



Potomac River Fisheries Commission American Shad SFMP Update



ASMFC Shad and River Herring Management Board

August 1st, 2023

Background



- Amendments 2 & 3 of the Shad and River Herring FMP require states wishing to have a fishery must submit a Sustainable Fishery Management Plan that will:
 - “demonstrate their stock could support a commercial and/or recreational fishery that will not diminish the future stock reproduction and recruitment.”
- Plans are updated and reviewed every 5 years to reassess stock status and sustainability

Plan Update for Board Consideration



- May 2023: TC evaluated the PRFC American shad SFMP update
- **The TC recommended approval of the plan based on the presented update with the recommendation of exploring additional sustainability metrics in future plans.**

Potomac River Update



- The PRFC is requesting continuation of their limited commercial bycatch allowance in the portion of the Potomac River under PFRC jurisdiction
 - Shad encountered in pound and gill net fisheries
 - Cooperatively managed by Maryland and Virginia
- The updated plan remains unchanged from the previous Board approved plan (2017)
- Management Measures
 - Seasons
 - Pound net: Feb. 15th-Dec. 15th
 - Gill net: Nov. 7th-Mar. 25th
 - 2-bushel limit per day
 - Mandatory daily reporting including discards/releases

Potomac River Update



Management Unit. The SFMP has a river-specific management unit of the Potomac River from Washington, D.C to the Chesapeake Bay

Sustainability Measures. Timeseries GM CPUE of pound net landings (catch + discards)

Sustainability Target. One fishery-dependent sustainability target will be used. Restoration target set in 2007 assessment (31.1 lbs per net-day)

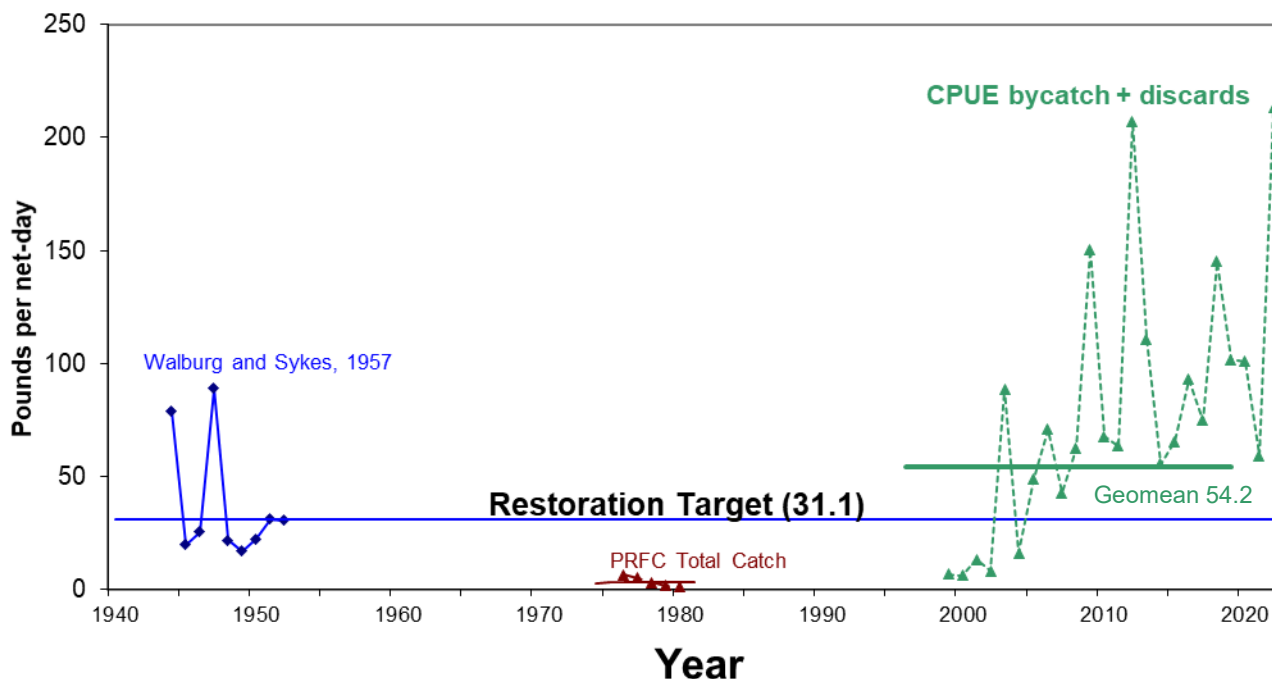
Management Action Threshold. Three consecutive years with the GM CPUE below the restoration target

Management Actions. Reduction or elimination of the two bushel by-catch allowance and/or limiting or restricting the take of broodstock/egg collections by other agencies

Potomac River Update



Potomac River American Shad - Pound Net Indexes Geometric Means



Geometric Mean (GM) of Pound Net CPUE Data												
Time Series	1944-1952	1976-1980	1999-2002	1999-2003	1999-2004	1999-2005	1999-2006	1999-2007	1999-2008	1999-2009	1999-2010	1999-2011
GM	31.1	3.0	8.1	13.1	13.6	16.3	19.6	21.3	23.8	28.1	30.2	32.0

Geometric Mean (GM) of Pound Net CPUE Data												
Time Series	1999-2012	1999-2013	1999-2014	1999-2015	1999-2016	1999-2017	1999-2018	1999-2019	1999-2020	1999-2021	1999-2022	
GM	36.6	39.4	40.3	41.4	43.3	44.6	47.3	49.1	50.7	51.0	54.2	



Questions?

