1 **Characterization of Pacific oyster (*Crassostrea gigas*) proteomic response to**
2 **natural environmental differences**
3 Running head: Oyster proteomic response to environment
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Abstract

Global climate change is rapidly altering coastal marine ecosystems important for food
production. A comprehensive understanding of how organisms will respond to these complex
environmental changes can come only from observing and studying species within their natural
environment. To this end, the effects of environmental drivers — pH, dissolved oxygen content,
salinity, and temperature — on Pacific oyster (*Crassostrea gigas*) physiology were evaluated in
an outplant experiment. Sibling juvenile oysters were outplanted to eelgrass and unvegetated
habitat at five different estuarine sites within the Acidification Nearshore Monitoring Network in
Washington State, USA to evaluate how regional environmental drivers influence molecular
physiology. Within each site, we also determined if eelgrass presence that buffered pH
conditions changed the oysters' expressed proteome. A novel, two-step, gel-free proteomic
approach was used to identify differences in protein abundance in *C. gigas* ctenidia tissue after
a 29 day outplant by 1) identifying proteins in a data independent acquisition survey step and 2)
comparing relative quantities of targeted environmental response proteins using selected
reaction monitoring. While there was no difference in protein abundance detected between
habitats or among sites within Puget Sound, *C. gigas* outplanted at Willapa Bay had significantly
higher abundances of antioxidant enzymes and molecular chaperones. Environmental factors at
Willapa Bay, such as higher average temperature, may have driven this protein abundance
pattern. These findings generate a suite of new hypotheses for lab and field experiments to
compare the effects of regional conditions on physiological responses of marine invertebrates.

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37 *Keywords: proteomics, oysters, in situ measurements, estuarine systems, antioxidant enzymes,*
38 *molecular chaperones*
39 *Abbreviations: PS: Puget Sound, CI: Case Inlet, FB: Fidalgo Bay, PG: Port Gamble Bay, SK: Skokomish*
40 *River Delta, WB: Willapa Bay, DIA: Data Independent Acquisition Mass Spectrometry, SRM: Selected*
41 *Reaction Monitoring Assay*

Introduction

43   Global climate change will influence estuarine dynamics and impact the

44 organisms that inhabit these environments. Estuaries are already variable across spatial

45 and temporal scales in terms of phytoplankton production (Pennock & Sharp 1986),

46 nutrient availability (Paerl et al. 2014), heavy metal contamination (Liu et al. 2015),

47 salinity (Banas et al. 2004), and carbonate chemistry (Feely et al. 2010; Pelletier et al.

48 2018). Since climate change will affect these parameters, it is important to consider how

49 estuarine organisms will respond.

50   Proteomics, or the study of protein abundance and expression, can be used to

51 shed light on physiological changes on a molecular level. Proteins direct all major

52 cellular functions, thus examining protein abundance provides direct evidence of an

53 organism's physiological response to the estuarine environment (Tomanek 2014). The

54 proteome is dynamic, as it must rapidly respond to perturbation, providing mechanistic

55 information that standard gene expression and mRNA quantification studies cannot

56 (Veldhoen et al. 2012; Flores-Nunes et al. 2015). As a result of the proteome's dynamic

57 nature, proteins analyzed at the time of collection represent an organism's response to

58 the environment in near real-time. Long-term exposure to environmental conditions, as

59 well as natural organismal aging, are also reflected in the proteome (Hercus et al.

60 2003). Discovery-based proteomic methods can elucidate responses to environmental

61 drivers (Flores-Nunes et al. 2015). Several studies have connected protein abundances

62 with changes in laboratory-simulated environmental conditions, identifying key proteins

63 and mechanisms involved in specific environmental responses (Timmins-Schiffman et

64 al. 2014; Dineshram et al. 2016; Meng et al. 2017). While these studies provide insight

into organismal adaptation and physiology, laboratory studies alone cannot fully

encapsulate the effects of multiple environmental drivers within an ecosystem context

(Riebesell & Gattuso 2014).

Although challenging, *in situ* field studies provide a necessary biological realism

when considering variable environments (Slattery et al. 2012; Cornwall & Hurd 2016).

Such experiments can be leveraged to study the effects of multiple environmental

drivers on organismal physiology and to incorporate realistic variability, as opposed to

examining the effect of a single stressor on an organism (Riebesell & Gattuso 2014).

Through transcriptomics, Chapman et al. (2011) demonstrated the power of an *in situ*

experimental design for examining the impacts of regional environmental conditions on

Eastern oyster (*Crassostrea virginica*) physiology. Transcript signatures from *C.*

virginica sampled from various locations in southeastern United States revealed that

temperature, pH, salinity, dissolved oxygen and pollutant load at each location impacted

gene expression. Furthermore, they were able to disentangle the interactions of these

environmental factors on gene expression. RNA and protein abundances can be

influenced by several environmental factors, and *in situ* studies can determine which

drivers will be more important to consider for organismal physiology.

Marine invertebrates have proven to be informative bioindicators in proteomic

studies to examine the effects of *in situ* conditions on organismal physiological

responses to environmental change. When marine invertebrates have been exposed to

varying environmental conditions, proteomics have demonstrated changes in cellular

defense, immune responses, and genome function (Veldhoen et al. 2012). Changes in

protein abundance in bivalves like the Pacific oyster (*Crassostrea gigas*) and blue

mussels (*Mytilus edulis spp.*) have been used to develop biomarkers for environmental

contaminants (Slattery et al. 2012; Beyer et al. 2017). Proteomic responses to natural

environmental drivers have also been evaluated in bivalves. For example, shotgun

proteomic analysis of *M. edulis* ctenidia from Baltic Sea microcosms revealed that low

salinity conditions lead to decreased abundance of cytoskeleton proteins, as well as

calcium-binding messenger calmodulin, which plays an important role in signalling and

intracellular membrane trafficking pathways (Campos et al. 2016). Using a growing

wealth of genomic information to understand how these species fare under differential

environmental conditions is critical for monitoring natural populations and commercial

aquaculture.

