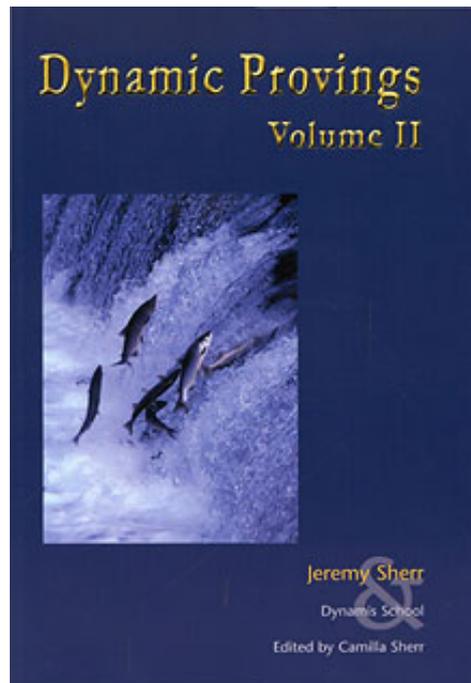


Jeremy Sherr Dynamic Provings Volume 2

Reading excerpt
[Dynamic Provings Volume 2](#)
of [Jeremy Sherr](#)
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Introduction

Salmon is one of nature's most fascinating animals. Its circular life journey, its ability to transform from sweet to salt water, its gallant struggle upriver, its incredible determination to return to the source to breed, even at the cost of its own life, all these make it the king of fish, and more.

Salmon sustains the life of many animals on its journey; insects, fish, birds, whales, bears and humans, each waiting their turn on salmon's circular route. And, like nature's clock, the salmon return, again and again and again. Born in the pureness of mountain streams, they feed, they nourish, they struggle, they breed and they die. Salmon truly resemble the cycle of life.

My desire to prove salmon arose from encounters with this beautiful fish on various trips to Scotland and Northwest USA. I saw the salmon jumping the 'ladder' built into the Seattle dam. Exhausted, yet determined to push on, they tried, then tried again, until, -with incredible strength and power of will, they cleared the obstacle and continued upriver.

By that time, due to over-fishing, toxic rivers and dams, salmon had become so scarce that fishing in the Northwest was banned. This year, on my annual trip with the Dynamis School to Scotland, I learnt that there were no wild Salmon to be found in Scottish rivers. Vast amounts of farmed fish have escaped their pens, breeding with the wild salmon and distorting their all important navigational ability, as well as reducing the size of tails needed to propel upstream.

When I was a child, salmon was an expensive delicacy. Today, farmed salmon is served as a cheap lunch in every snack bar. But the price is high, and the fish suffer horrendous disease in their confinement. Salmon are a free and noble fish that were never meant to live in overcrowded cages, deprived of life mission.

- Onchorynchus tschawytscha

The proving of Oncorynchus Tschawytcha, the Chinook salmon, was a profound experience for all involved. The week we began the salmon proving, I was invited to lecture in Jerusalem. For me, this was a call home. Of the provers an infertile couple conceived, relationships formed and broke up, new cycles began and old ended. The class continued to meet for many years, diligently working on the proving.

This remedy has proved to be extremely useful in a wide range of ailments. It has generated more interest than any other remedy I have proved (bar chocolate). I know of quite a few babies who have been midwived into this world by the salmon remedy.

Salmon as a fish is also a symbol of knowledge. It is good to have its wisdom in our materia medica.

Jeremy Sherr 2002

An ode to King Solomon's Salmon

Imagine

Homoeopathy

*Expanding, revealing
channels of knowledge,
gateways to mystery,*

nature

*keys of a universe
unlocking wisdom,
delving to fathom,*

insight

*Which unfolds,
murmurs of leaves
cry of an animal
song of a rock,*

weaving

*Waves into particles,
space into words,
then into here, now*

so

*That peace and
harmony,
and the whisper of God,
are not things we strive for
but are.*

And we

*United in mission,
of purpose high,
climb to ascend,
then
falling to rise,
struggle on graceful,
finally arriving
home,
from whence
it all began.*

*And as the eagle soared
it knew,
that nothing
but nothing
was new,
under the sun.*

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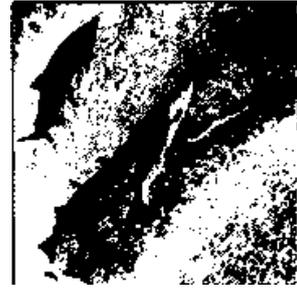
Salmon -the Substance

Tschawytscha is the largest but least abundant of the five species of *Oncorhynchus* (Pacific salmon). *Oncorhynchus* comes from the Greek for hook (onkos) nose (rynchos) and Tschawytscha is Russian vernacular. The most often used name is Chinook and King salmon, although there are many common ones, including Spring, Quinnat, Tyee, Tule and Blackmouth.

A mature Chinook, fresh from the sea, is on average in excess of 30 inches in length and weighs 30 pounds or more. However, Chinook up to 135 pounds have been recorded. They can live up to eight or nine years.

