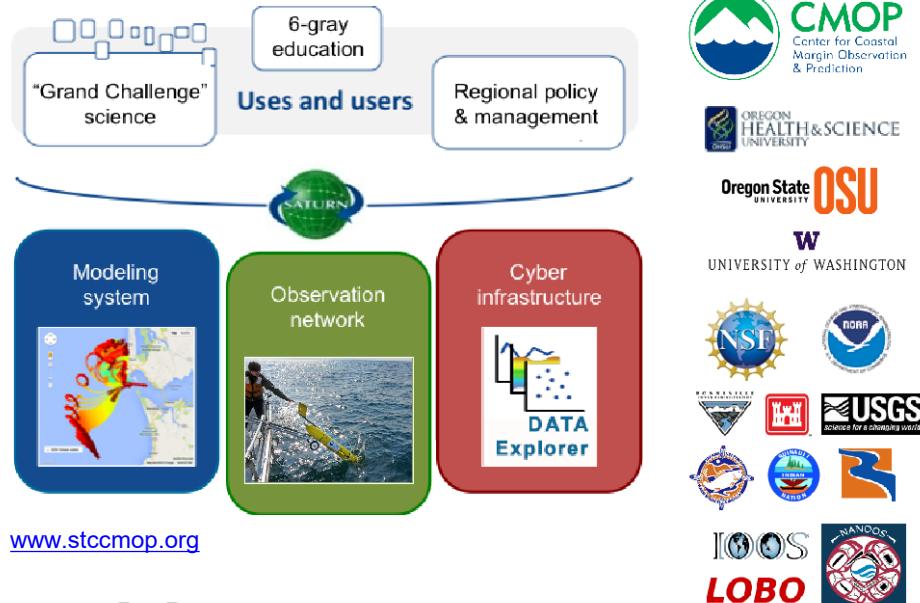


Coastal Margin Observation and Prediction at CRITFC



Charles Seaton, Sarah Riseman,
Michael Wilkin

History

Observations

Modeling

- Maintain and expand a mature observation and modeling system for the Columbia River estuary and coastal ocean.
- Use CMOP capabilities as a base for addressing estuary and ocean questions and throughout the Columbia Basin.
- Integrate CMOP capabilities with tribal and regional needs.



CMOP modeling and observations have been interconnected with salmon research for over two decades:

- *Salmon at the River's End*
- Columbia River channel improvement project
 - Prediction, monitoring, and final assessment of salinity intrusion impacts
- Assessment of Columbia River plume features on smolt-to-adult-return ratio (SAR)
- Columbia River Treaty review assessment of ecosystem impacts from potential changes in hydrosystem management
- Salinity intrusion, temperature and dissolved oxygen observations in the Columbia River estuary



How did we get here?

5

1990-2000: LMER

- Science
- Designed to study Estuarine Turbidity Maxima (ETM)
- “Blind” cruises

1996-2006: CORIE

- Science & Translation
- Multi-purpose design (driver: circulation modeling)
- Physical sensors
- Endurance stations
- Real-time data
- Open-access data
- Model-informed cruises
- IOOS/NANOOS pilot project



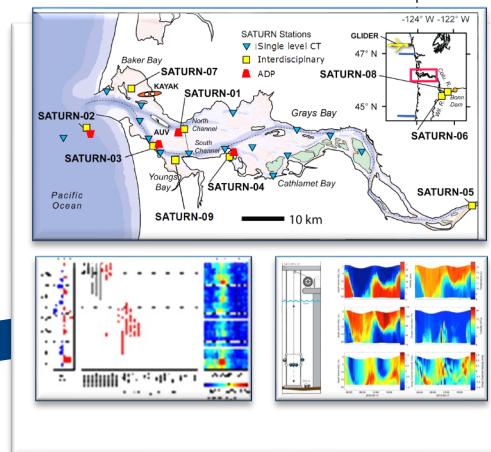
2006-2016: SATURN

- Science & Translation
- NSF-Science and Technology Center
- Multi-purpose design
- Interdisciplinary sensors
- Specialty endurance stations
- Pioneer array
- Coordinated campaigns
- Adaptive sampling
- IOOS/NANOOS sub-system



For historical context:

2007 – NOAA creates IOOS
2007 – OOI preliminary design



2020 onward: CMOP at CRITFC

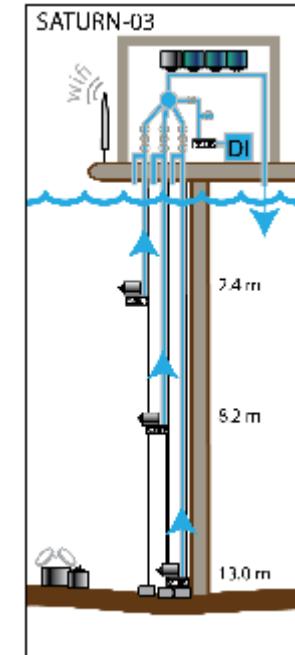
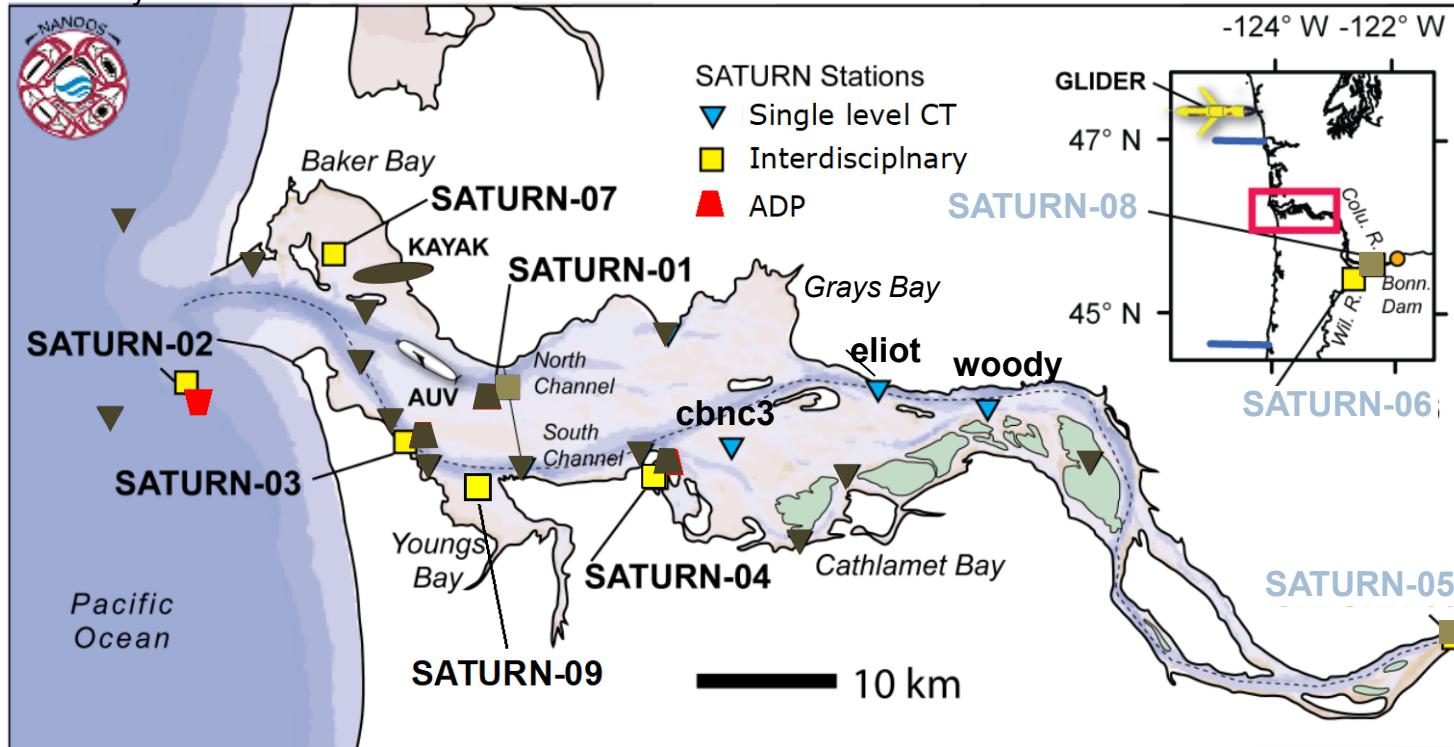
- Interdisciplinary sensors
- Specialty endurance stations
- IOOS/NANOOS sub-system



