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Methane and nitrous oxide emissions in freshwater swamps and marshes in southeastern México

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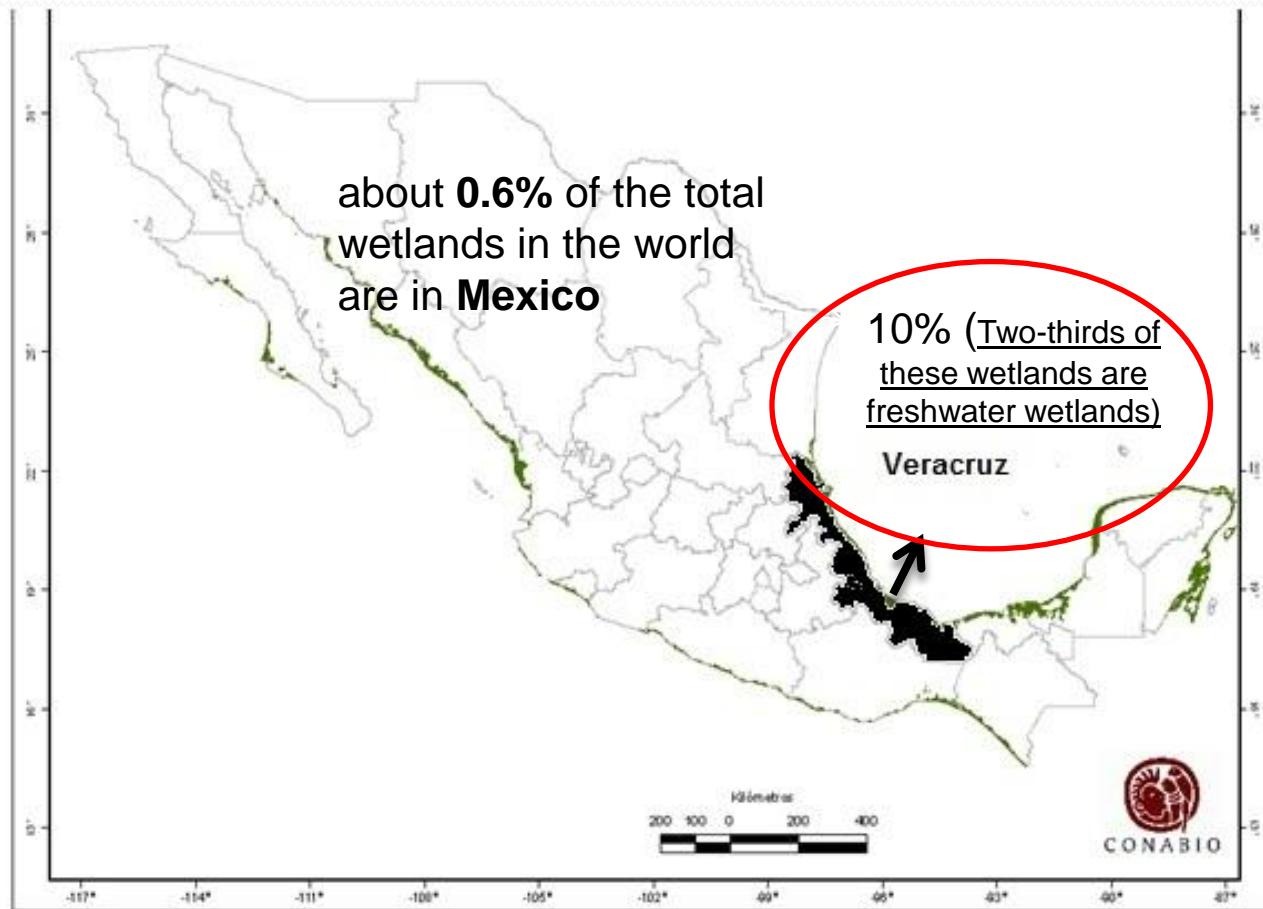
Introduction

Wetlands ecosystems

- Wetlands are considered carbon sinks. However, they are also significant source of greenhouse gases (GHG).
- CH_4 and N_2O are two important GHG with 20 and 300 times GWP than CO_2 , respectively.
- Few studies about GHG emissions has been done in tropical wetlands.



Wetlands in Mexico



Source: Olmsted (1993)

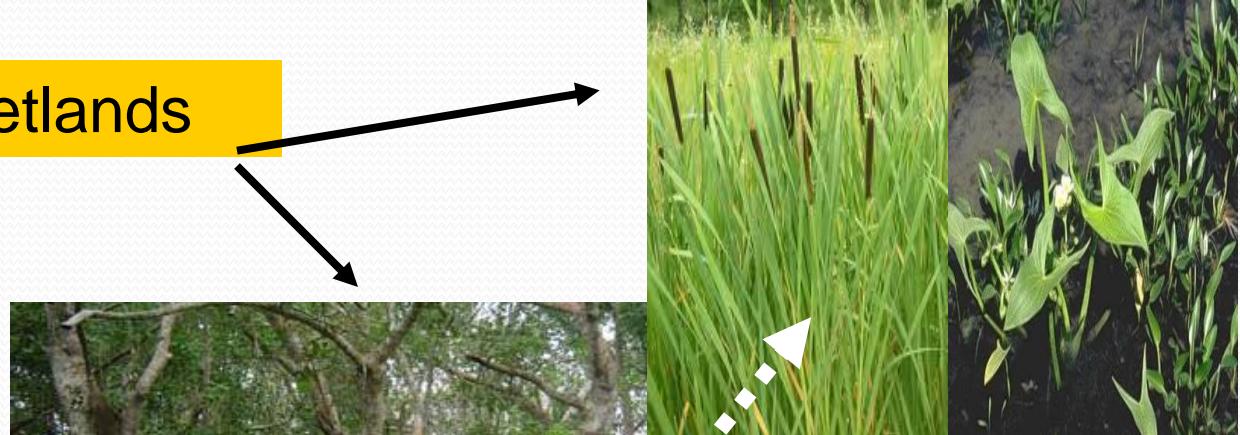
Freshwater wetlands



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Swamps



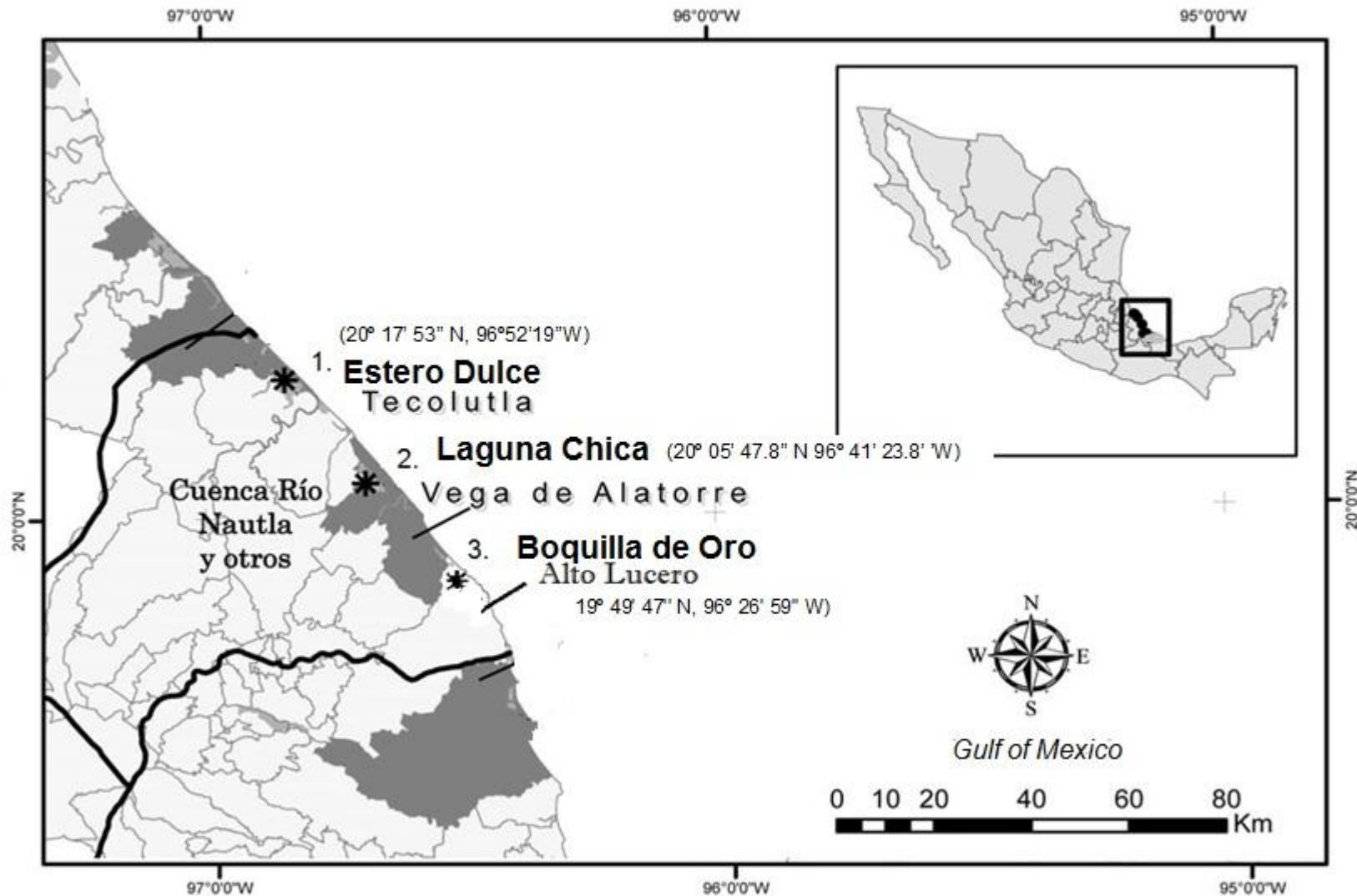
Marshes

Objective

Quantify and compare methane and nitrous oxide emissions in coastal freshwater wetlands with different plant community (swamps vs marshes) in southeastern Mexico



Methods



Location of the study sites in the coastal plain of Veracruz, Mexico.

