

Dreissenid Mussel Survey of Cayuga Lake, 2013

Objectives, Approach, and Preliminary Findings

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Cornell Biological Field Station

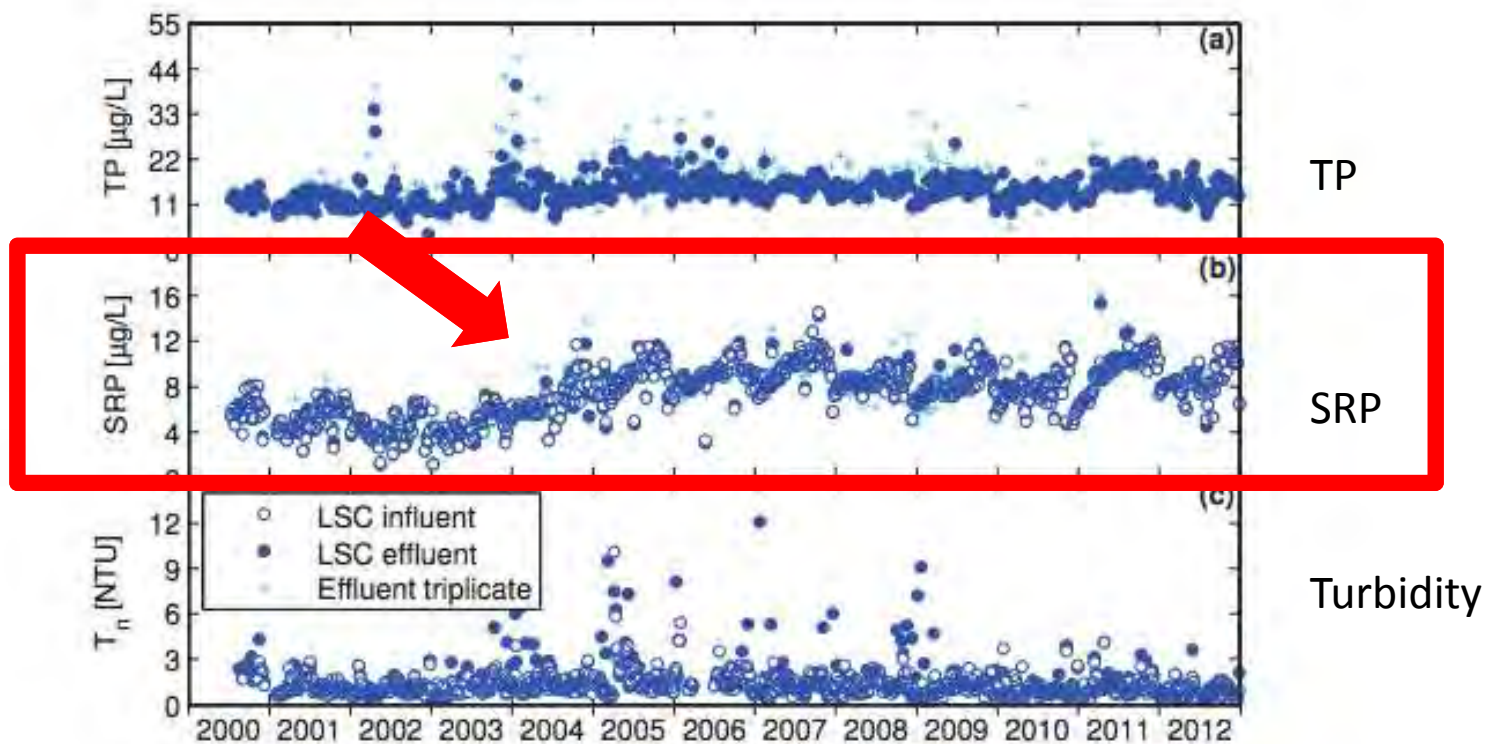
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Alexander Karatayev and Lyubov Burlakova

Great Lakes Center

Buffalo State University



Lake Source Cooling Report, 2013

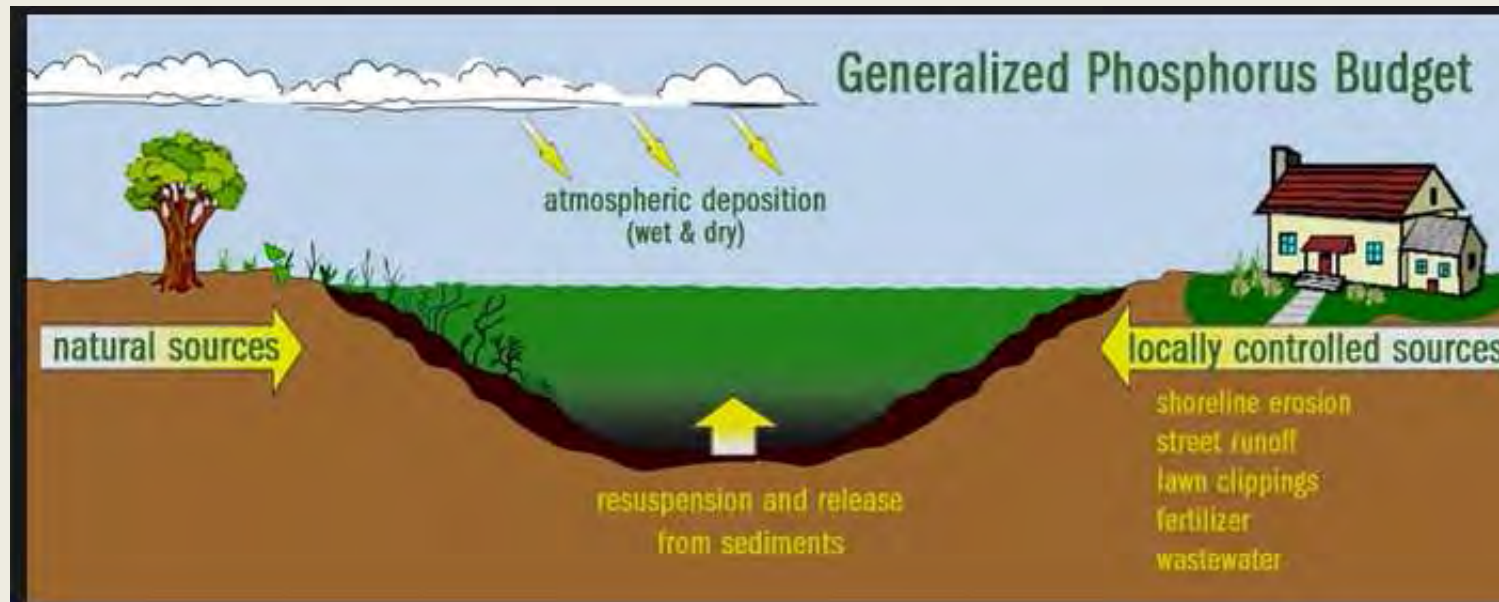
Figure 10: Time series of concentrations measured weekly in the LSC effluent for the 2000 - 2012 interval: (a) total phosphorus, (b) soluble reactive phosphorus, and (c) turbidity. The median of triplicate samples was used as the representative value. "+" symbols represent additional triplicate sample values.

Key Observation:

Increase in hypolimnetic SRP from 2003-2005 from 4 to 10 ug/L

What process could explain this increase in deep water phosphorus during the 2000s?

- Watershed inputs?
- Release from sediments?
- Biological Source?



What changes occurred during this time period in Cayuga Lake?

Introduction and expansion of exotic dreissenid mussels



Dreissena polymorpha
(zebra)
1991
(north outlet)



Dreissena rostriformis bugensis
(quagga)
1994
(power plant intake)

Limited Benthic Surveys

1994	Ed Mills	no mussels reported
2000/2001	Ed Mills	mussels not differentiated
2007-2010	Jim Watkins	primarily quagga mussels

Objective: Are exotic mussels capable of increasing hypolimnetic SRP on a lakewide scale?



Approach:

- 1) Quantify mussel density and biomass for both species.
- 2) Apply phosphorus excretion rates.



