

# Predicting the 2023/24 El Nino and its climate impacts over North America

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Climate Analysis Section, NSF NCAR

*With Steve Yeager, Adam Phillips, Nan Rosenbloom and others*

CESM Tutorial, 5 August 2024

Geosci. Model Dev., 15, 6451–6493, 2022  
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Geoscientific  
Model Development



## **The Seasonal-to-Multiyear Large Ensemble (SMYLE) prediction system using the Community Earth System Model version 2**

**Stephen G. Yeager<sup>1</sup>, Nan Rosenbloom<sup>1</sup>, Anne A. Glanville<sup>1</sup>, Xian Wu<sup>1</sup>, Isla Simpson<sup>1</sup>, Hui Li<sup>1</sup>, Maria J. Molina<sup>1</sup>, Kristen Krumhardt<sup>1</sup>, Samuel Mogen<sup>2</sup>, Keith Lindsay<sup>1</sup>, Danica Lombardozzi<sup>1</sup>, Will Wieder<sup>1</sup>, Who M. Kim<sup>1</sup>, Jadwiga H. Richter<sup>1</sup>, Matthew Long<sup>1</sup>, Gokhan Danabasoglu<sup>1</sup>, David Bailey<sup>1</sup>, Marika Holland<sup>1</sup>, Nicole Lovenduski<sup>2</sup>, Warren G. Strand<sup>1</sup>, and Teagan King<sup>1</sup>**

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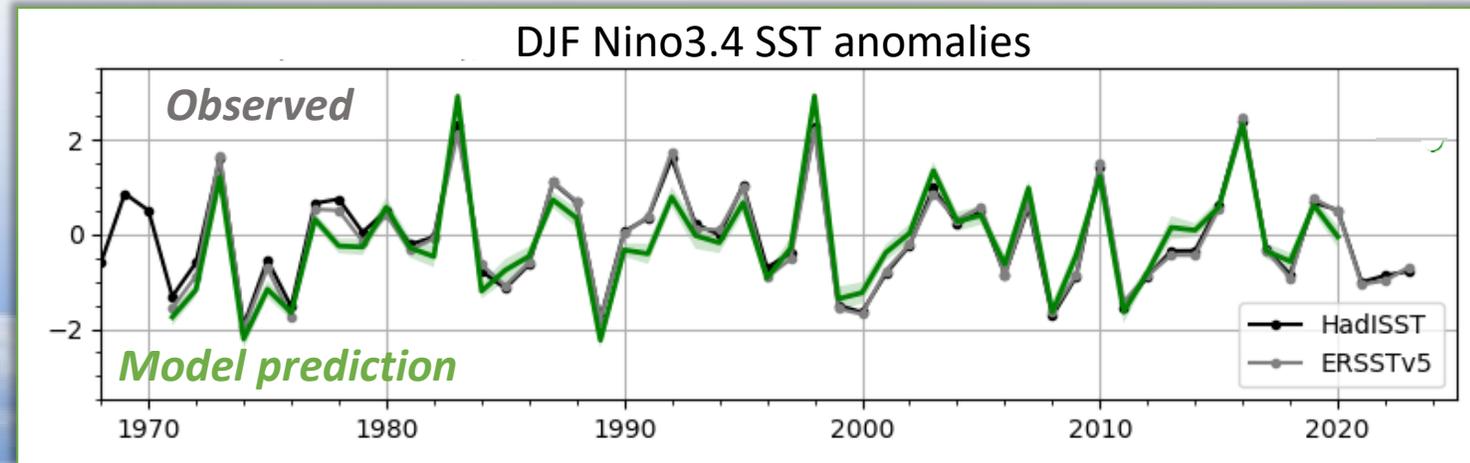


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**Boreal winter (DJF)  
El Nino predictions  
initialized from  
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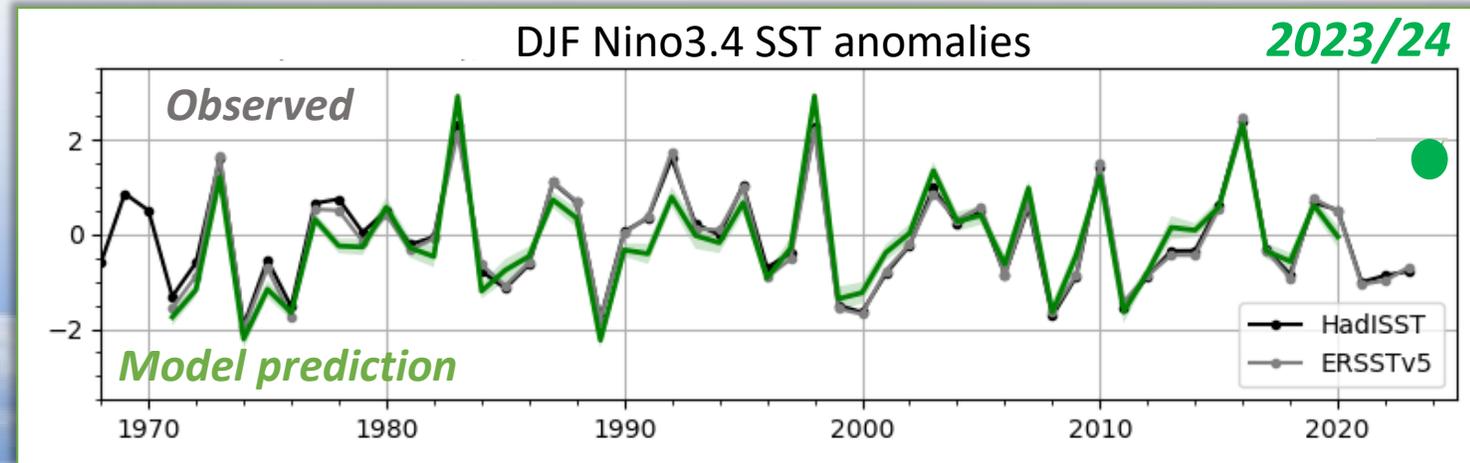


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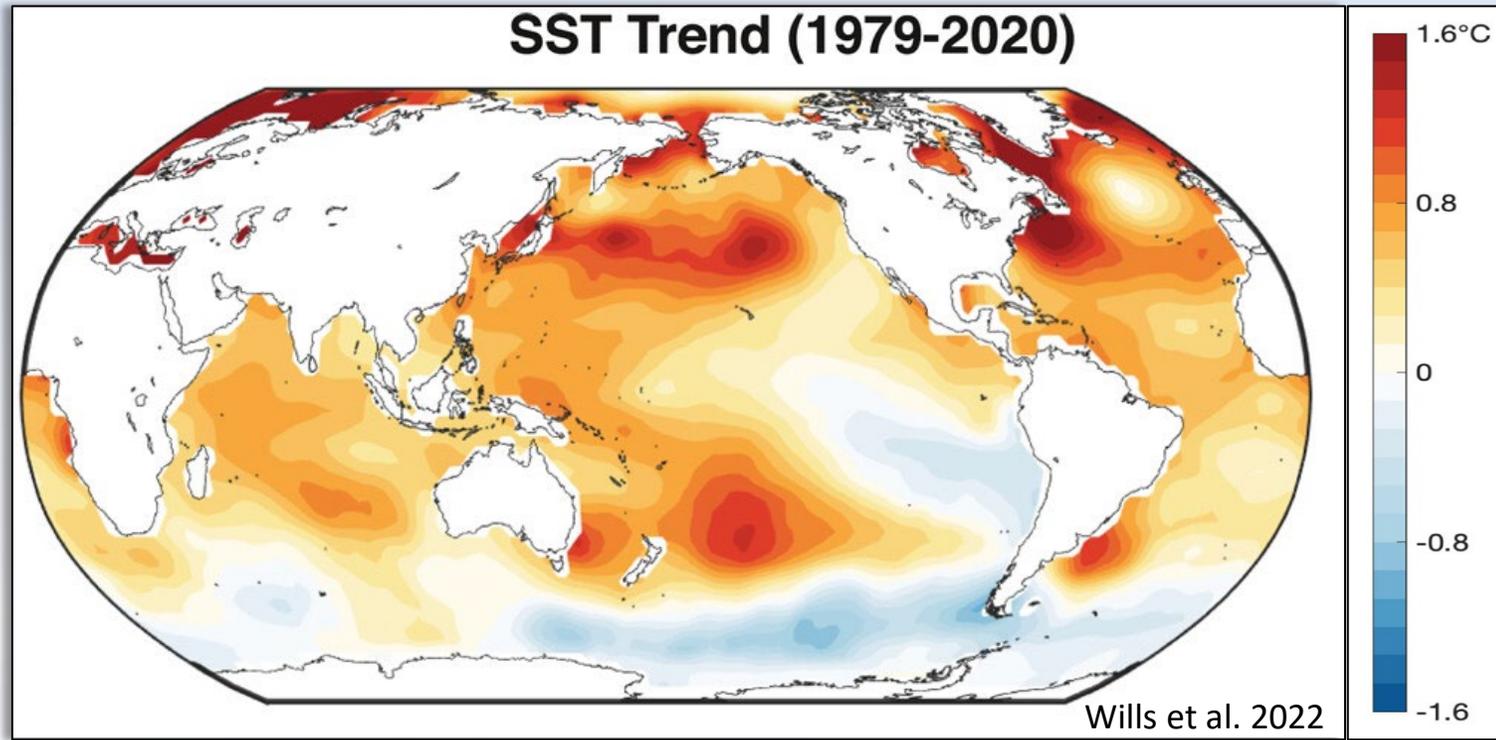
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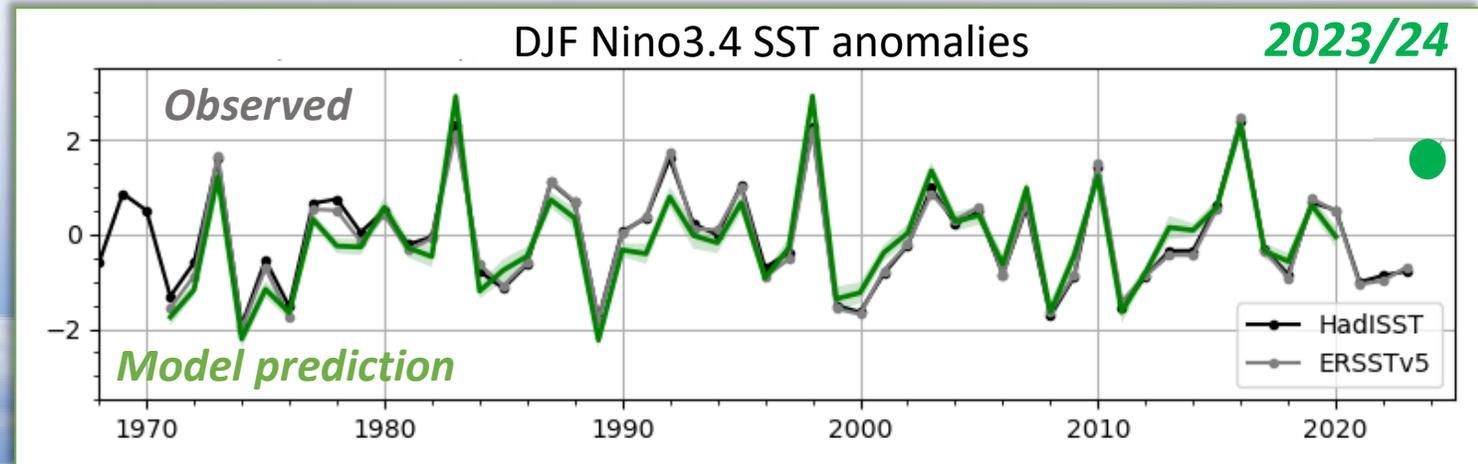
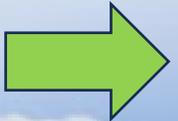
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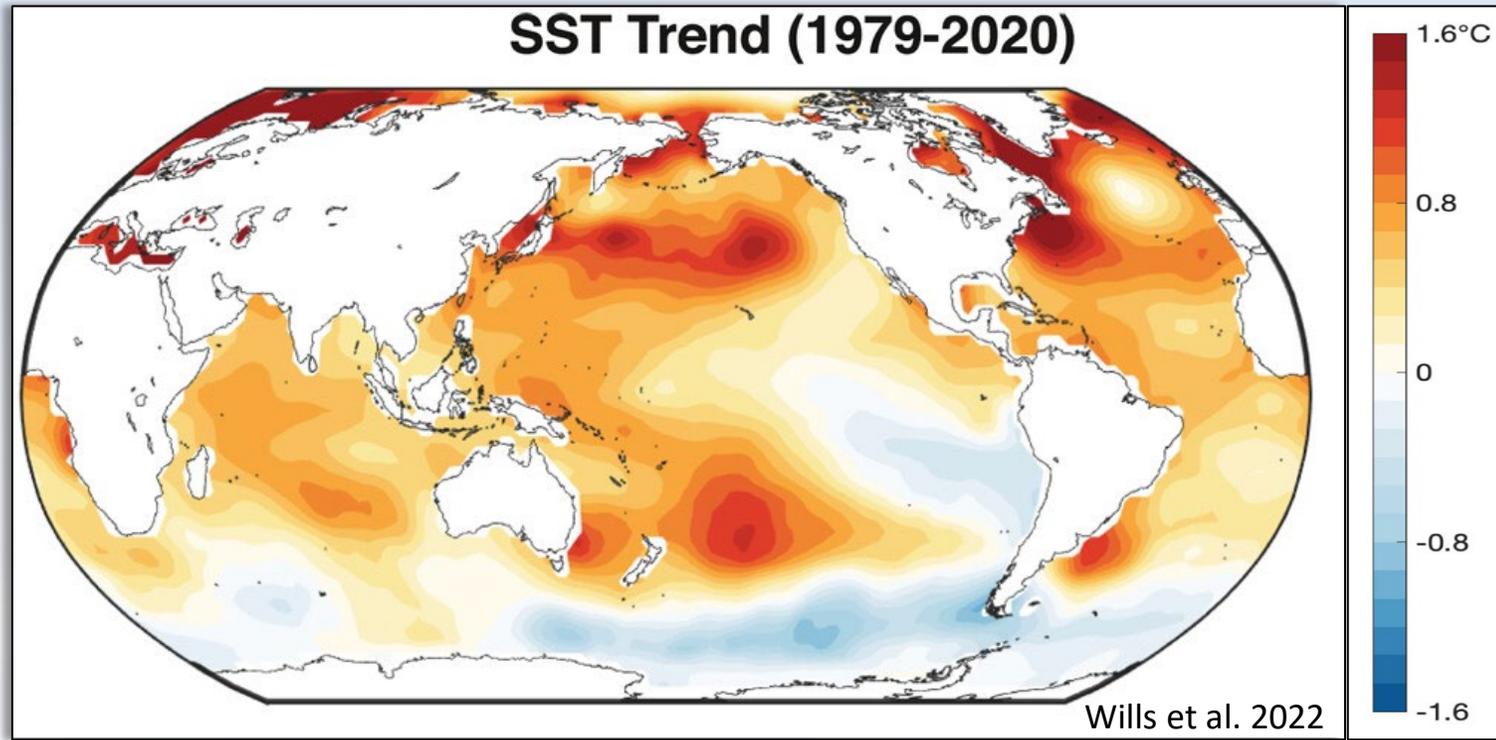
**Observed  
background  
climate  
change**



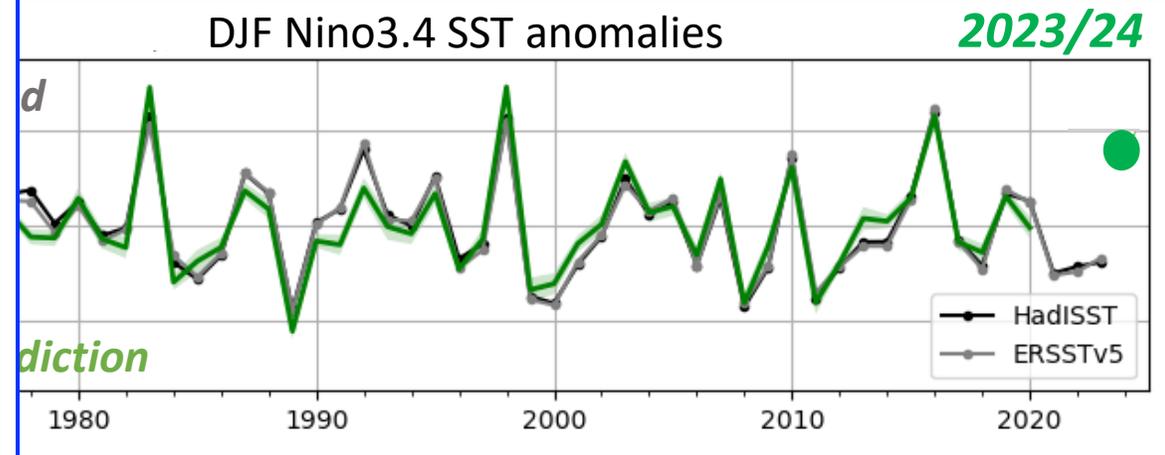
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**What are the climate impacts  
from the 2023/24 El Nino and  
how are they modified by  
background climate change?**

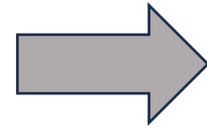


# Experimental Design

## COUPLED MODEL PREDICTIONS

**SMYLE SST anomalies**  
Nov 2023 – Jun 2024  
initialized predictions  
from 1 Nov 2023  
(20-member means)

**Plus observed SST  
mean state + trends**



## ATMOSPHERE/LAND MODEL

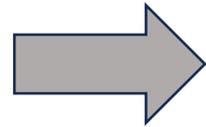
**CAM6-1° AMIP**  
& 2023/24  
radiative forcings  
**50 members**

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## Role of background climate change

**CAM6-1° AMIP**  
**1979 counterfactual**  
(No background SST change,  
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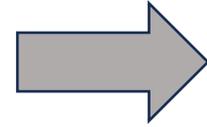
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**CAM6-1° Control**  
No SST anomalies  
**2023/24 Rad. Forcing**  
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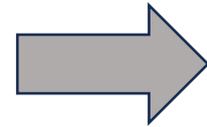
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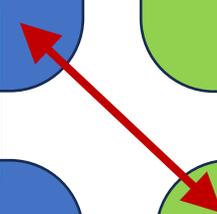
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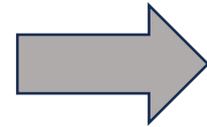
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COUPLED MODEL PREDICTION

Impact of observed SST trend & radiative forcing change

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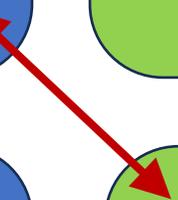
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MODEL

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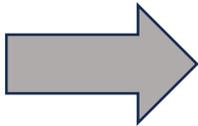
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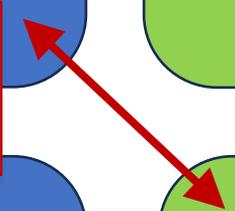
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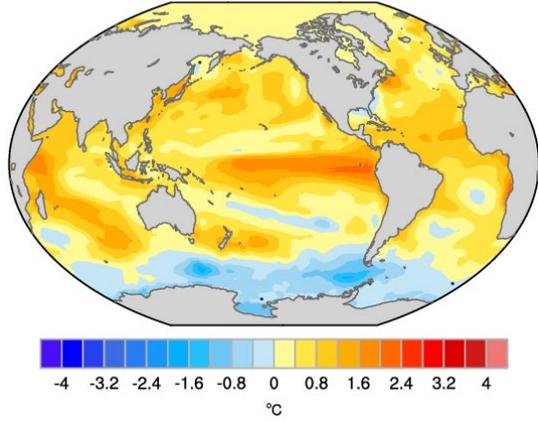
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**DJF 2023/24**

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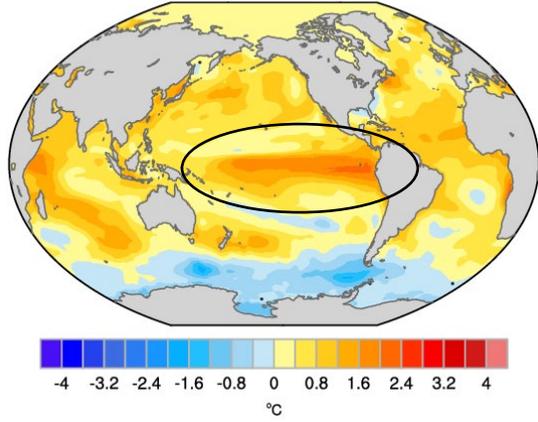
**SST (prescribed)**



