What is claimed is:

1. A method comprising:

generating a first flow rate signal within a wellbore by altering the flow rate of a first fluid in the wellbore, wherein the first flow rate signal comprises at least two detectable characteristics, and wherein the first fluid is a formation fluid received from the formation;

detecting the first flow rate signal at a first downhole tool disposed within the wellbore; and

actuating the first downhole tool in response to detecting the first flow rate signal to isolate one or more zones of the wellbore.

2. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

generating a second flow rate signal within the wellbore by altering the flow rate of a second fluid in the wellbore;

detecting the second flow rate signal at a second downhole tool disposed within the wellbore; and

actuating the second downhole tool in response to detecting the second flow rate signal.

3. The method of claim 2, wherein at least one of the second flow rate signal is of the same type of detectable characteristics as the first flow rate signal and the first fluid is the same as the second fluid.

4. The method of claims 1 or 2, wherein each of the at least two detectable characteristics comprises one or more of an increase in flow rate, a decrease in flow rate, a pulse, a delay, a dwell time, a duration time, being within a range of flow rates, remaining under a threshold flow rate, exceeding a threshold flow rate, dropping below a threshold flow rate, crossing a threshold flow rate a certain number of times, and a rise time.

5. The method of claims 1 or 2, wherein the first downhole tool is a sliding sleeve tool.

6. The method of claim 5, wherein actuating comprises changing the sliding sleeve tool from a closed configuration to an open configuration.

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7. The method of claim 5, further comprising detecting the first flow rate signal at a valve disposed within the wellbore and actuating the valve in response to detecting the first flow rate signal at the valve.

8. The method of claim 2, wherein the first downhole tool is a sliding sleeve tool and the second downhole tool is a valve or a baffle.

9. The method of claim 2, wherein the first downhole tool and the second downhole tool are sliding sleeve tools.

10. The method of claims 1 or 2, wherein the first downhole tool comprises one or more of a vibrational sensor, an acoustic sensor, a piezoceramic sensor, a resistive sensor, a Coriolis meter and a Doppler flow meter.

11. The method of claims 1 or 2, further comprising suspending operation of the first downhole tool for a period of time in response to detecting the first flow rate signal.

12. A system comprising:

a well flow control configured to generate one or more flow rate signals comprising at least two detectable characteristics in a wellbore, wherein the one or more flow rate signals are associated with a formation fluid received from the formation; and

a downhole tool disposed in the wellbore comprising:

one or more actuators;

a sensor configured to detect at least one of the one or more flow rate signals; and

a controller coupled to the sensor and the one or more actuators and configured to actuate the downhole tool in response to at least one of the one or more flow rate signals to isolate one or more zones of the wellbore.

13. The system of claim 12, further comprising a production string disposed within the wellbore to which the downhole tool is coupled.

14. The system of claim 12, wherein the downhole tool is selected from the group consisting of a sliding sleeve tool, a packer, and a valve.

15. The system of any of claims 12-14, wherein each of the at least two detectable characteristics comprises one or more of an increase in flow rate, a decrease in flow rate, a pulse, a delay, a dwell time, a duration time, being within a range of flow rates, remaining under a threshold flow rate, exceeding a threshold flow rate, dropping below a threshold flow rate, crossing a threshold flow rate a certain number of times, and a rise time.

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