1	Selection effects on early life history traits and thermal resistance in brook charr
2	Salvelinus fontinalis
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- 19 Abstract
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In the context of climate change, it is crucial to understand whether animals that have 21 been domesticated and/or selected maintain their abilities to adapt to changes in their thermal 22 environment. Here, we tested how selection for absence of early sexual maturation combined 23 24 with better growth performance may have impacted thermal resistance and gene expression response in the presence of thermal stress in brook charr Salvelinus fontinalis (Mitchill, 1814). 25 We performed temperature challenge tests on brook charr 0+ juveniles and studied the 26 27 expression of genes involved in the response to oxidative stress, in synthesis of heat shock proteins, or involved in regulation of apoptosis, in heart and liver tissues. Juveniles from the 28 selected lineage had a higher thermal resistance than controls and a loss of equilibrium occurred 29 on average 1°C above what was observed for the controls. The relative expressions of *catalase* 30 and HSP70 were significantly higher in juveniles from the selection program. Overall, 31 32 thermally sensitive fish were characterized by low mass and length and lower relative expressions of genes associated with stress response. Our results indicate that selection for traits 33 of interests may be indirectly related to the significant lineage effect on growth in early stages 34 35 of development.

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38 *Keywords*: maternal effect, paternal effect, selection, temperature, challenge tests

39 Introduction

40 In animal production, it is essential to ensure that environmental rearing conditions are adequate for fish growth, welfare, and profitability. Factors such as rearing physical units, 41 42 environmental conditions, season, species, genetic background, developmental stage, and exposure to multiple stressors should be considered because they can affect all levels of the 43 organisms' growth responses (Ashley 2007; Alfonso et al. 2020; Islam et al. 2021). Except for 44 recirculating aquaculture systems, where environmental conditions can be tightly controlled, 45 several fish farming areas are already facing environmental changes such as increased water 46 temperature (Ahmed et al. 2019). In flow-through or open production systems, where 47 environmental conditions are difficult or impossible to control, fish are exposed to seasonal 48 variations in water temperature, and these variations can differ from one location to another. 49

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Changes in environmental conditions, such as temperature, hypoxia, and algal blooms, are 51 increasing in frequency and duration, and are often unpredictable (Rabalais et al. 2010; 52 Frölicher and Laufkötter 2018; Collins et al. 2019; Rodgers 2021). Fishes are especially 53 vulnerable to these environmental changes because their physiology-as ectotherms-is 54 determined by thermodynamic effects of the surrounding water temperature, which sets their 55 body temperature (Currie and Schulte 2014; Fry 1971; Schulte et al. 2011). This context also 56 affects stocking activities where released fish must cope with a changing environment. 57 Resistance (in this paper, considered as a weak reaction to a sudden and intense change) and 58 tolerance (adaptation to lasting changes) to temperature are therefore of interest for fish farm 59 60 management and productivity.

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Domestication has been practiced for centuries but applied to relatively few terrestrial crops
and animals (Giuffra et al. 2000; Diamond 2002; Burt 2005; Pozzi and Salamini 2007; Kovach

et al. 2007). Phenotypic changes caused by artificial selection have been abundantly 64 documented in several domesticated species and can be interpreted as rapid human-induced 65 evolutionary changes (Duarte et al. 2007). In the last decades, selective breeding of fishes has 66 considerably increased production performances of farmed species (Janssen et al. 2017; Wiens 67 et al. 2018). Yet, it has been suggested that fish selected for faster growth may suffer from an 68 immune-response deficiency and reduced adaptive potential to pathogen exposure (Glover et 69 al. 2006a, 2006b). Therefore, the goals of breeding programs should be redefined to include not 70 only production traits, but also economic traits, such as veterinary costs (e.g., resulting from 71 higher rates of disease occurrences), as well as the welfare of animals and their response to 72 73 environmental changes. Understanding how changes in relevant environmental parameters affect physiological performance is vital in selection processes. 74

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Fish experiencing temperature variations may experience alterations in their biochemical, 76 molecular, and physiological processes related to the maintenance of homeostasis (Birnie-77 Gauvin et al. 2017; Corey et al. 2017; Cheng et al. 2018; Vargas-Chacoff et al. 2018). Thermal 78 stress can lead to oxidative stress in organisms through the production of reactive oxygen 79 species (ROS) and the organism's inability to detoxify the ROS role in the maintenance of 80 81 cellular activity, including inter- and intracellular active ROS or injury repair (Birnie-Gauvin et al. 2017). ROS are naturally synthesized by cells and play a major signaling role (ability of 82 a cell to receive, process, and transmit signals) (Halliwell and Gutteridge 2015). Nevertheless, 83 when organisms are exposed to environmental stress, ROS can increase extensively and cause 84 cell injury. These active species are known to increase heat shock factors (Lesser 2011) and the 85 expression of genes coding for heat shock proteins (HSP) (Kregel 2002; Heise et al. 2006). In 86 fish, HSPs function as molecular chaperones to prevent protein aggregation and denaturation, 87 and to maintain protein homeostasis during periods of thermal stress (Iwama et al. 1999). 88

HSP70 and HSP90 are two highly conserved proteins from the heat shock response (Lindquist 89 and Craig 1988). The expressions of genes coding for HSP in response to a thermal challenge 90 has been documented for salmonids species (Narum et al. 2010; Stitt et al. 2014; Corey et al. 91 2017). For example, the temperature of HSP70 induction in brook charr Salvelinus fontinalis 92 (Mitchill, 1814) was correlated with the thermal ecological limits of this species in the wild 93 (Chadwick Jr. et al. 2015), and levels of HSP70 expression were shown to covary with 94 differences in thermal tolerance among populations (Stitt et al. 2014). Variations among 95 populations in the magnitude of HSP and the capacity for acclimation may play a significant 96 role in determining the ecological response of species to climate change (Tomanek 2008, 2010; 97 98 Somero 2010). Fishes have also developed antioxidant defense mechanisms to scavenge ROS and consequently control the oxidative damage they induce, including antioxidant enzymes 99 such as superoxide dismutase (SOD), catalase (CAT), and glutathion peroxidase (GPx; 100 101 Martínez-Álvarez et al. 2005). In addition, oxidative stress can directly or indirectly damage DNA and cause cellular apoptosis (Chandra et al. 2000). Apoptosis is a process of programmed 102 cell death that plays a vital role in cellular development and the immune system as an 103 indispensable component of various cellular processes capable of mediating the phagocytic 104 removal of dying or infected cells (AnvariFar et al. 2017). Caspase is a family of cysteine 105 106 proteases that play essential roles in the process of apoptosis. Caspase-9, the initiator of caspases, can activate downstream caspases (Wang and Lenardo 2000). Caspase-3 is the major 107 executioner of caspases; it is responsible for the proteolytic cleavage of many critical cellular 108 109 proteins (Elmore 2007). Finally, the control and regulation of these apoptotic mitochondrial events occur through members of the BCL-2 (B-cell lymphoma) family of proteins (Cory and 110 Adams 2002), which are anti-apoptotic. These proteins have special significance since they can 111 determine if the cell undergoes apoptosis or aborts the process (Elmore 2007). 112

Brook charr supports ecologically, socioeconomically, and culturally important fisheries in 114 North America, South America, Europe, and parts of Asia and Australia (MacCrimmon 1971; 115 Budy et al. 2013). In Québec, brook charr is an important species for recreational fishing, and 116 fish farming production is strongly linked to restocking (MAPAQ 2019). From 1948 to 2016, 117 the annual average air temperature of Canada has increased by 1.7°C, about twice as fast as the 118 world average (Bush and Lemmen 2019). Brook charr is particularly vulnerable to climate 119 120 change because of its dependence on cold, clean water (Wenger et al. 2011). Genetic variation may not be sufficient to allow rapid adaptation to new selection pressures induced by global 121 warming (Møller and Merilä 2004). Phenotypic plasticity could represent a rapid response 122 123 mechanism to adapt to these changes (Merilä and Hendry 2014).

