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Fine-scale recombination landscapes between a freshwater and marine population of threespine stickleback fish

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Short title: Recombination hotspots in threespine stickleback fish

32 **Abstract**

33 Meiotic recombination is a highly conserved process that has profound effects on genome
34 evolution. Recombination rates can vary drastically at a fine-scale across genomes and often
35 localize to small recombination “hotspots” with highly elevated rates surrounded by regions with
36 little recombination. Hotspot targeting to specific genomic locations is variable across species. In
37 some mammals, hotspots have divergent landscapes between closely related species which is
38 directed by the binding of the rapidly evolving protein, PRDM9. In many species outside of
39 mammals, hotspots are generally conserved and tend to localize to regions with open chromatin
40 such as transcription start sites. It remains unclear if the location of recombination hotspots
41 diverge in taxa outside of mammals. Threespine stickleback fish (*Gasterosteus aculeatus*) are an
42 excellent model to examine the evolution of recombination over short evolutionary timescales.
43 Using an LD-based approach, we found recombination rates varied at a fine-scale across the
44 genome, with many regions organized into narrow hotspots. Hotspots had divergent landscapes
45 between stickleback populations, where only ~15% were shared, though part of this divergence
46 could be due to demographic history. Additionally, we did not detect a strong association of
47 PRDM9 with recombination hotspots in threespine stickleback fish. Our results suggest fine-
48 scale recombination rates may be diverging between closely related populations of threespine
49 stickleback fish and argue for additional molecular characterization to verify the extent of the
50 divergence.

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53 Key words: Recombination, Threespine Stickleback, Linkage-Disequilibrium, Recombination
54 Hotspots

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63 **Introduction**

64 Meiotic recombination is a highly-conserved process across a broad range of taxa (de
65 Massy 2013; Petes 2001). Recombination creates new allelic combinations by breaking apart
66 haplotypes (Coop and Przeworski 2007; Otto and Lenormand 2002), promotes the proper
67 segregation of chromosomes during meiosis in many species (Davis and Smith 2001; Fledel-
68 Alon et al. 2009; Kaback et al. 1992; Mather 1936), and has a pronounced impact on the
69 evolution of genomes (Mugal et al. 2015; Webster and Hurst 2012). In many species, meiotic
70 recombination occurs in small 1-2 kb regions called recombination “hotspots” which are
71 surrounded by large genomic regions with little to no recombination (Barton et al. 2008; Baudat
72 et al. 2010; Hellsten et al. 2013; Jeffreys et al. 1998; McVean et al. 2004; Myers et al. 2005;
73 Steiner et al. 2002).

74 In most species, hotspot location is highly conserved over long evolutionary timescales
75 (Kawakami et al. 2017; Lam and Keeney 2015; Singhal et al. 2015; Tsai et al. 2010). For
76 example, finches share upwards of 73% of hotspots across 3 million years of evolution (Singhal
77 et al. 2015) while species of *Saccharomyces* share 80% of hotspots over 15 million years of
78 evolution (Lam and Keeney 2015). Evolutionarily conserved hotspots are often localized around
79 regions of open chromatin such as transcription start sites (TSSs) and CG-rich regions (i.e. CpG
80 islands) in vertebrates (Auton et al. 2013; Kawakami et al. 2017; Lee et al. 2004; Pan et al. 2011;
81 Pokholok et al. 2005; Singhal et al. 2015; Tischfield and Keeney 2012). This localization pattern
82 is thought to be due the opportunistic nature of Spo11, a meiosis specific protein which initiates
83 recombination by creating double stranded breaks at regions of open chromatin (Celerin et al.
84 2000; Ohta et al. 1994; Pan et al. 2011).

85 A notable exception to strong conservation of recombination hotspots has been
86 documented in mammals, where hotspot location evolves rapidly between closely related species
87 or even between populations (Baker et al. 2015; Brick et al. 2012; Pratto et al. 2014; Smagulova
88 et al. 2016; Stevison et al. 2015). Contrary to the pattern observed in conserved systems, rapidly
89 evolving hotspots typically form away from functional genomic elements and are localized by
90 the zinc finger histone methyltransferase protein, PRDM9 (Baker et al. 2015; Baudat et al. 2010;
91 Billings et al. 2013; Brick et al. 2012; McVean et al. 2004; Myers et al. 2005; Myers et al. 2010;
92 Myers et al. 2008; Parvanov et al. 2010; Powers et al. 2016; Pratto et al. 2014). PRDM9 contains
93 multiple DNA-binding zinc fingers that are under strong positive selection, leading to divergent

94 hotspot localization between closely related species (Baker et al. 2015; Billings et al. 2013; Brick
95 et al. 2012; Myers et al. 2010; Parvanov et al. 2010). Though rapidly evolving hotspots have only
96 been documented in some mammals, positive selection is acting on the zinc finger domain of
97 PRDM9 orthologs in many non-mammalian species (Baker et al. 2017; Oliver et al. 2009). This
98 raises the intriguing possibility that some species outside of mammals may also have rapidly
99 evolving hotspots. It is also possible that PRDM9 is not necessary for rapid evolution of hotspots
100 in other species and that other mechanisms could lead to the evolution of fine-scale rates of
101 recombination over short timescales.

102 Threespine stickleback fish (*Gasterosteus aculeatus*) are an excellent system to study the
103 evolution of fine-scale recombination rates. Multiple populations of threespine stickleback fish
104 have independently adapted to freshwater environments from marine ancestors in the last 10-15
105 thousand years (Bell and Foster 1994; Orti et al. 1994), providing the opportunity to study the
106 parallel evolution of hotspots in well-characterized populations across the Northern Hemisphere
107 (Bell and Foster 1994; Ostlund-Nilsson et al. 2007; Wootton 1976). Broad-scale recombination
108 rates have been examined in threespine stickleback using genetic crosses (Glazer et al. 2015;
109 Peichel et al. 2001; Roesti et al. 2013; Sardell et al. 2018), but fine-scale recombination rates
110 have not been estimated due to low marker density.

111 Fine-scale recombination rates can be estimated through a variety of approaches.
112 Recombination rates can be directly measured through genetic linkage maps (Broman et al.
113 1998; Campbell et al. 2016; Drouaud et al. 2006; Marand et al. 2017) or through sperm
114 genotyping (Baudat and de Massy 2007; Guillon and de Massy 2002; Jeffreys et al. 2001). Both
115 methods require a large number of progeny or sperm and a high density of genetic markers to
116 capture a sufficient number of crossovers. Recombination rates can also be indirectly measured
117 by identifying the binding sites of proteins that initiate double strand breaks (Pratto et al. 2014;
118 Smagulova et al. 2011) as well as repair double strand breaks through homologous
119 recombination (Dumont and Payseur 2011; Froenicke et al. 2002). Another broadly used
120 approach estimates recombination rates from patterns of linkage disequilibrium (LD) in
121 populations, providing a historical measure of meiotic crossovers over multiple generations
122 (Chan et al. 2012; McVean et al. 2004; Myers et al. 2005; Wall and Stevison 2016). LD-based
123 methods are able to estimate rates at a fine-scale, but rate estimation can be biased by
124 demographic history (e.g. bottlenecks, population expansions, population sub-structure, etc.)

125 (Dapper and Payseur 2017; Johnston and Cutler 2012), increasing false negative and false
126 positive rates when calling recombination hotspots (Dapper and Payseur 2017). Despite the
127 higher error rates, many recombination hotspots identified through LD-based methods have been
128 validated using other approaches (Jeffreys et al. 2005; Morgan et al. 2017; Myers et al. 2006).

129 Here, we used an LD-based approach to estimate genome-wide recombination rates in a
130 marine (Puget Sound) and freshwater (Lake Washington) population of threespine stickleback
131 fish. We found recombination landscapes varied at a fine-scale between the two populations,
132 often organized into recombination hotspots. We found most recombination hotspots were not
133 shared between populations. We describe how the complex demographic histories of threespine
134 stickleback fish populations (Bell and Foster 1994; Ferchaud and Hansen 2016; Hohenlohe et al.
135 2010; Liu et al. 2016) may influence the overall distribution of recombination hotspots and argue
136 that the patterns we observe may not be completely driven by population bottlenecks.

137 Additionally, we found little evidence that threespine stickleback hotspots are associated with
138 PRDM9 binding, indicating hotspots are likely localized by a different mechanism.

139

140 **Materials and Methods**

141 **Whole genome sequencing and assembly**

142 Genomic DNA was extracted from caudal tail clips of 13 female and 12 male fish
143 collected from Lake Washington (freshwater population; Washington, USA) and 18 female and
144 6 male fish collected from Northern Puget Sound (marine population; Washington, USA) using a
145 standard phenol-chloroform extraction. Paired-end libraries were prepared using the Illumina
146 TruSeq kit and were size-selected to target 400 bp fragments. Libraries were multiplexed and
147 sequenced on Illumina NextSeq lanes for 300 cycles (Georgia Genomics and Bioinformatics
148 Core, University of Georgia). Residual adapter sequences and low quality regions were trimmed
149 from the sequencing reads using Trimmomatic (v0.33) with the following parameters: PE -phred
150 33 slidingwindow:4:20. Trimmed reads were aligned to the revised threespine stickleback
151 genome assembly (supplemental file S5, [https://datadryad.org/resource/doi:10.5061/](https://datadryad.org/resource/doi:10.5061/dryad.q018v/1)
152 [dryad.q018v/1](https://datadryad.org/resource/doi:10.5061/dryad.q018v/1)) (Glazer et al. 2015) using Bowtie2 (v2.2.4, default parameters) (Langmead and
153 Salzberg 2012). With these parameters, the average alignment rate for Lake Washington was
154 94.2% and 87.3% for Puget Sound. Reads with a mapping PHRED quality score of 20 or less
155 were removed from the analysis (Samtools, v1.2.0, default parameters) (Li et al. 2009). For

156 Puget Sound, four female individuals had 5x or lower sequencing coverage and were removed
157 from the analysis. After removing poorly aligned reads and low coverage individuals, the
158 average read coverage across all individuals in each population was 17x and 22x for Lake
159 Washington and Puget Sound, respectively.