Pacific oyster (*Crassostrea gigas*) rearing in estuarine environments in

Washington State, USA (WA) provides an ideal system to examine the effect of *in situ*

environmental conditions on the expressed proteome. *C. gigas* are extensively farmed

in two different estuarine systems that show substantial regional variation: Puget Sound

and Willapa Bay. Puget Sound is a complex estuarine system with interconnected sub-

basins, each with different freshwater inputs, residence times, and stratification levels

(Feely et al. 2010; Bianucci et al. 2018; Pelletier et al. 2018). Willapa Bay is a large

shallow estuary on the Pacific coast that exchanges approximately half its water volume

with the Pacific Ocean at each tide (Banas et al. 2004, 2007). Seasonality and location

within Puget Sound dictates temperature, dissolved oxygen, salinity, and pH conditions,

while Willapa Bay conditions are influenced by diurnal fluctuations and proximity to

either the ocean or rivers draining into the bay (Banas et al. 2007; Feely et al. 2010;

Ruesink et al. 2015).

Both Puget Sound and Willapa Bay also host eelgrass beds (*Zostera spp.*) that

affect environmental conditions, such as oxygen concentrations, on diurnal time scales.

The 2012 Washington State Blue Ribbon Panel on Ocean Acidification outlines key

early actions, which include the examination of "vegetation-based systems of

remediation" (Action 6.1.1) to improve local pH through photosynthetic drawdown of

carbon dioxide. This experiment set out to test whether protein abundance patterns

reflect reduced stress within vegetation. For example, eelgrass beds may reduce

emersion stress relative to unvegetated areas through shading, the retention of water,

and increased evaporative cooling at low tide. They can also ameliorate effects of

ocean acidification through photosynthetic activity. Reduced pathogen prevalence has

also been documented in seagrass beds, but not specifically in eelgrass (Lamb et al.

2017). In contrast, eelgrass beds may drive more extreme carbonate chemistry

conditions (Pacella et al. 2018). Lowe et al. (2018) also found that *C. gigas* shell

strength and survival was significantly lower in eelgrass habitats in WA. Understanding

how different aquaculture grow-out locations and habitats will affect the oyster's ability

to persist through environmental change is crucial for the industry and the ecosystem.

The purpose of this study was to use proteomic techniques to uncover the

impacts of environmental drivers on Pacific oyster physiological outcomes in estuarine

environments in WA. Naturally existing environmental variation was harnessed by

outplanting *C. gigas* in different locations within Puget Sound and Willapa Bay, and

habitat effects were taken into consideration by placing oysters in eelgrass and

unvegetated habitats. Gel-free proteomic methods were used to examine the effects of

outplant conditions on relative quantities of all expressed proteins in a series of *in situ*

experiments in order to identify differentially abundant proteins. We predicted that

differences in environmental drivers at each outplant location and within outplant

habitats would yield unique protein abundance patterns. Oysters at outplant locations

with warmer water temperatures, more variable water temperatures, lower dissolved

oxygen content, lower salinity, or lower pH may have higher abundances of proteins

related to environmental response. Eelgrass beds were expected to ameliorate stressful

conditions, resulting in lower abundances of environmental stress response proteins

than oysters in unvegetated habitats.

Methods

Shellfish Deployment

Sibling juvenile *C. gigas* (average shell length = 27.2 mm, age = 2 months) were

outplanted for 29 days starting June 19, 2016 at five locations: Case Inlet (CI), Fidalgo

Bay (FB), Port Gamble Bay (PG), Skokomish River Delta (SK), and Willapa Bay (WB) in

Washington State, USA (Table 1). These sites were selected for differences in

environmental parameters, as well as for the presence of unvegetated areas and

eelgrass beds within each site. All sites were part of the Acidification Nearshore

Monitoring Network, a network of sensors placed in various WA locations to monitor

marine chemistry (ANeMoNe; Washington Department of Natural Resources). Prior to

the outplant, oysters were reared in a controlled hatchery setting. At each site and

habitat combination, custom-built Durafet-based sensors (Honeywell) were used to

monitor pH. Commercially-available MiniDOT loggers (Precision Measurement

Engineering) were used to measure dissolved oxygen, and Odyssey loggers were used

to measure conductivity. All sensors recorded temperature measurements, and all

sensors logged at 10-minute intervals across the outplant period, with the exception of

SK, where sensors were installed two days into the outplant period. At each site,

juvenile oysters were placed in bags of five oysters each directly onto the substrate at a

tidal height of -1.5 MLLW, both inside and outside of eelgrass beds (n=15 per habitat

type), for a total of thirty outplanted oysters per site. The animals were uniformly placed

less than a lateral distance of 0.5 m from the sensors at the same tidal height as the

instruments. Oysters were housed in exclusion cages to prevent predation. Juvenile

oysters remained at each site for a 29-day exposure period. Because the ctenidia is the

primary site where oysters interact with the environment, ctenidia samples were

dissected at the end of the outplant and held on dry ice until storage at -80ºC (Beyer et

al. 2017; Meng et al. 2017).

Environmental data was treated as follows. Conductivity observations were

removed when less than zero, which occurs when the instrument is dry at low tide.

Remaining observations were converted to salinity measurements using the *swSCTp*

function in the *oce* package in R (Kelley & Richards 2018; R Core Team 2018), with

temperature at 25ºC and pressure at 10 dbar. For dissolved oxygen, pH, and salinity

datasets, data were removed when collected by probes 1) during low tide or 2) when

tidal depth was less than one foot to remove readings where the probes may have been

exposed. Values collected during low tide or a depths less than one foot were retained

for temperature datasets. Outliers were screened using the Tukey method for

temperature, dissolved oxygen, pH, and salinity datasets (Hoaglin et al. 1986). Uniform

outplant tidal heights were checked using *prop.test* in R (R Core Team 2018).

A non-metric multidimensional scaling analysis (NMDS) was used to evaluate

differences in environmental parameters. First, mean and variance were calculated for

each day of the outplant. Values were log-transformed, and a separate Gower's

distance matrix was calculated for daily mean and daily variances, accounting for

missing data. The NMDS was conducted with the Gower's distance matrix to visually

compare means or variances between sites and habitats. Significant differences

between site and habitat were identified using a One-way Analysis of Similarities

(ANOSIM) for each environmental parameter. Pairwise ANOSIM tests for significant

one-way ANOSIM results and two-way ANOSIM tests by site and habitat were not

conducted due to lack of replicates within each site-habitat combination. R Scripts are

available in the supplementary Github repository (Venkataraman et al. 2018).

Protein Discovery

To identify select protein targets for characterization across locations and

environmental conditions, a subset of tissue samples were analyzed with data

independent acquisition (DIA) mass spectrometry analysis. Two tissue samples were

used from each site to make a peptide library and maximize the amount of protein

abundance data collected from each sample.