Transect Sampling Design Questions

- 1) How does mussel biomass vary with depth?
- 2) Are the east and west slopes different?
- 3) Are there latitudinal differences?

Benthic Survey Fall 2013

Field Summary:

372 Grabs

124 Sites

11 Transects

Transect:

9 (North End, Cayuga)

8 (Union Springs)

7 (Wells College, Aurora)

6 (Long Point)

5 (West-Side Wine Country)

4 (Power Plant, Deepest)

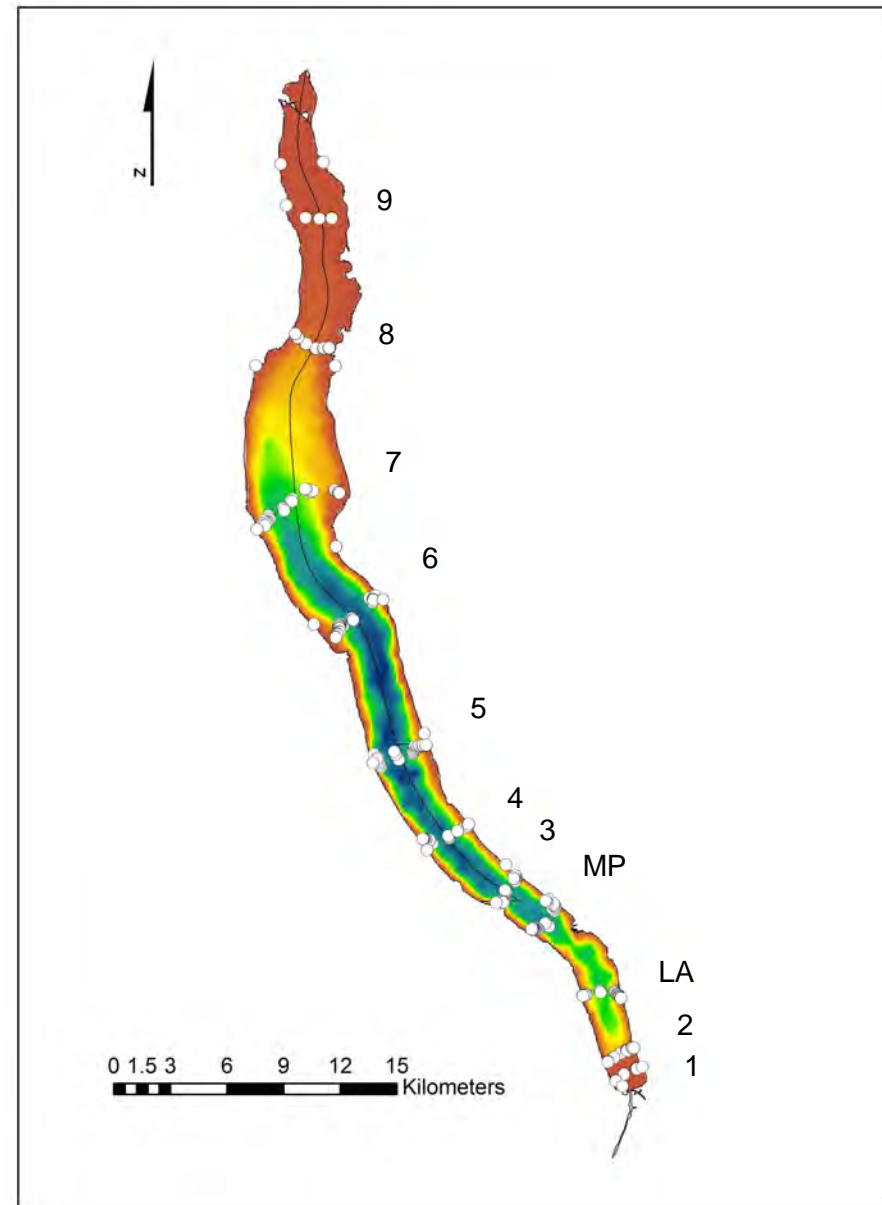
3 (Taughannock)

MP (Myers Point)

LA (Lansing)

2 (CU Sailing Club)

1 (South End)



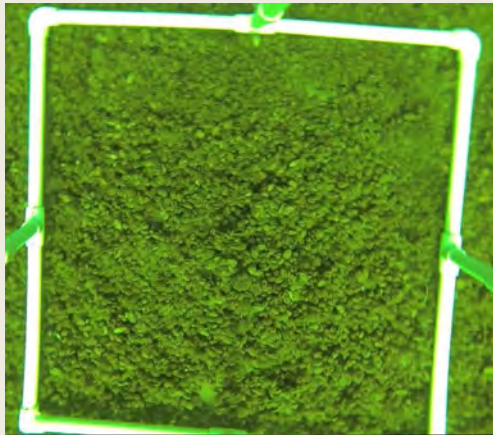
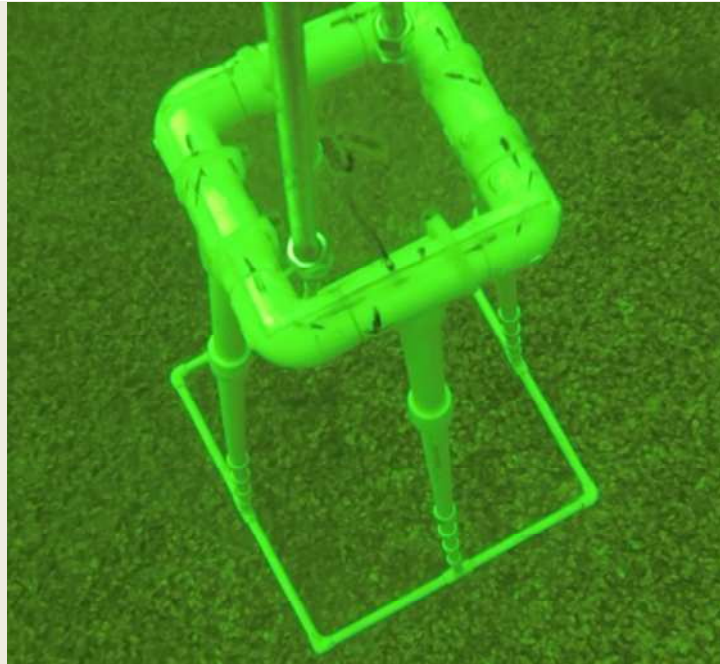
Field Work

- Benthic Sampling
 - Petite Ponar® with “lobster pot hauler”
 - Triplicate samples
 - Depth range:
 - Shore 0.15 and 1 m
 - Boat 2 m to 124 m
 - 500 um sieve
- GoPro Hero3 Video



Video Footage

GoPro Hero 3



19 m, Transect 4



75 m, Myers Pt



115 m, Myers Pt

Mussel Sizing

Sort and Measure

- Total counts:
 - Quaggas and Zebras
 - <0.5 cm and >0.5 cm
- Wet weight:
 - All Quaggas and Zebras
- Dry Weight:
 - Calculated from size