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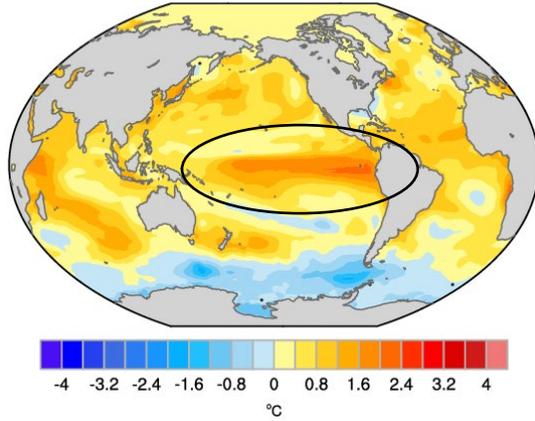
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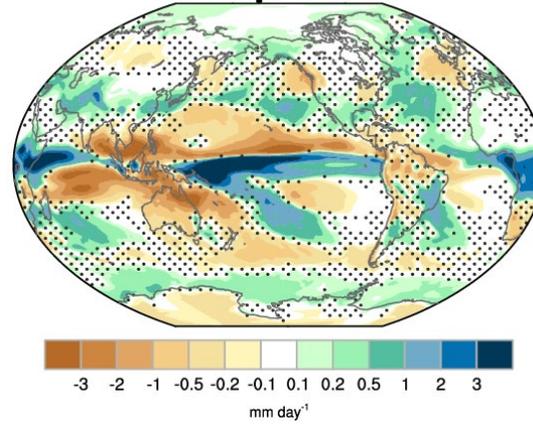
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### Precipitation

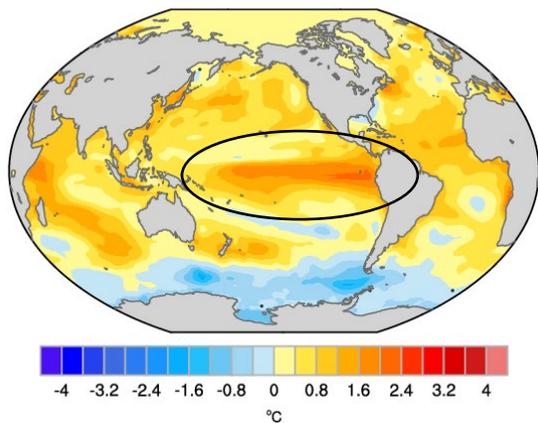


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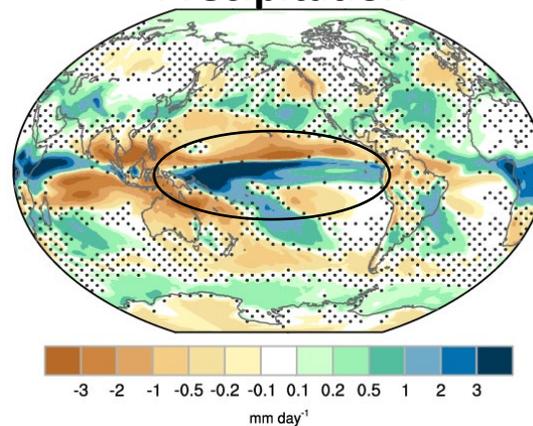
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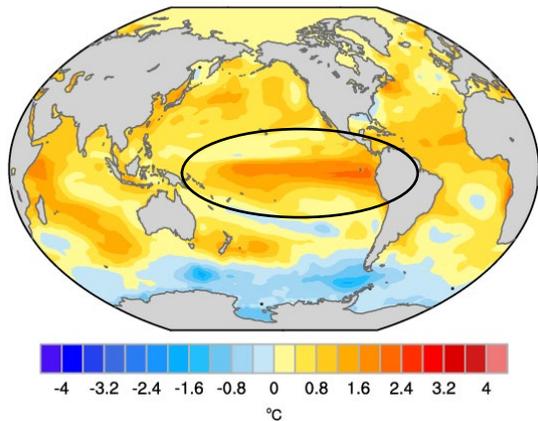


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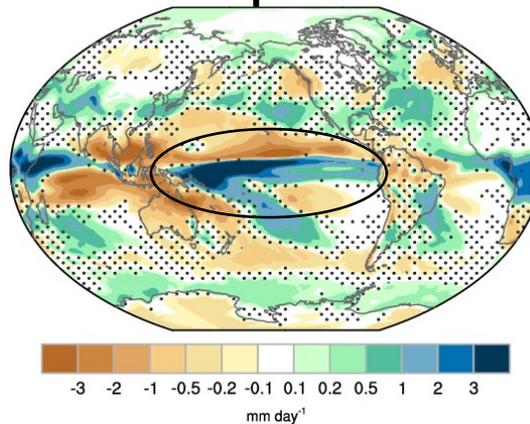
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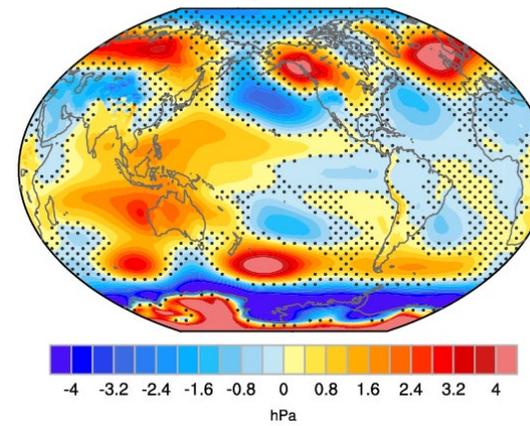


Precipitation



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SLP

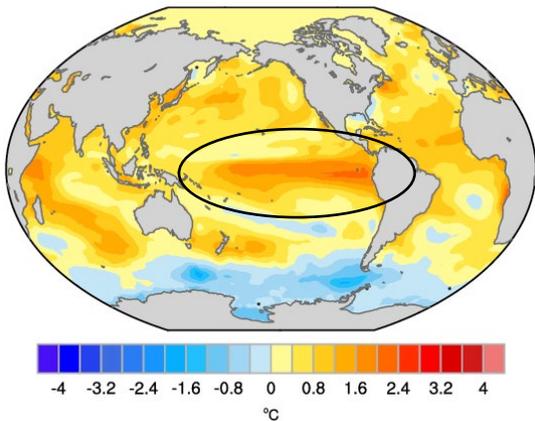


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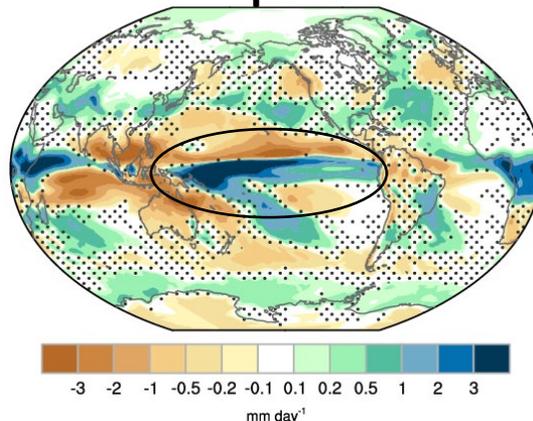
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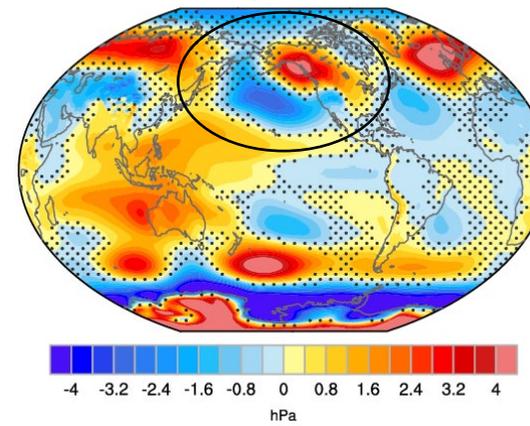


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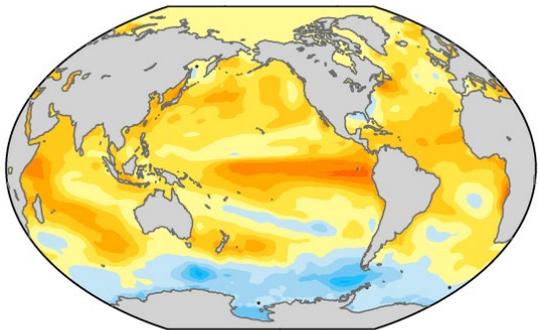


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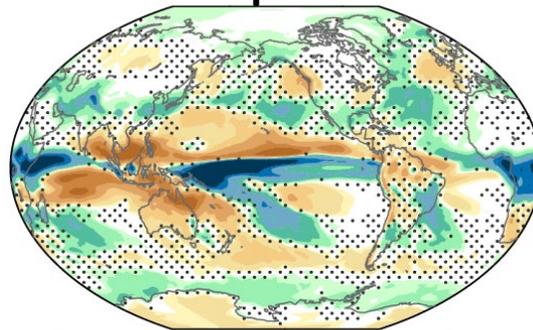
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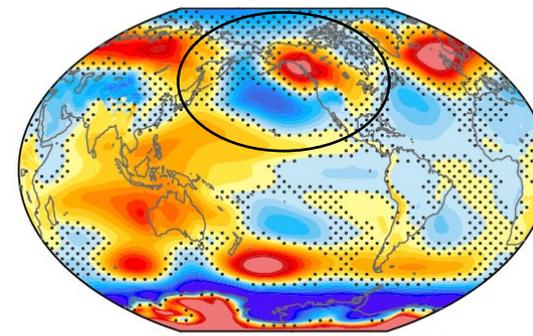
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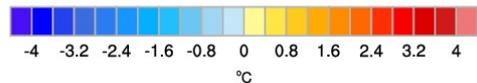
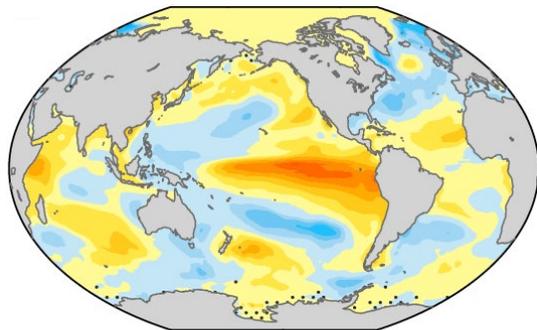
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SLP



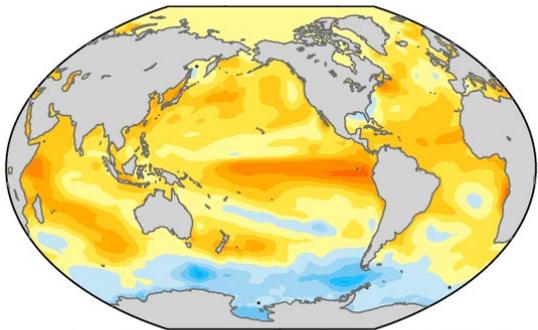
El Nino



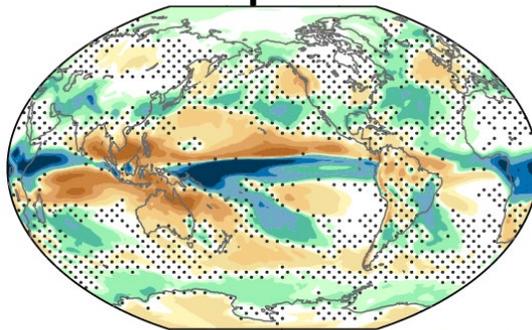
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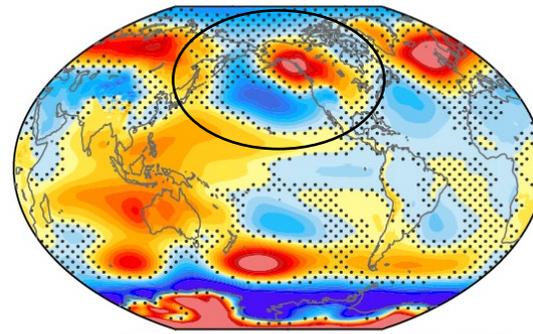
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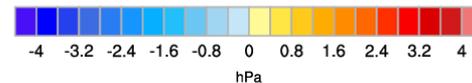
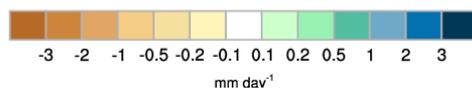
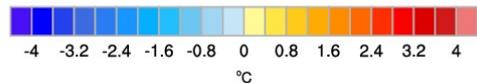
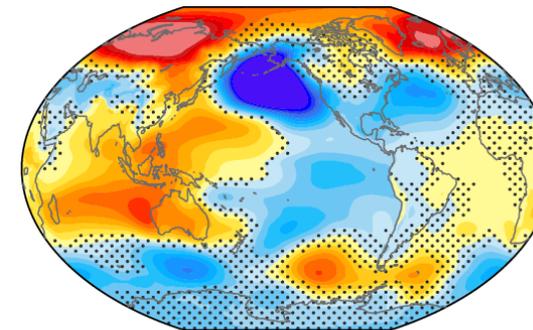
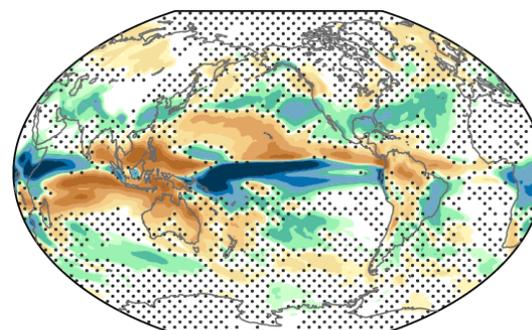
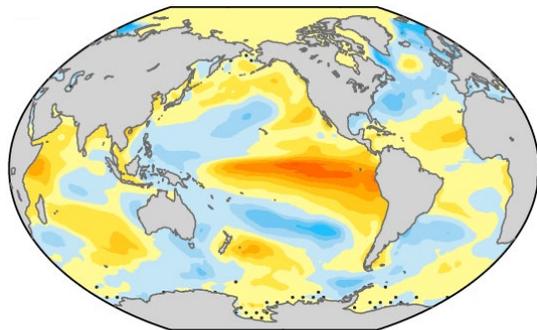
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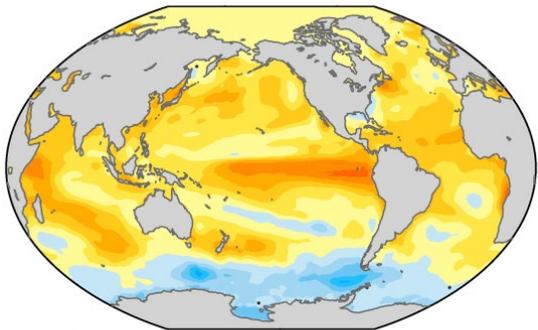
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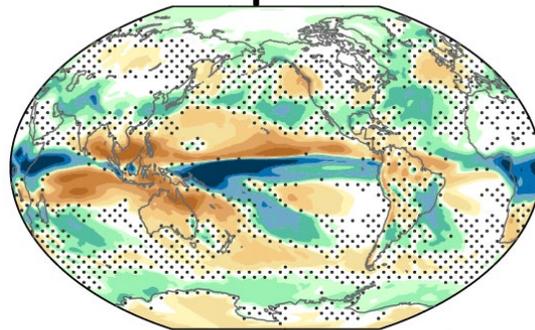
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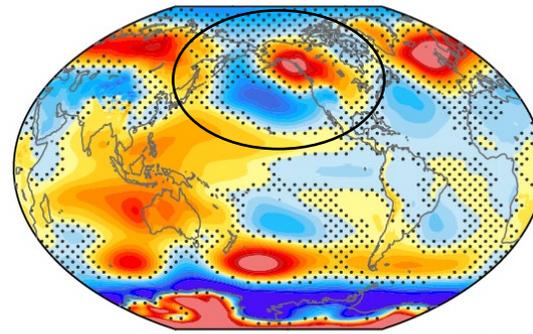
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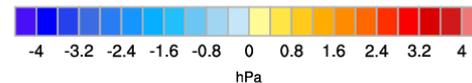
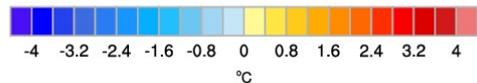
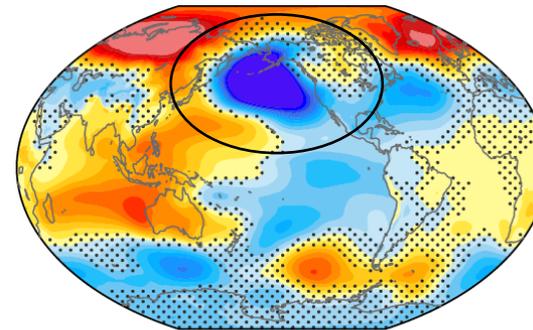
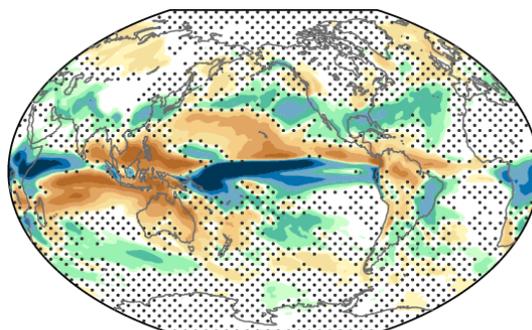
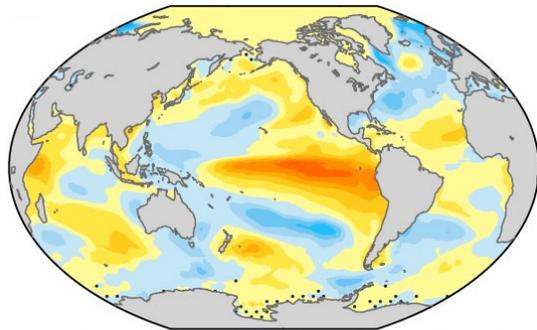
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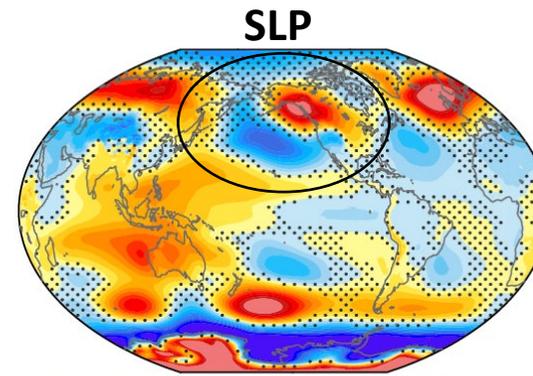
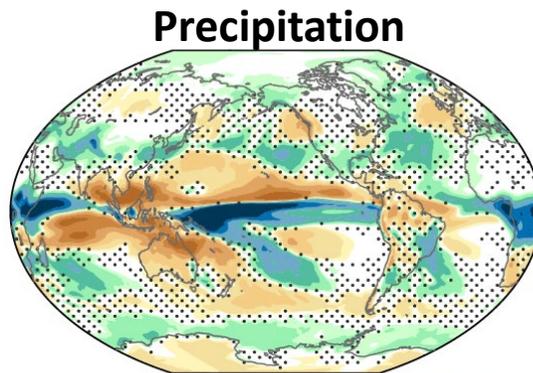
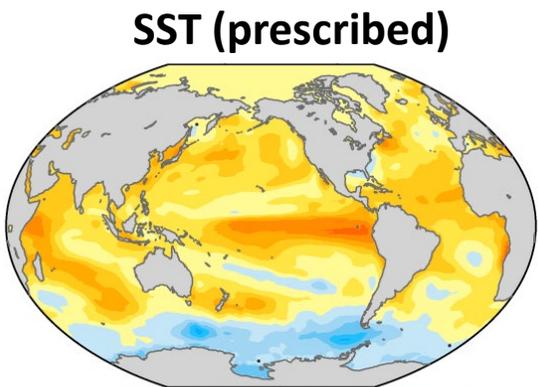


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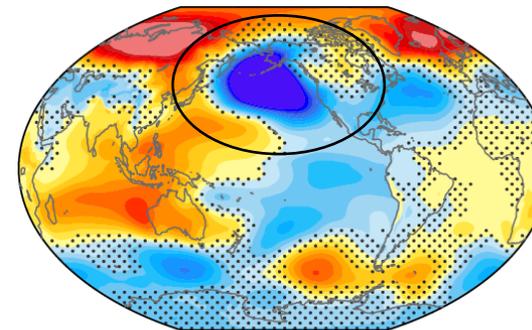
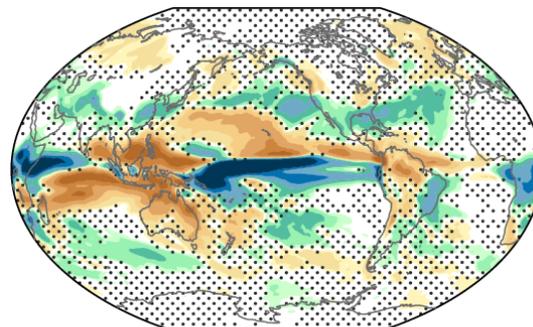
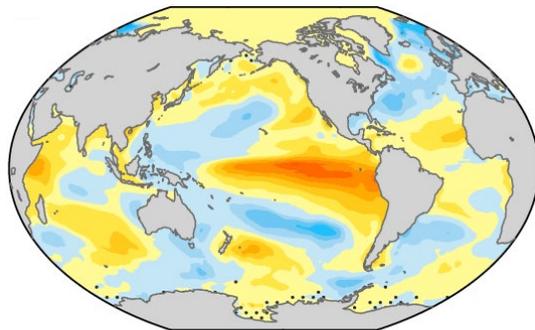


