Comins & Bassett Lakes Restoration Project

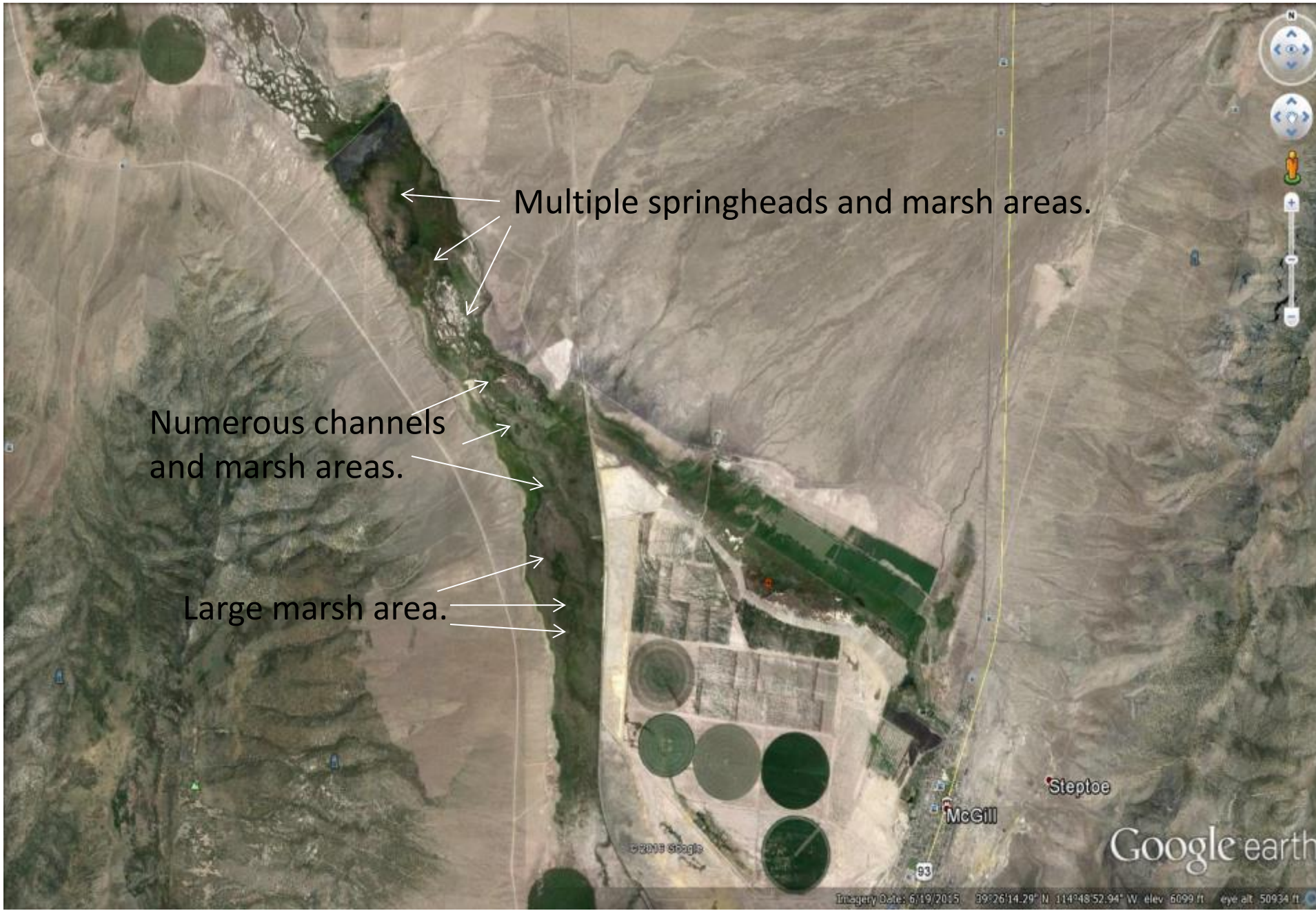
Status Update for
Nevada Board of Wildlife Commissioners
June 24, 2016

After multiple submissions, the project was approved in 2014 and funding was secured through Sportfish Restoration.

