

# From the trees to the seas: multi-species perspectives on long-term climatic and ecological variability

**Bryan A. Black**

**Assistant Professor**

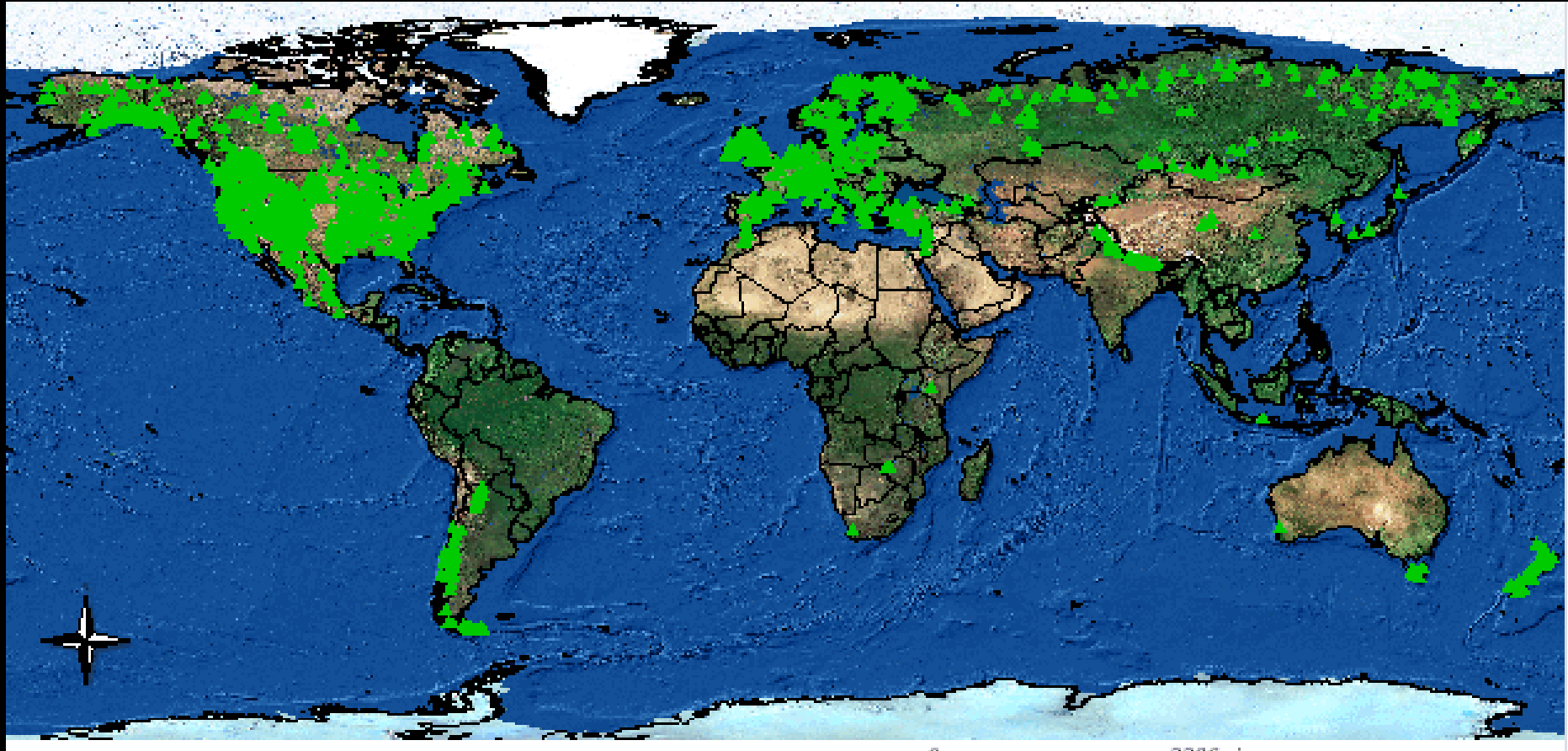
**Department of Marine Science**



**University of Texas at Austin  
Marine Science Institute  
Port Aransas, Texas**



# International tree-ring databank



# Many animals form increments...

**...and can be quite old!**

**Pacific rockfish**

**100 yr + yelloweye rockfish**



**Freshwater drum**

**70 yr +**

***Margaritifera* freshwater mussels**

**100 yr +**

**Pacific geoduck**

**150 +**



***Arctica islandica***

**405-410; world's oldest animal!**

**U. Wales, Bangor**



**Tropical corals**

**300 yrs +**





# Splitnose rockfish (*Sebastes diploproa*)

80+ yrs old

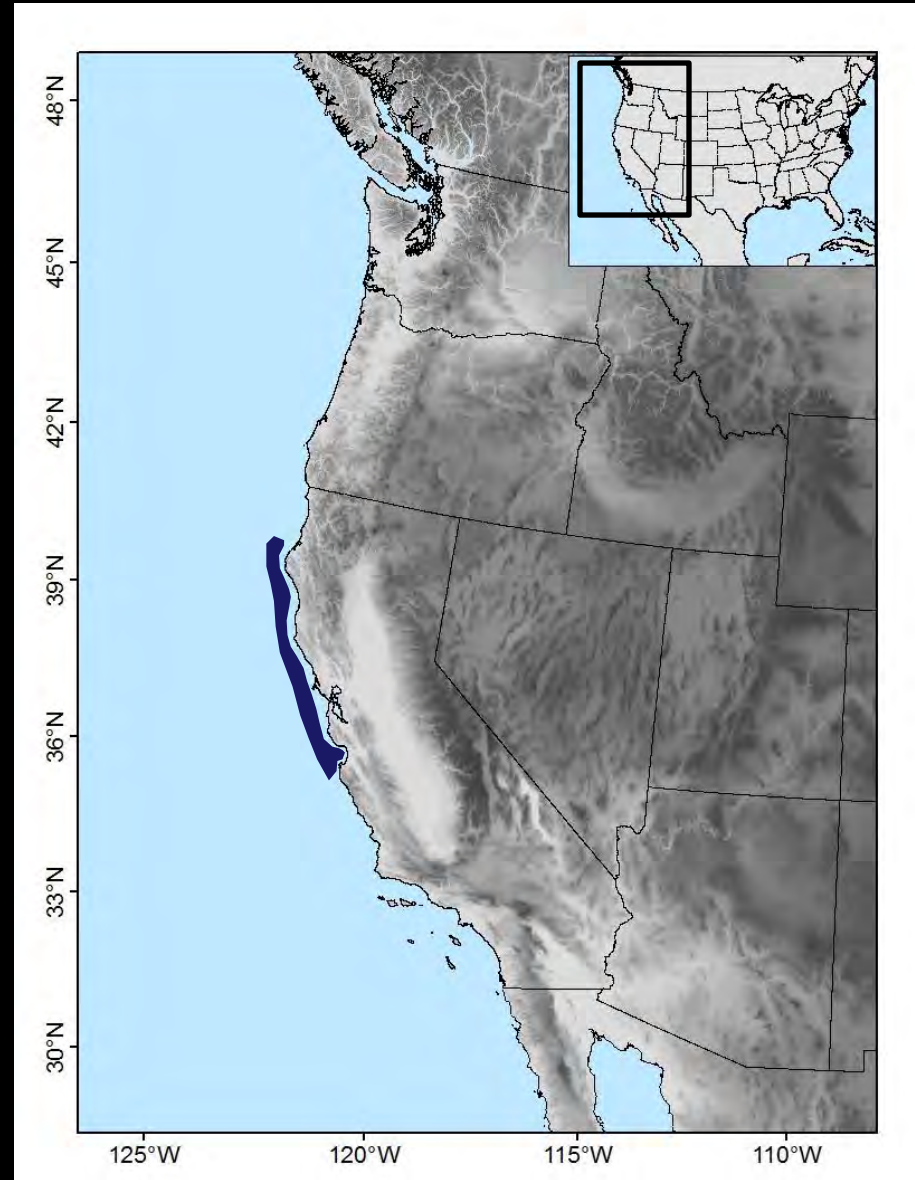
300 m depth

Live-collected 1980 - 2008

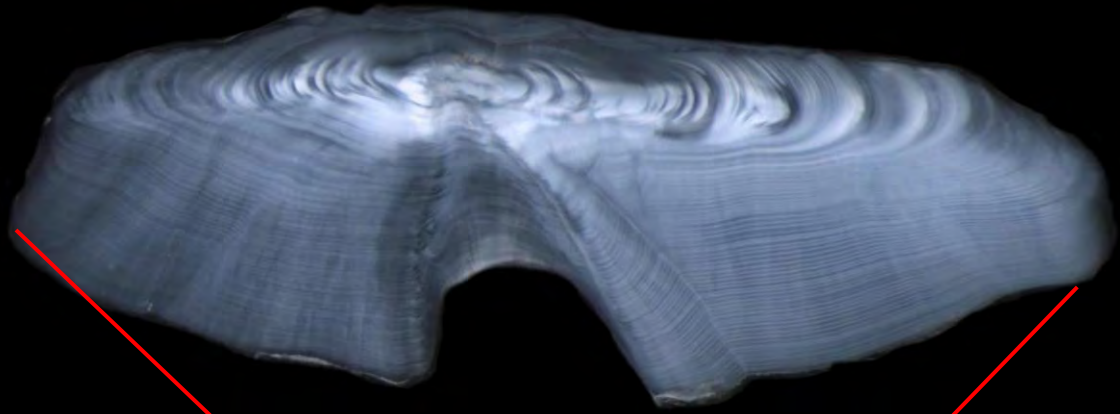


*Sebastes diploproa*,  
splitnose rockfish

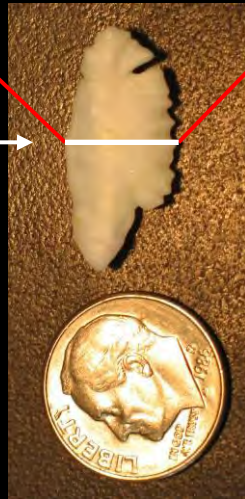
Photo credit:Lifted from M. Love's webpage



# Otolith thin sectioning

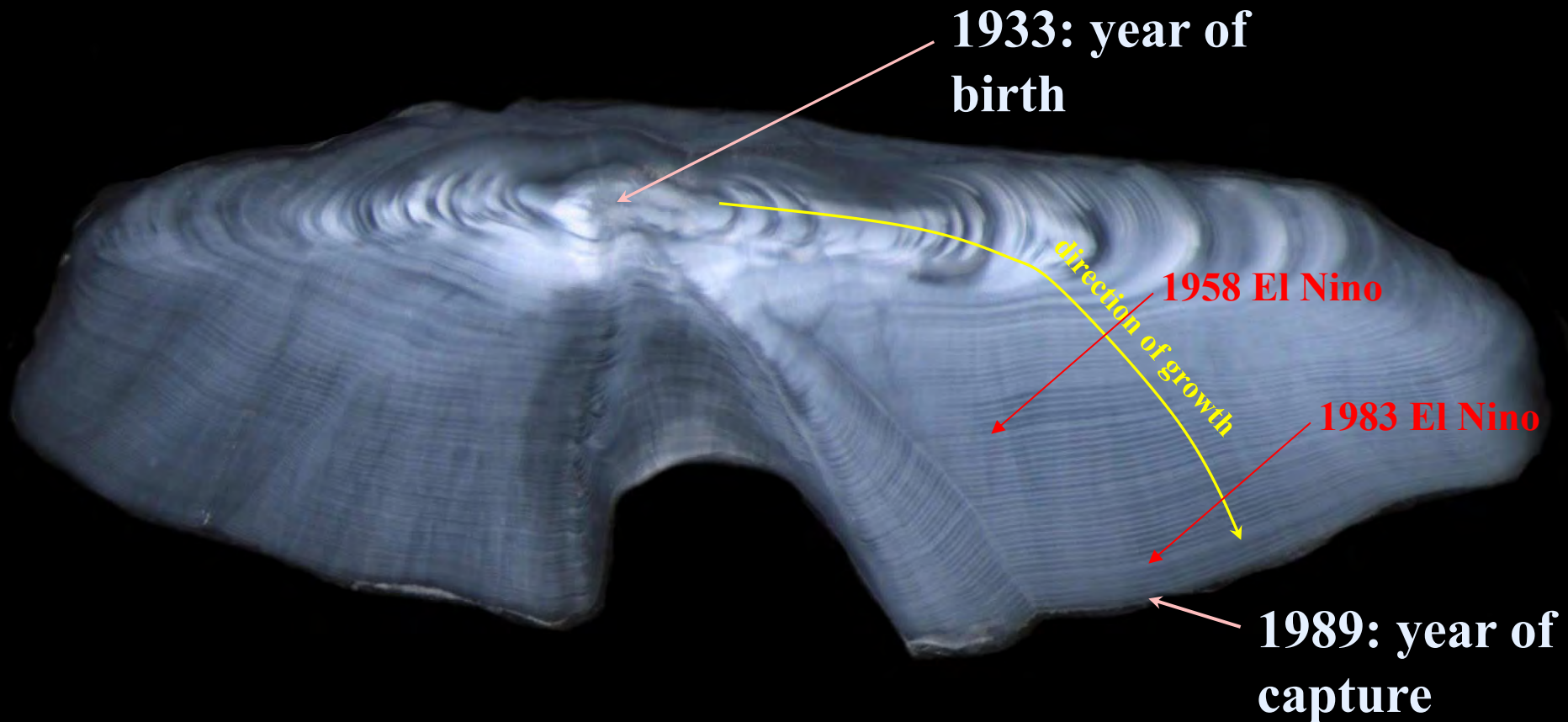


cut here



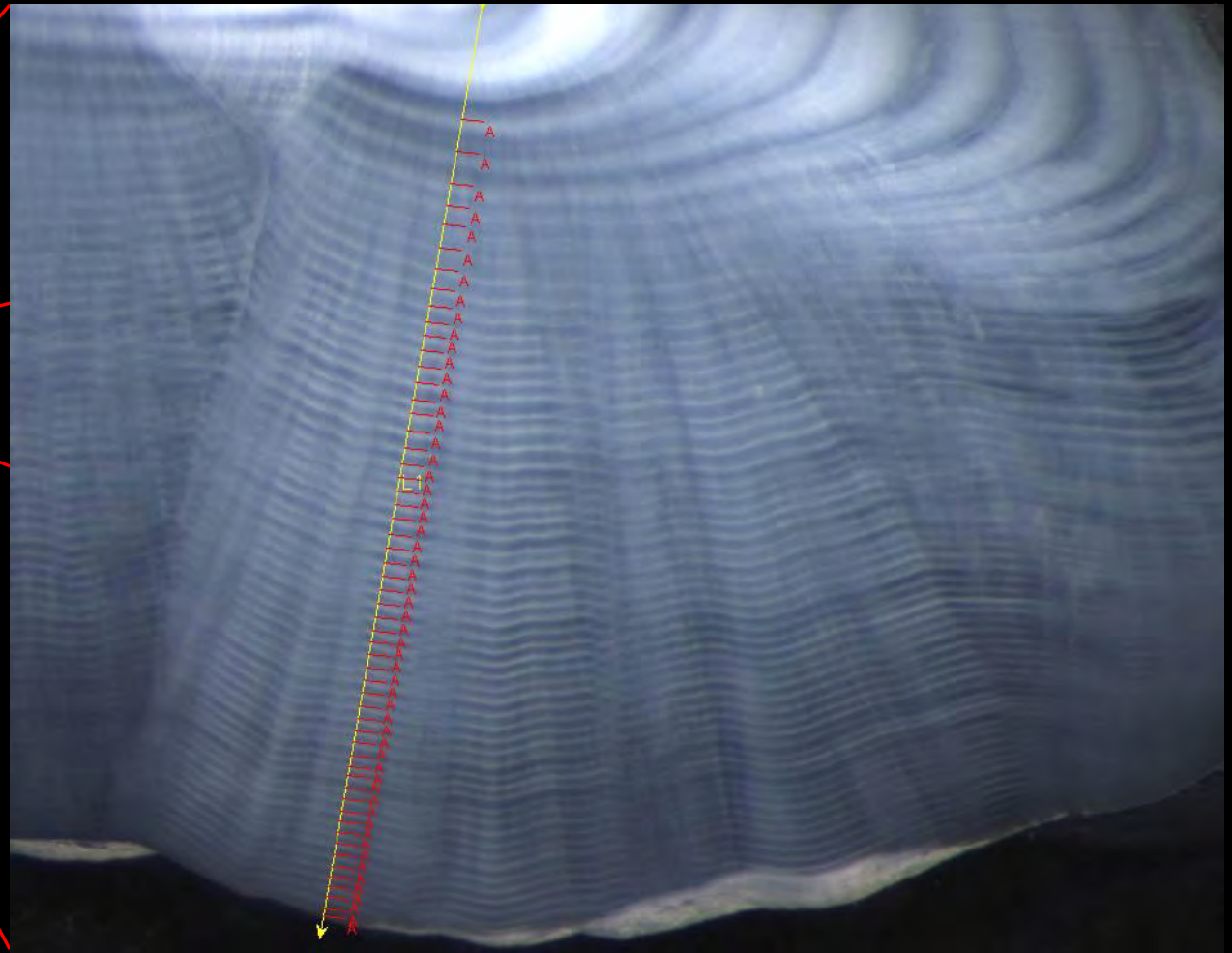
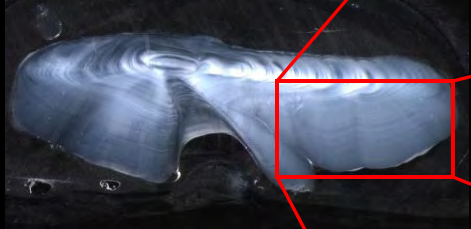
# Splitnose otolith

