

# Climate Change Impacts and Potential for Adaptation

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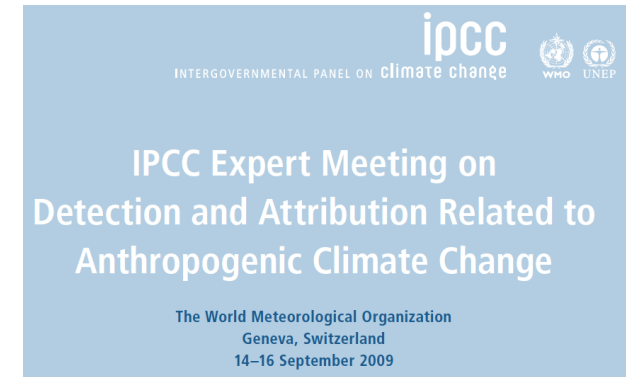
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# Working Group II **ipcc** Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability

Working Group II assesses the vulnerability of socio-economic and natural systems to climate change, negative and positive consequences of climate change and options for adapting to it.



## Good Practice Guidance Paper on Detection and Attribution Related to Anthropogenic Climate Change

Core Writing Team:

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## Prior reports focused on:

- Detection of impacts
- Attribution of impacts to human climate change

### opinion & comment

#### COMMENTARY:

## Overstretching attribution

Camille Parmesan, Carlos Duarte, Elvira Poloczanska, Anthony J. Richardson and Michael C. Singer

The biological world is responding rapidly to a changing climate, but attempts to attribute individual impacts to rising greenhouse gases are ill-advised.

Parmesan *et al.* *Nature Climate Change* 2011

## ECOLOGY LETTERS

*Ecology Letters*, (2013) 16: 58–71

doi: 10.1111/ele.12098

### IDEA AND PERSPECTIVE

Beyond climate change attribution in conservation and ecological research  
Parmesan *et al.* 2013



# Summary of Changes and Surprises

- % species impacted by  $<1^{\circ}\text{C}$  global warming
  - ~ half in terms of distribution changes
  - ~ 2/3 in terms of changes of timing
  - Impacts on every continent and in every ocean
- **Surprises** even at  $< 1^{\circ}\text{C}$ 
  - Diseases moving
  - Complex responses hide strong temperature sensitivity
- **Past analyses underestimated recent climate change impacts**
- **Above impacts at  $<1^{\circ}\text{C}$  warming**
- **There WILL BE large differences in impacts between  $1.5^{\circ}\text{C}$  and  $2^{\circ}\text{C}$**

# Divergent responses to spring and winter warming drive community level flowering trends

PNAS

2012

Benjamin I. Cook<sup>a,b,1</sup>, Elizabeth M. Wolkovich<sup>c</sup>, and Camille Parmesan<sup>d,e</sup>

- DC and UK, >500 plant species
- 72% respond only to spring warming, and are flowering earlier







old man's beard

- 18% need winter chilling
- Winters are warming  
(more than summer)

spring advance + winter delay  
= little change



dandelion





old man's beard

- 18% need winter chilling
- Winters are warming  
(more than summer)

**Simple analyses:  
72% responding**

**New analyses:  
90% responding**



dandelion



# Winter chilling speeds spring development of temperate butterflies

Journal of Animal Ecology



Sandra Stålhandske✉, Karl Gotthard, Olof Leimar

(2017)



photo by Charles J Sharp

**As winters warm in Sweden, spring starts later for this Orange Tip butterfly**



yellow warbler

# “Genomic signals of selection predict climate-driven population declines in a migratory bird”

Bay et al. (*Science* 359, 83-86, 2018)

- Significant correlations ( $F_{st}$ ) across populations between genomic signatures and current climate space (mostly drought metrics)
- Population trends assessed independently: NABBS (N. American Breeding Bird Survey)
- Outlier populations (=genomic signature did not match climate space), had greatest declines



## Implications:

- ecological “climate debt”
- evolutionary lag
- constraint on future responses to CC

# “Resurrection ecology”

Ancient DNA analyses can tell us which Neanderthals had red hair, but modern technology still can't bring past genotypes back to life ...

