

**NOAA**

Pacific Islands Fisheries  
Science Center

# **Spatiotemporal variability of micronekton at two central North Pacific Fronts**

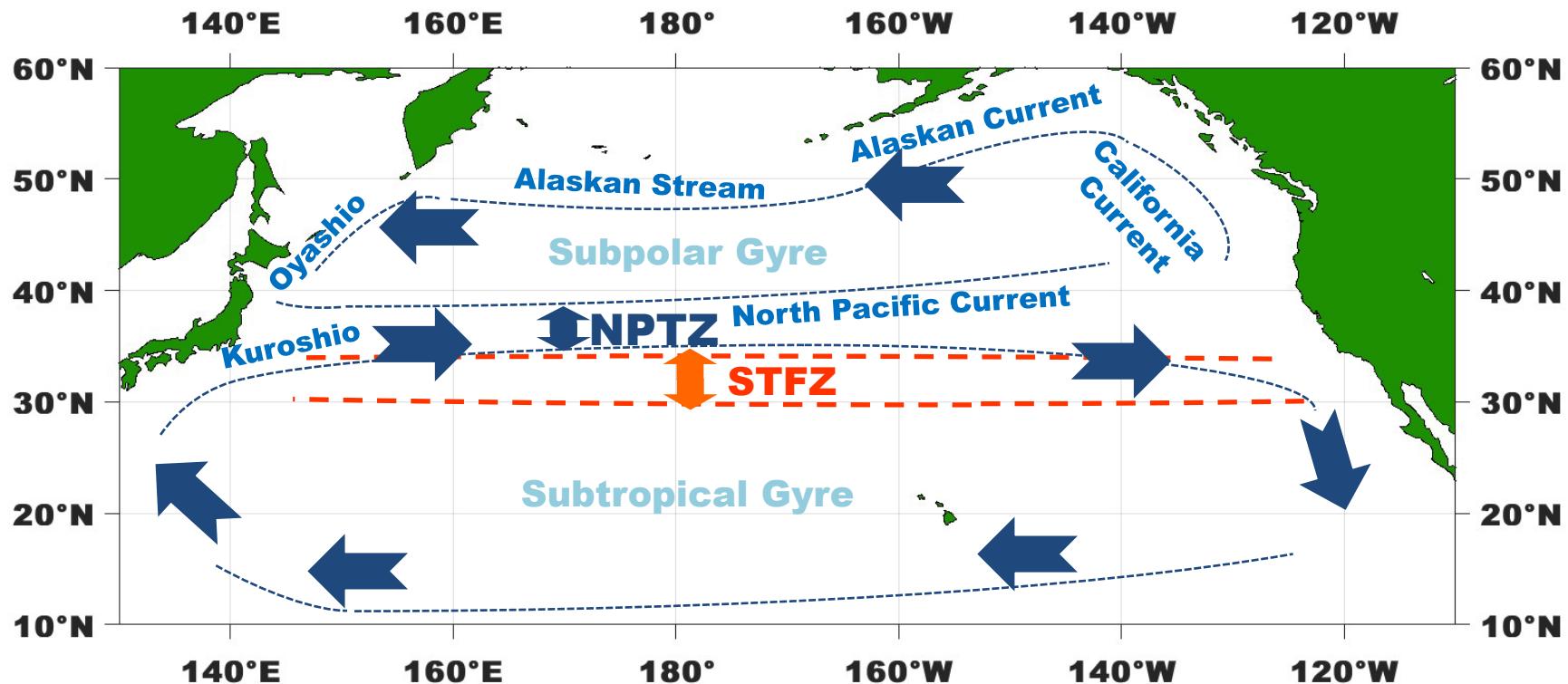
Réka Domokos

PICES 2022 annual meeting, Busan, South Korea

---

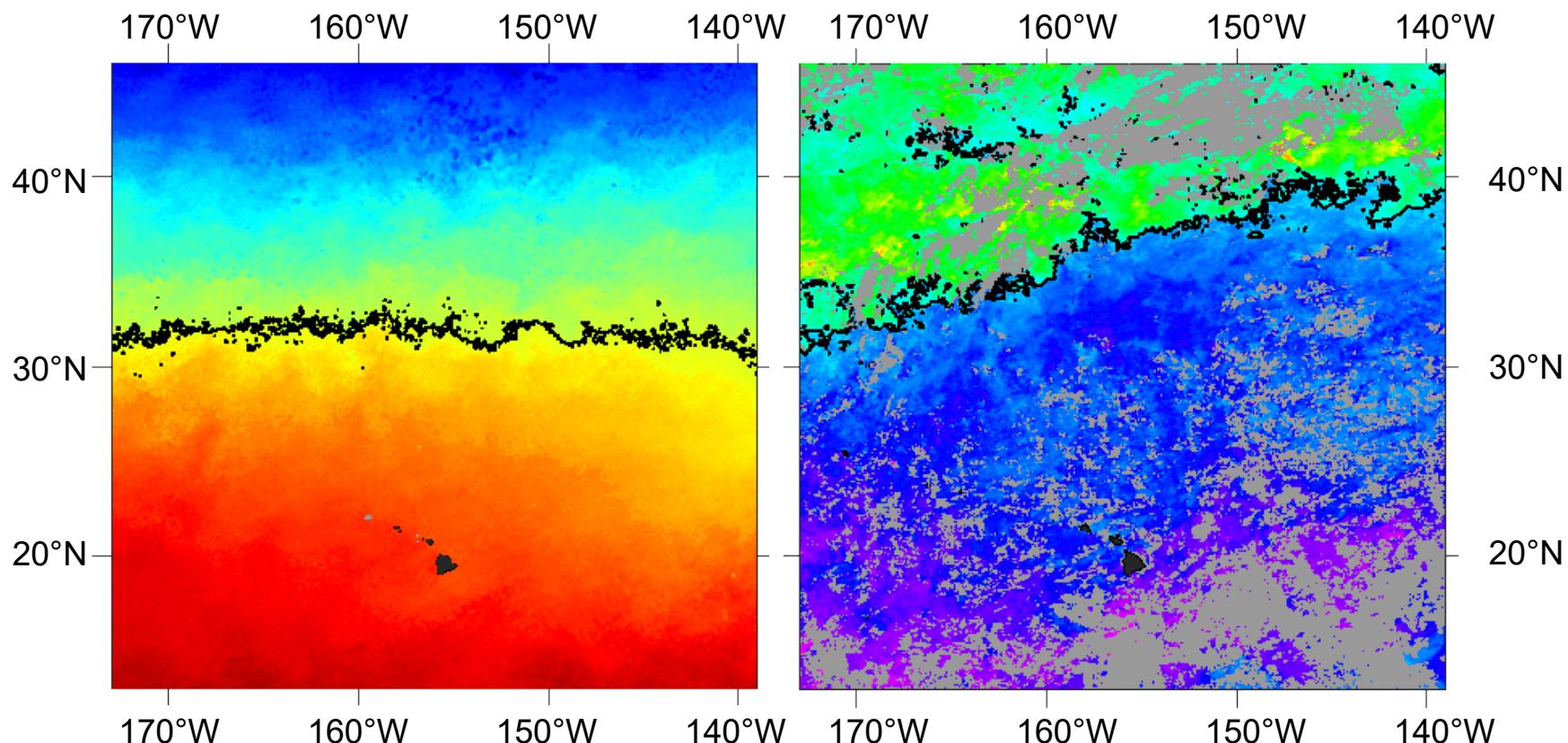
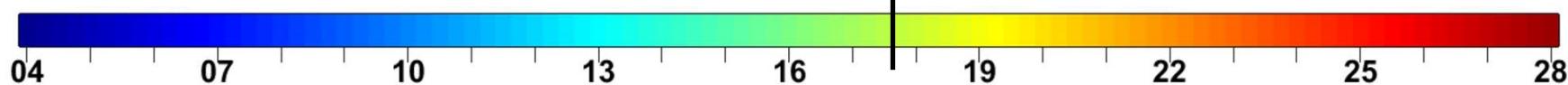
*In revision (Deep Sea Research Part I.)*

