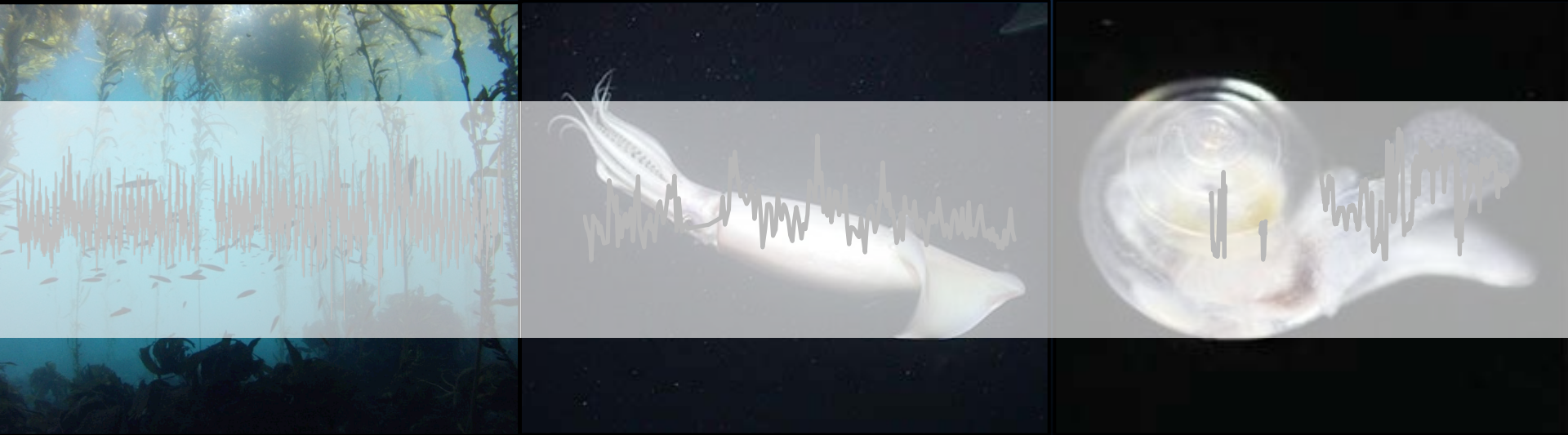


# Ocean temperature, hypoxia, and acidification: detecting the fingerprint of climate change in California's coastal ocean



Drs. Emily B. Rivest, Sarah E. Moffitt, Tessa M. Hill

June 16, 2015

# Sea Surface Temperature in Coastal CA

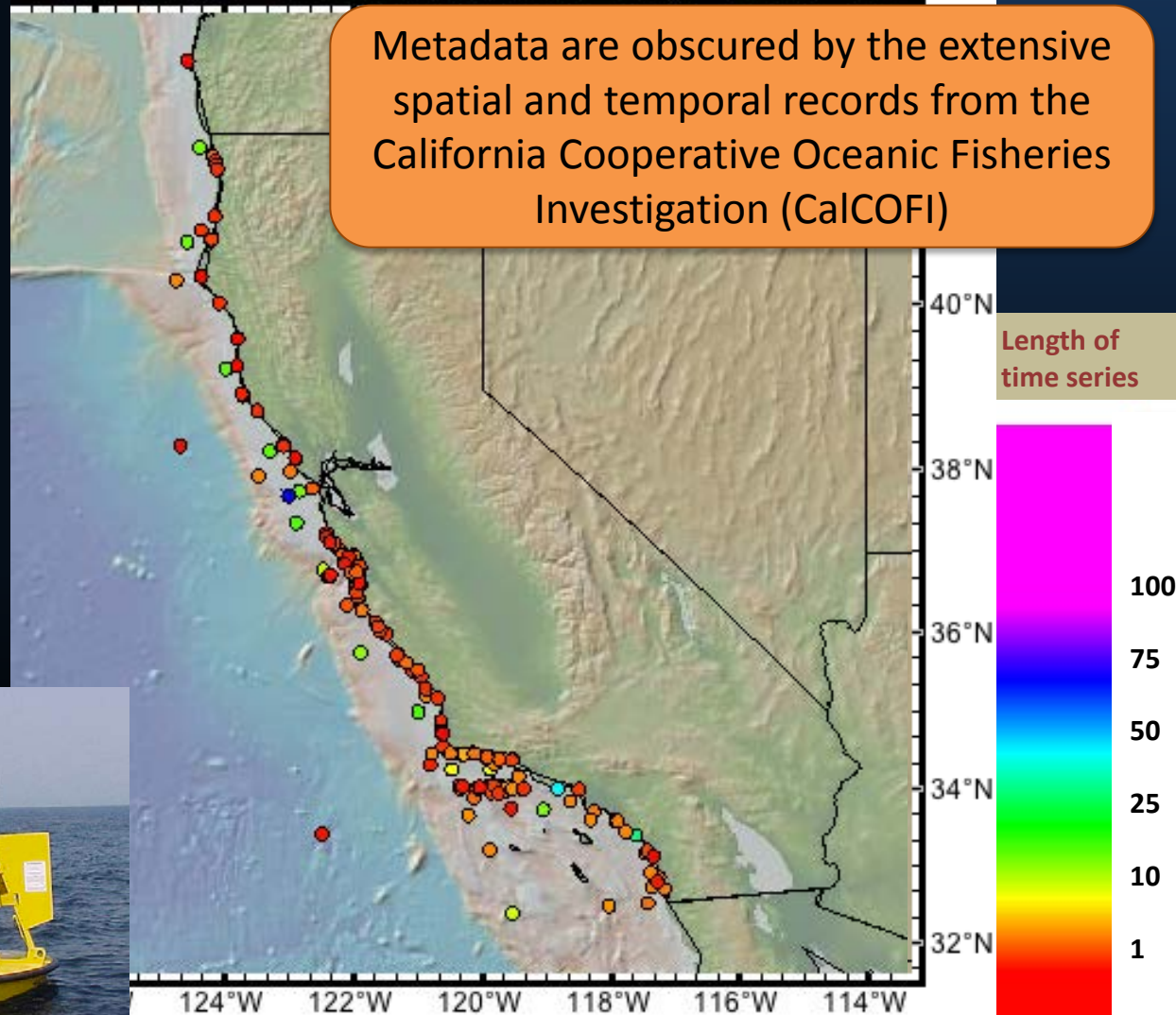
Sea surface temperature (SST, *e.g.* upper 20 m) is rising globally.

