

AN ABSTRACT OF THE THESIS OF

Megan E. Brady for the degree of Master of Science in Fisheries Science presented on September 14, 2020.

Title: Temporal Variation in the Prey Resource Portfolio of Juvenile Salmonids During Freshwater Rearing

Abstract approved:

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Freshwater rearing is a critical period in the life cycle of anadromous salmonids, known to produce carry-over effects mediating long-term growth and survival. Freshwater growth is primarily determined by food availability and temperature. While many species of salmon rear in freshwater for a full year or longer, most trophic ecology research is from a narrow window of time within the annual cycle. This work identified temporal biases in research, addressed gaps in understanding the trophic resources that support juvenile salmonids during key phases of freshwater rearing, and examined seasonal variability in asynchronous resource pulses and terrestrial-aquatic interactions. The first study in this thesis quantified temporal biases in the timing and duration of juvenile salmonid field research from the past 30 years. I found that across ecological topics, summer studies occurred 3x as commonly as winter studies and 57% of studies were focused on a single season. The second study in this thesis described the monthly variation in prey resources utilized by juvenile steelhead trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) and coho salmon (*O. kisutch*) in the South Fork Skokomish River and its tributary Vance Creek in Hood Canal,

Washington, USA. The results from this study suggest that stable *in situ* prey resources and ephemeral allochthonous prey resources create an asynchronous energy portfolio supporting juvenile salmonid freshwater rearing throughout the full annual cycle. Aquatic resources from the benthos and drift provided a relatively stable source of energy to juvenile salmonids year-round, but were most important during summer somatic growth, overwinter survival, and early spring prior to smoltification.

Terrestrial subsidies contributed to fish diet over the course of spring, summer, and autumn; however, within the aggregate of terrestrial inputs, I found multiple ephemeral pulses of specific prey items. These ephemeral terrestrial invertebrates contributed heavily to fish diets and coincided with stressful developmental phases including smoltification in spring and lipid storage prior to the onset of winter: 66% of coho diet biomass in May came from rove beetles, 13% of coho diet biomass in October came from spiders, and 30% of steelhead diet biomass in October came from ground beetles. To an even greater extent, ephemeral marine subsidies provided energy to salmonids during a key development phase as they stored fat in preparation for overwinter survival. Multiple spawning events from three different species of salmon provided an extended resource pulse utilized by juvenile steelhead and coho with 61-96% of prey consumption during spawning months coming from marine subsidies. Moreover, despite the depressed size of salmon runs in this system, consumption of marine subsidies resulted in substantially larger rations than seen at any other point in the year. While summer research may be more common, the most interesting results from this field study came from spring and autumn. As salmon populations in the Pacific Northwest continue to decline, conservation and recovery

efforts could benefit from incorporating knowledge of temporal variability in the trophic resources that juvenile salmonids use throughout freshwater rearing.

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Temporal Variation in the Prey Resource Portfolio of Juvenile Salmonids During
Freshwater Rearing

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I understand that my thesis will become part of the permanent collection of Oregon State University libraries. My signature below authorizes release of my thesis to any reader upon request.

Megan E. Brady, Author

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CONTRIBUTION OF AUTHORS

Dr. Jonathan Armstrong contributed to the study design, interpretation of results, and writing of this thesis and associated manuscripts. Dr. Ivan Arismendi and Dr. David Lytle contributed to the study design of the research presented in Chapter 3 and Appendix A. Katy Shelby contributed to the study design and field sampling for Chapter 3 and Appendix A. Andrew Chione contributed to data collection for the riverscape analysis portion of Chapter 2. Ty Garber, Lisa Brady, Rob Endicott, and Peter Shaw contributed to field sampling for Chapter 3 and Appendix A.

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1 CHAPTER 1. GENERAL INTRODUCTION

2 The continued decline of salmon (*Oncorhynchus* spp.) populations is one of the most
3 important ecological, economic, and cultural issues in the Pacific Northwest, USA. Despite the
4 billions of dollars spent on restoration efforts, salmon recovery largely remains an unmet goal
5 and riverine habitat degradation persists (Bernhardt et al. 2005; Stranko et al. 2012). Recent
6 work has identified two key knowledge gaps that impede restoration: temporal variation in
7 energy flows to fish populations and biotic interactions between terrestrial and aquatic food webs
8 (Naiman et al. 2012). Improved understanding of ecological interactions is likely essential to
9 creating more effective restoration projects.

10

11 *Are the constraints biotic or abiotic?*

12 While physical characteristics of streams and habitat structure (e.g. pools, large woody
13 debris, flow, substrate, temperature) have traditionally been identified as constraining factors to
14 freshwater fish production, the abundance, quality, and temporal availability of food resources
15 likely plays a significant role in determining carrying capacity and productivity within stream
16 ecosystems (Bilby et al. 1996; Wipfli 1997; Rosenfeld 2003; Weber et al. 2014). Daily physical
17 variations in habitat, such as river flow, combined with seasonal availability of food contribute to
18 food supply and feeding rate for juvenile salmonids. Studies have shown a strong relationship
19 between body size and survival in juvenile salmonids (Groot et al. 1995; Quinn and Peterson
20 1996), emphasizing the importance of improving foraging opportunities. Stable isotope analysis
21 indicates that freshwater fishes rely on aquatic, terrestrial, and marine sources of food (Wipfli
22 and Baxter 2010; Scheuerell et al. 2007). The magnitude of reciprocal subsidies between
23 terrestrial and aquatic food webs are just beginning to be explored.

24

25 *Bridging the energy gap with terrestrial inputs*

26 The amount of energy needed to support juvenile fish populations is often much higher
27 than the estimated contribution from autochthonous production within river systems, a
28 phenomenon known as the Allen paradox (Allen 1951). Many studies have concluded that
29 allochthonous energy from the riparian zone provides the remainder of fish energy budgets
30 (Hynes 1970; Allan et al. 2003; Nakano et al. 1999b; Wipfli and Baxter 2010; Edwards and
31 Hurn 1995). Therefore, prey availability is directly and indirectly shaped by riparian
32 interactions.

33

34 *Primary and secondary effects of allochthonous inputs*

35 Allochthonous inputs of organic matter from riparian zones cross ecosystem boundaries,
36 providing a vital source of energy to adjacent streams (Benfield 1996; Peterson and Cummins
37 1974; Wallace et al. 1997). These allochthonous inputs take two forms: secondary production
38 from aquatic invertebrate shredders and direct inputs of terrestrial invertebrates that fall into the
39 water as high energy prey available to predatory fishes, such as juvenile salmonids (Quinn 2005;
40 Wipfli 1997; Baxter et al. 2005). Additionally, freshwater macroinvertebrates are essential for
41 stream ecosystem functioning and energy flow within food webs (Polis and Winemiller 1996;
42 Naiman and De'camps 1997; Cummins et al. 1995), breaking down leaves from coarse
43 particulate organic matter (CPOM) to fine particulate organic matter (FPOM).

44

45 *Impacts of terrestrial changes on aquatic habitats*

46 Changes in riparian habitat can have cascading impacts through the terrestrial-aquatic
47 interface. The effects of fire, deforestation, canopy composition and openness, anthropogenic
48 habitat degradation (waves from large boats, dredging, land development, and pollution) and
49 biological invasions have been shown to alter primary productivity, invertebrate composition and
50 abundance, stream food web dynamics and prey available to predatory fish, temperature, flow
51 and spawning and rearing habitat for fish (Mellon et al. 2008; Erős et al. 2012; Hladyz et al.
52 2009; Graca 2001; Arrington et al. 2002; Kaylor and Warren 2017; Mouton et al. 2012, Fierro et
53 al. 2016; Hawkins et al. 1982). However, the effects of seasonal changes in riparian vegetation
54 on aquatic food webs are still poorly understood (Baxter et al. 2005).

55

56 *Temporal and ontogenetic diet shifts*

57 Diet analysis of freshwater fish pinpoints important prey items and facilitates greater
58 understanding of resource utilization based on size and ontogenetic niche shifts (Bisson 1978;
59 Johnson et al. 2013; Werner and Gilliam 1984; Persson and Bronmark 2002; Steingrimsson and
60 Gislason 2002). Gape and throat size influence ontogenetic niche shifts by determining the size
61 of prey that can be swallowed (Armstrong et al. 2010; Johnson and Post 1996). The highly
62 variable nature of stream habitats results in seasonal variation in food availability and fish
63 growth rates (McCarthy et al. 2009).

64

65 *Seasonal bias*

66 Diet information is often recorded during summer, so less is known about how ephemeral
67 and seasonally fluctuating *in situ* and allochthonous prey subsidies (aquatic, terrestrial, and
68 marine) affect food availability and prey preference (Armstrong et al. 2010; Bridcut 2000; but

69 see Bellmore et al. 2013). Recent work indicates that steelhead (*O. mykiss*) growth rate and
70 population distribution varies seasonally, emphasizing the importance of year-round sampling
71 (Tattam et al. 2017).

72

73 *Forage vs drift feeding*

74 Juvenile salmonids are often spatially segregated within river systems with feeding habits
75 reflecting minimal overlap even for opportunistic feeders; for example, the diets of juvenile coho
76 salmon (*O. kisutch*) often closely reflect the availability of prey in the drift whereas juvenile
77 steelhead trout (*O. mykiss*) diets more closely resemble the availability of benthic prey (Johnson
78 and Ringler 1980; Bilby et al. 1998). However, in Hood Canal, WA, juvenile steelhead diets have
79 been shown to shift from foraging behavior to more energetically efficient drift feeding,
80 particularly in the winter (Wright 2010; Doctor-Shelby and Berejikian *In Draft*). Benthic
81 macroinvertebrates dominated the winter diets of juvenile coho salmon, steelhead/rainbow trout,
82 and cutthroat trout (*O. clarkii*) in Skokomish, WA with high diet overlap between mainstem and
83 tributary habitats (Wright 2010). To add further complexity, aquatic invertebrates have varying
84 rates of intentional drift, accidental drift, and drift distance (Rader 1997), making their
85 accessibility to fishes as a prey resources somewhat difficult to predict. Terrestrial subsidies from
86 flood pulses in winter may be a potentially important but underrepresented food source due to
87 the difficulties of sampling in winter. Temporal and spatial shifts in primary and secondary
88 production, prey availability, subsidy pulses, food demand, and predator diet preferences are
89 important to understanding food web dynamics.

90

91 *Terrestrial subsidies*

92 Aquatic systems are often subsidized by adjacent terrestrial inputs. Across-habitat prey
93 fluxes with alternating subsidies emphasizes the reciprocal nature of seasonal shifts of available
94 *in situ* and allochthonous prey inputs (Nakano and Murakami 2001; McCarthy et al. 2009; Wipfli
95 and Baxter 2010). Peaks in terrestrial invertebrate abundance (summer) often corresponds with
96 the seasonal low in benthic invertebrate availability as well as higher energetic requirements for
97 fish due to the stress of elevated water temperatures (Cloe and Garman 1996; Dineen et al.
98 2007). Several studies have shown that terrestrial invertebrates are an important food source for
99 stream fishes and may comprise 50-90% of total prey consumed by juvenile salmonids (Wipfli
100 1997; Nakano et al. 1999a; Kawaguchi and Nakano 2001; Dineen et al. 2007; Allan et al. 2003;
101 Mason and MacDonald 1982; Nakano and Murakami 2001; Dunham et al. 2000; Garman 1991;
102 Edwards and Huryn 1996; Hunt 1975; Li et al. 2016). Terrestrial invertebrate inputs to streams
103 appears to increase with denser deciduous tree canopy (Cloe and Garman 1996; Nakano et al.
104 1999b). Terrestrial and aquatic invertebrates are produced directly adjacent to in-stream fish
105 habitat, *in-situ*, and transported downstream from fishless headwaters, a phenomenon known as
106 the River Continuum Concept where downstream communities benefit from upstream
107 productivity (Wipfli and Gregovich 2002; Wipfli and Baxter 2010; Wipfli and Musselwhite
108 2004; Vannote et al. 1980).

109

110 *Invertebrate drift and diel feeding habits of fish*

111 Juvenile salmonids primarily feed during daylight hours in the drift (Quinn 2005;
112 Forrester et al. 1994; Bisson 1978; Allan 1981). However, aquatic invertebrates tend to enter the
113 drift at night while larger, more buoyant terrestrial invertebrates tend to drift during the day
114 (Rader 1997; Nakano et al. 1999a; Allan 1978); but see recent work on horsehair worms

115 manipulating their cricket hosts to be drawn to moonlight reflections on streams where they are
116 eaten by trout (Sato et al. 2011). Furthermore, salmonid daytime feeding may not correlate with
117 the density of invertebrates in the drift, but may show a preferred feeding window, although
118 individual studies have identified conflicting preferred times including mid-morning (Angradi
119 and Griffith 1990) as well as evening (Allan 1981). This may be highly variable temporally,
120 spatially, and longitudinally for each species. This difference in diel availability and fish feeding
121 times may result in greater contribution of terrestrial invertebrates to fish diets due to active
122 foraging times (Baxter et al. 2005).

123

124 *Marine subsidies*

125 Upon migration to their natal streams to spawn, adult Pacific salmon transfer marine-
126 derived nutrients to freshwater ecosystems (Bilby et al. 1998; Kline et al. 1997). Spawning
127 salmon convey this high-energy food subsidy pulse to freshwater food webs directly as eggs and
128 carcasses consumed by fish (Armstrong et al. 2010; Bilby et al. 1998; Denton et al. 2010) as well
129 as indirectly with increased abundance of benthic aquatic invertebrates (Wipfli et al. 1998;
130 Wipfli et al. 1999; Collins et al. 2016) and terrestrial invertebrates (Hocking et al. 2013). Eggs
131 become available to juvenile salmonid consumption within the drift due to redd (nest) digging by
132 adult salmon, especially when these redds are superimposed on other redds (Moore et al. 2008).
133 Additionally, spawning adult salmon disturb the stream substrate, dislodging benthic
134 invertebrates that are transported downstream in the drift (Moore et al. 2007). Marine resource
135 subsidies, specifically eggs, from spawning sockeye salmon (*O. nerka*) have been shown to
136 increase body size of juvenile coho salmon (Smits et al. 2016). Despite their ephemeral
137 availability, salmon eggs can fuel more juvenile fish growth than benthic invertebrates due to

138 their high energy value (Armstrong et al. 2010; Scheurell et al. 2007; Moore et al. 2008; Bilby et
139 al. 1998; Bentley et al. 2012), large size relative to invertebrates, complete vulnerability, and
140 superabundance (where salmon remain near their historical densities). If growth and survival of
141 juvenile salmonids is increased due to high-quality energy subsidies, life-history traits and
142 patterns that depend on early freshwater growth, such as migration timing and marine survival,
143 may be altered significantly.

144

145 *Benefits of larger size and the importance of marine-derived nutrients*

146 Freshwater rearing is a critical time for juvenile salmonids. Faster growth and larger size
147 improve chances of survival by reducing the effects of size-selective mortality through predation
148 pressure and throat/gape size limits to food consumption (Sogard 1997). Freshwater growth in
149 juvenile salmonids is primarily affected by temperature and food availability (Wipfli and Baxter
150 2010; Brett and Groves 1979). The eggs and marine-derived nutrients provided by carcasses of
151 anadromous salmon subsidize freshwater ecosystems and can positively influence the body size
152 of juvenile salmonids of different species (Nelson and Reynolds 2015; Wipfli et al. 2003;
153 Bentley et al. 2012), with larger body size linked to earlier migration timing (Giannico and
154 Hinch 2007). Faster growth may result in younger age-at-smoltification in anadromous
155 salmonids with size thresholds triggering smoltification (Giannico and Hinch 2007; Irvine and
156 Ward 1989). Larger fish size positively influences over-winter survival of juvenile coho (Quinn
157 and Peterson 1996); but see Connolly and Petersen (2003) experiment where warm temperatures
158 and limited food in winter negatively impact growth, condition, and fat storage more acutely in
159 larger juvenile steelhead than smaller fish. There is evidence to suggest that energy-rich
160 ephemeral prey subsidies, such as salmon eggs, may positively influence overwinter survival and

161 push fish across the size thresholds for smoltification, resulting in younger outmigration
162 (Näslund et al. 2015; Gende et al. 2002). The energy impact from spawning salmon has been
163 found to persist after the resource pulse has disappeared, positively influencing juvenile coho
164 growth rate and energy density 6 months after spawning (Rinella et al. 2012). Increased early life
165 growth in freshwater has been shown to improve marine survival (Thompson and Beauchamp
166 2014), particularly in poor ocean condition years (Bond et al. 2008; Holtby et al. 1990). Higher
167 adult return rates for Keogh River, British Columbia steelhead were correlated with larger smolt
168 size and freshwater growth, emphasizing the importance of early growth to long-term survival
169 (Ward et al. 1989).

170

171 *Ephemeral egg subsidies*

172 There is some evidence to suggest that carcasses from spawning salmon may positively
173 influence the abundance (Bilby et al. 2002) and growth (Wipfli et al. 2003; Bilby et al. 1998) of
174 juvenile salmonids due to enhanced aquatic food web productivity (Hicks et al. 2005). However,
175 the effects of ephemeral resource pulses on life-history traits, such as age-at-smoltification or
176 size-at-smoltification, in juvenile salmonids has not been extensively researched. Nelson and
177 Reynolds (2015) found that spawning chum salmon density positively correlated to juvenile coho
178 size and noted that spawner density was also associated with a higher proportion of the
179 population classified as age 0, suggesting but not providing supporting evidence of earlier
180 juvenile ocean migration. If fish growth is affected by marine subsidies, then the magnitude of
181 this subsidy may alter the age-structure of juvenile anadromous fishes migrating downstream
182 once they reach the size threshold for smoltification. The impacts of this ephemeral resource
183 subsidy are poorly understood (Naiman et al. 2002). Some research indicates that increased

184 spawner abundance is associated with increased stream productivity at lower trophic levels
185 (including common prey items for fish) (Wipfli et al. 1998; Wipfli et al. 1999) as well as juvenile
186 fish growth (Wipfli et al. 2003) possibly due to the ingestion of salmon tissue and eggs (Bilby et
187 al. 1998). Marine resource subsidies from sockeye salmon may have resulted in higher growth
188 rate of resident charr (*Salvelinus* spp.), however temperature differences make results unclear
189 (Denton et al. 2010). Research by Wipfli et al. (2003) shows that coho salmon and resident
190 cutthroat trout growth increased in the presence of pink salmon (*O. gorbuscha*) carcass additions
191 and the juvenile fish maintained this accumulated body mass through winter. Overwinter
192 survival of juvenile salmonids is largely dependent on body size (Groot et al. 1995). The
193 growing season, and therefore survival, of freshwater fishes can be temporally extended through
194 the addition of ephemeral food pulses, such as the return of spawning salmon in the fall and
195 winter (Bilby et al. 1998; Wipfli et al. 1998). In many systems, this may be mediated by
196 temperature constraints with maximum consumption rates declining in winter due to colder
197 temperatures; however, in the mild winters of the Pacific Northwest, growth rates may not be as
198 constricted if food is still available.

199

200 *Loss of marine subsidies*

201 Many salmon runs are now at only a very small fraction of their historic numbers due to
202 loss and degradation of habitat as well as overharvest (Lichatowich 1999). Annual adult spawner
203 returns on the Columbia River, once one of the most productive salmon rivers in the world, are
204 only 1% of historic returns (Gresh et al. 2000). This sharp reduction in nutrient inputs may have
205 significant impacts on future salmon returns through disruptions in this nutrient-feedback loop
206 (Schindler et al. 2003). Loss of marine-derived nutrient subsidies from spawning population

207 declines lowers the ability of freshwater habitats to support future generations of salmonids
208 (Bilby et al. 1998). Moreover, pulses of resources may have varying effects in subsidized
209 systems depending on the magnitude of the pulse (Anderson et al. 2008). Stable isotope analysis
210 has shown that salmon make substantial nutrient contributions to freshwater and riparian
211 ecosystems, however, the ecosystem consequences of these marine-derived nutrients are not
212 fully understood (Naiman et al. 2002).

213

214 *Maximizing resource pulses*

215 While fishes may not be able to extend the temporal availability of resource pulses
216 through storage, mobile consumers can exploit spatial variation to maximize foraging
217 opportunities and increase growth during periods of high food abundance (Armstrong et al. 2016,
218 Armstrong and Schindler 2013). Some fish, such as sculpins have coevolved to exploit this
219 subsidy pulse during its short availability (Foote and Brown 1998). It is essential that fish
220 maximize utilization of these short-lived yet energetically important resource pulses as these
221 pulses tend to move through aquatic food webs faster than terrestrial food webs due to the
222 importance of top-down controls and faster growth rates in aquatic systems (Nowlin et al. 2008).

223

224 *Freshwater residence of juvenile salmon*

225 Seasonal variations in prey availability and prey energy quality may affect juvenile
226 salmonids with longer freshwater residence time more acutely than those with shorter residence
227 time. Juvenile steelhead spend 2-4 years in freshwater before ocean outmigration while juvenile
228 coho and Chinook (*O. tshawytscha*) typically spend 1 year in freshwater before smoltification
229 (Quinn 2005). Chum and pink salmon spend even less time in freshwater as juveniles: 1-2

230 months (Quinn 2005). Shifts in prey availability may drive juvenile salmonid growth during
231 freshwater residence.

232

233 *Bioenergetics*

234 Steelhead are often growth-limited by temperature but may be limited by food as well. It
235 is often assumed that food availability for fish and fish growth rates are higher in summer than in
236 winter, but recent work suggests this may not be true for *O. mykiss* (McCarthy et al. 2009,
237 Doctor-Shelby and Berejikian *In Draft*). A bioenergetics model based on twice-yearly size
238 sampling estimated juvenile steelhead consumption to be 22% of the maximum consumption in
239 summer and 27% in winter; however, daily growth rate is higher in summer than in winter with
240 an optimal growth rate at 12°C (Doctor-Shelby and Berejikian *In Draft*). But, since maximum
241 consumption is temperature dependent, 20% in winter is much less food than 20% in summer but
242 may result in greater growth due to decreased metabolic costs of colder winter temperatures.
243 Furthermore, increases in diet energy density (such as from energy-rich salmon eggs) can have
244 additional positive effects on size-selective mortality by raising the optimal growth temperature,
245 a critical component of freshwater survival in the face of climate change (Beauchamp 2009). If
246 juvenile salmon digestive capacity is limited by temperature in winter, having a high-energy prey
247 item, such as eggs, could help mediate digestive constraints by increasing energy gains through
248 high energy prey instead of making cuts to energetic costs.

249

250 *Food webs for restoration*

251 The temporal flux of seasonally available autochthonous and allochthonous inputs in
252 stream systems can have individual level effects that lead to population level consequences such

253 as growth, survival, and health (Sabo and Power 2002; Baxter et al. 2007; Nakano and Murakami
254 2001). Food webs are widely regarded as vital to understanding the needs of targeted species
255 (Vander Zanden et al. 2003; Woodward and Hildrew 2002; Bellmore et al. 2013). Due to linked
256 ecosystem processes and energy flow, ecosystem-based fishery management (EBFM) utilizing a
257 food web approach that includes habitat and predator-prey interactions may be more effective in
258 restoration monitoring rather than single species management (Pikitch et al. 2004).

259

260 *Non-native plants in terrestrial-aquatic interactions*

261 The availability of terrestrial prey and input of allochthonous subsidies to streams is
262 determined by riparian composition (Naiman and De'camps 1997; Mason and MacDonald 1982;
263 Edwards and Huryn 1996). Changes in nutrient content from inter- and intraspecific leaf litter
264 variation have been shown to affect decomposition rates as well as the abundance and diversity
265 of invertebrate colonization (Graca 2001; Kominoski et al. 2011; LeRoy et al. 2016; Hladyz et al.
266 2011; LeRoy and Marks 2006). Invasive plant species impact riparian zones by altering
267 biodiversity, light availability, bank stability, terrestrial invertebrate composition and biomass,
268 ecosystem processes like carbon cycling, and food web structure (Claeson et al. 2014; Ehrenfeld
269 2003). However, changes in aquatic ecosystem processes and invertebrate assemblages in
270 detritus-based food webs due to the presence of terrestrial invasive plant species in riparian
271 communities are poorly understood (Claeson et al. 2014; Hladyz et al. 2011; Naiman and
272 De'camps 1997; Kennedy and Hobbie 2004). Introduction of non-native fish species often
273 impacts native fish negatively by usurping prey (Baxter et al. 2004). However, the impact of
274 invasive terrestrial plants on fish is largely unknown due to the unique characteristics of each
275 invasive species (but see Fierro et al. 2016; Roon et al. 2016). Furthermore, the impact of

276 human-driven changes in riparian corridors (deforestation, agriculture, land development)
277 coupled with frequent natural disturbances from flooding provide an ideal opportunity for
278 colonization by invasive plants that thrive in disturbed habitats.

279

280 *Salmon recovery*

281 Salmon recovery efforts have largely focused on the four Hs: habitat, hatchery,
282 hydroelectric dams, and harvest (Naiman and Bilby 1998). Temporal and spatial food web
283 dynamics should be added to that list (Naiman et al. 2012). In many systems, food, not the
284 traditional metrics of stream characteristics, may be the limiting factor to carrying capacity and
285 production of juvenile salmonids (Bellmore et al. 2013). Riparian management directly and
286 indirectly influences fish productivity by altering the food supply available through aquatic and
287 terrestrial food webs (Allan et al. 2003). Knowledge of terrestrial-aquatic food web linkages is
288 essential to inform a science-based, ecosystems approach to restoring species of concern, such as
289 Pacific salmonids.

290

291 *Research objectives*

292 The objectives of the proposed research are to 1) characterize temporal biases in
293 ecological research that currently informs fisheries restoration and conservation, 2) determine the
294 importance and temporal variation of terrestrial and aquatic invertebrates as prey resources for
295 juvenile salmonids, 3) explore how aquatic-terrestrial linkages can inform salmon recovery and
296 habitat restoration efforts, and 4) assess what effects invasive terrestrial plants have on aquatic
297 food webs vital to juvenile salmonids.

298

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- 671

672 **CHAPTER 2. BEYOND SUMMER: REVIEW OF THE TEMPORAL**
673 **ASPECTS OF JUVENILE SALMON ECOLOGICAL AND RIVERSCAPE**
674 **STUDIES REVEALS THE NEED FOR YEAR-ROUND RESEARCH**

675

676 Megan E. Brady, Jonathan B. Armstrong, and Andrew Chione

677

678 **Abstract**

679 In recent decades, fish ecologists have become increasingly aware of the need for
680 spatially comprehensive sampling. However, a corresponding reflection on the temporal aspects
681 of research has been lacking. We conducted a review of the seasonal timing and extent of
682 sampling for the last 30 years of juvenile Pacific salmon and trout ecological research broadly
683 and within the topics of habitat interactions, trophic ecology, and spatial distribution (n = 371
684 studies) as well as the emerging field of spatially continuous “riverscape” sampling (n = 38). We
685 found that ecological research was biased towards summer (40% occurred during June-August)
686 and the month of June in particular, at the expense of winter work (only 13% occurred during
687 December-February). Riverscape studies were also biased toward summer (50% of studies) and
688 against winter (9%). It was relatively rare for studies to encompass multiple seasons (only 43%
689 of ecological studies but over 55% for riverscape studies) and most were shorter than 4 months
690 (73% of ecological studies and 80% of riverscape studies). These temporal biases may cause
691 researchers to overemphasize ecological phenomena observed during summer and limit our
692 ability to recognize seasonal interactions such as carry-over effects. Full year and winter studies
693 likely hold valuable insights for conservation and management.

694

695 **Introduction**

696 A key challenge in conservation is to understand how abiotic and biotic heterogeneity
697 mediate the function of ecosystems and the survival of biota that inhabit these environments.
698 This heterogeneity exists in both space and time, creating a shifting mosaic of physical and
699 biological conditions that has significant ramifications for biota (Whited et al. 2007). Phenomena
700 ranging from ontogenetic niche shifts (Werner and Gilliam 1984) to the stability of fisheries
701 (Brennan et al. 2019) can only be understood by jointly considering interactions between space
702 and time. However, because resources are limited and characterizing stream heterogeneity is a
703 non-trivial task, it is often not feasible to study multiple dimensions of variation simultaneously.
704 Indeed, many fundamental concepts in stream ecology are either spatially or temporally focused.

705 For example, spatial patterns of biota are often described with minimal reference to time.
706 This applies to early work, such as the longitudinal zonation of fishes (Huet 1959), but also the
707 River Continuum Concept (Vannote et al. 1980) and more contemporary emphasis on
708 “riverscape” ecology (Fausch et al. 2002). Though time is recognized as the “fourth dimension”
709 of the riverscape (Ward 1989), in practice, the suffix “scape” is typically used when working at
710 large spatial extents of data, which often compounds the challenges of incorporating time.

711 Similarly, time is often considered independently in studies of both habitat and fish.
712 Stream ecologists increasingly embrace a regime approach to characterizing temporal variation
713 in habitat conditions, originating with the Natural Flow Regime (Poff et al. 1997), which
714 considered the statistical distribution of conditions and metrics such as event magnitude,
715 frequency, seasonal timing, predictability, duration, and rates of change. The regime concept is
716 now applied beyond water quantity to include aspects of water quality (Poole and Berman 2001)
717 (Caissie 2006), as well as physical attributes such as sediment, large wood, and abundance of
718 pools (Beechie and Sibley 1997). In fisheries ecology, temporal variation is probably most

719 commonly studied in the form of population dynamics, i.e., fluctuations in abundance typically
720 described at an annual resolution. However, many important processes that may scale up to
721 affect population dynamics (e.g. growth) play out at intra-annual timescales and relate to
722 seasonality.

