

**Supporting information for: Elliott Smith, E.A., and Fox, M.D. Characterizing energy flow in kelp forests: a review of the geochemical evidence and a call for additional research.**

**Appendix 1 – Citations and data for all reviewed manuscripts, additional analyses.**

**Table A1. List and description of manuscripts reviewed.**

<b>Marine Realm</b>	<b>Marine Province</b>	<b>Reference</b>	<b>Consumer Isotopic Data Provided?</b>	<b>Percent Kelp or Kelp+Macroalgae Quantified?</b>
Arctic	1	Buchholz and Wiencke 2016	no	–
	1	Buchholz et al. 2019	no	–
	1	Dunton and Schell 1987	yes	yes
	1	Hobson and Welch 1992	yes	no
	1	Paar et al. 2019	yes	yes*
	1	Renaud et al. 2015	yes	no
	1	Schell 1983	yes	no
	1	Sokołowski et al. 2014	yes	no
Temperate Northern Atlantic	2	Adin and Riera 2003	yes	no
	2	Dauby et al. 1998	yes	no
	2	Fredriksen 2003	yes	yes
	2	Leclerc et al. 2013a	yes	yes
	2	Leclerc et al. 2013b	yes	yes
	2	Leclerc et al. 2015	yes	no
	2	Nilsen et al. 2008	yes	no
	2	Norderhaug et al. 2003	yes	no <sup>‡</sup>
	2	Queiros et al. 2019	yes	yes*
	2	Schaal et al. 2009	yes	yes
	2	Schaal et al. 2010a	yes	yes
	2	Schaal et al. 2010b	yes	no
	2	Schaal et al. 2012	yes	yes
	2	Steinarsdóttir et al. 2009	yes	no
	3	Freire et al. 2009	yes	yes
	5	Stephenson et al. 1984	no	no
	5	Kelly et al. 2012	yes	yes*
	5	Lesage et al. 2001	yes	no
5	Nadon and Himmelman 2006	yes	no	
5	Nadon and Himmelman 2010	yes	no	
5	Stephenson et al. 1986	yes	no	
Temperate Northern Pacific	8	Kang et al. 2008	yes	no
	8	Won et al. 2010	yes	no
	9	Takai et al. 2001	no	–
	9	Hayakawa et al. 2018	yes	no
	9	Shimoda et al. 2007	yes	no
	9	Takai et al. 2002	yes	no
	9	Won et al. 2007	yes	no
	10	Dethier et al. 2013	no	–
	10	Fox 2016	no	–
	10	Ramshaw et al. 2017	no	–
	10	Duggins et al. 1989	yes	yes
	10	Elliott Smith et al. 2018	yes	yes
	10	Galloway et al. 2013	yes	no
	10	Larsen et al. 2013	yes	yes
	10	Markel and Shurin 2015	yes	yes
10	Olson et al. 2019	yes	yes	

	10	Ramshaw 2012	yes	yes
	10	Simenstad and Wissmar 1985	yes	no
	10	Simenstad et al. 1993	yes	no
	10	Tallis 2009	yes	yes
	10	von Biela et al. 2016	yes	yes
	10, 11	Clementz and Koch 2001	yes	no
	10, 11	Vokhshoori et al. 2014	yes	no
	11	Miller et al. 2013	no	–
	11	Schimmelmann and Tegner 1991	no	–
	11	Gabara 2020	yes	yes
	11	Hamilton et al. 2011	yes	no
	11	Hamilton et al. 2014	yes	no
	11	Koenigs et al. 2015	yes	yes*
	11	Page et al. 2008	yes	no
	11	Foley 2009	yes	yes
	11	Pinon-Gimate et al. 2016	yes	yes
Temperate South America	45	Elliott Smith et al. 2020	yes	yes
	45	Reddin et al. 2015	yes	yes
	45	Rodriguez 2003	yes	no
	48	Andrade et al. 2016	yes	no
	48	Cari et al. 2020	yes	no
	48	Mayr et al. 2011	yes	no
	48	Riccialdelli et al. 2017	yes	yes
	48	Zapata-Hernández et al. 2014	yes	yes
	48	Zapata-Hernández et al. 2016	yes	no
Temperate Southern Africa	50	Dyer et al. 2019a	no	no
	50	Dyer et al. 2019b	no	no
	50	Bustamante and Branch 1996	yes	yes
	50, 51	Hill and McQuaid 2008	yes	no
Temperate Australasia	53	Salomon et al. 2008	yes	yes
	54	Wing et al. 2007	no	–
	54	Beer and Wing 2013	yes	yes
	54	Davis and Wing 2012	yes	yes
	54	Jack and Wing 2011	yes	no
	54	Lusseau and Wing 2006	yes	yes
	54	Udy et al. 2019a	yes	yes
	54	Udy et al. 2019b	yes	yes
	54	Wing and Jack 2012	yes	yes
	54	Wing et al. 2008	yes	yes
	56	Guest et al. 2008	yes	yes
	56	Guest et al. 2009	yes	no
	57	Hyndes and Lavery 2005	yes	yes
	57	Smit et al. 2005	yes	no
	57, 58	Crawley et al. 2009	yes	yes
57, 58	Vanderklift and Wernberg 2010	yes	yes	
Southern Ocean	59	Bushula et al. 2005	yes	yes
	59	Kaehler et al. 2000	yes	yes
	59	Kaehler et al. 2006	yes	yes
	59	Puccinelli et al. 2018	yes	–

\* Percent of kelp (or kelp+macroalgae) quantified through non-stable isotope metrics, or via endmember ‘indicator species’ (*sensu* Post 2002).

‡ No percent kelp (or kelp+macroalgae) for wild fauna, only laboratory experiments.