The observation network (January 2022)

6

A sub-system of NANOOS



Interdisciplinary stations

Offshore (SATURN-02): May-Oct
Pt Adams (SATURN-03): Year-round
Tongue Pt. (SATURN-04): Year-round
Baker Bay (SATURN-07): Year-round
Youngs Bay (SATURN-09): Year-round
North Channel (SATURN-01): -2017

Physical stations

Elliott Pt. (eliot): Year-round, 2017-
Cathlamet Bay (cbnc3): Year-round
(no telemetry)
Woody Island (woody): Year-round

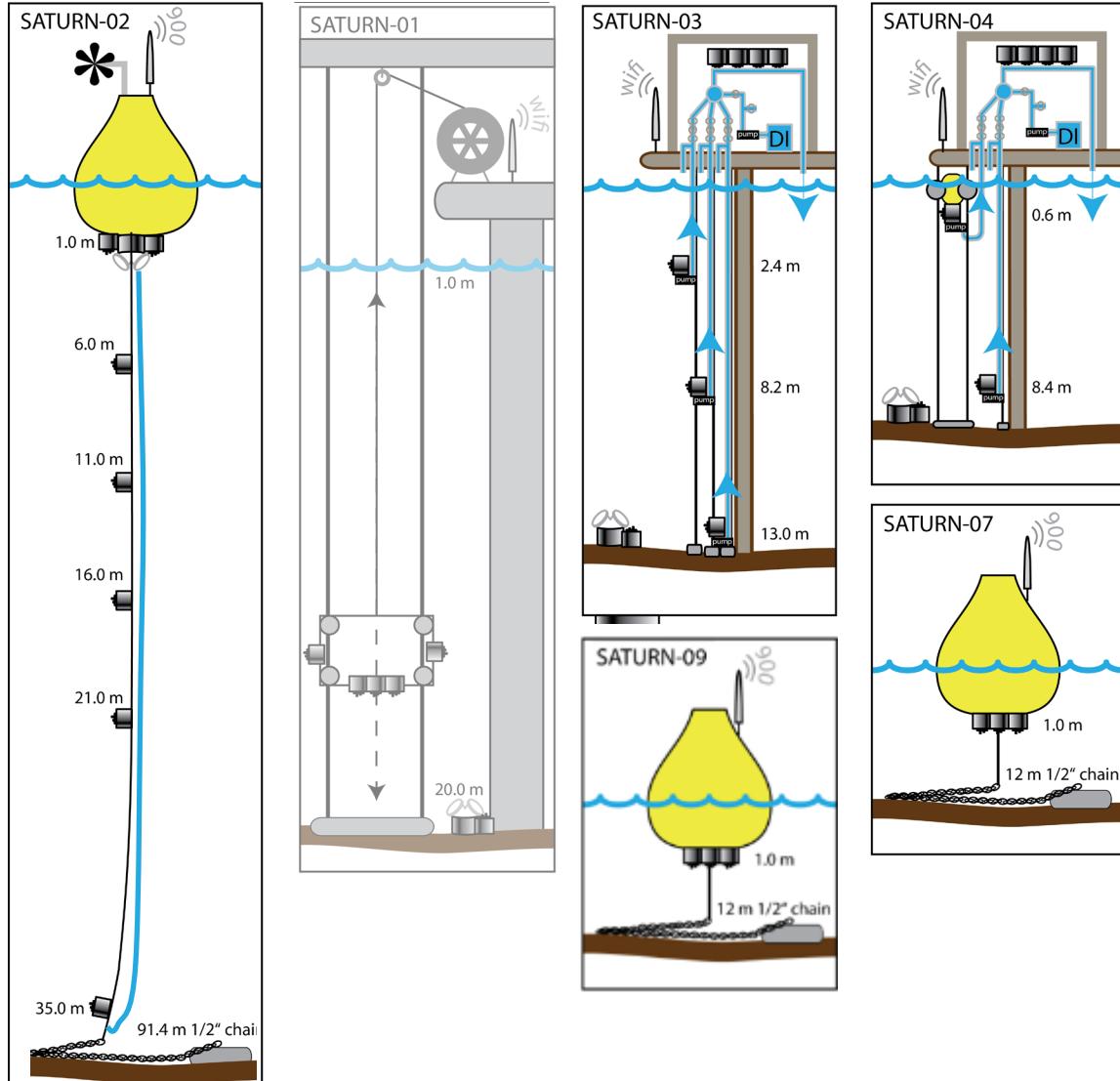
Upriver interdisciplinary stations:

SATURN-05 (Port Westward), SATURN-06 (Morrison Bridge), and SATURN-08 (Camas-Washougal) were developed by the Needoba-Peterson lab at OHSU as part of STC-CMOP in collaboration with USGS (-05, -06) and LCEP (-08). They did not transition to CRITFC-CMOP.



Station designs

7



Challenges:

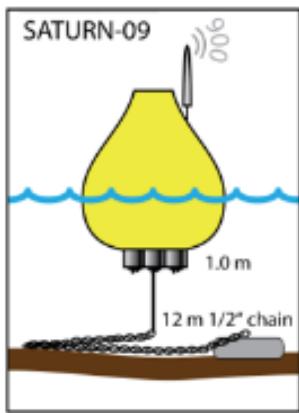
- High energy
- Strong & dynamic stratification
- Turbidity (visibility, clogging)
- Biofouling



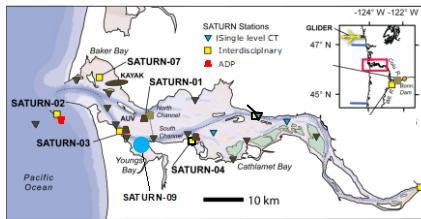
Observations: SATURN-09, Youngs Bay buoy

8

Buoys provide long-term sampling at points of interest in estuary and off-shore



On-deck maintenance visits extend continuous buoy deployment to a full year

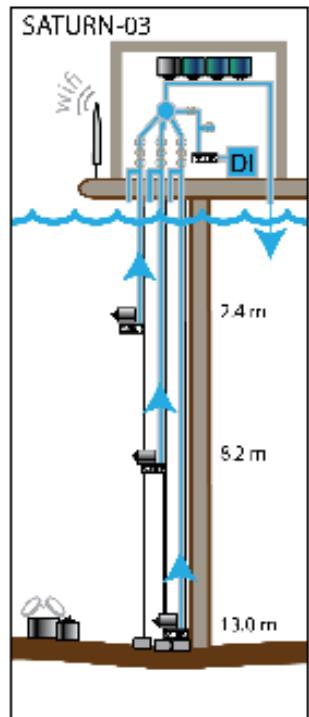


Collaboration with Clatsop Community College provides use of R/V Forerunner for marine operations

