

# Weather and Aquaculture

Course designed for industry education 2020

Alexandra Leeper alexandral@matis.is

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# Learning Outcomes

Aim of course: Provide students with a strong introduction to weather and climate and how they can affect salmonid aquaculture.

At the end of the course students will be to:

- Describe what weather is and what are the drivers of weather.
- How we **forecast** and **interact** with **weather systems**.
- Describe what is **climate** and what **drives climate globally**.
- Explain the difference between <u>weather</u> and <u>climate.</u>
- Explain what is **climate change** and **anthropogenic climate change**.
- Understand how <u>aquaculture is impacted</u> by different types of <u>weather and climate</u> (especially for salmon in Iceland).



# **Course Outline**

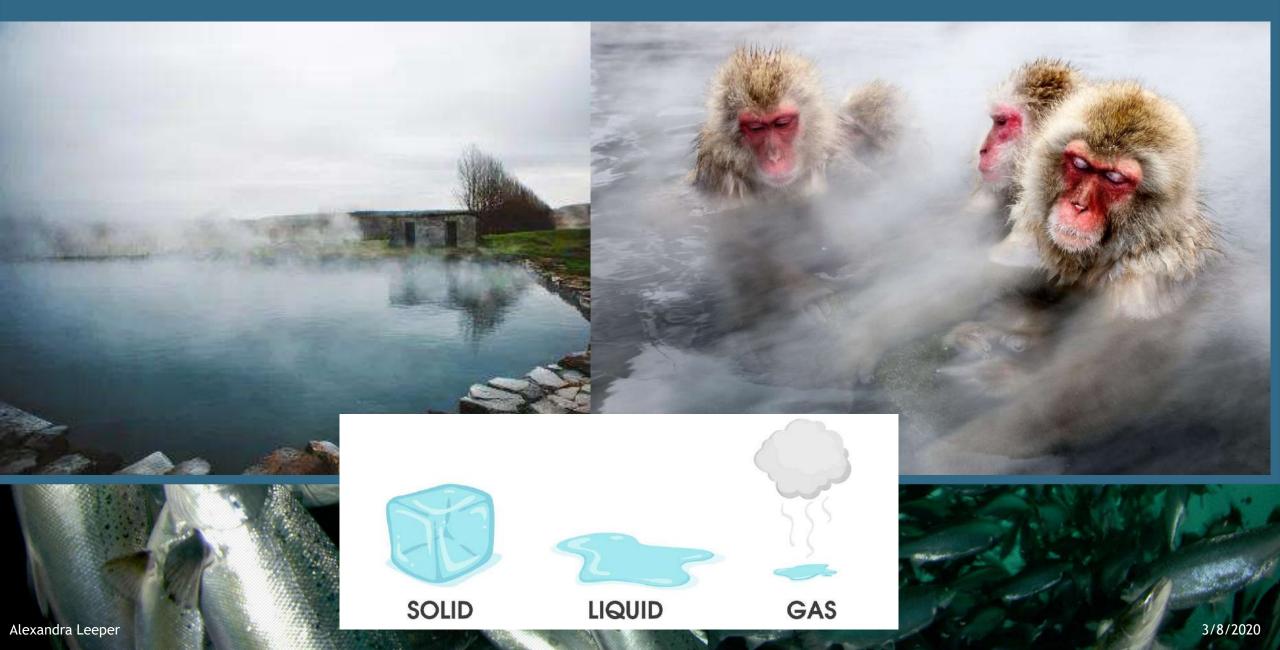
Total of 3 modules.
Taught over two teaching days <u>Nov 30-Dec 1 2020</u> Module 1: Weather Module 2: Climate Module 3: Weather and Climate in Aquaculture \*Homework

<u>Online Session</u>: Homework and question time. (*if requested*)

# Module 1: Weather: An introduction

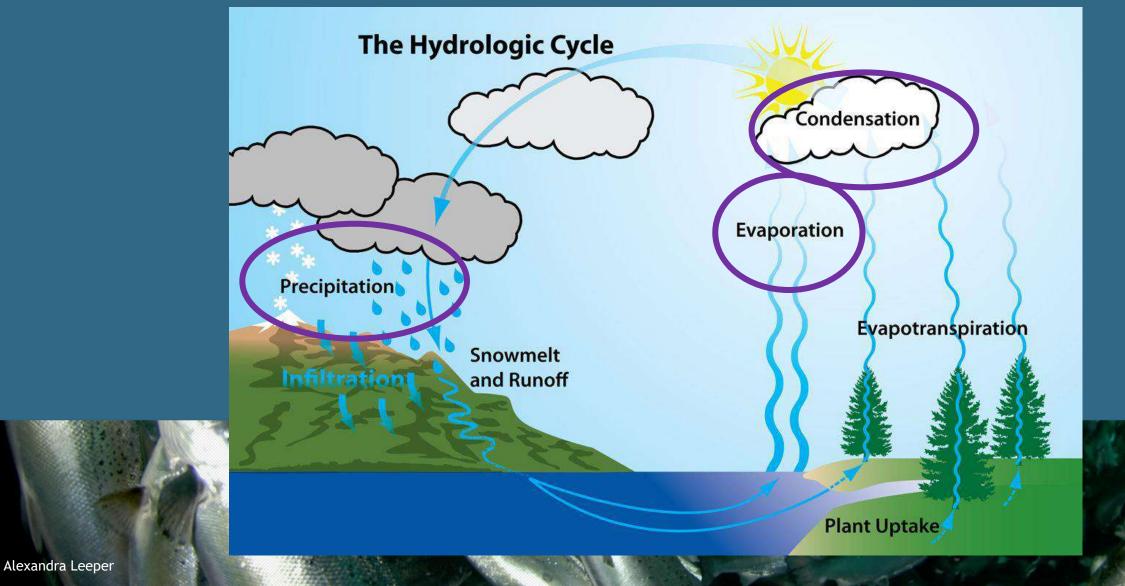


# Background information

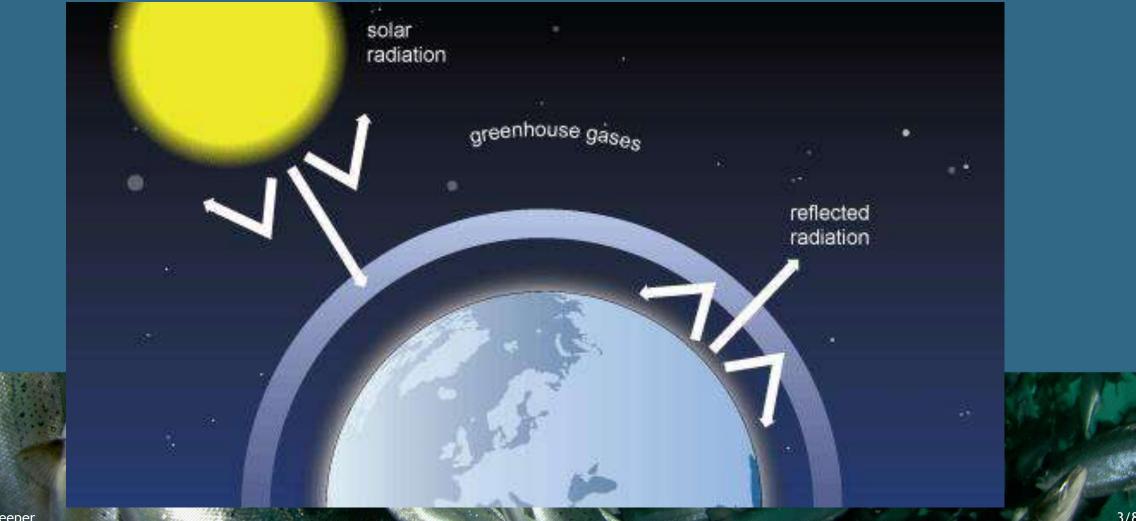


# Background information

#### • The water cycle

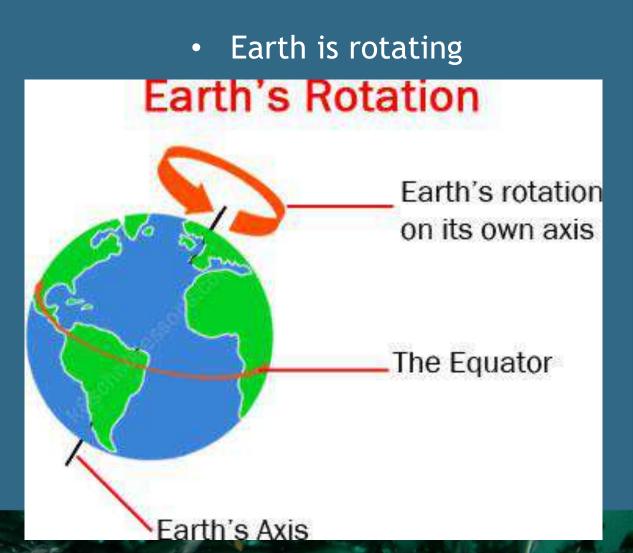


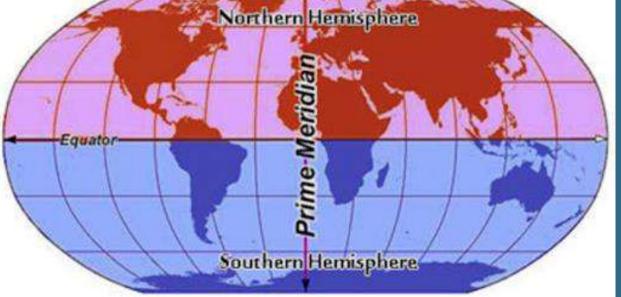
# Background informationThe greenhouse effect





• North and Southern hemisphere





# **Background information**

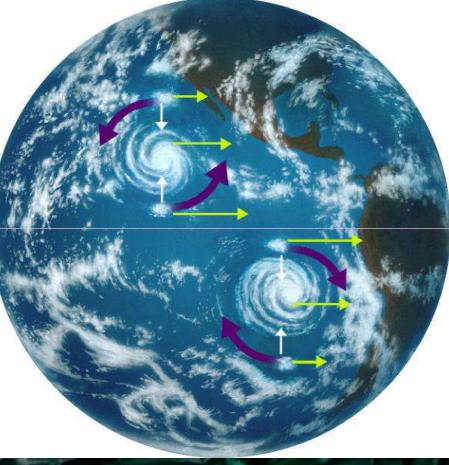
Earth's Axis

• There is an apparent force caused by this rotation of earth: The Coriolis Effect



Earth's rotation on its own axis

The Equator

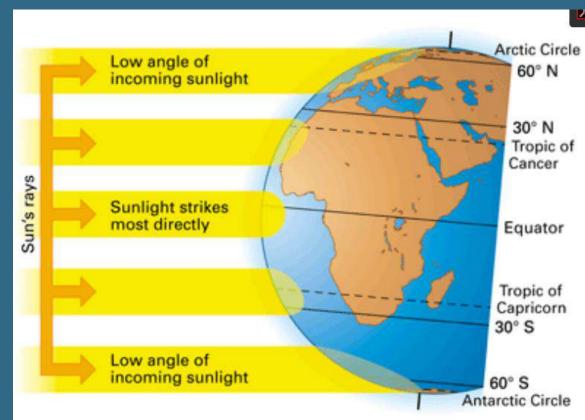


# **Background information**

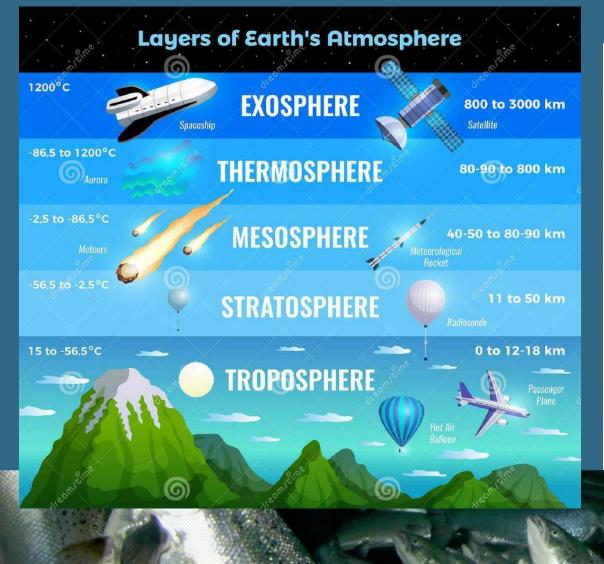
• The sun shines at different angles and onto different surfaces and different times all over the world.

