MTA Mark Recovery Lab, Juneau Process and Progress Report

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Overview

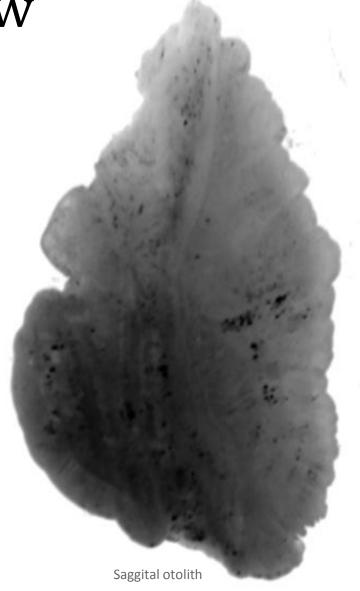
Thermal marks Process

- Sample and tray log-in
- Otolith preparation
- Otolith reading
- Read assessment

Recoveries

- Stream stray
- Pedigree

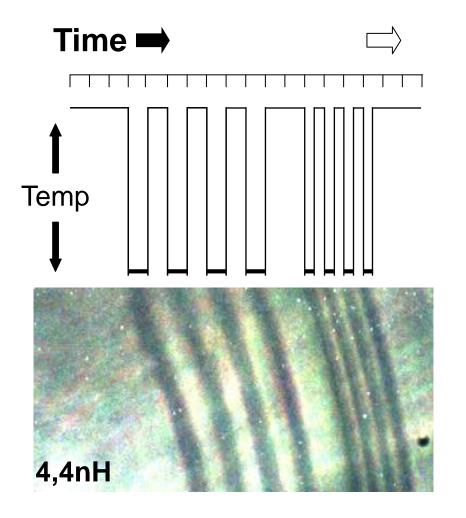
Progress Recommendations

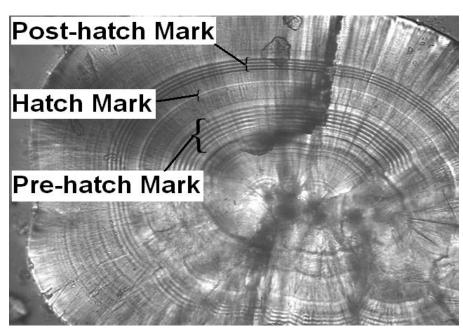


Thermal marks

Dark ring in otolith created by changing water temperature and fish growth.

Sequence of temperature changes = Unique Mark Patterns.





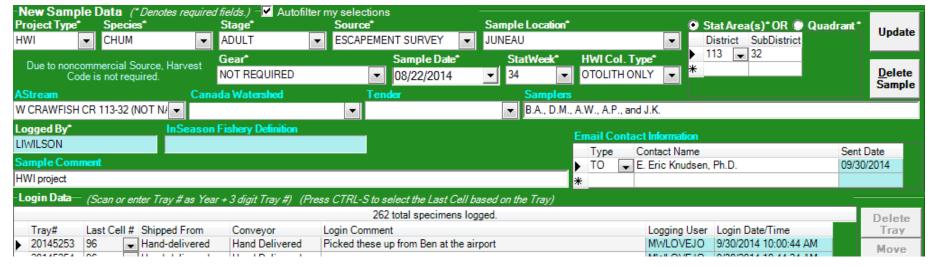
Marks are applied to eggs or alevins.

Sample and Tray Log-in

Samples grouped by week, stream code, and species

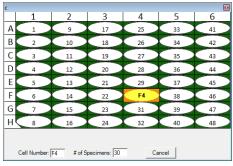
Auto-filled: Species, stage, source, and gear type

Entered: Location, date, stream code, collectors, contact, and comments

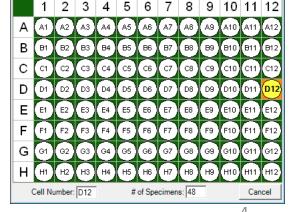


Tray data entered:

- Pedigree or Stream stray
- Tray number
- Last cell
- Shipping method2015 Pedigree linked by bar code



Pedigree



Stream stray

Tray and Otolith Preparation

- Trays are cleaned with 5% bleach then de-chlor (0.7% sodium thiosulfate) solutions.
- Beads are used to keep track of missing otoliths; each well should have two otoliths.
- Slides are labelled with barcodes.
- The left otolith is mounted on non-labelled side.

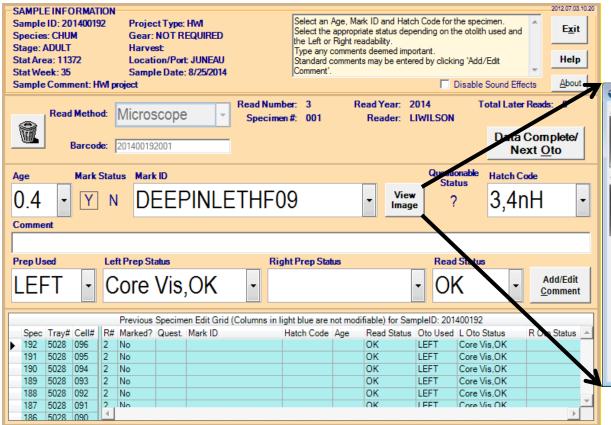




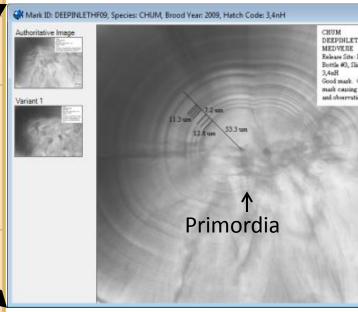


Otolith Reading

- Specimen number entered using a barcode scanner.
- Otoliths are ground until primordia are visible.
- Readability, mark presence, mark ID, and age entered using touch screens.



