



PACIFIC SALMON  
FOUNDATION



INTERNATIONAL  
YEAR OF THE SALMON



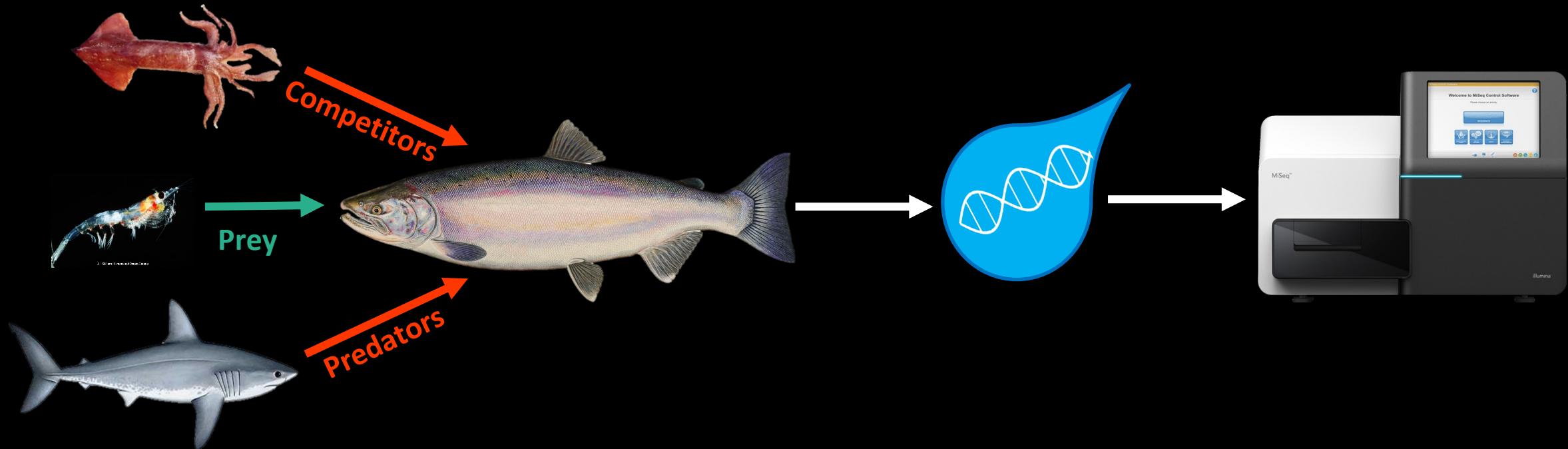
*Entering the next dimension: Combining continuous  
eDNA, hydroacoustic, and oceanographic sampling to  
deciphering open ocean ecosystem structure*



2022 IYS Synthesis Symposium

Christoph Deeg, Brandon Chasco, Jarrod Santora, Brian Wells, Abigail Wells, Robert  
Saunders, Brian Dykeman, Andrew Bateman, and Kristina Miller

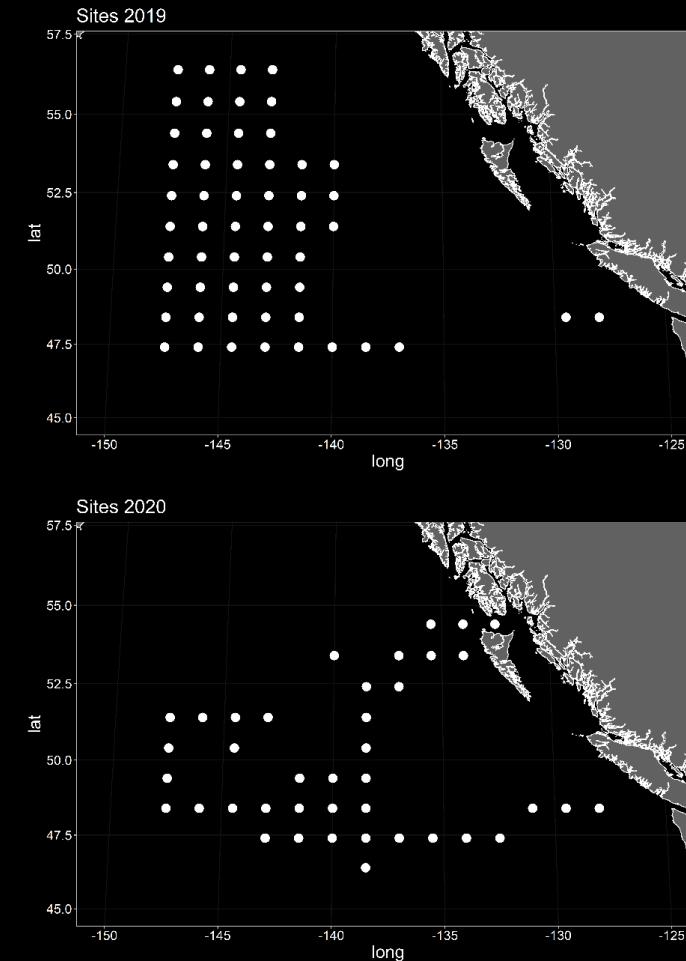
# Illuminating the black box with Environmental (e)DNA



What is the **environment** like for salmon?  
eDNA survey of the winter salmonosphere

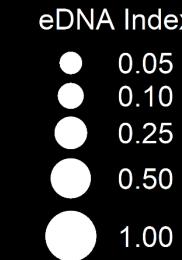
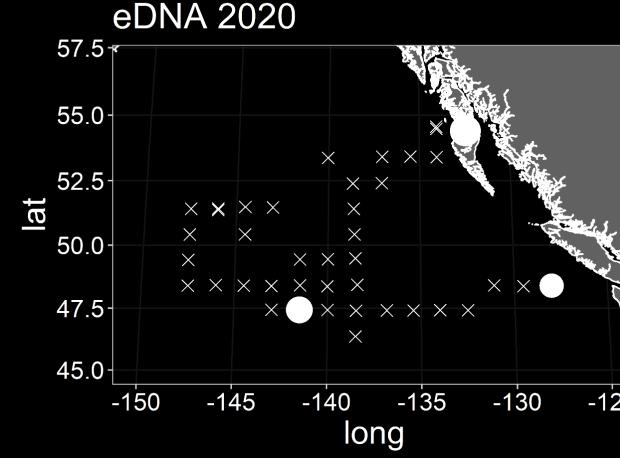
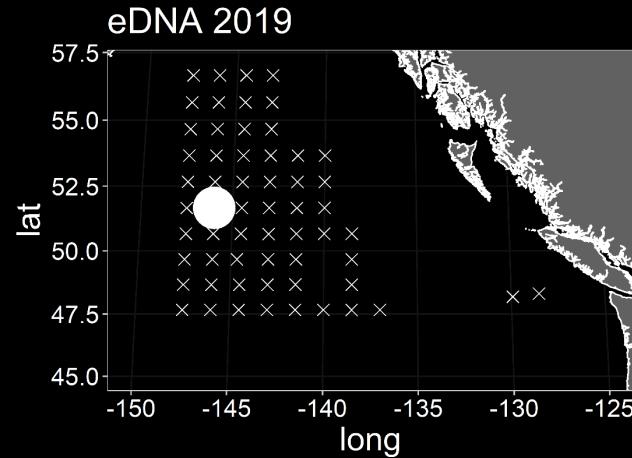
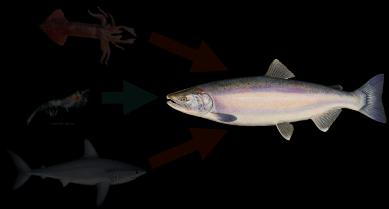


