An example of a large-scale interdisciplinary carbon problem

-Multidecadal climate variability

- -Atmospheric evidence
- -Ocean source? (upwelling, biological pump)
- -Terrestrial source? (fire, enhanced storage)
- -Anthropogenic? (fossil fuel consumption)



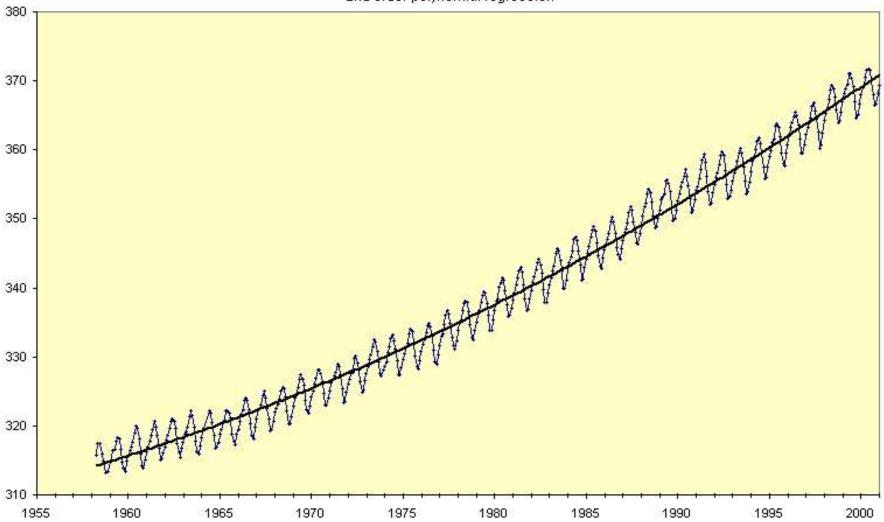
CLIMATE

## From Anchovies to Sardines and Back: Multidecadal Change in the Pacific Ocean

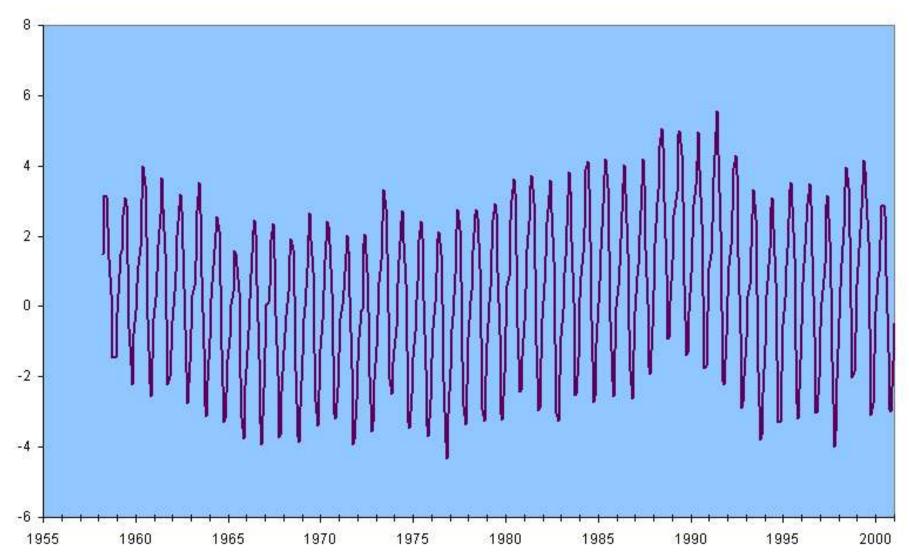
Francisco P. Chavez,<sup>1+</sup> John Ryan,<sup>1</sup> Salvador E. Lluch-Cota,<sup>2</sup> Miguel Ñiquen C.<sup>2</sup>

