

Comins & Bassett Lakes Restoration Project

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



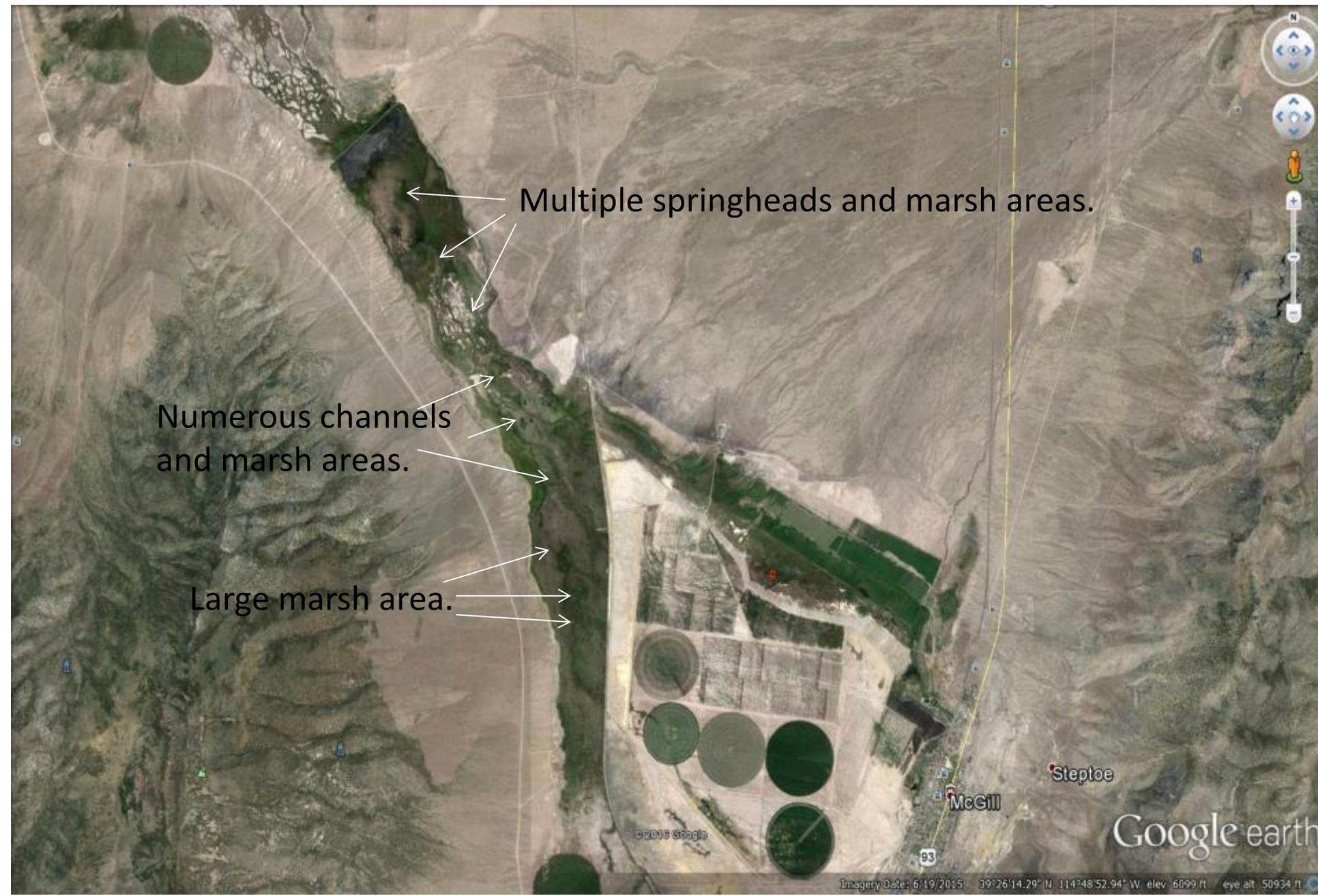
After multiple submissions, the project was approved in 2014 and funding was secured through Sportfish Restoration.