How it is measured:

Moored and shore-based sensors, and throughout the water column

Datasets: 317

- ongoing: 48%
- $\geq 50$  years: 2%
- $\geq 10$  years: 62%

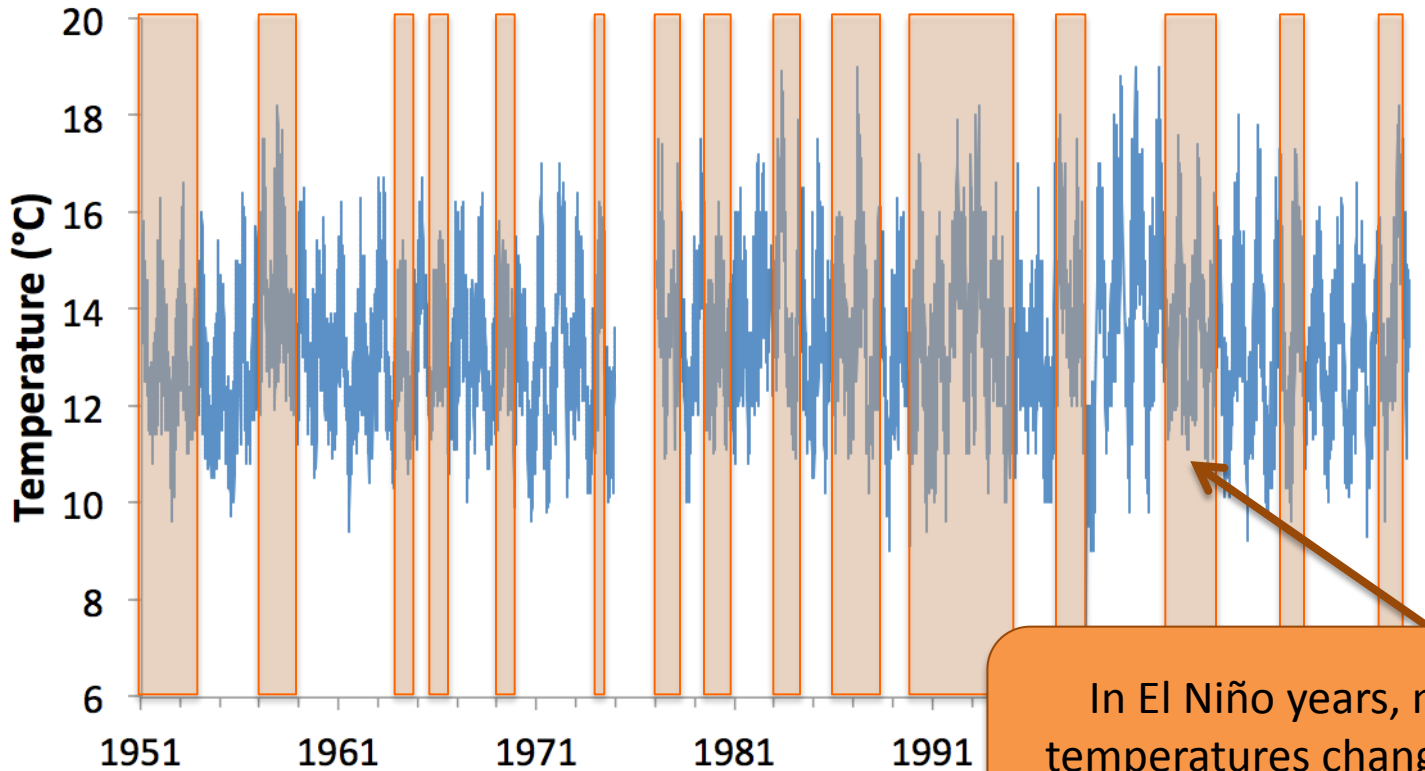


# Temperature Time Series

Data from CeNCOOS/UCSD Shore Station

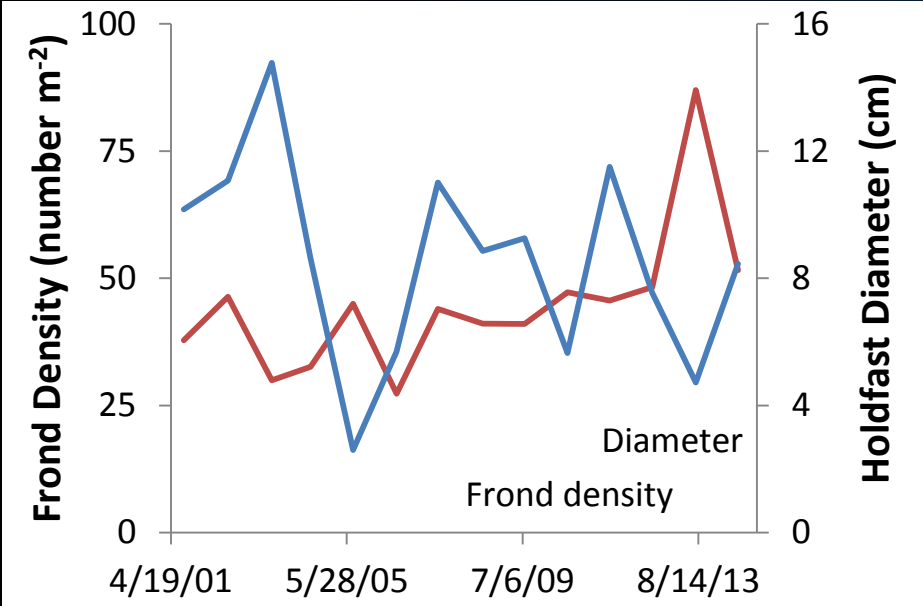
Hopkins Marine Laboratory

What you see here:  
Seasonal variability,  
ENSO variability  
Inter-decadal variability

