



Western Washington University
Western CEDAR

Salish Sea Ecosystem Conference

2018 Salish Sea Ecosystem Conference
(Seattle, Wash.)

Apr 5th, 10:05 AM - 10:10 AM

Does eelgrass act as an ocean acidification refuge for shellfish in the Salish Sea?

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Becker, Bonnie; McCartha, Michelle; and Horwith, Micah, "Does eelgrass act as an ocean acidification refuge for shellfish in the Salish Sea?" (2018). *Salish Sea Ecosystem Conference*. 129.
<https://cedar.wwu.edu/ssec/2018ssec/allsessions/129>

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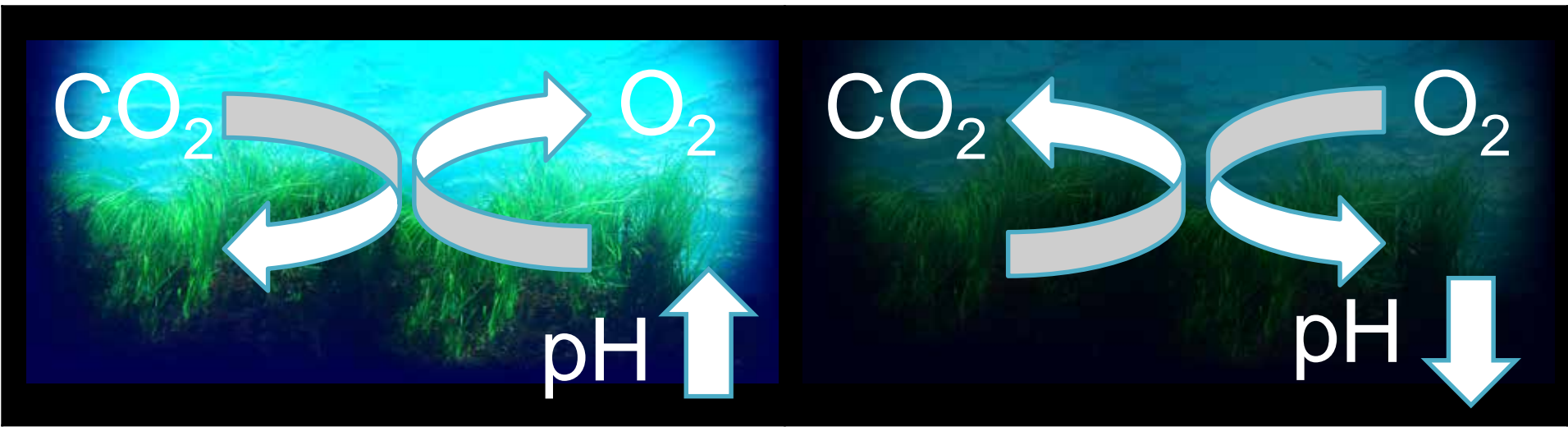
Does eelgrass act as an ocean acidification refuge for shellfish in the Salish Sea?