DJF 2023/24

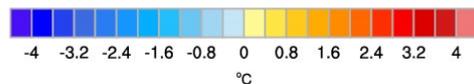
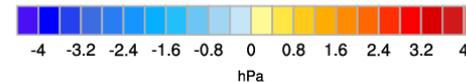
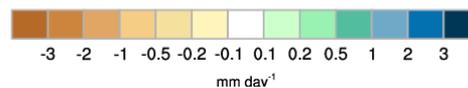
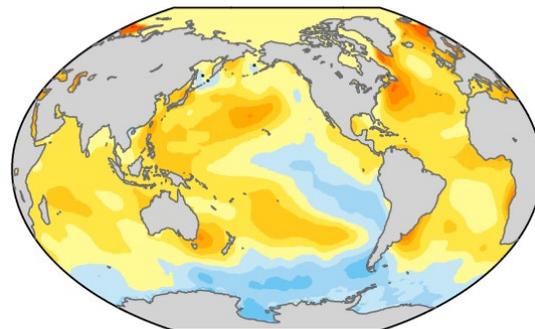
El Nino +  
Background  
climate change



El Nino



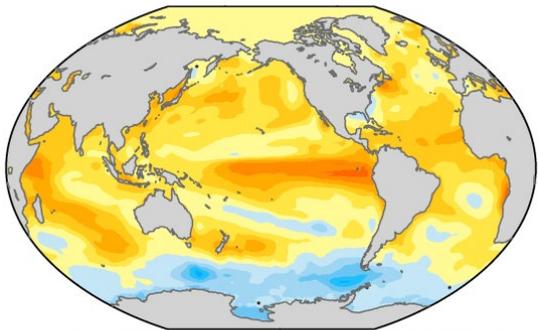
Background  
climate change



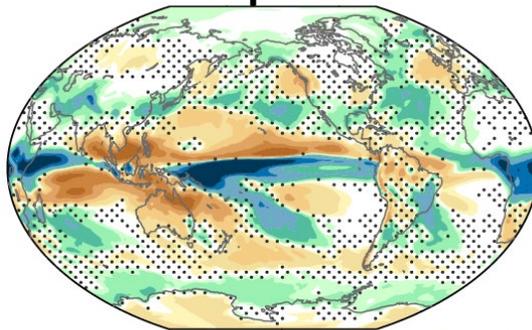
DJF 2023/24

El Nino +  
Background  
climate change

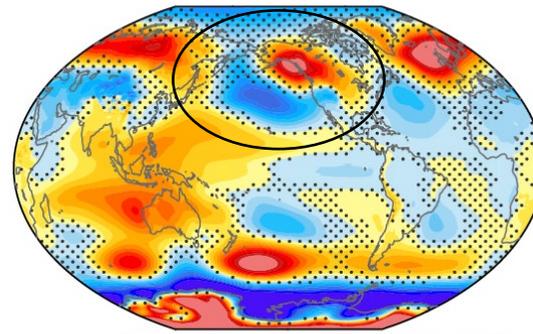
SST (prescribed)



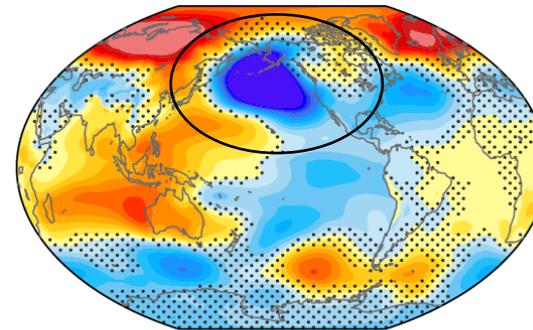
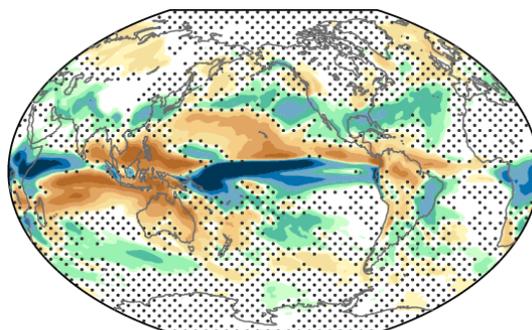
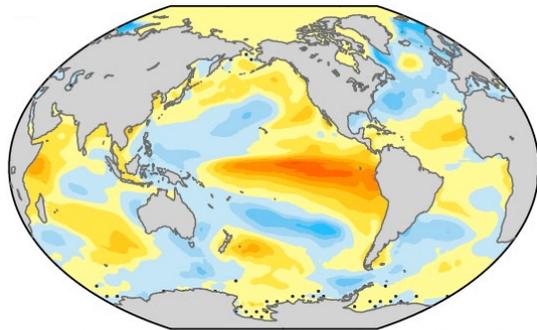
Precipitation



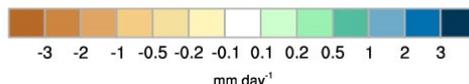
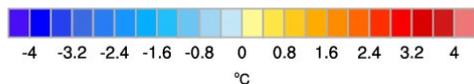
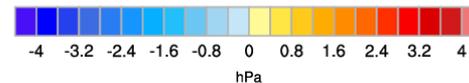
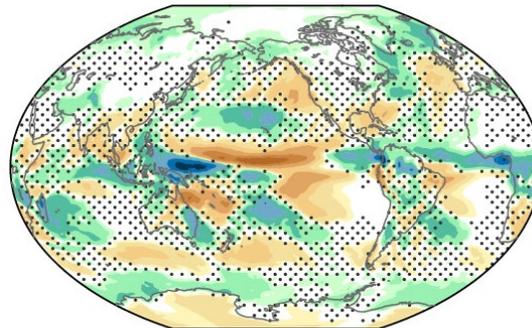
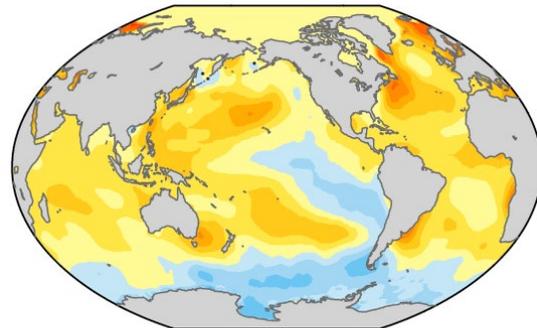
SLP



El Nino

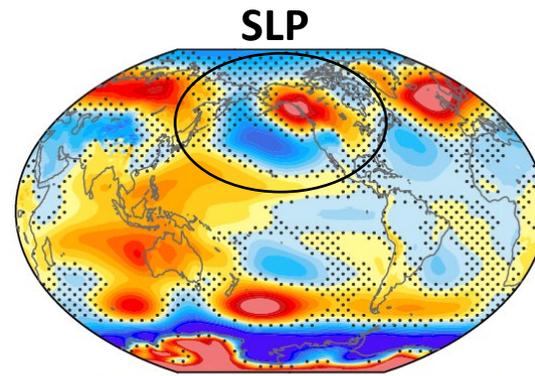
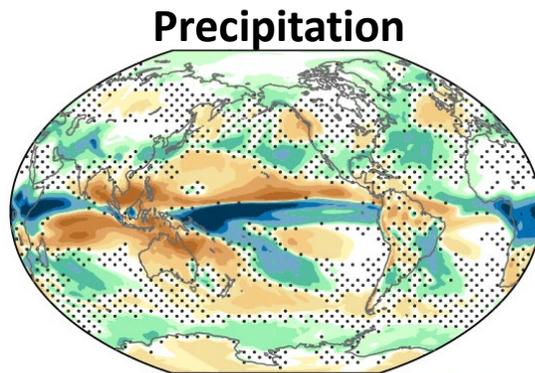
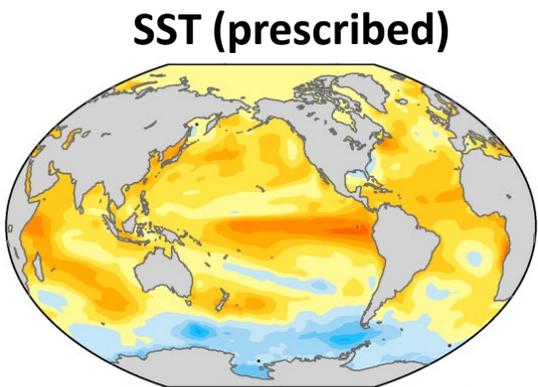


Background  
climate change

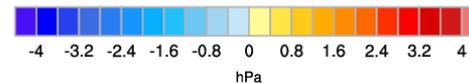
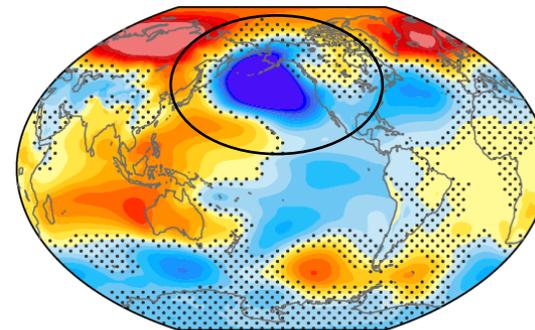
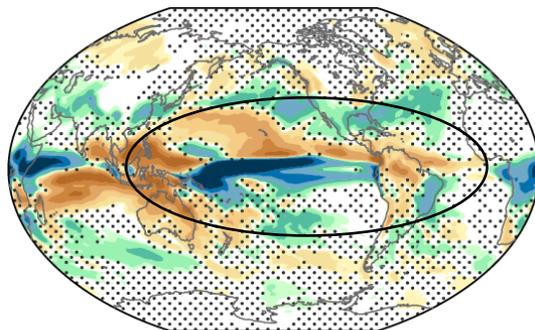
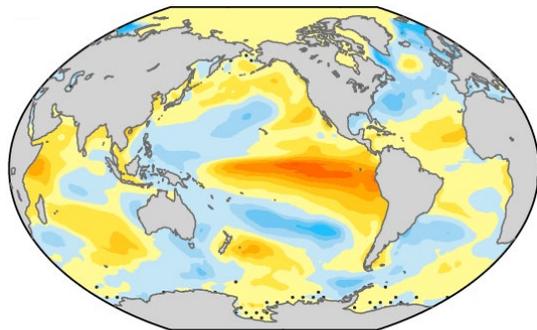


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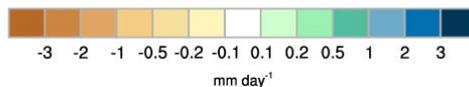
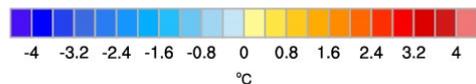
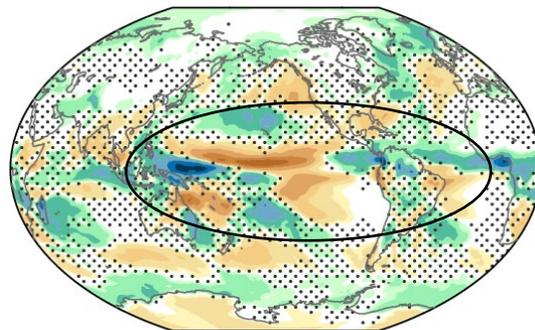
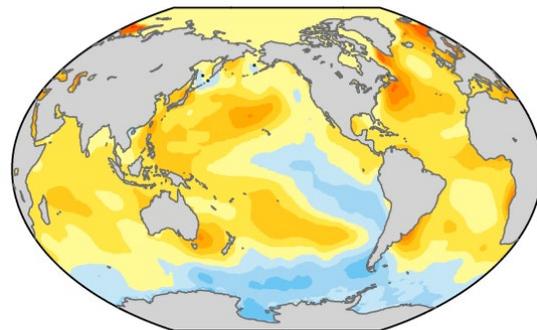
El Nino +  
Background  
climate change



El Nino

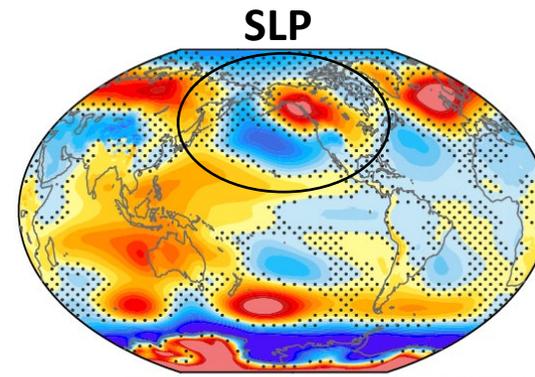
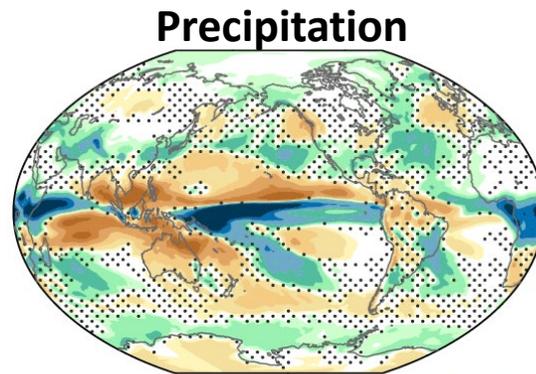
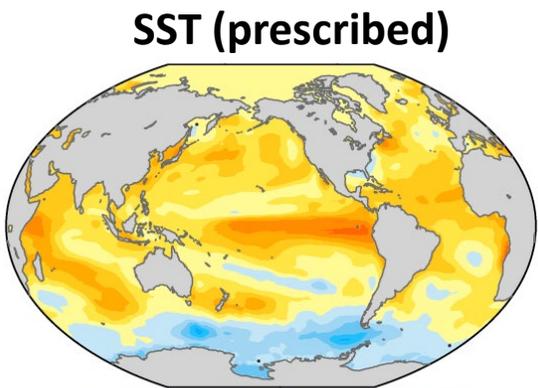


Background  
climate change

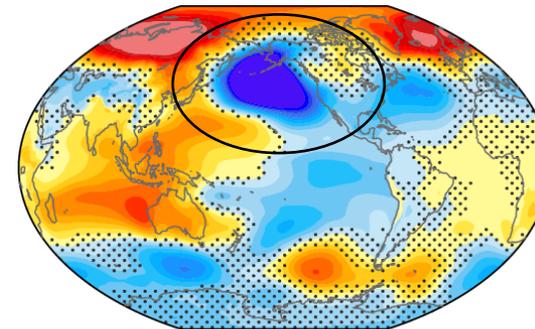
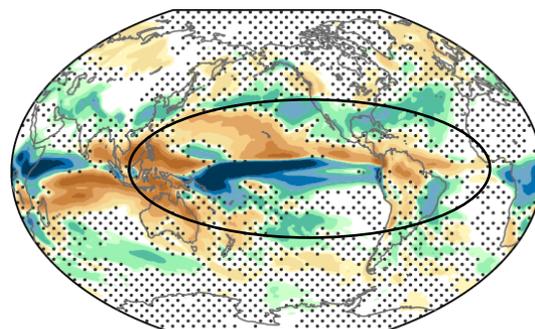
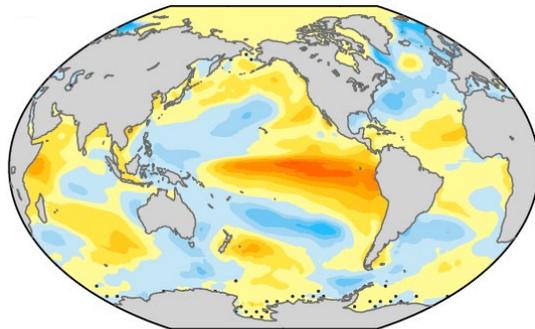


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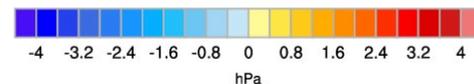
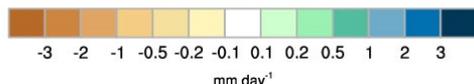
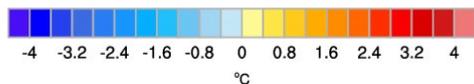
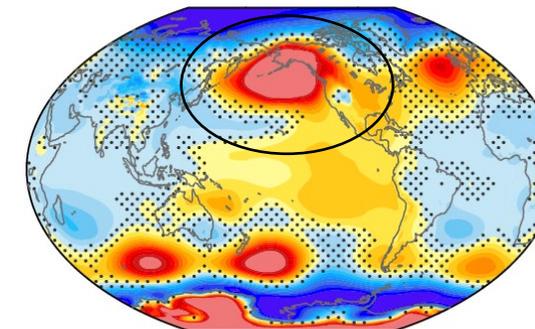
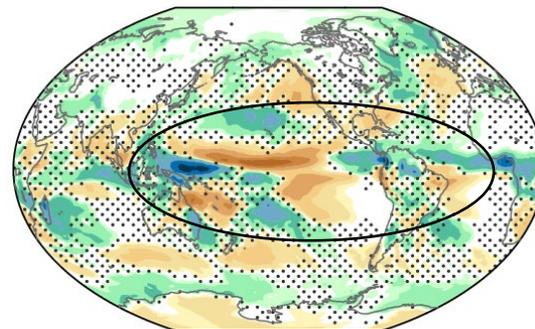
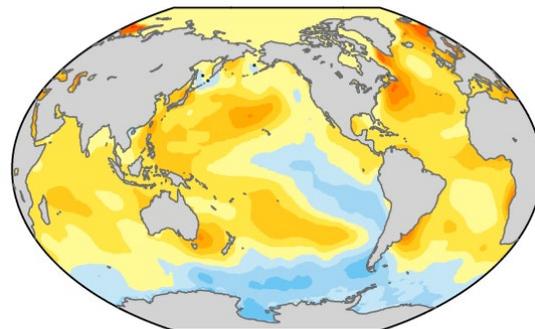
El Nino +  
Background  
climate change



El Nino

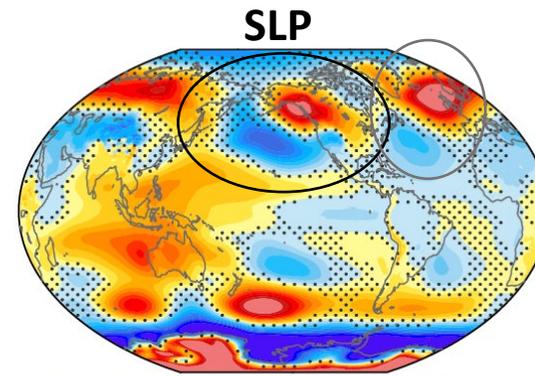
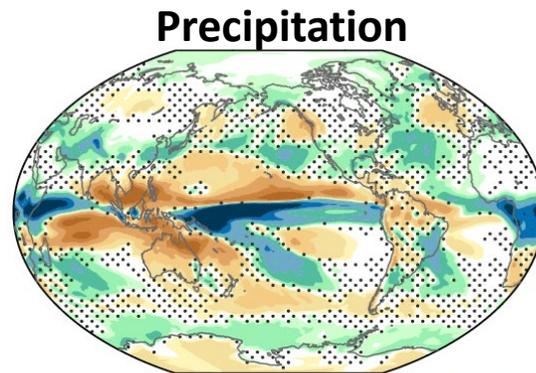
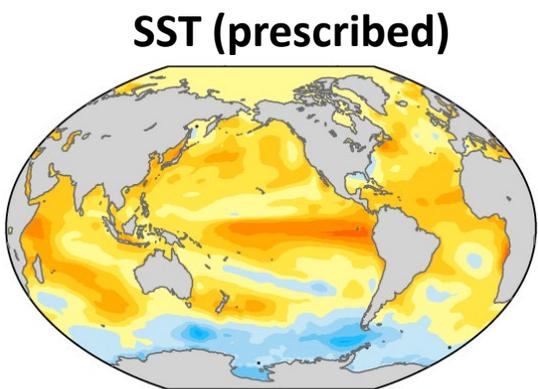


