Does acclimation and spawning site affect reproductive success of Upper Yakima River spring Chinook?

Hayley Nuetzel & Ilana Koch YBSM Conference 2023

Project Collaborators

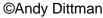






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Project Objective

- In the Yakima basin, hatchery-origin Chinook demonstrate lower reproductive success than natural-origin Chinook (spawn years 2007-2011; Koch et al., 2022).
- In other systems, reduced reproductive success by hatchery-origin fish has been linked to spawning in suboptimal habitat that is adjacent to smolt release sites (Hoffnagle et al., 2008; Williamson et al. 2010; Ford et al., 2016; Hughes & Murdoch, 2017).
- If we could link spawn/acclimation site carcass data with reproductive success data, then we may uncover a potential mechanism for reduced productivity in the Upper Yakima.

Methods

- Received DNA from carcasses sampled in 2007-2010 by Andy Dittman & crew
- Then matched these individual samples to the RRS dataset by:
 - 1. PIT tags
 - 2. Genetic duplicate
 - a. Only "goo factor" = 1 (i.e., least degraded)
- Ran GLM models to determine if spawning site predicts reproductive success



Yakima River Acc Sites

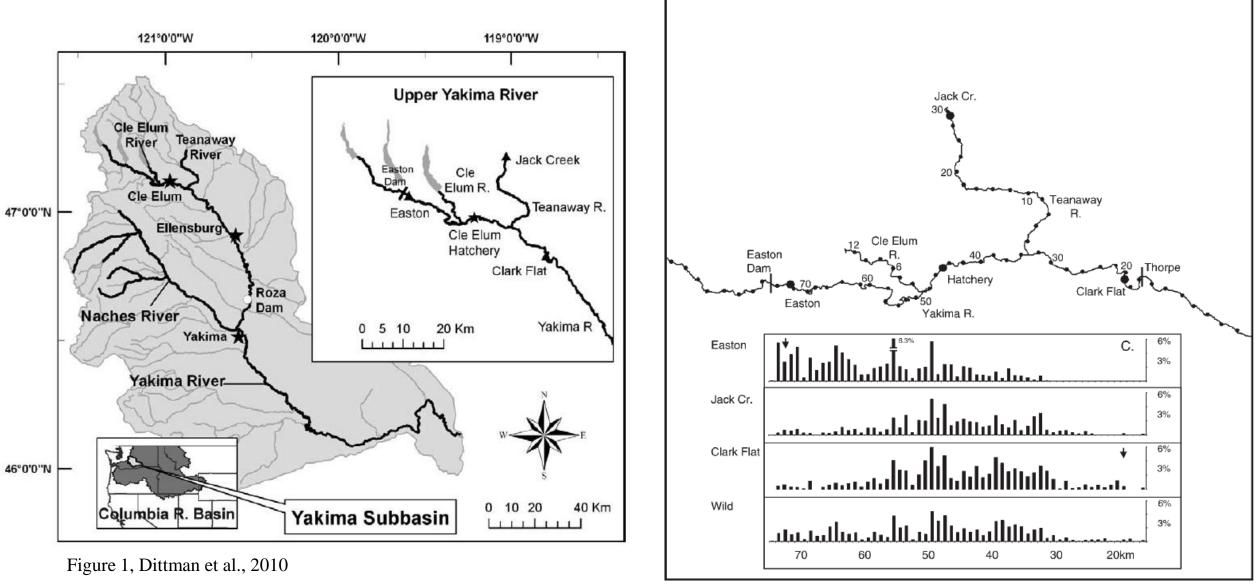
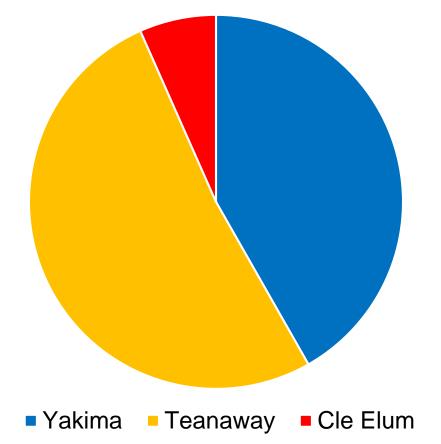


