

Observed Climatic and  
Oceanographic Variations  
Related to Harmful Algal  
Blooms: Comparisons between  
the Western and Eastern North Pacific

Mean Circulation

Patterns of Variability

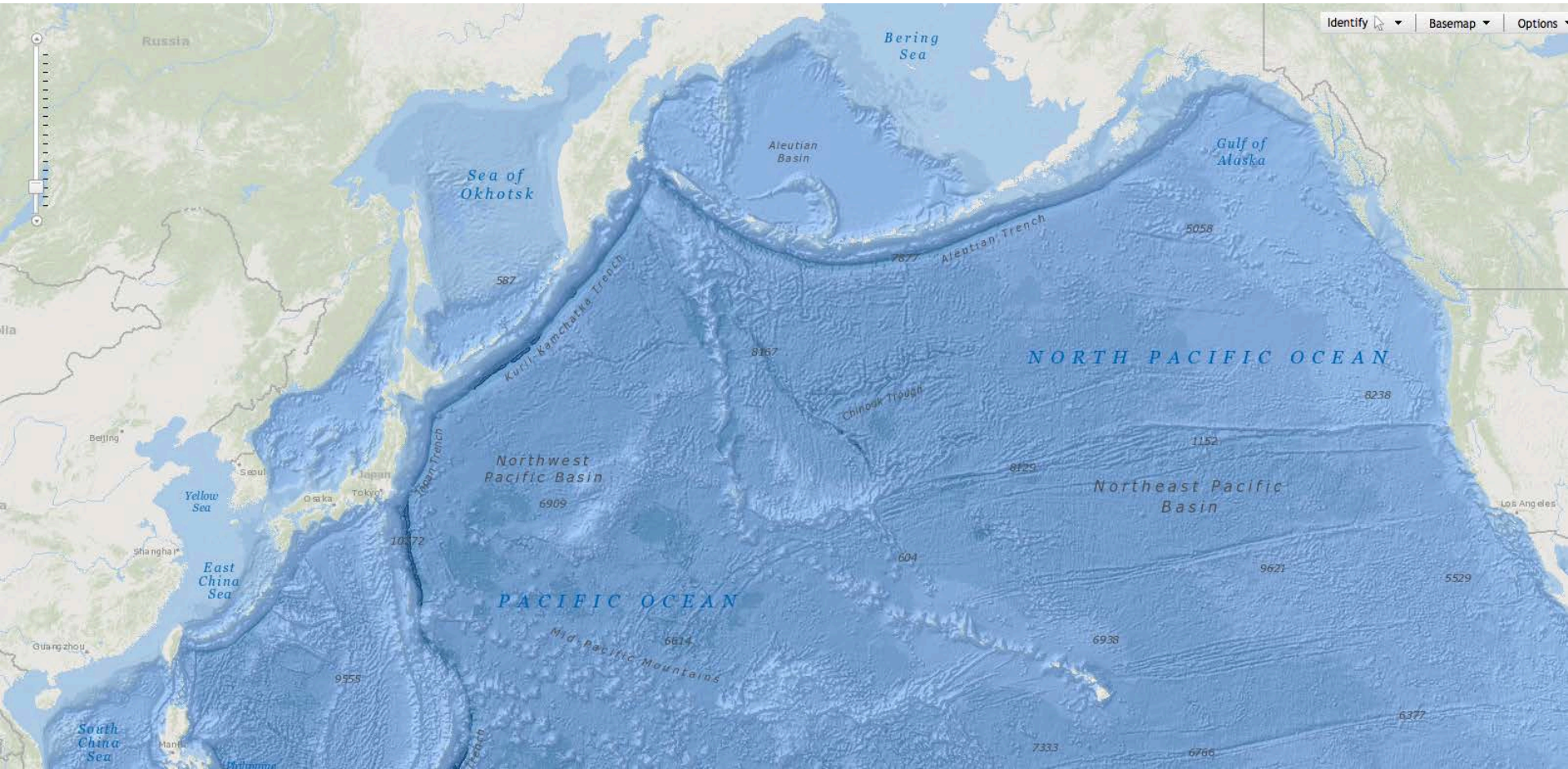
Upper Ocean Vertical Profiles

Effects of Climate Change

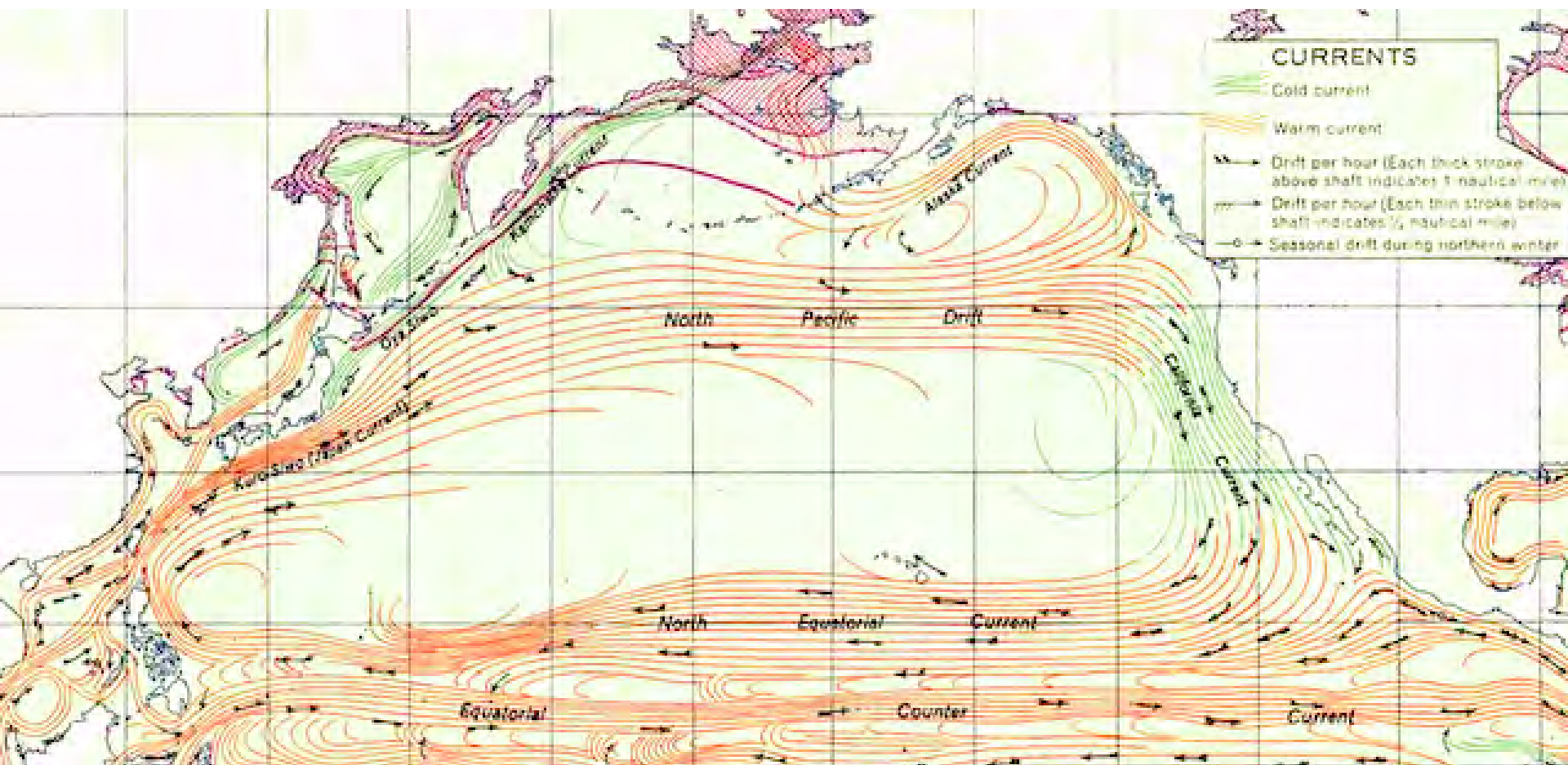
(from a climate guy perspective)

Nick Bond University of Washington

# Bathymetry of North Pacific Ocean







**CURRENTS**

Cold current

Warm current

Drift per hour (Each thick stroke above shaft indicates 1 nautical mile)

Drift per hour (Each thin stroke below shaft indicates 1/2 nautical mile)

Seasonal drift during northern winter

Alaska Current

Kamoharui Current

Oya Shio

Kuroshio (Japan Current)

North Pacific Drift

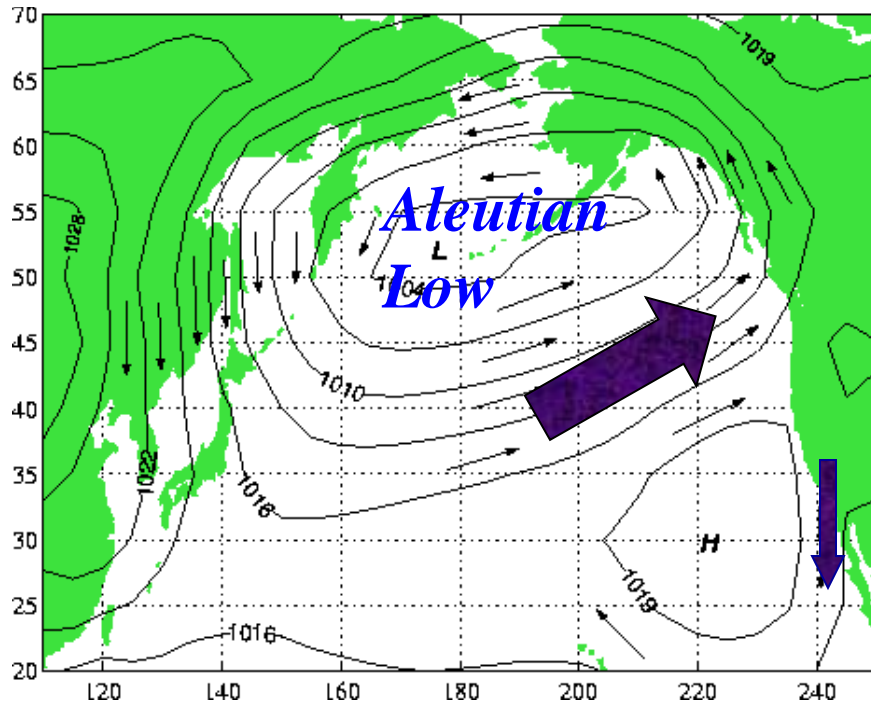
North Equatorial Current

Equatorial Counter Current

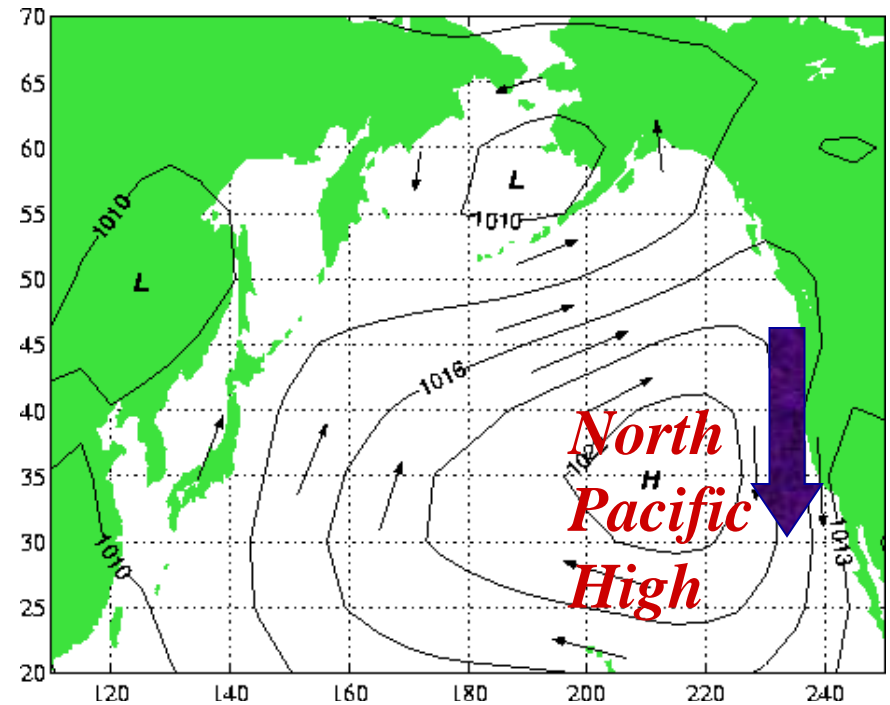
Equatorial Current



# Pacific winds and coastal upwelling



October-March average



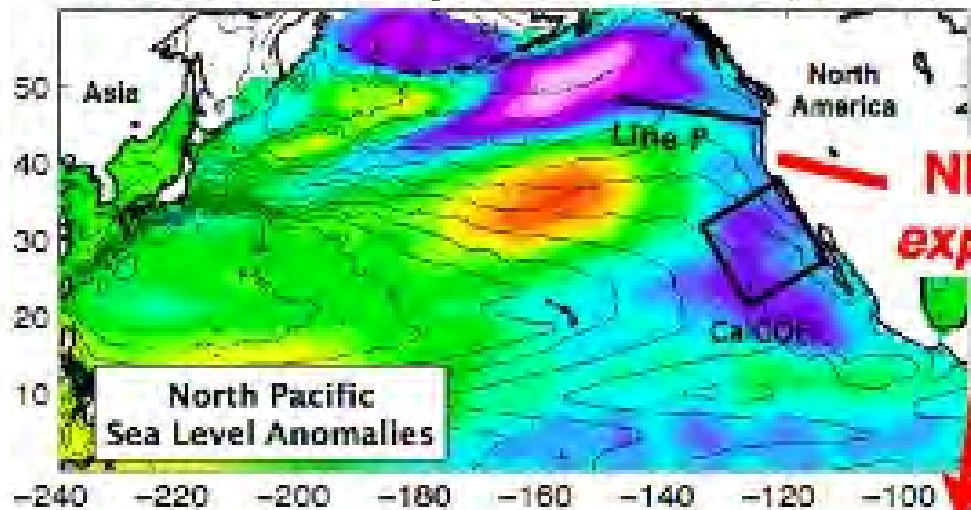
April-September average



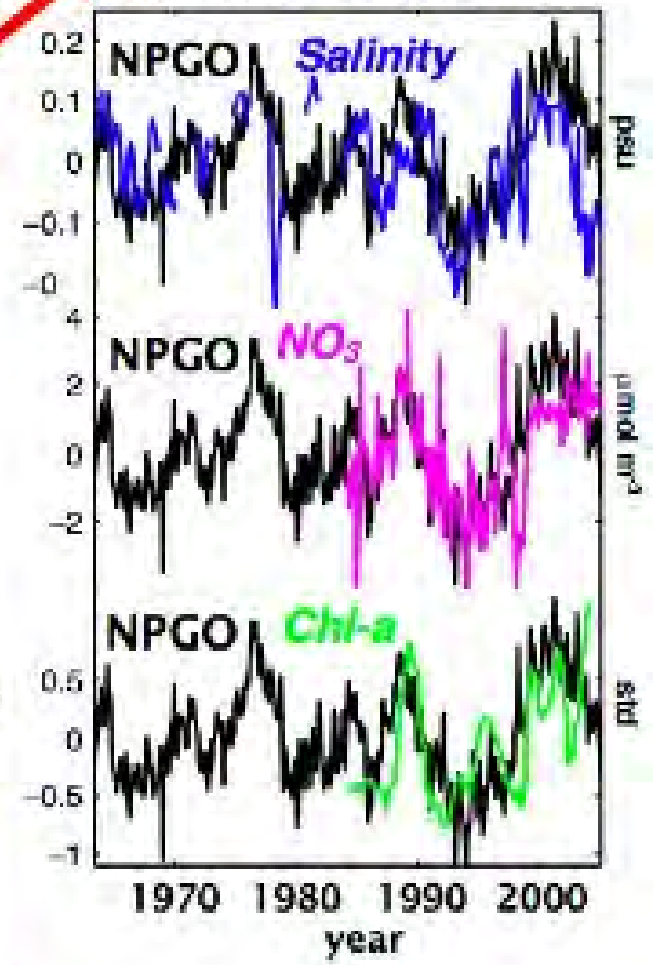




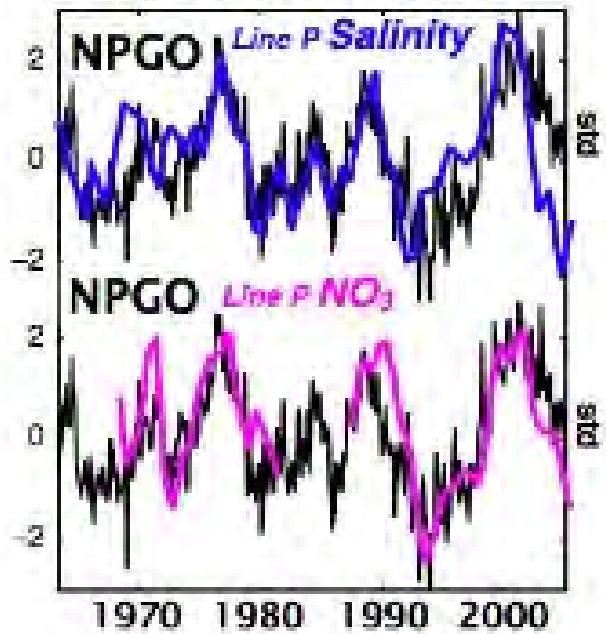
# North Pacific Gyre Oscillation (NPGO)



