Beyond Physical Habitat; Session 2: Productivity in Recovering Imperiled Salmonid Populations



A Concurrent Session at the 39th Annual Salmonid Restoration Conference held in Santa Cruz, California from April 19 – 22, 2022.

Session Coordinators:

Robert Lusardi, Ph.D., UC Davis Center for Watershed Sciences



This session will delve into understanding how prey availability may influence the growth and fitness of salmonids and will identify productive ecosystems or habitats that may assist in the recovery of imperiled populations. We will also explore ecosystems, including highly managed ecosystems, that have the ability to improve productivity or prey availability at broader spatial scales and in an overall effort to improve habitat heterogeneity across the landscape.

Presentations



Slide 4 - How Physical Habitat and Prey Abundance Interact to Shape the Growth Opportunities of Salmonids: Examples from Bristol Bay to the Klamath Basin, Jonny Armstrong., Oregon State University

- Slide 35 Making a Living in a Seasonal Lagoon: Interactions Among Water Temperature, Prey Availability, and Juvenile Salmonid Growth, Kwanmok Kim, UC Santa Cruz and NOAA Affiliate
- Slide 72 Puddle Power and the Pivot to Process: A Landscape-scale Recipe to Allow the Sacramento Valley to Make Salmon Again, Jacob Katz, Ph.D., Cal Trout
- Slide 110 Coupling Habitat and Prey Supply with Juvenile Chinook Salmon Growth and Production in the San Joaquin River Restoration Project, Steve Blumenshine, Ph.D., CSU-Fresno CA Water Institute
- Slide 149 Defining a Basin-scale Restoration Framework to Recover an Endangered Species. An Optimization- Simulation Approach using a Life Cycle Model, Dr. Francisco Bellido-Leiva, *UC Davis*
- Slide 198 Foodscapes as Reference States: Reconnecting Salmon with the Productive Capacity of Their Watershed, Gabriel Rossi, Ph.D., UC Berkeley

How physical habitat and prey abundance interact to shape the growth opportunities of salmonids: examples from Bristol Bay to the Klamath Basin

> Jonny Armstrong Oregon State University

What a time to be a fish ecologist!









We know much less about food and foraging





Attributes of food sources



Mueller and Fagan 2008 *Oikos* Abrahms et al. et al. 2021 *TREE*

Timing of ephemeral resources





Mueller and Fagan 2008 *Oikos* Abrahms et al. et al. 2021 *TREE*

Pulsed salmon subsidies in Alaska













Fork Length (mm)





Armstrong et al. 2010 Ecology

Gape limit and temperature mediate effects of subsidy



Warmer streams have earlier emergence, later salmon subsidies, and higher growth potential, so fish more likely to grow past 70 mm

Gape limit and temperature mediate effects of subsidy



What about the timing across patches?





Mueller and Fagan 2008 *Oikos* Abrahms et al. et al. 2021 *TREE*

Thermal variation = phenological variation







Lisi et al. 2013 Geomorphology

Implications depend on the consumer







Phenological diversity protracts the availability of resource pulses



Rainbow trout



Ruff et al. 2010 Ecology



Phenological diversity protracts the availability of resource pulses



Rainbow trout



Ruff et al. 2010 Ecology

Bears, gulls, eagles



Schindler et al. 2013 Biology Letters

Key result from study of resource waves: phenological diversity magnifies the benefits of resource abundance



Armstrong et al. 2020 Cons. Letters

In branched linear networks, consumers may not have to move to exploit phenological diversity





Uno 2016 Ecology

Food in suboptimal habitat

Patch 1



Habitat - time



Habitat - space



Feeding forays – dine and dash



Central mudminnow: feeds in anoxic hypolimnion Rahel and Nutzman 1994 Ecology



Kokanee, coho, sculpin: feed in cold habitat, digest warm Wurtsbaugh and Neverman 1988 Nature



Lake trout feed at dawn in warm littoral zone, Morbey et al. 2006 J. Fish Biology

Feeding forays – dine and dash







Kokanee, coho, sculpin: feed in cold habitat, digest warm Wurtsbaugh and Neverman 1988 Nature



Lake trout feed in warm littoral zone, Morbey et al. 2006 J. Fish Biology

Sometimes nasty: U. Klamath Lake



Sometimes nasty: U. Klamath Lake



Summer: trout in cool tributaries



Redband trout use the lake in fall and spring





Sculpin from 1 diet sample



Trout pour on energy in the lake, lose energy on summer refuges



Seasonal energy budget: warm water pays the bills for adult trout





- Emphasizes importance of complementary habitats types
- Shows how productive warm habitat can provide pulses of growth during shoulder seasons

Conclusions

- Food abundance may not always translate into foraging opportunity
- The timing of food availability can be important
- Seemingly lethal habitat can sometimes play a role in fueling fish populations
- Accounting for these food X time interactions can alter how we rank habitats in conservation prioritization

Thanks!

