Assessing Fish Passage Success in Culvert Structures with the Development of a Two-Dimensional Algorithm Considering Physical Capabilities of Juvenile Salmonids



Alexandra West Jefferies, P.E.

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Purpose & Background

Fish Passage

- Barriers
- Habitat fragmentation
- Law [33 CFR 323.4 (a)(6)(vii)] [Alaska Statute 16.05.841]

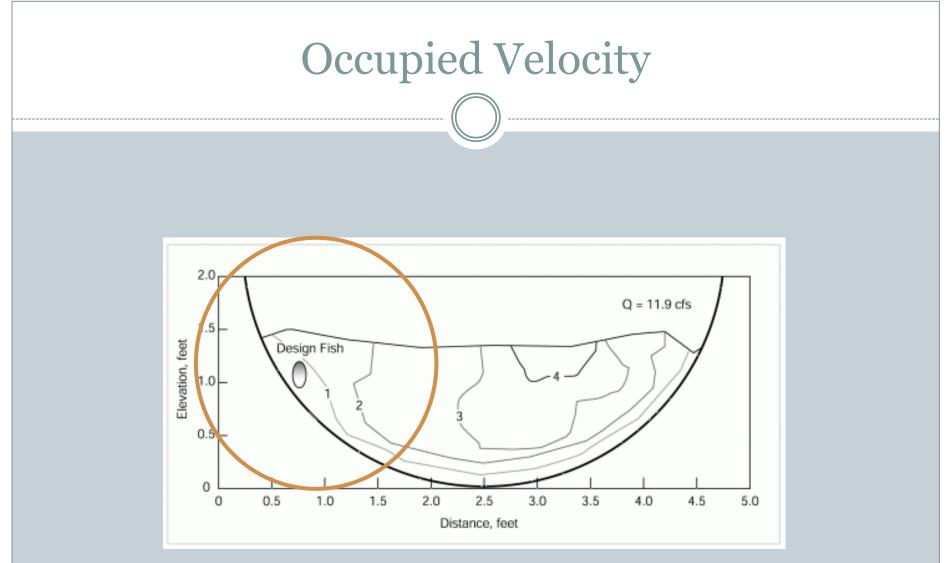
Stream Simulation Design

Preferred, but not always feasible due to size or budget limitations

Modeling

- FISHPASS (Power & Energy)
- FishXing (Velocity)

