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3	LIFE HISTORY, ENVIRONMENT AND EXTINCTION OF THE SCALLOP
4	CAROLINAPECTEN EBOREUS (CONRAD) IN THE PLIO-PLEISTOCENE OF THE
5	US EASTERN SEABOARD
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20	RRH: TEMPERATURE VERSUS PRIMARY PRODUCTION IN SCALLOP EXTINCTION
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26 ABSTRACT: Plio-Pleistocene mass extinction of marine bivalves on the US eastern seaboard has been attributed to declines in temperature and primary production. We 27 28 investigate the relationship of growth rate in the scallop Carolinapecten eboreus to 29 variation in these parameters to determine which contributed to its extinction. We use ontogenetic profiles of shell δ^{18} O to estimate growth rate and seasonal temperature. 30 microgrowth-increment data to validate δ^{18} O-based figures for growth rate, and shell 31 32 δ^{13} C to supplement assemblage evidence of production. Post-larval growth started in the spring/summer in individuals from the Middle Atlantic Coastal Plain but in the 33 autumn/winter in some from the Gulf Coastal Plain. Growth rate typically declined 34 35 with age and was usually higher in summer than winter. Many individuals died in winter but the largest forms typically died in spring, possibly on spawning for the first 36 37 time. No individuals lived longer than two years and some grew exceedingly fast overall, 38 up to 60% more rapidly than any other scallop species (< 145.7 mm in a year). Faster 39 growth was generally achieved by secreting more rather than larger microgrowth 40 increments. Some very fast-growing individuals lived in settings of high production and low temperature. No individuals grew slowly under high production whereas most if not 41 42 all grew slowly under 'average' production and low temperature. In that the rapid 43 growth evidently enabled by high production would have afforded protection from predators, Plio-Pleistocene decline in production was probably contributory to the 44 45 extinction of C. eboreus. However, the negative impact of low temperature on growth under 'average' production suggests that temperature decline played some part. 46 47

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INTRODUCTION

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50	During the Plio-Pleistocene, 45% of marine bivalve mollusk species became extinct in
51	western Europe (Raffi et al. 1985), and 65% in the eastern US (Stanley 1986). The figure for
52	the latter area includes a deduction for the rate of normal/background species loss, as
53	estimated from relatively stable Plio-Pleistocene faunas in the western US and Japan, so
54	species loss in the eastern US can truly be described as a mass extinction. High Plio-
55	Pleistocene loss of marine mollusk species has been documented in the Caribbean area
56	(Jackson et al. 1993; Jackson and Johnson 2000; Smith and Jackson 2009), so evidently an
57	extinction event occurred throughout the North Atlantic region.
58	Bivalve extinction in the North Atlantic region was broadly coincident with the onset of
59	northern hemisphere glaciation, and many warmth-favoring taxa were victims. Consequently,
60	temperature decrease has been proposed as the cause (Stanley and Campbell 1981; Raffi et al.
61	1985; Stanley 1986; Stanley and Ruddiman 1995), with zones of upwelling cold water and
62	(in the eastern US) increased seasonality invoked to explain the failure of warmth-adapted
63	species to survive by migration southwards. An alternative (or supplementary) explanation in
64	terms of a decline in primary production (food supply) has been suggested for the eastern US
65	and Caribbean by Allmon and colleagues (Allmon et al. 1993, 1996; Allmon 2001),
66	supported for the Caribbean by other workers (e.g., Todd et al. 2002), although a lagged
67	response has been noted there (O'Dea et al. 2007). This lag might reflect localised persistence
68	of high primary production (Leigh et al. 2014), indirect action of production decline through
69	its effects on dominant habitat and hence predation intensity (Leonard-Pingel and Jackson
70	2016), or simply the time required for production decline (acting directly or indirectly) to
71	bring about complete extinction (O'Dea and Jackson 2009; Smith and Jackson 2009).
72	As a contribution to debate over the cause of Plio-Pleistocene extinctions amongst marine
73	bivalves in the eastern US, we present in this paper an investigation into the roles of declines
74	in temperature and primary production in the extinction of a single species, the scallop

75	(pectinid) Carolinapecten eboreus (Conrad, 1833). This species has a typical pectinid form
76	but reaches an unusually large size (Fig. 1A), specimens up to 165 mm in height being
77	known. Jones and Allmon (1995, fig. 10) obtained a long-wavelength ontogenetic profile of
78	δ^{18} O from a large Florida Pliocene specimen. According to the standard interpretation of
79	ontogenetic δ^{18} O profiles as signatures of seasonal temperature change, such long wavelength
80	implies very rapid growth, which might have been a product of the high primary production
81	indicated by other evidence (Allmon 1993; Allmon et al., 1995, 1996). We evaluate this
82	possibility, and the question of whether decline in food supply rather than temperature led to
83	the extinction of C. eboreus, through a wider investigation of growth rate in the species under
84	circumstances of differing production and temperature. We use the associated fauna as an
85	indicator of production and supply new estimates of temperature from shell δ^{18} O, also
86	employing the seasonal fluctuation in this parameter as a time-marker to determine growth
87	rate. We use shell δ^{13} C and the number and size of microgrowth increments (Fig. 1E, 1F) as
88	supplementary indicators of production and growth rate, respectively.
89	Nearly 250 bivalve species were lost during the Plio-Pleistocene on the US eastern
90	seaboard (Stanley 1986), so our results from one can only hint at the factor(s) affecting the
91	rest. We hope, however, that our findings stimulate research on other species, and that the
92	methodology we adopt (an application of sclerochronology) is seen as an approach worth
93	repeating. Determining the cause of this recent mass extinction event is a worthwhile
94	objective because of the potential for insights into the cause of other such events in the more
95	distant past, and into the likely response of the current biota to environmental changes in the
96	near future (e.g., global warming; Saupe et al. 2014a, b).
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98	SCALLOP MODE OF LIFE, GROWTH RATE AND ENVIRONMENT:

99 A FRAMEWORK FOR INVESTIGATING EXTINCTION

Most bivalves are suspension feeders and are benefited by morphological adaptations and/or life positions that confer stability, hence enabling uninterrupted acquisition of the small food particles concerned. A few scallops cement but most obtain stability by byssal

104 attachment at small to medium sizes. Species growing to more than about 50 mm in height

105 progressively abandon byssal attachment and become recliners (Brand 1991), obtaining

stability through the weight of the shell. Additional thickening would be beneficial in this

107 context, as well as a defence against crushing, drilling and prying predators, and has been

108 used by a few forms (e.g., *Fortipecten*: Hayami and Hosoda 1988; Nakashima et al. 2004).

109 However, the supplementary weight interferes with the alternative strategy towards predators 110 available to scallops: escape through swimming. In many species, shell strength is increased

111 without much addition of weight by plication (corrugation), thus preserving swimming ability

112 to larger sizes. However, above about 70 mm, even the small weight increase associated with

113 plication appears to be too much to permit swimming—at any rate, plicate scallops rarely

114 swim above this size (e.g., Jenkins et al. 2003). By contrast, the non-plicate scallop

Placopecten swims to a height of 100 mm (Dadswell and Weihs 1990), when differential 116 increase in shell weight relative to the ability to provide forward propulsion and lift makes

swimming mechanically impossible (Gould 1971). Beyond the height at which they are able 117

118 to swim, scallops must adopt a 'siege' rather than 'flight' strategy towards predators, making

119 use of the resistance to breakage, penetration and manipulation conferred by ontogenetic

120 increase in shell thickness and by large size itself (Harper and Skelton 1993; Arsenault and

121 Himmelman 1996; Harper et al. 2009). Numerous scallop species grow to a height at which

122 they are immobile recliners so it would seem that a siege strategy towards predators is

123 superior to flight (confirmed for *C. eboreus* by the absence of mollusk drillholes in the very

124 many Plio-Pleistocene individuals above 80 mm height held by the Florida Museum of

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125 Natural History, but presence in smaller scallops; Harper 2002; A.L.A. Johnson, personal 126 observation, 2015). The rapid growth of many scallops (Bricelj and Shumway 1991, fig. 7) 127 makes a siege strategy effective relatively early in life, and it is reasonable to surmise that 128 any environmental circumstances favoring unusually rapid growth would be exploited for the 129 benefits in relation to predation. Of the various factors affecting growth in bivalves, 130 temperature and food supply are the most important in shelf settings of normal marine 131 salinity, both in the group generally (Johnson et al. 2007; Moss et al. 2016, 2017; Abele et al. 2017) and scallops specifically (Bricelj and Shumway 1991; Thompson and Macdonald 132 133 1991). Evidence of unusually rapid growth can therefore be taken as a probable indication of 134 relatively high temperature or primary production (the ultimate regulator of food supply to 135 suspension-feeding bivalves, whether the particles ingested are living phytoplankton or 136 organic detritus). Where one of these explanations is indicated independently, it can be 137 presumed to be the cause of rapid growth. 138 In subsequent sections we describe temperature and primary production, as currently 139 understood, in six time-space divisions of the Plio-Pleistocene sequence of the US eastern 140 seaboard, predict variation in bivalve growth-rate amongst these divisions for models of 141 temperature- and production-controlled growth, and then compare growth-rate results from C. 142 *eboreus* with the predictions of each model. The environmental information supplied 143 alongside growth-rate evidence by isotopic data from C. eboreus provides a significantly 144 altered picture of temperature differences, and a slightly altered one of production 145 differences, between the time-space divisions. 146 147 CAROLINAPECTEN EBOREUS: BACKGROUND INFORMATION AND MATERIAL INVESTIGATED 148 149

150 Forms that the authors of earlier systematic studies (Waller 1969; Gibson 1987) had referred to Argopecten eboreus (Conrad) were placed in the new genus Carolinapecten by 151 152 Ward and Blackwelder (1987). The latter authors recognised only the species C. eboreus, but 153 some authors (e.g., Petuch and Roberts 2007; Ward 2008; Waller 2018) have recognised 154 others, although these species (like the various subspecies that have been recognised; Gibson 155 1987; Campbell 1993; Waller 2018) can be conceived as part of a single evolving lineage. 156 This lineage, for which the name C. eboreus is used herein, arose in the Miocene and became extinct in the Pleistocene, having undergone little net phyletic change. Waller (1969) classed 157 158 C. eboreus as an open-marine form. Other members of the Argopecten gibbus stock, from 159 which he considered it to have evolved, were classed as bay scallops—i.e., inhabitants of 160 semi-enclosed areas of sea, subject to fluctuations in salinity through fluvial discharge or 161 evaporation. 162 The isotopic data from the Florida Pliocene C. eboreus specimen studied by Jones and Allmon (1995) was supplemented by Krantz (1990), who supplied δ^{18} O and δ^{13} C profiles 163 from 12 Pliocene and Pleistocene C. eboreus specimens from Virginia and North Carolina. 164 165 We have used these authors' isotopic results alongside our own (from 19 further specimens) 166 to derive the fullest possible picture of variation in growth rate in relation to environment. 167 Our strategy was to obtain an overview for the later part of the temporal range of *C. eboreus*, 168 i.e., leading up to its extinction. We therefore ignored Miocene specimens and investigated individuals representing three broad time-intervals—'early Pliocene' (EPLI; essentially 169 170 Zanclean: 5.3–3.6 Ma), 'late Pliocene' (LPLI; essentially Piacenzian: 3.6–2.6 Ma) and early 171 Pleistocene (EPLE; Gelasian and Calabrian: 2.6–1.8 Ma)—from each of the Middle Atlantic 172 Coastal Plain (MACP) and Gulf Coastal Plain (GCP). The data is weighted towards the LPLI 173 and EPLE intervals (14 specimens from each) and includes some from the youngest 174 formation containing C. eboreus in the GCP (Bermont Formation; Calabrian). At the time of

175 data acquisition we thought that this was the youngest unit containing *C. eboreus* anywhere.

176 However, we later discovered that the species occurs in the Flanner Beach and Canepatch

177 formations of the MACP (Ward 2008), which are either of equivalent age to the Bermont

Formation (Petuch and Roberts 2007) or from the middle Pleistocene (Ionian/Chibanian): \sim

179 0.5 Ma (Whitehead 1983; Ward 2008) or ~ 0.2 Ma (Miller 1985).