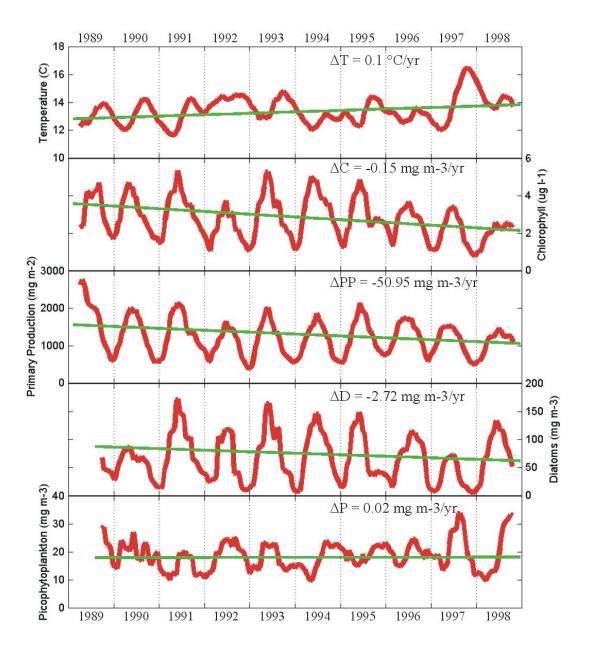
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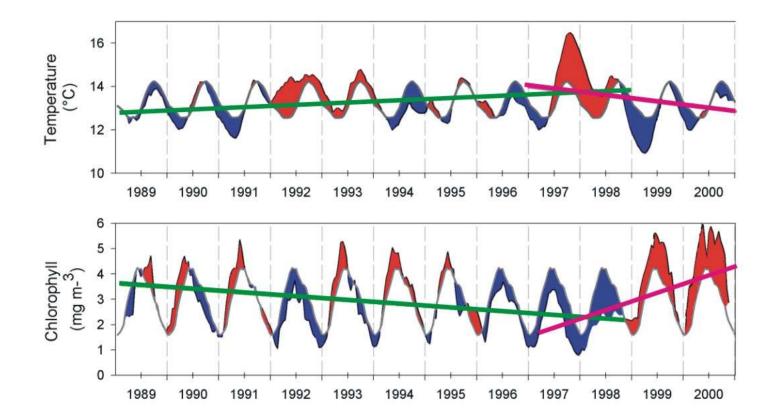
#### Mauna Loa CO<sub>2</sub> 2nd order polynomial regression

