

The Global Loss of Large Marine Predators

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Canada

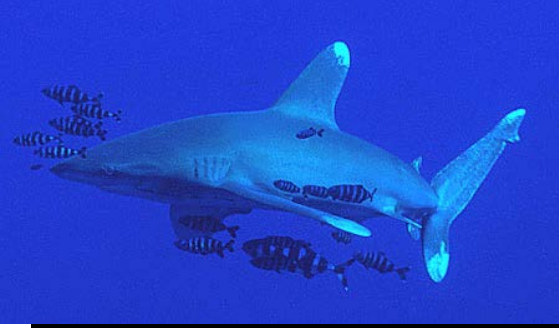


Pew Global Sharks Assessment
FMAP (Future of Marine Animal Populations)
<http://www.fmap.ca>

<http://www.globalsharks.ca>
Lenfest Extinction Project

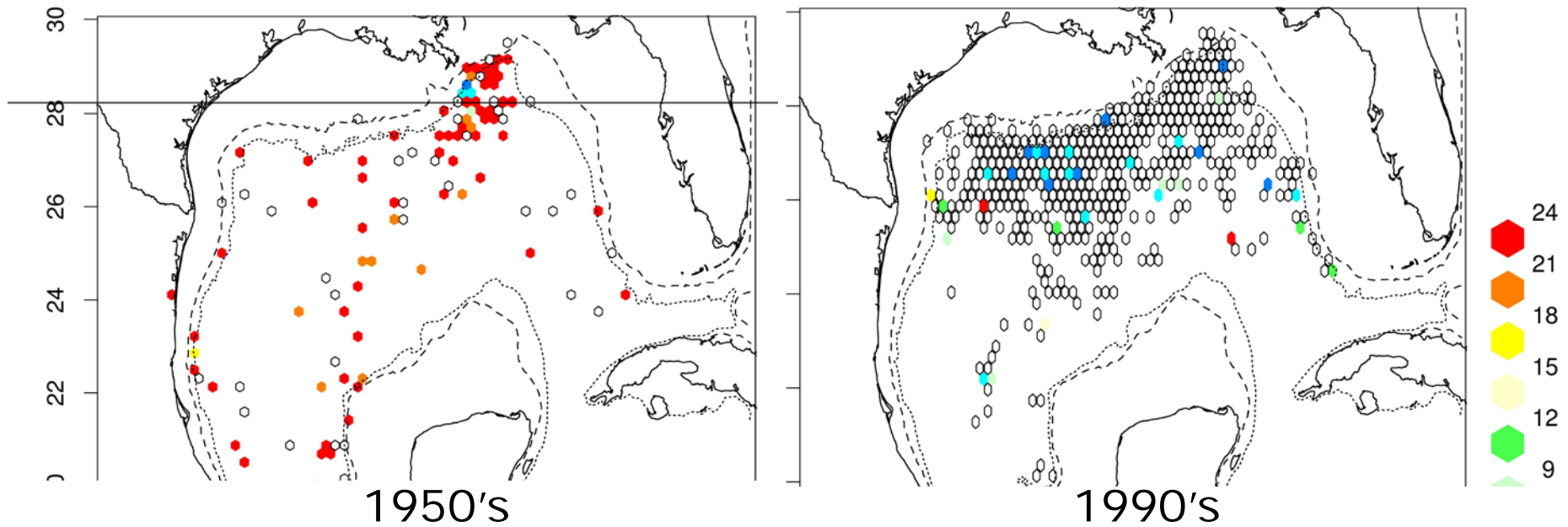
What was the most common large animal (>40 Kg) in the world? (perhaps this one was)





Loss of sharks in the Gulf of Mexico

300 fold decline – no one noticed



Oceanic Whitetip captures per 10,000 hooks



Right whale with lobster bouys- Sept. 2004



Same right whale – April 2005???



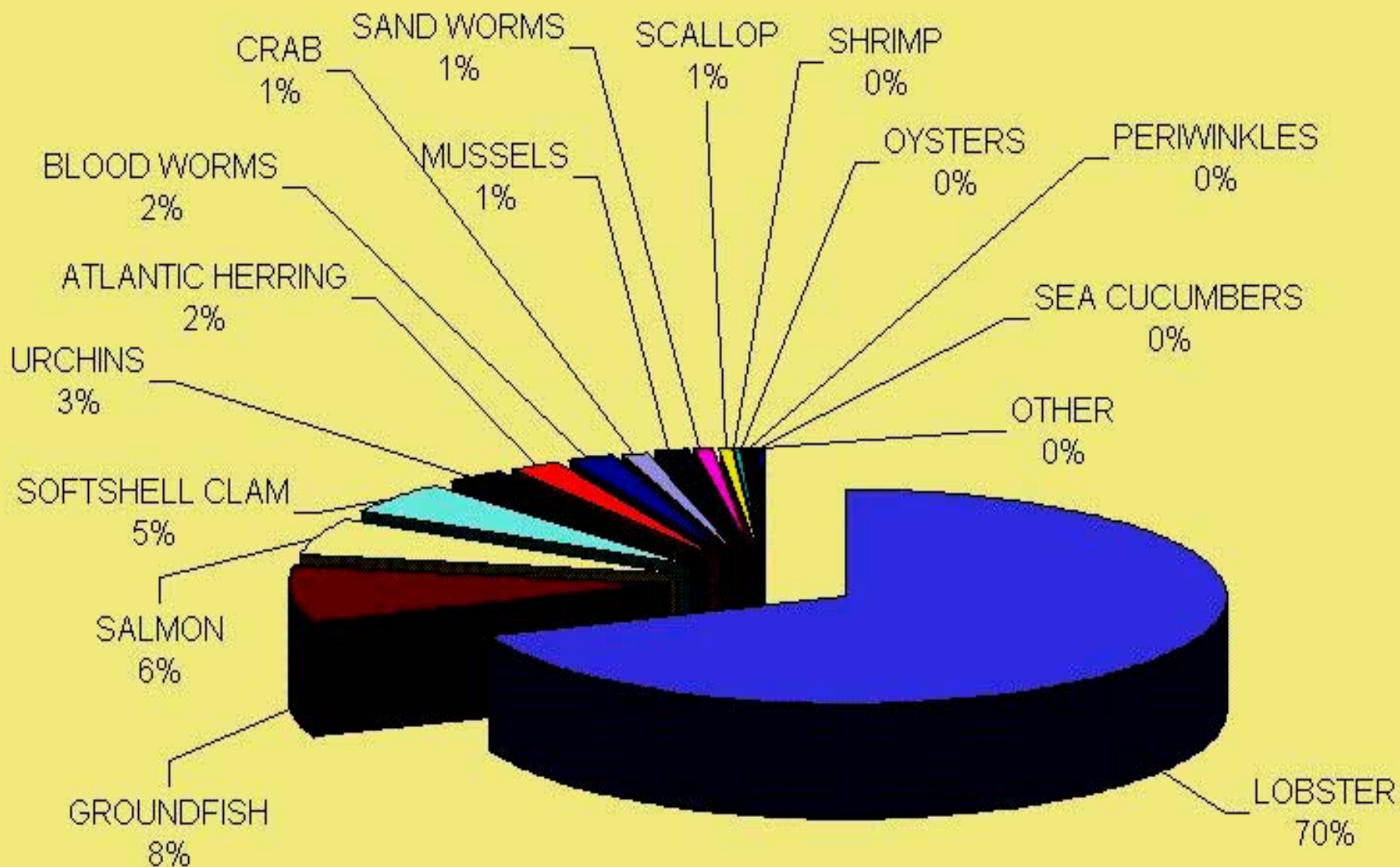
VAQ620091608
Eg
Shipal 3rd of 4
3 March 2005
C.T. Henry



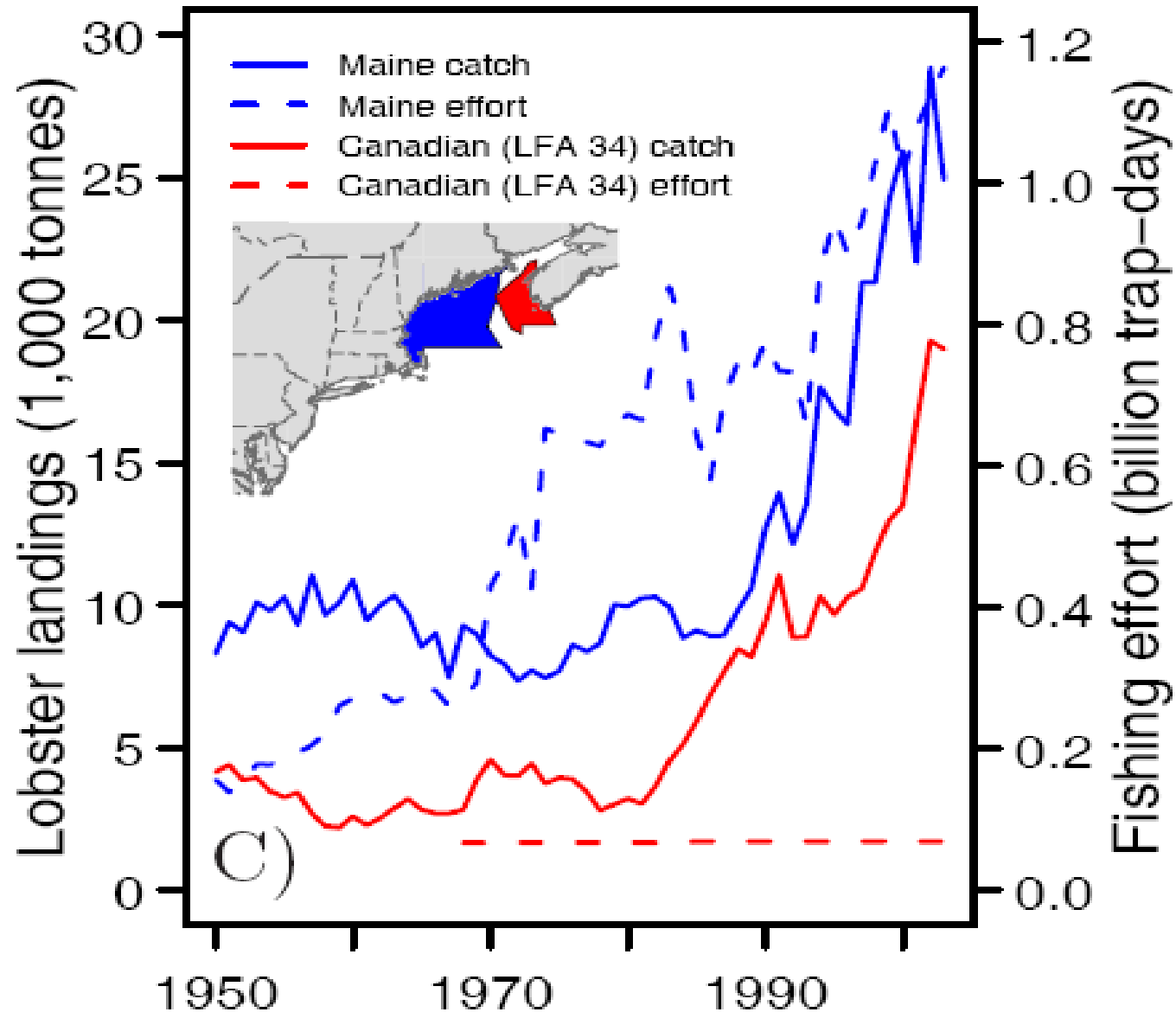
Only lobster traps as far as the eye can see.....

Preliminary 2002 Maine Landings By Value

Total Value: \$299,198,465 as of 5/20/03



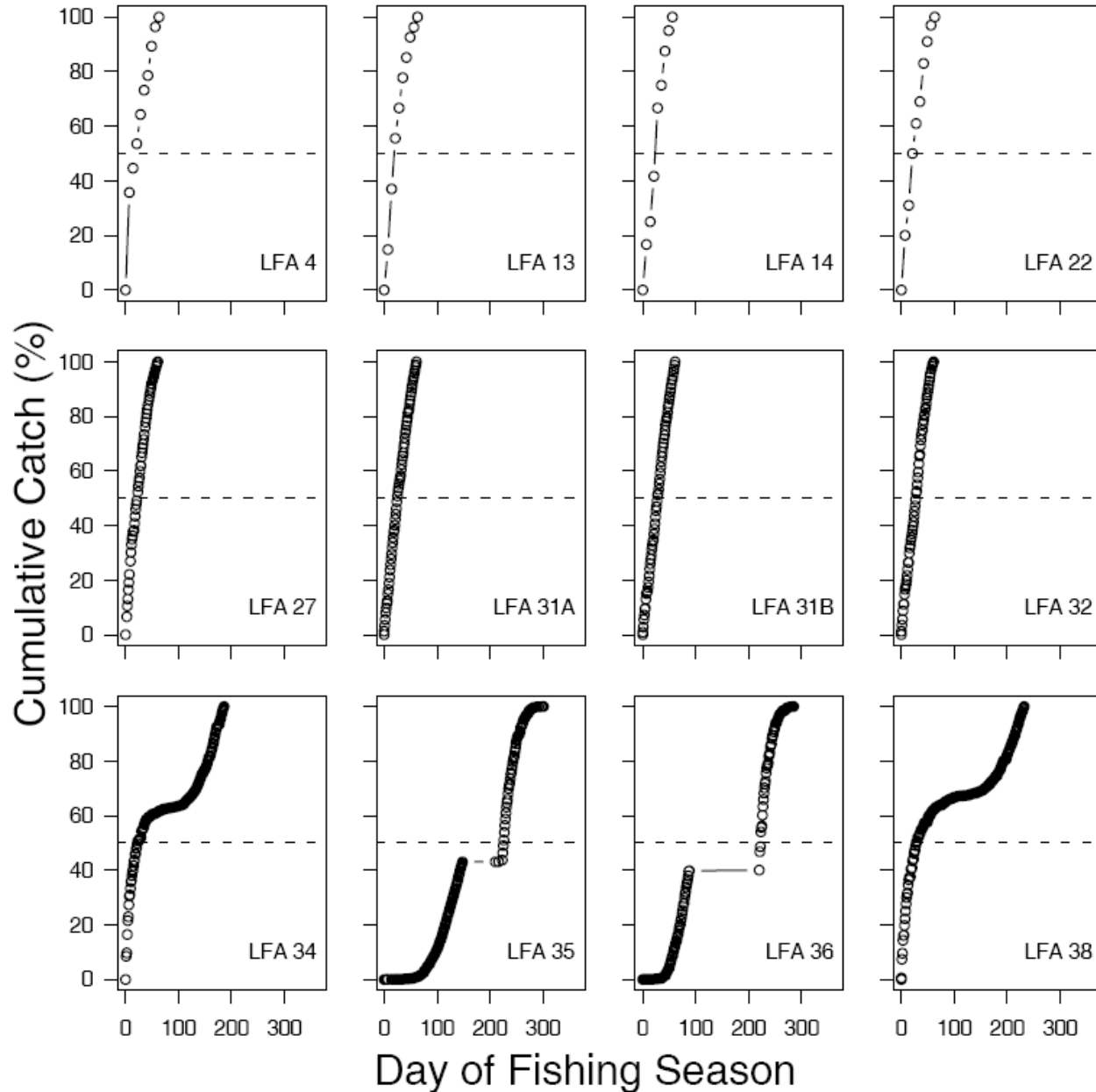
Nova Scotia has had a larger increase in lobster landings in the Gulf of Maine