# 2019-2020 IYS GoA expeditions

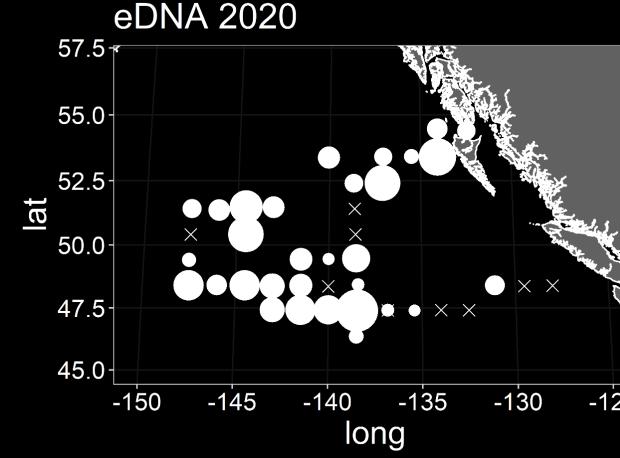
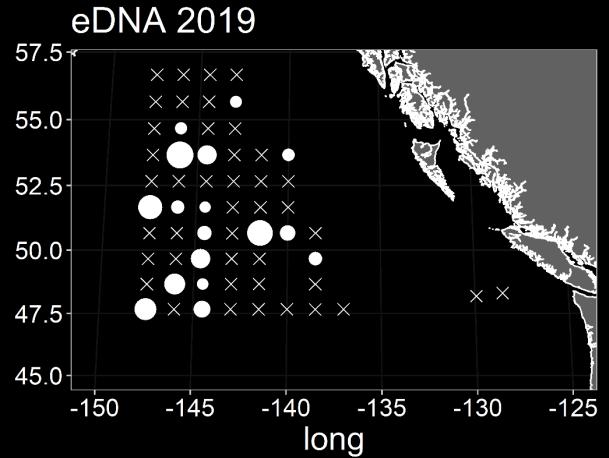




# Gulf of Alaska eDNA: Salmon



**Chinook salmon**  
(*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*)

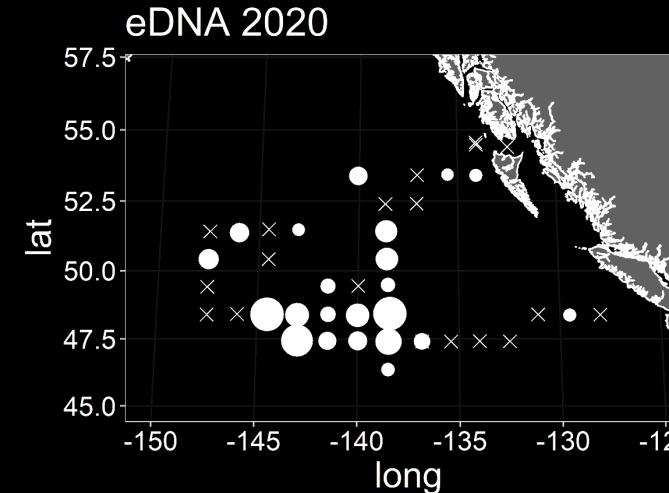
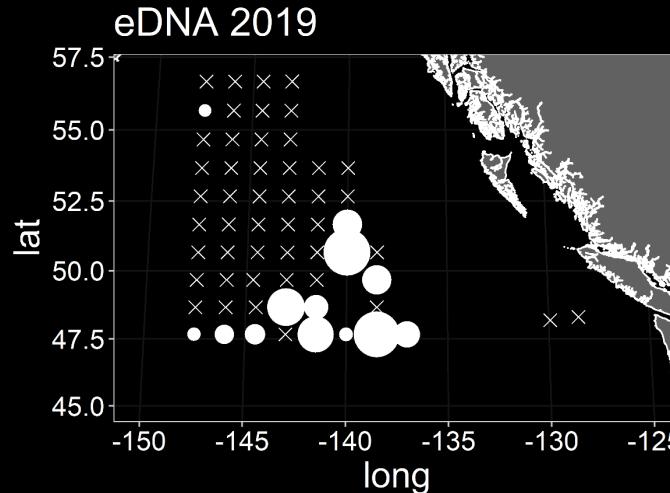
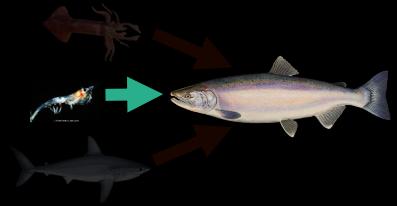


**Pink salmon** (*Oncorhynchus keta*)

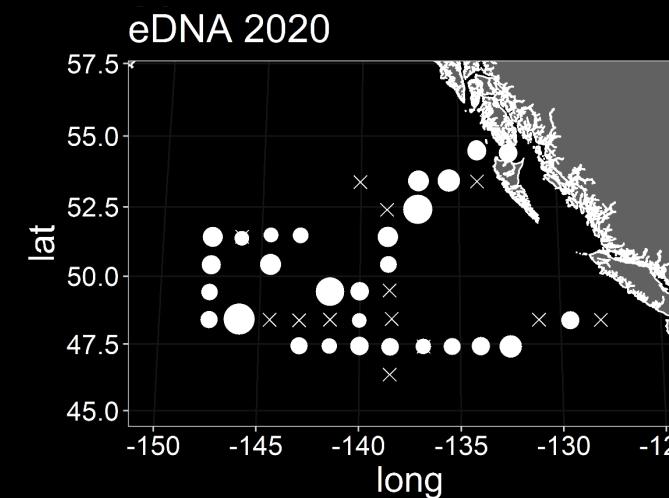
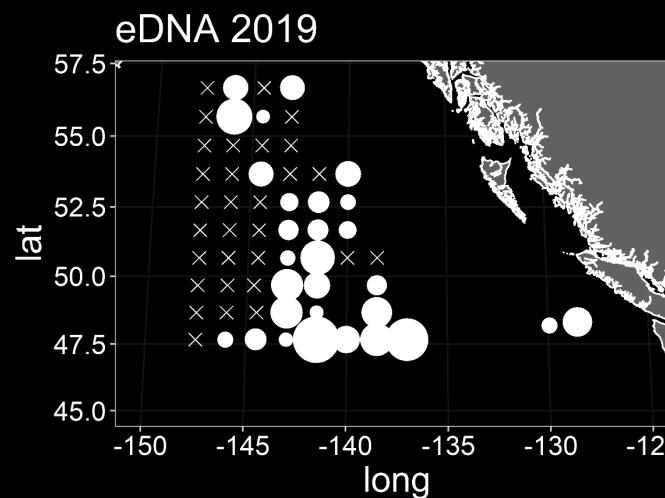