Background  
climate change

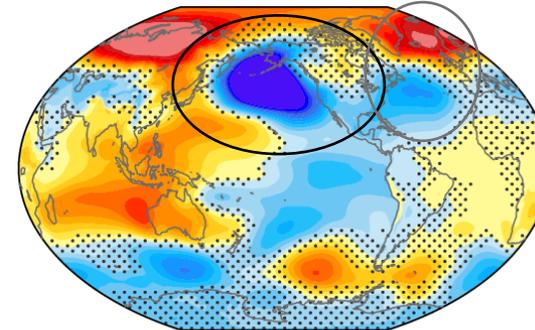
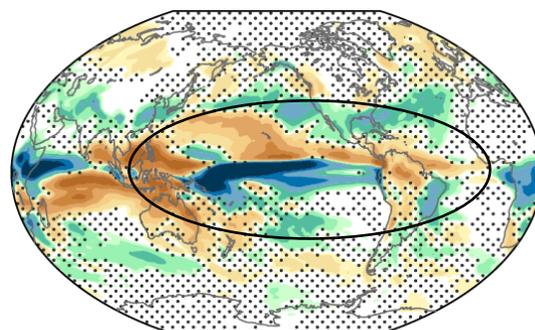
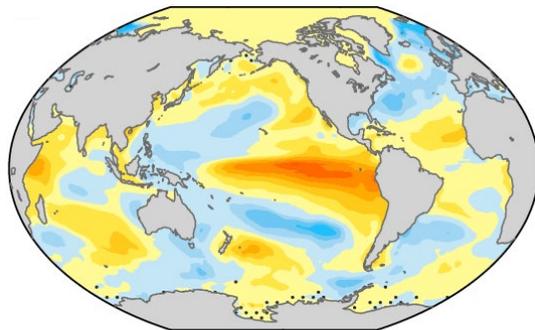


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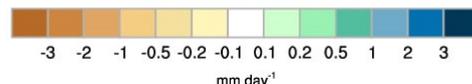
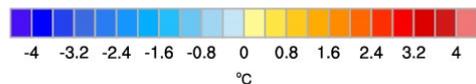
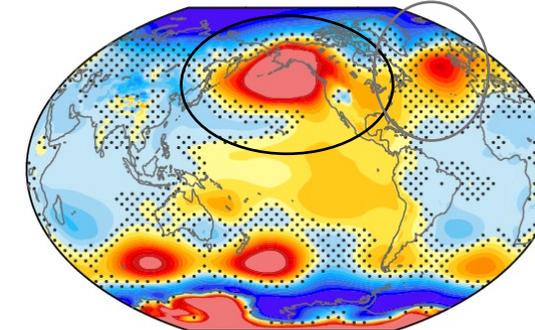
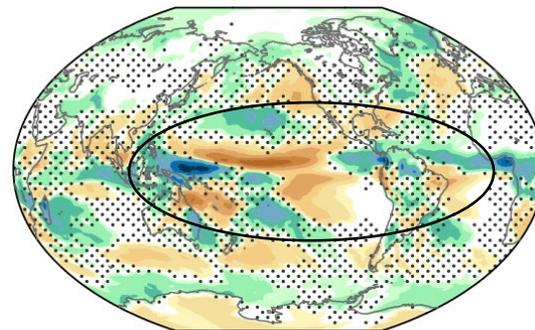
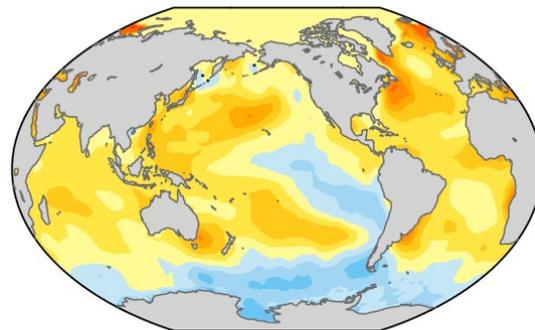
El Nino +  
Background  
climate change



El Nino

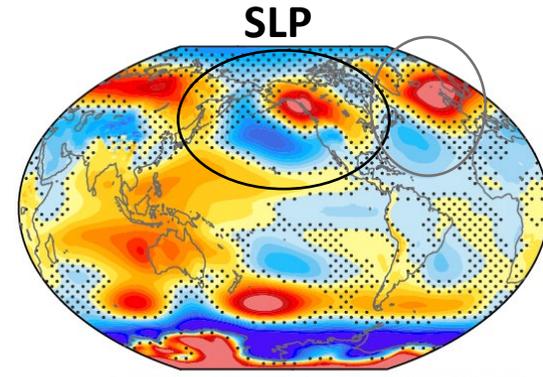
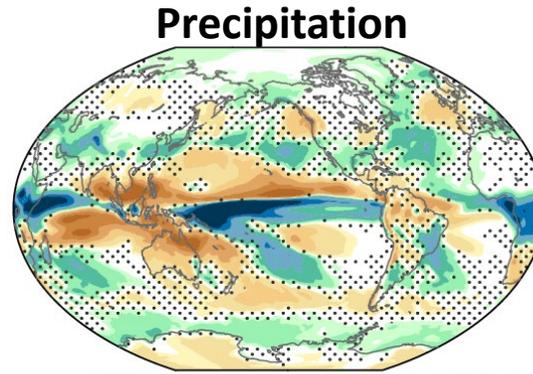
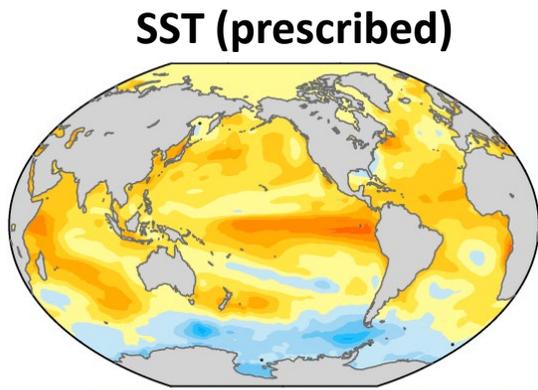


Background  
climate change

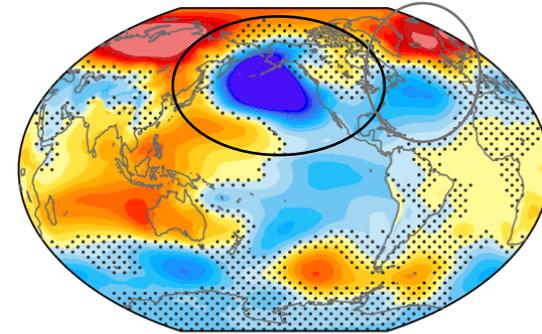
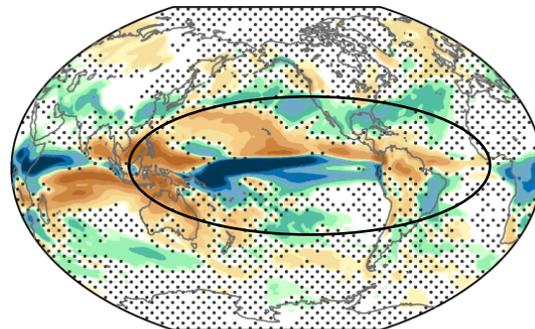
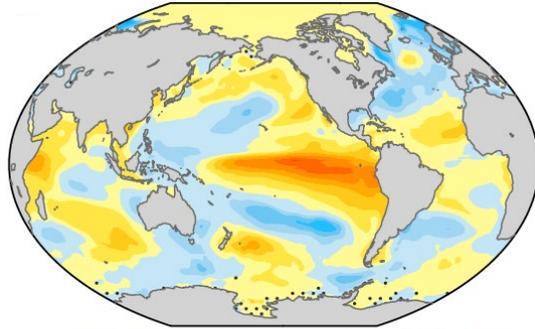


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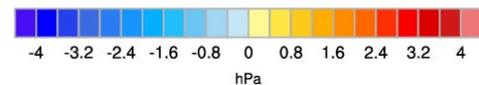
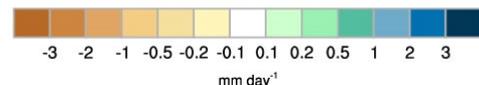
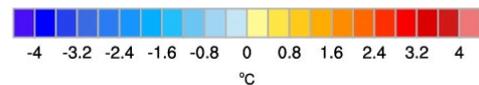
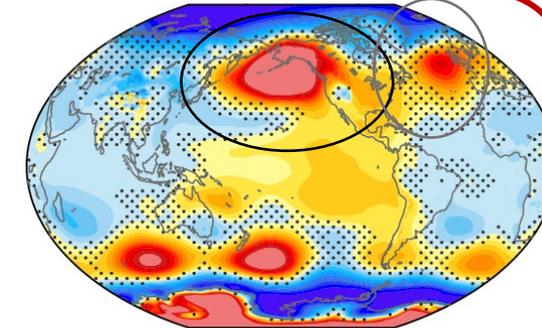
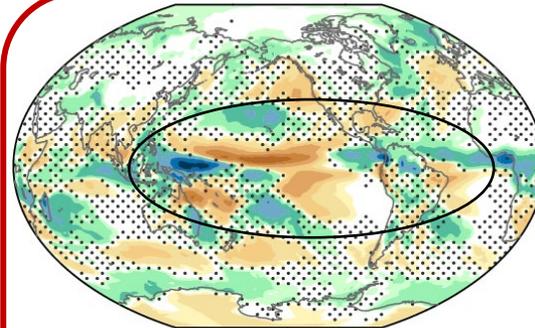
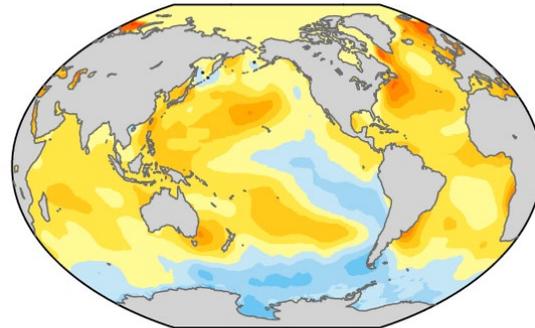
El Nino +  
Background  
climate change



El Nino



Background  
climate change



**Role of Observed SST Trend vs.  
Radiative Forcing Change**

DJF 2023/24

El Nino +  
Background  
climate change

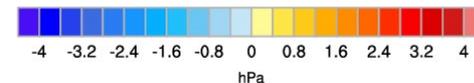
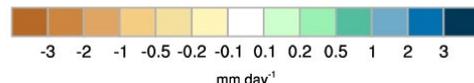
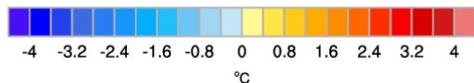
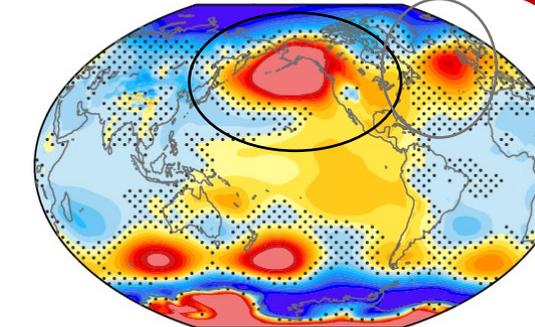
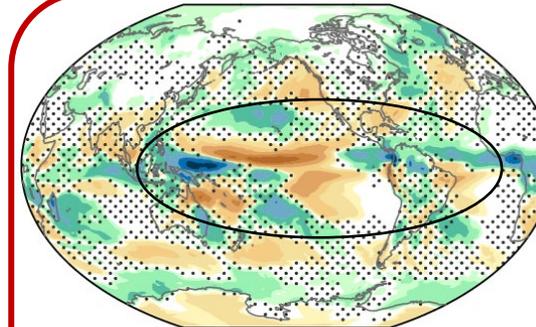
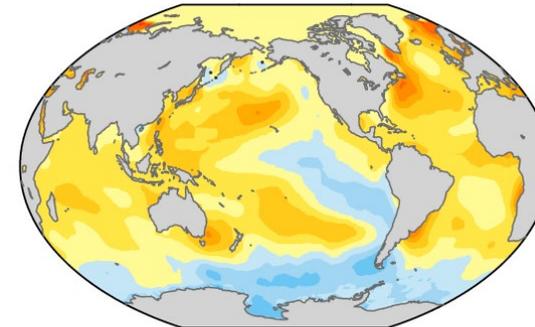
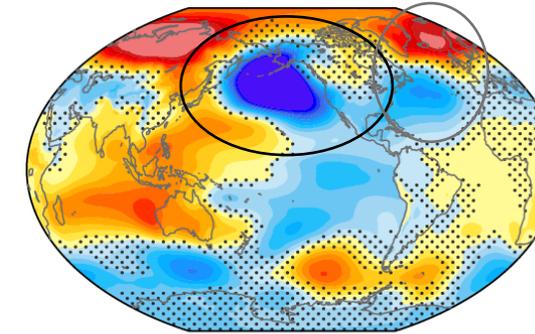
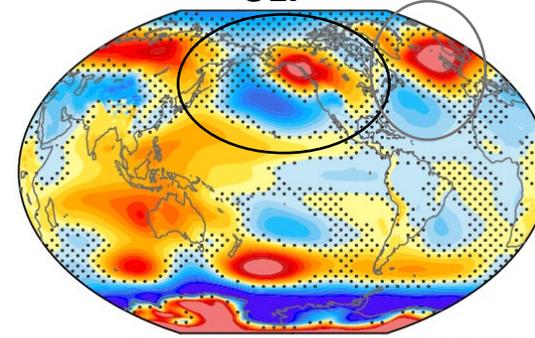
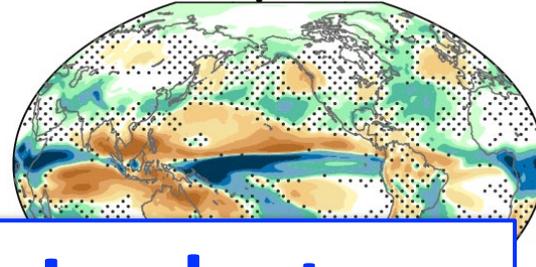
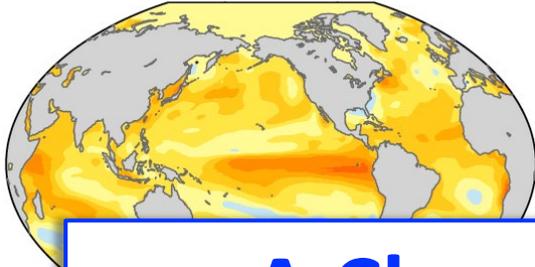
El Nino

Background  
climate change

SST (prescribed)

Precipitation

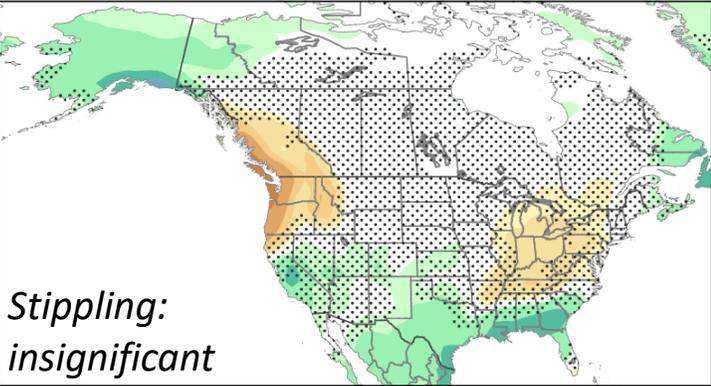
SLP



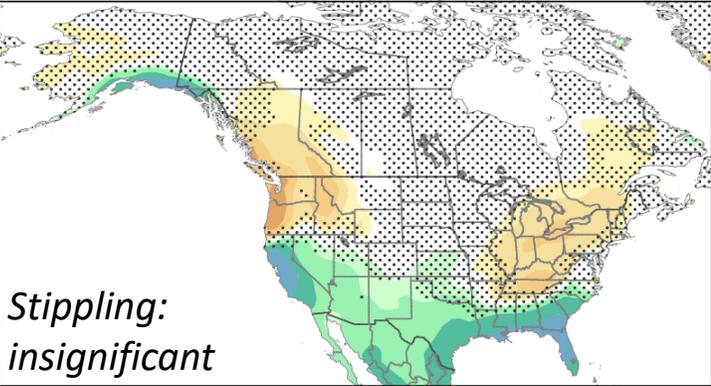
**A Closer Look at  
Precipitation Impacts  
over North America**

**Role of Observed SST Trend vs.  
Radiative Forcing Change**

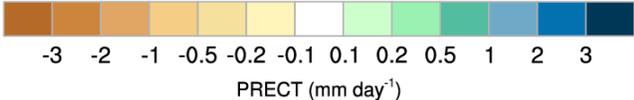
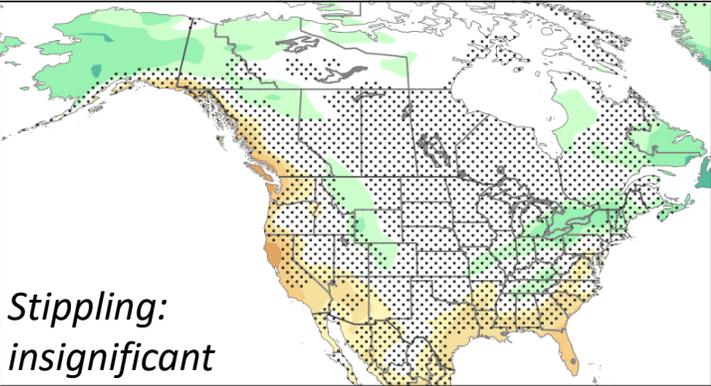
# 2023/24 El Nino + Background climate change



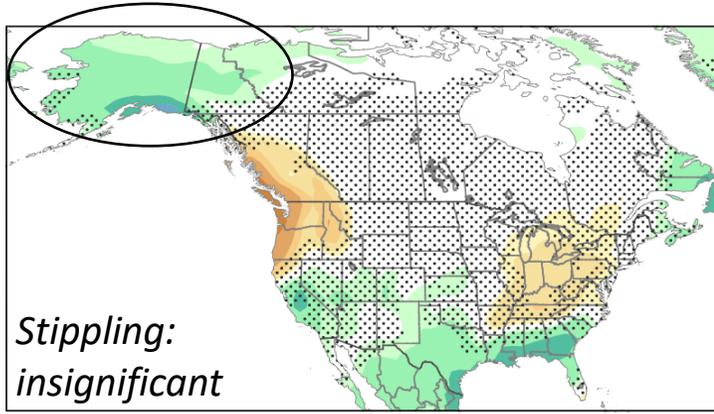
# 2023/24 El Nino



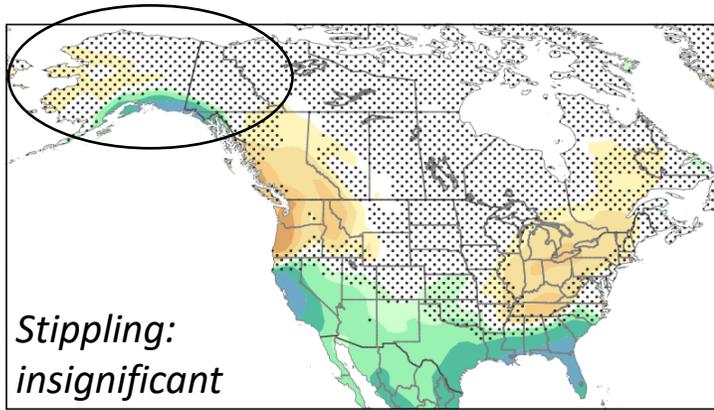
# Background climate change



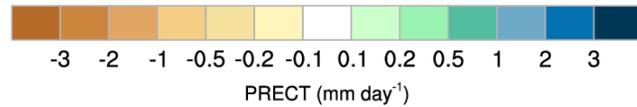
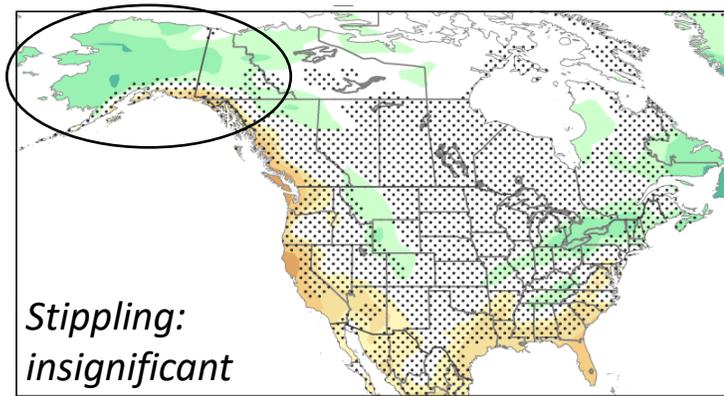
2023/24 El Nino  
+ Background  
climate change