Estero Dulce (ED)



Thalia geniculata, *Cyperus giganteus*,
Echinochloa pyramidalis.



Pachira aquatica

Laguna Chica (LCH)

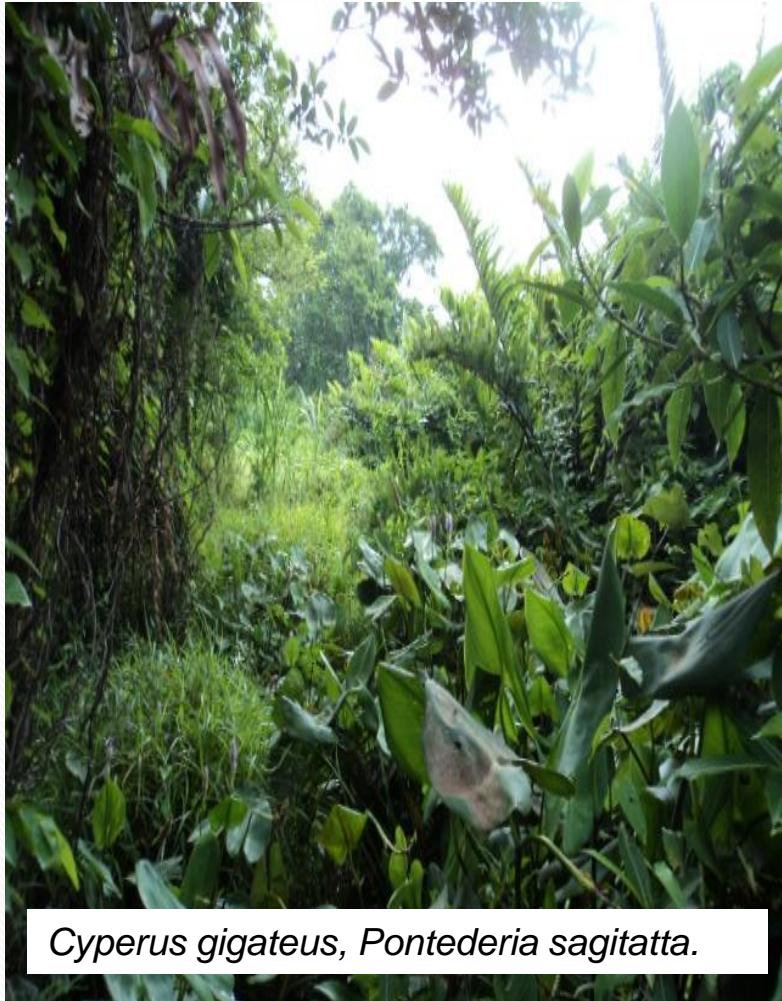


Cyperus giganteus , Typha domingensis



Pachira aquatica, Hippocratea celastroides

Boquilla de oro (BO)



Cyperus giganteus, Pontederia sagittata.



Ficus insipida

Methods

Gas sampling



- Closed chambers
(every 2 months)



Gas analysis



Gas chromatograph
(Perkin Elmer)

-Methane and nitrous oxide fluxes were estimated according to the following equation:

$$Fc = (\Delta c/t) * (V/A)$$

Field measurements



- Redox Potential
- Water level
- Water chemistry

Data analysis

The data were performed with SPSS 18 version for windows.