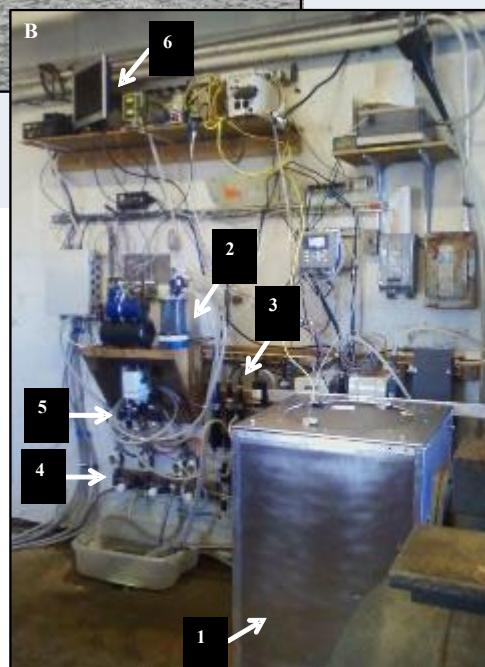
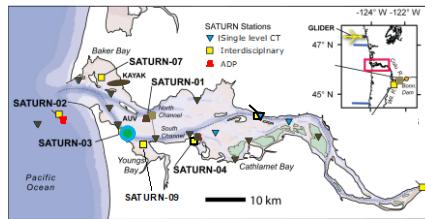
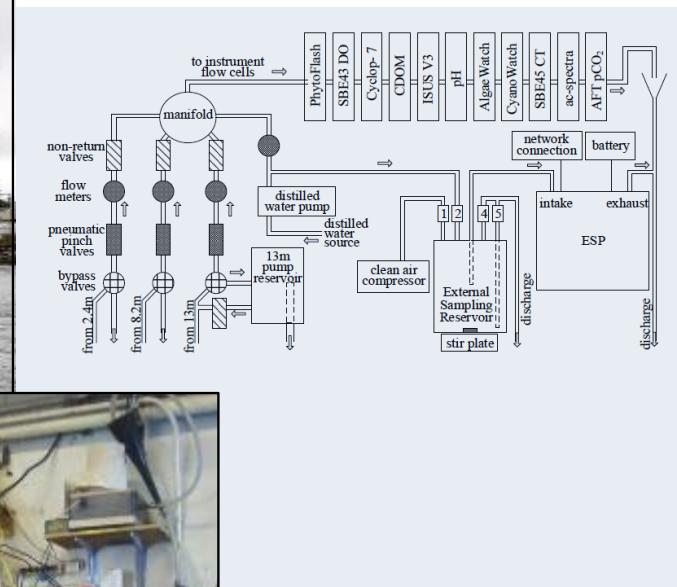
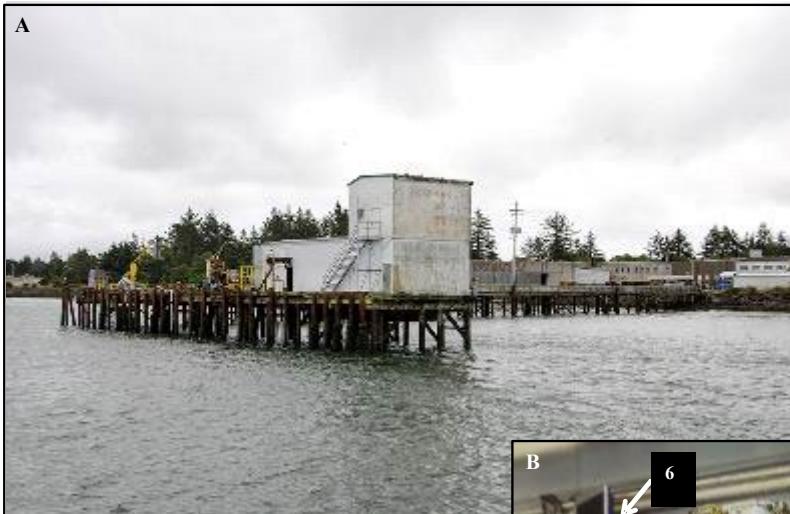


SATURN-03: Pt. Adams Pier Station

9



Pier stations enable powerful adaptive sampling



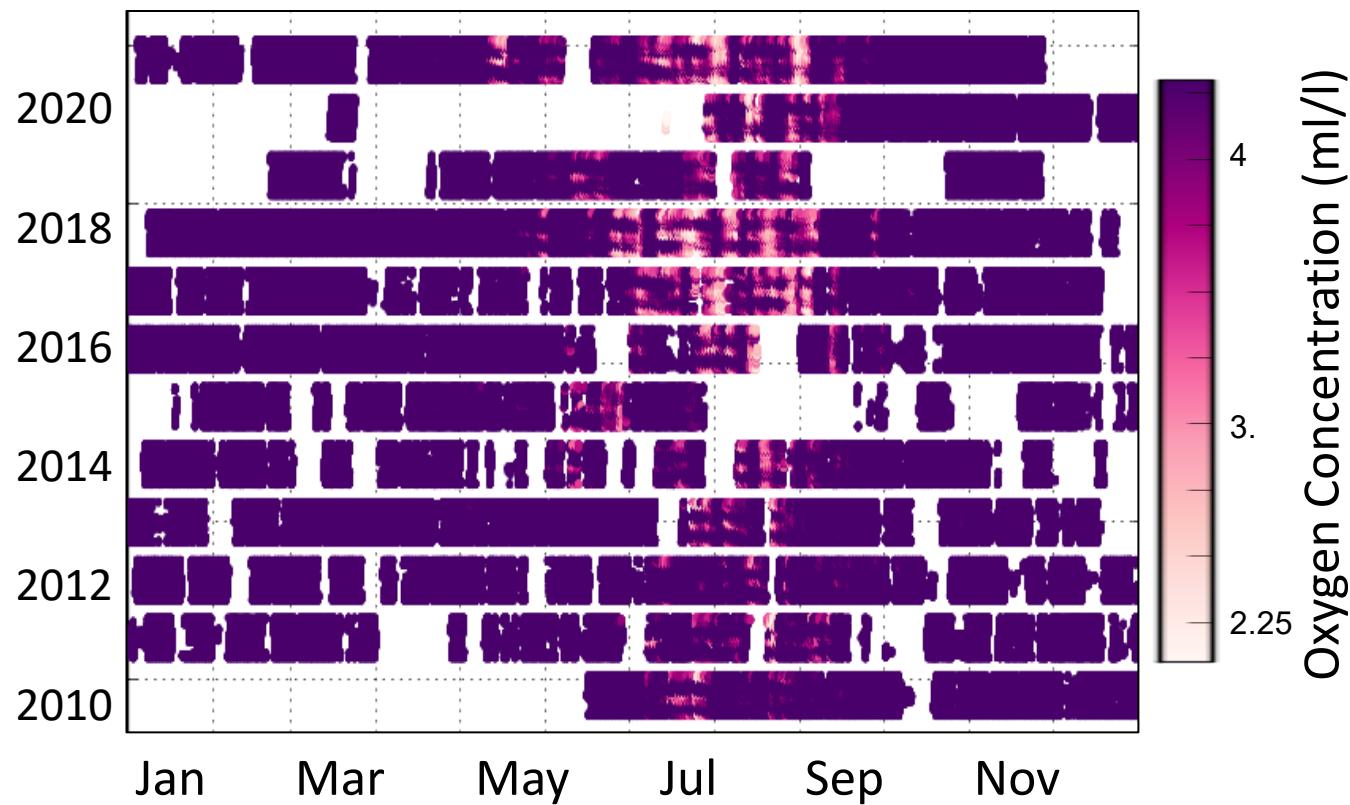
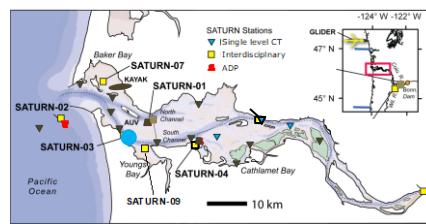
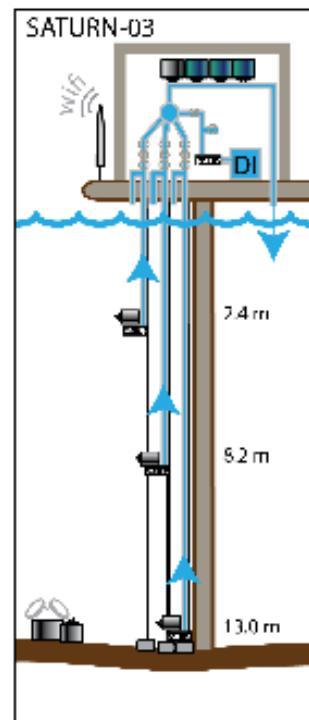
Lab-in-a-shed allows weekly calibration and maintenance and has been used for adaptively collecting water and genetic samples in-context.



