

1 **Genome-wide association identifies candidate genes for drought tolerance in coast redwood**
2 **and giant sequoia**

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31 **SUMMARY**

32 Drought is a major limitation for survival and growth in plants. With more frequent and severe
33 drought episodes occurring due to climate change, it is imperative to understand the genomic and
34 physiological basis of drought tolerance to be able to predict how species will respond in the future.
35 In this study, univariate and multitrait multivariate GWAS methods were used to identify candidate
36 genes in two iconic and ecosystem-dominating species of the western US – coast redwood and
37 giant sequoia – using ten drought-related physiological and anatomical traits and genome-wide
38 sequence-capture SNPs. Population level phenotypic variation was found in carbon isotope
39 discrimination, osmotic pressure at full turgor, xylem hydraulic diameter and total area of
40 transporting fibers in both species. Our study identified new 78 new marker × trait associations in
41 coast redwood and six in giant sequoia, with genes involved in a range of metabolic, stress and
42 signaling pathways, among other functions. This study contributes to a better understanding of the
43 genomic basis of drought tolerance in long-generation conifers and helps guide current and future
44 conservation efforts in the species.

45

46 **Key words:** Drought, GWAS, *Sequoiadendron giganteum*, *Sequoia sempervirens*, polygenic
47 traits, carbon isotope discrimination, stomata, osmotic pressure, xylem

48

49 **Significance Statement:** Climate change brings more frequent and severe drought events that
50 challenge the survival of natural populations of plants. While most of our knowledge about drought
51 tolerance comes from annual and domesticated plants, the genomic basis of drought tolerance in
52 long-generation trees is poorly understood. Here, we aim to fill this gap by identifying candidate
53 genes in two conifer species, coast redwood and giant sequoia.

54 INTRODUCTION

55
56 Understanding the genomic basis of phenotypic trait variation and its distribution across a species'
57 range is indispensable to predict species response to global climate change and to develop
58 conservation and management guidelines (Bellard *et al.*, 2012; Razgour *et al.*, 2019). This has
59 become an urgent need in the western United States, where longer and more severe drought events
60 have resulted in massive tree mortality in the last ten years (Allen *et al.*, 2010; Hicke *et al.*, 2015;
61 Adams *et al.*, 2017; Stephenson *et al.*, 2018; Fettig *et al.*, 2019). Drought stress, manifesting as
62 low soil water content and/or high evaporative demand, poses significant challenges to the
63 establishment, development, growth and survival of long-generation tree species such as conifers
64 (Adams and Kolb, 2005), and also predisposes trees to pathogens and pests (Jactel *et al.*, 2012;
65 Gaylord *et al.*, 2013). Despite the economic importance of conifers and their dominance in global
66 arid, semi-arid, montane and circumpolar zones, the genomics of drought and thermal tolerance
67 have received little attention and lag behind studies in other plant species (Moran *et al.*, 2017).

68
69 Conifer species have large genome sizes (8-34 Gb; Murray *et al.*, 2004; De La Torre *et al.*, 2014),
70 and large genetic-to-physical distance ratio (>3000 kb/cM). Linkage disequilibrium (LD) in coding
71 regions rapidly decays within a short distance, which complicates the identification of genes
72 responsible for phenotypic variation (Neale and Savolainen, 2004). Another challenge of
73 genotyping many individuals is the need to use a massive number of genome-wide markers in
74 large-genome trees such as conifers. The development of high-throughput systems such as next
75 generation sequencing (NGS) and SNP arrays should help overcome this difficulty, since they
76 allow rapid and cost-effective genotyping over a massive number of SNPs (McCarthy *et al.*, 2008).
77 In addition, the rapid advancement of genome sequencing and bioinformatics approaches have

78 opened the door to more comprehensive assessments of population-level diversity (McGuire *et al.*,
79 2020). Association mapping principally exploits evolutionary recombination at the natural
80 population level (Myles *et al.*, 2009). A mixed linear model (MLM) method (Yu *et al.*, 2006) was
81 proposed to better control for population structure and the imbalanced kinships among various
82 individuals (Pritchard *et al.*, 2000). Until recently, determining the molecular basis of heritable
83 trait variation has been challenging in conifer species, and genome-wide association studies have
84 been limited to a few species and traits (Lu *et al.*, 2017; Baison *et al.*, 2020; Elfstrand *et al.*, 2020;
85 Weiss *et al.*, 2020; Chen *et al.*, 2021; De La Torre *et al.*, 2021a). For example, association studies
86 of drought tolerance have only been performed with pre-selected candidate genes (Gonzalez-
87 Martinez *et al.*, 2008; Eckert *et al.*, 2010; Cumbie *et al.*, 2011; Trujillo-Moya *et al.*, 2018;
88 Depardieu *et al.*, 2021) and no large-scale, genome-wide studies have been reported to date.

89
90 Giant sequoia (*Sequoiadendron giganteum* [Lindl.] J.Buchh.) is a slow-growing, long-lived,
91 outcrossing species that grows in discrete groves on the western slope of the Sierra Nevada
92 mountains in California. Giant sequoia is diploid and has a genome size of 8.125 Gbp (Scott *et al.*,
93 2020). The species occurs in a highly disjunct range consisting of approximately 75 groves,
94 spanning around 420 km north to south and ranging from 830 to 2700 m elevation. Giant sequoia
95 is the most moisture-demanding species of mixed conifer forests, mainly because of its very high
96 leaf area: mature trees can have $> 10^8$ leaves (Sillett *et al.*, 2015; Dodd and DeSilva, 2016). Coast
97 redwood (*Sequoia sempervirens* [D.Don] Endl.) is also slow-growing and long-lived but differs
98 from giant sequoia in that it is hexaploid (genome size is 26.5 Gbp; Neale *et al.* 2021) and often
99 reproduces asexually. The species once had a nearly continuous distribution along the Pacific
100 Coast in Oregon and California, but natural populations were severely reduced by intensive

101 logging beginning in the 19th and 20th centuries (Burns *et al.*, 2018; Breidenbach *et al.*, 2020). Both
102 coast redwood and giant sequoia are listed as endangered by the International Union for
103 Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List of Threatened species (Farjon and Schmid, 2013).
104 However, increased growth rates in response to elevated CO₂ (Sillett *et al.*, 2015) may make these
105 two species good candidates for forest restoration and carbon sequestration.

106
107 Being the tallest and fourth-tallest conifers, the crowns of coast redwood and giant sequoia can
108 stretch over ~100m of vertical extent, and thus these species have the greatest degree of within-
109 crown phenotypic plasticity of any conifers measured, both responding more strongly to water
110 availability than to light (Chin and Sillett 2016, 2019). Like other members of the Cupressaceae,
111 coast redwood and giant sequoia lack an endodermis to constrain the breadth of their vascular
112 development, allowing the proliferation of traits promoting water-stress tolerance with increasing
113 height (Oldham *et al.*, 2010; Chin and Sillett 2016). Less clear is whether populations of these
114 species have adapted genetically to environmental variation across their ranges, in ways that either
115 limit or enhance phenotypic plasticity in traits related to drought tolerance. In this study, we
116 sampled natural populations across the current ranges of both giant sequoia and coast redwood,
117 grew cuttings in pots in a greenhouse common garden for two years, measured a range of
118 physiological and anatomical traits thought to be relevant for drought resilience, and tested for
119 significant genome-wide associations with ten different drought-related traits using univariate and
120 multivariate GWAS methods. We aimed to dissect the genomic basis of drought tolerance in each
121 species, in order to identify the hardiest individuals and populations that might be used for
122 conservation and restoration efforts in the species.

123

124

125 **RESULTS**

126 *Genotype datasets*

127 A total of 577,774 and 767,242 SNPs were called for 71 SEGI and 82 SESE individuals,
128 respectively. From them, 52,987 (9%) SNPs from 71 SEGI individuals; and 57,357 (7%) SNPs
129 from 82 SESE individuals were retained after filtering using TASSEL. The before and after
130 filtering SNPs statistics for each of the SEGI and SESE individuals are reported in Supplementary
131 Tables S1 and S2, respectively. The filtered SNPs datasets were retained for further GWAS
132 analyses.

133

134 *Phenotype datasets*

135 For the phenotypic traits listed in Table 1, within-genotype mean trait values varied widely across
136 genotypes for each species (Figure 1), and showed variation across the species' natural ranges
137 (Figure 2). In coast redwood, the relative spread of means across genotypes was greatest for central
138 fiber area, C:N ratio and SMA, whereas in giant sequoia the spread was greatest for total areas of
139 transfusion tissue and xylem. In both species, the relative spread was smallest for carbon isotope
140 discrimination and xylem hydraulic diameter. Consistent with established patterns, trait values in
141 giant sequoia indicated a relatively more xeric habit than those in coast redwood; e.g., total xylem
142 and transfusion tissue areas and xylem hydraulic diameter were all smaller in giant sequoia, and
143 osmotic pressure at full turgor and leaf mass per unit area were greater in giant sequoia. Trait
144 variability across genotypes grown in our common garden was generally lower than that seen along
145 vertical gradients within the crowns of individual trees (cf. red bars in Figure 1) (Oldham *et al.*,
146 2010; Chin and Sillett 2016).

147

148 *Correlations among traits and environmental parameters*

149 In SEGI, C:N ratio (CN) was positively correlated with shoot mass per area (SMA) ($r=0.33$, p -
150 value= 0.004), and carbon isotope discrimination (D13C) ($r=0.32$, p -value= 0.006). Total xylem
151 part of vascular bundle (XA) was also positively correlated with carbon isotope discrimination
152 ($r=0.24$, p -value= 0.04); and total area of transfusion tissue (TA) ($r=0.43$, p -value= 0.0001). All
153 correlations results can be found in Figure 3. Carbon isotope discrimination was positively
154 correlated with latitude ($r=0.26$, p -value= 0.025) and negatively associated with longitude ($r=-0.3$,
155 p -value= 0.009) and elevation ($r=-0.27$, p -value= 0.021). C:N ratio was negatively correlated with
156 elevation ($r=-0.27$, p -value= 0.019).

