

1 **Supplementary material for**

2  
3 **Archaeological mitogenomes illuminate the historical ecology of sea otters (*Enhydra lutris*)**  
4 **and the viability of reintroduction**

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# 1 **Supplementary Material Text**

## 2 **Archaeological Materials**

3 The Par-Tee (35CLT20) and Palmrose (35CLT47) sites are coastal shell middens excavated  
4 between 1967 and 1977 at Seaside, Oregon (1), located about 28km south of the mouth of the  
5 Columbia River. Par-Tee is located closest to the shoreline and dates to 1850-1150 B.P.  
6 (calendar years before present; (2)), while Palmrose (2600-1600 calendar years B.P.; (3,4)) is  
7 located ~1 mile inland. The sites were excavated by Robert Drucker and George Phebus and  
8 their volunteers in 5 × 5 foot (~1.5 × 1.5 m) units in arbitrary one-foot (~30 cm) levels. All  
9 sediments were screened over 1/4-inch mesh (1). Unit depths varied, reaching up to six feet (1.8  
10 m) in some locations. Phebus and Drucker sampled around 550m<sup>2</sup> at Par-Tee, making it one of  
11 the “most extensively excavated sites on the Northwest Coast south of Ozette” (5). The Par-Tee  
12 (35CLT20) assemblage is housed at the Smithsonian Institution National Museum of Natural  
13 History (NMNH) in Washington, D.C. The Palmrose (35CLT47) assemblage is split between the  
14 NMNH and the Museum of Natural and Cultural History (MNCH) at the University of Oregon in  
15 Eugene. We sampled twenty right lower first molars (M<sub>1</sub>s): ten from Palmrose, and ten from Par-  
16 Tee, thus ensuring that each tooth represented a single individual. We chose right M<sub>1</sub>s because  
17 they represented the total highest Minimum Number of Individuals (MNI=50) in the two sites,  
18 and were overall well preserved.

## 19 **Historical Dental Calculus Samples**

20 We used dental calculus (calcified plaque) from 21 historical Pacific Coast sea otters as a  
21 source for mitogenomes to compare to the archaeological Oregon sea otters. Although these  
22 samples range in age from ~1859 to 1983, and encompass pre-extirpation and post-fur trade  
23 eras, we consider them historical due to their age (>30 years old) and the fragmented  
24 preservation of endogenous DNA in calculus (6,7). Five of the specimens date from ~1859-  
25 1911, just prior to/concurrent with the fur trade extirpations (8,9), while eleven date to 1949  
26 or later, representing post-fur trade populations. Four of the specimens were undated. Four  
27 specimens are reintroduction-era (1960s) Amchitka Island sea otters. Amchitka Island sea  
28 otters served as the source population for reintroductions to Southeast Alaska, British  
29 Columbia, and Washington, and therefore likely reflect present genetic diversity in those  
30 areas (8), precluding the need for additional sampling of modern northern individuals and  
31 serving as the northern comparison for this study. Sixteen of the skulls sampled for calculus  
32 are housed in the Department of Mammals at the NMNH, and five are in the collections of the  
33 Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History (SBMNH), California. Specimen metadata and  
34 photographs are in Table S1 and Figures S2-S3.

## 36 **Previous Phenotype Studies**

37 Roest (10) analyzed various morphological traits to determine phenotypic traits by subspecies.  
38 Wilson et al. (11) defined three subspecies: *E. l. lutris* from the Kuriles north to the Commander  
39 Islands, *E. l. kenyoni* from the Aleutians to Washington, and *E. l. nereis* for California and south.  
40 They found pre-reintroduction Oregon sea otters were intermediate to California and northern  
41 sub-populations, but more “properly classified” with Alaska sea otters (11). Lyman (12) and  
42 Wellman (13) used archaeological and modern crania, teeth, and long bones to investigate how  
43 Oregon sea otters compared phenotypically to modern California and Alaska sea otters. Lyman  
44 found archaeological Oregon sea otter teeth were intermediate in size between modern California  
45 and Alaska sea otters (12). Wellman replicated Lyman’s study and expanded the tooth sample

1 size and incorporated humeri and femora measurements (13). Wellman concluded, similarly to  
2 Lyman and Wilson et al., that archaeological Oregon sea otter measurements were intermediate  
3 between modern California and Alaska sea otters, and that variation in size occurred on a  
4 latitudinal cline. Wellman found more Oregon measurements were significantly different from  
5 those from California, compared to Lyman who noted more overlap between Oregon and  
6 California. The slight differences in results between Wellman and Lyman are consistent with  
7 variation on a latitudinal cline: Wellman analyzed archaeological sea otter specimens from the  
8 Par-Tee and Palmrose sites located on the northern Oregon coast, while Lyman measured sea  
9 otters from the central/southern Oregon coast.

## 11 Genetic analysis

### 12 *Ancient and Historical DNA Sampling*

13 All ancient DNA labwork was performed in the Laboratories of Molecular Anthropology and  
14 Microbiome Research (LMAMR) at the University of Oklahoma, Norman. The Ancient DNA  
15 Laboratory at LMAMR follows established contamination control workflows (14,15), including  
16 physical separation from all laboratories in which PCR is performed, unidirectional work flows  
17 to avoid cross-contamination, regular sterilization of all work surfaces with bleach solution,  
18 overhead UV lights, and the use of full body Tyvek suits, masks, and gloves by all researchers.