Size with ImageJ

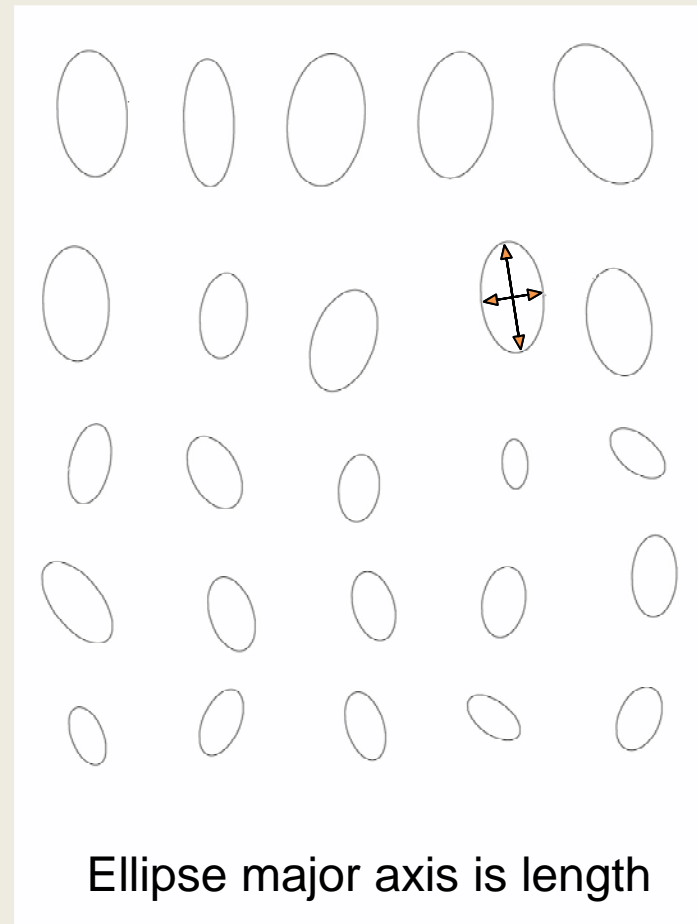


Mussel Sizing

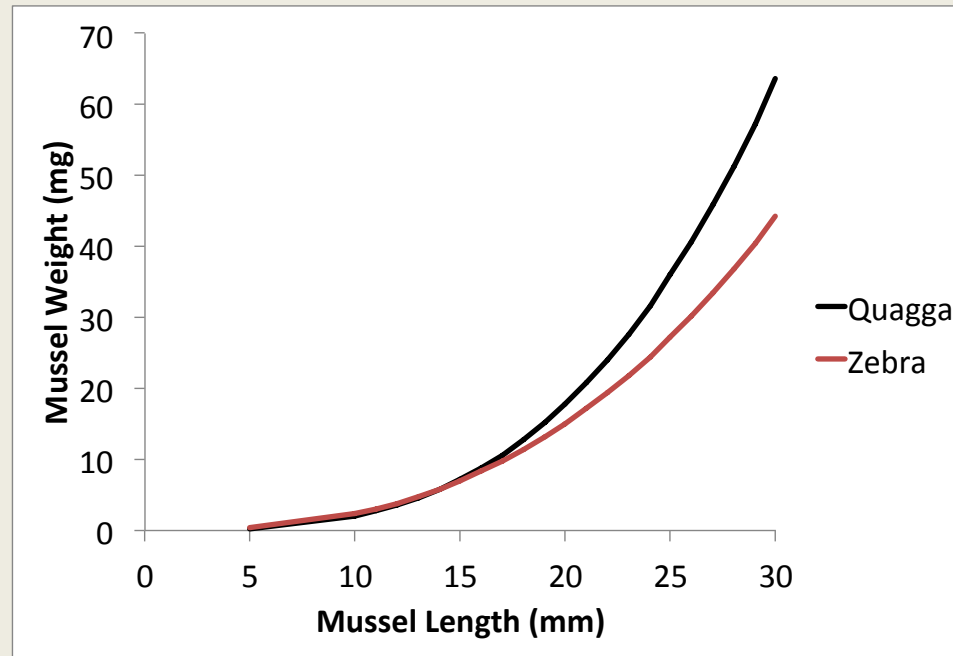
Sort and Measure

- Total counts:
 - Quaggas and Zebras
 - <0.5 cm and >0.5 cm
- Wet weight:
 - Quaggas and Zebras (shell included)
- Dry Weight:
 - Calculated from length (shell not included)

Size with ImageJ



Length-Weight Regression for Dreissenids



Nalepa et al. 2010

Matches Cayuga
LW equation for
2007 Quaggas
(unpub)



Length
5 mm

Dry Weight
0.2 mg

10 mm

2.0 mg

20 mm

17.8 mg

30 mm

63.7 mg

Does not
include shell weight

Preliminary Findings

Cross-Lake Transects

9 (North End, Cayuga)

8 (Union Springs)

7 (Wells College, Aurora)

6 (Long Point)

5 (West-Side Wine Country)

4 (Power Plant, Deepest)

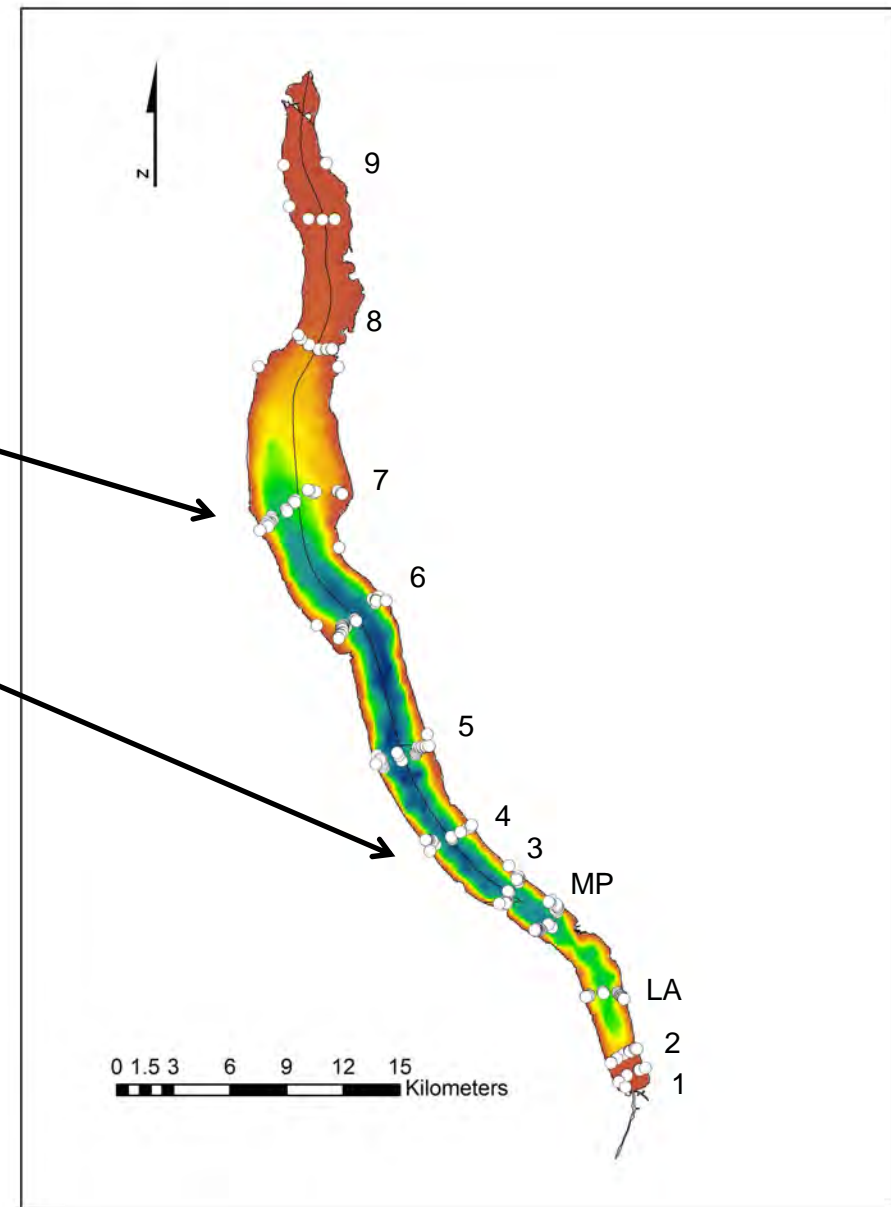
3 (Taughannock)

MP (Myers Point)

LA (Lansing)

2 (CU Sailing Club)