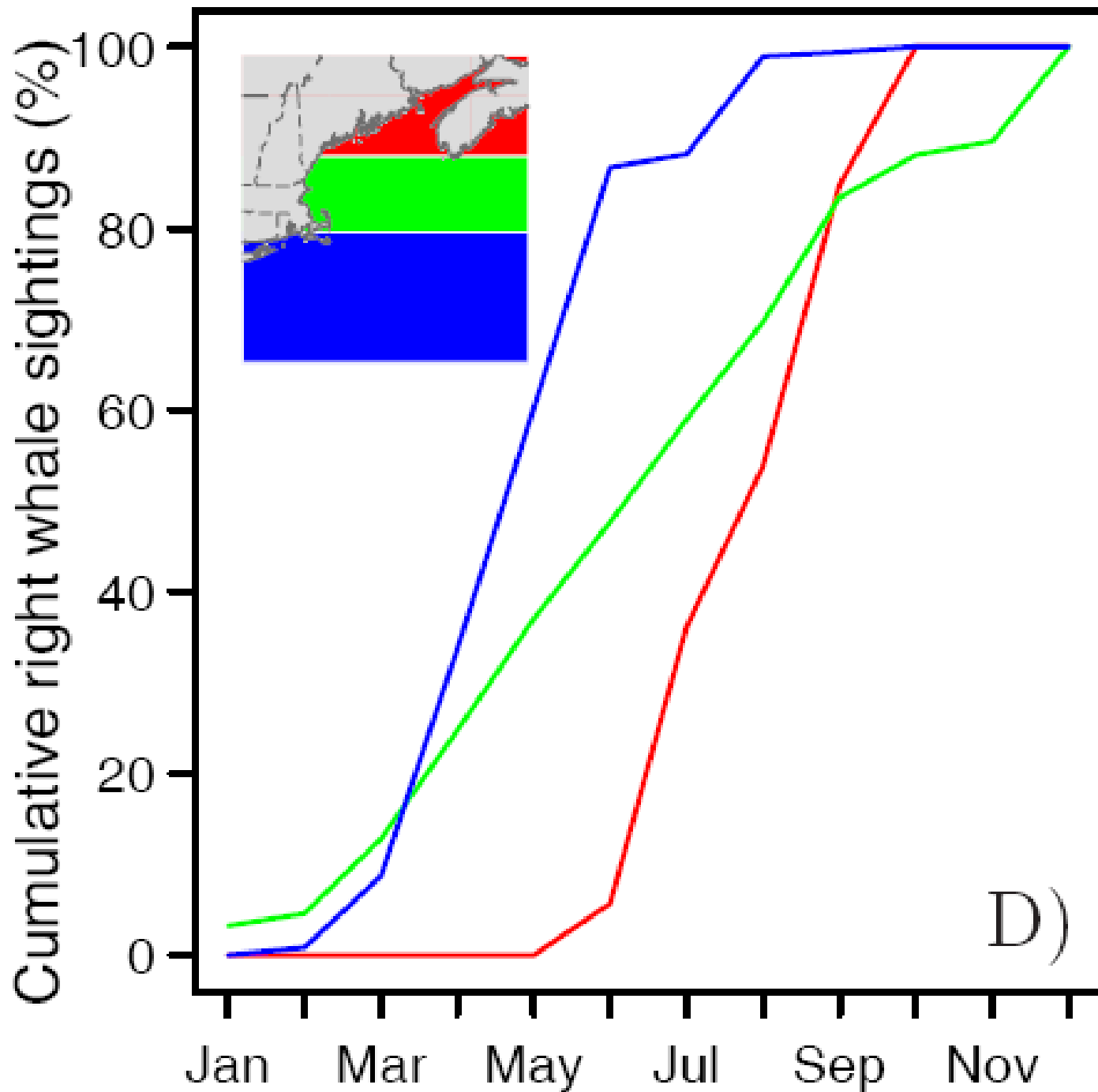


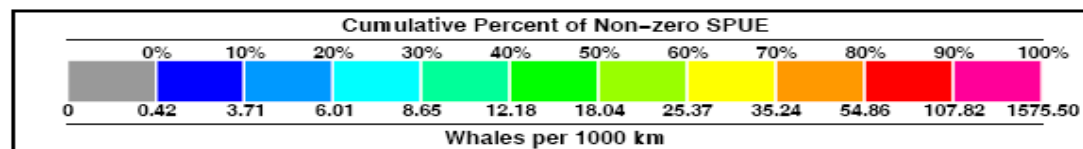
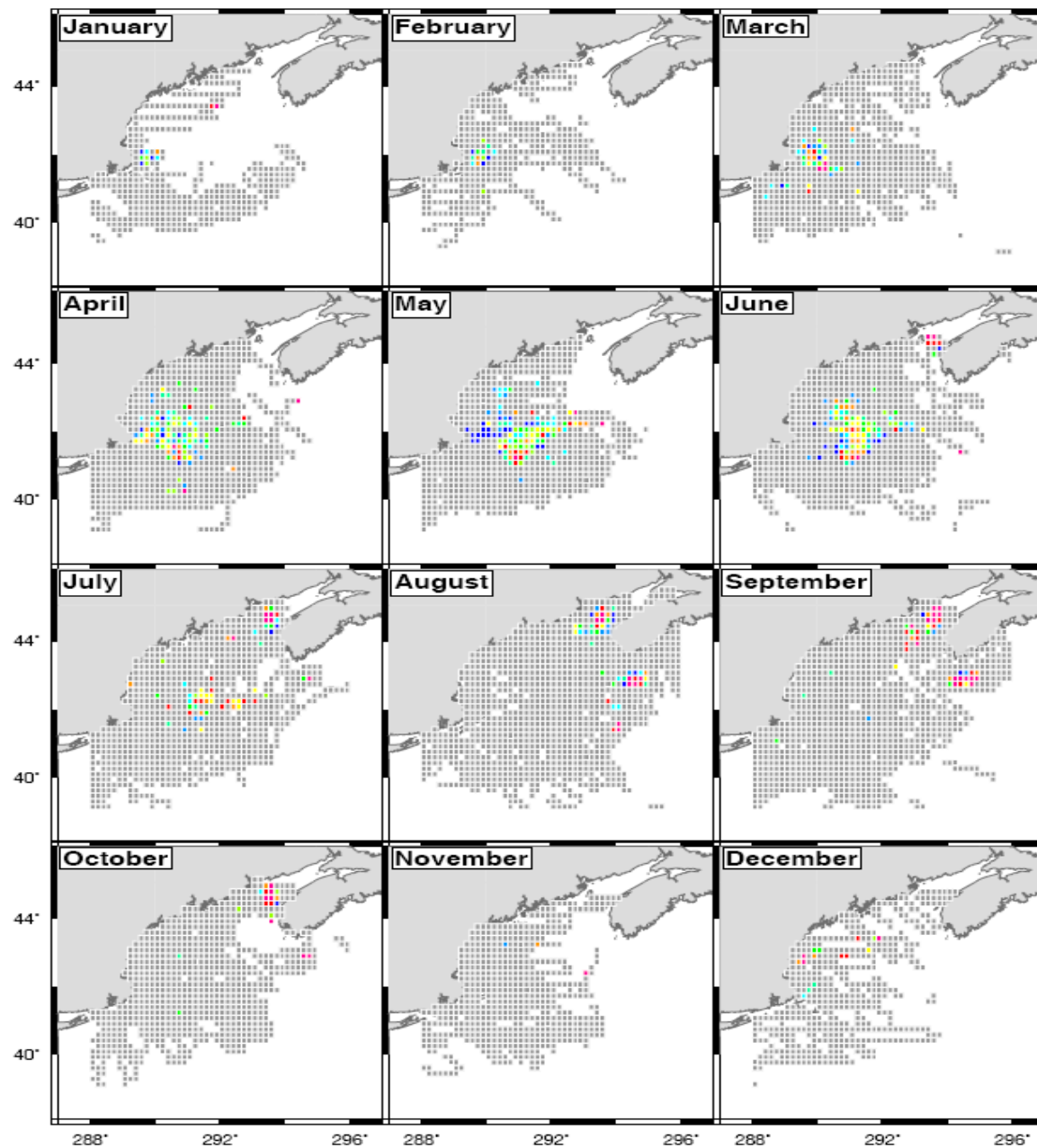
Comparison in 2003

	Maine	LFA 34 (S.W.NS)	Maine/LFA34
Landings tonnes	24935	19000	1.31
Fishieres	6812	986 (licenses)	
Traps	3,189,471	369750 (fall) 394400 (spr)	8.62 (fall number)
Season-days	365	185	1.97
Minimum overcapacity of Maine compared to Southwest Nova Scotia			~13

In Canada, half the catch is caught in one month, this would results in twice the optimal fishing mortality, this implies that effort is about 100 times too high in the USA.









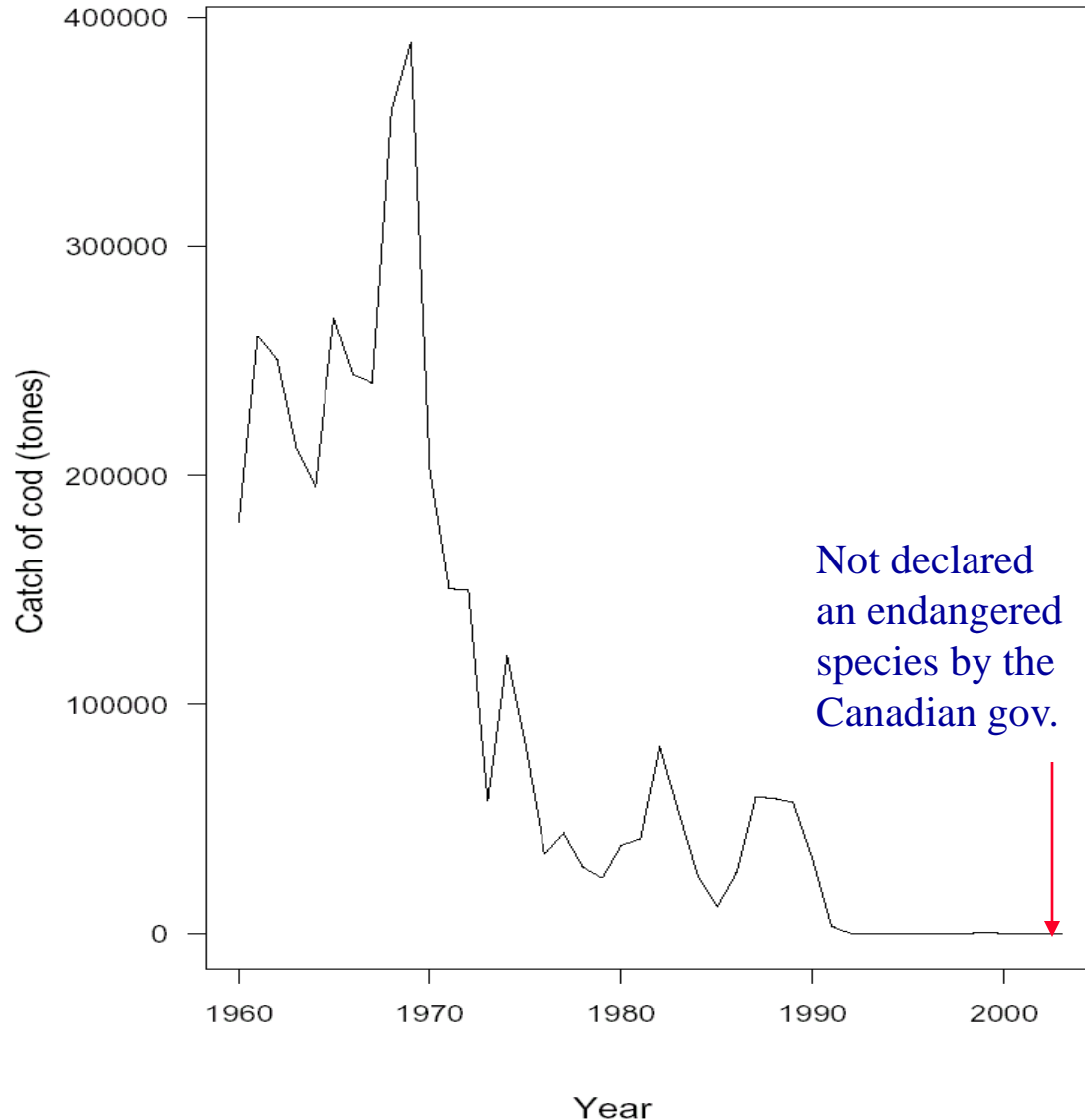


Collapse of cod: cost ~ Can\$5,000,000,000.00

Newfoundland cod

The loss of an industry that employed 40,000 people, and had sustained a culture for 400 years.