Protein Quantification

Tissue samples were homogenized in a solution of 50 mM NH_4HCO_3 with 6M

Urea (500µl). Tissues were then sonicated 3 times (Fisher Scientific Sonic

Dismembrator Model 100) for 10 seconds each and cooled between sonications in a

bath of ethanol and dry ice. Protein quantities were measured with the Pierce BCA

Protein Assay Kit microplate assay with a limited quantity of sonicated sample (11 µL).

The protein concentration was measured via spectroscopy at 540 nm in a Labsystems

(Waltham, MA) Multiskan MCC/340 and accompanying Ascent Software Version 2.6.

Protein concentrations were calculated based on a standard curve with BSA (Pierce)

per manufacturer's instructions.

Protein Digestion

Protein digestion followed the protocol outlined in Timmins-Schiffman et al.

(2013). To each sample of 30 µg protein,1.5 M Tris pH 8.8 buffer (6.6 µL) and 200 mM

TCEP (2.5 µL) were added. After solvent additions, each sample's pH was verified to be

basic (pH ≥ 8), and placed on a 37ºC heating block for one hour. Iodoacetamide (200

mM, 20 µL) was then added to each sample to maximize digestion enzyme access to

protein cleavage sites. Samples were covered with aluminum foil to incubate in the dark

for 1 hour at room temperature. Afterwards, diothiolthreitol (200 mM, 20 µL) was added

and samples were incubated at room temperature for one hour. Lysyl Endopeptidase

(Wako Chemicals) was then added to each sample in a 1 µg enzyme:30 µg oyster

protein ratio, followed by one hour of incubation at room temperature. Urea was diluted

with NH_4HCO_3 (25 mM, 800 µL) and HPLC grade methanol (200 µL). Trypsin

(Promega) was added to each sample in a 1 µg trypsin: 30 µg oyster protein ratio for

overnight digestion at room temperature.

After overnight incubation, samples were evaporated to near dryness at 4ºC with

a speedvac (CentriVap ® Refrigerated Centrifugal Concentrator Model 7310021).

Samples were then reconstituted in 100 µL of a 5% Acetonitrile and 0.1% Trifluoroacetic

Acid (Solvent A) to isolate peptides. If samples were not at pH ≤ 2, 10-20 µL aliquots of

10% Formic Acid were added until this pH was achieved.

Before desalting peptide samples, Macrospin C18 columns (The Nest Group)

were prepared by adding 200 µL of a 60% Acetonitrile with 0.1% Trifluoroacetic Acid

(Solvent B). The columns were spun for three minutes at 2000 rpm, and flow-through

liquid from the column was discarded. The spinning and discarding process was

completed a total of four times.To wash columns, 200 µL of Solvent A was added to

each column. The columns were once again spun for three minutes at 2000 rpm and

liquid was discarded afterwards; the solvent addition, spinning, and discarding process

was completed a total of three times.

To bind peptides to the columns, digested peptides were added to prepared

columns, then the columns were spun at 3000 rpm for three minutes. The filtrate was

pipetted back onto the column and spun again at 3000 rpm for three minutes. Solvent A

(200 µL) was added to each column three separate times, then the column was spun for

three minutes at 3000 rpm to wash salts off the column.

Peptides were eluted with two additions of 100 µL Solvent B to each column.

Columns were spun at 3000 rpm for three minutes and the peptide fraction (filtrate) was

reserved. Samples were placed in a speed vacuum at 4ºC until they were nearly dry

(approximately two hours) to dry peptides. Peptides were reconstituted with 60 µL of 3%

Acetonitrile + 0.1% Formic Acid, and stored at -80ºC.

Internal Standard Addition

Peptide Retention Time Calibration (PRTC; Pierce) is used as an internal

standard to ensure consistency of peptides detected and measured throughout a mass

spectrometry run. The stock solution of PRTC was diluted to 0.2 pmol/µL using 3%

Acetonitrile with 0.1% Formic Acid. In a clean centrifuge tube, 6 µg of oyster protein and

0.376 pmol of PRTC were mixed together as per the PRTC user guide. Sample volume

was brought up to 15 µL using a 3% acetonitrile and 0.1% formic acid solution. A quality

control solution was also prepared (1 µL PRTC + BSA:3 µL 3% Acetonitrile and 0.1%

Formic Acid solution).

Data Independent Acquisition Mass Spectrometry

Peptides were analyzed on an Orbitrap Fusion Lumos mass spectrometer

(Thermo Scientific) using Data Independent Acquisition Mass Spectrometry (DIA). DIA

analyses were completed as a comprehensive, non-random analytical method for

detecting peptide ions present within a sample to create a peptide library. The peptide

library was then leveraged to develop a targeted proteomics assay for quantification

(see Selected Reaction Monitoring Assay). A 30 cm analytical column and 3 cm pre-

column were packed in-house with 3 µm C18 beads (Dr. Maisch). Samples were run in

a randomized order. A blank injection followed each sample, with procedural blanks run

at the very end. Every injection was 3 µL, which included 1 µg of oyster protein and

0.0752 pmol of PRTC. Peptides were analyzed in MS1 over the *m/z* range of 450-950

with 12 *m/z* wide windows with 5 *m/z* overlaps (Egertson et al. 2013). MS1 resolution

was 60000 and AGC target was 400000 with a three second cycle time. The MS2 loop

count was set to 20 and MS2 data was collected with a resolution of 15000 on charge

state of 2 with an AGC target of 50000. No dynamic exclusion was used.

Peptide-Centric Proteomic Analyses

Unknown peptide spectra from mass spectrometry samples were matched with

known peptides using Peptide-Centric Analysis in the PECAN software (Ting et al.

2015). Raw mass spectrometry files were converted to mzML files, then demultiplexed

using MSConvert (Chambers et al. 2012). The *C. gigas* proteome was digested with in

silico tryptic digest using Protein Digestion Simulator (Riviere et al. 2015). All known

peptides from the mzML files were identified in comparison to the digested *C. gigas*

proteome (Riviere et al. 2015).

The PECAN-generated spectral library (.blib) file was used to detect peptides of

interest in raw DIA files in Skyline (MacLean et al. 2010). Skyline identified peptides

using chromatogram peak picking, where ions that elute at the same time and mass are

detected as a peptide (file available at Panorama Public). All PRTC peptides and

approximately 100 different oyster proteins and their peptide transitions were manually

checked for retention time and peak area ratio consistency to determine a Skyline auto

peak picker error rate (24.3% ± 25%, range: 0% to 100%).