- Rob for inviting me
- Our research group
- NW CASC
- ODFW, Klamath Tribes, T
- Schindler Lab and ASP
- Bristol Bay Native Corporation

Depressed salmon runs can still trigger resource pulses



Monthly diet sampling Skokomish River, WA

Megan Brady MS thesis in prep.

"Warm" habitat drives a massive expansion/contraction in the area of thermally optimal habitat





Making a living in a seasonal lagoon:

interactions among water temperature, prey availability, and juvenile salmonid growth.

Rosealea M. Bond, Cynthia H. Kern, Ann-Marie K. Osterback, Alexander E. Hay, Joshua M. Meko, Jeffrey M. Perez, Miles E. Daniels, and Joseph D. Kiernan

SRF 2022

Land Acknowledgement

UCSC and Scott Creek are part of "the unceded territory of the Awaswas-speaking Uypi Tribe. The Amah Mutsun Tribal Band, comprised of the descendants of indigenous people taken to missions Santa Cruz and San Juan Bautista during Spanish colonization of the Central Coast, is today working hard to restore traditional stewardship practices on these lands and heal from historical trauma."

Scott Creek

SRF Conf.

UCSC

Google Earth

Columbia River, Wiki
Nearly half of California's coastal river mouths are influenced by seasonal sandbars.

Clark and O'Connor 2019

Scott Creek



River mouth open-close cycle



Adapted from Froneman 2017

River mouth open-close cycle



Adapted from Froneman 2017

Scott Creek Estuary/Lagoon

Santa Cruz County Parks





Bight photos @ Kenneth & Gabrielle Adelman

Right photos © Kenneth & Gabrielle Adelman www.californiacoastline.org

Scott Creek Mouth Closure Period



Scott Creek Mouth Closure Period



More emphasis on lagoon processes

Lagoon Filling

Overwash Events





Inspired by Behrens et al. 2013; Behrens, Bombardelli & Largier 2015

Stratification is a key stressor for salmonids

- Becoming more commonplace with drying climate,
- Low dissolved oxygen concentrations,
- Approach or exceed thermal limits,
- Affect large areas due to habitat homogeneity.



Community structure and food web dynamics



(Leptocottus armatus)

Credit: M. Bond, OSU, J. Sartore, C. Gross, Park Service, and others.

2018 STUDY

Our goals were to:

- Characterize thermal environment over space and time,
- Quantify juvenile steelhead performance (abundance and growth),
- Investigate movement patterns within and among habitats.



Distributed Temperature Sensing: Fine-grained temperature monitoring



DTS revealed dynamic conditions within the lagoon



Tidal phase (pre-sandbar)



Sandbar Formation



Wave overwash leads to stratification



Wave overwash leads to stratification



Late Summer Transition



Late Summer Transition



Autumn Cooling



Juvenile steelhead were abundant!





Juvenile steelhead were abundant!





Juveniles remained in the lagoon.



Antenna

Riverine

L-R Interface Antenna

Lagoon Antenna Hypothesized recurrent movement between riverine and lagoon habitats

Detected very few fish moving beyond L-R Interface until onset of winter rains.

Diel movement patterns in the lower lagoon.



Lagoon rearing trade-offs



Updating our thinking: Shifting Spheres of influence



- Movement timing
- Foraging strategies
- Habitat use

Inspired by Boughton et al. 2017

Updating our thinking: Shifting Spheres of influence



- Movement timing
- Foraging strategies
- Habitat use

Inspired by Boughton et al. 2017

Emerging themes/questions



- Drivers of primary and secondary productivity
- Salmonid foraging strategies
 - Upper lagoon habitat use
 - Salmonid bioenergetics

This work is a huge collaborative effort.