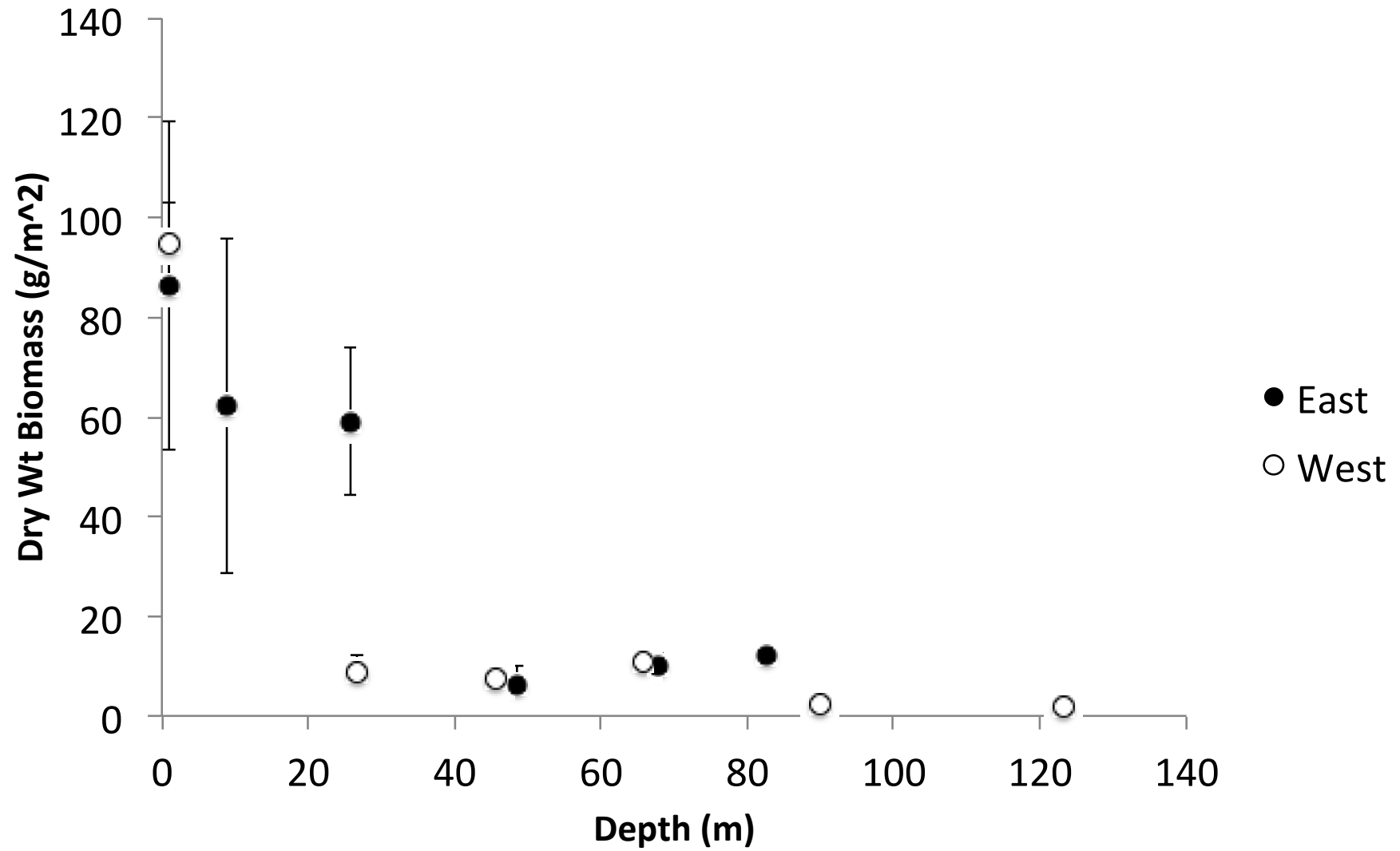
1 (South End)