**Table A2. Kelp forest fauna with a quantified contribution of kelp (or kelp+macroalgae) determined through stable isotope analysis.**

Province	Taxa	Functional Group	References
1: Arctic	<i>Annelida</i> spp.	Deposit Feeder	Dunton and Schell 1987
	<i>Cerebratulus</i> sp.	Carnivore	Dunton and Schell 1987
	<i>Chitonida</i> spp.	Herbivore	Dunton and Schell 1987
	<i>Choanites lutkenii</i>	Suspension Feeder	Dunton and Schell 1987
	<i>Gersemia rubiformis</i>	Suspension Feeder	Dunton and Schell 1987
	<i>Haliclona gracilis</i>	Suspension Feeder	Dunton and Schell 1987
	<i>Margarites vorticifera</i>	Herbivore	Dunton and Schell 1987
	<i>Mogula griffithsii</i>	Suspension Feeder	Dunton and Schell 1987
	<i>Mysis litoralis</i>	Suspension Feeder	Dunton and Schell 1987
	<i>Neptunea borealis</i>	Omnivore	Dunton and Schell 1987
	<i>Nicolea zostericola</i>	Detritivore/Scavenger	Dunton and Schell 1987
	<i>Polinices pallidus</i>	Carnivore	Dunton and Schell 1987
	<i>Scoloplos armiger</i>	Deposit Feeder	Dunton and Schell 1987
2, 3: Northern European Seas & Lusitanian	<i>Achelia echinata</i>	Deposit Feeder	Leclerc et al. 2013a
	<i>Alcyonidium gelatinosum</i>	Suspension Feeder	Leclerc et al. 2013a
	<i>Amphiglena mediterranea</i>	Suspension Feeder	Schaal et al. 2012
	<i>Amphipholis squamata</i>	Deposit Feeder	Leclerc et al. 2013a
	<i>Aplidium pallidum</i>	Suspension Feeder	Schaal et al. 2009, Schaal et al. 2010a, Schaal et al. 2012
	<i>Balanus perforatus</i>	Suspension Feeder	Schaal et al. 2010a
	<i>Botryllus schlosseri</i>	Suspension Feeder	Fredriksen 2003, Schaal et al. 2010a, Schaal et al. 2012
	<i>Branchiomma bombyx</i>	Suspension Feeder	Leclerc et al. 2013a
	<i>Bugula</i> sp.	Suspension Feeder	Fredriksen 2003
	<i>Calliostoma zizyphinum</i>	Carnivore	Fredriksen 2003
	<i>Cancer pagurus</i>	Carnivore	Fredriksen 2003
	<i>Centrolabrus exoletus</i>	Carnivore	Fredriksen 2003
	<i>Chthamalus montagui</i>	Suspension Feeder	Schaal et al. 2010a
	<i>Ctenolabrus rupestris</i>	Carnivore	Fredriksen 2003
	<i>Dendrodoa grossularia</i>	Suspension Feeder	Schaal et al. 2010a
	<i>Didemnum candidum</i>	Suspension Feeder	Schaal et al. 2012
	<i>Didemnum maculosum</i>	Suspension Feeder	Schaal et al. 2012
	<i>Didemnum</i> spp.	Suspension Feeder	Schaal et al. 2010a, Schaal et al. 2012
	<i>Echinus esculentus</i>	Grazer	Fredriksen 2003
	<i>Electra pilosa</i>	Suspension Feeder	Fredriksen 2003, Schaal et al. 2009, Schaal et al. 2010a, Leclerc et al. 2013a
	<i>Elminius modestus</i>	Suspension Feeder	Schaal et al. 2010a
	<i>Eupolymnia nesidensis</i>	Deposit Feeder	Leclerc et al. 2013a
	<i>Flustrellidra hispida</i>	Suspension Feeder	Schaal et al. 2009, Schaal et al. 2010a
	<i>Gadus morhua</i>	Carnivore	Fredriksen 2003
	<i>Gibbula cineraria</i>	Grazer	Leclerc et al. 2013a
	<i>Gibbula</i> sp.	Grazer	Fredriksen 2003
	<i>Granita compressa</i>	Suspension Feeder	Schaal et al. 2009
	<i>Halichondria panicea</i>	Suspension Feeder	Schaal et al. 2009, Schaal et al. 2010a
	<i>Haliotis tuberculata</i>	Grazer	Leclerc et al. 2013a
	<i>Helicon pellucidum</i>	Grazer	Fredriksen 2003
	<i>Hiatella arctica</i>	Suspension Feeder	Fredriksen 2003
	<i>Hymeniacion sanguinea</i>	Suspension Feeder	Schaal et al. 2009, Schaal et al. 2010a
	<i>Jassa falcata</i>	Suspension Feeder	Schaal et al. 2012,

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<i>Labrus bergylta</i>	Carnivore	Leclerc et al. 2013a
<i>Lacuna vincta</i>	Grazer	Fredriksen 2003
<i>Liparis montagui</i>	Carnivore	Fredriksen 2003
<i>Maera inaequipes</i>	Deposit Feeder	Fredriksen 2003
<i>Microstomus kitt</i>	Carnivore	Leclerc et al. 2013a
<i>Mytilus edulis</i>	Suspension Feeder	Fredriksen 2003
<i>Nereis</i> sp.	Carnivore	Schaal et al. 2010a
<i>Nicolea venustula</i>	Suspension Feeder	Fredriksen 2003
<i>Nicolea zostericola</i>	Deposit Feeder	Schaal et al. 2009, Schaal et al. 2012
<i>Ophiothrix fragilis</i>	Suspension Feeder	Leclerc et al. 2013a
Ophiuræ spp.	Suspension Feeder	Schaal et al. 2010a, Schaal et al. 2012
<i>Ophlitaspongia papilla</i>	Suspension Feeder	Fredriksen 2003
<i>Pachimatisma johnstonia</i>	Suspension Feeder	Leclerc et al. 2013a
<i>Patella pellucida</i>	Grazer	Schaal et al. 2010a
<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>	Carnivore	Leclerc et al. 2013a
<i>Pisidia longicornis</i>	Suspension Feeder	Fredriksen 2003
<i>Platynereis dumerilii</i>	Grazer	Schaal et al. 2010a, Leclerc et al. 2013a
<i>Pollachius pollachius</i>	Carnivore	Leclerc et al. 2013a
<i>Pollachius virens</i>	Carnivore	Fredriksen 2003
<i>Porcellana platycheles</i>	Suspension Feeder	Fredriksen 2003
<i>Sabella pavonina</i>	Suspension Feeder	Schaal et al. 2009, Schaal et al. 2010a
<i>Schizoporella</i> sp.	Suspension Feeder	Schaal et al. 2010a, Schaal et al. 2012
<i>Scypha compressa</i>	Suspension Feeder	Schaal et al. 2010a
<i>Somateria mollissima</i>	Carnivore	Fredriksen 2003
<i>Stylostichon plumosum</i>	Suspension Feeder	Fredriksen 2003
<i>Tricolia pullus</i>	Grazer	Schaal et al. 2009
<i>Tubularia larynx</i>	Suspension Feeder	Leclerc et al. 2013a
Tunicata spp.	Suspension Feeder	Fredriksen 2003
Benthic meiofauna <sup>†‡</sup>	Varied	Fredriksen 2003
<i>Maja brachydactyla</i>	Omnivore	Queiros et al. 2019
<i>Alcyonaria</i> sp.	Suspension Feeder	Freire et al. 2009
<i>Amphipoda</i> sp.	Uncategorized	Duggins et al. 1989
<i>Anomura</i>	Detritivore/Scavenger	Markel and Shurin 2015
<i>Anonyx</i> sp.	Detritivore/Scavenger	Ramshaw 2012
<i>Astraea gibberosa</i>	Grazer	Duggins et al. 1989
<i>Balanus glandula</i>	Suspension Feeder	Ramshaw 2012
<i>Balanus nubilus</i>	Suspension Feeder	Tallis 2009
<i>Calliostoma</i> sp.	Omnivore	Duggins et al. 1989
<i>Chlamys</i> sp.	Suspension Feeder	Ramshaw 2012
<i>Clupea pallasii</i>	Suspension Feeder	Ramshaw 2012
Cottidae sp.	Uncategorized	Markel and Shurin 2015
Decapoda sp.	Uncategorized	Ramshaw 2012
<i>Dermaturus mandtii</i>	Detritivore/Scavenger	Markel and Shurin 2015
<i>Hexagrammos decagrammus</i>	Carnivore	Duggins et al. 1989
Isopoda sp.	Uncategorized	Duggins et al. 1989, von Biela et al. 2016
<i>Leptasterias</i> spp.	Carnivore	Markel and Shurin 2015
<i>Metridium senile</i>	Suspension Feeder	Duggins et al. 1989
<i>Mytilus californianus</i>	Suspension Feeder	Duggins et al. 1989, Tallis 2009, Larsen et al. 2013,
<i>Mytilus edulis</i>	Suspension Feeder	Markel and Shurin 2015
<i>Mytilus</i> sp.	Suspension Feeder	Duggins et al. 1989
<i>Nucella</i> sp.	Carnivore	Elliott Smith et al. 2018
<i>Phalacrocorax pelagicus</i>	Carnivore	Elliott Smith et al. 2018
Pleuronectoidea spp.	Uncategorized	Duggins et al. 1989
		Ramshaw 2012

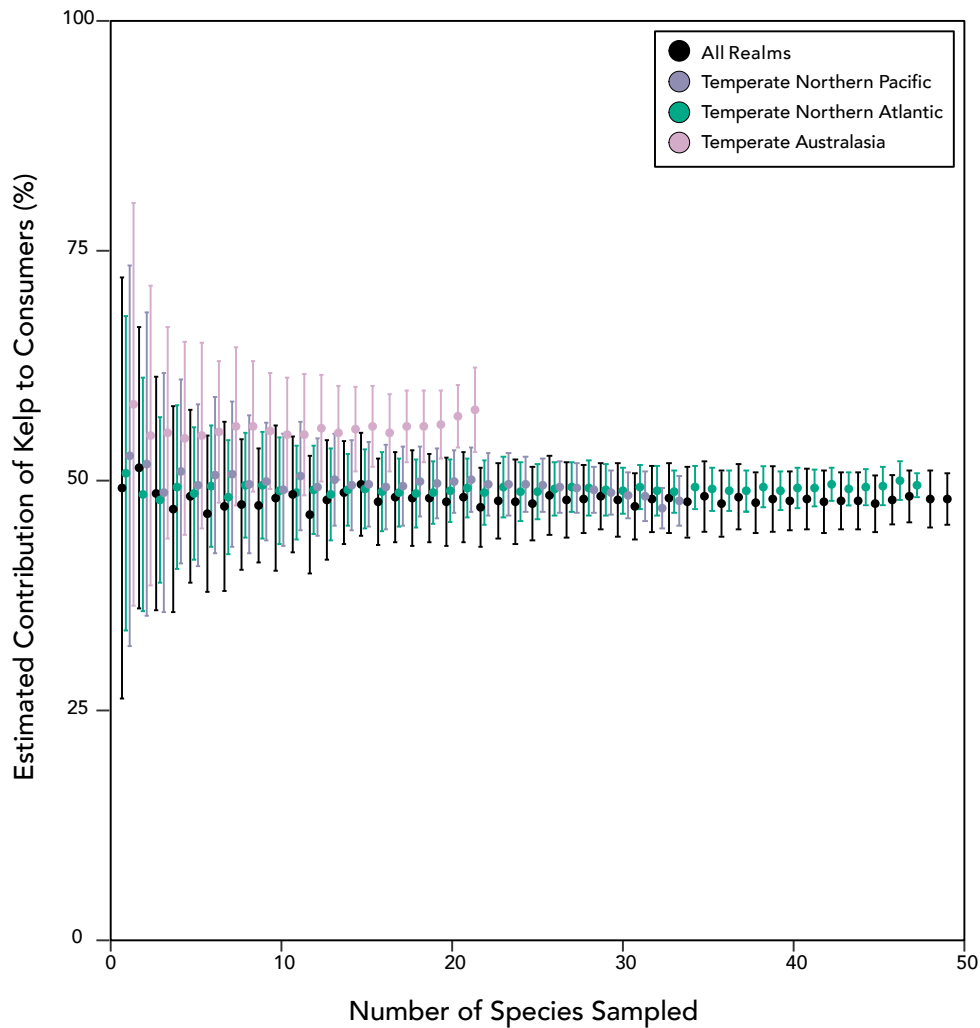
	<i>Pododesmus cepio</i>	Suspension Feeder	Duggins et al. 1989
	<i>Pollicipes polymerus</i>	Suspension Feeder	Tallis 2009
	<i>Proneomysis</i> sp.	Suspension Feeder	Duggins et al. 1989
	<i>Pycnopodia helianthoides</i>	Carnivore	Elliott Smith et al. 2018
	<i>Sebastes caurinus</i>	Carnivore	Markel and Shurin 2015
	<i>Sebastes caurinus/maliger</i>	Carnivore	Olson et al. 2019
	<i>Sebastes melanops</i>	Carnivore	Markel and Shurin 2015, von Biela et al. 2016
	<i>Semibalanus cariosus</i>	Suspension Feeder	Tallis 2009
	<i>Strongylocentrotus droebachiensis</i>	Grazer	Elliott Smith et al. 2018
	<i>Tegula pulligo</i>	Grazer	Markel and Shurin 2015
	Shrimp <sup>†</sup>	Uncategorized	Markel and Shurin 2015
11: Warm Temperate Northeast Pacific*	<i>Americardia biangulata</i>	Suspension Feeder	Gabara 2020
	<i>Conus californicus</i>	Carnivore	Gabara 2020
	<i>Dendraster excentricus</i>	Detritivore/Scavenger	Gabara 2020
	<i>Eurystomella</i> spp.	Suspension Feeder	Gabara 2020
	<i>Limaria hemphilli</i>	Suspension Feeder	Gabara 2020
	<i>Lirularia</i> spp.	Herbivore	Pinon-Gimate 2016, Gabara 2020
	<i>Megastraea undosa</i>	Detritivore/Scavenger	Gabara 2020
	<i>Megathura crenulata</i>	Omnivore	Pinon-Gimate 2016
	<i>Membranipora membranacea</i>	Suspension Feeder	Foley 2009
	<i>Mytilus californianus</i>	Suspension Feeder	Foley 2009
	<i>Tethya aurantia</i>	Suspension Feeder	Foley 2009
	Hydrozoa sp.	Suspension Feeder	Foley 2009
	<i>Norrisia norrisii</i>	Herbivore	Gabara 2020
	<i>Parastichopus parvimensis</i>	Detritivore/Scavenger	Gabara 2020
<i>Podocheila hemphilli</i>	Carnivore	Gabara 2020	
Unknown <sup>†</sup>	Carnivore	Gabara 2020	
Unknown <sup>†</sup>	Herbivore	Gabara 2020	
Unknown <sup>†</sup>	Detritivore/Scavenger	Gabara 2020	
45: Warm Temperate Southeastern Pacific	<i>Aplodactylus punctatus</i>	Herbivore	Elliott Smith et al. 2020
	<i>Cheilodactylus variegatus</i>	Carnivore	Elliott Smith et al. 2020
	<i>Concholepas concholepas</i>	Carnivore	Elliott Smith et al. 2020
	<i>Echinolittorina peruviana</i>	Grazer	Reddin et al. 2015
	<i>Engraulis ringens</i>	Suspension Feeder	Elliott Smith et al. 2020
	<i>Isacia conceptionis</i>	Omnivore	Elliott Smith et al. 2020
	<i>Paralabrax humeralis</i>	Carnivore	Elliott Smith et al. 2020
	<i>Perumytilus purpuratus</i>	Suspension Feeder	Reddin et al. 2015, Elliott Smith et al. 2020
	<i>Scurria viridula</i>	Grazer	Reddin et al. 2015
	<i>Taliepus</i> sp.	Herbivore	Elliott Smith et al. 2020
	<i>Tegula atra</i>	Grazer	Reddin et al. 2015, Elliott Smith et al. 2020
	<i>Tetrapygus niger</i>	Grazer	Elliott Smith et al. 2020
Zooplankton <sup>†</sup>	Suspension Feeder	Elliott Smith et al. 2020	
48: Magellanic	<i>Ampelisca</i> sp.	Suspension Feeder	Zapata-Hernandez et al. 2016
	<i>Desmophyllum dianthus</i>	Suspension Feeder	Zapata-Hernandez et al. 2016
	<i>Eurypodius latreillii</i>	Detritivore/Scavenger	Zapata-Hernandez et al. 2016
	<i>Halicarcinus planatus</i>	Detritivore/Scavenger	Ricciadelli et al. 2017
	Isopoda sp.	Deposit Feeder	Ricciadelli et al. 2017
	<i>Munida gregaria</i>	Detritivore/Scavenger	Ricciadelli et al. 2017
	<i>Nacella deaureata</i>	Grazer	Ricciadelli et al. 2017
	Orbiniidae sp.	Deposit Feeder	Zapata-Hernandez et al. 2016
	<i>Pachyciphonaria lessoni</i>	Grazer	Ricciadelli et al. 2017
Polyplacophora sp.	Grazer	Ricciadelli et al. 2017	
<i>Tripylaster philippii</i>	Detritivore/Scavenger	Zapata-Hernandez et al. 2016	
50: Benguela	<i>Aulacomya ater</i>	Suspension Feeder	Bustamente and Branch 1996
	<i>Gunnarea capensis</i>	Suspension Feeder	Bustamente and Branch 1996
	<i>Mytilus galloprovincialis</i>	Suspension Feeder	Bustamente and Branch 1996

	<i>Patella argenvillei</i>	Grazer	Bustamente and Branch 1996
	<i>Patella granatina</i>	Grazer	Bustamente and Branch 1996
<b>53, 54: Northern &amp; Southern New Zealand</b>	<i>Crassostrea gigas</i>	Suspension Feeder	Salomon et al. 2008
	<i>Perna canaliculus</i>	Suspension Feeder	Salomon et al. 2008
	<i>Antipathes fiordensis</i>	Suspension Feeder	Wing and Jack 2012
	<i>Aplodactylus arctidens</i>	Herbivore	Udy et al. 2019b
	<i>Aulacomya maoriana</i>	Suspension Feeder	Wing and Jack 2012
	<i>Caesioperca lepidoptera</i>	Carnivore	Udy et al. 2019b
	<i>Cnemido bicornuata</i>	Suspension Feeder	Wing and Jack 2012
	<i>Evechinus chloroticus</i>	Grazer	Wing et al. 2008
	<i>Latridopsis ciliaris</i>	Omnivore	Udy et al. 2019b
	<i>Liothyrella neozelandea</i>	Suspension Feeder	Wing and Jack 2012
	<i>Mytilus galloprovincialis</i>	Suspension Feeder	Wing and Jack 2012
	<i>Nemadactylus macropterus</i>	Omnivore	Udy et al. 2019b
	<i>Neovermilia sphaeromatus</i>	Suspension Feeder	Wing and Jack 2012
	<i>Notolabrus celidotus</i>	Carnivore	Davis and Wing 2012, Udy et al. 2019b
	<i>Notolabrus fucicola</i>	Carnivore	Davis and Wing 2012, Udy et al. 2019b
	<i>Odax pullus</i>	Herbivore	Udy et al. 2019b
	<i>Parapercis colias</i>	Carnivore	Beer and Wing 2013, Udy et al. 2019b
	<i>Parika scaber</i>	Carnivore	Udy et al. 2019b
<i>Perna canaliculus</i>	Suspension Feeder	Wing and Jack 2012	
<i>Pseudolabrus miles</i>	Carnivore	Davis and Wing 2012, Udy et al. 2019b	
<i>Stichopus mollis</i>	Detritivore/Scavenger	Wing et al. 2008	
<i>Terebratella sanguinea</i>	Suspension Feeder	Wing and Jack 2012	
<i>Tursiops</i> sp.	Carnivore	Lusseau and Wing 2006	
Fish community <sup>†</sup>	Uncategorized	Udy et al. 2019a	
<b>56, 57, 58: Southern Australian Shelf</b>	<i>Haliotis rubra</i>	Herbivore	Guest et al. 2008
	Amphipoda sp.	Herbivore	Hyndes and Lavery 2005
	Calanoida sp.	Herbivore	Hyndes and Lavery 2005
	Harpacticoida sp.	Herbivore	Hyndes and Lavery 2005
	Polychaeta	Omnivore	Hyndes and Lavery 2005
<i>Allochestes compressa</i>	Grazer	Crawley et al. 2009	
<i>Heliocidaris erythrogramma</i>	Herbivore	Vanderklift and Wernberg 2010	
<b>59: Subantarctic Islands</b>	<i>Gobionotothen marionensis</i>	Carnivore	Bushla et al. 2005
	<i>Magellania kerguelenensis</i>	Suspension Feeder	Kaehler et al. 2006
	Grazing guild <sup>‡</sup>	Grazer	Kaehler et al. 2000
	Suspension feeding guild <sup>‡</sup>	Suspension Feeder	Kaehler et al. 2000

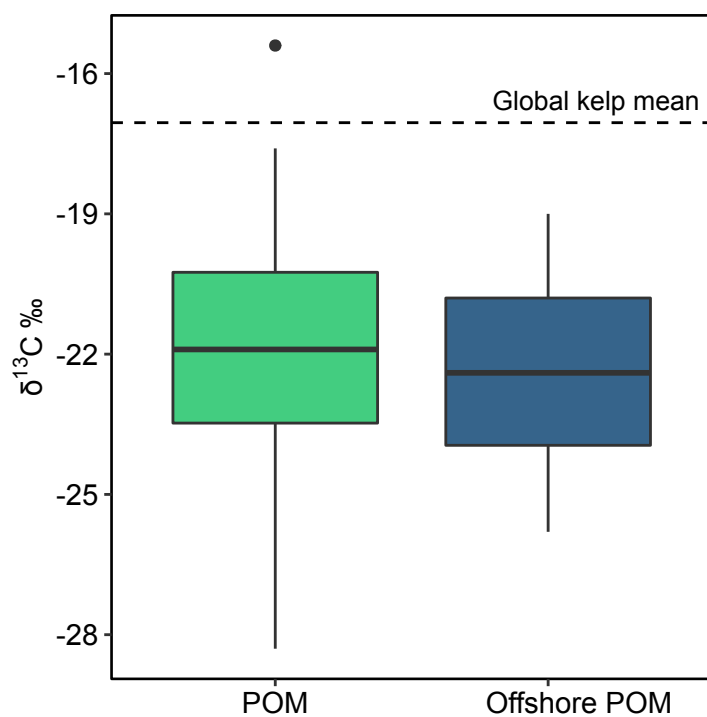
<sup>†</sup> Consumer groups unidentified.

<sup>‡</sup>Percent kelp (or kelp+macroalgae) provided for a grouping of multiple unrelated species.

\*For this Province we have excluded six fish species from Koenigs et al. (2015) as this manuscript used benthic and pelagic invertebrate ‘indicator species’ (*sensu* Post 2002).