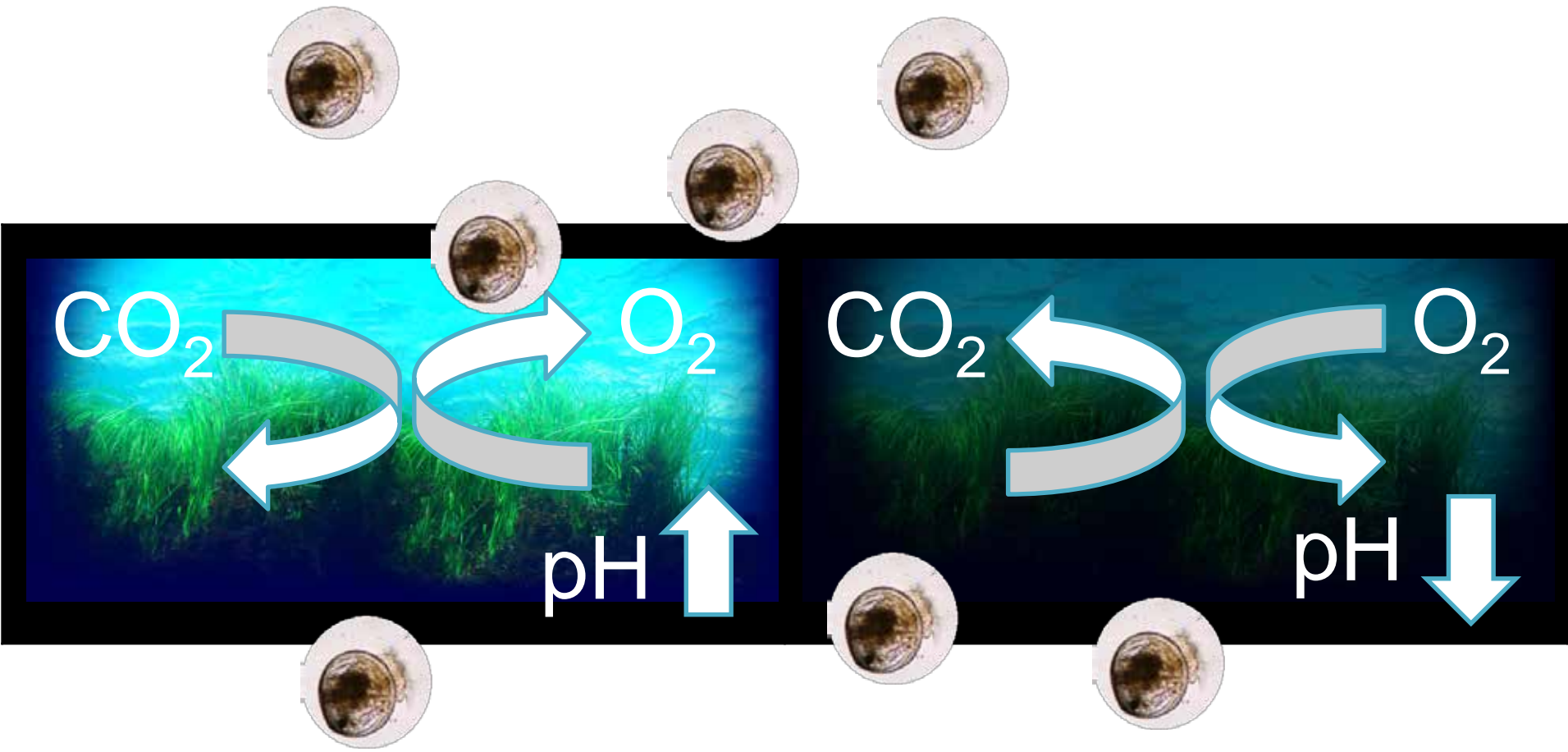
Bonnie J Becker
Michelle McCartha

Micah Horwith



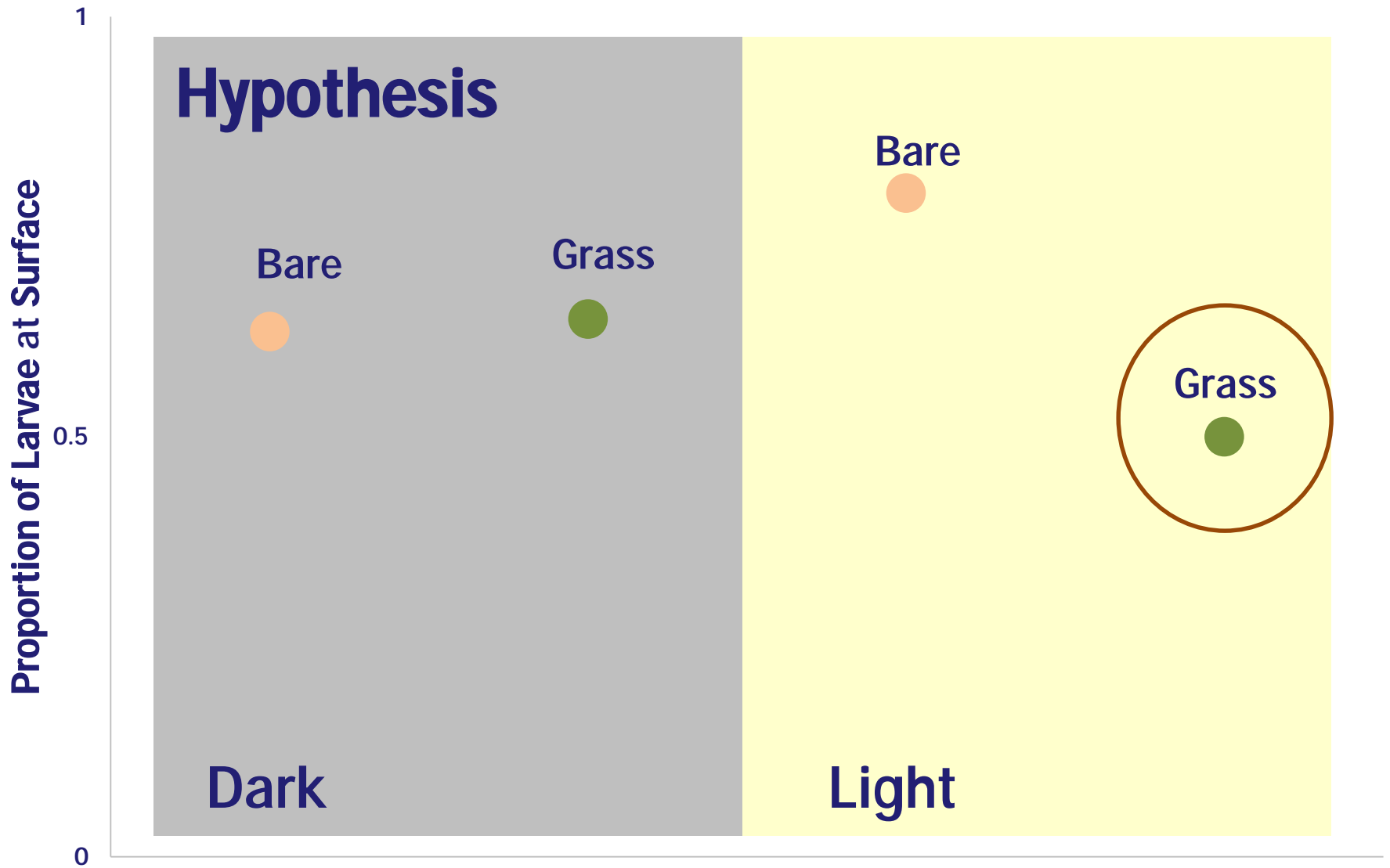
WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF
Natural Resources







Summer 2015







Pacific oyster
(Crassostrea gigas)



Mussels
(Mytilus spp.)



Olympia oyster
(Ostrea lurida)



