THE CSKT WETLANDS PROGRAM: PLANNING FOR THE NEXT STAGE OF CONSERVATION

NAWM Webinar | February 2023


naslexʷ *- lifeblood of the Reservation*

“not only do the people have a historic spiritual cultural connection to wetlands, they also have a physical subsistence connection..."

- Kootenai Culture Committee

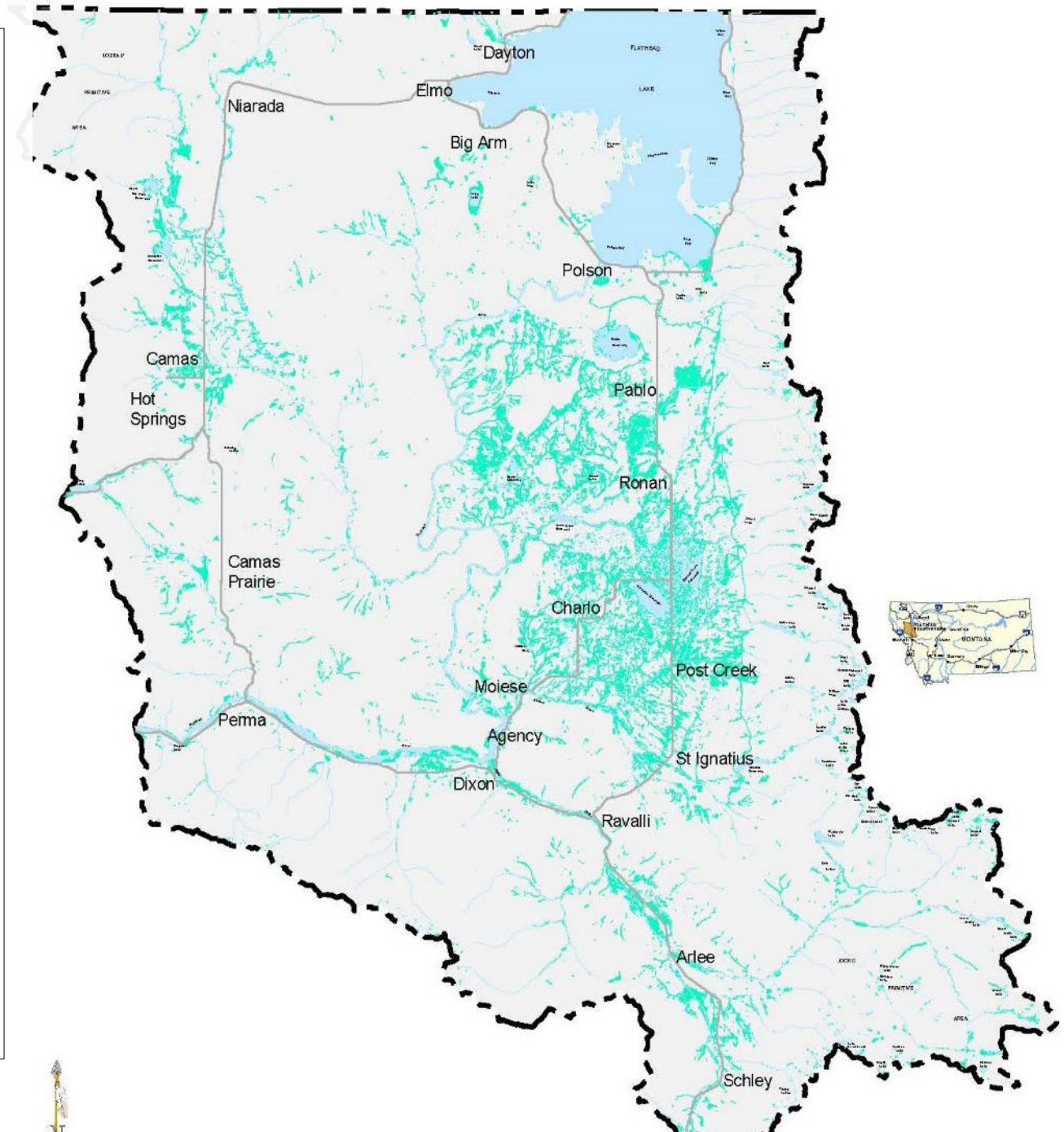

Séliš-Qlispé Culture Committee
Olín Sewłkʷs
Ččałlalqn
Npíqkʷ
Epł X̌ʷxʷýú
Sqlséwłkʷ
Qlispé
Sčewile? LOWER KALISPEL
Ntxʷétkʷ
Qlispé Sxʷcu?sí
Nčmmcí
Čełšs Smxe
Snlaqi Čłqlí
Sntxʷéyčn
Čłqétkʷ
Snxʷmene?
SPOKANE
Sx̌xétkʷ
Nčł?umnétkʷ
Qlispé
UPPER KALISPEL OR 'PEND D'OREILLE'
Nkʷtnétkʷ
Snsu?kʷl
Nčtxssńé
Tuńáxn
PLAINS SALISH
Snyelmn
Kʷalí? Sewłkʷs
Nmesulétkʷ
Naáyccstm Sewłkʷs
Nł?aycčstm
Epłyu Ntxʷétkʷs
Tmsmłí
Ep Smłi
Smteúse?
Łqełmlš
Ncqʷelstétkʷ
Čłmlšé
Epł Čiliyal
Nstetčcxʷétkʷ
Snłapqey
Čxʷtxʷtpé
Séliš
SALISH OR 'FLATHEAD'
Skʷumcné
Ep Stxʷexʷe?enčé
Čxʷmín Sew
Qlawqn
Epł Msawye?
Selected Séliš-Qlispé Place-Names and Translations
WEST OF CONTINENTAL DIVIDE
Sx̌xétkʷ
PLACE OF FAST-MOVING WATER
Spokane
Nčmmcí
RIVER DELTA ENTERING A LAKE
Lake Pend Oreille
Sqlséwłkʷ
KOOTENAI WATERS
Kootenai River
Nčł?umnétkʷ
BIGHORN SHEEP WATERS
Lower Clark Fork River
Ep Smłí
HAS SALMON