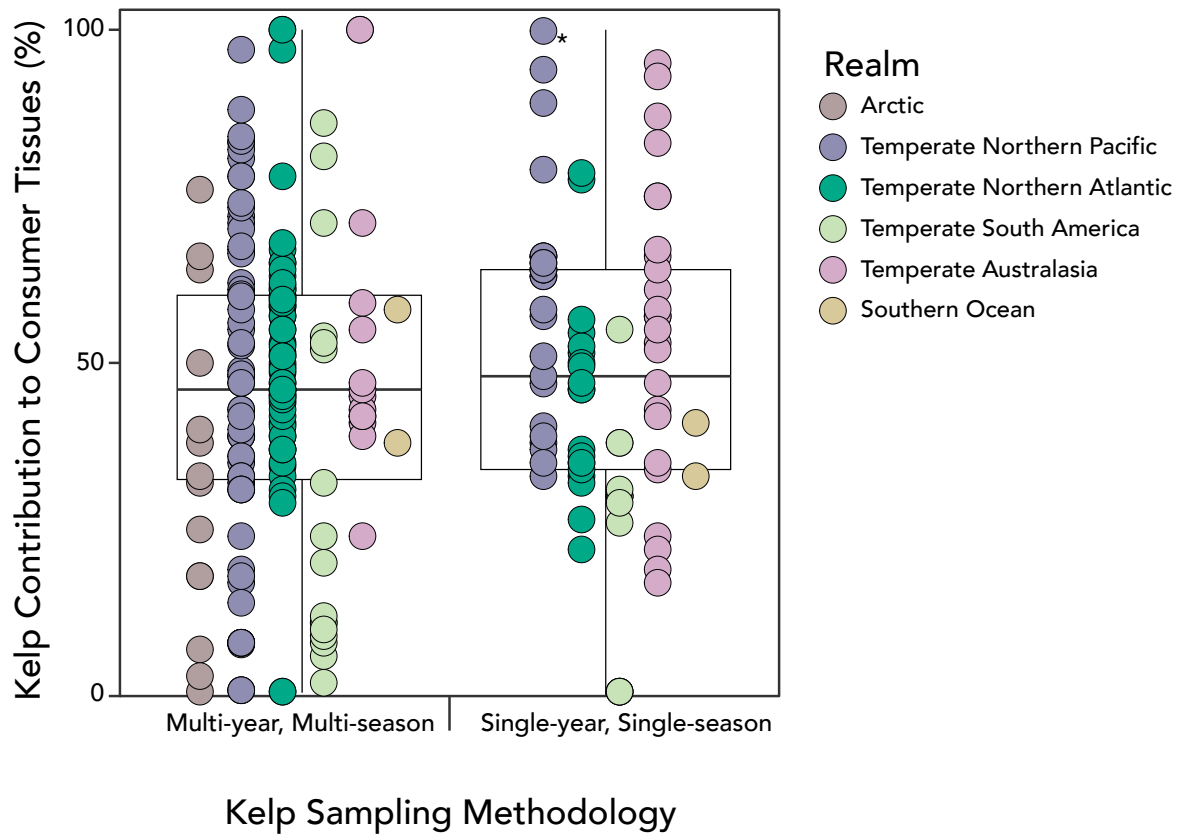


**Figure A1. Influence of sample size on isotopic estimates of kelp contribution to consumer tissues.** For this analysis, we randomly selected (with replacement) 1 to 100 samples from our dataset of the best represented consumer functional groups across the globe. These data included kelp contribution estimates for suspension feeders ( $n = 118$  measurements, 77 taxa), carnivores ( $n = 59$  measurements, 37 taxa), and grazer/herbivores ( $n = 48$  measurements, 40 taxa). We repeated this random sampling process 100 times. For each iteration we calculated (1) the mean estimated contribution of kelp (or a kelp + macroalgae endmember) with associated standard deviation, and (2) the number of species randomly sampled within each iteration. We conducted these tests at the global level (“All Realms”), and also separately for the Temperate Northern Pacific ( $n=73$  measurements, 36 taxa), Temperate Northern Atlantic ( $n=75$  measurements, 58 taxa), and Temperate Australasia ( $n=35$  measurements, 25 taxa). In all cases, our saturation curves suggest that as sample size decreases below 15-20 species, we have reduced confidence in the characterization of kelp-derived energy to local fauna. For random samples of 5 taxa, for example, the variance in our estimate across All Realms was  $\sim 40\%$  greater than at 10 taxa and  $94\%$  greater than at 15 taxa. This same pattern held within the three realms we examined independently.

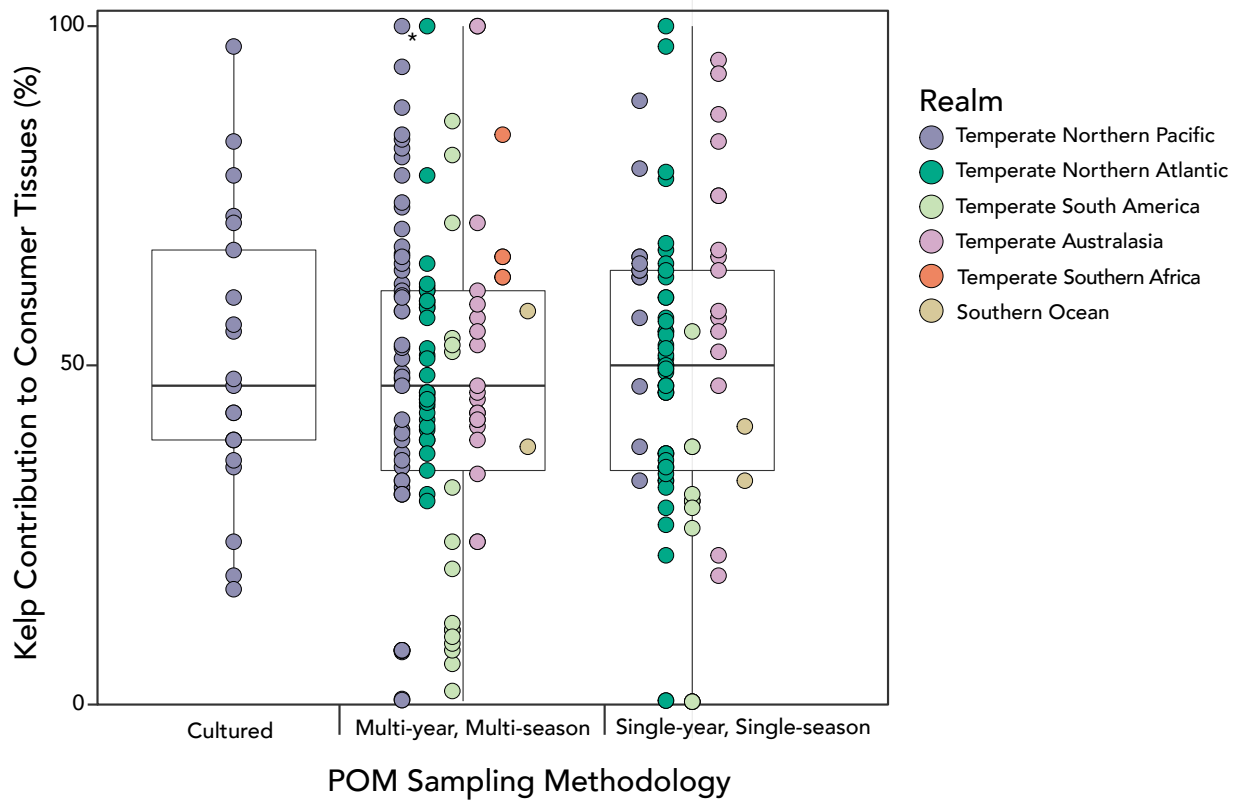


**Figure A2. A comparison of reported particulate organic matter (POM) values and offshore POM values reported in studies of kelp forest ecosystems.** Box plots illustrate the spread of data around the median value POM values that are pooled across all reviewed studies. We assume POM values not designated as “offshore” in the literature reflect nearshore water samples (n=98) while samples defined as offshore reflect pelagic water samples (n=35). Given the similarity in the global means for each group we pool all POM samples for comparison to global kelp  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  values.

