CAROLYN HUSTON, Simon Fraser University, 8888 University Drive, Burnaby, BC, V5A 4S5 Finding the fish: Straying trends between BC Pacific herring (Clupea pallasi) populations

Herring tag data is available starting from 1936 in British Columbia. We are looking at herring stray rates between five geographically distinct populations defined by the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO). We will create a multi-state population model to estimate yearly stray rates between populations. Based on deviances from these estimates we will identify years where there have been noticeable quantitative changes in herring stray behaviour. Hopefully these changes can be associated with recorded environmental indicators. Special consideration will be given to how to treat missing data resulting from both fishery closures and missed tagging events.