

Supplementary Information for:

Divergence of Arctic shrub growth associated with sea ice decline

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Tables S1 to S14
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Other supplementary materials for this manuscript include the following:

All individual shrub ring data are available from the Dryad Digital Repository:
<https://doi.org/10.5061/dryad.kh1893248>
(Buchwal et al. 2020), Deposited date: November 24, 2020.

Buchwal, Agata et al. (2020), Data from: Divergence of Arctic shrub growth associated with sea ice decline, Dryad, Dataset, <https://doi.org/10.5061/dryad.kh1893248>

Datasets S1 (Example R code used for the analyses)

Supplementary Figures

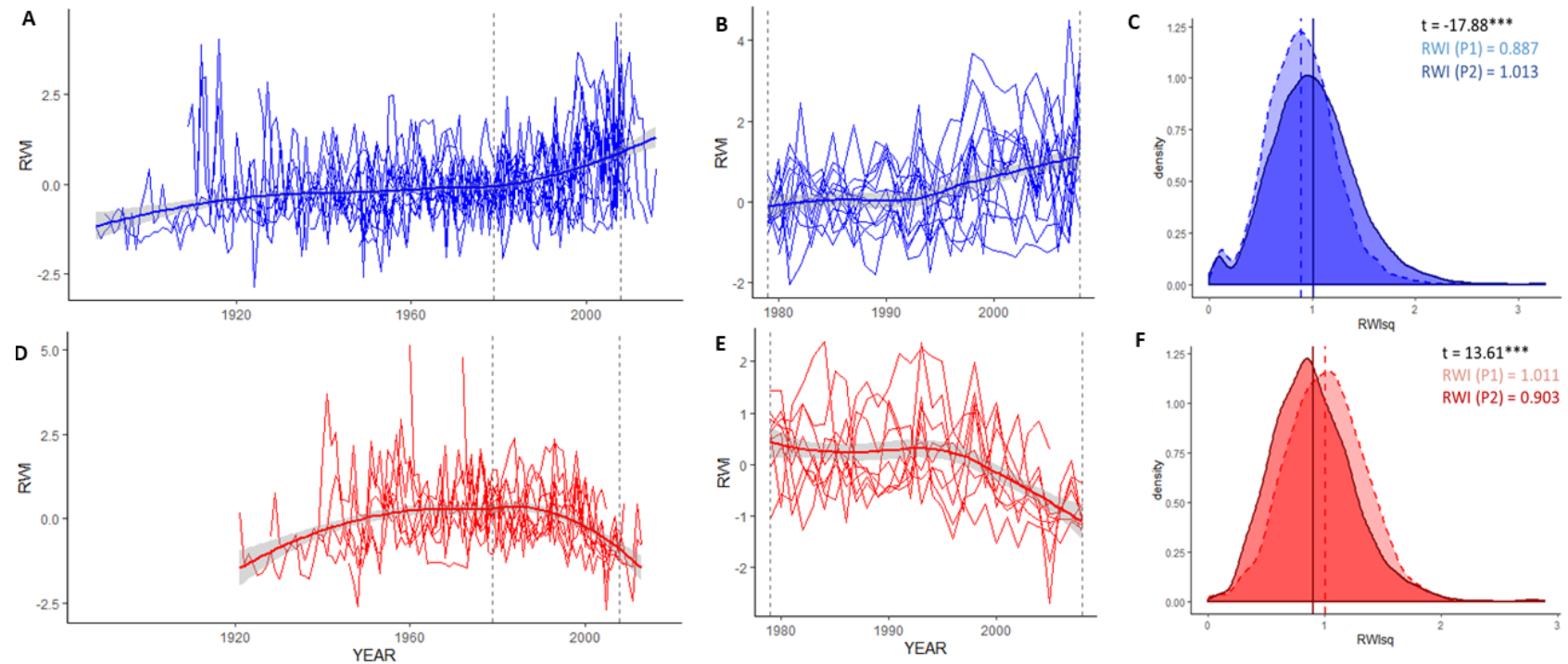


Fig. S1. Overview of *increasers* (A, B) and *decreasers* (D, E) standardized (dRCS) shrub chronologies analyzed in the synthesis together with changes in mean RWI for all *increasers* (C) and *decreasers* (F) shrubs. Overview of entire chronologies timespan (A, C), together with study period 1979-2008 (B, E) indicated by vertical dashed lines; *increasers* (blue lines) = 13 chronologies (363 shrubs); *decreasers* (red lines) = 9 chronologies (251 shrubs). Smoothed conditional means with 95% confidence intervals are marked for each responder group. Mean correlation between chronologies (1979-2008) equaled 0.108 and 0.4 for *increasers* and *decreasers*, respectively. Changes in mean RWI (C, F) between early (P1=1980-1993; dashed lines and lighter colors) and recent (P2=1994-2008; solid lines and darker colors) period for all shrubs analyzed for (C) *increasers* (n=11,239 annual growth records, with 43% and 57% shrubs assigned to early and recent period respectively) and (F) *decreasers* (n=7,822 annual growth records, with 42% and 58% shrubs assigned to early and recent period respectively). RWIsq - ring-width index after transformation (square-root). Results of Welch two sample t-test, together with mean RWI for each period, are presented for each responder group in the top right. *** $P < 0.001$

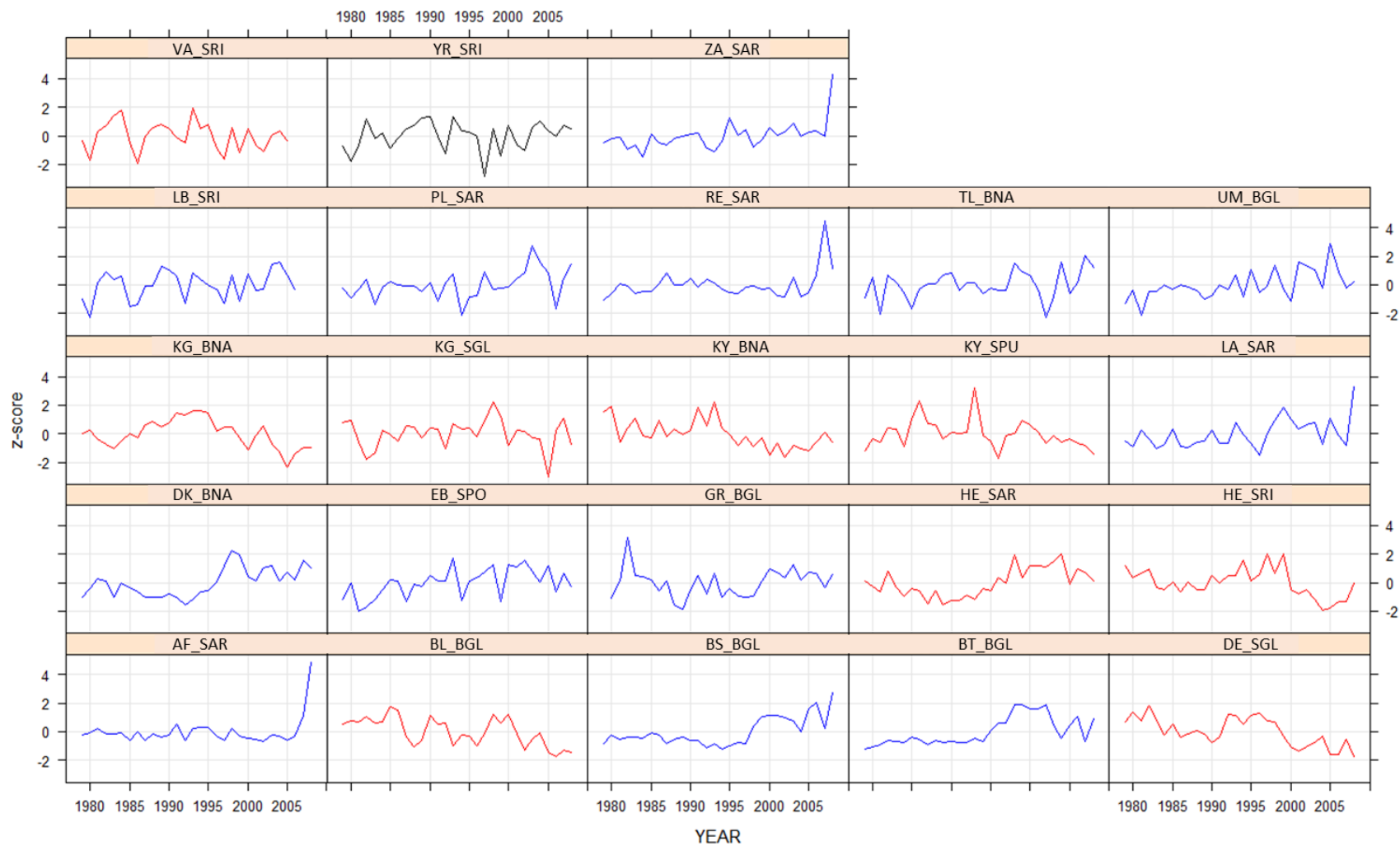


Fig. S2. Overview of 23 raw shrub ring chronologies (scaled for comparison) used in SIE-shrub growth relationship analyses for common period (1979-2008). Blue curves - *increasers*; red curves - *decreasers*; black curve - *neutral* chronology. For full site names and descriptive statistics for each chronology see Table S1

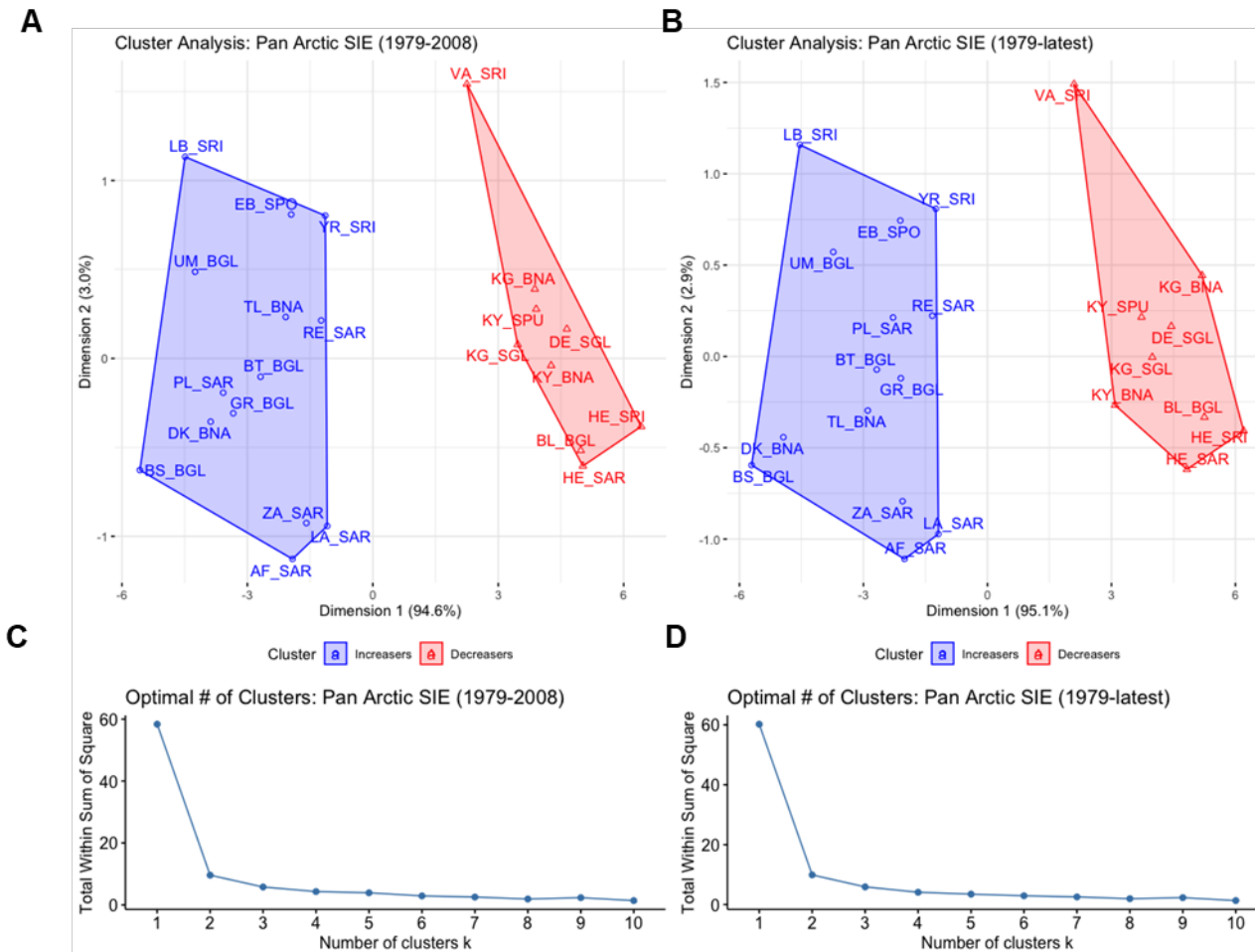


Fig. S3. Principal components analysis of the results of a *k*-means cluster analysis designed to group shrub radial growth responses to variation in monthly Pan-Arctic sea ice extent (SIE, 23 shrub-ring chronologies, dRCS detrending). Correlations coefficients for each chronology were obtained using monthly Pan-Arctic SIE (from previous June to current August) for (a, c) common period (1979-2008; Table S5) and (b, d) entire chronology timespan (Table S6). Blue color - *increasers*; red color - *decreaseers*. Analysis of the optimal number of groups (c, d) showed strong support for just two major groups of responders. Thus, the YR chronology, which was identified as a *neutral* responder, because it was not significantly correlated with SIE during any months, was identified as a marginal increaser in this analysis. The YR chronology was excluded from subsequent analyses. For full chronology names see Table S1.