USGS Alosine Genetic Tissue Repository



Miluska Olivera-Hyde, David Kazyak, Kirby Rootes- Murdy
USGS Eastern Ecological Science Center (EESC)

August 1, 2023

Overview

- Bycatch of alosines in estuarine & marine fisheries present challenges to recovering spawning populations
- Distinguishing stock composition can support efforts to assess status and trends of specific populations

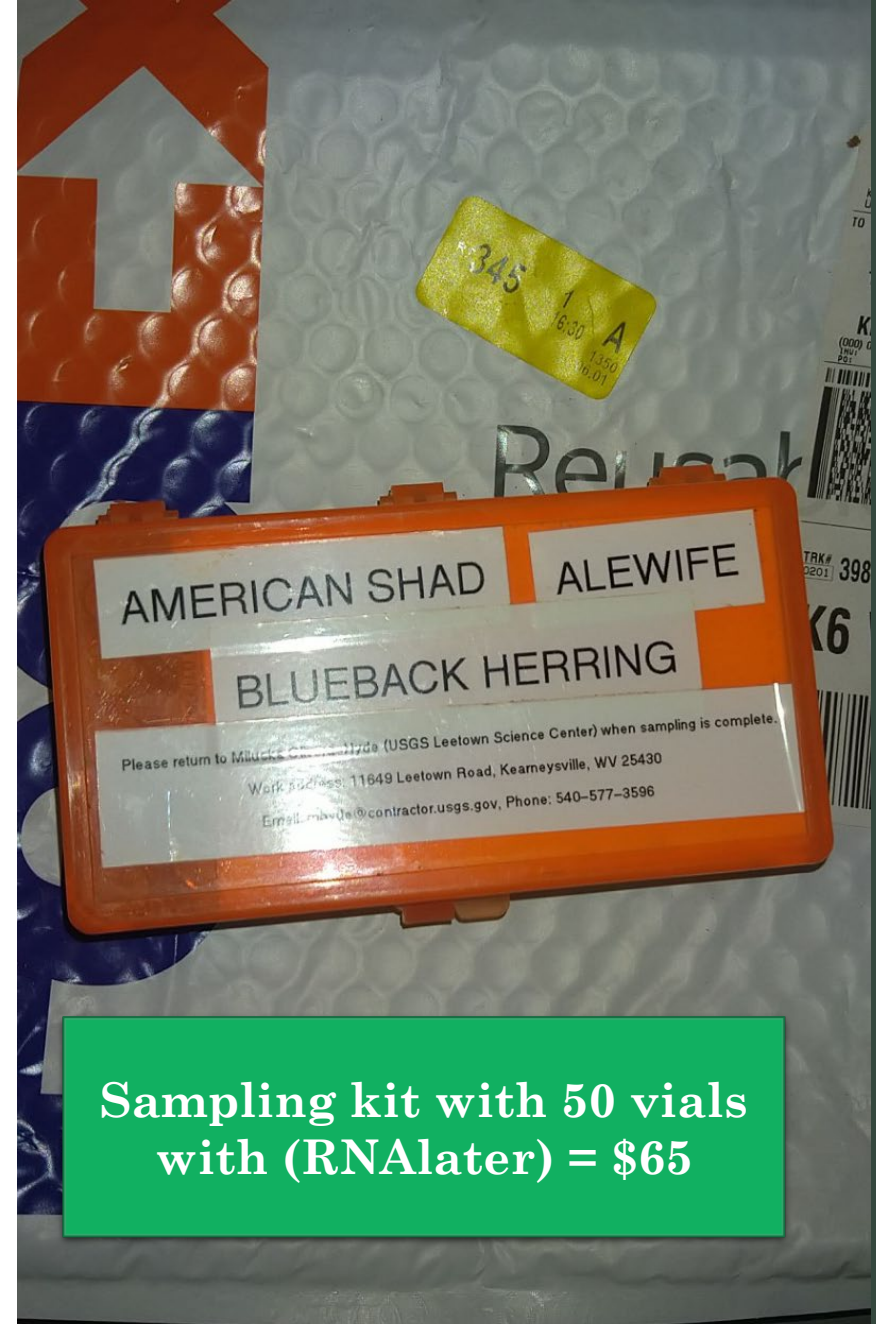


Objective

- Use genomic markers, i.e. single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs) to build and expand genomic baseline information for:
 - American Shad (*Alosa sapidissima*)
 - Blueback Herring (*Alosa aestivalis*)
 - Alewife (*Alosa pseudoharengus*)
 - Characterize populations of Blueback Herring & Alewife using SNP baseline augmented with additional samples.
 - Develop new SNP panel and genomic baseline for American Shad
 - Provide enhanced resolution of stock structure, greater repeatability, and cost savings when compared to previous genetic analyses using microsatellite markers.
-