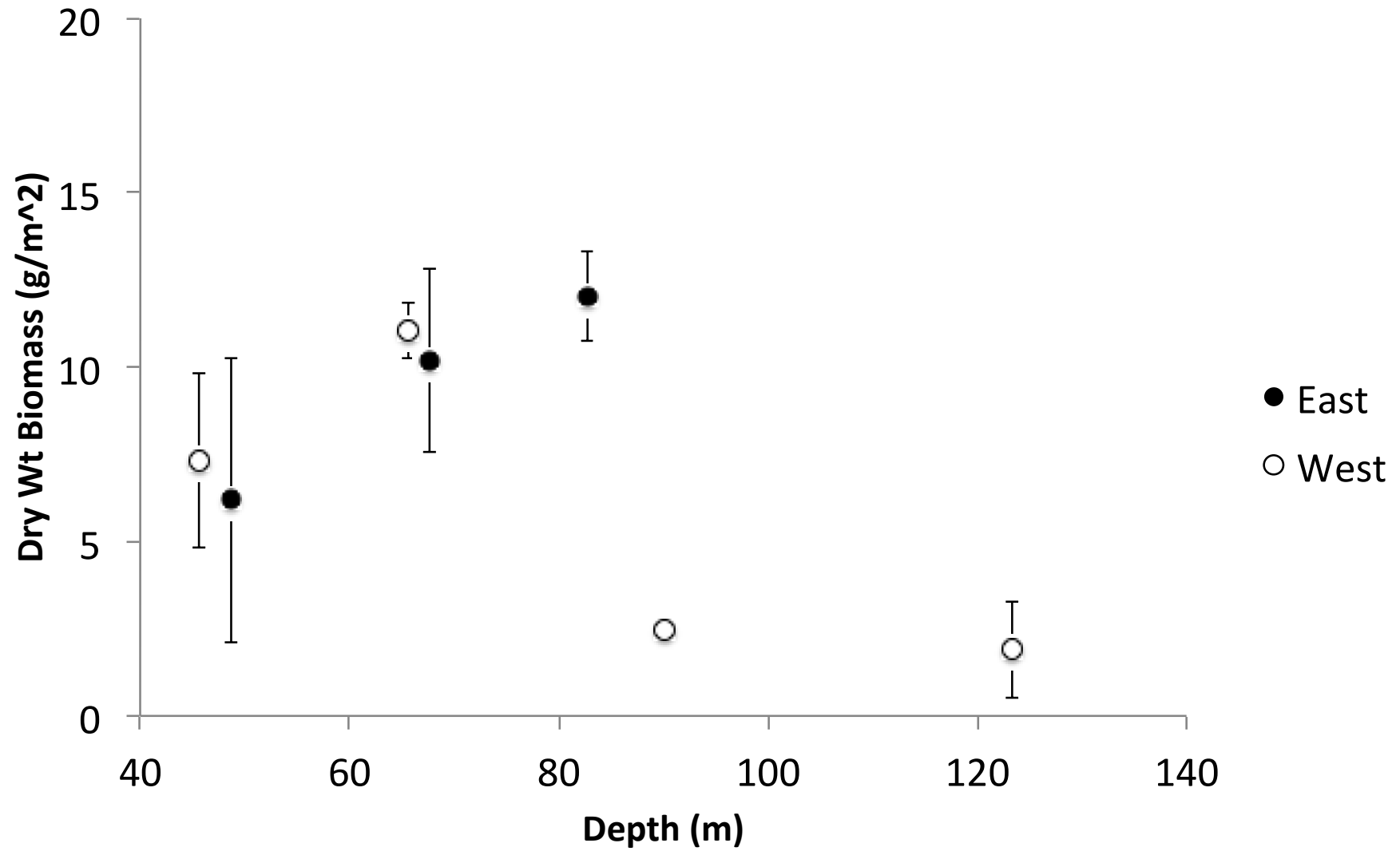
Transect 4



Transect 4



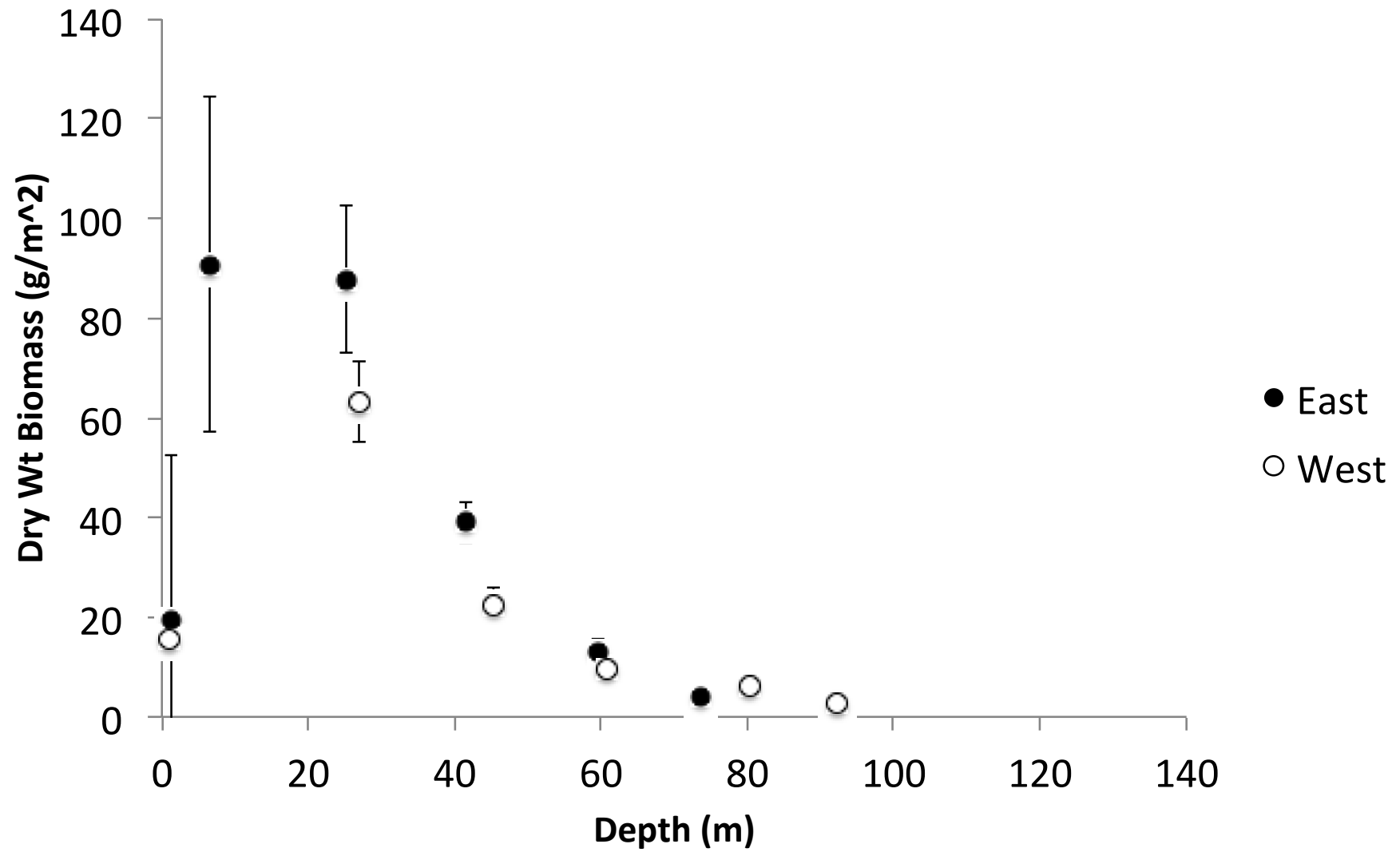
Transect 4



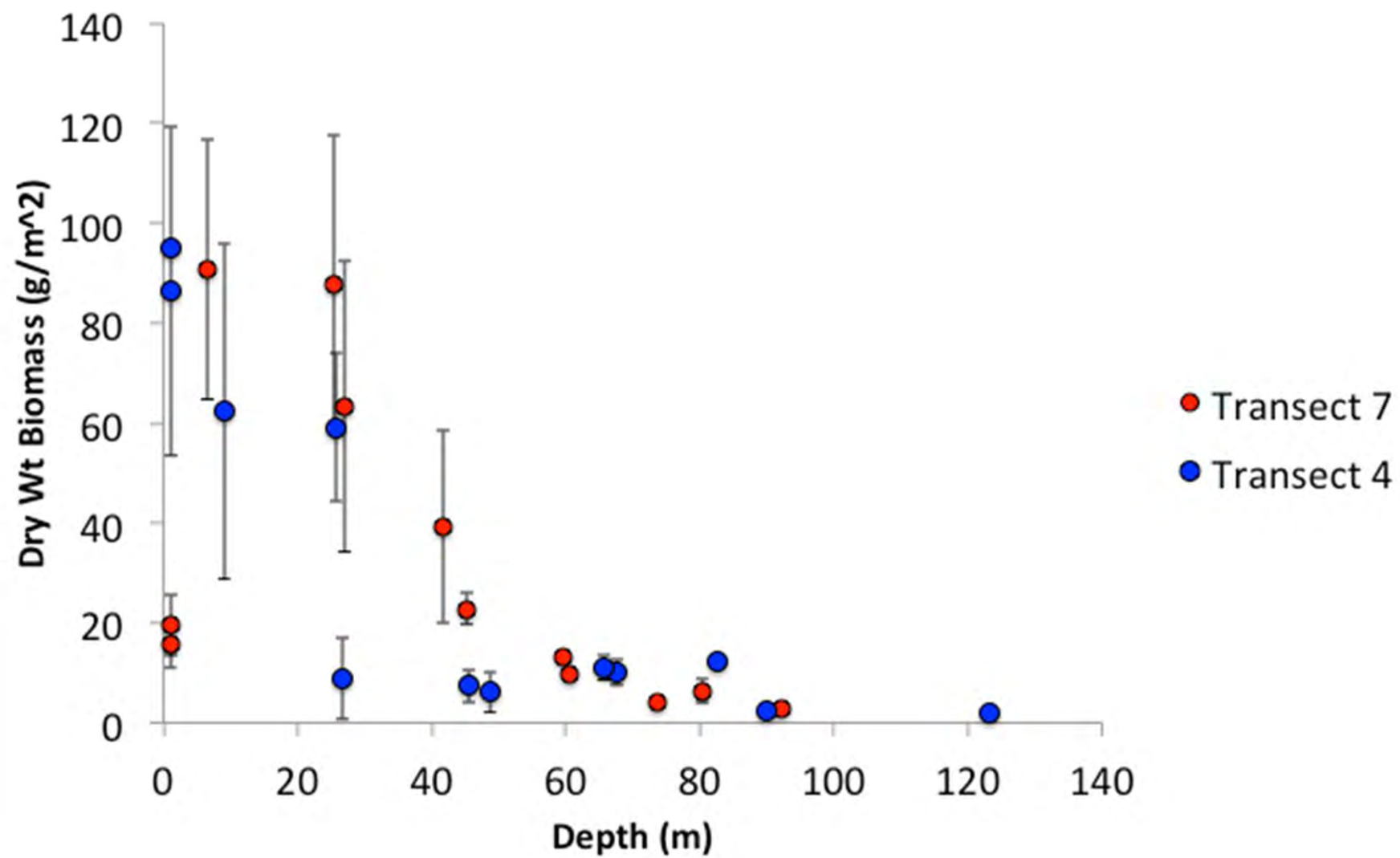
Transect 7 (Wells College)