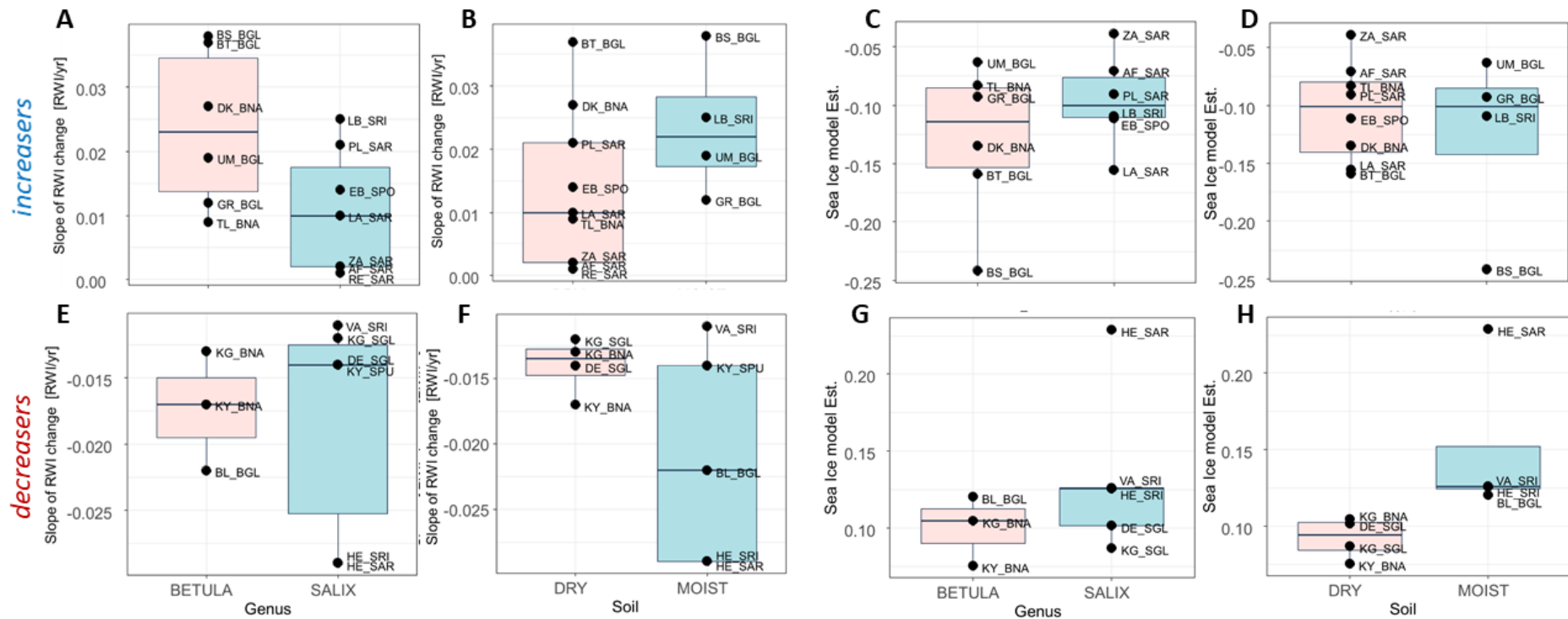


Fig. S4. Variation in mean standardized radial growth (RWI - ring width index, 1979-2008) changes together with variation in coefficient estimates for the best sea ice model (1980-2008) obtained for *increasers* (A-D) and *decreasers* (E-H) chronologies. Results are shown with distinction between Betula and Salix chronologies (A, C, E, G), and dry and moist soil types (B, D, F, H). Model estimates for the best sea ice model were obtained from linear mixed effect models using all shrubs (instead of chronologies, Table S13) with a random intercept for a year. See Table S1 for full chronology names.

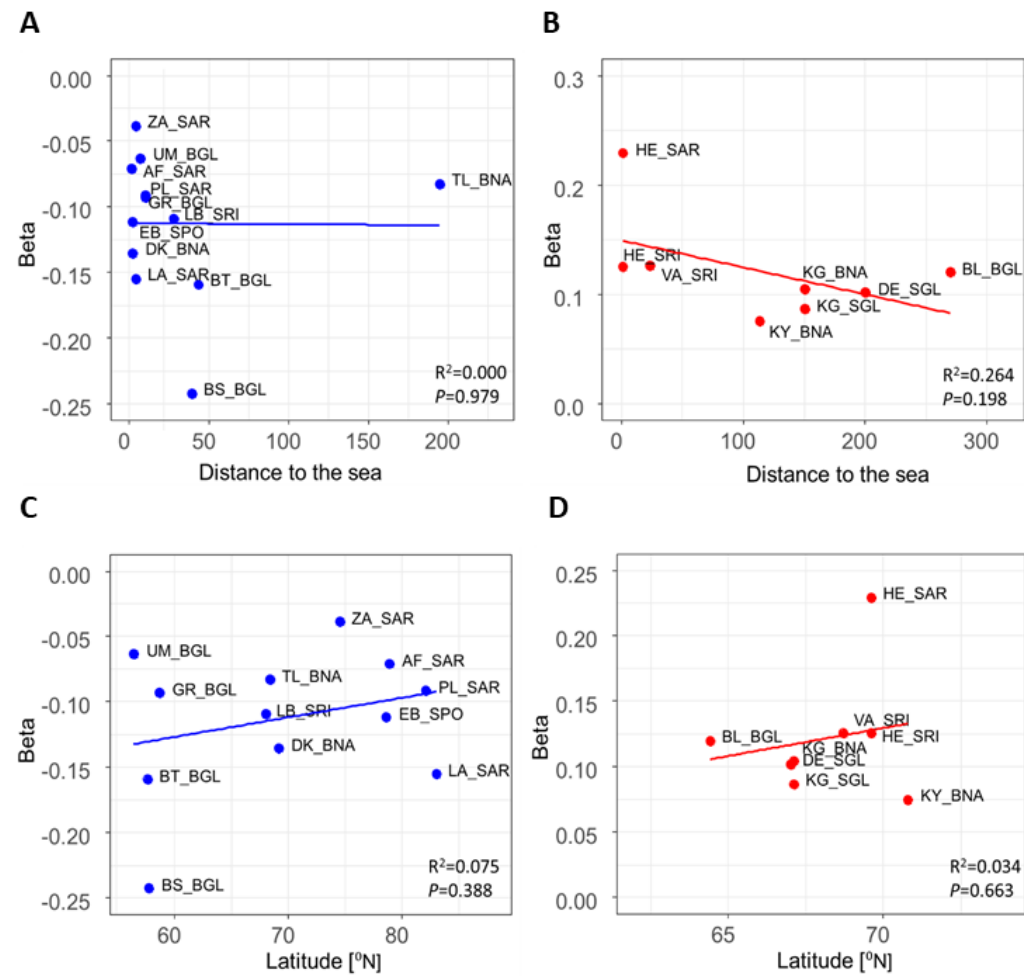


Fig. S5. Variation in coefficient estimates for the best sea ice model (Beta) obtained for each *increaser* (A, C) and *deceiver* (B, D) chronology (1979-2008) in relation to distance from the open sea (A, B) and latitude (C, D). Model estimates were obtained from linear mixed effect models using all shrubs (instead of chronologies, Table S13) with a random intercept for a year. See Table S1 for full chronology names.

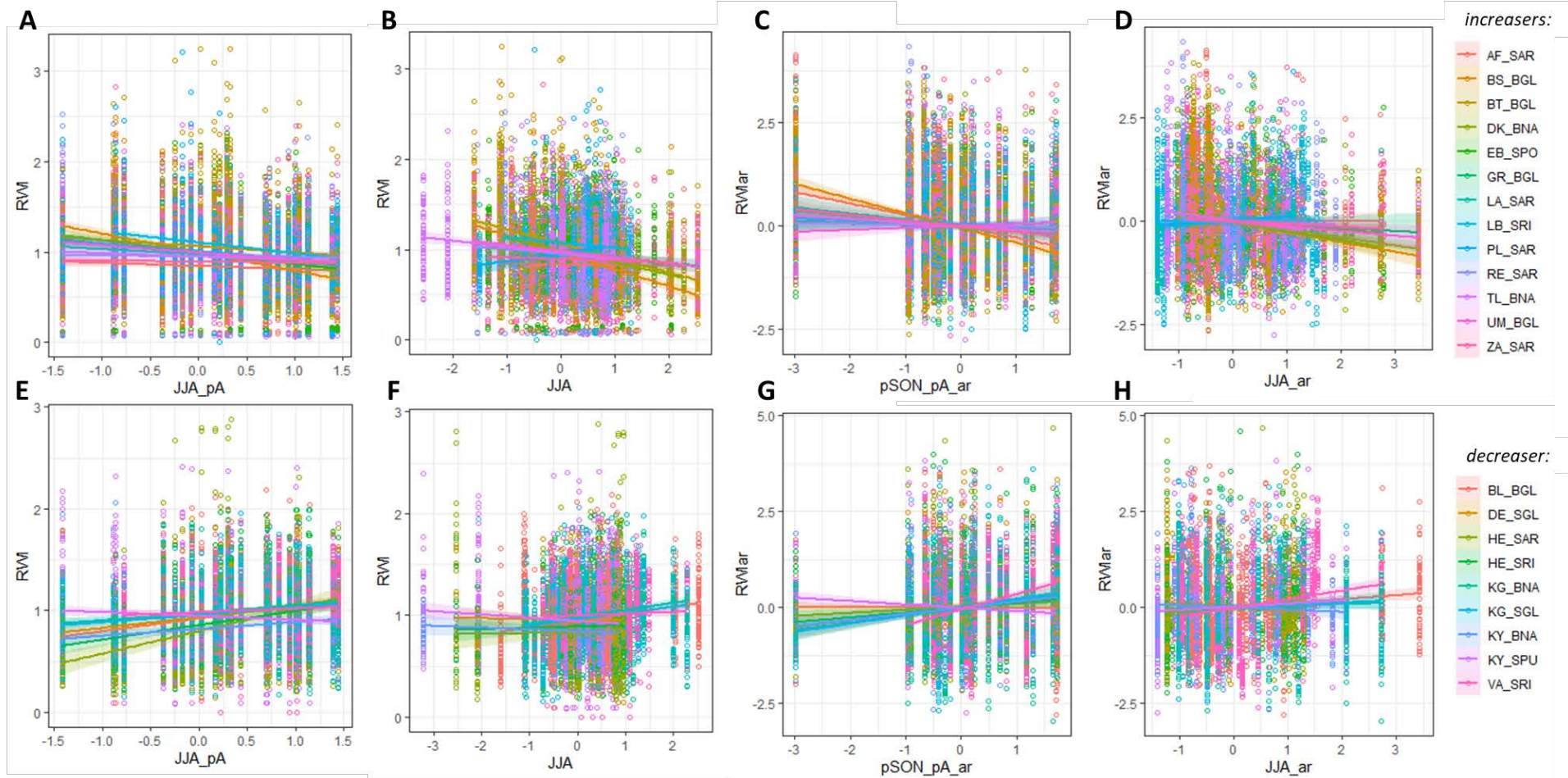


Fig. S6. Relationships between *increasers* (A-D) and *decreasers* (E-H) all shrubs annual radial growth (1980-2008, grouped by chronology) and selected sea ice variables: (A, E) mean Pan-Arctic sea ice extent (SIE) for June to August (JJA) period; (B, F) mean regional JJA SIE; (C, G) mean previous autumn SIE detrended; (D, H) mean regional JJA SIE detrended. RWI - ring width indices after square root transformation and diameter RCS detrending; RWIar - ring width indices after AR detrending. All predictors were standardized (z-score). For full model statistics (at the responder group level) please refer to Table S12 (raw sea ice data) and Table S14 (AR detrended shrub and sea ice data).

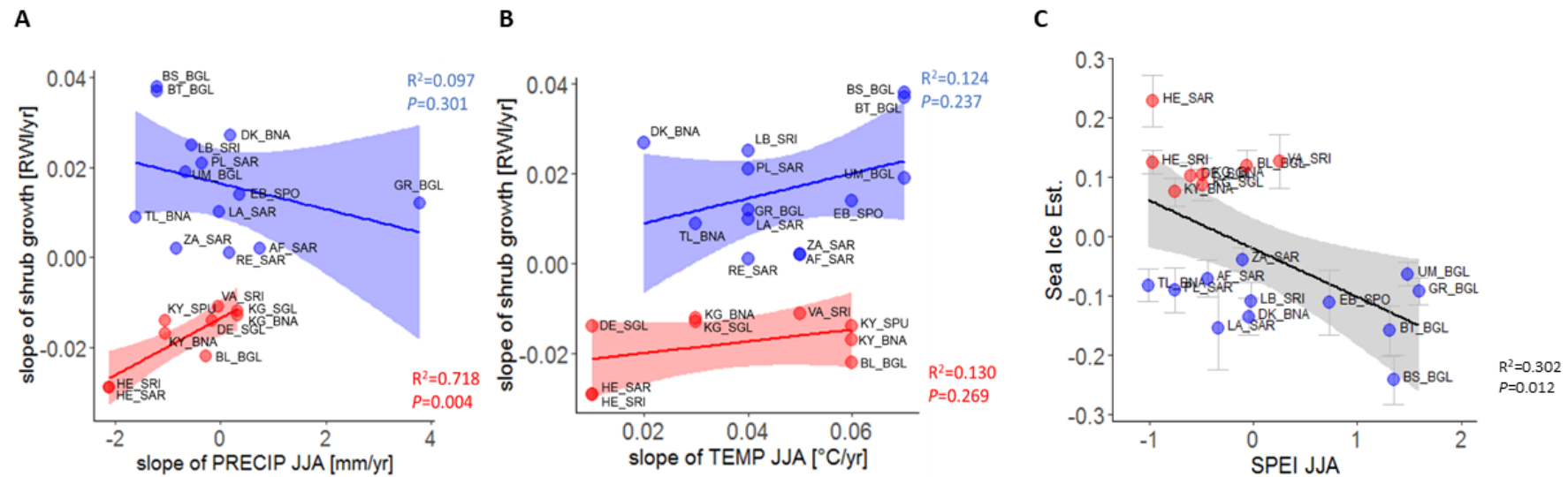


Fig. S7. (A) Relationship between slopes of shrub radial growth and slopes of June to August precipitation, and (B) June to August temperature for each *increaser* (blue points) and *decreaser* (red points) chronology (1979-2008). (C) Relationship between coefficient estimates (with associated standard errors) for the best sea ice model (Sea Ice Est.) and mean June to August SPEI obtained for each *increaser* (blue points) and *decreaser* (red points) chronology (1979-2008). Sea Ice model estimates at a site level were obtained from linear mixed effect models using all shrubs (instead of chronologies) with a random intercept for a year (Table S13).

