



Birch Creek Assessment and Action Plan

January 2015 Kickoff Meeting
White Eagle Grange Hall

Welcome & Partner Introductions

- Umatilla Basin Watershed Council
- Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation
- Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Umatilla County Soil and Water Conservation District
- United States Forest Service
 - Portland Fish Company
 - Ecosystem Sciences



Meeting Purpose

- Introducing a new planning effort, and why it is necessary
- Take a brief look into the 25+ year restoration history & partnerships within the watershed
- Explain the assessment process
- Discuss action plan development
- Discuss the role of public engagement
- Reinforce the reliance on landowner partnerships

Agenda Review

- Background Information
 - What are the known issues?
 - What has been done about the issues in the past?
- Break
- What is the new approach?
- Where will public input be included?
- Moving forward
- Q&A Session

Background information

Why Birch Creek? Why now?



Strong history of landowner cooperation:
Numerous projects over more than 25 years

A vested interest:
A solid foundation of technical information
43 sensitive species within the watershed



Wild Steelhead Sanctuary:
Accounts for up to 1/3 of basin native fish
Accounts for about 1/5 total return fish
Identified as a priority restoration area

What are the known issues for the watershed?

- Channel and bank stability
- Flooding and flood damage
- Bedload deposition
- Water availability
- Water quality
- Noxious weeds
- Social and economic values



Resident Concerns

What are the known issues for the watershed?



- Channel and bank stability
- Flooding and flood damage
- Bedload deposition
- Water availability
- Water quality and temperature
- Fish concerns:
 - Passage
 - Habitat
 - Population
 - Utilization

NR Management Concerns

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Overlay Concerns

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Overlay Concerns

All part of the same picture

Human Dimensions

Human Dimensions of Natural Resource
Management and Restoration of
the Birch Creek Watershed