# North Pacific Circulation



# STF: 34.8 PSU surf. Salinity & 17.7°C SST

SST ( $^{\circ}\text{C}$ )



Chl-a ( $\text{mg m}^{-3}$ )



TZCF: 0.2  $\text{mg m}^{-3}$  Chl-a

# EXPERIMENTAL PRODUCT

avoid fishing between solid black 63.5°F and 65.5°F lines  
to reduce turtle interactions

Sea Surface Temperature: 14Dec2007-16Dec2007

Ocean Currents: 05Dec2007-11Dec2007

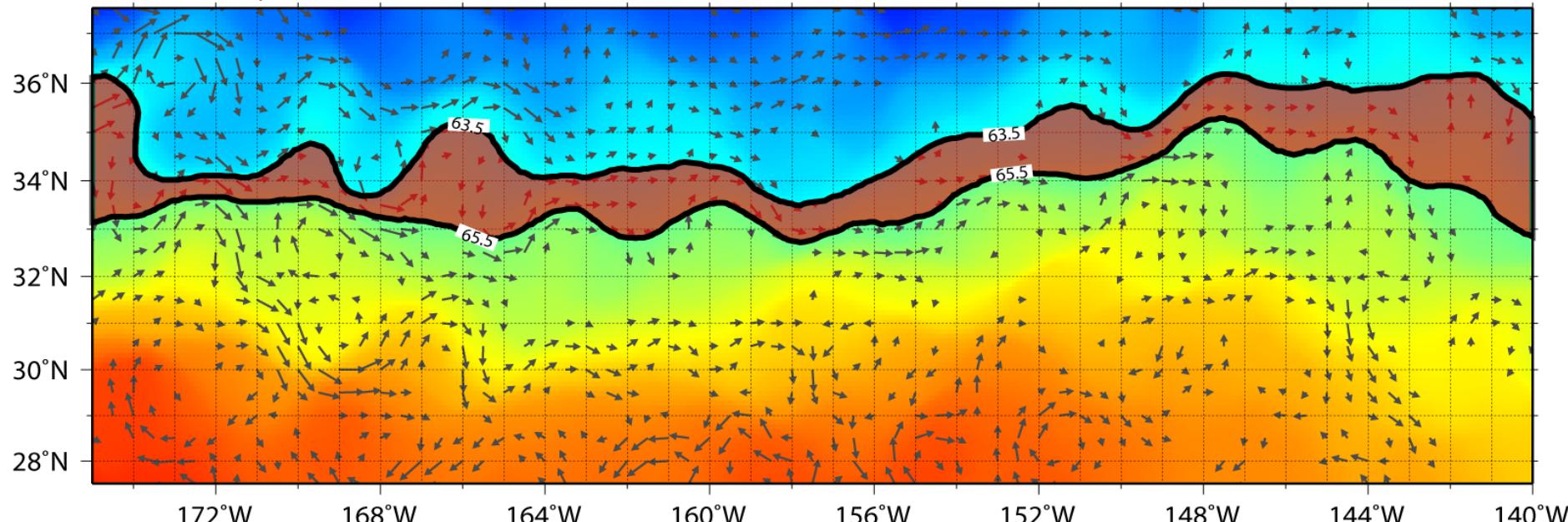
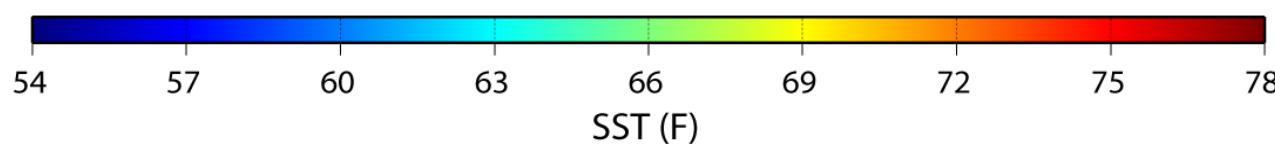