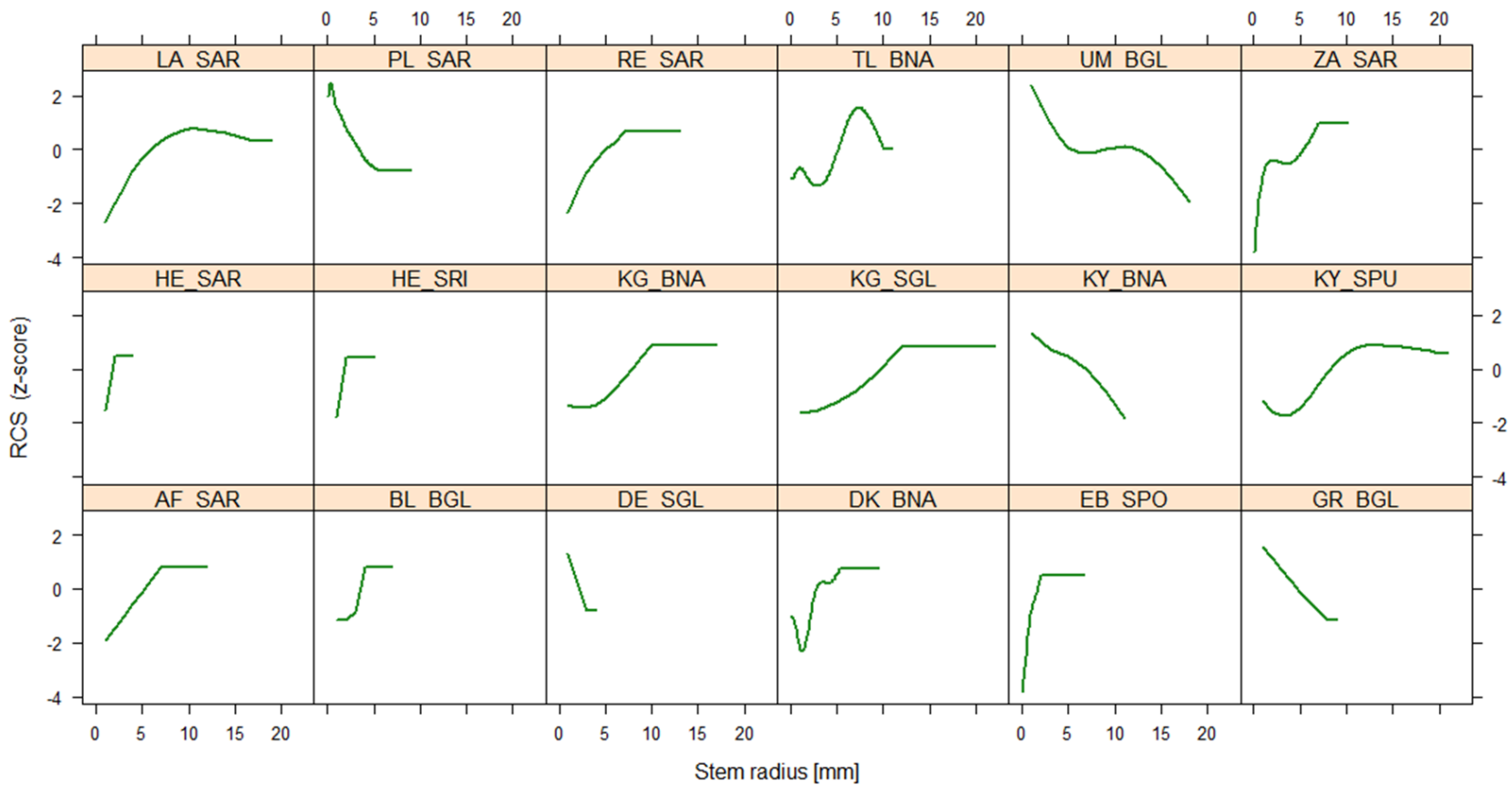


Fig. S8. Relationship between mean ring-widths and shrub stem radius. Relationship between mean ring-widths (Y axis, scaled for comparison) and shrub stem radius (X axis) for shrub ring chronologies used the synthesis with the stem radius up to 20 mm. Relationship is presented using smoothed detrending curve (RCS, diameter based) calculated for each chronology using all shrubs. For full site names see Table S1.

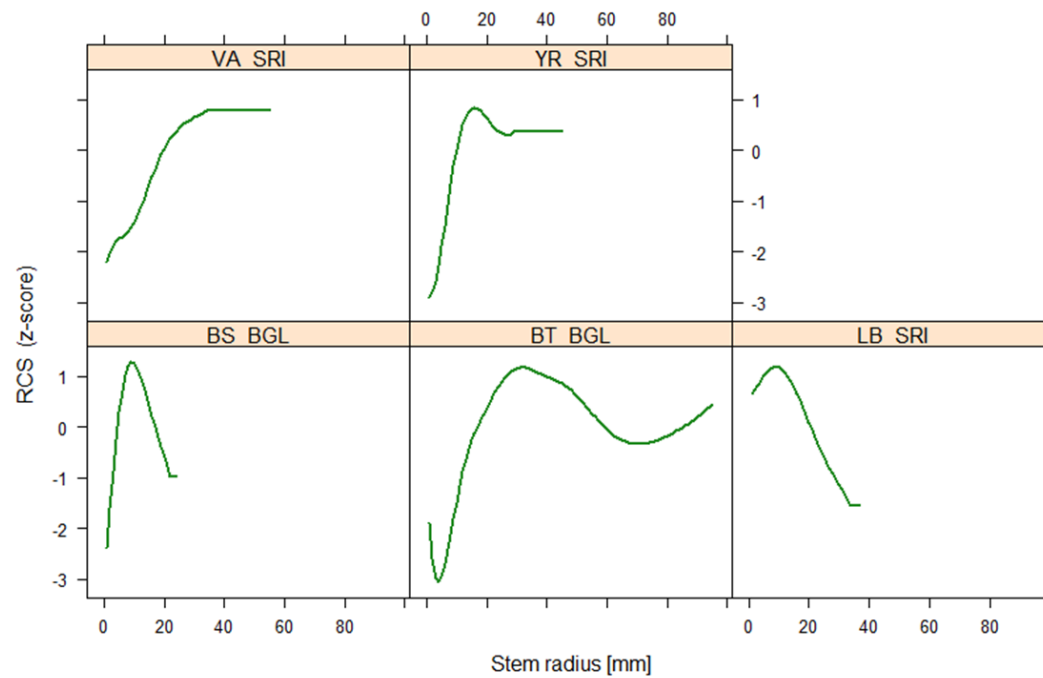


Fig. S9. Relationship between mean ring-widths and shrub stem radius. Relationship between mean ring-widths (Y axis, scaled for comparison) and shrub stem radius (X axis) for shrub ring chronologies used the synthesis with the stem radius greater than 20 mm. Relationship is presented using smoothed detrending curve (RCS, diameter based) calculated for each chronology using all shrubs. For full site names see Table S1.

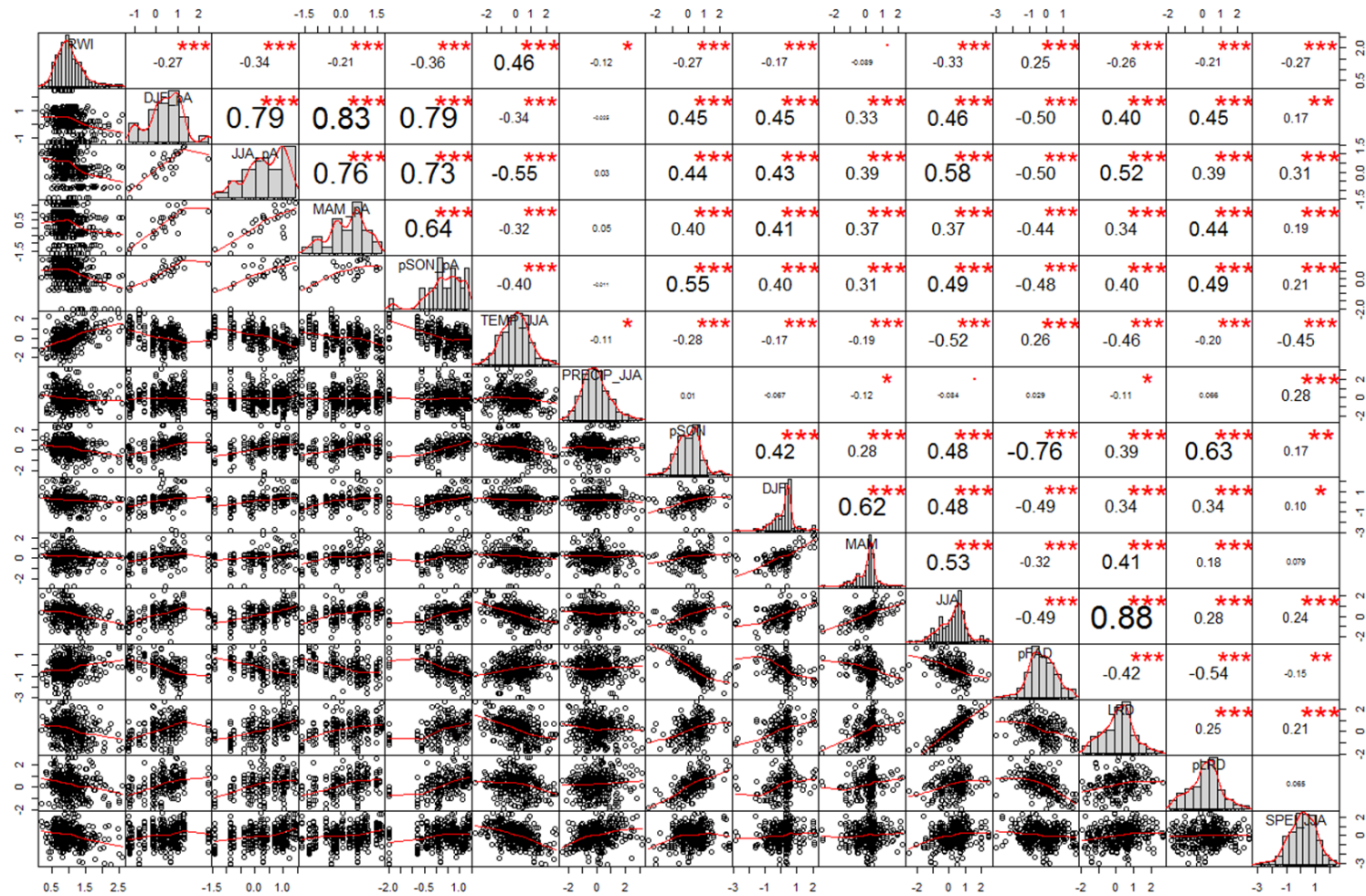


Fig. S10. Correlation matrix for response variable (RWI, i.e., mean annual ring width index for 13 *increaser's* chronologies, n=390 annual records, period 1979-2008) and predictor variables used in SEM. All predictors were standardized using z-score. For full name of predictors see Table S9. On the upper right corner Pearson's correlation coefficients between all variables are visualized with the significance level denoted with asterisks (i.e., * $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$, * $p < 0.001$). On the bottom left corner bivariate scatterplots with fitted lines are presented.**

