

Evaluating genomic data for management of local adaptation in a changing climate: A lodgepole pine case study

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Abstract: The need for tools to cost-effectively identify adaptive variation within ecologically and economically important plant species is mounting as the detrimental effects of climate change become increasingly apparent. For crop and wild populations alike, mismatches between adaptive variation and climatic optima will reduce health, growth, survival, reproduction, and continued establishment. The ease with which land managers can quantify the relative importance of different climate factors or the spatial scale of local adaptation to climate will have direct implications for the potential of mitigating or resolving such risks. Using seed collected from 281 provenances of lodgepole pine (*Pinus contorta*) from across western Canada, we compare genomic data to phenotypic and climatic data to assess their effectiveness in characterizing the climatic drivers and spatial scale of local adaptation in this species. We find that genomic and climate data are nearly equivalent for describing local adaptation in seedling traits. We also find strong agreement between the climate variables associated with genomic variation and with 20-year heights from a long-term provenance trial, suggesting that genomic data may be a viable option for identifying climatic drivers of local adaptation where phenotypic data are unavailable. Genetic clines associated with cold injury occur at broad spatial scales, suggesting that standing variation of adaptive alleles for this and similar species does not require management at scales finer than are indicated by phenotypic data. This study demonstrates that genomic data are most useful when paired with phenotypic data, but can also fill some of the traditional roles of phenotypic data in management of species for which phenotypic trials are not feasible.

32 **1 Introduction**

33 The impact of climate change is undeniable and particularly evident in forests of western North
34 America. Evidence of tree injury and mortality from droughts, floods, wildfires, disease, and insect
35 outbreaks is mounting rapidly (van Mantgem et al. 2009; Allen et al. 2010; Anderegg et al. 2015;
36 McDowell & Allen 2015; Reyer et al. 2015; Buotte et al. 2018). There is also mounting evidence
37 that changes in climate are disrupting local adaptation in plants (Mcgraw et al. 2015; Wilczek et
38 al. 2019), with impacts to productivity of commercial tree species (Rehfeldt et al. 1999; Leites et
39 al. 2012) and conservation of vulnerable species (Parmesan 2006). In response, forest managers
40 are seeking guidance on which source populations to use for planting, as the long-practiced ‘local
41 is best’ strategy no longer matches trees with the climates to which they are adapted (Aitken and
42 Bemmels 2016). There is also a need to characterize the spatial scale and genetic structure of local
43 adaptation to understand the capacity of populations to adapt to climate change without human
44 intervention (McKenney et al. 2007; Kawecki 2008; Aitken et al. 2008; Kremer et al. 2012). For
45 centuries, local adaptation has been quantified and managed using phenotypic data from long-term
46 provenance trials and short-term common gardens (Langlet 1971; Leimu and Fischer 2008;
47 Hereford 2009). In the past two decades, detailed climate data has been used to extend phenotypic
48 inferences of local adaptation across managed landscapes (Sork et al. 2013; Wadgyr et al. 2017)
49 and to project mismatches between adaptive variation and future climates (e.g., Exposito-Alonso
50 et al. 2018). Genomic data is now emerging as a third source of insight into local adaptation for
51 non-model species. While the genomic basis of local adaptation has been extensively studied (Li
52 et al. 2017; Sork 2018), applications of genomic data to mitigate effects of climate change are in
53 their infancy (Shafer et al. 2015). These applications can be advanced by understanding the ways

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54 in which genomic data complements and overlaps with phenotypic and climatic data in
55 characterizing local adaptation.

56 For most tree populations, the capacity to track suitable climates via migration and
57 establishment will be outpaced by the rate of climate change (Davis and Shaw 2001; McLachlan
58 et al. 2005; Gray & Hamann 2013), with implications to the health and productivity of both wild
59 forests and those planted for wood or carbon sequestration. Assisted gene flow (AGF), the
60 “intentional translocation of individuals within a species range to facilitate adaptation to anticipated
61 local conditions” (Aitken and Whitlock 2013), is a strategy for mitigating these deleterious effects
62 of mismatches between genotypes and climate. For instance, warmer-adapted provenances are
63 faster growing, although less cold hardy, for many temperate and boreal species (Aitken and
64 Bemmels 2016; Wang et al. 2010). If genotypes are moved into suitable climates, but not so far
65 that they suffer from cold injury or other types of maladaptation, this faster growth rate is expected
66 to translate to higher survival, better health, and greater productivity (e.g., Wadgyman et al. 2015).
67 When the motivation for planting is conservation, AGF could bolster the demographics of rare
68 species or accelerate stand development for habitat and other ecosystem services. Maintaining or
69 enhancing genetic diversity is key, as the goal of assisted gene flow in conservation settings is to
70 establish self-sustaining populations capable of natural regeneration, establishment, and further
71 adaptation to new conditions (Aitken and Whitlock 2013; Lunt et al. 2013; Kelly and Phillips 2015;
72 Aitken and Bemmels 2016).

73 The argument for AGF with forest trees is particularly strong, due to 1) the long history of
74 study and understanding of local adaptation to climate in many widespread species (Langlet 1971;
75 Morgenstern 1996); 2) the lack of strong population structure and isolation that might lead to
76 outbreeding depression (Howe et al. 2003; Neale & Savolainen 2004; Mitton & Williams 2006;

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77 Savolainen et al. 2007); 3) the long generation times of forest trees and corresponding high rate of
78 climate change per generation (McLachlan et al. 2005; Petit and Hampe 2006; Aitken et al. 2008;
79 Alberto et al. 2013); and 4) the infrastructure and operational practices that already exist for
80 collecting or producing seeds, growing seedlings, and reforesting harvested or otherwise disturbed
81 areas (Aitken and Bemmels 2016). Effective AGF strategies require an understanding of the nature
82 of local adaptation to climate, particularly the major climatic drivers of local adaptation and how
83 strongly populations are differentiated along these climatic gradients.

84 Forest scientists have traditionally used provenance trials—*in situ* field-based common garden
85 experiments that usually involve partial reciprocal transplants—to understand links between
86 phenotypes under divergent selection and the environments driving those differences (see
87 discussion in Lind et al. 2018). Such designs have been the major source of knowledge of local
88 adaptation trees for over two centuries, where differentiation among populations is usually
89 attributed to the source environment of individuals (Langlet 1971; Morgenstern 1996). In
90 provenance trials, phenotypic data is often limited to survival and growth rather than component
91 traits directly related to climate, such as tolerance of cold, drought, insects, or diseases. Multi-site
92 provenance trials can therefore provide excellent information on local adaptation, but they are
93 limited by the decades-long time frame needed to obtain meaningful data and by the restricted
94 geographic and climatic scopes of such trials for many species (Kawecki and Ebert 2004; Aitken
95 et al. 2008; de Vilmereuil et al 2015). Moreover, provenance trials are not feasible for some
96 species due to a lack of available sites, sufficient resources, ethical reasons, or the difficulty of
97 obtaining seed from many populations, particularly for endangered species or species with seed
98 that cannot be stored (Morgenstern 1996; Blanquart et al. 2013; de Vilmereuil et al. 2015;
99 Flanagan et al. 2018).

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100 Single or multi-environment seedling common gardens provide some advantages over
101 traditional provenance trials. While single common gardens can be used to test for differentiation
102 among genetic groups and to develop transfer functions (Matyas 1994; O’Neill et al. 2008),
103 multiple common gardens can be used to test for environmental forces driving this differentiation,
104 and need not necessarily be within source environments of populations under study. Such
105 experiments allow for detailed phenotyping of climate-related traits at the vulnerable seedling stage
106 that have important fitness consequences for the populations under consideration (e.g., phenology,
107 cold- or drought-hardiness, growth, and allocation of biomass; see refs in Cornelius 1994, Howe et
108 al. 2003, Savolainen et al. 2007; Alberto et al. 2013, and Lind et al. 2018). However, juvenile
109 phenotypes may not reflect fitness-related traits at later life stages (e.g., reproduction) and such
110 experimental environments are often artificial (Kawecki and Ebert 2004).

111 Due to the prevalence of the transplant designs mentioned above, phenotypic inferences of
112 local adaptation and their applications to seed transfer of forest trees have been traditionally
113 characterized in geographic terms. For example, seed transfer limits for wild-sourced seedlings in
114 British Columbia were until recently defined as a maximum latitude, longitude, and elevation that
115 seedling stock could be transferred from their provenance to the planting site (Ying and Yanchuk
116 2006). The advent of high-resolution gridded climate data over the past two decades (e.g., PRISM,
117 Daly et al. 2002) has allowed more precise inferences of the spatial distribution of local adaptation
118 (Wang et al. 2010) and has facilitated the transition from geography-based to climate-based seed
119 transfer (O’Neill et al. 2017). When integrated with climate change projections (e.g., ClimateNA,
120 Wang et al. 2016; and WorldClim, Fick and Hijmans 2017), climate data provide the essential basis
121 for AGF and address some of the shortcomings of geographically-based (“local is best”) seed
122 zones. While generic approaches to climate variable selection may provide a first approximation

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123 for AGF (e.g., niche modeling), information tailored to species-specific patterns relating adaptive
124 phenotypic variation to climate will better tailor AGF strategies (e.g., as in O'Neill et al. 2017), as
125 climatic factors limiting a species' niche may not be those driving differentiation among
126 populations.

127 In situations where phenotypic data is unavailable, genomic data could potentially be a useful
128 alternative to phenotypic data for inferring the climatic drivers of local adaptation. Population
129 genomic approaches for detecting adaptive variation have become feasible within the last decade
130 (Neale & Savolainen 2004; Sork et al. 2013; Prunier et al. 2015; Lind et al. 2018). Next generation
131 sequencing methods now allow for the genotyping of large numbers of variants (e.g., single
132 nucleotide polymorphisms, SNPs) in non-model species for elucidating aspects of the species
133 biology that can inform management and conservation decisions (Lotterhos et al. 2018; Mähler et
134 al. 2017; Flanagan et al. 2018; Parchman et al. 2018; Rellstab et al. 2018). Genotype-environment
135 association (GEA) approaches can identify both the environmental drivers of local adaptation and
136 loci underlying locally adaptive traits (Schoville 2012; De Mita et al. 2013; Rellstab et al. 2015).
137 Likewise, genotype-phenotype association (GPA) studies can identify loci associated with climate-
138 related phenotypes (Neale & Savolainen 2004; Prunier et al. 2015; Holliday et al. 2017). These
139 methods can be combined to identify suites of potentially locally adapted loci (e.g., Yeaman et al.
140 2016; references in Lind et al. 2018). Despite the extensive literature on the genomic basis of local
141 adaptation, however, we are not aware of any operational uses of genomic data to guide seed
142 transfer or AGF.

143 Genomic data have many potential roles in guiding AGF as an alternative or a supplement to
144 phenotypic and climatic data. Given the unavoidable costs and lag time of provenance trials and
145 common garden experiments, the prospect of characterizing local adaptation using genomics rather

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146 than phenotypes is appealing. Genomic approaches could bring down the cost and response time
147 of managing AGF for commercially important tree species, and also provide the opportunity for
148 comprehensive (or strategic) genetic conservation of many species that lack resources for
149 phenotypic trials. In addition to being a potential alternative to phenotypes, genomic data can
150 provide unique insights into local adaptation that are not available from phenotypic or climatic data
151 alone. For example, rangewide phenotypic clines can potentially mask more localized allelic clines
152 that underlie adaptive traits (see Box 1). Similarly, the spatial structure of standing variation in
153 adaptive alleles—an important consideration for AGF and *in situ* genetic conservation—can only
154 be inferred from genomic data.

155 The objective of this study is to evaluate genomic data, relative to phenotypic and climatic
156 data, as a basis for assisted gene flow and genetic conservation of locally-adapted conifers. We
157 address three research questions using phenotypic and genomic data from 281 provenances of
158 *Pinus contorta* Dougl. ex Loud from across western Canada. Firstly, *what is the relative value of*
159 *genomic data vs. climatic and geographic data in explaining locally adaptive phenotypic*
160 *variation?* We address this by comparing the proportion of variance in four seedling traits that can
161 be explained by geographic, climatic, and several types of genomic data including a full SNP array,
162 a large set of neutral markers, and loci inferred from both genotype-phenotype associations and
163 genotype-environment associations. Secondly, *can genomic data identify the climatic drivers of*
164 *local adaptation?* We use phenotypic data from both a short-term common garden study and a
165 long-term provenance trial to contrast the predicted importance of various climatic drivers of
166 phenotypic differentiation to that predicted from genomic data (GEA loci). Thirdly, we examine
167 information that is uniquely available from genomic data—the genetic clines underlying
168 phenotypic clines—to address the question: *what is the spatial scale of local adaptation to climate?*

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169 These assessments identify the contributions that genomic data can make to assisted gene flow and
170 genetic conservation in a changing climate.

171 **BOX 1—The structure of allelic variation underlying phenotypic clines in adaptive traits**

172 For widespread tree species that
173 experience both strong diversifying
174 selection and high gene flow, climatic
175 gradients often drive clinal variation in
176 phenotypes (Endler 1977; Alberto et al.
177 2013). However, the number and geographic
178 distribution of adaptive loci underlying
179 these patterns is, for the most part, unknown.

180 There are two ways for genetic clines to
181 produce a rangewide cline in an additive
182 polygenic trait (Figure 1). The first is to have
183 concordant clines in the underlying loci,
184 representing a gradual rangewide shift in
185 allelic frequency across all underlying loci
186 (Figure 1B) that therefore matches the range
187 -wide phenotypic cline (Figure 1A). Altern-
188 atively, a phenotypic cline can result from
189 multiple distinct, localized genetic clines,
190 each providing variation sequentially over
191 short sections of the environmental gradient
192 (Barton 1999; see also Box 3 in Savolainen
193 et al. 2007), as depicted in Figure 1C.

194 The degree to which local adaptation is
195 structured as localized, sequential genetic
196 clines has implications for AGF, as this may
197 reduce the amount of standing adaptive
198 variation and thus adaptive potential.
199 Ultimately, the spatial scale of adaptation is
200 a function of gene flow, selection, and drift.
201 In species with long-isolated populations
202 and little gene flow, such structure could
203 also risk lower compatibility between native

204 and transplanted individuals, but outbreeding depression is unlikely in widespread, abundant,
205 wind-pollinated trees (Aitken and Whitlock 2013). If adaptive variation is distributed as concordant
206 range-wide genetic clines, loci underlying an adaptive trait will be polymorphic throughout most
207 of the species range, except perhaps at the range margins, or in otherwise isolated or small
208 populations. In this case, standing variation should exist for adaptive loci that could enable *in situ*
209 adaptation to climatic change, as long as locally novel climatic conditions exist elsewhere in the
210 species range and are not isolated from gene flow. Localized clines, in contrast, imply that standing
211 variation in a subset of adaptive alleles is limited to only a portion of the species' range.

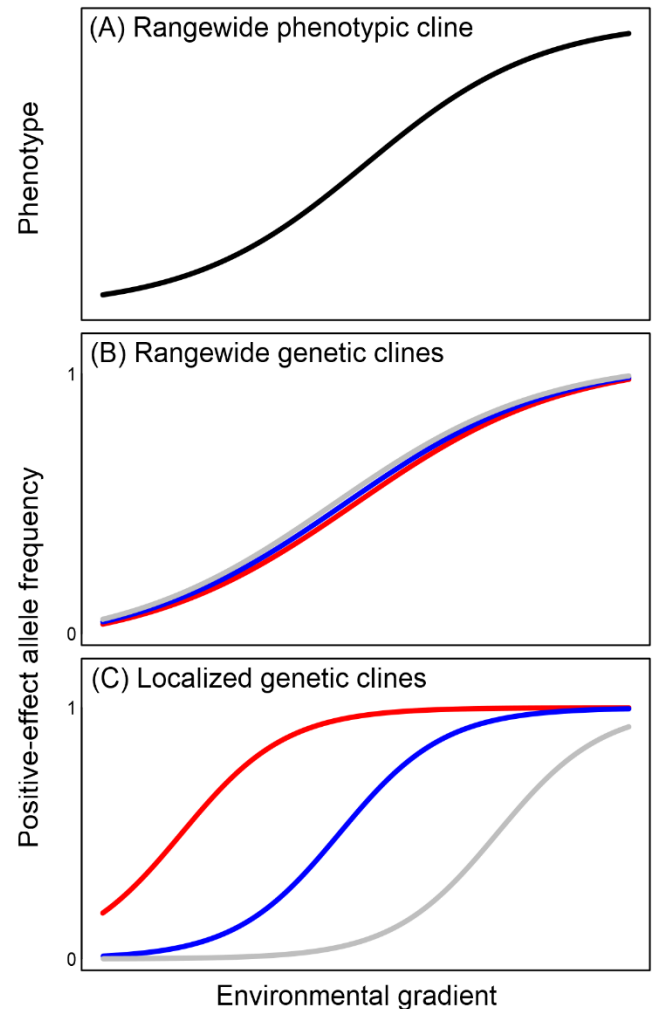


Figure 1: Illustration of rangewide vs. sequential, localized genetic clines (B-C) underlying a continuous phenotypic cline (A) along an environmental gradient (After Barton 1999).

