

# Identifying nutrient sources driving algal blooms in Florida Bay: A causal modelling approach

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<sup>5</sup>Florida Bay Interagency Science Center, Everglades National Park, Key Largo, FL

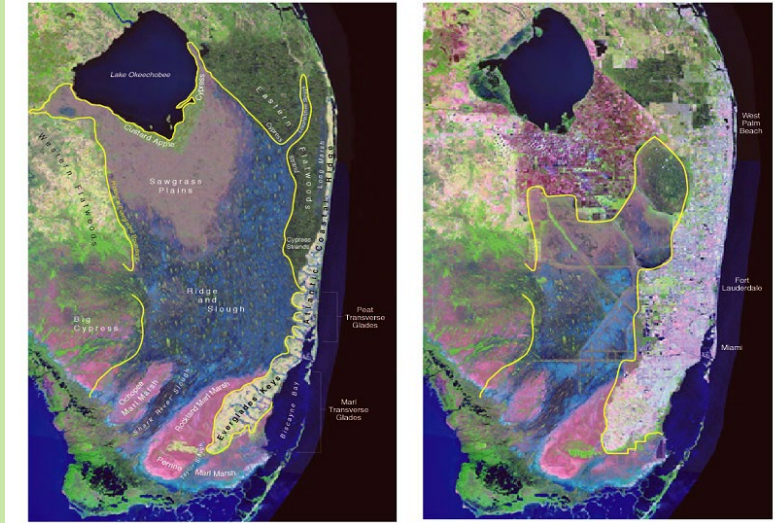


# The Issue: Algal Blooms

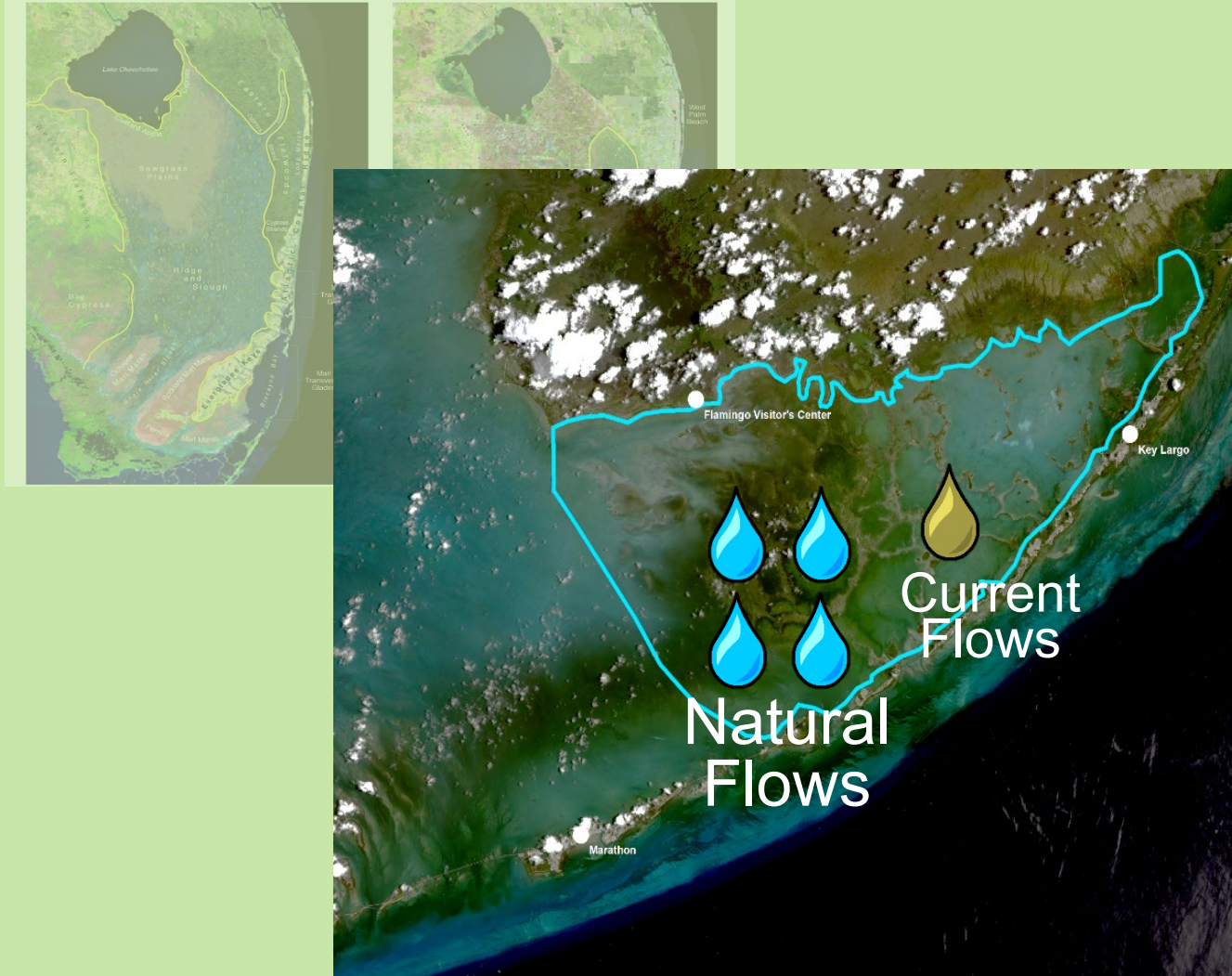




# The Issue: Algal Blooms

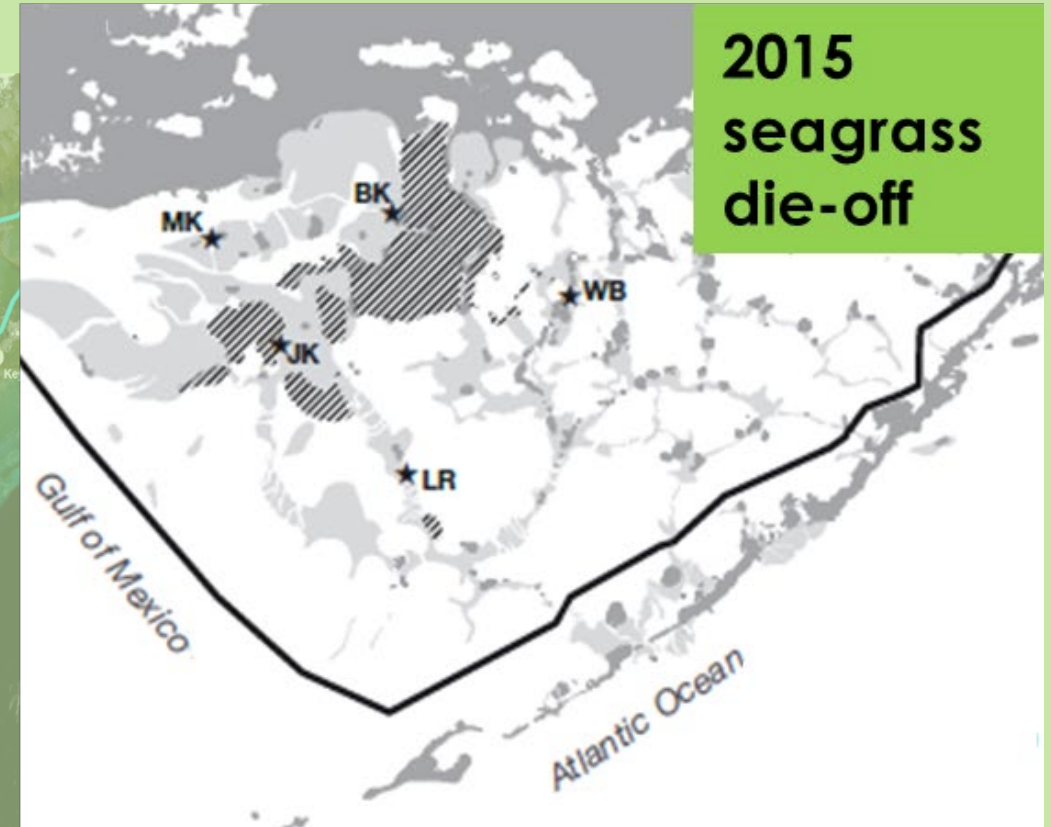
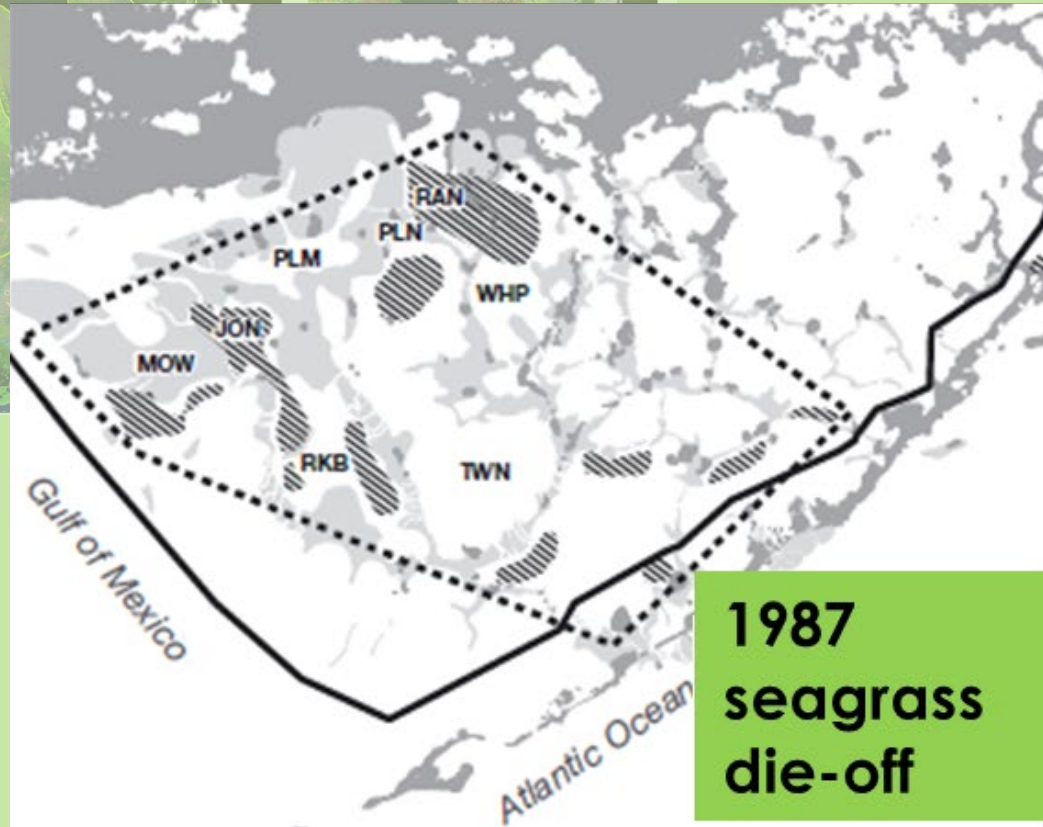