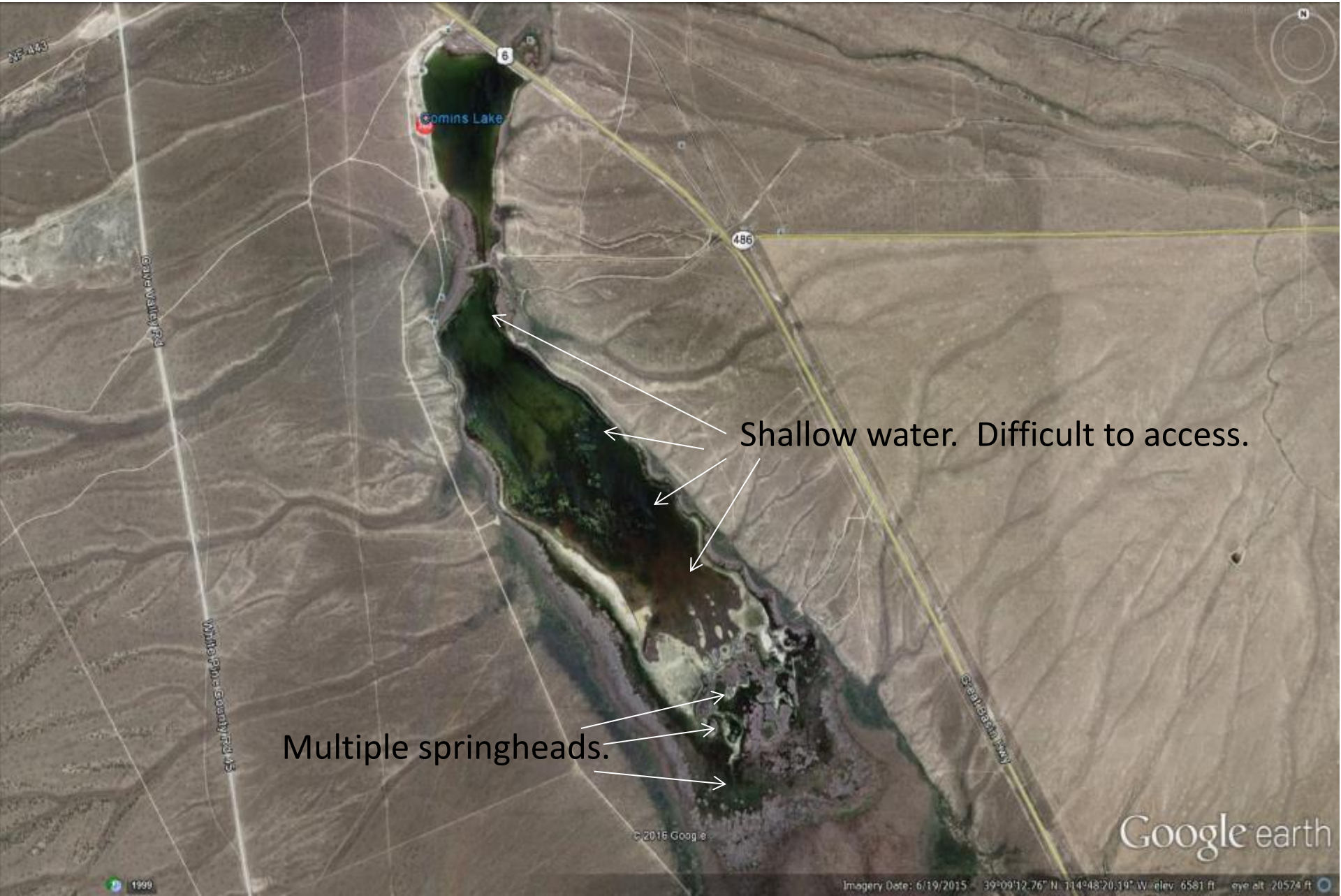
Much of summer / fall of 2014 and spring of 2015 was spent conducting extensive pretreatment surveys of the two reservoirs.

Unique challenges were encountered.