212 2 Methods

213 2.1 Phenotypic data

214 2.1.1 Seedling common garden experiment

215 The primary phenotypic data in this study originate from a raised bed common garden of 1,594
216 lodgepole pine seedlings at Totem Field at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver, BC.
217 Design, establishment, and measurement of the common garden, summarized here, are described
218 in detail by MacLachlan et al. (2017). Briefly, seedlots originated from 281 provenances
219 representing lodgepole pine's climatic range within British Columbia and Alberta (Figure 2E).
220 Seedlots were predominantly selected from the range of the Rocky Mountain subspecies (*P.*
221 *contorta* Dougl. ex Loud. ssp. *latifolia* [Engelm.] Critchfield), but also include the coastal
222 subspecies (*P. contorta* Dougl. ex Loud. ssp. *contorta*) and the region of hybridization with jack
223 pine (*Pinus banksiana* Lamb.) in northern Alberta.

224 Our study utilizes phenotypic data from four traits: growth initiation, growth cessation, autumn
225 cold injury, and shoot mass (methods in MacLachlan et al. 2017). We removed experimental effects
226 from phenotypic values by reporting phenotypes as z -standardized residuals of a linear mixed
227 effects model, implemented with ASreml-R (Butler 2009), in which experimental block and
228 location within block are random effects:

$$229 \quad Y_{ijk} = \mu + B_j + L(B)_{jk} + e_{ijk} \quad (1)$$

230 where Y_{ijk} is the phenotypic observation of a trait made on individual i grown in the j^{th} block (B),
231 at the k^{th} seedling location (L) nested within block ($L(B)_{jk}$), μ is the experimental mean, and e is
232 the residual error of individual i .

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233 2.1.2 *Illingworth provenance trial*

234 We analyzed 20-year heights from the Illingworth lodgepole pine provenance trial to
235 corroborate the inferences from the Vancouver seedling common garden with longer-term data
236 from sites more typical for this species. This trial, established in 1974 by the BC Ministry of Forests
237 (Illingworth 1978; Wang et al. 2010), tested a rangewide (New Mexico to Yukon) collection of
238 140 provenances at 60 sites in interior British Columbia. We assessed the strength of the univariate
239 relationships between 20-year height and 19 climate variables for three contrasting trial sites: one
240 each from southern (PETI), central (NILK) and northern (WATS) British Columbia (Supp. Info
241 Figure S1). An adjusted R^2 was estimated for the quadratic relationship between provenance
242 climate and the average 20-year heights of the provenances at each test site. This relationship was
243 estimated for each of the 19 standard climate variables (Table 1) used in this study. Reported
244 results are the mean R^2 over the three sites.

245 2.2 *Climate data*

246 Climate normals 1961-1990 period for each provenance in the seedling common garden were
247 obtained from ClimateNA (Wang et al. 2016), using the latitude, longitude, and elevation of each
248 seedlot. The 19 bioclimatic variables used in this study (Table 1) are the same as used in previous
249 analyses of genomic datasets from the AdapTree Project, selected *a priori* based on relevance to
250 the species biology and environmental variation across provenances (Yeaman et al. 2016a;
251 MacLachlan et al. 2017; Lotterhos et al. 2018). In addition to these 19 analysis variables, we use
252 autumn mean daily minimum temperature (Tmin_at) as the environmental gradient for plotting
253 phenotypic and genetic clines. We selected Tmin_at due to its biological relevance to autumn cold
254 injury, growth cessation, and shoot mass.

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Environmental Variable (unit)	Abbreviation	TABLE 1 The set of 19 bioclimatic variables used in this study
Mean annual temperature (°C)	MAT	
Mean warmest month temperature (°C)	MWMT	
Mean coldest month temperature (°C)	MCMT	
Continentality (MWMT minus MCMT) (°C)	TD	
Mean annual precipitation (mm)	MAP	
May to September precipitation (mm)	MSP	
Annual heat-moisture index (MAT+10)/(MAP/1000) (°C/μm)	AHM	
Summer heat-moisture index ((MWMT)/(MSP/1000)) (°C/μm)	SHM	
Degree-days below 0°C, chilling degree-days	DD_0	
Degree-days above 5°C, growing degree-days	DD_5	
Number of frost-free days (days)	NFFD	
Frost-free period (days)	FFP	
The day of the year on which FFP begins (Julian date)	bFFP	
The day of the year on which FFP ends (Julian date)	eFFP	
Precipitation as snow between August and July (mm)	PAS	
Extreme minimum temperature over 30 years (°C)	EMT	
Extreme maximum temperature over 30 years (°C)	EXT	
Hargreaves reference evaporation (mm)	Eref	
Hargreaves climatic moisture deficit (mm)	CMD	

255 2.3 Genomic data

256 2.3.1 SNP table

257 DNA was extracted from tissue of spring needles using a Macherey-Nagel Nucleospin 96 Plant
 258 II Core™ kit, automated on an Eppendorf EpMotion 5075™ liquid handling platform. Samples
 259 were genotyped by Neogen GeneSeek (Lincoln, Nebraska) using the AdapTree lodgepole pine
 260 Affymetrix Axiom 50K lodgepole pine SNP array. SNP discovery for this array was based on the
 261 lodgepole pine sequence capture dataset described by Yeaman et al. (2016) and Suren et al. (2016).
 262 It included probes for the exons of 24,388 genes, as well as intergenic regions, with intron-exon
 263 boundaries identified by mapping the lodgepole pine transcriptome to the loblolly pine (*Pinus*
 264 *taeda* L.) v1.01 draft genome (Neale et al. 2014, Zimin et al. 2014). SNPs were selected for
 265 inclusion based on preliminary GEA analyses as well as GPA using phenotypes for seedling traits
 266 (Yeaman et al. 2016), differentially-expressed genes (Yeaman et al. 2014), candidate genes for

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267 climate adaptation from other conifers, mappable SNPs for a linkage map, and a set of non-coding
268 loci to control for neutral population structure. Genotypes from the SNP table were filtered to
269 retain 36,384 SNPs with a minor allele frequency ≥ 0.01 . Of these filtered loci, 4,750 selectively
270 neutral SNPs (those intergenic SNPs that had no significant genotype-phenotype or genotype-
271 environment associations in the analyses of Yeaman et al. 2016) were selected for population
272 structure correction in association analyses. Excluding this “neutral set”, the final candidate
273 adaptive SNP table used in associations contained 31,634 SNPs. We genotyped 1,594 seedlings
274 from the Vancouver outdoor common garden and an additional 1,906 seedlings from the same 281
275 provenances grown in a separate growth chamber experiment (Liepe et al. 2016), for a total median
276 sample size of 11 seedlings (range seven to 24) for each provenance (Figure S2).

277 2.3.2 Genotype-Phenotype Association (GPA)

278 We implemented GPA using the phenotypic residual values (from Eq. 1) for each of the four
279 traits measured at the Vancouver common garden using the linear regression-based *mlma* function
280 in GCTA (Yang et al. 2011). We corrected for population structure using the *grm* option of *mlma*
281 with the 4,750 putatively neutral SNPs described in §2.3.1. We limited marker data to one SNP per
282 contig to reduce redundancies due to physical linkage, which reduced the number of available SNPs
283 from 31,634 to ~19,600 SNPs. SNPs in the bottom 1% of GPA *p*-values for each trait were
284 identified as candidate SNPs ($n = 196$ SNPs per trait). For each candidate SNP, the allele that
285 increased the value of a phenotype – called the positive effect allele (PEA) – was identified from
286 the regression slope in the GCTA *mlma* output.

287 2.3.3 Genotype-Environment Associations (GEA)

288 We used *bayenv2* (Coop et al. 2010; Günther & Coop 2013) to identify loci with evidence
289 for responses to environmental selection. The neutral covariance matrix for this analysis was

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290 estimated using the set of 4750 neutral loci for 100,000 iterations. For each centered and
291 standardized environmental variable (Table 1), we ran `bayenv2` in test mode for one million
292 iterations across three independent chains for the 31,634 loci that did not overlap with the neutral
293 set, using the covariance matrix to correct for neutral population structure. To reduce the marker
294 set to one SNP per contig (~19,600 SNPs), we retained loci that had the greatest evidence for
295 environmental response from each contig (average rank across absolute *rho* and Bayes factor [BF]
296 across the three chains; i.e., six values). To ensure we isolated only loci with the strongest evidence
297 for environmental influence, we re-ranked these ~19,000 loci and retained only those that met two
298 criteria for a given environmental association: 1) the locus was in the top 300 ranked loci for BF
299 for each of the three chains, and 2) was also in the top 300 ranked loci for absolute value of *rho* for
300 each of the three chains. In addition to using these GEA loci towards our objectives, we report the
301 number of loci identified using these criteria, as well as the overlap between GPA and GEA.

302 **2.4 Analyses**

303 We present three analyses that correspond to the three research questions posed in the final
304 paragraph of the Introduction.

305 *2.4.1 Phenotypic variation explained by geographical, climatic, and genomic data.*

306 One way of assessing the relative value of geographic, climatic and genomic data for guiding
307 assisted gene flow and other climate adaptation strategies is to measure the degree to which they
308 can be used to statistically explain locally adaptive phenotypic variation. The dimensionality of the
309 information in each data source is expected to differ: for example, genome-wide data may be
310 distributed over many more modes of variation than the three dimensions (latitude, longitude,
311 elevation) required to fully describe geographic location. These data sources can be compared on
312 equal terms by extracting their principal components (PCs) and assessing the cumulative

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313 explanatory content of increasing numbers of PCs as predictor variables. Explanatory content in
314 this case is measured as proportion of variance explained (R^2) by a multivariate regression of
315 phenotypic values (the response variable) against the PCs of the geographical, climatic, or genomic
316 data (the predictor variables). We used multiple linear regression for this purpose, and report the
317 mean R^2 of a 5-fold cross-validation implemented with the *cv.lm* function of the DAAG package
318 in R (R Core Team 2017). For comparison, we also performed this analysis with Random Forest
319 regression, a regression tree ensemble learning algorithm that provides cross-validated modeling
320 of non-linear relationships and variable interactions (Breiman 2001). For this analysis, we selected
321 a subset of *climate-associated* GPA loci with $R^2 > 0.2$ in multiple linear regressions on the 19 climate
322 variables specified in Table 1.

323 2.4.2 Climatic drivers of local adaptation

324 We examine the congruence of genomic vs. phenotypic data in guiding climatic variable
325 selection by contrasting the proportion of variance of individual climate variables that is explained
326 by climate-associated genomic loci, seedling common garden phenotypes, and long-term
327 provenance trial phenotypes. For each data source, we conducted one regression for each of the
328 19 climate variables (Table 1), in which the response (dependent) variable is the provenance
329 climates for a single climate variable. The predictor (independent) variables for the genomic
330 regressions are the first four principal components of the minor allele frequencies for the top-300
331 GEA loci associated with the climate variable of interest (see §2.3.3 for GEA methods). The
332 predictor variables for the seedling common garden regressions are the provenance means of the
333 standardized phenotypes for the four traits (see §2.1.1). The predictor variables for the long-term
334 provenance trial are the 20-year heights measured at three sites of the Illingworth trial (see §2.1.2).
335 Note that the Illingworth data sample a different set of provenances than the genomic and seedling

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336 common garden data, and thus are essentially independent of these two other data sources. As in
337 the previous analysis (§2.4.1), we used multiple linear regression and report the mean R^2 of a five-
338 fold cross-validation for each regression.

339 2.4.3 *Spatial scale of local adaptation to climate*

340 To characterize the genetic clines associated with the seedling traits measured in the common
341 garden, GPA loci were clustered using a Euclidean k-means algorithm (*kmeans{stats}*; R Core
342 Team 2017). To cluster SNPs, we transposed the provenance-mean positive-effect allele frequency
343 data so that SNPs occupied the row (observations) position and provenances occupied the column
344 (variable) position. Clusters, then, are SNPs that have similar allele frequencies across
345 provenances. Similarity in this configuration is distinct from correlation: SNPs with large
346 differences in aggregate allele frequency will be put in separate clusters, even if they are very
347 highly correlated. Hence this clustering approach is distinct from standard LD clustering
348 approaches based on allele frequency covariance. We use the cluster mean positive-effect allele
349 frequency for each provenance to visually summarize the clusters. Averaging reduces variance,
350 however, which distorts genetic clines. To restore the variance of the cluster mean positive effect
351 allele (PEA) frequency, we multiplied the cluster-mean PEA frequency for each provenance by the
352 mean standard deviation of the SNPs in the cluster.

353 To investigate levels of standing variation, we calculated expected heterozygosity (H_e) for
354 each PEA in each provenance. The cluster-mean H_e for each provenance is the mean H_e for each
355 SNP within the cluster. We report standing variation as proportional polymorphism for each
356 provenance: the proportion of SNPs within a cluster with $H_e > 0$.

357 **3 Results**

358 **3.1 Phenotypic clines**

359 Provenance-mean phenotypes for all four traits measured in the Vancouver common garden
360 exhibit moderate to strong clines relative to study area temperature gradients where the timing of
361 growth cessation and fall cold injury show the strongest relationships with many climate variables,
362 such as autumn mean daily minimum temperature (Figure 2). In general, trees from colder
363 provenances initiated growth slightly earlier, ceased growth earlier, achieved less total growth, and
364 exhibited less cold injury. Autumn cold injury in particular has a very strong relationship ($r = 0.83$)
365 to autumn temperature. Within-provenance variation among individuals is generally uncorrelated
366 among the four traits (Figure S3). However, within-provenance variation of shoot mass is
367 positively correlated to growth cessation day ($r=0.59$) and weakly but significantly negatively
368 correlated to growth initiation day ($r = -0.18$, $p = 2E-12$). This result may be due to the benign

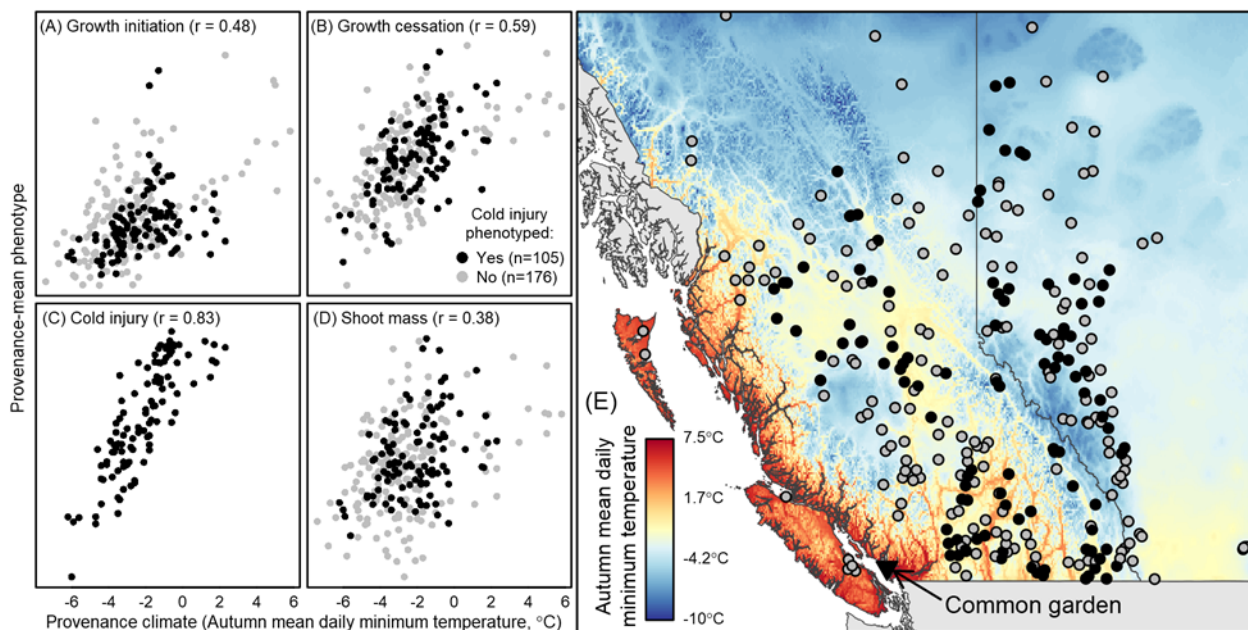


FIGURE 2 Phenotypic clines of four traits in lodgepole pine seedlings grown in a common garden. A total of 1,594 seedlings from 281 provenances across British Columbia and Alberta, Canada (grey and black circles) were phenotyped for growth initiation (A), growth cessation (B), and three-year shoot mass (D). A subset of 922 seedlings from 105 provenances (black circles) were tested for autumn cold injury (C). Phenotypic clines (A-D) are plotted on an environmental gradient of autumn mean daily minimum temperature, mapped in (E).

