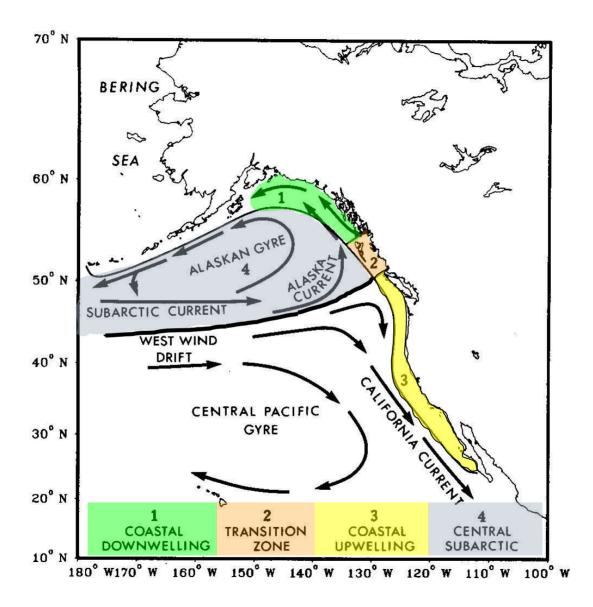
# Linkages between open and coastal ecosystems on the Pacific coast of North America

#### R.J. Beamish, G.A.McFarlane, & J.R. King

Pacific Biological Station,

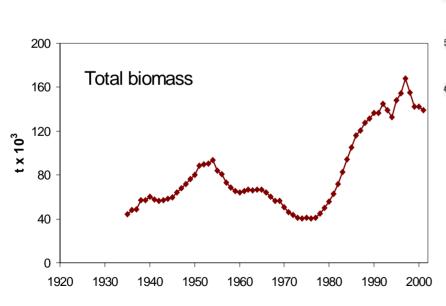
Fisheries and Oceans Canada,

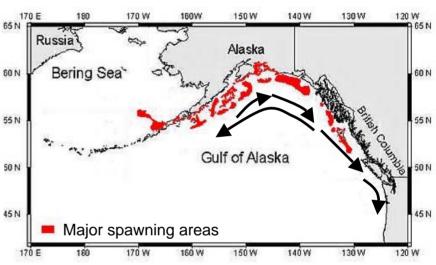
Nanaimo, B.C. Canada



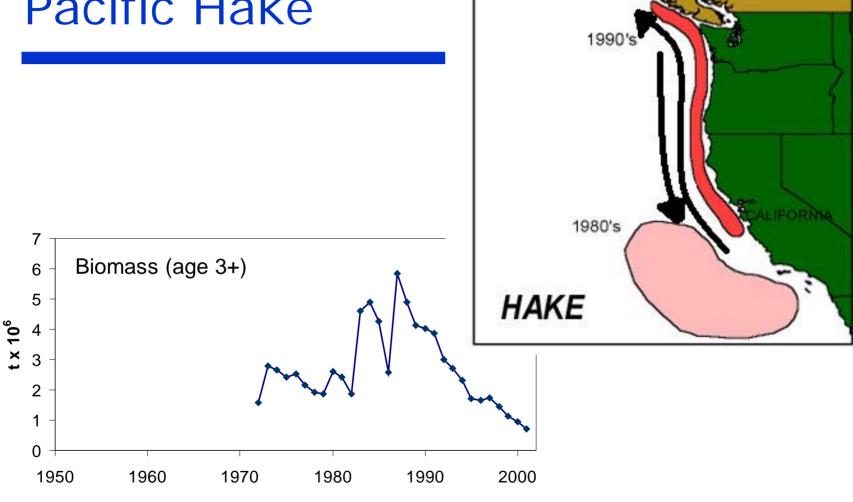
- Major fisheries are coastal and major migrations are typically north and south.
  - Examples:
    - Pacific halibut
    - Pacific hake
    - Pacific sardine

