

# Species boundaries and biogeography of *Hyalella* spp. (Amphipoda: Hyalellidae), using ultraconserved elements and traditional genetic markers



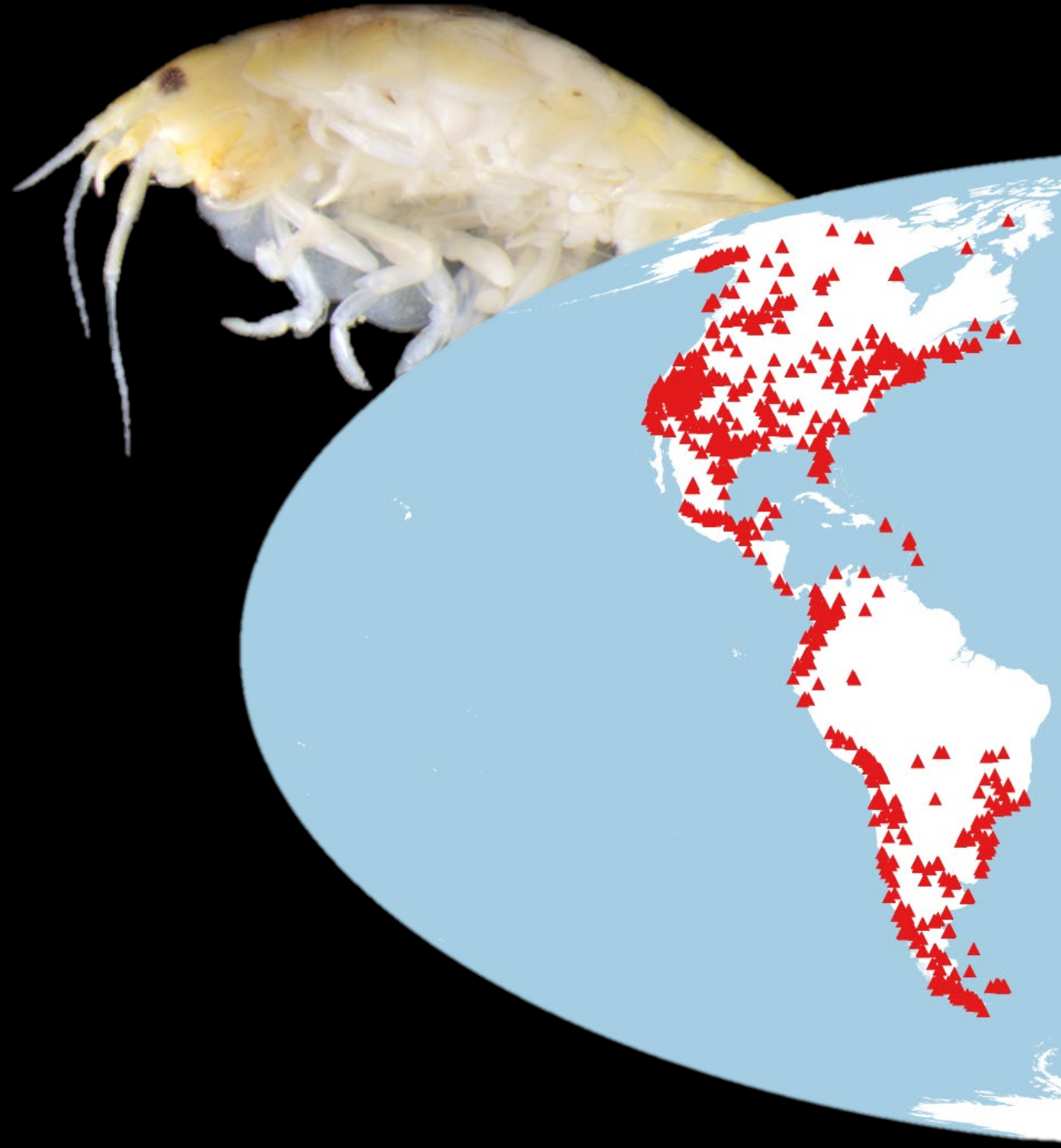
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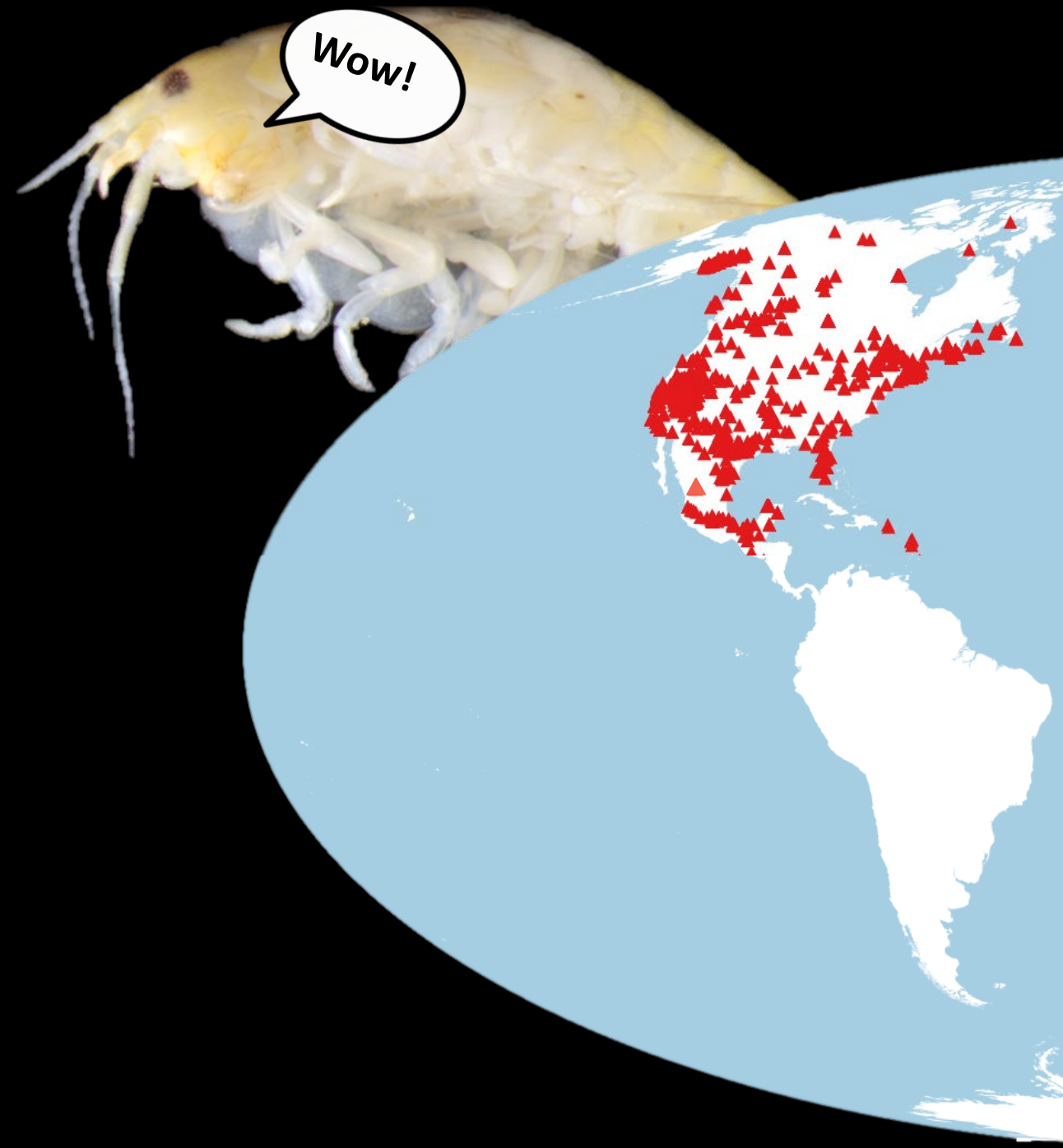
# *Hyalella*