Idaho side of Lolo Pass — Lochsa / Clearwater drainage system
Tmsmłí
NO SALMON
Lolo area
Łqełmlš
WIDE COTTONWOODS
Stevensville
Nmesulétkʷ
SHIMMERING COLD WATERS
Middle Clark Fork River
Čłqétkʷ
BROAD SURFACE OF WATER
Flathead Lake
Snyelmn
PLACE WHERE YOU SURROUND SOMETHING
St. Ignatius area
Nł?aycčstm
PLACE OF SMALL BULL TROUT
Rattlesnake Creek-Clark Fork confluence / Missoula area
Snlaqi Čłqlí
SWEATHOUSE LAKE
Swan Lake
Naáyccstm Sewłkʷs
BULL TROUT'S WATERS
Blackfoot River
Ncqʷelstétkʷ
FLINT-STUCK-IN-THE-GROUND WATERS
Upper Clark Fork River
EAST OF CONTINENTAL DIVIDE
Skʷumcné
PLACE OF POCKET GOPHERS
Big Hole Valley
Olín Sewłkʷs
WATERS OF THE DIGESTIVE TRACT
Belly River
Sntxʷéyčn
BACKBONE
Continental Divide
Qlawqn
BEAVERHEAD
Beaverhead River
Čłmlšé
COTTONWOODS-ABOVE-THE-WATER
Helena area
Epłyu Ntxʷétkʷs
PAINT'S RIVER
Missouri River near Helena
Snsu?kʷl
ICE-PILED-UP
Sun River at Fort Shaw
Nčtxssńé
Mtmótlexʷ
LAND THAT APPEARS SMOKY
Yellowstone Park area
Ččałlalqn
THREE SEPARATE PEAKS
Sweetgrass Hills
Čxʷmín Sewłkʷs
HIDE FLESHER'S WATERS
Yellowstone River
Kʷalí? Sewłkʷs
YELLOW'S WATERS
Judith River
Nkʷtnétkʷ
BIG WATER
Missouri River
Čelšs Smxe
GIRZZLY BEAR'S HAND
Bear Paw Mountains
Npíqkʷ
WHITE WATER
Milk River
Epł Čiliyalsálqʷ

