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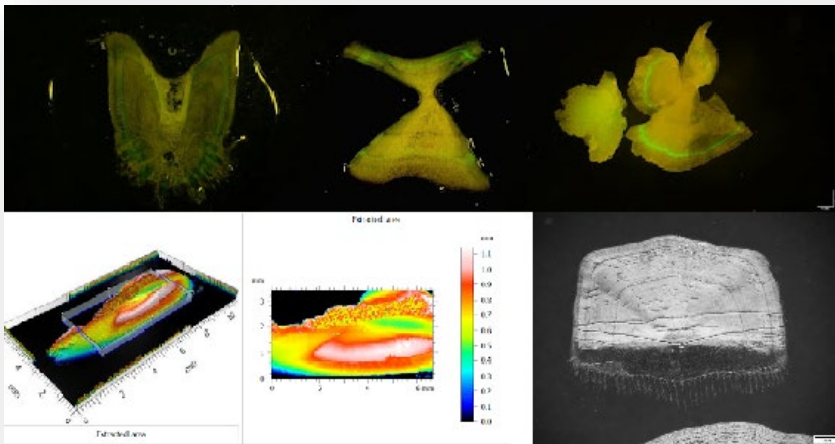
**NOAA
FISHERIES**

National Marine Fisheries Service
Alaska Fisheries Science Center

2023 AFSC Seminar Series

Andy Ostrowski, SEFSC, Fisheries, Assessment, Technology and Engineering Support
Tuesday, February 28th @ 10 am Pacific

Biology and life history processes, ageing and research at the Southeast Fisheries Science Center



The Southeast Fisheries Science Center (SEFSC) provides science support to one of NOAA Fisheries most complex regions. The southeast (SE) region's federal fisheries are managed by three fisheries management councils and two state fishery commissions across eight states, one territory and one commonwealth. The SE region supports the nation's largest recreational fishing sector, and historically has had limited fisheries independent surveys. Within this setting, the Biology and Life History

Branch (B&LH) focuses on providing essential data for population and stock assessments, including fish age and growth, natural mortality estimates, reproductive status, and life history and ecological requirements. With biological sampling going as far back as the early 1970's, our data encompasses a heavy fisheries-dependent sample set with an average of 83k ageing structures received annually. Using data generated from these biological samples, we support an average of 5-6 stock assessments per year. The B&LH branch is also involved in research, conducting age validation, shape analysis studies, and evaluating and incorporating advanced technologies into our research and production ageing. This will be a broad overview of our program, including our sample processing, ageing, data analyses, challenges and research.

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