



CCGP Newsletter

Issue #01 - May 31, 2021

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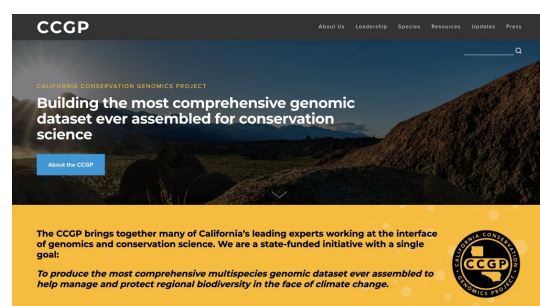
Our First Issue

We're excited to launch our inaugural CCGP Newsletter. As we are well past the one-year mark since we sent the first call for proposals, we have a lot to share and are looking forward to engaging with all of you. CCGP will be sending out a newsletter every two months to all of our PIs, committee members, partners, and other interested parties. Topics will include progress updates, upcoming webinars and events, and relevant news from the scientific community. We want this newsletter to be valuable for you so please share your feedback and suggestions.

Our Website is Live

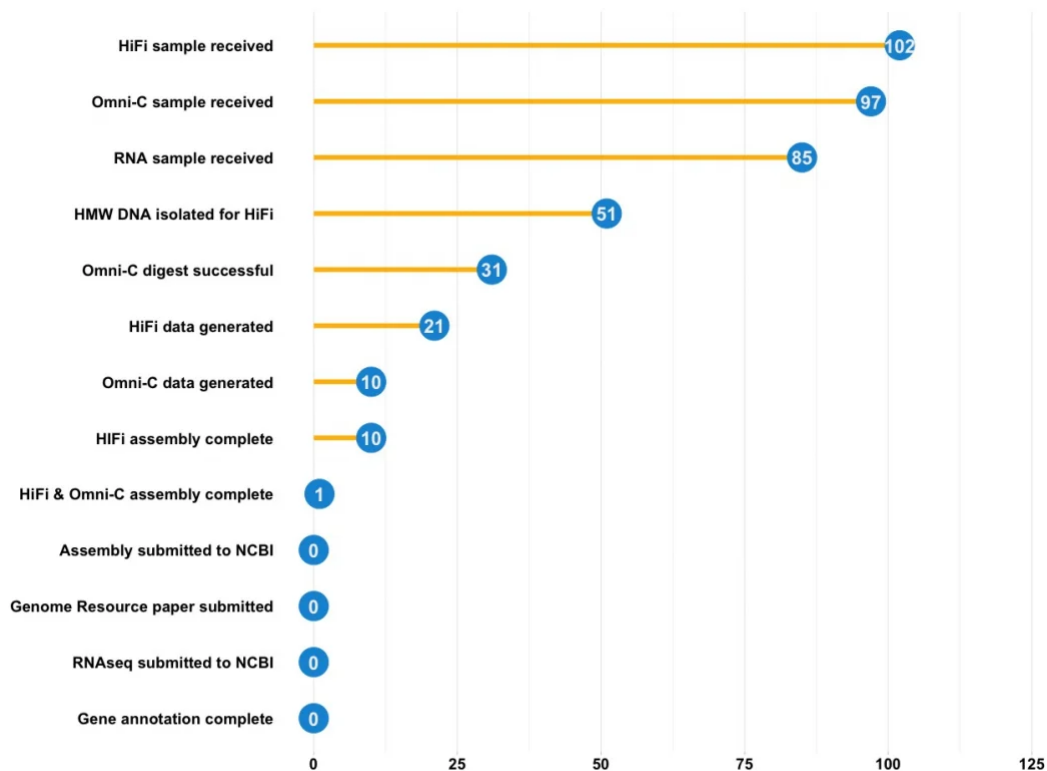
If you haven't seen it yet, the new CCGP website can be found here:

ccgproject.org.