Waters of the Flathead Indian Reservation

5% of total area is Flathead Lake

40,000+ acres of wetlands

1,000 linear miles of perennial rivers and streams



Wetland resources

- Kettle ponds and pingos
- Reservoirs
- Forested wetlands
- Limited lakeshore marsh
- Wet meadows

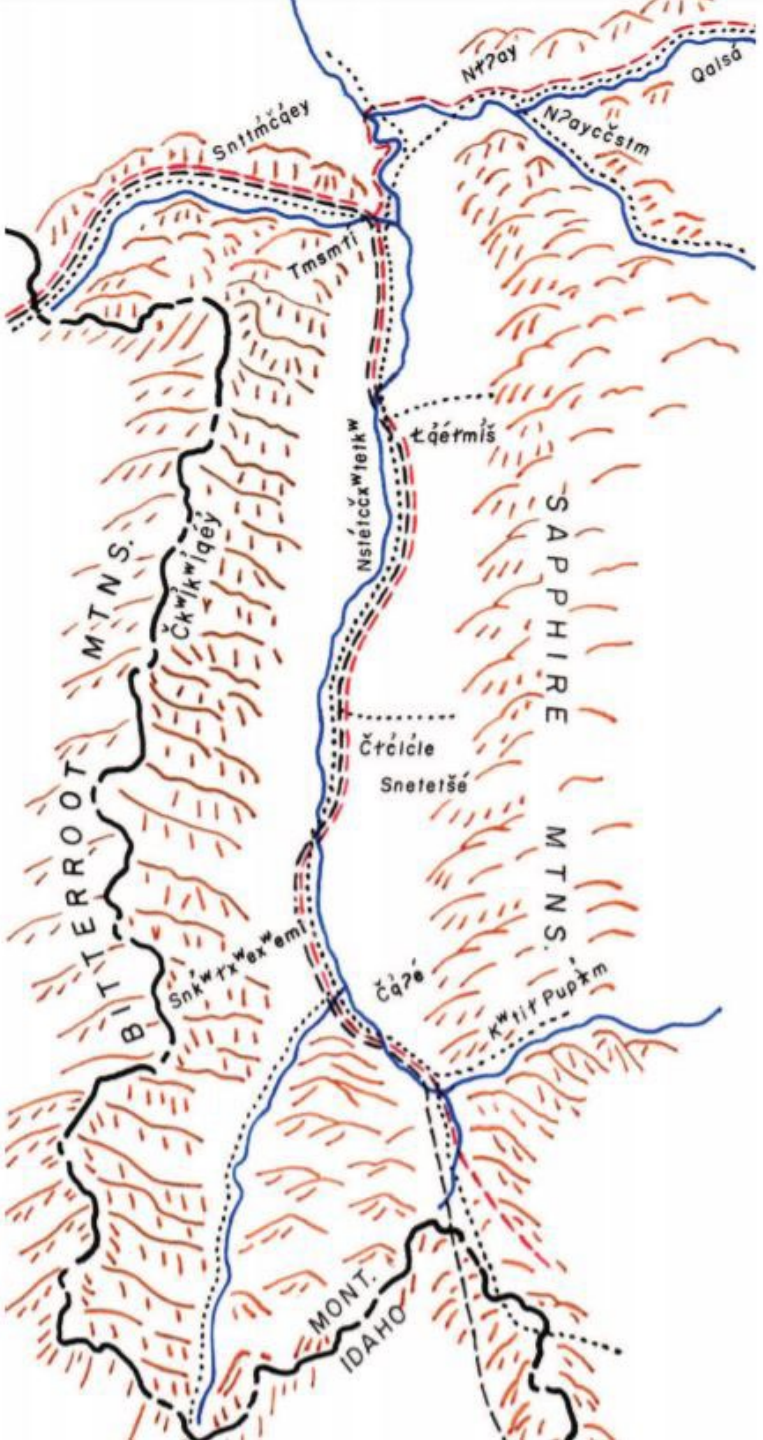
Common yellowthroat (*Geothlypis trichas*)
on cattail (*typha latifolia*)

