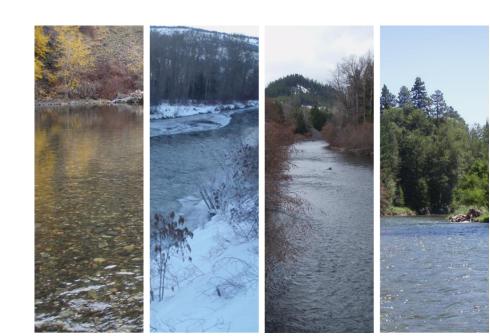
Yakima River Spring Chinook Competition and Capacity

Christopher Johnson, Trenton De Boer, Nick Mankus, Tim Webster

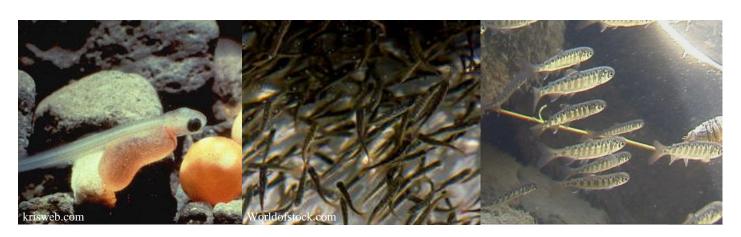
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife Ecological Interactions Team Ellensburg, Washington



Spring Chinook competition and capacity history/project goals

- -Monitor for density dependant constraints to the population following supplementation.
- -Identify factors which are potentially limiting to the population

Life-stage specific



Egg-to-fry

Fry-to-parr

Parr-to-smolt

Comp-Capacity



- Early survival, developmental rates, emergence timing
 - WDFW/NOAA; Johnson et. al (2012); Roni et. al (2016)



- Post-emergence movement and spring growth trajectories; Summer habitat utilization; Territorial response
 - BPA reports: C. Johnson; T. De Boer; N. Mankus, T. Pearsons



Fall PIT-tagging (today's presentation)

Fall PIT-tagging

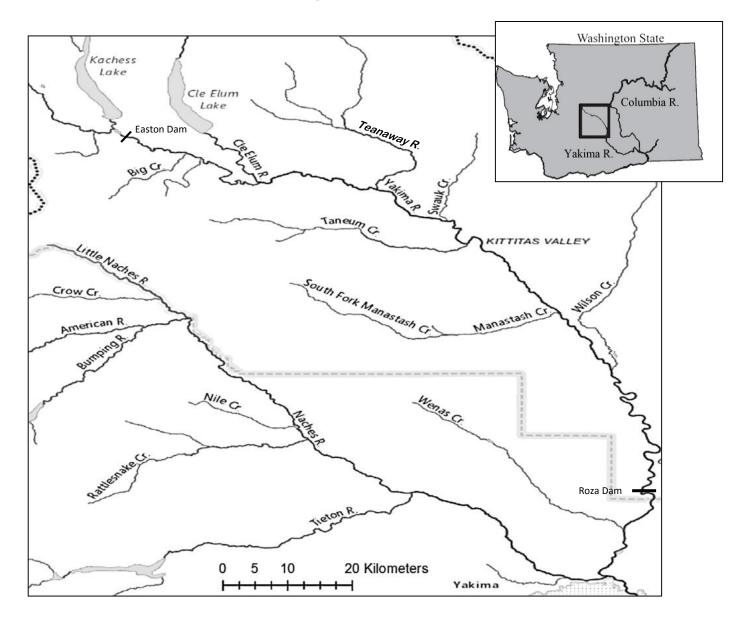
Overall goals:

 Investigate potential differences in fall tagging size and condition, migration timing, or survival-to-adult of Yakima River spring Chinook salmon, attributable to spatial differences in pre-tagging emergence and/or areas of rearing.