Image Created December 17, 2007 14:58PM HST by EAH. Next projected image date: December 18, 2007 04:00AM HST

→ 30 cm/sec



PACIFIC ISLANDS FISHERIES SCIENCE CENTER  
ECOSYSTEMS AND OCEANOGRAPHY DIVISION  
2570 Dole Street, Honolulu, HI 96822  
<http://www.pifsc.noaa.gov/eod/turtlewatch.php>  
contact: [turtlewatch@noaa.gov](mailto:turtlewatch@noaa.gov)

Data provided by Central Pacific CoastWatch node

TURTLEWATCH





# Objectives

- **Fill data gap on distribution on forage, micronekton, in the region**
- **How does the STF and/or TZCF affect micronekton distribution and composition?**

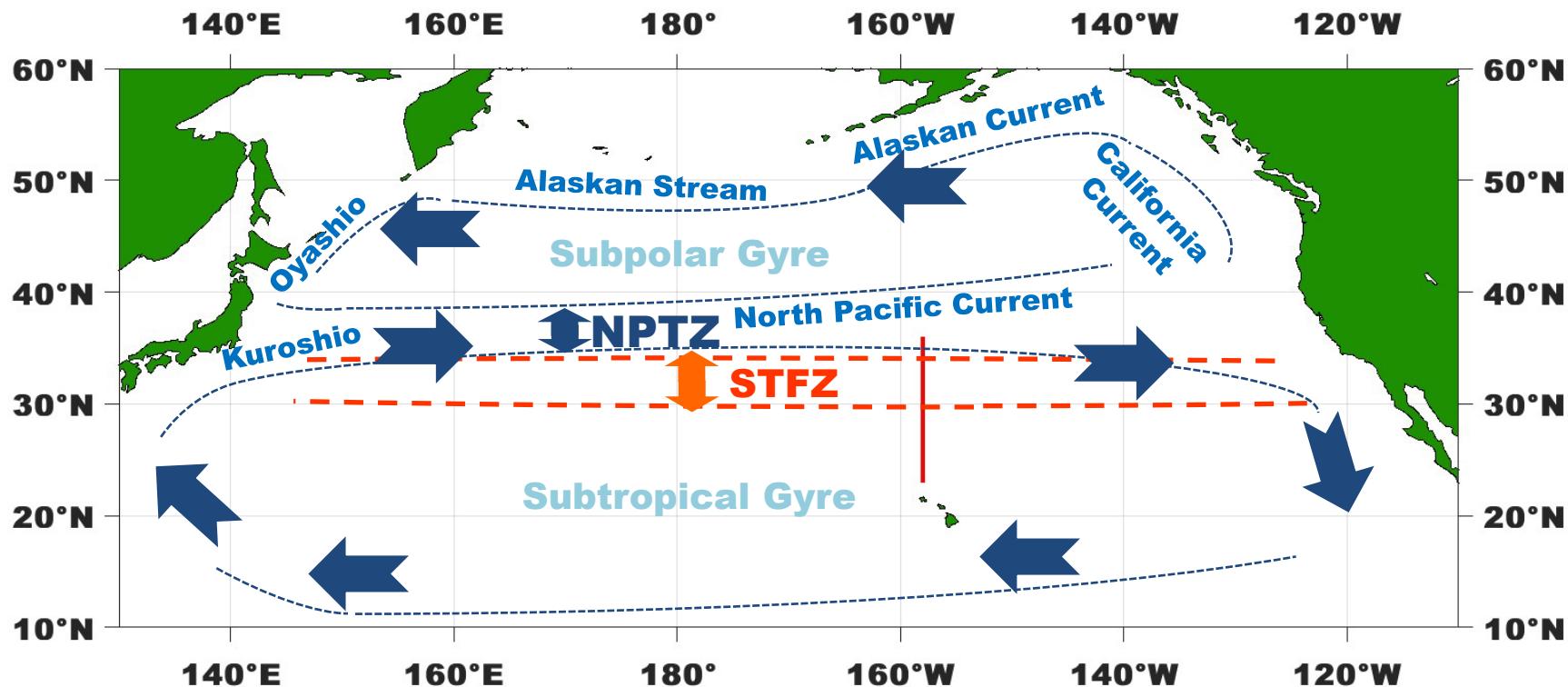


# Methods

- ***In situ* observations (2009, 2011, 2015 Spring)**
  - EK60 at 38kHz, 70kHz, and 120kHz
  - CTD casts



