Life-cycle models as salmon restoration tools

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A toy model: Scenario 1





eggs− ↑		→fry —		>smolt
	Action (increase by 50%)	Proximate Result (% increase in target life stage)	Ultimate Result (% increase in returning adults)	
	spawning capacity	48%		
	egg-to-fry survival	17%		
	smolt capacity	2%		
spawner	<			adult

eggs− ↑		→fry —		>smolt
	Action (increase by 50%)	Proximate Result (% increase in target life stage)	Ultimate Result (% increase in returning adults)	
	spawning capacity	48%		
	egg-to-fry survival	17%		
	smolt capacity	2%		
	Smolt-to-adult survival	17%		
spawner	←			adult

eggs− ↑		→fry —		>smolt
	Action (increase by 50%)	Proximate Result (% increase in target life stage)	Ultimate Result (% increase in returning adults)	
	spawning capacity	48%		
	egg-to-fry survival	17%		
	smolt capacity	2%		
spawner	<			adult

Do the proximate and ultimate goals align?

eggs− ↑		→fry —		>smolt
	Action (increase by 50%)	Proximate Result (% increase in target life stage)	Ultimate Result (% increase in returning adults)	
	spawning capacity	48%	44%	
	egg-to-fry survival	17%	70%	
	smolt capacity	2%	2%	
spawner	~			adult

A toy model: Scenario 2

eggs− ↑		→fry —		>smolt
	Action (increase by 50%)	Proximate Result (% increase in target life stage)	Ultimate Result (% increase in returning adults)	
	spawning capacity	<1%	<1%	
	egg-to-fry survival	76%	17%	
	smolt capacity	50%	50%	
spawner	,			adult

Why the difference? Context Matters

Scenario 1: spawning capacity limited

Scenario 2: rearing capacity limited

Action (increase by 50%)	Proximate Result (% increase in target life stage)	Ultimate Result (% increase in returning adults)	Proximate Result (% increase in target life stage)	Ultimate Result (% increase in returning adults)
spawning capacity	48%	44%	<1%	<1%
egg-to-fry survival	17%	70%	76%	17%
smolt capacity	2%	2%	50%	50%

But Corey, what about the "Floodplain Fatties"?

smolt

adult



Floodplain fatty large medium small

Floodplains are important if they increase survival at subsequent life stages

Action (increase by 50%)	Proximate Result (% increase in target life stage)	Ultimate Result (% increase in returning adults)	Proximate Result (% increase in target life stage)	Ultimate Result (% increase in returning adults)
spawning capacity	48%	44%	<1%	<1%
egg-to-fry survival	17%	70%	76%	17%
smolt capacity	2%	2%	50%	50%
Smolt-to-adult survival	17%	76%	17%	76%

What Models Tell Us

Static models (e.g. Skagit Chinook LFA) can identify habitats and life-history types that are limiting recovery

Dynamic models (e.g. OR Coast Coho LCM) can also evaluate population performance

Increasing life-history diversity increases population stability, as is "statistically inevitable" (Doak et al. 1998)

Proximate & Ultimate Goals of restoration should align

• Restoration will have minimal effect if later life-stages are limiting

Life-Cycle Models can identify restoration actions with the greatest Benefit to Ultimate Goals

 Identify actions that contribute to viability goals; some actions may benefit abundance goals but not diversity goals (and visa versa)

Life-history diversity is good, but often not adequately measured

Need estimates of LH-specific marine survival (otoliths, PIT tags)