

# A Continent-wide Map of all Things Aquatic: The eDNAtlas and Archive for North America

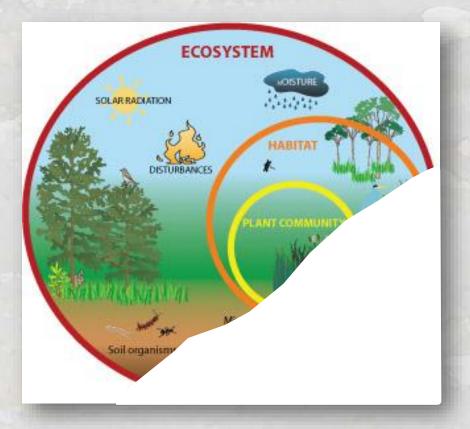
Mike Young, Dan Isaak, Mike Schwartz, Kevin McKelvey, John Rothlisberger\*, Dan Shively, and a cast of hundreds...





"To keep every cog and wheel is the first precaution of intelligent tinkering"

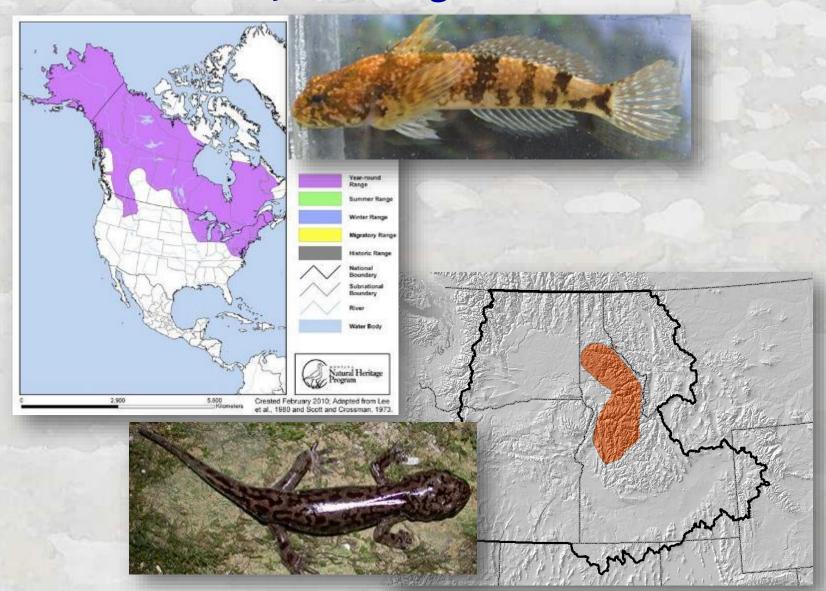
Aldo Leopold

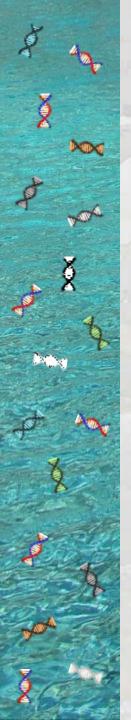




What Are the Cogs & Wheels in Aquatic Ecosystems?

# Most Species Information is Coarse Limited Utility to Managers & Conservationists





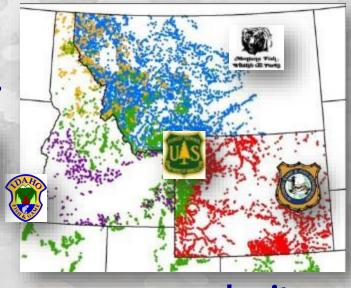
& Our View is Skewed...

Lots of Data for a Few Species...









>20,000 sample sites

## Little Data for Most...

Species	Occurrences
Longnose dace	169
Speckled dace	52
Redside shiner	129
Longnose sucker	235
Whitefish	2,026
Cutthroat trout	11,543
Rainbow trout	3,977
Chinook salmon	1,728
Brown trout	1,228
Bull trout	2,809
Brook trout	7,036