180 Note that we follow the recent revision of the geologic time scale (Gibbard et al. 2010),

such that the Pliocene-Pleistocene boundary is at 2.6 Ma, with the Gelasian (formerly late

182 Pliocene) now being the first stage in the Pleistocene. The 'mid-Pliocene' of previous authors

(e.g., Dowsett et al. 2009; Williams et al. 2009; Winkelstern et al., 2103; Johnson et al. 2017)

184 falls within the late Pliocene as defined above.

185 The specimens isotopically sampled by ourselves were either collected for the study

186 (accessioned at the University of Derby: UD), or made available from existing collections at

the Virginia Museum of Natural History (VMNH) and Florida Museum of Natural History

188 (UF). To convey their time-space division, both the specimens sampled by ourselves and

those sampled by Krantz (1990) and Jones and Allmon (1995) have been assigned new

reference codes incorporating this information (Fig. 2). The specimens derive from the

191 following units and locations (Fig. 3): EPLI-MACP—lower Yorktown Formation (Sunken

192 Meadow Member) at Lee Creek Mine, Aurora, North Carolina (EPLI-MACP 1) and

193 Claremont, Virginia (EPL1-MACP 2); EPLI-GCP—Unit 11 (Petuch 1982) at Sarasota, west-

194 central Florida (EPLI-GCP 1, 2); LPLI-MACP—upper Yorktown Formation (Rushmere,

195 Morgarts Beach and Moore House members) at Lee Creek Mine, Aurora, North Carolina and

near/at Suffolk, Petersburg and Deep Creek, Virginia (respectively, LPLI-MACP 1, 2–6, 7,

197 8); LPLI-GCP—Tamiami Formation/Pinecrest Beds, Unit 2–10 (Petuch 1982), Sarasota

198 County, west-central Florida (LPLI-GCP 1, 2, 4–6) and Jackson Bluff Formation, Leon

199 County, north Florida (LPLI-GCP 3); EPLE-MACP—Chowan River Formation at Colerain

200	Beach, North Carolina (EPLE-MACP 1–7) and Deep Creek, Virginia (EPLE-MACP 8–10),
201	and James City Formation at Lee Creek Mine, Aurora, North Carolina (EPLE-MACP 11, 12);
202	EPLE-GCP-Caloosahatchee or Bermont Formation, Charlotte County, west-central Florida
203	(EPLE-GCP 1) and Bermont Formation, Hillsborough County, west-central Florida (EPLE-
204	GCP 2). More precise stratigraphic information (where available) is provided in
205	Supplementary Data File 1, together with evidence of age. Despite uncertainties, possible
206	ages show little overlap between specimens taken to represent different time intervals (EPLI,
207	LPLI or EPLE; Fig. 2).
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209	GROWTH-RATE PREDICTIONS FROM EXISTING EVIDENCE OF ENVIRONMENT
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211	Extensive use has been made of biotic assemblages to interpret temperature and primary
212	production in the Plio-Pleistocene of the US eastern seaboard, and substantial variation in
213	both parameters has been recognised over the time-space divisions identified above (e.g.,
214	Hazel 1971, 1988; Ward et al. 1991; Cronin and Dowsett 1996; Allmon 1993, 2001; Allmon
215	et al. 1995, 1996). Geochemical (mainly isotopic) approaches have added considerably to
216	understanding of temperature variation (e.g., Krantz 1990; Roulier and Quin 1995; Jones and
217	Allmon 1995; Goewert and Surge 2008; Tao and Grossman 2010; Winkelstern et al. 2013;
218	Brachert et al., 2014; Johnson et al. 2017) but so far have only been used a little to investigate
219	production (Krantz 1990; Jones and Allmon 1995; Tao and Grossman 2010), with a focus on
220	determining the cause of variation. In the next sections, we use existing isotopic (δ^{18} O)
221	temperature data from mollusks (where available) in combination with qualitative
222	assessments of production from faunal composition to characterise the environment of each
223	division. We thus identify which divisions should yield evidence of rapid growth if
224	temperature or production was the controlling factor. Isotopic temperature data of a similar

225	(seasonal) resolution to that from mollusks has been obtained from corals (e.g., Roulier and
226	Quinn 1995) but there are discrepancies between the two datasets—e.g., systematically lower
227	seasonal temperature variation indicated by corals (Brachert et al. 2014). Combining the
228	datasets would have obscured differences between the divisions.
229	
230	Temperature
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232	With the exception of information from the lower James City Formation of the early
233	Pleistocene (Krantz 1990), Johnson et al. (2017) summarised all the available molluscan δ^{18} O
234	data (entirely from bivalves) for the early Pliocene to early Pleistocene of the MACP, giving
235	temperatures calculated for appropriate values of water δ^{18} O. Winter minimum and summer
236	maximum temperatures for specific units and taxa (including already-analysed
237	Carolinapecten) are listed in Table 1. Temperatures for the lower James City Formation,
238	calculated on the same basis as those for the early Pleistocene Chowan River Formation (i.e.,
239	water $\delta^{18}O = 0.00\%$) have been added. Table 1 shows that material of LPLI age gives higher
240	winter and summer temperatures than material of EPLI and EPLE age. We can conveniently
241	define high temperature conditions (represented by LPLI data) and differentiate these from
242	low temperature conditions (represented by EPLI and EPLE data) by setting winter and
243	summer boundaries of 11.5 °C and 24 °C, respectively, between the two.
244	Applying the classification scheme adopted for the MACP to the GCP, gastropod-derived
245	data from Unit 7 of the Pinecrest Beds (LPLI) clearly falls within the high temperature
246	category: mean winter and summer isotopic temperatures calculated using an appropriate
247	value (+1.02‰) for water δ^{18} O are 18 and 27 °C, respectively (Tao and Grossman 2010, table
248	1). On the basis of Sr/Ca data, Tao and Grossman (2010) argued that their lower gastropod-
249	derived isotopic temperatures from Unit 4 (also LPLI) reflected inappropriate use of the same

250	value for water δ^{18} O. A higher value (reflecting likely evaporative enrichment of 18 O in
251	seawater during deposition of this unit) would have yielded correspondingly higher
252	temperatures. Earlier gastropod and bivalve δ^{18} O data from other LPLI (and EPLE) units
253	within the Pinecrest Beds (Jones and Allmon 1995) yields temperatures generally similar to
254	the more recent gastropod data from Unit 7 when calculated using a water $\delta^{18}O$ of +1.02‰
255	(Tao and Grossman 2010, figure 4). Use of this value for gastropod $\delta^{18}O$ data from the
256	Caloosahatchee Formation (EPLE) yields mean winter and summer temperatures of 17 and
257	27 °C, respectively (Tao and Grossman 2010, table 1). However, we prefer (see below) a
258	value of 0.00‰ for the EPLE interval, which yields temperatures 4–5 °C lower, within the
259	high temperature category as defined above for winter but outside it for summer. We
260	therefore recognise an additional low summer (LS; < 24 °C)/high winter (HW; \geq 11.5 °C)
261	temperature category. This category appears to be represented not only by the EPLE-GCP but
262	also the EPLI-GCP division. No isotopic temperature data has been provided hitherto for the
263	latter but ostracod-assemblage analysis gives mean winter and summer temperatures (16 and
264	22 °C, respectively; Cronin and Dowsett 1996) that fall within the LS/HW category. Isotopic
265	evidence from the MACP indicates that ostracod-assemblage analysis may yield winter
266	temperatures that are overestimated by 3-4 °C (Johnson et al. 2017). However, subtraction of
267	this amount from the assemblage-derived EPLI-GCP winter value still leaves a figure in the
268	high temperature range. In view of the refinement to the classification scheme necessitated by
269	EPLI-GCP and EPLE-GCP data it is appropriate also to recognise a high summer (HS; ≥ 24
270	°C)/low winter (LW; < 11.5 °C) temperature category, not represented by existing data from
271	the early Pliocene to early Pleistocene of the US eastern seaboard, but into which new data
272	might fall.

Primary production

276	The Miocene of the US eastern seaboard is characterised by thick phosphorite deposits,
277	almost certainly reflecting high primary production, i.e., a supply of organic material too
278	large for respiration to prevent its accumulation on the seafloor (Riggs 1984; Riggs et al.
279	2000; Snyder et al. 1990). Phosphate is also present in many Pliocene and early Pleistocene
280	units, and occurs in amounts up to 25% in the EPLI interval (Riggs et al., 1982), but was
281	probably derived from erosion of Miocene phosphorites rather than generated
282	contemporaneously (Riggs et al. 2000; S.R. Riggs, personal communication, 2016).
283	Nevertheless, compelling evidence of high production exists for some Pliocene units in the
284	form of rich marine vertebrate faunas, including numerous fish-eating birds and other
285	predators, some of large size. The occurrence of common turritelline gastropods has been
286	used as an indication of high production (e.g., Allmon 2011; Allmon et al. 1995; Anderson et
287	al. 2017). However, in some situations high frequencies reflect cool water rather than high
288	production (Allmon and Dockery 1992) so to avoid ambiguity we limit the following
289	discussion to vertebrate evidence. Existing geochemical evidence of production is too scant
290	to permit comparison between divisions by this means.
291	The Pliocene Yorktown Formation of Lee Creek Mine, Aurora, North Carolina, has
292	yielded an abundant and diverse fauna of marine fish (Fierstine 2001; Purdy et al. 2001),
293	including the giant shark Carcharocles megalodon, together with diverse, sometimes large,
294	carnivorous marine mammals (Kohno and Ray 2008; Koretsky and Ray 2008; Whitmore and
295	Barnes 2008; Whitmore and Kaltenbach 2008; Kazár and Bohaska 2008), and an abundant
296	avifauna consisting of over 100 species, mostly marine fish-eating forms (Olson and
297	Rasmussen, 2001; Storer 2001; Olson and Hearty 2003). Virtually all the many thousands of
298	vertebrate specimens are from spoil but characteristics of the attached matrix allowed the
299	above authors to assign much of the material to the lower part of the formation, i.e., the

300	Sunken Meadow Member (EPLI-MACP). While noting that some vertebrate material is from
301	higher horizons (thus ruling out exceptional preservational circumstances in the lower
302	Yorktown Formation), Ward (2008) agreed that most came from the Sunken Meadow
303	Member, remarking (p. 360) in a summary of the biota of the overlying Rushmere and
304	Morgarts Beach members (LPLI-MACP) that the 'relative lack of vertebrates is especially
305	noticeable.' The same pattern is evident elsewhere in the MACP. For instance, Kohno and
306	Ray (2008) list numerous EPLI occurrences of walruses but just one definite LPLI record
307	(Appendix II, number 4; a locality in Virginia exposing only the upper Yorktown Formation
308	according to Ward and Blackwelder 1980); similarly, there is just a single LPLI record of a
309	whale and of a seal, both from Rice's Pit, Hampton, Virginia (Westgate and Whitmore 2002;
310	Koretsky and Ray 2008, p. 114). Ward (2008) recorded no vertebrates at all from the
311	uppermost (Moore House) member of the Yorktown Formation or from the early Pleistocene
312	Chowan River Formation at Lee Creek, but a walrus femur from Yadkin Pit, Deep Creek,
313	Virginia, may be from the latter unit, even if probably reworked from the Yorktown
314	Formation (Kohno and Ray 2008, Appendix 1; Appendix 2, number 5). The depauperate
315	nature of the EPLE-MACP vertebrate fauna is also evident in the younger James City
316	Formation at Lee Creek, from which Ward (2008) listed only a restricted fish assemblage
317	(four species), commenting (p. 384) that the 'scarcity of shark, ray and bony fish remains in
318	units above the Sunken Meadow Member of the Yorktown Formation (lower Pliocene) is
319	reflected in all of the stratigraphic units along the Atlantic Coastal Plain. The James City
320	Formation is typical in this regard.' Certainly the still younger Flanner Beach Formation is no
321	exception: Ward (2008) lists no vertebrates from this at Lee Creek.
322	On the basis of the abundance, diversity and ecology of vertebrates from Lee Creek, Olson
323	and Rasmussen (2001, p. 238) opined: 'The Yorktown seas off present-day North Carolina
324	must have supported one of the greatest levels of marine productivity in the history of the