160 Two outgroup species were used to infer ancestral allele states and to estimate mutation
161 matrices for each population (see Estimation of Recombination Rates). Whole-genome Illumina
162 sequences for one female ninespine stickleback fish (*Pungitius pungitius*, DRX012173) (White
163 et al. 2015) and one female blackspotted stickleback fish (*Gasterosteus wheatlandi*,
164 DRX012174) (Yoshida et al. 2014) were aligned to the revised threespine stickleback genome
165 assembly (Glazer et al. 2015) using Bowtie2 (v2.2.4). Less stringent alignment parameters were
166 used to allow for greater sequence divergence between threespine stickleback and each outgroup
167 (-D 20 -R 3 -N 1 -L 20 -I S,1,0.50 -rdg 3,2 -rfg 3,2 -mp 3). The overall alignment rate of *P.*
168 *pungitius* was 46.0% whereas the overall alignment rate of *G. wheatlandi* was 74.2%. The higher
169 alignment rate of *G. wheatlandi* is consistent with *G. wheatlandi* sharing a more recent common
170 ancestor with *G. aculeatus* (Kawahara et al. 2009).

171

172 **SNP genotyping**

173 Single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs) were genotyped in each threespine stickleback
174 population and outgroup species independently following the GATK best practices for SNP
175 discovery for whole genome sequences (v3.6) (Van der Auwera et al. 2013). PCR duplicates
176 were removed using MarkDuplicates (REMOVE_DUPLICATES=true). Regions around
177 insertions or deletions (indels) were realigned with RealignerTargetCreator (default parameters)
178 and IndelRealigner (default parameters). Variants were called for each individual using
179 HaplotypeCaller (genotyping mode DISCOVERY). Joint genotyping (GenotypeGVCFs, default
180 parameters) was completed by pooling all individuals for each population. Low-quality SNPs
181 were filtered from the data set using vcftools (v0.1.12b) (Danecek et al. 2011) with the following
182 filters: removing all sites with more than two alleles, removing sites where genotype data was
183 missing among individuals, removing sites where the population mean depth coverage was less
184 than half or greater than twice the average coverage for each population (Lake Washington: 8x –
185 24x read depth coverage; Puget Sound: 11x - 44x read depth coverage), and removing sites with
186 a genotype quality score less than 30. Singletons and sites fixed for the alternate allele across all

187 individuals in a population were also removed. After filtering, the Lake Washington population
188 had 5,054,729 SNPs genome-wide (11 SNPs/kb) and the Puget Sound population had 4,142,876
189 SNPs (9 SNPs/kb) genome-wide (prior to filtering Lake Washington had 11,937,220 SNPs and
190 Puget Sound had 11,070,421 SNPs). For the outgroup species, *P. pungitius* and *G. wheatlandi*,
191 low-quality SNPs were excluded by removing variants with a genotyping quality score less than
192 30 or a read depth less than two, resulting in 13,691,521 SNPs genome-wide in *G. wheatlandi*
193 (16,783,618 SNPs prior to filtering) and 7,791,420 in *P. pungitius* (26,173,287 SNPs prior to
194 filtering).

195

196 **Haplotype phasing**

197 Each chromosome was phased independently with SHAPEIT (v2.r837), a read-aware
198 phasing tool (Delaneau et al. 2013). Phase-informative reads with two heterozygous SNPs on the
199 same read were identified to assist with the estimation of haplotypes. Phase-informative reads
200 had a mapping quality score greater than 20. Convergence of the MCMC algorithm was
201 estimated by examining switch error rates between individual runs. A low switch error rate
202 would indicate that the MCMC phasing runs have converged on a similar haplotype
203 configuration. Switch error was measured using vcftools (v0.1.12b) using `-diff-switch-error`
204 (Danecek et al. 2011). A low switch error was achieved within a reasonable run time with the
205 following SHAPEIT parameters: `--main 2000 --burn 200 --prune 210 --states 1000` (average
206 switch error between phasing runs: 0.824% for Lake Washington and 1.26% for Puget Sound).
207 All other parameters were left at the default values.

208

209 **Estimation of recombination rates**

210 Recombination rates were estimated with LDHelmet (v1.7) (Chan et al. 2012). LDHelmet
211 estimates historical recombination rates from population data by analyzing patterns of linkage
212 disequilibrium across phased individuals. The ancestral allele state was defined for every SNP in
213 each threespine stickleback population by comparing to the allele present in the two outgroup
214 species. An ancestral allele state could not be assigned if a polymorphism was segregating
215 among the outgroup species. Therefore, SNPs were only assigned an ancestral state if *P.*
216 *pungitius* and *G. wheatlandi* were homozygous for the same allele. The ancestral allele was
217 assumed to be the nucleotide carried by *P. pungitius* and *G. wheatlandi*, and was assigned a prior

218 probability of 0.91. To allow for uncertainty in the ancestral allele state, the other three possible
219 nucleotides were assigned prior probabilities of 0.03. If the ancestral allele state could not be
220 inferred, the prior probability of each nucleotide being the ancestral allele was set as the overall
221 frequency of that particular nucleotide on the chromosome. Nucleotide frequencies were
222 empirically determined from all sites on a threespine stickleback chromosome where *P.*
223 *pungitius* and *G. wheatlandi* had read coverage that passed the filtering scheme. Mutation
224 matrices were estimated for each population separately. For every position where an ancestral
225 allele state could be inferred, the total number of each type of mutation away from the ancestral
226 allele was quantified. A normalized 4x4 mutation matrix was generated for each chromosome as
227 previously described (Chan et al. 2012). The ancestral allele state and mutation matrices were
228 generated using a custom Perl script.

229 Each LDHelmet module was run using the following parameters. Custom Python scripts
230 were used to create the SNP sequence and SNP position input files. Full FASTA sequence were
231 created using vcf2fasta from vcflib (available at <https://github.com/vcflib/vcflib>). Haplotype
232 configuration files were created for each chromosome with the find_confs module using a
233 window size of 50 SNPs (-w 50). Likelihood tables were created using table_gen with the
234 recommended grid of population scaled recombination rates per base pair (ρ /bp) (-r 0.0 0.1 10.0
235 1.0 100.0). Watterson's θ was estimated using a custom Python script with the R package,
236 PopGenome (Pfeifer et al. 2014), where Watterson's θ was calculated in 2 kb regions with a
237 sliding window of 1 kb and all windows were averaged together. To maintain a reasonable
238 computational time, a single representative likelihood lookup table was generated for the
239 autosomes of each population from chromosome one, using the average Watterson's θ between
240 Lake Washington and Puget Sound (-t 0.002). Although Watterson's θ was different between the
241 Lake Washington and Puget Sound populations, previous studies have determined that small
242 changes to parameters such as Watterson's θ do not affect the final likelihoods (Auton and
243 McVean 2007; McVean et al. 2004). Separate likelihood tables were created for the
244 pseudoautosomal region of the sex chromosomes (chromosome 19). Padé coefficient files were
245 created using the module pade with a Watterson's θ of 0.002 and the recommended 11 padé
246 coefficients (-t 0.002 -x 11). The module rjmcmm was run for 1 million iterations with 100,000
247 burn in iterations, a block penalty of 10, and a window size of 50 SNPs (-w 50 -b 10 -burn_in
248 100000 -n 1000000). Population-scaled recombination rates were extracted from the rjMCMC

249 run with the post_to_text module. Recombination rates were reported in ρ /bp where ρ is a
250 population scaled recombination rate ($4N_e r$).

251

252 **Correlation with genetic maps**

253 Population-scaled recombination rates were compared with recombination rates estimated
254 from a high-density genetic linkage map (Glazer et al. 2015). Recombination rates from
255 LDHelmet were converted from ρ /bp to cM/Mb as previously described (Smukowski Heil et al.
256 2015). Briefly, the recombination rate (cM/Mb) was calculated between every pair of adjacent
257 markers in the genetic map and a chromosome-wide recombination rate was calculated as the
258 average among the regions. The average LD-based recombination rate (ρ /Mb) was computed in
259 the same individual regions of a chromosome in Lake Washington and Puget Sound by
260 averaging the per bp rho estimate across the total length of the region (ρ /Mb). A single
261 conversion factor was calculated for each chromosome. Each conversion factor was calculated
262 by dividing the average linkage map recombination rate for a chromosome (in cM/Mb) by the
263 average LD-based recombination rate (ρ /Mb) for that chromosome.