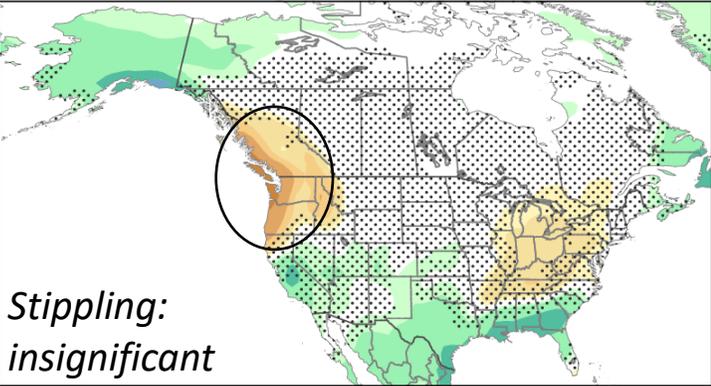
2023/24  
El Nino



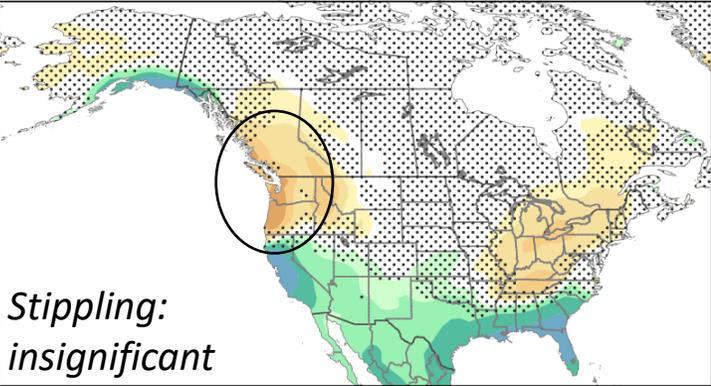
Background  
climate change



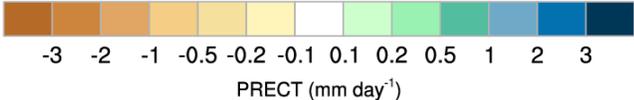
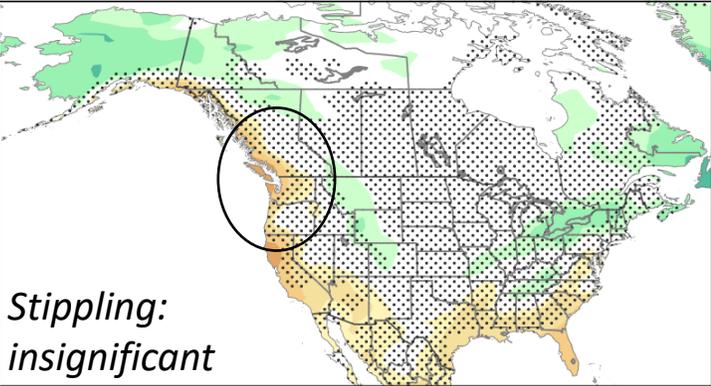
# 2023/24 El Nino + Background climate change



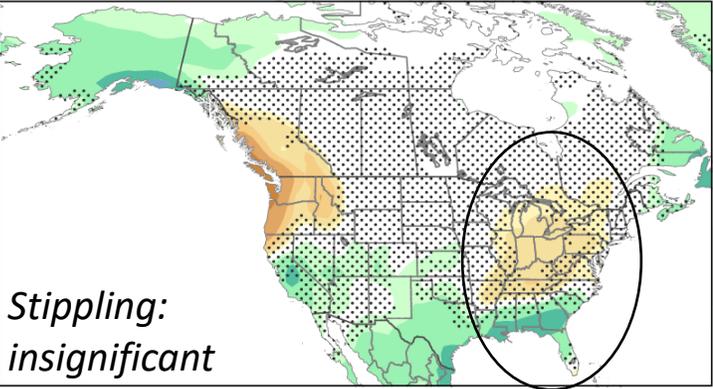
# 2023/24 El Nino



# Background climate change

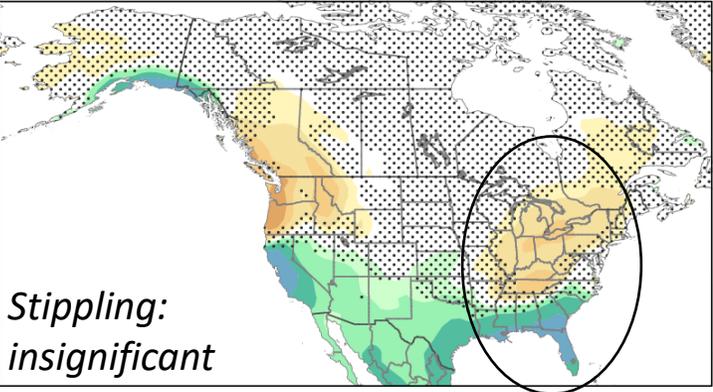


# 2023/24 El Nino + Background climate change



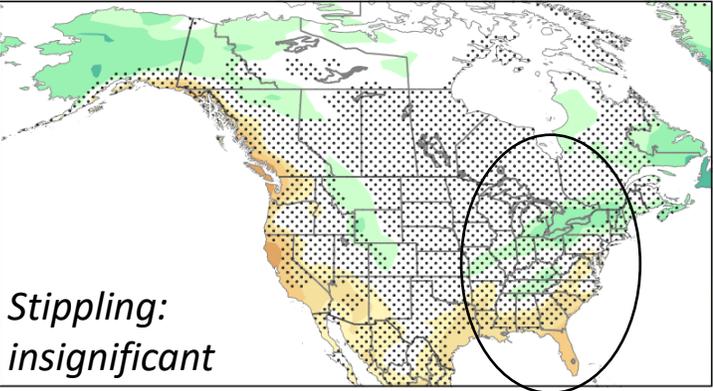
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# 2023/24 El Nino

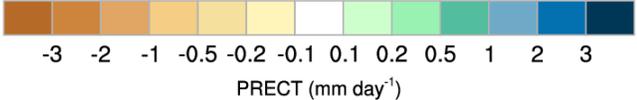


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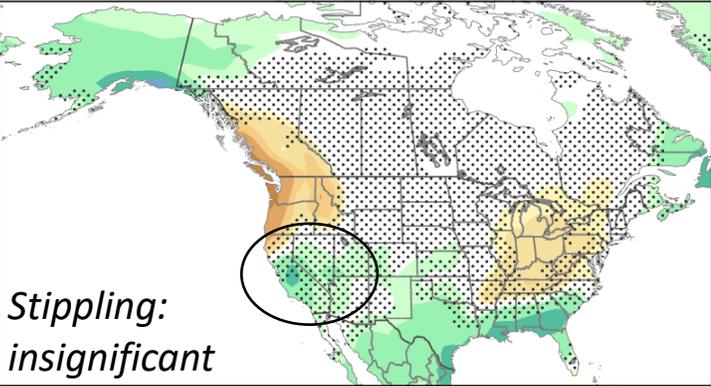
# Background climate change



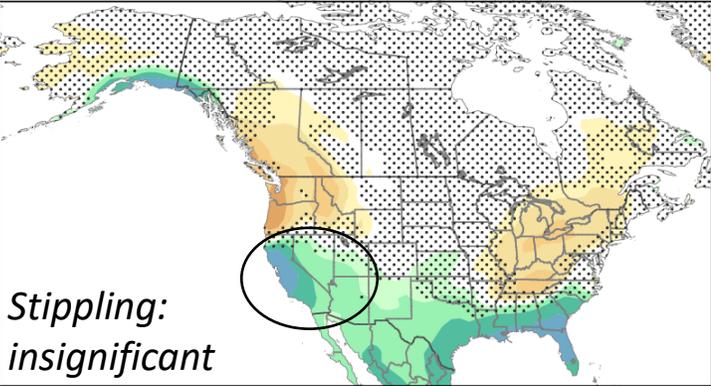
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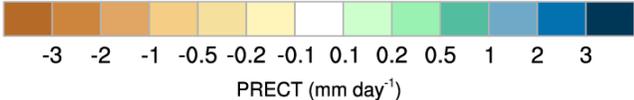
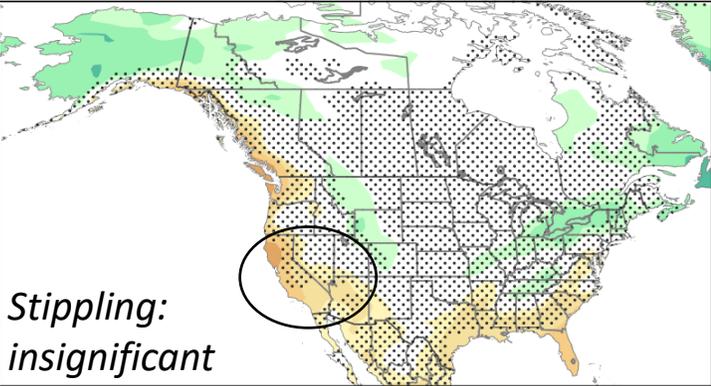
# 2023/24 El Nino + Background climate change



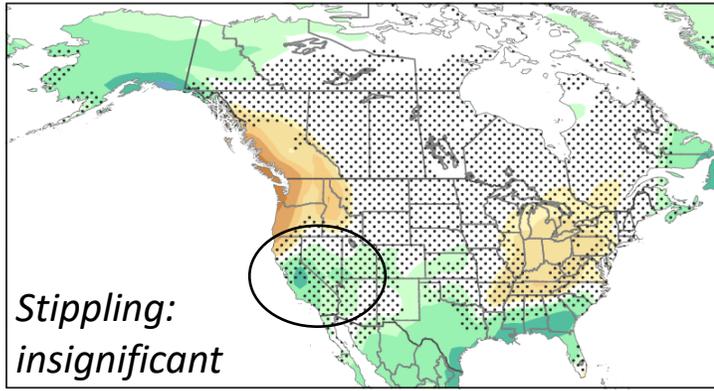
# 2023/24 El Nino



# Background climate change

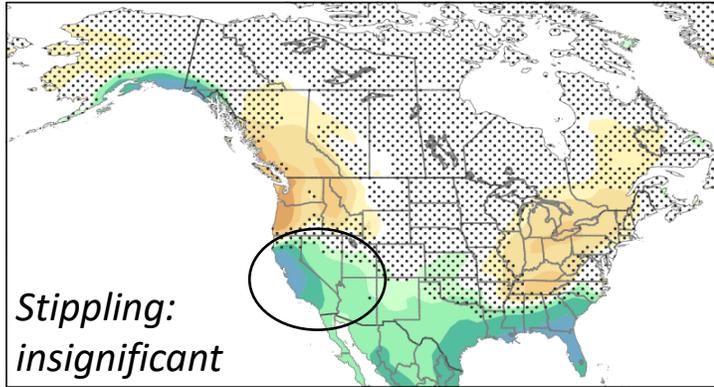


2023/24 El Nino  
+ Background  
climate change

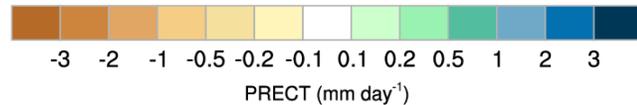
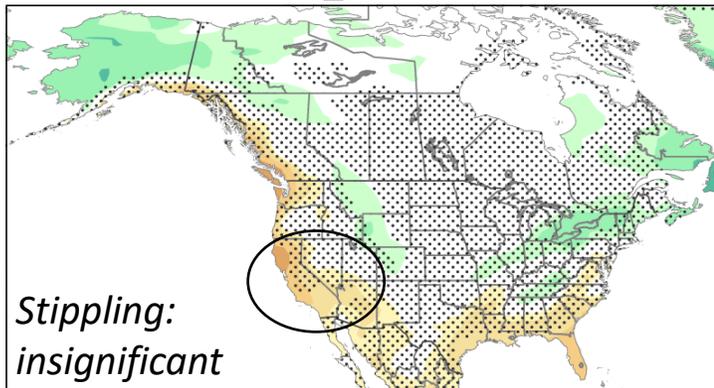


**NOAA Probability Forecast:  
Chances of falling within the lower, middle and  
upper terciles of the control distribution**

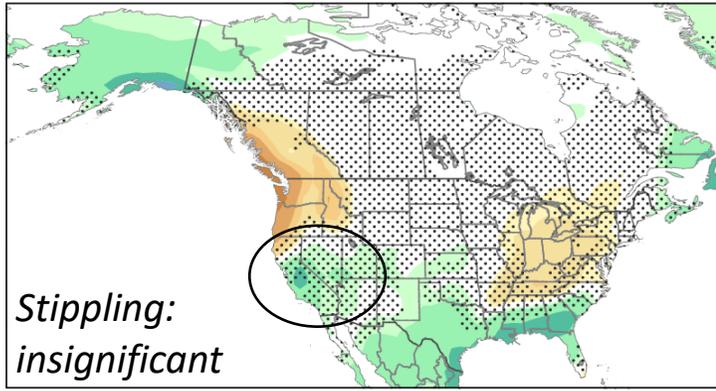
2023/24  
El Nino



Background  
climate change

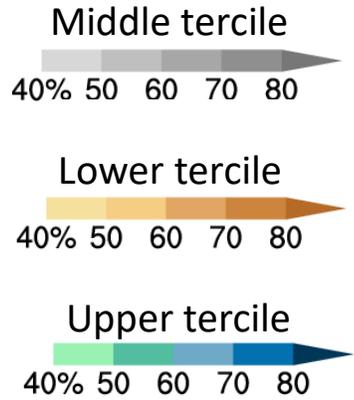
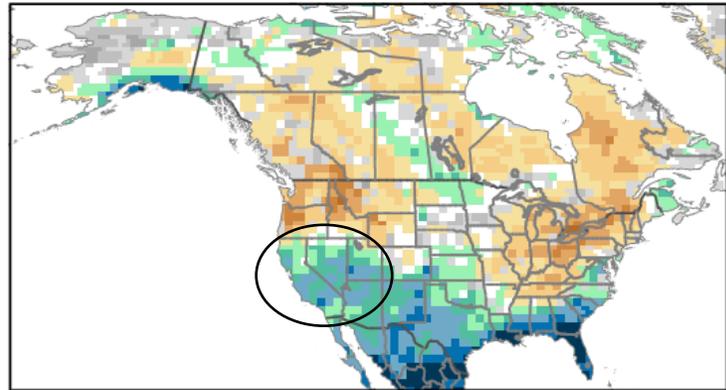
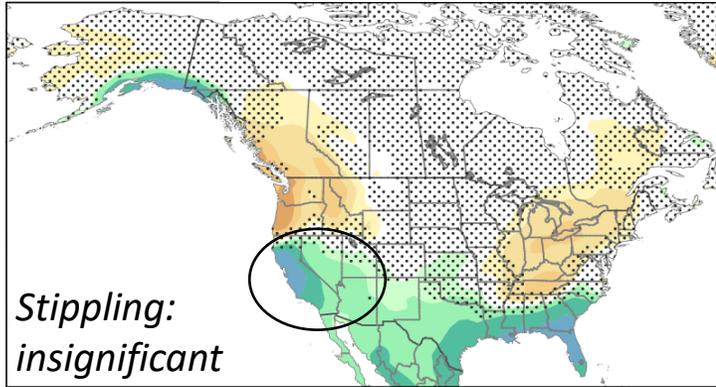


2023/24 El Nino  
+ Background  
climate change

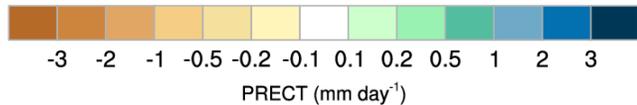
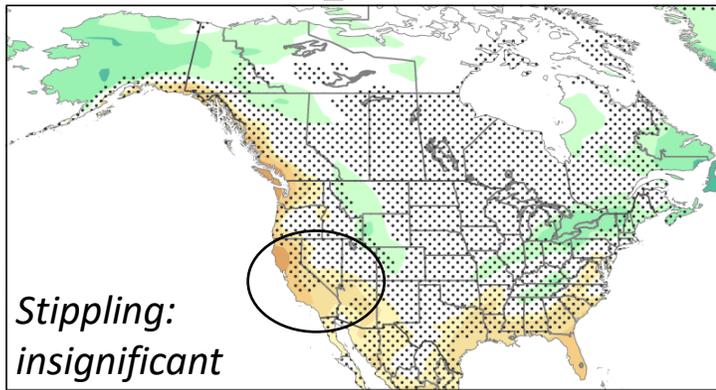


**NOAA Probability Forecast:  
Chances of falling within the lower, middle and  
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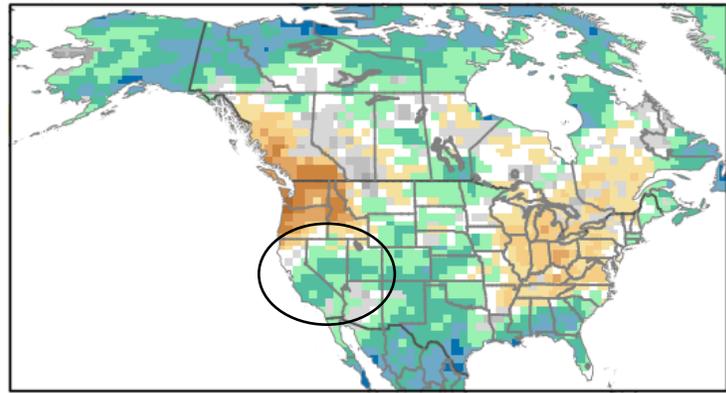
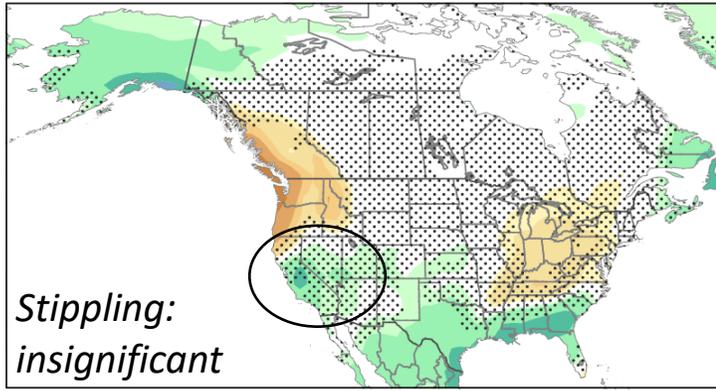
2023/24  
El Nino



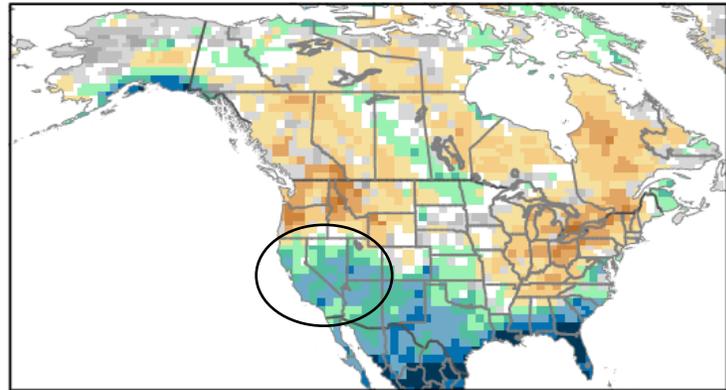
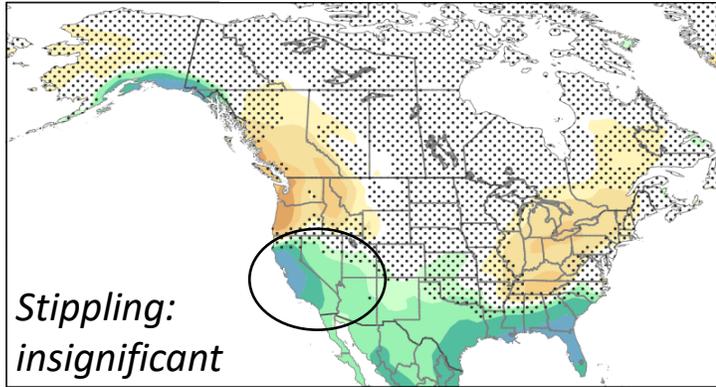
Background  
climate change