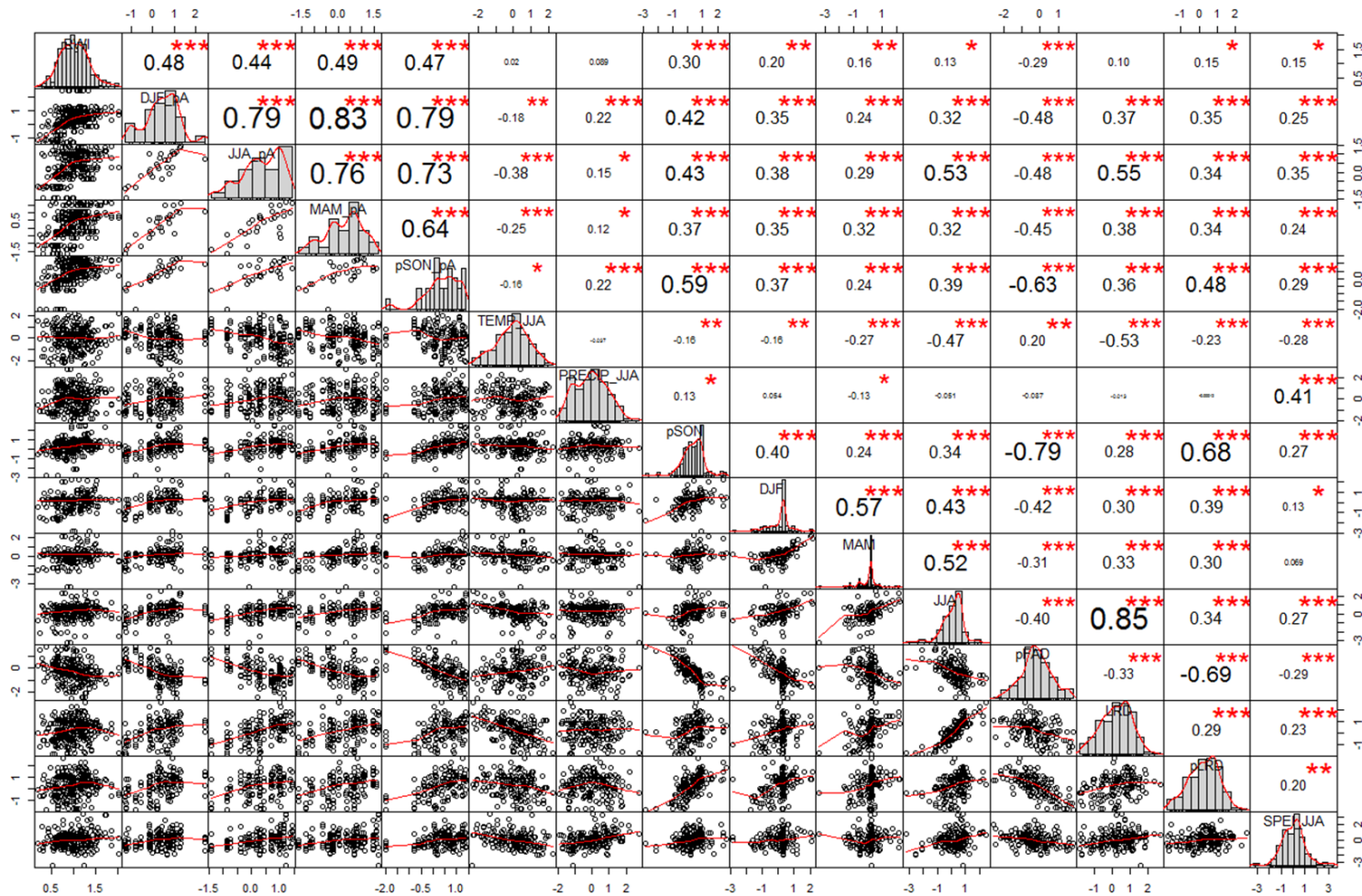


Fig. S11. Correlation matrix for response variable (RWI, i.e., mean annual ring width index for nine *decreaser's* chronologies, $n=270$ annual records, period 1979-2008) and predictor variables used in SEM. All predictors were standardized using z-score. For full name of predictors see Table S9. On the upper right corner Pearson's correlation coefficients between all variables are visualized with the significance level denoted with asterisks (i.e., * $p < 0.05$, ** $p < 0.01$, * $p < 0.001$). On the bottom left corner bivariate scatterplots with fitted lines are presented.**

Supplementary Tables

Table S1. Characteristics of shrub chronologies included in the synthesis with responder type indication (blue font - *increaser*; red font - *decreaser*; black bold font - *neutral*). YR site, as a neutral responder, was not included in the final analyses. Types of soil moisture classes (D - dry; M - moist, W - wet) for each site were assessed after Myers-Smith et al. (2015) (3), with moist and wet classes pooled into moist soil type. Sampling design after Sullivan & Csank (2016) (11): SEL- selective; DOM - dominant; STR - stratified; RAN - random. Shrubs' sectioning method types: SS - serial sectioning; S - stem only; LS - largest stem; RC - root collar only. Descriptive statistics are presented for the study periods (1979-2008). MRW - mean ring width; sd - standard deviation; MS - mean sensitivity; AR(1) - first-order autocorrelation; rbar.tot - mean pairwise correlation between all cross-sections; EPS - expressed population signal.

Table S2. List of shrub chronologies included in the synthesis together with the geographical coordinates and regional sea ice province assigned. Mean day of the year (DOY) for the first advanced day (FAD) and the last retreat day (LRD) together with 95% confidence intervals was calculated after Stroeve et al. (2016) (12).

Chronology ID	Responder	Site name	Species	Latitude (N)	Longitude (E/-W)	REGIONAL SEA ICE province used:	mean DOY of FAD (95% CI)	mean DOY of LRD (95% CI)
AF_SAR	<i>increaser</i>	Alexandra Fiord	<i>Salix arctica</i>	78.9	-75.9	Baffin Sea	317 (314-321)	182 (179-185)
BL_BGL	<i>decreaser</i>	Baker Lake	<i>Betula glandulosa</i>	64.4	-95.9	Hudson Bay	335 (332-338)	176 (173-179)
BS_BGL	<i>increaser</i>	Boniface River research station	<i>Betula glandulosa</i>	57.8	-76.2	Hudson Bay	335 (332-338)	176 (173-179)
BT_BGL	<i>increaser</i>	Boniface River research station	<i>Betula glandulosa</i>	57.7	-76.1	Hudson Bay	335 (332-338)	176 (173-179)
DE_SGL	<i>decreaser</i>	Dempster	<i>Salix glauca</i>	67.0	-136.2	Beaufort Sea	293 (289-298)	189 (182-195)
DK_BNA	<i>increaser</i>	Disko Island	<i>Betula nana</i>	69.2	-53.3	Baffin Sea	317 (314-321)	182 (179-185)
EB_SPO	<i>increaser</i>	Ebbadalen	<i>Salix polaris</i>	78.6	16.5	Greenland Sea	324 (318-331)	181 (177-186)
GR_BGL	<i>increaser</i>	Kangiqualuq (George River)	<i>Betula glandulosa</i>	58.7	-65.9	Hudson Bay	335 (332-338)	176 (173-179)
HE_SRI	<i>decreaser</i>	Herschel Island	<i>Salix richardsonii</i>	69.6	-138.9	Beaufort Sea	293 (289-298)	189 (182-195)
HE_SAR	<i>decreaser</i>	Herschel Island	<i>Salix arctica</i>	69.6	-138.9	Beaufort Sea	293 (289-298)	189 (182-195)
KG_BNA	<i>decreaser</i>	Kangerlussuaq	<i>Betula nana</i>	67.1	-50.3	Baffin Sea	317 (314-321)	182 (179-185)
KG_SGL	<i>decreaser</i>	Kangerlussuaq	<i>Salix glauca</i>	67.1	-50.3	Baffin Sea	317 (314-321)	182 (179-185)
KY_SPU	<i>decreaser</i>	Kytalyk Reserve	<i>Salix pulchra</i>	70.8	147.5	East Siberian	286 (282-291)	201 (197-206)
KY_BNA	<i>decreaser</i>	Kytalyk Reserve	<i>Betula nana</i>	70.8	147.5	East Siberian	286 (282-291)	201 (197-206)
LA_SAR	<i>increaser</i>	Lake A	<i>Salix arctica</i>	83.0	-75.4	Central Arctic	334 (317-352)	206 (190-223)
LB_SRI	<i>increaser</i>	Laborovaya	<i>Salix lanata</i>	68.0	68.0	Kara Sea	313 (308-318)	189 (185-194)
PL_SAR	<i>increaser</i>	Peary Land	<i>Salix arctica</i>	82.1	-33.0	Central Arctic	334 (317-352)	206 (190-223)
RE_SAR	<i>increaser</i>	Resolute	<i>Salix arctica</i>	74.7	-94.9	Canadian Archipelago	293 (291-296)	192 (189-196)
TL_BNA	<i>increaser</i>	Toolik Lake	<i>Betula nana</i>	68.4	-149.9	Beaufort Sea	293 (289-298)	189 (182-195)
UM_BGL	<i>increaser</i>	Umiujuaq	<i>Betula glandulosa</i>	56.5	-76.4	Hudson Bay	335 (332-338)	176 (173-179)
VA_SRI	<i>decreaser</i>	Varandei	<i>Salix lanata</i>	68.7	58.5	Barents Sea	342 (335-348)	159 (153-164)
ZA_SAR	<i>increaser</i>	Zackenberq	<i>Salix arctica</i>	74.5	-20.5	Greenland Sea	324 (318-331)	181 (177-186)

Table S3. Mean standardized ring width index (RWI) for early (1979-1993) and recent (1994-2008) period for each chronology. Δ RWI represents difference between early and recent period. P-value from the Welch two sample t-test is reported. Values marked in bold indicate a statistically significant difference ($p < 0.05$).

Responder	Chronology ID	Site name	Species	mean RWI		Δ RWI	P-value
				(1979-1993)	(1994-2008)		
<i>increaser</i>	AF_SAR	Alexandra Fiord	<i>Salix arctica</i>	0.80	0.79	0.00	0.967
<i>increaser</i>	BS_BGL	Boniface River	<i>Betula glandulosa</i>	0.74	1.29	0.55	0.004
<i>increaser</i>	BT_BGL	Boniface River	<i>Betula glandulosa</i>	0.81	1.60	0.79	0.000
<i>increaser</i>	DK_BNA	Disko Island	<i>Betula nana</i>	0.73	1.33	0.60	0.000
<i>increaser</i>	EB_SPO	Ebbadalen	<i>Salix polaris</i>	0.97	1.11	0.14	0.322
<i>increaser</i>	GR_BGL	Kangiqsualujuaq (George River)	<i>Betula glandulosa</i>	0.91	1.04	0.13	0.165
<i>increaser</i>	LA_SAR	Lake A	<i>Salix arctica</i>	0.99	1.11	0.13	0.434
<i>increaser</i>	LB_SRI	Laborovaya	<i>Salix lanata</i>	1.04	1.34	0.29	0.020
<i>increaser</i>	PL_SAR	Peary Land	<i>Salix arctica</i>	0.95	1.18	0.23	0.088
<i>increaser</i>	RE_SAR	Resolute	<i>Salix arctica</i>	1.13	1.02	-0.12	0.357
<i>increaser</i>	TL_BNA	Toolik Lake	<i>Betula nana</i>	0.97	1.03	0.06	0.555
<i>increaser</i>	UM_BGL	Umiujuaq	<i>Betula glandulosa</i>	0.90	1.18	0.28	0.003
<i>increaser</i>	ZA_SAR	Zackenbergl	<i>Salix arctica</i>	0.88	0.93	0.05	0.563
		mean		0.91	1.15	0.24	0.000
<i>decreaser</i>	BL_BGL	Baker Lake	<i>Betula glandulosa</i>	1.20	0.91	-0.30	0.006
<i>decreaser</i>	DE_SGL	Dempster	<i>Salix glauca</i>	1.09	0.94	-0.15	0.074
<i>decreaser</i>	HE_SAR	Herschel Island	<i>Salix arctica</i>	1.14	0.97	-0.17	0.328
<i>decreaser</i>	HE_SRI	Herschel Island	<i>Salix richardsonii</i>	1.18	0.80	-0.38	0.000
<i>decreaser</i>	KG_BNA	Kangerlussuaq	<i>Betula nana</i>	1.16	0.95	-0.21	0.036
<i>decreaser</i>	KG_SGL	Kangerlussuaq	<i>Salix glauca</i>	1.07	0.94	-0.13	0.198
<i>decreaser</i>	KY_BNA	Kytalyk Reserve	<i>Betula nana</i>	0.97	0.64	-0.33	0.000
<i>decreaser</i>	KY_SPU	Kytalyk Reserve	<i>Salix pulchra</i>	1.05	0.70	-0.35	0.007
<i>decreaser</i>	VA_SRI	Varandei	<i>Salix lanata</i>	1.21	0.98	-0.23	0.136
		mean		1.12	0.87	-0.25	0.000

Table S4. Changes in mean summer (June-July-August) temperature, precipitation and SPEI for each study site for the study period (1979-2008), as well for early (1979-1993) and recent (1994-2008) period calculated using linear regression. Values marked in bold indicate a statistically significant changes in analyzed climatic parameters ($p < 0.05$). Climatic data sources: see Table S9.

