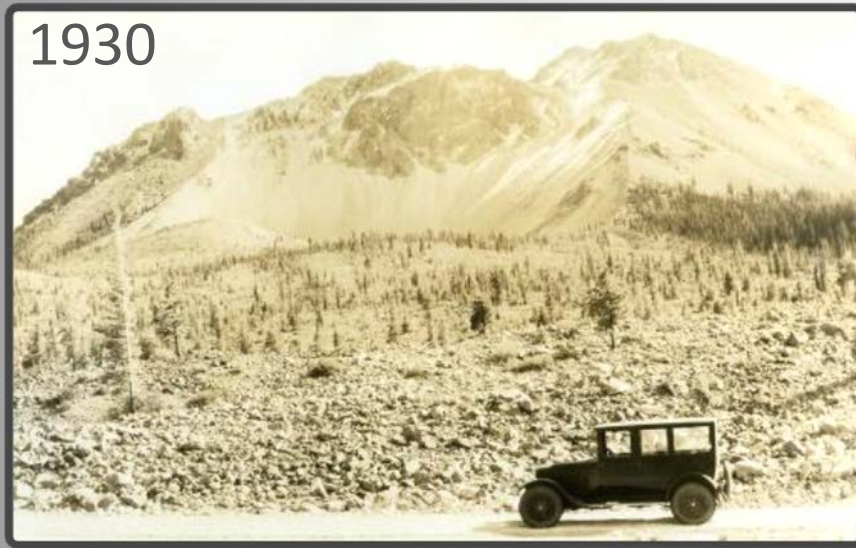


# Effects of Recent Climate Change on Terrestrial Vertebrate Ranges in California:

## The Grinnell Resurvey Project



Kelly Iknayan & Steve Beissinger

Dept. of Environmental Science, Policy & Management and Museum  
of Vertebrate Zoology, UC Berkeley

# Effects of Recent Climate Change on Terrestrial Vertebrate Ranges in California

- Vertebrates == Mammals and Birds
- Range == Elevational Range Dynamics
- In California == the Sierra Nevada

# **THE GRINNELL RESURVEY PROJECT**

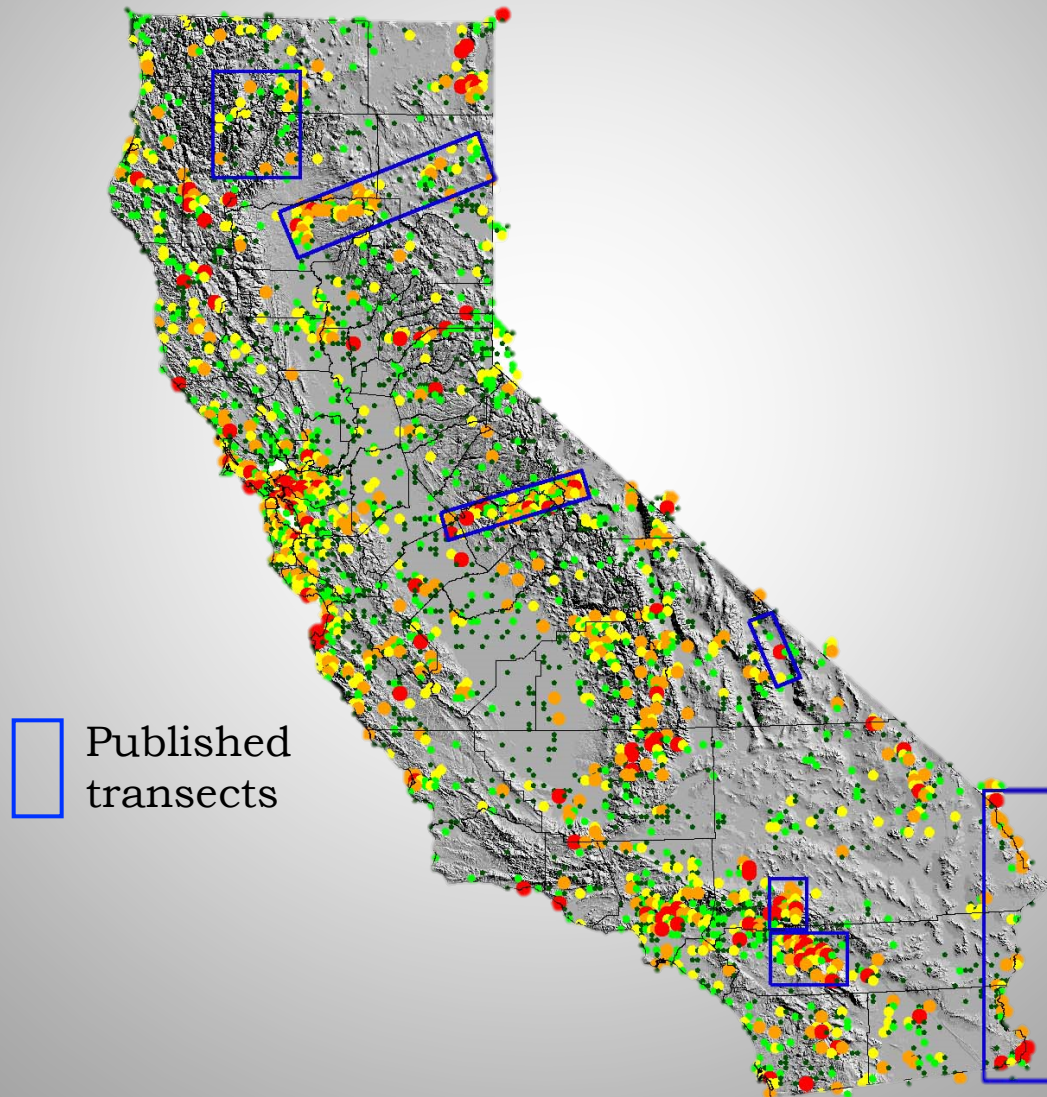
# The Grinnell Legacy



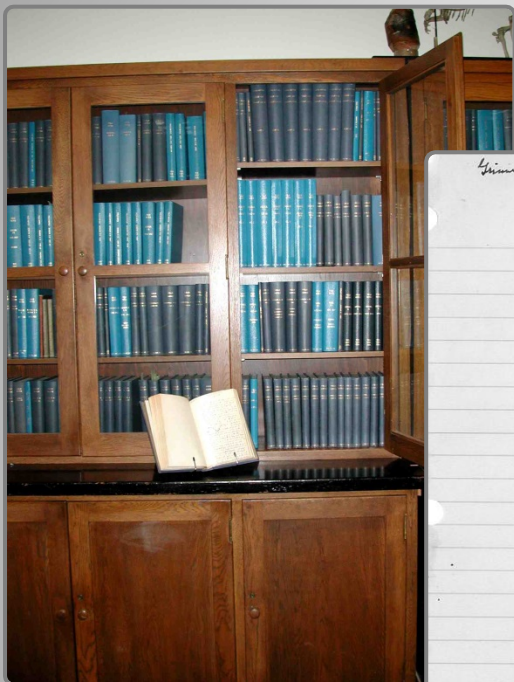
*Joseph Grinnell*  
*MVZ Director 1908-39*



# Pre-1940 MVZ: Specimen Locality Records



# Pre-1940 MVZ: Field Notes



Grinnell 1927 *Blumenthal*  
May 8 1927

a very few tho, compared with what I remember in the same places in midsummer, or else they are exceedingly quiet and elusive now. I took a pencil census up the trail, from 9:20 to 11:20, continuously, walking slowly, with very frequent pauses to listen. Results as follows:

White-headed Woodpecker 1; Chipping Sparrow 1; White-throated Sparrow 4; Hermit Warbler 5; Rock Wren 6; Fox Sparrow 2; Ruby-crowned Kinglet 1; Junco 2; Calliope Hummer 1; Canada Warbler 2; Evening Grosbeak 1; Tule Wren 2; Mountain Chickadee 3; Sierra Junco 1 (forming); Hammond Flycatcher 1.

Total 19 species, 40 individuals, in two thin high transition and Canadian.

This afternoon, Mr. S and I re-delineated corner "monuments" of our 6 1/2 acres that commenced two years ago — 200 paces a "pace" = 32 inches. We were struck by 1 of birds, and the silence of what there was; fox sparrows, tanager, woodpecker, or olive-sided as yet.

Watched a consortium of small birds in the group of matted fir — the Ruby-crowned Kinglet's nest was four years ago. These birds were inserted on the southwestern face of the fir the side away from the cold

MUSEUM OF VERTEBRATE ZOOLOGY		CENSUS SHEET					
Locality: Lower Trail	Nature of route (zone, fauna, associations)						
Date: July 24, 1927	13:00 to 18:20						
Observer: J. Grinnell	8:20 to 8:50						
Time in field: 7:20 to 12:10	8:50 to 9:50						
Approximate no. miles: 6 (by trail)	9:50 to 10:20						
	10:20 to 10:45						
	10:45 to 11:10						
	11:10 to 11:40						
	11:40 to 12:10						
	Totals						
Species	Hours	7:20-8:20	8:20-9:20	9:20-10:20	10:20-11:20	11:20-12:10	Totals
Spotted Sandpiper		2					
Western Wood Pewee		4	3				
White-crowned Sparrow		3					
Western Robin		3	2				
Lincoln Sparrows		2					
Cassin Purple Finch		16	1				
Canada Warbler		3	1				
Rock Wren		3	6				
Sierra Junco		17	13				
Mountain Chickadee		7					
Pacific Chipping Sparrow		5					
Ruby-crowned Kinglet		2					
Pine Siskin		2					
Golden-crowned Kinglet		7+					
Townsend Solitaire		1					
Clark Nuthatch		2	11				
White-throated Woodpecker		1					
Hairy Woodpecker		1					
Western Tanager			1				
Swinson Hawk				1	1		
Rock Wren						2	
TOTALS (hourly and grand)							

# The Grinnell Legacy

“... the greatest purpose of our museum ... will not, however, be realized until the lapse of many years, possibly a century.... And this is that the student of the future will have access to the original record of faunal conditions in California and the west...”

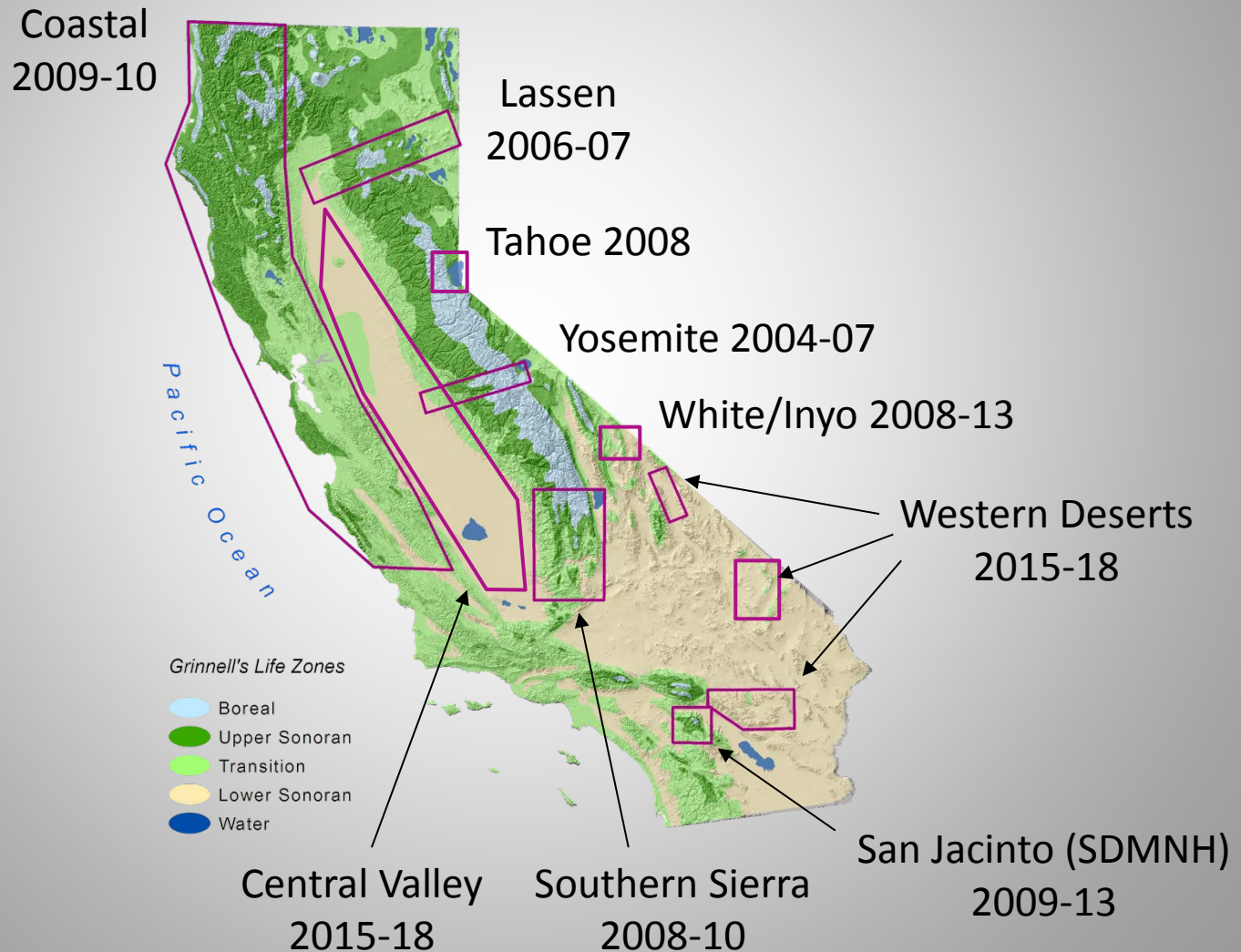
*-Grinnell, 1910*



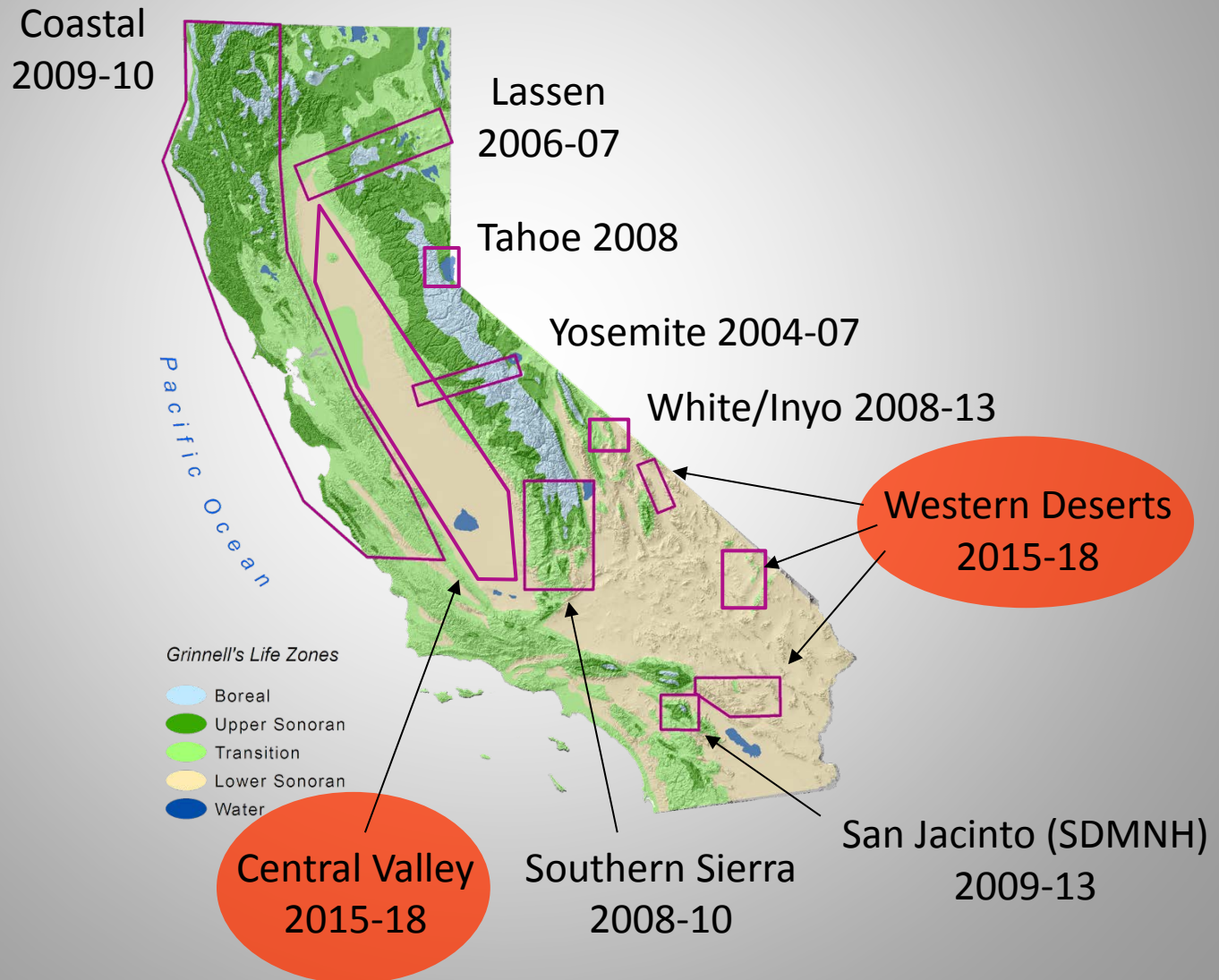
*Joseph Grinnell  
MVZ Director 1908-39*