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369 maritime climate of the common garden; seedlings with a longer growth period are not penalized
370 by environmental constraints such as growing season frosts. Correlations of among-provenance
371 variation in growth cessation, fall cold injury, and shoot mass are moderate to strong. Growth
372 initiation is poorly correlated with the other traits.

373 **3.2 Phenotypic variation explained by geographical, climatic, and genomic data**

374 The absolute and relative explanatory content of geographical, climatic, and genomic data
375 differs among traits (Figure 3). Differences in the explained phenotypic variation among traits
376 generally exceed the differences among the three types of data (geographic, climatic and genomic)
377 within traits, and mirror the strength of the phenotypic clines in Figure 2. Nevertheless, there are
378 important differences in the relative explanatory content of geographic, climatic, and genomic data
379 among traits. In general, geographic variables (yellow diamonds) are as predictive of seedling
380 phenotypes as climatic variables (gray circles, Figure 3), consistent with strong local adaptation to
381 geographically-based climate in this species. The exception is growth initiation, where geographic
382 variables are more explanatory than climate. The GPA SNPs (solid black line, Figure 3) are more
383 explanatory than climate and geography in growth initiation and shoot mass but not growth
384 cessation, where they are equivalent, and cold injury, where they are slightly inferior.

385 The relative explanatory power of different types of genomic data is consistent among traits
386 (Figure 3), and provides several insights. First, GPA SNPs (solid black line) consistently have the
387 highest explanatory power. Since the GPA SNPs are a subset of the full array (solid gray line), the
388 difference between GPA and full SNP array indicates the value of extracting the relevant genetic
389 information. Second, the climate-associated GPA SNPs (black-dashed line, Figure 3) generally
390 explain less phenotypic variation than the full set of GPA SNPs. In the case of growth initiation,
391 however, climate-associated GPA SNPs explain more phenotypic variation than climate variables.

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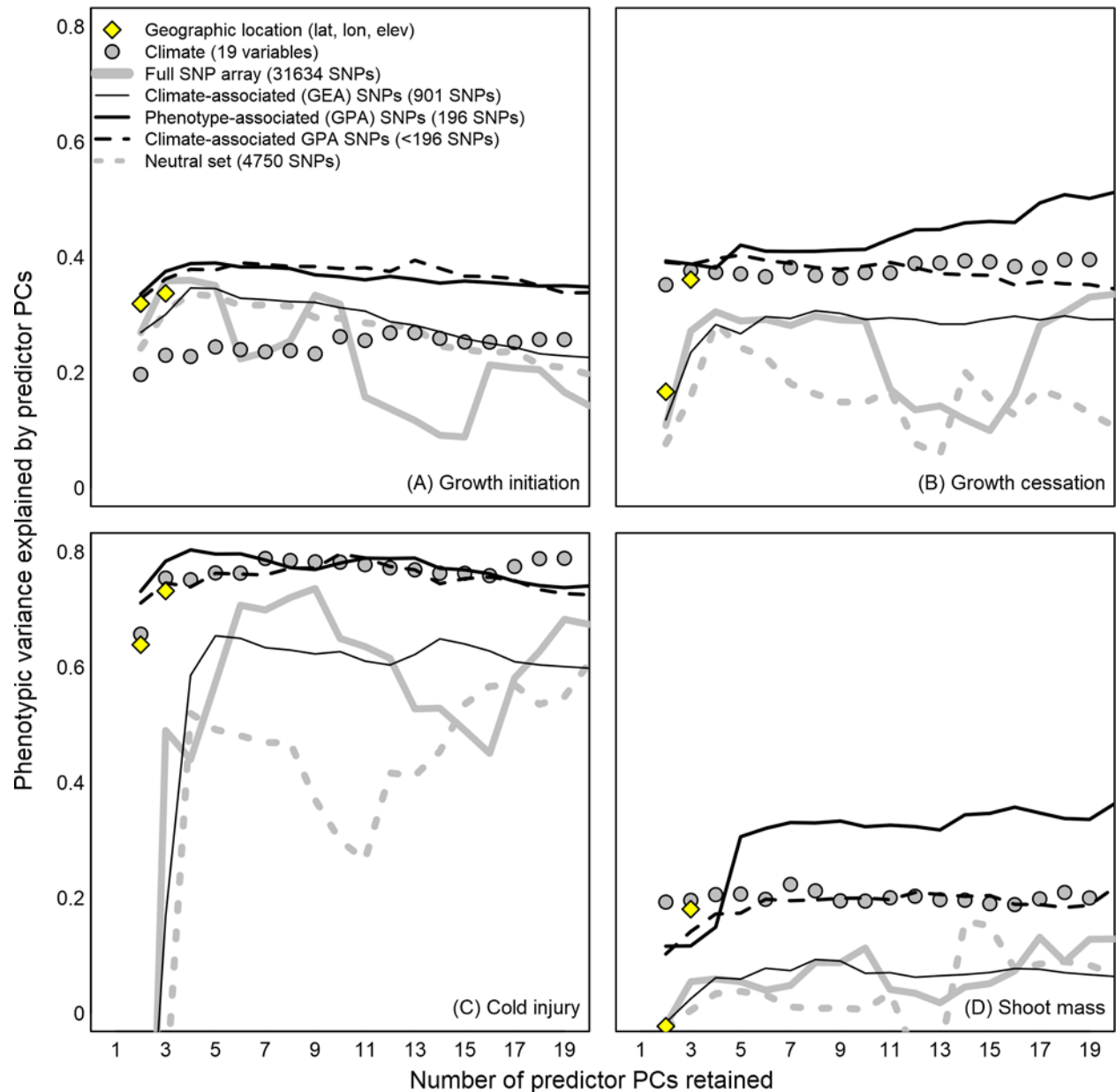


FIGURE 3 Common garden phenotypic variance explained (PVE) for four traits by cumulative principal components of geography (diamonds), climate (circles), and several subsets of genomic data from a SNP array (lines). Each point is the cross-validated R^2 of a multiple linear regression of provenance-mean phenotype against the specified number of principal components of the predictor data. GEA SNPs (thin black line) are the pooled top-300 SNPs based on Bayes factor from each of the 19 climate variables. GPA SNPs (thick black line) are the top 1% of coding-region SNPs (maximum of one SNP per contig) based on the p-value of a population-structure-corrected linear association of allele frequencies to seedling phenotypes. Climate-associated GPA SNPs (black dashed line) are GPA SNPs with a linear association to climate (see §2.4.1). The neutral set is shown as a grey dashed line.

392 Third, the GEAs identified using `bayenv2` (Supplemental Table S1) consistently have low
 393 explanatory power to predict phenotypic variation, but higher and more stable explanatory power
 394 than the neutral set and the full SNP array. There is a fairly high overlap of GEA with GPA loci,

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395 with an average of 53% of GEA SNPs from various environmental variables found within 1000 bp
396 of GPA loci (range 0% for NFFD to 81% for EXT; sd = 20.6%), and a total of 35% of GPA SNPs
397 found within 1000bp of the GEA loci found across environmental variables (Supplemental Table
398 S1). This is another line of evidence of the strong role of climate in driving phenotypic variation
399 among provenances.

400 The neutral set and full SNP array both have explanatory relationships with phenotypes, but
401 these are not as strong as relationships with geographic, climatic, and filtered genomic data (Figure
402 3). An equivalent analysis to Figure 3 using Random Forest regression instead of linear regression
403 demonstrates that both the neutral set and full SNP array contain almost as much non-linear
404 explanatory information as the climatic and geographic variables (Figure S4). Further, some
405 subsets of the neutral set exhibit linear relationships to phenotype that are as strong and stable as
406 the relationships of GEA loci to phenotype (Figure S5).

407 Traits differ substantially in the dimensionality of their associated genomic information, i.e.,
408 the number of PCs at which further gains in explanatory information are not achieved. Explainable
409 variation in growth initiation, growth cessation, and autumn cold injury are almost completely
410 described by the first two PCs (Figure 3). In contrast, five PCs are required to describe the
411 explainable variation in shoot mass. The dimensionality of explanatory information in the different
412 traits speaks to the complexity of genetic controls on the trait.

413 **3.3 Climatic drivers of local adaptation**

414 The GEA loci show general congruence with both the short-term (3-yr) common garden
415 experiment (Figure 4A) and a longer-term (20-yr) provenance trial (Figure 4B). Across both
416 phenotypic traits and the genomic GEA data, there is agreement that local adaptation is strongly
417 associated with winter temperature variables: mean temperature of the coldest month (MCMT),

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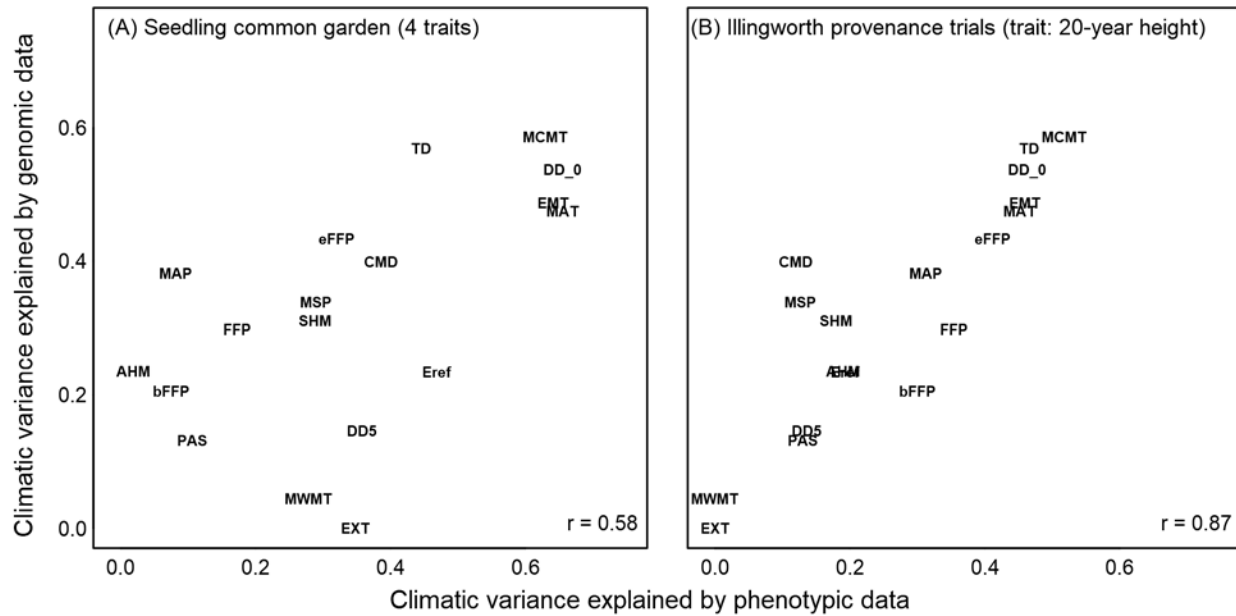


FIGURE 4 Climatic variable selection based on phenotypic vs genomic data. Variance explained is the cross-validated R^2 of a multiple linear regression of each climate variable (response variable) against the phenotypic or genomic predictor variable set. Genomic data (predictor variables for the y-axis analyses) are four principal components of the minor allele frequencies for the top-300 GEA SNPs identified by *bayenv2* for each climate variable. Phenotypic data (predictor variables for the x-axis analyses) for panel A are provenance-mean phenotypes for the four common-garden traits presented in Figure 2. Phenotypic predictor data for panel B are 20-year heights of the Illingworth lodgepole pine provenance trial. Climate variable acronyms are described in Table 1.

418 degree-days below 0°C (DD_0), winter-summer temperature contrast (TD), and extreme minimum
 419 temperature (EMT; variables in upper right of Figure 4A and 4B). Note that mean annual
 420 temperature can be considered primarily a winter variable in this study area because spatial
 421 variation in mean temperature along the latitudinal gradient is much stronger in winter than in other
 422 seasons. In the Vancouver common garden (Figure 4A), this congruence between genotypic and
 423 phenotypic relationships to climate variables is broken by summer temperature variables (Eref,
 424 EXT, DD5, and MWMT), which have moderate associations with phenotypes (x-axis) but low
 425 associations with genotypes (y-axis). In the provenance trial (Figure 4B), the congruence is broken
 426 by summer precipitation variables (MSP and CMD), which have low associations with phenotype
 427 but moderate associations with genotype. The same pattern of these relationships is produced using
 428 either the full SNP array or the neutral SNPs in place of the GEA SNPs (Figures S6 and S7,

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429 respectively).

430 3.4 Spatial scale of local adaptation to climate

431 All four common garden traits exhibit linear phenotypic clines over many of the climatic
432 gradients of the study area, where the strongest of these clines is autumn cold injury relative to
433 autumn temperature (Figure 2C; $r = 0.83$). To detect whether genetic clines for cold injury loci
434 along environmental gradients are rangewide or localized, we examined the $n = 80$ -locus subset of
435 the 196 cold injury GPA candidates that are also moderately associated with the 19 climate
436 variables (Random Forest pseudo- $R^2 > 0.31$; Figure S8). We clustered these 80 loci into six clusters
437 based on their absolute PEA frequencies across provenances (Figure S9). The within-cluster mean
438 PEA frequencies of these six clusters have distinct clines (Figure 5) relative to the gradient in
439 autumn temperature across the study area (Figure 2). Clusters 2, 4, and 5 show no clinal variation

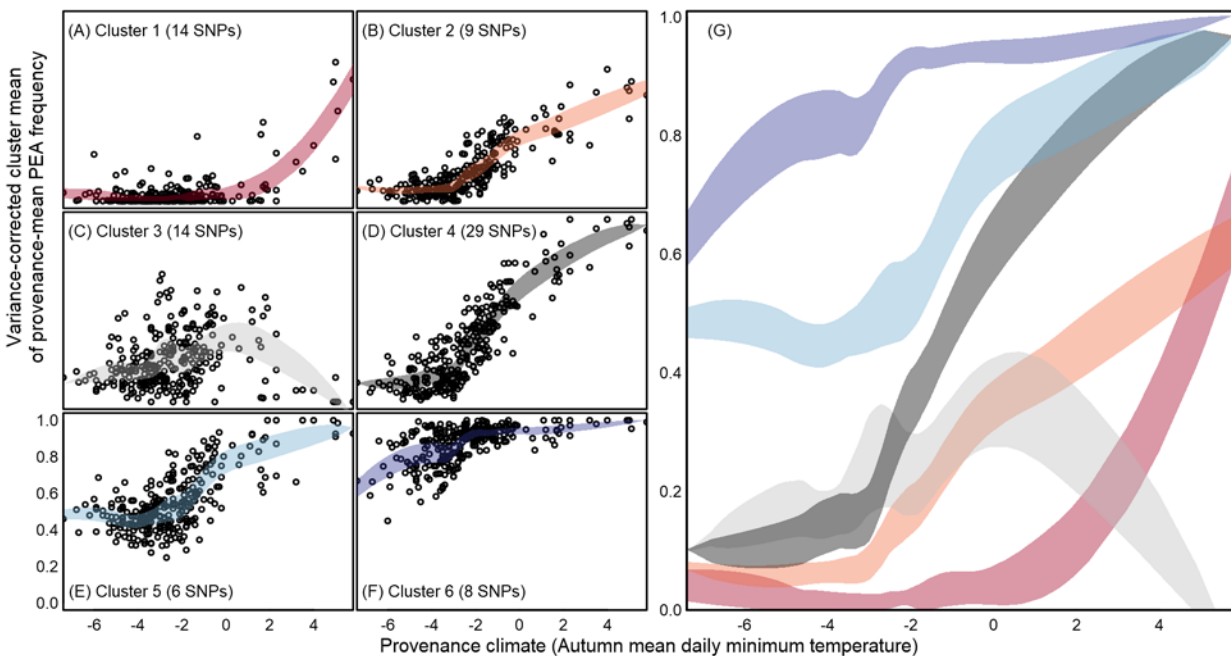


FIGURE 5 Genetic clines associated with autumn cold injury. (A-F) the 80 climate-associated GWAS SNPs for autumn cold injury are clustered based on similarities in positive effect allele (PEA) frequencies across provenances ($n=281$). Each point is the mean of the PEA frequencies across clustered SNPs for one provenance, with a correction applied to restore the variance of the PEA frequencies following averaging. The colored bands in each plot, superimposed in panel G, are locally-weighted 0.5-standard deviation prediction intervals. Recall that the y-axes are reflecting the frequency of PEAs that are associated with increased cold injury

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440 across provenance temperatures below -3°C , but have a clinal increase in PEA frequency across
441 higher temperatures (Figure 5). Cluster 6 has essentially the opposite pattern, in that it shows clinal
442 variation almost exclusively below the -3°C autumn temperature threshold. The adaptive variation
443 in cluster 6 is of particular interest, in the context of standing variation, because it is localized to a
444 high degree relative to the other clusters. Cluster 1 has an inverse pattern to cluster 6 relative to
445 provenance climate, and primarily reflects variation associated with the coastal ssp. *contorta*,
446 which occur at $T_{\text{min_at}} > 2^{\circ}\text{C}$. Cluster 3 exhibits increased variation in the interior of BC, which
447 appears to be reversed in the warmer climates of the coast.