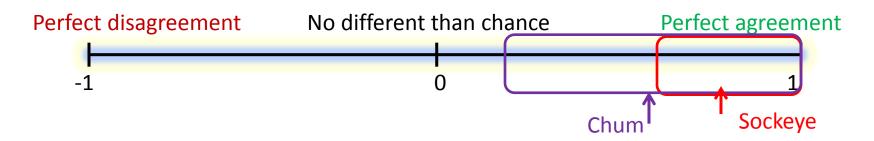




Read assessment

Readers prepare by studying thermal marks.

Agreement on marks for an area measured with Kappa:



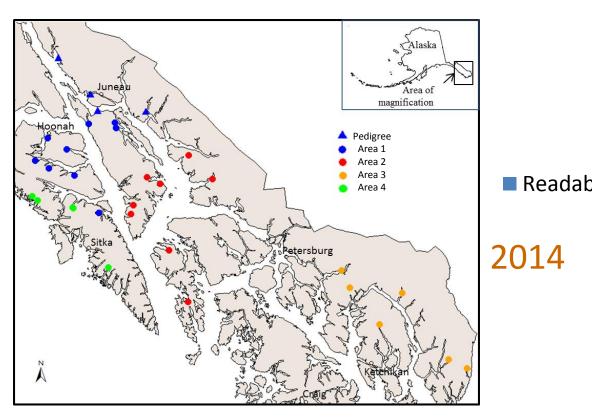
Reader ability to detect mark presence or absence is modelled.

Two reads of all chum salmon otoliths and conflicts are resolved.

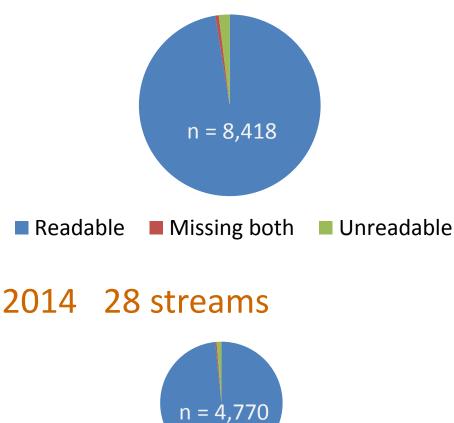
Reads distributed among reader pairs, areas, and time.

Stream Stray

Reads assigned among four areas, four readers, time

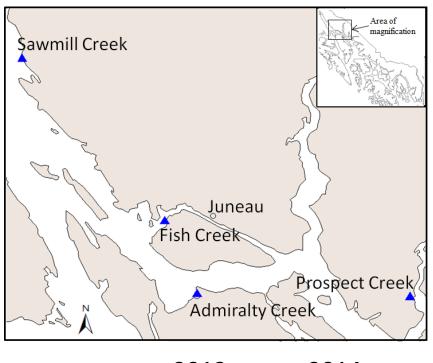


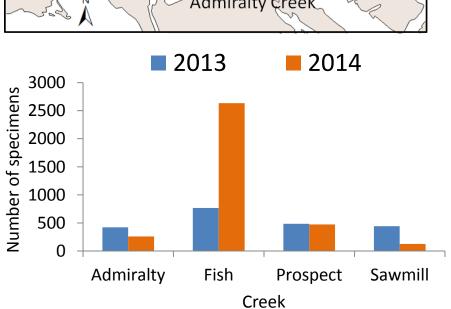
2013 32 streams

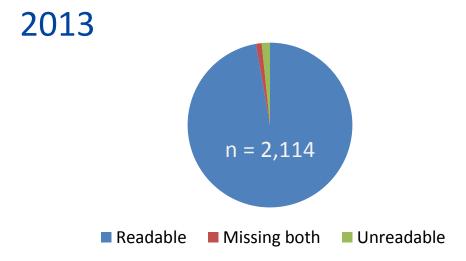


Tray inventory received prior to shipment in 2013. Trays were clean in both years.

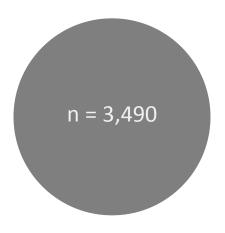
Pedigree







2014 Reads are in progress



Pedigree

2013

Otoliths transferred from DWP to circular well trays.

Tray inventory sent prior to receiving shipment.

Considerations:

Transfer error unknown



Deep Well Plate (DWP)

2014

Tissue removed first and transferred to another DWP.

Tray inventory sent after request.

Considerations:

- Few labels difficult to read
- DWP tray cleaning necessary;
 biological residue, sand in wells
- Few wells had 3 or 4 otoliths, otoliths replaced with beads
- Few wells were missing one or two otoliths but missing beads

Progress

2013

Stream and pedigree reads are final.

2014

Stream stray

First and second reads are complete.

Conflict resolution in progress.

Expected completion: end of January 2015.

Pedigree

Trays are logged in and otoliths are currently being mounted.

No otoliths first or second read.

Expected completion: Winter 2015

Recommendations

Send tray inventories with tray shipment.

Send trays earlier and in large batches.

Pedigree

- Refine method for specimen placement in DWP.
- Improve DWP labels or cover with tape.

Mark verification

Planned otolith exchange between Cordova and Juneau thermal mark labs to assess otolith read accuracy.

Thank you

MTA Programmers
Tim Frawley
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MTA Mark Lab Crew
John Baker
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