264

265 **Identification of recombination hotspots**

266 Recombination hotspots were defined using a sliding window approach. In each window,
267 the average recombination rate within a 2 kb window was compared to the average
268 recombination rate from the 40 kb regions flanking either side of the 2 kb window. Hotspots
269 were defined as the 2 kb regions that had a 5-fold or higher recombination rate relative to the
270 mean recombination rate in the flanking background regions. The 2 kb windows iterated forward
271 in 1 kb increments. If multiple hotspots were found within a 5 kb region, only the hotspot with
272 the highest rate was retained. Misassemblies in the reference genome could generate false
273 hotspots. To limit this, all hotspots that spanned a contig boundary in the reference genome were
274 removed (384 hotspots out of 4,349 total hotspots). Hotspots were considered shared between
275 populations if the midpoints of the two hotspots were within 3 kb of each other. Random
276 permutations were used to calculate the expected amount of hotspot overlap between Lake
277 Washington and Puget Sound. 10,000 random permutations were drawn from the genome
278 totaling the number of 2 kb hotspots for each population. Recombination hotspots were identified
279 and filtered using custom Perl and Python scripts.

280

281 **Genetic variation within and between populations**

282 Within population nucleotide diversity (π) and Tajima's D were calculated separately for
283 each chromosome. To capture rare variants, previously excluded singletons were included in the
284 analysis. Nucleotide diversity and Tajima's D were calculated using the R package, PopGenome
285 (Pfeifer et al. 2014) and a custom Python script. Nucleotide diversity was calculated
286 between populations by combining SNP variants among all individuals in each population.
287 Population structure was estimated between Lake Washington and Puget Sound using
288 FastStructure (v1.0) (Raj et al. 2014). For this analysis, SNPs from Lake Washington and Puget
289 Sound were merged using vcftools (Danecek et al. 2011) and only biallelic sites with no missing
290 data were retained. The sex chromosomes (chromosome 19) were also excluded. The final SNP
291 dataset was composed of 4,113,937 SNPs. Three trials were completed at K values of 1, 2, and 3.
292 These K values were chosen to differentiate scenarios where Lake Washington and Puget Sound
293 were one panmictic population (K=1) or Lake Washington and Puget Sound were two distinct
294 populations (K=2). A K of 3 was chosen to identify any hidden population structure within either
295 population. The model that best explained the population structure was determined using
296 chooseK.py (Raj et al. 2014) and the structure plot was visualized using distructK.py (Raj et al.
297 2014).

298

299 **Estimation of demographic history**

300 Demographic history can affect LD-based estimates of recombination rates (Dapper and
301 Payseur 2017; Johnston and Cutler 2012). To determine whether the demographic history of
302 threespine stickleback fish could influence the ability to detect recombination hotspots, hotspots
303 were assayed in simulated haplotypes with known recombination profiles and demographic
304 histories. Demographic histories used in the simulations were based on the estimated histories of
305 Lake Washington and Puget Sound, modeled using a Pairwise Sequentially Markovian
306 Coalescent (PSMC) process with default parameters (Li and Durbin 2011; Liu and Hansen
307 2017). PSMC was run on one female from Lake Washington and one female from Puget Sound.
308 Confidence intervals were estimated on 100 bootstrap replicates. Demographic histories were
309 visualized using psmc_plot.pl (Li and Durbin 2011).

310

311 **Simulations using estimated demographic histories**

312 Using the demographic histories estimated with PSMC, 250 kb haplotypes with four 2 kb
313 recombination hotspots were simulated using the program fin, part of the LDHat software
314 package (Auton and McVean 2007; McVean et al. 2004). The hotspots were placed 50 kb apart at
315 75, 125, 175, and 225 kb. The background recombination rate was set at 0.03 ρ /kb. Hotspots had
316 varied intensities from 2 to 20 times the background rate, set at 0.06 ρ /kb, 0.15 ρ /kb, 0.3 ρ /kb,
317 and 0.6 ρ /kb. One scenario simulated a constant effective population size, with 500 sequences,
318 40 haplotypes each, with an average Watterson's θ of 0.00355, the average between Lake
319 Washington and Puget Sound (`-nsamp 40 -len 250000 -theta 0.00355`). For both populations, a
320 bottleneck was simulated 8,000 generations ago (Puget Sound: $t = 0.029$, $\theta = 0.0036$; Lake
321 Washington: $t = 0.022$, $\theta = 0.0035$). Two bottleneck strengths were simulated by setting the
322 probability that a lineage coalesces to 10% or 90% ($s = 0.1, 0.9$). Overall, hotspot sharing
323 between simulated Lake Washington and simulated Puget Sound populations was quantified by
324 examining all pairwise comparisons between populations and bottleneck strengths. The first
325 hotspot simulated should not be called using our method as it falls below our cutoff, but can
326 provide information about how hotspots that fall below our cutoff affect hotspot calling. The
327 number of false positive and false negative hotspots were calculated using custom Python scripts.
328

329 **Location of hotspots around transcription start sites**

330 Transcript annotations from Ensembl (build 90) were lifted to the revised threespine
331 stickleback genome assembly (Glazer et al. 2015) by aligning each transcript using BLAT (v36,
332 default parameters) (Kent 2002). Aligned transcripts were only retained if the entire transcript
333 aligned to the revised genome assembly. Transcript start sites (TSSs) consisted of a 2 kb region,
334 centered at the start position of the transcript. A hotspot was considered overlapping with a TSS
335 if the midpoint of the hotspot overlapped with any part of a 2 kb TSS region. Enrichment of
336 hotspots in TSSs were compared against 10,000 random permutations. 2 kb regions were
337 randomly drawn across the genome, totaling the number of hotspots identified in each
338 population. TSS annotation filtering, overlap of hotspots with TSSs, and random permutations
339 were completed using custom Python scripts.

340

341 **GC-Biased Substitutions**

342 GC to AT and AT to GC substitutions were quantified within 2 kb regions of the genome
343 that had recombination rates in the top and bottom 5% as well as within all 2 kb recombination
344 hotspots. The top 5% of recombination rates captures regions of the genome that may broadly
345 have high recombination rates and not contain recombination hotspots. The top 5% of
346 recombination rates includes 96 hotspots for Lake Washington (out of 1,627 hotspots) and 314
347 hotspots for Puget Sound (out of 2,338 hotspots). The equilibrium GC content was calculated as
348 the proportion of AT to GC substitutions out of the total pool of substitutions (AT to GC and GC
349 to AT) (Meunier and Duret 2004; Singhal et al. 2015; Sueoka 1962). To increase the total
350 number of sites available for the analysis, the ancestral allele state was inferred using only *G.*
351 *wheatlandi*, rather than requiring a matching ancestral allele in both *G. wheatlandi* and *P.*
352 *pungitius*. Because CpG sites can have higher mutation rates (Fryxell and Moon 2005; Weber et
353 al. 2014), all consecutive CG sites in the ancestral sequence were removed from the analysis.

354

355 **DNA motif identification**

356 MEME (v4.11.0) was used to identify novel DNA motifs enriched in hotspots and
357 matched coldspots (Bailey and Eklán 1994). Each hotspot was matched to a randomly selected 2
358 kb coldspot, which was located at least 25 kb from any identified hotspot, contained a GC
359 nucleotide content that was within 2% of the hotspot after removing ancestral CpG sites (GC-
360 matched), and had a mean recombination rate that was less than half the background
361 recombination rate of the population (Lake Washington: less than 0.017 ρ /bp; Puget Sound: less
362 than 0.035 ρ /bp). MEME ignored motif occurrences if they were present in a hotspot multiple
363 times (-mod zoops). This was to prevent the reporting of repetitive motifs. MEME was run
364 separately for each chromosome and population and was completed when 50 motifs were
365 identified (-nmotifs 50). Motif identification was conducted separately for shared hotspots and
366 population-specific hotspots.

367 The DNA-binding protein, PRDM9, is important for localizing recombination hotspots in
368 mammals (Baker et al. 2015; Baudat et al. 2010; Billings et al. 2013; Brick et al. 2012; Myers et
369 al. 2010; Myers et al. 2008; Parvanov et al. 2010; Powers et al. 2016; Pratto et al. 2014). To
370 determine if any PRDM genes had a role in localizing hotspots in threespine stickleback fish,
371 FIMO (v4.11.0, default parameters) (Grant et al. 2011) was used to scan hotspot sequences for
372 the predicted DNA binding motifs for each of the 11 annotated PRDM genes in the threespine

373 stickleback genome (Ensembl, build 90). DNA binding motifs for each PRDM protein were
374 predicted using the Cys₂His₂ zinc finger prediction tool, Predicting DNA-binding Specificities
375 for the Cys₂His₂ Zinc Finger Proteins (Persikov et al. 2009; Persikov and Singh 2014). Predicted
376 zinc finger domains were included if the HMMER bit score for the zinc fingers was 17.7 or
377 higher (Persikov et al. 2009; Persikov and Singh 2014). To determine the expected number of
378 occurrences of a motif of the same length and GC composition in hotspots, the PRDM motifs
379 were shuffled 100 separate times. FIMO was run on the shuffled motifs to create a null
380 distribution. Motifs were shuffled using a custom python script.