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Two lineages, one control (C) and one under selection (S), of the Laval brook charr strain were 125 126 used to produce and raise families under identical conditions. The selected lineage originated from a breeding program aiming to optimize growth and minimize early sexual maturation, 127 while the control lineage was from random breeding (Sauvage et al. 2010; Houle et al. 2023). 128 In this study, we tested how selection for the absence of early sexual maturation combined with 129 130 better growth performance may have impacted thermal resistance and gene expression response 131 in the presence of thermal stress in brook charr. We used an F5 generation from both the C and S lines and tested for the presence of parental effects and estimated heritability of early growth 132 rates. At about seven months of age, we investigated the thermal resistance of 0+ brook charr 133 134 juveniles and tested how selection may have impacted thermal resistance and the gene expression response in the presence of thermal stress by examining the expression of genes 135 involved in the response to oxidative stress (CAT, SOD, GPX), heat shock (HSP70, HSP90), 136 and apoptosis (CASP3, CASP9, BCL) in heart and liver tissue. These two tissues were chosen 137 because of their high rate of aerobic metabolism (heart) and their role in detoxification (liver). 138

Using transcriptomics, Sauvage et al. (2010) showed that, after three generations of selection, there was an over-representation of genes related to growth (protein metabolism, different coenzymes) in the S line of the Laval strain when compared to individuals from the C lineage, but an under-representation of genes related to immunity, indicating potential negative effects of the selection process. Based on this, we hypothesized that control fish would perform better than selected fish in response to thermal stress.

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146 Materials and methods

Breeding, animal husbandry, and thermal challenges were done according to Canadian Council
of Animal Protection recommendations and protocols have been approved by the UQAR
Animal Care Committee.

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151 Animals and general rearing conditions

Juvenile brook charr were obtained from fifth-generation Laval strain breeders reared 152 153 in captivity at the Station aquicole (ISMER/UQAR, Rimouski, QC, Canada). The Laval strain originates from a wild population of anadromous brook charr from the Laval River (48°44'N; 154 69°05'W) on the north shore of the St. Lawrence estuary (QC, Canada; Crespel et al. 2011, 155 2013). Two lineages were used: the control lineage was obtained from random crosses at each 156 generation, while the selected lineage was issued from a breeding program aiming to optimize 157 growth and minimize early sexual maturation (Sauvage et al. 2010). Fish were reared under 158 natural temperature, salinity, and photoperiod conditions, according to their life history stage. 159

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Breeders from both lineages, control (C) and selected (S), were reared in water with a salinity of 20‰ until mid-September, when gradual freshwater (FW) transition was completed within one week. Ovulation began in mid-November and lasted through mid-December within each lineage. Crosses were made separately within each lineage. The eggs of each female were split
into two batches, each fertilized by two different males, and each male was used to fertilize the
eggs of two different females (Fig. 1).

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From egg incubation (December 2018) to exogenous feeding (June 2019), half-sib families (9 168 for the C lineage; 14 for the S lineage) were kept separate in recirculating freshwater and reared 169 in three troughs, each trough being divided into 11. Eggs were incubated in a flow-through 170 system in darkness until hatching, and temperature followed the normal winter decrease to 4°C. 171 172 Water temperature was maintained at 4°C until two weeks post hatching and then gradually increased to 8°C (1°C per week) with a 12:12 photoperiod to reach the optimal temperature for 173 the first feeding stage. Temperature was recorded every day, and dead eggs or dead fry were 174 counted each morning. Surviving fry were counted once first feeding started, which allowed us 175 to determine the total number of eggs present for each family at the start of the experiment. 176 177 Development times (100% hatch, 100% yolk-sac resorption) were calculated in degree days (sum of temperatures measured each morning; DD). At hatching, the time of development was 178 calculated from fertilization to 100% hatching. At the yolk-sac resorption stage, the time of 179 development was calculated from fertilization until resorption. When the seasonal water 180 temperature reached 8°C, juveniles were exposed to natural seasonal temperature and 181 photoperiod conditions (46°45' N) and were fed according to commercial charts (% of food per 182 body mass according to fish length and temperature conditions). They were marked according 183 to paternal identity by fin clippings, and an average of 92 juveniles issued from each male were 184 transferred to 0.2 m³ tanks, combining progenies from eight different males per tank. A total of 185 14 paternal progenies were obtained, seven control and seven selected. 186

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188 Survival and development monitoring

At 100% hatching, 50 individuals per family were sampled, and measurements of embryonic length, yolk-sac length (YSL), and yolk-sac diameter (mm) were made using a caliper. The standard cylindrical relationship of yolk-sac volume (YSV= $\pi \times$ YSL \times r²) was used to estimate yolk-sac volume (mm³), where r represents the yolk-sac radius (Perry et al. 2004). In some families with very low survival percentages, measurements were made only on 25 individuals. At yolk-sac resorption, 50 individuals (25 in families with low survival) per family were measured.

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197 Preliminary thermal resistance experiment

198 To optimize conditions of the temperature challenge tests, i.e. to determine the inflexion point at which temperature is raised at a slower rate to better discriminate thermal resistance of 199 tested fish, critical thermal maximum (CTmax) (McKenzie et al. 2021) experiments were 200 201 conducted prior to challenge tests. These trials were conducted on the same day on 0+ juveniles in a 0.2 m³ circular test tank equipped with two 1800 W heaters (EHEIM). A submersible pump 202 (10 L min⁻¹; 10 W; 60 Hz, EHEIM) was used to generate a slow circular current within the tank. 203 The water O₂ level, monitored with a FireSting GO₂ oximeter (PyrosScience GmbH, Aachen, 204 Germany), was maintained > 90% O_2 air saturation using gentle bubbling. At the beginning of 205 206 the trial, the tank was filled with the same fresh, aerated, dechlorinated, municipal tap water supplying the rearing tanks at 12.6°C. A total of four CTmax trials were conducted. Fish were 207 starved 24 h prior to CTmax trials. Fifteen juveniles (different fish for each trial) were randomly 208 209 collected from rearing tanks and gently transferred to the trial tank. After a 20-min acclimation period, the two heaters were turned on and the CTmax trial began. Water was heated at a 210 constant rate of 0.2°C min⁻¹, and temperature was recorded every 30 s during the trial (Optical 211 Oxygen and Temperature meter FireSting-O₂, Pyroscience, Aachen, Germany). The loss of 212 equilibrium (LOE) was considered as the CTmax endpoint (Ziegeweid et al. 2008). As soon as 213

a loss of equilibrium was noted, juveniles were removed from the tank and put back in rearing tanks for recuperation. Once each reached this endpoint, the final temperature was recorded. The CTmax trial ended when the last fish lost equilibrium. The mean CTmax was about 28.47 $\pm 0.21^{\circ}$ C (mean \pm S.D.).