M. Sturm

Thank you

- Environmental conditions are getting more extreme. Is there a tipping point in the Scott Creek lagoon?
- In 2018, juvenile steelhead remained within lagoon habitat and thrived despite protracted periods of poor water quality.
- Lagoon physiochemistry, productivity, and predation pressure are key drivers of salmonid lagoon-rearing potential.

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Artwork by Lindsay Hansen

Question Slides







0 5 10 15





Mean Daily Water Temp



Steelhead Mass Specific Growth Rates



Lagoon Population Size



The Pivot to Process

CALIFORNIA TROUT



FISH · WATER · PEOPLE

Jacob Katz – California Trout
Process-Based Reconciliation Integrating a working knowledge of natural process, into management of natural resources





Fish belong in the river...

...and the river belongs in its banks.



Wetland–River Corridors

Whol et al. 2021



Sacramento Valley

Development



13,000 miles of levees



The Land Divorced from the Water

<u>Ubiquitous</u> Drainage



Central Valley wetlands lost 95% of net production in the historical Delta aquatic food web came from the marsh



conversion of ~98 % of wetlands led to reduction of ~90% of ecosystem net primary production

Cloern et al. 2021: On the human appropriation of wetland primary production



Land use alters energy flow through the landscape



HIDDO

Floodplain

The Food is on the Floodplain



Bug Density **149x**

6x

Х

Flooding (ephemeral inundation) facilitates energy transfer into river food webs

AQUATIC BIOPRODUCTIVITY

Aquatic Phytoplankton, Algae

Terrestrial /egetation/Detritus

The Process Doesn M Happen Instantaneously



MAKING FISH



TAKES TIME!



Residence Time of Water 2.15 days 23.5 sec 1.7 sec Sac. River Floodplain Canal JUU ML $\pm 5\%$ + 5% ±5% 5% 400 mL 50 --250 50 -50 --250250 PYREX® 100 20 150 150 - 150

Total: 251,143m^3

200

250

No. 1000

100

Total: 10,057/m^3

200 -----

250

Total: 1,687/m^3

200

No. 1000

These fish were the same size 3 weeks prior to photo

Canal

Photo: J. Katz

Floodplain

3-11-2016

River

Slow it = Grow it



Spread it-Slow it-Sink it-Grow it









Reactivating Floodplains in the Sacramento River Basin



Wet Side





Dry-side:

Implementing

the solution

the Problem







Floodplain-derived food web subsidy to River channel habitats





Pre-development

Today

Loss of Seasonally Inundated Floodplain



The mathematics of recovery

When we cut off 95% loss of activated floodplains,

why are we surprised to find that we have only approximately 5% of native fish biomass?



Sacramento Valley Current River Floodplain Ecosystem



Big, Early.

Science into Action

CA Water Solutions



 \star



Fish **Don't** Swim in Paper Rivers

Turning Science into Action - Fish Don't Swim in paper Rivers

- Fish population resilience is predicated on biocomplexity which is in turn built on diverse aquatic habitats in time and space.
- Do our best to mimic the natural processes which create and sustain diverse habitat mosaics at landscape scale
- Attempt to re-expose native fish populations to an approximation of the patterns of biophysical conditions under which they evolved and to which they are adapted – Give fish rivers they can recognize!
- Every link in the chain! All life stages and the habitats on which they they depend are needed in order for a population to express the lifehistory diversity on which resilience to inevitable environmental change is predicated
- Management objectives should be aimed at diversifying the portfolio of size and timing at ocean entry

Process-Based Reconciliation Integrating a working knowledge of natural process, into management of natural resources




Coupling habitat and prey supply with juvenile Chinook Salmon growth and production in the San Joaquin River Restoration Project

Steve Blumenshine CA Water Institute Fresno State Univ



Threat: Outdated Water Management and Excessive Diversions At Risk: River Health and Reliable Water Supplies





Chinook Salmon Restoration: San Joaquin River, CA

Endangered river

The San Joaquin has been named the most endangered river in the United States by the advocacy group American Rivers.



www.seymoursalmon.com

- Highly Altered
- Overprescribed Water Demand

Overdrawing California rivers

The growing demand for water from California's river far outstrips supply. A new study shows the state has given far more legal rights to water (in red) than our major river basin contain (blue) in an average year.