723 It is often recognized that short-term datasets can be inadequate because they fail to
724 capture historical levels of productivity (i.e. the shifting baseline) or reveal coarser scale
725 temporal patterning such as regime shifts (Mejia et al. 2019). Likewise, for cyclically patterned
726 temporal variation, interpretations may be misleading if they are based on a limited portion of a
727 cycle. For example, many fish switch between habitat types throughout the diel cycle (Neverman
728 and Wurtsbaugh 1994) so only studying animals during daytime may fail to capture important
729 habitats. Similarly, refuge habitat identified in summer may not represent refuge habitat for other
730 seasons and stressors (Schlosser 1995). Riverine systems may exhibit extreme seasonal variation,
731 with water temperatures ranging 20°C or more and flows varying 100-fold. This strongly affects
732 not only fish and other aquatic organisms, but also the feasibility of field sampling. While a
733 temperature logger can effectively collect data every day of the year, the cost and logistical
734 challenges of sampling fish vary tremendously and can strongly govern when biological data are
735 collected. Extrapolating from data that pertain to specific points in time can lead to misleading
736 interpretations regarding how fish behave, the production capacity for ecosystems, and what
737 locations or habitat types are important (Fraser and Metcalfe 1997; Bramblett et al. 2002). This is
738 particularly problematic in the study of mobile organisms that undergo substantial physiological
739 and ecological changes throughout their lifetimes, such as Pacific salmonids. The objective of
740 this paper is to characterize the temporal attributes of fish ecology research to elucidate potential
741 data gaps and guide future research.

742 Recent work on birds, amphibians, reptiles, and mammals found strong seasonal biases in
743 field research (Marra et al. 2015), but analogous work on fish has been lacking. The assertion
744 that winter fish ecology is an important, yet understudied portion of the research portfolio is not
745 new (Huusko et al. 2007); however, no quantification of any inequity in research effort has
746 previously existed. Here, we characterize the temporal aspects of Pacific salmon and trout
747 ecology research from the last 30 years. We characterized patterns in the seasonal timing and
748 duration of ecological field studies and considered how these patterns varied across three focal
749 topics: fish-habitat interactions, trophic ecology, and spatial distribution. We then assessed
750 whether spatially extensive sampling has come at the expense of time.

751

752 **Methods**

753 To determine whether and to what extent temporal biases are present in juvenile Pacific
754 salmon and trout research, we conducted a literature review of 1) what months and seasons
755 juvenile salmonid ecology research occurs, 2) the duration of studies, and 3) whether seasons
756 were studied individually or if seasonal interactions were examined.

757 We reviewed 13 journals that commonly publish fisheries ecology research: *Canadian*
758 *Journal of Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences*, *Ecology*, *Ecology of Freshwater Fish*, *Ecosphere*,
759 *Ecosystems*, *Environmental Biology of Fishes*, *Freshwater Biology*, *Hydrobiologia*, *North*
760 *American Journal of Fisheries Management*, *Oecologia*, *PLoS ONE*, *Science*, and *Transactions*
761 *of the American Fisheries Society*. Using the Web of Science database, we performed searches
762 within these journals using the following key words: “salmon,” “salmonids,” or
763 “*Oncorhynchus*.” We then examined every article from the past 30 years, 1988-2017, and
764 selected those that dealt with the ecology of juvenile *Oncorhynchus* species during freshwater

765 residence. The juvenile life stages of fry, parr, and smolt were all included. We focused on
766 juvenile Pacific salmon in freshwater because they are well-studied (providing us the power to
767 detect trends in sampling) and they live in highly seasonal environments (which means an
768 incomplete understanding of the annual cycle would be a problem and is thus important to test
769 for). The past 30 years was chosen to characterize the current patterns of research. Only papers
770 that presented original, ecologically-focused data were included, whether they were
771 observational studies or experimental studies conducted in a natural environment. We did not
772 include laboratory studies, reviews, or models not validated with field data.

773 Additionally, we identified “riverscape” studies that utilized spatially continuous
774 sampling (Fausch et al. 2002). Using the Web of Science database, we performed searches
775 within all peer-reviewed journals using combinations of the following key words: “riverscape”,
776 “spatially continuous”, “longitudinal distribution”, “Fausch et al. 2002”, “salmon,” “salmonids,”
777 and “*Oncorhynchus*.” We then examined every article from the past 30 years, 1988-2017, and
778 selected those that dealt with spatially continuous or riverscape-scale sampling of juvenile
779 *Oncorhynchus* species during freshwater residence.

780 We classified each publication for both the ecological dataset and the riverscape dataset
781 by the temporal aspects of data collection. First, we recorded the presence/absence of data
782 collection in each month and season. We defined seasons meteorologically as aligned with the
783 calendar months of June 1-August 31 for summer, September 1-November 30 for autumn,
784 December 1-February 28 for winter, and March 1-May 30 for spring. Seasons were not defined
785 by solstice or equinox to stay consistent with presence/absence within a single month. Studies
786 may encompass more than one month, therefore the number of data points for these analyses are
787 greater than the number of studies included in the review. Second, we quantified the frequency

788 of the number of meteorological seasons (1-4) that were included in these studies to analyze
789 temporal extent and consideration of inter-seasonal interactions (i.e., carry-over effects).

790 To explore whether temporal aspects of sampling differed among research areas, we
791 classified each study into three focal areas: 1) fish-habitat interactions and the impact of habitat
792 units and types on juvenile salmonid biology or behavior, 2) trophic ecology including fish diet,
793 foraging, and food web structure, and 3) spatial distribution including movement and landscape-
794 scale distribution. Studies examining fish growth and survival were often presented by
795 researchers as a function of some aspect of one of the three focal areas identified and were
796 classified accordingly. The temporal distribution and extent of sampling effort was then
797 quantified both collectively and by research category. Each study was only classified into one of
798 the three focal areas based on the main objective of the study. Studies that did not fall into one of
799 these four main categories were classified as “Other” and included in overall analysis but not the
800 subset analyses.

801 We tested for temporal biases using Pearson χ^2 -tests for temporal distribution and extent.
802 Equal values would indicate that no bias exists, supporting the null hypothesis. While the test is
803 objective, we acknowledge that the interpretation is subjective due to the assumptions that all
804 months and seasons are equally important and present equal stresses, limitations, or opportunities
805 for growth, fitness, and survival for juvenile salmonids.

806 We also acknowledge that phenology varies with latitude, elevation, and position in
807 watershed, so the ecological conditions associated with a particular month or season may vary
808 among locations (and thus among the studies in our paper). Thus, the implications of the
809 temporal biases we observed may be somewhat context dependent.

810

811 **Results**

812 *Monthly Temporal Distribution of Studies*

813 At a monthly resolution across all ecological topics, we found that the most frequently
814 represented month was 3-6 times more common than the least frequently represented month (Fig.
815 1). December was the least represented month across all topics, while the summer months of
816 June, July, and August were most common among topics. The month of June had a significantly
817 higher proportion of studies than the month of December at 14% and 3%, respectively.

818

819 *Seasonal Temporal Distribution of Studies*

820 Across all ecological topics, we found that 39-44% of studies occurred during summer
821 while only 10-15% of studies occurred during winter (Fig. 1). There has been little change in the
822 temporal distribution of research efforts with the proportion of winter studies remaining
823 significantly lower than summer studies (Fig. 2).

824

825 *Monthly Temporal Extent of Studies*

826 At a monthly resolution across all ecological topics, we found that most studies had
827 limited temporal extent across the annual cycle, with 71-75% of studies containing data from 4
828 months or less (Fig. 3). Less than 2-8% of studies across all topics encompassed data from all 12
829 months of the year.

830

831 *Seasonal Temporal Extent of Studies*

832 Across all ecological topics, we found that 48-63% of studies occurred during a single
833 season while only 6-10% of studies encompassed field sampling from all four seasons (Fig. 3).

834 Only 43% of all studies collected data from multiple seasons and 73% of studies were shorter
835 than 4 months. Again, there has been little change in the temporal extent of research efforts with
836 the proportion of single-season studies remaining significantly higher than multi-season or year-
837 round studies (Fig. 4).

838

839 *Riverscape Studies*

840 Analysis of riverscape studies revealed wider biases in temporal distribution at monthly
841 and seasonal scales. The most frequently represented month was 8x more common than the least
842 frequently represented month (Fig. 5). January and February were the least represented months,
843 while June, July, August, and September were most common. Summer encompassed 50% of all
844 juvenile Pacific salmon and trout riverscape studies while only 9% of studies occurred during
845 winter (Fig. 5).

846 Monthly temporal extent was limited within riverscape studies as well. Spatially
847 continuous studies were almost entirely conducted during a limited amount of time: 80%
848 contained data from 4 months or less and only 3% of studies encompassed data from a full 12
849 months out of the year (Fig. 5). Seasonal extent for riverscape studies was the one metric that
850 was more representative than the ecological studies we examined: 45% of riverscape studies
851 occurred during a single season, 39% occurred over two seasons, 8% occurred over three
852 seasons, and 8% occurred during all four seasons (Fig. 5).

853

854 **Discussion**

855 In our review of 371 ecological studies and 38 riverscape studies from the last 30 years of
856 juvenile Pacific salmon and trout research, we observed strong biases in seasonal timing

857 (distribution) and temporal extent. Within research topics where seasonality is particularly
858 relevant, we observed the same general pattern of temporal bias; the period of summer was
859 overrepresented in the study of fish-habitat interactions, trophic ecology, and spatial distribution.
860 Below we discuss these temporal patterns of data collection and consider their potential causes
861 and consequences.

862

863 *Bias in Temporal Distribution of Studies*

864 The most conspicuous pattern in the data was the lack of research during winter. For
865 example, the month of December had less than one-quarter as many studies as that of June.
866 Winter studies represented only 10-15% of total ecological research and 9% of riverscape
867 studies. Winter may be tempting to overlook because it is generally a period of low biological
868 activity in freshwater ecosystems. Winter is typically the coldest time of year, limiting the scope
869 for growth and activity in aquatic poikilotherms. Further, winter is the darkest time of year,
870 limiting primary productivity (Uehlinger 2006) and the foraging opportunity for visual predators
871 (Fraser and Metcalfe 1997). Indeed, many stream-dwelling fishes tend to allocate energy to fat
872 stores in anticipation of winter (Hurst and Conover 2003), suggesting it is generally a period of
873 negative energy balance. Though juvenile salmonids may be less active in winter and not achieve
874 substantial growth (Tattam et al. 2017), this does not mean that understanding winter ecology is
875 not critical. If fish rely on summer and fall fat stores to survive winter, then any food intake
876 during winter helps to minimize the need to deplete those stores. Identifying winter foraging
877 opportunities, trophic pathways, and habitat use could provide insights into how fish survive
878 during this time of year (Cunjak et al. 1987). For example, recent research exploring how
879 environmental conditions influence fish interactions and movement has identified habitat not

880 utilized outside of the winter months (McMeans et al. 2020). In many systems, winter survival is
881 hypothesized to be a limiting factor to freshwater population productivity (Bustard and Narver
882 1975) and reducing winter mortality is often an objective of largescale restoration efforts
883 (Cederholm et al. 1997). Understanding winter habitat use and foraging ecology could help
884 improve our ability to increase overwinter survival.

885 The lack of winter research contrasted with the overabundance of summer studies. While
886 emphasis on summer has benefits, such as an improved understanding of salmonid ecology
887 during periods of climate stress, relying on summer-biased data could pose problems for
888 conservation and management by violating assumptions of models. For example, species
889 distribution models (SDM) are increasingly used in climate change adaptation and rely on the
890 assumptions that a species occurs in all suitable habitats and that a species only occupies a
891 portion of that suitable habitat due to constraining factors such as competition or predation
892 (Guisan and Thuiller 2005). Developing such models from temporally biased data would be valid
893 only if the focal species were sedentary and their habitat use did not vary over time. However,
894 it's rarely possible to confirm that a species meets these criteria without having temporally
895 representative data (i.e., you can't dismiss the possibility of winter habitat shifts without data on
896 winter habitat use). Using data from a limited period of time can cause SDMs to erroneously
897 dismiss critically important habitat. For example, Smeraldo et al. (2018) demonstrated that
898 SDMs based on seasonally biased data failed to identify the habitats needed to support both
899 hibernation and reproduction in bats. Defining climate refugia based on summer-biased data
900 (Isaak et al. 2015) could similarly leave out critical overwinter habitats if fish exhibit seasonal
901 movements and require multiple habitat types to complete the annual cycle. While summer heat
902 stress may be the most vivid threat of a warming world, climate change may also make winter

903 more challenging by increasing maximum flows (McCabe et al. 2007) or reducing ice cover
904 (Huusko et al. 2007). The lack of winter studies in our analysis, and the emphasis on summer in
905 both empirical studies and climate models (Isaak et al. 2015), suggests that winter may be a
906 blindspot for climate change adaptation work on Pacific salmon.

907 Our current classification system for longitudinal fish zonation is largely based on
908 summer sampling (Huet 1959). While recent decades have seen an emphasis on more spatially
909 representative fish sampling (Angermeier and Smogor 1994) and a movement towards multiscale
910 analysis of spatial distributions (Wiens 2002), this work tends to not be temporally
911 representative. For example, spatially continuous “riverscape” sampling has been transformative
912 for our understanding of salmonid spatial distributions (Fausch et al. 2002), yet our results
913 confirm that virtually all of this work is conducted during summer or early autumn (Brenkman et
914 al. 2012; Flitcroft et al. 2014). While longitudinal patterning is inherently relevant to lotic
915 ecosystems (because they are linear networks), fish may also exhibit pronounced spatial
916 patterning in lateral, and vertical dimensions (Favrot et al. 2018). In temperate regions of the
917 Pacific salmon range, floodplains may only be connected and wetted during winter, so summer-
918 biased sampling may hinder our ability to understand the significance of off-channel habitat use.
919 Where summer and fall are the wet seasons (e.g., much of coastal Alaska), use of off-channel
920 habitats may vary seasonally and require temporally extensive sampling to understand key
921 dynamics. For example, the spatial patterning of juvenile coho salmon on a stream floodplain
922 shifted over time, tracking shifts in water temperature (Armstrong and Schindler 2013) caused by
923 fluctuating water levels. Use of temporary aquatic habitats by fish may be disproportionately
924 important when they are available at the right place and time; however, research is lacking to
925 capture this ephemeral aspect of fish ecology (Heim et al. 2019).

926 The distribution of juvenile salmonids among channel-unit scale habitat types (Bisson et
927 al. 1982) may also vary among months and seasons. For example, Nickelson et al. (1992) found
928 that juvenile coho primarily occupied backwater pools in spring, main-channel pools in summer,
929 and alcoves and beaver ponds in winter. Distribution of juvenile salmonids in sub-habitats (e.g.
930 riffles, pools, backchannel ponds) can also impact fish growth and fitness through energetic costs
931 and benefits (Rosenfeld and Boss 2001). While fine-detail studies of fish distribution help
932 identify quality salmonid habitat, our analysis demonstrates that this data implicitly favors
933 summer habitat and devalues winter habitat.

934

935 *Bias in Temporal Extent of Studies*

936 While a bias against winter studies is seen in temporal distribution, a bias against full
937 annual studies is seen in temporal extent. Studies examining all four meteorological seasons
938 represented only 6-10% of total research. Research is heavily skewed toward shorter, single
939 season studies: 73% of all studies capturing 4 months or less of data and 57% of studies focused
940 on a single season in isolation. Within riverscape studies, 80% of research occurred during 4 or
941 fewer calendar months. These patterns are similar to what Marra et al. (2015) found in their
942 review, which did not include fishes. While there is increasing recognition of the value of long-
943 term study (Lindenmayer et al. 2012), this usually means having multiple years or decades of
944 data collection. Our review shows that there is also a lack of temporal extent in terms of the
945 annual cycle. Lacking extent at this timescale leads to two issues. First, we are likely to
946 temporally extrapolate and draw conclusions based on a subset of the year (as discussed above)
947 and second, we will often lack the ability to identify interactions between different time periods,
948 or carry-over effects (Marra et al. 2015).

949 Carry-over effects from one life stage or season can have significant impacts on fitness
950 and survival of individuals and populations in subsequent seasons or life stages (Harrison et al.
951 2011). As climate change and increasing water demands make summer more stressful for salmon
952 in regions such as the western United States, there is a strong need to understand how conditions
953 during spring and fall mediate the effects of summer stress on freshwater rearing capacity. The
954 ability of fish to survive negative energy balance during harsh summer conditions should depend
955 on their ability to store energy in spring and rebuild energy stores in fall. For example, over-
956 winter survival of juvenile salmon is often positively associated with larger body size at the onset
957 of autumn (Holtby 1988). There is evidence that ephemeral food subsidy pulses, such as salmon
958 eggs during the adult spawning season, can positively influence juvenile salmon growth rate and
959 energy density as long as 6 months after this ephemeral resource pulse has disappeared (Rinella
960 et al. 2012). Whether juvenile salmonids grow large enough to consume eggs depends on their
961 emergence timing and early growth opportunities (Armstrong et al. 2010). Thus, small increases
962 in the growth of fry during spring may determine whether marine subsidies benefit parr during
963 fall, influencing overwinter survival and the size of smolts the following spring, which relates to
964 subsequent marine survival (Thompson and Beauchamp 2014).

965 Sampling during multiple seasons is more likely to capture any carry-over effects that
966 span pre-pulse, pulse, and post-pulse. Food availability, along with temperature, strongly affect
967 fish growth rates with extreme variation in growth between seasons (Tattam et al. 2017; Myrvold
968 and Kennedy 2019). Quantifying fish growth and food resources at multiple points in time are
969 essential to avoid bias in assumptions and to identify ephemeral trophic pathways that could be
970 disproportionately important during that season or in subsequent seasons. The lack of full annual

971 cycle research on Pacific salmon has likely hindered our ability to recognize inter-seasonal carry-
972 over effects, which may become increasingly important in the future.

973 A core concept in landscape ecology is that of habitat complementation and different
974 patches of space functioning at different times (e.g., different lifestages or seasons) (Dunning et
975 al. 1992; Schlosser 1995). The use of habitat by juvenile salmonids shifts 1) seasonally as river
976 conditions such as temperature gradually change (Nickelson et al. 1992) 2) momentarily as a
977 balance of energetic costs and benefits (Rosenfeld 2003), 3) ontogenetically as resource needs
978 change (Werner and Gilliam 1984) and 4) ephemerally, such as during discrete events like floods
979 or drought (Schlosser 1995). Without full annual studies, the effects of these stressors on fish
980 (e.g. energetic costs, food availability, competition, predation) are poorly understood. Habitat
981 restoration may be more successful if information is available to allow for targeting of the
982 limiting life stage or limiting habitat in salmonid productivity (Roni et al. 2002). Identification of
983 these productivity limitations is hindered by two kinds of error: an assumption of limitation and
984 an assumption of importance. First, the assumption that winter is limiting to juvenile salmonid
985 survival is problematic because without more winter studies we cannot validate this assumption
986 or understand the mechanisms behind winter mortality or winter vulnerability. Second, if we
987 assume that summer is more important because significant growth occurs in the summer months,
988 we assume that summer sampling can characterize spatial distribution and habitat use. This is
989 problematic because it hinders the ability to identify limitations to juvenile salmonid survival
990 outside of spring through fall. It is well-established that the challenges faced by stream-dwelling
991 fishes in winter are vastly different (Brown et al. 2011). In order to best protect the habitat
992 supporting juvenile salmon and trout, more effort is needed to understand the importance of
993 winter ecology.

994

995 *Considerations*

996 The seasonal bias of research could potentially be a product of two human limitations:
997 environmental challenges and allocation of scarce resources. First, the summer months generally
998 present the least challenging environmental conditions for human access to salmon-bearing
999 habitat, particularly in the Pacific Northwest where a significant amount of Pacific salmon
1000 research takes place: low stream flow, warm temperatures, and minimal precipitation. Sampling
1001 fish in the winter months can be particularly challenging, as snow, ice, and high flow events limit
1002 safe access for researchers and lead to fish exhibiting behaviors that make them difficult to
1003 capture (e.g. winter concealment, nocturnality). Second, academic calendars create a seasonal
1004 bias towards summer field work by their very structure, allowing time for field work while
1005 classes are on break during summer. Field projects outside of academia also often follow a
1006 summer-intensive field season program due to the availability of field technicians who are often
1007 college students. Institutional hiring policies can further exaggerate these patterns. For example,
1008 at our institution students cannot work > 20 hours per week during non-summer months, and it
1009 costs ~30% more to hire seasonal assistants that are not students (due to the need for a temporary
1010 hiring agency). This makes non-summer field work considerably more expensive. Thus, a
1011 combination of environmental challenges, logistical hurdles, and institutional culture make field
1012 work more likely to happen in summer.

1013

1014 **Conclusion**

1015 In recent decades, stream ecology has strongly emphasized the need for more spatially
1016 comprehensive sampling of fish (Fausch et al. 2002); however, the focus on space has often

1017 come at the cost of time. Mapping the entire riverscape can reveal rich, multiscale patterns, but
1018 efforts typically fail to reveal how these patterns shift over time. Fish may not occupy every
1019 meter of space available to them, but they do live in every second of time. Furthermore,
1020 phenomena such as floodplain dynamics (Whited et al. 2007), seasonal movement (Baldwin et
1021 al. 2002), portfolio effects (Schindler et al. 2015), resource waves (Armstrong et al. 2016), and
1022 thermoregulation (Wurtsbaugh and Neverman 1988) are driven by the interaction between
1023 spatial and temporal variation. We hope that our review encourages researchers to allocate more
1024 of their effort to understudied portions of the year, which likely hold valuable insights for
1025 conservation.

1026

1027 **References**

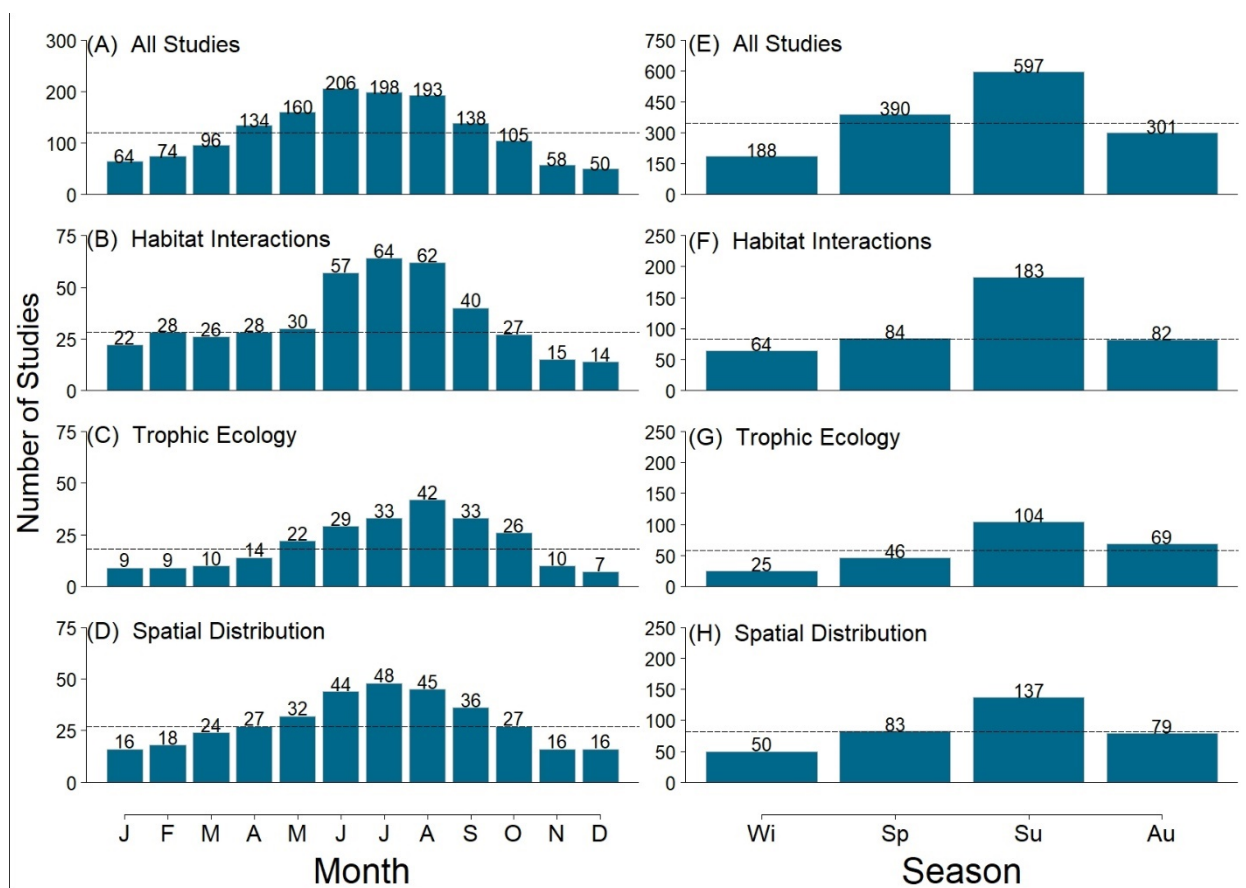
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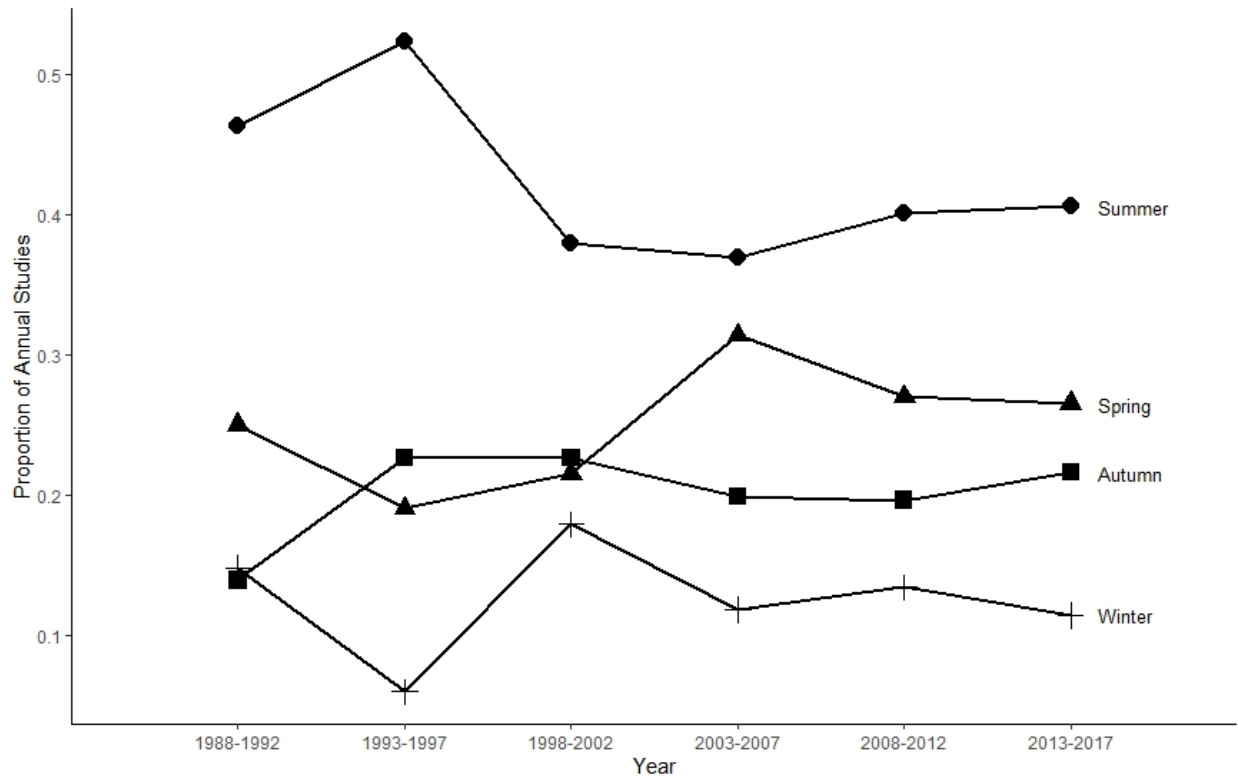
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1181 **Figure 1. Temporal distribution of juvenile salmon ecology studies**

1182 Left column: monthly distribution of sampling effort for juvenile Pacific salmon and trout
 1183 studies from 1988-2017 for (A) all studies ($\chi^2=289.58$, $p < 0.0001$, $n=1476$, median=119.5), (B)
 1184 habitat studies ($\chi^2=97.421$, $p < 0.0001$, $n=413$, median=28), (C) trophic ecology studies
 1185 ($\chi^2=78.131$, $p < 0.0001$, $n=244$, median=18), (D) spatial distribution studies ($\chi^2=53.67$, $p <$
 1186 0.0001 , $n=439$, median=27). Right column: seasonal distribution of sampling effort for juvenile
 1187 Pacific salmon and trout studies from 1988-2017 for (E) all studies ($\chi^2=243.39$, $p < 0.0001$,
 1188 $n=1476$, median=345.5), (F) habitat studies ($\chi^2=84.482$, $p < 0.0001$, $n=413$, median=83), (G)
 1189 trophic ecology studies ($\chi^2=56.295$, $p < 0.0001$, $n=244$, median=57.5), (D) spatial distribution
 1190 studies ($\chi^2=45.258$, $p < 0.0001$, $n=349$, median=81). The number of studies for each month or
 1191 season was calculated using presence or absence of research during that time frame. Dashed
 1192 horizontal lines are data median. Studies may occupy more than one month or season. Seasons
 1193 were defined meteorologically, but as whole months. Summer is defined as the months June,
 1194 July, and August; Autumn is defined as the months September, October, and November; Winter
 1195 is defined as the months December, January, and February; Spring is defined as the months
 1196 March, April, and May.