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219 Thermal resistance trials

Two thermal resistance trials (S and C juveniles) were conducted with the same set up 220 used for the CTmax trials (190 L conical tank, submersible pump 10 L min⁻¹, bubbling air, 221 oximeter, and heaters, $O_2 > 90\%$). We needed to test both lines separately to avoid familial 222 223 marking overlaps A maximum of 350 fish (non-previously used for the CTmax tests) were 224 tested at once per challenge. Fish were randomly collected from their respective rearing tanks and gently transferred to the trial tank. Identification of markings prior to the transfer would 225 have induced important stress. As initial numbers or juveniles per paternal progeny that have 226 been marked and maintained in rearing tanks were similar, we expected all male progenies 227 being represented in the challenge tests. After a 20-min acclimation period, heaters were turned 228 on and temperature was incrementally increased as described in Claireaux et al. (2013) and 229 Mauduit et al. (2016, 2019). During the first period, temperature increased by 0.1°C min⁻¹ 230 (1800 W) until reaching 26°C after which a slower increase rate (0.02°C min⁻¹) was applied 231 (300 W). The inflection point of the curve was determined from the results obtained for the 232 CTmax trial (~ 2°C before CTmax was reached). Temperature was recorded every 30 s during 233 the trial. The thermal resistance endpoint was considered to be the LOE (Ziegeweid et al. 2008). 234 The thermal resistance trial ended when the last fish lost equilibrium. Every fish that was 235 removed from the experimental tank was identified to male breeder (fin clipping marks). LOE 236 temperature was expressed in heat accumulation (°C) over time (min), hereafter referred as 237 degree-minutes, and calculated as follows: 238

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240 Cumulated degree-minutes at time t = $\sum_{t=0}^{t=n} (T_t - T_0)$

241 T_t : temperature (°C) at t time

242 T₀: initial temperature, here corresponding to the beginning of the experiment

243 n: duration of the experiment in minutes

244

Cumulated degree-minutes (CDM) were used instead of temperature or exposure time (taken separately) to combine the magnitude of temperature change experienced by fish with an exposure time "x". Using cumulated degree-minutes leads to an accurate comparison of experiments, allowing an integration of inter-experiment temperature variations (Fig. S1).

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250 **Tissue samplings**

There were three sampling periods during each trial: 1) The first ten fish reaching LOE (classified as sensitive), a group of ten fish which reached LOE in the middle of the trial (the 170th to 180th fish removed from the experimental tank, classified as median), and the last 10 fish reaching LOE (340^{th} - 350^{th} , classified as resistant). When fish lost equilibrium, they were anaesthetized with MS-222 (0.08 g L⁻¹; Sigma-Aldrich Co., Missouri, USA), weighed, measured (standard length [SL]), the spinal cord severed, and liver and heart were dissected out and stored at -80° C.

258

259 mRNA expression

Total liver RNA (n = 8 per treatment) was extracted from 30 mg of tissue using the RNeasy Plus Universal Mini Kit (ref: 73404, Qiagen Inc., Mississauga, ON, Canada) according to the manufacturer's instructions. Heart mass was < 30 mg, so pools of three hearts (same lineage, same level of sensitivity) were used to obtain 30 mg of tissue and extracted using

RNeasy Fibrous Tissue Mini Kit (ref: 74704, Qiagen Inc.). Total RNA purity and concentration 264 265 were controlled using the 260/280 nm absorbance ratio measured with a NanoDrop instrument (NanoDrop ND-1000 spectrophotometer version 3.3.0; NanoDrop Technologies, Inc., 266 Wilmington, Delaware, USA). RNA purity was also assessed by SYBR safe staining of 28S 267 and 18S ribosomal RNA bands separated by electrophoresis on a 1.2% agarose gel. cDNA was 268 obtained by reverse transcription (in duplicate) on 200 ng μ l⁻¹ of total RNA from each sample 269 using a Quantitect Reverse Transcription kit® (ref: 205313, Qiagen Inc.) with integrated 270 removal of genomic DNA contamination. cDNA concentrations were estimated using a 271 NanoDrop spectrophotometer. Duplicate cDNAs were pooled for each sample and stored at 272 273 -20°C until analyses. qPCR was performed for each sample on pooled cDNA using the iCycler iQTM (Bio-Rad Laboratories Inc., Ontario, Canada) with TaqManTM Fast Advanced Master Mix 274 (ref: 4444964, Life Technologies, USA) and Taqman primers and probes (ref: 4331348, Life 275 276 Technologies, USA).

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Taqman mRNA primers were designed using Primer Express software version 3.0 (Applied 278 Biosystems, Waltham, MA, USA; Table 1). For the three housekeeping genes, β -actine 279 (KF783182.1), 18S (FJ710889.1), EF1 α (KF783203.1), and for HSP70 (KF783199.1), and 280 HSP90 (KF783201.1), mRNA sequences from brook charr were available on the GenBank 281 database (Sayers et al. 2019). CAT, SOD, CASP3, and CASP9 sequences from S. fontinalis 282 transcriptome were obtained from L. Bernatchez's lab (Université Laval, QC, Canada) and used 283 284 to design primers. The GPx sequence was obtained from K. Jeffries' lab (University of Manitoba, Canada). Finally, the BCL sequence for brook charr was not available, so we used 285 the primer designing tool of NCBI (https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/tools/primer-blast/) for 286 Atlantic salmon (Salmo salar) sequence (NM 001141086.1) to obtain primers and do classical 287 PCR (AmpliTag Gold 360 Master Mix, ref: 4398881, Applied Biosystems, USA) to obtain 288

products that were sequenced. Once a specific sequence of brook charr was obtained, TaqMan
mRNA primers were designed using Primer Express.

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TaqMan[™] Fast Advanced Master mix (Thermo Fisher Scientific, Inc.) was used to prepare all
qPCR reaction mixtures. The cycle parameters were as follows: UNG incubation at 50°C for
2 min, polymerase activation at 95°C for 20 s, denaturation at 95°C for 1 s, and then annealing
and extension at 60°C for 20 s; 45 cycles were done with QuantStudio 3 Real Time PCR System
(ThermoFisher, USA). All RT-qPCR reactions were performed in triplicate.