Sample collection send out

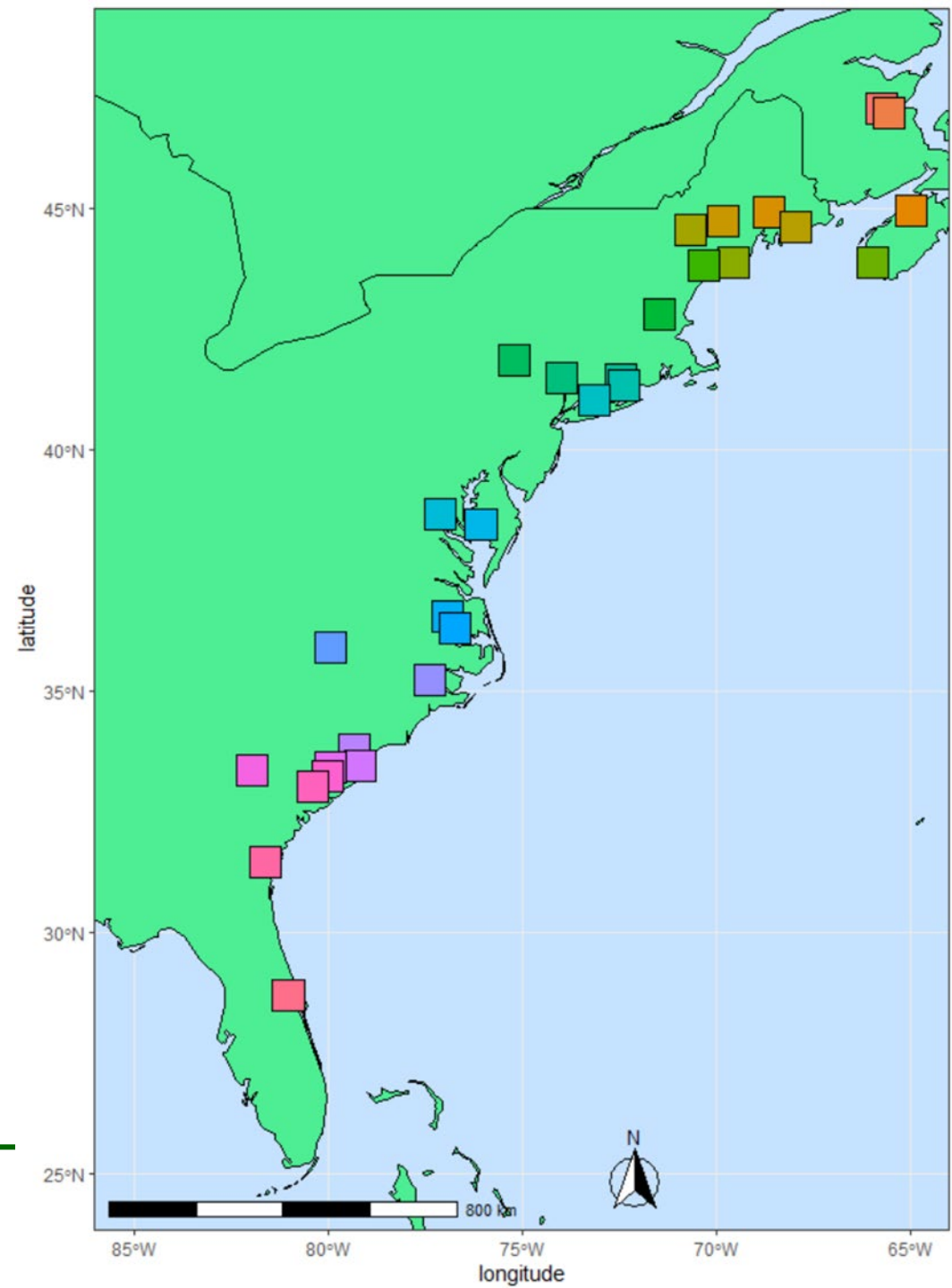
- Sample kits sent to: Canada DFO, U Maine, SC DNR, NJ DFW, MD DNR, PA F&BC, CT DEEP, NY DEC GA DNR, VIMS
- Data Requested:
 - **species,**
 - **sampling location** (e.g. river name, state, park, county, nearest town)
 - **GPS coordinates** including datum and latitude, longitude or UTM with zone, etc.) **collection date,**
 - **size class** (total length, fork length).



