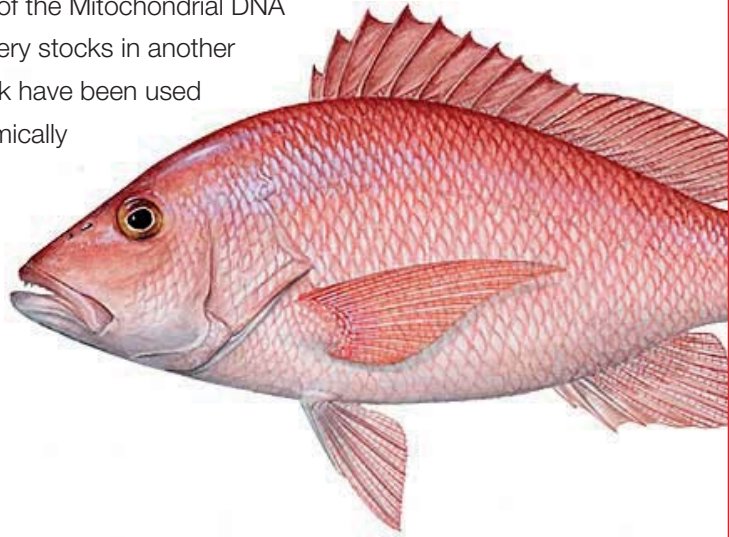


Deep Sea Snapper Project

Client: Agence de Développement Economique de la Nouvelle-Calédonie

Objective: Determine population structure and estimate gene flow between populations of two deep sea snapper species.

Fin clips from for 180 samples, representing three populations for each species were sent from Noumea to EcoGene. We sequenced a region of the Mitochondrial DNA D-loop, which has been used to determine fishery stocks in another closely related genus. The results from this work have been used to develop fishery models for these two economically important species.



Species identification from Traditional Chinese Medicines (TCMs)



Client: Wildlife Enforcement Group, New Zealand

Objective: Provide diagnostic service to enable compliance of imported TCMs in accordance with CITIES and NZ Biosecurity regulations.

Products intercepted at the border that may be otherwise unidentifiable through physical examination are passed onto EcoGene for DNA analysis. Samples may be in liquid or powder form and require analysis in sterile conditions to avoid contamination. Our procedure is replicated by different staff to ensure reproducibility of results. Species that have been identified through DNA analysis have included pig, cow, Asiatic cobra, seahorse and bear.

Wildlife Disease Diagnostics

Client: Department of Conservation, Auckland, Hamilton and Wellington Zoo, MAF, Regional Councils, Universities

Objective: To provide diagnostic services for a range of wildlife diseases to assist with translocation protocols, wildlife health, and mapping prevalence of diseases.

EcoGene has established a range of wildlife disease diagnostic services which include identification of avian malaria, chytrid fungus, whataroa virus, murine typhus.

The chytrid fungus, *Batrachochytrium dendrobatidis*, causes an infectious disease in amphibians and has been linked to extinctions and declines of frog species worldwide. There is no effective measure for control of the disease in wild populations so monitoring and prevention is essential. Swabs from the surface of frogs are collected then sent to EcoGene for quantitative PCR analysis. EcoGene uses the qPCR test developed in the Australian Animal Health Laboratory and follows their standard protocol which involves replicating samples and comparing results to validated standards.



For more information on these and other Ecogene services please contact:

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EcoGene