Plankton dynamics of flood plain lakes in the lower Columbia River

Tawnya D. Peterson

Oregon Health & Science University

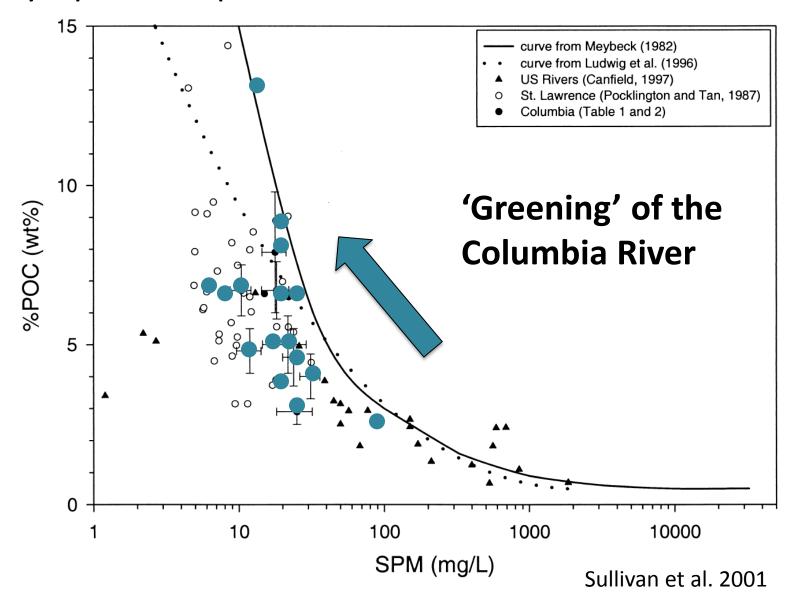




Topics

- Context
 - Greening of the Columbia River
 - Contribution of plankton to juvenile salmon diet
- Observations from Columbia River Ecosystem Monitoring Program
 - Phytoplankton
 - zooplankton
- Seasonal changes in water quality and organic matter production in shallow water habitats

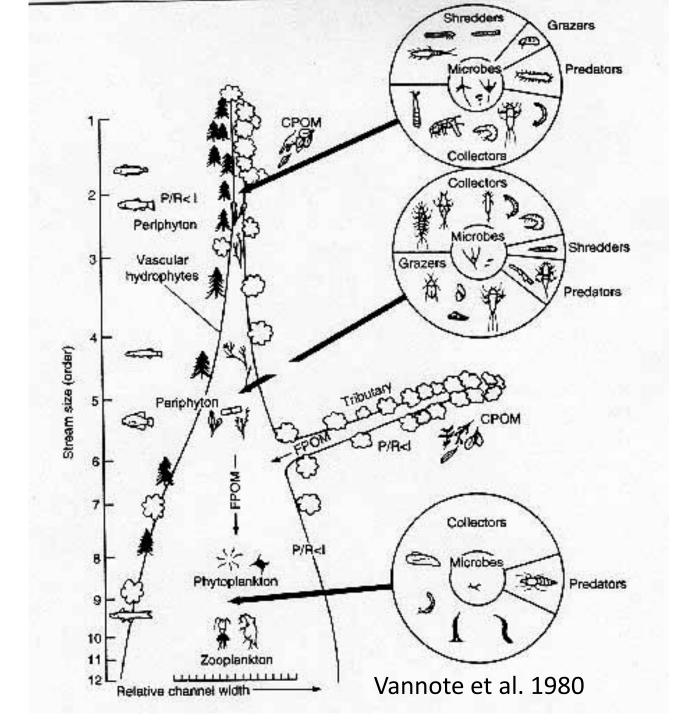
Impoundments behind dams have increased fluvial phytoplankton production



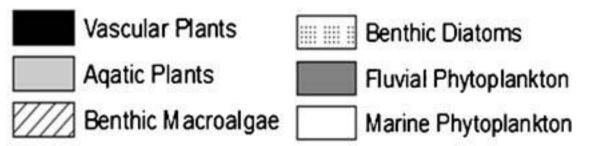
The River Continuum Concept

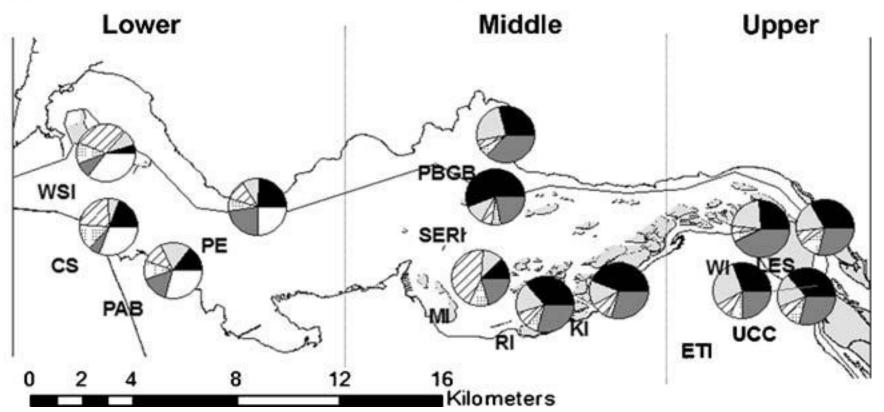
Fluvial
phytoplankton =
single celled
primary
producers

