

Juvenile Salmonid and Small Fish Identification Aid



ADF&G
Habitat & Restoration Division

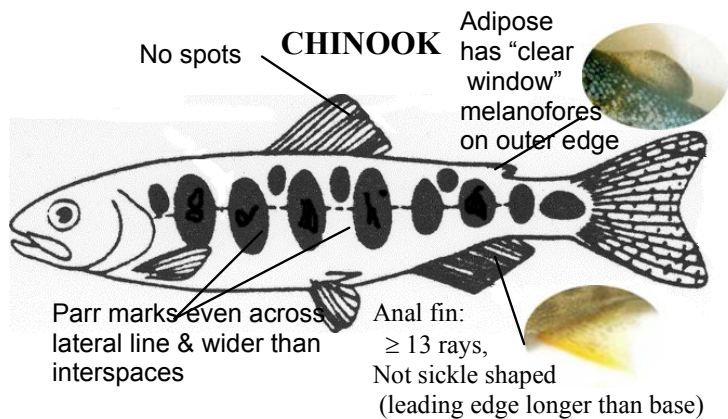
Version 1.1
March 27, 2003
Compiled by Ed Weiss

This aid was developed to assist staff in the field identification of juvenile salmonids and other small fishes commonly caught during field sampling of freshwater streams and lakes.

Juvenile salmon sketches were adapted from sketches by the Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife's Aquatic Education Program. Photos are from ADF&G, USFS and CIAA file archives as well as personal collections.

Special thanks goes out to all who contributed:

- Mike Anderson
- Joe Buckwalter
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- Doug Hill
- Frances Inoue
- Betsy McCracken
- Cecil Rich
- Stewart Seaberg
- Mike Wiedmer



CHINOOK



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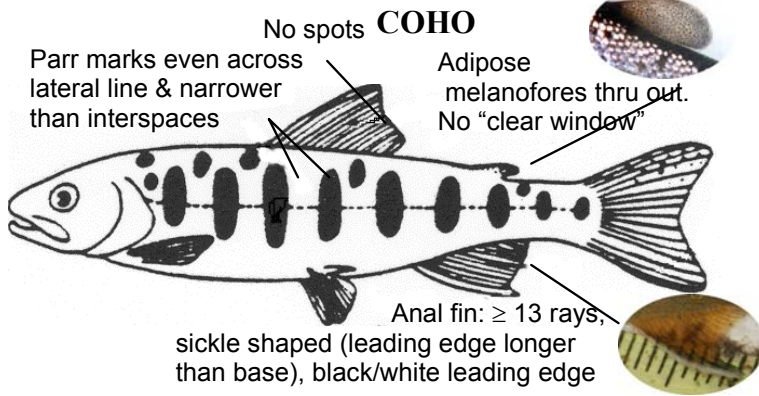
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Chinook

Coho



COHO



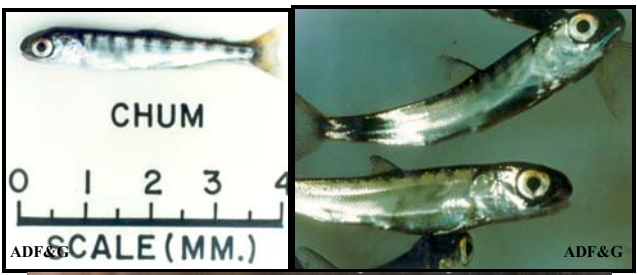
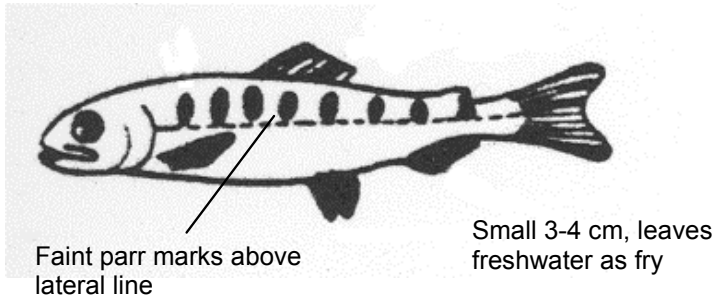
Coho smolt