448 To contrast the extent of rangewide vs localized clines, the geographic patterns of allele
449 frequencies in clusters 4 and 6 are shown in Figure 6. Cluster 4 represents the dominant rangewide
450 genetic cline over the study area, and is largely parallel with clusters 2 and 5. Cluster 6 is the
451 complementary cline to cluster 4 as it reflects adaptive variation for cold hardiness in boreal
452 provenances. Cluster 4 has a strong cline with respect to the joint thermal gradient of latitude and
453 elevation (Figure 6C). Putatively adaptive alleles of cluster 6 are predominantly found in the Boreal
454 climates of Northern Alberta, Northeastern BC, and the eastern foothills of the Rocky Mountains
455 (Figure 6F). Unlike cluster 4, cluster 6 does not have a pronounced elevational cline at low latitudes
456 (Figure 6D). With the exception of two coastal provenances, all provenances have standing
457 variation in some of the adaptive alleles in each cluster, though several provenances west of the
458 Rocky Mountains (i.e., in British Columbia) have no standing variation in at least half of the cluster
459 6 loci (Figure S10).

460 **4 Discussion**

461 This study uses a large sample of locally adapted *P. contorta* provenances from across western
462 Canada to evaluate genomic data, relative to phenotypic and climatic data, as a basis for assisted

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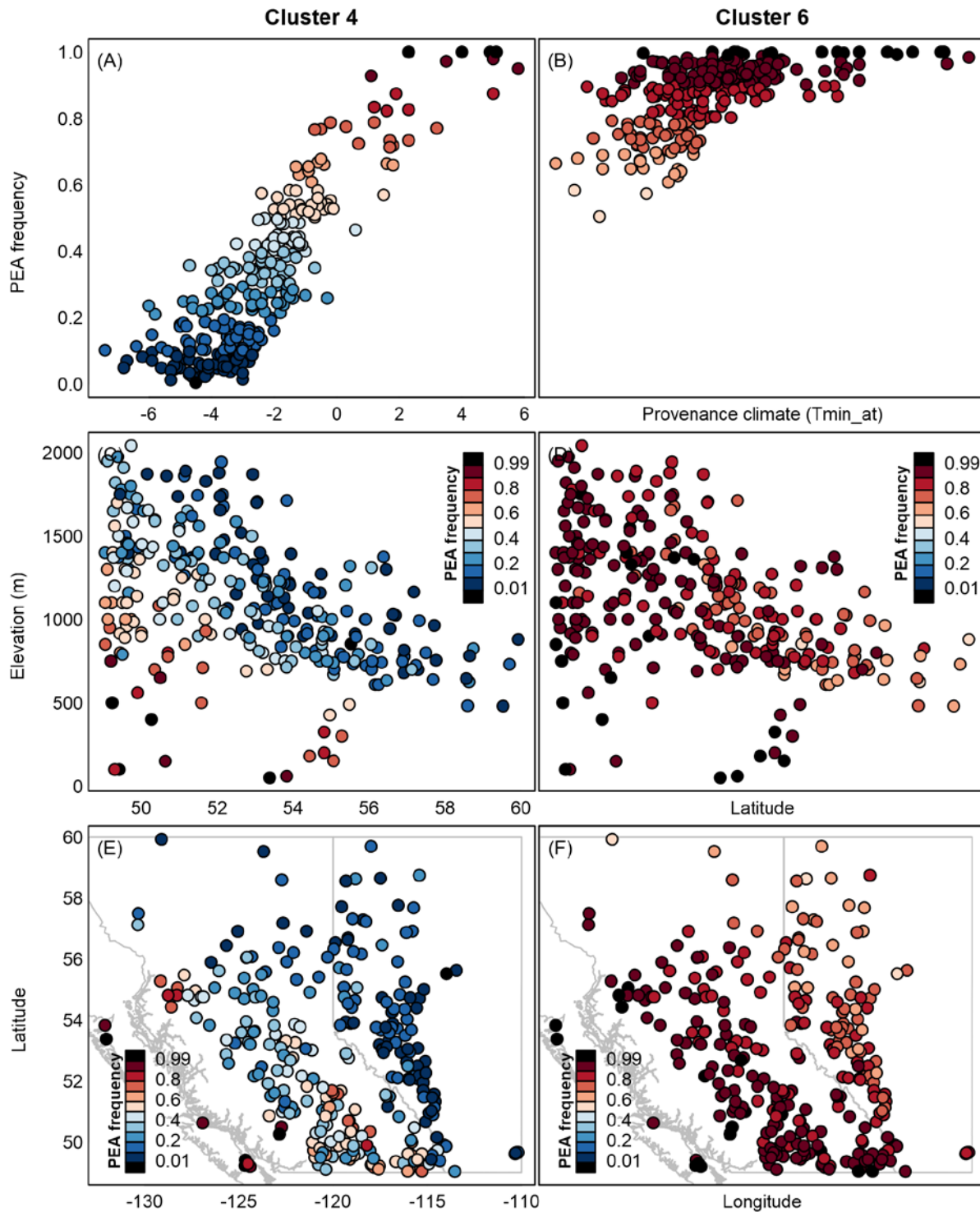


FIGURE 6 Contrasting geographic patterns of standing variation in rangewide and localized genetic clines associated with autumn cold injury. A rangewide cline (Cluster 4, left column) and a localized cline (Cluster 6, right column) relative to the autumn temperature gradient (Tmin_at) in the sampled provenances (A and B, respectively) as previously shown in Figure 4D & 4F. These clines are also compared across latitude and elevation (C,D), and latitude and longitude (E,F). Populations are colored with respect to PEA frequency (alleles that are associated with an increase in autumn cold injury).

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464 gene flow and genetic conservation. In the introduction, we posed three research questions related
465 to this objective. The first was: *what is the relative value of genomic data vs. climatic and*
466 *geographic data in explaining variation in locally adapted traits?* All data types identified the
467 importance of adaptation to seasonally low temperatures driving population differentiation across
468 western Canada. On average, the best predictors of seedling traits were the GPA SNPs, both the
469 full set and the subset that was also associated with climate (Figure 3). For cold injury and growth
470 cessation, the climate variables had similar predictive power to the GPA SNPs. For all traits, the
471 neutral and GEA SNPs explained far less variation than climate, GPA SNPs or even geographic
472 coordinates. This suggests that loci associated with climate-relevant traits within populations are
473 both effective for revealing adaptive differences among populations, as well as elements of genetic
474 architecture underlying adaptive responses that can be useful guiding management or conservation
475 decisions.

476 The second question was: *can genomic data identify the climatic drivers of local adaptation?*
477 Genotype-environment associations and a long-term provenance trial had strong agreement on the
478 climatic drivers of local adaptation, namely winter temperature-related variables (Figure 4). These
479 dominant drivers also held for short-term common garden seedling traits, though the overall
480 relationship to the GEA result was weaker. This suggests that genomic data can be a viable option
481 for identifying the key climatic controls on productivity and lifetime fitness, and may even be more
482 reliable for this purpose than seedling traits in some contexts (Figure S11).

483 The third question was: *what is the spatial scale of local adaptation in climatically adaptive*
484 *traits?* We found that some of the genetic clines associated with the observed phenotypic cline in
485 cold injury are constrained to the extremes of the study area (Figure 5). However, we did not find
486 compelling evidence for highly localized genetic clines at scales that would constrain local seed

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487 transfer to scales finer than those indicated by phenotypic data or necessitate geographically small
488 genetic conservation units (Figures 5 and 6).

489 **4.1 Phenotypic variation explained by geographical, climatic, and genomic data.**

490 The predictive power of climate variables, geography, and genotypes varied greatly among
491 seedling traits. It is widely recognized that cold hardiness shows strong population differentiation
492 in most temperate and boreal species (Howe et al. 2003; Alberto et al. 2013; Aitken and Bemmels
493 2016), and we found strong population differentiation for cold injury, as well as high predictability
494 of cold injury from climatic, geographic, and GPA SNP data ($PVE > 0.6$). However, the remaining
495 traits were not strongly predicted with any of the given data ($PVE < 0.5$, Figure 3). Variability in
496 the predictive ability among traits for a given data source, or among data sources for a given trait
497 may be due to several factors, including (discussed in Lind et al. 2018): 1) how well each phenotype
498 is correlated with lifetime fitness; 2) the degree to which the trait is polygenic; 3) the mode of gene
499 action underlying the genetic architecture of the trait (e.g., additive, epistatic/GxE, or pleiotropic);
500 4) the primary source of genetic variation in a trait (i.e., protein coding or regulatory regions); 5)
501 the degree to which selection has structured variation within the species (i.e., the joint effects of
502 selective forces and demographic dynamics); or 6) shortcomings of methodologies (e.g., correcting
503 for population structure that could remove adaptive signals that covary with demography).

504 While this study focussed on relatively few seedling traits, there are undoubtedly many
505 other traits at various life history stages that have population differences associated with local
506 climate (e.g., biotic and abiotic responses, reproduction, and tree form). Our GPAs specifically
507 identify SNPs associated with our focal seedling traits, and so it is not surprising that the GPA
508 SNPs from individual seedling traits were better predictors of a given trait than the GEA SNPs
509 (Figure 3). Even so, the GPA SNPs were consistently the best set of markers for explaining

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510 variation in phenotypes, and second only to climate for growth cessation and cold injury (Figure
511 3), emphasizing the added value of these candidate loci. Climate also consistently explained
512 phenotypic variation well, relative to genomic data, for traits other than growth initiation.
513 Geographic coordinates (latitude, longitude, and elevation) predicted all seedling traits quite well,
514 explaining the success found in the vast body of older genecological literature in forest trees that
515 used geographic variables as a proxy for climate before spatial climatic data became widely
516 available.

517 In line with expectations of polygenic architectures for most of the traits, the entire SNP
518 array (~31K SNPs) was able to predict some of the variation in these traits. Neutral SNPs from
519 non-coding regions of the genome were also able to explain a substantial portion of phenotypic
520 variation in all traits except shoot mass (Figure 3), and were equivalent to all other data sources as
521 a predictor set for Random Forest regressions (Figure S4). The predictive power of neutral SNPs
522 emphasizes the potential to confound neutral population structure with adaptive variation, or to
523 overcorrect for population structure and as a result, overlook adaptive markers, particularly for
524 species whose demographic history is aligned with environmental gradients. In this case, the post-
525 glacial expansion of lodgepole pine likely matches the strong latitudinal gradient of winter
526 temperatures. Since the analyses identifying GEA and GPA SNPs both adjusted for population
527 structure, we may have eliminated some loci involved in local adaptation from consideration
528 through this adjustment.

529 **4.2 Climatic drivers of local adaptation**

530 To design an assisted gene flow strategy that matches populations with suitable sites based
531 on current and near-future climates, it is important to understand the climatic factors that have
532 driven local adaptation. Once the key climatic factors for local adaptation are identified, a climate

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533 distance metric can be constructed to match seed sources with sites (e.g., Climate-Based Seed
534 Transfer, O'Neill 2017, and Seedlot Selection Tool, <https://seedlotselectiontool.org/sst/>). Our GEA
535 results for individual climate variables ranked the variable importance similarly to those identified
536 based on growth in a 20-year field provenance trial and, to a lesser extent, to our seedling common
537 garden phenotypes. Both sets of phenotypic data identified winter temperature variables including
538 mean coldest month temperature, degree days below 0°, and extreme minimum temperature as
539 important drivers of local adaptation. Other studies of these provenances (e.g., Liepe et al. 2016)
540 and other populations of lodgepole pine in western Canada (e.g., Rweyongeza et al. 2007; Wang
541 et al. 2010; McLane et al. 2011) corroborate these climatic variables as strong historic drivers of
542 adaptation and differentiation, and at relatively broad spatial scales (Liepe et al. 2016).
543 Nevertheless, the result that our set of neutral markers produced nearly equivalent climate variable
544 rankings to the GEA set (Figure 4 vs. Figure S7) indicates that the substitution of genomic for
545 phenotypic data needs to be approached with some caution.

546 Future pressures from drought are expected to become increasingly relevant for lodgepole
547 populations as climate change progresses throughout the next century (Monserud et al. 2006, 2008;
548 McLane et al. 2011). GEA-climate relationships were stronger than field phenotype-climate
549 relationships for summer precipitation-related variables such as mean summer precipitation and
550 cumulative moisture deficit (Figure 4). This suggest that water availability might result in
551 diversifying selection across populations. A previous study with these populations found no
552 significant population variation for drought-related seedling traits including stable carbon isotope
553 ratios and biomass allocation to roots (Liepe et al. 2016); however, it did not include populations
554 from drier provenances in the southern portion of the species range, and these may show stronger
555 drought adaptation. Interestingly, the seedling common garden phenotypes in this study from the

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556 mild, maritime Vancouver climate had stronger associations with summer heat-related variables
557 than the genomic data (Figure 4a).

558 None of the phenotypes we analyzed represent lifetime fitness. Nonetheless, the
559 concordance of climatic drivers of seedling phenotypes, 20-year growth in the field, and genomic
560 data are encouraging (Figure 4). The closest proxy to fitness among the seedling traits we analyzed
561 may be seedling shoot mass, as a measure of growth during the common garden experiment. Trees
562 that achieve larger sizes within the available frost-free period for growth will generally have higher
563 fecundity as they have larger crowns with more sites for pollen and seed cone production. Forest
564 managers are also ultimately interested in tree size for wood production, and trees with good
565 juvenile growth are likely to grow well in a restoration context. We found weaker population
566 differentiation for shoot mass than for the other seedling traits. Tree size is the product of many
567 other component traits affecting seedling health and vigour, including phenology (which we
568 analyzed directly as growth initiation and cessation), abiotic stress tolerance (including cold
569 injury), resistance to insects and diseases, resource acquisition and allocation, physiological
570 processes, cell density, etc. It is likely that loci underlying variation in growth have pleiotropic
571 effects, and that they respond to selection through trade-offs in the various fitness consequences of
572 component traits contributing to growth.

573 Which of these data sources – seedling phenotypes, field phenotypes, or genotypes – should
574 be considered the standard against which the others are compared? One could argue that field-
575 based growth over two decades better reflects meaningful provenance differences expressed in
576 typical habitat. On the other hand, the precision phenotyping of seedlings for phenology and cold
577 hardiness is difficult or impossible in long-term field trials, and these traits should be strongly
578 linked with climate for boreal, sub-boreal, and montane species. Finally, it may be that the GEA-

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579 climate patterns provide the best indication of long-term selection as they may reflect periodic,
580 episodic extreme climatic events causing injury and mortality that are not observed even over long
581 field experiments. In any event, given the extensive overlap in top climate variables among these
582 methods, we suggest that GEA approaches can rapidly provide information on climatic drivers of
583 local adaptation for the design of assisted gene flow strategies when phenotypic data are not
584 available. However, the potential for population structure to confound GEA approaches remains
585 an important consideration.