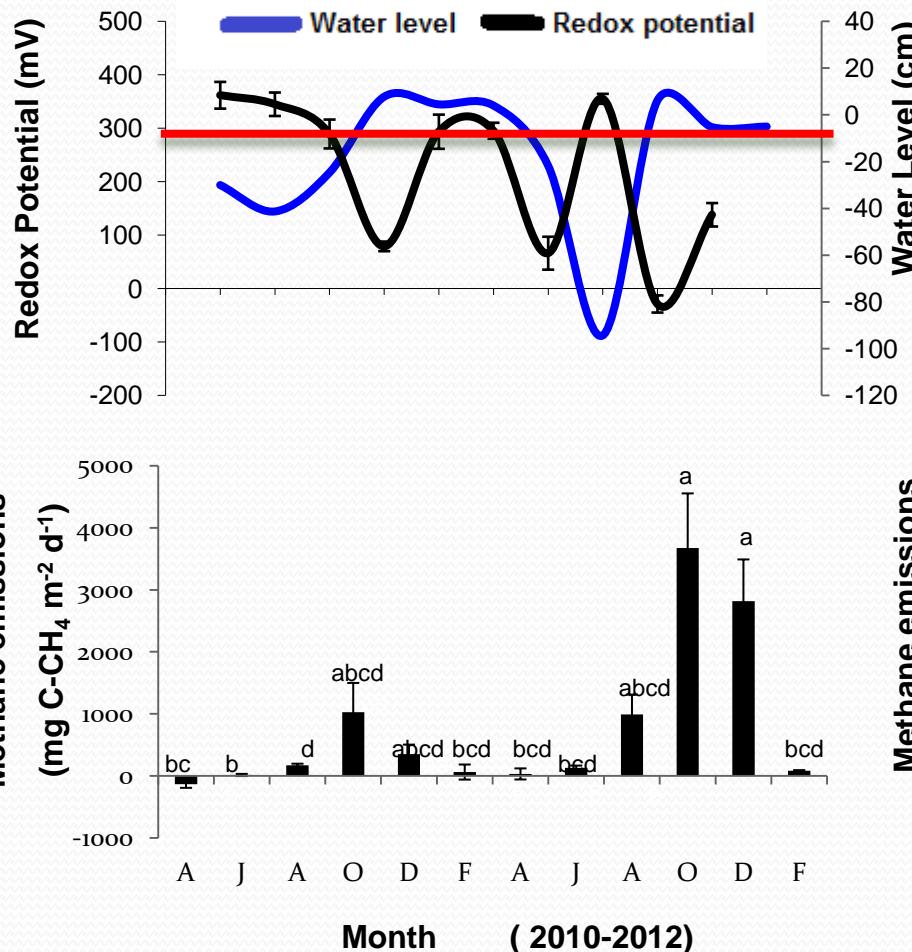
Methane Emissions



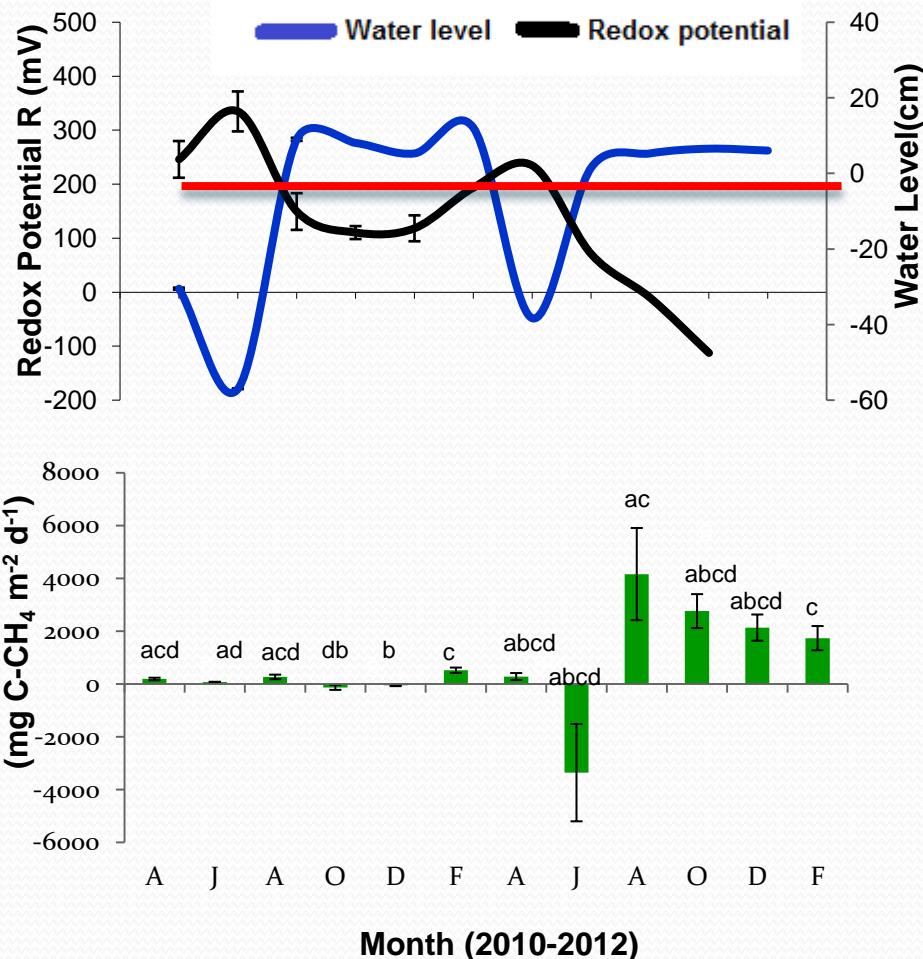
Results

Boquilla de Oro

Swamps



Mashes

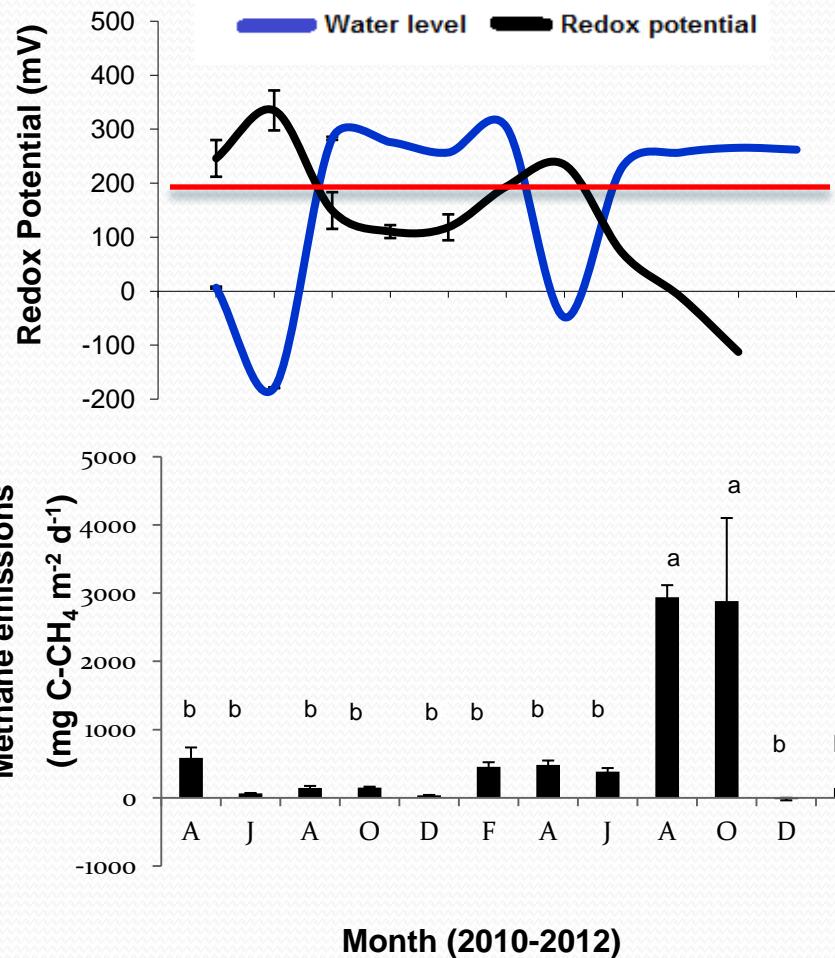


Methane emissions in Boquilla de Oro. Values are means ($n=4$), bars represent standard error, and letters indicate significant difference at level of $p<0.05$.

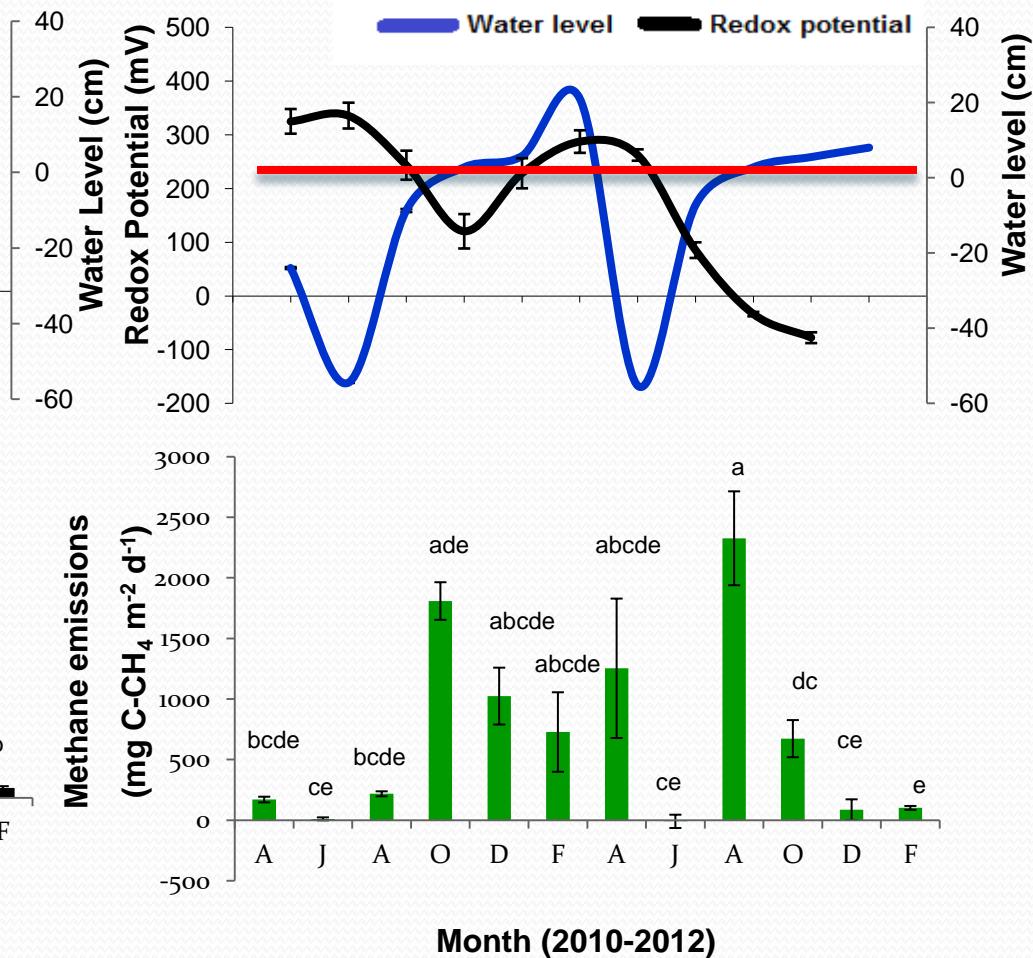
Results cont.