# Gulf of Alaska eDNA: Prey



***Mesocalanus tenuicornis***



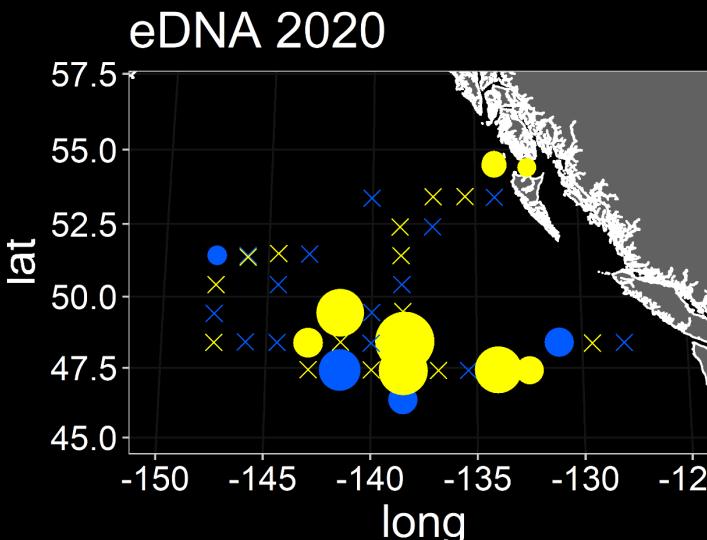
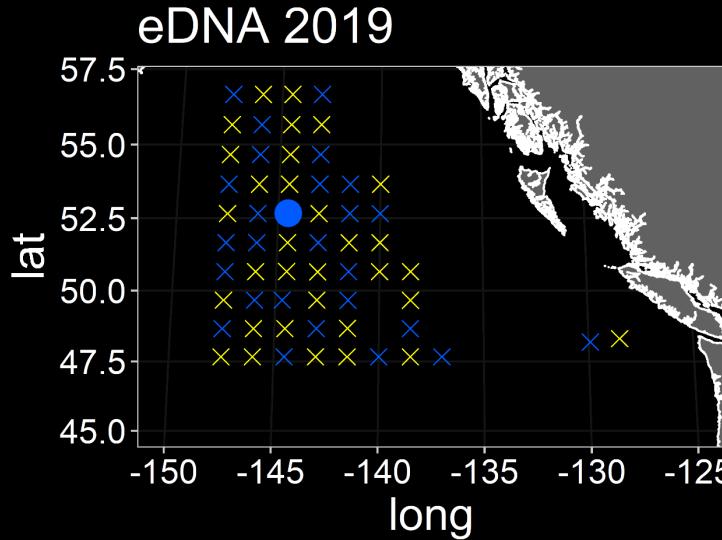
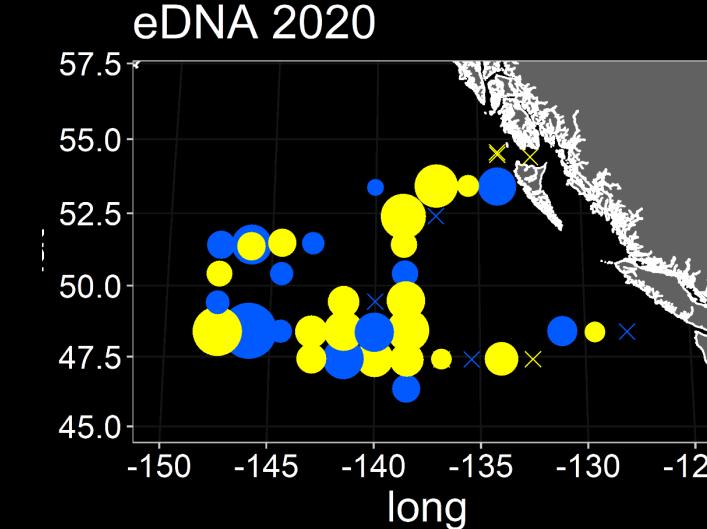
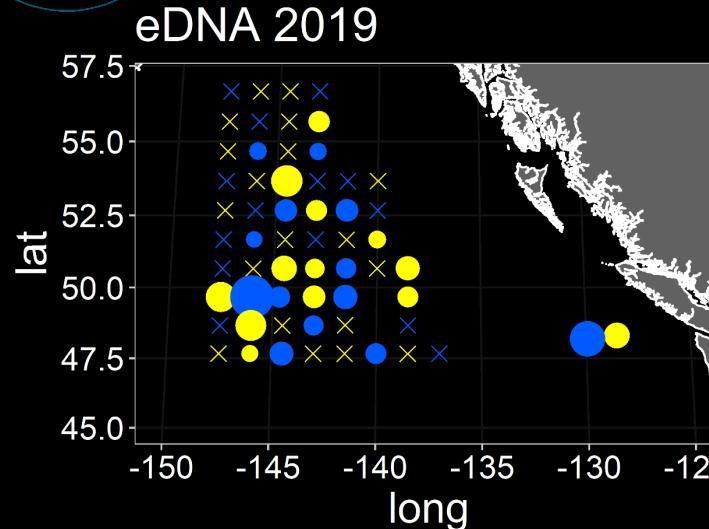
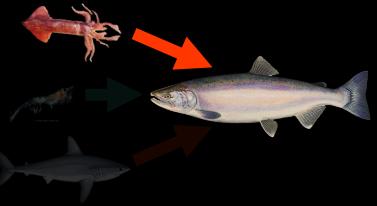
***Mesocalanus tenuicornis***



***Paraeuchaeta spp.***



# Gulf of Alaska eDNA: Competitors

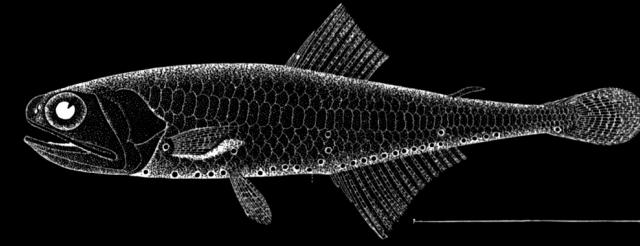


eDNA Index

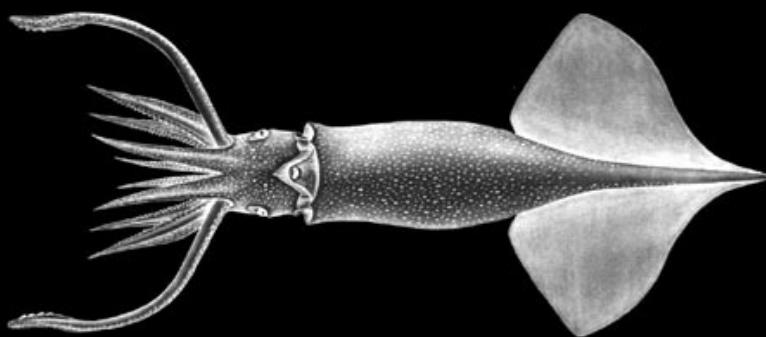
- 0.05
- 0.10
- 0.25
- 0.50
- 1.00

Time

- Day
- Night



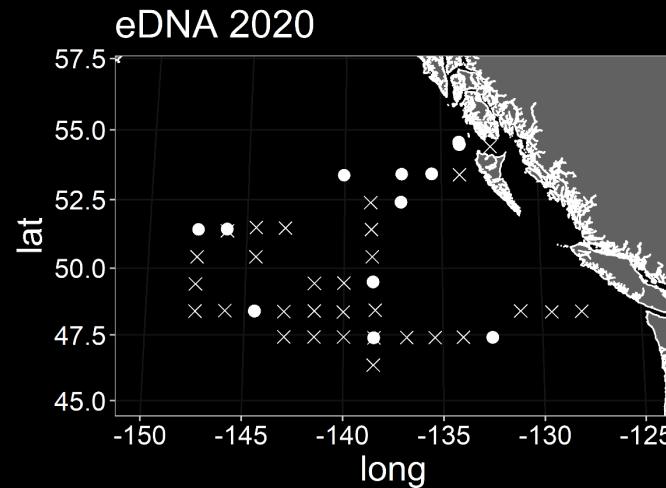
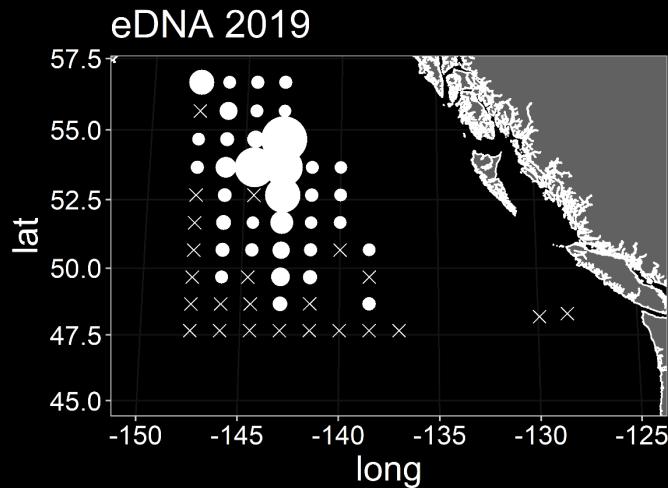
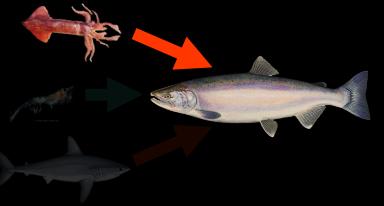
**Blue lanternfish**  
(*Tarletonbeania crenularis*)



**Boreal clubhook squid**  
(*Onychoteuthis borealis japonica*)



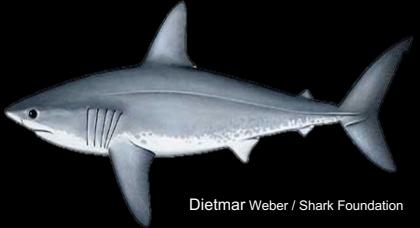
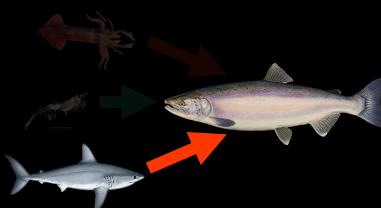
# Gulf of Alaska eDNA: Competitors?



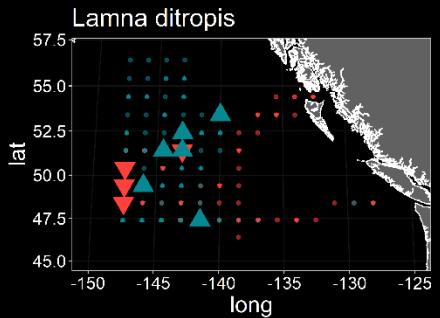
*Chrysaora melanaster*



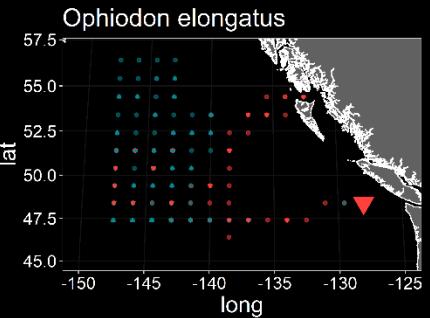
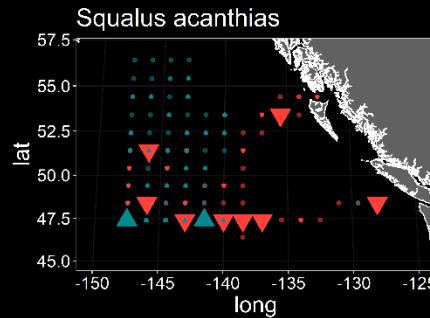
# Gulf of Alaska eDNA: Predators



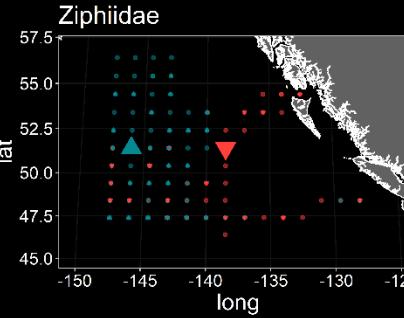
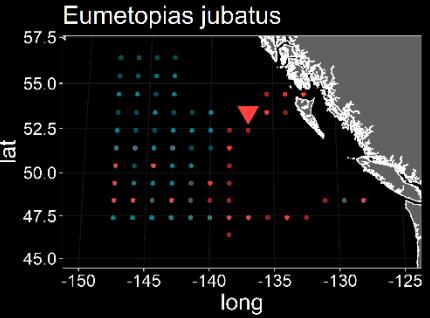
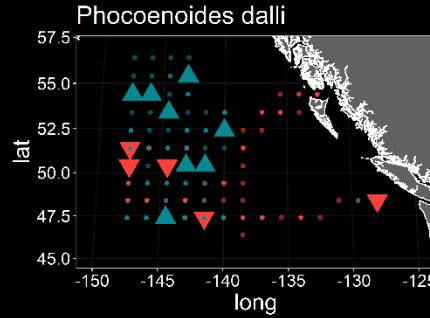
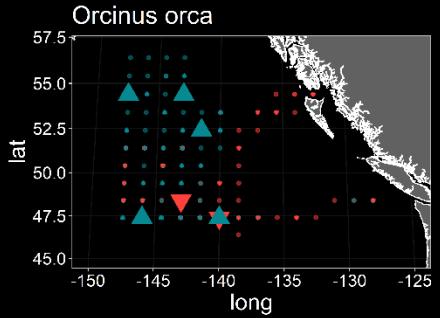
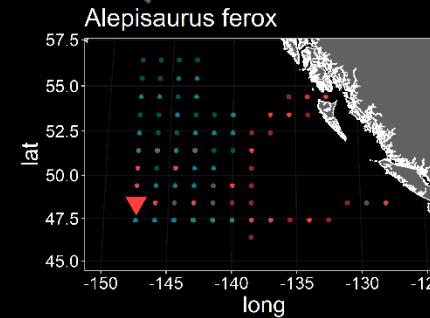
Dietmar Weber / Shark Foundation



fishwatch.gov/phido



efishalbum.com



Uko Gorter



<http://cetus.ucsd.edu/>

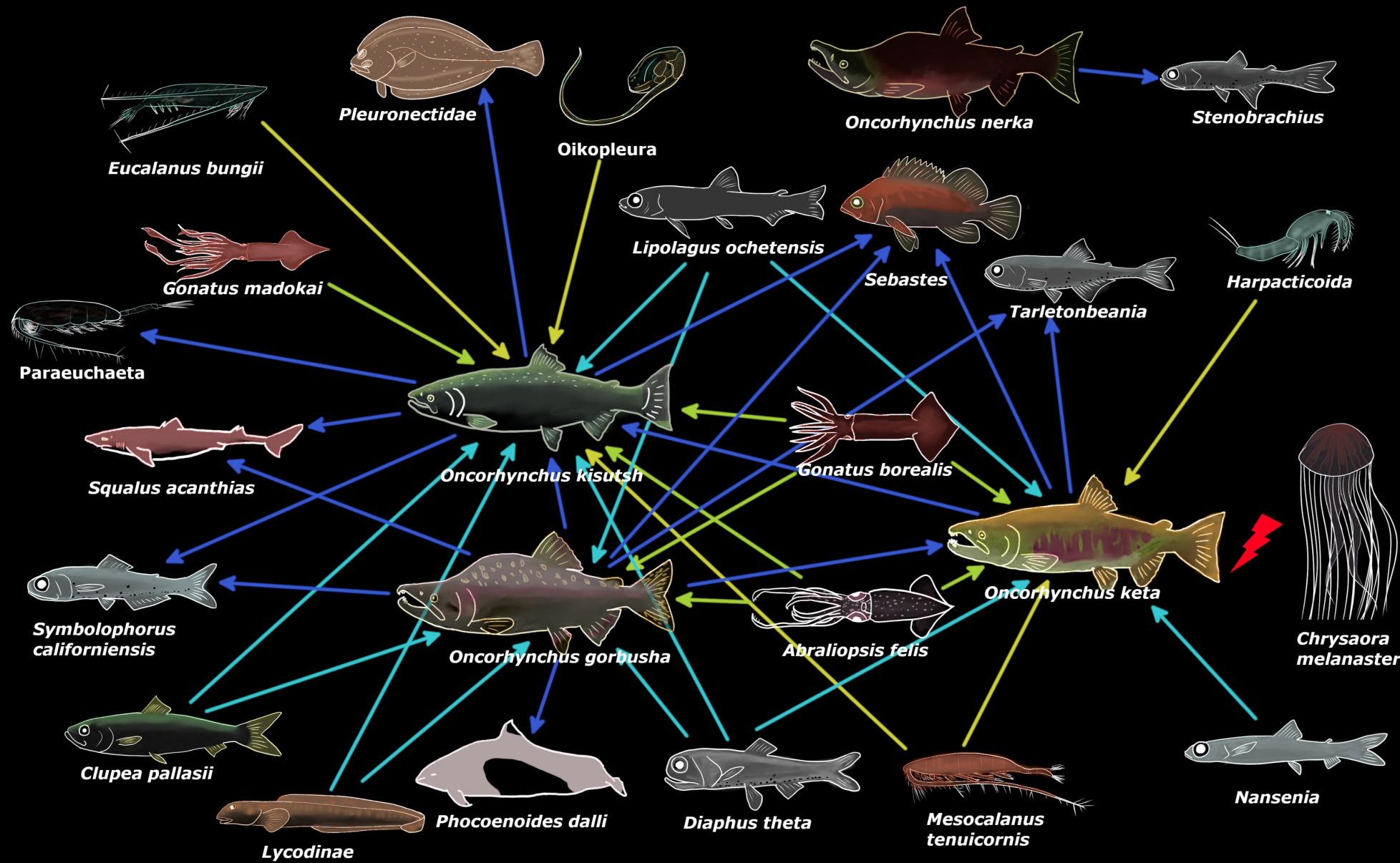
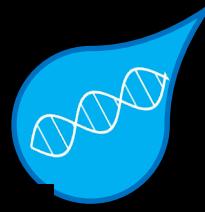


NOAA



▼ 2019  
▲ 2020

# GoA eDNA Co-occurrence Network

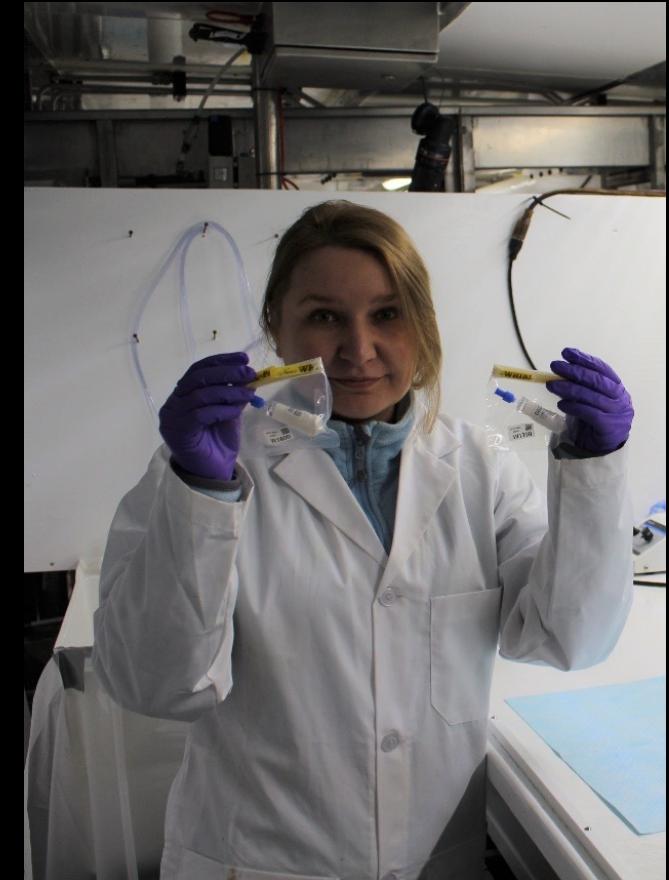




# 2019-2020 IYS GoA expeditions



- Subsurface 2L grab sample
    - Niskin -> Whirlpak
    - 0.22µm Sterivex
- Spatiotemporal snapshot**

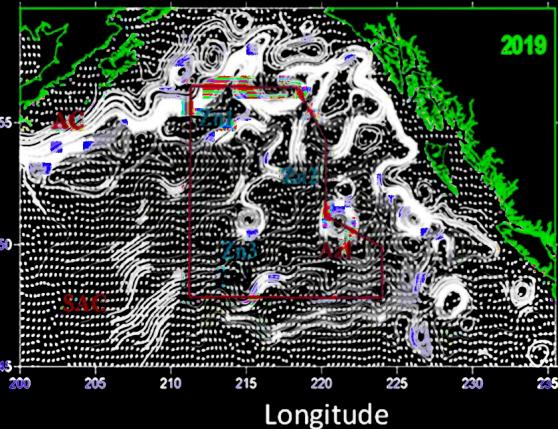




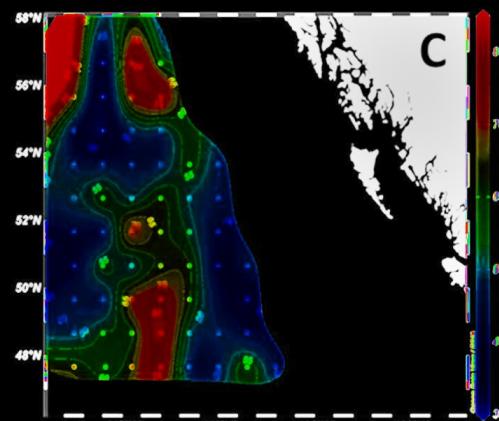
# Spatiotemporal snapshot -> Patchy data

2019

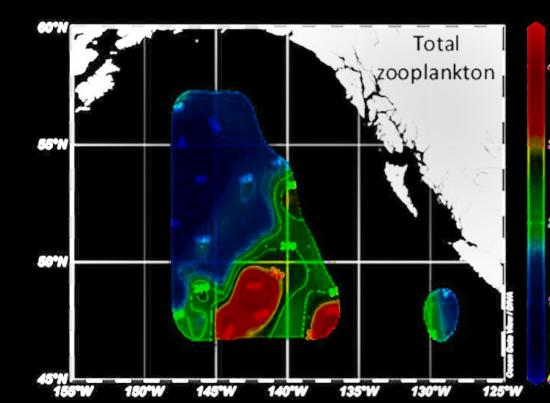
Surface currents



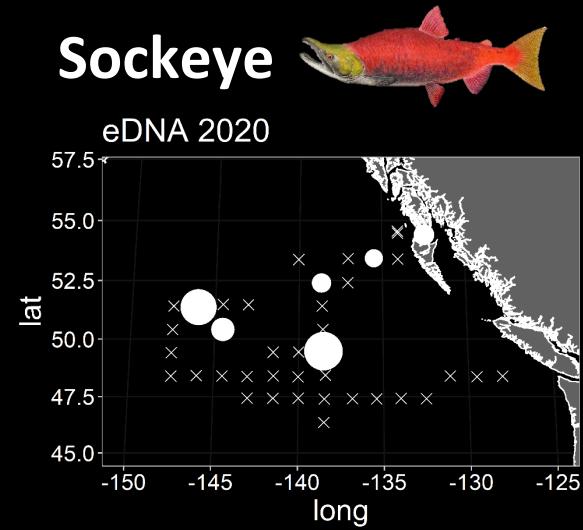
Chlorophyll



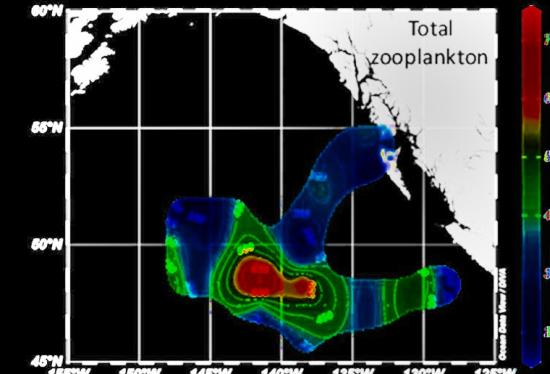
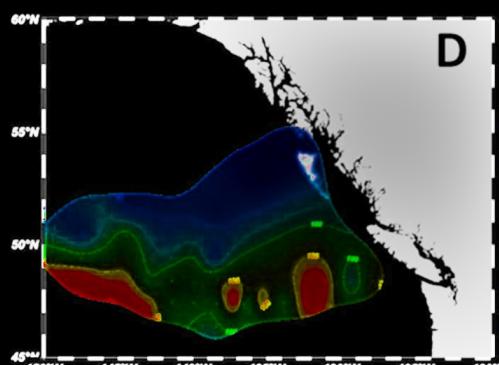
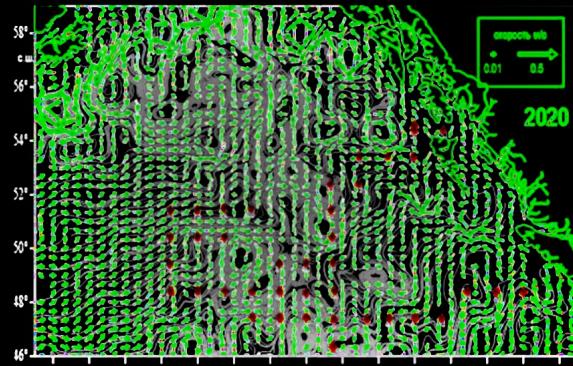
Zooplankton



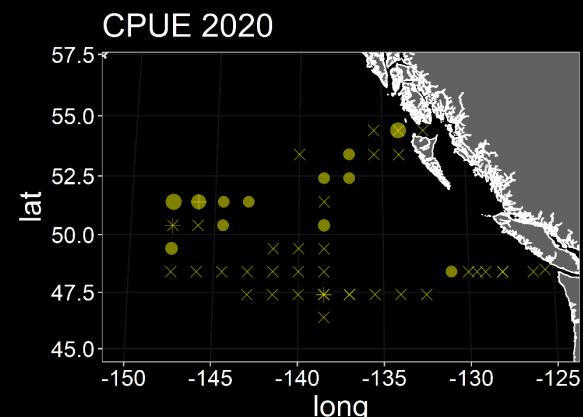
Sockeye



2020

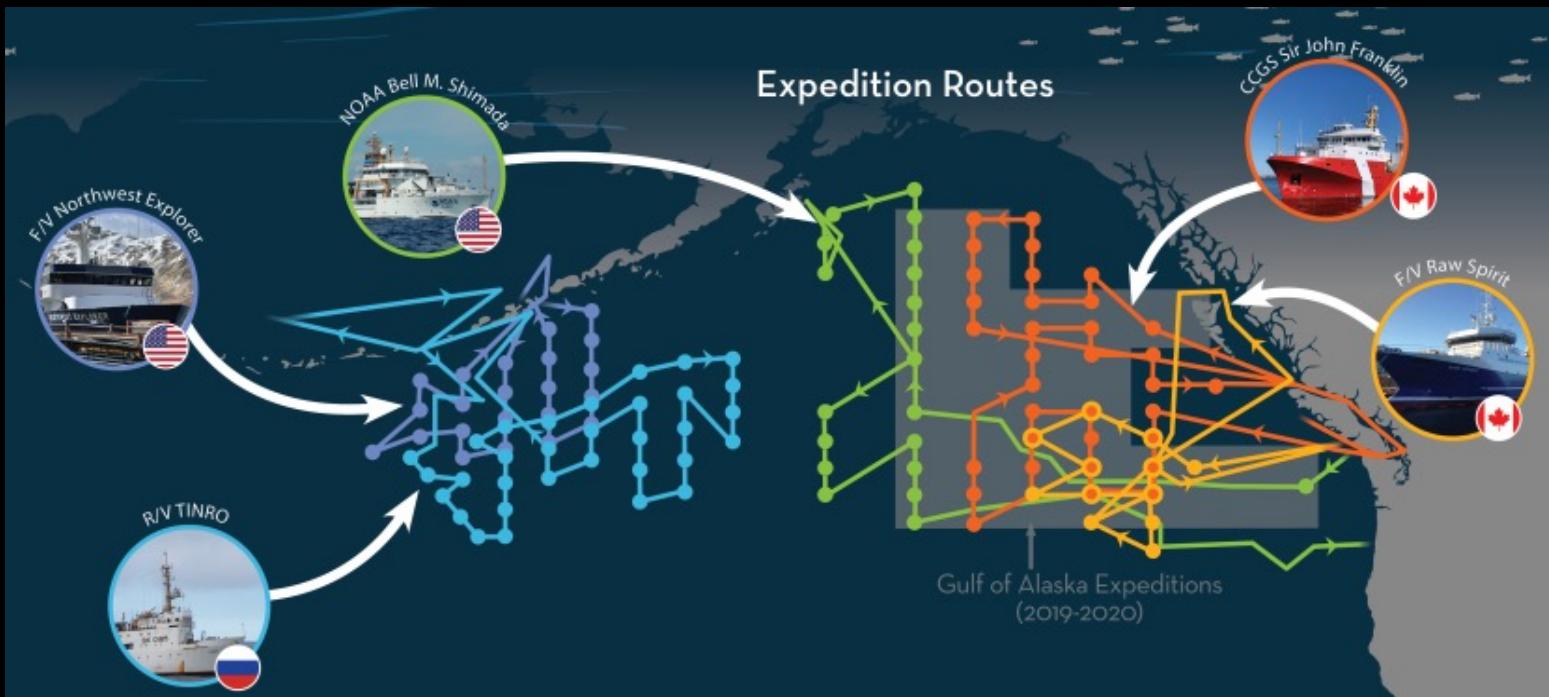


CPUE 2020





# 2022 IYS Pan Pacific expedition

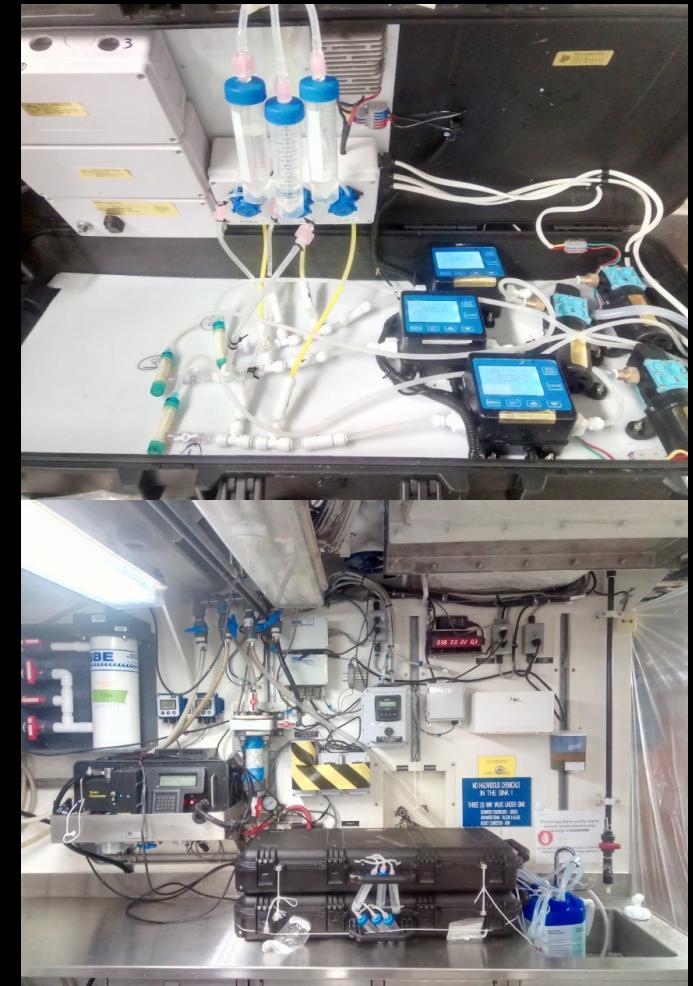
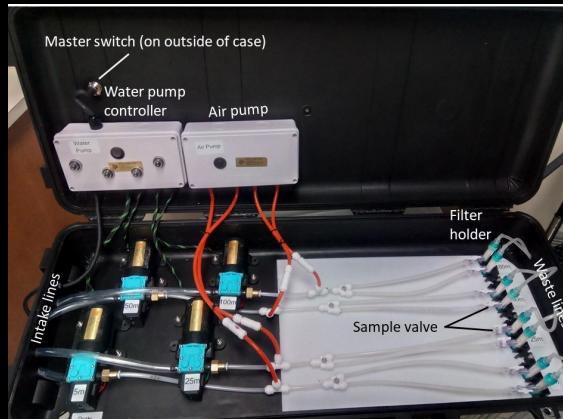


**Goal: Increase  
spatiotemporal  
resolution to  
reveal seascape  
structure**



# 2022 IYS: eDNA sampling

- Hollow membrane filters -> 5L
- Simultaneous on-site Niskin sampling
  - 5m, 25m, 50m, 100m
- Automatic continuous flowthrough transect sampling