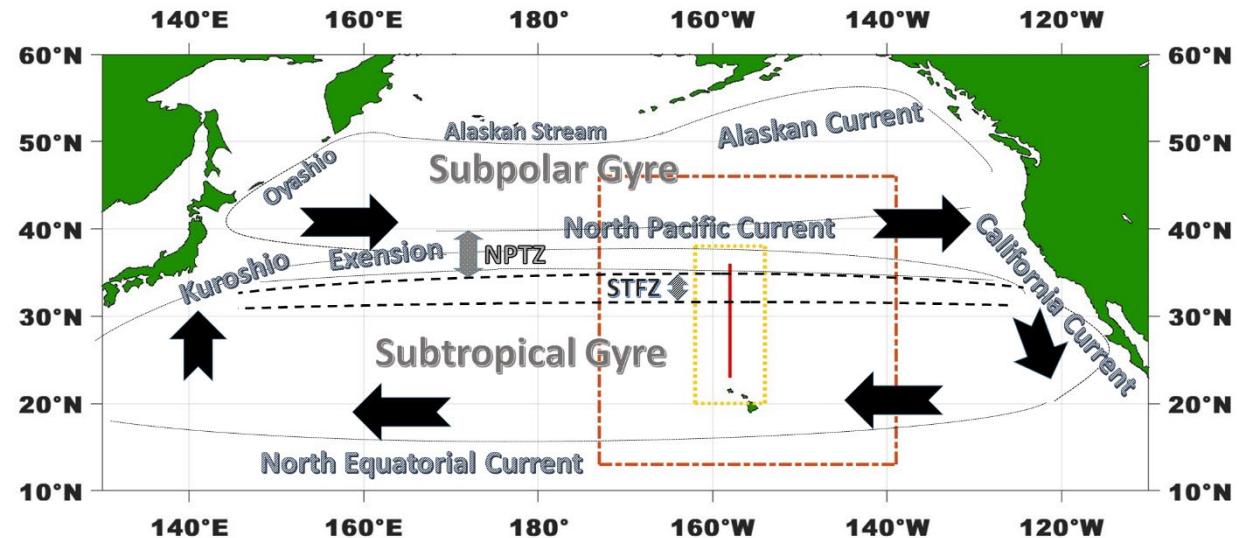
NOAA Ship *Oscar Elton Sette*





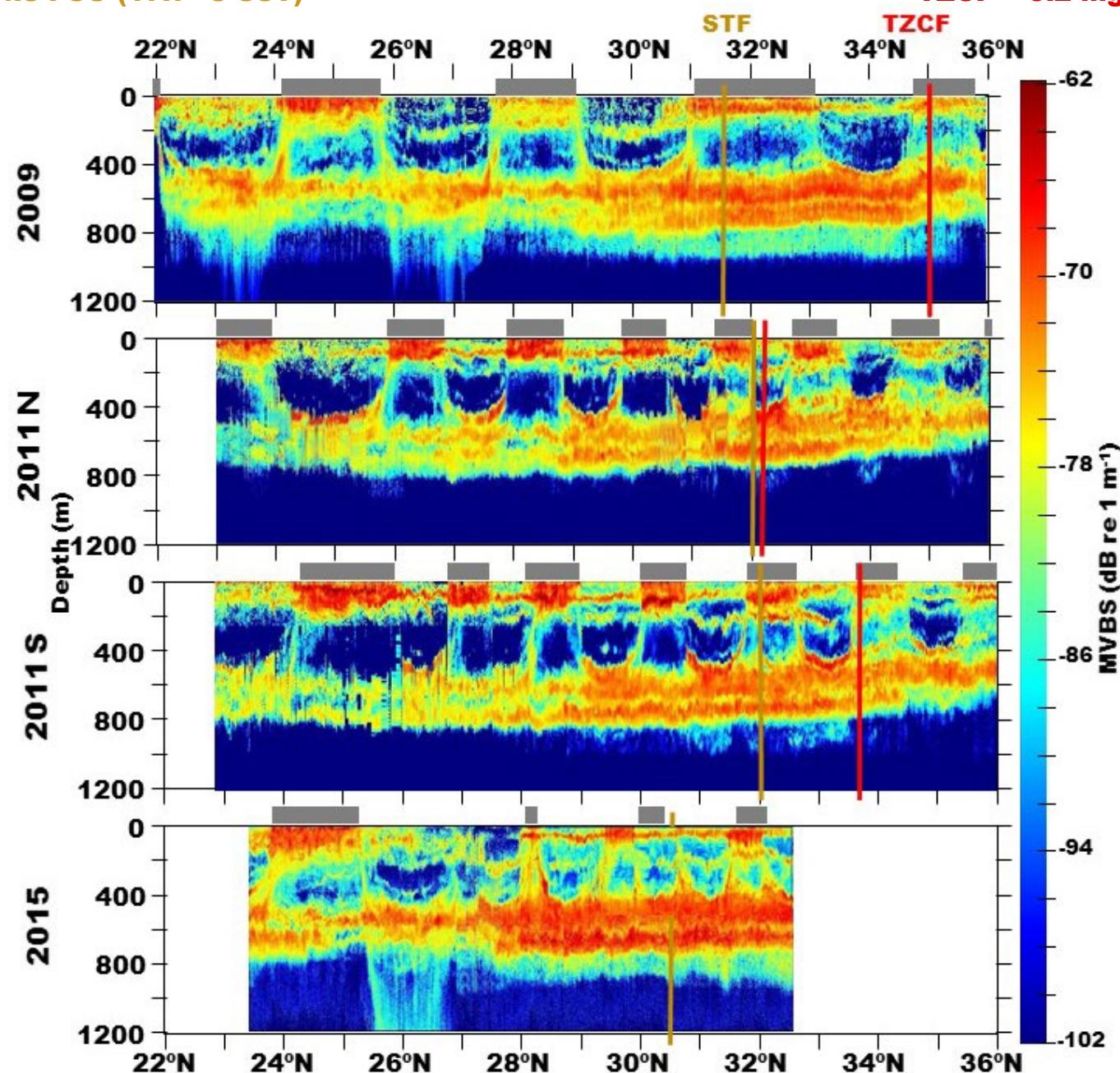
# Methods

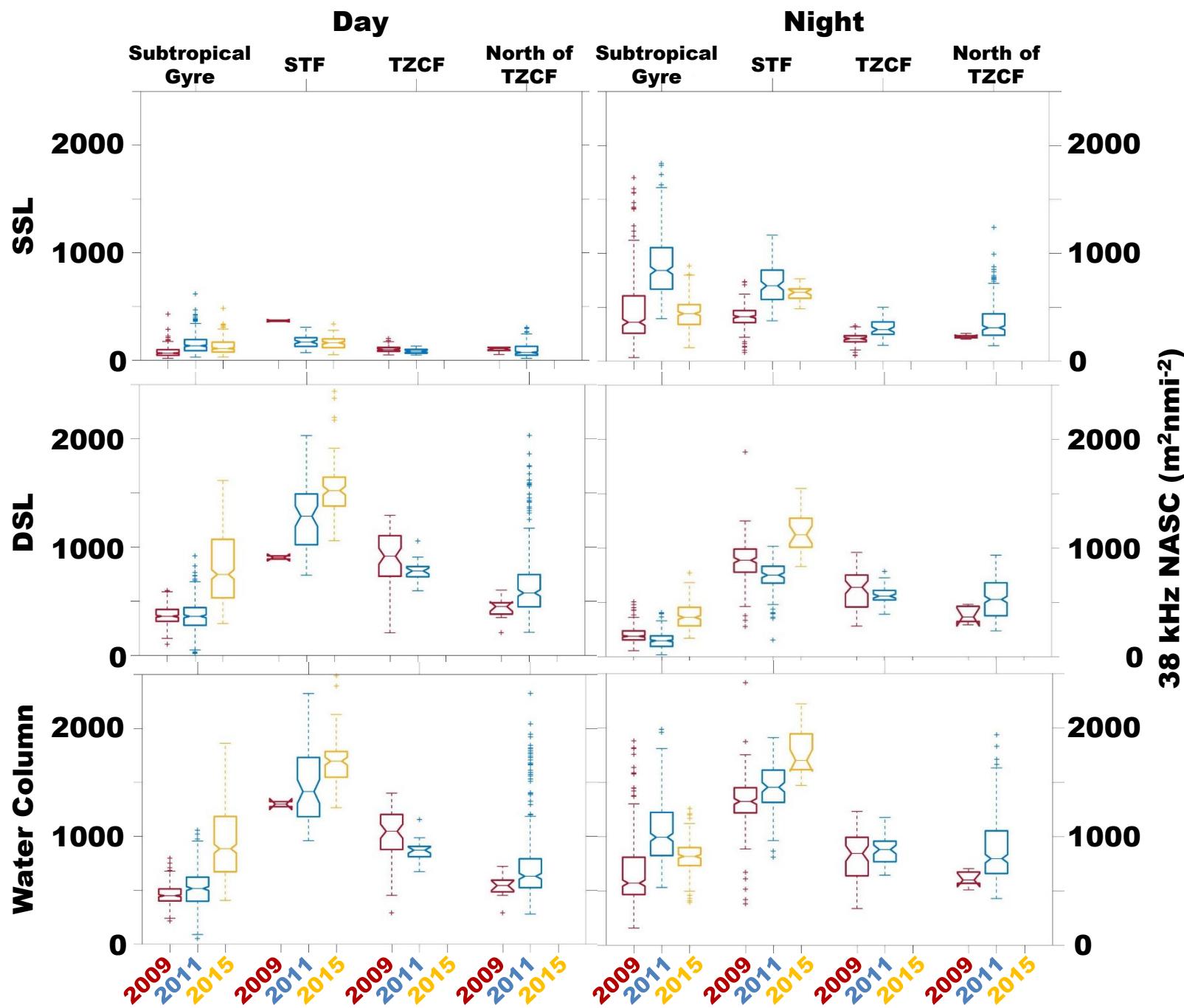
- ***In situ* observations (2009, 2011, 2015 Spring)**
  - EK60 at 38kHz, 70kHz, and 120kHz
  - CTD casts
- **Satellite data for qualitative assessment on larger scales**
- **Environmental indices for interannual & decadal scales**