## California Current CalCOFI Observations



## Gulf of Alaska Line P Observations

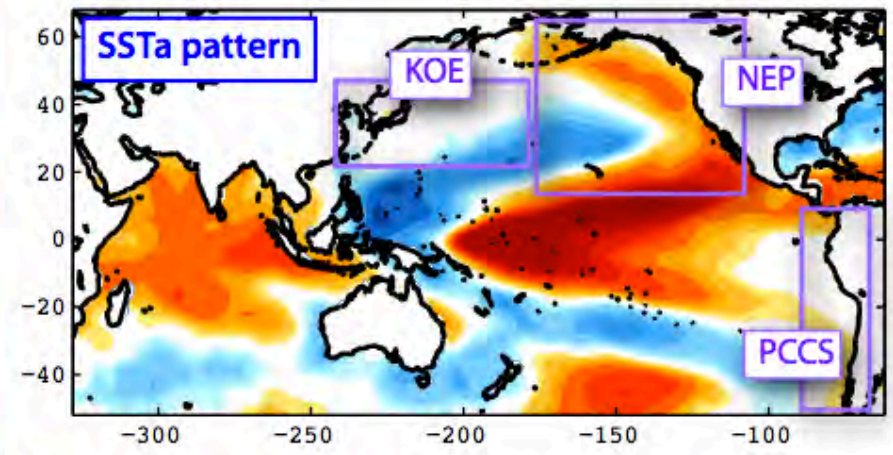
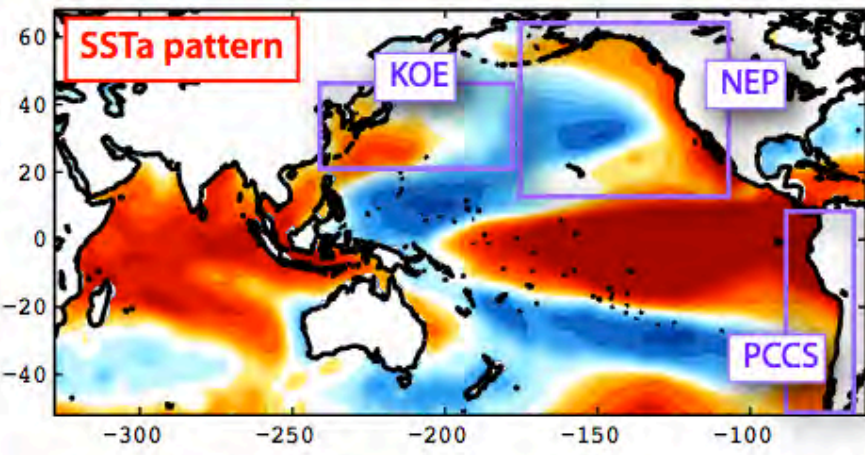
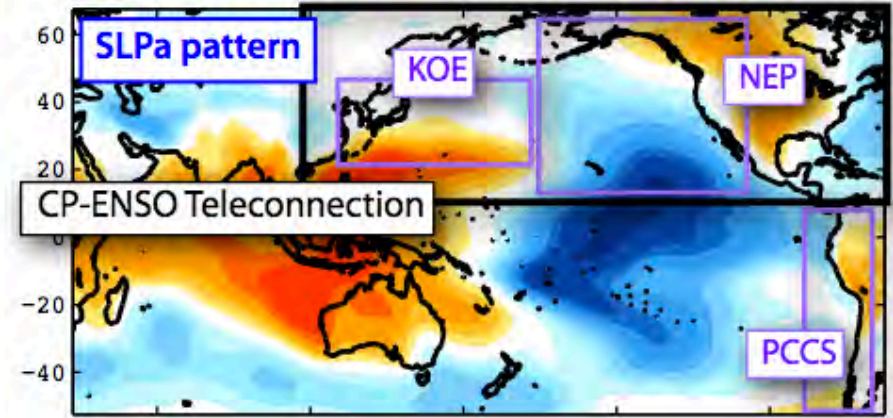
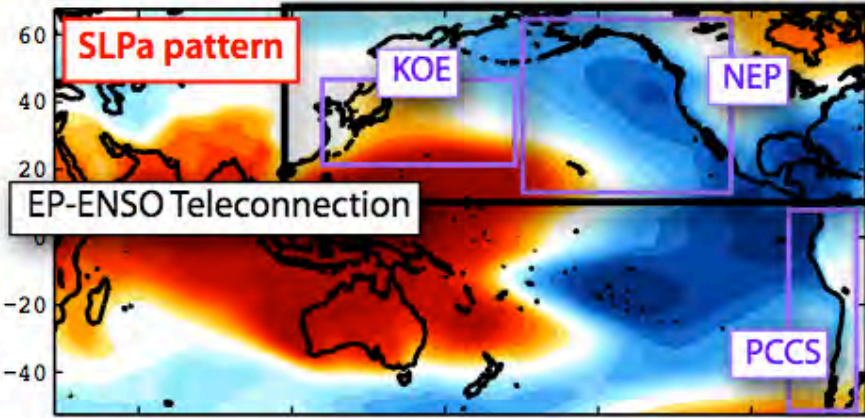


The NPGO index measures changes in the North Pacific gyres circulation and explains key physical-biological ocean variables

Di Lorenzo et al., 2008

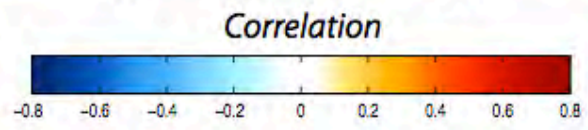
### (a) Eastern Pacific El Niño (EP-ENSO)

### (b) Central Pacific El Niño (CP-ENSO)



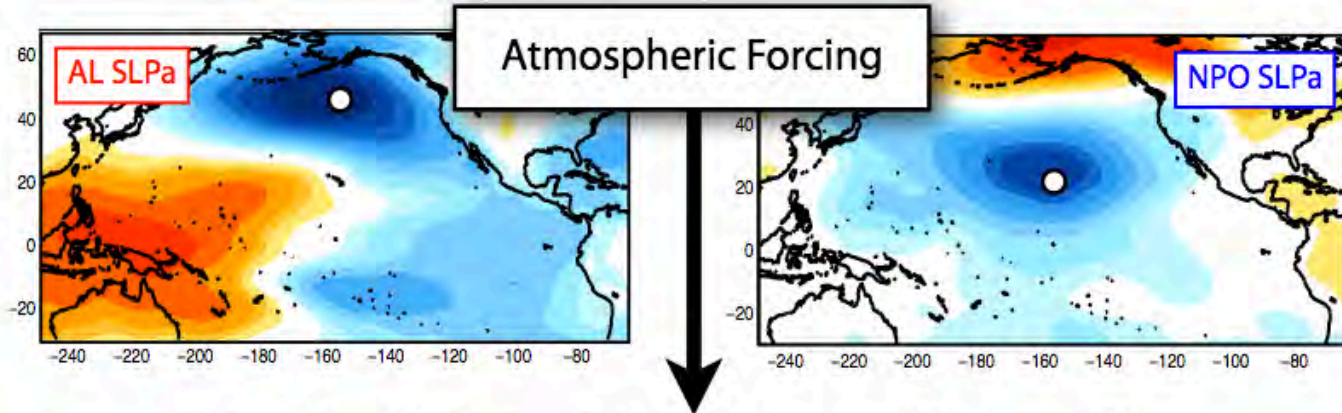
#### POBEX Regions

- KOE: Kuroshio-Oyashio Extension
- NEP: Northeast Pacific
- PCCS: Peru-Chile Current System

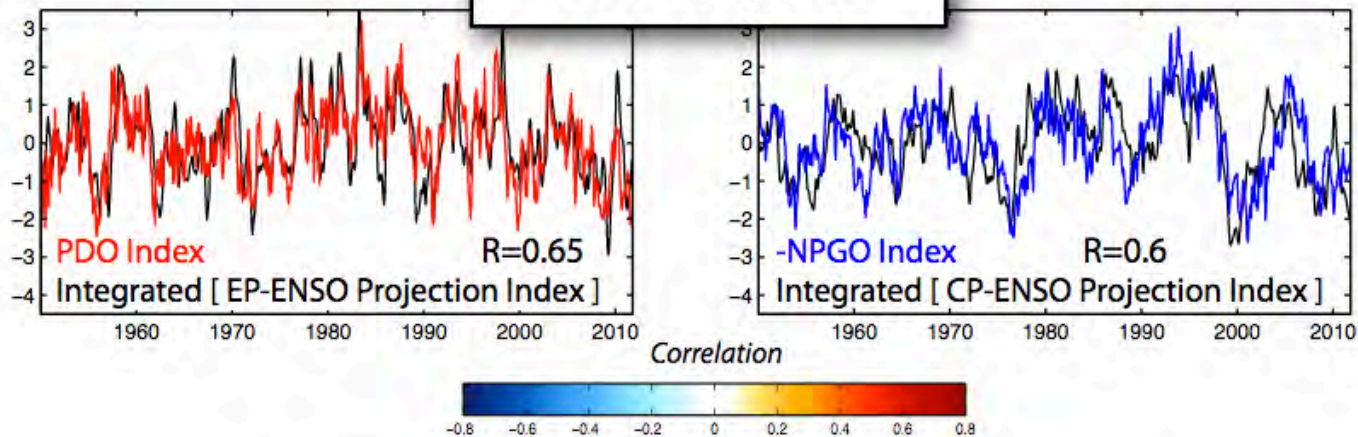
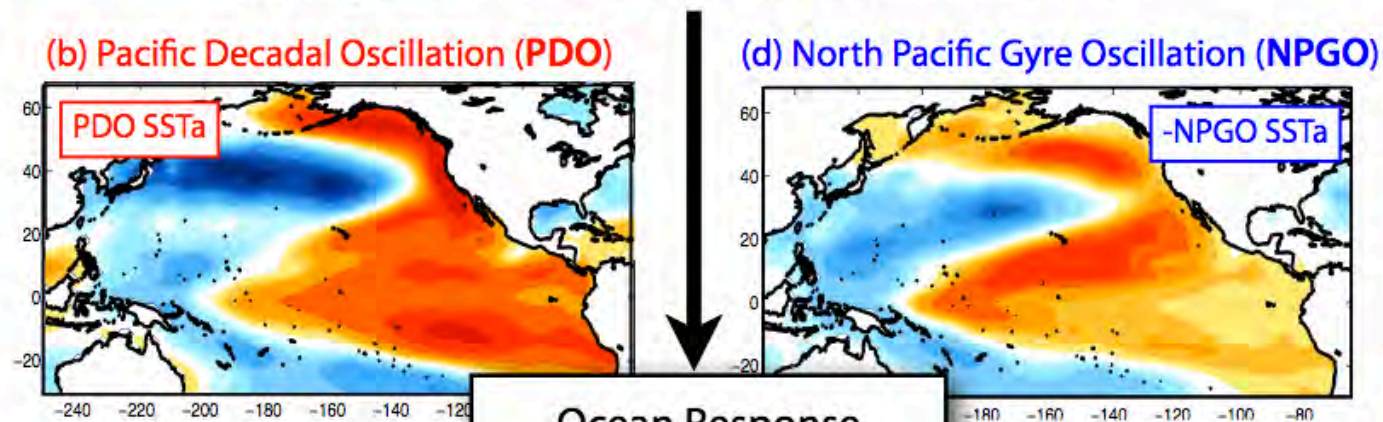


#### ENSO Atmospheric Projections

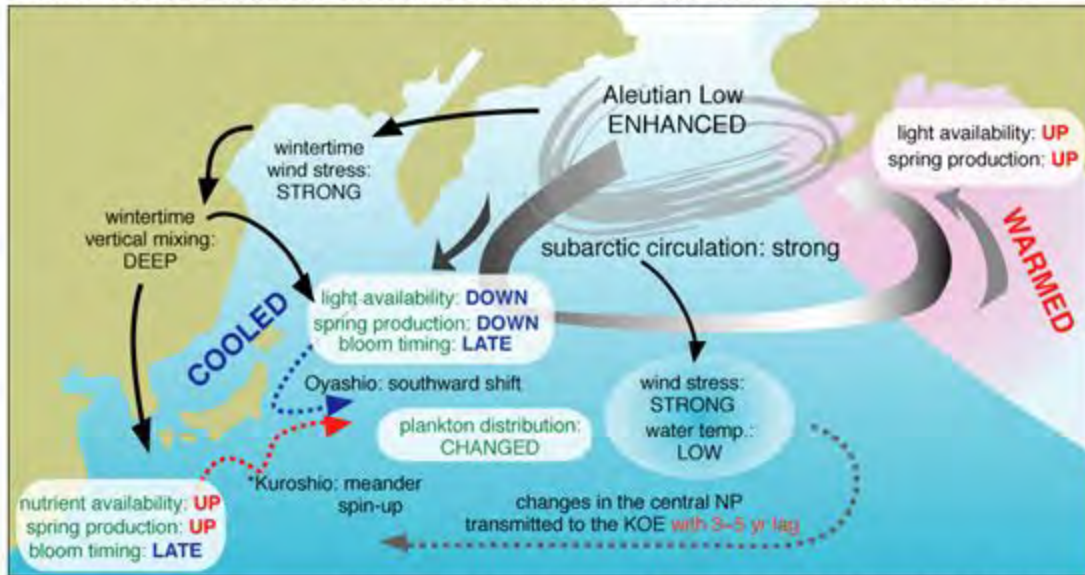
Regions of North Pacific SLPa driven by ENSO teleconnection during the EP and CP El Niños.



North Pacific Ocean Modes integrate and low-pass filter forcing of Atmospheric Modes & ENSO teleconnections

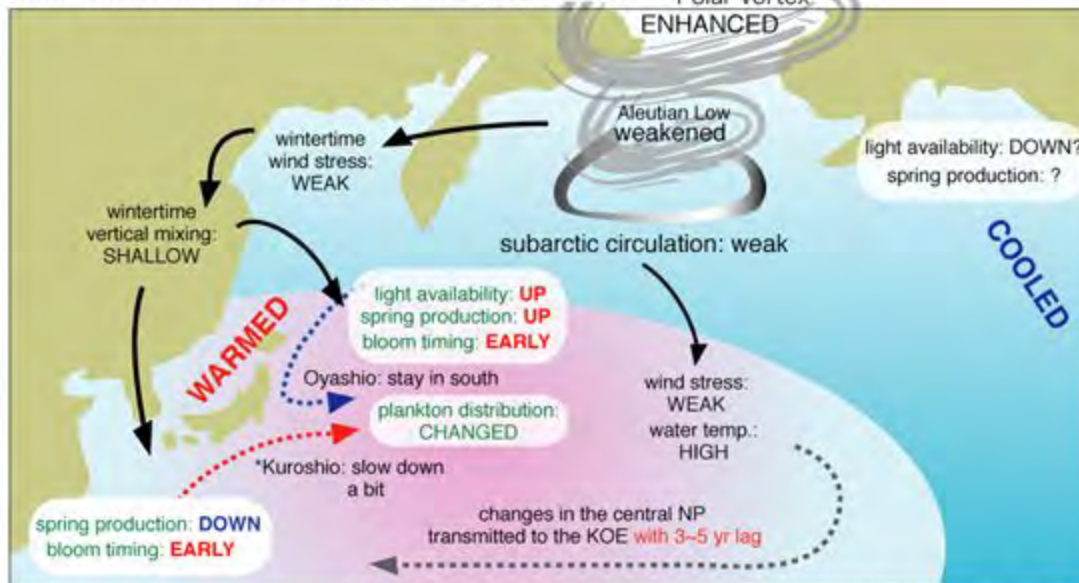


Winter-spring processes during the regime of strong Aleutian Low (e.g. 1976 -)



\* Change in the Kuroshio properties occurred several years behind that of the Oyashio

Winter-spring processes during the regime of strong Polar vortex and weak Aleutian Low (e.g. 1990s)



\* Change in the Kuroshio properties occurred several years behind that of the Oyashio

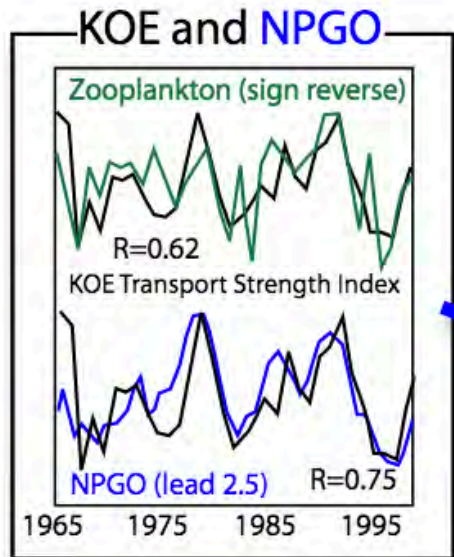
After the mid 1970s

Lower tropic level responses to the 1976 and 1988 RS : (winter-spring processes)

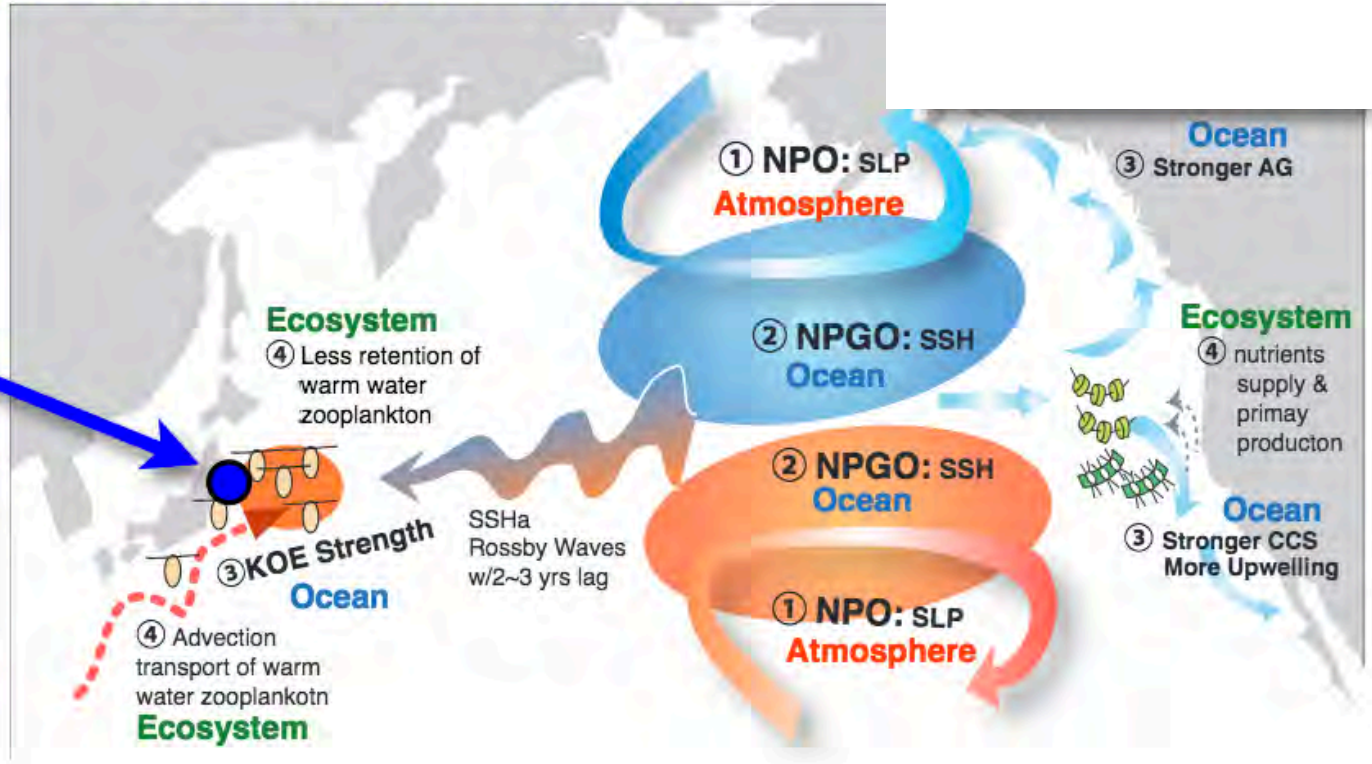
After the late 1988s

(Chiba et al, submitted, PO)