Bassett Lake – August 10-14, 2015



Comins Lake – August 17-20, 2015

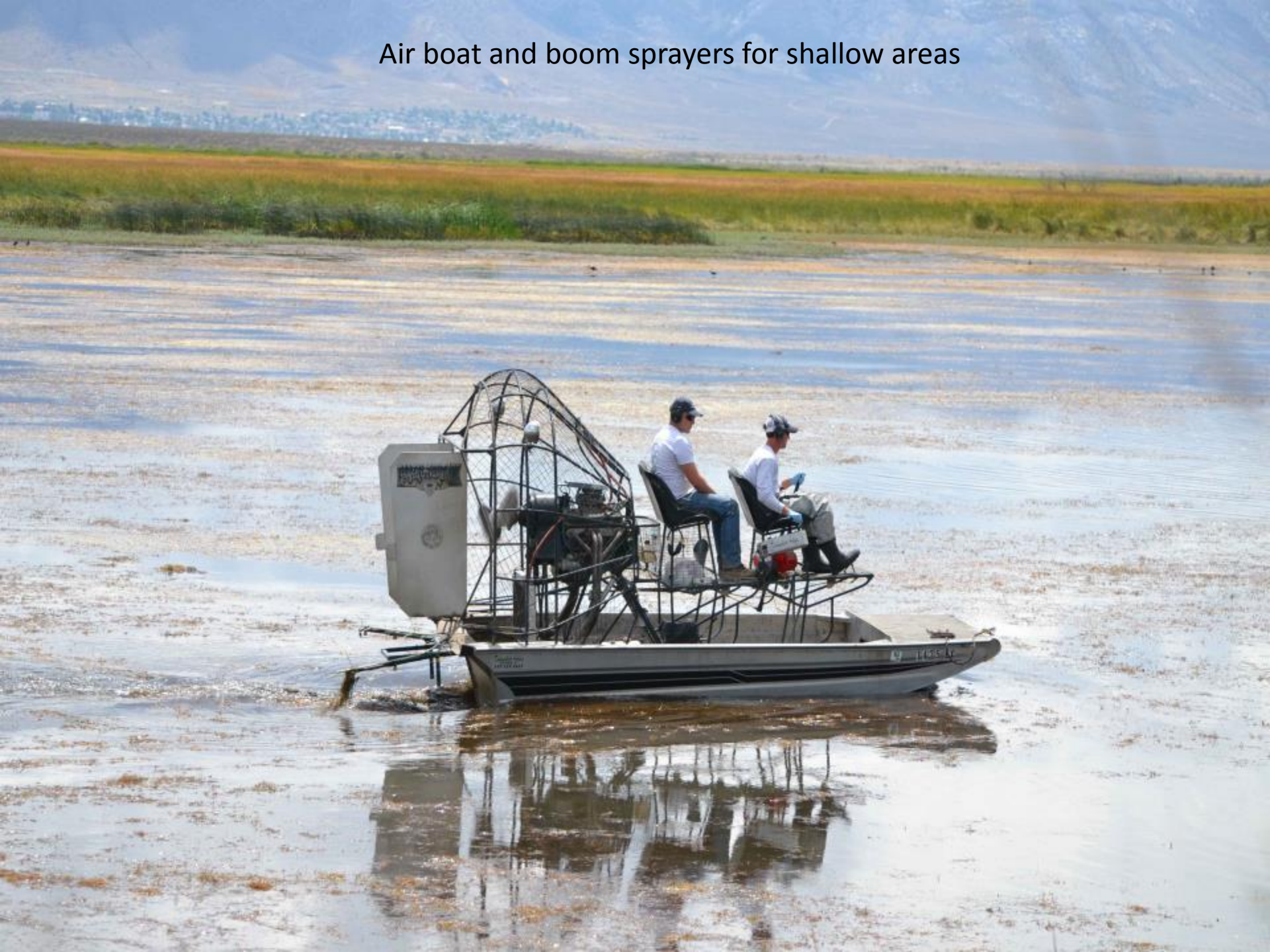



Multiple techniques / formulations were required for the application of rotenone
Drip buckets for flowing waters.

