

# The genetic basis of life-history variation in *O. mykiss*

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## **>Genetics 101: Units**

**A LOCUS is a region, gene, or SNP in the genome.**

### **Single Nucleotide Polymorphism (SNP)**

**A single locus can have multiple ALLELES, e.g. A and a.  
multiple haplotypes-- SARS-CoV-2 variants!**

**Unlike SARS-CoV-2, in most animals ALLELES combine  
within individuals into three GENOTYPES: AA, Aa, aa**

## **>Genetics 101: Definitions of evolution**

**1. Molecular evolution changes DNA sequence or structure.**

**Creates new variants**

**2. Allele frequencies change over time (generations).**

**Standing genetic variation**

## >Genetics 101:

**The distributions of these ALLELES and GENOTYPES among populations and individuals are used to understand:**

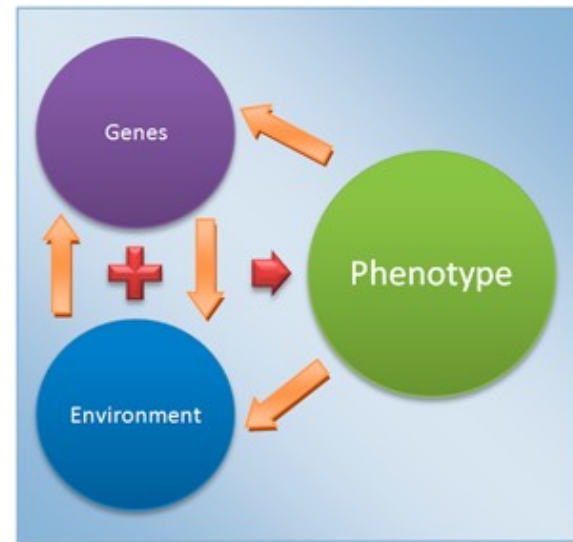
- **ANCESTRY** → Parentage, populations or species  
‘neutral’ loci
- **ADAPTATION** → Functional traits or phenotypes  
associated with a specific locus or loci  
➤ **Adaptive Genomic Variation (AGV)**

## >Genetics 101:

>**Adaptive Genomic Variants** are variable, and their connection with specific phenotypes varies:

**Many genes (Polygenic) → Single locus (major effect)**

**Effect strength**



## Salmonid Life-History traits:

>**Age-of-Return:** How many years at sea?

**Early = 1 or 2 years** **Late = 2 or 3 years**

>**Run-Timing:** When do adults migrate into freshwater?

**Early=Spring/Summer**, **Late=Fall/Winter**

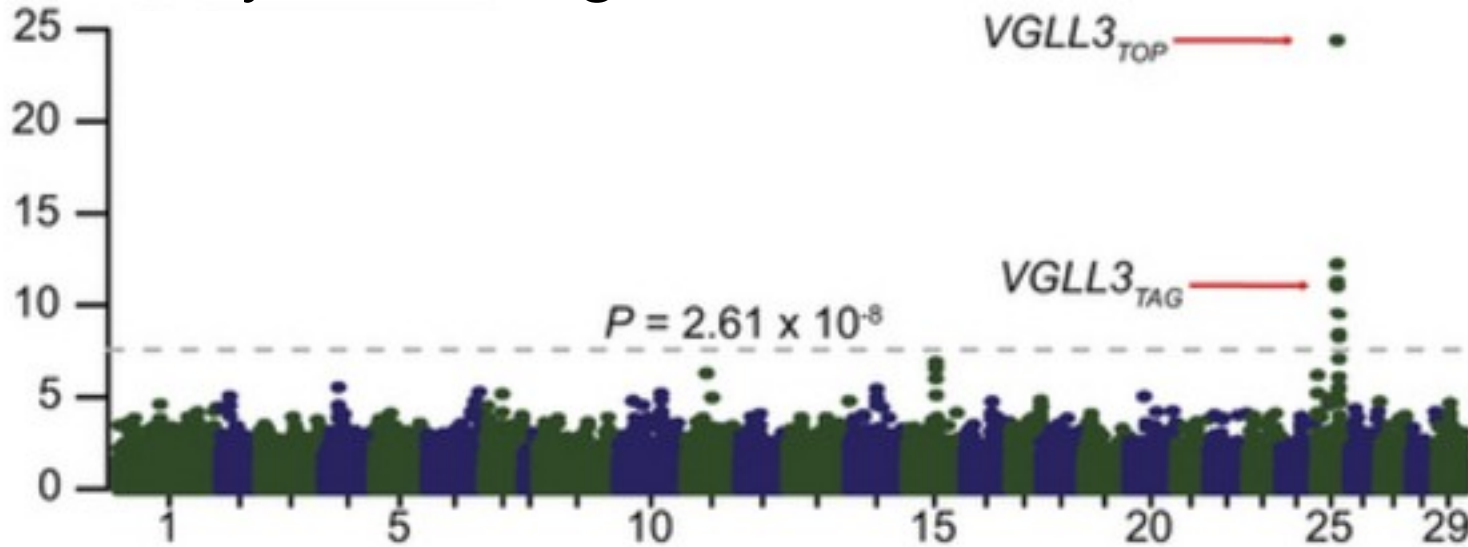
>>Spawn at about the same time!

>**Anadromy/Residency:** Migrate to the ocean or not?

*Oncorhynchus mykiss*: **steelhead** or **Rainbow trout**

>**Many others!!**

# Early vs. Late **Age-of-Return** in Atlantic Salmon:



Barson et al. 2015

**Early** = 1 or 2 years

**Late** = 2 or 3 years

**EE**, **EL**, **LL**

>Sex-dependent **dominance**

**EL male** = **EE**

**EL female** = **LL**

>Single locus of major effect.

>Explains 39% of variance.

>Not associated with age-of-return in Pacific Salmon. (Waters et al. 2021)



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# Genomic basis of: Run Timing in Steelhead

## >Multiple studies on genetic basis of run timing:

Hess et al. 2016; Prince et al. 2017; Micheletti et al. 2018; Willis et al. 2020;  
Pearse et al. 2019; Ford et al. 2020; Kannry et al. 2020; Fraik et al. 2021



>The ***Greb1L*** region of Chromosome Omy28:

**Single locus of major effect** strongly associated with variation in the timing of adult return in coastal **Summer** and **Winter** steelhead:  
(Early) (Late)

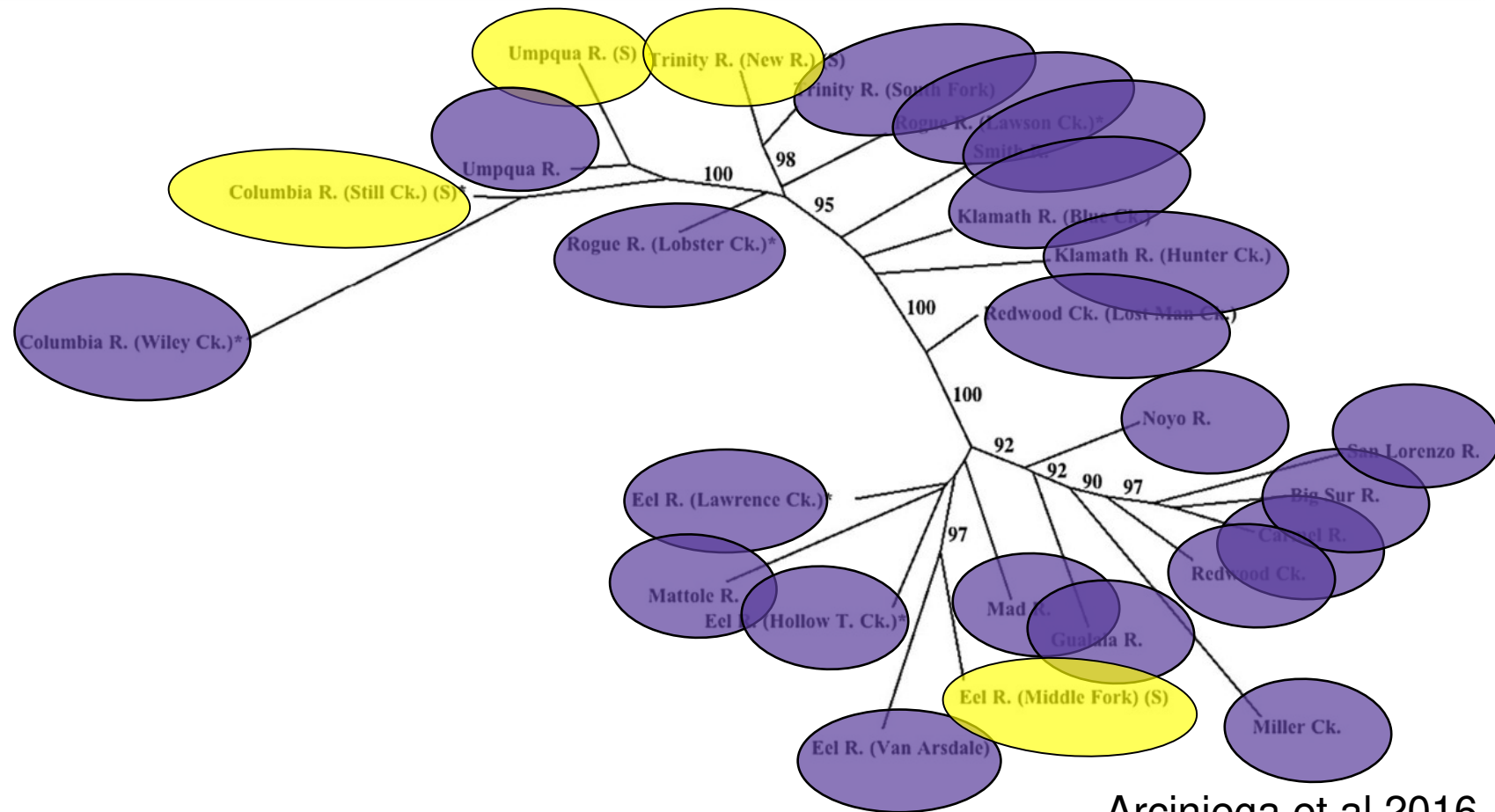
**Genotypes:** **SS**, **SW**, and **WW**