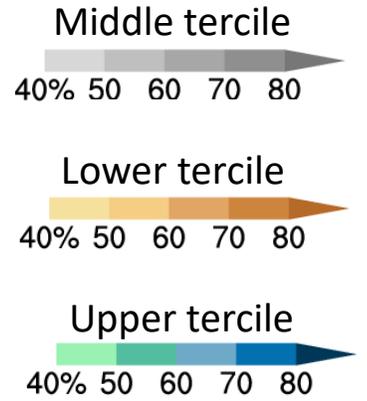
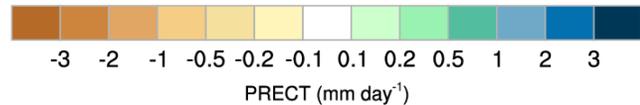
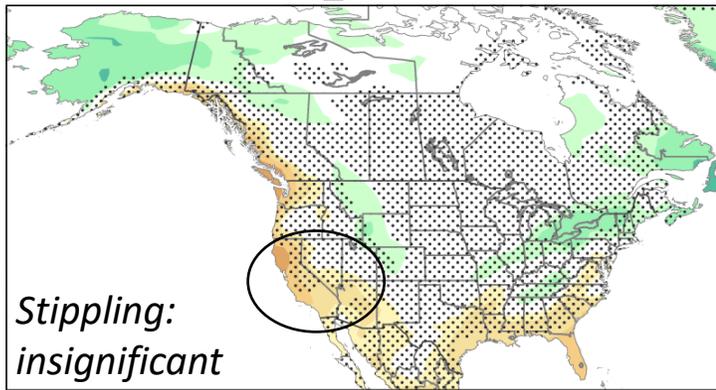
# 2023/24 El Nino + Background climate change



# 2023/24 El Nino

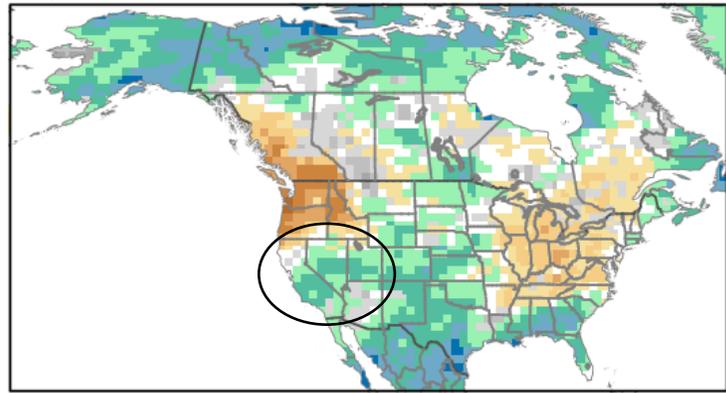
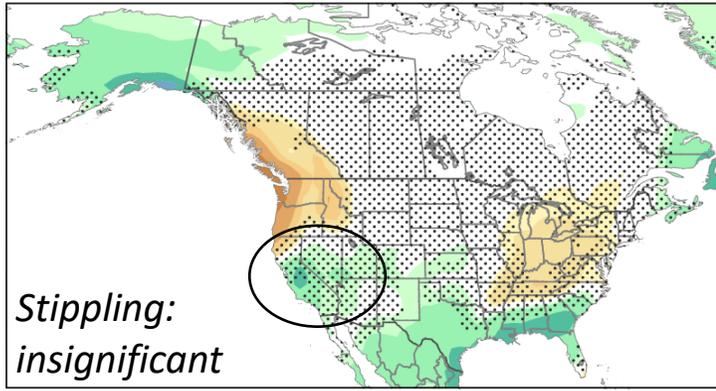


# Background climate change

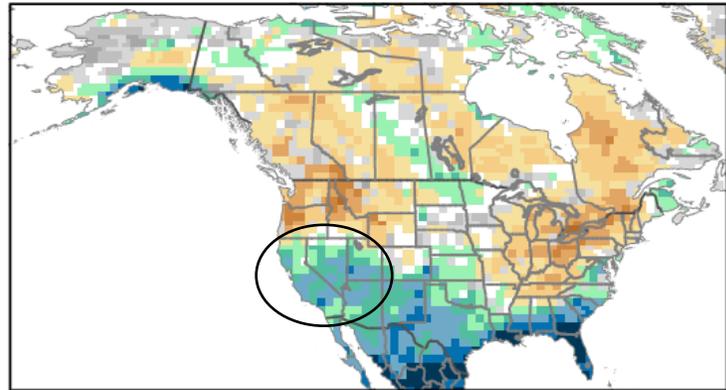
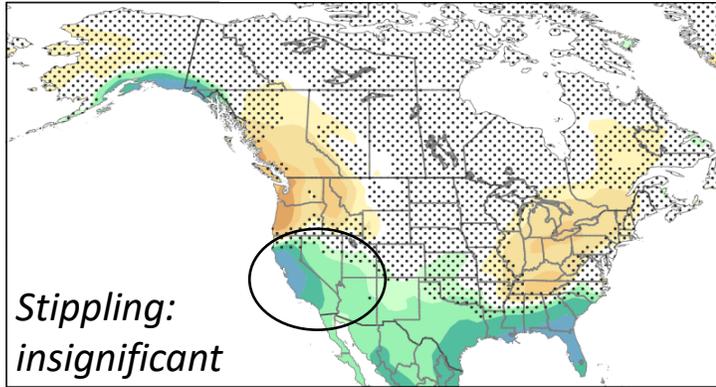


# Probability Forecast

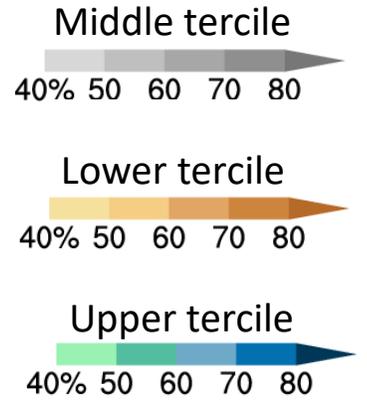
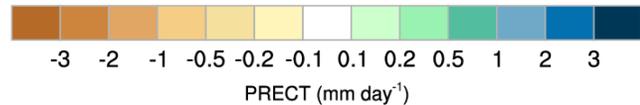
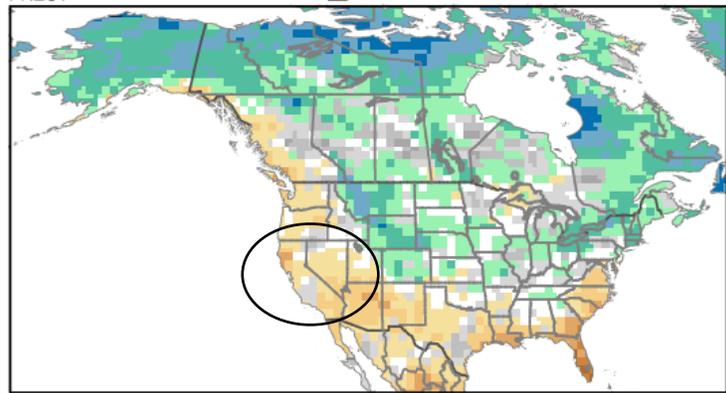
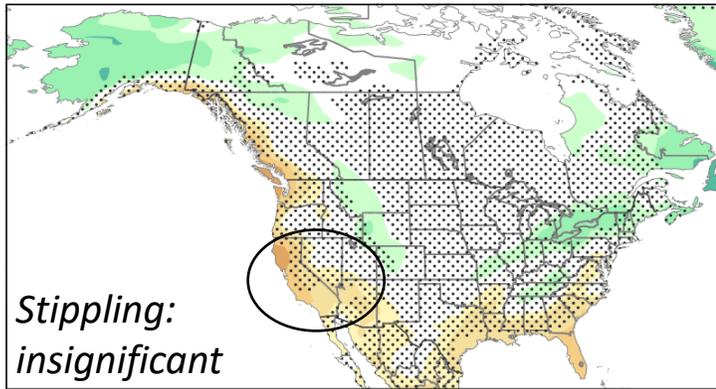
# 2023/24 El Nino + Background climate change



# 2023/24 El Nino

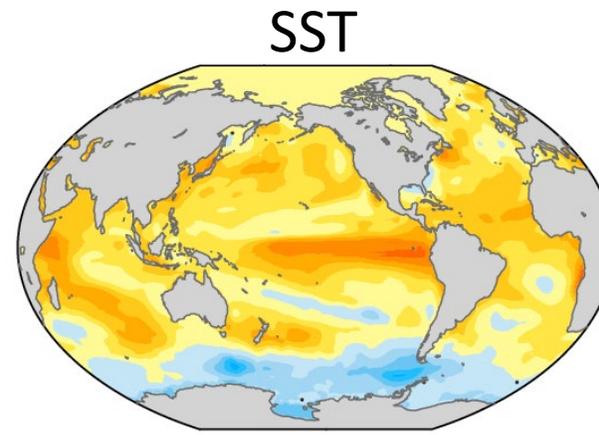
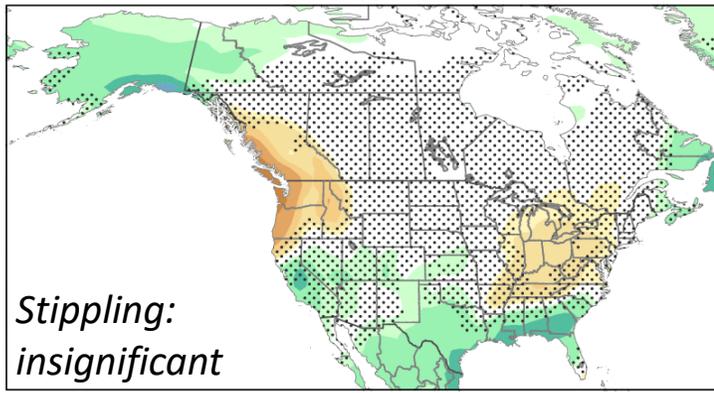


# Background climate change

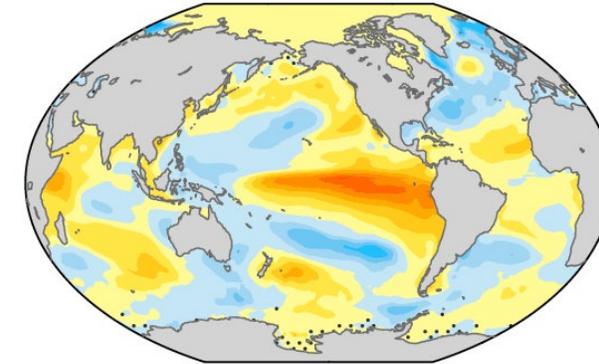
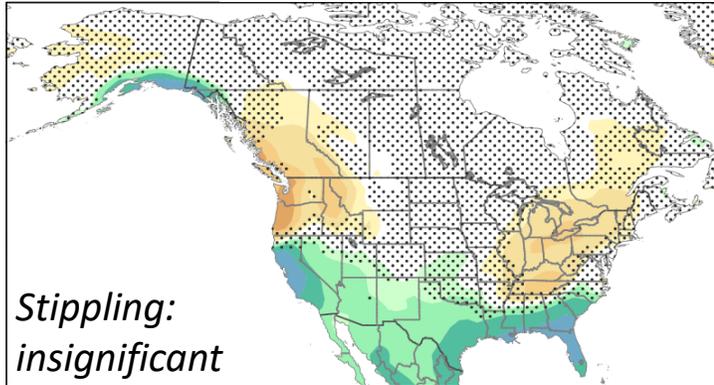


# Probability Forecast

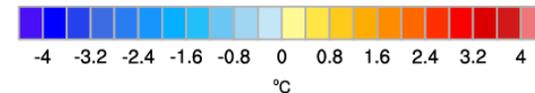
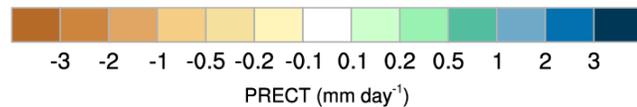
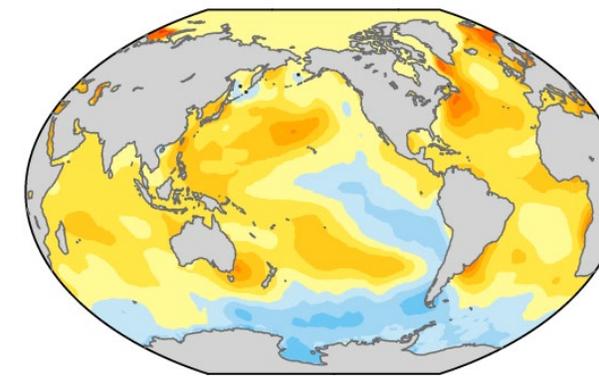
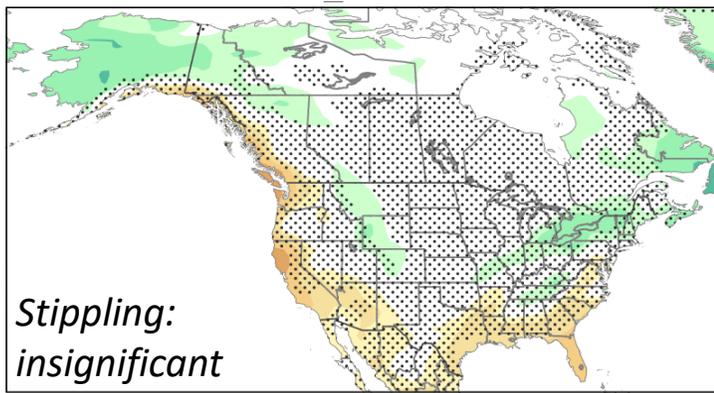
# 2023/24 El Nino + Background climate change



# 2023/24 El Nino



# Background climate change



## Summary

Observed background  
SST Trends modify the  
climate impacts from  
the 2023/24 El Nino.

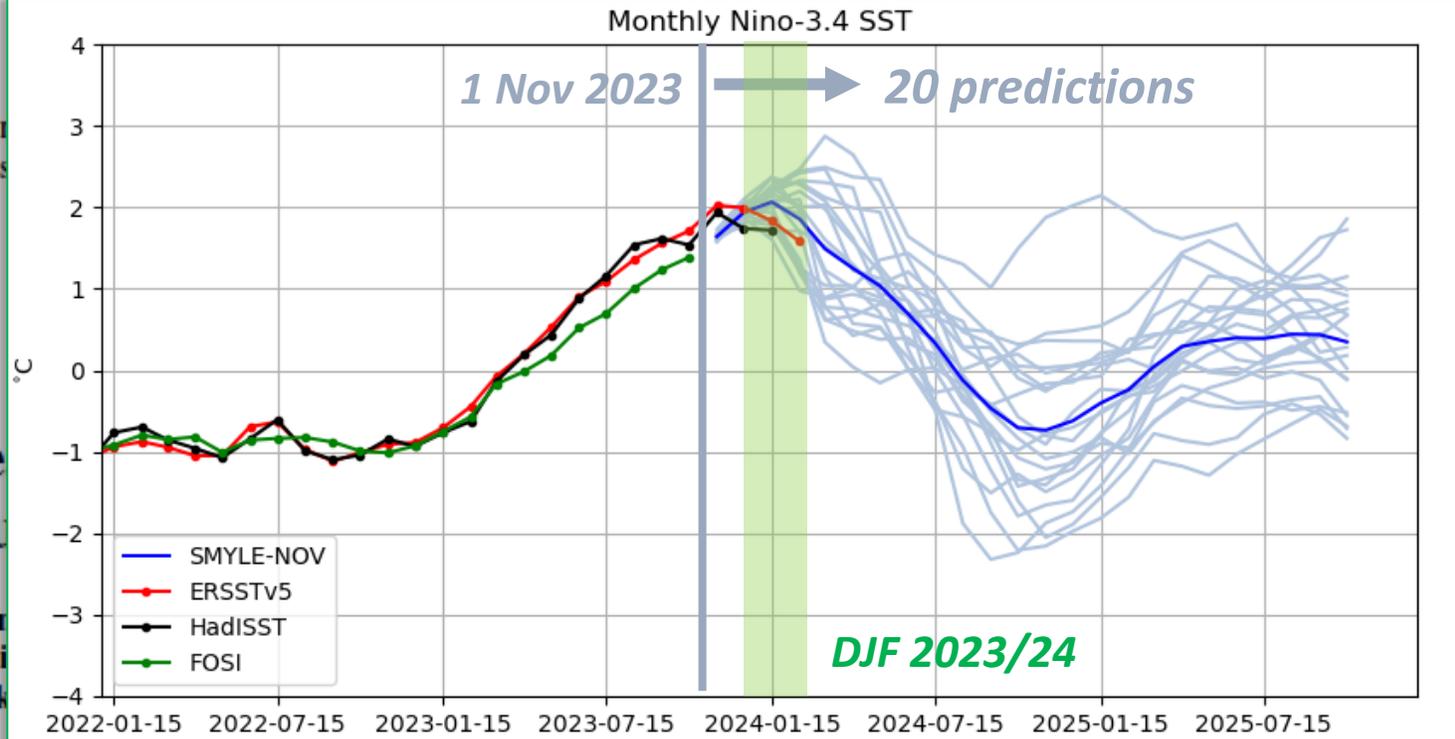
# Extra Slides

Geosci. Model Dev., 15, 6451–6493, 2022  
<https://doi.org/10.5194/gmd-15-6451-2022>  
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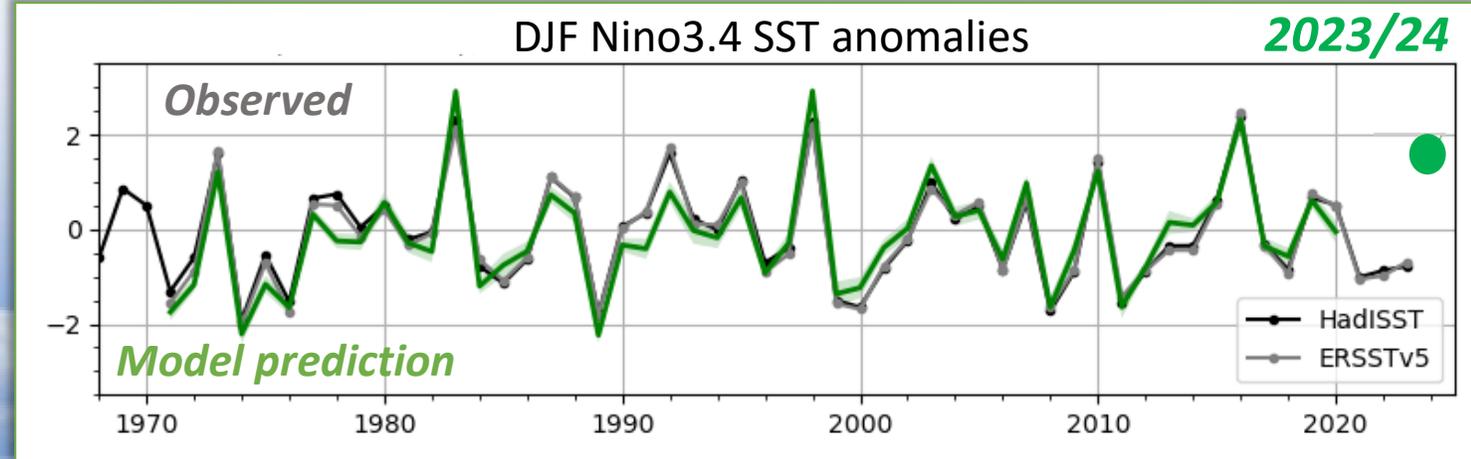


## The Seasonal-to-Multiyear system using the Community

Stephen G. Yeager<sup>1</sup>, Nan Rosenbloom<sup>1</sup>, Armin  
Kristen Krumhardt<sup>1</sup>, Samuel Mogen<sup>2</sup>, Kei  
Jadwiga H. Richter<sup>1</sup>, Matthew Long<sup>1</sup>, Gokul  
Warren G. Strand<sup>1</sup>, and Teagan King<sup>1</sup>



