

Acoustic tagging of juvenile coho and chinook salmon in the Strait of Georgia 2006-2008

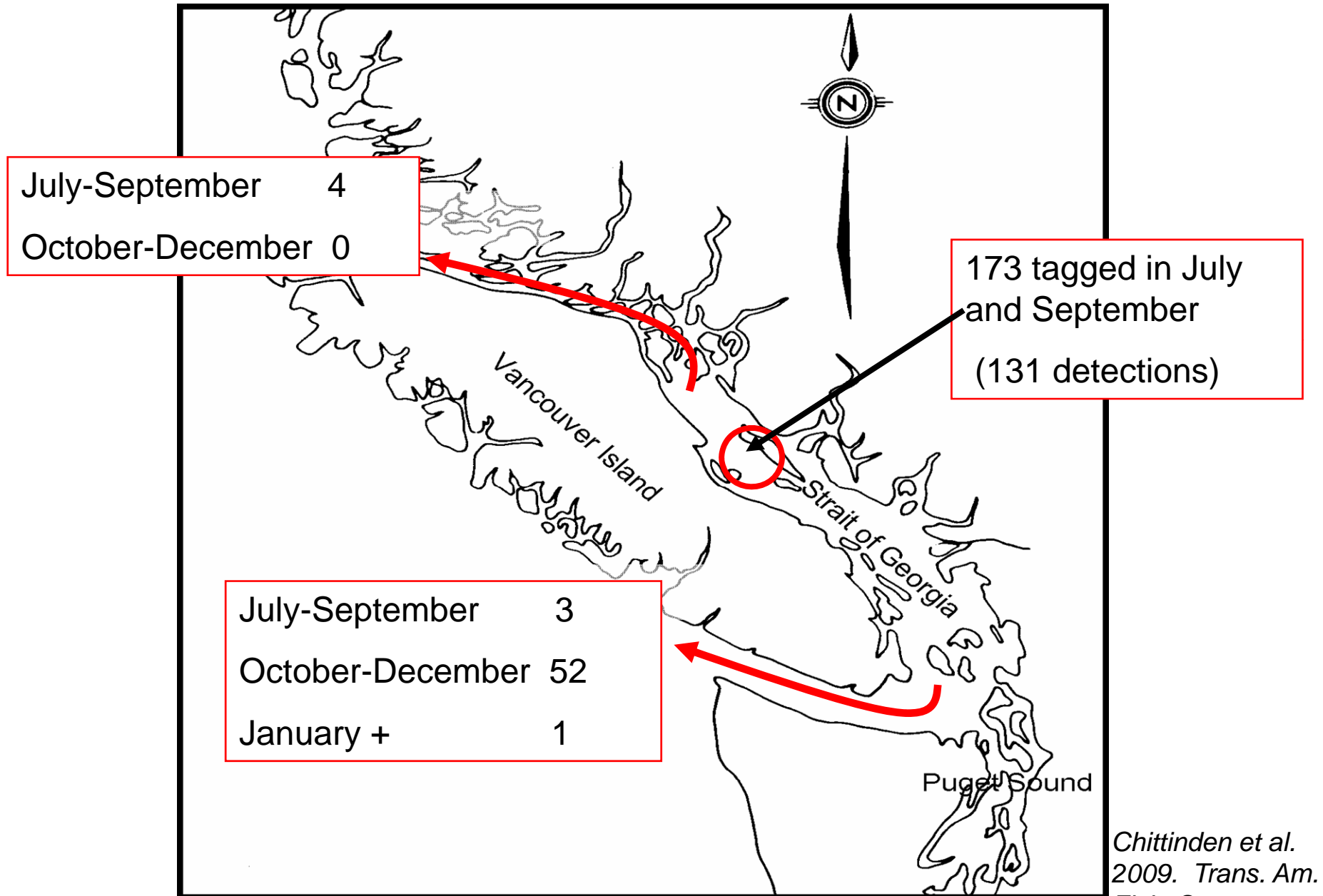
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Fisheries and Oceans Canada

Juvenile coho study - 2006

- Tagged 94 coho salmon in July and 79 coho salmon in September
- Tagging occurred in central Strait of Georgia
- Funding for research from:
 - POST
 - Fisheries and Oceans Canada

