

Supplementary material

Warming sea surface temperatures are linked to lower shorebird migratory fuel loads

Lagassé, BJ, and GA Breed

Figure S1. (a) Density plots of juvenile and adult Dunlin pre-migratory body conditions during the southbound migratory fueling period by year and subspecies. (b) Density plots of juvenile and adult pre-migratory body conditions during the southbound fueling period by subspecies (years combined).

Table S1. Linear mixed models considered for estimating Dunlin structural lean body masses.

Figure S2. Linear regression of body mass by culmen length for adult and juvenile Dunlin captured during the pre-fueling period.

Table S2. Number of juvenile and adult Dunlin captured by 8-day sampling period and year.

Table S3. Number of juvenile and adult Dunlin captured by year.

Table S4. Values of model variables used to predict flight ranges of Dunlin departing on southbound migration.

Table S5. Departure-fuel-load adjustment factors by year, age, and average sea surface temperature in the previous year for Dunlin departing on southbound migration.

Figure S3. (a) Approximate bearing of the shortest migratory route after departing Angoyaravak Bay and upon arriving in the northern extent of the species' primary wintering grounds. (b) Histogram of average daily wind assistance values.

Figure S4. (a) Density plots of juvenile and adult Dunlin pre-migratory body conditions during the southbound migratory fueling period by year and capture method. (b) Density plots of juvenile and adult pre-migratory body conditions during the southbound fueling period by capture method (years combined).

Table S6. Top models for weather variables used to assess annual variation in juvenile Dunlin pre-migratory body condition during the southbound migratory fueling period.

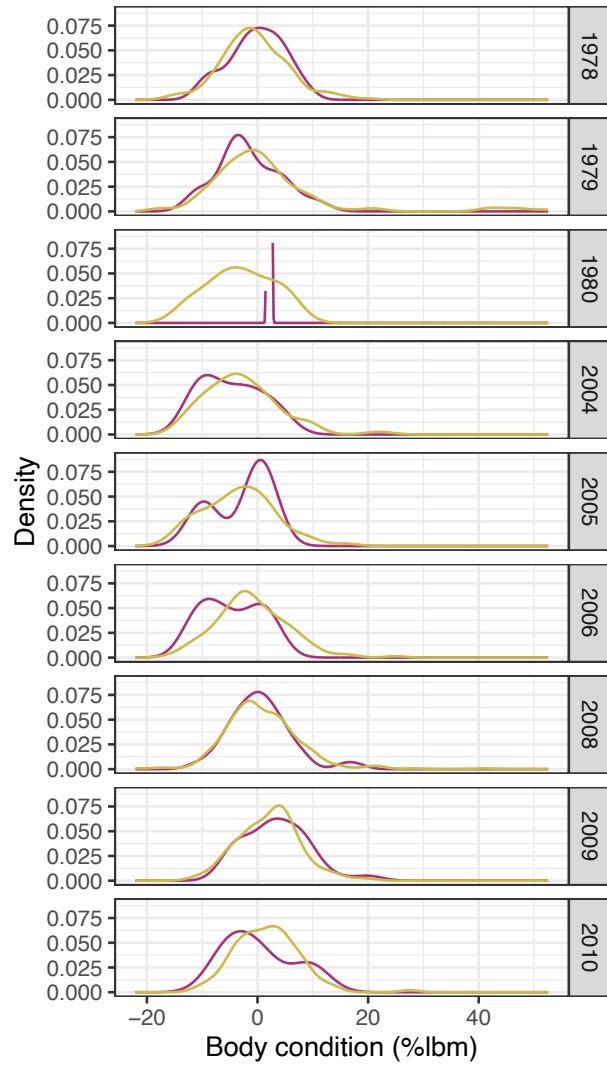
Table S7. Linear mixed models considered for estimating climatic effects on pre-migratory body condition of juvenile Dunlin.

Table S8. SST year_{i-1} models and parameter values used to estimate the effect of SST year_{i-1} on pre-migratory body condition of juvenile Dunlin.