Annual growth increments analogous to trees

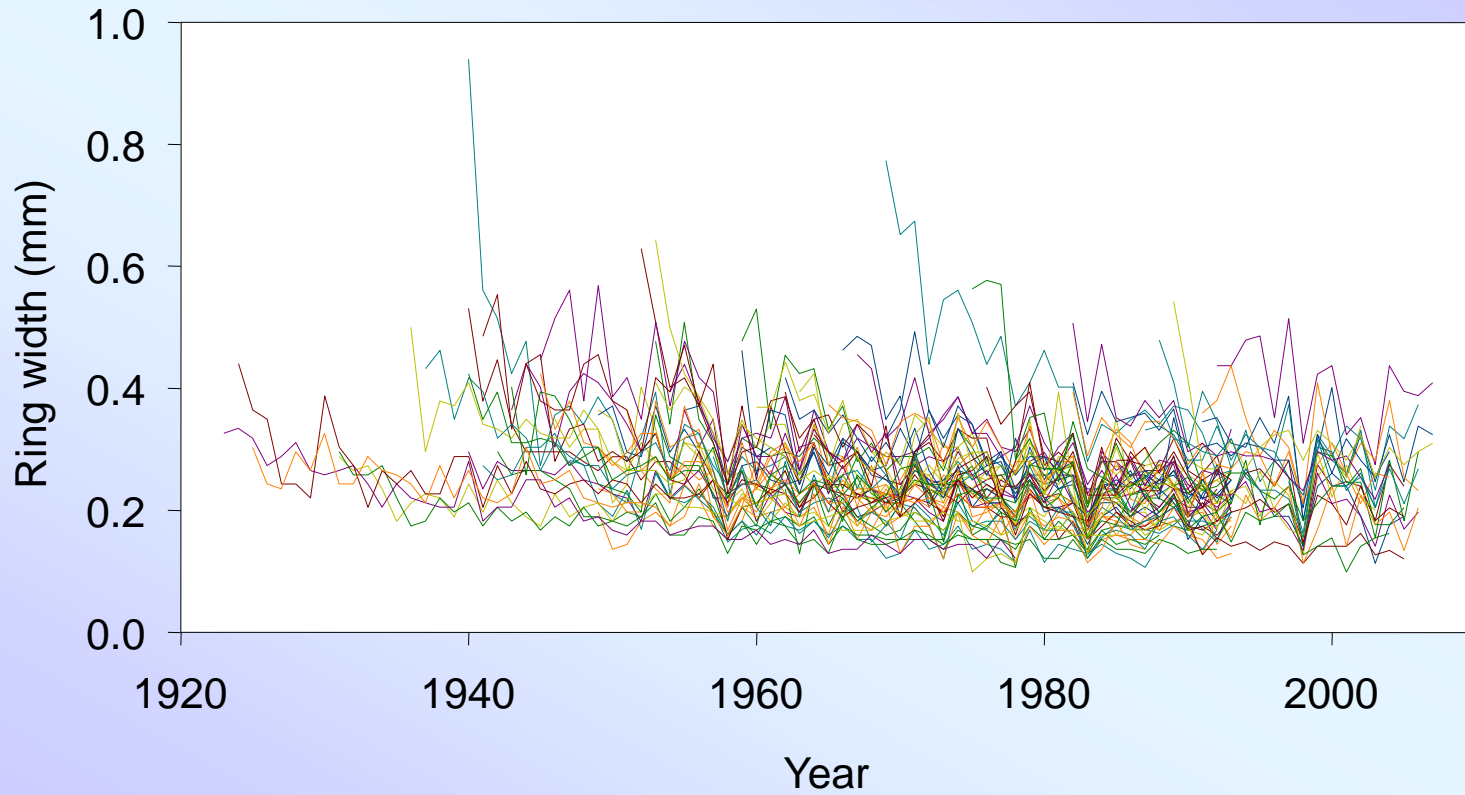




# Axis of measurements

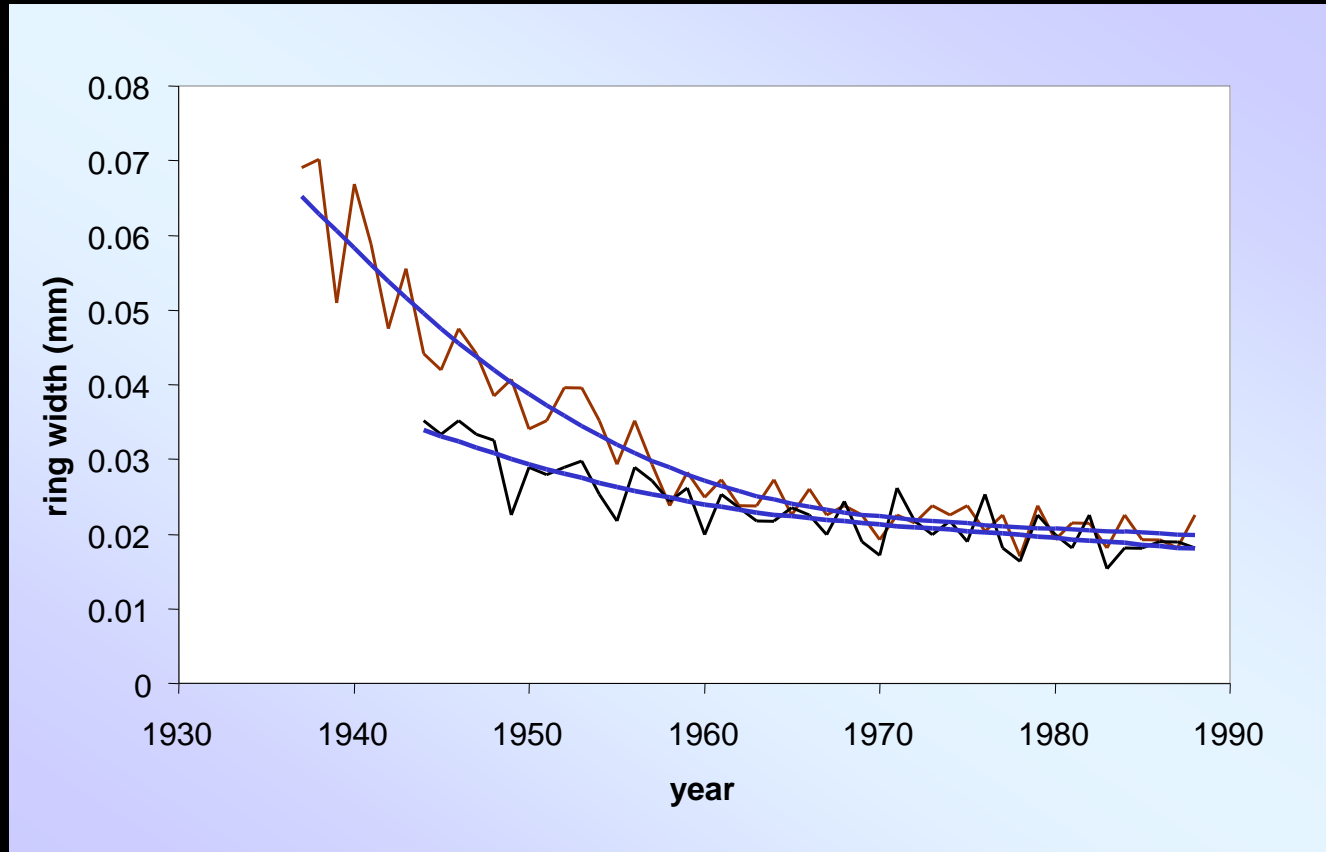


# Measurements





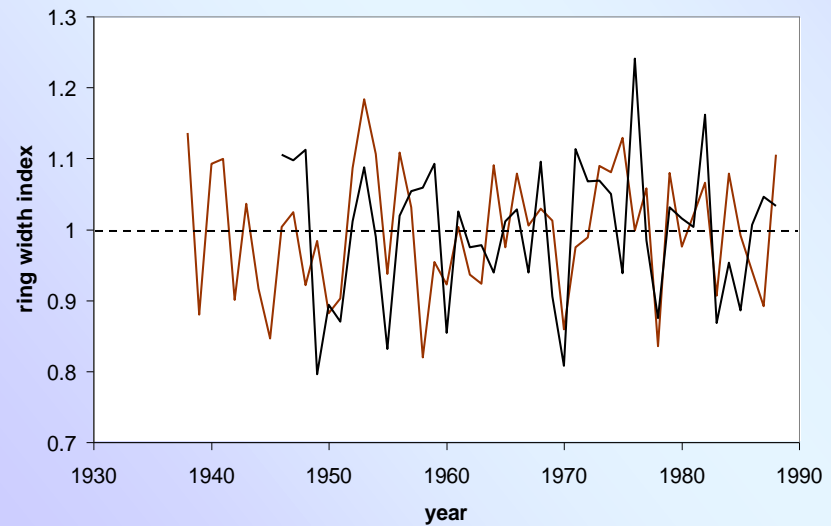
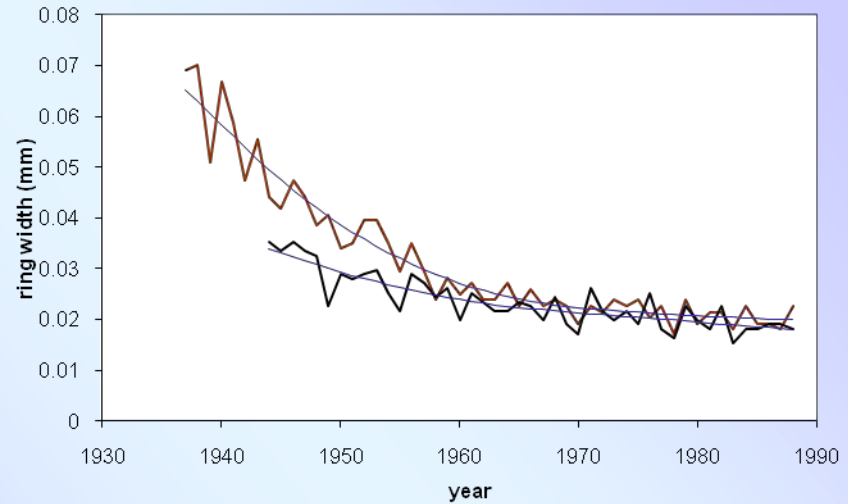
# Detrending



# Detrending

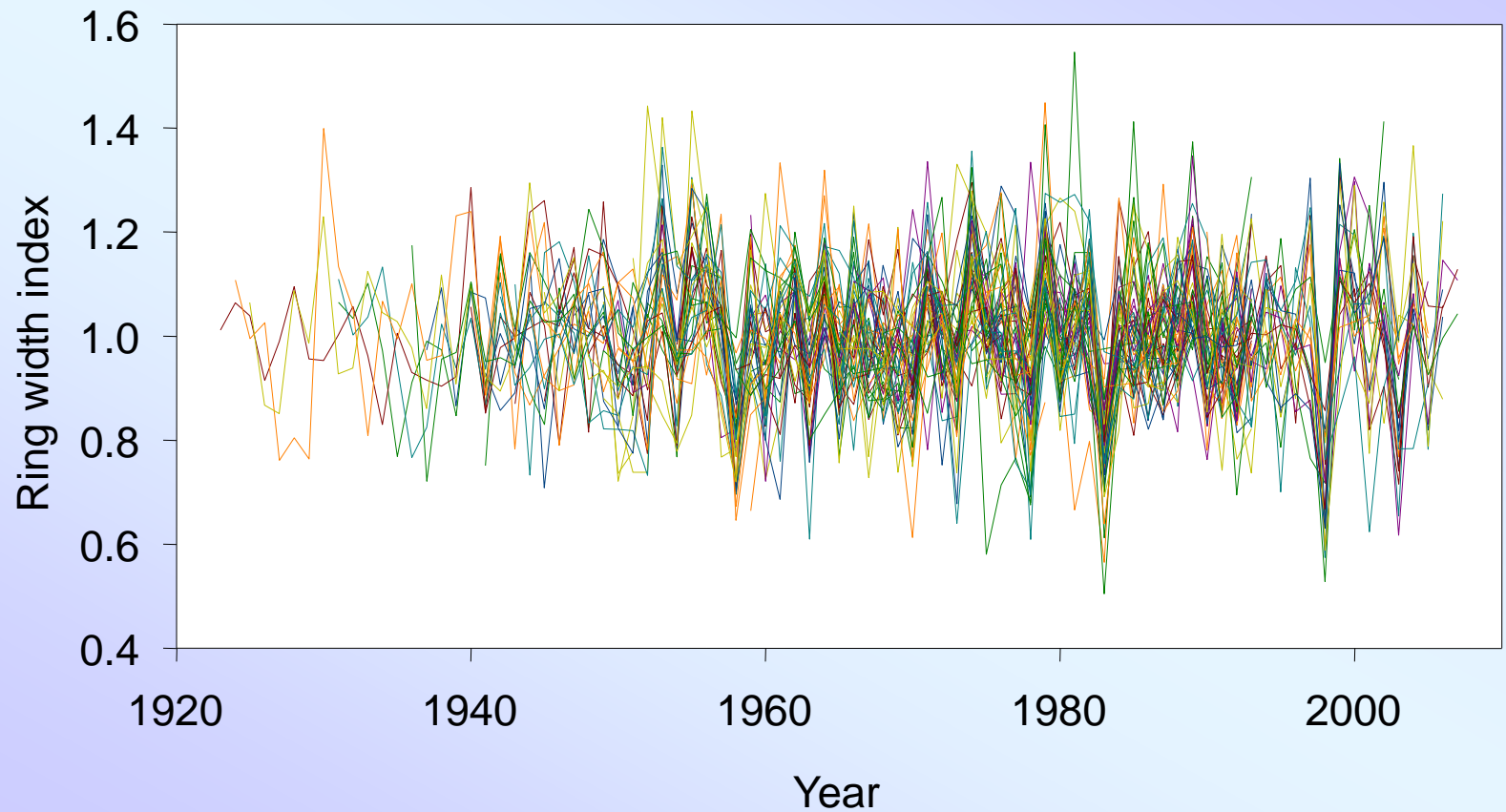
ring width  
measurements,  
best-fit curves

detrended,  
mean = 1



# Detrended measurements

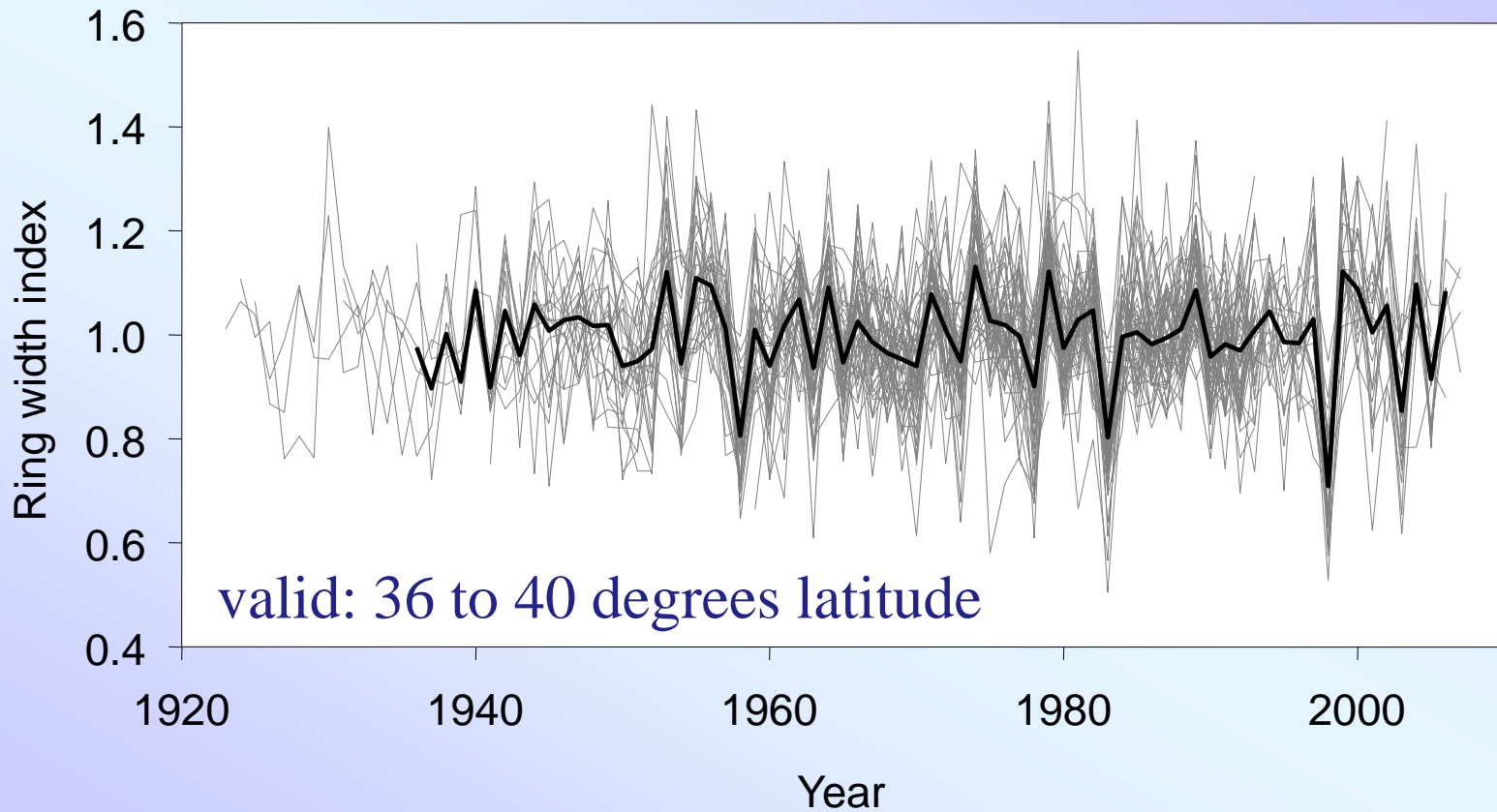
## detrended splitnose otolith measurements





# Splitnose chronology: 72 otoliths

## Master chronology



# Upwelling index

**Upwelling: deep, cold, nutrient-rich water  
very productive!**

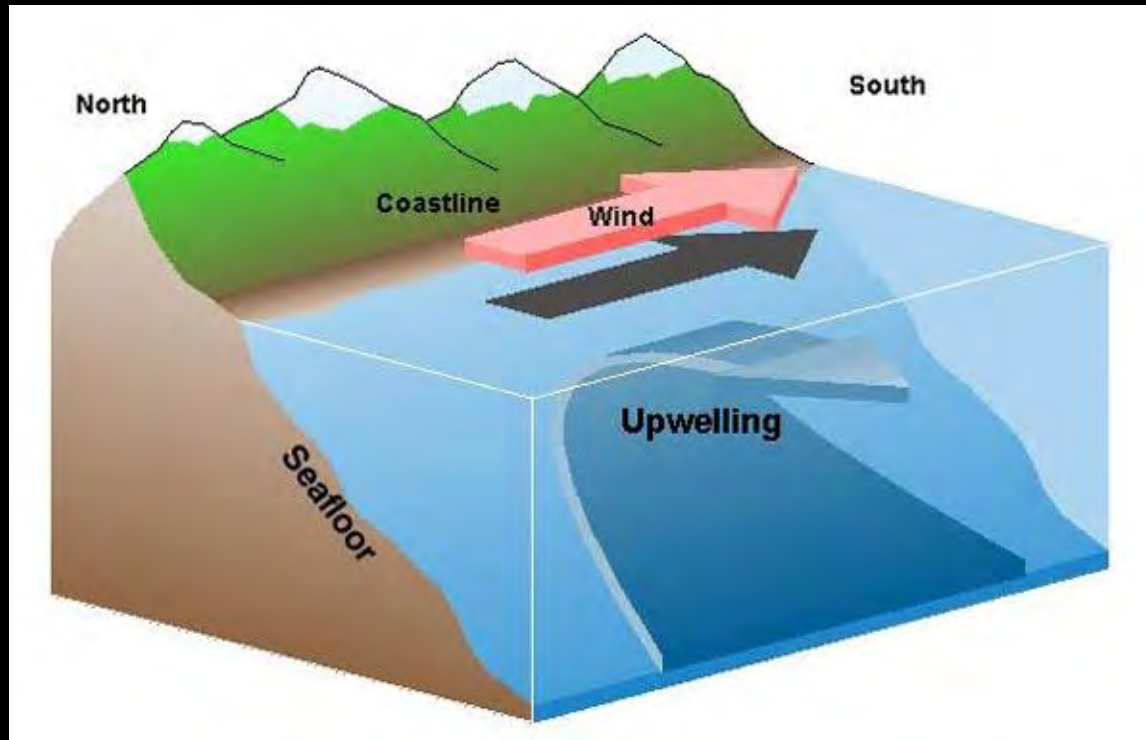
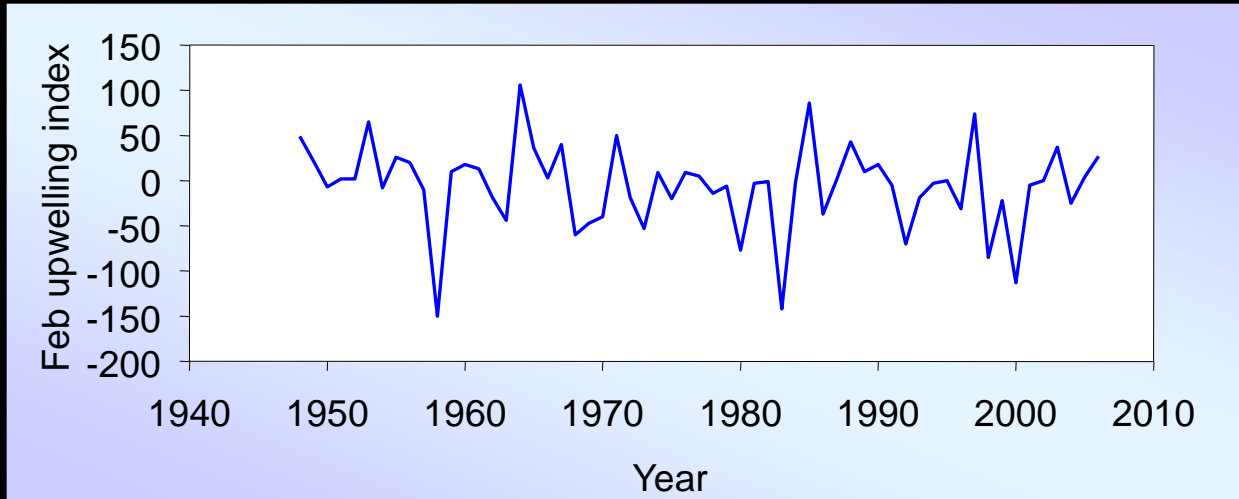