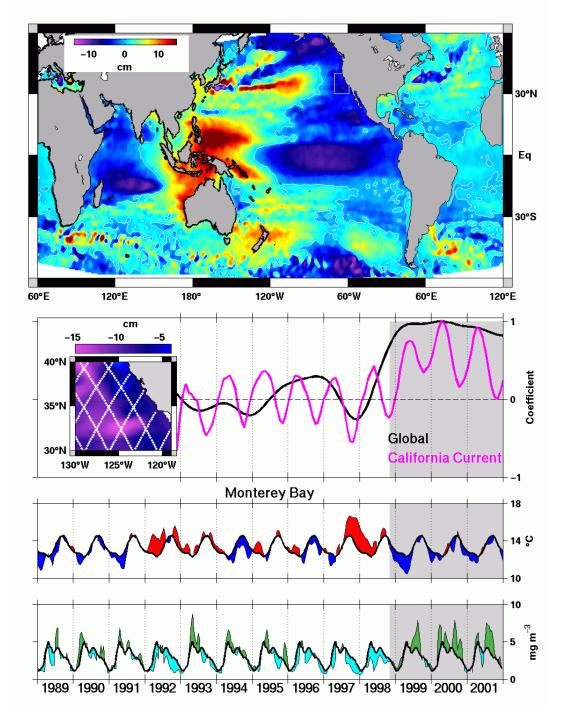


#### Mauna Loa CO<sub>2</sub>

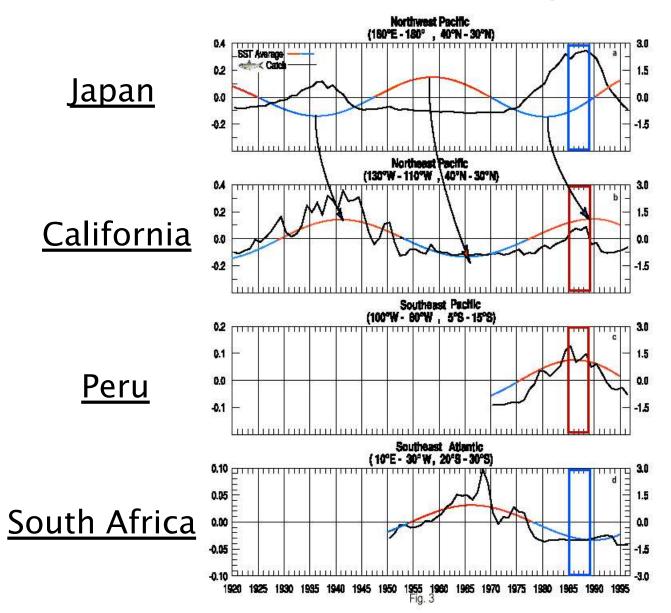


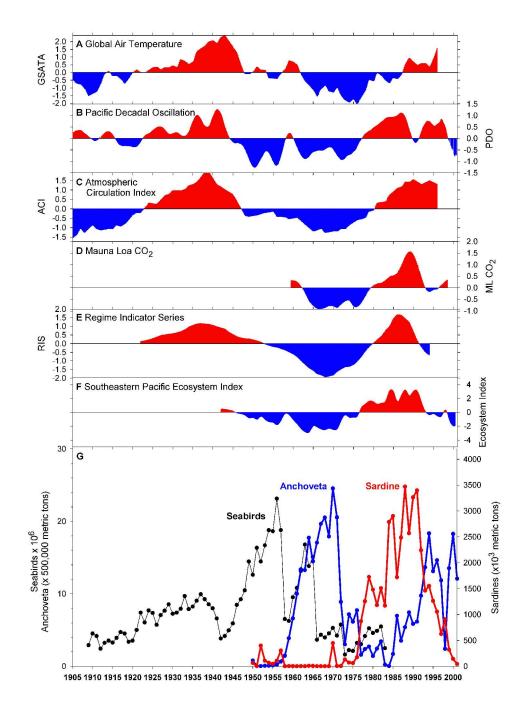


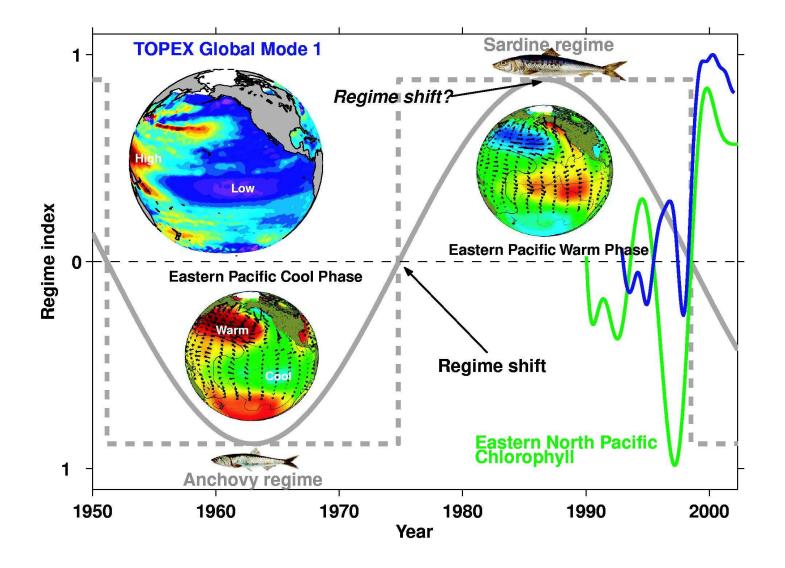