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The comparative Cycle Threshold (CT) method (also known as the $2^{-\Delta\Delta CT}$ method) from Livak 298 and Schmittgen (2001) was used to calculate the relative amount of transcripts in all groups. 299 Before applying this method, several assumptions were verified: the efficiency of the PCR was 300 301 close to 1 and the PCR efficiency of the target gene was similar to the internal control gene (Livak and Schmittgen 2001). To determine which gene transcripts were up- or down-regulated 302 according to lineages and thermal resistance, $2^{-\Delta\Delta CT}$ was calculated as follows: $\Delta\Delta Ct$ is the ΔCt 303 for the unknown minus ΔCt for the calibrator sample (control – sensitive), and Ct is the 304 difference between the Ct for the target gene and the mean of reference genes. A score was used 305 306 to identify the most stable reference gene in samples (Vandesompele et al. 2002). For heart, 18S, β -actine, and EF1 α were used as reference genes, while β actine and EF1 α genes were 307 used for liver. Ct of CASP3 was too high (mRNA level expression too low) to have reliable 308 309 results for most samples, so we decided not to consider it for the rest of the study.

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311 Statistical analyses

Arcsin transformation was applied to survival at hatching data to achieve normality.
Generalized Linear Mixed Models (GLMM) and Linear Mixed Models (LMM) were built for

survival data and for SL and YSV, respectively (lineage: fixed effect, dam and sire identity: random effects; package lme4). Models were simplified by a backward elimination procedure, where the least significant term, based on p-value, was sequentially removed, until all remaining variables were significant (i.e., $p \le 0.05$, confirmed by a Likelihood Ratio Test). Marginal and conditional R² were obtained via the r-squared function from the piecewiseSEM R package (Lefcheck 2016). Linear models were used for degree-days (DD) because random effects were not significant for this variable (see Table 2 for selected models).

321

Animal models were built to decompose the phenotypic variance using ASReml-R, version 4. 322 The total phenotypic variance (V_P) was decomposed into the additive genetic variance (V_A) , 323 the variance associated to dam (V_D) , and the variance attributed to sire (V_S) . We also included 324 fixed effects deemed significant by analyses described above. Since V_S was always negligible, 325 only four models were retained: Null, V_D, V_A, V_A+V_D. Model selection was made following a 326 comparison of Akaike information criteria (AIC). The Δ AIC values (difference between the 327 AIC of one model and the lowest AIC obtained) were calculated. The models that were retained 328 were those with the highest AIC (as in Vega-Trejo et al. 2018), and the weight (wi) of each 329 model was calculated. The proportions of phenotypic variance and heritability h^2 (= V_A/V_P) 330 331 were calculated with $V_P = \Sigma$ of variance components and V_D/V_P being the maternal variance.

332

A Cox proportional hazards regression with mixed effects was used to model LOE temperature and to examine the effects of lineage (CL, SL) on thermal resistance (Cox 1972; Therneau 2018). The model included lineage (C, S) as fixed effect and male spawner as random effect. A key assumption of Cox proportional hazards regression is that the effect of a given predictor variable is consistent over the period of interest. To test this assumption, a model including only fixed effects was fitted using the coxph() function in the survival package (Therneau 2015; Therneau and Grambsch 2000). The proportional hazards assumption was tested by assessing the correlation of Schoenfeld residuals using the cox.zph() function (survival package). This approach revealed no violation of the proportional hazard assumption for lineage (Schoenfeld individual test: lineage p = 0.37, global p = 0.37). The effects of thermal resistance and lineage were tested using two-way ANOVAs for mass and length data collected on sampled fish.

344

To examine variations in the relative quantification of gene expression $(2^{-\Delta\Delta CT})$ for the seven 345 candidate genes for lineage and thermal resistance, visual inspections of boxplots and QQ-plots 346 were used to identify outlier values (total of eight individual liver data values; Fig. S2). We 347 348 then performed principal component analysis (PCA) for both heart and liver data. For each tissue, two-way permutational multivariate analysis of variance (PERMANOVA) based on a 349 Bray-Curtis distance was conducted. The homogeneity of multivariate dispersions was 350 351 evaluated for each factor using the permutation analysis of multivariate dispersion routine before each PERMANOVA (Anderson 2001). Post-hoc tests were carried out using multiple 352 pairwise comparisons with Bonferroni correction to identify differences among factors 353 (Martinez Arbizu 2017). SIMPER analysis was performed to determine the contribution of the 354 gene responsible for dissimilarities between treatments. Finally, gene expression of liver and 355 356 heart were analyzed using two-way ANOVAs. Residuals were tested for normality using the Shapiro-Wilk test and homogeneity of variances was tested using a Levene test. Heart GPx, 357 liver CASP9, and liver GPx $2^{-\Delta\Delta CT}$ were log₁₀-transformed to meet normality. Tukey mean 358 comparison tests were done because homoscedasticity was respected. 359

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361 Differences were considered significant at $\alpha = 0.05$. Results are presented as mean \pm SD. All 362 data were analyzed using R (ver. 4.0.3; R Development Core Team) with the following 363 packages: 'survival' (Therneau 2022), 'coxme' (Therneau 2020), 'factoMineR' (Lê et al. 2008), 364 'vegan' (Oksanen et al. 2020), 'ggplot2' (Wickham et al. 2016), 'ade4' (Thioulouse et al. 2018),
365 and 'lme4' (Bates et al. 2015).

366

367 **Results**

368 Survival and development

The selection process did not affect survival at early life stages (hatching and yolk-sac resorption stages; Tables 2, 3), with a 56.6% (\pm 26.4) overall survival once exogenous feeding was established. Most mortality occurred at hatching. At both development stages, parental effects played significant roles, explaining 13.5% of the variance (Table 2), but heritability was null or low (Table 4). The main portion of the variance explained by dam identity at hatching was reduced at the yolk resorption stage, but it still represented more than 50% of the total variance (Table 4).

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There was no lineage effect on DD at either hatching or yolk-sac resorption, and there were no significant parental effects (Tables 2, 3). Similarly, there was no significant effect of lineage on YSV, but in this case parental effects were strong (Table 2), and heritability was high-(Table 4).

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Lineage had a significant effect on SL at hatching and a marginally non-significant effect on the yolk-sac resorption stage (Tables 2, 3). Parental effects were also strong at both stages (Table 2). At hatching, dam identity significantly explained half of the variance: while the heritability value for fry issued from the lineage under selection was low, dam identity in the control lineage explained 28% of the variation, but with a stronger, yet non-meaningful, heritability value (Table 4). At the yolk-sac resorption stage, the proportion of variance explained by dam identity was lower and heritability was higher (Table 4). 389

390 Thermal resistance trials

LOE occurred significantly later in fish originating from the selected lineage, indicating its greater thermal tolerance relative to the control line (Table 5, Figure 2A). When survival probability reached 50%, LOE in CDM was about 2061.9 and 2113.6°C.min⁻¹ (correspondence in time: 3 h 55 min and 3 h 59 min; in degrees Celsius: 26.67 and 27.77), respectively, for the control and selected lineages. Significant effects of mass and SL were observed on thermal resistance: sensitive fish had a 0.3% lower mass (Fig.2B) and 1% lower length (Fig. 2C) compared to other groups (median and resistant fish; ANOVA p < 0.01).