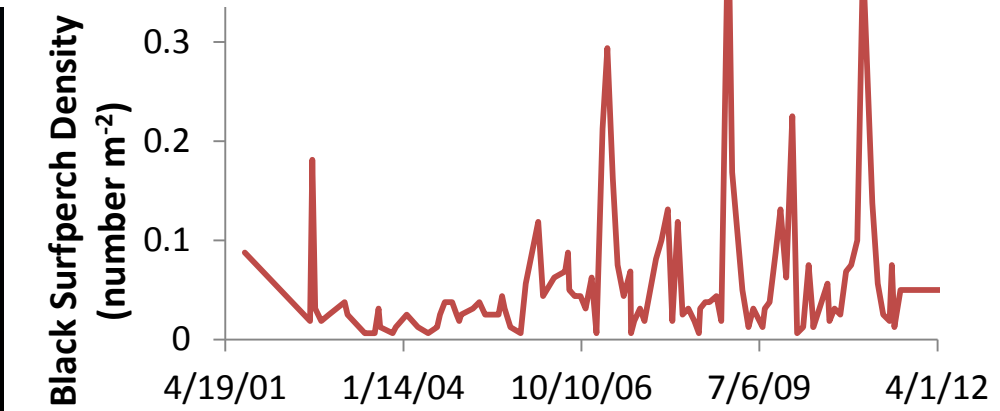


In El Niño years, maximum temperatures change little, but **winter minima are warmer**

# Biological Indicator for Temperature: Giant Kelp and Black Surfperch



Biological indicators are complex and highly variable. Should be monitored concurrent with physical indicators.





# Dissolved Oxygen in Coastal CA

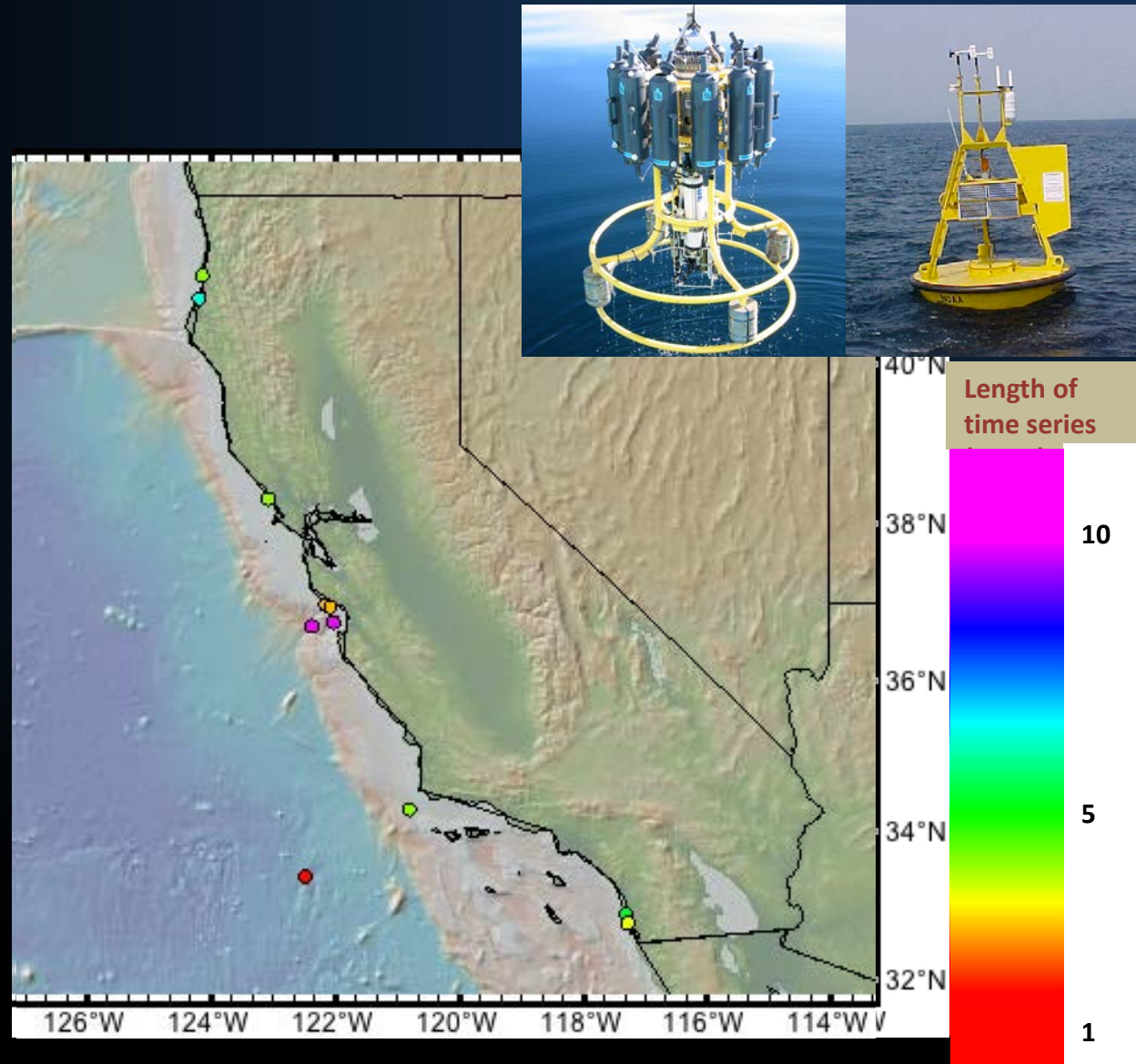
Oxygen concentrations are declining in the interior of the ocean:

- Ocean warming
- Increasing stratification
- Changing ocean circulation

How it is measured:  
Moored sensors and throughout the water column in some places

Datasets: 53

- ongoing: 57%
- $\geq 50$  years: 0%
- $\geq 10$  years: 45% (CALCOFI)

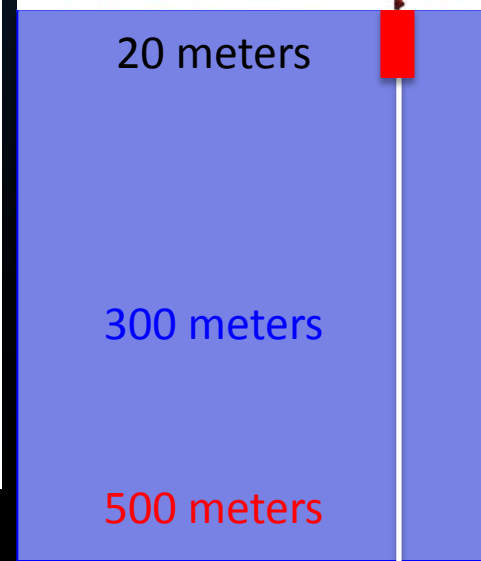
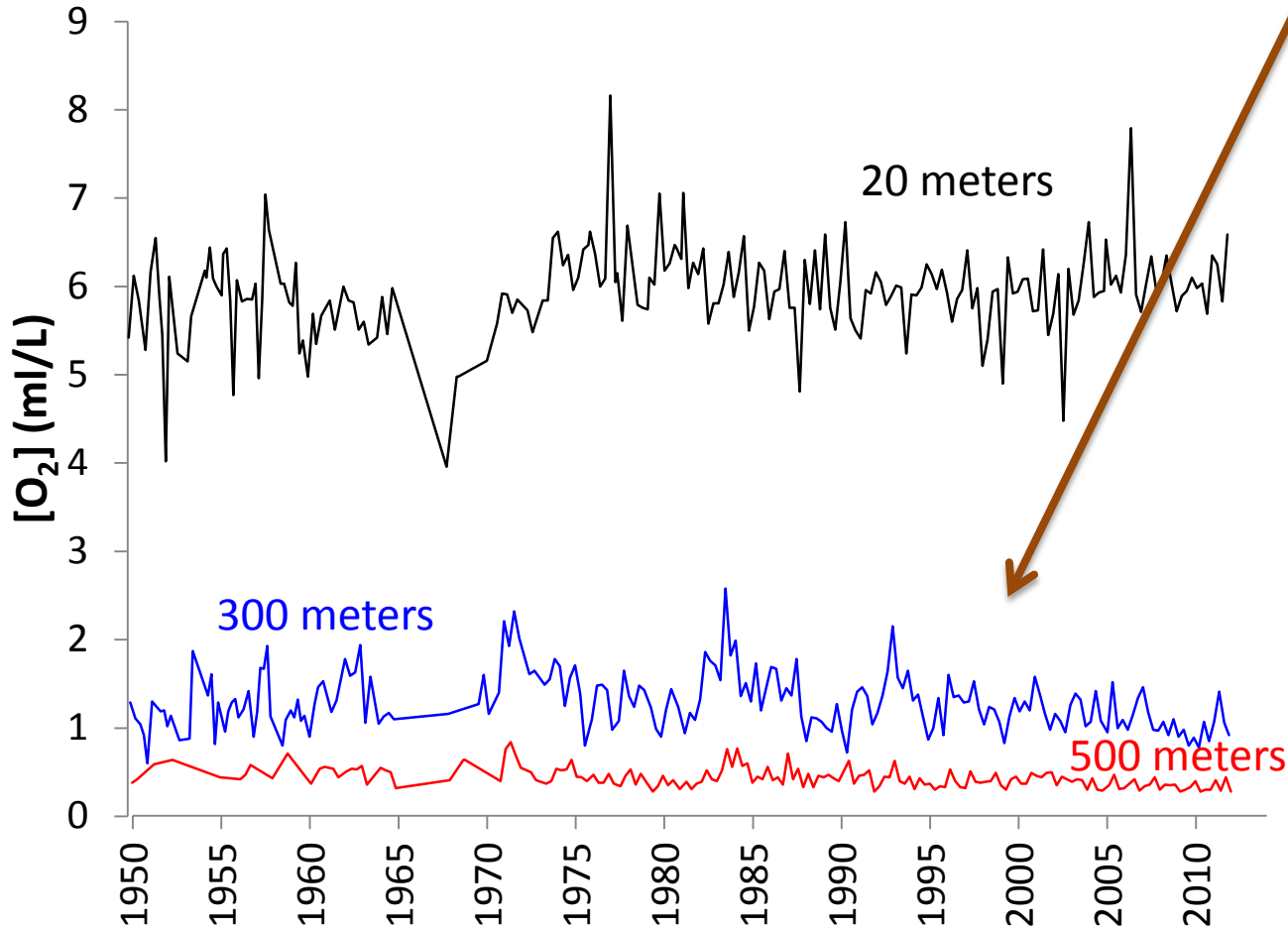