381

382 **Results**

383 **Genetic differentiation between Lake Washington and Puget Sound**

384 Freshwater populations of threespine stickleback fish frequently exhibit signs of past
385 bottlenecks, consistent with their colonization from marine ancestors ~10-15 thousand years ago
386 (Bell and Foster 1994; Ferchaud and Hansen 2016; Hohenlohe et al. 2010; Liu et al. 2016).
387 Given the recent divergence and the close geographic proximity between Lake Washington
388 (freshwater) and Puget Sound (marine), we first examined whether these two populations were
389 genetically distinct. Using FastStructure, a two population model was the most highly supported
390 (marginal likelihood = -0.834, Supplemental Figure 1).

391 Within each population, we explored whether there were signatures of past bottleneck
392 events. The average nucleotide diversity within both populations was similar (Lake Washington:
393 0.003; Puget Sound: 0.003), whereas the genome-wide average nucleotide diversity between
394 populations was 0.004. The nucleotide diversity values we calculated are similar to previously
395 reported values for other marine and freshwater stickleback populations (Guo et al. 2015;
396 Hohenlohe et al. 2010; Kitano et al. 2007). Both populations had negative Tajima's D values
397 (Tajima 1989), consistent with an excess of rare variants from a recent population expansion
398 (Lake Washington: -0.422; Puget Sound: -0.723).

399 The demographic histories of Lake Washington and Puget Sound were estimated using
400 Pairwise Sequentially Markovian Coalescent (PSMC) models (Figure 1). Puget Sound
401 experienced a bottleneck from around 18,000 years ago until about 8,000 years ago where the
402 effective population size decreased to $74,250 \pm 1,259$ individuals (starting $N_e = 132,700 \pm 796$)
403 while Lake Washington experienced a small bottleneck around the same time where the effective

404 population size decreased to $91,760 \pm 1,960$ individuals (starting $N_e = 129,138 \pm 897$) (Figure 1).
405 Both populations have had a constant effective population size for the last ~5,000 years. Puget
406 Sound has a larger effective population size than Lake Washington, matching the expected
407 pattern of marine populations having larger effective population sizes than freshwater
408 populations (DeFaveri and Merila 2015; Gow et al. 2006; Makinen et al. 2006).

409

410 **Fine-scale estimation of recombination rates across the genome**

411 Using a dense set of SNP markers from whole-genome sequencing, we estimated
412 recombination rates across the genomes of Lake Washington and Puget Sound threespine
413 stickleback fish. The average genome-wide population recombination rate in Lake Washington
414 was half of the rate observed in Puget Sound (Lake Washington: 0.035 ρ /bp; Puget Sound: 0.072
415 ρ /bp; Wilcoxon Rank Test; $p < 0.001$, Supplemental Table 1). Despite having an overall lower
416 genome-wide recombination rate in Lake Washington, recombination rates were largely
417 conserved at broad scales between the two populations. We observed a highly significant
418 positive correlation of recombination rates between the populations at the scale of 500 kb
419 windows (Spearman's Rank Correlation; $r = 0.931$, $p < 0.001$; Figure 2; Supplemental Figure 2).
420 Additionally, recombination rates were lower at the center of chromosomes (center 25% of all
421 chromosomes) and significantly higher at the ends of the chromosomes (terminal 25% of all
422 chromosomes) for both populations (Wilcoxon Rank Test; Lake Washington: ends of
423 chromosomes = 0.069 ρ /bp, center of chromosomes = 0.009 ρ /bp, $p < 0.001$; Puget Sound: ends
424 of chromosomes = 0.108 ρ /bp, center of chromosomes = 0.016 ρ /bp, $p < 0.001$; Figure 2). Rate
425 differences at chromosome ends have been documented in other populations of threespine
426 stickleback (Glazer et al. 2015; Roesti et al. 2013; Sardell et al. 2018) as well as across a wide-
427 range of other animals, plants, and fungi (Barton et al. 2008; Berner and Roesti 2017; Broman et
428 al. 1998; See et al. 2006).

429 To determine whether the broad-scale recombination rates we estimated from LD-based
430 methods are concordant with recombination rates measured from linkage mapping, we compared
431 the rates from Lake Washington and Puget Sound with the rates estimated from a genetic linkage
432 map from a freshwater female and a marine male (Glazer et al. 2015). We found a significant
433 positive correlation between recombination rates in both populations and the linkage map
434 (Spearman's Rank Correlation; Lake Washington: $r = 0.830$, $p < 0.001$; Puget Sound: $r = 0.810$,

435 $p < 0.001$; Figure 3). These data indicate that broad-scale changes are conserved across multiple
436 populations of threespine stickleback fish and confirm that the recombination rates estimated
437 from LD-based methods largely parallel the rates observed from genetic linkage maps. Although
438 broad-scale (Mb) recombination rates tend to be conserved over longer evolutionary timescales
439 (Fleidel-Alon et al. 2009; Kong et al. 2002; Serre et al. 2005; Stevison et al. 2015), fine-scale (kb)
440 rates within chromosomes can rapidly evolve (Barton et al. 2008; Hellsten et al. 2013; McVean
441 et al. 2004; Myers et al. 2005). In many organisms, recombination is organized locally into
442 narrow regions of very high rates (i.e. “hotspots”), surrounded by regions of little to no
443 recombination (i.e. “coldspots”) (Baudat et al. 2010; Jeffreys et al. 1998; Steiner et al. 2002).
444 Consistent with this, we found highly variable fine-scale recombination rates across individual
445 chromosomes in both Lake Washington and Puget Sound (Figure 4; Supplemental Figures 3 and
446 4).

447

448 **Divergent hotspot locations between populations of threespine sticklebacks**

449 Using a sliding-window approach, we identified 2,338 hotspots in Puget Sound and 1,627
450 hotspots in Lake Washington. Strikingly, only 312 of these hotspots were shared between
451 populations (13.3% of hotspots in Puget Sound and 19.2% of hotspots in Lake Washington).
452 This lack of hotspot overlap between Lake Washington and Puget Sound may, in part, be due to
453 hotspots falling just below the hotspot threshold. To investigate this, we looked for any increase
454 in recombination rate in locations where hotspots were present in one population, but absent in
455 the other. We found little evidence of a localized increase in recombination rate in these regions.
456 Recombination rates were close to the background rate in the population where hotspots were
457 deemed absent (Figures 5A and 5B). This pattern was even more apparent when shared hotspots
458 were removed from the analysis (Figures 5C and 5D). The small degree of overlap we observed
459 in hotspots between the populations was much greater than what would be expected from chance
460 alone (10,000 random permutations; $p < 0.001$; Supplemental Figure 5), indicating much of the
461 hotspot overlap likely represents shared ancestry.

462

463 **Increased recombination rate in the pseudoautosomal region**

464 Genetic recombination between sex chromosomes is restricted to the pseudoautosomal
465 region (PAR), where rates of recombination can be orders of magnitude above genome-wide

466 averages (Otto et al. 2011; Wright et al. 2016). In threespine stickleback, crossing over between
467 the X and Y chromosomes is restricted to a ~2.5 Mb PAR (Peichel et al. 2004; Roesti et al. 2013;
468 White et al. 2015; Yoshida et al. 2014). Because of the potential for high rates of crossing over in
469 the PAR, we estimated population-scaled recombination rates for this region independently from
470 the autosomes. The average recombination rate in the PAR was 0.232 ρ /bp for Puget Sound and
471 0.129 ρ /bp for Lake Washington. These rates were significantly higher than the average
472 recombination rate across the autosomes (Lake Washington autosome average rate: 0.035 ρ /bp, p
473 <0.001 ; Puget Sound autosome average rate: 0.072 ρ /bp, $p < 0.001$; Figure 6). Although we
474 observed some fine-scale variation in recombination rates across the PAR (Figure 6), we
475 identified very few hotspots, which may be due to the increased background recombination rate
476 across the PAR.

477

478 **Demographic history may not completely account for hotspot divergence**

479 To explore how changes in past effective population size (N_e) may have affected our
480 ability to detect hotspots, we simulated haplotypes with known demographic histories that
481 followed the demographic histories we estimated from Lake Washington and Puget Sound, along
482 with a known distribution of recombination hotspots. If the minimal hotspot overlap we observed
483 between populations of threespine stickleback fish was because of high false positive and false
484 negative rates induced by demographic history, we would expect hotspots to be incorrectly called
485 to a similar degree in the bottleneck simulations. Both bottleneck strengths exhibited elevated
486 false positive and false negative rates compared to the control simulation, with the highest false
487 positive and false negative rates under the strong bottleneck scenario (Supplemental Table 2). To
488 determine the overall effect of elevated error rates on determining the number of shared hotspots
489 between populations, we compared the simulated Lake Washington haplotypes to the simulated
490 Puget Sound haplotypes from both bottleneck scenarios. Despite the elevated error rates, hotspot
491 sharing was higher between the simulated populations than the observed number of hotspots
492 shared between actual Lake Washington and Puget Sound populations for the weak bottleneck
493 (weak bottleneck: Lake Washington: 59.7%; Puget Sound: 55.2%; actual Puget Sound shared
494 hotspots: 13.3%; actual Lake Washington shared hotspots: 19.2%). This indicates that a weak
495 bottleneck in both populations is not sufficient to drive the high degree of hotspot divergence we
496 observed. However, if the bottleneck strength was very high ($s=0.9$) in both populations,

497 elevated error rates in hotspot calling could result in a lack of hotspot overlap that mirrors the
498 divergence we observed between populations. In this simulation, there was a similar percent of
499 shared hotspots as observed in the actual populations (strong bottleneck: Lake Washington:
500 20.7%; Puget Sound: 19.8%; actual Puget Sound shared hotspots: 13.3%; actual Lake
501 Washington shared hotspots: 19.2%).