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399 mRNA expression

400 PCA dimensions 1 and 2 explained 58.5% and 67.4% of total variability of gene expression in the heart (Fig. 3A) and liver (Fig. 3B), respectively. In heart, the contributions of 401 HSP70, HSP90, BCL, and CAT to dimensions 1 and 2 were greater than the mean expected 402 403 contribution (1/7 = 14.3%). BCL and HSP90 were strongly positively correlated but 404 independent of CAT expression. In liver, the contributions of BCL, SOD, HSP70, and CAT to dimensions 1 and 2 were greater than 14.3%. HSP70 and BCL were strongly positively 405 correlated but independent of CAT and SOD expressions. For both heart and liver, sensitive fish 406 stood out from median and resistant fish, which overlap almost entirely (Fig. 3). 407

408

Gene expression was significantly affected by thermal resistance in heart and liver, but not by breeder lineage (PERMANOVA, Table 6). Pairwise tests revealed that sensitive fish had significantly different gene expression in the heart compared to other groups (pairwise test, sensitive-median F = 3.29, p = 0.009; sensitive-resistant F = 3.93, p = 0.021; median-resistant F = 2.60, p = 0.168). In liver, all groups showed significantly different patterns of gene

expression (pairwise test, sensitive-median F = 10.80, p = 0.003; sensitive-resistant F = 6.80, 414 p = 0.003; median-resistant F = 4.23, p = 0.012). More than half (52%) of the dissimilarity 415 between sensitive fish and the other groups in heart gene expression was explained by HSP70 416 (21%), BCL (16%), and CAT (15%; SIMPER test). In liver, the main dissimilarities in gene 417 expression among all groups were explained by HSP70 (sensitive-median: 18%, sensitive-418 resistant: 25%, median-resistant: 17%). Dissimilarities between sensitive-resistant (18%) and 419 420 resistant-median (29%) were explained by CAT. More specifically, HSP90 gene expression explained 13% of the dissimilarities between sensitive-resistant fish, CASP9 explained 13% 421 between resistant-median, and finally BCL made up 19% and GPx 17% of the dissimilarities 422 423 between sensitive-median.

424

No significant difference in gene expression was observed for the heart CASP9, SOD, and GPx 425 426 genes (two-way ANOVA; Table S1A). Lineage and interaction factors (thermal resistance \times lineage) did not significantly influence expression of the other genes, only thermal resistance 427 significantly influenced gene expression (Fig. 4). BCL (Fig. 4A) and HSP70 (Fig. 4C) gene 428 expressions were the lowest in sensitive fish (P < 0.01); CAT (Fig.4B) gene expression was 429 lowest in median fish and highest in resistant fish (sensitive fish had significant intermediate 430 *CAT* gene expression; P < 0.05). Sensitive fish had significantly lower *HSP90* (Fig. 4H) gene 431 expression compared to resistant fish (P < 0.05). 432

433

No significant difference in relative gene expression was observed for liver *CASP9* or *SOD* (Table S1B). The lineage factor did not significantly influence expression of any genes. Thermal resistance significantly explained the difference in relative expression observed for *BCL*, *HSP90*, and *GPx* (Fig. 4E, 4H, 4I). *BCL* and *HSP90* gene expressions were the lowest in sensitive fish, while *GPx* gene expression was the highest in median fish. The lineage × thermal resistance interaction was significant for *HSP70* gene expression, with sensitive fish having the
lowest gene expression and resistant selected fish having the highest (Fig. 4G).

441

442 Discussion

Despite the growth differences observed between lineages in previous generations 443 (Bastien et al. 2011; Martinez-Silva et al. 2023), we found limited lineage effects. Indeed, we 444 only found a significant difference for SL at hatch, a marginally non-significant difference at 445 yolk-sac resorption, and no size difference in six-month-old juveniles. However, juveniles from 446 the selected lineage had a higher thermal resistance than control juveniles, and higher relative 447 448 gene expression was detected for liver CAT and HSP70 genes in juveniles from the selection program. Irrespective of the lineage, sensitive fish were characterized by a lower mass and 449 length, and usually by lower relative gene expression compared to median and resistant fish. 450

451

452 Lineage effects

After five generations of selection, we only detected a line effect at hatching (S greater than C); it was no longer present at the yolk-sac resorption stage. As a reminder, the selection process for growth was only applied to individuals that showed no sexual maturation at age 1+. From hatching to yolk-sac resorption, growth is highly dependent on yolk quality since the yolk sac provides all elements that embryos need to support development and embryonic growth (Brooks et al. 1997).

459 Selective breeding did not have a detrimental effect on thermal resistance in juvenile 460 brook charr, although this trait was not involved in the selection process. Indeed, selected fish 461 had better thermal resistance, with LOE occurring on average 1°C after control fish. While the 462 selected lineage was developed for faster growth (Sauvage et al. 2010), no significant difference in mass or length was observed between lineages during the thermal trial. This means that thethermal resistance difference between lineages cannot be explained by fish mass.

By investigating patterns of gene expression involved in physiological processes related 465 to the maintenance of homeostasis, we wanted to know more about underlying mechanisms that 466 can explain thermal resistance between lineages and fish resistance. Regarding the effect of 467 selection on thermal resistance, previous work on these lineages has shown that substantial 468 changes occurred in the regulation of gene transcription between selected and control lineages 469 after just four generations (Sauvage et al. 2010). These authors demonstrated that differences 470 in gene expression between selected and control lineages were low for immune and defense 471 472 functions (including the activator of 90 kDa heat shock protein ATPase homolog 1 gene), and they proposed two hypotheses to explain such low differences: the relaxation on expression 473 regulation because of controlled environmental conditions or a weakness of the selective 474 475 breeding process. Here, our results revealed that a lineage effect was present for thermal resistance, and it can be partly explained by the expression of two stress-related genes. Selected 476 fish had up-regulated expressions of liver CAT and heart HSP70. The increased expressions of 477 CAT and HSP70 induced by thermal stress contribute to the regulation of organismal 478 479 metabolism, and the higher expression was correlated with higher resistance. These data suggest 480 that the S lineage had a higher capacity to resist thermal stress partly because of better antioxidant defense. Within the framework of our study, it seems that selection did not hinder 481 the capacity for thermal resistance. 482

483

484 Parental effects

485

486 Strong parental effects were present in both lineages on traits measured on early stages
487 of development. Dam effects on different traits are almost always present in animal models,

while sire effects are generally negligeable. Few studies have been performed pertaining to 488 paternal effects on progeny in fishes. In the European seabass Dicentrarchus labrax (Linnaeus, 489 1758), Saillant et al. (2001) demonstrated the presence of paternal effects but noted that they 490 were less important than maternal effects on early life history characteristics. The presence of 491 early sexual maturation also impacted Atlantic salmon fry growth between hatching and yolk-492 sac resorption (Garant et al. 2002) and sire identity in utthroat Oncorhynchus clarki clarki 493 (Richardson, 1836) and rainbow trout Oncorhynchus mykiss (Walbaum, 1792) has been 494 associated with varying abilities of fry to convert yolk reserves to body mass (Hawkins and 495 Foote 1998). 496