Proteins had to satisfy four criteria to be considered appropriate targets for the

study. 1) After an extensive literature search, functions related to oxidative stress,

hypoxia, heat shock, immune resistance, shell formation, growth, and cellular

maintenance were determined useful for evaluating environmental response. Proteins

with annotations matching these functions were considered potential targets. 2) Protein

data was then evaluated in Skyline to ensure there was no missing data for any peptide

or sample. 3) Peaks with significant interference from other peptides were not

considered. 4) Proteins needed at least two peptides with three transitions per peptide

to quality as a potential target for downstream assays. The fifteen proteins (41 peptides

and 123 transitions) that matched all of these criteria were selected as targets (Table 2).

Selected Reaction Monitoring Assay

Following the protein discovery phase (DIA), proteins were isolated as described

above from an additional five randomly selected samples per site and habitat

combination (for a total of 5 oysters per group) and analyzed with Selected Reaction

Monitoring (SRM). Samples were prepared as described for DIA, except tissue samples

were homogenized in 100 μL, and peptide samples were evaporated at 25ºC after

peptide isolation.

Proteins of interest identified from the DIA analysis were used as targets in a

SRM assay following the workflow and informatic pipeline of (Timmins-Schiffman et al.

2016). Target peptide transitions were monitored using SRM on a Thermo TSQ

Vantage. SRM data were collected during a gradient of 2-60% acetonitrile over 40

minutes. All samples were run in technical duplicates in a randomized order with a 1 μg

oyster peptide and 0.0752 pmol PRTC injection. A quality control injection and blank

injection were run after every five sample injections, and PRTC peptides were

monitored throughout the experiment.

Target Peptide Specificity

To ensure SRM assay specificity to oyster peptides of interest, oyster peptides

were diluted in a background matrix of similar complexity (Pacific geoduck — *Panopea*

generosa — peptides), then analyzed using the oyster SRM assay. An oyster-specific

SRM target would decrease in abundance with a decreasing abundance of oyster

peptides in a mixture. Non-specific peptides — more likely to be found in background

matrix of similar complexity — or peptides susceptible to interference would not

correlate with oyster peptide abundance, and therefore, would be uninformative. Five *C.*

gigas samples used for SRM were randomly selected and pooled in equal quantities. A

ten-sample oyster:geoduck dilution series was prepared and run using the same

methods as other SRM samples.

Target Analysis

Raw SRM files, a background *C. gigas* proteome, and the PECAN spectral

library file from DIA were used to create a Skyline document (file available at Panorama

Public). Correct transition peaks were selected based on predicted retention times from

DIA results by comparing the relative retention times between identical PRTC peptides

in the DIA and SRM datasets (R^2 = 0.99431). Based on peptide specificity analyses,

heat shock protein 70 B2 and one constituent peptide of

glucose-6-phosphate 1-dehydrogenase were removed from analyses (S11).

Further filters were applied to the data to maintain only high quality peptides and

transitions in the analysis. Coefficients of variation were calculated between technical

replicates for each peptide transition. Peptides were removed from the dataset if CV >

20%. To maintain high sample quality, any sample missing data for more than 50% of

peptide transitions was deemed poor quality for downstream analyses and excluded.

Abundance data was normalized using total ion current (TIC) values from the mass

spectrometer. Consistency between technical replicates was verified in remaining

samples using a NMDS with TIC-normalized data and a euclidean dissimilarity matrix.

Technical replicates were consistent if replicates lay closer together than to other

samples in the NMDS. These replicates were then averaged for multivariate analytical

methods.

Averaged technical replicate data was used to determine if peptides were

differentially abundant between outplant sites and habitats. Before proceeding with

analysis, peptide abundances were subjected to a Hellinger transformation to give low

weights to any peptides with low counts. A NMDS was used to visually compare relative

peptide abundance. One-way ANOSIM tests by site, region (Puget Sound vs. Willapa

Bay), and habitat, as well as a two-way ANOSIM test by site and habitat, were used to

determine significant differences. Pairwise ANOSIM tests and post-hoc similarity

percentage (SIMPER) analyses were conducted for each one- or two-way ANOSIM

result significant at the 0.05 level. The first ten SIMPER entries were deemed influential

peptides for each significant comparison.

The importance of environmental variables for explaining peptide abundance was

evaluated with a redundancy analysis (RDA). For each site and habitat combination,

mean and variance were calculated for pH, dissolved oxygen, salinity, and temperature

over the course of the entire outplant. Environmental variables were then used as

predictors to constrain peptide abundance. Predictors with missing values were not

included. A triplot was used to visually assess differences in peptide abundance by site

and habitat and the influence of individual peptides and environmental parameters.

Analysis of Variance (ANOVA) was used to calculate significance of the RDA and

environmental variables, with predictors deemed significant at $p < 0.05$. Since estuarine

sites are highly variable, a second RDA was conducted constraining peptide abundance

by environmental conditions on the day of collection to evaluate robustness of

proteomic methods. R Scripts are available in the supplementary Github repository

(Venkataraman et al. 2018).

Results

Conditions at Outplant Locations

Outplanted oysters experienced environmental variables representative of

standard summer conditions in Puget Sound (PS) and WB. Wild or cultured oysters

were present at the same tidal elevation as sensors, so outplant conditions represent

experiences of non-experimental organisms. NMDS plots revealed mean environmental

conditions were more similar among sites than variances. Both NMDS had stress

values less than 0.20 and were considered appropriate multivariate representations of

environmental data (Mean NMDS: stress = 0.0170, $p = 0.0100$; Variance NMDS: stress

= 0.0340, $p = 0.0100$). Mean dissolved oxygen and temperature were significantly

different between sites (Table 4; ANOSIM; dissolved oxygen: R = 0.4063, $p = 0.0530$;

temperature: R = 1.0000, $p = 0.0020$), but not between habitats. Variances of all

environmental parameters were significantly different between sites (Table 5; ANOSIM;

pH: R = 0.5313, $p = 0.0180$; dissolved oxygen: R = 0.6800, $p = 0.0030$; salinity: R =

0.8400, $p = 0.0130$; temperature: R = 0.9400, $p = 0.0010$). WB had the warmest, but

least variable, temperature of 18.0ºC ± 1.3ºC compared to averages ranging from

14.8ºC ± 1.8ºC to 16.1ºC ± 1.7ºC in PS (Table 3, Figure 2). All variance values, mean

pH, and mean salinity were not significantly different between habitats (Table 4, Table

5).