325 earth.' In that most of the Yorktown marine vertebrate fauna (here and elsewhere in the 326 MACP) is from the Sunken Meadow Member, this statement can be taken to apply to the 327 EPLI interval, with much lower production in the LPLI and EPLE intervals in the MACP, 328 probably at something like the 'average' shelf level characteristic of the US eastern seaboard 329 at present (FAO 1981, map 1.1). 330 While it lacks birds and has a fish fauna apparently limited to sharks (Petuch and Roberts 331 2007), the vertebrate fauna of Unit 1 of the Sarasota, Florida, sequence (EPLI-GCP) includes 332 abundant and diverse carnivorous marine mammals, some of large size (Emslie and Morgan 333 1994; Allmon et al. 1996), and thus resembles that of the Sunken Meadow Member. 334 Similarly high production can therefore be inferred. Unlike in the MACP, high production 335 evidently continued (or at least recurred) in the LPLI interval in the GCP. A bed at the 336 Richardson Road Shell Mine (= Quality Aggregates pit), Sarasota, that is contemporaneous 337 with or somewhat older than Unit 4 (Allmon 1993), contains an avifauna of 11 taxa, with one 338 extinct, probably marine, cormorant species represented by 137 skeletons and thousands of 339 separate bones (Emslie and Morgan 1994; Emslie et al. 1996). No fully marine cormorants 340 live in Florida now so the occurrence of such a form in large numbers during the LPLI 341 interval provides good evidence of more abundant food than at present in the shape of marine 342 fish, and thus of higher primary production (Allmon et al. 1996). By the EPLE interval 343 production had seemingly declined in the GCP to something like the present 'average' level 344 (FAO 1981, map 1.1): two seabird species (an alcid and an albatross; both known from single 345 bones) are recorded from the Caloosahatchee Formation and a seal from the Bermont 346 Formation, suggesting a fairly limited marine bird and mammal fauna, similar to that at 347 present in Florida and contrasting sharply with the Pliocene (Allmon et al. 1996). 348

Growth-rate predictions

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351	On the basis of present evidence, nearly all possible combinations of the temperature and
352	production categories identified above are represented by time-space divisions in the Plio-
353	Pleistocene of the US eastern seaboard (Fig. 4). We can expect there to have been a
354	temperature and level of production above which growth in C. eboreus was inhibited rather
355	than promoted. Tests of the influence of each parameter on growth are therefore best framed
356	in terms of predictions relating to relatively low values of each. Thus if temperature was the
357	control we should not expect to see rapid growth in settings of low winter and summer
358	temperature (in the EPLI-MACP and EPLE-MACP divisions from present evidence); if
359	production was the control we should not expect to see rapid growth in settings of 'average'
360	production (in the LPLI-MACP, EPLE-MACP and EPLE-GCP divisions from present
361	evidence); and if both were involved we should not expect to see rapid growth in settings of
362	low winter and summer temperature combined with 'average' production (in the EPLE-
363	MACP division from present evidence).
364	
365	LABORATORY METHODS AND TREATMENT OF DATA
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367	As indicated above, we used the isotopic data of Krantz (1990) and Jones and Allmon
368	(1995) to supplement our own from C. eboreus. The specimen investigated by Jones and
369	Allmon (1995) was available, so we obtained complementary microgrowth-increment data
370	from it. The specimens analysed by us were (where necessary) initially scrubbed with a nylon
371	brush in tap-water to remove loosely adherent sediment. They were then coated with a
372	sublimate of NH ₄ Cl and digitally photographed. Images were inserted into the bespoke
373	software Panopea© (2004, Peinl and Schöne) for counting and measurement of microgrowth
374	increments, together with measurement of the position of significant growth breaks,

375 subdivided into major and moderate according to the size of the 'step' in the shell profile 376 (Fig. 1A, 1C, 1F). In all shells the lamellae bounding microgrowth increments had been 377 affected by abrasion near the dorsal margin (umbonal area), preventing acquisition of 378 complete microgrowth-increment records, and visibility was sometimes poor elsewhere. 379 Measurements of increment sizes and growth-break positions were made principally along 380 the mid-line (axis of maximum growth = anatomical height) but for most shells it was 381 preferable (e.g., to avoid areas of abrasion), and for two broken shells (e.g., Fig. 1C) 382 necessary, to include measurements taken somewhat anterior or posterior of this line. In such 383 instances increment sizes and growth-break 'heights' were mathematically adjusted 384 (multiplied by umbo-margin distance along mid-line/umbo-margin distance through 385 measurement position) to correspond to measurements along the mid-line. The same 386 adjustment was made to the measured position of isotope samples where these were taken 387 away from the mid-line—e.g., in cases of breakage or other shell imperfections (see below). 388 Following removal of the NH₄Cl coating by washing in tap-water, specimens for isotopic 389 analysis were thoroughly cleaned using the method adopted by Valentine et al. (2011). 390 Samples were extracted by drilling successive, continuous or discontinuous (plical crests 391 only) grooves up to about 1 mm deep in the outer shell layer (foliated calcite apart from a 392 short prismatic-calcite stage in the right valve; Waller 1978), using a hand-held drill equipped 393 with a 0.5 mm bit. The spacing of grooves was varied according to microgrowth-increment 394 size (and hence presumed growth rate) to achieve roughly comparable temporal resolution 395 within and between specimens: mean spacings for individuals (as determined for the axis of 396 maximum growth) are 1.5–4.7 mm. Cracks and areas significantly abraded or with a high 397 concentration of microborings were avoided. In a few instances, encrusting organisms or 398 sediment were drilled away to reveal the shell; the outermost part of the shell itself (~ 0.1 399 mm) was also drilled away in a few cases where it had an unusual colour or texture. Where

400 practicable, sampling was started very close to the dorsal margin (origin of growth) and 401 continued to the ventral margin, but in some cases breakage or abrasion had reduced the 402 already small amount of material recoverable close to the dorsal margin to such an extent that 403 sampling had to commence more ventrally. It was noted in sampling close to the dorsal 404 margin that material of a different (often 'crystalline') character to that of the (there thin) 405 outer shell layer was sometimes revealed and possibly included in the material extracted. 406 Samples were removed from the site of extraction by partially or wholly inverting the shell 407 such that, with the assistance of tapping or brushing, the powder fell onto a slip of aluminium 408 foil for collection and transfer into a non-stick storage vial. After extraction and removal of 409 each sample the shell was thoroughly brushed to prevent contamination of the next sample. Measurement of δ^{18} O and δ^{13} C was carried out either at the NERC Isotope Geosciences 410 411 Laboratory, British Geological Survey, Keyworth, UK, or at the Institute of Geosciences, 412 University of Mainz, Germany. Analysis at Keyworth involved an Isoprime dual inlet mass 413 spectrometer coupled to a Multiprep system; powder samples were dissolved with 414 concentrated phosphoric acid in borosilicate Wheaton vials at 90 °C. Analysis at Mainz 415 involved a Thermo Finnigan MAT 253 continuous flow-isotope ratio mass spectrometer 416 coupled to a Gasbench II; powder samples were dissolved with water-free phosphoric acid in helium-flushed borosilicate exetainers at 72 °C. Both laboratories calculated $\delta^{18}O$ and $\delta^{13}C$ 417 418 against VPDB and calibrated data against NBS-19 and their own Carrara Marble standard; values were consistently within $\pm 0.05\%$ of the preferred values for δ^{18} O and δ^{13} C in NBS-419 19. For a few shells, part of the sample series was analysed in one laboratory and part in the 420 421 other; there was found to be excellent agreement (e.g., smooth continuation of trends) 422 between the subsets of data. Reproducibility was checked by remeasuring some samples, and 423 in the case of seemingly aberrant initial results, repeat sampling and analysis was undertaken 424 (both initial and replicate values are plotted in Figs. 5–8). Results from repeat sampling were

nearly always closer to expectation (implying some contamination of the initial samples) and
in such cases were used with singleton values from other positions to generate ontogenetic
profiles (lines in Figs. 5–8). Otherwise, the profiles connect singleton values with mean
values from multiple sampling (and multiple measurement). Figure 6A contains the isotopic
results of Jones and Allmon (1995; read off from fig. 10).

To conform with recent work on Plio-Pleistocene scallops from the US eastern seaboard (Johnson et al., 2017), temperatures were derived from shell δ^{18} O using the calcite equation (1) of Epstein et al. (1953):

433

434
$$T = 16.5 - 4.3(\delta^{18}O_{\text{calcite}} - \delta^{18}O_{\text{seawater}}) + 0.14(\delta^{18}O_{\text{calcite}} - \delta^{18}O_{\text{seawater}})^2$$
(1)

435

We subtracted 0.27‰ from our δ^{18} O water values (calibrated against SMOW) in order to 436 adjust them to the VPDB scale used for shell carbonate (Gonfiantini et al. 1995). Various 437 initial values for water δ^{18} O were used. Whilst noting that global, negative estimates have 438 439 been adopted by some workers (discussed in Johnson et al. 2017), we favor the model-based, 440 regional, positive estimates for the Pliocene given by Williams et al. (2009): +0.70 and 441 +0.90% for the early Pliocene of the MACP and GCP, respectively; +1.10 and +1.02% for the late Pliocene of the MACP and GCP, respectively. We calculated temperatures from each 442 Pliocene δ^{18} O profile using all four estimates of water δ^{18} O but prefer those based on the 443 relevant division-specific value. Model-based regional estimates of water δ^{18} O do not exist 444 for the early Pleistocene of the US eastern seaboard so we used the set of four estimates (-445 446 0.20, 0.00, +0.20, +0.50%) employed by Winkelstern et al. (2013) for this interval, following 447 these authors in adopting 0.00% as the preferred value. 448 Notwithstanding the existence of some 'noise', the summer (low values) and winter (high

449 values) parts of δ^{18} O profiles were in general readily identifiable (problematic cases are

450 discussed in the next section). In accordance with the approach of Johnson et al. (2017), we 451 used the maxima and minima of unsmoothed profiles to derive values for extreme winter and 452 summer temperatures. The shell heights of maxima and minima were likewise used to determine the size of half- and (in most cases) whole-year shell increments—i.e., growth rate. 453 454 As for estimation of seasonal temperature, the use of maxima and minima from unsmoothed δ^{18} O profiles to determine the size of half- and whole-year increments introduces the 455 456 possibility of error relating to noise. However, smoothing has some disadvantages (e.g., 457 amplification of the effect of growth breaks; Johnson et al. 2017) and is not a solution to 458 errors of a more systematic nature (see discussion of early ontogenetic excursions below). As 459 will be shown, C. eboreus had a very short lifespan (never exceeding two years and rarely much more than one) so only a modest proportion of the δ^{18} O profiles (9 of 32) contain two 460 461 maxima and/or minima, others showing one maximum and one minimum or a single 462 maximum/minimum (partly due to incomplete or inadequate shell preservation). In cases of 463 the last two types it was only possible to obtain minimum values for whole- and half-year 464 increments, respectively. We determined the largest half- and (for individuals that lived 465 sufficiently long) whole-year increment from each profile, measuring the size of the largest whole-year increment between consecutive δ^{18} O maxima or minima, or between other 466 homologous points (i.e., δ^{18} O values representing equivalent times of year) where this gave a 467 larger value. The approach is illustrated in Figures 5–8, where we have identified the points 468 on the δ^{18} O profiles between which half-year and whole-year increments were measured (see 469 also Fig. 1A-C). The same methodology was followed in measurement of increment sizes 470 from the δ^{18} O profiles of Krantz (1990). Annotated versions of these profiles are available 471 472 online as Supplementary Data File 2, and other raw data as Supplementary Data File 3.

