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## SALMON BASICS

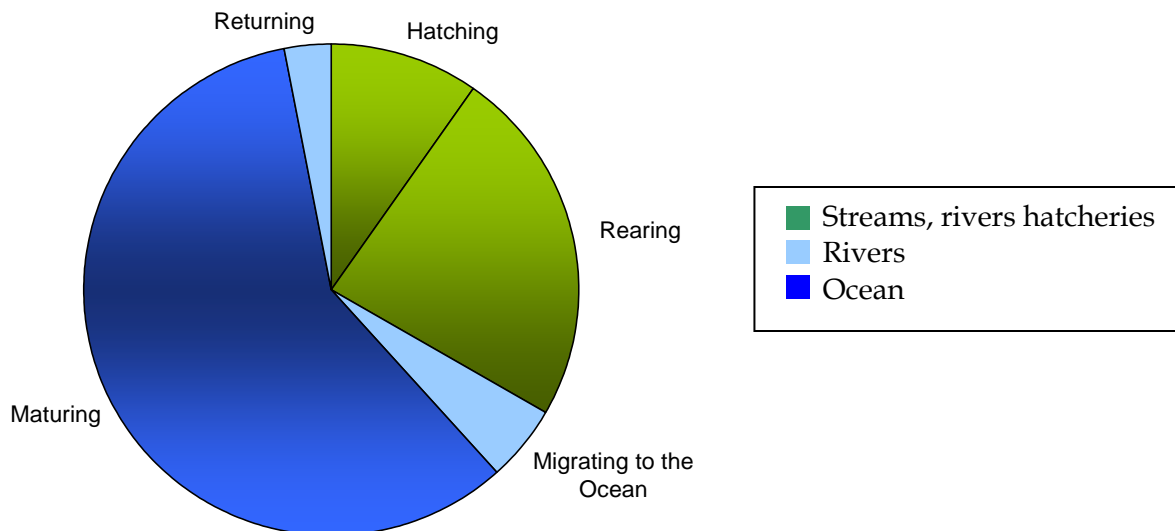
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The Columbia River Basin provides habitat for six species of anadromous salmon: chinook, coho, chum, sockeye, pink, and steelhead. Anadromous salmon hatch in fresh water rivers and tributaries where they rear for a year or two. They then migrate to, and mature in, the ocean and return to their place of origin as adults to spawn. Salmon live two to five years in the ocean before returning to spawning areas.

Salmon stocks are cyclical. They rise and fall in accordance with natural rhythms. Long-term changes in climate, atmospheric pressure, and water temperature create ocean conditions that are sometimes favorable to salmon survival and sometimes not. Short-term weather patterns - hot summers and cold winters - also affect survival rates.

### Salmon Life Cycle & Habitat



It's a difficult journey from egg to spawning adult. Only about two percent of all salmon hatched will live to adulthood. Additionally, there are many natural predators of salmon – birds, fish, marine mammals, and disease. And there are human-made obstacles including harvesting, river blockages, pollution, and poor habitat management. For these reasons, protection of the relatively few adult salmon that make the arduous journey to spawn in their natal streams and rivers is vitally important.

### **Northwest RiverPartners**

Northwest RiverPartners is a partnership of farmers, electric utilities and large and small businesses in the Pacific Northwest, joined together to ensure that the Columbia and Snake rivers remain living, working rivers. Northwest RiverPartners promotes all of the benefits of the rivers: fish and wildlife, renewable hydropower, agriculture, commerce and recreation. For more information contact: Terry Flores, 503.274.7792. Or visit the Web site at [www.NWRiverPartners.org](http://www.NWRiverPartners.org)