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Stable isotope values from organisms in the North Pacific Ocean: A reference for trophic ecology studies

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Trophic ecology research provides insight into ecosystem form and function through an understanding of predator-prey dynamics (Boecklen et al., 2011). Analyses of the stable carbon ($^{13}\text{C}/^{12}\text{C}$; $\delta^{13}\text{C}$) and nitrogen ($^{15}\text{N}/^{14}\text{N}$; $\delta^{15}\text{N}$) isotope values from predator and prey tissues are a useful method by which to study foraging relationships. Stable isotope values increase with each trophic level due to consumer metabolism and the differential assimilation of heavier and lighter isotopes from prey into predator tissues (DeNiro & Epstein, 1978; Deniro & Epstein, 1981; Hobson, 1999). The differences in the stable isotope values between prey and predator tissues due to fractionation can be predictable and is measured as the trophic discrimination factor (TDF). TDFs are dependent upon several variables, including taxonomy (e.g., fish or mammal, etc.), consumer type (e.g., carnivore or herbivore), consumer sex (e.g., male or female), diet source (e.g., marine or terrestrial), and tissue type (e.g., blood or skin, etc.; Kurle, 2009; Kurle et al., 2014; Stephens et al., 2023).

Although TDFs would ideally be specific to the system being studied, controlled feeding experiments over months to identify TDFs are often prohibitively difficult. Generalized TDFs have been recognized (+1‰ for the $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ values and +3.4‰ for the $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ values; Post, 2002) as a substitute when experimentally-derived TDFs are unavailable, but, when possible, it remains important to compare similar predator and prey tissues to control for the tissue-dependency of TDFs. Stable isotope values can be measured for soft tissues such as skin, blubber, and muscle, as well as hard tissues such as dentin and bone. The isotopic turnover, the rate at which stable isotopes in a tissue are replaced with those metabolized from the diet, varies by tissue type (Kurle, 2009). Blood has a relatively high turnover rate of weeks compared with

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the slow turnover rate of bone over years (Auriolles-Gamboa et al., 2013; Buchheister & Latour, 2010; Riofrío-Lazo & Auriolles-Gamboa, 2013). Therefore, similar tissues should be compared between predator and prey when possible.

Despite the challenges in standardizing isotope values and TDFs across taxa and tissue types, stable isotope analyses have been used to study trophic ecology at multiple temporal and spatial scales in the Pacific Ocean (among other marine and terrestrial environments). For example, Misarti et al. (2009) examined stable isotope values of bone collagen from fish and marine mammals in the Pacific Ocean over 4500 years, and Arnoldi et al. (2023) investigated stable isotope values from invertebrates and fish across the majority of the North Pacific Ocean basin. These studies demonstrate the utility of a multitaxa approach for understanding food webs and trophic dynamics.

To facilitate food web studies of diverse organisms within the North Pacific Ocean, we curated a database of stable isotope values from consumer species in six broad taxonomic groups: Cetacea (dolphins, porpoises, and whales), Pinnipedia (seals, sea lions, and walruses), Mustelidae (sea otters), Osteichthyes (bony fishes), Chondrichthyes (cartilaginous fishes), and Cephalopoda (squids and octopus). Our database (Table 1) is a comprehensive, but not exhaustive, overview of many ecologically important species of interest.

Our first goal was to capture the range of stable isotope values that could represent a species, given measurements from different time periods, regions, life stages, sexes, and tissues. We compiled 254 $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ and $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ values (with standard deviations, SD, or standard errors, SE) from 89 taxa across 74 published studies. Our second goal was twofold: to first condense the multitude of stable isotope values across studies into one representative range for that species (i.e., calculate one mean $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ and $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ value \pm SD from values reported across multiple studies) and further condense the stable isotope values from multiple species into a representative range for that taxonomic group (i.e., calculate one mean $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ and $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ value \pm SD to represent ‘pinnipeds’ from multiple species). Some studies could require the fine-scale data shown in Table 1, such as the $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ and $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ values for juvenile male Northern fur seals (*Callorhinus ursinus*), but others may aim to examine a broad taxonomic group, such as the $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ and $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ values for pinnipeds in the North Pacific.

To compute a single $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ and $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ value (\pm SD) from multiple studies and species (Table 2), we followed methodology in Carlisle et al. (2015). For example, we computed a single $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ value (\pm SD) for the pantropical spotted dolphin (*Stenella attenuata*) by resampling 2000 values from a normal distribution with the parameters of Study 1 (mean $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ value of $-16.82\text{\textperthousand} \pm 0.69\text{\textperthousand}$; Kanaji et al., 2017) and the parameters of Study 2 (mean $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ value of $-17.3\text{\textperthousand} \pm 0.3\text{\textperthousand}$; Endo et al., 2010), then combining them into a cumulative distribution, and finally evaluating the mean $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ and SD of the cumulative distribution (in this case, our reported $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ value for pantropical spotted dolphins is $-17.1\text{\textperthousand} \pm 0.6\text{\textperthousand}$). We also resampled 2000 values from the $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ and $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ values \pm SD of species with only one representative study to generate a distribution that incorporates the reported variation and remains consistent with our methodology for these generated $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ and $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ values.

We applied several filters and corrections to our compilation analysis of Table 1 to identify the single $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ and $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ values in Table 2. First, we excluded samples if they were collected from the Gulf of California due to bias from elevated $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ values in this region (Altabet et al., 1999). Second, we aimed to compile the $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ and $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ values that were representative of soft tissues overall, with muscle specifically targeted when possible. We found muscle was the most frequently sampled tissue, allowing for greater consistency when compiling studies among a species. Soft tissues are also more likely to be useful for dietary analyses, as soft tissues are typically consumed by a predator and bones, teeth, or whiskers may be discarded. To this end, we chose muscle samples in cases of measurements from paired tissues in Table 1. We also corrected bone or teeth measurements to resemble muscle with the equation: $\delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{muscle}} = \delta^{13}\text{C}_{\text{bone/tooth}} - 2\text{\textperthousand}$ (see supplementary material of Kim et al., 2012), except for sea otters (*Enhydra lutris*). The studies we report for sea otters sampled bone and whiskers, and the correction factor does not apply to whiskers. For consistency, we compiled the hard tissue measurements (whiskers and bone) for sea otters as they were reported. Finally, if a study provided SE rather than SD, we converted SE to SD when calculating our study or species distributions (Table 1 reports the original SE values in such cases). We report single condensed stable isotope values (\pm SD) for each species in Table 2, and single condensed stable isotope values (\pm SD) for broad taxonomic groups in Table 3. All computations were conducted in R v. 4.2.1 (R Core Team 2022) using base functions.

TABLE 1 The mean $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ and $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ values ($\pm \text{SD}$, or SE where noted) for six major taxonomic groups are compiled from published literature.

Stable isotope values from organisms in the North Pacific Ocean: A reference for trophic ecology studies. Bowen and Kurle (2024)								
Taxa	Tissue	Year(s)	$\delta^{13}\text{C}$ (‰)	SD/SE	$\delta^{15}\text{N}$ (‰)	SD/SE	Metadata	Source
<i>Cetacea (dolphins, porpoises, whales)</i>								
<i>Balaena mysticetus</i>	Muscle (Non LE)	1983–2001	−20.65	0.82	13.28	0.62	110	Alaska, Arctic Ocean Dehn et al. (2006)
<i>Balaena mysticetus</i>	Muscle (Non LE)	Fall 1997	−21.1	0.2	13.3	0.3	21	Alaska, Arctic Ocean Hoekstra et al. (2002)
<i>Balaena mysticetus^a</i>	Muscle (Non LE)	1997–2006	−20.63	0.85	13.29	0.76	134	Alaska, Arctic Ocean; Skin/muscle pair A Horstmann-Dehn et al. (2012)
<i>Balaena mysticetus</i>	Skin (LE carbon, Non LE nitrogen)	1997–2006	−20.49	0.68	13.63	0.94	99, 133	Alaska, Arctic Ocean; Skin/muscle pair B Horstmann-Dehn et al. (2012)
<i>Balaena mysticetus^b</i>	Bone collagen	Meta	−15.9	0.6	14.5	0.8	3	Bering Sea, Alaska Newsome, Etnier, et al. (2009)
<i>Balaenoptera acutorostrata</i>	Red muscle (LE)	2000–2006	−18.4	0.7	12.0	1.7	13	Market meat in Japan; J-stock Endo et al. (2012)
<i>Balaenoptera acutorostrata</i>	Red muscle (LE)	2000–2006	−18.6	0.8	11.4	0.7	12	Market meat in Japan; O-stock Endo et al. (2012)
<i>Balaenoptera borealis</i>	Red muscle (LE)	2000–2006	−19.5	1.6	8.3	1.3	10	Market meat in Japan Endo et al. (2012)
<i>Balaenoptera brydei</i>	Red muscle (LE)	2000–2006	−16.9	0.6	10	1.2	11	Market meat in Japan Endo et al. (2012)
<i>Balaenoptera brydei^c</i>	Skin (LE)	1995, 1996	−18.1	1.5	15.8	0.6	2	Near Gulf of California Gendron et al. (2023)
<i>Balaenoptera musculus</i>	Skin (LE)	1996–2015	−16.9	0.0	13.3	0.1	222	California Current Ecosystem; Bayesian ANOVA means Busquets-Vass et al. (2021)
<i>Balaenoptera musculus^c</i>	Skin (LE)	1995, 1996	−18.2	0.6	12.9	0.3	2	Near Gulf of California Gendron et al. (2023)
<i>Balaenoptera musculus^c</i>	Skin (LE)	1996–2015	−16.7	0.0	14.8	0.1	196	Gulf of California; Bayesian ANOVA means Busquets-Vass et al. (2021)