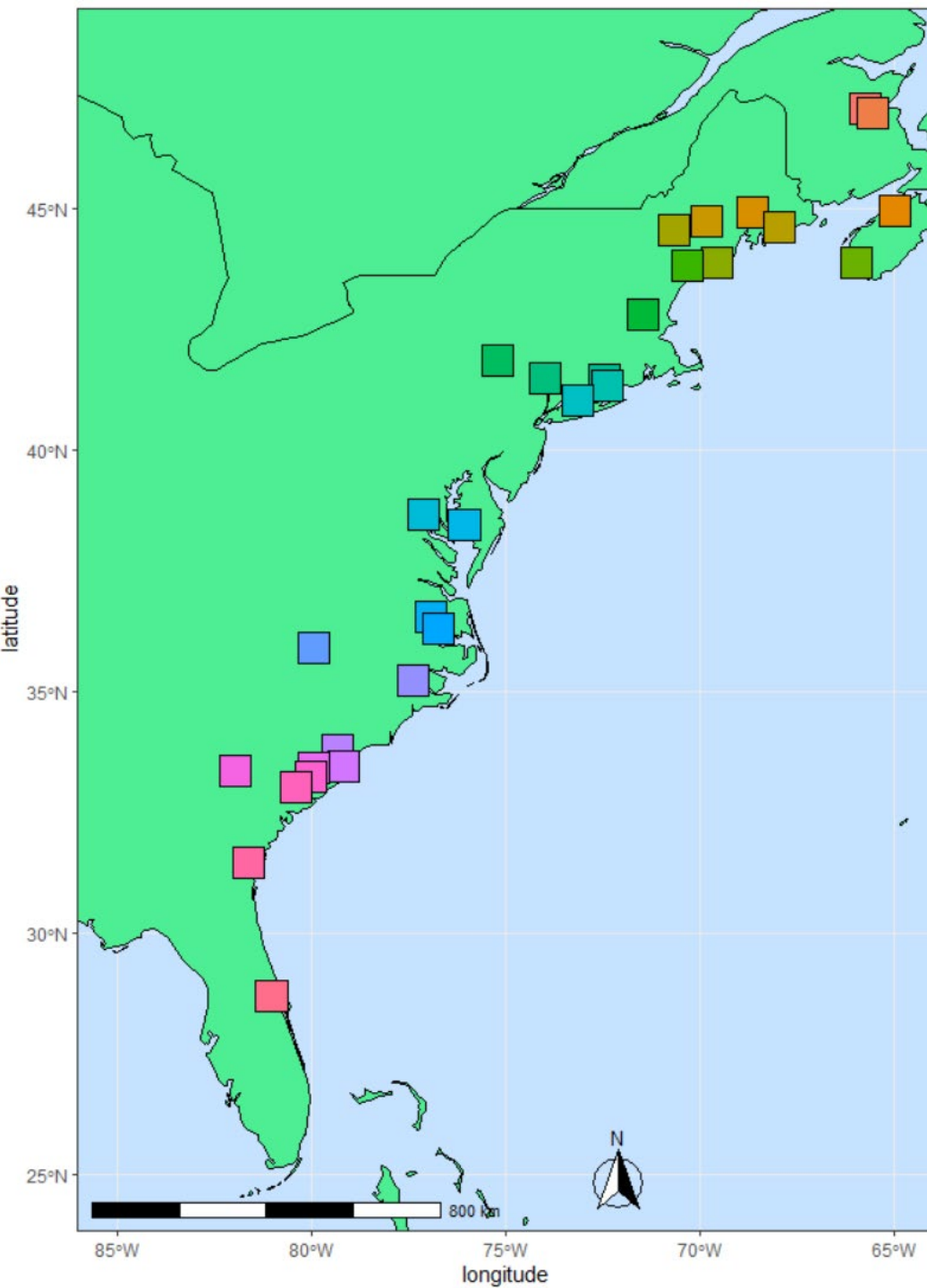
Sampling kit with 50 vials
with (RNA later) = \$65





















Work to date (American shad)

- A total of 2280 fin clip samples of American shad have been collected
 - largest # of samples between 2019-2022
 - Domestic: UMaine, MA, CT, NY, PA, USFWS (PA), MD, NC, GA, SC, FL
 - Canada: Gulf of St. Lawrence, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Bay of Fundy
 - Canada DFO, Ducks Unlimited, CBCL Limited