San Joaquin River California

Movle 2013

Threat: Outdated Water Management and Excessive Diversions At Risk: River Health and Reliable Water Supplies VegDRI % of time in extreme or severe drought 2009-2018



(Crausbay et al. 2020)

Conceptual Model (for project funding):

Bioenergetics Applications to Habitat & Species Management







Funding:CSU-Ag Research Institute,
CA Water Boards,
CSU WRPI-USDA Intership Prog

Partners/Collaborators: USBoR, CDFW, CDWR, Steve Railsback, CSU-Fresno (Civil Engin, Biology, Plant Sci)

Water
r) Year Type 3
70 Wet
07 Normal-Wet
70 Wet
'59 Wet
40 Normal-Wet
53 Normal-Wet
18 Normal-Dry
57 Normal-Dry
54 Normal-Dry
23 Normal-Dry
72 Wet
16 Wet
33 Dry
90 Normal-Dry
79 Normal-Wet
06 Normal-Wet
24 Wet
32 Dry
26 Dry
79 Critical-High
10 Critical-Low
86 Normal-Dry
00 Wet
79 Normal-Dry
72 Wet
25 Dry



Water-Year Type, Temperature Regimes

"Goldilocks Effects"?



Temperatures; Location * Time interaction



Water Releases to SJF Across Years

Juvenile Salmon Growth





• Thermal Environment + Prey Energy





Empirical info
 Simulations

(Simulations) Bioenergetics IBM & inSTREAM/inSALMO

Stream macrophytes increase invertebrate production and fish habitat utilization in a California stream



Robert A. Lusardi¹ I Carson A. Jeffres² | Peter B. Moyle²











Is there enough prey to offset higher temps at lower water levels? (*where/when?*)

Plumb and Moffitt 2015 'higher' juvenile temp optima

Lusardi 2019, Sommer 2001 个prey offsets high temperature metabolic costs

Spaulding 2016- 'missing' prey?

Lusardi 2018 – higher prey densities in macrophytes habitat (in-place & drift)



Modeling

Bioenergetics/Population Modeling

 Using inSTREAM (Steve Railsback and Bret Harvey), a Individual-Based Model (IBM) of whole populations, including birth, growth, migration, and death due to various events





Graphic modified from Taylor Spaulding

Study sites and rotary screw traps







Sample event timing based on fry emergence and juvenile rearing in Reach 1A



SJRRP - Reach 1A

Sampling Coverage: Nested by: Time, Location, Habitat



















InSTREAM 7 User Manual: Model Description, Software Guide, and Application Guide (S. Railsback)

Version 7 of inSALMO was funded in part by the California State University, Fresno Foundation as part of the project *Influence and Impact of Water Allocation for Salmon Restoration*, directed by Dr. Steve Blumenshine.

To facilitate the San Joaquin River application, it also allows simulations to be initialized with juvenile salmon so model runs can focus only on juvenile rearing. This version and its documentation are now available. This version makes it very easy to represent macrophyte beds, either as separate "reaches" or by representing variables such as food availability as characteristics of individual cells instead of entire reaches. I plan to assist Dr. Blumenshine with application of the model to his study sites and their macrophyte beds.

Flow, temperature, turbidity regimes Dynamic habitat variables that drive growth / survival Adaptive behavior; when/where to feed Individual growth & survival Population vars; abundance, biomass inSTREAM model inputs include:

Light, Temperature



(some) Results

 Store
 Nov & Dec

 Plan
 Year 1– 2019-20

 Year 2– 2020-21
 Year 2– 2020-21



Stepiger Benthos 4 samples Drift 3 net sets; 2 nets each: surface and riverbed Macrophyte 2 beds; 3 samples each:

2 beds; 3 samples each: upriver, margin, & downriver













- Drift was higher (biomass / m³) in Late December
- No difference among sites or site x month interaction









 Significant Month x Site interaction





Macrophyte Invert <mark>Biomass</mark>



• Significant Month x Site interaction







Relative invertebrate biomass among habitats

(Additional Ordination and Discriminate Factor Analyses plots not covered today)



Resolution of Juv Chinook Prey Base: Did we run SIA on the correct taxa? Stable Isotope Mixing Polygons



Quiz Time!

- 1. Is there an unexpected pattern in these data?
- 2. What might explain this?

Resolution of Juv Chinook Prey Base: Did we run SIA on the correct taxa?



Naman, S. M., White, S. M., Bellmore, J. R., McHugh, P. A., Kaylor, M. J., Baxter, C.

V., Danehy, R. J., Naiman, R. J., & Puls, A. L. (2022).