586 **4.3 *Spatial scale of local adaptation to climate***

587 We evaluated variation at adaptive loci against a model of localized versus rangewide genetic
588 clines (Figure 1, *sensu* Barton 1999) along climatic temperature gradients (Figure 2). We found
589 evidence of both localized and broad-scale genetic clines for clusters of SNPs associated with
590 autumn cold injury (Figure 5 and Figure S8). Overall, the genetic clines associated with autumn
591 cold injury do not exhibit the strongly sequential, localized clines envisioned by Barton (1999) and
592 Savolainen et al. (2007), nor are all genetic clines coincident across the range of environments, but
593 rather fit a model intermediate to the hypothetical scenarios illustrated in Figure 1B and 1C. Our
594 study sampled provenances over only half of the species' latitudinal range. It may be that sequential
595 localized genetic clines would be more evident if our study included the full species range. While
596 some clines for the major adaptive clusters we identified are largely variable across the range, there
597 is a group of six SNPs that all show clines in the boreal region of the study area, but not in warmer
598 areas (cluster 6 in Figure 5). These clines complement those of several other clusters for SNPs that
599 are relatively invariant in the boreal portion of the range but vary in warmer regions (clusters 1, 2,
600 and 4 in Figure 5). For instance, cluster 6 alleles conferring cold hardiness (the alternate PEA allele)
601 have reduced standing variation in warmer provenances west of the Rocky Mountains, and follow

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602 both elevational and latitudinal patterns of temperature clines (Figures 5 and 6). Failure to detect
603 polymorphisms for these SNPs in these provenances may be an artefact of small sample sizes
604 ($6 < n < 13$) in a majority of the studied provenances (Figure S2). Nevertheless, these results indicate
605 reduced genetic diversity for boreal-associated alleles of cluster 6. The absence of these alleles may
606 be a limiting factor in seed transfer from sub-boreal to boreal climates, or across the Rocky
607 Mountains. This localization may be indicative of alleles conferring additional cold hardiness in
608 the coldest areas of the sampled range that may have trade-offs in the warmer areas (e.g., via
609 pleiotropy or GxE such as conditional neutrality). Even so, the alleles in cluster 6 were not
610 associated with the other phenotypes in our study (while all other clusters had associations to at
611 least three phenotypes). Future investigation may be warranted, as the lack of pleiotropy inferred
612 from associations to multiple phenotypes in cluster 6 may be a function of the cluster's sample
613 size, of linkage to unsampled antagonistic (regulatory) sites, conditional neutrality underlying gene
614 action (or other GxE), of unmeasured phenotypes important to adaptation, or of other statistical
615 and methodological shortcomings.

616 While our results suggest that localized genetic clines (Figure 5), and provenances
617 associated with low genetic diversity in adaptive alleles (Figures 6 and S8), are evident in lodgepole
618 pine, we did not find compelling evidence for localized genetic clines at scales that would constrain
619 local seed transfer more narrowly than previous estimates of adaptive scales based on phenotypes
620 (*cf.* Figure 4 in Liepe et al. 2016; Wang et al. 2010; Ukrainetz et al. 2018) or current seed transfer
621 policy would suggest (Ying and Yanchuk 2006; O'Neill et al. 2017), nor at scales that would
622 necessitate highly localized spatial genetic conservation units. At present, British Columbia's
623 genetic conservation program for forest trees uses British Columbia's 16 Biogeoclimatic
624 Ecological Classification (BEC) zones to assess adequacy of both *in situ* (Hamann et al. 2004;

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625 Chourmouzis et al. 2009) and *ex situ* (Krakowski et al. 2009) genetic conservation for all 50 of
626 BC's native tree species. If other species show patterns of distribution of adaptive diversity similar
627 to lodgepole pine, continued management of conservation populations within these ecological
628 zones should be sufficient (Liepe et al. 2016).

629 Climate-based local adaptation has long been observed for many plant species (Leimu and
630 Fisher 2008; Hereford 2009) including conifers (Langlet 1971; Savolainen et al. 2007; Boshier et
631 al. 2015; Lind et al. 2018), the scale of which is determined by the interplay between migration,
632 selection, and drift (discussed in Lenormand 2002, Tigano & Friesen 2016). Historically, the spatial
633 scales over which local adaptation occurs has been inferred from both short- and long-term
634 transplant experiments (Langlet 1971; Morgenstern 1996). Only recently has the technology been
635 available to study the spatial distribution of adaptive variation at loci across the genome. This new
636 source of insight into local adaptation comes at a time when climate change creates an imperative
637 for mitigating inevitable risks of productivity loss and threats to natural populations across forestry,
638 agricultural, and natural systems. The common sources of data used towards such purposes, such
639 as field provenance trials, seedling common gardens, scale-free spatial climatic data, and genomic
640 studies, however, come with varied logistical limitations and are not always feasible or appropriate
641 in every situation (Blanquardt et al. 2013; Sork et al. 2013; Gibson et al. 2016; Hoban et al. 2016;
642 Flanagan et al. 2018). The large number of phenotyped and genotyped provenances in this study
643 allow us to quantify and compare detailed spatial and climatic patterns of adaptive variation, and
644 to assess their utility for planning assisted gene flow, the need for *in situ* and *ex situ* genetic
645 conservation, and the potential for populations to adapt to new climates without intervention. While
646 our data are for lodgepole pine, we hope these results will inform and accelerate climate adaptation
647 efforts with other widespread species.

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665 **Author contributions:**

666 SNA and CRM conceived this project. Common garden experiments and phenotyping by IRM.
667 SNP tables compiled by JBY and IRM. Analyses designed by CRM with input from IRM, SNA,
668 and BML. GPA by IRM. GEA by BML. Figures by CRM. Analysis of Illingworth trial by TW.
669 Introduction by SNA, BML, CRM and JBY. Methods by IRM and CRM. Results by CRM.
670 Discussion by CRM, SNA, BML and JBY. Supporting information document by CRM.
671

672 **Archiving statement:**

673 Data for this study will be made publicly available upon acceptance.

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Supplementary Information

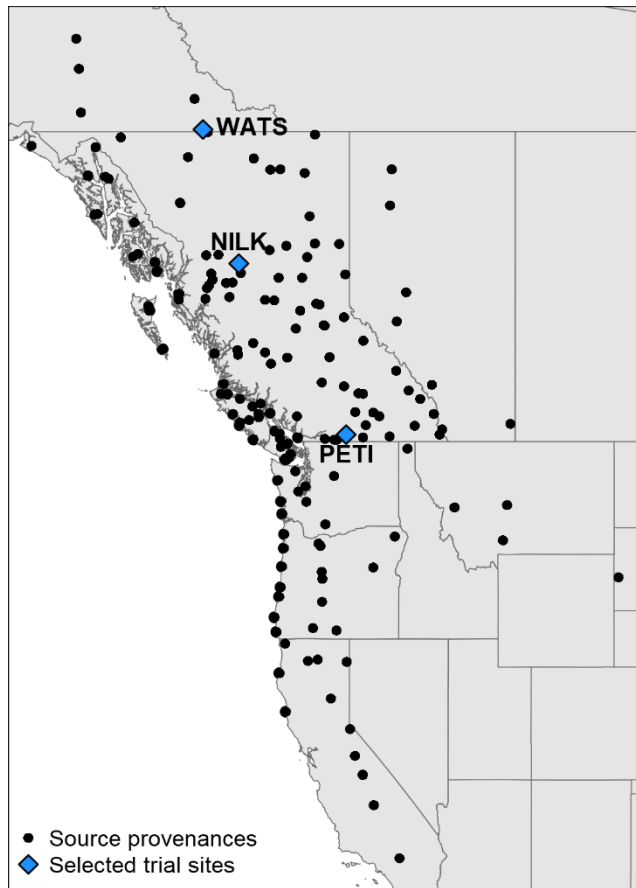
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977 **Table S1. Overlap between genotype-environment associations (GEA) from bayenv2 and genotype-phenotype associations (GPA).** The GEAs column
 978 indicates the number of environmentally associated loci that met our filtering criteria (locus in top 300 ranks for Bayes factor across all three chains, and also in
 979 top 300 ranks for *rho* across all three chains, after filtering for one SNP per contig). Numbers in phenotypic columns indicate the overlap of GEAs with GPA hits
 980 (i.e., the same position in each association), with the number in the parenthesis being the additional number of unique GPA hits that were within 1000bp of a GEA
 981 hit. Unique GPA Hits is the unique number of loci across these phenotypic columns for a given environmental variable, with parenthetical values indicating the
 982 additional number of unique GPA hits within 1000bp of a GEA. The last row indicates the unique number of SNPs from a given column. Environmental
 983 abbreviations as in Table 1 of main text.

Environmental Variable	GEAs	Budbreak	Budset	Cold injury	Shootmass	Unique GPA Hits
AHM	202	15 (5)	41 (23)	4 (2)	1 (1)	52 (26)
CMD	238	32 (12)	67 (33)	36 (12)	25 (8)	86 (36)
DD5	192	46 (26)	32 (11)	48 (14)	39 (9)	82 (32)
DD_o	142	36 (21)	35 (21)	37 (15)	32 (10)	63 (32)
EMT	129	49 (17)	30 (12)	42 (12)	32 (9)	69 (26)
EXT	26	12 (4)	14 (6)	15 (4)	15 (3)	15 (6)
Eref	234	37 (9)	69 (29)	42 (14)	30 (9)	93 (35)
FFP	193	65 (17)	31 (7)	50 (9)	39 (8)	95 (23)
MAP	117	19 (11)	31 (23)	7 (5)	2 (3)	43 (29)
MAT	186	59 (30)	40 (25)	44 (16)	35 (10)	93 (47)
MCMT	188	49 (22)	29 (14)	41 (14)	30 (9)	70 (30)
MSP	202	23 (10)	52 (32)	16 (9)	10 (9)	64 (35)
MWMT	141	21 (8)	35 (12)	41 (12)	39 (8)	56 (18)
NFFD	2	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)	0 (0)
PAS	112	0 (1)	3 (3)	4 (1)	3 (1)	9 (4)
SHM	233	30 (10)	65 (32)	33 (11)	22 (9)	85 (35)
TD	161	10 (9)	9 (13)	15 (10)	7 (7)	19 (17)
bFFP	167	52 (22)	26 (9)	43 (13)	37 (10)	79 (30)
eFFP	174	64 (18)	29 (8)	45 (11)	35 (10)	90 (26)
unique loci	901	105 (44)	102 (63)	77 (34)	49 (24)	212 (105)

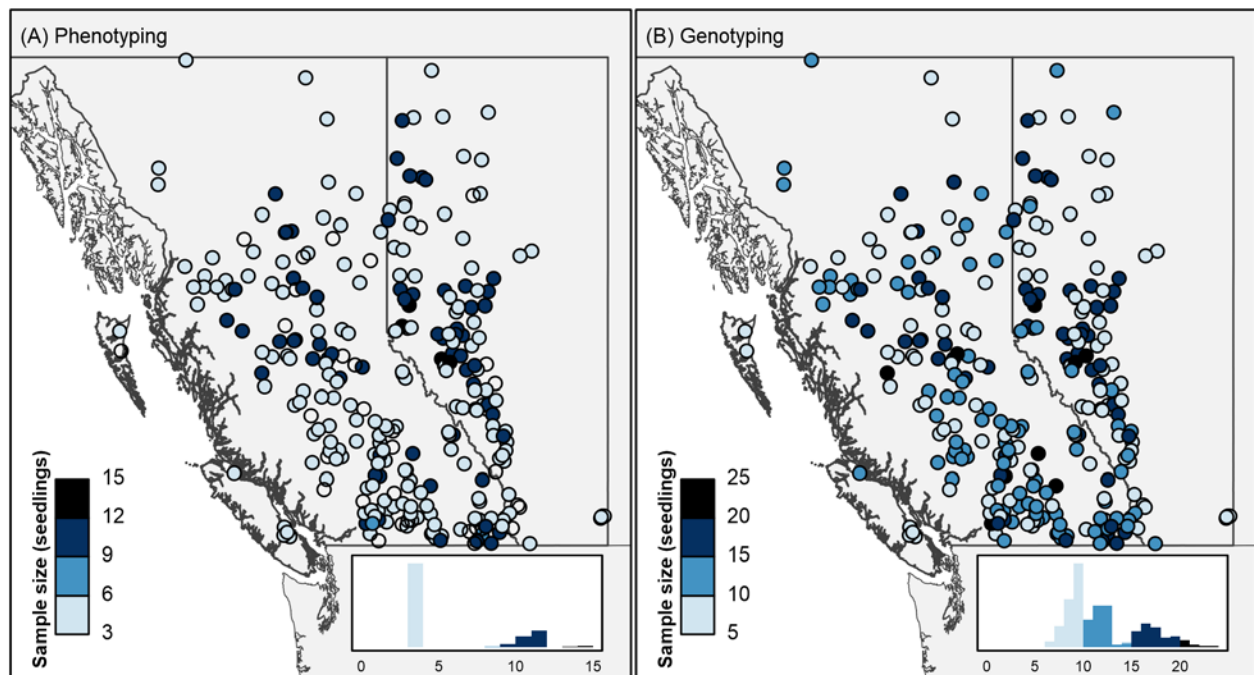
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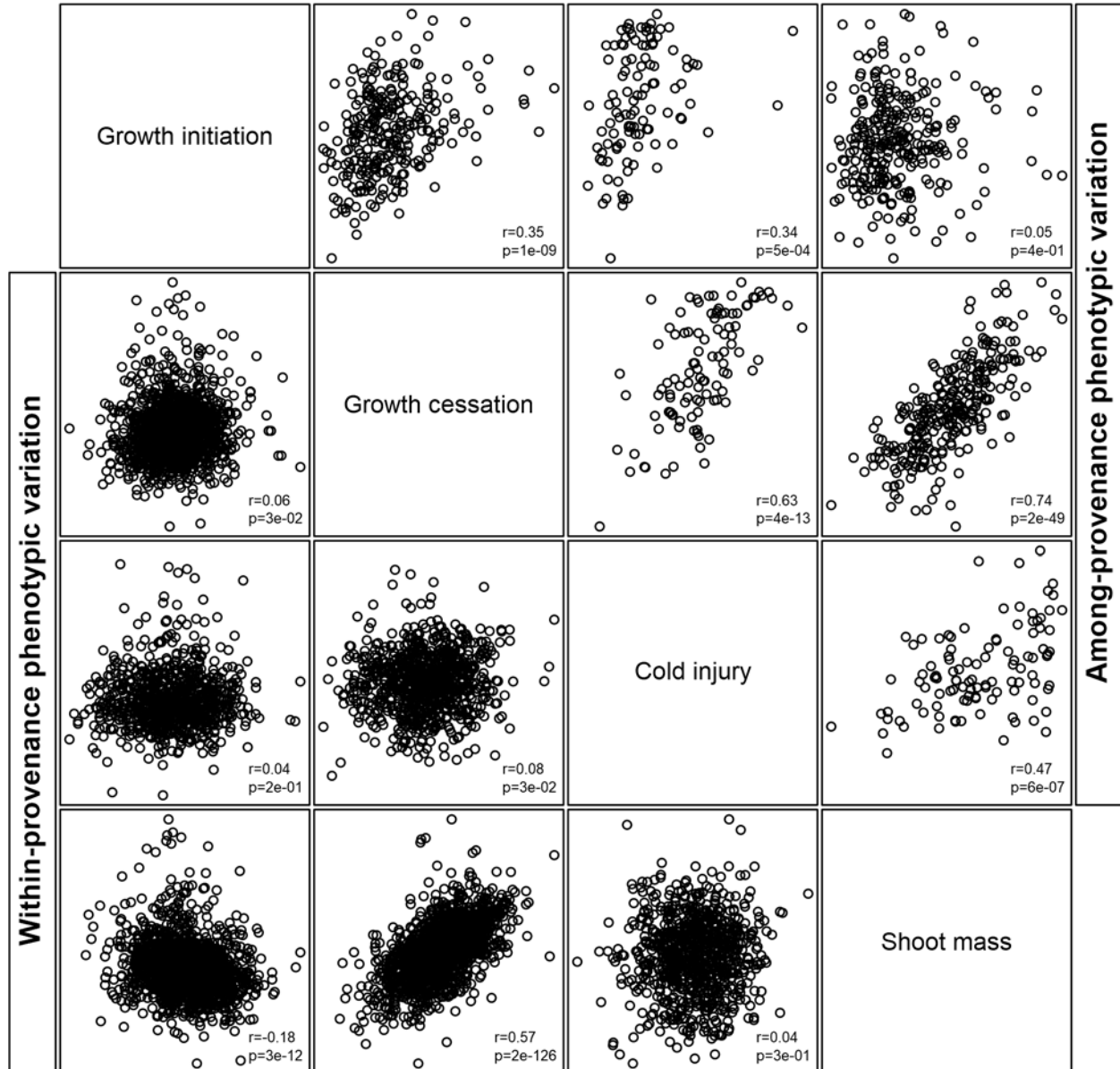
Figure S1: Source provenances and selected trial sites for the Illingworth lodgepole pine provenance trial.