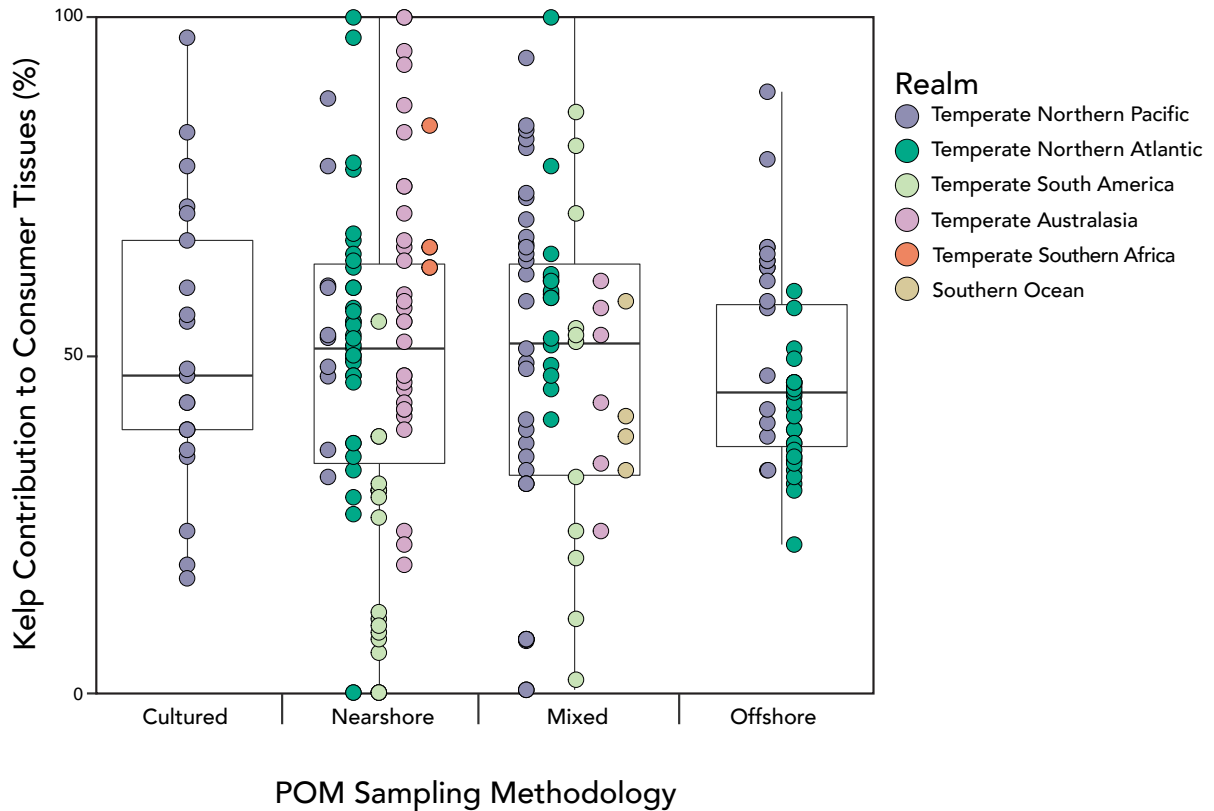




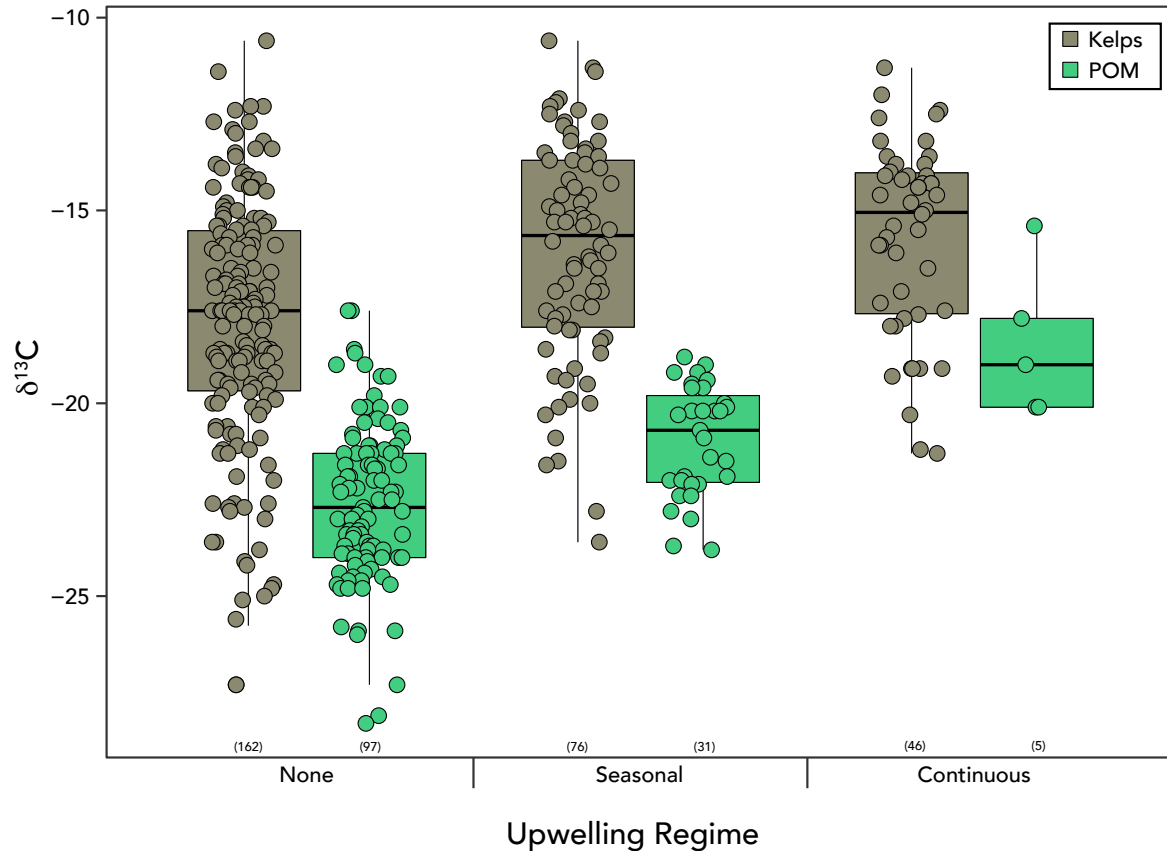
**Figure A3. Effects of kelp sampling time frame on the estimated contribution of kelp carbon to consumers.** Box plots illustrate the spread of data around the median % kelp contribution pooled across all reviewed studies which provided quantitative estimates for this metric (Supplementary material Appendix 1 Table A2) and also provided sufficient methodological information to characterize the sampling time frame of the kelp endmember. Circles represent the average % contributions of kelp (n=212) or a combined kelp + macroalgae endmember (n=44) to a given consumer species and locality; colors indicate biogeographic ‘Realms’ (as per Spalding et al. 2007). We excluded data from ‘Uncategorized’ functional groups (n=16). Asterisk (\*) indicates a single estimate of 109% kelp for *Tegula pulligo* from Markel and Shurin (2015) which we have assumed here to be simply 100%. Studies were binned according to the time frame of kelp sampling – either samples were collected over just a single season and year, or a broader time frame. No statistically significant differences in the reported % kelp estimates are evident among these groupings. This was true at the broader factor scale comparing ‘Multi-year, Multi-season’, vs. ‘Single-year, Single-season’ globally (ANOVA:  $F_{(1, 254)} = 1.037$ , p-value = 0.31), as well as within Realms (post hoc Tukey’s HSD showed no significant differences of methodology within Realms). All relevant data/metadata can be found in Supplementary material Appendix 2 Data A2.