Responder	Site ID	TEMP JJA						PRECIP JJA						SPEI JJA					
		(1979-2008)	(1979-1993)	(1994-2008)	(1979-2008)			(1979-2008)	(1979-1993)	(1994-2008)	(1979-2008)			(1979-2008)	(1979-1993)	(1994-2008)	(1979-2008)		
		[°C]	[°C]	[°C]	β	p-value	R2	[mm]	[mm]	[mm]	β	p-value	R2				β	p-value	R2
<i>increaser</i>	AF	0.8	0.5	1.0	0.05	0.006	0.237	77	70	85	0.74	0.323	0.035	-0.443	-0.283	-0.596	-0.026	0.008	0.227
<i>increaser</i>	BS	8.1	7.5	8.7	0.07	0.001	0.321	185	192	177	-1.20	0.266	0.044	1.353	1.406	1.286	-0.006	0.360	0.030
<i>increaser</i>	BT	8.1	7.5	8.7	0.07	0.001	0.321	185	192	177	-1.20	0.266	0.044	1.315	1.406	1.286	0.001	0.881	0.001
<i>increaser</i>	DK	4.4	4.3	4.6	0.02	0.120	0.084	92	92	91	0.18	0.745	0.004	-0.048	0.010	-0.105	-0.001	0.869	0.001
<i>increaser</i>	EB	2.6	2.2	2.9	0.06	0.000	0.487	100	93	107	0.35	0.543	0.013	0.732	0.971	0.510	-0.029	0.001	0.352
<i>increaser</i>	GR	8.1	7.8	8.5	0.04	0.008	0.226	218	185	250	3.78	0.000	0.406	1.594	1.455	1.749	0.020	0.002	0.304
<i>increaser</i>	LA	-1.1	-1.3	-0.9	0.04	0.015	0.194	53	53	53	-0.03	0.953	0.000	-0.341	-0.201	-0.488	-0.030	0.016	0.190
<i>increaser</i>	LB	10.7	10.5	10.8	0.04	0.094	0.097	150	152	148	-0.54	0.419	0.023	-0.023	-0.012	-0.068	-0.010	0.039	0.143
<i>increaser</i>	PL	-1.9	-2.1	-1.7	0.04	0.011	0.208	29	30	28	-0.36	0.254	0.046	-0.760	-0.554	-1.067	-0.083	0.009	0.222
<i>increaser</i>	RE	2.1	1.9	2.4	0.04	0.039	0.144	71	67	75	0.17	0.750	0.004	-0.611	-0.601	-0.627	-0.009	0.292	0.040
<i>increaser</i>	TL	9.8	9.6	10.0	0.03	0.060	0.120	103	117	89	-1.61	0.006	0.236	-1.013	-0.867	-1.149	-0.019	0.000	0.470
<i>increaser</i>	UM	8.8	8.2	9.3	0.07	0.001	0.326	203	206	200	-0.66	0.527	0.014	1.489	1.563	1.399	-0.010	0.146	0.074
<i>increaser</i>	ZA	2.7	2.4	3.0	0.05	0.000	0.421	60	68	51	-0.83	0.222	0.053	-0.101	-0.012	-0.194	-0.015	0.096	0.096
	mean	4.9	4.5	5.2	0.05	0.027	0.245	117.3	116.8	117.8	-0.09	0.406	0.071	0.242	0.329	0.149	-0.017	0.209	0.165
<i>decreaser</i>	BL	8.7	8.1	9.4	0.06	0.010	0.214	116	117	115	-0.28	0.729	0.004	-0.060	0.059	-0.244	-0.018	0.004	0.259
<i>decreaser</i>	DE	8.0	7.9	8.0	0.01	0.794	0.002	103	102	103	-0.17	0.767	0.003	-0.605	-0.549	-0.632	-0.002	0.535	0.014
<i>decreaser</i>	HE	8.6	8.4	8.7	0.01	0.494	0.017	63	83	44	-2.11	0.000	0.411	-0.973	-0.823	-1.185	-0.027	0.000	0.535
<i>decreaser</i>	KG	8.6	8.3	8.9	0.03	0.020	0.178	94	92	97	0.32	0.495	0.017	-0.494	-0.482	-0.549	-0.006	0.240	0.049
<i>decreaser</i>	KY	8.7	8.3	9.1	0.06	0.008	0.226	80	92	67	-1.05	0.143	0.075	-0.756	-0.652	-0.787	-0.003	0.686	0.006
<i>decreaser</i>	VA	10.4	10.2	10.5	0.05	0.101	0.093	141	140	141	-0.05	0.937	0.000	0.250	0.208	0.305	-0.001	0.870	0.001
	mean	8.8	8.5	9.1	0.04	0.238	0.122	99.5	104.4	94.6	-0.56	0.512	0.085	-0.440	-0.373	-0.515	-0.010	0.389	0.144

Table S5. Pearson's correlation coefficients between standardized shrub chronologies and monthly (from previous June to current August) Pan-Arctic SIE (raw data) for the study period (1979-2008). Significant values ($p < 0.05$) are indicated in black, whereas bold values represent significant coefficients obtained with P-values adjusted for the false discovery rate. Blue cells - *increasers*; red cells - *decreasers*.

Chronology ID	pJun	pJul	pAug	pSep	pOct	pNov	pDec	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG
AF_SAR	-0.124	-0.361	-0.457	-0.439	-0.544	-0.209	-0.178	-0.074	-0.057	-0.020	-0.003	0.040	-0.110	-0.183	-0.260
BL_BGL	0.654	0.492	0.540	0.415	0.414	0.399	0.552	0.618	0.602	0.608	0.645	0.613	0.582	0.555	0.549
BS_BGL	-0.531	-0.654	-0.645	-0.715	-0.783	-0.657	-0.683	-0.635	-0.570	-0.509	-0.423	-0.315	-0.634	-0.602	-0.561
BT_BGL	-0.302	-0.356	-0.210	-0.255	-0.314	-0.367	-0.295	-0.334	-0.231	-0.285	-0.232	-0.100	-0.380	-0.350	-0.184
DE_SGL	0.512	0.489	0.508	0.566	0.506	0.410	0.599	0.555	0.569	0.456	0.466	0.435	0.595	0.528	0.546
DK_BNA	-0.461	-0.451	-0.310	-0.304	-0.501	-0.645	-0.446	-0.466	-0.371	-0.415	-0.342	-0.114	-0.366	-0.515	-0.444
EB_SPO	-0.171	-0.073	-0.045	-0.059	-0.082	-0.172	-0.295	-0.207	-0.204	-0.088	-0.265	-0.249	-0.406	-0.386	-0.281
GR_BGL	-0.343	-0.306	-0.431	-0.480	-0.397	-0.408	-0.439	-0.386	-0.377	-0.305	-0.159	-0.158	-0.313	-0.364	-0.403
HE_SAR	0.594	0.446	0.522	0.455	0.428	0.368	0.554	0.600	0.675	0.597	0.617	0.640	0.573	0.568	0.689
HE_SRI	0.709	0.620	0.688	0.682	0.552	0.630	0.746	0.801	0.803	0.743	0.739	0.743	0.795	0.692	0.664
KG_BNA	0.344	0.364	0.398	0.456	0.482	0.559	0.522	0.560	0.522	0.473	0.404	0.359	0.405	0.327	0.343
KG_SGL	0.250	0.348	0.418	0.467	0.428	0.346	0.387	0.486	0.523	0.462	0.442	0.445	0.361	0.170	0.292
KY_BNA	0.493	0.495	0.373	0.374	0.447	0.487	0.482	0.554	0.536	0.576	0.590	0.427	0.480	0.376	0.424
KY_SPU	0.511	0.540	0.453	0.460	0.398	0.507	0.385	0.473	0.449	0.491	0.544	0.384	0.320	0.303	0.309
LA_SAR	-0.044	-0.186	-0.173	-0.246	-0.444	-0.134	-0.113	-0.008	-0.037	0.039	0.116	0.213	-0.154	-0.223	-0.250
LB_SRI	-0.493	-0.374	-0.517	-0.470	-0.307	-0.279	-0.316	-0.448	-0.558	-0.548	-0.583	-0.609	-0.539	-0.475	-0.547
PL_SAR	-0.321	-0.309	-0.367	-0.338	-0.517	-0.565	-0.528	-0.319	-0.300	-0.192	-0.335	-0.320	-0.369	-0.397	-0.491
RE_SAR	-0.179	-0.138	-0.130	-0.062	-0.083	-0.126	-0.164	-0.031	-0.083	-0.116	-0.121	-0.072	0.019	-0.193	-0.325
TL_BNA	-0.105	-0.199	-0.239	-0.277	-0.188	-0.322	-0.144	-0.175	-0.156	-0.198	-0.210	-0.262	-0.261	-0.248	-0.215
UM_BGL	-0.483	-0.308	-0.386	-0.373	-0.380	-0.434	-0.478	-0.541	-0.490	-0.415	-0.397	-0.326	-0.634	-0.598	-0.493
VA_SRI	0.285	0.454	0.265	0.290	0.500	0.562	0.491	0.281	0.093	0.112	0.172	0.018	0.131	0.140	0.109
YR_SRI	-0.099	-0.045	-0.234	-0.181	-0.052	0.143	0.016	-0.010	-0.150	-0.121	-0.164	-0.266	-0.165	-0.116	-0.183
ZA_SAR	-0.089	-0.315	-0.373	-0.398	-0.463	-0.165	-0.128	-0.098	-0.065	-0.020	-0.031	0.028	-0.090	-0.075	-0.156

Table S6. Pearson's correlation coefficients between standardized shrub chronologies and monthly (from previous June to current August) Pan-Arctic SIE (raw data) for the maximum chronology timespan (1979-max. 2016, see Table S1). Significant values ($p < 0.05$) are indicated in black, whereas bold values represent significant coefficients obtained with P-values adjusted for the false discovery rate. Blue cells - *increasers*; red cells - *decreasers*.

Chronology ID	pJun	pJul	pAug	pSep	pOct	pNov	pDec	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG
AF_SAR	-0.124	-0.361	-0.457	-0.439	-0.544	-0.209	-0.178	-0.074	-0.057	-0.020	-0.003	0.040	-0.110	-0.183	-0.260
BL_BGL	0.701	0.559	0.610	0.513	0.492	0.462	0.617	0.665	0.655	0.639	0.637	0.607	0.638	0.622	0.614
BS_BGL	-0.551	-0.667	-0.656	-0.711	-0.791	-0.667	-0.694	-0.648	-0.587	-0.525	-0.432	-0.316	-0.648	-0.619	-0.579
BT_BGL	-0.288	-0.344	-0.196	-0.229	-0.308	-0.361	-0.281	-0.327	-0.226	-0.281	-0.231	-0.101	-0.370	-0.338	-0.178
DE_SGL	0.512	0.489	0.508	0.566	0.506	0.410	0.599	0.555	0.569	0.456	0.466	0.435	0.595	0.528	0.546
DK_BNA	-0.554	-0.561	-0.485	-0.498	-0.620	-0.678	-0.557	-0.567	-0.510	-0.486	-0.358	-0.194	-0.549	-0.628	-0.569
EB_SPO	-0.179	-0.090	-0.065	-0.077	-0.101	-0.183	-0.295	-0.218	-0.214	-0.102	-0.269	-0.256	-0.385	-0.375	-0.283
GR_BGL	-0.171	-0.171	-0.275	-0.289	-0.247	-0.272	-0.240	-0.231	-0.231	-0.188	-0.096	-0.099	-0.158	-0.189	-0.241
HE_SAR	0.594	0.446	0.522	0.455	0.428	0.368	0.554	0.600	0.675	0.597	0.617	0.640	0.573	0.568	0.689
HE_SRI	0.709	0.620	0.688	0.682	0.552	0.630	0.746	0.801	0.803	0.743	0.739	0.743	0.795	0.692	0.664
KG_BNA	0.574	0.564	0.573	0.616	0.638	0.687	0.686	0.694	0.675	0.605	0.474	0.458	0.614	0.578	0.556
KG_SGL	0.376	0.416	0.470	0.513	0.467	0.434	0.488	0.550	0.587	0.543	0.490	0.482	0.454	0.332	0.370
KY_BNA	0.350	0.373	0.218	0.181	0.354	0.402	0.341	0.456	0.427	0.488	0.530	0.399	0.376	0.263	0.310
KY_SPU	0.511	0.540	0.453	0.460	0.398	0.507	0.385	0.473	0.449	0.491	0.544	0.384	0.320	0.303	0.309
LA_SAR	-0.044	-0.186	-0.173	-0.246	-0.444	-0.134	-0.113	-0.008	-0.037	0.039	0.116	0.213	-0.154	-0.223	-0.250
LB_SRI	-0.493	-0.374	-0.517	-0.470	-0.307	-0.279	-0.316	-0.448	-0.558	-0.548	-0.583	-0.609	-0.539	-0.475	-0.547
PL_SAR	-0.186	-0.122	-0.149	-0.144	-0.287	-0.374	-0.332	-0.209	-0.193	-0.139	-0.249	-0.228	-0.274	-0.226	-0.291
RE_SAR	-0.179	-0.138	-0.130	-0.062	-0.083	-0.126	-0.164	-0.031	-0.083	-0.116	-0.121	-0.072	0.019	-0.193	-0.325
TL_BNA	-0.320	-0.303	-0.353	-0.378	-0.379	-0.401	-0.304	-0.260	-0.228	-0.174	-0.138	-0.180	-0.306	-0.370	-0.329
UM_BGL	-0.413	-0.254	-0.307	-0.277	-0.309	-0.387	-0.401	-0.479	-0.426	-0.382	-0.384	-0.315	-0.518	-0.505	-0.422
VA_SRI	0.285	0.454	0.265	0.290	0.500	0.562	0.491	0.281	0.093	0.112	0.172	0.018	0.131	0.140	0.109
YR_SRI	-0.100	-0.048	-0.225	-0.171	-0.055	0.138	0.008	-0.015	-0.150	-0.123	-0.165	-0.266	-0.166	-0.118	-0.182
ZA_SAR	-0.121	-0.336	-0.360	-0.355	-0.506	-0.222	-0.168	-0.163	-0.135	-0.059	-0.033	-0.021	-0.211	-0.158	-0.208

Table S7. Pearson's correlation coefficients between standardized shrub chronologies and monthly (from previous June to current August) regional SIE (raw data) for common period (1979-2008). Significant values ($p < 0.05$) are indicated in black, whereas bold values represent significant coefficients obtained with P-values adjusted for the false discovery rate. Blue cells - *increasers*; red cells - *decreasers*.