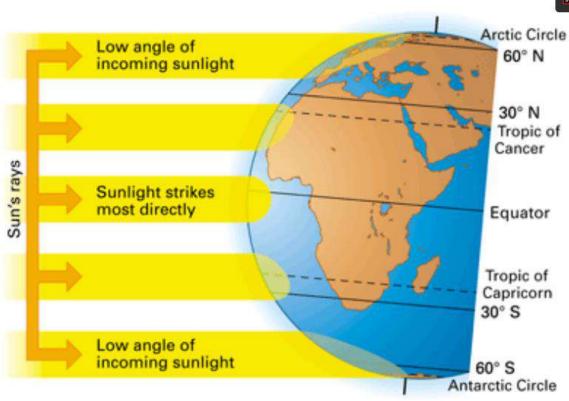
(partly due to the curvature of the Earth)

- Not only does this make day and night in different locations at the same time
- It heats different surfaces in different ways.
- This effect is exacerbated by the fact that different surface heat in different ways.



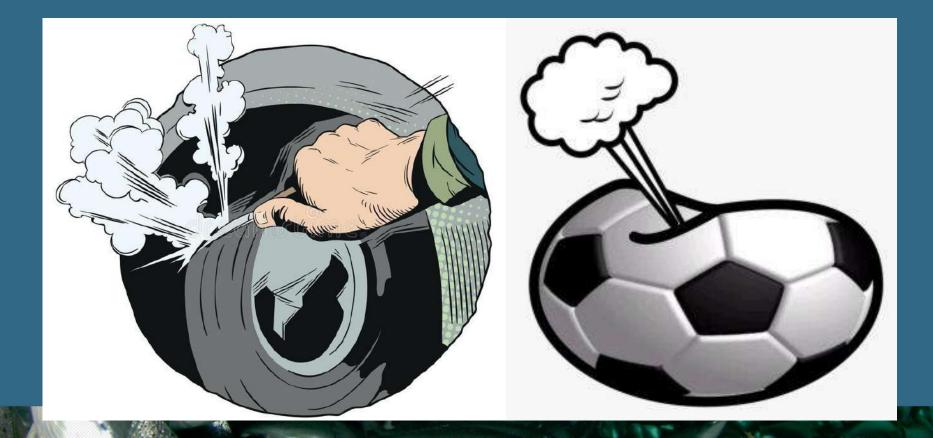
# Why is this important?



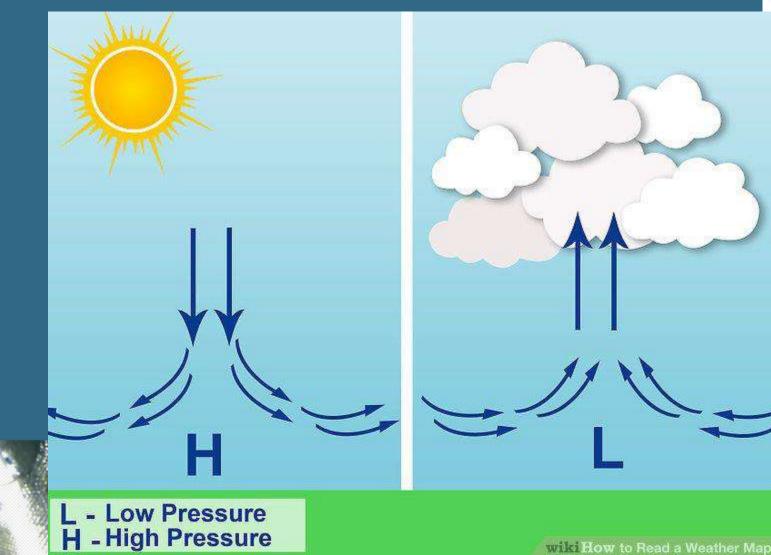


### Air pressure

• What happens when you puncture a tire or a football?

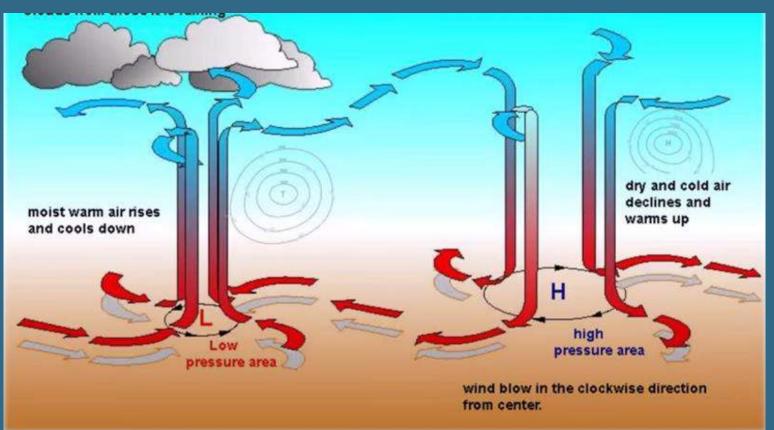


# Air pressure





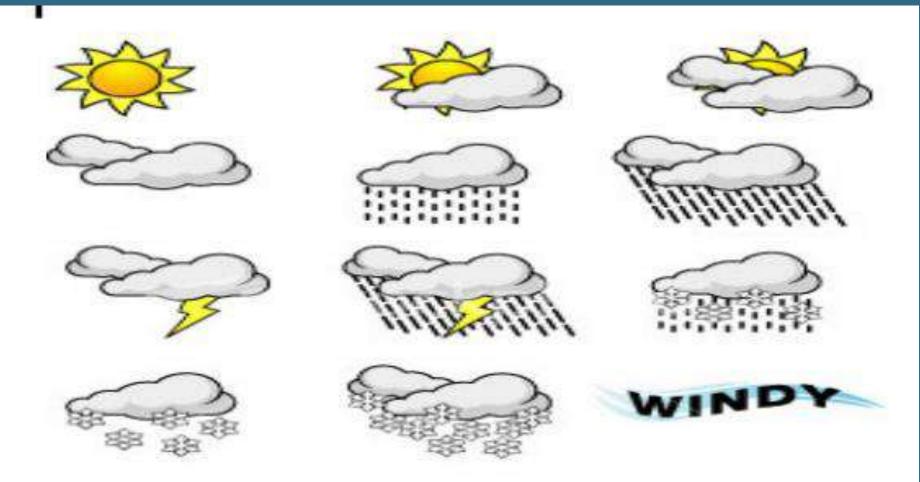
### Air pressure



#### Low pressure=up & anti-clockwise

#### High pressure=down & clockwise

### Definition to Weather



Weather is the minute-by-minute changes that happen in the atmosphere. It is local to certain <u>time</u> and <u>place</u>.

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# Where does weather happen?

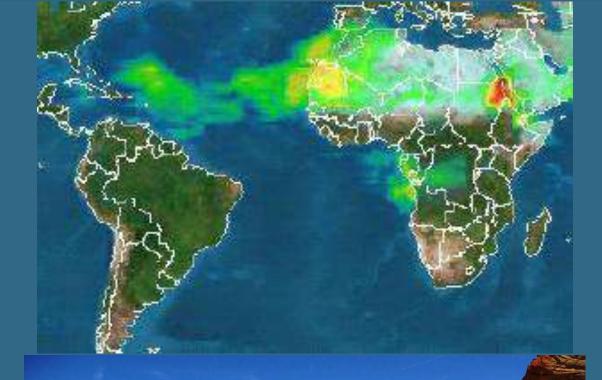
#### Where weather happens



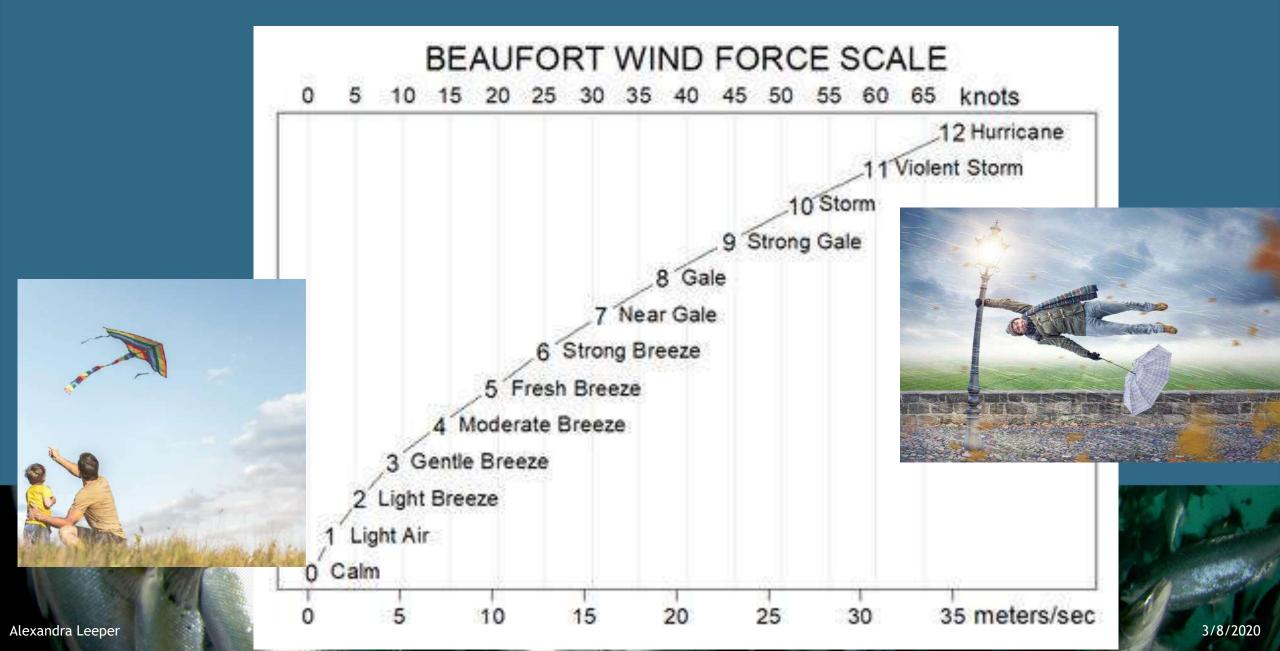
# Wind

#### Causes:

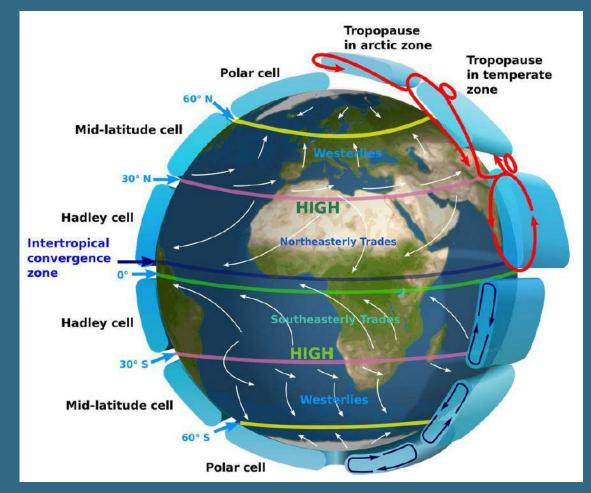
- Air moving from low pressure zone to a high-pressure zone.
- Uneven heating of the Earth.
- Importance:
- Transporter.
- Shapes many of our planets formations.