502 Based on the demographic histories we estimated, Lake Washington experienced a less
503 intense bottleneck than Puget Sound. We therefore also used simulations to explore the expected
504 hotspot overlap if only one of the populations experienced a strong bottleneck. If Puget Sound
505 experienced a strong bottleneck and Lake Washington experienced a weak bottleneck, 36.7% of
506 hotspots were shared in the simulated Lake Washington population and 20.5% of hotspots were
507 shared in the simulated Puget Sound population (actual Lake Washington shared hotspots:
508 19.2%, actual Puget Sound shared hotspots: 13.3%). Except for a scenario where both
509 populations underwent a severe bottleneck in the past, our simulations suggest that demographic
510 history alone is not sufficient to completely explain the divergence we observed in hotspot
511 location between populations.

512

513 **Hotspots are enriched around transcription start sites**

514 Hotspot localization in genomes varies among taxa. In yeast, birds, and some plants,
515 where hotspots are evolutionarily conserved, hotspots tend to be enriched within transcription
516 start sites (Kawakami et al. 2017; Pan et al. 2011; Singhal et al. 2015; Tischfield and Keeney
517 2012). In mammals with rapidly evolving hotspots, hotspots are typically located away from
518 genic regions (Brick et al. 2012; Brunschwig et al. 2012; Myers et al. 2005). We investigated
519 whether threespine stickleback fish hotspots mimic either of the patterns seen in other systems.
520 We found an enrichment of hotspots around TSSs, compared to random permutations of hotspots
521 (Lake Washington: 26% of hotspots fell within 3 kb of a TSS, $p < 0.034$; Puget Sound: 29% of
522 hotspots fell within 3 kb of a TSS, $p < 0.001$; Supplemental Figure 6). This pattern also held
523 when examining only population specific hotspots (Lake Washington: $p = 0.007$; Puget Sound: p
524 < 0.001 ; Supplemental Figure 7); however, shared hotspots were not enriched in TSSs compared
525 to random permutations (Lake Washington: $p = 0.370$; Puget Sound: $p = 0.827$; Supplemental
526 Figure 6). The lack of significant enrichment of shared hotspots around TSSs is likely due to the
527 small sample size. When we randomly drew samples from the population-specific hotspots that

528 were equal in size to the shared hotspot pools, there was no longer enrichment around TSSs
529 (Lake Washington: $p = 0.947$; Puget Sound: $p = 0.808$).

530

531 **Regions of high recombination exhibit GC-biased nucleotide substitution**

532 Recombination leaves distinct signatures of nucleotide substitution across the genome
533 (Duret and Arndt 2008; Mugal et al. 2015; Webster and Hurst 2012). Over time, the repair of
534 heteroduplex DNA during meiosis favors the substitution of GC nucleotides over AT
535 nucleotides, which increases the frequency of GC nucleotides, leading to GC-biased base
536 composition (Lesecque et al. 2013; Marais 2003; Meunier and Duret 2004). Regions of the
537 genome with higher recombination rates tend to have higher GC-biased base composition
538 (Kawakami et al. 2017; Kong et al. 2002; Meunier and Duret 2004; Singhal et al. 2015). To
539 determine whether regions of higher recombination rate showed signatures of GC-biased gene
540 conversion, we calculated equilibrium GC content (Meunier and Duret 2004; Singhal et al. 2015;
541 Sueoka 1962) in regions of the genome with the highest and lowest recombination rates (top and
542 bottom 5%) as well as within recombination hotspots.

543 In both Lake Washington and Puget Sound, we detected a significantly higher
544 equilibrium GC content in regions of the genome with a high recombination rate (top 5% of
545 recombination rates among 2 kb windows) compared to regions of the genome with
546 recombination rates in the bottom 5% (Table 1). Overall, these results indicate GC nucleotide
547 composition is influenced by the historical recombination landscape across the threespine
548 stickleback genome. Interestingly, although hotspots in both populations have locally elevated
549 recombination rates, there was not a parallel increase in equilibrium GC content. Equilibrium GC
550 content in population-specific hotspots and shared hotspots was not significantly different than
551 regions of the genome with the lowest recombination rates (bottom 5%) (Table 1). Our results
552 are consistent with recombination hotspots being more recently derived, where locally increased
553 recombination rates have not yet had an effect on GC-biased nucleotide substitution.

554

555 **PRDM genes are weakly associated with threespine stickleback recombination hotspots**

556 Hotspots in many species are targeted to specific regions of the genome by DNA binding
557 motifs (Baudat et al. 2010; Kon et al. 1997; Myers et al. 2008; Steiner et al. 2002). In species
558 where PRDM9 targets recombination hotspots to specific regions of the genome, the zinc finger

559 domain of PRDM9 is typically under strong positive selection (Baker et al. 2015; Baudat et al.
560 2010; Billings et al. 2013; Myers et al. 2010; Oliver et al. 2009; Pratto et al. 2014) and the
561 protein contains functional KRAB and SSXRD domains (Baker et al. 2017). In Teleost fish, two
562 paralogs of PRDM9 have been identified, PRDM9 α which contains all the protein domains and
563 PRDM9 β which lacks the KRAB and SSXRD domains (Baker et al. 2017). Threespine
564 stickleback fish appear to have lost PRDM9 α , but retain PRDM9 β without the SSXRD and
565 KRAB domains. Consistent with a lack of function directing recombination hotspots, we did not
566 observe strong signatures of positive selection in the zinc finger domain of PRDM9 β . We found
567 zero fixed differences between threespine and blackspotted stickleback for the PRDM9 ortholog.
568 There was one synonymous and one nonsynonymous mutation at moderate frequency in Lake
569 Washington and two synonymous and three nonsynonymous mutations at moderate frequency in
570 Puget Sound, indicating these mutations are likely not causing the population-specific
571 localization of hotspots we observed between Lake Washington and Puget Sound.

572 We also examined whether the predicted binding sites of any of the 11 previously
573 annotated PRDM genes in threespine stickleback fish were enriched in recombination hotspots.
574 Less than 14% of hotspots contained any of the predicted PRDM zinc finger binding domain
575 motifs (Supplemental Table 3). However, six of the motifs were significantly enriched in
576 hotspots, including PRDM9, when compared to scrambled motifs of the same size and GC
577 content (Supplemental Table 3), indicating PRDM genes could have some role in localizing a
578 subset of recombination hotspots. Outside of PRDM9 in mammals, multiple DNA binding motifs
579 assist with hotspot targeting in other systems such as *Schizosaccharomyces pombe* (Kon et al.
580 1997; Steiner et al. 2002). To see if other DNA motifs were targeting hotspots in threespine
581 stickleback fish, we searched for motifs enriched in hotspots. The most significant motifs
582 identified were simple mono- or di-nucleotide repeats which were present only in a subset of the
583 hotspots (Supplemental Figure 8). These repeats were not specific to hotspots as they were also
584 found in GC-matched coldspots.

585

586 **Discussion**

587 **Broad-scale recombination rates across the threespine stickleback genome**

588 At a broad scale, recombination rates across the threespine stickleback genome were
589 conserved between the two populations. This broad scale conservation of recombination rates is

590 a feature observed in many taxa (Fleidel-Alon et al. 2009; Kong et al. 2002; Serre et al. 2005;
591 Stevison et al. 2015) and may reflect the necessity of crossing over for the proper segregation of
592 chromosomes during meiosis (Davis and Smith 2001; Fleidel-Alon et al. 2009; Kaback et al.
593 1992; Mather 1936). Additionally, we observed differential rates of recombination associated
594 with broad genomic regions that have been observed in other systems. First, we observed higher
595 recombination rates towards the telomeres. In many species, the ends of chromosomes have
596 higher rates of recombination (Barton et al. 2008; Berner and Roesti 2017; Kong et al. 2002;
597 Roesti et al. 2013; Sardell et al. 2018), which is thought to be driven by male-specific
598 localization of recombination (Broman et al. 1998; Moen et al. 2008; Singer et al. 2001). Our
599 LD-based method estimates sex-averaged recombination rates, which does not allow us to test
600 whether the pattern we observed around the ends of chromosomes is driven by males. However,
601 sex-specific genetic linkage maps between the Japan Sea stickleback (*Gasterosteus nipponicus*)
602 and the threespine stickleback (*G. aculeatus*) corroborate this pattern (Sardell et al. 2018).
603 Second, we observed higher recombination rates in the pseudoautosomal region compared to the
604 autosomes. Recombination rates in pseudoautosomal regions are often orders of magnitude
605 above autosome-wide averages, as an obligate crossover should occur between the X and Y
606 chromosomes in these small regions during every male meiosis (Hinch et al. 2014; Kauppi et al.
607 2012; Otto et al. 2011).

