

# Selecting and Using Indicators for Columbia River Salmon

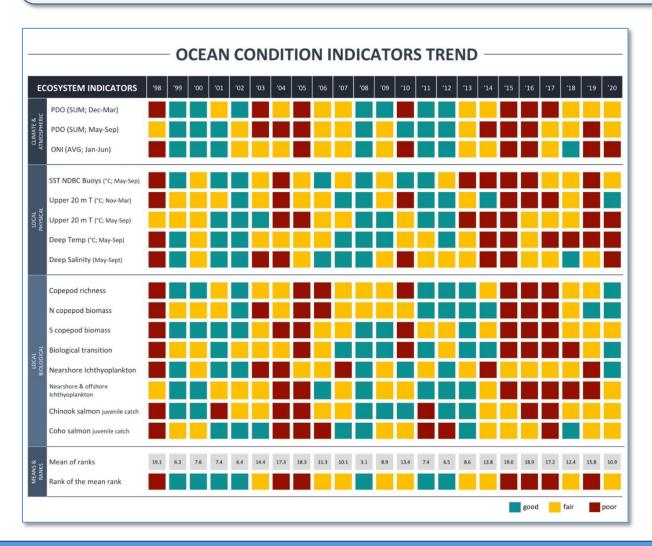
Brian Burke, Jennifer Fisher, Sam Zeman, Kym Jacobson, & Cheryl Morgan







# NOAA's Stoplight Chart

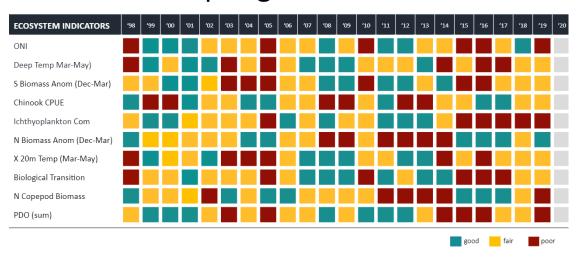


- Are these the best set of indicators for a given application?
- What level of cross-correlation exists in the table, and what effect does that have any conclusions drawn from the table? E.g., from PCA.

#### Ideally,

- Variables are all informative, in a predictive sense
- Correlation among variables is minimized, so summary metrics, such as the first Principal Component, represents all variables

