

Food web and ecosystem connections between forests and streams



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Biological Sciences
MI SAF 2017

Photo by A. Marcarelli



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Bob Hall, Madeleine Mineau, Wayne Minshall, Mark Wipfli, students and members of the Stream Ecology Center at Idaho State University and the Huckarelli Lab at Michigan Tech



Thank you **Jenny Cornell** and **Fuyuki Goto**, faculty and staff of Tomakomai Experimental Forest



Idaho State
UNIVERSITY



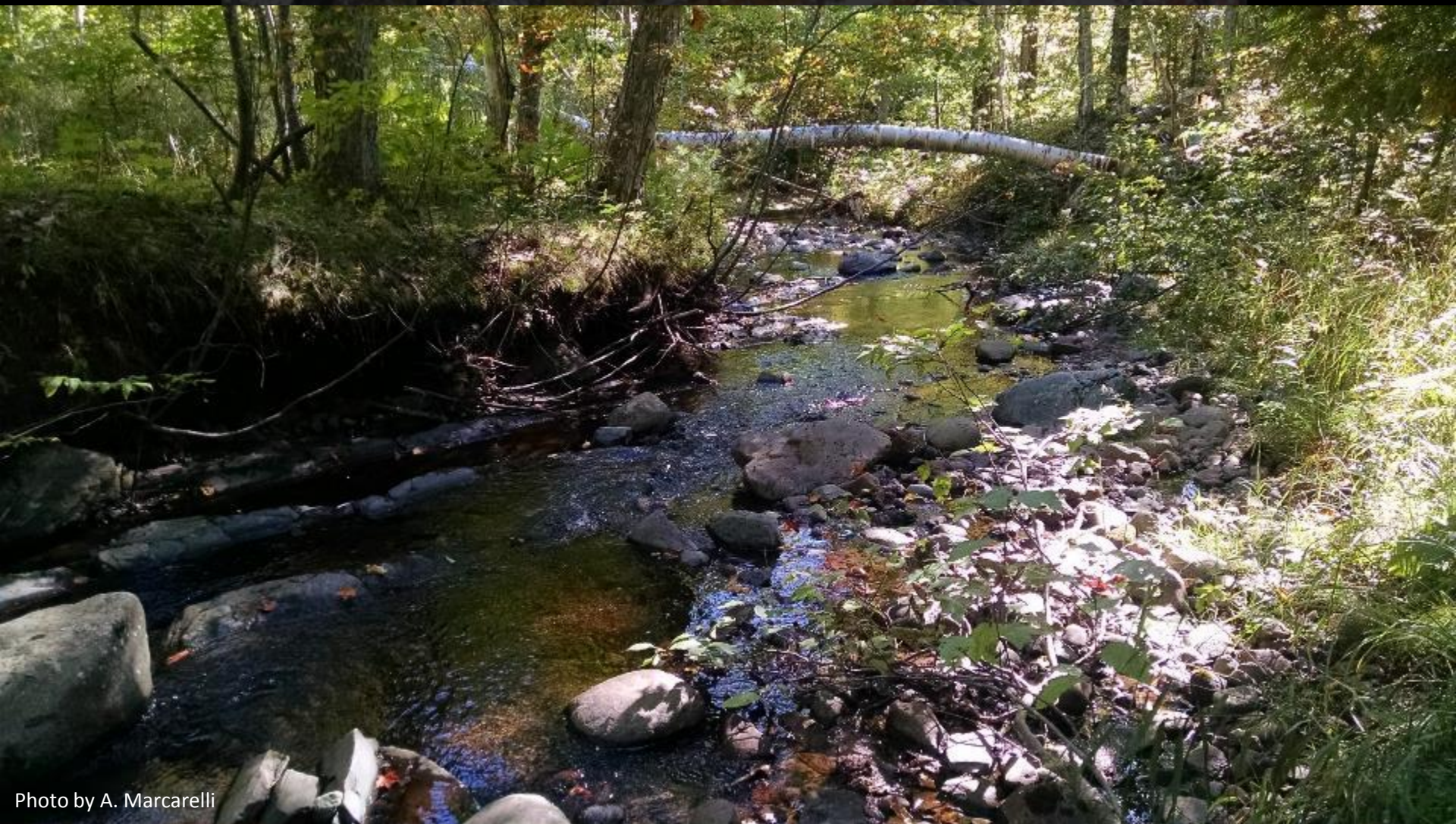


Photo by A. Marcarelli



Streams – the most open of ecosystems

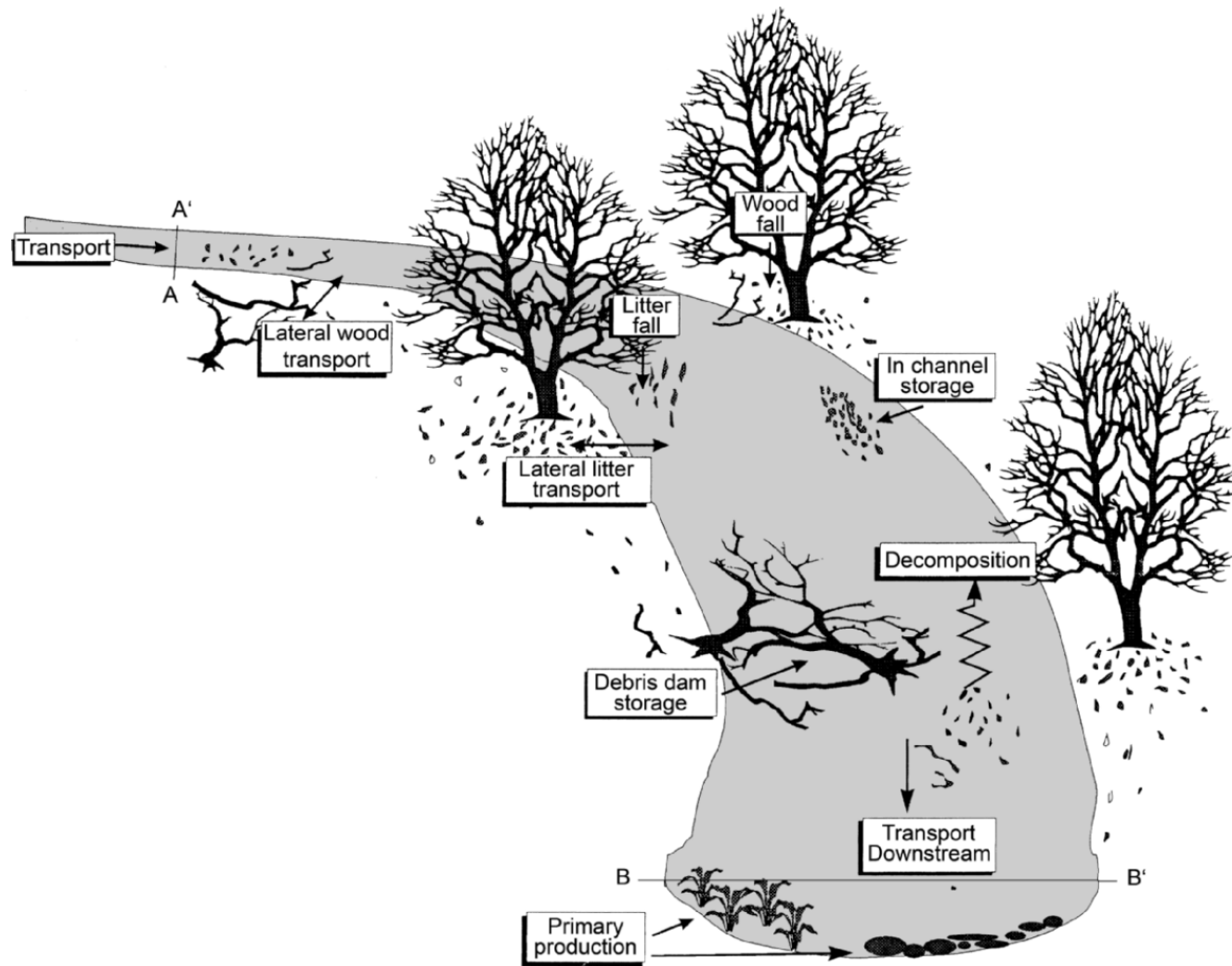


FIGURE 12.10 Inputs, outputs, and standing stocks of organic matter for a forest stream segment defined by the transects A-A' and B-B'. (Reproduced from Minshall 1996.)



Photo by A. Marcarelli



Organic Matter breakdown

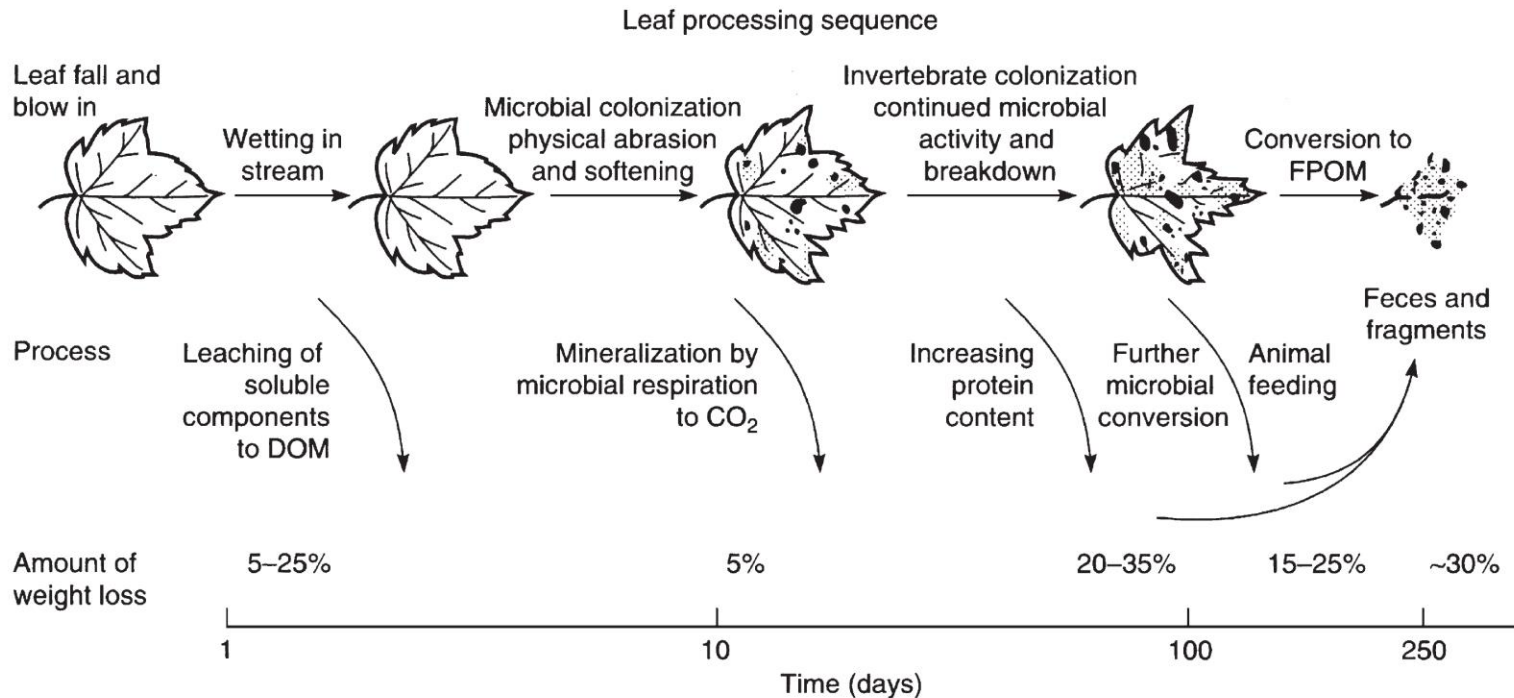


FIGURE 7.3 The processing or “conditioning” sequence for a medium-fast deciduous tree leaf in a temperate stream. Leached DOM is thought to be rapidly transferred into biofilms by microbial uptake.

Allan and Castillo 2007, *Stream Ecology* Ch 7



Photos by C. Baxter



Presque Isle River Aug 2013



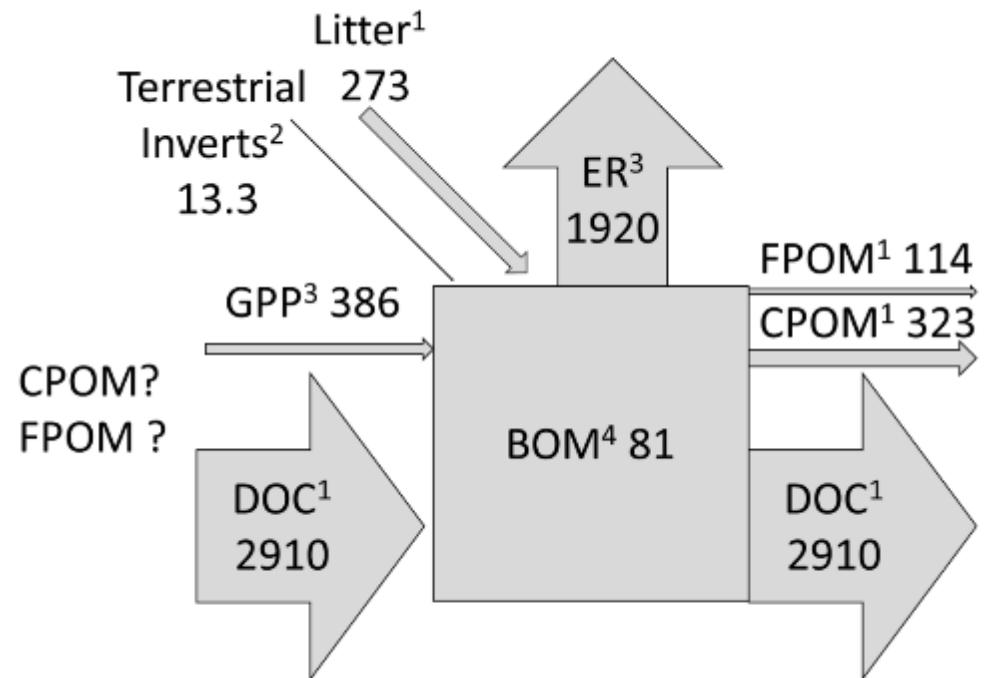
PI Photos by A. Marcarelli



Terrestrial organic matter subsidies drive aquatic ecosystem processes because they are delivered in large QUANTITIES



Organic Matter Budget for Horonai Stream,
Hokkaido, Japan



Marcarelli, et al. In Prep

1975 – “The stream and its valley” H. B. N. Hynes

“One recent appreciation – we must not call it a discovery as it has been known since the early days of this Society... – is that streams are basically heterotrophic. They derive most, often nearly all, of their energy from uphill.”

Verh. Internat. Verein. Limnol.

19

1–15

Stuttgart, Oktober 1975

Edgardo Baldi Memorial Lecture

The stream and its valley

H. B. N. HYNES

With 4 figures and 2 tables in the text

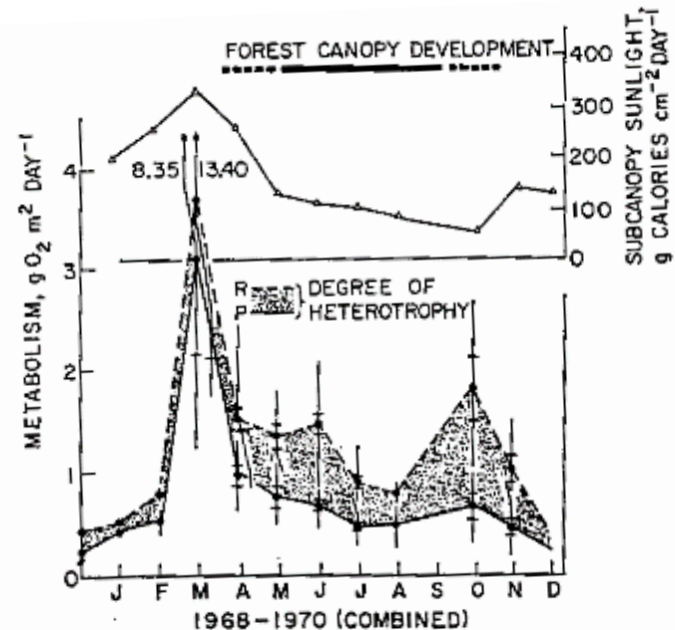
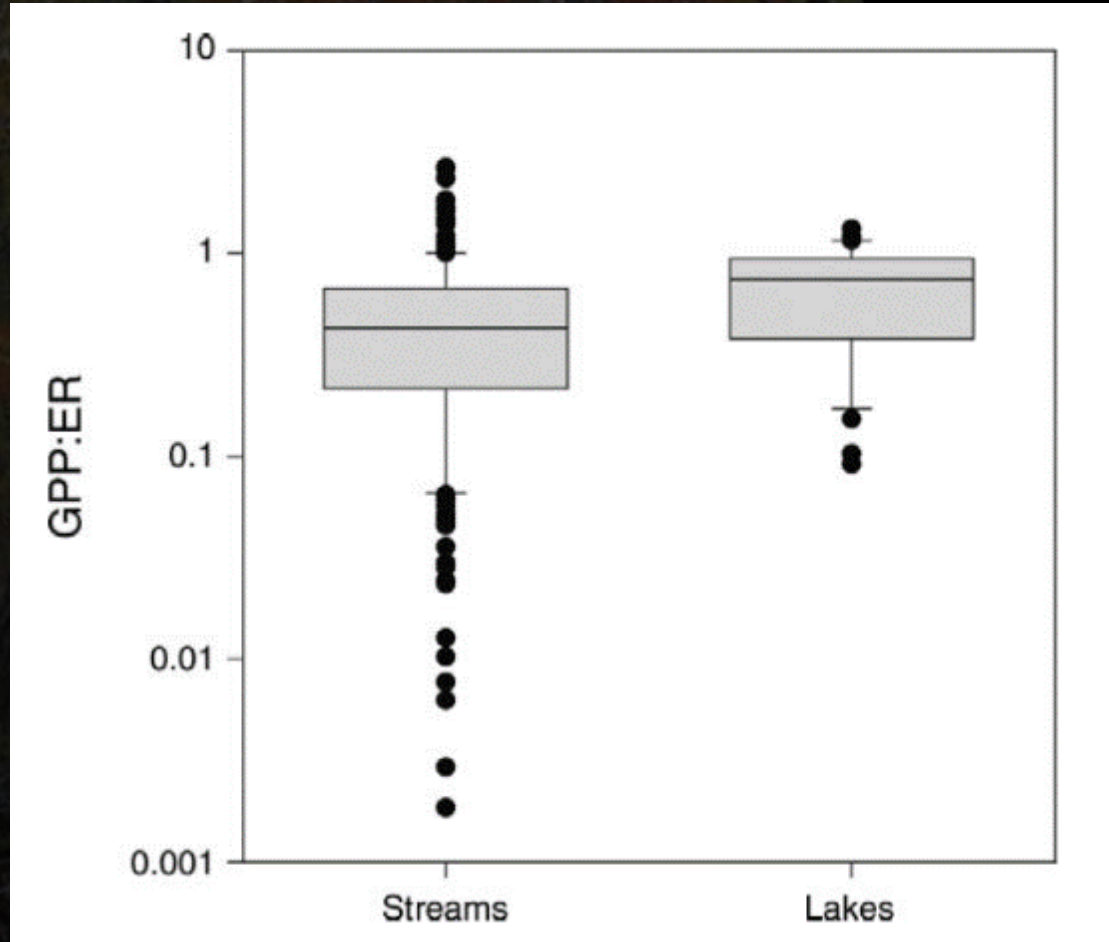


Fig. 1. The oxygen production (P), community respiration (R) and the sunlight recorded month by month at a station on New Hope Creek, North Carolina. The points are mean values, vertical bars are the range of values and horizontal bars are one standard error from the mean. Modified from HALL (1972).

Terrestrial organic matter subsidies drive aquatic ecosystem processes because they are delivered in large **QUANTITIES**

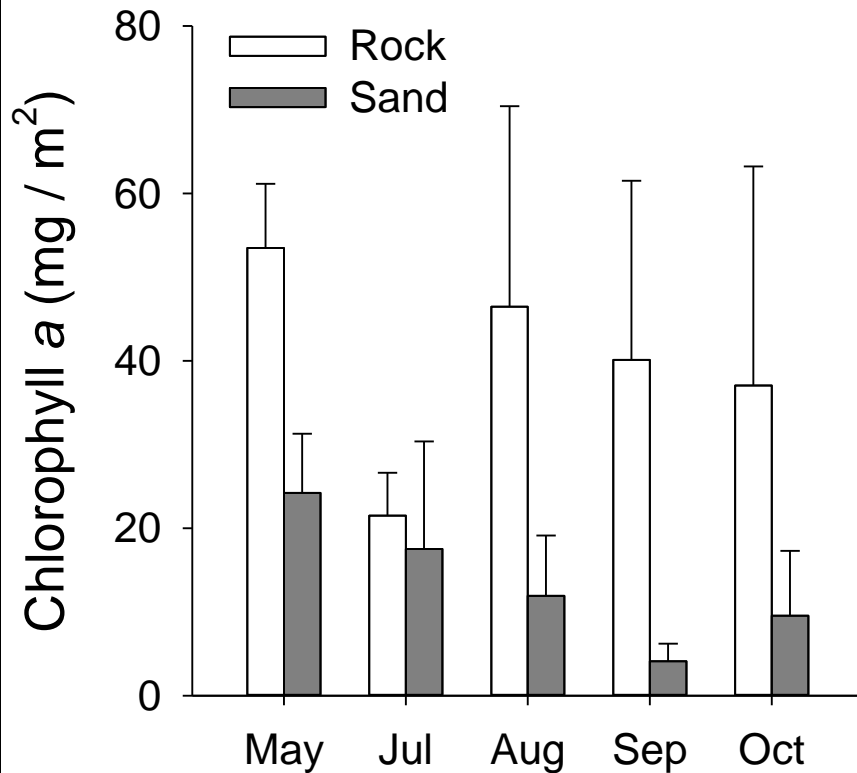


Marcarelli et al. 2011 *Ecology*

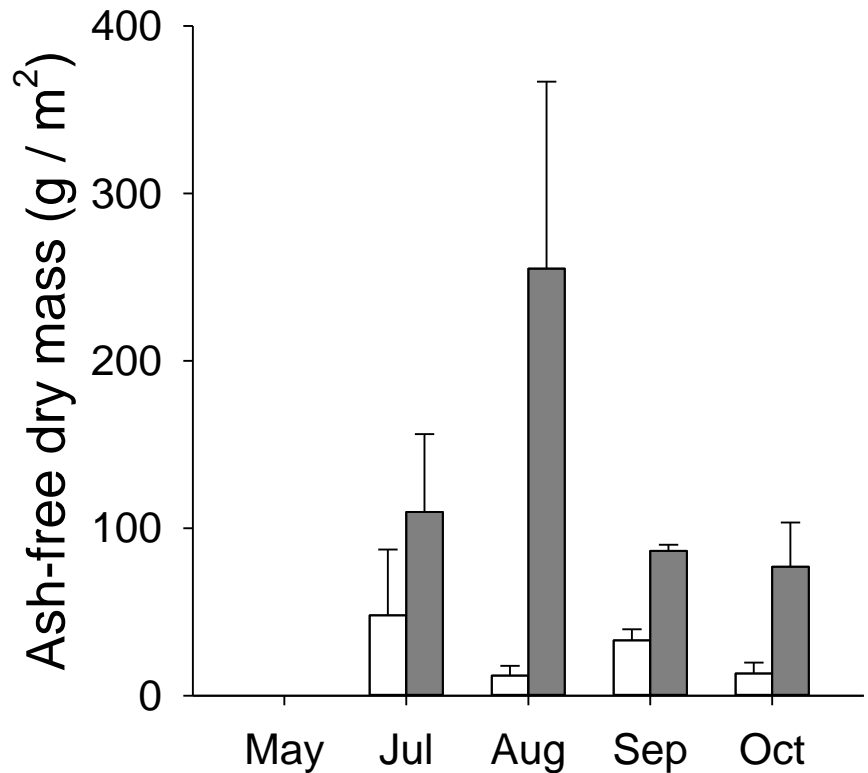




Sand accumulations change biofilm and organic matter standing crops



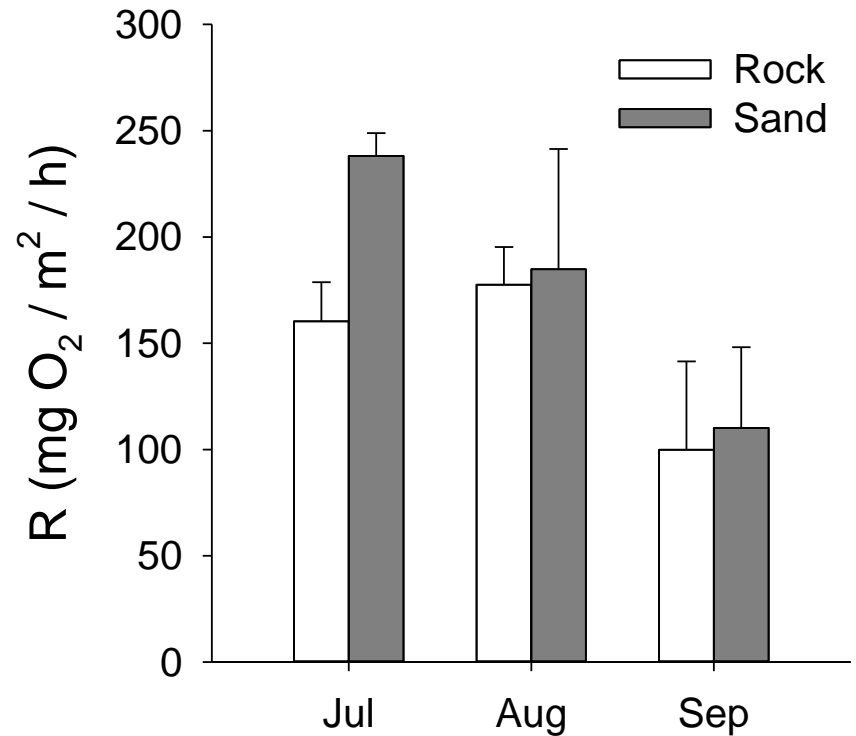
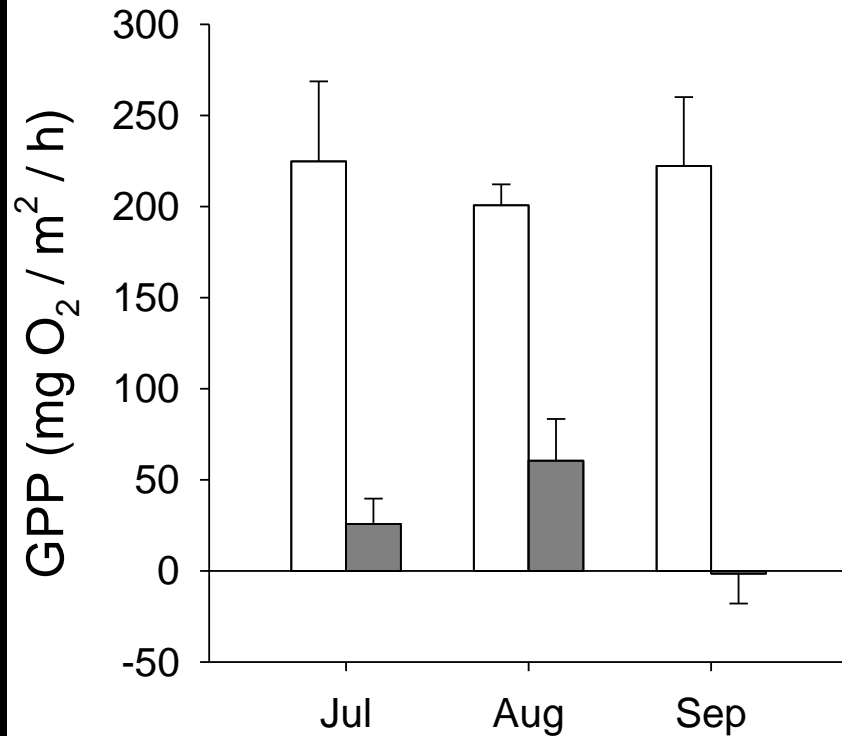
RM-ANOVA date $F_{4,8} = 3.3, p = 0.07$



RM-ANOVA substrate $F_{1,2} = 8.4, p = 0.10$



Sand accumulations change metabolism rates

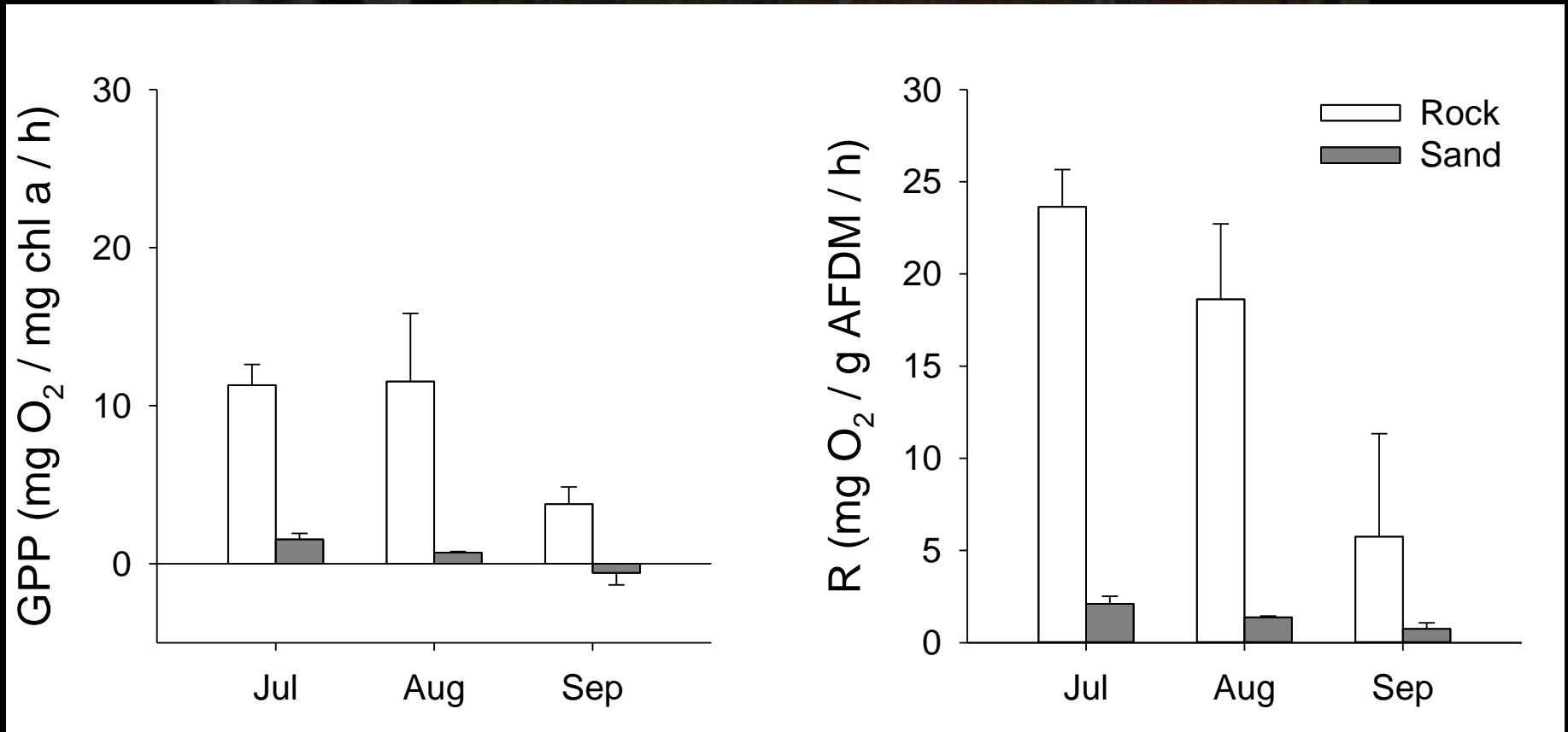


RM-ANOVA substrate*date $F_{2,4} = 5.8$, $p = 0.06$

RM-ANOVA date $F_{2,4} = 7.0$, $p = 0.05$



Sand accumulations change metabolism rates



RM-ANOVA substrate $F_{2,4} = 37.6, p = 0.03$

RM-ANOVA substrate $F_{1,2} = 6475.2, p < 0.001$







Stream habitat changes

- Riffle/pool frequency altered
- Velocity distribution simplified
- Substrate heterogeneity reduced
- Surface area increased, but permeability reduced



Resource availability changes

- Primary producers reduced
- Organic matter processing reduced
- Change in use of terrestrial vs. aquatic resources



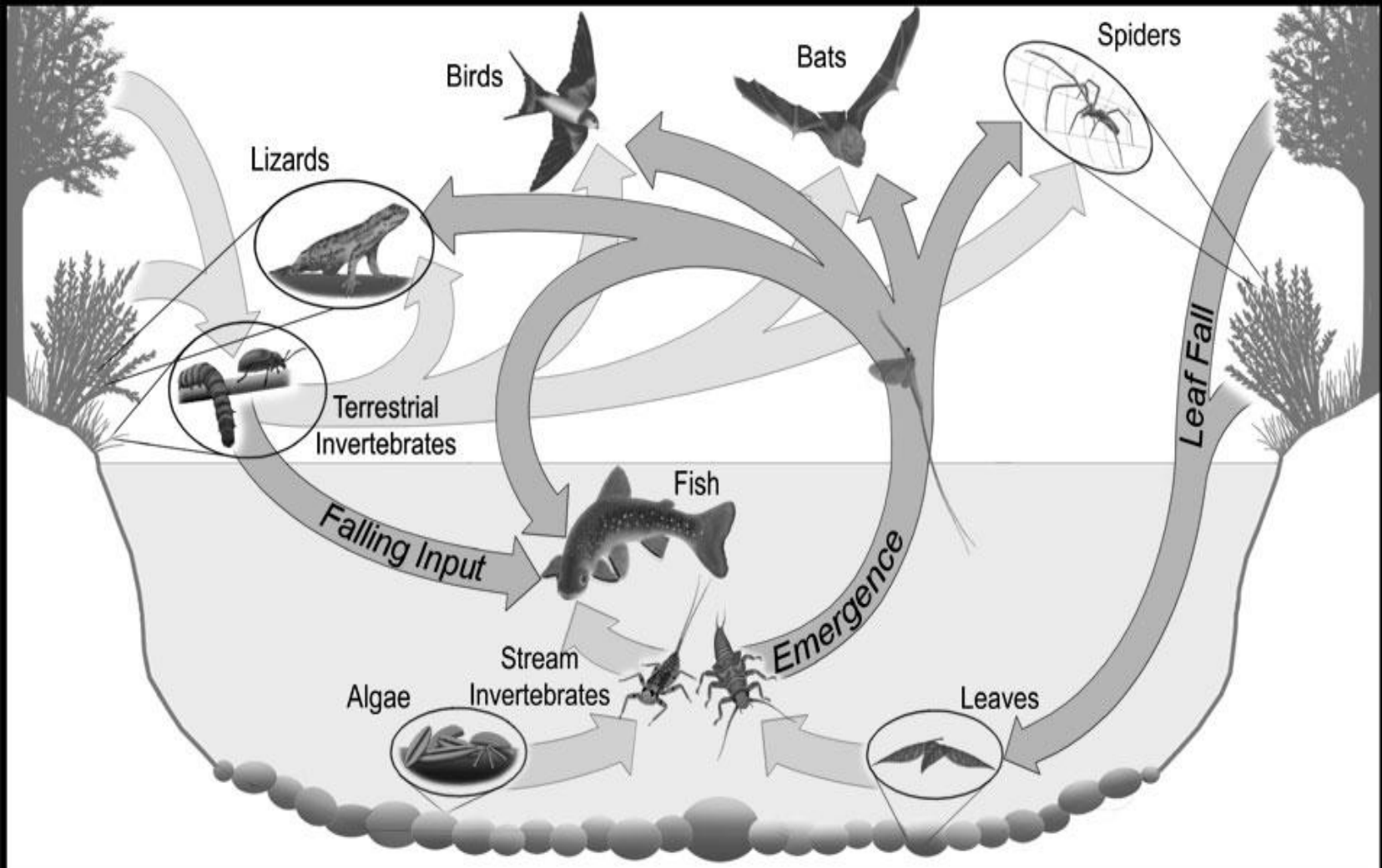
Photos by C. Baxter and S. Collins



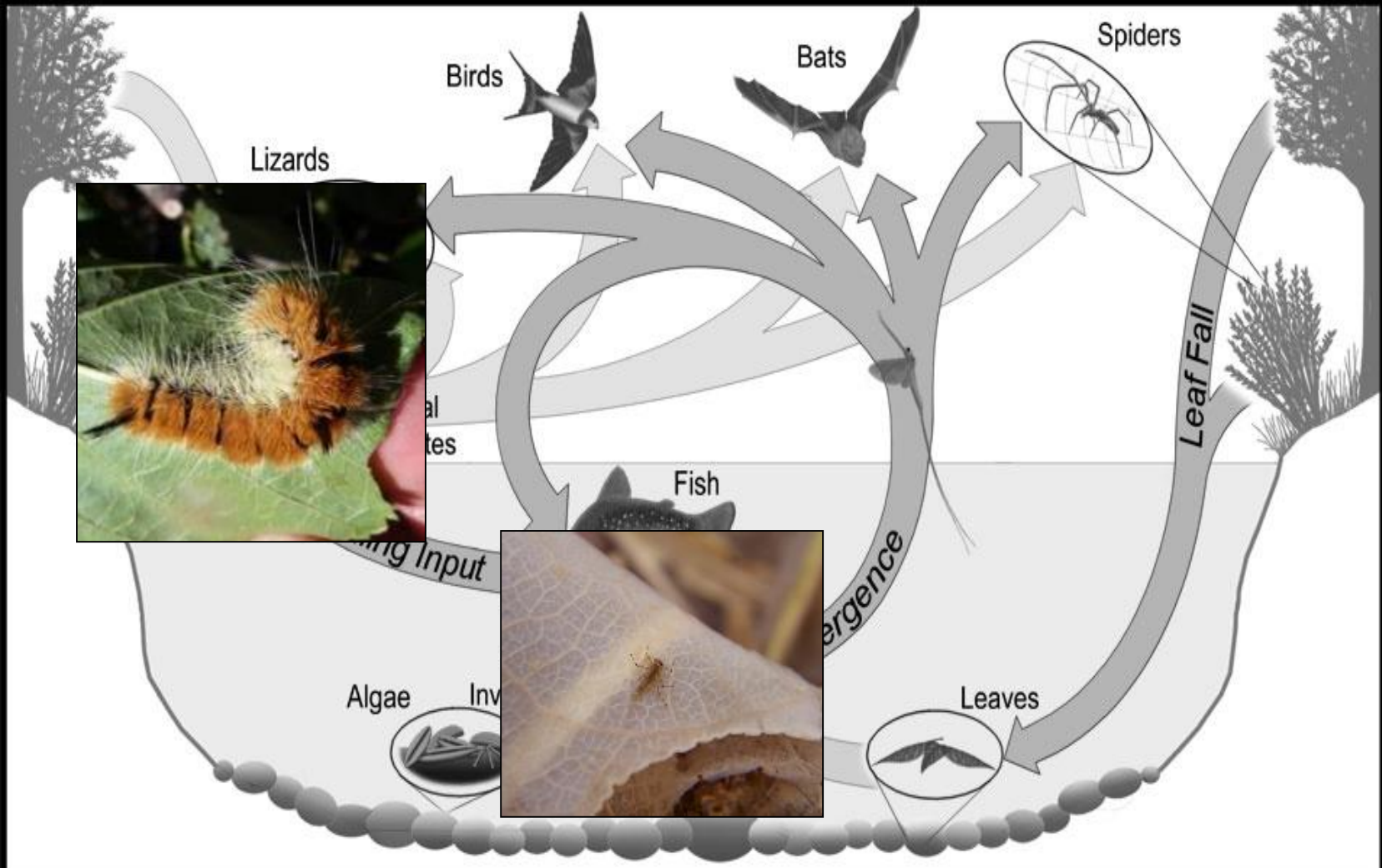


Photos by C. Baxter and S. Collins

Reciprocal linkages between stream and terrestrial ecosystems



Reciprocal linkages between stream and terrestrial ecosystems



Horonai Stream: iconic studies of terrestrial subsidies



Reciprocal subsidies: Dynamic interdependence between terrestrial and aquatic food webs

Shigeru Nakano^{*†} and Masashi Murakami^{†§}

TERRESTRIAL–AQUATIC LINKAGES: RIPARIAN ARTHROPOD INPUTS ALTER TROPHIC CASCADES IN A STREAM FOOD WEB

SHIGERU NAKANO,^{1,4} HITOSHI MIYASAKA,² AND NAOTOSHI KUHARA³

FISH INVASION RESTRUCTURES STREAM AND FOREST FOOD WEBS BY INTERRUPTING RECIPROCAL PREY SUBSIDIES

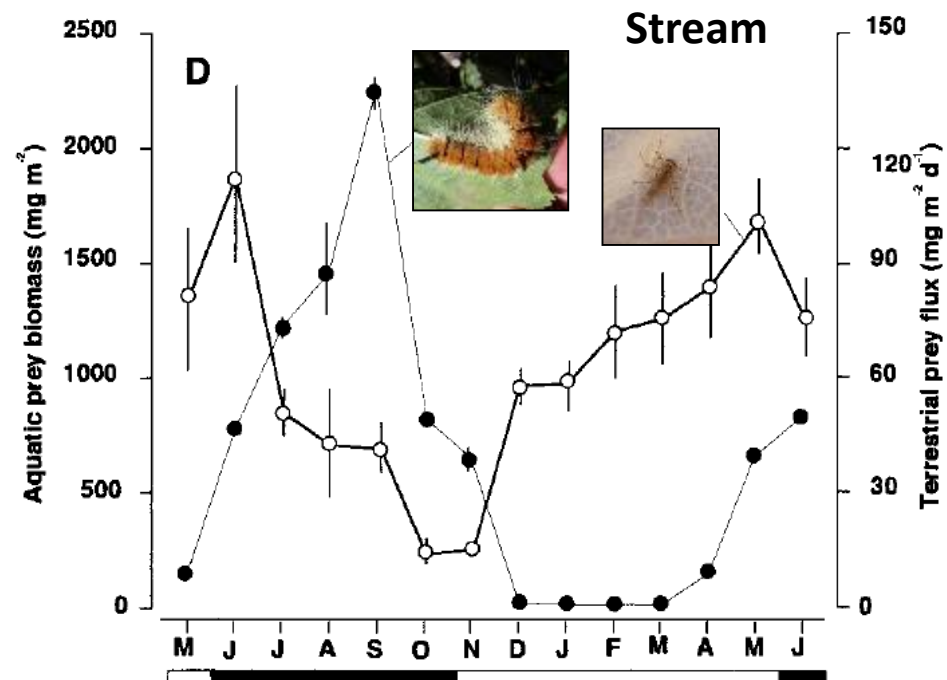
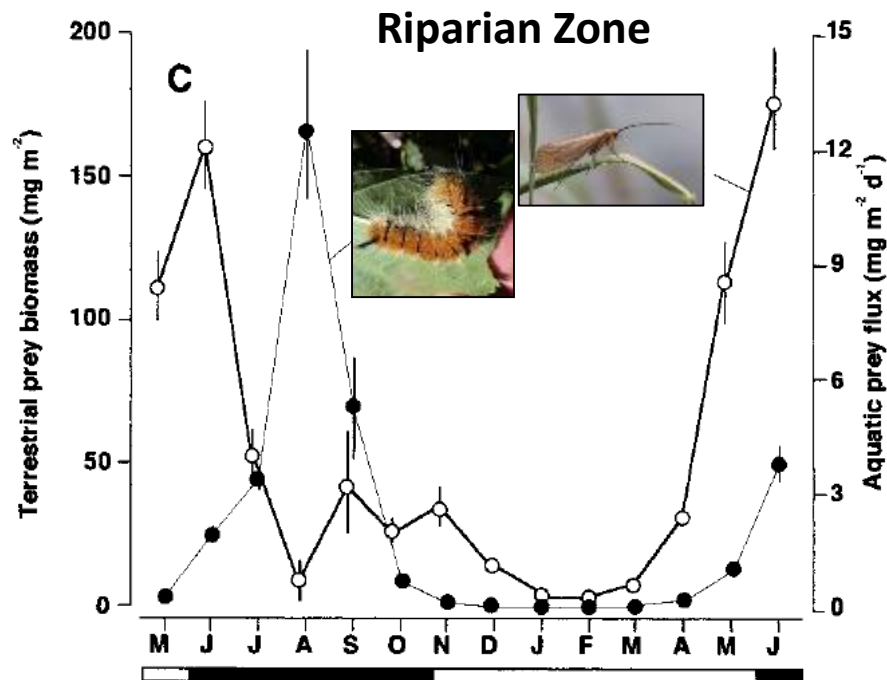
COLDEN V. BAXTER,^{1,4} KURT D. FAUSCH,¹ MASASHI MURAKAMI,² AND PHILLIP L. CHAPMAN³



Horonai Stream: iconic studies of terrestrial subsidies

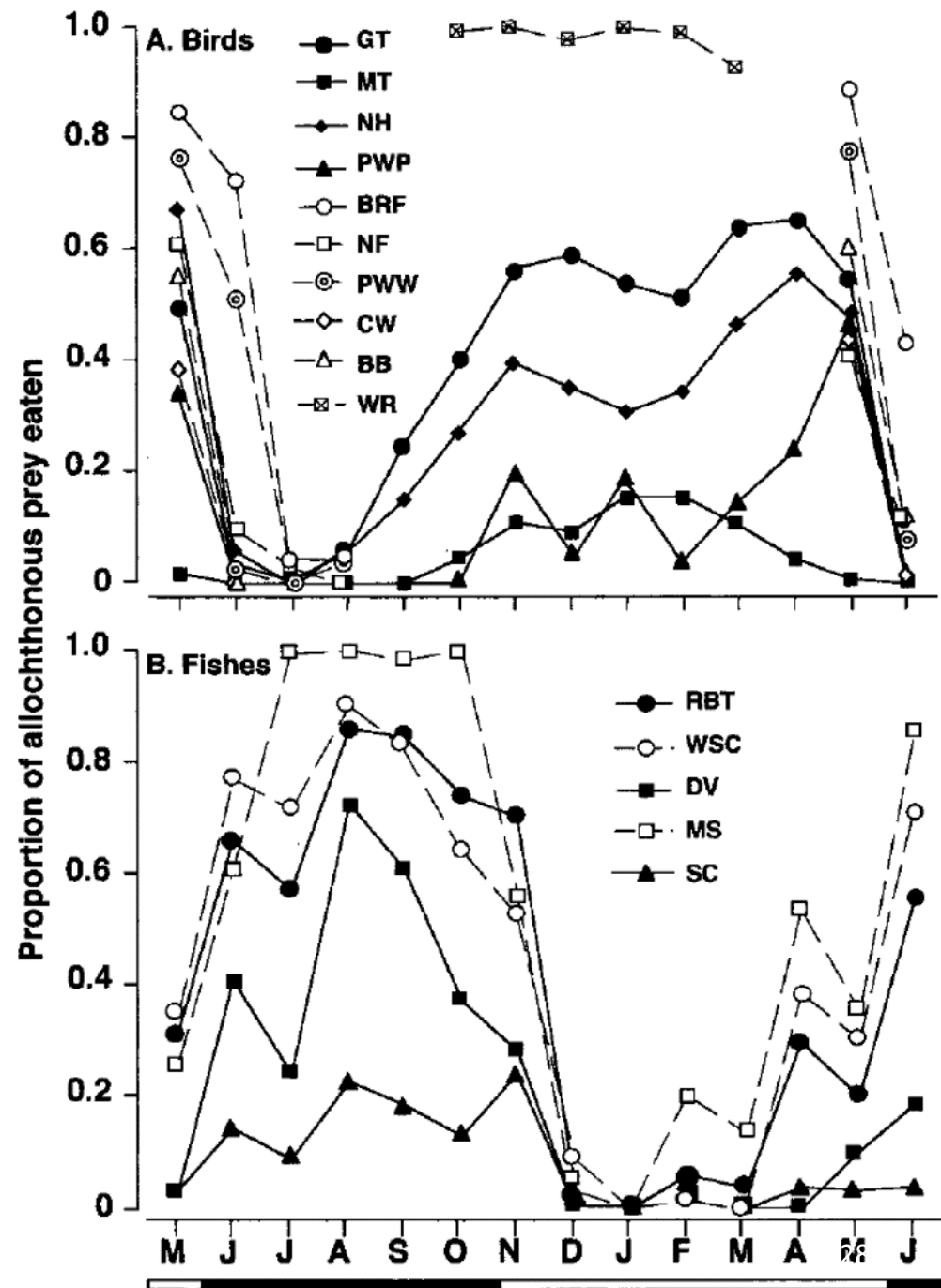


Terrestrial and aquatic prey cross boundaries between streams and forests

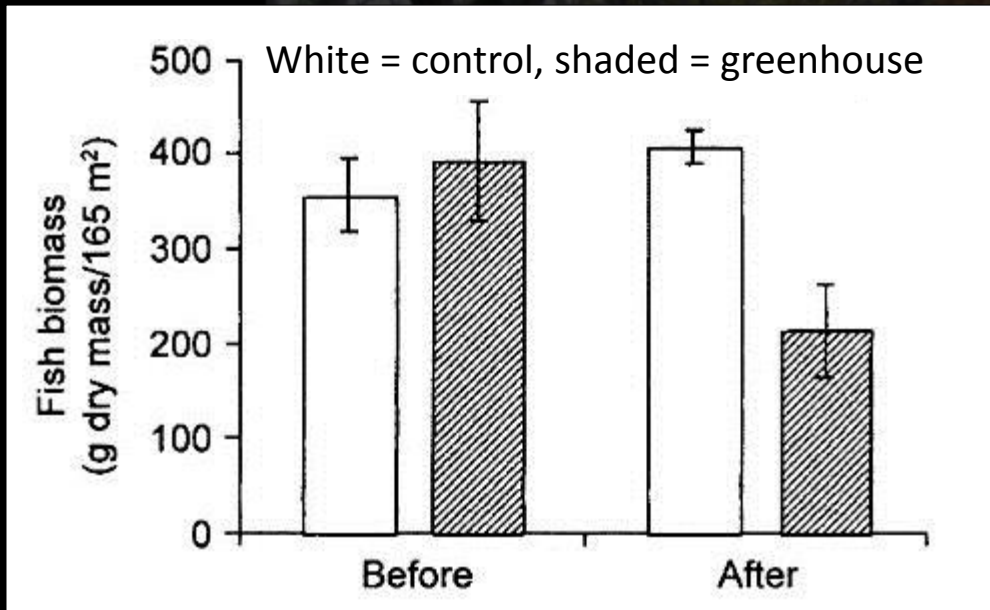


Fish and birds
eat a lot of
prey from the
other
ecosystem...
when they're
available

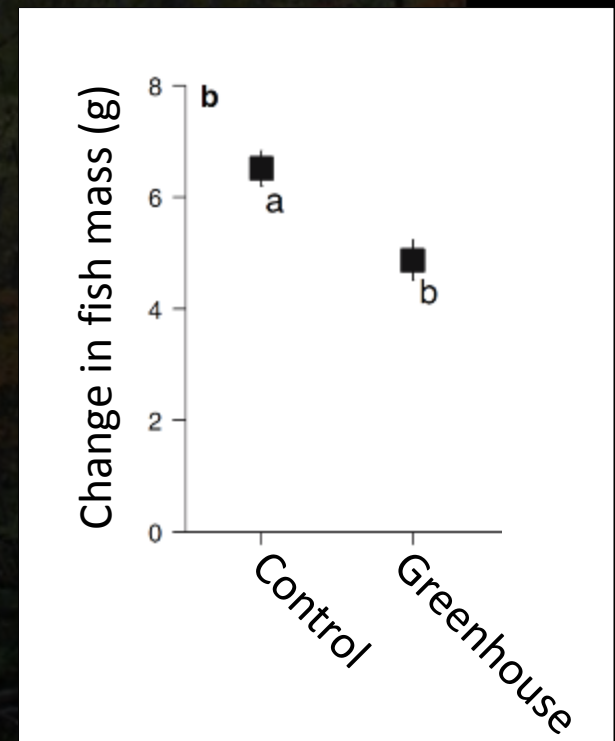
Nakano and Murakami 2001 *PNAS*



When fish eat terrestrial invertebrates...they grow more!



Cutting off terrestrial invertebrate subsidy reduces fish growth by 25% and induces emmigration



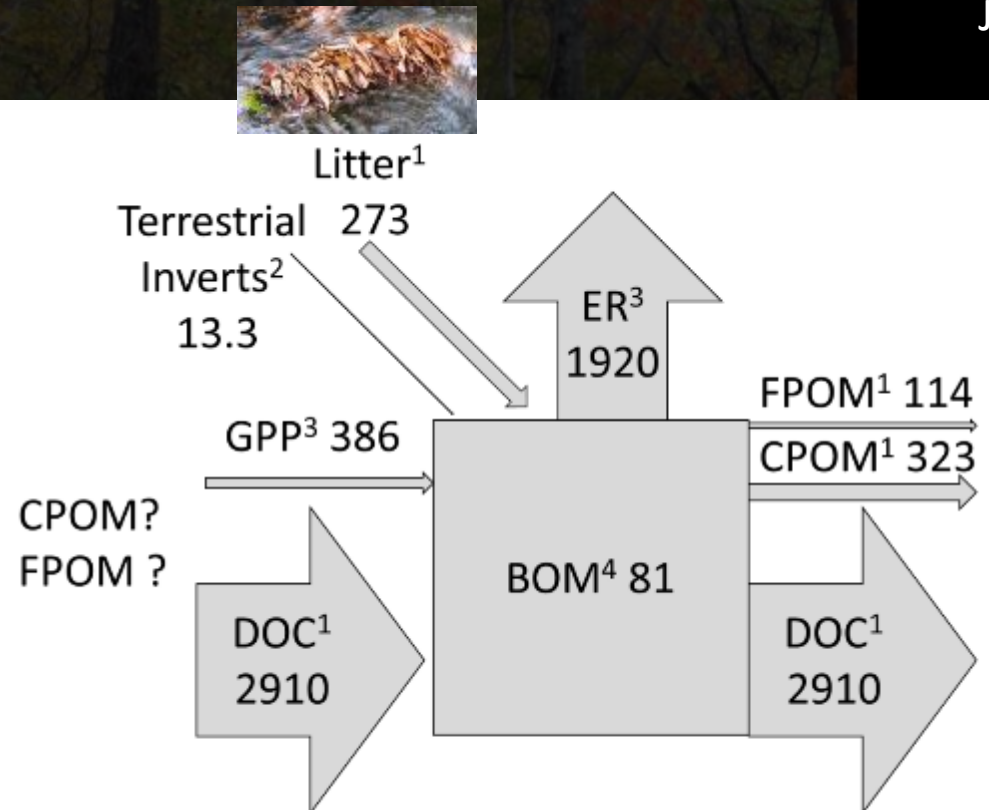
Baxter et al. 2007 Oecologia



BUT, relative to terrestrial organic matter, there aren't many terrestrial invertebrates that fall into the stream...



Organic Matter Budget for Horonai Stream, Hokkaido, Japan



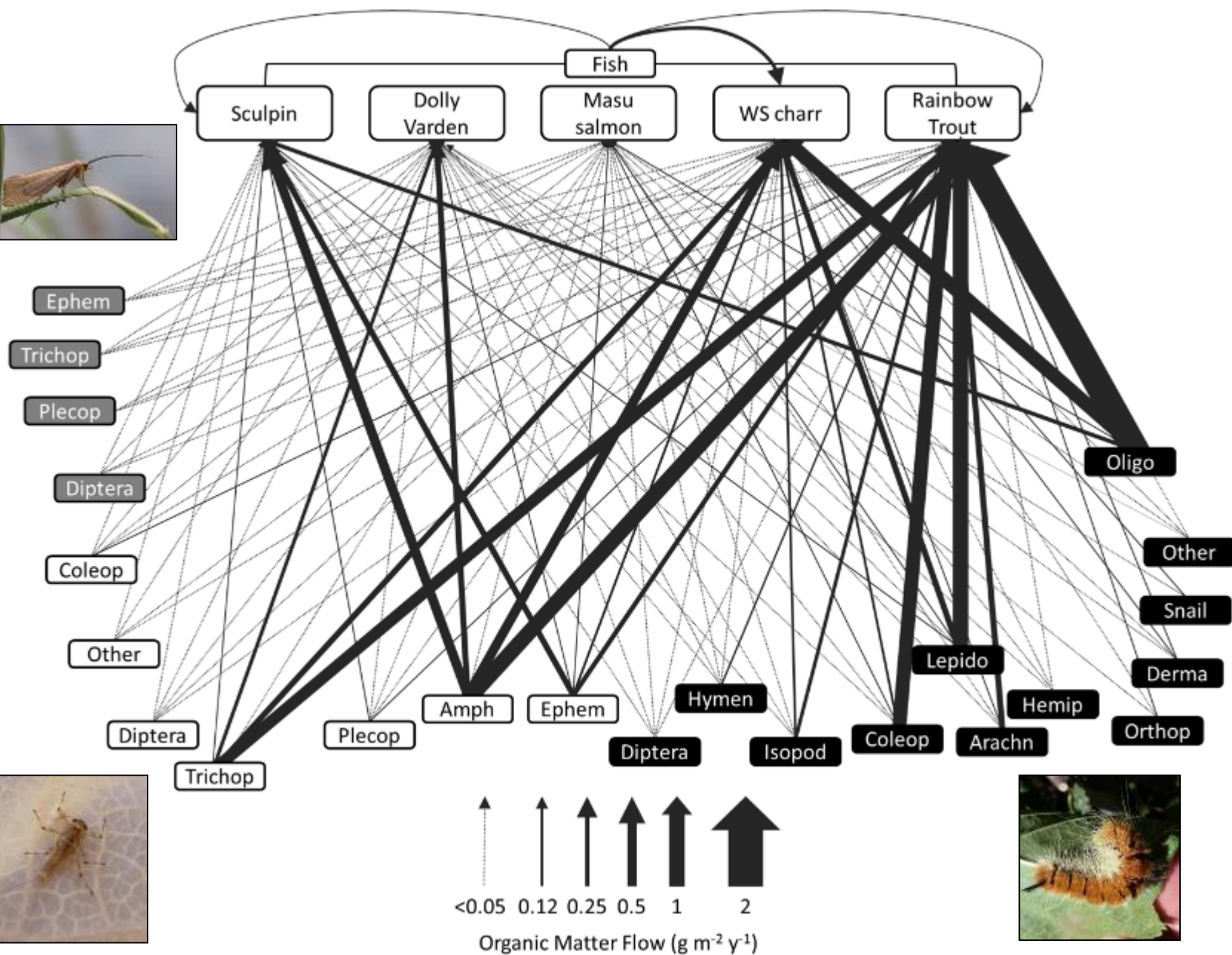
OBJECTIVE: Construct a combined food web and ecosystem perspective of terrestrial subsidies

Subsidy fluxes

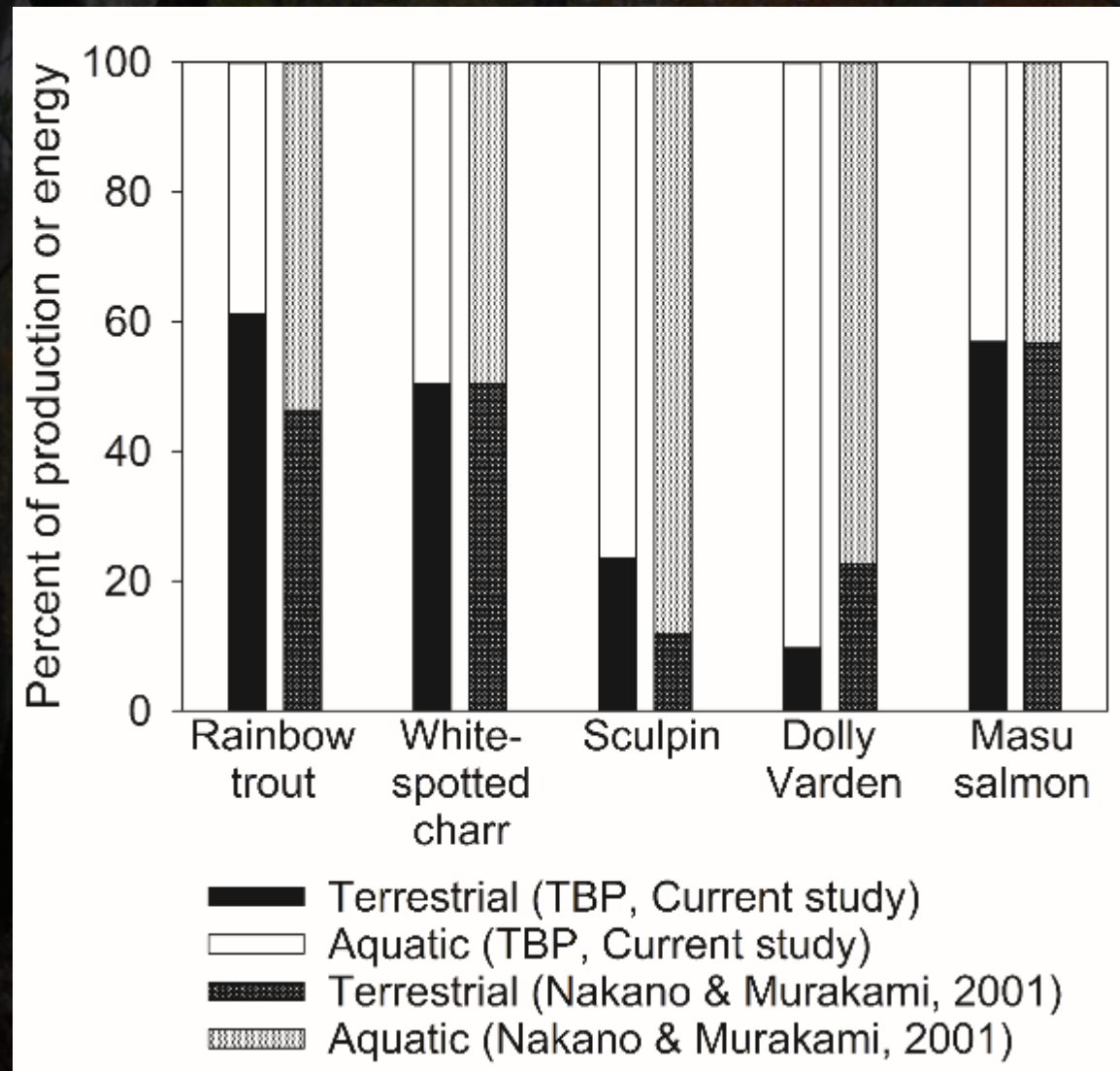
Primary, secondary & fish
biomass & production

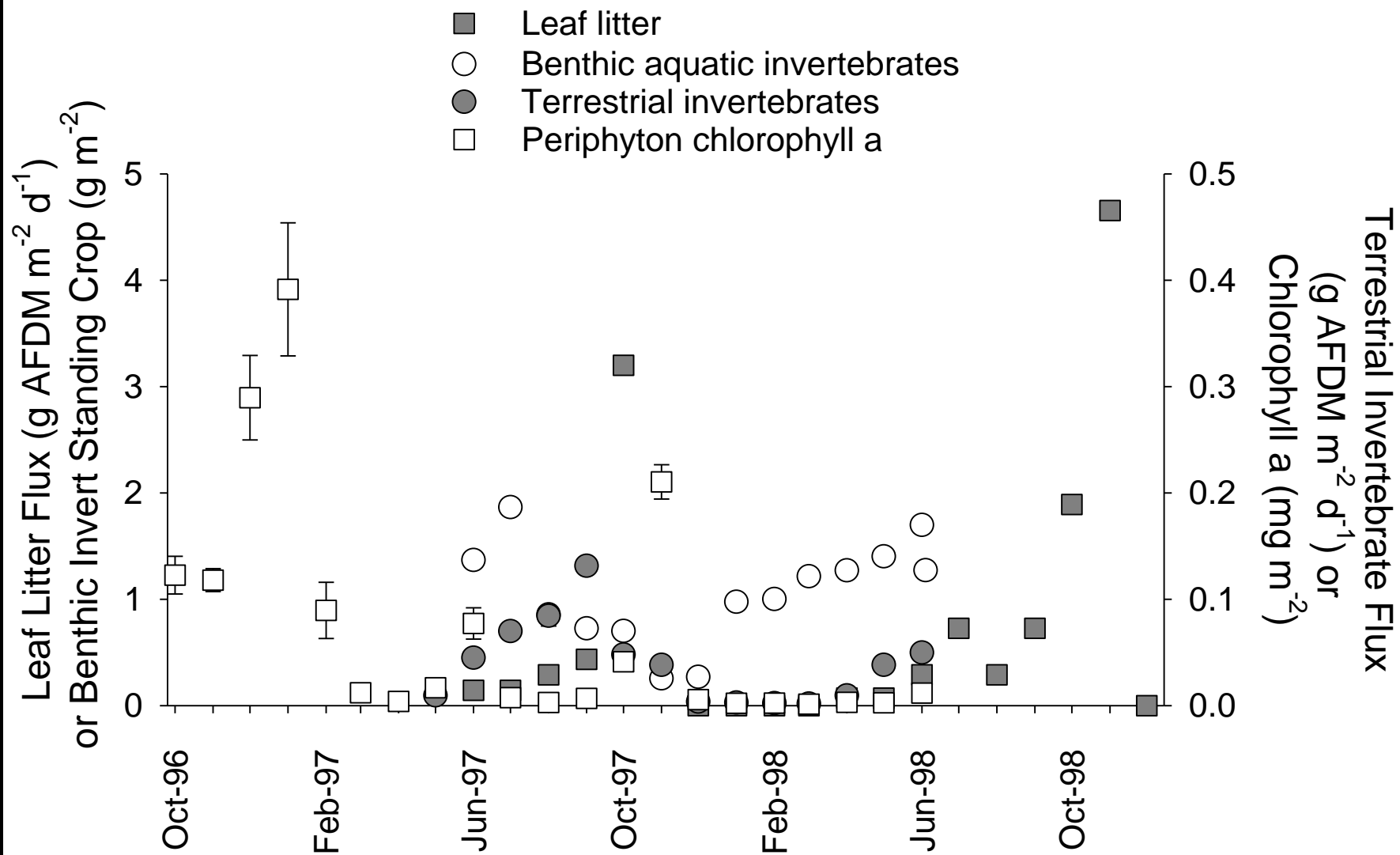
Food web linkages





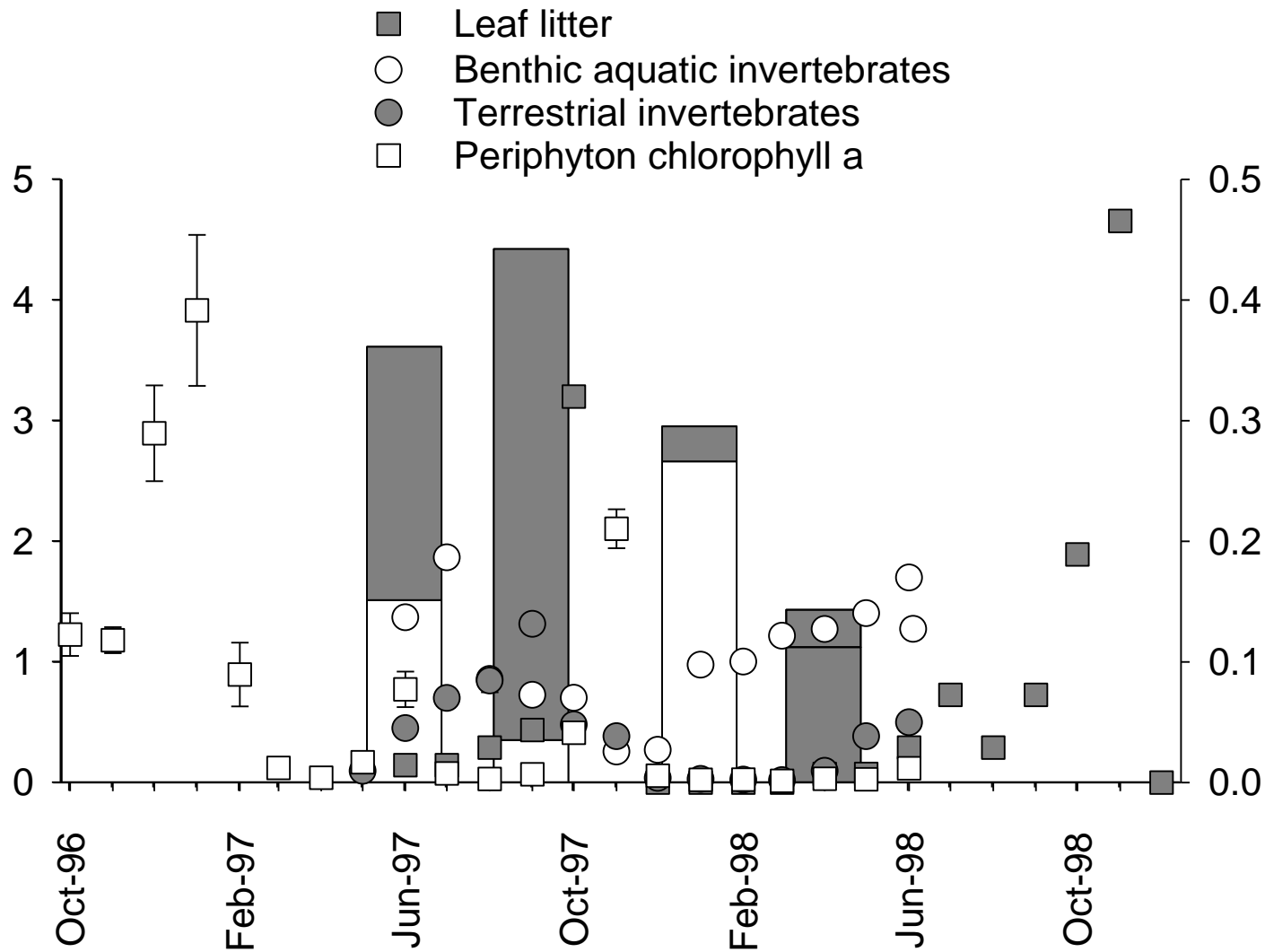
Terrestrial invertebrates contribute 10-60% of annual energy budget to fish





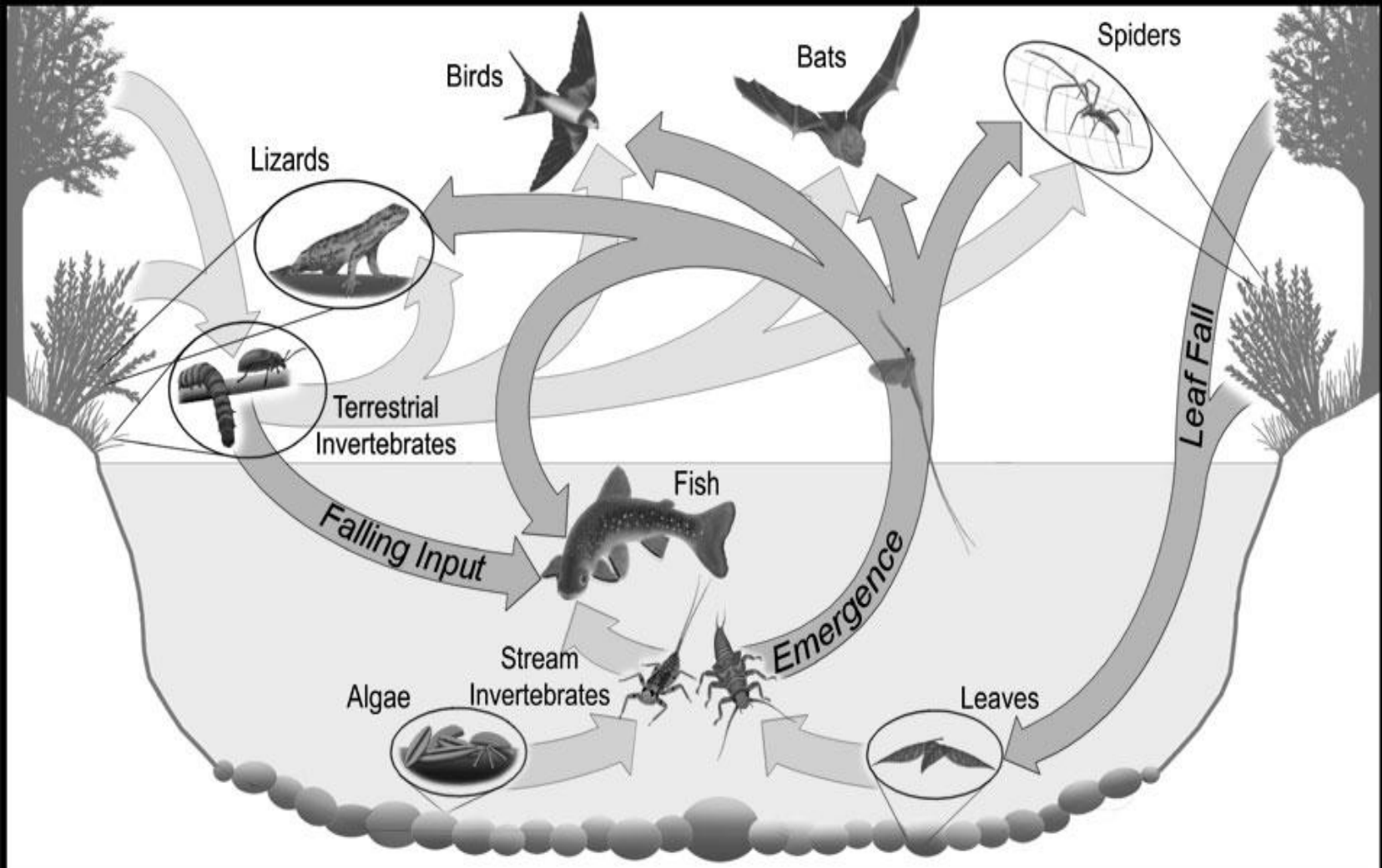
Organic Matter Flux to Fish (g AFDM m⁻² season⁻¹)

Leaf Litter Flux (g AFDM m⁻² d⁻¹)
or Benthic Invert Standing Crop (g m⁻²)



Terrestrial Invertebrate Flux
(g AFDM m⁻² d⁻¹) or
Chlorophyll a (mg m⁻²)

Reciprocal linkages between stream and terrestrial ecosystems



Questions?

Email ammarcar@mtu.edu, Twitter [@AmyMarcarelli](https://twitter.com/AmyMarcarelli)

Aquatic Ecosystem Ecology at Michigan Tech

Small fluxes of C and N in streams and rivers



Terrestrial-stream-lake interactions



Macrophyte management and detection in lake littoral zones



Ecosystem insights on stream restoration



<http://marcarelli-lab.bio.mtu.edu/>

1980 – “The River Continuum Concept”

PERSPECTIVES

The River Continuum Concept¹

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G. WAYNE MINSHALL

Department of Biology, Idaho State University, Pocatello, ID 83209, USA

KENNETH W. CUMMINS

Department of Fisheries and Wildlife, Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR 97331, USA

JAMES R. SEDELL

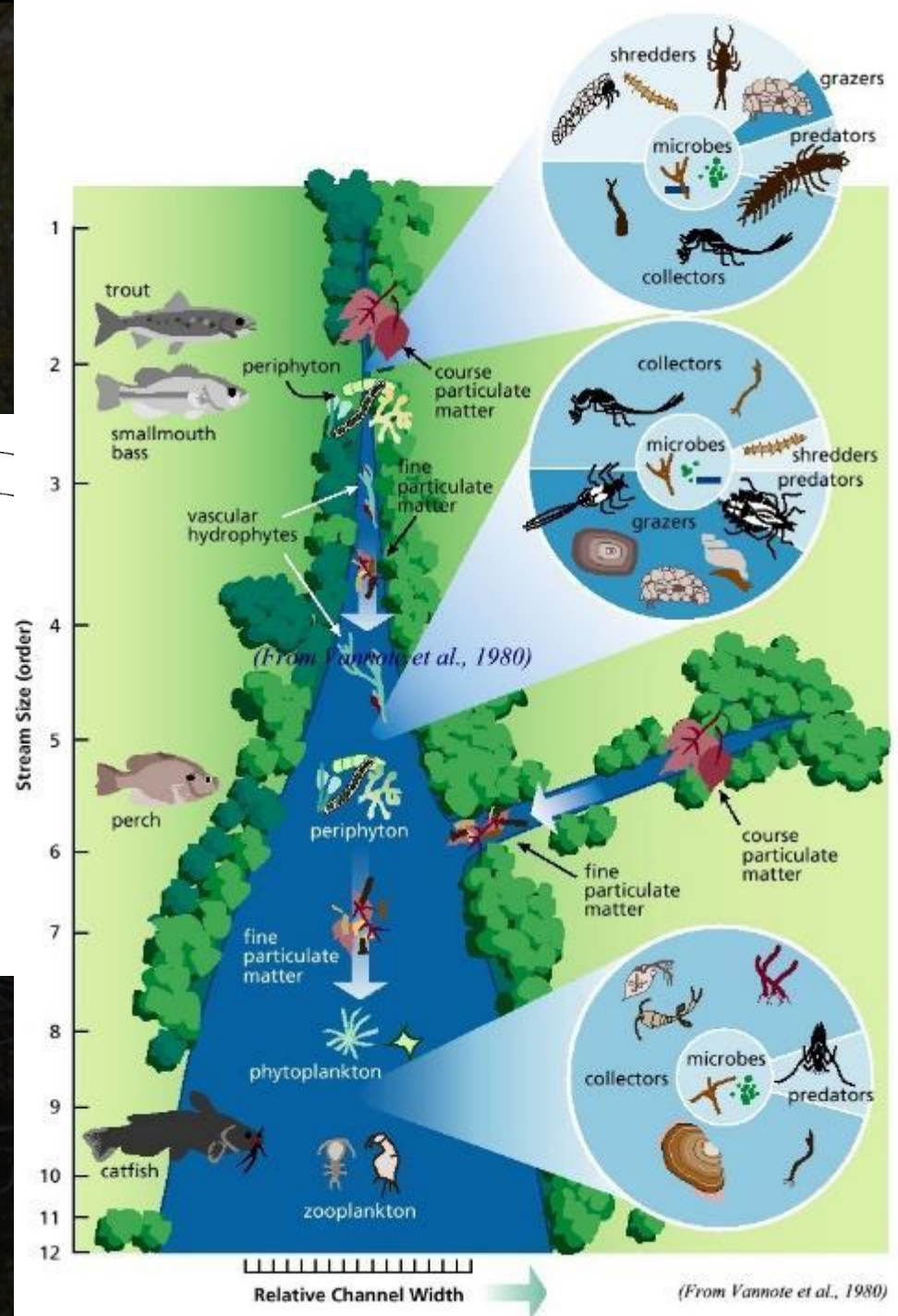
Weyerhaeuser Corporation, Forestry Research, 305 North Pearl Street, Centralia, WA 98531, USA

AND COLBERT E. CUSHING

Ecosystems Department, Battelle-Pacific Northwest Laboratories, Richland, WA 99352, USA

VANNOTE, R. L., G. W. MINSHALL, K. W. CUMMINS, J. R. SEDELL, AND C. E. CUSHING. 1980. The river continuum concept. *Can. J. Fish. Aquat. Sci.* 37: 130-137.

From headwaters to mouth, the physical variables within a river system present a continuous gradient of physical conditions. This gradient should elicit a series of responses within the constituent populations resulting in a continuum of biotic adjustments and consistent patterns of loading, transport, utilization, and storage of organic matter along the length of a river. Based on the energy equilibrium theory of fluvial geomorphologists, we hypothesize that the structural and functional characteristics of stream communities are adapted to conform



Measuring Ecosystem Production

Light-dark bottles or chambers



Change in light chamber: **Net Primary Production**
($GPP - R = NPP$)

Change in dark bottle: **Respiration (R)**

Change in light bottle + change in dark bottle :
Gross Primary Production ($NPP + R = GPP$)