497

498

499 Inter individual variability during thermal trials

The thermal challenge revealed notable inter-individual variability. A difference of 2h30 500 to 2h50 was found in the time it took the least tolerant and the most tolerant individuals to lose 501 their ability to maintain equilibrium. Smallest fish were the least resistant. Even though 502 obtained on much larger fish, smaller fish (mass and length) were observed as being the least 503 resistant in a study by Clark et al. (2008) in chinook salmon Oncorhynchus tshawytscha 504 (Walbaum, 1792) body mass range = 2.2-5.4 kg). Also obtained on larger fish, a positive 505 506 relationship between thermal resistance and body mass was also observed by Zhang and Kieffer (2014) in shortnose sturgeon Acipenser brevirostrum (Lesueur, 1818) weighing from few grams 507 to 300 g. Chen et al. (2013) found that thermal resistance (CTmax) at 90 days post-hatch from 508 509 four populations of sockeye salmon Oncorhynchus nerka (Walbaun, 1792) was positively related to their mass, which corroborates the results of our study. However, there is also 510 evidence that CTmax in some species declines with fish size or mass, and no other relationship 511 was found (see McKenzie et al. 2021 for a review). Direct comparisons between studies 512 conducted on different species and life stages remains difficult. Nevertheless, our study again 513

514 shows that body size is a potential source of inter-individual variability in aquaculture 515 adaptation performance, particularly thermal resistance.

516

517 Our results on gene expression also confirm that sensitive fish stand out from other groups. For 518 heart, differences in sensitive fish were explained by *HSP70*, *BCL*, and *CAT*, while liver 519 differences were explained by *HSPs*, *CASP9*, *BCL*, *GPX*, and *CAT*. In general, sensitive fish 520 were characterized by lower gene expressions compared to other groups. The stress-related 521 gene expression induced by thermal stress supports the results observed during the thermal 522 resistance trial and suggests a possible role for these genes in whole-organism thermal 523 resistance, and this might contribute to the regulation of organismal metabolism.

524

Not surprisingly, relative HSP expressions were upregulated in resistant fish. HSP70 proteins 525 526 are one of the most highly conserved groups of heat shock proteins (Beere and Green 2001). They ensure the coordinated regulation of protein translocation processes, limiting cellular 527 damage (Iwama et al., 1999). Similar results have been frequently documented in fish facing 528 heat stress (Fangue et al. 2006; Liu et al. 2013; Barat et al. 2016; Jeffries et al. 2016). Exposure 529 to thermal stress can induce the generation of reactive oxygen species, which can damage 530 531 tissues (Almroth et al. 2015; Madeira et al. 2016; Maulvault et al. 2017). To counteract this, fish produce genes that encode proteins with antioxidant activities, such as CAT. CAT 532 expression in fishes is upregulated with heat-shock exposure (Clotfelter et al. 2013; Madeira et 533 534 al. 2016), and this is corroborated by our results. Median and resistant fish had higher expression levels of BCL, which is an anti-apoptotic protein (Cory and Adams 2002). It has 535 been demonstrated in fish that genes in the BCL family act by reducing cell apoptosis under 536 stressful conditions (Yuan et al. 2016), suggesting that induction of cell death may be better 537 regulated for median and resistant fish. 538

In our study, gene expression highlighted an important source of inter-individual variability that 540 could indicate a threshold. Median and resistant fish had upregulated stress-related gene 541 expression, which fits with a later LOE than sensitive fish. One hypothesis could be that 542 response differences may indicate greater sensitivity to thermal stress, since the decrease in 543 expression may be due to a widespread inhibition of gene transcription accompanying extensive 544 cellular damage. However, linking the environment with phenotypic changes through 545 modulation of gene expression is difficult. As reviewed in Rivera et al. (2021), if gene 546 expression contributes to emergent stress responses such as thermal resistance, it would be of 547 548 interest to know more about transcription profiles. Nevertheless, showing distinct transcription profiles, revealing the dynamic nature of gene expression, and interpreting gene expression 549 results in a way that elucidates the functional connection between gene expression and the 550 551 observed stress response remain challenging.

552

553 Conclusion

554 This study revealed that the better physiological thermal resistance in selected fish was correlated with 555 an upregulation of liver CAT and heart HSP70. However, gene regulation can depend on many factors, so these findings alone cannot indicate a direct absolute link between thermal resistance and gene 556 upregulation. Nevertheless, they do provide putative support for adaptive differences between selected 557 and control lines of brook charr in their potential for gene expression-mediated phenotypic plasticity. In 558 559 environments undergoing not just gradual changes but also an increase in the frequency or magnitude of extreme events, gene expression plasticity-the capacity of genes to change their expression levels 560 under changing conditions-may be of particular importance, especially because gene expression 561 562 plasticity can evolve rapidly and be heritable by genetic or epigenetic means.

563

564 Acknowledgements

565	The authors are grateful to all colleagues who provided technical and scientific assistance in
566	the laboratory. Special thanks to Nathalie Morin, Émile Vadboncoeur, and Tamara Provencher
567	(Institut des sciences de la mer de Rimouski) who contributed to brook charr breeding and
568	rearing activities.
569	
570	Competing interests
571	The authors declare there are no competing interests.
572	
573	Funding
574	This work was supported by a NSERC strategic grant to L.B., D.G. and C.A. (grant no. STPGP
575	521227-18), Ouranos Inc., and Ressources Aquatiques Québec (Regroupement stratégique,
576	Fonds de recherche du Québec – Nature et Technologies).
577	
578	Author contribution statement
579	C.G., M.R., D.G., L.B., and C.A. contributed to the conceptualization and experimental design
580	of the work. C.G., M.R., L.G., and C.A. performed all data collection. C.G., M.R., and D.G
581	performed statistical analysis. C.G. and M.R. drafted the manuscript and all authors contributed
582	to the final version. Supervision was provided by D.G., L.B., and C.A.
583	
584	Data availability
585	The data that supports the findings of this study are available from the corresponding author,
586	CA, upon reasonable request. The raw data will be available on a public repository after
587	manuscript publication.
588	

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1 Tables

- 2 Table 1. Specific primers used for quantitative PCR with Genbank accession numbers and PCR
- 3 amplicon sizes.

