

Long term changes in adult salmon returning to Scottish waters



Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba
gov.scot

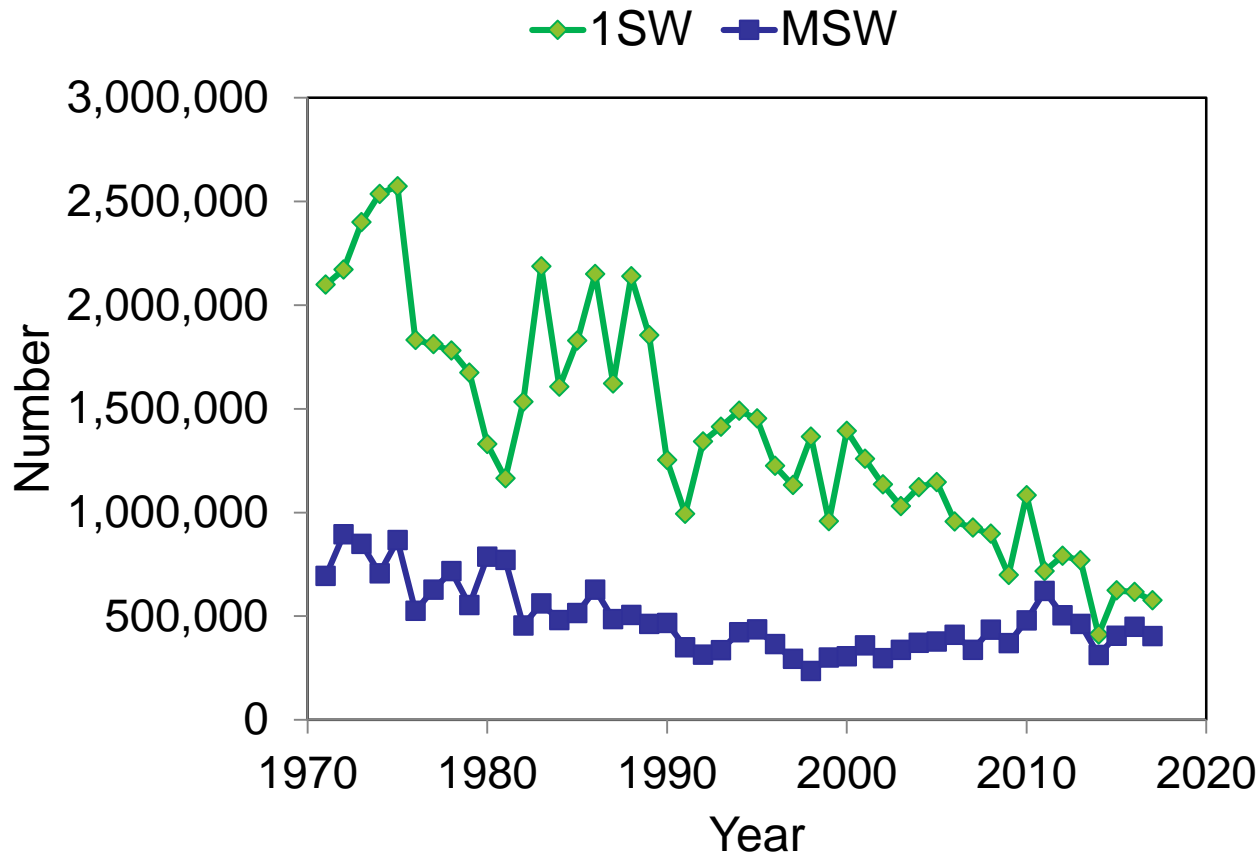


marinescotland
science

Information available

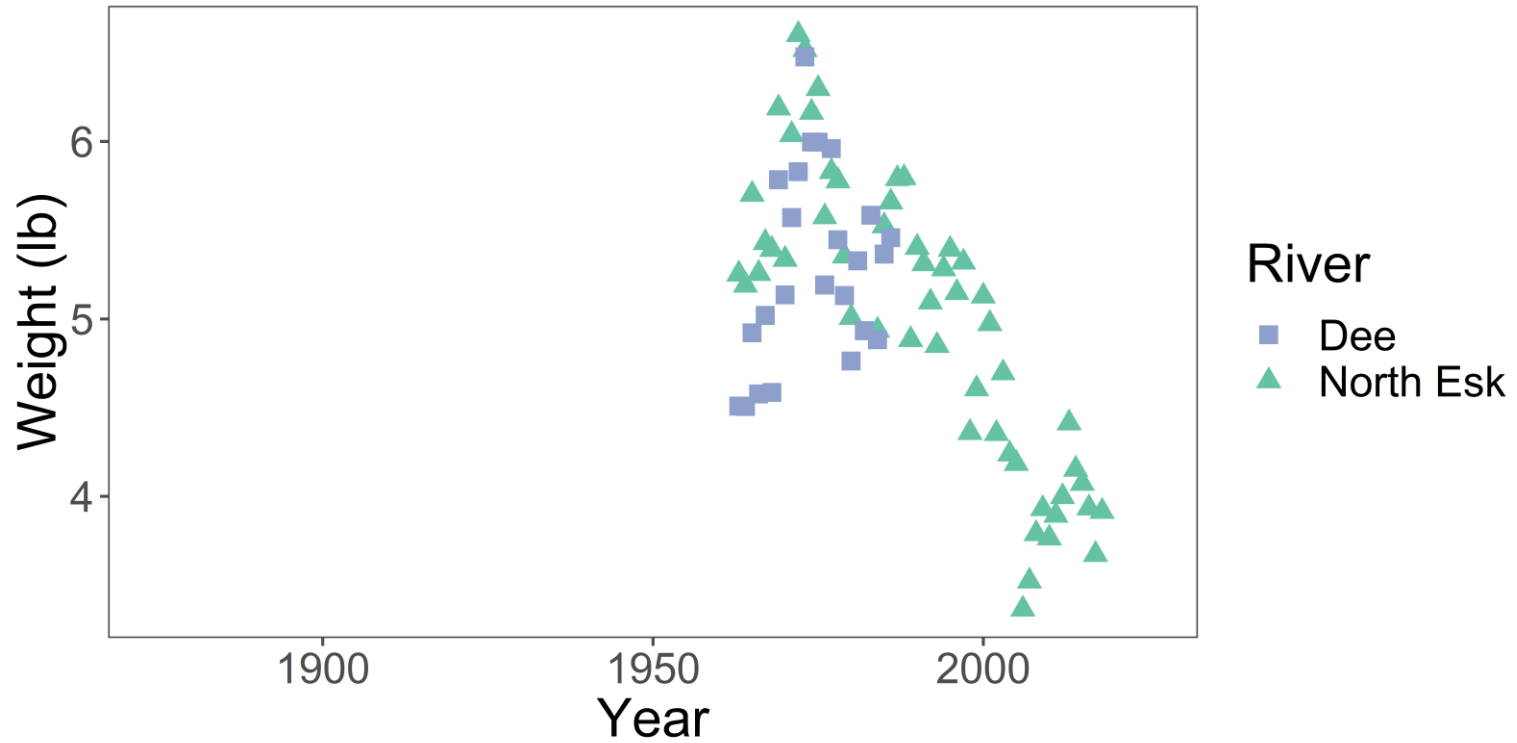
- Catch data
 - Systematic collection of Scottish catch data from 1952 onwards.
 - Some earlier data, primarily from netting.
- Sampling data
 - Sizes and ages collected from sampling of catches since 1963.
- Counters
 - North Esk counter since 1981.
 - Scottish and Southern Electricity have data back to 1950s on their counters.
- Traps
 - Girnock tributary of the Dee since 1966