*Or can it?*



Lake sediments contain ancient viable seeds and eggs that can be dated, resurrected, kept in live culture and compared with modern populations

Water-fleas (Daphnia) resurrected from pre-industrial times - up to 1,600 years ago - have been used to show evolutionary responses to past 100 yrs of human-caused climate change, eutrophication and lead pollution

**Working Group II**

**ipcc**

## **Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability**

Working Group II assesses the vulnerability of socio-economic and natural systems to climate change, negative and positive consequences of climate change and options for adapting to it.

## **6<sup>th</sup> AR: Focus on Solutions**

### **IPCC mission:**

- **Assess the state of science of climate change**
  - **Be policy relevant, not policy prescriptive**
- 
- **Assess options**
  - **Risk Assessment**
  - **Decision-Making Frameworks**
  - **Adaptation planning**



**Studies of within-species variation  
elucidates potential adaptability  
(plastic and evolutionary) of wild  
species to future climate change and  
gives insight into new management  
options**

# Experiments Elucidate Mechanisms and Constraints

- Difficult to design clean experiments
  - Extreme events drive responses (ecological and evolutionary), but hard to simulate
- Model insect: *Tribolium castaneum* (red flour beetle) (K. Sales *Nature Comm* 2018)
  - Simulated Heatwaves (5-7°C above  $T_{opt}$  for 5 days) damaged sperm in both males and females. No acclimation. Multiple heatwaves nearly sterilized males
  - Transgenerational impacts: males from heat-exposed sperm had reduced reproduction and lifespan, whether the sperm were heated in the male or the female parent
- Heat/cold stress experiments on *Drosophila melanogaster* (egg-adult):
  - Heritability of thermal tolerance dropped significantly in high-temp. treatments
  - “the results suggest that ectotherms that already experience temperatures close to their upper thermal tolerance limits have a restricted capacity to adapt to higher temperatures by evolutionary means.”  
(Kristensen et al 2015 *Evolution*)

## Different hosts = different micro-climates by selecting for different egg heights

- Ephemeral plant
- eggs laid high where leaf quality best
- eggs  $\sim 6^\circ$  hotter than air