>Environmental and/or lineage specific effects, variable penetrance

e.g. Columbia River (Micheletti et al. 2018; Willis et al. 2020; Collins et al. 2020)



>ANCESTRY and ADAPTATION can be decoupled.



Arciniega et al 2016



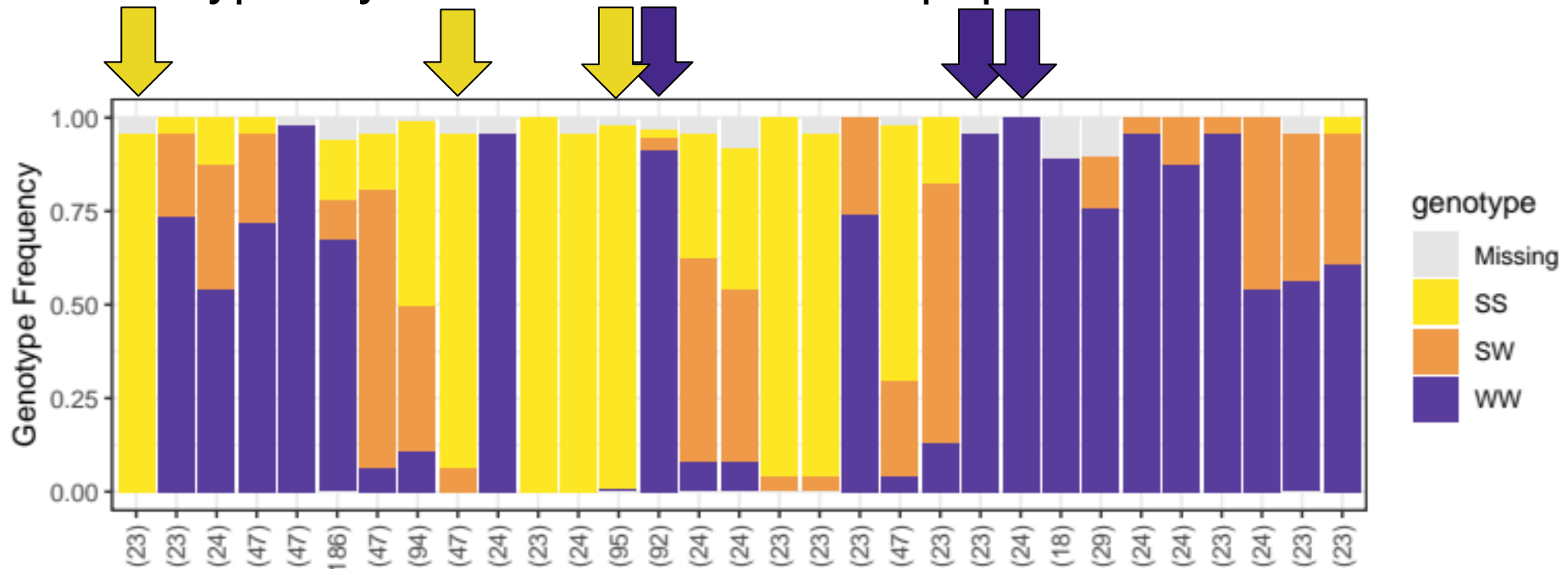
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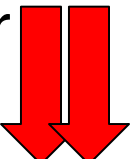
# Variation in Omy28 *Greb1L* genomic region:

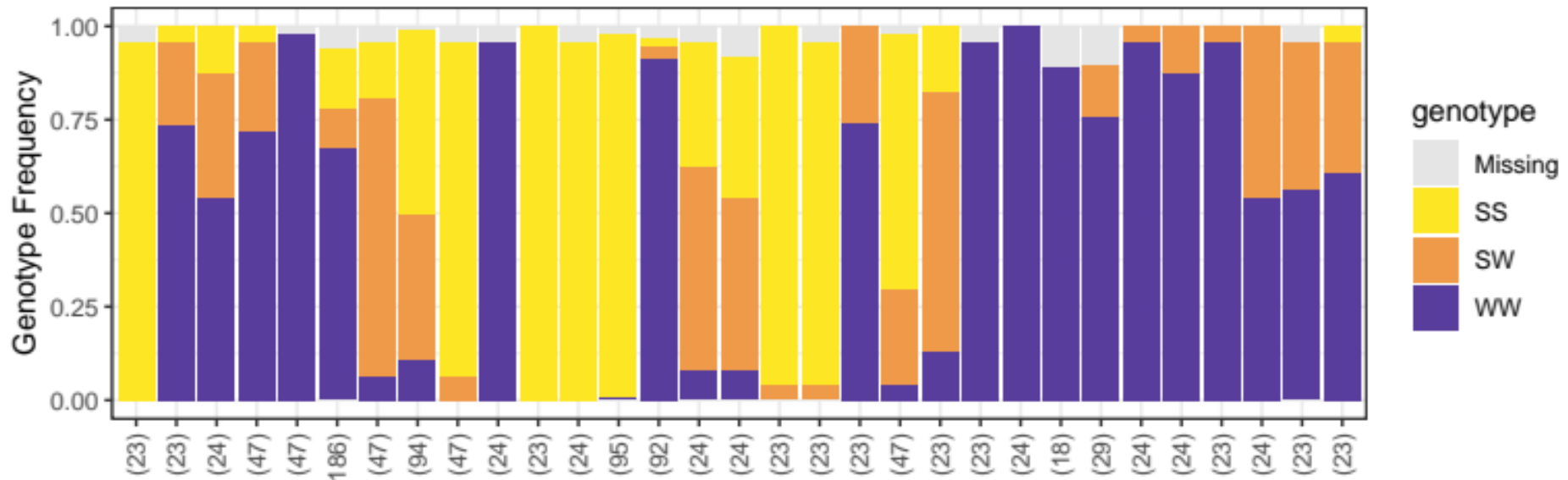
Phenotypically **Summer** and **Winter** populations