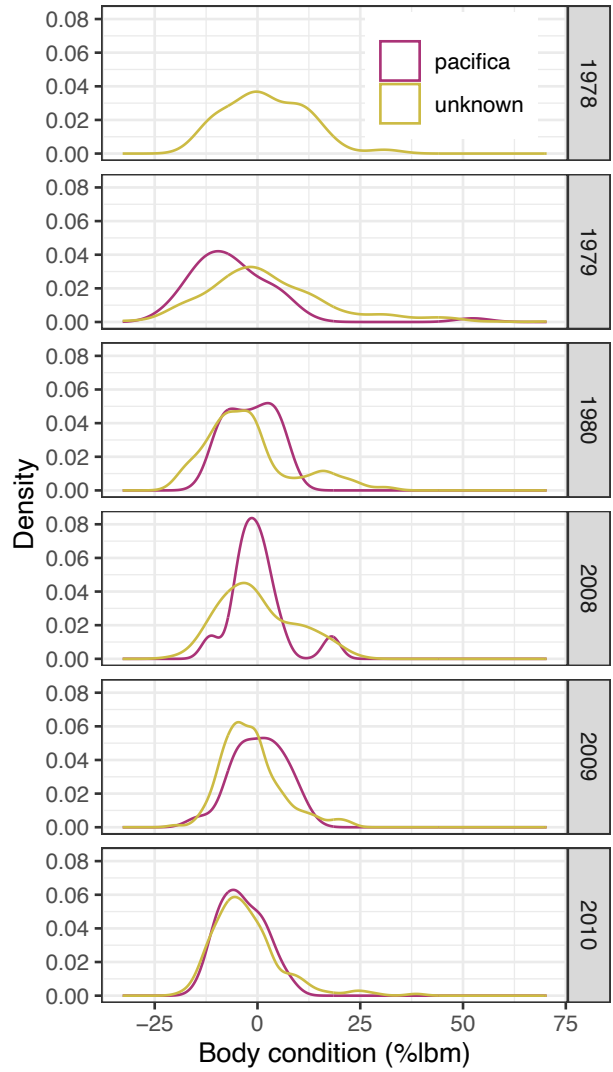
Figure S5. Predicted date of onset of spawning of *Limecola balthica* clams by average SST (11–24 June) in the central Yukon–Kuskokwim Delta, Alaska, 1977–2022.

References

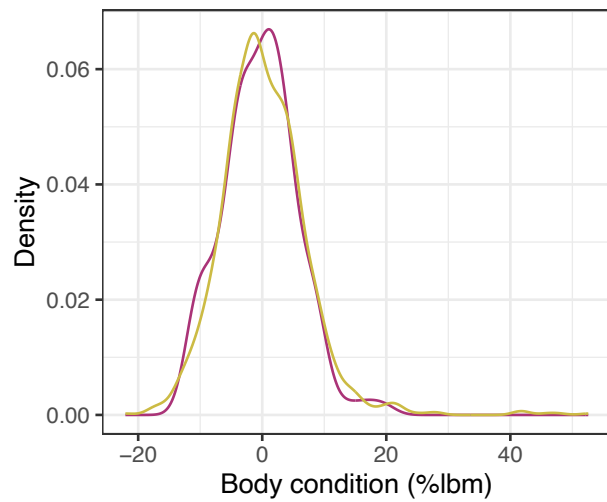
(a) JUV



ADU



(b) JUV



ADU

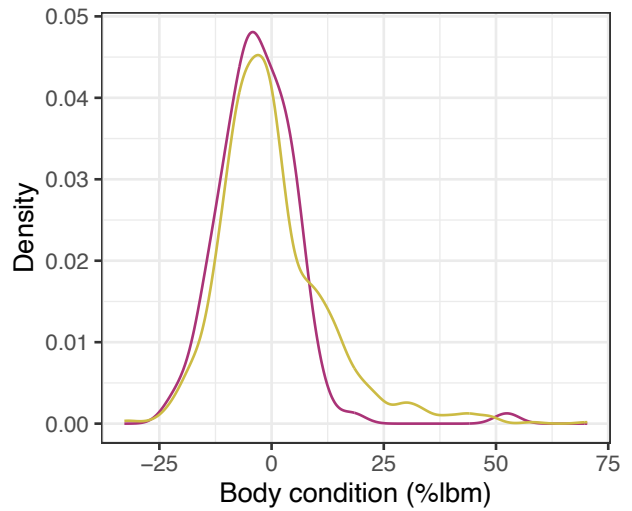


Figure S1. (a) Density plots of juvenile (JUV; $n = 1,459$) and adult (ADU; $n = 1,122$) Dunlin pre-migratory body conditions during the southbound migratory fueling period (22 August–22 September) in Angyoyaravak Bay, Yukon–Kuskokwim Delta, Alaska, by year and subspecies (*pacifica* and unknown; see text). (b) Density plots of juvenile ($n = 173$ *pacifica* and 1,286 unknown) and adult ($n = 113$ *pacifica* and 1,009 unknown) pre-migratory body conditions during the southbound migratory fueling period by subspecies (years combined).