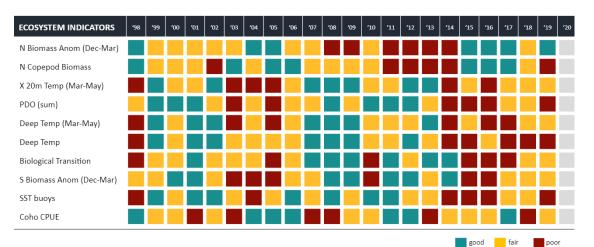
#### Spring Chinook



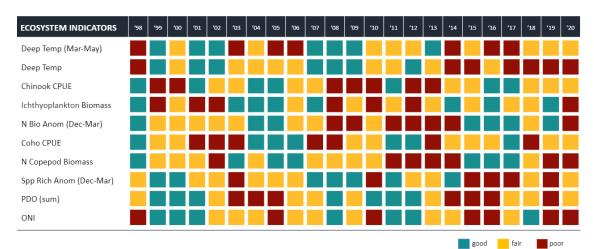
#### Stock-Specific Stoplight Charts

**Optimized for Predictive Ability** 

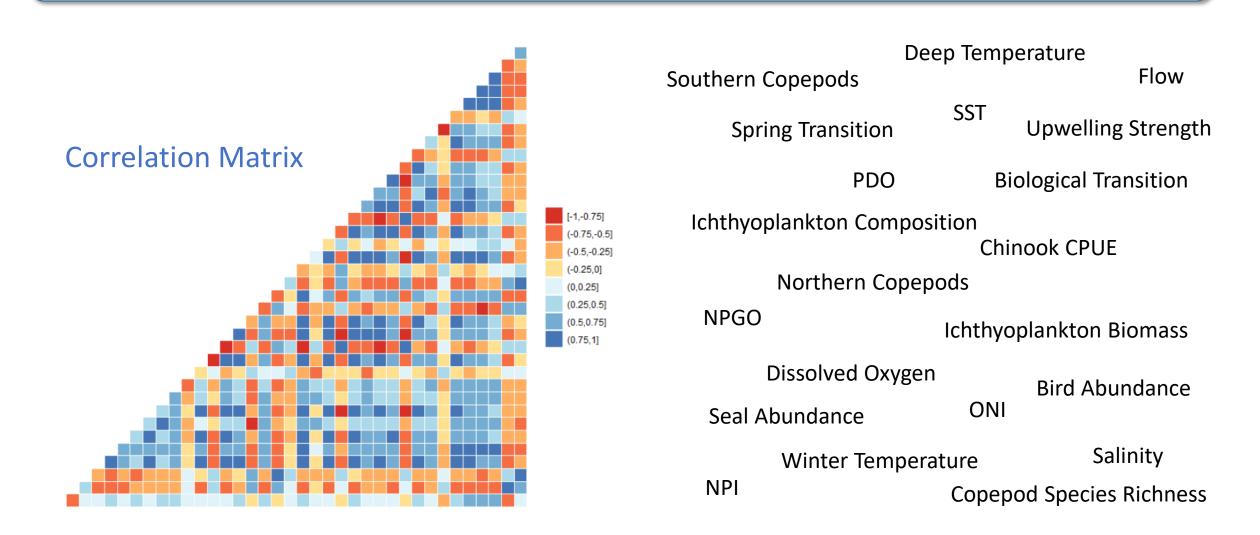
#### Fall Chinook



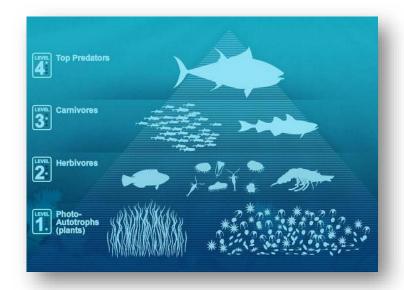
