Status of Yukon River Salmon Genetic Baselines

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Outline

- ADF&G Gene Conservation Laboratory
- Overview of genetic mixed stock analysis and genetic baselines
- Yukon River Chinook salmon baseline
- Yukon River coho salmon baseline
- Questions

Gene Conservation Laboratory

• The mission of the Gene Conservation Laboratory is to protect genetic resources and provide genetic information and advice to department staff, policy makers, and the public to support management of resources consistent with the mission of Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

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- The mission of the Gene Conservation Laboratory is to protect genetic resources and provide genetic information and advice to department staff, policy makers, and the public to support management of resources consistent with the mission of Alaska Department of Fish and Game.
 - Through our extensive sampling efforts over a broad geography, we maintain and develop improved genetic baselines for species, which are then used to understand the structure of populations, estimate the composition of mixed stock fishery harvests, and provide advice on the potential genetic effect of human activities on fish populations.

Salmon return to their natal stream to spawn















Genetic Baselines



- 1. Populations
- 2. Genetic markers



- 1. Populations
 - Pops
 - Baseline collections
 - Spawning aggregates
- 2. Genetic markers
 - Loci, locus
 - SNPs, SNP, "snip"
 - Microsatellite, uSAT
 - Marker set, panel



- 1. Populations
- 2. Genetic markers



Reporting groups ("stocks")



Genetic Stock Identification (GSI)

- Mixed stock analysis (MSA)
- Individual Assignment (IA)



Mixed stock analysis

 Stock composition estimates are produced by comparing the genetic composition of a set of samples to the known genetic compositions of populations within the drainage (i.e., "genetic baseline")



Mixed stock analysis

1. Sample



Mixed stock analysis

- 1. Sample
- 2. Compare





Mixed stock analysis

- 1. Sample
- 2. Compare
- 3. Report

Lower Yukon	= 17%
Middle Yukon	= 17%
Upper Yukon	= 66%



Mixed stock analysis

- 1. Sample
- 2. Compare
- 3. Report

Lower Yukon	= 17% (CI: 12-21%)
Middle Yukon	= 17% (CI: 14-20%)
Upper Yukon	= 66% (CI: 61-68%)



Yukon River (in-river projects)

- Chinook salmon
 - ADF&G Update
- Coho salmon
 - ADF&G Update
- Chum salmon
 - > USFWS









Why Update Genetic Baselines?

Yukon River salmon

Genetic stock estimates are only as good as the baseline used for analysis





Technology and efficiency



Chinook Salmon: Baseline Improvements

1. Populations



Chinook Salmon: Baseline Improvements

- 1. Populations
- 2. Genetic Markers

Molecular Ecology Resources (2015) 15, 855-867

doi: 10.1111/1755-0998.12357

Genotyping-in-Thousands by sequencing (GT-seq): A cost effective SNP genotyping method based on custom amplicon sequencing

NATHAN R. CAMPBELL, STEPHANIE A. HARMON and SHAWN R. NARUM Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission, 3059F National Fish Hatchery Road, Hagerman, ID 83332,USA



Chinook Salmon: Baseline Improvements

- 1. Populations
 - 36 → 50
- 2. Genetic Markers
 - 41 → 380



- Lower Yukon (US)
- Middle Yukon (US)
 - Koyukuk
 - Tanana
 - Upper US
- Upper Yukon (Canada)



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- Lower Yukon (US)
- Middle Yukon (US)
 - Koyukuk
 - Tanana
 - Upper US
- Upper Yukon (Canada)



Chinook Salmon Baseline: Applications

- Pilot Station inseason and postseason
 - Brood tables, total run, escapement, harvest, treaty obligations
- Radiotelemetry (tagging)
- Fish health and condition
- Bering Sea juveniles



Chinook Salmon: Pilot Station GSI





Coho Salmon: Baseline Development

- 1. Populations: 17
- 2. Genetic Markers: 234



Baseline Improvements

- Lower Yukon (US)
- Tanana (US)
- Upper Yukon (Canada)



Baseline Improvements

- Lower Yukon (US)
- Tanana (US)
- Upper Yukon (Canada)


Summary of Genetic Baseline Improvements

Greater representation of major salmon systems

More genetic markers to capture genetic variation

Improved genetic stock identification accuracy and precision

Improved performance for research and management applications



Acknowledgements

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Questions: elizabeth.lee@alaska.gov

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Extra slides....