Table S1. Linear mixed models considered for estimating structural lean body masses of Dunlin ($n = 1,577$) captured in Angyoyaravak Bay, Yukon–Kuskokwim Delta, Alaska (1–21 August, 1978–80, 2005–06, 2008–09).

Model	k	AIC	Δ AIC	w
Mass at capture \sim Culmen length * Age + (1 Year)	6	8132	0	1.00
Mass at capture \sim Culmen length + Age + (1 Year)	5	8186	54	0.00
Mass at capture \sim Culmen length + (1 Year)	4	8199	67	0.00
Mass at capture \sim 1 + (1 Year)	3	8607	475	0.00

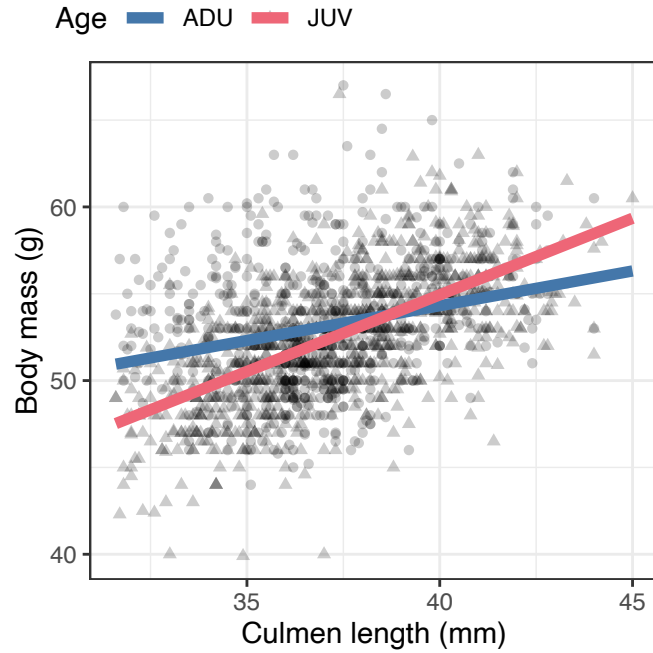


Figure S2. Linear regression of body mass by culmen length for adult (ADU; $n = 690$; circular data points) and juvenile (JUV; $n = 887$; triangular data points) Dunlin captured during the pre-fueling period (1–21 August, 1978–80, 2005–06, 2008–09) in Angyoyaravak Bay, Yukon–Kuskokwim Delta, Alaska.

Table S2. Number of juvenile and adult Dunlin captured by 8-day sampling period and year in Angyoyaravak Bay, Yukon–Kuskokwim Delta, Alaska. Bolded values are the minimum number of age-specific captures per sampling period–year combination (see text).

	1978	1979	1980	2004	2005	2006	2008	2009	2010
<i>Sampling period 1: 22–29 August</i>									
Juvenile	169	85	2	0	13	26	169	164	69
Adult	6	211	1	0	0	0	57	183	47
<i>Sampling period 2: 30 August–6 September</i>									
Juvenile	18	18	24	1	39	47	106	66	43
Adult	5	3	72	0	0	0	24	24	122
<i>Sampling period 3: 7–14 September</i>									
Juvenile	40	12	0	75	17	29	87	17	9
Adult	32	47	4	1	1	2	30	5	31
<i>Sampling period 4: 15–22 September</i>									
Juvenile	0	13	0	0	2	67	32	0	0
Adult	0	193	19	0	5	2	6	0	0
<i>Balanced totals: 22 August–22 September</i>									
Juvenile	43	113	25	1	3	4	117	193	99
Adult	43	113	25	1	3	4	117	193	99

Table S3. Number of juvenile and adult Dunlin captured by year in Angyoyaravak Bay, Yukon–Kuskokwim Delta, Alaska.