### Levels of wind



### Wind



#### Winds follow some long-term patterns and so are easy to predict

# Wind is a huge driver in maritime history The Kon-tiki

#### Vikings arriving in Iceland

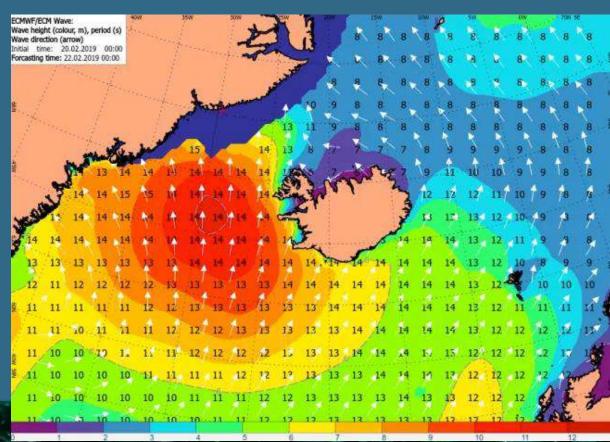
#### The James Caird

# The physics of the sea Localized wind



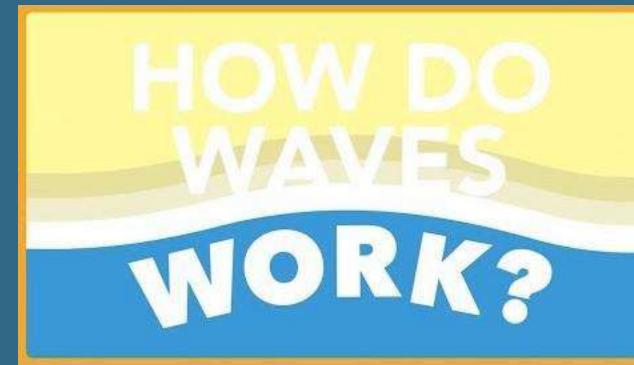
- 16:00 7.0kt./ Oct

### Localized wave height

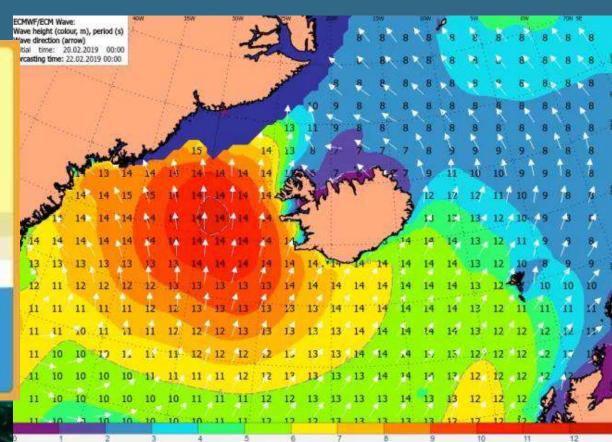


# The physics of the sea

### Waves



### Localized wave height



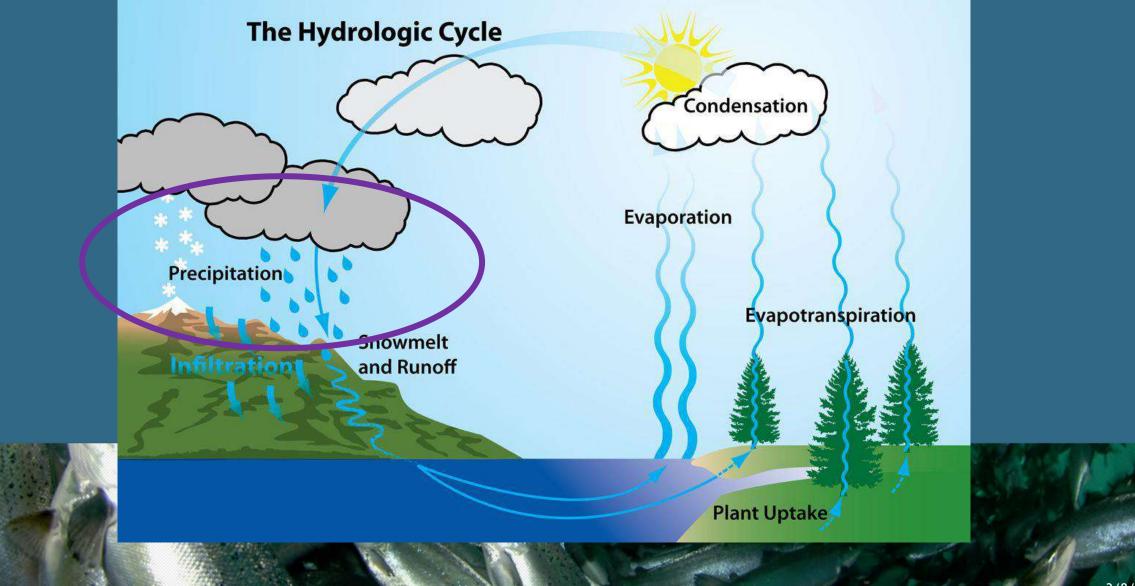
### More on waves

- Waves transport energy.
- They shape our coastal landscapes (constructively and destructively).
- Driven by friction
- Size of waves dependent on location, season and sometimes seismic activity





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- When clouds become saturated or filled with water droplets....one of the things that are released is rain.
- Rainfall happens in different volumes around the world.
- Too much rain...can lead to flooding.
- Too little rain can lead to drought.
- Delicate balance on the planet for the ideal living and food production systems.



Rain

ALBEDO











Snow

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3/8/2020

- Cloud that touches the Earth.
- Happens in humid conditions when the air is really full of water vapor.
- In hot humid places but also freezing fog can happen.

# Clouds



How a cloud looks is determined by how high up in the atmosphere it was formed.

### Sunshine

• Source of light and heat on planet earth.

- It heats different parts of the earth differently
- Most life on earth dependent on energy from the sun





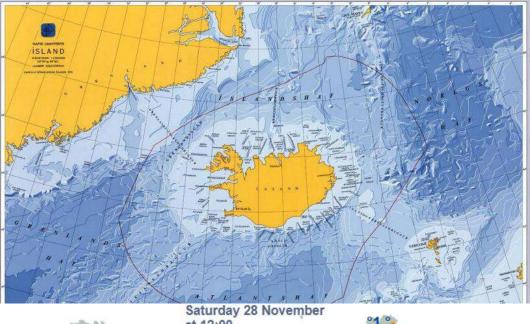
### Extreme weather

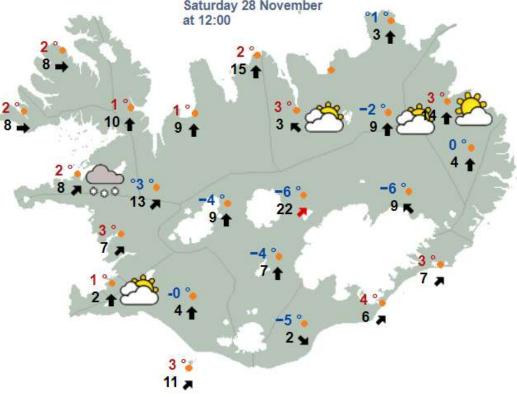


# Weather in Iceland

- Strong winds
- Frequent precipitation
- Cool summers (avg. 10°C)
- Iceland has much more mild winters than the Eastern American coast...why? (Avg. 0°C)







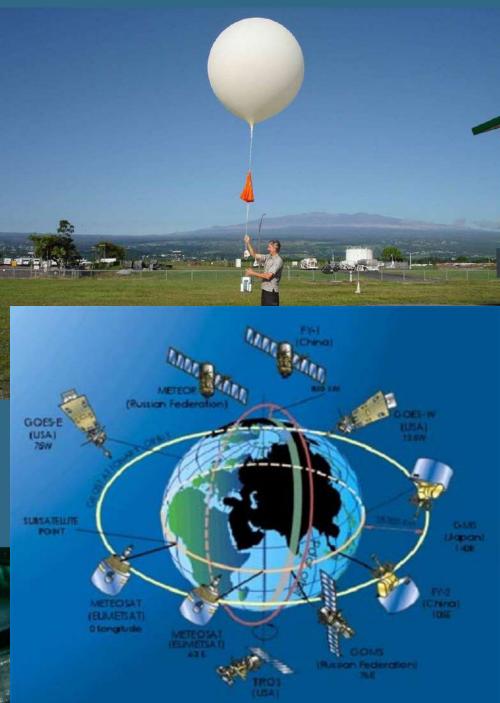
# Forecasting the weather



# Forecasting the weather

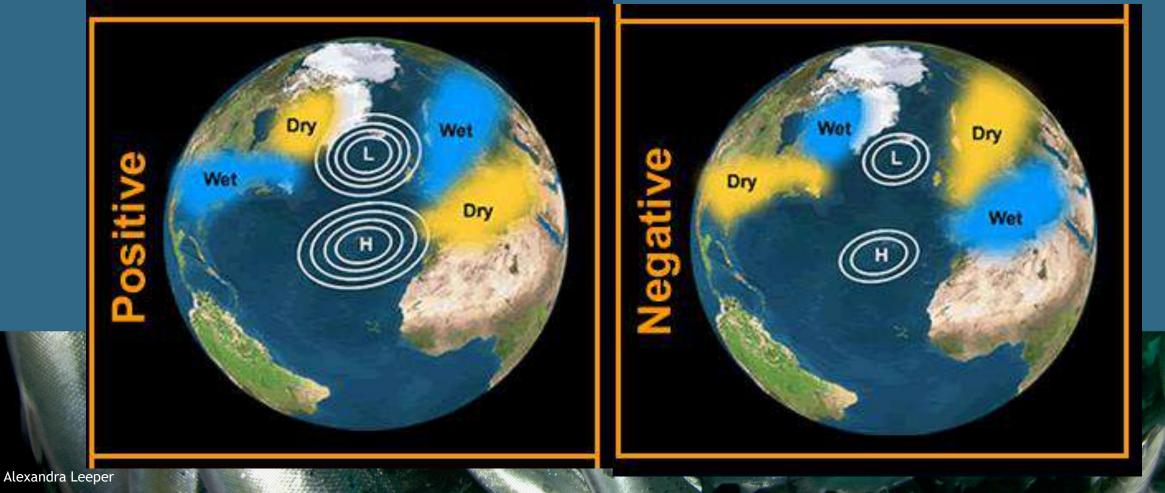
- Many tools now exists to give us information on things like temperature, wind speed, humidity, rain fall which make predictions much better but still complicated.
- Predicting extreme weather events is much easier but even so we are still quite powerless against many of these events.





# Cycles of Weather; Patterns overtime that affect climate

The North Atlantic Oscillation



# Key points from Module 1

- Weather is the minute-by-minute changes of conditions in a localized area.
- Average weather conditions are determined by the climate of a given region.
- Despite how much data we can collect and how much we know, predicting weather is still a very complicated task.