# Oxygen Time Series

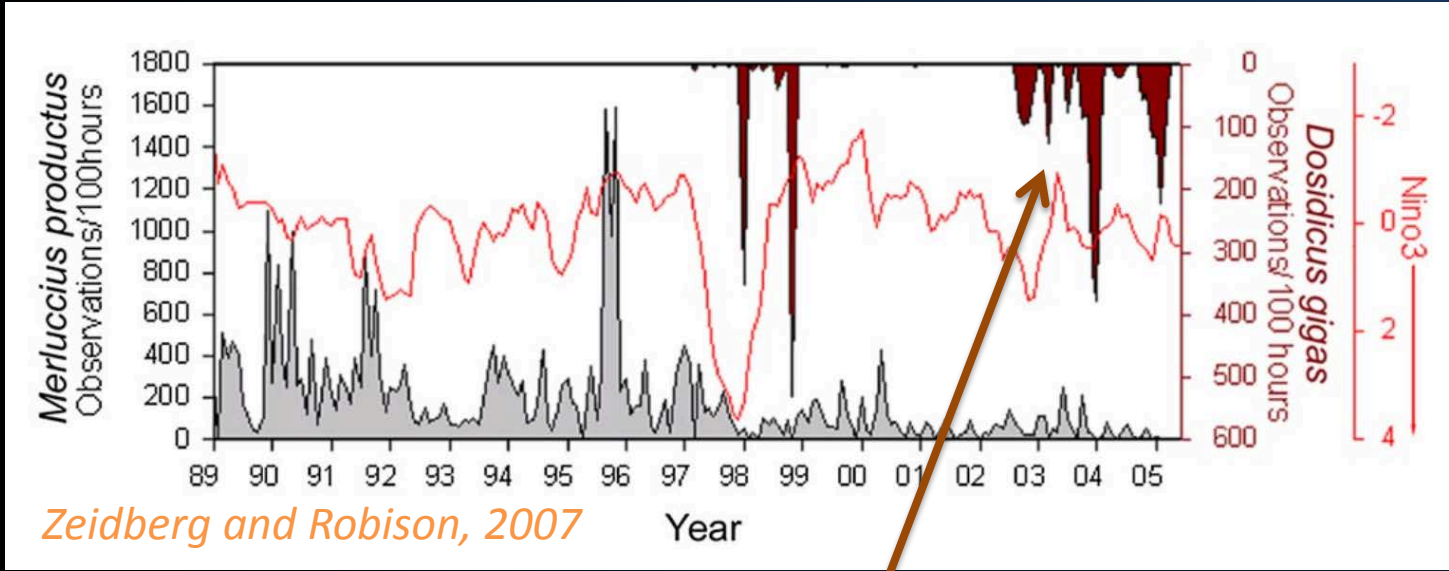
Data from California Cooperative Oceanic Fisheries Investigations (CalCOFI)

CalCOFI is documenting the decline of  $O_2$  concentrations in subsurface waters

*(Bograd et al., 2008)*



# Biological Indicator for Oxygen: Humboldt Squid



Consequence of oxygen loss in the interior of the California Current:  
Invasion of predatory Humboldt Squid