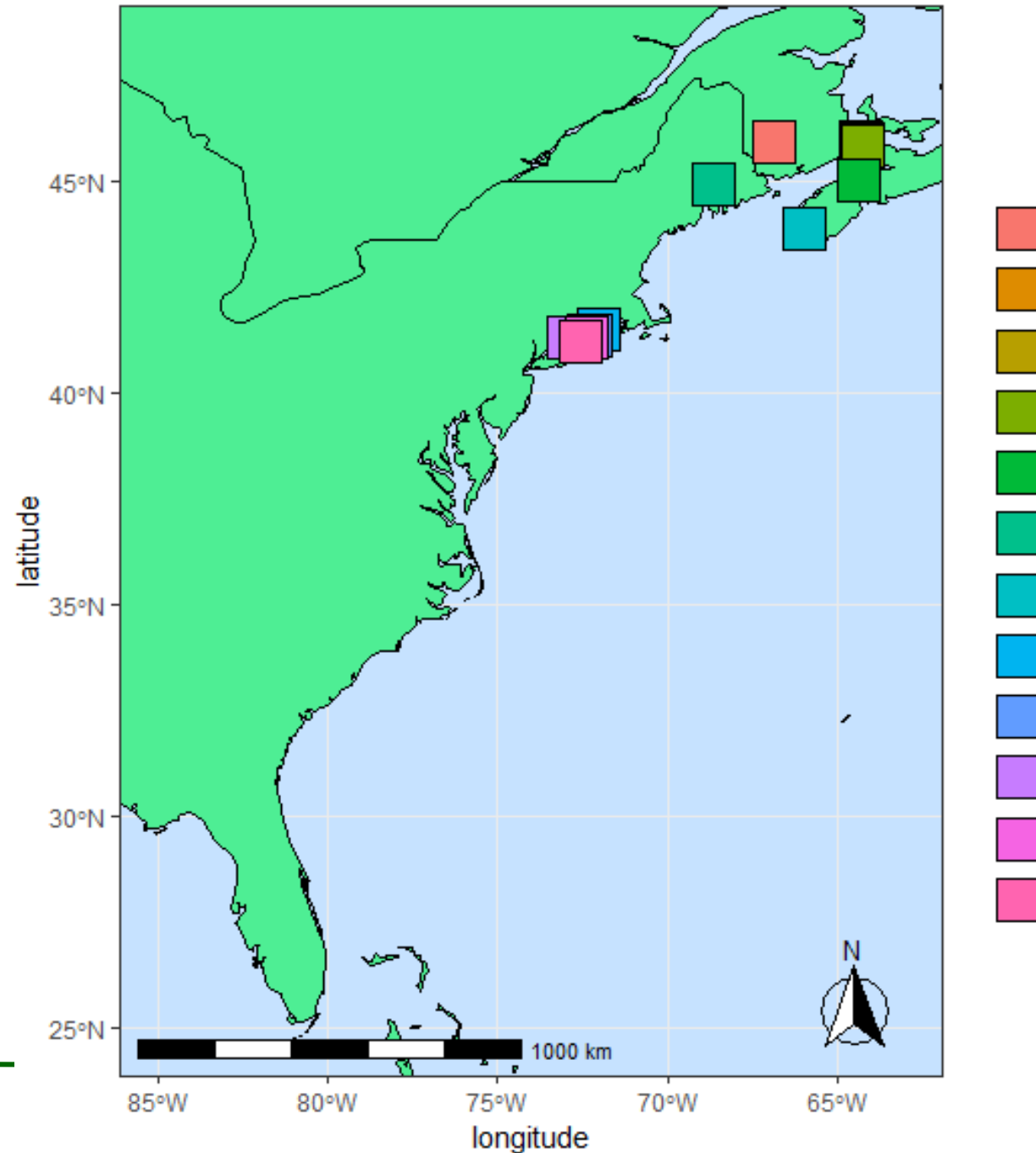
American Shad samples from populations along the coast



- | | | | |
|---|---------------------|---|-------------------|
|  | Northwest Miramichi |  | Long Island Sound |
|  | Southwest Miramichi |  | Potomac |
|  | Annapolis West |  | Susquehanna |
|  | Penobscot |  | Nottoway |
|  | Kennebec |  | Chowan Blackwater |
|  | Narraguagus |  | Roanoke |
|  | Androscoggin |  | Tar |
|  | Sheepscot |  | Great Pee Dee |
|  | Tusket River |  | Waccamaw |
|  | Saco |  | Santee Cooper |
|  | Merrimack |  | Savannah |
|  | Delaware |  | Cooper |
|  | Hudson |  | Edisto |
|  | Salmon River |  | Altamaha |
|  | Connecticut |  | Saint Johns |