Power of long timeseries

10

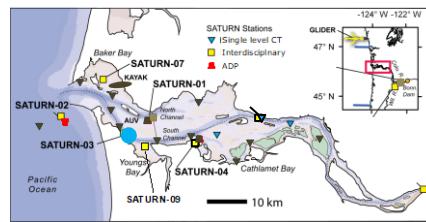
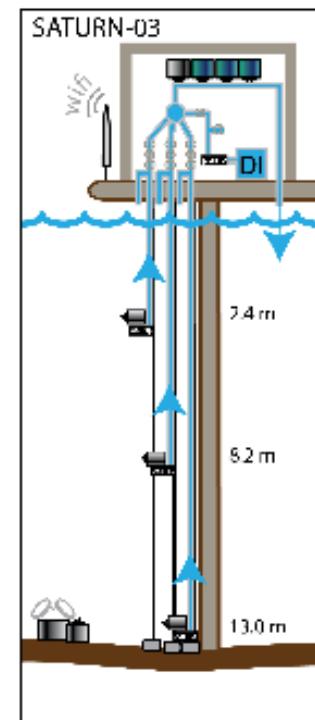
11-year History of Oxygen Saturation at 8.2m depth at Pt. Adams (SATURN-03)



Power of long timeseries

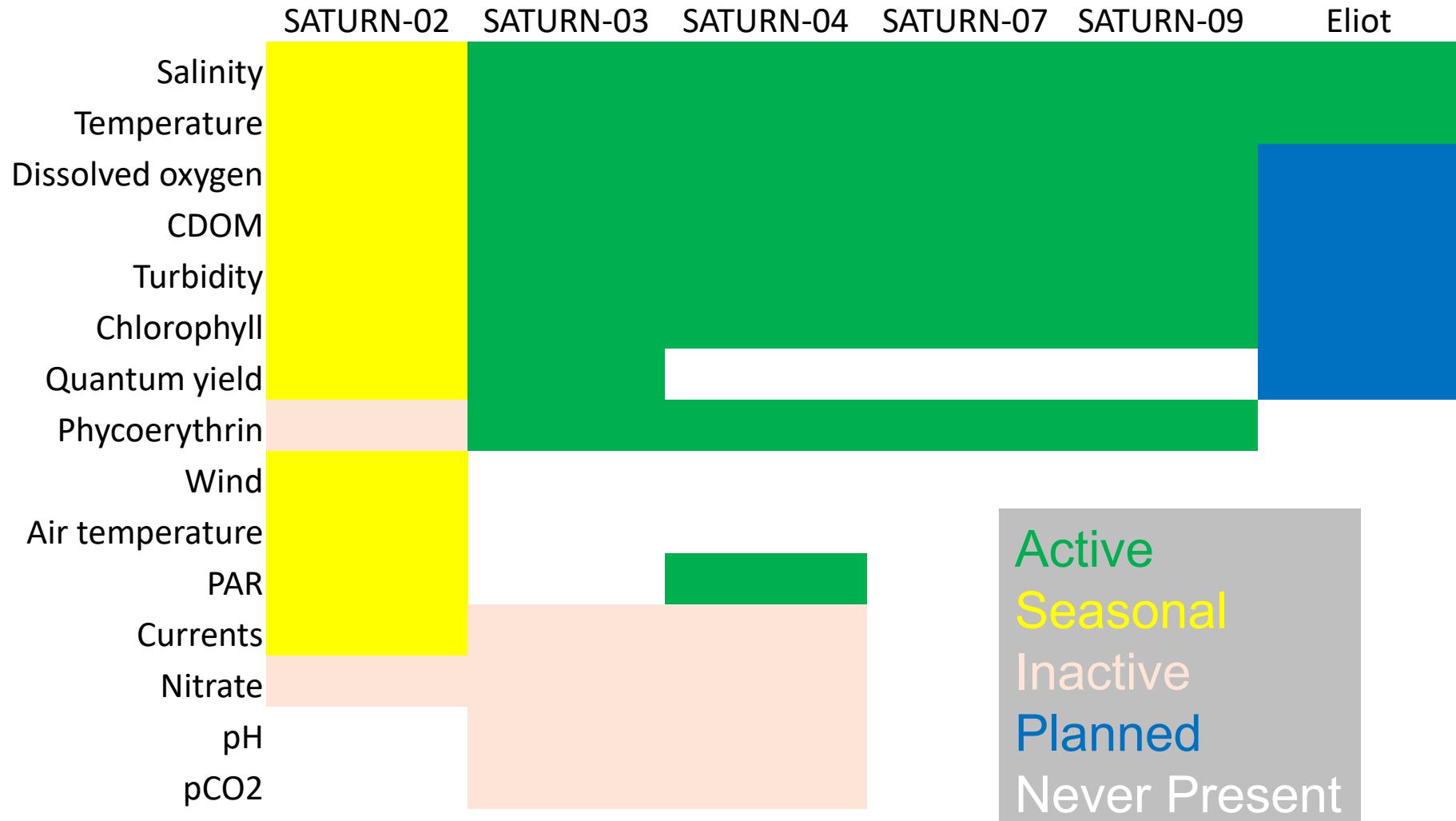
11

11-year History of Oxygen Saturation at 2.4m depth at Pt. Adams (SATURN-03)



What we measure (2021)

