

ADULTS SPAWN

Female digs a redd in natal stream. Eggs, the size of a small pea, are fertilized and parents die, producing important nutrients.



The Salmon Lifecycle
**SMELL YOUR
WAY HOME**

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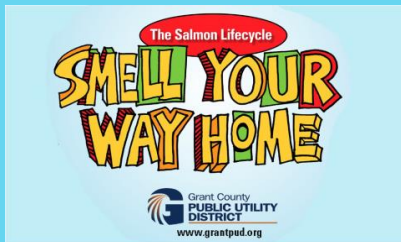
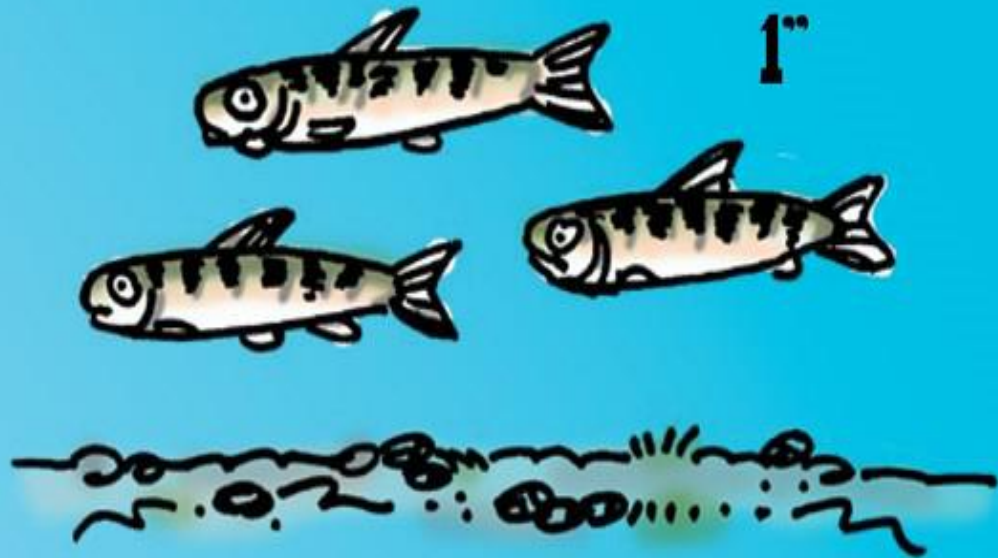
EGGS HATCH, ALEVIN DEVELOP

Eggs hatch in freshwater in 3-4 months. **Alevin** hang out in the redd until developed into fry.

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FRY ARE SMALL

Fry stay in their natal waters for about one year.

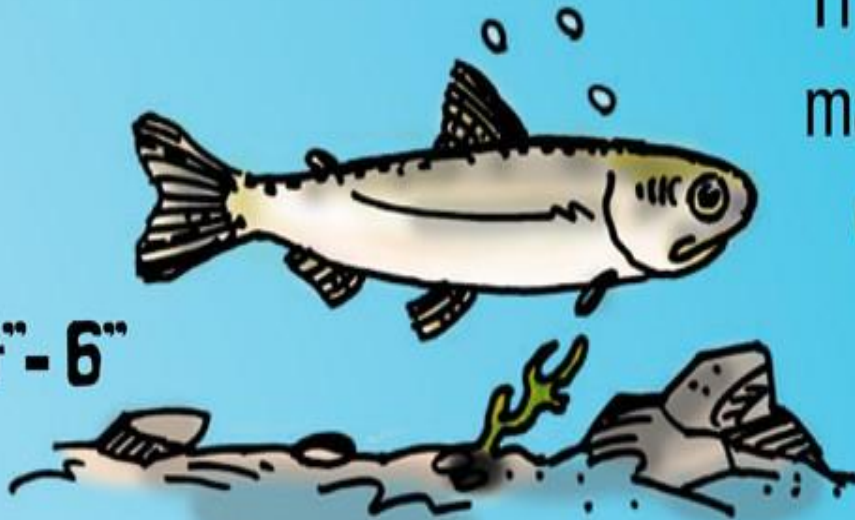


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SMOLT

Ready to leave the stream!
These 4"-6" youngsters face many obstacles as they head down the Columbia River to the ocean – predators, dams, etc.

4"-6"



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WANAPUM DAM

Most Smolts go down the slide as they leave their natal stream.