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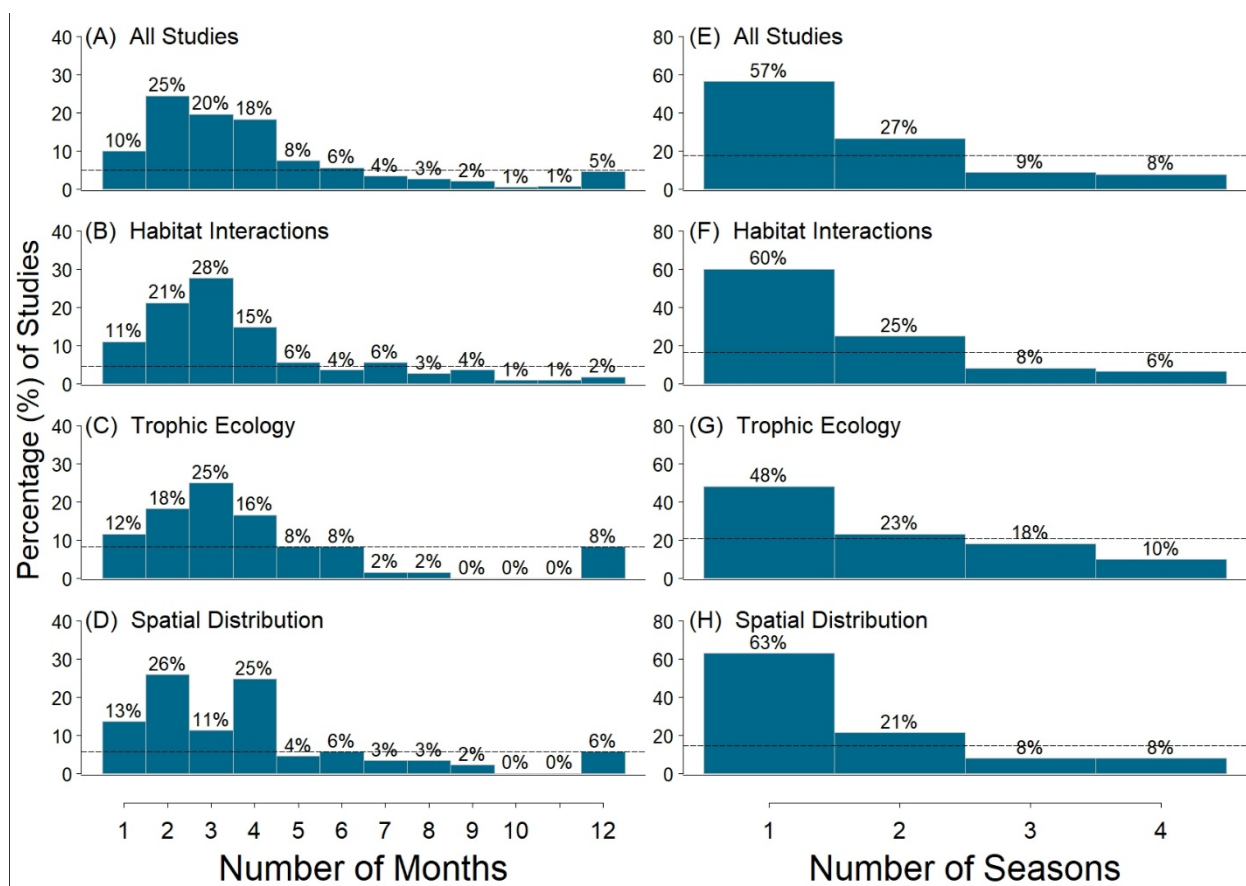
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1200 **Figure 2. Seasonal study distribution over time**

1201 Change in the proportional temporal distribution (seasonal timing) of all studies published from
 1202 1988-2017 in 5-year increments.

1203

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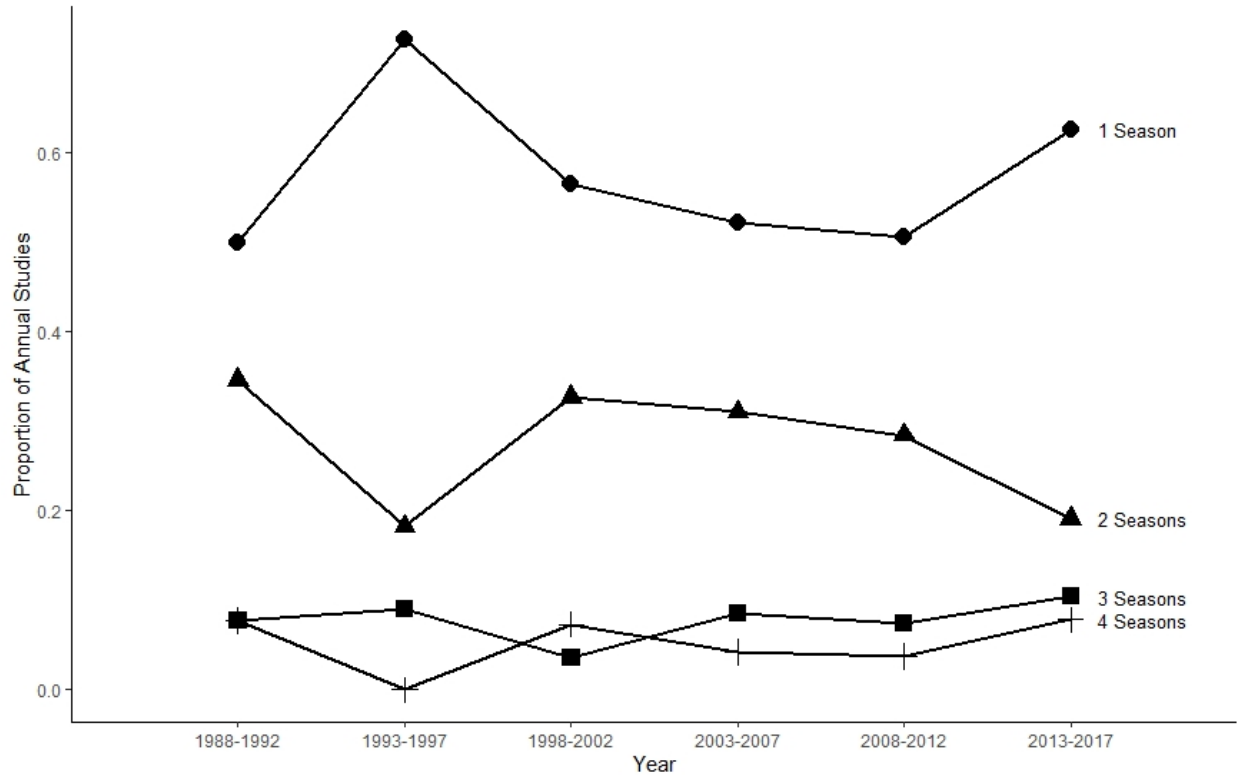
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1206 **Figure 3. Temporal extent of juvenile salmon ecology studies**

1207 Left column: frequency of the number of months per calendar year (1-12) found in juvenile
 1208 Pacific salmon and trout studies from 1988-2017 for (A) all studies ($\chi^2=670.07$, $p < 0.0001$,
 1209 $n=371$, median=5.1), (B) habitat studies ($\chi^2=173.55$, $p < 0.0001$, $n=108$, median=4.6), (C)
 1210 trophic ecology studies ($\chi^2=120.92$, $p < 0.0001$, $n=60$, median=8.3), (D) spatial distribution
 1211 studies ($\chi^2=173.01$, $p < 0.0001$, $n=89$, median=5.1). Right column: frequency of the number of
 1212 seasons per calendar year (1-4) found in juvenile Pacific salmon and trout studies from 1988-
 1213 2017 for (E) all studies ($\chi^2=230.95$, $p < 0.0001$, $n=371$, median=17.8), (F) habitat studies
 1214 ($\chi^2=80.296$, $p < 0.0001$, $n=108$, median=16.7), (G) trophic ecology studies ($\chi^2=19.6$, $p < 0.001$,
 1215 $n=60$, median=20.8), (H) spatial distribution studies ($\chi^2=72.573$, $p < 0.0001$, $n=89$,
 1216 median=14.6). The extent or duration was calculated by counting the total number of unique
 1217 months (in a calendar year) that were included in each study and categorizing them by season as
 1218 defined above. Data median is marked with a dashed horizontal line. Studies were only
 1219 represented once at their greatest monthly extent and greatest seasonal extent.

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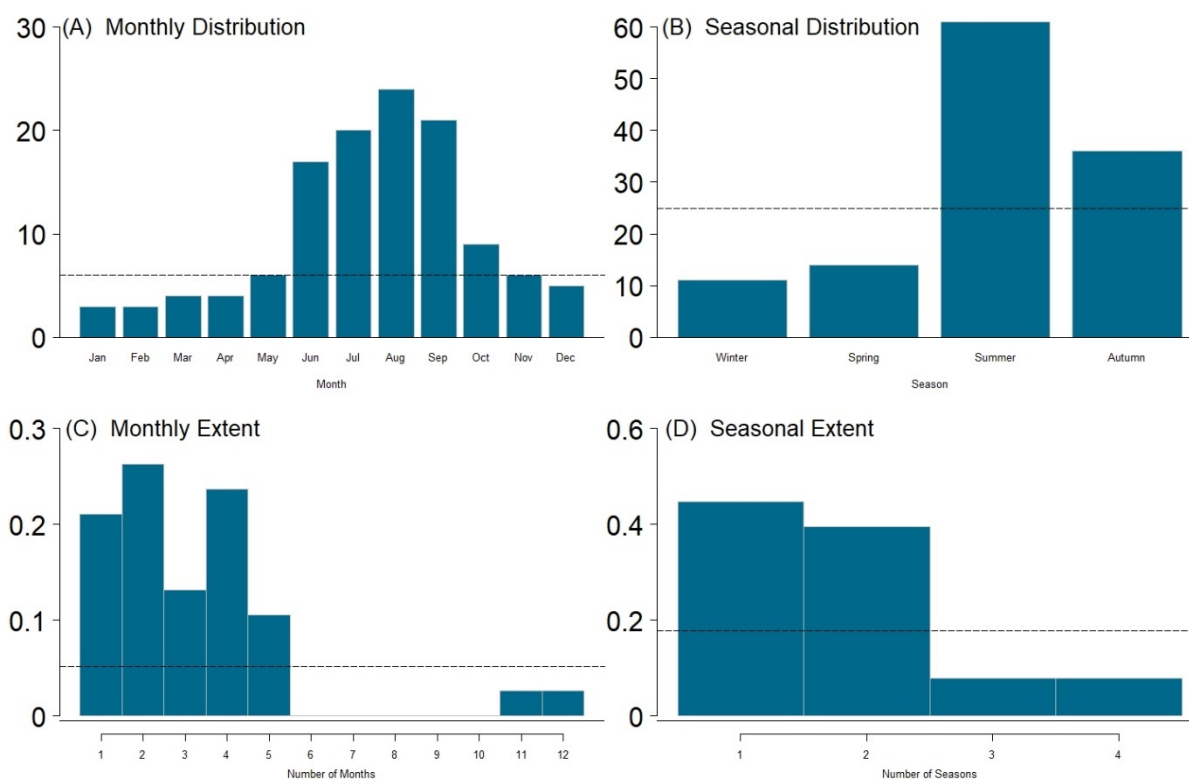
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1223 **Figure 4. Seasonal study extent over time**1224 Change in the proportional temporal extent (number of seasons included) of all studies published
1225 from 1988-2017 in 5-year increments.

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1230 **Figure 5. Distribution and extent of riverscape studies**

1231 (A) Monthly distribution of sampling effort for spatially continuous “riverscape” studies
 1232 involving juvenile Pacific salmon and trout from 1988-2017 ($\chi^2=68.23$, $p < 0.0001$, $n=122$,
 1233 median=6); (B) seasonal distribution of sampling effort for riverscape studies ($\chi^2=52.885$, $p <$
 1234 0.0001 , $n=122$, median=25); (C) frequency of the number of months per calendar year (1-12)
 1235 found in riverscape studies ($\chi^2=65.508$, $p < 0.01$, $n=38$, median=2.6); (D) frequency of the
 1236 number of seasons per calendar year (1-4) found in riverscape studies ($\chi^2=18$, $p < 0.001$, $n=38$,
 1237 median=23.68). The number of studies for each month or season was calculated using presence
 1238 or absence of research during that time frame. Dashed horizontal lines are data median. Studies
 1239 may occupy more than one month or season. Seasons were defined meteorologically, but as
 1240 whole months. Summer is defined as the months June, July, and August; Autumn is defined as
 1241 the months September, October, and November; Winter is defined as the months December,
 1242 January, and February; Spring is defined as the months March, April, and May.

1243 **CHAPTER 3. ASYNCHRONOUS PREY RESOURCES CREATE A YEAR-**
1244 **ROUND ENERGY PORTFOLIO FOR JUVENILE SALMONIDS**

1245

1246 Megan E. Brady and Jonathan B. Armstrong

1247

1248 **Abstract**

1249 Juvenile salmonids (*Oncorhynchus* spp.) rearing in freshwater depend on a diverse
1250 portfolio of prey resources to support somatic growth, lipid storage, overwinter survival, and the
1251 parr-to-smolt transformation. While many studies have expanded our knowledge of juvenile
1252 salmonid trophic ecology, most of this effort has been focused on a narrow temporal scope that
1253 fails to capture variation in the importance of prey resources throughout the entirety of
1254 freshwater rearing. This study examined broad patterns in the contributions of aquatic, terrestrial,
1255 and marine trophic pathways to juvenile coho salmon (*O. kisutch*) and steelhead trout (*O. mykiss*)
1256 as well as specific sources of energy throughout the year in the South Fork Skokomish River and
1257 Vance Creek, Washington, USA. Prey resource availability and use by juvenile salmonids was
1258 evaluated by sampling invertebrates from benthic, drift, and terrestrial environments and then
1259 comparing those to juvenile coho and steelhead diets from corresponding monthly sampling
1260 events. The timing of peak and low productivity of each environmental source demonstrated
1261 asynchronous availability of prey resources. Juvenile salmonid diets exhibited temporal variation
1262 in quantity, composition, and selectivity. Aquatic resources supported fish during summer
1263 somatic growth, overwinter survival, and early spring prior to smoltification. Terrestrial input to
1264 fish diet was clearer at a monthly scale, contributing a large portion of fish diet in May during
1265 smoltification and October as fish switch from somatic growth to lipid storage in preparation for
1266 winter. Juvenile salmonids benefitted from interspecific variation in salmon spawning events

1267 during autumn and early winter when lipid storage is essential before river flows increase,
1268 daylight decreases, temperatures drop, and food productivity declines. Despite the depressed
1269 state of salmon runs in this system, the largest diet rations of the entire year were observed in
1270 months where marine subsidies (e.g. eggs) contributed 61-96% of total biomass consumed by
1271 juvenile salmonids. We found that ephemeral subsidies were also responsible for the large ration
1272 sizes observed in May, with terrestrial rove beetles contributing 66% of coho diet biomass.
1273 Overall, our results indicate that a temporally diverse energy portfolio with asynchronous peaks
1274 in prey components supports juvenile salmonid foraging during each phase of freshwater rearing.

1275

1276 **Introduction**

1277 Salmon conservation and recovery efforts have traditionally considered the four Hs:
1278 habitat, hatchery production, hydroelectric dams, and harvest (Naiman and Bilby 1998).
1279 However, more interest has recently been given to biotic interactions, including predation
1280 (Berejikian et al. 2016), competition (Thornton et al. 2017), and the trophic pathways that
1281 support juvenile rearing (Woo et al. 2019). There is increasing evidence that consideration of
1282 temporal and spatial food web dynamics is needed for more effective habitat restoration (Naiman
1283 et al. 2012). Indeed, in many freshwater systems, juvenile salmonid productivity may be more
1284 limited by food than physical stream characteristics (Bellmore et al. 2013; Weber et al. 2014).
1285 Further, while physical variables such as water temperature and velocity mediate energy costs
1286 and scope for growth, the energy budgets of fish are most sensitive to consumption rates (Bartell
1287 et al. 1986) and thus strongly influenced by food abundance. As salmon populations
1288 (*Oncorhynchus* spp.) continue to decline in much of their native range, examining the trophic

1289 resources that support juvenile salmon during key phases throughout the year is vital to
1290 conservation and recovery efforts.

1291 The food available to stream dwelling fish derives from multiple trophic pathways (Allen
1292 1951; Hynes 1970; Allan et al. 2003). Aquatic prey resources provide a significant source energy
1293 source for fish (Brett et al. 2018) and can come from both *in situ* productivity or subsidies
1294 flushed downstream from (often fishless) headwater streams (Wipfli and Gregovich 2002;
1295 Rosenfeld and Raeburn 2009). Diversity within *in situ* invertebrate production comes from the
1296 physical habitat preferences of invertebrates such as differences in invertebrate communities
1297 found in drift versus benthic environments (Johansen et al. 2010) or the benthic invertebrates
1298 found within pools versus those found in riffles (Brown and Brussock 1991). Several studies
1299 have shown that terrestrial invertebrates are also an important food source for stream fishes and
1300 may comprise 50-90% of total prey consumed by juvenile salmonids (Wipfli 1997; Nakano et al.
1301 1999a; Kawaguchi and Nakano 2001; Dineen et al. 2007; Mason and MacDonald 1982; Nakano
1302 and Murakami 2001; Li et al. 2016). Terrestrial invertebrates are often more energy dense than
1303 aquatic invertebrates (Cummins and Wuycheck 1971) and can be a key prey subsidy to aquatic
1304 systems at times when aquatic productivity is at its lowest (Nakano et al. 1999b). Variation in
1305 terrestrial invertebrate subsidies to streams appears to be a function of seasonality (Nakano and
1306 Murakami 2001; Dineen et al. 2007) and the characteristics of riparian vegetation (Naiman and
1307 De'camps 1997; Mason and MacDonald 1982; Cloe and Garman 1996; Nakano et al. 1999b).
1308 Marine-derived nutrients comprise a third trophic pathway supporting fish. Marine subsidies
1309 vary in their type, e.g., kelp subsidies to estuaries versus anadromous fish migrations, and within
1310 each type there may be finer levels of variation. For example, rainbow trout were shown to
1311 exploit population-level variation in sockeye salmon subsidies to streams, thereby extending an

1312 ephemeral resource pulse (Ruff et al. 2011). Marine subsidies in the form of salmon eggs are 2-3
1313 times more energy dense than benthic invertebrates and capable of fueling greater fish growth
1314 than benthic or terrestrial invertebrates despite their short period of availability (Armstrong et al.
1315 2010; Scheurell et al. 2007; Moore et al. 2008; Bilby et al. 1998; Bentley et al. 2012). Juvenile
1316 salmon may exploit each of these resources at different points in time. A key challenge is
1317 understanding how this trophic diversity affects the potential for watersheds to rear salmon.
1318 Here, we consider how trophic diversity is patterned in time and how fish consumption integrates
1319 temporal diversity.

1320 Most trophic pathways exhibit temporal variation in the foraging opportunity they present
1321 to fish. Some trophic pathways, such as marine subsidies from spawning anadromous fish, may
1322 occur as pulses that last a month or less at small spatial extents. In contrast, aquatic production
1323 may occur year-round but exhibit seasonal patterning. The effect of temporal variation on
1324 consumers depends on the level of asynchrony in variation. If component parts vary
1325 asynchronously, then the aggregate is more stable over time, a phenomenon known as the
1326 Portfolio Effect (Schindler et al. 2015). There is increasing interest in how asynchrony among
1327 trophic resources stabilizes consumer energy gains (Schindler et al. 2015; Armstrong et al. 2016;
1328 McMeans et al. 2016). Population diversity in the timing of salmon returns can extend the
1329 portfolio of resources available from a single species of salmon from weeks to months (Schindler
1330 et al 2010) or even longer when multiple species of salmon spawn at sequential or minimally
1331 overlapping dates. Similarly, variation in the emergence timing of aquatic insect species can
1332 extend the availability of resource subsidies with sequential adult phases (Uno and Pneh 2020).
1333 While some resource pulses come during the peak growing season for fish, other ephemeral
1334 resource pulses come at the tail ends of the growing season, thus extending growth opportunity

1335 and allowing fish to achieve greater body size before winter, aiding in overwinter survival (Bilby
1336 et al. 1998; Wipfli et al. 1998; Groot et al. 1995). Greater growth in freshwater has also been
1337 shown to have carry-over effects, positively correlating with increased marine survival
1338 (Thompson and Beauchamp 2014; Ward et al. 1989), particularly in years with poor ocean
1339 conditions (Bond et al. 2008; Holtby et al. 1990). While the full importance of ephemeral
1340 resource pulses to juvenile salmonid survival is not well-researched, the asynchrony observed in
1341 resource pulse timing likely helps to stabilize foraging opportunities.

1342 Resource heterogeneity creates more stable foraging opportunities than dependence on
1343 any single prey item (Schindler et al. 2015; Deacy et al. 2017). If overwinter survival of juvenile
1344 salmonids is influenced by body size, as research suggests (Groot et al. 1995), then extending the
1345 growing season through asynchronous prey resources is important. Yet, we do not have a firm
1346 understanding of how asynchronous and ephemeral prey availability varies throughout juvenile
1347 salmonid freshwater residence. While a diverse portfolio of prey resources can mediate risk
1348 through variation in energy availability, it does not consider how predator needs change over
1349 time or how important diversity is at different energetic phases. For example, fish energy budgets
1350 vary seasonally (Cunjak et al. 1987; Post and Parkison 2001). The warmer temperatures of spring
1351 coupled with high food resource availability initially act as a catalyst for greater growth rates, but
1352 as temperatures continue to warm, metabolic costs rise as well with energy no longer going
1353 primarily toward growth but rather toward meeting high daily basal metabolic needs (Jones et al.
1354 2002; Dockray et al. 1996). The energetic needs during the primary somatic growth phase (Limm
1355 and Marchetti 2009; Elliott 1982) that allows fish to grow large enough to eat large prey (Jaecks
1356 and Quinn 2014; Armstrong et al. 2010) or evade predators (Biro et al. 2005) is different from
1357 the energetic needs and metabolic activity that occurs during the parr-smolt transformation

1358 (McCormick and Saunders 1987) and still different from the needs of fish during the building of
1359 fat stores for winter that aid in overwinter survival (Bull et al. 1996; Cleary et al. 2012; Berg and
1360 Bremset 1998). Likewise, the prey resources that support these unique phases of energetic needs
1361 are not homogenous.

1362 While there is much interest in how trophic pathways or subsidies combine to support
1363 salmonids (Wipfli and Baxter 2010; Schindler et al. 2015; Bellmore et al. 2013), our
1364 understanding has been limited by a lack of comprehensive data. Many studies have provided
1365 insights into components of the full resource portfolio (Ruff et al. 2011; Scheurell et al. 2007) or
1366 the importance of allochthonous inputs (Cloe and Garman 1996; Wipfli 1997); however,
1367 virtually none of these encompass the full annual cycle (but see Nakano and Murakami 2001).
1368 During the last 30 years, 39-44% of all juvenile salmonid field research occurred during summer
1369 while only 10-15% of studies occurred during winter with 73% of studies spanning fewer than 4
1370 months per calendar year (Brady et al. *In draft*). Possibly the most likely prey resources to be
1371 ignored by temporally narrow sampling are ephemeral sources only available to fish during a
1372 limited window of time.

1373 Year-round research is needed to understand how the energy that fuels growth,
1374 accumulation of fat stores, physiological changes, and behavior varies over time. Here, we used
1375 the South Fork Skokomish River and Vance Creek in Washington, USA to examine year-round
1376 utilization of prey resources by juvenile steelhead trout (*O. mykiss*) and coho salmon (*O. kisutch*)
1377 combined with year-round availability of aquatic, terrestrial, and marine prey resources that
1378 contribute to a temporally variable energy portfolio. The purpose of our study was to answer the
1379 following questions: 1) how do prey composition and biomass vary across time within benthic,
1380 drift, and terrestrial sources, 2) how do juvenile steelhead and coho diets compare to the

1381 availability of prey across time, and 3) at what temporal and taxonomic resolutions are important
1382 prey items captured in samples?

1383

1384 **Methods**

1385 *Study System*

1386 The Hood Canal is an 80-km fjord that comprises one of the four sub-basins of Puget
1387 Sound, Washington, USA. Puget Sound steelhead (*O. mykiss*) have been listed as threatened
1388 under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) since 2007 and populations continue to decline despite
1389 greatly reduced fishing mortality associated with commercial, recreational, and tribal fisheries
1390 (Moore et al. 2010).

1391 This study examined the South Fork Skokomish River (Figure 6), one of eight control
1392 and supplemented rivers in the larger Hood Canal steelhead Project (HCSP), and its largest
1393 tributary, Vance Creek. The HCSP is a 17-year study led by the National Oceanic and
1394 Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

1395 The South Fork Skokomish River is a 44.2 km long (37.0 km anadromy limit) river
1396 originating in the Olympic Mountains and flowing into the southwest side of Hood Canal. It is a
1397 rain-dominant stream with an elevation of 1646 m, mean annual water temperature of 8.1°C, and
1398 mean annual flow of 20.95 m³s⁻¹ (Berejikian et al. 2013). Tidal influence extends up the
1399 mainstem Skokomish River to the confluence of the South Fork and North Fork (Canning et al.
1400 1988). A rotary screw trap operated by NOAA is located at river mile 1.8, one mile upstream
1401 from the confluence of the South Fork Skokomish and Vance Creek.

1402 Anadromous populations of steelhead and coho rear as juveniles in the study river.

1403 Chinook (*O. tshawytscha*) are present in low numbers in the South Fork Skokomish and are

1404 largely regarded as hatchery strays and not a viable population. The South Fork Skokomish
1405 historically supported pink salmon, spring Chinook, and early run summer chum; however, these
1406 populations have been extirpated (WDNR 1997).

1407 Average annual winter steelhead spawner escapement between 1986 and 2014 to the
1408 Skokomish (South Fork, North Fork, tributaries, and mainstem combined) is 503 per year
1409 (PNPTC 2015). The majority (81.3%) of outmigrating steelhead in the South Fork Skokomish
1410 are age-2 smolts with an average length of 167.8 mm. Age-1 (FL=156.8mm) and age-3
1411 (FL=185.3 mm) steelhead smolts represented a small portion of average annual outmigration,
1412 2.2% and 16.2% respectively (Doctor-Shelby and Berejikian *In Draft*). Peak juvenile
1413 downstream migration is in late April and early May. South Fork Skokomish steelhead spawn in
1414 mid-March to mid-May with juvenile emergence in mid-July.

1415 South Fork Skokomish coho are abundant and currently not listed under the ESA. They
1416 typically spawn in October-January, emerge in early March to late July, and outmigrate as age-1
1417 smolts (WCC 2003), with peak outmigration occurring from mid-May to late-June (USFWS
1418 2011). Peak spawning activity for coho is estimated at mid-December to early January
1419 (Weitkamp et al. 1995). Coho escapement is not as closely monitored as the other species as they
1420 are considered a healthy population, but typically ranges averages at least 2,000 spawning adults
1421 in the Skokomish Basin (WCC 2003). Vance Creek is a particularly important stream for coho
1422 productivity.

1423 The Hood Canal has both ESA-listed “threatened” summer chum and non-listed fall
1424 chum. Peak live count of summer chum in the lower mainstem Skokomish River is estimated at
1425 1600 fish in late August and September (SIT and WDFW 2017). Fall chum are abundant in the
1426 Hood Canal rivers as they don’t rely as heavily on freshwater as other species of do (Quinn

1427 2005). The fish found spawning in the Skokomish are a mix of hatchery and natural origin fish.
1428 Annual fall chum escapement to the Skokomish River (includes South Fork, North Fork,
1429 mainstem, and tributaries) ranges between 926 and 1913 per year (HSRG 2004). Spawning
1430 typically occurs during November-January in the lower South Fork Skokomish River and Vance
1431 Creek (HSRG 2004) with juvenile emergence peaking in mid-February. The outmigrating chum
1432 fry average 42mm fork length (USFWS 2011).

1433 A very small number of Chinook spawn in the South Fork Skokomish. Despite not
1434 having a sustainable population, any Chinook found in the Skokomish Rivers are considered part
1435 of the ESA-listed “threatened” Puget Sound Chinook. Annual average (1999-2016) natural origin
1436 escapement is calculated based on a combination of the South Fork Skokomish, North Fork
1437 Skokomish, and the mainstem Skokomish River and is estimated at 390 per year (SIT and
1438 WDFW 2017). Spawning typically occurs September-October with peak emergence in January-
1439 mid February (SIT and WDFW 2017).

1440 Collection was done under Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife Scientific
1441 Collection Permit, Endangered Species Act (ESA) Section 10(a)(1)(A) permits from NOAA and
1442 USFWS for pacific fish/invertebrate research, and Oregon State University Institutional Animal
1443 Care and Use Committee approved Animal Care and Use Proposal (IACUP).

1444

1445 *Data Collection*

1446 We sampled fish diets and food availability every month to characterize temporal
1447 patterns. Specifically, we identified, counted, and measured all prey items in fish stomachs, and
1448 potential macroinvertebrate prey items in the stream drift, the benthos, and terrestrial fallout.

1449

1450 *Invertebrate prey resources*

1451 On the first day that fish were sampled each month and in the same reaches, we collected
1452 environmental samples of available invertebrate prey resources from benthic, drift, and terrestrial
1453 sources.

1454 Benthic. Benthic macroinvertebrates were collected with a Surber sampler. Five riffle
1455 substrate samples and five pool substrate samples (Johnson et al. 2013) were collected each
1456 month. A standard Surber sampler (D-frame net) with a 12in x 12 in area and 500 μm mesh size
1457 was used. The substrate was disturbed for 30 seconds at each collection site to a depth of one
1458 inch. Samples were collected working downstream to upstream to reduce impacts of substrate
1459 disturbance on subsequent samples. The samples were sieved to remove detritus and inorganic
1460 matter and then preserved in 70% ethanol.

