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# Balanced Polymorphism Fuels Rapid Selection in an Invasive Crab Despite High Gene Flow and Low Genetic Diversity.

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**Balanced polymorphism fuels rapid selection in an invasive crab  
despite high gene flow and low genetic diversity**

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Accepted Article

32 **Abstract:**

33

34 Adaptation across environmental gradients has been demonstrated in numerous systems with  
35 extensive dispersal, despite high gene flow and consequently low genetic structure. The  
36 speed and mechanisms by which such adaptation occurs remain poorly resolved, but are  
37 critical to understanding species spread and persistence in a changing world. Here, we  
38 investigate these mechanisms in the European green crab *Carcinus maenas*, a globally  
39 distributed invader. We focus on a northwestern Pacific population that spread across >12  
40 degrees of latitude in 10 years from a single source, following its introduction <35 years ago.  
41 Using six locations spanning >1,500 km, we examine genetic structure using 9,376 Single  
42 Nucleotide Polymorphisms (SNPs). We find high connectivity among five locations, with  
43 significant structure between these locations and an enclosed lagoon with limited connectivity  
44 to the coast. Among the five highly connected locations, the only structure observed was a  
45 cline driven by a handful of SNPs strongly associated with latitude and winter temperature.  
46 These SNPs are almost exclusively found in a large cluster of genes in strong linkage  
47 disequilibrium that was previously identified as a candidate for cold tolerance adaptation in  
48 this species. This region may represent a balanced polymorphism that evolved to promote  
49 rapid adaptation in variable environments despite high gene flow, and which now contributes  
50 to successful invasion and spread in a novel environment. This research suggests an answer  
51 to the paradox of genetically depauperate yet successful invaders: populations may be able to  
52 adapt via a few variants of large effect despite low overall diversity.

## 53 Introduction

54

55 In the ocean, where many species are characterized by large population sizes, long-distance  
56 planktonic dispersal, and broad ranges (Kinlan & Gaines, 2003; Palumbi & Pinsky, 2014),  
57 there has been a classical assumption of genetic homogeneity and little persistent  
58 differentiation (Hedgecock, 1986). Recently, however, both population genomics and  
59 comparative physiology have uncovered evidence of genetic selection and functional  
60 differences among widespread populations living across varied marine environments (Sanford  
61 & Kelly, 2011; Pespeni & Palumbi, 2013). Likewise, genetic studies and associated modeling  
62 have detected subtle genetic structure driven by oceanography in species that disperse  
63 widely (Galindo, Olson, & Palumbi, 2006; White et al., 2010; Xuereb et al., 2018). This  
64 increasing evidence for differentiation in the sea begs the question of how quickly, and  
65 through which mechanisms, marine species may cope with rapidly changing environmental  
66 conditions (Munday, Warner, Monro, Pandolfi, & Marshall, 2013). Introduced species, which  
67 in many cases establish and thrive in novel habitats, offer the opportunity to examine these  
68 questions in the context of the natural environment (Blackburn, 2008; Lee, Kiergaard,  
69 Gelembiuk, Eads, & Posavi, 2011).

70

71 Marine species exhibit a spectrum of evolutionary mechanisms based in part on their  
72 dispersal. Local adaptation in the classical sense is restricted to species with relatively limited  
73 dispersal, which facilitates the selection and retention of adaptive alleles within a population  
74 (Kawecki & Ebert, 2004). Relatively isolated populations are also likely to diverge due to  
75 neutral processes, as genetic drift changes allele frequencies across the genome (Ellingson &  
76 Krug, 2016; Prunier, Dubut, Chikhi, & Blanchet, 2017). On the other end of this evolutionary  
77 spectrum lie open marine systems, where alleles are continually exported from each location  
78 to a mixed pool of larvae that may settle in environments far different from their sources. In  
79 this dynamic, balanced polymorphism is favored, and adaptive variation is maintained within  
80 the population as a whole (Sanford & Kelly, 2011). These adaptive alleles mix as larvae  
81 disperse, and the environmental conditions they encounter as they recruit can result in strong  
82 and rapid selection that culls less-fit alleles from the local population (Sotka, 2012). This  
83 phenomenon has been described largely in the context of maintaining differentiation across

84 small-scale environmental differences year after year in systems where the scale of dispersal  
85 far exceeds the scale of selection. For example, strong selection to salinity appears to have  
86 maintained an enzymatic cline in mussels along Long Island Sound (Koehn, Newell, &  
87 Immermann, 1980), and microhabitat differences across tidal heights maintain balanced  
88 polymorphism in limpet populations (Schmidt, Bertness, & Rand, 2000). Such examples may  
89 better reflect the realized capacity of highly dispersive marine species to adapt to stressors  
90 across complex oceanographic regimes than studies of strict local adaptation (Véliz,  
91 Duchesne, Bourget, & Bernatchez, 2006).

92

93 As species expand into new environments, the process of adaptation may be mediated by the  
94 complex demographic effects that often occur at range edges (Bridle & Vines, 2007; Chuang  
95 & Peterson, 2016). Expanding populations are frequently characterized by sequential  
96 bottlenecks and losses of genetic diversity caused by small groups of colonizing organisms  
97 (Eckert, Samis, & Loughheed, 2008; White, Perkins, Heckel, & Searle, 2013; Bors, Herrera,  
98 Morris, & Shank, 2019). The success of some such populations, which multiply and spread  
99 despite low genetic diversity, has been coined the “genetic paradox of invasions” (Roman &  
100 Darling, 2007). These bottlenecks can also lead to increased stochasticity at range edges,  
101 causing allele surfing and other distinctive genetic patterns (Excoffier & Ray, 2008). Gene  
102 flow plays a substantial role in this process. In some cases, low-diversity edge populations  
103 may be evolutionarily limited by a lack of gene flow (Sexton, Strauss, & Rice, 2011;  
104 Takahashi et al., 2016), while in others, semi-isolation at range edges permits rapid evolution  
105 in organisms at the expansion front (Phillips, Brown, Webb, & Shine, 2006; Kilkenny &  
106 Galloway, 2012; Szücs et al., 2017). High dispersal and large populations may also facilitate  
107 species persistence and expansion, if functional diversity can be maintained and quickly  
108 spread throughout the expanding range (Rius & Darling, 2014). The maintenance of such  
109 diversity can in theory provide the raw substrate for adaptation and permit extremely quick  
110 evolutionary response to shifting conditions (Tigano & Friesen, 2016; Llaurens, Whibley, &  
111 Joron, 2017). However, to date, the relative contributions of selection and drift as populations  
112 establish in novel environments have not been explored empirically in high gene flow  
113 systems.

114

115 The European green crab (*Carcinus maenas*) along the northeast Pacific coastline presents  
116 an ideal test case for untangling the dynamics of rapid marine adaptation and differentiation  
117 with high potential gene flow. In this region, the species established an initial population in  
118 San Francisco Bay by 1990 (Carlton & Cohen, 2003), and spread >1,500 km to Vancouver  
119 Island in <10 years despite deriving from a single, significantly bottlenecked source (Tepolt et  
120 al., 2009). Green crabs advanced along the coast and primarily to the north, reaching  
121 northern California by 1995, southern Oregon by 1997, and Vancouver Island, British  
122 Columbia by 1998 (Behrens Yamada & Gillespie, 2008; Fig. 1). This rapid expansion was  
123 associated with extremely strong positive El Niño-Southern Oscillation (ENSO) indices in  
124 1997-1998 that promoted high reproductive output, northward transport, and coastal retention  
125 of larvae (Behrens Yamada et al., 2005; Behrens Yamada & Kosro, 2010; See & Feist, 2010).  
126 Importantly, in the northeast Pacific, *C. maenas* are found almost exclusively in shallow  
127 waters of protected embayments and not along the exposed outer coast between bays,  
128 resulting in a disjunct distribution of green crab populations. This habitat distribution is similar  
129 to its introduced range in South Africa, where the rocky coast is also subject to high-energy  
130 wave action (Hampton & Griffiths, 2007), but differs from its more continuous distribution in  
131 other global regions (Carlton & Cohen, 2003). The species also has a relatively wide  
132 environmental tolerance and diet breadth, along with a 30-75 day pelagic larval duration  
133 (Dawirs, 1985), which have contributed to its spread and establishment in six introduced  
134 regions across five continents (Carlton & Cohen, 2003; Hidalgo, Barón, & Orensanz, 2005).

135  
136 The importance of ENSO events in the spread and abundance of northeast Pacific *C. maenas*  
137 suggests that both temperature and local oceanography may play substantial roles in  
138 structuring the population. Decades of field surveys of abundance in both the northwest  
139 Atlantic and northeast Pacific support the importance of temperature during early  
140 development in driving recruitment strength: cold winters have been associated with weaker  
141 recruitment and smaller cohorts of crabs than milder years (Behrens Yamada & Kosro, 2010;  
142 Welch, 1968). A global physiological study demonstrated population-level differences in adult  
143 heat and cold tolerance consistent with local adaptation (Tepolt & Somero, 2014).  
144 Subsequently, transcriptomic work has identified genetic markers associated with  
145 temperature tolerance on a population level (Tepolt & Palumbi, 2020). Like many marine

146 species, *C. maenas* larvae have shown narrower temperature tolerances than adults in  
147 laboratory trials, suggesting that thermal tolerance at early life stages may be particularly  
148 important in shaping crab populations across different years (Dawirs, 1985; de Rivera et al.,  
149 2007).