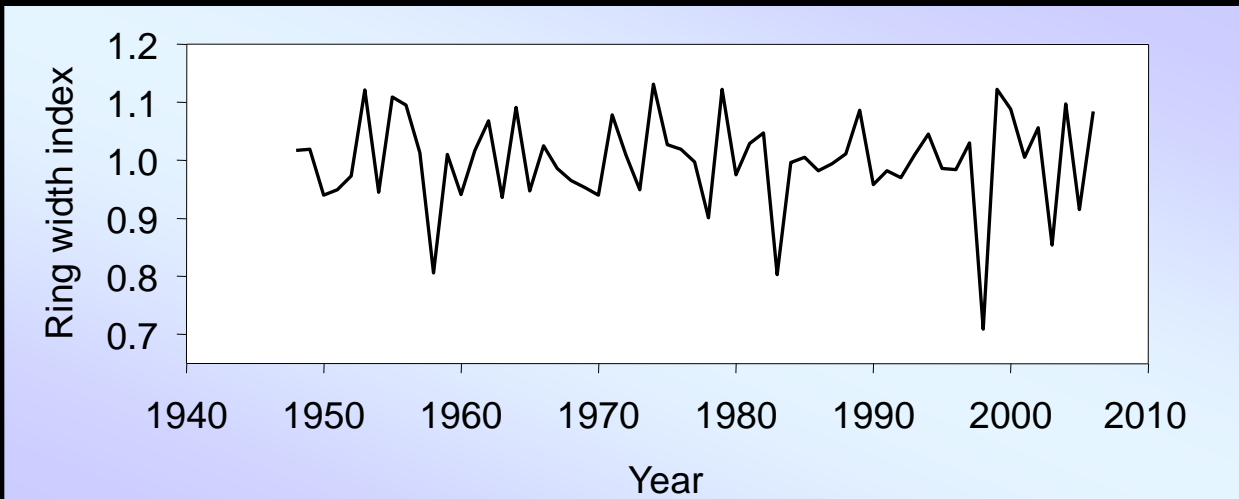
Figure credit: D. Reed and Pacific Marine Environmental Lab

# Correlations with upwelling

## February upwelling



**$r = 0.54$**   
 **$p < 0.01$**

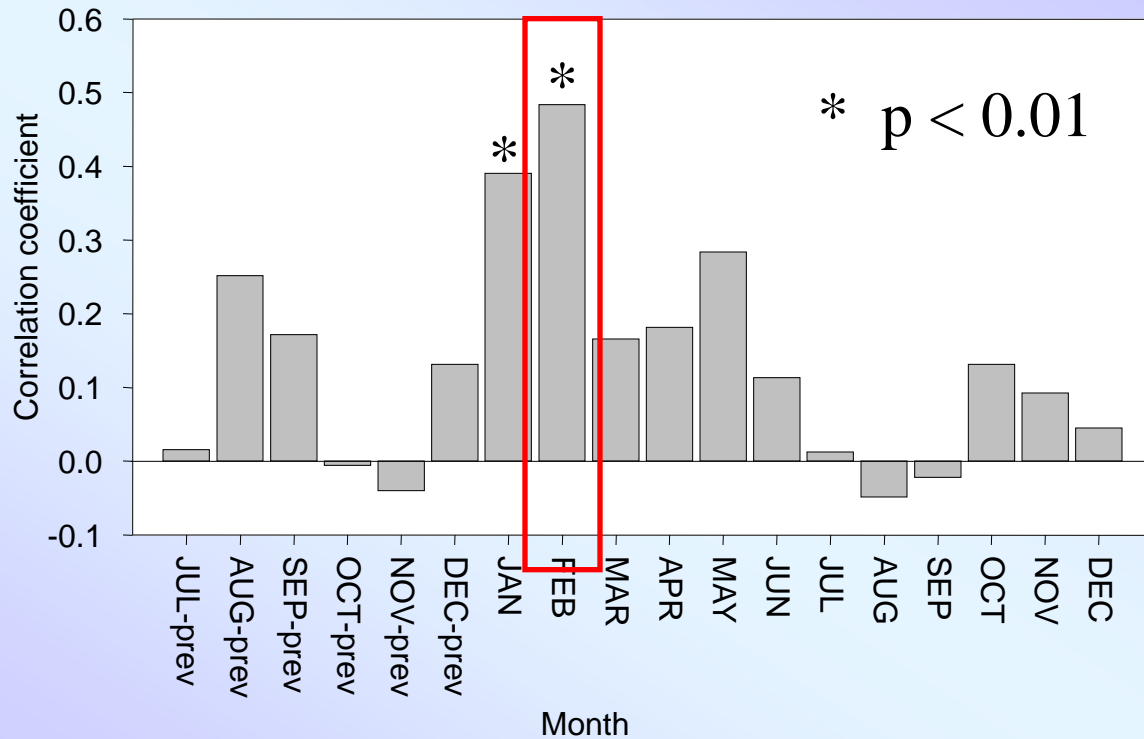


**splitnose  
chronology**



# Correlations with upwelling

## Splitnose rockfish chronology and monthly upwelling (51 yr overlap)



# Growth-increment chronologies



**splitnose rockfish**  
**planktivorous**

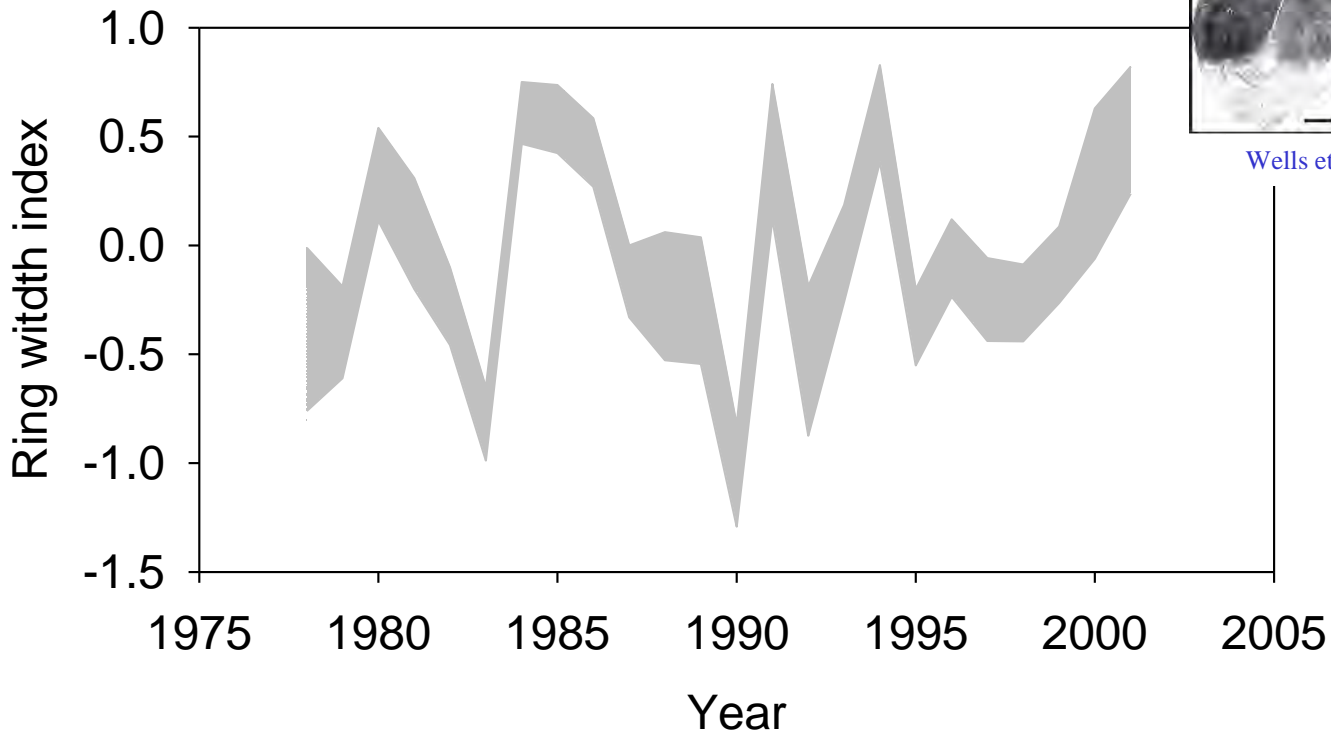
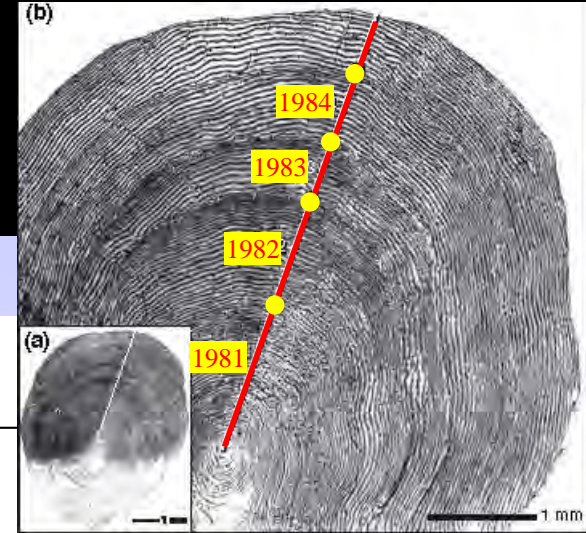