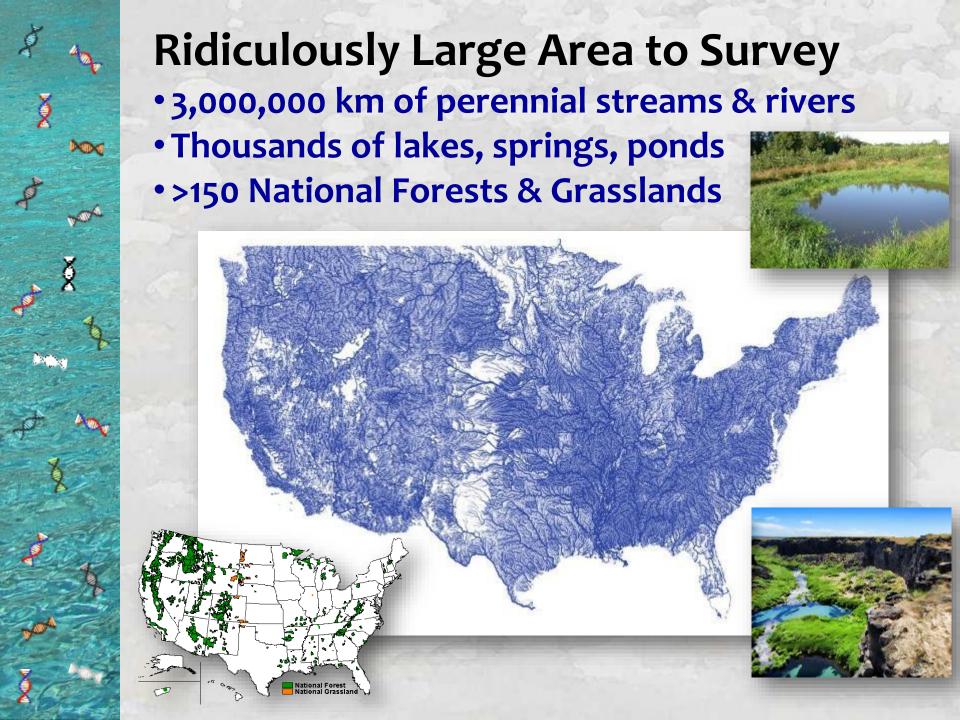








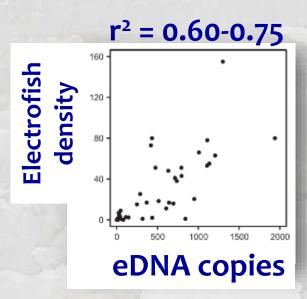
Isaak et al. 2017. Big biology meets microclimatology. Ecol. Apps. 27:977-990.



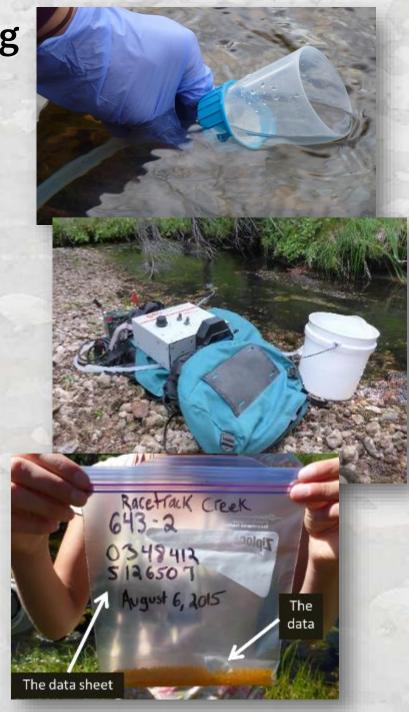


## A Solution: eDNA Sampling

- Fast & portable
- Rapid, broad-scale surveys are feasible
- Exceptionally accurate & specific
- Presence/absence estimates are robust (abundance estimates also possible)



Wilcox et al. 2016. Biological Conservation 194:209–216

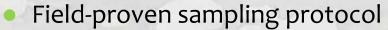




# **WISTS National Genomics Center for Wildlife & Fish Conservation**

## **Promoting eDNA sampling**

Design of species-specific markers (40 so far, another 50 in development)



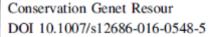
Field equipment loans

Sample processing @ Missoula lab

Long-term sample archiving (eDNArchive)

Peer-reviewed science





#### TECHNICAL NOTE

An environmental DNA marker for detecting nonnative brown trout (Salmo trutta)

K. J. Carim<sup>1</sup> · T. M. Wilcox<sup>1,2</sup> · M. Anderson<sup>3</sup> · D. J. Lawrence<sup>4</sup> · M. K. Young<sup>1</sup> · K. S. McKelvey<sup>1</sup> · M. K. Schwartz<sup>1</sup>



A Protocol for Collecting Environmental DNA Samples From Streams

Kellie J. Carlm, Kevin S. McKelvey, Michael K. Young, Taylor M. Wilcox, and Michael K. Schwartz





# Why Crowd-Source eDNA Sampling? Advantages: Cost-Effective & Broad Engagement

Many stakeholders

"Boots-on-the-Ground"