12

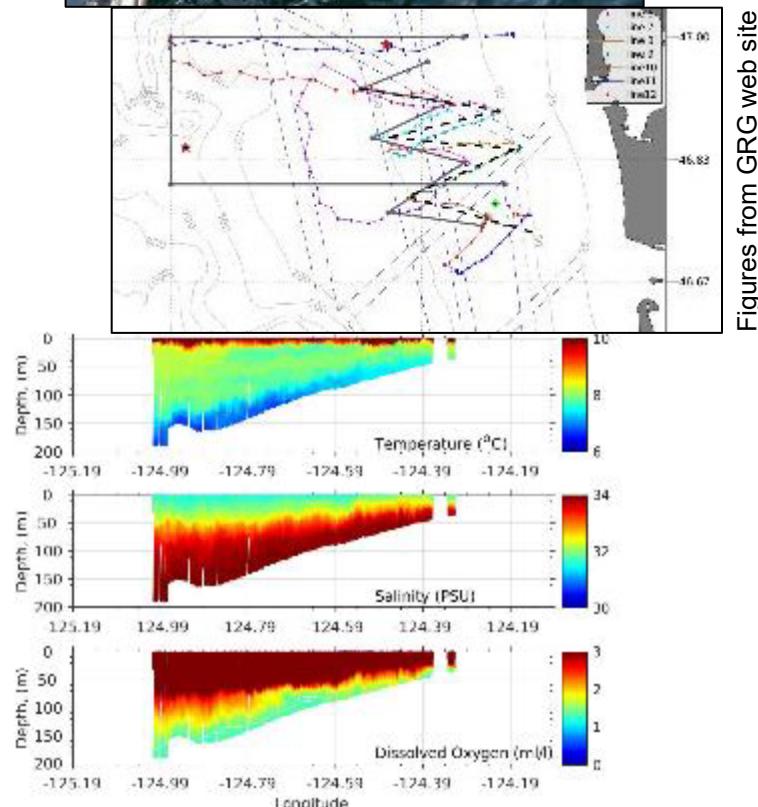
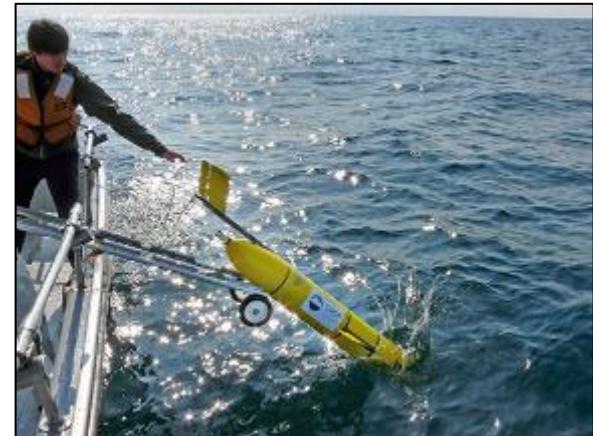


Cbnc3: salinity, temperature
Woody: temperature



Observations: Glider Program

- Glider runs along Washington coast, offshore of Grays Harbor
- Focused on detection of hypoxia/anoxia during summer
- Test deployment in October 2020
- Operational deployments started in April 2021
- CRITFC-owned gliders
- Operated by Jack Barth's glider research group at Oregon State
- In collaboration with Quinault Indian Nation
- Potential to be used for detection of acoustic tagged salmon



Figures from GRG web site

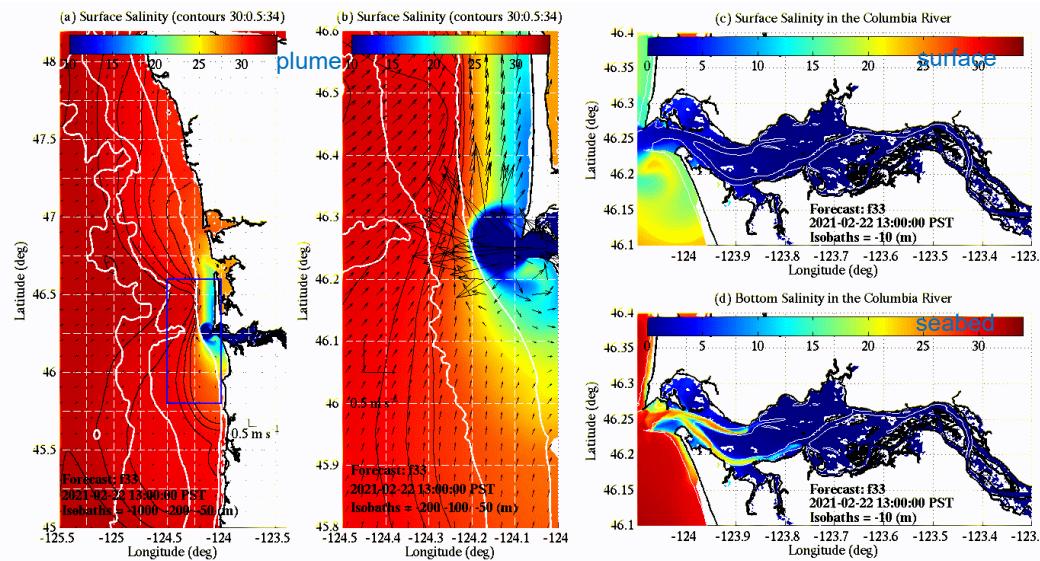
- Maintain long-term observation network
- Restoration of nitrate and ocean acidification monitoring
- Contaminant monitoring
- Acoustic tag monitoring
- CMOP stations as platforms of opportunity



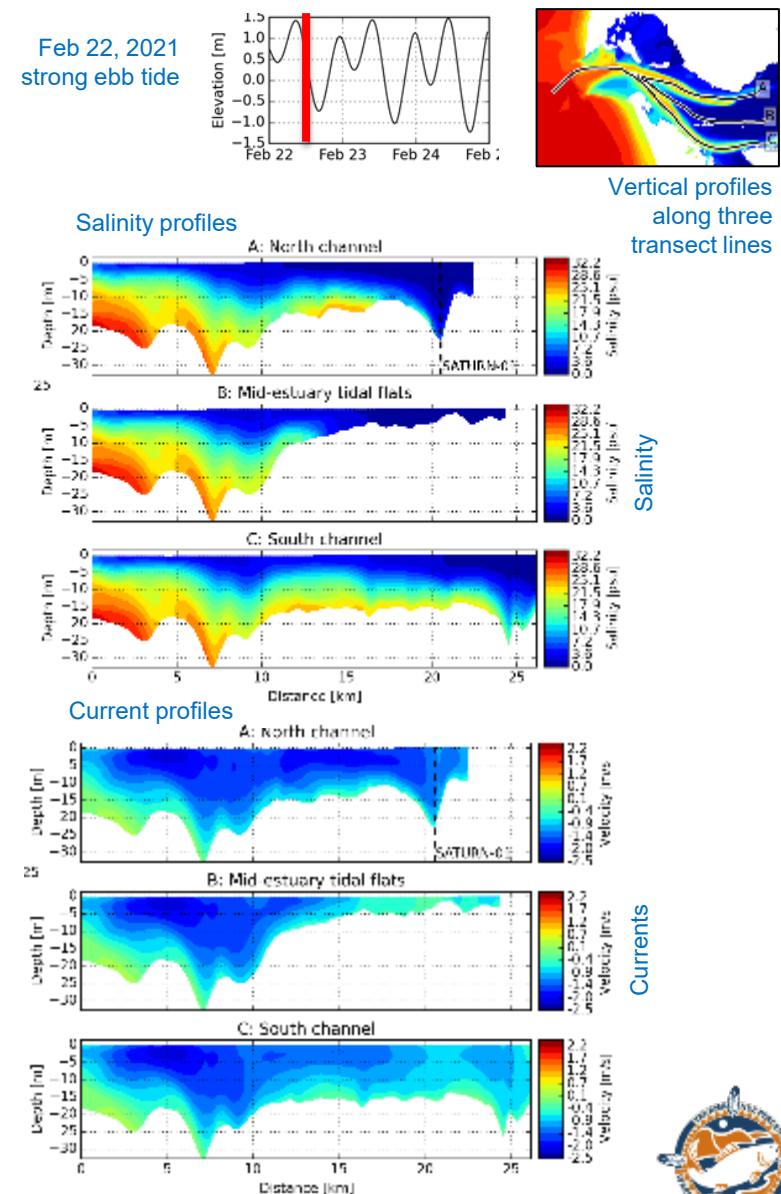
Modeling: The Virtual Columbia River

15

- Focus of the Virtual Columbia River is the lower estuary
- Core of the model is elevation, velocity, salinity, temperature
- Forecasts, hindcasts, scenarios