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

A satellite map of Bassett Lake, showing a long, narrow water body with several marshy areas and channels. The map includes several annotations with arrows pointing to specific features. In the upper right, there are navigation controls for Google Earth, including a compass, a person icon, and a zoom slider. In the lower right, there are labels for 'Steptoe', 'McGill', and '93'. At the bottom, there is a copyright notice for Google and a metadata string: 'Imagery Date: 6/19/2015 39°26'14.29" N 114°48'52.94" W elev. 6099 ft eye alt. 50934 ft'.

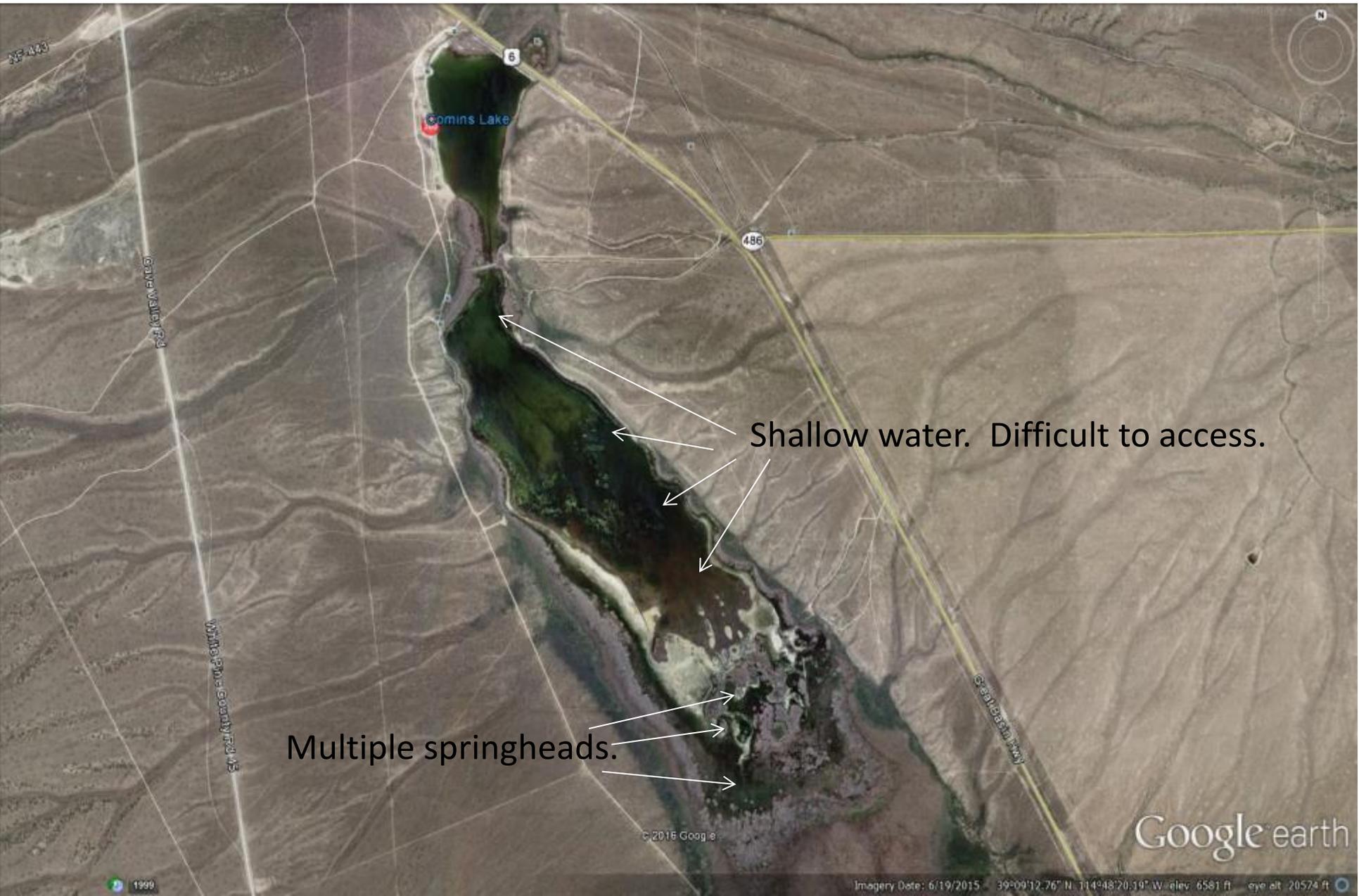
Multiple springheads and marsh areas.

Numerous channels and marsh areas.

