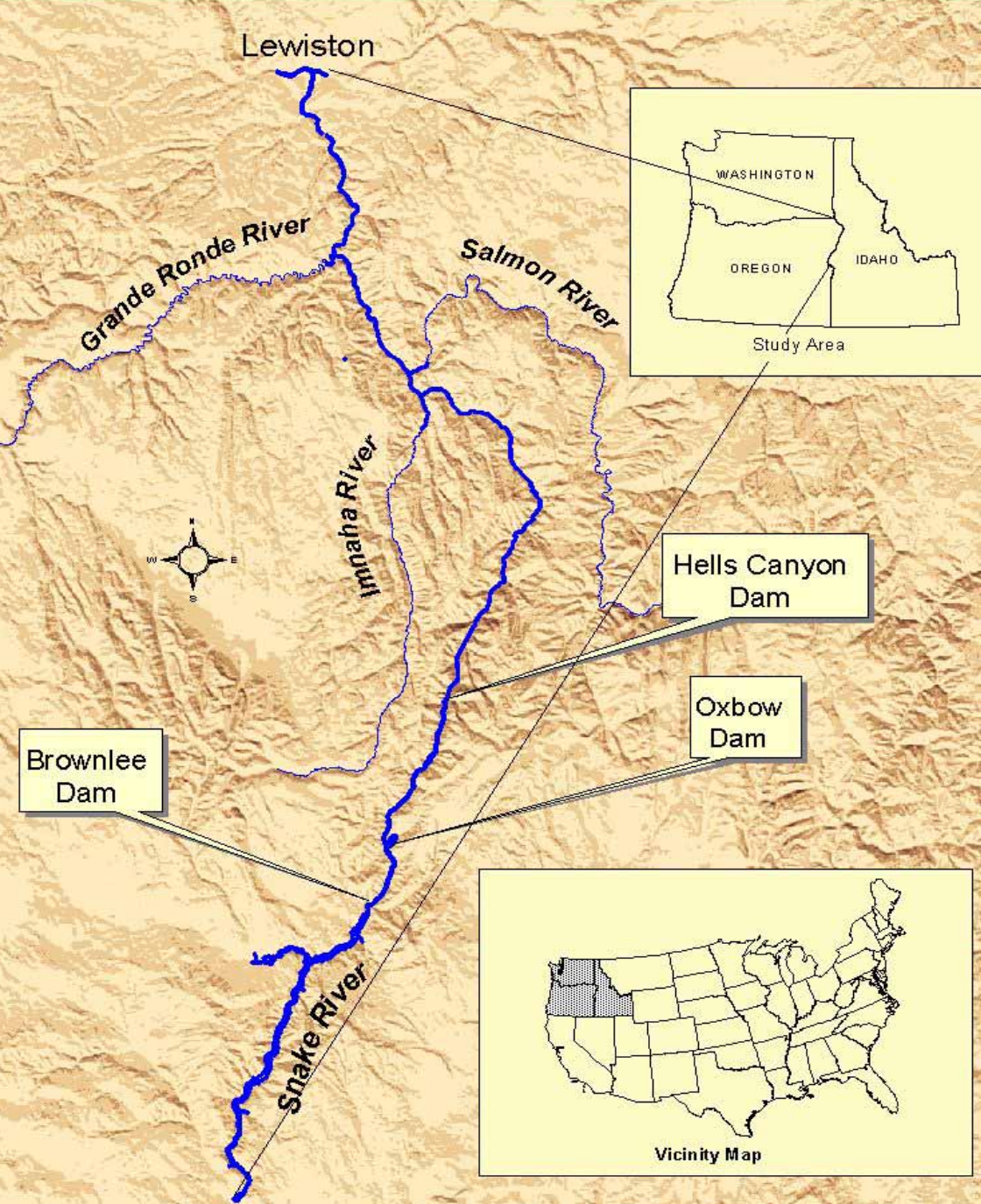


A background image of a waterfall cascading over rocks, partially obscured by a decorative graphic consisting of a teal and yellow wavy line that runs horizontally across the page.

Hells Canyon Complex

401 Certification

Northwest Hydroelectric Association
2007 Annual Conference
January 22, 2007



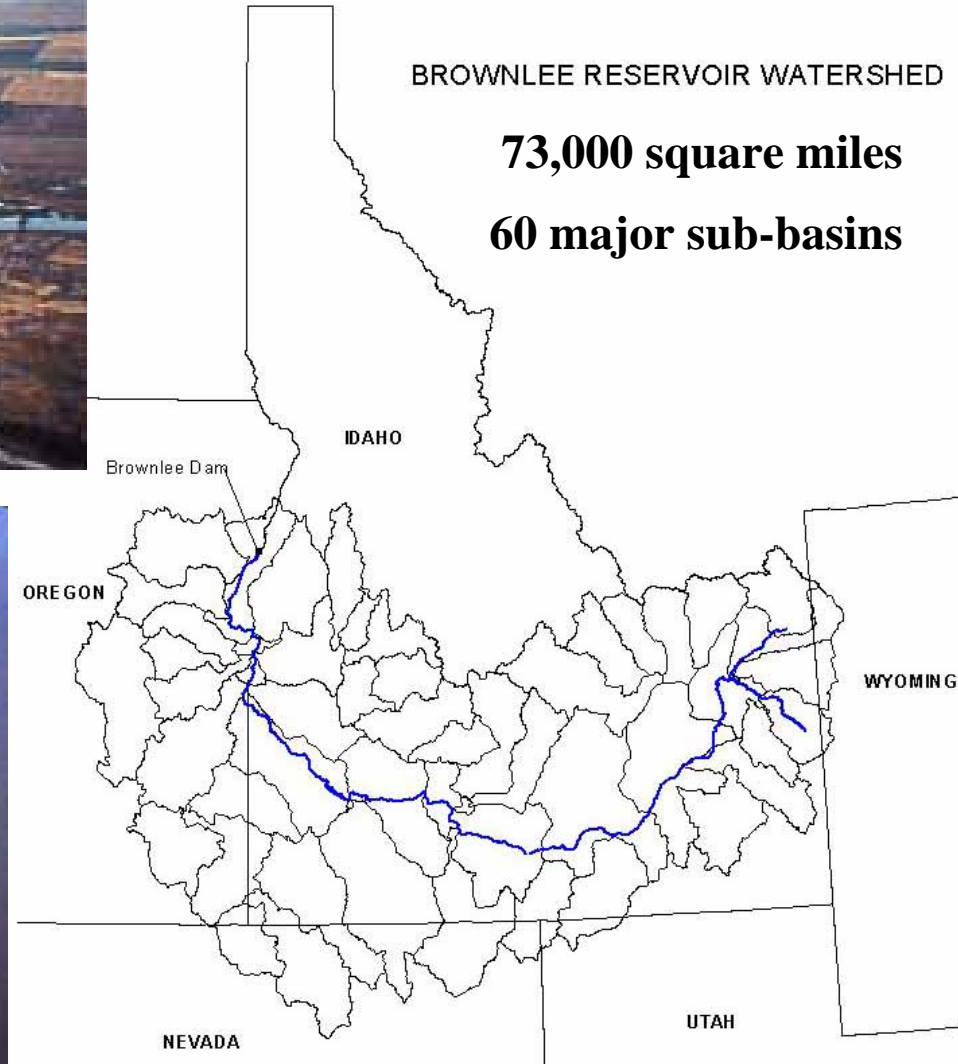
Three Elements for Successful 401 Certification

- **Appropriate Allocation of Responsibility**
- **Definition of Appropriate Standards**
- **Develop Measures to Address Appropriate Responsibility**

Basis for Appropriate Allocation of Responsibility

- **Water quality is the result of the condition of water flowing into the project and also processes occurring within the project**
- **Inflows should meet standards**
- **Project is responsible for substandard conditions when inflows meet standards**