#### Coho

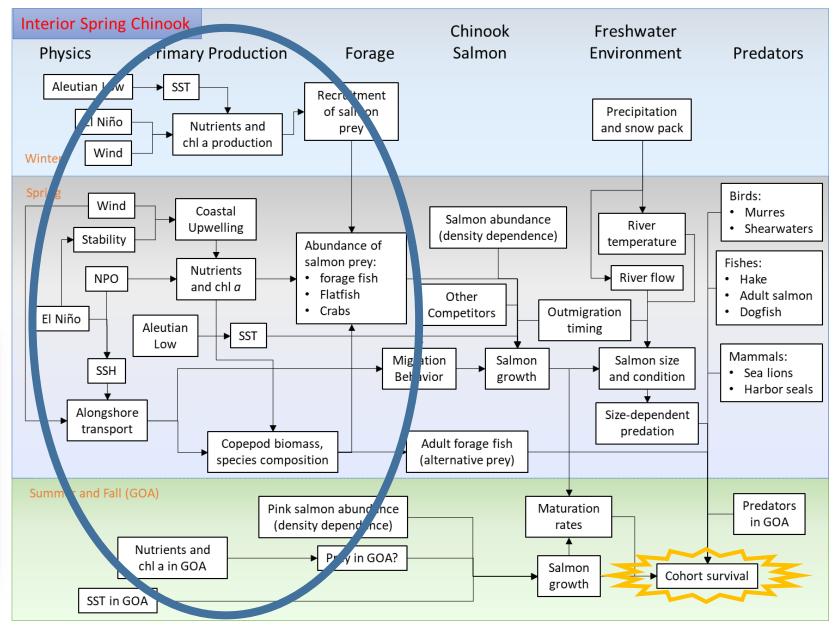


# We have too many potential indicators!

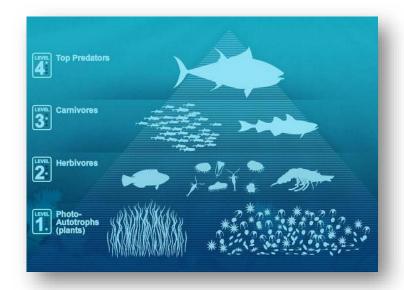


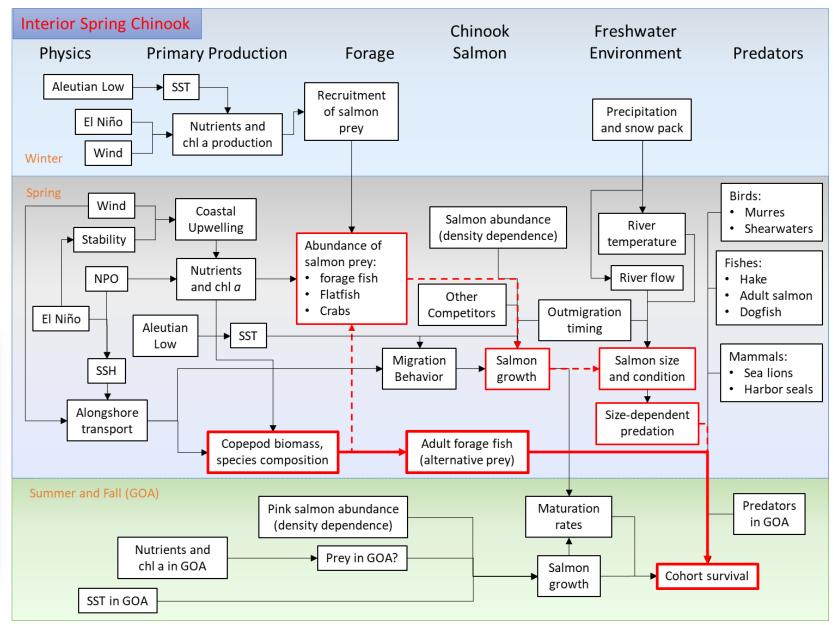
Mechanistic indicators are best, but are not often available





Mechanistic indicators are best, but are not often available

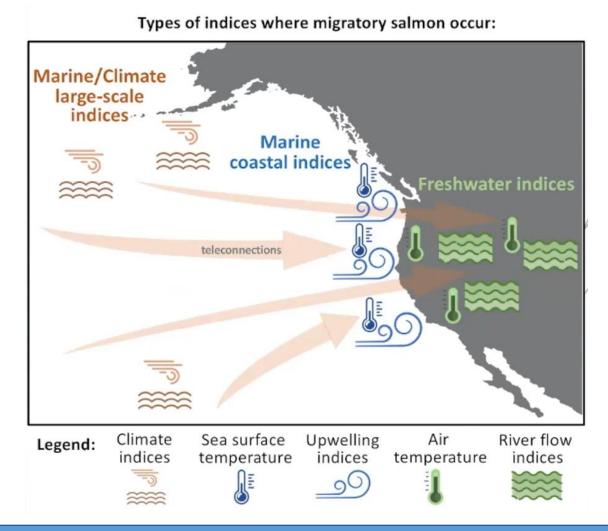