# The Grinnell Resurvey Project (2004 - Present)



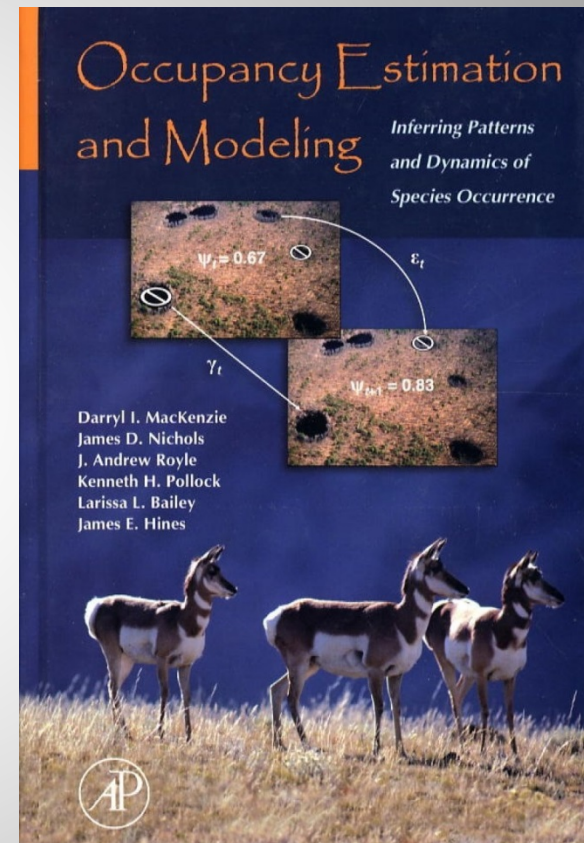
# The Grinnell Resurvey Project



# Linking Historic to Modern: Occupancy Models

- Depend on repeated, within-era temporal surveys
- **Probability of a false absence ( $P_{fa}$ ):**
  - Estimates likelihood an observed absence is a true absence and not a lack of detection
  - Across sites ( $m$ ) based on repeat ( $n$ ) surveys:

$$P_{fa} = \prod_{j=1}^m \prod_{i=1}^n (1 - p_{ij})$$





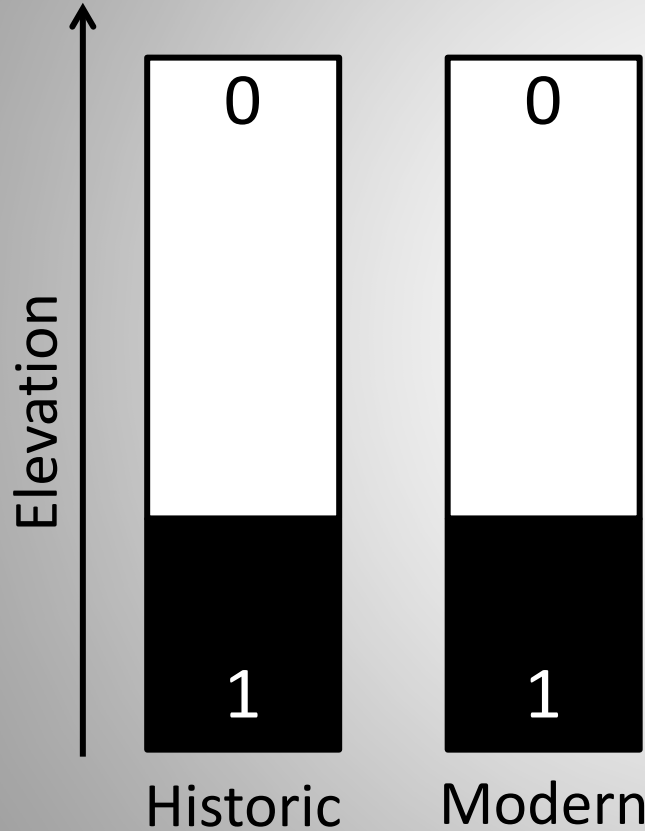
# **EFFECTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE ON TERRESTRIAL VERTEBRATE RANGES**

# Effects of Climate Change on Terrestrial Vertebrate Ranges

- Elevational Range Dynamics
  - Are naïve predictions of upward shifts sufficient?

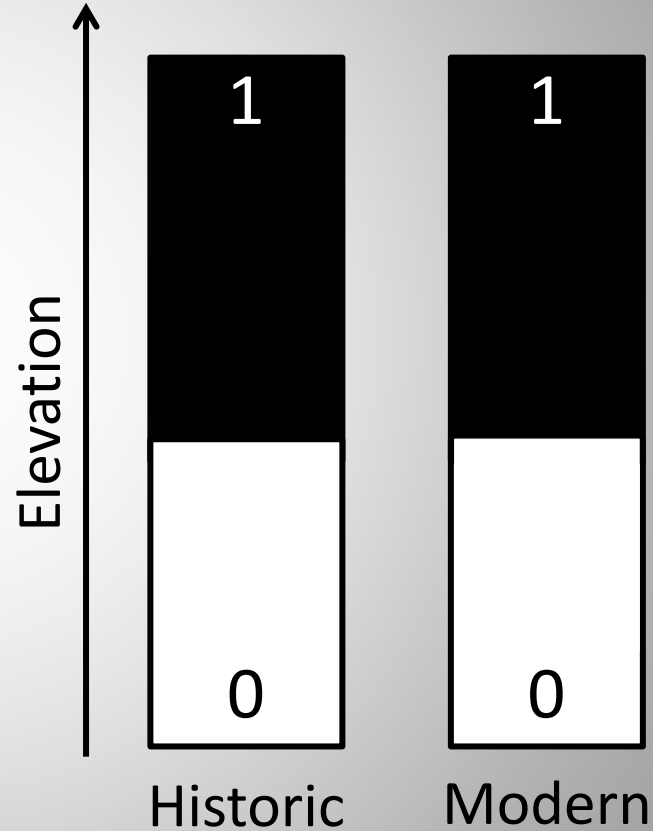
# Naïve Range Limit Predictions

Low- & Mid-Elevation Species



Expand Upper Limit

Mid- & High-Elevation Species



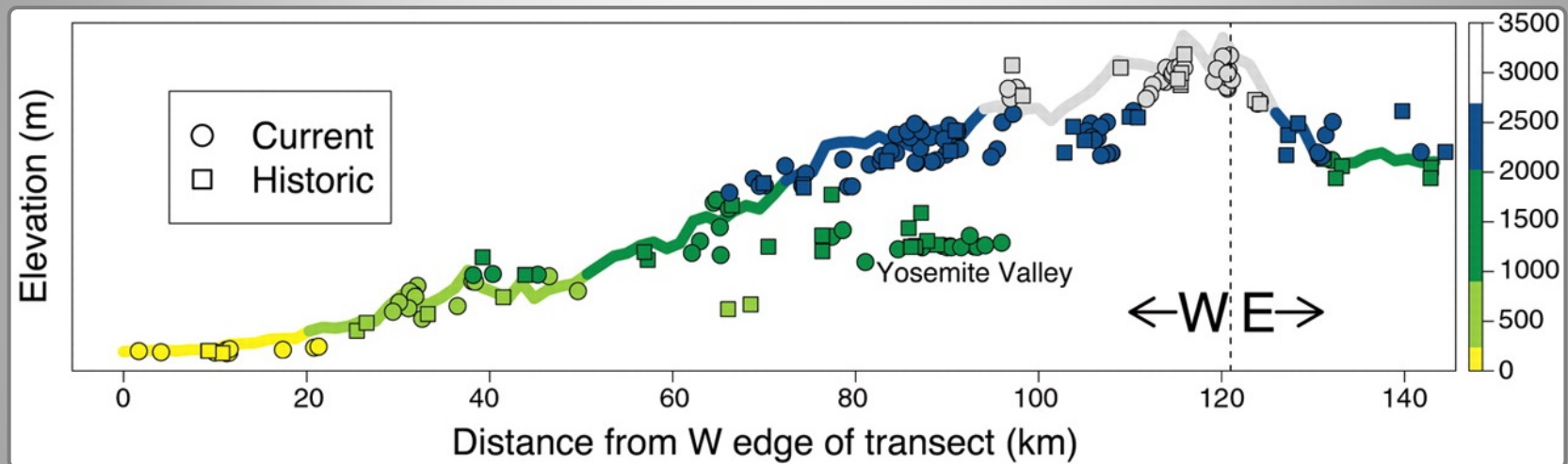
Contract Lower Limit

# Globally Coherent Fingerprint: Poleward and Upslope

“Mega” Meta-analyses:

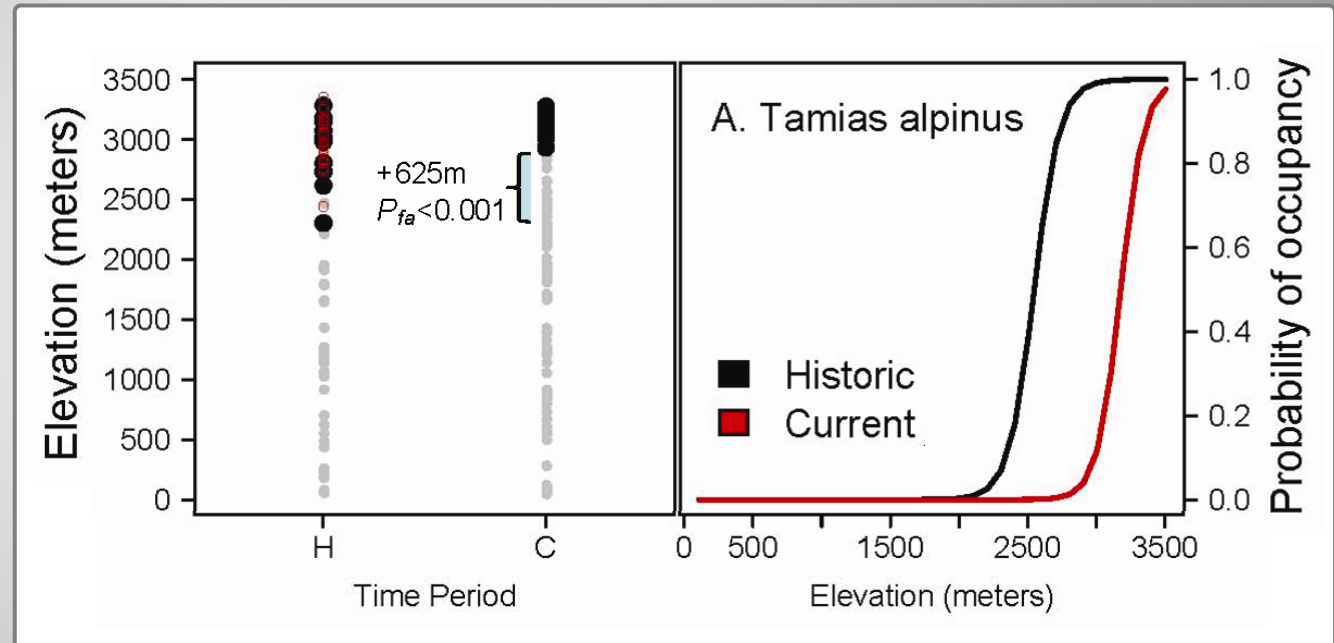
- Parmesan and Yohe 2003. Science:
  - N = 434 species (latitude)
- Chen et al. 2011. Science:
  - N = 764 (latitude)
  - N = 1367 (elevation)