Salinity maps

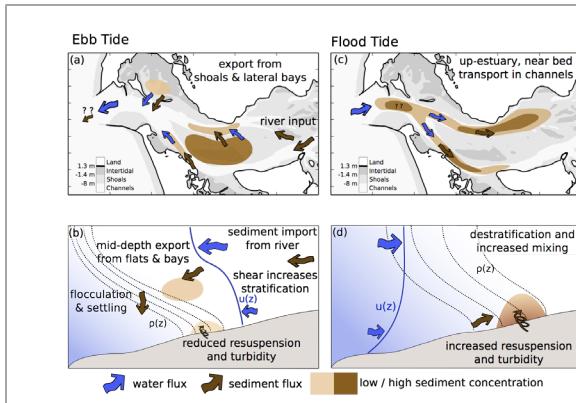


Why we model

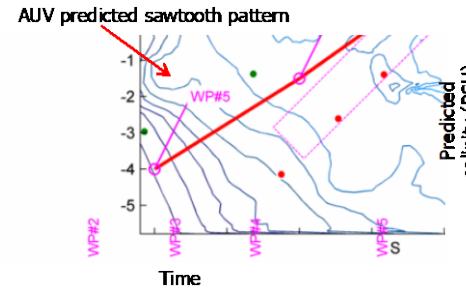
16

- To understand processes
- To characterize variability
- To inform field campaigns
- To predict change

ETM Regimes

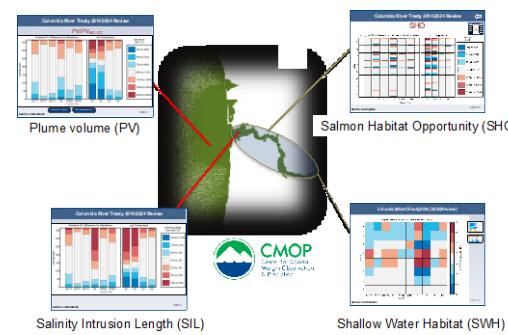


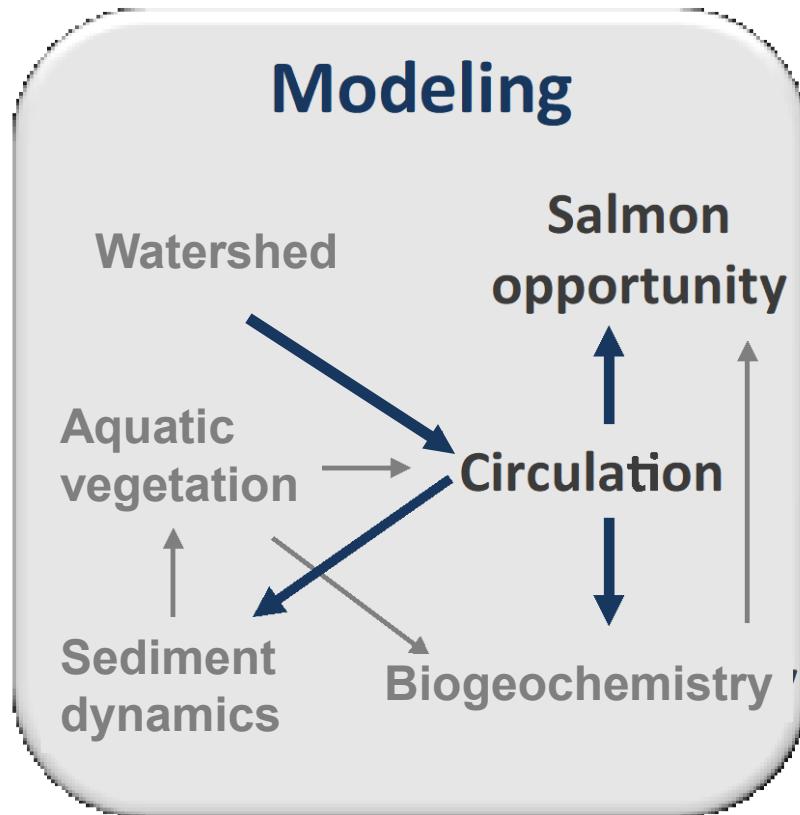
Depth (m)



Columbia River Treaty Review

mission planning

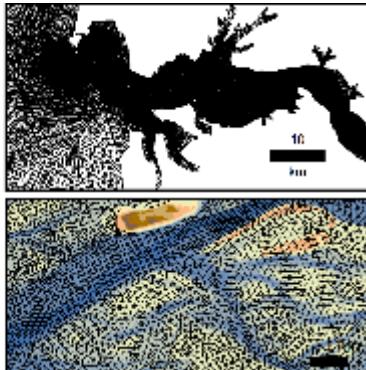
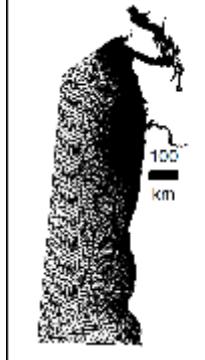




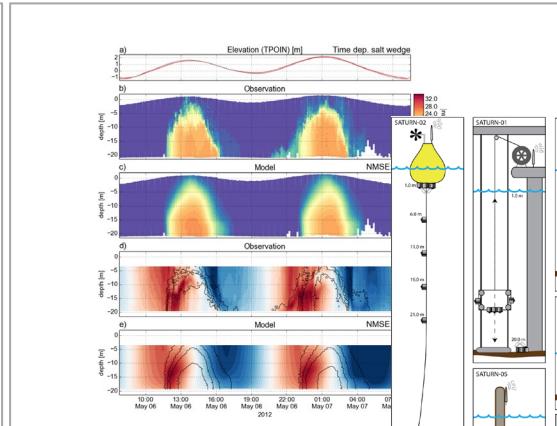
- 3D Circulation: water levels, velocities, salinity, temperature
- Salmon habitat opportunity
- Biogeochemistry
- Aquatic vegetation
- Stream to ocean watershed modeling



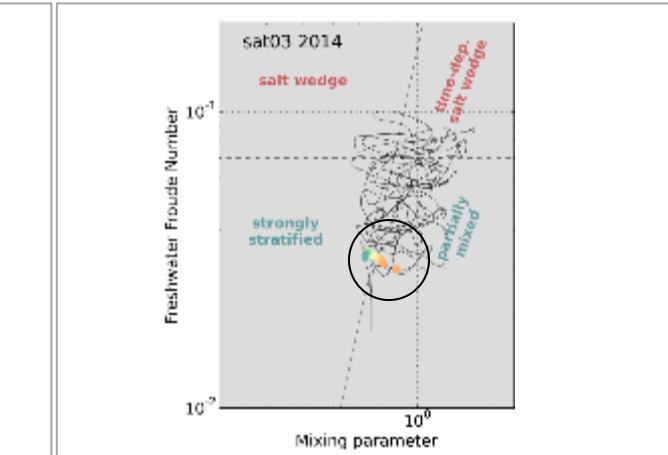
- River-to-ocean, unstructured grids
- SELFE and SCHISM are the base models to which we add
 - Formal modules (water age, aquatic vegetation, water quality)
 - Biological filters: salmon habitat
 - Empirical correlations: hypoxia
- Extensive skill assessment
- Models are “socialized”