## Some issues to be aware of...

#### 1. Cross-correlations

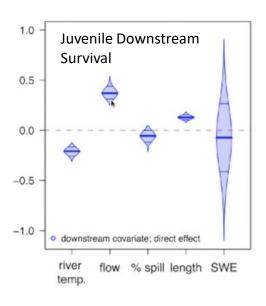
Drivers of environmental variability can be common across habitats

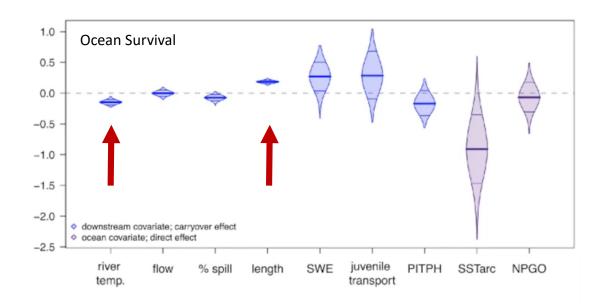


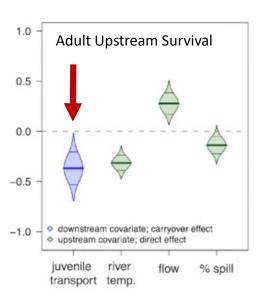
# Some issues to be aware of...