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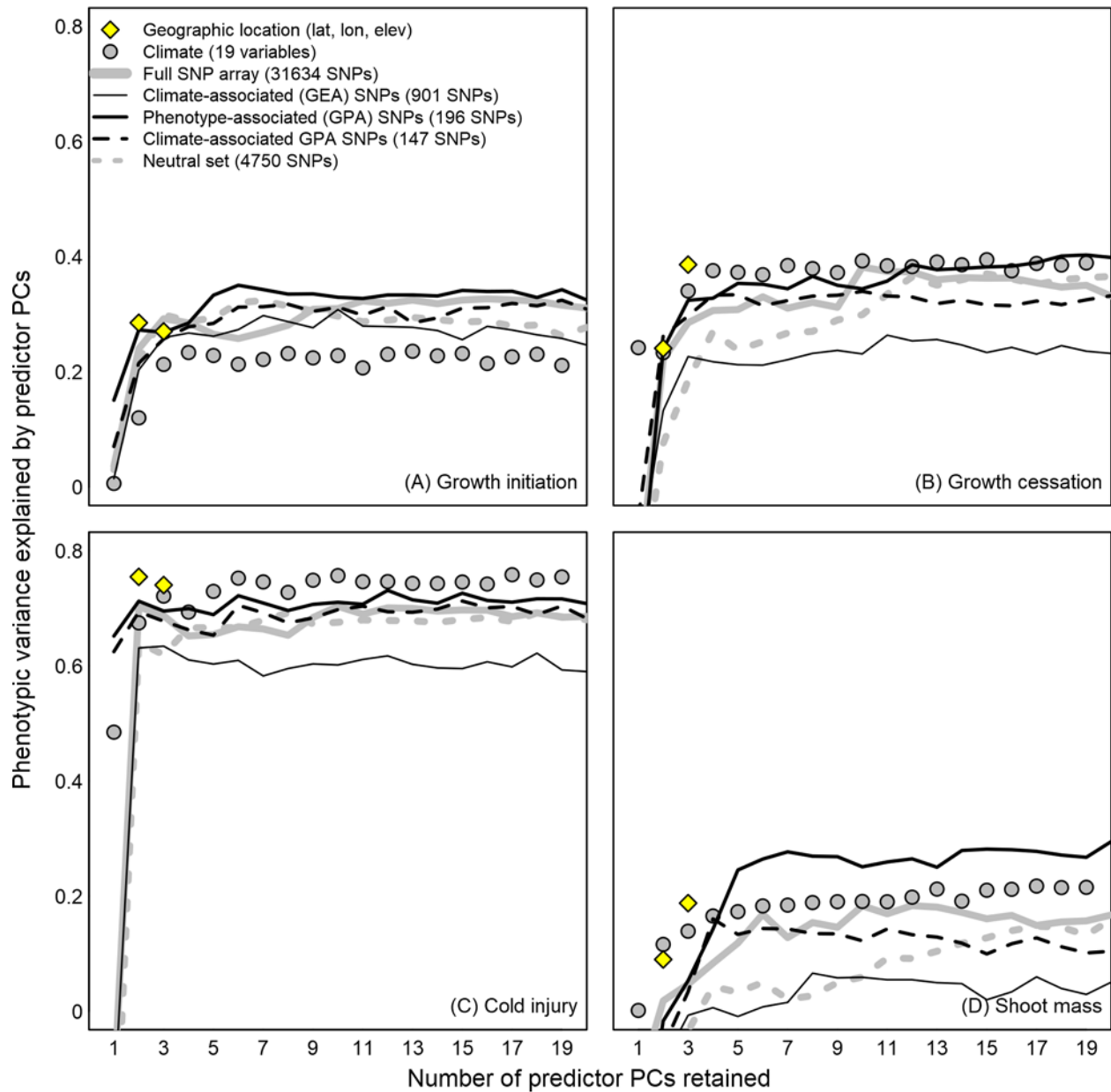
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Figure S2: Sample size of common garden phenotyping and genotyping. SNP array Genotyping was conducted on phenotyped common garden seedlings and an additional sample of seedlings grown in a growth chamber.



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992 **Figure S3: Among- and within-provenance relationships between the four traits.** Among-provenance variation is
993 the variation of provenance-mean phenotypic values. Within- provenance variation is the variation of individual
994 seedling phenotypes that have had their provenance-mean phenotypic value subtracted.

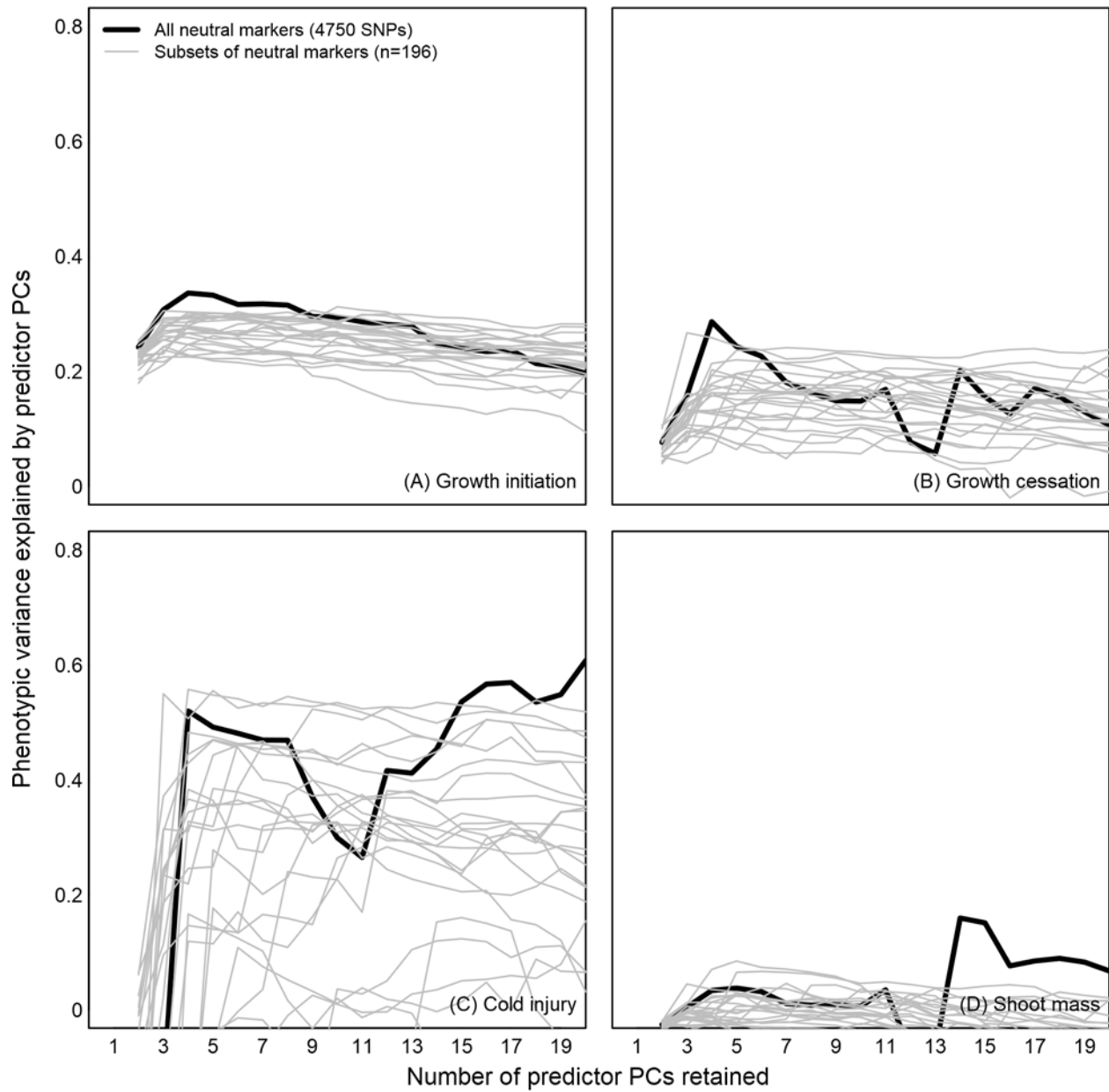
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 997 **Figure S4: Equivalent analysis for Figure 3, using Random Forest regression instead of linear regression.** Each
 998 point is the pseudo- R^2 of a Random Forest regression of provenance-mean phenotype against the specified number of
 999 principal components of the predictor data. GEA SNPs (thin black line) are the pooled top-300 SNPs based on Bayes
 1000 factor from each of the 19 climate variables. GPA SNPs (thick black line) are the top 1% of coding-region SNPs
 1001 (maximum of one SNP per contig) based on the p-value of a population-structure-corrected linear association of allele
 1002 frequencies to seedling phenotypes. Climate-associated GPA SNPs (black dashed line) are GPA SNPs with further
 1003 support for strong association to climate (see methods). The neutral set is shown as a grey dashed line

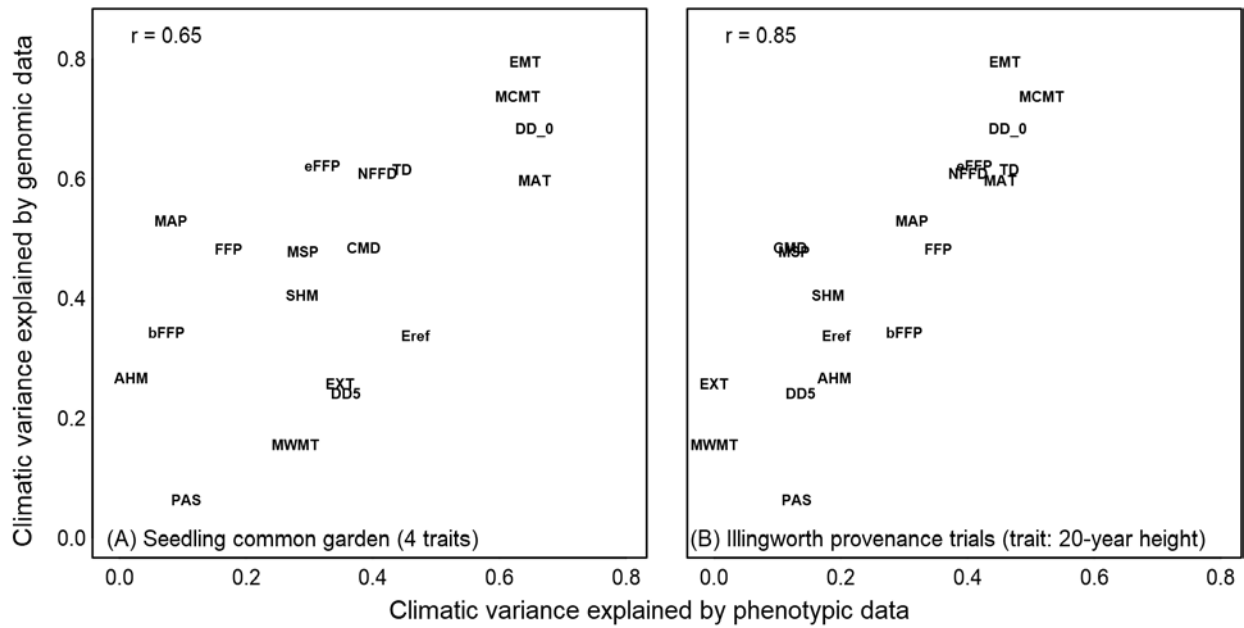
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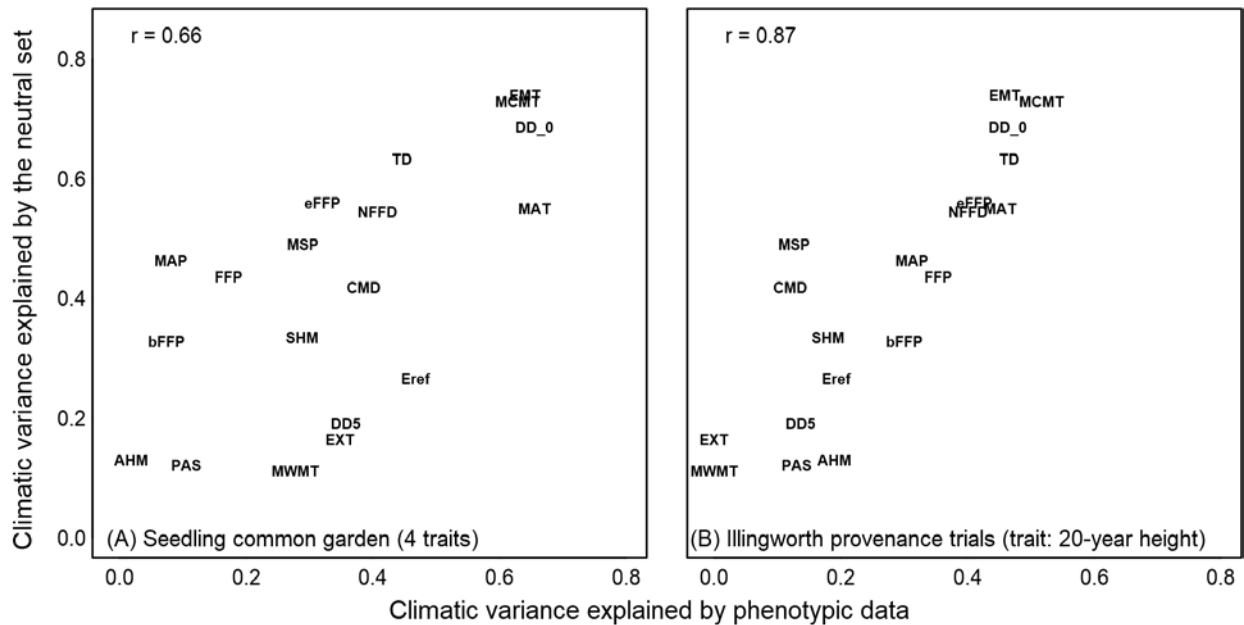


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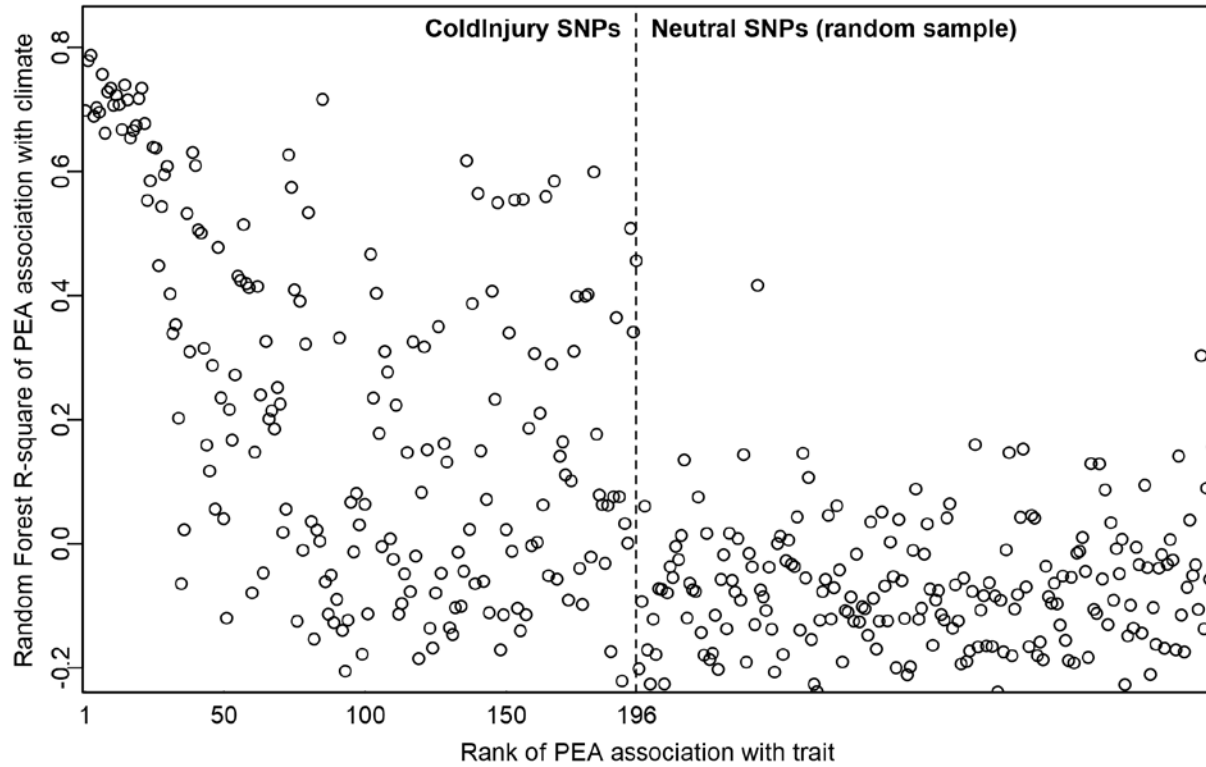
Figure S5: Explanatory power of small subsets of neutral SNPs. Each point is the cross-validated R^2 of a multiple linear regression of provenance-mean phenotype against the specified number of principal components of minor allele frequency in an $n=196$ subset of neutral SNPs. Each grey line is a different subset, selected sequentially from the neutral set. The black line is the equivalent analysis for the full neutral set.