**yelloweye rockfish**  
**piscivorous**



**Chinook salmon**  
**piscivorous**

# Salmon chronology: 613 fish (scales)



Wells et al. 2007 Fish Oceanog 16:363-382



# Seven time series



**yelloweye rockfish**  
**piscivorous**



**splitnose rockfish**  
**planktivorous**



**Chinook salmon**  
**piscivorous**

**growth-increment  
chronology**



**common murre**  
**piscivorous**

**egg lay date**

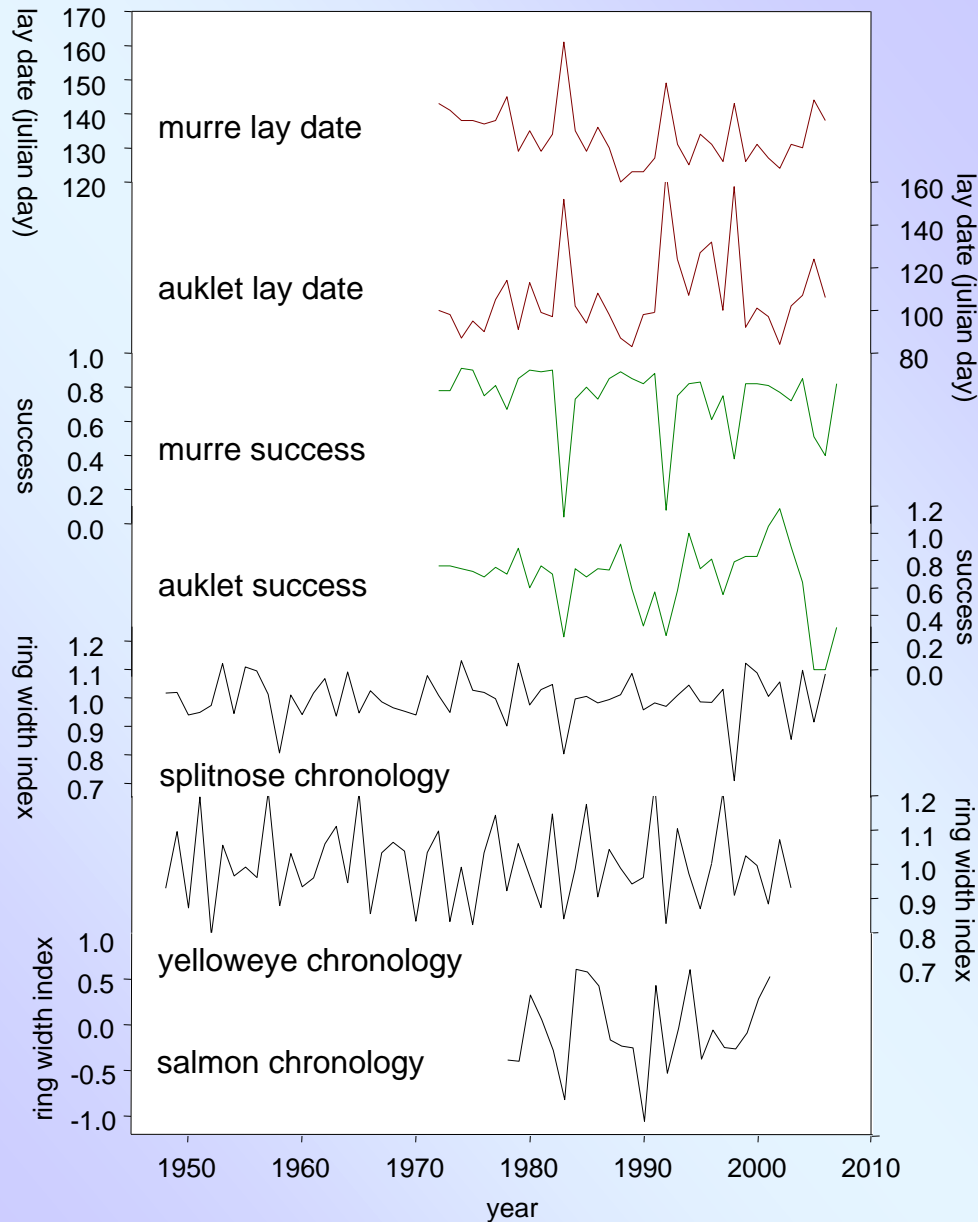
**and**



**Cassin's auklet**  
**planktivorous**

**fledgling success**

# Biological time series

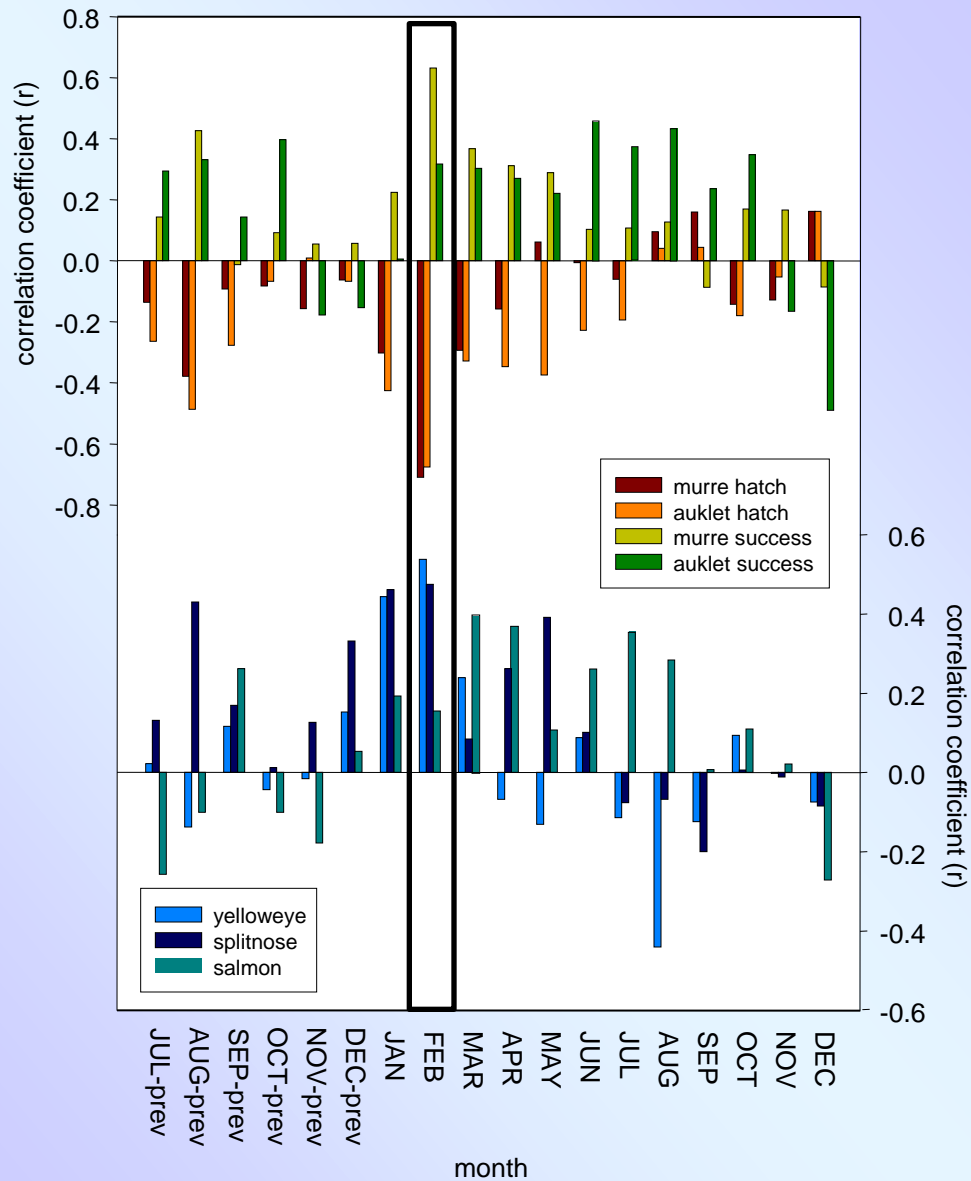


lay date

fledgling success

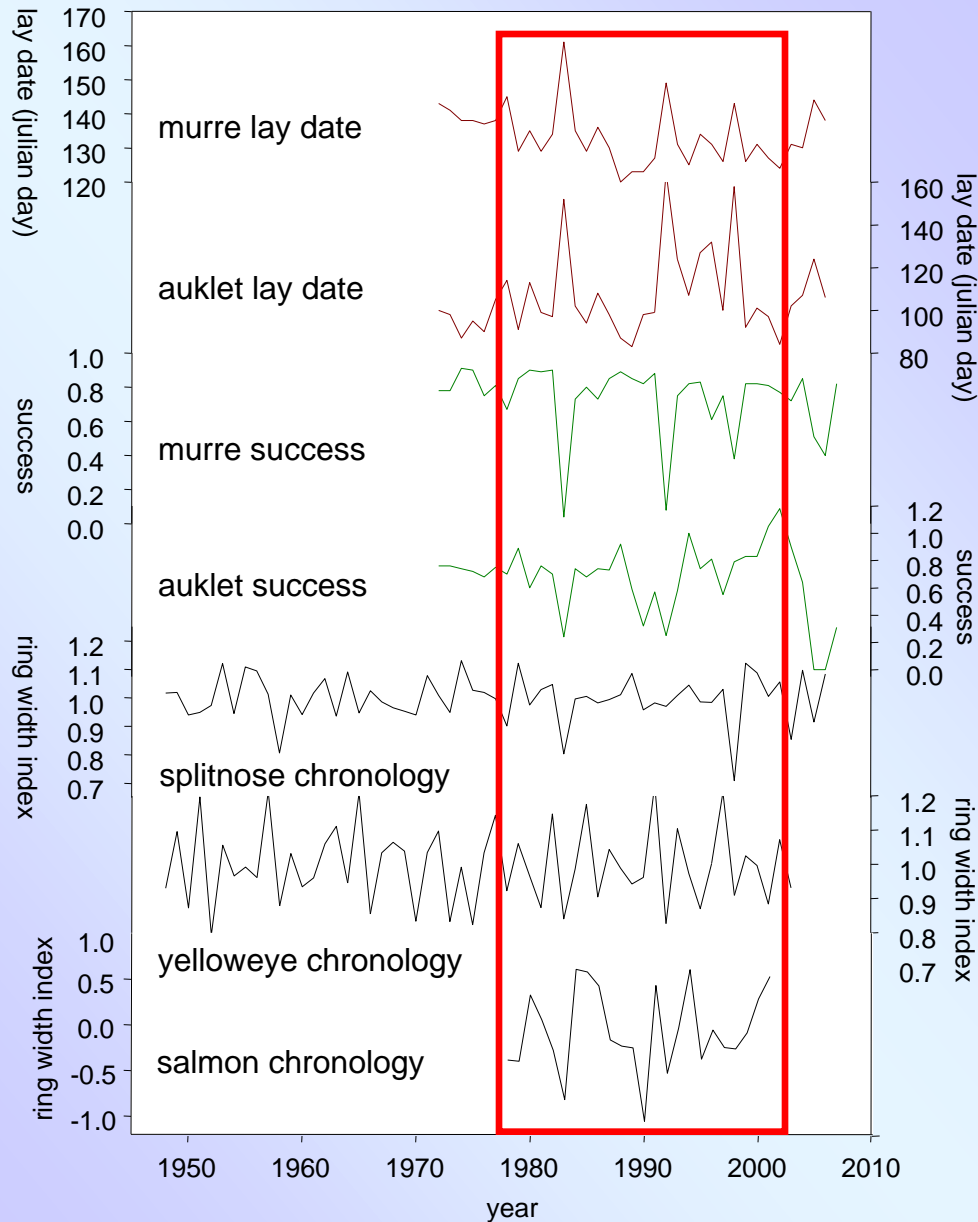
growth-increment chronology

# Biological time series: Feb UW correlations





# Biological time series

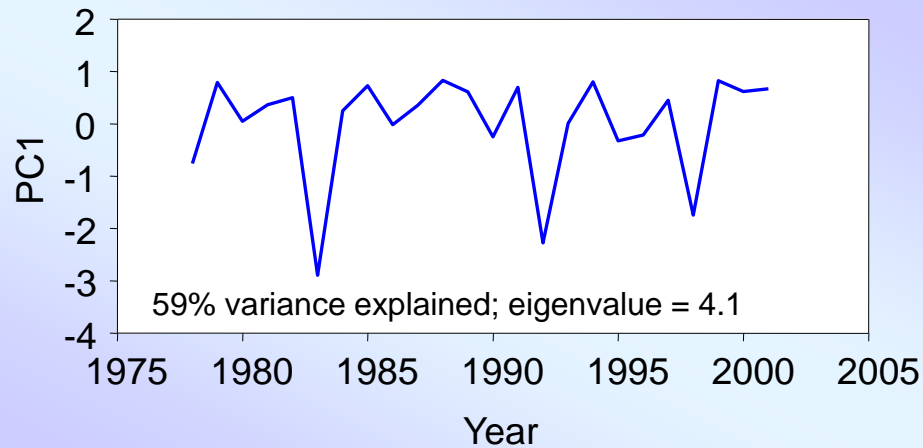


**lay date**

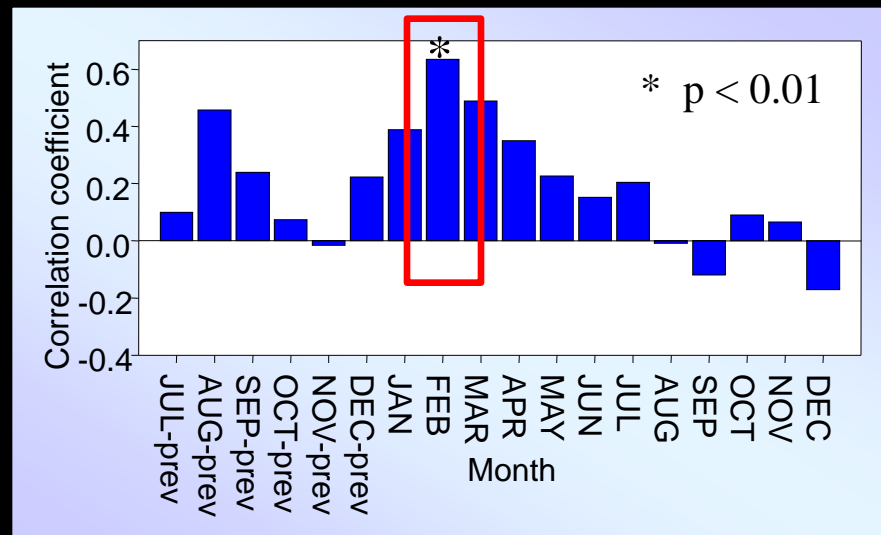
**fledgling success**

**growth-increment chronology**

# PC1 for fish and bird time series

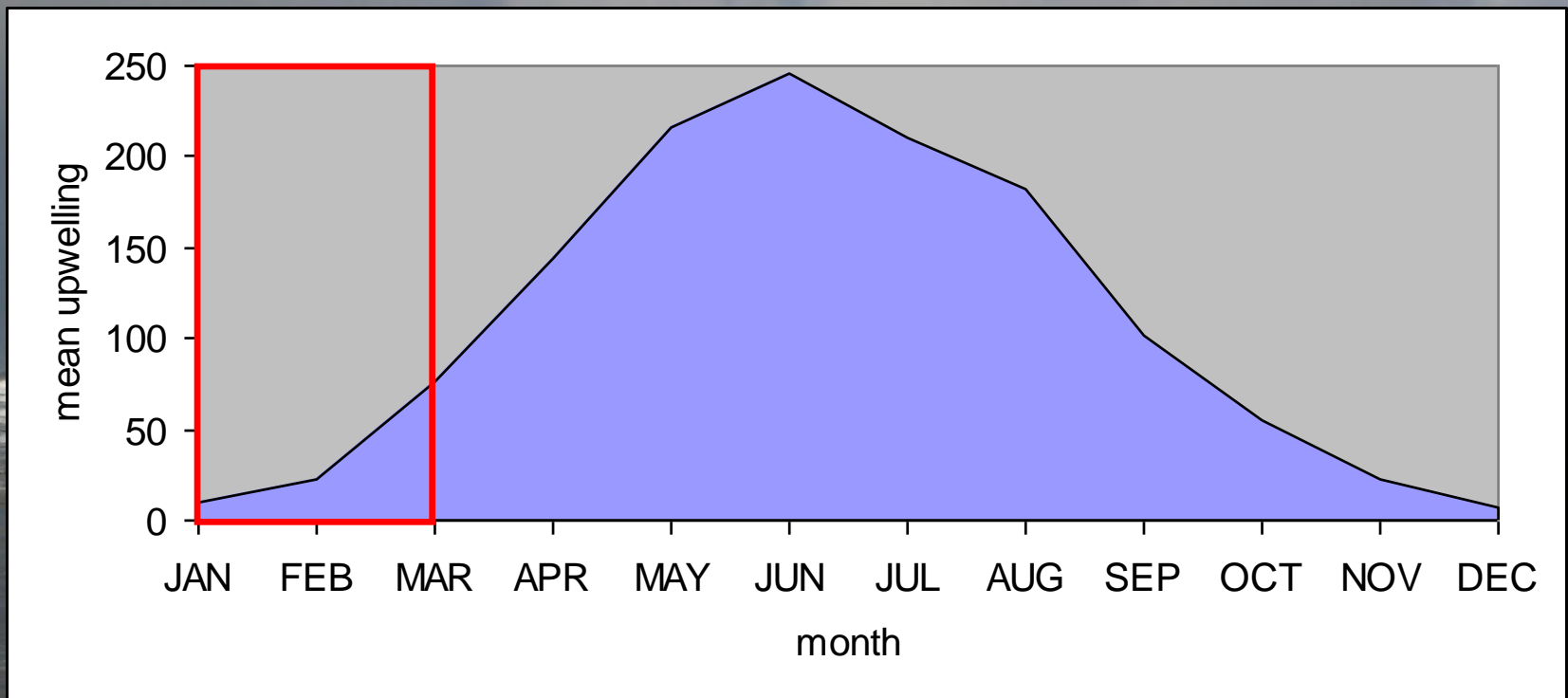


**Leading principal component  
for 7 bird and fish time series**



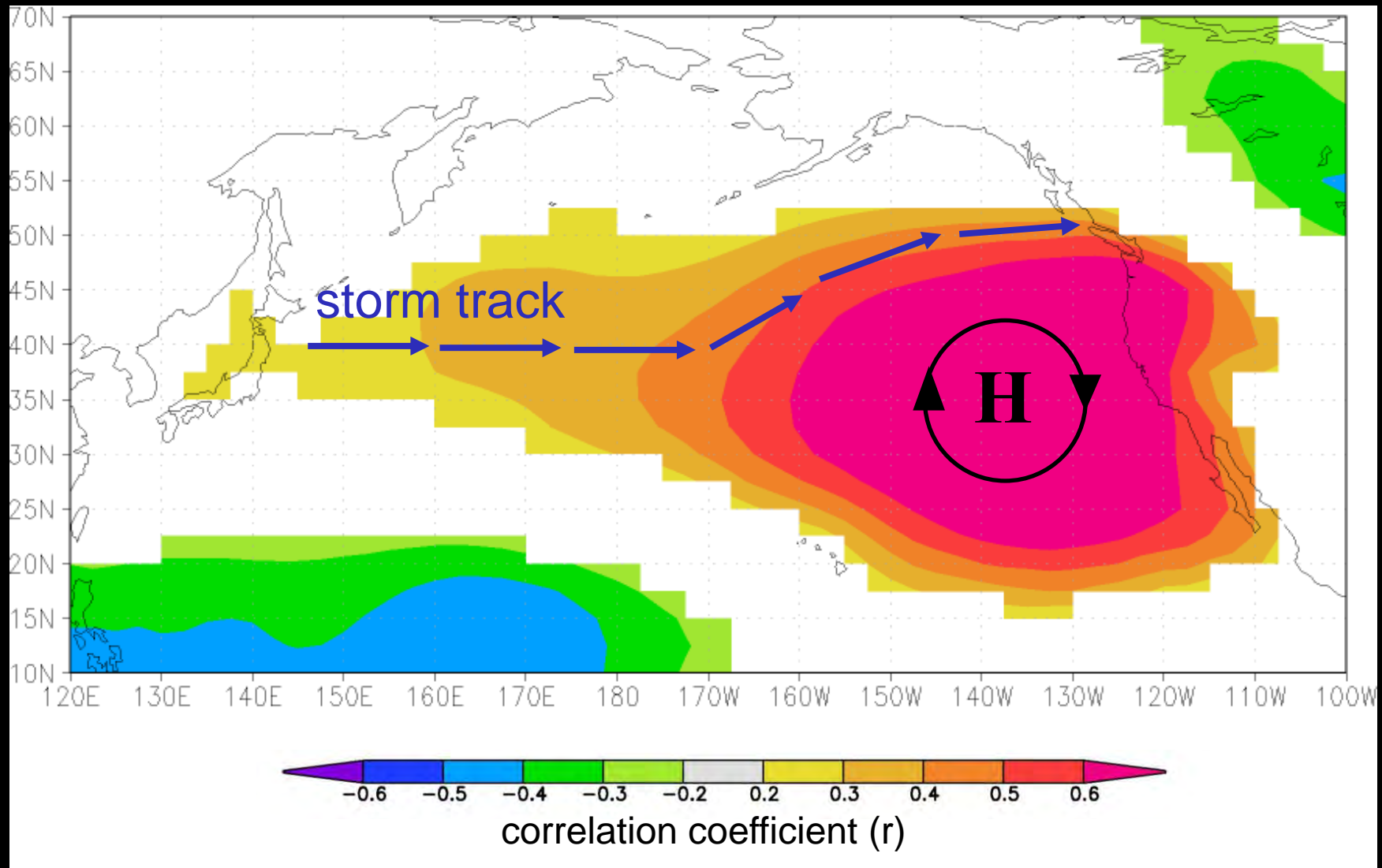
**Correlation with upwelling**

# Winter upwelling



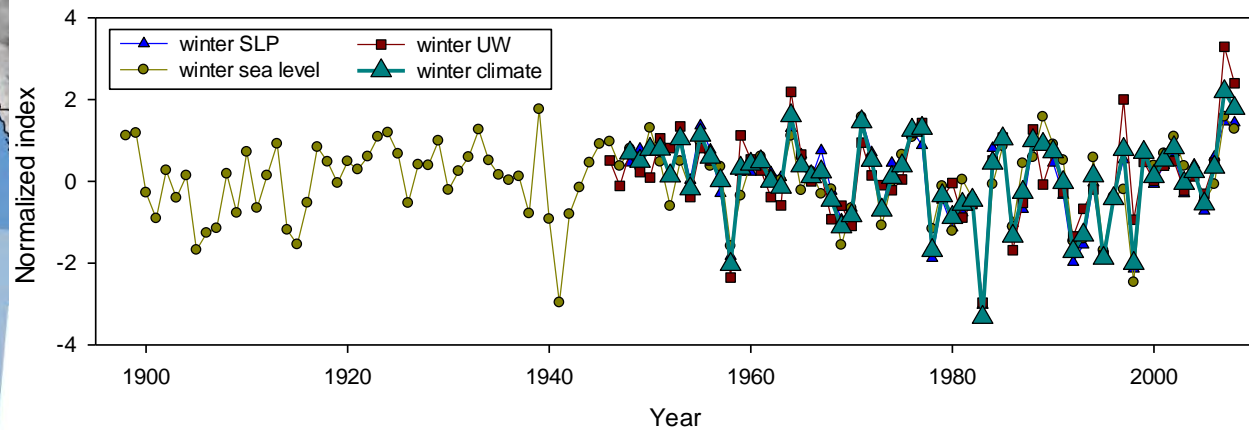
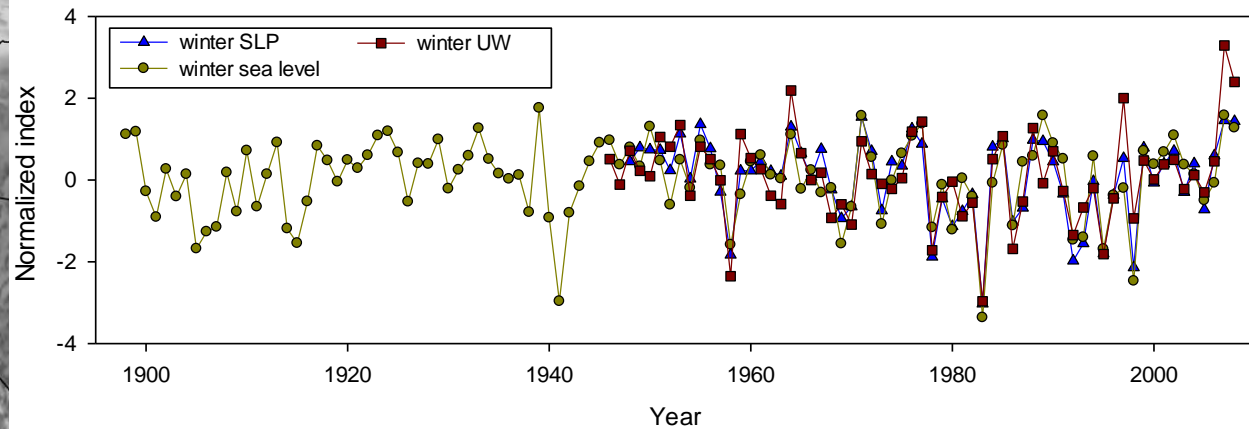
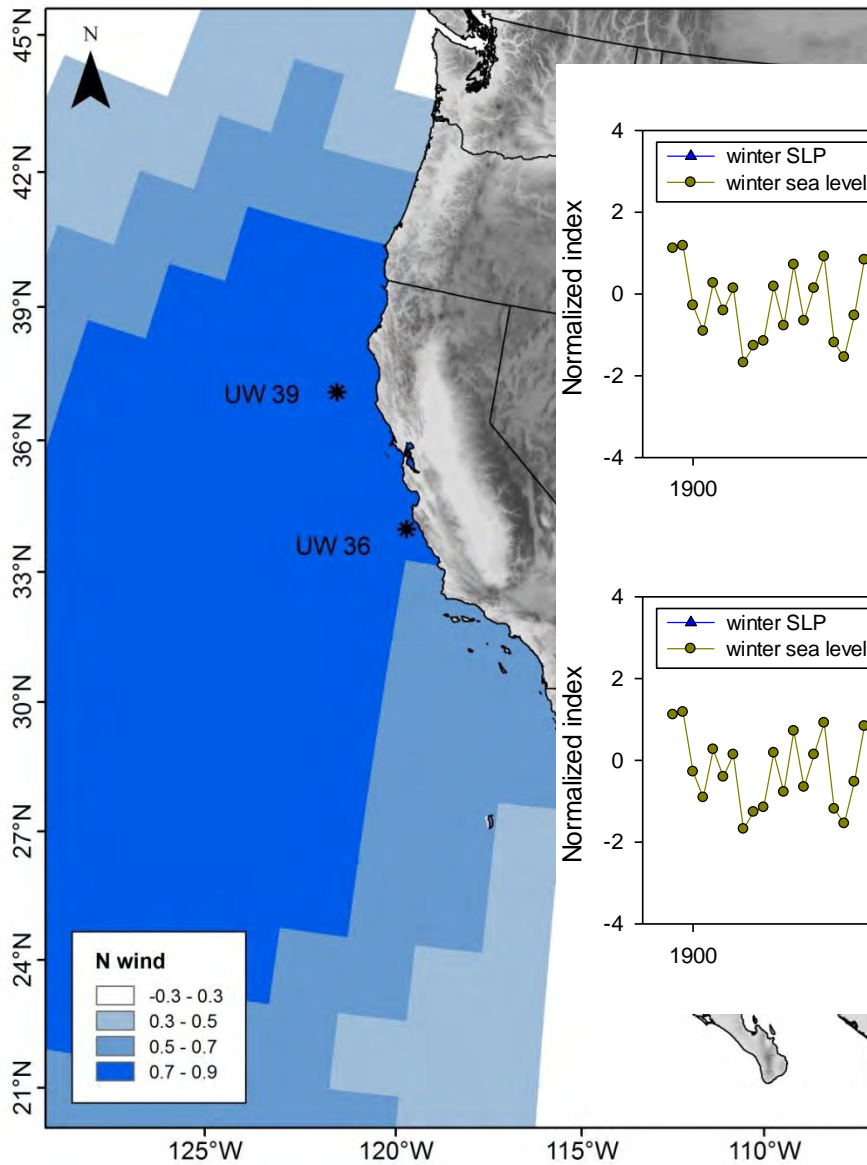
# Winter blocking high

