



# The SECAS Third Thursday Web Forum

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Brooding over climate change: Implications for eastern wild turkey reproduction

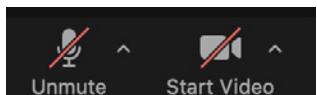
# Agenda

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- Logistics and introduction
- Presentation
- Q&A and discussion
- Preview of next Third Thursday Web Forum
- SE CASC symposium reminder



# Zoom Basics



Bottom left of your zoom screen  
➤ Please keep your video off and stay muted unless speaking during Q&A

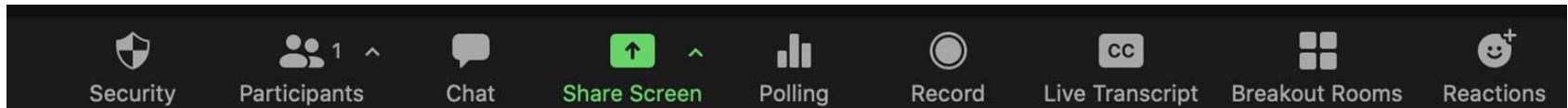
Ask  
questions



Raise your hand,  
Applaud the presenters



\* We are recording



# Brooding over climate change: Implications for eastern wild turkey reproduction

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Wes Boone, NC State University

7-21-2022



# Brooding over climate change: Implications for eastern wild turkey reproduction



Wesley Boone  
Dept. of Forestry & Environmental Resources  
North Carolina State University



# Our flock of collaborators



**Krishna Pacifici**



**Christopher Moorman**



**Adam Terando**



**Bret Collier**



**Michael Chamberlain**

# Rapid global change: carbon

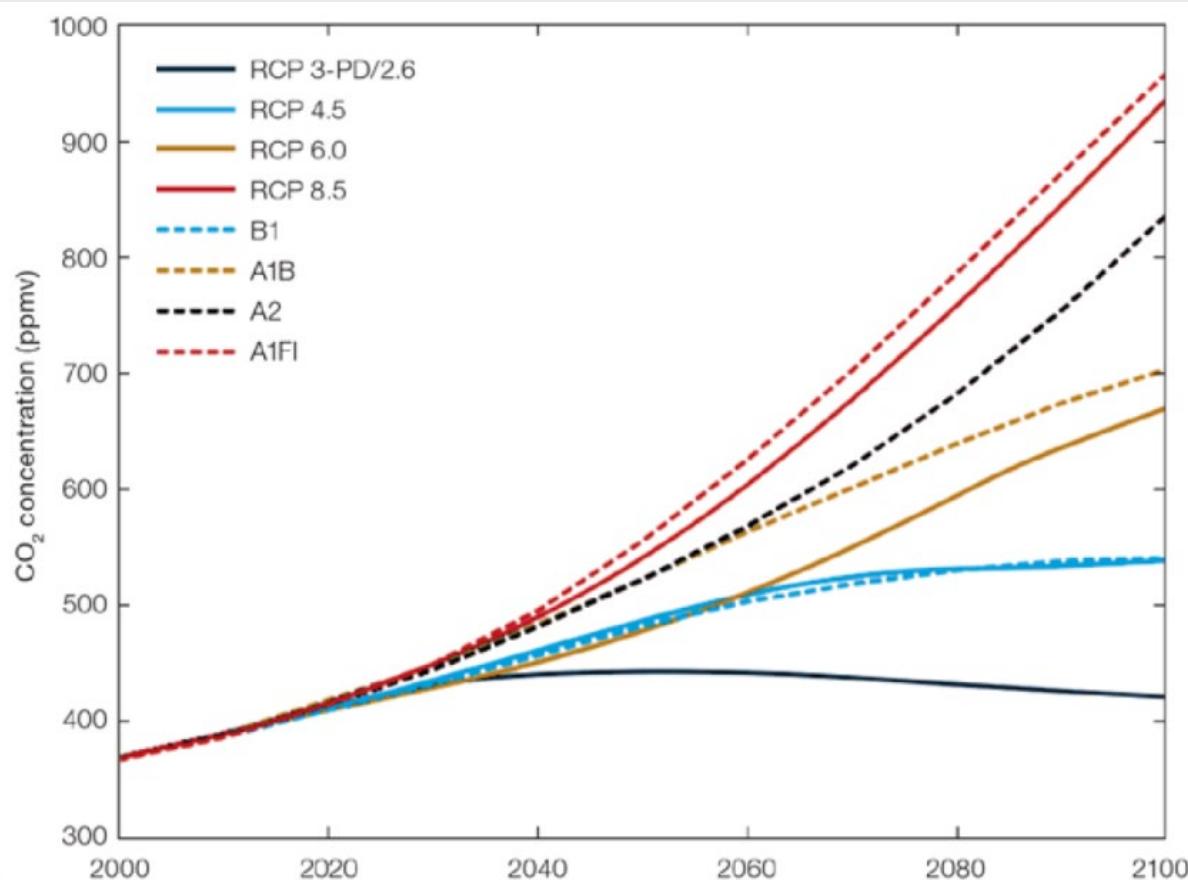
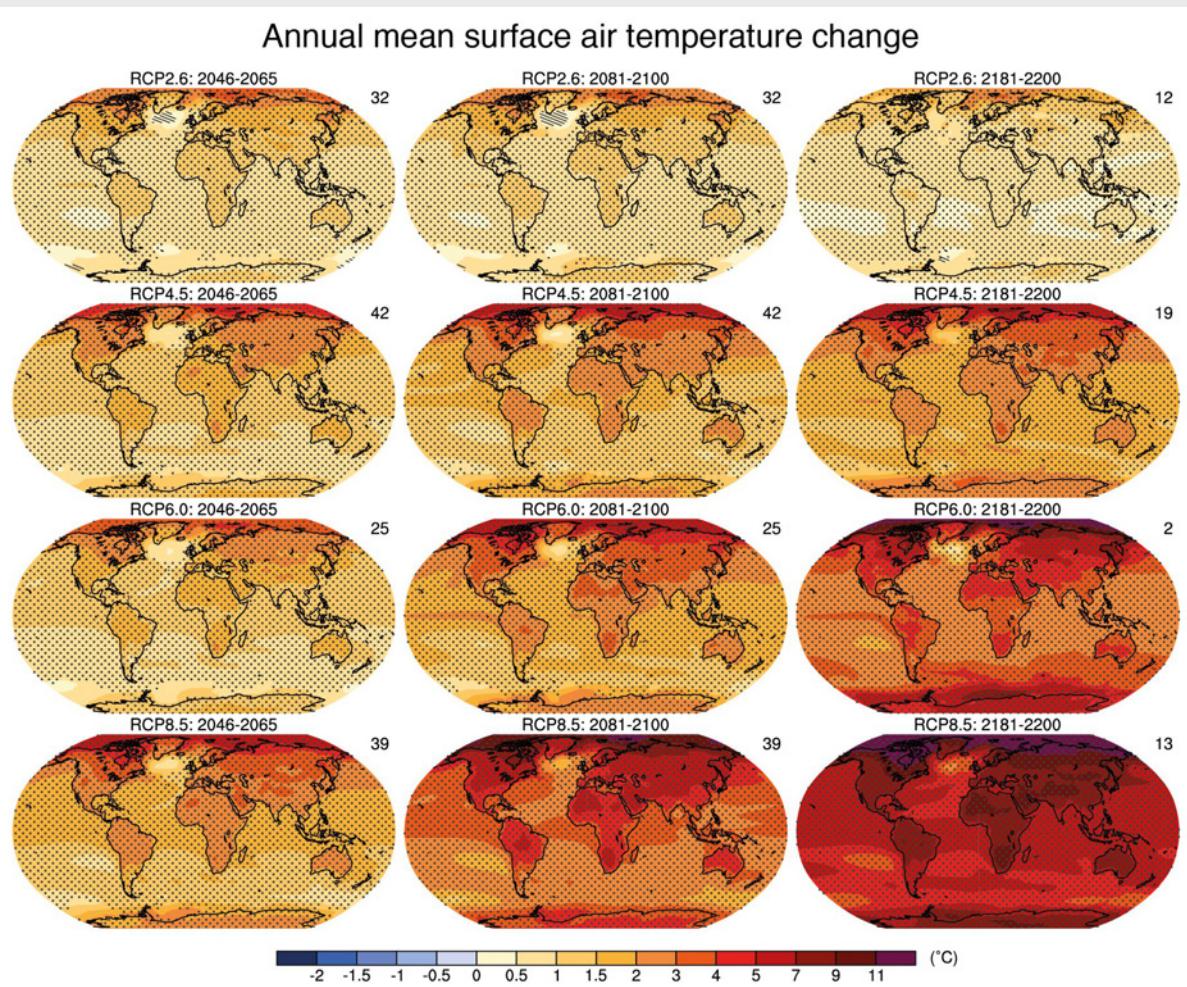


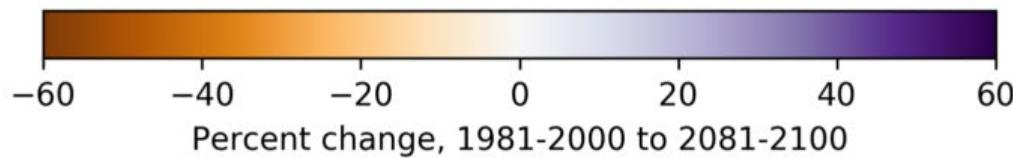
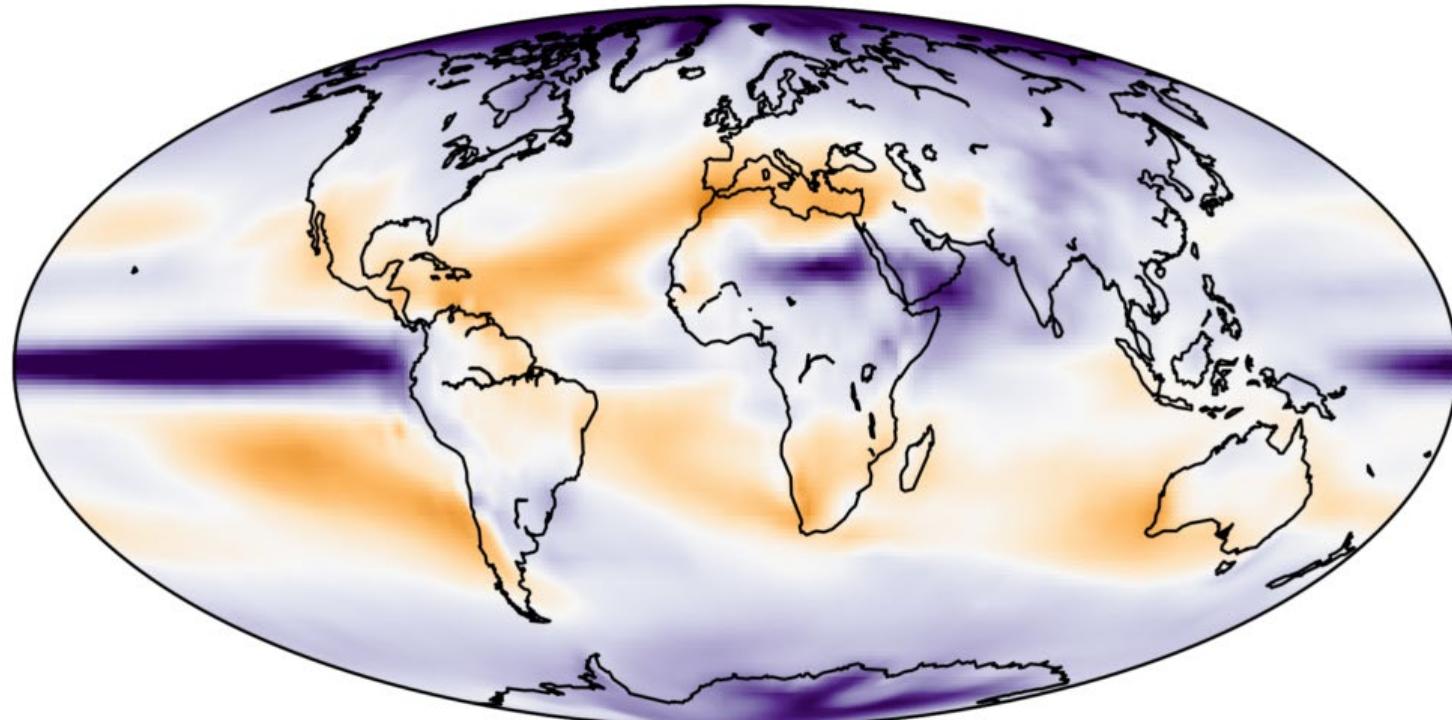
Figure 1.2: Comparison of CO<sub>2</sub> concentrations in parts per million by volume (ppmv) for CMIP3 (SRES, dotted lines) and CMIP5 (RCP, solid lines) emissions scenarios.