Laguna Chica

Swamps



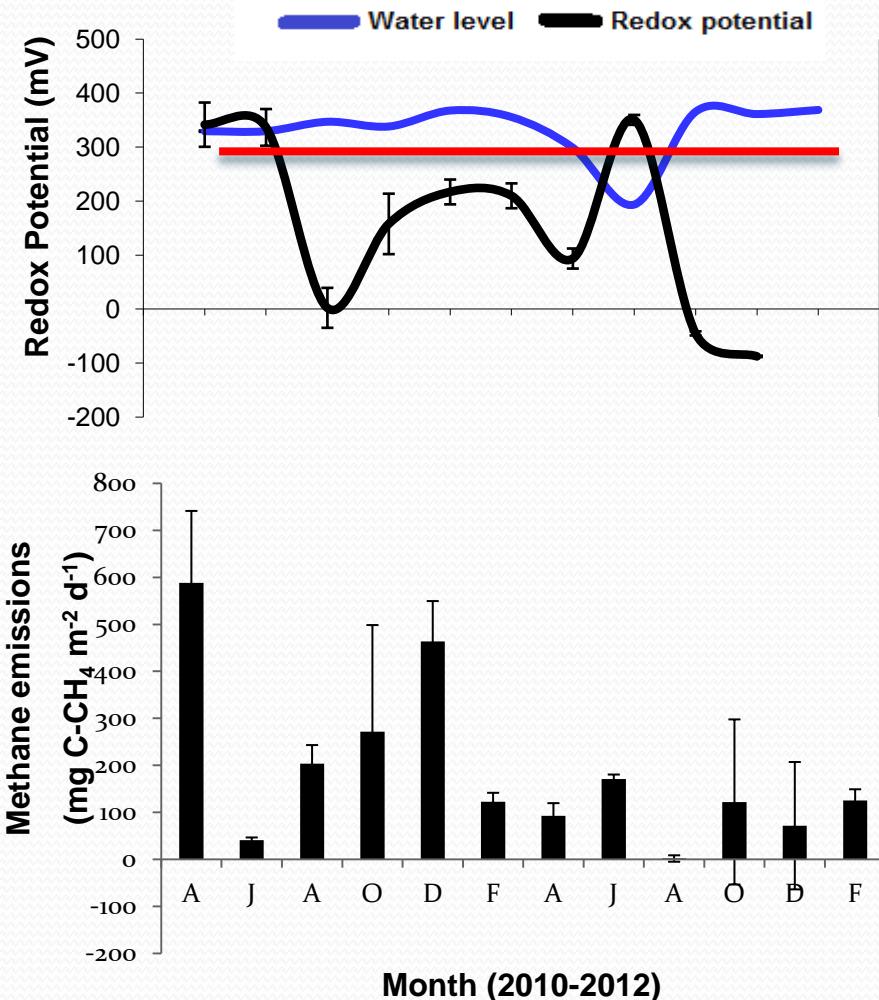
Marshes



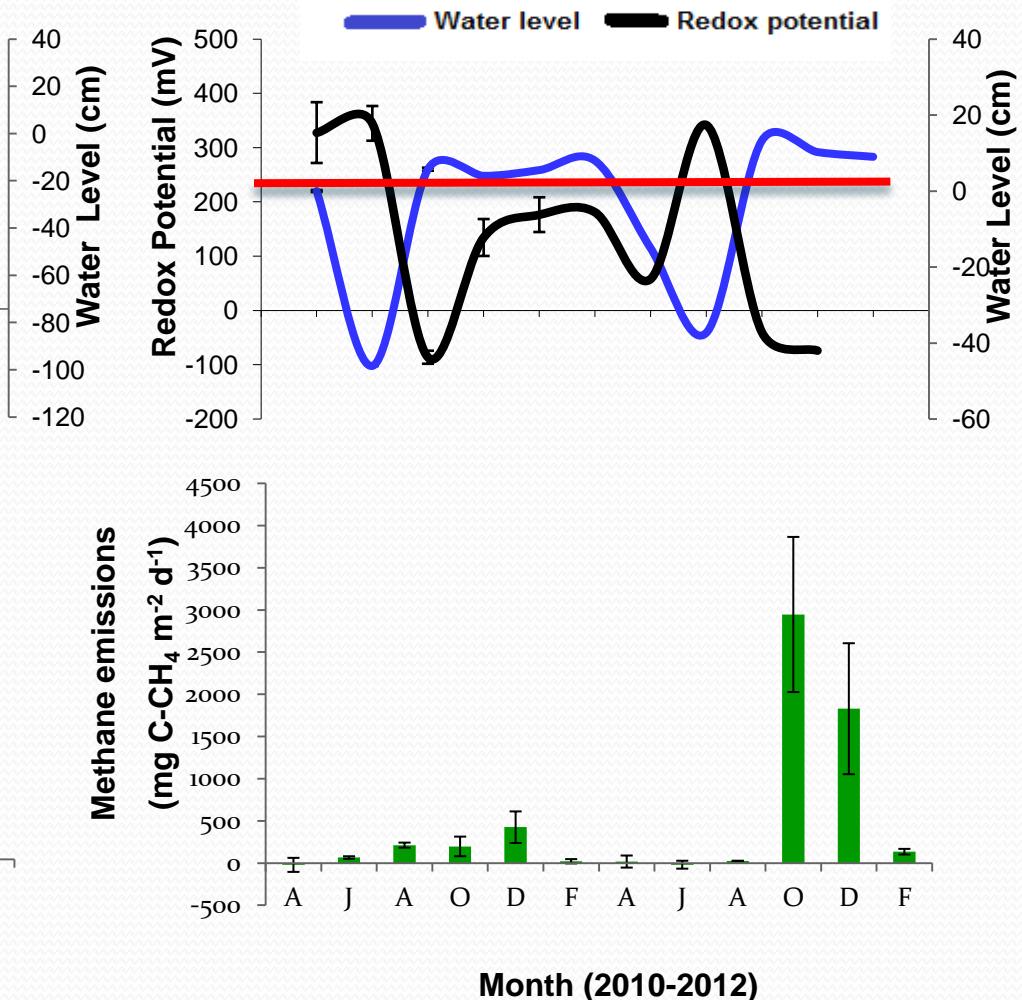
Methane emissions in Laguna Chica. Values are means ($n=4$), bars represent standard error, and letters indicate significant difference at level of $p<0.05$.

Results cont.

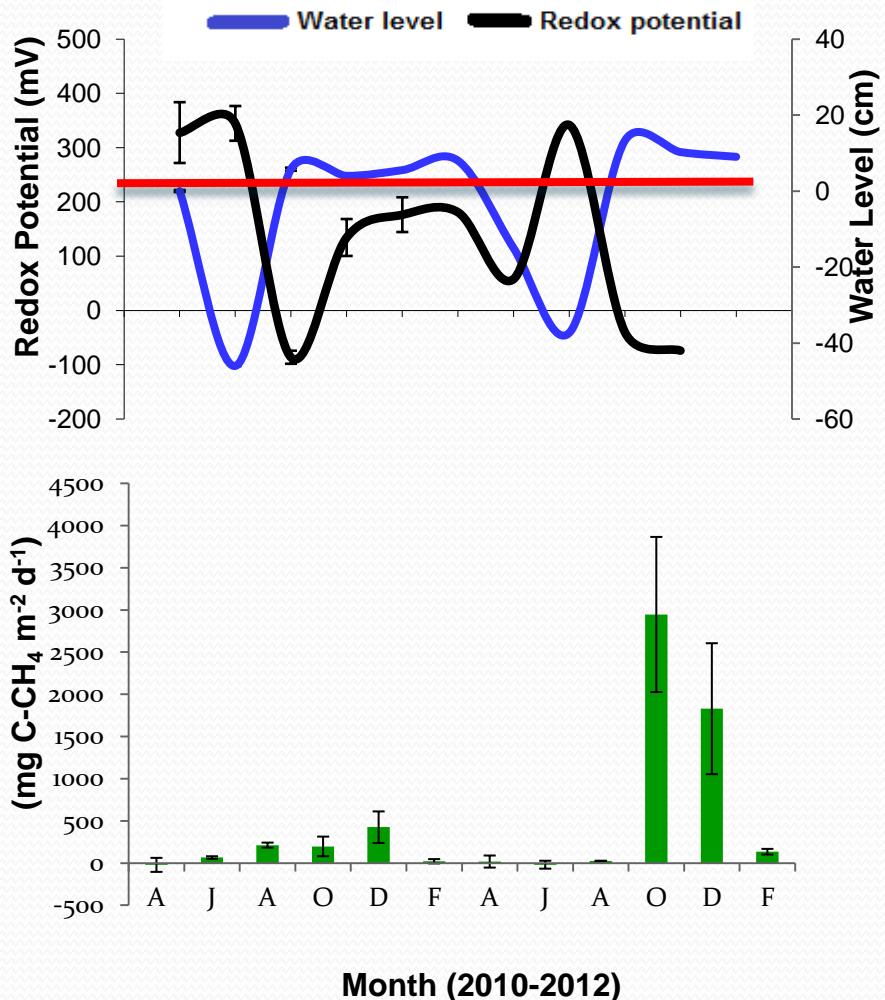
Swamps



Esterio Dulce

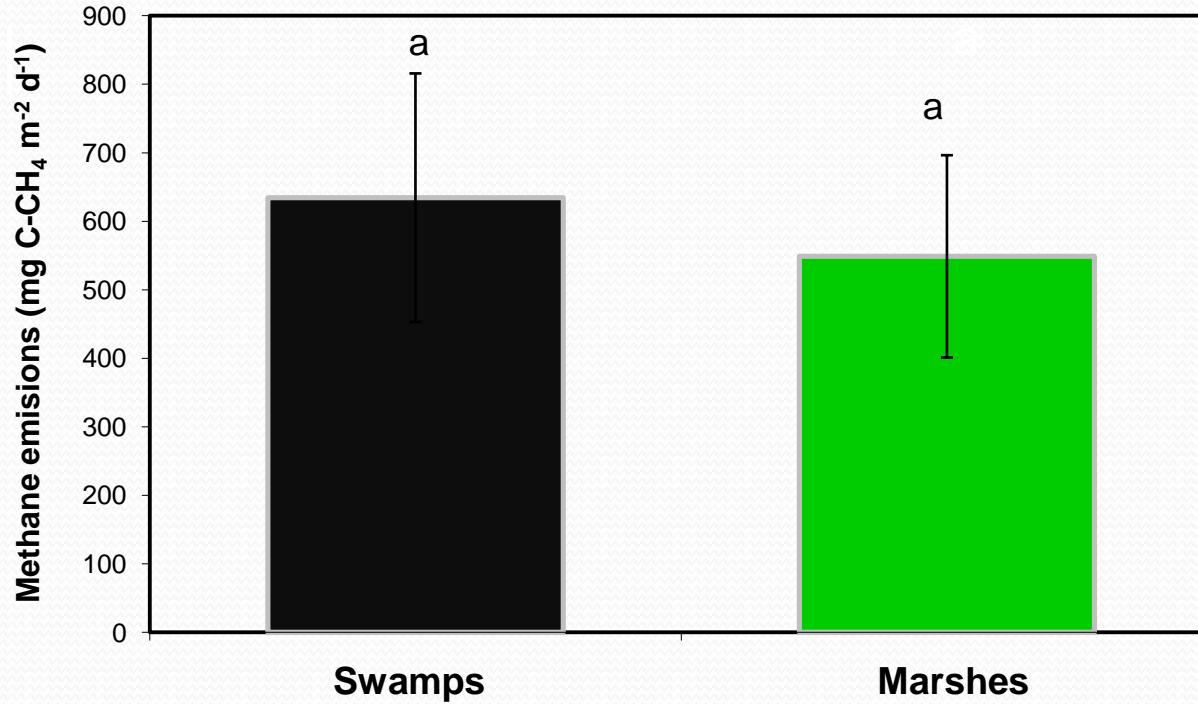


Marshes



Methane emissions in Estero Dulce. Values are means ($n=4$), bars represent standard error, and letters indicate significant difference at level of $p<0.05$.