Chronology ID	pJun	pJul	pAug	pSep	pOct	pNov	pDec	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG
AF_SAR	0.000	-0.160	-0.166	-0.157	-0.086	-0.025	0.074	0.187	0.154	0.190	0.163	-0.014	-0.091	-0.073	-0.120
BL_BGL	0.222	0.221	0.251	0.255	0.445	0.311	0.108	0.270	0.276	0.046	0.219	0.397	0.238	0.422	0.476
BS_BGL	-0.522	-0.525	-0.492	-0.411	-0.495	-0.532	-0.471	-0.173	-0.277	-0.199	-0.030	-0.347	-0.701	-0.610	-0.551
BT_BGL	-0.538	-0.408	-0.369	-0.424	-0.453	-0.479	-0.546	-0.300	0.129	-0.090	-0.064	-0.466	-0.706	-0.520	-0.437
DE_SGL	0.021	-0.006	0.087	0.321	0.145	0.026	0.276	-0.335	0.096	0.260	0.002	-0.089	-0.134	-0.134	0.033
DK_BNA	-0.522	-0.350	-0.142	0.132	-0.122	-0.497	-0.647	-0.564	-0.484	-0.464	-0.490	-0.452	-0.529	-0.571	-0.405
EB_SPO	-0.121	-0.263	-0.256	-0.284	-0.404	-0.268	-0.264	-0.189	-0.203	-0.131	-0.031	-0.067	-0.032	-0.152	-0.265
GR_BGL	-0.269	-0.146	-0.259	-0.189	-0.284	-0.322	-0.304	-0.091	-0.167	-0.215	0.214	-0.097	-0.264	-0.317	-0.357
HE_SAR	0.015	0.004	-0.038	0.168	0.184	0.023	0.345	-0.024	0.143	0.336	0.089	-0.210	-0.105	0.062	0.156
HE_SRI	-0.029	-0.061	0.018	0.373	0.172	-0.038	0.239	-0.013	0.282	0.164	0.245	0.068	0.086	0.077	0.078
KG_BNA	0.603	0.537	0.275	0.178	0.390	0.439	0.498	0.415	0.503	0.505	0.481	0.485	0.493	0.463	0.192
KG_SGL	0.392	0.456	0.378	0.336	0.511	0.357	0.293	0.173	0.132	0.195	0.232	0.226	0.274	0.271	0.085
KY_BNA	-0.251	-0.184	0.040	0.156	0.184	0.164	0.129	-0.246	0.084	-0.117	-0.051	-0.063	-0.083	-0.092	0.112
KY_SPU	0.053	0.096	0.286	0.410	0.450	0.353	0.268	-0.373	0.143	-0.171	-0.064	-0.044	-0.054	-0.091	0.117
LA_SAR	0.241	0.118	-0.168	-0.441	-0.443	-0.363	-0.269	-0.130	-0.160	-0.075	0.170	0.171	0.146	0.213	0.032
LB_SRI	-0.122	-0.103	-0.021	0.168	0.070	-0.010	-0.091	-0.227	-0.338	0.285	-0.012	0.040	-0.158	-0.366	-0.193
PL_SAR	-0.076	-0.160	-0.237	-0.297	-0.313	-0.262	-0.218	0.121	0.004	-0.048	0.295	0.143	0.274	0.265	-0.069
RE_SAR	0.045	-0.136	-0.225	-0.200	-0.414	-0.004	-0.050	0.068	0.046	0.026	0.009	-0.093	-0.101	-0.205	-0.443
TL_BNA	-0.165	-0.151	-0.298	-0.376	-0.437	-0.170	-0.121	-0.027	-0.005	-0.114	0.078	-0.266	-0.339	-0.482	-0.480
UM_BGL	-0.066	0.020	-0.210	-0.196	-0.314	-0.347	-0.118	-0.275	-0.230	-0.111	-0.018	-0.313	-0.548	-0.576	-0.473
VA_SRI	-0.019	0.212	0.417	0.405	0.481	0.400	0.257	0.005	-0.191	-0.069	-0.124	-0.151	-0.049	0.020	0.207
YR_SRI	-0.082	-0.012	-0.026	0.071	-0.034	0.095	0.191	-0.118	-0.150	0.019	-0.122	0.071	-0.031	-0.170	-0.043
ZA_SAR	0.030	0.008	0.149	0.223	0.151	0.102	0.026	-0.042	-0.071	-0.060	0.144	0.250	0.024	-0.150	-0.186

Table S8. Output of linear regression models between standardized shrub chronologies and seasonal Pan-Arctic and regional SIE (all data z-score) for common period (1979-2008). List of predictors and data sources are presented in Table S9. Significant values ($p < 0.05$) indicated in bold. Blue font - *increasers*; red font - *decreasers*. Grey font - non-significant values.

Chronology ID	JJA SIE						pSON SIE						DJF SIE						MAM SIE					
	Pan-Arctic			regional			Pan-Arctic			regional			Pan-Arctic			regional			Pan-Arctic			regional		
	R ²	β	p-value	R ²	β	p-value	R ²	β	p-value	R ²	β	p-value	R ²	β	p-value	R ²	β	p-value	R ²	β	p-value	R ²	β	p-value
AF_SAR	0.043	-0.078	0.272	0.011	-0.034	0.578	0.191	-0.165	0.018	0.012	-0.033	0.578	0.012	-0.036	0.578	0.022	0.043	0.439	0.000	0.002	0.972	0.014	0.032	0.537
BL_BGL	0.341	0.243	0.001	0.173	0.141	0.022	0.194	0.184	0.017	0.146	0.131	0.040	0.203	0.168	0.014	0.070	0.159	0.165	0.425	0.226	0.000	0.116	0.205	0.065
BS_BGL	0.382	-0.429	0.000	0.466	-0.386	0.000	0.599	-0.533	0.000	0.295	-0.306	0.002	0.373	-0.375	0.000	0.213	-0.457	0.012	0.194	-0.255	0.015	0.075	-0.275	0.143
BT_BGL	0.091	-0.246	0.105	0.372	-0.406	0.000	0.107	-0.261	0.083	0.253	-0.329	0.005	0.073	-0.193	0.155	0.042	-0.234	0.289	0.048	-0.150	0.243	0.085	-0.344	0.119
DE_SGL	0.329	0.181	0.001	0.009	-0.026	0.623	0.292	0.172	0.002	0.031	0.070	0.362	0.306	0.157	0.002	0.000	0.003	0.960	0.228	0.126	0.008	0.046	0.128	0.253
DK_BNA	0.223	-0.274	0.008	0.303	-0.272	0.002	0.247	-0.286	0.006	0.028	-0.078	0.390	0.205	-0.233	0.014	0.386	-0.275	0.000	0.095	-0.150	0.097	0.239	-0.206	0.006
EB_SPO	0.131	-0.184	0.049	0.029	-0.077	0.367	0.011	-0.054	0.583	0.112	-0.137	0.076	0.030	-0.079	0.365	0.039	-0.085	0.305	0.044	-0.089	0.266	0.007	-0.036	0.671
GR_BGL	0.148	-0.132	0.039	0.118	-0.094	0.068	0.218	-0.158	0.011	0.092	-0.084	0.109	0.242	-0.148	0.007	0.090	-0.146	0.114	0.049	-0.065	0.250	0.000	-0.007	0.945
HE_SAR	0.416	0.408	0.000	0.001	0.017	0.874	0.206	0.278	0.013	0.018	0.101	0.493	0.257	0.278	0.005	0.047	0.131	0.259	0.419	0.341	0.000	0.059	0.289	0.195
HE_SRI	0.537	0.306	0.000	0.007	0.032	0.653	0.454	0.255	0.000	0.028	0.079	0.387	0.542	0.248	0.000	0.057	0.090	0.210	0.604	0.270	0.000	0.038	0.153	0.301
KG_BNA	0.133	0.137	0.047	0.174	0.133	0.022	0.281	0.201	0.003	0.146	0.118	0.041	0.343	0.198	0.001	0.248	0.145	0.006	0.189	0.136	0.016	0.261	0.140	0.004
KG_SGL	0.074	0.103	0.145	0.052	0.073	0.225	0.206	0.168	0.014	0.195	0.133	0.017	0.220	0.154	0.010	0.057	0.068	0.211	0.223	0.149	0.008	0.051	0.062	0.228
KY_BNA	0.190	0.142	0.016	0.001	-0.007	0.892	0.212	0.143	0.012	0.033	0.056	0.342	0.234	0.133	0.008	0.003	-0.022	0.764	0.314	0.152	0.001	0.013	-0.036	0.549
KY_SPU	0.104	0.157	0.082	0.000	-0.005	0.952	0.237	0.234	0.007	0.195	0.211	0.016	0.276	0.226	0.003	0.002	0.024	0.836	0.247	0.201	0.005	0.019	-0.064	0.469
LA_SAR	0.052	-0.132	0.224	0.024	0.132	0.410	0.088	-0.173	0.118	0.222	-0.352	0.010	0.006	-0.039	0.699	0.055	-0.260	0.223	0.015	0.060	0.514	0.029	0.123	0.366
LB_SRI	0.294	-0.285	0.003	0.070	-0.145	0.174	0.165	-0.241	0.036	0.016	0.075	0.526	0.185	-0.186	0.025	0.048	-0.408	0.270	0.372	-0.239	0.001	0.001	0.018	0.863
PL_SAR	0.199	-0.217	0.013	0.033	0.129	0.336	0.243	-0.241	0.007	0.106	-0.205	0.084	0.128	-0.156	0.057	0.001	-0.022	0.903	0.088	-0.120	0.112	0.056	0.142	0.209
RE_SAR	0.043	-0.096	0.272	0.079	-0.123	0.132	0.009	-0.044	0.627	0.059	-0.113	0.203	0.003	-0.021	0.789	0.002	0.017	0.827	0.012	-0.042	0.572	0.002	-0.025	0.835
TL_BNA	0.061	-0.094	0.187	0.210	-0.153	0.011	0.079	-0.106	0.139	0.133	-0.170	0.052	0.011	-0.035	0.589	0.004	-0.022	0.757	0.054	-0.073	0.217	0.047	-0.153	0.252
UM_BGL	0.346	-0.215	0.001	0.343	-0.175	0.001	0.179	-0.151	0.022	0.093	-0.089	0.108	0.231	-0.153	0.008	0.047	-0.111	0.259	0.160	-0.122	0.028	0.042	-0.109	0.277
VA_SRI	0.015	0.083	0.545	0.004	0.033	0.744	0.236	0.378	0.012	0.233	0.246	0.013	0.099	0.183	0.117	0.000	0.008	0.956	0.010	0.053	0.613	0.019	-0.075	0.498
YR_SRI	0.026	-0.064	0.394	0.008	-0.043	0.628	0.003	-0.021	0.785	0.002	0.021	0.825	0.001	0.012	0.860	0.000	-0.012	0.949	0.036	-0.063	0.314	0.001	-0.019	0.838
ZA_SAR	0.013	-0.033	0.541	0.014	-0.031	0.527	0.143	-0.109	0.043	0.030	0.041	0.369	0.015	-0.031	0.529	0.000	-0.004	0.927	0.000	-0.002	0.960	0.015	0.030	0.526

Table S9. List of sea-ice and climate-related predictors used in SEM and analyses and in LME models (fixed effects) together with data sources. Climate variables (temperature, precipitation, SPEI) were calculated from CRU TS 4.01 data. SPEI was calculated using spei package (v1.7) (13, 14) in R. All predictors were standardized before the analyses (z-score), except for SPEI which was already represented by an index. Response variable was represented by ring-width index (RWI), which was a standardized mean annual growth after diameter RCS detrending (i.e., each chronology per responder group for SEM analyses and each shrub for LME models).

Predictor type	Variable code	Definition	Data Source
Pan-Arctic sea-ice extent (SIE)	pSON_pA	previous September-October-November mean Pan-Arctic sea-ice extent	NOAA/NSIDC (Climate Data Record of Passive Microwave Sea IceConcentration, Version 2)
	DJF_pA	previous December-January-February mean Pan-Arctic sea-ice extent	NOAA/NSIDC (Climate Data Record of Passive Microwave Sea IceConcentration, Version 2)
	MAM_pA	March-April-May mean Pan-Arctic sea-ice extent	NOAA/NSIDC (Climate Data Record of Passive Microwave Sea IceConcentration, Version 2)
	JJA_pA	June-July-August mean Pan-Arctic sea-ice extent	NOAA/NSIDC (Climate Data Record of Passive Microwave Sea IceConcentration, Version 2)
Regional sea-ice extent (SIE)	pSON	previous September-October-November mean regional sea-ice extent	NOAA/NSIDC (Climate Data Record of Passive Microwave Sea IceConcentration, Version 3)
	DJF	previous December-January-February mean regional sea-ice extent	NOAA/NSIDC (Climate Data Record of Passive Microwave Sea IceConcentration, Version 3)
	MAM	March-April-May mean regional sea-ice extent	NOAA/NSIDC (Climate Data Record of Passive Microwave Sea IceConcentration, Version 3)
	JJA	June-July-August mean regional sea-ice extent	NOAA/NSIDC (Climate Data Record of Passive Microwave Sea IceConcentration, Version 3)
Timing of regional sea-ice retreat and advance	pFAD	previous year first advance day of sea-ice at 50% sea-ice concentration threshold	Stroeve et al. (2016)
	pLRD	previous year last retreat day of regional sea-ice at 50% sea-ice concentration threshold	Stroeve et al. (2016)
	LRD	last retreat day of regional sea-ice at 50% sea-ice concentration threshold	Stroeve et al. (2016)
Climate variables	TEMP_JJA	June-July-August mean temperature	CRU TS 4.01
	PRECIP_JJA	June-July-August precipitation sum	CRU TS 4.01
	SPEI_JJA	June-July-August mean standardized precipitation evaporation index	CRU TS 4.01, spei package

Table S10. Piecewise SEM results for *increasers*. Linear mixed effect (LME) models for RWI, summer (June-to-August, JJA) SPEI, temperature and precipitation were implemented into each SEM with a random intercept for a site included in each model. Models were run for period (1979-2008), except for previous year sea ice variables (i.e. pLRD, pFAD, DJF, pSON, DJF_pA, pSON_pA) for which we lack measurements for year 1979. For the source data and the abbreviations, see Table S9.