Pearse et al. 2019b

# Variation in Omy28 *Greb1L* genomic region:

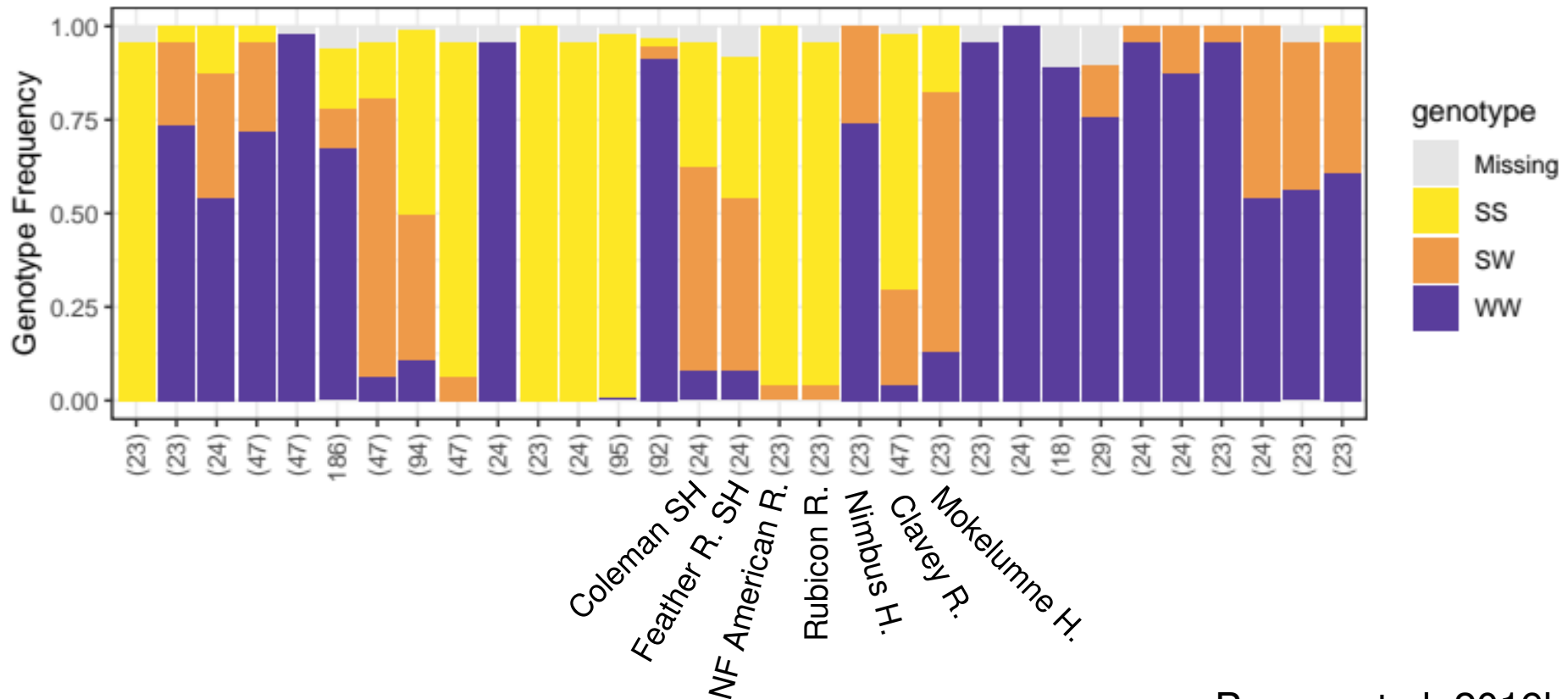
Above-barrier  Omy05: **RR**  
*O. mykiss* → *Greb1L*: **SS**



Pearse et al. 2019b

# Variation in Omy28 *Greb1L* genomic region:

Central Valley— historical presence of Summer steelhead?



Pearse et al. 2019b

# Genomic Basis of Anadromy/Residency

## >Numerous studies on genetic basis of anadromy in *O. mykiss*:

Robison et al. 2001; O'Malley et al. 2003; Thrower et al. 2004; Leder et al. 2006; Phillips et al. 2006; Nichols et al. 2007, 2008; Haidle et al. 2008; Colihueque et al. 2010; Paibomesai et al. 2010; Easton et al. 2011; Le Bras et al. 2011; Martínez et al. 2011; Miller et al. 2012; Narum et al. 2011; Limborg et al. 2012; Hecht et al. 2012a,b; Hale et al. 2014; Pearse et al. 2014; McKinney et al. 2015; Baerwald et al. 2015; Leitwein et al. 2016; Apgar et al. 2017; Abadia-Cardoso et al. 2019; Arostegui et al. 2019; Pearse et al. 2019; Kelson et al. 2019a,b, 2020a,b,c; Fraik et al. 2021

>**Polygenic** — multiple loci with environmentally-dependent effects.

>**Chromosome Omy05** contains single locus of major affect for this trait.



Photo: Morgan Bond

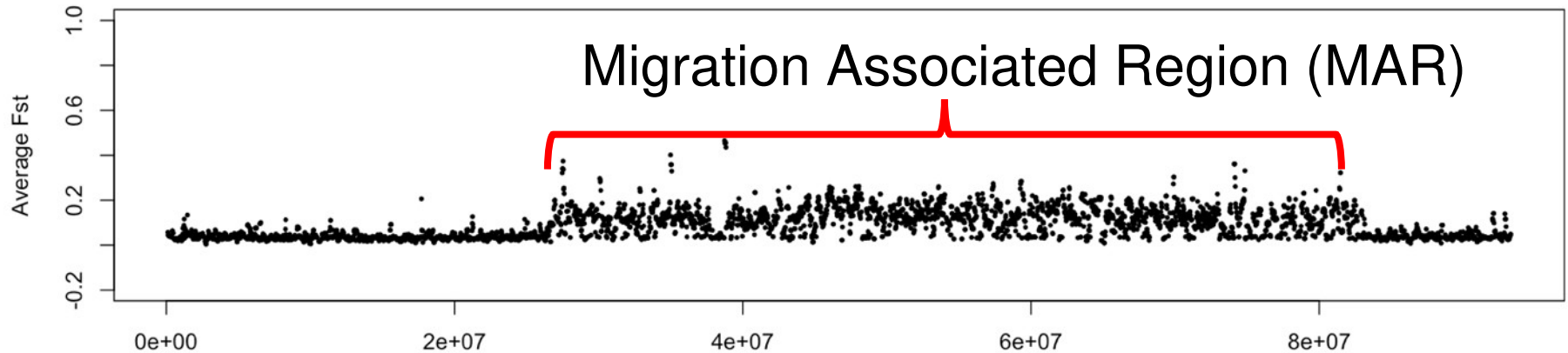


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# Genomic Basis of Anadromy/Residency: Omy05



Massive **double inversion** complex on chromosome Omy05  
>50 million DNA base pairs, >1000 genes  
>Acts as a **single 'supergene' locus of major effect.**

**A = ancestral, anadromy**

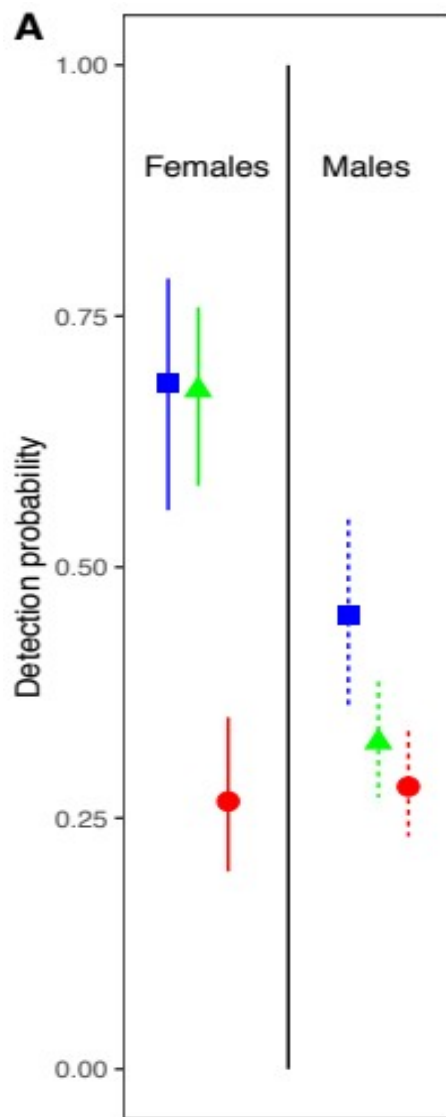
**R = rearranged, resident**

Individuals can have genotypes: **AA**, **AR**, **RR**

Pearse et al. 2019,  
*Nature ecology & evolution*

# Genomic Basis of Anadromy/Residency: Omy05

Smolt  
Migration  
Probability



Influences **individual**,  
**sex-specific** migration:

Model prediction from  
capture-recapture data:

**AA**, **AR**, **RR**

>Sex-dependent dominance

Pearse et al. 2019,  
*Nature ecology & evolution*



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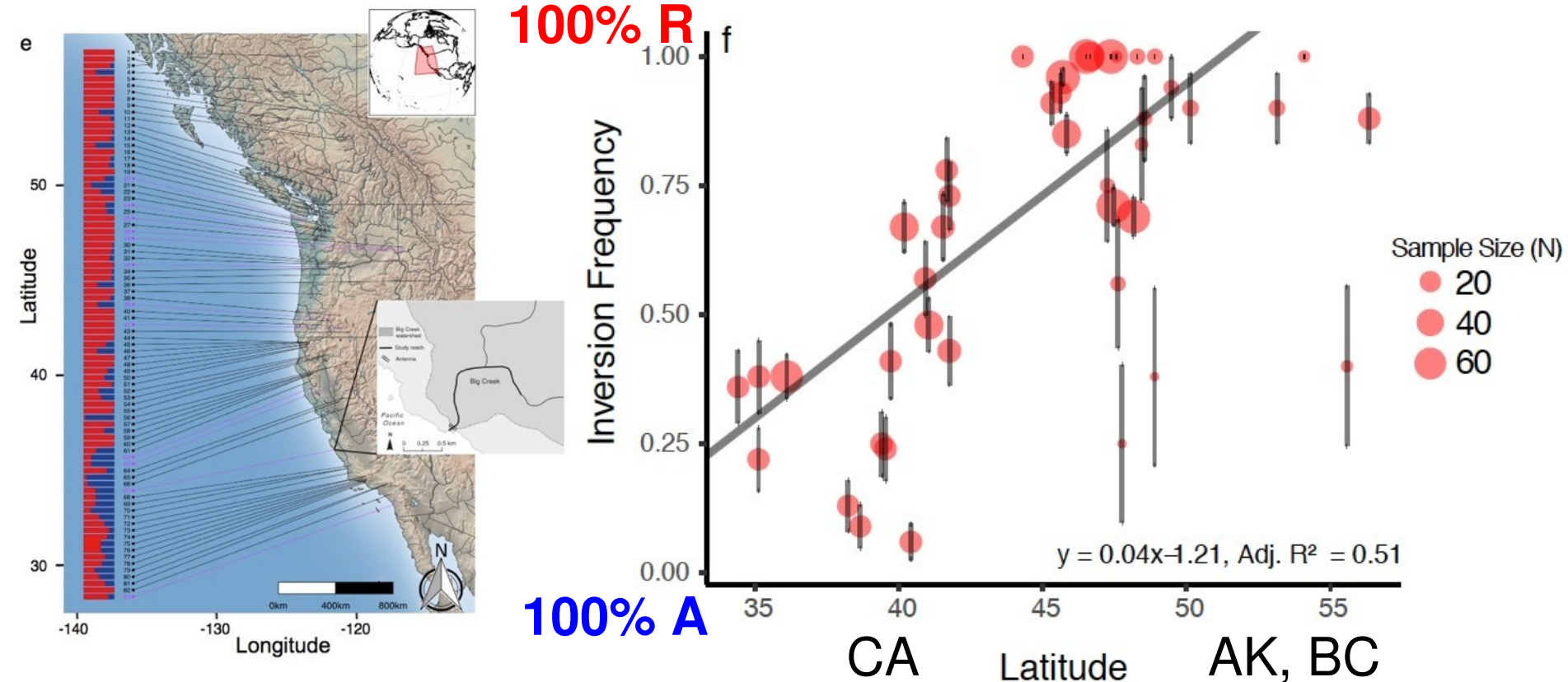
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# Genomic Basis of Anadromy/Residency: Omy05

Strong cline in steelhead (below barrier) populations:



Pearse et al. 2019,  
*Nature ecology & evolution*



# So what does all this mean for conservation and management?!?

- > **Adaptive variants reflect ecological conditions**  
that favor the phenotypes they are associated with.
- > **Relative success** of individuals with different  
genotypes/phenotypes.
- > **Assortative mating.**

>Distribution of individuals reflects adaptive landscape

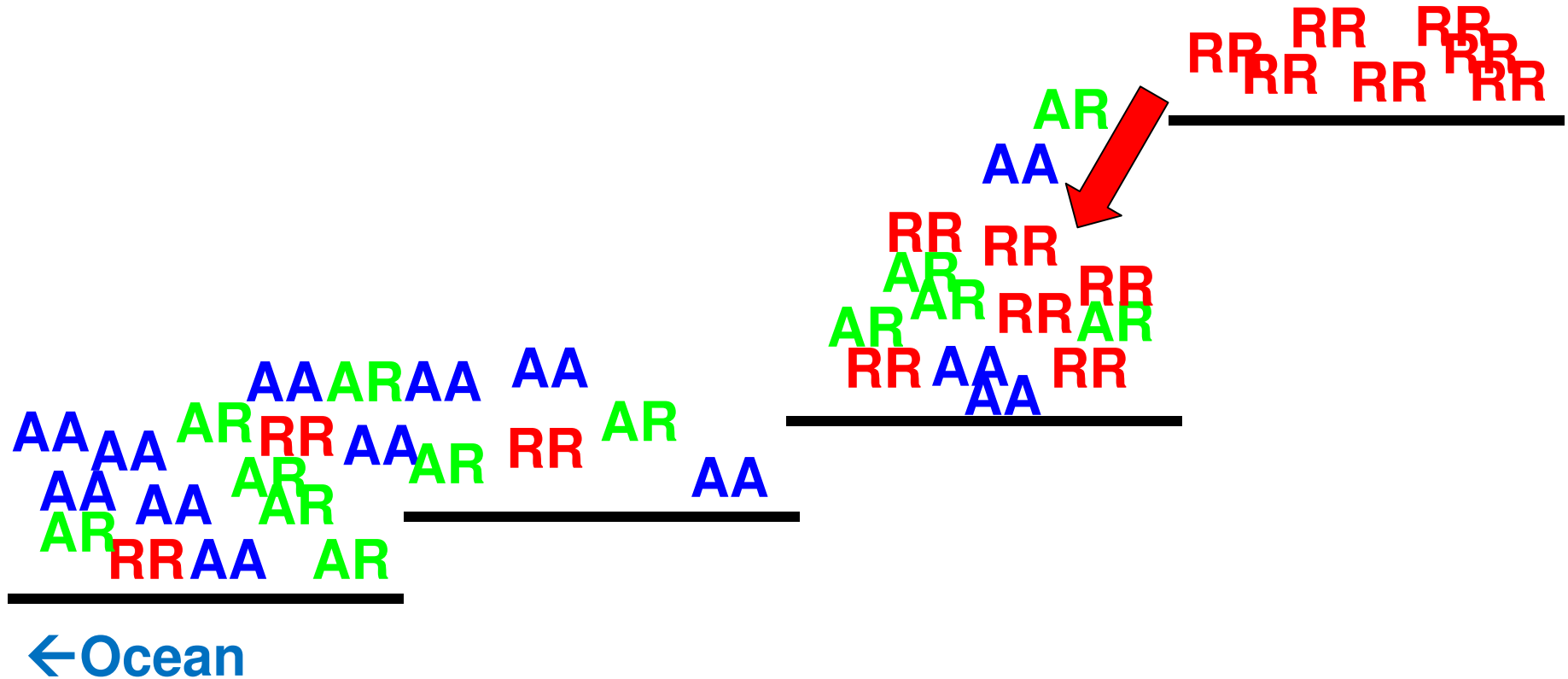
>Typical coastal CA below barrier, ~60% **A** and ~40% **R**

(Pearse et al. 2014, 2019)

