Effects of changing coastal conditions in 2014 on nutrients and productivity in the northern California upwelling system Richard Dugdale, Frances Wilkerson, Shannon Strong, Jamie Lee Romberg Tiburon Center, San Francisco State University



Sporadic data available from NOAA-NIMFS Rockfish Recruitment and Ecosystem Assessment Cruises Surface, chlorophyll max and 100m samples collected each May (2002 to 2014) Measured concentrations of nutrients, chlorophyll, DIC and ¹⁵NO₇, ¹⁵NH₄ and ¹³C uptake rates Warmer water may increase relaxation window for primary productivity, nutrient uptake, chlorophyll accumulation

Northern CA Study Site



Climatology at most coastal stations

Bodega Head (1048)

- Temperature and nitrate anomalies are in the opposite direction.
- Temperature and chlorophyll anomalies are in the same direction increased temperature and increased chlorophyll follow the same patterns
- These interactions are the result of the upwelling.
- The higher temperatures in 2014 along with decreased nitrate and increased chlorophyll are consisten with the relaxation phase (the period where elevated chlorophyll and temperature and reduced nutrients occur). The 2012 and 2013 anomalies are
- indicative of early upwelling.
- Head However, chlorophyll anomalies are
- High anomalies tend to be offshore at Pt. Reyes and to be near shore at Bodega Head, probably reflecting lower average upwelling activity at Pt. Reves and more representative

chlorophyll, Si(OH)₄, C uptake, NO₃ uptake, NH₄ uptake In 2014, chlorophyll (C) and primary

2013 vs 2014

Offshore to onshore plots of temperature, NO₃

productivity (E) at both locations were high nearshore with evidence of NO₂ (B) and Si(OH)₄ (D) depletion. Nitrate uptake was elevated offshore. 2013 was very different with no chlorophyll accumulation, low primary productivity and nitrate uptake and no evidence of nutrient depletion nearshore





Offshore to onshore plots of temperature, NO₃ chlorophyll, Si(OH)₄, C uptake, NO₃ uptake, NH₄ uptake



May 2013 vs 2014









Preliminary Summary

- Along the Bodega and Point Reves transects temperatures were lower all near-shore locations in 2013 compared to 2014 and the pattern of chlorophy and productivity is consistent with the analysis of anomalies.
- Along the Bodega and Point Reyes transects warmer water translated to more chlorophyll; rate data suggest that warmer conditions might be linked with increased relaxation window for primary productivity, uptake of upwelled nutrients and chlorophyll accumulation.
- Along the Pescadero transects, results less striking although there was still evidence of elevated chlorophyll in 2014, nutrient depletion accompanying the warmer conditions

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- The temperatures, nitrate and chlorophyll anomalies are in the same relationship as at Bodega
 - comparatively except for the positive anomaly in 2014.
 - of offshore conditions