- Organic matter production → food webs
- Water quality
 → DO, pH

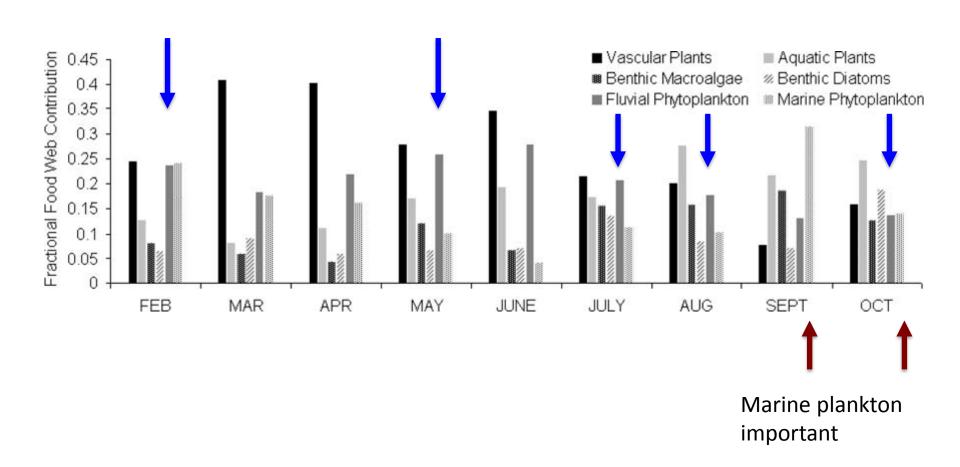


Detrital Sources

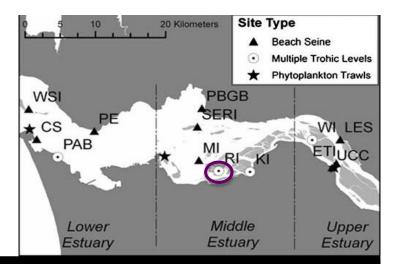




Contribution of detrital sources assimilated by juvenile Chinook salmon

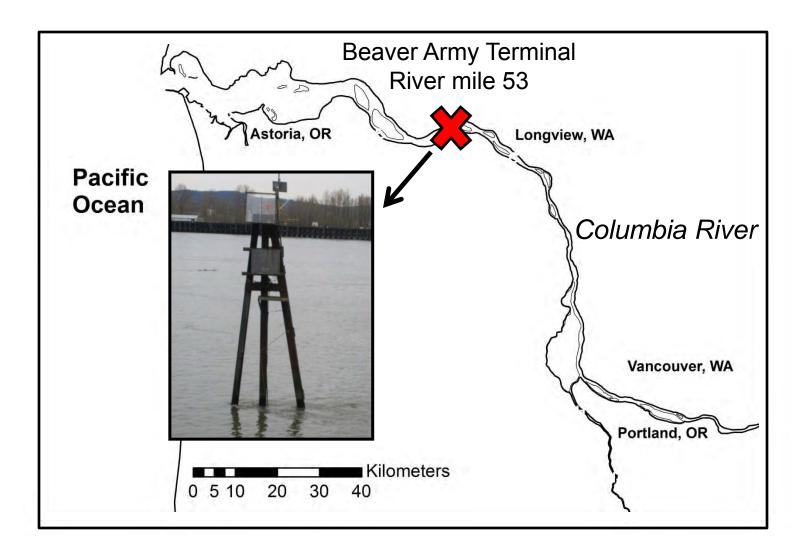


Based on stable isotope model, salmon **prey** depend on fluvial phytoplankton in early-mid spring

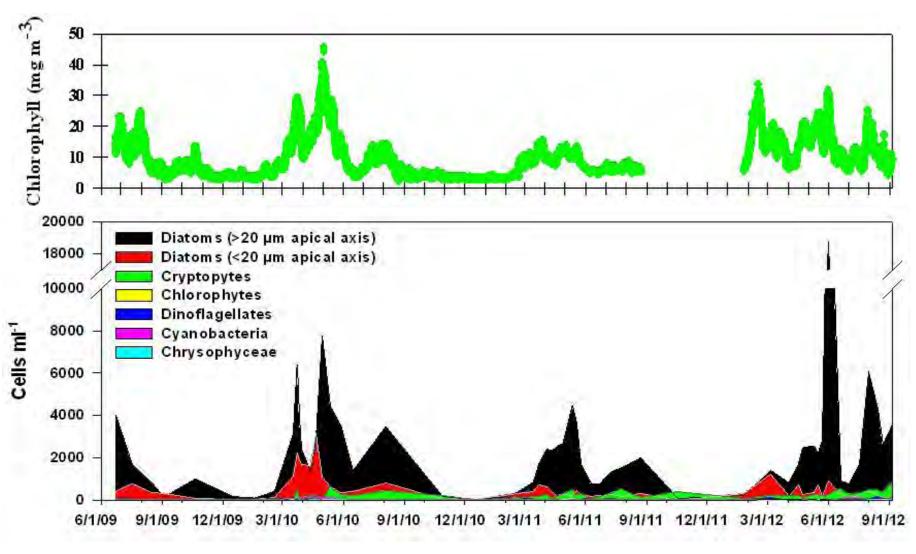


		Vascular plants	Aquatic plants	Benthic diatoms	Fluvial phytoplankton
Chrionomidae spp.	April	7	14	7	60
	May	14	66	5	12
	June	60	11	6	19
	July	20	0	83	0
Corophium salmonis	April	60	3	4	31
	May	65	0	0	39
	June	83	6	4	5
	July	41	37	6	2

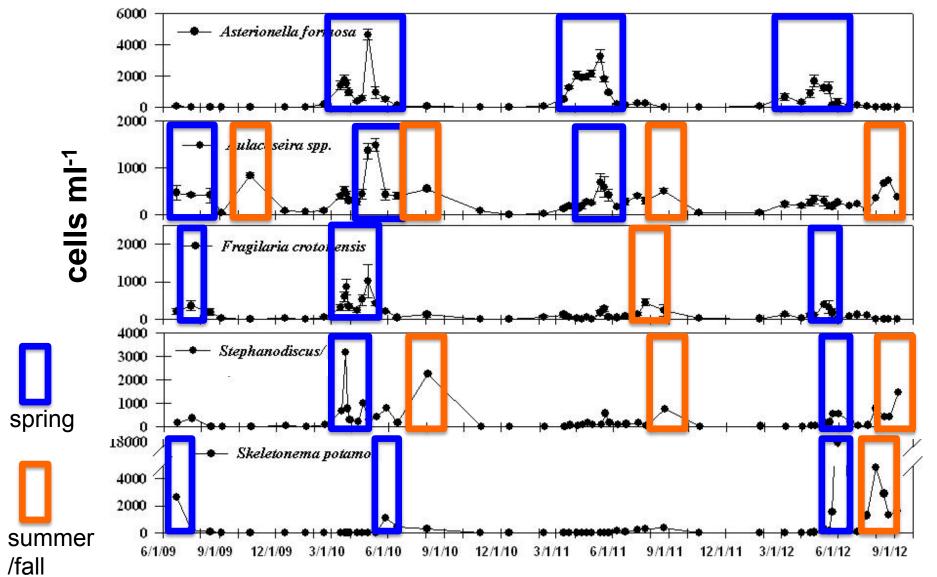
In situ sensors in the lower Columbia reveal high-resolution changes in biogeochemical properties

