

Wy·Kan·Ush·Pum

Salmon Activity Book



**Columbia River Inter-Tribal
Fish Commission**

Yakama · Umatilla · Warm Springs · Nez Perce

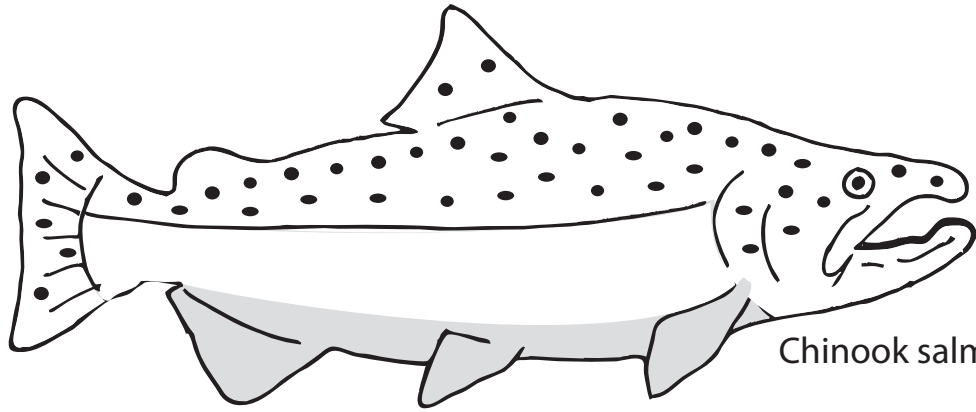
*"Putting fish back in the rivers and restoring
the watersheds where fish live."*

This collection of fun activities and coloring sheets
was made possible by a generous contribution from

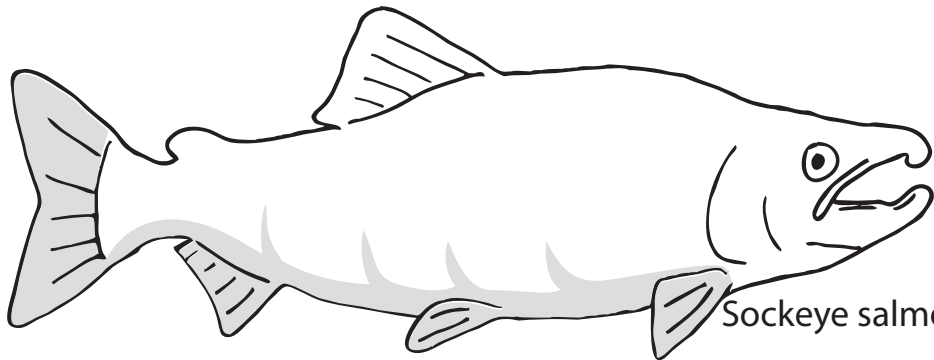
Fred Meyer[®]

Salmon People

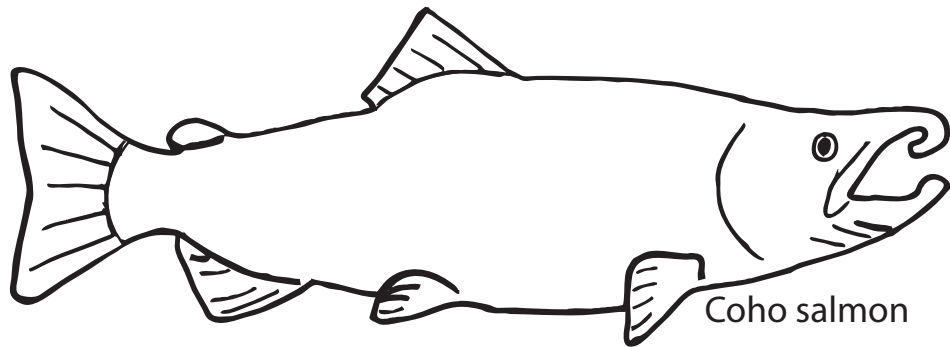
Salmon is a central part of the cultures of Pacific Northwest tribes. They celebrate the return of the salmon each year with great feasts, dancing, singing, and celebrations. Below are some of the important fish that the tribes harvest each year.