## Correlation between upwelling and winter sea level pressure





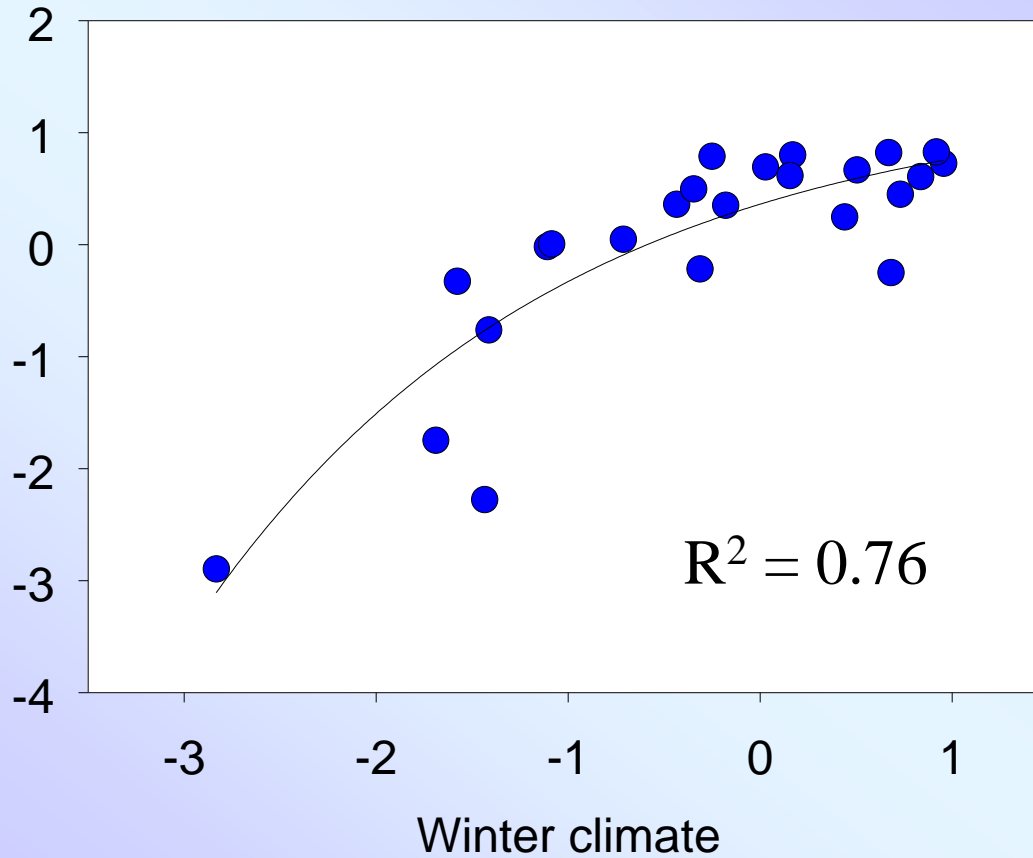
# Correlation with N winds



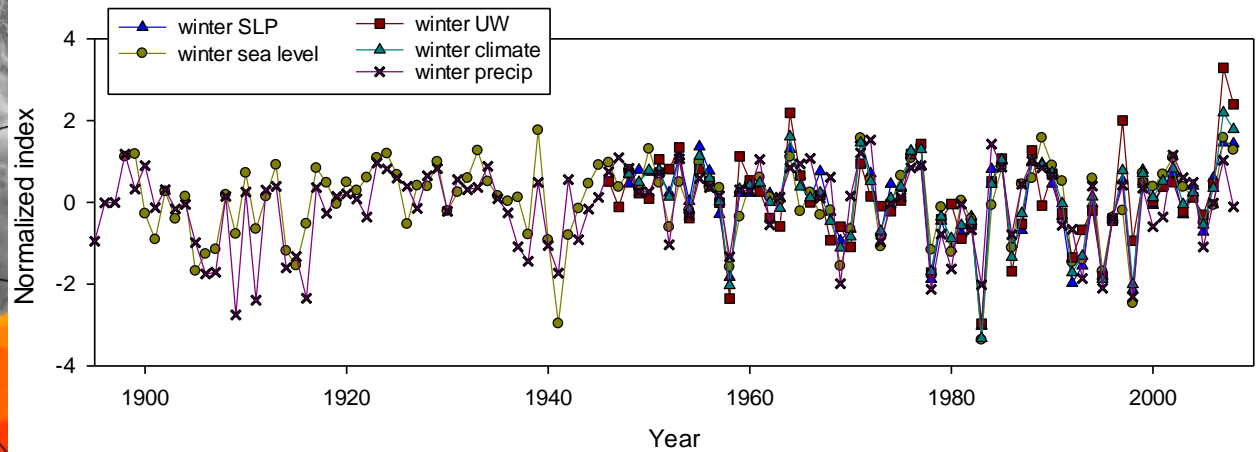
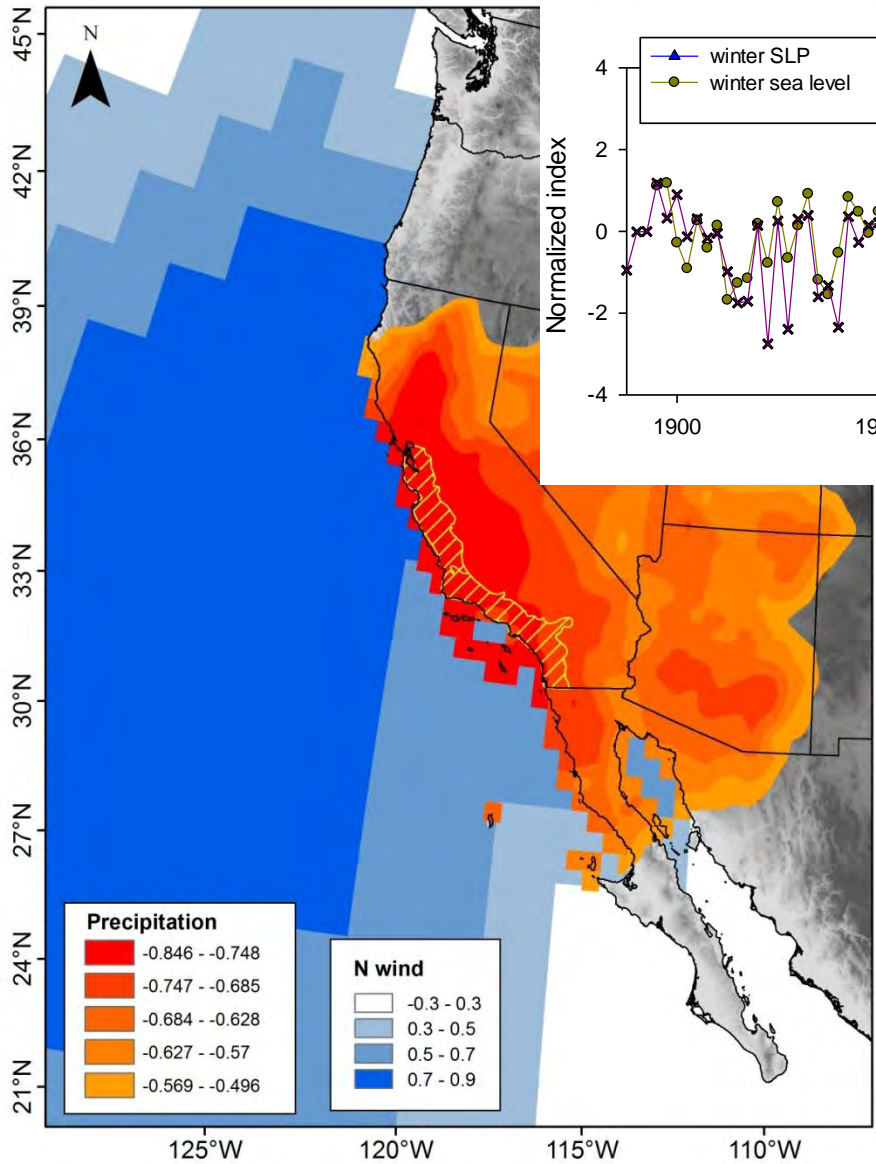
# Winter climate and biological response



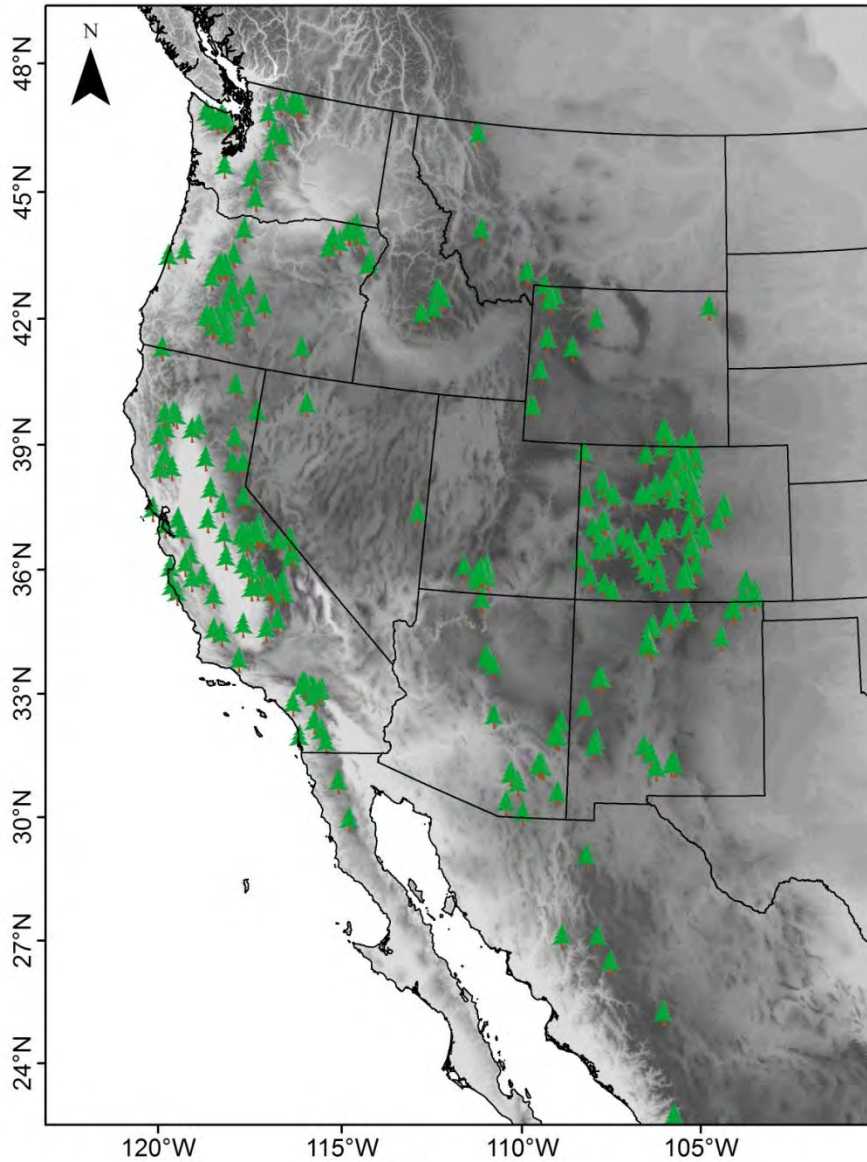
PC1bio



# Correlation with N winds, precip

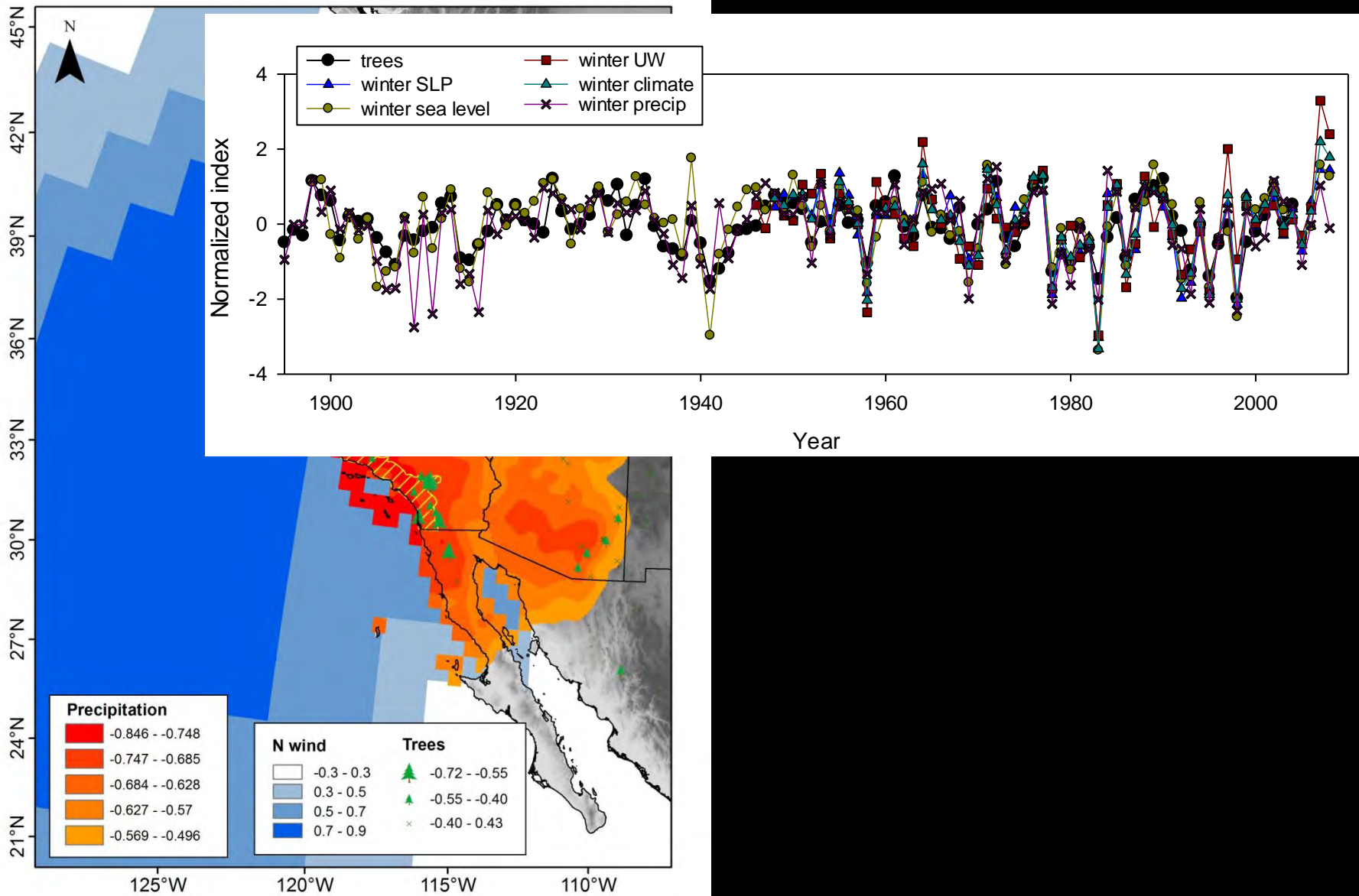


# Tree-ring chronology locations

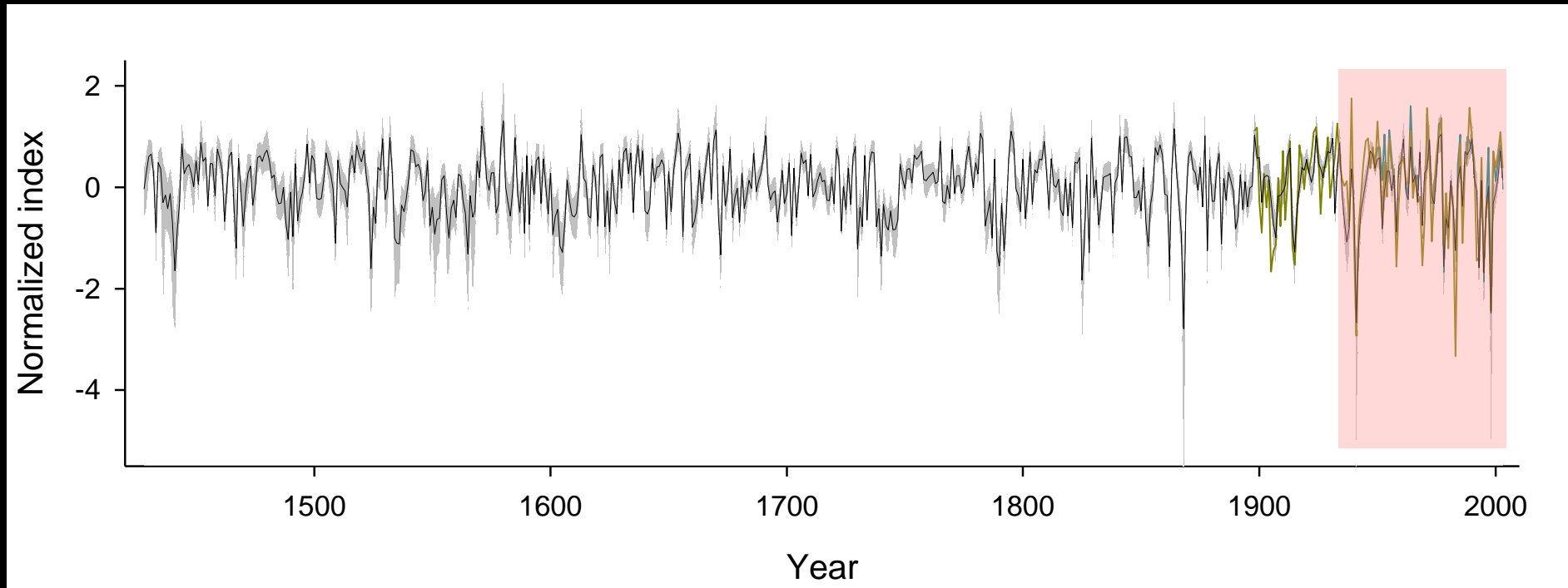




# Marine and terrestrial linkages



# CC winter climate reconstruction



# Comparisons across ocean domains

## Rockfish and bivalve growth

*Sebastes ruberrimus*, yelloweye rockfish



Photo by Tory O'Connell, ADF&G



*Sebastes diploproa*, splitnose rockfish

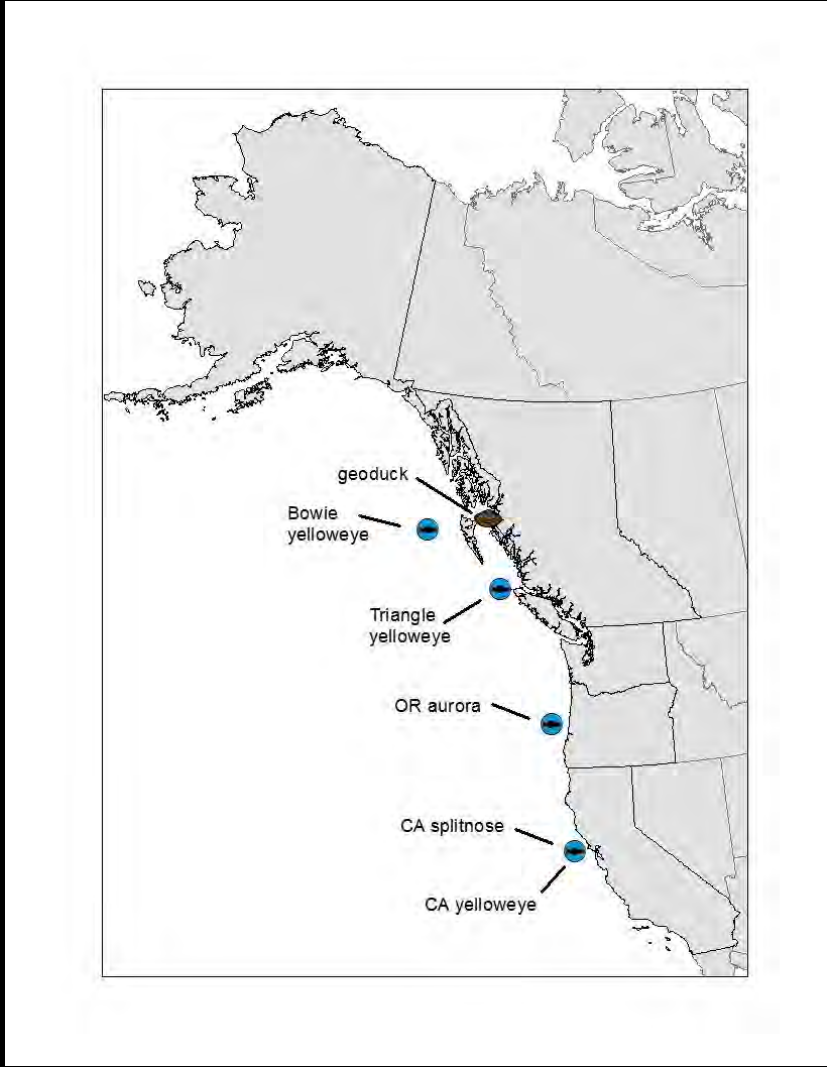
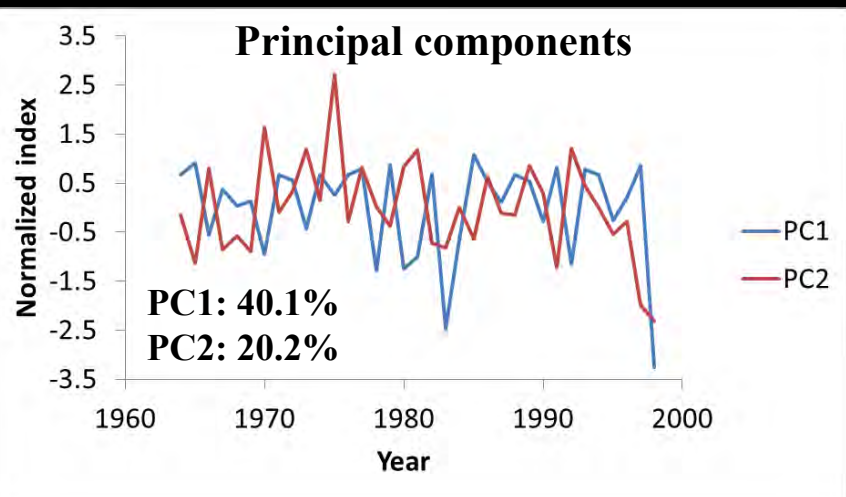
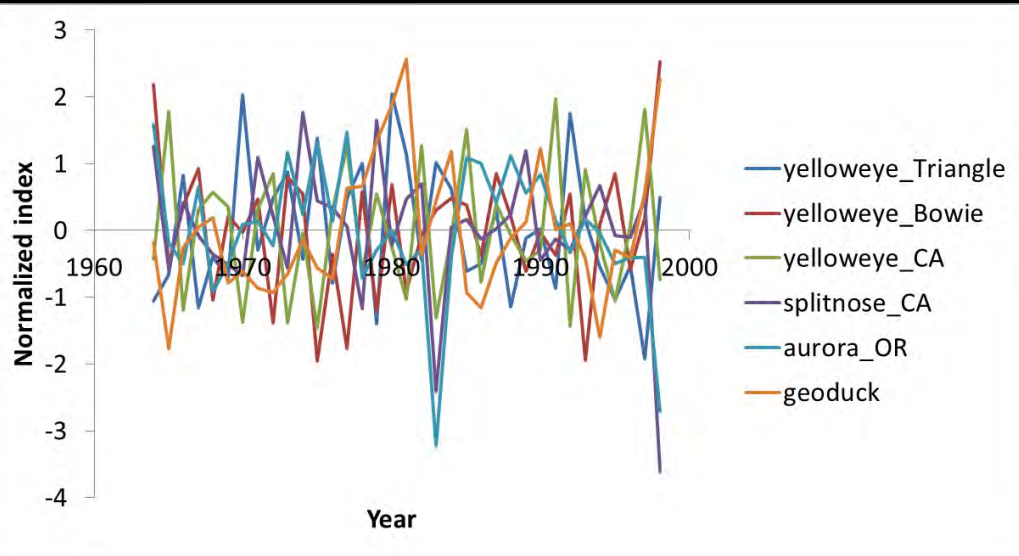
*Panopea generosa*, Pacific geoduck