## Summary quiz for module 1





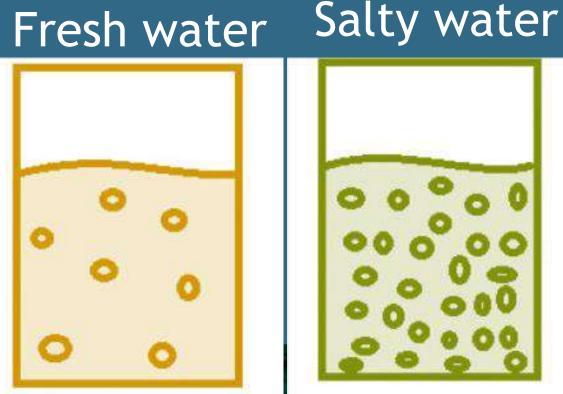
#### Module 2: Climate Introduction



3/2/2020

Density has a strong relationship with temperature and salinity

Hot water Cold water Fresh water



## Background Information The global conveyor belt

INDIAN

Great Ocean Conveyor Belt

OCEAN

PACIFIC

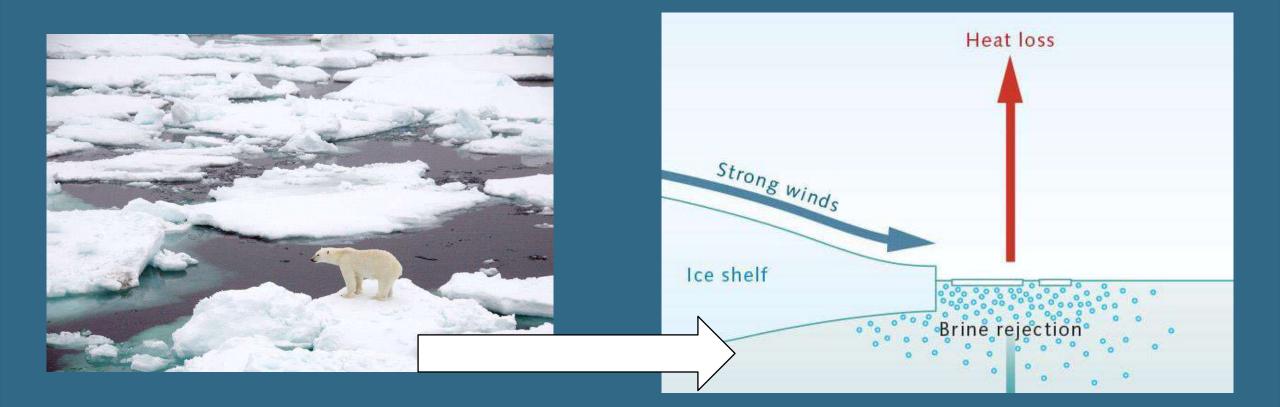
COLD

WARN



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#### Cold winds = very cold surface water

#### Sea Ice = Very salty surface water

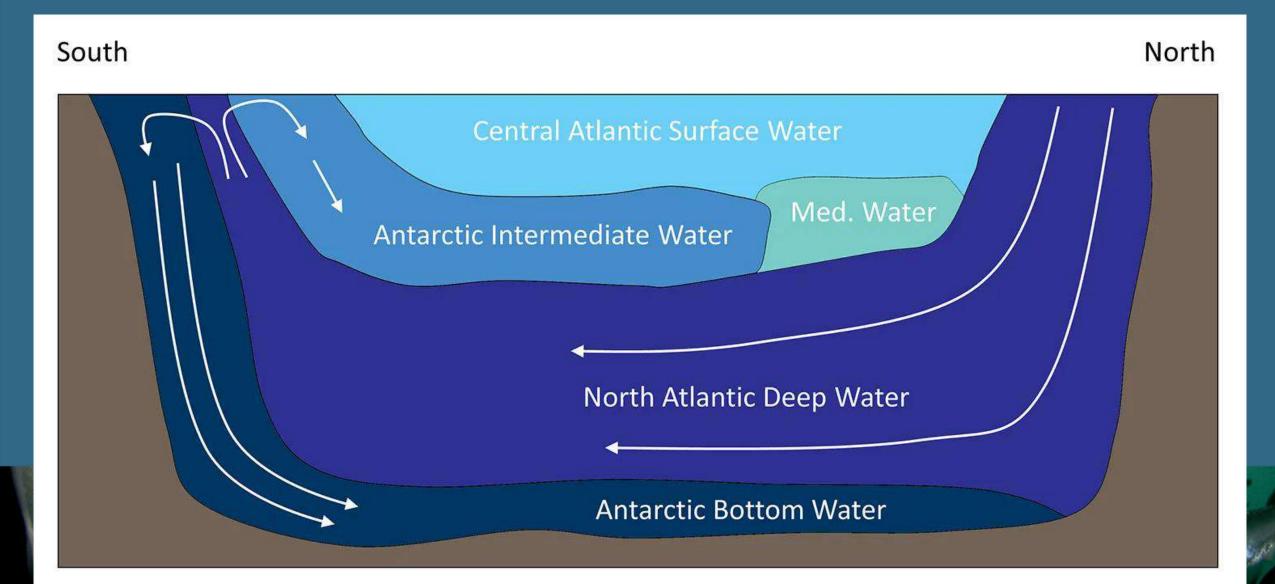




#### Cold winds = very cold surface water

#### Sea Ice = Very salty surface water







## Gulf Stream benefits



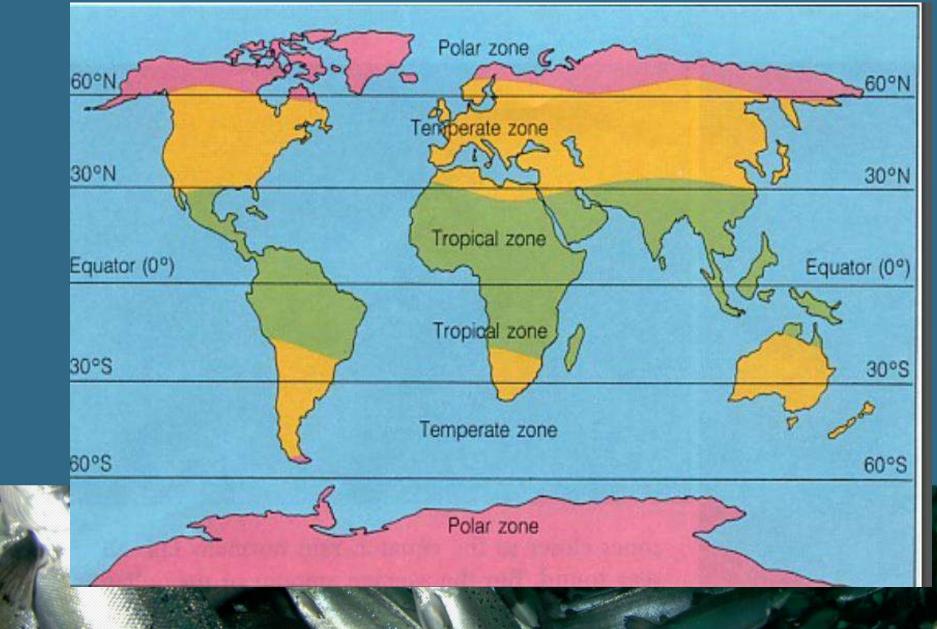
#### A definition of climate



The usual condition of temperature, humidity, air pressure, rain fall etc. in an area of the Earth's surface over long time periods.

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#### Climate Zones

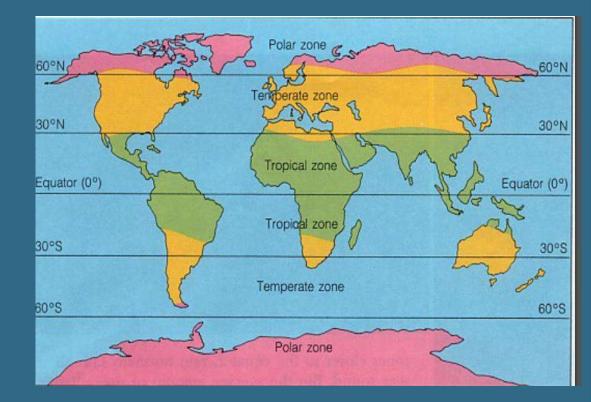


# Climate ZonesDistance from the equator.

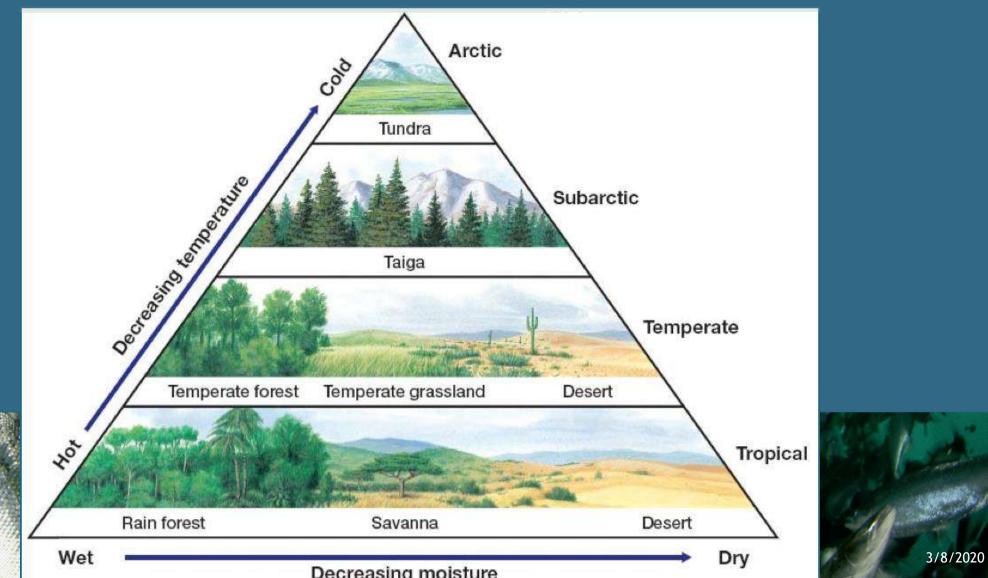
- Height above sea level.
- How far from a large body of water.



#### Ocean currents and circulation

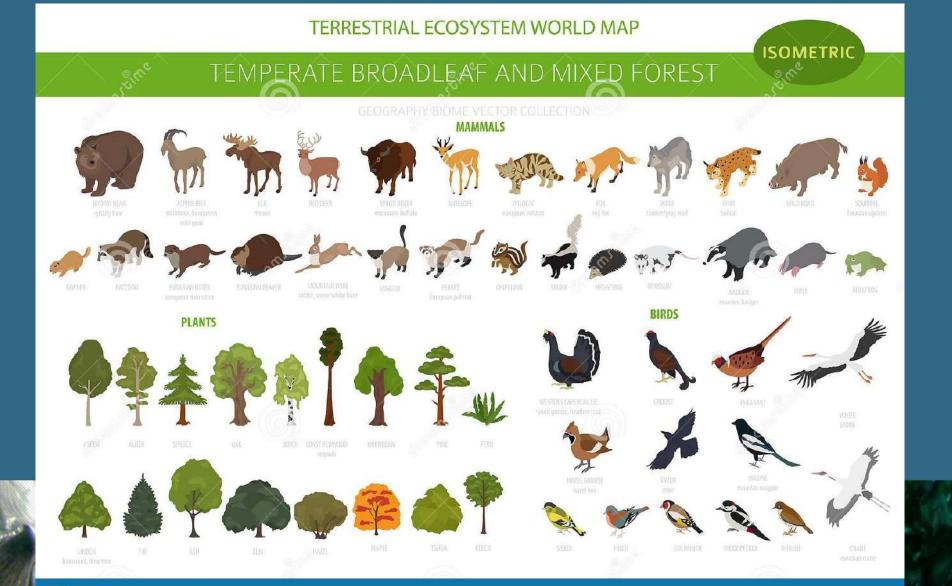


# Climate ZonesFlora and fauna follows climate regions



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#### Climate Zones



#### 🜀 dreamstime.com

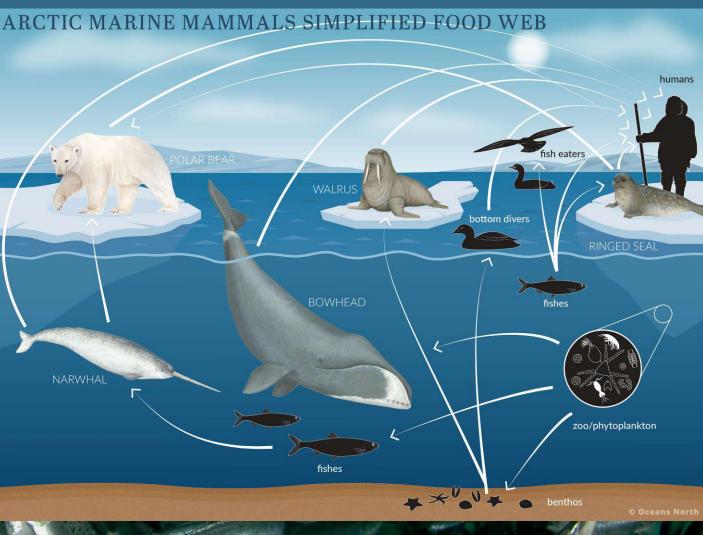
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#### Climate Zones