150  
151 Here, we use transcriptome-derived SNPs from *C. maenas* populations in the northeast  
152 Pacific to test the roles of connectivity and selection in shaping the population structure of this  
153 highly dispersive and recently introduced species. Using six sites spanning over 1,500 km of  
154 coastline, we examine population structure and relative migration to elucidate connectivity  
155 among embayments across the species' northeast Pacific range. For a few sites, we have  
156 temporal samples spanning 2-5 years, which we use to examine the stability of population  
157 structure over time. Finally, we test for candidate genes for selection across a thermal  
158 latitudinal gradient, comparing these candidates to genes identified in a prior global study of  
159 the genetic basis of thermal tolerance differences in the species. As this population was  
160 founded <35 years ago from a single source, our data represent patterns of divergence and  
161 selection that have arisen in under 20 generations.

162

## 163 **Materials and Methods**

164

### 165 *Sample Collection*

166 Twelve crabs were sampled from each of six sites along the northeast Pacific range of *C.*  
167 *maenas* in 2015-2016 (Figure 1). Two of these sites (Seadrift Lagoon and San Francisco Bay,  
168 CA, USA) were sampled in both years, while the remaining sites were sampled once. We also  
169 reanalyzed raw sequence data from a prior study of crabs collected in 2011 from two sites  
170 (Seadrift Lagoon, CA, USA and Barkley Sound, BC, Canada; Tepolt & Palumbi 2015). Crabs  
171 were collected by hand or trap, and hearts were dissected and stored in RNALater at -80°C.

172

### 173 *Extraction & Sequencing*

174 Total RNA was extracted from cardiac tissue using TRIzol (Invitrogen, Carlsbad, CA, USA)  
175 with 1-bromo-3-chloropropane (Simms, Cizdziel, & Chomczynski, 1993). RNA was quantified  
176 using the broad-range RNA assay on a Qubit 3.0 fluorometer (Invitrogen), and up to 4 µg of

177 RNA was used to prepare individually-barcoded cDNA libraries with Illumina's TruSeq  
178 Stranded mRNA Library Prep Kit (Illumina, San Diego, CA, USA). Libraries were sent to the  
179 University of California Berkeley's Genomics Sequencing Laboratory, where they were  
180 quantified and pooled into groups of 16 multiplexed samples run on five lanes of an Illumina  
181 HiSeq 4000 in 50-bp single-end reads.

182

### 183 *Sequence Processing and SNP Identification*

184 Raw sequences were cleaned and trimmed using Trim Galore! v0.6.4  
185 ([http://www.bioinformatics.babraham.ac.uk/projects/trim\\_galore/](http://www.bioinformatics.babraham.ac.uk/projects/trim_galore/)), a wrapper for Cutadapt v2.6  
186 (Martin 2011). A nucleotide call quality cutoff of Phred  $\geq 20$  was used, and reads  $\leq 20$ bp after  
187 adapter removal and quality trimming were discarded. A published *C. maenas* cardiac  
188 transcriptome was used as a reference (Tepolt & Palumbi 2015), after an expression-based  
189 screening to remove poorly-supported contigs and reduce computational load. Briefly, we  
190 mapped trimmed and clipped reads from Tepolt & Palumbi 2015 back to the reference  
191 transcriptome using salmon v1.2.1 (Patro, Duggal, Love, Irizarry, & Kingsford, 2017). We  
192 retained only contigs with TPM  $> 1$ , and re-annotated these contigs using EnTAP v 0.9.1 (Hart  
193 et al. 2020), comparing all 6 reading frames against the Swissprot, TrEMBL, and nr protein  
194 databases (downloaded March 2020). Annotations to Decapoda were prioritized with the  
195 program's '--taxon' flag. Contigs with a clear taxonomic mismatch to decapods (e.g., bacteria,  
196 green plants, fungi, etc.), as well as all likely mitochondrial and ribosomal contigs, were  
197 identified and removed from the project after alignment to minimize non-target mapping. This  
198 resulted in a clean reference transcriptome of 25,552 nuclear contigs.

199

200 Cleaned reads were mapped back to the *C. maenas* cardiac transcriptome using Bowtie2  
201 v2.4.1 with default settings (Langmead & Salzberg 2013). Picard v2.22.0 was used to sort  
202 reads, identify and mark duplicate read sequences, and index the resulting bam files  
203 (<http://broadinstitute.github.io/picard>). The Genome Analysis Toolkit (GATK) v4.1.7.0 was  
204 used to identify and genotype biallelic SNPs (McKenna et al. 2010; DePristo et al. 2011).

205

206 Across all 120 samples (24 from 2011 and 96 from 2015-2016), GATK identified 163,261  
207 biallelic SNPs with Phred quality scores  $\geq 20$ . We identified high-quality, well-supported SNPs

208 for downstream analyses using a custom python script that retained only individual genotypes  
209 with Phred  $\geq 20$  and supported by  $\geq 5$  reads. We excluded SNPs missing high-quality  
210 genotypes at  $\geq 4$  individuals for any site-by-year samples of 12 individuals, SNPs with  
211 heterozygosity  $\geq 0.7$  (to screen out obvious paralogs), and SNPs where the alternate allele  
212 was observed only once across all individuals (to minimize bias by potential sequencing  
213 errors). In total, 9,376 SNPs had high-quality genotypes for  $\geq 8$  individuals per group and were  
214 retained for downstream processing. All 120 individuals had high-quality genotypes at  $>80\%$   
215 of these SNPs.

216

### 217 *Identification of Putative Inversion Polymorphisms*

218 We explored the relationship of the 9,376 high-quality SNPs to identify potential inversion  
219 polymorphisms and other disproportionately large groups of SNPs in linkage disequilibrium  
220 (LD). Pairwise  $R^2$  was calculated across all SNPs using the `--geno-r2` and `--interchrom-geno-`  
221 `r2` options in `vcftools v0.1.16` (Danecek et al. 2011). We then used the R package `LDna v0.64`  
222 to identify networks of SNPs in large, compact clusters, setting minimum edges to 45  
223 (expected for 10 closely-linked SNPs) and `phi` to 15 (Kemppainen et al. 2015).

224

225 We identified one large outlier LD cluster, which contained 168 SNPs from 56 different  
226 contigs. To further investigate this cluster, we explored the relationship between member  
227 SNPs using Principal Components Analysis (PCA) in `smartPCA`, implemented in `Eigensoft`  
228 `v7.2.1` (Price et al., 2006). We used the 116 individuals that had  $<20\%$  missing genotypes  
229 across the 168 SNPs in this cluster. This PCA separated individuals into three clear groups  
230 along PC1, and we calculated  $F_{IS}$  within each of these groups to determine relative  
231 heterozygosity (Kemppainen et al. 2015). These analyses strongly suggested an inversion  
232 polymorphism (see Results below), so for clarity we refer to this group of 168 SNPs as an  
233 “inferred inversion” throughout the rest of the manuscript. To compare the impact this putative  
234 inversion had on overall population structure, we also ran a PCA on the same 116 individuals  
235 using the full SNP set both with and without the 168 SNPs in the inferred inversion ( $N = 9,376$   
236 and 9,208 SNPs, respectively).

237

### 238 *Genetic Structure and Diversity*

239 SNPs were separately screened to identify all sets of markers in linkage disequilibrium (LD)  
240 and generate a set of independent SNPs for population genomics. Pairwise  $R^2$  values  
241 (calculated above) were used to identify groups of two or more SNPs in LD at  $R^2 \geq 0.8$  using  
242 the R package igraph v1.2.4.2 (Csardi & Nepusz 2006), and then all but one SNP in each  
243 group was removed, leaving a set of 6,848 independent SNPs. The one SNP retained from  
244 each group had the highest number of high-quality genotypes, with lower-coverage SNPs  
245 within an LD group preferentially removed. We use the term “independent” to indicate that  
246 these SNPs have been screened to remove those in strong LD, but note that these SNPs  
247 may be in LD at lower levels so are not all truly independent. Similarly, this set of 6,848  
248 independent SNPs retained 54 of the 168 SNPs in the inferred inversion which were in lower  
249 levels of LD with each other ( $R^2$ : 0.29-0.79).