## Sardine Landings



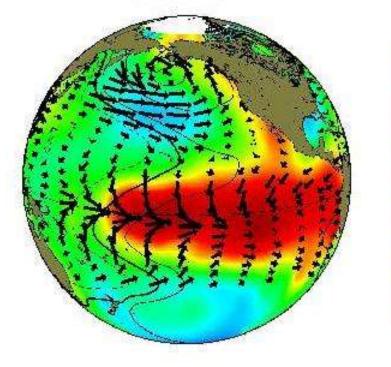


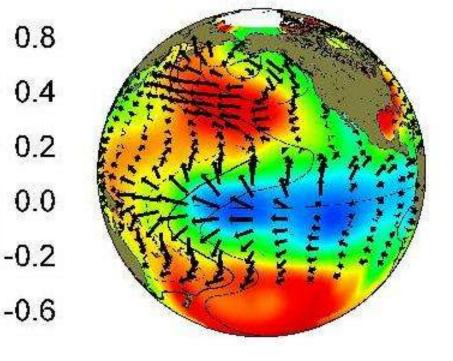


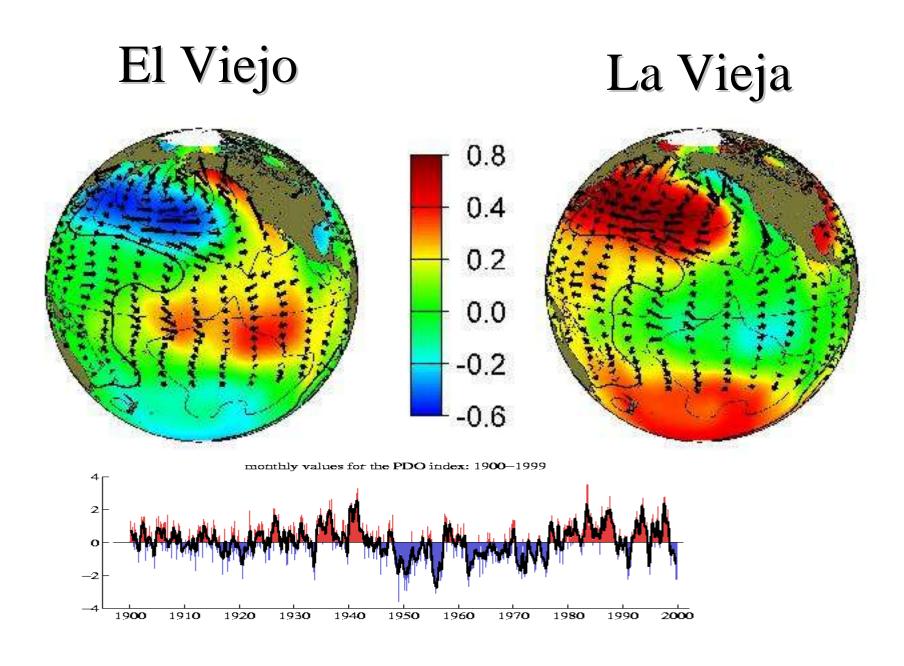
## **El Nino Southern Oscillation**