608 Overall, the genome-wide average recombination rate for Puget Sound was two-fold
609 higher than in Lake Washington. Rate variation between populations or species can be driven by
610 a number of processes. Structural variation (i.e. inversions, chromosomal rearrangements, and
611 copy number variants) can contribute to rate variation among genomes. Indeed, recombination
612 rates have been shown to vary across chromosomal regions due to segregating inversions
613 between marine and freshwater populations of threespine stickleback (Glazer et al. 2015; Jones
614 et al. 2012). Although structural variants could explain rate differences between Lake
615 Washington and Puget Sound populations at a more localized level, they cannot explain the
616 genome-wide rate differences we observed. Over longer evolutionary timescales, recombination
617 rate also can evolve neutrally (Dumont and Payseur 2008), driving genome-wide rate variation
618 between species. However, neutral divergence is likely not occurring at a pace that would alter
619 genome-wide recombination rates between recently diverged populations of threespine
620 stickleback fish. One plausible explanation for the observed rate differences is differences in

621 demographic history between the Lake Washington and Puget Sound populations. A larger
622 effective population size could increase the population-scaled recombination rate (Burt 2000;
623 Charlesworth 2009). In threespine stickleback, marine populations typically have a larger N_e
624 than freshwater populations (DeFaveri and Merila 2015; Gow et al. 2006; Makinen et al. 2006),
625 consistent with our observed pattern of a higher recombination rate in Puget Sound relative to
626 Lake Washington.

627

628 **Identifying hotspots using patterns of linkage disequilibrium**

629 LD-based estimates of recombination rates can be affected by demographic processes
630 that change patterns of linkage disequilibrium across the genome (Chan et al. 2012; Dapper and
631 Payseur 2017; Johnston and Cutler 2012; McVean et al. 2004; Wall and Stevison 2016). The
632 duration and timing of these events can have varying effects on hotspot identification, often
633 reducing the power to detect hotspots and increasing the rate of errors (Dapper and Payseur
634 2017). Threespine stickleback fish have a complex history of bottleneck events and population
635 expansions over the last 10-15 thousand years which vary across geographic regions (Bell and
636 Foster 1994; Ferchaud and Hansen 2016; Hohenlohe et al. 2010; Liu et al. 2016; Orti et al.
637 1994). Based on simulations, demographic history likely has some role in the observed
638 divergence in hotspot location between Lake Washington and Puget Sound populations, but it
639 seems likely that population demography does not completely explain the pattern. Only in the
640 scenario where both populations experienced a strong bottleneck do error rates rise high enough
641 to mimic the observed divergence in hotspot location. However, our estimates of effective
642 population size over time revealed that Lake Washington and Puget Sound did not experience
643 similar fluctuations. Both populations began with effective population sizes that largely parallel
644 those observed in other threespine stickleback fish populations (Liu and Hansen 2017; Ravinet et
645 al. 2018). Puget Sound then experienced a larger population expansion roughly 18,000 years ago,
646 followed with a decrease in population size at approximately 8,000 years ago. Lake Washington
647 had a slight increase in population size, followed by a small bottleneck around the same time, but
648 overall changes in effective population size were more stable in this population. Examination of
649 where recombination hotspots are currently forming across the genome in Lake Washington and
650 Puget Sound would help confirm the patterns we observed. Surveys of double strand break
651 hotspots (Pratto et al. 2014; Smagulova et al. 2011) or crossover breakpoints in genetic crosses

652 (Broman et al. 1998; Campbell et al. 2016; Drouaud et al. 2006; Marand et al. 2017) would
653 reveal the degree to which recombination hotspots are targeted to different genomic locations in
654 these two populations.

655

656 **Hotspot evolution in freshwater and marine threespine stickleback populations**

657 Of the 3,965 hotspots between Lake Washington and Puget Sound, only ~15% of
658 hotspots are shared, indicating many of the hotspots are recently derived within populations of
659 threespine stickleback fish. Consistent with the recent evolution of hotspots, we did not observe
660 an elevated equilibrium GC content in these regions. One possible model is that recombination
661 hotspots can shift over short evolutionary timescales among regions of the genome that are
662 susceptible to homologous recombination, such as regions of accessible chromatin. Both
663 evolutionarily conserved and rapidly evolving hotspots tend to locate to regions of accessible
664 chromatin (Lam and Keeney 2015; Ohta et al. 1994; Pan et al. 2011; Tischfield and Keeney
665 2012) or regions with histone 3 lysine 4 trimethylation (H3K4me3) (Auton et al. 2013; Baker et
666 al. 2015; Marand et al. 2017; Smagulova et al. 2011).

667 In taxa where hotspots are evolutionarily conserved, hotspots are highly enriched around
668 TSSs (Auton et al. 2013; Kawakami et al. 2017; Pan et al. 2011; Singhal et al. 2015; Tischfield
669 and Keeney 2012). This pattern could be due to either higher selective constraints at TSSs or the
670 chromatin structure at TSSs. TSSs are often under purifying selection and if a genomic feature,
671 like a DNA motif, is targeting hotspots to these regions, these features would also be preserved
672 through purifying selection, maintaining the location of the hotspot (Kawakami et al. 2017; Lam
673 and Keeney 2015; Singhal et al. 2015; Tsai et al. 2010). On the other hand, an open chromatin
674 conformation could be driving this pattern. TSSs and the surrounding regions must be accessible
675 for transcription to occur while also providing sites for Spo11 to bind, initiating recombination
676 (Lee et al. 2004; Pokholok et al. 2005) as Spo11 will create double strand breaks at any sites with
677 accessible chromatin (Celerin et al. 2000; Ohta et al. 1994; Pan et al. 2011). In Lake Washington
678 and Puget Sound populations, we found some enrichment of hotspots at TSSs (Lake Washington:
679 26% of hotspots fell within 3 kb of a TSS; Puget Sound: 29% of hotspots fell within 3 kb of a
680 TSS) which is similar to hotspot enrichment around TSS in taxa that do not have a functional
681 PRDM9 protein. In birds and dogs, for example, ~20-30% of hotspots overlap with TSSs (Auton
682 et al. 2013; Kawakami et al. 2017; Singhal et al. 2015). Additional characterization is needed to

683 determine if hotspots in threespine stickleback are occurring in regions of the genome that are
684 already open due to transcription or if there is a mechanism that creates accessible chromatin
685 specifically for double strand break formation, like what is believed to occur with PRDM9 in
686 mammalian species (Diagouraga et al. 2018; Hayashi et al. 2005; Powers et al. 2016).

687 In some mammalian systems, positive selection acting on the zinc finger binding domain
688 of PRMD9 has led to multiple distinct DNA binding motifs between closely related species
689 (Baudat et al. 2010; Myers et al. 2010; Myers et al. 2008; Pratto et al. 2014). This leads to a rapid
690 evolution of hotspot localization (Baker et al. 2015; Brick et al. 2012; Pratto et al. 2014;
691 Smagulova et al. 2016; Stevison et al. 2015). Typically, ~40% of hotspots will contain a PRDM9
692 motif in mouse and humans (Baudat et al. 2010; Myers et al. 2008). In threespine stickleback
693 fish, we found that less than 14% of hotspots had PRMD9 or any other PRDM motifs, contrary
694 to what we would expect if PRDM9 was controlling hotspot location in threespine stickleback.
695 In addition, we did not find any other DNA motifs enriched in hotspots that would indicate a role
696 of an alternative DNA-binding protein that could localize hotspots. Additional characterization is
697 needed to understand what genomic features could be targeting hotspots, leading to the distinct
698 fine-scale recombination landscapes observed between populations of threespine stickleback
699 fish.

700

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708 and custom scripts can be found on Open Science Framework under A.F.S.
709 (<https://osf.io/dezug/>).

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Table 1. Mean equilibrium GC content (\pm SE)

	Lake Washington	Puget Sound
Top 5% of Recombination Rates	0.432 (± 0.0006) ^a	0.430 (± 0.0006) ^a
Bottom 5% of Recombination Rates	0.421 (± 0.0005) ^b	0.415 (± 0.0005) ^b
Population-Specific Hotspots	0.420 (± 0.002) ^b	0.416 (± 0.001) ^b
Shared Hotspots	0.422 (± 0.004) ^{a,b}	0.417 (± 0.004) ^b

^{a,b}Groups significantly different within populations by Wilcoxon Rank Test; $p < 0.05$