### Pacific Halibut

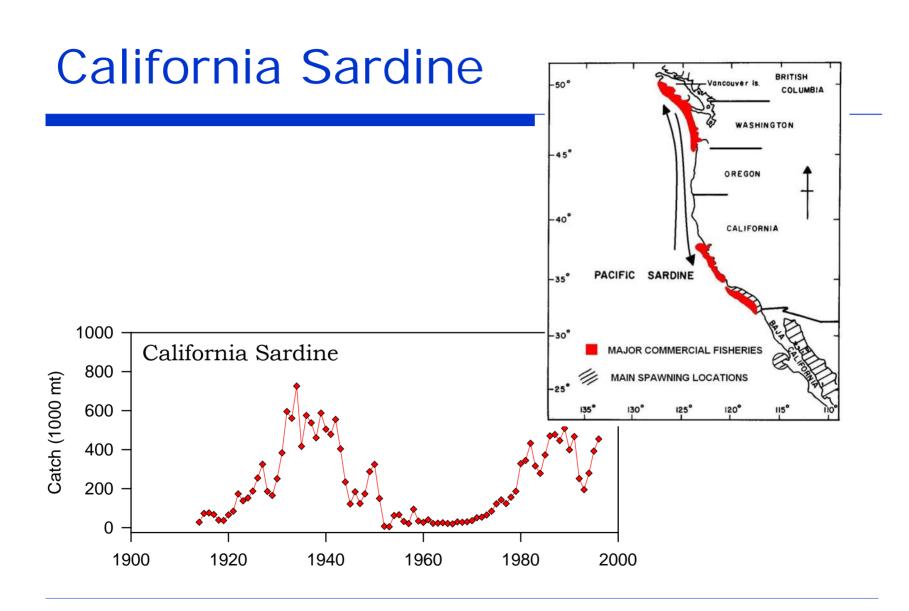




### Pacific Hake



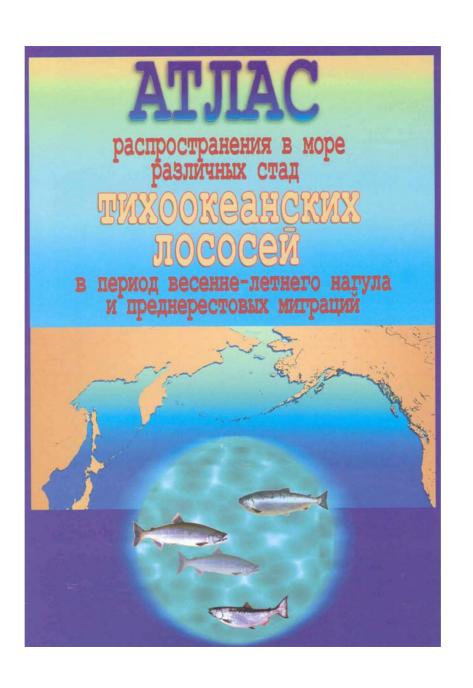
CANADA



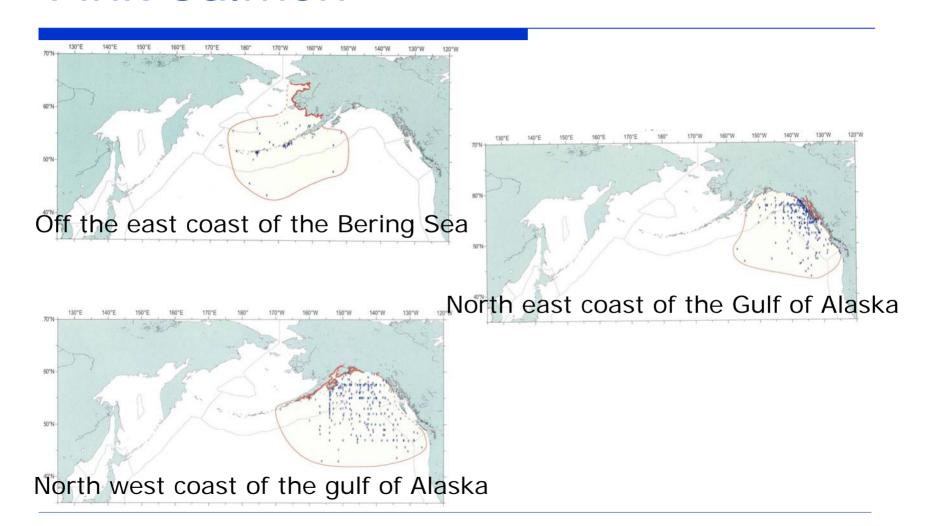
#### **Surface Trawl Catches**

|              | Sockeye    | 265    |       |
|--------------|------------|--------|-------|
|              | Chum       | 2,671  |       |
|              | Pink       | 1,380  |       |
|              | Coho       | 153    |       |