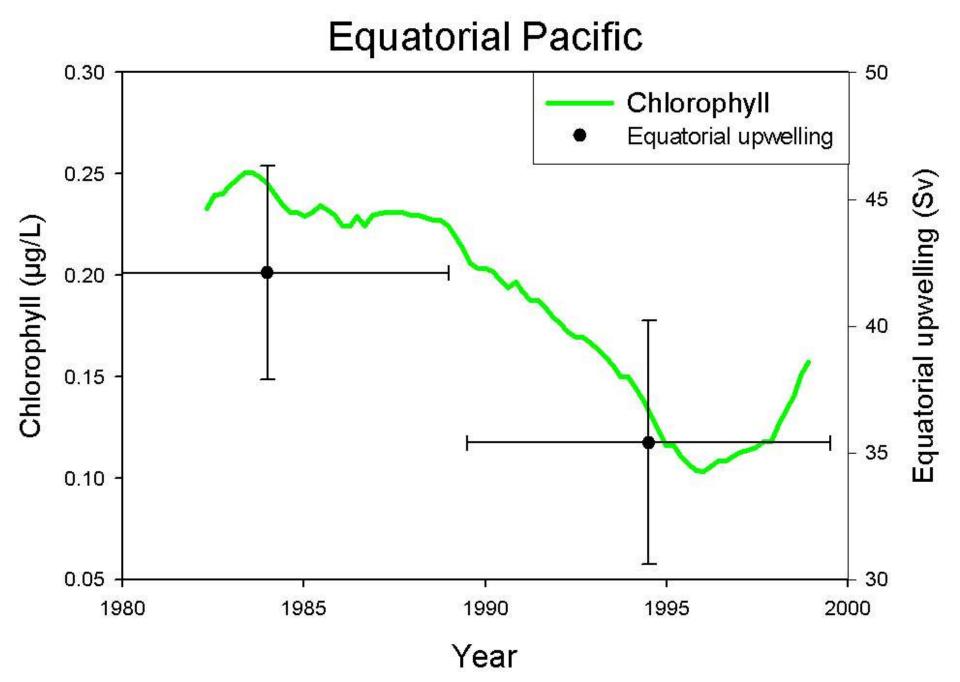
**El Nino** 

La Nina









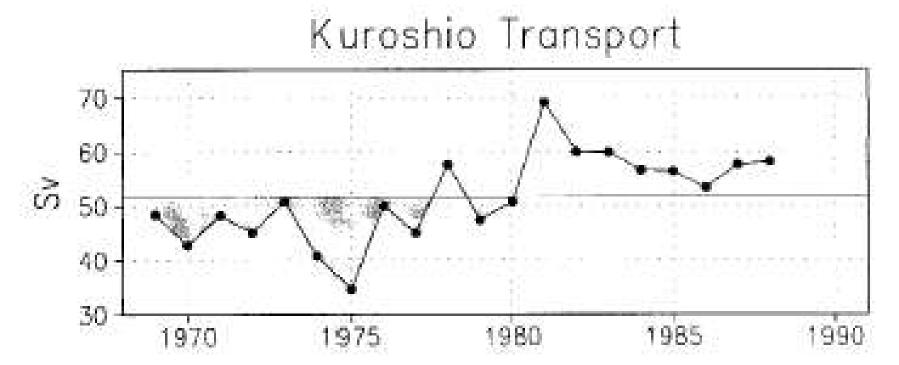
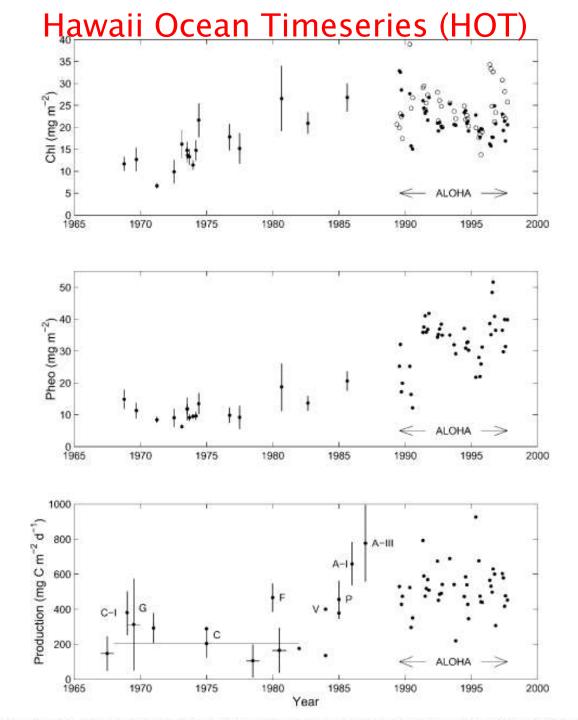
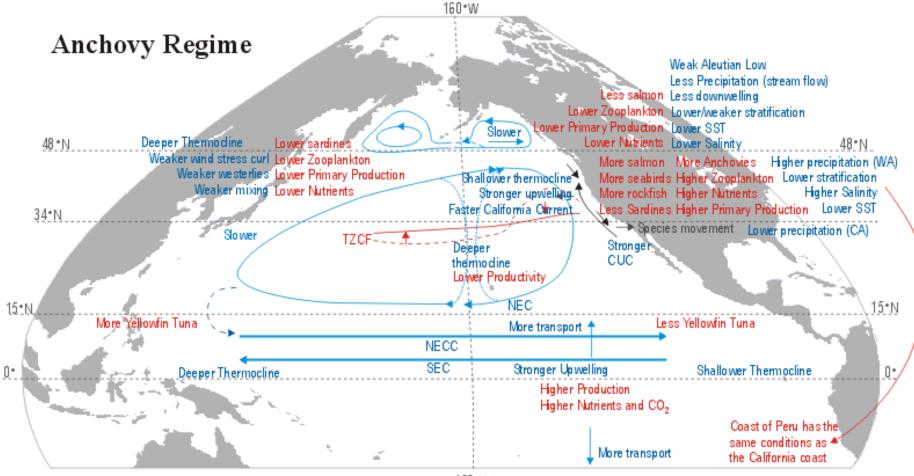