Large clams
>251 mm length

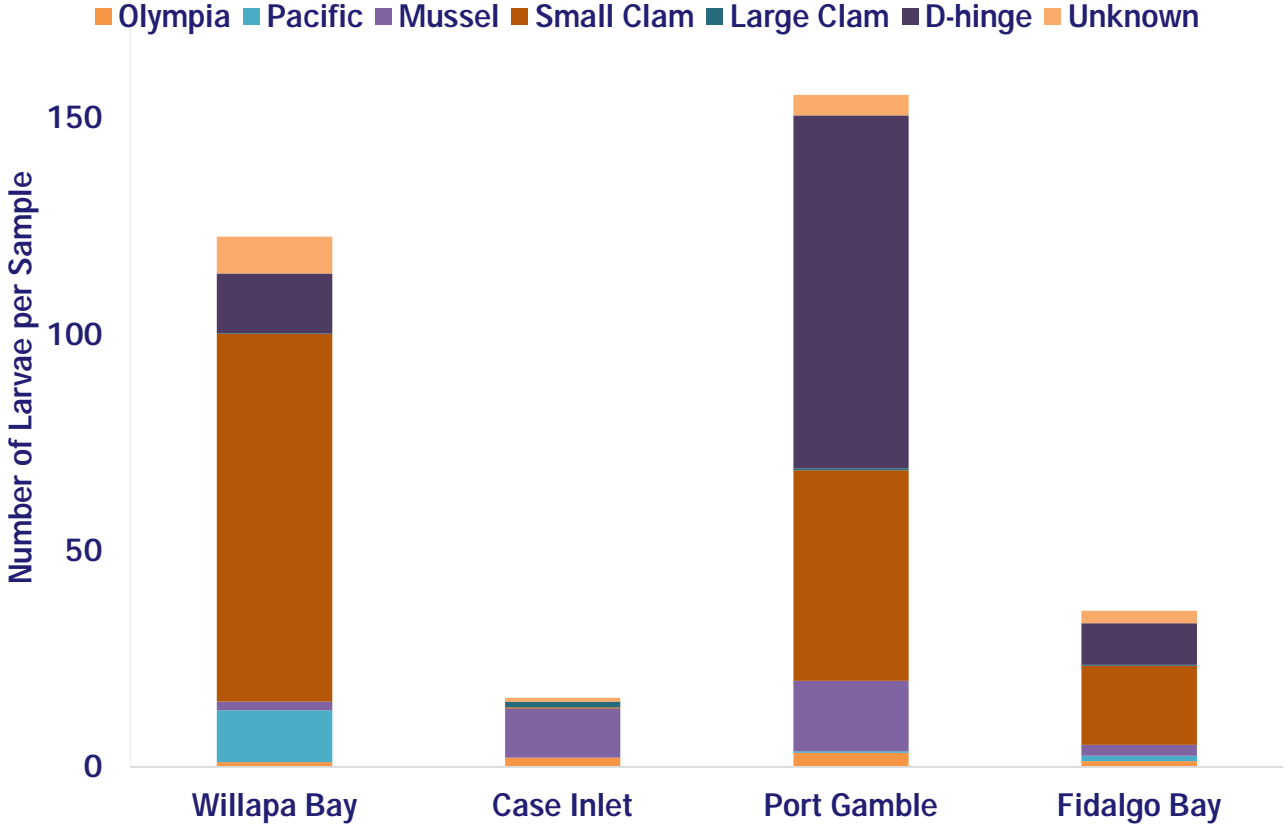
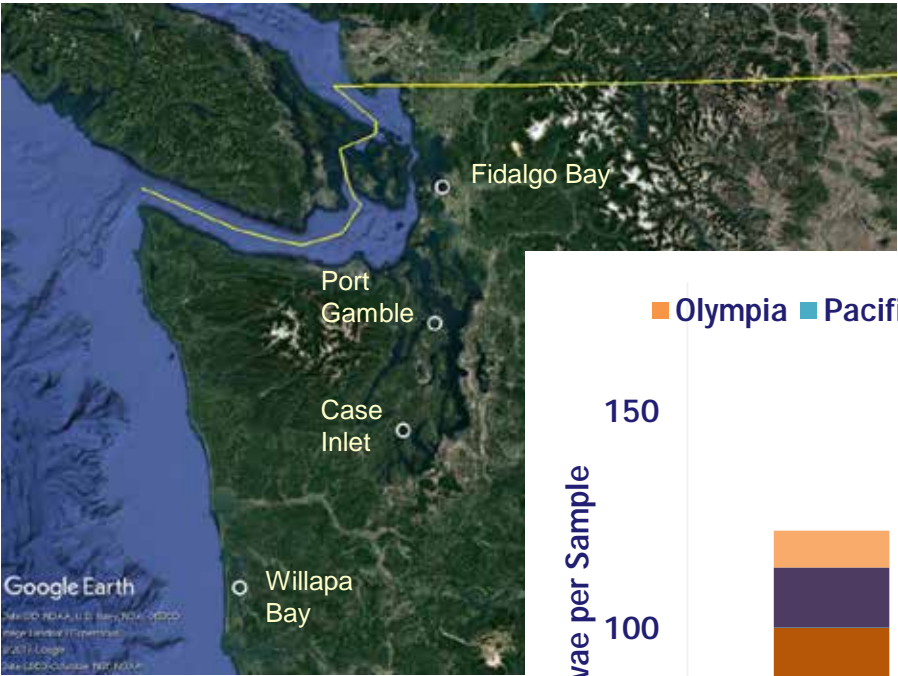