**Boreal winter (DJF)  
El Niño predictions  
initialized from  
November 1<sup>st</sup> are highly  
skillful.**

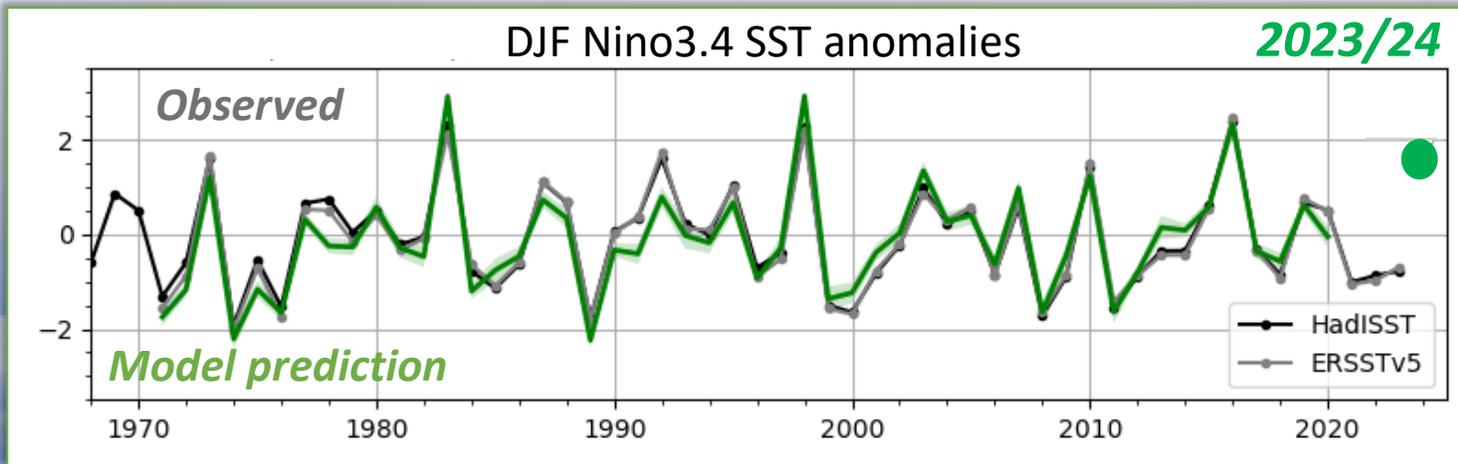
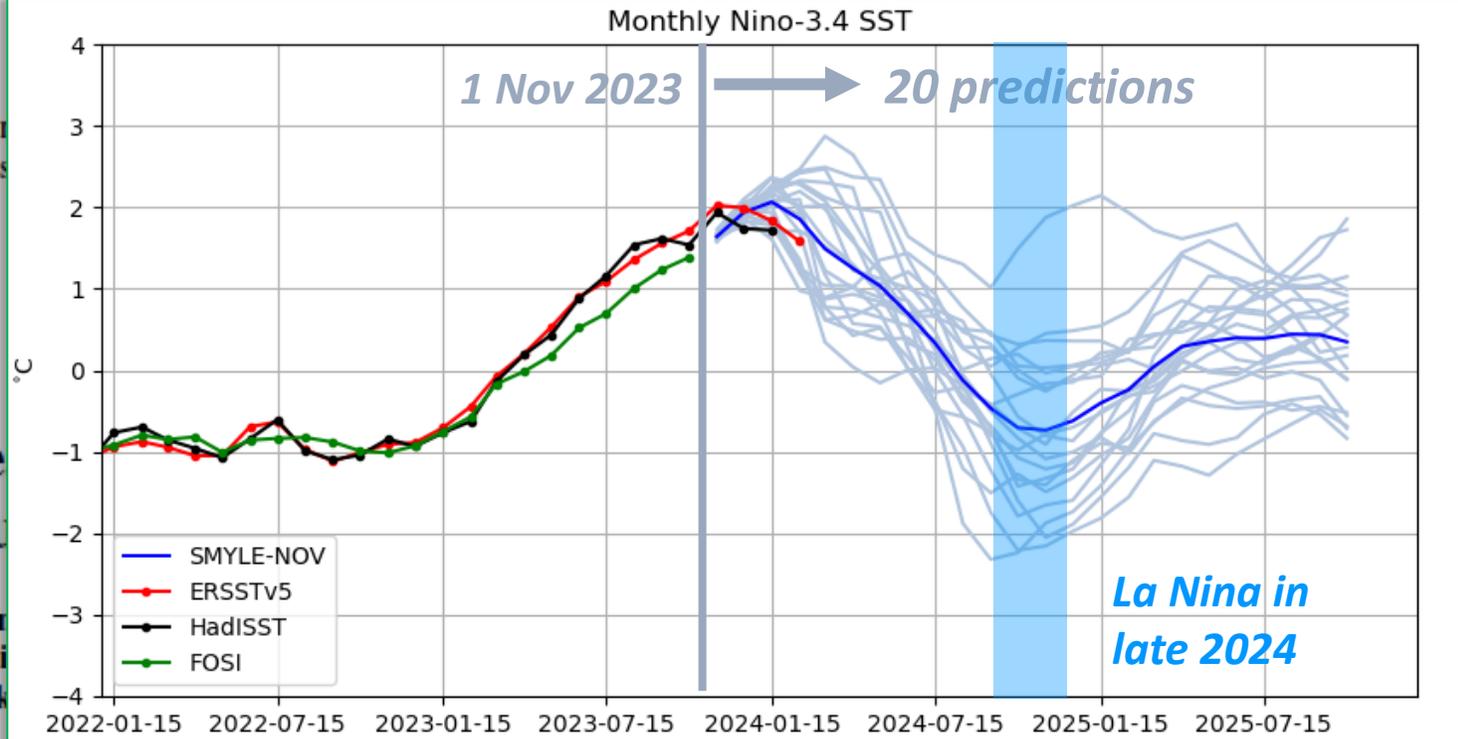


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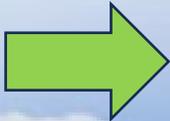


## The Seasonal-to-Multiyear system using the Community Earth System Model

Stephen G. Yeager<sup>1</sup>, Nan Rosenbloom<sup>1</sup>, Armin M. Macdonald<sup>1</sup>, Kristen Krumhardt<sup>1</sup>, Samuel Mogen<sup>2</sup>, Keiichi Motoki<sup>1</sup>, Jadwiga H. Richter<sup>1</sup>, Matthew Long<sup>1</sup>, Gokulakrishnan Kannan<sup>1</sup>, Warren G. Strand<sup>1</sup>, and Teagan King<sup>1</sup>

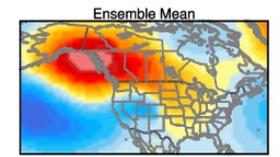


Boreal winter (DJF) El Niño predictions initialized from November 1<sup>st</sup> are highly skillful.

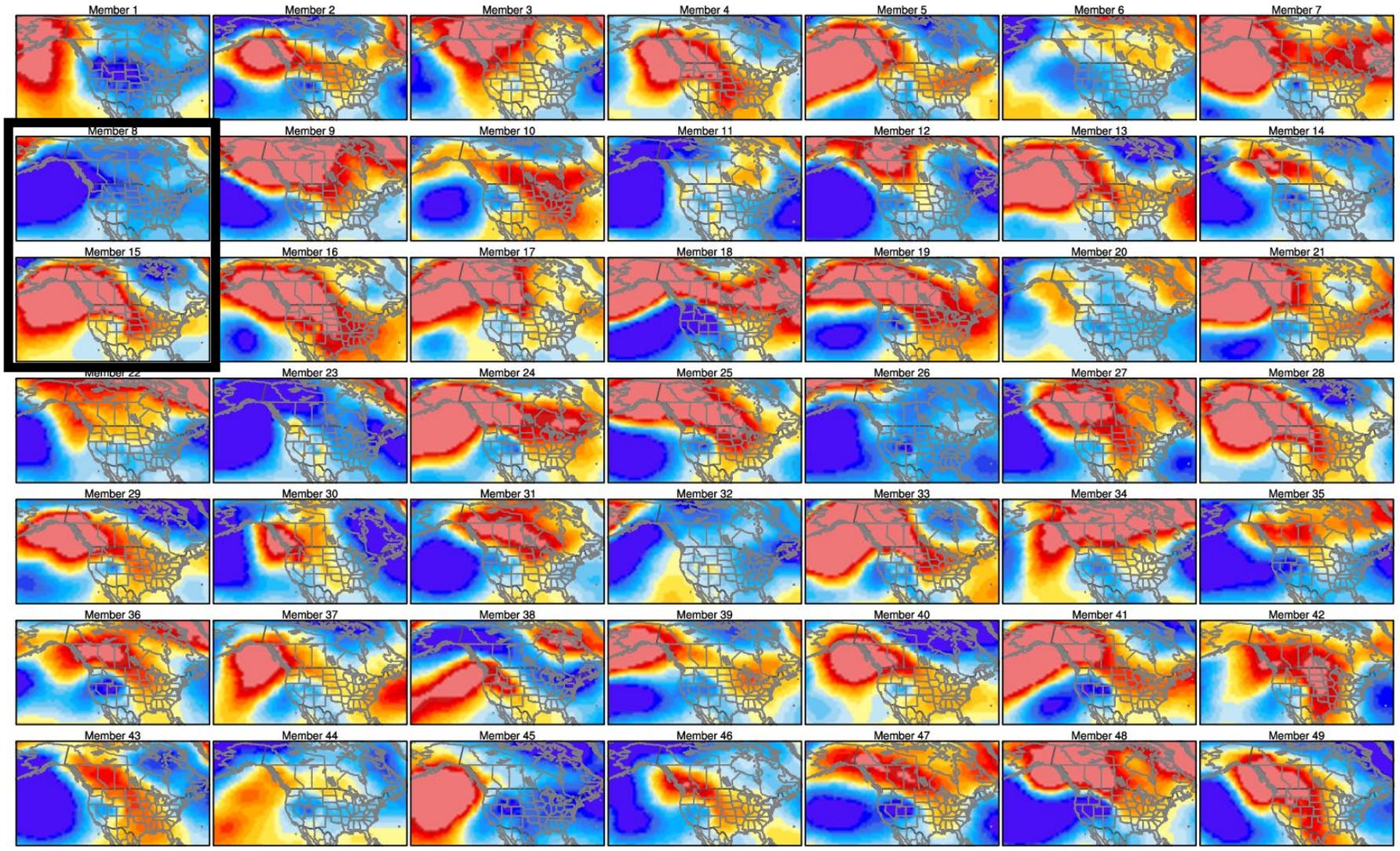
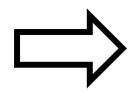


CAM6 - 1979 Control  
(El Nino + SST Trend +  $\Delta$ RF)

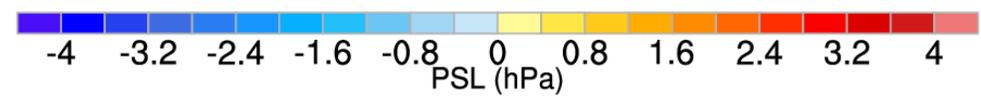
# Another Look at Probability Forecasts



SLP Response

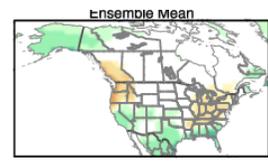


Response  
+  
Internal  
Variability

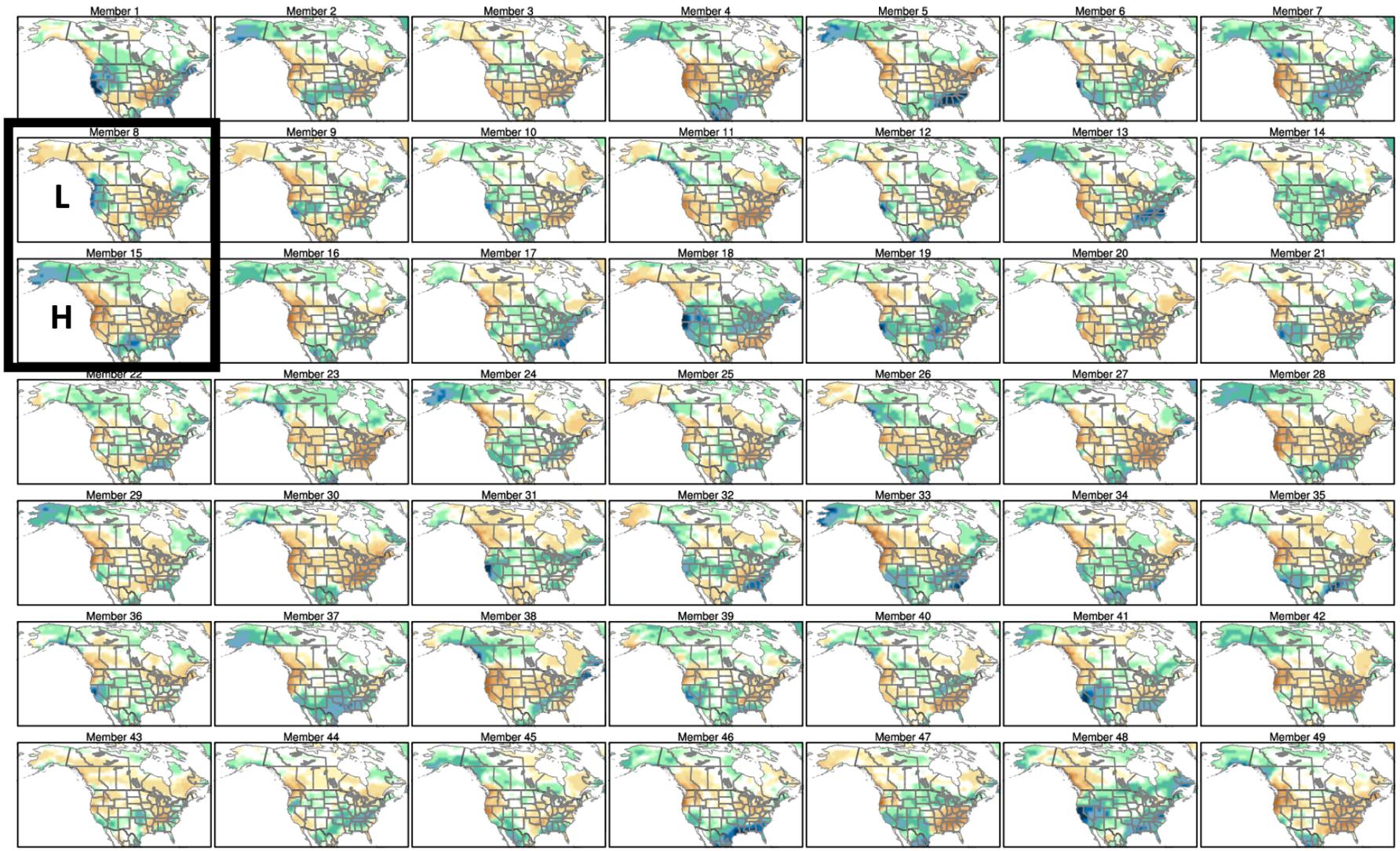
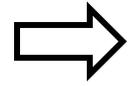


CAM6 - 1979 Control  
(El Nino + SST Trend +  $\Delta$ RF)

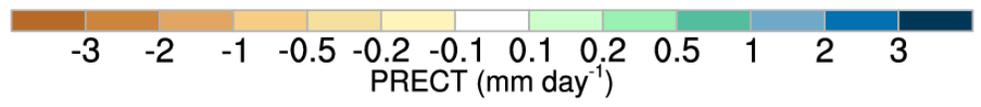
# Another Look at Probability Forecasts



PRECt  
Response

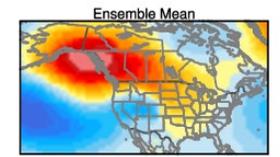


Response  
+  
Internal  
Variability

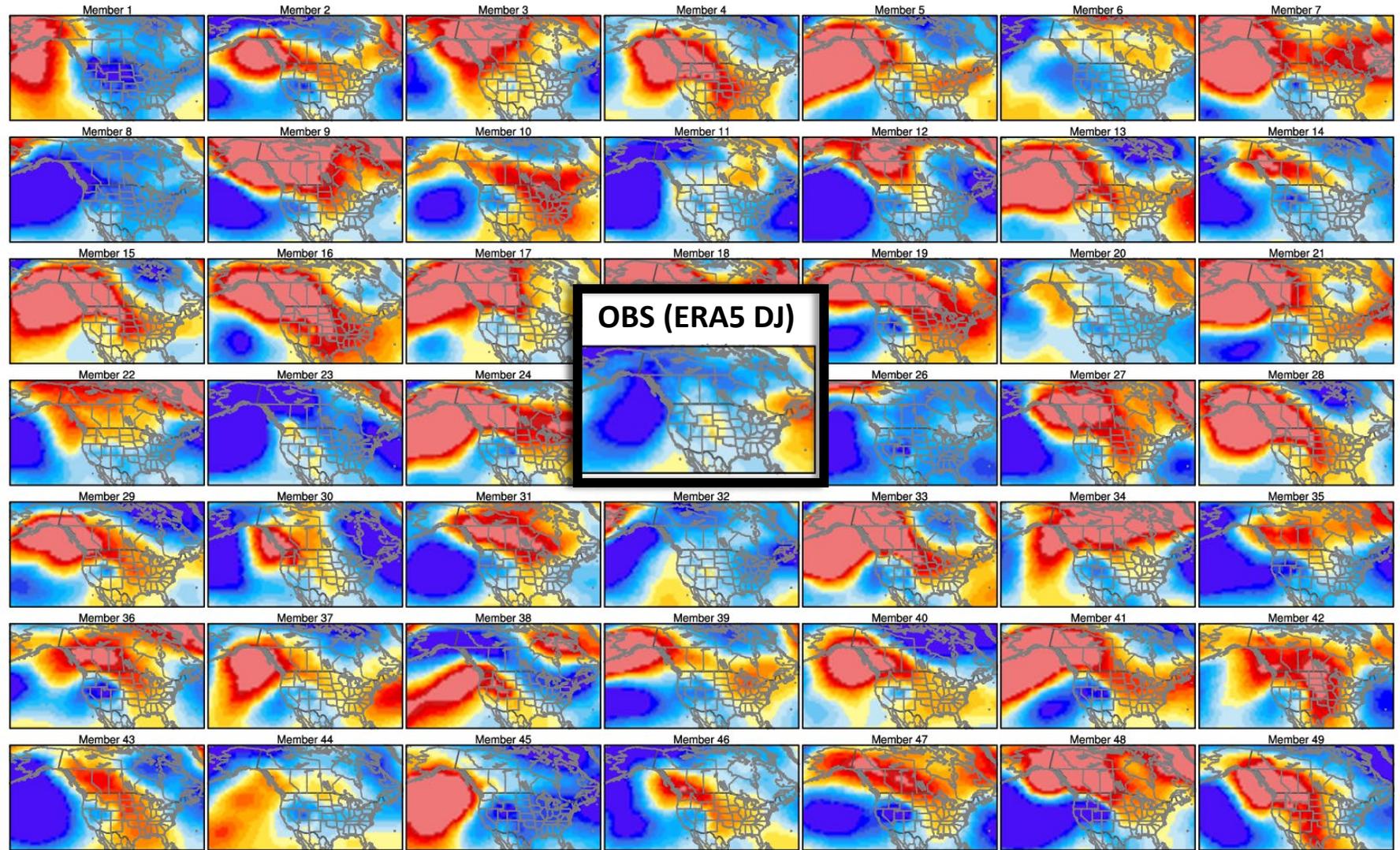


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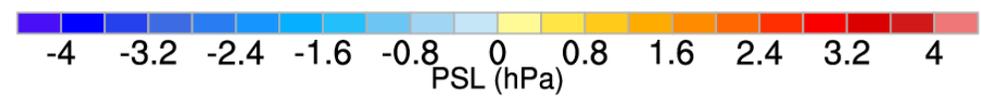
# Another Look at Probability Forecasts



SLP Response

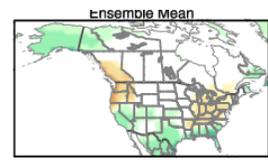


Response  
+  
Internal  
Variability

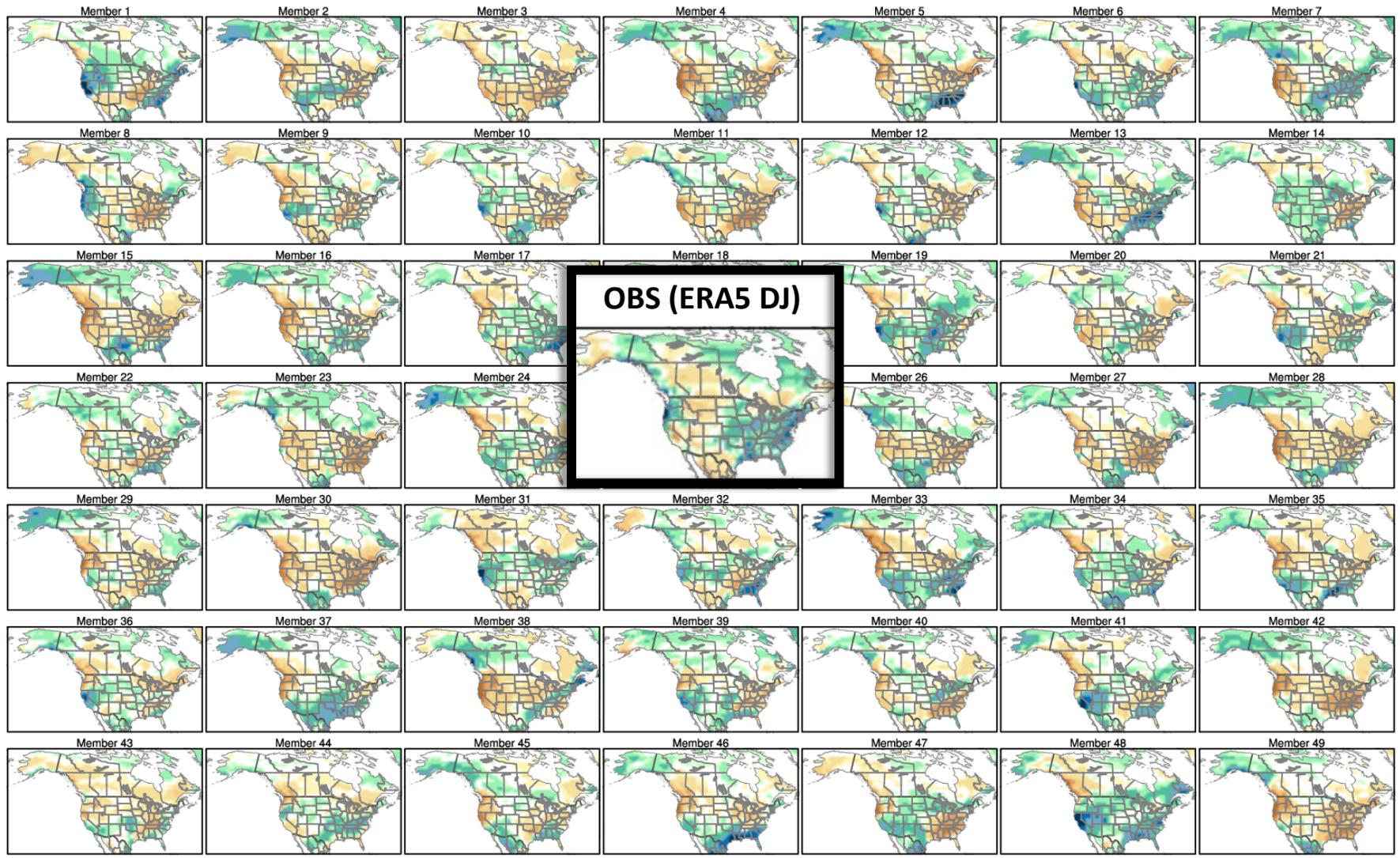


CAM6 - 1979 Control  
(El Nino + SST Trend +  $\Delta$ RF)