Changes in Numbers

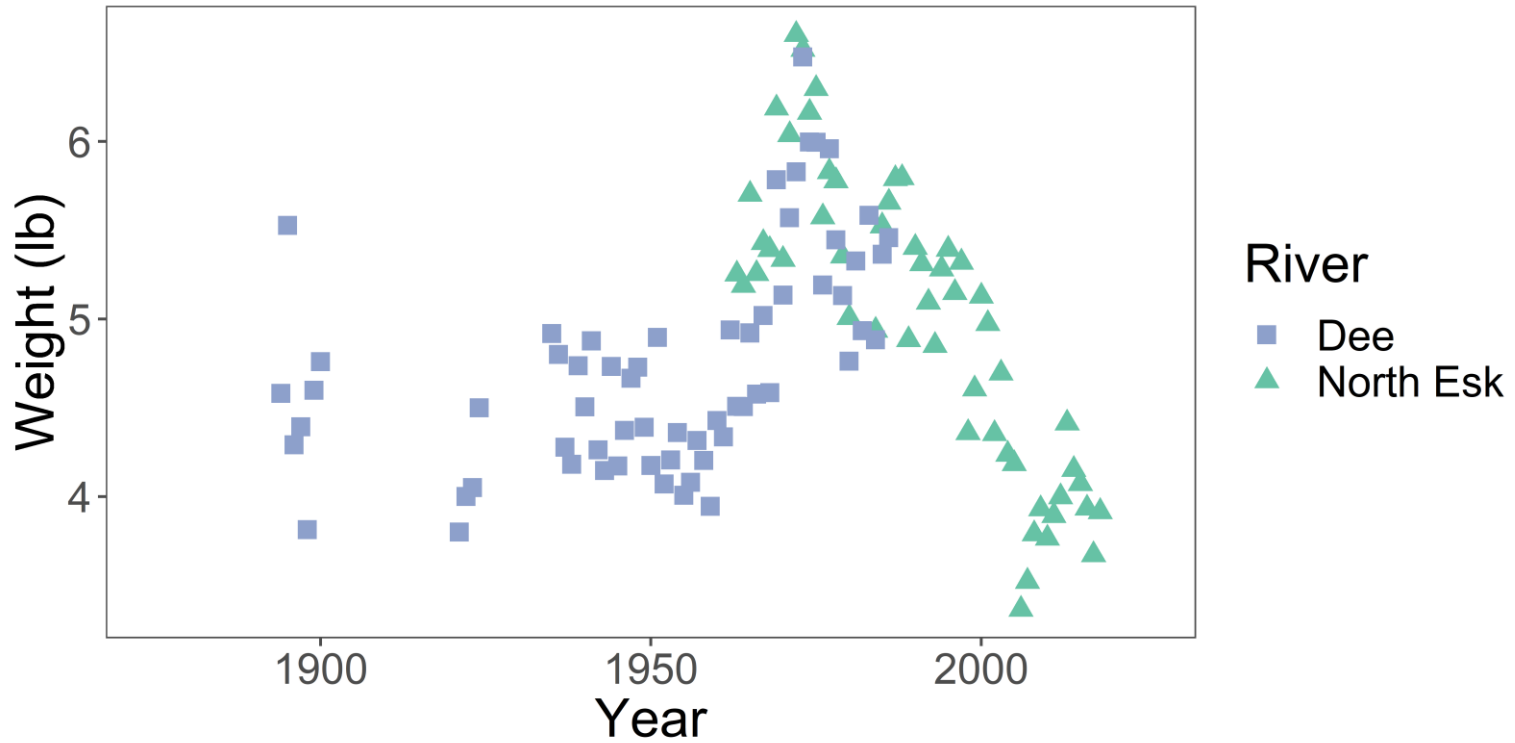


- Estimated number of salmon returning to home waters in Southern North East Atlantic
- Decline in MSW salmon
- Bigger decline in 1SW salmon