Grids



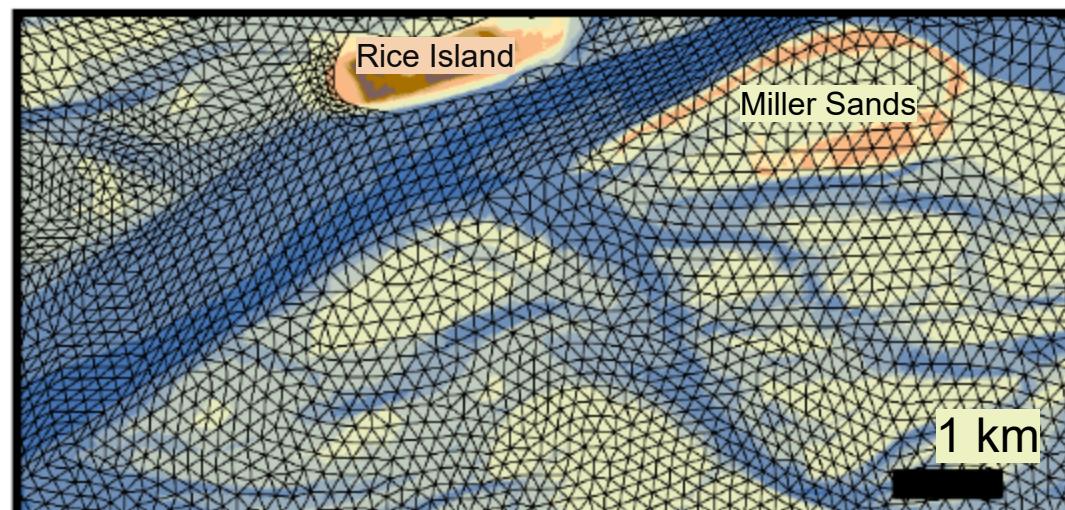
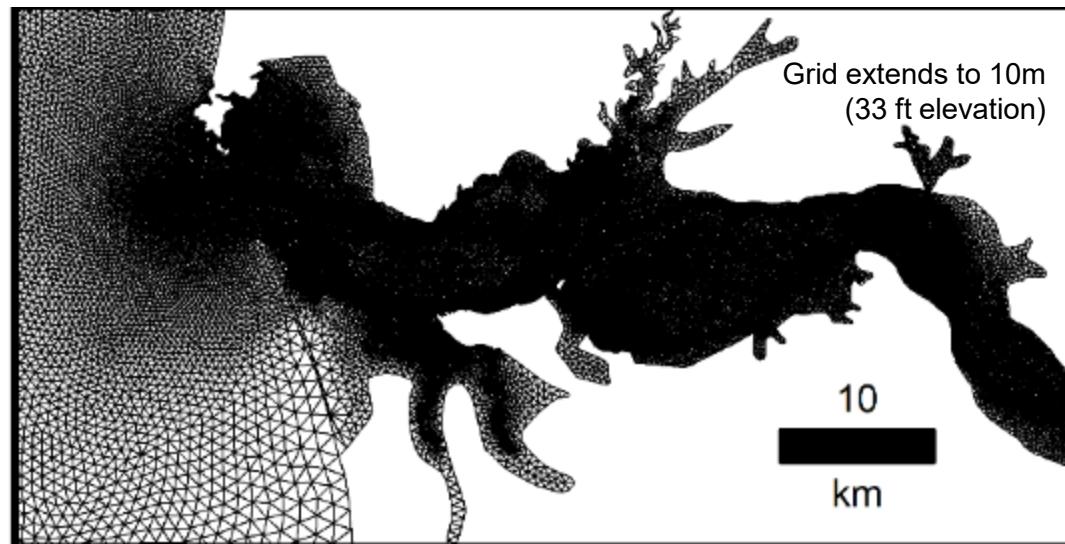
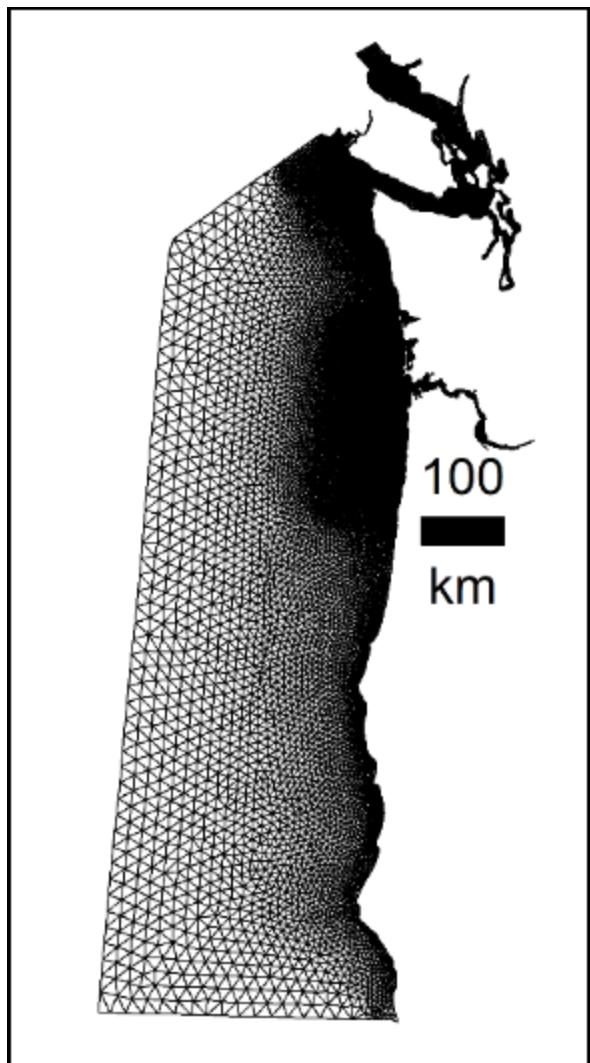
Skill assessment