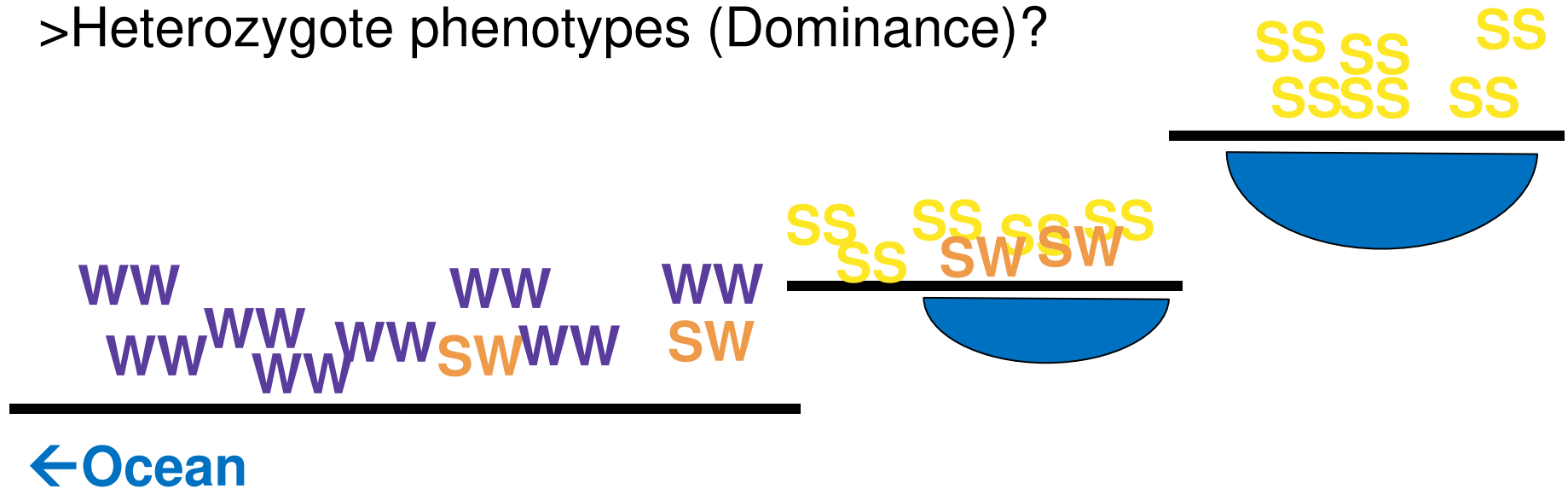


←Ocean

## >Differences among populations reflect adaptive landscape

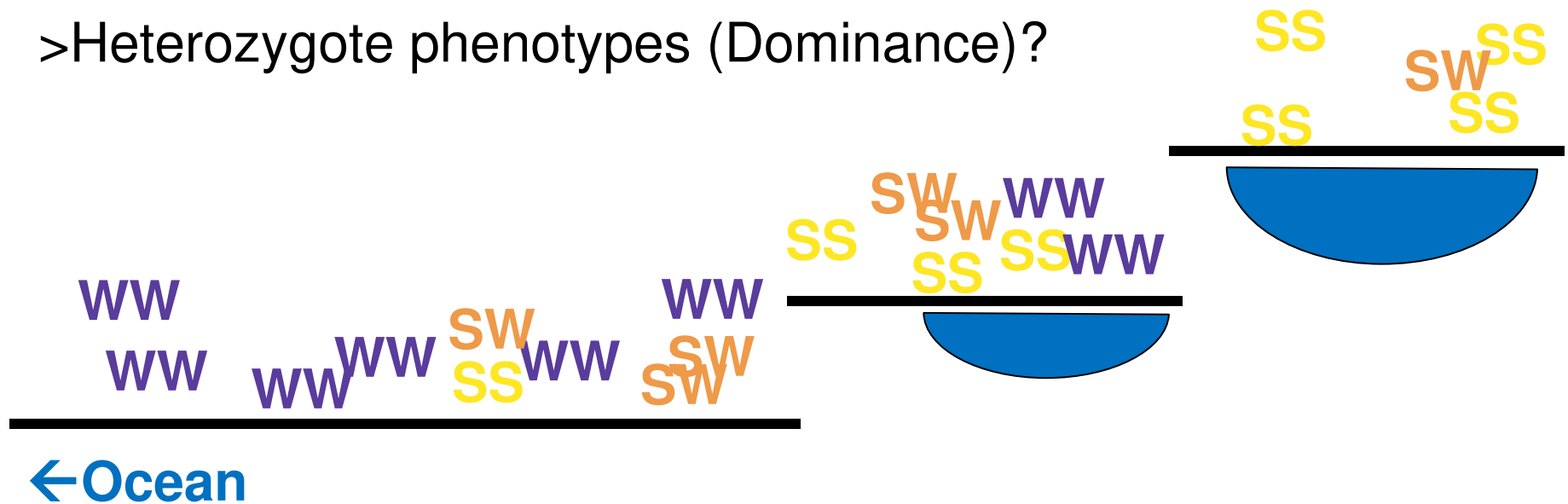


- >Distribution of individuals reflects adaptive landscape
- >Flow-dependent barriers: **Dynamic over space and time**
- >Heterozygote phenotypes (Dominance)?



Remember the Omy05 variants are still here too!

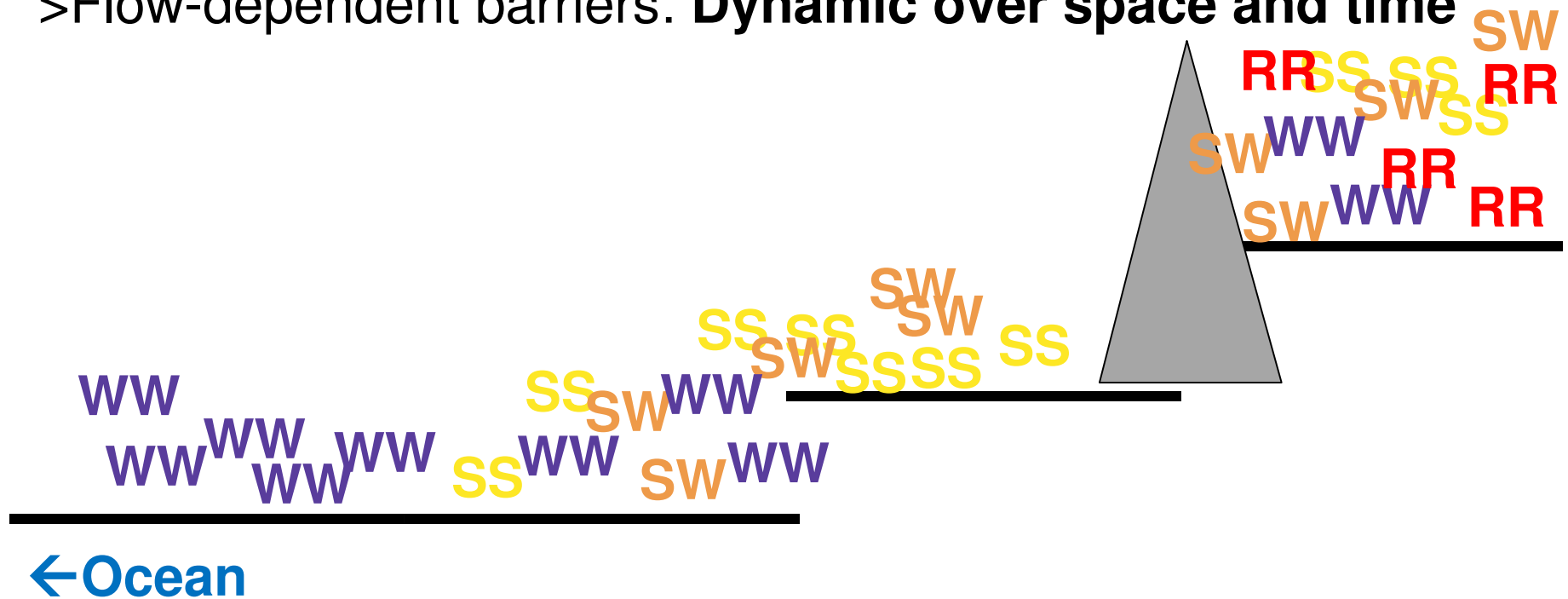
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Remember the Omy05 variants are still here too!

