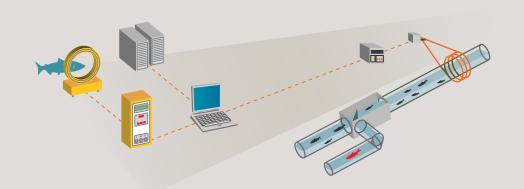
# COLUMBIA PIT Tag Information System



## **OVERVIEW**

THE COLUMBIA BASIN PIT TAG INFORMATION SYSTEM (PTAGIS) IS THE CENTRALIZED DATABASE FOR FISH MARKED WITH PASSIVE INTEGRATED TRANSPONDER (PIT) TAGS IN THE COLUMBIA RIVER BASIN.





## **CUSTOM SOFTWARE** & HARDWARE

PTAGIS provides custom software to assist data contributors with collecting and submitting high-quality data. PTAGIS also designs, installs and maintains automated detection systems at many of the large

hydropower dams on the Columbia and Snake

## **SEPARATION BY** CODE (SBYC)

Individual PIT-tagged fish can be targeted by researchers for separation from the general population as they pass through juvenile bypasses or adult fishways. Target fish can be diverted to holding tanks for hands-on sampling, or collected for transportation by barge or truck.

PIT TAGS ARE ENCODED WITH A UNIQUE IDENTIFIER AND ALLOW A FISH IMPLANTED WITH ONE TO BE PASSIVELY DETECTED THROUGHOUT ITS LIFETIME.

## THE RECORDS IN THE PTAGIS DATA WAREHOUSE DESCRIBE FOUR SEPARATE TYPES OF EVENTS SPECIFIC TO PIT-TAGGED FISH.

INTERROGATION

or through antennas.

A PIT-tagged fish may be detected at one

or more fixed automated detection sites. The time is recorded as the fish passes by



## MARK/RELEASE

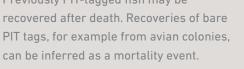
Each unique PIT tag is associated with a specific mark event. Species, size, condition, and other associated metadata are recorded for each fish, along with location and time of release.



### **RECAPTURE**

Previously PIT-tagged fish may be recaptured and physically sampled subsequent to initial marking event.









TAGGED FISH

in the late 80s to the millions

have been tagged during

that 36 year span.

in the 2000s. Over 55 million fish

**TAGGED** 

has grown from the tens of thousands

The number of fish marked with PIT tags annually

RECAPTURED RECOVERED

LOCATIONS

## **TAGGING LOCATIONS**

Mark/release, recapture, and recovery records are tied to locations in the Columbia Basin. These locations can be a stream segment, a fixed point, or a site within a hydropower facility. PIT tag data has been reported from around 1000 different locations across the Basin.

SOCKEYE 3% 1 **COHO 5%** reelhead 23%

The majority of fish tagged with PIT tags are anadromous salmonids, but PIT tags have been used to mark and track an increasing number and diversity of other species throughout the Columbia Basin, including white sturgeon, green sturgeon, bull trout, Pacific lamprey, cutthroat trout and northern pikeminnow.

**SPECIES TAGGED** 

CHINOOK 68%

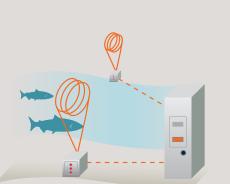
## MARKED FISH WITH PIT TAGS AND RELEASED THEM INTO THE COLUMBIA BASIN.

AROUND 55 DIFFERENT ORGANIZATIONS HAVE

### **DAMS**

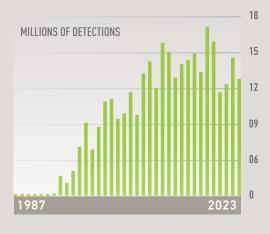
Many of the dams on the Columbia and Snake rivers have interrogation equipment installed in the juvenile bypass systems and adult fish ladders. PTAGIS installs and maintains these systems with multiple redundant antennas and high availability computer systems to handle the large volume of fish passing through.

INTERROGATION



### **TRIBUTARIES**

Low power interrogation systems were developed to provide automated detections in remote locations. These sites, operated by a variety of fisheries agencies, typically have fewer antennas which are installed directly in stream beds.



From 1987 – 2023, over 22 million unique

fish have been detected by at least one of

reported data to PTAGIS. These 22 million

the 476 interrogation sites that have

fish have generated over 293 million

detection records.

**DETECTIONS** 

**AUTOMATED INTERROGATION SYSTEMS** PASSIVELY DETECT PIT-TAGGED FISH AS THEY PASS BY OR THROUGH SPECIAL ANTENNAS.



PTAGIS is a Fisheries Data Project of the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission.