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Effects of Low Oxygen Levels on Copepod Size Distribution with Depth in Hood Canal

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School of Oceanography College of the Environment



Deana Crouser University of Washington, 2019

Effects of Low Oxygen Levels on Copepod Size Distribution with Depth in Hood Canal

Hood Canal, Washington



Effects of Hypoxia





Research Questions

- How low oxygen levels affect the distribution of copepods relative to the oxygen minimum
- How predator/prey interactions may be impacted by changing water conditions.

19 August 2017, Normoxic CTD Profile



24 September 2018, Hypoxic CTD Profile



Methods





Methods





Methods



Paul Roberts & Jules Jaffe, Scripps

Rob Campbell, Prince William Sound Science Center

Average Copepod Size Distribution

Hypoxic



Copepod Abundance per Cubic Meter



Copepod Abundance per Cubic Meter

Normoxic

Hypoxic



Normoxic Species Composition



Hypoxic Species Composition



Conclusions



Vertical distribution of copepods significantly altered

- Larger copepods in hypoxic OML relative to water column.
- Smaller copepods observed at depth under hypoxic compared to normoxic.
- Species composition significantly altered between hypoxic and normoxic waters.

Diel Vertical Migration

- Abundance support DVM under normoxic and hypoxic conditions.
- DVM fundamentally altered under hypoxic conditions

Thank you!