Destruction

- Crop and animal agriculture
- Encroaching development and transportation corridors
- Illegal OHV recreation

Climate change and our aquatic resources

- Loss of soil moisture in drought conditions
- Shifts in biological communities
- Invasive species pressure



Nɬ?ay(cčstm)
Place of Small Bull Trout
Rattlesnake Creek—Clark Fork confluence

N?aycčstm (Ṇaaycčstm)
Place of Big Bull Trout
Blackfoot River—Clark Fork confluence

Qal̓sá / Epɬ íty̓"e?
Has Camas— Potomac Valley

Tmsmtí
No Salmon — Lolo area

Sntl̓m̓čqey
Steam on a Ridge Top
Lolo Hot Springs area

Nstetčcx"étk"
Waters of Red-Osier Dogwood
Bitterroot River

Łq̓elmíš
Wide Cottonwoods
Stevensville area

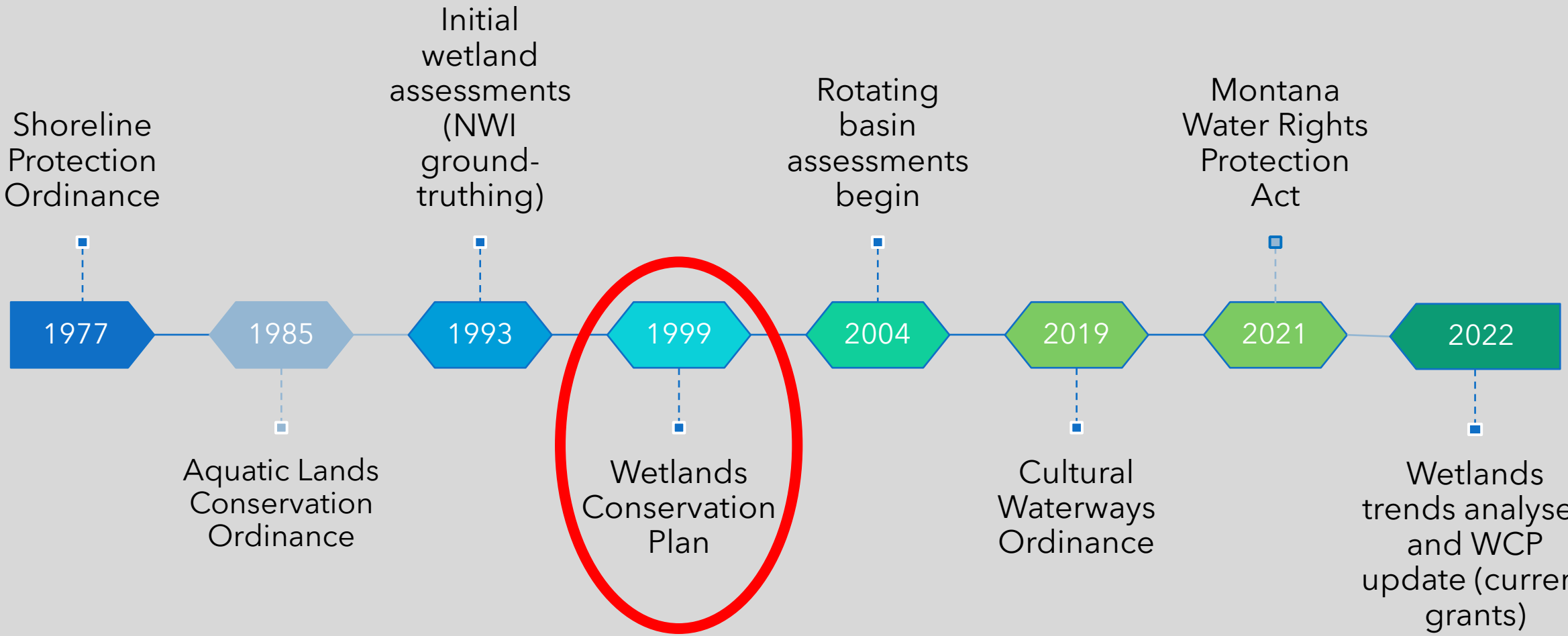
Čk"lk"lqéyn
Red-Topped Peaks
Bitterroot Mountains