1461 Drift. To assess the availability of prey for juvenile salmonids in the water column during
1462 active foraging times (Baxter et al. 2005), three replicate drift nets were deployed across a riffle
1463 section of the river directly above a pool where juvenile fish have been sampled, lowered just
1464 above the stream bottom. Drift sampling occurred on the first day of fish sampling each month.
1465 The nets were deployed twice for 30 minutes ($n=6$ per month) between dawn and dusk (Wipfli
1466 and Gregovich 2002) to collect floating aquatic and terrestrial invertebrates at the same time as
1467 stomach content samples were obtained. Net contents were sieved (500 μm) and preserved with
1468 70% ethanol.

1469 Terrestrial. Fallout traps were deployed for 24 hours monthly to quantify the input of
1470 terrestrial invertebrates into the river system from specific terrestrial plant species. Traps to
1471 collect falling terrestrial invertebrates were placed on the stream bank, underneath six species of
1472 plants common in the riparian area: bigleaf maple, red alder, Sitka willow, vine maple,

1473 Bohemian knotweed, and Himalayan blackberry. Knotweed plants die back in the winter and,
1474 therefore, were not sampled during the months of December-May when the traps would only
1475 collect invertebrates from nearby vegetation of other species. Ten replicate traps were deployed
1476 for each of the plant species each month. Each trap was filled with approximately 1 liter of water
1477 and a small amount of dish detergent to break surface-water tension. Invertebrates were collected
1478 and preserved in 70% ethanol for later identification.

1479 Environmental samples of invertebrates were counted and classified as terrestrial (e.g.
1480 ants, spiders), aquatic (e.g. mayfly nymphs, midge larva), or marine (e.g. salmon eggs) in origin.
1481 Invertebrates were identified to family or species where possible (Merritt et al. 2008) with life
1482 stage (larvae, pupae, adult) noted. Invertebrates were measured to the nearest millimeter to
1483 calculate dry mass based on published length-mass regressions (Sabo et al. 2002; Sample et al.
1484 1993; Benke et al. 1999). Salmon eggs were dried and weighed to create a diameter-weight
1485 regression. Adult forms of invertebrates that emerged from aquatic larval stages were classified
1486 as aquatic.

1487

1488 *Juvenile steelhead trout and coho salmon*

1489 A total of 229 natural-origin juvenile steelhead and 530 coho were sampled between
1490 August 2018 and December 2019. A portion of the fish sampled in April and May were collected
1491 using an 8-foot diameter rotary screw trap that is operated daily from April 1 to June 1 on the
1492 South Fork Skokomish River by NOAA and the Skokomish Indian Tribe. All other monthly fish
1493 were collected fish using either a stick (beach) seine or minnow traps baited with cured salmon
1494 eggs. Cured eggs were contained in perforated bags and inaccessible to fish for consumption.
1495 Summer fish collection occurred at dusk to capture peak daily stomach fullness (Beauchamp et

1496 al. 2007). Winter fish collection occurred at dawn, as fish are more active at night during the
1497 winter (Roni and Fayram 2000).

1498 Snorkel observations were conducted immediately prior to seining, river flow permitting,
1499 to minimize impact to non-target species and simultaneously identify appropriate sites with
1500 target species present. Two people made multiple passes of the sample location using a hand-
1501 held 30-foot knotless nylon mesh seine to collect fish present. Up to 50 individuals each from
1502 steelhead and coho were sampled each month.

1503 Fish were anesthetized with Tricaine methanesulfonate (MS-222) at a ratio of 5 ml:1
1504 gallon of water and measured to the nearest mm by fork length (FL), followed by taking a caudal
1505 fin clip and performing gastric lavage. River conditions and fish presence dictated sample
1506 locations. Previous research has found that diet, weight, and length for coho salmon are not
1507 significantly different between the habitat types (pools, tributaries, riffles) in the Skokomish
1508 River, likely due to fish mobility (Wright 2010). Stomach contents were removed by gastric
1509 lavage, a non-lethal sampling method (Twomey and Giller 1990; Giles 1980) shown to remove
1510 90-100% of fish stomach contents (Light et al. 1983; Meehan and Miller 1978; McCarthy et al.
1511 2009) with very low mortality and handling effects (Hafs et al. 2011). Only salmonids >60mm
1512 FL were sampled due to size requirements for safe and effective gastric lavage. Diet contents
1513 were flushed onto a clean coffee filter, washed into whirlpaks, and preserved in 70% ethanol.
1514 Fish were placed in an aerated bucket, processed, and released after full recovery (generally
1515 within 15 minutes of collection) in a low-flow section of the stream with adequate in-stream
1516 cover. Preserved diet samples were counted and classified as terrestrial (e.g. ants, spiders),
1517 aquatic (e.g. mayfly nymphs, midge larva), or marine (e.g. salmon eggs) in origin. Invertebrates
1518 were identified to family or species where possible (Merritt et al. 2008) with life stage (larvae,

1519 pupae, adult) noted. Recently ingested, intact invertebrates were measured to the nearest
1520 millimeter to calculate dry mass based on published length-mass regressions (Sabo et al. 2002;
1521 Sample et al. 1993; Benke et al. 1999). Salmon eggs were dried and weighed to create a
1522 diameter-weight regression. Adult forms of invertebrates that emerged from aquatic larval stages
1523 were classified as aquatic.

1524

1525 *Data Analysis*

1526 *Invertebrate prey resources*

1527 Monthly and seasonal proportions and sums of mass were calculated for each of the prey
1528 items (by order and species) found in each of the environmental samples (benthic pool, benthic
1529 riffle, drift, and terrestrial).

1530

1531 *Juvenile steelhead trout and coho salmon*

1532 Monthly and seasonal mean fork length and length frequencies were calculated for each
1533 fish species and graphed to track fish size at a cohort-scale over time. Fish mass was calculated
1534 using length-weight regressions (Roni 2000).

1535 Monthly and seasonal diet proportions and sums of mass were calculated for each of the
1536 prey items found in fish gut contents by order and source (aquatic, terrestrial, marine). Fish
1537 rations were calculated as prey resource biomass (by order and source) then divided by fish
1538 biomass, grouped by month.

1539

1540 *Feeding selectivity*

1541 To determine if fishes are exhibiting preference or avoidance of prey items, selectivity
 1542 was calculated using Vanderploeg and Scavia's electivity index (Vanderploeg and Scavia 1979):

$$1543 \quad E_i = \frac{[W_i - (\frac{1}{n})]}{[W_i + (\frac{1}{n})]} \text{ where } W_i = \frac{r_i/p_i}{\sum r_i/p_i}$$

1544 r_i = proportion of taxon i in the diet

1545 p_i = proportion of taxon i in the environment

1546 n = number of kinds of food items

1547 where E_i represents the relative proportion of a prey item in the diet compared to the proportion
 1548 of a prey item found in the environment, with values 0 to -1 indicating avoidance and values 0 to
 1549 +1 indicating preference or selection.

1550

1551 **Results**

1552 *Invertebrate prey resources*

1553 **Benthic.** Benthic invertebrate productivity in pools was highest in August (574.77
 1554 mg/m²) (Fig. 7) with the largest contributing invertebrate orders consisting of Decapoda (30%),
 1555 Ephemeroptera (27%), and Trichoptera (20%) (Fig. 8a). Benthic invertebrate productivity in
 1556 pools was lowest in February (6.96 mg/m²) (Fig. 7) with the largest contributing invertebrate
 1557 orders consisting of Diptera (51%) and Plecoptera (35%) (Fig. 8a).

1558 Benthic invertebrate productivity in riffles was highest in April (477.23 mg/m²) (Fig. 7)
 1559 with the largest contributing invertebrate orders consisting of Plecoptera (79%) and Trichoptera
 1560 (14%) (Fig. 8b). Benthic invertebrate productivity in riffles was lowest in January (2.03 mg/m²)
 1561 (Fig. 7) with the largest contributing invertebrate orders consisting of Coleoptera (36%), Diptera
 1562 (31%), and Plecoptera (28%) (Fig. 8b).

1563 Autumn benthic biomass was comprised primarily of Plecoptera in pools and a mixture
1564 of Trichoptera and Plecoptera in riffles. Winter benthic biomass primarily consisted of
1565 Trichoptera in pools and Plecoptera in riffles. Spring benthic biomass for pools was similar to
1566 winter, but riffles more closely resembled the summer assemblage. Diptera were found in larger
1567 proportion in pools than riffles in summer, winter, and spring; however, in autumn, Diptera were
1568 more abundant in riffles (Fig. 8c-d)

1569 **Drift.** Invertebrate productivity in the drift was highest in April (735.01 mg/30
1570 minutes/270m³) (Fig. 7) with the largest contributing invertebrate orders consisting of
1571 Trichoptera (68%) and Ephemeroptera (15%) (Fig. 9a). Invertebrate productivity in the drift was
1572 lowest in December (1.14 mg/30 minutes/270m³) (Fig. 7) with the largest contributing
1573 invertebrate orders consisting of Plecoptera (42%) and Trichoptera (40%) (Fig. 9a). At a
1574 seasonal resolution, Trichoptera was a major component of drift in every season: 85% in
1575 summer, 80% in autumn, 38% in winter, and 62% in spring (Fig. 9c).

1576 Drift samples consisted almost entirely of aquatic invertebrates; at no point in time was
1577 terrestrial input into the drift greater than aquatic contribution. Trichoptera were the largest
1578 contributors to drift invertebrate biomass during all seasons with the exception of winter, when a
1579 single salmon egg was found in the drift sample and the mass of this single egg outweighed
1580 aquatic invertebrate biomass.

1581 **Terrestrial.** Invertebrate productivity among terrestrial vegetation in the riparian zone
1582 was highest in September (647.08 mg/97m²) (Fig. 7) with the largest contributing invertebrate
1583 orders consisting of Hymenoptera (40%), Lepidoptera (32%), and Trichoptera (17%) (Fig. 10).
1584 Terrestrial invertebrate productivity was lowest in December (0.00%) (Fig. 7) when the weather
1585 was dominated by snow and ice and no invertebrate were collected (Fig. 10).

1586 Terrestrial invertebrate samples showed large amounts of Hymenoptera in summer,
1587 Araneae in autumn, Plecoptera in winter (January in particular), and Coleoptera in late winter-
1588 spring.

1589

1590 *Juvenile steelhead trout and coho salmon*

1591 **Fish rations.** The average weight of prey resources ingested per weight of fish varied
1592 widely from month to month. Juvenile coho average rations were highest in September (0.211
1593 mg prey/g of fish) followed by December (0.163 mg prey/g of fish) (Fig. 11a). Coho rations
1594 were lowest in February (0.0019 mg prey/g of fish) and January (0.02 mg prey/g of fish).
1595 Juvenile steelhead average rations were highest in September (0.514 mg prey/g of fish) and
1596 November (0.348 mg prey/g of fish). Steelhead rations were lowest in March (0.002 mg prey/g
1597 of fish) and July (0.01 mg prey/g of fish (Fig. 11b); no prey items were found in the stomach
1598 contents of the sole steelhead collected during the month of January. The average weight of
1599 marine prey items in fish rations first peaked in September for both coho (0.146 mg/g of fish)
1600 and steelhead (0.365 mg/g fish) and then again in December for coho (0.133 mg/g of fish) and
1601 November for steelhead (0.335 mg/g of fish) (Fig. 11c-d). Terrestrial rations were greatest in
1602 May and June for coho (0.061 mg/g of fish and 0.031 mg/g of fish, respectively) and September
1603 and May for steelhead (0.073 mg/g of fish and 0.04 mg/g of fish, respectively) (Fig. 11c-d).
1604 Aquatic rations were greatest in September (0.076 mg/g of fish) and April (0.057 mg/g of fish)
1605 for steelhead and August (0.087 mg/g of fish and June (0.079mg/g of fish) for coho (Fig. 11c-d).

1606 **Trophic pathways.** Broad sources of energy (marine, terrestrial, aquatic) varied in coho
1607 diet proportion by month (Fig. 12b) and season (Fig. 13b). Marine contribution to total coho diet
1608 showed up in September (61%) and December (89%), corresponding with spawning times for

1609 Chinook salmon (September) and chum or coho salmon (December) (Fig. 12b). At a seasonal
1610 resolution, marine resources were important to coho diet in autumn (49%) and winter (76%)
1611 (Fig. 13b). Terrestrial contribution to total coho diet peaked in May (78%) and October (56%)
1612 and was lowest in January, February, and July (all 0%). At a seasonal resolution, terrestrial
1613 resources were important to coho diet in summer (19%) and spring (21%) (Fig. 13b). Aquatic
1614 contribution to total coho diet was high all months of the year, except for September (32%) and
1615 December (7%) when salmon eggs were available and in May (22%) when terrestrial
1616 invertebrates dominated the diet (Fig. 12b). The months of January, February, and July were
1617 supported solely by aquatic prey resources (100%). At a seasonal resolution, aquatic resources
1618 were important to coho diet in all seasons, but to varying degrees: summer (81%), autumn
1619 (39%), winter (20%), and spring (79%) (Fig. 13b). Similar patterns in broad energy contribution
1620 (marine, terrestrial, aquatic) were seen in steelhead diet proportion by month. Marine
1621 contribution to total steelhead diet showed up in September (69%) and November (96%),
1622 corresponding with spawning times for Chinook salmon (September and chum or coho salmon
1623 (November) (Fig. 12e). At a seasonal resolution, marine resources were important to steelhead
1624 diet in autumn (68%) (Fig. 13e). Terrestrial contribution to total steelhead diet peaked in May
1625 (75%) and was lowest in November, December, January, February, March, and June (all 0%). At
1626 a seasonal resolution, terrestrial resources were important to steelhead diet in spring (56%),
1627 summer (19%), and autumn (16%) (Fig. 13e). Aquatic contribution to total steelhead diet was
1628 high all months of the year, except for September (15%) and November (4%) when salmon eggs
1629 were available and May (25%) and October (44%) when terrestrial invertebrates dominated the
1630 diet (Fig. 12e). At a seasonal resolution, aquatic resources were important to steelhead diet in all

1631 seasons, but to varying degrees different from that seen in coho: summer (81%), autumn (15%),
1632 winter (100%), and spring (44%) (Fig. 13e).

1633 **Diet composition.** Monthly and seasonal diet contents of juvenile steelhead and coho
1634 demonstrated the importance of a variety of invertebrate prey resources at different points in the
1635 year. No single prey resource uniformly dominated diet biomass throughout the year at a
1636 monthly or seasonal resolution for either coho (Fig. 12a, Fig. 13a) or steelhead (Fig. 12d, Fig.
1637 13d). The annual portfolio contributing to coho diet consisted of 13 orders of prey resources and
1638 42 unique prey resources. The annual portfolio contributing to steelhead diet consisted of 12
1639 orders of prey resources and 43 unique prey resources. For coho, Ephemeroptera (41%) and
1640 Hymenoptera (16%) dominated summer diets, salmon eggs (49%) and Diptera (21% dominated
1641 autumn diets, salmon eggs (76%) dominated winter diets, and Plecoptera (43%) combined with
1642 Coleoptera (27%) dominated spring diets (Fig. 13a). For steelhead, Ephemeroptera (53%) and
1643 Hymenoptera (19%) dominated summer diets, salmon eggs (68%) dominated autumn diets,
1644 Trichoptera (95%) dominated winter diets, and Coleoptera (32%) combined with Hymenoptera
1645 (28%) dominated spring diets (Fig. 13d).

1646 **Dominant prey resources.** The top two specific prey resources that contributed to fish
1647 diet also varied by month. Some prey items only showed up as a top contributor to coho diet
1648 during one month of the year (Table 1) (e.g. rove beetles). Other prey resources showed up as a
1649 top contributor across multiple months for coho (e.g. predaceous diving beetles). Steelhead diets
1650 also revealed varied prey resources that contributed the bulk of their diet each month (Table 2).
1651 Mayfly nymphs (spiny crawler, small minnow, and flathead) were the largest contributors to
1652 steelhead diets in June, July, and August; however, ephemeral prey resources became the
1653 dominant prey items when available (e.g. salmon eggs).

1654 **Fish size.** The size frequency distribution (Fig. 12c) and mean size of coho sampled
1655 showed a growth progression starting in June at 65.96 mm fork length (FL) (SD=5.04, n=50) and
1656 finishing the following May at 97.45 mm FL (SD=7.55, n=20). The size frequency distribution
1657 (Fig. 12f) and mean size of steelhead sampled showed two age classes of juveniles residing in
1658 the river system. Age 0 fish (<100 mm FL) showed a growth progression starting in August at
1659 71.7 mm fork length (FL) (SD=6.82, n=33) and finishing the following May at 94 mm FL
1660 (SD=5.66, n=2). The mean size of fish larger than 100 mm FL fluctuated throughout the year
1661 with sizes averaging between 122 mm FL and 145 mm FL throughout the year.

1662

1663 *Feeding selectivity*

1664 The prey items that provided the largest proportion of fish diets were often positively
1665 selected for from the environment during that timeframe for both juvenile coho (Table 1) and
1666 steelhead (Table 2).

1667 **Benthic.** Coho benthic selectivity showed clear patterns of preference and avoidance of
1668 invertebrate prey items available in the benthic environment (Table 3). Coho avoided flathead
1669 mayfly nymphs during all months (E= -0.63 to -1.00) except for August when river flow was at
1670 an annual low (E=0.79). Rolled wing stonefly nymphs were preferred by coho in all months
1671 except for July (E= -1) and October (E= -0.17). Some prey items were available most months of
1672 the year but avoided by coho during all months: common stonefly nymphs, crane fly larva,
1673 northern case maker caddis nymphs, and spiny crawler mayfly nymphs. Small minnow mayfly
1674 nymphs were preferred by coho in June, August, October, December, February, March, April but
1675 avoided in July, September, November, and May. Likewise, steelhead displayed distinct patterns
1676 of preference and avoidance of benthically available invertebrate prey items (Table 4). Steelhead

1677 avoided northern case maker caddis nymphs, riffle beetle larva, crane fly larva, and common
1678 stonefly nymphs year-round. Spiny crawler mayfly nymphs were preferred by steelhead in June
1679 but avoided during all other months. Stripetail stonefly nymphs were preferred by steelhead in
1680 April but avoided all other months. Steelhead preferred flathead mayfly nymphs in July and
1681 August but avoided them the rest of the year. Steelhead preferred small minnow mayfly nymphs
1682 July through October but avoided these prey items the rest of the year.

1683 **Drift.** Coho drift selectivity showed patterns of preference and avoidance of invertebrate
1684 prey items available in the benthic environment (Table 5). Coho avoided northern case maker
1685 caddis nymphs year-round. Rolled wing stonefly nymphs were preferred by coho most of the
1686 year except for June ($E = -0.24$) and July ($E = -1.00$). Small minnow mayfly nymphs were
1687 preferred by coho in November through March but avoided the rest of the year. Coho preferred
1688 non-biting midge larva at all points in time that this prey resource occurred in the drift. Adult
1689 mayflies were preferred by coho in April and May. steelhead displayed distinct patterns of
1690 preference and avoidance of invertebrate prey items available in the drift (Table 6). Steelhead
1691 avoided northern case maker caddis nymphs and riffle beetle larva year-round. Steelhead
1692 preferred flathead mayfly nymphs in July but avoided them the rest of the year. Steelhead
1693 preferred non-biting midge larva July through October, rolled wing stonefly nymphs June
1694 through September, and small minnow mayfly nymphs June through July, but avoided these prey
1695 items the rest of the year.

1696 **Terrestrial.** Coho terrestrial selectivity showed clear patterns of preference and
1697 avoidance of invertebrate prey items available in the terrestrial environment (Table 7). In
1698 general, coho avoided most terrestrially available invertebrates with two exceptions: adult rolled
1699 wing stoneflies were preferred October through January and adult non-biting midges were

1700 preferred November through January. While these two invertebrates were considered aquatic due
1701 to their larval origin, they were found in the terrestrial environment in their adult stage. Steelhead
1702 displayed distinct patterns of preference and avoidance of invertebrate prey items available in the
1703 terrestrial environment (Table 8). steelhead preferred ants during May, July, and August and
1704 preferred flying ants in September and October. Adult rolled wing stoneflies were preferred by
1705 steelhead in October. Caterpillars, adult crane flies, adult dance flies, leaf hoppers, spiders, and
1706 wasps were avoided year-round by steelhead. Ground beetles were preferred by steelhead in May
1707 and October but avoided all other months of the year.

1708

1709 **Discussion**

1710 This study quantified the portfolio of prey resources available to juvenile salmonids
1711 throughout the annual cycle, and how fish integrated this trophic diversity through their foraging
1712 behavior. Our results suggest that stream-rearing juvenile steelhead trout and coho salmon
1713 exploit complementary prey resources throughout the year, showing temporally distinct
1714 preference and avoidance of stable and ephemeral prey items. Indeed, our data revealed greater
1715 complexity in the seasonal dynamics of prey resources than previously documented. For
1716 example, instead of a single temporal peak of terrestrial inputs, taxon diversity drove multiple
1717 distinct peaks of terrestrial inputs to fish diets. Moreover, contrary to predictions of functional
1718 extinction of salmon at low abundances, we found that marine subsidies from ESA-listed
1719 populations generated the highest ration size of the annual cycle for both steelhead and coho.

1720

1721 *Asynchronous prey resource portfolio*

1722 Sampling prey abundances through the annual cycle revealed how different prey
1723 resources stabilize the aggregate portfolio of prey resources available in the environment. While
1724 there are large bodies of work on how physical aspects of rivers vary in space (Vannote et al.
1725 1980; Tockner et al. 2000) and time (Poff et al. 1997), our understanding of heterogeneity in
1726 biotic aspects, such as food webs, is comparatively lacking (Naiman et al. 2012). We found
1727 evidence of a portfolio effect in the biomass of invertebrates sampled across time from benthic,
1728 drift, and terrestrial environmental samples. This derived from strong asynchrony in peaks in the
1729 biomass produced in each type of environment. We found that prey asynchrony was fractal, in
1730 the sense that it was similarly expressed at multiple levels of analysis. For example, at higher
1731 resolution, focusing on each environmental source of prey as the aggregate portfolio, we
1732 observed similar asynchrony. However, the invertebrate taxa within each component stock
1733 exhibited variance-dampening (Figge 2004) where the temporal variation prolonged broad
1734 resource pulses, thus minimizing periods of low prey abundance in the environment. For
1735 example, while there was some synchrony observed as invertebrate abundances declined during
1736 autumn and winter, the four sources reached their annual low during different months, thus off-
1737 setting periods of prey scarcity for consumers.

1738

1739 *Timing of environmental availability of prey resources*

1740 Phenological shifts in the structure and size of the prey resource portfolio coincided with
1741 shifts in environmental phenology (e.g. flow, temperature) and shifts in fish life-history
1742 phenology. Benthic invertebrate biomass in riffles peaked in April and May, coinciding with
1743 higher flows from spring snowmelt and juvenile salmon outmigration to saltwater. Benthic
1744 invertebrate biomass in pools peaked in August, coinciding with the potential stressors of high

1745 temperature (and thus elevated metabolic costs), low drift biomass, and post-emergence growth
1746 of young-of-year salmonids. Drift invertebrate biomass peaked in April, coinciding with spring
1747 snowmelt, low invertebrate biomass available in pools, and juvenile salmon outmigration.
1748 Terrestrial invertebrate biomass peaked in September, coinciding with low flow, low drift
1749 biomass, low benthic pool biomass, declining benthic riffle biomass, and the timeframe when
1750 juvenile salmonids likely began storing lipids in preparation for overwinter survival (Berg and
1751 Bremset 1998). Sampling prey resources in the environment revealed asynchronous dynamics of
1752 prey abundance, but abundance may correlate poorly with patterns of predator consumption if
1753 many prey items are invulnerable (Kauffman et al. 2007) or if predators are highly selective
1754 (Stephens and Krebs 1986). Indeed, we found that the composition of prey resources in fish
1755 stomachs was often dissimilar to that in the environment, demonstrating that data on foraging
1756 ecology is needed to understand the functional significance of prey resource portfolios.

1757

1758 *Fish preference and avoidance of prey resources*

1759 Fish diets exhibited temporally variable levels of selectivity and avoidance of specific
1760 invertebrate prey resources. For example, while flathead mayfly nymphs provided the greatest
1761 source of mass to steelhead diets in August and were positively selected for during that month
1762 ($E = 0.81$ in benthic samples, not found in drift samples), they were avoided almost every other
1763 month of the year ($E = -1.00$) except for July when they were also positively selected for ($E =$
1764 0.37). As August and September are generally the points of lowest flow in Washington rivers, we
1765 found that the availability of drifting prey items is often also at its lowest during this time while
1766 benthic invertebrate production is high (Fig. 7). While aquatic resources may have been available
1767 and preferred during summer and winter, ephemeral terrestrial and marine subsidies that offer

1768 higher energy density (Cummins and Wuycheck 1971; Hendry and Berg 1999) and were
1769 preferred when available. For example, while small quantities of rove beetles were seen in
1770 multiple months, the largest pulse was observed in May when they were positively selected for
1771 by coho ($E= 0.85$ in terrestrial samples) and contributed 66% of coho diet. Rove beetles were
1772 largely avoided during the rest of the year ($E= -1.00$ to -0.71) except in November when they
1773 were again preferred ($E= 0.42$) but did not provide a substantial contribution to diet biomass.
1774 Preference of terrestrial invertebrates was not surprising due to two main factors: terrestrial
1775 invertebrates tend to be more active in daytime than aquatic invertebrates and their larger size
1776 makes them more visible in the drift and therefore more susceptible to fish predation (Nakano et
1777 al. 1999a; Edwards and Huryn 1996). However, diet samples from juvenile salmonids may differ
1778 in the proportion of aquatic and terrestrial invertebrates based on whether the fish defend
1779 foraging stations by hierarchy or float freely (Nielsen 1992). Like terrestrial invertebrates,
1780 salmon eggs were highly visible, preferred prey resources that provided the bulk of fish diet
1781 during their short-lived availability. Some ephemeral prey items, like salmon eggs, occurred in
1782 fish diet samples but did not occur in concurrent environmental samples. This was possibly due
1783 to the timing of fish feeding or a high level of selectivity where these prey items were removed
1784 from the drift so quickly that environmental samples failed to capture their true abundance.
1785 While environmental factors such as high flows certainly affect the ability of fish to forage, these
1786 data support a pattern of preferential feeding year-round with top contributing diet items virtually
1787 always being positively selected for against their relative availability in the environment.

1788

1789 *Subsidies to fish diets*

1790 External subsidies were largely exploited by juvenile steelhead and coho during
1791 transitional periods (e.g. spring smoltification, autumn shift from somatic growth to lipid
1792 storage) while *in situ* prey resources were a major source of energy during periods with extreme
1793 metabolic differences (e.g. summer growth and winter survival). Increased rations were observed
1794 in fish in late spring-early summer and again in autumn, corresponding with ephemeral resource
1795 pulses of terrestrial and marine subsidies, respectively. However, the autumn pulse of marine
1796 subsidies was considerably larger than the spring pulse of terrestrial subsidies: steelhead rations
1797 in September were 2 orders of magnitude greater than the mass of March rations (the lowest
1798 annual rations observed) while rations in May were only 1 order of magnitude greater than the
1799 mass of March rations. Moore et al. (2007) argued that the role of salmon within freshwater
1800 ecosystems could become functionally extinct at low spawning densities because
1801 superimposition of redds is required to release large quantities of eggs into the stream drift where
1802 they would be available to consumers. This may be particularly true for species that are less
1803 competitive at preying on eggs (Bentley et al. 2012). While juvenile coho salmon are known to
1804 rely heavily on eggs where salmon are still superabundant (Rinella et al. 2012), they are less
1805 benthically-oriented than trout species (Bisson et al. 1988) and, therefore, it is likely they are less
1806 effective at exploiting eggs that are not readily available in the drift. Thus, we did not expect
1807 marine subsidies to provide substantial foraging in an area where salmon runs are severely
1808 depressed. However, we found that the pulse of eggs in September that provided the greatest
1809 ration of the year for both steelhead and coho came from a small spawning population of ESA-
1810 listed Chinook salmon. Two possible explanations are that 1) juvenile fish in this system don't
1811 require redd superimposition to access substantial quantities of eggs or 2) even at low spawner
1812 densities, adult salmon are patchily distributed (Einum and Nislow 2005) and superimpose redds.

1813

1814 *Marine resource contribution to the year-round energy portfolio*

1815 Diverging patterns in fish diet at seasonal and monthly resolutions emphasized the
1816 importance of temporally continuous sampling. At a seasonal resolution, marine contributions to
1817 coho diet appear to occur twice (autumn and winter) while contributions to steelhead diet appear
1818 to only occur once (autumn). However, at a monthly resolution, we found that each focal species
1819 benefitted from two pulses of egg subsidies, with the timing of the second pulse differing. At a
1820 monthly resolution, marine resources were most abundant in September and December for coho
1821 and September and November for steelhead. This corresponds with Chinook salmon spawning in
1822 September and coho and chum spawning in November through December. The earlier onset of
1823 chum/coho eggs in steelhead diets may be because steelhead are better adapted to holding in
1824 riffles where salmon spawn (Bisson et al. 1988). Phenological diversity among salmon taxa has
1825 been shown to benefit consumers by prolonging pulses of eggs. For stream-dwelling fishes this
1826 has been shown in rainbow trout that move among tributaries to exploit intraspecific variation in
1827 sockeye salmon spawning (Ruff et al. 2011). We found that coho and steelhead juveniles
1828 benefitted from species-level variation in spawn-timing, which allowed them to consume eggs
1829 for a longer portion of autumn into early winter. This inter-specific level diversity has been
1830 shown to also correlate with higher levels of salmon consumption in black bears (Service et al.
1831 2019). While age-0 salmonids in northern populations are often unable to exploit egg subsidies
1832 because they have a shorter (and more thermally constrained) period over which to grow large
1833 enough to swallow eggs, we found that fish in this system were able to consume eggs during
1834 their first year. Diet samples from coho as small as 78mm fork length showing eggs from both
1835 pulses of spawning. Armstrong et al. (2010) found that fish as small as 43mm could consume

1836 soft fresh eggs but needed to be at least 67mm to consume water hardened eggs. This suggests
1837 that the coho salmon in this study were also feeding on water-hardened eggs, supporting the
1838 notion that the eggs were derived from redd superimposition or scouring during high flows,
1839 rather than spillage during spawning (which would provide fresh eggs).

