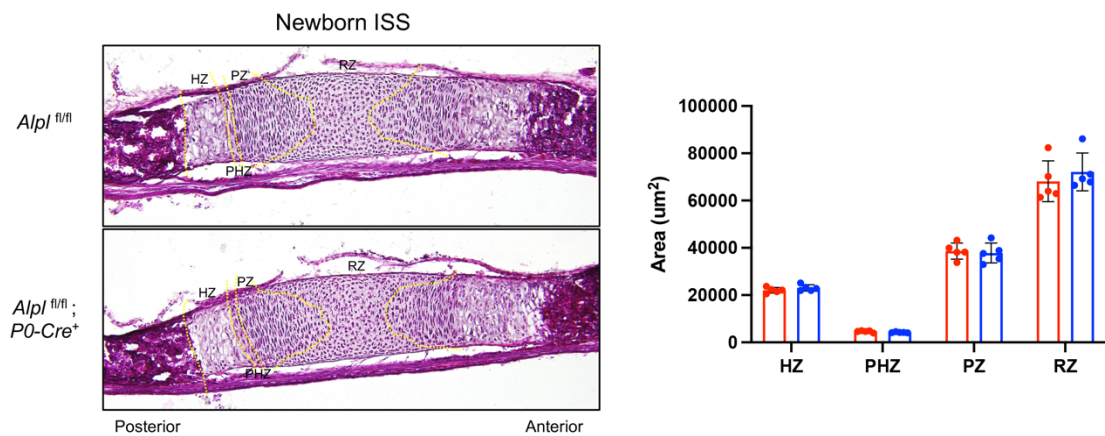
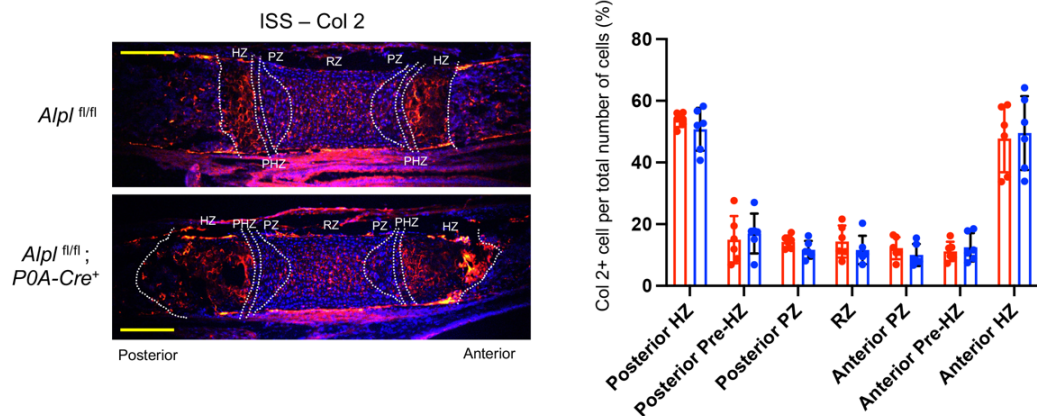