#### Climate Zones= BIOMES

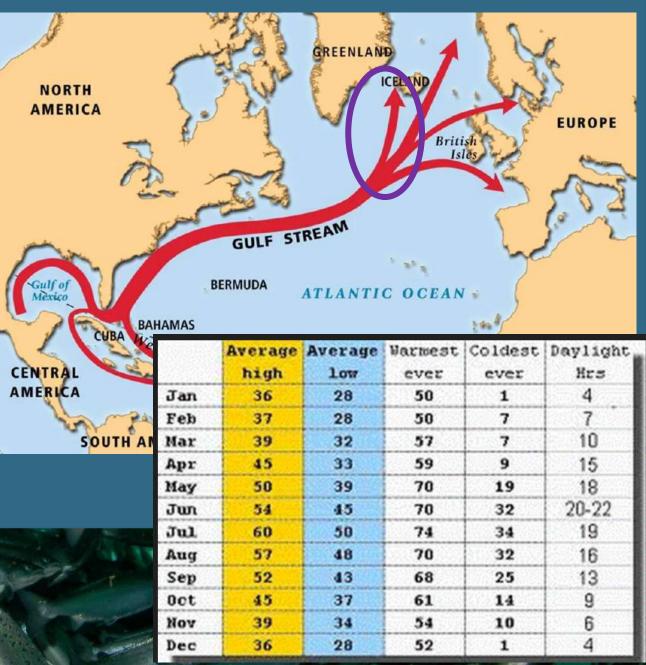
- Flora and fauna follows climate regions
- Drives the food webs and there for animals we see in different places.
- Which has affected how societies have developed.
- Particularly extreme examples include Inuit populations



## Climate Biome of Iceland

- Iceland = Tundra Biome
- Short growing season
- Large population oscillations





#### Volcanos and our atmosphere

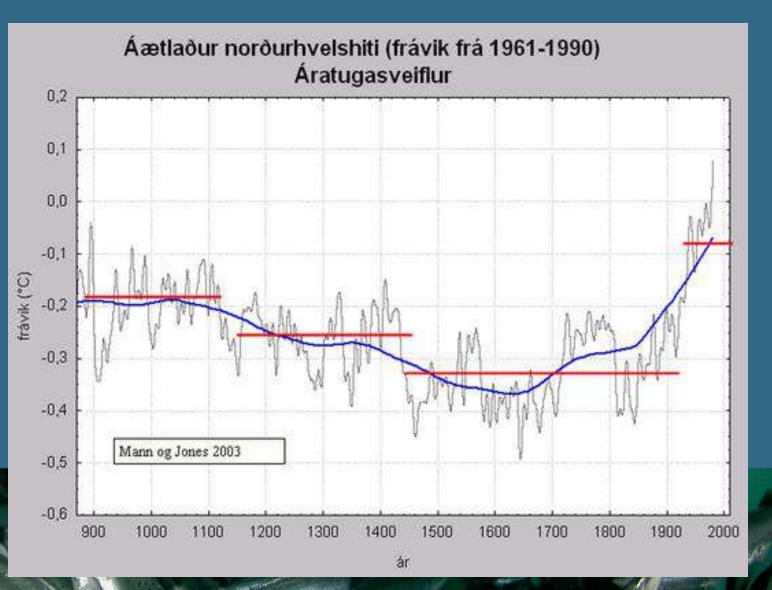


Early volcanic activity release many gases into the air but not oxygen.

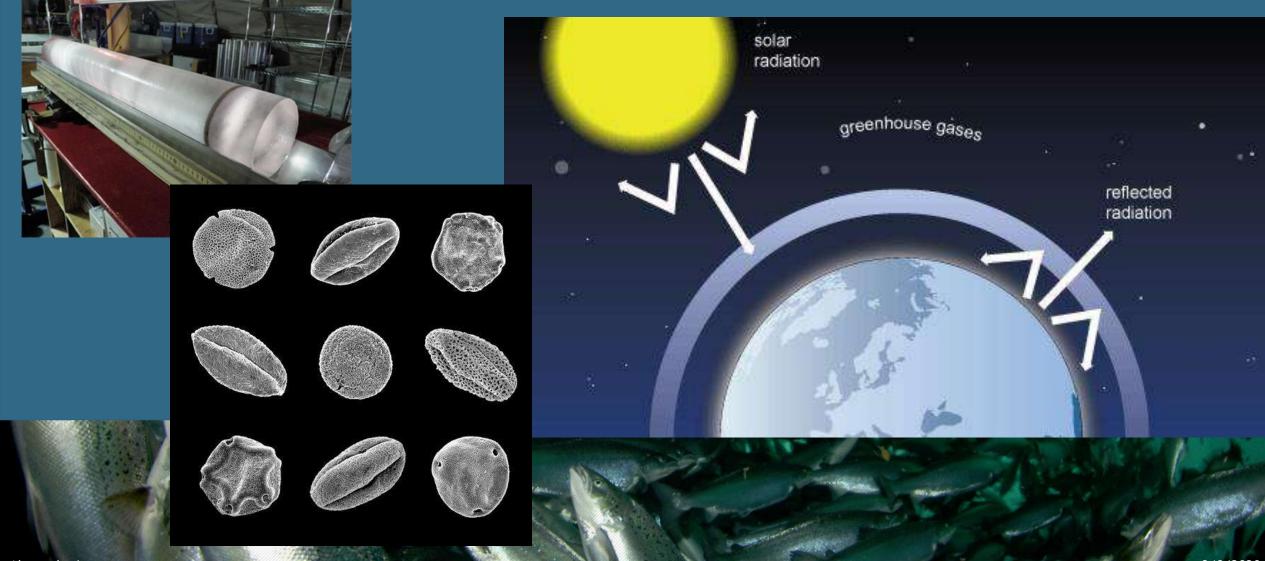
Then Cyanobacteria (a phytoplankton) evolved to use carbon dioxide and release oxygen.

## Climate of Iceland

- Changing over time
- This is the change in temperature in the Northern hemisphere from the start of Icelandic settlement.



#### Climate Change

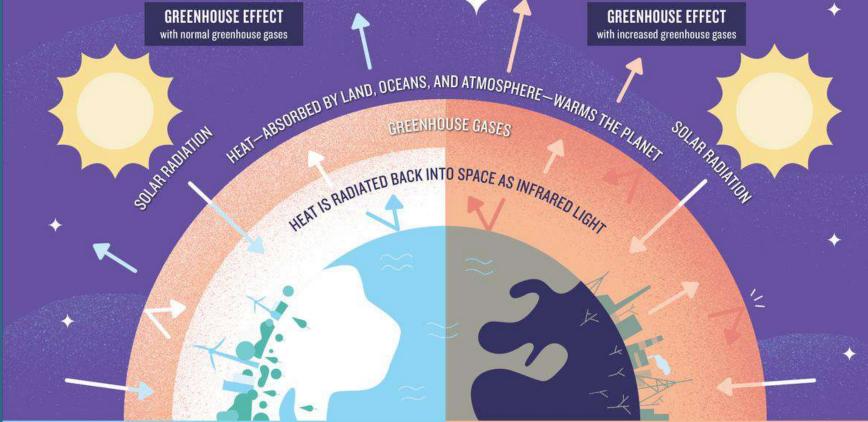


#### Antropogenic Climate Change Anthropogenic = Human made

Carbon Dioxide

• Methane

#### • Water vapor



Some heat continues into space while the rest, trapped by greenhouse gases, help maintain the planet's relatively comfortable temperatures. Less gas = less heat trapped in the atmosphere. Increased greenhouse gases means less heat escapes. Between preindustrial times and now, the earth's average temperature has risen 1.8 °F (1.0 °C).

## Antropogenic – Human made

Carbon Dioxide

• Methane

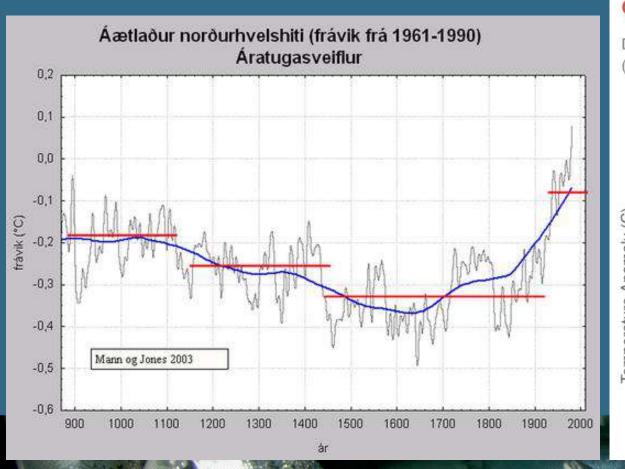
• Water vapor





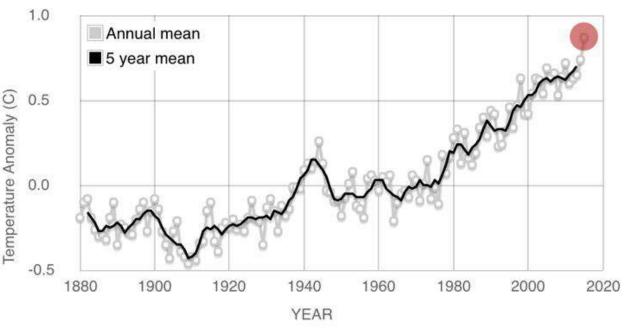
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## Antropogenic = Human made



#### **GLOBAL LAND-OCEAN TEMPERATURE INDEX**

Data source: NASA's Goddard Institute for Space Studies (GISS). Credit: NASA/GISS

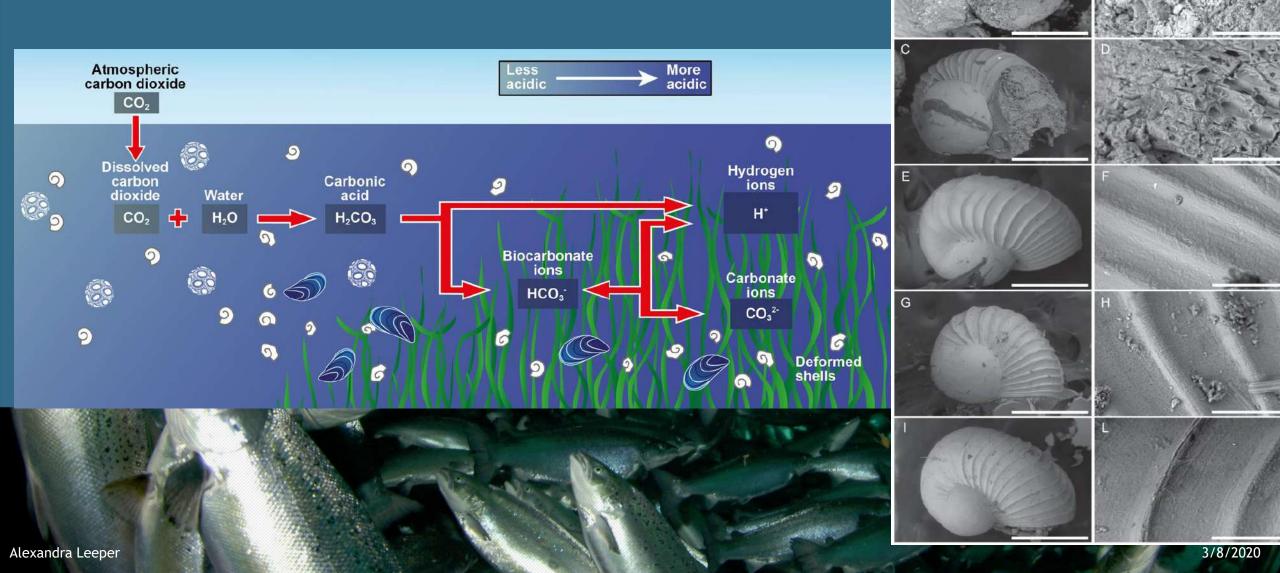


#### Anthropogenic Climate Change

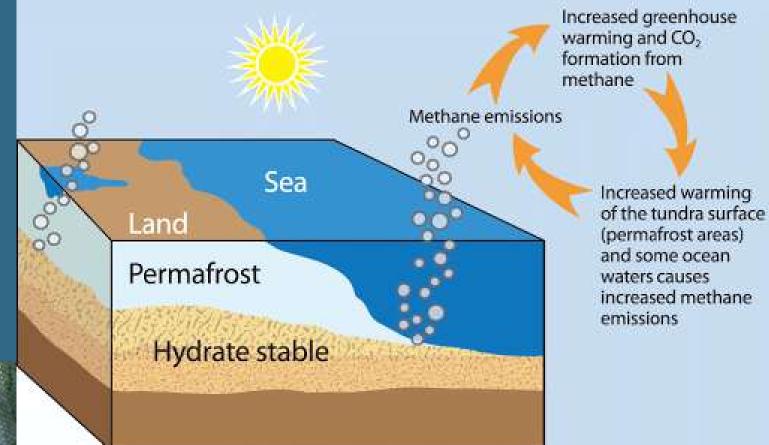
#### Consequences

- Melting of ice
- Rising seas
- Thermal expansion
- Extreme weather events
- Change in weather patterns
- Ocean Acidification
- Melting of permafrost