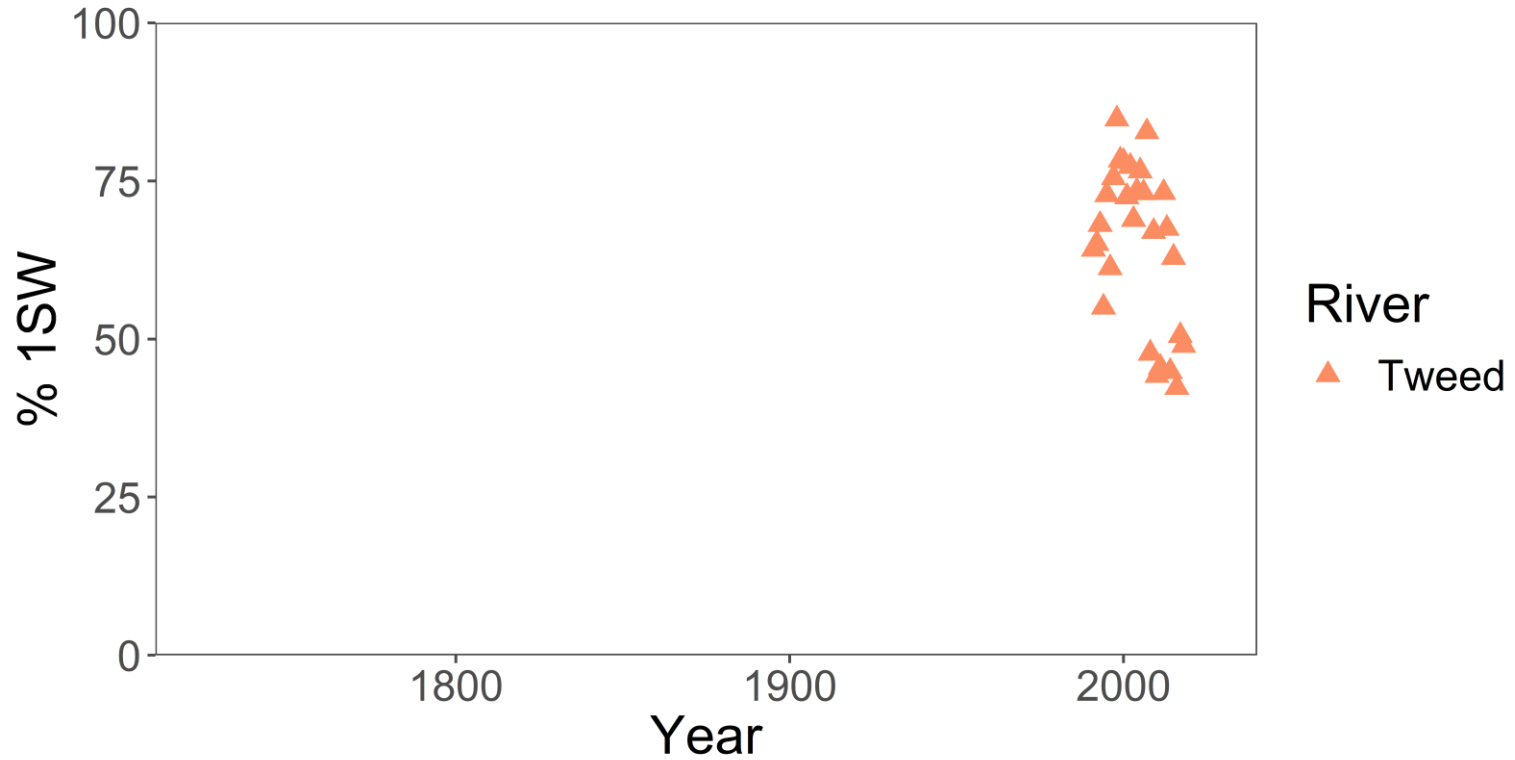
Changes in Size



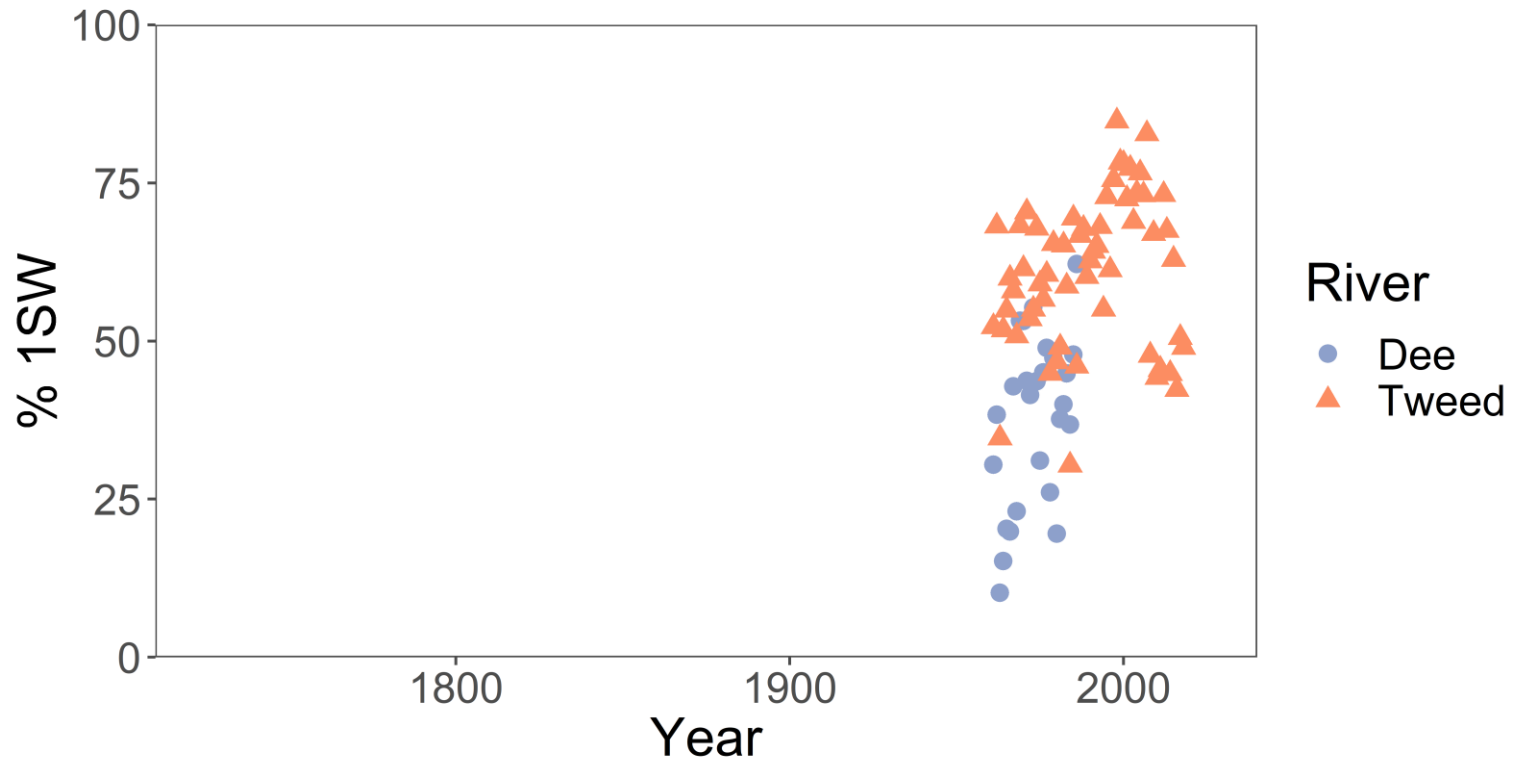
