

**File S1**  
**Supplemental Data**

**Supplementary genotype methods**

Tissue samples were taken from fish and stored in 90% ethanol or a saturated NaCl<sub>2</sub> solution containing 20% dimethyl sulphate. In total, 5413 genotypes from seven polymorphic microsatellite loci were collected between 2003 and 2006.

Samples were genotyped with seven di-nucleotide microsatellite loci; *9ORTE* (Van Herwerden *et al.*, 2000), *SCA8*, *SCA30*, *SCA47*, *SCA49* (Gold *et al.*, 2002), *SM3* (GenBank AY700810.1) and *SM37* (GenBank AY700844.1). Genomic DNA was extracted using the salting-out method (Sambrook *et al.*, 1989). Microsatellite amplifications for the seven loci were performed in four multiplexed reactions in 96-well plates using Perkin Elmer (Waltham, MA, U.S.A.) 9600 and 9700 series thermocyclers. The PCR volume per well was six microliters with QIAGEN<sup>®</sup> (Hilden, Germany) master mix (containing Taq polymerase and magnesium chloride) and QIAGEN<sup>®</sup> (Hilden, Germany) Q-solution was used to facilitate multiplexing. Mineral oil was used to control evaporation during cycling. Cycling conditions consisted of denaturation at 95°C for 15 min, followed by 37 cycles of 94°C for 30 sec at 56°C for 45 sec and 72°C for 1 min 30 sec. A final extension at 72°C for 45 min was used to ensure complete addition of adenine to the PCR product. Microsatellite gel separation and scoring was performed on a Life Technologies™ (Carlsbad, CA, U.S.A.) ABI™ 3130xl Genetic Analyser. Life Technologies™ Genemapper™ 3.7 software was used to score alleles, to assign them to bin classes and export genotype information for subsequent analyses.

Empirical data was tested for deviations from Hardy-Weinberg equilibrium (HWE) and linkage disequilibrium using Genepop-on-the-web v4.0.10 (Rousset, 2008). For HWE tests, all locus x population combinations were tested. Tests for linkage disequilibrium considered all combinations of locus pairs for each population. Tests were made with successively larger batch sizes in Genepop until a stable result was obtained. Bonferroni corrections for simultaneous tests were applied commencing with an a level of 0.05. The software Microchecker (Van Oosterhout *et al.*, 2004) was used to examine cases of deviation for Hardy-Weinberg equilibrium for microsatellite data. Microsatellite data was analysed in blocks of less than 500 samples to avoid the upper limit of the Microchecker software.

**Supplementary Simulation Results**

Figures S1 to S6 are referred to within the main manuscript. Briefly the frequency distribution of *Ne* estimates is a good indicator of the precision obtained from the seven polymorphic loci used in this study. Ideally

a tight cluster of  $N_e$  estimates is desirable (Figure S1,  $P_{crit}=0.01$ ). When there is insufficient genotype data negative and or very large estimates can occur (Figure S4). The lower 95% confidence interval of  $N_e$  (Figure S5) was less variable than the mean expectation (Figure S5).

### Supplementary genotype results

Average observed heterozygosity across seven microsatellite loci was 0.762 and the average expected heterozygosity was 0.802. Tests for Hardy-Weinberg equilibrium rejected the null hypothesis for all seven loci. Locus-by-locus analysis with Microchecker showed that for some alleles there was a difference in the observed and expected number of homozygotes, inferring null alleles may be present. Nulls were predicted by the software at loci *Sca49* and *Sca47* at frequencies ranging from 0.03 to 0.09, and nulls were detected at lower frequencies at some other loci. Graphical representation by Microchecker of the observed and expected frequency of heterozygotes, plotted against the number of base pairs separating the two alleles, revealed a deficit in heterozygotes when alleles were separated by two base pairs and a compensatory increase in the observed number of homozygotes (Figure S7). This could be explained by a slight scoring error, which may have been responsible for the null allele predictions made by Microchecker and which may have been compounded by large sample sizes in the HWE tests. Wakefield (2010) confirms that rejection of the null hypothesis using conventional  $p$ -values is more likely when sample sizes are large and recommends a Bayesian framework in these cases. Thus, a small proportion of heterozygote genotypes were under-represented in the microsatellite data. There was unlikely to be cause a systematic bias in the microsatellite data, as the controlling factor in their omission was similarity in allele size, which should occur evenly across alleles independent of their frequency or size, and across samples independent of biological factors.

### References

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