# Rapid global change: temperature

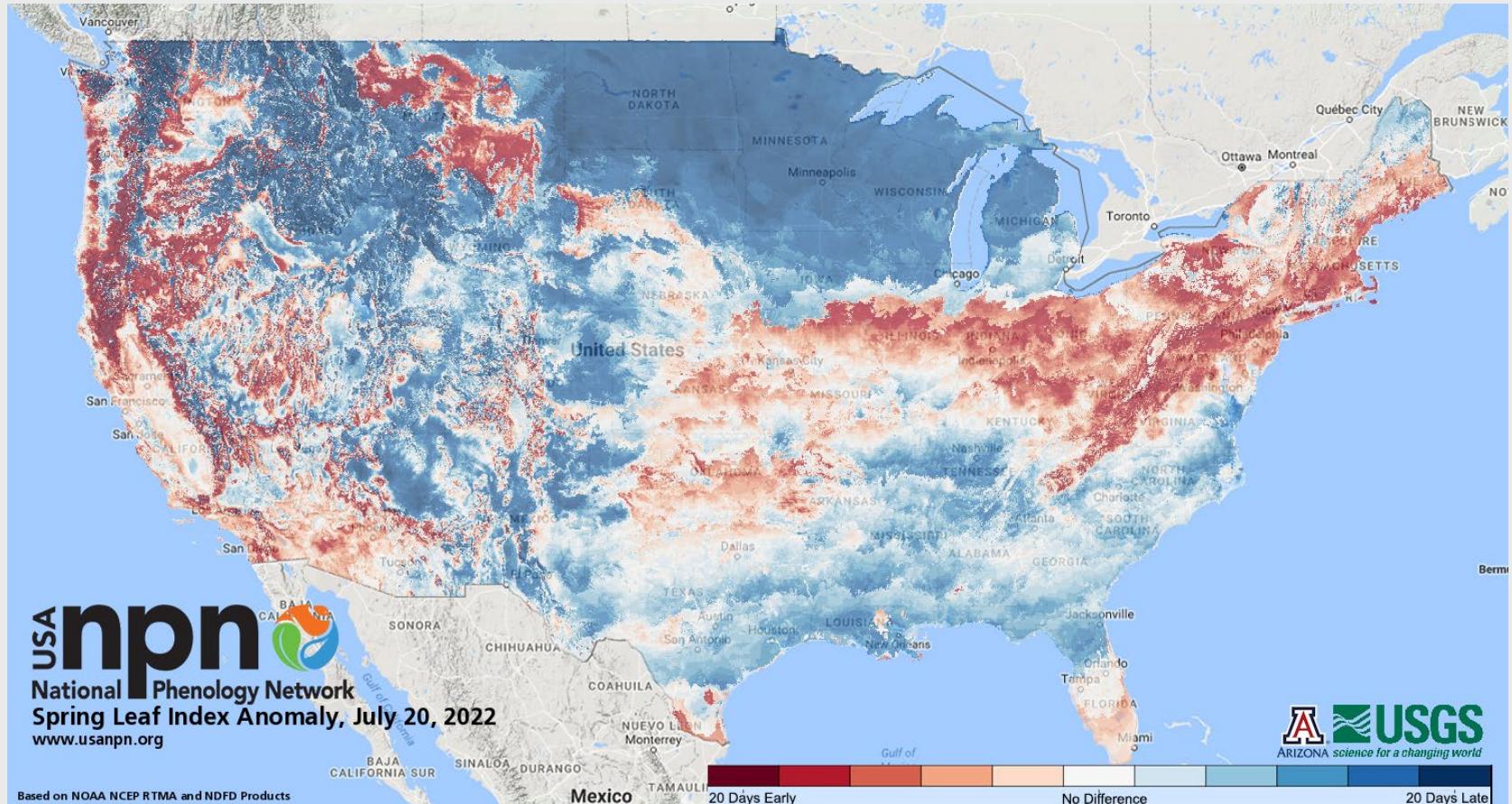


# Rapid global change: precipitation

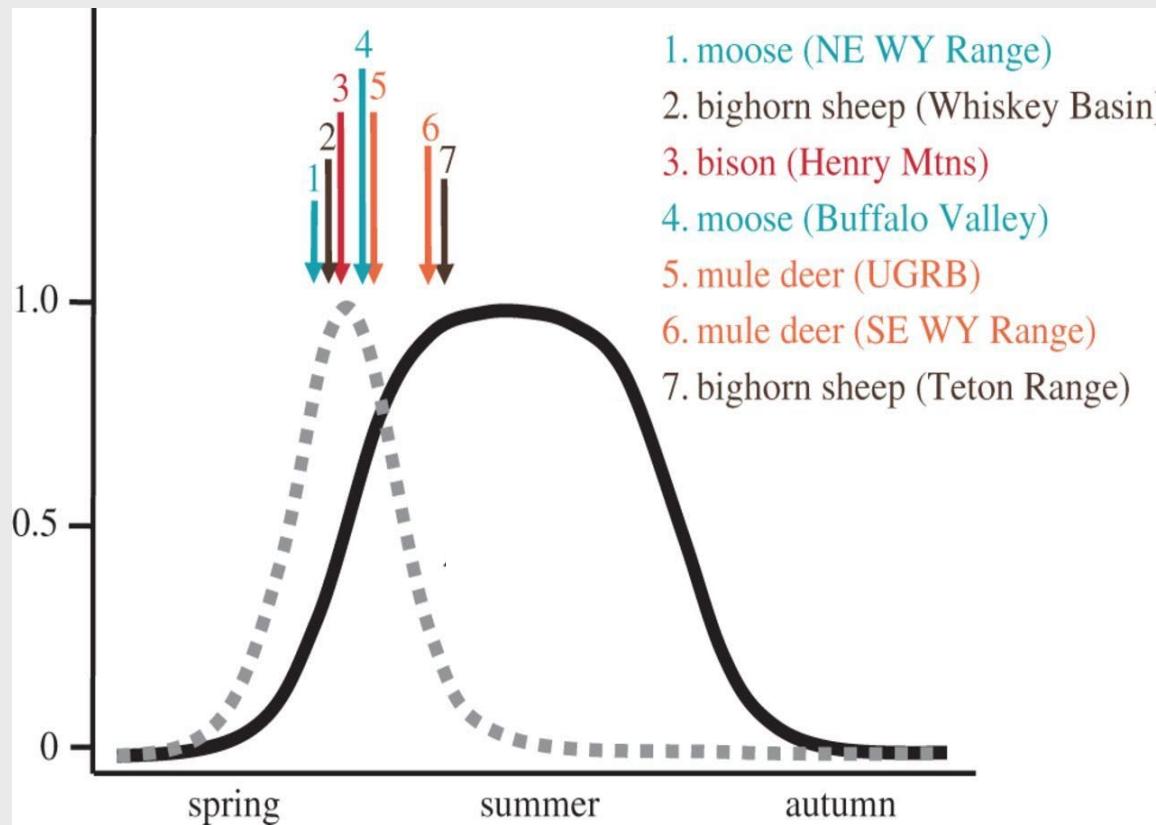
CMIP5 RCP8.5 multimodel mean all precipitation



# Rapid global change: spring green-up



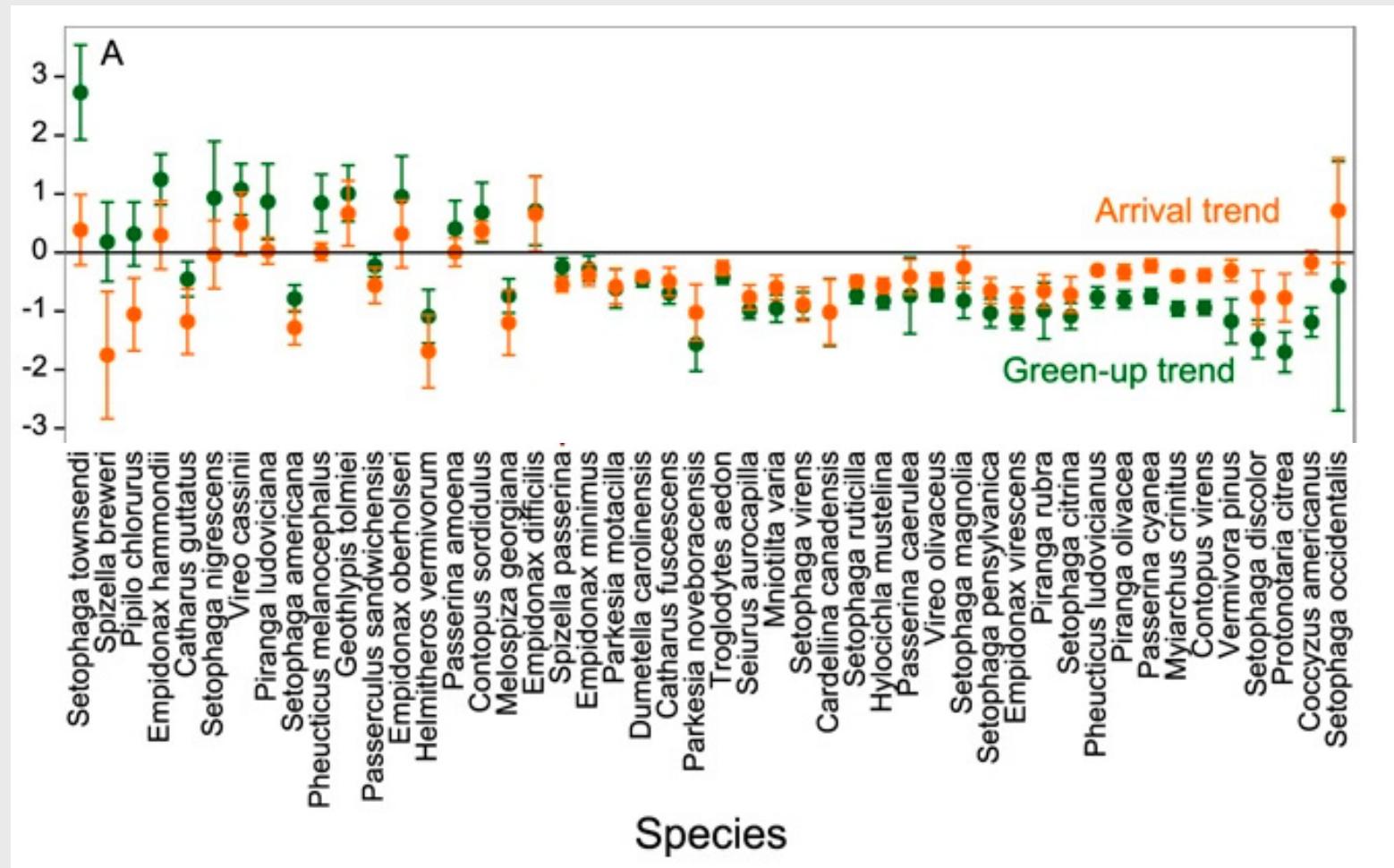
# Climate change shifts wildlife phenology



Large herbivores surf waves of green-up during spring

Jerod A. Merkle<sup>1</sup>, Kevin L. Monteith<sup>1,2</sup>, Ellen O. Aikens<sup>1</sup>, Matthew M. Hayes<sup>1</sup>, Kent R. Hersey<sup>3</sup>, Arthur D. Middleton<sup>4</sup>, Brendan A. Oates<sup>1</sup>, Hall Sawyer<sup>5</sup>, Brandon M. Scurlock<sup>6</sup> and Matthew J. Kauffman<sup>7</sup>

# Climate change shifts wildlife phenology



Increasing phenological asynchrony  
between spring green-up and  
arrival of migratory birds

Stephen J. Mayor<sup>1,2,3,4</sup>, Robert P. Guralnick<sup>5</sup>, Morgan W. Tingley<sup>6,7</sup>, Javier Otegui<sup>8</sup>, John C. Withey<sup>9</sup>, Sarah C. Elmendorf<sup>9</sup>, Margaret E. Andrew<sup>1</sup>, Stefan Leyk<sup>8</sup>, Ian S. Pearse<sup>9</sup> & David C. Schneider<sup>1</sup>

# Climate change shifts wildlife phenology

This topic has been (fairly) robustly studied in migratory species.

# **Climate change shifts wildlife phenology**

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**Results inconsistent, highlighting need for species-specific studies.**

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**Results inconsistent, highlighting need for species-specific studies.**

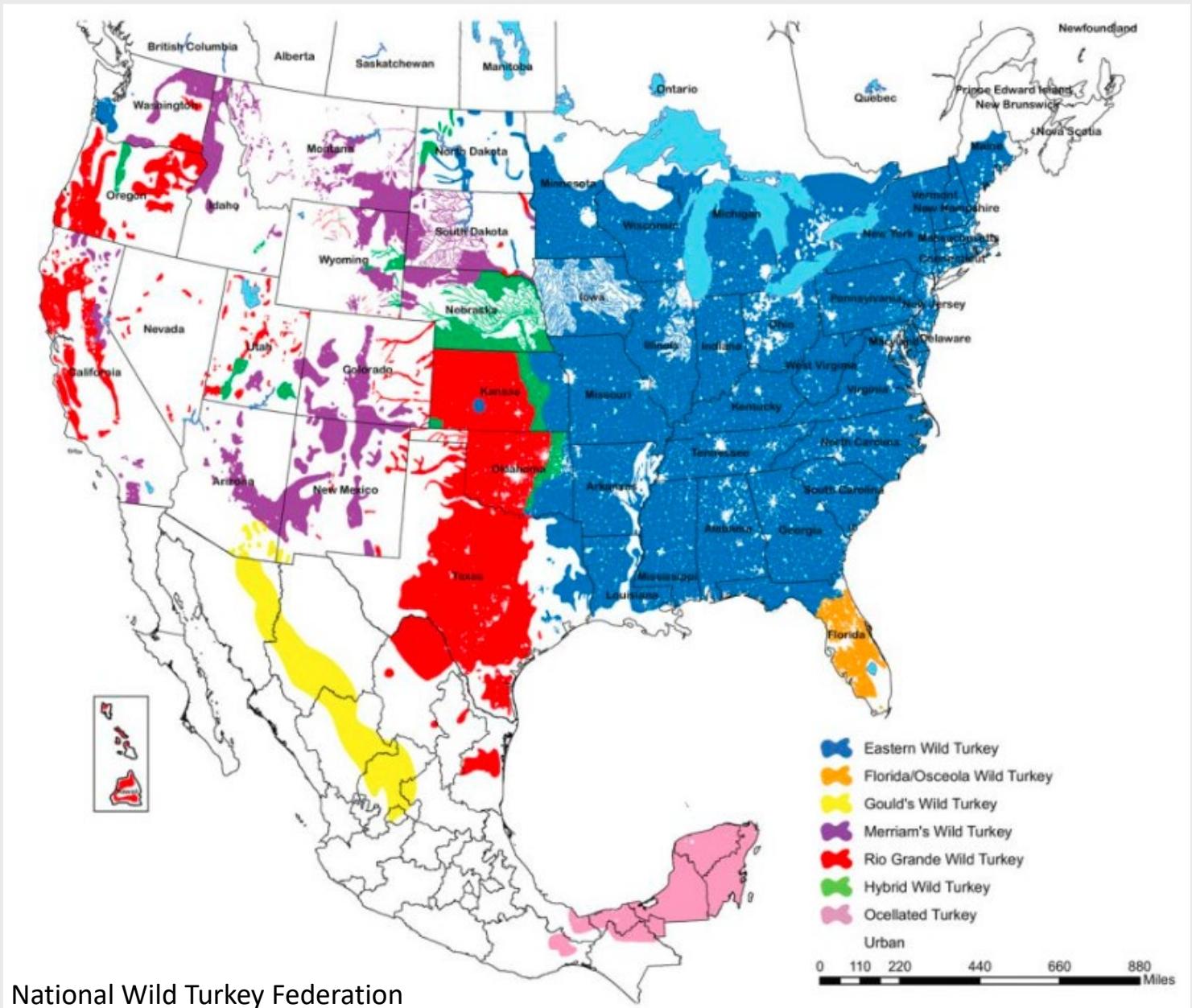
**Lack of available research notable in non-migratory species, game species, and species with declining populations.**

# Eastern wild turkey



Westwood Library, NJ

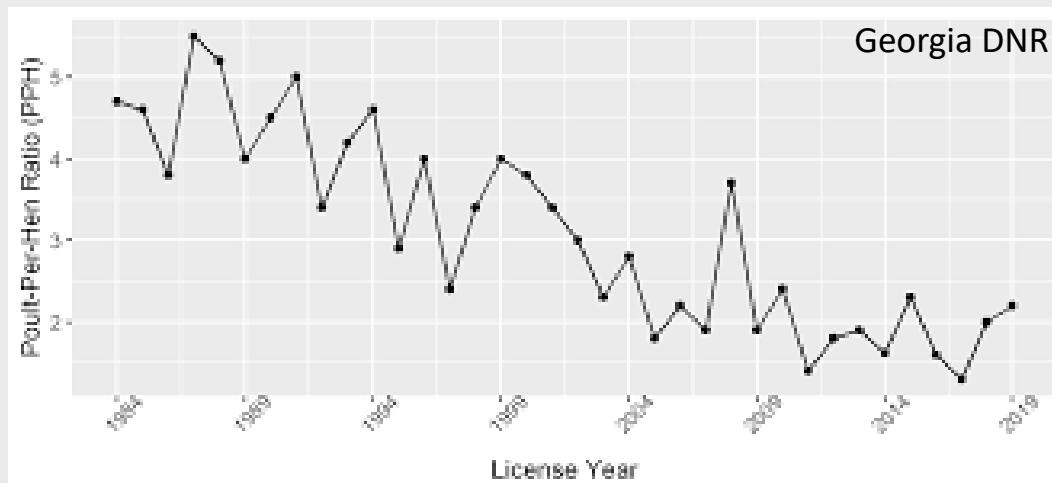
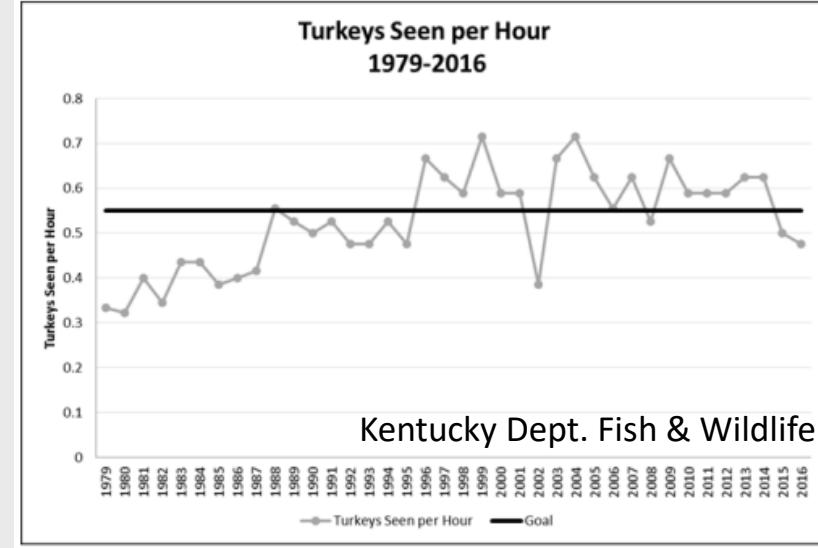
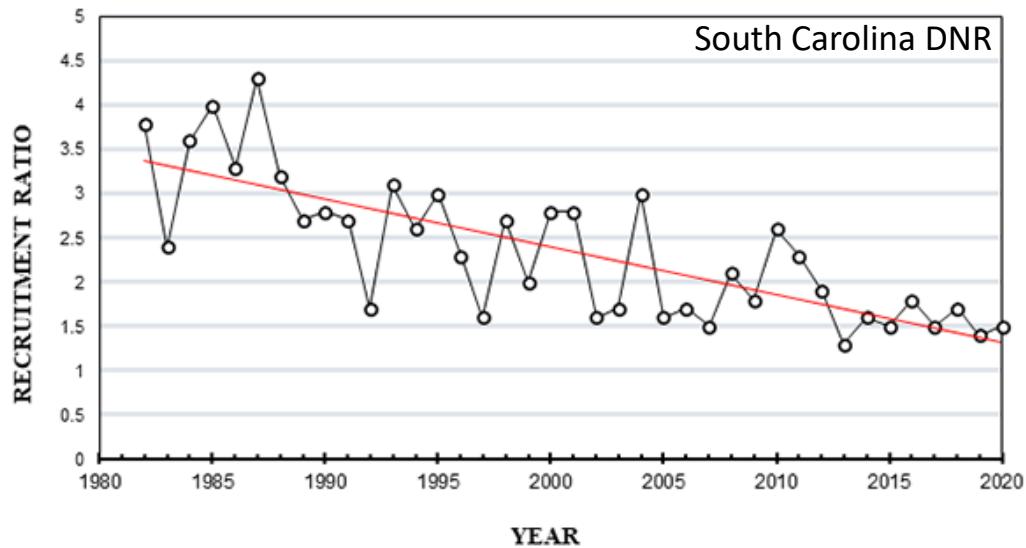




National Wild Turkey Federation  
Modified from Erickson et al. 2015



# Eastern wild turkey: A subspecies in decline



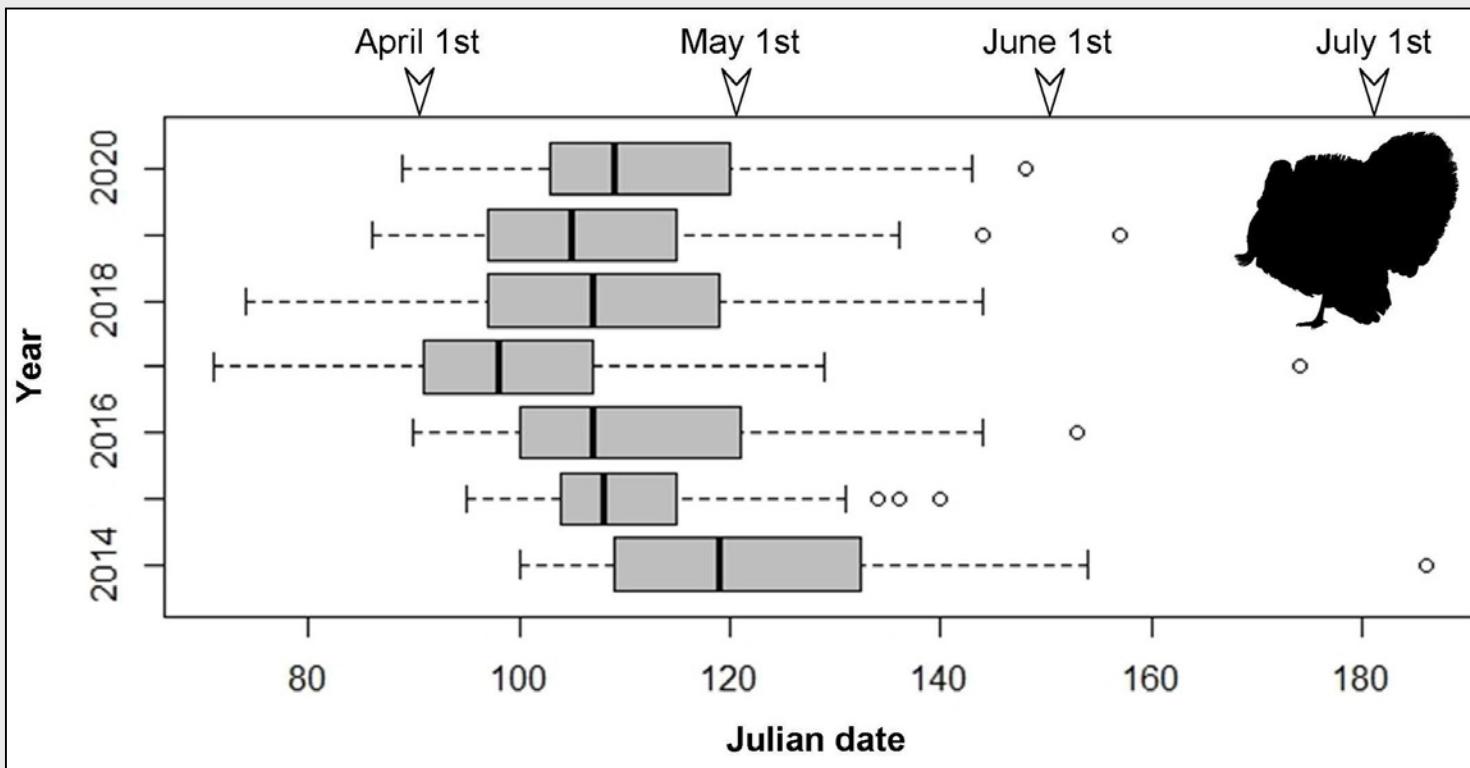
# Eastern wild turkey: A subspecies in decline