|              | Chinook    | 69     |       |
| Total salmon |            |        | 4,538 |
|              | Myctophids | 15,107 |       |
|              | Anchovy    | 19,874 |       |
|              | Squid      | 23,160 |       |
|              | Other      | 530    |       |
|              | Tuna       | 13     |       |

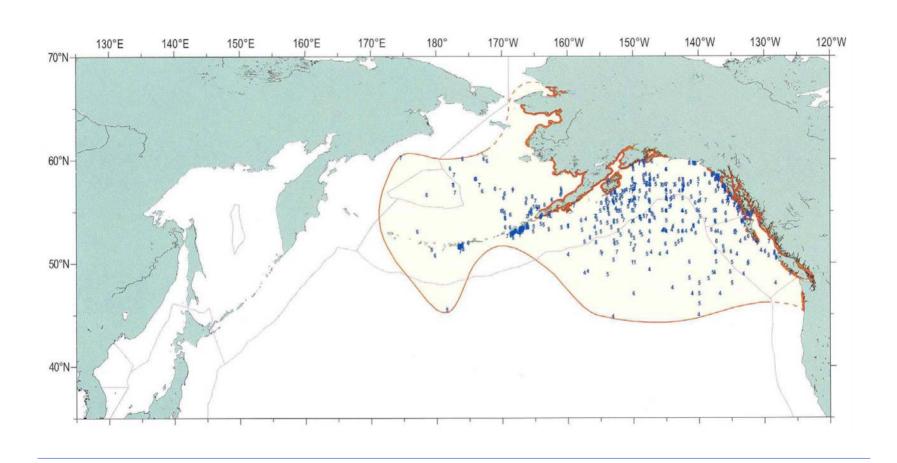
Three cruises, 70 sets, with 11-13mm codend (winter catches; Nov-March 1992, 1996, 1998) Surface to 50m, 5 knots.



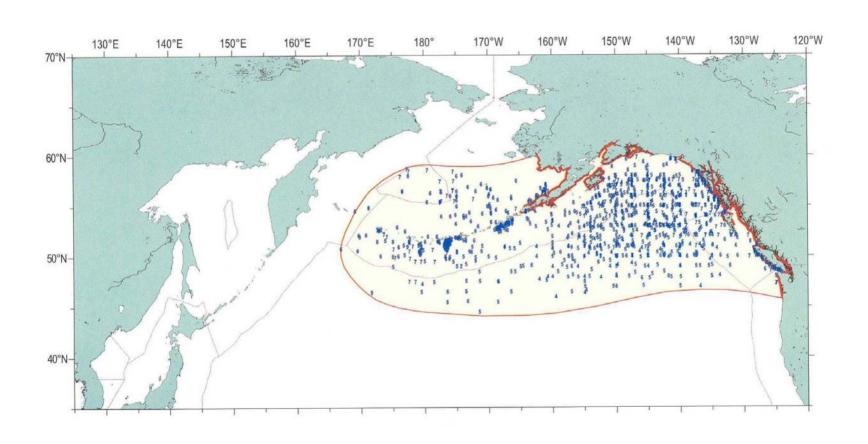
### Pink Salmon



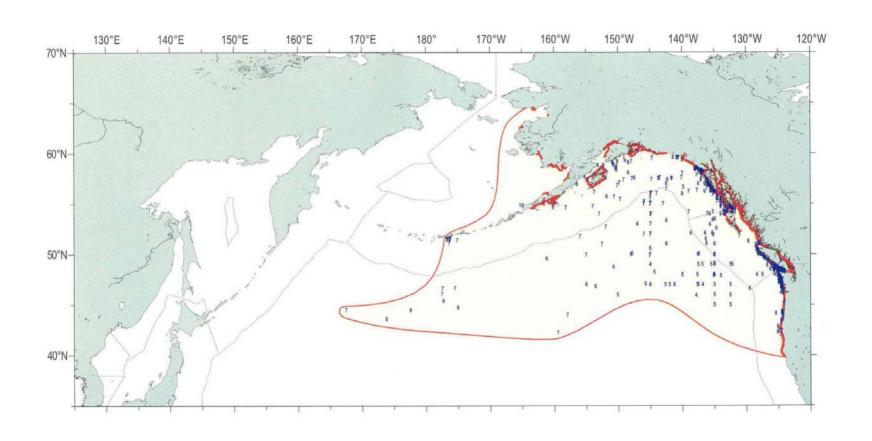
# Chum Salmon West coast of North America



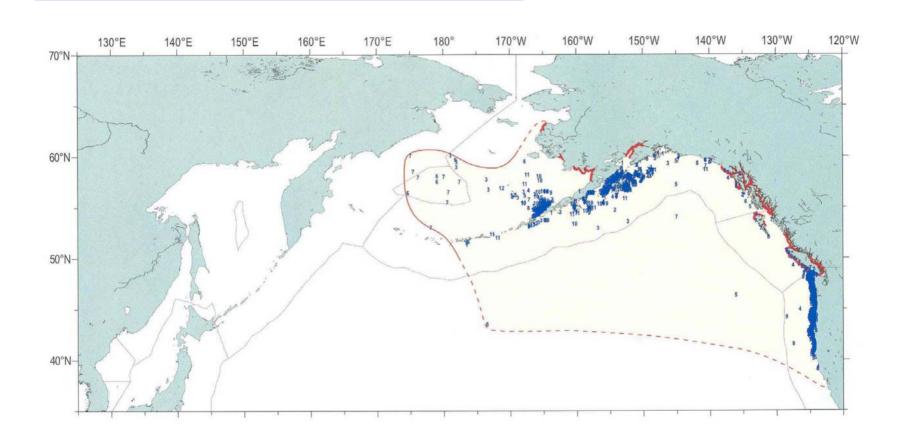
# Sockeye Salmon North America



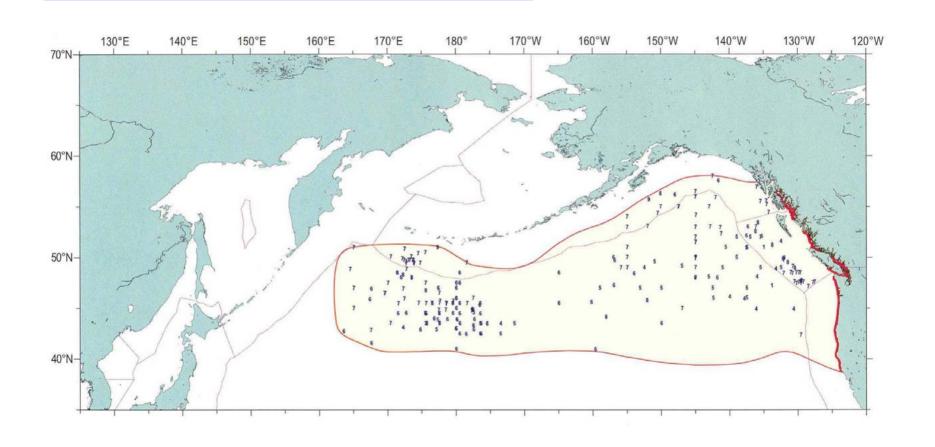
# Coho Salmon North American coast



# Chinook Salmon North America



# Steelhead



### Marine Derived Nutrients

"This nutrient deficit may be one indication of ecosystem failure that has contributed to the downward spiral of salmonid abundance in general and etc...."

|   |                      | 1860's       |  |
|---|----------------------|--------------|--|
| N | 3.04% <sup>2</sup> → | 6,850,000 kg |  |
| Р | 0.36% →              | 810,000 kg   |  |

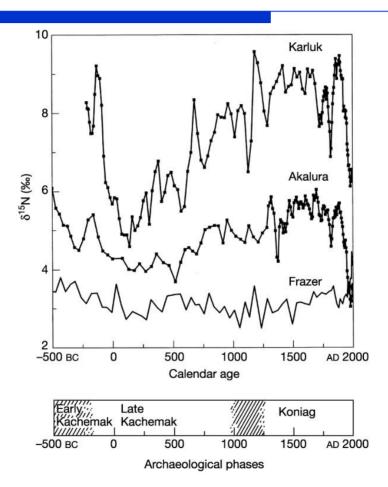
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Gresh et al. 2000. An estimation of historic and current levels of salmon production in the northeast Pacific ecosystem. Fisheries 25:15-21.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Larking and Slaney. 1997. Implications of trends in marine-derived nutrient influx to south coastal British Columbia salmonid production. Fisheries 22:16-24.

#### What Does it Mean?

- □ It depends on the question, but if it is, "What does it mean for Pacific salmon production?" the answer may be that juvenile salmon grew to sizes that maximized their chances of survival in the ocean. However, if more survived in freshwater were they smaller or larger as juveniles?
- Depends on the ecosystem
  - A) Lake Superior study
    - □ 8 to 80% in P and 3 to 12% increase in N over ambient concentration in two rivers depending on time and the river.
  - B) Lake enrichment
    - 100-150 tons inorganic fertilizer (P and N) added to outercoast lakes results in 2-3x increased production.

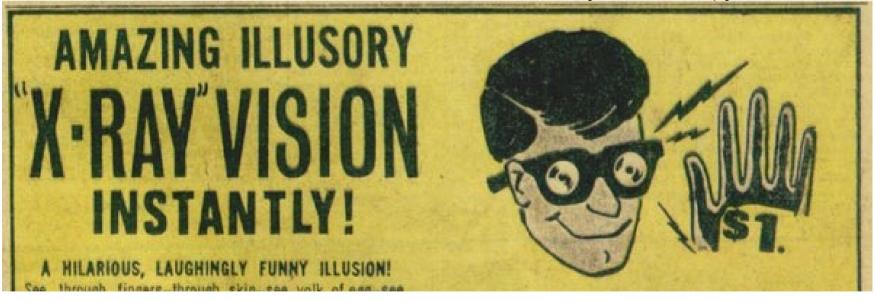
# Historic Sockeye salmon abundance Finney et al. 2002



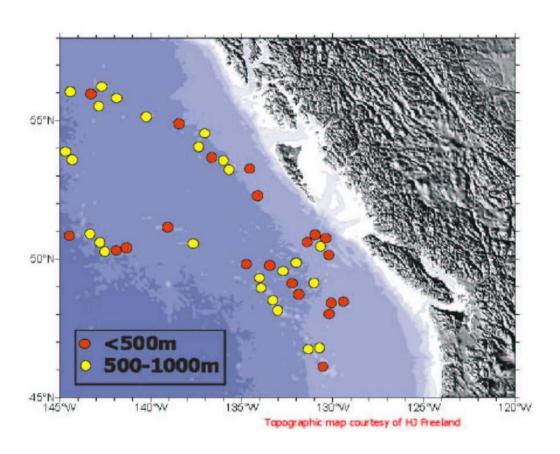
# Delivery of pollutants by spawning salmon