# Ocean Acidification in Coastal CA

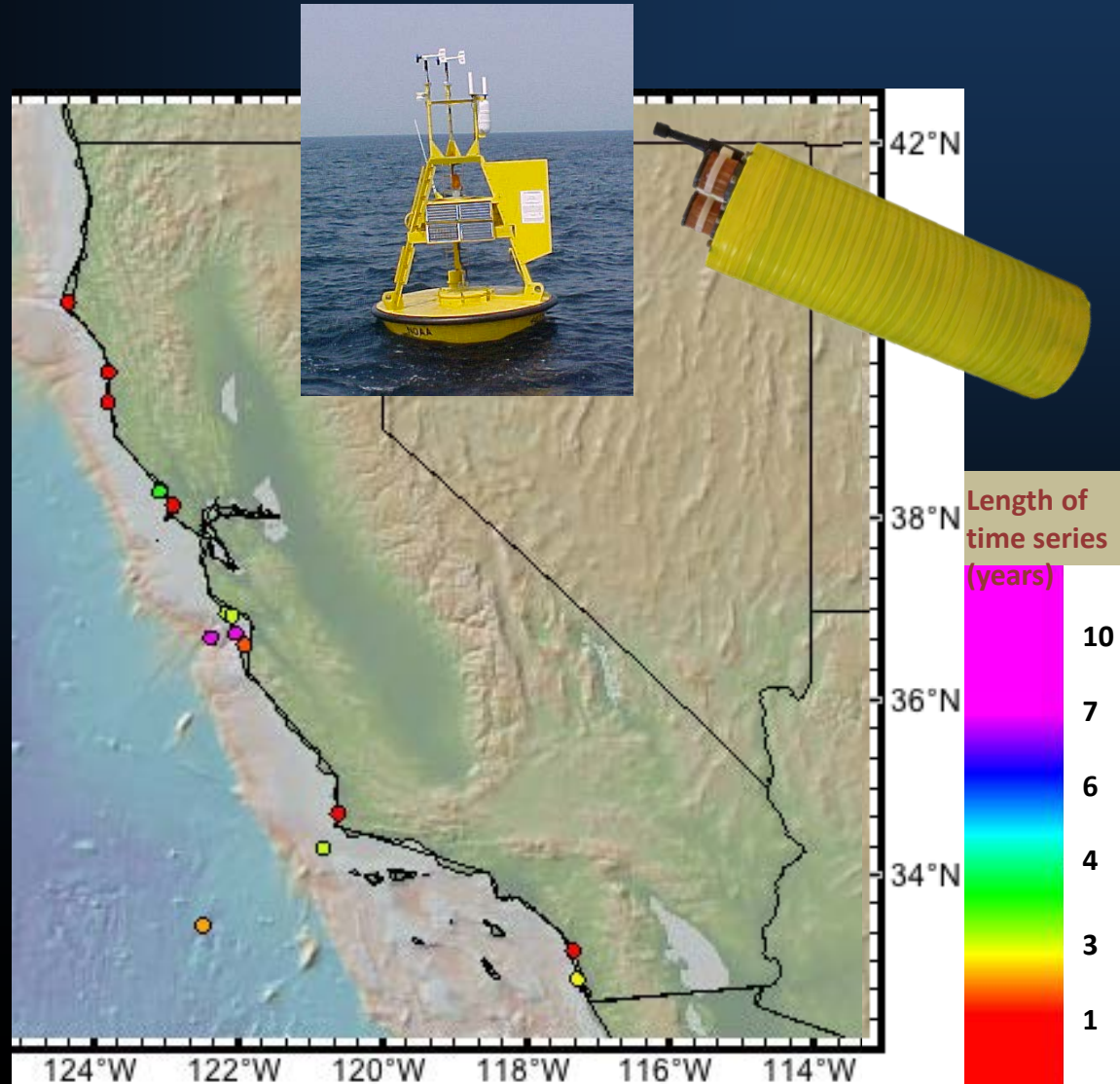
The ocean is acidifying as it absorbs anthropogenic  $\text{CO}_2$ . Consequently, pH and carbonate ion concentrations are decreasing.

## How it is measured:

Moored, underway, and shore-based sensors record various carbonate chemistry parameters, usually pH and/or  $\text{pCO}_2$ .