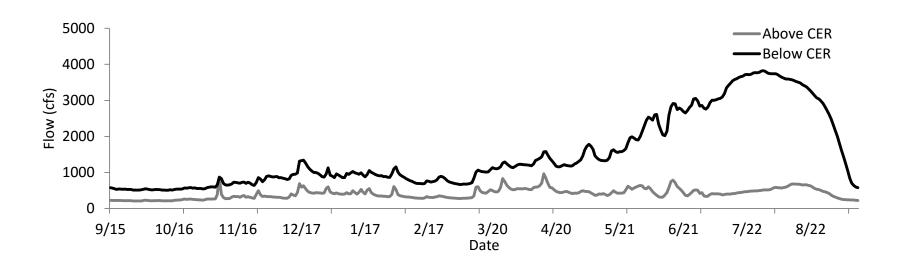
Specific metrics:

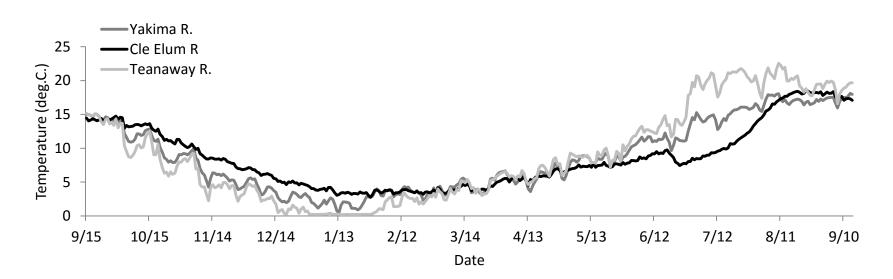
- Size and condition at tagging (fall)
- Migration timing by reach
- Seasonal migration (winter migrants)
- Relative adult return rate, by reach, and also between the Yakima and Naches basins.

Study Area



Key environmental factors



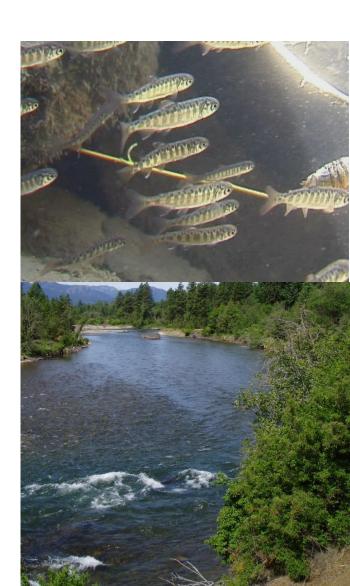


Chinook tagging

- ~ 4500 tags/year
- 151 main-stem Yakima/Naches and primary tributary collection sites; at 1.0 km intervals

• Years: 2011-2015

Reach	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
CLE	222	200	207	200	218
MST	247	195	200	200	231
NACH	534	2157	1957	1916	1665
YAK	3136	2228	2291	2033	2606
Total	4139	4780	4655	4349	4720



Downstream detection

Dam.Predation.Array.Location	N	Julian	ci	Diff from Roz	Columbia rkm
Roza	46	70.8	5.6	0	753.5
Prosser	170	108.5	3.2	37.7	615.3
McNary	132	120.5	1.8	49.6	470
John Day	113	124.1	1.9	53.3	348
Bonneville (BCC)	16	122.8	6.0	52.0	234
Bonneville (B2J)	24	130.7	3.9	59.9	234



Initial assumptions:

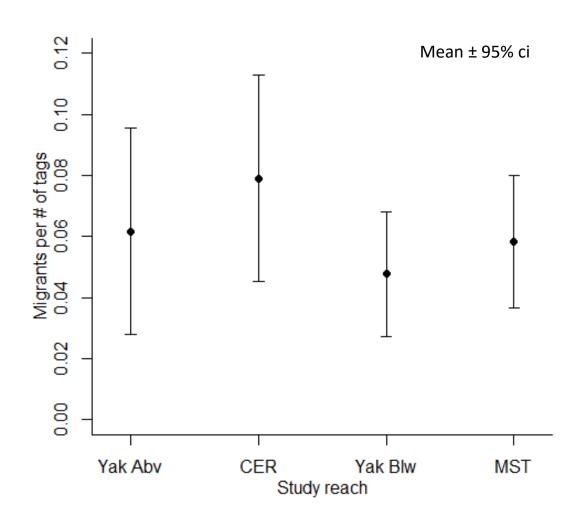
- -Single age-class migration
- -Equal effects of variable detection efficiency with similar migration timing
- -High detection probability of returning adults