157
158 Carbon isotope discrimination was positively correlated with several precipitation variables (Bio3,
159 Bio12, Bio13, Bio16, Bio17 and Bio19), suggesting populations at the northern distribution of the
160 species range, located at more humid locations and lower elevations have higher water use
161 efficiency than populations in other locations when grown in a common garden. Osmotic pressure
162 at full turgor (PIFT) was positively correlated with different measures of temperature and
163 precipitation variation (Bio4-Temperature seasonality, Bio7-Temperature Annual Range, Bio15-
164 Precipitation seasonality) and negatively correlated with Relative Humidity (RH). Finally, xylem
165 hydraulic diameter (HD) was correlated with Mean Annual Solar Radiation (MAR). All correlation
166 results can be found in Figure S1.

167
168 In SESE, the total area of central fibers (FA) was negatively correlated with latitude ($r= -0.3$, p -
169 value= 0.006), and positively correlated with longitude ($r=0.23$, p -value= 0.037). The same trait
170 was also negatively correlated with various measures of precipitation including MAP, Bio12-

171 Bio19 and positively correlated with several temperature-related variables (MCMT, EMT, Bio3,
172 Bio8, Bio11). Osmotic pressure at full turgor (PIFT) was positively correlated with different
173 precipitation variables such as Bio13, Bio16 and Bio19. Shoot mass per unit area (SMA) was
174 positively correlated with osmotic pressure at full turgor ($r = 0.33$, $p = 0.002$), C:N ratio ($r = 0.39$,
175 $p = 0.0003$) and total xylem area ($r = 0.29$, $p = 0.01$). Finally, xylem hydraulic diameter (HD) was
176 positively correlated with Mean Annual Temperature (MAT), DD5, EMT and Eref, and negatively
177 with degree days below 18 °C (DD_18). All correlation results can be found in Figure S2.

178
179 Genotypes from coast redwood's latitudinal and precipitation extremes had very little overlap
180 within the common-garden trait-space, but in all cases overlapped by at least 70% with
181 intermediate categories; trees originating from intermediate sites thus did not have readily
182 detectable trait differences from either extreme. North and South genotypes shared 19% of their
183 unified trait-space, while Wet and Dry genotypes only intersected in 14% of their unified trait-
184 space, with low levels of overlap indicating multivariate differences in the suites of traits
185 associated with both latitudinal and precipitation extremes. Wet and Dry sites had highly
186 conserved traits compared to Intermediate Precipitation sites, which had 5X less point density
187 within their phenotypic volumes, suggesting a broader hydraulic niche driving much less
188 specialization. Likewise, genotypes from coast redwood's central latitudes were spread across
189 almost 3X the relative trait-space of North or South genotypes.

190

191 *Genome-wide association study (GWAS)*

192 Genome-wide association analyses of 52,987 SNP markers and 71 individuals in SEGI; and 57,357
193 SNP markers and 82 individuals in SESE were performed to detect marker-trait associations.

194 Mixed linear model (MLM) and general linear mixed model (GLM) were used to determine
195 associations between genotypic and phenotypic datasets in TASSEL. In SEGI, a total number of
196 ~476K associations were tested among 52.987k SNPs and all phenotypic traits listed in Table 1
197 (stomatal density [SD] and area of transporting fibers [FA] were excluded from this analysis, in
198 which SD was not measured and transporting fibers were not observed). In SESE, a total of ~573K
199 associations were tested among 57.357k SNPs and all nine phenotypes. Bonferroni correction for
200 multiple testing was performed to adjust p-values. The general linear mixed model (GLM)
201 identified a total number of 78 significant SNPs, 77 of them were associated with total area of
202 transfusion tissue (TA) and one with total area of transporting fibers (FA) (Table 2, Table S3).
203 These SNPs were distributed across 22 scaffolds and matched 23 genes in the genome of coast
204 redwood (Table S3). In SEGI, GLM only identified 2 SNPs, located at close distance in
205 chromosome 9 and associated with osmotic pressure at full turgor (PIFT) with a p-value $< 9.00 \cdot 10^{-6}$
206 after Bonferroni correction (Table 2, Table S4, Figure S3). Manhattan plots of $-\log_{10}(P)$ values
207 for each SNPs versus chromosomal or scaffold positions were generated from these datasets.
208 TASSEL MLM did not identify any significant marker x trait associations in any of the species
209 after Bonferroni correction at threshold p-value < 0.05 .

210

211 Subsequently, univariate linear mixed model (uLMM) and multivariate linear mixed model
212 (mvLMM) approaches were performed in GEMMA to identify significant SNPs. In SESE,
213 mvLMM identified 31 significant SNPs (p-value $< 9.00 \cdot 10^{-6}$), and uLMM, 29 SNPs (p-value $<$
214 $9.00 \cdot 10^{-6}$) (Figure 4; Tables S5 and S6; Figure S4). Of the 29 SNPs identified from uLMM analysis,
215 27 were significantly associated with total area of transfusion tissue (TA), one with xylem
216 hydraulic diameter (HD), and one with total area of transporting fibers (FA). In SEGI, mvLMM

217 identified 3 significant SNPs and uLMM only one ($p\text{-value} < 9.00 \cdot 10^{-6}$) associated with total xylem
218 area, XA (Figure 5; Table S7; Figure S5). These SNPs were in chromosomes 5, 8 and 9 of the
219 giant sequoia genome (Table S7). Among all three-analysis including GLM at TASSEL, uLMM
220 and mvLMM at GEMMA, a total 27 significant SNPs were consistently found in SESE (Figure
221 6). For SEGI, only one significant SNP (chromosome 8) was shared among two of the GWAS
222 analyses (mvLMM and uLMM; Figure 5). Manhattan plots for each SNP versus chromosomal or
223 scaffold positions for GLM (TASSEL), and uLMM and mvLMM (GEMMA) analyses for both
224 species were reported in Figures 4-5, and Figures S3-S5.

225
226 In SESE, all significant SNPs associated with TA, came from genes involved in the ubiquitin
227 system, cationic antimicrobial peptide (CAMP) resistance, hedgehog signaling pathway, glycine,
228 serine and threonine metabolism, lysosome, apoptosis, plant-pathogen interaction, renin-
229 angiotensin system, and protein digestion and absorption (Table 3). In SESE, gene SESE_010495
230 was annotated as a F-box protein, SESE_026053 as a motile sperm domain-containing protein,
231 SESE_026278 as a BTB/POZ domain-containing protein, SESE_028233 as a protein HOTHEAD-
232 like, and SESE_039821 as a receptor-like protein kinase HAIKU2 (Table 3). In SEGI, a significant
233 SNP at the gene SEGI_21288 associated with PIFT was identified as an uncharacterized protein.
234 The GO IDs and GO names of these genes of significant SNPs in SESE and SEGI were reported
235 in Table 3.

236 237 **DISCUSSION** 238

239 By using a combination of univariate and multivariate methods, our study was able to identify
240 several genes associated with drought-related traits in two ecologically important conifer species:

241 coast redwood and giant sequoia. Previous genome-wide studies identifying candidate genes for
242 drought tolerance have been absent for both of these important species. Here, we report notable
243 phenotypic variation for several drought-related traits among natural populations (or groves) of
244 both giant sequoia and coast redwood grown in a common garden. The development of genome-
245 wide methods, gene identification, functional annotation and location in the species' genomes has
246 only been possible due to the recent sequencing of both species' reference genomes (Scott *et al.*,
247 2020; Neale *et al.*, 2021).

248

249 *Polygenic basis of drought tolerance*

250 Our results suggest a polygenic basis of drought tolerance, consistent with previous genome-wide
251 association studies in other complex traits in conifer species, with candidate genes distributed in
252 different chromosomes or scaffolds, and small to moderate effect sizes (Baison *et al.*, 2020; Weiss
253 *et al.*, 2020; De La Torre *et al.*, 2021a). The exact location of candidate genes in the genome of
254 coast redwood could only be determined at the scaffold level since the current assembly of the
255 reference genome is not chromosome-scale (Neale *et al.*, 2021). Univariate methods identified a
256 total of 78 new significant associations for coast redwood, 27 of them were consistently found by
257 all three univariate and multivariate GWAS methods in this study. All these SNPs (except one)
258 were associated with variations in the total area of transfusion tissue associated with the leaf
259 vasculature. However, when using the multi-trait multivariate mvLMM method in GEMMA, we
260 found that many of the SNPs identified by TASSEL were associated with a group of drought-
261 related traits, either vascular or carbon isotope-related traits. This is coincident with the presence
262 of significant correlations among traits in these groups (Figure 3), suggesting the multitrait
263 multivariate GWAS provides a more accurate picture of the complex trait architecture in the

264 species. Six genes associated with total area of transfusion tissue in coast redwood were also
265 associated with Mean Annual Temperature, Mean Annual Precipitation or Climate Moisture
266 Deficit in a previous environmental genome-wide association study using the same SNP set (Table
267 2; De la Torre *et al.*, 2021b). Transfusion tissue area triples with height in tall coast redwood
268 crowns, and is associated with low water availability and less-negative values of $\delta^{13}\text{C}$; it buckles
269 under drought stress, releasing water that helps protect the leaf and isolate damage (Oldham *et al.*,
270 2010).

271
272 The number of significant associations was much lower in giant sequoia with only six significant
273 associations discovered by all GWAS methods, with two of them associated with osmotic pressure
274 at full turgor, one with the total xylem area, and three with combinations of traits (Figure 5). The
275 multitrait multivariate mvLMM method did not result in significant differences or a higher number
276 of candidate genes when compared with the univariate methods. Significant genes were involved
277 in RNA-dependent DNA biosynthetic processes and catalytic activity (Table 3). One of the genes,
278 SEGI_21288 (chromosome 9) associated with osmotic pressure, was also associated with Mean
279 Annual Precipitation in a previous GEA study in giant sequoia (De La Torre *et al.*, 2021b).