>Distribution of individuals reflects adaptive landscape

>Flow-dependent barriers: **Dynamic over space and time**



Landslide in lower Eel River ~22k years ago  
(Mackay et al. 2011)



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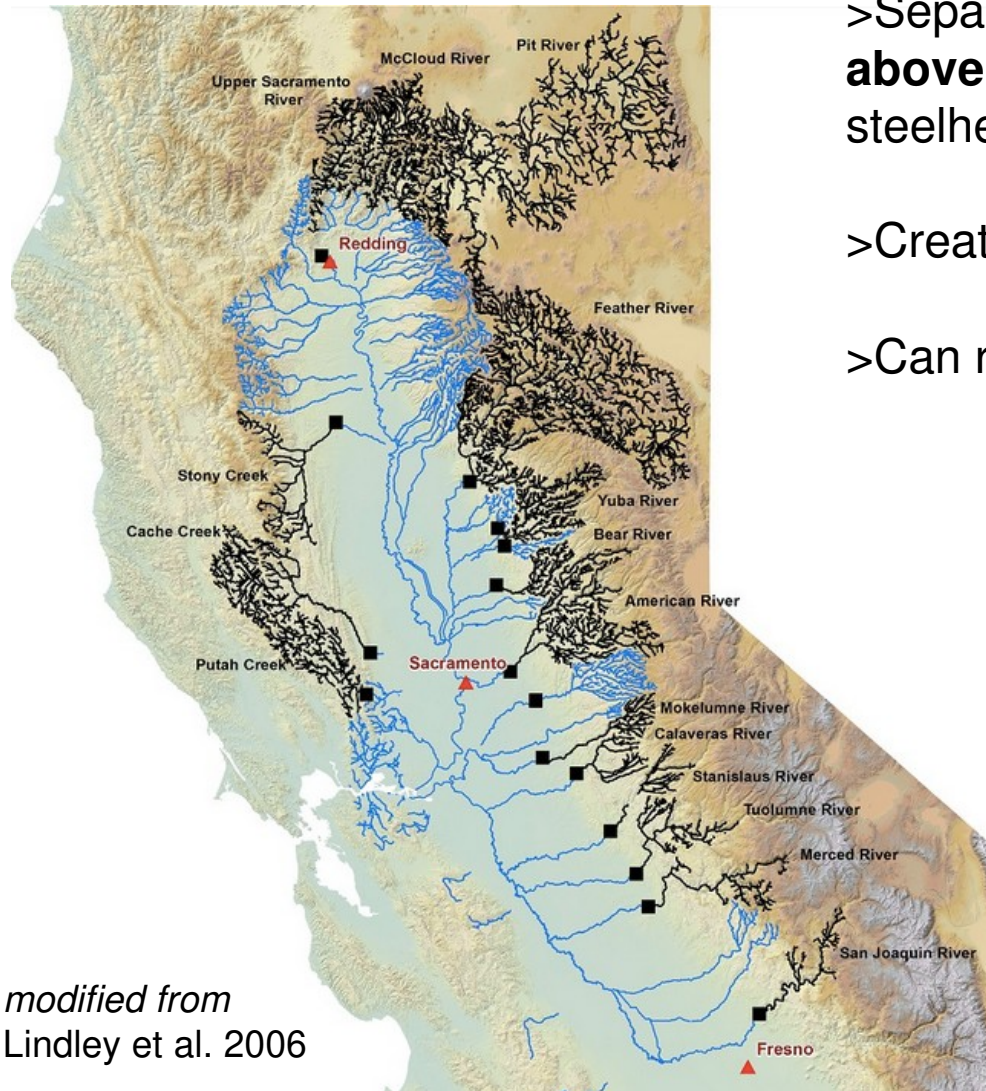


# Dams:

>Separate populations into trapped *O. mykiss* **above** and mixed resident and anadromous steelhead **below**.

>Create reservoirs above them.

>Can retain neutral and adaptive variation.



modified from  
Lindley et al. 2006



Matijila Dam, Ventura River



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>Dams alter the adaptive landscape

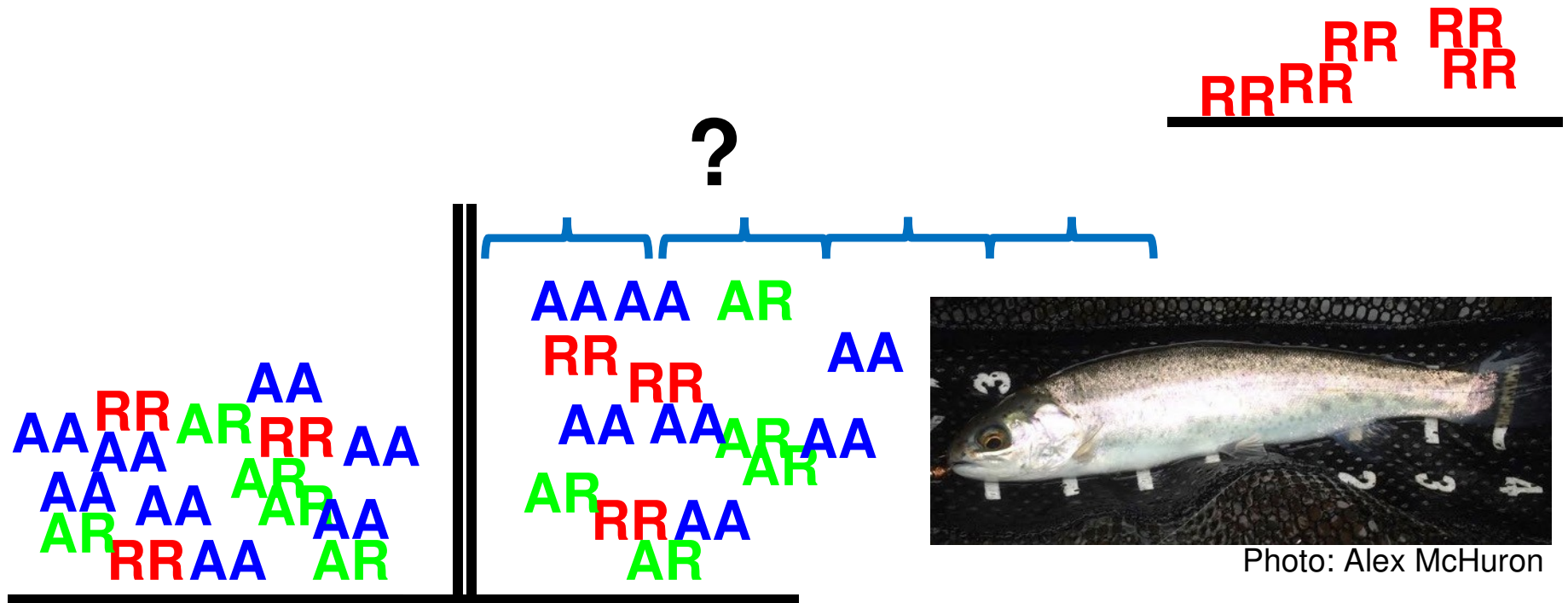


Photo: Alex McHuron

←Ocean

Omy05 A variant present in reservoirs in:

Coastal CA

San Francisco Bay area

Tuolumne and Merced

American River

Pearse et al. 2014, 2019

Leitwein et al. 2017

Pearse & Campbell 2018

Abadía-Cardoso et al. 2019



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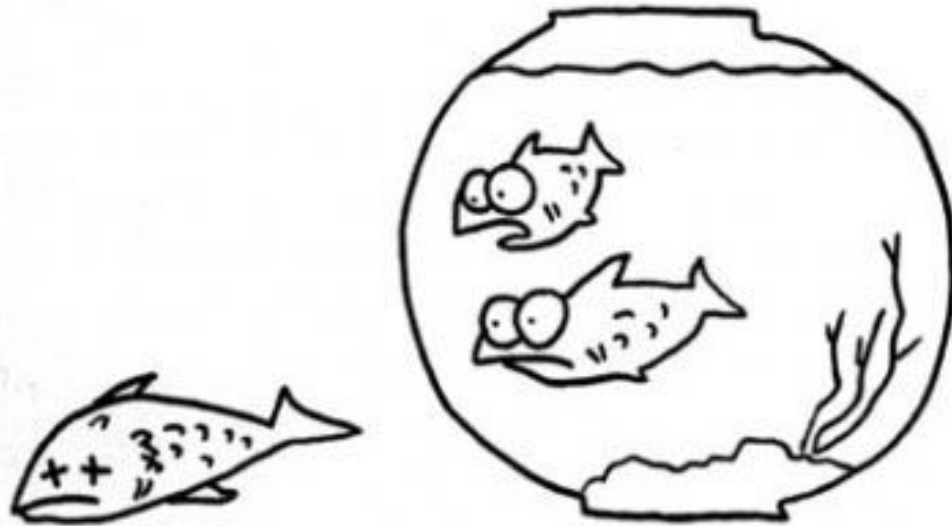