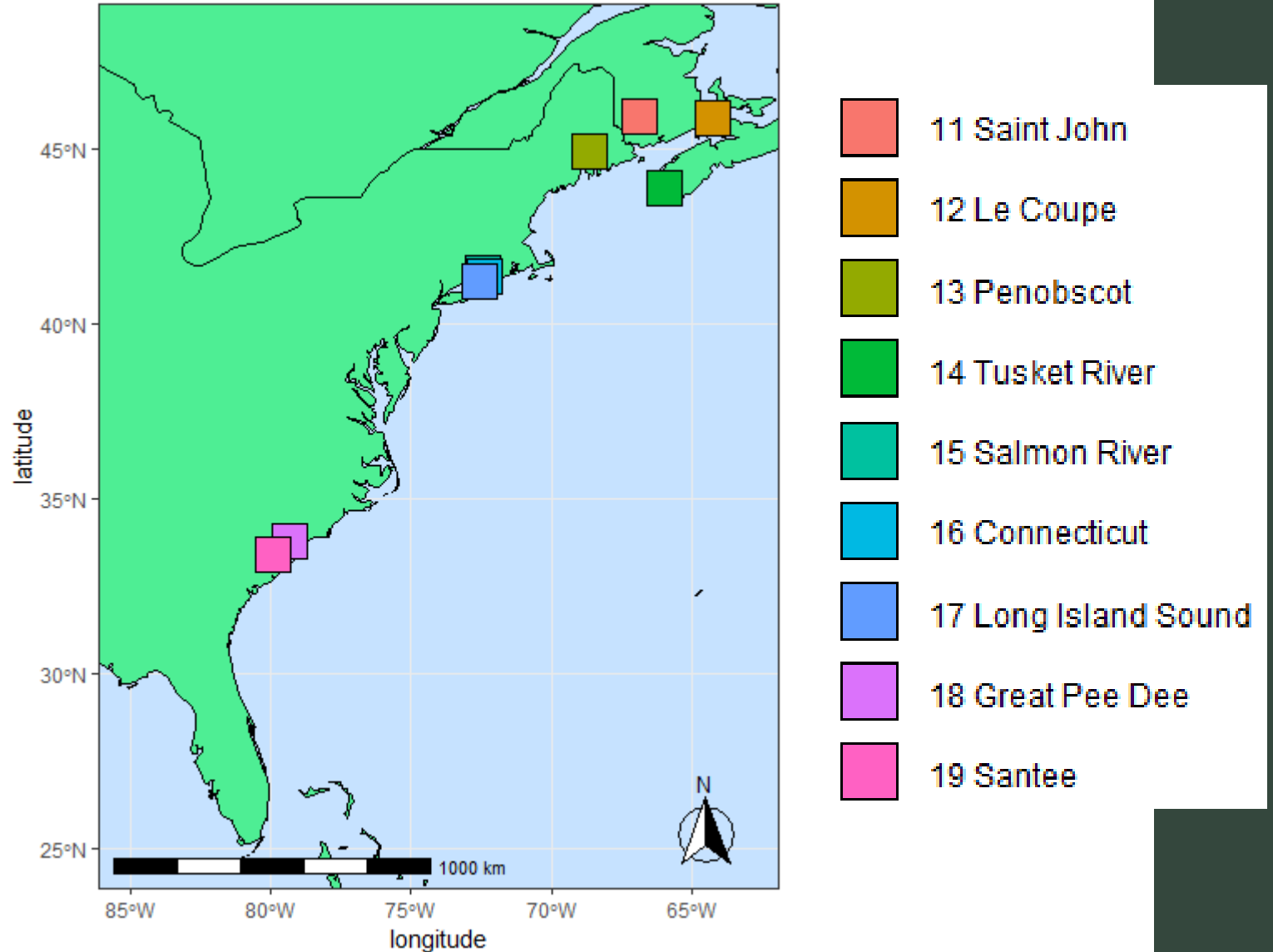
Work to date (Alewife)

- A total of 981 fin clip samples of Alewife have been collected
 - Domestic: UMaine, MA, CT, NY
 - Canada: Gulf of St. Lawrence, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Bay of Fundy
 - Canada DFO, Ducks Unlimited, CBCL Limited