Inflows should meet standards

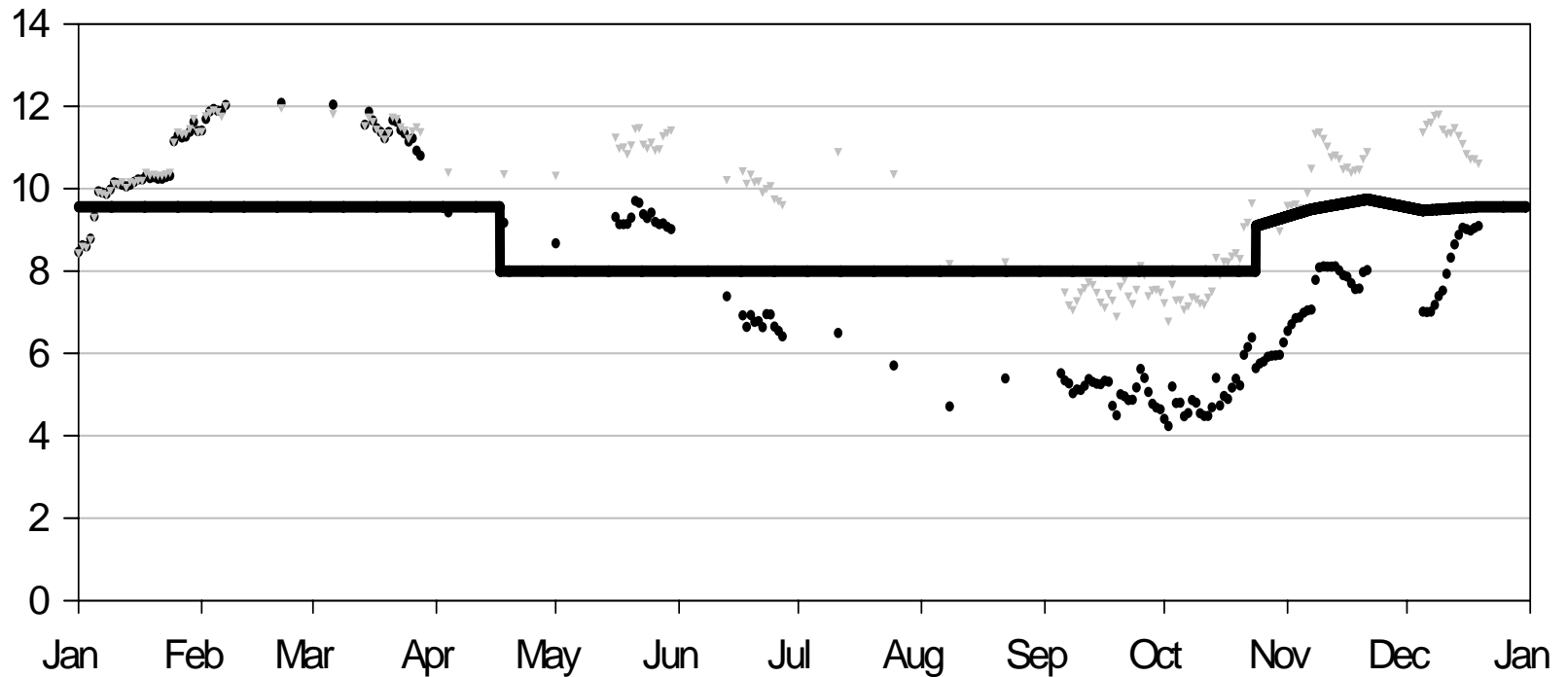


Important Steps in Defining the Appropriate Responsibility

- **Oregon-Idaho TMDL**
 - IPC funded Oregon to accelerate its TMDL schedule
 - Oregon and Idaho identified a common set of water quality targets
 - Extensive technical study and evaluation
- **Commitment to work through the complex technical issues**
 - Over 10 years of intensive study and coordination