## Conclusions

- **How can/Should we incorporate Adaptive Genomic Variation into conservation and management?**
- **Diverse and dynamic habitats and the portfolio effect.**
- **Focus on the phenotypes; Adaptive genomic variation provides an additional tool for understand, BUT individual genotypes do not perfectly predict phenotypes, and vice versa.**

# Thank you!

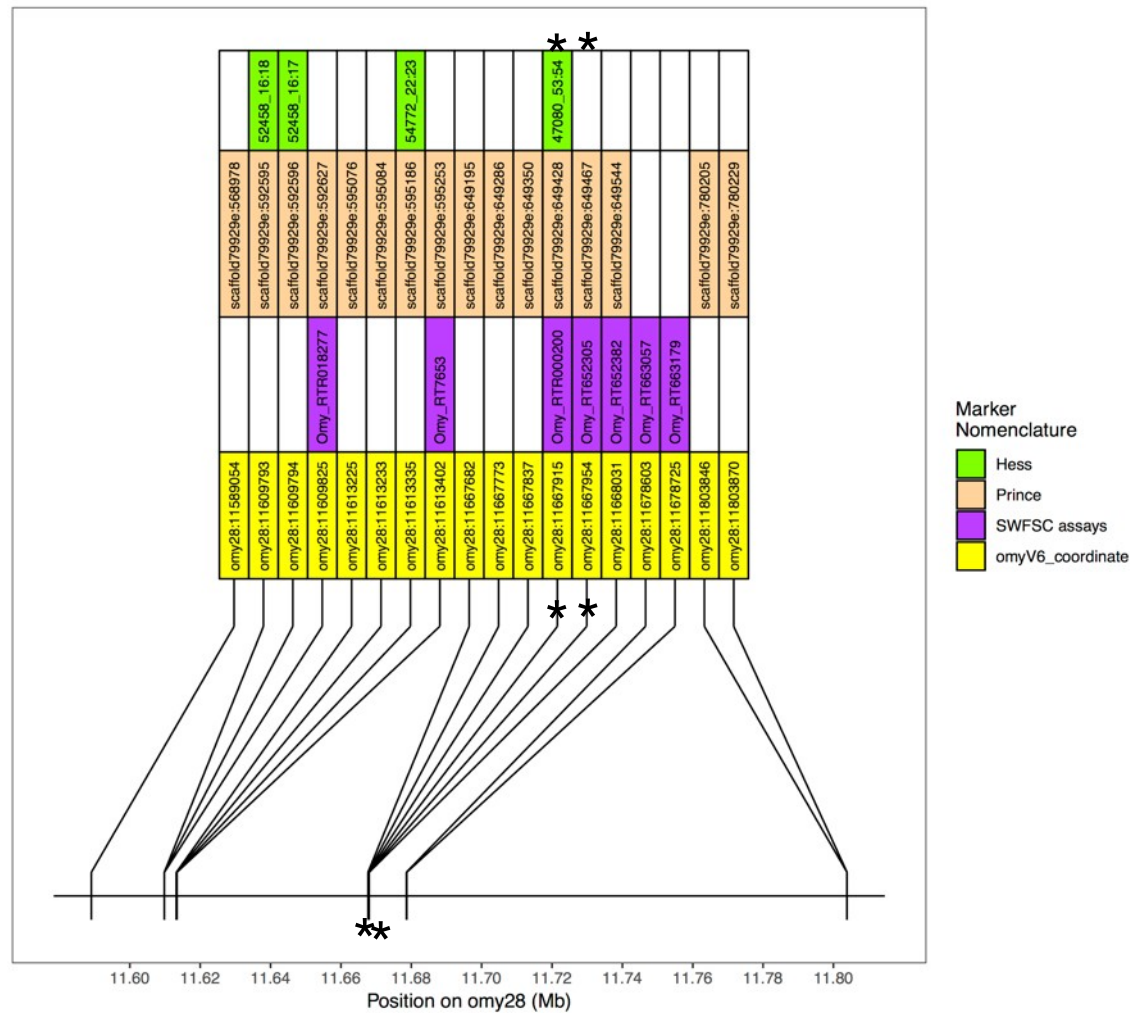


... then he yelled "evolution!"  
and simply jumped out ...



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# SWFSC unpublished data, Greb1L genomic region



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# SWFSC unpublished data, Greb1L genomic region

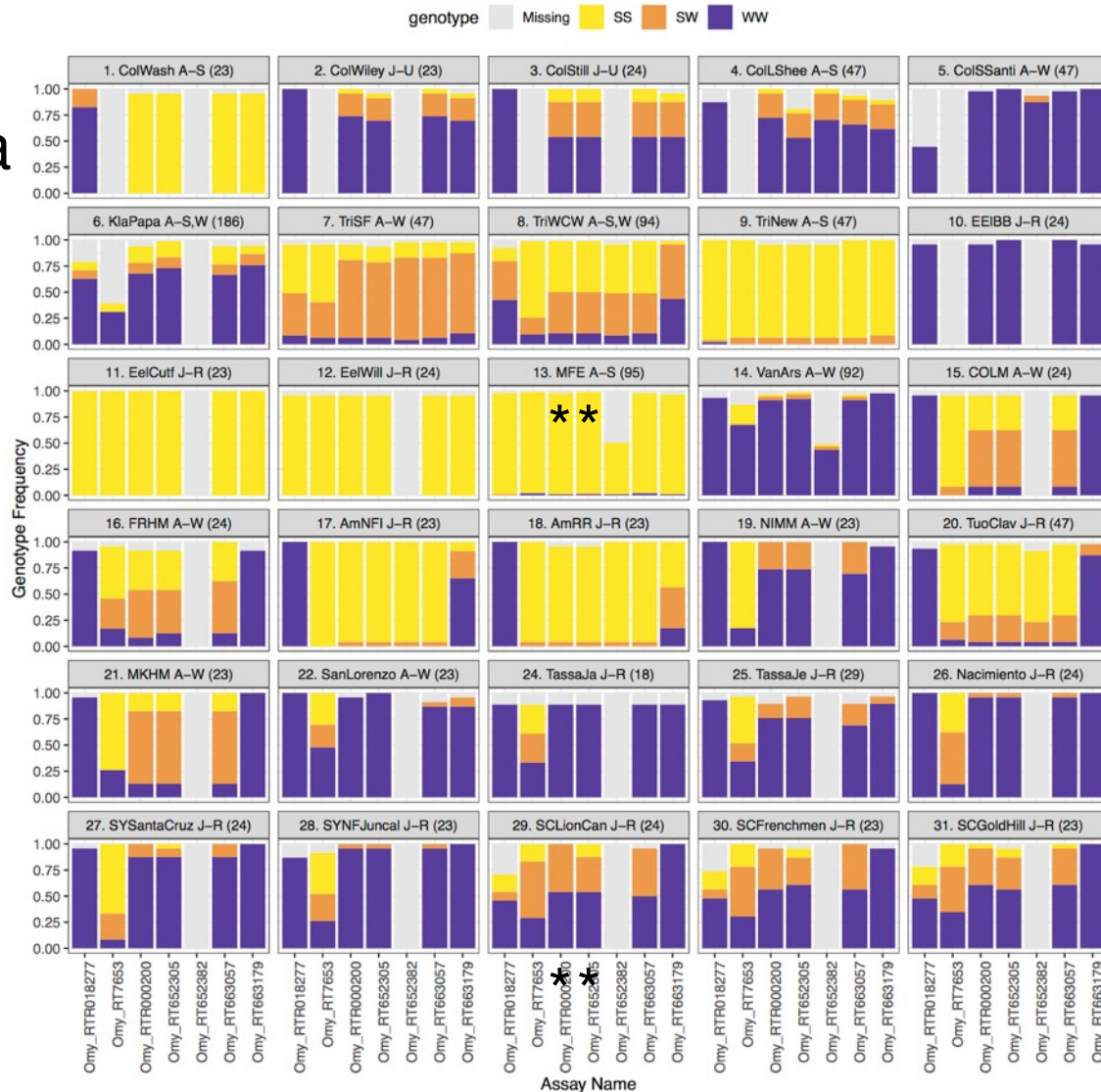
Columbia

Klamath

Eel

Central  
Valley

Central  
and  
Southern  
Coastal



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# SWFSC unpublished data; a)