19 The archaeological sea otter teeth were cleaned with a dilute bleach solution to remove  
20 surface contamination. A Dremel was used to abrade/remove remaining debris and the outermost  
21 layer of cementum from the tooth root being sampled. The root was then removed from the  
22 crown. The root was ground into a powder and ~100 mg was used for DNA extraction. In the  
23 research collections at NMNH and SBMNH, dental calculus was carefully removed from the  
24 tooth using a dental scaler directly into a sterile Eppendorf tube. Each tube is placed in a “bowl”  
25 shaped from tin foil, ensuring the dental calculus is contained and will not contaminate other  
26 tubes or the work surface. Gloves were changed between taking samples, cleaning, or handling  
27 specimens.

### 29 *Ancient and Historical DNA Extraction*

30 Ancient dentine and historical calculus samples were decontaminated in a UV Crosslinker and  
31 predigested in 1 ml of EDTA (0.5 M) for 15 minutes. The supernatant was removed and an  
32 additional 1 ml of EDTA (0.5 M) was added to the samples which were placed on a rotating  
33 nutator at room temperature overnight. 100 uL of Qiagen proteinase K was added to the samples  
34 which were returned to the rotating nutator at room temperature for two days. The dentine  
35 samples underwent a second round of EDTA and proteinase K treatment. DNA was extracted  
36 using a modified existing silica-extraction protocol (16,17).

### 38 *High Throughput Sequencing Library Preparation*

39 Library preparation on the ancient dentine and historical calculus samples was performed  
40 following previously published protocols (18). Up to 100 mg of DNA was treated with a half  
41 reaction of UDG to repair ancient DNA damage while maintaining the terminal damage required  
42 to verify molecule authenticity (19). UDG-half treated samples were built into dual indexed  
43 Illumina shotgun libraries using a NEBNext DNA Library for 454 Master Mix kit, then cleaned  
44 with silica column purification (Qiagen MinElute PCR Purification Kit). Library preparation on  
45 the historical samples was performed following the previously published BEST protocols (20)  
46 which also included partial UDG treatment (19) followed by SPRI bead purification. Ancient and

1 historical libraries were quantified using a qPCR SYBRGreen Assay to determine PCR cycle  
2 number. Both ancient and historical libraries were then amplified in triplicate between 10 and 24  
3 cycles at the following PCR program: initial denaturation at 95 °C for 5 min, denaturation at 98  
4 °C for 20 s, annealing at 60°C for 15 s, elongation at 72°C for 30 s, and a final elongation at  
5 72°C for 1 min.

#### 6 7 *Mitogenome Capture*

8 Following PCR amplification, ancient and historical samples were cleaned using SPRI bead  
9 purification and quantified using a fluorometer (Qubit). The ancient and historical mtDNA  
10 genomes were captured using custom *Enhydra lutris* bait probes (myBaits) following the  
11 myBaits protocol (MYBaits User Manual version 3.02). In brief, the cleaned libraries were  
12 allowed to hybridize with the baits in the thermal cycler at 60 °C for 48 hours. The captured  
13 libraries were then bound to Dynabeads MyOne Streptavidin C1 beads by hybridizing in the  
14 thermal cycler for three 3 min cycles at 60 °C. Following purification according to the myBaits  
15 protocol, the captured libraries were assayed using qPCR and amplified as follows: initial  
16 denaturation at 98 °C for 2 min, 12-22 cycles of denaturation at 98 °C for 20 s, annealing at  
17 60°C for 15 s, elongation at 72°C for 30 s, and a final elongation at 72°C for 5 min. The  
18 captured, amplified libraries were removed from the beads and pooled. The libraries were then  
19 analyzed for fragment length using Fragment Analyzer, pooled in equimolar ratios and adapter  
20 dimers were removed by selecting fragments within 150 bp to 500 bp size range on the  
21 PippinPrep. The pooled libraries were sequenced on an Illumina MiSeq 2 x 150 at the University  
22 of Oklahoma Consolidated Core Laboratory.

#### 23 24 *Bioinformatic analyses*

25 After capture, reads were processed using a pipeline tailored to ancient mitogenomic analysis.  
26 Paired reads were merged, trimmed, and adapter sequences removed with Adapter Removal2 (v.  
27 2.1.7); (21). Reads were mapped to a reference sea otter mitogenome (22) using Burrows  
28 Wheeler Aligner (bwa v. 0.7.17); (23) with minor modifications (-l 1000 -n 0.1). Reads were  
29 filtered and sorted to remove duplicates, low quality, and unmapped reads (samtools) (24). BAM  
30 files were processed with MapDamage2 (25) to evaluate ancient DNA damage patterns and  
31 authenticity using fragment length plots (Figs. S4 and S5). Qualimap2 was used to generate  
32 genome coverage statistics. Variant calls were made using samtools mpileup and VarScan2 (v.  
33 2.4.3) on rescaled BAM files. Unusual numbers of heterozygous SNP calls were generated in the  
34 sequences derived from dental calculus. After ruling out possible contamination by mapping  
35 sequences to the human mitogenome, the mapping parameters were modified to those specified  
36 above, and variant calls in the rescaled bam files were examined manually in Geneious (v.  
37 11.1.4).

38 The rescaled bam files were rendered into consensus sequences in Geneious and aligned  
39 with MAFFT as implemented in Geneious (26,27). The alignment was visually inspected.  
40 Positions 2655/2656 appear to be the result of deletion or amplification errors. These positions  
41 were manually edited to N as a conservative call prior to downstream analysis. Additional  
42 positions 16,375-16,432 in D-loop were removed for downstream analysis due to missing data  
43 and poor alignment. Four historical samples (188634, A49492, 1366F, 285441) failed quality  
44 control and two archaeological samples (PRSE2G-3, PRNE1K-3) were not sequenced  
45 successfully and were excluded from downstream analysis.