Food web perspectives and methods for riverine fish conservation. WIREs Water, e1590



Summary:

- So how important is macrophyte habitat?
 -SIA mixing models -inSALMO simulations
- Thermal and energy source considerations
- Variation over space & time
- Use integrative energybased approaches



SJR discharges (cfs @ 15min intervals) @ Hwy 41 during the study period. Shaded rectangles represent the JCS rearing period in the study reach (Friant Dam to Hwy 99). Start are study sampling periods for JCS habitats & invertebrates. Numbers are mean and \pm s.d. for discharges 30 d prior to sampling events.



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Double drift net setup

Deviation: Year 1 November– only Riverbed net samples, no Surface net



A SENSITIVITY ANALYSIS OF AN INDIVIDUAL-BASED TROUT MODEL Cunningham 2007 MS Thesis, Humboldt State



Main Point:

inSTREAM estimation of salmonid production Is most sensitive to prey energy density (cal/g)



Time (s)


Integrating approaches to estimate fish growth and the importance of energy densities Fish and habitat restoration projects should focus on fish growth and production as integrative variables to evaluate restoration success under varying hydrologic and habitat conditions......

Secondly, several case studies of our research in three countries have independently highlighted the importance and influence of accurate estimates of predator and prey energy densities in evaluating both manifested and potential fish growth rates. Another example is from an **energy density based error in the simulation tool Fish Bioenergetics 4**, which produced erroneous specific growth rates of fish, but **the magnitude of this error was related to predator:prey energy density ratios.**

Supporting Notes:

NRG Density Issues; Examples

- 1) Israel: Lake Kinneret Cichlids & Peridinium; sustained mass & growth via high NRG density algae
- 2) USA_CA: San Joaquin River juvenile Chinook Salmon; direct measures NRG density via calorimetry
- 3) Germany: Lake Constance Sticklebacks (pop'n specific & seasonal variation in NRG density)

4) Fish Bioenergetics 4:

'Latest version: FB4 v1.1.3. was released 5/26/2021. This version fixes an error in the reporting of Specific.Growth.Rate.g.g.d. Thanks to Steve Blumenshine for identifying and reporting this error.' *Pred:Prey energy density ~1:1; no (big) problem Pred:Prey energy density >1:1; big problem in SGR & SCR*

How much macrophyte habitat is there?







Defining a Basin-scale Restoration Framework to Recover an Endangered Species. An Optimization-Simulation Approach using a Life Cycle Model

F.J. Bellido-Leiva^{1,3,*}, R. Lusardi^{2,3,4} and J.R. Lund^{1,3}

¹Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering, UC Davis ²Department of Wildlife, Fish and Conservation Biology, UC Davis ³Center for Watershed Sciences, UC Davis ⁴California Trout

FOR WATERSHED SCIENCES

39th Annual Salmonid Restoration Conference

More than 90% decrease in returning adults since 1960s-1970s. Less than 975 adults in 2017



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Declines from extirpation from historical spawning grounds



Historical spawning grounds at cold, springfed rivers

- ➤ McCloud
- ➤ North Fork Battle Creek
- Current spawning ground: below Keswick Dam



Declines from habitat reduction and alteration of natural hydrograph



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Declines from extirpation from historical spawning grounds, habitat reduction and alteration of natural hydrograph



- Historical spawning grounds at cold, spring-fed rivers
- McCloud, Pit
- North Fork Battle Creek
- Current spawning grounds: below Keswick Dam



Habitat restoration efforts have been developed across many watersheds to mitigate for the loss of historically important habitats



Especially difficult for anadromous species due to their geographical extent and different needs at each life stage





Especially difficult for anadromous species due to their geographical extent and different needs at each life stage



A formal methodology to help coordinate and structure such complex watershed-scale efforts



This methodology requires a diverse set of restoration actions covering multiple geographical areas and stressors

Restoration Action Portfolio

Management Actions	Cost	Modeled Effects	Variable Type
Fremont Weir Notch	Assumed at M\$100-150	1 avioco	Discrete (binary)
Tisdale Weir Notch	Assumed at M\$50	1 arcoop	Discrete (binary)
Winter-run reintroduction plan in Battle Creek	Estimated at M\$3.5	T TRAD. TOC	Discrete (binary)
Side Banks Habitat Restoration/Re-connection	\$150K/mi	† βλαιν. † βs. † Γεμαιν. † Υσει. † ασεε	Continuous (0-240 mi)
Tributaries Habitat Restoration	\$27.5K mi ⁻¹	† отны, † ттин, † Втин, † ге тин	Continuous (0-100 mi)
Winter-run Reintroduction over Shasta Dam	Estimated at M\$50.2	† βry. ↓ TSPANNI † Fr. MAIN. ↓ BMAIN	Discrete (binary)
Gravel Augmentation Plan	Estimated at M\$2.38	Decrease redd superimposition († βr ₂)	Discrete (binary)