	1978	1979	1980	2004	2005	2006	2008	2009	2010	Total
<i>Pre-fueling period, 1–21 August</i>										
Juvenile	166	147	39	0	396	57	70	12	0	887
Adult	12	404	2	0	109	128	33	2	0	690
<i>Southbound migratory fueling period, 22 August–22 September</i>										
Juvenile	227	128	26 ^a	76	71	169	394	247	121	1,459
Adult	43	454	96 ^a	1	6	4	117	212	200	1,133

^a6 additional juveniles and 5 adults were captured on 4 October 1980. We removed 1 of the juvenile capture records from further analysis because its fuel load measurement (%lbm) was 20% greater than all other fuel load measurements.

Table S4. Values of model variables used to predict maximum flight ranges of Dunlin departing Angyoyaravak Bay, Yukon–Kuskokwim Delta, Alaska, on southbound migration. Flight range predictions were generated using program *Flight* (see text).

Model variable	Value	Reference
Altitude of flight	717 m	Hedenström and Alerstam 1992
Air density	1.1429 kg/m ³	Standard air density at 717 m
Flight speed	Constant	Pennycuick and Battley 2003
Specific work	Constant	Pennycuick and Battley 2003
Minimum energy from protein	5%	Pennycuick and Battley 2003
Induced power factor	0.9	Pennycuick et al. 2013
Body drag coefficient	0.06	Pennycuick et al. 2013
Ratio: air speed–minimum power speed at start	1.98	See text
Wing span ^a	0.346 m	Pennycuick et al. 2013
Wing area ^a	0.0147 m ²	Pennycuick et al. 2013
Airframe mass at start ^a	0.0477 kg	Pennycuick et al. 2013
Lean-mass fraction of departure fuel load	0.24	Pennycuick and Battley 2003

^aValue is for Dunlin that occur in southern Sweden and are smaller than Dunlin that occur in western Alaska. Flight range predictions are not sensitive to differences in size, but rather differences in shape (Pennycuick 1975), which are minimal between the populations (Engelmoer and Roselaar 1998).

Table S5. Departure-fuel-load adjustment factors (% structural lean body mass; %lbm) by year, age, and average sea surface temperature in the previous year (SST year_{i-1}; 11–24 June) for Dunlin departing Angyoyaravak Bay, Yukon–Kuskokwim Delta, Alaska, on southbound migration.

	1978	1979	1980	2004	2005	2006	2008	2009	2010
<i>Adjustment factor (%lbm)^a</i>									
Juvenile	+2.14	+3.69	0	-0.66	-0.70	+1.36	+3.38	+4.91	+4.23
Adult	+4.39	+4.00	0	–	–	–	+2.30	+0.90	-0.57
<i>Average SST year_{i-1} (11–24 June; °C) by year</i>									
	2.98	5.30	2.68	7.56	7.51	6.91	4.03	4.03	4.47
<i>Adjustment factor (%lbm)^b</i>									
Juvenile	+0.83	+3.37	0	-0.84	-0.68	+1.04	+2.84	+2.84	+3.26

^aAdjustment factors by year represent the difference in mean annual pre-migratory body condition between each year and 1980 (see Figure 2).

^bAdjustment factors by average SST year_{i-1} (11–24 June) represent the difference in mean climatic effect between the range of year_{i-1} SSTs 1978–2022 (i.e., 1.31°C–10.74°C) and that of 1980 (i.e., 2.68°C). We only present the adjustment factors for the years that Dunlin were captured (see Figure 3a). Climatic effects were identified using sliding window analyses (see text).