1 PopArt was used to estimate a median-joining network (28,29). Haplotype diversity was  
2 calculated in DnaSP (v. 6) (30). In order to explore and visualize the temporal signal associated  
3 with haplotype diversity, we used TempNet in R (v. 3.6.3). The alignment was separated by  
4 rough time period (Palmrose and Par-Tee sites, respectively, and historical). Alignments were  
5 stripped for identical sites and ambiguities in Geneious prior to TempNet analysis. Raw sequence  
6 data are available through the NCBI Short Read Archive (SRA) under BioProject accession  
7 PRJNA550086. Consensus sequences and the alignment used for analysis (ModAlign.fa) are  
8 available from the Dryad Digital Repository (<https://doi.org/10.5061/dryad.djh9w0vxz>).

### 9 *Phylogenetic Analysis*

10 Given the well-dated contexts and specimens we attempted to estimate tMRCA for populations  
11 in this study using BEAST. One sample from each haplotype was aligned as described above. To  
12 evaluate the temporal signal in the data and identify outlier samples, we generated a neighbor  
13 joining tree with Geneious Tree Builder with the Jukes-Cantor model and 1000 bootstrap  
14 replicates for use with TempEst (v. 1.5.3) (Fig. S6).

15 For each sample a tip date was provided to TempEst. Archaeological sample dates (PR  
16 and PT in figure) were based on published AMS radiocarbon dates (Palmrose: 2600-1600 BP  
17 (3,4) and Par-Tee: 2300-800 BP (2)). Historical samples were given collection dates associated  
18 with the specimens. If collection date was unknown 1900  $\pm$  100 was used. The modern  
19 California samples were collected between 2000 and 2014 (31), so 2007  $\pm$  7 was used. The  
20 heuristic residual mean squared analysis with best-fitting root indicated poor temporal signal (R  
21 squared 0.1215). The estimated time tMRCA for all samples in this analysis was 15,993 years  
22 BP. One sample in particular (188636) from the Kurile Islands of Japan is less divergent than  
23 sampling age (blue) while several others are more divergent than their sampling age (red) (Fig.  
24 S7). We repeated the analysis without sample 188636 and the R squared remained low (0.1568)  
25 (Fig. S8).

26 Additionally, we evaluated both codon and gene partitions (excluding tRNAs) using  
27 PartitionFinder (v. 2.1.1) and identified three partitions using the AIC criteria. The first partition  
28 consisted of 16S, 12S, and the first codon site for each gene, except ND5 in which it was the  
29 second codon site. The second partition included the second codon site for all genes but the third  
30 codon site for ND5 and the last partition consisted of the third codon site and the first codon for  
31 ND5. ND5 is transcribed in the opposite direction of the other genes. We used these partitions to  
32 conduct maximum likelihood phylogenetic analysis with IQ-TREE (32) as implemented on IQ-  
33 TREE (v. 1.6.12) with 1000 bootstrap replicates (Fig. S9). IQ-TREE selected the HKY+F+I  
34 model for partition one and HKY+F for partitions two and three. When analyzed in TempEst,  
35 this phylogeny (Fig. S10) yielded similar, poor temporal results (low R squared value = 9.3485E-  
36 2). The consistent low R squared values across these analyses suggest it is not suitable to pursue  
37 a tip dated phylogenetic analysis.

### 38 **Prior Genetic Studies**

39 Previous genetic analyses suggested that archaeological Oregon sea otters shared haplotypes  
40 with California sea otters (33,34). To establish whether these patterns held when combined with  
41 the data sequenced for this study the Larson et al. and Valentine et al. sequences were aligned to  
42 the final alignment which was trimmed to account for the minimum length of the previously  
43 published sequences (222 bp). A median-joining network was created in PopArt (28,29). The  
44 resulting network (Figure S1) differs from the network generated with complete mitogenomes  
45  
46

1 (Figure 2): the archaeological Oregon sea otters are split and assigned to single modern  
2 California (blue) and Alaska (green) haplotypes, the historical Washington and B.C. samples are  
3 grouped with the California haplotype, and the clear division between California and northern  
4 haplotypes is eliminated. Trimming the alignment excluded base changes present in the complete  
5 mitogenome outside of the 222 bp D-loop section. The difference in interpretation suggests that  
6 complete mitogenome analyses, now enabled by reduced costs and advances in Next Generation  
7 Sequencing (NGS), may better capture overall diversity in haplotypes than smaller sequences.

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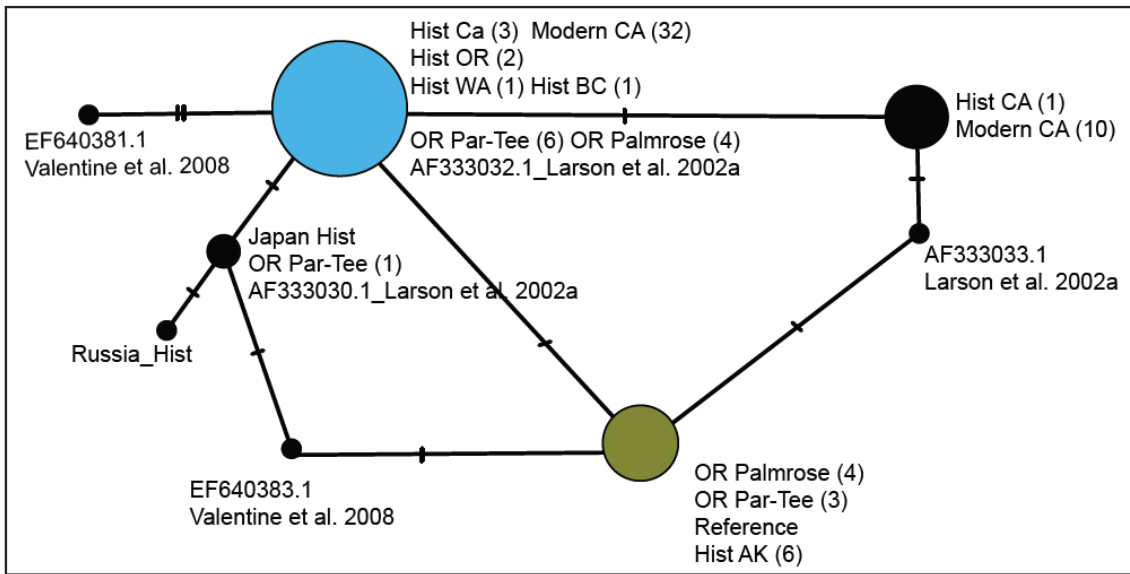
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22