Results cont.



Methane emissions in wetlands with different plant community. Values are means ($n=144$). Bars indicate standard errors. Same letters indicate no significant differences ($p>0.05$).

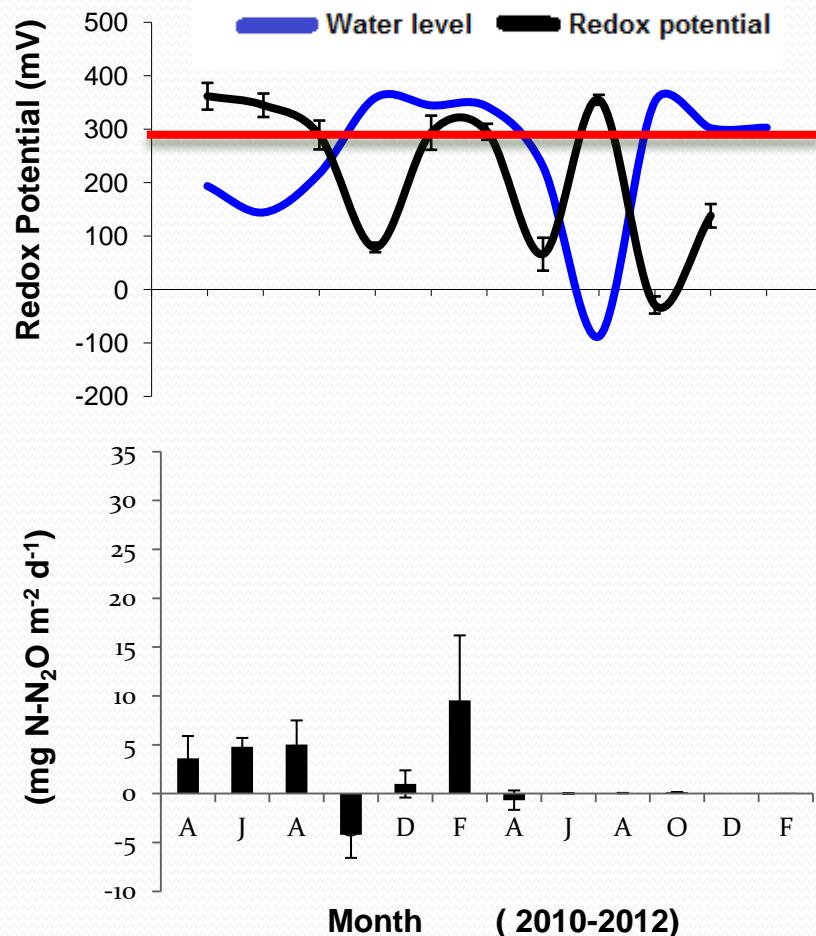
Nitrous oxide emissions



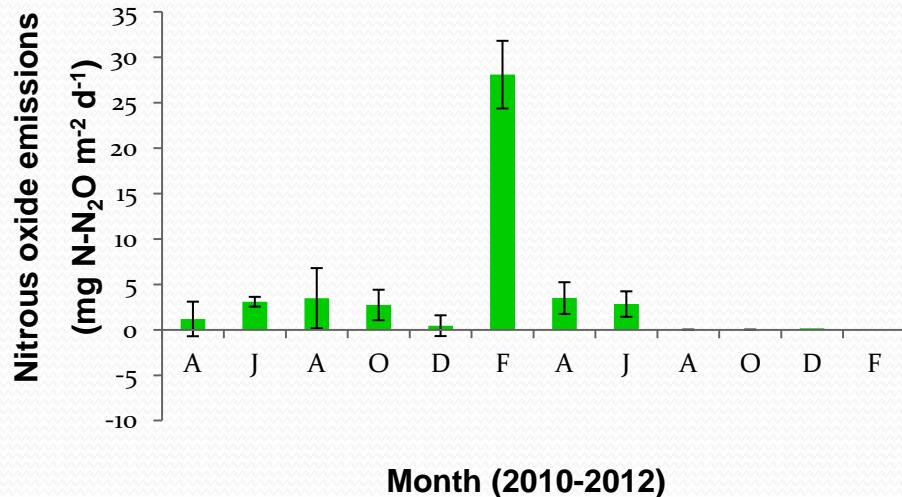
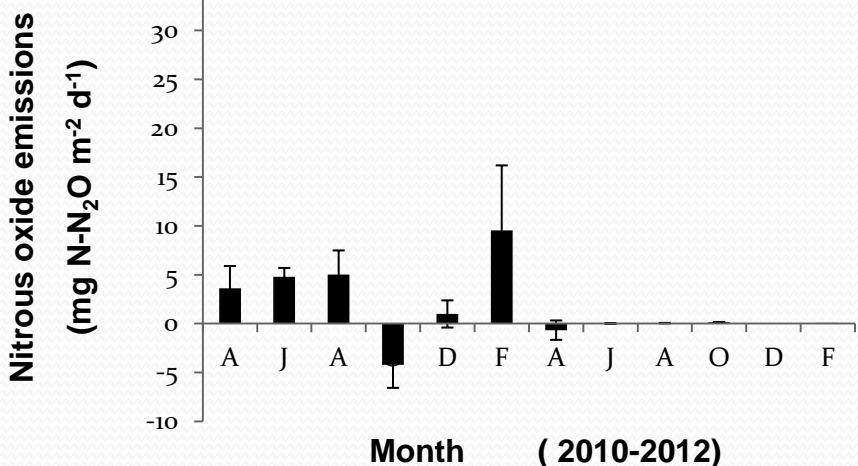
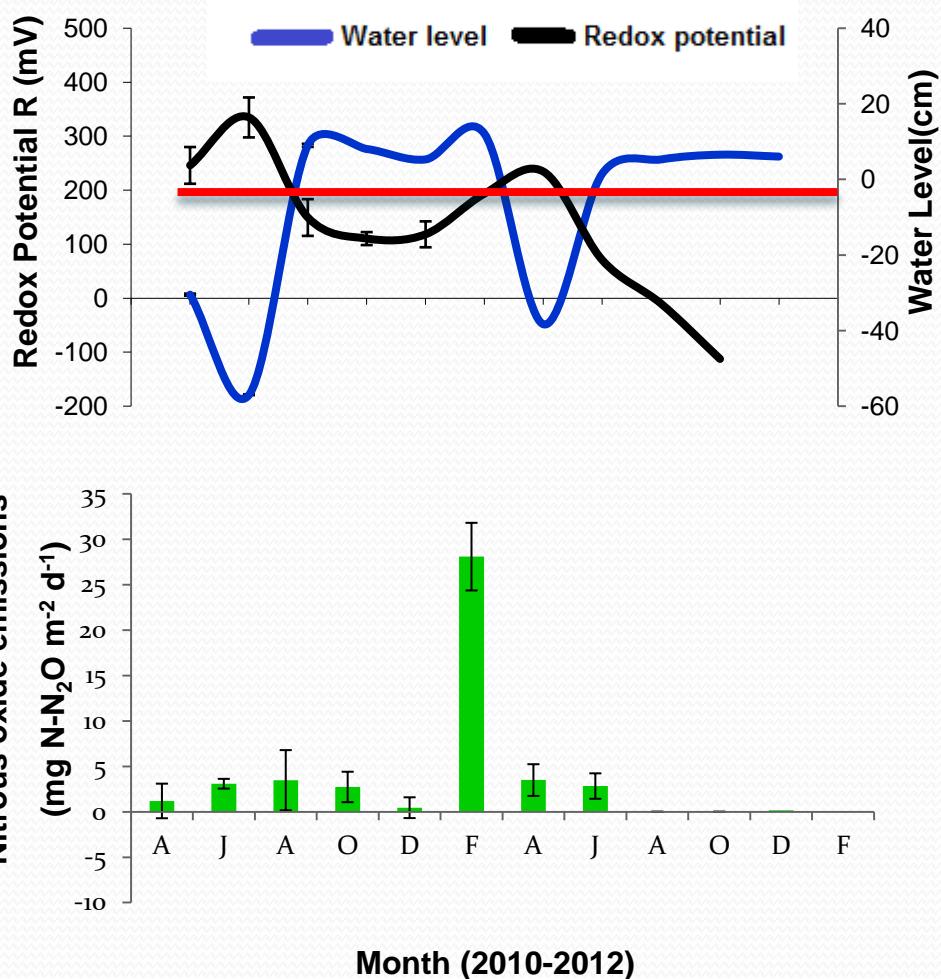
Results