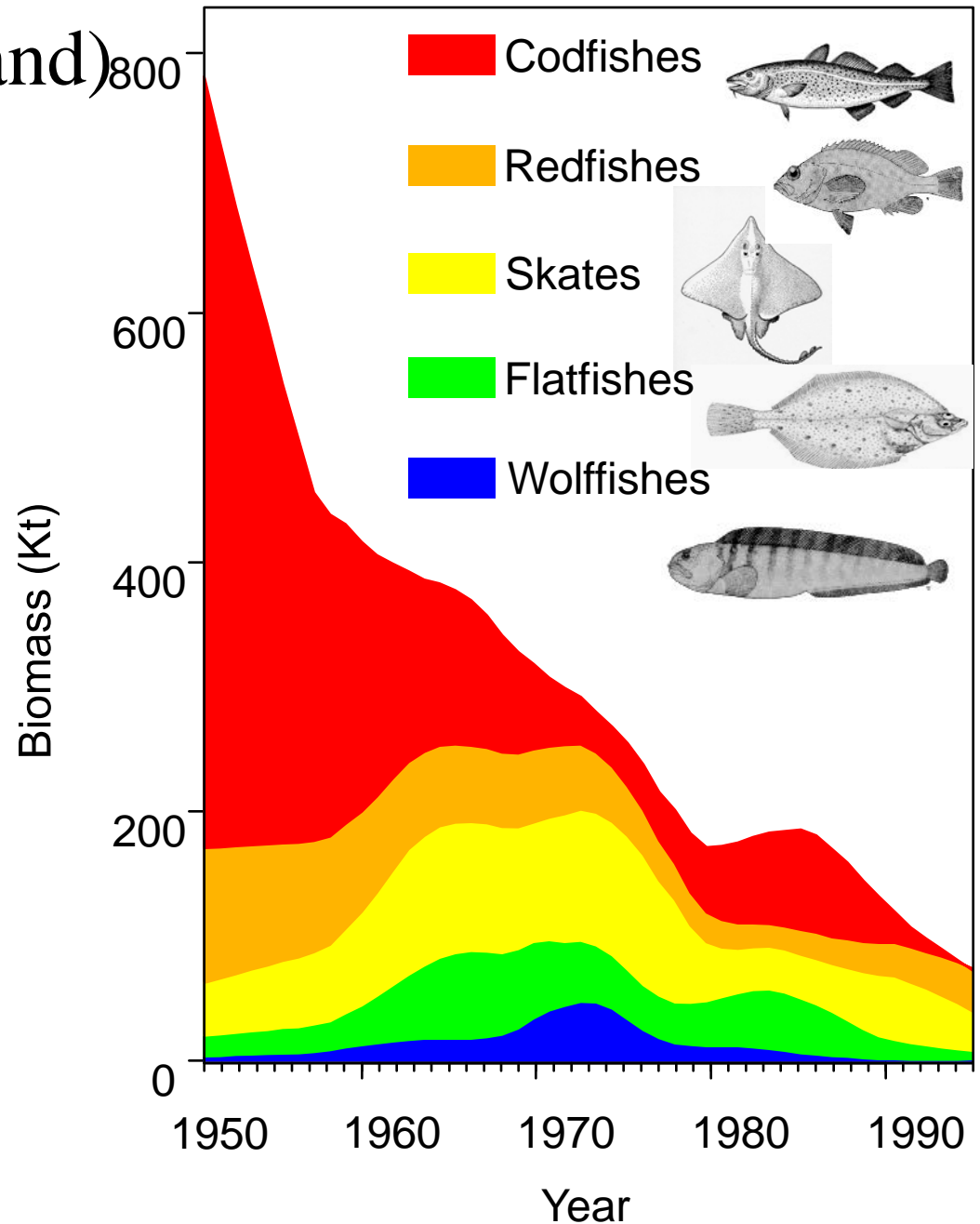
Cod in Newfoundland declared NOT endangered in 2003.

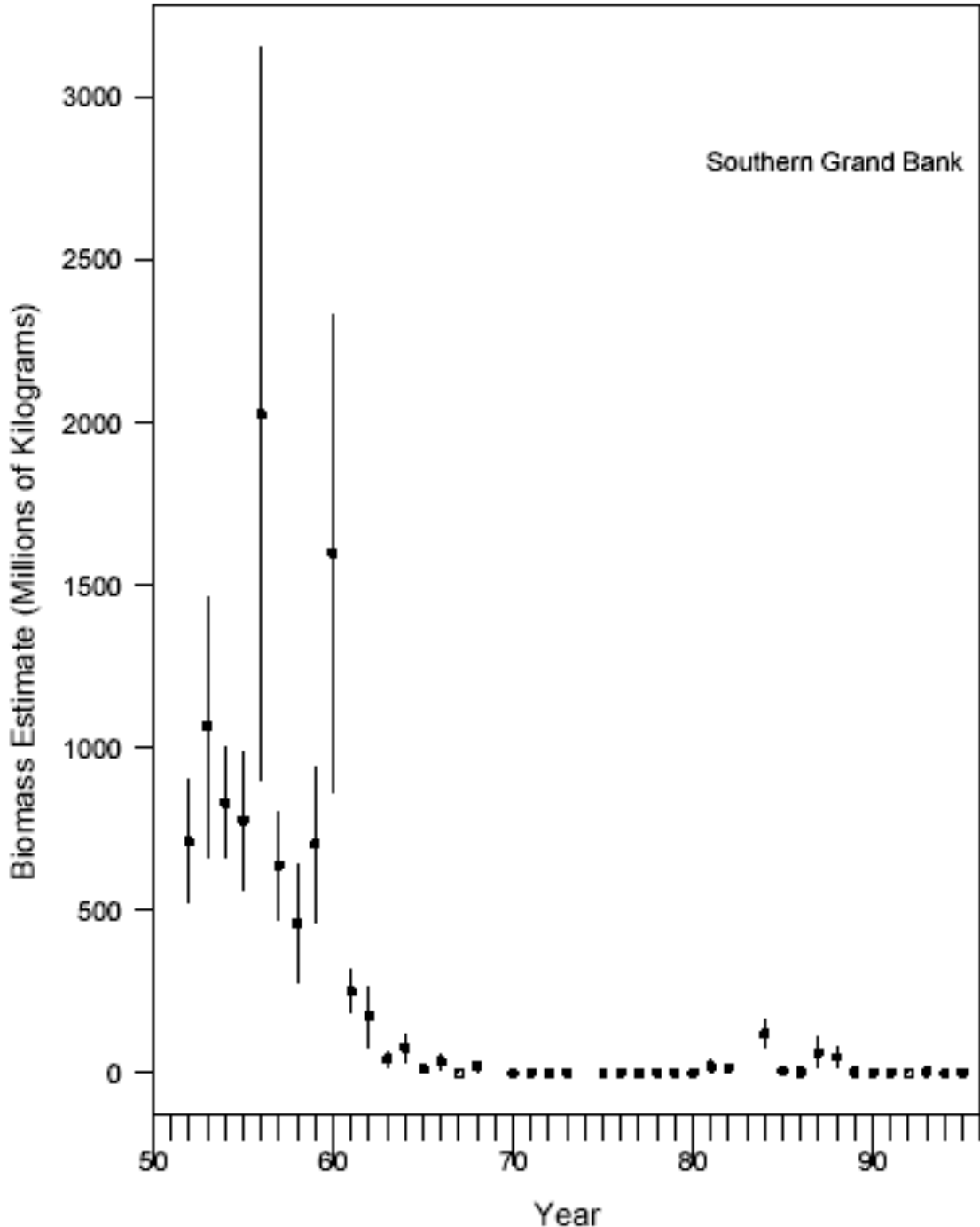


St. Pierre Bank

(south of Newfoundland)

- 90% decline in numbers
- Approx. 50% decline in size
- Large changes in species composition