(b) North Pacific Gyre Oscillation (NPGO) (positive phase)



Chiba et al., 2013

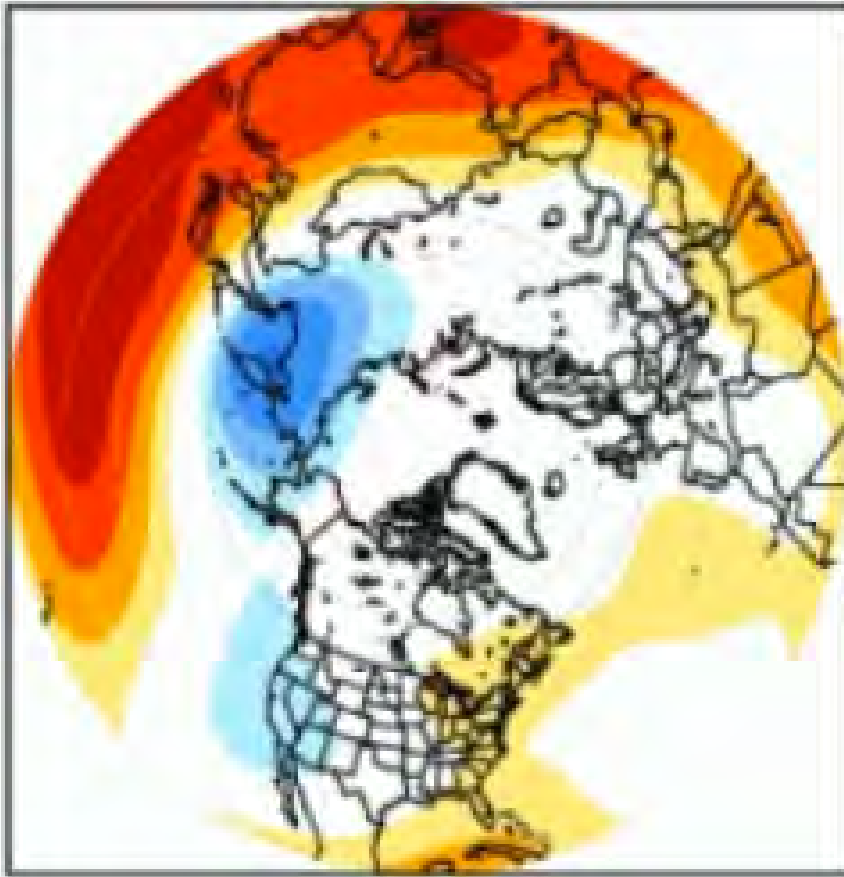


M. Di Lorenzo, S. Chiba and collaborators

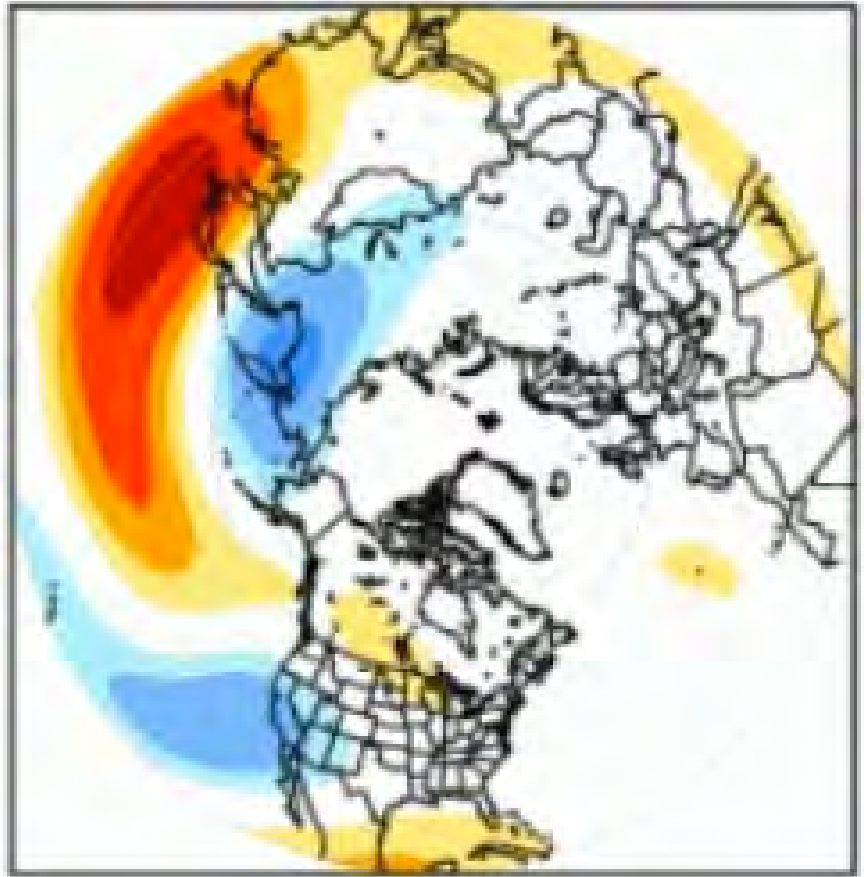
# WP- A primary mode of NH atmospheric circulation variability

## West Pacific Pattern

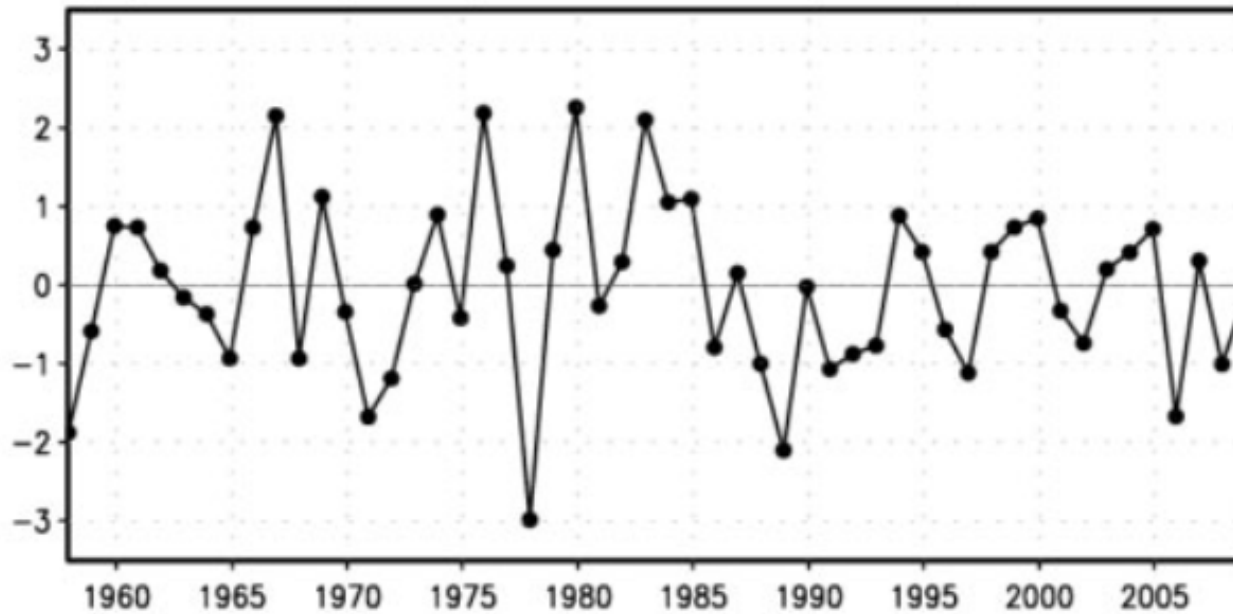
January



April

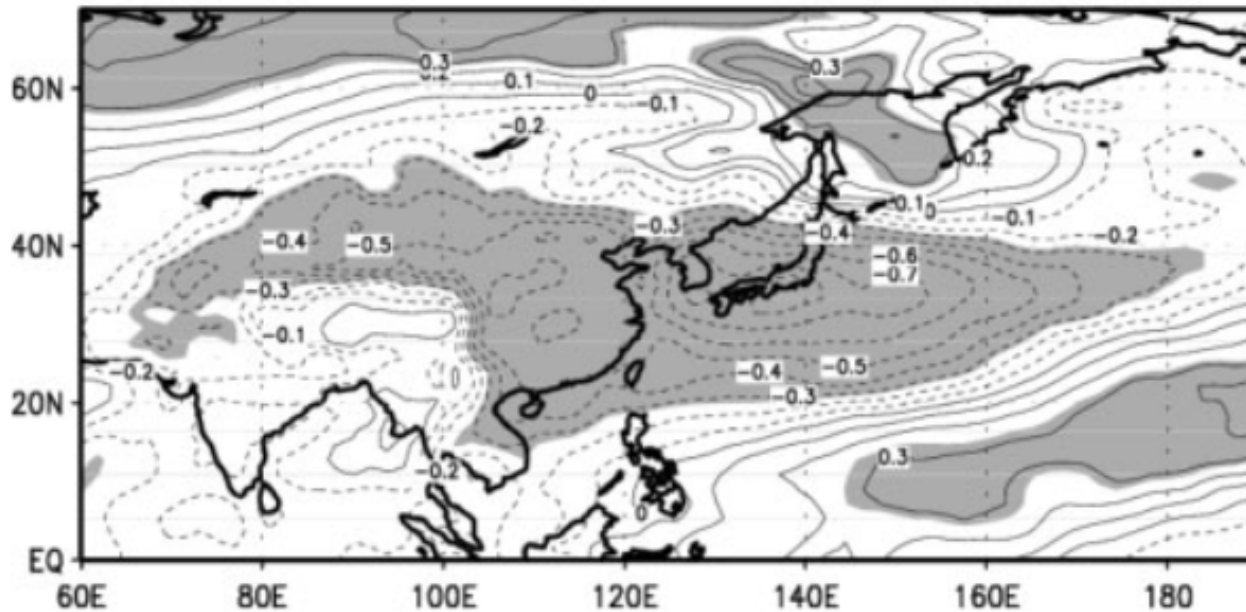


(a) EAWMI (1958/1959 – 2009/2010)



East Asian  
Winter Monsoon

(b) Correlation between EAWMI and surface temperature

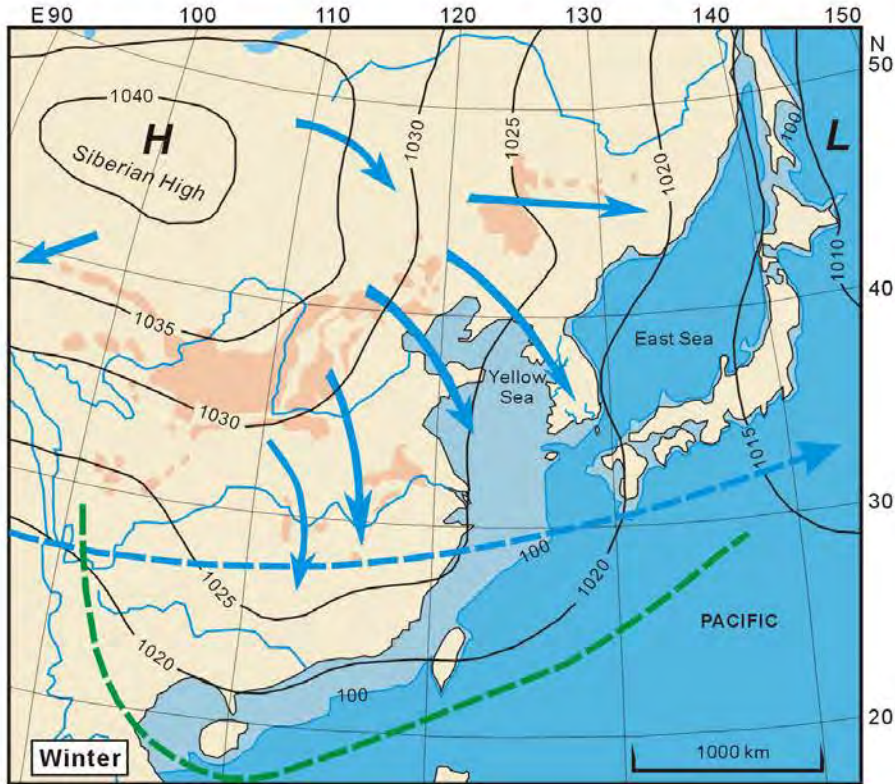


Ha et al. (2012)

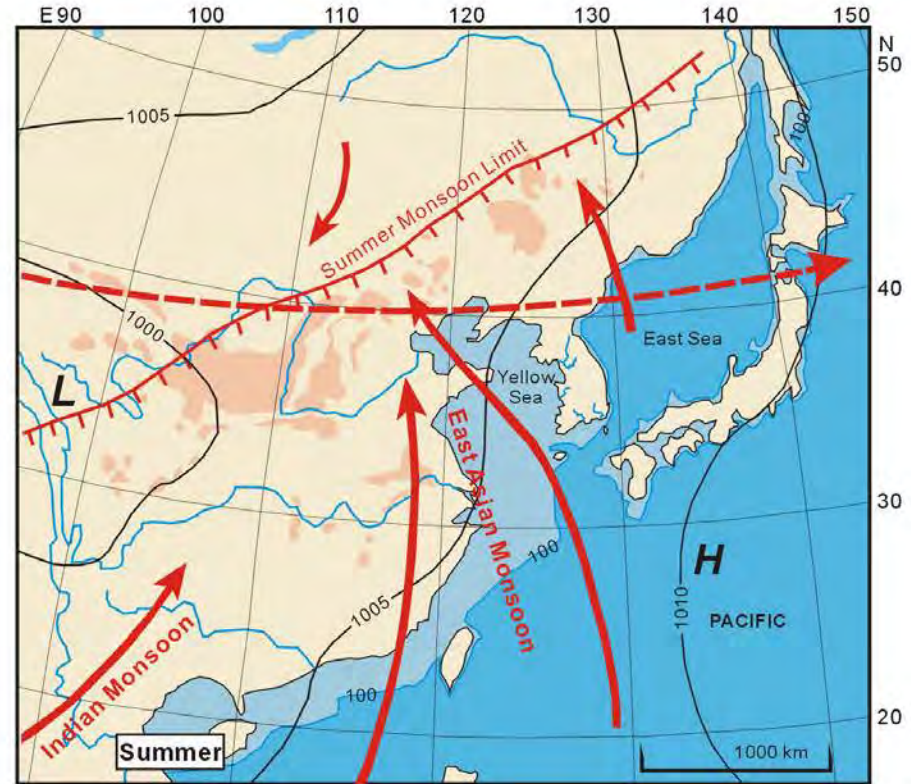


# East Asian Monsoon

## Winter

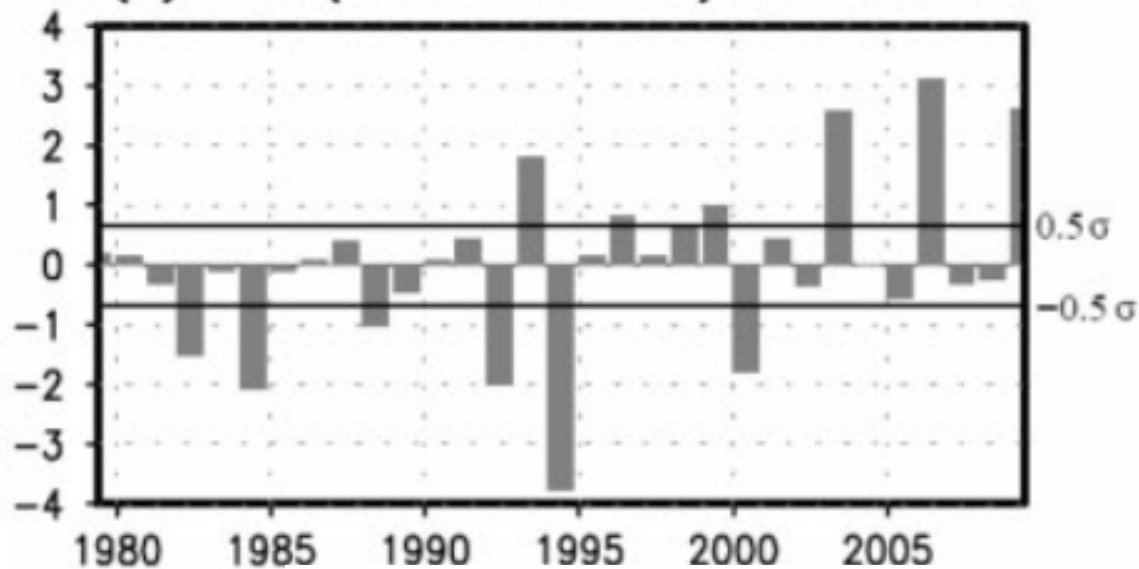


## Summer



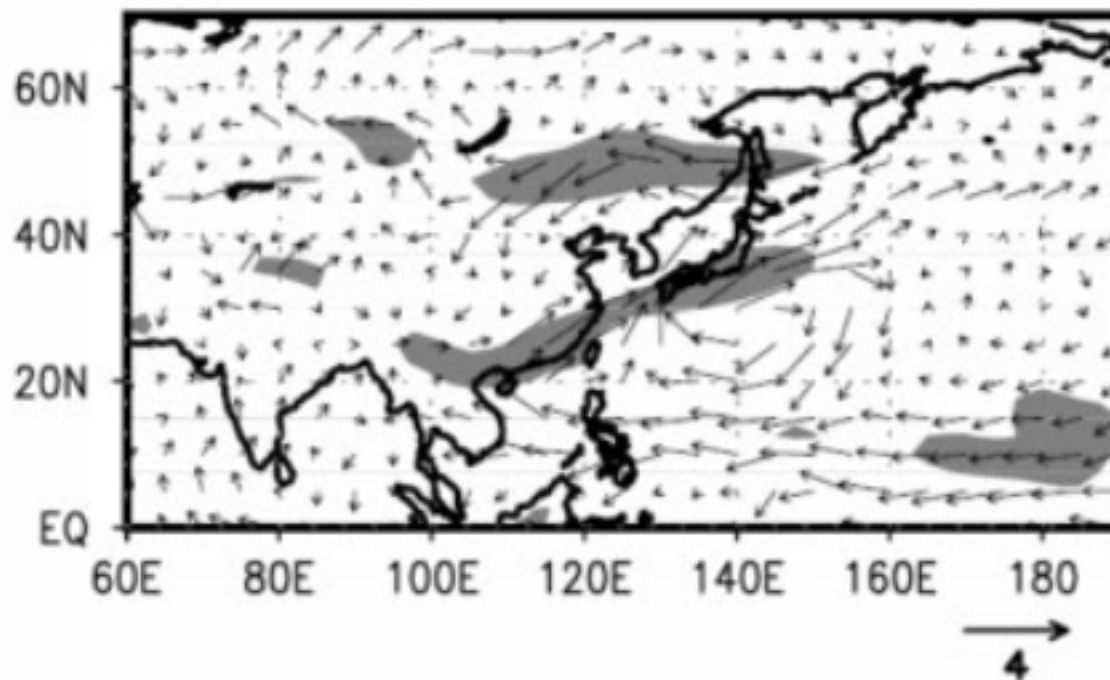
- 1025 — Mean sea-level pressure (hPa)
- — — — — mean location of jet stream (winter/summer)
- — — — — dominant vectors of surface winds (winter/summer)
- — — — — average southern limit of cold surges (winter)
- 100 — present 100 m isobath
- — — — — loess distribution in China