1840

1841 *Terrestrial resource contribution to the year-round energy portfolio*

1842 Terrestrial subsidies also revealed different patterns between seasonal and monthly
1843 resolutions. Based on other studies such as Nakano and Murakami (2001), we predicted that
1844 terrestrial invertebrates would provide a unimodal peak of energy during summer. What we
1845 found was a more complex pattern. At a seasonal resolution, terrestrial invertebrates did not
1846 appear to be a major source of energy for coho, comprising 3-21% of seasonal diet biomass.
1847 However, at a monthly resolution, the component taxa within the aggregate terrestrial subsidy
1848 produced multiple peaks of substantial energy contribution. For example, 78% of coho diet came
1849 from terrestrial invertebrates in May, 39% in October, and 31% in June. The peak in May
1850 terrestrial invertebrate biomass in coho diet was predominantly from ephemerally available rove
1851 beetles. The June terrestrial biomass peak for coho was driven by ants and October by spiders.
1852 Steelhead, on the other hand, revealed terrestrial invertebrates as the dominant energy source at
1853 both seasonal and monthly resolutions. In spring, steelhead ate terrestrial invertebrates at a rate
1854 of 1.27 times the mass of aquatic invertebrates. At a monthly resolution, peaks in May and
1855 October terrestrial invertebrate biomass in steelhead diet were both predominantly from ground
1856 beetles. Thus, we found that the contribution of terrestrial invertebrates was not as simple as a
1857 seasonal pulse, but instead reflected monthly pulses from different taxa that were differentially
1858 consumed by our two focal species. Baxter et al. (2005) suggested that low contribution of

1859 terrestrial prey may limit fish growth; our results suggest that phenological diversity in terrestrial
1860 inputs is likely important as well.

1861

1862 *Aquatic resource contribution to the year-round energy portfolio*

1863 Aquatic invertebrates provided a stable prey resource year-round for both steelhead and
1864 coho. Aquatic invertebrates were particularly important in winter when prey consumption can
1865 slow the depletion of lipid stores. At a seasonal resolution, the highest proportions of aquatic
1866 invertebrates were found in diets in summer and spring for coho and summer and winter for
1867 steelhead. However, the importance of aquatic invertebrates at a monthly resolution revealed
1868 almost year-round dominance: over 50% of diet biomass consisted of aquatic resources in 9 out
1869 of 12 months for coho and 7 out of 11 months for steelhead (sample size from one month was
1870 low and consisted of empty stomachs). Additionally, the prey items that appeared repeatedly
1871 (e.g. rolled wing stonefly nymphs, adult predaceous diving beetles, small minnow mayfly
1872 nymphs) in fish diets present the possibility of a baseline of stable *in situ* food resources
1873 available throughout a large portion of the year. However, ephemeral prey resources (e.g. salmon
1874 eggs, rove beetles, ants, pupa stage of non-biting midges) were generally highly preferred when
1875 available and provided the bulk of diet mass during those times, even when stable aquatic
1876 invertebrates were more abundant. Therefore, the contributions of marine, terrestrial, and aquatic
1877 prey resources complement each other with aquatic resources providing a relatively consistent
1878 level of *in situ* energy between the pulses of marine and terrestrial subsidies. Resources with low
1879 relative abundance may still be functionally critical when their phenology is unique within the
1880 resource portfolio (Armstrong et al. 2020).

1881

1882 *Linking trophic resources and phases of juvenile salmonid freshwater rearing*

1883 By overlapping seasonal fish foraging with the physiological processes that fish
1884 experience as they complete the full annual cycle of freshwater rearing, several patterns
1885 emerged. How fish allocate energy for competing demands (e.g. somatic growth and lipid
1886 storage) can drastically impact juvenile fish survival (Post and Parkinson 2001). Fish may
1887 allocate energy toward somatic growth until a size threshold is reached, after which energy is
1888 allocated toward lipid storage (Biro et al. 2005). Our results suggested that the prey resources
1889 that contributed substantially to juvenile coho and steelhead diets shifted at each phase of
1890 rearing. For example, in the summer when environmental conditions (e.g. physiologically
1891 optimal temperatures, long daylight hours, low stream flow) were likely more favorable for
1892 foraging and growth, the most important prey items for coho and steelhead were aquatically-
1893 derived, with Ephemeroptera providing the bulk of diet mass, specifically flathead and small
1894 minnow mayfly nymphs. In autumn, when energy was likely allocated towards lipid storage
1895 (Biro et al. 2005; Berg and Bremset 1998), marine-derived nutrients were most important for
1896 coho and steelhead, with salmon eggs providing the bulk of diet mass. In winter, when depletion
1897 of fat stores could be offset by prey consumption, aquatic invertebrates were most important for
1898 steelhead, particularly Trichoptera. Consumption of eggs from later runs of salmon spawning
1899 provided coho with most of their winter foraging biomass. Then in spring, when fish would be
1900 undergoing stressful physiological changes as part of the parr-smolt transformation, or
1901 “smoltification” process, readies them to migrate to saltwater, terrestrial invertebrates became
1902 most important for steelhead, particularly Coleoptera (i.e. ground beetles) and Hymenoptera (i.e.
1903 bees, ants), while aquatic invertebrates and terrestrial invertebrates were important for coho with
1904 Plecoptera (i.e. stripetail stonefly nymphs and rolled wing stonefly nymphs) and Coleoptera (i.e.

1905 rove beetles) providing the bulk of diet mass. Growth of stream-rearing salmonids is often food-
1906 limited (Quinn 2005). Decreased availability of prey resources (Boss and Richardson 2002;
1907 Wipfli and Baxter 2010) and unfavorable temperature (Brett and Groves 1979; Elliott 1982) can
1908 result in reduced growth. Furthermore, the interaction between food and temperature can impact
1909 fish growth. Lower levels of food can reduce the optimum temperature of water for juvenile
1910 salmonid growth, exacerbating the stress of warming (Brett et al. 1982). The complementary
1911 prey resources that support fish during different phases of their life cycle during freshwater
1912 rearing (e.g. summer somatic growth, autumn lipid storage, over-wintering, smoltification) may
1913 provide additional data that could be incorporated into life-cycle modeling and restoration plans.
1914 As temperatures rise in freshwater systems during summer, knowing the specific resources that
1915 support fish at that time could be particularly useful for guiding restoration. By considering the
1916 links between fish foraging and intrinsic physiological processes, habitat restoration efforts could
1917 be strategically targeted to support fish at different points in their development (Pikitch et al.
1918 2004).

1919

1920 *Considerations*

1921 While our data are temporally continuous on a monthly scale and represent several days
1922 of sampling during each month, they are not temporally continuous on a daily scale as year-
1923 round daily sampling was not feasible. Therefore, we acknowledge that it is possible that very
1924 short-lived ephemeral prey pulses were not fully accounted for in the diet or environmental data.
1925 Our diet data were paired with stable isotope samples to provide a broader view of trophic
1926 pathways; however, these samples were not processed in time for inclusion in this thesis.

1927

1928 Conclusion

1929 We found that juvenile salmon foraging behavior integrated a portfolio of prey resources
1930 and that temporal variation in these resources overlapped with the phenology of key rearing
1931 phases. At a seasonal resolution, patterns in prey resource dominance in our focal system were
1932 stronger, but also failed to capture the full impact of ephemeral prey resources. We found three
1933 key pulses of ephemeral prey resources that dominated fish diets at critical times of
1934 development: terrestrial invertebrates in May during the stressful smoltification process, Chinook
1935 salmon eggs in September at the nexus of somatic growth and lipid storage, and chum and coho
1936 salmon eggs in November/December at the onset of winter. Marine-derived nutrients in Pacific
1937 Northwest rivers are estimated to be only 6-7% of their historic values due to the collapse
1938 anadromous Pacific salmon (Gresh et al. 2000). While the ESA-listed population of spawning
1939 adult Chinook salmon in the Skokomish river is very small, during their September spawning
1940 run, eggs were found to be a significant portion of both coho and steelhead diet, supporting the
1941 largest prey ration sizes per fish found in the year. As winter mortality is possibly constraining to
1942 freshwater rearing of salmonids, the increased ration size observed in autumn due to multiple
1943 pulses of salmon eggs could offer greater understanding of how fish allocate energy in
1944 preparation for overwintering and thereby potentially increase over-winter survival (Hurst and
1945 Conover 2003). The aggregate energy portfolio supporting juvenile salmonids throughout
1946 freshwater residence exhibited monthly and seasonal variation with year-round foraging
1947 opportunities maximized by asynchronous pulses from individual prey taxa. The timing of
1948 ephemeral energy resources often coincided with periods of stress as fish underwent
1949 physiological changes. The synergy of ephemeral and stable prey resources supporting juvenile

1950 coho salmon and steelhead trout throughout the year may have important implications for fish
 1951 fitness, survival, and conservation efforts.

1952

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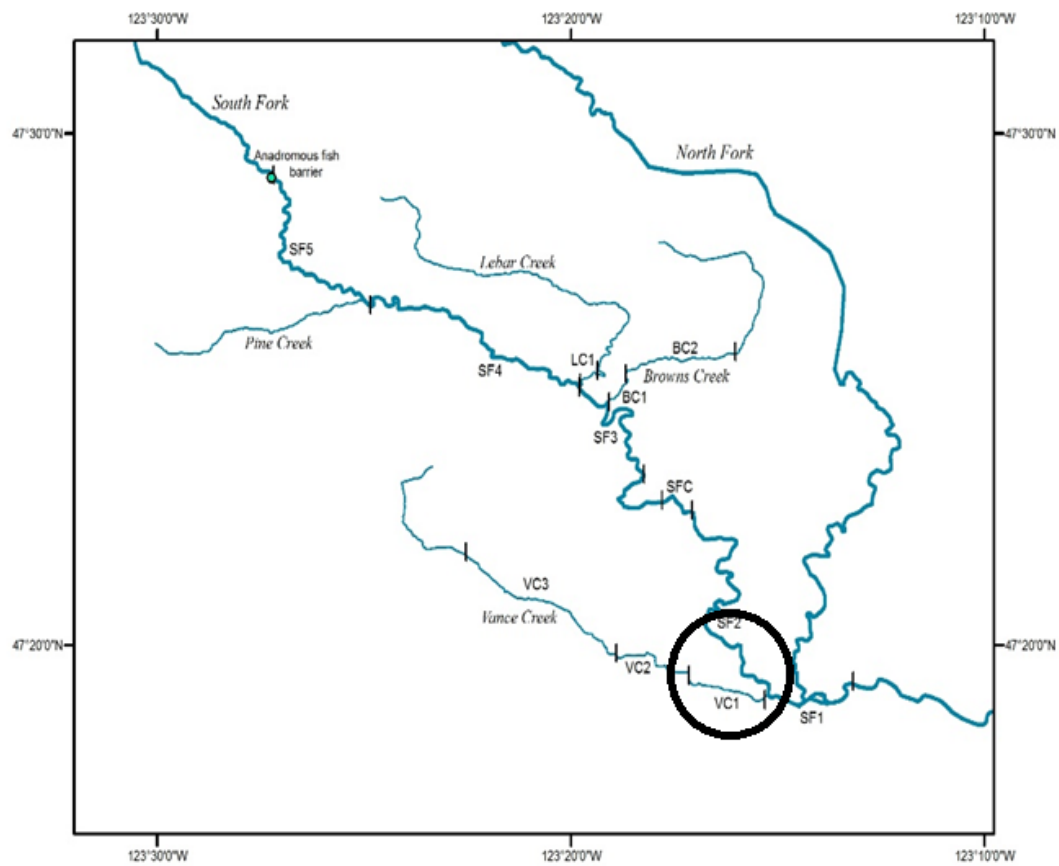
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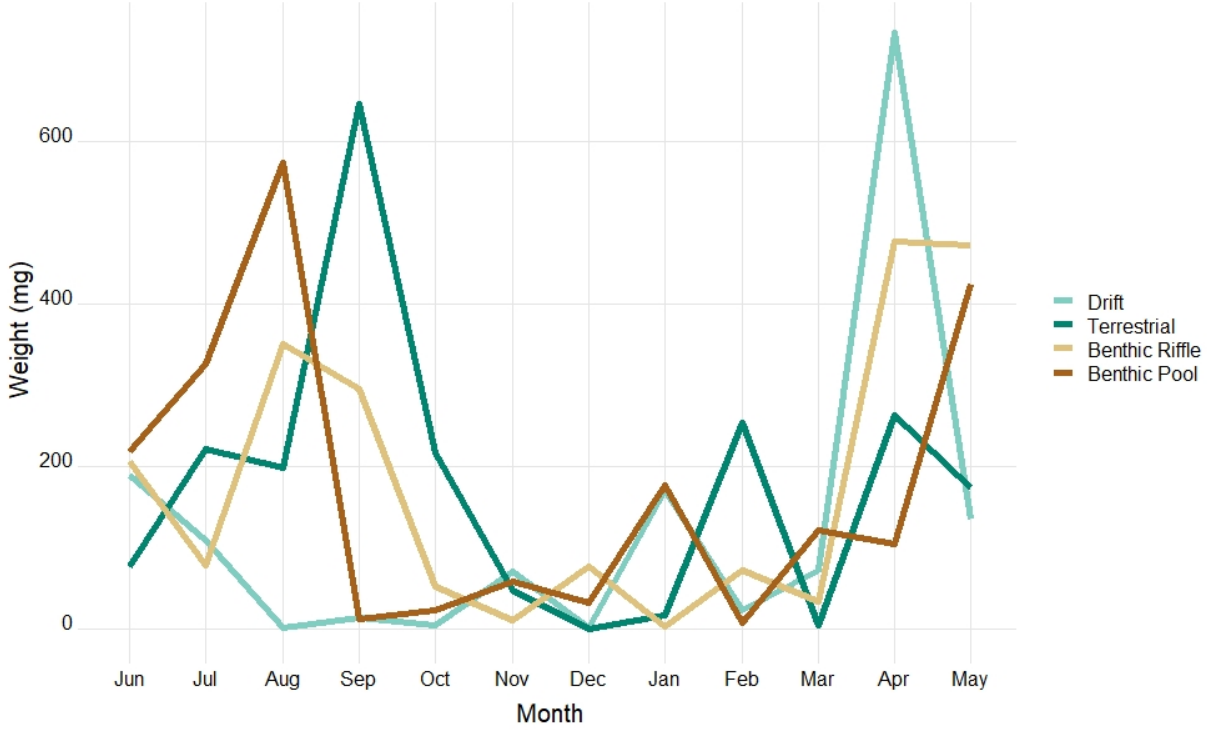


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2243 **Figure 6. Study system map**

2244 South Fork Skokomish River with tributaries, anadromy barrier, and survey reaches.

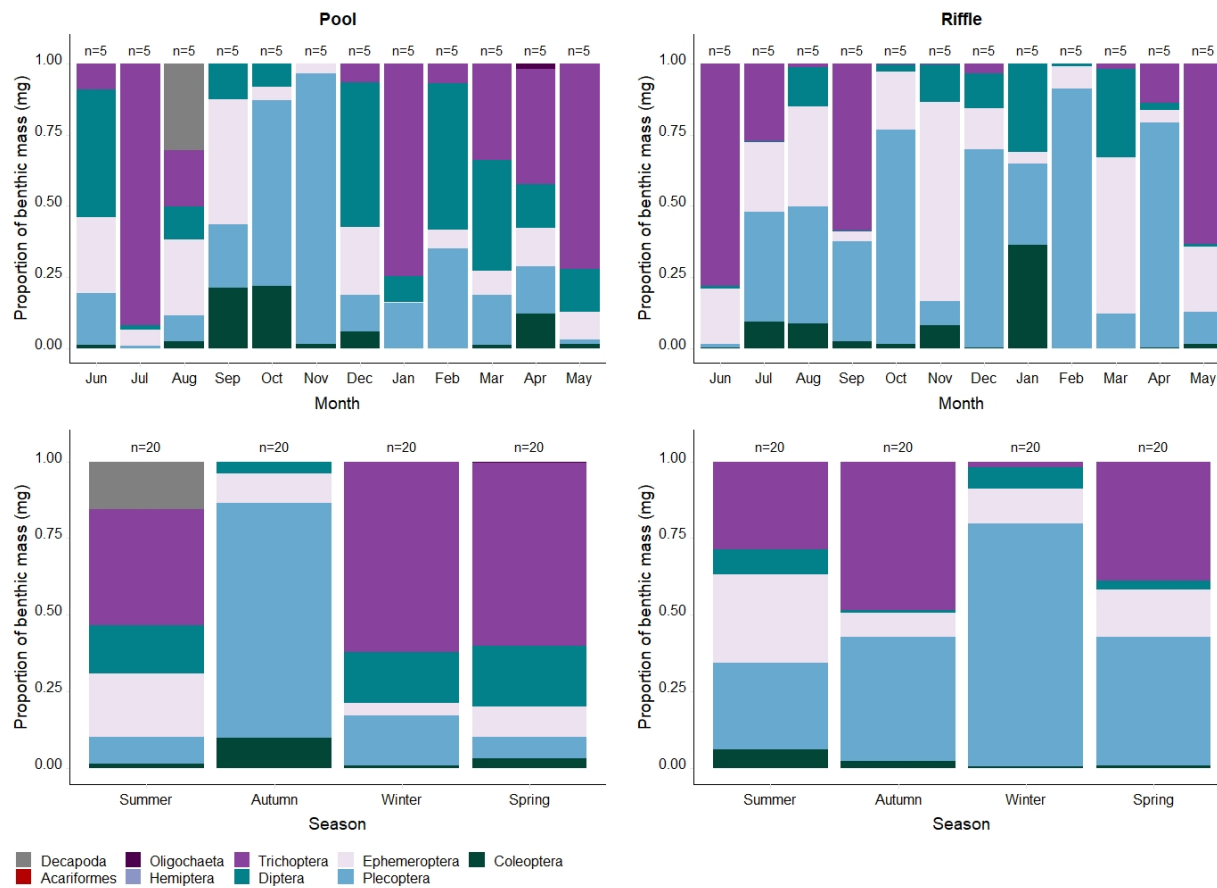
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2247 **Figure 7. Monthly total environmental productivity**

2248 Monthly mass (mg) of invertebrates found in environmental samples. Drift samples n=6 per
2249 month. Terrestrial samples n=10 per tree species per month. Benthic samples n=5 pool and n=5
2250 riffle per month.
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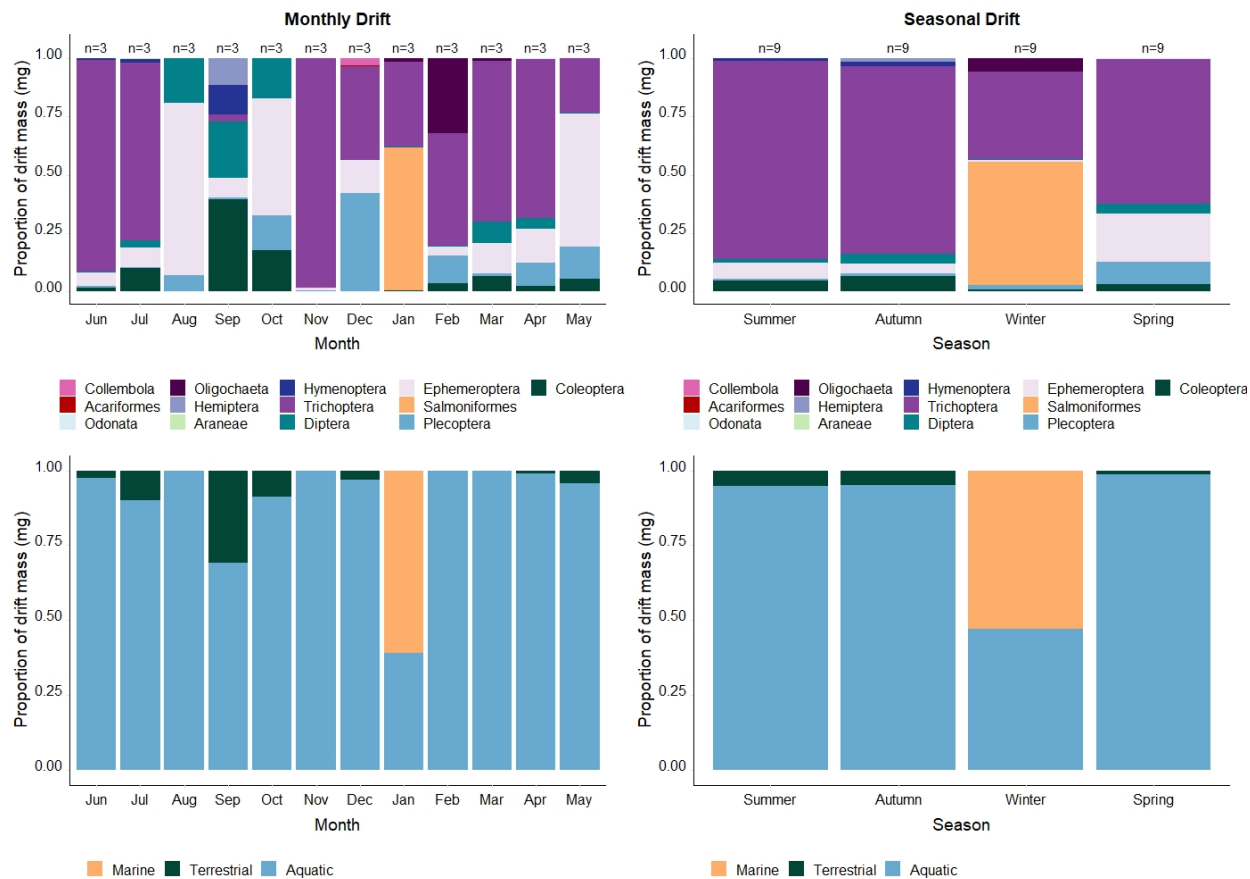
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2253 **Figure 8. Benthic invertebrate composition**

2254 Monthly and seasonal resolution of invertebrates found in the benthic environment with
 2255 proportion by order found in pools (A, C) and riffles (B, D). Seasons defined as Summer (June,
 2256 July, August), Autumn (September, October, November), Winter (December, January,
 2257 February), and Spring (March, April, May).

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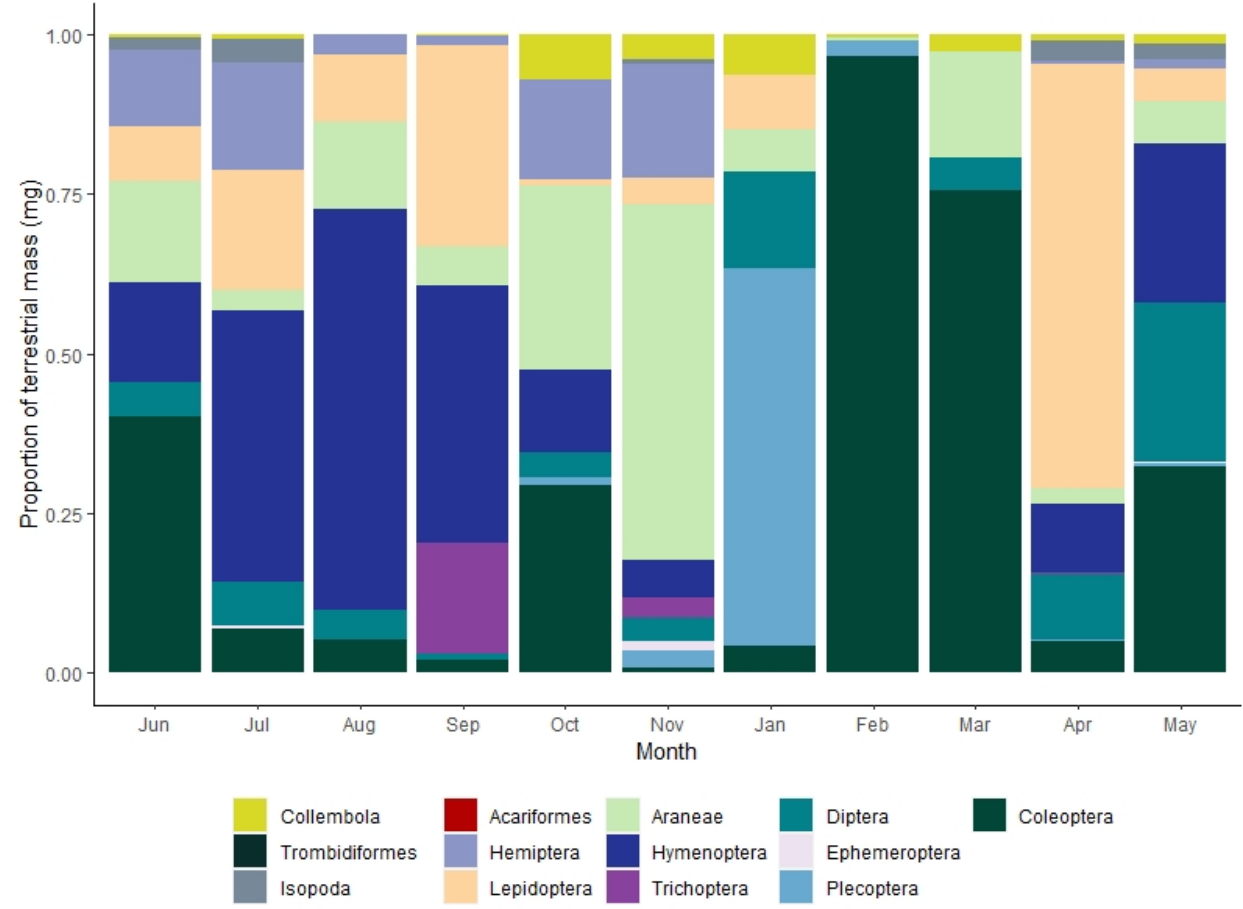
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2261 **Figure 9. Drift invertebrate composition**

2262 Monthly and seasonal resolution of invertebrates found in the drift environment: A) monthly
 2263 drift invertebrate proportions by order, B) seasonal drift proportions by order, C) monthly
 2264 proportional contribution of marine, aquatic, and terrestrial energy pathways available in the
 2265 drift, D) seasonal proportional contribution of marine, aquatic, and terrestrial energy pathways
 2266 available in the drift. Seasons defined as Summer (June, July, August), Autumn (September,
 2267 October, November), Winter (December, January, February), and Spring (March, April, May).
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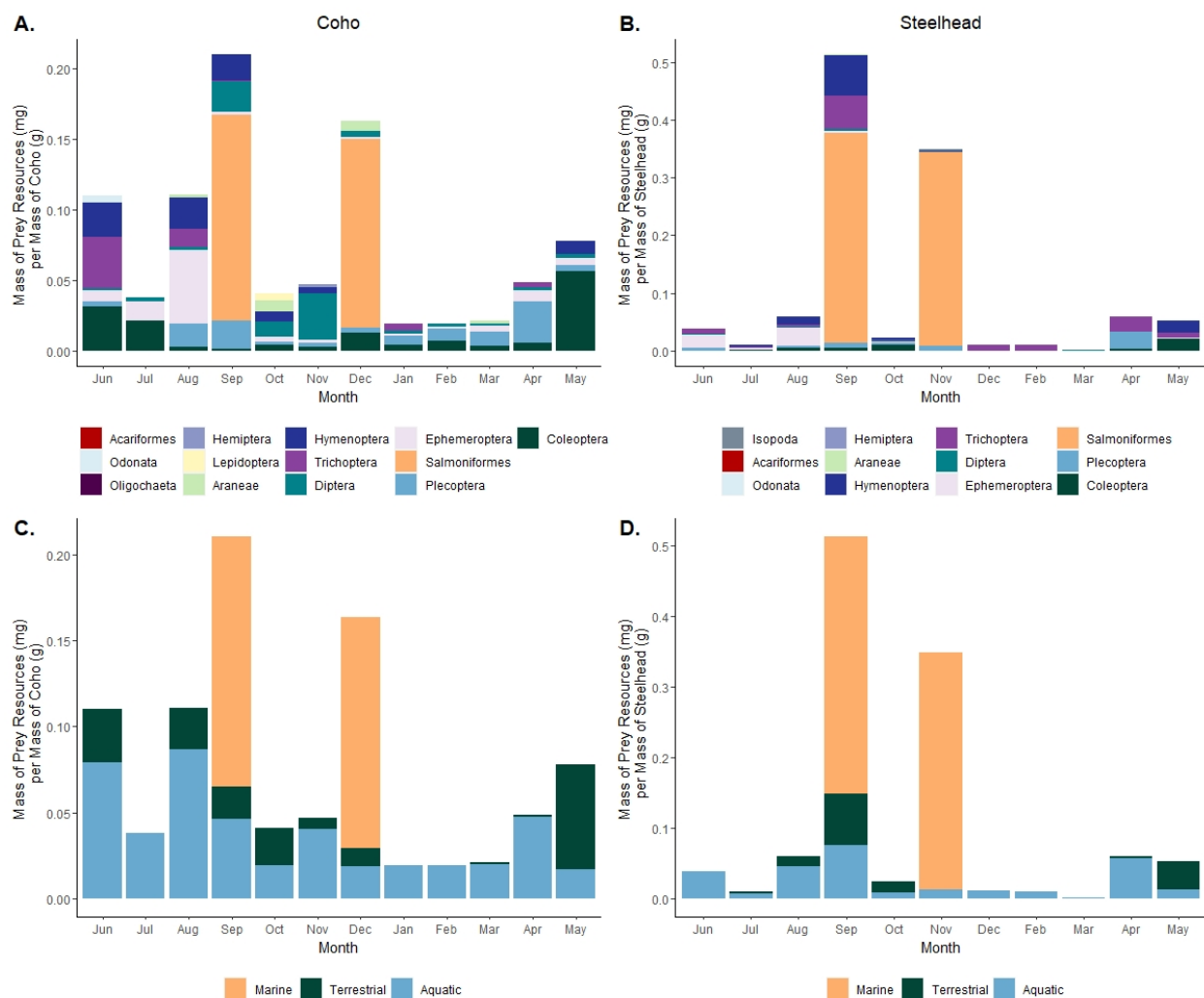


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2270 **Figure 10. Terrestrial invertebrate composition**

2271 Monthly proportion of invertebrates by order found in the terrestrial environment associated with
2272 six common riparian vegetation species: Bigleaf Maple, Red Alder, Sitka Willow, Vine Maple,
2273 Knotweed, and Blackberry.