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RESULTS AND ANALYSIS

Oxygen Isotope Data

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Problematic Profiles.—Most of the δ^{18} O profiles in Figures 5–8, together with those 478 obtained from C. eboreus by Krantz (1990), are of a form readily interpretable in terms of the 479 seasonal temperature cycle. However, a few profiles present problems. The profile from 480 EPLI-GCP 1 (Fig. 5A) shows only slight variation in δ^{18} O compared to another specimen of 481 comparable size from the same division (EPLI-GCP 2; Fig. 5C). The similar or greater δ^{18} O 482 483 values from EPLI-GCP 1 compared to winter values from EPLI-GCP 2 suggest that the 484 former profile is a (somewhat 'noisy') record of winter alone, but microgrowth-increment 485 data (see below) indicates that over a year is represented. Accepting the latter evidence, we have assumed that the modest reduction in δ^{18} O at approximately 45 mm shell height marks 486 487 the second of two summer intervals, and have determined seasonal temperatures, and half-488 and whole-year shell increments, accordingly. The profile from LPLI-GCP 3 (Fig. 6C) shows 489 even less variation and values intermediate between the winter and summer values of shells 490 from the same division. Microgrowth-increment data indicates that this shell lived only a few 491 months, hence it is entirely plausible that only one of these seasons is represented. We have assumed it to be winter because the δ^{18} O values are closer to the mean of maxima rather than 492 493 minima from other shells of the same division. The profile from LPLI-GCP 2 (Fig. 6B) is problematic because it shows an excursion to high values (the highest in the profile) at about 494 495 75 mm, interrupting a smooth trend to low values. Rather than representing winter, it may be 496 that these high values reflect a downturn in temperature during spring; such fluctuations are 497 certainly evident in other profiles (e.g., at about 65 mm in LPLI-GCP 6; Fig. 6F). However, 498 for consistency with the approach applied to other profiles we have assumed that the values 499 around 75 mm are representative of winter and have determined seasonal temperatures and

500 half- and whole-year increments in accordance with this. A final problem is represented by 501 abrupt excursions to lower values in early ontogeny, in some cases to the lowest values in the profiles (starred values in Figs. 6A, 6E, 7D). If these values are taken to represent summers 502 503 the adjacent inflections have to be interpreted as winters. However, the values involved in the 504 inflections are inconsistent with this, being much lower than clear winter values later in the profiles. It seems probable that the early ontogenetic δ^{18} O excursions (which in the cases 505 highlighted are matched by excursions in δ^{13} C) reflect incorporation into samples of material 506 507 from below the thin outer layer (see previous section). The 'crystalline' material seen at 508 shallow depths in the umbonal area could have been altered myostracal aragonite. If this had equilibrated with groundwaters of meteoric origin (typically low δ^{18} O) and been incorporated 509 into samples it would have imparted a lower δ^{18} O to them. In view of the likely diagenetic 510 origin of early ontogenetic 'spikes', we have disregarded them in seasonal interpretation of 511 δ^{18} O profiles and calculation of seasonal temperatures. It is worth mentioning here that there 512 is little evidence from aberrant δ^{18} O values for alteration of outer-layer calcite. 513

514

515 *Characteristics of Profiles.*—We here itemise the general features of profiles and their life-516 history implications; the temperatures and specific overall growth rates implied are discussed 517 later.

Only about half the profiles in Figures 5–8 show a full seasonal cycle and just two
 (LPLI-GCP 6, EPLE-MACP 1) show as much as 1.5 cycles. A similar proportion of the
 profiles obtained by Krantz (1990) show a full cycle, one (EPLE-MACP 4) showing about
 1.5 cycles and another (EPLE-MACP 9) about 1.75 cycles. Since the latter profile starts at a
 shell height above 20 mm, it is conceivable that a complete ontogenetic profile would have
 shown two full cycles. It appears therefore that *C. eboreus* lived no longer than two years, in

some cases (e.g., LPLI-GCP 6; height 165 mm, age 1.5 years) reaching a very large size in a
shorter time.

526	2. Amongst the profiles from the MACP in Figures 5, 7 and 8, all start at or somewhat
527	before a summer minimum (i.e., post-larval growth commenced in the spring or summer),
528	that from LPLI-MACP 5 starting earliest but clearly on a declining trend. While some from
529	the GCP in Figures 5, 6 and 8 start a little before (but never at) a summer minimum, the
530	profiles from EPLI-GCP 1 and 2, LPLI-GCP 6 and EPLE-GCP 2 (and probably also LPLI-
531	GCP 2 and 3) start at or somewhat before a winter maximum (i.e., in the fall or winter), that
532	from LPLI-GCP 6 starting earliest, at a value considerably less than the winter maximum.
533	The profiles provided by Krantz (1990), all from the MACP, start at a shell height of 15 mm
534	or more so it is impossible to be sure about the time of onset of growth. However, since all
535	start at low δ^{18} O values, and some show a subsequent fall, it is likely that post-larval growth
536	commenced in the spring or summer.
537	3. Only a few profiles terminate (i.e., the individual died) in summer (e.g., LPLI-GCP 2,
538	LPLI-MACP 6) and many in winter. However, of the six largest individuals (height > 120
539	mm), five died during the spring rise in temperature (LPLI-GCP 1, 5, 6; LPLI-MACP 1;
540	EPLE-GCP 1). Since these individuals were evidently not compromised by low temperatures,
541	would have been relatively immune from predation through their size (see earlier discussion),
542	and were still young, they possibly died after their first reproductive (spawning) event-i.e.,
543	C. eboreus may have been semelparous (Cole 1954). High winter mortality at smaller sizes
544	might reflect a cold-induced lowering of swimming capacity and consequent reduced ability
545	to escape predators by this means (see earlier discussion).
546	4. Of the profiles in Figures 5–8, only that for EPLE-MACP 1 is close to sinusoidal, all
547	but one of the rest having a low gradient (falling and rising values) for the first half to whole
548	cycle and then steepening markedly (LPLI-GCP 6 is unusual in showing a steep rise in values

in earliest ontogeny, succeeded by a gradual fall). Two (EPLE-MACP 4, 9) of the profiles
provided by Krantz (1990) are close to sinusoidal but others that span a sufficient interval
show the same ontogenetic increase in steepness, which indicates a decline in growth rate. It
is noteworthy that the more sinusoidal profiles are all ones extending well into a second year
and show relatively small half- and whole-year increments (Table 2). Longer life is a

common corollary of slower growth amongst bivalves (Moss et al. 2016).

555 5. Where profiles are distinctly non-sinusoidal, the winter sectors are typically narrower 556 (indicating slower growth) than the summer. Exceptions to this rule are specimens from the 557 GCP showing a fall or winter start to growth (e.g., EPLI-GCP 2). The broad 'spring' sector in 558 the profile from LPLI-MACP 5, a specimen showing an unusually early start to growth for its 559 location, suggests that it is the time of growth onset rather than geographic position that is 560 critical in determining the relative amounts of winter and summer growth over the ontogeny 561 of an individual.

5626. The sizes (heights) of the largest half- and whole-year increments (Table 2) are

extremely variable: 16.0–121.7 mm for full half-years and 26.0–145.7 mm for full whole-

years. The minimum estimates recorded are well below the upper limits of these ranges so it

is unlikely that the actual increment sizes exceeded them. The largest values for half- and

whole-year increment size (i.e., fastest growth rates) in *C. eboreus* are 1.6 times the

567 maximum values recorded amongst all other scallop species: 75 mm for half-year increment

- size in modern wild *Ylistrum balloti* (Williams and Dredge 1981); 90 mm for whole-year
- 569 increment size in modern cultured *Argopecten prpuratus* (DiSalvo et al. 1984).

570

571

Stable Carbon Isotope Data

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573	Amongst the δ^{13} C profiles in Figures 5–8, nearly all from the larger shells (height ≥ 100
574	mm), exhibit ontogenetic trends to lower values (reaching -5.03‰ in EPLE-GCP 1),
575	superimposed on which are more or less pronounced fluctuations, paralleling those in $\delta^{18}\!O$
576	profiles. However, in the large shell LPLI-GCP1 there is no overall reduction in $\delta^{13}C$ and
577	downward fluctuations do not parallel δ^{18} O. The last of the downward fluctuations
578	corresponds to a $\delta^{18}O$ maximum, thus conforming to the expectations of an upwelling event
579	(Jones and Allmon 1995). However, the δ^{18} O maximum is at the end of a long-term trend to
580	higher values and so is much more reasonably interpreted as the culmination of winter
581	cooling rather than incursion of cool deep-waters. Excursions to lower $\delta^{13}C$ earlier in
582	ontogeny are not mirrored by excursions to higher $\delta^{18}O$, although the trend to increasing $\delta^{18}O$
583	is slightly steepened. This may reflect slower growth, as suggested by contemporaneous
584	reductions in microgrowth-increment size.
585	In shells less than 100 mm in height, δ^{13} C generally lies between -1.00 and +1.00‰, in
586	some cases fluctuating in accordance with $\delta^{18}O$ (e.g., EPLI-MACP 2), in certain others
587	showing a slight ontogenetic increase (not in accordance with δ^{18} O; e.g., LPLI-MACP 4), and
588	in yet others essentially 'flat-lining' (e.g., LPLI-GCP 4). The range of values and patterns
589	from the smaller shells is very much like that obtained by Krantz (1990) from LPLI-MACP
590	and EPLE-MACP shells up to 100 mm. As in the larger shells, there is no evidence of
591	upwelling from inverse variation in δ^{13} C relative to δ^{18} O (cf. Jones and Allmon 1995).
592	For the smaller shells represented in Figures 5–8 and the first 100 mm of ontogeny of the
593	larger shells, mean δ^{13} C ranges from $-1.90 \pm 0.66 (\pm 1\sigma)$ to $+0.89 \pm 0.24$ % (EPLE-GCP 1
594	and LPLI-MACP 4, respectively). Grand means from these shells for each of the time-space
595	divisions are as follows: EPLI-GCP: +0.08 \pm 0.08‰; EPLI-MACP: -0.26 \pm 0.22‰; LPLI-
596	GCP: -0.11 ± 0.69‰; LPLI-MACP: +0.49 ± 0.32‰; EPLE-GCP: -1.36 ± 0.54‰: EPLE-
597	MACP: -0.14 ± 0.09 %. The EPLI-GCP, EPLI-MACP and LPLI-GCP values are

598	substantially lower than the individual averages from two modern specimens of the scallop
599	Placopecten magellanicus from the Middle Atlantic Bight, and also lower than the individual
600	averages from two of three modern specimens of the scallop Argopecten gibbus from the
601	South Atlantic Bight (Krantz et al. 1988). This is consistent with the high primary production
602	inferred for these divisions, since, whether the necessary nutrients were derived by upwelling
603	or fluvial supply, they would have been associated with dissolved carbon of low $\delta^{13}C.$ The
604	higher LPLI-MACP grand mean is correspondingly consistent with the 'average' production
605	inferred for this division. The negative EPLE-MACP value is not consistent with the
606	'average' production inferred but is evidently a reflection of small sample size: nearly all the
607	individual averages of the EPLE-MACP specimens analysed by Krantz (1990) are positive.
608	Small sample size may likewise account for the negative EPLE-GCP grand mean, but the
609	value is so low that it brings into question the 'average' production inferred.
610	In conclusion, the $\delta^{13}C$ data provides scant evidence of short-term upwelling events, but in
611	the low individual averages contributing to low grand means they may evince more
612	protracted supply of nutrient-rich waters capable of supporting high production. Ontogenetic
613	fluctuations in δ^{13} C paralleling δ^{18} O probably reflect the interaction between seasonal cycles
614	of phytoplankton production and water-column stratification in a mid- to outer-shelf setting
615	(Arthur et al. 1983; Johnson et al. 2017; Vignols et al. 2018).
616	
617	Microgrowth Increments
618	
619	Microgrowth-increment profiles are only available for the specimens in Figures 5–8.
620	Despite high frequency, relatively low amplitude variation, most profiles that are sufficiently
621	long show a major (high amplitude) cycle of size change-from small to large to small-
622	within the height interval of the first δ^{18} O cycle, with increments remaining small thereafter.