Chinook salmon

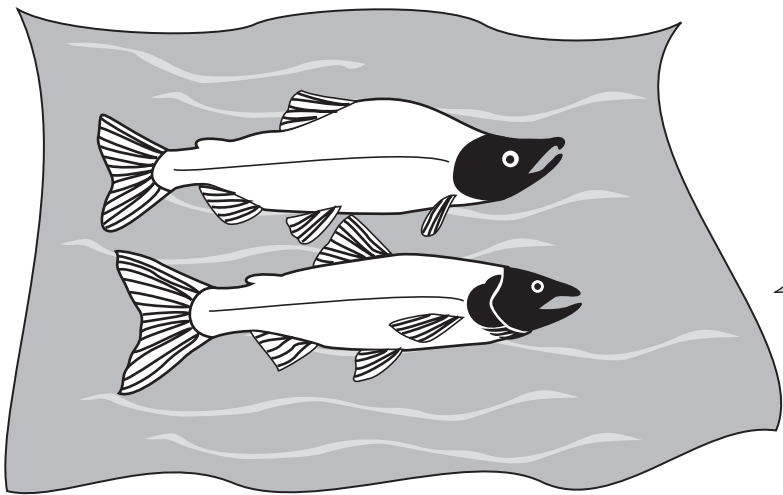


Sockeye salmon

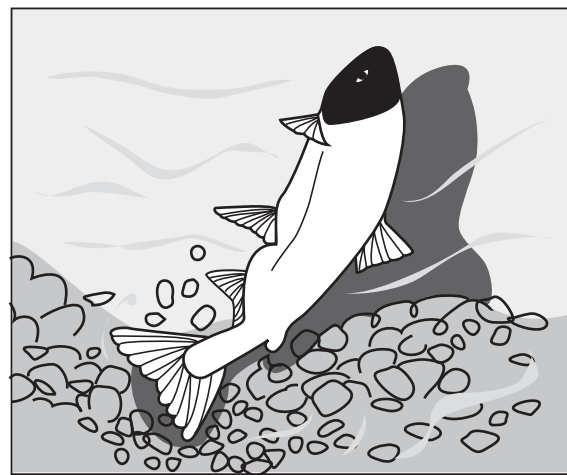


Coho salmon

What will you do to celebrate the salmon's return next spring?



After 1 to 7 years in the ocean, the **adult salmon** that have survived countless hazards from predators, ocean conditions, and commercial harvest return to the Columbia River and head for their home streams.



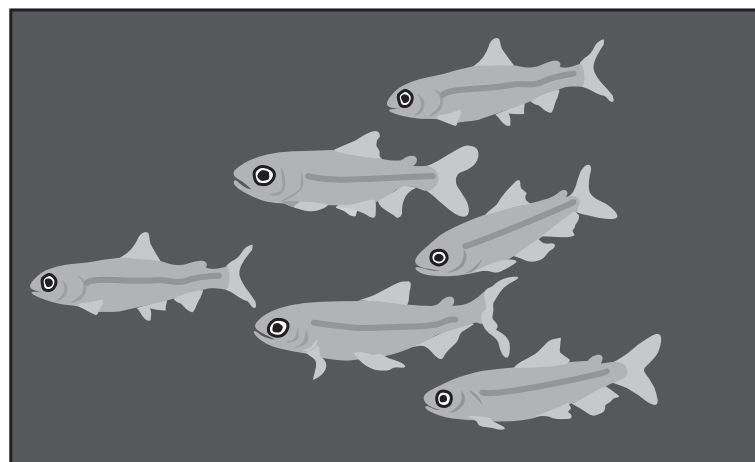
Arriving at her home stream, a female builds a nest, or **redd**, in fine, clean gravel.