Transect 7

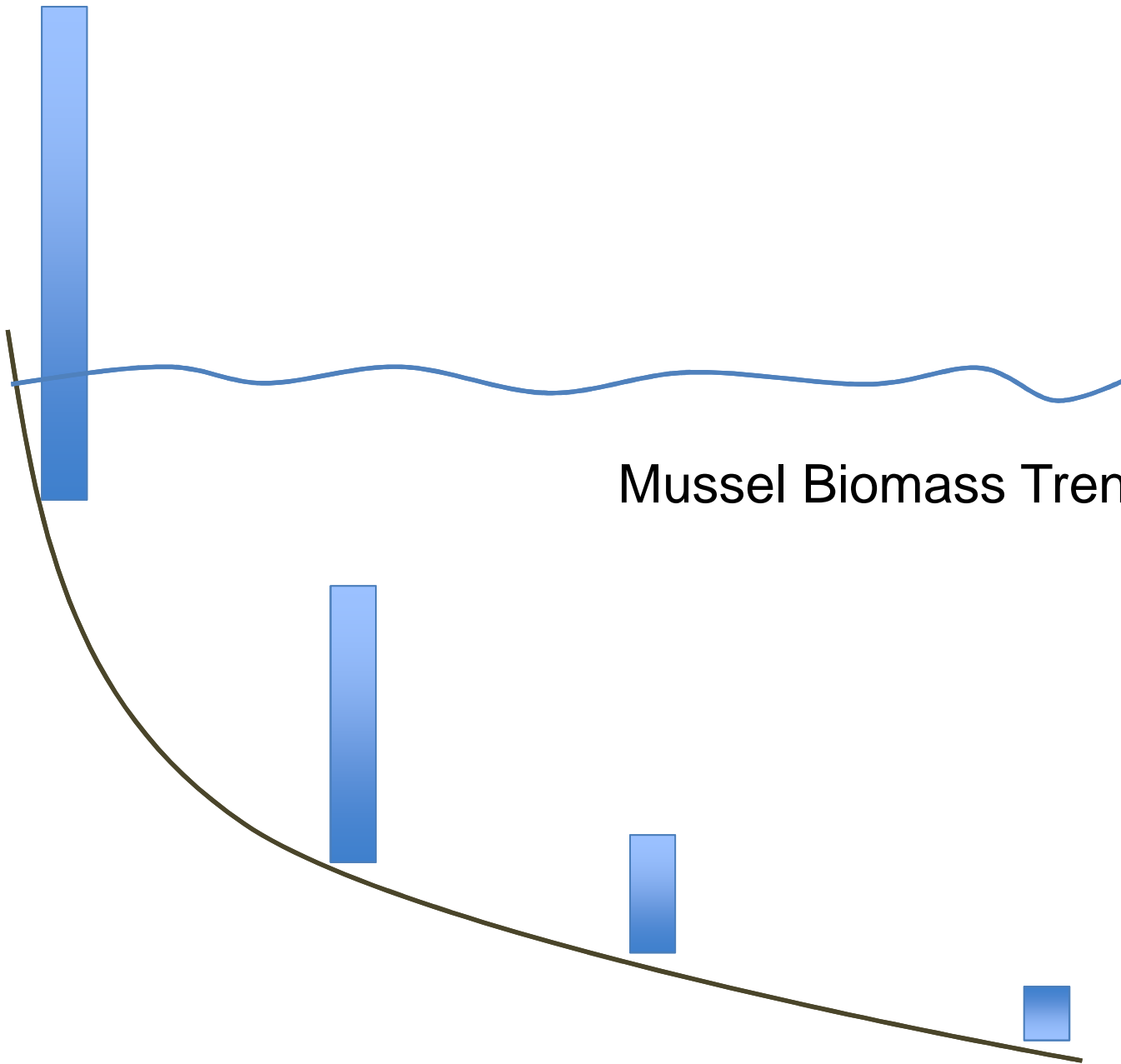


Transect 4 & 7





Mussel Biomass Trend with Depth



Objective 2: Applying Excretion Rates

Approaches

Lab Increase of SRP in filtered lake water

Downstream vs. Upstream Effler et al. 1997, 2004

In situ Ozersky et al. 2009, Bootsma unpub.

Reporting

“Specific” $\mu\text{mol gDW}^{-1} \text{ h}^{-1}$

“Areal” $\mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{ h}^{-1}$ (considers biomass)

1 $\mu\text{mol P}$ = 31 $\mu\text{g L}^{-1} \text{ P}$

General Laboratory Approach

- 1) Start with filtered lake water of low baseline SRP.
- 2) One no-mussel control, triplicate mussel treatments for each temperature.
- 3) Add mussels of known size.
- 4) Collect SRP samples over time.
- 5) Calculation includes
 - SRP change ($\mu\text{g/L}$ or μmol)
 - volume of water (liters)
 - time period (hours)
 - total dry weight of mussels (g, not including shells)

ZEBRA MUSSELS

BIOLOGY, IMPACTS, AND
CONTROL



1993

Edited by
Thomas F. Nalepa
Donald W. Schloesser

SECOND EDITION

Quagga *and* Zebra Mussels

Biology, Impacts, and Control

Edited by
Thomas F. Nalepa
Don W. Schloesser

 **CRC Press**
Taylor & Francis Group

2013



Excretion Rates

(Table 35.1 pg. 557 Nalepa 2013 Book)

Ranges for Dreissenids

Phosphorus 0.08 to 3.4 $\mu\text{mol P gDW}^{-1} \text{ h}^{-1}$

Nitrogen 1.4 to 26 $\mu\text{mol N gDW}^{-1} \text{ h}^{-1}$

Average Values for Phosphorus Excretion

Zebra 0.67 +/- 0.56 $\mu\text{mol gDW}^{-1} \text{ h}^{-1}$

Quagga 0.33 +/- 0.18 $\mu\text{mol gDW}^{-1} \text{ h}^{-1}$

Temperature Effect on Excretion Rate

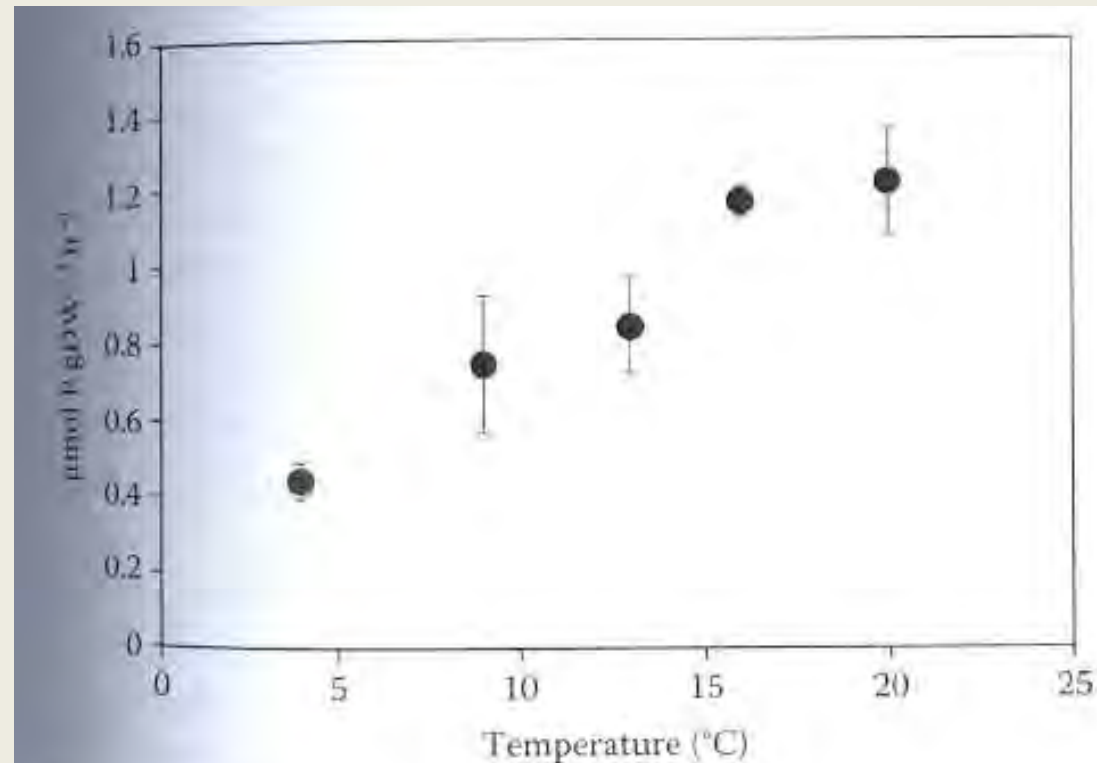


Figure 35.2 Excretion rates of soluble reactive P ($\mu\text{mol P gDW}^{-1} \text{h}^{-1}$) by quagga mussels at five different temperatures. Mussels were collected from Lake Michigan in March 2010. Mussels were fed a monoculture of *Scenedesmus quadricauda* (particulate carbon concentration = $25\text{--}33 \mu\text{mol L}^{-1}$) and acclimated to experimental temperatures for 3 days prior to measurement of excretion rates. Mussel length was between 16 and 18 mm. Excretion rate was measured as SRP accumulation over 1.5 h after mussels were placed in filtered lake water.