(Continues)

TABLE 1 (Continued)

Stable isotope values from organisms in the North Pacific Ocean: A reference for trophic ecology studies. Bowen and Kurle (2024)

Taxa	Tissue	Year(s)	$\delta^{13}\text{C}$ (‰)	SD/SE	$\delta^{15}\text{N}$ (‰)	SD/SE	N	Metadata	Source
Balaenoptera musculus ^c	Skin	1999–2007	–16.8	0.7	14	1.0	109	Central-south Gulf of California	Busquets Vass (2008)
Balaenoptera physalus	Skin (LE)	2001–2010	–18.3	0.68	12.5	1.19	9	Shumagin Islands, Alaska	Witteveen and Wynne (2016)
Balaenoptera physalus	Skin (LE)	2004–2014	–18.6	0.95	12.5	0.84	6	Kodiak, Alaska	Witteveen and Wynne (2016)
Balaenoptera physalus ^c	Skin (LE)	1995, 1996	–16.0	0.6	15.4	1.1	2	Near Gulf of California	Gendron et al. (2023)
Balaenoptera physalus ^c	Unspecified tissue	2001–2002	–17.3	0.5	15.3	0.8	29	Southwest Gulf of California	Jaume-Schinkel (2004)
Berardius bairdii	Red muscle (LE)	2000–2004	–17.8	0.6	16.3	0.8	19	Market meat in Japan	Endo et al. (2010)
Delphinapterus leucas	Muscle (Non LE)	1992–1999	–18.41	0.62	16.74	0.56	49	Alaska, Arctic Ocean	Dehn et al. (2006)
Delphinus capensis ^c	Unspecified tissue	2005	–16.7	0.5	18.4	0.4	39	Along Gulf of California	Diaz-Gamboa (2009)
Delphinus delphis	Skin (LE)	1993–2015	–17.8	0.34	11.37	0.59	33	Coast of Japan	Kanaji et al. (2017)
Delphinus delphis ^c	Tooth/bone (Non LE)	1988–1998	–15.3	1.2	18.1	0.6	12	Along Gulf of California	Auriolles-Gamboa et al. (2013)
Eschrichtius robustus ^a	Muscle (Non LE)	2001	–17.32	1.03	12.03	0.86	17	Substance harvested in Russia; Skin/muscle pair A	Horstmann-Dehn et al. (2012)
Eschrichtius robustus	Skin (LE carbon, Non LE nitrogen)	2001	–17.62	1.32	13.21	1.13	25	Substance harvested in Russia; Skin/muscle pair B	Horstmann-Dehn et al. (2012)
Eschrichtius robustus	Muscle (Non LE)	2001	–17.32	1.03	12.04	0.86	17	Coast of Russia	Dehn et al. (2006)
Eschrichtius robustus ^a	Muscle (Non LE)	1999–2000	–16.58	0.89	12.93	1.01	11	Stranded in California; Skin/muscle pair A	Horstmann-Dehn et al. (2012)

TABLE 1 (Continued)

Stable isotope values from organisms in the North Pacific Ocean: A reference for trophic ecology studies. Bowen and Kurle (2024)

Taxa	Tissue	Year(s)	$\delta^{13}\text{C}$ (‰)	SD/SE	$\delta^{15}\text{N}$ (‰)	SD/SE	N	Metadata	Source
<i>Eschrichtius robustus</i>	Skin (LE carbon, Non LE nitrogen)	1999–2000	–16.06	0.92	13.51	0.8	14, 18	Stranded in California; Skin/muscle pair B	Horstmann-Dehn et al. (2012)
<i>Eschrichtius robustus</i>	Skin (LE carbon, Non LE nitrogen)	2000–2011	–16.09	0.88	13.15	0.74	15	Eastern subpopulation; 9 M, 5 F, 1 U; Primary basale layer of epidermis	Lian et al. (2020)
<i>Eschrichtius robustus</i>	Skin (Non LE)	2002–2013	–16.52	0.74	12.2	0.77	10	Western subpopulation; Primary basale layer of epidermis	Lian et al. (2020)
<i>Eschrichtius robustus^b</i>	Bone collagen	1960s/70s	–13.7	0.2	14.2	0.2	14	Carbon Suess effect corrected	Alter et al. (2012)
<i>Eschrichtius robustus^b</i>	Bone collagen	Ancient	–13.1	0.1	14.7	0.2	16	150–2690 years before present; Carbon Suess effect corrected	Alter et al. (2012)
<i>Eschrichtius robustus^b</i>	Bone collagen	Meta	–13.1	0.8	14.2	0.7	13	California and Alaska	Newsome, Etnier, et al. (2009)
<i>Globicephala macrorhynchus^c</i>	Red muscle (LE)	2000–2004	–16.9	0.5	12.2	0.7	18	Market meat in Japan; Southern form	Endo et al. (2010)
<i>Globicephala macrorhynchus^c</i>	Unspecified tissue	2005	–15.6	0.5	18.3	1.1	33	Central-south Gulf of California	Diaz-Gambao (2009)
<i>Grampus griseus</i>	Red muscle (LE)	2000–2004	–16.7	0.3	13.1	0.5	8	Market meat in Japan	Endo et al. (2010)
<i>Megaptera novaeangliae</i>	Skin (LE)	2005	–17.3	0.2	12.1	0.3	20	Karaginsky Gulf, Bering Sea, Russia	Filatova et al. (2013)
<i>Megaptera novaeangliae</i>	Skin (LE corr)	2011	–18.6	0.1	10.8	0.3	16	Commander Islands, Russia	Filatova et al. (2013)

(Continues)

TABLE 1 (Continued)

Stable isotope values from organisms in the North Pacific Ocean: A reference for trophic ecology studies. Bowen and Kurle (2024)

Taxa	Tissue	Year(s)	$\delta^{13}\text{C}$ (‰)	SD/SE	$\delta^{15}\text{N}$ (‰)	SD/SE	N	Metadata	Source
Megaptera novaeangliae	Skin (E)	2001–2010	−18.3	0.66	13.2	0.74	86	Shumagin Islands, Alaska	Witteveen and Wynne (2016)
Megaptera novaeangliae ^a	Skin (E)	2004–2005	−17.6	0.0	13.2	0.0	1105, 1104	North Pacific basin (10 regions); M and F; SE reported	Worthy, Wynne, and Roth (2009)
Megaptera novaeangliae	Skin (E)	2004–2005	−16.4	0.04	14.6	0.07	181	British Columbia through California; M and F; SE reported; Subset A from above	Witteveen, Worthy, Wynne, and Roth (2009)
Megaptera novaeangliae	Skin (E)	2004–2005	−18.4	0.04	12.5	0.07	282	Gulf of Alaska and Bering Sea; M and F; SE reported; Subset B	Witteveen, Worthy, Wynne, and Roth (2009)
Megaptera novaeangliae	Skin (E)	2004–2005	−17.8	0.1	12.2	0.19	81	Russia and West Aleutian Islands; M and F; SE reported; Subset C	Witteveen, Worthy, Wynne, and Roth (2009)
Megaptera novaeangliae	Skin (E)	2004–2006	−17.2	0.09	13.3	0.13	117	Mexico; SE reported	Witteveen, Worthy, and Roth (2009)
Megaptera novaeangliae	Skin (E)	2004–2014	−17.9	0.64	13.4	0.91	145	Kodiak, Alaska	Witteveen and Wynne (2016)
Orcinus orca ^b	Teeth	1855–2021	−12.63	1.0	19.32	1.6	42	North Pacific Ocean; Transient ecotype; Suess effect corrected to 1850; Multiple dentin annuli	Personal communication (Bowen)
Orcinus orca ^b	Teeth	1864–2006	−11.9	0.5	17.7	0.5	23	North Pacific Ocean; Offshore ecotype; Suess effect corrected to 1850; Multiple dentin annuli	Personal communication (Bowen)

TABLE 1 (Continued)