# The Issue: Algal Blooms

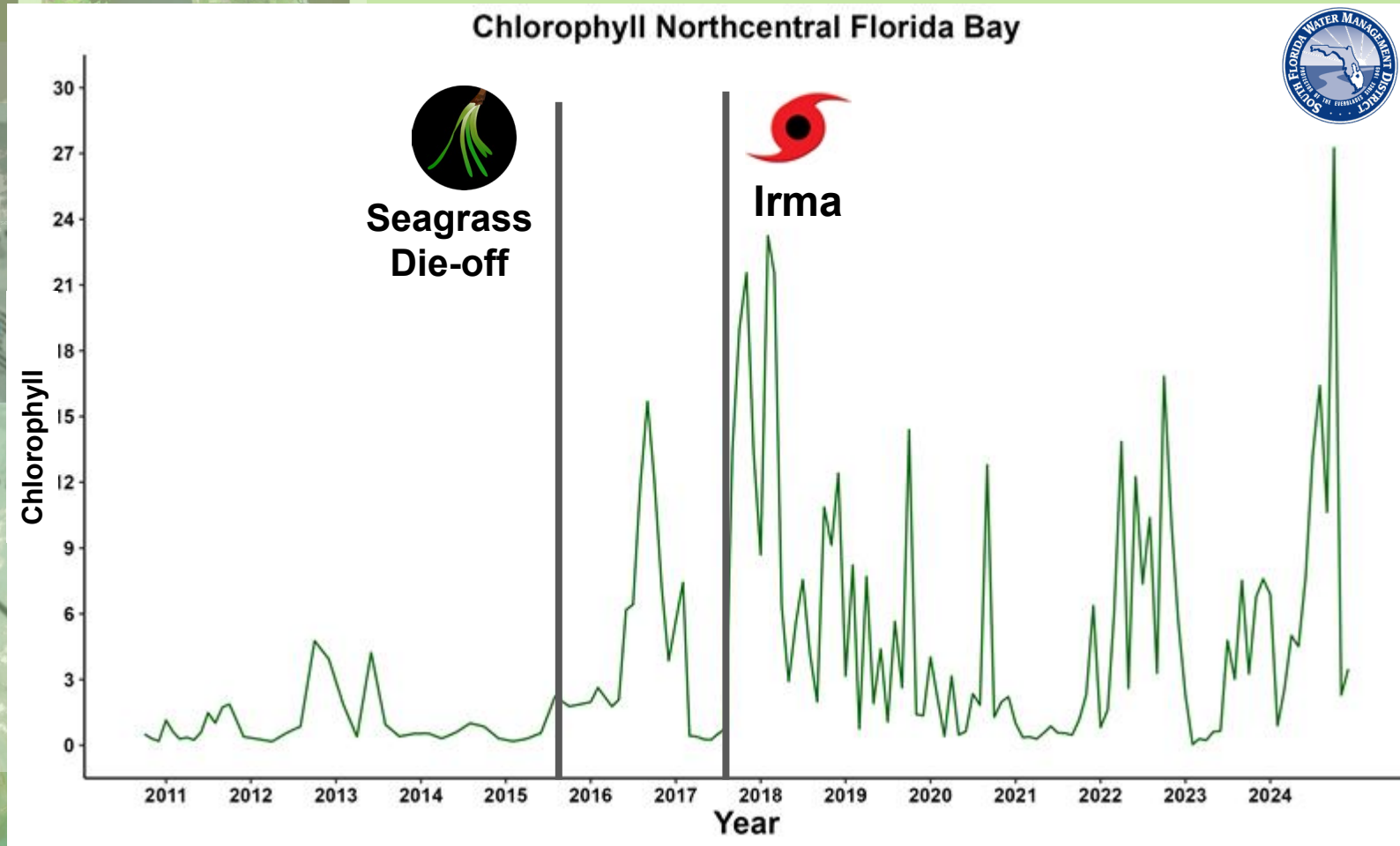




# The Issue: Algal Blooms



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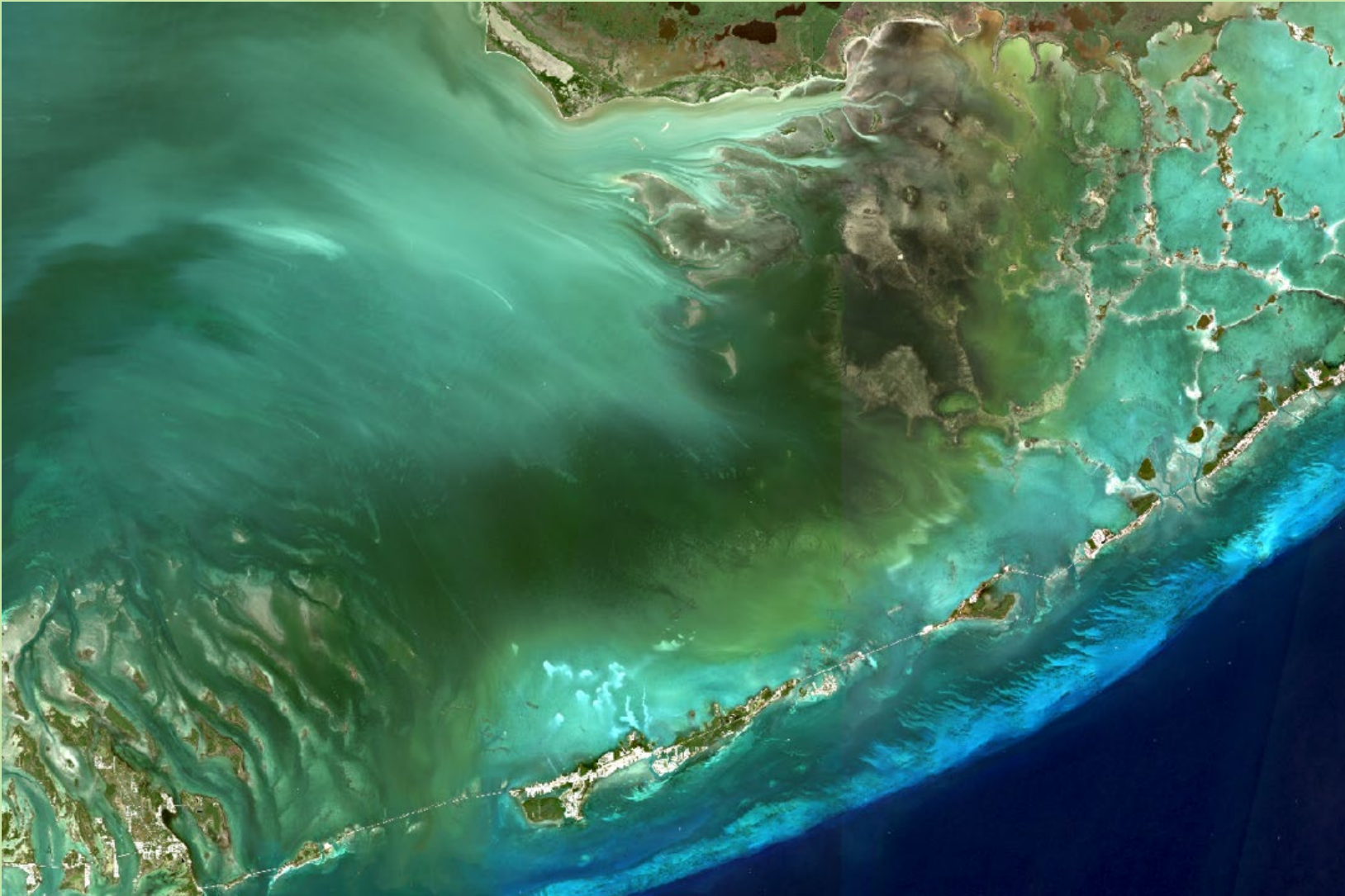


2015  
Seagrass  
Die-off





# The Issue: Algal Blooms





# The Culprit: *Synechococcus* sp.



- Cyanobacteria
- Thick mucus layer
- Low P, high  $\text{NH}_4$





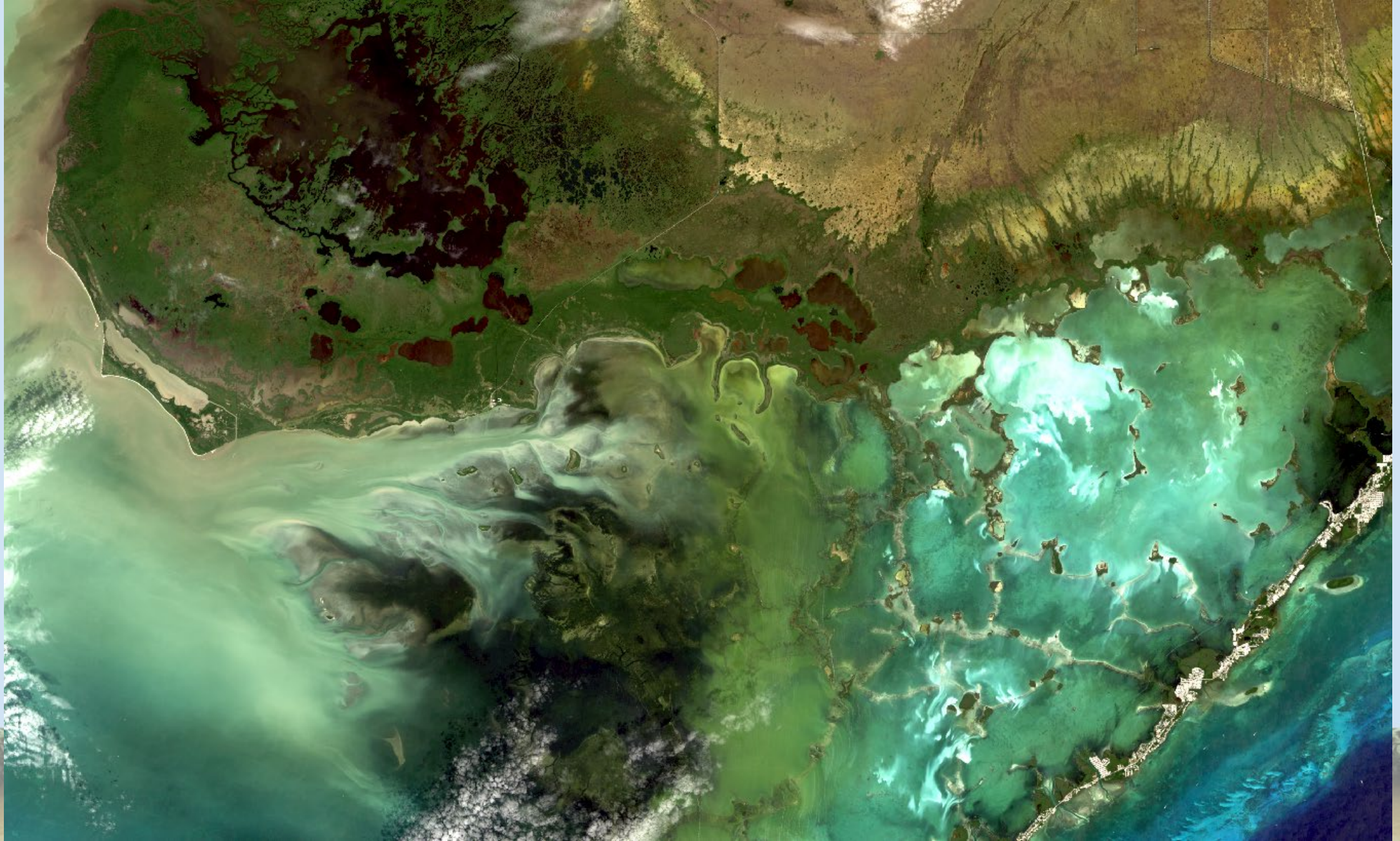
# The Questions

1. Are the nutrients causing the Florida Bay algal bloom derived from **sources inside or outside of Florida Bay?**
2. If the nutrients are derived from sources outside of Florida Bay, is the origin **upstream marshes, the coastal lakes system, areas of mangrove dieback, and/or the Gulf of Mexico?**