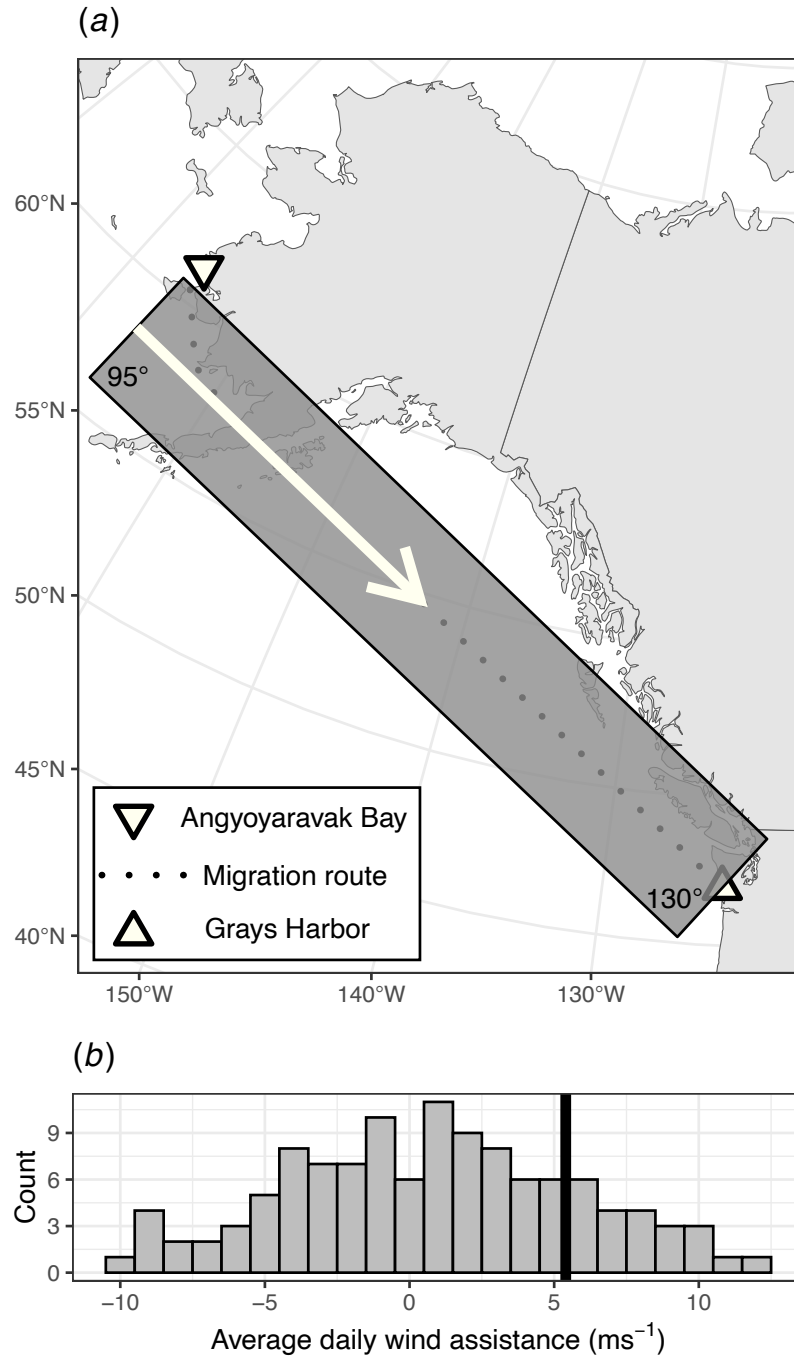


Figure S3. (a) Approximate bearing of the shortest migratory route upon departing Angyoyaravak Bay, Yukon–Kuskokwim Delta, Alaska (95°), and upon arriving in the northern extent of the species' primary wintering grounds on the Pacific coast of North America (130° ; average bearing: 112.5°). The shaded rectangle represents the region in which average daily wind assistance values were calculated (see text). (b) Histogram of average daily wind assistance values (meters per second [ms^{-1}]) from 29 September to 11 October 1978–80, 2004–06, and 2008–10 ($n = 117$). The vertical bar represents the 80th percentile of wind assistance values.