Gene	Primer (5' -> 3')	Sequence used for primer	PCR amplicon size
		design	(bp)
β actine	F: CCAACTGGGACGACATGGA	Salvelinus fontinalis	63
	R: GAGCCACTCTCAGCTCGTTGT	(KF783182.1)	
	Probe: ATCTGGCATCACACCTT		
18S	F: AGAAACGGCTACCACATCCAA	Salvelinus fontinalis	60
	R: CGAGTCGGGAGTGGGTAATTT	(FJ710889.1)	
	Probe: AAGGCAGCAGGCGC		
EF1 α	F: TCGCCCCCGCTAATGTC	Salvelinus fontinalis	58
	R: AGGGTCTCGTGGTGCATCTC	(KF783203.1)	
	Probe: CCACTGAAGTCAAGTCT		
CAT	F: GAAGGGAGCCCAAGTCTTCAT	Transcriptome L. Bernatchez	63
	R: TCTGCATGCACAGCCATCA		
	Probe: CAGAAACGCTGGGTTC		
SOD	F: CCCAGTAAGGGATTGTGTTTCTTT	Transcriptome L. Bernatchez	58
	R: CGCCAGGCTTGTGGAGTTA		
	Probe: CTGGGCAATGCCA		
HSP70	F: TGACGTGTCCATCCTGACCAT	Salvelinus fontinalis	57
	R: CCAGCCGTGGCCTTCA	(KF783199.1)	
	Probe: AGGATGGGATCTTTG		
HSP90	F: GGCCAAGAAACACCTGGAGAT	Salvelinus fontinalis	57
	R: TGCCTCAGGGTCTCCACAA	(KF783201.1)	

Probe: AACCCAGACCACCCC

BCL Sequencing F: GCCTGGACGCAGTGAAAGAG 62 **R: GGCATAACGCAGCTCAAACTC** Probe: CATTGCGGGACTCTG GPx F: TTCTCCTGATGTCCGAATTGATT K. Jeffries laboratory 59 R: ACCGACAAGGGTCTCGTGAT Probe: CAGGGCACCCCAG CASP9 F: ATGTCCTCCAGCAGTGACTCTCT Transcriptome L. Bernatchez 66 R: GGGTAGTGTGGCCTTTGCA Probe: AGCACTCAGTCTGATGAG CASP3 F: CGGCACGCCTGTATGAAGA Transcriptome L. Bernatchez 59 R: GGAGACCGCTGCAAAACACT Probe: CAGTTTGGGCTTTCC

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Table 2. Models output testing the effect of lineage for each variable at the two developmental stages. Generalized linear mixed models were used for survival data, linear mixed models were used for standard length and yolk sac volume, and linear models for development time. Estimates (reference level = control line), standard errors (SE) and associated p-values of lineage effects are provided, with the conditional (fixed + random effects) r^2 of each model (adjusted r^2 are provided for development time).

Developmental stage	Variable	Estimate	SE	<i>P</i> -value	r ²
Hatching	Survival	0.05	0.51	0.92	0.135
	Yolk sac volume	-4.03	12.14	0.73	0.640
	Standard length	1.00	0.42	0.02	0.676
	Development time	16.10	9.67	0.11	0.075
Yolk sac resorption	Survival	-0.39	0.50	0.44	0.135
	Standard Length	0.76	0.41	0.06	0.483
	Development time	18.87	14.56	0.21	0.030

18

20 Table 3: A) Survival and development time measured at the familial level in each

21 lineage; B) Yolk-sac volume, and standard length measured at the individual level in

Lineage		Selected	Control
A) F	<i>Camilies</i>	<i>n</i> = 14	<i>n</i> = 9
Survival (%)	Hatching	57.3 ± 28.2	64.3 ± 24.9
	Yolk-sac resorption	54.2 ± 27.8	60.5 ± 25.1
Development time (degree days)	Hatching	497.4 ± 24.3	481.3 ± 19.6
	Yolk-sac resorption	770.6 ± 30.2	751.8 ± 39.6
B)	Fry	<i>n</i> = 675	<i>n</i> = 450
Yolk-sac volume (mm ³)	Hatching	60.1 ± 25.8	65.1 ± 23.6
Standard length (mm)	Hatching	17.3 ± 0.9	16.3 ± 0.8
	Yolk-sac resorption	23.3 ± 0.9	22.5 ± 1.2

22 each lineage at the two developmental stages. Mean \pm S.D.

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Table 4: Variance components, estimated heritability and relative variance proportion for
Dam effect (*m*). S: Selected; C: Control

	$V_A\pm SE$	$V_D \pm SE$	$V_R \pm SE$	h^2	т
Hatching					
Survival	0	0.074 ± 0.037	0.027 ± 0.011	0	0.73
Standard length (S)	0.157 ± 0.126	0.489 ± 0.321	0.296 ± 0.066	0.17	0.52
Standard length (C)	0.506 ± 0.379	0.230 ± 0.286	0.086 ± 0.207	0.62	0.28
Yolk sac volume	467.5 ± 88.1	223.4 ± 271.7	23.3 ± 116.9	0.66	0.31
Yolk sac resorption					
Survival	0.034 ± 0.308	0.090 ± 0.450	0.041 ± 0.032	0.21	0.54
Standard length	0.844 ± 0.441	0.162 ± 0.253	0.202 ± 0.238	0.70	0.13

27 V_A : additive genetic variance; V_D : the variance associated to dam; V_R : residual

28 component; h^2 : heritability.

Table 5: Statistical results of the random effects Cox proportional hazards model.

Effect	Estimate	S.E.	Z	р
Fixed effects	Lineage	0.1852824	-2.75	0.0059
			Va	riance
Random effect	Male identification		0.09	9741966

- 34 Table 6: Results of two-way permutational multivariate analysis of variance tests,
- 35 PERMANOVA. Variable tested, sum of squares of the test (SS), pseudo-F of the statistic, and
- 36 P(perm) for the test are presented. Bold characters indicate significant results.
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Gene expression	Variable	Df	SS	Pseudo-F	P(perm)
Heart	Thermal resistance	2	0.12569	3.2728	0.002
	Lineage	1	0.01994	1.0383	0.424
	Thermal resistance × lineage	2	0.02788	0.7260	0.701
Liver	Thermal resistance	2	0.47008	7.7448	0.0001
	Lineage	1	0.07494	2.4693	0.051
	Thermal resistance × lineage	2	0.07901	1.3017	0.234

Figure Captions

Figure 1. Breeding scheme. Each factorial breeding (partial 2×2) generated four fullbrother families.

Figure 2. Survival curve of thermal resistance trials (A) and the influence of thermal resistance on mass (B) and length (C) data. Shaded areas represent 95% confidence intervals.

Figure 3: Principal component analysis (PCA) of challenged fish for (A) heart and (B) liver tissue. The first principal component (Dim 1, X axes) explains 37.7% (heart) and 42.9% (liver) of the total variance of the dataset, while the second principal component (Dim 2, Y axes) explains 20.8% (heart) and 21.8% (liver) of the total variance of the dataset. *CASP*: caspase, *BCL*: B-cell lymphoma, *CAT*: catalase, *SOD*: superoxide dismutase, *HSP*: heat shock protein, *GPx*: glutathion peroxidase.

Figure 4: Effects of thermal resistance and lineage on mRNA expression in heart (A, B, C, and D) and liver (E, F, G. H, and I) tissue. Lower-cased letters indicate results of Tukey a posteriori tests.











Supplementary Figure 1. Temperature in °C (A) and Σ Degree-minutes in °C min⁻¹ (B) as function of time exposure in minutes during thermal trials.