Stable isotope values from organisms in the North Pacific Ocean: A reference for trophic ecology studies. Bowen and Kurle (2024)							
Taxa	Tissue	Year(s)	$\delta^{13}\text{C}$ (‰)	SD/SE	$\delta^{15}\text{N}$ (‰)	SD/SE	Metadata
Orcinus orca ^b	Teeth	1898–2015	–12.9	0.8	16.7	0.9	12
Orcinus orca	Blubber (LE)	2001–2003	–16.8	0.3	17.2	0.6	3
Orcinus orca	Blubber (LE)	2001–2003	–16.8	1.1	16.7	1.2	11
Orcinus orca	Blubber (LE)	2001–2003	–16.2	0.6	17.9	0.5	9
Orcinus orca	Blubber (LE)	2001–2003	–17.5	0.8	15.6	1.5	11
Orcinus orca	Blubber (LE)	2001–2003	–15.4	0.5	17.2	0.8	8
Orcinus orca	Blubber (LE)	2001–2003	–16.0	0.2	16.9	0.6	4
Phocoena phocoena ^a	Muscle (LE)	1997–2000	–16.2	0.5	15.2	0.8	29
Phocoena phocoena	Bone collagen	1997–2000	–13.4	0.5	15.7	0.7	29
Phocoena phocoena	Skin (LE)	1997–2000	–16.2	0.6	16.0	0.7	29
North Pacific Ocean; Resident ecotype; Suess effect corrected to 1850; Multiple dentin annuli							
Alaska; Offshore ecotype							
Eastern Aleutian Islands, Alaska; Resident ecotype							
Eastern Aleutian Islands, Alaska; Transient ecotype							
Central Aleutian Islands, Alaska; Resident ecotype							
Gulf of Alaska; Resident ecotype							
West coast, Southern resident ecotype							
Central California; Muscle/bone/skin pair A							
Central California; Muscle/bone/skin pair B							
Central California; Muscle/bone/skin pair C							
Personal communication (Bowen)							

(Continues)

TABLE 1 (Continued)

Stable isotope values from organisms in the North Pacific Ocean: A reference for trophic ecology studies. Bowen and Kurle (2024)

Taxa	Tissue	Year(s)	$\delta^{13}\text{C}$ (‰)	SD/SE	$\delta^{15}\text{N}$ (‰)	SD/SE	N	Metadata	Source
<i>Phocoenoides dalli</i>	Muscle (Non LE)	1987	-20.3	0.5	10.8	0.7	5	Eastern North Pacific	Ohizumi and Miyazaki (2010)
<i>Phocoenoides dalli</i>	Muscle (Non LE)	1997	-19.1	0.3	11.6	0.5	10	Western North Pacific	Ohizumi and Miyazaki (2010)
<i>Phocoenoides dalli</i>	Muscle (Non LE)	1985; 1996	-19.9	0.5	11.8	1.1	5	Bering Sea, Alaska	Ohizumi and Miyazaki (2010)
<i>Phocoenoides dalli</i>	Muscle (Non LE)	1987; 1994	-20.2	0.6	11.1	1.0	5	Western-central North Pacific	Ohizumi and Miyazaki (2010)
<i>Phocoenoides dalli</i>	Red muscle (LE)	2000–2004	-18.8	0.2	13.2	0.3	8	Market meat in Japan	Endo et al. (2010)
<i>Physeter macrocephalus</i>	Skin (LE carbon, Non LE nitrogen)	2003–2017	-17.2	0.6	16.9	0.8	33	Gulf of Alaska; M; Individuals depredating fish lines	Wild et al. (2020)
<i>Physeter macrocephalus^c</i>	Skin (LE)	1996–1999	-13.8	0.4	19.6	0.5	35	Central-south Gulf of California	Ruiz-Cooley et al. (2004)
<i>Physeter macrocephalus^b</i>	Tooth dentin	Meta	-13.3	0.5	17.5	0.5	24	Oregon	Newsome, Etnier, et al. (2009)
<i>Pseudorca crassidens</i>	Red muscle (LE)	2000–2004	-16.2	0.6	12.8	0.6	5	Market meat in Japan	Endo et al. (2010)
<i>Stenella attenuata</i>	Skin (LE)	1993–2015	-16.82	0.69	12.39	0.8	32	Coast of Japan	Kanaji et al. (2017)
<i>Stenella attenuata</i>	Red muscle (LE)	2000–2004	-17.3	0.3	12.1	0.8	4	Market meat in Japan	Endo et al. (2010)
<i>Stenella coeruleoalba</i>	Skin (LE)	1993–2015	-17.28	0.63	12.27	0.64	140	Coast of Japan	Kanaji et al. (2017)
<i>Steno bredanensis</i>	Red muscle (LE)	2000–2004	-16.9	0.5	11.6	0.5	6	Market meat in Japan	Endo et al. (2010)
<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>	Skin (LE)	1993–2015	-16.28	0.79	13.04	0.66	40	Coast of Japan	Kanaji et al. (2017)
<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>	Red muscle (LE)	2000–2004	-17.2	0.3	13.1	0.6	10	Market meat in Japan	Endo et al. (2010)

TABLE 1 (Continued)

Stable isotope values from organisms in the North Pacific Ocean: A reference for trophic ecology studies. Bowen and Kurle (2024)

Taxa	Tissue	Year(s)	$\delta^{13}\text{C}$ (‰)	SD/SE	$\delta^{15}\text{N}$ (‰)	SD/SE	N	Metadata	Source
<i>Tursiops truncatus</i> ^c	Unspecified tissue	2005	-16.0	0.4	19.1	0.4	57	Central-south Gulf of California	Diaz-Gamboa (2009)
Pinnipedia (seals, sea lions, walrus)									
<i>Callorhinus ursinus</i>	Skeletal muscle (LE)	1992	-18.9	0.4	16.6	0.5	7	Alaska; pups; M and F	Hobson et al. (1997)
<i>Callorhinus ursinus</i>	Skin (LE)	1997	-16.0	0.0	17.3	0.1	50,46	St. George Island, Alaska; F; SE reported	Kurle and Worthy (2001)
<i>Callorhinus ursinus</i>	Skin (LE)	1997	-16.1	0.1	18.1	0.2	15	St. Paul Island, Alaska; F; SE reported	Kurle and Worthy (2001)
<i>Callorhinus ursinus</i>	Skin (LE)	1997	-17.4	0.1	16.7	0.1	27,28	St. George Island, Alaska; juvenile M; SE reported	Kurle and Worthy (2001)
<i>Callorhinus ursinus</i>	Skin (LE)	1997	-17.5	0.1	16.5	0.2	20	St. Paul Island, Alaska; juvenile M; SE reported	Kurle and Worthy (2001)
<i>Callorhinus ursinus</i>	Muscle (LE)	1997	-18.0	0.1	15.6	0.2	30	St. George Island, Alaska; juvenile M; SE reported	Kurle and Worthy (2002)
<i>Callorhinus ursinus</i>	Blubber (LE)	1997	-19.7	0.4	17.1	0.1	30	St. George Island, Alaska; juvenile M; SE reported	Kurle and Worthy (2002)
<i>Callorhinus ursinus</i>	Muscle (LE)	1997	-18.1	0.1	15.1	0.2	37,38	St. Paul Island, Alaska; juvenile M; SE reported	Kurle and Worthy (2002)
<i>Callorhinus ursinus</i>	Blubber (LE)	1997	-18.1	0.2	17.1	0.1	36	St. Paul Island, Alaska; juvenile M; SE reported	Kurle and Worthy (2002)

(Continues)

TABLE 1 (Continued)

Stable isotope values from organisms in the North Pacific Ocean: A reference for trophic ecology studies. Bowen and Kurle (2024)

Taxa	Tissue	Year(s)	$\delta^{13}\text{C}$ (‰)	SD/SE	$\delta^{15}\text{N}$ (‰)	SD/SE	N	Metadata	Source
<i>Callorhinus ursinus</i> ^b	Vibrissal roots (LE)	2007, 2008	-18.05	0.58	14.26	1.07	95	Adult F and pups live and dead; 1 adult M, 1 U; Least-square means reported	Waite et al. (2012)
<i>Callorhinus ursinus</i> ^b	Bone collagen	1952-1995	-14.4	1.1	17.2	1.5	13	Gulf of Alaska and Bering Sea	Hirons et al. (2001)
<i>Callorhinus ursinus</i> ^b	Bone collagen/tooth dentin	Meta	-15.5	0.6	15.7	1.2	230	Bering Sea, Alaska	Newsome, Etnier, et al. (2009)
<i>Callorhinus ursinus</i> ^b	Bone collagen	Most 1970+	-14.8	0.7	16.6	1.4	10	Alaska; F	Burton and Koch (1999)
<i>Callorhinus ursinus</i> ^b	Bone collagen	Most 1970+	-15.4	0.9	17.4	2.1	9	Alaska; M	Burton and Koch (1999)
<i>Eumetopias jubatus</i>	Skeletal muscle (LE)	1990-1993	-18.2	0.2	17.5	0.2	13	Alaska; M and F	Hobson et al. (1997)
<i>Eumetopias jubatus</i>	Muscle (LE)	2003, 2004	-15.1	0.2	17.6	0.5	4	British Columbia	Todd et al. (2009)
<i>Eumetopias jubatus</i>	Vibrissal roots (LE)	2007, 2008	-17.12	0.56	16.57	1.03	63	Russia; 6 live adult F, 11 dead pups; Least-square means reported	Waite et al. (2012)
<i>Eumetopias jubatus</i> ^b	Tooth dentin (Not decalcified)	1958-1994	-12.16	1.79	17.97	1.13	18	Gulf of Alaska and Bering Sea; M; Means manually calculated for present study	Hobson and Sease (1998)
<i>Eumetopias jubatus</i> ^b	Bone collagen	1961-1997	-14.3	1.0	18.5	1.4	31	Gulf of Alaska and Bering Sea	Hirons et al. (2001)
<i>Mirounga angustirostris</i>	Bone collagen	Most 1970+	-13.6	1.1	18.2	0.7	10	California; M	Burton and Koch (1999)
<i>Mirounga angustirostris</i> ^b	Bone collagen	Most 1970+	-14.4	0.8	18.1	1.3	14	Central California; F	Burton and Koch (1999)