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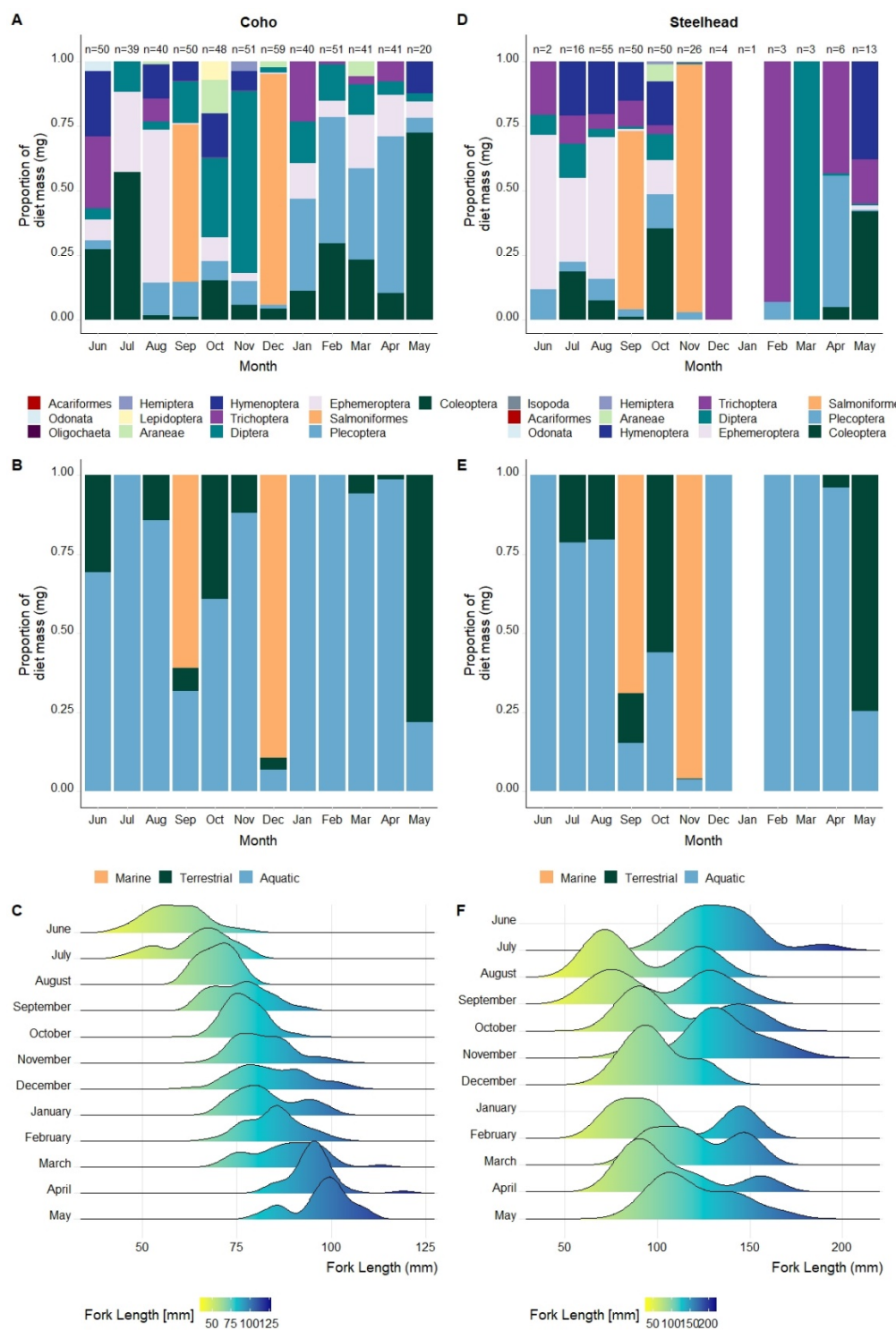
2276 **Figure 11. Fish rations**

2277 Monthly average ration of prey resources (mg) per mass (g) of fish by prey order for coho (A)

2278 and steelhead (B); Monthly average ration of prey resources (mg) per mass (g) of fish by trophic

2279 pathway (i.e. marine, terrestrial, aquatic) for coho (C) and steelhead (D).

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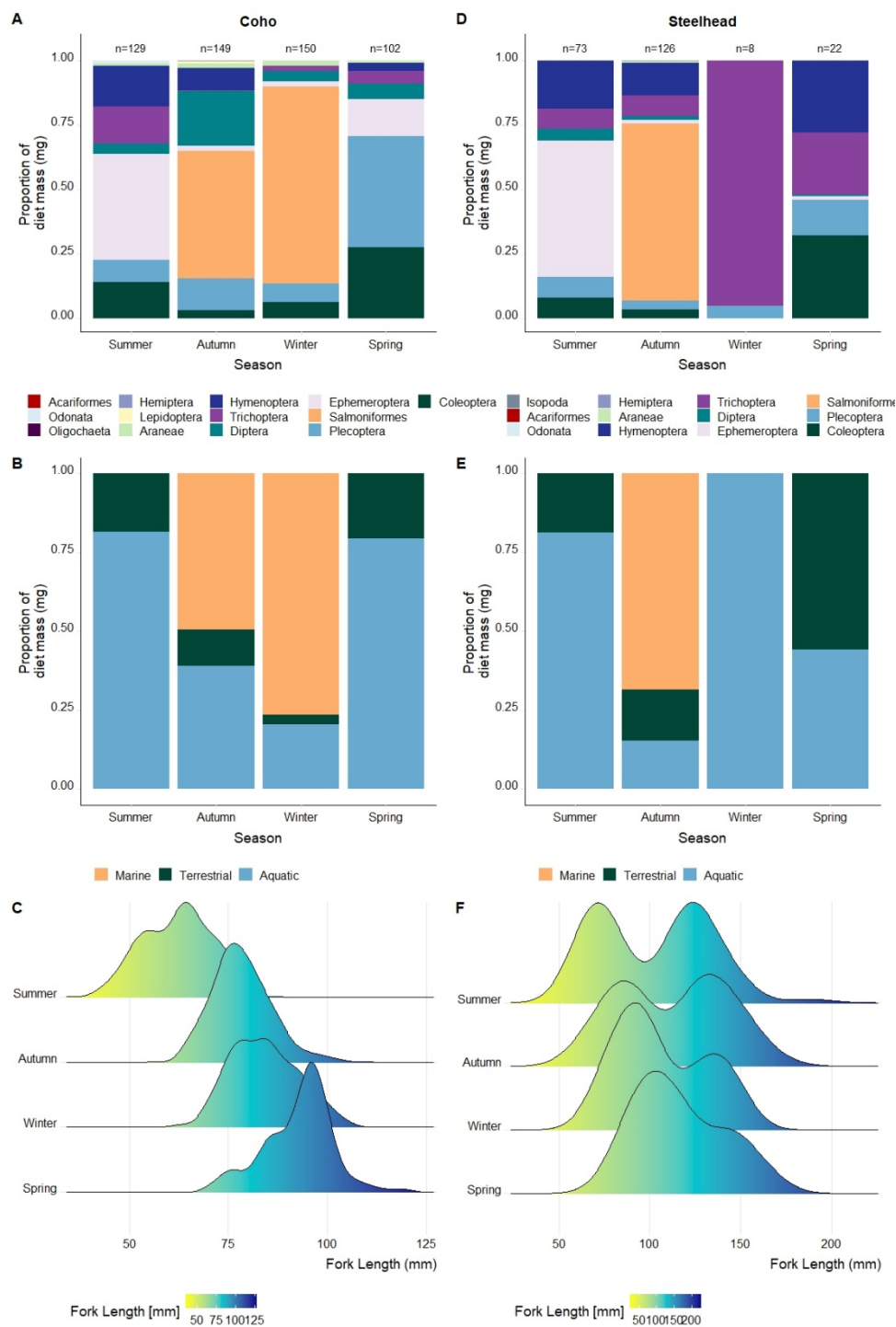
2282 Figure 12. Fish diet composition and size by month

2283 Monthly resolution of diet, energy pathways, and size distributions for juvenile coho and

2284 steelhead: 1) proportion of invertebrates found in the diets (A, D), 2) proportional contribution of

2285 marine, aquatic, and terrestrial energy pathways (B,E), and 3) cohort fork length size frequencies

2286 (C, F).



2287

2288 **Figure 13. Fish diet composition and size by season**

2289 Seasonal resolution of diet, energy pathways, and size distributions for juvenile coho and
 2290 steelhead: 1) proportion of invertebrates found in the diets (A, D), 2) proportional contribution of
 2291 marine, aquatic, and terrestrial energy pathways (B, E), and 3) cohort fork length size
 2292 frequencies (C, F). Seasons defined as Summer (June, July, August), Autumn (September,
 2293 October, November), Winter (December, January, February), and Spring (March, April, May).

2294 **Table 1. Top prey resources for coho**
 2295 Monthly dominant prey resources in juvenile coho diet by month with Vanderploeg and Scavia
 2296 Electivity Index of preference or avoidance.
 2297

Month	Dominant Prey Resources in Coho Diet	%	Electivity Index
June	Northern Case Maker Caddis Pupa	27%	not found in environmental samples
	Ant	18%	0.54 drift
July	Predaceous Diving Beetle Adult	57%	0.78 drift 0.81 benthic
	Adult Mayfly	24%	0.85 terrestrial
August	Flathead Mayfly nymph	53%	0.79 benthic
	Ant	13%	0.83 terrestrial
September	Salmon Eggs	61%	not found in environmental samples
	Non-Biting Midge Larva	11%	0.52 drift
October	Spider	13%	-0.33 terrestrial
	Predaceous Diving Beetle Adult	12%	not found in environmental samples
November	Non-Biting Midge Pupa	64%	0.12 drift
	Flying Ant	8%	-0.01 terrestrial
December	Salmon Eggs	89%	not found in environmental samples
	Predaceous Diving Beetle Adult	3%	not found in environmental samples
January	Rolled Wing Stonefly nymph	29%	0.60 benthic
	Northern Case Maker Caddis nymph	22%	-0.07 drift -0.92 benthic
February	Rolled Wing Stonefly nymph	36%	0.29 drift 0.66 benthic
	Predaceous Diving Beetle Adult	25%	not found in environmental samples
March	Stripetail Stonefly	25%	0.59 benthic
	Predaceous Diving Beetle Adult	23%	not found in environmental samples
April	Stripetail Stonefly	43%	0.41 drift 0.17 benthic
	Rolled Wing Stonefly nymph	18%	0.41 drift 0.57 benthic
May	Rove Beetle	66%	0.85 terrestrial
	Ant	12%	0.25 terrestrial

2299 **Table 2. Top prey resources for steelhead**
 2300 Monthly dominant prey resources in juvenile steelhead diet by month with Vanderploeg and
 2301 Scavia Electivity Index of preference or avoidance.
 2302

Month	Dominant Prey Resources in Steelhead Diet	%	Electivity Index
June	Spiny Crawler Mayfly nymph	35%	0.79 benthic
	Small Minnow Mayfly nymph	25%	0.18 drift -0.14 benthic
July	Small Minnow Mayfly nymph	25%	0.44 drift 0.39 benthic
	Ant	21%	0.85 terrestrial
August	Flathead Mayfly nymph	49%	0.81 benthic
	Ant	12%	0.85 terrestrial
September	Salmon Eggs	69%	not found in environmental samples
	Flying Ant	13%	0.71 drift 0.79 terrestrial
October	Ground Beetle	30%	0.67 drift 0.66 terrestrial
	Small Minnow Mayfly nymph	11%	-0.50 drift 0.48 benthic
November	Salmon Eggs	96%	not found in environmental samples
	Stripetail Stonefly	2%	not found in environmental samples
December	Tube Maker Caddis nymph	100%	not found in environmental samples
	n/a	n/a	n/a
January	n/a	n/a	n/a
	n/a	n/a	n/a
February	Tube Maker Caddis nymph	93%	not found in environmental samples
	Rolled Wing Stonefly nymph	7%	0.78 drift 0.78 benthic
March	Non-Biting Midge Larva	100%	0.80 drift 0.82 benthic
	n/a	n/a	n/a
April	Stripetail Stonefly	49%	0.51 drift 0.81 benthic
	Adult Caddisfly	26%	not found in environmental samples
May	Sweat Bee	33%	not found in environmental samples
	Ground Beetle	29%	0.82 drift 0.77 terrestrial

2303

2304 **Table 3. Prey selectivity: coho vs. benthic**
 2305 coho prey selectivity of monthly diet contents compared to benthic invertebrate availability using
 2306 Vanderploeg and Scavia's electivity index, where values <0 indicate avoidance and values >0
 2307 indicate preference (Vanderploeg and Scavia 1979).

	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May
Aquatic Invertebrates, Larval												
Burrower Mayfly nymph	NA	NA	-1.00	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Common Stonefly nymph	NA	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00	NA	-1.00	-1.00	NA	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00
Crane Fly larva	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00	NA	-1.00	NA	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00
Crayfishes	NA	NA	-1.00	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Dance Fly Larva	NA	NA	-0.79	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	-1.00	NA	-1.00	NA
Flathead Mayfly nymph	-0.75	-1.00	0.79	-0.72	-0.63	-0.70	-1.00	NA	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00
Free Living Caddis nymph	-1.00	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	-1.00	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Non-Biting Midge Larva	-0.20	NA	-0.42	NA	0.59	0.26	0.66	NA	NA	-0.65	0.27	-1.00
Northern Case Maker Caddis nymph	-1.00	-1.00	-0.09	-0.98	NA	NA	-1.00	-0.92	-1.00	-0.94	-0.93	-1.00
Riffle Beetle Larva	0.73	-1.00	-0.60	-0.03	-0.67	NA	0.36	NA	NA	-1.00	-0.80	-1.00
Rolled Wing Stonefly nymph	0.44	-1.00	0.02	0.67	-0.17	0.35	0.00	0.60	0.66	0.55	0.57	0.51
Saddle Case Maker Caddis	-1.00	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Small Minnow Mayfly nymph	0.14	-0.50	0.07	-0.33	0.34	-0.79	0.34	NA	0.12	0.13	0.28	-0.23
Spiny Crawler Mayfly nymph	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00	NA	NA	NA	-1.00	NA	NA	NA	-1.00	-1.00
Stripetail Stonefly	-1.00	-1.00	-0.08	0.39	-1.00	NA	NA	-1.00	0.28	0.59	0.17	-1.00
Tube Maker Caddis nymph	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.07	NA	NA
Aquatic Invertebrates, Adult												
Adult Caddisfly	NA	NA	NA	-1.00	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Predaceous Diving Beetle Adult	NA	0.81	-0.05	-1.00	NA	0.32	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.53	0.76
Terrestrial Invertebrates, Non-Flying												
none												
Terrestrial Invertebrates, Flying												
none												
Marine Nutrients												
none												

2308

2309

2310 **Table 4. Prey selectivity: steelhead vs. benthic**
 2311 steelhead prey selectivity of monthly diet contents compared to benthic invertebrate availability
 2312 using Vanderploeg and Scavia's electivity index, where values <0 indicate avoidance and values
 2313 >0 indicate preference (Vanderploeg and Scavia 1979).

	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May
Aquatic Invertebrates, Larval												
Burrower Mayfly nymph	NA	NA	-1.00	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Common Stonefly nymph	NA	-1.00	-1.00	-0.78	NA	-1.00	NA	NA	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00
Crane Fly larva	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00	NA	-1.00	NA	NA	NA	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00
Crayfishes	NA	NA	-1.00	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Dance Fly Larva	NA	NA	-1.00	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	-1.00	NA	-1.00	NA
Flathead Mayfly nymph	-1.00	0.37	0.81	-1.00	-0.59	-1.00	NA	NA	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00
Free Living Caddis nymph	-1.00	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Non-Biting Midge Larva	-0.74	NA	-0.26	NA	0.50	-1.00	NA	NA	NA	0.82	-1.00	-1.00
Northern Case Maker Caddis nymph	-0.77	-0.93	-0.27	-1.00	NA	NA	NA	NA	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00	-0.90
Riffle Beetle Larva	-1.00	-0.57	-1.00	-1.00	-0.72	NA	NA	NA	NA	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00
Rolled Wing Stonefly nymph	0.19	-0.29	0.07	-0.07	-0.21	0.71	NA	NA	0.78	-1.00	0.40	-0.09
Saddle Case Maker Caddis	-1.00	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Small Minnow Mayfly nymph	-0.14	0.39	0.16	0.13	0.48	-1.00	NA	NA	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00	0.26
Spiny Crawler Mayfly nymph	0.79	-1.00	-1.00	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	-1.00	-1.00
Stripetail Stonefly	-1.00	-1.00	-0.24	-0.59	-0.96	NA	NA	NA	-1.00	-1.00	0.81	-1.00
Tube Maker Caddis nymph	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	-1.00	NA	NA
Aquatic Invertebrates, Adult												
Adult Caddisfly	NA	NA	NA	0.73	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Predaceous Diving Beetle Adult	NA	0.65	-1.00	-1.00	NA	-1.00	NA	NA	NA	NA	-1.00	0.79
Terrestrial Invertebrates, Non-Flying												
none												
Terrestrial Invertebrates, Flying												
none												
Marine Nutrients												
none												

2314

2315

2316 **Table 5. Prey selectivity: coho vs. drift**
 2317 coho prey selectivity of monthly diet contents compared to drift invertebrate availability using
 2318 Vanderploeg and Scavia's electivity index, where values <0 indicate avoidance and values >0
 2319 indicate preference (Vanderploeg and Scavia 1979).

	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May
Aquatic Invertebrates, Larval												
Aquatic Earthworm	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00	NA	NA
Crane Fly larva	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	-1.00	-1.00	NA
Flathead Mayfly nymph	NA	-1.00	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00
horse fly larva	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	-1.00	NA
Non-Biting Midge Larva	NA	0.38	0.18	0.52	0.51	NA	NA	NA	0.64	0.01	NA	NA
Non-Biting Midge Pupa	NA	NA	-0.86	-0.32	0.12	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Northern Case Maker Caddis nymph	-1.00	-1.00	NA	-0.82	NA	-1.00	-1.00	-0.07	-1.00	-0.99	-0.98	-1.00
Riffle Beetle Larva	NA	NA	NA	-0.87	-0.45	NA	NA	0.52	-0.27	-1.00	-0.80	-1.00
Rolled Wing Stonefly nymph	-0.24	-1.00	0.39	0.78	0.10	NA	0.08	NA	0.29	0.46	0.41	0.38
Small Minnow Mayfly nymph	-0.59	-0.28	-0.62	-0.87	-0.39	0.33	0.48	NA	0.02	0.68	-0.06	-0.43
Spiny Crawler Mayfly nymph	NA	-1.00	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00
Stripetail Stonefly	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.41	-1.00
Tube Maker Caddis nymph	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.41	NA
Aquatic Invertebrates, Adult												
Adult Mayfly	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.47	0.76
Adult Stonefly	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	-1.00	NA	NA	NA
Dance Fly Adult	NA	-1.00	NA	-1.00	-0.19	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Non-Biting Midge Adult	NA	NA	NA	-1.00	-0.13	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Predaceous Diving Beetle Adult	NA	0.78	NA	-1.00	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Terrestrial Invertebrates, Non-Flying												
Ant	0.54	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Golden Snow Flea	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	-1.00	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Ground Beetle	-0.15	-1.00	NA	-1.00	-0.76	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	-1.00
Leafhopper	NA	NA	NA	-1.00	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Terrestrial Invertebrates, Flying												
Flying Ant	NA	-1.00	NA	-0.11	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Lady Beetle	NA	-1.00	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Leaf Beetle	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	-1.00
Rove Beetle	NA	NA	NA	-1.00	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Marine Nutrients												
Salmon Eggs	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	-1.00	NA	NA	NA	NA

2320

2321

2322 **Table 6. Prey selectivity: steelhead vs. drift**
 2323 steelhead prey selectivity of monthly diet contents compared to drift invertebrate availability
 2324 using Vanderploeg and Scavia's selectivity index, where values <0 indicate avoidance and values
 2325 >0 indicate preference (Vanderploeg and Scavia 1979).

	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May
Aquatic Invertebrates, Larval												
Aquatic Earthworm	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	-1.00	-1.00	NA	NA
Crane Fly larva	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	-1.00	-1.00	NA
Flathead Mayfly nymph	NA	0.42	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00
horse fly larva	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	-1.00	NA
Non-Biting Midge Larva	NA	0.36	0.26	0.04	0.14	NA	NA	NA	-1.00	0.80	NA	NA
Non-Biting Midge Pupa	NA	NA	-1.00	-1.00	-0.33	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Northern Case Maker Caddis nymph	-0.87	-0.92	NA	-1.00	NA	NA	NA	NA	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00	-0.94
Riffle Beetle Larva	NA	NA	NA	-1.00	-0.71	NA	NA	NA	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00
Rolled Wing Stonefly nymph	0.55	0.10	0.34	0.69	-0.24	NA	NA	NA	0.78	-1.00	-0.54	-0.91
Small Minnow Mayfly nymph	0.18	0.44	-0.62	-0.19	-0.50	NA	NA	NA	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00	-0.84
Spiny Crawler Mayfly nymph	NA	-1.00	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00
Stripetail Stonefly	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.51	-1.00
Tube Maker Caddis nymph	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.77	NA
Aquatic Invertebrates, Adult												
Adult Mayfly	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	-1.00	-1.00
Adult Stonefly	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	-1.00	NA	NA	NA
Dance Fly Adult	NA	-1.00	NA	-1.00	-1.00	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Non-Biting Midge Adult	NA	NA	NA	-1.00	-1.00	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Predaceous Diving Beetle Adult	NA	0.44	NA	-1.00	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Terrestrial Invertebrates, Non-Flying												
Ant	-1.00	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Golden Snow Flea	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Ground Beetle	-1.00	-1.00	NA	-1.00	0.67	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.82
Leafhopper	NA	NA	NA	-1.00	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Terrestrial Invertebrates, Flying												
Flying Ant	NA	-1.00	NA	0.71	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Lady Beetle	NA	-1.00	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Leaf Beetle	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	-1.00
Rove Beetle	NA	NA	NA	-1.00	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Marine Nutrients												
Salmon Eggs	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

2326

2327

2328 **Table 7. Prey selectivity: coho vs. terrestrial**
 2329 coho prey selectivity of monthly diet contents compared to terrestrial invertebrate availability
 2330 using Vanderploeg and Scavia's electivity index, where values <0 indicate avoidance and values
 2331 >0 indicate preference (Vanderploeg and Scavia 1979).

	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May
Aquatic Invertebrates, Larval												
none												
Aquatic Invertebrates, Adult												
Adult Caddisfly	NA	NA	NA	-1.00	NA	-1.00	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Adult Mayfly	NA	0.85	NA	NA	NA	-1.00	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Adult Stonefly	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.13	0.59	NA	0.58	NA	NA	NA	NA
Black Fly Adult	NA	-1.00	-1.00	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	-1.00
Crane Fly Adult	-1.00	-1.00	NA	NA	-1.00	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	-1.00
Dance Fly Adult	-1.00	NA	-1.00	NA	0.14	0.06	NA	-1.00	NA	-1.00	NA	-1.00
Non-Biting Midge Adult	-1.00	NA	NA	NA	-0.25	0.65	NA	0.62	NA	NA	NA	-0.19
Terrestrial Invertebrates, Non-Flying												
Ant	NA	-1.00	0.83	-0.69	NA	-1.00	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.25
caterpillar	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00	0.78	-1.00	NA	-1.00	NA	NA	NA	-1.00
click beetle	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Globular Springtail	NA	NA	NA	NA	-1.00	-1.00	NA	-1.00	NA	-1.00	NA	-1.00
Golden Snow Flea	NA	NA	NA	NA	-1.00	-1.00	NA	-1.00	NA	-1.00	NA	-1.00
Ground Beetle	NA	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00	-0.96	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	-1.00
Isopod	-1.00	-1.00	NA	NA	NA	-1.00	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	-1.00
Leafhopper	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00	-0.06	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	-1.00
plant bug	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Spider	-1.00	-1.00	-0.01	-1.00	-0.33	-1.00	NA	-1.00	NA	0.67	NA	-1.00
Terrestrial Invertebrates, Flying												
Flying Ant	0.74	NA	-1.00	0.80	-0.01	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	-1.00
Lady Beetle	0.73	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Leaf Beetle	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00	NA	-1.00	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Rove Beetle	-1.00	NA	-1.00	NA	-0.71	0.42	NA	-1.00	NA	-1.00	NA	0.85
sweat bee	NA	NA	NA	-1.00	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Wasp	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	-1.00
Marine Nutrients												
none												

2332

2333

2334 **Table 8. Prey selectivity: steelhead vs. terrestrial**
 2335 steelhead prey selectivity of monthly diet contents compared to terrestrial invertebrate
 2336 availability using Vanderploeg and Scavia's electivity index, where values <0 indicate avoidance
 2337 and values >0 indicate preference (Vanderploeg and Scavia 1979).

	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May
Aquatic Invertebrates, Larval												
none												
Aquatic Invertebrates, Adult												
Adult Caddisfly	NA	NA	NA	-0.45	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Adult Mayfly	NA	-1.00	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Adult Stonefly	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.57	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Black Fly Adult	NA	-1.00	-1.00	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	-1.00	-1.00
Crane Fly Adult	NA	-1.00	NA	NA	-1.00	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	-1.00	-1.00
Dance Fly Adult	NA	NA	-1.00	NA	-1.00	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	-1.00	-1.00
Non-Biting Midge Adult	NA	NA	NA	NA	-1.00	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.86	-1.00
Terrestrial Invertebrates, Non-Flying												
Ant	NA	0.85	0.85	-0.69	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	-1.00	0.42
caterpillar	NA	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	-1.00	-1.00
click beetle	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	-1.00	NA
Globular Springtail	NA	NA	NA	NA	-1.00	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	-1.00	-1.00
Golden Snow Flea	NA	NA	NA	NA	-1.00	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	-1.00
Ground Beetle	NA	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00	0.66	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.77
Isopod	NA	-1.00	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	-1.00	-1.00
Leafhopper	NA	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00	-0.63	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	-1.00	-1.00
plant bug	NA	-1.00	-1.00	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Spider	NA	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00	-0.14	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	-1.00	-1.00
Terrestrial Invertebrates, Flying												
Flying Ant	NA	NA	-1.00	0.79	0.43	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	-1.00	-1.00
Lady Beetle	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Leaf Beetle	NA	-1.00	-1.00	NA	-1.00	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Rove Beetle	NA	NA	-1.00	NA	-0.05	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.66
sweat bee	NA	NA	NA	-0.96	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Wasp	NA	-1.00	-1.00	-1.00	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	-1.00	-1.00
Marine Nutrients												
none												

2338

2339

2340 CHAPTER 4. GENERAL CONCLUSIONS

2341 Through my thesis, I explored temporal variation in juvenile salmonid trophic ecology
2342 during freshwater rearing with the aim of informing salmon recovery, conservation, and habitat
2343 restoration. First, I quantified existing temporal biases within the past 30 years of research to
2344 identify knowledge gaps (Chapter 2). I looked at the distribution of study timing throughout the
2345 year and the extent, or duration, of each study. Then, I evaluated the prey resources available to
2346 and utilized by juvenile salmonids throughout a full annual cycle (Chapter 3). I collected
2347 stomach contents from juvenile coho salmon and steelhead trout and compared these on a
2348 monthly basis to prey items found in the environment using benthic, drift, and terrestrial
2349 sampling. The results from this work indicate that 1) field studies focusing on juvenile
2350 *Oncorhynchus* spp. during freshwater rearing over the past 30 years have been biased toward
2351 summer and against winter and 2) juvenile coho salmon and steelhead trout utilize temporally
2352 variable ephemeral and stable prey resources derived from aquatic, terrestrial, and marine
2353 origins.

2354 In Chapter 2, I found that winter studies were underrepresented (13% occurred in
2355 December-February) and summer studies overrepresented (40% occurred in June-August). Over
2356 four times as many studies occurred in June than those that occurred in December. Most studies
2357 collected data from a single season (57%) and rarely did a study collect data from more than 4
2358 months out of the year (27%). I found that these biases were generally true in riverscape studies,
2359 all juvenile ecological studies, and within the ecological sub-topics of fish-habitat interactions,
2360 trophic ecology, and spatial distribution. There is some evidence to suggest that winter survival
2361 is a constraining factor to freshwater productivity in salmon (Bustard and Narver 1975). Winter
2362 fish habitat has, therefore, been a major focus of restoration efforts (Cederholm et al. 1997). This

2363 makes the lack of winter studies is concerning as we base restoration efforts off potentially
2364 incomplete data.