Nalepa
(unpub)

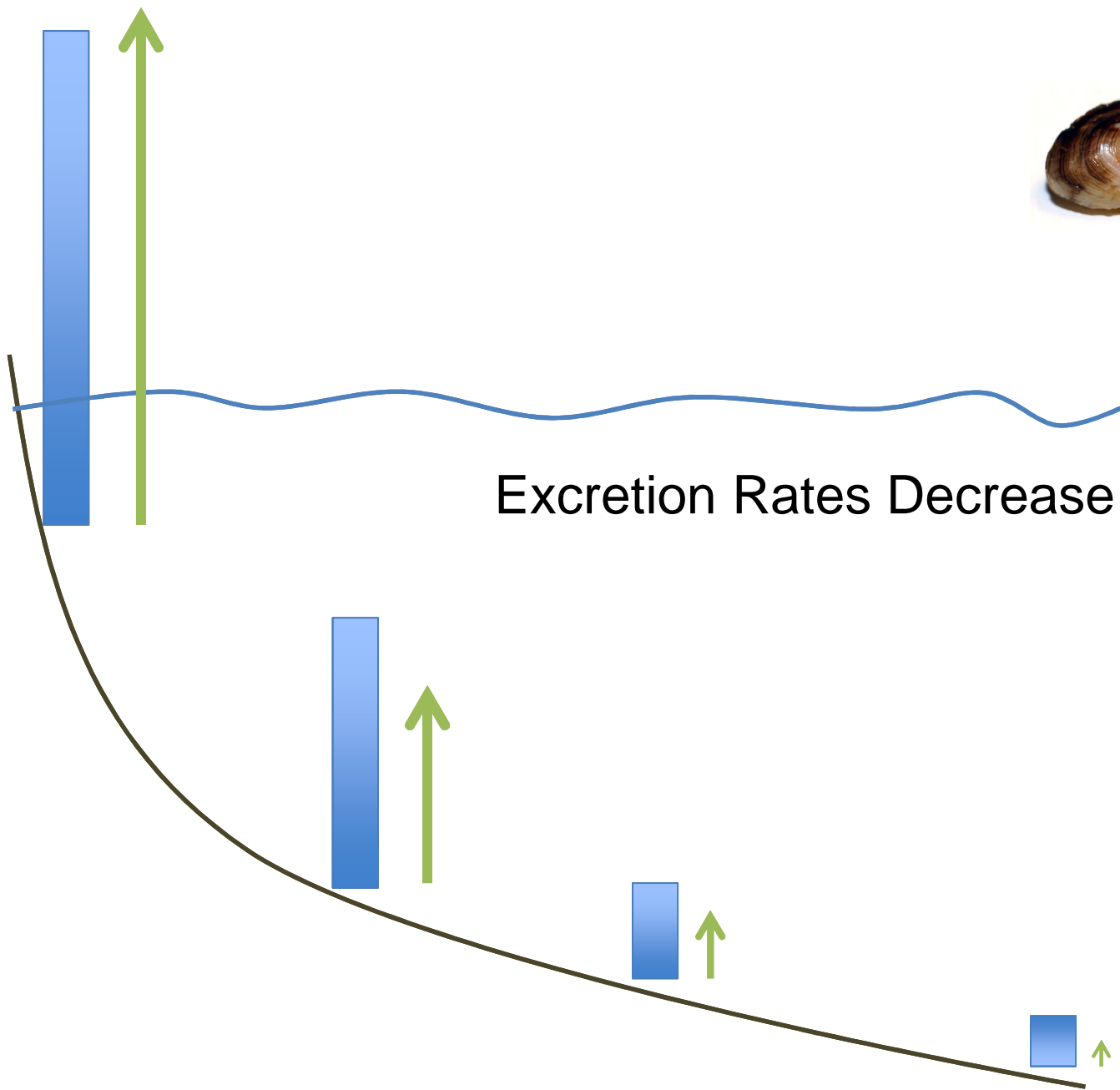
Depth (m)	DW Biomass m ⁻²	Specific Rate (T-Dependent)	Areal Rate
10 m	100 g	1.2 $\mu\text{mol g}^{-1} \text{ hr}^{-1}$	120 $\mu\text{mol m}^{-2} \text{ hr}^{-1}$
30 m	50 g	0.8	40
50 m	10 g	0.8	8
90 m	5 g	0.4	2