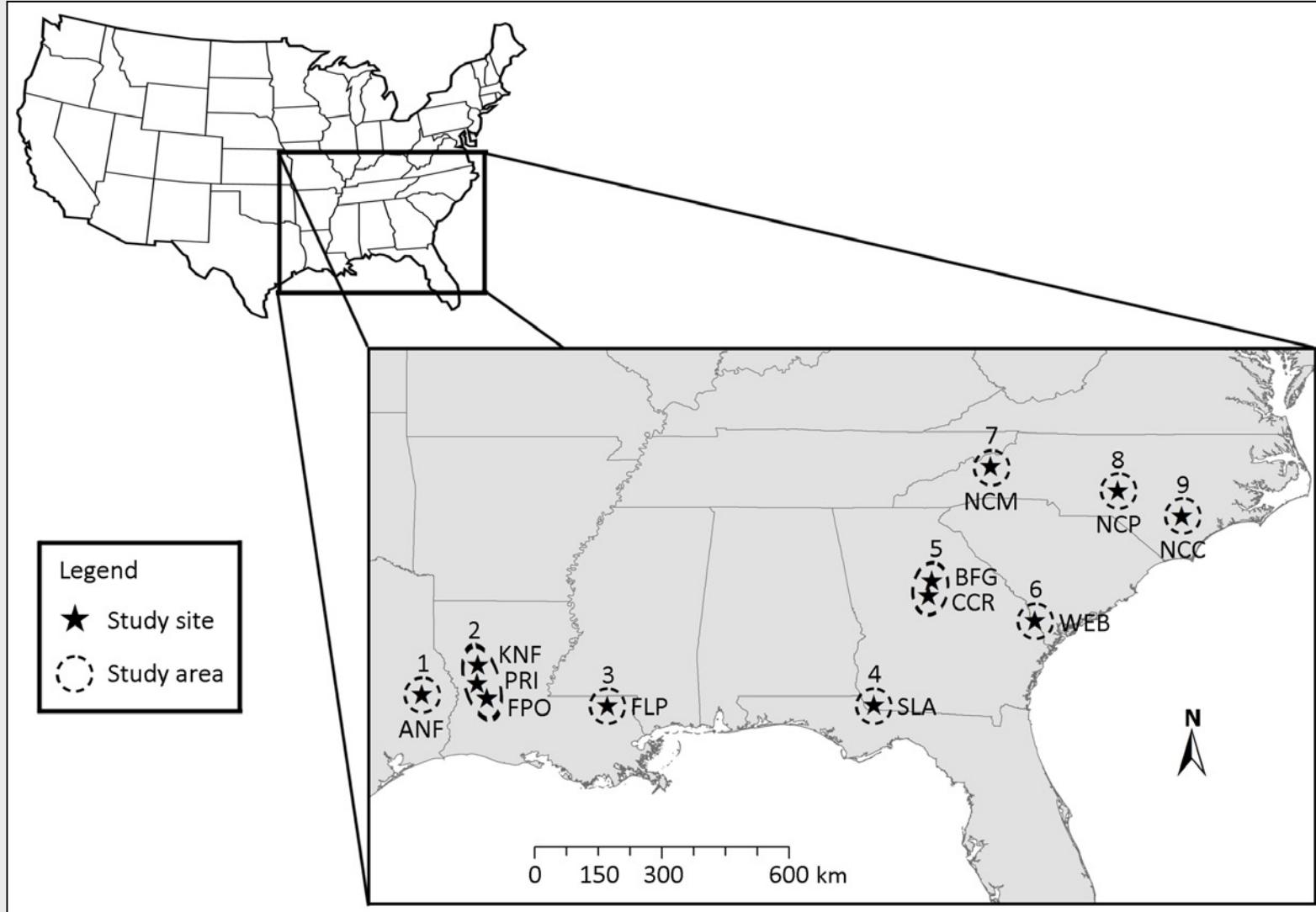


# Objectives

- (1) Assess climactic factors potentially influencing eastern wild turkey **nest initiation date**.
- (2) Assess climactic factors potentially influencing eastern wild turkey **nest survival**.

# Nest initiation date





**2014 – 2021  
717 (first) nests**







“SOST” = date of green-up

Days between green-up and nest initiation.

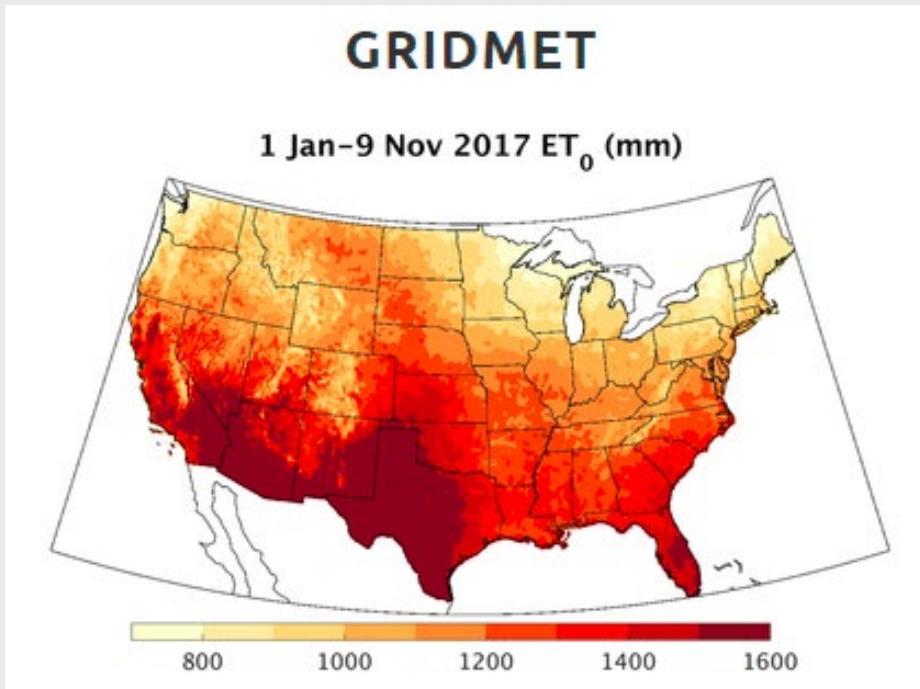
250 m spatial resolution.

Daily temporal resolution.

Only available through 2020.



Minimum average temperature.  
Minimum temperature variance.  
Maximum average temperature.  
Maximum temperature variance.  
Precipitation total.  
Avg min temp X Precipitation total.



4 km spatial resolution.  
Daily temporal resolution.  
Available through yesterday.

January

February

March

\*30-days prior

# Modeling approach

Cox's proportional hazards model (a.k.a. time-to-event model).

# Modeling approach

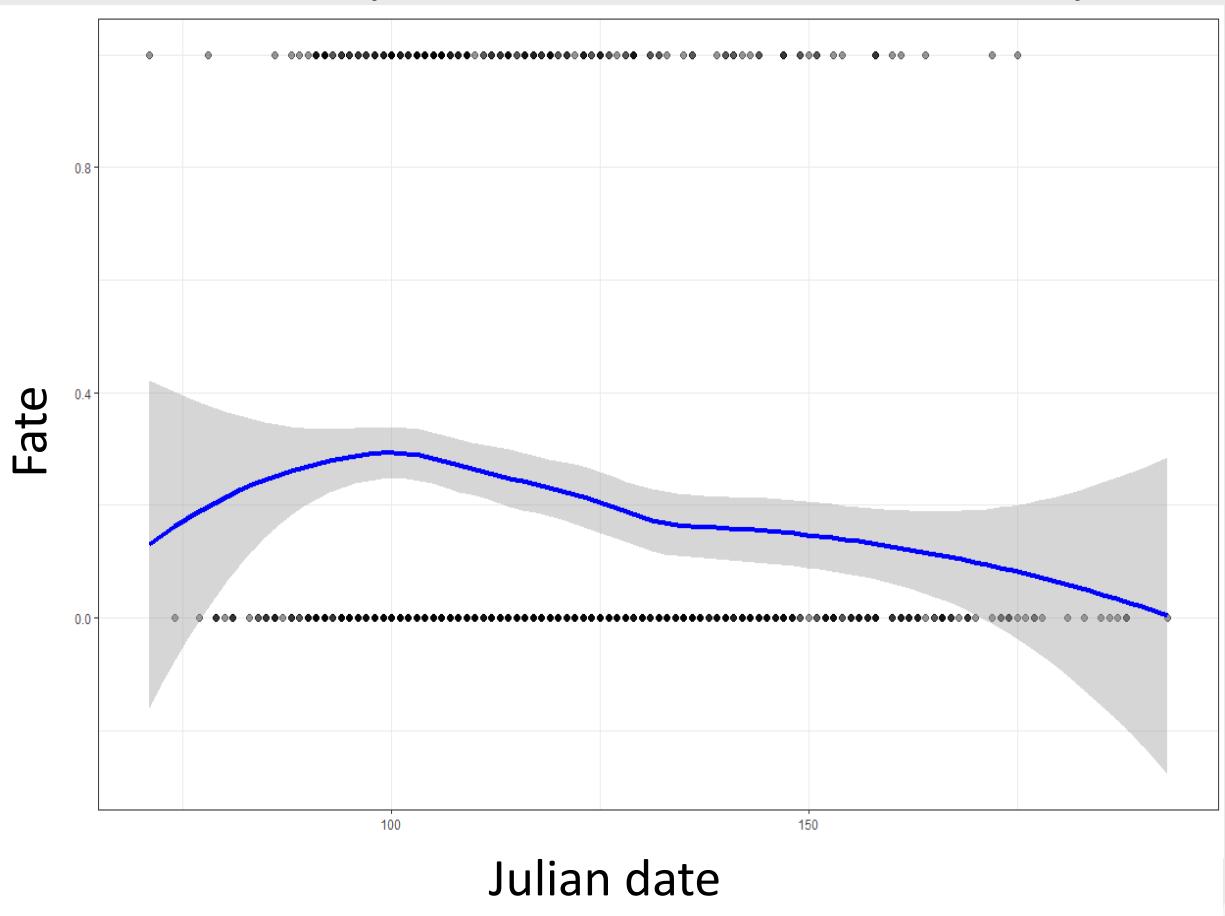
Cox's proportional hazards model (a.k.a. time-to-event model).

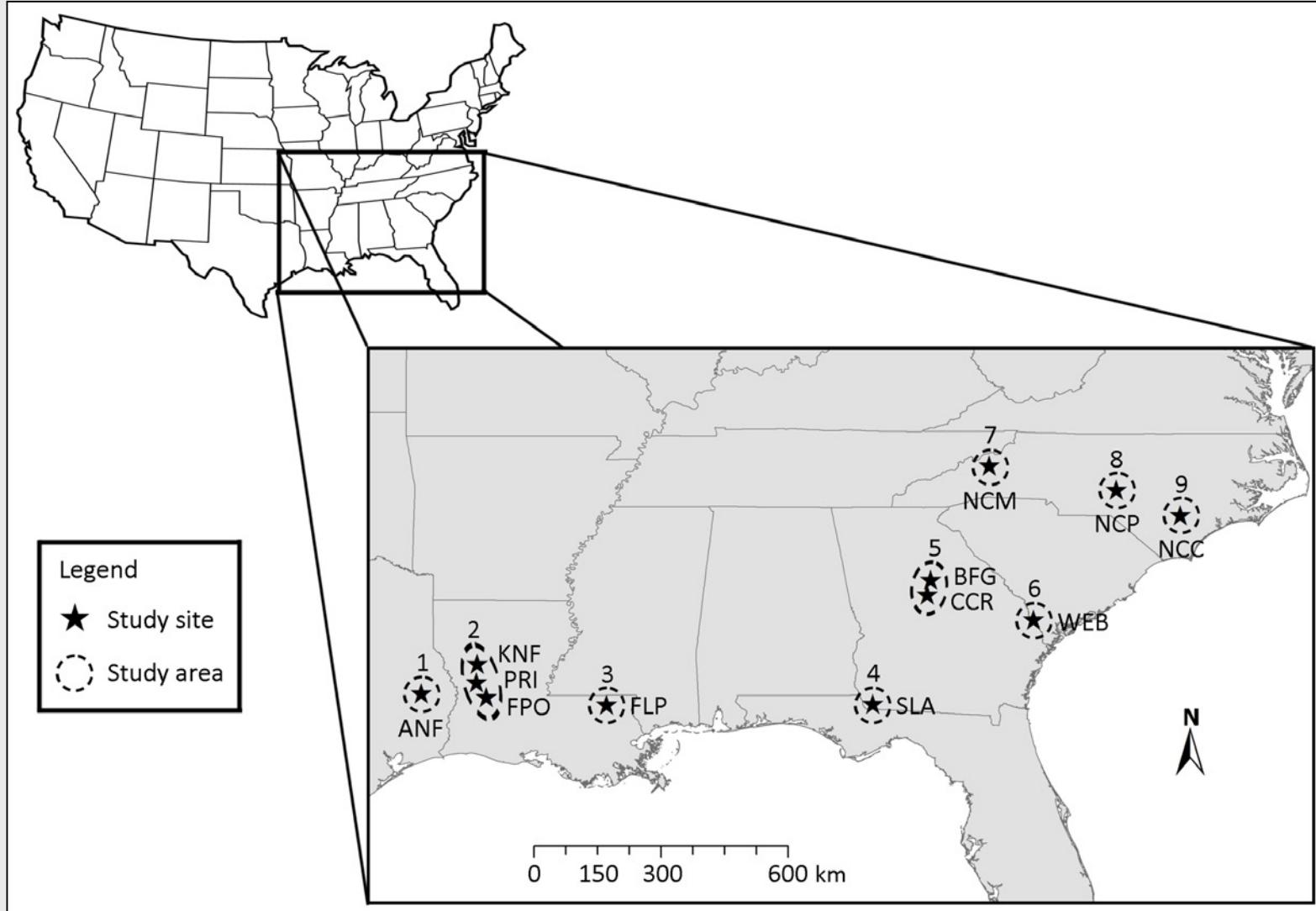
- Tested all possible combinations including  $\leq 4$  variables.
- Exclude combinations of excessively correlated variables.
- Rank models by AICc.
- Run models for the full database and core 70% database.

# Modeling approach

Cox's proportional hazards model (a.k.a. time-to-event model).