2365 In Chapter 3, I found that the energy portfolio consisted of complementary prey resources
2366 with no one prey resource providing the bulk of fish diet every month of the year. Most
2367 importantly, in critical months, the bulk of rations came from ephemeral and relatively scarce
2368 prey items. I found that in May as fish were undergoing smoltification, 66% of coho diet came
2369 from terrestrial rove beetles which were virtually only found during May. Then, in September as
2370 fish were transitioning from summer growth to fall lipid storage in preparation for winter, eggs
2371 from a very small run of ESA-listed Chinook provided 61% and 69% of total fish ration for coho
2372 and steelhead, respectively. Juvenile salmonids benefited from inter-species variation among
2373 spawning adult salmon as well with eggs found in juvenile coho diets in December and steelhead
2374 diets in November, corresponding with the overlapping spawning of chum and coho salmon. The
2375 months where salmon eggs were available as a prey resource were also the months with the
2376 highest average ration weight found per fish stomach for both coho and steelhead. In winter,
2377 when depletion of lipid stores is offset by consumption of prey resources, aquatic invertebrates
2378 were the primary contributors to fish diet. Aquatic invertebrates again became important to fish
2379 diet in summer, but with much greater diversity than seen in winter.

2380 The extraordinary circumstances created by the COVID-19 pandemic have hindered
2381 completion of two additional components of this research that are still ongoing as we wait for
2382 laboratory results: 1) stable isotopes to identify trophic pathways over weeks instead of just days
2383 as seen in diet samples and 2) the impact of riparian plants on the prey resource portfolio utilized
2384 by juvenile salmonids. These data will greatly enhance future results.

2385 Pacific salmon are of enormous importance culturally, economically, and ecologically.
 2386 Their continued decline despite huge investments in habitat restoration is of increasing concern.
 2387 As of 2005, there were almost 40,000 river restoration projects in the United States totaling an
 2388 estimated \$14-\$15 billion (Bernhardt et al. 2005). These numbers have likely climbed
 2389 significantly higher in the past 15 years. There is some troubling evidence that current restoration
 2390 approaches are ineffective in restoring biological diversity to stream ecosystems (Stranko et al.
 2391 2012). I make the argument that managing for critical prey resources at critical points in time
 2392 during freshwater rearing may be beneficial to recovering dwindling salmon populations. This
 2393 research project advances knowledge necessary to improving salmon recovery and focus on the
 2394 importance of seasonal food web interactions across ecosystems by investigating links between
 2395 plants, aquatic invertebrates, terrestrial invertebrates, ephemeral marine resources, and juvenile
 2396 salmonids.

2397

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3037 **APPENDIX A. INFLUENCE OF NATIVE AND INVASIVE TERRESTRIAL**
3038 **PLANTS ON MACROINVERTEBRATE PREY RESOURCES**
3039 **SUPPORTING JUVENILE SALMONIDS**
3040

3041 Megan E. Brady and Jonathan B. Armstrong

3042

3043 **Abstract**

3044 Riparian vegetation contributes allochthonous energy into adjacent aquatic ecosystems
3045 directly through falling terrestrial invertebrates and indirectly through aquatic invertebrate
3046 utilization of abscised leaves. Terrestrial invertebrates are known to fuel a substantial portion of
3047 fish diet. However, less is known about how this resource subsidy varies between native and
3048 non-native vegetation. We examined aquatic-terrestrial linkages between juvenile steelhead trout
3049 (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*) and coho salmon (*O. kisutch*) and native and non-native vegetation in the
3050 South Fork Skokomish River, Washington, USA. First, we compared aquatic invertebrate
3051 colonization of abscised leaves in autumn from four native vegetation species (bigleaf maple, red
3052 alder, vine maple, and Sitka willow) and two non-native vegetation species (Himalayan
3053 blackberry, and Bohemian knotweed). Then, we evaluated biomass and community composition
3054 of terrestrial invertebrates falling into an adjacent river from our six species of vegetation.
3055 Finally, we examined links between juvenile salmonid foraging and terrestrial associations of
3056 invertebrate prey resources. We found that community composition and biomass were dissimilar
3057 between invertebrates found colonizing submerged, abscised leaves. Surprisingly, one of the key
3058 contributors to coho diet in autumn (Diptera) were found predominantly associated with
3059 submerged Himalayan blackberry leaves and not with those of native vegetation. Furthermore,
3060 we found that the terrestrial prey and terrestrial adult forms of aquatic prey foraged by juvenile
3061 salmonids were very often associated with specific riparian vegetation. For example, in October,

3062 ground beetles contributed 30% of steelhead diet and 96% of ground beetles found in terrestrial
3063 samples were associated with red alder. At times, the non-native plants had a greater biomass of
3064 terrestrial invertebrates associated with them; however, this biomass was not utilized by juvenile
3065 salmonids. Despite a lower quantity of invertebrates, native plants were associated with more of
3066 the specific prey resources that were utilized or preferred by juvenile salmonids. Greater
3067 understanding of the effects of specific native and non-native plants on salmonid foraging could
3068 help inform targeted habitat restoration and salmon recovery.

3069

3070 **Introduction**

3071 Allochthonous inputs from riparian zones often subsidize adjacent stream food webs,
3072 providing energy-rich prey resources and bridging seasonal energy deficits (Allen 1951; Hynes
3073 1970; Allan et al. 2003; Nakano et al. 1999b; Wipfli and Baxter 2010; Edwards and Huryn 1995;
3074 Benfield 1996; Peterson and Cummins 1974; Wallace et al. 1997). These allochthonous inputs to
3075 streams take two forms: primary, direct inputs of terrestrial invertebrates that fall into the water
3076 as high energy prey available to predatory fishes, such as juvenile salmonids, and secondary
3077 production from aquatic invertebrate shredders (Quinn 2005; Wipfli 1997; Baxter et al. 2005),
3078 thus providing a vital pathway of energy flow within food webs by breaking down leaves from
3079 coarse to fine particulate organic matter (CPOM to FPOM) (Polis and Winemiller 1996; Naiman
3080 and De'camps 1997; Cummins et al. 1995). A significant portion of stream salmonid diet is
3081 comprised of terrestrial invertebrates, particularly in summer and autumn when terrestrial
3082 subsidies have been known to contribute over 50% of fish diet (Cloe and Garman 1996;
3083 Kawaguchi and Nakano 2001; Wipfli 1997; Mason and MacDonald 1982).

3084 Changes in riparian habitat can have cascading effects across ecosystem boundaries.
3085 Riparian composition determines the type of terrestrial prey subsidies provided to streams
3086 (Naiman and De'camps 1997; Mason and MacDonald 1982; Edwards and Huryn 1996). Inter-
3087 and intraspecific variation in leaf nutrients has been shown to alter decomposition rates as well
3088 as the abundance and diversity of invertebrate colonization (Graca 2001; Kominoski et al. 2011;
3089 LeRoy et al. 2016; Hladyz et al. 2011; LeRoy and Marks 2006). As deciduous plant litter is
3090 preferred by aquatic invertebrates, changes in riparian composition may alter the prey resources
3091 available to fish throughout the year (Iversen 1974; Hieber and Gessner 2002). The effects of
3092 fire, deforestation, canopy composition and openness, anthropogenic habitat degradation (waves
3093 from large boats, dredging, land development, and pollution) and biological invasions have been
3094 shown to affect stream ecosystems by altering primary productivity, invertebrate composition
3095 and abundance, stream food web dynamics and prey available to predatory fish, temperature,
3096 flow, and the quantity and quality of fish spawning and rearing habitats (Mellon et al. 2008; Erős
3097 et al. 2012; Hladyz et al. 2009; Graca 2001; Arrington et al. 2002; Kaylor and Warren 2017;
3098 Mouton et al. 2012; Fierro et al. 2016; Hawkins et al. 1982). Invasive plant species impact
3099 riparian zones by altering biodiversity, light availability, bank stability, terrestrial invertebrate
3100 composition and biomass, ecosystem processes like carbon cycling, and food web structure
3101 (Claeson et al. 2014; Ehrenfeld 2003; Caitling 2005). However, changes in aquatic ecosystem
3102 processes and invertebrate assemblages in detritus-based food webs due to the presence of
3103 terrestrial invasive plant species in riparian communities are poorly understood (Claeson et al.
3104 2014; Hladyz et al. 2011; Naiman and De'camps 1997; Kennedy and Hobbie 2004).

3105 The impact of invasive terrestrial plants on fish is largely unknown due to the unique
3106 characteristics of each invasive species (but see Fierro et al. 2016; Roon et al. 2016). Himalayan

3107 blackberry, *Rubus armeniacus*, is a widespread invasive plant species in the Pacific Northwest.
3108 Little is known about how the presence of this perennial plant alters the flow of organic matter in
3109 aquatic food webs through allochthonous inputs of direct and indirect prey subsidies to streams.
3110 Bohemian knotweed, *Polygonum bohemicum*, is an aggressive and highly prevalent species
3111 native to Asia that is now found throughout the Pacific Northwest. It has intrinsically different
3112 leaf properties compared to native plants that may impact terrestrial and aquatic food webs
3113 (Claeson et al. 2014).

3114 Riparian management directly and indirectly influences fish productivity by altering the
3115 food supply available through aquatic and terrestrial food webs (Allan et al. 2003). Knowledge
3116 of terrestrial-aquatic food web linkages is essential to effective habitat restoration. We examined
3117 the seasonal colonization of abscised riparian vegetation by aquatic invertebrates and monthly
3118 contributions of terrestrial invertebrate prey resources associated with six species of riparian
3119 vegetation to juvenile coho salmon (*Oncorhynchus kisutch*) and steelhead trout (*O. mykiss*) diets.
3120 The purpose of our work is to understand how direct terrestrial inputs and influence the energy
3121 portfolio available to juvenile salmonids. Our study in western Washington did the following: 1)
3122 compared aquatic invertebrate colonization of abscised leaves from four native (bigleaf maple,
3123 red alder, vine maple, Sitka willow) and two invasive (Bohemian knotweed, Himalayan
3124 blackberry) riparian plant species, 2) evaluated monthly contribution of terrestrial invertebrate
3125 prey resources into an adjacent river, and 3) examined preferential foraging of juvenile
3126 salmonids and identified major terrestrial sources of preferred prey resources.

3127

3128 **Methods**

3129 *Study System*

3130 The Hood Canal is an 80-km fjord that comprises one of the four sub-basins of Puget
3131 Sound, Washington, USA. Puget Sound steelhead have been listed as threatened under the
3132 Endangered Species Act (ESA) since 2007 and populations continue to decline despite greatly
3133 reduced fishing mortality associated with commercial, recreational, and tribal fisheries (Moore et
3134 al. 2010).

3135 This study examines the South Fork Skokomish River (Fig. 14), a 44.2 km long (37.0 km
3136 anadromy limit) river originating in the Olympic Mountains and flowing into the southwest side
3137 of Hood Canal, and its largest tributary, Vance Creek. It is a rain-dominant stream with an
3138 elevation of 1646 m, mean annual water temperature of 8.1°C, and mean annual flow of 20.95
3139 m³s⁻¹ (Berejikian et al. 2013). Tidal influence extends up the mainstem Skokomish River to the
3140 confluence of the South Fork and North Fork (Canning et al. 1988). A rotary screw trap operated
3141 by NOAA is located at river mile 1.8, one mile upstream from the confluence of the South Fork
3142 Skokomish and Vance Creek.

3143 Anadromous populations of steelhead, coho, and chum (*O. keta*) reside in the study river.
3144 Chinook (*O. tshawytscha*) are present in low numbers in the South Fork Skokomish and are
3145 largely regarded as hatchery strays and not a viable population. The South Fork Skokomish
3146 historically supported pink salmon, spring Chinook, and early run summer chum; however, these
3147 populations have been extirpated (WDNR 1997).

3148 The invasive terrestrial plants Himalayan blackberry and Bohemian knotweed are present
3149 throughout Hood Canal in varying degrees of understory dominance. There is a higher
3150 prevalence of non-native plants in the lowest reaches of the South Fork Skokomish River.

3151 Invertebrate collection was conducted under a Washington State Department of Fish and
3152 Wildlife Scientific Collection Permit.

3153

3154 *Data Collection*

3155 Sampling for terrestrial invertebrates was conducted monthly. Leaf litter pack
3156 deployment, however, only occurred during the fall season due to the use of abscised leaves.

3157

3158 *Leaf litter aquatic invertebrate colonization*

3159 Stream macroinvertebrates were surveyed in riffles and pools with leaf litter bags with
3160 6.44mm mesh size to allow in larger shredder invertebrates (LeRoy and Marks 2006). Abscised
3161 leaves were collected in autumn from several trees along the river to account for genetic
3162 diversity (LeRoy et al. 2007). Each bag was filled with 5 g of air-dried leaves (LeRoy et al.
3163 2016; Hladyz et al. 2011). Treatments consisted of 6 species in isolation: Himalayan blackberry
3164 (*Rubus armeniacus*), Bohemian knotweed (*Polygonum bohemicum*), bigleaf maple (*Acer*
3165 *macrophyllum*), red alder (*Alnus rubra*), vine maple (*Acer circinatum*), and Sitka willow (*Salix*
3166 *sitchensis*). Five replicates of each of the 6 treatment types were placed at 5 pool and 5 riffle
3167 locations and secured to the river-bank (n=60). The leaf packs were collected on 9 December
3168 2018 after 28 days in the river. Entire bags were transported to the lab in polyethylene zip-top
3169 bags and processed within 12 hours. Invertebrates were collected by rinsing the leaves over a
3170 sieve (500 μ m). All samples were preserved in 70% ethanol. Preserved invertebrates were
3171 counted, measured, and identified to order and genus (Merritt et al. 2008) when possible with life
3172 stage (larvae, pupae, adult) noted. Intact invertebrates were measured to the nearest millimeter to
3173 calculate dry mass based on published length-mass regressions (Sabo et al. 2002; Sample et al.
3174 1993; Benke et al. 1999).

3175

3176 *Terrestrial invertebrate subsidies to river system*

3177 Fallout traps were deployed for 24 hours monthly to quantify the input of terrestrial
 3178 invertebrates into the river system from specific terrestrial plant species. Traps were placed on
 3179 the stream bank, underneath the same six species of plants used in the leaf litter colonization
 3180 sampling (bigleaf maple, red alder, Sitka willow, vine maple, Bohemian knotweed, and
 3181 Himalayan blackberry) to collect falling terrestrial invertebrates. Knotweed plants die back in the
 3182 winter and, therefore, were not sampled during the months of December-May when the traps
 3183 would only collect invertebrates from nearby vegetation of other species. Ten replicate traps
 3184 were deployed for each of the plant species. Each trap was filled with approximately 1 liter of
 3185 water and a small amount of dish detergent to break surface-water tension. Invertebrates were
 3186 preserved and identified as described for leaf litter samples.

3187

3188 *Data analysis*

3189 *Leaf litter aquatic invertebrate colonization*

3190 Proportion and mass were calculated for each prey item (by order and species) found in
 3191 terrestrial samples for each of the six riparian plant species examined.

3192 Diversity of invertebrates was recorded as counts based on taxonomic composition found
 3193 associated with each tree species in the submerged autumn leaf samples. We calculated
 3194 Shannon's diversity index (H') using the 'vegan' R package based on the following equation:

3195
$$H' = -\sum p_i \ln p_i$$

3196 measured where p_i is the proportional abundance of the i th species

3197
$$p_i = n_i/N$$

3198 Additionally, we used the 'vegan' R package to calculate species richness and evenness.

3199 Macroinvertebrate assemblages among treatments were compared with non-metric
3200 multidimensional scaling (NMDS) ordination with Bray-Curtis distance (dissimilarity).

3201

3202 *Terrestrial invertebrate subsidies to river system*

3203 Monthly proportions and mass were calculated for each of the prey items (by order and
3204 species) found in terrestrial samples for each of the six riparian plant species examined.

3205 Monthly diversity of invertebrates was recorded as counts based on taxonomic
3206 composition found associated with each plant species sampled for terrestrial invertebrates. We
3207 calculated Shannon's diversity index (H') using the 'vegan' R package based on the following
3208 equation:

$$3209 \quad H' = -\sum p_i \ln p_i$$

3210 measured where p_i is the proportional abundance of the i th species

$$3211 \quad p_i = n_i/N$$

3212 Additionally, we used the 'vegan' R package to calculate species richness and evenness.

3213

3214 **Results**

3215 *Leaf litter aquatic invertebrate colonization*

3216 Aquatic invertebrate colonization of submerged leaf litter packs revealed unique order
3217 proportions according to leaf species (Fig. 15). Alder leaf litter was dominated by Plecoptera
3218 (63%) and Trichoptera (30%). Blackberry leaf litter was dominated by Diptera (60%) and
3219 Plecoptera (27%). Knotweed leaf litter was dominated by Plecoptera (63%) and Trichoptera
3220 (36%). Bigleaf maple leaf litter was dominated by Plecoptera (65%) and Trichoptera (32%).

3221 Vine maple leaf litter was dominated by Coleoptera (72%) and Plecoptera (19%). Sitka willow
3222 leaf litter was dominated by Trichoptera (58%) and Plecoptera (40%).

3223 Aquatic invertebrate species were rarely found on all leaf species (Fig. 16). Flathead
3224 mayfly nymphs only found associated with the knotweed leaf litter. Common stonefly nymphs
3225 were most abundant associated with knotweed and bigleaf maple leaf litter. Crane fly larva was
3226 only found with bigleaf maple leaf litter. Dance fly larva were most abundant associated with
3227 blackberry leaf litter. Free living caddis fly larva were most abundant with knotweed and willow
3228 leaf litter. Non-biting midge larva were not highly abundant but were found in small amounts
3229 associated with alder, blackberry, and willow leaf litter. Casemaker caddis fly larva were most
3230 abundant with bigleaf maple. Predaceous diving beetle larva were only found with vine maple
3231 leaf litter. Riffle beetle larva were found primarily on alder leaf litter. Rolled wing stonefly
3232 nymphs were most associated with alder and knotweed. Small minnow mayfly nymphs were
3233 found in small amounts on all vegetation types. Stripetail stonefly nymphs were most abundant
3234 with alder and vine maple leaf litter. Tube maker caddis fly larva were found in small amounts
3235 on blackberry and bigleaf maple leaf litter. Invertebrate species community assemblages on plant
3236 species did not closely resemble each other, except for alder and knotweed, which were more
3237 similar than dissimilar (Fig. 17).

3238 Shannon's diversity index ranked willow ($H=2.04$) leaf litter to host the most diverse
3239 assemblage of aquatic invertebrate species, while vine maple ($H=1.72$) hosted the least diverse
3240 invertebrate assemblage (Table 9). Invertebrate species richness was greatest among willow and
3241 blackberry ($S=11$) and lowest among vine maple ($S=8$) (Table 10). Pielou's ranking of species
3242 evenness was highest for bigleaf maple ($J=0.87$) and lowest for blackberry ($J=0.81$) (Table 11).
3243

3244 *Terrestrial invertebrate subsidies to river system*

3245 The proportion of terrestrial invertebrates associated with the six plant species included in
3246 this study varied greatly between plants species and month (Fig. 18). Across the full year, the
3247 greatest proportion of invertebrates associated with alder were ground beetles (31%), caterpillars
3248 (19%), and spiders (12%). The greatest proportion of invertebrates associated with blackberry
3249 were caterpillars (69%), spiders (8%), ants (5%), and leafhoppers (5%). The greatest proportion
3250 of invertebrates associated with knotweed were caterpillars (36%), ants (21%), and spiders
3251 (14%). The greatest proportion of invertebrates associated with bigleaf maple were caterpillars
3252 (28%), ground beetles (14%), leafhoppers (9%), and wasps (9%). The greatest proportion of
3253 invertebrates associated with vine maple were ground beetles (56%), spiders (20%), and
3254 caterpillars (4%). The greatest proportion of invertebrates associated with willows were sweat
3255 bees (30%), adult caddisflies (17%), and wasps (12%).

3256 Terrestrial invertebrate biomass peaked at different points in the year for each of the plant
3257 species examined (Fig. 19). The highest biomass in January came from alder (8.97mg) consisting
3258 primarily of adult Plecoptera (82%). The highest biomass in February came from vine maple
3259 (178.13mg) consisting primarily of Coleoptera (98%). The highest biomass in March came from
3260 vine maple (2.16mg) consisting primarily of Coleoptera (99%). The highest biomass in April
3261 came from blackberry (184.49mg) consisting primarily of Lepidoptera (93%). The highest
3262 biomass in May came from willow (70.47mg) consisting primarily of Hymenoptera (57%) and
3263 Diptera (21%). The highest biomass in June came from willow (55.62mg) consisting primarily of
3264 Coleoptera (48%) and Araneae (20%). The highest biomass in July came from knotweed
3265 (137.95mg) consisting primarily of Hymenoptera (59%) and Hemiptera (17%). The highest
3266 biomass in August came from knotweed (84.18mg) consisting primarily of Hymenoptera (54%).

3267 The highest biomass in September came from willow (337.74mg) consisting primarily of
3268 Hymenoptera (65%) and adult Trichoptera (34%). The highest biomass in October came from
3269 alder (92.59mg) consisting primarily of Coleoptera (49%) and Hemiptera (20%). The highest
3270 biomass in November came from knotweed (25.98mg) consisting primarily of Araneae (88%).

3271 Shannon's diversity index showed variation within terrestrial invertebrates grouped by
3272 both plant species and month (Table 12). The average annual diversity index for plant species
3273 was as follows: alder $H=1.28$ ($sd=0.53$), blackberry $H=1.27$ ($sd=0.51$), knotweed $H=0.88$
3274 ($sd=0.85$), bigleaf maple $H=1.28$ ($sd=0.53$), vine maple $H=1.00$ ($sd=0.51$), and willow $H=1.29$
3275 ($sd=0.43$). Aside from December when no invertebrates were collected due to ice and snow,
3276 March had the overall lowest average diversity among all plant types ($H=0.42$, $sd=0.43$). July
3277 had the overall highest average diversity among all plant types ($H=1.78$, $sd=0.30$). Species
3278 richness was again variable by both plant species and month (Table 13). Average annual
3279 terrestrial invertebrate species richness was lowest in knotweed ($S=4.09$, $sd=4.38$) and highest
3280 for blackberry ($S=6.55$, $sd=2.84$) and willow ($S=6.55$, $sd=3.09$). March had the overall lowest
3281 average species richness among all plant types ($S=1.5$, $sd=1.26$), while July ($S=8.5$, $sd=2.57$) and
3282 September ($S=8.5$, $sd=1.89$) had the greatest species richness. Pielou's species evenness index
3283 also showed differences between plant species and month (Table 14). Average annual terrestrial
3284 invertebrate evenness was lowest in knotweed ($J=0.46$, $sd=0.41$) and highest in willow ($J=0.74$,
3285 $sd=0.12$). October had the overall lowest average species evenness among all plant types
3286 ($J=0.43$, $sd=0.23$) while June had the greatest species evenness ($J=0.87$, $sd=0.10$).

3287 The dominant terrestrial invertebrate prey items found in juvenile coho and steelhead
3288 diets each month (Table 1 and Table 2 from Brady and Armstrong *In Draft*) were found
3289 associated with specific vegetation (Table 15). Ants made up 12-21% of fish diet with 88-100%

3290 of terrestrial ant samples found associated with willows in August and May, but 98% of
3291 terrestrial ants associated with knotweed in July. Adult mayflies provided 24% of coho diet in
3292 July and were associated exclusively with willows (100%). Ground beetles comprised 30% of
3293 steelhead diet in October and were primarily associated terrestrially with alders (96%); but in
3294 May when they comprised 29% of steelhead diet, they were primarily associated with bigleaf
3295 maples (55%) and alders (43%). Spiders contributed 13% of coho diet in October and were most
3296 associated with vine maple (57%), alder (24%), and blackberry (13%) during that same time
3297 period. The rove beetles that provided 66% of May coho diet were found primarily associated
3298 with willows (67%) and bigleaf maples (30%) in the terrestrial environment that month.

3299 As we chose to focus resources on temporal sampling, we acknowledge that these data
3300 likely hold spatial biases.

3301

3302 **Discussion**

3303 The influences of riparian plants, both native and invasive, on stream ecosystems are
3304 complex. Although other studies have addressed the influence of invasive terrestrial plants on
3305 native plants (Stinson et al. 2006; Vila and Weiner 2004) and some have addressed the
3306 differences in ecosystem processes such as decomposition (Claeson et al. 2014; Gordon 1998),
3307 this study highlights patterns in invertebrate interactions with terrestrial vegetation within the
3308 terrestrial ecosystem and across ecosystem boundaries in an aquatic ecosystem throughout a full
3309 year. Our results suggest that direct and indirect prey resource availability for stream fishes may
3310 be influenced by riparian composition.

3311 It is well-established that the leaves from riparian plants are colonized by different
3312 aquatic invertebrate communities once they fall into the river in autumn (Kawaguchi and Nakano

3313 2001; Wipfli 1997; Nakano et al. 1999a; Dineen et al. 2007; Allan et al. 2003; Mason and
3314 MacDonald 1982; Nakano and Murakami 2001; Dunham et al. 2000; Garman 1991; Edwards
3315 and Huryn 1996; Hunt 1975; Li et al. 2016). Our study found links between invertebrate prey
3316 resources supporting juvenile salmonids and the seasonally submerged leaves supporting those
3317 invertebrate prey resources. We found that aquatic invertebrate colonization of submerged leaf
3318 litter in late autumn-early winter varied in diversity, richness, and evenness for each of the leaf
3319 species examined. The leaf litter from the native plants Bigleaf Maple, Red Alder, and Sitka
3320 Willow along with the invasive plant Bohemian knotweed all were colonized dominantly by
3321 Plecoptera and Trichoptera nymphs. The native plant Vine Maple was dominantly colonized by
3322 Coleoptera while the invasive plant species Himalayan Blackberry was dominantly colonized by
3323 Diptera. The invasive plants were never the top contributor of invertebrate biomass for prey
3324 items that our previous work revealed to be preferred or important to juvenile steelhead and coho
3325 diets (Brady and Armstrong *In Draft*). For example, while the greatest biomass of Plecoptera was
3326 found on Knotweed leaves, most of this was from common stoneflies, which were never a major
3327 prey resource for juvenile salmonids during the year in our study system. The other two species
3328 of stonefly nymphs found on leaves (stripetail stonefly and rolled wing stonefly) were preferred
3329 prey resources for juvenile salmonids. These two species were found in greater abundance on
3330 native Alder leaves than any other leaf. We believe this indirect relationship between leaves and
3331 fish warrants further exploration.

3332 Direct inputs of terrestrial invertebrates into stream systems provide an energy-rich prey
3333 resource for stream fishes (Cummins and Wuycheck 1971). Both native and invasive terrestrial
3334 plants can impact the food web of juvenile salmonids through varying type and abundance of
3335 inputs of terrestrial prey into the aquatic system. Consistent with other research (Wipfli 1997;

3336 Nakano et al. 1999a; Kawaguchi and Nakano 2001; Dineen et al. 2007; Allan et al. 2003; Mason
3337 and MacDonald 1982; Nakano and Murakami 2001; Dunham et al. 2000; Garman 1991;
3338 Edwards and Huryn 1996; Hunt 1975; Li et al. 2016), we found that terrestrial invertebrates
3339 contributed a substantial portion of the energy portfolio supporting stream-dwelling fishes;
3340 however, the year-round study of this subsidy revealed differences in the temporal variation of
3341 this importance not previously captured. Furthermore, we found that the terrestrial invertebrates
3342 that were important to juvenile salmonid diet were found associated with specific riparian plant
3343 species; additionally, 9 of these important terrestrial prey resources were principally associated
3344 with native vegetation while only 1 prey resource was principally associated with an invasive
3345 plant species. For example, ants were provided 12%-13% of juvenile salmonid diet in August in
3346 our study river (Brady and Armstrong *In Draft*) with 88% of all terrestrially collected ants
3347 coming from the fallout traps beneath Sitka Willows. September provided insights into aspects of
3348 quantity versus quality. Knotweed pan traps collected 224.53mg of invertebrate biomass while
3349 Bigleaf Maple traps collected only 41.07mg. However, the invertebrates associated with
3350 Knotweed were not consumed by either juvenile steelhead or coho, but the invertebrates
3351 associated with Bigleaf Maple were. Flying ants were entirely associated with Bigleaf Maple and
3352 provided 13% of juvenile steelhead diet in September, only to be exceeded in biomass by
3353 ephemeral salmon eggs. Ground beetles in October provided 30% of total steelhead diet biomass
3354 with 96% of terrestrially collected beetles associated with Red Alder trees. Rove beetles in May
3355 proved to be an important ephemeral terrestrial resource for juvenile coho salmon, comprising
3356 66% of total diet that month as they underwent smoltification and began the migration from
3357 freshwater to saltwater. Rove beetles were primarily found associated in the terrestrial
3358 environment with Willows (67%) and Bigleaf Maples (30%). Just as diverse prey resources are

3359 important at different times of the year, our data suggest that riparian plants host different
3360 terrestrial prey items preferred by juvenile salmonids that complete a complementary energy
3361 portfolio.