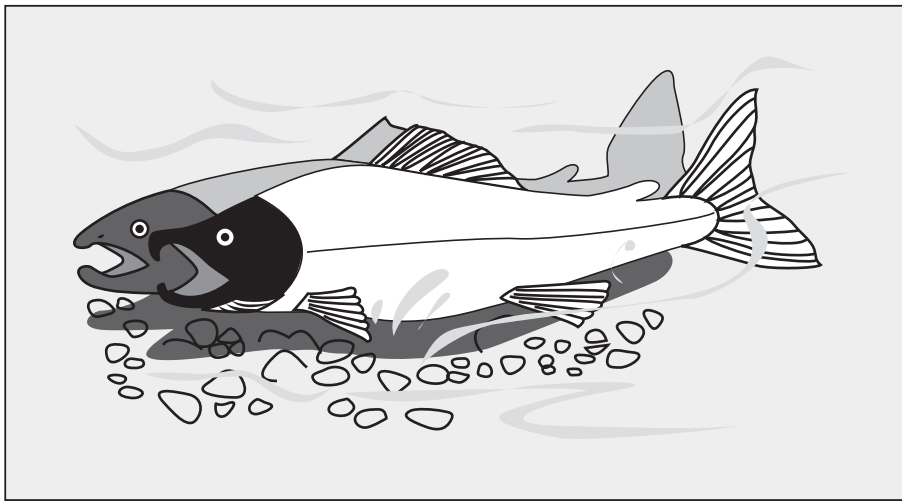
Wild Salmon



By the time they reach the estuary, the fry have become **smolts**, and their bodies are adapting to saltwater. Here they linger to feed and grow before entering the ocean. Predators, unfavorable conditions, and failure to adapt will deplete their numbers further.

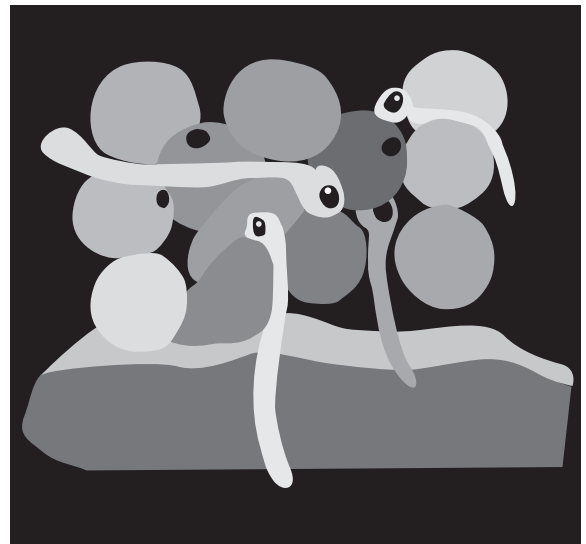
During migration the fry are vulnerable to predators, such as birds or northern pikeminnow, walleye, and bass, which thrive in the reservoirs. Seven to 15 percent die passing each dam.



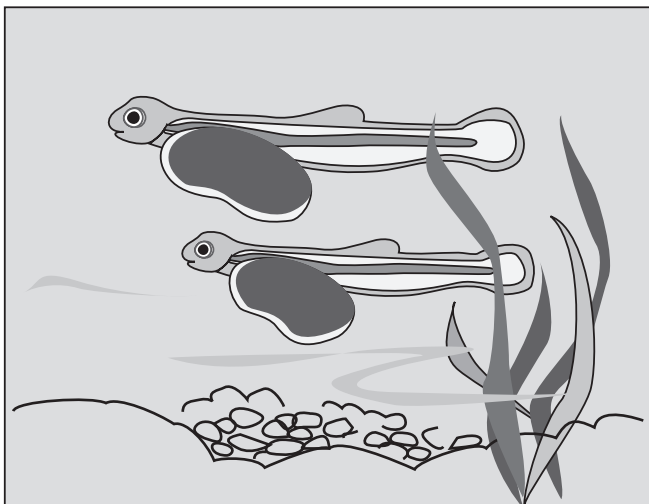


As a female deposits her thousands of eggs, a male releases milt, fertilizing them. Both male and female salmon die soon after **spawning**, except steelhead and cutthroat, which may survive another year or more to spawn again.