# The Grinnell Resurvey Project: Yosemite Transect, Small Mammals



# Mammal Trapping Data and Occupancy Profiles

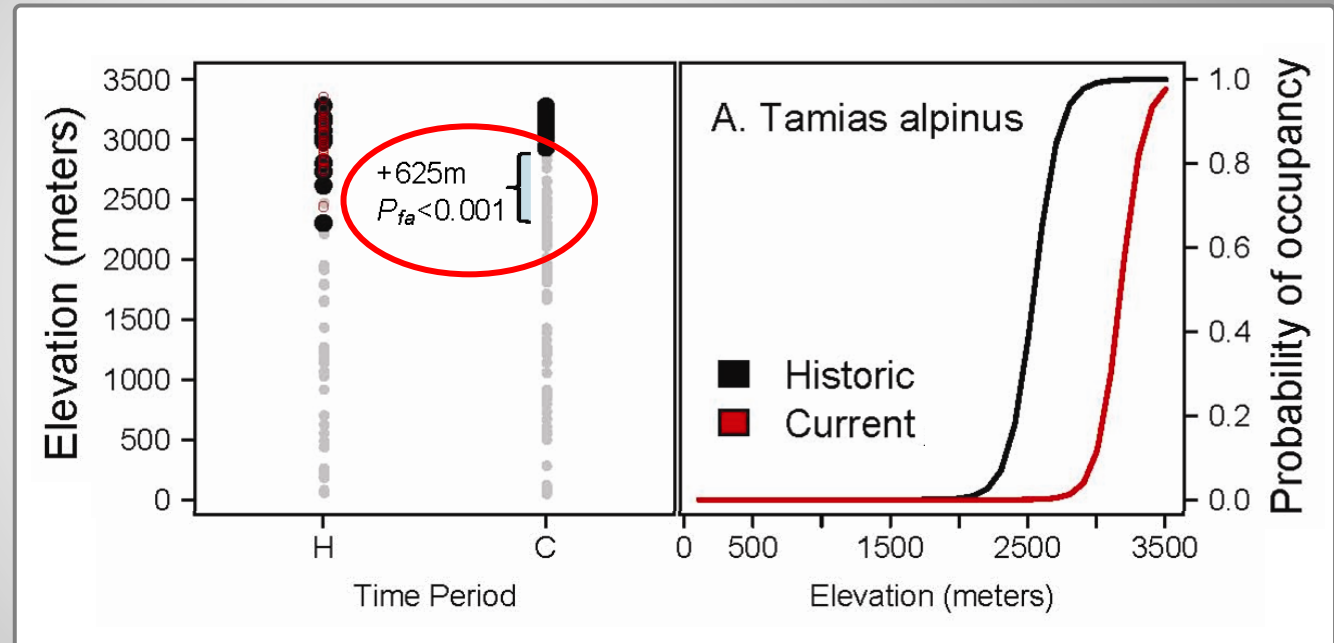
Alpine chipmunk  
*Tamias alpinus*





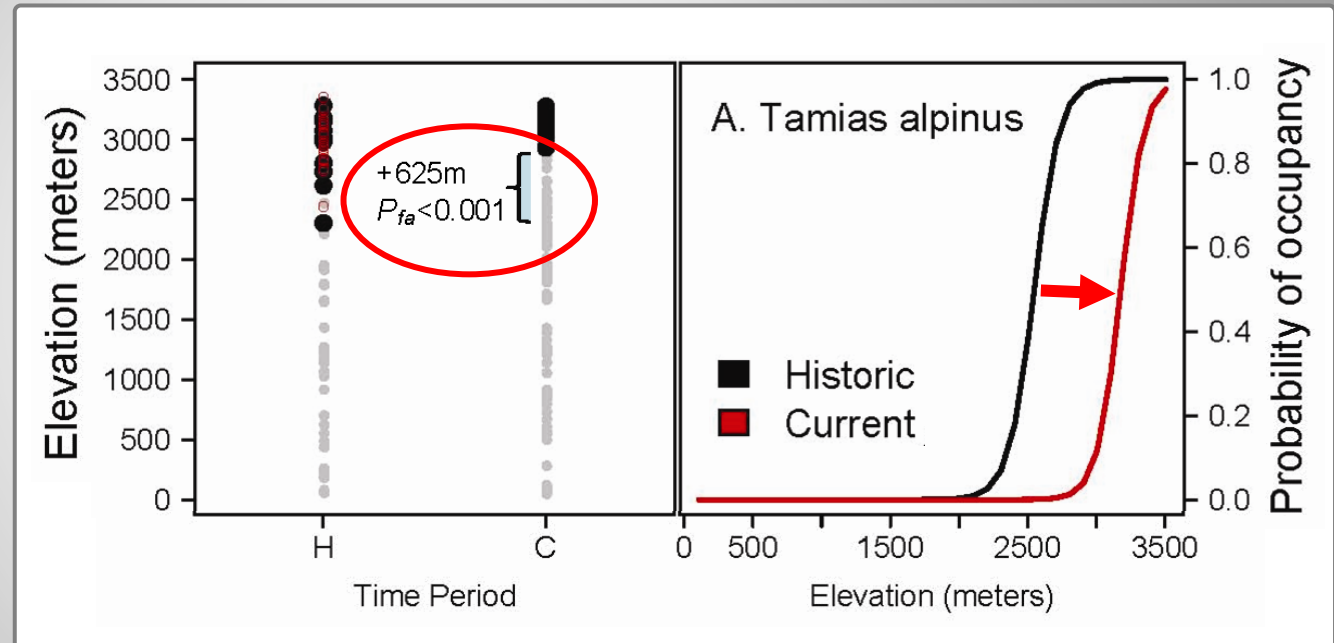
# Mammal Trapping Data and Occupancy Profiles