Chum salmon (in-river): USFWS

FLANNERY ET AL.



Stock	Label	Seasonal race	Management region	Country	Year(s)	N
Andreafsky River	1	Summer	Lower	USA	1987, 2004	261
Chulinak River	2	Summer	Lower	USA	1989	100
Anvik River	3	Summer	Lower	USA	1988	100
California Creek	4	Summer	Lower	USA	1997	50
Nulato River	5	Summer	Lower	USA	2003	100
Gisasa River	6	Summer	Lower	USA	2003	200
Henshaw Creek	7	Summer	Lower	USA	2003	200
Jim River	8	Summer	Lower	USA	2002	160
South Fork Koyukuk River early	9	Summer	Lower	USA	1996	100
South Fork Koyukuk River late	10	Summer	Lower	USA	1996	100
Melozitna River	11	Summer	Lower	USA	2003	146
Tozitna River	12	Summer	Lower	USA	2002	200
Chena River	13	Summer	Tanana River	USA	1992, 1994	186
Salcha River	14	Summer	Tanana River	USA	1994, 2001	185
Delta River	15	Fall	Tanana River	USA	1990	80
Kantishna River	16	Fall	Tanana River	USA	2001	161
Toklat River	17	Fall	Tanana River	USA	1990, 1994	250
Big Salt River	18	Fall	U.S. border	USA	2001	71
Chandalar River	19	Fall	U.S. border	USA	1989, 2001	338
Sheenjek River	20	Fall	U.S. border	USA	1987, 1988, 1989	263
Black River	21	Fall	U.S. border	USA	1995, 2001	112
Fishing Branch River	22	Fall	Porcupine River	Canada	1987, 1989, 1992, 1994, 1997	481
Big Creek	23	Fall	Main stem	Canada	1992, 1995	200
Minto Slough	24	Fall	Main stem	Canada	1989, 2002	166
Pelly River	25	Fall	Main stem	Canada	1993	84
Tatchun Creek	26	Fall	Main stem	Canada	1987, 1992	175
Donjek River	27	Fall	White River	Canada	1994	72
Kluane River	28	Fall	White River	Canada	1987, 1992, 2001	462
Teslin River	29	Fall	Teslin River	Canada	1992, 2001	143

TABLE 1.—Yukon River chum salmon baseline, identifying stock location, stock label, seasonal race, management region, country, sample collection years, and number of fish sampled (N) from 29 putative stocks.

Mixed Stock Analysis vs Individual Assignment

- Mixed stock analysis (MSA):
 - Proportional assignment
 - Every fish assigned
 - Appropriate for finer-scale groups
 - Assigns best fit of full mixture
- Individual assignment (IA):
 - Assigns each fish individually to group with highest likelihood
 - Only fish above likelihood cut-off are assigned (we use 80%)
 - May not be appropriate for finer-scale groups



Considerations for Genetic Stock ID

- What are the research questions that could use genetic data?
 - Stock-specific abundance
 - Linking diet, condition factor, environmental data, otolith information, etc.
- Defining appropriate reporting groups
 - Importance of stakeholder input
 - What is in the baseline? Is representation adequate?
 - Fine-scale vs broad-scale (balancing accuracy with level of detail)
- How well do reporting groups perform for:
 - Mixed stock analysis?
 - Individual assignment?

Describe **accuracy** and **precision** with four measures:

- 1. root mean square error
- 2. mean bias
- 3. maximum percentage from the true proportion where 90% of mean point estimates occurred
- 4. percentage of observations where the estimated 90% credible interval contains the true proportion





How different are the true proportions from the estimated proportions?



How different are the true proportions from the estimated proportions?