**Fig. S1.** Median joining network of trimmed alignment including Larson et al. 2002a and Valentine et al. 2008 data. Nodes represent unique haplotypes; node size represents haplotype frequency. Hash marks represent nucleotide changes between haplotypes.



Fig. 2A: Archaeological specimen PTSE7F-6



Fig. 2B: Archaeological specimen PTSE8J-8



Fig. 2G: Archaeological specimen PTSE5J-8



Fig. 2H: Archaeological specimen PTSALV



Fig. 2C: Archaeological specimen PTSE14J-7



Fig. 2D: Archaeological specimen PTSE5G-7



Fig. 2I: Archaeological specimen PTSE11J-8



Fig. 2J: Archaeological specimen PTSE13K-4



Fig. 2E: Archaeological specimen PTSW19H-8



Fig. 2F: Archaeological specimen PTNE12G-9



Fig. 2K: Archaeological specimen PRSW6N-3



Fig. 2L: Archaeological specimen PRSW5D-4



Fig. 2M: Archaeological specimen PRNE1E-5



Fig. 2N: Archaeological specimen PRNE1G-3



Fig. 2O: Archaeological specimen PRNE1I-5



Fig. 2P: Archaeological specimen PRNE1K-3



Fig. 2Q: Archaeological specimen PRNE2Q-6



Fig. 2R: Archaeological specimen PRNE4E-4



Fig. 2S: Archaeological specimen PRSE2G-3



Fig. 2T: Archaeological specimen PRSE3E-6

**Fig. S2.** Photos of archaeological specimens prior to sampling. Palmrose specimens are labeled "PR" and Par-Tee specimens are labeled "PT," followed by their provenience.



Fig.3A: NMNH sea otter specimen 285470



Fig. 3B: NMNH sea otter specimen 285469



Fig. 3C: NMNH sea otter specimen 527170

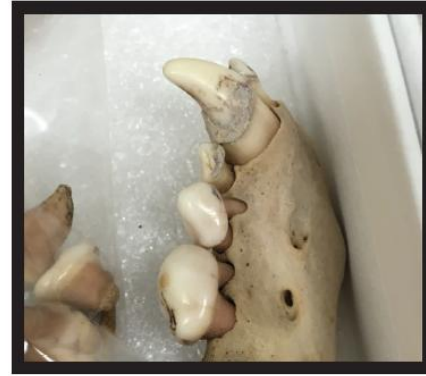
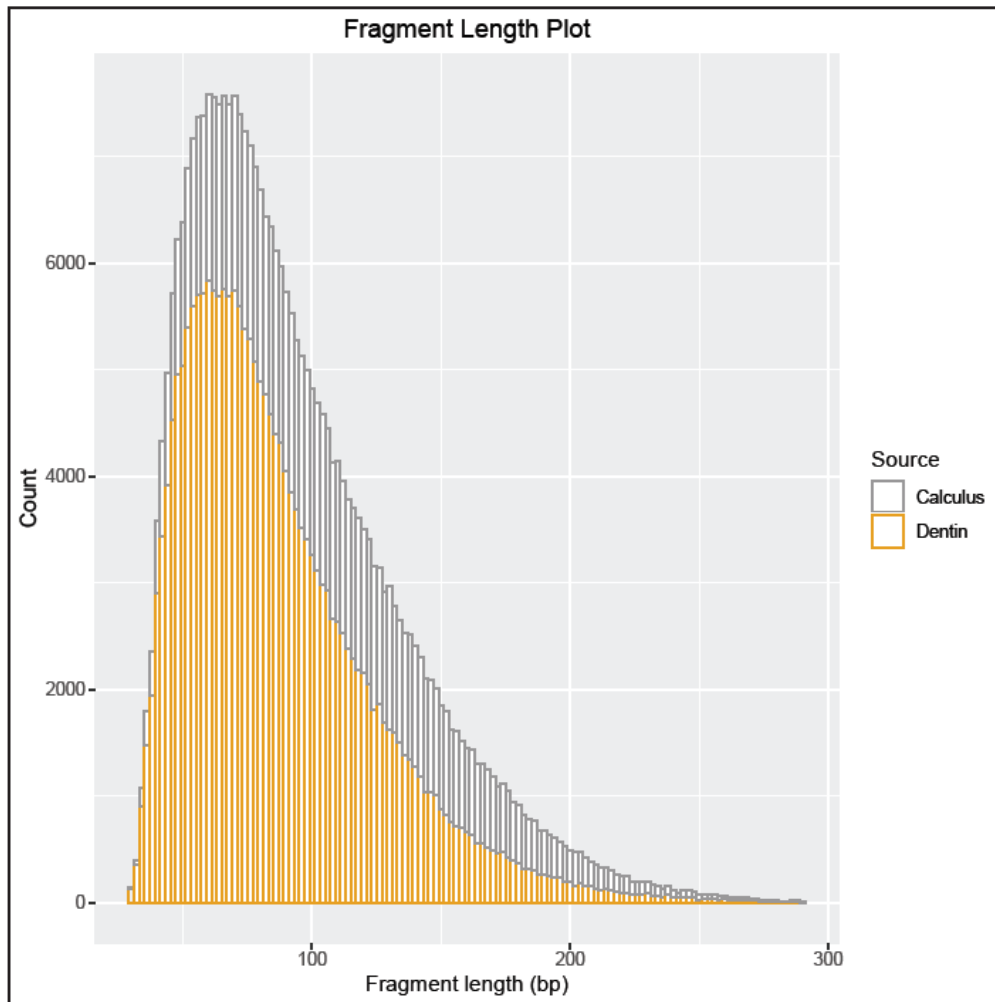