Boquilla de Oro

Swamps



Marsches

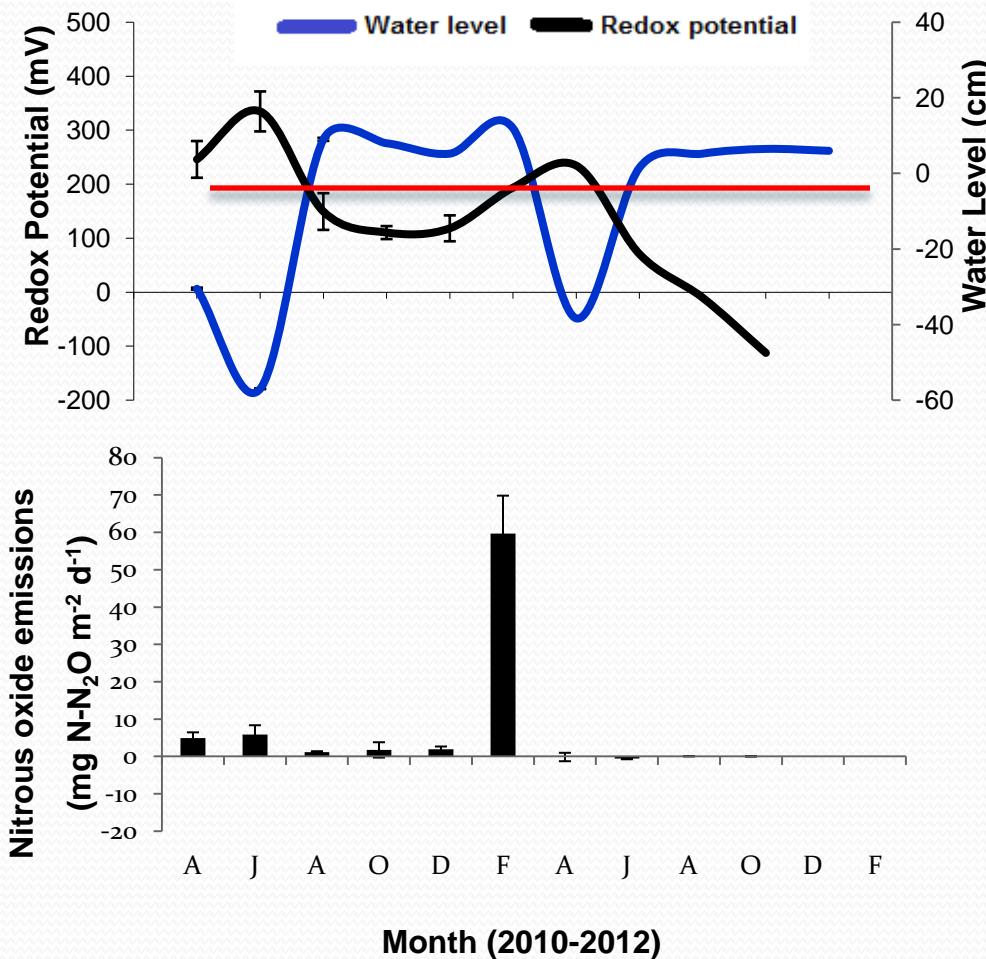


Nitrous oxide emissions in Boquilla de Oro. Values are means ($n=4$), bars represent standard error, and letters indicate significant difference at level of $p<0.05$.

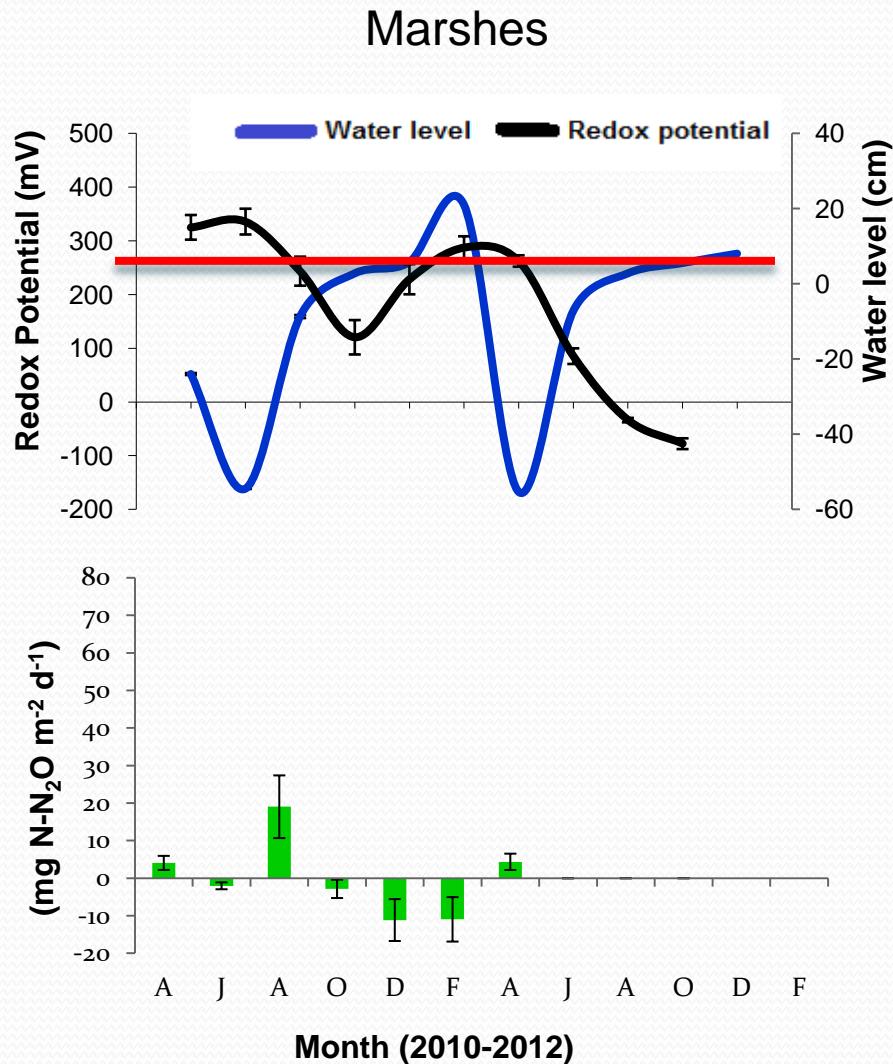
Results cont.