Čtčlčlé
Trees on Open Ground /
Trees in Water
Hamilton area

Climatic changes mean *cultural changes*

- "Water refugees"
- Changes to ecological conditions of Salish, Pend d'Orielle, and Kootenai place-names
- Recreational and economic losses

CSKT Wetlands Program History



1999 Wetland Conservation Plan

Synthesizes information from:

- 1992 NWI mapping, subsequent field visits
- Flathead Indian Irrigation Project data
- MT Dept. Transportation projects

Establishes goals using:

- ALCO and Shoreline Ordinances
- 1995 Forestry Management Plan
- SKQ Dam and other mitigation settlements

6 Plan Implementation

Tribal Goals, Approach, Monitoring and Assessment, Coordination, Education, Restoration

This chapter summarizes Tribal goals and objectives for the conservation of wetlands and riparian areas.

TRIBAL GOALS FOR WETLANDS AND RIPARIAN AREAS

The wetlands conservation plan sets both an interim goal and a long term goal for the wetland and riparian resources of the Flathead Indian Reservation.

Most Reservation Bird Species Depend On Wetlands

Of the 256 resident and migra-
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the Flathea
species de
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more of th
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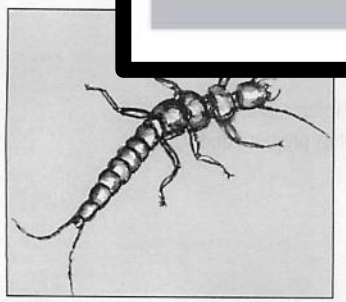

Figure 6.1. Stoneflies require moving water for the development of their nymphs, pictured here, and so they are often found near streams and rivers. Both adults and nymphs are an important component in the diet of trout. In some species, such as the one shown above, the entire early part of the lifecycle is spent deep in the gravels beneath floodplains

- Riparian proper functioning condition is an overall functional assessment rating of 80% to 100% using the Montana Riparian and Wetland Association functional assessment methodology.

WATERSHED APPROACH

The Tribes will adopt a watershed approach to wetlands conservation to address wetland protection in a holistic, integrated manner. The following major objective(s) are proposed for the watershed approach:

- Adopt the watershed as the primary unit for wetlands management.

7 Wetland Mitigation Guidelines for the Flathead Indian Reservation

Purpose, Forms of Mitigation, Preservation of Wetlands, Restoration, Creation, Enhancement, Site Selection

	Preservation of Wetlands of Special Concern	Restoration	Enhancement	Creation
Forested and Shrub	Pre-project: 3 : 1 Post-project: 4 : 1	Pre-project: 2.5 : 1 Post-project: 3.5 : 1	Pre-project 4 : 1 Post-project: 5 : 1	Pre-project 4 : 1 Post-project: 5 : 1
Emergent and Open Water	Pre-project 2 : 1 Post-project 3 : 1	Pre-project 1.5 : 1 Post-project: 2.5 : 1	Pre-project 3 : 1 Post-project 4 : 1	Pre-project 3 : 1 Post-project: 4 : 1

