



2024 Upper Klamath Sport Fishing Regulations

- **Presentation to the Siskiyou County Board of Supervisors**

September 26, 2023

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Northern Region (Region 1)



Presentation Overview

- Project Background
- Outreach and Collaboration
- Proposed Regulation Timeline
- Existing Regulations
- 2024 Regulatory Goals, Context, and Options



Project Background

- Klamath Dam Removal Project will restore anadromy to approximately 400 miles of river and stream habitat above the current dams (Iron Gate, Copco 1 and 2, J.C. Boyle)
- Habitat restoration will occur above and directly below the current dams
- New and modified sport fishing regulations are needed to facilitate re-population and recovery for native fish populations of trout, steelhead, and salmon
- Reservoir drawdown begins January of 2024 and deconstruction begins spring of 2024
- Anadromous fish passage is expected in the fall of 2024



Project Background





Outreach and Collaboration

- CDFW has completed outreach with Resighini, Yurok, Quartz Valley, Hoopa, Shasta Nation, Shasta Indian Nation, Karuk, Modoc, Tsunungwe, and Klamath Tribes
- Additional outreach and planning has also occurred with the following:
 - Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife
 - NOAA Fisheries and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
 - County BOSs and FGCs
 - Numerous NGOs and Fishing Organizations
- Outreach and collaboration will be ongoing throughout the regulatory process



Proposed Regulation Timeline

- Fish and Game Commission Public Hearings
 - Request to go to Notice - August 2023
 - Discussion hearing - December 2023
 - *Potential* Adoption hearing – February 2024
- New regulations intended to take effect after drawdown commences and dam removal is assured.



Existing Regulations

- Warm water species regulations in place for current reservoirs
- General trout regulations in place for tributaries upstream of Iron Gate Dam
- Wild Trout Water regulations in place for mainstem upstream of Copco Road Bridge
- Klamath River Basin trout, steelhead, and salmon regulations in place downstream of Iron Gate Dam



Regulatory Goals

- Provide regulatory consistency across Wild Trout Waters and the lower mainstem and tributaries. Wholistic approach that considers whole Klamath Basin and existing state regulations
- Provide protection for anadromous salmonids during repopulation and facilitate a successful restoration project
- Provide added protection via some potential closure windows for spring and fall Chinook during the spawning migration and juvenile emigration periods
- Provide protection for anadromous salmonids in thermal refugia provided by tributaries



Regulatory Context

- **Any initial regulations are expected to be temporary and will be subject to annual revision**
- Monitoring and assessment will begin immediately and will be ongoing
- Restoration will begin immediately and will be ongoing
- Goal is to achieve sustainable fisheries for all species as quickly as possible, including some harvest
- No changes expected to regulations or annual process below the I-5 crossing