(a) CRI (1979 - 2009)



East Asian  
Summer Monsoon  
Related to  
Precipitation and  
Low-level Winds

(d) Strong - Weak UV850 ( $\text{m s}^{-1}$ )

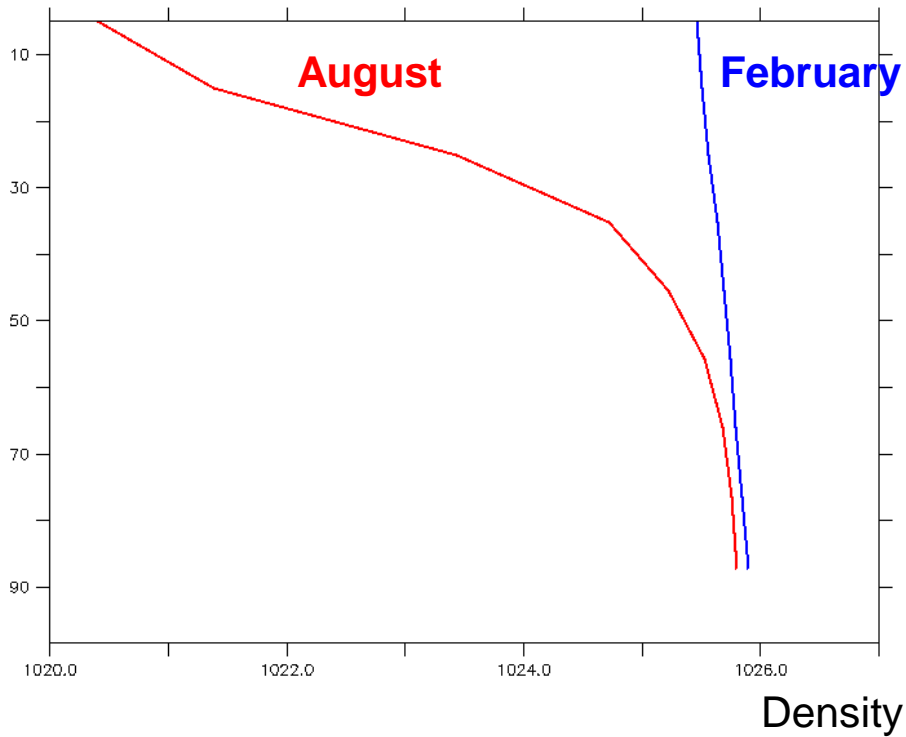


# Three Concepts Related to HABs

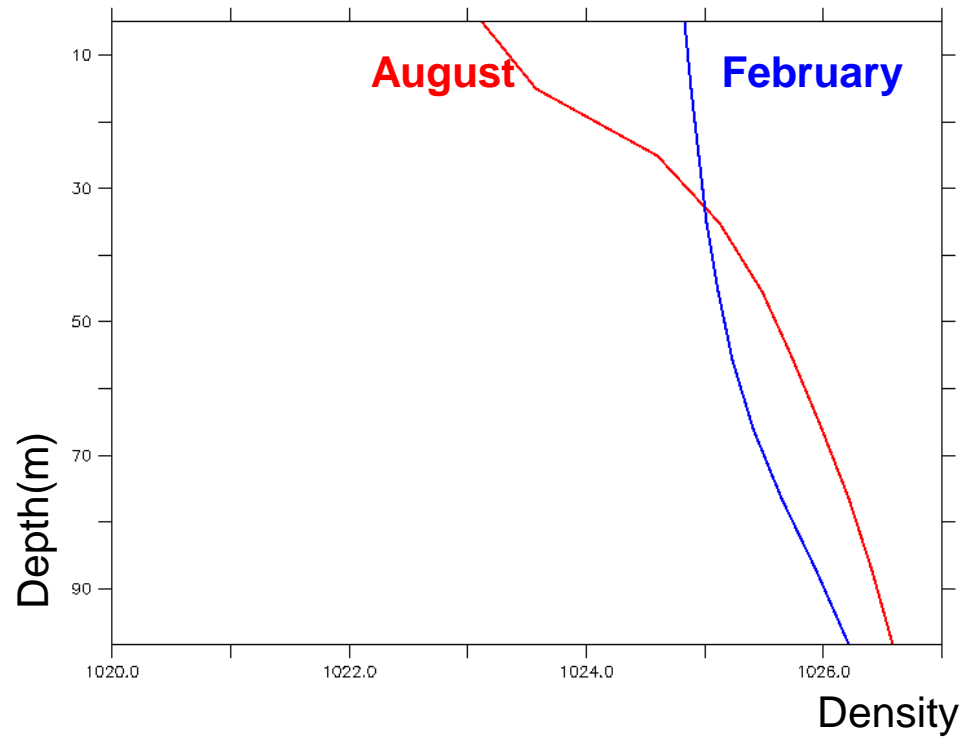
- *Stress* – Macronutrient, micronutrient and contaminant concentrations have been linked to development of domoic acid (DA).
- *Retention* – Prolonged periods of particular conditions appear to be instrumental for toxic levels (e.g., Juan de Fuca eddy).
- *Transport* – Onshore directed flow is necessary to infect coastal locations.

# Mean Upper Ocean Density Profiles: West versus East

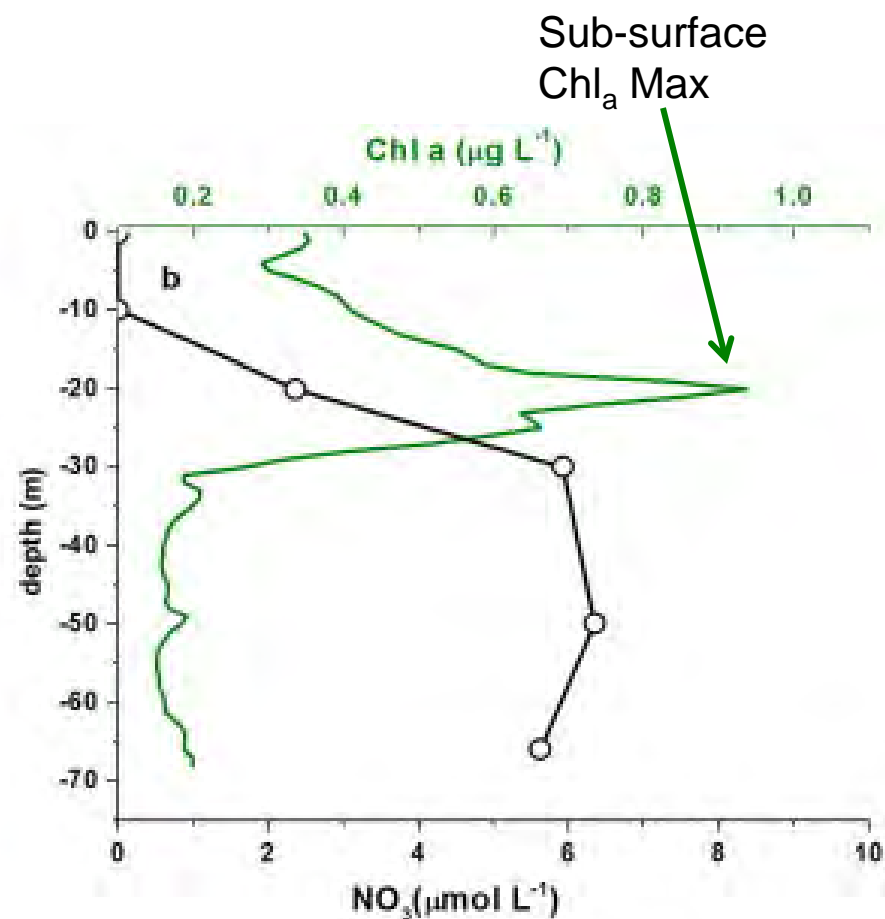
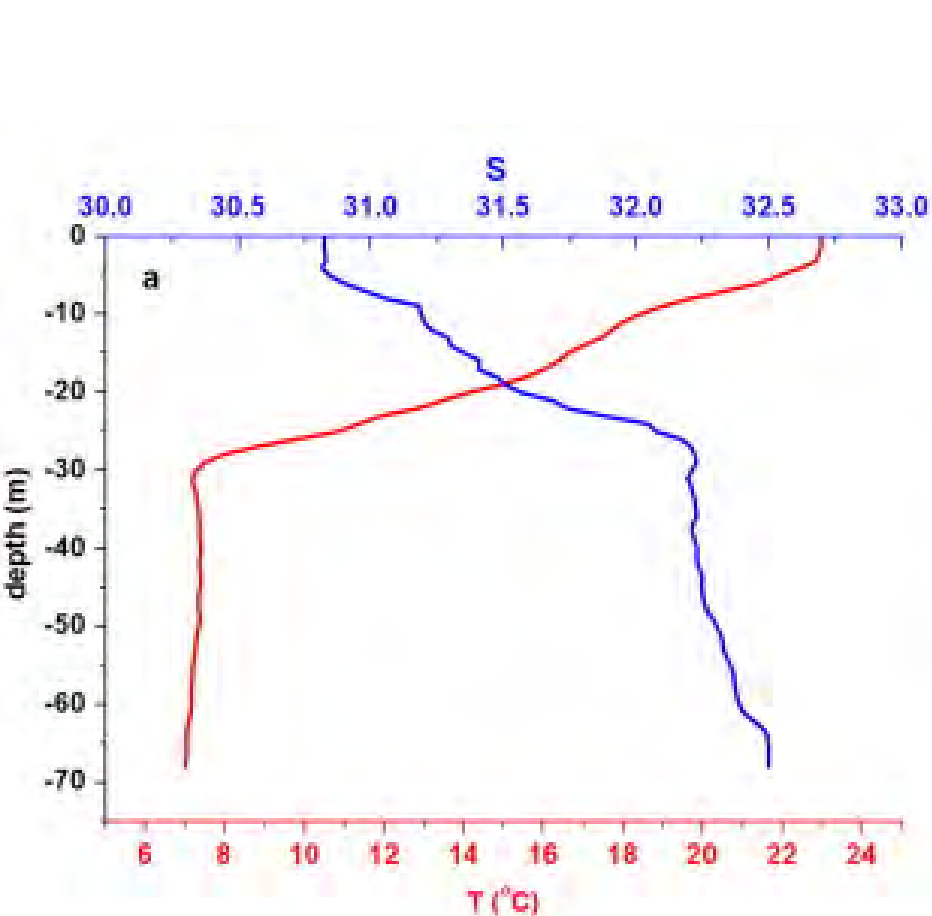
## West (35 N, 125 E)



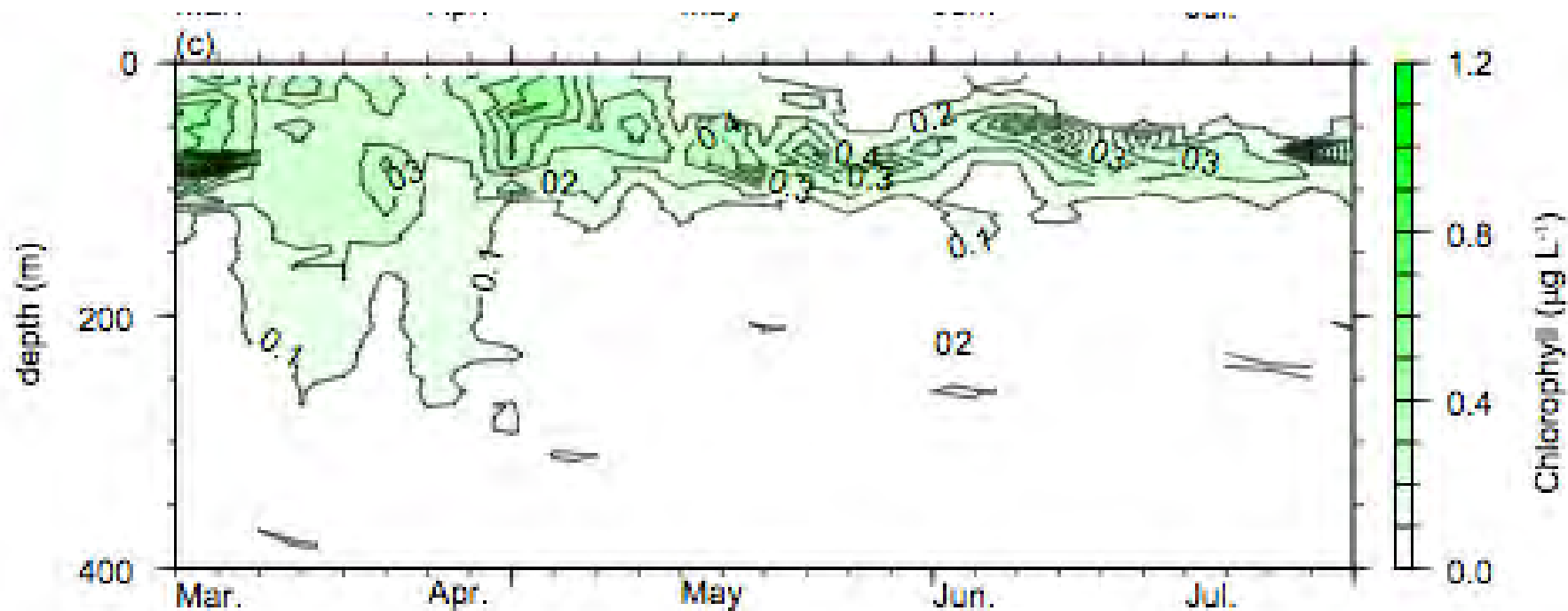
## East (48 N, 125 W)