Comprehensive list of potential restoration actions along the Sacramento River

- NMFS 2014
- NOAA 2021





And a tool to help understanding the response of the population to changes in restored habitat (quality/quantity) and recovery actions





And a tool to help understanding the response of the population to changes in restored habitat (quality/quantity) and recovery actions



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WRHAP is a conceptual juvenile production model that includes all available rearing habitats at each location along the Sacramento River



WRHAP structure allows to simulate the impact of residence times at floodplains on juvenile development and return success



The discontinuity between out-migrating smolts and returning adults neglects the longer-term effects of habitat conditions from one time period to future ones



The discontinuity between out-migrating smolts and returning adults neglects the longer-term effects of habitat conditions from one time period to future ones



The discontinuity between out-migrating smolts and returning adults neglects the longer-term effects of habitat conditions from one time period to future ones



The ocean submodel is based on previous efforts in literature, including an early ocean survival as a function of smolt size at outmigration



Hatchery operations are simulated based on Livingston Stone National Fish Hatchery Winter-run Program (USFWS 2012, 2013)



Submodels for the reintroduced populations at Battle Creek and McCloud River, assuming similar residence times in natal tributaries and along the Upper Sac.



Bellido-Leiva et al., in review

An evaluation method that allows for a structured assessment of population changes as a response to restoration/recovery actions along the Sacramento River



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Fremont/Tisdale Weir Notching
 Passage,
 Resid.Time



- Fremont/Tisdale Weir Notching
- Tributary Habitat Restoration
- Off-channel Habitat Restoration



Considered Restoration/Recovery Actions

- Fremont/Tisdale Weir Notching
- Tributary Habitat Restoration
- Off-channel Habitat Restoration

↑ Hab. Capacity
↑ Growth
↑ Rear Surv.



- Fremont/Tisdale Weir Notching
- Tributary Habitat Restoration
- Off-channel Habitat Restoration
- Gravel Augmentation Plan



- Fremont/Tisdale Weir Notching
- Tributary Habitat Restoration
- Off-channel Habitat Restoration
- Gravel Augmentation Plan 1 Egg-to-fry Surv.



- Fremont/Tisdale Weir Notching
- Tributary Habitat Restoration
- Off-channel Habitat Restoration
- Gravel Augmentation Plan
- McCloud River Reintroduction Program (TH2)
- Battle Creek Reintroduction Program



Fast comparison between each restoration alternative when implemented individually. Range includes uncertainty in hydrology.



Bellido-Leiva et al., in review

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Battle Creek reintroduction, bypass weir notching and off-channel restoration generated the greatest impacts on winter-run abundance



Bellido-Leiva et al., in review

Trap and haul performance greatly depends on achieved juvenile trapping efficiency, considering optimal handling and minimal delayed mortality



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Bellido-Leiva et al., in review

Allow us to explore additional aspects of the proposed restoration action. Importance of sustained bypass flooding inundation with notch operation



Bellido-Leiva et al., in review

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Allows to analyze further population viability metrics, such as expected population growth after restoration



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Upper Sacramento Tributary Rest.

Bellido-Leiva et al., in review

Allows to analyze further population viability metrics, such as expected population growth after restoration

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Bellido-Leiva et al., in review
Formal optimization framework to prioritize conservation actions before investments, and help improving the likelihood of significant ecological benefits



Formal optimization framework to prioritize conservation actions before investments, and help improving the likelihood of significant ecological benefits



Optimization



The optimization maximizes end-of-period winter-run Chinook spawner abundance (WRHAP-SEA output), constrained by available funds

$$Z_1 = \max \frac{1}{H} \sum_{H} \sum_{P} \sum_{P} \sum_{j=T-2}^{T} N_{RA,P,j}^{NO}$$