Figure 4, Dittman et al., 2010

Sample Sizes

- 239 samples matched via PIT tag
- Successfully genotyped 55% of the least degraded samples (n=177).
 - Out of 177, we genetically matched 168 to fish in Roza database with RS estimate
- Samples that matched via PIT + genetics with an RS value = 407 total:
 - 2007 = 59
 - 2008 = 22
 - 2009 = 48
 - 2010 = 278

No. Samples per Spawn Site

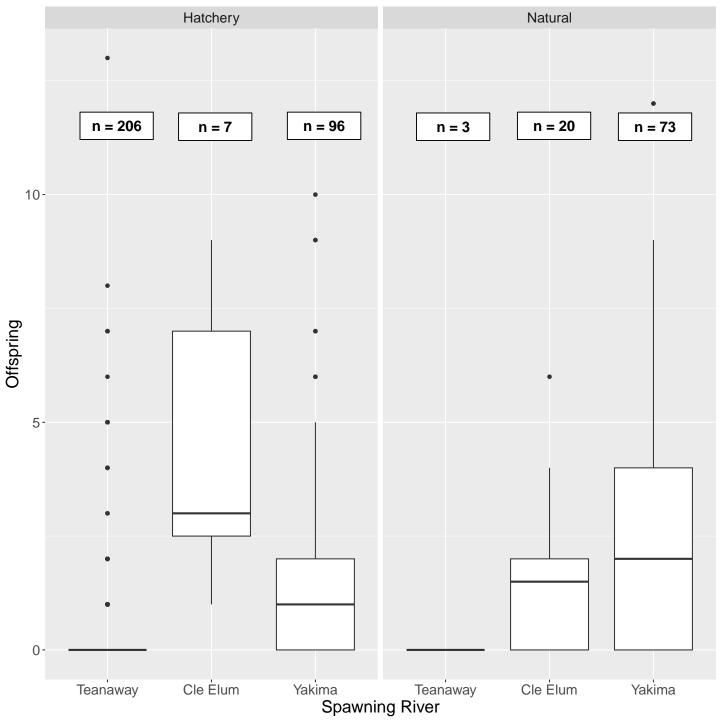


Results – Spawn Site

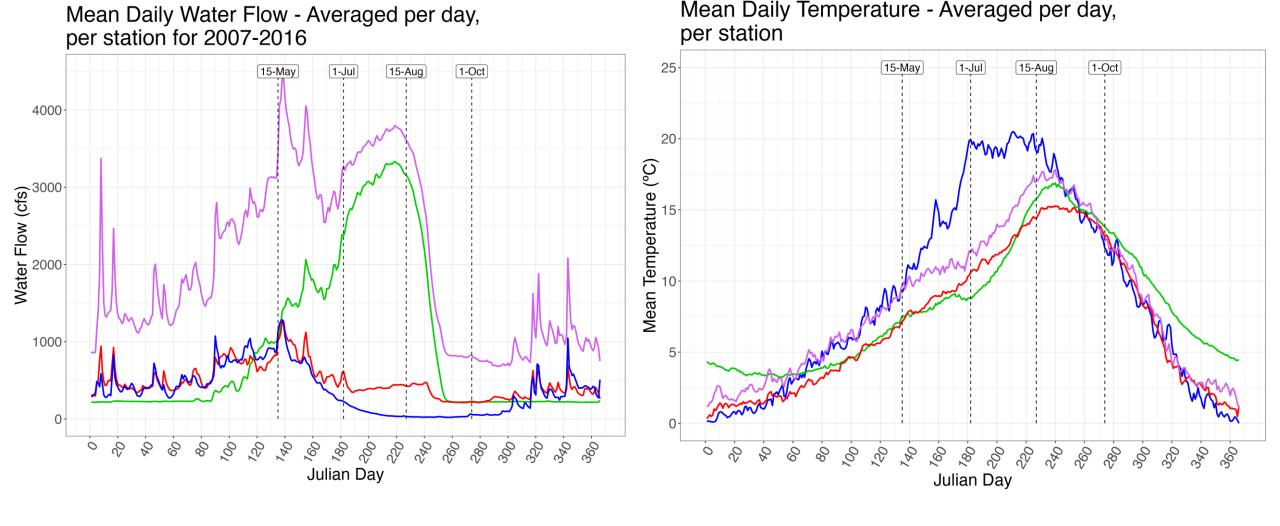
- Best fitting GLM for predicting reproductive success included terms:
 - Spawning River (Teanaway significantly lower than other rivers)
 - Sampling Year (2007 significantly higher than all other years)
 - Sex & Origin (neither significant)