#### **Ocean Acidification**



#### Melting of Permfrost

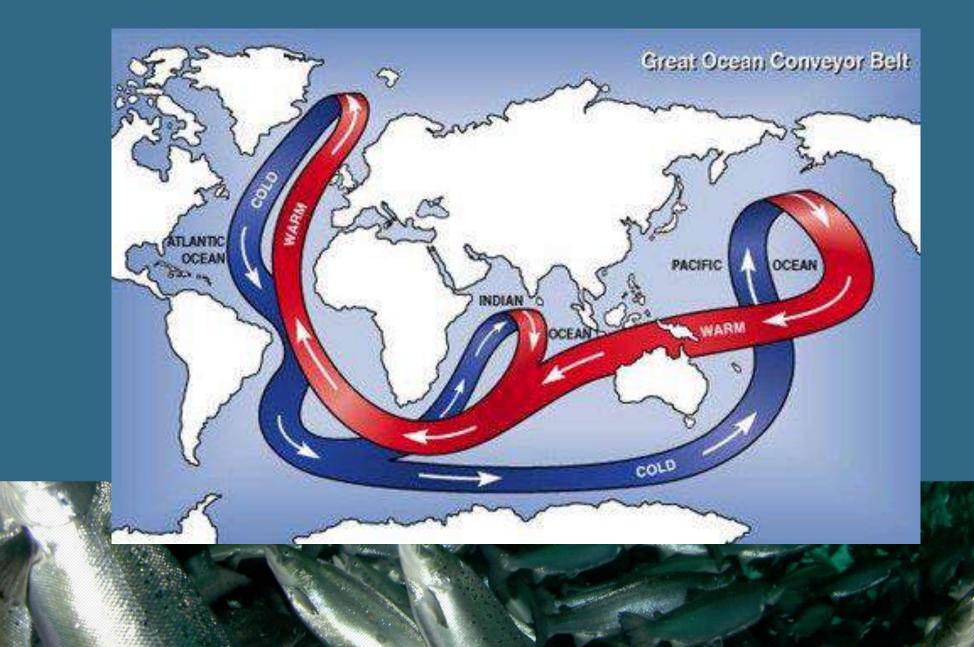




## Climate change in Iceland



#### Climate change and global conveyor belt



#### Climate of Iceland

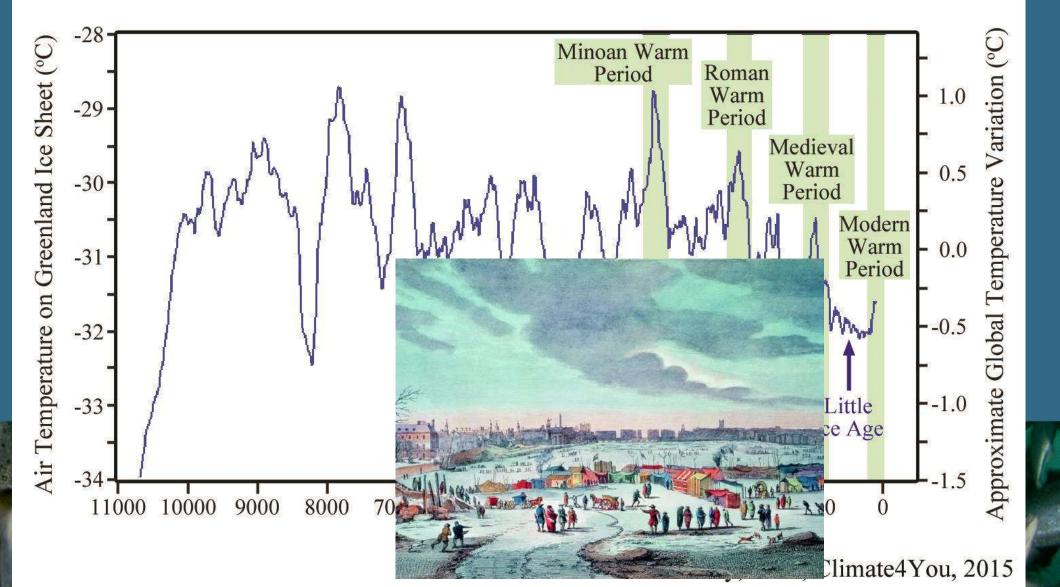


## Climate of Iceland



#### Climate change through history

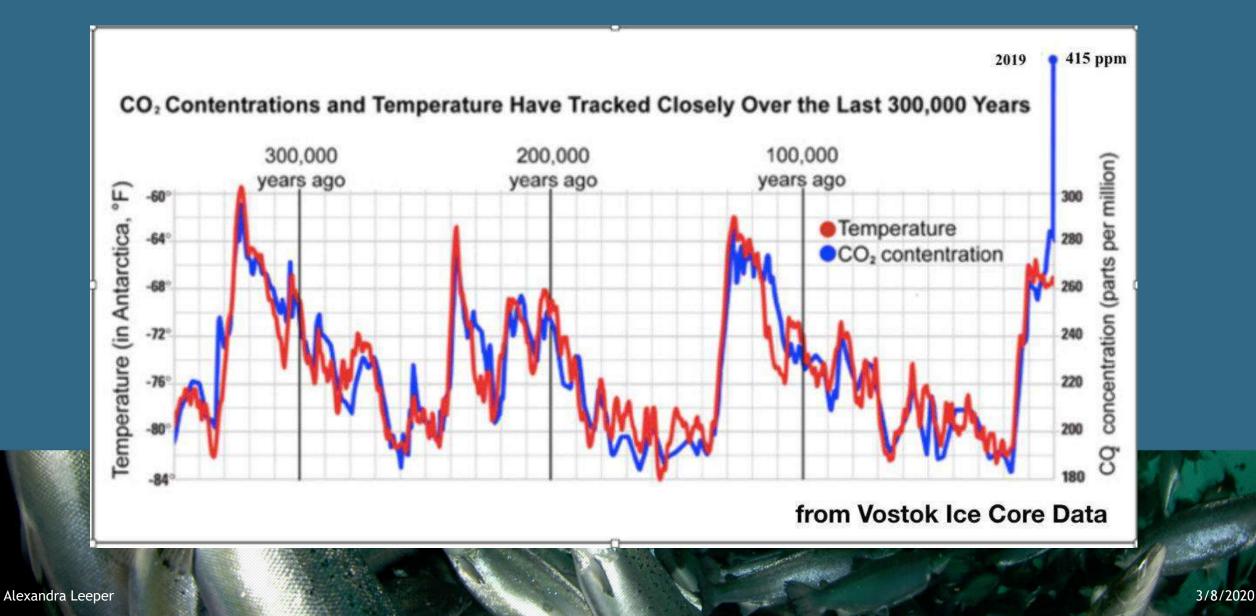




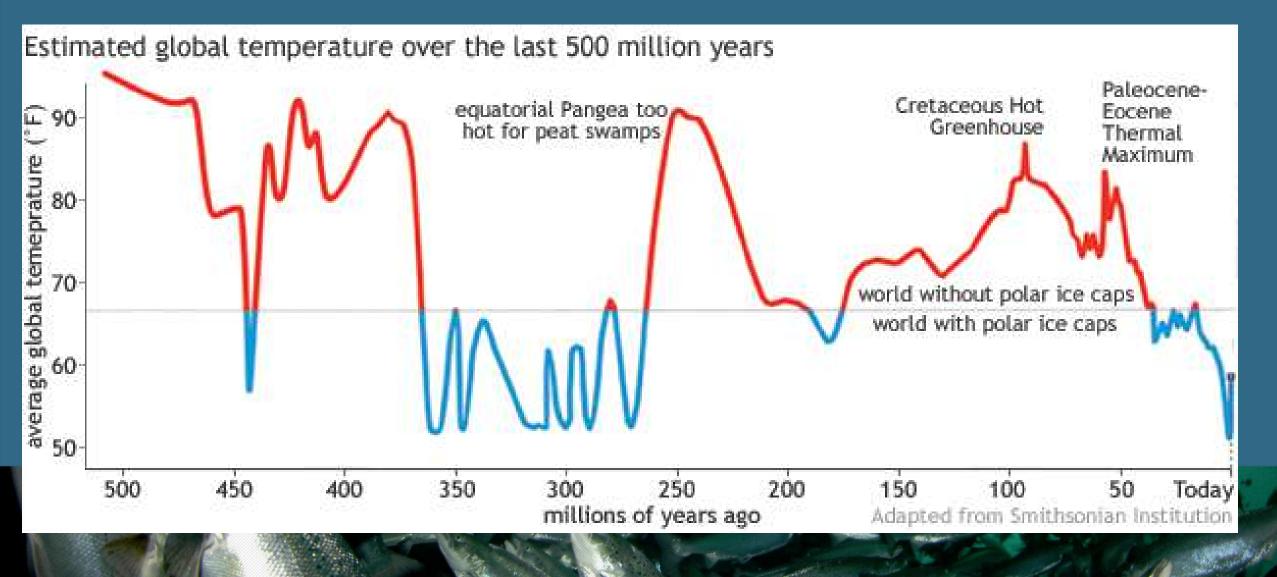
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#### Climate change through history

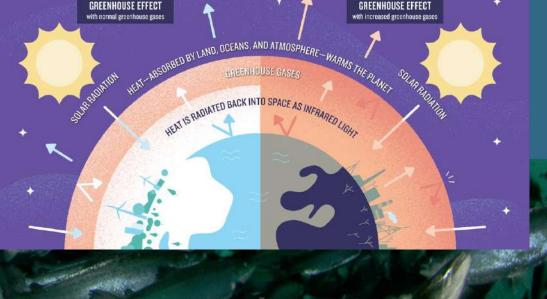


#### Climate change through history



#### Why is this climate change different

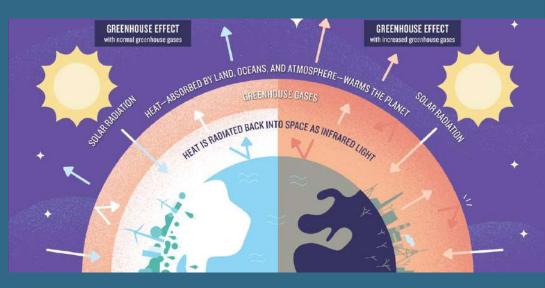
- Modern climate change is happening much faster than in the past.
- Because it is so much faster plants and animals do not have time to adapt.
- Human activity has added to the natural cycle....pushing CO2 to all time highs