Sea ice variable included in the model		<i>increasers</i>											R ² endogenous variables							
		p-value	Fisher's C test	Standardized parameter estimates										RWI	SPEI JJA	PRECI P JJA	TEMP JJA	AIC	AICc	
				RWI		SPEI JJA		PRECIP JJA		TEMP JJA										
Variable code				Sea ice variable	TEMP JJA	SPEI JJA	Sea ice variable	PRECI P JJA	TEMP JJA	Sea ice variable	TEMP JJA	Sea ice variable								
regional sea ice variables	LRD	0.084	4.957	Est.	-0.064	0.425	-0.035	-0.047	0.056	-0.230	-0.209	-0.208	-0.463	0.27	0.78	0.05	0.21	46.96	49.80	
				SE	0.021	0.020	0.024	0.032	0.027	0.030	0.060	0.056	0.048							
				df	370	370	370	373	373	373	375	375	376							
	pLRD	0.331	2.214	p-value	0.195	0.000	0.591	0.096	0.028	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.29	0.78	0.01	0.04	44.21	46.97	
				Est.	-0.130	0.427	-0.040	-0.020	0.066	-0.210	0.051	-0.077	-0.196							
				SE	0.019	0.019	0.025	0.029	0.027	0.028	0.055	0.053	0.053							
	pFAD	0.194	3.28	df	359	359	359	361	361	361	362	362	363							
				p-value	0.004	0.000	0.556	0.424	0.008	0.000	0.335	0.146	0.000							
				Est.	0.145	0.415	-0.040	0.004	0.065	-0.208	0.055	-0.100	0.257	0.30	0.78	0.01	0.07	45.28	48.10	
	JJA	0.058	5.707	SE	0.020	0.019	0.025	0.031	0.027	0.028	0.058	0.054	0.054							
				df	359	359	359	361	361	361	362	362	363							
				p-value	0.002	0.000	0.558	0.879	0.010	0.000	0.306	0.060	0.000							
MAM	0.139	3.948	Est.	-0.122	0.391	-0.035	-0.017	0.061	-0.216	-0.196	-0.214	-0.523	0.28	0.78	0.04	0.27	47.71	50.59		
			SE	0.025	0.021	0.024	0.039	0.027	0.032	0.072	0.058	0.054								
			df	370	370	370	373	373	373	375	375	376								
DJF	0.191	3.313	p-value	0.018	0.000	0.586	0.574	0.016	0.000	0.001	0.000	0.000								
			Est.	-0.001	0.456	-0.027	0.001	0.064	-0.207	-0.144	-0.139	-0.190	0.27	0.78	0.03	0.04	45.95	48.73		
			SE	0.025	0.018	0.024	0.039	0.027	0.027	0.073	0.051	0.072								
pSON	0.235	2.9	df	370	370	370	373	373	373	375	375	376								
			p-value	0.978	0.000	0.677	0.985	0.012	0.000	0.005	0.007	0.000								
			Est.	-0.094	0.438	-0.030	0.023	0.067	-0.202	-0.084	-0.101	-0.169	0.28	0.78	0.01	0.03	45.31	48.14		
Pan-Arctic sea ice variables	JJA_pA	0.113	4.35	SE	0.022	0.019	0.025	0.034	0.027	0.029	0.065	0.054	0.059							
				df	359	359	359	361	361	361	362	362	363							
				p-value	0.001	0.000	0.645	0.440	0.009	0.000	0.779	0.092	0.000							
	MAM_pA	0.147	3.838	Est.	-0.123	0.391	-0.017	0.055	0.065	-0.177	-0.045	-0.136	-0.549	0.28	0.78	0.01	0.30	46.36	49.16	
				SE	0.028	0.021	0.024	0.043	0.027	0.032	0.081	0.060	0.057							
				df	370	370	370	373	373	373	375	375	376							
	DJF_pA	0.195	3.272	p-value	0.021	0.000	0.790	0.066	0.009	0.000	0.457	0.025	0.000							
				Est.	-0.068	0.436	-0.023	0.030	0.063	-0.197	0.016	-0.106	-0.320	0.27	0.78	0.01	0.10	45.84	48.61	
				SE	0.021	0.019	0.024	0.031	0.027	0.028	0.060	0.053	0.054							
	pSON_pA	0.16	3.662	df	370	370	370	373	373	373	375	375	376							
				p-value	0.147	0.000	0.726	0.250	0.011	0.000	0.771	0.047	0.000							
				Est.	-0.131	0.410	-0.029	0.016	0.066	-0.201	-0.062	-0.108	-0.344	0.29	0.78	0.01	0.12	45.27	48.09	
		SE	0.022	0.020	0.025	0.034	0.027	0.029	0.064	0.055	0.057									
		df	359	359	359	361	361	361	362	362	363									
		p-value	0.006	0.000	0.663	0.542	0.009	0.000	0.262	0.050	0.000									
		Est.	-0.209	0.374	-0.016	0.048	0.068	-0.187	-0.054	-0.108	-0.399	0.31	0.78	0.01	0.16	45.66	48.51			
		SE	0.025	0.020	0.024	0.039	0.027	0.030	0.074	0.057	0.062									
		df	359	359	359	361	361	361	362	362	363									
		p-value	0.000	0.000	0.817	0.075	0.007	0.000	0.339	0.055	0.000									

Table S11. Piecewise SEM results for *decreasers*. Linear mixed effect (LME) models for RWI, summer (June-to-August, JJA) SPEI, temperature and precipitation were implemented into each SEM with a random intercept for a site included in each model. Models were run for period (1979-2008), except for previous year sea ice variables (i.e. pLRD, pFAD, DJF, pSON, DJF_pA, pSON_pA) for which we lack measurements for year 1979. For the source data and the abbreviations, see Table S9.

Sea ice variable included in the model		<i>decreasers</i>											R ² endogenous variables							
		p-value	Fisher's C test	Standardized parameter estimates										RWI	SPEI JJA	PRECI P JJA	TEMP JJA	AIC	AICc	
				RWI		SPEI JJA			PRECIP JJA		TEMP JJA									
Variable code			Sea ice variable	TEMP JJA	SPEI JJA	Sea ice variable	PRECIP JJA	TEMP JJA	Sea ice variable	TEMP JJA	Sea ice variable									
regional sea ice variables	LRD	0.495	1.405	Est.	0.130	0.127	0.235	0.075	0.241	-0.110	-0.045	-0.060	-0.528	0.10	0.76	0.00	0.28	43.41	47.30	
				SE	0.026	0.024	0.053	0.019	0.015	0.018	0.077	0.072	0.056							
				df	255	255	255	258	258	258	259	259	260							
	pLRD	0.472	1.501	p-value	0.067	0.070	0.002	0.042	0.000	0.003	0.537	0.405	0.000	0.09	0.85	0.00	0.05	43.50	47.56	
				Est.	0.134	0.076	0.190	0.066	0.216	-0.191	-0.016	-0.066	-0.235							
				SE	0.023	0.022	0.059	0.013	0.012	0.012	0.070	0.066	0.064							
	pFAD	0.588	1.061	df	246	246	246	249	249	249	250	250	251							
				p-value	0.034	0.234	0.018	0.013	0.000	0.000	0.807	0.302	0.000	0.14	0.85	0.01	0.04	43.06	47.08	
				Est.	-0.282	0.092	0.147	-0.096	0.208	-0.188	-0.077	-0.047	0.201							
	JJA	0.401	1.83	SE	0.023	0.021	0.060	0.013	0.011	0.012	0.070	0.065	0.065							
				df	246	246	246	249	249	249	250	250	251							
				p-value	0.000	0.134	0.070	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.224	0.459	0.001	0.10	0.76	0.01	0.22	43.83	47.77	
MAM	0.309	2.347	Est.	0.146	0.098	0.234	0.035	0.244	-0.140	-0.154	-0.079	-0.274	0.11	0.75	0.02	0.08	44.35	48.33		
			SE	0.029	0.021	0.053	0.022	0.015	0.016	0.086	0.063	0.080								
			df	255	255	255	258	258	258	259	259	260								
DJF	0.522	1.3	p-value	0.020	0.114	0.002	0.292	0.000	0.000	0.015	0.211	0.000	0.10	0.84	0.01	0.03	43.30	47.34		
			Est.	0.176	0.070	0.173	0.020	0.214	-0.203	0.045	-0.055	-0.165								
			SE	0.027	0.022	0.060	0.016	0.012	0.012	0.082	0.065	0.077								
pSON	0.777	0.504	df	246	246	246	249	249	249	250	250	251								
			p-value	0.006	0.264	0.033	0.451	0.000	0.000	0.478	0.382	0.008	0.15	0.85	0.02	0.03	42.50	46.47		
			Est.	0.297	0.085	0.151	0.088	0.204	-0.193	0.118	-0.043	-0.165								
Pan-Arctic sea ice variables	JJA_pA	0.892	0.229	SE	0.026	0.021	0.059	0.015	0.011	0.012	0.081	0.065	0.077							
				df	246	246	246	249	249	249	250	250	251							
				p-value	0.000	0.160	0.061	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.061	0.492	0.008	0.28	0.77	0.02	0.14	42.23	46.02	
	MAM_pA	0.952	0.099	Est.	0.502	0.223	0.109	0.136	0.220	-0.099	0.164	0.025	-0.377	0.32	0.76	0.02	0.06	42.10	45.88	
				SE	0.027	0.019	0.051	0.022	0.015	0.016	0.088	0.065	0.076							
				df	255	255	255	258	258	258	259	259	260							
	DJF_pA	0.421	1.732	p-value	0.000	0.000	0.130	0.000	0.000	0.003	0.013	0.699	0.000	0.29	0.85	0.05	0.03	43.73	47.81	
				Est.	0.514	0.169	0.138	0.094	0.228	-0.126	0.122	-0.006	-0.251							
				SE	0.021	0.018	0.049	0.017	0.015	0.015	0.070	0.063	0.066							
	pSON_pA	0.525	1.288	df	255	255	255	258	258	258	259	259	260							
				p-value	0.000	0.002	0.049	0.004	0.000	0.000	0.052	0.926	0.000	0.28	0.85	0.05	0.03	43.29	47.32	
				Est.	0.490	0.108	0.095	0.063	0.202	-0.196	0.211	-0.025	-0.175							
		SE	0.022	0.019	0.057	0.014	0.012	0.012	0.074	0.064	0.071									
		df	246	246	246	249	249	249	250	250	251									
		p-value	0.000	0.053	0.224	0.018	0.000	0.000	0.001	0.681	0.005									
		Est.	0.477	0.095	0.077	0.084	0.197	-0.194	0.217	-0.028	-0.159									
		SE	0.026	0.019	0.058	0.016	0.012	0.012	0.083	0.063	0.080									
		df	246	246	246	249	249	249	250	250	251									
		p-value	0.000	0.094	0.327	0.001	0.000	0.000	0.001	0.649	0.010									

Table S12. Parameter estimates (β) for sea ice predictors with associated 95% confidence intervals from top ranked linear mixed-effect models for *increasers (top)* and *decreasers (bottom)* in the study period 1980-2008. Model parameter estimates were calculated using maximum likelihood method. Response variable is represented by all shrubs mean ring width index (RWI) after dRCS detrending and square root transformation. Random intercept of a shrub (n=363 *increasers* and n=251 *decreasers*) nested within a site (n=13 *increasers* and n=9 *decreasers*; i.e. six geographic locations for nine *decreasers* chronologies) was included to each model. SE - standard error; df - number of pairs tested; sd - standard deviation for random effects; R²m - marginal R²; R²c - conditional R²; AICc - Akaike's information criteria with small sample bias adjustment. Nonsignificant relationships are marked in grey font. For the source data and the abbreviations, see Table S9.