Although oyster position was standardized by tidal height, outplanted oysters

experienced different amounts of exposure at low tide at each site due to differences in

tidal amplitude (χ_4^2 = 25.29, p < 0.0001). Oysters at FB spent the highest percent of

time emersed at tides less than 1 foot MLLW (13.99%; 188 hours), followed by PG

(10.93%; 146 hours), SK (10.29%; 138 hours), CI (9.35%; 125 hours), and WB (8.48%;

113 hours). CI and FB outplants (p = 0.0021), FB and SK outplants (p = 0.0324), and

FB and WB outplants (p < 0.0001) spent significantly different amounts of time emersed

during low tide conditions.

Data Independent Acquisition Mass Spectrometry

Out of 39816 predicted proteins in the *C. gigas* FASTA proteome, 9047 proteins

were detected in *C. gigas* across five sites and two habitats using DIA (Skyline auto

peak picker error rate 24.3% ± 25%, range: 0% to 100%). Proteins detected included,

but were not limited to, those annotated from processes such as responses to hypoxia

and oxidative stress, removal of superoxide radicals, protein folding, muscle organ

development, and negative regulation of apoptosis (Raw data: PeptideAtlas accession

no. PASS01305).

 Selected Reaction Monitoring Assay

Differential abundance of protein targets was evaluated at the peptide level after

combining technical replicates. Proteins were considered differentially abundant if at

least one monitored peptide was differentially abundant. There was no significant

difference in SRM peptide abundance between unvegetated and eelgrass habitats

across sites (One-way ANOSIM; R = 0.0440, p = 0.1220). Abundance data from both

habitats were pooled for downstream analyses comparing protein abundances among

sites (Raw data: PeptideAtlas accession no. PASS01304).

Rank distances between peptide abundances in multivariate space revealed

differences in peptide abundance between WB versus the other four sites (NMDS:

stress = 0.0750, p = 0.0099). One-way ANOSIM by site demonstrated no significant

differences in peptide abundance (R = 0.0640, p = 0.065), but a one-way ANOSIM by

region (PS vs. WB) revealed a trend towards peptide abundance differences (R =

0.2260, p = 0.0530). Peptide abundance was significantly different between FB and

Willapa Bay (Table 6; Pairwise ANOSIM; R = 0.2568, p = 0.0350). Environmental

variables explained 29% of variance in peptide abundance, but the proportion of

variation explained was not significant (ANOVA for RDA; $F_{6,19}$ = 1.3064; p = 0.1950).

Temperature mean and variance were the two most influential environmental predictors

of peptide abundance, but were not significant at the 0.05 level (ANOVA on RDA; Table

7; temperature mean: $F_{1,19}$ = 2.2375, p = 0.0650; temperature variance: $F_{1,19}$ = 2.1627,

p = 0.0670). Peptides differentially abundant between FB and WB are primarily

positively loaded onto temperature mean, with two negatively loaded on temperature

variance. Robustness of analysis was evaluated by performing a second RDA to predict

peptide abundance based on mean and variance of temperature and pH at time of

collection. Due to missing values, dissolved oxygen and salinity could not be included in

analysis. Temperature variance was the most influential predictor of peptide abundance

at time of collection, but was not significant at the 0.05 level (ANOVA on RDA; $F_{1,13}$ =

2.2312, p = 0.0800).

Peroxiredoxin-5 (PRX), catalase (EC 1.11.1.6) (CAT), NAD(P) transhydrogenase

(NADPt), glucose-6-phosphate 1-dehydrogenase (G6PD), carbonic anhydrase (CA),

protein disulfide-isomerase 1 and 2 (PDI) had peptides that were identified as

differentially abundant between Willapa Bay and Fidalgo Bay by SIMPER analysis

(Figure 3). Fidalgo Bay peptide composition was differentiated by CA abundance, while

all other significantly abundant proteins differentiated Willapa Bay. These proteins are

involved in general cellular stress responses like reactive oxygen species neutralization

or protein folding (Table 8). All differentially abundant proteins were detected at higher

levels in the WB oysters than in oysters from the other four PS locations (CI, FB, PG,

and SK), regardless of protein function (Figure 4). No differences in protein abundance

were detected among the PS sites (Table 6).

Discussion

Among sibling Pacific oysters placed at five sites in Washington State, we found

higher abundances of seven proteins — antioxidant enzymes and molecular

chaperones — in oysters outplanted at WB. Significant differences in protein

abundances were detected between WB and either FB or SK; no differences were

observed among PS sites. Increased antioxidant and molecular chaperone protein

abundance are conserved stress responses consistently documented as responses to

extreme temperatures, hyposalinity, low pH and air exposure (Tomanek 2014; Zhang et

al. 2015). Warmer and less variable temperature conditions at WB may have driven

differential protein abundances (Figure 3). Validation of RDA results by correlating

peptide abundance to environmental conditions at the time of collection demonstrates

that proteomic methods are suitable for evaluating the influence of month-long

environmental variation on organismal physiology.

To our knowledge, this is the first time combined use of DIA and SRM analytical

methods have been applied in an ecological context. Previously, both gel-based (Parker

et al. 2011; Zhang et al. 2015; Campos et al. 2016) and gel-free (Dineshram et al. 2016;

Timmins-Schiffman et al. 2017; Müller et al. 2018) proteomic methods have been used

in lab settings to evaluate the effects of environmental conditions on organismal

physiology, with gel-based methods having a limited dynamic range. Similar gel-free

methods have also been used to examine physiology of other non-model marine

species (Plumel et al. 2013; Kültz et al. 2015). Our methods allowed for increased

acquisition of proteomic data for a non-model organism. We detected over 9000

proteins with DIA — far more than previous studies have detected. The application of a

novel, two step, gel-free proteomic approach broadened the scope of proteins detected

in the DIA phase, thus revealing more possibilities for SRM target design and also

completing the first step for future proteomic studies in this species. The SRM assay

allowed investigation of specific biomarkers with a high-throughput analysis.

Antioxidant enzymes and Acid-Base Regulation

Higher antioxidant enzyme abundances can be a direct response to an increase

in reactive oxygen species (ROS) (Limón-Pacheco & Gonsebatt 2009; Zhang et al.

2015). During electron transport, oysters can produce ROS that induce oxidative stress

if not neutralized (Abele et al. 2007; Limón-Pacheco & Gonsebatt 2009). Peroxiredoxin-

5 (PRX), and catalase (CAT) scavenge these ROS and degrade them before they

cause cellular harm, while NAD(P) transhydrogenase (NADPt) maintains the cellular

redox state (Limón-Pacheco & Gonsebatt 2009; Sussarellu et al. 2012; Flores-Nunes et

al. 2015). Higher abundances of antioxidant enzymes in WB oysters suggests the need

for ROS scavenging to acclimatize to local conditions.