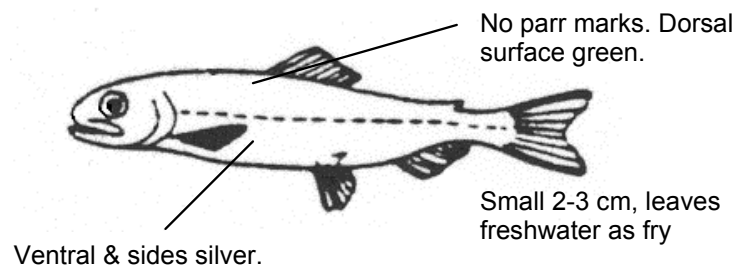
Chinook parr

Coho parr

CHUM



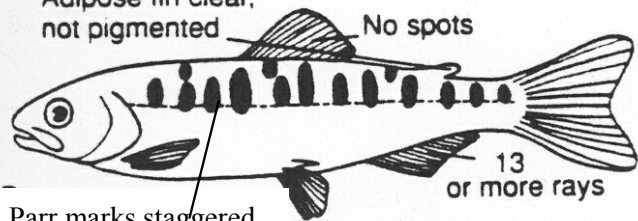
PINK



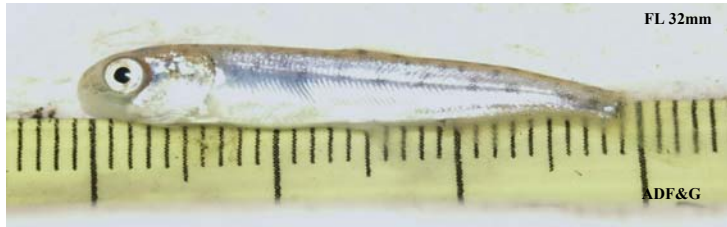
SOCKEYE

Adipose fin clear,
not pigmented

No spots



Parr marks staggered
across lateral line



Fry

SOCKEYE



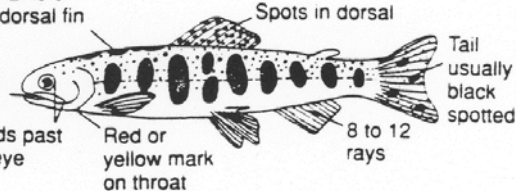
Smolt

CUTTHROAT

No more than 5 parr marks on
dorsal ridge ahead of dorsal fin

Spots in dorsal

Teeth on base of tongue



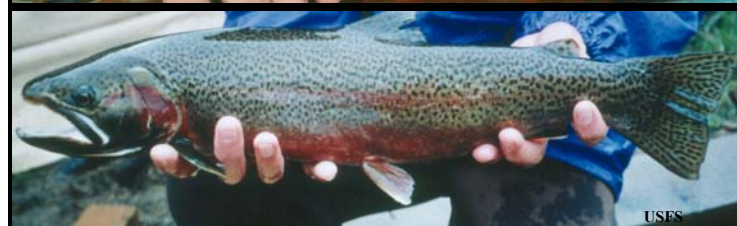
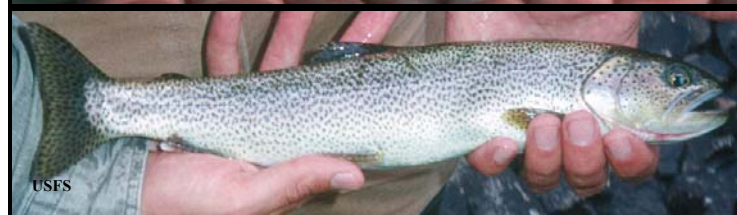
Maxillary extends past
rear margin of eye

