

### **Micro-Jacks and mini-Jacks: a tail of early male maturation**

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Variability in age at maturation is a common theme in Chinook salmon life histories, including spring Chinook salmon from the Yakima Basin. Larsen and colleagues have described the magnitude and variation in the production of mini-Jacks (mature at age 2) at the Cle Elum Supplementation and Research Facility (CESRF) and mini-Jacks are commonly produced (20 – 40% of all males released). Micro-jacks (mature at age-1) are not commonly found at CESRF but are often found near spawning areas in the Yakima River. We will describe an experiment in which the proportions of male Yakima River spring Chinook salmon maturing at age-1 and age-2 were varied due to alterations in emergence timing and differing growth rates. In particular, we will examine whether the total number of males maturing precociously (age 1 + age 2) vary between treatments; thus, addressing the hypothesis that suggests that the total proportion of males maturing precociously is a fixed proportion of the population.