The Benefit

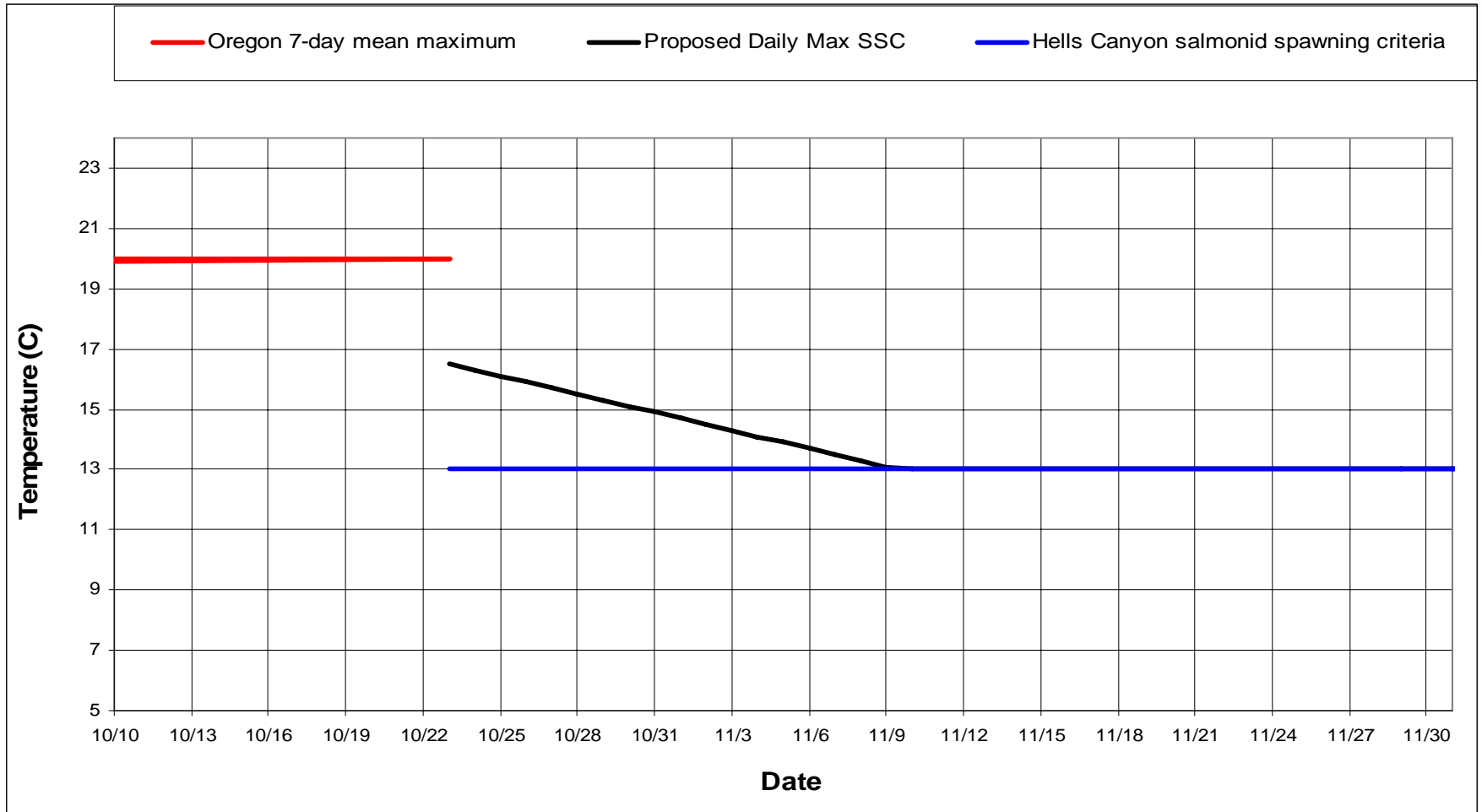
2002



Definition of Appropriate Standards

- **TMDL developed a common set of targets however it did not evaluate if they were appropriate**
 - **Statewide salmonid spawning standards are based on many species with differing needs**
 - **Snake River in Hells Canyon has only two salmonids that spawn in the river: fall Chinook and mountain whitefish**
 - **Intuitive that large river spawners would have differing spawning requirements than high elevation, small tributary stream spawners**

Proposed Site Specific Criteria



Site-Specific Criteria or Use Attainability Analysis

- **Use exists under current conditions**
- **Only one salmonid species effected by the proposed change**
- **No evidence of damage to resource from by current noncompliant conditions**

Summary

- **TMDL and consultation during the 401 process have been extremely valuable and productive**
- **Site-specific criteria process is uncertain**
 - **Strong regional concerns**
 - **Reserved state support**
 - **IPC plans to develop a revised proposal within the next 2 months**