Life Cycle



Tiny yolk-sac fry, or **alevins**, hatch after 2 to 8 months. They stay in the gravel for another 1 to 3 months until the food from the yolk sac is used up. They need cold, pure water to breathe and wash away their wastes.

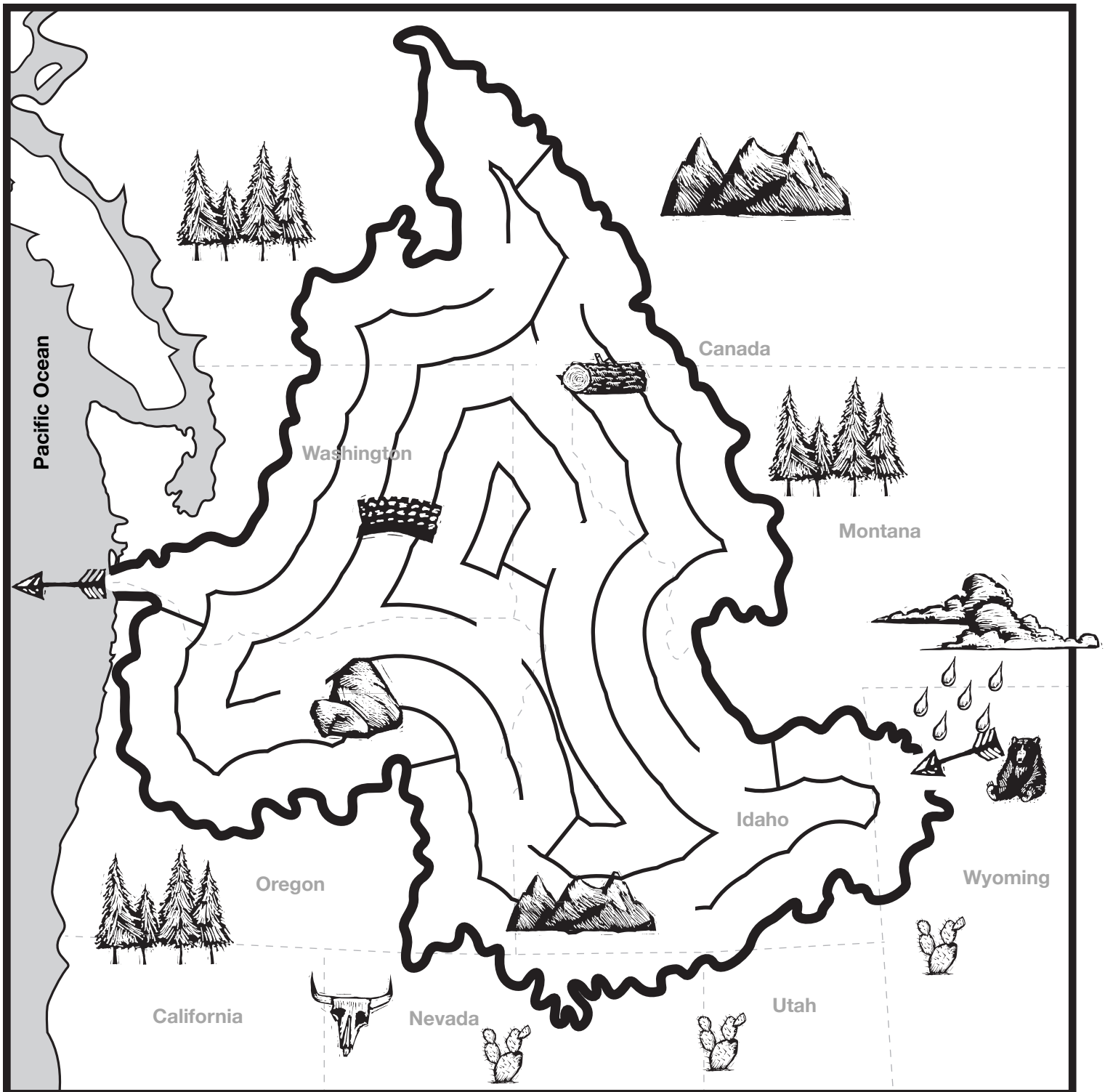