Alpine chipmunk  
*Tamias alpinus*

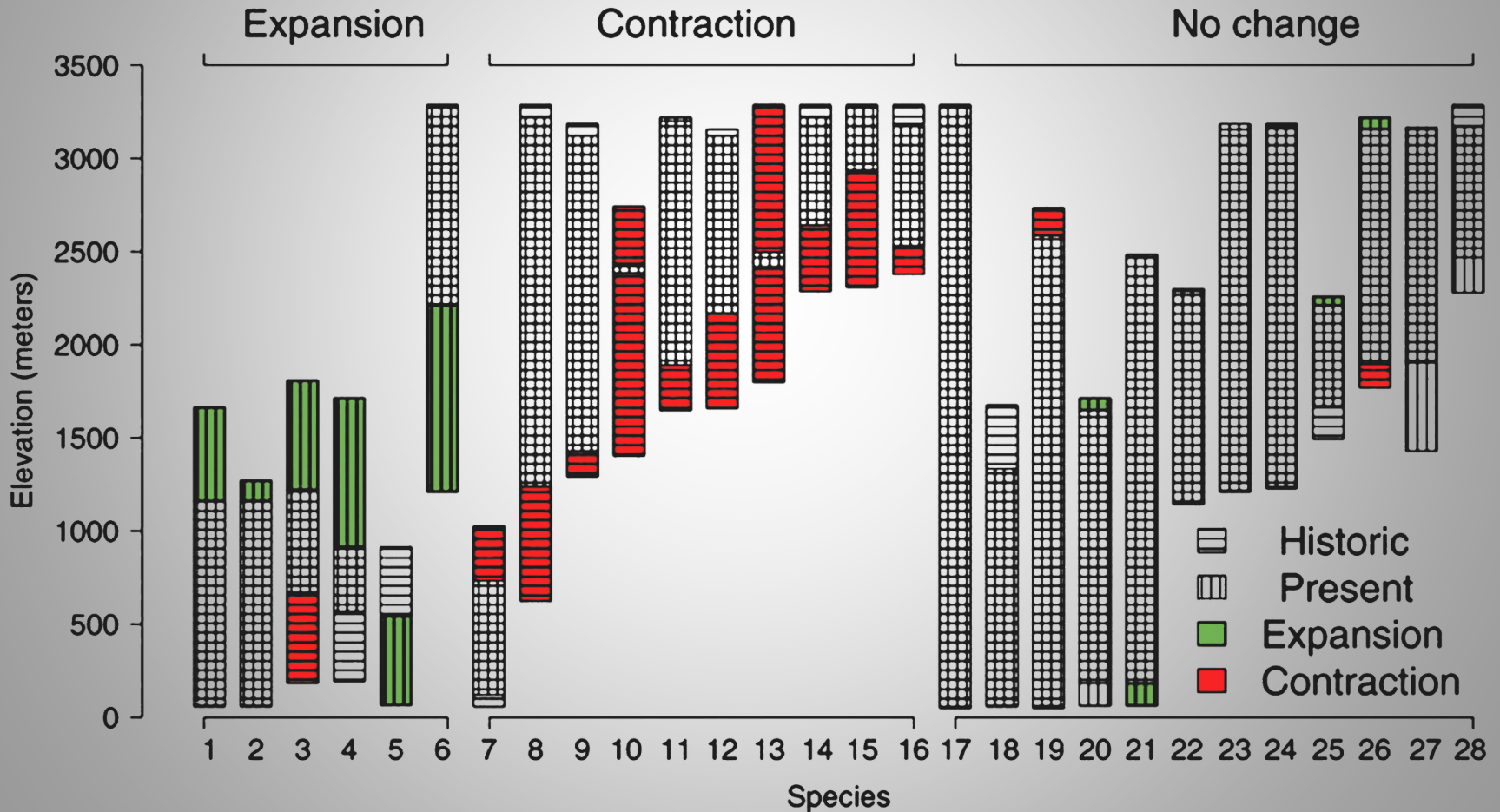


# Mammal Trapping Data and Occupancy Profiles

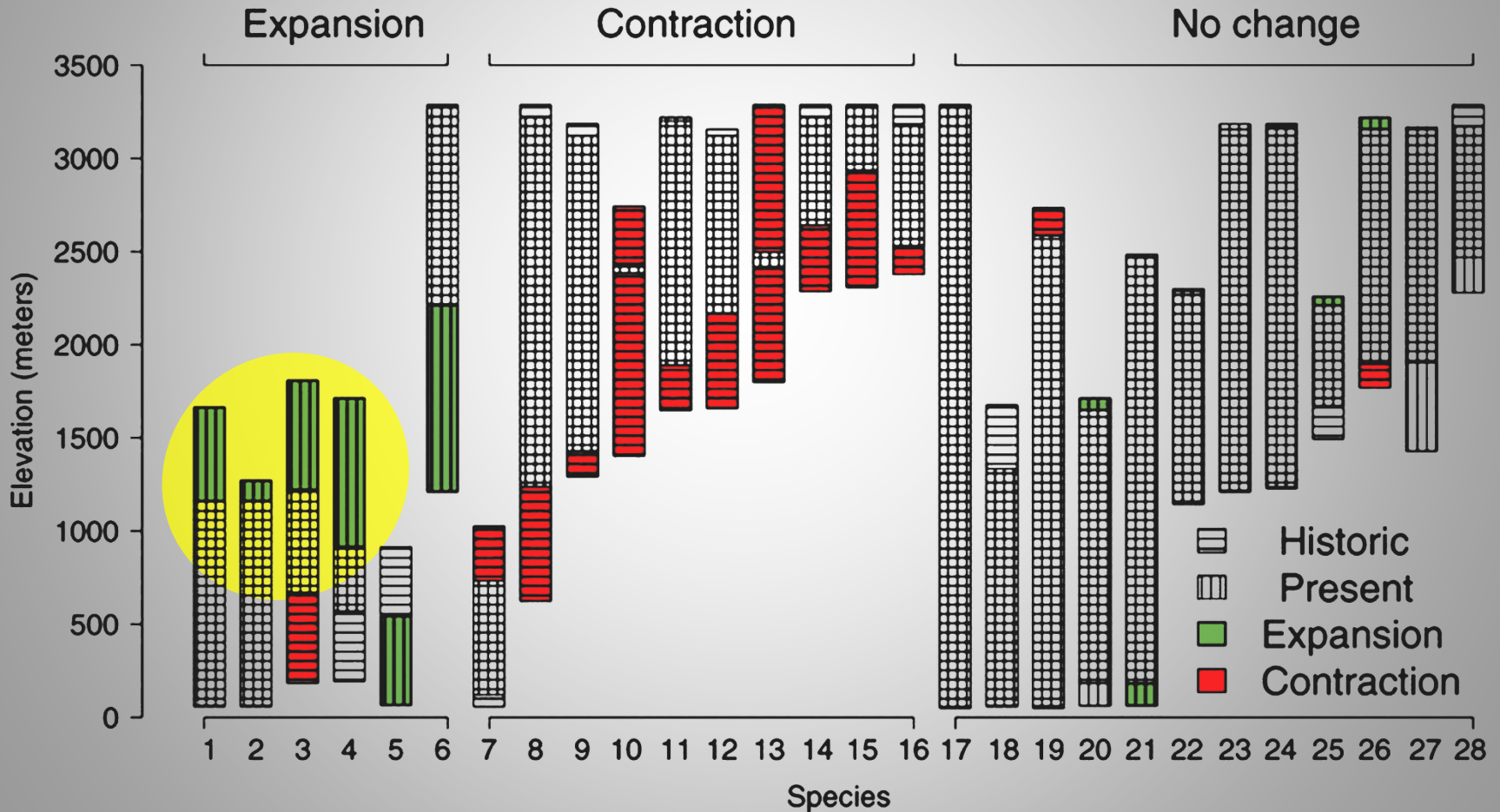
Alpine chipmunk  
*Tamias alpinus*



# Elevational Range Change: 28 Yosemite Small Mammal Species

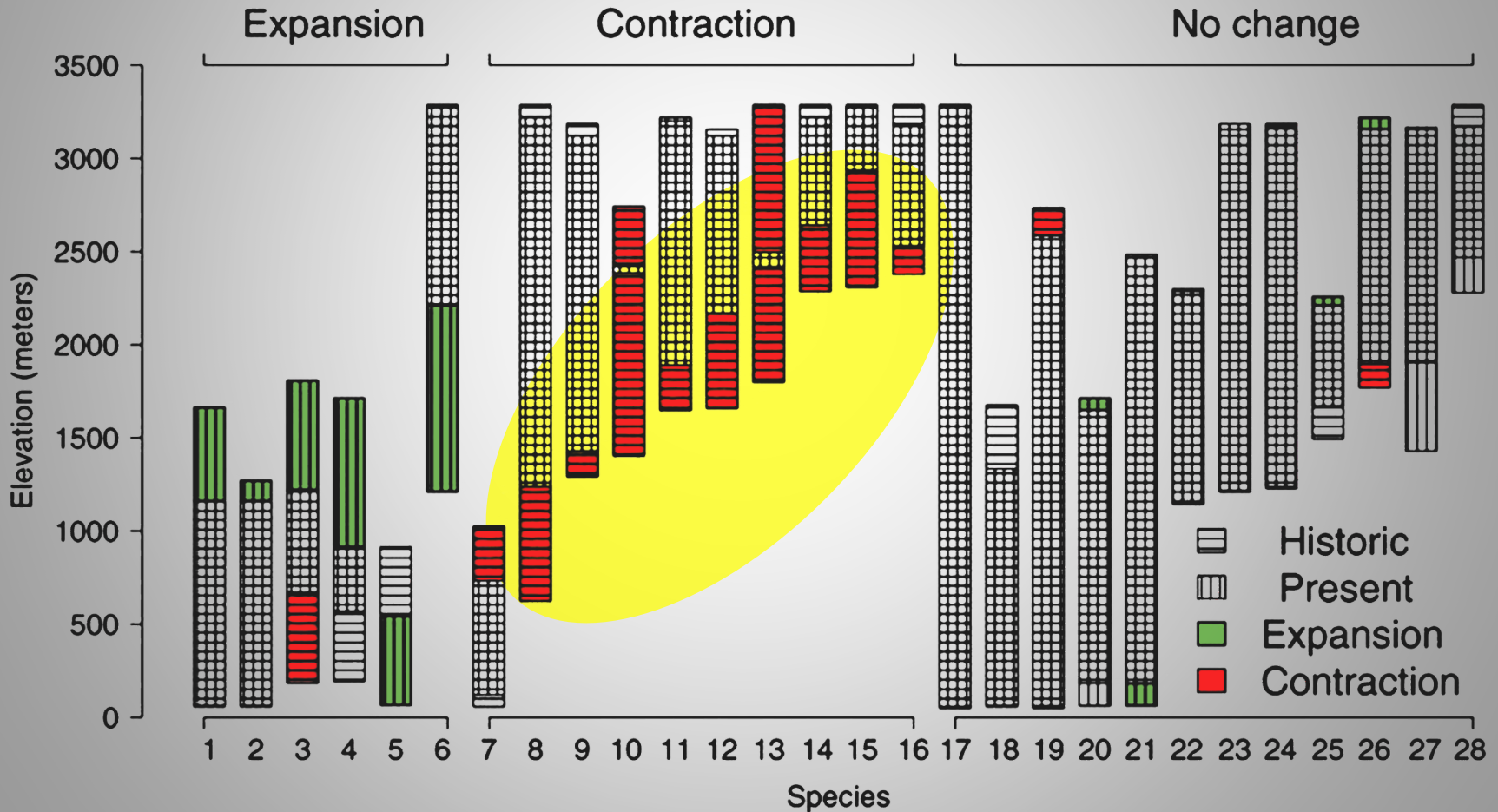


# Elevational Range Change: Range Expansion

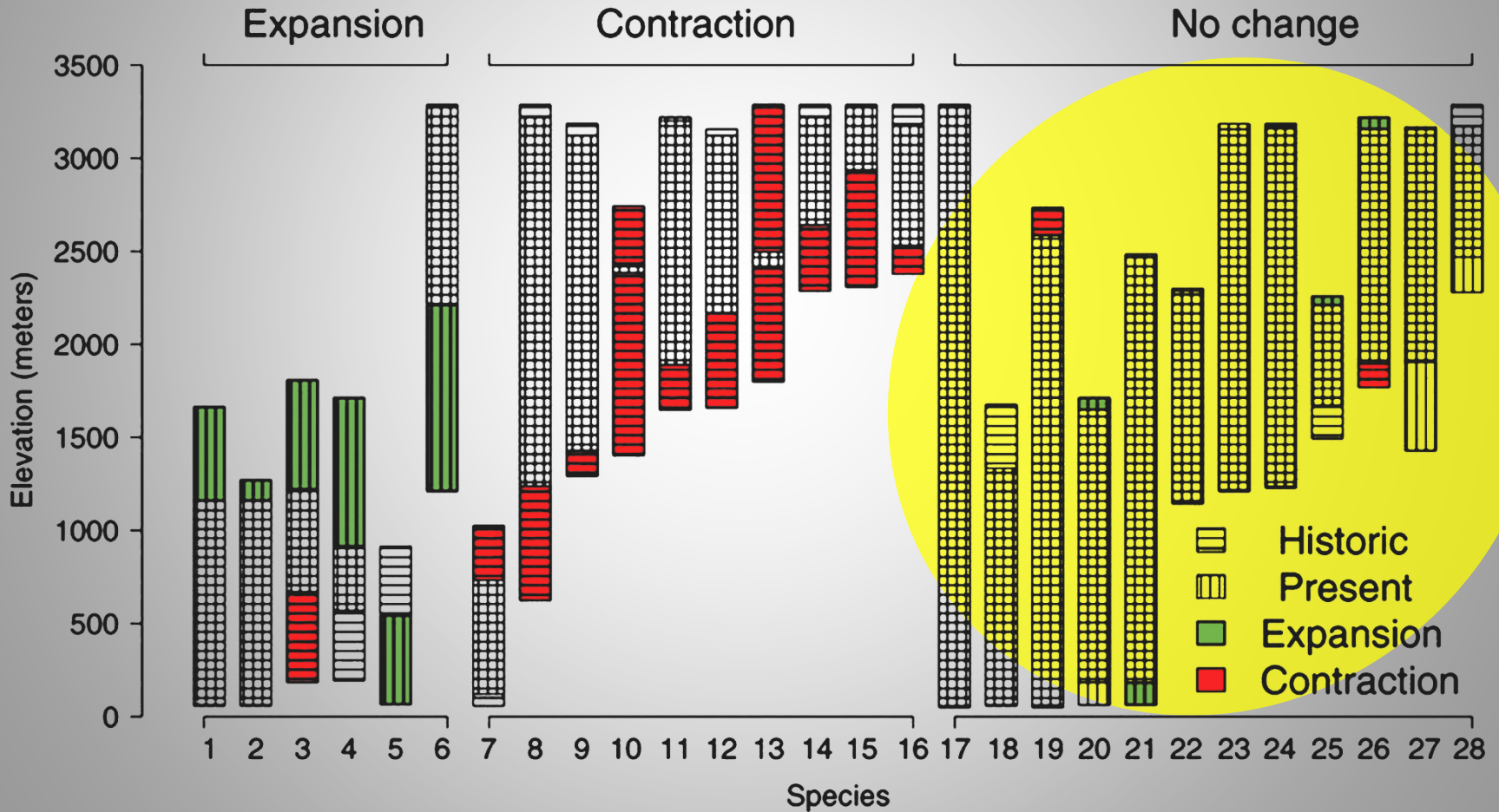




# Elevational Range Change: Range Contraction

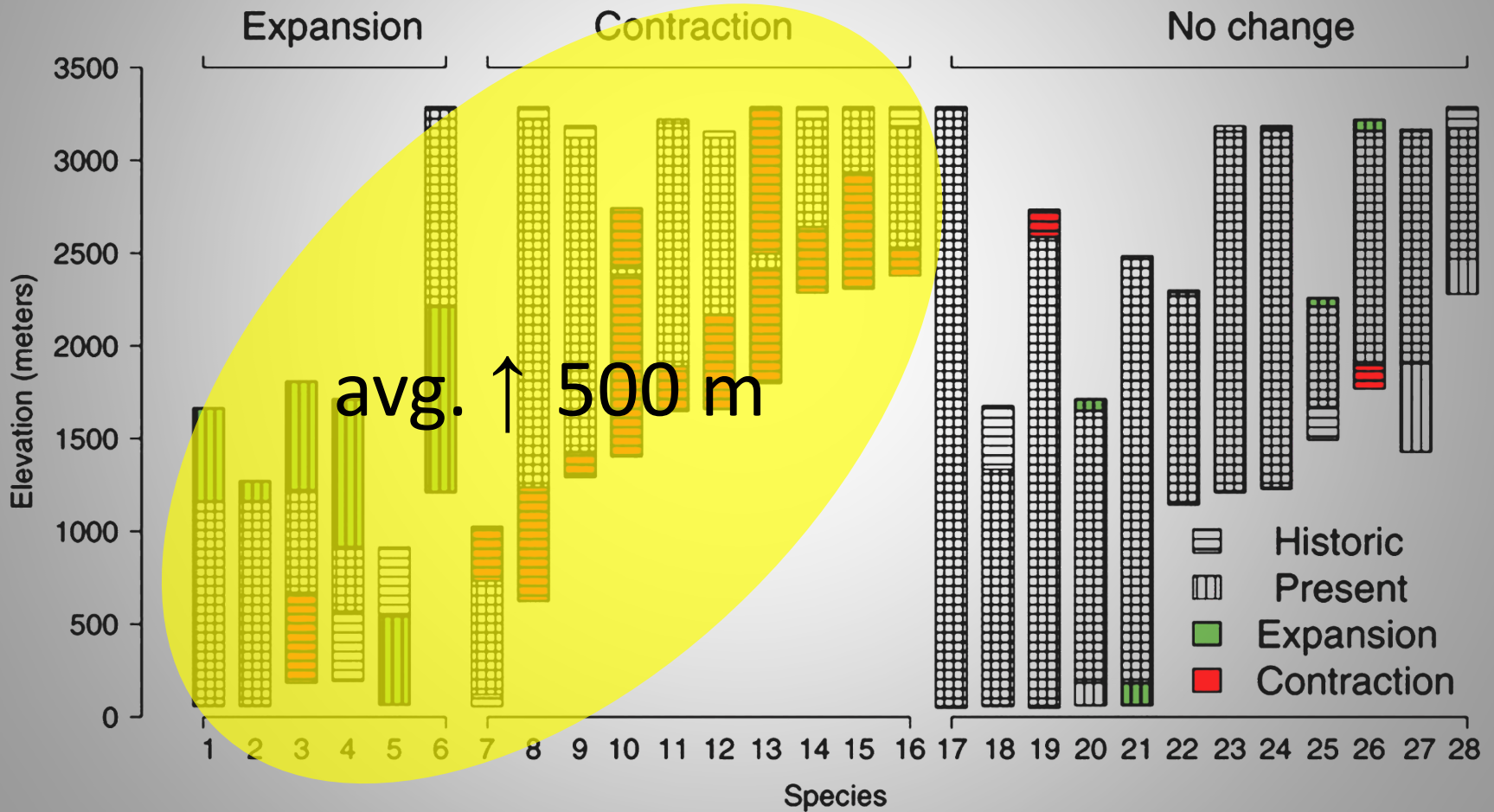


# Elevational Range Change: No Change





# Elevational Range Change



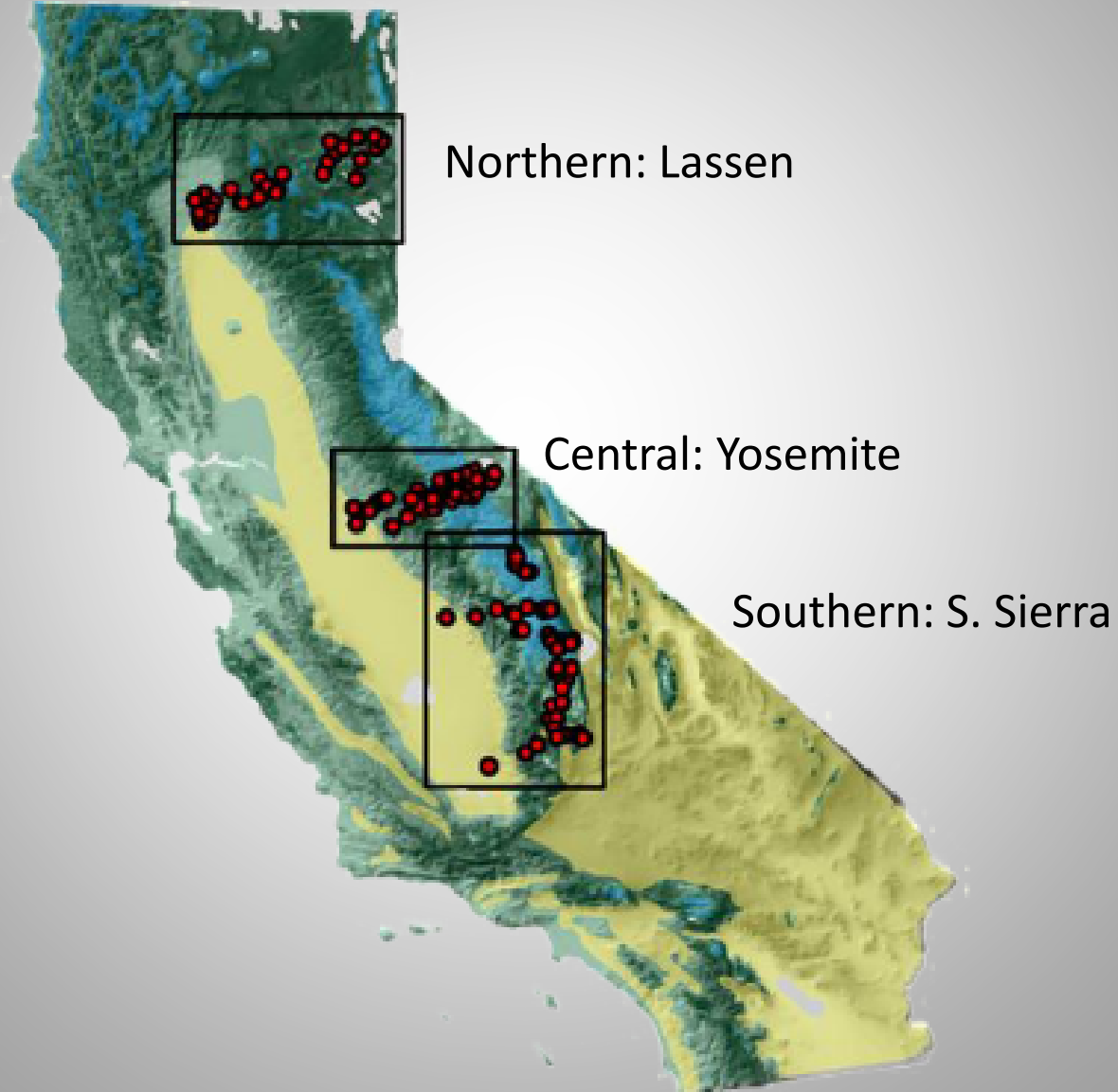
# Range Change Predictors

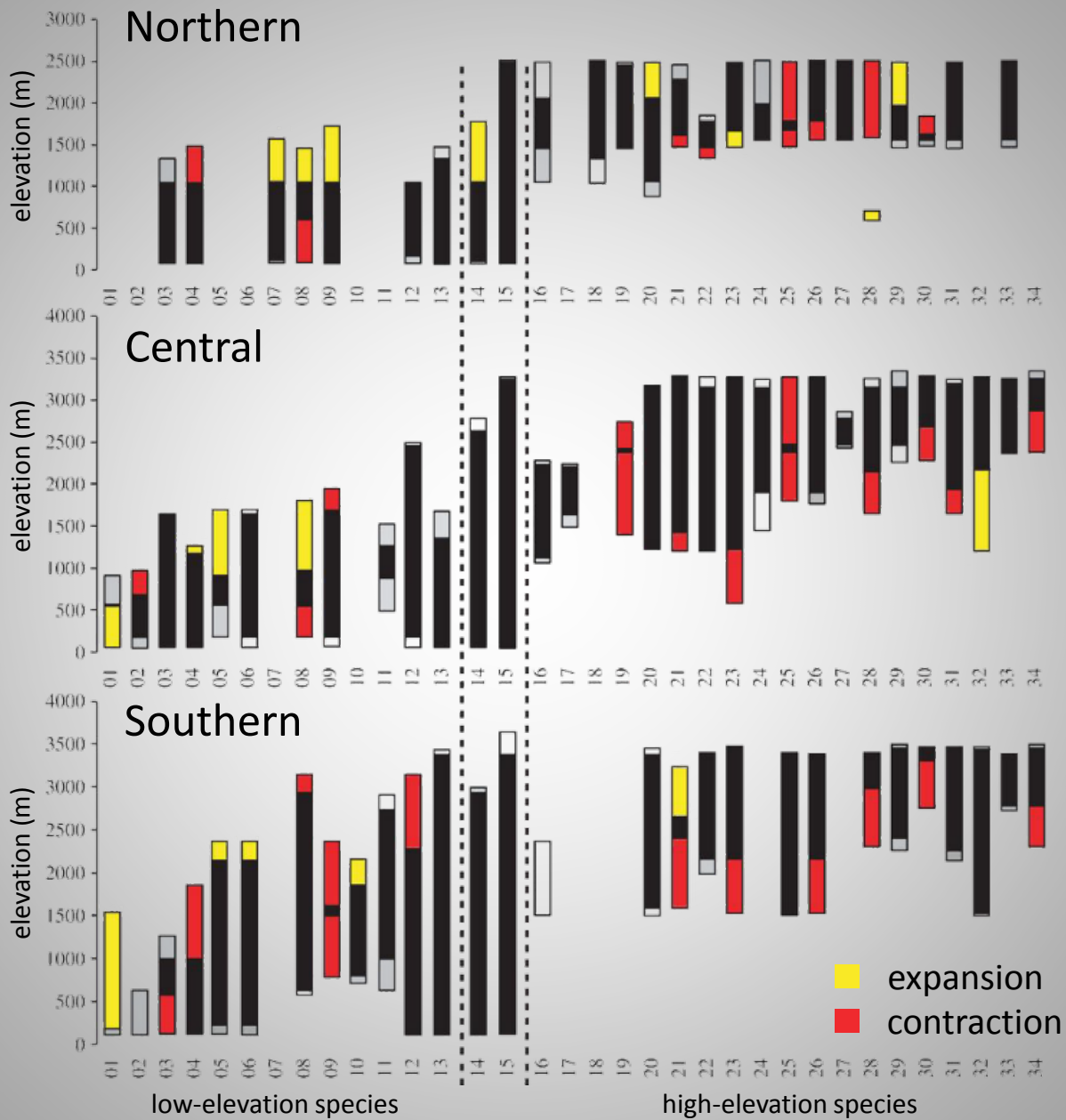
- Strong:
    - Original elevational range:
      - Low: expand upper limit
      - High: contract lower limit
- Consistent with naïve expectations
- Weak:
    - Life history and ecological traits, specifically:
      - Longevity (life span in years): longer, ↓ probability of shift
      - Litters per year: more, ↑ probability of shift