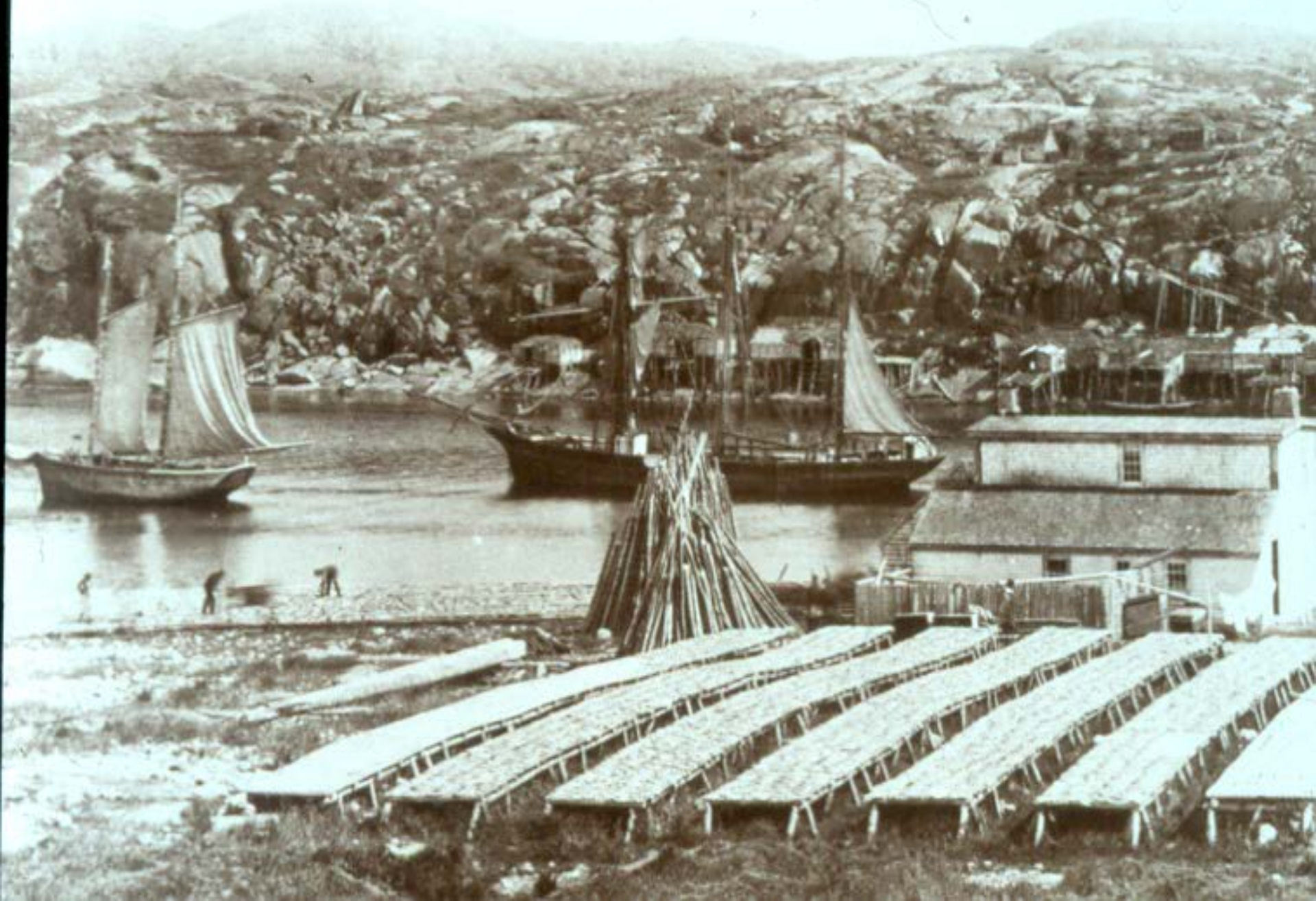




Southern Grand Bank

Loss of haddock on the Grand Banks – data from research surveys

The Loss of Cod History



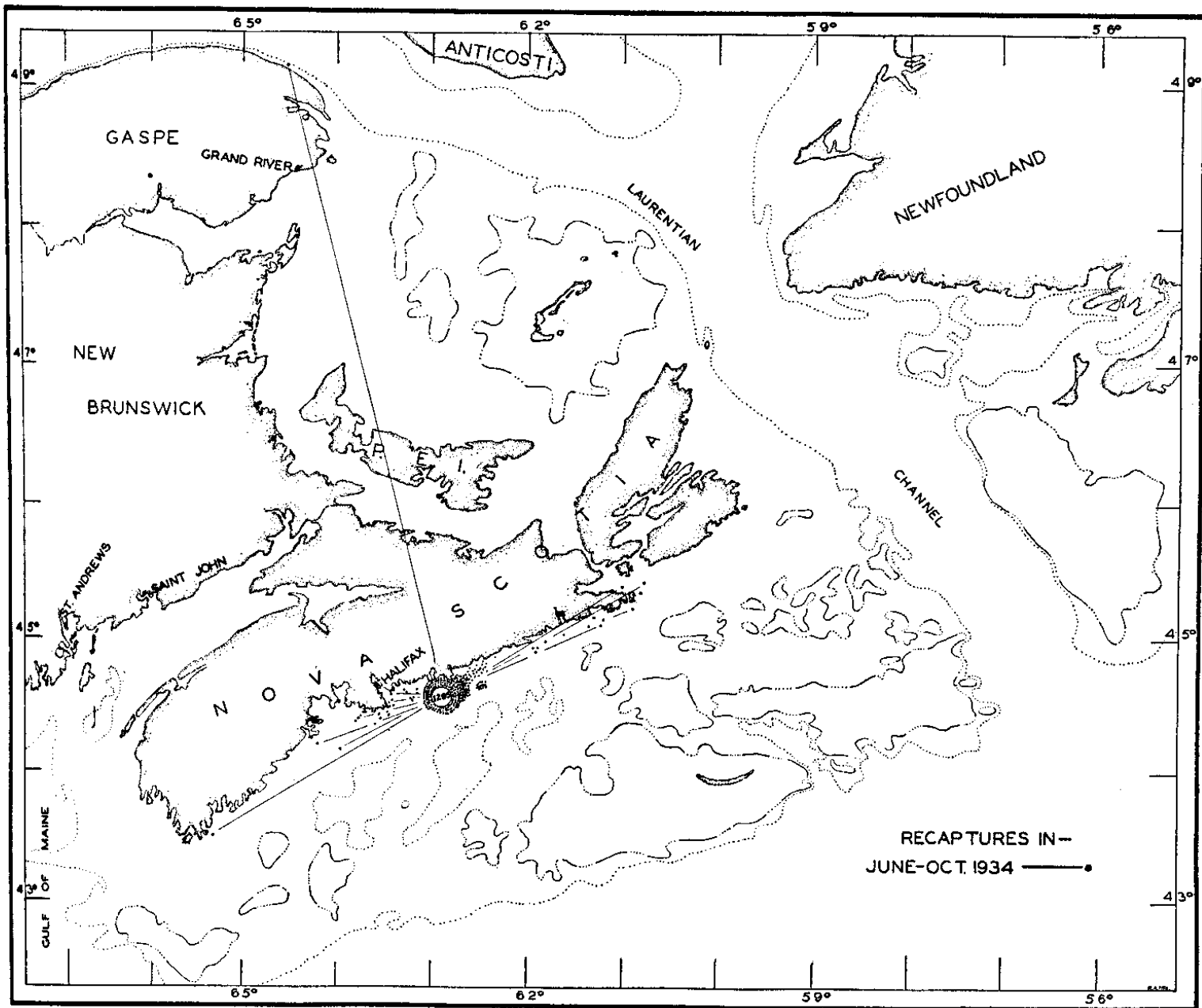


FIG. 21.—Recaptures to October, 1934, of cod tagged in the Jeddore Rock to Egg Island area, N.S., in May, 1934.

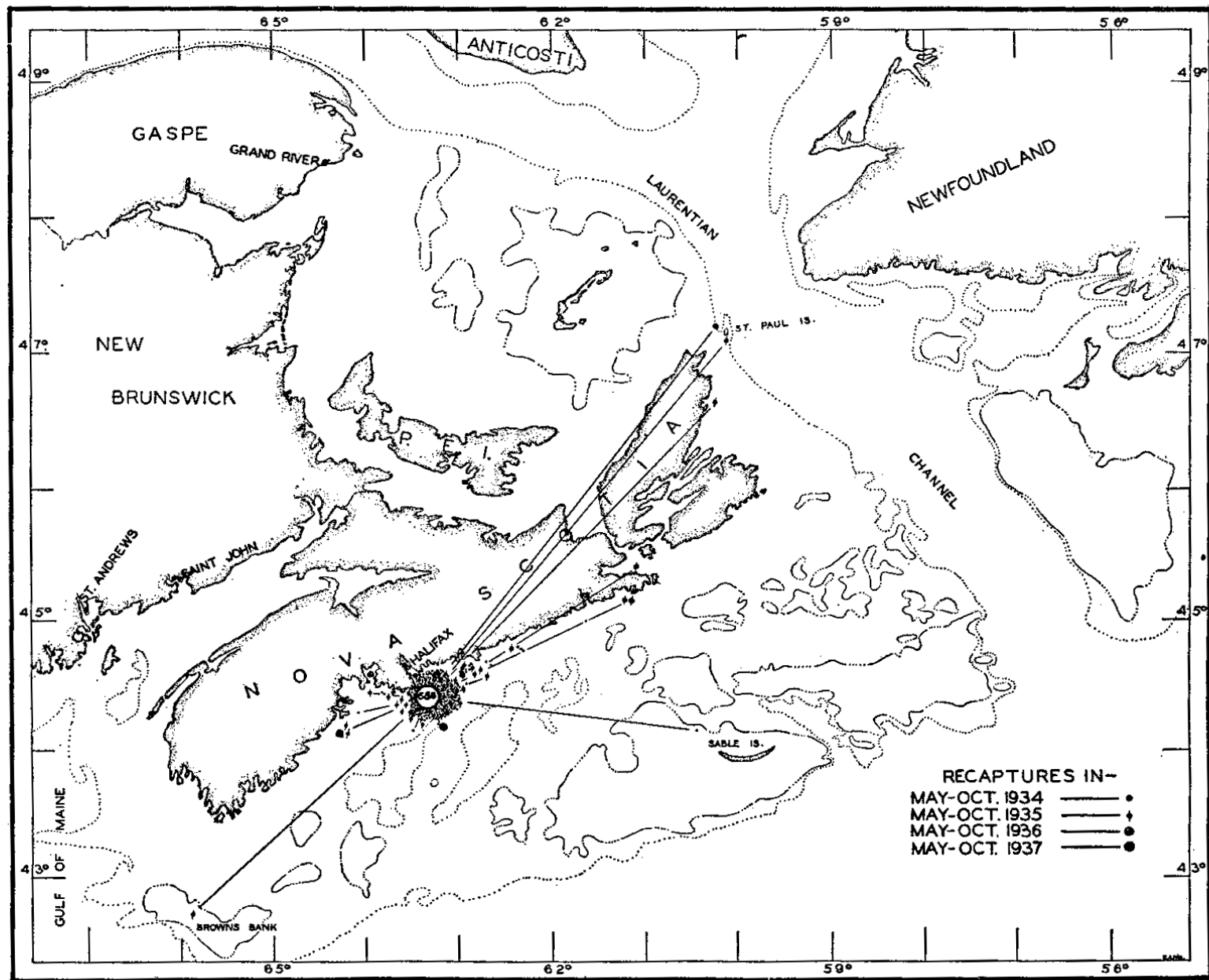


FIG. 18.—Recaptures in May to October, 1934, 1935, 1936 and 1937, of cod tagged near Halifax in June, 1934.