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n the Aquatic
guidelines

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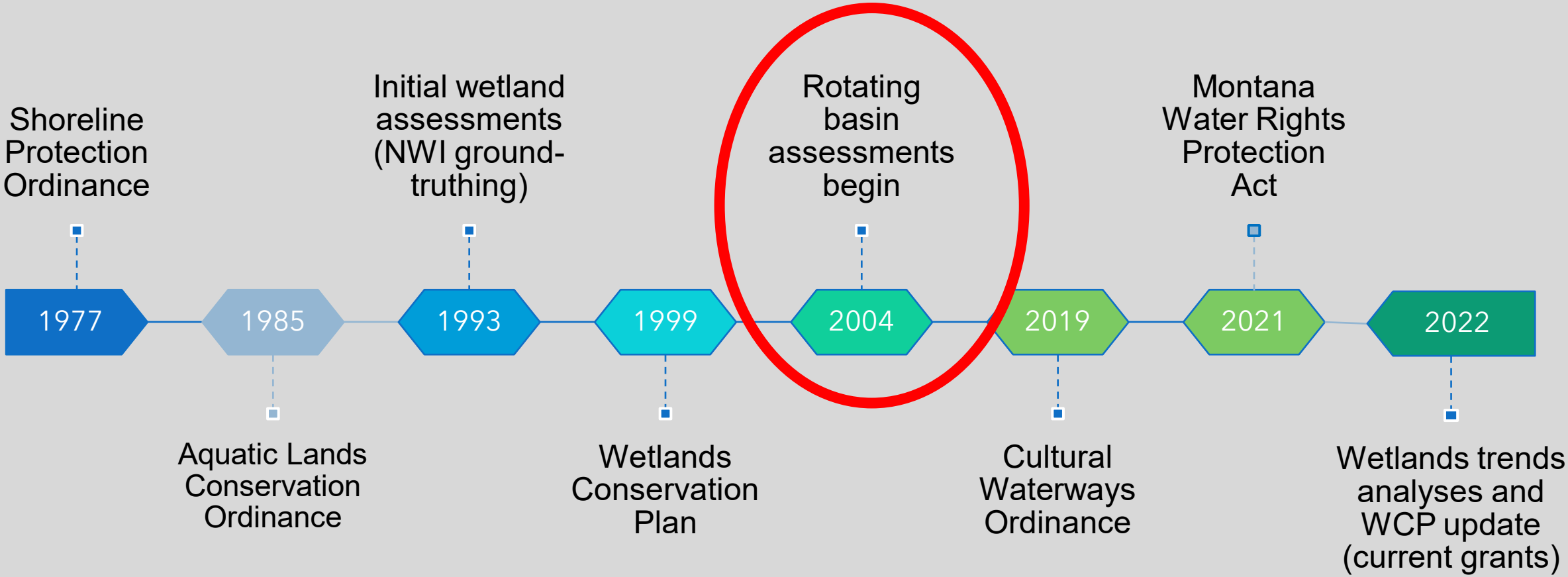
al
requirements and to incorporate mitigation measures into the early stages of the planning process.

The determination of what constitutes effective mitigation will be based solely on the values and functions of the wetlands that will be impacted. The Tribes will strive to achieve a goal of no overall net loss of wetland functions and values. It is recognized that no net loss of wetland functions and values may not be achieved in each and every permit action. However, it remains the goal of the Tribes to contribute to the goal of no overall net loss of the Reservation's remaining wetlands base.

MITIGATION DEFINED

Mitigation is defined in the broadest sense as all those actions taken to counter the adverse effects of a project. The Aquatic Lands Conservation Ordinance 87A (Sec 1.4 (k)) defines mitigation as the following sequence of activities:

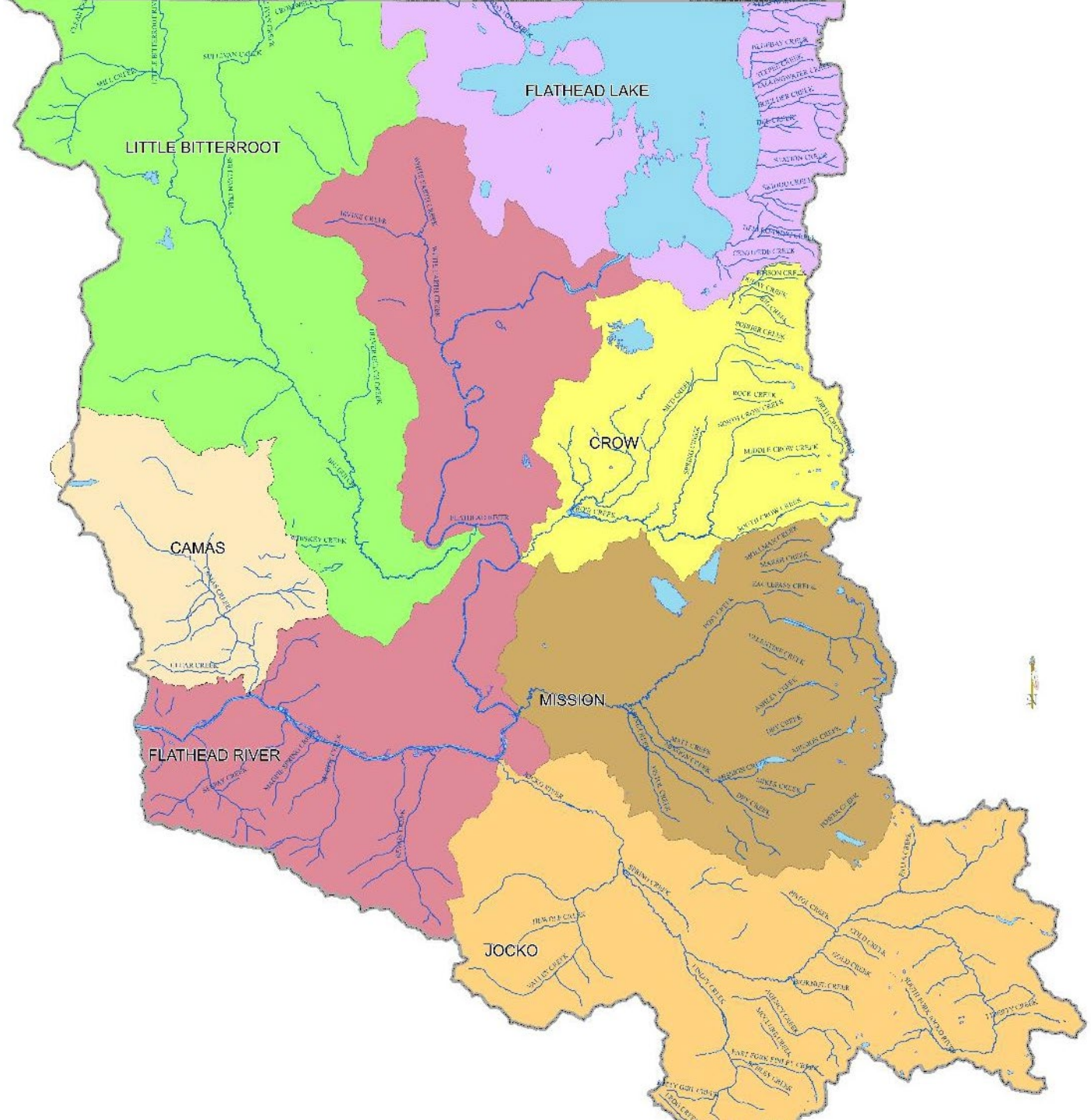
CSKT Wetlands Program History



2004

ROTATING BASIN ASSESSMENTS BEGIN

(using the Montana Wetland Assessment Method)



