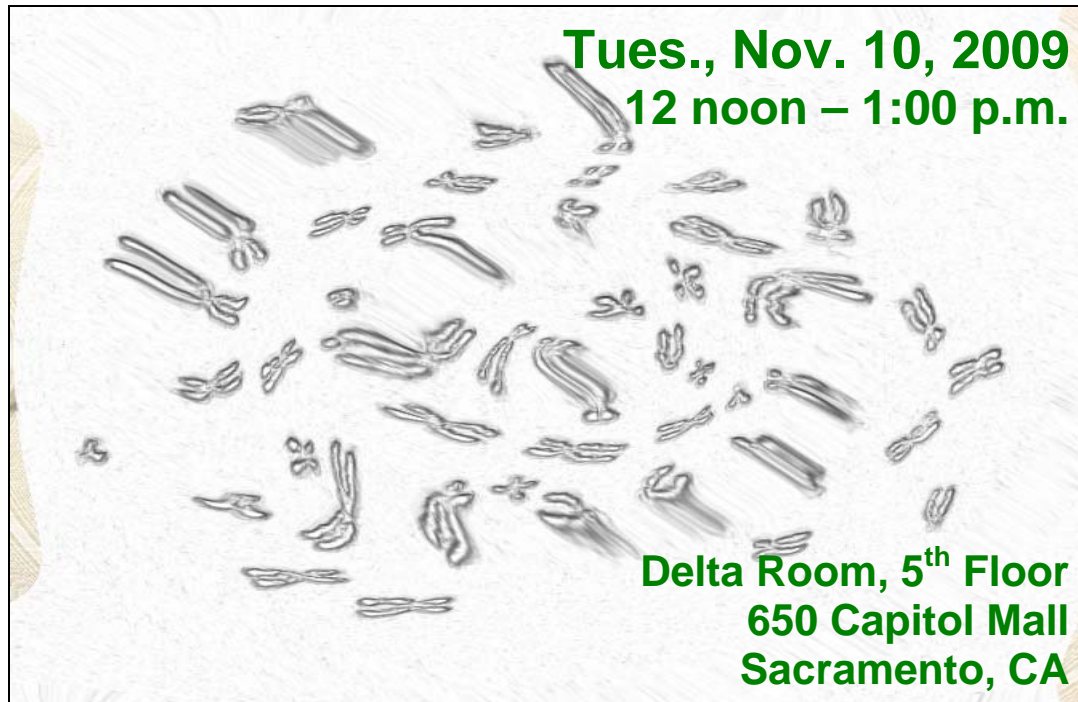


CALFED Science Program Brown Bag Series Presents

Painted Chromosomes and Sex Probes:

**Using genetic markers to identify gender of
California Chinook salmon**

**Dr. Kevin Williamson, US Fish and Wildlife Service
Abernathy Fish Technology Center**



Exposure to pollutants during early development may produce effects in fish species such as male feminization, abnormal sexual development and infertility. Problems such as these contribute to decreases in genetic variation and reproductive potential of affected populations.

In 2001, “apparent” XY-female fall-run Chinook salmon were detected throughout the Central Valley. Controlled breeding experiments to test the validity of genetic tools to identify sex suggest that a genetic change rather than altered sexual development owing to endocrine disruption is responsible for observed “apparent” XY-female salmon. Dr. Williamson will discuss the limitations and prospects of using genetic tools to identify gender of California Chinook salmon. For more information, click [here](#).

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