#### 2. Carryover Effects

We need to think about both *direct* and *indirect* relationships between indicators and responses







# Some issues to be aware of...

#### 3. Non-stationarity

Correlations will not remain static!

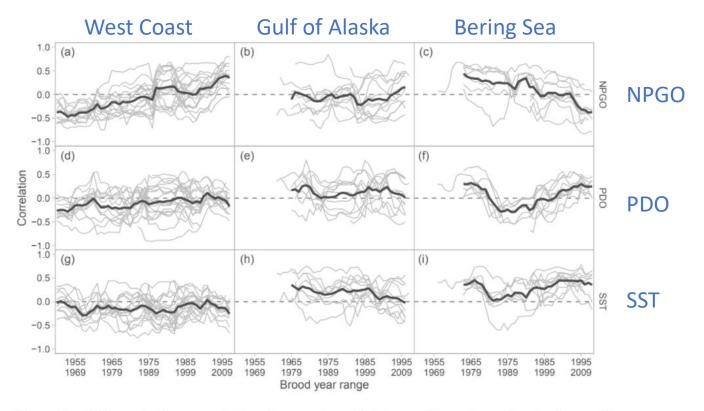
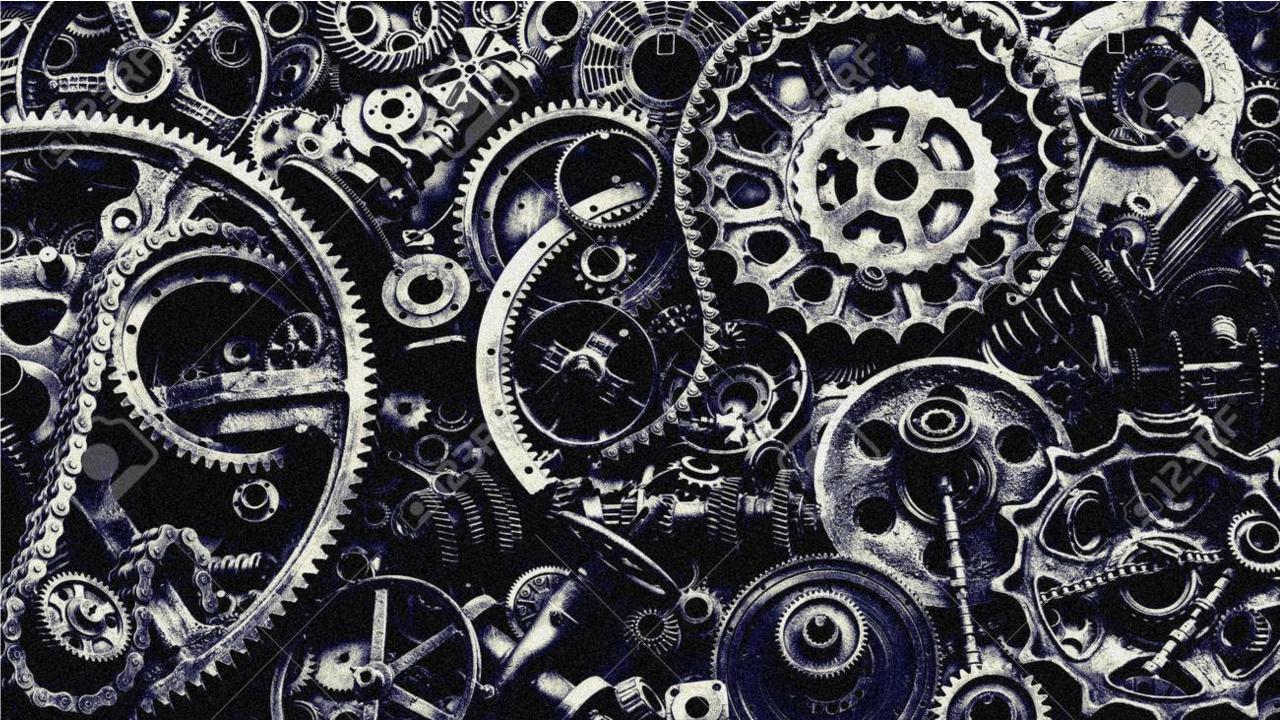
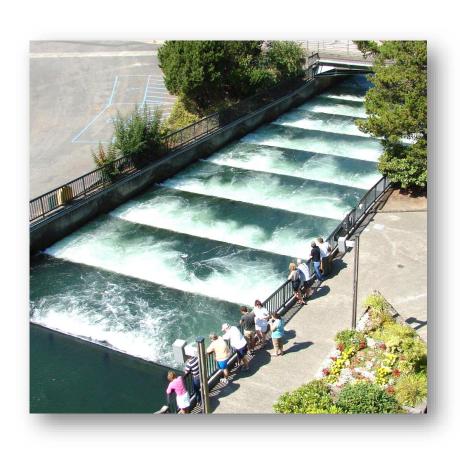
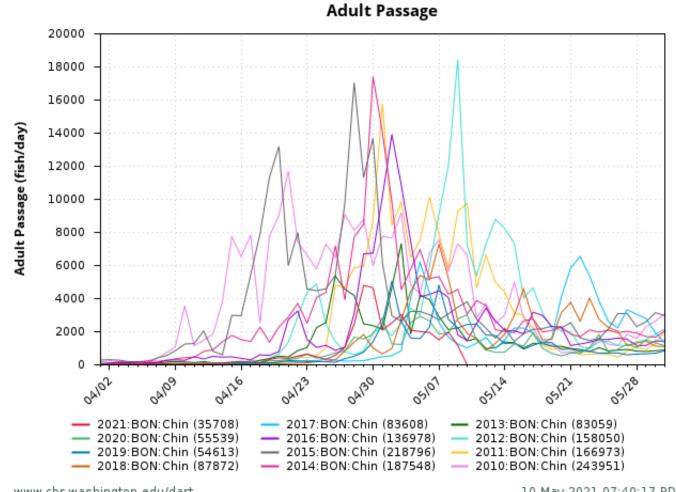