Nature. 2003. Vol. 425: 255-256.

one million North American spawning



### Seamounts



# Species Observed at Bowie Seamount

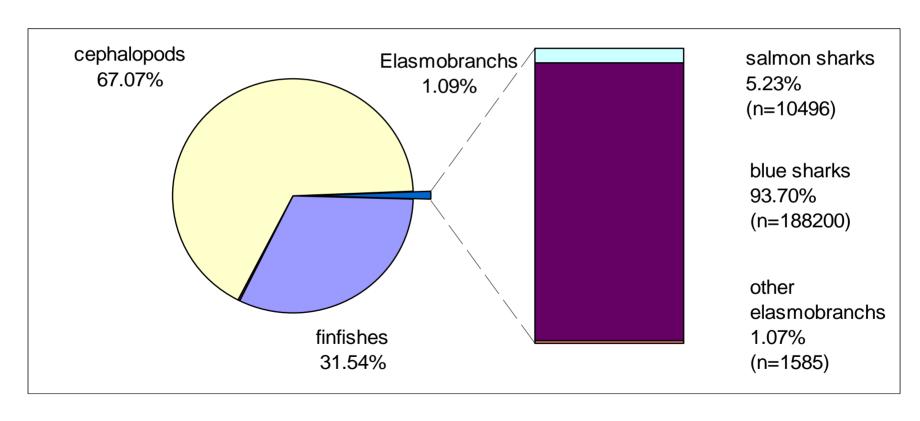
| <ul><li>Invertebrata</li><li>Porifera (sponges)</li></ul>   | 1+                        | Vertebrata  Chandricthyos (sharks)   |            |
|---|---------------------------|--|------------|
| <ul> <li>Cnidaria (anemones, jellyfish, hydrioids)</li> <li>Annelida (polychaete worms)</li> <li>Bryozoa (moss animals)</li> <li>Mollusca (snails, octopus squid, chitons, bivavles)</li> </ul> | 7+                        | <ul><li>Chondricthyes (sharks, skates)</li><li>Osteichthyes (flounders,</li></ul>                  | 7          |
|   | 2<br>1+<br><sup>'</sup> 6 | <ul><li>soles, rockfish, sculpins)</li><li>Aves (albatrosses, auklets, puffins, petrels,</li></ul> | 3 +        |
| Arthopoda (barnacles, crabs, amphipods, copepods)   | 30                        | Mammalia (seals, sea   | 3 +<br>8 - |
| Echinodermata (sea<br>stars, brittle stars, sea<br>cucumbers)   | 6                         | nons, doiprinis, whates,   |            |
| Urochordata   |                           |  |            |
| Larvacea and Thaliacea<br>(salps)   | 4                         |  |            |

# Species Observed at Bowie Seamount

| Sablefish             | Pacific ocean perch   | Brown cat shark       |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Pacific halibut       | China rockfish        | Basking shark         |
| Rougheye rockfish     | Tiger rockfish        | Blue shark            |
| Yelloweye rockfish    | Bocaccio rockfish     | Pacific sleeper shark |
| Pacific cod           | Canary rockfish       | Spiny dogfish         |
| Aurora rockfish       | Redstripe rockfish    | Skates                |
| Redbanded rockfish    | Yellowmouth rockfish  | Wolf eel              |
| Shortraker rockfish   | Harlequin rockfish    | Pacific flatnose      |
| Silvergray rockfish   | Shortspine thornyhead | Turbot                |
| Darkblotched rockfish | Longspine thornyhead  | Arrowtooth flounder   |
| Splitnose rockfish    | Longfin dragonfish    | Snipe eel             |
| Greenstriped rockfish | Petrale sole          | Highfin dragonfish    |
| Widow rockfish        | Red Irish lord        | Twoline eelpout       |
| Yellowtail rockfish   | Ragfish               | Pomfrets              |
| Rosethorn rockfish    | Broadfin lampfish     | Blacktail snailfish   |
| Quillback rockfish    | Rock sole             | Pacific viperfish     |
| Vermillion rockfish   | Dover sole            | Rattail               |
| Pollock               | Scorpionfish          | Sculpins              |
| Prowfish              | Deepsea sole          |                       |
|                       |                       |                       |

# Japanese Squid Driftnet Fisheries: 1990-91

McKinnell and Seki 1998. Fish. Res. 39: 127-138.