3362 While our previous research has shown that adult rolled wing stoneflies did not appear in
3363 fish diets in January (Brady and Armstrong *In Draft*), they were abundant in the terrestrial fallout
3364 trap samples for January. The majority of adult stonefly biomass in January was associated with
3365 alder trees (72%) with minor associations with bigleaf maple (12%), vine maple (8%), and Sitka
3366 willow (8%). However, the aquatic nymph form of this prey resource was an important diet
3367 component at several points throughout the year for both juvenile coho and steelhead. Though
3368 poorly studied, riparian impacts on the adult reproductive phase of aquatic invertebrates has the
3369 potential to impact larval stages that are more frequently utilized as prey resources by juvenile
3370 salmonids (Briers and Gee 2004). There is some research to suggest that adult stonefly
3371 reproduction requires feeding (Hynes 1942; De Figueroa and Sanchez-Ortega 2000). As such,
3372 stonefly association with specific riparian plants may be related to food resources. Similarly,
3373 adult mayflies were found to be an important food source for juvenile coho in the month of July,
3374 providing 24% of fish diet that month. The terrestrial adult form of this aquatic invertebrate was
3375 found exclusively associated with willow plants (100%) during the same time frame. However,
3376 there is no evidence that mayflies require food to reproduce in their adult phase, so association
3377 with a specific riparian plant may have more to do with microclimate factors such as air
3378 temperature, wind speed, or humidity (Briers and Gee 2004). Therefore, terrestrial habitat
3379 utilization of the adult form may be important to consider as an indirect influence on juvenile
3380 salmonid food resource availability, but further research is needed.

3381 Habitat restoration typically removes invasive plants to benefit native plants as invasive
 3382 plants often outcompete native plants for space and resources (Alpert et al. 2000). It is also
 3383 thought that invasive plant displacement of native plants degrades wildlife habitat (Masters and
 3384 Sheley 2001; Richardson et al. 2007). However, invasive plant removal may not actually
 3385 improve wildlife habitat (Cohen et al. 2012) and the impact across ecosystem boundaries to
 3386 stream-dwelling fish has not been largely explored. This research provides evidence that diverse
 3387 riparian vegetation provides direct inputs of terrestrial invertebrates available to the juvenile
 3388 salmonid energy portfolio as well as inputs of leaf litter that indirectly affects fish food diversity
 3389 through the benefit to larval forms of aquatic invertebrates. We believe that riparian habitat
 3390 restoration would benefit from considering cross-ecosystem relationships between plants,
 3391 invertebrates, and fish.

3392

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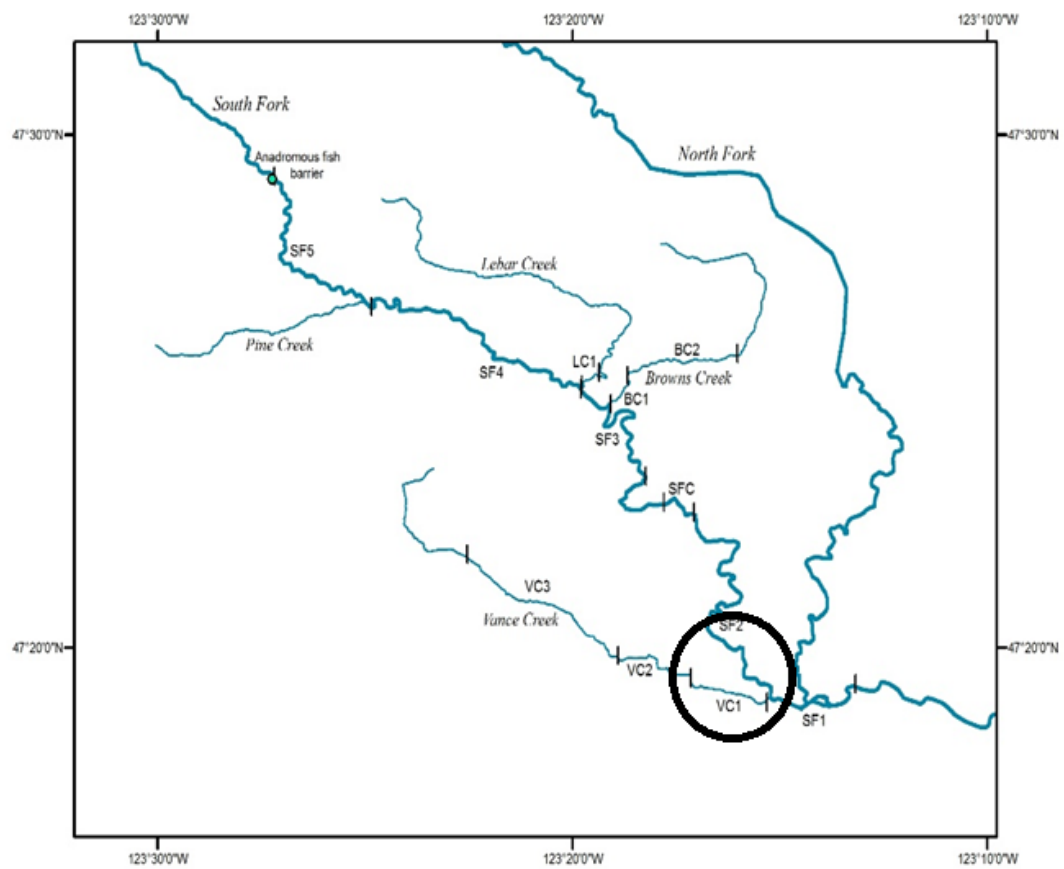
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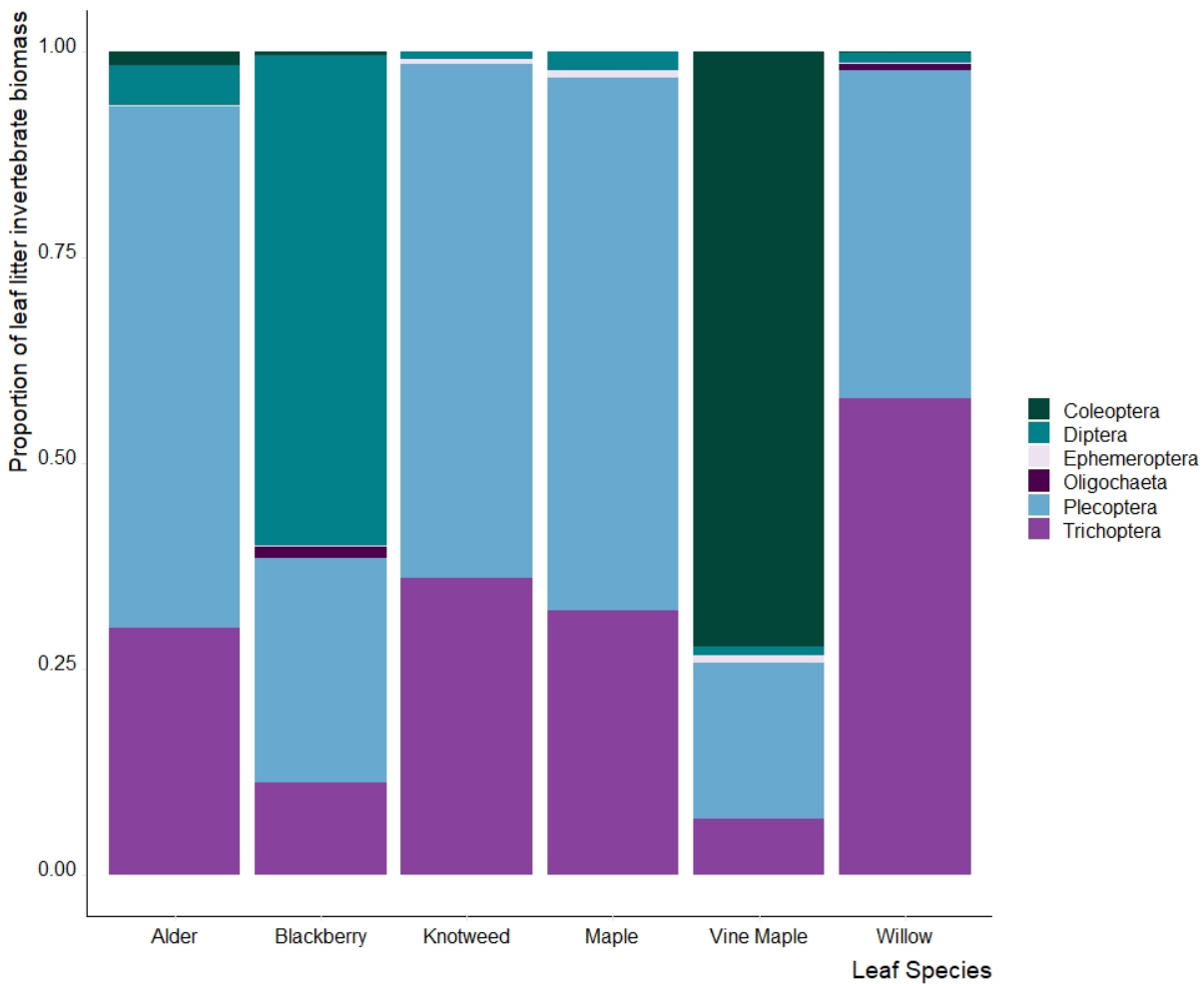


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3565 **Figure 14. Study system map**

3566 South Fork Skokomish River with tributaries, anadromy barrier, and survey reaches.

3567



3568

3569 **Figure 15. Leaf colonization by aquatic invertebrates**3570 Proportion of total aquatic invertebrate colonization of leaf litter packs by invertebrate order,
3571 grouped by leaf species. All treatments n=10, retrieved from river after 28 days.

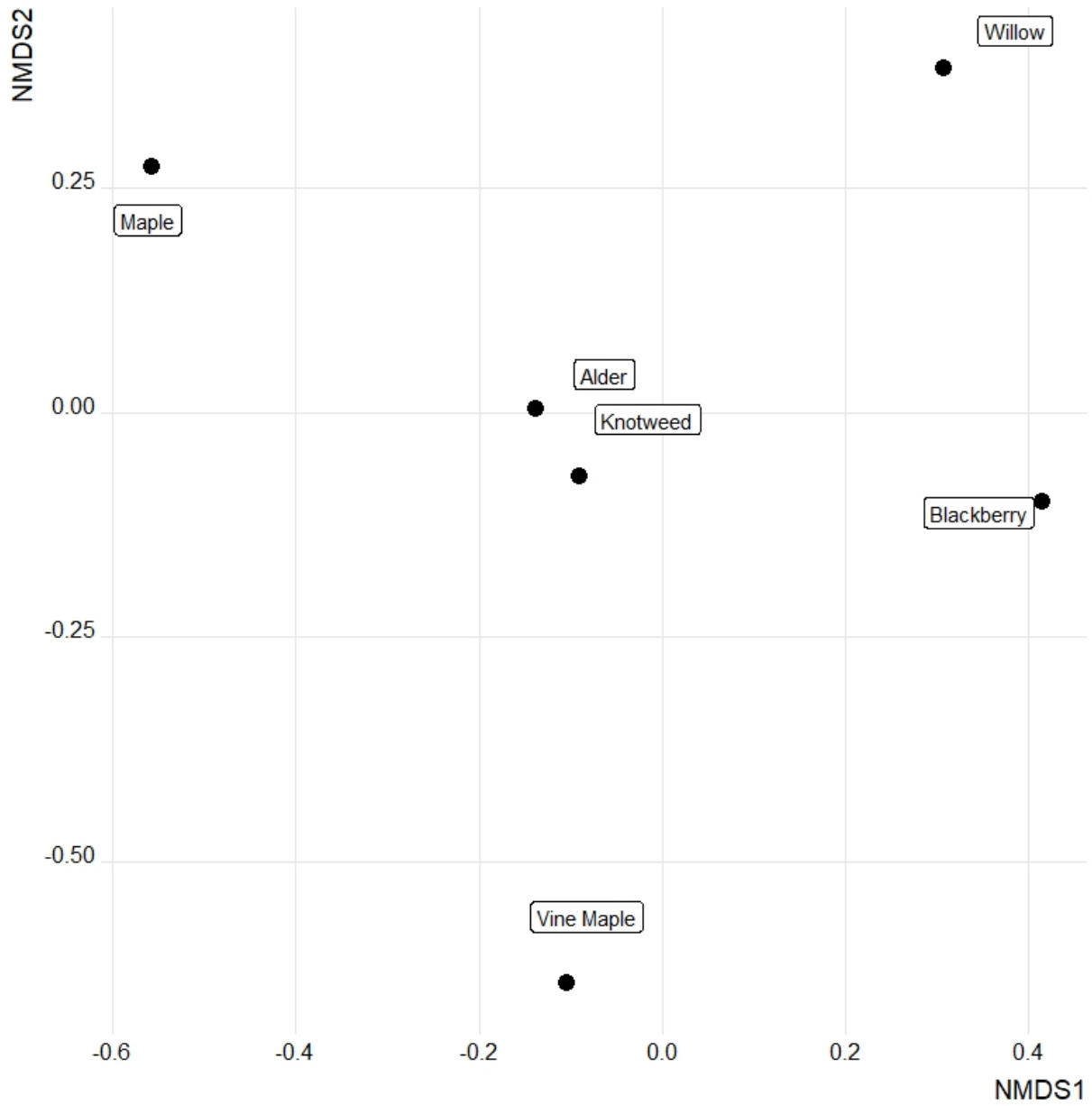
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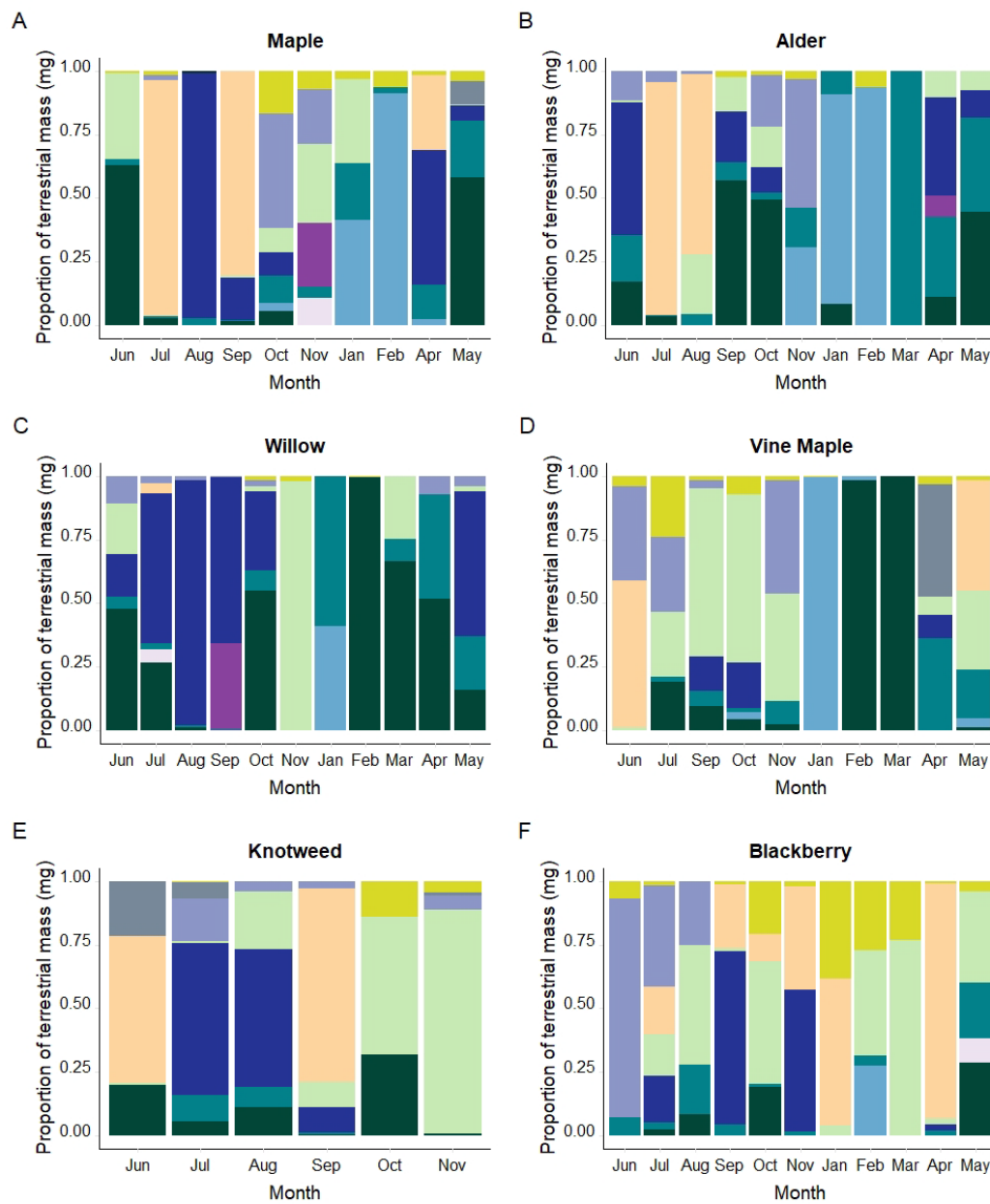
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Figure 16. Aquatic invertebrate biomass on submerged leaves
Weight of aquatic invertebrate colonization of leaf litter packs by invertebrate species, grouped by leaf species. All treatments n=10, retrieved from river after 28 days.



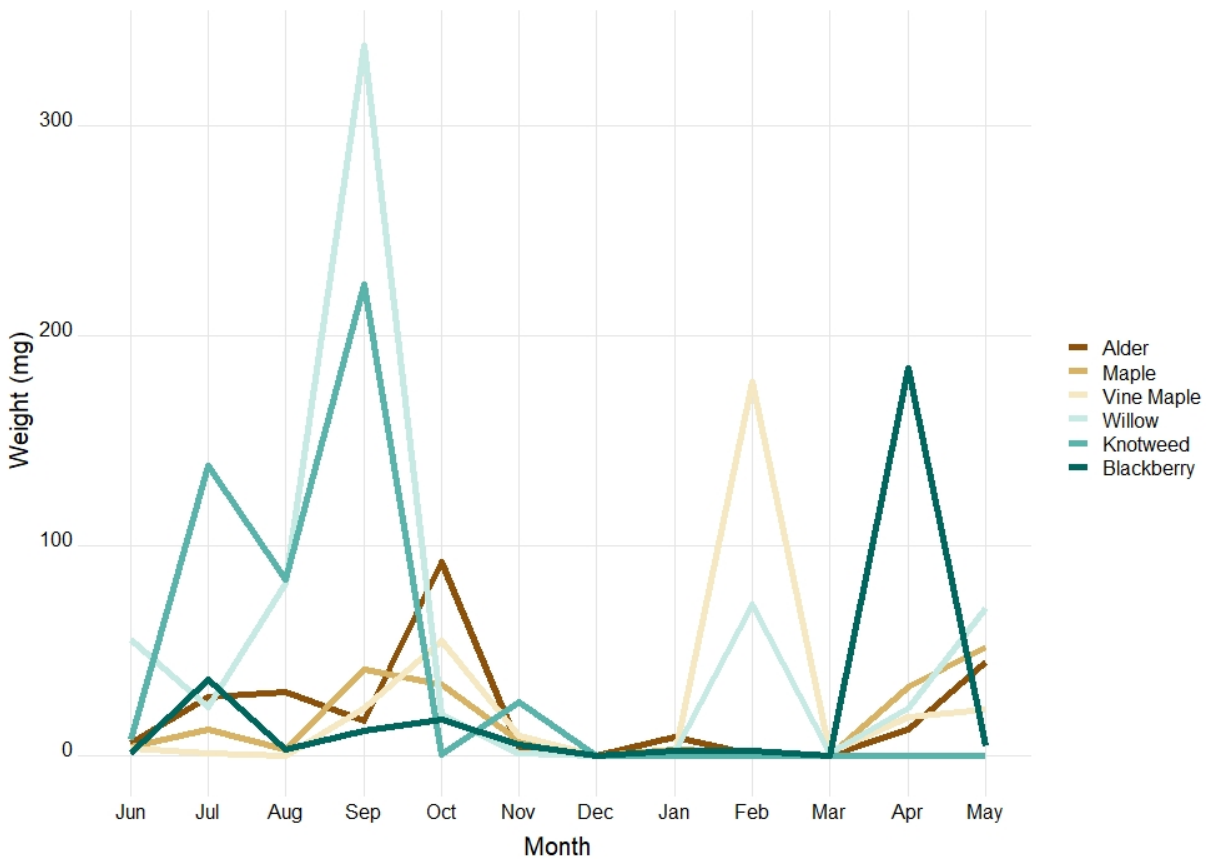
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3579 **Figure 17. Dissimilarity of aquatic invertebrate communities on leaf species**
3580 Non-metric multi-dimensional scaling (NMDS) of aquatic macroinvertebrate species
3581 assemblages associated with leaf litter packs.
3582



3583

3584 **Figure 18. Invertebrates associated with terrestrial vegetation**
 3585 Monthly proportion of invertebrates by order found in the terrestrial environment associated with
 3586 six common riparian vegetation species: Bigleaf Maple (A), Red Alder (B), Sitka Willow (C),
 3587 Vine Maple (D), Knotweed (E), and Blackberry (F).



3588

3589 **Figure 19. Monthly biomass of invertebrates associated with terrestrial vegetation**
 3590 Monthly total weight of terrestrial invertebrates collected from beneath riparian plants, n=10
 3591 each species.
 3592

3593 **Table 9. Aquatic invertebrate diversity**

3594 Shannon's diversity index for aquatic invertebrate colonization of leaf litter packs.

3595

	Shannon Diversity Index
Leaf Litter Alder	1.843271688
Leaf Litter Blackberry	1.934576093
Leaf Litter Knotweed	1.918056723
Leaf Litter Maple	1.903896859
Leaf Litter Vine	1.720620659
Leaf Litter Willow	2.043211378

3596

3597

3598 **Table 10. Aquatic invertebrate richness**3599 Species richness (number of unique species) for aquatic invertebrate colonization of leaf litter
3600 packs.

3601

	Species Richness (Number)
Leaf Litter Alder	9
Leaf Litter Blackberry	11
Leaf Litter Knotweed	10
Leaf Litter Maple	9
Leaf Litter Vine	8
Leaf Litter Willow	11

3602

3603

3604 **Table 11. Aquatic invertebrate evenness**
3605 Pielou's species evenness for aquatic invertebrate colonization of leaf litter packs.
3606

	Pielou's Species Evenness
Leaf Litter Alder	0.838909098
Leaf Litter Blackberry	0.806780894
Leaf Litter Knotweed	0.833001451
Leaf Litter Maple	0.866500802
Leaf Litter Vine	0.827443631
Leaf Litter Willow	0.852085327

3607

3608

3609 **Table 12. Terrestrial invertebrate diversity**
 3610 Shannon's diversity index for terrestrial invertebrate association with riparian plant species by
 3611 month.
 3612

	Shannon Diversity Index
Alder - Jan	0.999938452
Alder - Feb	1.054920168
Alder - Mar	0
Alder - Apr	1.41272788
Alder - May	1.411240459
Alder - Jun	1.801824993
Alder - Jul	1.634245216
Alder - Aug	1.863679987
Alder - Sep	1.814644167
Alder - Oct	0.716808338
Alder - Nov	1.333074293
Blackberry - Jan	0.904585969
Blackberry - Feb	0.847093709
Blackberry - Mar	0.79631164
Blackberry - Apr	0.985695369
Blackberry - May	2.002883041
Blackberry - Jun	1.279854226
Blackberry - Jul	2.182339026
Blackberry - Aug	1.73265872
Blackberry - Sep	1.724559576
Blackberry - Oct	0.806962827
Blackberry - Nov	0.754996758
Knotweed - Jun	1.33217904
Knotweed - Jul	2.149958356
Knotweed - Aug	2.074874528
Knotweed - Sep	1.640257583
Knotweed - Oct	0.950270539
Knotweed - Nov	1.486539534
Maple - Jan	1.481632188
Maple - Feb	1.332244922
Maple - Apr	1.334721805
Maple - May	1.761335655
Maple - Jun	1.695742534
Maple - Jul	1.778233306
Maple - Aug	1.214889654
Maple - Sep	1.83437197
Maple - Oct	0.642843269
Maple - Nov	1.082356385
Vine - Jan	0.636514168
Vine - Feb	1.089309679
Vine - Mar	0.693147181
Vine - Apr	1.385926102
Vine - May	1.800220969
Vine - Jun	1.329661349
Vine - Jul	1.379292254
Vine - Sep	0.96994329
Vine - Oct	0.299339738
Vine - Nov	1.362447485
Willow - Jan	1.103490403
Willow - Feb	0.730166889
Willow - Mar	1.039720771
Willow - Apr	1.003852492
Willow - May	1.494046074
Willow - Jun	1.578793038
Willow - Jul	1.557113098
Willow - Aug	1.625928708
Willow - Sep	2.035074055
Willow - Oct	1.488691565
Willow - Nov	0.500402424

3613

3614 **Table 13. Terrestrial invertebrate richness**
 3615 Species richness (number of unique species) for terrestrial invertebrate association with riparian
 3616 plant species by month.
 3617

	Species Richness (Number)
Alder - Jan	4
Alder - Feb	3
Alder - Mar	1
Alder - Apr	9
Alder - May	8
Alder - Jun	9
Alder - Jul	7
Alder - Aug	7
Alder - Sep	8
Alder - Oct	9
Alder - Nov	5
Blackberry - Jan	4
Blackberry - Feb	5
Blackberry - Mar	3
Blackberry - Apr	7
Blackberry - May	9
Blackberry - Jun	4
Blackberry - Jul	13
Blackberry - Aug	7
Blackberry - Sep	7
Blackberry - Oct	9
Blackberry - Nov	4
Knotweed - Jun	4
Knotweed - Jul	11
Knotweed - Aug	10
Knotweed - Sep	10
Knotweed - Oct	3
Knotweed - Nov	7
Maple - Jan	6
Maple - Feb	4
Maple - Apr	9
Maple - May	10
Maple - Jun	6
Maple - Jul	7
Maple - Aug	4
Maple - Sep	7
Maple - Oct	10
Maple - Nov	7
Vine - Jan	2
Vine - Feb	3
Vine - Mar	2
Vine - Apr	9
Vine - May	9
Vine - Jun	4
Vine - Jul	6
Vine - Sep	7
Vine - Oct	8
Vine - Nov	5
Willow - Jan	4
Willow - Feb	4
Willow - Mar	3
Willow - Apr	6
Willow - May	9
Willow - Jun	11
Willow - Jul	7
Willow - Aug	6
Willow - Sep	12
Willow - Oct	8
Willow - Nov	2

3618

3619 **Table 14. Terrestrial invertebrate evenness**
 3620 Pielou's species evenness for terrestrial invertebrate association with riparian plant species by
 3621 month.
 3622

	Pielou's Species Evenness
Alder - Jan	0.721303123
Alder - Feb	0.960229718
Alder - Mar	NA
Alder - Apr	0.642960167
Alder - May	0.678663204
Alder - Jun	0.820045894
Alder - Jul	0.839835908
Alder - Aug	0.957742056
Alder - Sep	0.87265938
Alder - Oct	0.326233534
Alder - Nov	0.828285629
Blackberry - Jan	0.652520846
Blackberry - Feb	0.526328914
Blackberry - Mar	0.724834092
Blackberry - Apr	0.506547216
Blackberry - May	0.911551355
Blackberry - Jun	0.923219672
Blackberry - Jul	0.850831234
Blackberry - Aug	0.890410444
Blackberry - Sep	0.886248308
Blackberry - Oct	0.36726461
Blackberry - Nov	0.544615039
Knotweed - Jun	0.960964047
Knotweed - Jul	0.896602274
Knotweed - Aug	0.901106558
Knotweed - Sep	0.712354817
Knotweed - Oct	0.864973521
Knotweed - Nov	0.763930203
Maple - Jan	0.826914669
Maple - Feb	0.961011571
Maple - Apr	0.607458072
Maple - May	0.764938356
Maple - Jun	0.946411928
Maple - Jul	0.913831148
Maple - Aug	0.876357639
Maple - Sep	0.942680715
Maple - Oct	0.279183285
Maple - Nov	0.556221152
Vine - Jan	0.918295834
Vine - Feb	0.9915324
Vine - Mar	1
Vine - Apr	0.630762152
Vine - May	0.819315871
Vine - Jun	0.959147917
Vine - Jul	0.769797664
Vine - Sep	0.498452249
Vine - Oct	0.143951985
Vine - Nov	0.846536219
Willow - Jan	0.796000066
Willow - Feb	0.526704075
Willow - Mar	0.94639463
Willow - Apr	0.560260743
Willow - May	0.679969671
Willow - Jun	0.658407836
Willow - Jul	0.80019784
Willow - Aug	0.90744809
Willow - Sep	0.818974047
Willow - Oct	0.715909313
Willow - Nov	0.721928095

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3624 **Table 15. Terrestrial links to important juvenile salmonid prey resources**
 3625 Monthly importance of terrestrial contributions to juvenile coho salmon and steelhead trout diet
 3626 (fish diet data obtained from Table 1 and Table 2 in Brady and Armstrong *In Draft*).
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Month	Fish Species	Prey Resource	Percentage of Fish Diet	Terrestrial sources
June	Coho	Ant	18%	not found in terrestrial samples
July	Steelhead	Ant	21%	Knotweed (98%); Blackberry (2%)
July	Coho	Adult Mayfly	24%	Willow (100%)
August	Steelhead	Ant	12%	Willow (88%); Bigleaf Maple (12%)
August	Coho	Ant	13%	Willow (88%); Bigleaf Maple (12%)
September	Steelhead	Flying Ant	13%	Bigleaf Maple (100%)
October	Steelhead	Ground Beetle	30%	Alder (96%); Vine Maple (3%)
October	Coho	Spider	13%	Vine Maple (57%); Alder (24%); Blackberry (13%); Bigleaf Maple (5%); Knotweed (1%); Willow (1%)
November	Coho	Flying Ant	8%	not found in terrestrial samples
May	Steelhead	Ground Beetle	29%	Bigleaf Maple (55%); Alder (43%); Blackberry (2%)
May	Coho	Rove Beetle	66%	Willow (67%); Bigleaf Maple (30%); Blackberry (1%); Vine Maple (1%)
May	Coho	Ant	12%	Willow (100%)

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