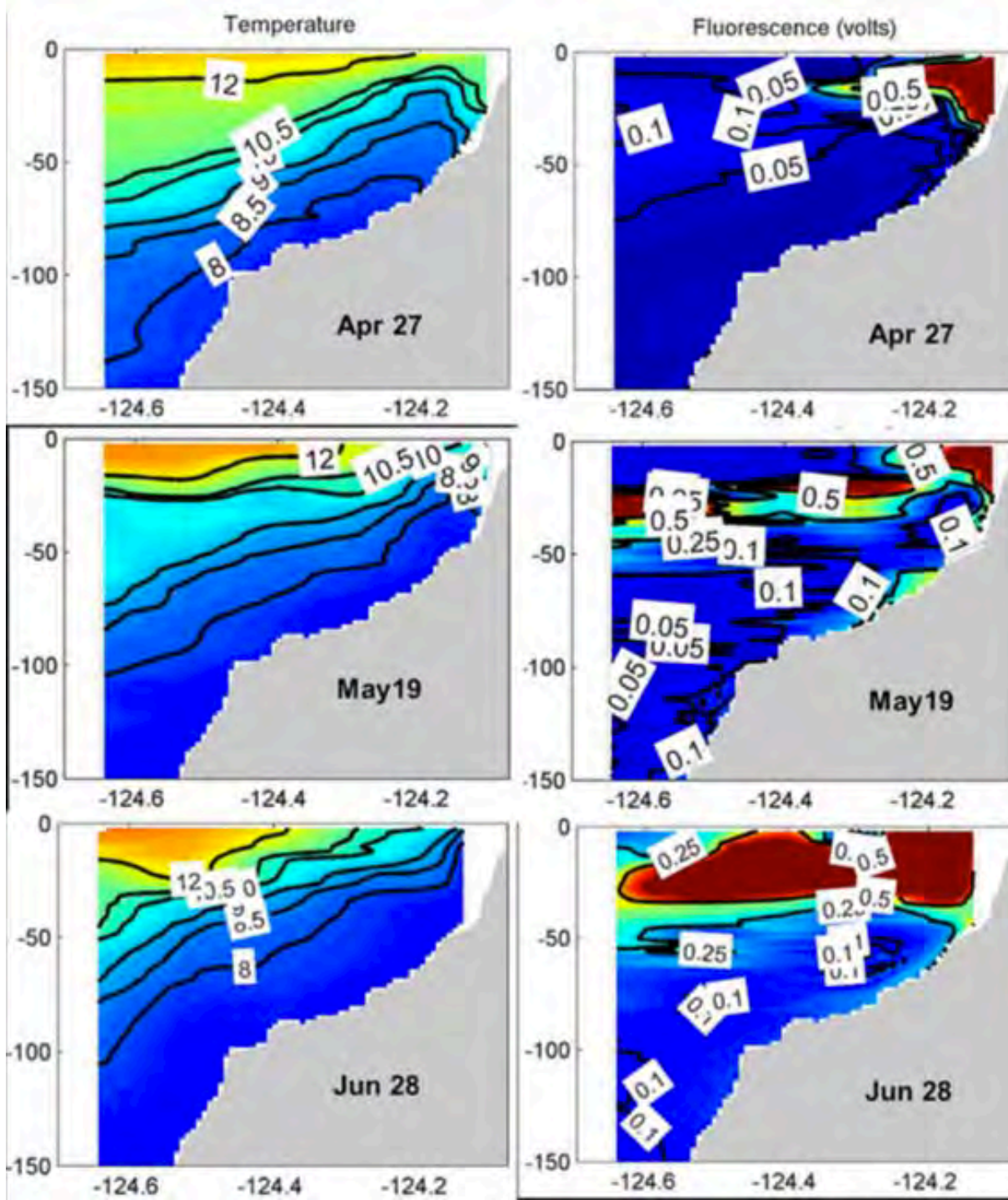


# Warm Season (Aug 2011) Profiles in the Yellow Sea



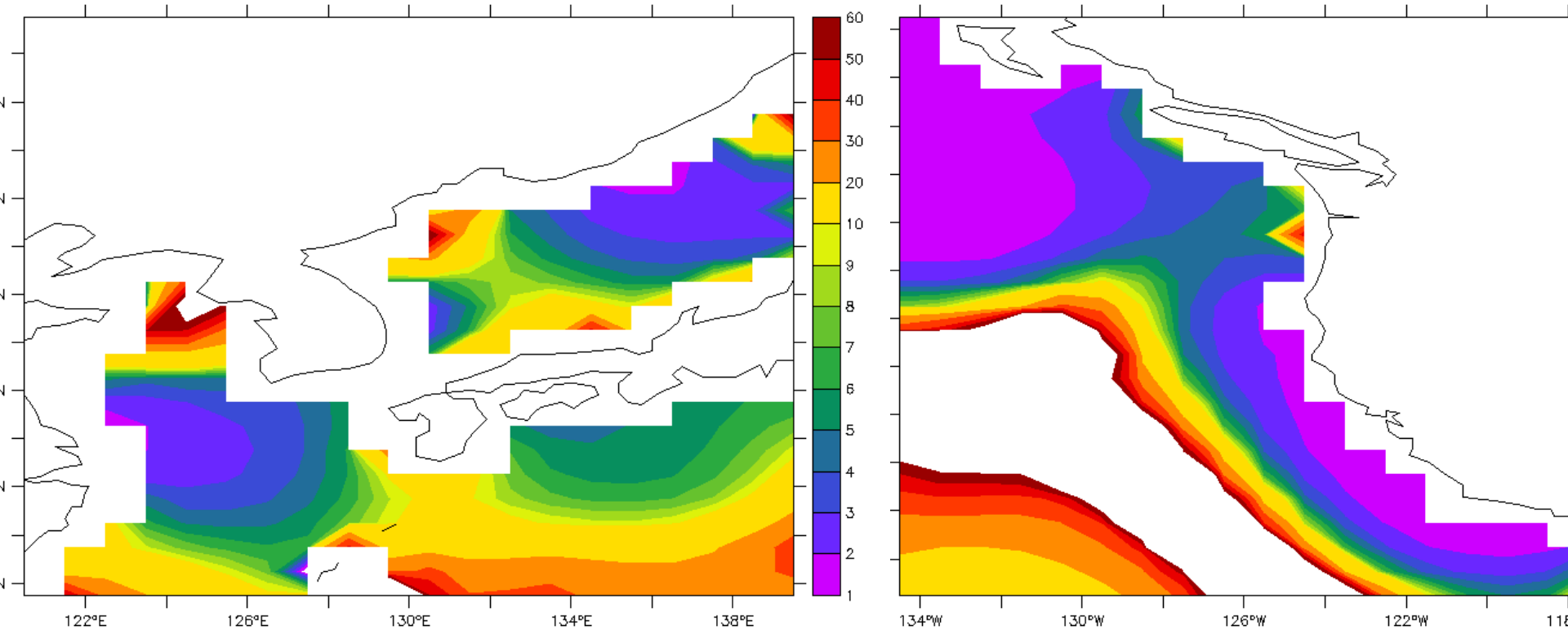
# Subsurface primary production in the western subtropical North Pacific





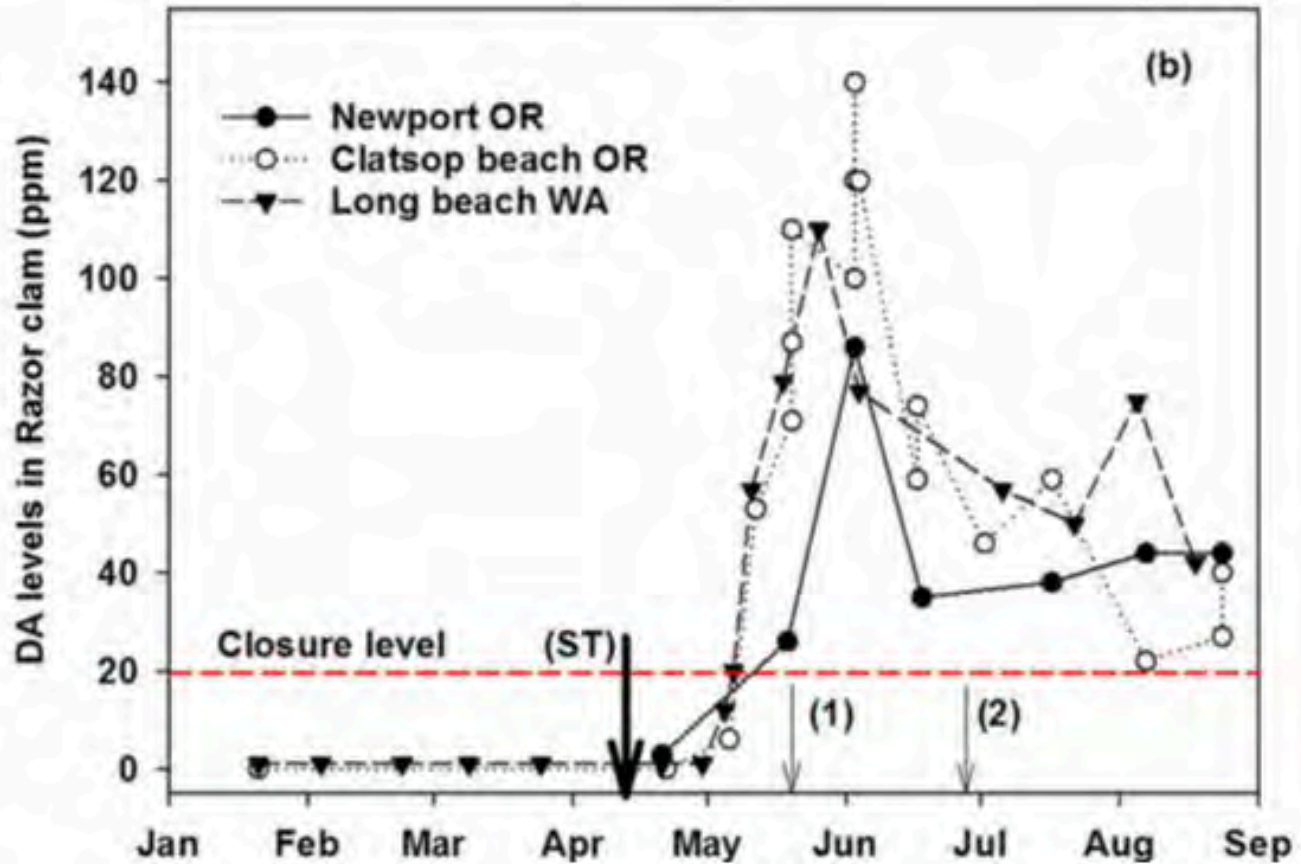
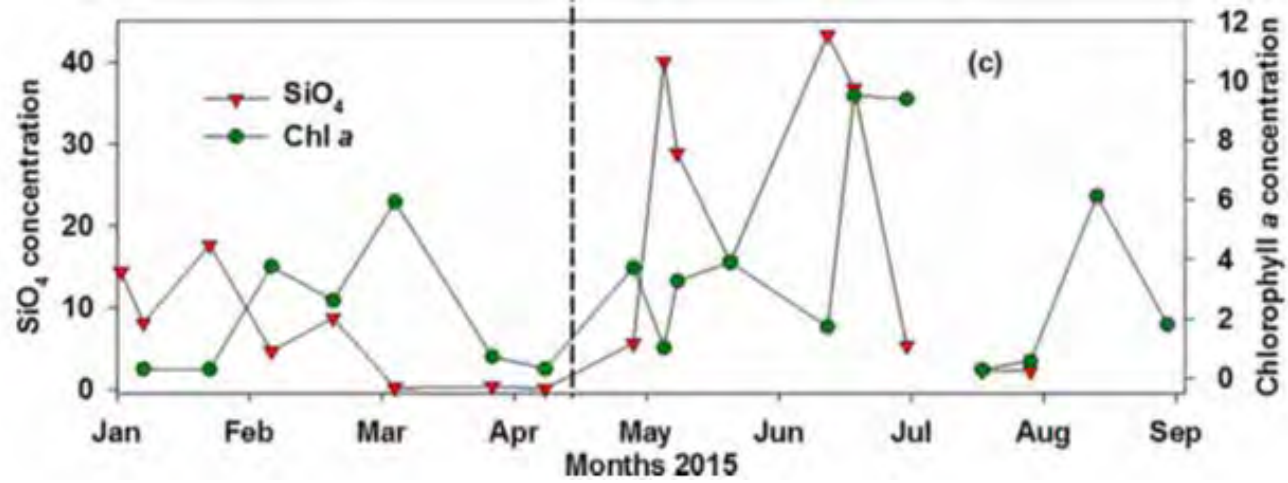
# Mean Si:N Ratios in Top 60 meters during May

Greater in the coastal zone of the western North Pacific



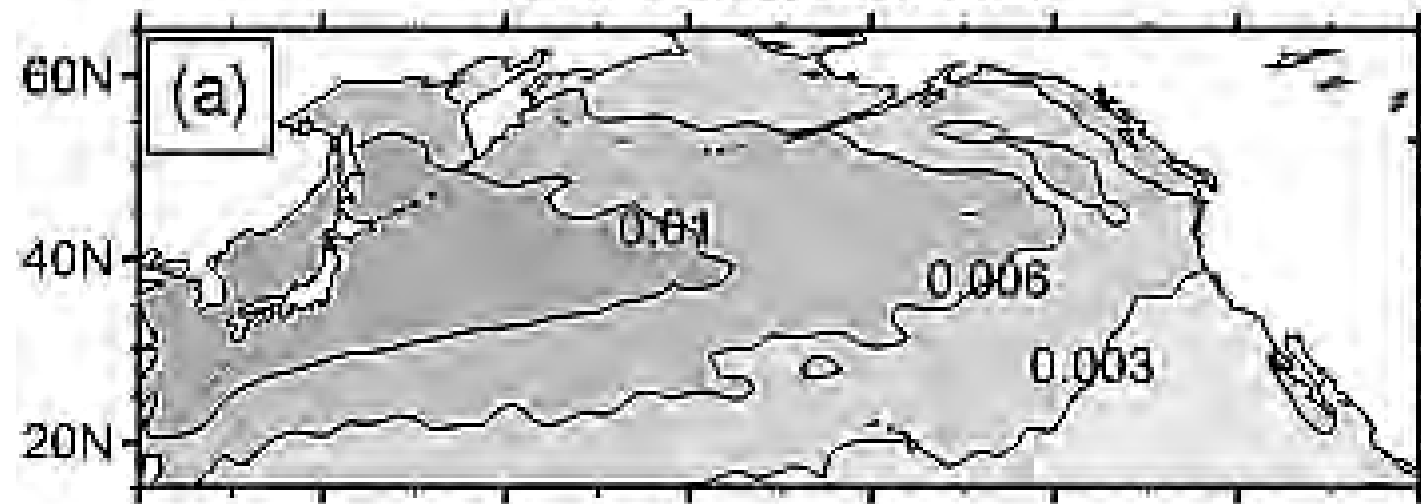
■  
from World Ocean Atlas 2013





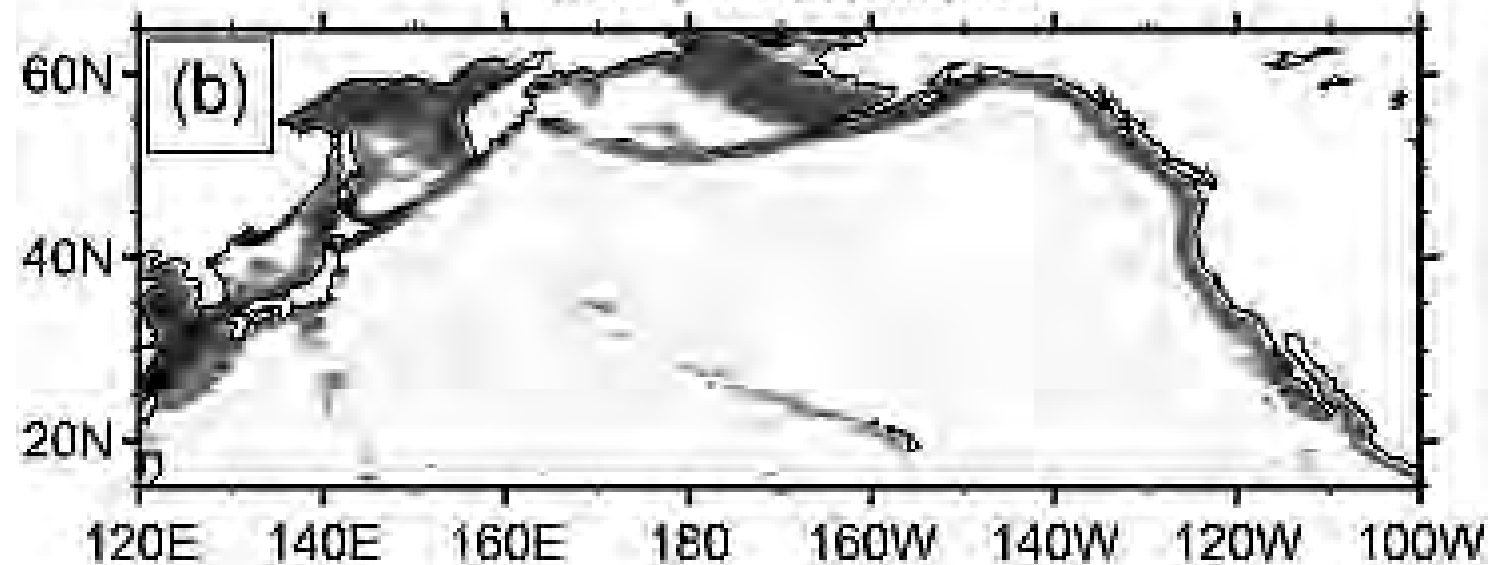
Du et al. (2016)

### Iron from aeolian dust



Luo et al. (2003)

### Iron from sediment



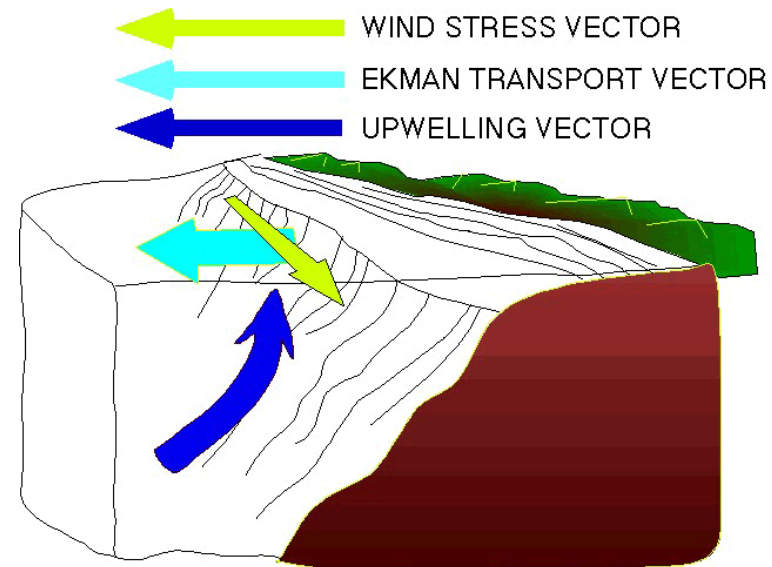
Moore and  
Braucher (2008)

0.001 0.003 0.006 0.01 0.03 0.06 0.1 0.3 0.6 1

Misumi et al. (2011)

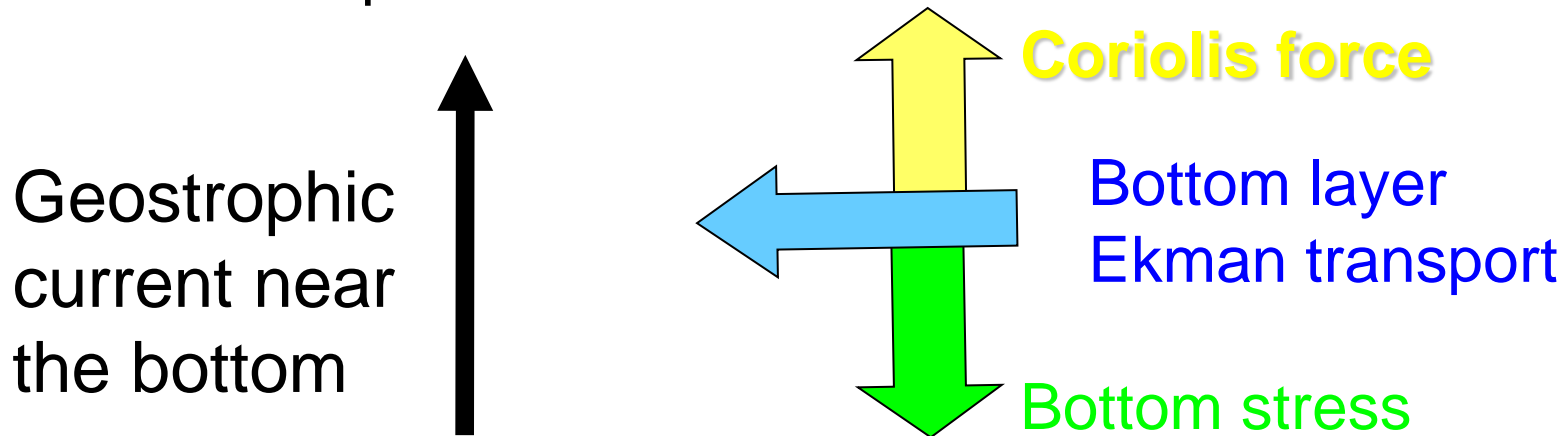
# Near-shore circulation associated with coastal upwelling