# Abundant Open Ocean Sharks

#### Blue shark (Prionace glauca)

Evidence of north-south migration and some east-west (Seki et al. 2001)



### Salmon Shark (Lamna ditropis)

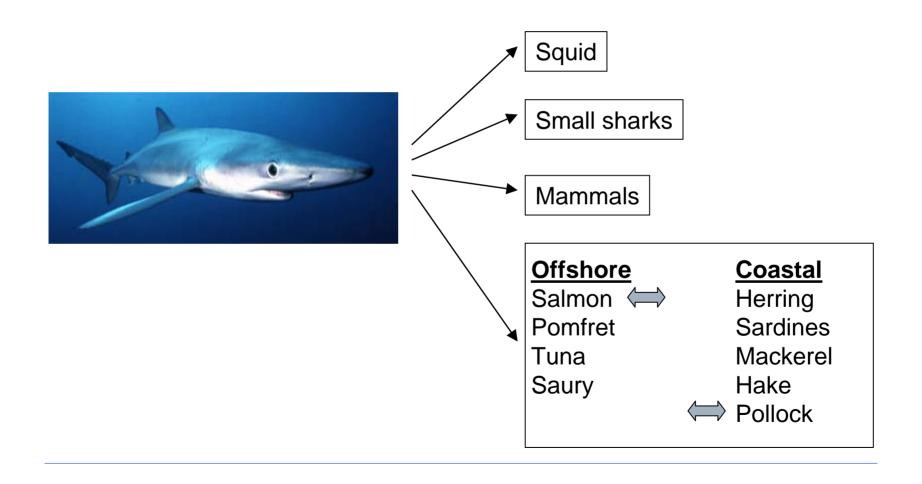
 Recent evidence (Alaska Shark Assessment Program) indicates open ocean – coastal migrations





These sharks inhabit both coastal and open ocean systems

#### Blue Shark Diet



### Salmon Shark Diet



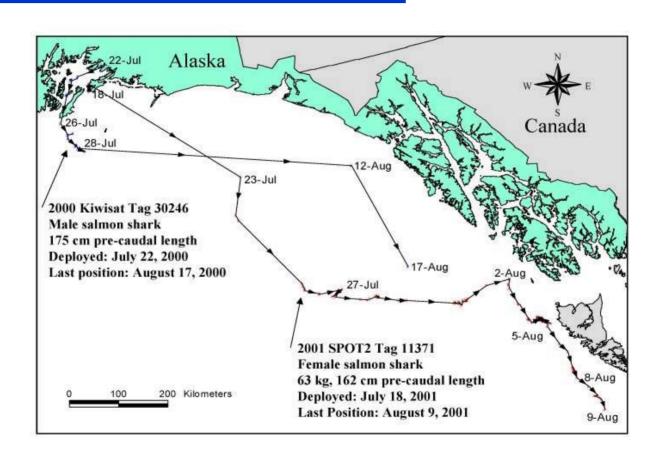
Squid

Small sharks (Spiny dogfish)