In addition to information about CCGP, such as the species we are working on, you can find resources for submitting samples for reference genome sequencing and whole genome resequencing. We plan to keep the site updated with our progress and relevant announcements. Feel free to share our site with anyone who may be interested in CCGP. Also, please let us know if there is something you would like to see on the site or if your lab has anything to share with the CCGP community. Requests, thoughts, and questions can be directed to [Courtney](#).

Finally, thanks to everyone who submitted images and descriptions of the species in their project. If your species is not featured, it is likely that we are missing an image and/or description as outlined in the [submission form](#).



[Sample submission status and HiFi & Omni-C assembly progress](#)

Reference Genome Sequencing

CCGP is in the process of generating high quality reference genomes for all species projects. This involves extracting high molecular weight (HMW) DNA and employing both [HiFi](#) and [Omni-C](#) sequencing to assemble the genome. This assembly is then uploaded to [NCBI](#) where it will be annotated using RNA sequencing data that we are also generating. Of the roughly 150 species on track to generate reference genomes, samples for 102, 97, and 85 have been received by UCD, UCSC, and UCLA respectively. We have completed a full assembly for *Arctostaphylos glauca* (Big berry manzanita) and the general statistics for the remaining 8 completed HiFi assemblies are looking great. Reference genome sequencing is the first phase of any CCGP project, and we're

very pleased with our progress to date. Once your species has had HMW DNA isolation completed, we will notify you, but please don't hesitate to reach out with any status related questions. Also, if you would like to track the status of your species, you can do so [here](#).

On Friday, March 12th, Merly Escalona (who is assembling our reference genomes) gave a fantastic overview of CCGP's effort and progress on as part of the [Vertebrate Genome Project \(VGP\)](#)/[Earth BioGenome Project \(EBP\)](#), weekly assembly call. Click [here](#) if you would like to watch the recording from this meeting.

Progress Reports

We recently sent out brief surveys to capture the current status of all of the CCGP projects. This was our way of getting a snapshot of where each project is in the pipeline from data collection to generating genomic resources. We plan to send out different versions of these surveys at different phases of CCGP throughout the next two years.

Mollusk Genomics

Alice Dennis from the University of Potsdam reached out to us as she is hoping to gather together people working on whole-genome sequencing in mollusks. In addition to general communication about lab methods and assembly efforts, she is interested in setting up standards for assemblies and annotation, providing training, and exploring collaborative work across systems that may help generate funding opportunities. She has created a [spreadsheet](#) for interested people to put their information.

Comings & Goings

CCGP would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the efforts of Stephen ("Fringy") Richards as he moves on from CCGP. Fringy, who is also a project scientist for the [Earth BioGenome Project](#), provided invaluable knowledge, support, and coordination as the project manager for the CCGP reference genomes. Thanks Fringy! We wish you the best!

CCGP in the News

CCGP was recently featured in [UC Santa Cruz Science notes](#) in an article called "The big data of biodiversity: How California will use powerful genomics technology to

shape the future of conservation in the state".

Illustration: Sonja Pinck

[Click here to see where else CCGP has been featured](#)



Have anything to share?

We took the liberty of selecting some sharable material from one of CCGP's PIs, Professor Rosie Gillespie (UC Berkeley), to feature on the "Highlights From Our Team Members" section on the [Updates](#) page. See [this post](#) as an example. If your lab has any interesting information to share or you come across something that may be of interest to the CCGP community, please don't hesitate to let us know. [Click here to get in touch!](#)

CCGP Contacts:

Brad Shaffer (Director) brad.shaffer@ucla.edu

Erin Toffelmier (Associate Director) etoff@ucla.edu

Courtney Miller (Fund/Project Manager) courtneymiller@ucla.edu

Dan Oliveira (Lab Technician) danrodriguesolive@gmail.com

Merly Escalona (Reference genomes) mmescal@ucsc.edu

Ryan Harrigan (Landscape analysis & mapping) iluvsa@ucla.edu

California Conservation Genomics Project

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