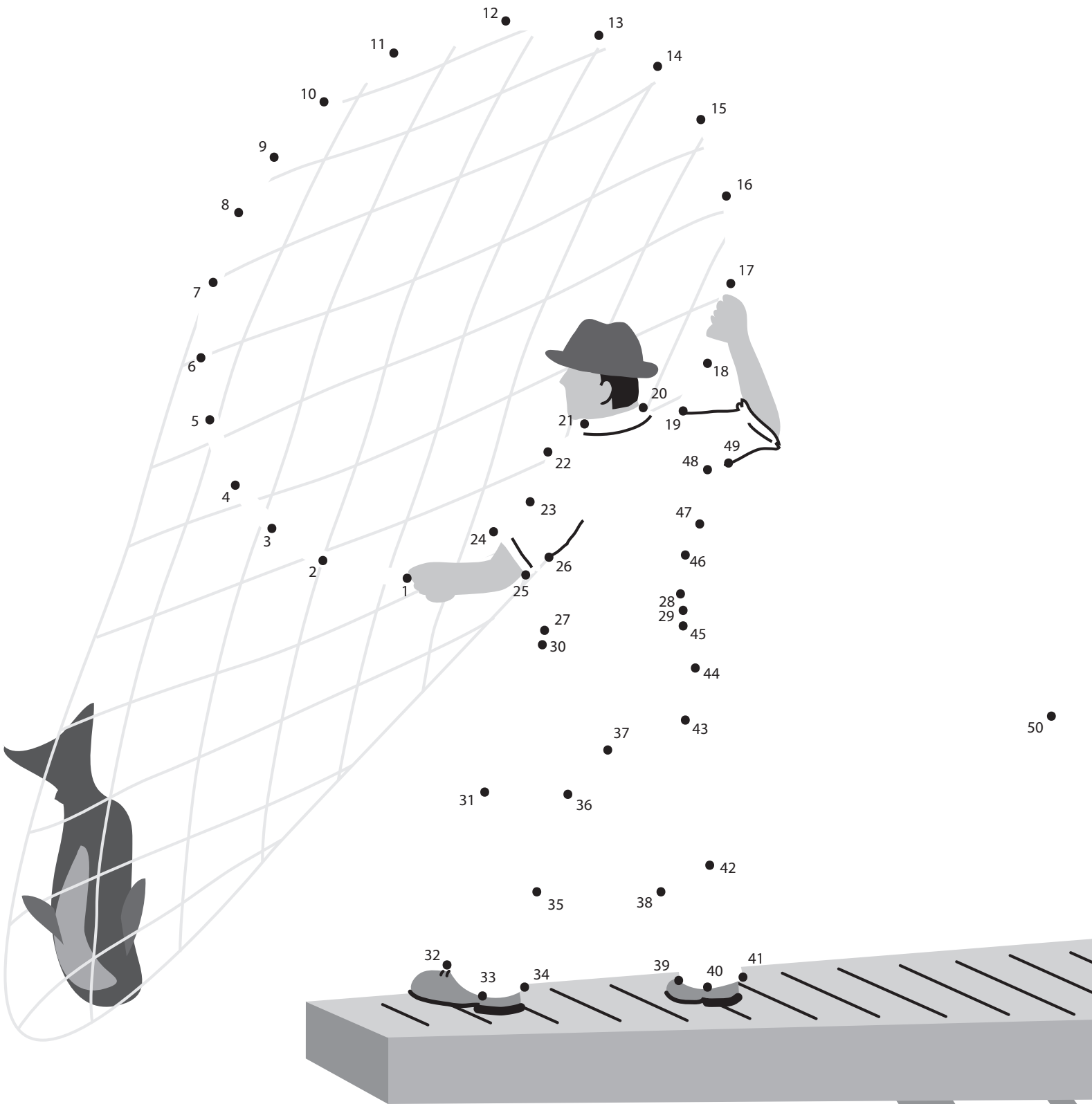
The **fry** emerge from the gravel and begin to feed on their own. Many are lost to predators, competition, or failure to adapt to stream conditions. Some types of salmon begin their migration downstream soon after emergence, while others stay in freshwater for a year or more.