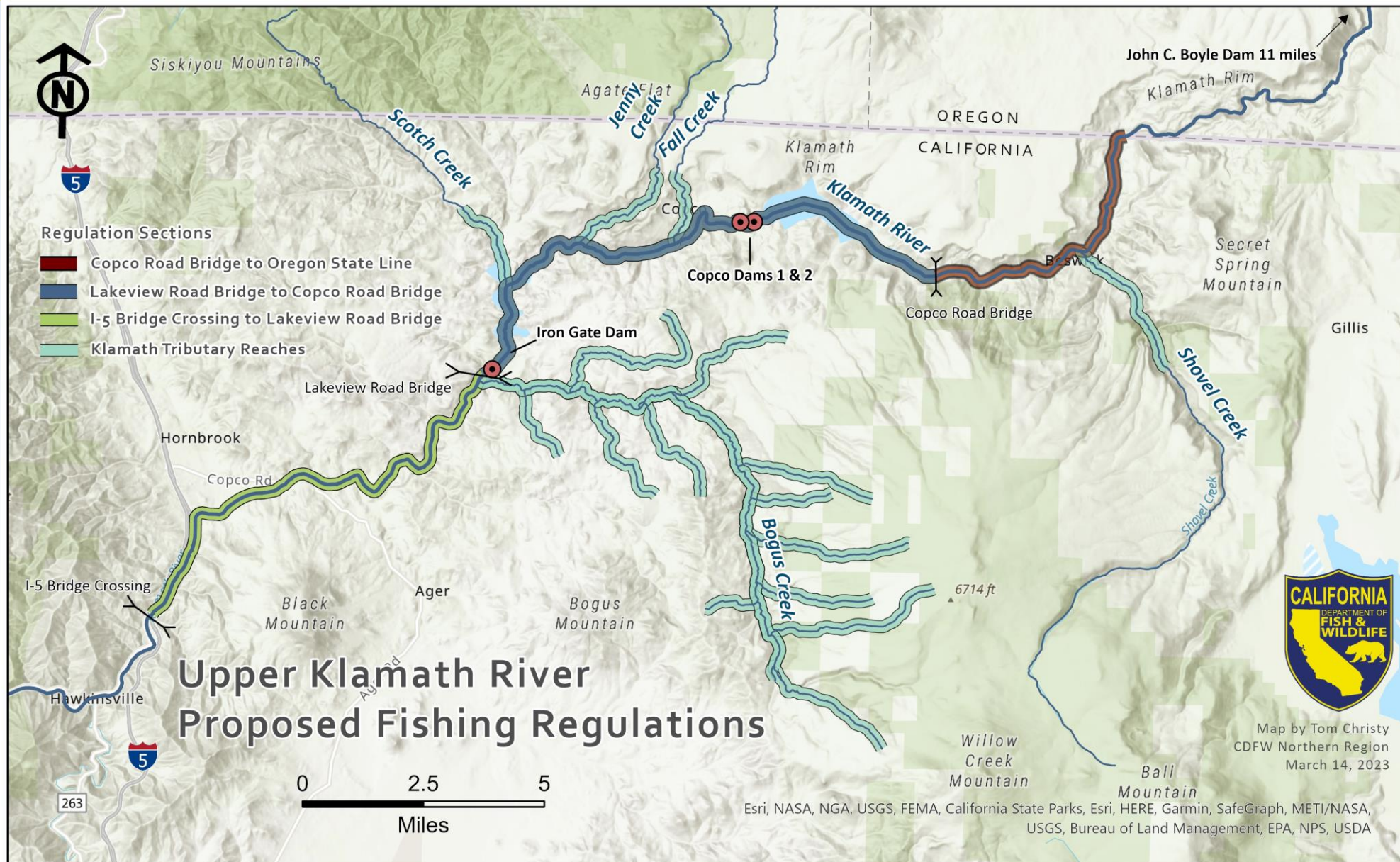


2024 Regulatory Options - Background

- Habitat is divided into anadromous and non-anadromous sections within California
- Anadromous habitat is further divided into mainstem river and tributary sections
- Regulatory options for each identified section
- All options and their components available to be used in amalgamation