TABLE 1 (Continued)

Stable isotope values from organisms in the North Pacific Ocean: A reference for trophic ecology studies. Bowen and Kurle (2024)								
Taxa	Tissue	Year(s)	$\delta^{13}\text{C}$ (‰)	SD/SE	$\delta^{15}\text{N}$ (‰)	SD/SE	Metadata	Source
Odobenus rosmarus ^a	Muscle (Non LE)	1981–2010	−17.0	0.8	13.0	0.9	154	Bering Sea and Chukchi Sea; Alaska; Carbon Suess effect corrected
Odobenus rosmarus ^a	Muscle (LE carbon, Non LE nitrogen)	2014–2016	−16.8	0.2	12.6	0.5	30	St. Lawrence Island, Alaska; M and F; Muscle/bone pair A
Odobenus rosmarus ^a	Bone collagen	2014–2016	−14.8	0.3	12.2	0.7	30	St. Lawrence Island, Alaska; M and F; Muscle/bone pair B
Phoca vitulina	Skeletal muscle (LE)	1992	−17.1	0.3	16.4	0.2	5	Washington; M and F
Phoca vitulina	Skeletal muscle (LE)	1990–1993	−17.6	0.2	18.6	0.3	9	Alaska; pups; M and F
Phoca vitulina ^b	Bone collagen	1951–1996	−13.7	0.9	17.4	1.8	37	Gulf of Alaska and Bering Sea
Phoca vitulina ^b	Bone collagen	Most 1970+	−13.7	0.9	18.0	1.2	20	Alaska; M
Phoca vitulina ^b	Bone collagen	Most 1970+	−12.4	0.6	18.9	1.1	13	Central California; M
Phoca vitulina ^b	Bone collagen	Most 1970+	−13.7	1.0	16.7	2.1	17	Alaska; F
Phoca vitulina ^b	Bone collagen	Most 1970+	−12.4	0.9	18.3	0.6	5	Central CA; F
Zalophus californianus	Muscle (LE)	2003, 2004	−15.4	0.2	17.2	0.4	5	British Columbia
Zalophus californianus	Red blood cells	2006–2007	−14.9	0.0	18.4	0.1	39	California; Pup; SE reported

(Continues)

TABLE 1 (Continued)

Stable isotope values from organisms in the North Pacific Ocean: A reference for trophic ecology studies. Bowen and Kurle (2024)

Taxa	Tissue	Year(s)	$\delta^{13}\text{C}$ (‰)	SD/SE	$\delta^{15}\text{N}$ (‰)	SD/SE	N	Metadata	Source
<i>Zalophus californianus</i>	Red blood cells	2006–2007	–15.3	0.1	17.0	0.1	3	California; Yearling; SE reported	Orr et al. (2009)
<i>Zalophus californianus</i>	Red blood cells	2006–2007	–15.3	0.0	16.7	0.0	9	California; Juvenile; SE reported	Orr et al. (2009)
<i>Zalophus californianus</i>	Red blood cells	2006–2007	–15.2	0.1	16.5	0.1	7	California; Adult; SE reported	Orr et al. (2009)
<i>Zalophus californianus^c</i>	Tooth/bone (Non LE)	1975–2006	–12.5	0.4	21	0.9	87	Gulf of California	Auriolos-Gamboa et al. (2013)
<i>Zalophus californianus^c</i>	Tooth dentin	Meta	–12.5	0.6	20.5	1.6	34	Gulf of California	Newsome, Etnier, et al. (2009)
<i>Zalophus californianus^b</i>	Bone collagen	Most 1970+	–13.7	0.7	18.7	1.0	11	California; M	Burton and Koch (1999)
<i>Zalophus californianus^b</i>	Bone collagen	Most 1970+	–13.9	1.1	18.4	0.9	4	California; F	Burton and Koch (1999)
Mustelidae (sea otters)									
<i>Enhydra lutris</i>	Vibrissae (Non LE)	1996–2003	–14.07	0.78	11.9	0.9	16	Southcentral Alaska; adult M and F; Means manually calculated for present study	Mandi (2002)
<i>Enhydra lutris</i>	Vibrissae (Non LE)	1996–2003	–13.07	0.83	14.11	1.76	8	Southwest Alaska; adult M and F; Means manually calculated for present study	Mandi (2002)
<i>Enhydra lutris</i>	Vibrissae (Non LE)	1998–2006	–12.2	0.9	15.4	1.0	16	Monterey Bay, California; F	Newsome, Tinker, et al. (2009)
<i>Enhydra lutris</i>	Vibrissae (Non LE)	1998–2006	–11.8	0.8	14.9	0.6	15	Monterey Bay, California; M	Newsome, Tinker, et al. (2009)
<i>Enhydra lutris</i>	Bone collagen	Meta	–13.3	1.3	11.7	1.2	97	Central Aleutian Islands, Alaska	Newsome, Etnier, et al. (2009)

TABLE 1 (Continued)

Stable isotope values from organisms in the North Pacific Ocean: A reference for trophic ecology studies. Bowen and Kurle (2024)

Taxa	Tissue	Year(s)	$\delta^{13}\text{C}$ (‰)	SD/SE	$\delta^{15}\text{N}$ (‰)	SD/SE	N	Metadata	Source
<i>Enhydra lutris</i>	Bone collagen	Meta	-12.2	0.5	12.6	0.6	95	Prince William Sound, Alaska	Newsome, Etnier, et al. (2009)
Osteichthyes (bony fishes)									
<i>Ammodytes hexapterus</i>	Anterior dorsal muscle	2000, 2002	-17.5	1.2	11.6	0.6	34	California Current	Miller et al. (2013)
<i>Ammodytidae</i>	Whole animal (LE)	1997	-18.6	0.1	9.0	0.0	10	Bering Sea, Alaska; Large size class (mean length 24.19 cm); SE reported	Kurle and Worthy (2001)
<i>Ammodytidae</i>	Muscle (LE carbon, Non LE nitrogen)	2014	-20.8	0.9	12.8	0.5	5	Bering Sea, Alaska; Medium size class (mean length 7.7 cm)	Liu (2017)
<i>Ammodytidae</i>	Muscle (LE carbon, Non LE nitrogen)	2016	-21.4	1.0	10.2	0.6	12	Bering Sea, Alaska; Small size class (mean length 5.8 cm)	Liu (2017)
<i>Anoplopoma fimbria</i>	Anterior dorsal muscle (LE corr carbon)	2000, 2002	-18.0	NA	13.5	NA	14	California Current; Juveniles	Miller et al. (2013)
<i>Anoplopoma fimbria</i>	Muscle (LE carbon, Non LE nitrogen)	2014, 2016	-19.9	0.8	14.0	0.4	10	Bering Sea, Alaska	Liu (2017)
<i>Atheresthes stomas</i>	Muscle and whole body (LE/corr carbon)	2000, 2005	-17.8	0.1	14.7	0.2	17	Alaska	Carlisle et al. (2015)
<i>Atheresthes stomas</i>	Muscle (LE corr)	2013, 2014	-15.9	0.6	15.5	0.9	42	Aleutian Islands, Alaska	Doll et al. (2018)
<i>Clupea pallasi</i>	Muscle and whole body (LE/corr carbon)	Meta	-19.2	0.2	13.0	0.2	393	Alaska	Carlisle et al. (2015)
<i>Engraulis mordax</i>	Muscle (LE)	1997-2000	-17.2	1.0	13.6	0.5	27	Monterey Bay, California	Becker et al. (2007)

(Continues)

TABLE 1 (Continued)

Stable isotope values from organisms in the North Pacific Ocean: A reference for trophic ecology studies. Bowen and Kurle (2024)

