

eDNA Research and Applications in Aquaculture

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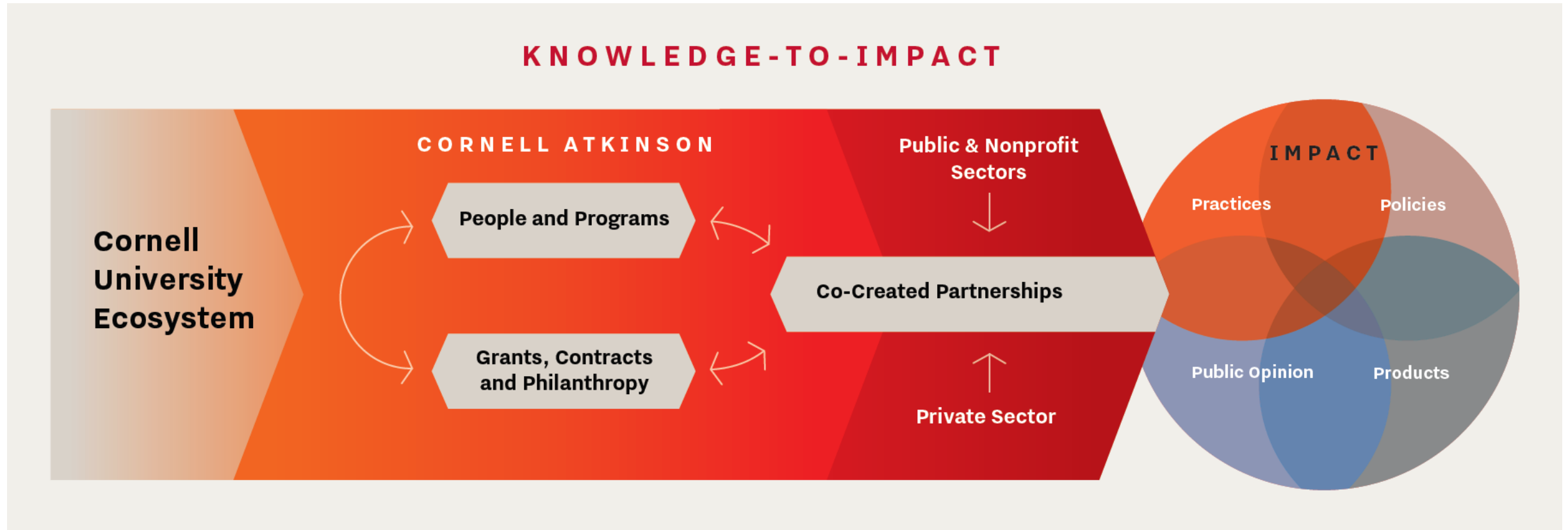
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2024 New York Seafood Summit

Cornell Agritech

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Cornell Atkinson Center for Sustainability





NOAA AQUACULTURE STRATEGIC PLAN (2023-2028)



Our Vision and Mission

Vision: A thriving, resilient, and inclusive U.S. aquaculture industry that supports jobs, expands access to nutritious domestic seafood, and reinforces healthy coastal and ocean ecosystems in a changing environment.

Mission: To provide science, services, and policies that create conditions for opportunity and growth of sustainable U.S. aquaculture.



Goal #1

Manage Sustainably and Efficiently

Improve regulatory processes for sustainable coastal and marine aquaculture through collaboration with partners.



Goal #2

Lead Science for Sustainability

Use world-class science expertise to meet management and industry needs for a thriving seafood production sector and share this knowledge broadly.



Goal #3

Educate and Exchange Information

Build awareness and support for coastal and marine aquaculture through two-way communication with diverse stakeholders and partners.



Goal #4

Support Economic Viability and Growth

Facilitate a robust aquaculture industry that thrives as a key component of a resilient seafood sector.

Environmental DNA (eDNA)



