

Participant evaluations of the Pacific Northwest Chinook salmon scale meeting, April 2-3, 2014 in Juneau, AK.

Meeting evaluation based on eight respondents.

- 1) Average response to rating on a scale of 1 to 5 (1 is low, 5 is high) regarding how well the meeting:
 - a) Increased general knowledge of Chinook salmon scale ageing methods: **3.7**
 - b) Created a forum to increase communication among Chinook salmon scale ageing laboratories: **4.5**
 - c) Increased awareness of reader knowledge of Chinook salmon ageing challenges and solutions: **4**
- 2) Number of participants who anticipate consulting or collaborating with other participants more because of this workshop:
Yes: **8**
No: **0**
- 3) Number of participants who anticipate using the workshop activity results:
Yes: **7**
No: **1**
- 4) The specific technique, protocol, or issue participants found most interesting and why:
 - Allowable accuracy rates and their indirect relationship with sample size. And time available for updating or adopting new protocols.
 - I'd like to look more closely at the DFO reader's use of the way circuli turn in or out to differentiate fresh and salt water growth since that is a major problem.
 - That most agers had the same problems, such as determining freshwater age. That the glossary and terminology was not the same among different labs and the terms were not well defined.
 - Data management-The meeting brought home to me that the data we generate is not used as easily and as fully as it could be because it is not set up for easy consumption.
 - Presentations on scale patterns (ageing methods) in relation to life history by Washington, Oregon, and Idaho staff as I was not familiar with the complexity of ageing mixed stocks.
 - Quality control methods & protocols, reference sample testing.
 - It was most interesting to see what procedures and protocols other people have and use. Specifically the different life histories that are seen in Chinook across the Pacific.
- 5) Suggestions for future workshops:
 - Steelhead! (Or sockeye...) growth studies
 - Hands on reading, collaborating with different labs.
 - I would like to spend some time reviewing the "hard" to read scales that others have and share the same.
 - Age studies (accuracy or precision) between ageing labs.
 - Age Structure Exchanges
- 6) Further comments:
 - Thank you kindly to ADF&G personnel for putting this workshop together; it was very worthwhile and it is clear that a lot of effort went into it.

- It was great to get together with other scale agers and compare techniques. Thanks for putting this together!
- Thank you, that was very informative and beneficial and I look forward to keeping up with how this progresses.
- This meeting made me realize there are some additional things we need to address in our methods manual. Among them would be a discussion of the potential sources for error such as study design, data and collection errors, and mis-aged fish.
- Thanks for including me and I look forward to future meetings!