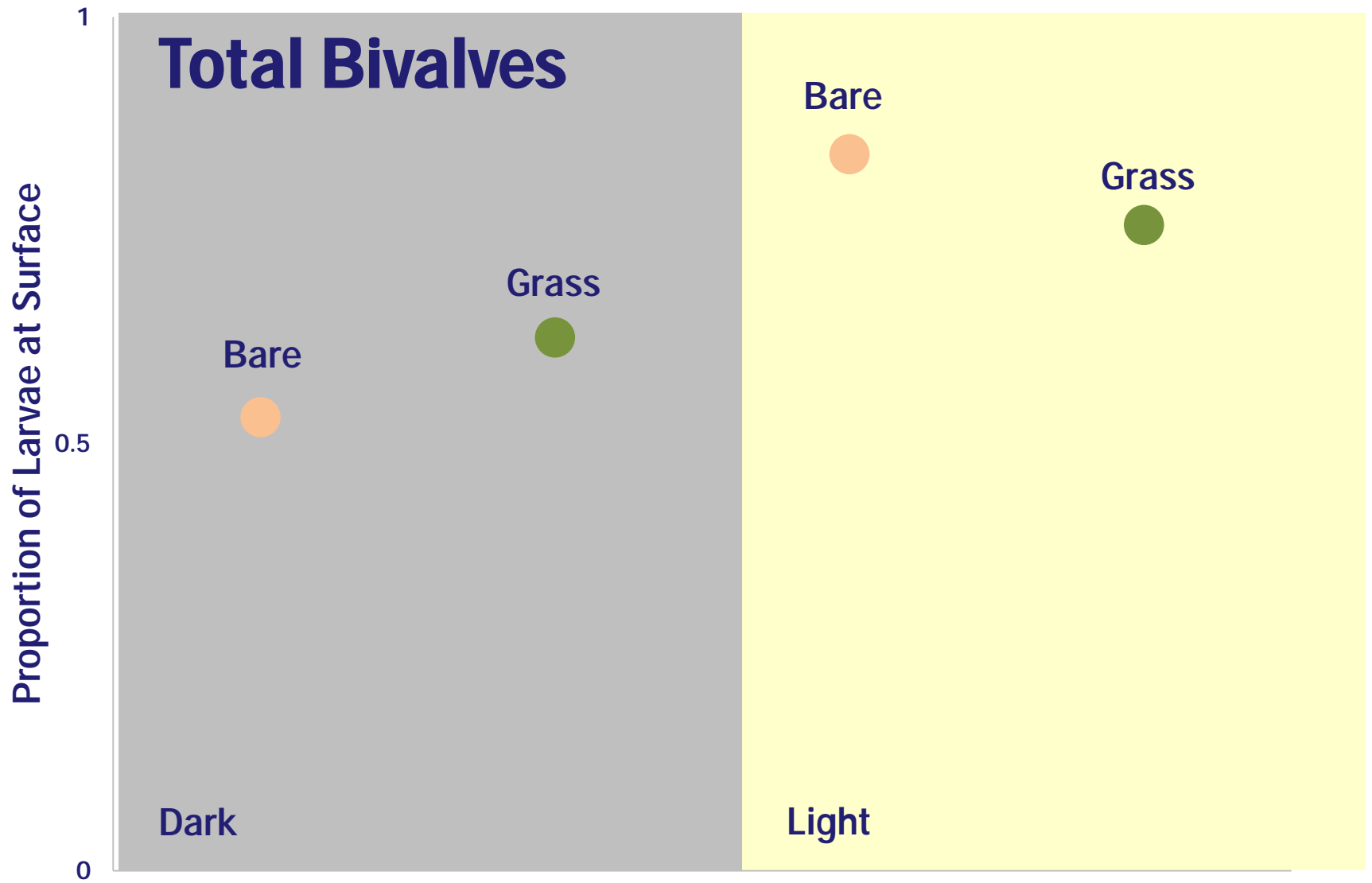
Small clams
<250 mm length

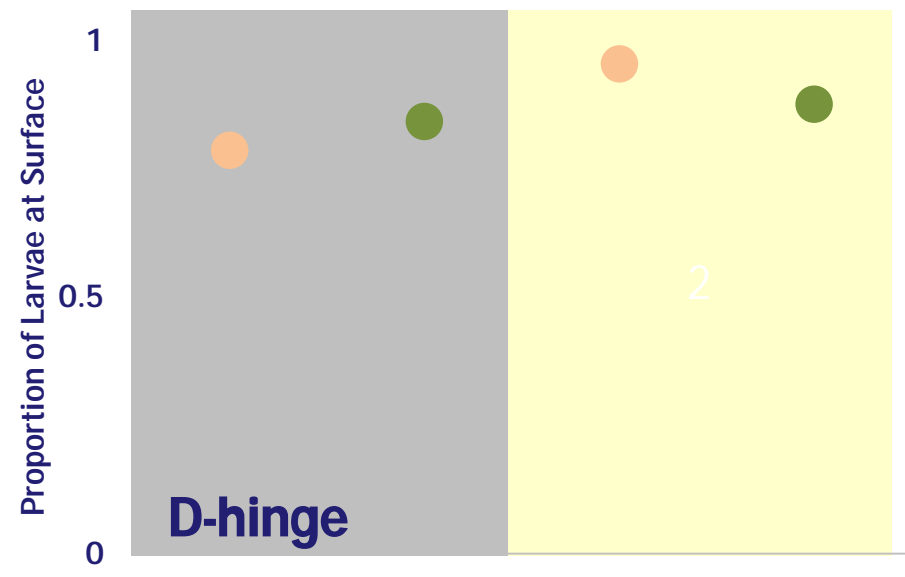