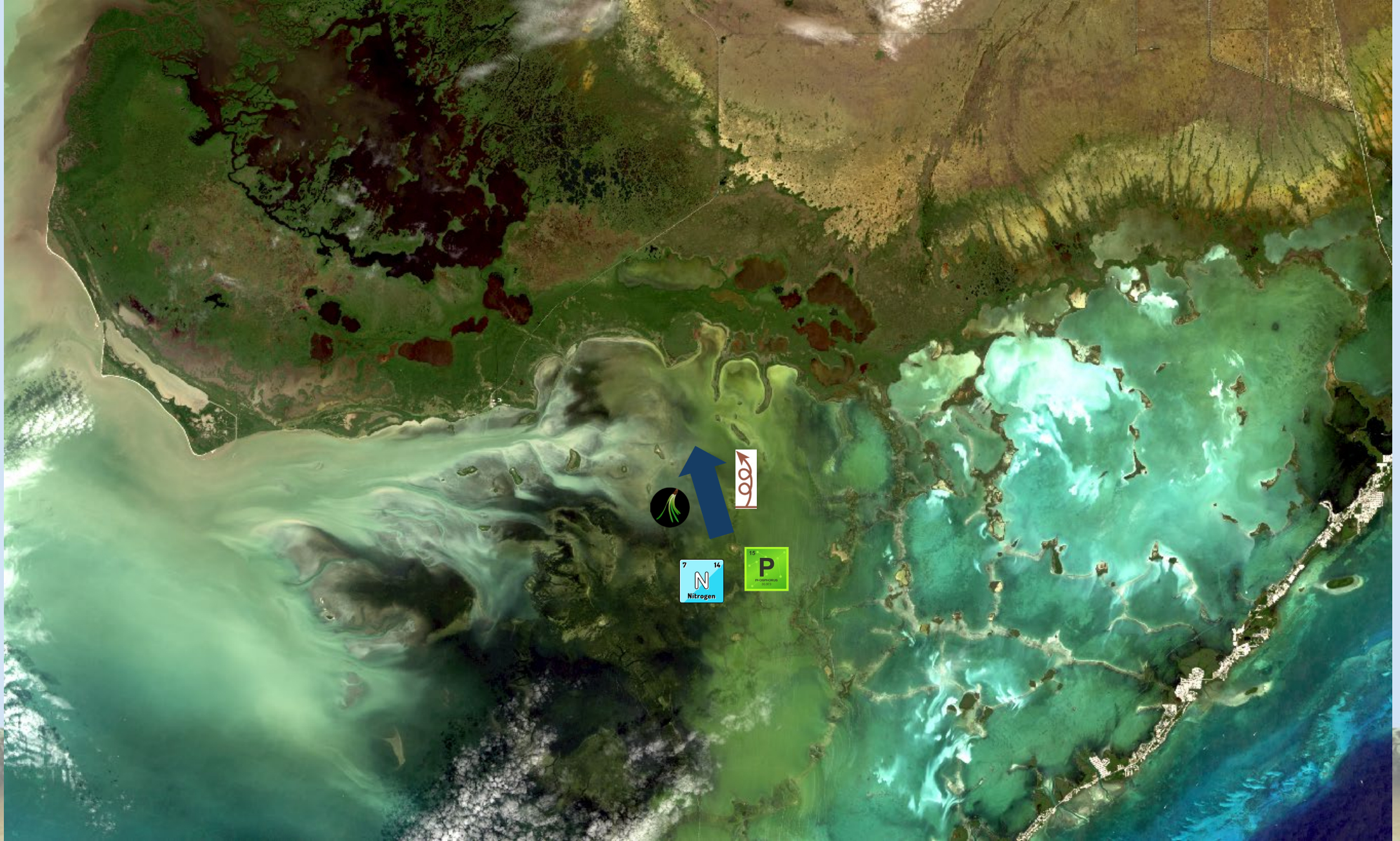


# The Hypotheses



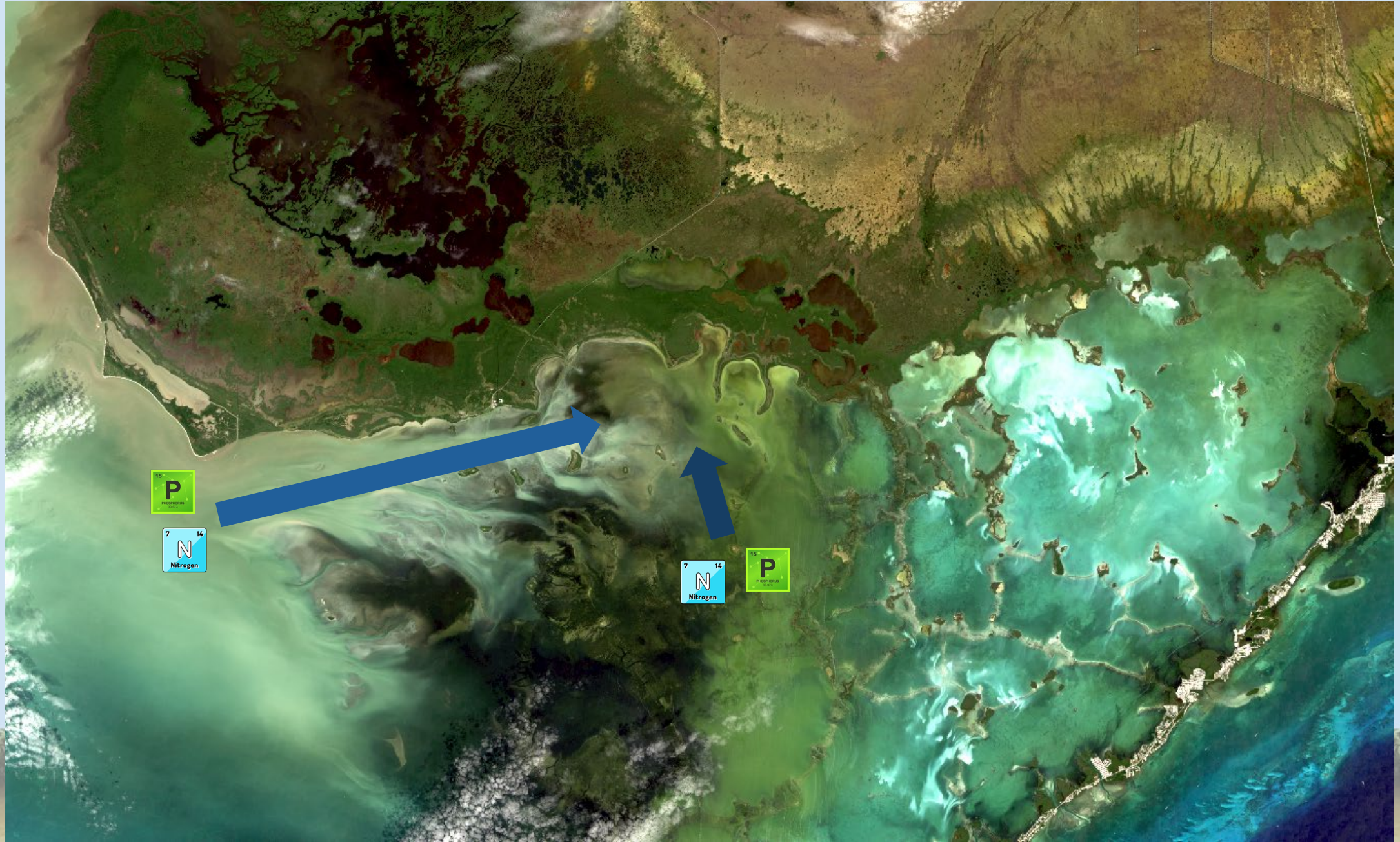


# The Hypotheses



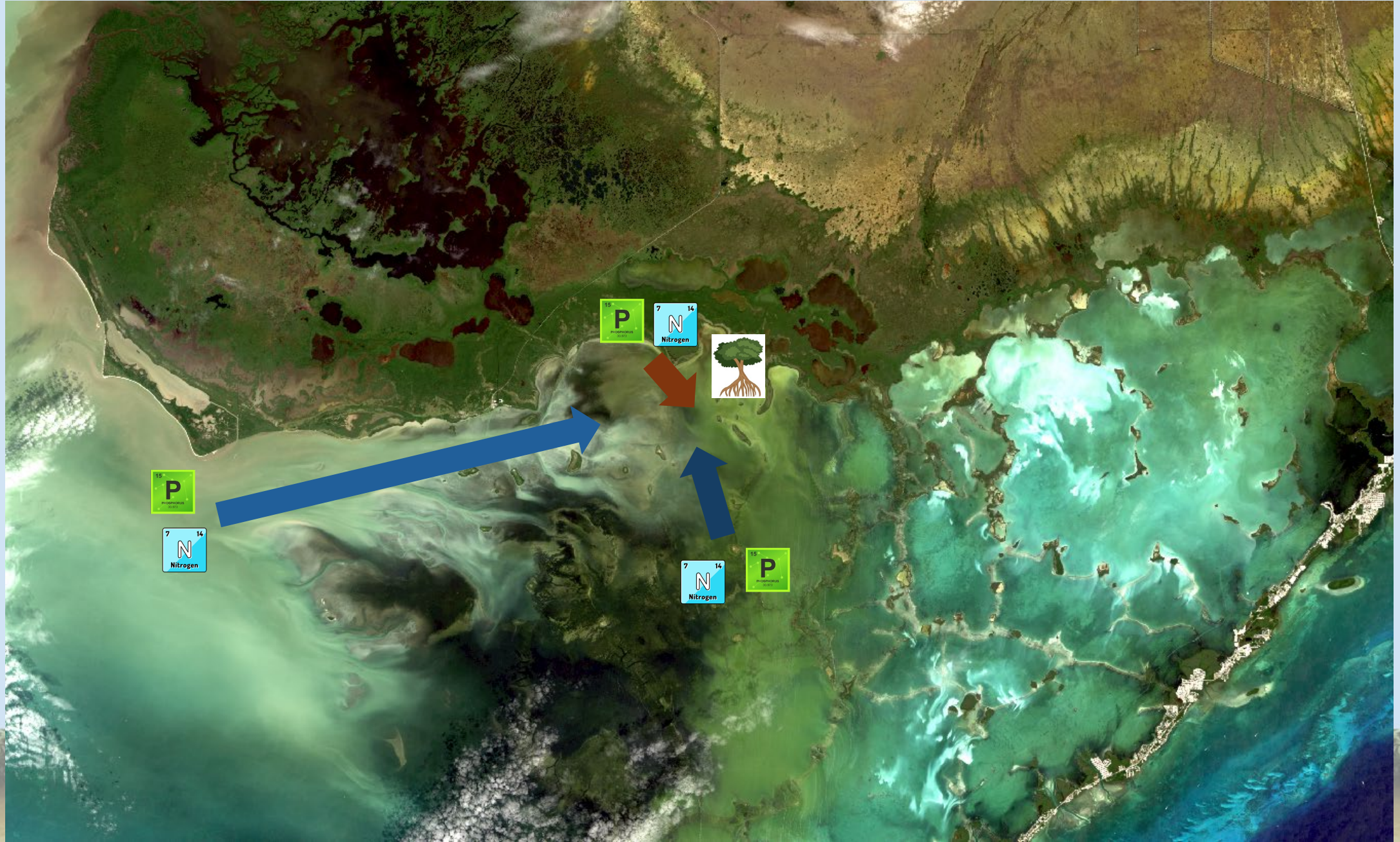


# The Hypotheses





# The Hypotheses





# The Hypotheses





# The Hypotheses





# The Hypotheses





# The Hypotheses



# The Hypotheses





# The Hypotheses





# The Hypotheses





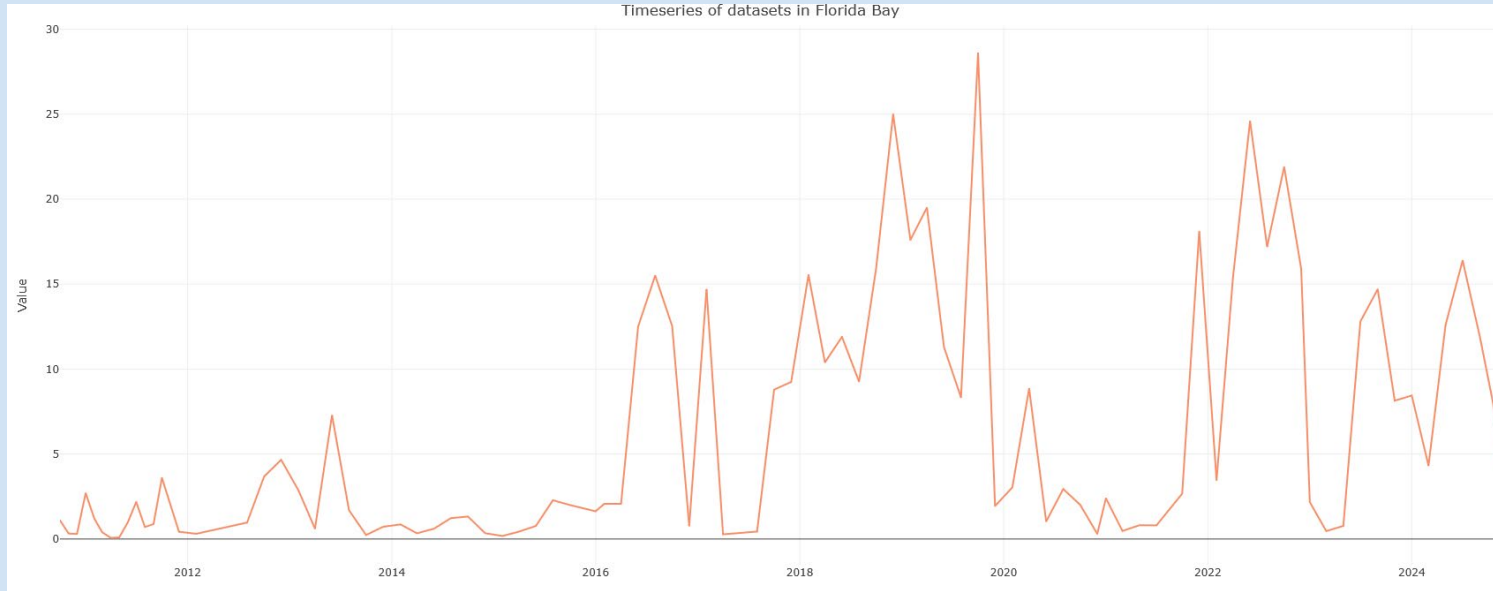
# The Approach: Empirical Dynamic Modelling (EDM)





# Power of Long-Term Data

The Approach: EDM



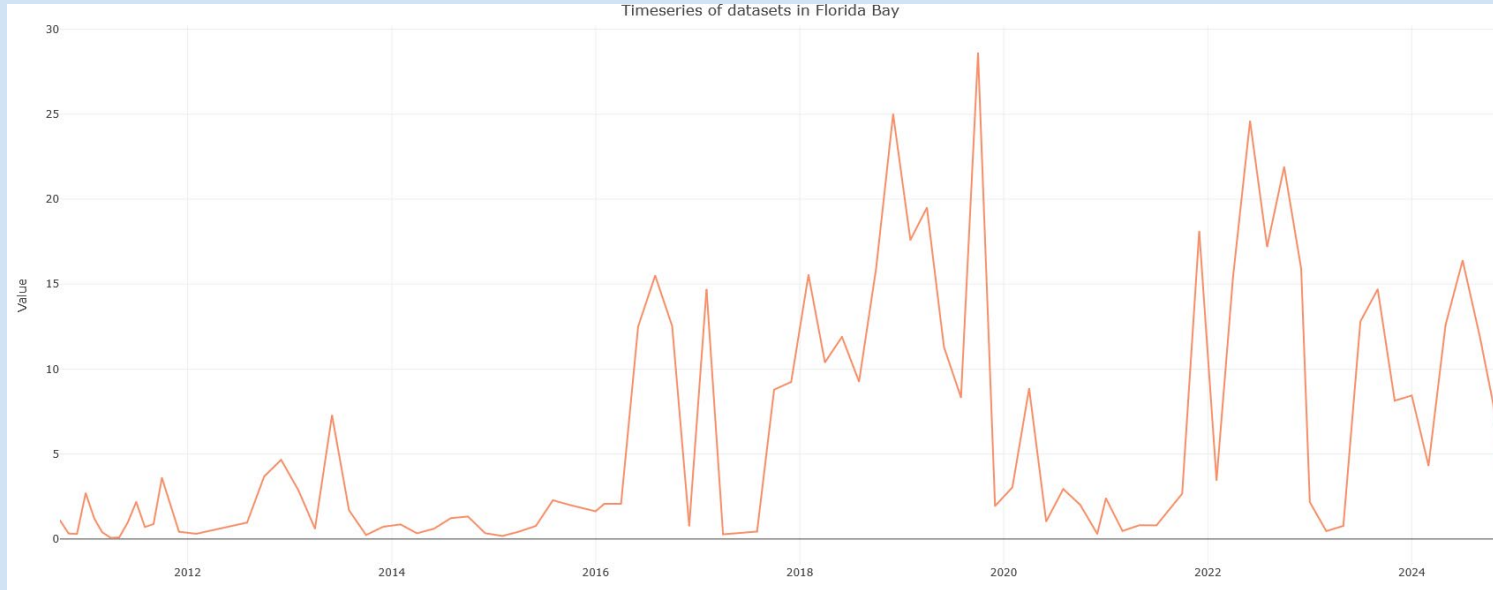
**Chlorophyll levels via  
grab sampling**





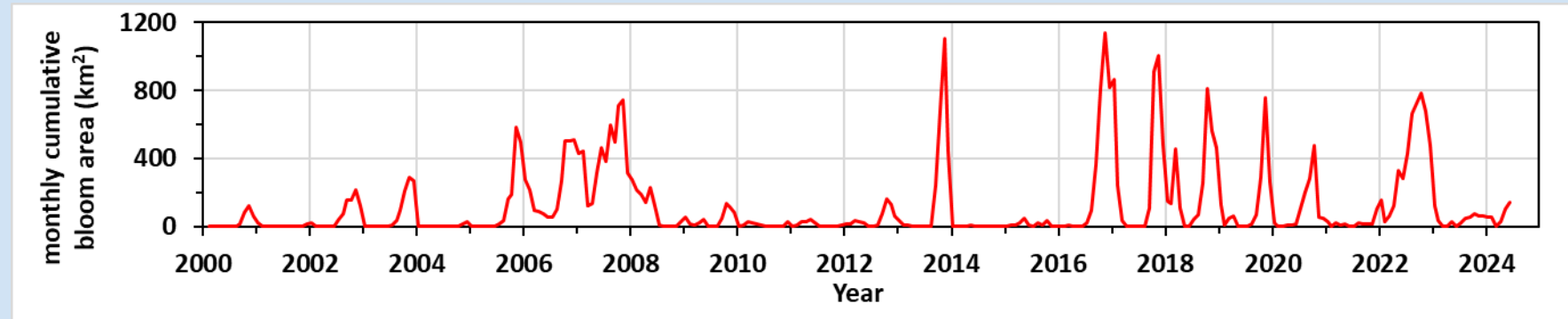
# Power of Long-Term Data

The Approach: EDM



**Chlorophyll levels via  
grab sampling**

**Bloom area via  
remote sensing**





## An Introduction to Empirical Dynamic Modeling

*from*

“Detecting Causality in Complex Ecosystems”

Sugihara et al. *Science* (2012)

narration by: Robert M. May

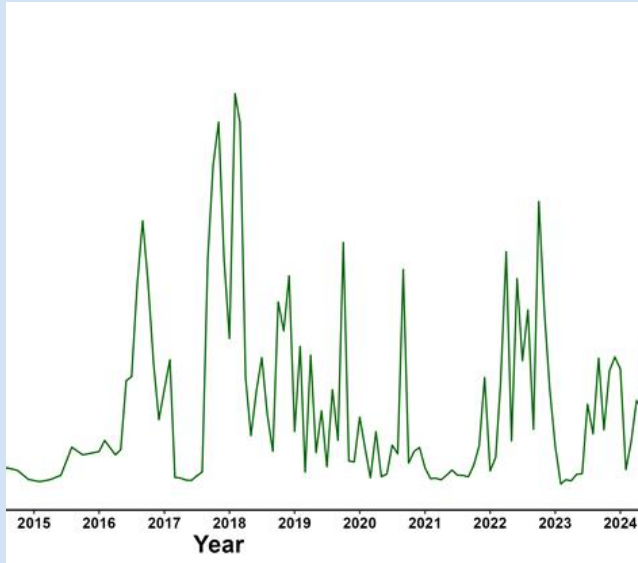
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# Methodology

## The Approach: EDM

1.