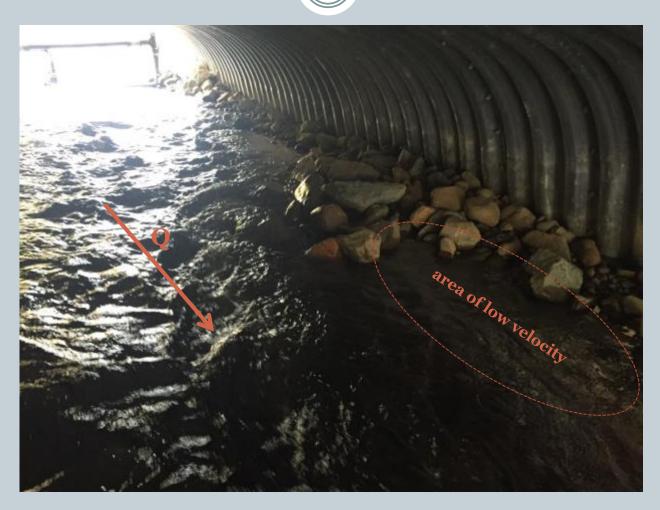




Furniss et al., 2006



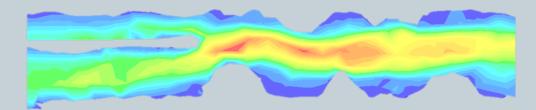
Occupied Velocity





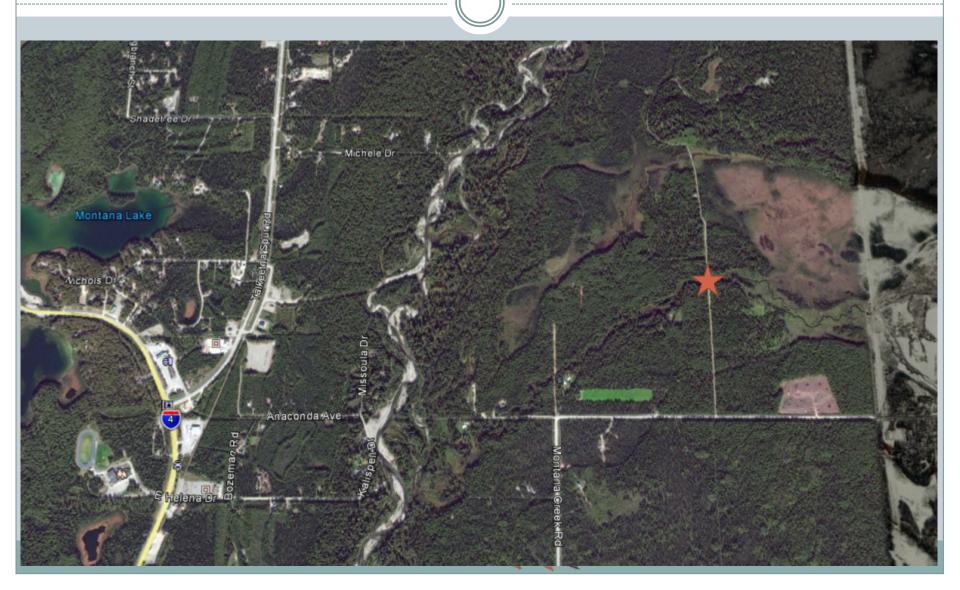


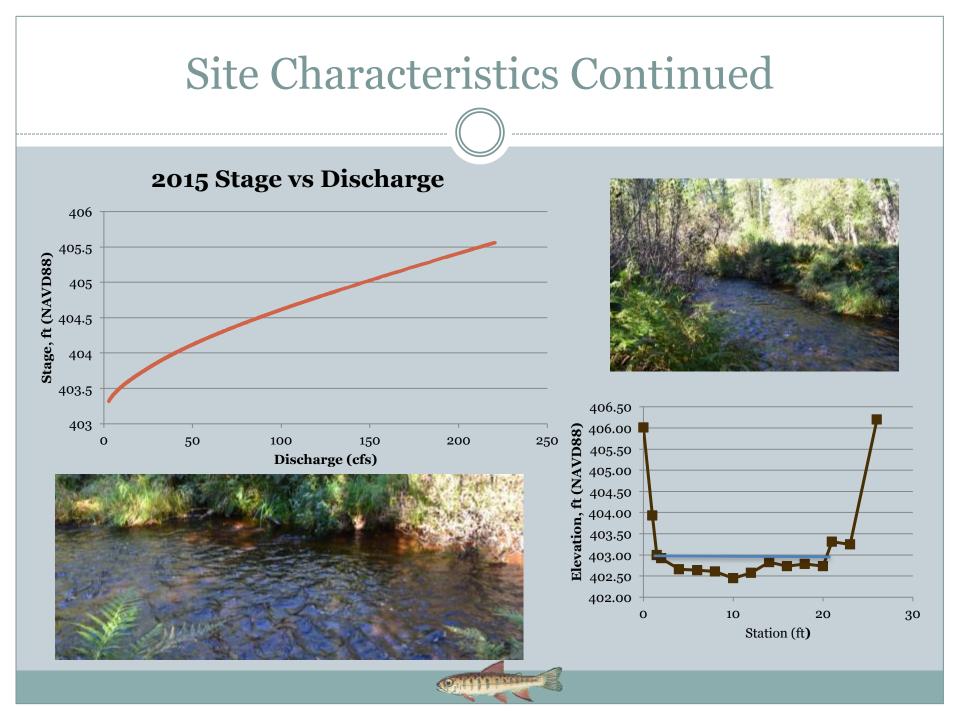
- 1. Develop and test a two-dimensional algorithm to assess fish passage movement and success through culverts based on velocity.
- 2. Compare FishXing and the two-dimensional algorithm to actual passage results.