Multiple sand / spray crews for marshy / backwater areas

Jon boat and pump for small pond areas

Air boat and boom sprayers for shallow areas



A mud boat with a sprayer was also used in shallow areas

Large boats and venturi pumps for open water areas

Powdered rotenone/sand bombs for springs

Comins Lake Totals

403 gallons CFT Legumine (5% liquid formulation) used

150 lb. powdered rotenone / sand / gelatin formulation

37 project personnel totaling approx. 600 man-hours

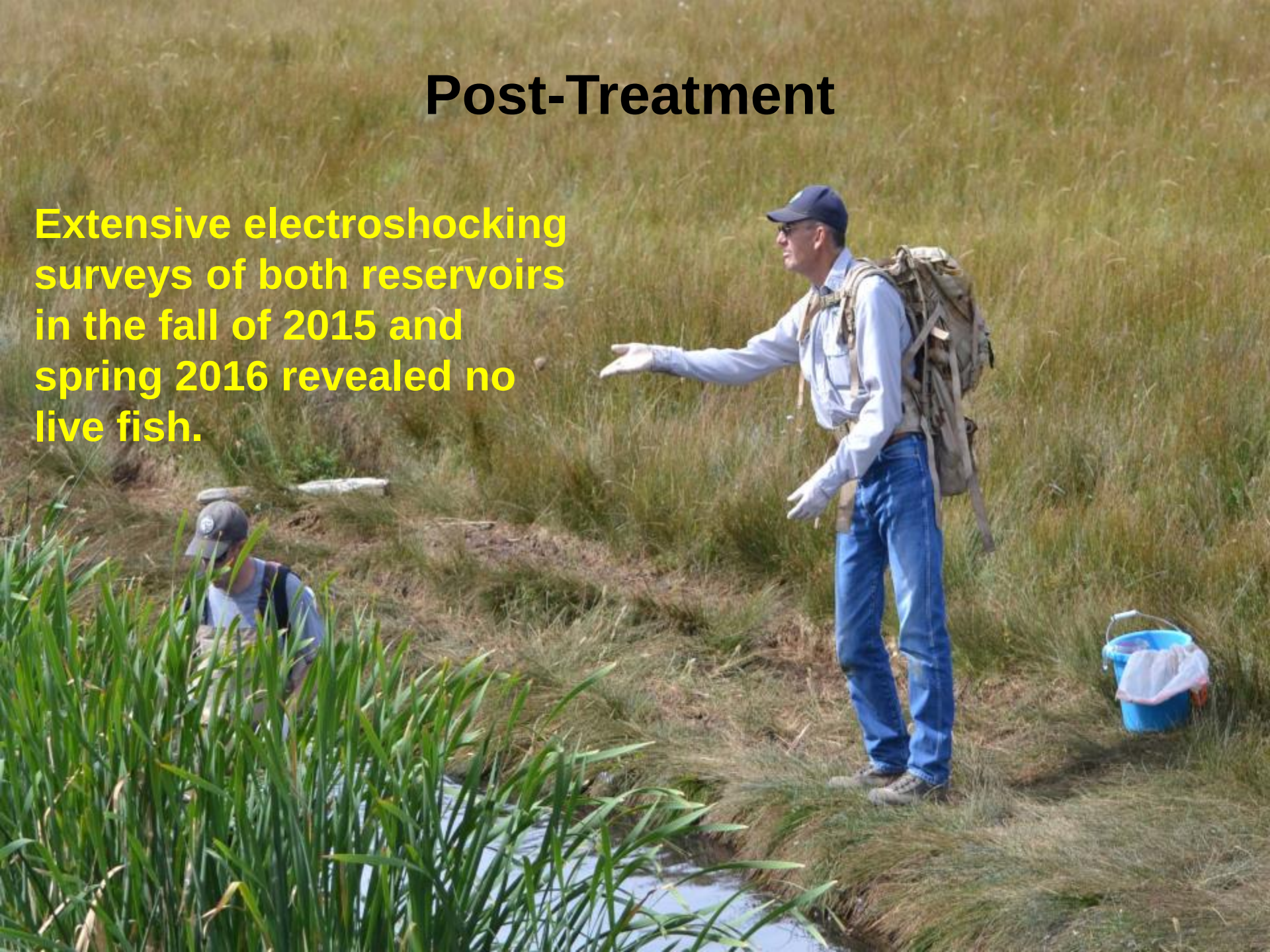
Bassett Lake Totals

617 gallons CFT Legumine (5% liquid formulation) used

200 lb. powdered rotenone / sand / gelatin formulation

62 project personnel totaling approx. 1,000 man-hours

Post-Treatment



Extensive electroshocking surveys of both reservoirs in the fall of 2015 and spring 2016 revealed no live fish.

- **Total Project Effort**
  - 67 staff from 6 Divisions expended over 1,600 man-hours
    - Fisheries, Game, Habitat, Law Enforcement, Wildlife Diversity, Conservation Education + Director's Office
  - 1,020 gallons of liquid rotenone
  - 350 lb. + of powdered rotenone mixture

Project Expenditures

$94,450 + - Personnel

$7,200 - Travel

$180,700 - Operating

$282,350 Total

Restocking

Bassett Lake

2,500 catchable RB trout stocked 11/2015

2,300 fingerling bass stocked 10/2015

Will receive additional bass and trout in 2016 and at regular intervals thereafter