Elevated antioxidant enzyme abundance at WB may be a response to higher

levels of ROS brought on by heat stress. Mollusc species, like *C. gigas*, have been

known to increase ROS production at higher temperatures (Abele et al. 2007; Tomanek

2014). Warmer and more variable temperature conditions at WB could be driving ROS

production and in turn, higher abundances of PRX, CAT, and NADPt to ameliorate

ROS-associated stress (Zhang et al. 2015). The shallow bathymetry of WB may have

also contributed to elevated ROS presence and the need for antioxidant enzymes. At

low tide, shallow waters would warm faster, leading to the higher temperatures

observed at WB (Table 1). Warmer waters at low tide may prompt oysters to spend

more time with their shells closed, inducing hypoxia and hypercapnia. Low oxygen

concentrations within the shell could then augment ROS levels (Guzy & Schumaker

2006). Oysters could respond through increased abundance of antioxidant enzymes

(Sussarellu et al. 2012).

The need for WB outplants to regulate internal acid-base conditions is

demonstrated by higher abundance of carbonic anhydrase (CA) in these oysters. *C.*

gigas can regulate hemolymph pH by increasing HCO_3^- concentration via the

conversion of CO2 to HCO_3^-, catalyzed by CA (Michaelidis et al. 2005; Wei et al. 2015).

If warmer water conditions at WB prompted shell closure, *C. gigas* would need to switch

to anaerobic metabolism, inducing a significant reduction in hemolymph pH (Michaelidis

et al. 2005). Buffering of hemolymph pH could be accomplished by elevated CA

abundance. Although oysters at FB spent more time in low tide conditions that would

also prompt shell closure and similar molecular responses, upregulated protein

abundance at WB implies conditions at this site required a greater proteomic response

in these specific biomarkers for acclimatization.

Higher abundance of glucose-6-phosphate 1-dehydrogenase (G6PD) in WB

oysters indicates these oysters maintained metabolic activity in warmer temperature

conditions. G6PD catalyzes the oxidative portion of the pentose phosphate pathway,

and products from this pathway are often the precursors for nucleic and aromatic amino

acids (Livingstone 1981). Additionally, G6PD activity generates NADPH and can

indirectly regulate the redox environment and ameliorate effects of ROS (Livingstone

1981). For example, exposure to ROS-inducing pollutants led to increased G6PD

activity in *C. gigas* ctenidia (Flores-Nunes et al. 2015). Increased abundance of G6PD

in WB not only could have maintained transcription and translation processes, but also

levels of cellular and metabolic activity by indirectly dealing with ROS.

ROS are produced in response to many environmental changes, thus biomarkers

of ROS scavenging are difficult to link to a single environmental difference in a variable

and complex setting. For example, reduction of ROS was found to be a common

response to both increased temperatures and aerial exposure in *C. gigas* (Zhang et al.

2015). Since ROS mediation is a conserved response to several stressors, it is possible

that environmental parameters we did not measure (e.g., contaminants, microbiota

abundance, trace metals), or a combination of environmental parameters, could explain

the observed variation in antioxidant enzyme abundance. Future work at these locations

should take these variables into account.

Molecular Chaperones Involved in Protein Folding

Much like cellular response to ROS, increased levels of protein disulfide

isomerase 1 and 2 (PDI) demonstrate a generalist response to conditions at WB. PDI is

a general chaperone protein that forms disulfide bonds and assists with protein folding

(Vargas-Albores et al. 2009). Higher PDI abundance would reflect a need to refold

misshapen proteins. In this regard, PDI would function similarly to molecular

chaperones like heat shock proteins. Several invertebrate taxa demonstrate higher PDI

abundance when faced with an immune challenge or metal contamination. When faced

with an immune challenge, Pacific white shrimp (*Litopenaeus vannamei*) hemocytes

synthesized higher abundances of immune response proteins, followed by elevated

abundance of PDI to correct disulfide bonds in these proteins (Vargas-Albores et al.

2009). An immune challenge could also lead to more misfolded proteins that PDI would

need to refold to avoid cellular damage (Zhang et al. 2014). In flat oysters (*Ostrea*

edulis), PDI expression increased in response to disseminated neoplasia (Silvestre et

al. 2006; Martín-Gómez et al. 2013). Metal contamination at WB could also elevate PDI

abundance: Chinese mitten crabs (*Eriocheir sinensis*) chronically exposed to cadmium

over-expressed PDI (Silvestre et al. 2006; Martín-Gómez et al. 2013). Since neither

disease burden or environmental contamination was measured in this study, it is

impossible to know if either triggered the PDI response. Examination of these factors in

future studies may elucidate the specifics of elevated PDI abundance in WB.

Proteomic Responses in Puget Sound and Between Habitats

Due to the observed differences across environmental parameters between

Willapa Bay and Puget Sound locations, similar abundances for proteins involved in

various environmental responses may be evidence of physiological plasticity. One

particular protein that we expected to be differentially abundant was heat shock 70 kDA

protein 12A (HSP12A), since Willapa Bay had higher average temperatures (Table 3).

However, this trend was not observed. Higher abundances of heat shock proteins

(HSPs) are generally induced when organisms are exposed to thermal stress

(Hamdoun et al. 2003; Zhang et al. 2015). In our experiment, average temperatures *C.*

gigas experienced were lower than the 30ºC threshold to induce elevated HSP

expression in a controlled setting (Figure 2; Table 3), which would explain why we did

not see elevated HSP12A expression in WB (Hamdoun et al. 2003).

The lack of differential abundance for protein targets — both among Puget

Sound sites and between unvegetated and eelgrass habitats — was unexpected. These

similar proteomic profiles could be due to four factors. First, it is possible that a different

suite of environmental response proteins in the SRM assay could have yielded a

different view of acclimatization to the various outplant sites; however, the targets we

chose have proven to yield insight into a range of environmental responses in previous

studies (ex. Table 8). Second, outplant duration could have been too short to capture

varied physiological response within Puget Sound, or oysters could have also

acclimatized to conditions in their outplant locations. Third, post-translational

modifications may have influenced how we detected proteins. Abundance between sites

or habitats may have been similar, but addition of post-translational modifications may

have varied. Finally, it is possible that the proteomic response was not different because

the environmental conditions that would elicit up- or down-regulation of monitored

proteins were similar across these five locations. For example, we found no differences

in environmental conditions between eelgrass and unvegetated areas, nor any

differences in protein responses between these habitats (Table 4; Table 5). Our results

suggest that the potential vegetation-based systems of remediation could be limited

under current conditions in the field. A recent comparison of stable isotopes and fatty

acid composition in *C. gigas* at eelgrass and unvegetated habitats found no differences

in $\delta^{13}C$, $\delta^{15}N$, total fatty acids, or proportional fatty composition in WB outplants,

providing another line of evidence that suggests habitat may not affect *C. gigas*

physiological performance (Lowe et al. 2018).