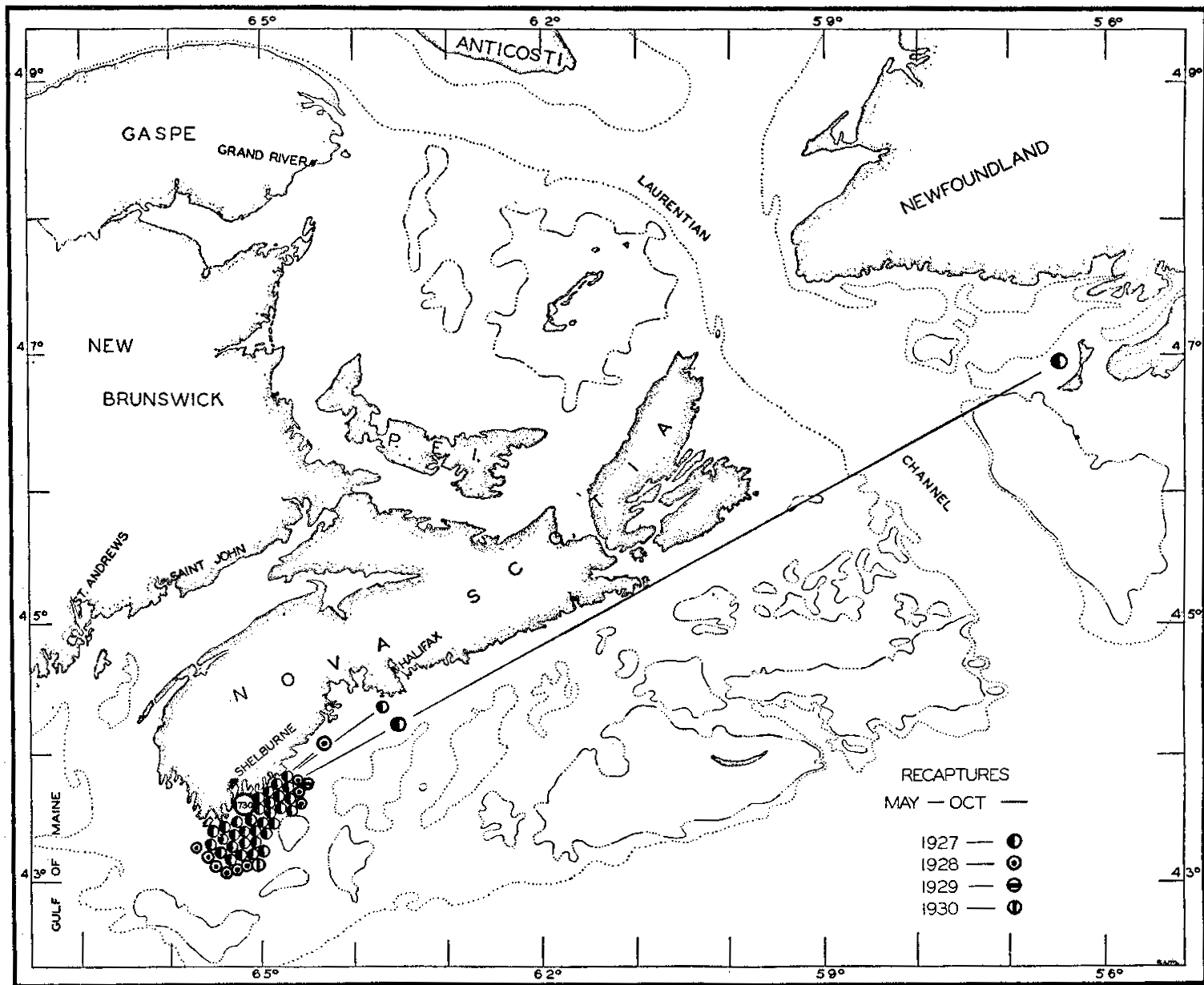
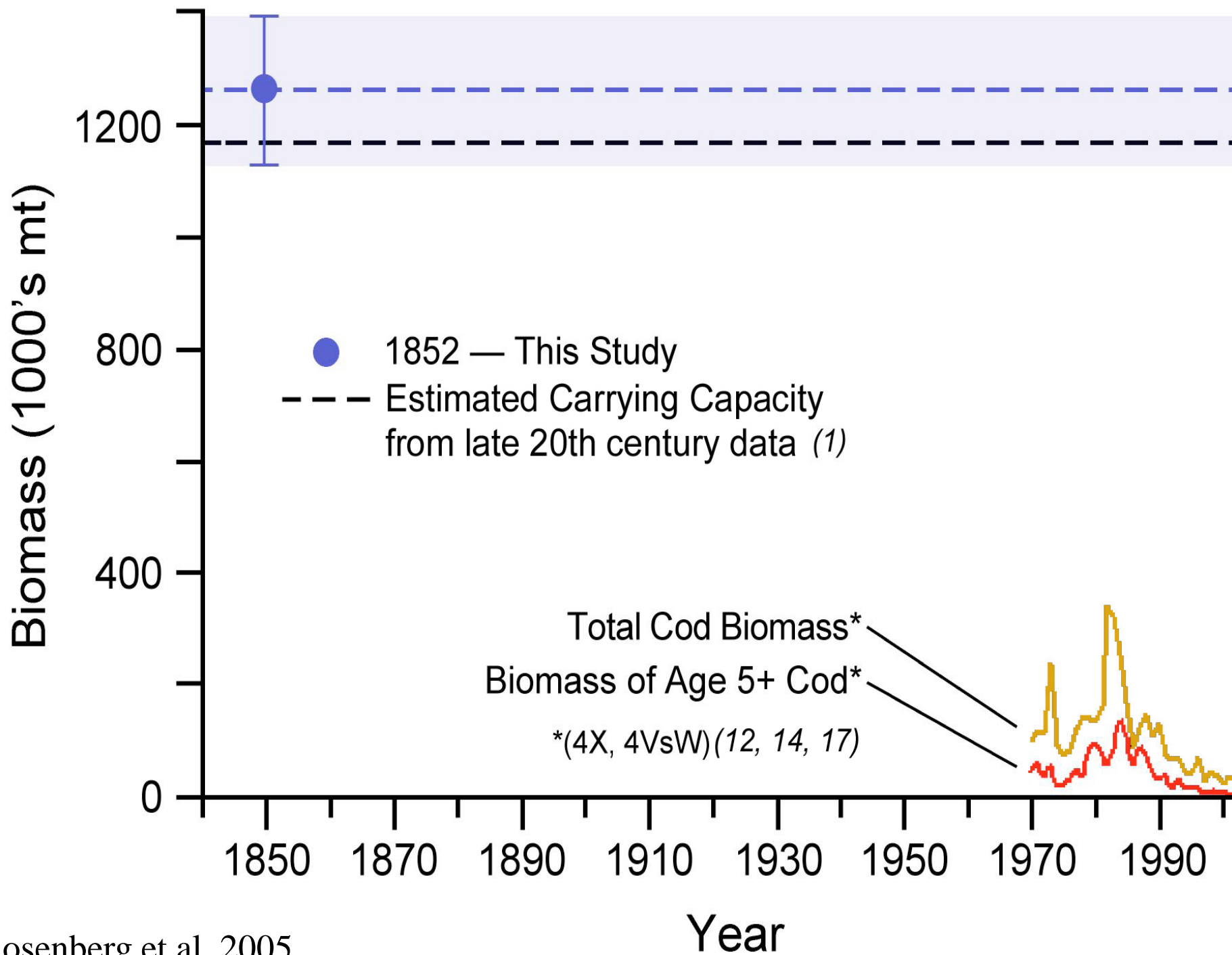
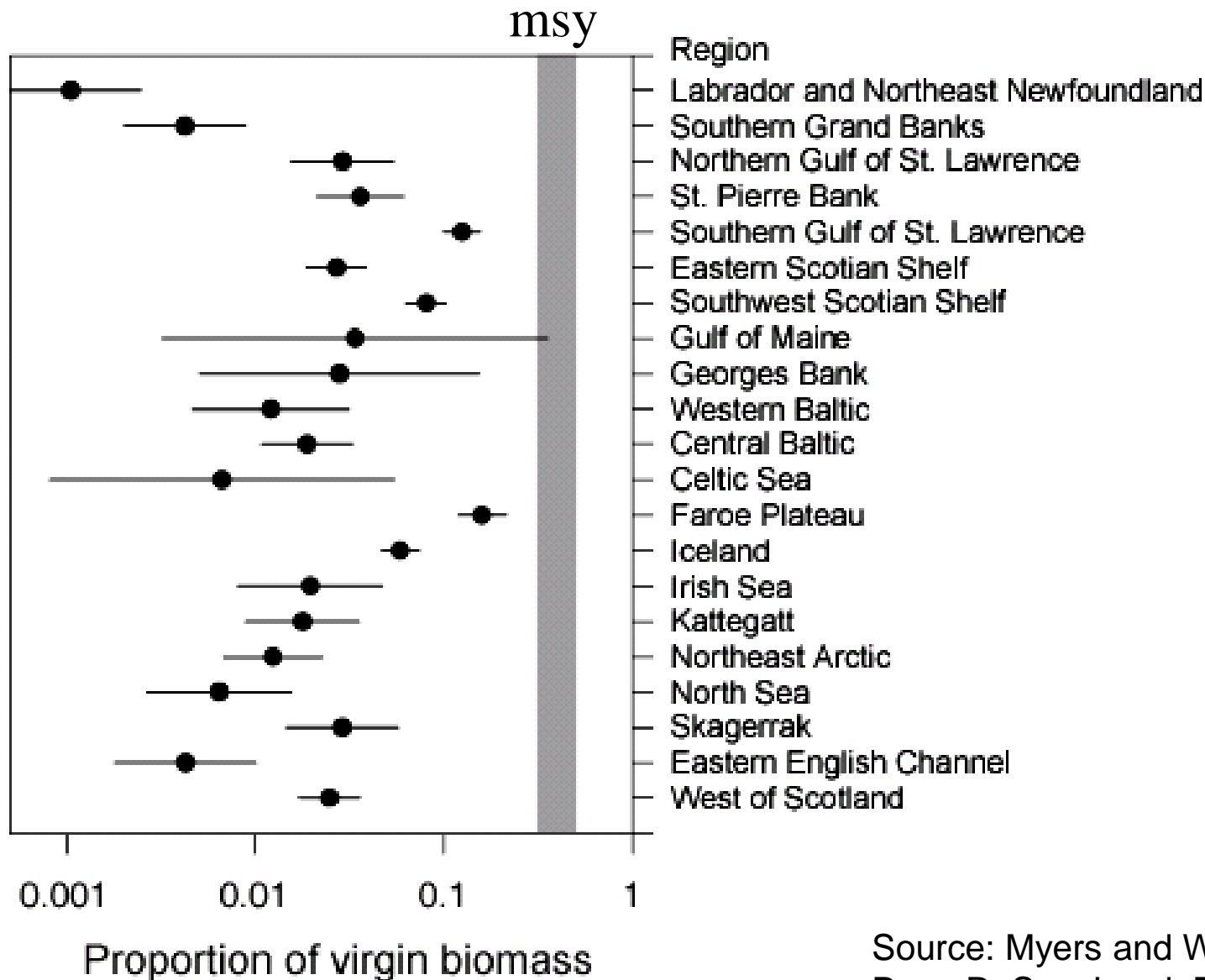