280
281 In coast redwood, most associations were clustered in a small number of scaffolds and genes. For
282 example, scaffold 16773 harbors three closely located genes (SESE_102359, SESE_121791,
283 SESE_010570) involved in proteolysis (Table 3); scaffold 203021 has four different genes
284 (SESE_026053, SESE_008114, SESE_041334 and SESE_031915) with unknown functions, and
285 scaffold 344217 has two genes (SESE_039821 and SESE_025289), the first one, a receptor-like
286 protein kinase HAIKU2 involved in protein phosphorylation, and the second one with unknown

287 function. The identification of other potential genomic clusters could only be possible with the
288 presence of a chromosome-scale genome assembly in coast redwood. No genomic clusters were
289 observed in giant sequoia mainly due to the small number of significant associations.

290
291 Despite the relatively small sample size of the common garden experiments, substantial phenotypic
292 variation was found in several of the drought-related traits measured in this study. For example,
293 C:N ratio, total area of transfusion tissue, total xylem area, and total area of central conducting
294 fibers showed great variation in the species (Figure 1). This large variation, however, did not
295 translate into the identification of large numbers of candidate genes. There might be several
296 explanations for this: the presence of high levels of plasticity for these drought-related traits in the
297 species; a large difference between the number of markers and samples leading to false positives
298 after stringent multiple testing correction; or the relatively low power to detect rare variants due to
299 small sample sizes. Due to the genome-wide distribution and the number of markers included in
300 this study, we don't consider the number of markers to be a potential limitation in our study despite
301 the rapid decay of linkage disequilibrium in the species.

302
303 *High levels of phenotypic variance in drought-related traits*

304 Giant sequoia is known for its high phenotypic plasticity and multiple adaptations to cope with
305 water stress, including shoot and leaf succulence, leaf toughness, tight stomatal control of water
306 loss and increasing xylem cavitation resistance with height (Pitterman *et al.*, 2012; Ambrose *et al.*,
307 2015; Chin and Sillet 2016). In a greenhouse study, Ambrose *et al.*, (2016) found contrasting
308 drought-responses strategies between the species, with greater stomatal closure leading to an
309 increase in intrinsic water-use efficiency and lower xylem embolism under severe drought in giant

310 sequoia than in coast redwood. As an adaptation to their natural environment, shade-tolerant coast
311 redwood seedlings will invest biomass into above-ground woody stem, which enhances
312 competitive success in humid, closed canopy conditions with shallow water tables seen in northern
313 forests (Sawyer *et al.*, 2000; Ambrose *et al.*, 2016). In contrast, though larger as adults, giant
314 sequoia seedlings invest more biomass in developing root growth as desiccation is an important
315 factor contributing to early mortality in the species (Havey *et al.*, 1980).

316

317 A study measuring shoot water potential, leaf gas exchange, xylem embolism and growth
318 concluded there were not significant differences at the population level in neither coast redwood
319 nor giant sequoia (Ambrose *et al.*, 2016). In contrast, our study found significant population-level
320 differences in three traits for each species (carbon isotope discrimination, osmotic pressure, and
321 xylem hydraulic diameter for giant sequoia, and total area of central fibers, osmotic pressure and
322 xylem hydraulic diameter for coast redwood). For example, carbon isotope discrimination of bulk
323 leaf tissue for plants grown in our common garden was positively correlated with several
324 precipitation and geographic variables for each genotype's environment of origin. For a given
325 photosynthetic capacity, a decrease in carbon isotope discrimination (i.e., less negative values of
326 $\delta^{13}C$) implies reduced stomatal opening and greater water use efficiency. Thus, our results
327 suggest that giant sequoia genotypes collected from sites near the species' northern limit, or from
328 more humid or lower-elevation (< 2000 m) sites, have higher water use efficiency when grown in
329 a common garden than genotypes from more southern, drier or higher-elevation sites. Under these
330 criteria, we identified three high-elevation groves that might need conservation due to a higher
331 sensitivity to drought (given lower carbon isotope values and lower water use efficiency) should
332 their year-round supplies of surface water diminish; these are Redwood Mountain (36.69 latitude,

333 -118.92 longitude), Giant Forest (36.56 latitude, -118.75 longitude) and Atwell Mill (36.46
334 latitude, -118.68 longitude). All these groves are located over 2000 m of elevation, where cold
335 tolerance traits, such as narrow xylem tracheid diameters, may have been selected for over those
336 supporting drought survival.

337

338 Within-crown phenotypic plasticity in tall trees of both coast redwood and giant sequoia is only
339 slightly greater than that observed in the common garden, for comparable traits (red bars in Figure
340 1; Oldham *et al.*, 2010; Chin and Sillett 2016). The innate ability to acclimate to environmental
341 microclimatic conditions, and the mostly small differences in within-crown compared to within-
342 garden variation suggests that naturally recruiting trees of northern provenance may have a
343 different range of plasticity less suited to withstand climatic pressures comparable to conditions
344 experienced in the southern range. Indeed, southernmost coast redwood trees reach a maximum
345 height 20-30 m shorter than northern trees but have similar treetop levels of transfusion tissue
346 investment (Ishii *et al.*, 2014). In contrast to the two species explored here, Douglas-fir
347 (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*) has varying amounts of within-crown trait variability across its much
348 larger range (Chin and Sillett 2019), suggesting that future genomic work may find tradeoffs
349 between geographic and individual-level trait variation.

350

351 In coast redwood, larger values for two traits associated with the capacity for water transport – the
352 total area of conducting fibers contributing to water transport, and the xylem hydraulic diameter
353 (a measure of the effective mean size of individual xylem conduits, accounting for nonlinear
354 effects of conduit size on water transport) – were associated with lower precipitation and higher
355 temperatures in the environment of origin for genotypes. For example, genotypes collected from

356 lower latitudes and more eastern locations (stands at Warm Springs Creek [38.68 latitude, -123.11
357 longitude] and Bodega [38.36 latitude, -122.96 longitude]) had particularly large areas devoted to
358 central conducting fibers. Central fibers are found in coast redwood at their greatest abundance in
359 a distinct shoot morphotype, specialized for absorption of water (Alana Chin, unpublished data),
360 so the increased area at dry sites may indicate a reliance on summertime foliar water uptake and
361 use of alternate hydraulic pathways. These traits may indicate adaptations that enable water
362 transport to be sustained in environments that are relatively warm and dry for this species;
363 sustained water transport would, in turn, minimize leaf water stress and enable leaf stomata to
364 remain open to allow photosynthesis (Brodribb *et al.*, 2007). Thus, these groves might represent
365 sources of drought-tolerant germplasm for coast redwood.

366
367 Coast redwood genotypes from wet and dry locations have distinct combinations of water-stress
368 related functional traits when considered on a multivariate level, and far less variability than seen
369 among intermediate rainfall sites – suggesting adaptive specialization. Intraspecific trait
370 convergence is a characteristic response to abiotic stress and so is expected on environmentally
371 harsh, typically dry or cold, range ends (Mitchell and Baaker 2014, Van Nulan *et al.*, 2020). In the
372 case of coast redwood, rainforest conditions may present unique challenges due to months of
373 continuous leaf wetness and heavy cloud cover, resulting in phenotypes on both latitudinal range-
374 ends that overlap with intermediate zones, but share little of the same trait-space. Better group
375 separation based on precipitation-class, rather than latitude, may indicate that climatic adaptation
376 has been more important than distance between populations in determining the coast redwood
377 water-stress phenotype. Latitudinal groupings may be undetectable in giant sequoia because of the

378 relatively consistent climate within its range; coast redwood samples came from sites spanning
379 >2.5X the climatic variability (based on mean coefficient of variation).

380

381 *Functional annotation of candidate genes*

382 Candidate genes found in this study indicate a complex genomic architecture of drought tolerance
383 with many genes involved in many important biological functions related to growth, abiotic stress
384 resistance, and disease resistance. For example, gene SESE_010495 associated with total area of
385 transfusion tissue was involved in the ubiquitin system. The ubiquitin-proteasome system controls
386 the degradation of most proteins in the cells. It provides a rapid strategy to control many cellular
387 processes by degrading specific proteins, playing a critical role in the regulation of many biological
388 processes such as hormonal signaling, growth, embryogenesis, senescence, and environmental
389 stress (Sharma *et al.*, 2016; Xu and Xue 2019). F-box domain proteins have been found to play
390 important roles in abiotic stress responses via the ubiquitin pathway. For example, the study by
391 Zhou *et al.*, (2015) found that overexpression of *TaFBA1* enhanced drought tolerance in transgenic
392 plants, confirming the importance of F-box proteins in plants' tolerance to multiple stress
393 conditions.

394

395 A significant SNP at the gene SESE_026278 which annotated as BTB/POZ domain-containing
396 protein was involved in hedgehog signaling pathway. The BTB/POZ domain is an evolutionarily
397 conserved and widely distributed structural motif found involved in different biological processes,
398 such as transcriptional regulation, cytoskeletal organization, and formation of voltage-gated
399 channels (Collins *et al.*, 2001). Overexpression of GmBTB/POZ in soybean resulted in enhanced
400 resistance to *Phytophthora sojae* (*P. sojae*). The activities and expression levels of enzymatic

401 superoxide dismutase (SOD) and peroxidase (POD) antioxidants were significantly higher in
402 GmBTB/POZ-overexpressing transgenic soybean than in wild-type (WT) plants (Zhang *et al.*,
403 2019).

404

405 Another important candidate gene identified in our study was SESE_039821, a receptor-like
406 protein kinase. Receptor-like kinases are important signaling components that regulate a variety
407 of cellular processes. Protein kinases regulate metabolic pathways and are intimately involved in
408 cellular signaling networks (Wang *et al.*, 2007). An Arabidopsis cDNA microarray analysis led to
409 the identification of the cysteine-rich receptor-like kinase CRK36 responsive to the necrotrophic
410 fungal pathogen (*Alternaria brassicicola*) (Lee *et al.*, 2017). The gene *haiku2* is a mutant allele of
411 gene *iku2*, which is a leucine-rich repeat kinase (LRR) gene involving in regulation of seed size in
412 Arabidopsis (Luo *et al.*, 2005).