# 2022 IYS: Continuous flowthrough eDNA sampling

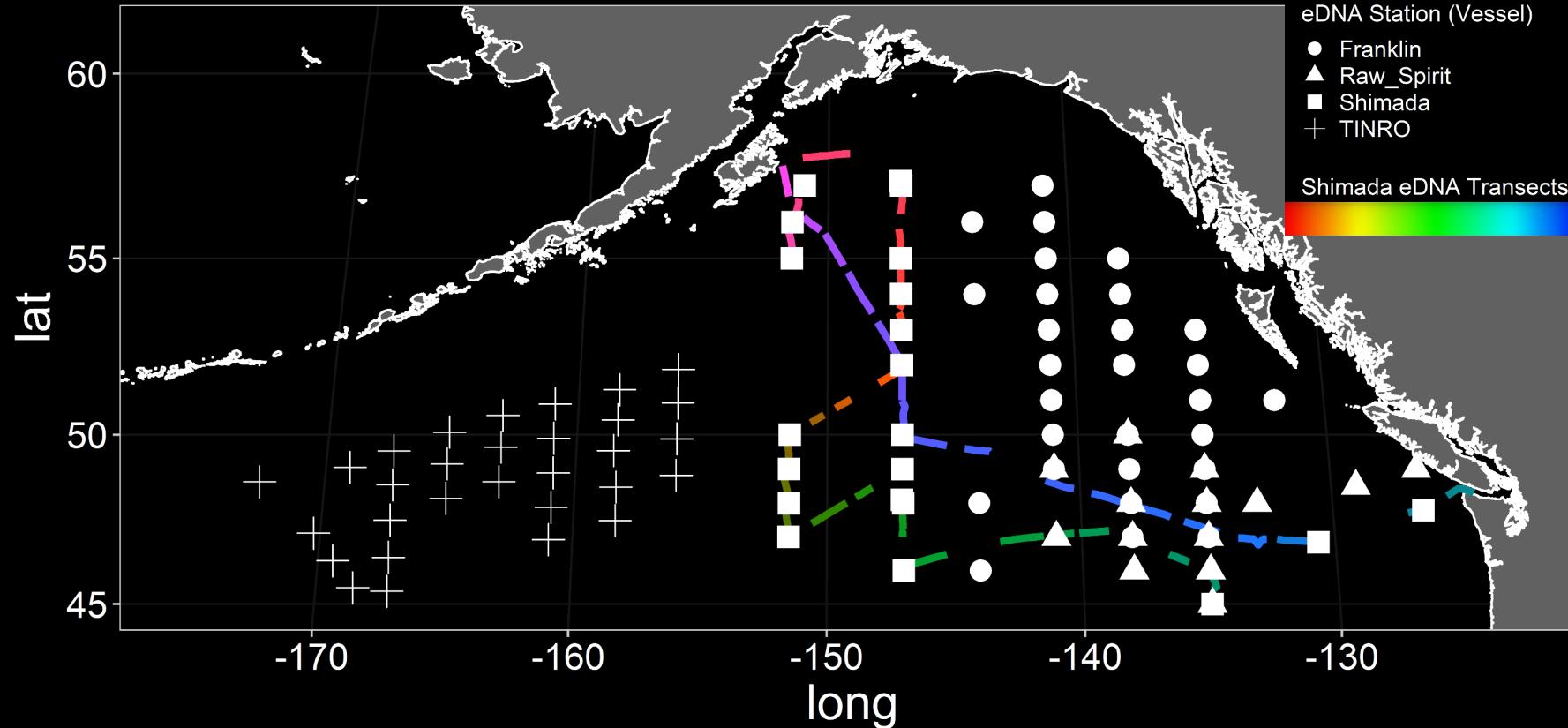


- Automatic transect eDNA sampling
  - 6x1h
  - 5-10L/h
  - **5-18 km resolution!**
- Synoptically collected
  - Flowthrough
    - Thermosalinograph
    - Chla
  - Hydroacoustics
    - 18, 38, 70, 120, 200 kHz





# IYS 2022: eDNA sampling



101 stations -> ~2.2 million km<sup>2</sup> @ 4 depths

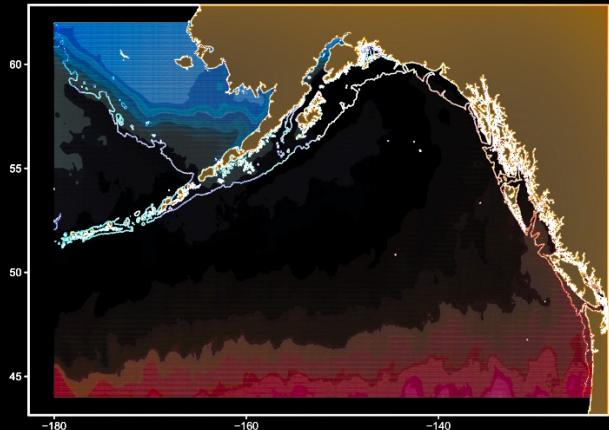
260 transect samples -> 6000 km @ 10km resolution



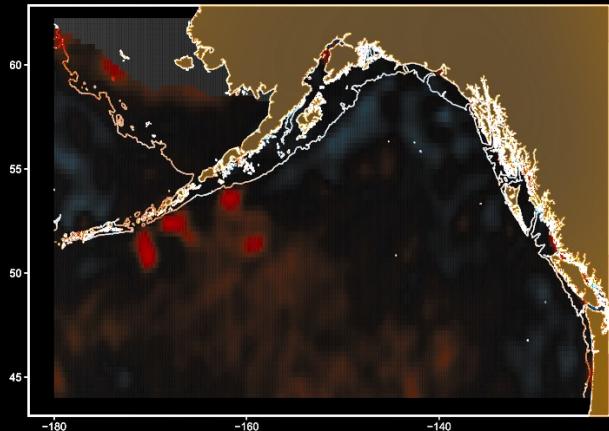
# Better together: eDNA and Hydroacoustics

- eDNA: Species ID
- Hydroacoustics: Quantification
- High resolution oceanographic data:  
Environment
- Hypothesis: **Species abundance and community composition are associated with mesoscale oceanographic features**
  - Eddies
  - Gyres
  - Currents