Crop time series  
to 2015 - 2023

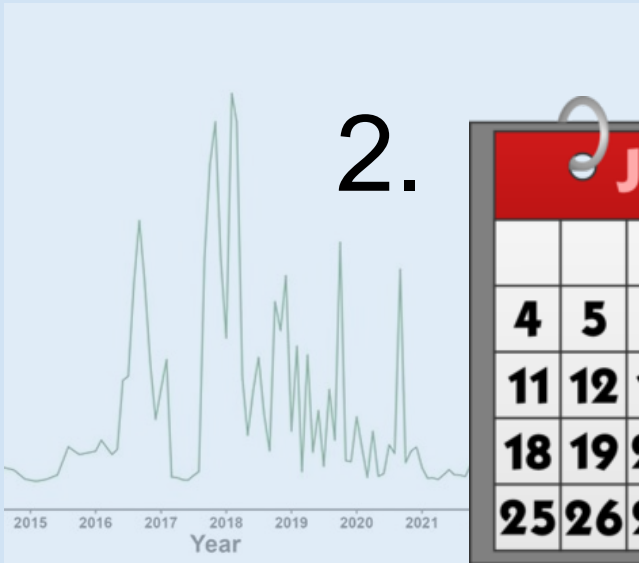




# Methodology

The Approach: EDM

1.



2.

January						
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Average data  
to monthly



# Methodology

## The Approach: EDM

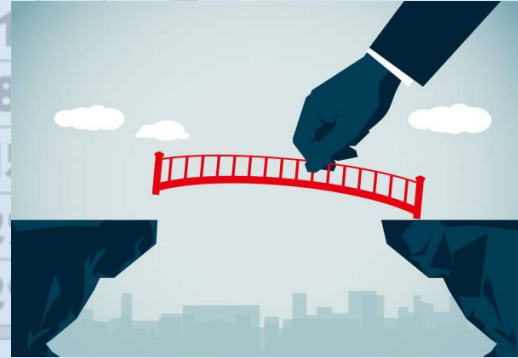
1.



2.



3.



Interpolate  
missing  
values





# Methodology

## The Approach: EDM

1.



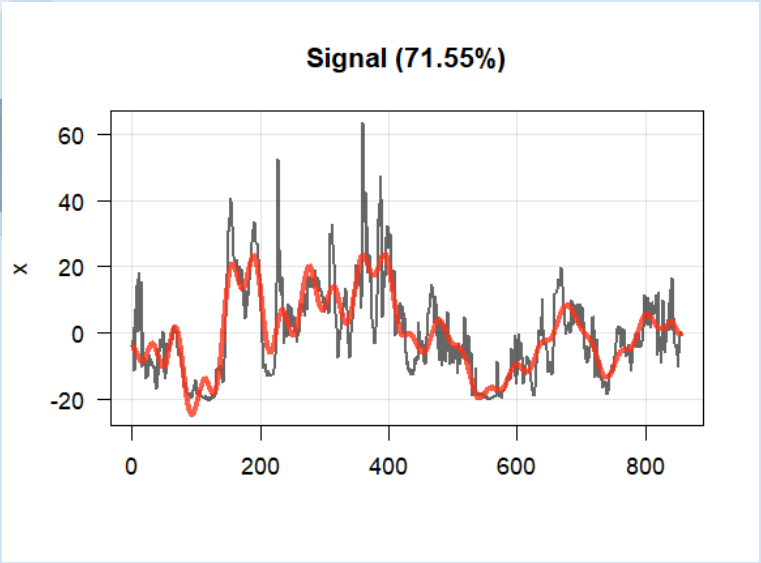
2.



3.



4.



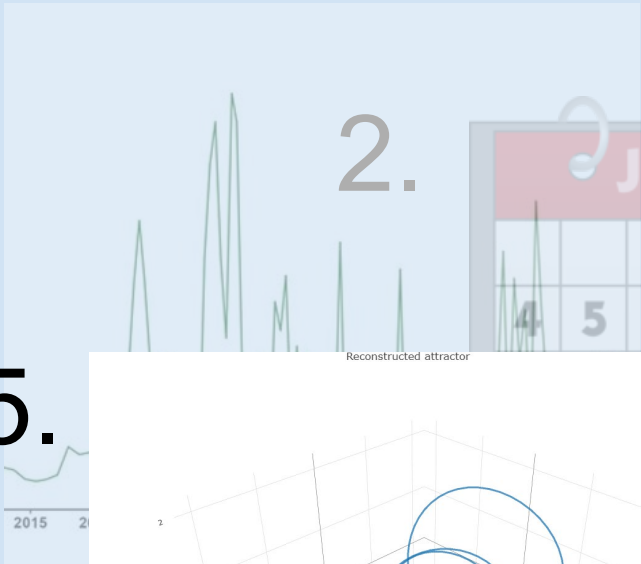
Isolate  
temporal  
signal



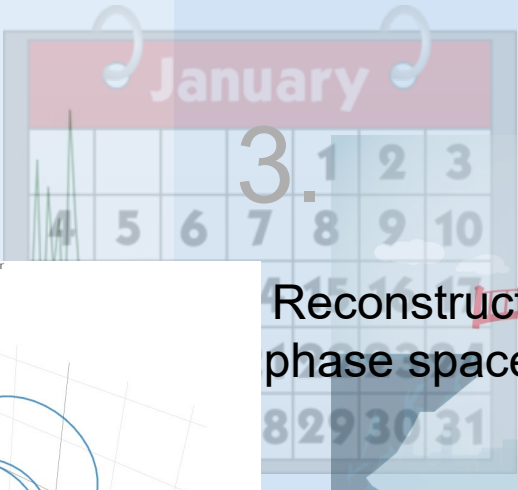
# Methodology

## The Approach: EDM

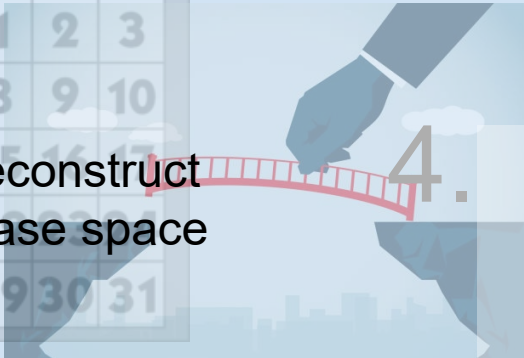
1.



2.



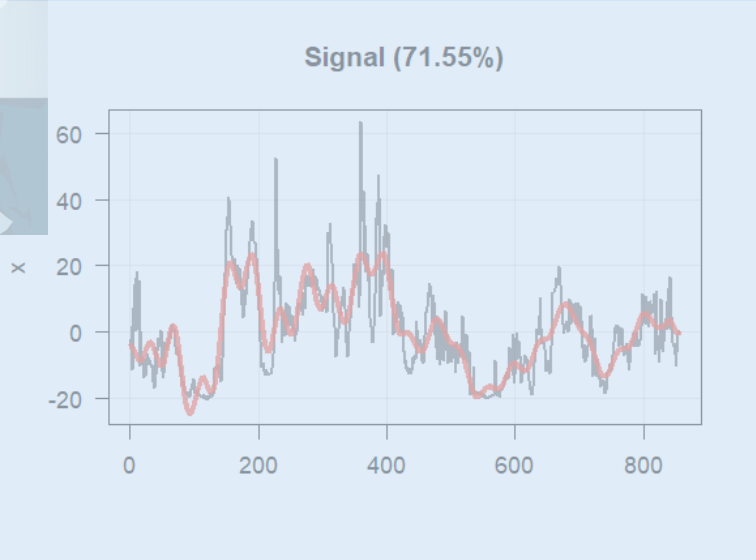
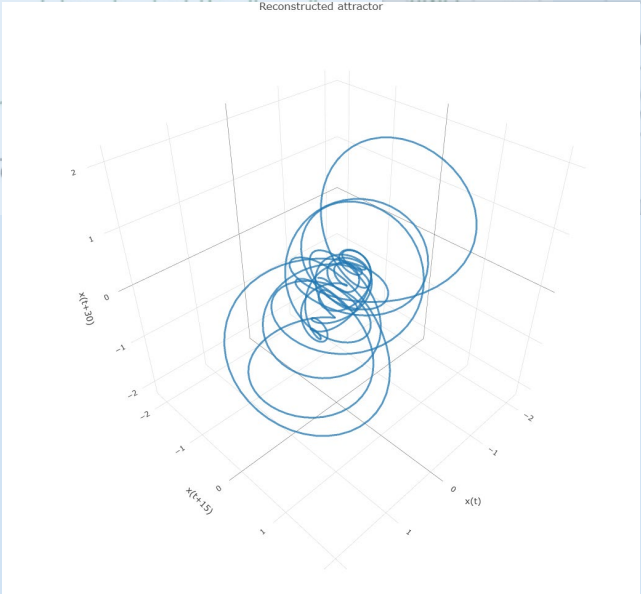
3.



4.

Reconstruct  
phase space

5.





# Methodology

## The Approach: EDM

1.



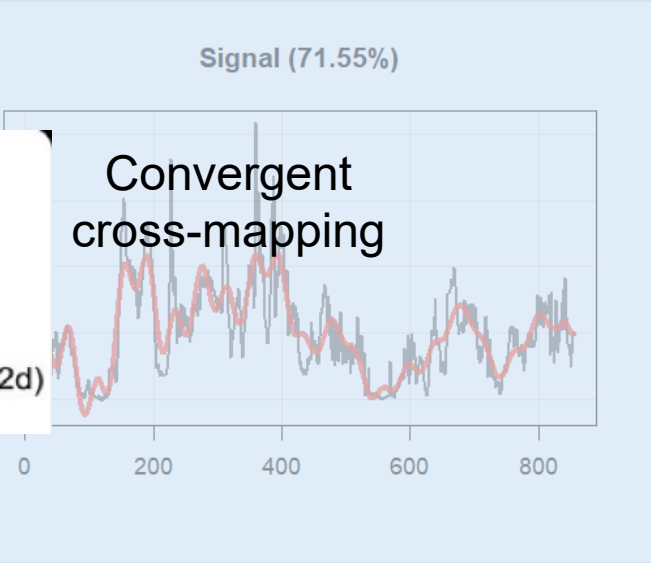
2.



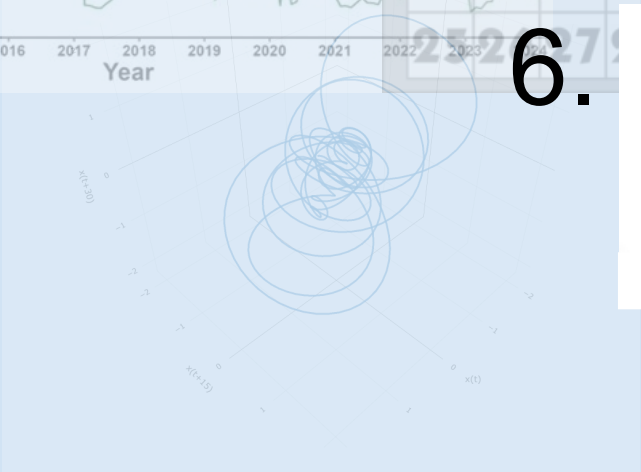
3.



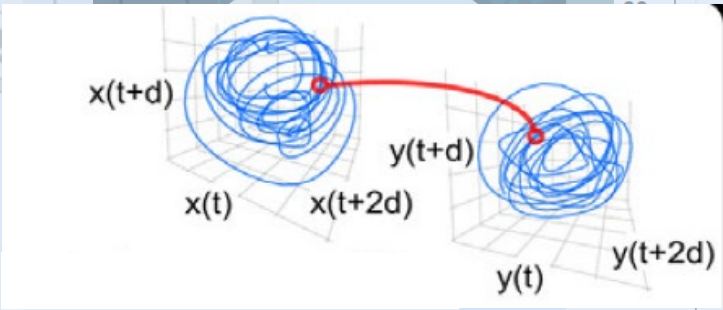
4.



5.



6.



# The Preliminary Results



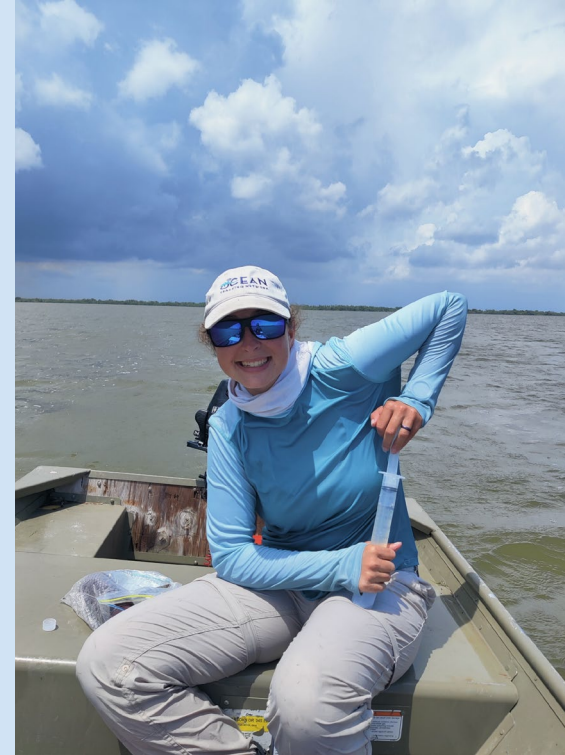


# Progress so far



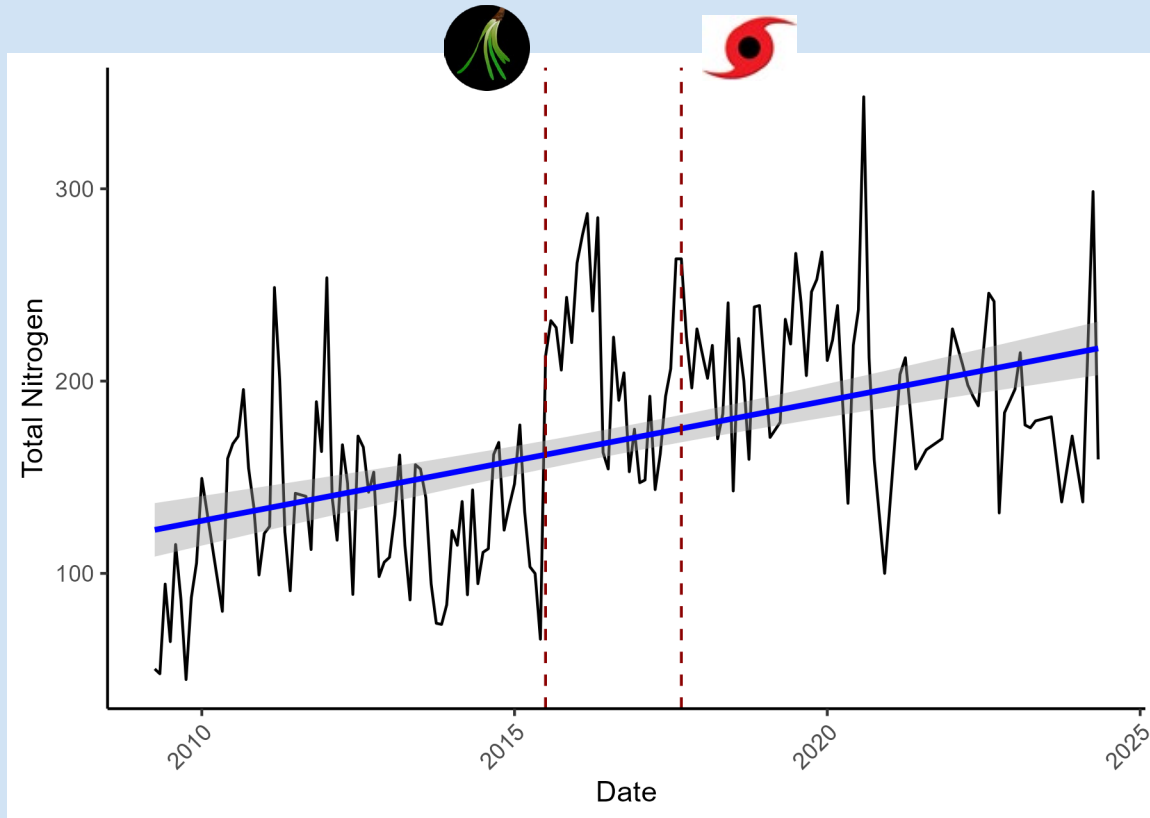
- Total samples collected: **1,784**
- Total samples submitted: **1,444**
- Total datasets downloaded and standardized: **108**