- Genus of freshwater amphipods distributed throughout North and South America.
- Most (described) diversity is present in South America.
- One of the most common and widely distributed freshwater invertebrate genera in North America.



# *Hyalella* “azteca”

- Type species of genus, described from Veracruz. Once thought to be widely distributed throughout New World.
- Now understood to be a species complex.
- Probably doesn't even occur in the US.



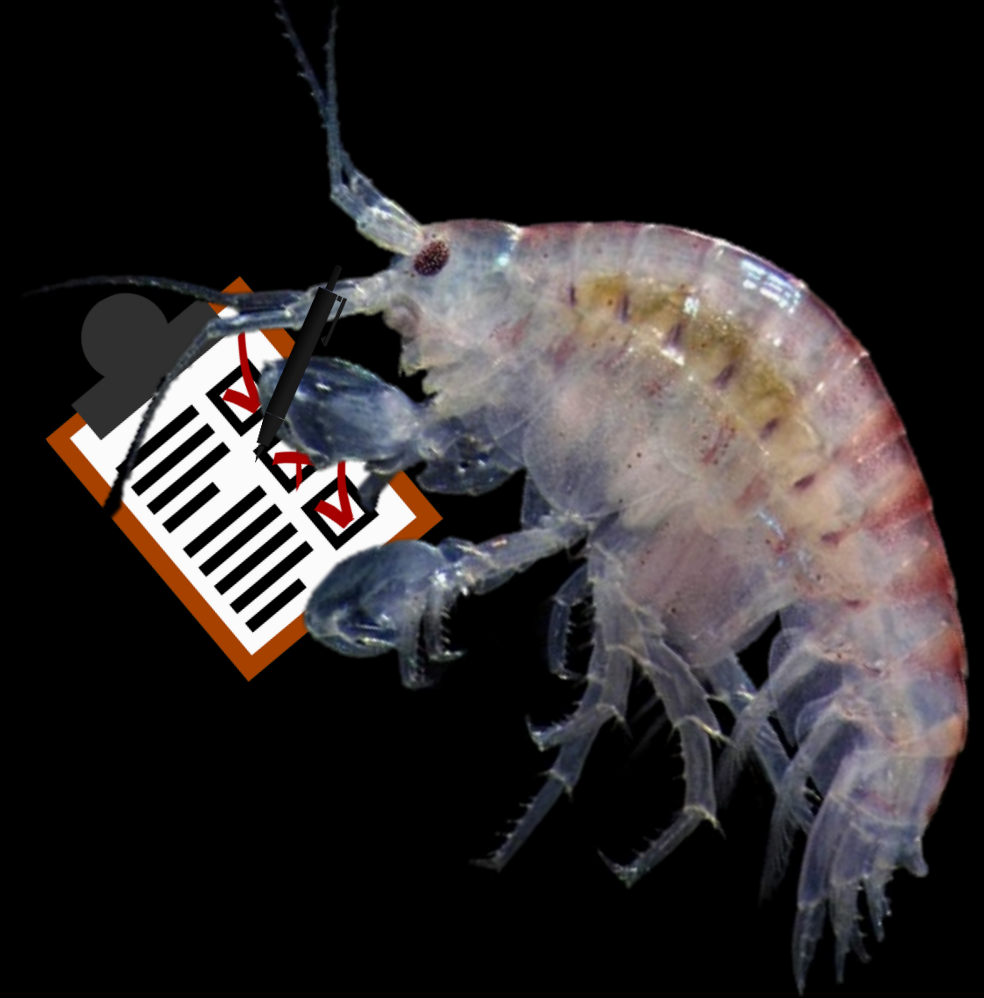
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# Objectives

- (I) Investigate molecular diversity of the genus *Hyalella*. Using both genetic and genomic tools.
- (II) Identify species richness in the Great Basin and beyond.
- (III) Correlate species distributions to geology/hydrology.



# Sanger

Neotropical spp.