Environmental DNA Overview

1

Collect
water
sample



Environmental DNA Overview

1

Collect
water
sample

2

Filter
water
sample



Environmental DNA Overview

1

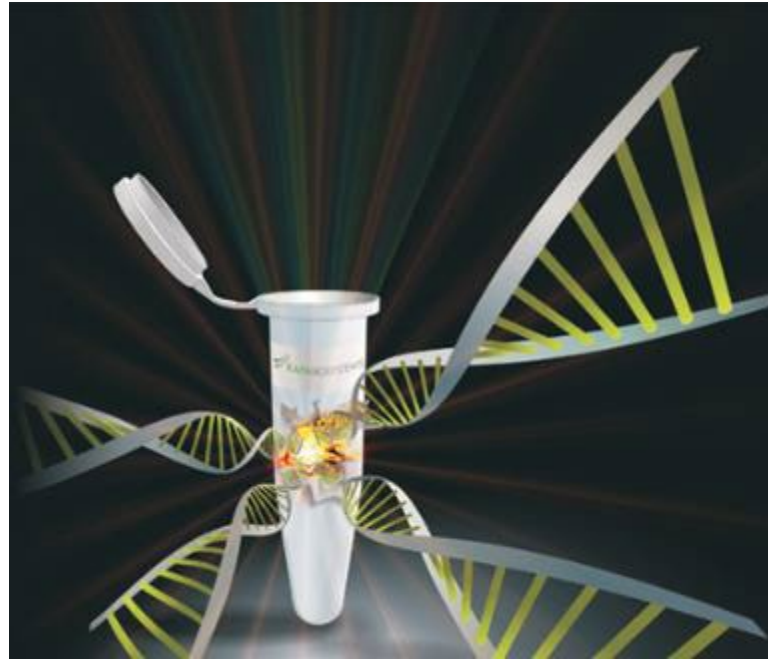
Collect
water
sample

2

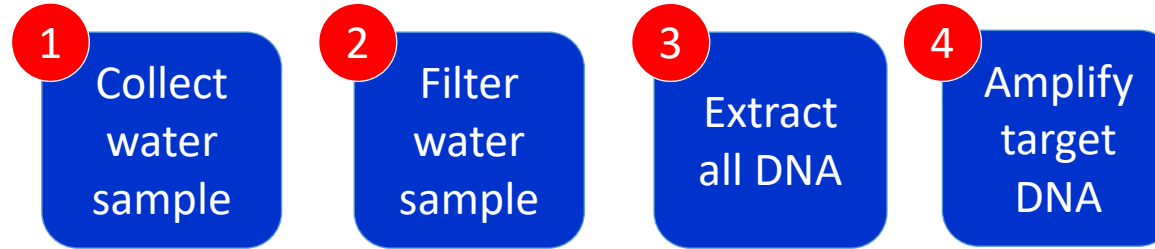
Filter
water
sample

3

Extract
all DNA



Environmental DNA Overview



Design primers for target DNA;
Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR)



Quantitative
PCR



Digital droplet
PCR

Environmental DNA Overview

- 1 Collect water sample
- 2 Filter water sample
- 3 Extract all DNA
- 4 Amplify target DNA
- 5 Visualize DNA presence



Sequencing for
metabarcoding



Digital readout for qPCR and ddPCR, Laser
Transmission Spectroscopy

Growth in R&D of eDNA over last 15 yr

Management-ready eDNA

1. **Single species detection** using species specific primers and qPCR or dPCR.
2. **Multiplex approach**, e.g., 52 invasive species per sample
3. **“All” species detection** using primers with much broader taxonomic coverage, sequencing, and bioinformatics analysis, i.e., metabarcoding.
4. **Abundance**

For many applications, eDNA is faster, cheaper, more accurate





Policy action needed to unlock eDNA potential

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Front Ecol Environ 2022; 20(8): 448–449, doi:10.1002/fee.2563