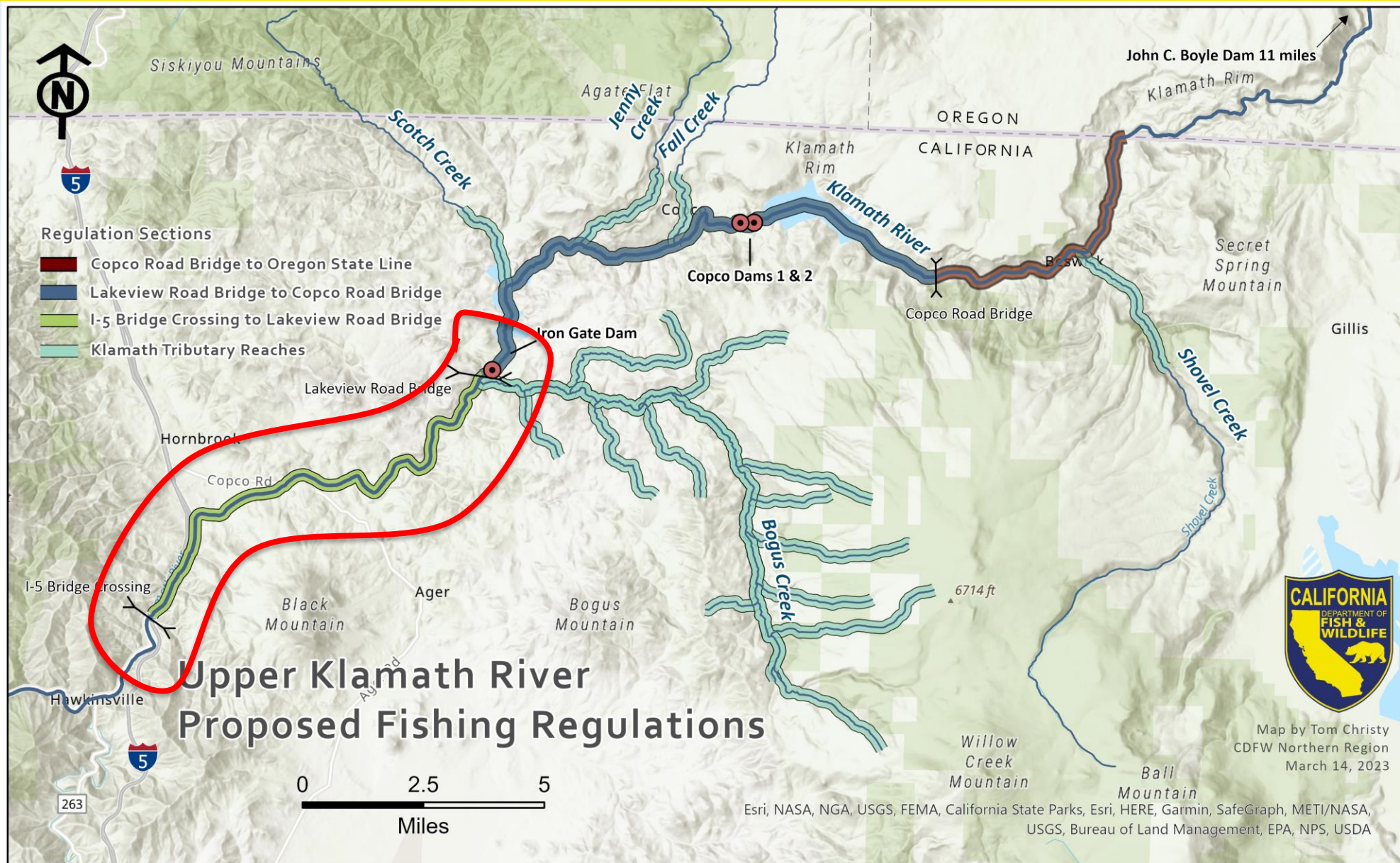


2024 Regulatory Options - Background





I-5 Bridge to Lakeview Road Bridge





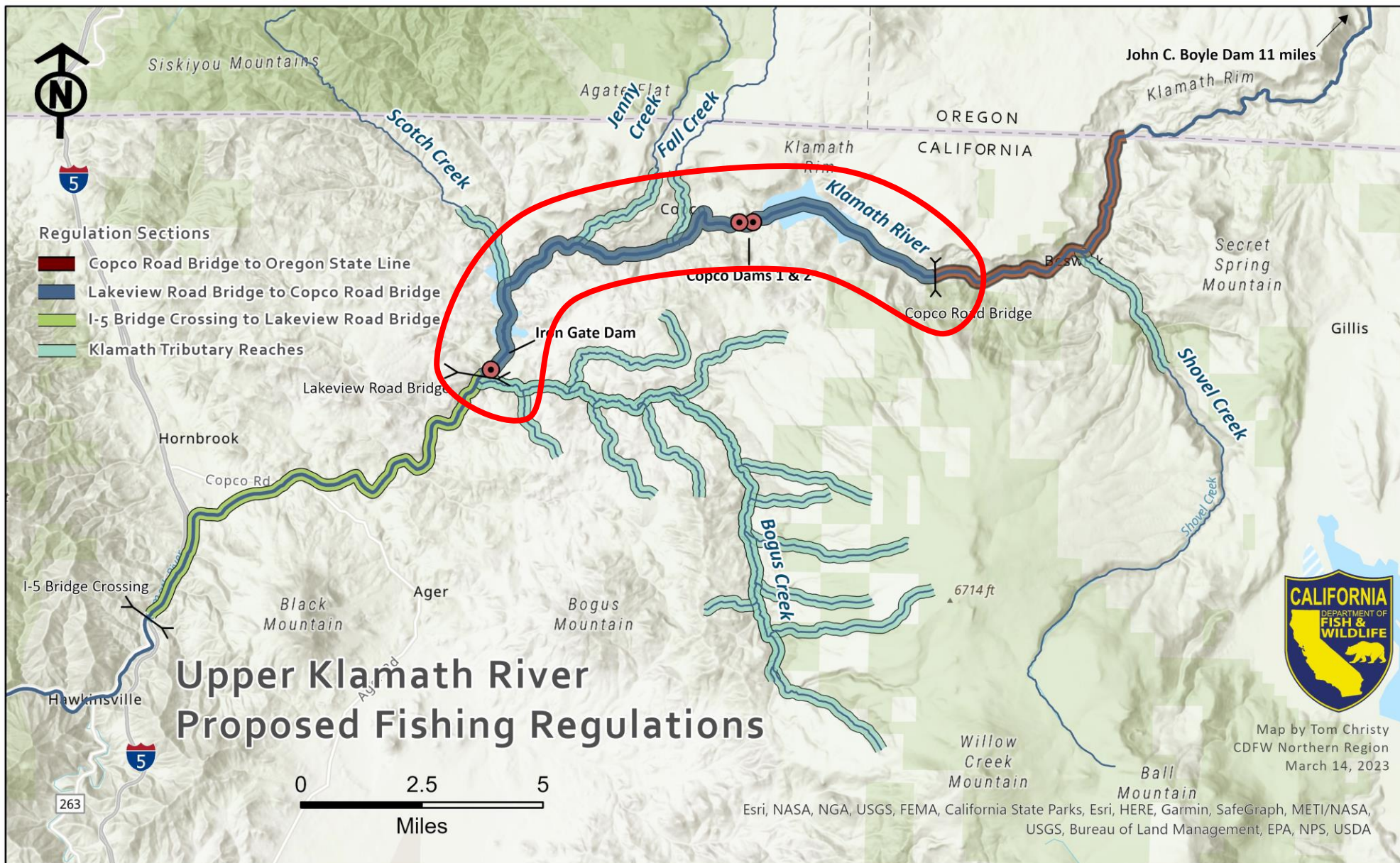
2024 Regulatory Options – Mainstem Sections

I-5 Bridge to Lakeview Road Bridge

- **Option 1:** Closed to fishing all year.
- **Option 2:** August 15 through Feb 28. Only barbless hooks may be used. Zero bag. (*C&R steelhead/trout and salmon*)
- **Option 3:** Jan. 1 to Aug. 14. 2 hatchery trout or hatchery steelhead. Aug. 15 to Dec. 31. Grilse Chinook Salmon only. 2 hatchery trout or hatchery steelhead. (*steelhead/trout and grilse salmon*)
- **Option 4:** Jan. 1 to Aug. 14. 2 hatchery trout or hatchery steelhead. Aug. 15 to Dec. 31. Grilse and adult Chinook salmon under standard quota. 2 hatchery trout or hatchery steelhead. (*steelhead/trout and adult/grilse salmon*)