413

414 In our study, the gene SESE_121791 was identified as cysteine protease RD19A-like and was
415 involved in lysosome, apoptosis and plant-pathogen interaction pathways. Papain-like cysteine
416 proteases (PLCPs) are involved in many plant processes (Zou *et al.*, 2018). Cysteine proteases
417 were found to play a role in nodule development in soybean and in the pathogen defense (Shukla
418 *et al.*, 2014; van Wyk *et al.*, 2014). Also, cysteine protease (*AdCP*) gene in the wild peanut
419 (*Arachis diogeni*) was differentially expressed when it was challenged with the late leaf spot
420 pathogen (Shukla *et al.*, 2014).

421

422 The gene SESE_075160 identified by GLM at TASSEL in our study was identified as chlorophyll
423 a/b binding protein. The light-harvesting chlorophyll *a/b*-binding (LHCB) members were shown

424 to be targets of an ABA-responsive WRKY-domain transcription factor, which
425 represses *LHCB* expression to balance the positive function of the LHCBs in ABA signaling.
426 Consequently, it revealed that ABA is an inducer that fine-tunes *LHCB* expression through
427 repressing the WRKY40 transcription repressor in stressful conditions in co-operation with light,
428 which allows plants to adapt to environmental challenges (Liu *et al.*, 2013).

429

430 This study is a step forward to understand the genomics of drought tolerance in long-generation
431 conifer species. Genomic studies have been limited in conifers due to their large genome sizes,
432 and long-generation times. Given the high levels of phenotypic variance despite the relatively
433 small sample sizes in both coast redwood and giant sequoia found in this study, long-term studies
434 with larger sample sizes are warranted. For that purpose, coast redwood seedlings measured in this
435 study have been planted in long-term common gardens in California, where different phenotypes
436 can be evaluated as trees mature. This new resource, together with our newly sequenced reference
437 genomes of giant sequoia and coast redwood (Scott *et al.*, 2020; Neale *et al.*, 2021) will help
438 develop future genomic studies in the species. A thorough knowledge of the interconnection
439 among plasticity, genomics and physiological processes is needed to predict species' responses to
440 future warmer conditions and to design conservation and management strategies.

441

442 **EXPERIMENTAL PROCEDURES**

443

444 *Foliage collection for greenhouse establishment*

445 Juvenile foliage of coast redwood (SESE) was collected from the Kuser common garden (Kuser
446 *et al.*, 1995) hedge orchard growing in Russell Reserve (University of California field station,
447 Contra Costa County, California) in fall 2017. As the SESE-Kuser common garden is hedged

448 annually, juvenile primary shoots were collected for ideal propagation. Cuttings were taken of
449 foliage from mature giant sequoia (SEGI) trees in the Fins trial (Fins, 1979) at Foresthill Divide
450 Seed Orchard (Foresthill, California) in winter 2018. As the SEGI accessions were mature trees,
451 juvenile foliage was sampled where possible, but sampling was restricted to plagiotropic growth.
452 Collections were made to represent a wide range of geographic sites of origin, spanning the
453 species' natural distributions.

454

455 Immediately following collection, foliage samples were misted with water, wrapped in paper
456 towels, and stored in labeled plastic bags. Bagged samples were then kept in a cooler with ice for
457 transport to the greenhouse, where they were stored in a refrigerated room (4 °C) for up to 24
458 hours. One at a time, to avoid mixing of genotypes, samples were washed with water to remove
459 debris, then briefly soaked in a disinfectant (Phyosan 20, solution of 39 mL L⁻¹). Terminal shoots
460 were then trimmed into cuttings approximately 10 cm long. All primary needles were removed
461 from the lower third of the each cutting. Between 30 and 60 cuttings per genotype were stuck.
462 Cuttings were dipped in rooting hormone (3:1 Dip N Grow:water, 7,500 PPM IBA) for 5 seconds
463 and then stuck into rooting medium (9:1 perlite:peat by volume) with Osmocote 18-6-12 controlled
464 release fertilizer at 1.8 kg m⁻³ and Micromax Micronutrients at 0.7 kg m⁻³. Cuttings were arranged
465 in rows, with 3 cm between individual cuttings, and a minimum of 5 cm between rows. Rooting
466 trays were kept under mist until roots emerged (for SESE, 2-3 months; for SEGI, 4 months or
467 longer). Rooted cuttings were carefully removed from rooting medium and potted into individual
468 containers with growing medium, individually labeled, staked with bamboo if needed, and returned
469 to the greenhouse. Re-potted plants were hand watered for 3-4 weeks and then placed on irrigation
470 drip.

471
472 For SESE genotyping, fresh needles were collected from a selected ramet from each of the
473 surviving 92 clonal genets. Overall, these samples were sourced from 66 locations, with 1-3 source
474 trees per population. For SEGI genotyping, fresh needles were sampled from a selected ramet from
475 each of the surviving 90 clonal genets. These SEGI accessions came from 23 groves, with 1-9
476 samples from each population. Additionally, six SEGI accessions were included as technical
477 replicates, resulting in 96 genotyped samples total.

478
479 *DNA extraction*

480 Young needles were collected from a selected ramet from each of the surviving 92 SESE and 90
481 SEGI genets. They were stored on ice for transport, then flash-frozen in liquid nitrogen, stored in
482 a -80°C freezer for 48 hours, and lyophilized (48 hours for SEGI & 72 hours for SESE). Global
483 DNA (gDNA) was extracted with the Omega Biotek E-Z 96 Plant DNA kit and an Eppendorf
484 automated pipetting workstation at UC Davis. The DNA extraction protocol included one day of
485 tissue lysis, followed by several steps of precipitation, filtering and elution. DNA quality was
486 assessed using a Qubit 2.0 Fluorometer (average concentration = 24.5 ng/μL for SESE and 43.5
487 ng/μL for SEGI), NanoDrop 8000 (average A260/280 = 1.94; average A260/230 = 1.99 for SESE
488 and 1.6 for SEGI), and gel electrophoresis (average fragment size \geq 20,000 bp). Samples were
489 normalized to 20 ng/μL in 50 μL. The gDNA was submitted to the UC Davis Genome Center for
490 sonication, size selection, and library preparation.

491
492 *Sequence Capture and SNP calling*

493 Exome capture baits were designed for each species using PacBio IsoSeq RNA data combined
494 with previously published Illumina RNAseq data (Scott *et al.*, 2020) and clustered at 95% identity
495 to produce a set of nonredundant transcripts. The clustered transcripts were then mapped to the
496 reference assembly at high stringency using gmap. For SEGI, the regions of matches were
497 submitted to Roche (Madison, WI) where 120-mer oligos were designed to cover the target regions
498 at 2x tiling density. For SESE, the regions of matches between genome sequence and transcript
499 sequences were submitted to Roche for 120-mer oligos were designed to cover the target regions
500 at 2x tiling density. The UC Davis Genome center carried out hybridization of baits and the gDNA
501 samples described above. The resulting libraries were pooled and sequenced on the NovaSeq 6000
502 platform. Bowtie2 v2.2.9 (Langmead and Salzberg, 2012) was used to align sequencing capture
503 raw reads against the reference genome assemblies of giant sequoia version 2.0
504 (treegenes.db.org/FTP/Genomes/Segi) and coast redwood version 2.1
505 (treegenesdb.org/FTP/Genomes/Sese). Alignments were sorted and divided into multiple sets
506 based on reference intervals, and later processed in parallel using SAMtools v1.3.1 and BEDtools
507 v2.25.0. SNPs were then called using BCFtools with default parameters (Li *et al.*, 2009).
508 Haplotypes were called using Genome Analysis Toolkit (GATK v.4.1.7.0) HaplotypeCaller &
509 GenotypeGVCF (McKenna *et al.*, 2010). SNP functional annotations were obtained from the
510 species' reference genome annotations in the TreeGenes database (treegenesdb.org); and by
511 sequence alignment against the NCBI non-redundant protein sequences database (nr) using
512 BLASTP (Johnson *et al.*, 2008) with an e-value $<1 \times 10^{-10}$. BCFtools was used to merge vcfs files
513 of individuals for further analysis (Danecek *et al.*, 2011).

514

515 *Phenotypic traits*

516 For each species, we measured ten traits related to drought tolerance (Table 1) in one branch from
517 each of three individuals per genotype. The set of available individuals from each genotype were
518 distributed randomly throughout the greenhouse; sampling was performed haphazardly, in that we
519 sampled the first three individuals encountered for each genotype. In some cases, this required
520 exhaustive searching due to poor survival of some genotypes; in other genotypes, many individuals
521 were present. Each branch was sampled in early June 2020 using sharp secateurs and immediately
522 placed in a ziploc bag and sprayed with water. The bag was then sealed and placed in a cooler with
523 ice to prevent further water loss. Upon return to the laboratory, each branch was recut under water
524 (≥ 1.5 cm), the cut end was placed into a 50-mL falcon tube, and the tube was placed into a stand
525 to allow the branch to rehydrate for 38 – 46 hours. After rehydration, three leaves were removed
526 from each branch and stored in FAA for later anatomical measurements, and the branch was
527 immediately returned to a sealed ziploc bag that had been sprayed internally with water. These
528 bags were stored in a refrigerator until completion of measurement of shoot mass per unit area and
529 subsampling for osmotic pressure measurements and stomatal density mounts were completed.
530 Three values (or, in a few cases, two) for each trait measurement were thus collected for each
531 genotype, and subsequent analysis was performed on the mean of these three values. Methods for
532 each trait measurement are described below.

533

534 *Shoot mass per unit area.* Each branch was removed from the refrigerator and its sealed bag, and
535 a small, representative section was returned to the bag and refrigerator for subsequent
536 measurements of osmotic pressure and stomatal density. The rest of the branch was dabbed dry
537 with paper towels and placed on a scanner (Canon TR8520), scanned for later measurement of
538 shoot silhouette area (including both leaves and the shoots to which they were attached) in ImageJ,

539 placed into a labelled paper envelope, and placed in a drying oven at 70 °C until weight stopped
540 declining (generally ~24 h). These dried samples were later weighed on a 5-point digital balance
541 (Mettler-Toledo model XS225DU). Shoot mass per unit area was computed as the ratio of dry
542 mass to initial (fresh) silhouette area.