Mean RS by Spawn Site & Origin

| | Teanaway | Cle Elum | Yakima |
|----------|----------|----------|--------|
| Hatchery | 0.64 | 4.57 | 1.68 |
| Natural | 0.00 | 1.55 | 2.40 |



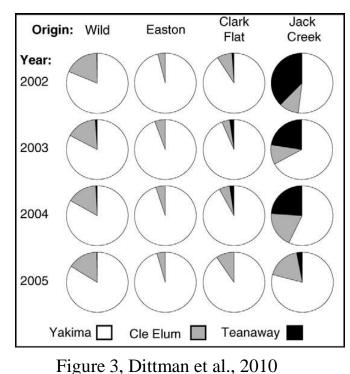
Teanaway River – Environmental Conditions

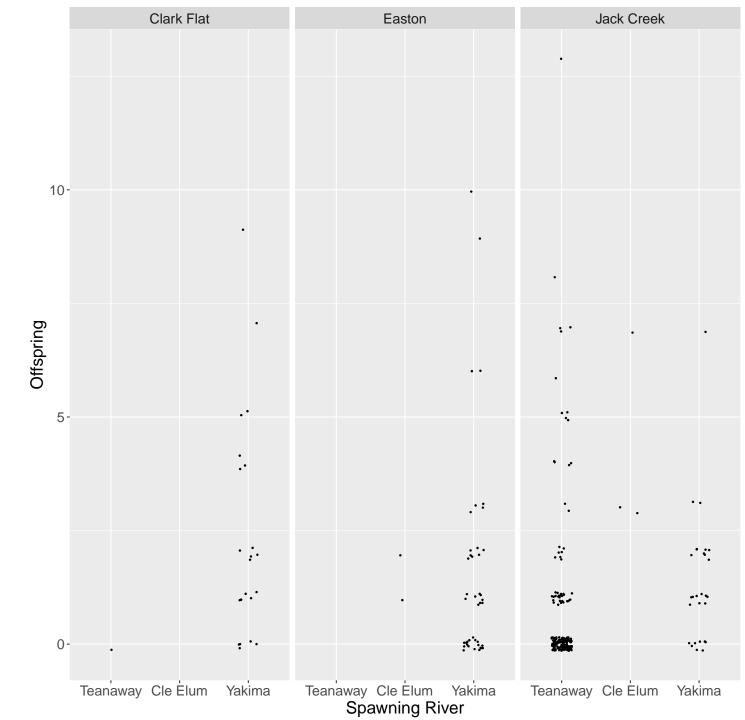


Cle Elum River — Yakima at Easton — Teanaway River at Forks/Red Bridge — Yakima River at Horlick

Results – Acc Site

- Teanaway River largely used by Jack Creek acclimated fish (N=198):
 - 28 spawned in Yakima main
 - 3 spawned in Cle Elum River





Did Teanaway spawners affect the RS of hatcheryorigin fish?