Acoustic tags on coho salmon



Chittinden et al.
2009. *Trans. Am. Fish. Soc.*

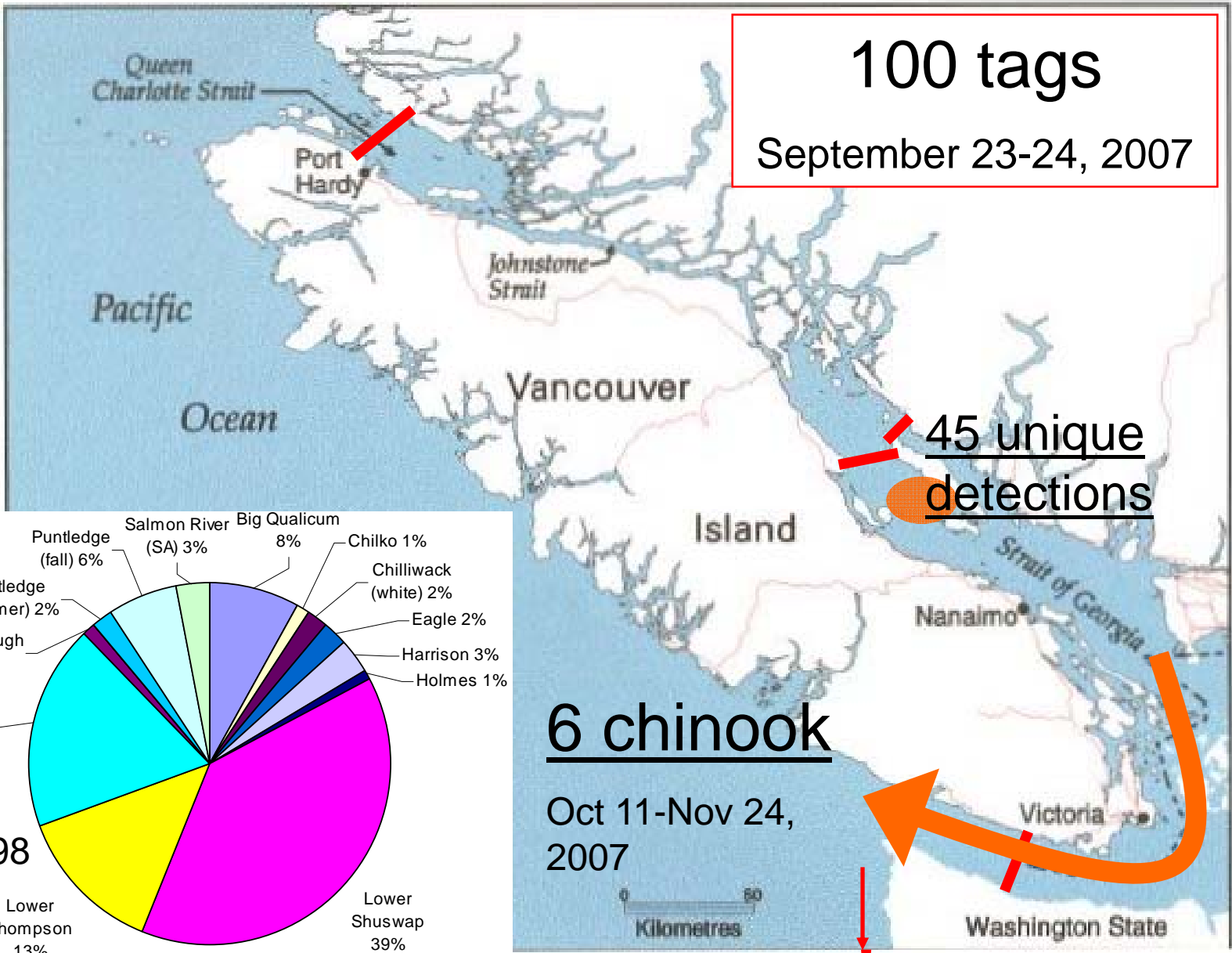
Summary of coho tagging

- Very early movements (July –September) of 12% of the coho.
 - Some of this may be result of tagging
- Most (88%) of the coho salmon that left the strait did not go until October – December. All left through Juan de Fuca Strait.
- Study confirms that juvenile coho salmon remain in the Strait of Georgia through September.
 - Differs from what we observe with Puget Sound Coho

Chittenden et al. 2009. The use of acoustic tags to determine the timing and location of the juvenile coho salmon migration out of the Strait of Georgia, Canada. Transactions American Fisheries Association (In press)

Juvenile chinook study – 2007/2008

- Tagging occurred in September 2007 (n=100) and June/July 2008 (n=178).
- Funding for research from:
 - Fisheries and Oceans Canada
 - Pacific Salmon Foundation
 - Pacific Salmon Forum