543
544 *Stomatal density.* For SESE, three leaves from each branch were excised and mounted abaxial side
545 down in fingernail polish on a microscope slide. The number of stomata in a single image frame
546 at a magnification of 200x was counted for each leaf and divided by the frame size (0.255742
547 mm²) to calculate stomatal density. Results are presented as the mean ± SE among leaves. Stomatal
548 density was not measured for SEGI.

549
550 *Osmotic pressure at full turgor.* For each branch, a 6-mm long section of a previously rehydrated
551 leaf (SESE) or branch (SEGI) was excised with a fresh razor blade and immediately enclosed in
552 the sample well of a C-52 thermocouple psychrometer (Wescor, Logan, UT). The psychrometer
553 was then placed in an insulated box and allowed to equilibrate. Every hour, a CR6 datalogger
554 (Campbell Scientific, Logan, UT) was used to initiate a 10-s cooling curve for each psychrometer,
555 psychrometer output (μV) was recorded every second, and the average μV output between 2 and
556 5 seconds after the end of cooling was calculated. The resulting means were found to remain stable
557 between 4 and 9 hours of equilibration; values from either 5 or 6 hours were used for subsequent
558 analysis. Each psychrometer was calibrated using five KCl solutions, with osmotic pressures of 0,
559 0.5, 1.0, 2.0, and 3.0 MPa, with 0.025 mL of each solution placed on a filter paper disk in the
560 psychrometer sample well and otherwise measured as described earlier for leaves.

561

562 *Elemental and isotopic analyses.* A dried sample of leaf (SESE) or branch (SEGI) material was
563 placed in a sealed cuvette with three stainless steel spherical pellets and ground in a ball mill for
564 two minutes. Subsamples (1.9 – 4.6 mg) were weighed and transferred into tin capsules, placed
565 into 96-well trays, and crushed to seal the capsules. $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ (relative to Vienna Pee Dee Belemnite
566 standard) and total C and N were measured at the UC Davis Stable Isotope Facility using a PDZ
567 Europa ANCA-GSL elemental analyzer interfaced to a PDZ Europa 20-20 isotope ratio mass
568 spectrometer (Sercon Ltd., Cheshire, UK), with several replicates of at least four laboratory
569 reference standards periodically interspersed for internal calibration. C:N ratio (mol mol^{-1}) was
570 calculated by dividing total C by total N.

571
572 *Leaf vascular anatomy.* Leaves previously stored in FAA as described earlier were hand-sectioned,
573 mounted on a slide, and digitally imaged at 400x magnification, centered on the single leaf vein,
574 and four traits were measured using ImageJ: (i) the total cross-sectional area of transfusion tissue
575 laterally abutting the single leaf vein, (ii) the total cross-sectional area occupied by xylem, (iii) the
576 hydraulic mean diameter (calculated following Kolb and Sperry 1999 as $\text{HD} = \Sigma D^5 / \Sigma D^4$, where D
577 is conduit diameter and the sum is taken over 10 conduits; D was calculated from conduit lumen
578 area $[A]$ as $D = [4A/\pi]^{0.5}$), and (iv) the total area of central fibers, when present (longitudinal fibers
579 with thick, concentrically lamellated cell walls located adjacent to the adaxial side of the xylem,
580 and are thought to contribute to water transport). Central fibers were not observed in SEGI. As for
581 all other traits, measurements were repeated for three leaves per genotype, each taken from a
582 different ramet.

583

584 *Correlations among drought-related traits, geographic and environmental variables*

585 Physiological parameters depend on relationships among traits and their composite effects on leaf
586 function; thus, we evaluated geo-climatic clustering within the collective phenotypic trait-space
587 observed in the common garden. We also tested and plotted correlations among the nine drought-
588 related traits (Table 1) and geographical and environmental variables for both SEGI and SESE
589 using R packages Hmisc and ggcorrplot in R studio 1.1.442. Geographic variables (latitude,
590 longitude and elevation) representing the geographic origin of the sampled trees (collected directly
591 for SESE individuals, or using the centroid of the grove polygon for SEGI) were used as
592 geographic origin to obtain environmental data from public databases such as WorldClim2.0 (Fick
593 and Hijmans, 2017) and ClimateNA (Wang *et al.*, 2016).

594
595 All 83 SESE genotypes were ordinated in Euclidean trait-space with PCA, using a correlation
596 matrix and eight of nine traits, excluding only C:N because of univariate nonlinear relationships
597 with other traits. A similar analysis was repeated unsuccessfully for SEGI, which did not have any
598 geographic or climatic associations with PCA axes. Giant sequoia had only five traits suitable for
599 PCA, giving less dimensionality to explore, and samples came from far fewer groves which were
600 sampled unevenly. Grove-level clusters were apparent in the trait-space, but our sample size did
601 not permit analysis on that level. The eight SESE traits used had a mean skewness of 0.366 and a
602 mean kurtosis of 0.596. None of the climatic or geographic variables had strong correlations with
603 individual axes; however, the cumulative association of rainfall-related variables and latitude were
604 $> R^2 = 0.3$. We selected mean annual precipitation and latitude to create two sets of potential
605 clusters within the trait-space, selecting three groups from each, with the highest and lowest values
606 forming two groups, and the intermediate values forming a larger, third class. For latitude we
607 called genotypes from above 40° latitude “north” ($N = 23$), those from latitudes below 37.5°

608 “south” ($N = 19$), and intermediate zones “central” ($N = 41$). Categories for rainfall were “wet” if
609 sampling sites received more than 1600 mm of annual precipitation ($N = 19$), those from locations
610 with fewer than 900 mm of precipitation “dry” ($N = 16$), and “intermediate rainfall” ($N = 48$). With
611 the first five PCA axes, retaining 78% of the total trait variation, we found the 5-dimensional
612 “phenotypic volumes” as minimum convex hulls occupied by each potential latitudinal or rainfall
613 class, and estimated their intersection and union using the R package hypervolume.

614

615 *Genotype data preparation*

616 Raw genotyping data containing high levels of missing data were filtered using TASSEL v.5.2.72
617 (Bradbury *et al.*, 2007) with the following parameters: minor allele frequency (maf) = 0.05,
618 maximum allele frequency ($max\text{-}maf$) = 0.9. The minimum count—the minimum number of taxa
619 in which the site must have been scored to be included in the filtered data set, 50 was implemented
620 for SEGI and 30 for SESE.

621

622 *Genome-wide association study*

623 Associations between each drought-related trait and individual marker were tested using a general
624 linear model (GLM) and a mixed linear model (MLM) implemented in the GWAS analysis in
625 TASSEL v.5.2.72 (Bradbury *et al.*, 2007). A kinship matrix and Principal Component Analysis
626 (PCA) were calculated for the mixed linear model (MLM) analysis (Yu *et al.*, 2006). Population
627 structure was accounted by including principal components as co-variates in the models.
628 Relatedness among individuals was also accounted for incorporating a kinship matrix in the
629 models. Effect sizes (proportion of phenotypic variance explained by the marker) and the
630 dominance and additive effects were also calculated in TASSEL.

631
632 In addition, univariate linear mixed models (uLMM) and multivariate linear mixed models
633 (mvLMM) GWAS were performed in GEMMA v0.98.3 (Zhou and Stephens 2012; 2014). In
634 contrast to the uLMM method, mvLMM associates multiple phenotypic traits with all markers
635 simultaneously, while controlling for population structure and relatedness. To run GEMMA,
636 PLINK binary ped format was generated using PLINK v.1.9 software for association analysis. The
637 Bonferroni threshold (<0.05) correction and false discovery rate (FDR) were applied for multiple
638 correction to identify significant SNPs. Manhattan plots of $-\log_{10}(P)$ values for each SNPs versus
639 chromosomal positions were generated at the GLM of TASSEL and uLMM and mvLMM of
640 GEMMA results.

641
642 *Functional gene annotations*
643 The genomic positions of the significant SNPs were investigated to identify the annotated genes
644 by scanning the genomic VCF files of SEGI and SESE. Subsequently, the identified significant
645 SNPs were annotated using annotation files downloaded from TreeGenes
646 (<https://treegenesdb.org/TripalContactProfile/588450>). The annotation was confirmed using some
647 other approaches such as pfam (Finn *et al.*, 2014) and blastp (Johnson *et al.*, 2008), BlastKOALA
648 (Kanehisa *et al.*, 2016). The Pfam was ran using the HMMER (Finn *et al.*, 2011) at default
649 parameters with e-value 1.0 to search proteins families. The blastp was ran at expected threshold-
650 0.05; matrix-BLOSUM 62; database- non-redundant protein sequence (nr) to search the similar
651 hits. The BlastKOALA at KEGG (Kanehisa *et al.*, 2016) was performed for protein pathways and
652 annotations. The identical matching genes were chosen to identify annotations and KEGG
653 pathways.

654

655 **DATA AVAILABILITY STATEMENT**

656 Sequencing raw reads are deposited in the NCBI SRA (<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/sra>) under
657 BioSample SUB10142549.

658

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669

670 **CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

671 The authors declare there are no conflict of interests.

672

673 **AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS**

674 DN, ARDLT, TNB and AS designed the study; AS established the common gardens; TNB, AS,
675 and AROC planned the trait measurement; TNB measured all drought-related traits; BA and AS
676 performed all genomic lab work; DP and SS did the SNP calling; MKS and ARDLT performed
677 all genomic and bioinformatic data analyses; MKS, TNB, AROC and ARDLT wrote the
678 manuscript; all authors reviewed the final version of the manuscript.

679

680 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

681

682 **Table S1.** SNP filtering in giant sequoia

683 **Table S2.** SNP filtering in coast redwood.