# Effects of Climate Change on Terrestrial Vertebrate Ranges

- Elevational Range Dynamics
  - Are naïve predictions of upward shifts sufficient?
  - Dynamics at a broader spatial extent

# Dynamics at a Broader Spatial Extent



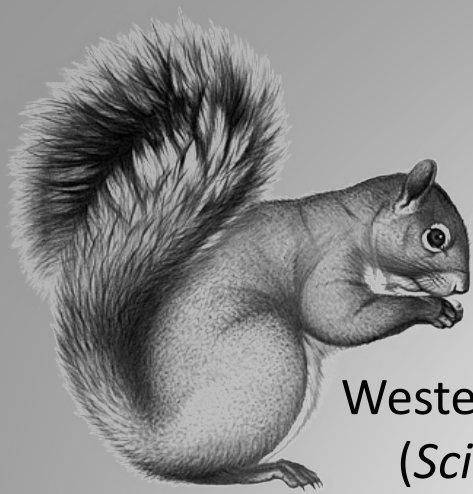




Bushy-tailed woodrat  
(*Neotoma cinerea*)



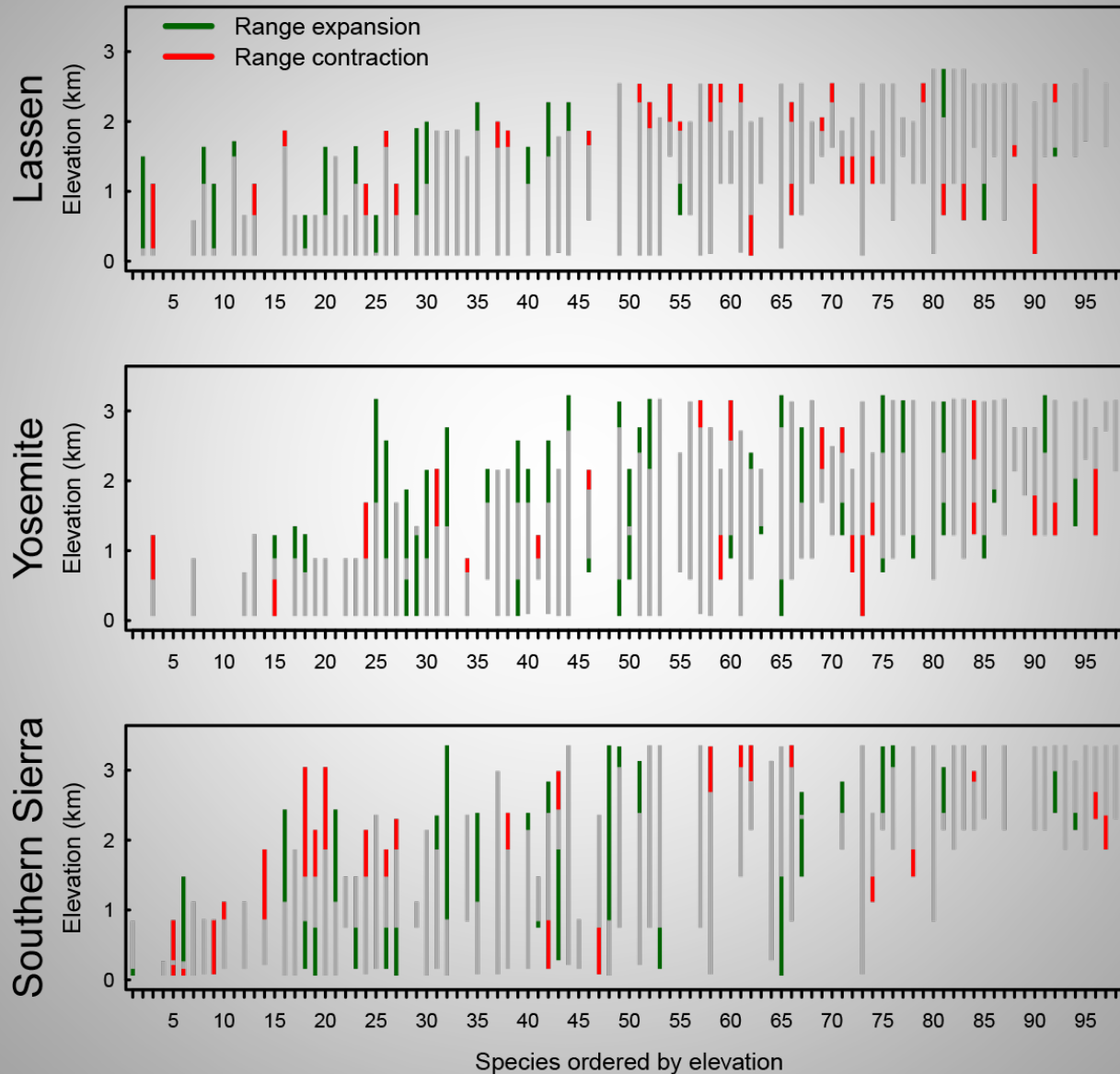




Western gray squirrel  
(*Sciurus griseus*)



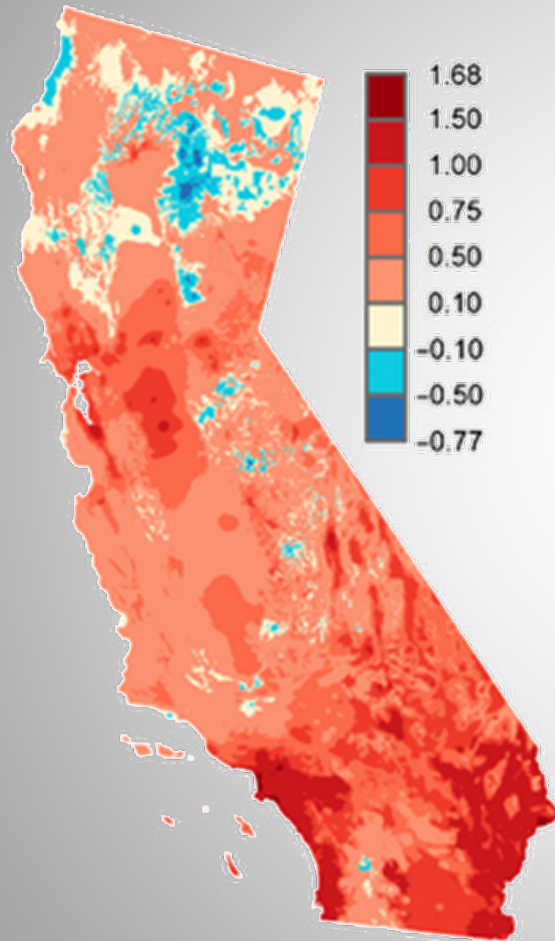
# Avian Elevational Range Response



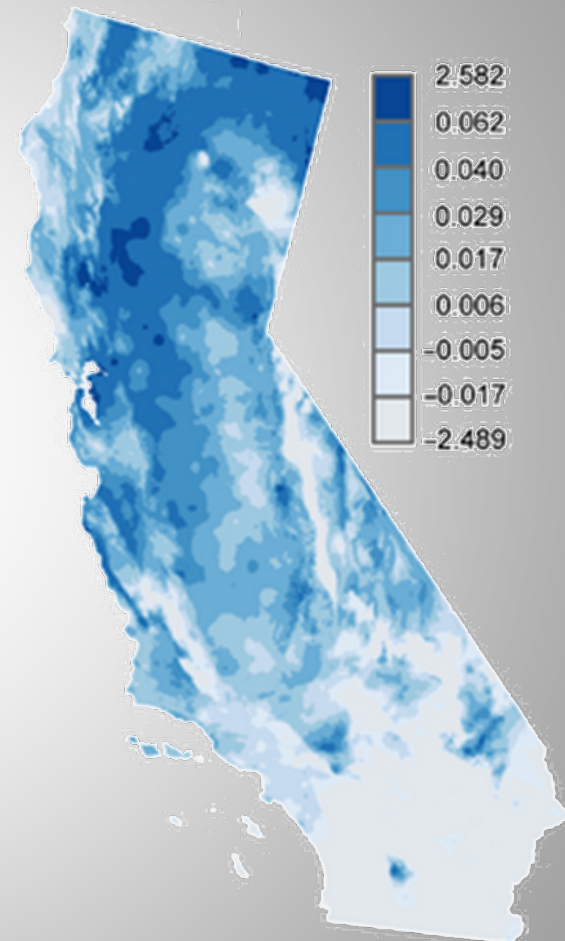
# Effects of Climate Change on Terrestrial Vertebrate Ranges

- Elevational Range Dynamics
  - Are naïve predictions of upward shifts sufficient?
  - Dynamics at a broader spatial extent
  - The shortcomings of the naïve approach

# Climate Change Since Grinnell: Substantial and Highly Variable

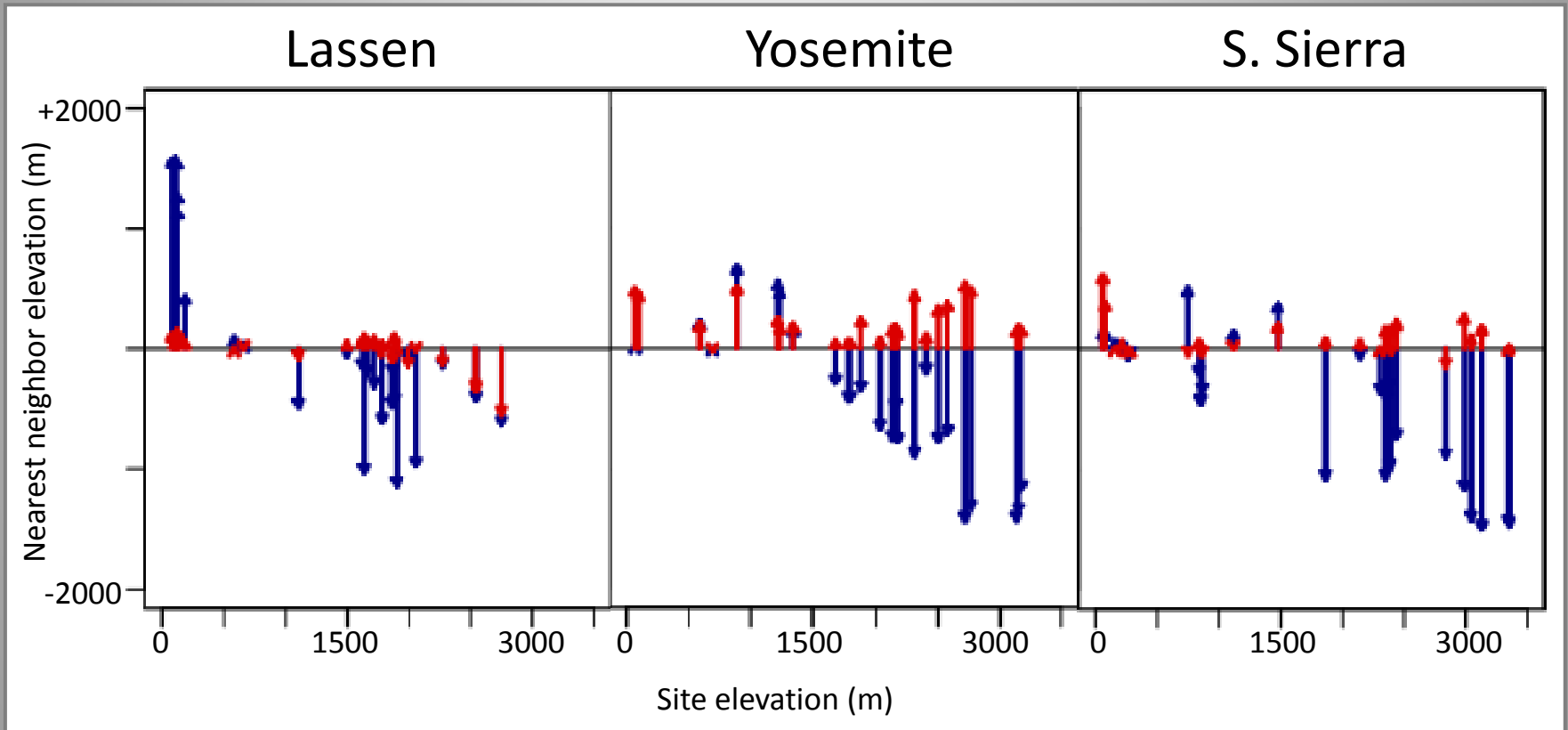


$\Delta$  mean temp. ( $^{\circ}$ C)



$\Delta$  total precip (mm)