Fig. 3D: NMNH sea otter specimen 527162

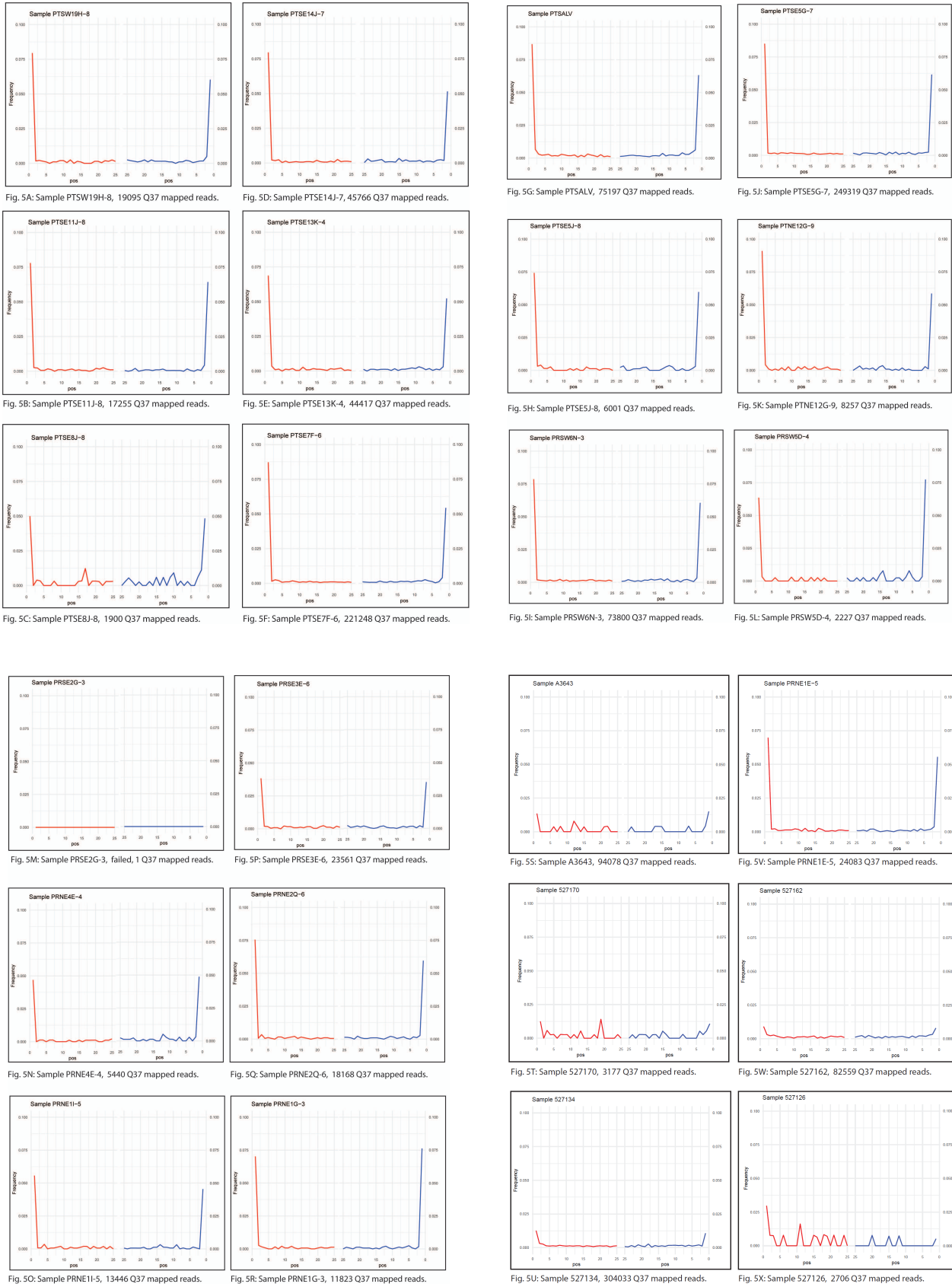


Fig. 3E: NMNH sea otter specimen 396641

**Fig. S3.** Photos of selected historical dental calculus specimens prior to sampling.



**Fig. S4.** Fragment length plot for ancient dentine (yellow) and historical calculus (gray) samples.



**Fig. S5.** Damage plots for all archaeological dentine and historical calculus mitogenomes.

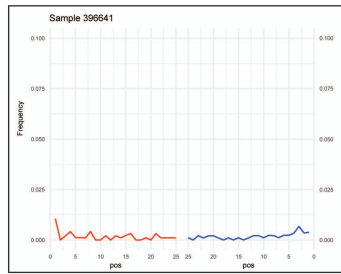


Fig. 5Y: Sample 396641, 12527 Q37 mapped reads.