Lakeview Road Bridge to Copco Road Bridge





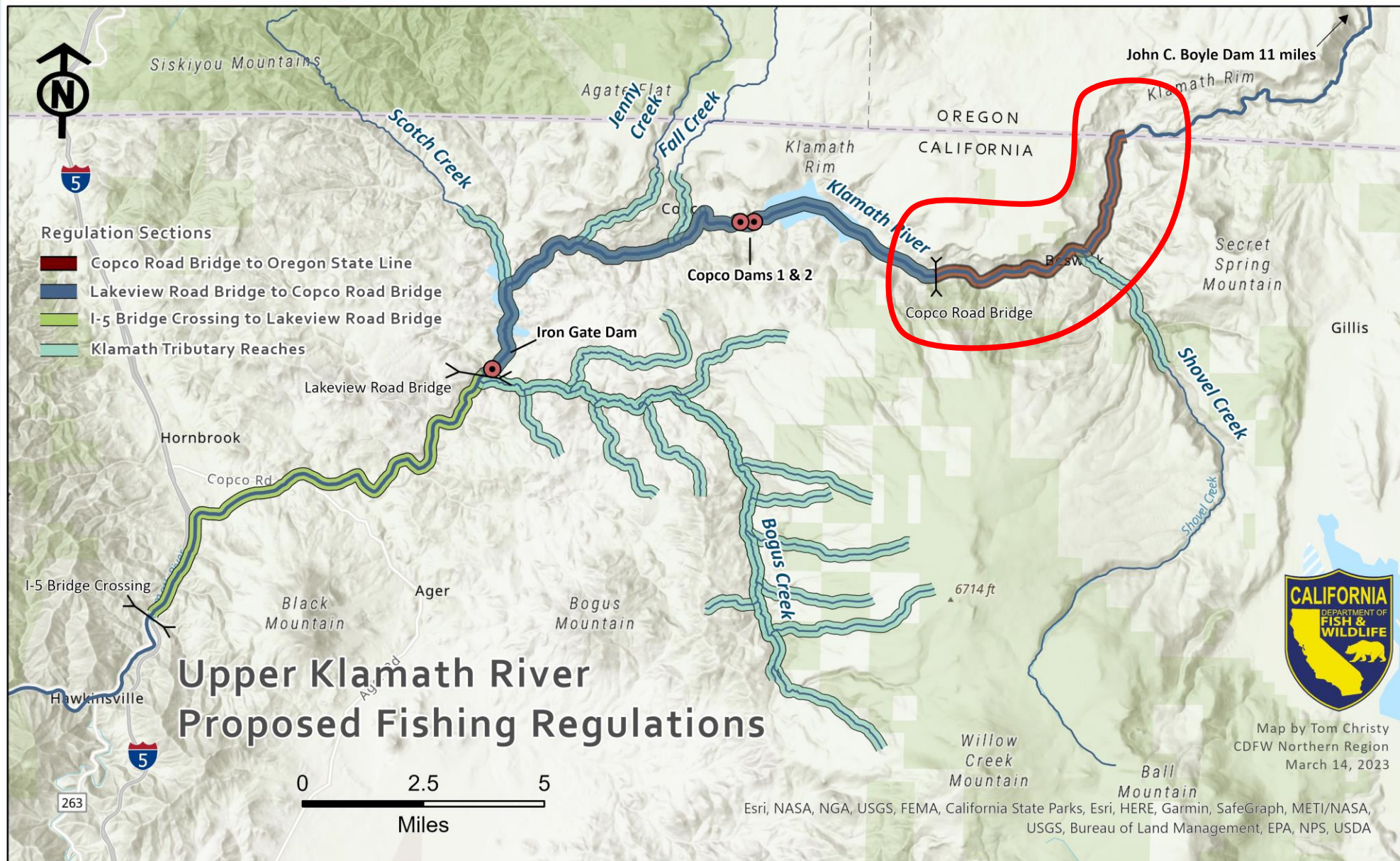
2024 Regulatory Options – Mainstem Sections

Lakeview Road Bridge to Copco Road Bridge

- **Option 1:** Closed to fishing all year.
- **Option 2:** November 1 through Feb 28. Only artificial lures with barbless hooks may be used. Zero bag. (*C&R steelhead*)
- **Option 3:** Fourth Sat. in May through Aug. 31. Only artificial lures with barbless hooks may be used. Zero bag. (*C&R trout*)
- **Option 4:** November 1 through Feb 28 and Fourth Sat. in May through Aug. 31. Only artificial lures with barbless hooks may be used. Zero bag. (*C&R steelhead and trout*)