- In coastal upwelling periods, **offshore** transport in the surface Ekman layer is balanced by **onshore** transport at depth
  - Vertical migration in coastal upwelling regions provides organisms a means for a free-ride offshore and onshore



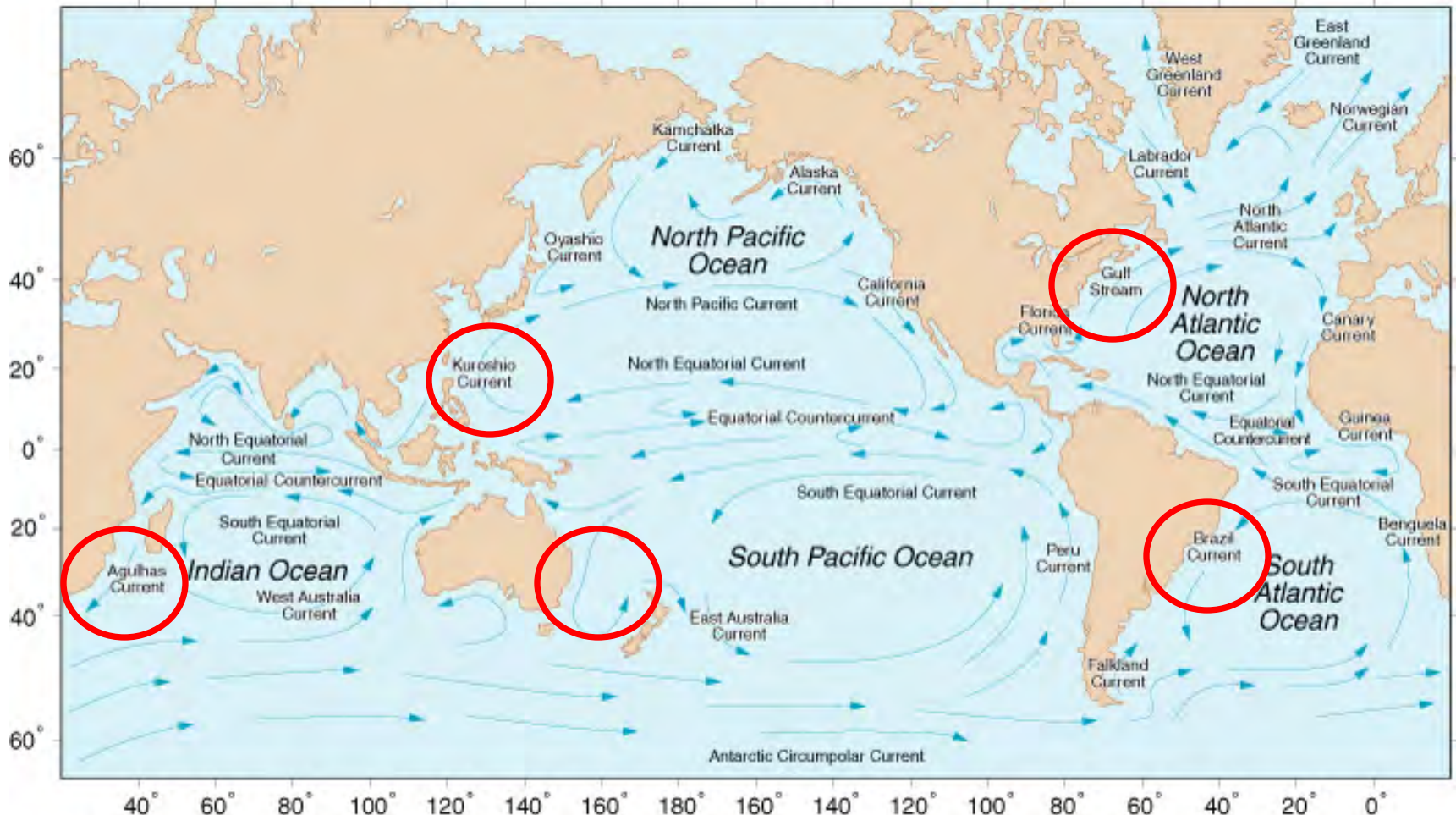
# Bottom boundary layers

- Directly adjacent to the ocean bottom, flow is retarded by friction. In large-scale, low-frequency flows, the effect of the earth's rotation is important and results in a ***bottom Ekman layer*** -- analogous to the surface Ekman layer but turned upside down.
- In a bottom Ekman layer, there is frictional transport to the left of the flow direction in the Northern Hemisphere.



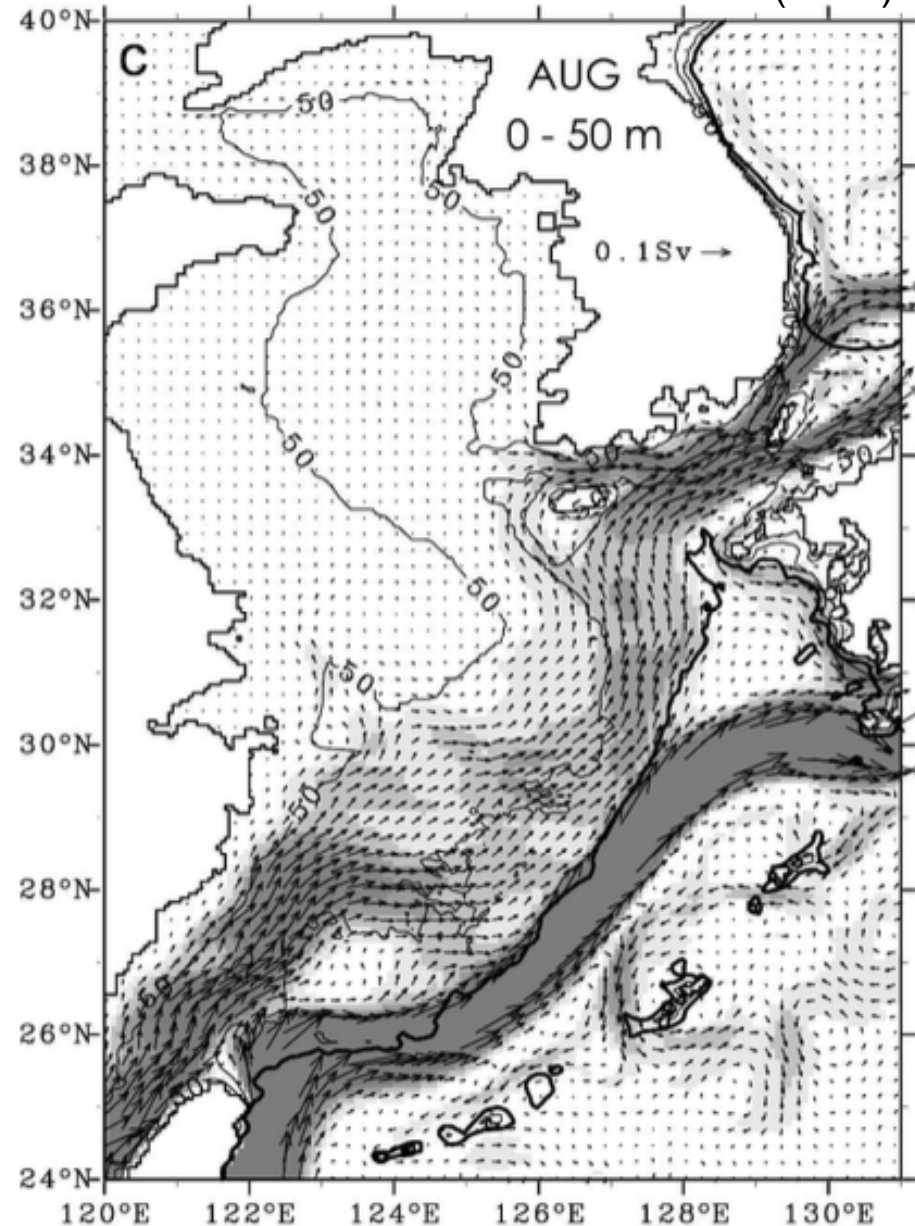
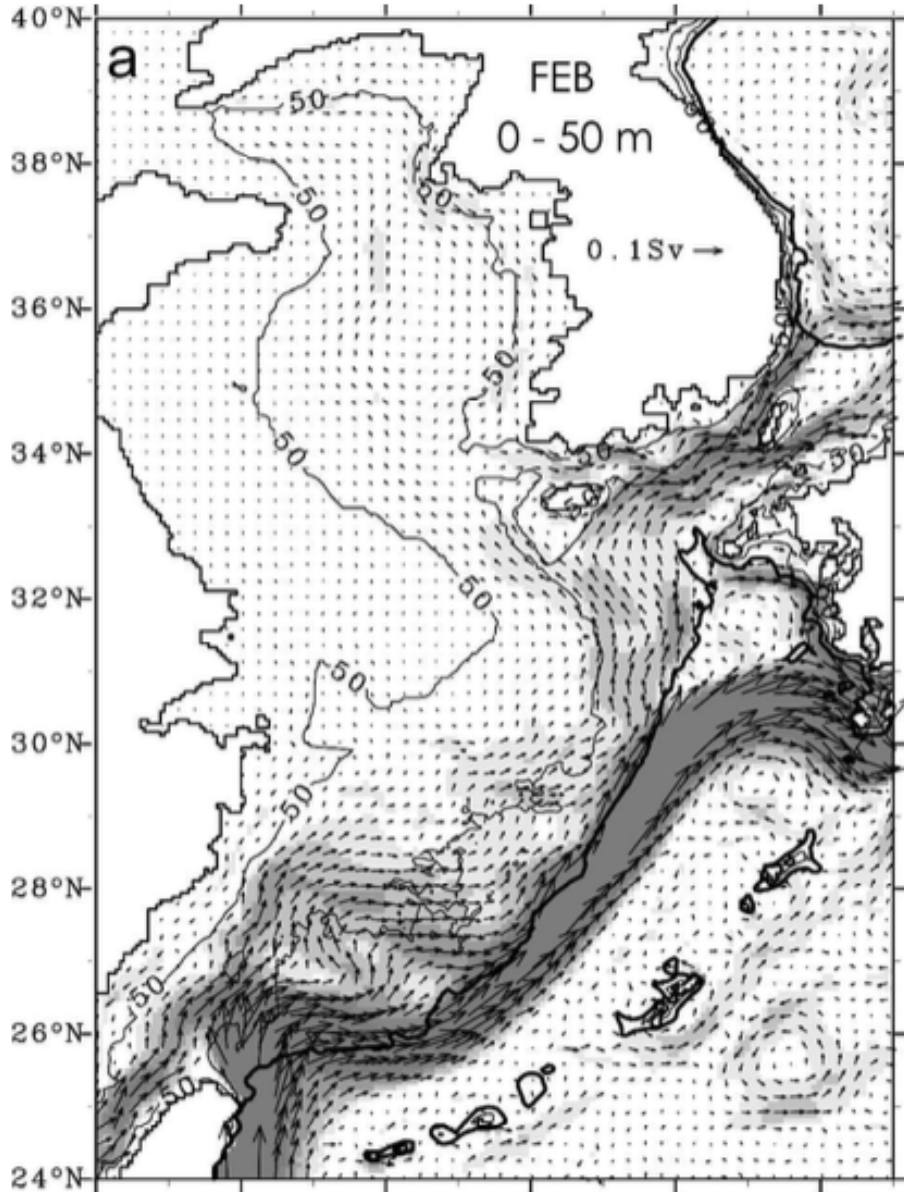
# Strong poleward flowing western boundary currents and bottom Ekman layers

- These deep currents directly impinge on the continental shelf and slope -- here expect a substantial bottom Ekman layer in which the flow is upslope and toward the coast

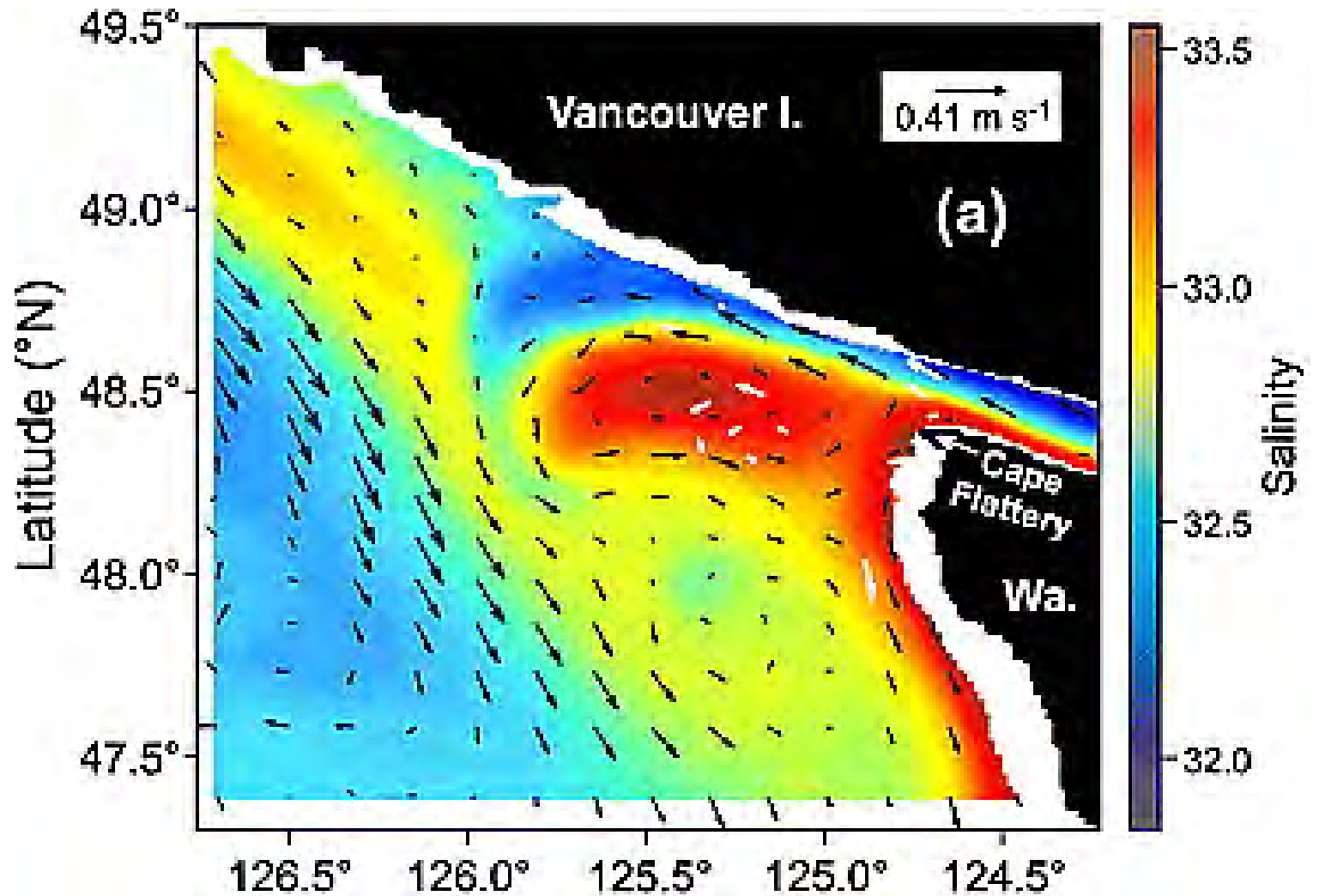


# Kuroshio Intrusion for East China Sea (ECS) and Tsushima Warm Current (TWC) Varies Seasonally

Guo et al. (2006)



# The Juan de Fuca Eddy at 35 meters



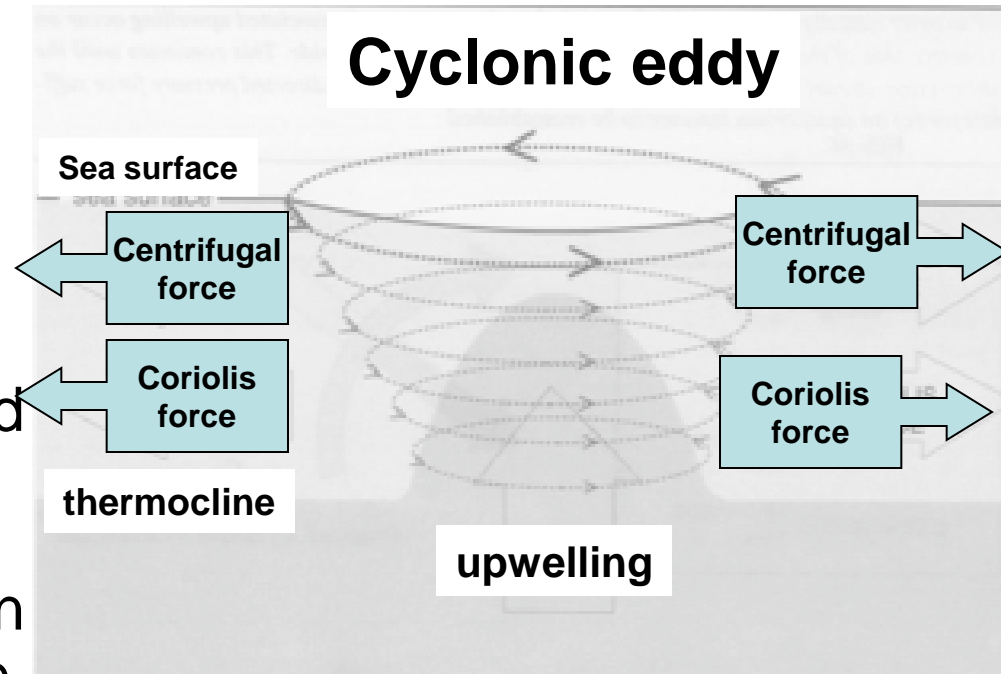
A

r  
e

Foreman et al. (2008)