+

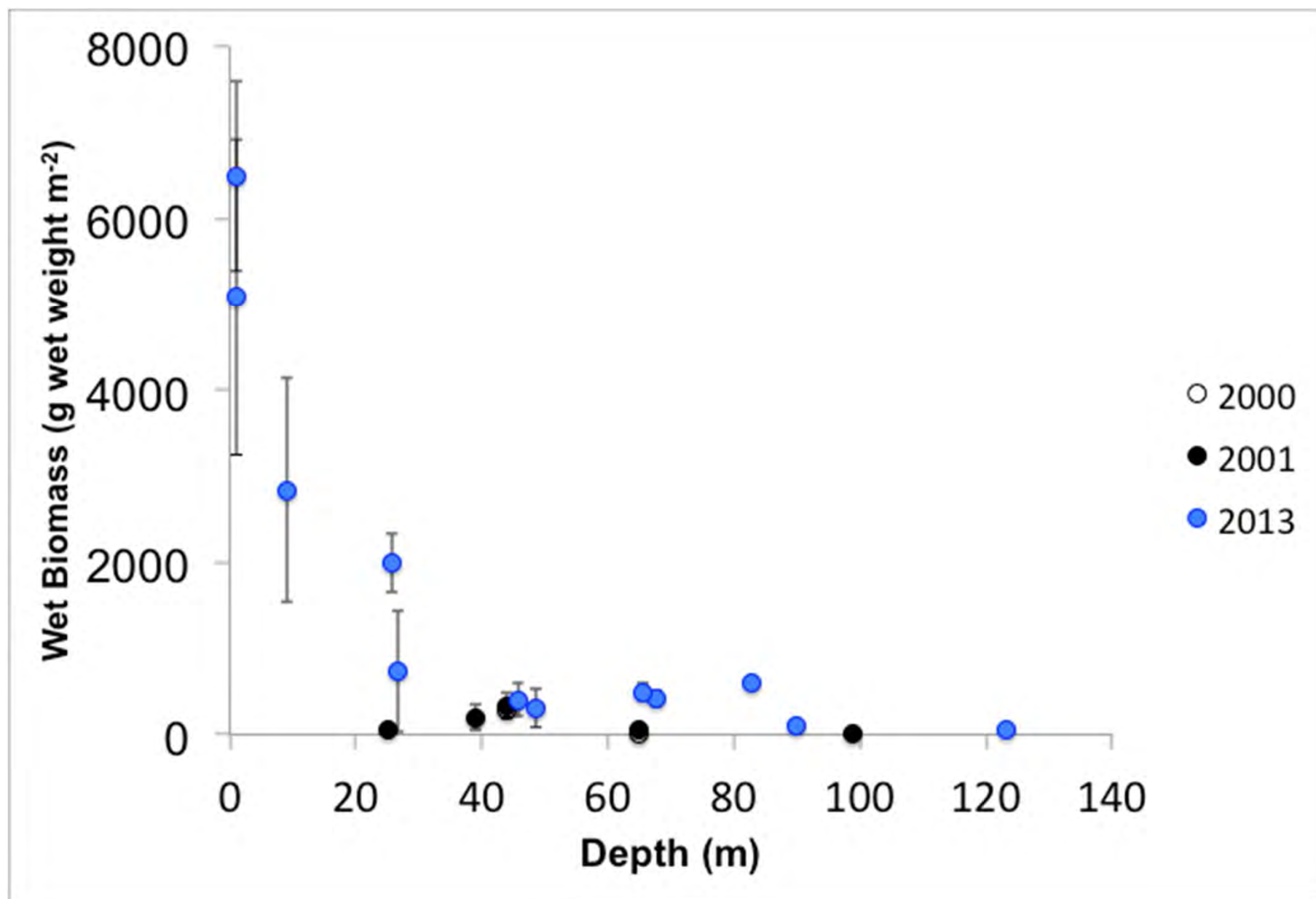
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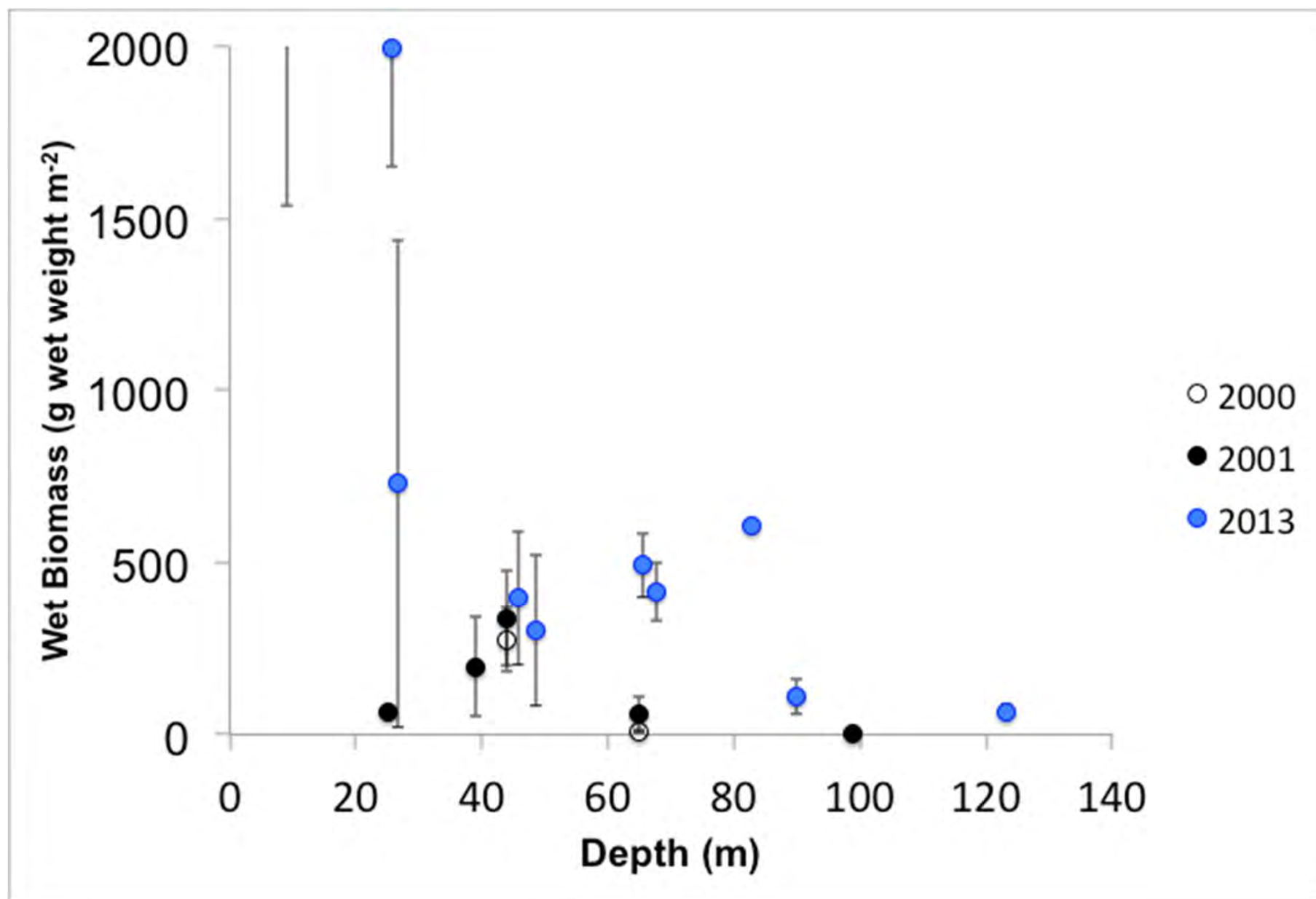
Excretion Rates Decrease with Temperature

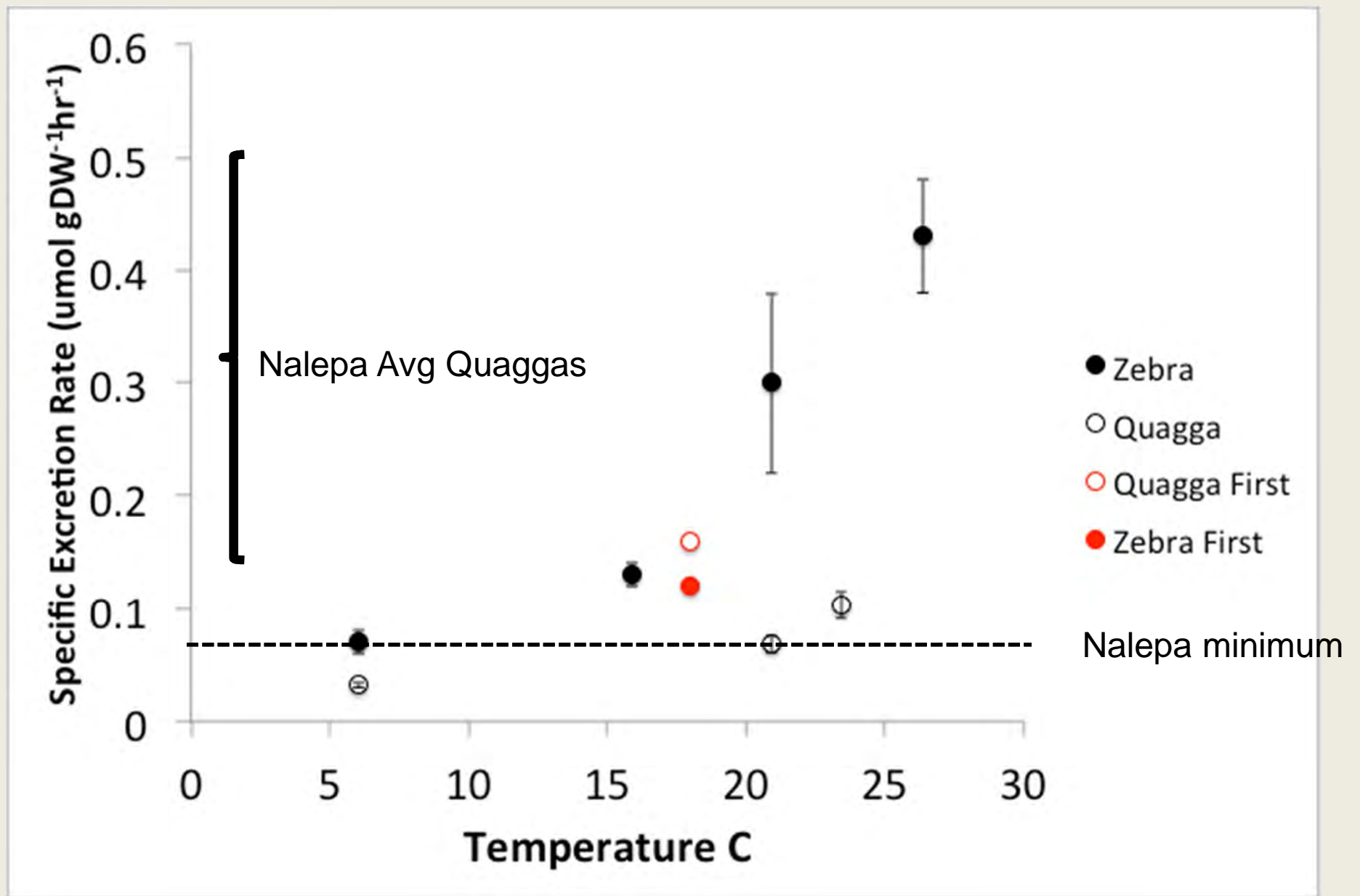




Thank you!







Based on triplicates