S.t.
$$B \ge \sum_{j} X_j C_{RA,j}$$

where
$$N_{RA,P,j}^{NO} = F[N_{S,P,j}^{NO+HO}, \mathbf{Z}, \mathbf{X}_j]$$
 WRHAP-SEA output



Costs derived from previous efforts in other watersheds and values reported in literature (e.g., NMFS 2014)

Considered Restoration/Recovery Actions

- Fremont/Tisdale Weir Notching (\$136m/\$66.4m)
- Tributary Habitat Restoration (\$430k/rmi)
- Off-channel Habitat Restoration (\$115K/acre)
- Gravel Augmentation Plan (\$2.6m)
- McCloud River Reintroduction Program (TH2)

(\$44.65m-

\$214m)

 Battle Creek Reintroduction Program (\$13.8m)



300 X X X Х X 290 X X 280 X G G G P X 270 0 X Х 260 X X X X 250 X X 240 X Х X 230 X Х 220 X X X 210 X X X G G G P X 200 X P G P × P 190 X X G G 0 P X X X G X 180 G \square P [u0 170 160 150 X Х X X X Х Х Budget Limit [\$ 140 130 150 170 170 170 170 Х G G P X $(\neq$ P P X P Х 0 X Х G P (\mathbf{P}) X G D P Х (\rightarrow) X X P 3 G X 90 80 X \bigcirc G G X P X 70 X G G P X 60 Х G \bigcirc 0 P X 50 X P G 0 P G X X G 40 \bigcirc 0 X X P P 30 G P X G 20 X P 0 10 9 X 8 0 X 6 X 0 G 2 (b)-(a) FRE TIS BC Trib. Trib. Off Off Gravel MC 0 200 400 600 Wein Weir Reint. Rest. Rest. Rest. Rest. Aug. Reint. Increase in end-of-period US LS US Notch Notch Plan LS Winter-run Returning Adults [%]

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Optimization selects portfolios that target several locations and stages simultaneously



Bellido-Leiva et al., in review

Notch Notch Plan

300	××	××	××	00	0	0	00	××			+		E	
280	S	$\hat{\mathbf{v}}$	Ŷ	Q	õ	Q	C	Ŷ					F_	-
270	X	X	X	C	C	0	00	Ŷ					F_	
260	X	~	×	0 V	O	0	0	×			-		Ę_	
250	X		X	õ	õ	õ	õ	X		_	-			-1-
240	X		X	0	-0-	Õ	Õ	X		_				
230	X		X	Õ	Õ	õ	Õ	X		_	-			
220	X		X	õ	õ	õ	Õ	X			-í			
210	X		X	Ğ	Ğ	Ğ	Ĝ	X			-	-		
200	X		X	Õ	Ĝ	õ	Q.	X	-	_			_	
190	X		X	R	Ğ	0	P	X			-			-
180	Х		×	Ĝ	Ğ	Δ	Ĝ	X			-]	-1
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Winter-run Returning Adults [%]

Optimization selects portfolios that target several locations and stages simultaneously

Bypass weird notching, off-channel and tributary restoration



Bellido-Leiva et al., in review

Notch Notch Plan

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Winter-run Returning Adults [%]

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Bypass weird notching, off-channel and tributary restoration

McCloud River trap-and-haul program was not selected under any budget scenario



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Positive expected population growth was not achieved until bypass floodplain weir notching was included in optimal portfolios



Budget [\$ mill]

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Positive expected population growth was not achieved until bypass floodplain weir notching was included in optimal portfolios



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Population decline from extreme drought was greatly reduced by Battle Creek reintroduction. Two-way trap and haul would also greatly improve this metric



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Budget [\$ mill]

Population decline from extreme drought was greatly reduced by Battle Creek reintroduction. Two-way trap and haul would also greatly improve this metric



Bellido-Leiva et al., in review

- Formal optimization frameworks may help coordinate and structure complex watershed-scale efforts
- Allows exploring tradeoffs among a broad set of restoration options and identifies optimal portfolios to assist management for species recovery.
- Optimized portfolios, particularly those targeting multiple stressors at different locations, improved winter-run population viability
- Prominence of frequent and sustained floodplain activation to achieve a self-sustaining population
- Potential limitation of two-way trap and haul programs, constrained capture efficiency and low delayed mortality.