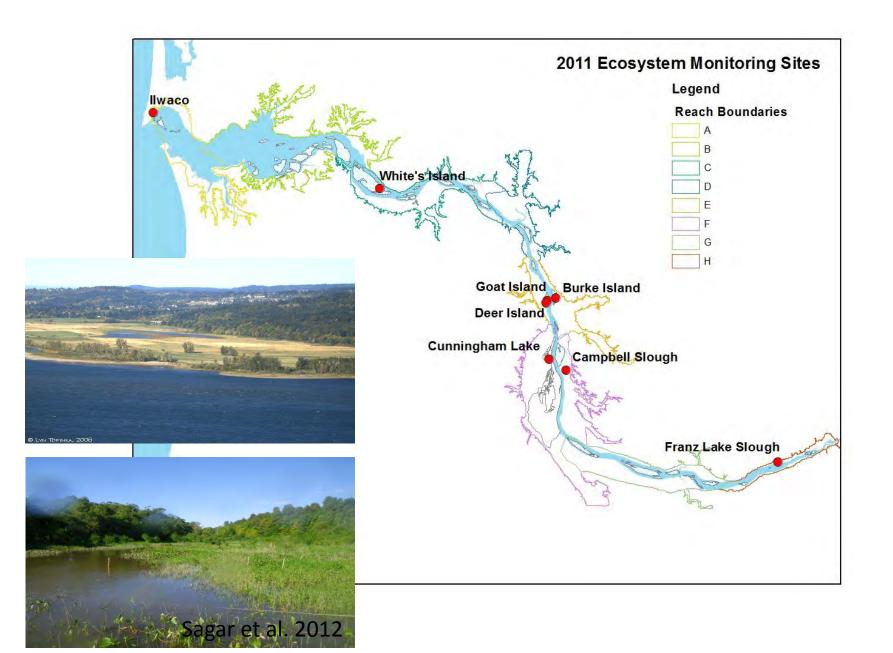


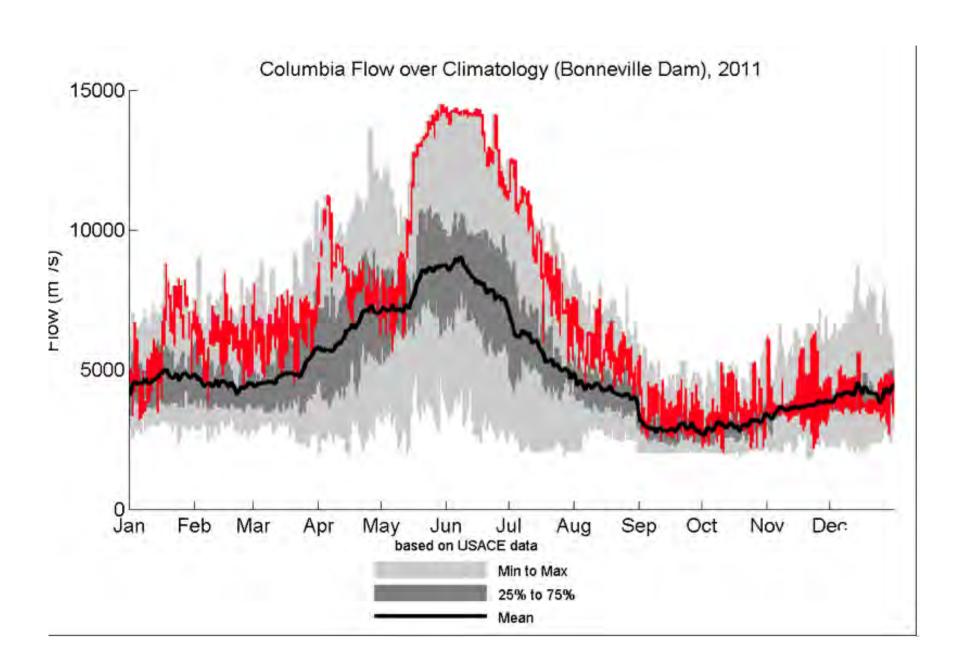
Multiple chlorophyll peaks in mainstem dominated by diatoms