## Datasets: 28

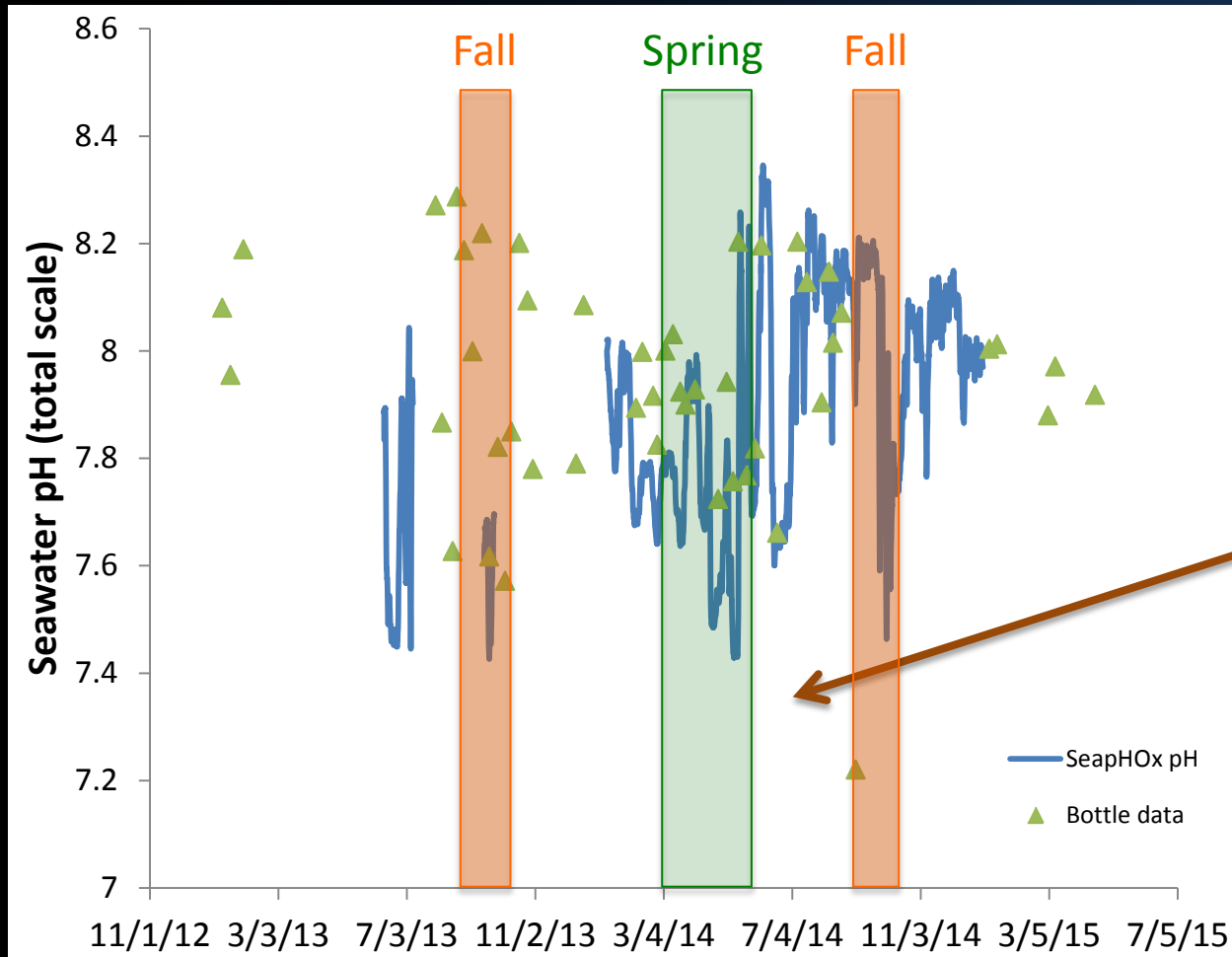
- ongoing: 25%
- $\geq 50$  years: 4%
- $\geq 10$  years: 11%





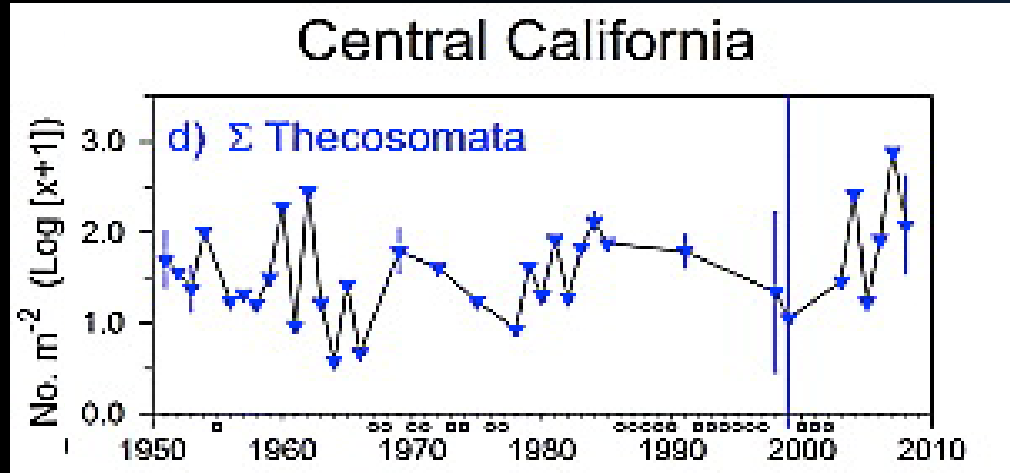
# Ocean Acidification Time Series

Data from Bodega Marine Laboratory (BML)



Bodega Marine Lab is measuring carbonate chemistry in coastal ocean, producing data with signals of seasonal upwelling.

# Biological Indicator for Ocean Acidification: Pteropods



Pteropod  
monitoring  
in plankton  
community



Pteropod shells dissolve when exposed to acidified seawater (we know this from laboratory experiments). This organism is an acidification “canary”.