Figure 2: Sliding window correlation time series. Light grey lines show the stock-specific sliding window correlation series and the thick black lines show the average correlation across stocks for each brood year. Average is only shown for years that have correlations for more than 3 stocks. Horizontal axis provides the brood year ranges covered by the sliding window.



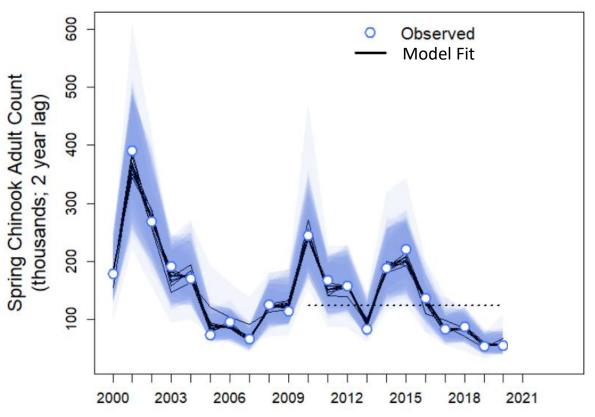
## Example Application: Spring Chinook at Bonneville Dam



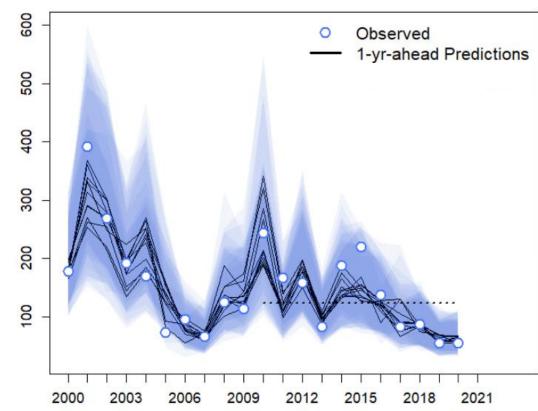


# A very important distinction

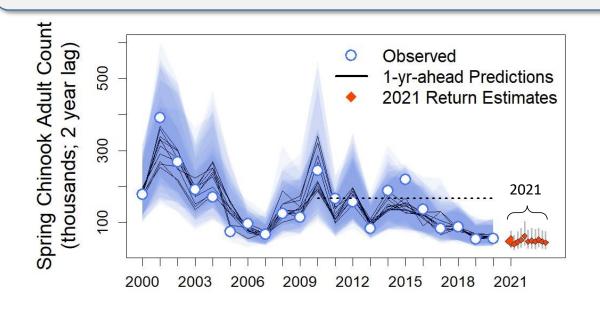
Model Fit
Top models based on AICc



# 1-Step Ahead Predictions Top models based on MAE

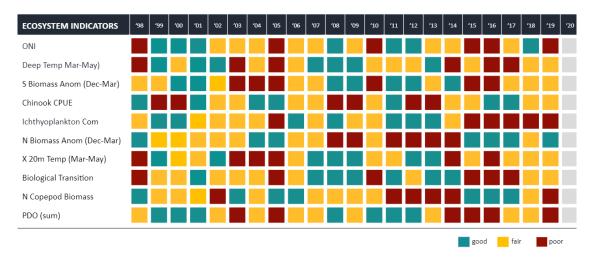


# One-Step Ahead Predictions and 2021 Estimate

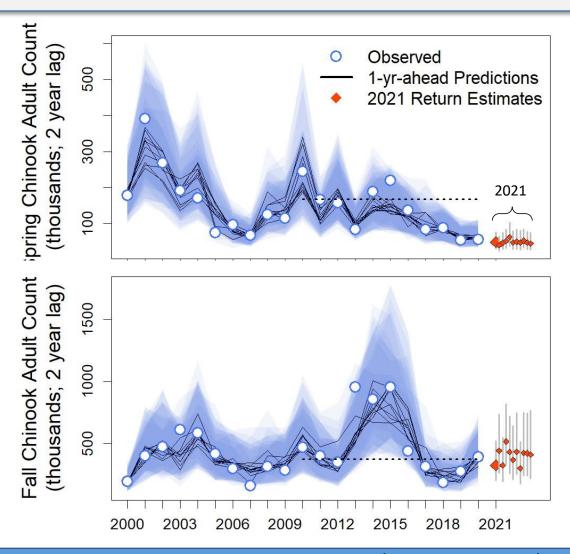


#### Estimates for 2021 returns

Spring Chinook: 48K Adults (30K - 76K)



# One-Step Ahead Predictions and 2021 Estimate

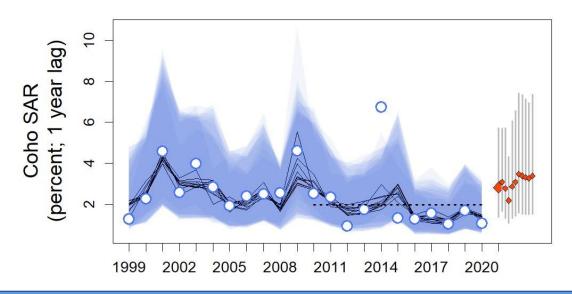


#### Estimates for 2021 returns

Spring Chinook: 48K Adults (30K - 76K)

Fall Chinook: 325K Adults (203K – 520)