684 **Table S3.** Univariate GLM TASSEL GWAS results in coast redwood.

685 **Table S4.** Univariate GLM TASSEL GWAS results in giant sequoia.

686 **Table S5.** Univariate uLMM GEMMA GWAS results in coast redwood.

687 **Table S6.** Multitrait multivariate mvLMM GEMMA GWAS results in coast redwood.

688 **Table S7.** uLMM and mvLMM GEMMA results in giant sequoia.

689 **Figure S1.** Correlations among drought related traits, geographic and environmental variables in
690 giant sequoia. R values are color-coded based on the figure legend.

691 **Figure S2.** Correlations among drought related traits, geographic and environmental variables in
692 coast redwood. R values are color-coded based on the figure legend.

693 **Figure S3.** Manhattan plot of SNP markers generated by TASSEL using GLM for SEGI (a) for
694 SESE (b). Each point represents a genetic variant in Manhattan plots. In the Manhattan plot y-axis
695 represent the p-value of SNP markers in $-\log_{10}$ and the x-axis is chromosomal positions.

696 **Figure S4.** Manhattan plot of SNP markers generated by GEMMA using univariate linear mixed
697 model (uLMM) in SESE. (a) manhattan plot indicate the uLMM analysis with the phenotypic traits
698 CN, (b) D13C, (c) D15N, (d) FA, (e) SMA, (f) PIFT, (g) SD, (h) TA, (i) HD, and (j) XA, in SESE.
699 In the Manhattan plot y-axis represents the p-value of SNP markers in $-\log_{10}$ and the x-axis is
700 chromosomal positions. The red line represents genome-wide significant cut-off (p-value <
701 $9.00E10^{-6}$). The green dot over the genome-wide significant cut-off (red line) represents the
702 significant SNPs (p-value < $9.00E10^{-6}$).

703 **Figure S5.** Manhattan plot of SNP markers generated by GEMMA using univariate linear mixed
704 model (uLMM) in SEGI. (a-h) Manhattan plot indicate the uLMM analysis with the phenotypic
705 traits (a) TA, (b) CN, (c) D13C, (d) D15N, (e) SMA, (f) PIFT, (g) HD, and (h) XA, in SEGI. In
706 the Manhattan plot y-axis represent the p-value of SNP markers in $-\log_{10}$ and the x-axis is
707 chromosomal positions. The red line represents genome-wide significant cut-off (p-value<
708 $6.00E10^{-7}$). The green dot over the genome-wide significant cut-off (red line) represents the
709 significant SNPs (p-value< $6.00E10^{-7}$).

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1029 **Table 1.** Drought-related traits measured in this study in giant sequoia (SEGI) and coast redwood (SESE).

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1031

Trait	Symbol	Units
Shoot mass per area	SMA	g m ⁻²
Osmotic pressure at full turgor	PIFT	MPa
C:N ratio	CN	unitless
Stable carbon isotope discrimination	D13C	permille
Stable nitrogen isotope discrimination	D15N	permille
Stomatal density	SD	mm ⁻²
Total area of transfusion tissue	TA	μm ²
Total area of xylem	XA	μm ²
Total area of central fibers	FA	μm ²
Xylem hydraulic diameter	HD	μm

1032

1033 **Table 2.** Functional annotation of the genes of significant SNPs identified by GLM at TASSEL and univariate, multivariate linear mixed models at GEMMA for
 1034 SESE and SEGI. Analysis column indicates the analysis methods (GLM, uLMM, mvLMM) for finding significant SNPs associated with different phenotypic
 1035 traits in SEGI and SESE. Similar search ID column indicates the genbank or uniprot ID identified by similar BLAST hits. Genes associated with environmental
 1036 variables in a previous GEA study show the environmental variable in parentheses.

Analysis	Gene	Similar Search ID ^a	SNPs ^b	p-value	Annotation Description	KEGG Pathway
GT	SESE_010495 ⁺	XP_024365529.1	1	2.00E-07	F-box protein	Ubiquitin system
GT	SESE_022882 ⁺	XP_024520340.1	1	3.00E-07	Uncharacterized protein	Cationic antimicrobial peptide (CAMP) resistance
GT	SESE_025289 ⁺	-	1	6.00E-07	-	-
GT	SESE_026053 ⁺	XP_006840991.3	4	3.00E-07	Motile sperm domain-containing protein	-
GU, GM, GT	SESE_026278 ⁺	XP_006847025.2	1	1.00E-07	BTB/POZ domain-containing protein	Hedgehog signaling pathway
GT	SESE_028233 ⁺ (MAT)	XP_010255566.1	1	0.00E+00	Protein HOTHEAD-like	Glycine, serine and threonine metabolism
GT	SESE_031915 ⁺ (MAT)	XP_027156177.1	1	7.00E-07	Uncharacterized protein	-
GT	SESE_035946 ⁺	ATG29933.1	1	1.00E-07	Cyp750c18	Cytochrome
GU, GM, GT	SESE_039821 ⁺	XP_012445484.1	21	2.00E-07	Receptor-like protein kinase HAIKU2	-
GT	SESE_041334 ⁺	XP_020251916.1	1	8.00E-07	Uncharacterized protein	-
GT	SESE_058034 ⁺ (CMD)	XP_011625611.2	1	0.00E+00	Cysteine-rich receptor-like protein kinase	-
GT	SESE_074679 ⁺	ABR17724.1	1	4.00E-07	Unknown	-
GT	SESE_075160 ⁺	XP_006840304.2	1	2.00E-07	Chlorophyll a-b binding protein	Photosynthesis-antenna proteins, Metabolic pathways
GT	SESE_079577 ⁺ (MAP)	XP_007014626.2	1	8.00E-07	Protein indeterminate domain	-
GT	SESE_084919 ⁺	XP_017700156.2	1	2.00E-07	Hypothetical protein	-
GT	SESE_093724 ⁺	XP_006858242.1	1	1.00E-07	Glyoxysomal processing protease	-
GT	SESE_102359 ⁺	XP_020532610.1	1	1.00E-06	Lysosomal Pro-X carboxypeptidase	Renin-angiotensin system, Protein digestion and absorption
GT	SESE_118250 ⁺ (MAP)	XP_027064440.1	1	4.00E-07	Uncharacterized protein	
GU, GM, GT	SESE_121791 ⁺	XP_031476139.1	4	2.00E-07	Cysteine protease RD19A-like	Lysosome, Apoptosis, Plant-pathogen interaction
GM	SESE_041833	XP_006838305.1	1	6.00E-06	cellulose synthase A catalytic	Transferases
GM	SESE_031320 ⁺ (MAP)	XP_027057309.1	1	4.00E-06	uncharacterized protein	-
GT	SEGI_21288 ⁺⁺ (MAP)	XP_019108059.1	1	7.18E-07	Uncharacterized protein	-
GM	SEGI_29523	MBT3334041.1	1	3.20E-06	5-amino-6-(D-ribitylamino) uracil-L-tyrosine 4-hydroxyphenyl transferase-CofH	Methane metabolism, Metabolic pathways

1037 GU= GEMMA univariate; GM= GEMMA multivariate; GT= GLM at TASSEL; ⁺genes were associated with TA; ⁺⁺ genes were associated with pift phenotype. ^aNCBI or Uniprot
 1038 IDs; ^bTotal Numbers of candidate SNPs in a gene.

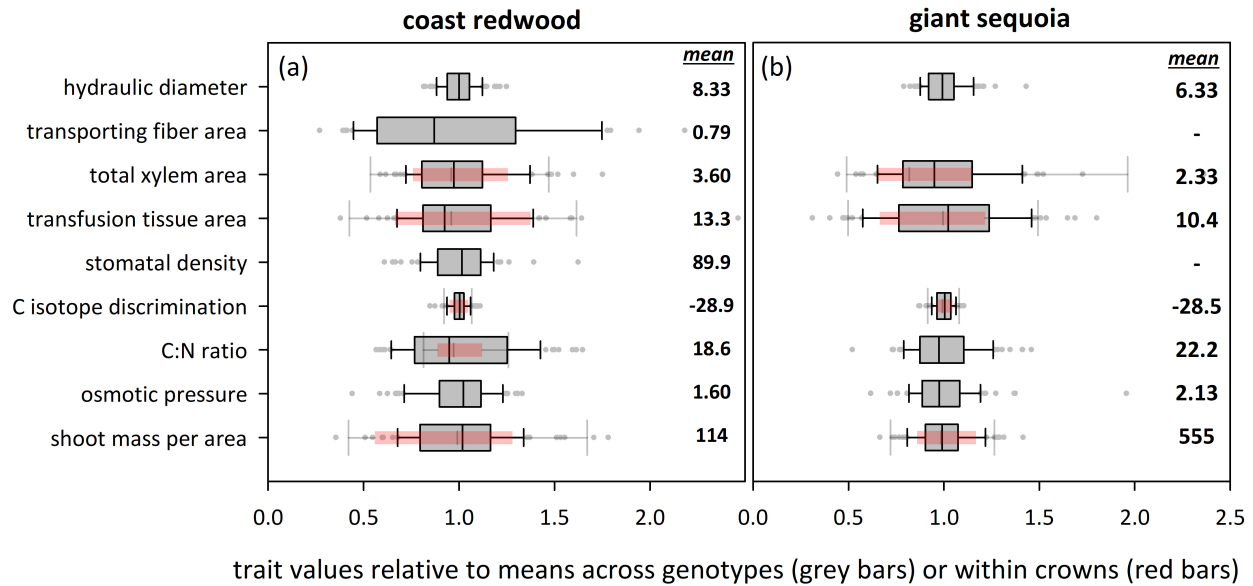
1039 **Table 3.** Gene Ontology annotation of the genes of significant SNPs associated with different phenotypic traits in redwood (SESE) and giant
 1040 sequoia (SEGI).