**STF = 34.8 PSU (17.7 °C SST)**

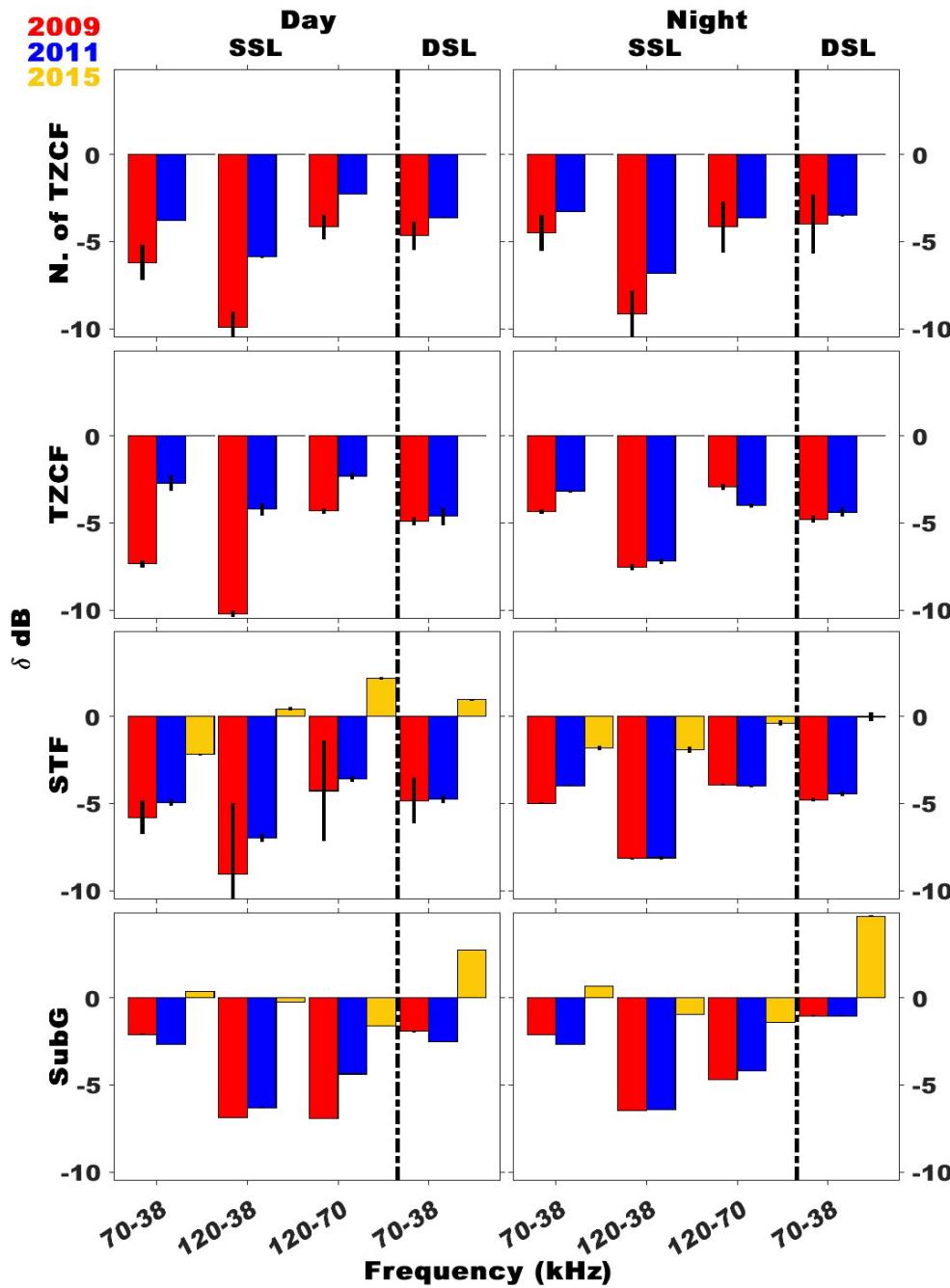
**TZCF = 0.2 mg m<sup>-3</sup>**





**δdB significantly lower north of STF than to south**

**δdB significantly higher in 2015 then during the other two years**



## GAM and ANOVA

**NASC ~ Dist<sub>STF</sub> + Dist<sub>TZCF</sub>**

**Significant negative relationship with Dist<sub>STF</sub> except SSL**

**No relationship with Dist<sub>TZCF</sub> except positive relationship with WC & DSL at 70 kHz**

**NASC ~ Temp + Chl-a + Oxy**

**Overall per layers:**

**-Significant pos relationship with temperature**

**-Significant neg relationship with Chl-a**

**-No relationship with Oxy**

**Overall per sea-surface:**

**-Significant pos relationship with SST**

**-No relationship with surf. Chl-a**

			WC			SSL			DSL					
			tTest	F	p	tTest	F	p	tTest	F	p			
38 kHz	STF	STF	-2.45	6.01	0.02	0.74	0.55	0.46	-6.13	37.53	0.00			
		TZCF	0.39	0.16	0.69	1.11	1.24	0.27	-1.40	1.95	0.17			
70 kHz	STF	STF	-3.09	4.93	0.00	2.39	5.70	0.02	-5.55	30.77	0.00			
		TZCF	5.29	0.57	0.00	1.55	2.41	0.12	4.11	16.91	0.00			
120 kHz	STF	---	---	---	---	2.22	4.93	0.03	---	---	---			
		TZCF	---	---	---	0.76	0.57	0.45	---	---	---			
Night WC			Day WC			Night SSL			Night DSL					
38 kHz	Temp	tStsat	F	p	tStsat	F	p	tStsat	F	p	tStsat	F	p	
		3.78	14.27	0.00	0.12	0.01	0.91	3.37	11.36	0.00	0.48	0.23	0.64	
		Chl-a	-4.55	20.67	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.98	-4.24	17.96	0.00	-2.94	8.65	0.01
70 kHz	Oxy	-0.83	0.69	0.41	3.89	15.16	0.00	-1.04	1.09	0.31	-1.26	1.59	0.22	
		Temp	2.76	7.63	0.01	2.58	6.67	0.02	3.49	12.15	0.00	1.20	1.45	0.01
		Chl-a	-3.11	9.65	0.00	-1.44	2.09	0.16	-3.84	14.74	0.00	-2.26	5.09	0.03
120 kHz	Oxy	-0.03	0.00	0.98	3.35	11.25	0.00	-0.76	0.57	0.46	-1.03	1.05	0.31	
		Temp						3.01	9.09	0.01				
		Chl-a						-3.29	10.85	0.00				
sea-surface	Oxy	Oxy						-0.51	0.26	0.61				
		SST	3.23	10.42	0.00	-2.21	4.87	0.04	3.89	15.10	0.00	-1.26	1.59	0.22
			Surf Chl-a	0.36	0.13	0.72	2.06	4.24	0.05	0.04	0.00	0.97	0.90	0.82
		SST	3.10	9.60	0.00	-0.69	0.47	0.50	3.10	9.60	0.00	-1.07	0.00	0.97
			Surf Chl-a	0.03	0.00	0.97	3.76	14.12	0.00	0.03	0.00	0.97	3.64	0.13
		SST						3.43	11.77	0.00				
		Surf Chl-a						-0.68	0.47	0.50				