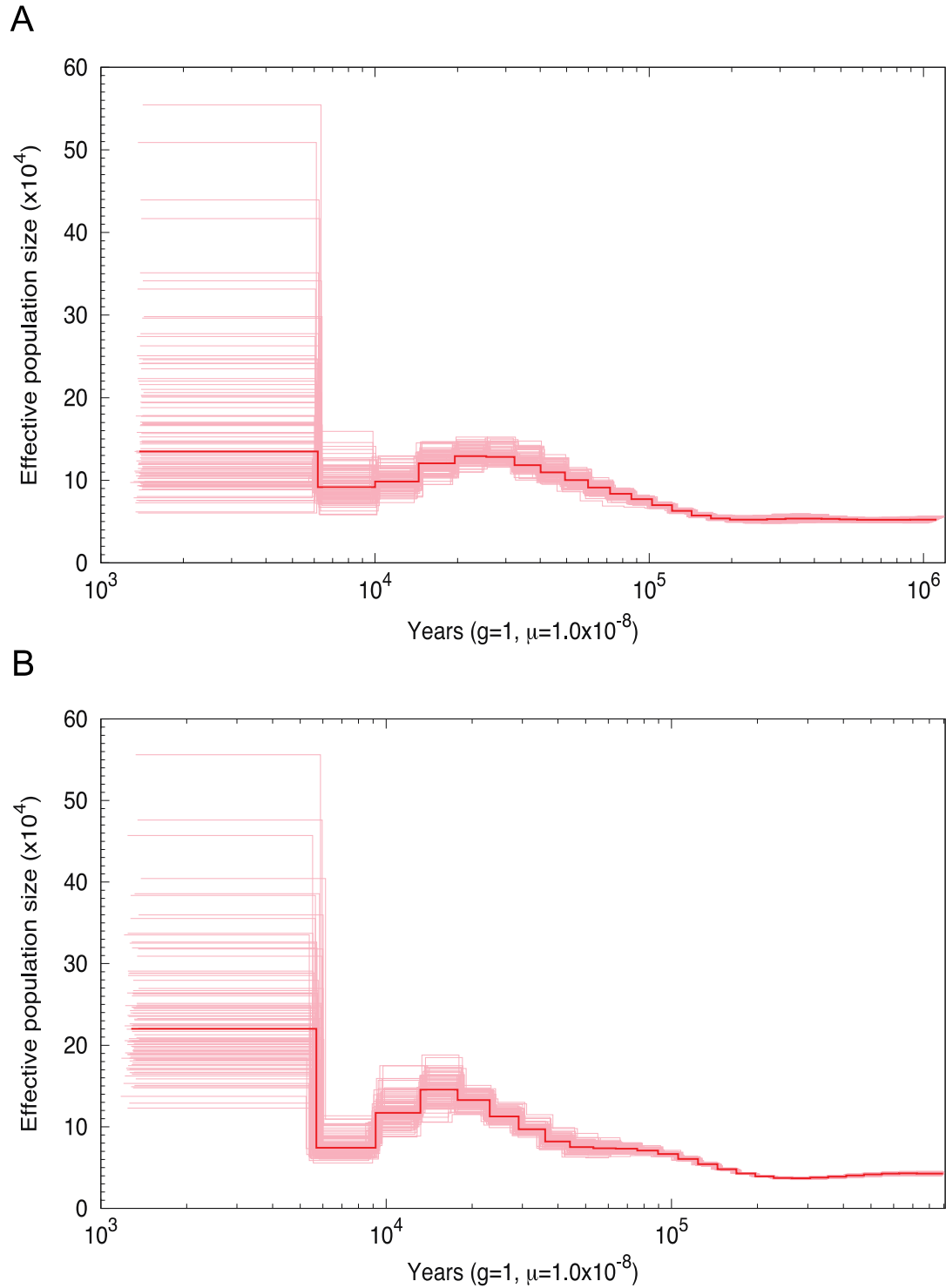


Figure 1. Lake Washington and Puget Sound have experienced past population bottlenecks. Demographic history for Lake Washington (A) and Puget Sound (B) was estimated using pairwise sequential Markov coalescent (PSMC) from a single female fish from each population. 100 bootstrap replicates around the estimated history are shown.

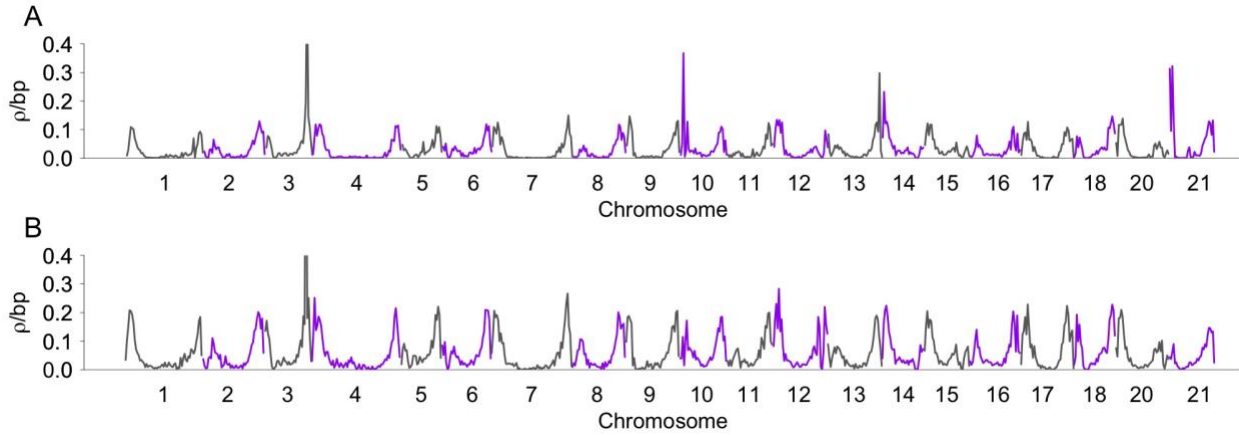


Figure 2. Recombination rates are similar at a broad scale in each population. Mean recombination rates were estimated using LDHelmet in non-overlapping 500 kb windows for each autosome in Lake Washington (A) and Puget Sound (B). Centromere positions are shown in Supplemental Figures 3 and 4. Transitions between gray and purple indicate different chromosomes.

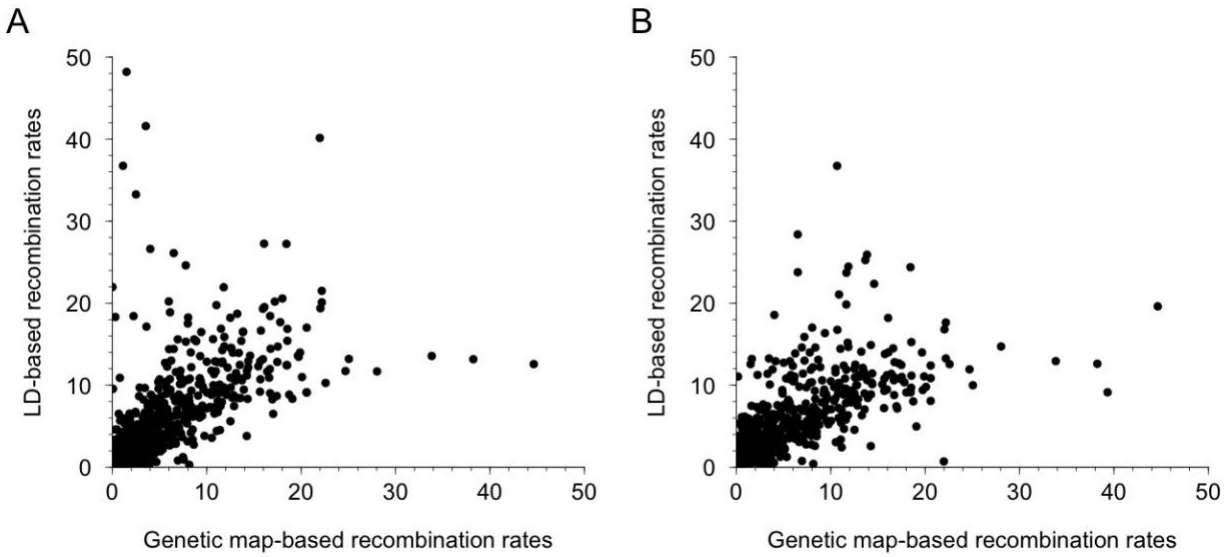


Figure 3. LD-based estimates of recombination rates are highly correlated with estimates from genetic linkage maps. Population-scaled recombination rates were converted to cM/Mb. There is a significant positive correlation in Lake Washington (Spearman's rank correlation; $r = 0.830$; $p < 0.001$) (A) and Puget Sound (Spearman's rank correlation; $r = 0.810$; $p < 0.001$) (B) between LD-based recombination rates and genetic map-based recombination rates.