Bright silver shimmers on the sides of the Chinook, while its back is deep blue/black. Large, irregular crosses mark the upper sides and fins. Its belly is white and the tail forked with spots on both lobes. At spawning time both sexes turn dusky red to copper or brown (sometimes with blackish or purple shading). In addition, the males develop hook jaws, ridged backs and more dramatic colouration. The flesh of the Chinook is usually a deep red colour, but can vary to pink or white in some locations, depending on diet.

The oldest fossil remains of a freshwater species of salmon have been dated to 50 million years ago. Ancient salmon were enormous, over 500 pounds and 10 feet long, with fangs. It



was two million years ago that the current version of Pacific salmon appeared in the American Pacific Northwest.

Originally, the Chinook were distributed coastally from Hokkaido, Japan, to the Anadyr River in Asia and from Kotzebue Sound to central California in America. Now, the stock of the once brimming salmon rivers of the Pacific Northwest are so decimated that the Chinook are under protection by the Endangered Species Act. The fish is most prolific in Alaska, although commercial hatcheries are contaminating the wild stock.

Life Cycle

Like all species of Pacific salmon, Chinook are anadromous, they hatch in fresh water, spend part of their life in the ocean and then return to spawn in fresh water. Chinook become sexually mature at any time from their second year to their eighth or ninth year, so fish in a spawning run may be of very different sizes. Why the age at which the Chinook departs the ocean to spawn varies so greatly is not understood. Females tend to be older than males at maturity and in many spawning runs males outnumber females in all but the six year and over age groups. Small Chinooks that mature after spending only one winter

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Onchorynchus tshawytscha

in the ocean are commonly referred to as 'Jacks' and are usually male.

Research shows that salmon return to spawn at the location of where they were hatched. In rivers where salmon had died out due to pollution or damming, fertilised eggs were reintroduced by man and the young salmon marked or tagged. These fish returned as adults to spawn in the river to which they were introduced as eggs. Numerous theories are suggested as to how the fish accomplish this journey- whether it is by following the sun, magnetic fields or certain chemical patterns from the rivers of their birth. But no one knows exactly how salmon find their way, often over thousands of miles and many physical difficulties, to the exact tributary where they were hatched.

Chinook wander great distances, some as far as 1,500 miles from their 'home' estuary. Columbia River salmon caught by fisherman ranged from Washington to Sitka, Alaska. Salmon tagged all at one spot in the ocean turned up in widely separate streams at spawning time. The fish often must make extensive migrations to reach their home streams. Yukon River spawners bound for the extreme headwaters in Yukon Territory, Canada, will travel more than 2,000 river miles during a sixty day period.

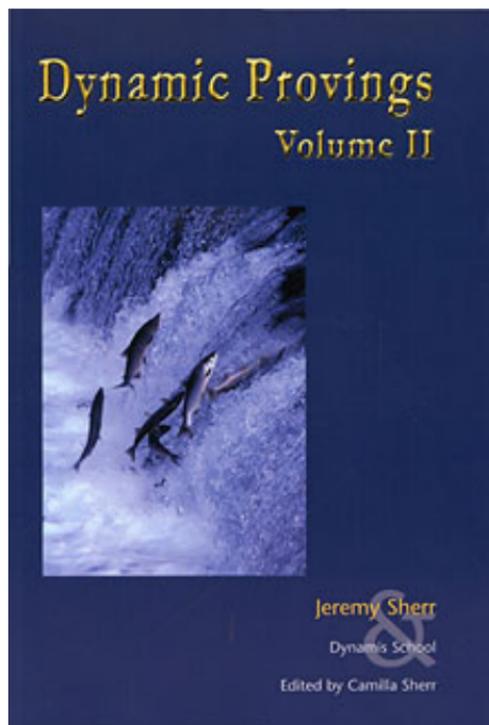
Because Chinook salmon do not feed during the freshwater spawning migration, their condition deteriorates gradually as they use stored body materials for energy and for the development of reproductive products (sperm and egg), which can occur only in fresh water. The fish often are extensively damaged by their efforts to

leap rapids, falls and dams. As the salmon make their way to the spawning grounds, otters, eagles, bears and man stalk them. Many salmon die on the way.

Once at the spawning grounds, the fish battle each other: females against females for places to nest, males against males for available females. The female builds her nest, called a redd, by agitating the bottom gravel with her fins and tail and bending her body into a U shape first one way and then the other. As soon as she has excavated a depression, she settles in to it and deposits her first batch of eggs or roe. The male moves alongside and deposits his sperm, called milt, over the roe. After that the female rakes her tail back and forth to cover the redd with loose gravel and moves upstream a short distance to excavate her next redd. One pair of salmon may have as many as seven redds, with four or five being the average. Each female deposits from 3,000 to 14,000 eggs. Within a few days of this frenzied procreation, all Pacific salmon will die, in contrast to Atlantic salmon, which have multiple spawning seasons.

Salmon runs take place from late spring to summer and even into early winter. The further north, the earlier the run. Eggs usually hatch in late winter or early spring, depending on the time of spawning and the water temperature.

The newly hatched fish, called alevins, live in the gravel covered depressions for several weeks until they gradually absorb the food in their attached yolk sac. Once they have absorbed the yolk sac, the fish, called fry, stay in the river system feeding on plankton, then water insects. As they grow, the fry are eaten



Jeremy Sherr

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