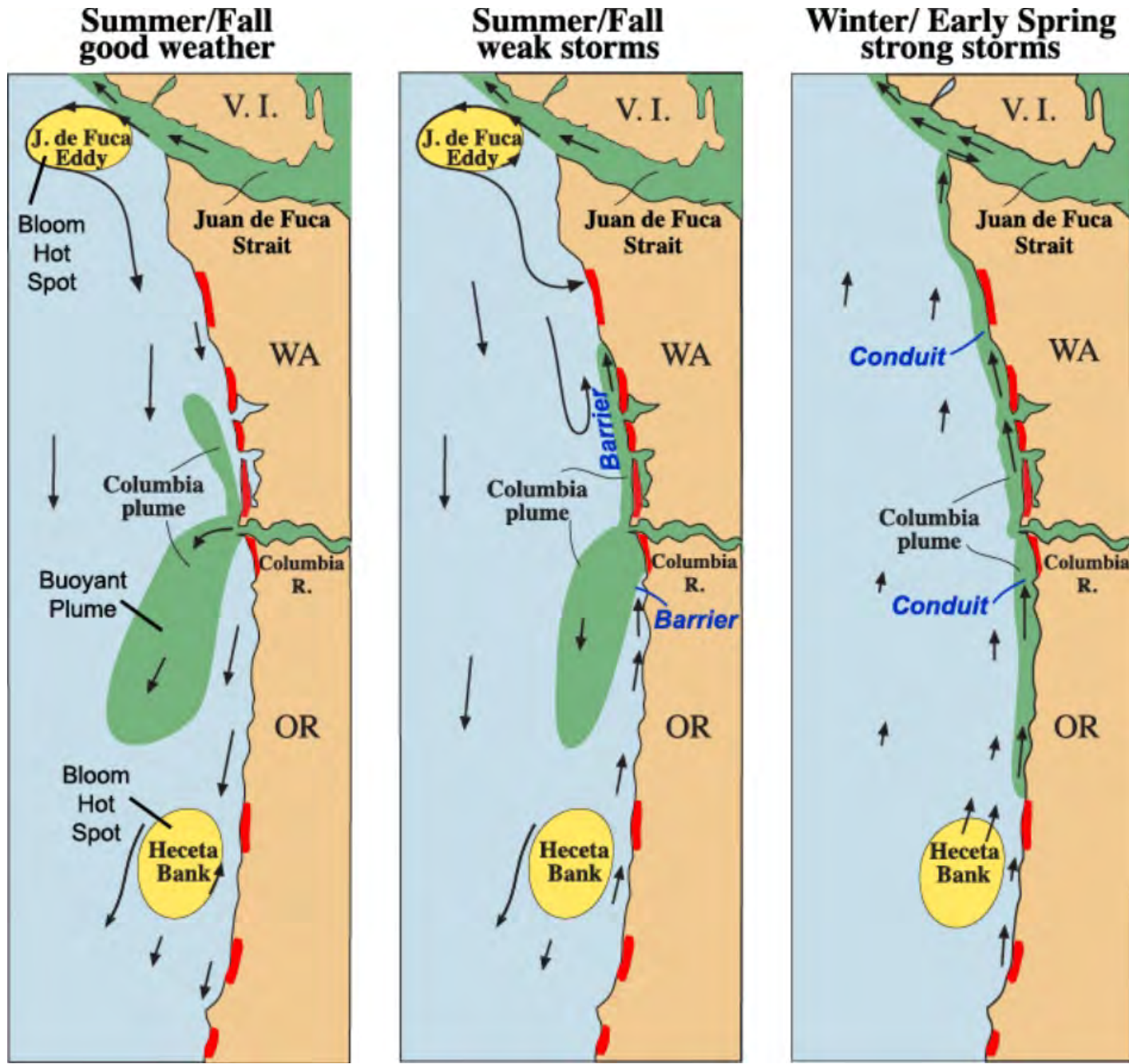
# Vortex driven upwelling

- While the pressure force is overbalanced, the outward moving surface waters are replaced by upwelled sub-surface water from the eddy interior
- This loss of surface water and upwelling continues until the resulting sea surface depression, and accumulation of higher-density water, in the eddy interior re-establishes a pressure gradient sufficient to balance the combined Coriolis and centrifugal forces

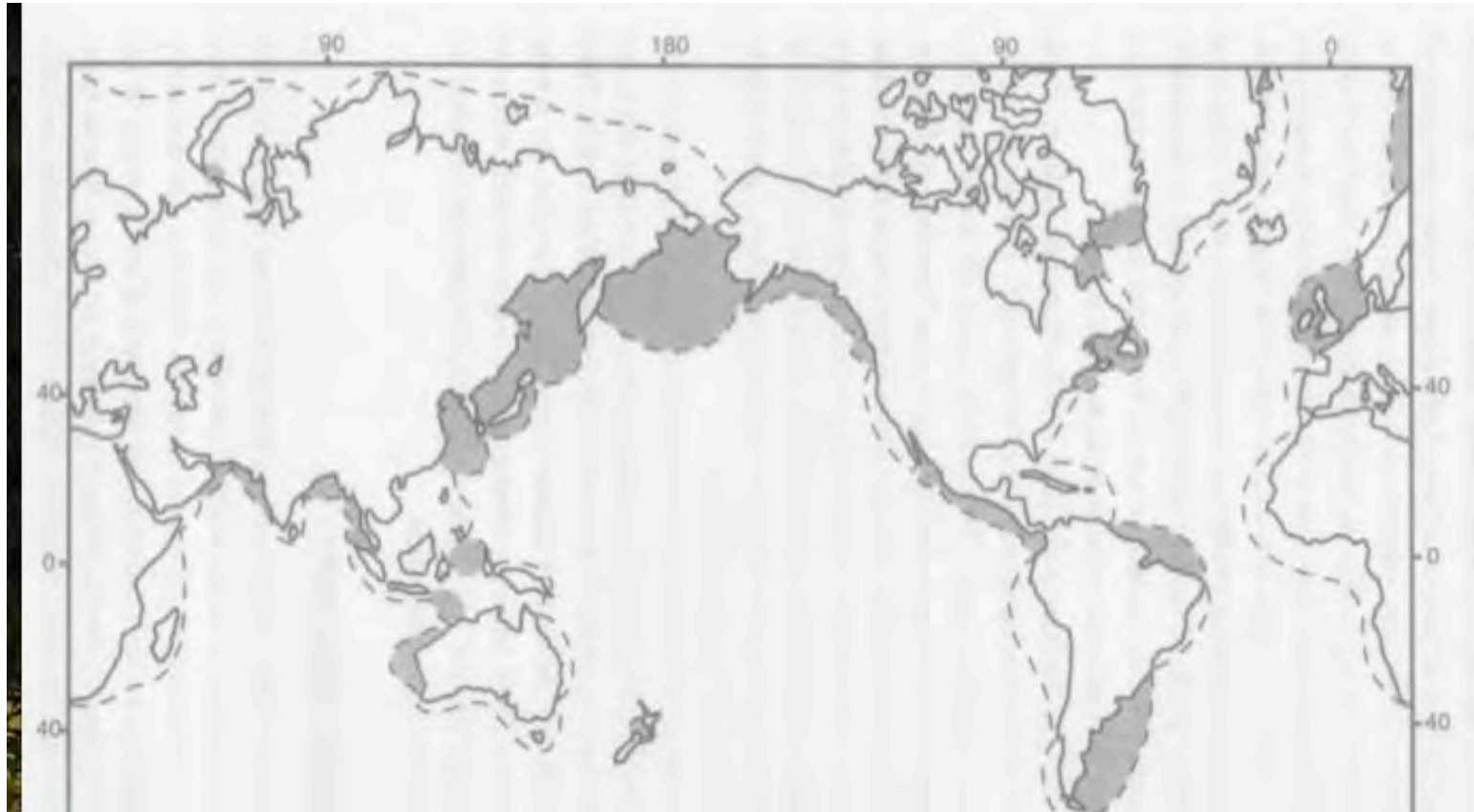




# Transport of toxic cells onto beaches in the Pacific NW



# Continental shelf regions of strong tidal mixing



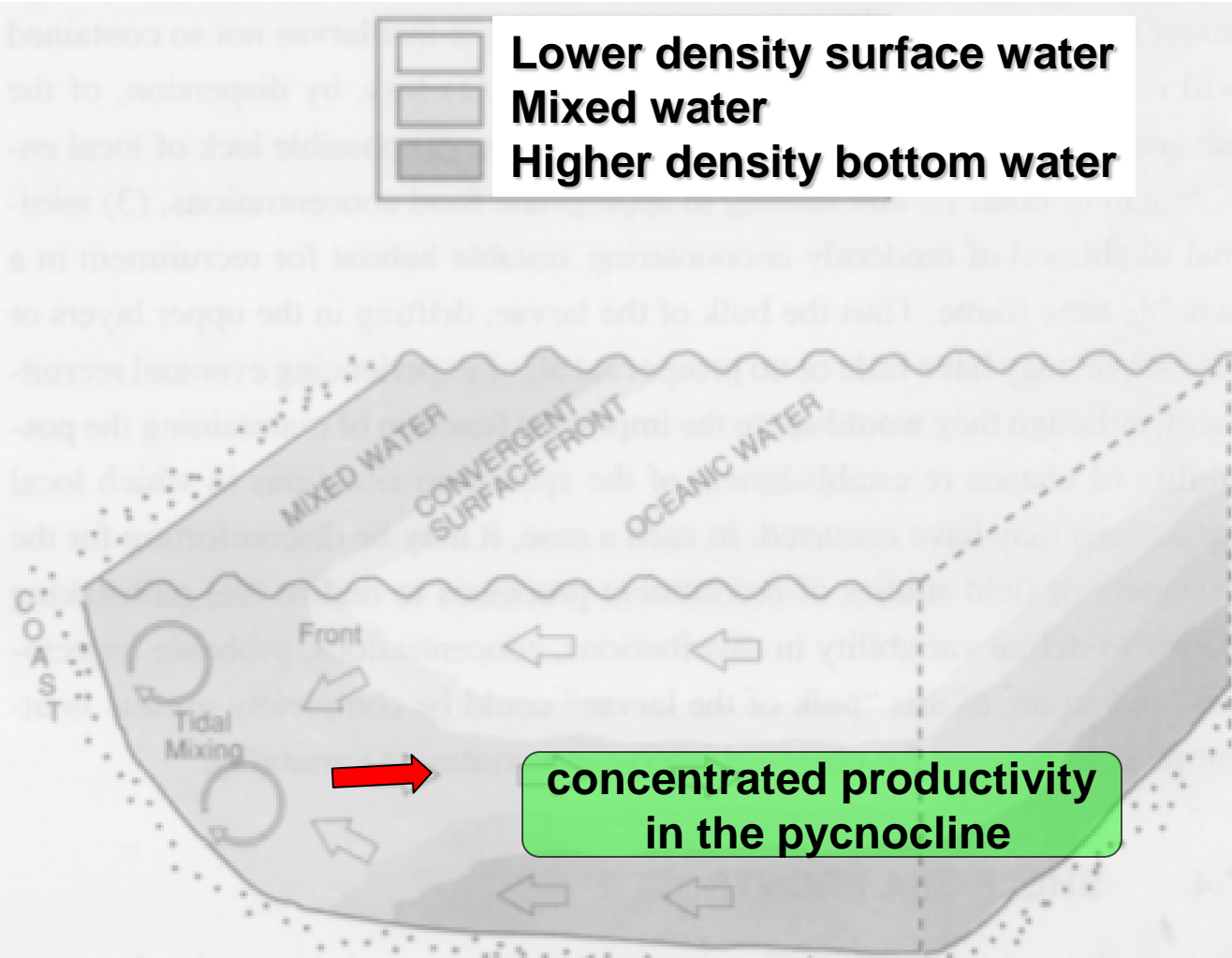
Shaded areas indicate shelf regions of the world with sufficiently strong tidal mixing for likelihood of significant development of shelf-sea fronts (Hunter and Sharp 1983)

# Shallow water, greener pastures

- Over large shallow banks and continental shelf regions of the ocean, organic matter can sink only to the depth of the shallow sea bottom.
  - Remineralization and redissolution of plant nutrients takes place much closer to, or even within, the photic zone
  - This is a major reason for the high rates of primary organic production typical of shallow seas
  - The sediment can also represent a source of iron in a bio-available (reduced) form

# Shelf-sea fronts

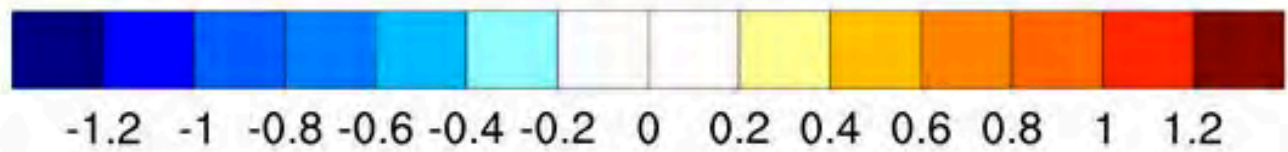
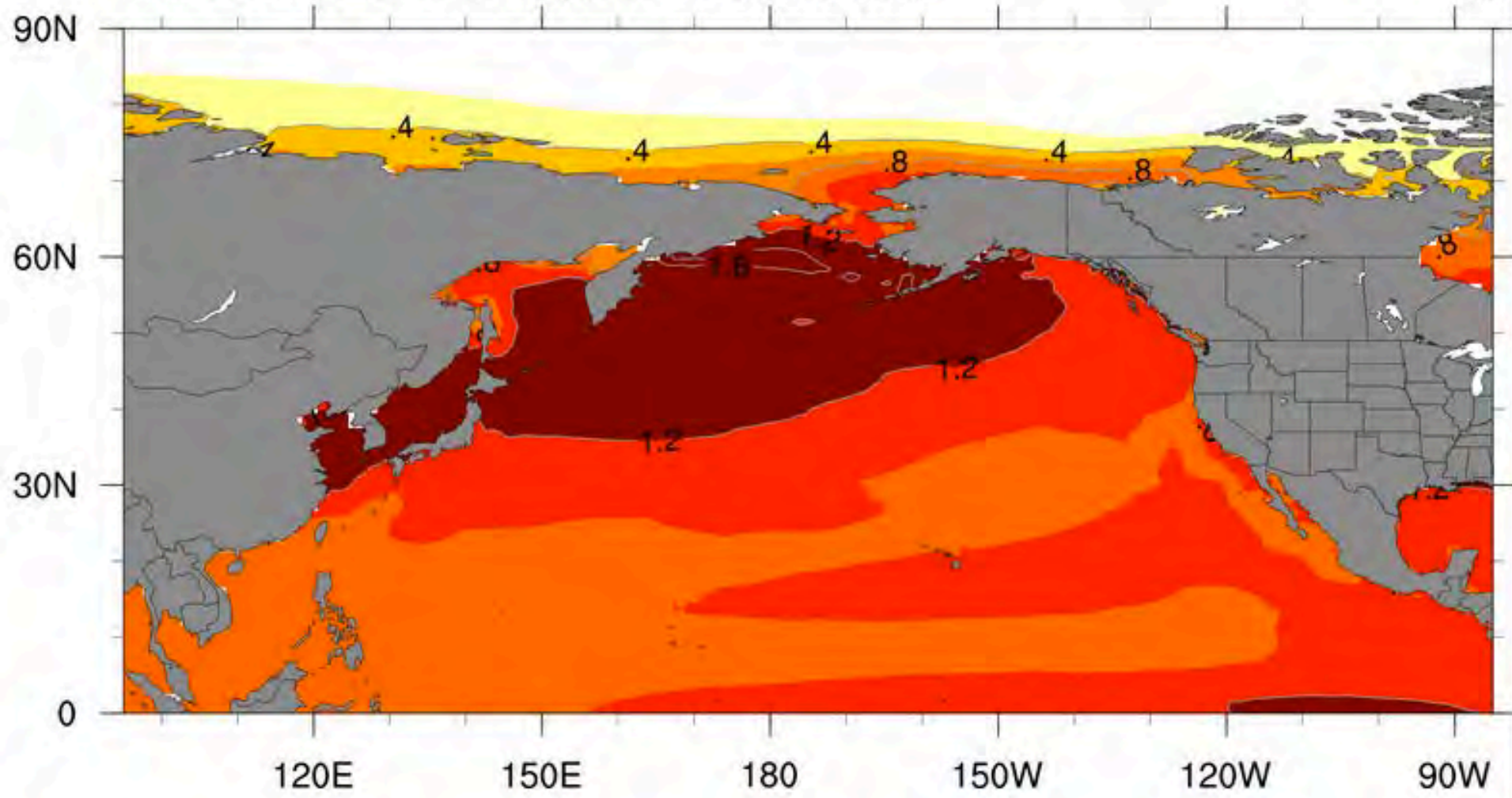
- Over shallow continental shelf regions, tidal mixing may homogenize the water from surface to bottom
- This results in surface water of greater density and bottom water of lesser density over the shelf compared with offshore waters at the same depths
  - Onshore flows in surface and bottom waters, **offshore flow at mid-depths**