Taxa	Tissue	Year(s)	$\delta^{13}\text{C}$ (‰)	SD/SE	$\delta^{15}\text{N}$ (‰)	SD/SE	N	Metadata	Source
<i>Engraulis mordax</i>	Anterior dorsal muscle	2007, 2009	-18.3	0.5	13.8	0.4	60	California Current	Miller et al. (2013)
<i>Engraulis mordax</i>	Muscle (LE)	NA	-16.9	0.8	13.7	0.9	5	Monterey Bay, California	Toperoff (2002)
<i>Engraulis mordax</i>	Lateral muscle (LE)	NA	-16.8	0.4	13.9	0.8	4	Gulf of Farallones, California	Sydeman et al. (1997)
<i>Gadus macrocephalus</i>	Muscle (LE corr)	2013, 2014	-16.3	0.7	16.6	0.8	52	Aleutian Islands, Alaska	Doll et al. (2018)
<i>Gadus macrocephalus</i>	Muscle (LE/corr carbon)	Meta	-17.7	0.3	14.6	0.3	31	Alaska	Carlisle et al. (2015)
<i>Genyonemus lineatus</i>	Muscle (LE)	1996–2002	-15.3	0.2	15.1	0.3	10	Monterey Bay, California	Becker et al. (2007)
<i>Hippoglossus stenolepis</i>	Anterior muscle	2002–2011	-17.99	1.4	14.88	1.46	693	Alaska; M and F; Less than 20 lbs. up to 40.9 kg	Bentzen et al. (2016)
<i>Hippoglossus stenolepis</i>	White muscle (Non LE)	2012, 2013	-16.76	0.95	15.87	1.26	370	Alaska; F; 5 to 16 years old	Wolf et al. (2019)
<i>Hippoglossus stenolepis</i>	White muscle (Non LE)	2012, 2013	-17.36	0.79	14.95	1.02	161	Alaska; M; 5 to 18 years old	Wolf et al. (2019)
<i>Hypomesus pretiosus</i>	Muscle (LE)	NA	-18.6	0.6	13.4	0.1	2	Monterey Bay, California	Toperoff (2002)
<i>Lampris guttatus</i>	White muscle (LE corr)	2007–2010	-18.26	0.55	14.57	0.69	4	California Current	Madigan et al. (2012)
<i>Lampris guttatus</i>	White muscle (LE corr)	2009–2011	-17.5	0.5	12.1	1.0	24	North Pacific Subtropical Gyre; 1000 ± 123 mm mean length	Choy et al. (2015)

TABLE 1 (Continued)

Stable isotope values from organisms in the North Pacific Ocean: A reference for trophic ecology studies. Bowen and Kurle (2024)								
Taxa	Tissue	Year(s)	$\delta^{13}\text{C}$ (‰)	SD/SE	$\delta^{15}\text{N}$ (‰)	SD/SE	Metadata	
							Source	
<i>Lampris guttatus</i>	Muscle (LE carbon, Non LE nitrogen)	2014–2017	−19.1	0.78	12.2	2.12	2	San Diego, California; Means manually calculated for present study
<i>Mallotus villosus</i>	Muscle (LE carbon, Non LE nitrogen)	2016	−19.2	0.8	15.4	0.6	6	Fauvele and Somerville (2021) Liu (2017)
<i>Merluccius productus</i>	Anterior dorsal muscle	2007, 2009	−17.6	0.4	13.5	0.6	67	Miller et al. (2013)
<i>Mola mola</i> ^d	White dorsal muscle (LE corr)	2010	−20.48	0.87	6.93	1.73	17	Otsuchi Bay, Japan; Means manually calculated for present study
<i>Oncorhynchus gorbuscha</i>	Muscle (LE corr)	1997	−21.89	0.43	10.79	0.41	22	Southeast Alaska; Adults
<i>Oncorhynchus gorbuscha</i>	Unspecified tissue	2004–2013	−20.8	0.2	11.4	0.2	14	Okhotsk Sea; Adults
<i>Oncorhynchus gorbuscha</i>	Meta (LE corr)	Meta	−21.16	0.63	11.03	0.7	130	Gorbatenko et al. (2015)
<i>Oncorhynchus gorbuscha</i>	Muscle (LE/corr carbon)	Meta	−21.4	0.4	11.4	0.4	78	Alaska and Washington
<i>Oncorhynchus keta</i>	Muscle (LE corr)	1997	−21.28	0.72	11.01	1.21	25	Southeast Alaska; Adults
<i>Oncorhynchus keta</i>	Muscle	2004	−17.2	0.8	15.0	0.5	30	Washington; from Figure 1 in reference; + 2 SD
<i>Oncorhynchus keta</i>	Unspecified tissue	2004–2013	−20.4	0.3	11.4	0.3	15	Okhotsk Sea; Adults
<i>Oncorhynchus keta</i>	Muscle (LE carbon, Non LE nitrogen)	2014, 2016	−21.4	0.7	11.9	1.3	10	Bering Sea, Alaska
							Liu (2017)	

(Continues)

TABLE 1 (Continued)

Stable isotope values from organisms in the North Pacific Ocean: A reference for trophic ecology studies. Bowen and Kurle (2024)

Taxa	Tissue	Year(s)	$\delta^{13}\text{C}$ (‰)	SD/SE	$\delta^{15}\text{N}$ (‰)	SD/SE	N	Metadata	Source
Oncorhynchus keta	Meta (LE corr)	Meta	-21.27	0.96	11.1	0.43	113	Alaska and Washington	Johnson and Schindler (2009)
Oncorhynchus keta	Muscle (LE/corr carbon)	Meta	-20.9	0.3	11.2	0.4	55	Alaska	Carlisle et al. (2015)
Oncorhynchus keta	Muscle (LE/corr carbon)	Meta	-19.5	0.3	12.6	0.6	2	California	Carlisle et al. (2015)
Oncorhynchus kisutch	Muscle (LE corr)	1997	-20.02	0.37	13.81	0.49	12	Southeast Alaska; Adults	Satterfield and Finney (2002)
Oncorhynchus kisutch	Muscle	2000, 2003	-15.6	0.6	16.8	1.0	40	Washington; from Figure 1 in reference; ± 2 SD	Warlick et al. (2020)
Oncorhynchus kisutch	Unspecified tissue	2004–2013	-19.9	0.2	13.4	0.2	12	Okhotsk Sea; Adults	Gorbatenko et al. (2015)
Oncorhynchus kisutch	Meta (LE corr)	Meta	-20.18	0.48	12.67	0.92	107	Alaska and Washington	Johnson and Schindler (2009)
Oncorhynchus kisutch	Muscle and whole body (LE/corr carbon)	Meta	-19.6	0.2	13.6	0.2	68	Alaska	Carlisle et al. (2015)
Oncorhynchus nerka	Muscle	2004	-18.8	0.4	13.2	0.5	30	Washington; from Figure 1 in reference; ± 2 SD	Warlick et al. (2020)
Oncorhynchus nerka	Muscle (LE corr)	1990s	-21.35	0.49	11.24	0.56	47	Alaska; Adults	Satterfield and Finney (2002)
Oncorhynchus nerka	Unspecified tissue	2004–2013	-20.7	NA	11.8	NA	1	Okhotsk Sea; Adults	Gorbatenko et al. (2015)
Oncorhynchus nerka	Muscle (LE carbon, Non LE nitrogen)	2014, 2016	-20.0	1.5	14.0	1.5	17	Bering Sea, Alaska	Liu (2017)
Oncorhynchus nerka	Meta (LE corr)	Meta	-20.74	0.61	11.29	0.13	123	Alaska and Washington	Johnson and Schindler (2009)

TABLE 1 (Continued)

Taxa	Tissue	Year(s)	$\delta^{13}\text{C}$ (‰)	SD/SE	$\delta^{15}\text{N}$ (‰)	SD/SE	N	Metadata	Source
Oncorhynchus nerka	Muscle (LE/corr carbon)	Meta	-21.3	0.3	11.1	0.3	95	Alaska	Carlisle et al. (2015)
Oncorhynchus tshawytscha	Muscle (LE corr)	1997	-17.85	0.65	15.23	0.34	15	Southeast Alaska; Adults	Satterfield and Finney (2002)
Oncorhynchus tshawytscha	Dorsal muscle	2011	-23	0.8	11.7	0.3	5	Washington; Subyearling; SE reported	Litz et al. (2017)
Oncorhynchus tshawytscha	Dorsal muscle	2011	-19.8	0.8	13.0	0.3	5	Washington; Subyearling; SE reported	Litz et al. (2017)
Oncorhynchus tshawytscha	Anterior dorsal muscle (LE corr carbon)	2000, 2002	-18.8	1.6	13.7	0.7	7	California Current; Subyearling	Miller et al. (2013)
Oncorhynchus tshawytscha	Anterior dorsal muscle	2000, 2002	-17.5	2.2	14.3	0.9	76	California Current; Yearling	Miller et al. (2013)
Oncorhynchus tshawytscha	Muscle	2000, 2004, 2009	-15.3	0.6	17.9	0.5	111	Washington; from Figure 1 in reference; ± 2 SD	Warlick et al. (2020)
Oncorhynchus tshawytscha	Unspecified tissue	2004–2013	-20.0	NA	13.7	NA	1	Okhotsk Sea; Adult	Gorbatenko et al. (2015)
Oncorhynchus tshawytscha	Muscle (LE carbon, Non LE nitrogen)	2014, 2016	-19.9	0.2	13.9	1.0	4	Bering Sea, Alaska	Liu (2017)
Oncorhynchus tshawytscha	Meta (LE corr)	Meta	-19.06	1.34	14.21	0.84	51	Alaska and Washington	Johnson and Schindler (2009)
Oncorhynchus tshawytscha	Muscle and whole body (LE/corr carbon)	Meta	-18.5	0.2	14.8	0.2	43	Alaska	Carlisle et al. (2015)
Oncorhynchus tshawytscha	Muscle (LE/corr carbon)	Meta	-16.8	0.3	14.0	0.2	159	California	Carlisle et al. (2015)

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TABLE 1 (Continued)

Stable isotope values from organisms in the North Pacific Ocean: A reference for trophic ecology studies. Bowen and Kurle (2024)