<i>increasers</i>																	
model	Intercept	β	lower CI	upper CI	SE	df	t-value	sd: Site	sd: Shrub in Site	sd: Residual	AICc	delta	weight	predictor p-value	Intercept p-value	R ² m	R ² c
JJA	0.977	-0.061	-0.069	-0.053	0.004	10870	-15.1	0.046	0.172	0.341	6505	0	1	0.000	0.000	0.017	0.229
pSON_pA	0.985	-0.071	-0.082	-0.061	0.005	10870	-13.5	0.047	0.171	0.343	6549	45	0	0.000	0.000	0.018	0.225
LRD	0.973	-0.043	-0.049	-0.036	0.003	10870	-12.5	0.046	0.173	0.343	6574	70	0	0.000	0.000	0.011	0.222
pSON	0.975	-0.045	-0.054	-0.037	0.004	10870	-10.6	0.046	0.172	0.344	6618	114	0	0.000	0.000	0.009	0.219
JJA_pA	0.981	-0.057	-0.068	-0.046	0.006	10870	-10.3	0.046	0.171	0.345	6622	117	0	0.000	0.000	0.011	0.217
pFAD	0.972	0.025	0.017	0.032	0.004	10870	6.6	0.046	0.173	0.345	6685	180	0	0.000	0.000	0.003	0.215
DJF_pA	0.974	-0.031	-0.041	-0.021	0.005	10870	-6.0	0.046	0.172	0.346	6692	188	0	0.000	0.000	0.004	0.213
pLRD	0.97	-0.017	-0.023	-0.010	0.003	10870	-4.9	0.046	0.173	0.346	6704	199	0	0.000	0.000	0.002	0.213
DJF	0.969	-0.016	-0.026	-0.007	0.005	10870	-3.3	0.046	0.173	0.347	6716	211	0	0.001	0.000	0.001	0.211
MAM	0.968	-0.010	-0.020	-0.001	0.005	10870	-2.1	0.046	0.173	0.348	6722	218	0	0.000	0.034	0.000	0.210
null model	0.967	n.a.	0.934	1.000	0.017	10871	57.1	0.046	0.173	0.348	6725	220	0	n.a.	0.000	0.000	0.210
MAM_pA	0.967	-0.002	-0.011	0.007	0.005	10870	-0.4	0.046	0.173	0.348	6727	222	0	0.681	0.000	0.000	0.210
<i>decreasers</i>																	
model	Intercept	β	lower CI	upper CI	SE	df	t-value	sd: Site	sd: Shrub in Site	sd: Residual	AICc	delta	weight	predictor p-value	Intercept p-value	R ² m	R ² c
DJF_pA	0.933	0.076	0.065	0.087	0.006	7558	13.3	0.024	0.152	0.308	2175	0	1	0.000	0.000	0.031	0.225
MAM_pA	0.943	0.058	0.048	0.069	0.005	7558	11.3	0.027	0.151	0.310	2220	45	0	0.000	0.000	0.019	0.211
pSON_pA	0.933	0.068	0.056	0.079	0.006	7558	11.2	0.024	0.150	0.311	2221	46	0	0.000	0.000	0.019	0.209
pSON	0.943	0.027	0.018	0.035	0.004	7558	6.2	0.033	0.143	0.317	2299	124	0	0.000	0.000	0.004	0.181
JJA_pA	0.94	0.040	0.028	0.052	0.006	7558	6.5	0.028	0.147	0.314	2299	124	0	0.000	0.000	0.006	0.191
MAM	0.946	0.019	0.009	0.029	0.005	7558	3.9	0.031	0.141	0.319	2321	147	0	0.000	0.000	0.002	0.172
pFAD	0.945	-0.014	-0.021	-0.006	0.004	7558	-3.5	0.032	0.142	0.318	2324	150	0	0.001	0.000	0.001	0.174
DJF	0.948	0.016	0.007	0.026	0.005	7558	3.3	0.029	0.142	0.319	2325	151	0	0.001	0.000	0.001	0.171
JJA	0.946	0.013	0.005	0.021	0.004	7558	3.2	0.032	0.142	0.319	2326	151	0	0.001	0.000	0.001	0.172
LRD	0.946	0.008	0.001	0.015	0.004	7558	2.2	0.033	0.141	0.319	2332	157	0	0.029	0.029	0.000	0.171
null model	0.947	n.a.	0.916	0.978	0.016	7559	59.8	0.033	0.140	0.320	2334	160	0	0.000	n.a.	0.000	0.169
pLRD	0.948	-0.001	-0.008	0.006	0.004	7558	-0.3	0.033	0.140	0.320	2336	162	0	0.750	0.000	0.000	0.168

Table S13. Comparison of best sea ice versus best overall linear mixed effect (LME) models fitted to each site separately using all shrubs (n=19,061 ring-width values in total), instead of chronologies, for common period (1980-2008) per site and species. A random intercept for year was included in each model. Response variable was represented by RWI after dRCS detrending and square root transformation. See Table S9 for full names of predictors used in LME models. SE - standard error; Δ AIC - difference between a null model and best model for each site; R^2_m - marginal R^2 ; R^2_c - conditional R^2 . All predictor variables were transformed to z-scores prior the analysis. Grey font indicates nonsignificant models.

Chronology ID	Responder	Species	# shrubs	Best sea ice MODEL	Δ AIC	β	SE	p-value	R^2_m	R^2_c	Best MODEL	Δ AIC	β	SE	p-value	R^2_m	R^2_c
AF_SAR	increaser	<i>Salix arctica</i>	29	pSON_pA	3	-0.071	0.031	0.030	0.03	0.14	SPEI_JJA	8	-0.151	0.043	0.002	0.05	0.14
BL_BGL	decreaser	<i>Betula glandulosa</i>	44	MAM_pA	15	0.120	0.025	0.000	0.09	0.21	MAM_pA	15	0.120	0.025	0.000	0.09	0.21
BS_BGL	increaser	<i>Betula glandulosa</i>	39	pSON_pA	20	-0.242	0.042	0.000	0.19	0.32	pSON_pA	20	-0.242	0.042	0.000	0.19	0.32
BT_BGL	increaser	<i>Betula glandulosa</i>	76	JJA	10	-0.159	0.042	0.001	0.11	0.32	JJA	10	-0.159	0.042	0.001	0.11	0.32
DE_SGL	decreaser	<i>Salix glauca</i>	15	pSON_pA	13	0.102	0.023	0.000	0.07	0.09	pSON_pA	13	0.102	0.023	0.000	0.07	0.09
DK_BNA	increaser	<i>Betula nana</i>	15	DJF	13	-0.135	0.031	0.000	0.12	0.28	DJF	13	-0.135	0.031	0.000	0.12	0.28
EB_SPO	increaser	<i>Salix polaris</i>	10	JJA_pA	2	-0.112	0.055	0.052	0.04	0.24	TEMP_JJA	11	0.147	0.019	0.000	0.11	0.24
GR_BGL	increaser	<i>Betula glandulosa</i>	17	DJF_pA	10	-0.093	0.023	0.000	0.08	0.16	DJF_pA	10	-0.093	0.023	0.000	0.08	0.16
HE_SAR	decreaser	<i>Salix arctica</i>	24	JJA_pA	18	0.229	0.044	0.000	0.09	0.09	JJA_pA	18	0.229	0.044	0.000	0.09	0.09
HE_SRI	decreaser	<i>Salix richardsonii</i>	17	DJF_pA	27	0.126	0.019	0.000	0.08	0.08	DJF_pA	27	0.126	0.019	0.000	0.08	0.08
KG_BNA	decreaser	<i>Betula nana</i>	42	DJF_pA	10	0.105	0.028	0.001	0.07	0.21	DJF_pA	10	0.105	0.028	0.001	0.07	0.21
KG_SGL	decreaser	<i>Salix glauca</i>	32	DJF_pA	7	0.087	0.027	0.003	0.05	0.14	DJF_pA	7	0.087	0.027	0.003	0.05	0.14
KY_BNA	decreaser	<i>Betula nana</i>	19	MAM_pA	7	0.075	0.024	0.004	0.04	0.11	MAM_pA	7	0.075	0.024	0.004	0.04	0.11
KY_SPU	decreaser	<i>Salix pulchra</i>	19	not sig.	0	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	not sig.	0	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
LA_SAR	increaser	<i>Salix arctica</i>	19	pSON	3	-0.155	0.070	0.035	0.05	0.33	SPEI_JJA	7	-0.199	0.062	0.003	0.10	0.33
LB_SRI	increaser	<i>Salix lanata</i>	29	MAM_pA	8	-0.109	0.031	0.002	0.09	0.22	TEMP_JJA	30	0.127	0.008	0.000	0.20	0.22
PL_SAR	increaser	<i>Salix arctica</i>	10	pSON_pA	3	-0.091	0.038	0.024	0.03	0.11	pSON_pA	3	-0.091	0.038	0.024	0.03	0.11
RE_SAR	increaser	<i>Salix arctica</i>	31	not sig.	0	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	PRECIP_JJA	4	-0.068	0.014	0.000	0.02	0.10
TL_BNA	increaser	<i>Betula nana</i>	29	LRD	6	-0.083	0.028	0.006	0.04	0.12	TEMP_JJA	15	0.094	0.011	0.000	0.07	0.12
UM_BGL	increaser	<i>Betula glandulosa</i>	25	LRD	7	-0.063	0.020	0.003	0.03	0.07	TEMP_JJA	8	0.054	0.010	0.000	0.04	0.07
VA_SRI	decreaser	<i>Salix lanata</i>	39	pSON	5	0.126	0.045	0.010	0.11	0.44	TEMP_JJA	16	0.145	0.007	0.000	0.23	0.44
ZA_SAR	increaser	<i>Salix arctica</i>	34	LRD50	2	-0.039	0.020	0.063	0.01	0.05	TEMP_JJA	1	0.034	0.011	0.003	0.01	0.05

Table S14. Linear mixed-effect models for double detrended series. Parameter estimates (β) with their associated 95% confidence intervals for linear mixed-effect (LME) models for *increasers* (top) and *decreasers* (bottom) fitted to each responder group using all shrubs, instead of chronologies for common period (1980-2008), and double detrended series (both RWI for each shrub and sea ice-related predictors time-series). A random intercept for a site was included in each model. For the source data and the abbreviations, see Table S9. SE - standard error; AICc - Akaike's information criteria with small sample bias adjustment; R²m - marginal R²; R²c - conditional R². Not significant values are marked in grey italics. Note various number of df (i.e., pairs tested) within each model, as a results of AR detrending where some series were shortened. Therefore, model rank should be taken with caution.

<i>increasers</i>																
model	Intercept	β	lower CI	upper CI	SE	df	t-value	sd: Site	sd: Residual	AICc	delta	weight	predictor p-value	Intercept p-value	R ² m	R ² c
pFAD	0.006	0.041	0.010	0.071	0.015	10215	2.6	0.000	0.980	26454	0	1	0.009	0.699	0.002	0.002
pSON	-0.003	-0.041	-0.072	-0.010	0.016	10354	-2.6	0.000	0.982	26822	369	0	0.010	0.864	0.002	0.002
pLRD	0.001	-0.019	-0.048	0.010	0.015	10423	-1.3	0.000	0.982	27008	555	0	0.199	0.958	0.000	0.000
DJF	0.004	-0.008	-0.037	0.021	0.015	10662	-0.5	0.000	0.979	27618	1164	0	0.587	0.797	0.000	0.000
pSON_pA	-0.005	-0.110	-0.139	-0.081	0.015	10692	-7.4	0.000	0.973	27625	1172	0	0.000	0.718	0.012	0.012
JJA_pA	-0.002	-0.074	-0.103	-0.046	0.015	10692	-5.1	0.000	0.976	27654	1200	0	0.000	0.885	0.006	0.006
LRD	0.01	-0.119	-0.147	-0.090	0.014	10708	-8.2	0.000	0.972	27670	1217	0	0.000	0.516	0.014	0.014
DJF_pA	0.002	0.012	-0.018	0.041	0.015	10692	0.8	0.000	0.979	27679	1226	0	0.431	0.899	0.000	0.000
JJA	-0.006	-0.099	-0.129	-0.070	0.015	10737	-6.7	0.000	0.975	27788	1335	0	0.000	0.708	0.009	0.009
MAM	0.004	0.013	-0.016	0.042	0.015	10730	0.9	0.000	0.981	27834	1381	0	0.384	0.811	0.000	0.000
MAM_pA	0.006	0.072	0.044	0.100	0.014	10821	5.0	0.000	0.979	28079	1625	0	0.000	0.679	0.005	0.005
null model	0.003	n.a.	-0.027	0.032	0.015	10822	0.2	0.000	0.982	28102	1648	0	n.a.	0.859	0.000	0.000
<i>decreasers</i>																
model	Intercept	β	lower CI	upper CI	SE	df	t-value	sd: Site	sd: Residual	AICc	delta	weight	predictor p-value	Intercept p-value	R ² m	R ² c
pFAD	-0.007	0.023	-0.011	0.058	0.018	7105	1.3	0.000	0.966	18390	0	1	0.189	0.686	0.001	0.001
pLRD	0.001	-0.015	-0.048	0.017	0.017	7242	-0.9	0.000	0.972	18861	471	0	0.361	0.945	0.000	0.000
pSON	0.000	0.047	0.012	0.081	0.018	7309	2.7	0.000	0.974	19063	672	0	0.008	0.985	0.002	0.002
LRD	-0.001	0.008	-0.024	0.041	0.017	7459	0.5	0.000	0.979	19539	1149	0	0.617	0.953	0.000	0.000
JJA	0.005	0.079	0.046	0.112	0.017	7471	4.7	0.000	0.977	19559	1169	0	0.000	0.786	0.006	0.006
DJF_pA	0.006	0.095	0.061	0.129	0.017	7481	5.5	0.000	0.974	19601	1211	0	0.000	0.706	0.009	0.009
pSON_pA	0.006	0.089	0.055	0.123	0.017	7481	5.1	0.000	0.974	19605	1215	0	0.000	0.717	0.007	0.007
JJA_pA	0.002	0.006	-0.027	0.039	0.017	7481	0.4	0.000	0.978	19631	1241	0	0.714	0.907	0.000	0.000
MAM	0.001	0.038	0.006	0.071	0.017	7481	2.3	0.000	0.981	19650	1260	0	0.022	0.955	0.002	0.002
DJF	0.007	0.022	-0.012	0.055	0.017	7504	1.3	0.000	0.980	19714	1323	0	0.204	0.704	0.000	0.000
MAM_pA	0.008	0.109	0.077	0.142	0.017	7534	6.6	0.000	0.976	19772	1381	0	0.000	0.620	0.012	0.012
null model	0.002	n.a.	-0.032	0.036	0.017	7535	0.1	0.000	0.983	19813	1422	0	n.a.	0.887	0.000	0.000

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