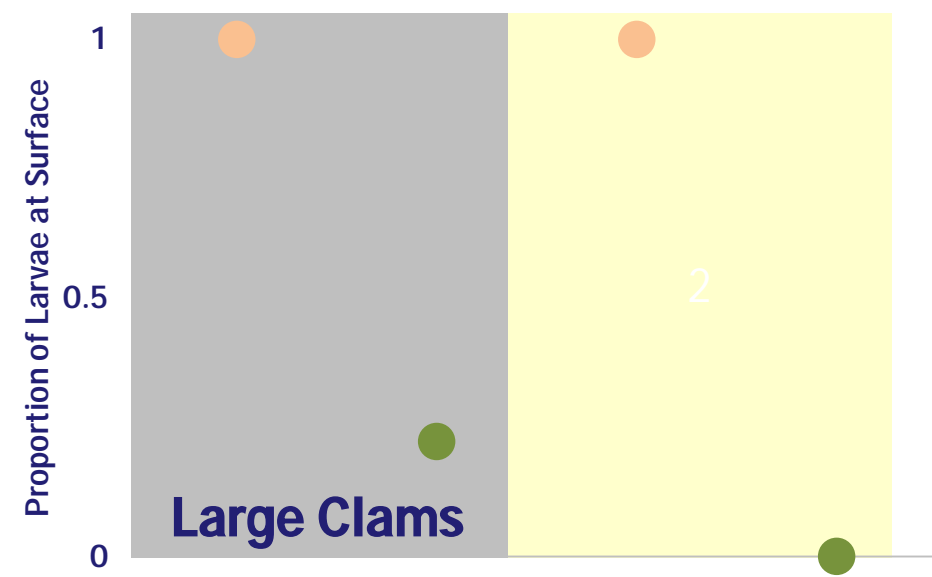
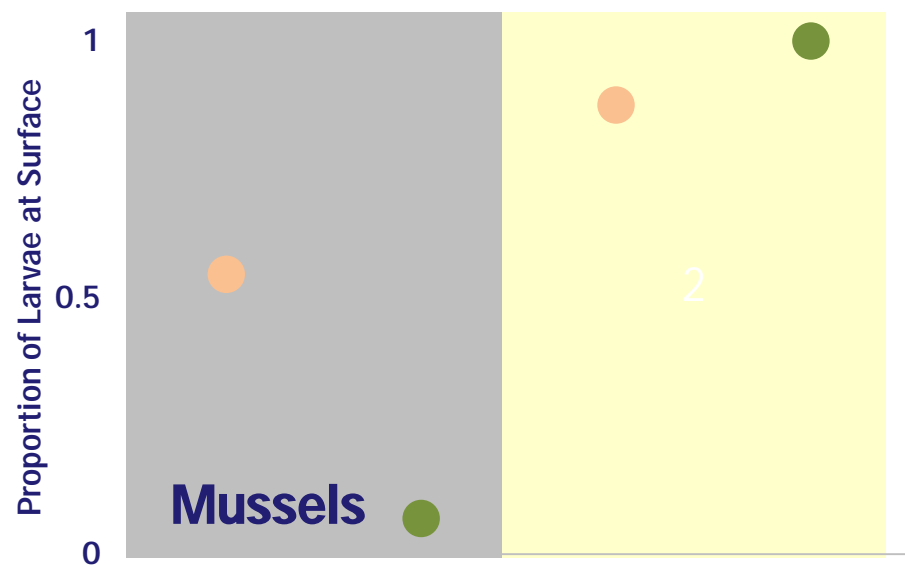
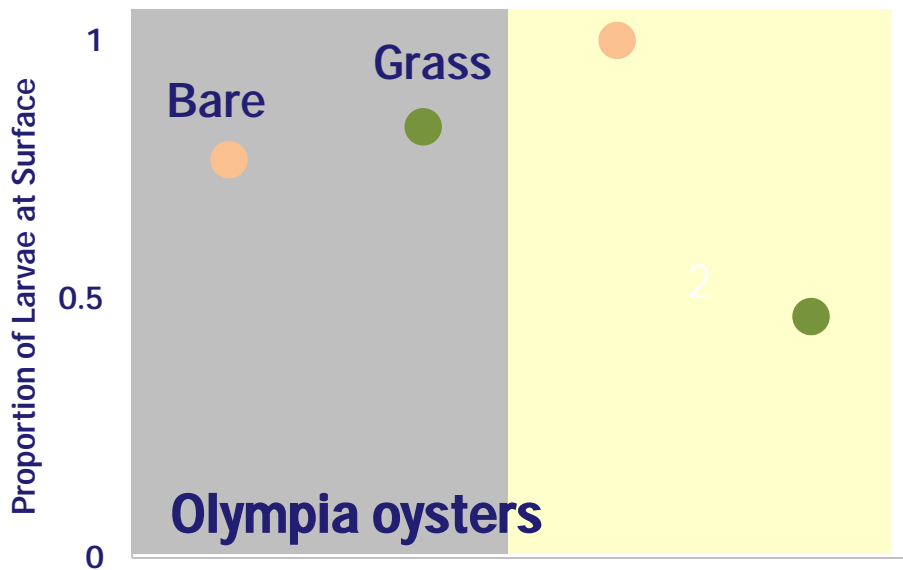