### Key points from Module 2

- Climate is the long-term average conditions.
- It is driven by the long term patterns in winds, currents and heat and energy transport.
- It drives the plants and animals found in different parts of the globe.
- It is changing more dramatically than ever due to human activity





# Summary quiz for module 2



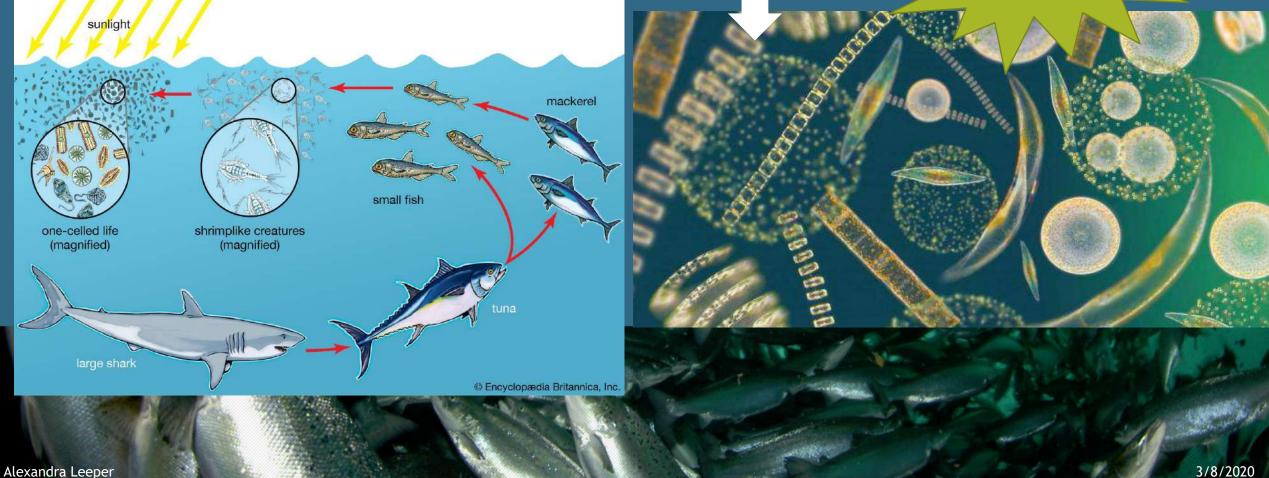
# Module 3: Weather, Climate & Salmon farming



## Background: Primary Productivity

• Primary production is the conversion of sunlight into energy by specialized organisms: grasses, trees, phytoplankton.

Contain chlorophyll



## Re-cap Weather



Minute-by-minute changes that happen in the atmosphere. It is local to certain<u>time</u> and <u>place</u>.

## Climate



The usual condition of temperature, humidity, air pressure, rain fall etc. in an area of the Earth's surface over long time periods.

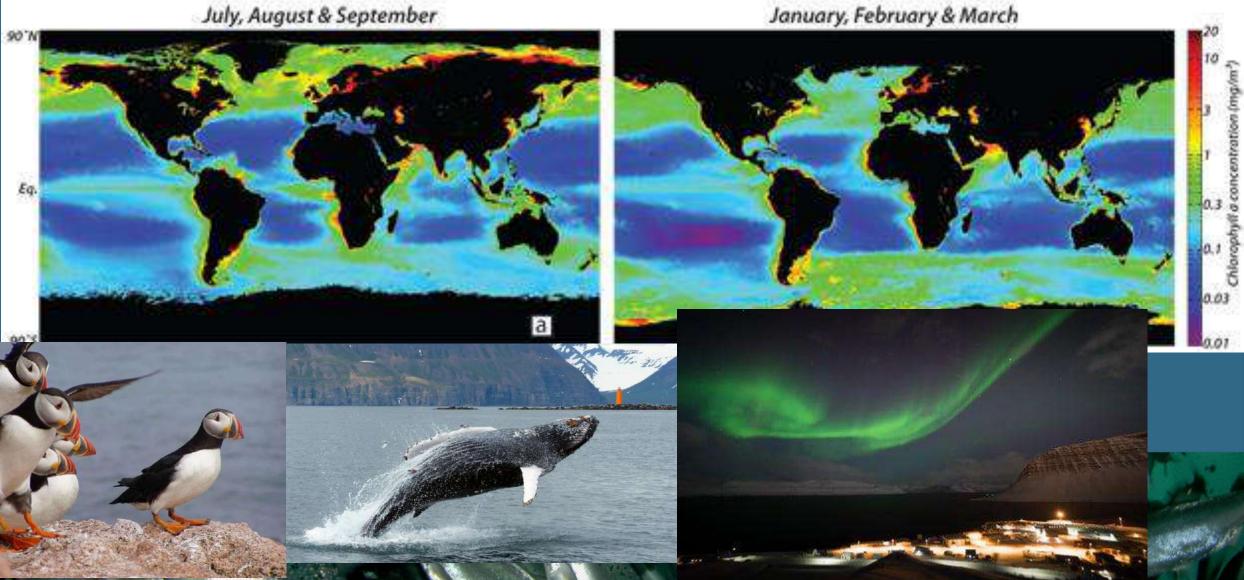
## Climate and Aquaculture



The usual condition of temperature, humidity, air pressure, rain fall etc. in an area of the Earth's surface over long time periods.

# The biology of sea

July, August & September

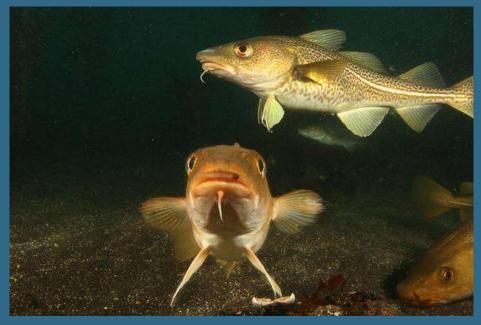


## The marine biome

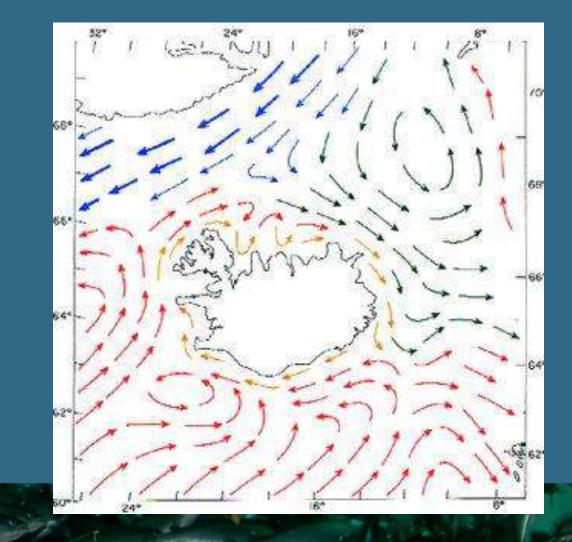


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## The marine biome: Iceland







## Climate determines the species found in Iceland Atlantic Cod







#### Mackerel (Makríll)



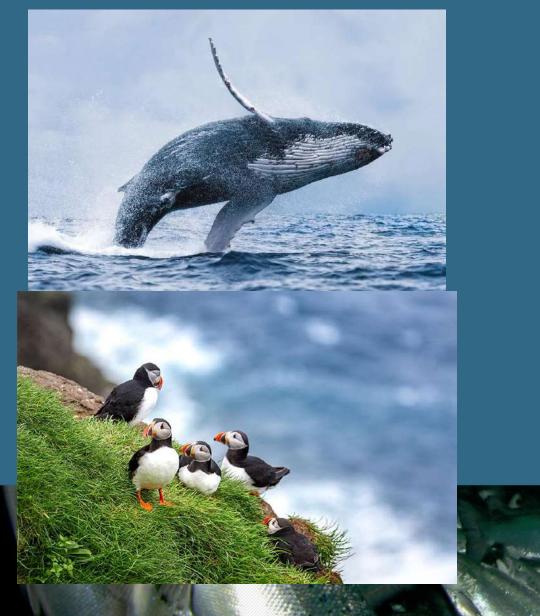
Arctic charr

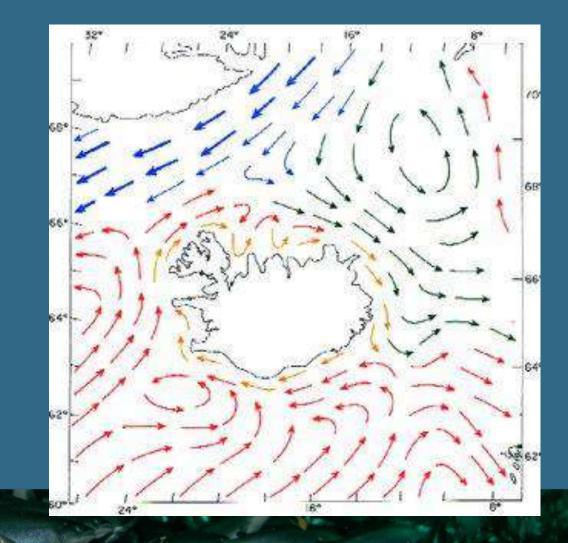
#### **Atlantic Salmon**

#### Brown Trout (Urriði)



## The marine biome





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## How might the ocean change with climate change? When it is too hot or too acidic

Warming and acidity: Coral Bleaching

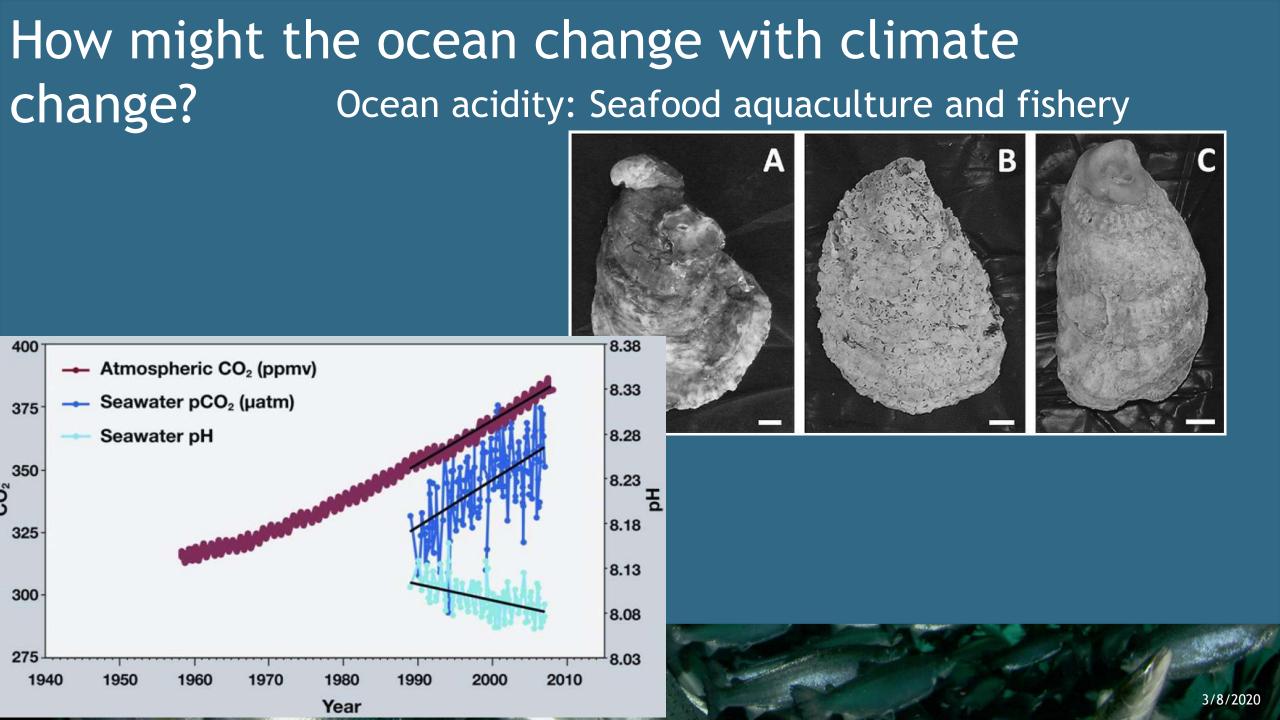
the symbiont leaves bleaves bleaves bleaves from tissue