# The Preliminary Results



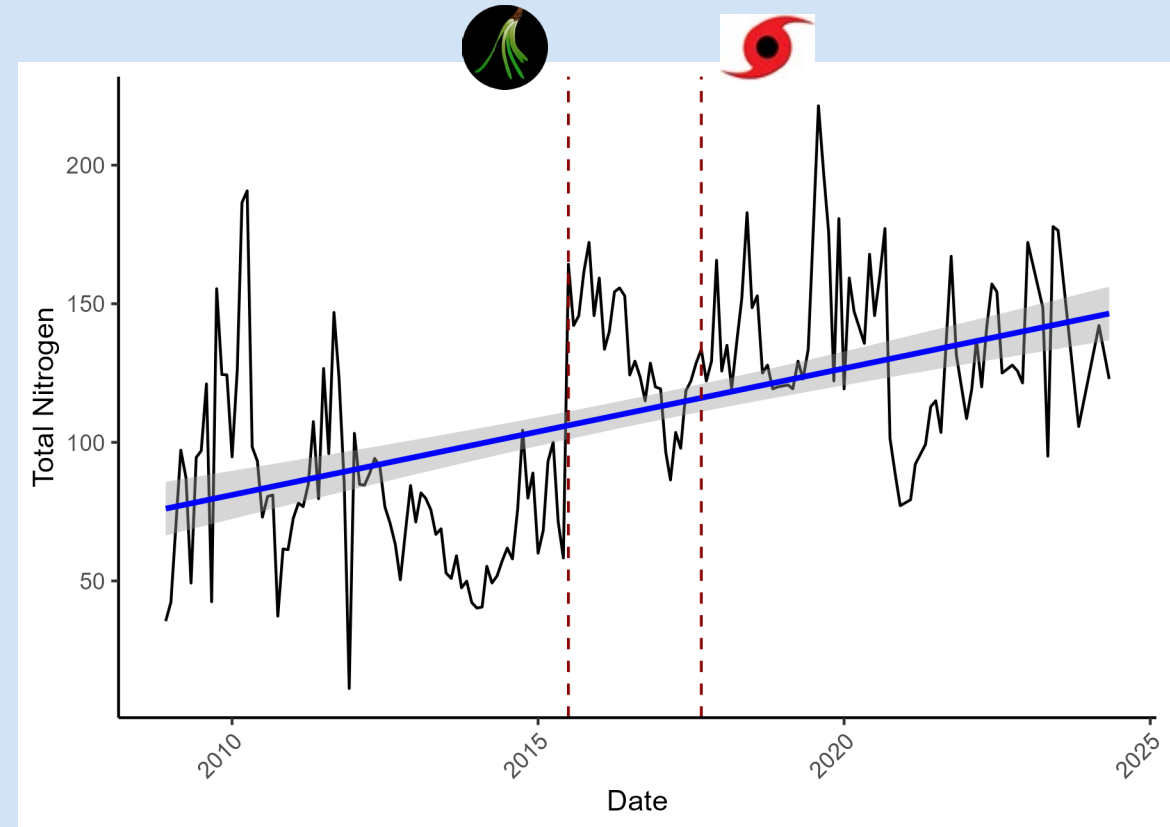
# Total Nitrogen

## Alligator Creek



# The Preliminary Results

## McCormick Creek

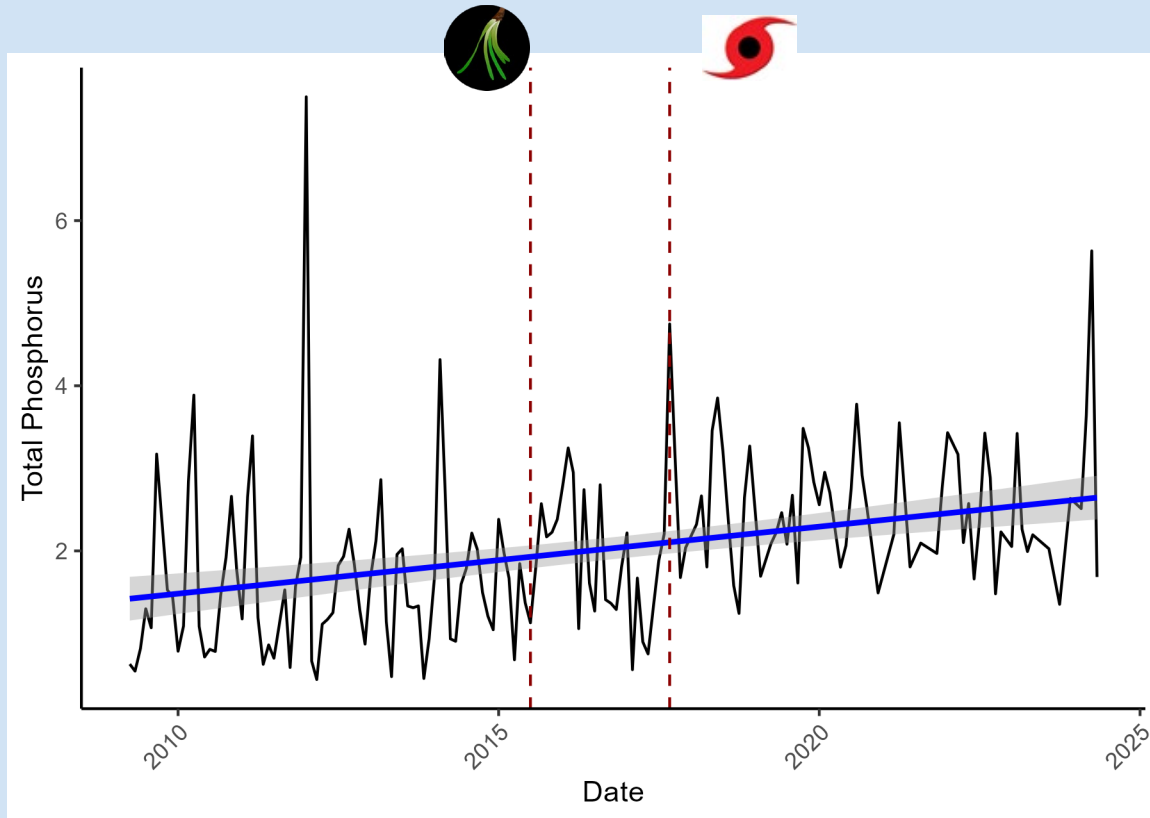




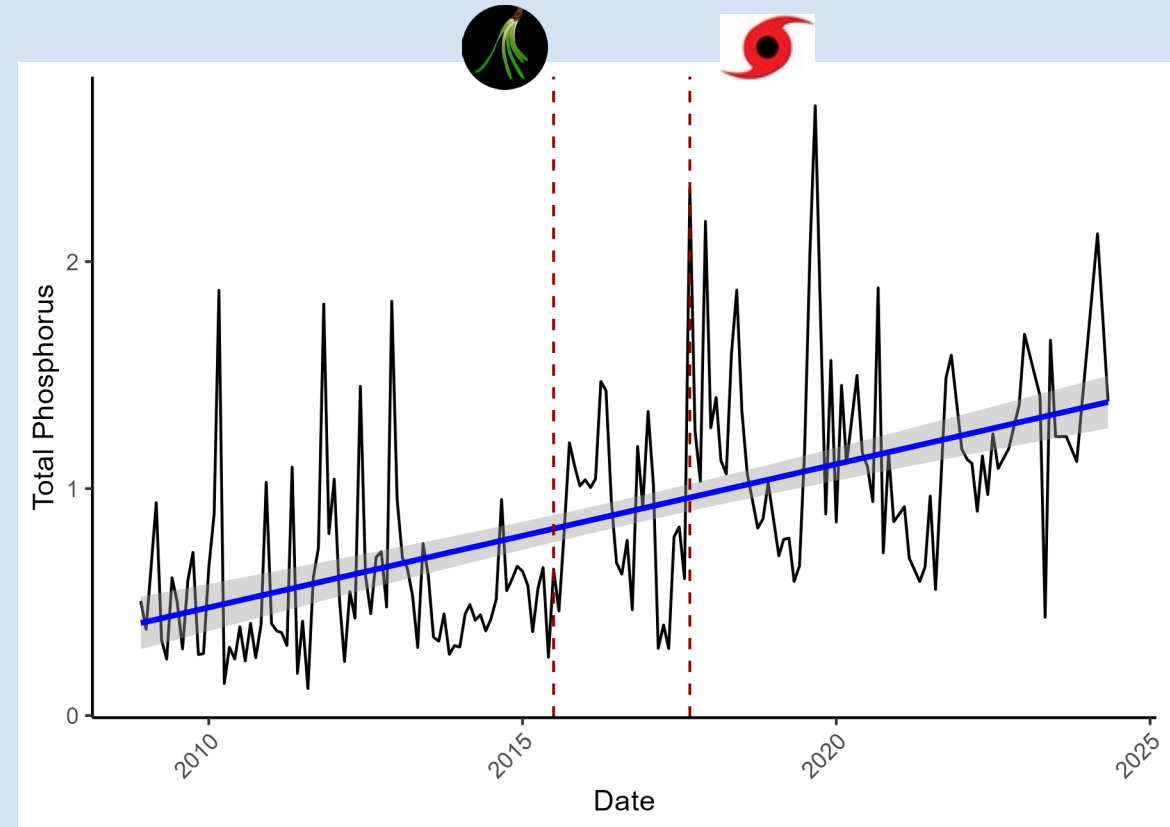
# Total Phosphorus

## The Preliminary Results

### Alligator Creek

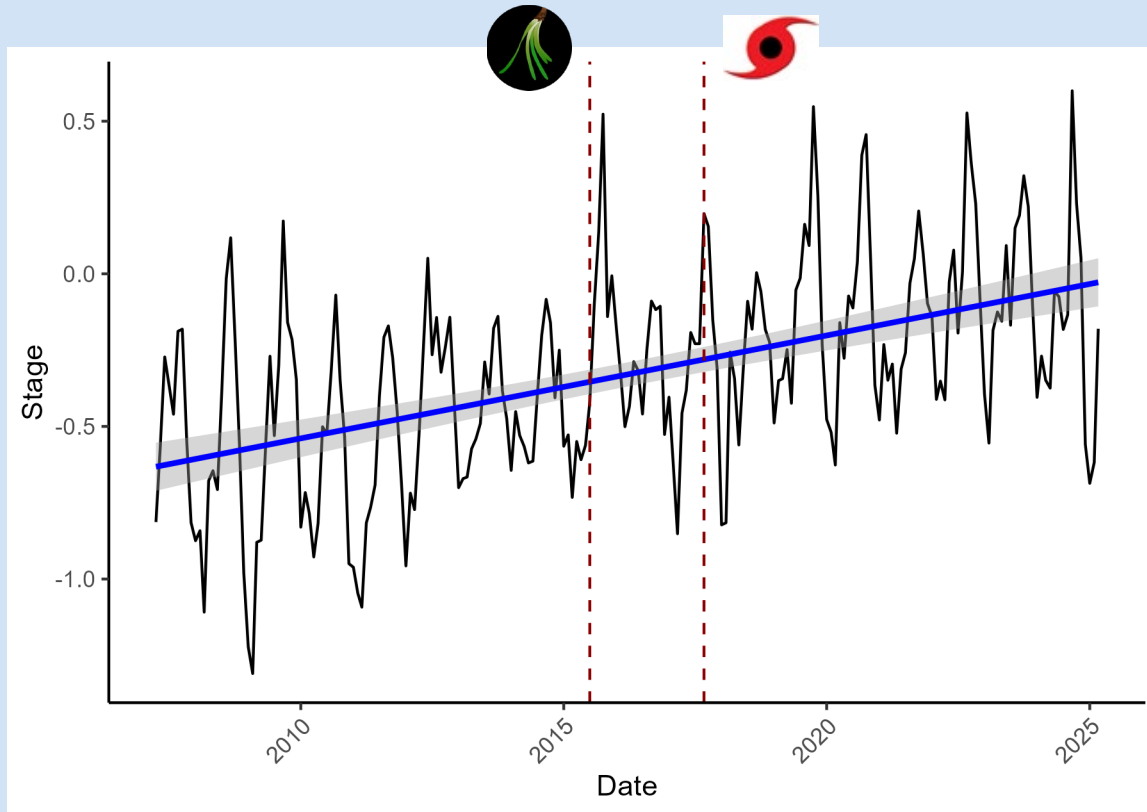


### McCormick Creek



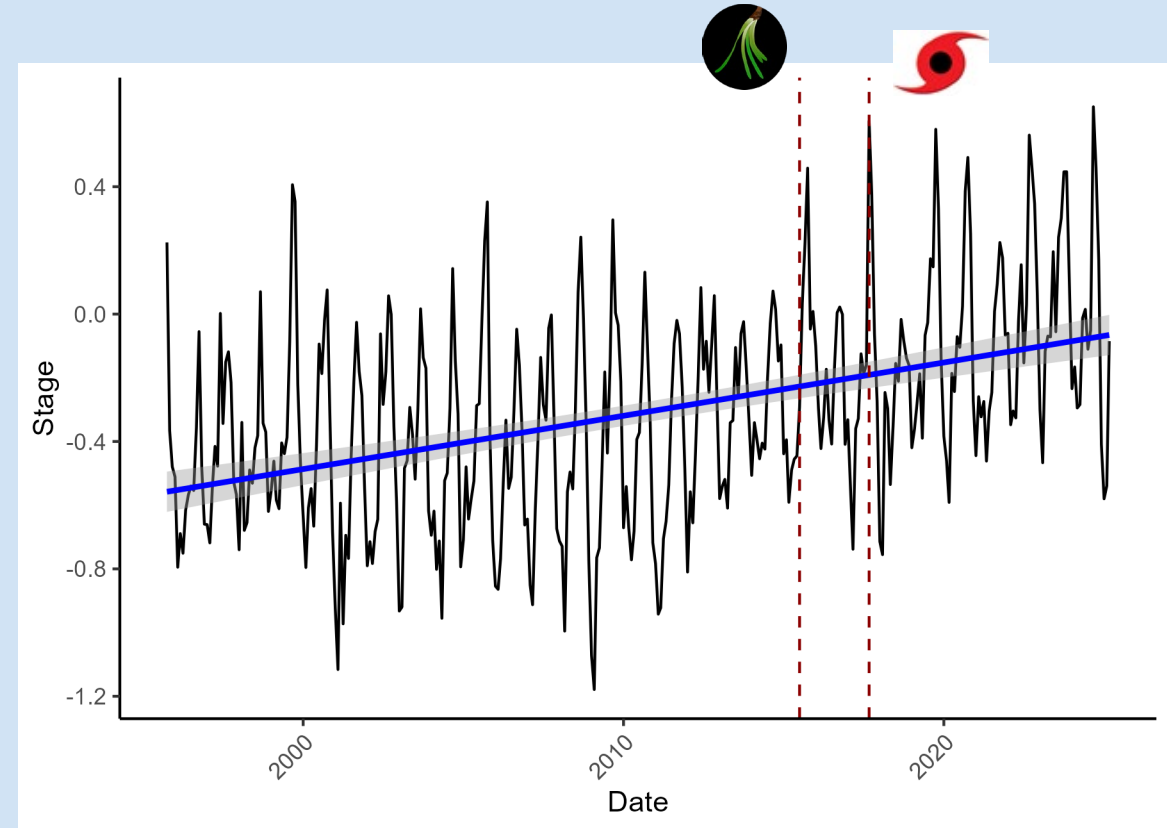
# Stage ↑

## Alligator Creek



# The Preliminary Results

## McCormick Creek

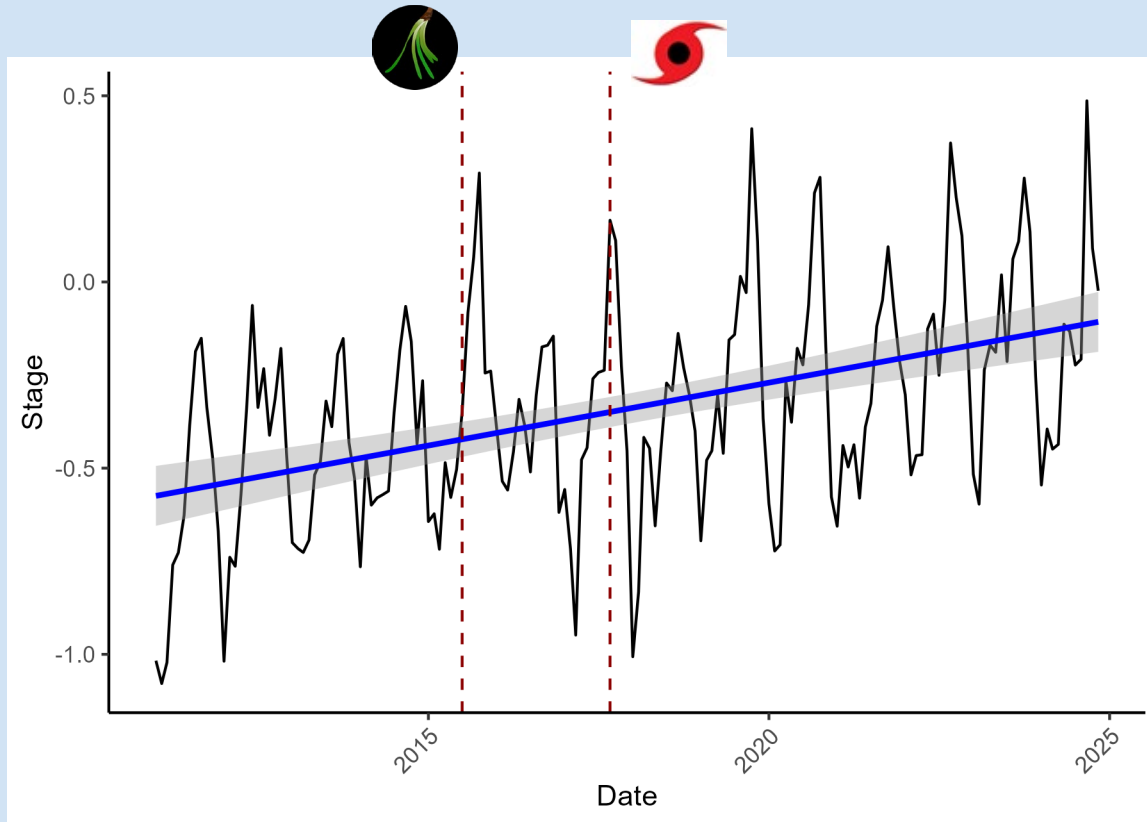