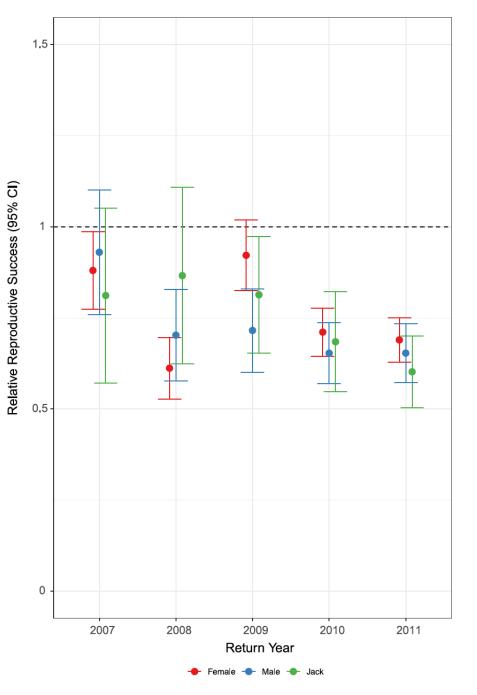
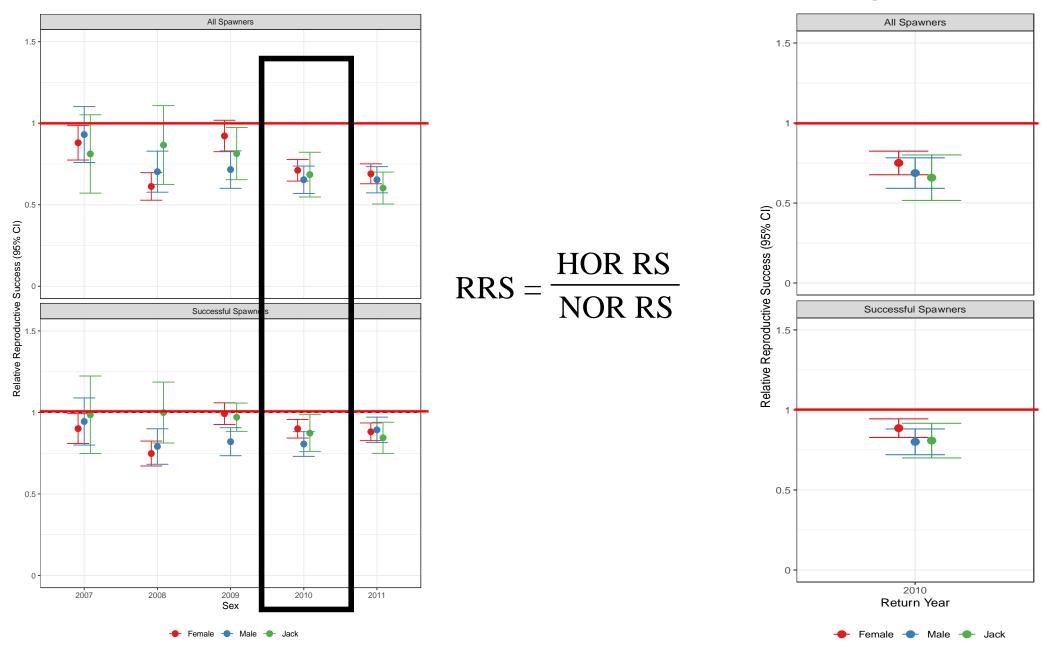


Figure 3, Koch et al., 2022

2022 Publication

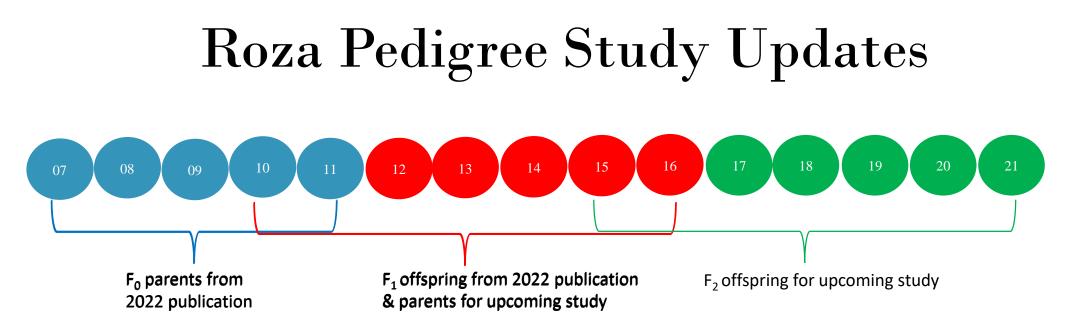


After removing Jack Creek Fish

Conclusions

- Fish spawning in the Teanaway demonstrate lower reproductive success.
 - However, sample sizes were small and unbalanced.
- Removal of Jack Creek fish in SY2010 did not affect RRS inference.
- Additional mechanisms and/or interactions may be important
 - Spawn site x spawn year
 - Length
 - Return day
- Patterns post restoration?