ONI: -0.4

**2009** PDO: -2.03

ONI: -0.7

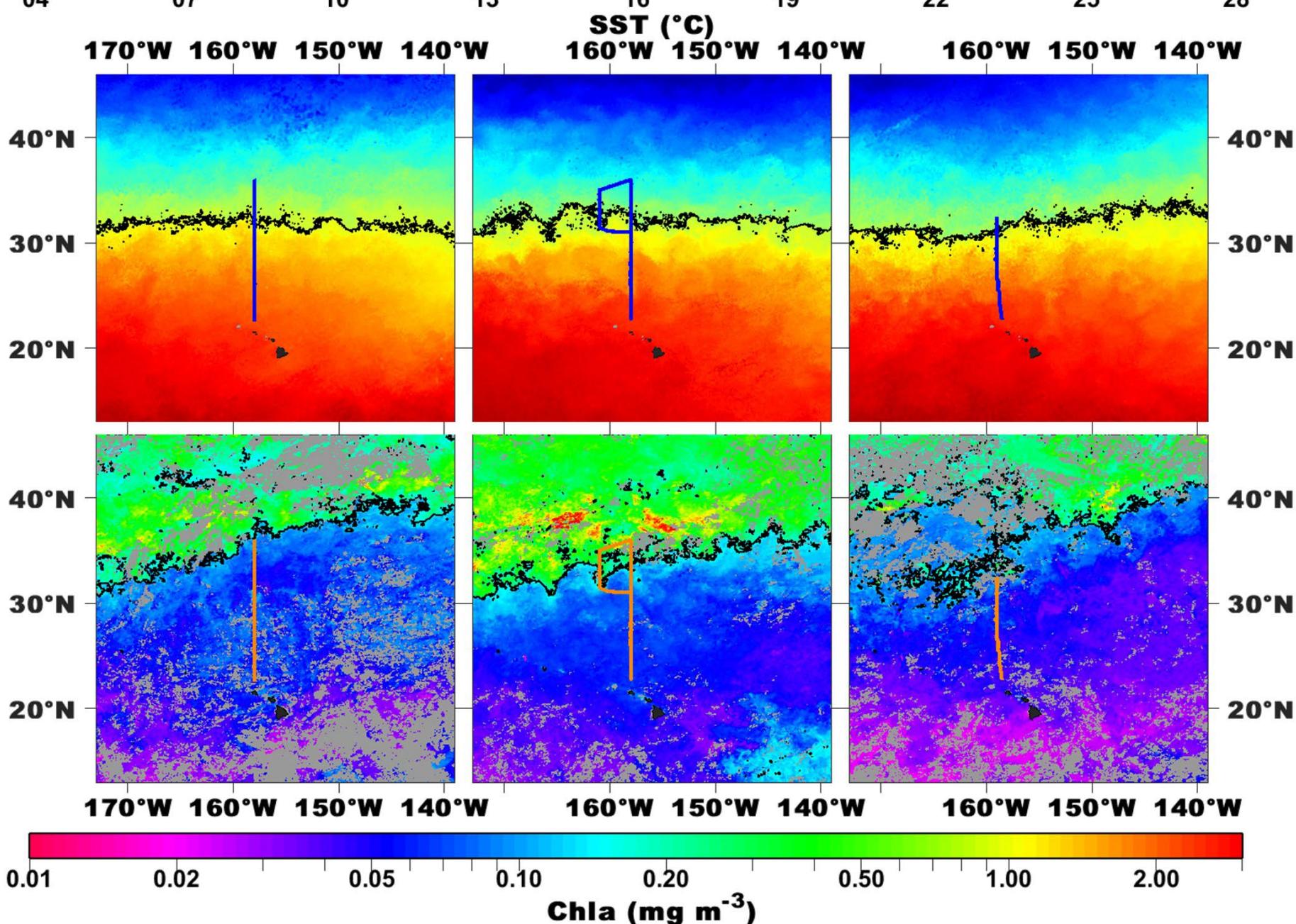
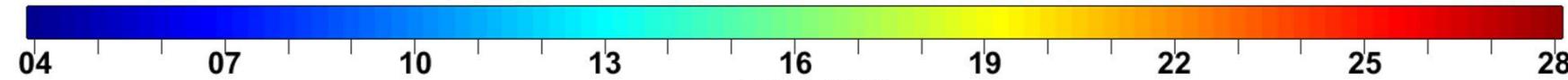
**2011**

