

Ocean B: NE Pacific Basin —Tagging Data

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Abstract: This presentation reviews preliminary results of several ongoing BPA-funded projects involving ocean tagging research on Columbia River salmon and steelhead migrating in the NE Pacific Basin. The following premises are central to science policy implications of what we have learned from NE Pacific Basin tagging data:

- ✓ Biodiversity in freshwater and ocean life histories makes Columbia R. salmon resilient to changes in ocean conditions that affect their survival;
- ✓ Columbia R. salmon species, life-history types, and ESUs have different ocean distribution and migration patterns, which means they experience different ocean conditions;
- ✓ We cannot predict the future, but management strategies that ignore the effects of changing ocean conditions on Columbia R. salmon are likely to fail;
- ✓ Comprehensive tagging strategies can provide information needed to improve management.

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