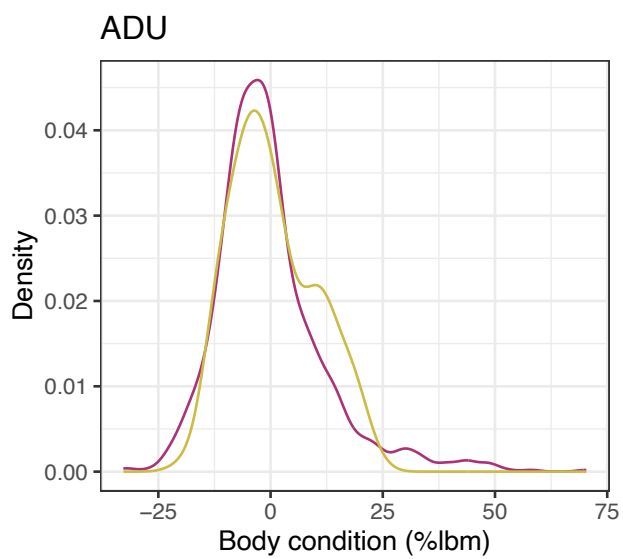
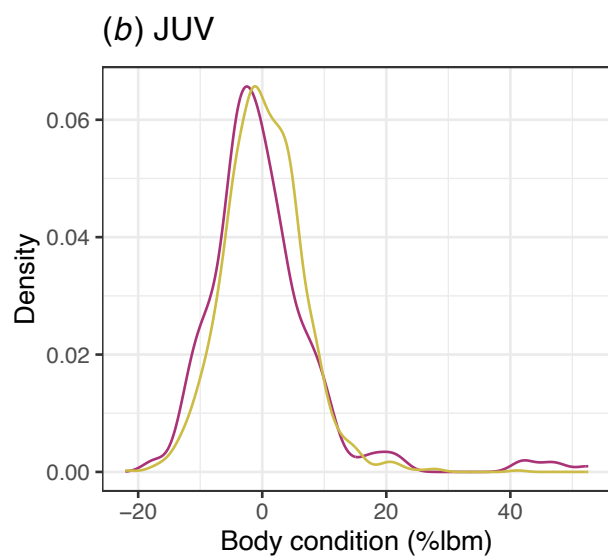
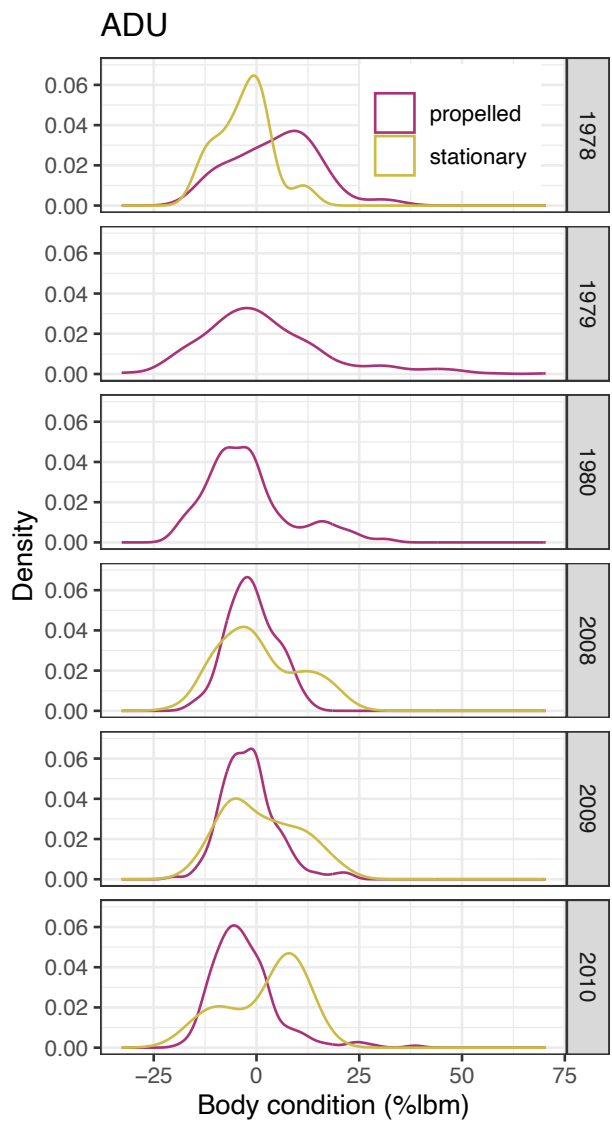
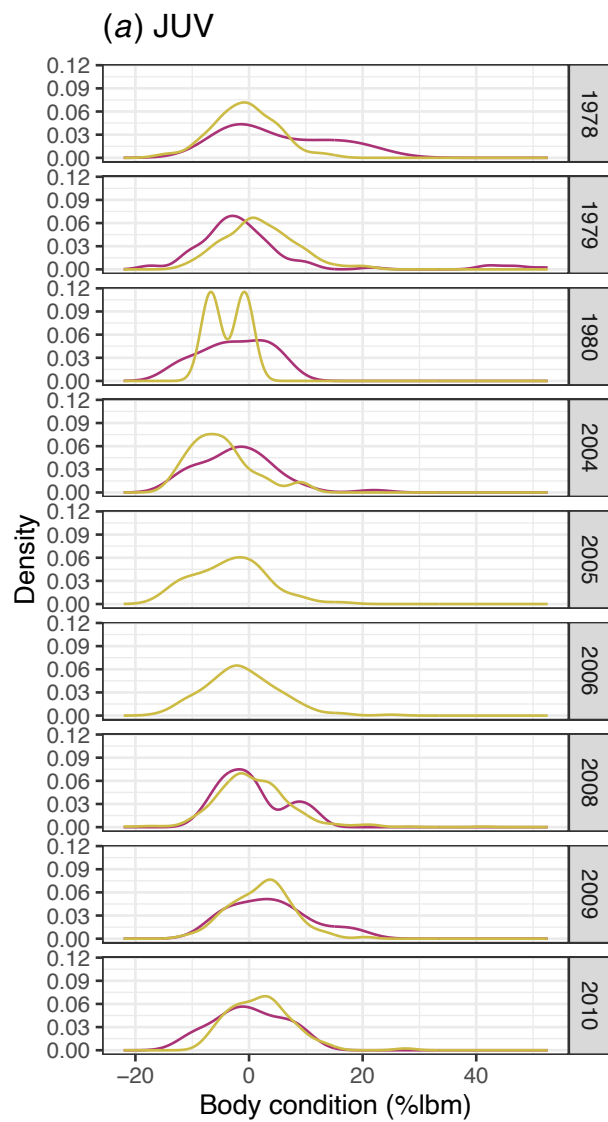