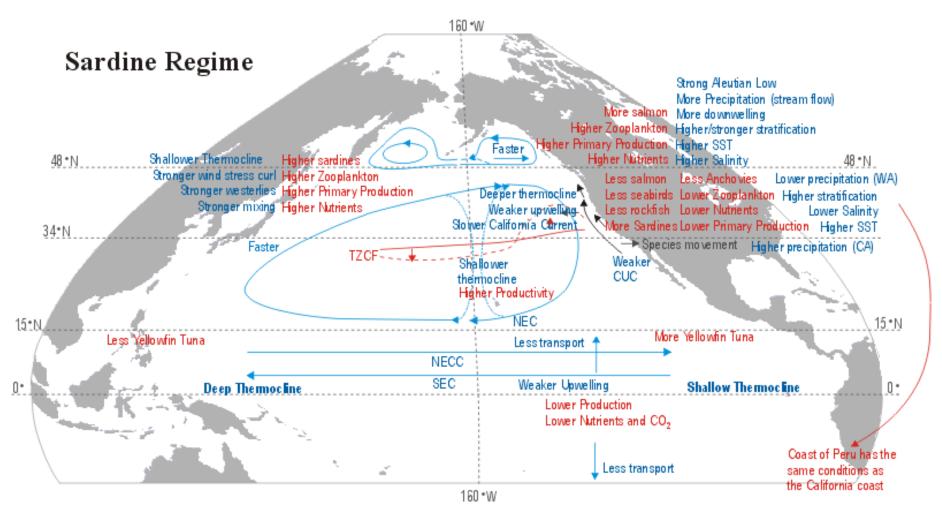
FIG. 9. Time series of geostrophic eastward transport Sverdrups (Sv) of the Kuroshio Current south of Japan referenced to 1.25 km, taken from Qiu and Joyce (1992). The thin horizontal line denotes the mean transport during 1969–88 (51.7 Sv).