*H. wakulla*

*H. wellborni*

*H. spinicauda*

*H. montezuma*

*H. texana*

*H. muerta*

*H. sandra*

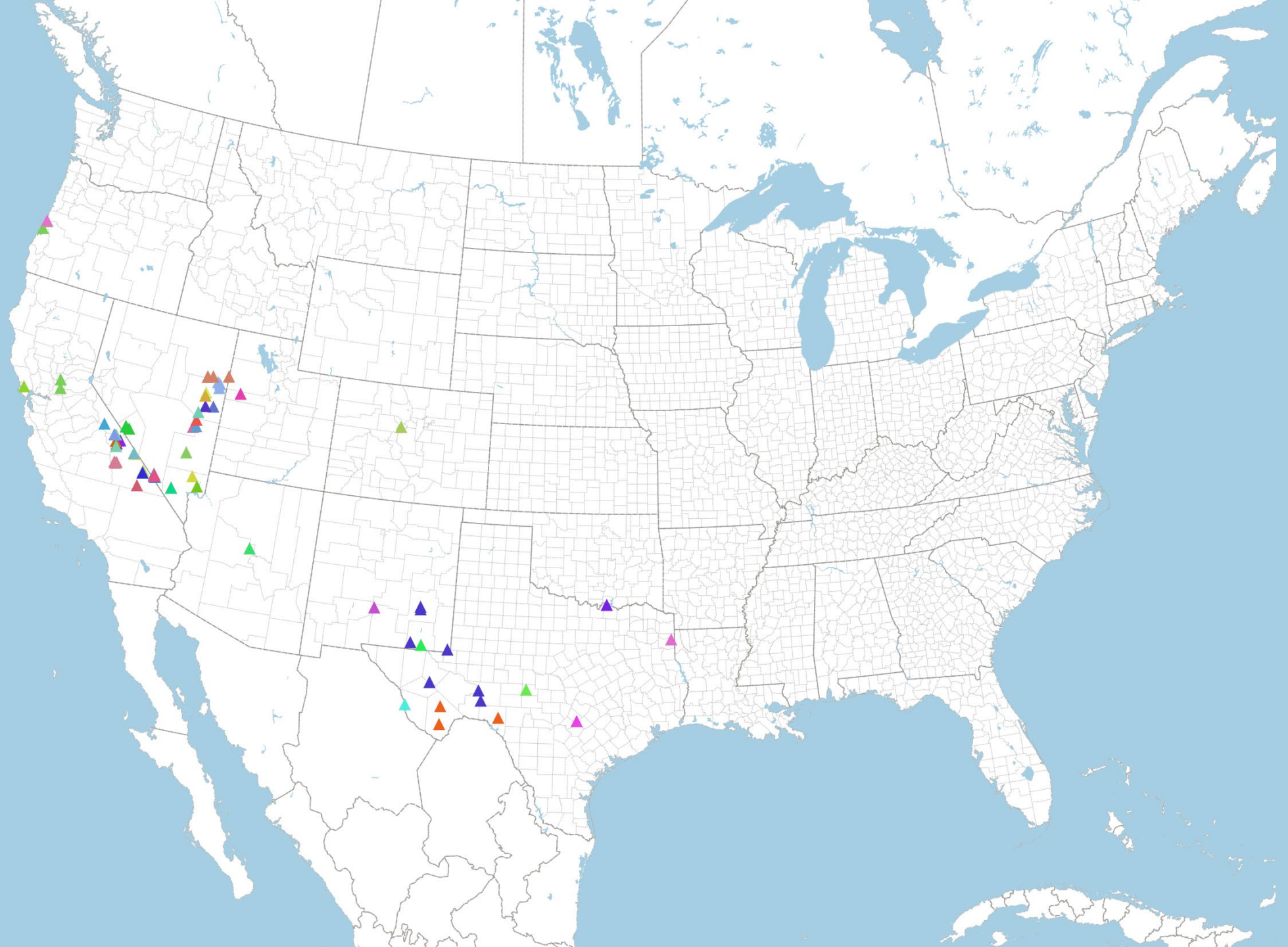
- Maximum-likelihood phylogeny, reconstructed using RAxML.
- Based on ~530 bp segment of COI.