623	The microgrowth-increment cycle commonly occupies substantially less than the height
624	interval of the first δ^{18} O cycle (which may be incomplete), such that the cycles are out of
625	phase. At least for the LPLI interval, for which the most data is available, this pattern is
626	evident in shells from both the MACP (e.g., LPLI-MACP 2 and 4) and GCP (e.g., LPLI-GCP
627	6). Maximum microgrowth-increment size typically corresponds to low or rising δ^{18} O in
628	shells from the MACP and high or falling δ^{18} O in shells from the GCP. However, this is
629	clearly not a reflection of geographic differences in the time of optimum growth conditions
630	but rather of the onset of growth (see above), because most exceptions to the pattern show
631	unusually early (LPLI-MACP 5) or late (LPLI-GCP 5, EPLE-GCP 1) starts to growth for
632	their respective areas. Short-term increases and decreases in increment size are matched by
633	increases and decreases in δ^{13} C in some shells (e.g. LPLI-GCP 1, LPLI-MACP 5, EPLE-GCP
634	1) but not by any notable changes (increases or decreases) in δ^{18} O over the same height
635	interval. They therefore do not relate to temperature. The correlation with $\delta^{13}C$ over short
636	intervals may manifest the same process as the mutual declines in microgrowth-increment
637	size and $\delta^{13}C$ over the course of ontogeny. This could be greater incorporation of isotopically
638	light respiratory carbon when growth rate is low, as represented by smaller microgrowth
639	increments (Lorrain et al. 2004).

The data for microgrowth-increment size and number confirms that the half- and whole-640 year increments determined from δ^{18} O profiles do indeed represent time-intervals of these 641 lengths—i.e., that shell δ^{18} O reflects seasonal temperature variation rather than extreme (and 642 improbable) variation in water δ^{18} O, over some unknown timescale. The major cycle of size 643 change within the first δ^{18} O cycle is very comparable with the pattern in young, cultured 644 645 examples of the living scallops Aequipecten opercularis and Pecten maximus (Broom and 646 Mason 1978; Owen et al. 2002). In these, microgrowth-increment size increases from late 647 winter to reach a summer maximum and then falls to a late fall minimum, succeeded by

648	several months of little or no growth. Over the period in which the largest increments are
649	formed, which is also the time of most rapid overall growth, the number laid down closely
650	corresponds to the number of days elapsed (i.e., the microgrowth increments are 'daily'), as
651	in some other scallop species (e.g., Joll 1988; Clark 2005; Velarde et al. 2015). Outside this
652	period, fewer are laid down, such that there is an increasing discrepancy with the number of
653	days elapsed as the time-interval expands. In C. eboreus, increment numbers in relation to
654	δ^{18} O-defined time intervals (Table 2) exhibit similar features. The maximum number in a
655	half-year interval (208; LPLI-GCP 5) slightly exceeds the number of days (183), but this
656	could reflect inaccurate location of the summer δ^{18} O minimum: the summer sector of the
657	profile concerned (Fig. 6E) is very broad and exhibits a little 'noise', making it possible that
658	the position of the δ^{18} O minimum does not exactly correspond to the time of maximum
659	temperature. The next highest count (164; LPLI-GCP 6) is from the specimen exhibiting the
660	largest half-year increment (i.e., sustained rapid growth), with two other counts above 150.
661	By contrast, while all whole-year counts are less than the number of days (365), the highest
662	number is 247 (from a rapid grower; LPLI-GCP 5), representing a greater discrepancy with
663	the number of days than the four highest half-year counts. As well as confirming the annual
664	timescale of δ^{18} O cycles in <i>C. eboreus</i> , increment counts confirm the interpretations applied
665	to problematic δ^{18} O profiles showing little or no cyclicality. The half- and whole-year
666	increments recognised in EPLI-GCP 1 include 153 and 187 microgrowth increments,
667	respectively. These counts are within the ranges set by other specimens showing more
668	pronounced variation in δ^{18} O. Interpreting the entire δ^{18} O profile as a record from a single
669	winter is inconsistent with the total increment count of 264, a number in excess of even the
670	whole-year maximum in other specimens. The 'flat' δ^{18} O profile of LPLI-GCP 3 corresponds
671	to 61 increments, a number consistent with its interpretation as a record from a single winter.

672	In some <i>C. eboreus</i> specimens, the absolute size of microgrowth increments is like that
673	typical of scallop species (Fig. 1F, 1G) but in the majority it is substantially larger (Fig. 1E;
674	Table 2). Discounting the highest mean values for half- and whole-year intervals (based on a
675	small dataset from EPLI-MACP 1, in which microgrowth increments were difficult to
676	measure), the next highest values—0.926 mm (LPLI-GCP 3) and 0.805 mm (LPLI-MACP 1),
677	respectively-are still impressively high, being apparently approached only by
678	Oppenheimopecten vogdesi amongst living scallops (Clark 2005). Since these values are from
679	specimens that were evidently rapid growers (half-year increment > 68.7 mm and whole-year
680	increment 116.5 mm, respectively) it might be concluded that rapid growth was brought
681	about by deposition of larger microgrowth increments. However, one must consider the
682	possibility that deposition of increments was more frequent (i.e., on a larger proportion of
683	days). The relationship between half-/whole-year increment size and microgrowth-increment
684	size and number is best examined initially in cases where the half-/whole-year increment size
685	has been precisely defined (from δ^{18} O profiles with sufficient summer/winter inflections), but
686	including microgrowth-increment data which does not fully span the relevant half-/whole-
687	year interval. Inclusion of this data boosts sample size and is unlikely to bias mean
688	microgrowth-increment size, although it will of course incorporate underestimates of number.
689	Figure 9A-D shows bivariate plots of this data, revealing fairly good correlations between
690	microgrowth-increment number and half- and whole-year increment size (Fig. 9A, 9C,
691	respectively), but effectively no correlation between mean microgrowth-increment size and
692	half- or whole-year increment size (Fig. 9B, 9D, respectively). Using all the data (i.e.,
693	including minimum estimates for half- and whole-year increment sizes) yields slightly better
694	correlations between microgrowth-increment number and half- and whole-year increment
695	size (Fig. 9E, 9G, respectively), possibly because of the inclusion of shells where the height
696	ranges of microgrowth-increment and δ^{18} O profiles are relatively closely matched. However,

697	there is still no correlation between mean microgrowth-increment size and half- or whole-
698	year increment size (Fig. 9F, 9H, respectively). It therefore seems clear that larger half- and
699	whole-year increments (i.e., faster growth rates) generally resulted from deposition of more
700	rather than larger microgrowth increments. Perhaps the fundamental daily rhythm was
701	modulated by the availability of sufficient energetic and material resources to cater for shell
702	secretion as well as soft tissue (including gonad) growth and metabolic needs-i.e., the
703	resources of environments occupied by relatively slow growers only allowed deposition of a
704	new microgrowth increment several days after formation of the previous one. Certainly,
705	deposition is not tied to a one-day periodicity in scallops (Thébault et al. 2006).
706	
707	Growth Breaks
708	
709	Significant (major and moderate) growth breaks occur over the full height interval of the
710	major microgrowth increment cycle in some of the shells represented in Figures 5-8 (e.g.,
711	LPLI-MACP 2, EPLE-MACP 2). However, in most instances they are concentrated near or at
712	the end, continuing to occur amongst any later (typically small) increments (e.g., LPLI-GCP
713	6). Amongst the shells represented in Figures 5–8, significant growth breaks occur close to
714	the positions of δ^{18} O maxima and minima (including the highest maxima and lowest minima)
715	in almost equal proportions, with no difference between GCP and MACP shells. Those
716	occurring at locations away from $\delta^{18}O$ maxima and minima are not associated with notable
717	changes of profile gradient. They and others may therefore signify only brief interruptions of
718	growth. Amongst the 12 MACP shells studied by Krantz (1990), major growth breaks are
719	associated with the highest δ^{18} O maximum in five cases (LPLI-MACP 8, EPLE-MACP 7–10)
720	but with the lowest minimum in only one (EPLE-MACP 4).
721	

Preliminary considerations.—As well as diagenesis, noise and possible misidentification 724 of winter and summer sectors in δ^{18} O profiles (see above), ontogenetic and seasonal changes 725 in growth rate (including growth breaks) and profile truncation are matters which must be 726 considered in interpreting seasonal temperatures from δ^{18} O data. 727 728 Ontogenetic decline in growth rate is typical of bivalves and confirmed in C. eboreus by the change in form of δ^{18} O profiles (generally steeper in late ontogeny). While closer isotopic 729 730 sampling in late ontogeny no doubt did something to maintain temporal resolution, the higher δ^{18} O minima in the second year of growth (five of the six cases where two minima have been 731 732 recognised; Table 3) suggest that it was not wholly effective: it seems likely that shell 733 material formed at the time of highest temperature was not sampled. We have therefore taken the lowest δ^{18} O minimum from each shell (rather than the mean of two values, if available) as 734 735 representative of summer conditions during the life of the individual and, for consistency of approach, taken the highest δ^{18} O maximum as representative of winter conditions, even 736 though no age-related resolution effect is evident amongst winter data. 737 738 Seasonal change in growth rate (indicated by the relative widths of winter and summer sectors in δ^{18} O profiles) and growth breaks are evident in most shells. Growth was usually 739 740 slower in winter and, like slowing of growth in late ontogeny, may have led to a failure to 741 sample material formed under the most extreme temperatures of the season. Growth breaks 742 associated with δ^{18} O maxima and minima may have been of brief duration (see above), such that the measured δ^{18} O values are not seriously misrepresentative. However, their higher 743 744 relative occurrence in association with maxima amongst the MACP shells of Krantz (1990) 745 could have led, in combination with winter slowing of growth, to more frequent underestimation of winter values from these δ^{18} O profiles. 746

747	δ^{18} O profiles are truncated at the highest value in EPLI-MACP 2, LPLI-MACP 2, 4 and 5,
748	and EPLE-MACP 1 and 3, and at the lowest value in LPLE-MACP 7 and EPLE-MACP 1, 3
749	and 7. The former and latter sets of cases are likely to provide, respectively, underestimates
750	of extreme winter values and overestimates of extreme summer values. It is noteworthy that
751	all are from the MACP and that probable winter underestimates form the larger proportion.
752	Similar numbers and proportions of cases exist where profiles are truncated near the highest
753	and lowest values (i.e., where the adjacent inflection in the $\delta^{18}O$ profile may actually
754	represent noise rather than a change in the sign of temperature change). These include a few
755	cases from the GCP, with an equal proportion of possible winter underestimates (LPLI-GCP
756	4, EPLE-GCP 2) and possible summer overestimates (EPLI-GCP 1, LPLI-GCP 2).
757	
758	Seasonal temperatures.—The following discussion uses temperatures calculated with the
759	preferred water δ^{18} O value for the division concerned (Table 3). The full dataset (including
760	temperatures calculated with the other three water δ^{18} O values applied in each case) is
761	available online as Supplementary Data File 4.
762	Since they were part of the dataset used at the outset to define the high and low
763	temperature ranges for winter and summer, it is no surprise that 11 of the 12 shells
764	isotopically investigated by Krantz (1990) yield temperatures within the expected categories:
765	HS/HW for LPLI-MACP 8; LS/LW for EPLE-MACP 3–12. That LPLI-MACP 7 does not
766	(falling within the LS/HW category) is a consequence of the use of mean rather than
767	individual data to define the boundary between high and low temperatures, and the fact that
768	the high summer δ^{18} O value supplied by this particular specimen is from the end of a profile
769	and almost certainly an overestimate, as already noted by Krantz (1990).
770	Of the other 20 shells considered herein, only eight yield temperatures within the expected
771	category (EPLI-GCP 2; EPLI-MACP 1, 2; LPLI-GCP 2-4; EPLE-MACP 1, 2), the remainder