250

251 Basic descriptive statistics were calculated for each site-by-year sample using the set of  
252 6,848 independent SNPs (Table 1). Allelic richness ( $A_r$ ) and private allelic richness ( $pA_r$ ) were  
253 determined using ADZE v1.0 (Szpiech, Jakobsson, & Rosenberg, 2008). The R package  
254 genepop v1.1.7 was used to calculate observed and expected heterozygosity ( $H_o$  and  $H_e$ ),  
255 and to calculate the inbreeding coefficient ( $F_{IS}$ ) and test for heterozygote excess or deficiency  
256 using Hardy-Weinberg tests (Rousset 2008). The number of polymorphic SNPs in each  
257 sample was determined using Arlequin v.3.5.2.2 (linux core implementation; Excoffier &  
258 Lischer 2010).

259

260 To identify a subset of putatively neutral SNPs with which to examine population structure  
261 unconfounded by selection, we used BayPass v2.2 in the core model (Gautier et al. 2015),  
262 with each site-by-year sample treated as its own group. We assessed potential outliers using  
263 a simulated pseudo-observed data set of 6,848 SNPs with the parameters of the real data to  
264 set a 10% false discovery rate (FDR) threshold for SNP XtX. This conservative threshold was  
265 chosen to avoid retaining SNPs under weak selection, thus yielding a set of SNPs more likely  
266 to be truly neutral. This frequency-based approach removed all but one of the SNPs later  
267 identified as a candidate for environmental association (see below).

268

269 Genetic structure for both the independent ( $N = 6,848$ ) and putatively neutral ( $N = 6,311$ ) SNP

270 sets was assessed with smartPCA. Pairwise  $F_{ST}$  was calculated between all site-by-year  
271 groups according to Weir & Cockerham's (1984) approach using the R package 'StAMPP'  
272 v1.6.1 with both the independent and putatively neutral SNP sets (Pembleton, Cogan, &  
273 Forster, 2013). Significance was assessed using 10,000 permutations, and resulting p-values  
274 were adjusted for multiple tests using a Benjamini-Hochberg false discovery rate correction  
275 (Benjamini & Hochberg 1995).

276

277 We included only the most recent temporal sample from each site for an analysis of relative  
278 migration using the putatively neutral SNP set (Table 1). Symmetry and relative magnitude of  
279 migration between sites was assessed using the 'divMigrate' function in the R package  
280 'diveRsity' v1.9.90, with the Nm method and 1,000 bootstraps (Sundqvist, Keenan,  
281 Zackrisson, Prodöhl, & Kleinhaus, 2016). This approach, which calculates relative directional  
282 migration, was chosen because it is more robust if populations do not perfectly satisfy some  
283 of the assumptions underlying approaches to quantify an effective migration rate (e.g., island  
284 model, mutation-drift equilibrium).

285

286 All analyses showed strong separation of a single site, Seadrift Lagoon, from all other sites  
287 (see Results below). Because of this genetic distinctiveness, isolation-by-distance (IBD)  
288 analysis excluded pairwise comparisons with Seadrift Lagoon, focusing only on the remaining  
289 five "open" sites. Pairwise  $F_{ST}$  values were used to plot IBD between sites, using along-shore  
290 distance calculated at 50km resolution with the USA map from GADM supplemented with  
291 Google Maps for distances <50km (gadm.org). When comparisons spanned San Francisco  
292 Bay and the Strait of Juan de Fuca, distances were calculated across the mouths of these  
293 features. IBD was plotted using five different SNP sets, to explore different potential drivers of  
294 latitudinal structure along the coast: 1) 6,848 independent SNPs, 2) 6,311 putatively neutral  
295 SNPs, 3) 54 "independent" SNPs in the inferred inversion, 4) 6,794 independent SNPs  
296 excluding the 54 independent SNPs in the inferred inversion 5) 144 outlier SNPs identified  
297 among the five "open" sites with BayPass (see Results). The significance of these  
298 relationships was assessed using linear regression in R.

299

300 *Markers under Selection*

301 We identified SNPs potentially under environmental selection using BayPass and  
302 Redundancy Analysis (RDA). We ran these tests using only the five open sites, excluding  
303 Seadrift Lagoon, to identify markers potentially driving the observed signal of IBD and  
304 latitudinal structuring along the coast. For this testing we used a single sample, collected in  
305 2015-2016, from each site: 6,662 SNPs of the full 6,848 SNP set were polymorphic in these  
306 five samples and were used for tests of selection. Tested covariates included site latitude (as  
307 Cartesian Y-values) and winter and summer sea surface temperature (SST). Temperature  
308 data were derived from NOAA's OI SST V2 High Resolution Dataset provided by the  
309 NOAA/OAR/ESRL PSD, Boulder, Colorado, USA, from their website at  
310 <https://www.esrl.noaa.gov/psd/> (Reynolds et al. 2007). Daily temperatures were averaged  
311 over the 2 years prior to sampling, and were determined for the nearest 0.25° grid location to  
312 each study site for January (winter) and July (summer).

313  
314 In BayPass, we first ran a core model analysis to identify frequency outlier SNPs, then used  
315 the auxiliary covariate model to test for associations between allele frequencies and latitude  
316 and winter and summer SST (Gautier 2015). Covariates were scaled, and we used an Ising  
317 prior of 0 since the physical order of contigs is unknown. We considered any SNP with Bayes  
318 factor (BF)  $\geq 15$  dB to be a candidate for selection with respect to a given covariate.

319  
320 We ran an RDA on individual genotypes using the R package 'vegan' v2.5-6 (Oksanen et al.  
321 2019), with missing genotypes imputed to be the most common observed. Few individual  
322 genotypes were missing in our data set: genotyping was  $\geq 90\%$  complete for 97.1% of SNPs,  
323 and no single sampling site was missing  $>4$  individual genotypes at any SNP. We used  
324 latitude and summer temperature as covariates (RDA formula = individual genotypes  $\sim Y +$   
325 July SST); winter temperature was excluded as it was strongly correlated with latitude ( $R^2 =$   
326 0.79;  $p = 0.03$ ). We considered any SNP  $>3$  SD outside the mean loading for its RDA axis to  
327 be a candidate for selection (e.g., Forester et al., 2018).

328  
329 SNPs were considered strong candidates for selection if they were identified by both BayPass  
330 and RDA. Latitude is largely correlated with SST in this data set, due both to the strongly  
331 linear north-south arrangement of sites along the coast and to the relative coarseness of the

332 satellite-derived temperature data. Because of this confounding, we treated all SNPs  
333 identified as candidates for association with either latitude or temperature interchangeably. To  
334 visualize these relationships, candidate SNPs were tested for linear correlation between  
335 minor allele frequency and latitude or temperature.

336

### 337 *Potential Function of Candidate SNPs*

338 Candidate SNPs were examined for their potential impact on protein structure, to provide an  
339 initial idea of SNPs that were particularly likely to affect organismal function. Open Reading  
340 Frames (ORFs) and corresponding coding sequences for all contigs were predicted using  
341 OrfPredictor v3.0 (Min, Butler, Storms, & Tsang, 2005); as many contigs could not be  
342 annotated, sequence data alone was used to predict ORFs. Predicted sequences were then  
343 used to class the impact of a given SNP on the resulting protein sequence (untranslated,  
344 synonymous, or non-synonymous) using a custom python script. Of the 9,376 high-quality  
345 SNPs, we predicted that 4,339 were in the untranslated regions of the mRNA and two were in  
346 contigs for which an ORF could not be predicted. Of the putatively coding SNPs, 3,843 were  
347 predicted to be synonymous and 1,192 to be non-synonymous. We examined SNP  
348 substitution patterns for all 9,376 candidate SNPs prior to LD screening. While putatively  
349 linked SNPs were removed from the data set prior to selection analysis, they could potentially  
350 be driving any relationships we detected in SNPs with which they are in strong LD.

351

352 Data manipulation and plotting were done using the data.table and ggplot2 packages in R  
353 (Wickham 2009; R Core Team 2016; Dowle & Srinivasan 2017).

354

## 355 **Results**

356

### 357 *Inferred Inversion Polymorphism*

358 Linkage disequilibrium network analysis identified one single outlier LD cluster nested in one  
359 compound outlier LD cluster (Figure 2A-B). The compound outlier LD cluster, which we refer  
360 to as an “inferred inversion”, contained 168 SNPs at an LD of  $R^2 \geq 0.29$ . PCA of these 168  
361 SNPs split individuals into three discrete groups along the first principal component,  
362 explaining 73.08% of variance ( $p = 0.001$ ; Figure 2C). While individuals from most sites

363 appeared in all three groups, the left-most group contained predominantly British Columbia  
364 and Seadrift Lagoon while the right-most group contained predominantly Elkhorn Slough and  
365 San Francisco Bay. This pattern of three distinct groups explaining the majority of structure,  
366 with no discrete partitioning of sites, is diagnostic of a region of the genome where  
367 recombination is reduced (Kempainen et al. 2015). In that case, each group represents a  
368 karyotype: homozygotes on the left and right sides of PC1, and heterozygotes midway  
369 between. Analysis of  $F_{IS}$  within each of these groups supports this conclusion, with values  
370 near zero in the putative homozygotes (indicating Hardy-Weinberg equilibrium) and strongly  
371 negative in the putative heterozygotes (indicating an excess of heterozygous individuals;  
372 Figure 2D). Overall  $F_{IS}$  is lower in the middle than in the left or right groups ( $p < 0.0001$  for  
373 both comparisons), while the left and right groups are not significantly different from each  
374 other ( $p = 0.1$ ).

375  
376 Genetic structure over all SNPs showed a significant divide between Seadrift Lagoon and the  
377 other five sites, both with and without the 168 SNPs in the inferred inversion ( $p < 0.0001$ ;  
378 Figure 2E-F). With the full set of 9,376 SNPs, individuals in both Seadrift Lagoon and the  
379 remaining five “open” sites were further subdivided into three clusters according to their  
380 inferred inversion genotype ( $p < 0.0001$ ; Figure 2C,E). When the 168 SNPs in the inferred  
381 inversion were removed, this three-part structure disappeared and the second principal  
382 component was no longer significant ( $p = 0.09$ ; Figure 2F).

383

#### 384 *SNP Selection and Genetic Diversity*

385 Of the full 9,376 high-quality SNP set, 3,962 SNPs comprised 1,434 groups in LD with  $R^2 \geq$   
386 0.8; all but one SNP was removed from each group to create a set of 6,848 “independent”  
387 SNPs. This screening differs from the earlier LDna analysis, which sought to identify large  
388 clusters of LD; by contrast, this approach intends simply to remove bias to population  
389 structure measurements from including any sets of SNPs in strong LD. The majority of these  
390 groups ( $N = 839$ ) comprised small numbers of SNPs in the same contig. The largest of these  
391 groups by far included 77 SNPs from the inferred inversion; no other groups contained  $>13$   
392 SNPs. We note that this analysis did not identify all 168 SNPs in the inferred inversion as  
393 being in the same group, since some of those SNPs are in LD with others at  $R^2 < 0.8$ ;

394 consequently, the set of 6,848 independent SNPs includes 54 SNPs in the inferred inversion.  
395  
396 After removing SNPs in strong LD, we had a final working panel of 6,848 high-quality,  
397 independent SNPs. BayPass identified 537 of these SNPs as potentially under selection at  
398 FDR  $\leq 0.1$  across all site-by-year samples; these SNPs were removed to construct a panel of  
399 6,311 putatively neutral SNPs for selected downstream analyses.

400  
401 Allelic richness ranged from 1.669-1.711 (Table 1); it was significantly lower in Seadrift  
402 Lagoon than in all other sites in all years ( $p \leq 0.005$ ; Table 1). Private allelic richness was low,  
403 ranging from 0.00438-0.00771; seven pairwise comparisons were significant, all comparing  
404 Seadrift Lagoon in 2011 or 2016 with non-Seadrift Lagoon sites ( $p < 0.05$  for all  
405 comparisons). Lower allelic richness in Seadrift Lagoon reflects a lower number of  
406 polymorphic SNPs there than in all other sites (Table 1). All samples showed a significant  
407 heterozygote excess.

408

#### 409 *Population Structure and Migration*

410  $F_{ST}$  was significant between most sample pairs when using the 6,848 independent SNP set  
411 (pairwise  $F_{ST}$  excluding temporal comparisons: 0.00058-0.027; SI Table S1). By contrast,  
412 when using the 6,311 putatively neutral SNPs nearly all significant comparisons were  
413 between Seadrift Lagoon samples and all other sites (pairwise  $F_{ST}$  including Seadrift: 0.0081-  
414 0.016; pairwise  $F_{ST}$  excluding Seadrift: -0.0021-0.0044; SI Table S2). There was no evidence  
415 for differentiation within any temporal comparison across years with the putatively neutral  
416 SNP set (pairwise  $F_{ST}$ : -0.0020-0.0014; SI Table S2). Principal components analysis  
417 reinforced these patterns, with the first component separating Seadrift Lagoon from all other  
418 sites with both the independent and neutral SNP sets (6,848 independent SNPs: loading =  
419 2.75%,  $p < 0.0001$ ; 6,311 neutral SNPs: loading = 2.07%,  $p < 0.0001$ ; Figure 3A,B). The  
420 second component was significant only with the independent SNP set (loading = 1.53%,  $p <$   
421 0.0001), and spread non-Seadrift Lagoon sites along a rough north-south axis (Figure 3A).  
422 With the neutral SNP set, this pattern collapsed ( $p > 0.05$ ), with near-complete overlap among  
423 all non-Seadrift Lagoon samples (Figure 3B). While Seadrift Lagoon had significantly lower  
424 allelic richness than all other sites, there were no significant differences among the remaining

425 open sites (Figure 3C).

426

427 To test a realistic migration scenario, we estimated relative migration using only the most  
428 recent sample from each site. Estimates of relative migration between sites (using 6,311  
429 neutral SNPs only) demonstrated similar and symmetrical migration among all sites except  
430 Seadrift Lagoon (Figure 3D). Consistent with Seadrift Lagoon's distinctiveness, we found  
431 evidence for reduced migration both into and out of this site relative to the rest of our study  
432 sites (Figure 3D). The approach we used sets the maximum observed migration to 1 and  
433 scales the rest of the migration estimates accordingly. Between all five open sites, we  
434 observed values of 88-100% of maximum observed migration, while estimated migration  
435 between Seadrift Lagoon and all other sites ranged from 68-78% of the maximum. We note,  
436 however, that it is impossible to fully differentiate between ongoing low-level migration and  
437 recent divergence (with no ongoing migration) given the recent history of green crabs in the  
438 northeast Pacific.

439

440 A test of IBD along the five "open" sites (excluding Seadrift Lagoon) recapitulated the north-  
441 south pattern observed for these sites in the PCA, but only when putatively selected SNPs  
442 were included. The 6,848 independent SNP set showed a significant pattern of IBD ( $R^2 =$   
443  $0.38$ ;  $p = 0.0002$ ), which collapsed completely with the 6,311 neutral SNP set ( $R^2 = -0.02$ ;  $p =$   
444  $0.4$ ) or when removing only the 54 SNPs in the inferred inversion ( $R^2 = 0.00$ ;  $p = 0.3$ ; Figure  
445 4A). However, we note that overall differentiation for all of these SNP sets was very low, with  
446 a maximum pairwise  $F_{ST}$  of 0.0066. IBD was much stronger in the 144 outlier SNPs  
447 (frequency outliers across the five open sites), and stronger still in the 54 "independent" SNPs  
448 in the inferred inversion. The 144 frequency outliers had significant IBD with a maximum  
449 pairwise  $F_{ST}$  of 0.16 ( $R^2 = 0.38$ ;  $p = 0.002$ ), while the SNPs in the inferred inversion showed a  
450 strong IBD pattern ( $R^2 = 0.77$ ;  $p < 0.0001$ ) with a maximum pairwise  $F_{ST}$  of 0.24 between the  
451 most distant two sites (Figure 4B).

452

### 453 *Selection in the Northeast Pacific*

454 All tests for selection were run with only the most recent temporal sample from the five open  
455 sites, using the 6,662 SNPs of the 6,848 independent SNP set that were variable in these five

456 samples. Using the BayPass core model, 144 unlinked SNPs were frequency outliers at FDR  
457  $\leq 0.05$  among these five samples. The BayPass covariate test identified 26 SNPs related to  
458 latitude, 26 SNPs associated with January SST, and six SNPs associated with July SST (SI  
459 Figure S1). Seventeen of these SNPs were associated with two or more traits, for a total of 40  
460 unique environmentally associated SNPs. Some associations were quite strong, with seven  
461 SNPs associated with latitude and/or winter temperature at  $BF \geq 25$  dB. No SNPs were  
462 strongly associated with July SST (SI Figure S1).

463  
464 The Redundancy Analysis (RDA) showed that latitude fell almost perfectly along the first RDA  
465 axis, while July SST fell between the first and second axes (SI Figure S2). In this test,  
466 association with latitude also represents association with January SST, which was not  
467 included as the two measures were strongly correlated. The full RDA was significant ( $F =$   
468  $1.10$ ,  $p = 0.001$ ), as were both resulting RDA axes (RDA1:  $F = 1.12$ ,  $p = 0.001$ ; RDA2:  $F =$   
469  $1.09$ ,  $p = 0.003$ ). Variance Inflation Factors were less than 2 for both axes, indicating no  
470 potential confounding from multicollinearity in the environmental variables. In total, 23 SNPs  
471 were identified as outliers on one of the two RDA axes: of these, 15 were most strongly  
472 associated with latitude while 8 were most strongly associated with July SST (SI Figure S2).

473  
474 We took as our most likely candidate markers for selection those associated with latitude or  
475 temperature in both the BayPass and RDA analyses. In total, 13 SNPs overlapped between  
476 the 40 identified with BayPass and the 23 identified with RDA. Of these, two were excluded  
477 because of rarity (maximum per-population MAF  $\leq 0.3$ ). Ten of the remaining 11 candidate  
478 SNPs were in the inferred inversion; these were retained in the independent SNP set because  
479 they were not in strong enough LD with each other to have been removed (threshold for  
480 strong LD:  $R^2 \geq 0.8$ ). For visualization purposes, we generated “extended genotypes” for the  
481 inferred inversion by classing individuals based on group membership in a PCA of all 168  
482 SNPs (Figure 2C). As noted earlier, individuals belonging to the left-most group were classed  
483 as homozygotes for the minor allele, those in the middle group as heterozygotes, and those in  
484 the right-most group as homozygotes for the major allele. For the open sites (minus Seadrift  
485 Lagoon), both the inferred inversion and the independent candidate SNP had MAFs that were  
486 significantly correlated with latitude (Figure 5). Interestingly, for the inferred inversion, MAF in

487 Seadrift Lagoon fell outside the predicted line, instead having a MAF closer to that of British  
488 Columbia and predicted to belong to a more northern and/or colder site (Figure 5A). By  
489 contrast, Seadrift MAF fell along the line predicted by MAF in the open sites for the one  
490 candidate SNP outside this inferred inversion (Figure 5B).

491  
492 The ten candidate SNPs in the inferred inversion were in strong LD with a number of SNPs  
493 removed from the unlinked data set, for a total of 97 SNPs in 39 different contigs (SI Table  
494 S3). Because we ran selection analyses on a set of SNPs that had been pruned to remove  
495 those in strong LD, any of these 97 SNPs (or other linked variation we did not retain after  
496 SNP QC) could be driving the observed pattern of selection. Of the 97 candidate SNPs in the  
497 inferred inversion, 18.6% (18/97) were predicted to change the amino acid sequence of the  
498 resulting protein compared to 12.7% (1,192/9,374) in the full 9,376 SNP set (before linkage  
499 filtering). The 18 predicted non-synonymous SNPs in the inferred inversion were in contigs  
500 annotated as: hypoxia inducible factor 1 alpha (2 SNPs), NAD-dependent protein deacylase,  
501 fibrillin-2-like isoform X4, ubiquinol-cytochrome-c reductase complex assembly factor 1, SMB  
502 domain-containing protein (3 SNPs), protein lingerer-like, prosaposin-like, cartilage oligomeric  
503 matrix protein, ATP-dependent RNA helicase DDX56, one uncharacterized protein, and four  
504 unannotated contigs (5 SNPs). The one candidate SNPs not in the inferred inversion was  
505 predicted to be a synonymous substitution in protein SGT1 homolog (SI Table S4).

506

## 507 **Discussion**

508

509 The expansion of *C. maenas* along the northeast Pacific coast is a canonical example of the  
510 “genetic paradox of invasions”. The population has been demonstrably successful, rapidly  
511 expanding along >1,500 km of coastline despite deriving from a single genetically  
512 depauperate source. Here, we have shown that variation in a specific region of the genome –  
513 an inferred chromosomal inversion previously associated with cold tolerance in the species –  
514 appears to be under strong latitudinal selection in this system. Population genomics shows  
515 that this putative selection is occurring against a backdrop of high oceanographic connectivity.  
516 Our sampling comprises five discrete bays connected by high larval gene flow, and a single  
517 oceanographically isolated population that has diverged genetically in <20 generations,

518 demonstrating the importance of larval connectivity in mediating population dynamics in range  
519 expansion. Comparison with older data shows that genetic structure and diversity have  
520 remained stable across at least one generation, suggesting large population sizes and  
521 consistent recruitment pools over time. We propose that this high connectivity, a hallmark of  
522 the species, may have promoted the initial evolution of this inferred inversion as a balanced  
523 polymorphism in Europe and may be critical to its persistence and spread in introduced  
524 populations. In turn, the variation protected by this inversion may play a key role in *C.*  
525 *maenas*' success across wide environmental gradients in its introduced range despite  
526 significant reductions in overall genetic diversity.

527

### 528 *Chromosomal Inversions and Adaptation*

529 The importance of chromosomal architecture, particularly chromosomal inversions, has been  
530 increasingly recognized in selection with gene flow in natural systems (Tigano & Friesen,  
531 2016). Inversion polymorphisms can be extensive, and can maintain extended genotypes at  
532 hundreds to thousands of genes by suppressing recombination in heterozygotes (Kirkpatrick,  
533 2010). While inversion is not the only mechanism by which recombination can be reduced, it  
534 is generally believed to be most effective in maintaining large blocks of co-adapted genes  
535 over time (Lamichhaney & Andersson, 2019). This recombination suppression, in turn,  
536 permits suites of gene variants to evolve and be inherited together, capturing complex multi-  
537 gene interactions in a single “supergene” (Thompson & Jiggins, 2014).

538

539 Inversions have been directly associated with important differences in ecotype across small  
540 spatial scales in interbreeding populations, suggesting that this type of chromosomal  
541 architecture can promote highly localized selection (Westram et al., 2018; Huang et al. 2020).  
542 In some systems, including monkeyflowers and Atlantic cod, important differences in life  
543 history have been linked to just one or two inversions (Twyford & Friedman 2015; Kirubakaran  
544 et al. 2016). Pioneering work on *Drosophila* identified a number of inversions showing clinal  
545 associations with latitude and temperature; such relationships have been shown to develop  
546 rapidly in introduced populations (Balanyà et al. 2006), and to predictably “cycle” in frequency  
547 with changing seasonal temperatures within a population (Kapun et al. 2016). Together, this  
548 growing body of work suggests that inversions can act as targets of spatial balancing

549 selection in systems where the scale of gene flow exceeds the scale of environmental  
550 heterogeneity, providing an effective mechanism by which such species can respond to their  
551 environments on very fast time scales (Sanford & Kelly, 2011; Tigano & Friesen, 2016).

552

553 We have previously proposed that a chromosomal inversion or another genomic region of  
554 reduced recombination is likely under selection to temperature in *C. maenas* (Tepolt &  
555 Palumbi, 2020). Many of the same SNPs identified in the inferred inversion in this study were  
556 independently found to be part of the putative inversion in that prior global study, indicating  
557 that the same likely inversion is associated with cold tolerance globally and with latitudinal  
558 divergence along the northeast Pacific. In the earlier study, candidate SNPs were variable in  
559 the European native range and showed similar evidence of strong linkage disequilibrium and  
560 reduced recombination there (Tepolt & Palumbi, 2020). This demonstrates that rapid selection  
561 in the northeast Pacific is acting primarily on standing variation that arose in the original  
562 source population, ruling out post-invasion dynamics as a driver for this linkage disequilibrium  
563 (Slatkin, 2008).

564

#### 565 *Population Structure and Temporal Dynamics*

566 In the northeast Pacific, *C. maenas* has lost significant overall genetic diversity compared to  
567 its East Coast source or the species' native range in Europe (Tepolt & Palumbi, 2015).

568 However, diversity is largely consistent across its northeast Pacific range, with no losses at  
569 the range edges relative to the San Francisco source (Figure 3C). While diversity loss in  
570 expanding range edges has been widely noted and is a common expectation (Vucetich,  
571 Waite, & Nunney, 1997; Eckert et al., 2008), it may be mediated by large population sizes and  
572 high gene flow (Excoffier, Foll, & Petit, 2009). Green crabs spread rapidly but episodically up  
573 the coast from the initial point of introduction in San Francisco Bay, with the largest expansion  
574 in conjunction with the strong 1997-1998 ENSO event (Behrens Yamada et al., 2005). Further  
575 research has shown that strong crab cohorts have corresponded with warmer waters and  
576 enhanced northward nearshore currents (Behrens Yamada, Peterson, & Kosro, 2015).

577 Modeling has shown that larval dispersal trajectories likely vary considerably both within and  
578 between years depending on hydrography, with larvae potentially traveling both north and  
579 south (Brasseale, Grason, McDonald, Adams, & MacCready, 2019). Together with this prior

580 work, our data suggest that periodic transport events are sufficient to maintain consistent  
581 genetic diversity and structure across time and space in these open bays despite the variable  
582 nature of recruitment in the system.

583

584 All of our data point to ongoing high gene flow across the range of the recent and rapid *C.*  
585 *maenas* expansion in the northeast Pacific, with one exception (Figure 3). This exception is  
586 Seadrift Lagoon, which is small, isolated from the adjacent Bolinas Lagoon, and now  
587 oceanographically separated from the larger coastal circulation (Ritter, 1970). Green crabs  
588 were first reported in Seadrift Lagoon in 1993 (Tepolt et al., 2009), and by 2011, our first year  
589 of sampling, they had lost significant genetic diversity relative to the rest of our study sites  
590 (Tepolt & Palumbi, 2015; Figure 3C). Our current sampling does not include Bolinas Lagoon,  
591 the larger lagoon to which Seadrift Lagoon was historically connected but to which it is now  
592 linked only by culverts with managed water flow. However, a prior study of the temporal  
593 dynamics of *C. maenas* using microsatellites found no evidence for diversity loss in Bolinas  
594 Lagoon relative to any other sites, including San Francisco Bay and Bodega Bay (Tepolt et  
595 al., 2009). Data from experimental removal work in Seadrift Lagoon suggest that population  
596 dynamics in the lagoon are highly localized (Grosholz et al., 2021). Given the observed  
597 openness of the other bays, we would expect structure and diversity to homogenize quickly if  
598 Seadrift Lagoon were receiving substantial larval inputs from surrounding, higher-diversity  
599 populations.

600

601 Genetic structure and diversity appear to be stable over time at least for the 5-6 years  
602 covered by our sampling, with no significant changes in  $F_{ST}$  or allelic richness across years  
603 within a site. The lifespan of *C. maenas* is no more than 4-6 years (Behrens Yamada et al.,  
604 2005), and we did not sample the largest and oldest individuals, so the 2011 and 2016  
605 samples represent non-overlapping generations. Structure and diversity were stable in both  
606 sites we sampled across generations, including one of the well-mixed open sites (Barkley  
607 Sound), and the putatively isolated Seadrift Lagoon.

608

### 609 *High Gene Flow and Rapid Selection*

610 Against a background of high gene flow and negligible neutral genetic structure among most

611 sites along the northeast Pacific, we observed a north-south gradient in the system driven by  
612 an inferred inversion polymorphism (Figure 3A, 4). While it is very difficult to disentangle  
613 selection from allele surfing at range expansion (Excoffier et al., 2009; Lotterhos & Whitlock,  
614 2014), and we cannot say conclusively that allele surfing does not play a role in this IBD  
615 pattern, several lines of evidence suggest that we are detecting a genuine signal of selection.  
616 Green crabs along the northeastern Pacific coast comprise large populations with high  
617 dispersal and gene flow, traits that limit the potential for successful allele surfing (Excoffier et  
618 al., 2009; Goodsman, Cooke, Coltman, & Lewis, 2014). These traits are reflected in similar  
619 levels of genetic diversity across all of the populations in the more highly connected “open”  
620 bays (Figure 3C). In addition, while *C. maenas* has spread primarily northward from its site of  
621 first introduction, the sole area of southern spread with an established population (Elkhorn  
622 Slough) shows MAF consistent with increases of “southern” alleles. This is contrary to the  
623 expectations of allele surfing, in which a species expanding along multiple range edges is  
624 expected to demonstrate different “favored” alleles in each direction by chance (Demastes,  
625 Hafner, Hafner, Light, & Spradling, 2019).

626  
627 Finally, many of the same SNPs found in the inferred inversion driving latitudinal divergence  
628 were previously identified as belonging to a putative supergene strongly associated with  
629 thermal physiology in a dataset spanning six native- and invasive-range *C. maenas*  
630 populations (Tepolt & Palumbi, 2020). While winter SST and latitude cannot be disentangled  
631 in our current dataset, this previous study provided stronger evidence for temperature in  
632 driving selection. Together with the minimal neutral structure across the open sites, we  
633 suggest that the inferred inversion in our study is very likely maintained as a balanced  
634 polymorphism under strong selection to temperature.

635  
636 Recent research using fine-scale sampling covering multiple years, life stages, and sampling  
637 sites has shown that targets of selection can vary across all of these scales in high-dispersal  
638 systems, contributing to patterns that may appear chaotic with less thorough sampling (Thia  
639 et al., 2021). While “chaotic genetic patchiness” is often a hallmark of such systems (Eldon et  
640 al., 2016), we did not observe that in our sampling (Figure 3A,B; 5). This may be due in part  
641 to the domination of the selective signal in our system by a single large genomic region with

642 what is likely a high selection coefficient, in concert with our sampling of adults. If selection at  
643 this region is acting primarily on the dispersive larval stage, our sampling will reflect the  
644 aftermath of this selection rather than the initial pool of recruits (Sanford & Kelly, 2011).

645 Similar patterns of balanced polymorphism have been shown in two classic examples of  
646 selection on large-effect alleles in early life stages in barnacles and mussels (Koehn et al.,  
647 1980; Schmidt & Rand, 2001).

648  
649 For SNPs in the inferred inversion, MAF at Seadrift Lagoon did not follow the predicted  
650 relationship based on the open sites and was instead characteristic of higher latitudes (Figure  
651 5A). While speculative, we suggest that Seadrift Lagoon's isolation means that crabs at this  
652 site are responding to the environment on an extremely local scale as opposed to those in  
653 other bays, whose larvae may travel hundreds of kilometers through coastal currents  
654 (Behrens Yamada et al., 2005; Brasseale et al., 2019). Seadrift Lagoon is shallow and small,  
655 and may experience more extreme (and especially colder) temperatures than nearby open  
656 bays. Finer-scale temperature data from within Seadrift Lagoon, rather than larger-scale  
657 satellite-derived SST data, would help to test this hypothesis.

658  
659 While prior work uncovered a robust link between this inferred inversion and physiological  
660 cold tolerance, its ability to identify rapid selection after invasion was limited by a complex  
661 invasion history and differences in genetic background across the six studied populations on  
662 three coastlines. Here, we demonstrate that this inferred inversion recapitulates predicted  
663 allele frequency correlation with temperature in an otherwise homogenous, highly  
664 bottlenecked introduced population over a period of 10-20 generations. This study provides  
665 evidence for very rapid adaptive change in an introduced species with extremely limited  
666 genetic diversity, and proposes this adaptation was facilitated by variation at a single  
667 inversion polymorphism that evolved and is likely maintained as a balanced polymorphism in  
668 the native range.

669  
670 *Conclusions*

671 We have long known that diversity is important to population resilience in the face of changing  
672 conditions (Reed & Frankham, 2003). The genetic paradox of invasions is that we do

673 occasionally find incredibly successful, non-clonal populations that have passed through  
674 severe bottlenecks, dramatically decreasing their genetic diversity relative to their sources  
675 (Kohn, Murphy, Ostrander, & Wayne, 2006). Perhaps we can partially resolve this paradox by  
676 considering that diversity at specific parts of the genome (rather than genome-wide diversity)  
677 may play a critical role in resilience (Estoup et al., 2016). Simulations have shown that  
678 expanding populations can adapt via a few variants of large effect even in the face of low  
679 overall diversity (Gilbert & Whitlock, 2017). High dispersal, which characterizes many marine  
680 systems, may promote the evolution of a few alleles of large effect via genomic mechanisms  
681 such as inversion polymorphisms (Tigano & Friesen, 2016). While balanced polymorphisms  
682 at large-effect alleles may permit these populations to respond extremely quickly to their local  
683 environments, they may also be a huge benefit to the survival and success of introduced  
684 populations.

685  
686 Introduced marine species often exhibit an extensive dispersal ability, resulting from close  
687 association with human-built marine infrastructure or a high capacity for larval transport  
688 (Carlton & Geller, 1993; Wilson, Dormontt, Prentis, Lowe, & Richardson, 2009). For the latter,  
689 high dispersal and gene flow may have a twofold effect wherein the same traits that allow a  
690 species to reach and spread in a new range may also promote the evolution of genomic  
691 mechanisms (i.e., balanced polymorphisms) that facilitate rapid adaptation to a range of  
692 environmental conditions (Tigano & Friesen, 2016). This is similar to the idea that periodic  
693 disturbance promotes the evolution of traits that enhance invasiveness and increase the  
694 likelihood of success in novel environments (Lee & Gelembiuk, 2008; Ketola et al., 2013). We  
695 propose that an analogous process may be at work in highly dispersive marine invaders.  
696 Such species may be able to evolve and maintain balanced polymorphisms across broad  
697 environmental gradients in their native ranges, giving them the substrate for rapid adaptive  
698 change as they expand in new environments.

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707

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1007

#### 1008 **Data Accessibility**

1009 Raw transcriptome reads from new sequencing for this project have been deposited in  
1010 GenBank's Sequence Read Archive (SRA) under BioProject ID PRJNA690934 and  
1011 BioSample IDs SAMN17267686-SAMN17267781. The cleaned transcriptome, high-quality  
1012 individual SNP genotypes, and custom scripts used in this bioinformatics pipeline from in this

1013 paper will be archived in Dryad upon acceptance. Raw sequence reads from 2011,  
1014 reanalyzed in this project, are available in the SRA under BioProject ID PRJNA283611 and  
1015 BioSample IDs SAMN03653390-SAMN03653413.

1016

1017 **Author Contributions**

1018 All authors designed the research. CT performed research, analyzed data, and wrote the  
1019 paper. All authors edited multiple drafts.