**Figure A4. Effects of particulate organic matter (POM) sampling time frame on kelp contribution estimates to consumers.** Box plots illustrate the spread of data around the median % kelp pooled across all reviewed studies which provided quantitative estimates for this metric (Supplementary material Appendix 1 Table A2) and also provided sufficient methodological information to characterize the sampling time frame of a POM endmember. Circles represent % contribution of kelp (n=201) or a combined kelp + macroalgae endmember (n=41) to a given consumer species and locality; colors indicate biogeographic ‘Realms’ (as per Spalding et al. 2007). We excluded data from ‘Uncategorized’ functional groups (n=16). Asterisk (\*) indicates a single estimate of 109% kelp for *Tegula pulligo* from Markel and Shurin (2015) which we have assumed here to be simply 100%. Studies were binned according to the time frame of POM sampling – either samples were cultured (Duggins et al. 1989), collected over just a single season and year, or a broader time frame. No statistically significant differences in the reported % kelp estimates are evident among these groupings. This was true at the broader factor scale comparing ‘Cultured’, ‘Multi-year, Multi-season’, vs. ‘Single-year, Single-season’ globally (ANOVA:  $F_{(2, 239)} = 0.198$ , p-value = 0.821), as well as within Realms (post hoc Tukey’s HSD showed no significant differences of methodology within Realms). All relevant data/metadata can be found in Supplementary material Appendix 2 Data A2.



**Figure A5. Effects of particulate organic matter (POM) sampling type on kelp contribution estimates to consumers.** Box plots illustrate the spread of data around the median % kelp estimates pooled across all reviewed studies which provided quantitative estimates for this metric (Supplementary material Appendix 1 Table A2) and also provided sufficient methodological information to characterize the sampling strategy for a POM endmember. Circles represent % contribution of kelp (n=201) or a combined kelp + macroalgae endmember (n=41) to a given consumer species and locality; colors indicate biogeographic ‘Realms’ (as per Spalding et al. 2007). We excluded data from ‘Uncategorized’ functional groups (n=16). Asterisk (\*) indicates a single estimate of 109% kelp for *Tegula pulligo* from Markel and Shurin (2015) which we have assumed here to be simply 100%. Studies were binned according to the type of POM sampled – either samples were cultured (Duggins et al. 1989), collected from the nearshore only, collected from offshore locations only, or collected from both offshore and nearshore locations (‘Mixed’). No statistically significant differences are evident among these groupings. This was true at the broader factor scale comparing ‘Cultured’, ‘Nearshore’, ‘Nearshore & Offshore’, and ‘Offshore’ globally (ANOVA:  $F_{(3, 238)} = 0.16$ , p-value = 0.923), as well as within Realms (post-hoc Tukey’s HSD showed no significant differences of methodology within Realms). All relevant data/metadata can be found in Supplementary material Appendix 2 Data A2.



**Figure A6. Carbon isotope values of kelp forest endmembers as a function of local oceanography.** Box plots illustrate the spread of data around the median  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  values of kelps and particulate organic matter (POM) pooled from all reviewed studies (Supplementary material Appendix 1 Table A2). Sample sizes are provided parenthetically. ANOVA results indicate significant differences in the  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  values of each endmember between areas with no upwelling (“None”) as compared to areas with either “Seasonal” or “Consistent” upwelling; kelps and POM sampled from upwelling regions had higher values than areas with no upwelling [ANOVA for kelps:  $F_{(2,281)}=15.02$ ,  $p<0.001$ ; ANOVA for POM:  $F_{(2,130)}=16.53$ ,  $p<0.001$ ]. We found no difference between Seasonal and Consistent upwelling areas for kelps (Tukey’s HSD:  $p_{\text{adjusted}}=0.8212$ ). We did find a significant difference between Seasonal and Consistent upwelling areas for POM (Tukey’s HSD:  $p_{\text{adjusted}}=0.0253$ ); however, we consider this result to be inconclusive due to the low sample size from the Consistent region ( $n=5$ ). We also found significant differences within oceanographic regions between endmembers. Kelps and POMs differed by 4.7‰ in areas without upwelling (Tukey’s HSD:  $p_{\text{adjusted}}<0.001$ ), and by 4.9‰ in areas with Seasonal upwelling (Tukey’s HSD:  $p_{\text{adjusted}}<0.001$ ). We found no differences between these sources in areas with Consistent upwelling (Tukey’s HSD:  $p_{\text{adjusted}}=0.2593$ ); however as above the low sample size for POM in this category makes this finding inconclusive. All isotopic endmember data can be found in Supplementary material Appendix 2 Data A1.

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