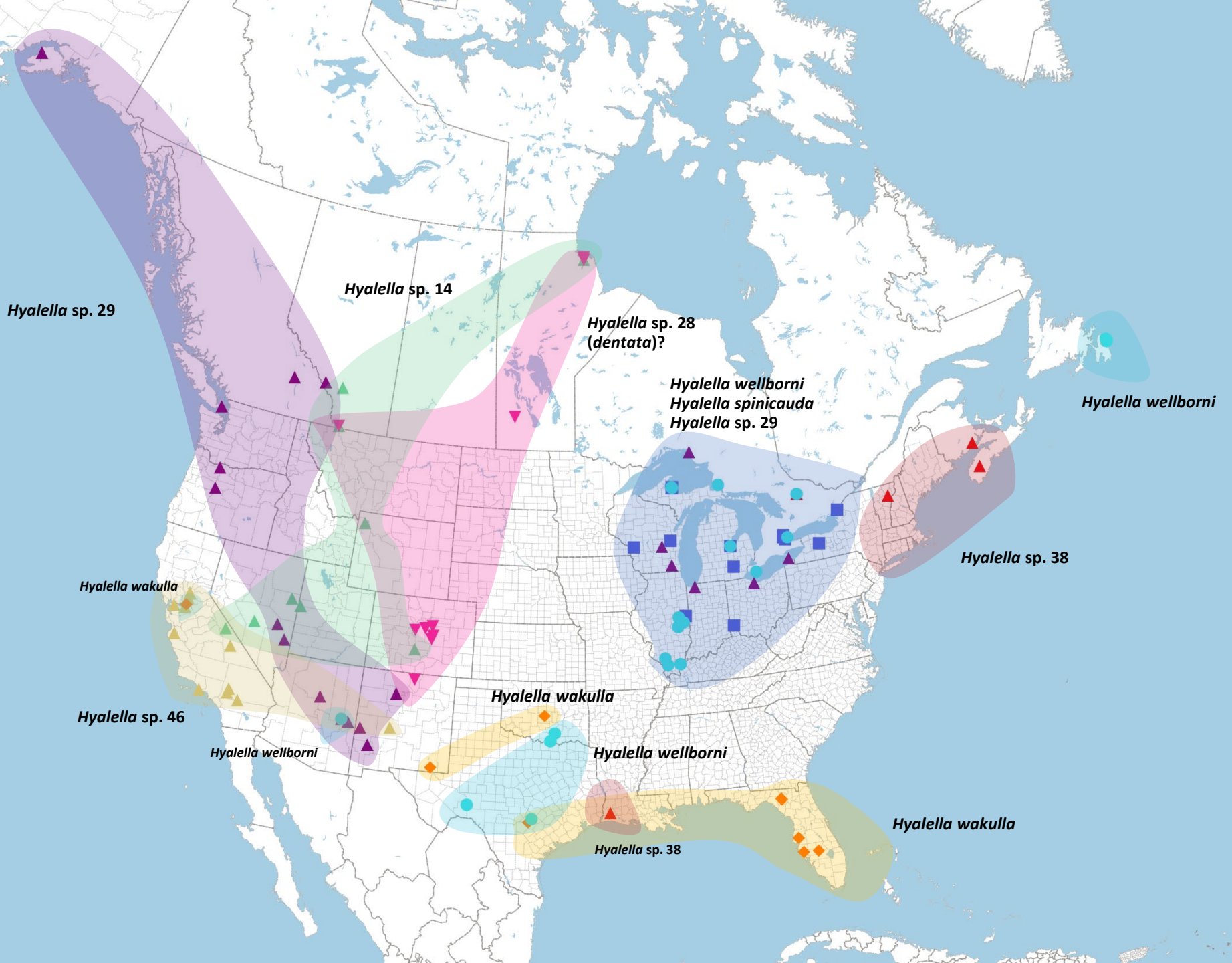
*Hyalella muerta*

**Locally  
endemic  
spp.  
(Sanger)**

**N= 53!!**



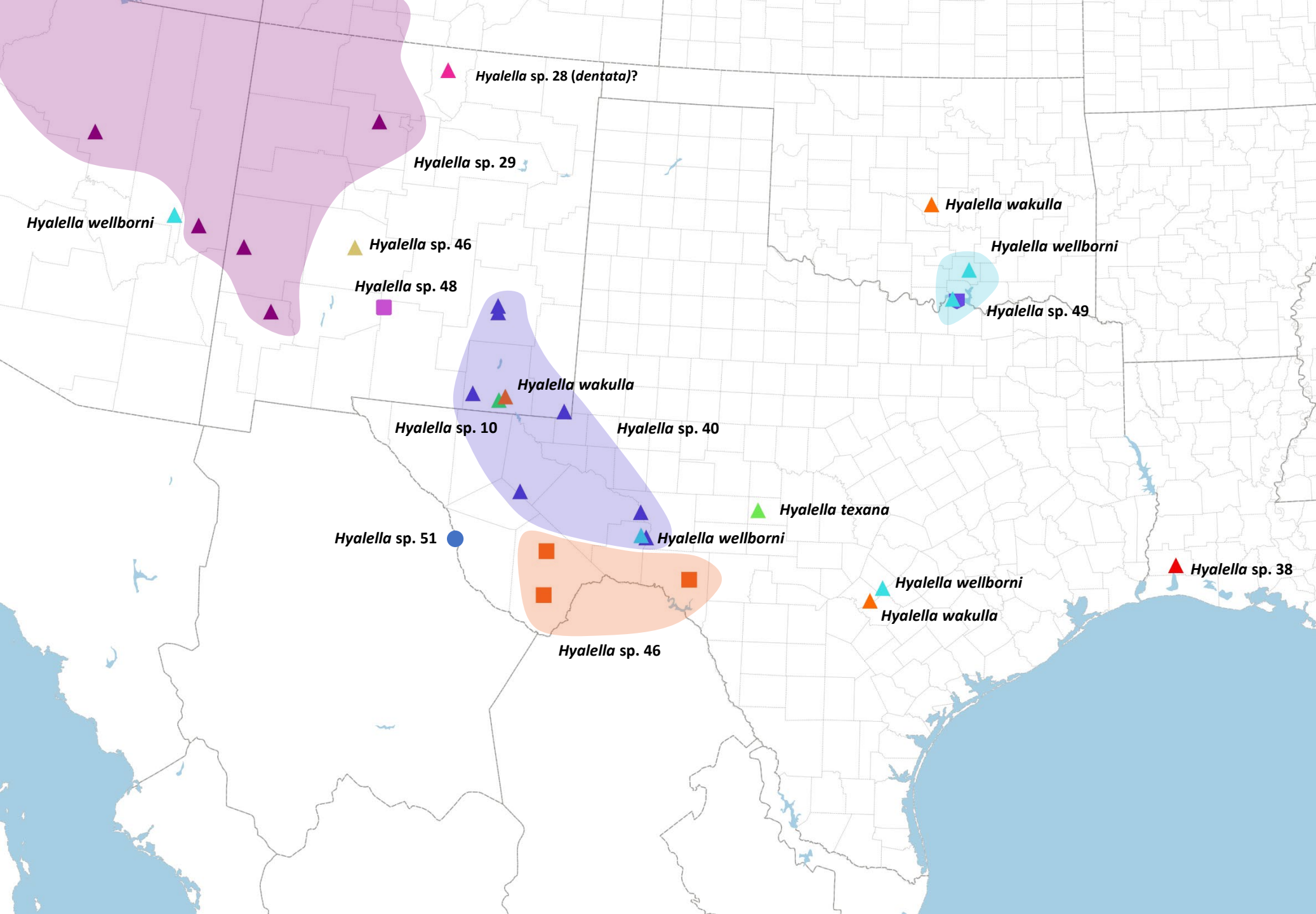
# Wide Ranging spp. (Sanger)