- Tested all possible combinations of covariates
- Exclude combinations that did not fit the data well
- Rank models by AIC
- Run models for the top 10 models



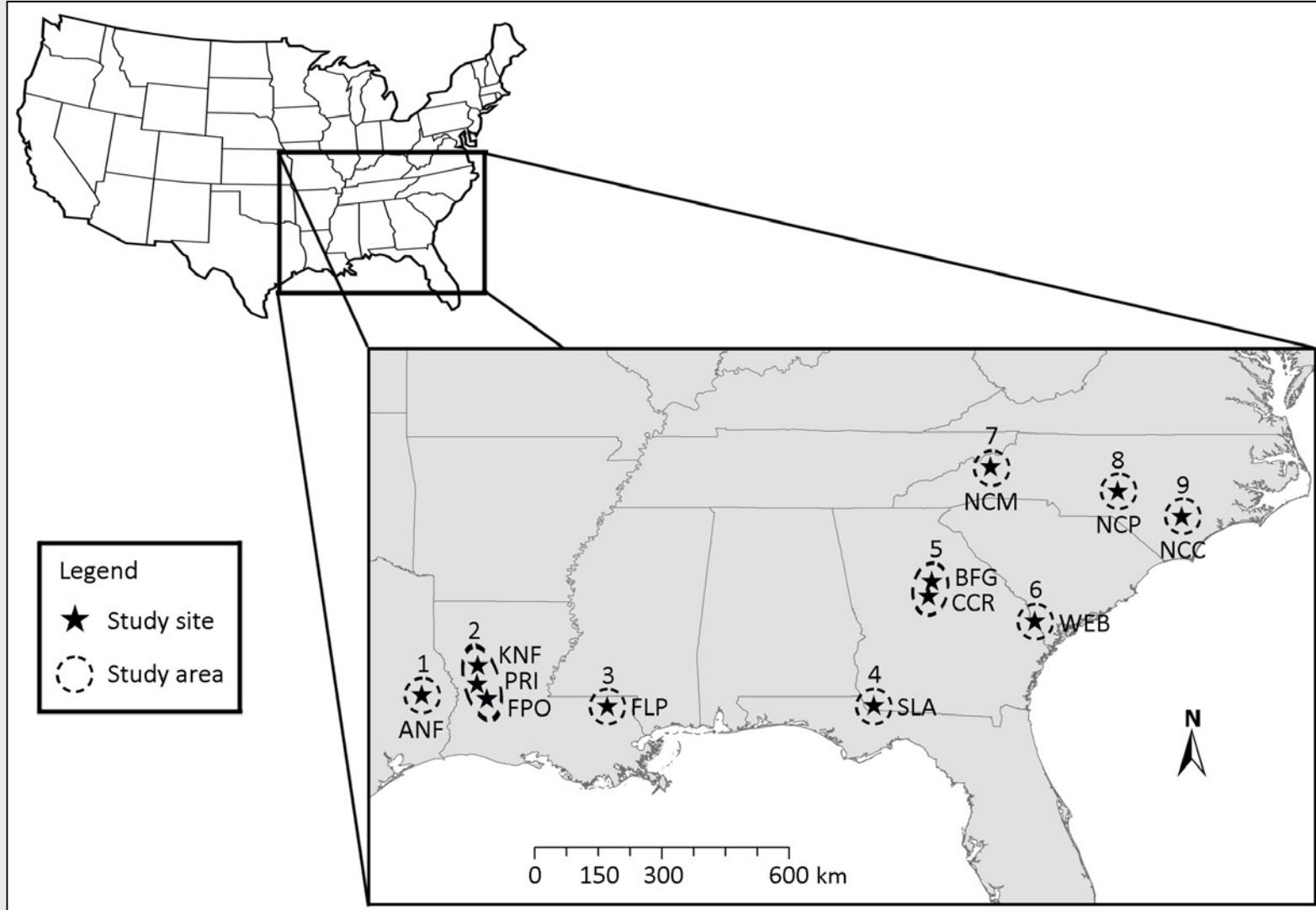


## Random effects

Study area

Year

Individual bird ID

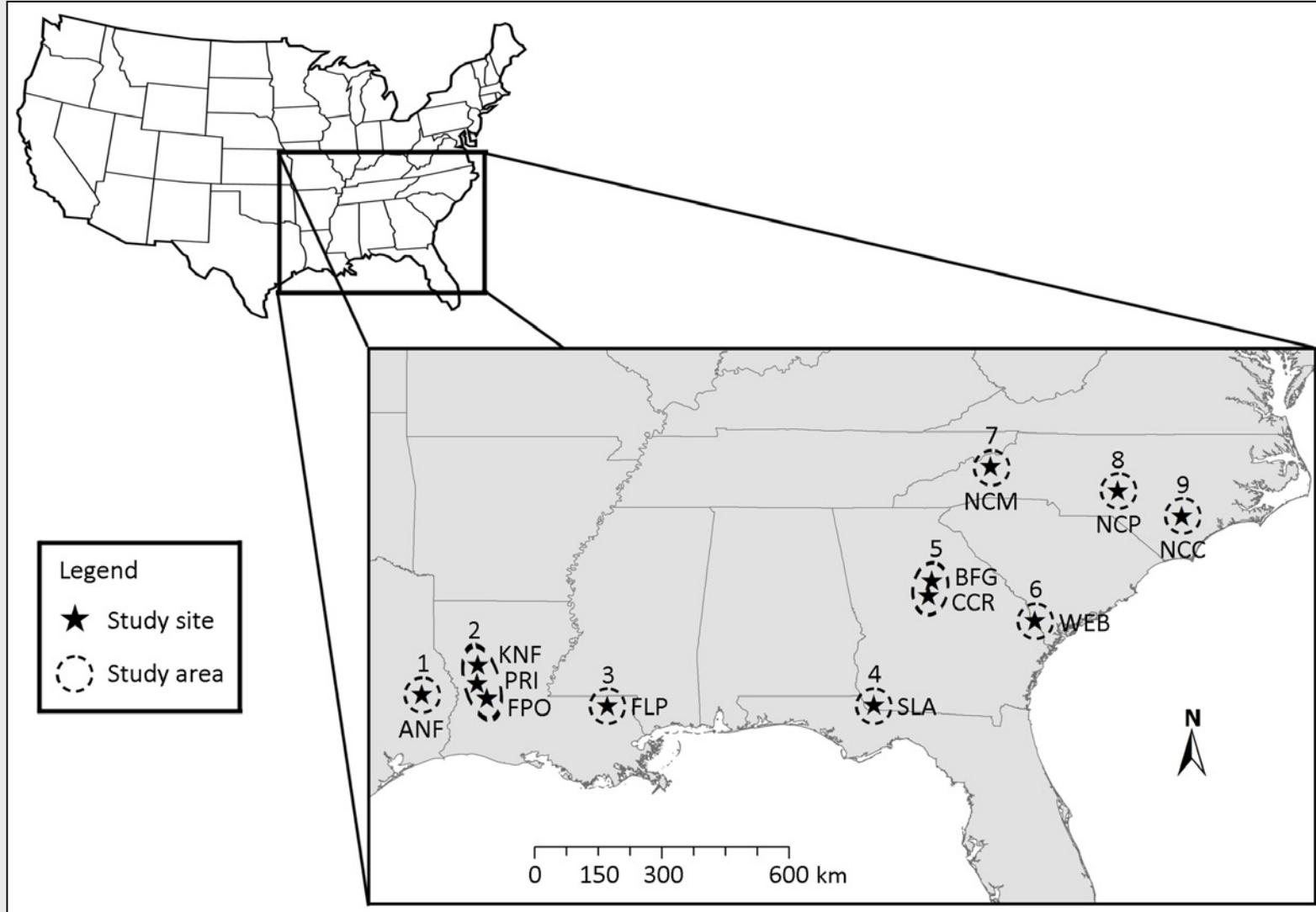


## Random effects

Study area

Year

Individual bird ID



**Random effects**

Study area

Year

Individual bird ID

# Green wave?

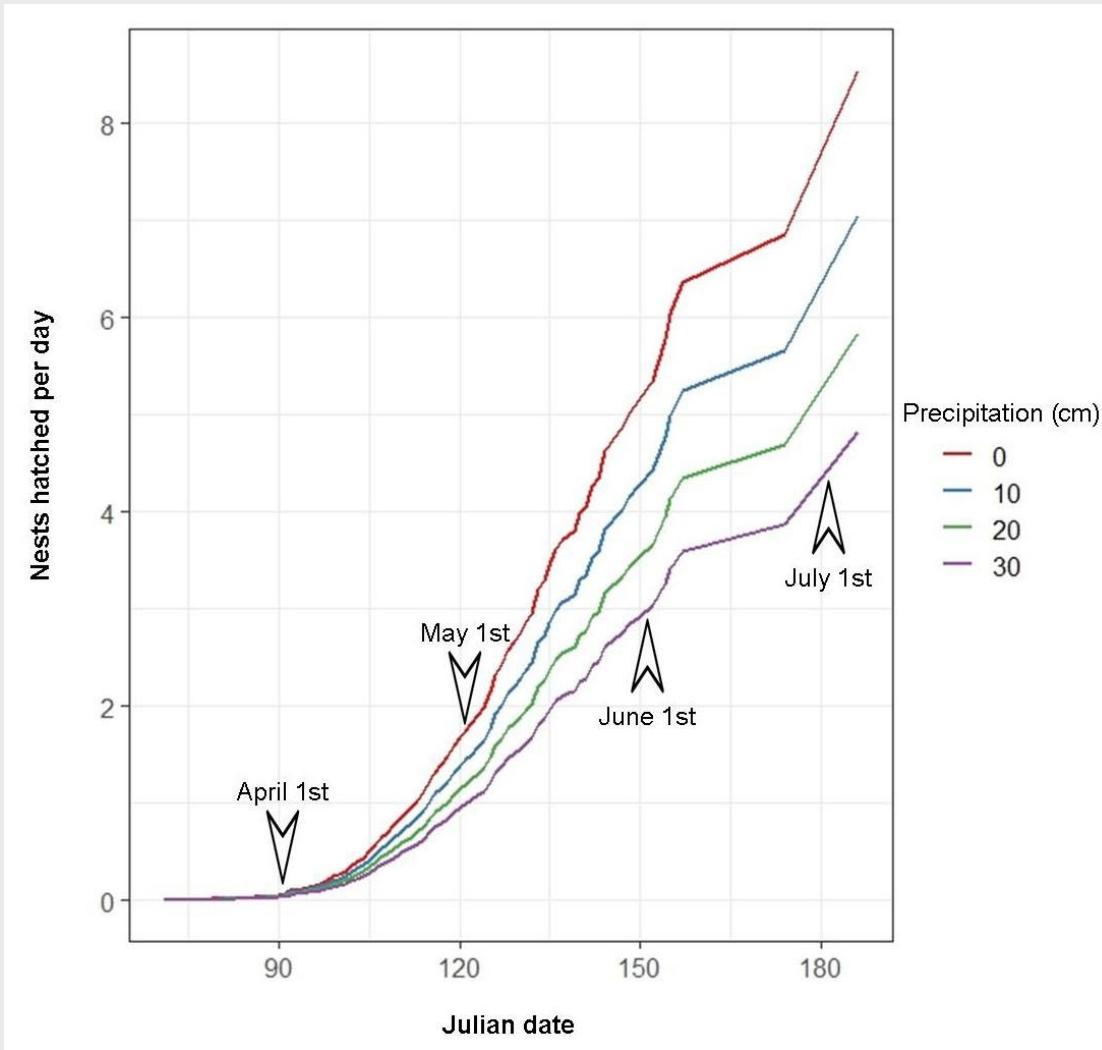


# Green wave?



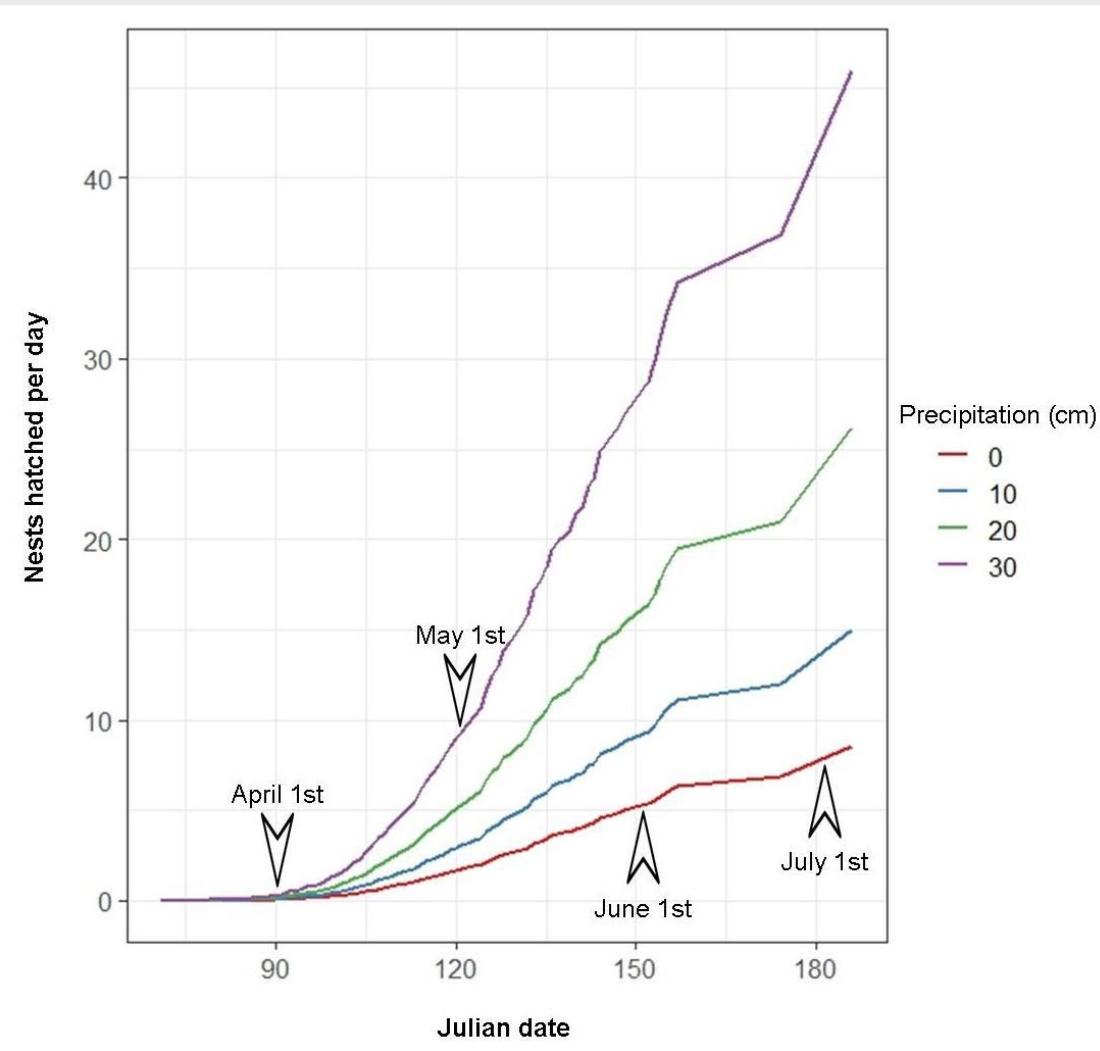
# Full dataset

Total precipitation in 30 days prior to incubation



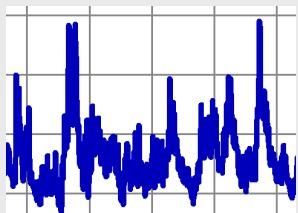
# Full dataset

## Total January precipitation



# 70% dataset

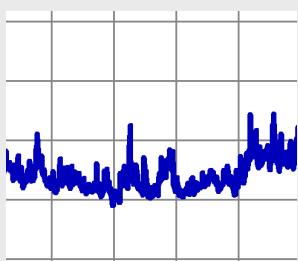
February minimum temperature variance



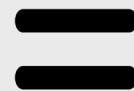
High variance



Later nesting



Low variance



Earlier nesting

# 70% dataset

February maximum average temperature