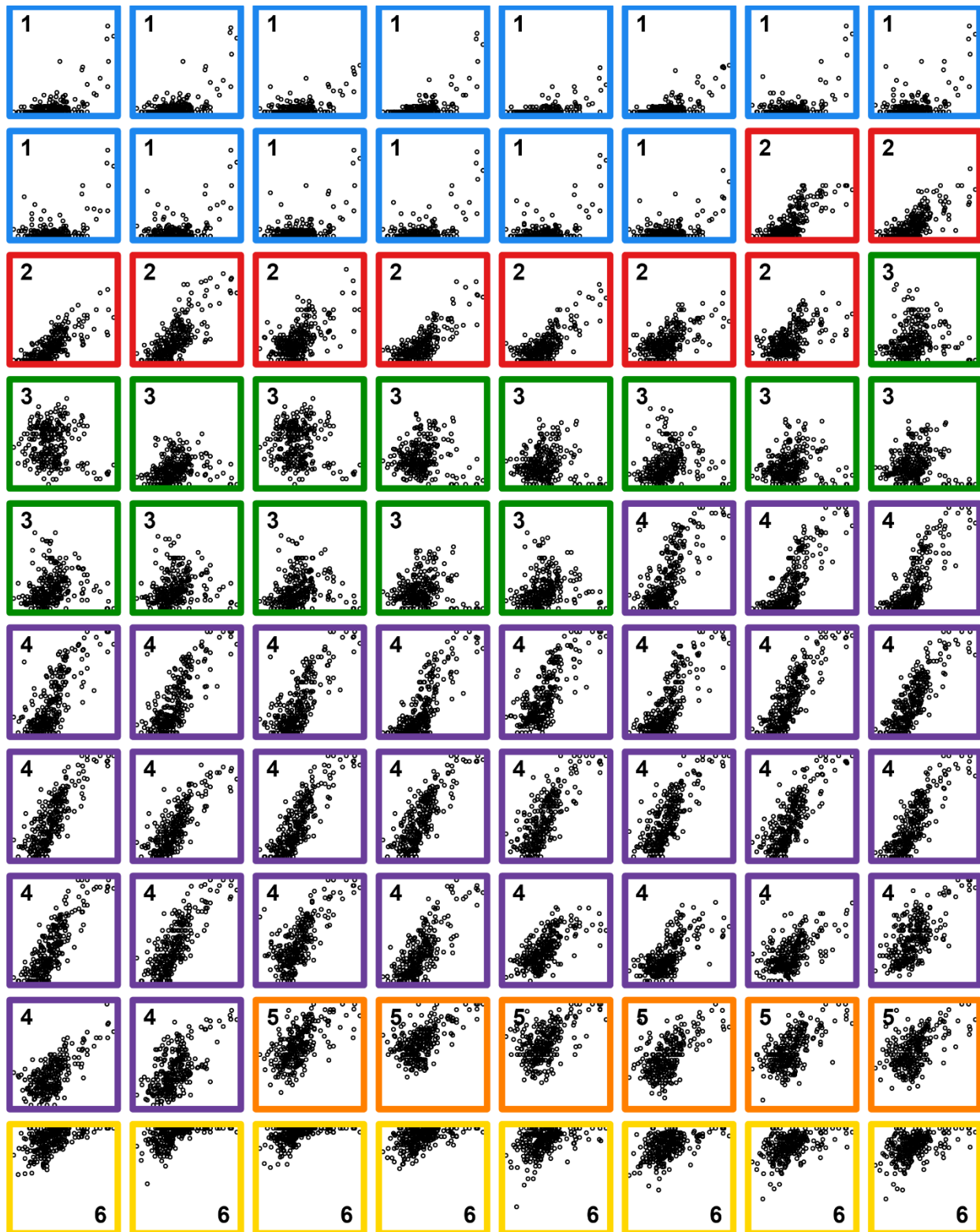
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1012 **Figure S6: Climatic variable selection based on phenotypic vs genomic data, equivalent to Figure 4 except using**
1013 **the full SNP array instead of GEA SNPs.** Variance explained is the cross-validated R^2 of a multiple linear regression
1014 of each climate variable (response variable) against the phenotypic or genomic predictor variable set. Genomic data
1015 (predictor variables for the y-axis analyses) are four principal components of the minor allele frequencies for the full
1016 SNP array ($n=31634$ SNPs). Phenotypic data (predictor variables for the x-axis analyses) for panel A are provenance-
1017 mean phenotypes for the four common-garden traits presented in Figure 2. Phenotypic predictor data for panel B are
1018 20-year heights of the Illingworth lodgepole pine provenance trial. Climate variable acronyms are described in Table
1019 1.



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1021 **Figure S7: As in Figure S6 above, but using the neutral set ($n=4750$ SNPs) instead of the full SNP array.**

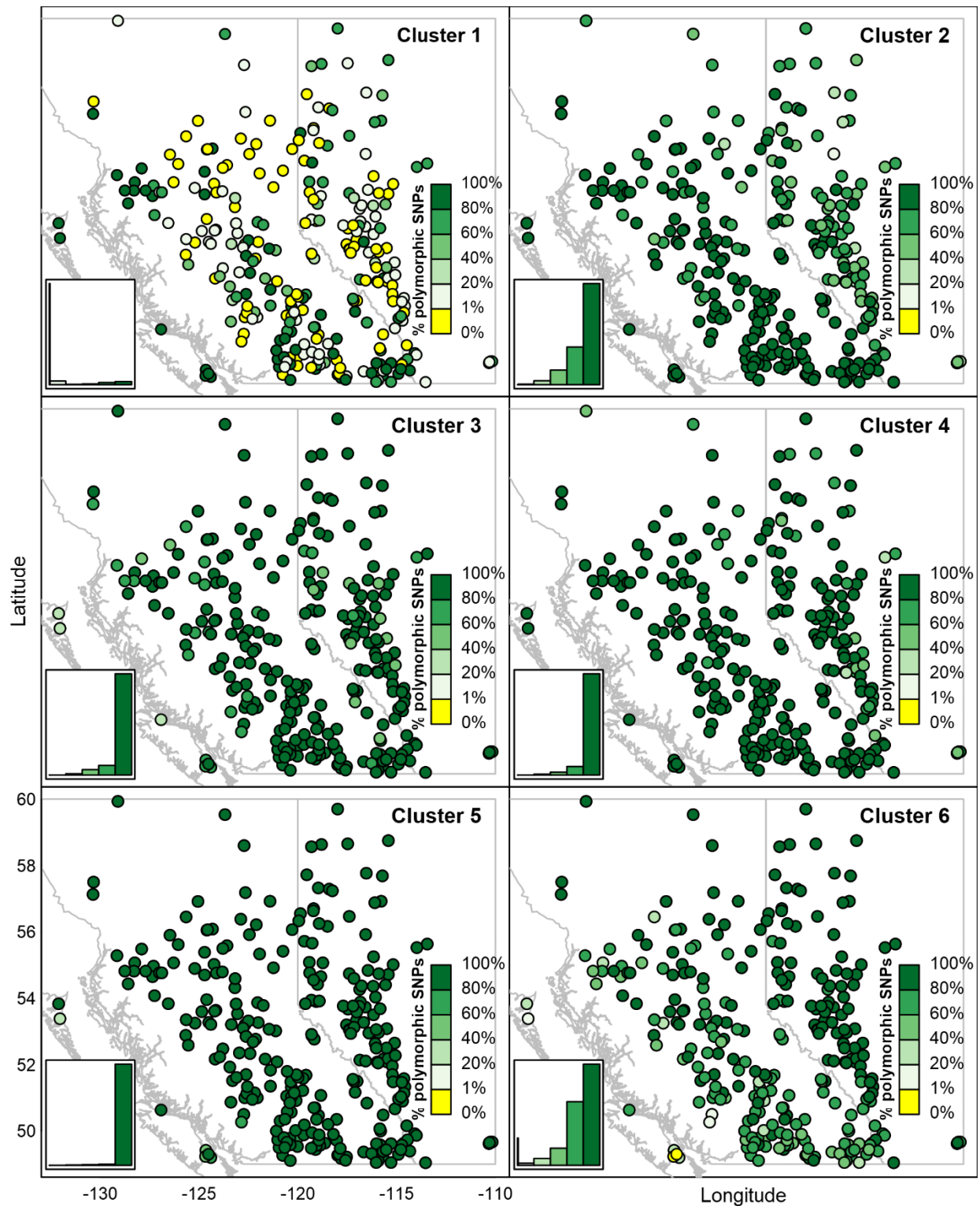


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1023 **Figure S8: Relationship of GPA-selected loci to climate.** The y axis is the pseudo- R^2 of a random forest regression
1024 of population-mean PEA frequency (response variable) to the 19 bioclimate predictor variables. PEAs are arranged in
1025 order of increasing GPA p -value (decreasing significance), with a random sample of neutral SNPs shown for
1026 comparison.



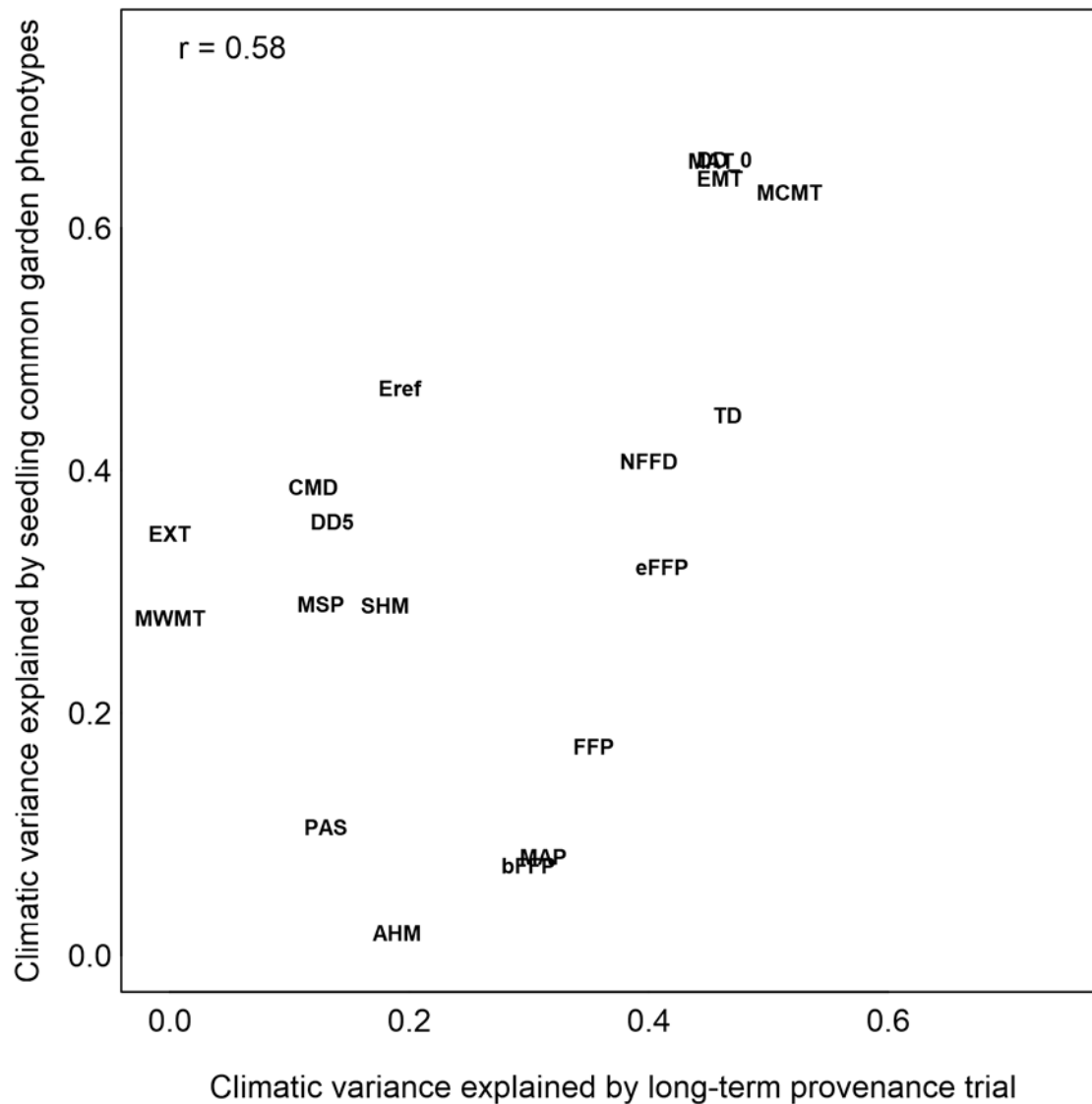
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Figure S9: Genetic clines of climate-associated ($\text{pseudo-}R^2 > 0.32$) GPA loci for autumn cold injury. Loci are clustered by PEA frequency across provenances. The x axis is autumn mean daily minimum temperature; the y axis is population-mean PEA frequency.



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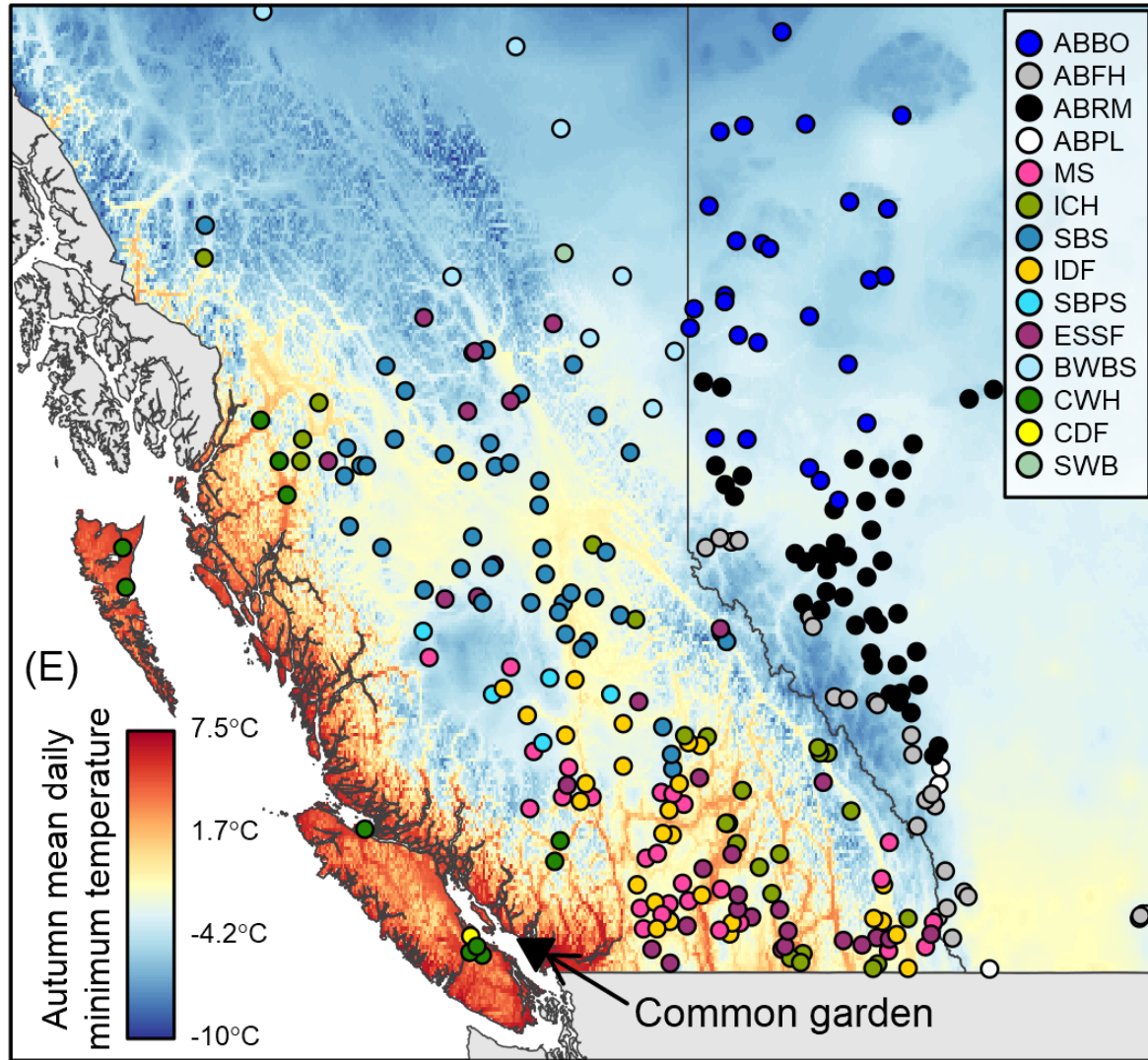
Figure S10: proportional polymorphism, by cluster, for each provenance: The percentage of the SNPs in each cluster that have standing variation in both alleles, i.e., $H_e > 0$.