Large marsh area.

Google earth

Comins Lake – August 17-20, 2015



Shallow water. Difficult to access.

Multiple springheads.

Multiple techniques / formulations were required for the application of rotenone



Drip buckets for flowing waters.

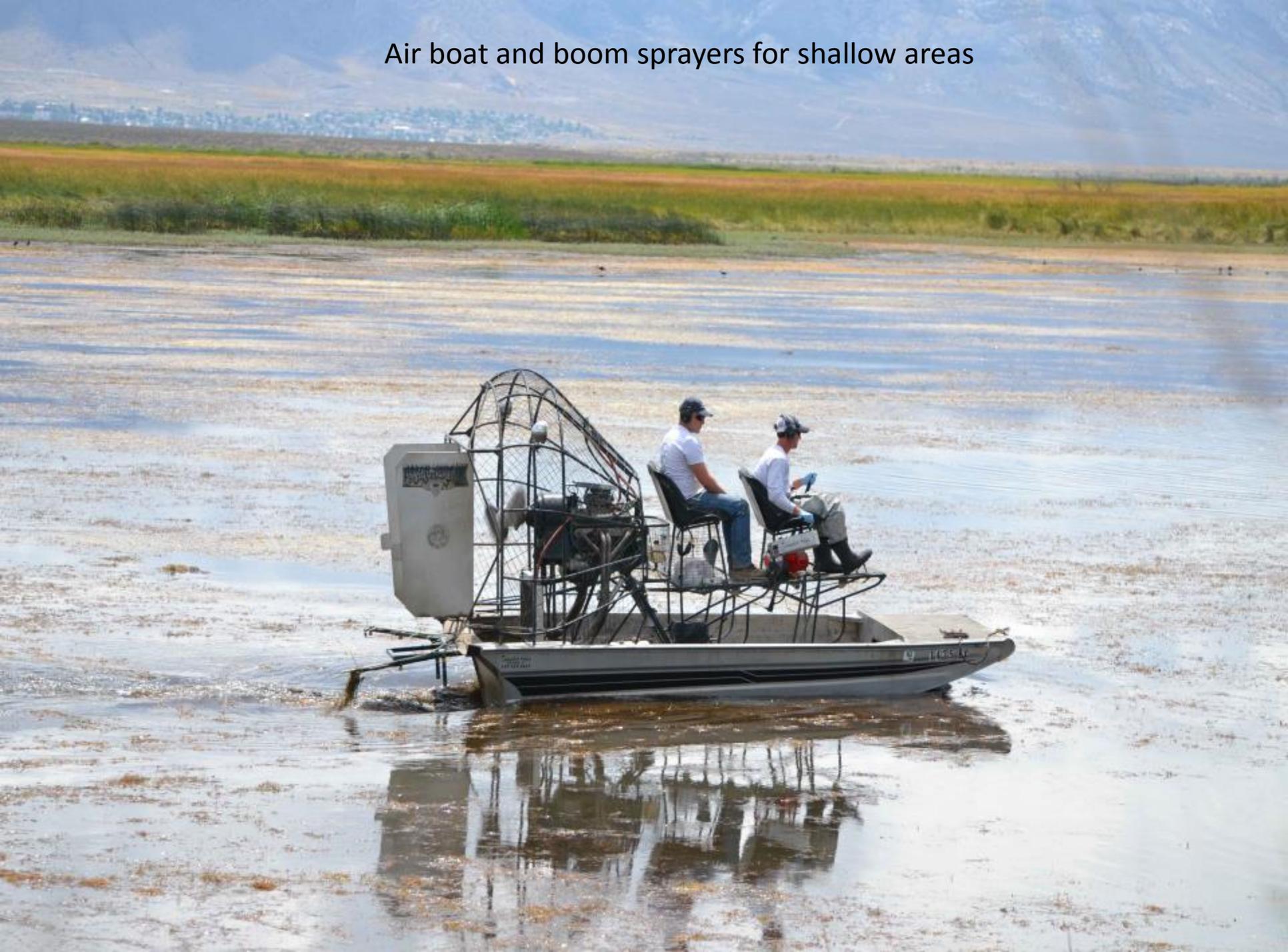
Multiple sand / spray crews for marshy / backwater areas