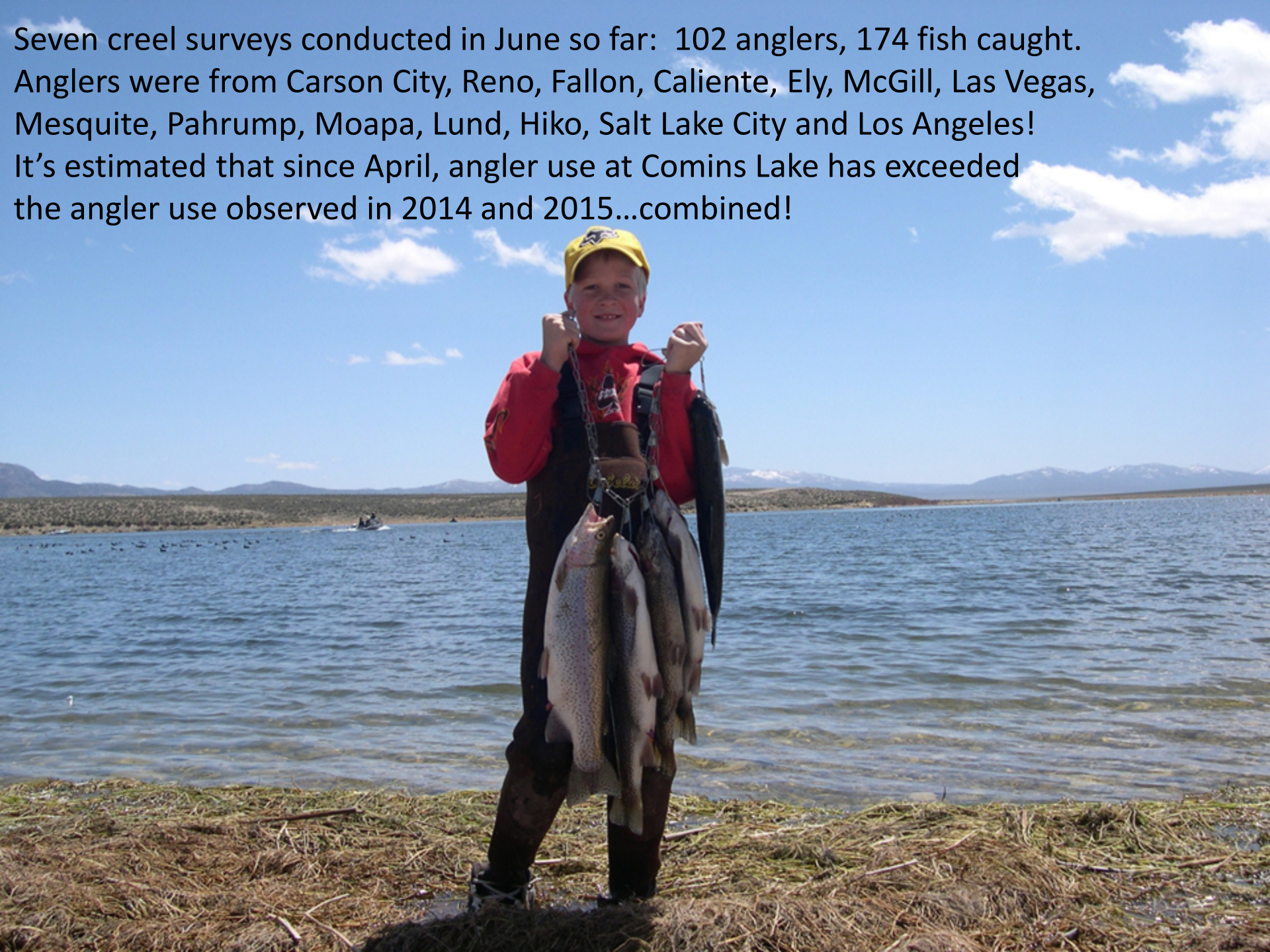
Likely to receive tiger muskie and other warmwater species in 2017

Comins Lake

Water quality issues (high pH) precluded stocking of Comins Lake in 2015. In April and May of 2016, Comins received 4,700 broodstock rainbow trout (1.5 lb. avg.) and an additional 10,800 catchable RB (3/lb. avg.). Sixty pre-spawn largemouth bass (14” avg.) were also stocked in May.

Will receive an additional 10,000 catchable RB in fall 2016 and at regular spring / fall intervals thereafter. Additional largemouth bass will be stocked when available.

Seven creel surveys conducted in June so far: 102 anglers, 174 fish caught.
Anglers were from Carson City, Reno, Fallon, Caliente, Ely, McGill, Las Vegas, Mesquite, Pahrump, Moapa, Lund, Hiko, Salt Lake City and Los Angeles!
It's estimated that since April, angler use at Comins Lake has exceeded the angler use observed in 2014 and 2015…combined!



A conservative estimate would be 8,000 to 10,000 angler use days in 2016. There was a total of 560 angler uses days in 2014 and 2015.

The Future?