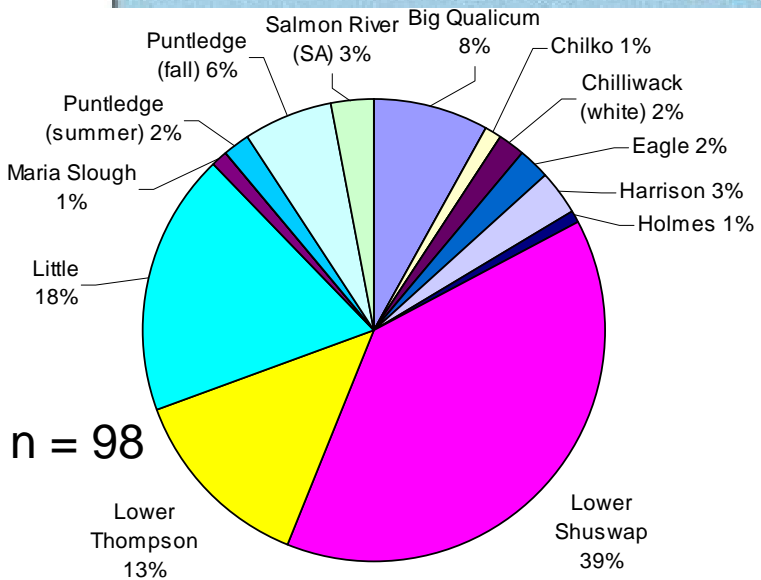


100 tags
September 23-24, 2007

45 unique detections

6 chinook

Oct 11-Nov 24, 2007



1 chinook

Aug 2-21, 2008

178 tags

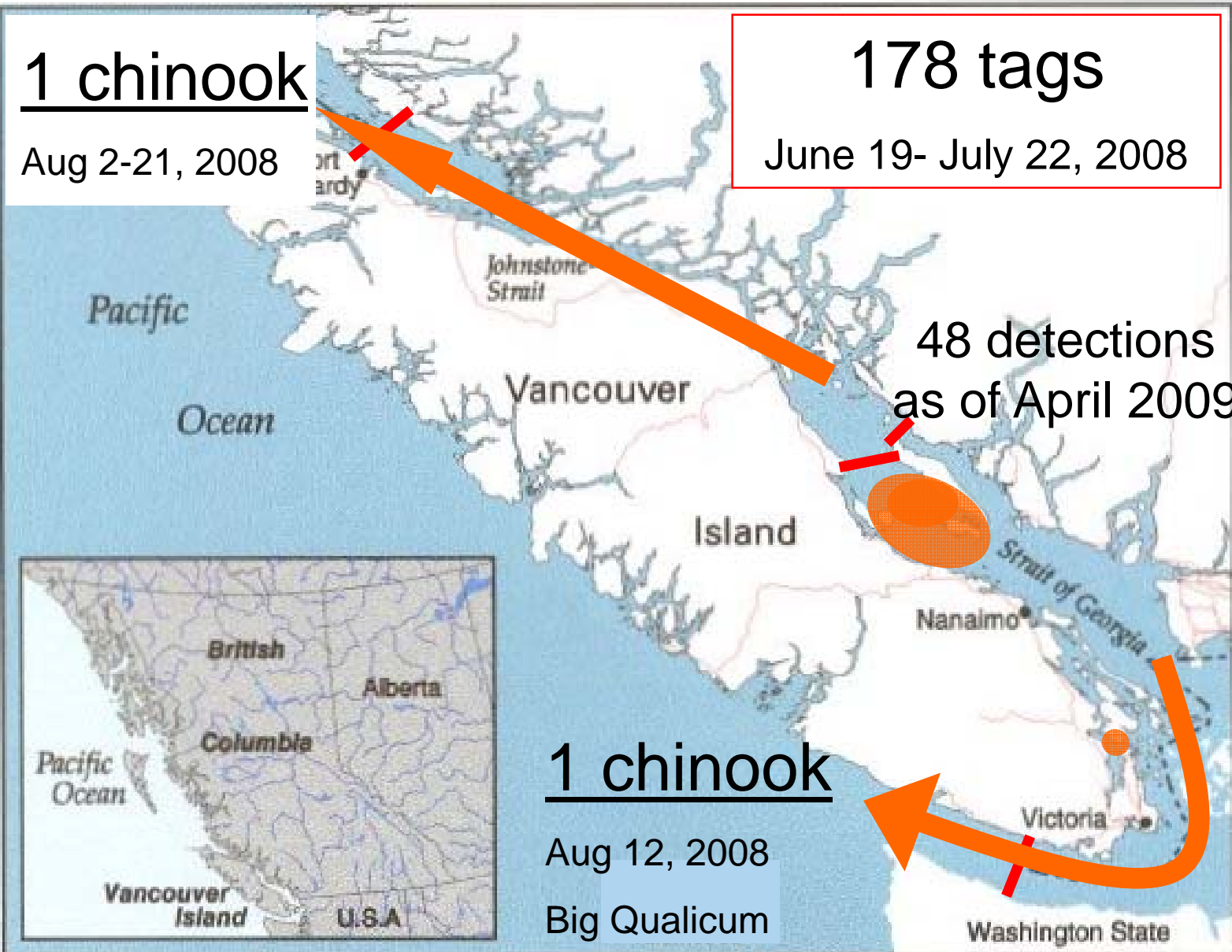
June 19- July 22, 2008

48 detections
as of April 2009

1 chinook

Aug 12, 2008

Big Qualicum



Summary

- Acoustic tagging a valuable tool in our studies of juvenile Pacific salmon.
- DNA analysis a critical component when tagging salmon in the marine environment.
- We need to repeat the juvenile coho and chinook salmon tagging studies.