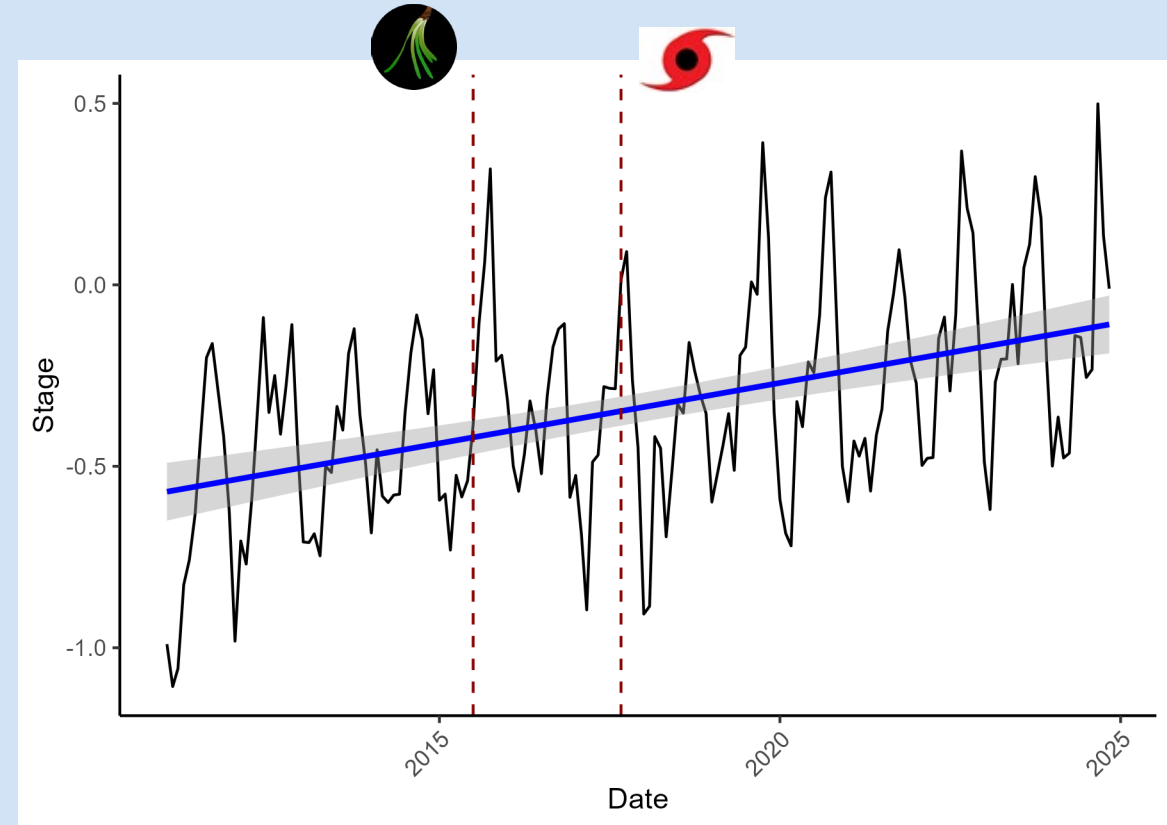
# Stage ↑

## The Preliminary Results

### Garfield Bight



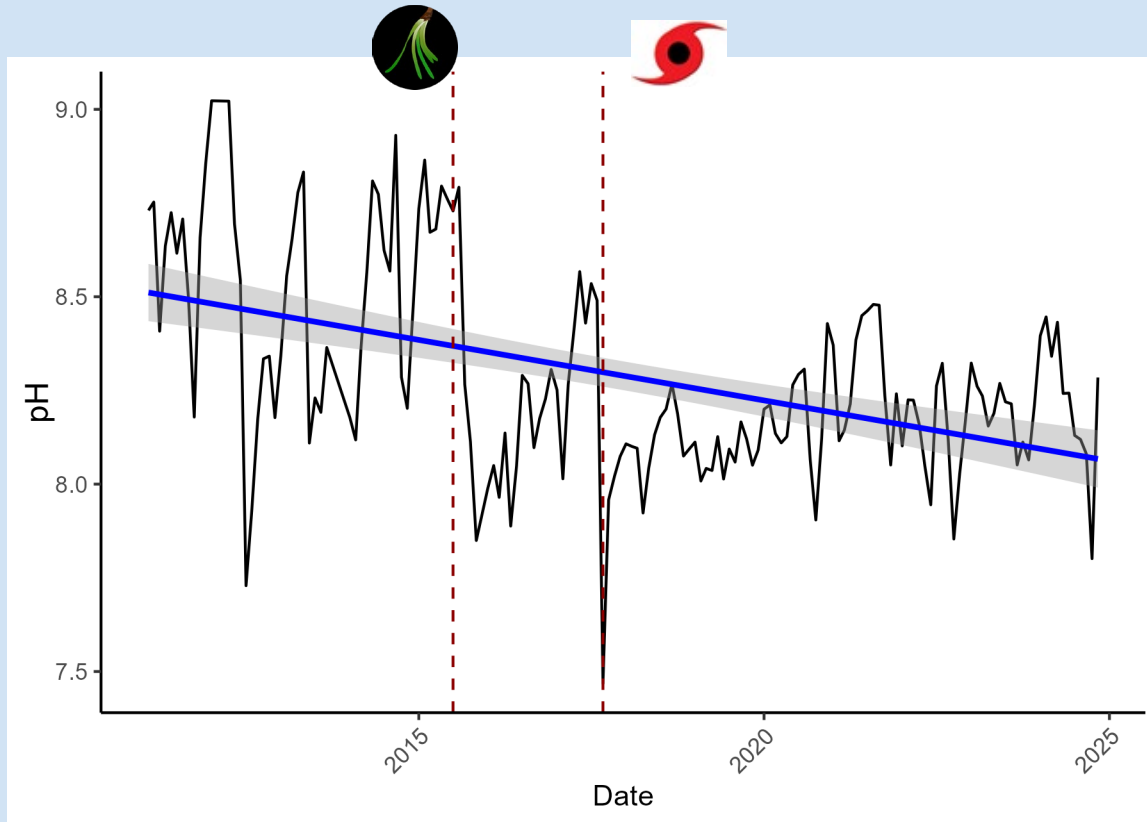
### Terrapin Bay



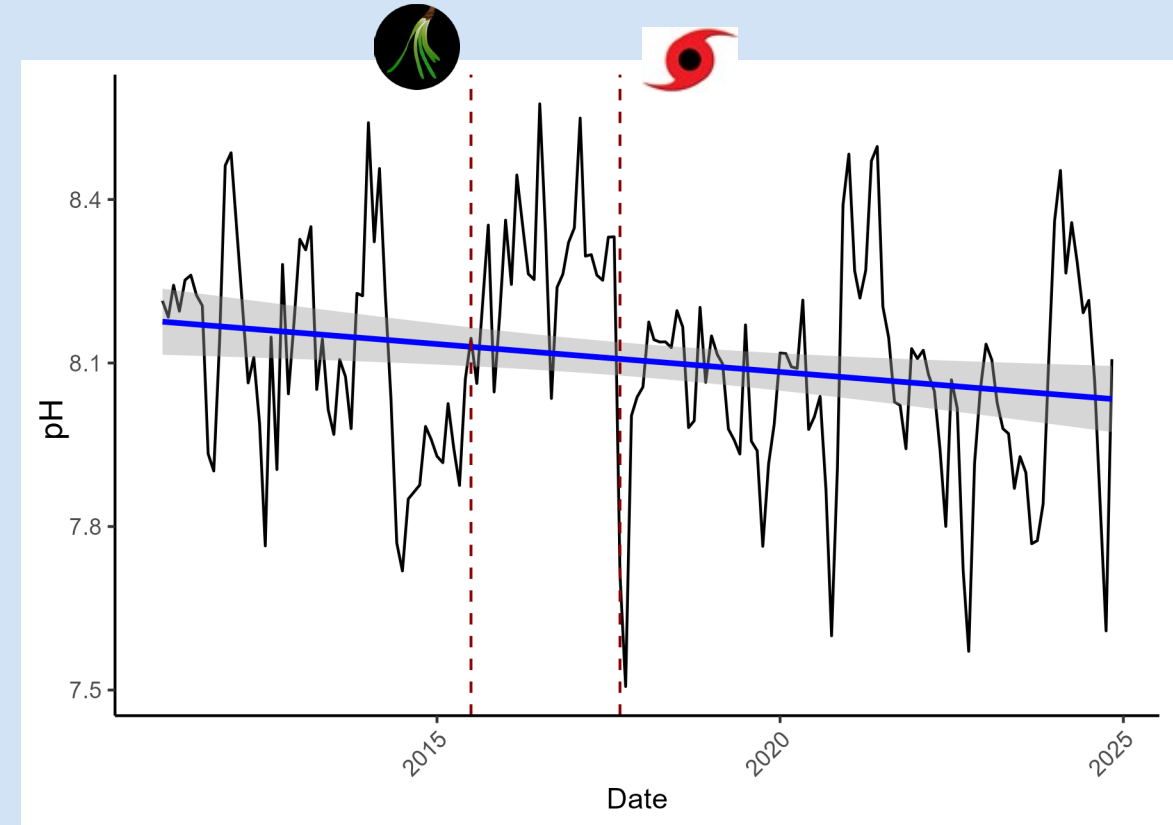
pH ↓

# The Preliminary Results

## Garfield Bight



## Terrapin Bay

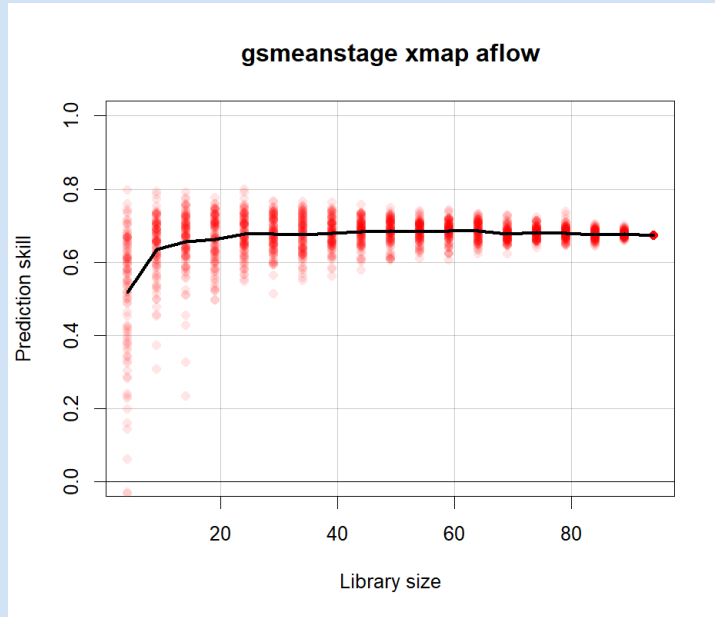




# Causality

## The Preliminary Results

Flow out of Alligator drives  
Mean Stage in Garfield

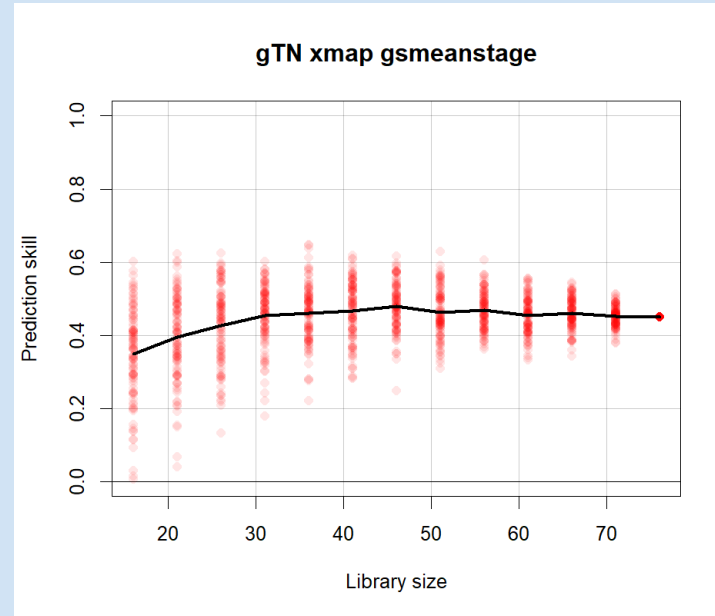
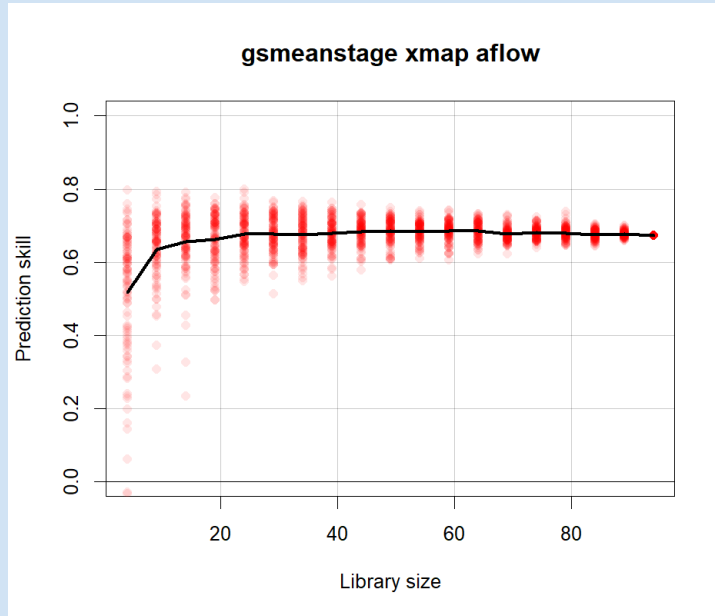


# Causality

## The Preliminary Results

Flow out of Alligator drives  