# The Elevational Push and Pull of Climate Change: Nearest Climatic Neighbor (Temperature and Precipitation)



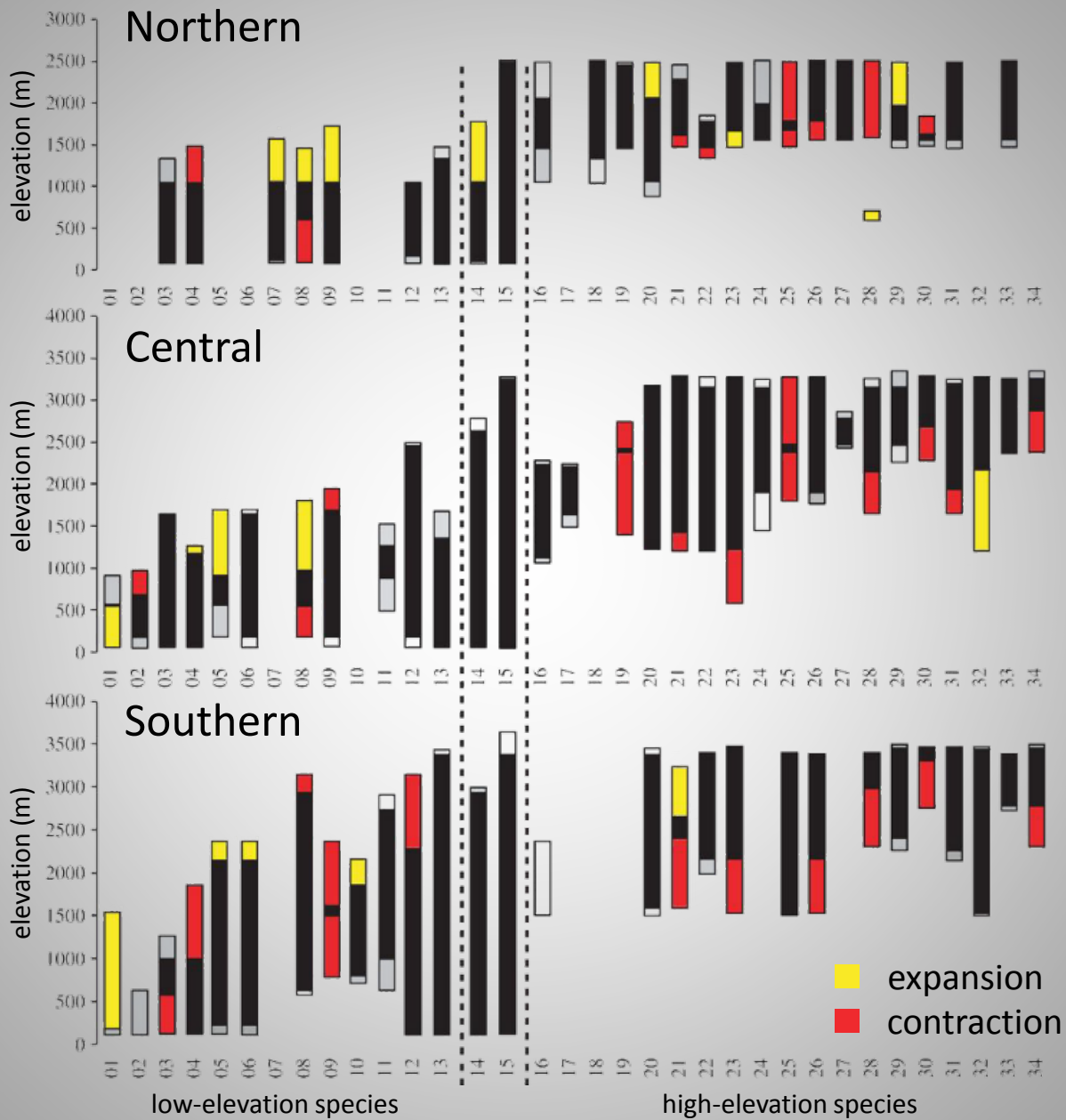


# Effects of Climate Change on Terrestrial Vertebrate Ranges

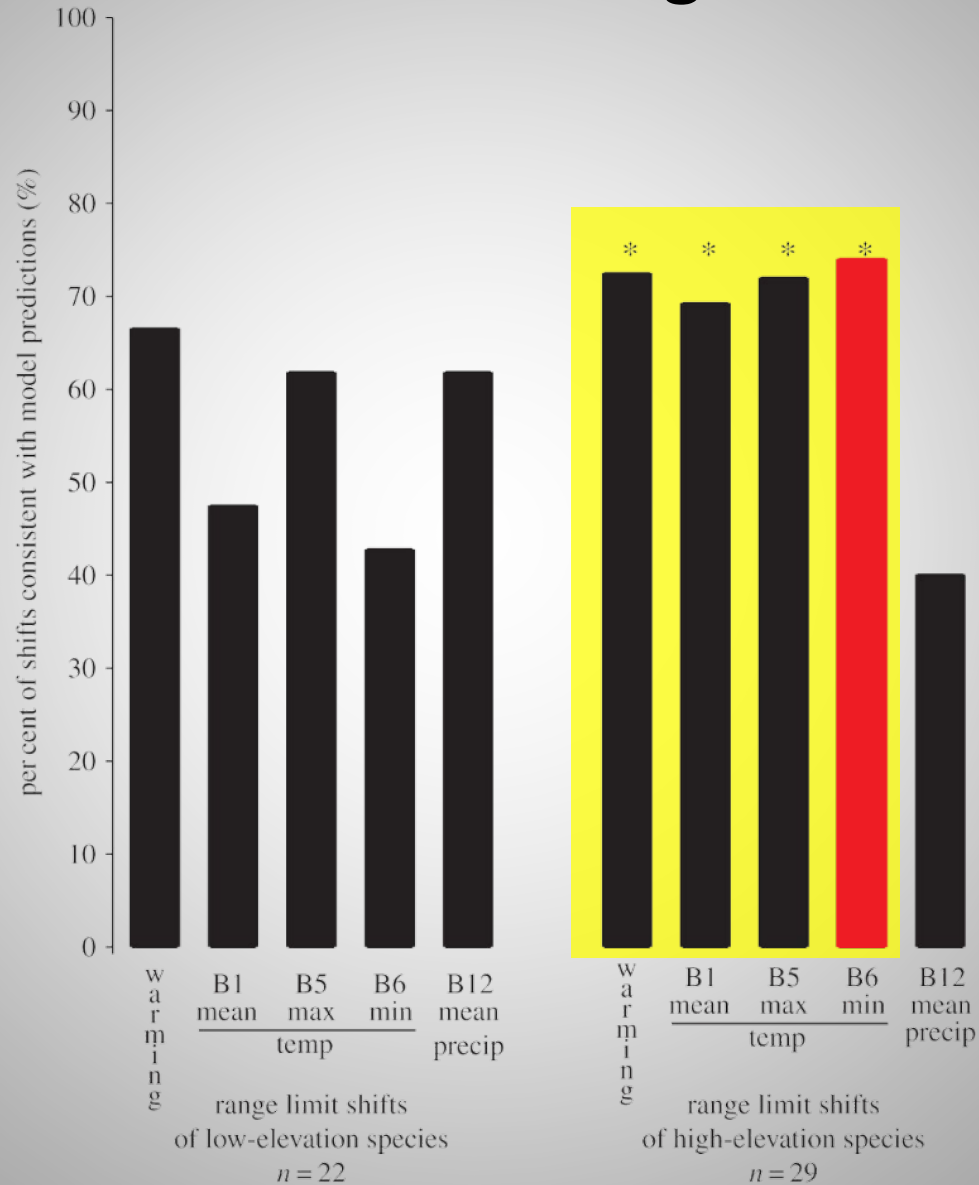
- Elevational Range Dynamics
  - Are naïve predictions of upward shifts sufficient?
  - Dynamics at a broader spatial extent
  - The shortcomings of the naïve approach
- Predictors of Range Change

# Effects of Climate Change on Terrestrial Vertebrate Ranges

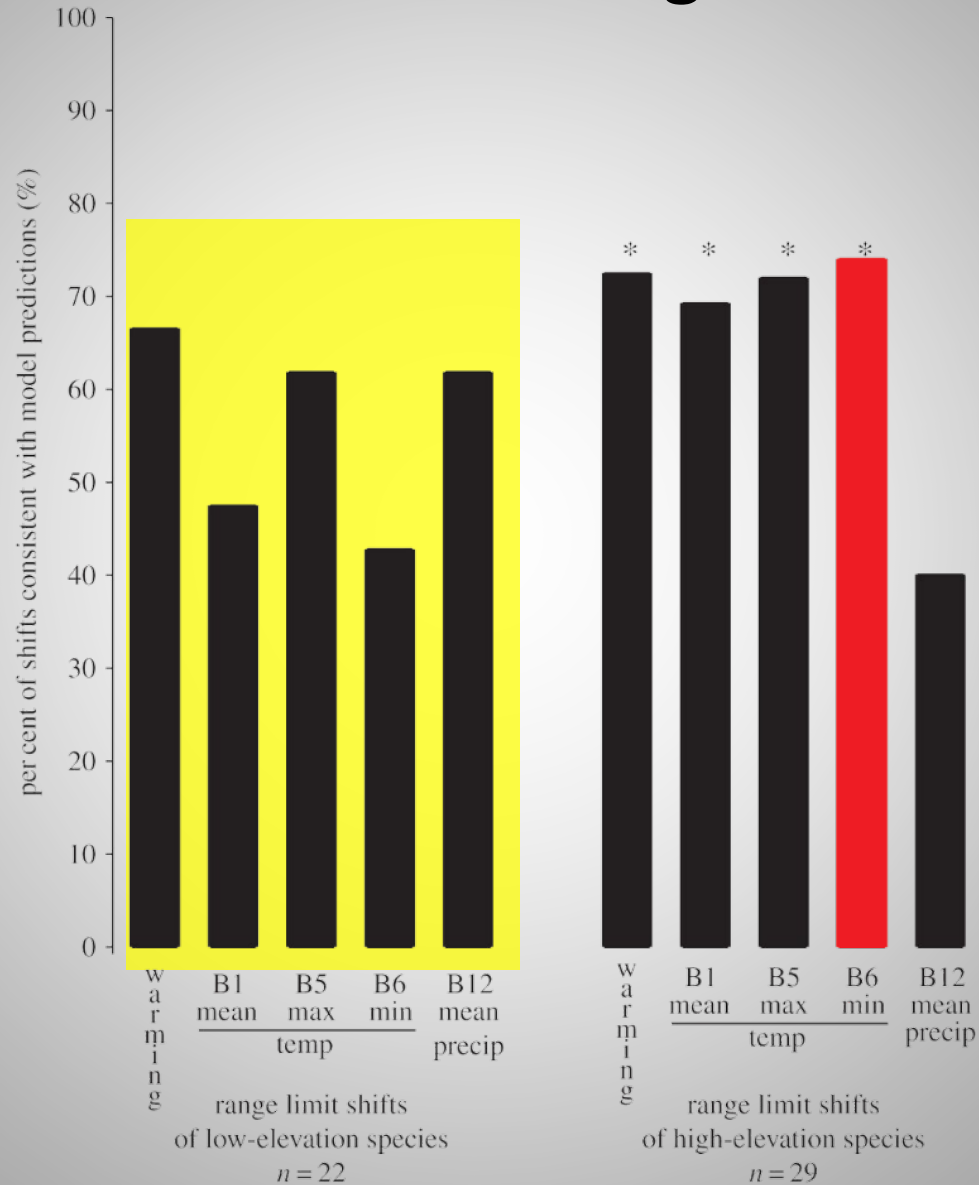
- Elevational Range Dynamics
  - Are naïve predictions of upward shifts sufficient?
  - Dynamics at a broader spatial extent
  - The shortcomings of the naïve approach
- Predictors of Range Change
  - Climate