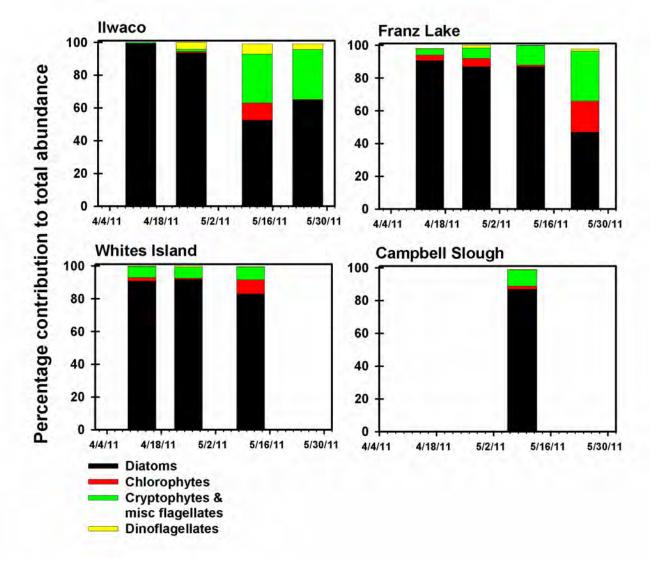


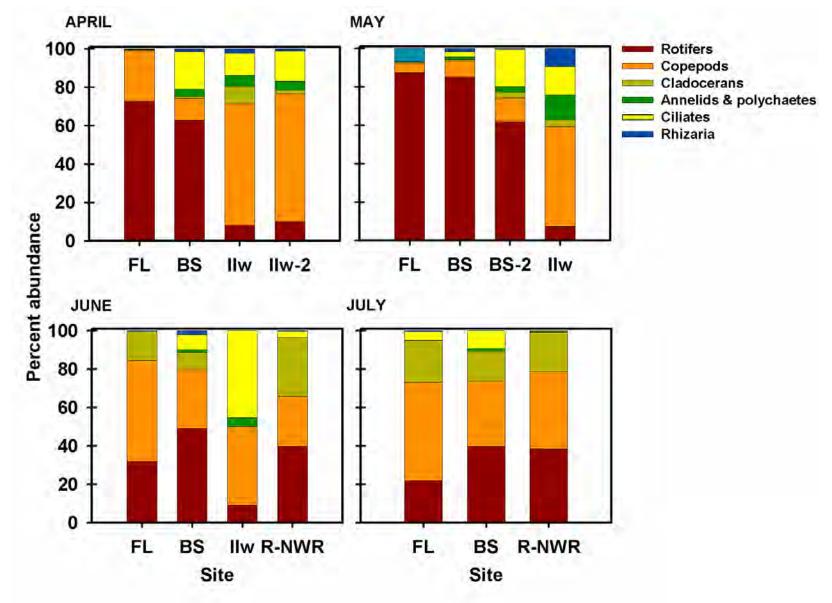
Mainstem diatom species exhibit seasonal patterns