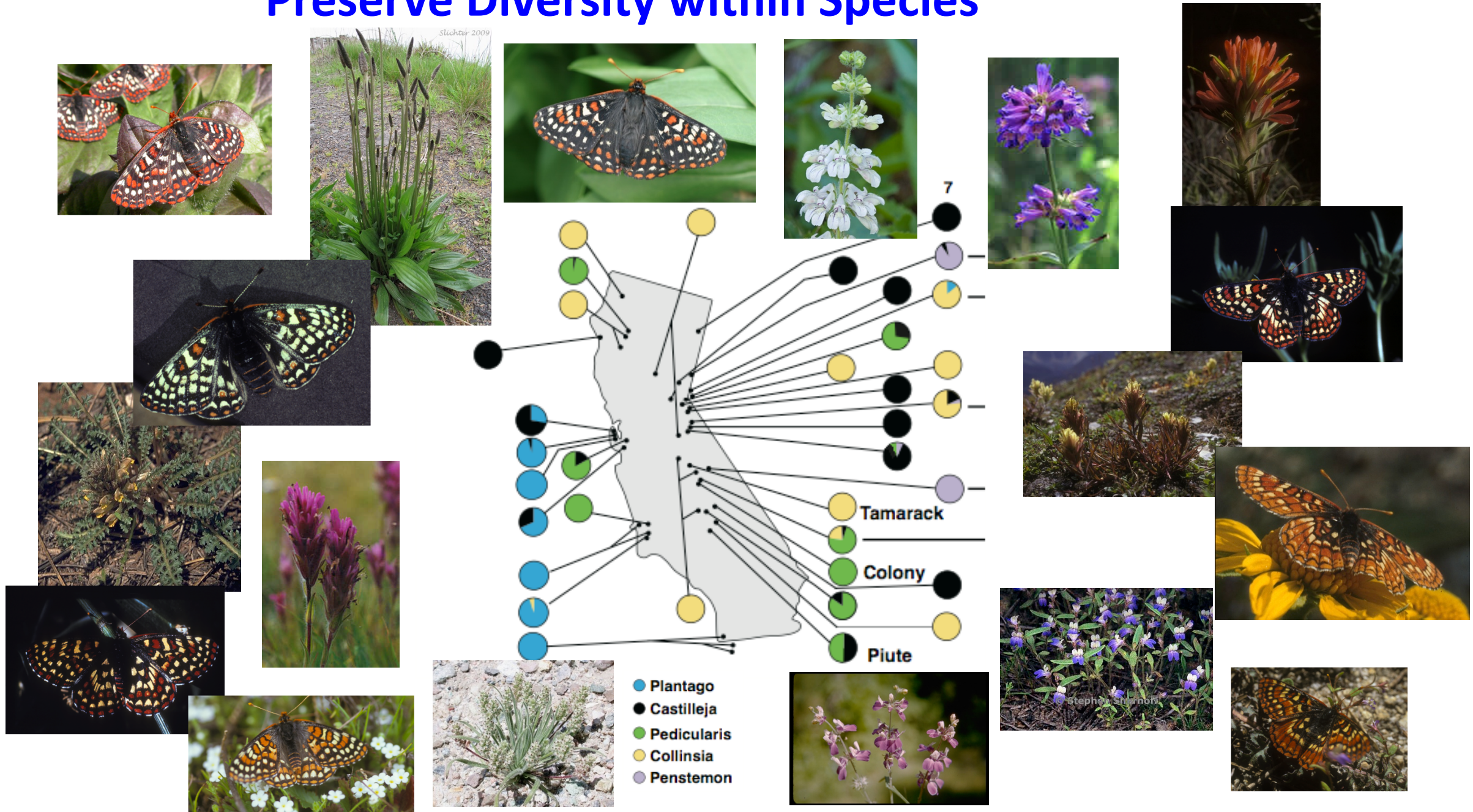


- long lasting plant
- eggs laid low to avoid grazing
- Eggs  $\sim 20^\circ\text{C}$  hotter than air
- max  $26^\circ\text{C}$  hotter – just  $1^\circ\text{C}$  below lethal

Variation among Edith's checkerspot populations in host plant choice and egg placement behavior can cause **far greater changes than average warming from climate change** in temperatures experienced by eggs and developing caterpillars