# Climate Change Predictions: Small Mammal Range Shifts

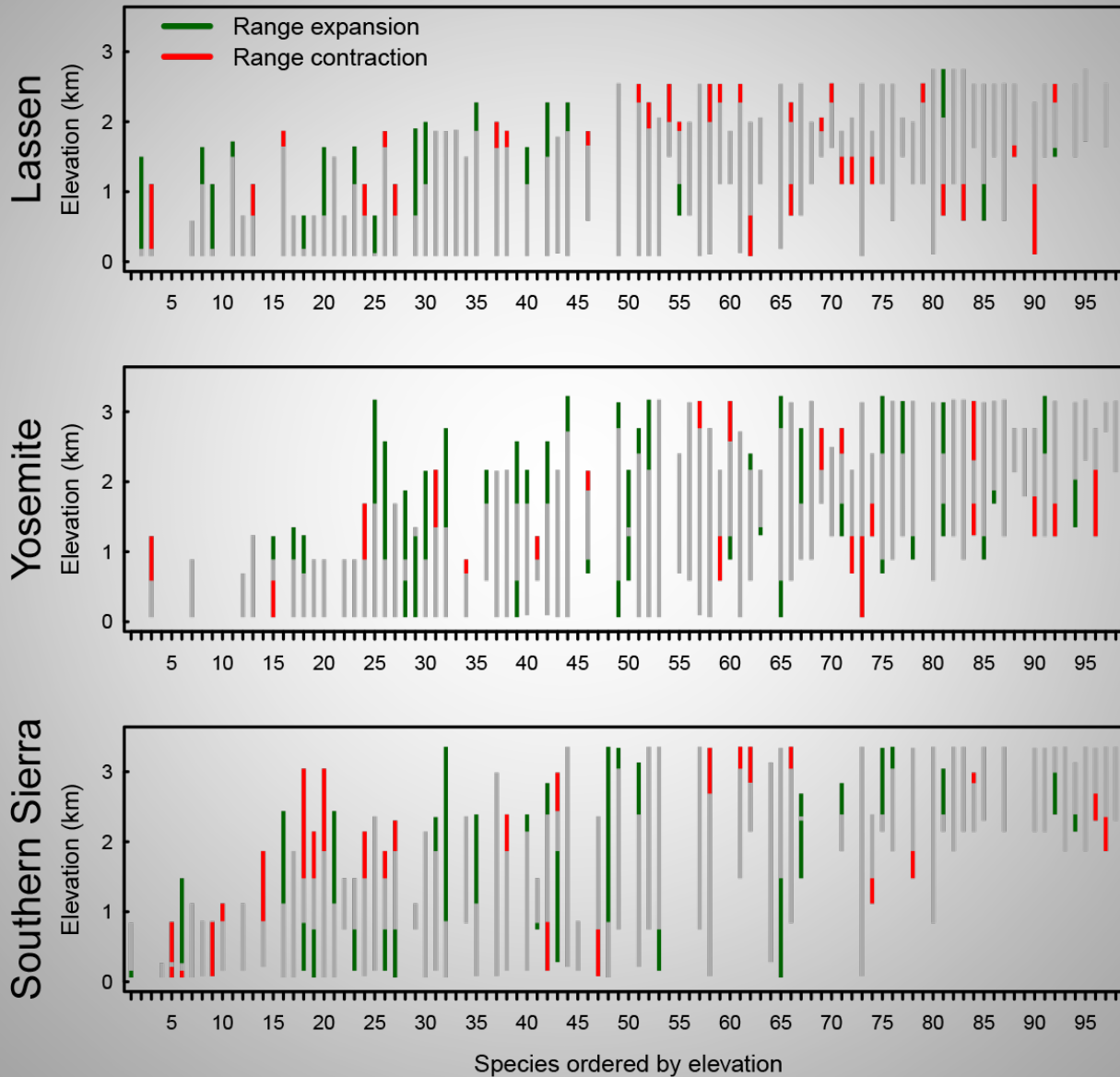


# Climate Change Predictions: Small Mammal Range Shifts

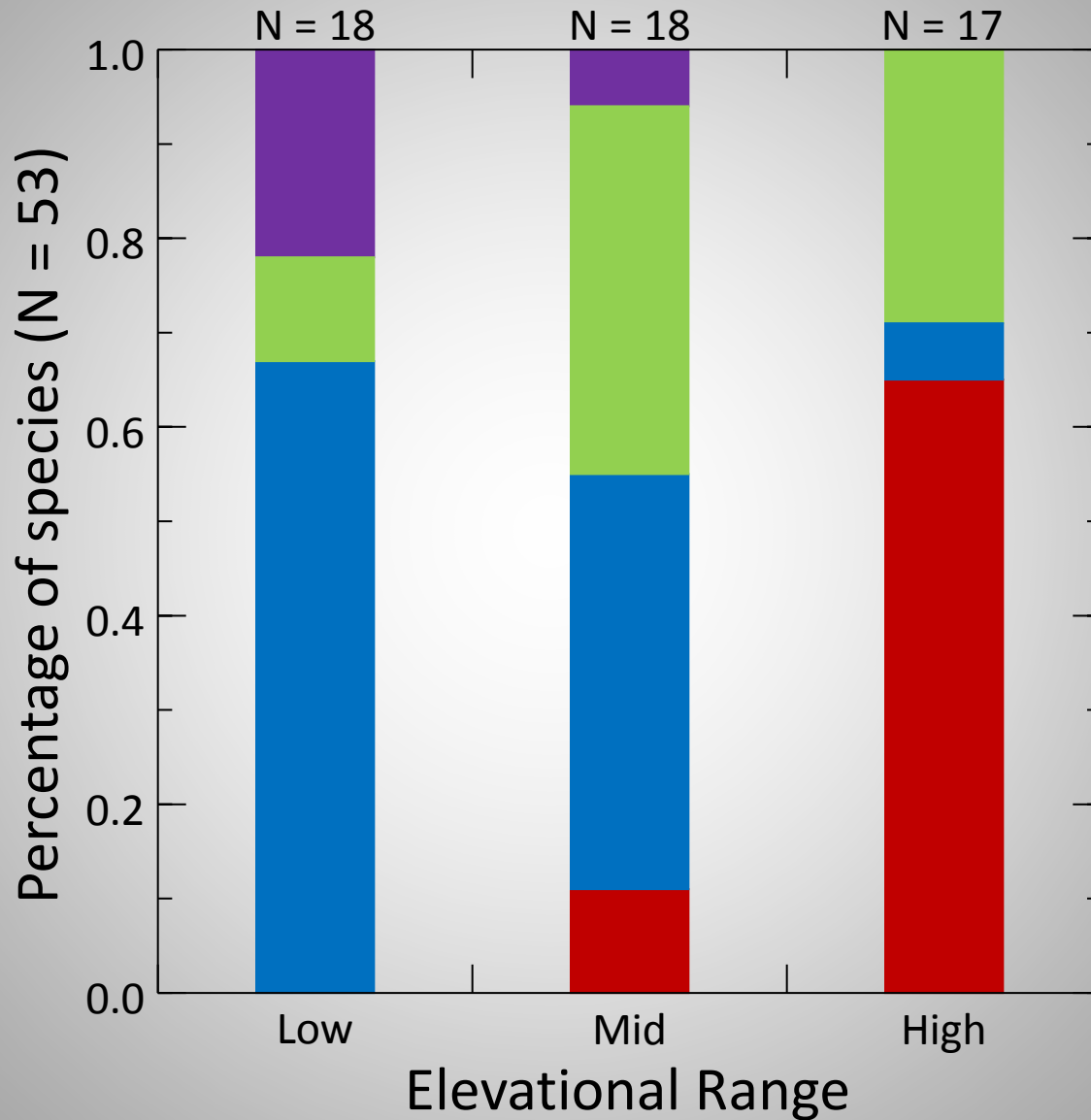




# Climate Change Predictions: Avian Range Shifts



# Elevational Differences in Avian Niche Tracking

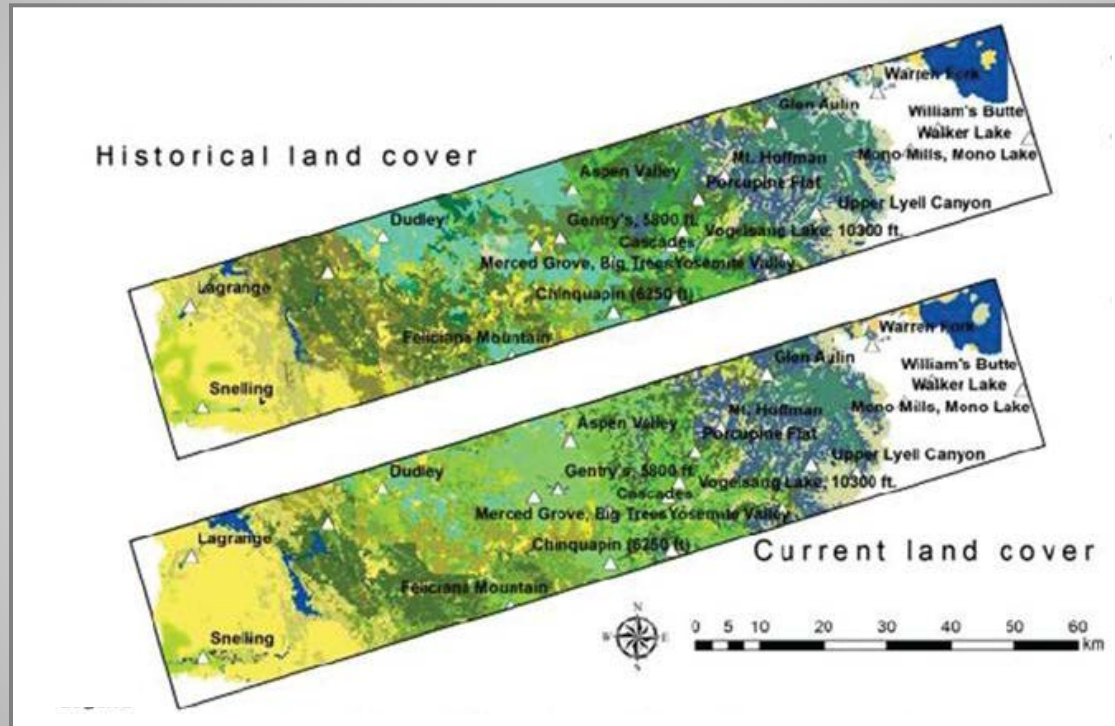


- Temperature
- Precipitation
- Both
- None

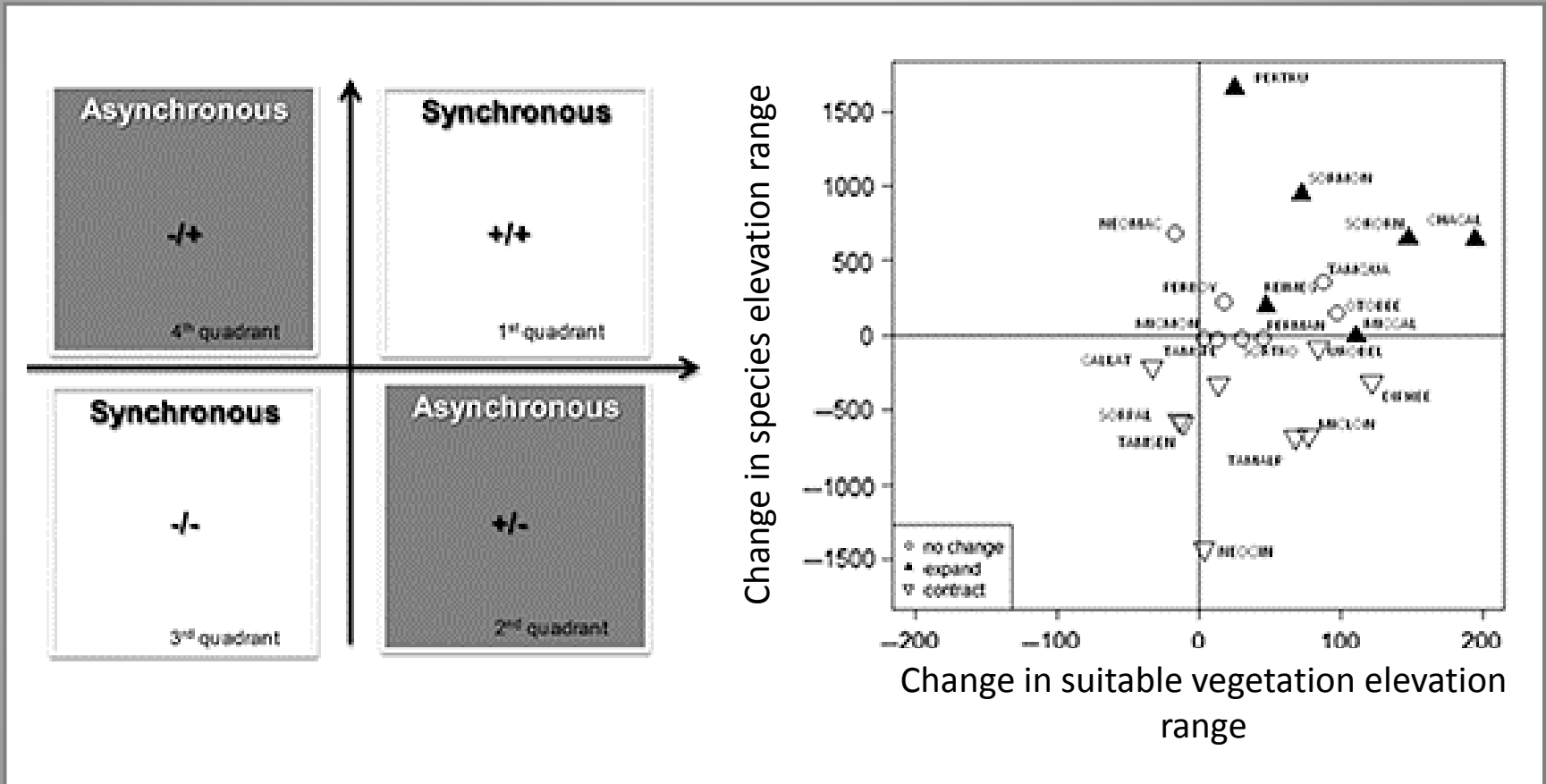
# Effects of Climate Change on Terrestrial Vertebrate Ranges

- Elevational Range Dynamics
  - Are naïve predictions of upward shifts sufficient?
  - Dynamics at a broader spatial extent
  - The shortcomings of the naïve approach
- Predictors of Range Change
  - Climate
  - Vegetation

# Vegetation Change: Yosemite Transect Mammals



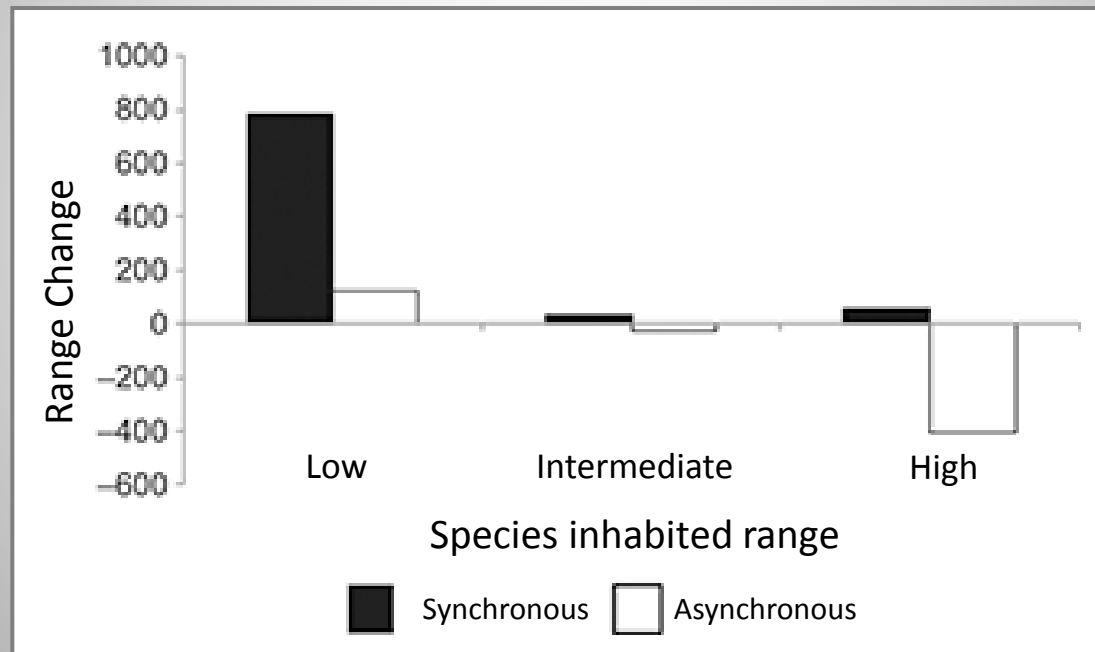
# Vegetation Change: Synchronicity in Mammalian Shifts





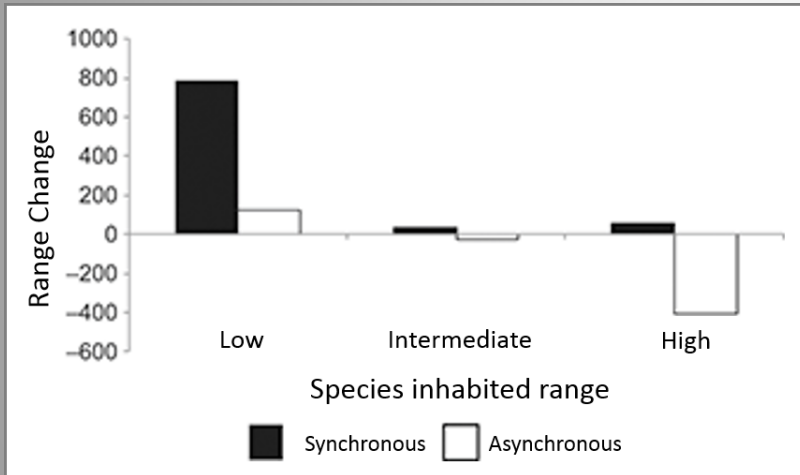


# Vegetation Change: Synchronicity in Mammalian Shifts



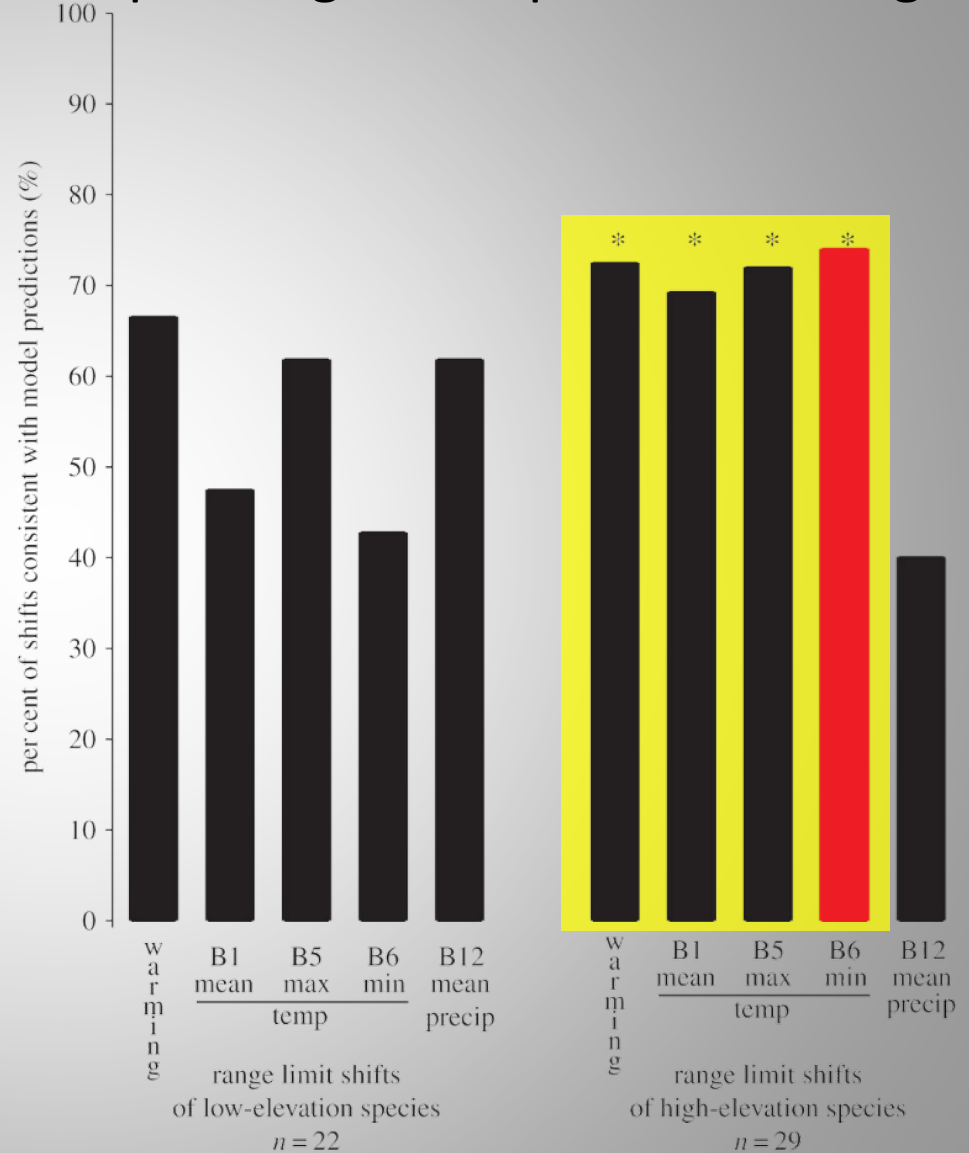
## Low-elevation:

responding to vegetation change



## High-elevation:

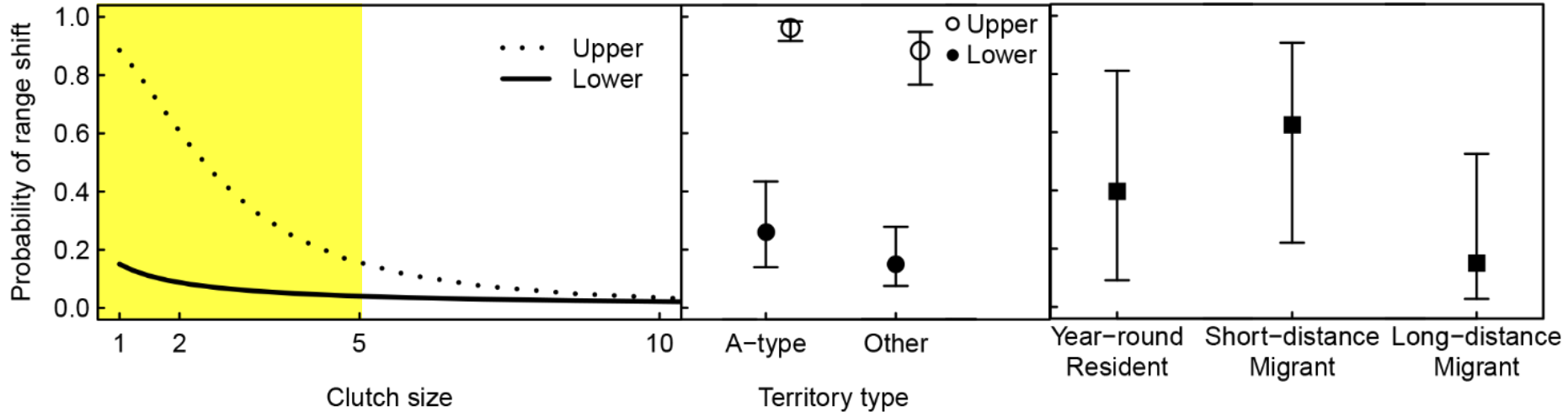
responding to temperature change



# Effects of Climate Change on Terrestrial Vertebrate Ranges

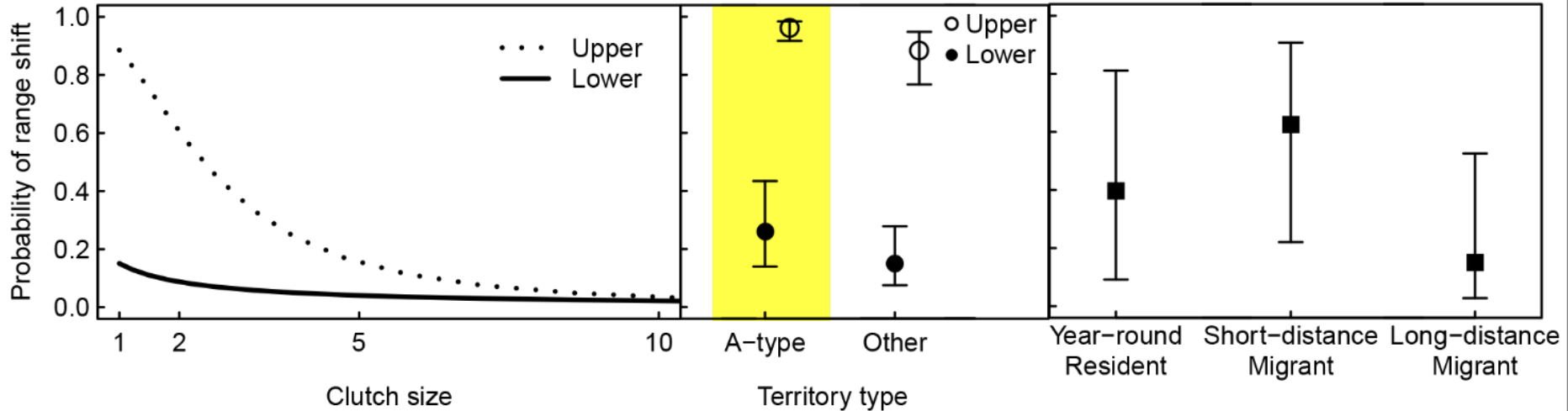
- Elevational Range Dynamics
  - Are naïve predictions of upward shifts sufficient?
  - Dynamics at a broader spatial extent
  - The shortcomings of the naïve approach
- Predictors of Range Change
  - Climate
  - Vegetation
  - Life-history traits

# Life History Traits: Birds

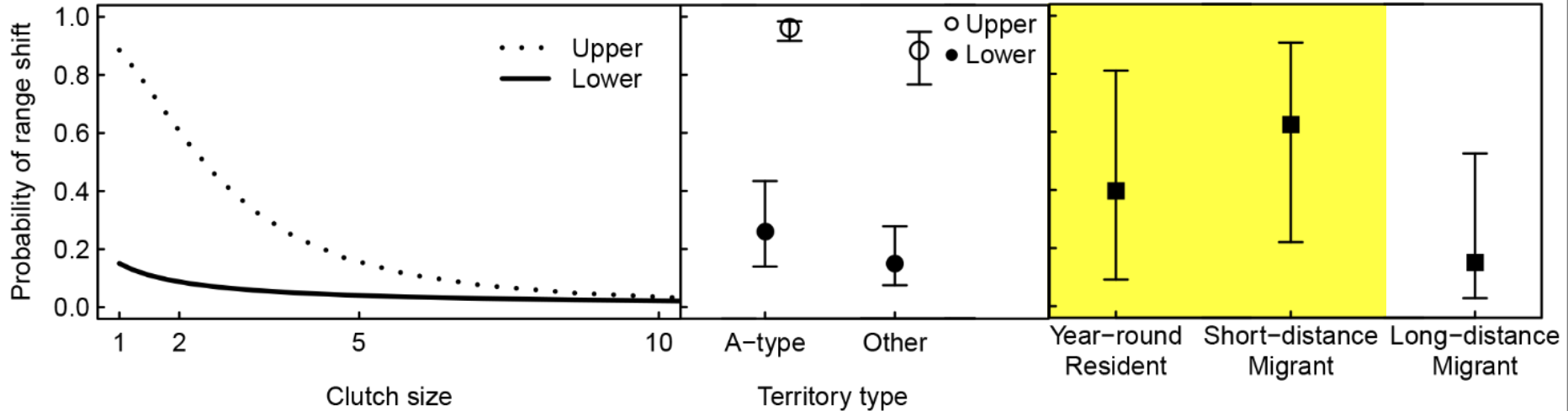




# Life History Traits: Birds



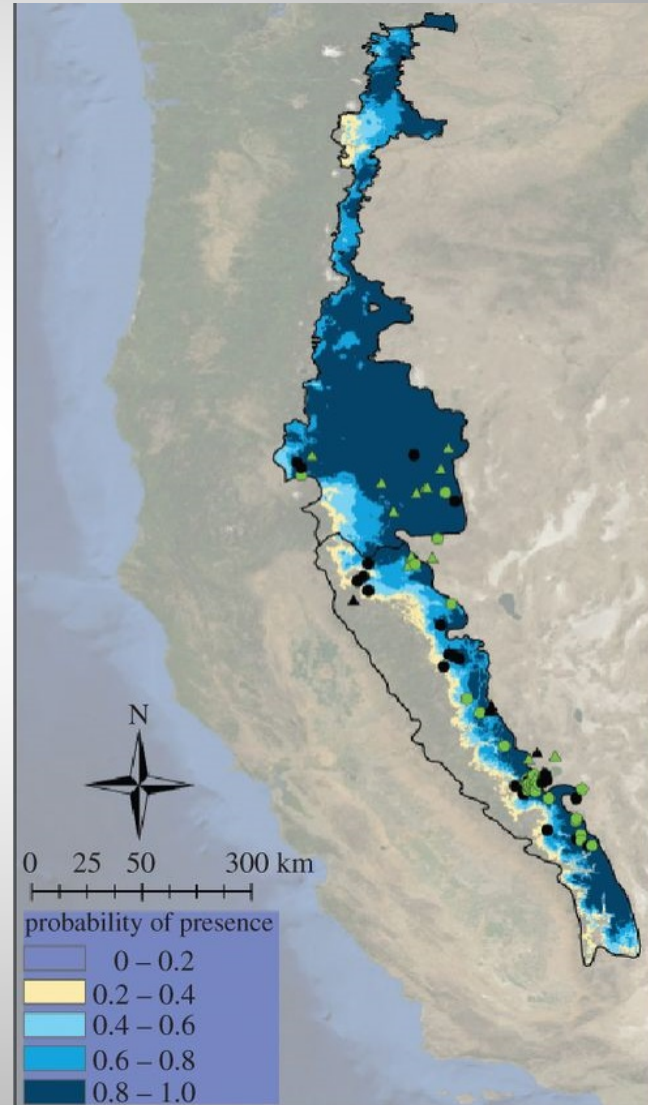
# Life History Traits: Birds



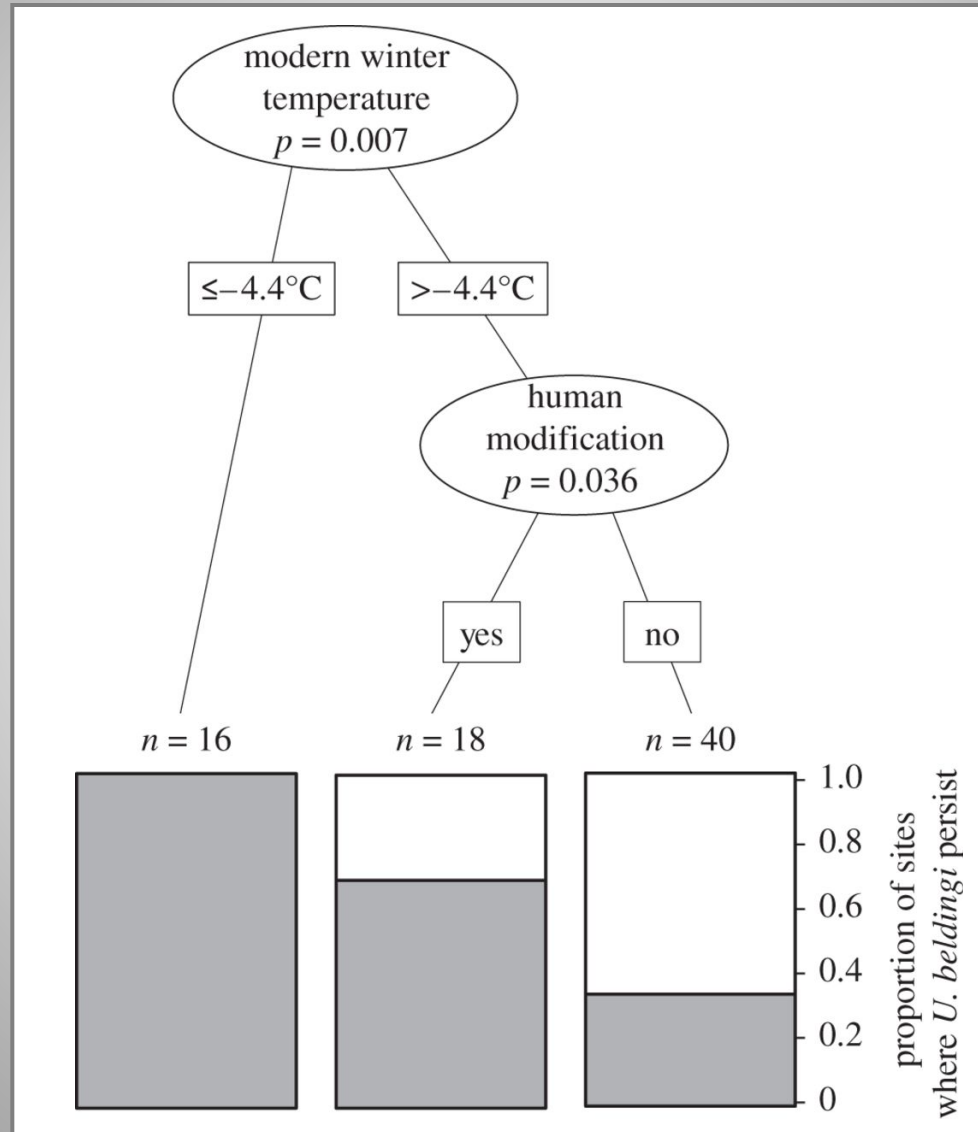
# Effects of Climate Change on Terrestrial Vertebrate Ranges

- Elevational Range Dynamics
  - Are naïve predictions of upward shifts sufficient?
  - Dynamics at a broader spatial extent
  - The shortcomings of the naïve approach
- Predictors of Range Change
  - Climate
  - Vegetation
  - Life-history traits
  - Anthropogenic Climate Refugia

# Anthropogenic Climate Refugia: Belding's Ground Squirrel



# Anthropogenic Climate Refugia: Belding's Ground Squirrel



# Summary: Elevational Range Dynamics

- Naïve predictions of upward shifts
- The shortcomings of the naïve approach
  - Substantial heterogeneity in temperature/precipitation change
  - Large amounts of heterogeneity in regional species' range responses



# Summary: Predictors of Range Change

- Climate
  - Mammals:
    - High-elevation species: consistent with temperature
    - Low-elevation species: unpredictable by temperature or precipitation
  - Birds:
    - High-elevation species: tracked temperature
    - Low-elevation species: tracked precipitation
    - Intermediate-elevation: tracked both
- Vegetation
  - Mammals:
    - Low-elevation species expansions: synchronous with vegetation expansions

# Summary: Predictors of Range Change

- Life-history traits
  - Mammals:
    - Weak support
  - Birds, more likely to shift if:
    - small clutch sizes
    - all-purpose territories
    - year-round residents
- Anthropogenic Climate Refugia
  - Mammals:
    - support low-elevation persistence (n=1)