Taxa	Tissue	Year(s)	$\delta^{13}\text{C}$ (‰)	SD/SE	$\delta^{15}\text{N}$ (‰)	SD/SE	N	Metadata	Source
Ophiodon elongatus	White muscle (Non LE)	2016–2017	–16.98	0.7	16.51	0.6	519	US west coast; adult and juvenile M and F	Brown (2021)
Ophiodon elongatus	Lateral muscle (LE)	NA	–18.3	0.5	12.5	0.3	6	Gulf of Farallones, California; Juveniles	Sydeman et al. (1997)
Pleuragrammus monopterygius	Muscle (LE corr)	2013, 2014	–17.2	0.8	13.0	1.5	59	Aleutian Islands, Alaska	Doll et al. (2018)
Pleuragrammus monopterygius	Muscle (LE/corr carbon)	Meta	–19.8	0.2	11.6	0.1	40	Alaska	Carlisle et al. (2015)
Sarda chilensis	White muscle (LE corr)	2007–2010	–17.68	0.32	16.16	0.18	12	California Current	Madigan et al. (2012)
Sardinops sagax	Anterior dorsal muscle	2000, 2002	–19.1	0.8	12.6	0.6	66	California Current	Miller et al. (2013)
Sardinops sagax	White muscle (LE corr)	2007–2010	–19.79	0.21	13.59	0.57	18	California Current	Madigan et al. (2012)
Sardinops sagax	Muscle (LE)	NA	–17.7	0.5	13.2	0.4	4	Monterey Bay, California	Toptroff (2002)
Scomber japonicus	Lateral muscle (LE)	NA	–17	0.3	12.9	0.1	3	Gulf of Farallones; Juveniles	Sydeman et al. (1997)
Sebastodes jordani	Muscle (LE/corr carbon)	Meta	–18.1	0.4	14.3	0.3	23	California	Carlisle et al. (2015)
Sebastodes spp.	Muscle (LE/corr carbon)	Meta	–17.9	0.3	14.4	0.6	162	Alaska	Carlisle et al. (2015)
Seriola laevis	White muscle (LE corr)	2007–2010	–17.26	0.57	15.9	0.62	34	California Current	Madigan et al. (2012)

TABLE 1 (Continued)

Stable isotope values from organisms in the North Pacific Ocean: A reference for trophic ecology studies. Bowen and Kurle (2024)							
Taxa	Tissue	Year(s)	$\delta^{13}\text{C}$ (‰)	SD/SE	$\delta^{15}\text{N}$ (‰)	SD/SE	Metadata
<i>Thunnus alalunga</i>	Muscle (LE/corr carbon)	2001–2015	–17.19	1.09	12.92	1.9	Global dataset; Manually calculated means for this study from Pacific Ocean
	Anterior dorsal muscle (LE corr carbon)	2007, 2009	–19.9	0.5	13.5	1.0	California Current
<i>Thunnus albacares</i>	Muscle (LE/corr carbon)	2001–2015	–15.67	1.1	12.15	2.98	Global dataset; Manually calculated means for this study from Pacific Ocean
	Muscle (LE/corr carbon)	2001–2015	–16.04	1.14	14.01	2.91	Global dataset; Manually calculated means for this study from Pacific Ocean
<i>Thunnus obesus</i>	Muscle (LE/corr carbon)	2001–2015	–17.74	0.42	15.4	0.84	Sea of Japan; Migrant; >100 cm fork length; Means manually calculated for present study
	White muscle (LE)	2005–2015	–18.41	0.33	12.6	0.63	Sea of Japan; Resident; >100 cm fork length; Means manually calculated for present study
<i>Xiphias gladius</i>	White muscle (LE corr)	2007–2010	–17.36	1.17	15.74	0.8	California Current
	White muscle (LE corr)	2009–2011	–17.0	0.7	13.4	1.9	North Pacific Subtropical Gyre; 1329 ± 372 mm mean length

(Continues)

TABLE 1 (Continued)

Stable isotope values from organisms in the North Pacific: A reference for trophic ecology studies. Bowen and Kurle (2024)

Taxa	Tissue	Year(s)	$\delta^{13}\text{C}$ (‰)	SD/SE	$\delta^{15}\text{N}$ (‰)	SD/SE	N	Metadata	Source
Chondrichthyes (cartilaginous fishes)									
<i>Alopias superciliosus</i>	Muscle	2011	-17.11	0.44	17.02	1.21	7	Mideast Pacific Ocean	Li et al. (2014)
<i>Carcharhinus falciformis</i>	Muscle	2011	-17.08	0.35	15.45	0.99	19	Mideast Pacific Ocean	Li et al. (2014)
<i>Carcharhinus longimanus</i>	Muscle	2011	-18.79	0.17	14.93	0.84	5	Mideast Pacific Ocean	Li et al. (2014)
<i>Carcharodon carcharias</i>	Dermis (LE)	2006-2009	-12.8	0.5	19.2	0.9	48	California; 32 M, 6 F, 10 U; Muscle/dermis pair A	Carlisle et al. (2012)
<i>Carcharodon carcharias</i> ^a	Muscle (LE)	2006-2009	-15.5	0.5	18.4	1.0	21	California; 14 M, 2 F, 5 U; Muscle/dermis pair B	Carlisle et al. (2012)
<i>Carcharodon carcharias</i> ^e	Dermis (LE)	2007, 2010	-14.4	0.5	19.1	0.7	28	Guadalupe Island, Mexico; 10 M and 6F, 13 adults, 1 subadult, 3-4 ft. in length	Jaime-Rivera et al. (2014)
<i>Carcharodon carcharias</i> ^b	Bone (Decalcified)	1957-2000	-12.9	0.985	18.35	1.21	15	California; Carbon Suess effect corrected; Means manually calculated for present study	Kim et al. (2012)
<i>Iuris oxyrinchus</i>	White muscle (LE cort)	2007-2010	-18.21	0.24	16.36	0.8	10	California Current	Madigan et al. (2012)
<i>Lamna ditropis</i> ^b	Bone (Decalcified)	2007, 2009	-16.0	0.7	13.6	1.3	20	Prince William Sound, Alaska; Summer; Mostly F; Manually calculated from multiple annual	Carlisle et al. (2015)

TABLE 1 (Continued)

Stable isotope values from organisms in the North Pacific Ocean: A reference for trophic ecology studies. Bowen and Kurle (2024)							
Taxa	Tissue	Year(s)	$\delta^{13}\text{C}$ (‰)	SD/SE	$\delta^{15}\text{N}$ (‰)	SD/SE	Metadata
<i>Prionace glauca</i>	Muscle	2011	-18.31	0.54	15.77	1.07	18 Mideast Pacific Ocean
<i>Prionace glauca</i>	White muscle (LE corr)	2007–2010	-19.01	0.57	15.19	0.64	9 California Current
<i>Prionace glauca</i>	Lateral white muscle (LE)	2010–2015	-18.5	0.6	12.1	0.8	120 Northwest Pacific Ocean
<i>Prionace glauca</i>	Muscle	NA	-17.6	0.6	16.8	0.8	20 Pelagic Pacific Ocean; Unpublished data within reference
<i>Somniosus pacificus</i>	Muscle (LE corr)	2006	-19.5	0.3	14.8	0.2	4 Northern Southeast Alaska; Summer; SE reported
<i>Somniosus pacificus</i>	Muscle (LE corr)	2007	-21.1	0.0	13.7	0.1	54 Northwestern eastern Bering Sea; Summer; SE reported
<i>Somniosus pacificus</i>	Muscle (LE corr)	2007	-21.1	0.0	13.7	0.2	41 Southeastern eastern Bering Sea; Summer; SE reported
<i>Somniosus pacificus</i>	Muscle (LE corr)	2007	-21.1	0.1	12.7	0.1	50 Southeastern eastern Bering Sea; Winter; SE reported
<i>Somniosus pacificus</i>	Muscle (LE corr)	2007	-20.0	0.2	15.3	0.5	11 Gulf of Alaska; Summer; SE reported
<i>Sphyraena lewini</i>	Muscle	2011	-16.7	0.17	15.05	1.05	8 Mideast Pacific Ocean
<i>Squalus acanthias</i>	Muscle (LE)	2004, 2005	-15.03	0.38	14.76	0.53	20 Monterey Bay, California; M
<i>Squalus acanthias</i>	Muscle (LE)	2004, 2005	-15.24	0.47	14.50	0.47	23 Monterey Bay, California; F

(Continues)

TABLE 1 (Continued)

Stable isotope values from organisms in the North Pacific Ocean: A reference for trophic ecology studies. Bowen and Kurle (2024)