Conclusion

Differential abundance of target proteins observed between sibling oysters

placed for 29 days in WB or PS indicates that environmental factors at WB tended to

increase antioxidant enzyme and molecular chaperone protein abundance in Pacific

oysters. This study is one the first to link regional environmental conditions to

physiological responses in Puget Sound and Willapa Bay, as well as compare

responses between Puget Sound and Willapa Bay. Understanding the difference

between these two estuaries is important for the persistence of oyster reefs and

aquaculture in the face of climate change. Of the environmental parameters measured,

higher mean temperature, as well as less variable temperature conditions, at Willapa

Bay may have influenced protein abundance. The lack of protein abundance differences

between PS sites may imply that 2016 conditions were well-within the tolerances of

outplanted *C. gigas*, so patterns of stress response witnessed under laboratory

conditions were not apparent in the field. Together, the results generate a suite of new

hypotheses for lab and field experiments comparing the effects of environmental

conditions on physiological responses of marine invertebrates.

As global climate change continues to rapidly influence estuarine dynamics, this

study illustrates the importance of investigating the effect of multiple modes of change

on organismal physiology *in situ*. Our finding that oysters used generalist proteins to

ameliorate stressors implies that assays for elucidating responses to multiple drivers *in*

situ should include these conserved responses in addition to specific, stressor-related

proteins identified in laboratory experiments. Pacific oysters are grown commercially

throughout the Pacific Northwest region of the United States, so it is possible the

population used for this study has a broad environmental tolerance. Proteomic assays

allow for quantification of that tolerance, which is crucial for aquaculture industry and

natural resource management. Future *in situ* explorations of environmental drivers on

physiology should include a longer outplant duration, additional environmental variables,

and multiple sampling points to provide a clearer connection between ecosystem

dynamics and physiological performance.

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    Tables

812   **Table 1.** Latitude and longitude of *C. gigas* outplants, as well as time of day and tidal

813   height at collection. Oysters were placed at five locations sites: Case Inlet (CI), Fidalgo

814   Bay (FB), Port Gamble Bay (PG), Skokomish River Delta (SK), and Willapa Bay (WB).

Location	Latitude	Longitude	Time at Collection	Tidal Height (MLLW, feet) at Collection
CI	47.3579367	-122.7957627	12:15	-1.8
FB	48.481691	-122.58353	12:12	-1.7
PG	47.842676	-122.583832	11:11	-1.6
SK	47.35523	-123.1572	11:51	-1.8
WB	46.4944789	-124.0261356	9:28	-1.7

Table 2. Proteins used as targets for a Selected Reaction Monitoring Assay (SRM).

Targets were identified based on differential abundance and stress-related annotations.

At least two peptides and six transitions were included in the assy for each protein. The

protein Catalase had two isoforms under separate proteome IDs —

CHOYP_CATA.1.3|m.11120 and CHOYP_CATA.3.3|m.21642 — and target peptides

were chosen from both IDs. A total of four peptides and twelve associated transitions

were used as SRM targets.

Protein	Proteome ID	Number of Peptides	Number of Transitions

3-ketoacyl-CoA thiolase	CHOYP_ACAA2. 1.1|m.30666	3	9
Peroxiredoxin-5	CHOYP_BRAFLD RAFT_119799.1. 1|m.23765	2	6
Thioredoxin reductase 3	CHOYP_BRAFLD RAFT_122807.1. 1|m.3729	3	9
Protein phosphatase 1B	CHOYP_BRAFLD RAFT_275870.1. 1|m.12895	3	9
Carbonic anyhdrase 2	CHOYP_CAH2.1. 1|m.42306	3	9
Catalase 1	CHOYP_CATA.1. 3|m.11120	3	9
Catalase 2	CHOYP_CATA.3. 3|m.21642	1	3
Glucose-6-phosphate 1-dehydrogenase	CHOYP_G6PD.2. 2|m.46923	3	9

Heat shock 70 kDa protein	CHOYP_HS12A. 25.33|m.60352	2	6
Heat shock protein 70 B2	CHOYP_HSP74. 1.1|m.13095	2	6
NAD(P) transhydrogenase	CHOYP_LOC100 633041.1.1|m.354 28	2	6
Glycogen phosphorylase	CHOYP_LOC100 883864.1.1|m.417 91	3	9
Multidrug resistance-associated protein	CHOYP_MRP1.5. 10|m.34368	2	6
Protein disulfide-isomerase 1	CHOYP_PDIA1.1 .1|m.5297	3	9
Protein disulfide-isomerase 2	CHOYP_PDIA3.1 .1|m.60223	3	9
Puromysin-sensitive amirase	CHOYP_PSA.1.1| m.27259	3	9

824 **Table 3.** Environmental conditions (mean ± standard deviation) at outplant locations

825 (Case Inlet (CI), Fidalgo Bay (FB), Port Gamble Bay (PG), Skokomish River Delta (SK),

826 Willapa Bay (WB).

Metric	CI	FB	PG	SK	WB
Mean Temperature (ºC)	16.1 ± 1.7	14.8 ± 1.8	15.1 ± 2.9	15.1± 2.2	18.0 ± 1.3
Mean Salinity (PSU)	24.47 ± 1.35	30.20 ± 0.38	23.25 ± 1.56	13.43 ± 1.04	27.28 ± 0.73
Mean Dissolved Oxygen Content (mg/L)	8.27 ± 1.91	9.63 ± 4.59	11.70 ± 3.70	9.99 ± 4.58	8.76 ± 1.78
Mean pH	7.63 ± 0.19	7.54 ± 0.23	7.33 ± 0.25	7.37 ± 0.24	7.56 ± 0.18

828 **Table 4.** Analysis of Similarities (ANOSIM) R statistic and p-value for mean values of

829 environmental variables by site and habitat. Values significant at the 0.05 level are

830 marked by **, and values significant at the 0.10 level are marked by *.