Changes in Size



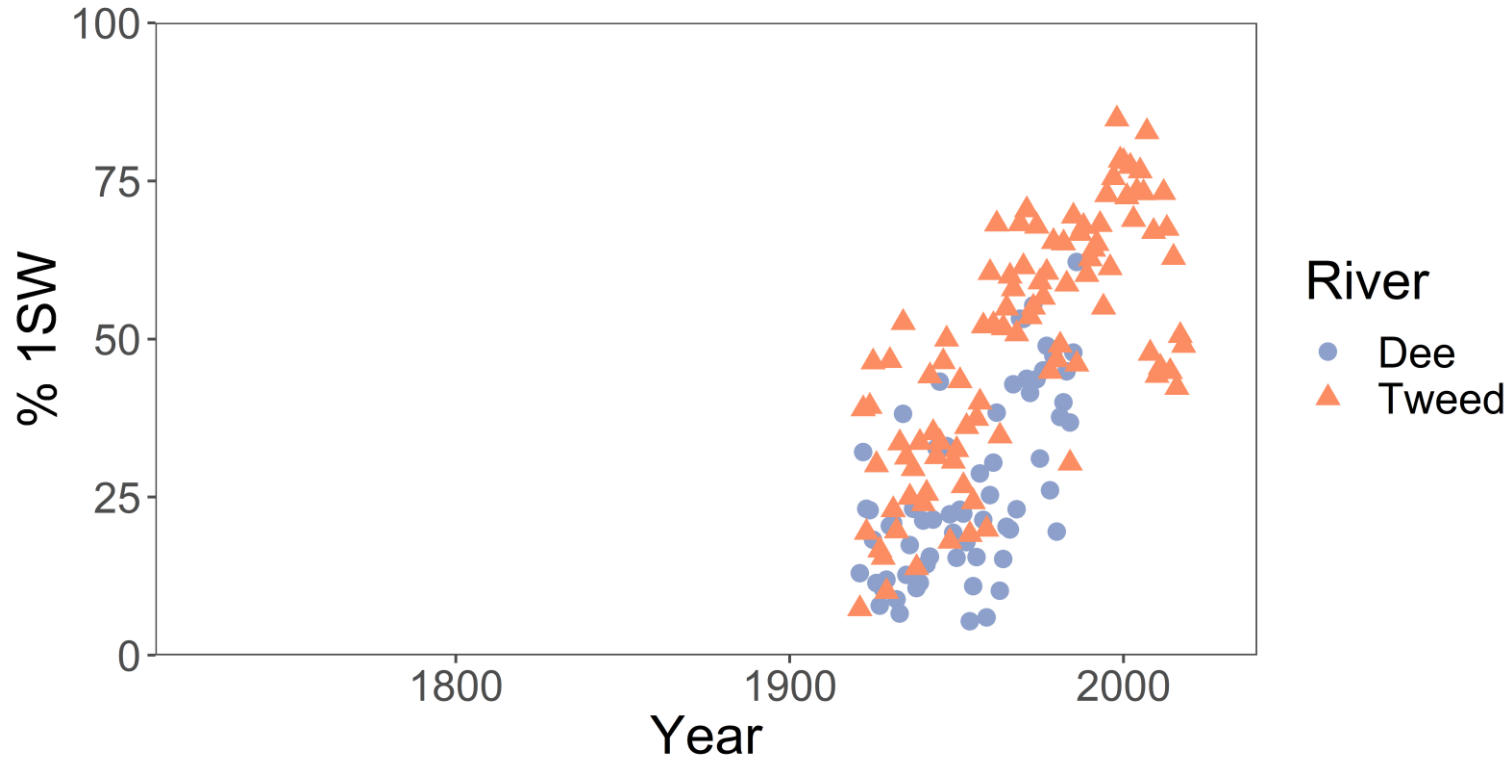
Changes in Age



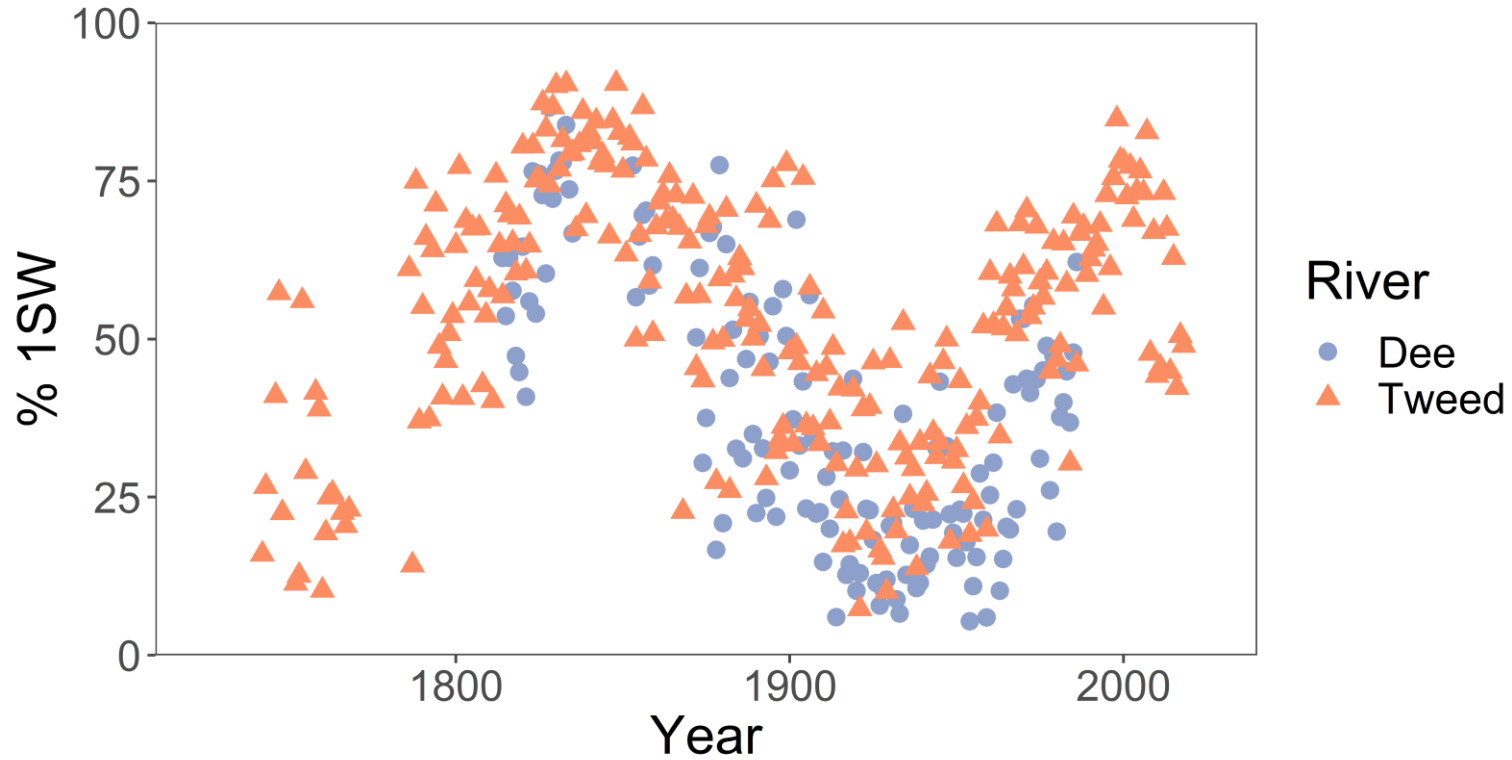
Changes in Age



Changes in Age



Changes in Age



Unclear what the exact mechanism(s) are behind changes at sea

Can't predict what will happen – Cycles? Decline?

Hope for the best and prepare for the worst