Higher     =     Earlier nesting

Lower     =     Later nesting



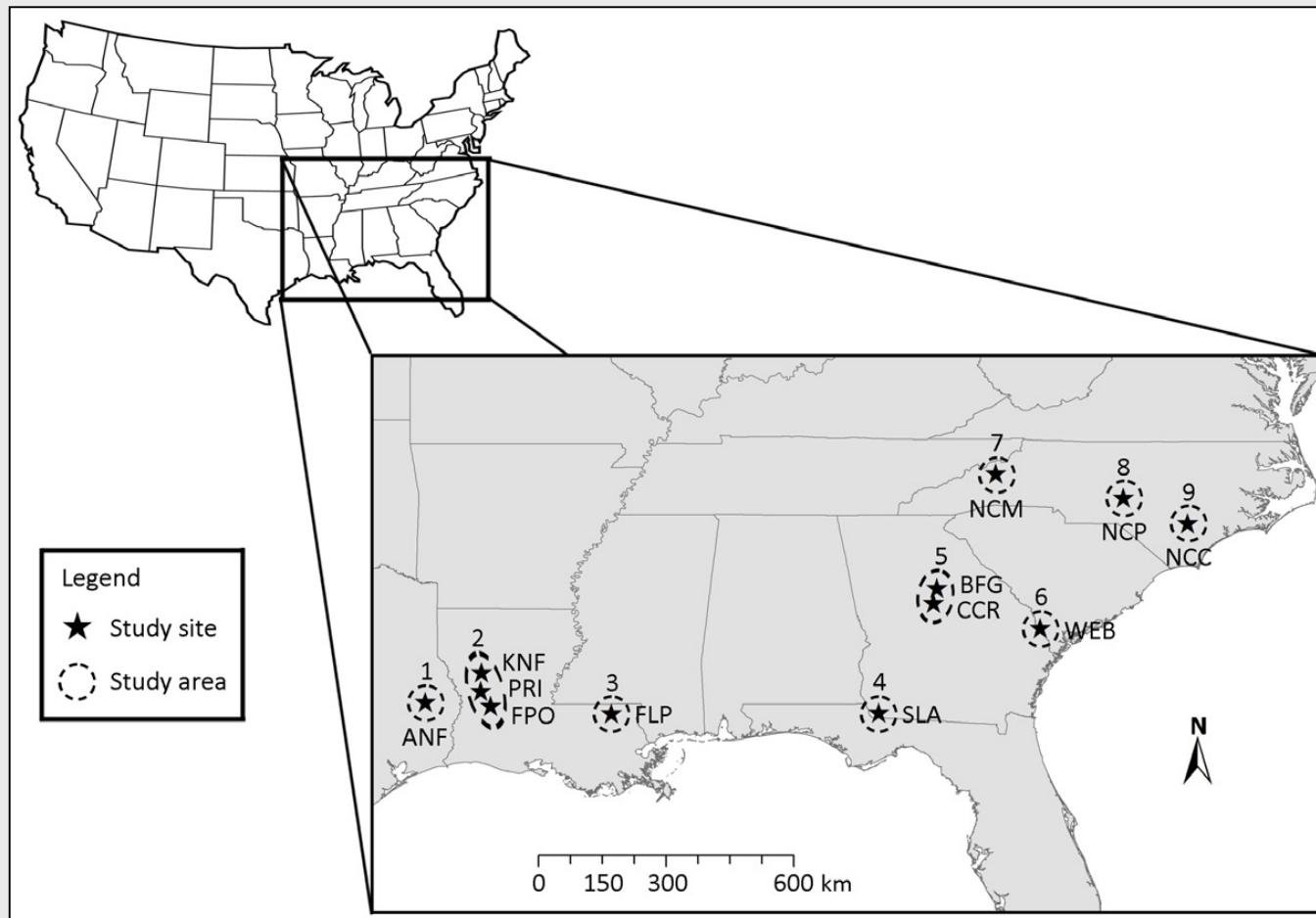
Ken Potter

# Nest survival (did eggs hatch?)



Ken Potter

# Nest survival (did eggs hatch?)



2014 – 2021

715 first nests (186 [26%] hatch)

Minimum average temperature.

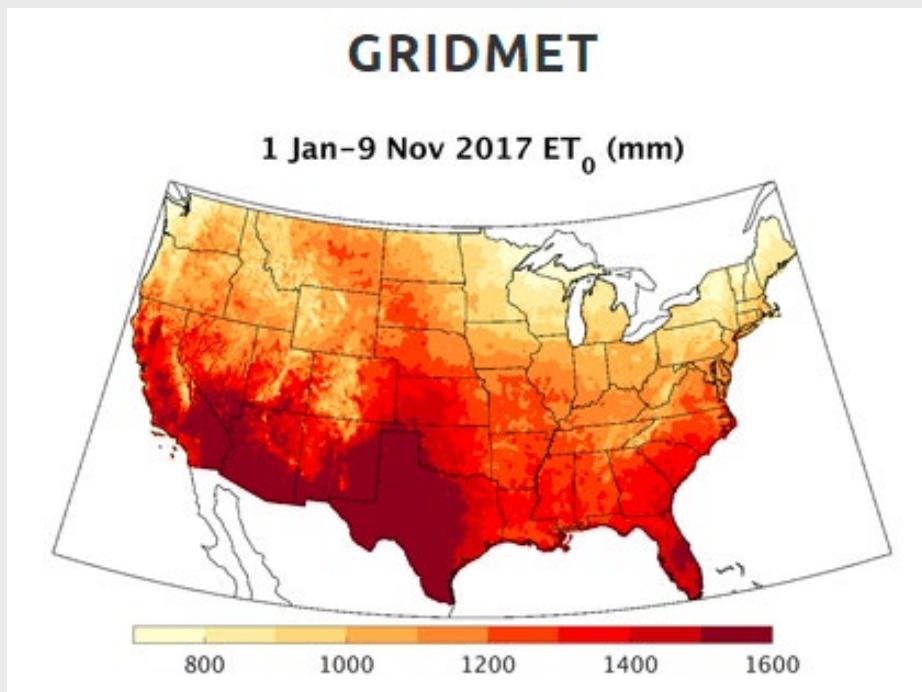
Minimum temperature variance.

Precipitation total.

Avg min temp X Precipitation total.

48 hour precipitation total.

Absolute minimum temperature.



4 km spatial resolution.  
Daily temporal resolution.  
Available through yesterday.

January

February

March

30-days prior

During



January

February

March

30-days prior

During

Visual obstruction.  
Year.  
Start date (Julian date).

# Generalized Linear Mixed Model

January

February

March

30-days prior

During

# Generalized Linear Mixed Model

Ran 5 semi-global models.

Excluded pairs of excessively correlated variables.

Ranked models by AICc.