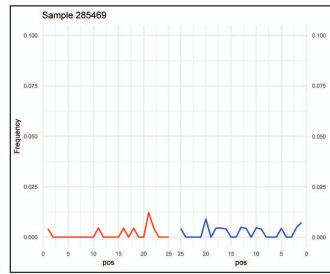


Fig. 5BB: Sample 285469, 26969 Q37 mapped reads.

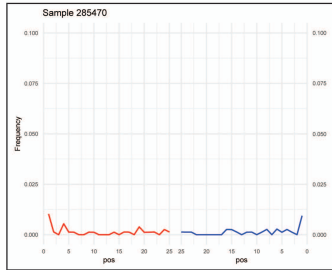


Fig. 5Z: Sample 285470, 56307 Q37 mapped reads.

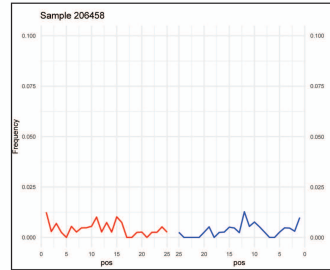


Fig. 5CC: Sample 206458, 5728 Q37 mapped reads.

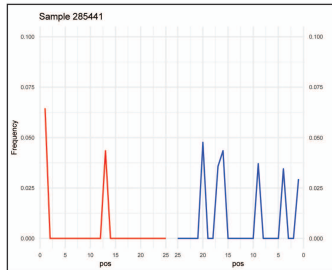


Fig. 5AA: Sample 285441, 2229 Q37 mapped reads.

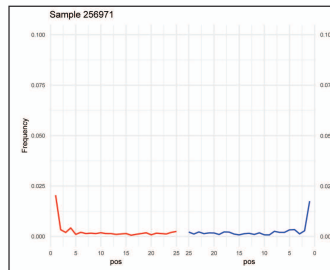


Fig. 5DD: Sample 256971, 78499 Q37 mapped reads.

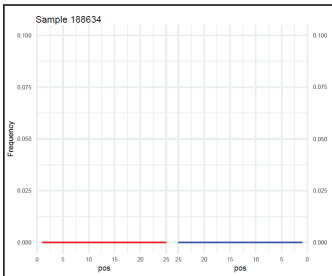


Fig. 5EE: Sample 188634, failed, 17 Q37 mapped reads.

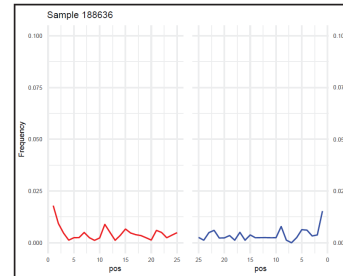


Fig. 5GG: Sample 188636, 7386 Q37 mapped reads.

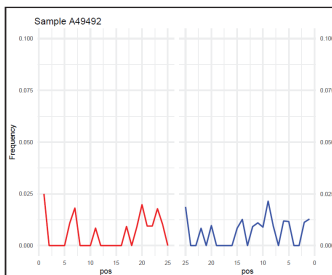


Fig. 5FF: Sample A49492, 4056 Q37 mapped reads.

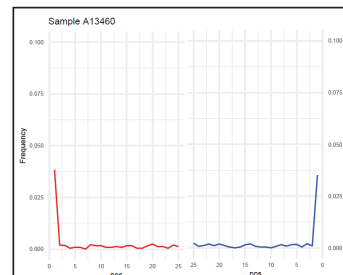
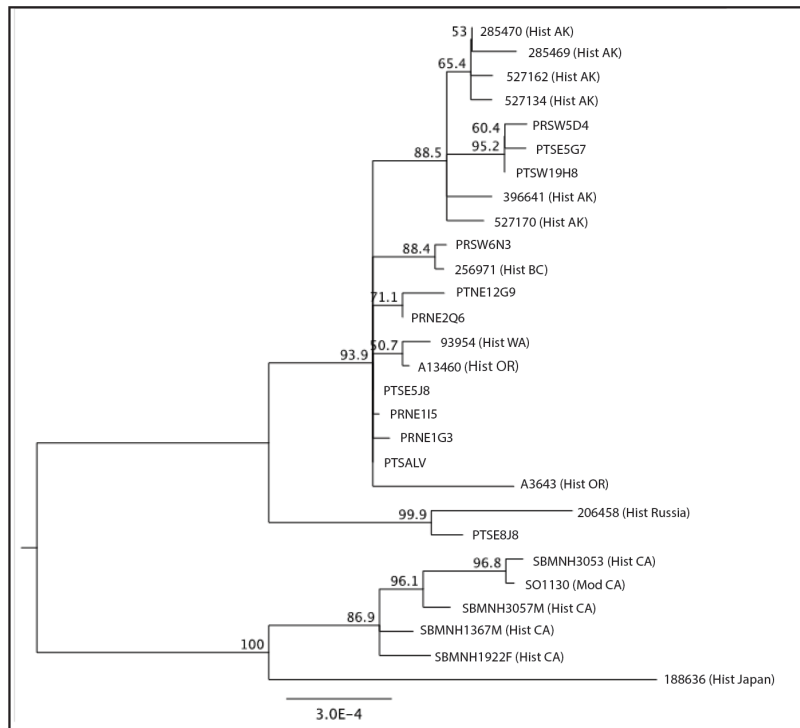


