### Species Range Refinements

NMFS/ EPA / FWS 4/15/2015

### **Species Range Refinements**

- NMFS' species range data have been provided to EPA (~100 spp.)
- FWS using a phased approach to refine and deliver range data (>1,600 species)











#### **Species Range Refinements**

- Goal is to obtain species range data at the most relevant level (county, or sub-county, as appropriate) for use in initial ESA assessments
- FIFRA Endangered Species Task Force ("FESTF") has assisted FWS in the development of the maps

#### **Refined Information**

More accurate range maps

Well-defined action area



Improves our understanding of exposure and effects



Helps us identify the best mitigation measures

Step 1

Step 2

Step 3

### Progress so far

#### Phase 1: Nearing completion

 Includes aquatic species (e.g., fish, amphibians, mussels), invertebrates, and birds

# Phase 2: Field Offices currently reviewing and revising species range maps

Includes plants, mammals, and reptiles

#### Phase 3: In process

Includes Hawaiian and Pacific Island species

#### Challenges so far...

- Different levels of detail:
  - Species ranges often span more than one field office's service area
  - Maps from various field offices are being combined to represent the entire range
  - The scale of maps varies greatly, from very refined (points or line data) to quarter quads, quads, geographically mapped areas to county level
  - Approach to develop ranges also varies

### Challenges so far...

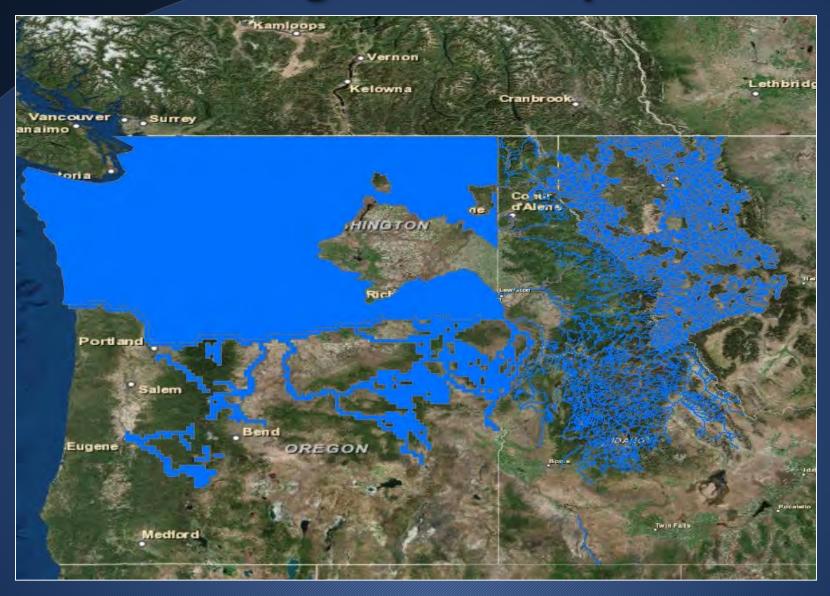
- Refinement of range information
  - For phase 1, a majority of offices have provided more refined maps than countylevel, although many of these maps could potentially be refined further.
  - For example, many fish maps that have been provided are represented by HUCs, quads or quarter quads. We are refining these.
  - We'll continue to further refine maps as appropriate.

### Challenges so far...

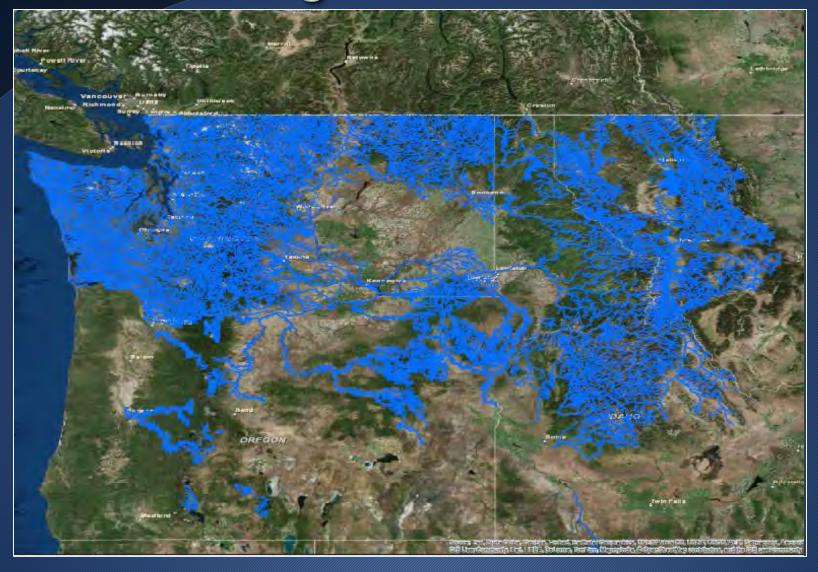
#### Review Time

 Time intensive process - Since many species are found in more than one field office's service area, we had over 1,600 individual maps that had to be collated for Phase 1 ( 465 species)

#### **Bull Trout Range – Initial Map**



#### **Bull Trout Range – Refined**



## Questions?