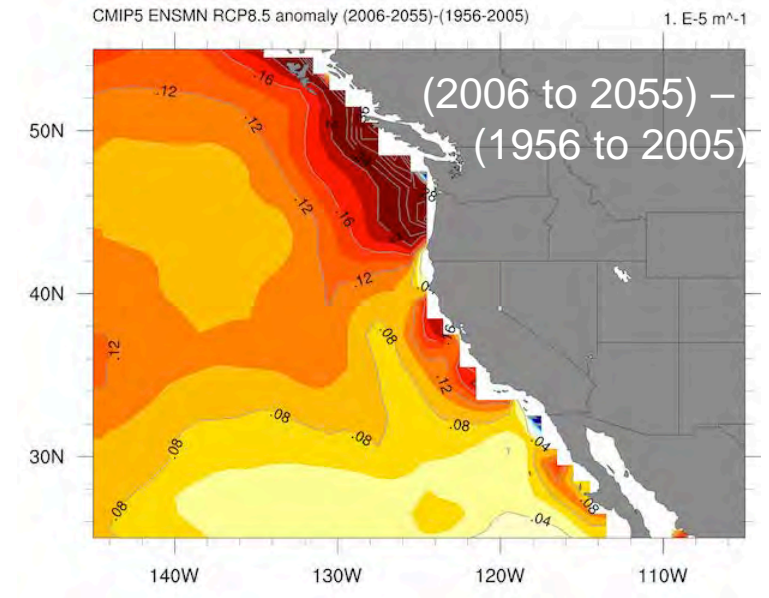
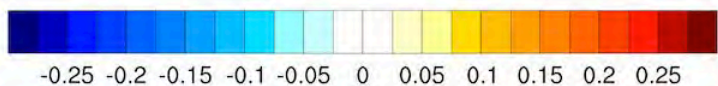
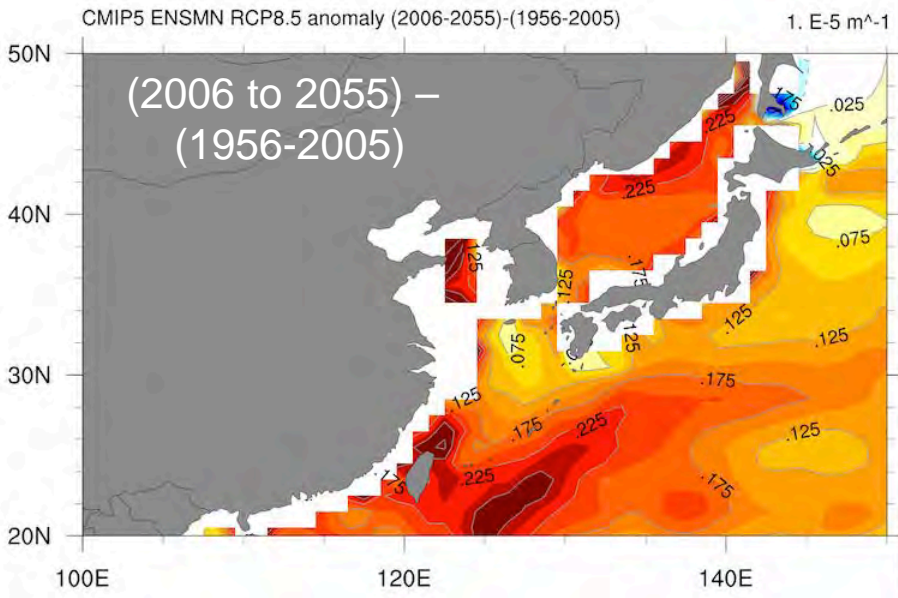
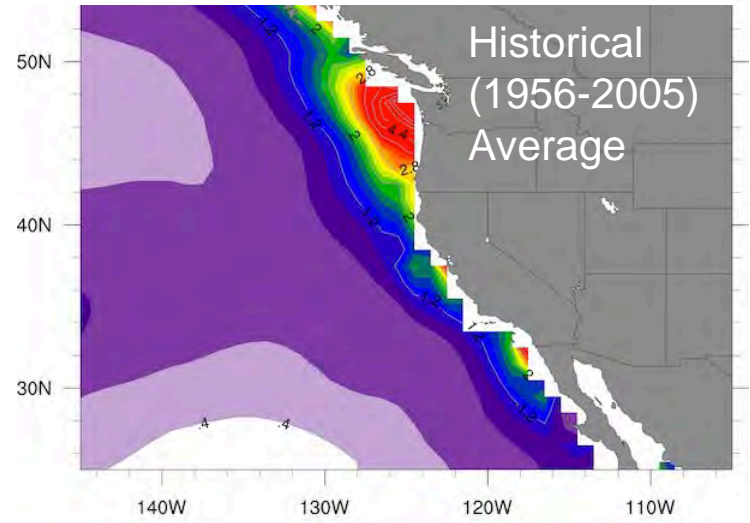
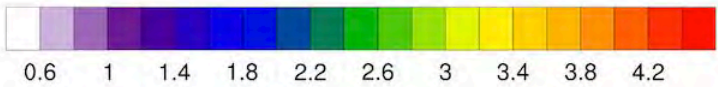
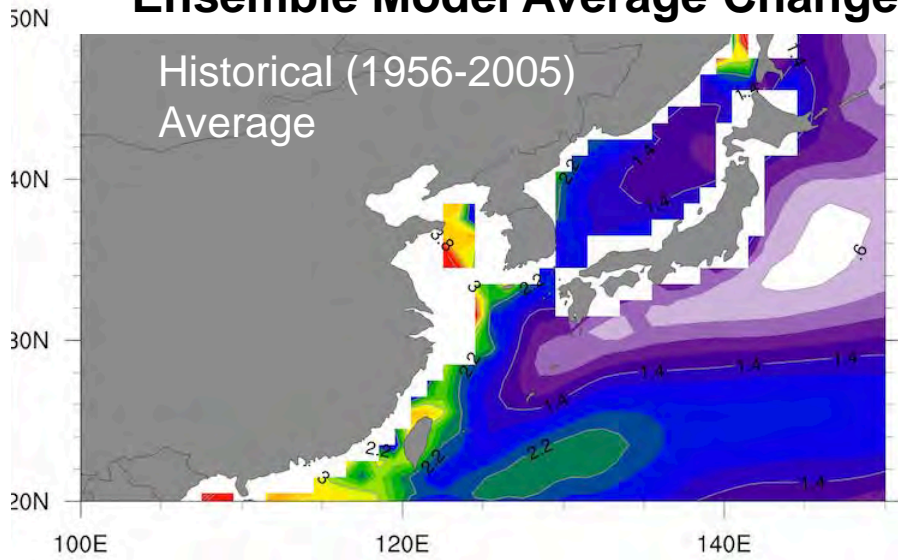
# Projected Change in SST (Ensemble Model Average)

CMIP5 ENSMN RCP8.5 anomaly (2006-2055)-(1956-2005)

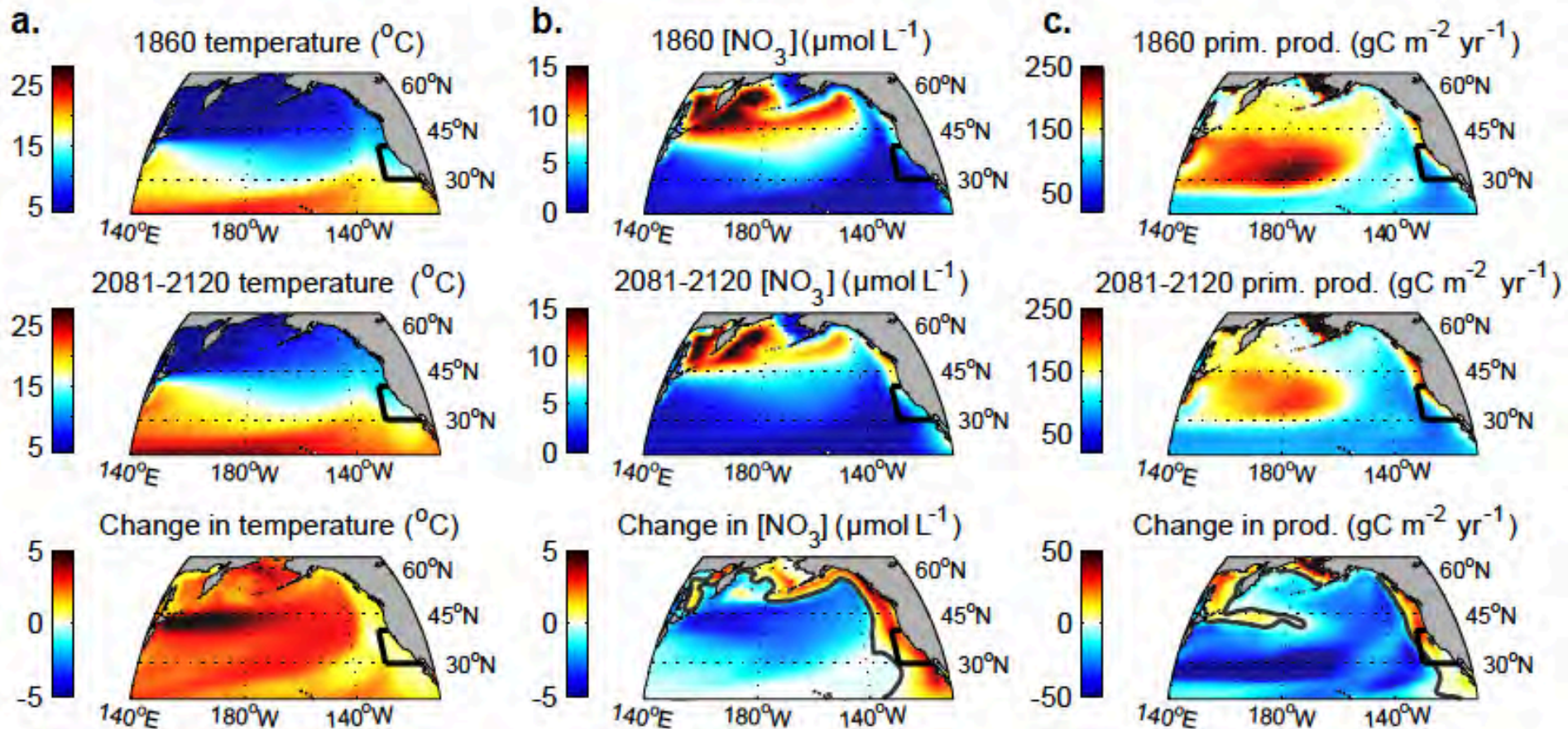
C

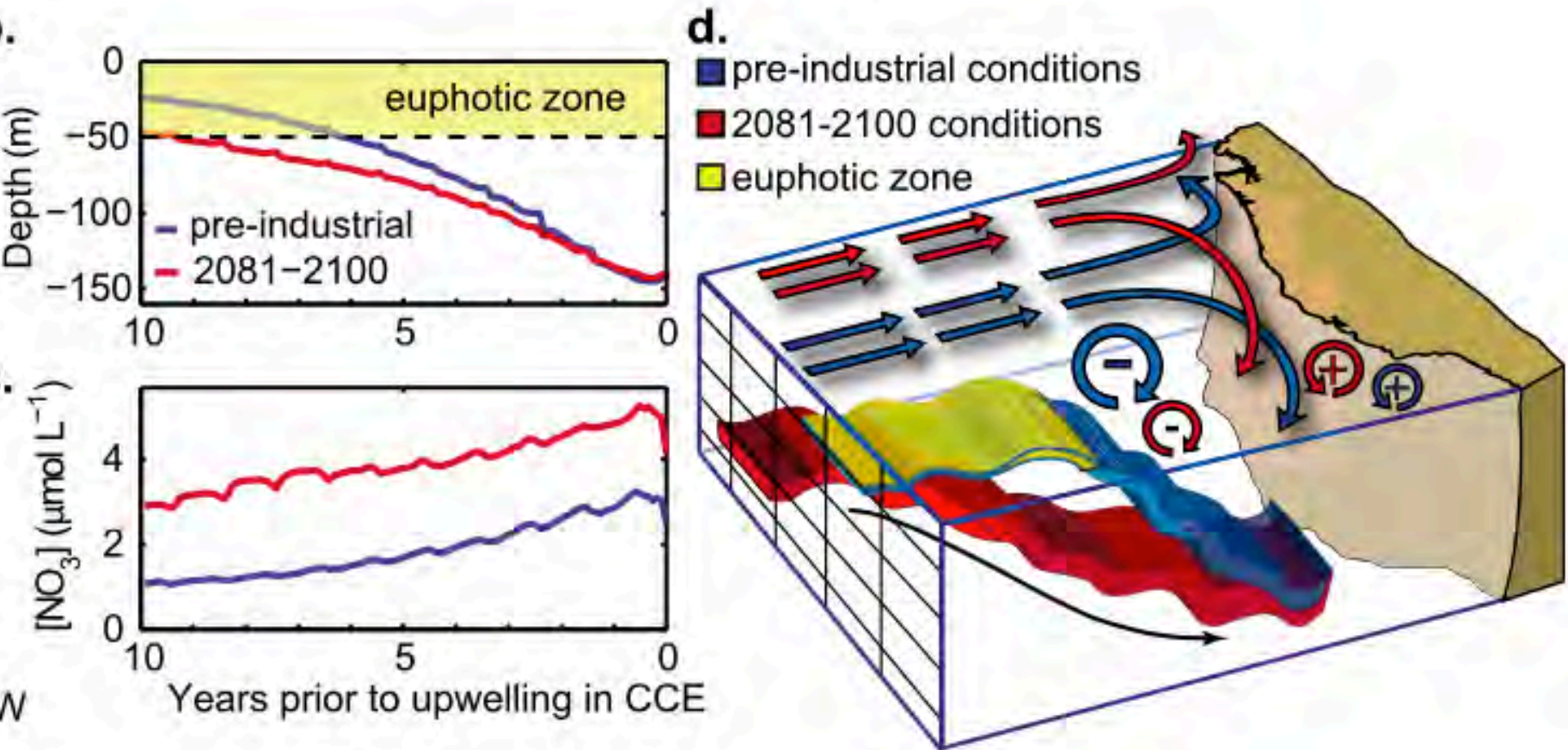


# Ensemble Model Average Change in 0-50 meter static stability (AMJ)



# Changes in Nutrient Concentrations and Primary Productivity in the North Pacific

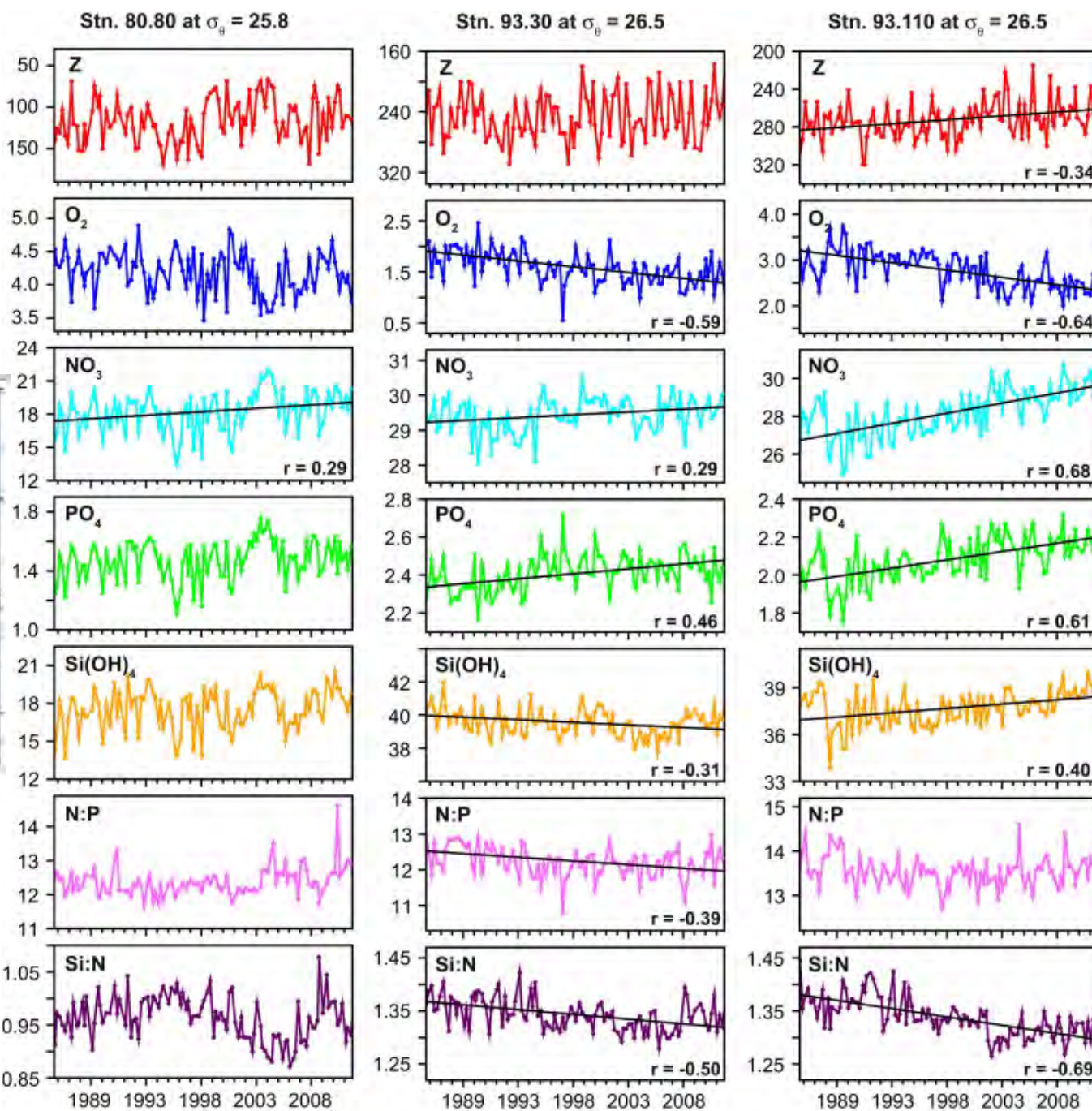
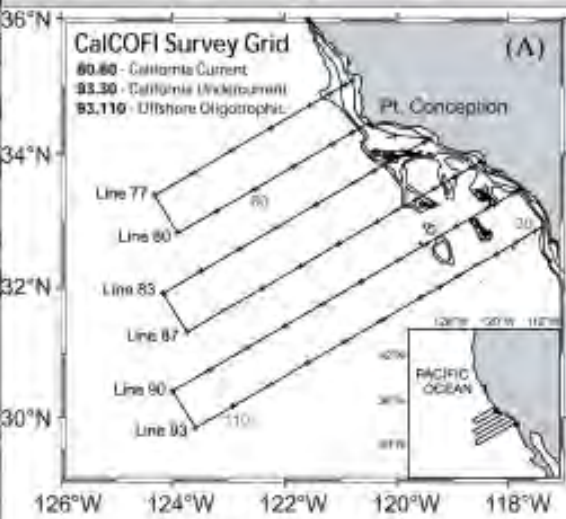




Less ventilation of waters below the mixed layer in the North Pacific leading to higher nutrient and lower oxygen concentrations along US West Coast



# Changes in Source Waters of the Southern California Bight Based on CalCOFI Time Series



# North Pacific: West vs. East Shelf Regions

## West

## East

Shelf Width	• Mostly broad	• Mostly narrow
Tidal Mixing	• Strong	• Moderate
Winter Stratification	• Well-mixed	• Weak
Summer Stratification	• High	• Moderate
Source Surface H <sub>2</sub> O	• Mostly from south	• From west
Source Deep H <sub>2</sub> O	• Kuroshio (winter)	• Coastal upwelling (summer)
Si:Nitrate Ratio	• High	• Moderate
Iron Concentration	• High (sediments & dust)	• Low (sediments)
Future Stratification	• Higher	• Higher
Future Primary Prod.	• Probably lower	• Maybe higher
Future Chemistry	• ???	• Lower pH, O <sub>2</sub>