Copco Road Bridge to OR/CA Border





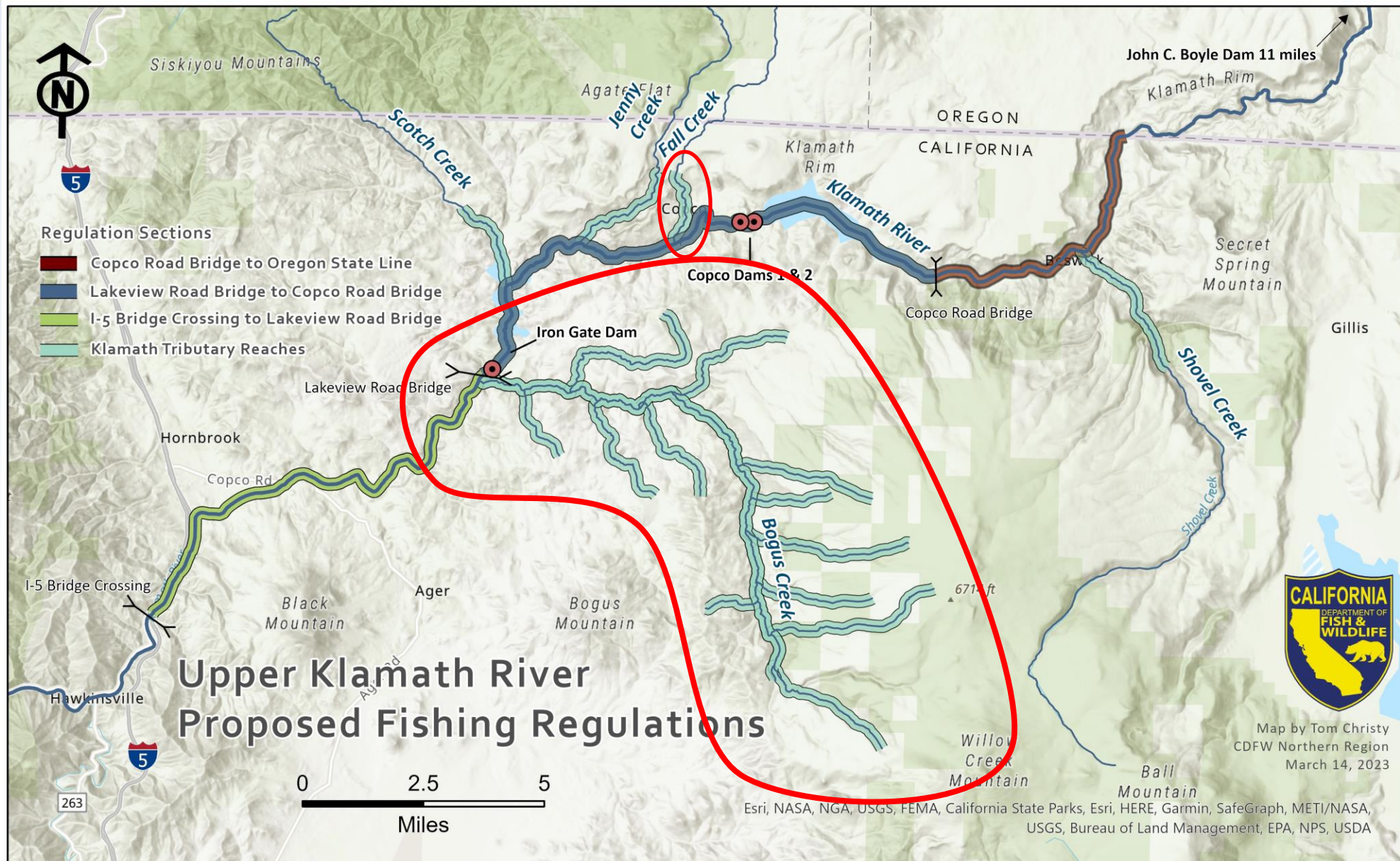
2024 Regulatory Options – Mainstem Sections

Copco Road Bridge to OR/CA Border

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- **Option 3:** Fourth Sat. in May through Aug. 31. Only artificial lures with barbless hooks may be used. Zero bag. (*C&R trout*)
- **Option 4:** November 1 through Feb 28 and Fourth Sat. in May through Aug. 31. Only artificial lures with barbless hooks may be used. Zero bag. (*C&R steelhead and trout*)