<u>Interpretive context:</u>

- -Data do not account for pre-tagging movement.
- -Results are preliminary as the analysis is ongoing

Detection Rates

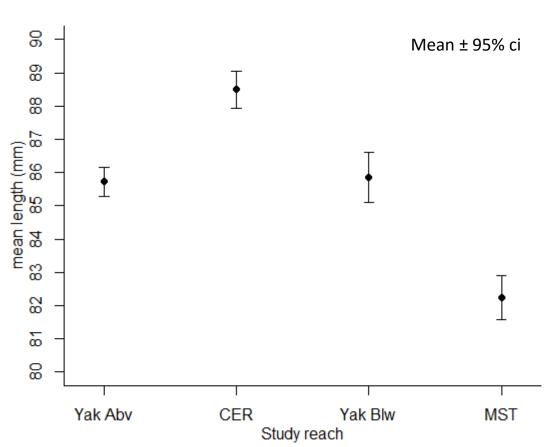






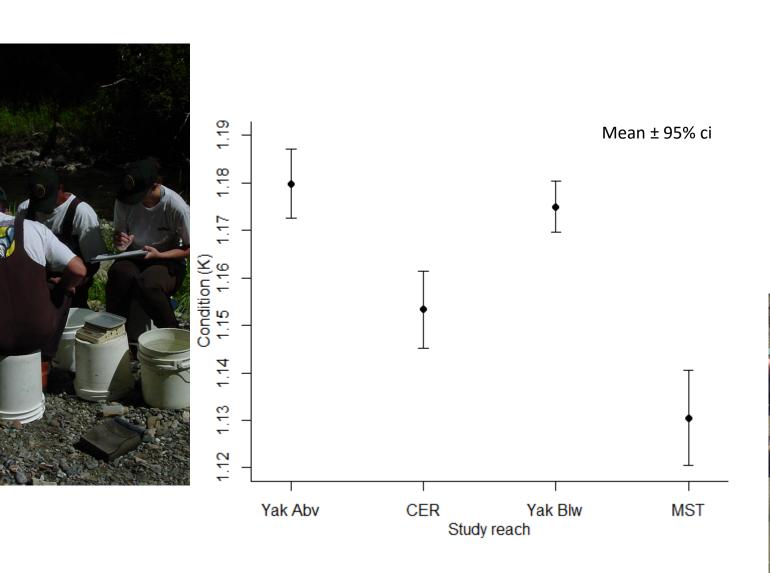
Length -fall tagging





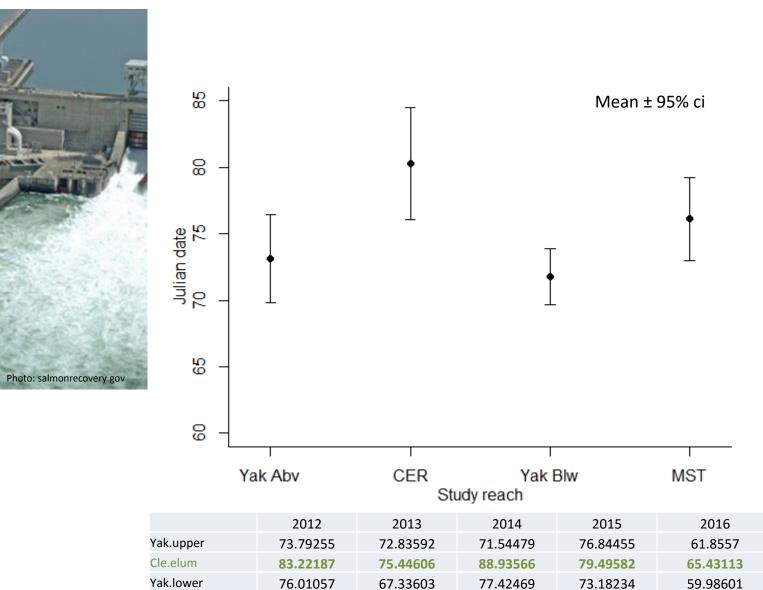


Condition -fall tagging





Migration Timing



71.22514

78.28526

75.62481

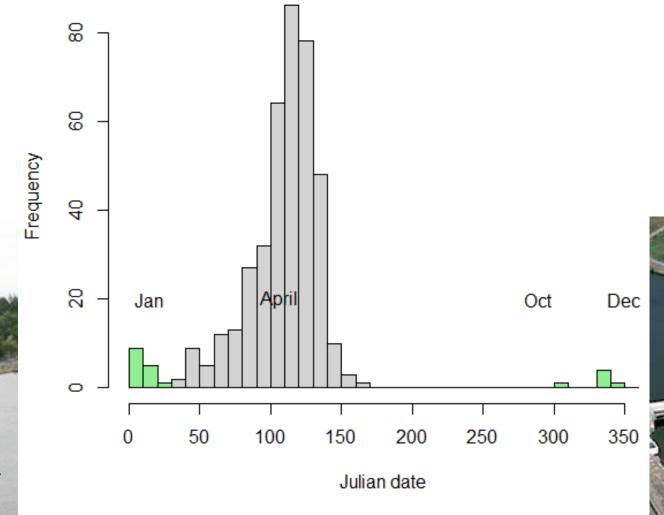
66.58302

77.627

MST



Migration Timing



Roza

Photo: usbor.gov



Photo: www.biomark.com

Yakima River Adult Returns

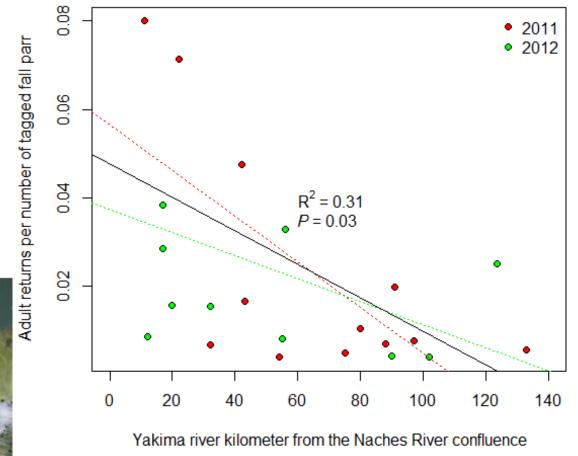


Photo: goodfoodworld.com



Return Rate Yakima vs. Naches Basin

Year	System	Tag count	Adult count	Detected return rate (%)
2011	Naches	534	0	0
2011	Yakima	4319	24	0.556
2012	Naches	2485	11	0.443
2012	Yakima	3123	16	0.512

2012 Naches vs. Yakima, Fisher's test; *P* = 0.85



Preliminary Results

- Fall size and condition differ at the reach scale
- Migration timing also appears to differ significantly, and consistently at the reach scale
- A significant number of parr may overwinter below Prosser.
- Adult return data suggest some relation between tagging location and survival to adult
- Low number of tagged adult returns suggest the need for additional tags for any future Naches/Yakima system comparisons.



Future Work

- Further investigation of reach-scale spatial and temporal size and migration trends
- Evaluate additional adult returns from 2013-15 tagging efforts
- Passive fall and winter detection of tagged in-basin parr to evaluate movement and overwintering habitat







Acknowledgments

- WDFW: Anthony Fritts, WDFW tagging crews: Scott Coil, Zach Lessig, Cade Linquist, Alex Hedrick, Ryan Steele, Ryan Fifield, Tommy Wachholder, Jeff Bates, Jonathan Hegna, Casey Green, Dan Skillman, Seth Shy, Charles Coon, Zack Mays, Dylan Tipps, Kyle Hatch.
- YN: Dave Fast, Mark Johnston
- BPA: Patty Smith, Michelle O'Malley