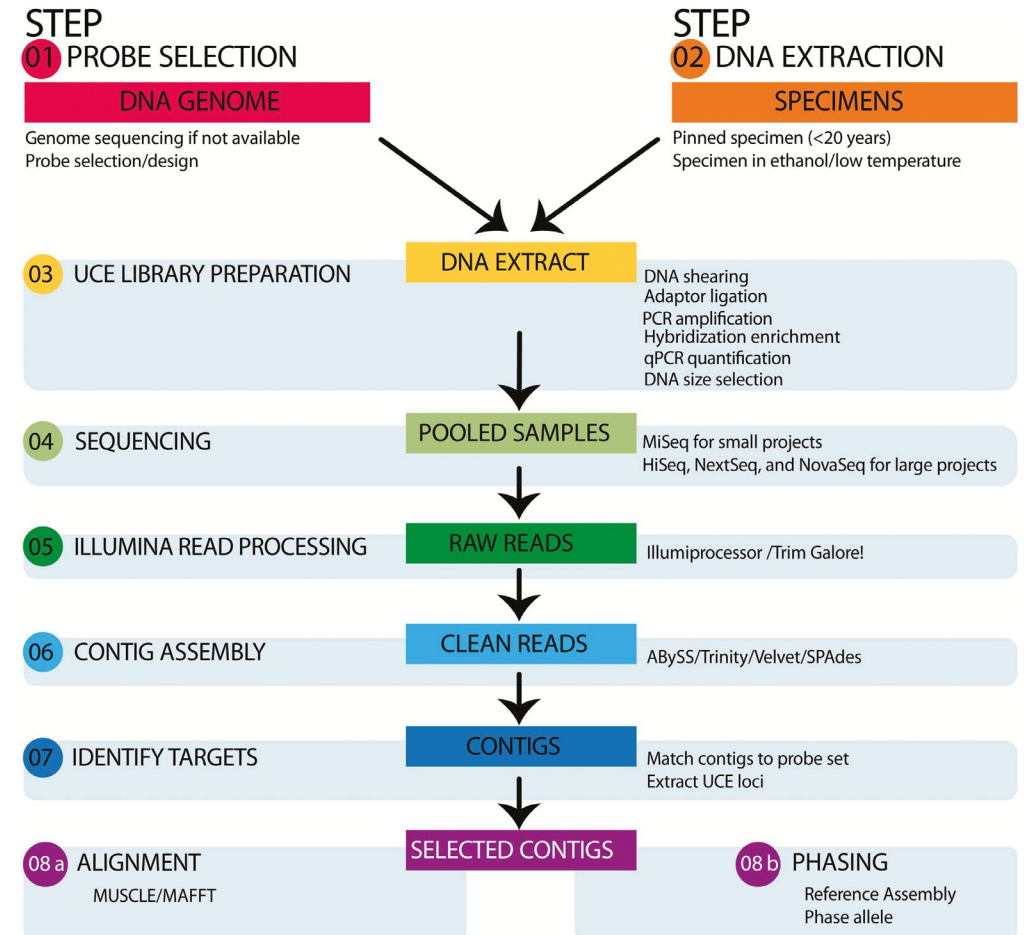
# Texas!

And the surrounding region...

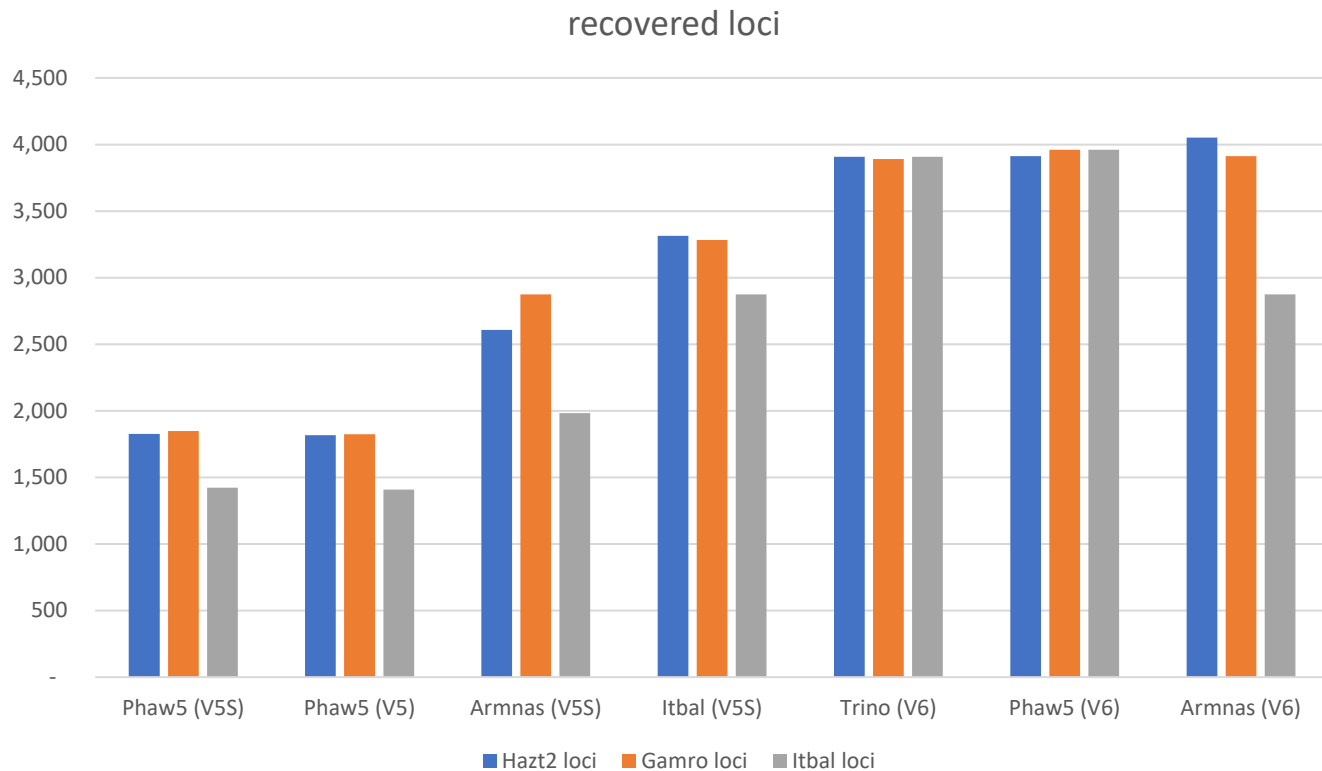
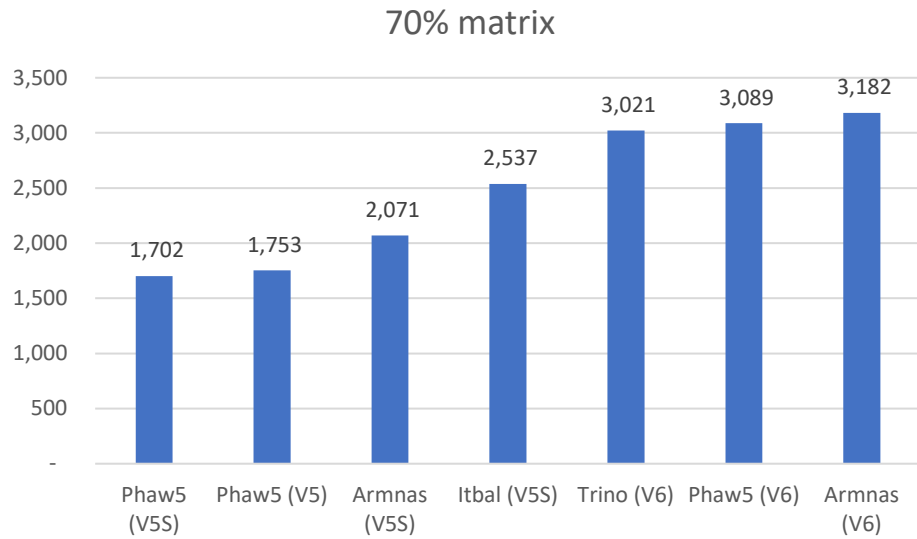