Environmental Variable	Contrast	R statistic	p-value

pH	Site	0.3281	0.1350
	Habitat	0.2125	0.1510
Dissolved oxygen	**Site**	**0.4063 ***	**0.0530 ***
	Habitat	-0.14375	0.9220
Salinity	Site	-0.0133	0.4820
	Habitat	-0.1667	0.9710
Temperature	**Site**	**1.0000 ****	**0.0020 ****
	Habitat	-0.1920	0.905

Table 5. Analysis of Similarities (ANOSIM) R statistic and p-value for environmental variable variances by site and habitat. Values significant at the 0.05 level are marked by **, and values significant at the 0.10 level are marked by *.

Environmental Variable	Contrast	R statistic	p-value
pH	**Site**	**0.5313 ****	**0.0180 ****
	Habitat	-0.1813	0.9340
Dissolved oxygen	**Site**	**0.6800 ****	**0.0030 ****
	Habitat	-0.1240	0.8480

Salinity	**Site**	**0.8400 ****	**0.0130 ****
	Habitat	-0.1250	0.7080
Temperature	**Site**	**0.9400 ****	**0.0010 ****
	Habitat	-0.2200	0.9870

836 **Table 6.** Results of pairwise ANOSIM tests between sites for protein abundance data. R

837 values are listed above the diagonal, and p values are listed below the diagonal. Values

838 significant at the 0.05 level are marked by **, and values significant at the 0.10 level are

839 marked by *.

	CI	FB	PG	SK	FB
CI	-	0.0197	-0.0707	-0.0583	0.0926
FB	0.3310	-	-0.0313	0.0949	0.2568
PG	0.7800	0.5992	-	-0.0061	0.0727
SK	0.7330	0.0860	0.3820	-	0.1547
WB	0.1600	**0.0350 ****	0.192	**0.0790 ***	-

841 **Table 7.** Significance of each predictor in the RDA. Salinity mean and variance were not

842 included due to missing values. Predictors significant at the 0.10 level are marked by *.

Environmental Variable	Df	Variance	F	Pr(>F)
Temperature Mean	1	0.0014	**2.3275 ***	**0.0650 ***
Temperature Variance	1	0.0013	**2.1627 ***	**0.0670 ***
pH Mean	1	0.0003	0.5264	0.7810
pH Variance	1	0.0007	1.2171	0.3010
Dissolved Oxygen Mean	1	0.0006	1.0354	0.3490
Dissolved Oxygen Variance	1	0.0003	0.5692	0.7250
Residual	19			

844   **Table 8.** Functions of differentially abundant proteins

Protein	Function	Citations
Peroxiredoxin-5 (PRX)	Scavenges ROS located in mitochondria using	(Tomanek 2014; Sussarellu et al. 2012)

	cysteine residuals to reduce substrates	
Catalase (CAT)	Degrades hydrogen peroxide into water and oxygen	(Flores-Nunes, Mattos, et al. 2015); (Sussarellu et al. 2012)
NAD(P) transhydrogenase (NADPt)	Involved in maintenance of cellular redox state	(Sussarellu et al. 2010, 2012)
Carbonic anhydrase (CA)	Maintenance of acid-base balance by catalyzing CO_2 conversion to HCO_3^-	(David et al. 2005; L. M. Parker, Ross, and O'Connor 2011; Wei et al. 2015)
Glucose-6-phosphate 1-dehydrogenase (G6PD)	Catalyzes first step in the pentose phosphate pathway and controls rate of pathway's oxidative portion	(L., n.d.)
Protein disulfide-isomerase 1 (PDI1) and Protein disulfide-isomerase 2 (PDI2)	General chaperone protein that aids in protein disulfide bond formation and isomerization	(Silvestre et al. 2006; Vargas-Albores et al. 2009; P. Zhang et al. 2014)

858   **Figures**

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Figure 1. Map of outplant locations. Oysters were placed at five sites: Case Inlet (CI), Fidalgo

Bay (FB), Port Gamble Bay (PG), Skokomish River Delta (SK), and Willapa Bay (WB). Sites in

Puget Sound are outlined in a grey box.

Figure 2. Environmental variables for each site (Case Inlet, Fidalgo Bay, Port Gamble

Bay, Skokomish River Delta, and Willapa Bay) and habitat (unvegetated and eelgrass)

over the course of the 29 day outplant.

Figure 3. Ordination results for peptide abundance and environmental data. a)

Environmental variables (pH, dissolved oxygen, salinity, and temperature) explained

30% of variance in peptide abundance data; however, redundancy analysis (RDA) for

peptide abundance constrained by environmental variable was not significant (ANOVA;

$F_{6,19}$ = 1.306, p = 0.195). Temperature mean and variance were the most influential, yet

nonsignificant, environmental predictors (ANOVA; temperature mean: $F_{1,25}$ = 2.3275, p

= 0.065; temperature variance: $F_{1,25}$ = 2.1527, p = 0.067). Peptides differentially

abundant between Fidalgo Bay (FB) and Willapa Bay (WB) are primarily positively

loaded onto temperature mean, with two negatively loaded on temperature variance. b)

Non-metric multidimensional scaling plot depicting peptide abundance by site and

habitat, with 95% confidence ellipses around each site (stress = 0.075, p = 0.0099). c)

Peptides that contributed to significant peptide abundance differences between FB and

WB, as determined by post-hoc similarity percentage analysis (SIMPER). Peptides

denoted 1 correspond to peroxiredoxin-5 (PRX), 2 for carbonic anhydrase (CA), 3 for

catalase (CAT), 4 for glucose-6-phosphate 1-dehydrogenase (G6PD), 5 for NADP

transhydrogenase (NADPt), and 6 for protein disulfide isomerases 1 and 2 (PDI). FB

peptide composition was differentiated by CA abundance, while all other proteins

influenced peptide abundances at WB.

Figure 4. Average protein abundance by constituent peptides across experimental sites

from SRM. Peptide abundance data at each site was averaged, then log transformed.

Proteins were considered differentially abundant if at least one constituent peptide was

significantly different (indicated by an asterisk). There were no significant differences in

protein abundance among the Puget Sound locations, or between unvegetated and

eelgrass habitats. Proteins were only significantly different between Fidalgo Bay and

Willapa Bay or Skokomish River Delta and Willapa Bay.

Supplementary Material

Raw data can be accessed in the PeptideAtlas under accession PASS01304 and PASS01305.

Skyline documents can be found on Panorama Public.