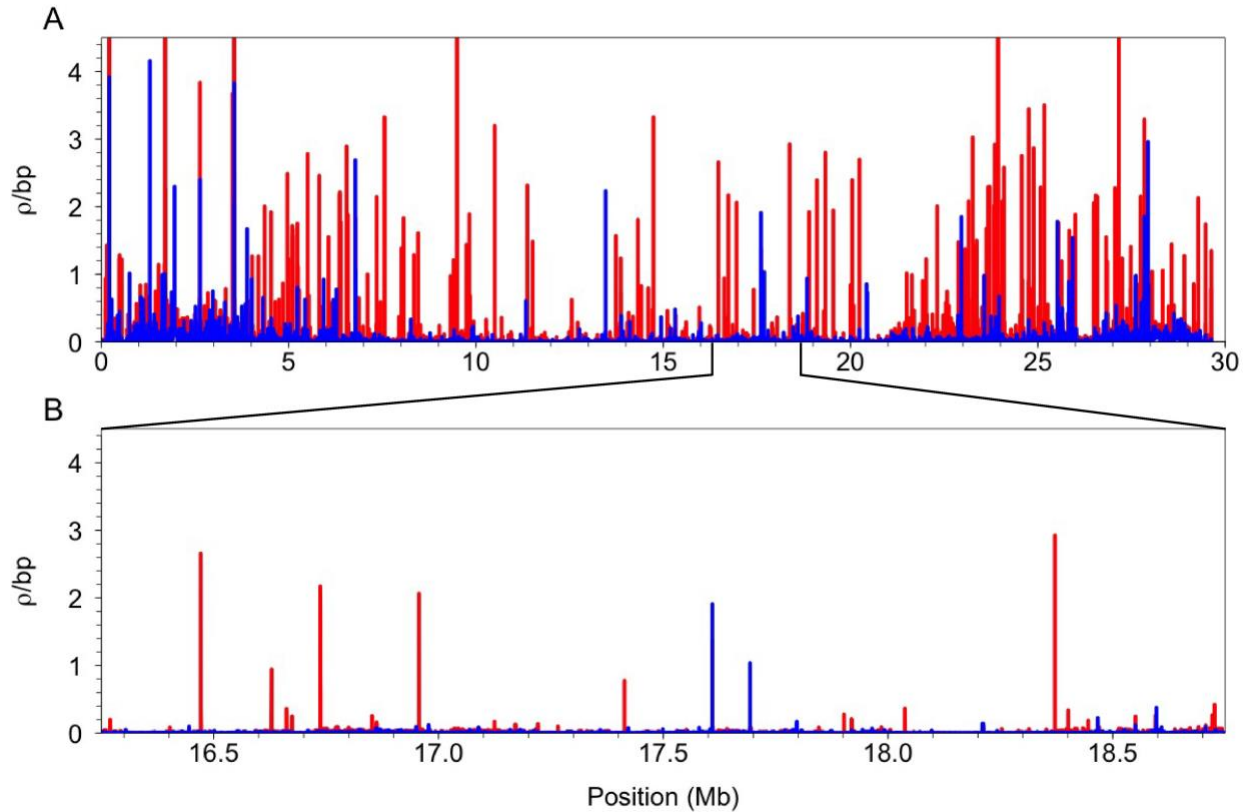


Figure 4. Recombination rates vary at a fine-scale across chromosome one. Population-scaled recombination rates across chromosome one are shown for Puget Sound (red) and Lake Washington (blue) (A). A subset of chromosome one is shown to highlight population-specific peaks of recombination across a narrow 2.5 Mb region (B). Only recombination rates below 4.5 ρ/bp are shown. The remaining chromosome plots are in supplemental figures 3 and 4.

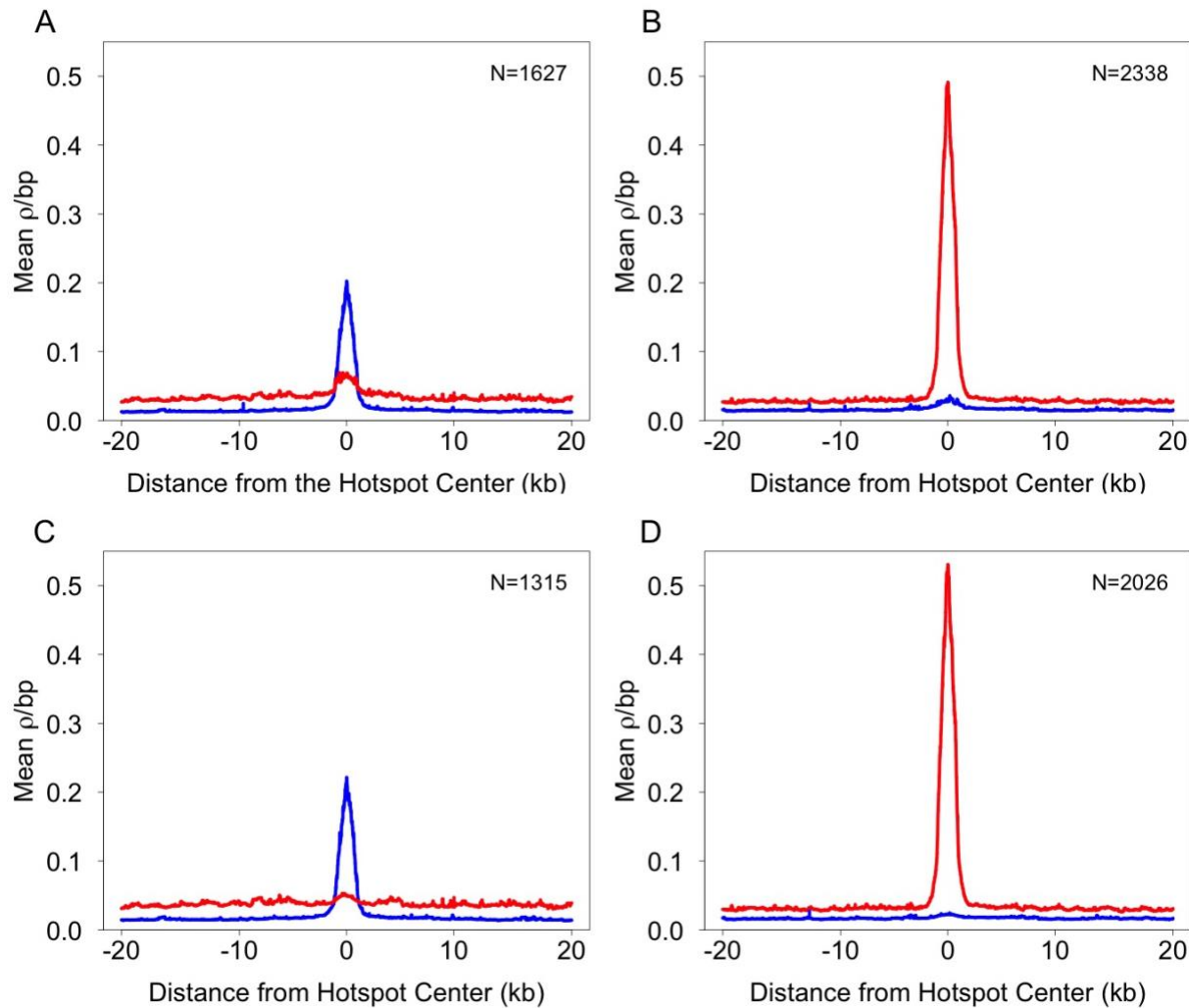


Figure 5. LD-based recombination rates around hotspots are population-specific. Mean recombination rates are shown across a 40 kb interval, flanking the center of hotspots. The mean recombination rate in shared and population-specific Lake Washington hotspots is higher in the Lake Washington population compared to the homologous regions in the Puget Sound population (A). The mean recombination rate in shared and population-specific Puget Sound hotspots are higher in the Puget Sound population compared to the homologous regions in the Lake Washington population (B). The pattern is more pronounced when shared hotspots are removed from the comparison, leaving only the population-specific hotspots (C and D). Puget Sound is shown in red and Lake Washington is shown in blue.

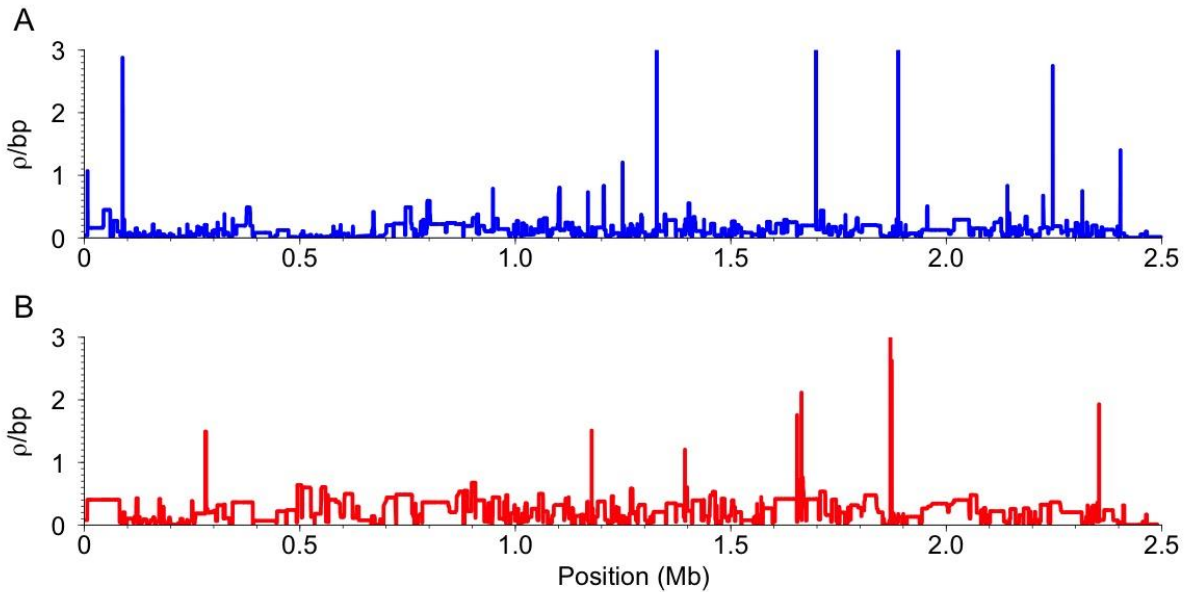


Figure 6. LD-based recombination rates are higher across the pseudoautosomal region (PAR). The PAR is the first ~2.5 Mb of linkage group 19. The Lake Washington (A) and Puget Sound (B) population-specific rates are shown separately. Overall, recombination rates are higher across the PAR than the autosomes (see Figure 4B) (Lake Washington PAR average: 0.129 ρ /bp; Lake Washington autosome-wide average: 0.035 ρ /bp; Puget Sound PAR average: 0.232 ρ /bp; Puget Sound autosome-wide average: 0.072 ρ /bp).