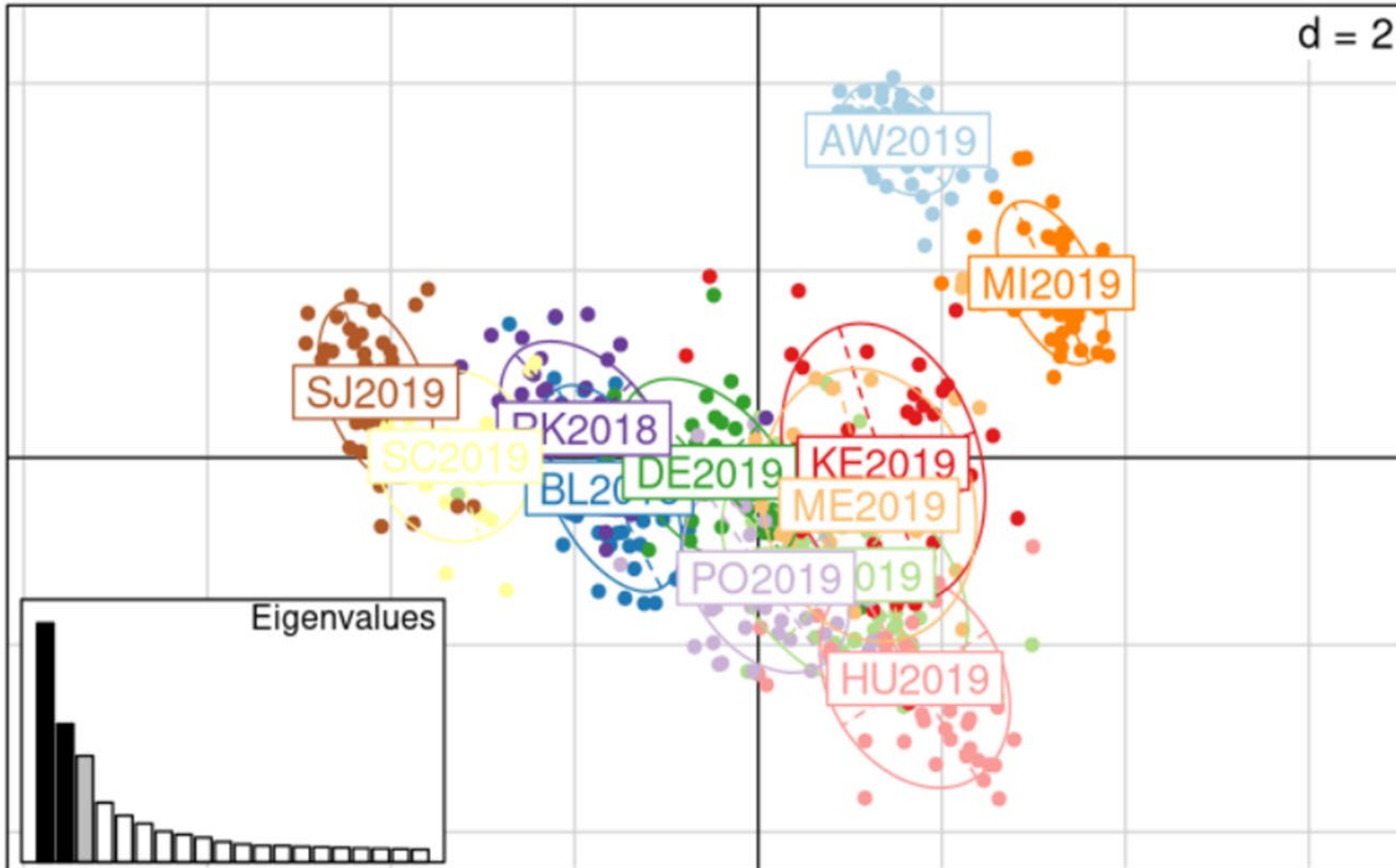


Work to date (Blueback Herring)

- A total of 218 fin clip samples of Blueback Herring have been collected
 - Domestic: UMaine, CT, NY
 - Canada: New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Bay of Fundy
 - Canada DFO, Ducks Unlimited, CBCL Limited



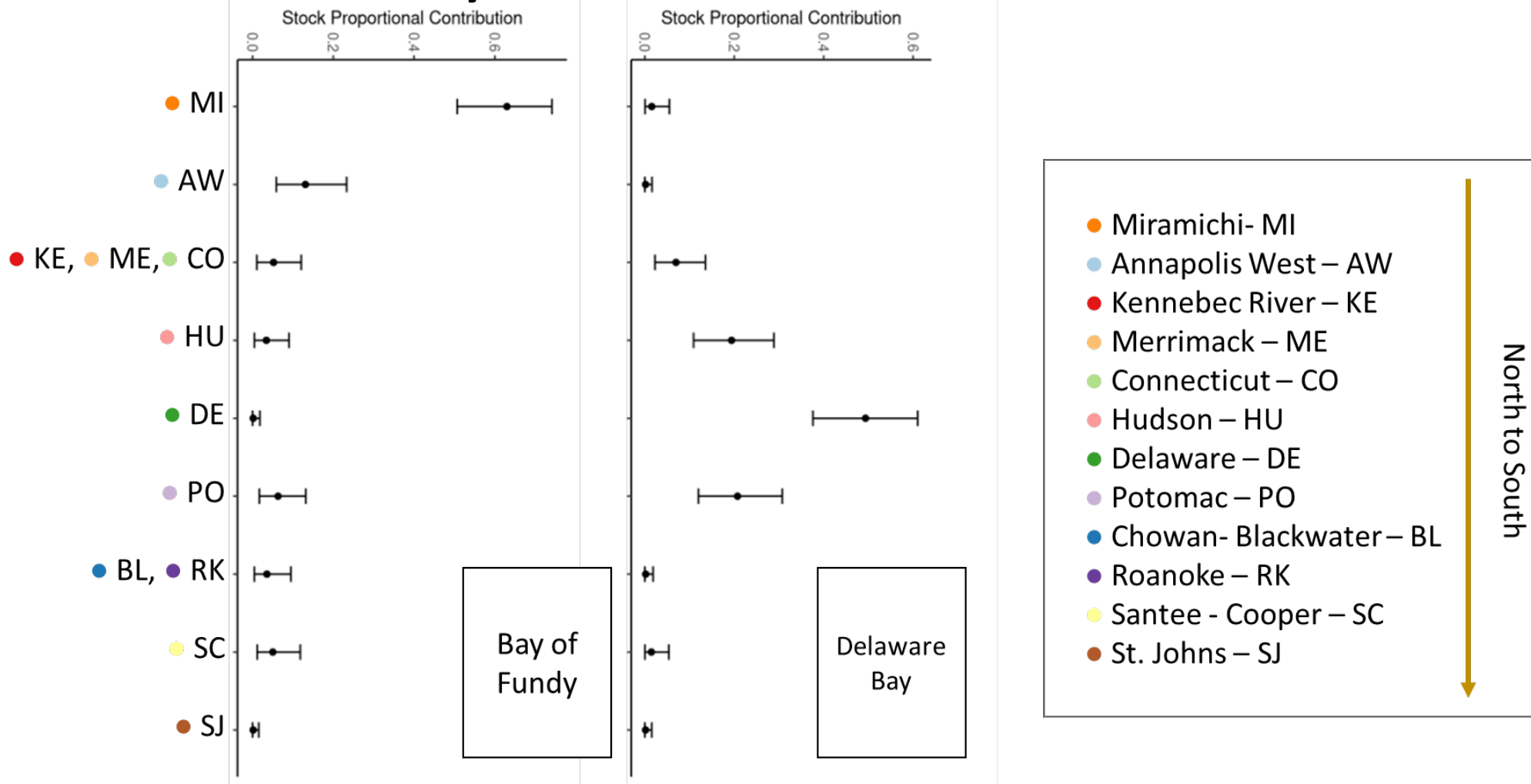
Analysis – American Shad



- Miramichi- MI
- Annapolis West – AW
- Kennebec River – KE
- Merrimack – ME
- Connecticut – CO
- Hudson – HU
- Delaware – DE
- Potomac – PO
- Chowan- Blackwater – BL
- Roanoke – RK
- Santee - Cooper – SC
- St. Johns – SJ