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**CAREFUL!
GULLS EAT
SMOLTS.**



**THANKS.
SCIENTIST
SAM.**

ESTUARY STAGE

Time to get used
to salty water.

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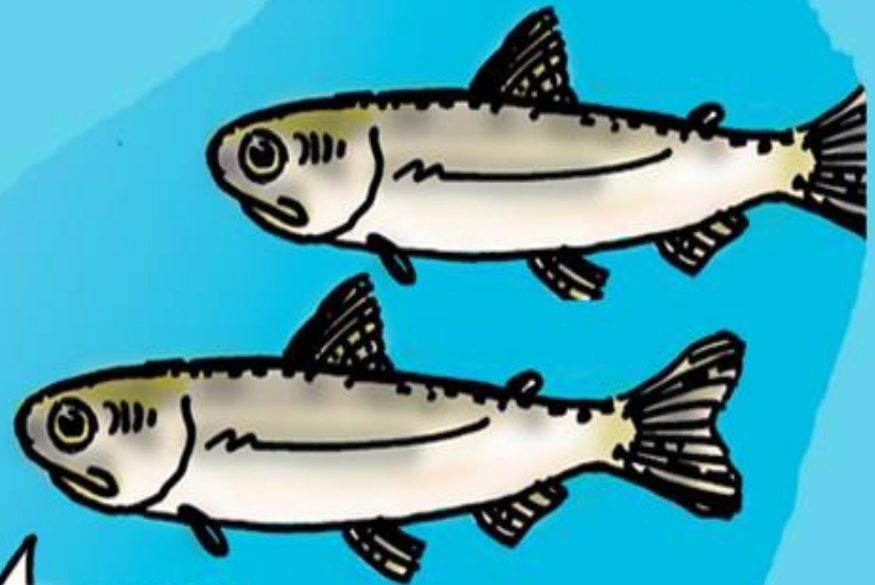
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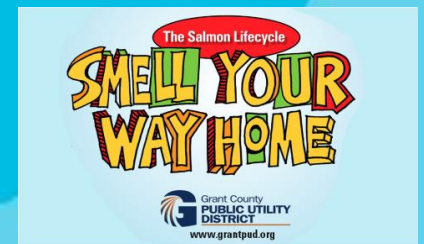


OCEAN DWELLERS

Zooplankton, krill, invertebrates, small crustaceans, other fish are on the menu.



TIME TO
FATTEN UP!



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HEAD FOR HOME

The epic journey begins after 2-5 years of packing on the pounds. Salmon stop eating on their trip home.