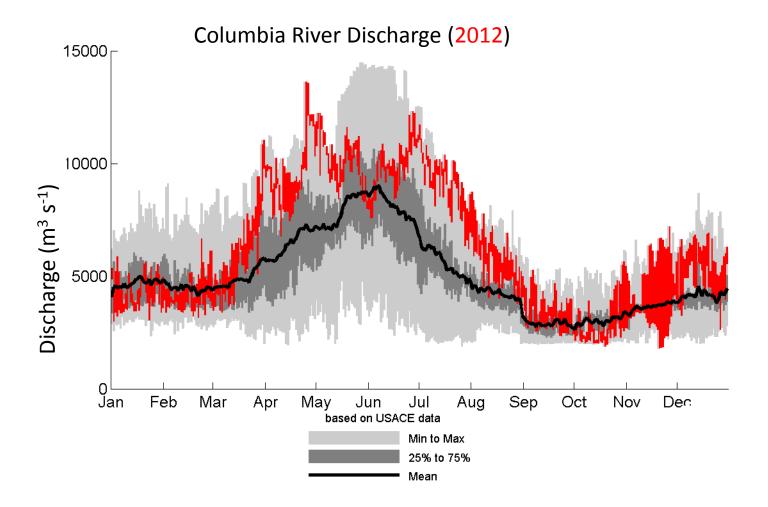


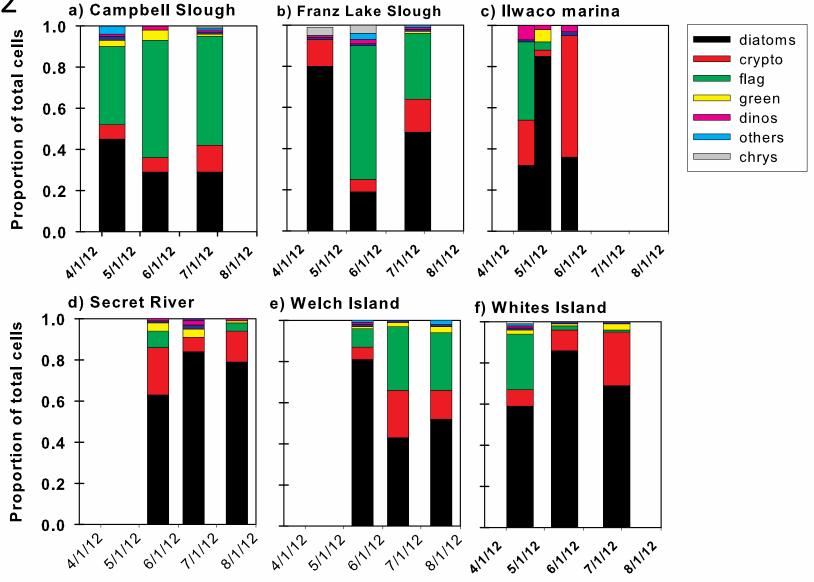


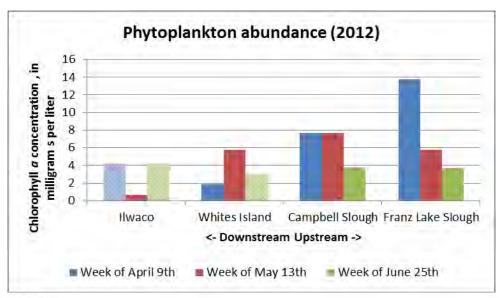


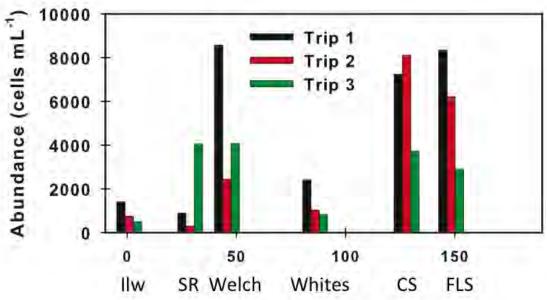




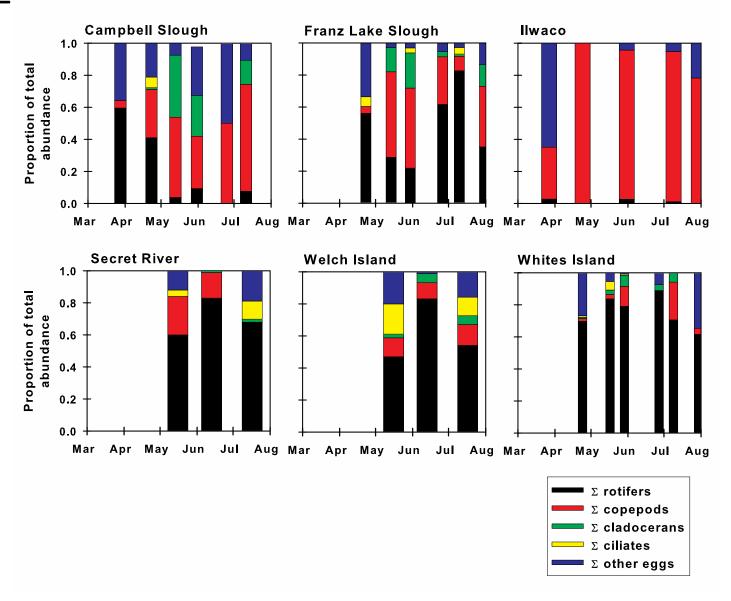


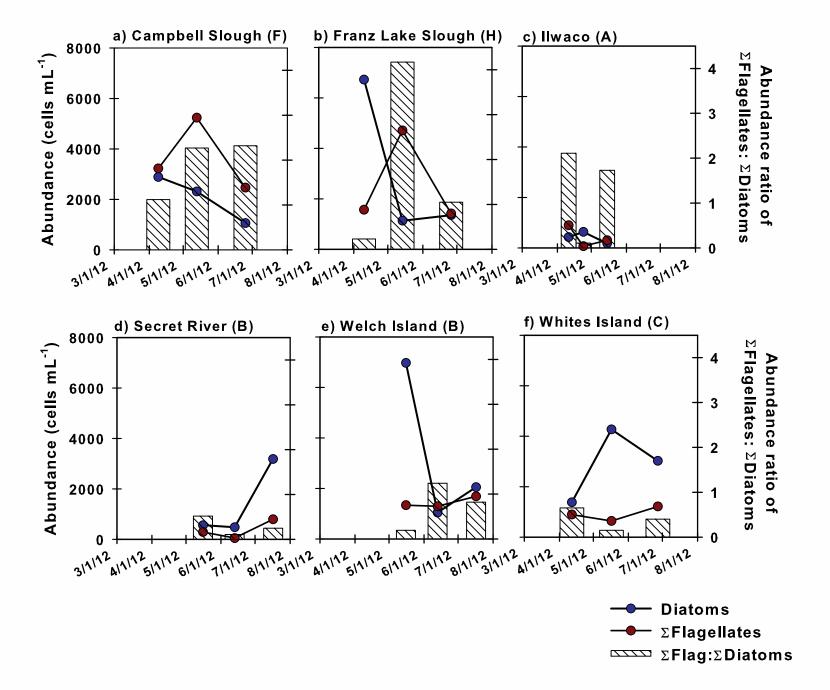


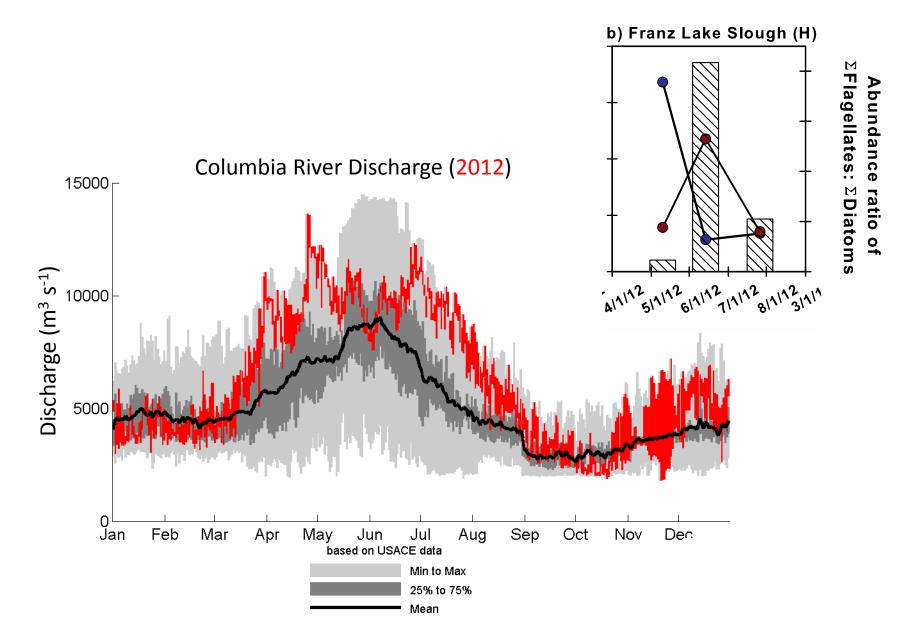


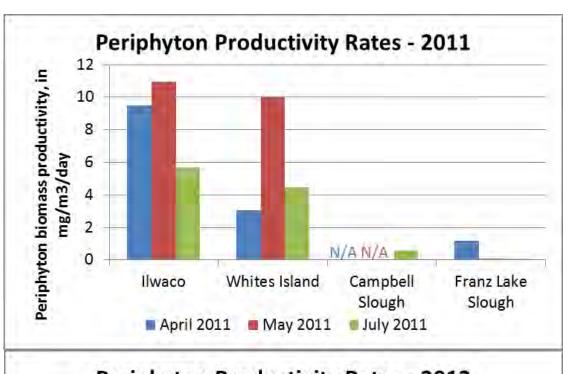