Coral is an animal

It lives in symbiosis with a primary producer

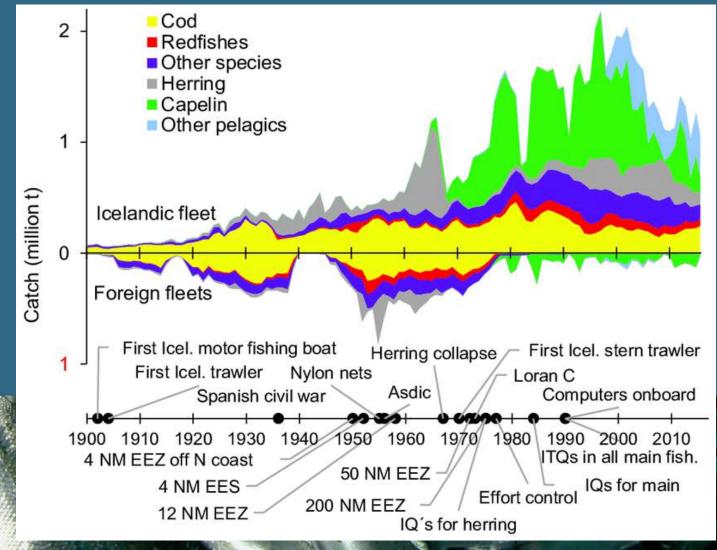
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Zooxanthellae Coral polyp



# How might the ocean change with climate change?

Fish migration



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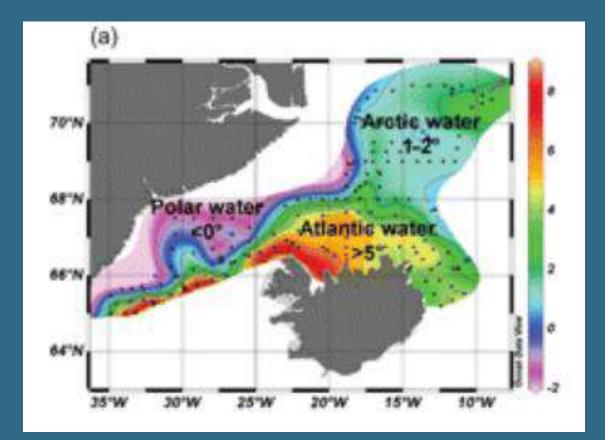
## Climate determines the species found in Iceland

#### Capelin (Loðna)



### **Blue Whiting**



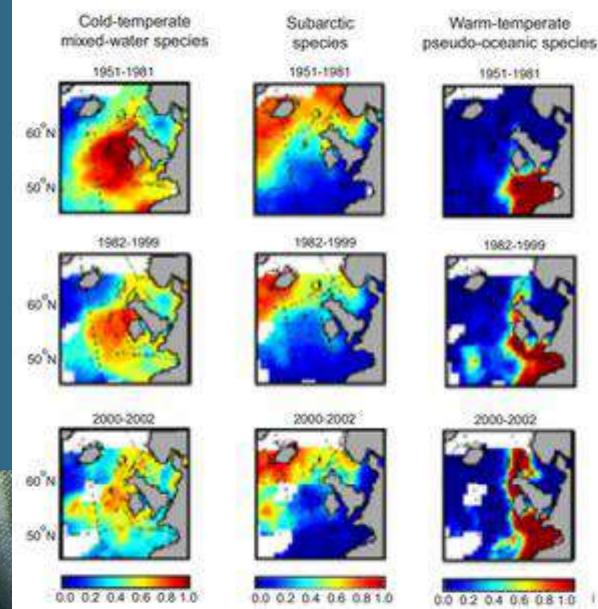


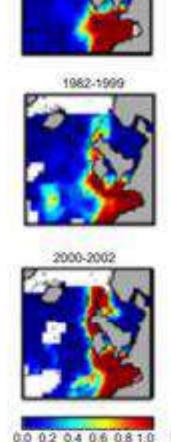


## Climate determines the species found in Iceland

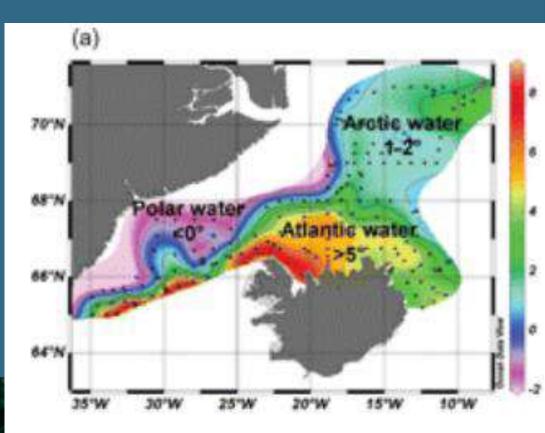
Warm-temperate

1951-1981





Mean number of species per CPR sample





# How might the ocean change with climate change?

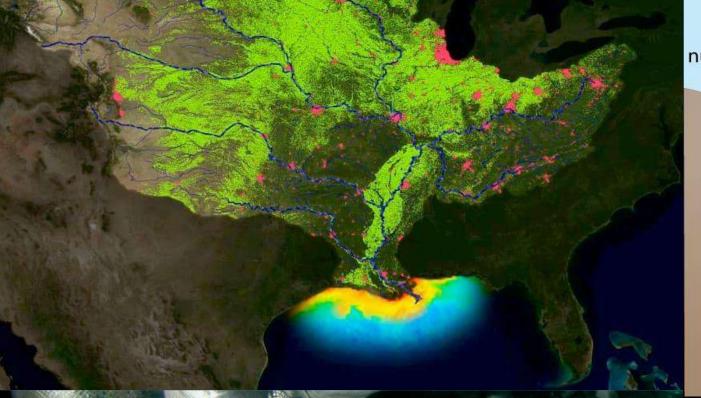
## Other impact on fisheries:

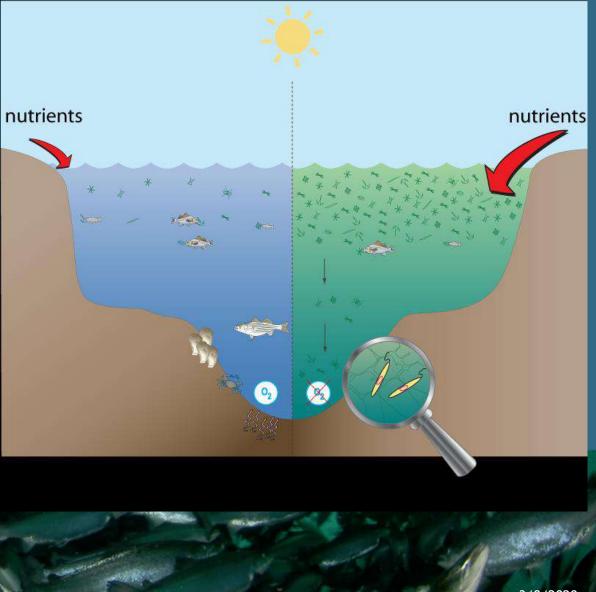
- Alterations to the entire food web (fish migration or even loss)
- Challenging conditions for calcifying (shell-making organisms)
- Reduce some species number but increase others as distributions change.
- Extinctions of vulnerable species.
- Countries may need to adapt to different species/processing/eating
- Socio-economic problems due to changes or loss of certain fisheries in countries legal waters
- Possible that this will lead to geo-political tensions and bad relationships between countries.

# What about aquaculture? In General

- Aquaculture species cannot migrate like wild fish!
- Availability of freshwater for on-land aquaculture in drought prone regions
- Changes in temperature and salinity of water bodies, especially shallow ones will change what can be grown where, and when.
- More algal blooms and coastal dead zones....damaging coastal aquaculture
- Increase in <u>extreme weather events</u>

# Deadzones & Algal blooms





# What about aquaculture? Atlantic Salmon

- Optimal growth range: 8-14°C
- Too warm = too rapid development = malformation-even lethal.
- Increased risk of infection and bacterial outbreak
- Increase in lice presence
- Change in raw materials available to feed salmon
- Jellyfish blooms (linked to warming and acidity)

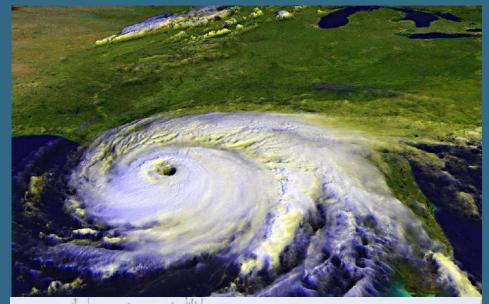
#### Iceland:

-it will change harvest times, and time out at sea vs freshwater -Increased growth rates

- -lice
- -problem species and blooms



## Weather and Aquaculture







Minute-by-minute changes that happen in the atmosphere. It is local to certain <u>time</u> and <u>place</u>.

- Weather dangersBad weather (precipitation)
- Heavy winds
- Waves
- Strong currents





## MOWI: Storm damages

## 73,600 fish escape from Mowi site after storm damages cage

### Nearly 50,000 salmon escape from Scottish fish farm after storm damage

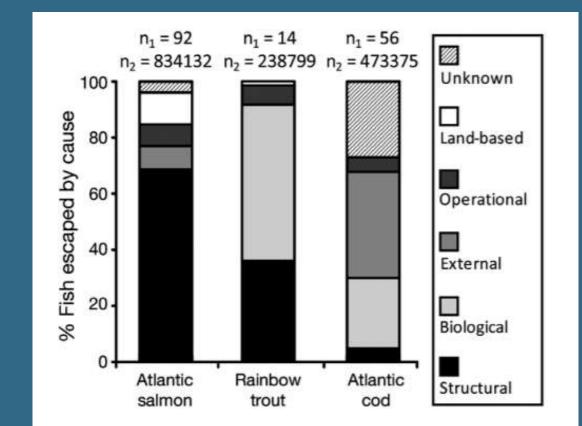
Damage from Storm Ellen has led to a major fish escape on a Mowi site near Campbeltown in Scotland, with almost 50,000 salmon escaping the torn nets.

## 23,000 salmon escape from Cermaq Chile site

## SalMar: offshore challenges

## Escapees: How does it happen

- Through holes and tears in the nets.
- Structural failures in containment equipment.
- Escape through spawning (primarily farmed cod).



## Weather and Aquaculture

- Much of the aquaculture in Iceland infrastructure and processing facilities = sea level areas
- Warmer and wetter weather. More coastal productivity.
- In the short term, it is likely that the Atlantic Salmon industry will benefit in terms of production but will face more general problems too.



## Farming in exposed areas

- As aquaculture moves further offshore the risks of extreme weather, wave and current conditions.
- We will need very clever engineering ,risk analysis
   And good prediction of danger to keep the industry going.

# Future of Aquaculture

- Will need to adapt:
- -Different species
- -new or increased problems
- -Improved technology to survive the elements
- -Weather and climate data: to observe and predict long term patterns
- -Change location

-Improve treatments for problems like lice





Key points from Module 3

• Climate and the resulting weather determines were fish and shellfish are found.

• As the climate changes there will be a lot of consequences for aquaculture and especially salmon aquaculture.



• The industry will need to grow and adapt to survive.

# Summary quiz for module 3

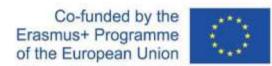


## Temperature, metabolism and feed

- The warmer it is, the more we need to feed, the more the fish will grow
- Metabolism is how fast the reactions in the body are happening.

## Warmer = fast metabolism = faster growth





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