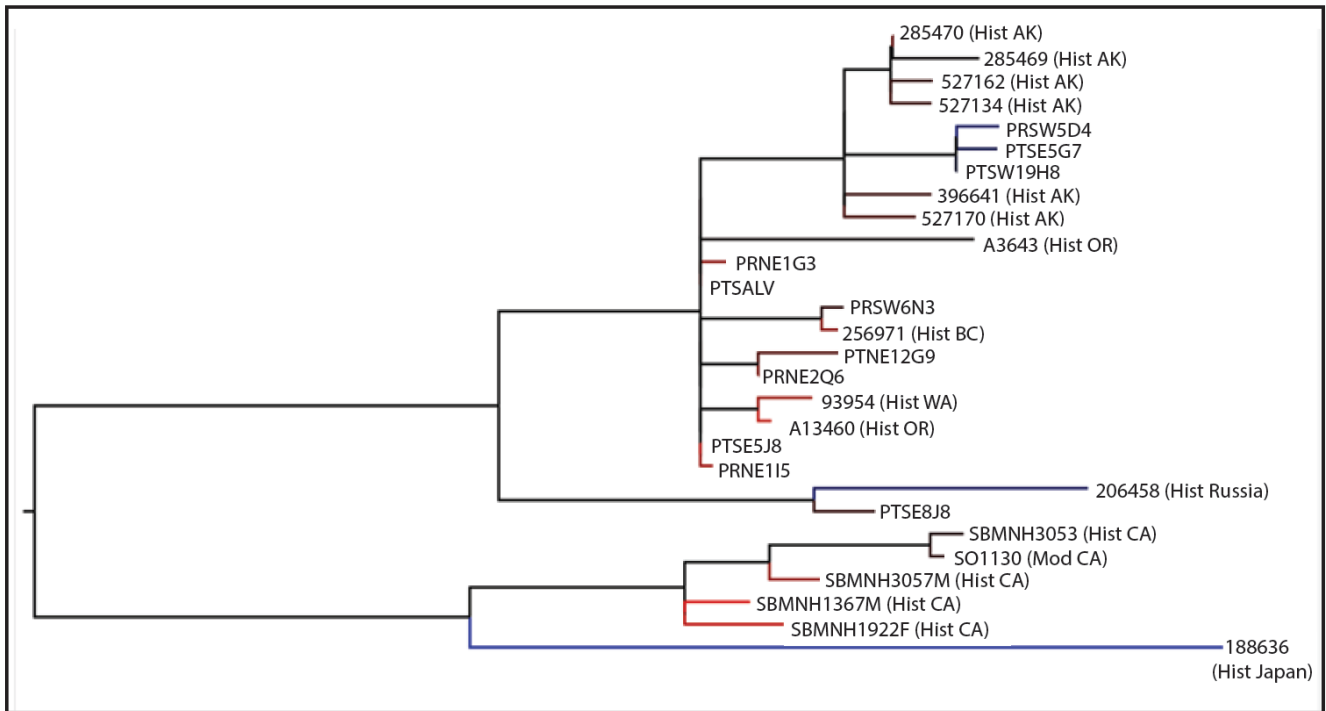
Fig. 5HH: Sample A13460, 7386 Q37 mapped reads.

**Fig. S5.** Damage plots for all archaeological dentine and historical calculus mitogenomes.

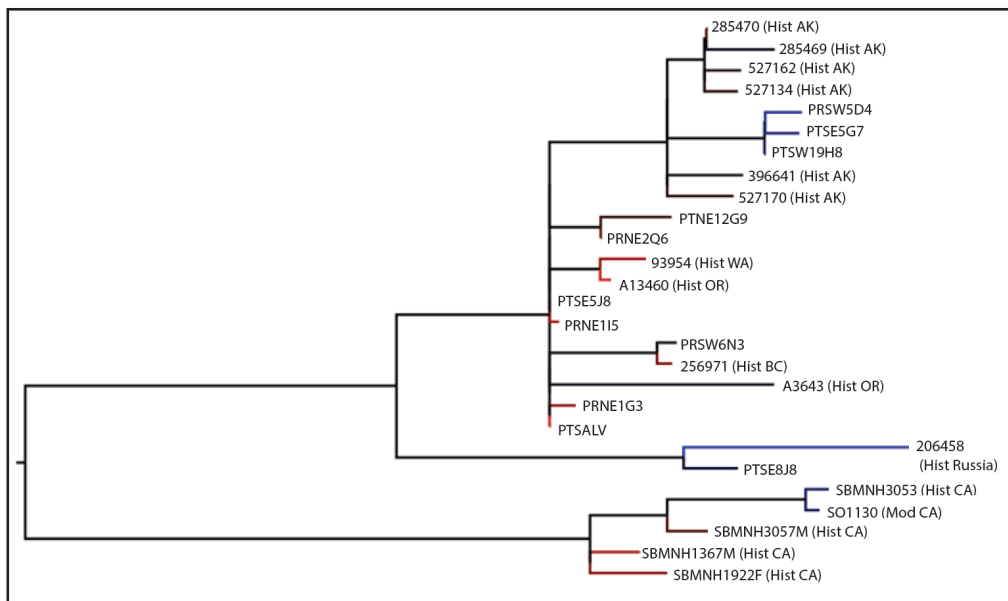


**Fig. S6.** Neighbor-joining phylogeny of representative ancient and modern sea otter mitogenomes. Phylogeny built with Geneious Tree Builder and 1000 bootstrap replicates using Jukes-Cantor model. Bootstrap values are displayed on the nodes and scale indicates substitutions per site.

