Homing patterns of hatchery-reared and wild Yakima River Spring Chinook salmon

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Outline

-Homing and imprinting

-The role of satellite acclimation facilities in supplementation and salmon recovery

-The YKFP project

-Homing patterns of Yakima Spring chinook

Spring chinook salmon: imprinting and homing

Homing to the natal site, acclimation site; Spawning site selection; Mate choice

> Homing to the natal watershed; holding areas



Presumed sensitive periods for imprinting

Smolting: sensitive period for imprinting; transfer to acclimation sites

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-Homing and imprinting

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The growing role of acclimation facilities in supplementation programs



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Yakima River Spring chinook population



YKFP Spring chinook supplementation research program















Objectives

Identify and compare the spatial and temporal patterns of homing in wild/naturally spawning vs. hatchery-reared fish

-Efficacy of Acclimation

-Recolonization of underutilized habitat

- -Wild vs. Hatchery
- -Pre- vs. post supplementation

Methods

Comprehensive surveys of upper Yakima Basin

<u>Carcasses</u>

- -GPS location (3 m accuracy); date
- -hatchery/wild
- -male/female; jack, precocious
- -length, scale
- -tag location, recovery
- -egg retention; disease
- -dna, otolith
- -carcass mark/recapture
- -goo factor



Redds

- -Yakama biologists survey and flag (color coded by date) all redds in upper Yakima
- GPS mapping of all redds in the upper Yakima at end of spawning season

















Results

Wild vs. Hatchery Efficacy of Acclimation

Carcass % recovery rates

	2002	2003	2004
Total	2112/8091(26.1)	655/3258 (20.1)	3025/10187 (31.9)
Hatchery Adults	1508/6112 (24.7)	337/1036 (32.5)	935/2876 (32.5)
Wild Adults	395/1820 (21.7)	107/394 (27.2)	1909/6436 (29.7)
Hatchery Jacks	9/71 (12.6)	146/1105 (7.6)	33/204 (16.2)
Wild Jacks	3/89 (3.4)	57/723 (7.8)	73/671 (10.9)

Carcass survey data summary

<u>2002</u>

	Male	Female	Jack	MJ/PP
Hatchery	530 (34.9)	978 (64.4)	9 (0.6)	1(0.1)
	(35.1)	(64.9)		
Wild	169 (42.5)	226 (56.8)	3 (0.7)	0
	(42.8)	(57.2)		
		<u>2003</u>		
	Male	Female	Jack	MJ/PP
Hatchery	119 (24.6)	218 (45.1)	146 (30.3)	0
·	(35.3)	(64.7)		
Wild	51 (31.1)	56 (34.1)	57 (34.8)	0
	(47.7)	(52.3)		
		<u>2004</u>		
	Male	Female	Jack	MJ/PP
Hatchery	362 (37.6)	567 (58.9)	33 (3.4)	1(0.1)
-	(39.0)	(61.0)		
Wild	871 (44.0)	1032 (52.1)	73 (3.7)	3(0.2)
	(45.8)	(54.2)		





Results

Wild vs. Hatchery Efficacy of Acclimation

Easton 2002



Easton 2003



Easton 2004



Jack Creek 2002



Jack Creek 2003



Jack Creek 2004



Clark Flat 2002



Clark Flat 2003



Clark Flat 2004



Upper Yakima River Spring Chinook Distribution





Conclusions

- -Salmon can/do imprint and home to release sites (although spatial scales vary); relaxed home site fidelity
- -Tradeoffs between home site and habitat quality
- -Even moderate hatchery "straying" could impact wild fish (Cle Elum R.)
- -Hatchery-reared fish do not (yet) "colonize" all reaches utilized by wild fish

Acclimation does increase number of spawners in underutilized habitat

Future studies

- 1) Continue mapping of homing and spawning locations of wild and YKFP supplementation salmon (e.g. interannual variation; density dependence, habitat changes)
- 2) Linkages between homing and habitat in spawning site selection
- **3**) Assess efficacy of acclimation/off site release in recolonization of underutilized habitat (Experimental manipulations e.g. direct release, time of acclimation; reproductive success of Teanaway fish)
- 4) Physiological and behavioral (radiotelemetry) assessments of imprinting and homing







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