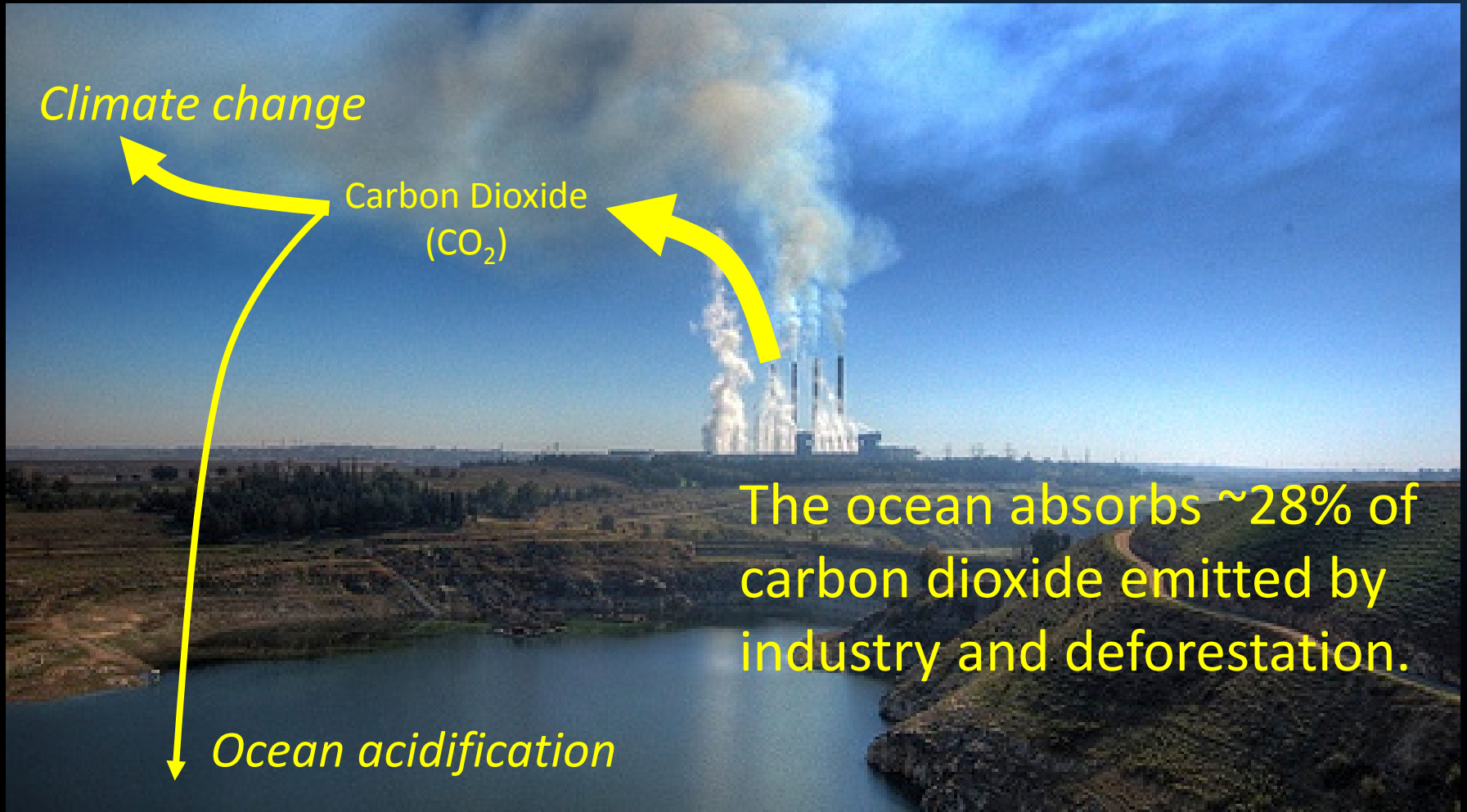
## California is a global leader

*We want to continue to be the leader for documenting impacts of climate change in coastal marine ecosystems*

### How can we do this? By supporting:

- Existing time series to prevent data gaps
- Data collection distributed across CA
- Expansion of OA monitoring sensor networks
- Co-location collection of abiotic and biotic data

# What is ocean acidification (OA)?

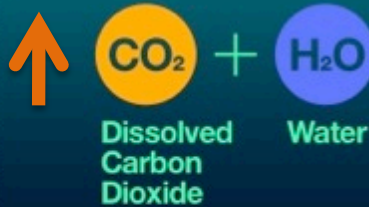




# Ocean Acidification Process

1

Carbon Dioxide ( $\text{CO}_2$ ) from the atmosphere is absorbed by the ocean.



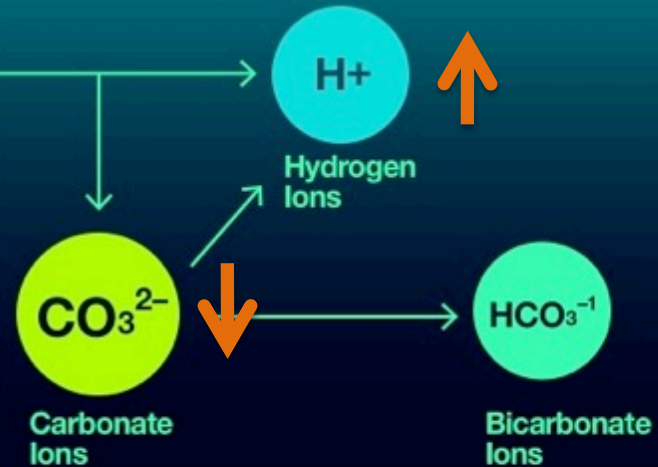
2

Carbon dioxide reacts with seawater ( $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ) to form carbonic acid ( $\text{H}_2\text{CO}_3$ ); seawater pH is lowered.



3

Hydrogen ions [ $\text{H}^+$ ] released by carbonic acid bind to carbonate ( $\text{CO}_3^{2-}$ ) to form bicarbonate ( $\text{HCO}_3^-$ ). Carbonate concentrations are decreased, making it difficult for calcifier species to form calcium carbonate ( $\text{CaCO}_3$ ).



SOURCE:  
University of Maryland

- Harder to calcify skeletons and shells
- Disturbed acid/base physiology