## Temporal variation

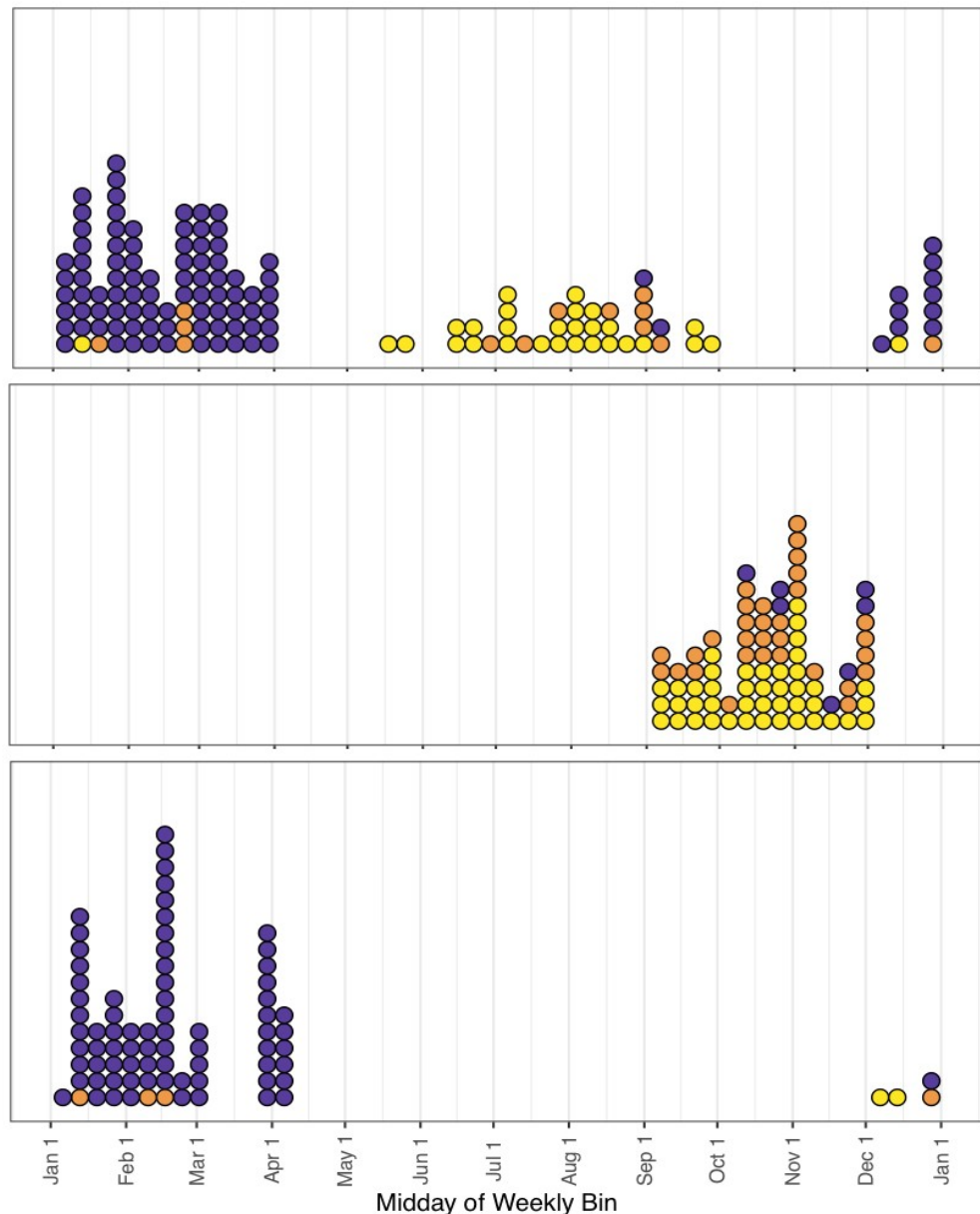
Numbers of Greb1L-region  
summer-run homozygote (SS, yellow),  
heterozygote (SW, orange), and  
winter-run homozygote (WW, purple)  
individuals among samples from three  
Sample collections:

- a) Lower Klamath River (Papa et al 2007)
- b) Willow Creek Weir on the Trinity River
- c) Eel River (VAFS)

>This is based on microhaplotype  
assay data for the two loci identified.

b)

c)



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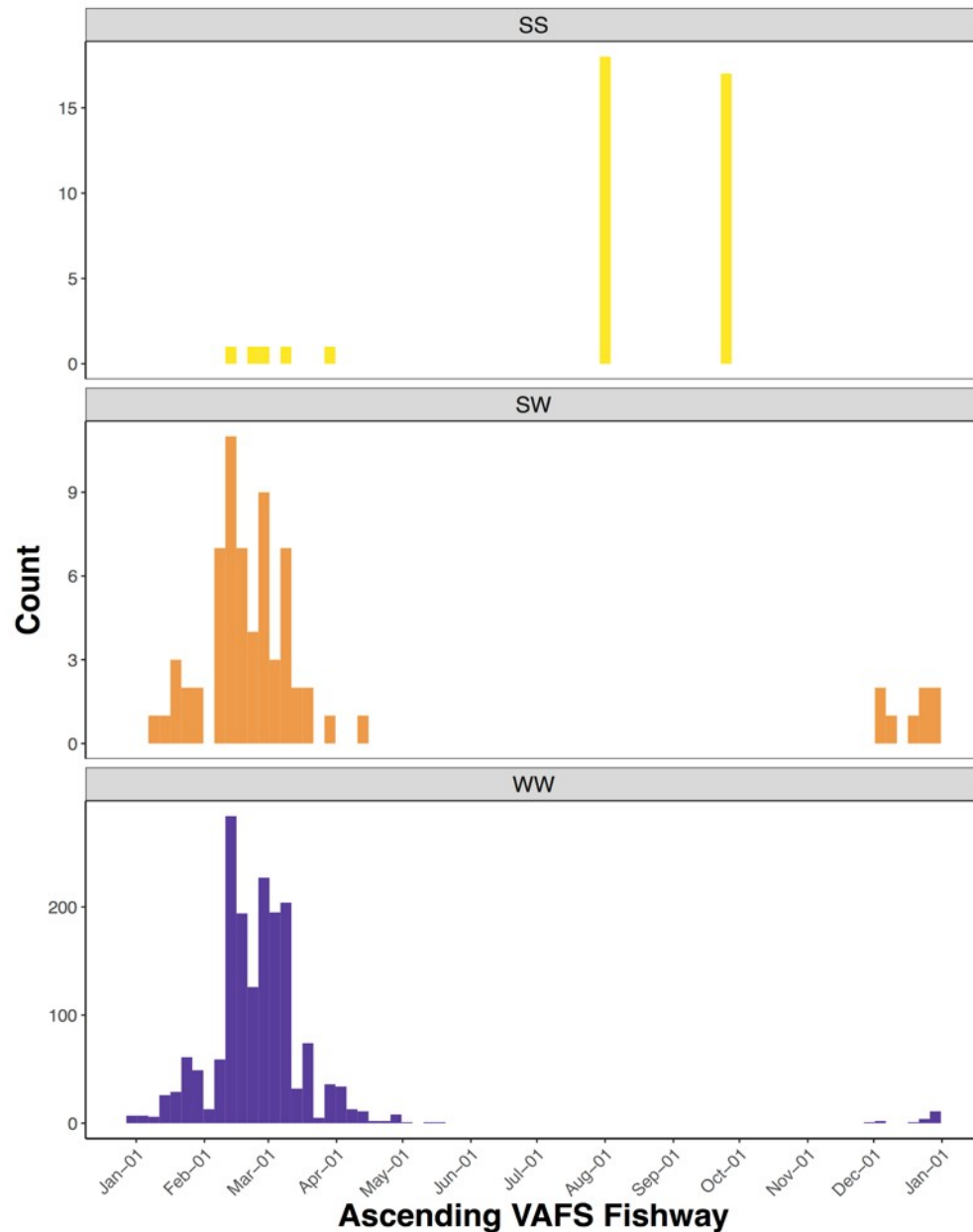


# SWFSC unpublished data; Temporal variation

Distribution of dates that steelhead (*O. mykiss* individuals >300mm) for which date information was available ascended the Van Arsdale Fisheries Station fishway between 2009 and 2016, including: 40 summer-run homozygote [yellow], 71 heterozygote [orange], and 1,726 winter-run homozygotes [purple], (total N=1,837)

>This is based on microhaplotype assay data for the two loci identified.

>Parentage analysis confirms matings between SW hets and WW steelhead.



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