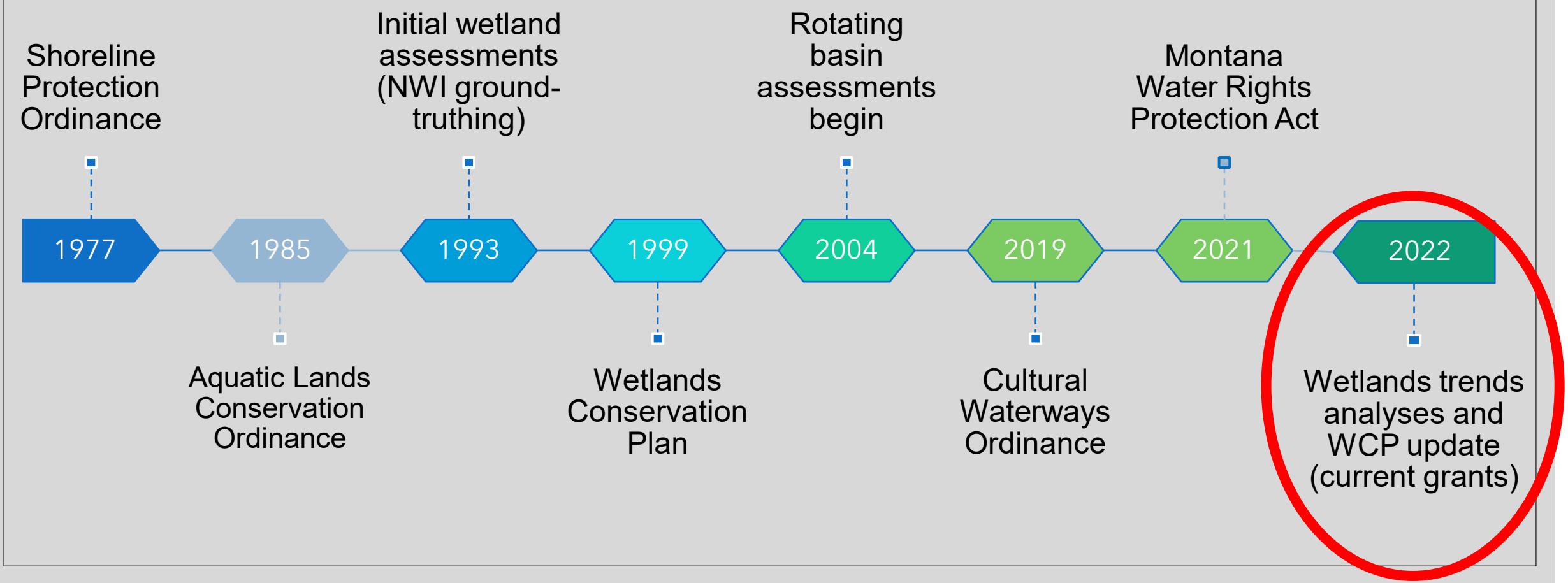
2019

CULTURAL WATERWAYS ORDINANCE

2021

MONTANA WATER RIGHTS PROTECTION ACT

CSKT Wetlands Program History



FY22-24
Wetland Program Development Grants

Tribal WPDG

1. Monitoring and assessment of two watersheds
2. Trends analyses for both
3. Outreach and education

Region 8 WPDG

1. Survey
2. Trends analyses, Reservation-wide
3. Update each watershed profile
4. Establish and facilitate WCP advisory committee

Monitoring & Assessment

- Further monitoring of ALCO project sites?
- Development of CSKT's own assessment method?
- Wetland ID, delineation, and assessment training for more CSKT staff

Compensatory Mitigation & ALCO

- What policies can better enforce these ratios, or should they be changed?
- Are these ratios enough to compensate for ecological losses?
- Has mitigation been applied on "*all* reservation waters," not just WOTUS?

Table 7.1 Minimum wetland replacement ratios for the Flathead Indian Reservation

	Preservation of Wetlands of Special Concern	Restoration	Enhancement	Creation
Forested and Shrub	Pre-project: 3 : 1 Post-project: 4 : 1	Pre-project: 2.5 : 1 Post-project: 3.5 : 1	Pre-project 4 : 1 Post-project: 5 : 1	Pre-project 4 : 1 Post-project: 5 : 1
Emergent and Open Water	Pre-project 2 : 1 Post-project 3 : 1	Pre-project 1.5 : 1 Post-project: 2.5 : 1	Pre-project 3 : 1 Post-project 4 : 1	Pre-project 3 : 1 Post-project: 4 : 1

SURFACE WATER QUALITY STANDAR
AND ANTIDEGRADATION POL

CONFEDERATED SALISH AND KOOTENAI TRIBES
THE FLATHEAD RESERVATIC
CSKT Natural Resources Depa
Environmental Protection Di
Water Quality Pr

WETLAND WATER QUALITY STANDARDS

- Numeric vs narrative criteria
- Ecological function based?

EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

- SKC internships, employment
- Citizen science monitoring program
- Online presence/information

THANK YOU!

Blair Libby
Wetlands Conservation Plan Coordinator
Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes

Office (406) 883-2888 x7211
Email blair.libby@cskt.org
Web csktnrd.org