Mean Stage in Garfield

Mean Stage in Garfield drives  
Total Nitrogen in Garfield





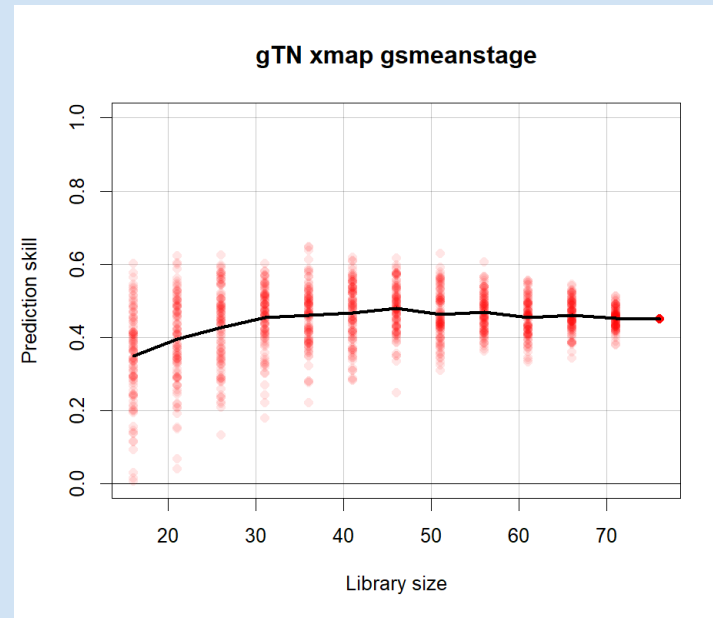
# Causality

## The Preliminary Results

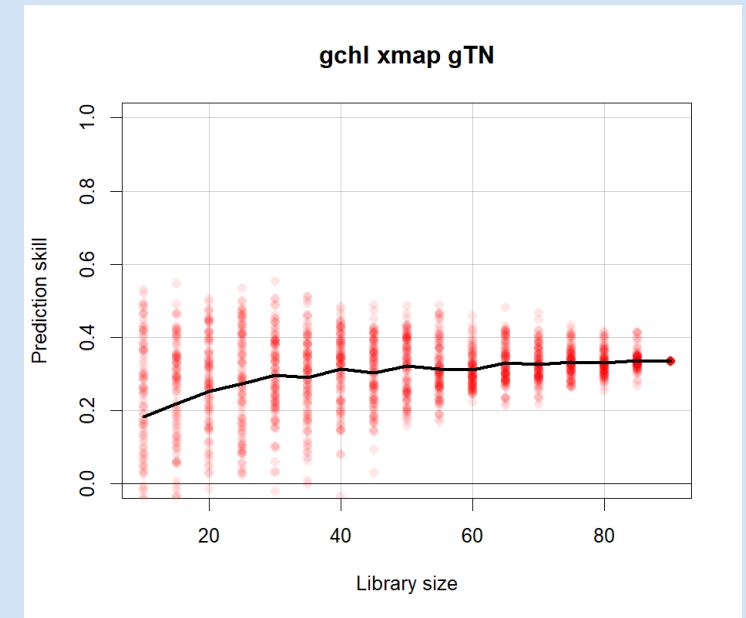
Flow out of Alligator drives  
Mean Stage in Garfield



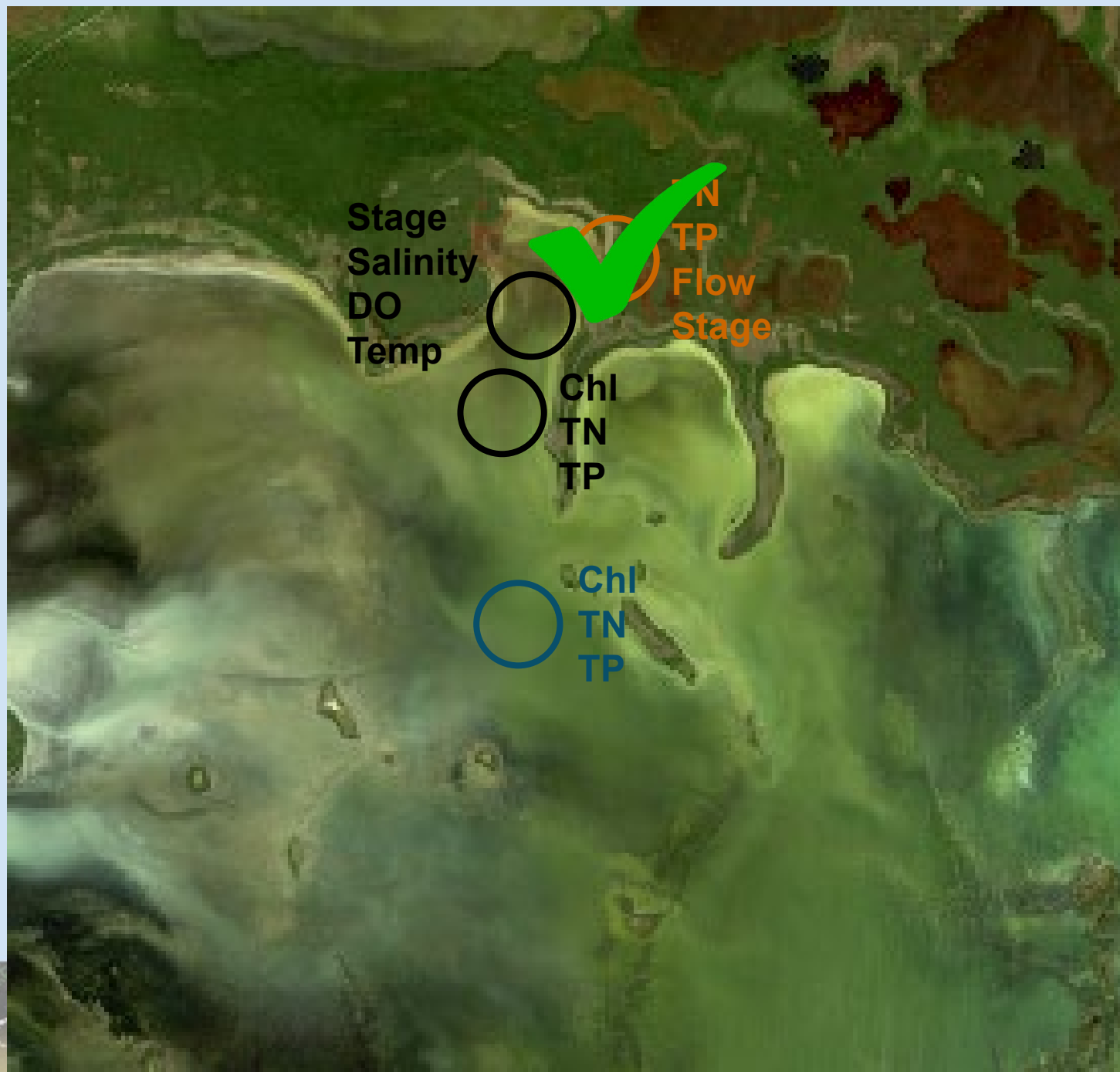
Mean Stage in Garfield drives  
Total Nitrogen in Garfield



Total Nitrogen in Garfield drives  
Chlorophyll in Garfield



# Causality



## The Preliminary Results

- Flow out of lakes is a factor
- Still need to investigate more!

