## **Supplementary Tables**

Table S1. The eight species for the phylogenetic analysis. Species annotated with an asterisk is outgroup.

Family	Species	GenBank accession number
Trichodontidae	Arctoscopus japonicus	AP003090
Cyclopteridae	Aptocyclus ventricosus	AP004443
Liparidae	Liparis tessellatus	MN88063
Agonidae	Hemitripterus villosus	MN316630
Cottidae	Cottus amblystomopsis	KY563345
Psychrolutidae	Dasycottus setiger	MW420925
Hexagrammidae	Hexagrammos otakii	KR362879
Gasterosteidae	Gasterosteus aculeatus*	MH205729

Table S2. The evidence for estimating divergence times includes the fossil record and lower-bound constraint parameters used in the estimation. Less reliable records were incorporated into the analysis as soft-bound. The dagger symbol in the table indicates that the species is extinct.

Fossil record	Fossile age (Ma)	Constraint parameter	Reference
†Diaphantes tilesii	11.6–5.3 Ma	L (5.33, 1e-300)	Nazarkin and
			Voskoboinikova
			(2000)
†Lirosceles elegans	11.6–7.2 Ma	L (7.22, 1e-300)	Jordan (1925)
†Hexagrammidae indet.	16.0–11.6 Ma	L (11.6, 0.025)	Ono and Uyeno
			(1985)
†Gasterosteidae indet.	23.0–20.4 Ma	L (20.44, 0.025)	Nazarkin and
			Malyshkina (2012)

Table S3. Uniform prior distributions of the parameters included in the ABC analysis.  $N_{SH}$ ,  $N_{WJ}$ , and  $N_{ANC}$  represent the effective population sizes of the SH group, the WJ group, and the ancestral population, respectively. t0, t1, and t2 denote the times of demographic events, while r indicates the admixture proportion.

Parameter	Minimum	Maximum
N <sub>SH</sub>	1,000	1,000,000
Nwj	10,000	10,000,000
N <sub>ANC</sub>	100	1,000,000
tO	10	7,600
t1	10	7,600
t2	7,600	20,000
r	0.0001	0.999

Table S4. Summary statistics of mitochondrial (mt) DNA and microsatellite DNA loci. h and  $\pi$  are haplotype diversity and nucleotide diversity for mtDNA.  $n_a$ ,  $n_e$ ,  $H_o$  and  $H_e$  indicate the number of alleles, the effective number of alleles (Kimura and Crow, 1964), observed heterozygosity, and expected heterozygosity, respectively.

	mtDNA		10 microsatellite loci				
Sample	No.	h	$\pi$ (%)	na	ne	Ho	$H_{e}$
population	haplotypes		~ /				
Akkeshi (AK)	22	0.952	0.773	12.9	7.848	0.783	0.791
Muroran (MR)	19	0.952	0.638	12.1	7.517	0.760	0.776
Abashiri (AS)	23	0.983	0.825	14.9	8.590	0.787	0.806
Atsuta (AT)	23	0.979	0.681	12.0	6.632	0.730	0.716
Hachimori (HM)	17	0.945	0.381	13.6	7.779	0.760	0.788
Funagawa (FG)	21	0.963	0.449	12.5	7.287	0.783	0.778
Wakasa (WS)	26	0.984	0.523	14.5	8.238	0.777	0.773
Oki (OK)	23	0.959	0.491	13.3	7.662	0.737	0.749
Mishima (MS)	27	0.991	0.926	14.8	8.386	0.773	0.767

Table S5. Comparison of partitioning schemes for maximum likelihood tree estimations.

Data set	Partitioning scheme	Mean bootstrap value	Log-likelihood	AIC	Number of parameters
1 <sub>N</sub> 2 <sub>N</sub> 3 <sub>N</sub>	Genes and codon positions	66.8	-46245.513	93283.027	396
$1_N 2_N 3_N$	Codon positions	76.4	-47049.323	94170.646	36
$1_N 2_N 3_{RY}$	Genes and codon positions	72.4	-29520.525	59679.049	319
$1_N 2_N 3_{RY}$	Codon positions	75.6	-30247.942	60553.884	29
$1_N 2_N$	Genes and codon positions	59.0	-18148.366	36824.732	264
$1_N 2_N$	Codon positions	59.8	-18738.033	37524.065	24

Table S6. Estimated parameters for the best demographic scenario (scenario 6) and associated 95% confidence intervals defined by the 0.025 and 0.975 quantiles of the posterior distribution.

Parameter	Median	0.025	0.975
N <sub>SH</sub>	197,000	47,800	588,000
$N_{WJ}$	3,890,000	765,000	9,730,000
N <sub>ANC</sub>	29,600	1,310	85,500
t0	164	25	5,525
t1	13,925	6,175	18,675
t2	49,250	23,300	139,000
r	0.0186	0.000270	0.380



**Supplementary Figures** 

Fig. S1. Time-calibrated mitochondrial genomic tree for representative species of Suborder Cottoidei.



Fig. S2. Posterior distribution of the molecular evolutionary rate for the mitochondrial DNA Cytochrome b gene region.



Fig. S3. Model evaluation outcomes for the best scenario (Scenario 6), indicating a principal component analysis of summary statistics from the observed dataset, datasets generated based on parameter priors, and datasets from the posterior predictive distribution. A suitable model fit is indicated when the datasets derived from prior parameters cover a wide region on the graph, and the observed dataset is positioned within a compact cluster of posterior datasets.

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