PDO: -1.29

ONI: +0.7

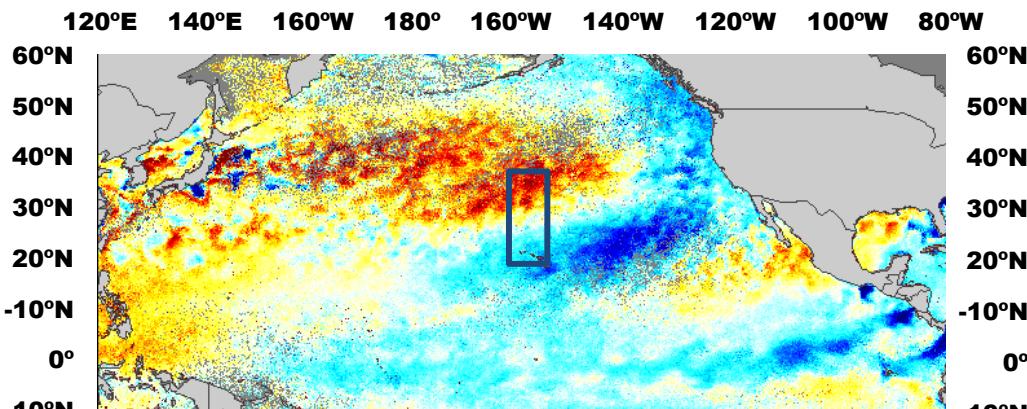
**2015**

PDO: +1.48



# Monthly SSTA

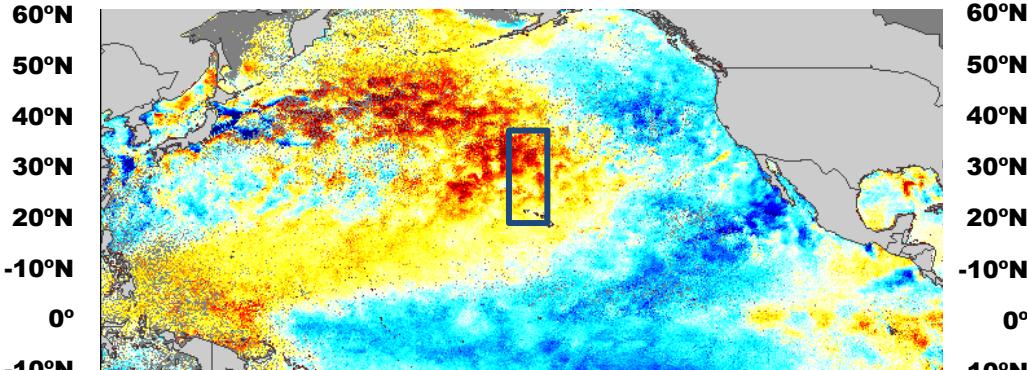
2009 Mar



**PDO: -2.03**  
**(negative phase 2007-2014)**

**ONI: -0.4**  
**(neutral after La Niña)**

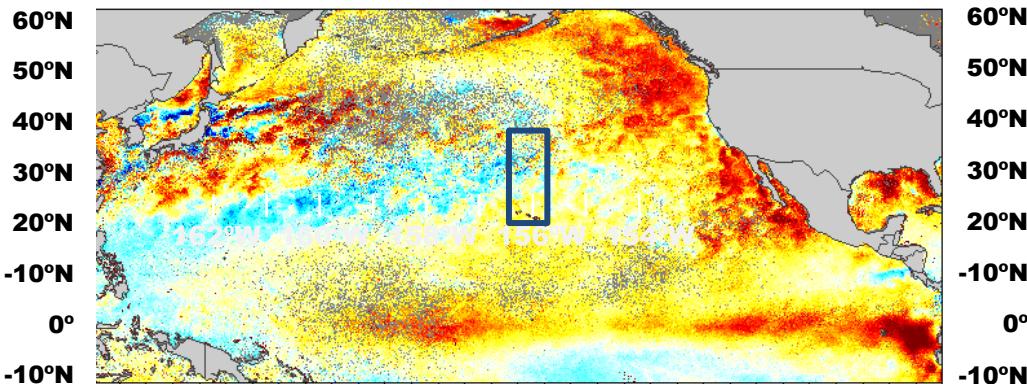
2011 Mar



**PDO: -1.29**  
**(negative phase 2007-2014)**

**ONI: -0.7**  
**(weakening La Niña)**

2015 Apr

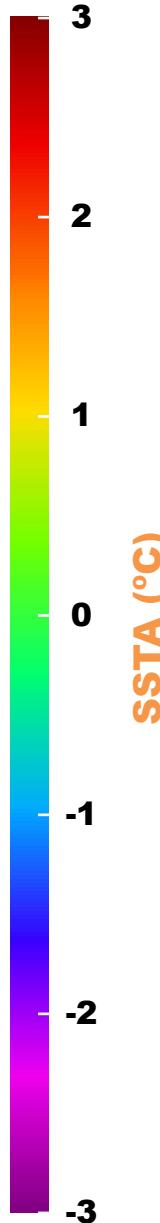


**2014-2017 Warming Event**

**Extension of “The Blob”  
toward study area**

**PDO: +1.48**  
**(+ phase since ~ 2014 Mar)**

**ONI: +0.7**  
**(strengthening El Niño)**





# Summary

- **STF has a significant effect on micronekton**
  - **NASC (proxy for relative biomass)**
  - **$\delta$ dB (proxy for composition)**
- **TZCF does not seem to play a significant role**
- **PDO phase seems to be important**
- **2014-2017 extreme warming likely the source of significantly higher relative biomass and change in composition during the 2015 relative to the 2009 and 2011 surveys**