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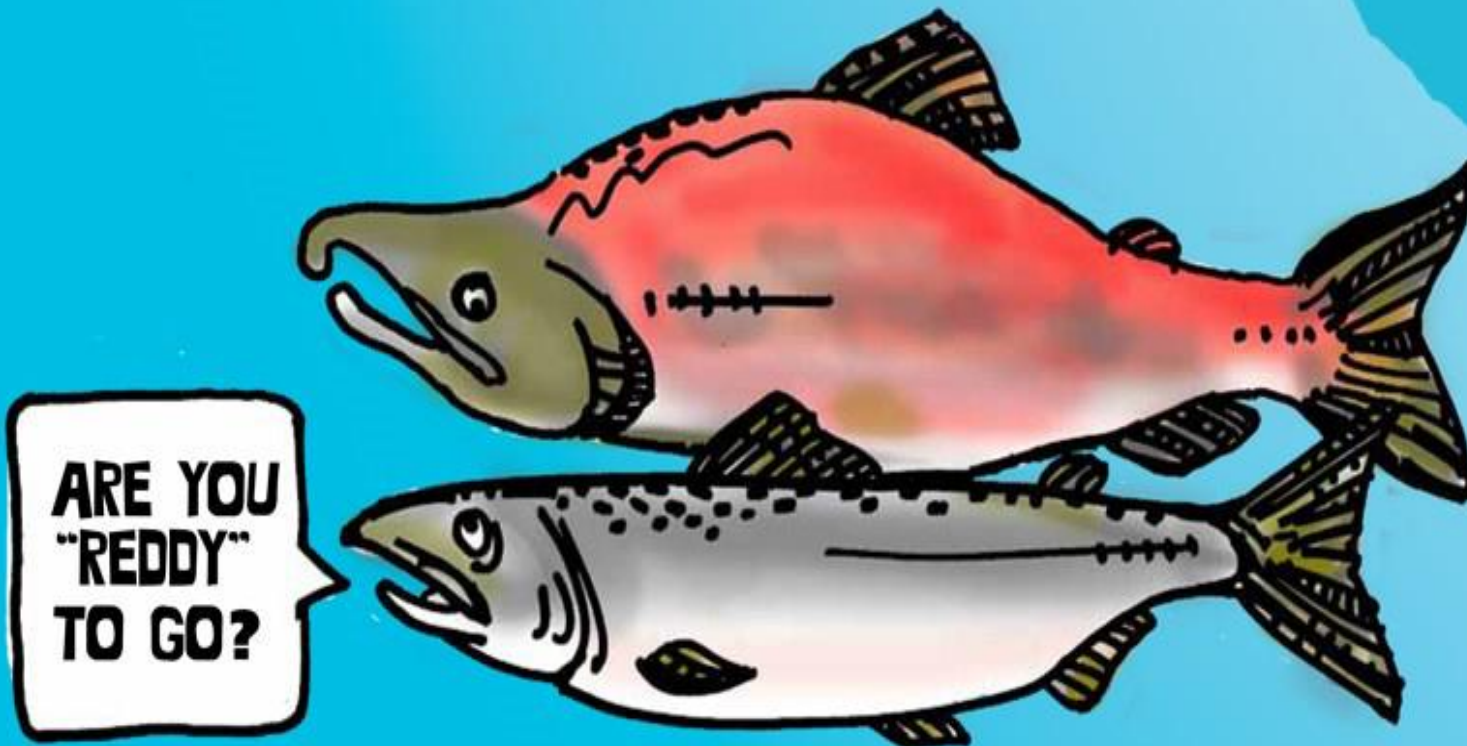
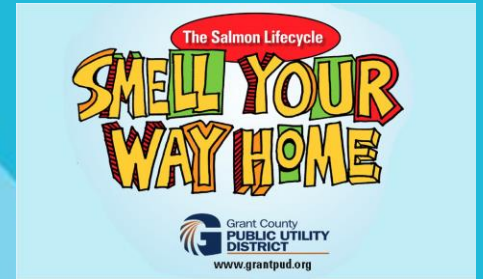
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CHANGE COLOR

Return to estuary: Of the five species of Pacific Salmon only Sockeye change from **silver to red** in freshwater to prepare for finding a mate and spawning.

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THE NOSE KNOWS

Salmon smell their way home.



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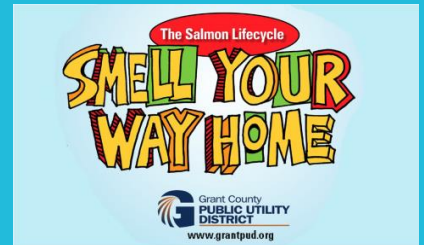
WANAPUM AND PRIEST RAPIDS DAMS

Adults go up the ladder, designed to be similar to natural rapids, to return to their natal stream.

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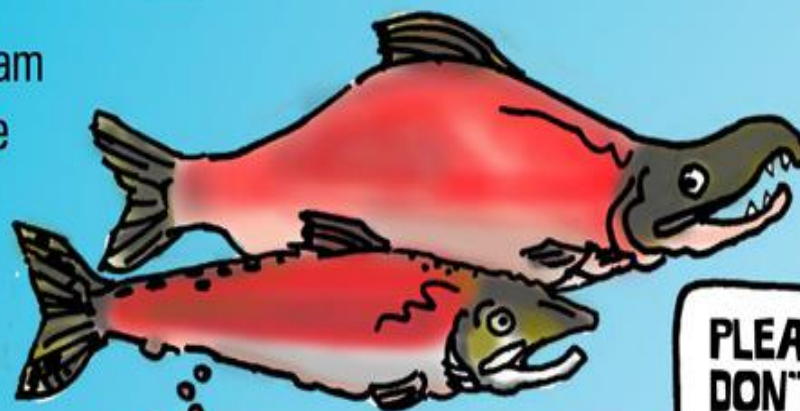


**THE LADDER
WILL LEAD
YOU HOME!**





Exhausted, thin salmon return to their natal stream to spawn. And the cycle begins again.



PLEASE
DON'T STEP
ON A REDD!

The Salmon Lifecycle

SMELL YOUR WAY HOME

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