# Ultraconserved Elements

- Highly conserved regions of a genome shared among evolutionary distant taxa.
- UCEs themselves useful in resolving difficult or deep phylogenetic relationships.
- Flanking regions show utility in resolving shallow or population-level relationships.



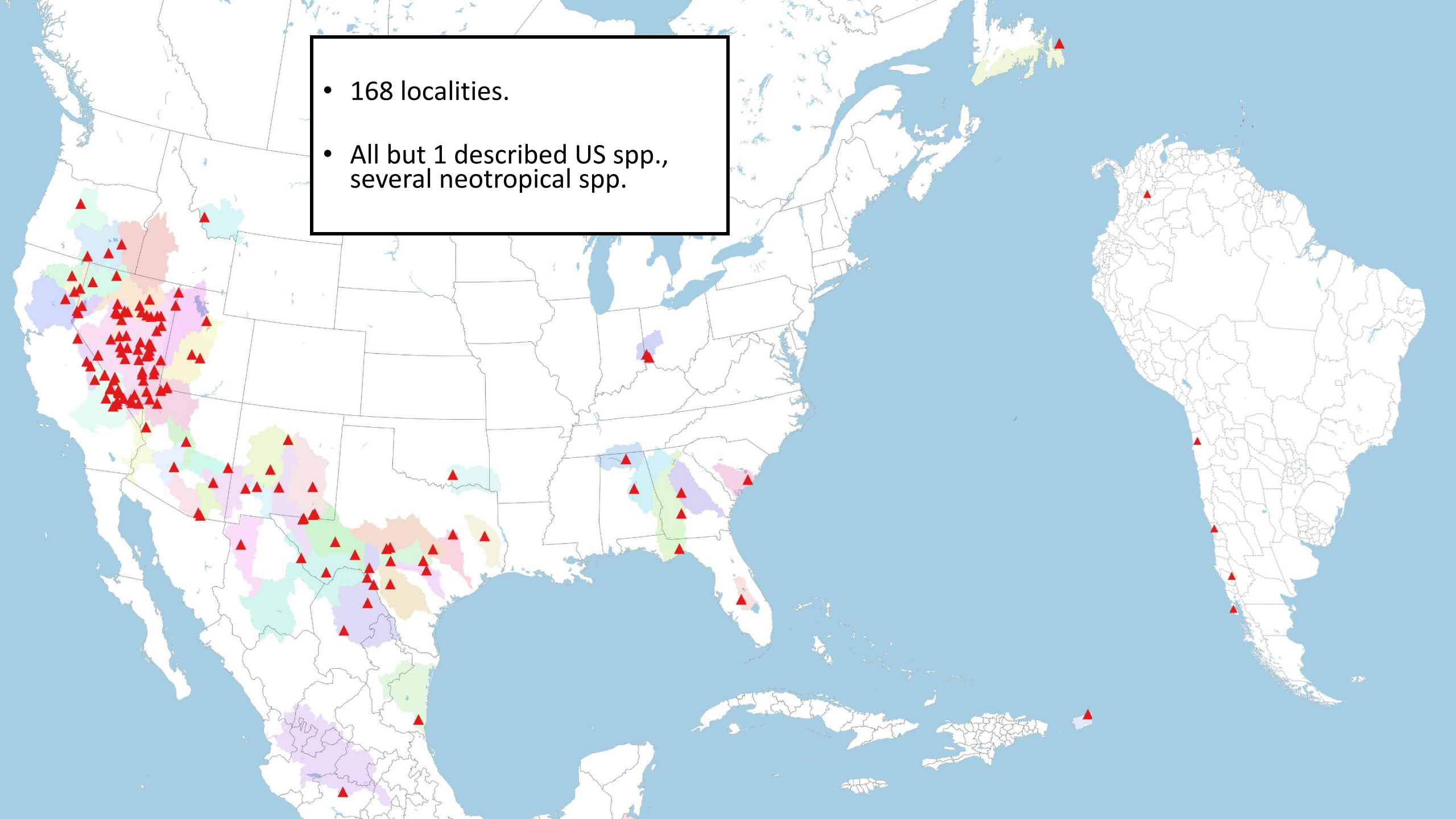
# In-silico



## final probeset

<u>Species</u>	<u># loci recovered</u>	<u># loci retained</u>
<i>Hyaella cf. azteca</i>	5,171	3,913
<i>Parhyale hawaiiensis</i>	5,233	4,207
<i>Platorchestia sp.</i>	5,205	4,221
<i>Speziorchestia grillus</i>	5,207	4,166
<i>Trinorchestia longiramus</i>	5,201	4,136
<i>Gammarus roeselii</i>	5,207	3,961
<i>Archaeomysis grebnitzkii</i>	5,114	1,454
<i>Trachelipus rathkii</i>	4,762	2,622
<i>Armadillidium nasatum</i>	5,151	3,498
<i>Ligia exotica</i>	4,886	2,608
<i>Idotea baltica</i>	5,052	2,822
<i>Bathynomus jamesi</i>	5,206	3,265
<i>Palaemon carinicauda</i>	5,087	1,143

- 168 localities.
- All but 1 described US spp., several neotropical spp.