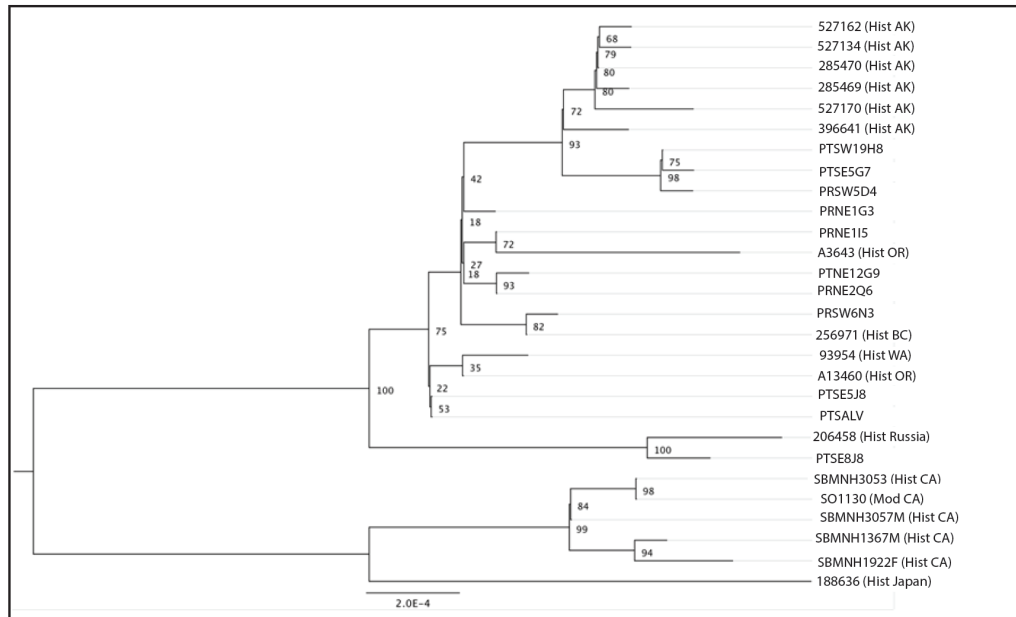




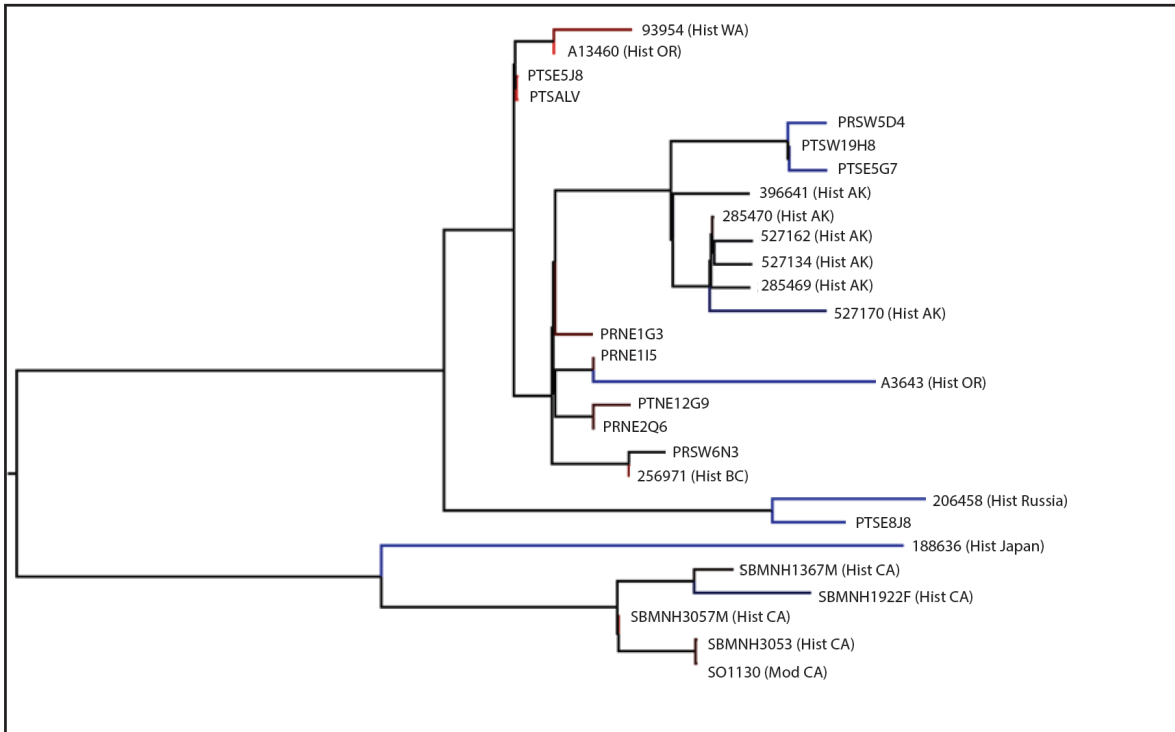
**Fig. S7.** TempEst analysis of neighbor joining phylogeny of sea otter mitogenomes. Samples with sequence divergence greater than expected given their age have red branches while those branches with less divergence than sampling age are blue.



**Fig. S8.** TempEst analysis of neighbor joining phylogeny of sea otter mitogenomes without 188636. Samples with sequence divergence greater than expected given their age have red branches while those branches with less divergence than sampling age are blue.



**Fig. S9.** Maximum likelihood phylogenetic analysis of sea otter mitogenomes built using IQ-TREE with 1000 bootstrap replicates. Bootstrap values are displayed on the nodes and scale indicates substitutions per site.



**Fig. S10.** TempEst analysis of maximum likelihood phylogeny of sea otter mitogenomes using IQ-TREE generated in Fig. S9. The phylogeny yields poor temporal results ( $R^2 = 9.3485E-2$ ).