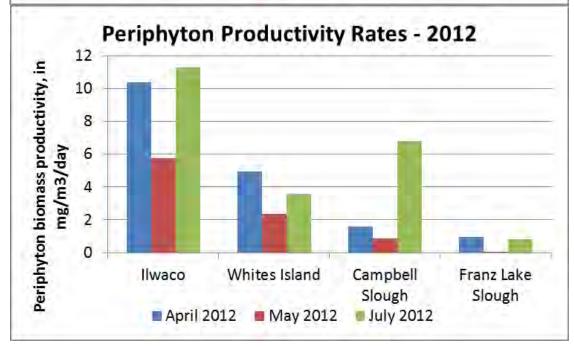
Approximate River Km

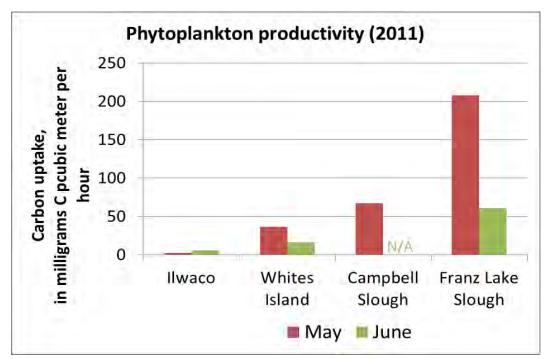


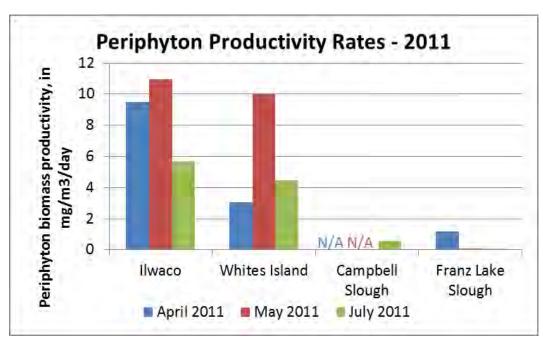






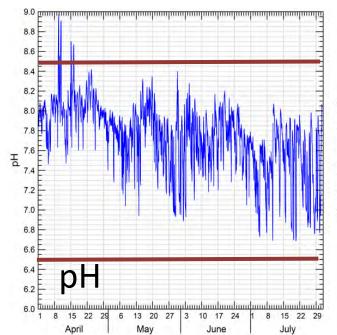


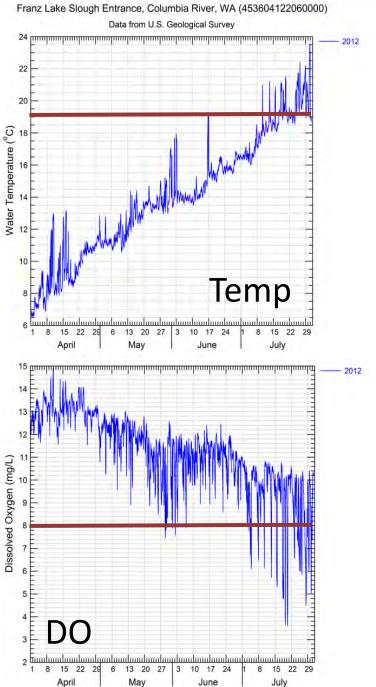




Acceptable ranges for water quality exceeded in July 2012 (Temperature, DO)