Laguna Chica

Swamps



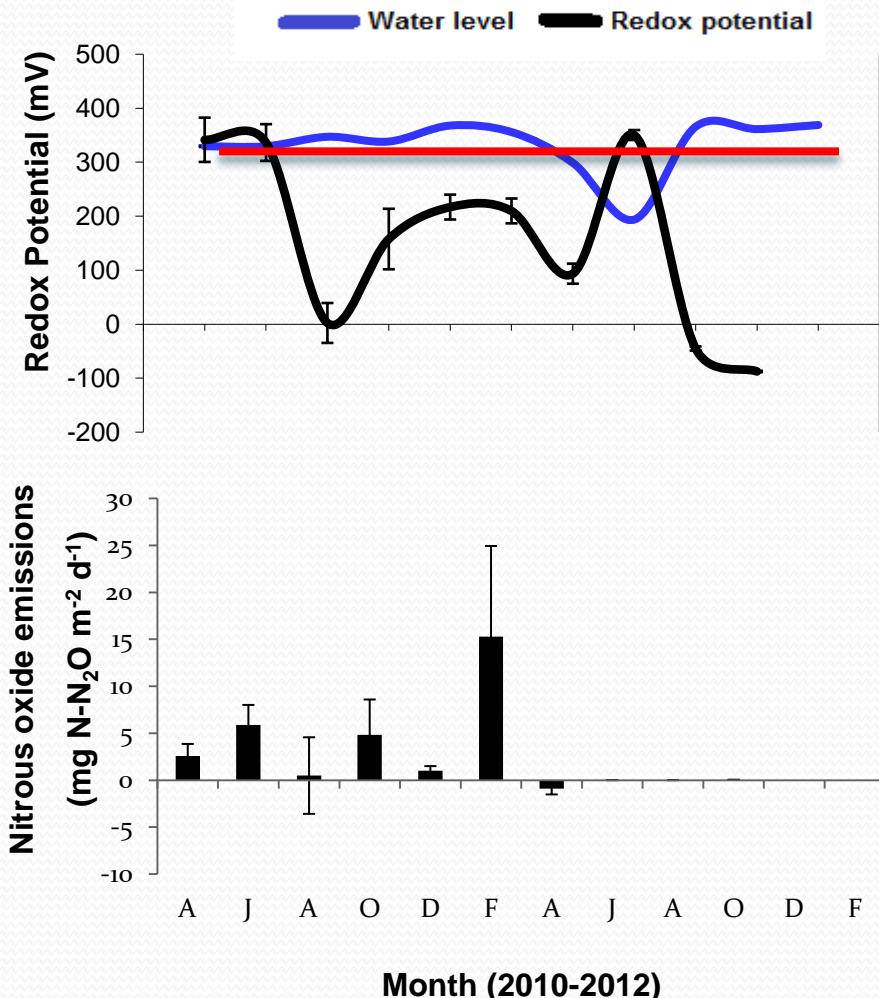
Marsches



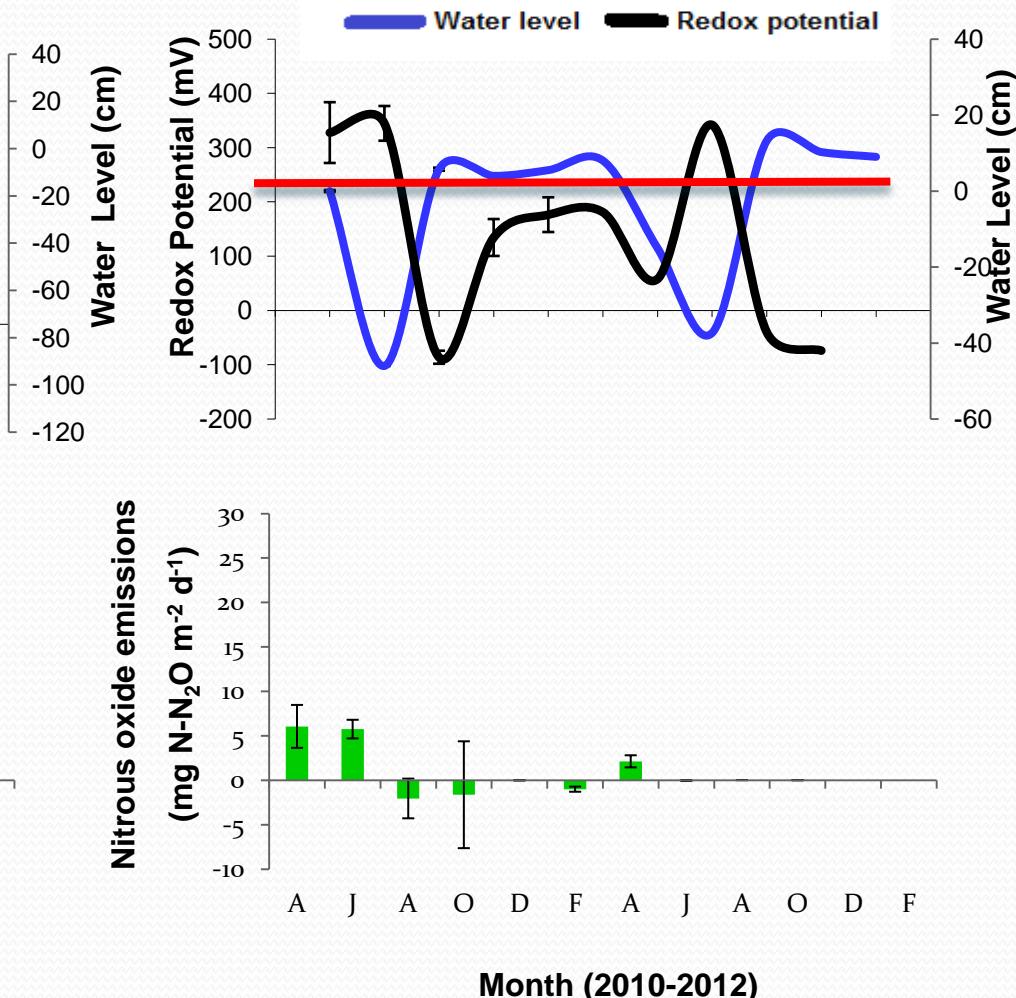
Nitrous oxide emissions in Laguna Chica. Values are means ($n=4$), bars represent standard error, and letters indicate significant difference at level of $p<0.05$.

Results cont.

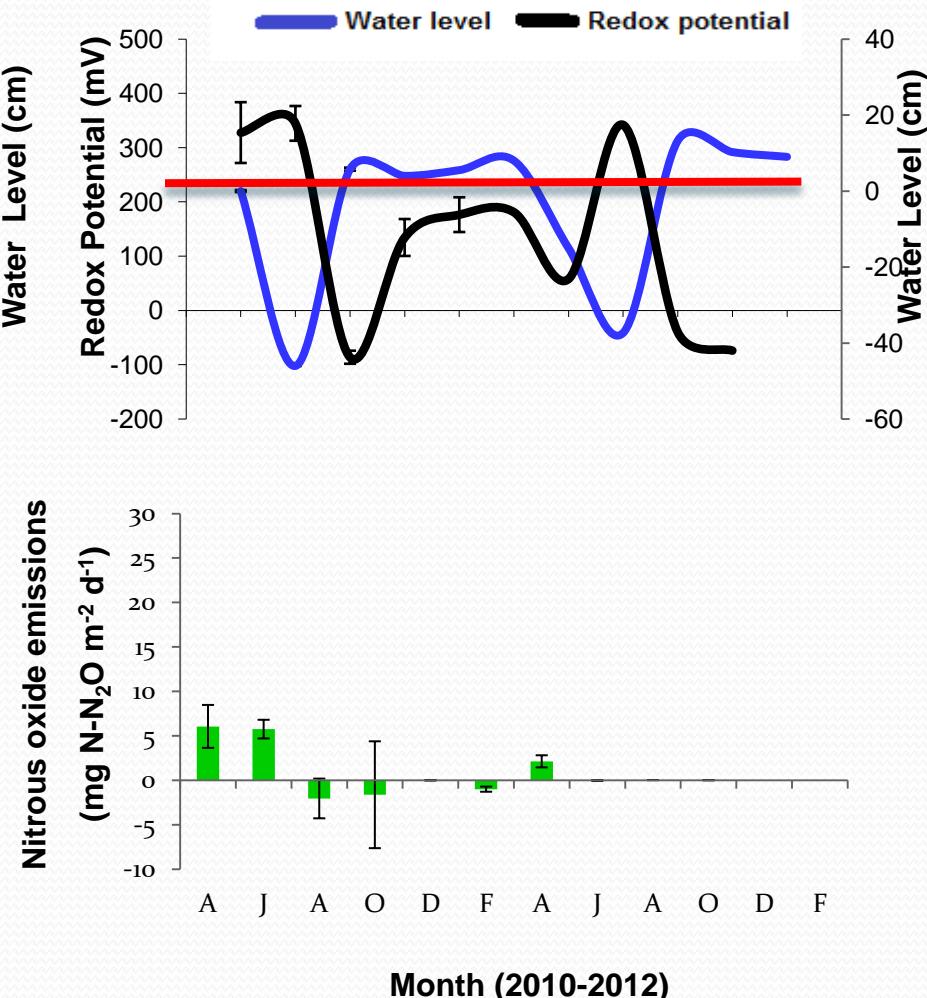
Swamps



Esterio Dulce

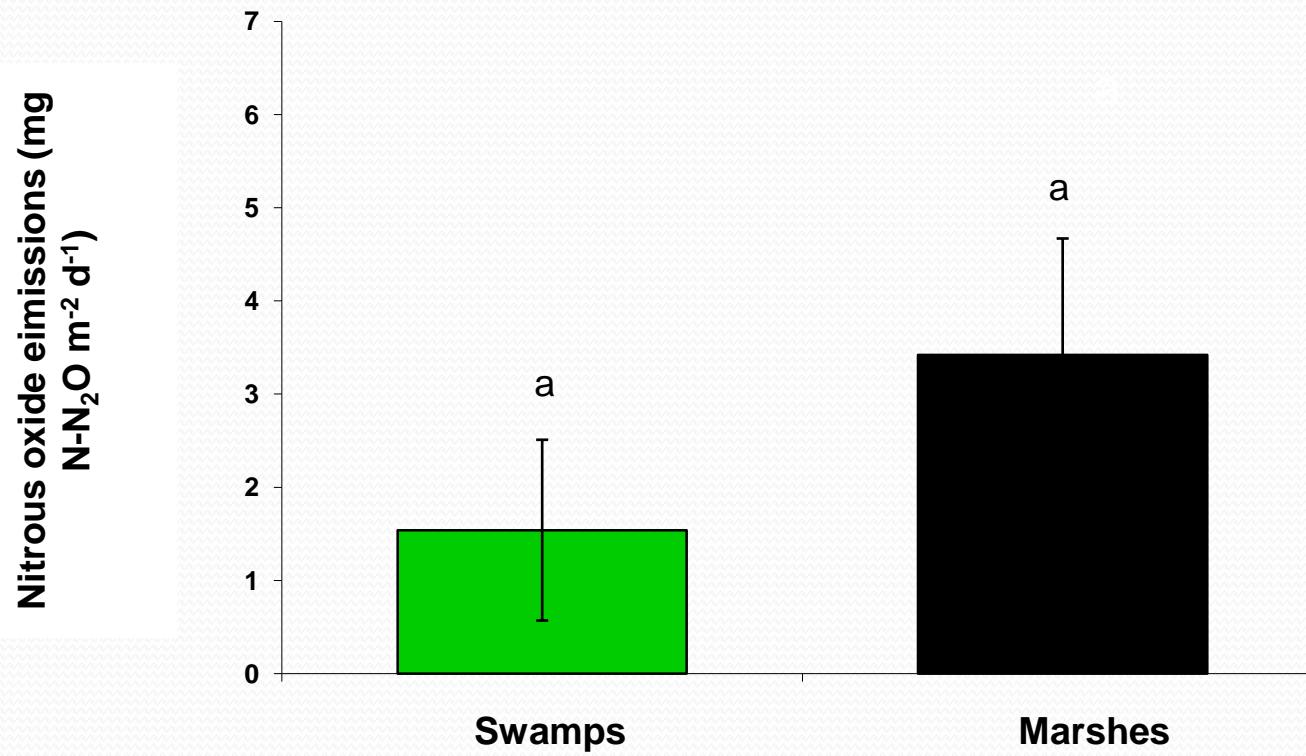


Marshes



Nitrous oxide emissions in Esterio Dulce. Values are means ($n=4$), bars represent standard error, and letters indicate significant difference at level of $p<0.05$.