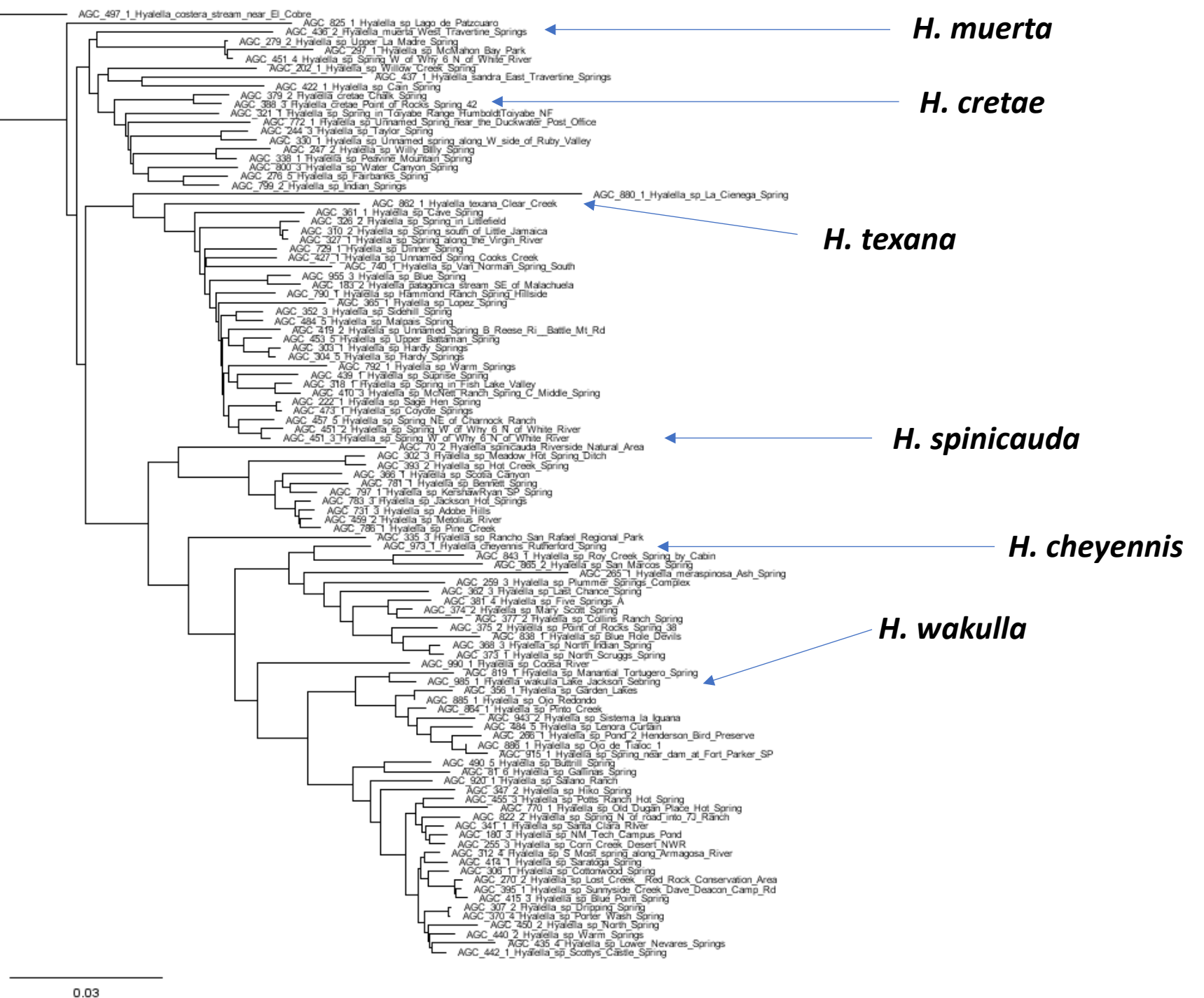
# *In-vitro*

# of UCES recovered



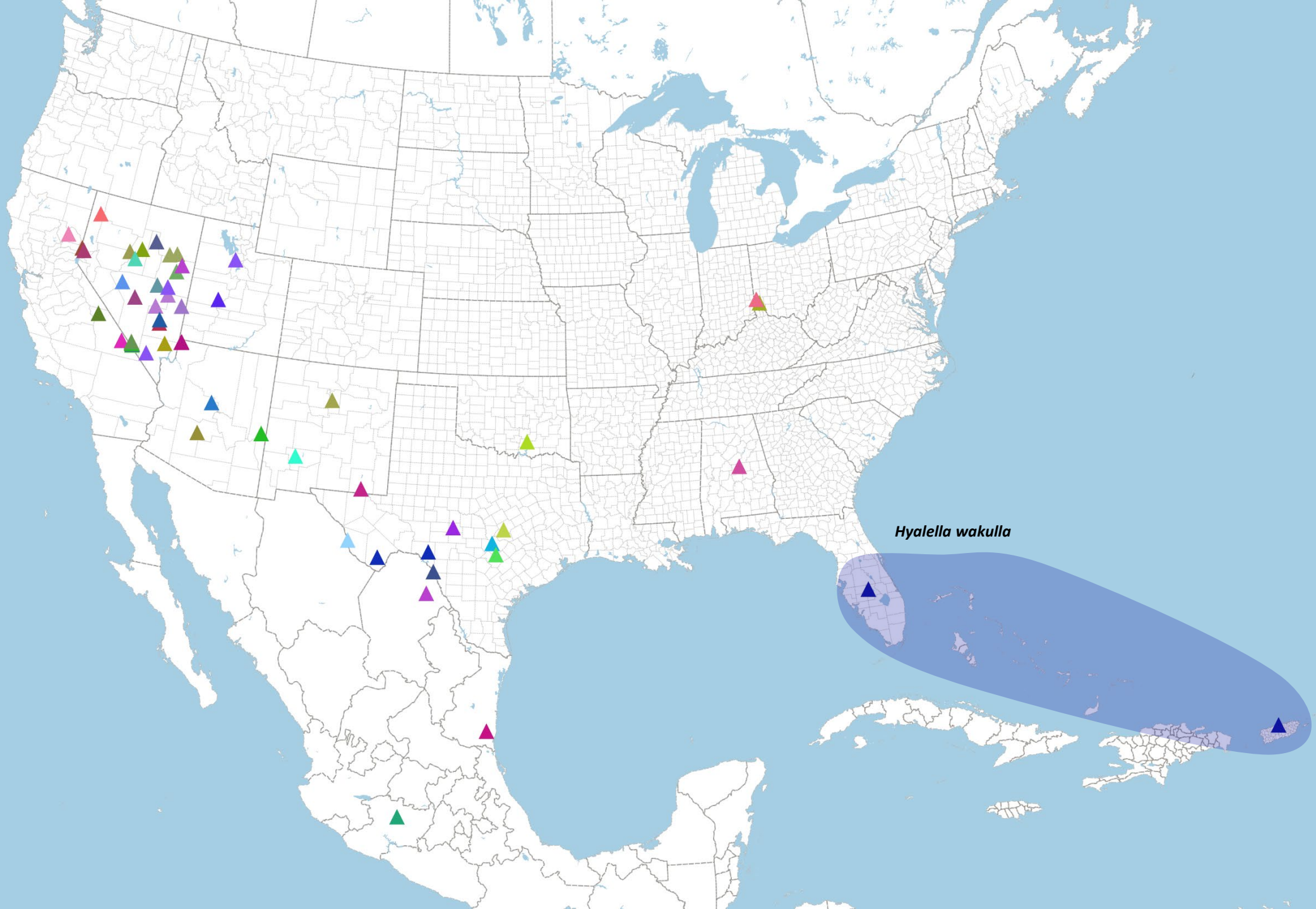
# UCES

- Maximum-likelihood phylogeny, reconstructed using IQTREE.
- Initial alignment, based on subset (~600) of UCE loci, post filtering.

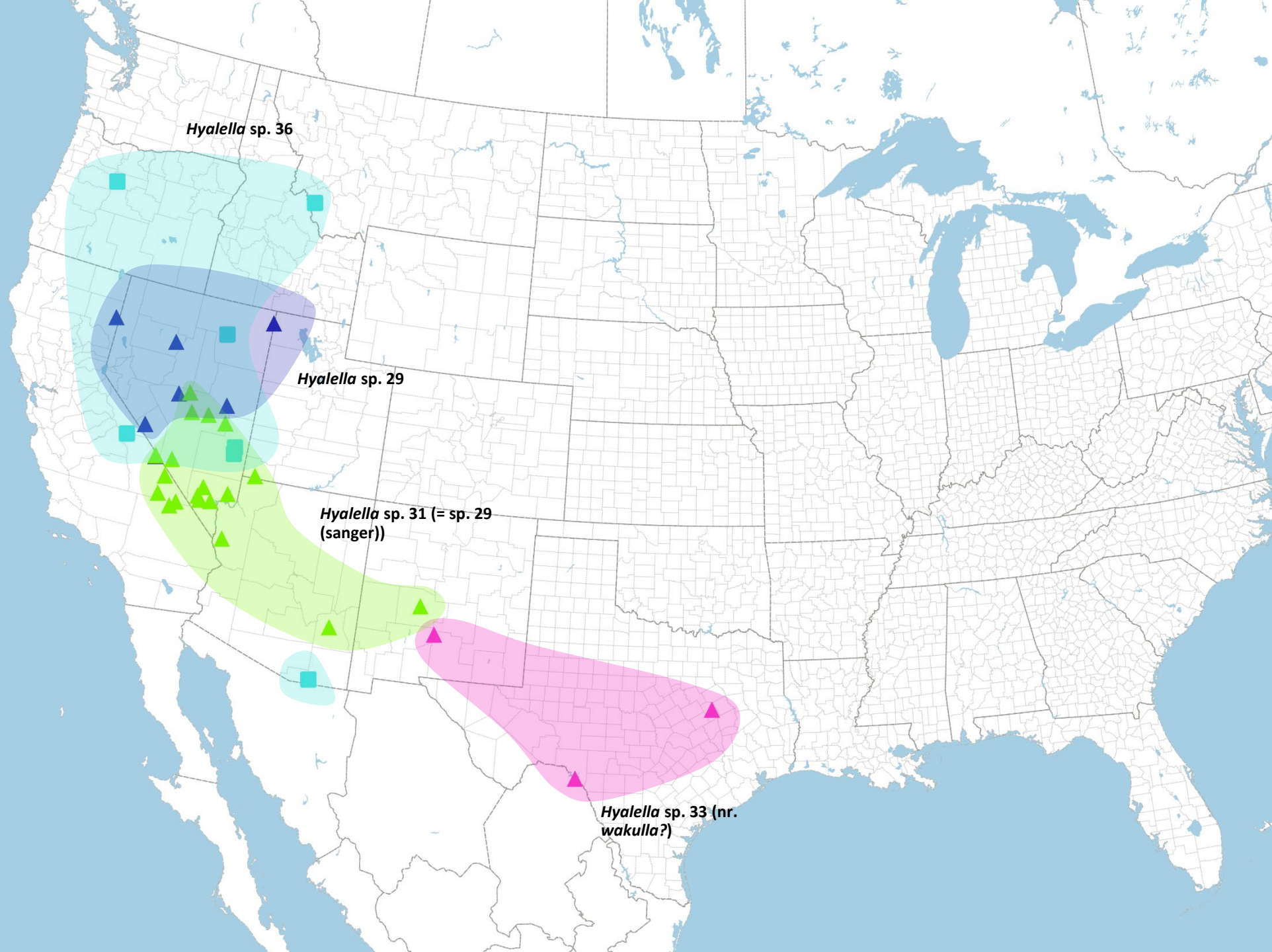


Locally  
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spp.  
(UCES)

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# Wide Ranging spp. (UCES)





# What's Next?

- Finish UCE assemblies, and mine “legacy loci”
- Build final, fully incorporated, phylogenies including time-calibrated trees.
- Analyses!
- Taxonomy!



# Acknowledgments

- Randy Gibson, Pete Diaz, Ben Hutchins, Ben Schwartz, William Shepard, Gary Wellborn, Mardon Erbland, Thomas Sawicki , and others for help obtaining specimens.
- Kayla Childs, Zach Samsa, & Emma Girolami for help with sanger sequencing.
- Bureau of Land Management





Thank you!  
Questions?