FIG. 15.—Recaptures during "summers" of 1927, 1928, 1929 and 1930 of cod tagged off Shelburne, N.S., during September and the first day of October, 1926.



There is much less than 10% of cod left -



Source: Myers and Worm 2005.
Proc. R. Soc. Lond. B

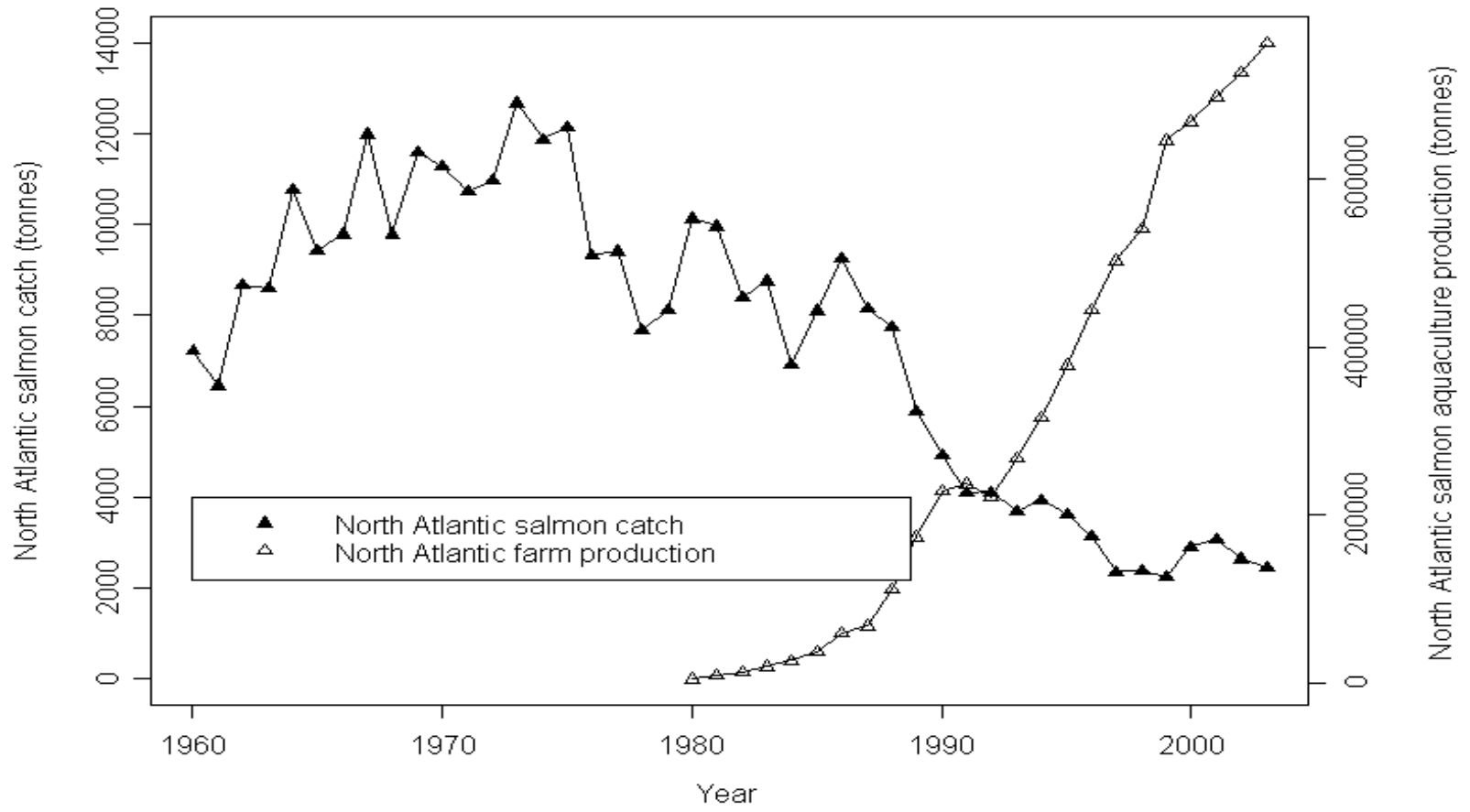
What is the impact of aquaculture on the survival of wild salmon?

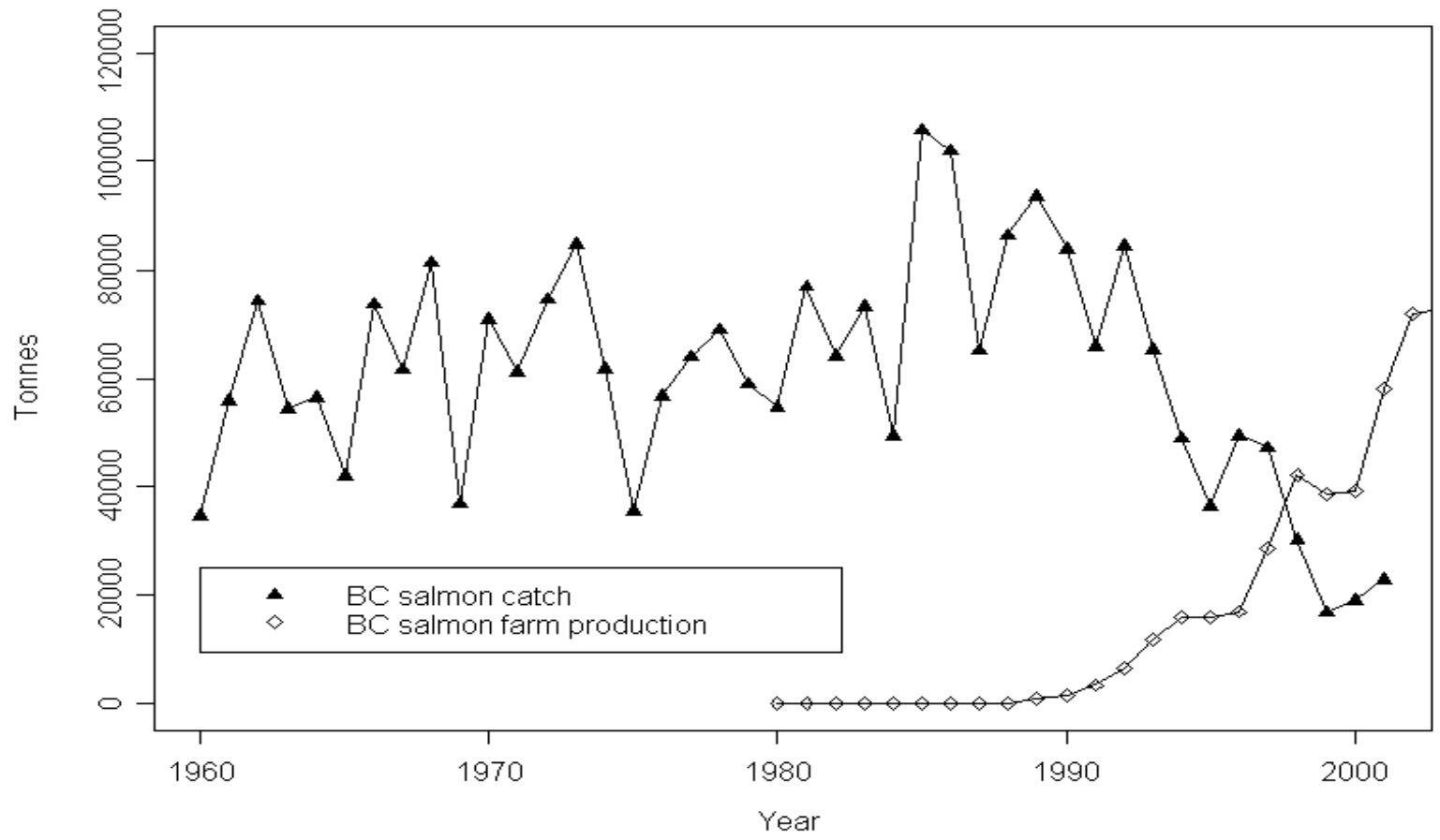
Jen Ford and Ransom Myers

What is the impact of aquaculture on the survival of wild salmon?