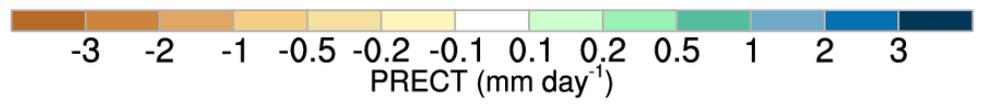
# Another Look at Probability Forecasts



PRECT  
Response



Response  
+  
Internal  
Variability



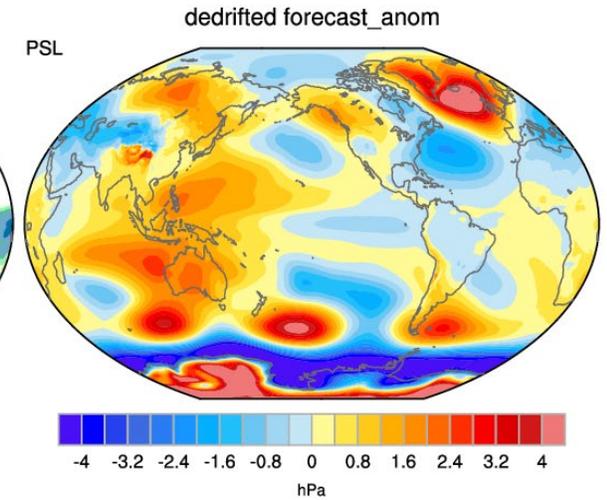
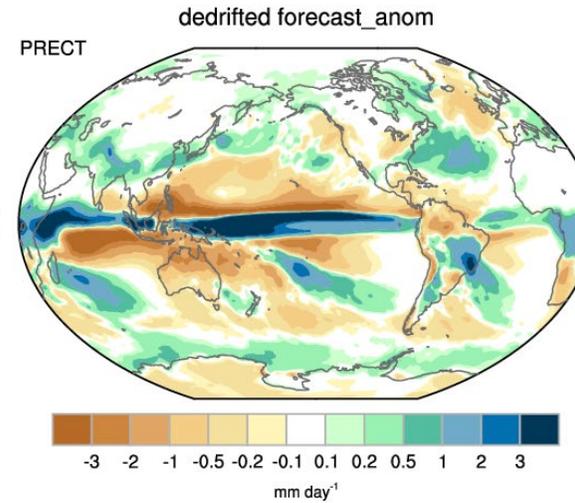
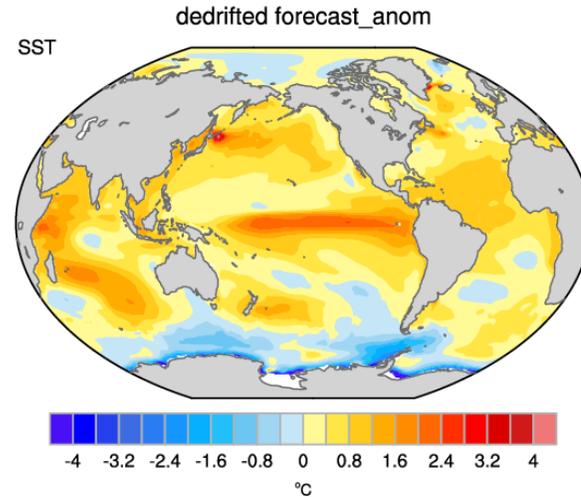
# DJF SMYLE vs. AMIP

## SST

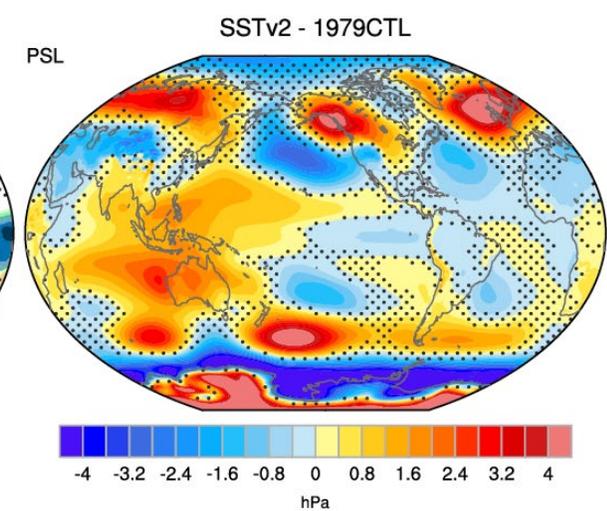
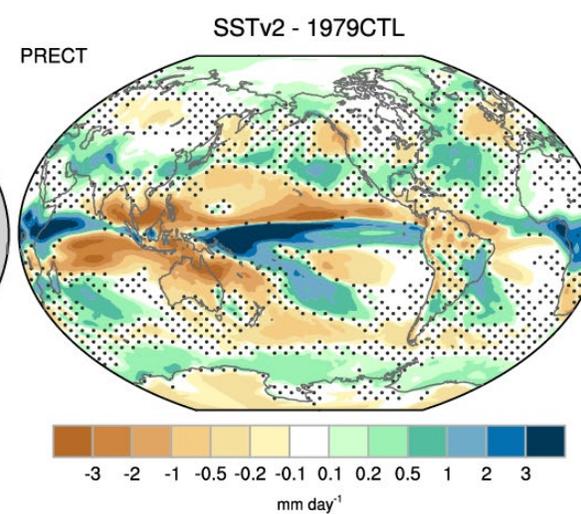
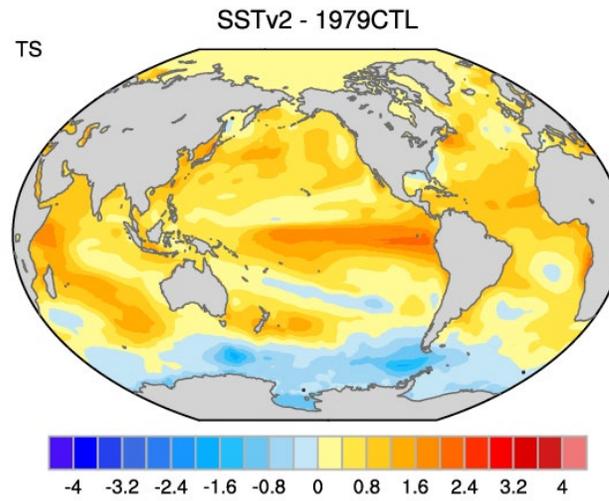
## PRECT

## SLP

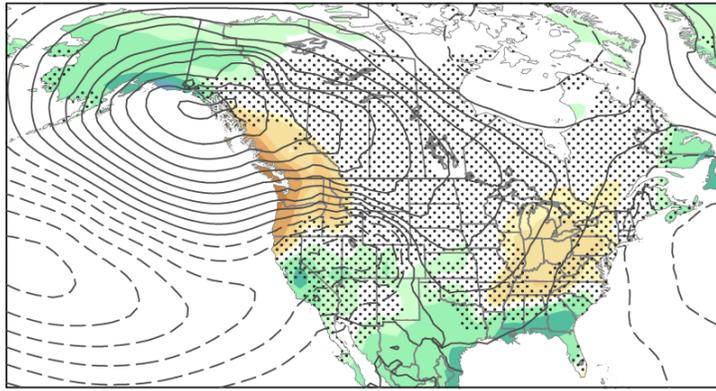
### 20-member SMYLE



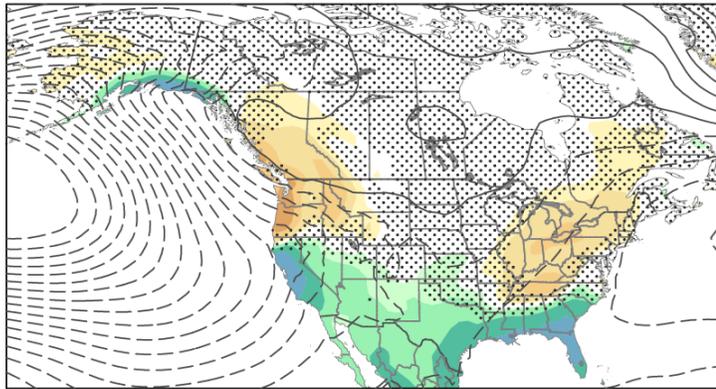
### 50-member AMIP



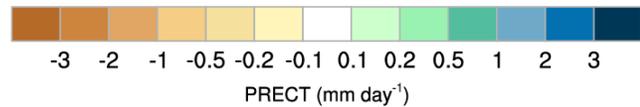
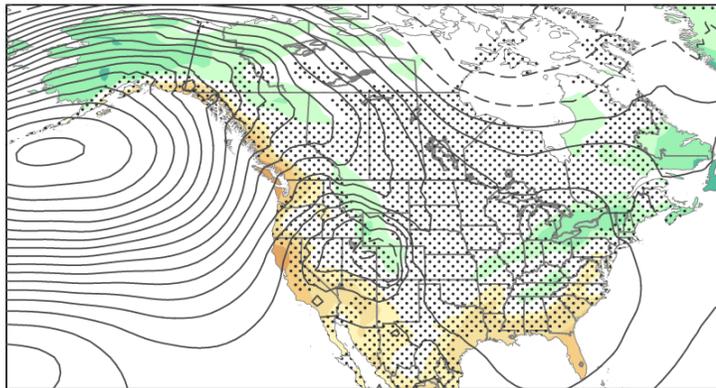
**CAM6 AMIP  
minus  
1979 Control**



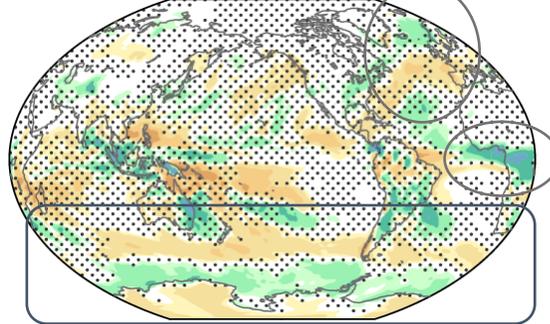
**Counterfactual  
minus  
1979 Control**



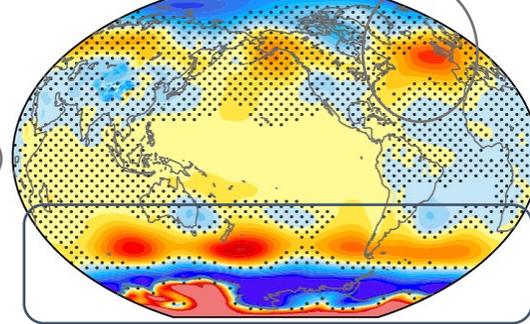
**Difference  
( = SST trend +  
 $\Delta$  Rad. Forcing)**



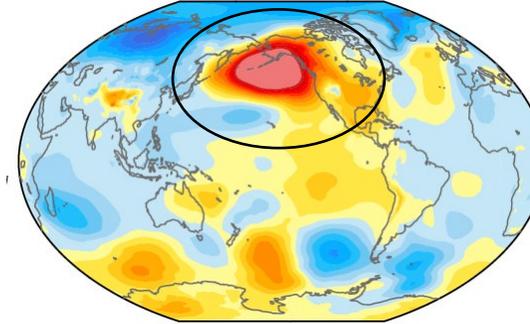
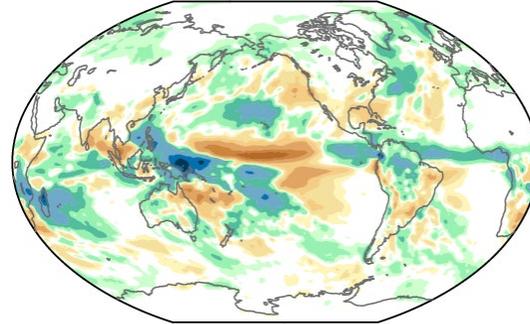
Precipitation



SLP

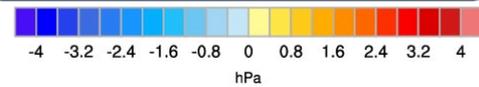
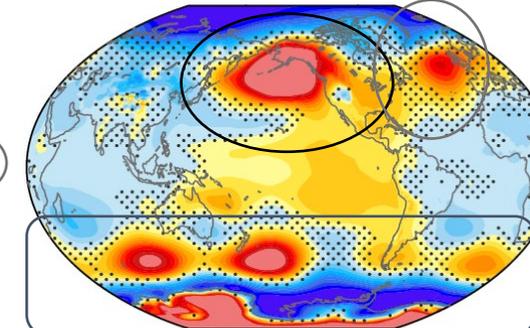
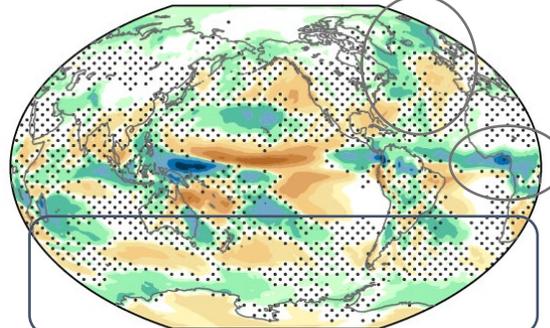
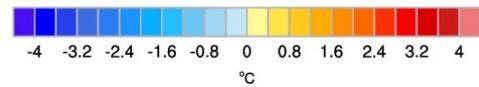
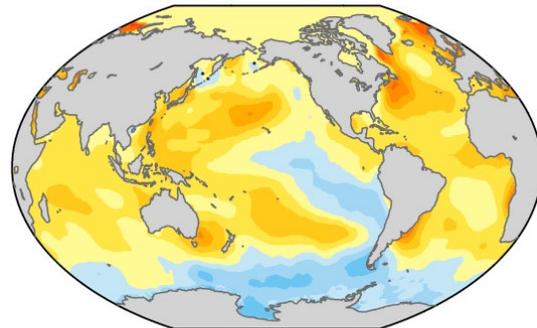


$\Delta$  Rad. Forcing



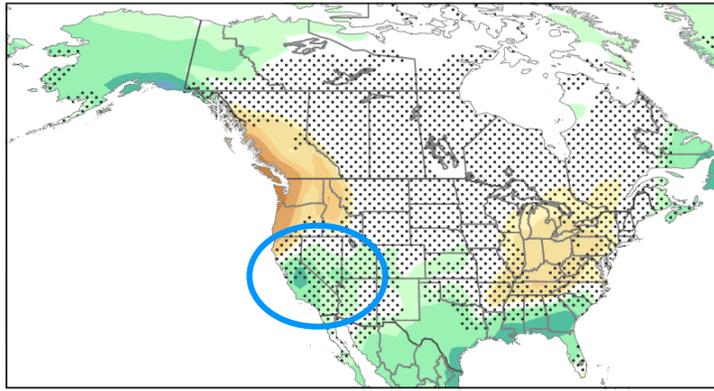
SST trend

Difference  
(SST trend +  $\Delta$  RF)

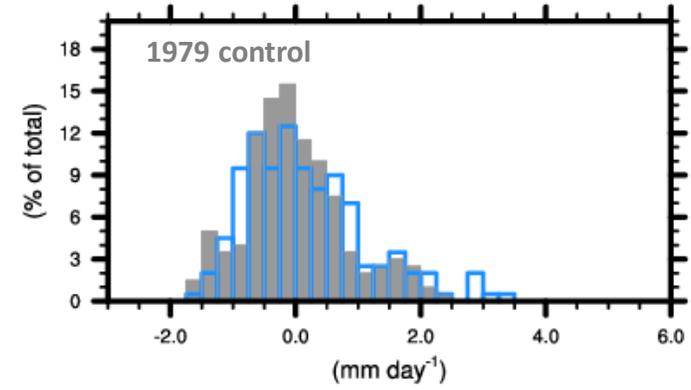


SST trend +  
 $\Delta$  Rad. Forcing

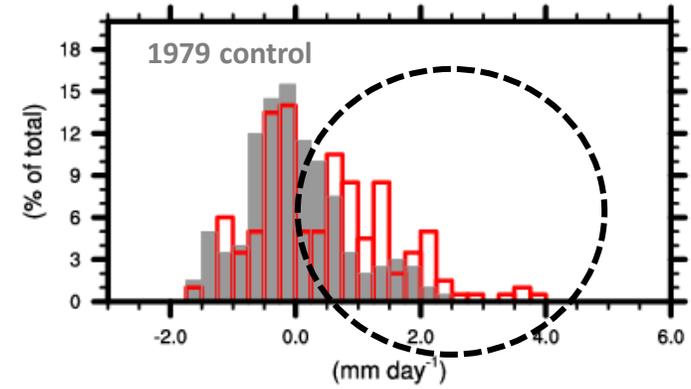
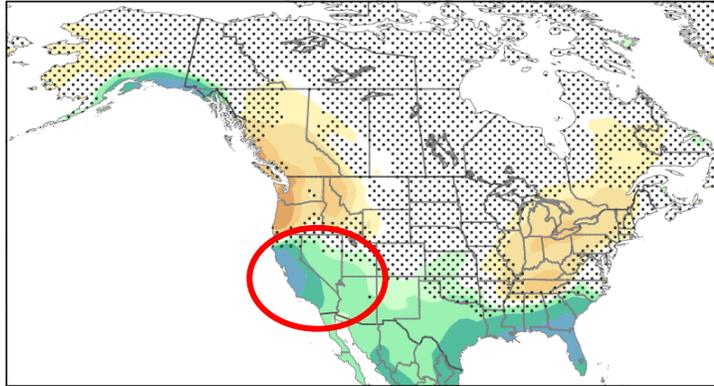
El Nino +  
Background  
climate change



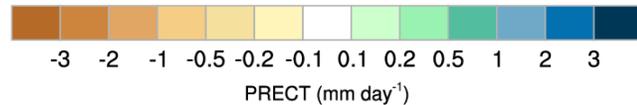
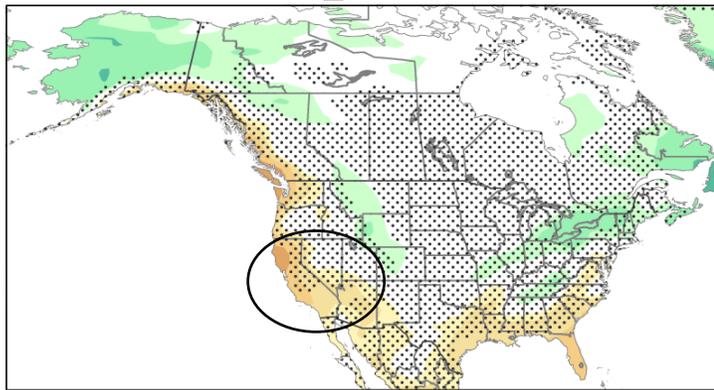
CA/SW



El Nino



Background  
climate change



Monthly anomalies  
relative to 1979 control