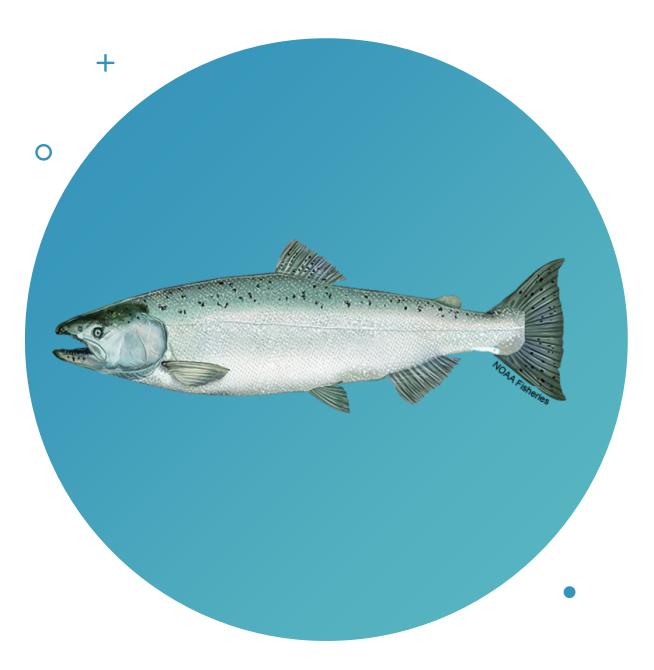


• Primary questions for upcoming study:

- Results suggest that RS decreases in the first generation (F_0) for NOR fish when mating with HOR fish in nature.
 - When their offspring return to spawn (F_1) , do they continue to show decreases in RS (F_2) ?
 - How many grandoffspring will 2007-2011 HOR fish produce compared to NOR fish?
- Results also showed that supplementation increased overall abundance of fish spawning naturally on the spawning grounds.
 - Does the demographic boost from supplementation, even after accounting for the lower RS of HOR fish, continue to show increases in natural production as supplementation proceeds across multiple generations?

Roza Pedigree Study Updates

- New approach using both SNPPIT and CKMRsim
- Reran ALL of the Yakima data so that we could compare concordance between our published results and this current analysis (N~52k assignments)
 - Preliminary results showed over 95% concordance (99% when comparing whether at least one parent matched across both analyses).
- For now, assignments have only been trimmed based on analysis parameters, such as LOD, mismatches, and FDR.
- Plan to produce RRS estimates using statistical models (negative binomial hurdle model; Nuetzel et al., 2022)



Questions?

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River Gauge Info

| Name | Lat | Long | WA DOE Station | BOR Station | Source | Water Temp Years |
|---|---------|---------|-------------------|----------------|--------------|--|
| | | | | | | •••••• |
| Yakima River near Horlick Siphon | 47.124 | -120.74 | 39A073 | YRWW | BOR & WA DOE | 9/19/11 - 4/1/16 |
| Yakima River near Easton | 47.2401 | -121.18 | 39A095 | EASW | BOR & WA DOE | 4/1/07 - 4/1/16 |
| Teanaway at Forks near Cle Elum | 47.2456 | -120.86 | NA | TNAW | BOR | NA |
| Teanaway at Red Bridge Road | 47.2007 | -120.78 | 39D110 | NA | WA DOE | 7/14/14 - 10/5/14, 2/25/15 - 12/31/15, 2016, 1/1/17 - 10/1/17 |
| Cle Elum Reservoir, River & Weather Station | 47.2456 | -121.07 | NA | CLE | BOR | 4/1/07 - 4/1/16 |

VIE Tagging Scheme

| Year | Jack Creek | Easton | Clark Flat |
|------|---------------|--------|---------------|
| 2002 | Green | Orange | Red |
| 2003 | Orange | Green | Red |
| 2004 | Green | Orange | Red |
| 2005 | Orange | Green | Red |
| 2006 | Orange | Green | Red |
| 2007 | Orange | Green | Red |
| 2008 | Green | Orange | Red |
| 2009 | Orange | Green | Red |
| 2010 | Orange | Green | Red |
| 2011 | Orange | Green | Red |
| 2012 | Orange | Green | Red |
| 2013 | Orange | Green | Red |
| 2014 | Orange | Green | Red |
| 2015 | Orange | Green | Red |
| 2016 | Orange | Green | Red |