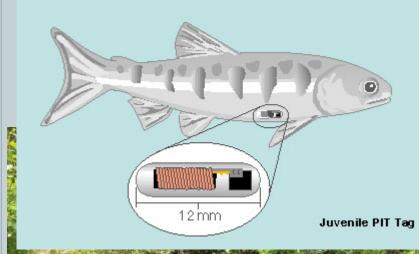


Site Characteristics





PIT Tagging



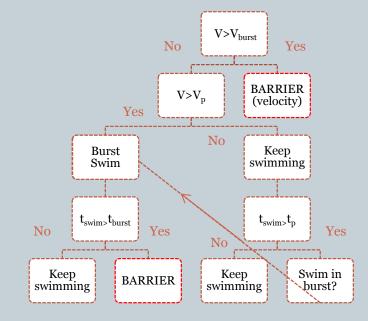




After Arch Construction, 2015

Culvert Array, 2014

2D Fish Passage Algorithm

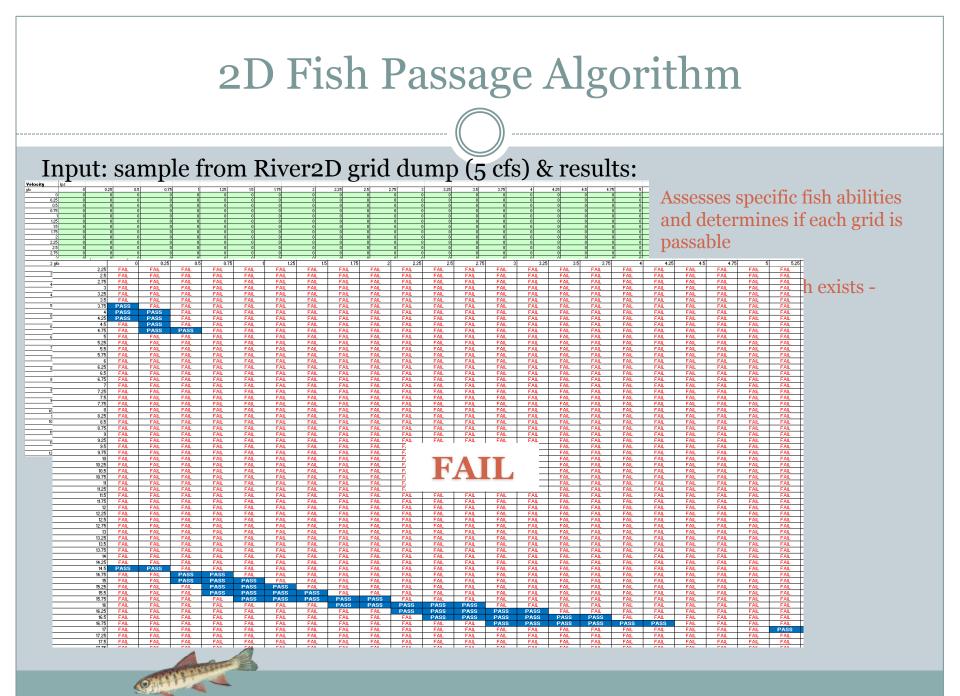


If-Then statements

• Input:

- Values along a 3" grid:
 - × Depth from River2D
 - × V from River2D
- Select coho/chinook or rainbow trout & size
- o Output: Pass or Fail





Results

• Passage events used in models:

Structure	Species	No. of Passage Events	Size Range (mm)		Flow Range (cfs)	
			Min	Max	Min	Max
Culvert Array	Coho & Chinook	121	65	110	6	72
	Rainbow Trout	17	94	134	11	56
Arch	Coho & Chinook	291	55	124	3	91
	Rainbow Trout	58	70	95	3	38



Results - Primary Objective

- Comparing Algorithm Results to PIT Tag Data
 - o 68% congruency for coho/chinook
 - **100%** congruency for rainbow trout
 - Combined velocity/depth barrier at higher flows except at higher flows when fish were able to swim in or directly over riprap at edges (higher roughness).



Results-Secondary Objective

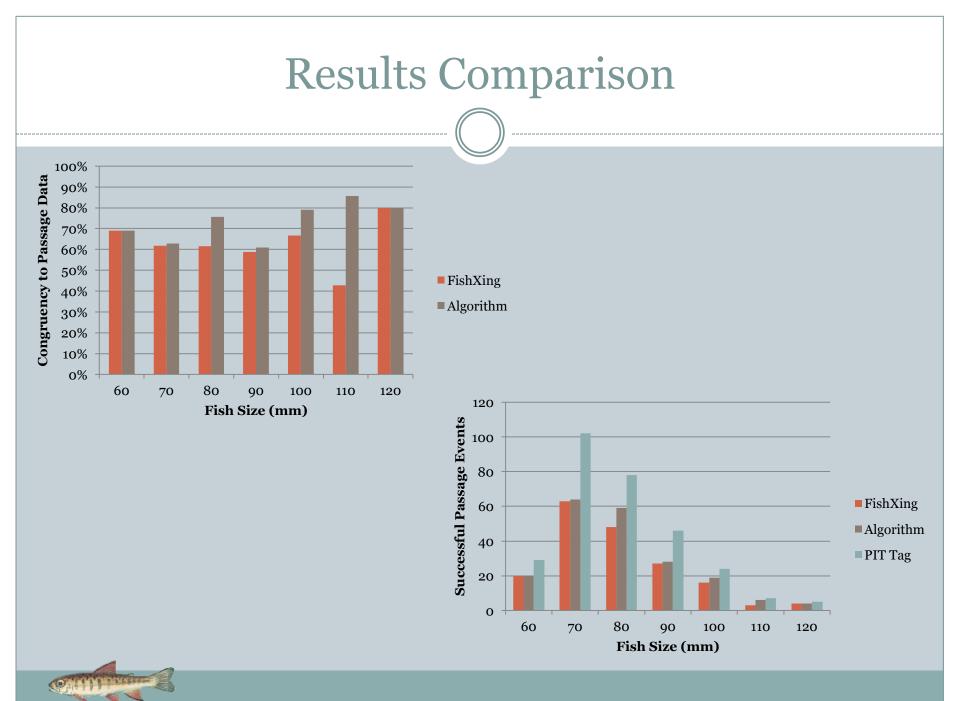
• FishXing Culvert Array Results vs. PIT Tag Data

- Favored middle culvert
- 2% congruency for coho/chinook
- o 94% congruency for rainbow trout
- Difficult to model accurately—above results may not mean much

• FishXing Arch Results vs. PIT Tag Data

- o 62% congruency for coho/chinook
- **100%** congruency for rainbow trout
- Approximately the same results as the 2D algorithm





Conclusions & Recommendations

- The 2D algorithm and FishXing (1D) passed approximately the same fish at approximately the same flows
 - Velocity variations in 2D more accurately represents the inside of a passage structure and the occupied velocity—some fish able to pass at higher flows near banks in 2D (not modeled in 1D)
 - FishXing velocity reduction factors fairly accurately predict occupied velocity

• Current modeling techniques result in conservative design

- Hydraulics (with use of velocity reduction factors) not the issue, but should be further studied
- Clear need for better understanding of juvenile salmon swimming behavior