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**

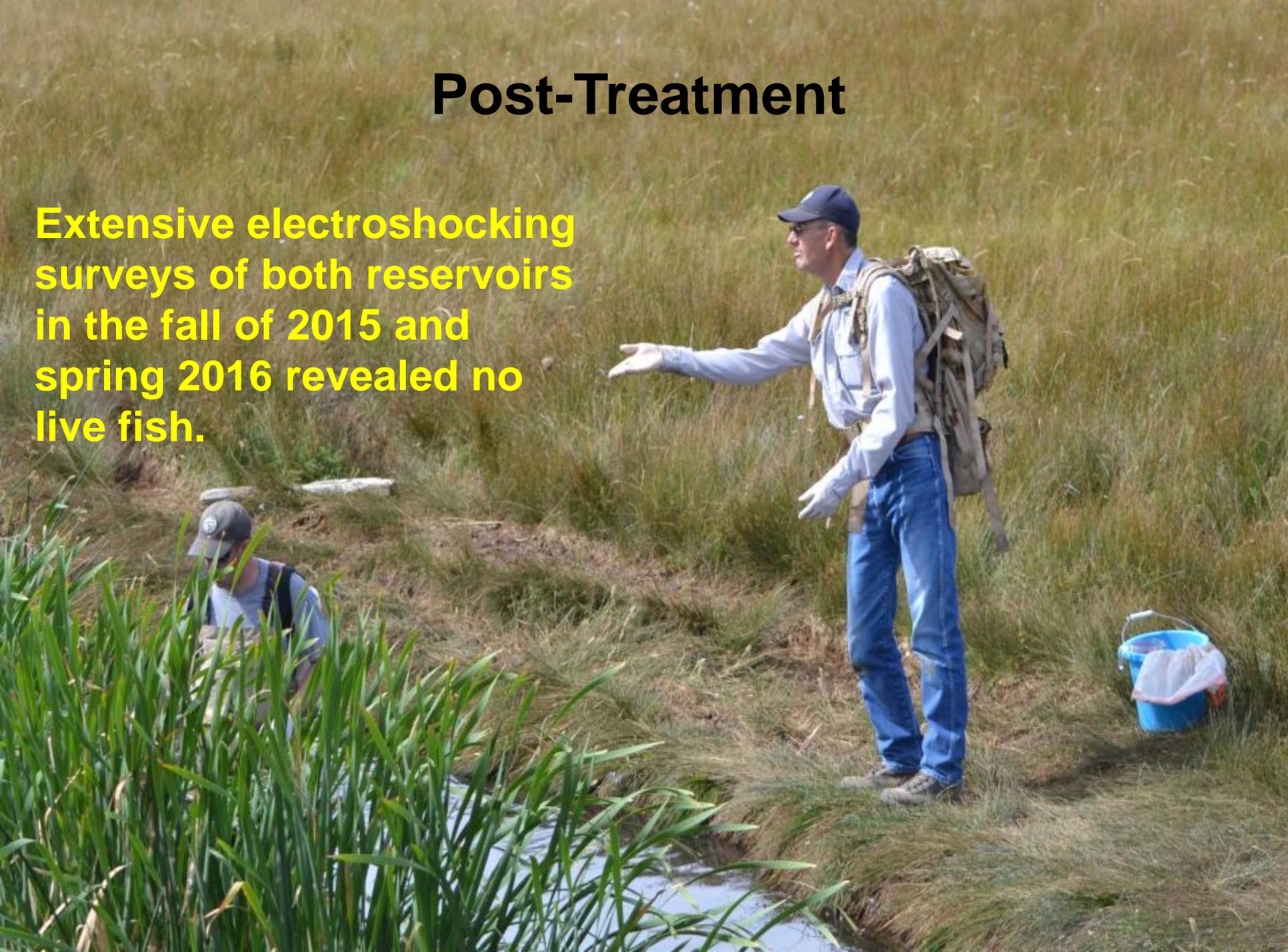
**200 lb. powdered rotenone /
sand / gelatin formulation**

**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



A large truck is shown from the side, dumping a large quantity of fish into a body of water. The fish are falling from the truck's bed, creating a large splash of white water. The water in the foreground is murky brown, while the water in the background is a clear blue. In the distance, there are mountains under a clear blue sky. The truck has a red circular light on its side.

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?