# Preserve Diversity within Species



Map of Diet for *E. editha* from Singer & McBride 2012, *Ecology*



# Climate Change: Polar bear – Grizzly (Brown) bear Hybrids

Pure



Hybrids







ECOLOGY

Chazdon & Brancallan *Science* 2019

## ***Restoring forests as a means to many ends***

An urgent need to replenish tree canopy cover calls for holistic approaches



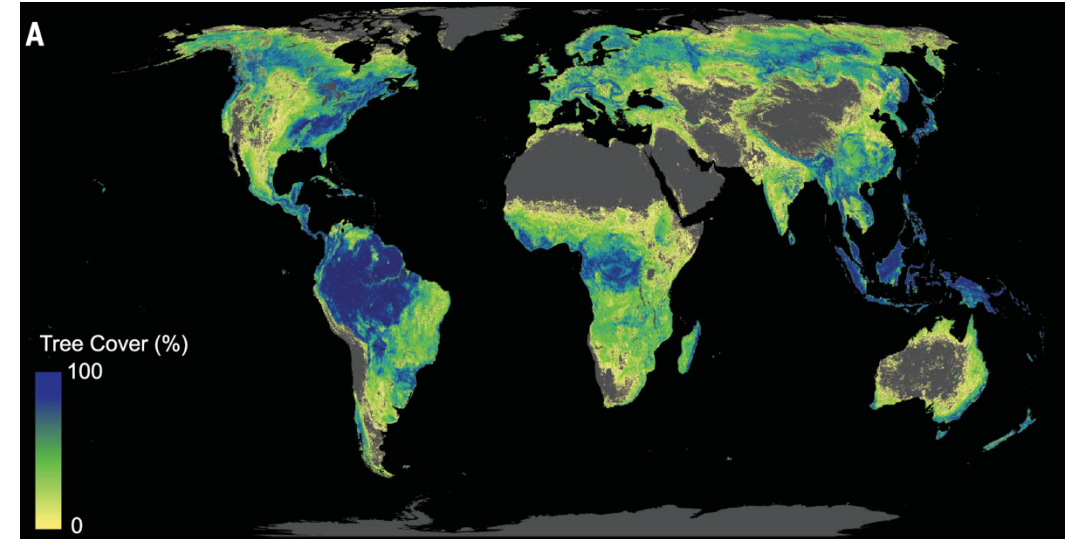
Alternative facts and carbon cycle. By  
Colin Prentice