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Foodscapes as Reference States

Reconnecting salmon with the productive capacity of their watersheds

Gabriel Rossi (University of California Berkeley) Ryan Bellmore (US Forest Service, Pacific NW Research Station) Sean Naman (Fisheries and Oceans Canada) Mary Power (University of California Berkeley)

Salmonid Restoration Federation April 2022



The case of the missing life histories 683 miles of stream channel in the South Fork Eel River; but less then 150* miles of cold, perennial, rearing habitat for over summering salmonids.

Based on SF Eel SHaRP 2021 Report



How many adult fish could these "ideal" rearing stream produce?

"Silly math for steelhead" (very inflated density and survival numbers!) ~150 miles of stream; 2000 smolts per mile; **5% SAR** 300,00<u>0 smolts</u> 15,000 adults

South Fork Eel River

Central Belt lithology

Coastal Belt lithology

Image Landsat / Copernicus Data SIO, NOAA, U.S. Navy, NGA, GEBCO Data LDEO-Columbia, NSF, NOAA

Google Earth

But estimates are that the SF Eel River produced **3X** this number of adult fish! Where did they come from? How did they do it?

H1: They reared in, and occupied habitats that were only seasonally profitable and migrated to non natal habitat through an array of life histories that have been either extirpated or massively reduced. Tracking landscape scale growth potential. Ideal free/despotic fish??



Hahm, Rempe, Dralle, et al,. Water Resources Research, 2019



Rossi et al., in review at Ecosphere



The "foodscape" is a mosaic of linked habitats with different growth potential phenologies that is exploited by mobile consumers and supports multiple life histories, often through asynchronies in resource availability.



- 2. Salmon are fed by different trophic pathways in different parts of the watershed. And these different pathways produce asynchronous pulses of growth potential for juvenile salmonids in time, and space.
 - 3. Salmon life histories are adapted to capitalize on the asynchronous pulses of growth that are unique to each watershed and perhaps water year.



Problem -- How can we estimate critical life histories that are now absent from the landscape; and the spatio-temporal patterns of growth potential that supported them?

A Modeling Approach (with help from natural history, written history, and Indigenous knowledge)





Bellmore et al. 2022. In review at Global Change Biology





Switch to online IBM model to illustrate different growth trajectories as seasonal growth potential changes across the landscape.

https://exchange.iseesystems.com/public/ryanbellmore/fish-foodscape-ibmexample/index.html#page1



Baseline Reference Model:

Habitats: 1 natal tributary; 1 mainstem, 1 floodplain, 1 estuary 100 fish; probability distribution, movement based on relative growth potential in adjacent habitats













~ 15 life histories emerge, with 2+ fish reaching 100mm-240mm
What contexts and drivers mediate the seasonal and spatial distribution of growth opportunity for juvenile salmon?

What are the most effective trophic pathways for feeding fish (in each part of the riverscape)... And what facilitates (or inhibits) those pathways?

How has modification of the riverscape changed the ability of a population of juvenile salmon to take advantage of asynchronous pulses of growth potential throughout the riverscape?

And how can we restore capacity to a salmon?

Foodscape Questions for Understanding Ecology and Management of Salmon

Acknowledgements

- California Trout
- UC Natural Reserve System

Stephanie Carlson, Ted Grantham, Carson Jeffres, Jonny Armstrong, Mathew Kaylor, Shelley Pneh, Keith Bouma-Gregson, Phil Georgakakos, Suzanne Kelson, Weston Slaughter, Keane Flynn, Kobie Boslough, Terrance Wang, Hannah Roodenrijs, Kate Stonecypher, Riley Brown, Emily Long, Jason Nueswanger, Samuel Larkin, Shannon Mckillop-herr, Blake Toney, Reed Hamilton.





CALIFORNIA TROUT









Ideal Free Distribution (Fretwell and Lucas 1970, Fretwell 1972)

•Close spatial tracking by organisms of habitat quality (e.g. of **renewal rates** of a limiting food that **renews** at different rates in different habitats)

•Assumptions:

 forager is "ideal" (has perfect knowledge of habitat quality over heterogeneous environment;

•Forager is "free" to feed from the best habitat at any given time....)



M. Power Ecology Lectures 2018 **Prediction:** When the environment is saturated, the density of consumers should match the **productivity**^{*} of the habitats (if food is all that matters). The standing crop of the food, and the fitness of the consumers, should be equal across all habitats. (Consumer fitness and food equilibrial standing crop should be equal in productive, crowded habitats, and unproductive, less crowded habitats).



M. Power Ecology Lectures 2018