772	giving temperatures in the low rather than high range for winter and/or summer, with the
773	single exception of EPLE-GCP 1 (yielding a high rather than low summer temperature).
774	Temperatures that are unexpectedly low for winter (EPLI-GCP 1; LPLI-GCP 1, 5, 6; LPLI-
775	MACP 2, 5, 6; EPLE-GCP 2) cannot be the result of slower growth, growth breaks or
776	truncation of δ^{18} O profiles, all of which would lead if anything to overestimates of winter
777	temperature. However, these factors might in principle account for lower than expected
778	summer temperatures, so such cases (LPL1-GCP 5, 6; LPLI-MACP 1-7) need to be
779	considered further. In only one (LPLI-MACP 7) is the summer $\delta^{18}O$ value involved from an
780	atypical (narrow) summer sector or the end/near-end of a profile, and in three of the others
781	(LPLI-GCP 5; LPLI-MACP 4, 6) there is no significant growth break associated. Growth
782	breaks are, however, located close to the positions of the lowest $\delta^{18}O$ values in LPLI-GCP 6,
783	LPLI-MACP 1-3 and LPLI-MACP 5. It is doubtful whether temperatures well below the HS
784	range (LPLI-GCP 6; LPLI-MACP 1; LPLI-MACP 2; LPLI-MACP 7:) reflect overestimation
785	of δ^{18} O as a consequence of truncation or growth breaks. However, where summer
786	temperatures are just below the HS/LS boundary (LPLI-MACP 3; LPLI-MACP 5) this is a
787	distinct possibility. LPLI-MACP 3 may, therefore, have lived under HS/HW conditions and
788	LPLI-MACP 5 under HS/LW conditions. LPLI-GCP 4, LPLI-MACP 1, 3 and 4, and EPLE-
789	GCP 1 yield winter temperatures within the HW range, as expected, but the values concerned
790	are within 1 °C of the HW/LW threshold and correspond to $\delta^{18}O$ values from positions near
791	to growth breaks and/or the ends of profiles. It is therefore possible that temperatures fell to
792	values within the LW range. The general picture is of temperatures according with
793	expectation or lower, there being just one example of a higher (summer) temperature than
794	expected, two examples where a more complete δ^{18} O record might have yielded a higher
795	(summer) temperature than expected, and a further five examples where a more complete
796	δ^{18} O record might have yielded a lower (winter) temperature than expected.

797	While the seasonal temperatures calculated from shells are changed if the value for water
798	δ^{18} O is altered, the discrepancies with expectation identified above remain if the expected
799	temperatures are recalculated with the altered value for water $\delta^{18}O$ (not applicable to EPLI-
800	GCP, where the expected temperatures are based on assemblage composition). It is
801	nevertheless worth examining the influence of water $\delta^{18}O$ on the absolute temperatures
802	obtained from shells. Winter and summer temperatures calculated using an arbitrary common
803	value of water $\delta^{18}O$ (+0.7‰) are presented in Table 3 for comparison with those calculated
804	using the preferred values. The effect of a common water $\delta^{18}O$ on divisional mean
805	temperatures is to make the EPLE-GCP winter temperature relatively high and the other
806	winter temperatures relatively low, and the LPLI-GCP, EPLE-GCP and EPLE-MACP
807	summer temperatures relatively high and the EPLI-GCP, EPLI-MACP and LPLI-MACP
808	summer temperatures relatively low. While ostracod and mollusk assemblages provide
809	independent evidence of warm conditions for the EPLE-MACP division, the indicated
810	temperatures are little or no higher than in the LPLI-MACP division (Hazel 1971, 1988;
811	Ward et al. 1991). More significantly, ostracod and mollusk assemblages, together with
812	foram assemblages (Dowsett and Wiggs 1992), provide compelling evidence that
813	temperatures were substantially higher in the LPLI-MACP division than in the EPLI-MACP
814	division, in notable contrast to δ^{18} O data from <i>C. eboreus</i> employed with a common value of
815	water δ^{18} O. It is evident from this analysis that water δ^{18} O has a considerable impact on
816	estimated temperature, but also clear that use of a common value is inappropriate. We made
817	informed choices for each division (see above) but recognise that it would be worth applying
818	additional methods to constrain water δ^{18} O. 'Clumped isotope' (Δ_{47}) analysis (e.g.,
819	Winkelstern et al. 2017) and the δ^{18} O of homeotherm phosphate (e.g., Walliser et al. 2015;
820	Ciner et al. 2016) are promising tools.

824	Based on their largest half-year (hy) and whole-year (wy) increment sizes we have
825	assigned shells to growth-rate classes as follows: Slow (hy $<$ 30 mm, wy $<$ 60 mm); Medium
826	(hy > 30 mm, wy > 60 mm); Fast (hy > 60 mm, wy > 90 mm); Very Fast (hy > 90 mm, wy >
827	120 mm). In cases of conflict between half- and whole-year data we have assigned shells to
828	the faster growth-rate class indicated. The growth-rate distribution amongst the 32 shells is 9
829	Slow, 14 Medium, 5 Fast, 4 Very Fast. Shells in the Slow class are restricted to the MACP
830	and those in the Very Fast class to the GCP. Figure 10 locates the shells, segregated by
831	growth rate, within the temperature/primary production matrix previously generated (Fig. 4),
832	but in positions informed by the isotopic data obtained from them. As indicated above, $\delta^{18}O$
833	data places many shells in a different temperature category to that expected, and more
834	complete records might have had the same effect for a number of other shells. The latter
835	possibility is indicated by a second entry in smaller typeface at the appropriate position. The
836	same approach is used with respect to production category in the cases of EPLE-GCP 1 and
837	2, for which $\delta^{13}C$ data provides some evidence of high rather than 'average' production.
838	Otherwise, we have assigned shells to the production category indicated by the associated
839	fauna (see above).
840	Reasoning from the growth-rate predictions set out earlier, and defining 'rapid' growth as
841	a rate within the Very Fast class (faster growth than in any other scallop species), the
842	existence of examples (LPLI-GCP 5, 6) from the LS/LW temperature category rules out
843	temperature control of growth. The existence of an example (EPLE-GCP 1) from the
844	'average' production category appears to rule out production control as well. However, the
845	growth rate of this specimen is only just in the Very Fast class and, as we have noted, $\delta^{13}C$
846	evidence from the division concerned (and this specimen in particular) provides some

847 grounds for thinking that production may have been high rather than 'average'. Defining 848 'rapid' more broadly to include the Fast growth-rate class gives a more ambiguous picture: 849 two definite examples and one possible are added from the LS/LW temperature category but 850 also three definite examples from the 'average' production category. This is, however, 851 consistent with the environmental associations of modern scallops in the Fast growth-rate 852 class: populations of Y. balloti and A. purpuratus exhibiting this rate of growth occur in areas 853 of 'average' phytoplankton production (FAO 1981, map 1.1) in north-eastern Australia and 854 northern Chile, respectively (Williams and Dredge 1981; DiSalvo et al. 1984). 855 That there are a number of examples of Medium growth rate from the high production 856 category does not refute the notion of production-controlled growth: some variation in growth 857 rate is to be expected due to short-term fluctuations in production and to individual 858 differences in the ability to respond to high food supply. Moreover, the proportion of 859 examples of Medium growth rate relative to cases of Fast and Very Fast growth rate is no 860 lower in the HS/HW than in the LS/LW temperature category, contrary to what one would 861 expect for temperature-controlled growth. Support for production-controlled growth comes 862 from the complete absence of examples of Slow growth from the high production category, in 863 contrast to many from the 'average' production category. Amongst the latter, however, all but one are from the LS/LW temperature category. The δ^{18} O profile of the sole exception (LPLI-864 865 MACP 7) is short, apparently including a winter maximum (giving a temperature in the high 866 winter range) but not showing a summer inflection and therefore providing only a minimum 867 estimate (> 20 mm) for half-year increment. The growth rate of this specimen might therefore 868 actually have been in the Medium class. Not only are there many in the Slow growth-rate 869 class within the LS/LW temperature category, the winter minimum temperatures supplied are 870 notably low: four of eight below 7 °C (Table 3) compared with none as low as this amongst 871 the six Medium–Very Fast growers from the same temperature category under high or

872	possibly high production. The winter temperature supplied by the Very Fast grower LPLI-
873	GCP 1, also from a high production setting but in the HS/LW temperature category, is also
874	relatively high (11.3 °C). In this case there is no growth break associated with the winter
875	temperature minimum, but one is present in the other specimens from high production/low
876	winter temperature settings. These individuals may therefore have experienced (but not
877	recorded) winter temperatures approaching those indicated by some of the Slow growers in
878	the LS/LW temperature category and 'average' production category. By their very existence,
879	however, winter growth breaks (and the slowing of growth in this season) show some control
880	of growth by temperature as well as production. Such breaks are more common than summer
881	growth breaks amongst shells from the EPLE-MACP division, from which all definite
882	examples of Slow growth derive. It is therefore reasonable to conclude that these examples
883	reflect the influence of low winter temperature, in addition to 'average' production.
884	
885	CONCLUSIONS AND FURTHER WORK
886	
887	We have shown that <i>C. eboreus</i> lived no longer than two years but in some cases grew
888	exceedingly rapidly (by depositing more rather than larger microgrowth increments) to reach
889	an unusually large size. Growth typically slowed in winter, when mortality was relatively
890	high, and in late ontogeny. Individuals surviving long enough to spawn may then have
891	suffered a 'programmed' death. Post-larval growth started in the spring or summer in the
892	MACP, but sometimes in the fall or winter in the GCP; growth interruptions occurred in
893	summer and winter in both areas, but more commonly in winter in the former. As well as
894	these geographic differences in life history, overall growth rate varied with specific aspects of
895	the environment (primary production and temperature).
896 On the basis of growth rate-environment relationships we may interpret the extinction of C. eboreus as a result of the combined impact of declines in primary production and 897 898 temperature, specifically winter temperature. The lower growth rate associated with these 899 changes would have increased mortality through predation by preventing rapid achievement 900 of the refuge offered by large size. This might have led to a progressive reduction in overall 901 population size. The lack of impact of low temperature on growth under conditions of high 902 production implies that extinction would not have occurred had these conditions been 903 maintained. On the other hand, the evident impact of low temperature on growth under 904 'average' production suggests that if temperature had been maintained, reduced production 905 might have been insufficient to cause extinction. The survival (in abundance) of C. eboreus in 906 the MACP long after the fall in production within the Pliocene seems to confirm that 907 temperature decline was contributory to extinction. However, it is puzzling that the species 908 continued deep into the Pleistocene, by which time there had been numerous, increasingly 909 severe, episodes of refrigeration in the North Atlantic region (McClymont et al. 2013). There 910 is some evidence for a Pleistocene reduction in predation intensity on bivalves in the GCP 911 (Mondal et al. 2014) but not in the MACP (Sime and Kelley 2016), so it cannot be argued 912 that growth-related decline in the ability of C. eboreus to survive predatory attacks was offset 913 by less frequent encounters with predators. Perhaps the continuation of the species reflects 914 localised persistence of high production and/or the time required for disruption of once-915 ubiquitous high production over the geographic range of C. eboreus to bring about the demise 916 of all populations. Certainly, the effects of habitat fragmentation and reduction are not 917 immediate, and (counter-intuitively) extinction of competitively inferior species may be 918 especially delayed (Nee and May 1992; Tilman et al. 1994). Short larval life also confers 919 resistance to extinction in scallops (Smith and Jackson 2009). The competitive status of C. 920 *eboreus* would be difficult to determine but duration of the larval stage is straightforward