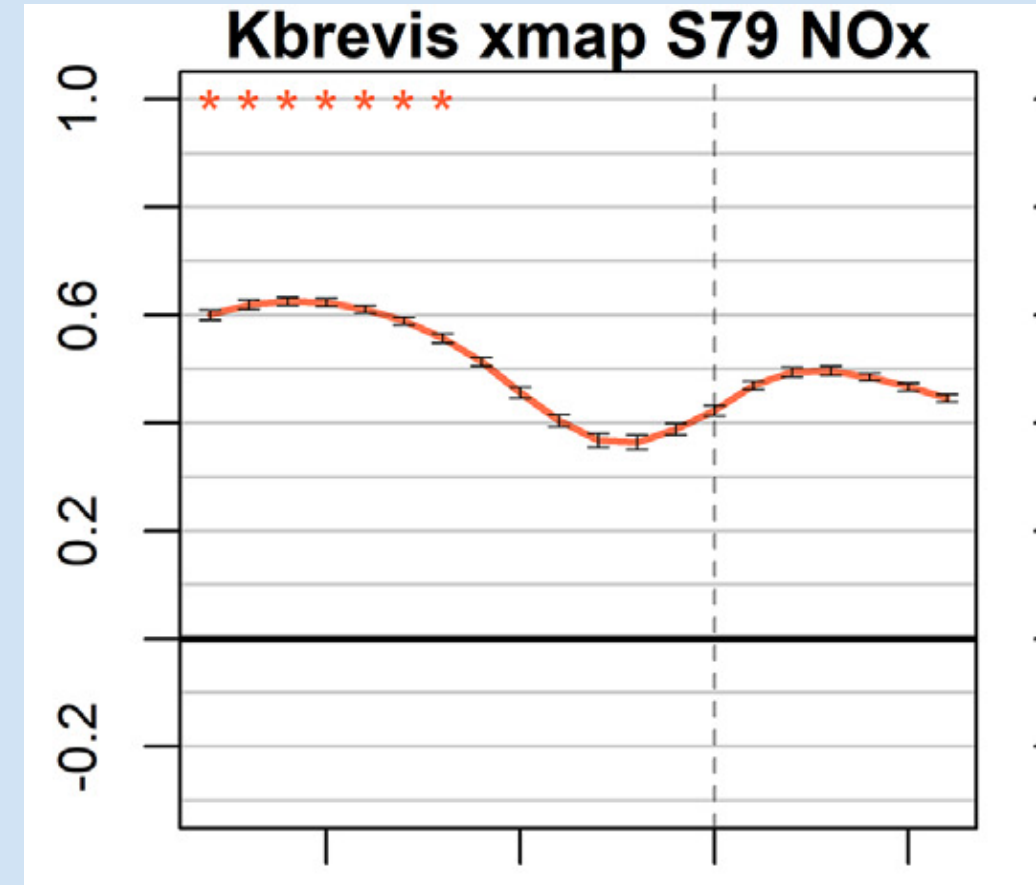
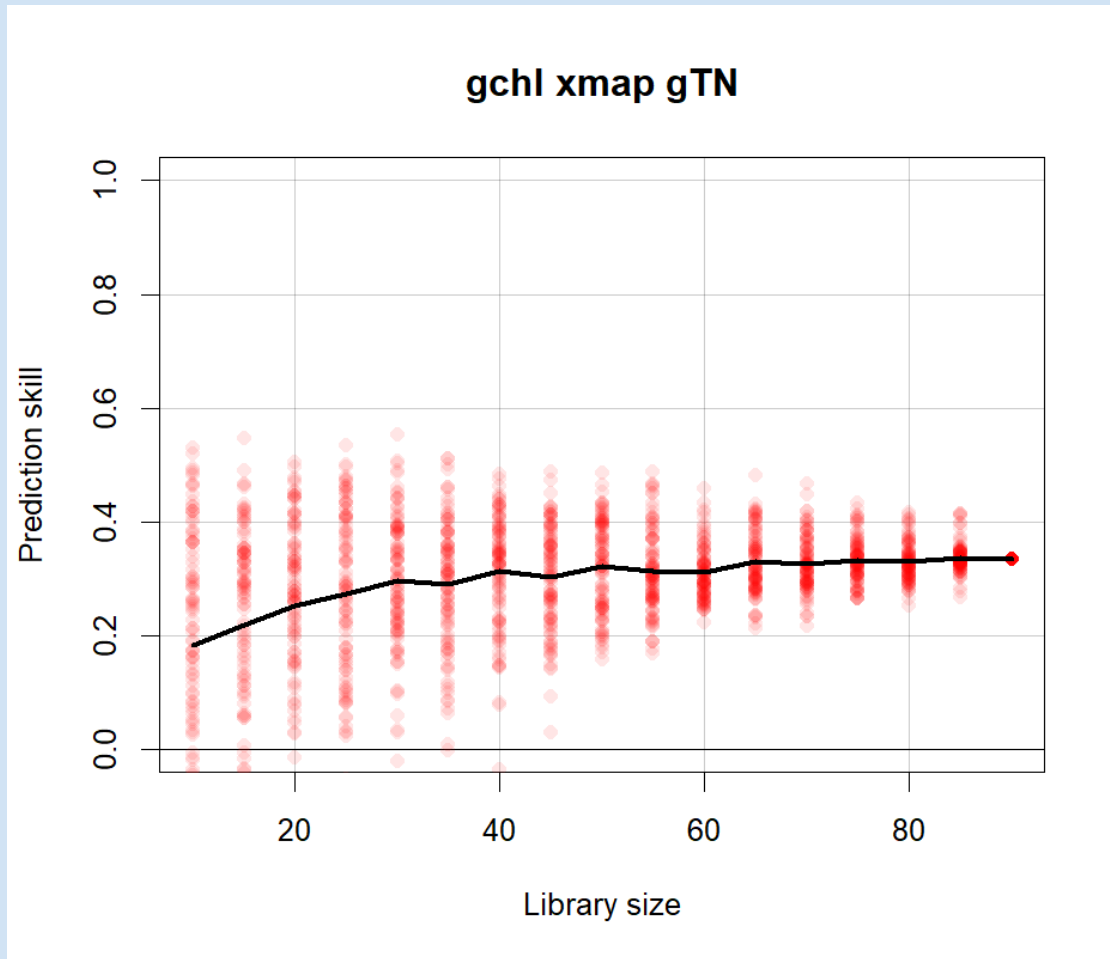


# The Next Steps



# Lag-effect CCM

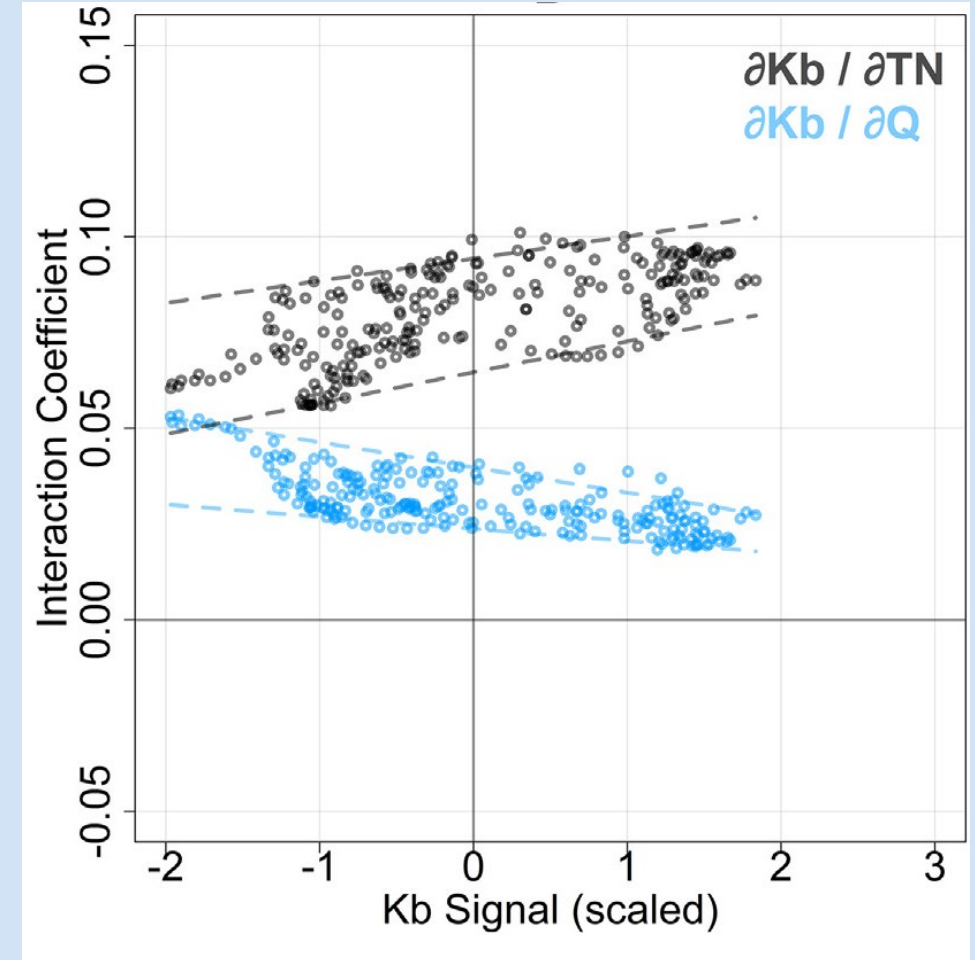
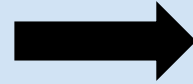
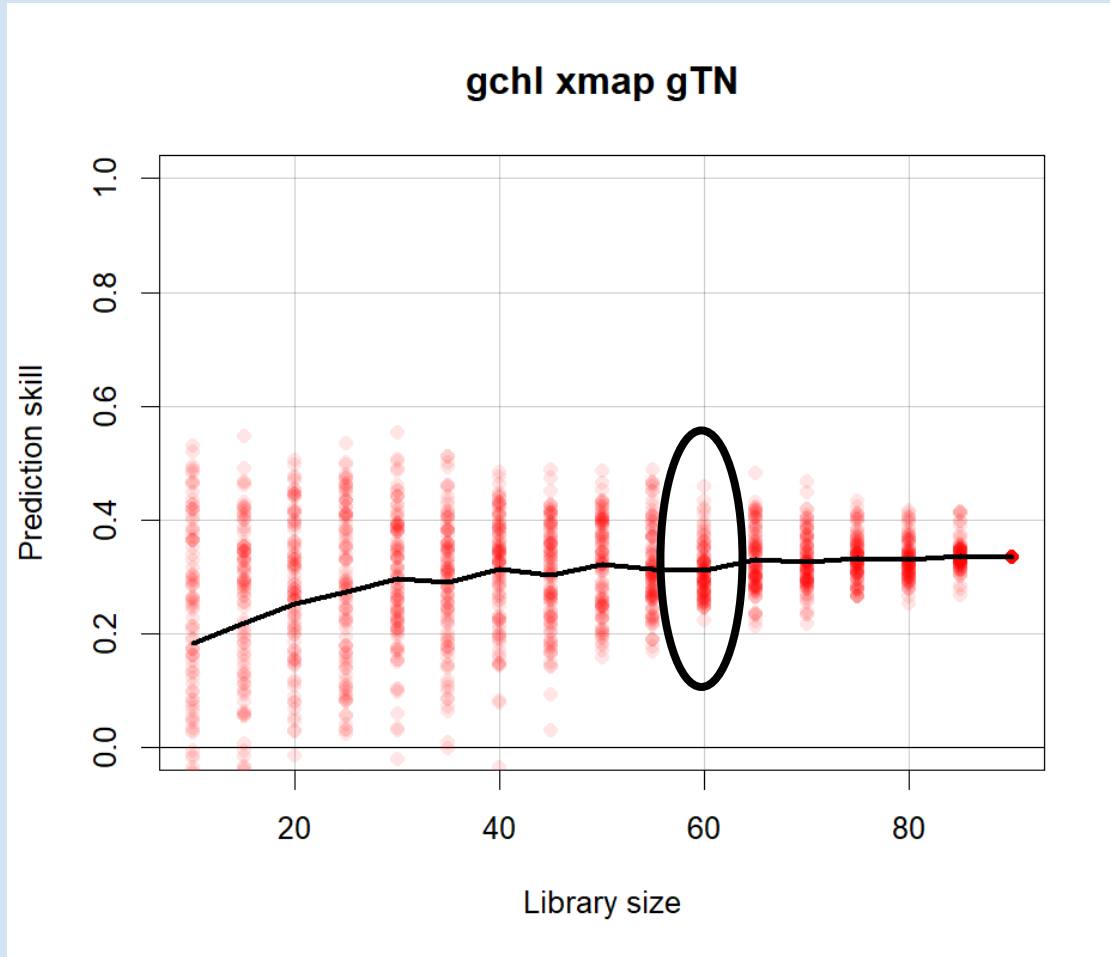
The Next Steps





# S-mapping

## The Next Steps





# Add in other data

# The Next Steps





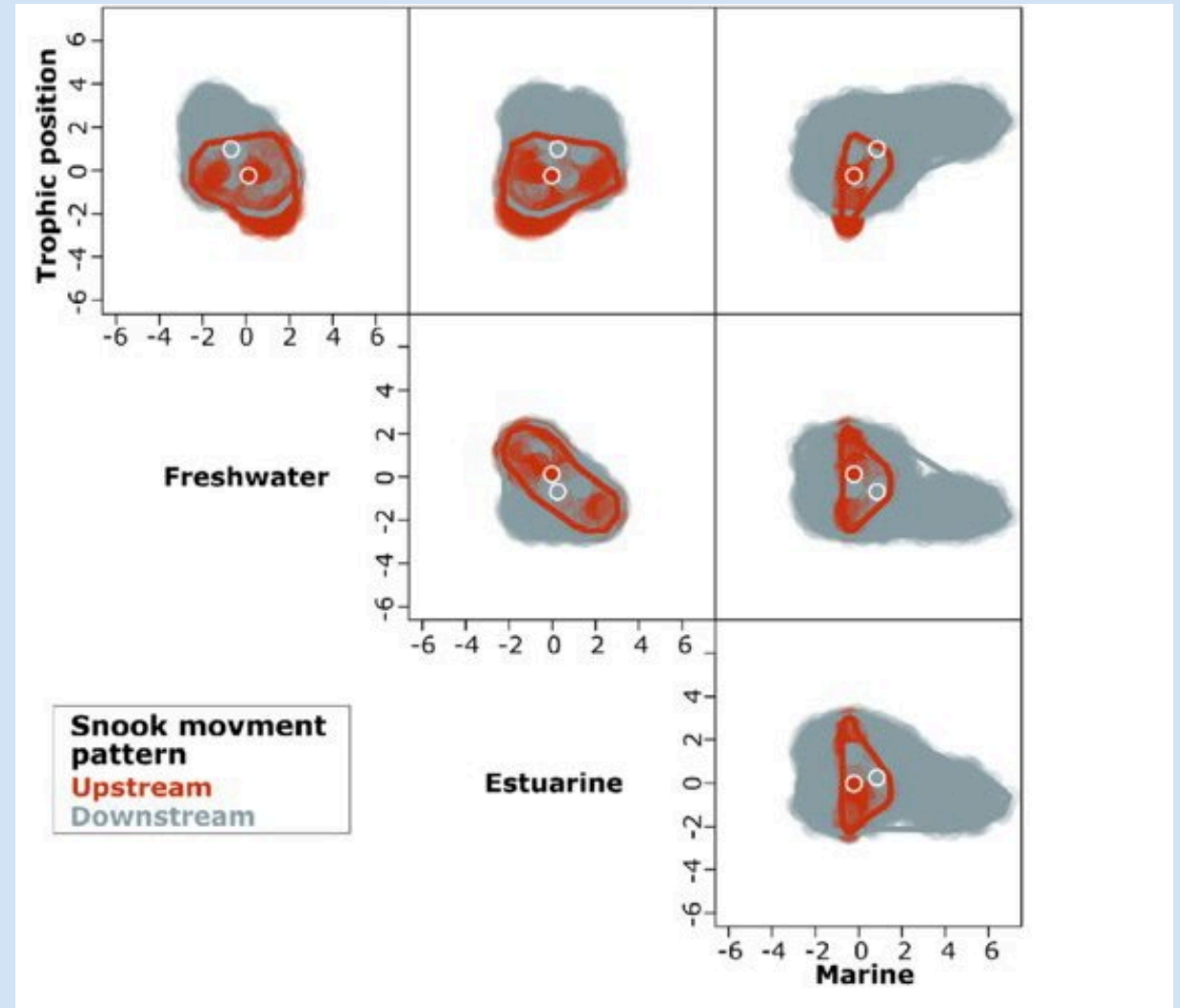
# Stable Isotope Analysis

## The Next Steps

$\delta^{13}\text{C}$

$\delta^{15}\text{N}$

$\delta^{34}\text{S}$





# Questions?

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