

Marine Fisheries Ecology, COMES, Jessica Miller
June 2006

June 2006 – The construction and equipping of the Marine Fisheries Ecology dry laboratory is complete, and a summer technician, Abby Nickels, who will become a MS student in the fall, and an undergraduate student begin work in the lab this month. Jessica has been working to complete on-going projects, initiate new efforts, and incorporate students into the program.

New students include:

Abby Nickels, MS, Oregon State University, September 2006, committee chair (Abby is also the Recipient of the Markham First Year Award, \$10,000)

Marisa Litz, MS, Oregon State University, committee member

Jose Marin, MS, University of Oregon, committee member

Stefanie Gera, NSF Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) co-mentor with Ric Brodeur, NOAA-NWFSC

In publications, Jessica submitted a revised manuscript, “Miller, J. A. Spatial variation in the otolith microchemistry of juvenile staghorn sculpin (*Leptocottus armatus*) in three Pacific Northwest estuaries,” to *Marine Biology* in May 2006.

Jessica recently gave two presentations, one at the 2006 Western Groundfish Conference in January, entitled *Population connectivity in two species of Pacific rockfish (Sebastes melanops and S. pinniger): An application of otolith chemistry*. In May, she presented *Following fish through their ears: Applications of otolith microchemistry* to the Oregon MidCoast Watersheds Council.

She’s also serving as co-organizer of a symposium on “Dispersal and Connectivity in Marine Populations in Marine Populations,” to be held at Larval Biology meetings at University of Oregon Institute of Marine Biology, in August, and will be a participant in a Q & A panel for viewing of “Common Ground” video with Port of Siuslaw commissioners in June.

Funded Efforts

“Elemental and Stable Isotopic Determinations),” with Fred Prah, OSU-COAS (\$35,000) (subcontract on Bonneville Power Administration Project, Historic Habitat Opportunities and Food-Web Linkages of Juvenile Salmon in the Columbia River Estuary and Their Implications for Managing River Flows and Restoring Estuarine Habitat). January to September 2006.

“Restoration of the Olympic oyster, *Ostrea conchaphila*, in Netarts Bay, Oregon,” The Nature Conservancy, Portland, OR (\$40,000). July 2006 to June 2008.

Funding pending

“The role of the stream-estuary ecotone in the growth and survival of coho salmon in Coos Bay, Oregon,” submitted to the OSU Agricultural Research Foundation, \$9,000.

“Salmonid life-history strategies” (component of BPA proposal, Columbia River basin juvenile salmonids: survival and growth in the Columbia River Plume and northern California Current), \$50,000.

“Interactions between Shellfish Aquaculture and Eelgrass: Do Culture Practices Influence Eelgrass Sustainability and Provide Essential Fish Habitat,” Western Regional Aquaculture, pre-proposal approved, full proposal due July 26, 2006.

Reviews

Journal of Fish Biology (1)

Geochimica et Cosmochimica (1)

Transactions of the American Fisheries Society (1)

Students

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Other Activities

Co-organizer of symposium on “Dispersal and Connectivity in Marine Populations in Marine Populations,” to be held at Larval Biology meetings at University of Oregon Institute of Marine Biology, August 2006.

Participant in Q & A panel for viewing of “Common Ground” video with Port of Siuslaw commissioners, June 2006.