921 (Smith et al. 2003). As well as the latter, it would be well worth investigating the growth rate 922 and environment of the very latest recorded specimens, from the Flanner Beach and 923 Canepatch formations. Individuals up to 156 mm in height are known (Ward 2008, pl. 16, figs. 1, 2), a size reached earlier only under high production, hence these examples might 924 925 evince the localised persistence of such conditions, as hypothesised above. Demonstration of 926 rapid growth by the techniques employed herein would support this interpretation, and it 927 might be confirmed (in the absence of assemblage evidence) by various other geochemical 928 approaches (e.g., Krantz et al. 1988; Haveles and Ivany 2010; Thébault and Chauvaud 2013; 929 Georgiev et al. 2015). Conceivably, the indications from the latter might be that production was high, from δ^{18} O and microgrowth-increment profiles that growth was slow, and from 930 absolute δ^{18} O values that temperature was low. This would lend support to the involvement 931 932 of temperature decline in extinction whilst also maintaining a role for production decline. Temperature estimates from shell δ^{18} O would, however, be subject to the same uncertainty as 933 934 those obtained from older material herein. For this reason, incorporation of the additional (but 935 still isotope-based) approaches advanced earlier would be beneficial. Indeed, the conclusions 936 reached from the present study are to some extent dependent on the accuracy of the 937 temperatures determined, and these therefore urgently need validation by the additional approaches advocated. If it were shown that EPLE-MACP specimens in the Slow growth-rate 938 939 class lived under warm winter conditions (in agreement with mollusk- and ostracodassemblage evidence but contrary to the δ^{18} O-derived temperatures supplied herein), it would 940 941 remove the case for some involvement of temperature decline in the extinction of *C. eboreus*. 942 Ultimately, companion sclerochronological studies of other taxa will be required to 943 formulate a general theory of Plio-Pleistocene bivalve extinction on the US eastern seaboard. 944 As indicated at the outset, hundreds of species became extinct, and C. eboreus may constitute 945 an exception in having been adversely affected by reduced primary production. However, the

946	same cause has been invoked for the selective demise of a large, fast-growing Crassostrea
947	species in the Pliocene of the Caribbean (Kirby and Jackson 2004) and might also apply to
948	the extinction of Chesapecten, a further large, fast-growing scallop taxon (Goewert and Surge
949	2008), in the Pliocene of the US eastern seaboard. Other large taxa survived from the
950	Pliocene to present. Possibly these were unaffected by reduced production as a result of a
951	life-history strategy involving slow growth and long life. Such a strategy might have been
952	advantageous (enabling greater investment in reproduction) if the predators of these taxa
953	were not deterred by large size. In Mercenaria, several species of which survived from the
954	Pliocene to present, large size does offer a refuge from predation (Dietl 2003), so slow
955	growth would have been disadvantageous. Whether large size has benefits in other taxa is in
956	most cases only surmised. Certainly, sclerochronological studies will need to be accompanied
957	by aut- and synecological investigations (cf. Dietl et al. 2004; O'Dea and Jackson 2009;
958	Smith and Jackson 2009; Leonard-Pingel et al. 2012; Leonard-Pingel and Jackson 2016;
959	Sime and Kelley 2016) for a full understanding of Plio-Pleistocene bivalve extinction on the
960	US eastern seaboard.
961	
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- 1375
- 1376 FIGURE CAPTIONS
- 1377
- 1378 FIG. 1.—Specimens of *Carolinapecten eboreus* and an example of the extant scallop
- 1379 Aequipecten opercularis from the Pliocene of the UK, showing overall morphology,
- 1380 microgrowth increments, and the positions of growth breaks and certain δ^{18} O values. A) C.
- 1381 *eboreus* LPLI-GCP 5 (right valve; Very Fast growth rate). **B**) *C. eboreus* LPLI-GCP 3 (left
- 1382 valve; Fast growth rate). C) C. eboreus EPLE-MACP 1 (right valve; Medium growth rate).
- 1383 **D**) *A. opercularis* UD 52795 (right valve). **E**) Enlargement of area indicated in B. **F**)

Enlargement of area indicated in C. G) Enlargement of area indicated in D. Scale bars 1384 (vertical: A–D; horizontal: E–G) = 10 mm. S1/2 and W1/2 in A–D mark the positions of 1385 extreme summer and winter δ^{18} O values, respectively (δ^{18} O data for D in Johnson et al. 2009, 1386 fig. 8A). Other symbols in A–C signify the points between which the largest whole-year 1387 1388 increments (green circles) and largest half-year increments (purple semicircles; superimposed 1389 on green circle where whole- and half-year increment boundaries coincide) were measured on the basis of δ^{18} O profiles (Figs. 6E, 6C and 8D, respectively), and the positions of major 1390 (filled blue triangles) and moderate (open blue triangle) growth breaks (see also F for the 1391 1392 form of major growth breaks). Since the shell in C is incomplete, measurements were 1393 mathematically adjusted (see text) to correspond to measurements along the mid-line (anatomical height). The size of the microgrowth increments (bounded by commarginal 1394 1395 lamellae) in F is similar to those in G (A. opercularis), and in other scallop species (e.g., Owen et al. 2002). Note the very much larger microgrowth increments in E. Although these 1396 are at the high end of the size-range in C. eboreus, microgrowth increments only slightly 1397 1398 smaller are typical of the species (Table 2). 1399 FIG. 2.—Chronostratigraphic position (age in Ma) of EPLI (brown), LPLI (pink) and EPLE 1400 1401 (light blue) C. eboreus specimens, with corresponding museum accession numbers and/or 1402 specimen codes of Krantz (1990) and Jones and Allmon (1995). Broad age estimates for the 1403 source units are signified by thin lines; more precise (but not necessarily accurate) estimates 1404 by thick lines (double thickness where two estimates coincide). In some cases there were 1405 imprecise and/or alternative source units, signified by dashed lines. Source units indicated in the text; details, together with evidence of age, in Supplementary Data File 1. 1406 1407

1408 FIG. 3.—Geographic provenance of *C. eboreus* specimens (see text for names of locations).

1409

1410 FIG. 4.—Temperature and production characteristics of time-space divisions recognised
1411 herein, based on earlier studies (see text).

1412

1413 FIG. 5.—Data for
$$\delta^{18}$$
O, δ^{13} C, microgrowth-increment height and growth-break position from

1414 EPLI-GCP and EPLI-MACP specimens of *C. eboreus*. A) EPLI-GCP 1. B) EPLI-MACP 1.

1415 C) EPLI-GCP 2. D) EPLI-MACP 2. Isotope data represented by crosses = replicate analyses

1416 for a given position, the mean or most reasonable single value being used in the relevant

1417 profile (line). Dashed line for microgrowth-increment height = raw data; continuous line = 5-

1418 point averages. Filled and open triangles (blue) = major and moderate growth breaks,

1419 respectively. Semicircles (purple) and circles (green) = δ^{18} O values defining the largest half-

1420 and whole-year increments, respectively (semicircles superimposed on circles where

boundaries of half- and whole-year increments coincide). S1/2 and W1/2 = summers and

1422 winters, respectively, as identified from the δ^{18} O profiles. Isotopic axis reversed so that lower

1423 values of δ^{18} O (representative of higher temperatures) plot towards the top.