NR Management

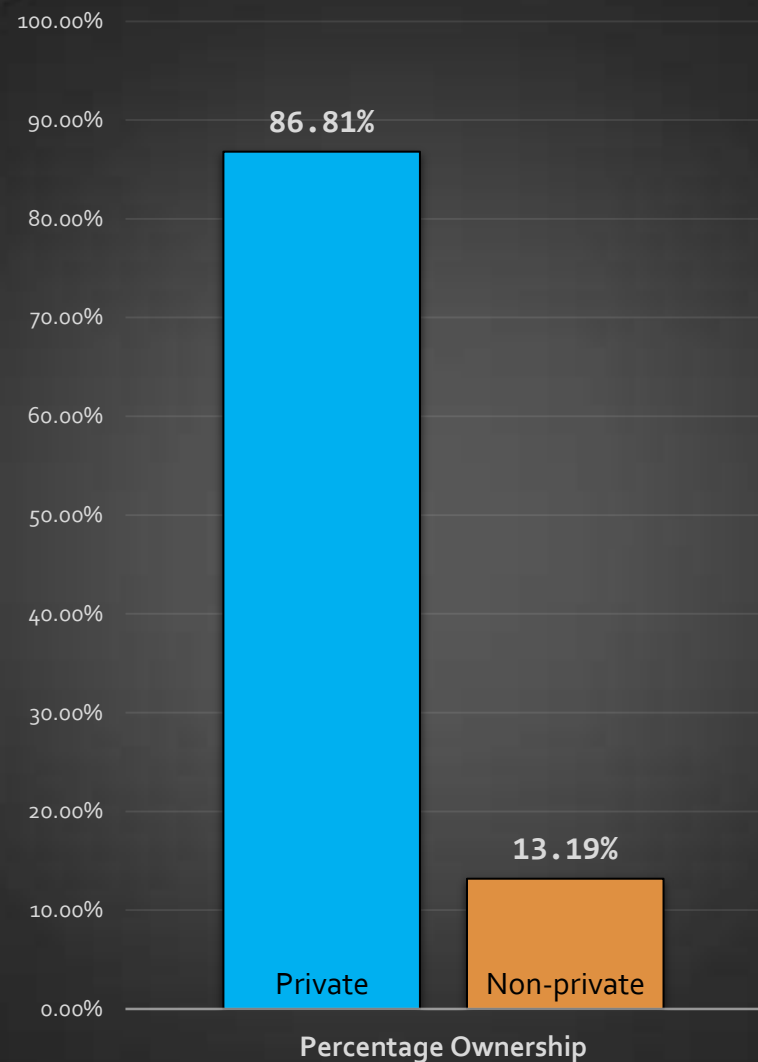
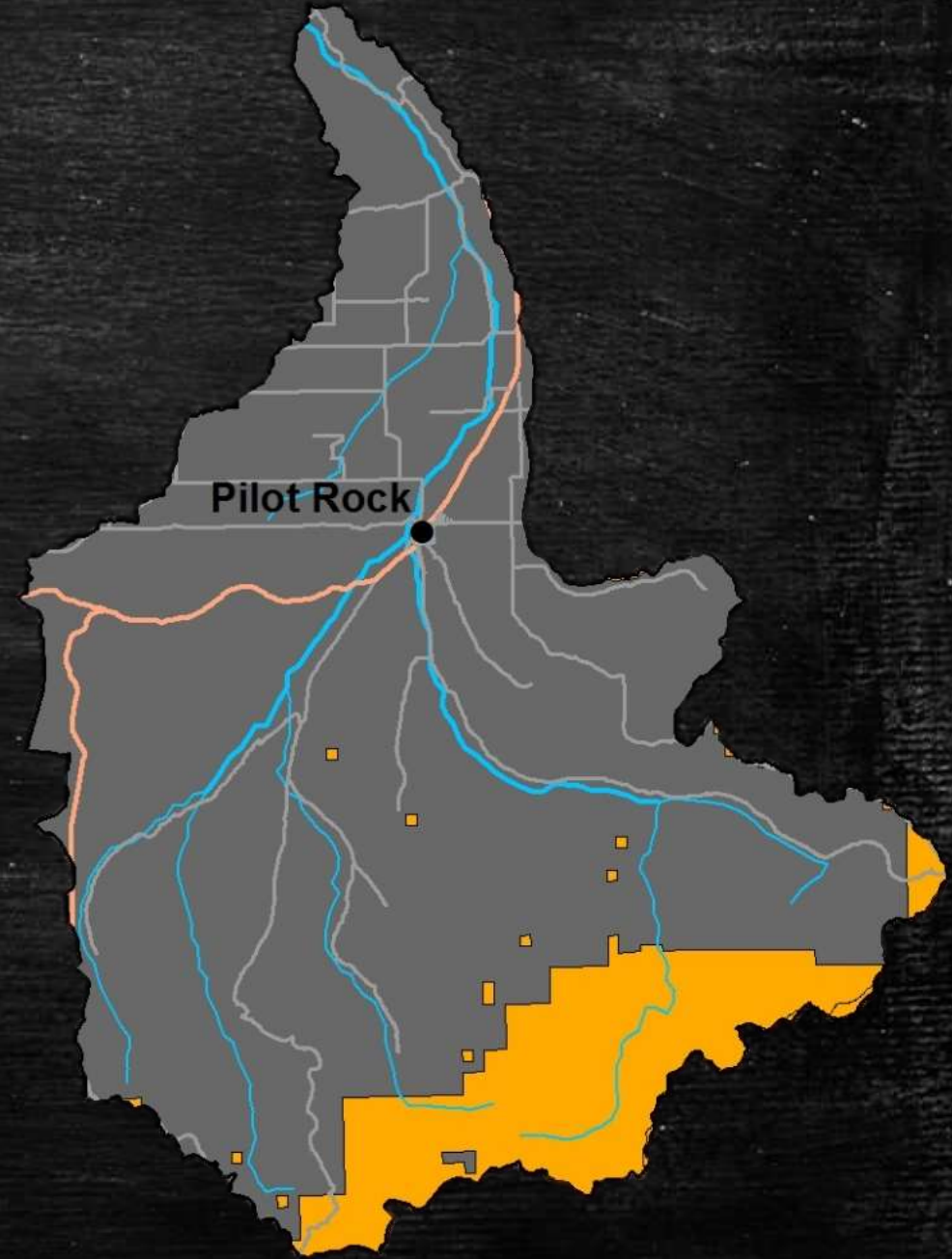
How is land managed in the Birch Creek Watershed?

86.81%
**Private
Ownership**

Total Area: 284.45 mi²
182,050 acres

Private Area: 246.94 mi²
158,042 acres

Nonprivate Area: 37.51 mi²
24,006 acres



Working together is critical for success