Figure S4. (a) Density plots of juvenile (JUV; $n = 1,459$) and adult (ADU; $n = 1,122$) Dunlin pre-migratory body conditions during the southbound migratory fueling period (22 August–22 September) in Angyoyaravak Bay, Yukon–Kuskokwim Delta, Alaska, by year and capture method (propelled and stationary). (b) Density plots of juvenile and adult pre-migratory body conditions during the southbound fueling period by capture method (years combined).

Table S6. Top models for weather variables used to assess annual variation in juvenile Dunlin ($n = 1,459$) pre-migratory body condition during the southbound migratory fueling period (22 August–22 September, 1978–80, 2004–06, 2008–10) in Angyoyaravak Bay, Yukon–Kuskokwim Delta, Alaska. Model sets were constructed using a sliding window approach (see text) and contained models with linear and quadratic response functions ($n = 153$ models per response function). ΔAICc values are relative to a baseline model with no weather variables. We selected models with the lowest AICc and considered models with $\Delta\text{AICc} < 2$ to have equal support. We considered top models with a P_C value < 0.10 to represent a real climate signal (models in bold; see text).

Weather variable	Response function	ΔAICc	P_C	Climate window
Avg air temp	Quadratic	-8.13	0.30	–
Avg SST	Linear	-6.71	0.41	–
Avg SST year_{i-1}	Quadratic	-17.88	0.05	11–24 June
Avg precip	Quadratic	-11.69	0.04	4 June–29 July

Table S7. Linear mixed models considered for estimating climatic effects on pre-migratory body condition (PMBC) of juvenile Dunlin ($n = 1,459$) captured in Angyoyaravak Bay, Yukon–Kuskokwim Delta, Alaska (22 August–22 September, 1978–80, 2004–06, 2008–10). Average SST in the previous year (SST year_{*i*-1}; 11–24 June) and average precipitation in the year of capture (precip; 4 June–29 July) were identified as influential predictors of juvenile pre-migratory body condition using a sliding window approach (see text).