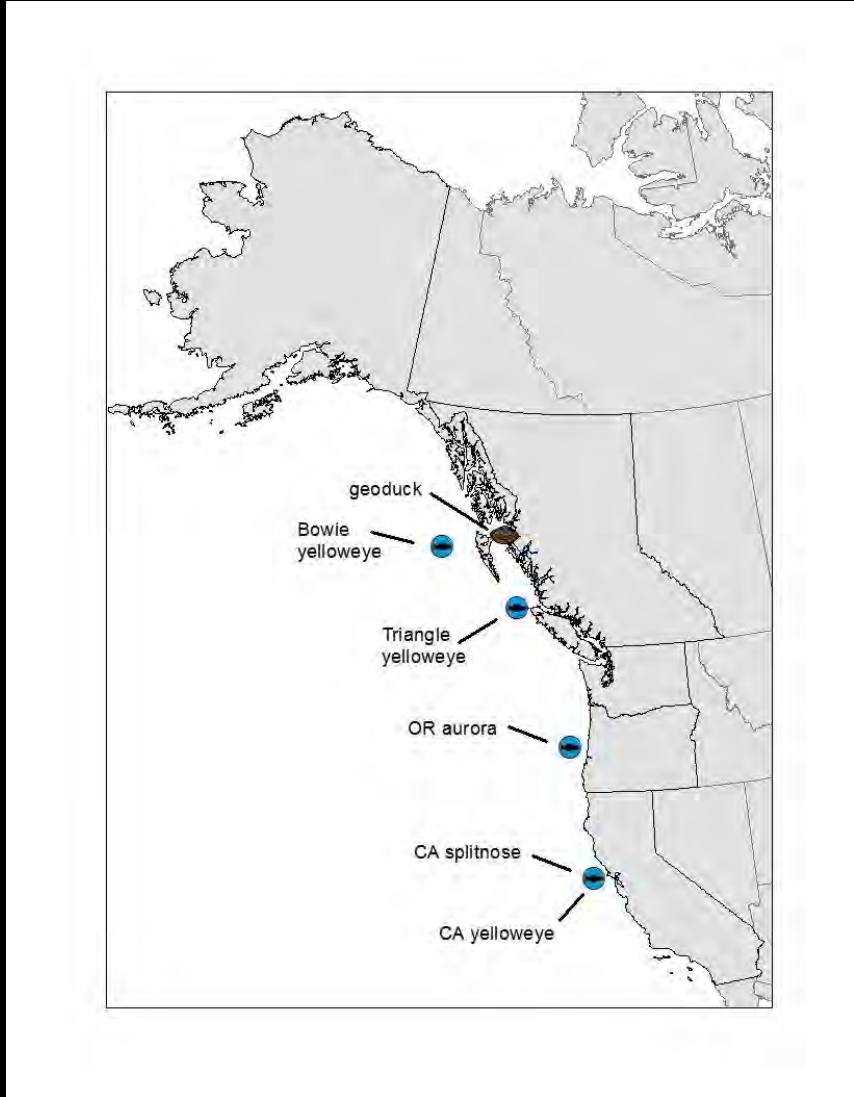
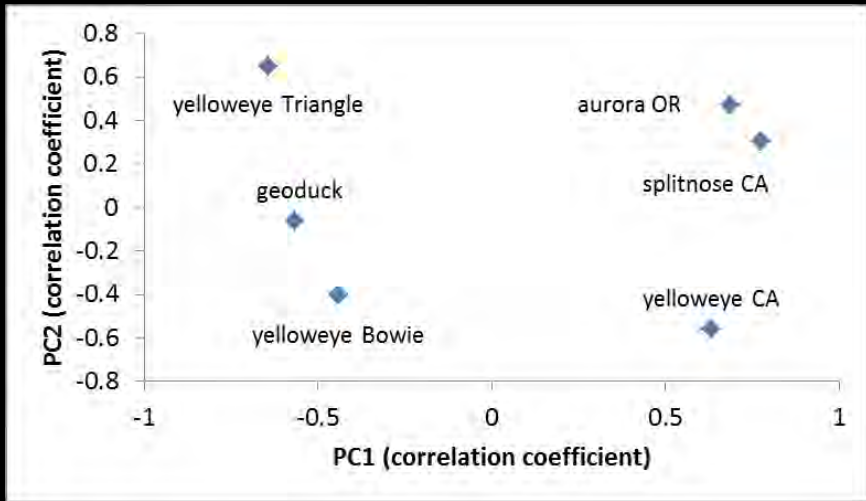
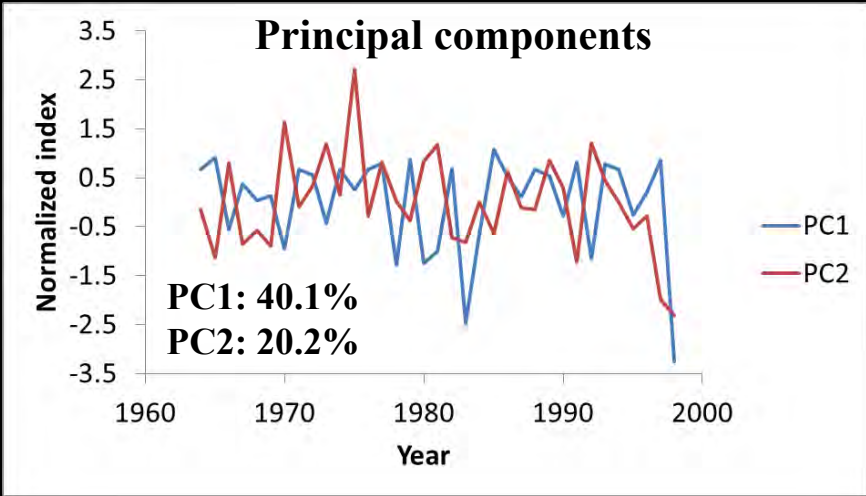
# Comparisons across ocean domains

## Rockfish and bivalve growth (1964-1998)



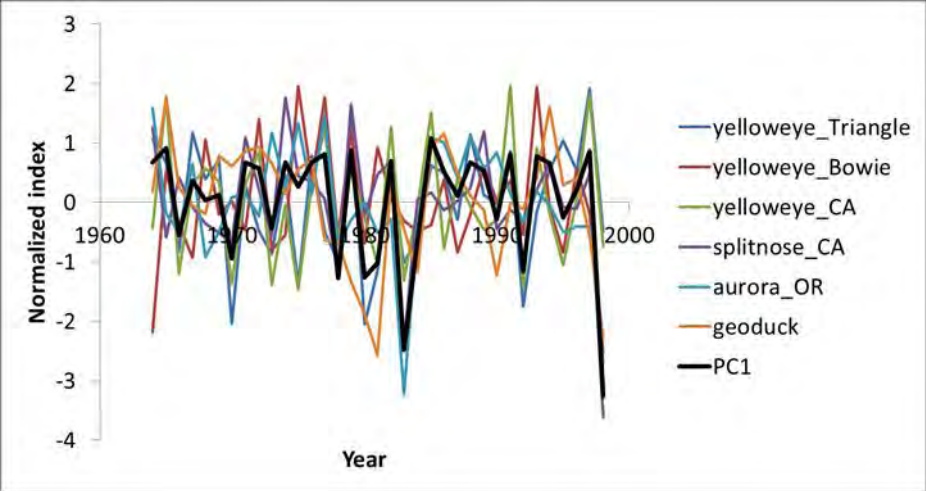


# Comparisons across ocean domains



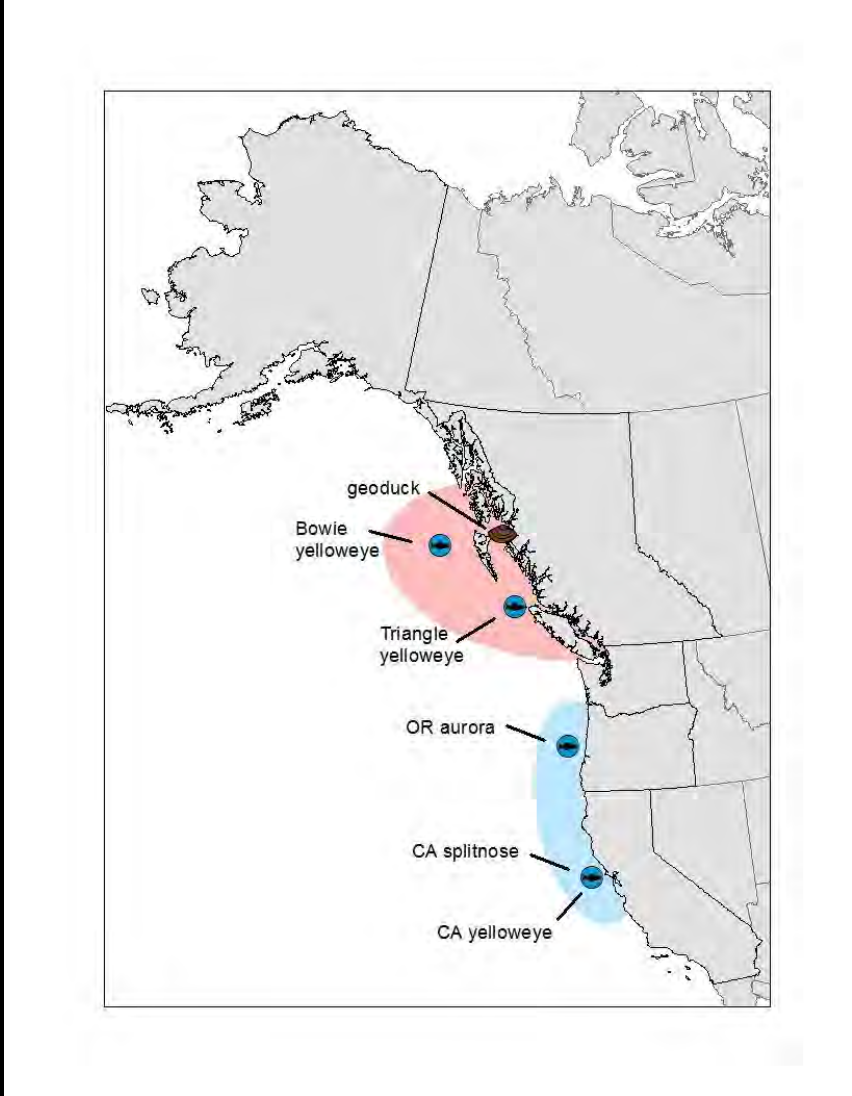
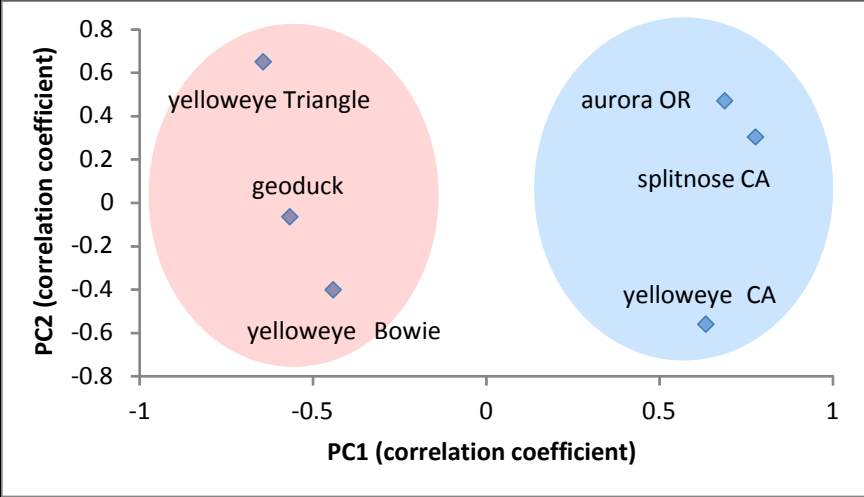
# Comparisons across ocean domains

## Northern 3 crns inverted



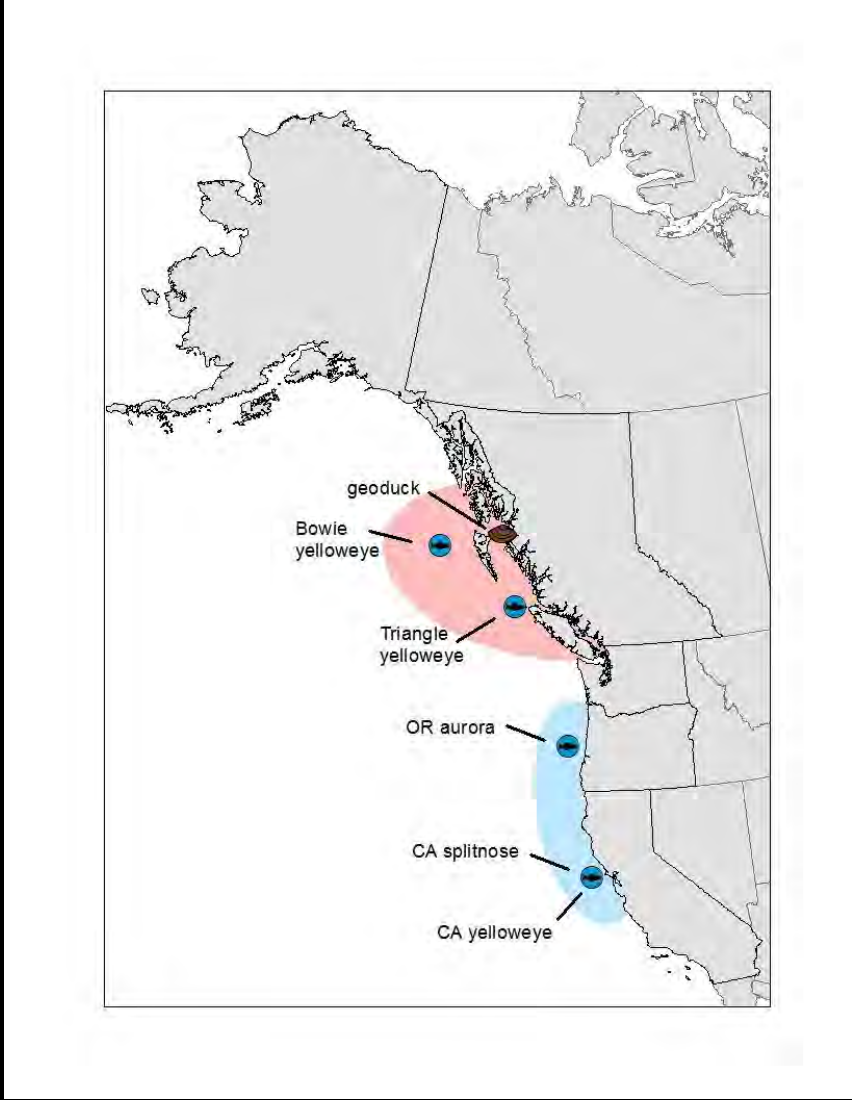
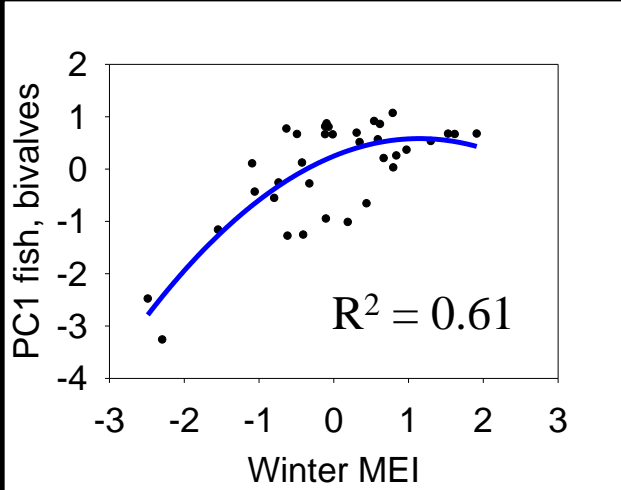
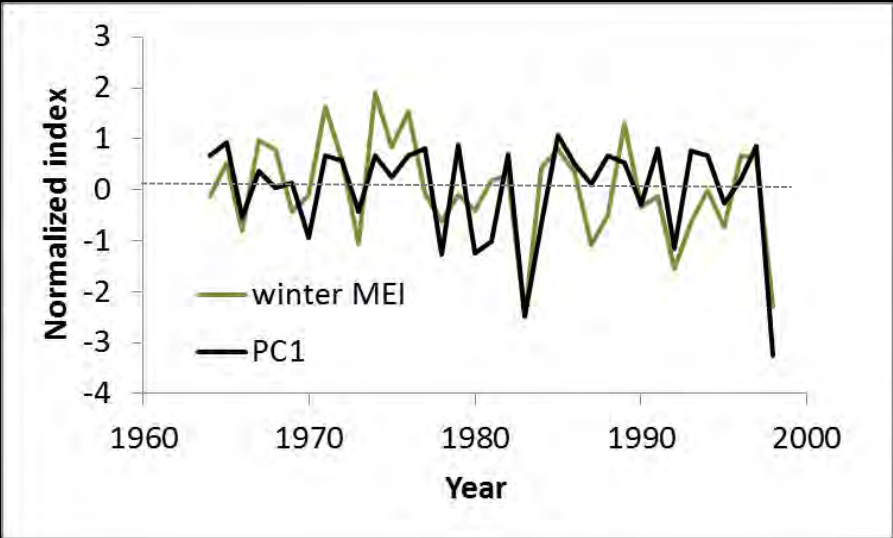
north

south



# Comparisons across ocean domains

## Winter ENSO (MEI)

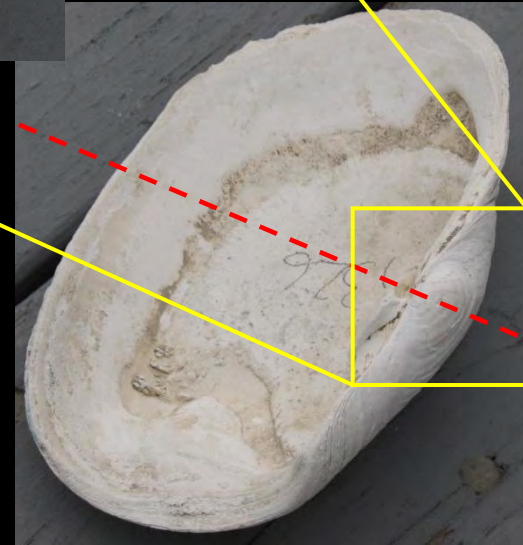
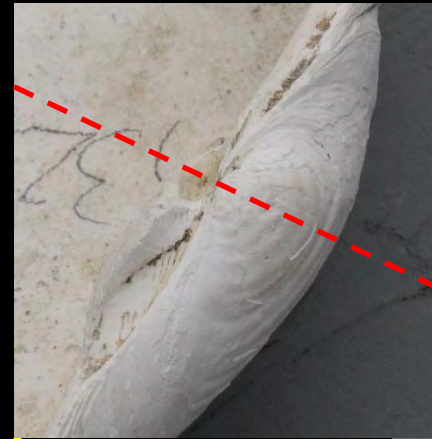