OCTOBER 18, 2019

RESTORATION ECOLOGY

Bastin *et al.*, *Science* **365**, 76–79 (2019)

## **The global tree restoration potential**



- **7 responses published so far, in *Science***
- **2 blogs**



**Ariege PNR: Regional Natural Park of the Ariege Pyrenees (France)**

# **Grasslands Crucial for Biodiversity and livelihoods**



Reverts to forest  
without agriculture

Butterflies, birds and  
wildflowers have  
adapted to traditional  
farming

They would go extinct  
with reforestation

Farmers would lose  
livelihoods

France would go from  
agricultural exporter  
to importer, and lose  
food independence



# Goals of Regional Natural Parks



- Protecting and promoting large inhabited rural or mountain spaces.
- Protect:
  - Landscapes
  - Endemic or endangered flora and fauna
  - Historic and prehistoric sites
  - Traditional agricultural practices – e.g. transhumance
  - Traditional crafts



**Traditional grazing = daily nomadic  
and yearly transhumance**

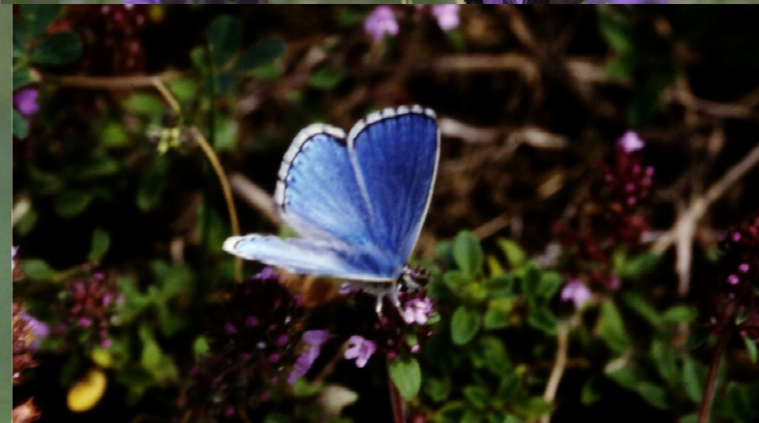








**Conserving Biodiversity =  
Preserve traditional  
management**


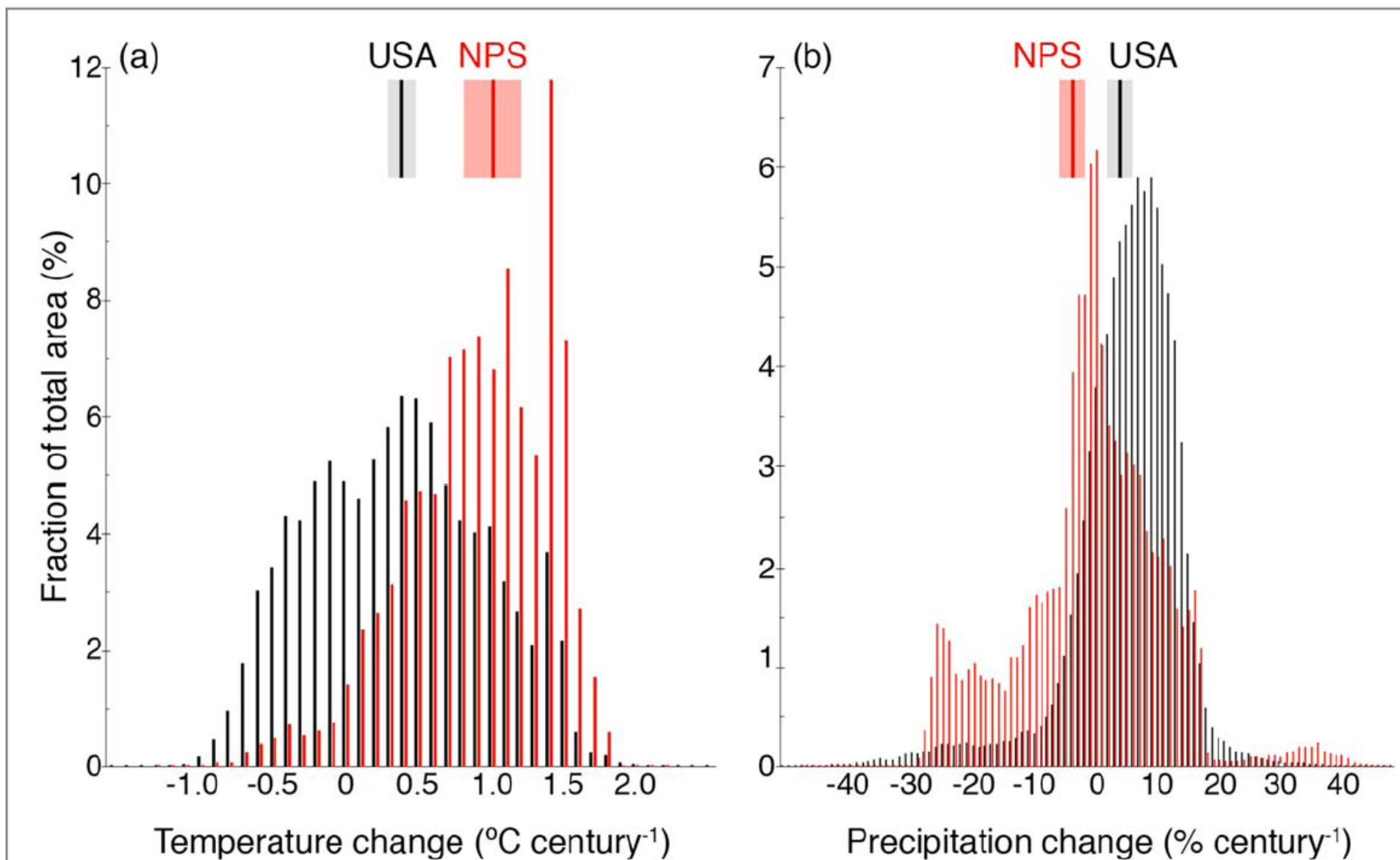




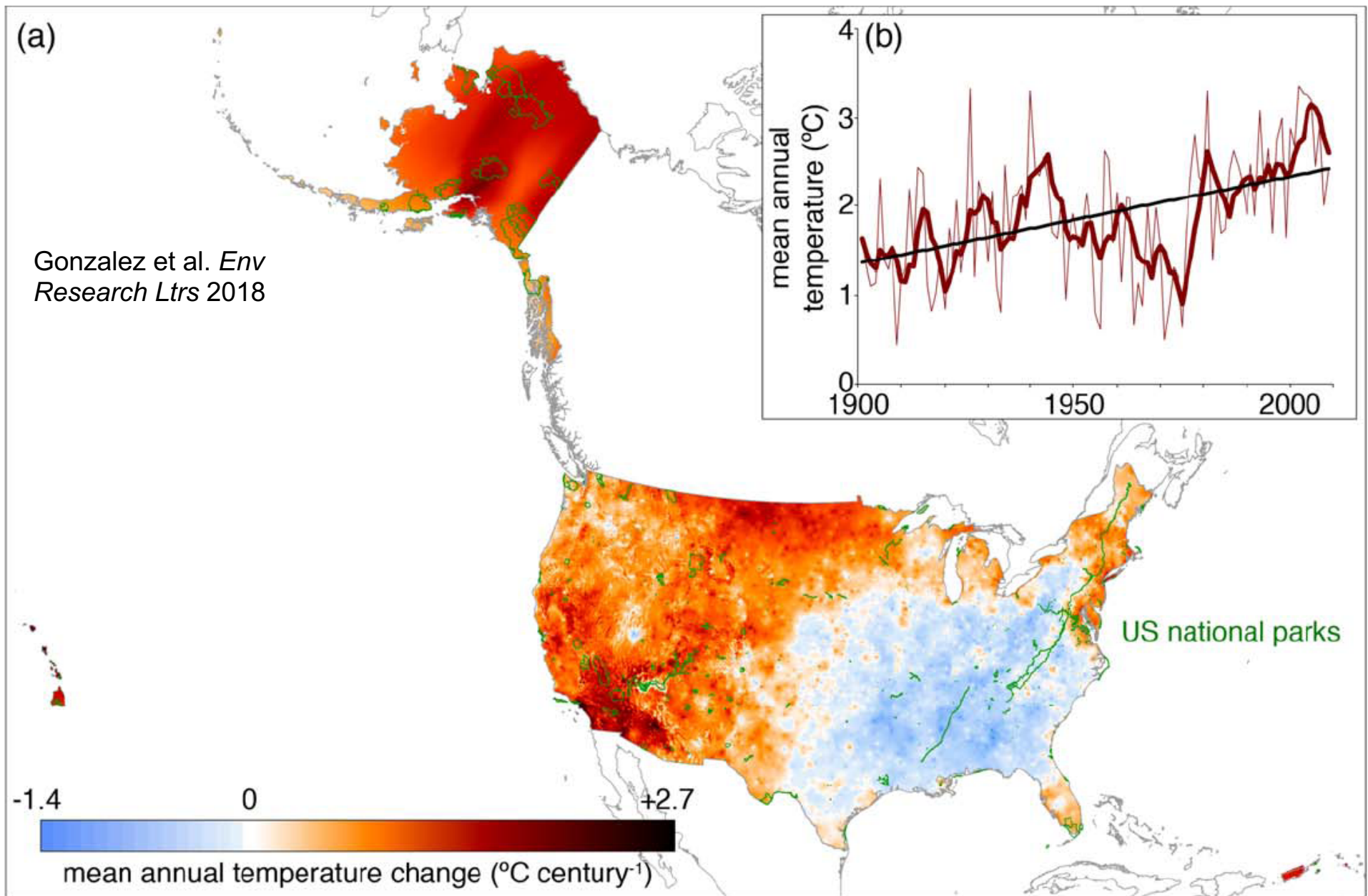


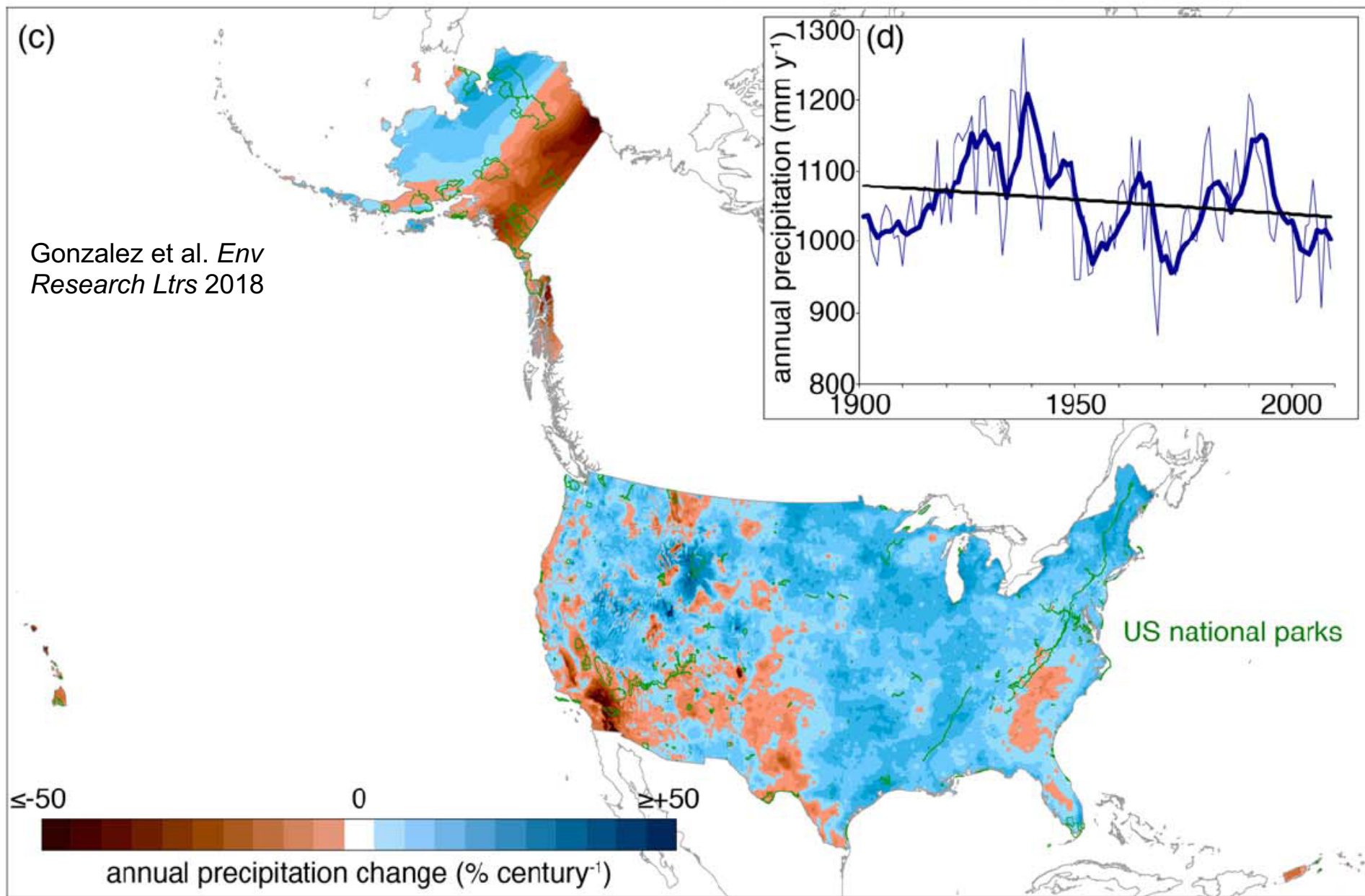




Patrick Gonzalez<sup>1,2,3</sup> , Fuyao Wang<sup>4</sup>, Michael Notaro<sup>4</sup>, Daniel J Vimont<sup>4,5</sup> and John W Williams<sup>4,6</sup>