1424

```
1425 FIG. 6.—Data for \delta^{18}O, \delta^{13}C, microgrowth-increment height and growth-break position from
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1426 LPLI-GCP specimens of *C. eboreus*. A) LPLI-GCP 1. B) LPLI-GCP 2. C) LPLI-GCP 3. D)

1427 LPLI-GCP 4. E) LPLI-GCP 5. F) LPLI-GCP 6. Symbols and format explained in Figure 5,

1428 with the exception of stars (marking aberrant early ontogenetic δ^{18} O values, thought to reflect 1429 diagenetic alteration; see text).

1430

1431 FIG. 7.—Data for δ^{18} O, δ^{13} C, microgrowth-increment height and growth-break position from 1432 LPLI-MACP specimens of *C. eboreus*. **A**) LPLI-MACP 1. **B**) LPLI-MACP 2. **C**) LPLI-

1433 MACP 3. D) LPLI-MACP 4. E) LPLI-MACP. F) LPLI-MACP 6. Symbols and format
1434 explained in Figures 5 and 6.

1435

1436 FIG. 8.—Data for δ^{18} O, δ^{13} C, microgrowth-increment height and growth-break position from 1437 EPLE-GCP and EPLE-MACP specimens of *C. eboreus*. A) EPLE-GCP 1. B) EPLE-MACP

1438 1. C) EPLE-GCP 2. D) EPLE-MACP 2. Symbols and format explained in Figure 5.

1439

1440 FIG. 9.—Number and mean size (height) of microgrowth increments versus size (height) of

1441 the largest half- and whole-year increment in *C. eboreus* specimens (data from Table 2). A)

1442 Number of microgrowth increments per half-year increment in specimens whose δ^{18} O

1443 profiles have summer/winter inflections precisely defining the largest half-year increment. **B**)

as A but for mean size of microgrowth increments. **C**) As A but for whole-year increments.

1445 **D**) As B but for whole-year increments. **E**) As A but with the addition of specimens whose

1446 δ^{18} O profiles have insufficient inflections to precisely define the largest half-year increment,

1447 providing only minimum estimates. F) As E but for mean size of microgrowth increments. G)

1448 As E but for whole-year increments. **H**) As F but for whole-year increments.

1449

1450 FIG. 10.—Growth rate of shells in relation to δ^{18} O-derived summer and winter temperatures

1451 (referred to the categories identified in Fig. 4) and primary production (inferred from the

associated biota). Second entries in smaller typeface represent alternative interpretations of

1453 seasonal temperature (where the δ^{18} O profile was of insufficient length to provide conclusive

1454 evidence) and/or production (from δ^{13} C evidence); see text for further information. The 'flat'

- 1455 δ^{18} O profile from LPLI-GCP 3 (Fig. 6C) is interpreted as a high temperature winter record
- 1456 (see text); in the absence of a summer record, classification in terms of seasonal temperature

1457	can only be partial, as indicated by the two entries in parentheses and the same (standard)
1458	typeface, signifying equal probability.

- 1459
- 1460

TABLE CAPTIONS

1461

TABLE 1.—Winter minimum and summer maximum temperatures calculated from the shell 1462 δ^{18} O of various bivalve mollusk genera from 'early Pliocene' (EPLI), 'late Pliocene' (LPLI) 1463 and early Pleistocene (EPLE) stratigraphic units of the Middle Atlantic Coastal Plain (see 1464 Supplementary Data File 1 for evidence of age). Superscripts indicate the source of the δ^{18} O 1465 data: a = Krantz (1990); b = Goewert and Surge (2008); c = Winkelstern et al. (2013); d = 1466 Johnson et al. (2017). The figures given are based on the largest maximum (winter) and 1467 smallest minimum (summer) δ^{18} O values from individual profiles; the corresponding 1468 individual seasonal temperatures were either those supplied by the original authors 1469 1470 (Winkelstern et al. 2013; Johnson et al. 2017) or values recalculated as specified in Johnson et al. (2017) or herein (see text). Water δ^{18} O values of +0.70% (EPLI), +1.10% (LPLI) and 1471 0.00‰ (EPLE) were used. 1472 1473 TABLE 2.—Size (height) of the largest half- and whole-year increments in specimens of C. 1474 *eboreus* (as measured from δ^{18} O profiles), together with the number and mean size (height) of 1475

1476 microgrowth increments in these half- and whole-year increments (where determined). Key

1477 to superscripts (sources of shell δ^{18} O data): a = this study; b = Jones and Allmon (1995, fig.

1478 10); c = Krantz (1990, figs. 4b, 5b, 6–8).

1479

1480 TABLE 3.—Individual and divisional mean winter and summer temperatures calculated using

1481 the largest maximum (winter) and smallest minimum (summer) values of shell δ^{18} O from

- each specimen (see Supplementary Data File 4), in combination with the preferred value of
- 1483 water δ^{18} O for the division concerned (see text) and an arbitrary common value (+0.7‰).
- 1484 Key to superscripts (sources of shell δ^{18} O data): a = this study; b = Jones and Allmon (1995,
- 1485 fig. 10); c = Krantz (1990, tables 3–5).



			Gulf Coastal Plain	Middle Atlantic Coastal Plain
TOCENE	Calabrian	-1.0 - - - -1.5	549)	
PLEIS	Gelasian	-2.0	88) EPLE-GCP 2 (UF 13	382) 382) 383) 383) 461) 461) 461) 461) 461) 461) 461) 461
PLIOCENE	Piacenzian	- -3.0 - - - -3.5	EPLE-GCP 1 (UF 1446	EPLE-MACP 1 (UD 53 EPLE-MACP 1 (UD 53 EPLE-MACP 2 (UD 53 EPLE-MACP 2 (UD 53 LE-MACP 3 (Krantz, 1990, CF LE-MACP 3 (Krantz, 1990, CF LE-MACP 6 (Krantz, 1990, CF PLE-MACP 8 (Krantz, 1990, Y PLE-MACP 9 (Krantz, 1990, Y EPLE-MACP 10 (Krantz, 1990, Y EPLE-MACP 10 (Krantz, 1990, Y
	Zanclean	-4.0 	d Allmon, 1995, CE 139) PLI-GCP 2 (UF 38832) PLI-GCP 3 (UF 124492) PLI-GCP 4 (UF 40515) PLI-GCP 6 (UF 296493) PLI-GCP 6 (UF 157969)	-MACP 1 (UD 53380) MACP 2 (VMNH 99341) MACP 3 (VMNH 99342) MACP 5 (VMNH 99343) AACP 5 (VMNH 99344) I.H.MACP 6 (UD 53381) Initz, 1990, LTRUN-EB) initz, 1990, YAD-EB1) EF
	MICCEINE	-5.0 - - - -5.5 - -	EPLI-GCP 1 (UF 129604) EPLI-GCP 2 (UD 53379) LPLI-GCP 1 (UF 245825; Jones and LF LF LF	EPLI-MACP 1 (VMNH 99339) EPLI-MACP 2 (VMNH 99340) LPLI-LPLI-N LPLI-N LPLI-N LPLI-MACP 7 (Kra LPLI-MACP 8 (K



Tomporaturo	Primary production			
remperature	'Average'	High		
High summer (HS): ≥ 24 °C High winter (HW): ≥ 11.5 °C	LPLI-MACP	LPLI-GCP		
High summer (HS): ≥ 24 °C Low winter (LW): < 11.5 °C				
Low summer (LS): < 24 °C High winter (HW): ≥ 11.5 °C	EPLE-GCP	EPLI-GCP		
Low summer (LS): < 24 °C Low winter (LW): < 11.5 °C	EPLE-MACP	EPLI-MACP		

FIGURE 5











Temperature	'Average' primary production				High primary production			
	Growth rate				Growth rate			
	Slow ½-yr: < 30 mm 1-yr: < 60 mm	Medium ½-yr: > 30 mm 1-yr: > 60 mm	Fast ½-yr: > 60 mm 1-yr: > 90 mm	Very Fast ½-yr: > 90 mm 1-yr: > 120 mm	Slow ½-yr: < 30 mm 1-yr: < 60 mm	Medium ½-yr: > 30 mm 1-yr: > 60 mm	Fast ½-yr: > 60 mm 1-yr: > 90 mm	Very Fast ½-yr: > 90 mm 1-yr: > 120 mm
MH/SH	LPLI-MACP 7	LPLI-MACP 3 LPLI-MACP 8		EPLE-GCP 1		LPLI-GCP 2 LPLI-GCP 4	(LPLI-GCP 3)	EPLE-GCP 1
HS/LW		LPLI-MACP 5		EPLE-GCP 1		LPLI-GCP 4		LPLI-GCP 1
LS/HW	LPLI-MACP 7	LPLI-MACP 3 LPLI-MACP 4	LPLI-MACP 1				EPLI-GCP 2 (LPLI-GCP 3)	
rs/LW	EPLE-MACP 4 EPLE-MACP 5 EPLE-MACP 6 EPLE-MACP 8 EPLE-MACP 9 EPLE-MACP 10 EPLE-MACP 11 EPLE-MACP 12	LPLI-MACP 2 LPLI-MACP 3 LPLI-MACP-4 LPLI-MACP 5 EPLE-MACP 1 EPLE-MACP 2 EPLE-MACP 3 EPLE-MACP 7	LPLI-MACP 1 LPLI-MACP 6 EPLE-GCP 2			EPLI-GCP 1 EPLI-MACP 1 EPLI-MACP 2	EPLE-GCP 2	LPLI-GCP 5 LPLI-GCP 6

TABLE 1

		Member	Genus -	Winter minimum temperature		Summer maximum temperature	
Age	Domestion			(°C)		(°C)	
	roimation			Mean value	Singleton	Mean value	Singleton
				$\pm 1\sigma(n)$	value	$\pm 1\sigma(n)$	value
	James City Fm (lower)		Carolinapecten ^a	6.6 ± 0.9 (2)		19.8 ± 0.5 (2)	
EPLE	Chowan River		<i>Carolinapecten</i> ^a	7.5 ± 1.6 (8)		20.8 ± 1.9 (8)	
	Formation		<i>Mercenaria</i> ^c	10.5 ± 0.5 (6)		22.0 ± 2.2 (6)	
LPLI	Yorktown Formation (upper)	Moore House	<i>Carolinapecten</i> ^a		14.5		26.8
			Chesapecten ^{a, b}	$11.5 \pm 2.1 (5)$		$27.7 \pm 1.7 (5)$	
		Morgarts Beach	<i>Carolinapecten</i> ^a		12.5		
		Rushmere	<i>Mercenaria</i> ^c	17 ± 1.8 (6)		26.2 ± 1.8 (6)	
			<i>Chesapecten</i> ^a		13.3		29.3
EPLI	Yorktown Formation	Sunken Meadow	<i>Chesapecten</i> ^a	11.4 ± 0.7 (3)		23.0 ± 1.0 (2)	
	(lower)		<i>Placopecten</i> ^d	8.5 ± 0.9 (8)		17.3 ± 1.2 (8)	
Specimen code	Largest half-year increment (by δ^{18} O)			Largest whole-year increment (by δ^{18} O)			
--------------------------------	--	------------------------	------------------	---	------------------------	------------------	
and source of	Usisht (mm)	Microgrowth increments			Microgrowth increments		
δ^{18} O data (a, b, c)	Height (mm)	Number	Mean height (mm)	Height (mm)	Number	Mean height (mm)	
EPLI-GCP 1 ^a	37.5	153	0.245	47.5	187	0.255	
EPLI-GCP 2 ^a	58.5	89	0.659	> 95.0	> 130	0.650	
EPLI-MACP 1 ^a	54.5	> 18	1.163	57.0	> 21	1.146	
EPLI-MACP 2 ^a	> 35.0	> 53	0.665	> 67.0	> 72	0.628	
LPLI-GCP 1 ^b	106.0	> 94	0.718	> 128			
LPLI-GCP 2 ^a	> 48.5	> 38	0.841	> 68.5	> 166	0.786	
LPLI-GCP 3 ^a	> 68.7	> 60	0.926				
LPLI-GCP 4 ^a	48.2	> 37	0.676	> 80.0			
LPLI-GCP 5 ^a	105.2	208	0.507	144.8	> 247	0.532	
LPLI-GCP 6 ^a	121.7	164	0.743	145.7	223	0.655	
LPLI-MACP 1 ^a	98.0	> 115	0.805	116.5	> 117	0.805	
LPLI-MACP 2 ^a	> 51.5	> 58	0.699	> 62.5			
LPLI-MACP 3 ^a	> 50.5	> 61	0.823	> 74.5	> 74	0.799	
LPLI-MACP 4 ^a	> 55.0	> 73	0.757	> 70.5	> 98	0.735	
LPLI-MACP 5 ^a	42.1	> 30	0.761	> 63.5	> 69	0.655	
LPLI-MACP 6 ^a	79.0	121	0.636	93.0	> 171	0.525	
LPLI-MACP 7 ^c	> 20.0						
LPLI-MACP 8 ^c	> 34.0						
EPLE-GCP 1 ^a	73.7	151	0.491	126.8	> 211	0.517	
EPLE-GCP 2 ^a	68.0	> 113	0.553	114.4	> 222	0.489	
EPLE-MACP 1 ^a	> 33.0	> 54	0.416	> 52.6	> 119	0.353	
EPLE-MACP 2 ^a	> 42.5	> 60	0.429	> 74.5	> 125	0.460	
EPLE-MACP 3 ^c	> 30						
EPLE-MACP 4 ^c	25.0			42.0			
EPLE-MACP 5 ^c	> 29.0			> 46.0			
EPLE-MACP 6 ^c	16.0			26.0			
EPLE-MACP 7 ^c	> 47.0						
EPLE-MACP 8 ^c	25.0			43.0			
EPLE-MACP 9 ^c	23.0			40.0			
EPLE-MACP 10 ^c	24.0			41.0			
EPLE-MACP 11 ^c	25.0			> 45.0			
EPLE-MACP 12 ^c	24.0						

TABLE 3

Specimen/division	Temperature	(°C) for the	Temperature (°C) for		
code; source of shell	preferred w	vater δ^{18} O	water $\delta^{18}O = +0.7\%$		
δ^{18} O data (a, b, c)	Winter	Summer	Winter	Summer	
EPLI-GCP 1 ^a	10.7	14.8	9.9	14.0	
EPLI-GCP 2 ^a	12.5	21.4	11.7	20.5	
EPLI-GCP mean	11.6 ± 0.9	18.1 ± 3.3	10.8 ± 0.9	17.3 ± 3.3	
EPLI-MACP 1 ^a	9.8	21.3	9.8	21.3	
EPLI-MACP 2 ^a	8.8	19.5	8.8	19.5	
EPLI-MACP mean	9.3 ± 0.5	20.4 ± 0.9	9.3 ± 0.5	20.4 ± 0.9	
LPLI-GCP 1 ^b	11.3	26.8	10.1	25.2	
LPLI-GCP 2 ^a	13.8	24.7	12.5	23.2	
LPLI-GCP 3 ^a	14.0		12.7		
LPLI-GCP 4 ^a	12.5	28.5	11.2	26.9	
LPLI-GCP 5 ^a	7.2	21.6	6.1	20.1	
LPLI-GCP 6 ^a	9.0	21.7	7.8	20.2	
LPLI-GCP mean	11.3 ± 2.5	24.7 ± 2.7	10.1 ± 2.4	23.1 ± 2.7	
LPLI-MACP 1 ^a	11.5	19.6	10.0	17.8	
LPLI-MACP 2 ^a	5.6	21.4	4.2	19.6	
LPLI-MACP 3 ^a	12.0	23.5	10.4	21.6	
LPLI-MACP 4 ^a	12.4	23.3	10.8	21.4	
LPLI-MACP 5 ^a	10.2	23.8	12.0	21.9	
LPLI-MACP 6 ^a	9.8	21.7	8.3	19.9	
LPLI-MACP 7 ^c	12.5	18.8	10.9	17.1	
LPLI-MACP 8 ^c	14.5	26.8	12.9	24.8	
LPLI-MACP mean	11.1 ± 2.5	22.4 ± 2.4	9.9 ± 2.4	20.5 ± 2.3	
EPLE-GCP 1 ^a	11.9	26.0	14.7	29.5	
EPLE-GCP 2 ^a	10.0	18.0	12.7	21.2	
EPLE-GCP mean	11.0 ± 1.0	22.0 ± 4.0	13.7 ± 1.0	25.4 ± 4.2	
EPLE-MACP 1 ^a	4.4	16.8	6.9	19.9	
EPLE-MACP 2 ^a	6.1	19.2	8.7	22.4	
EPLE-MACP 3 ^c	6.4	17.9	8.9	21.1	
EPLE-MACP 4 ^c	5.7	17.9	8.2	21.1	
EPLE-MACP 5 ^c	6.4	19.7	8.9	22.9	
EPLE-MACP 6 ^c	6.4	22.0	8.9	25.3	
EPLE-MACP 7 ^c	6.7	22.9	9.3	26.3	
EPLE-MACP 8 ^c	9.3	22.0	12.1	25.3	
EPLE-MACP 9 ^c	9.7	21.5	12.5	24.8	
EPLE-MACP 10 ^c	9.3	22.5	12.1	25.8	
EPLE-MACP 11 ^c	7.5	20.2	10.1	23.4	
EPLE-MACP 12 ^c	5.7	19.3	8.2	22.5	
EPLE-MACP mean	7.0 ± 1.6	20.2 ± 1.9	9.6 ± 1.7	23.4 ± 2.0	