Taxa	Tissue	Year(s)	$\delta^{13}\text{C}$ (‰)	SD/SE	$\delta^{15}\text{N}$ (‰)	SD/SE	N	Metadata	Source
Cephalopoda (squids and octopus)									
<i>Abraliopsis felis</i>	Mantle muscle (LE corr carbon)	2007, 2009	−18.9	0.5	14.5	0.7	4	California Current	Miller et al. (2013)
<i>Abraliopsis</i> spp.	White muscle (LE corr)	2007–2010	−18.95	0.49	15.18	0.36	4	California Current	Madigan et al. (2012)
<i>Berryteuthis magister</i>	Whole animal (LE)	1997	−18.3	0.2	11.4	0.2	9	Bering Sea, Alaska; Medium size class (mean length 10.0 cm); SE reported	Kurle and Worthy (2001)
<i>Berryteuthis magister</i>	Whole animal (LE)	1997	−18.1	0.2	11.4	0.2	3	Bering Sea, Alaska; Small size class (mean length 5.4 cm); SE reported	Kurle and Worthy (2001)
<i>Berryteuthis magister</i>	Mantle muscle (Non LE)	2004, 2007	−20.05	0.48	12.32	0.93	100	Eastern Bering Sea, Alaska	Hunsicker et al. (2010)
<i>Berryteuthis magister</i>	Muscle (LE corr)	2013, 2014	−17.6	0.8	14.5	0.9	40	Aleutian Islands, Alaska	Doll et al. (2018)
<i>Berryteuthis magister</i>	Mantle muscle (LE carbon, Non LE nitrogen)	2016–2017	−18.8	0.8	12.1	1.1	45	Gulf of Alaska	Wild et al. (2020)
<i>Berryteuthis magister</i>	Muscle and whole body (LE/corr carbon)	Meta	−19.2	0.2	13.1	0.4	230	Alaska	Carlisle et al. (2015)
<i>Dosidicus gigas</i>	White muscle (LE corr)	2007–2010	−18.42	0.23	15.4	0.52	17	California Current	Madigan et al. (2012)
<i>Dosidicus gigas</i>	Mantle tissue	2007, 2009	−19.1	0.2	13.9	0.5	76	California Current	Miller et al. (2013)
<i>Dosidicus gigas</i>	Muscle (LE/corr carbon)	Meta	−17.2	0.2	15.0	0.3	41	California	Carlisle et al. (2015)

TABLE 1 (Continued)

Stable isotope values from organisms in the North Pacific Ocean: A reference for trophic ecology studies. Bowen and Kurle (2024)

Taxa	Tissue	Year(s)	$\delta^{13}\text{C}$ (‰)	SD/SE	$\delta^{15}\text{N}$ (‰)	SD/SE	N	Metadata	Source
<i>Dosidicus gigas</i> ^c	Muscle (LE)	1996, 1997	-14.9	0.6	16.9	0.7	10	Gulf of California; Large size class (mean length 60.2 \pm 15.2 cm)	Ruiz-Cooley et al. (2006)
<i>Enteroctopus dofleini</i>	Animal tissue	2019	-18.0	0.5	9.7	1.0	9	Korean peninsula, Mukho coast	Kang et al. (2021)
<i>Enteroctopus dofleini</i>	Animal tissue	2019	-16.4	0.3	9.9	0.5	4	Korean peninsula, Pohang coast	Kang et al. (2021)
<i>Enteroctopus dofleini</i>	Muscle (LE corr)	2013, 2014	-16.4	0.5	14.7	0.9	19	Aleutian Islands, Alaska	Doll et al. (2018)
<i>Euclieuthis luminosa</i>	Mantle muscle (LE)	1990–1998	-17.77	0.25	11.23	1.1	3	Mid-North Pacific Ocean; M: Means manually calculated for present study	Takai et al. (2000)
<i>Gonatopsis borealis</i>	Whole animal (LE)	1997	-18.4	0.5	11.1	0.2	3	Bering Sea, Alaska; Small size class (mean length 7.7 cm); SE reported	Kurle and Worthy (2001)
<i>Gonatopsis borealis</i>	Mantle muscle (LE)	2000	-20.2	0.4	10.3	0.3	2	Bering Sea, Alaska; Small size class (mean length 9.5 cm); SE reported	Kurle et al. (2011)
<i>Gonatopsis borealis</i>	Mantle muscle (LE)	2000	-20.4	0.2	9.7	0.4	9	Bering Sea, Alaska; Medium size class (mean length 12.0 cm); SE reported	Kurle et al. (2011)

(Continues)

TABLE 1 (Continued)

Stable isotope values from organisms in the North Pacific Ocean: A reference for trophic ecology studies. Bowen and Kurle (2024)							
Taxa	Tissue	Year(s)	$\delta^{13}\text{C}$ (‰)	SD/SE	$\delta^{15}\text{N}$ (‰)	SD/SE	Metadata
<i>Gonatopsis borealis</i>	Mantle muscle (LE)	1990–1998	−17.76	0.22	13.14	0.21	5
	Unspecified tissue	2004–2013	−20.3	0.5	12.2	0.3	4
<i>Gonatopsis</i> spp.	White muscle (LE corr)	2007–2010	−19.46	0.29	13.61	1.25	7
<i>Gonatus berryi</i>	Lateral white muscle (LE)	2014–2015	−17.8	0.05	11.4	0.15	2
<i>Gonatus madakai</i>	Unspecified tissue	2004–2013	−20.7	NA	13.0	NA	1
<i>Gonatus onyx</i>	Animal tissue (LE corr)	2001	−19.3	0.3	12.7	0.3	6
<i>Loligo opalescens</i>	White muscle (LE corr)	2007–2010	−17.99	0.65	15.29	0.5	21
<i>Loligo opalescens</i>	Mantle muscle (LE)	NA	−17.2	0.5	13.3	0.7	10
<i>Ommastrephes bartramii</i>	Remains in bird digestive tract (LE)	1990–1991	−18.4	0.2	11.7	0.4	44
<i>Onychoteuthis borealijaponica</i>	Mantle muscle	2007, 2009	−20.1	0.4	13.2	0.6	14
<i>Onychoteuthis</i> spp.	White muscle (LE corr)	2007–2010	−18.52	0.15	14.41	0.34	6
<i>Onykia robusta</i>	Mantle muscle (LE carbon, Non LE nitrogen)	2014–2017	−18.8	0.6	16.7	0.8	10

TABLE 1 (Continued)

Stable isotope values from organisms in the North Pacific Ocean: A reference for trophic ecology studies. Bowen and Kurle (2024)

Taxa	Tissue	Year(s)	$\delta^{13}\text{C}$ (‰)	SD/SE	$\delta^{15}\text{N}$ (‰)	SD/SE	N	Metadata	Source
<i>Stenoteuthis ovalaniensis</i>	Mantle muscle (LE)	1990–1998	−16.2	0.31	10	1.51	5	Coast of Japan; 3 M, 2 F; Means manually calculated for present study	Takai et al. (2000)
<i>Stenoteuthis ovalaniensis</i>	Muscle (Non LE)	1993–2001	−18.7	0.5	8.1	1.1	14, 156	Hawaii; Non- paralarval	Parry (2008)
<i>Stenoteuthis ovalaniensis</i>	Muscle	NA	−17.8	0.3	12.8	1.0	11	Hawaii; Unpublished data within reference	Carlisle et al. (2012)

Note: In the “Tissue” column, “LE” indicates the samples were lipid-extracted to remove fats that are depleted in their $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ values and create a source of bias. A note of “LE corr” indicates that the values reported by the original study were mathematically (and not experimentally) corrected for the presence of lipids. “LE/corr” means that the samples were a mixture of experimentally and mathematically corrected values. The “Year(s)” column reports the general time frame in which the samples in the study were collected, although some samples do not have a known collection date or it was not reported (“NA”). “Meta” in the “Tissue” or “Year(s)” columns indicates that the measurements reported were part of a meta-analysis consolidating multiple studies. In the sample number column (“N”), two values separated by a comma indicate that the $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ and $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ measurements, respectively, had different sample sizes. In the “Metadata” column, we note location of sample collection, sex, size, life stage, or other relevant information provided in the study (M: Males, F: Females, U: Unknown sex, SE: Standard error).

^aIndicates which sample was used in compilation analysis between replicates.

^bBone collagen was converted to resemble muscle (−2‰) in compilation analysis.

^cGulf of California specimens, excluded from compilation analysis.

^dExcluded from compilation analysis due to outlier $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ value.

^eOriginal source provided muscle correction, which was used for compilation analysis.

TABLE 2 Summary of single $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ and $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ values ($\pm \text{SD}$) for each species, excluding samples from the Gulf of California due to elevated $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ values for animals collected in that region.