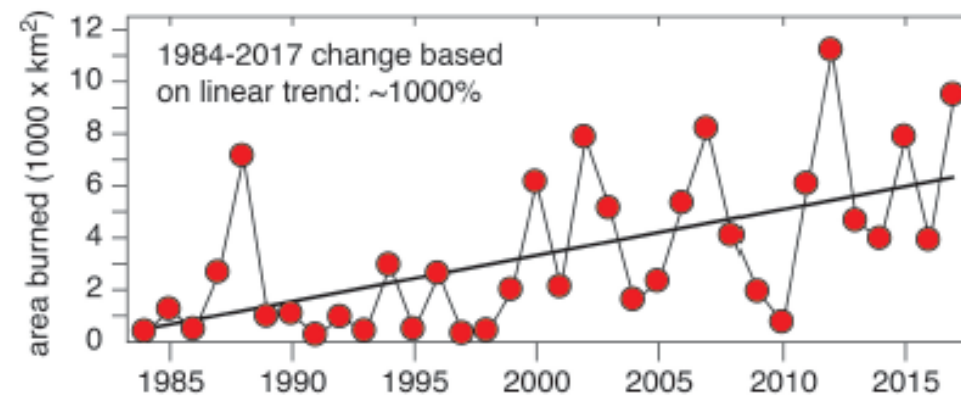
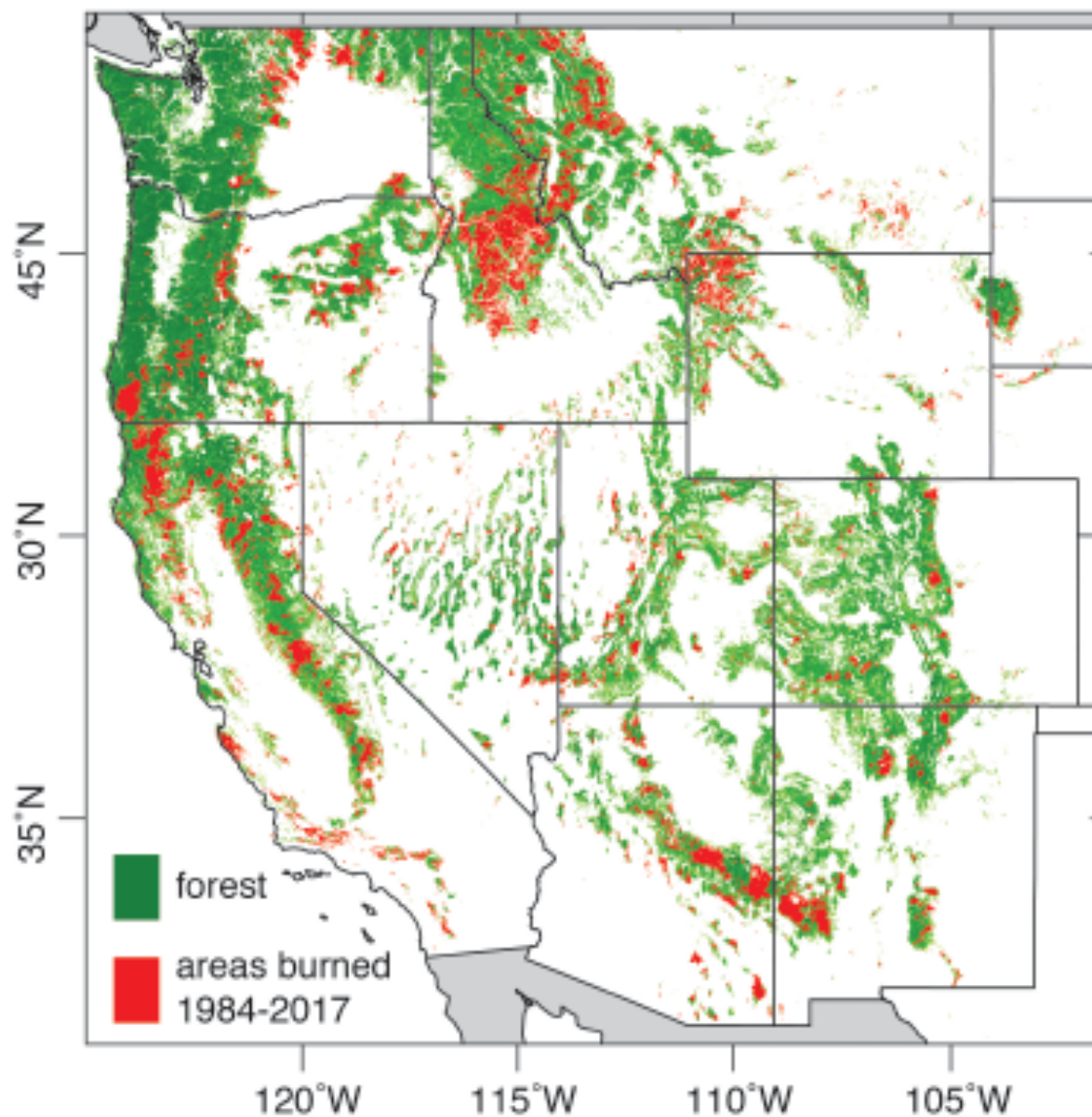






## Western United States Forest Fire Area

historical observations from 1984-2017



Duffy et al. *Science*, 2019