$$PC1 = 0.248 + 0.5847 * MEI - 0.2552 * MEI^2$$



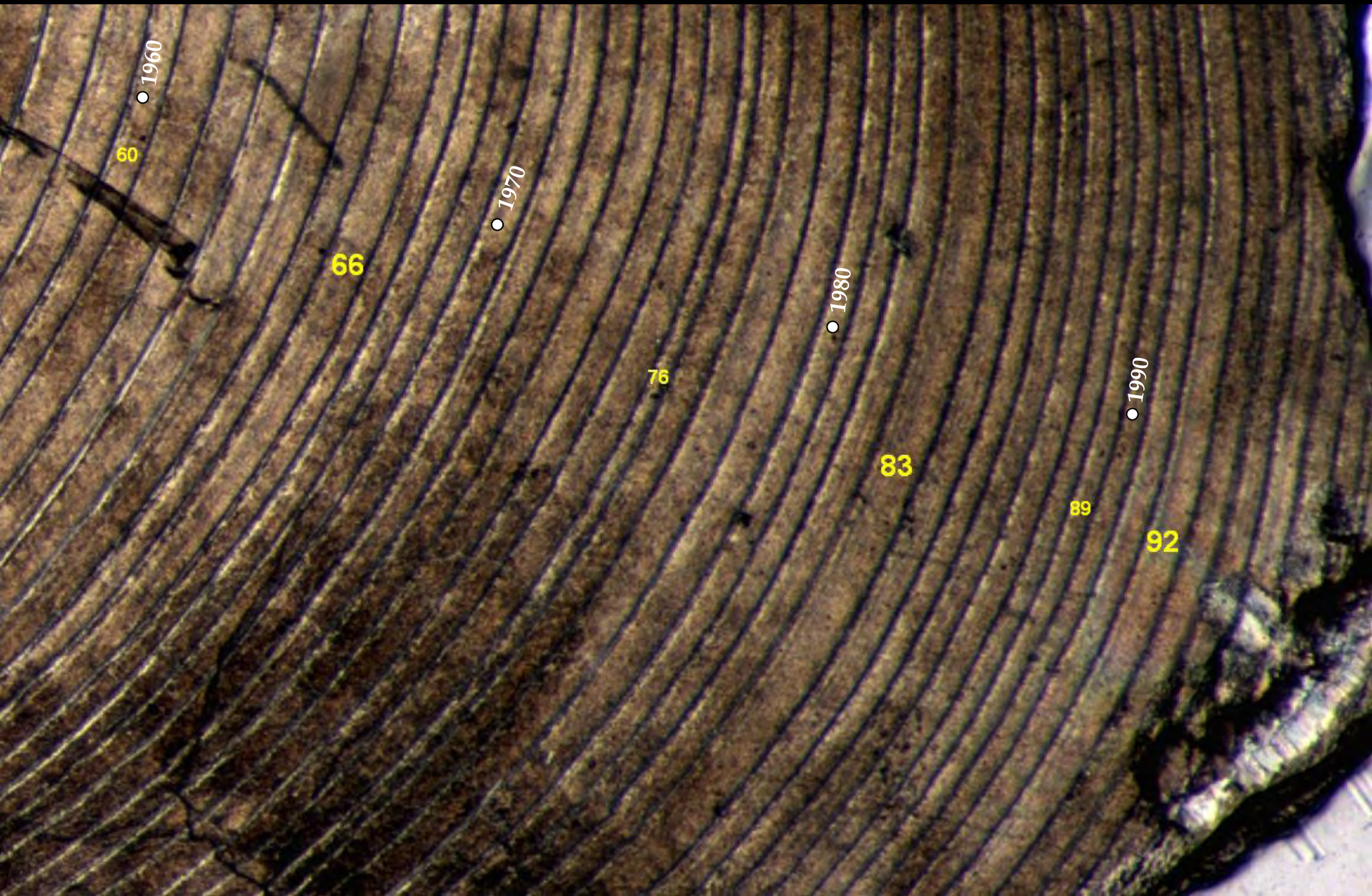
# Pacific Geoduck

**Puget Sound to Kodiak, AK  
nearshore  
150 yrs old!**



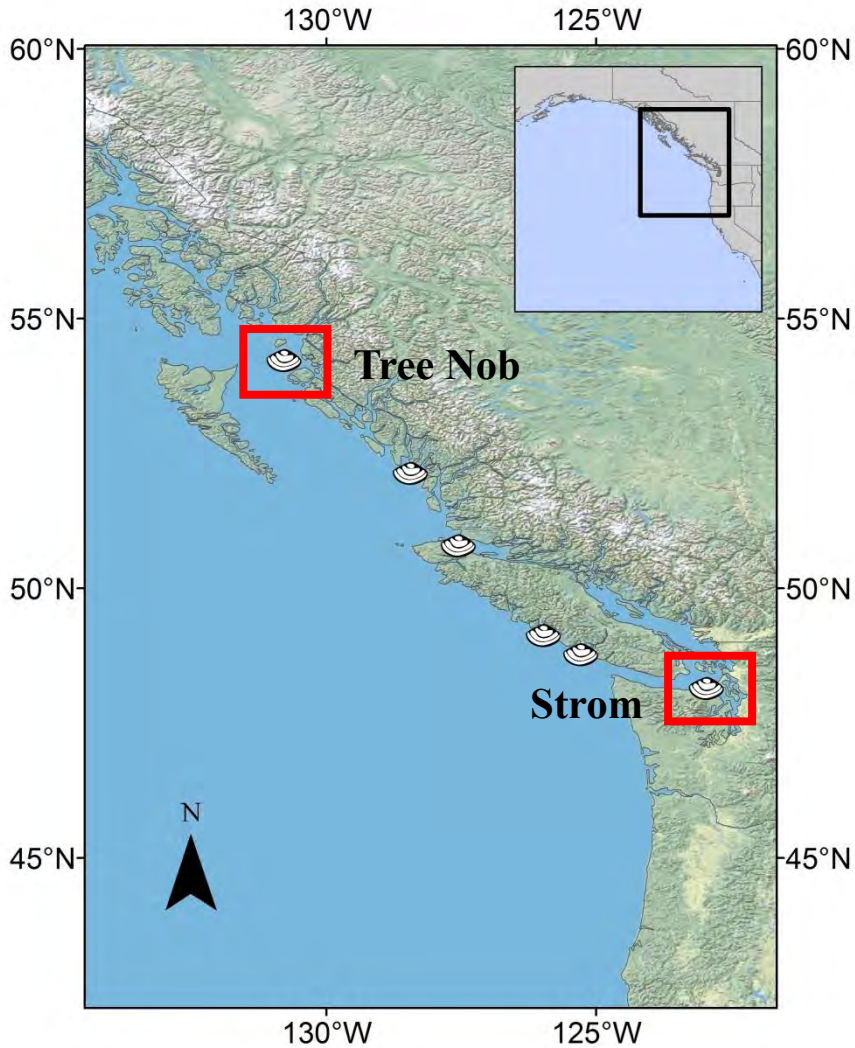


# Geoduck growth increments

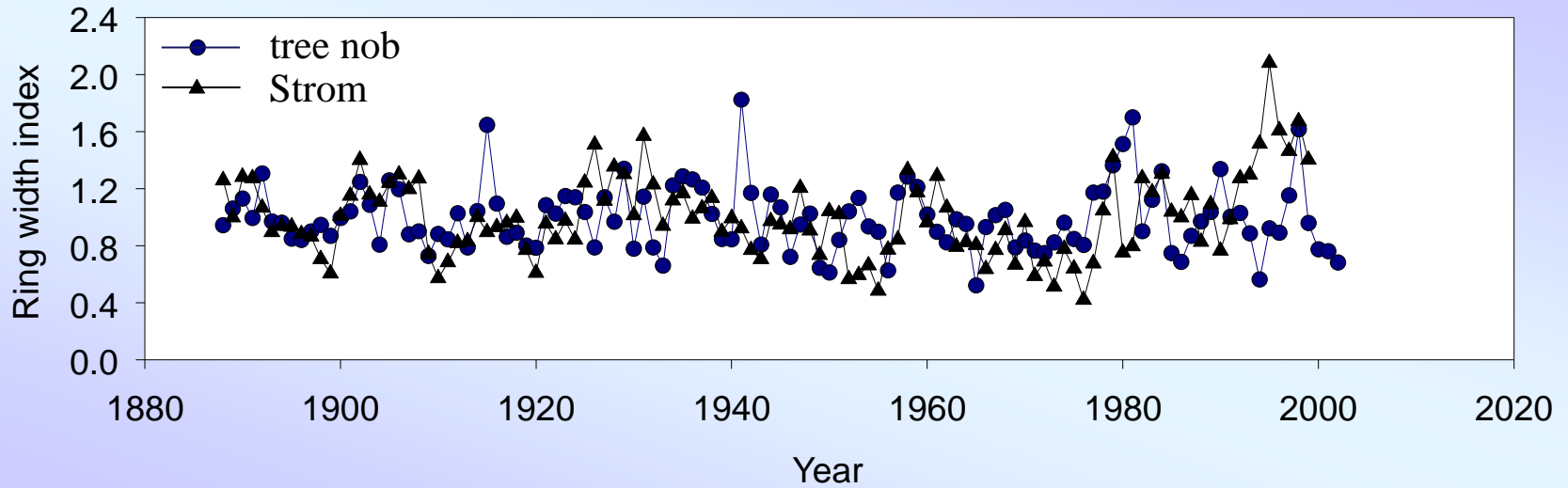




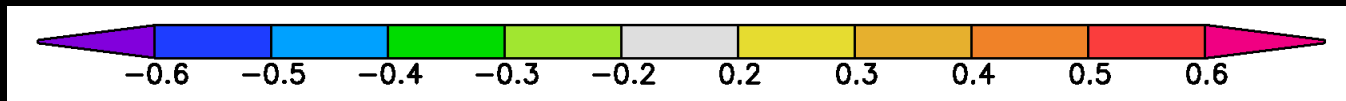
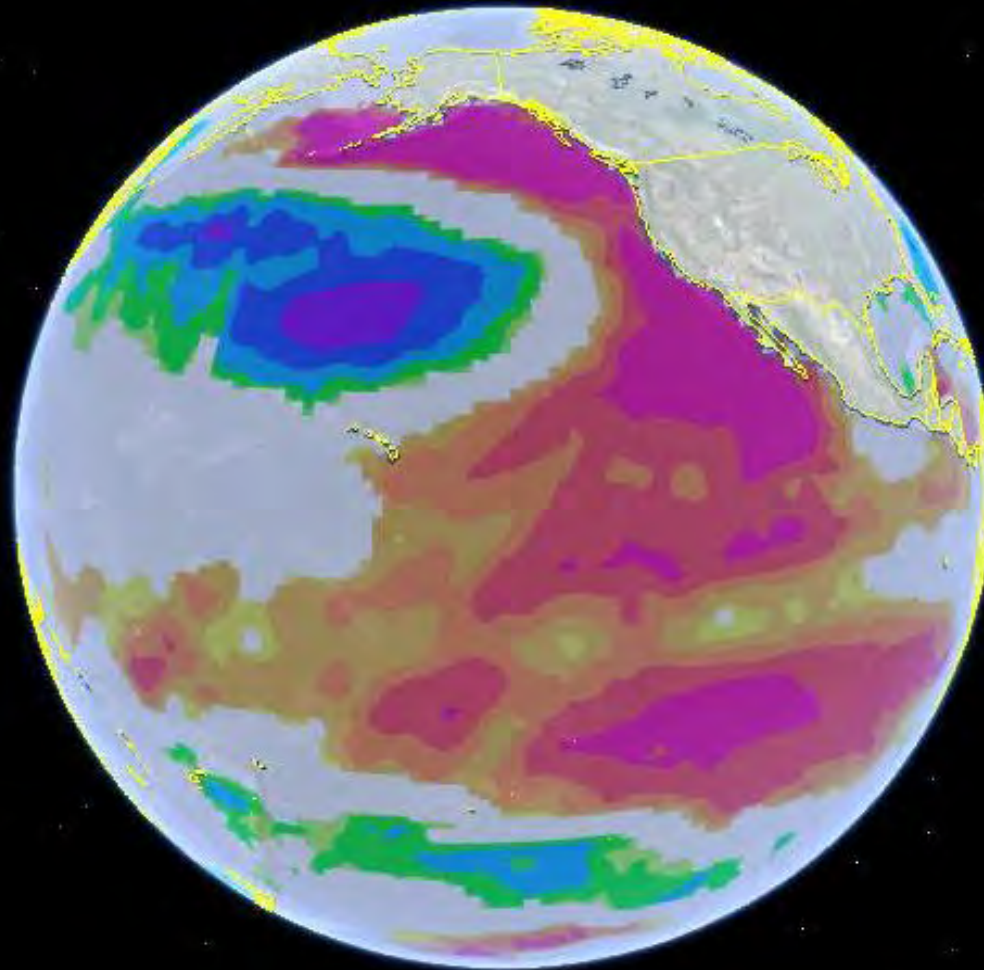
# Geoduck chronologies



# Geoduck chronologies



# Geoduck and sea surface temperatures



- correlation coefficient +



# Pacific Decadal Oscillation

Typical wintertime sea surface temperature anomalies (colors), sea level pressure (contours) and surface wind stress (arrows)

*warm phase*

*cool phase*

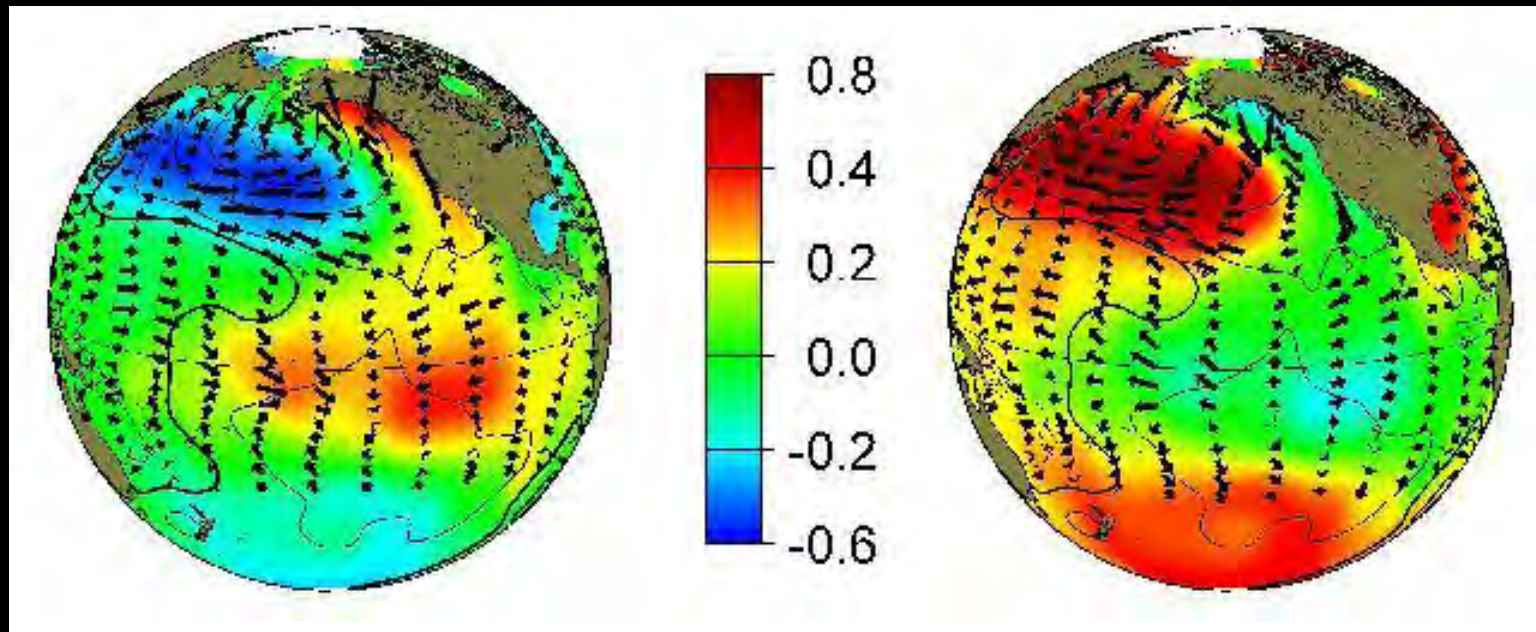
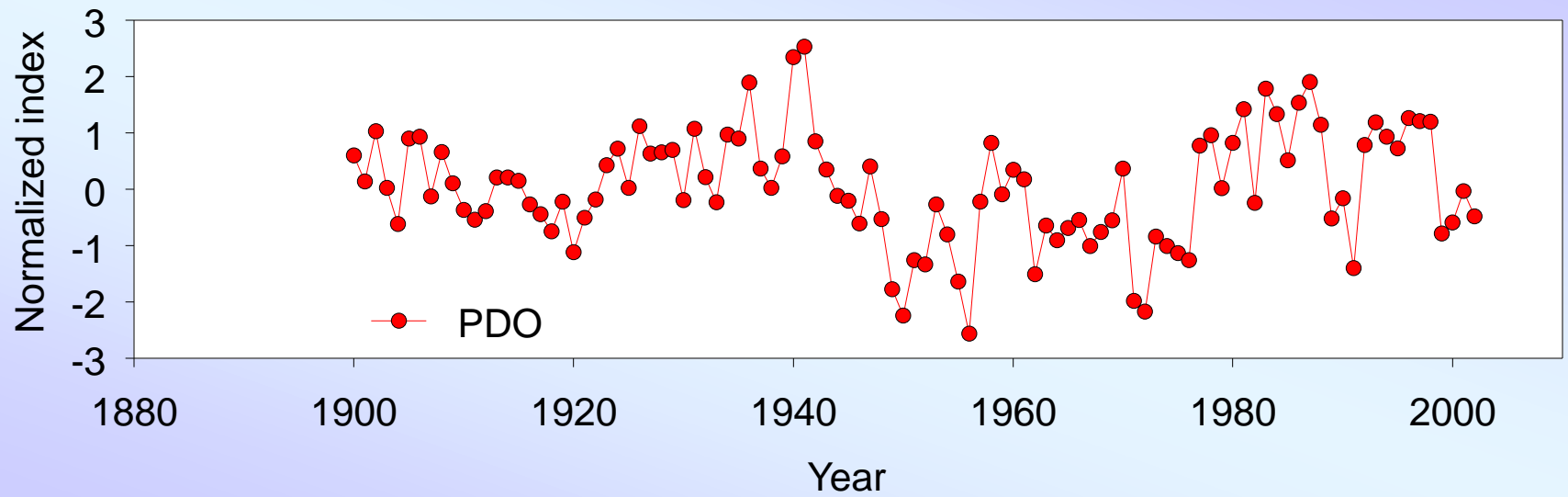
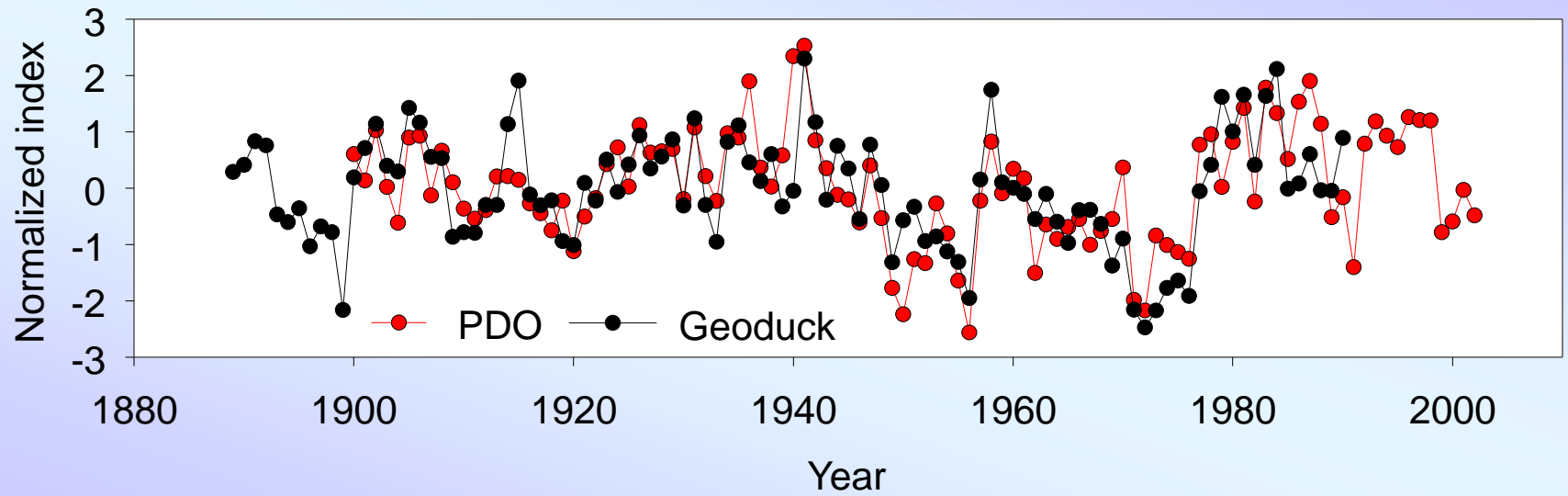


Figure credit: Joint Institute for the Study of the Atmosphere and Ocean: U. Washington