January

February

March

30-days prior

During

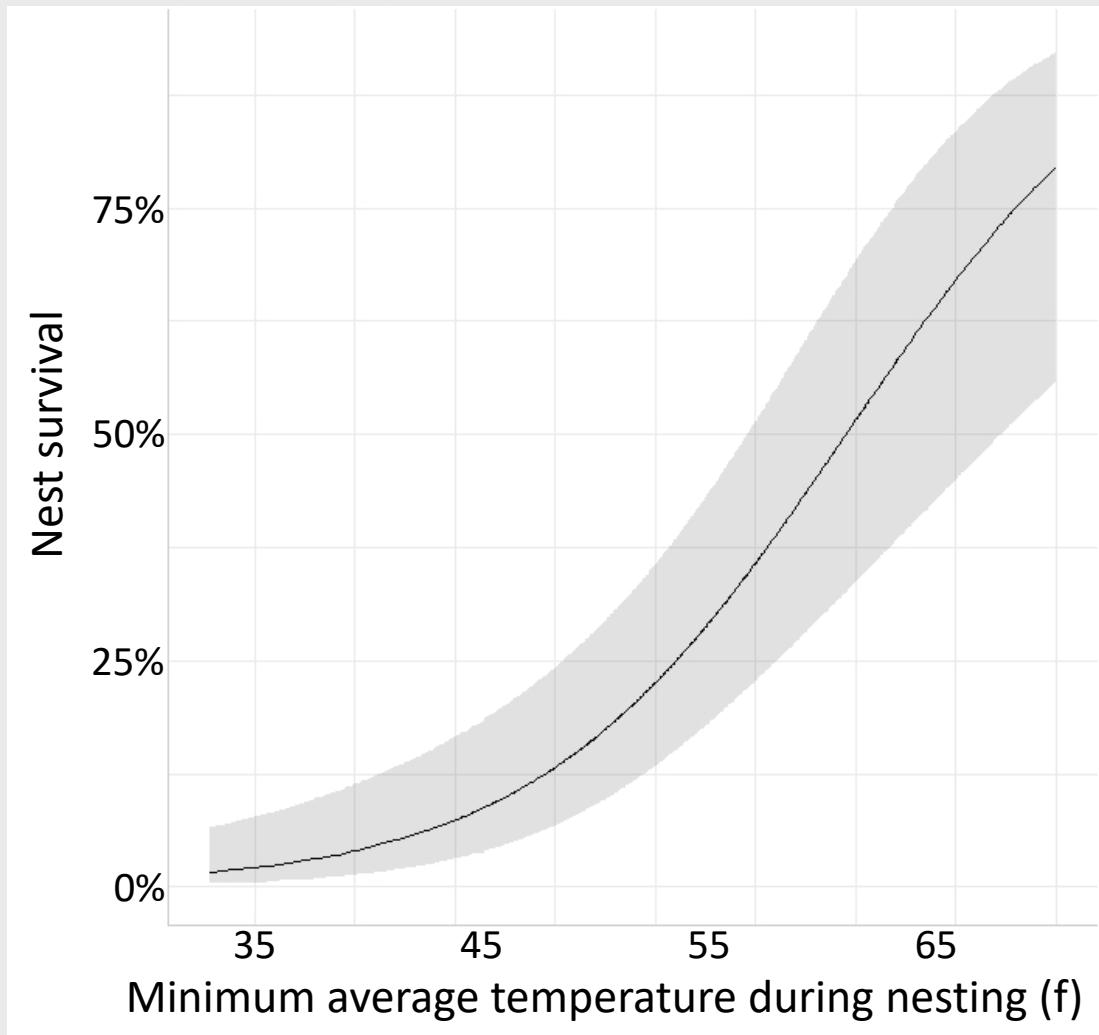
January

February

March

30-days prior

During



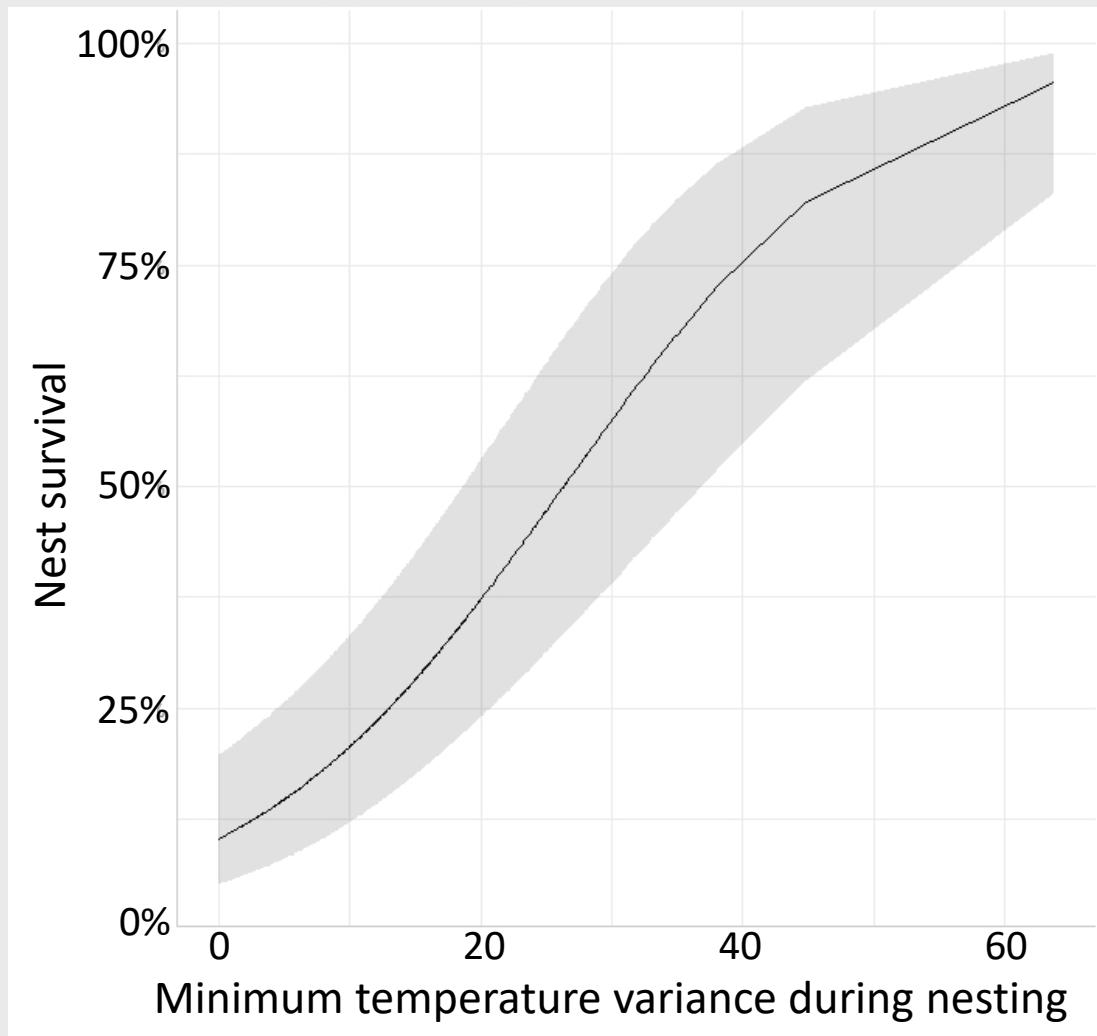
January

February

March

30-days prior

During



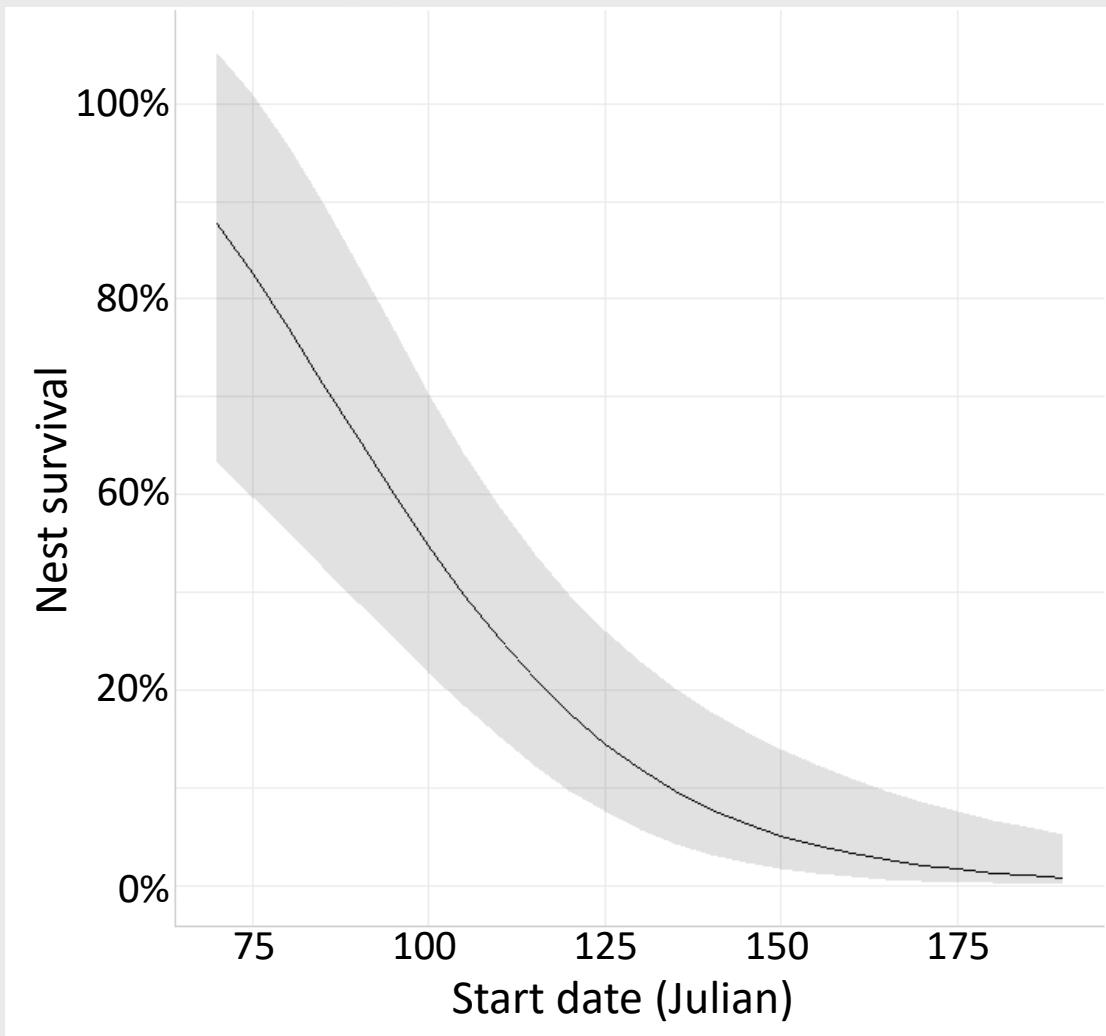
January

February

March

30-days prior

During



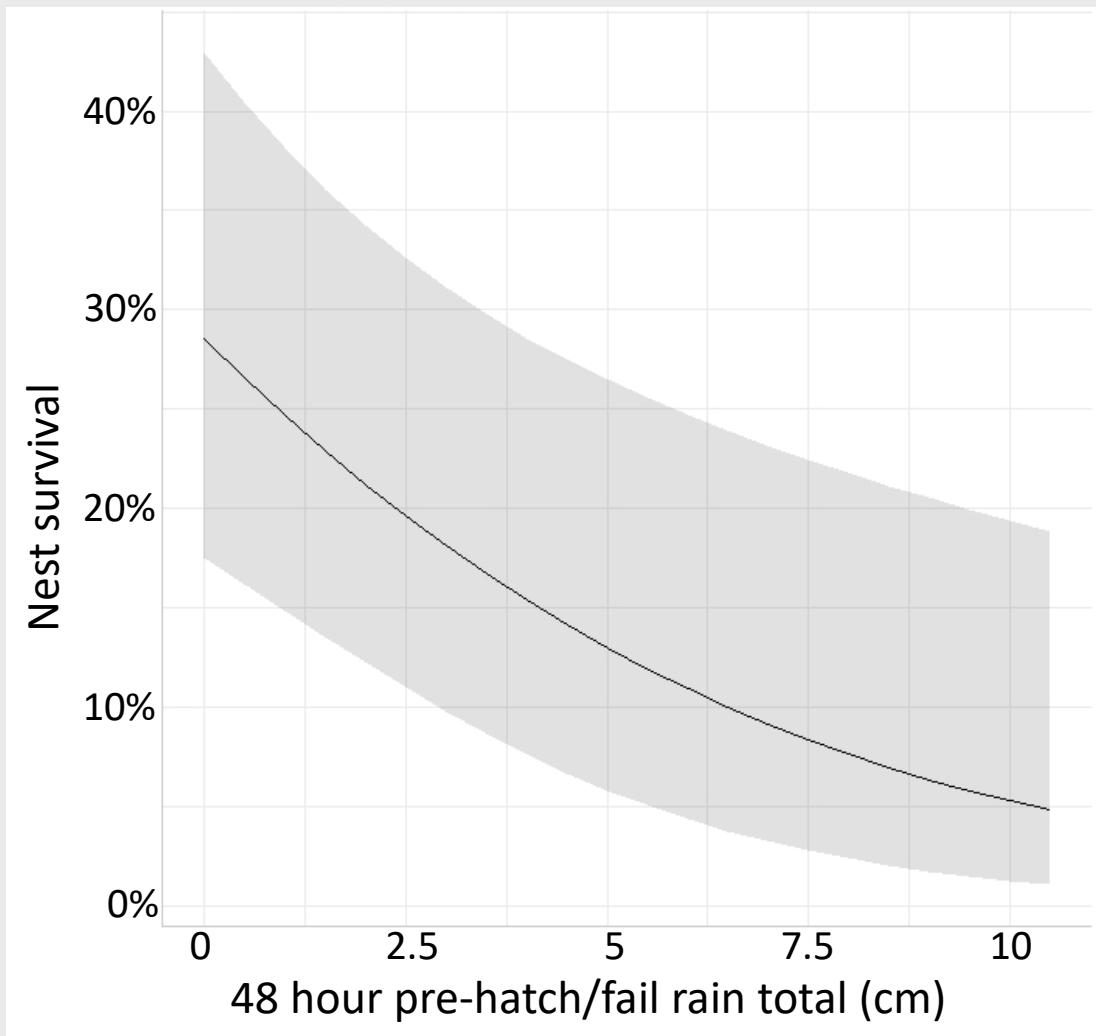
January

February

March

30-days prior

During



January

February

March

30-days prior

During

# Conclusions

(1) Warmer springs -> earlier nesting/increased nest survival.

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- (2) Increased temperature variance -> delay nesting but also increase nest survival (it's complicated!).

# Conclusions

- (1) Warmer springs -> earlier nesting/increased nest survival.
- (2) Increased temperature variance -> delay nesting but also increase nest survival (it's complicated!).
- (3) Extreme rain events -> decrease survival.

# Next steps



# Thank you!

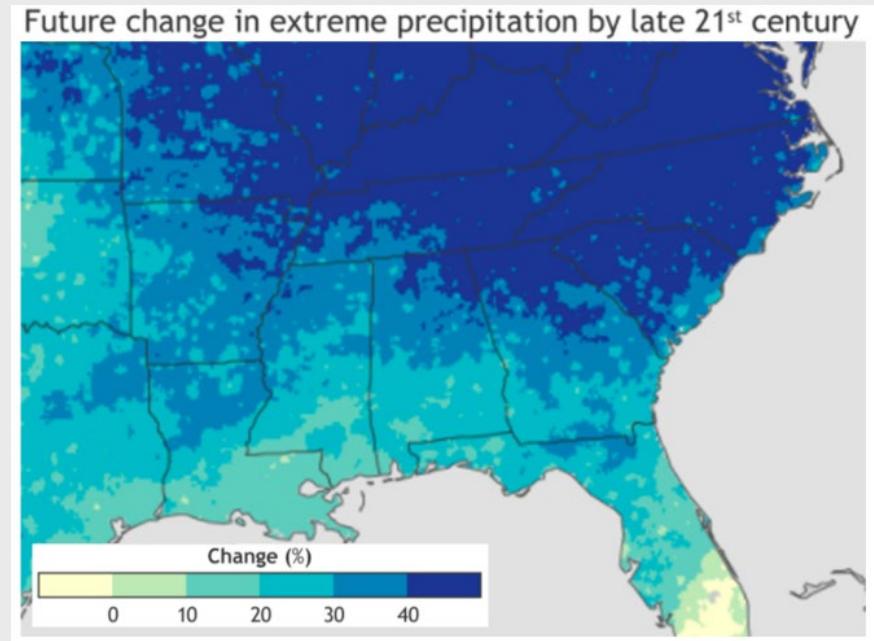
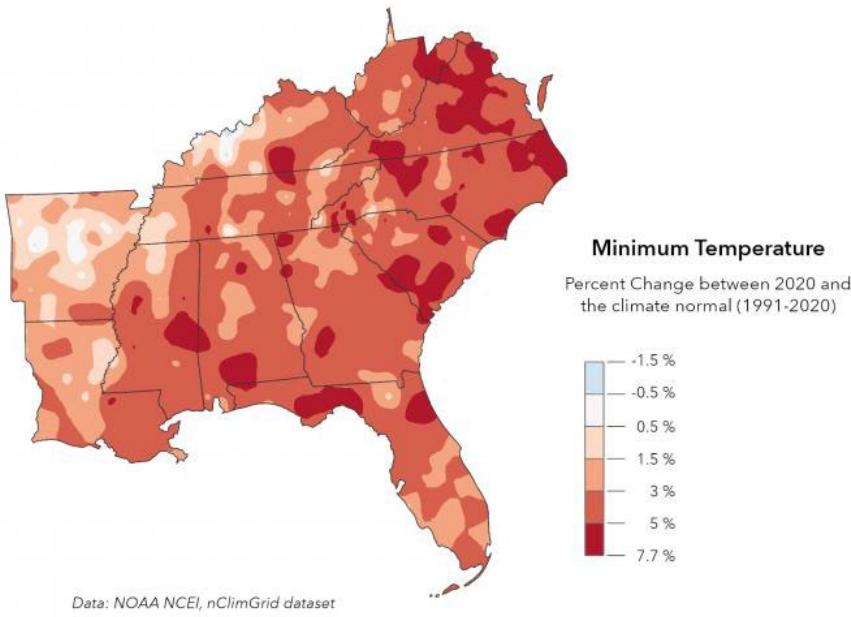