The Columbia River Basin

Most of the Pacific Northwest is part of the Columbia River Basin. All the water that falls here eventually flows into the Columbia River and out into Pacific Ocean. The basin includes parts of Wyoming, Utah, Nevada, Idaho, Washington, Oregon, and British Columbia. Some water travels over 1,000 miles! Rain that falls in Yellowstone National Park in Wyoming can eventually flow into the Pacific Ocean, going through four states to get there. Below is an outline of the Columbia River Basin. Help guide the raindrops from Yellowstone to the Pacific Ocean.







Revised p. 6



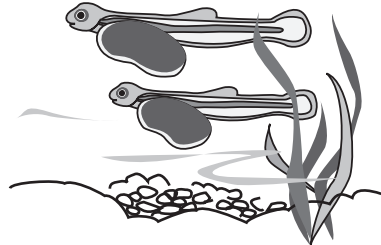
The Salmon Lifecycle

Salmon are **anadromous**, which means they are born in fresh water, then swim to the ocean to grow into adults, then swim back to fresh water to reproduce. Below are pictures of different parts of the salmon lifecycle. First **match** the picture to the appropriate term. After that, **number** the pictures in order, starting with the salmon eggs. Refer to pages 4-5 for help.

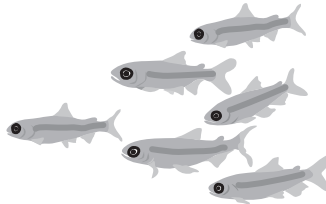
Salmon eggs



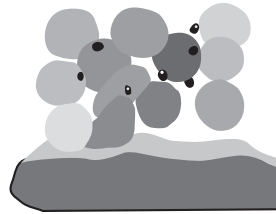
Spawning



Salmon fry



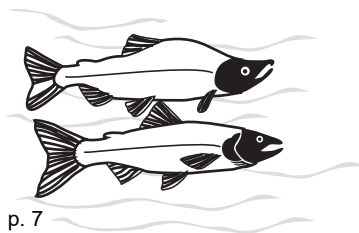
Building a redd
(a nest)



Ocean living



Salmon smolts



Stick-roasted salmon

Warm Springs elder Geraldine Jim traditionally cooks salmon using sticks to hold the filets over the hot alder wood coals of the campfire.



Revised p. 8





Front and back cover art by Angela Jorgenson.

We are all Salmon People.

Wy-Kan-Ush-Pum means “Salmon People” in Sahaptin, the common language family of the Yakama, Warm Springs, Umatilla, and Nez Perce tribes. If you live in the Northwest, you are a **Wy-Kan-Ush-Pum**, too! As a **Wy-Kan-Ush-Pum**, it is important to learn about salmon, healthy rivers and streams, and the environment. It is also important to take good care of the environment by not wasting water or electricity and not littering. Also, don’t forget to go on walks and hikes with your family; by being out in nature, you can learn more about the world around us and if you’re walking by the right river or stream, you might even get to see a salmon!



Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission

Yakama · Umatilla · Warm Springs · Nez Perce

“Putting fish back in the rivers and restoring the watersheds where fish live.”

For more information about CRITFC and its member tribes’ efforts to restore salmon, visit our website at www.critfc.org

CRITFC

729 NE Oregon, Suite 200
Portland, OR 97232