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1035 **Figure S11: Climatic variable selection based on seedling common garden phenotypes vs. long-term provenance**
1036 **trial heights.** Variance explained is the cross-validated R^2 of a multiple linear regression of each climate variable
1037 (response variable) against the phenotypic predictor variable set. Phenotypic predictor data for the x-axis are 20-year
1038 heights of the Illingworth lodgepole pine provenance trial. Predictor variables for the y-axis are provenance-mean
1039 phenotypes for the four common-garden traits presented in Figure 2. Climate variable acronyms are described in Table
1040 1.

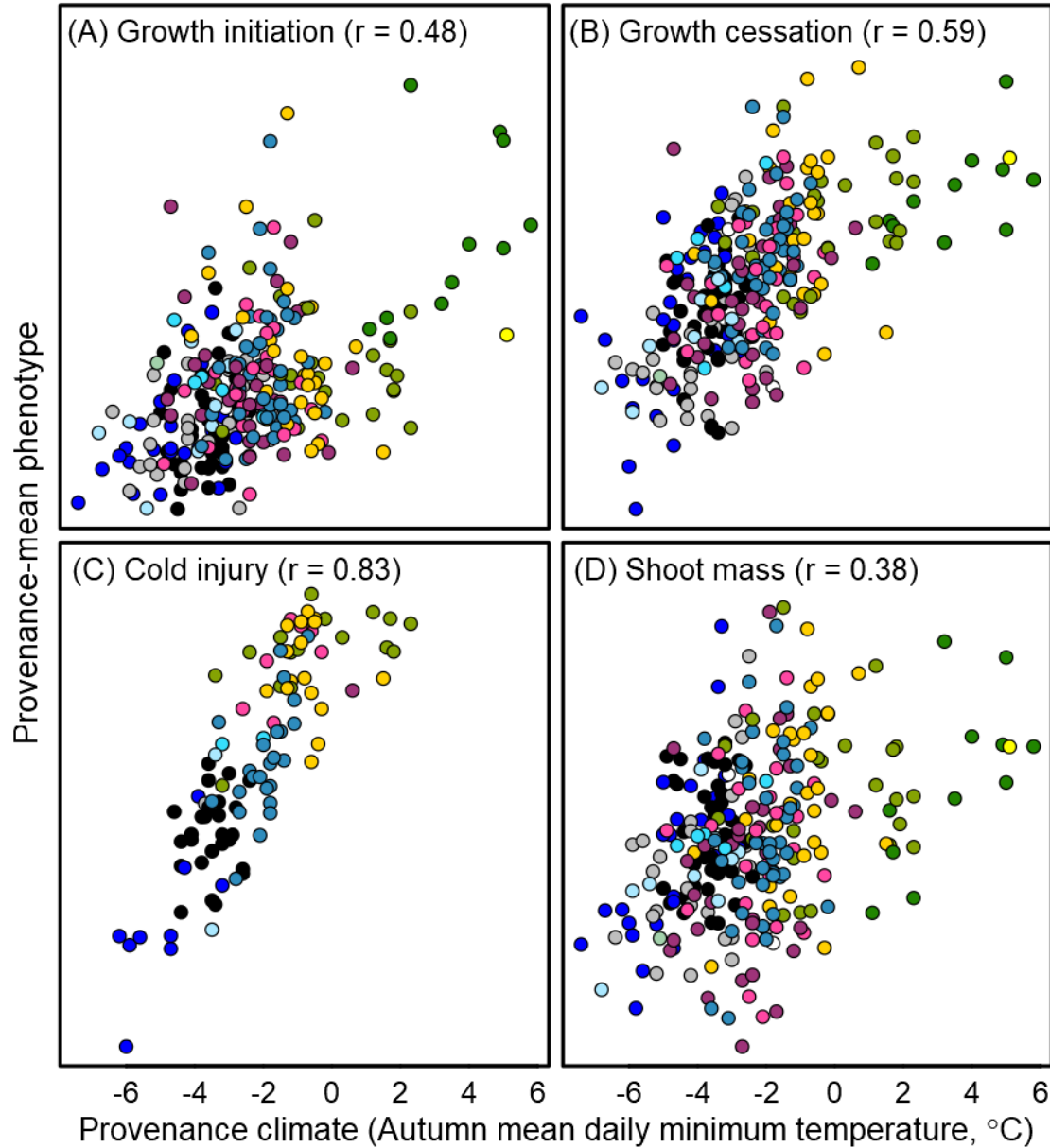
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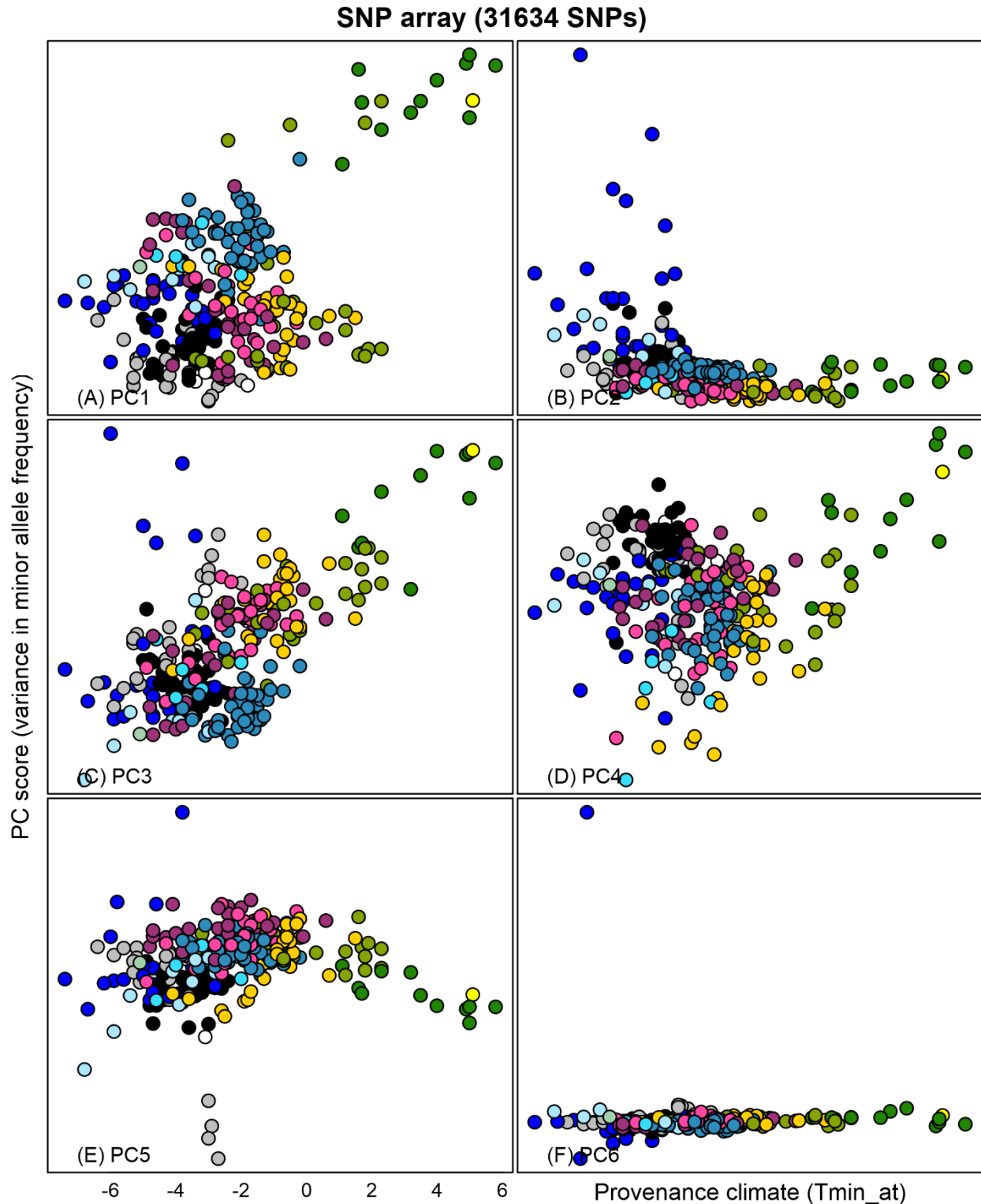
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Figure S12: Biogeoclimatic zones (British Columbia) and natural regions (Alberta) of each sampled provenance.

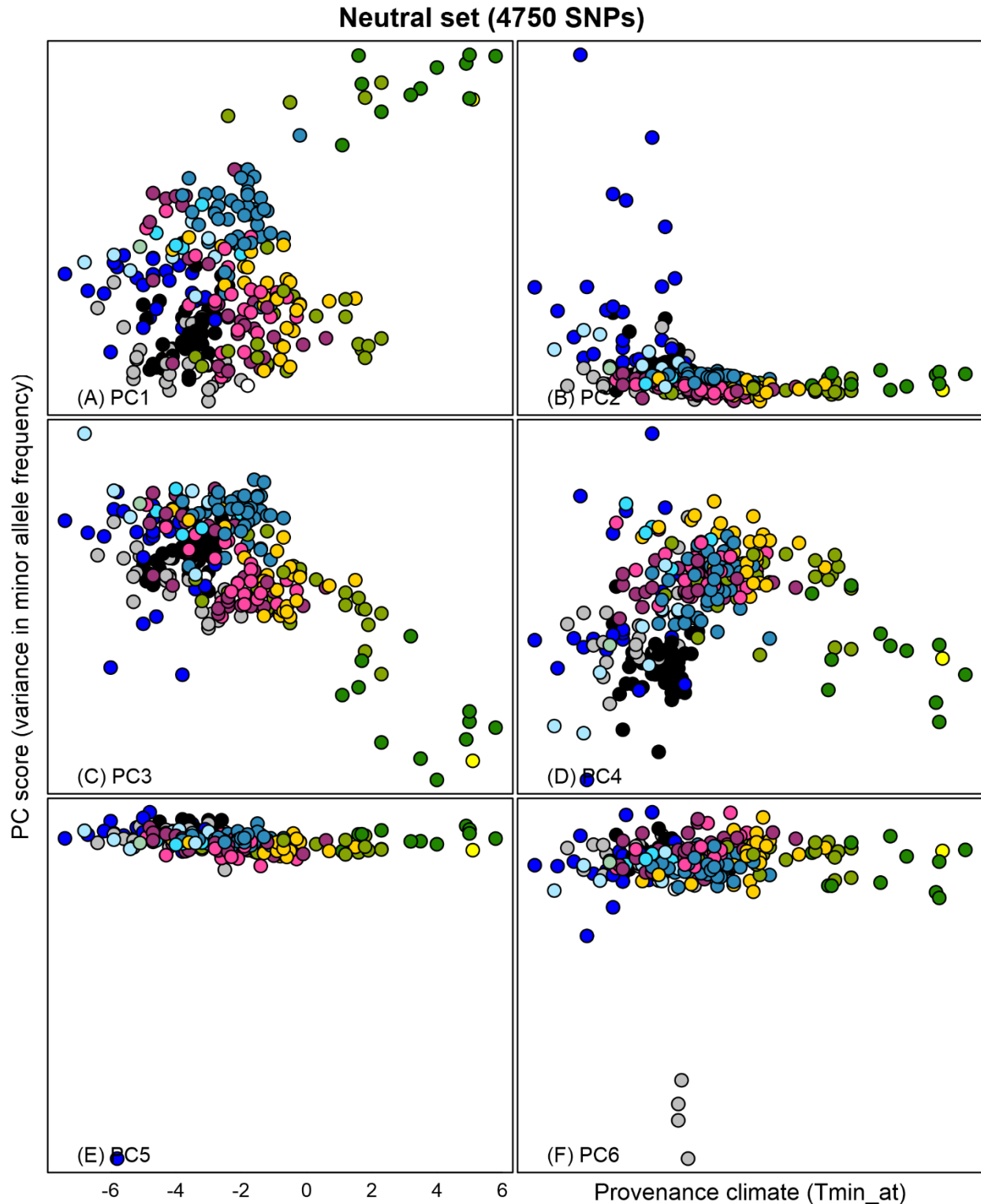


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1046 **Figure S13: Phenotypic clines of four traits in lodgepole pine seedlings grown in the Vancouver common garden,**
1047 **colour themed by biogeoclimatic zone (British Columbia) and natural region (Alberta). See Figure S12 for map and**
1048 **color schemes.**

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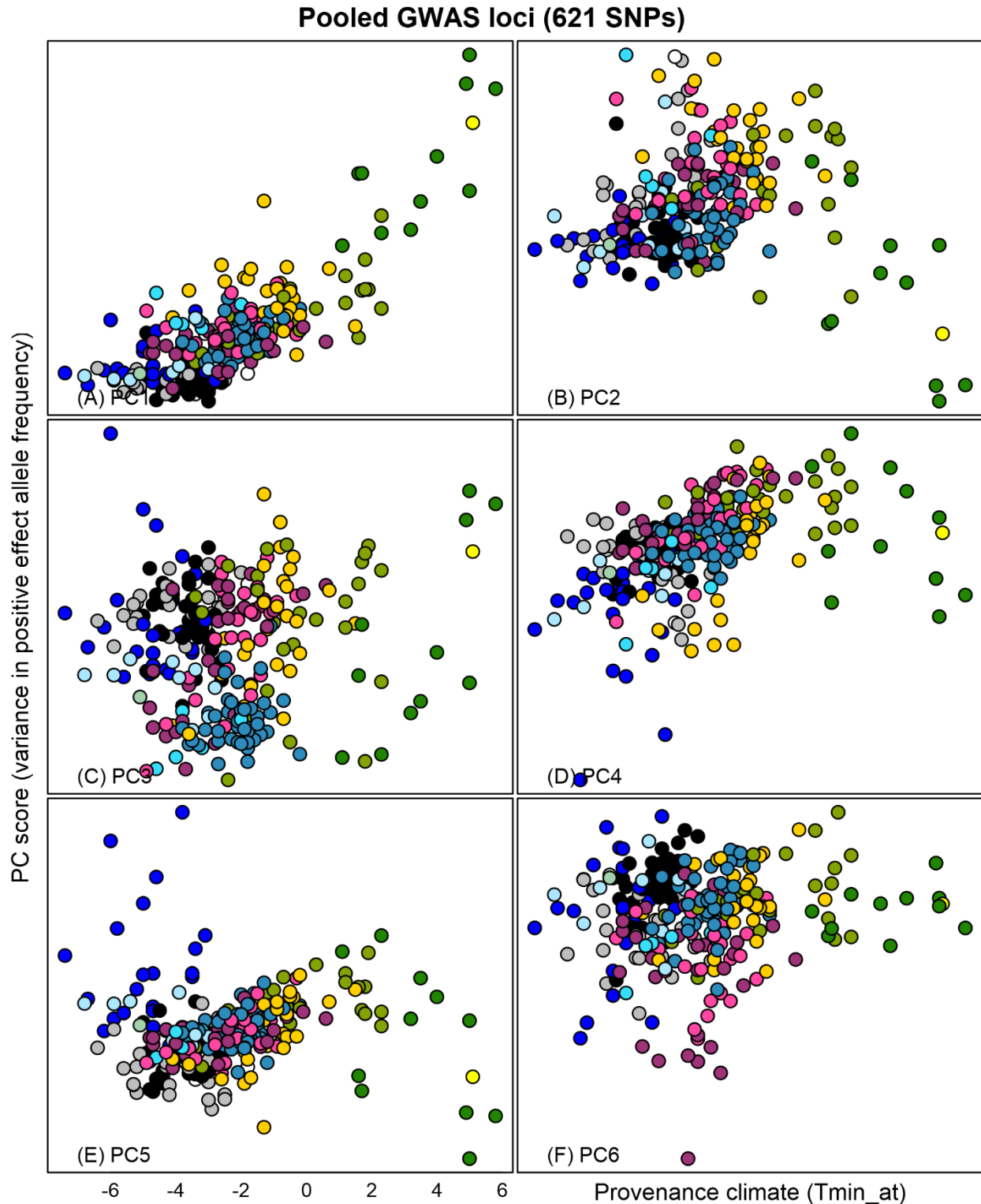


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1051 **Figure S14. First six principal components of z-standardized provenance-mean minor allele**
1052 **frequencies in the full SNP array (excluding the neutral set), plotted against autumn**
1053 **temperature. Provenances are colour themed by biogeoclimatic zone (British Columbia) and**
1054 **natural region (Alberta). See Figure S12 for map and color scheme.**



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Figure S15. First six principal components of z-standardized provenance-mean minor allele frequencies in the neutral set, plotted against autumn temperature. Provenances are colour themed by biogeoclimatic zone (British Columbia) and natural region (Alberta). See Figure S12 for map and color scheme.



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Figure S16. First six principal components of z-standardized provenance-mean positive-effect allele frequencies in the pooled GWAS loci for all four common garden traits, plotted against autumn temperature. Provenances are colour themed by biogeoclimatic zone (British Columbia) and natural region (Alberta). See Figure S12 for map and color scheme.

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