160 °W

La Vieja



El Viejo

## The North American Carbon

Program (NALS

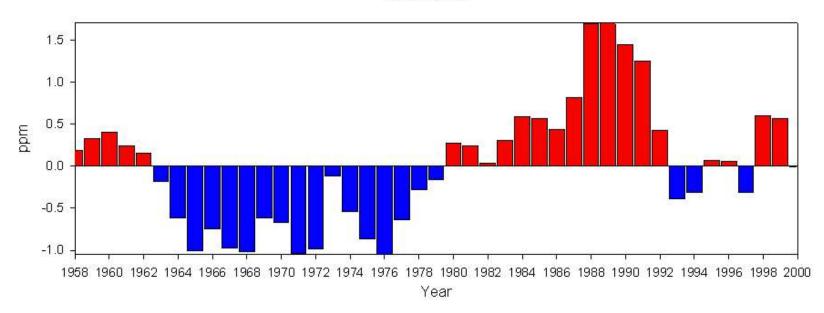
## The Program

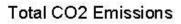
- The NACP presents a phased implementation of new research, long-term measurements, and operational observations and analysis in a closely coordinated, integrated Program. There are major initiatives in three key areas:
- Atmospheric measurements;
- Observations, process studies, and modeling of land ecosystems (plans and soils) and adjacent ocean basins;
- Models that integrate atmospheric, land, and ocean data, leading to a fundamentally new system for fusion of models and data to diagnose exchange fluxes between the earth's surface and the atmosphere. The set of integrated tools and methods will provide the foundation for improved U.S. inventories of, and trends in, CO<sub>2</sub> and CH<sub>4</sub> sources and sinks.

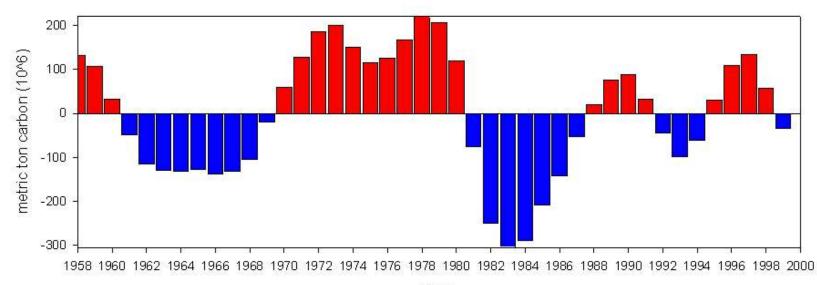


This program, due to its integrated, collaborative nature, requires extraordinary management arrangements. The various elements of the program will be implemented be several different agencies which should obtain scientific guidance from a unified science advisory committee to ensure that elements of the program are working together as necessary. There is already remarkable coordination between agencies, at the level of scientific research programs, through the Carbon Cycle Interagency Working Group (CCIWG, see above for membership). The CCIWG commissioned the current plan to help implement a major element recommended in the Carbon Cycle Science Plan. The NACP will require a comparable degree of integration and coordination at the policy-making levels of the responsible Federal Agencies.

Mauna Loa







### **Major Program Elements of the NACP**

- **<u>1. Atmospheric measurements and field programs</u>**
- 1a) Long Term Measurements of the Atmospheric Carbon Budget
- **1b) Intensive field programs**
- **<u>2. Inventories and land and ocean surface processes and</u>** <u>fluxes</u>
- 2a. Terrestrial Measurements and Modeling: understanding the terrestrial biosphere.
- 2b. Marine measurements and modeling: understanding physical and biological processes in ocean basins adjacent to North America
- **<u>3. Integrating Models and Model-Data Assimilation</u>**

# Highest Priority Enabling Developments for Immediate Action

- 1. <u>Develop in situ sensors and sampling protocols</u>
- 2. Model studies of network design and model-data fusion
- 3. Optimize inventories (FIA and NRI) for carbon accounting.
- 4. Strengthen current observation networks.
- 5. <u>Improved data bases for fossil fuel use and land use/land</u> <u>cover</u>.
- 6. <u>Remote sensing technology development</u>

### **Motivation for the North American Carbon Program**

Global  $CO_2$  data indicate significant uptake of  $CO_2$  by the terrestrial biosphere in North America, but the conclusion is controversial because the data are seriously inadequate. There is a strong demand to determine accurately the magnitude of current uptake and the reasons it, for international negotiations, to enable carbon trading, and to guide wise policy decisions.

**The NACP will** provide scientific and technical tools to diagnose past and current sources and sinks of greenhouse gases, and to predict future contributions from North America. Knowledge gained in the NACP will help design global measurement strategies and will inform decisions on policies to reduce net emissions of  $CO_2$  and  $CH_4$  from North America, or to enhance sequestration of carbon through land management or by technical means.

**The Program** is carefully designed to advance science for other critical problems: (1) large-scale sources and long-range transport of air pollution; (2) vegetation changes and ecosystem health, productivity, and vulnerability to fire and drought for agriculture, forests, and wild lands; and (3) weather forecasts and climate models.