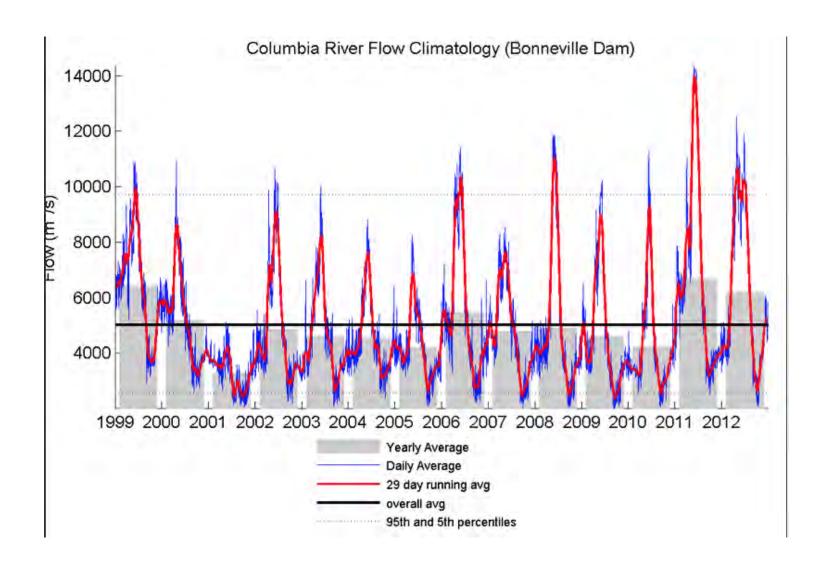


Whitney Temple & Jennifer Morace, USGS

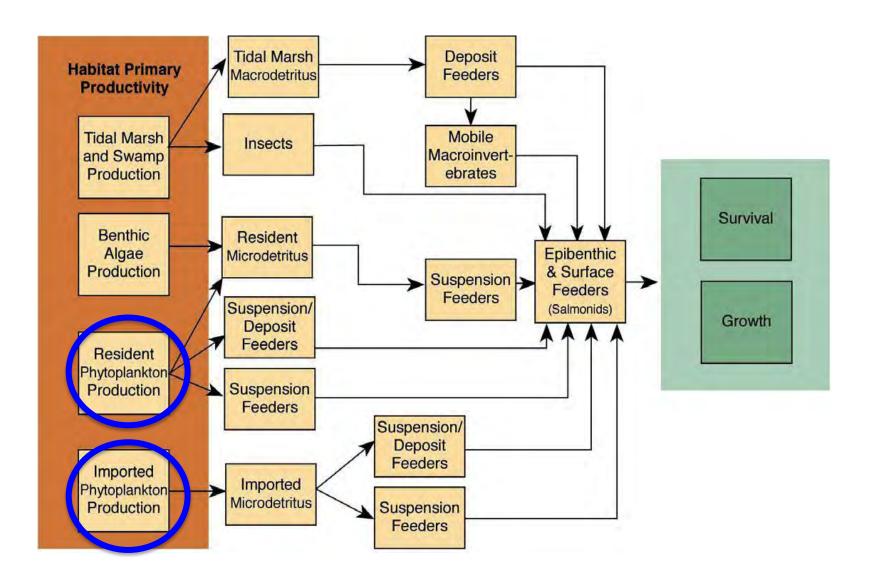
Considerations

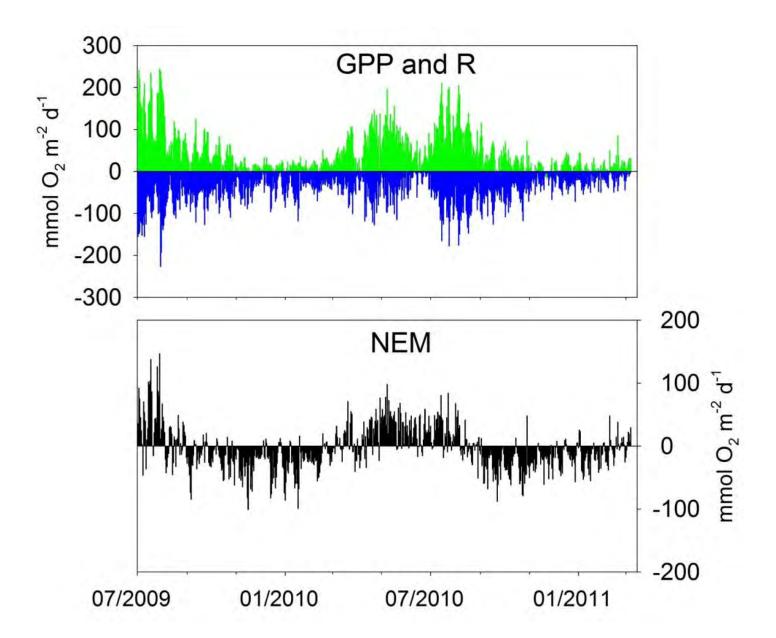
- Change in area of lake

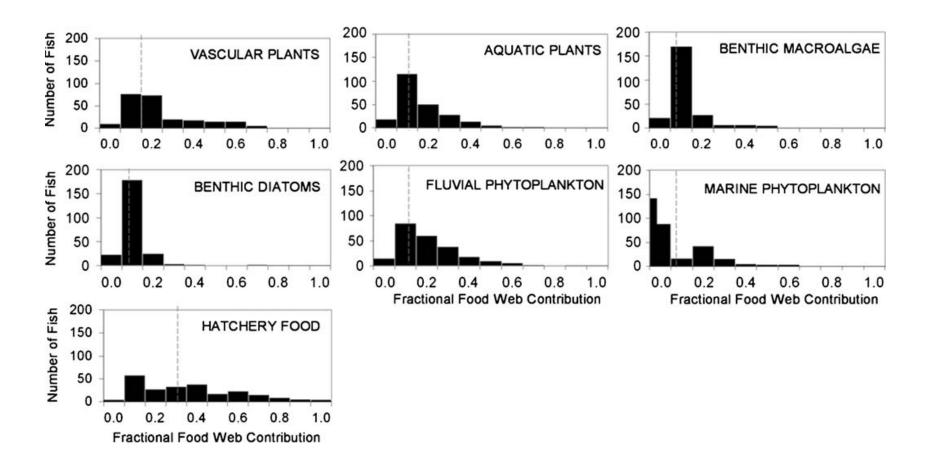
 concentration of plankton
- Grazing removal of phytoplankton
 - Types of grazers influence phytoplankton assemblages (rotifers vs. cladocerans or copepods)
- Nutrient sources & speciation
- Noxious species (e.g. cyanobacteria)
- Species successions & disturbance
- How much organic matter is exported from FPL



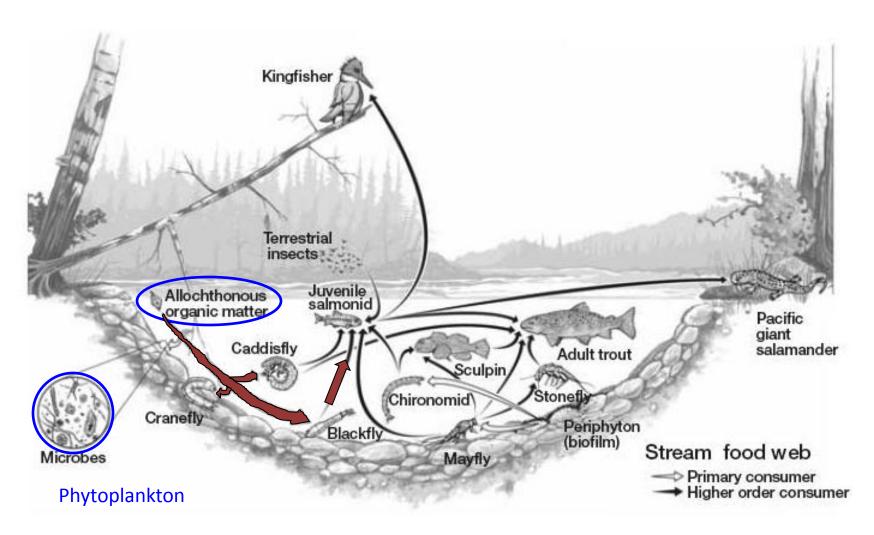
Lower Columbia River food web components