Small mammals

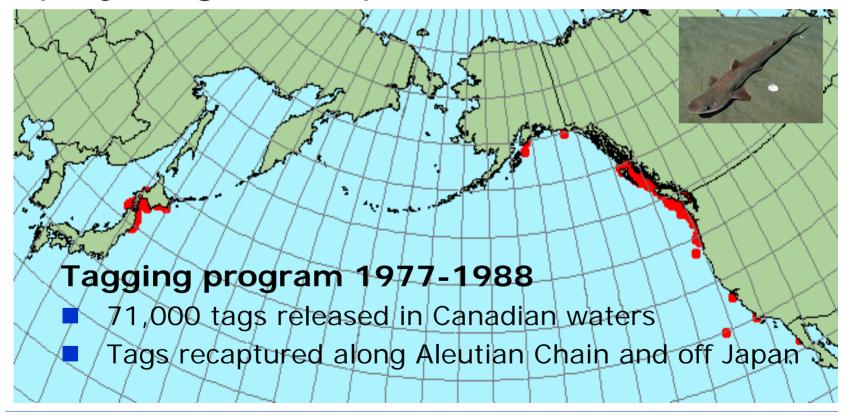
| <u> Offshore</u> | <u>Coastai</u>       |
|------------------|----------------------|
| Salmon (mainly   | Salmon (occasionally |
| sockeye,         | coho, chum)          |
| chum, pink)      | Lancetfish           |
| Daggertooth      | Mackerel             |
| Saury            | Sculpin              |
| Pomfret          | Pollock              |
| Lanternfishes (= | Herring              |
|                  | Capelin              |
| <b>=</b>         | Sardine              |

### Salmon Shark Movement



# **Extensive Shark Migration**

### Spiny Dogfish (Squalus acanthias)

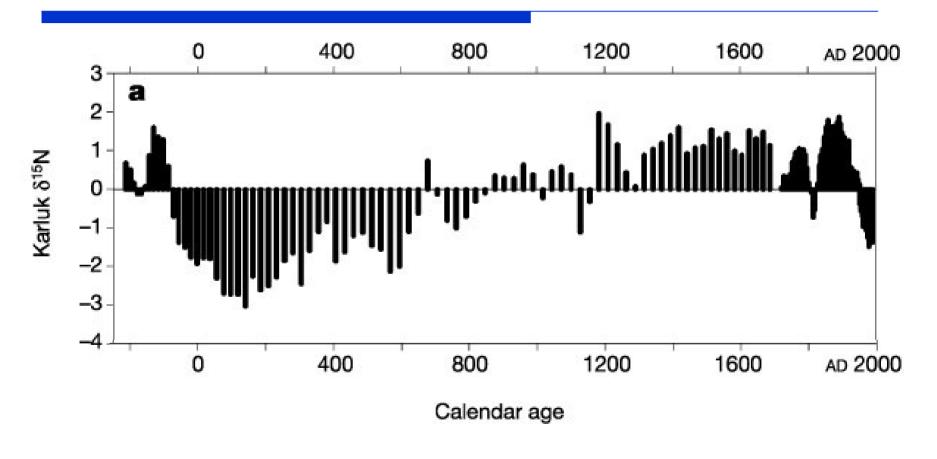


#### Conclusions

- ☐ Fisheries off the west coast of North America are virtually all coastal.
- Most fish stocks are coastal.
- Exceptions occur for some species, with Pacific salmon being the major group of species moving between the coast and the high seas.
- □ The advantage for Pacific salmon is that they can achieve large sizes and large abundances.
- □ The major impact on production of this behaviour is the transport of nutrients back to freshwater when the salmon die and decompose.



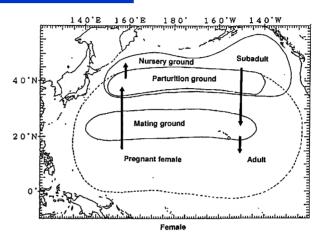
# Reconstructed Sockeye salmon abundance in Alaska

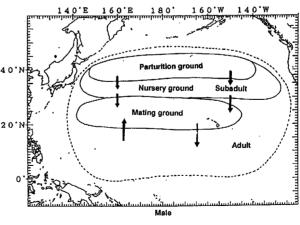


Finney et al. 2002. Nature.

# Blue Shark Migration

 Schematic blue shark migration model by sex proposed by Nakano (1994)





### Pacific Sardine