Toward a national eDNA strategy for the United States

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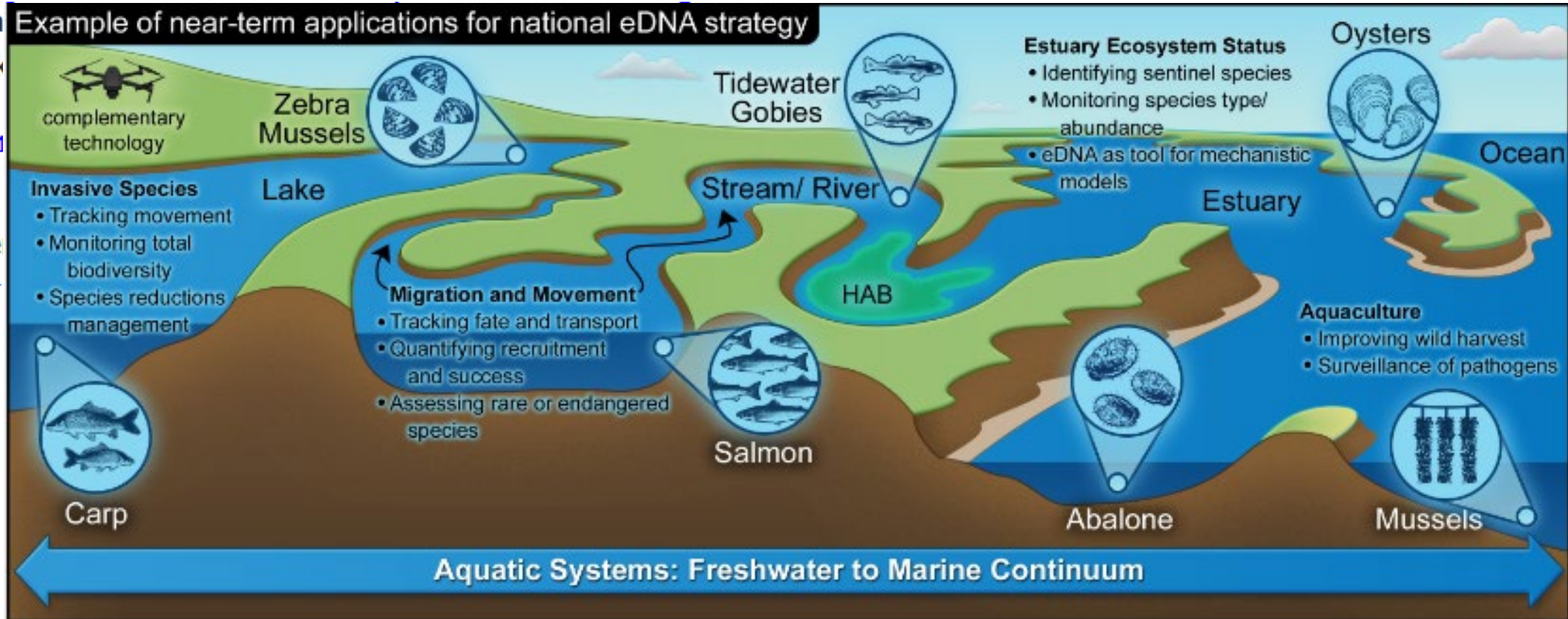
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Example of near-term applications for national eDNA strategy





NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION

JUNE 3-5, 2024



3rd National Workshop on Marine eDNA

HOSTED BY:



NATIONAL
MUSEUM of
**NATURAL
HISTORY**
• Smithsonian

National Workshop on Marine eDNA

The biennial National Workshop on Marine Environmental DNA (eDNA) serves as a mechanism to bring together researchers, practitioners, and policymakers to discuss eDNA technologies, newly released national strategies, and implementation priorities. In June of 2024, we will convene to discuss four major subthemes:

[Register](#)

6/3/2024 8:00 AM

6/4/2024 8:00 AM

Environmental DNA: A New Low-Cost Monitoring Tool for Pathogens

Received: 24 October 2019 | Revised: 17 March 2020 | Accepted: 31 March 2020

DOI: 10.1111/mec.15434

Lucy Peters^{1,2†}, Sol
Anna Kintner², Øyvind

SPECIAL ISSUE



MOLECULAR ECOLOGY | WILEY

Supervised machine learning inference in monitoring the environmental impacts of salmon aquaculture

Received: 21 September 2020 | Revised: 31 March 2021 | Accepted: 4 May 2021

DOI: 10.1111/1755-0998.13426

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RESOURCE ARTICLE

Beyond taxonomy in the context of

Olivier Laroche^{1,2} | Xa



OPEN ACCESS

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SPECIALTY SECTION
This article was submitted to
Evolutionary and Population Genetics

Fine-scale differences in eukaryotic communities inside and outside salmon aquaculture cages revealed by eDNA metabarcoding

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TYPE Original Research
PUBLISHED 26 August 2022
DOI 10.3389/fgene.2022.957251

Annex 16

THE USE OF ENVIRONMENTAL DNA METHODS FOR DETECTION OF OIE LISTED AQUATIC ANIMAL DISEASES

A discussion paper developed by the OIE Aquatic Animal Health Standards Commission (Aquatic Animals Commission) for Member comments.

Version: 28 September 2021



Environmental DNA (eDNA) & Genomics Core Facility

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eDNA & Genomics Core Facility at Cornell University

What applications of eDNA could improve aquaculture siting, management, health, safety?

1. For what purposes do you now sample water or organisms? Could eDNA substitute for more laborious or time-consuming traditional methods?
2. Could site selection and/or impact monitoring be better with eDNA?
3. What pathogens, parasites, predators, invasive species do you wish you could have better surveillance or monitoring of?
4. Could meeting regulatory requirements be accelerated with eDNA?