Red or yellow
mark
on throat

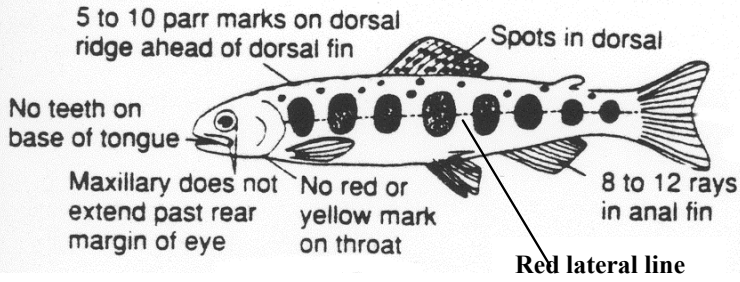
8 to 12
rays



CUTTHROAT



RAINBOW / STEELHEAD

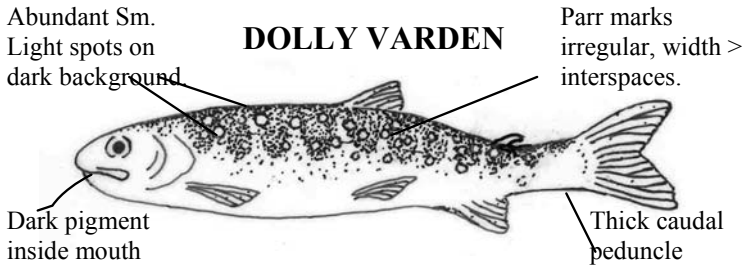


RAINBOW / STEELHEAD



Rainbow Trout

Dolly Varden



- P. caecae = 21 – 39 (30). Gill Rakers 15 – 23.
- Anadromous dominant type but also lake or stream residents, usually a stream spawner
- In spawning, paired fins red/black with white leading edge, lower body red, orange or pink.



DOLLY VARDEN



Fewer larger
Light spots on
dark background.

ARCTIC CHAR

Parr marks
irregular, width >
interspaces.

White inside
mouth



Thin caudal
peduncle

- P. caecae = 30 – 64 (45). Gill Rakers 21 – 27.
- No known anadromous populations in AK.
- Lake spawner/resident, sometimes moving into streams.
- In spawning, paired fins red/black with white leading edge, lower body red or gold. Spots red or orange.



DeCicco



DeCicco

ARCTIC CHAR



Arctic
Char

Dolly
Varden

DeCicco



Dolly Varden

Arctic char

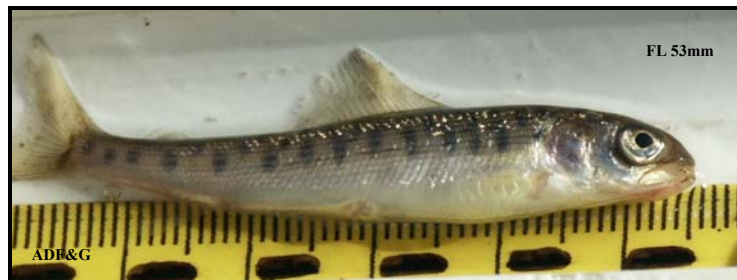
J. Dean



DeCicco

Arctic Char

ARCTIC GRAYLING



FL 53mm

ADF&G



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FL 202mm

ARCTIC GRAYLING



ADF&G



DeCicco



DeCicco

ALASKA BLACKFISH



BURBOT



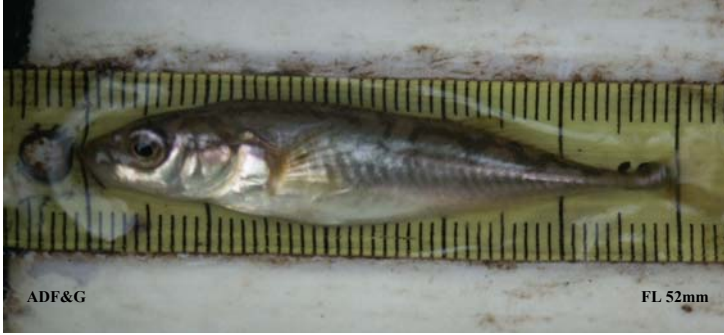
SLIMY SCULPIN



COAST RANGE SCULPIN



9 SPINE STICKLEBACK








3 SPINE STICKLEBACK







LONGNOSE SUCKER








SALMON – Parr

Chinook	
Coho	
Sockeye	
Pink	
Chum	


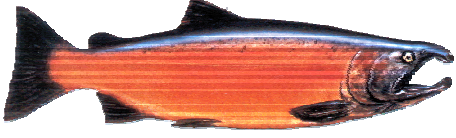
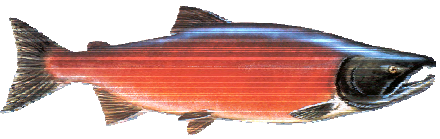


Trout - Parr

Rainbow	
Cutthroat	
Dolly Varden	
Arctic Char	

SALMON - Adult

Chinook	
Coho	
Sockeye	
Pink	
Chum	

SALMON – Adult Spawning

Chinook	
Coho	
Sockeye	
Pink	
Chum	

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