**Robust scientific information** 

Standardized data collection protocol



# Thousands of New Sites are Being Sampled **Annually by Dozens of Partner Agencies**

### The eDNA Alliance

**BLM** 

**Bureau of Reclamation Chehalis Tribe Clark Fork Coalition** Coeur d'Alene Tribes **Great Northern LCC** 

**Idaho Conservation League** 

**Idaho DEQ** 

**Idaho Fish and Game Idaho Power Company Kalispel Tribes** 

Montana Dept. Natural

**Resources Conservation** Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks National Fish & Wildlife

**Foundation** 

**The Nature Conservancy** 

















Colville, Deschutes, Flathead, Helena, Idaho Panhandle, Lolo, Mount Baker-Snoqualmie, Nez Perce-Clearwater, Payette, Salmon-Challis, Sawtooth, Wallowa-

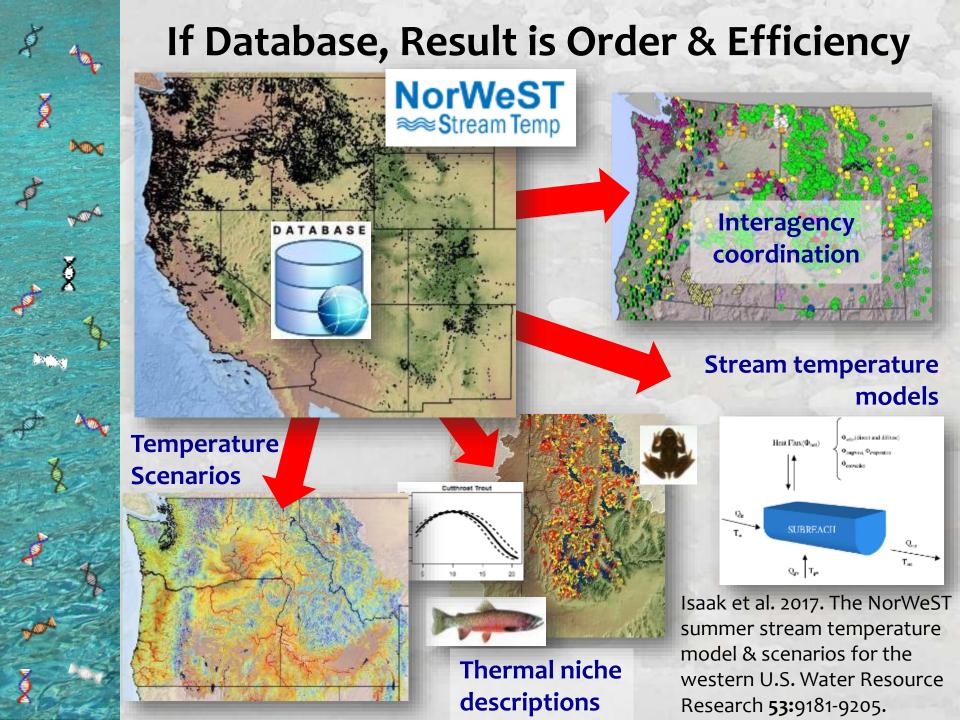
Whitman, Wenatchee USFS Regions 1, 4, and 6

Washington Dept. Fish & Wildlife

**Yakama Nation** 



# If No Database, Result is Expensive Chaos e.g., Temperature monitoring in the West >20,000 unique stream sites >\$10,000,000 to collect >100 agencies Significant redundancies, gaps in coverage, & difficulty using data



# eDNAtlas Database Development

Data collected with standard protocol

A Protocol for Collecting Environmental DNA Samples From Streams

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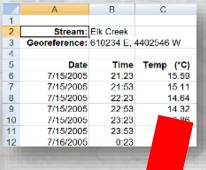
General Technical Report RMRS-GTR-355







QA/QC procedures (laboratory & data)