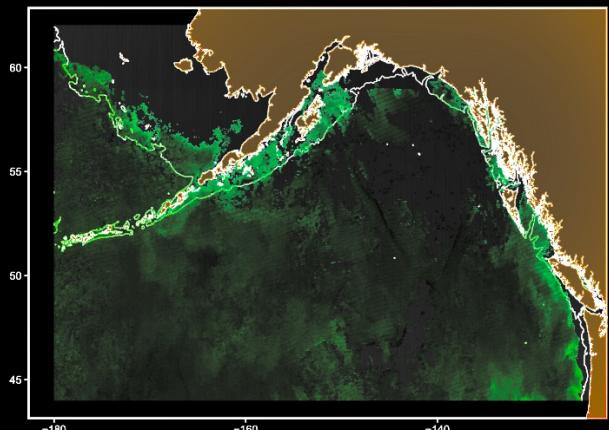
SST



SLA

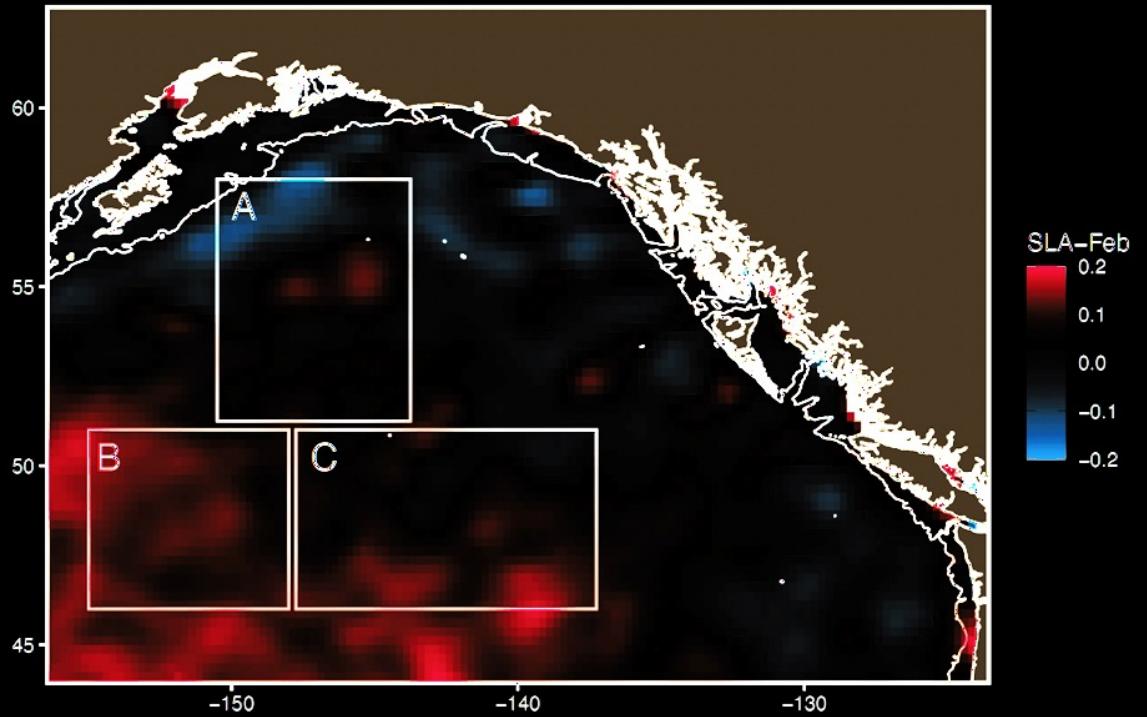


Chla





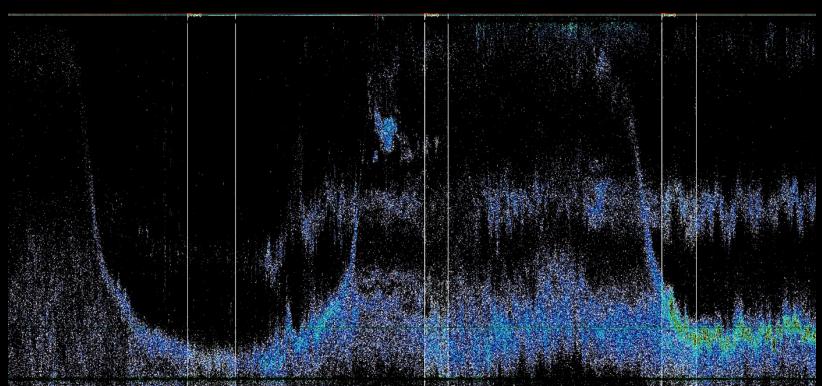
# 2022 Transect Hydroacoustics



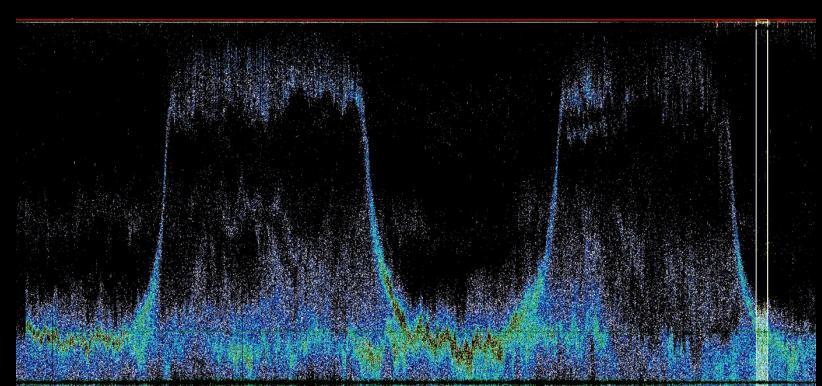
A



B



C

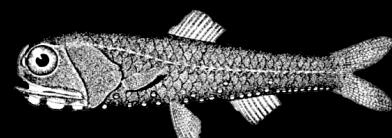
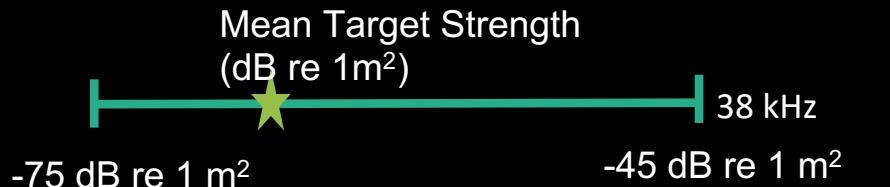


Brandon Chasco, Jarrod Santora, Brian Wells

-75 dB to -35 dB @38 kHz



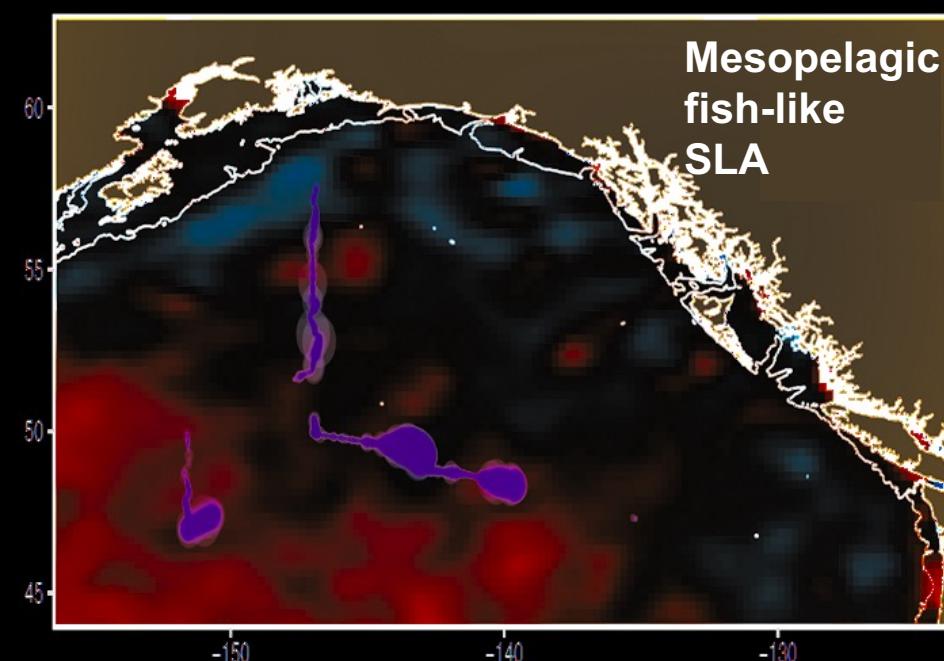
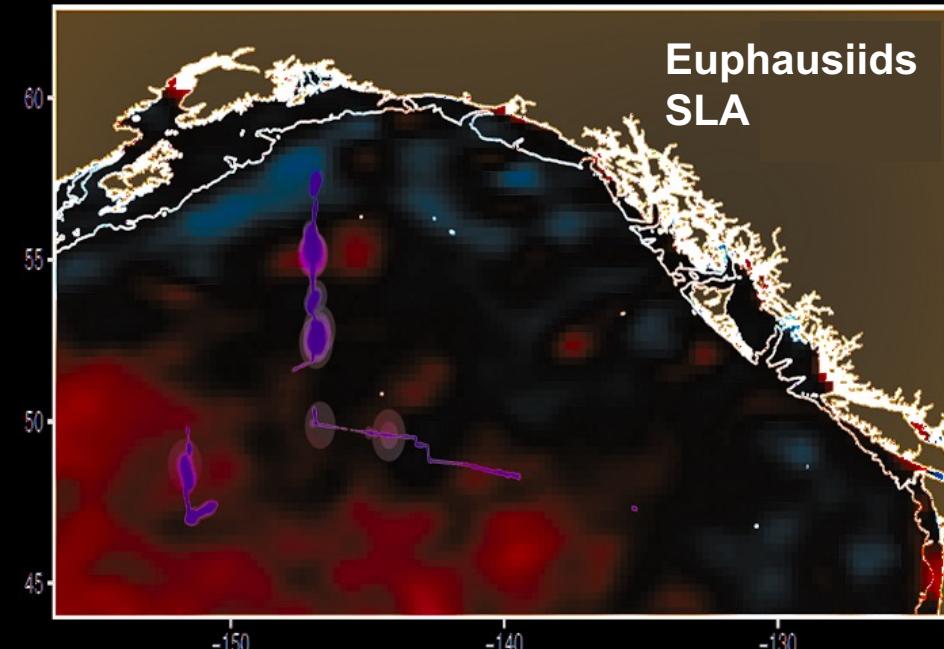
# 2022 Transect Hydroacoustics



9m to 350m vertical bin

0.5nm horizontal bin

Brandon Chasco, Jarrod Santora, Brian Wells





# Next steps towards hypothesis testing

- Sequence eDNA samples for species ID
  - Zooplankton (12S/COI/16S)
  - Teleosts(12S)
  - Chordates (16S)
  - Cephalopods (16S)
  - Salmonids (COI)
- Refine Hydroacoustics
- Combine with physical and biological Oceanographic data

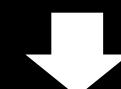
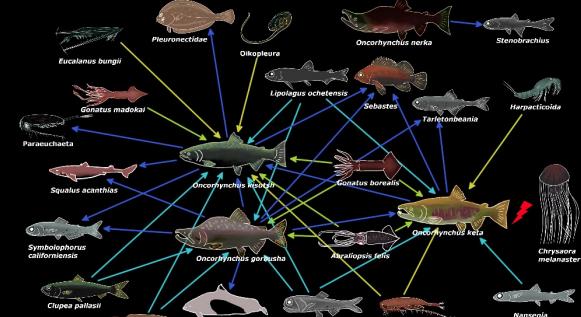
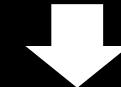
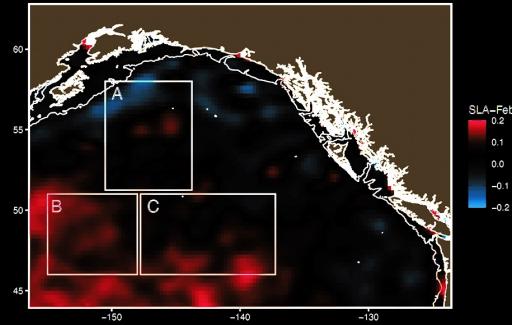


eDNA extraction system



# Goals

- Describe meso- and macro-scale ecosystem structure and function
- Identify biophysical features associated with hotspots of biological activity
  - Impacts on salmon ocean survival?
  - Targets for remote sensing?



# Thank you!



- [Shaorong Li](#)
- Svetlana Esenkulova
- Brian Hunt
- Angela Schulze
- Chelsea Stanley
- Cynthia Wright
- Valeria Soshnina
- Nick Ens
- Christopher Tam