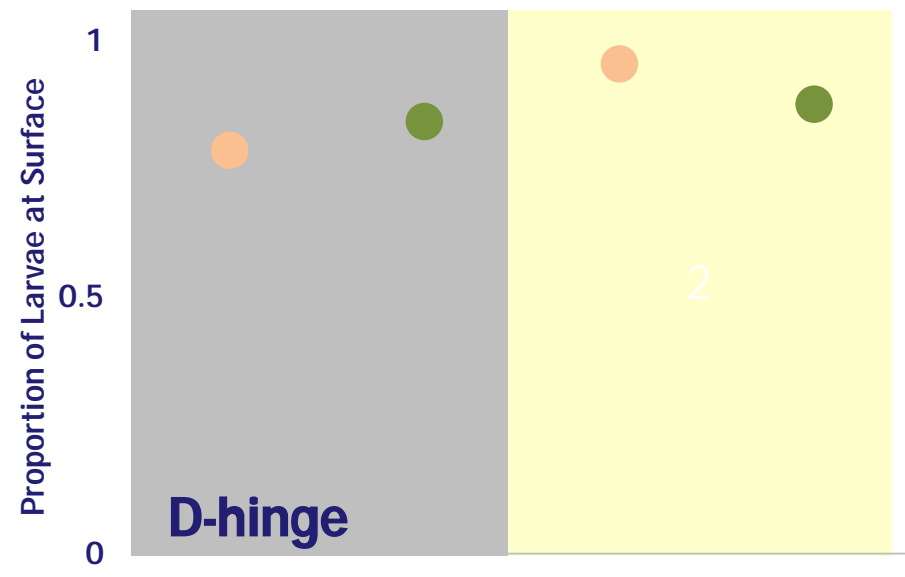
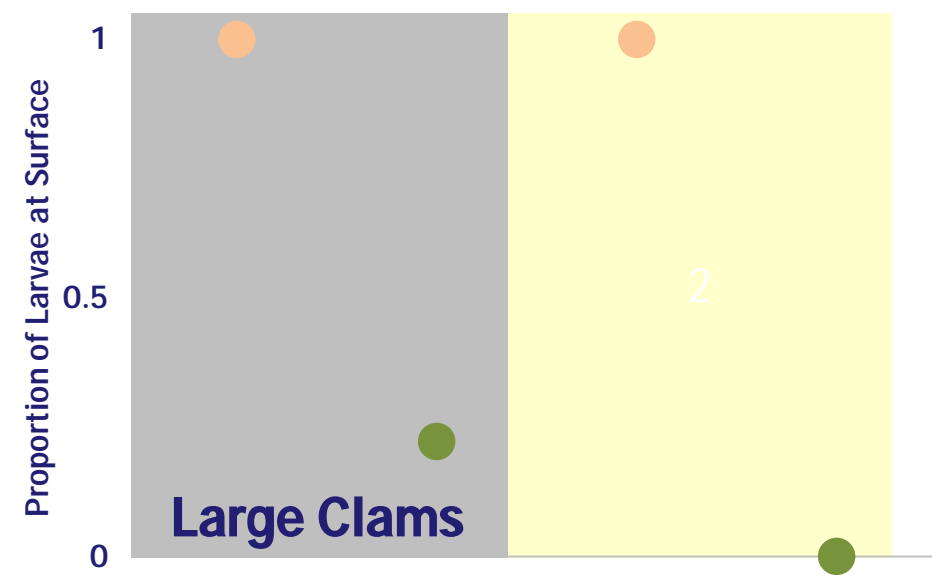
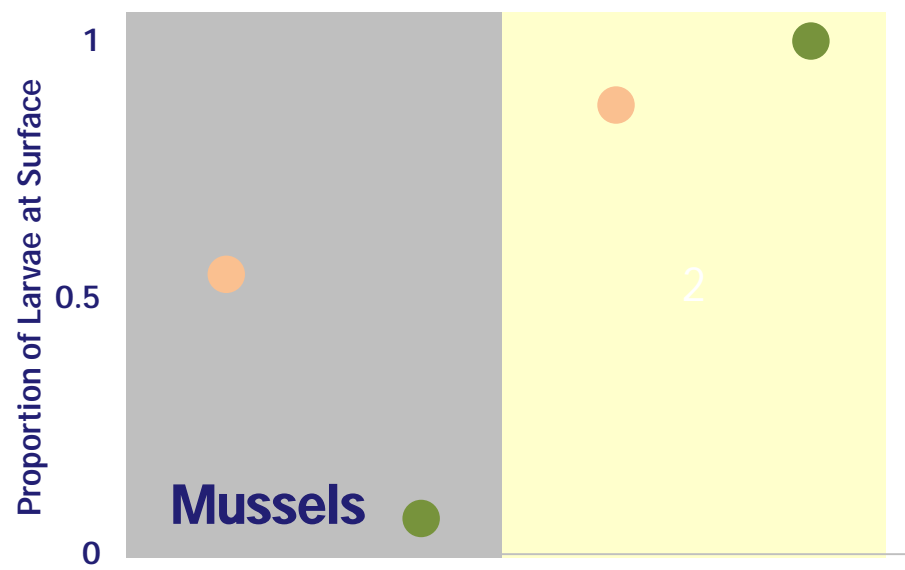
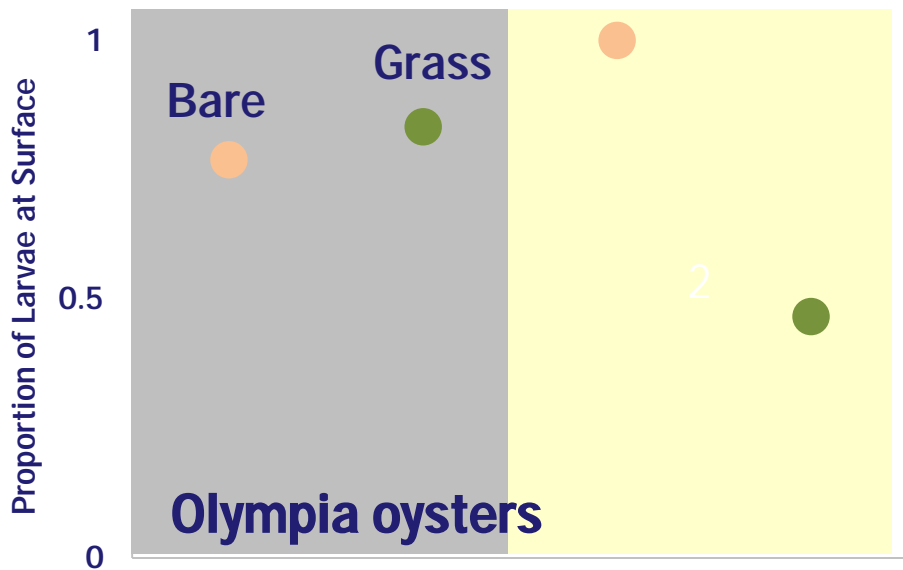
D-shaped veliger
(mixed species)

Species by Site









Preliminary Conclusions

- Seagrass could be a refuge from low pH for bivalve larvae, but...
 - Likely will be species-specific and size-dependent behaviors
 - Other ecological drivers are also present

Funding

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UW Tacoma School of IAS

Counting

Romina Centurion

Justin Drake

Stevie Collins

Suji Kim

Brianna Loucks

Grace McKenney

David Mullins

Sarah White

Thank You!

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Megan Hintz

Brenda Smithhisler

Alan Trimble

Katie Zentner

Time's Up!