## Tables

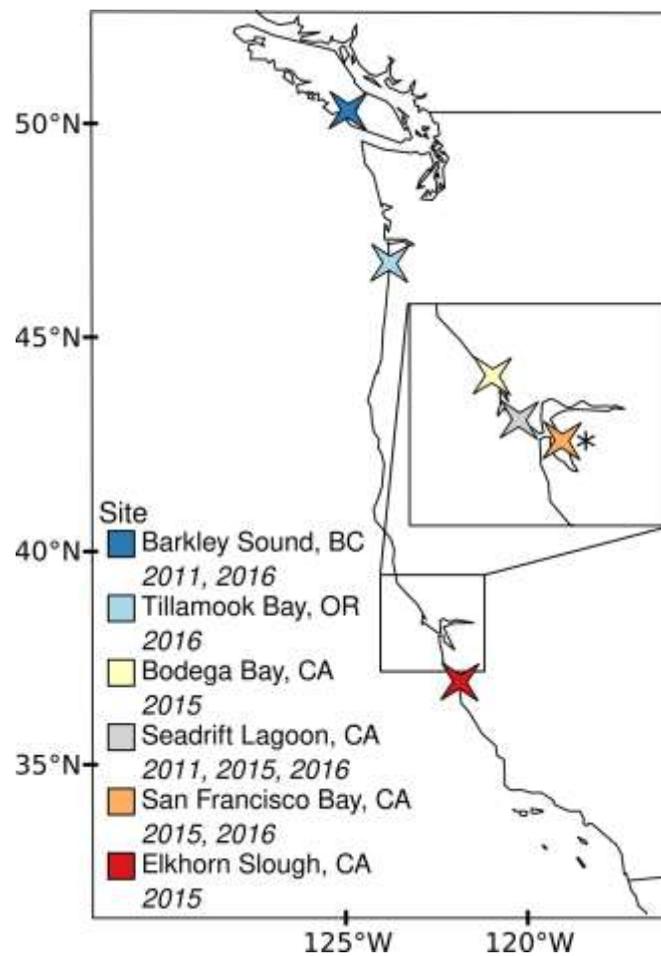
**Table 1:** Sampling information and summary statistics for each site x year sample. Adult = 1+ year old animal; YOY = Young of the Year or <1 year old animal.  $N_{\text{poly}}$  = number of polymorphic SNPs;  $A_r$  = allelic richness;  $pA_r$  = private allelic richness;  $H_o$  = observed heterozygosity;  $H_E$  = expected heterozygosity;  $F_{IS}$  = Wright's inbreeding coefficient. All samples showed a significant heterozygote excess ( $p < 0.05$ ).

Code	Site	Coordinates	Year	Age	N	$N_{\text{poly}}$	$A_r$	$pA_r$	$H_o$	$H_E$	$F_{IS}$
<b>ES_15*</b>	Elkhorn Slough, CA	36.820, -121.745	2015	Adult	12	5,546	1.708	0.00697	0.2612	0.2510	-0.0409
<b>SF_15*</b>	San Francisco Bay, CA	37.997, -122.370	2015	Adult	12	5,549	1.702	0.00621	0.2510	0.2491	-0.0078
<b>SF_16</b>	San Francisco Bay, CA	37.997, -122.370	2016	YOY	12	5,560	1.705	0.00666	0.2593	0.2501	-0.0365
<b>SL_11</b>	Seadrift Lagoon, CA	37.907, -122.662	2011	Adult	12	5,233	1.669	0.00494	0.2461	0.2414	-0.0196
<b>SL_15*</b>	Seadrift Lagoon, CA	37.907, -122.662	2015	YOY	12	5,234	1.675	0.00584	0.2609	0.2424	-0.0761
<b>SL_16</b>	Seadrift Lagoon, CA	37.907, -122.662	2016	YOY	12	5,264	1.677	0.00434	0.2498	0.2442	-0.0228
<b>BB_15*</b>	Bodega Bay, CA	38.324, -123.054	2015	Adult	12	5,538	1.706	0.00645	0.2681	0.2511	-0.0674
<b>OR_16*</b>	Tillamook Bay, OR	45.542, -123.904	2016	YOY	12	5,548	1.711	0.00762	0.2618	0.2539	-0.0311
<b>BC_11</b>	Barkley Sound, BC	49.026, -125.346	2011	Adult	12	5,562	1.711	0.00771	0.2600	0.2520	-0.0316
<b>BC_16*</b>	Barkley Sound, BC	49.026, -125.346	2016	Adult	12	5,517	1.705	0.00676	0.2630	0.2512	-0.0471

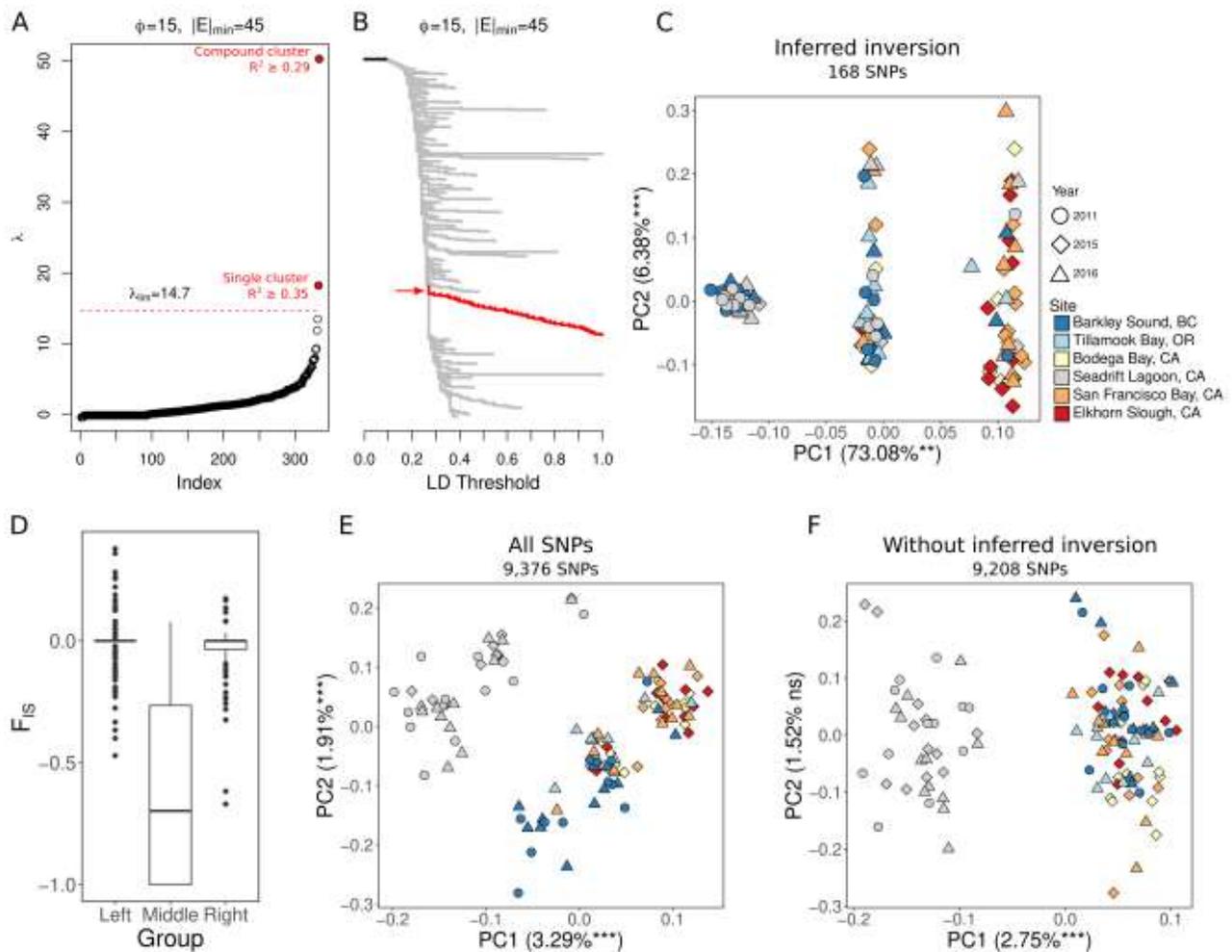
\* indicates samples used in tests of selection and relative migration.