Supplementary Figure 2. Thermal trial gene expression in juvenile (A) heart and (B) liver.

A		Control			Selected				
Heart	sensitive	median	resistant	sensitive	median	resistant	Thermal	Lineage	Thermal S. \times
							Resistance		lineage
CASP9	1.03 ± 0.34	0.97 ± 0.15	0.73 ± 0.39	0.9 ± 0.13	0.8 ± 0.48	1.07 ± 0.29	P = 0.90	P = 0.93	P = 0.35
	(n=3)	(n=3)	(n=3)	(n=3)	(n=3)	(n=3)	DF =2, F= 0.106	DF = 1, F= 0.008	DF = 2, F= 1.161
BCL	1 ± 0.09	1.52 ± 0.27	1.22 ± 0.17	0.77 ± 0.4	1.36 ± 0.1	1.42 ± 0.19	P = 0.003 **	P = 0.56	P = 0.26
	(n=3)	(n=3)	(n=3)	(n=3)	(n=3)	(n=3)	<i>DF</i> =2, <i>F</i> = 9.625	DF =1, F= 0.353	<i>DF</i> = 2, <i>F</i> = 1.515
CAT	1.05 ± 0.42	0.6 ± 0.22	1.13 ± 0.81	0.89 ± 0.23	0.82 ± 0.21	1.75 ± 0.35	P = 0.036*	P = 0.29	P = 0.32
	(n=3)	(n=3)	(n=3)	(n=3)	(n=3)	(n=3)	DF =2, F= 4.453	DF = 1, F= 1.222	<i>DF</i> = 2, <i>F</i> = 1.266
SOD	1.05 ± 0.41	1.02 ± 0.23	1.11 ± 0.46	1.18 ± 0.41	1.3 ± 0.3	1.23 ± 0.21	P = 0.97	P = 0.30	P = 0.91
	(n=3)	(n=3)	(n=3)	(n=3)	(n=3)	(n=3)	DF =2, F= 0.036	DF = 1, F= 1.199	DF = 2, F= 0.101
HSP90	1.01 ± 0.18	1.12 ± 0.15	1.17 ± 0.28	0.55 ± 0.28	1.06 ± 0.08	1.22 ± 0.43	P = 0.043 *	P = 0.22	P = 0.25
	(n=3)	(n=3)	(n=3)	(n=3)	(n=3)	(n=3)	DF =2, F= 4.125	DF = 1, F= 1.680	DF = 2, F= 1.556
HSP70	1.02 ± 0.21	1.35 ± 0.19	1.63 ± 0.43	0.8 ± 0.4	1.48 ± 0.3	2.09 ± 0.36	P = 0.001 **	P = 0.44	P = 0.24
	(n=3)	(n=3)	(n=3)	(n=3)	(n=3)	(n=3)	DF =2, F= 12.60	DF = 1, F= 0.649	DF = 2, F= 1.603
GPx	1.1 ± 0.61	0.63 ± 0.32	0.7 ± 0.11	0.74 ± 0.65	0.53 ± 0.05	0.94 ± 0.38	P = 0.39	P = 0.610	P = 0.40
	(n=3)	(n=3)	(n=3)	(n=3)	(n=3)	(n=3)	DF =2, F= 1.022	DF = 1, F = 0.274	DF = 2, F = 1.000

Supplementary Table 1: Statistical results of the two-way ANOVA for (A) heart tissue and (B) liver tissue. *CASP*: caspase, *BCL*: B-cell lymphoma, *CAT*: catalase, *SOD*: superoxide dismutase, *HSP*: heat shock protein, *GPx*: glutathion peroxidase. Bold characters indicate significant results.

В		Control			Selected		-		
Liver	sensitive	median	resistant	sensitive	median	resistant	Thermal Resistance	Lineage	Thermal S. × Lineage
CASP9	1.14 ± 0.6	1.66 ± 0.71	1.49 ± 0.49	1.47 ± 0.78	2.13 ± 1.04	2.67 ± 2.07	P = 0.07	P = 0.07	P = 0.95
	(n=8)	(n=8)	(n=8)	(n=8)	(n=8)	(n=8)	DF =2, F = 2.810	DF = 1, F = 3.40	DF = 2, F = 0.05
BCL	1.05 ± 0.36	1.6 ± 0.26	1.28 ± 0.27	0.87 ± 0.17	1.66 ± 0.45	1.65 ± 0.42	P = 2.81e-06 ***	P = 0.44	P = 0.078
	(n=8)	(n=8)	(n=8)	(n=8)	(n=8)	(n=7)	<i>DF</i> =2, <i>F</i> = 17.7	DF = 1, F = 0.61	DF = 2, F = 2.75
CAT	1.06 ± 0.37	1.8 ± 0.39	1.24 ± 0.48	1.51 ± 0.43	2.21 ± 0.69	1.76 ± 0.66	P = 0.001 ***	P = 0.004 **	P = 0.95
	(n=8)	(n=8)	(n=8)	(n=7)	(n=8)	(<i>n=8</i>)	<i>DF</i> =2, <i>F</i> = 8.27	<i>DF</i> = <i>1</i> , <i>F</i> = 9.09	<i>DF</i> = 2, <i>F</i> = 0.05
SOD	1.07 ± 0.38	1.19 ± 0.22	1 ± 0.28	1.41 ± 0.41	1.1 ± 0.25	0.96 ± 0.41	P = 0.10	P = 0.45	P = 0.14
	(n=8)	(n=8)	(n=8)	(n=8)	(n=8)	(n=8)	<i>DF</i> =2, <i>F</i> = 2.43	DF = 1, F = 0.58	<i>DF</i> = 2, <i>F</i> = 2.03
HSP90	1.07 ± 0.39	2.11 ± 1.11	1.2 ± 0.29	0.87 ± 0.27	1.68 ± 0.17	1.59 ± 0.37	P = 1.22e-06 ***	P = 0.46	P = 0.08
	(n=8)	(n=8)	(n=8)	(n=8)	(n=8)	(n=8)	DF =2, F = 19.52	DF = 1, F = 0.55	DF = 2, F = 2.72
HSP70	1.34 ± 0.75	1.81 ± 0.42	1.85 ± 0.75	0.91 ± 0.74	1.82 ± 0.72	2.79 ± 0.65	P = 0.0001 ***	P = 0.50	P = 0.03 *
	(n=8)	(n=8)	(n=7)	(n=8)	(n=8)	(n=7)	DF =2, F = 11.62	DF = 1, F = 0.47	<i>DF</i> = 2, <i>F</i> = 3.85
GPx	1.11 ± 0.47	2.14 ± 0.57	1.28 ± 0.55	0.9 ± 0.6	2.27 ± 0.67	1.51 ± 0.86	P = 2.31e-05 ***	P = 0.68	P = 0.37
	(n=8)	(n=8)	(n=8)	(n=7)	(n=8)	(n=8)	DF =2, F = 14.0	<i>DF</i> = <i>1</i> , <i>F</i> = 0.17	DF = 2, F= 1.02