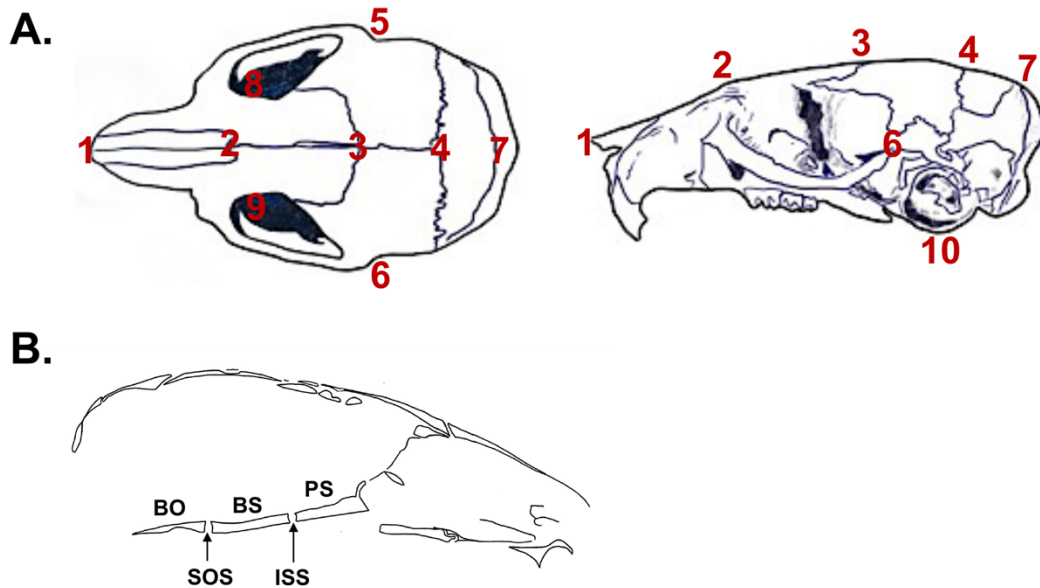
Supplemental Figure S1. No differences in ISS between neonatal *Alpl^{fl/fl};P0-Cre⁺* and control mice. Quantification of chondrocyte zones by H&E staining revealed no qualitative or quantitative differences between *Alpl^{fl/fl};P0-Cre⁺* as compared to *Alpl^{fl/fl}* mice. Red = *Alpl^{fl/fl}*, Blue = *Alpl^{fl/fl}; P0-Cre⁺*. Zones were demarcated according to the following criteria. RZ: The nucleus is round. PZ: The nucleus is flat. PHZ: Adjacent to the PZ, and the cell shape is flattened and enlarged. HZ: The shape is greatly enlarged.



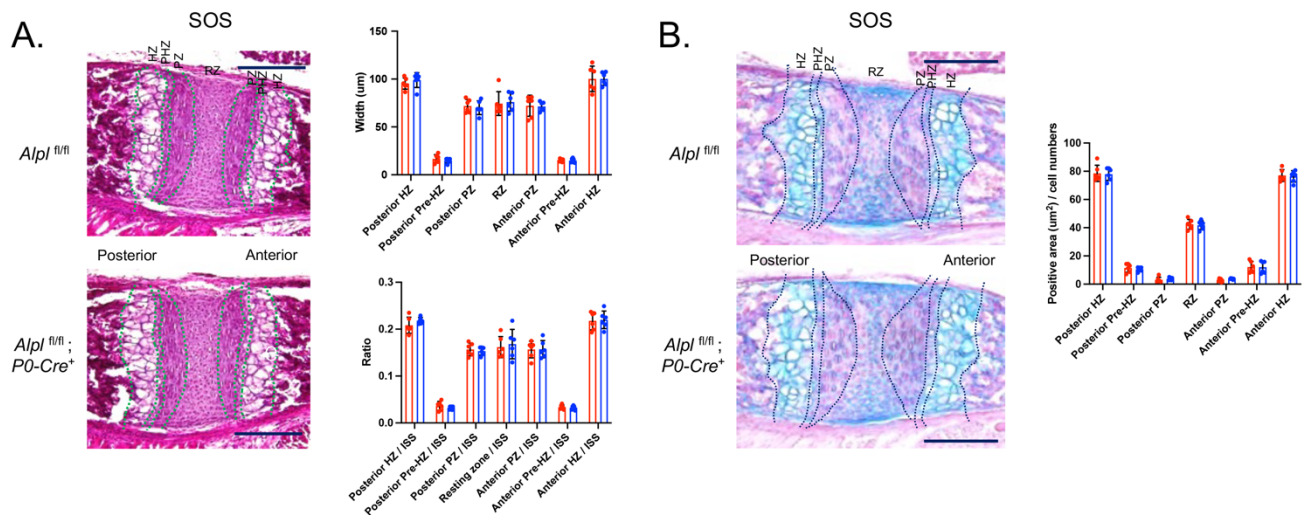
Supplemental Figure S2. Col II expression is not altered in the ISS of *Alpl^{fl/fl};P0-Cre⁺* mice. Quantification of immunofluorescent staining for collagen 2 revealed no differences in any chondrocyte zones of *Alpl^{fl/fl}; P0-Cre⁺* as compared to *Alpl^{fl/fl}* mice. Yellow scale bars = 200 μ m. Red = *Alpl^{fl/fl}*, Blue = *Alpl^{fl/fl}; P0A-Cre⁺*. Zones were demarcated according to the following criteria. RZ: The nucleus is round. PZ: The nucleus is flat. PHZ: Adjacent to the PZ, and the cell shape is flattened and enlarged. HZ: The shape is greatly enlarged.