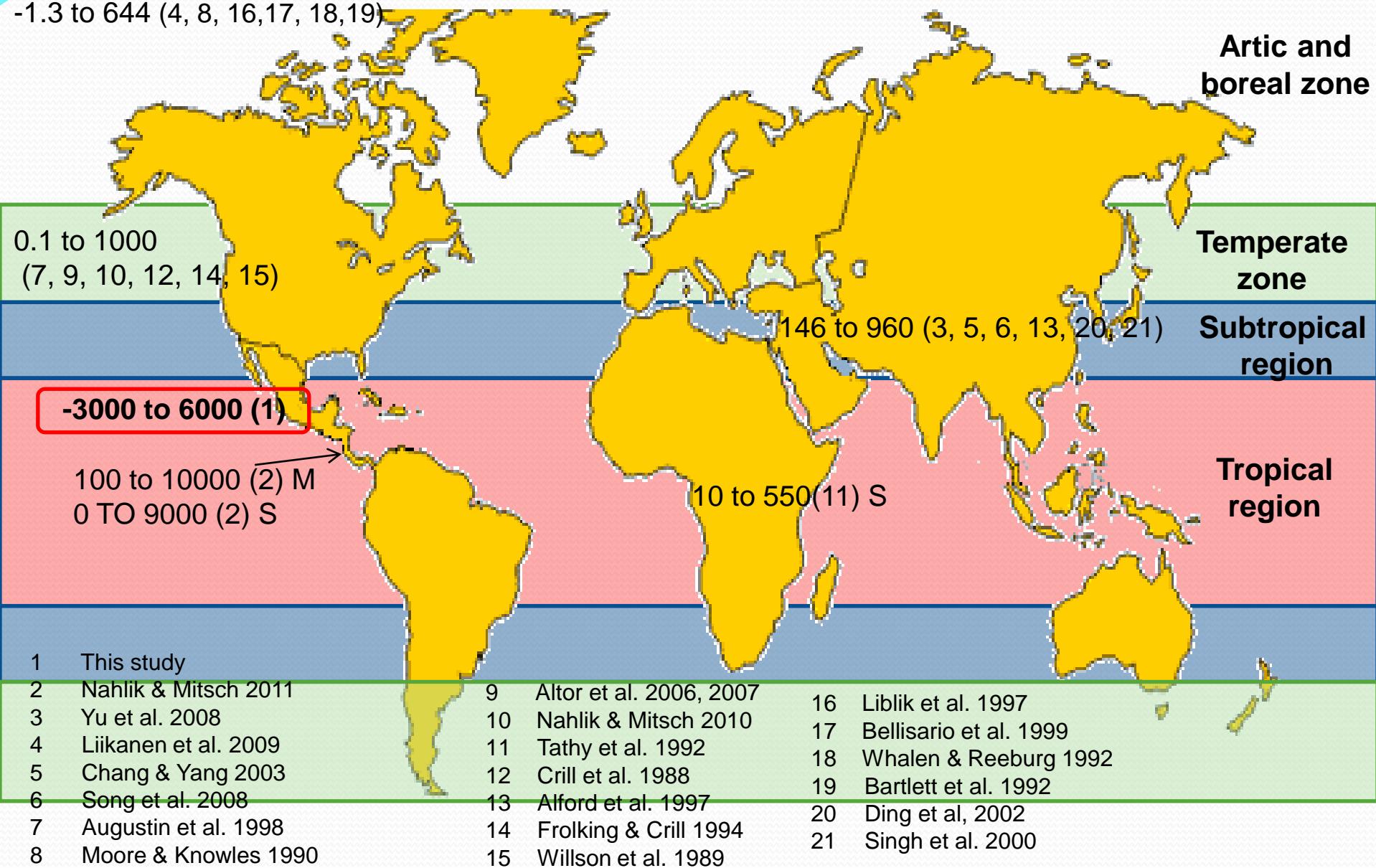
Results cont.



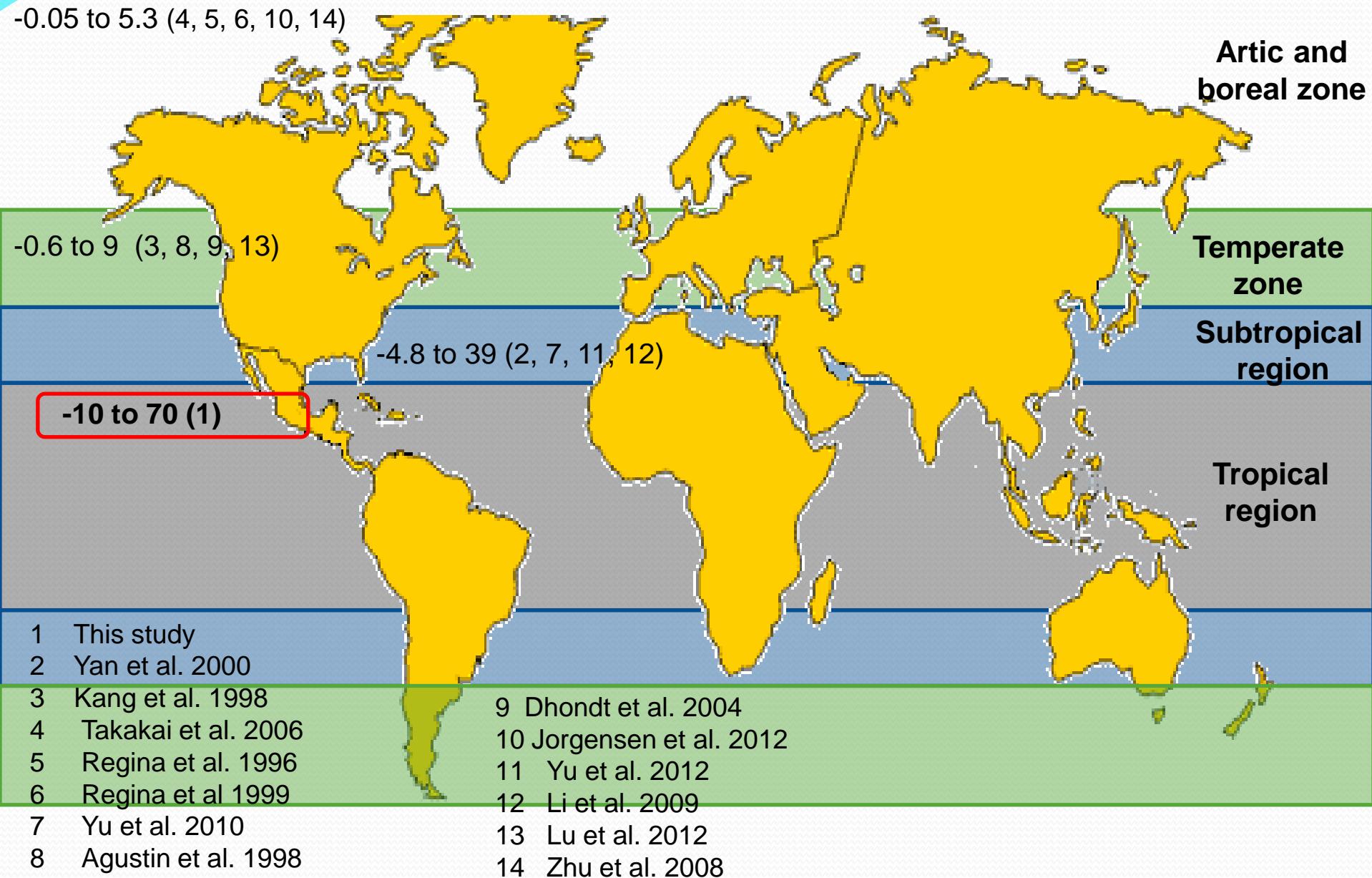
Nitrous oxide emissions in wetlands with different plant community. Values are means ($n=144$). Bars indicate standard errors. Same letters indicate no significant differences ($p>0.05$).

Methane emissions ($\text{mg C-CH}_4 \text{ m}^{-2} \text{ d}^{-1}$) from wetlands in different regions.

-1.3 to 644 (4, 8, 16, 17, 18, 19)



Nitrous oxide emissions ($\text{mg N-N}_2\text{O m}^{-2} \text{d}^{-1}$) from wetlands in different regions.



Conclusions



- ❖ Coastal freshwater marshes and swamps of Veracruz Mexico are sink and source of methane and nitrous oxide.
- ❖ There was no significant differences of methane and nitrous oxide emissions between freshwater wetlands with different type of vegetation community.
- ❖ Methane emissions in these coastal wetlands increased during rainy and wind season (August to February).
- ❖ Nitrous oxide emissions during the study period were variable and did not follow seasonal patterns



Thank you !

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SEMARNAT



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