Gene	GO IDs	GO Names
SESE_010495	MP: GO:0005515	MP: protein binding
SESE_022882	-	-
SESE_026053	-	-
SESE_026278	MP: GO:0005515	MP: protein binding
SESE_028233	MP: GO:0016614; MP: GO:0050660	MP: oxidoreductase activity, acting on CH-OH group of donors; MP: flavin adenine dinucleotide binding
SESE_031915	MP: GO:0003676	MP: nucleic acid binding
SESE_035946	MP: GO:0004497; MP: GO:0005506; MF: GO:0016705; MP: GO:0020037	MP: monooxygenase activity; MP: iron ion binding; MP: oxidoreductase activity, acting on paired donors, with incorporation or reduction of molecular oxygen; MP: heme binding
SESE_039821	BP: GO:0006468; MP: GO:0004672; MF: GO:0005524	BP: protein phosphorylation; MP: protein kinase activity; MP: ATP binding
SESE_041334	CC: GO:0016021	CC: integral component of membrane
SESE_058034	BP: GO:0006468; MP: GO:0004672; MP: GO:0005524	BP: protein phosphorylation; MP: protein kinase activity; MP: ATP binding
SESE_074679	CC: GO:0110165	CC: cellular anatomical entity
SESE_075160	BP: GO:0009765; CC: GO:0016020	BP: photosynthesis, light harvesting; CC: membrane
SESE_079577	BP: GO:0009630; MP: GO:0046872; CC: GO:0005634	BP: gravitropism; MP: metal ion binding; CC: nucleus
SESE_084919	-	-
SESE_093724	BP: GO:0016485; MP: GO:0004252; CC: GO:0005777	BP: protein processing; MP: serine-type endopeptidase activity; CC: peroxisome
SESE_102359	BP: GO:0006508; MP: GO:0008236	BP: proteolysis; MP: serine-type peptidase activity
SESE_118250	-	-
SESE_121791	BP: GO:0006508; MP: GO:0008234	BP: proteolysis; MP: cysteine-type peptidase activity
SESE_041833	BP: GO:0030244; MP: GO:0016760; CC: GO:0016020	BP: cellulose biosynthetic process; MP: cellulose synthase (UDP-forming) activity; CC: membrane
SESE_031320	-	-
SEGI_21288	BP: GO:0006278; BP: GO:0090502; MP: GO:0003676; MP: GO:0003964; MP: GO:0004523	BP: RNA-dependent DNA biosynthetic process; BP: RNA phosphodiester bond hydrolysis, endonucleolytic; MF: nucleic acid binding; MF: RNA-directed DNA polymerase activity; MF: RNA-DNA hybrid ribonuclease activity
SEGI_29523	MP: GO:0003824; MP: GO:0016740; MP: GO:0016765; MP: GO:0044689; MP: GO:0046872; MP: GO:0051536; MP: GO:0051539	MP: catalytic activity; MP: transferase activity; MP: transferase activity, transferring alkyl or aryl (other than methyl) groups; MP: 7,8-didemethyl-8-hydroxy-5-deazariboflavin synthase activity; MP: metal ion binding; MP: iron-sulfur cluster binding; MP:4 iron, 4 sulfur cluster binding

1041 BP=biological process; MP=molecular process; CC=cellular component

1042 **FIGURES**

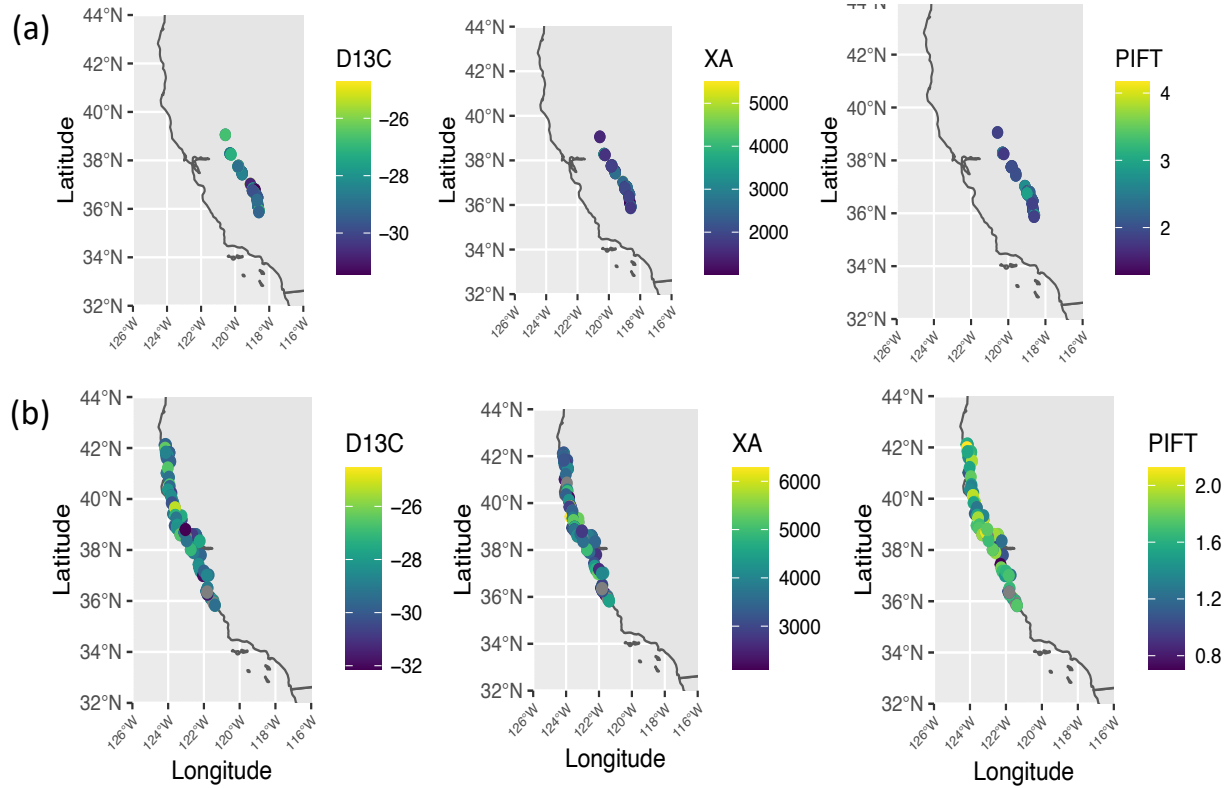
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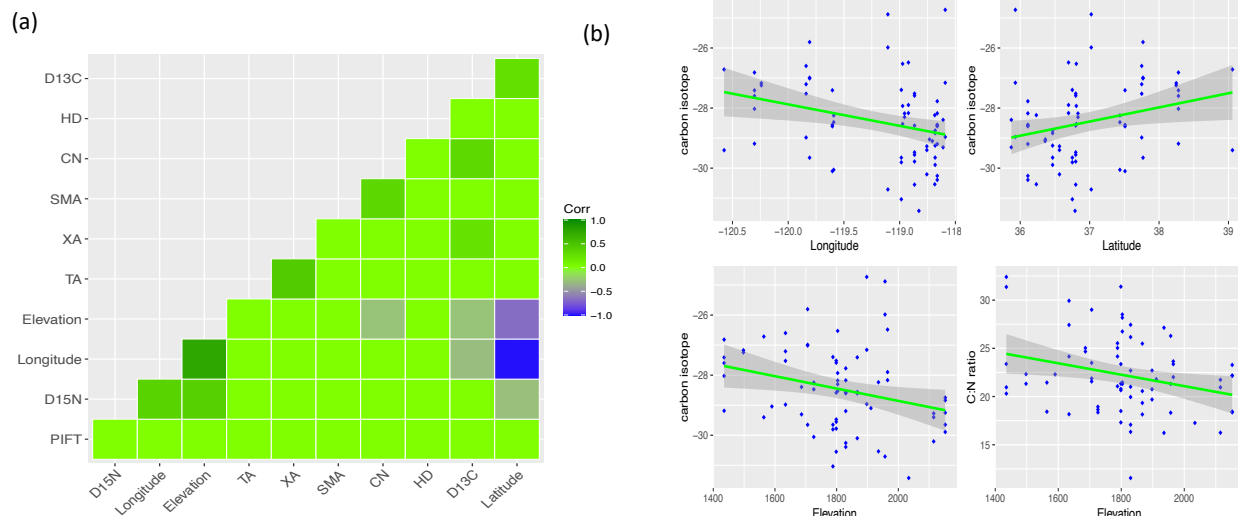
1053 **Figure 1.** Phenotypic variability in drought-related traits across populations of climatically diverse
1054 origin is similar to or smaller than phenotypic plasticity within individual tree crowns. Grey bars
1055 indicate variation (interquartile range) across genotypes examined in this study, for (a) coast
1056 redwood, and (b) giant sequoia; red bars indicate variation within crowns of single trees examined
1057 by Chin & Sillett (2016) and Oldham et al. (2010). The vertical line in each grey bar denotes the
1058 median, whiskers denote 5th and 95th percentiles, and grey symbols are outliers. Trait values are
1059 expressed relative to mean values across genotypes (grey bars) or within crowns (red bars). Mean
1060 values across genotypes for each trait are shown at right in each panel (units as in Table 1; for
1061 areas of transporting fibers, xylem and transfusion tissue, multiply values shown here by 10^3 to
1062 get areas in μm^2).

