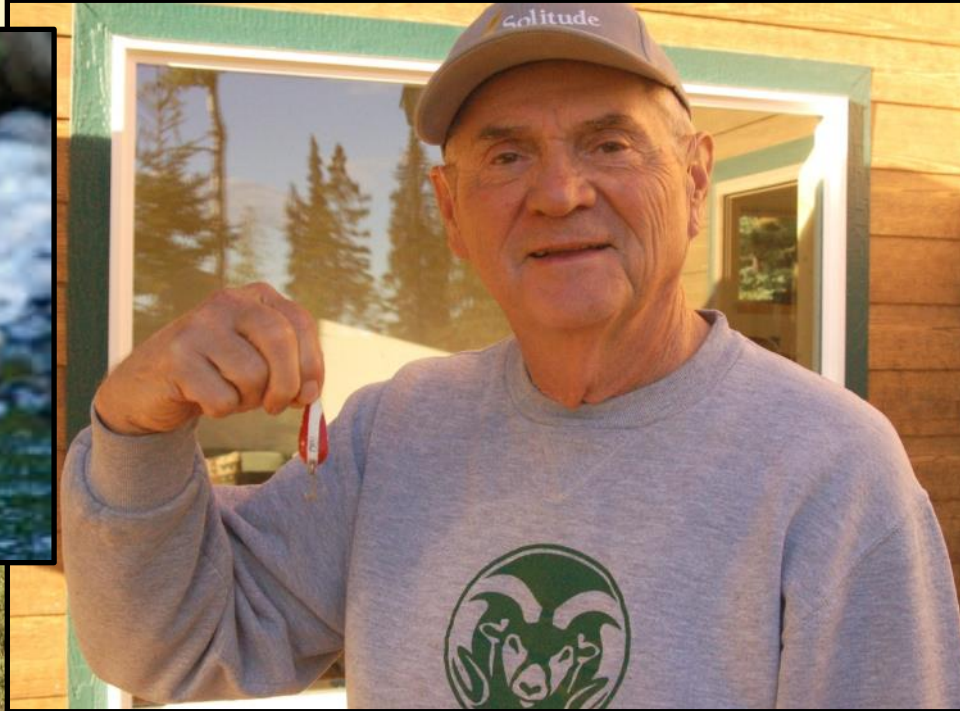
- Contribution to each stress
- Irreversibility



Your Part

- Share your top priorities during the Q&A
 - Go to one of the Conservation Strategies posters
- >> place 3 dots next to what you think are the most critical strategies

Conservation Strategies of the Mat-Su Salmon Partnership	
<p>Identify your top 3 priorities by placing one dot next to the 3 strategies that you think are most critical for conserving salmon habitat in the Mat-Su. Thank you!</p>	
Overarching Science Strategies	
<p>Goal: Identify important habitats for salmon to prioritize actions for their conservation in the Mat-Su</p>	<p>Objectives: Anadromous Waters Catalog; Habitat Quality; Surface & Groundwater Studies; Water Quality; Index Watersheds</p>
Alteration of Riparian Areas	
<p>Goal: Prevent alteration of riparian areas that provide valuable salmon habitat</p>	<p>Objectives: Identification of Priority Areas; Protection & Restoration of Priority Habitat</p>
Climate Change	
<p>Goal: Increase resiliency of salmon and their habitat to future climate change impacts</p>	<p>Objectives: Monitoring Stream Temperatures; Integrate Climate Change into Priorities</p>
Culverts that Block Fish Passage	
<p>Goal: Maintain salmon passage at all anadromous stream crossings in the Mat-Su Basin</p>	<p>Objectives: Prevent New Barriers; Restore Fish Passage</p>
Filling of Wetlands	
<p>Goal: Protect wetlands that provide important salmon habitat in the Mat-Su Basin</p>	<p>Objectives: Identify, Map, & Assess Wetland Functions; Conserve Wetlands for Salmon</p>
Impervious Surfaces and Stormwater Pollution	
<p>Goal: Minimize the impacts of stormwater pollution to water quality in Mat-Su waters.</p>	<p>Objectives: Minimize Impacts on Water Quality; Minimize Road Runoff; Imperviousness Impact Assessment</p>
Invasive Aquatic Species	
<p>Goal: Prevent the introduction or establishment of any new Aquatic Invasive Species</p>	<p>Objectives: Prevention of New Introductions; Early Detection and Surveillance; Rapid Response; Control and Eradication</p>
Large-scale Resource Development	
<p>Goal: Provide information and analysis to aid in understanding the potential impacts to salmon habitat from resource development projects.</p>	<p>Objectives: Education and Outreach; Agency Assistance; Address Data Gaps</p>
Loss or Alteration of Water Flow or Volume	
<p>Goal: Protect the stream flows that support salmon at all life stages.</p>	<p>Objectives: Instream Flow Reservations on Anadromous Waters; Community Water Needs Study</p>
Loss of Estuaries and Nearshore Habitats	
<p>Goal: Ensure that all estuarine and nearshore habitats that provide priority salmon habitat are safeguarded during development in Cook Inlet.</p>	<p>Objectives: Salmon Ecology of Cook Inlet; Conserve Estuaries</p>
Motorized Off-Road Recreation	
<p>Goal: Minimize degradation of salmon habitat at trail intersections.</p>	<p>Objectives: Assess Impacts to Salmon Habitat; Minimize OHV Use at Streams</p>
Wastewater Management	
<p>Goal: Ensure that wastewater in the Mat-Su does not impact water quality of salmon habitat.</p>	<p>Objectives: Improved Wastewater Disposal; Wastewater Pollution Prevention</p>



Thank you!