Model	k	AICc	Δ AICc	w
PMBC \sim SST year _{<i>i</i>-1} + SST year _{<i>i</i>-1} ² + (1 Year)	5	9744	0	0.81
PMBC \sim (SST year _{<i>i</i>-1} + SST year _{<i>i</i>-1} ²) * (precip + precip ²) + (1 Year)	11	9748	4	0.15
PMBC \sim precip + precip ² + (1 Year)	5	9750	6	0.04
PMBC \sim 1 + (1 Year)	3	9762	18	0.00

Table S8. SST year_{*i*-1} models and parameter values used to estimate the effect of SST year_{*i*-1} on pre-migratory body condition of juvenile Dunlin ($n = 1,459$) captured in Angyoyaravak Bay, Yukon–Kuskokwim Delta, Alaska (22 August–22 September, 1978–80, 2004–06, 2008–10). SST year_{*i*-1} models were identified using a sliding window approach (see text; $n = 153$ candidate models). ΔAICc values are relative to a baseline model with no weather variables. Model-averaged parameter values are in bold.

Intercept	Linear term	Quadratic term	ΔAICc	w	Climate window
-14.012	6.533	-0.679	-17.88	0.331	11–24 June
-14.482	6.294	-0.619	-16.63	0.177	11 June–1 July
-13.830	5.969	-0.571	-14.99	0.078	18–24 June
-17.653	6.924	-0.630	-14.32	0.056	11 June–8 July
-14.436	6.433	-0.645	–	–	–

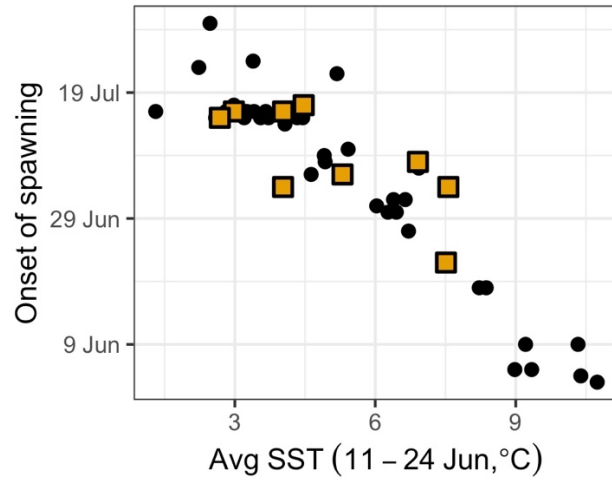


Figure S5. Predicted date of onset of spawning of *Limecola balthica* clams by average SST (11–24 June) in the central Yukon–Kuskokwim Delta (YKD), Alaska, 1977–2022. Date of onset of spawning is the date central YKD SST values exceeded 8.3 °C (Philippart et al. 2003). Gold squares represent the relevant values for the years that Dunlin were captured.

References

- Engelmoer M, Roselaar CS. 1998 Dunlin - *Calidris alpina*. In *Geographical Variation in Waders*, pp. 143–170. Dordrecht: Springer Netherlands. (doi:[10.1007/978-94-011-5016-3](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-94-011-5016-3))
- Hedenström A, Ålerstam T. 1992 Climbing Performance of Migrating Birds as A Basis for Estimating Limits for Fuel-Carrying Capacity and Muscle Work. *J. Exp. Biol.* **164**, 19–38. (doi:[10.1242/jeb.164.1.19](https://doi.org/10.1242/jeb.164.1.19))
- Pennycuik CJ. 1975 Mechanics of flight. In *Avian Biology, Vol. 5* (eds JR King, DS Farner, KC Parkes), pp. 1–75. Academic Press.
- Pennycuik CJ, Åkesson S, Hedenström A. 2013 Air speeds of migrating birds observed by ornithodolite and compared with predictions from flight theory. *J. R. Soc. Interface* **10**, 20130419. (doi:[10.1098/rsif.2013.0419](https://doi.org/10.1098/rsif.2013.0419))
- Pennycuik CJ, Battley PF. 2003 Burning the engine: a time-marching computation of fat and protein consumption in a 5420-km non-stop flight by great knots, *Calidris tenuirostris*. *Oikos* **103**, 323–332. (doi:[10.1034/j.1600-0706.2003.12124.x](https://doi.org/10.1034/j.1600-0706.2003.12124.x))
- Philippart CJM, van Aken HM, Beukema JJ, Bos OG, Cadée GC, Dekker R. 2003 Climate-related changes in recruitment of the bivalve *Macoma balthica*. *Limnol. Oceanogr.* **48**, 2171–2185. (doi:[10.4319/lo.2003.48.6.2171](https://doi.org/10.4319/lo.2003.48.6.2171))