At least 90% of the estimates should be within ±10% of the true proportion



90% of the test mixtures had estimated proportions within 2.6% of the true proportion

Describe **accuracy** and **precision** with four measures:

- 1. root mean square error
- 2. mean bias
- 3. maximum percentage from the true proportion where 90% of mean point estimates occurred
- 4. percentage of observations where the estimated 90% credible interval contains the true proportion



WAK Chinook Baseline Improvements

Comparison to previous Western Alaska Chinook salmon baseline:

- 6,327 individuals
- 60 populations
- 80 genetic markers \rightarrow
- 506,160 genotypes \rightarrow
- 4 reporting groups \rightarrow

- \rightarrow 11,806 individuals
 - \rightarrow 117 populations
 - 447 genetic markers
 - 5,277,282 genotypes
 - 9 reporting groups







1. Populations



Population structure





Population structure



Canada Yukon Upper US Yukon Lower Yukon Norton Sound Upper Kuskokwim Coastal Western AK North AK Peninsula



Reporting groups



Middle Yukon Lower Yukon Norton **Upper Yukon** Sound (Canada) Coastal Western AK North AK Peninsula

Applications in Western Alaska



Chinook salmon baseline (Coastwide)

Current

- 13 GAPS uSATs (PST)
- 42 SNPs (non-PST)
 - Templin et al. 2011

Current

- 13 GAPS uSATs (PST)
- 43 SNPs (non-PST)
 - Templin et al. 2011
- Regional GT-seq
 - Cook Inlet + WAK

Short-term

- 299 → ~255 SNPs
- CRITFC/IDFG GT-seq v3.0
- 244 populations

Long-term

- Join existing data
- Genotype gaps (BC)

Genetic Stock Composition of Chum Salmon Harvested in Commercial Salmon Fisheries of the South Alaska

Peninsula, 2022

A Report to the Alaska Board of Fisheries

February 2023

Division of Commercial Fisheries

Tyler H. Dann

Oral Report: RC #3; Tab #9

Baseline Summary

Baseline Summary

Baseline Summary

Summary of Harvests among Areas and Gear Types

Summary of Harvests among Areas and Gear Types

Summary of Harvests among Areas and Gear Types

Mixed Stock Analysis

Stock Composition Estimates (%)

Stock-specific Harvest (1,000s of Fish)

Harvest Represented

Stratified Estimates of Stock-Specific Harvest

- Weighted each set of stock composition estimates by represented harvest
- Summed stock-specific harvests hierarchically
- Temporal strata within gear types, areas, months
 - Gear types within areas, months
 - Areas within months
 - Months within June and post-June
 - South Alaska Peninsula as a whole

Guide to Results in Report

- Organizational Tables and Figures
 - Summary of Historical Harvests (Table 1)
 - Summary of WASSIP Estimates (Table 2)
 - Summary of Recent Harvests and Proposed Design (Table 3)
 - Summary of Daily Harvests and Sampling (Tables 5-6, Appendix A1-4)
 - Design of Analysis among Strata (Table 8)
 - Design of Stratified Estimates (Table 4)
 - Laboratory Results (Table 9)

Dann, T. H., H. A. Hoyt, E. M. Lee, E. K. C. Fox, and M. B. Foster. 2023. Genetic stock composition of chum salmon harvested in commercial salmon fisheries of the South Alaska Peninsula, 2022. Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Special Publication No. 23-07, Anchorage. https://www.adfg.alaska.gov/FedAidPDFs/SP23-07.pdf

Conclusions

- Total 2022 South Pen Harvest: 817,279 chum
 - 78% of 10-year average
- June: 544,137 (67% of total South Peninsula)
 - Majority in June Unimak Seine (321,875 40% of total)
 - Groups > 5%: Asia (315,162 58%), CWAK (96,466 18%) and East of Kodiak (72,812 13%)
- Post-June: 270,142 (33% of total South Peninsula)
 - Majority in July SE/SC Seine (126,102 15% of total)
 - Groups > 5%: South Peninsula (95,237 35%), East of Kodiak (65,242 24%), Chignik/Kodiak (60,864 23%), and Asia (30,674 11%)
- Stock-specific harvest used to inform harvest rate analysis

Key Summary Results Asia and Coastal Western Alaska

Genotyping Output CY 2022

Species	Baseline	Mixture	Parentage	Exp/Forensic	Total
Bear				61	61
A. Grayling	190				190
N. Pike	1,026				1,026
B. Rockfish	95				95
Chinook	12,884	12,457	1,771		27,112
Chum		10,608			10,608
Coho	2,951				2,951
Pink	858	101	29,793	9,671	40,423
Sockeye	10,597	24,349			34,946
Grand Total	28,601	47,515	31,564	9,671	117,412

Sampling, Archiving, and Opportunistic Sampling