Metadata documentation & website delivery in user-friendly formats











# political political

# **Aquatic eDNAtlas Project Website:**

https://www.fs.fed.us/rm/boise/AWAE/projects/the-aquatic-eDNAtlas-project.html



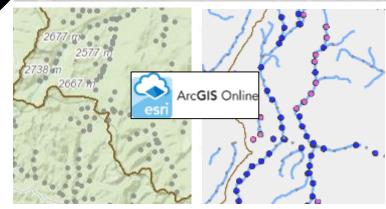
**Subpage Resources** 







FAQ & Protocol



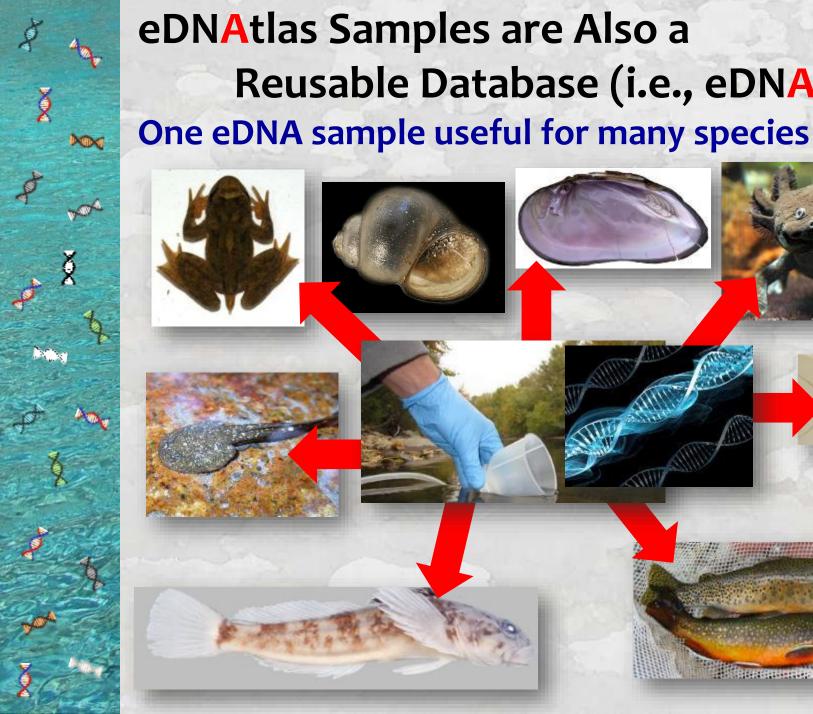
Field sampling site grid

eDNAtlas Results

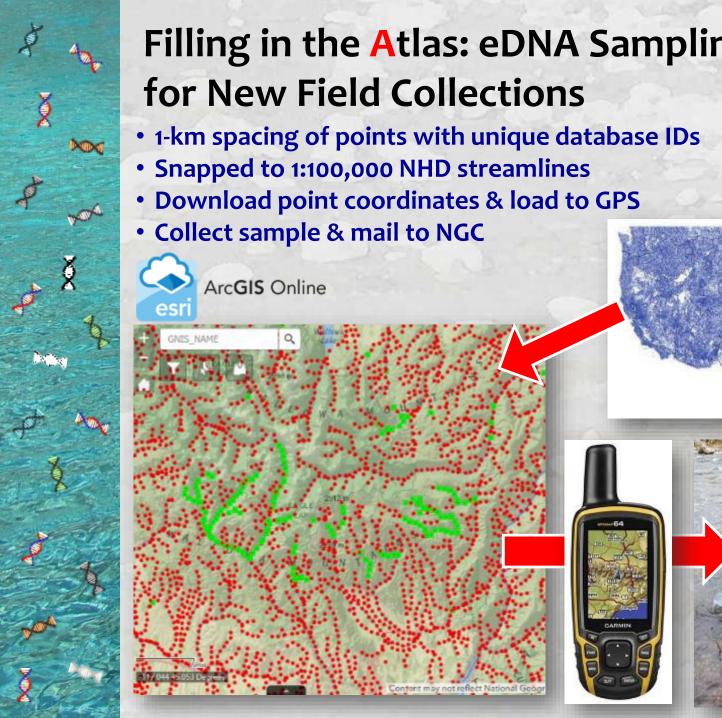
#### **Dynamic Maptool Delivers Data in User-**Friendly Digital Formats w/Metadata ArcGIS Online Project - USFS RMRS The Range-Wide Bull Trout eDNA Project | National Gen Select up to 1000 records search by GNIS NAME Legend **Points** eDNA Field Collection Sites ( eDNA Field Collection Sites ( not sampled eDNA Field Collection Sites ( sampled, bull trout absent Climate Shield Natal Habitat Patches sampled, bull trout present USFWS Spawning and Rearing Critical H. sampled, being processed **Bull Trout Distribution Watersheds** Watershed Polygons Bull Trout Distribution Watersheds Extract Points by Area of Interest eDNA sample metadata eDNA Field Collection Sites ( | Climate Shield Natal Habitat Patches | USFWS Spawning and Rearing Critical Habitat | Bull | BT\_Present BTPresentT Date\_Coll Datasol GNIS\_NAME\_HUC8\_Name\_COMID Site\_ID REACHCODE Butte Cabin Flint-Rock sampled, bull 7/18/2016 24310459 873-1 17010202000 Feature Format\* trout absent Shapefile - SHP - .shp 7/18/2016 Flint-Rock 24310455 17010202000 sampled, bull trout present Creek Help 859 features 9 selected

Clear

Execute



Reusable Database (i.e., eDNArchive)



# Filling in the Atlas: eDNA Sampling Site Grid









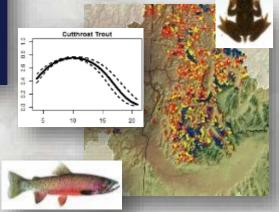
## eDNAtlas Database Uses...