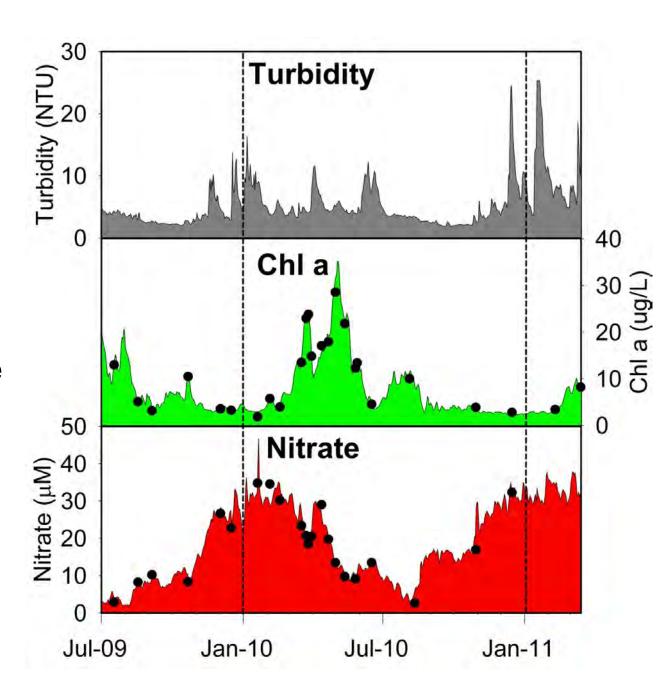
Stream food web

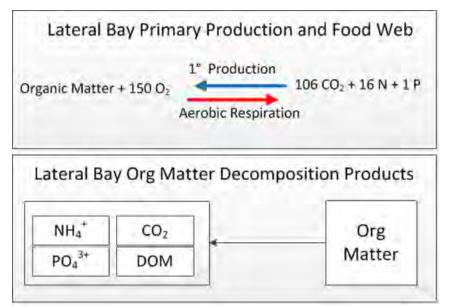


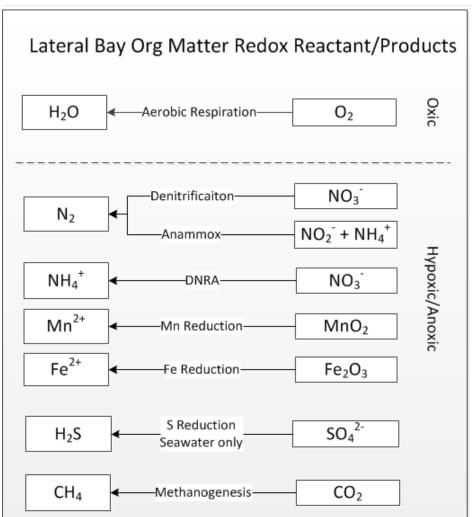
High turbidity associated with episodic storm events

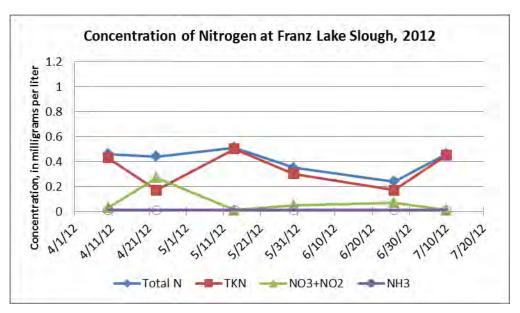
Chlorophyll a biomass characteristic of temperate latitude phytoplankton blooms

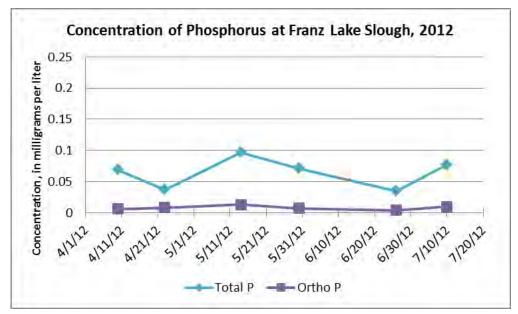
Nitrate highest during winter

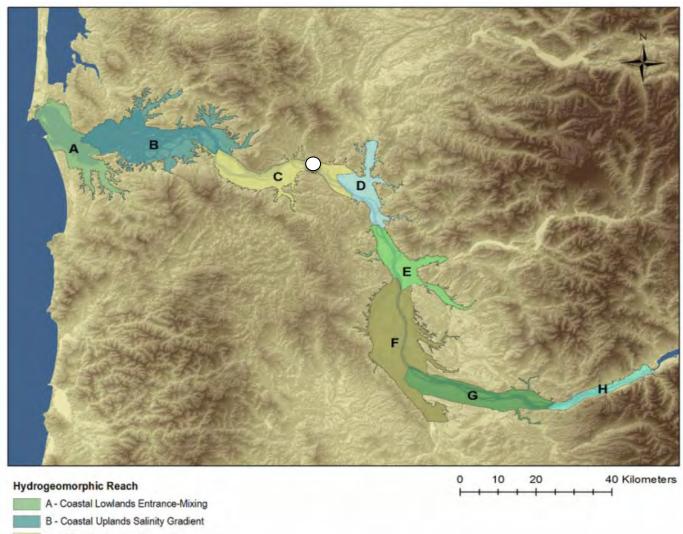












C - Volcanics Current Reversal

D - Western Cascades Tributary Confluences

E - Tidal Flood Plain Basin Constriction

F - Middle Tidal Flood Plain Basin

G - Upper Tidal Flood Plain Basin

H - Western Gorge

Columbia River Estuary Ecosystem Classification Level 3 Hydrogeomorphic Reaches

Map created by M.F. Ramirez and C.A. Simenstad, University of Washington, School of Aquatic and Fishery Sciences, Data Source: Digital elevation model courtesy of USGS. Outline boundary courtesy of Earth Design Consultants, Inc.

'Greening' results in increased POM, decreased nutrients