North to South

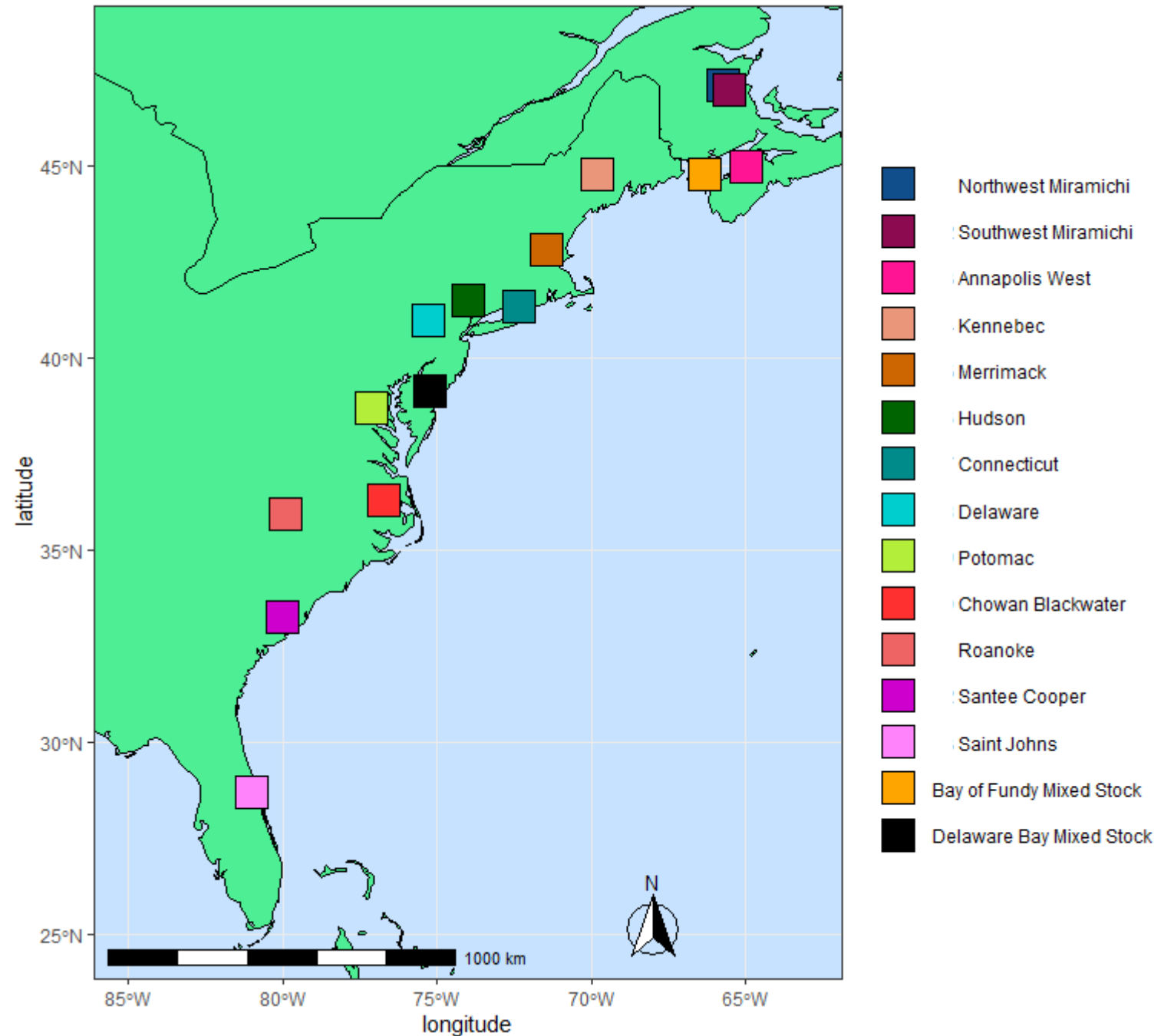
Analysis – American Shad



Summary

- American Shad: Work with Corne colleagues to undertake population assignment analysis using 12 baseline populations.
- River Herring: more work to do, starts with more samples
- More mixed-stock samples needed for analysis
- Got samples? Send to Miluska Olivera-Hyde, USGS

mhyde@usgs.gov



Questions?

Special thanks to all partners who've sent in samples!

Learn more by visiting **USGS EESC**