Socializing models



How we model: Model grids

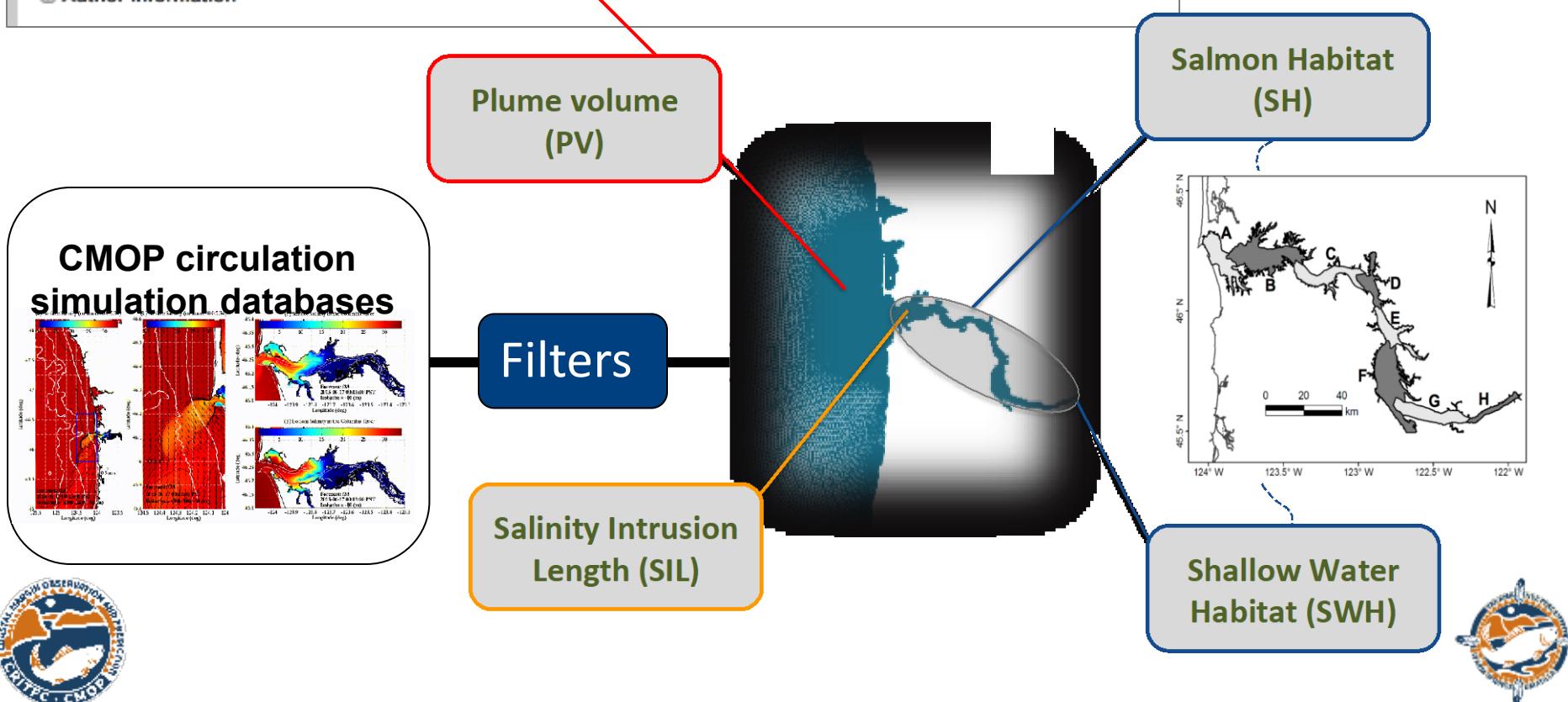


Highest resolution triangles ~ 50m side length

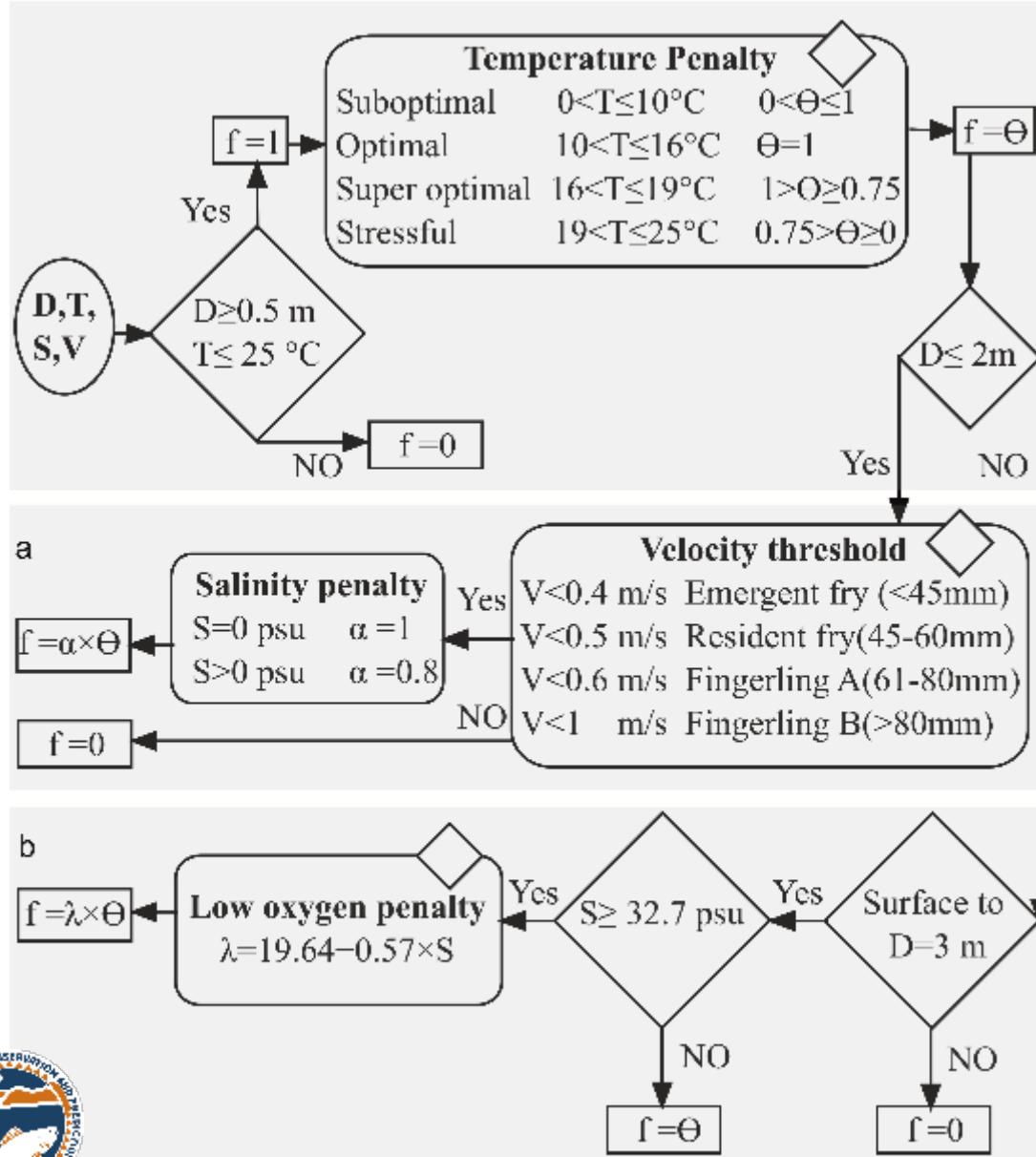


What we learn: metrics

The screenshot shows the PubMed search results for a study titled "Assessing the relative importance of local and regional processes on the survival of a threatened salmon population." The results are from PLoS One, 2014, Jun 12;9(6):e99814. The search bar at the top contains the term "Salmon". A red arrow points to the "Author information" link at the bottom of the page.



What we learn: “Salmon Habitat”

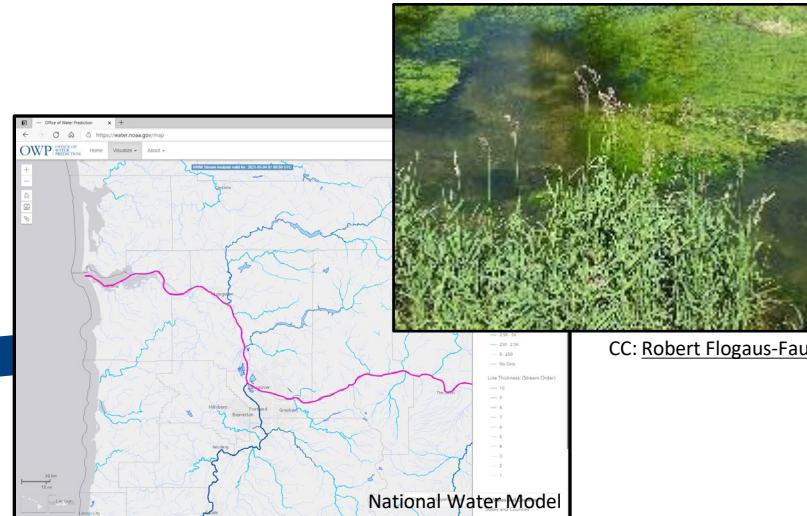


- Defined in collaboration with fisheries biologists
- Fill a gap: used in the region in support of major decisions (CRCIP, CRTR)
- Responsive to new modeling capabilities
- References: Bottom et al. 2005, Burla 2010, Rostaminia et al., 2017

Potential Future of CMOP modeling

22

- Integrate outputs of NOAA National Water Model to incorporate minor tributaries
- Increase resolution in wetland areas
- Aquatic vegetation, sediment transport, water quality models
- Climate change scenarios: sea level rise, river temperature, river discharge
- Invertebrate flux from wetlands?



Integrating the NOAA National Water Model



23

- High resolution watershed model for full US
- Integratable into SCHISM model
- Provides tributary flows to SCHISM model
- Will greatly improve model capability in wetlands and lateral bays

[Office of Water Prediction \(noaa.gov\)](https://water.noaa.gov/map)