Bogus Creek and Anadromous Fall Creek





2024 Regulatory Options – Tributary Sections

Bogus Creek

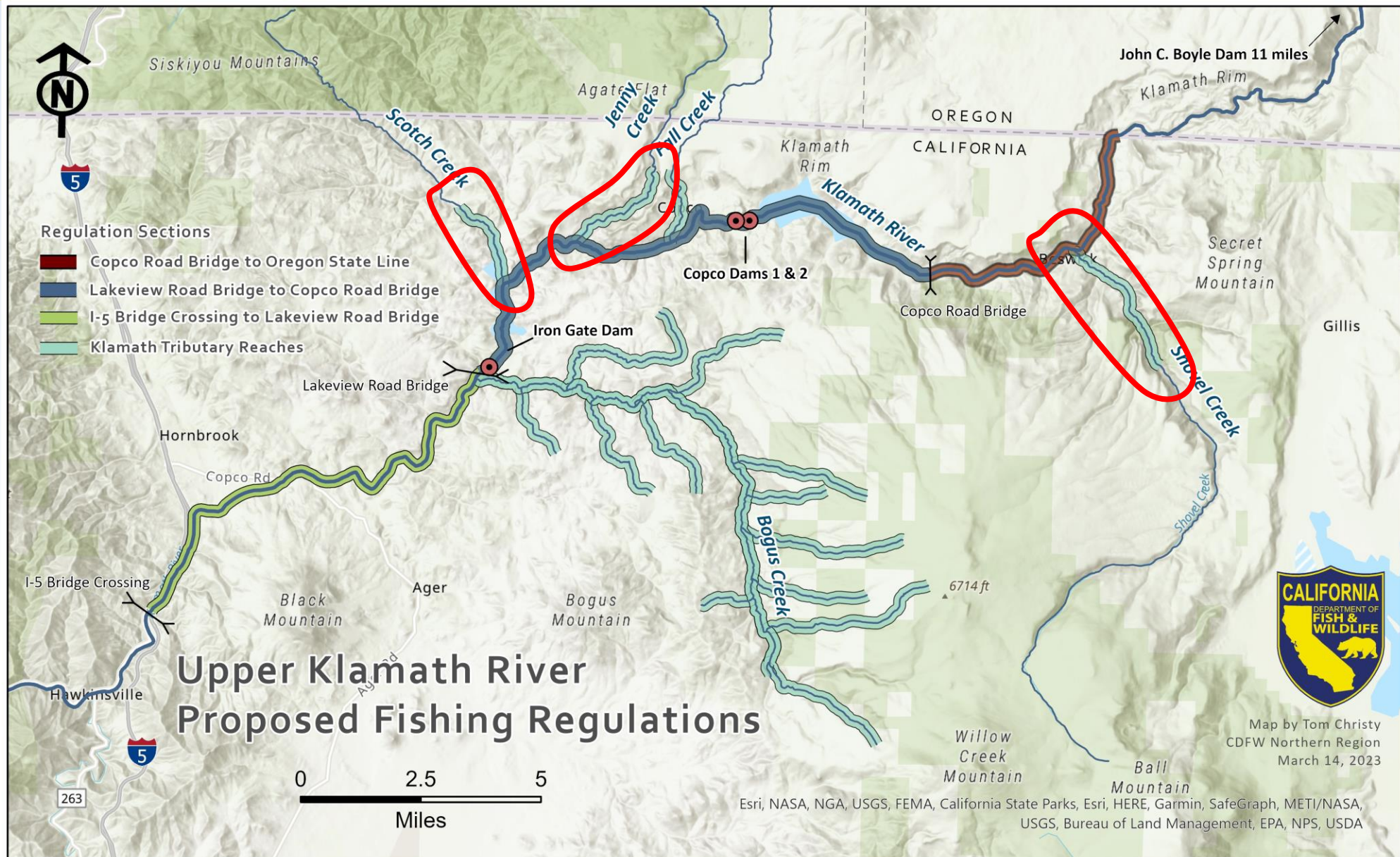
- **Option 1:** Closed to fishing all year.
- **Option 2:** Fourth Sat. in May through Aug. 31. Only artificial lures with barbless hooks may be used. Bag: 2 hatchery trout or hatchery steelhead. (*trout*)

Anadromous portion of Fall Creek

- **Option 1:** Closed to fishing all year. (*Hatchery location*)



Anadromous Jenny, Shovel, and Scotch Creeks





2024 Regulatory Options – Tributary Sections

Anadromous portions of Jenny, Shovel, and Scotch Creeks

- **Option 1:** Closed to fishing all year.
- **Option 2:** Fourth Sat. in May through Aug. 31. Only artificial lures with barbless hooks may be used. Zero bag. (*C&R trout*)

Non-anadromous portions of Jenny, Shovel, Scotch, and Fall Creeks

- **Option 1:** General trout regulations.



Regulatory Context

- Expectation for habitat response includes some uncertainty – precaution warranted
- Expectation for fish population response includes some uncertainty – precaution warranted
- Much will be learned by managers as the restoration project unfolds and responses progress
- **Any initial regulations are expected to be temporary and will be subject to annual revision**
- **Adaptive Management will be critical and ongoing**



Questions ♦ Thank You

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