Bushnell

01-05-2013 13:52:51

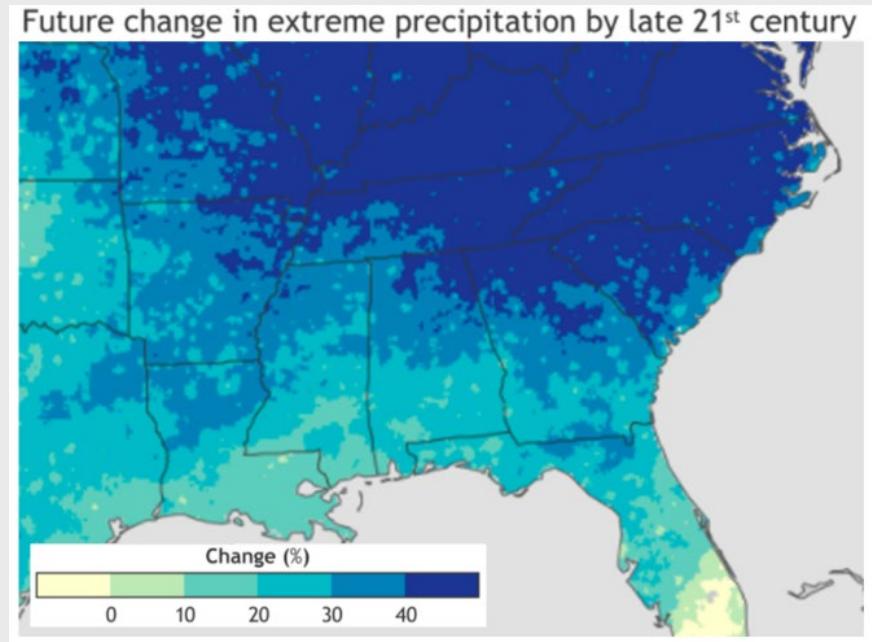
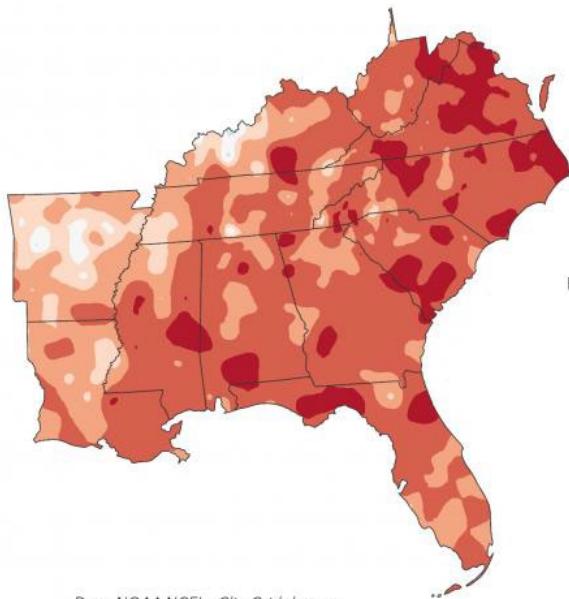
wwboone@ncsu.edu

# Discussion

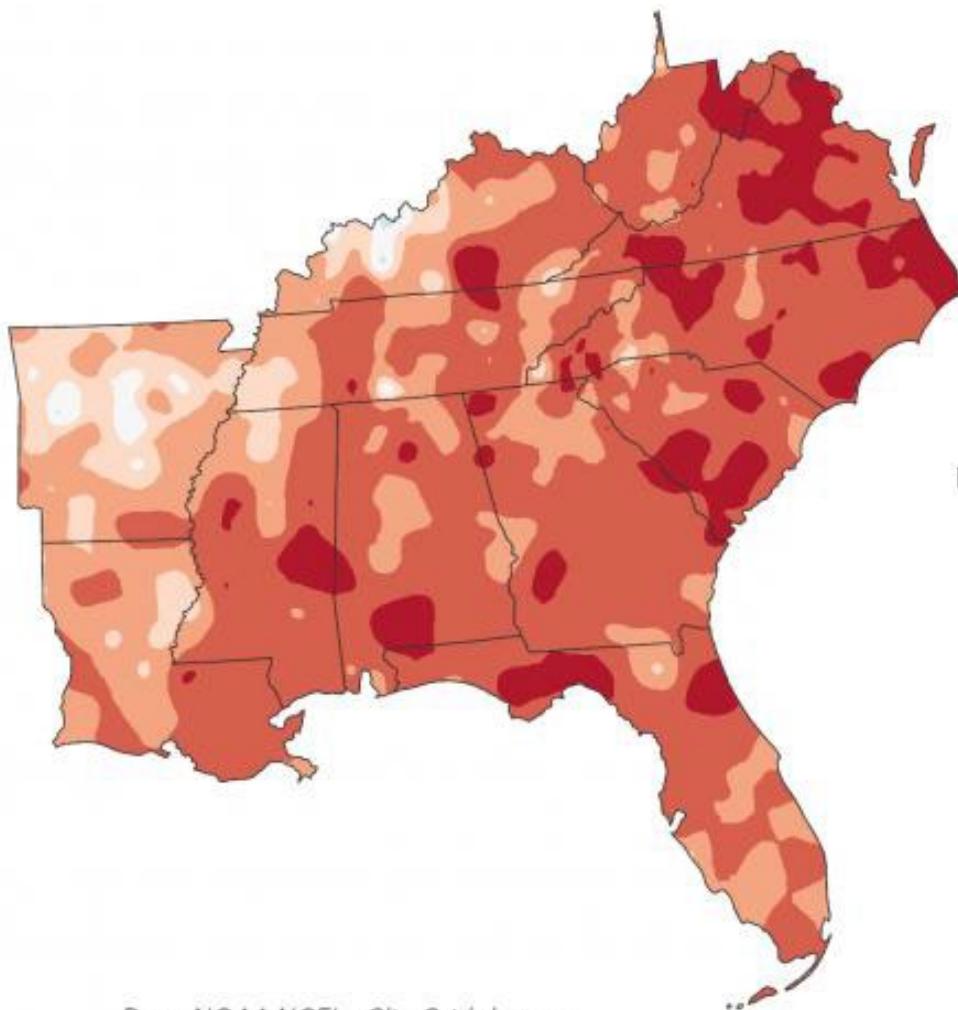


Ken Potter

# Discussion

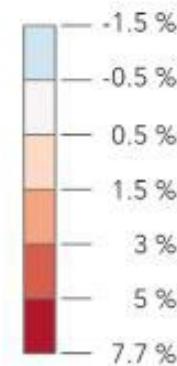


Ashley Greer



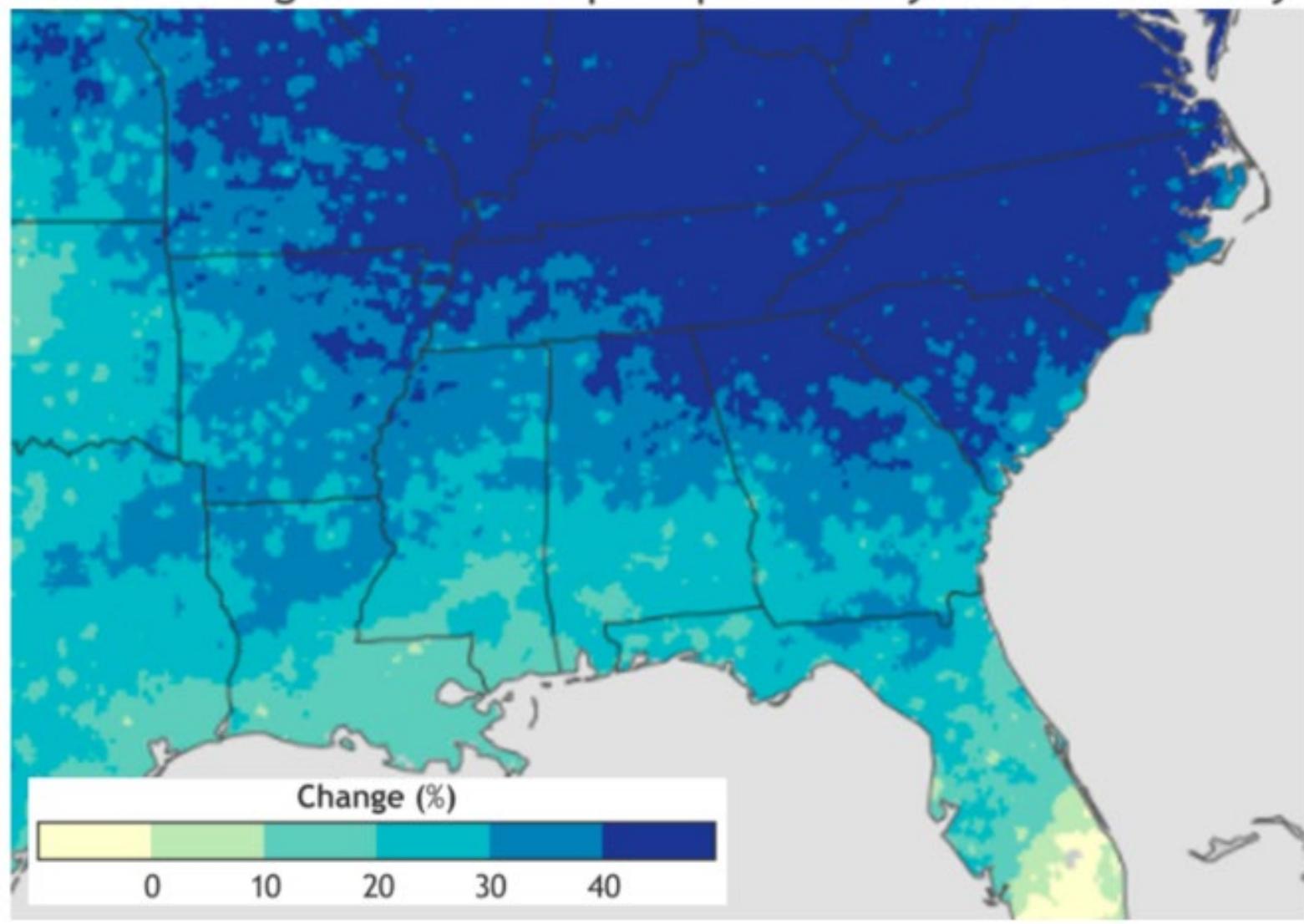
### Minimum Temperature

Percent Change between 2020 and  
the climate normal (1991-2020)



Data: NOAA NCEI, nClimGrid dataset

## Future change in extreme precipitation by late 21<sup>st</sup> century





Next Third Thursday  
Web Forum

8-18-2022

10:00 am

Amy Gutierrez, The  
Nature Conservancy

Alex Lamle, Southeast  
Conservation  
Blueprint

[southatlanticlcc.org](http://southatlanticlcc.org)

## The Georgia Low Impact Solar Siting Tool: Connecting the Blueprint with solar-focused data to support low-impact solar development





# 2022 SOUTHEAST CLIMATE ADAPTATION SCIENCE SYMPOSIUM

Southeast Climate Adaptation Science Center  
September 19-21, 2022

**Registration for the Symposium  
& Poster/Tools Session are now  
open for the Southeast Climate  
Adaptation Science Symposium**

**Visit our symposium webpage  
for more information and to  
register!**

**Sept.19-21, 2022**

The background of the slide is a photograph of a coastal scene at sunset. The sky is filled with horizontal clouds, transitioning from deep blue at the top to warm orange and yellow near the horizon. On the right side, a white lighthouse stands on a grassy hill. In the foreground, dark silhouettes of tall grasses frame the bottom of the slide.

# Questions?