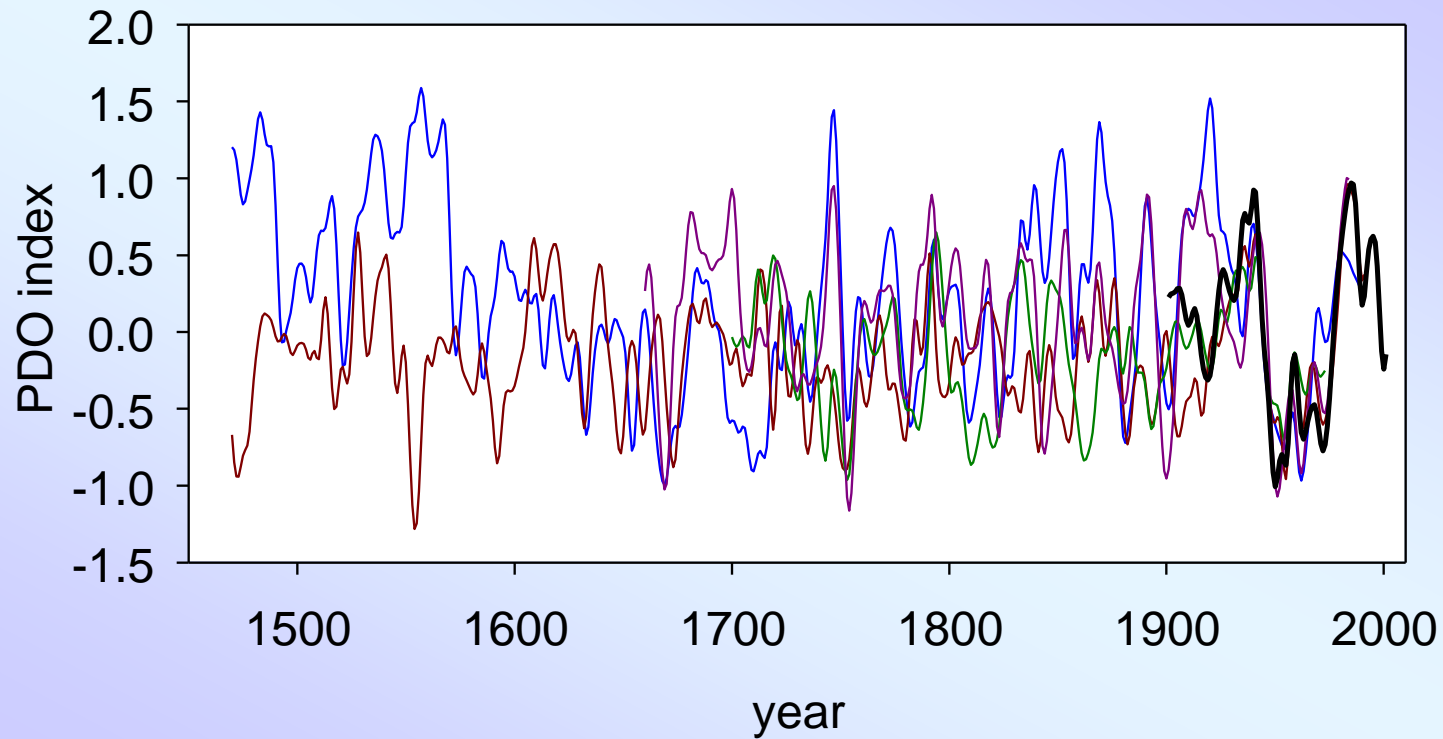
# Geoduck chronologies



# Geoduck chronologies



# Pacific Decadal Oscillation



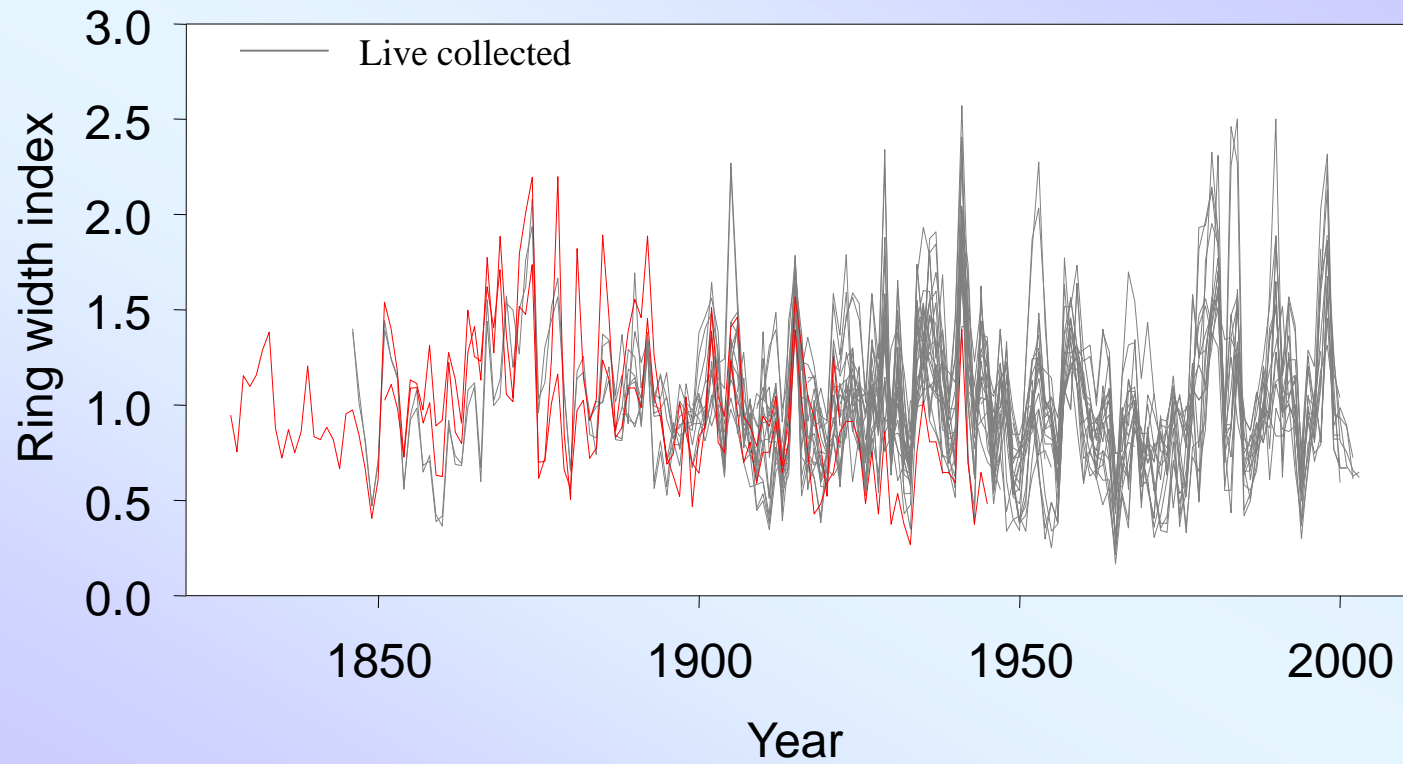
— MacDonal and Case  
— Shen

— D'Arrigo  
— Biondi

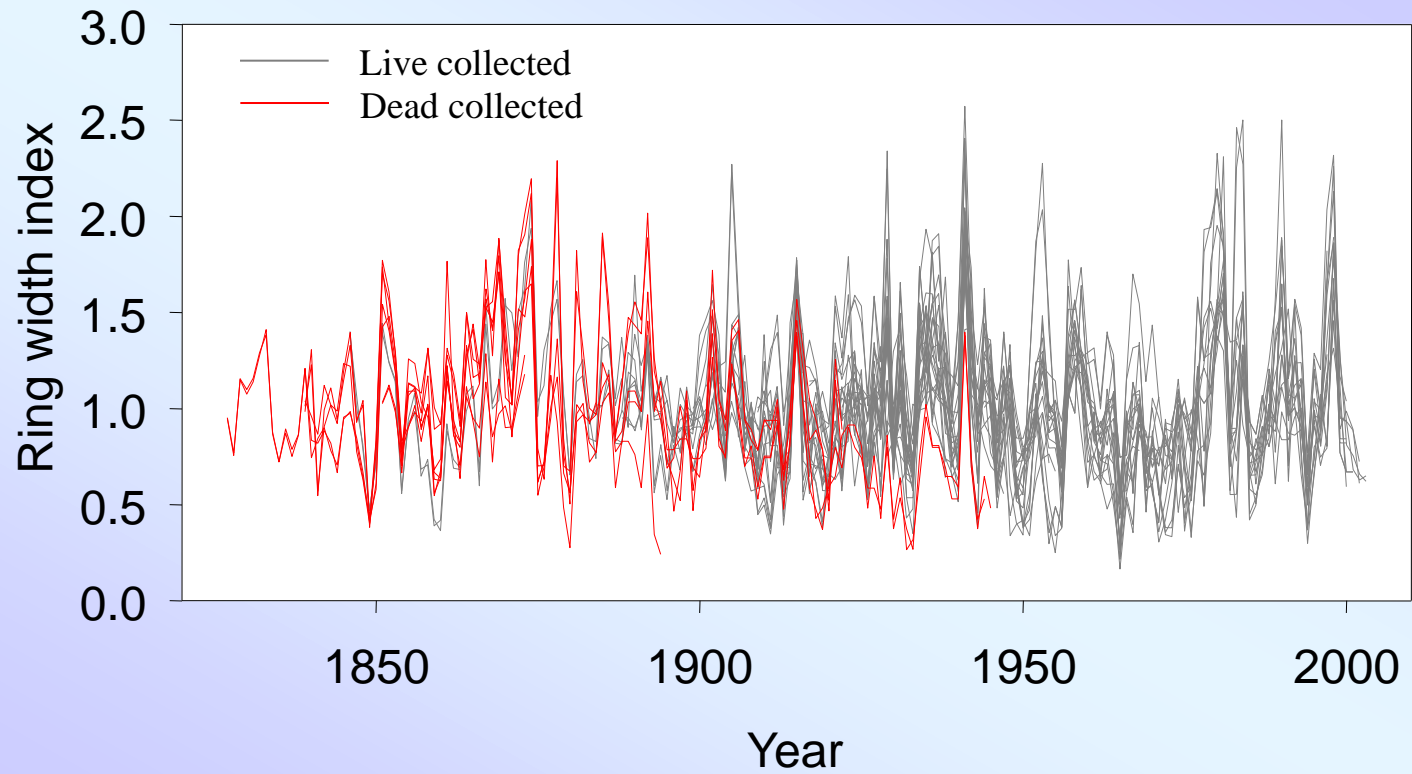
— PDO index



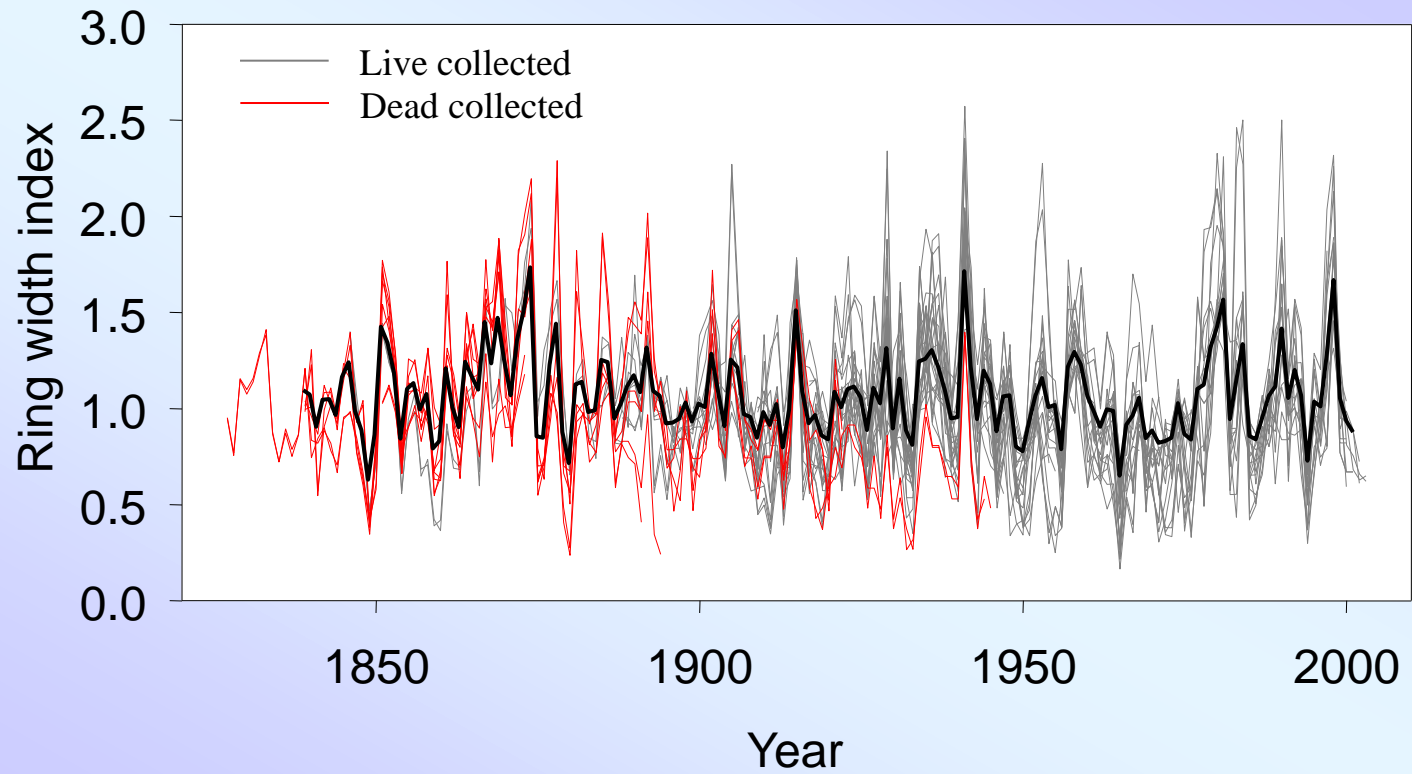
# Dead-collected individuals



# Dead-collected individuals



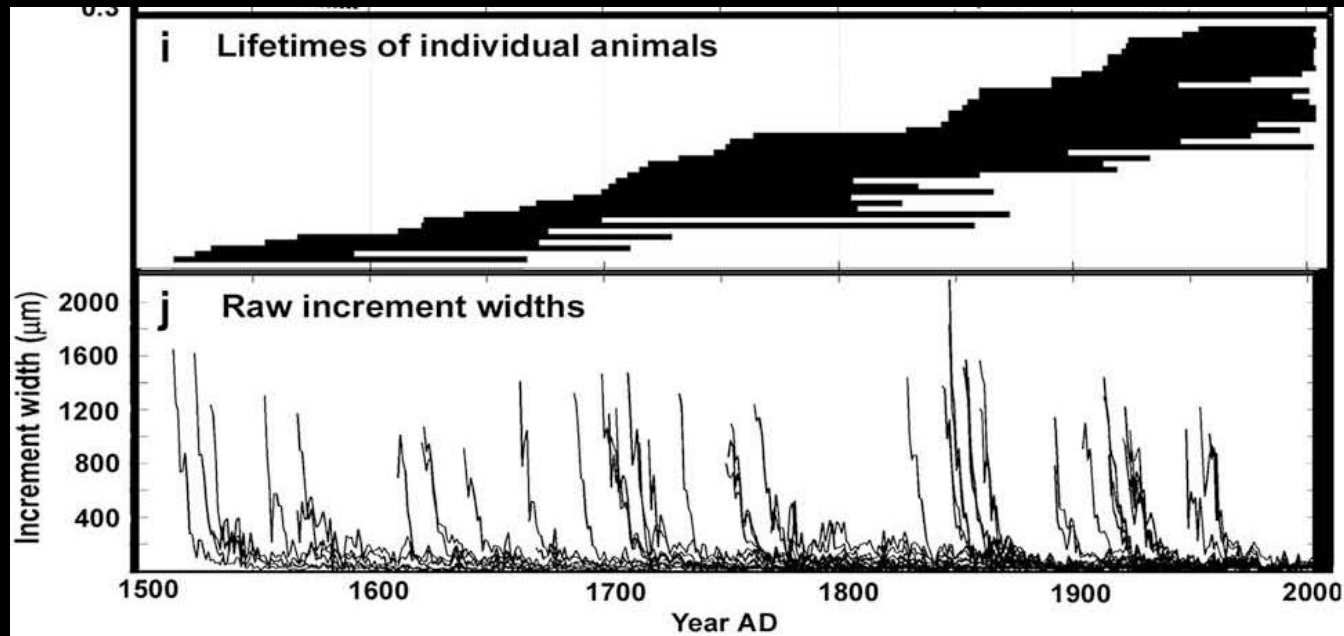
# Dead-collected individuals



# Supra-long chronologies

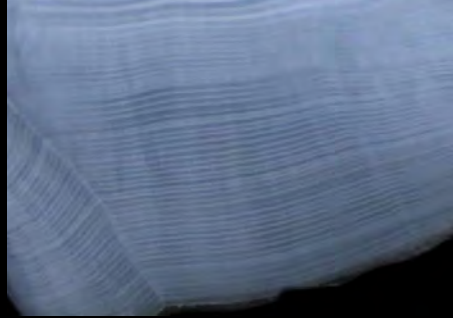
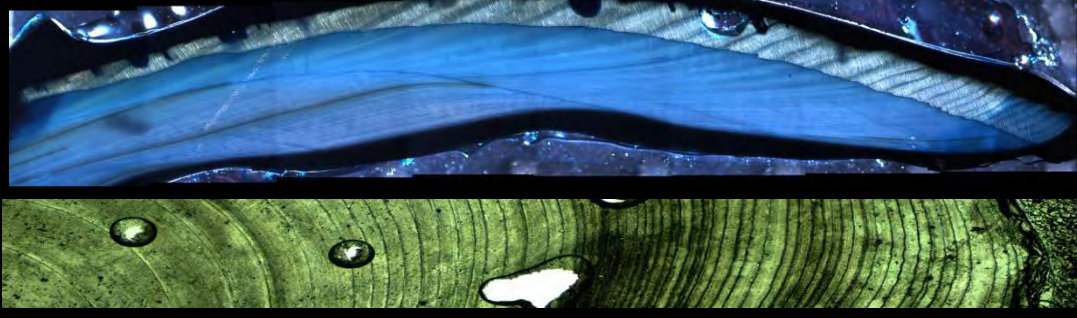
*Arctica islandica* marine bivalve

Butler et al. 2010 *Quaternary Science Reviews*





# Ecosystem linkages

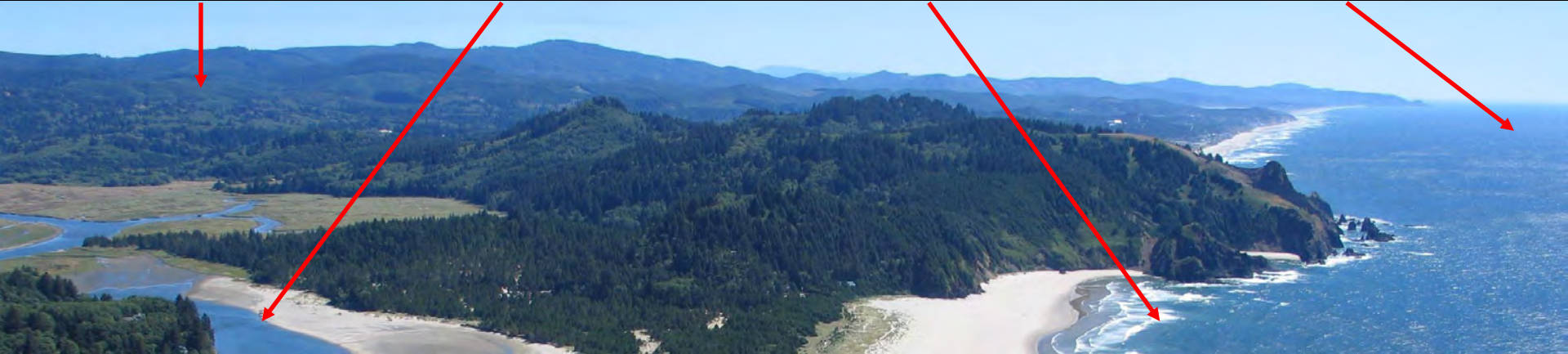


*trees*  
**forests**

*mussels*  
**rivers**

*geoduck*  
**nearshore**

*rockfish*  
**continental shelf**





# Present, past, future



# Acknowledgements

## Collaborators

George Boehlert OSU; Steven Bograd, Mary Yoklavich, Don Pearson NOAA SWFSC; Shayne MacLellan, Darlene Gillespie, Claudia Hand, Lynne Yamanaka DFO Canada; Bill Sydeman, Isaac Schroeder, Marisol García-Reyes Farallon Institute; Tom Helser, Beth Matta, Tom Wilderbuer NOAA AFSC; Dendroecology Fieldweek 2006, 2009, 2011; Rose Kormanyos, Matt Stuckey, Emily Whitney NSF REU; David Frank Swiss Federal Institute WSL; Dan Griffin University of Arizona; Dave Stahle University of Arkansas; Ryan Rykaczewski University of South Carolina; Josie Thompson OR Dept. of Fish and Wildlife

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Canada DFO, Pacific Biological Station  
Alaska Fisheries Science Center

## Bird data

PRBO Conservation Science and the US Fish  
and Wildlife Service