Taxa	$\delta^{13}\text{C}$ (‰)	SD	$\delta^{15}\text{N}$ (‰)	SD	N
Cetacea (dolphins, porpoises, whales)					
<i>Balaena mysticetus</i>	-20.1	1.5	13.6	0.9	268
<i>Balaenoptera acutorostrata</i>	-18.5	0.8	11.7	1.4	25
<i>Balaenoptera borealis</i>	-19.6	1.6	8.3	1.3	10
<i>Balaenoptera brydei</i>	-16.9	0.6	10.0	1.2	11
<i>Balaenoptera musculus</i>	-16.9	0.0	13.3	0.1	222
<i>Balaenoptera physalus</i>	-18.4	0.8	12.5	1.0	15
<i>Berardius bairdii</i>	-17.8	0.6	16.3	0.8	19
<i>Delphinapterus leucas</i>	-18.4	0.6	16.7	0.6	49
<i>Delphinus capensis</i>	-16.7	0.5	18.4	0.4	39
<i>Delphinus delphis</i>	-17.8	0.3	11.4	0.6	33
<i>Eschrichtius robustus</i>	-16.2	1.1	13.1	1.3	113
<i>Globicephala macrorhynchus</i>	-16.9	0.5	12.2	0.7	18
<i>Grampus griseus</i>	-16.7	0.3	13.1	0.5	8
<i>Megaptera novaeangliae</i>	-17.8	0.8	12.7	1.2	1489, 1488
<i>Orcinus orca</i>	-15.9	1.4	17.2	1.4	123
<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>	-16.2	0.5	15.2	0.8	29
<i>Phocoenoides dalli</i>	-19.7	0.8	11.7	1.1	33
<i>Physeter macrocephalus</i>	-16.3	1.1	17.2	0.7	57
<i>Pseudorca crassidens</i>	-16.2	0.6	12.8	0.6	5
<i>Stenella attenuata</i>	-17.1	0.6	13.6	0.4	36
<i>Stenella coeruleoalba</i>	-17.3	0.6	12.3	0.6	140
<i>Steno bredanensis</i>	-16.9	0.5	12.3	0.6	6
<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>	-16.7	0.8	13.1	0.6	50
Pinnipedia (seals, sea lions, walrus)					
<i>Callorhinus ursinus</i>	-17.6	1.3	16.5	1.5	609, 607
<i>Eumetopias jubatus</i>	-16.2	1.7	17.6	1.2	129
<i>Mirounga angustirostris</i>	-16.0	1.0	18.2	1.1	24
<i>Odobenus rosmarus</i>	-16.9	0.6	12.8	0.8	184
<i>Phoca vitulina</i>	-15.8	1.4	17.7	1.5	106
<i>Zalophus californianus</i>	-15.4	0.5	17.6	1.1	78
Mustelidae (sea otters)					
<i>Enhydra lutris</i>	-13.4	1.5	13.4	1.8	247
Osteichthyes (bony fishes)					
<i>Ammodytes hexapterus</i>	-17.5	1.2	11.6	0.6	34
<i>Ammodytidae</i>	-20.3	1.5	11.5	1.2	27
<i>Anoplopoma fimbria</i>	-18.9	1.1	13.7	0.4	24
<i>Atheresthes stomas</i>	-16.8	1.1	15.1	0.8	59
<i>Clupea pallasii</i>	-19.2	0.2	13.0	0.2	393
<i>Engraulis mordax</i>	-17.3	0.9	13.8	0.6	96

TABLE 2 (Continued)

Taxa	$\delta^{13}\text{C}$ (‰)	SD	$\delta^{15}\text{N}$ (‰)	SD	N
<i>Gadus macrocephalus</i>	-17.0	0.9	15.6	1.2	83
<i>Genyonemus lineatus</i>	-15.3	0.2	15.1	0.3	10
<i>Hippoglossus stenolepis</i>	-17.4	1.2	15.3	1.4	1224
<i>Hypomesus pretiosus</i>	-18.6	0.6	13.4	0.1	2
<i>Lampris guttatus</i>	-18.3	0.9	12.1	1.7	30
<i>Mallotus villosus</i>	-19.2	0.8	15.4	0.6	6
<i>Merluccius productus</i>	-17.6	0.4	13.5	0.6	67
<i>Mola mola</i>	-20.5	0.9	7.0	1.8	17
<i>Oncorhynchus gorbuscha</i>	-21.3	0.6	11.3	0.5	244
<i>Oncorhynchus keta</i>	-20.7	0.9	11.7	0.9	195
<i>Oncorhynchus kisutch</i>	-19.1	1.8	14.1	1.6	239
<i>Oncorhynchus nerka</i>	-20.5	1.1	12.1	1.3	313
<i>Oncorhynchus tshawytscha</i>	-18.8	2.2	14.2	1.6	477
<i>Ophiodon elongatus</i>	-17.6	0.9	14.5	2.1	525
<i>Pleurogrammus monopterygius</i>	-18.5	1.4	12.3	1.3	99
<i>Sarda chiliensis</i>	-17.7	0.3	16.2	0.2	12
<i>Sardinops sagax</i>	-18.4	1.3	13.1	0.6	91
<i>Scomber japonicus</i>	-18.1	0.4	14.3	0.3	23
<i>Sebastes</i> spp.	-17.5	0.5	13.0	1.5	172
<i>Seriola lalandi</i>	-17.2	0.6	15.9	0.6	34
<i>Thunnus alalunga</i>	-18.5	1.6	13.2	1.6	914
<i>Thunnus albacares</i>	-15.7	1.1	12.2	3.0	978
<i>Thunnus obesus</i>	-16.0	1.2	14.0	2.9	642
<i>Thunnus orientalis</i>	-18.1	0.5	13.4	1.6	155
<i>Xiphias gladius</i>	-17.2	1.0	14.6	1.8	34
Chondrichthyes (cartilaginous fishes)					
<i>Alopias superciliosus</i>	-17.1	0.4	17.0	1.2	7
<i>Carcharhinus falciformis</i>	-17.1	0.4	15.5	1.0	19
<i>Carcharhinus longimanus</i>	-18.8	0.2	14.9	0.8	5
<i>Carcharodon carcharias</i>	-15.7	1.0	19.3	1.6	64
<i>Isurus oxyrinchus</i>	-18.2	0.2	16.4	0.8	10
<i>Lamna ditropis</i>	-18.0	0.7	13.6	1.3	20
<i>Prionace glauca</i>	-18.4	0.8	15.0	1.9	167
<i>Somniosus pacificus</i>	-20.6	0.7	14.0	1.0	160
<i>Sphyraena lewini</i>	-16.1	0.2	15.1	1.1	8
<i>Squalus acanthias</i>	-15.1	0.4	14.6	0.5	43
Cephalopoda (squids and octopus)					
<i>Abra liopsis felis</i>	-18.9	0.5	14.5	0.7	4
<i>Abra liopsis</i> spp.	-19.0	0.5	15.2	0.7	4
<i>Berryteuthis magister</i>	-18.7	1.0	12.5	1.3	427
<i>Dosidicus gigas</i>	-18.2	0.8	14.8	0.8	134

(Continues)

TABLE 2 (Continued)

Taxa	$\delta^{13}\text{C}$ (‰)	SD	$\delta^{15}\text{N}$ (‰)	SD	N
<i>Enteroctopus dofleini</i>	-16.9	0.9	11.4	2.4	32
<i>Eucleoteuthis luminosa</i>	-17.8	0.3	11.2	1.1	3
<i>Gonatopsis borealis</i>	-19.4	1.3	11.2	1.4	23
<i>Gonatopsis</i> spp.	-19.4	0.3	13.6	1.2	7
<i>Gonatus berryi</i>	-17.8	0.1	11.4	0.2	2
<i>Gonatus madokai</i>	-20.7	0.0	13.0	0.0	1
<i>Gonatus onyx</i>	-19.3	0.3	12.7	0.3	6
<i>Loligo opalescens</i>	-17.6	0.7	14.3	1.2	31
<i>Ommastrephes bartramii</i>	-18.4	0.7	11.8	1.3	44
<i>Onychoteuthis borealijaponica</i>	-20.1	0.4	13.2	0.6	14
<i>Onychoteuthis</i> spp.	-18.5	0.2	14.4	0.4	6
<i>Onykia robusta</i>	-18.8	0.6	16.7	0.8	10
<i>Stenoteuthis ovalaniensis</i>	-17.6	1.1	10.3	2.3	30, 172

Note: In the event of paired samples (Table 1) from a study, the values for muscle tissue were used. Additionally, for studies that utilized bone collagen, we converted the values to resemble those from muscle. In the sample number column ("N"), if two values are present, the first indicates the $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ sample size and the second indicates the $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ sample size. See main text and Carlisle et al. (2015) for methodology.

TABLE 3 Summary of single $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ and $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ values (\pm SD) for broad taxonomic groups in the North Pacific Ocean.

Taxa	$\delta^{13}\text{C}$ (‰)	SD	$\delta^{15}\text{N}$ (‰)	SD
Cetacea	-17.5	1.4	13.1	2.4
Pinnipedia	-16.3	1.4	16.7	2.2
Mustelidae	-13.5	1.5	13.5	1.8
Osteichthyes	-18.1	1.7	12.6	5.5
Chondrichthyes	-17.5	1.6	15.6	2.0
Cephalopoda	-18.7	1.2	13.1	2.1

Note: Values represent primarily soft tissues, except for Mustelidae (sea otters) which are represented by whiskers and bone collagen. See main text and Carlisle et al. (2015) for methodology.

Our reference database is informative for future researchers aiming to study trophic relationships within the North Pacific, variation in isotope values within species that may be due to differential life history traits, variation in isotope values across time, and the potential for differences in the trophic discrimination factors among multiple tissues from a species. It is worth emphasizing that we report the original data here to maximize adaptability, but studies that reference this database may consider accounting for or further examining tissue corrections, the Suess effect (Baxter & Walton, 1970), geographic variation (i.e., changes in the $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ values with latitude or the elevated $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ values of the Gulf of California; Ruiz-Cooley et al., 2012), or other appropriate measures for the context of their work.

AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS

Kelly R. Bowen: Conceptualization; data curation; formal analysis; investigation; methodology; writing – original draft; writing – review and editing. **Carolyn M. Kurle:** Conceptualization; resources; supervision; writing – review and editing.

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