Supplemental Figure S3. Landmarks used for whole skull and cranial base linear distance measurements. (A) Craniofacial skeletal landmarks: 1 = nasale, 2 = nasion, 3 = bregma, 4 = pari, 5,6 = joining of squamosal body to zygomatic process of squamous portion of temporal bone, 7 = paro, 8,9 = intersection of frontal process of maxilla with frontal and lacrimal bones (inner canthal distance), 10 = inferior portion of the spheno-occipital synchondrosis. **(B)** Illustration of the cranial base: PS presphenoid bone; BS = basisphenoid bone; BO = basioccipital bone; SOS = spheno-occipital synchondrosis; ISS = intersphenoid synchondrosis.



Supplemental Figure S4. *Alpl* deletion by P0-Cre in cranial neural crest cells does not alter hypertrophic zone widths in the spheno-occipital (SOS) synchondrosis at postnatal day 5. (A) Hematoxylin and Eosin staining showing the histology of the SOS with/without ablation of *Alpl* in cranial neural crest derived cells. No differences in chondrocyte zone widths raw, or when normalized to total SOS length are seen. **(B)** Alcian blue staining for cartilaginous glycosaminoglycans in the SOS of *Alpl*^{fl/fl} and *Alpl*^{fl/fl}; *P0-Cre*⁺ mice is shown. No differences in alcian blue staining are seen. n=6 per genotype. Black scale bars = 200 μ m. Red = *Alpl*^{fl/fl}, Blue = *Alpl*^{fl/fl}; *P0-Cre*⁺. Zones were demarcated according to the following criteria. RZ: The nucleus is round. PZ: The nucleus is flat. PHZ: Adjacent to the PZ, and the cell shape is flattened and enlarged. HZ: The shape is greatly enlarged.



Supplemental Figure S5. *Alpl* deletion by P0-Cre in cranial neural crest cells does not alter expression of PTHrP, IHH, Sox9 or ColX in the SOS at postnatal day 5. All stains include DAPI nuclear blue counterstain. **(A)** Cells were immunostained for PTHrp (red), then quantified by cell count as normalized to total cell number per chondrocyte zone. Quantification shows no differences in PTHrp expression between *Alpl*^{fl/fl};P0-Cre⁺ mice and control mice. **(B)** Cells were immunostained for IHH (red), then quantified by cell count as normalized to total cell number per chondrocyte zone. Quantification shows no differences in IHH expression between *Alpl*^{fl/fl};P0-Cre⁺ mice and control mice. **(C)** Cells were immunostained for Sox9 (red), then quantified by cell count as normalized to total cell number per chondrocyte zone. Quantification shows no differences in Sox9 expression between *Alpl*^{fl/fl};P0-Cre⁺ and control mice. **(D)** Cells were immunostained for ColX (red), then quantified by cell count as normalized to total cell number per chondrocyte zone. Quantification shows no differences in ColX expression between *Alpl*^{fl/fl};P0-Cre⁺ and control mice. n=6 per genotype. Yellow scale bars = 200 μ m. Red = *Alpl*^{fl/fl}, Blue = *Alpl*^{fl/fl};P0-Cre⁺ mice.