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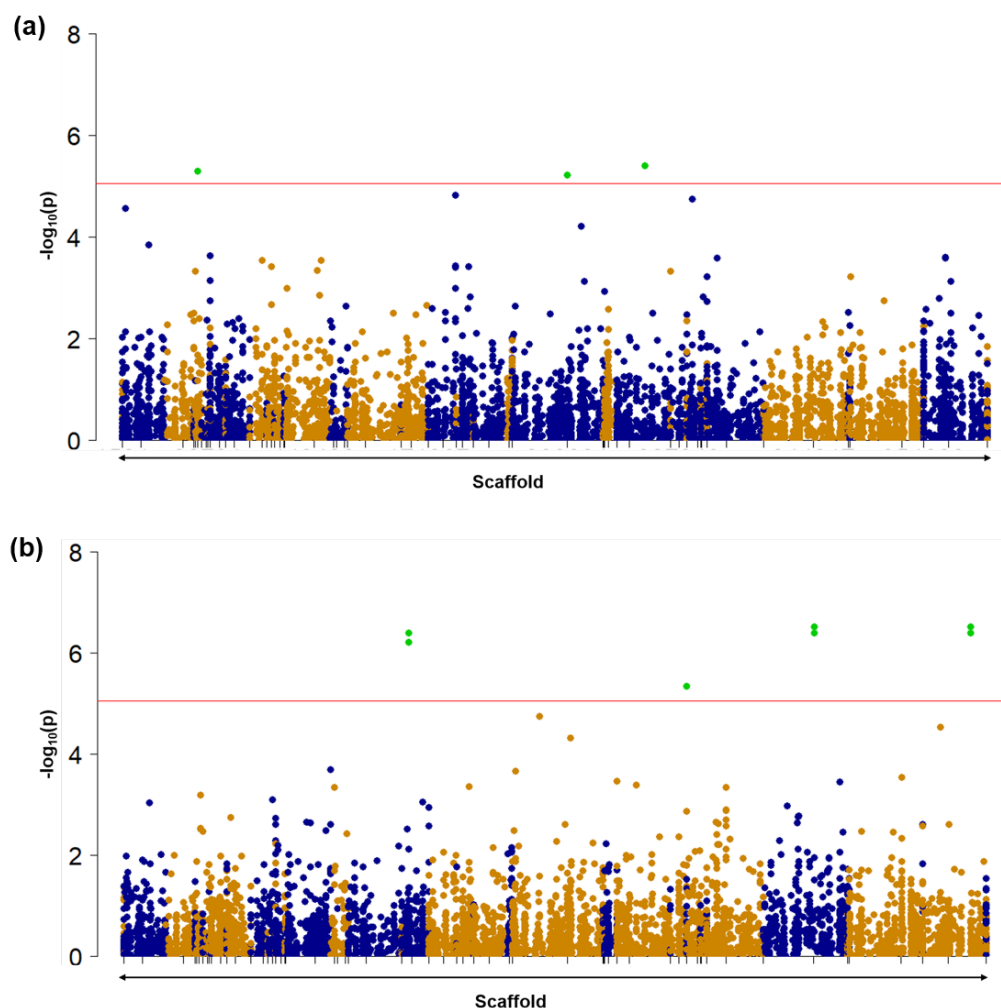
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Figure 2. Phenotypic variability across the species' natural distribution range based on common garden experiments. Carbon isotope discrimination (D13C), total xylem area (XA) and osmotic pressure (PIFT) in (a) giant sequoia and (b) coast redwood.



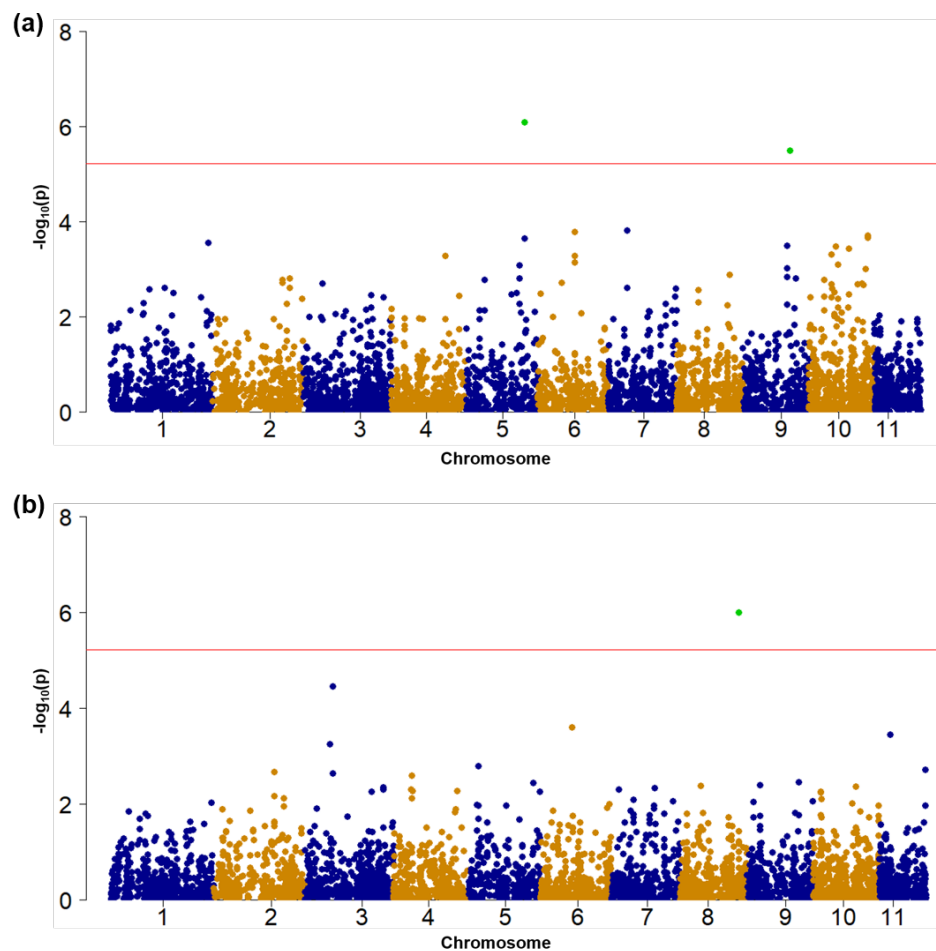
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Figure 3. Correlations among drought-related traits and geographical variables in giant sequoia. (a) Heatmap showing R for all combinations of variables; (b) scatterplots of significant correlations (P value<0.05) among geographic variables and carbon isotope discrimination and C:N ratio. Full trait names can be found in Table 1.



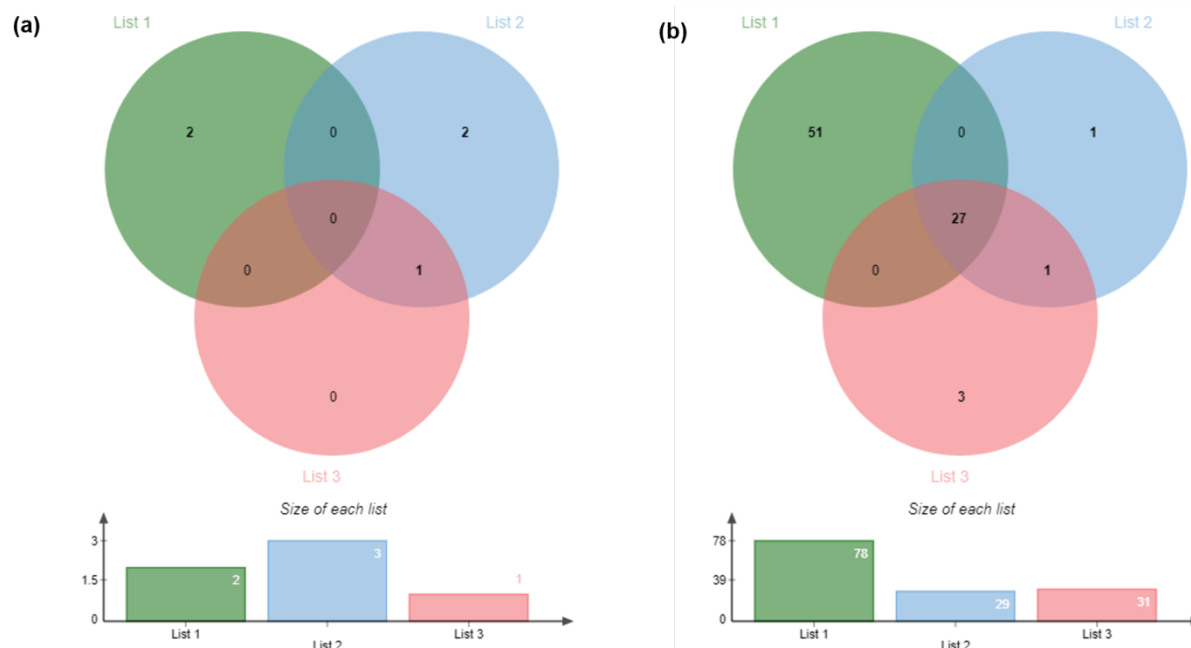
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Figure 4. Manhattan plot of SNP markers generated by GEMMA using multivariate linear mixed model (mvLMM) in SESE. (a) manhattan plot indicate the mvLMM analysis with the phenotypic traits SMA, PIFT, SD, D13C, CN and (group 1) (b) manhattan plot indicating the mvLMM analysis with the phenotypic traits D15N, TA, XA, HD and FA (group 2) in SESE. In the Manhattan plot y-axis represent the p-value of SNP markers in $-\log_{10}$ and the x-axis is chromosomal positions. The red line represents genome-wide significant cut-off (p -value $< 9.00 \cdot 10^{-6}$). The green dot over the genome-wide significant cut-off (red line) represents the significant SNPs (p -value $< 9.00 \cdot 10^{-6}$).



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Figure 5. Manhattan plot of SNP markers generated by GEMMA using multivariate linear mixed model (mvLMM) in SEGI. (a) Manhattan plot indicate the mvLMM analysis with the phenotypic traits SMA, PIFT, D13C, CN and D15N (group 1) and (b) manhattan plot indicate the mvLMM analysis with the phenotypic traits TA, XA, HD (group 2) in SEGI. The red line represents genome-wide significant cut-off ($p\text{-value} < 6.00 \cdot 10^{-7}$). The green dot over the genome-wide significant cut-off (red line) represents the significant SNPs ($p\text{-value} < 6.00 \cdot 10^{-7}$).



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Figure 6. Venn-diagrams representing the common significant SNPs identified by all three GWAS analyses including GLM at TASSEL, uLMM and mvLMM at GEMMA in SEGI (a) and SESE (b). List 1 is the total number of SNPs identified by GLM, list 2 is total number of SNPs identified by uLMM and list 3 is total SNPs identified by mvLMM.