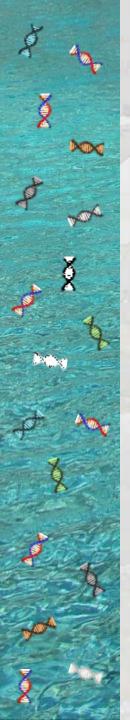
- Species distribution models for prediction of climate refugia
- Species status assessments (e.g., regional bull trout project, spikedace/loach minnow, Pacific lamprey...)
- 3) Trend monitoring at one or many sites (scalable extent & grain)
- 4) Detection & tracking of nonnative species invasions
- 5) Assessment of habitat restoration efforts (e.g., fish passage improvements, eradication of invasive species, etc.)







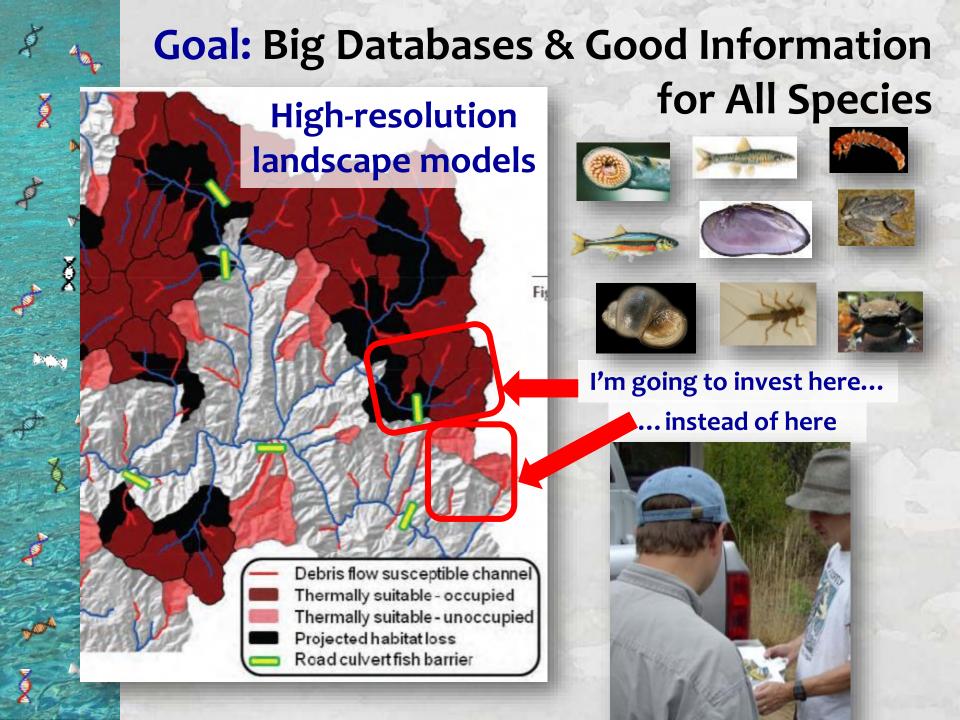




# Advantages of Centralized, Open-Access eDNAtlas Database:

- Efficiencies of scale (i.e., you become part of a massive biological sensing network)
- 2) System gains efficiency as database size increases each year
- 3) System coevolves & improves from close collaborations between researchers & managers
- 4) Consistent data format & metadata documentation facilitates communication within & among agencies
- 5) Samples archived at NGC can be reused in the future
- 6) No reinventing of technical wheels (i.e., website/database design, geospatial stuff, etc.)







# If Interested in Joining the eDNA Alliance to Map Aquatic Biodiversity, Contact...



**Mike Schwartz** 



Rothlisberger



Mike Young



**Dan Isaak** 





Kevin McKelvey



Atlas website: https://www.fs.fed.us/rm/boise/AWAE/projects/theaquatic-eDNAtlas-project.html

NGC Website: https://www.fs.fed.us/research/genomics-center/