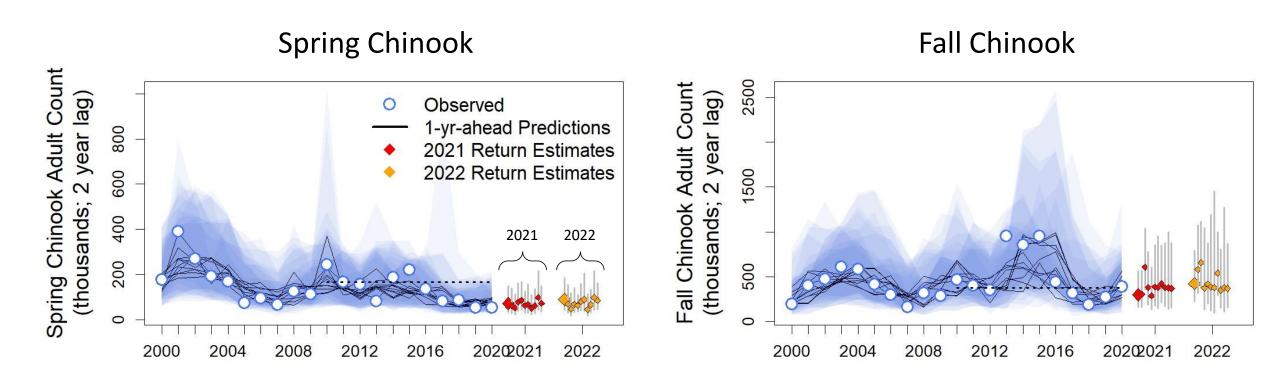
OPIH coho SAR: 2.6% Survival (1.3 - 5.4)



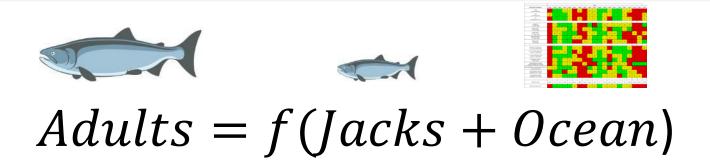
 $Adult\ Returns = f(jack\ returns) + f(ocean\ indicator) + linear\ trend$ 

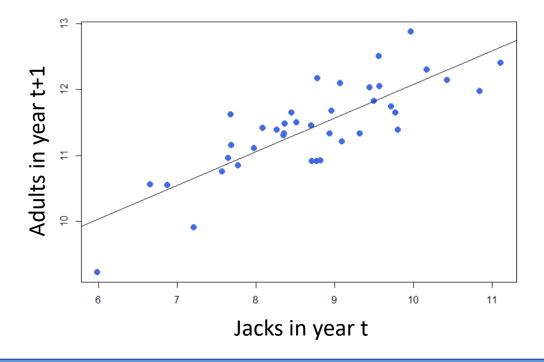
## One-Step Ahead Predictions and 2021, 2022 Estimates

(no jacks included)

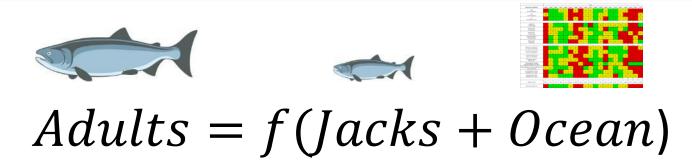


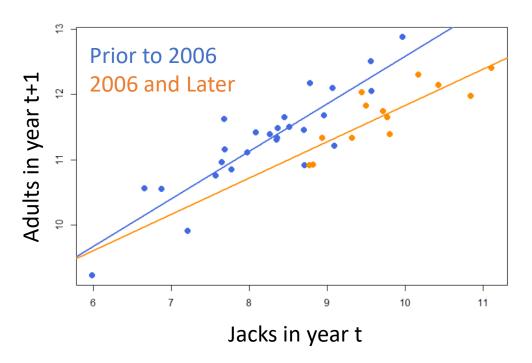
# Tip: Embrace New Quantitative Tools





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<sup>\*</sup>We now use Dynamic Linear Models, or DMLs, to model Chinook returns

# Conclusions and suggestions

- Be (stock) specific
- Mechanistic indicators are best, if you can find them
- Consider both indicator performance and information redundancy
- Embrace quantitative tools and technologies