## Figures

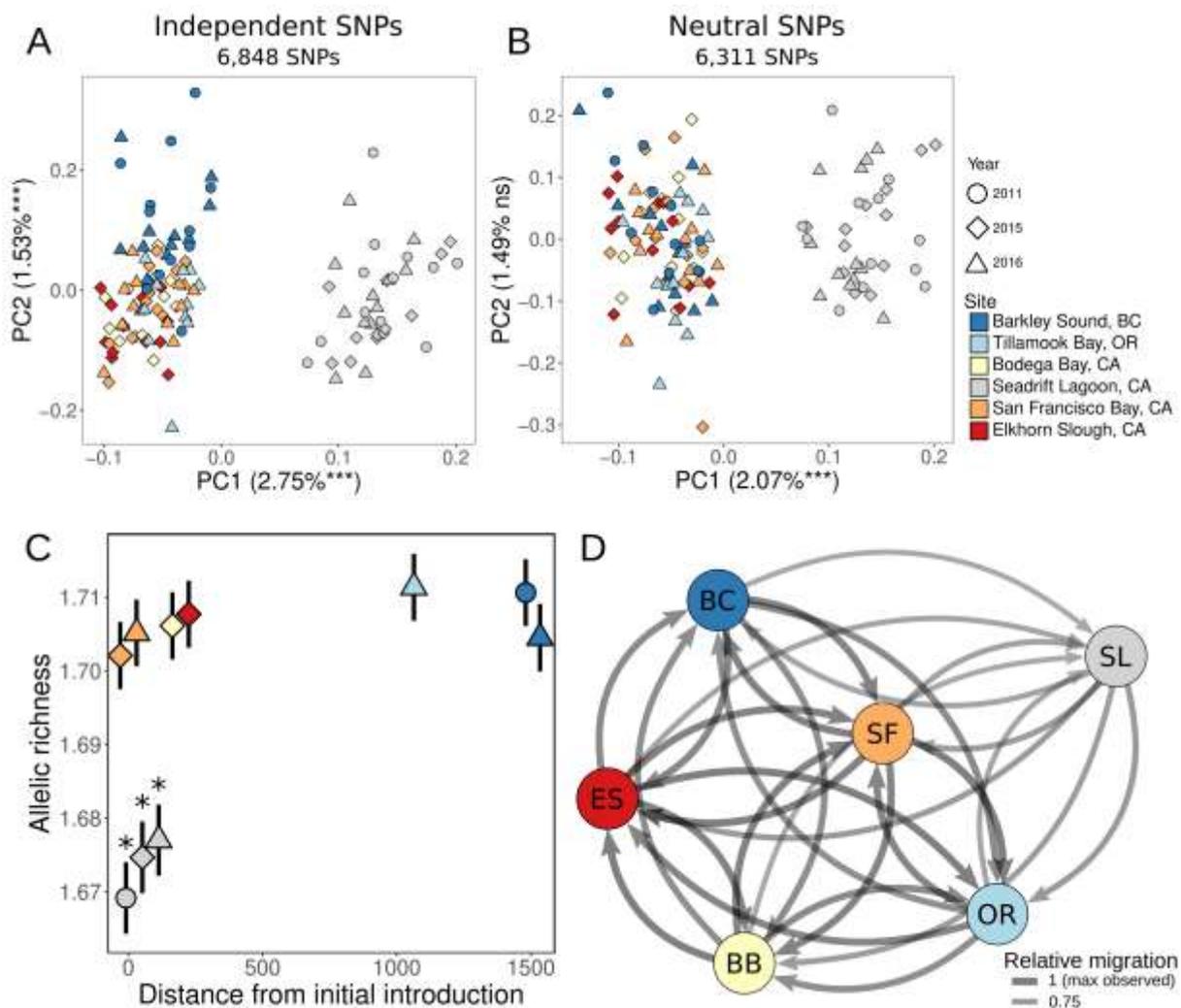
**Figure 1:** Map of sampling sites; year(s) of sampling given in italics under site names. From north to south: Barkley Sound, BC (2011, 2016); Tillamook Bay, OR (2016); Bodega Bay, CA (2015); Seadrift Lagoon, CA (2011, 2015, 2016); San Francisco Bay, CA (2015, 2016); and Elkhorn Slough, CA (2015). Asterisk indicates the location where the species was initially introduced (first detected in 1989).



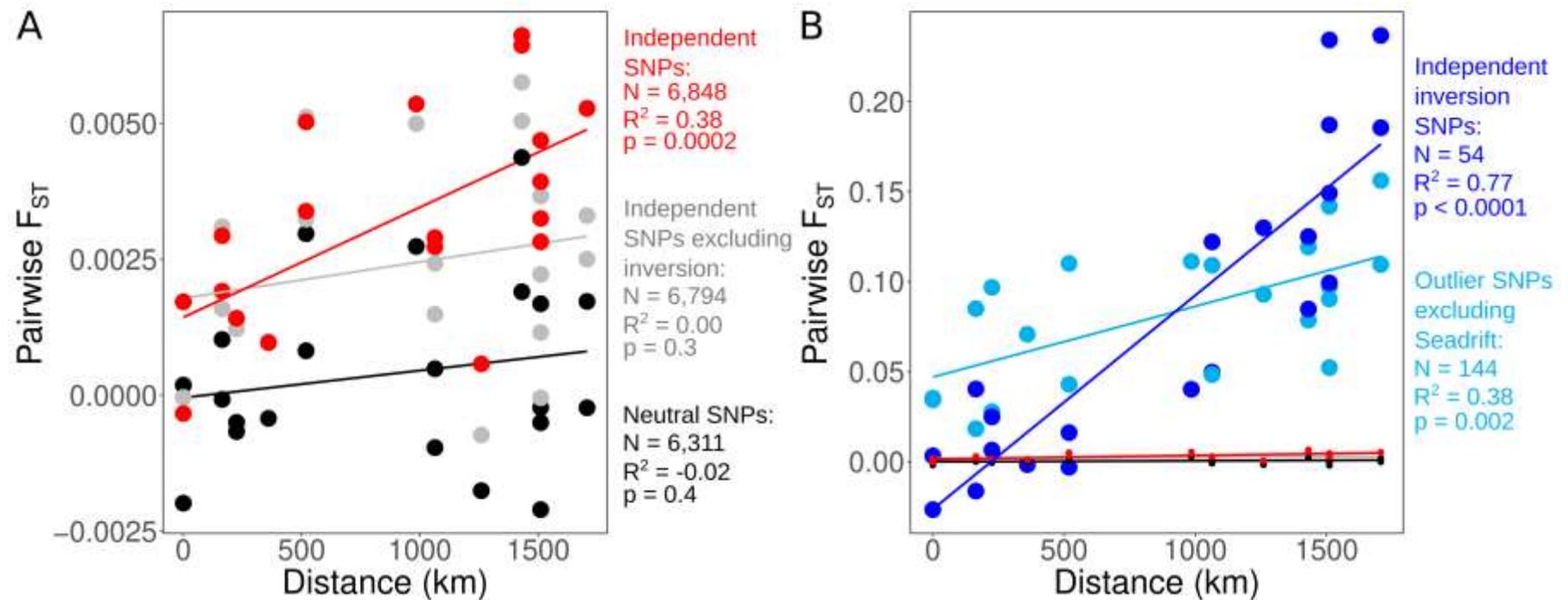
**Figure 2:** Linkage disequilibrium analysis of the full 9,376 SNP set, showing evidence for an inferred inversion. A-B: Clustering in LDna network analysis showing nested single and compound outlier LD clusters. In B, the inferred inversion (compound cluster in A) is indicated by an arrow and highlighted in red. C: PCA of 168 SNPs in inferred inversion. D:  $F_{IS}$  of 168 SNPs in inferred inversion, grouped by PC1 position in C. E: PCA of the full 9,376 SNP set. F: PCA of the full 9,376 SNP set excluding the 168 SNPs in the inferred inversion. For C-F, four individuals were excluded because they were missing high-quality genotypes at >20% of SNPs in the inferred inversion.



**Figure 3:** Genetic structure, diversity, and migration across all sites, showing high gene flow among all sites except Seadrift Lagoon. A: PCA of the independent 6,848 SNPs. B: PCA of the putatively neutral 6,311 SNPs. C: Allelic richness by population and collection year across the 6,848 independent SNPs, plotted against distance from the initial point of introduction in San Francisco Bay, CA. Points from the same site have been jittered horizontally for clarity. Vertical bars indicate standard error. Starred samples have significantly lower allelic richness than non-starred samples. D: Relative migration between sites, calculated with the Nm method, across the 6,662 independent SNPs in the five “open” sites. The highest observed rate is set to 1, and all other rates are scaled to that maximum; estimated migration both into and out of Seadrift was lower than migration between all other sites.



**Figure 4:** Comparison of isolation-by-distance (IBD) patterns across all open populations (excluding Seadrift Lagoon), showing IBD driven by SNPs in the inferred inversion. A: For all 6,848 independent SNPs (red); 6,794 independent SNPs excluding the large outlier LD cluster (gray); and 6,311 putatively neutral independent SNPs (black). B: For all 144 frequency outlier SNPs across the open populations (aqua); and all 54 SNPs from the inferred inversion in the independent SNP set (blue). The relationships in A are shown in B with smaller points; note the difference in Y-axis magnitude between the two panels.



**Figure 5:** Correlation between Minor Allele Frequency (MAF) and latitude or July SST at candidate genomic regions, showing putative selection to temperature or latitude across the five “open” sites at environmental outlier SNPs. Asterisks indicate the location where the species was initially introduced (first detected in 1989). In both cases, Seadrift Lagoon (gray point) is shown for comparison but was not used in the regression lines or equations. A) The inferred inversion; samples were classed into overall “inversion genotypes” based on their group membership in Figure 2C. B) Outlier SNP in the protein SGT homolog transcript.