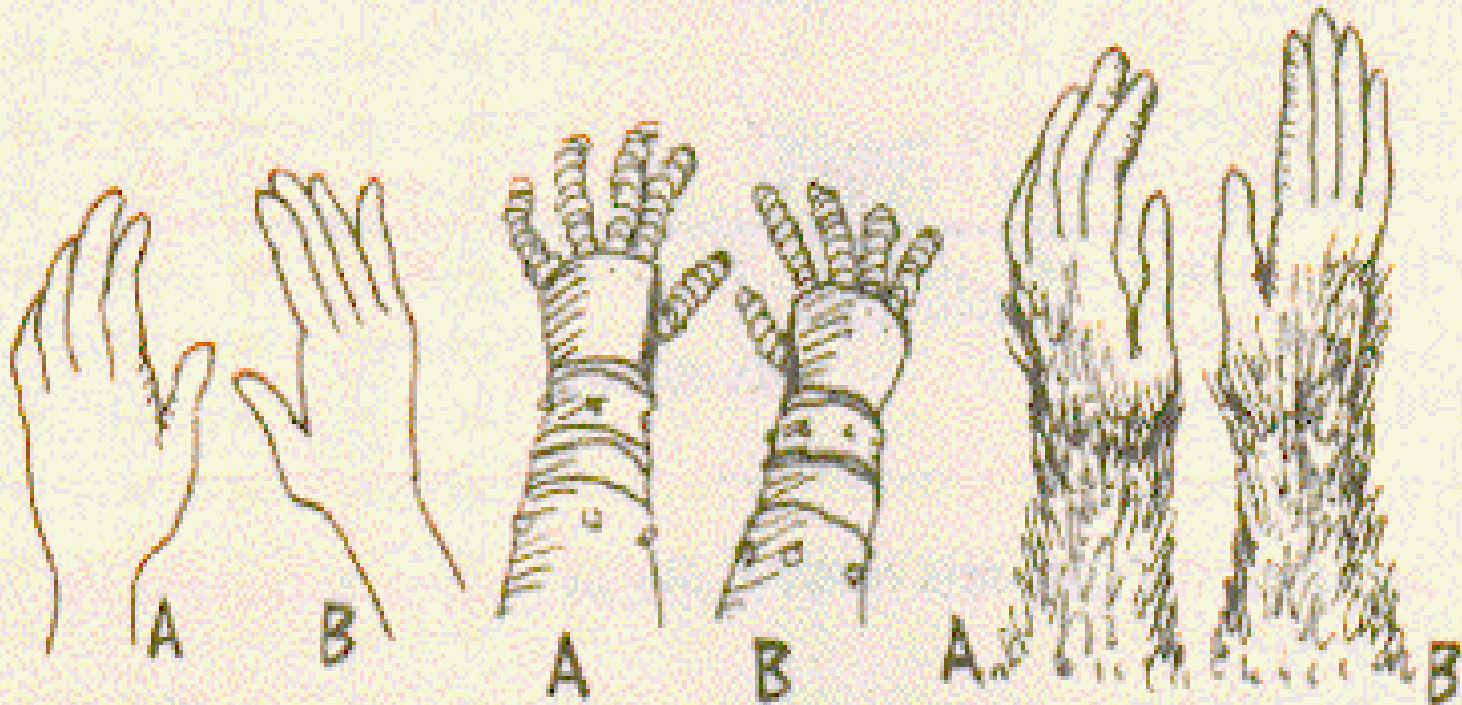
(note all the actual work on this was done by Jen Ford)

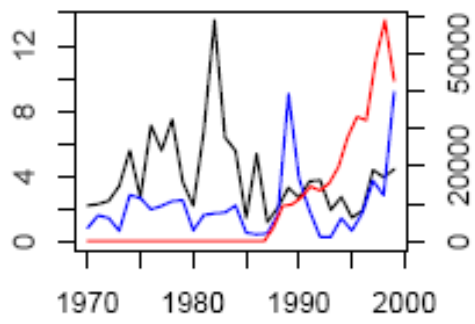




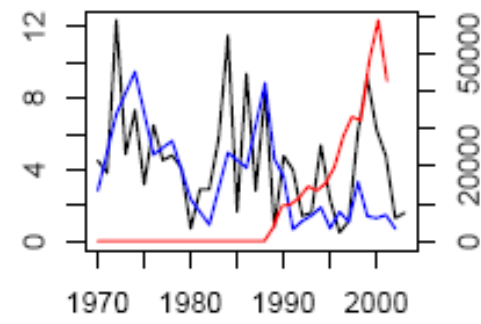
Meta-analysis of paired comparisons

A PAIRED COMPARISON EXPERIMENT IS ONE OF THE MOST EFFECTIVE WAYS TO REDUCE NATURAL VARIABILITY WHILE COMPARING TREATMENTS. FOR EXAMPLE, IN COMPARING HAND CREAMS, THE TWO BRANDS ARE RANDOMLY ASSIGNED TO EACH SUBJECT'S RIGHT OR LEFT HANDS. THIS ELIMINATES VARIABILITY DUE TO SKIN DIFFERENCES.

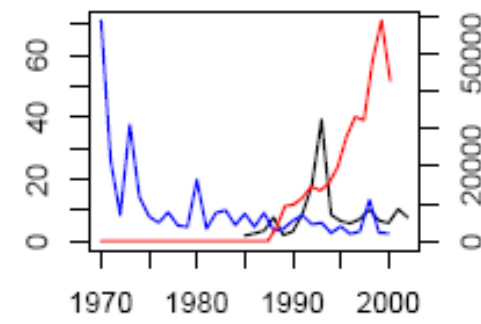




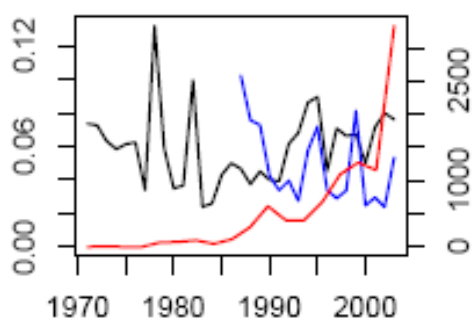
BCchumEJ



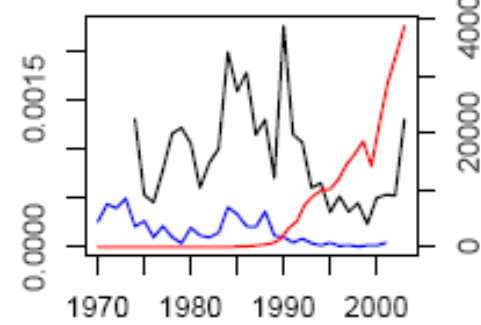
BCpink



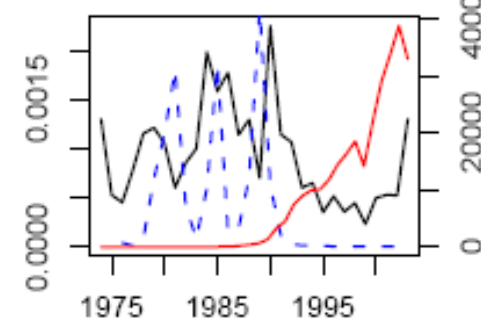
BCcoho



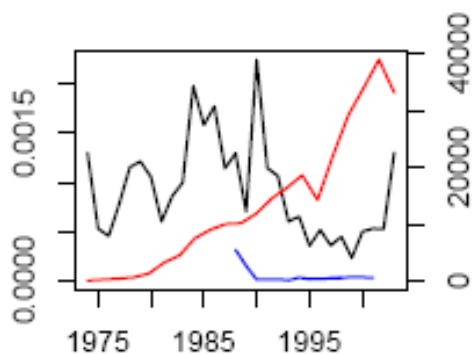
NF



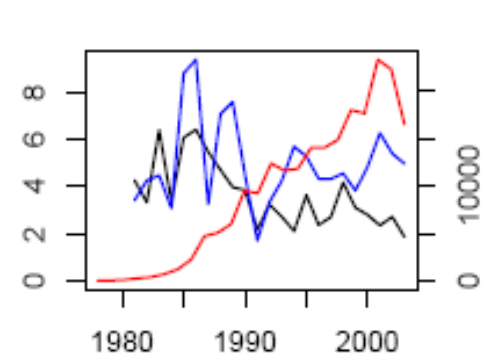
NBiB



NBSt

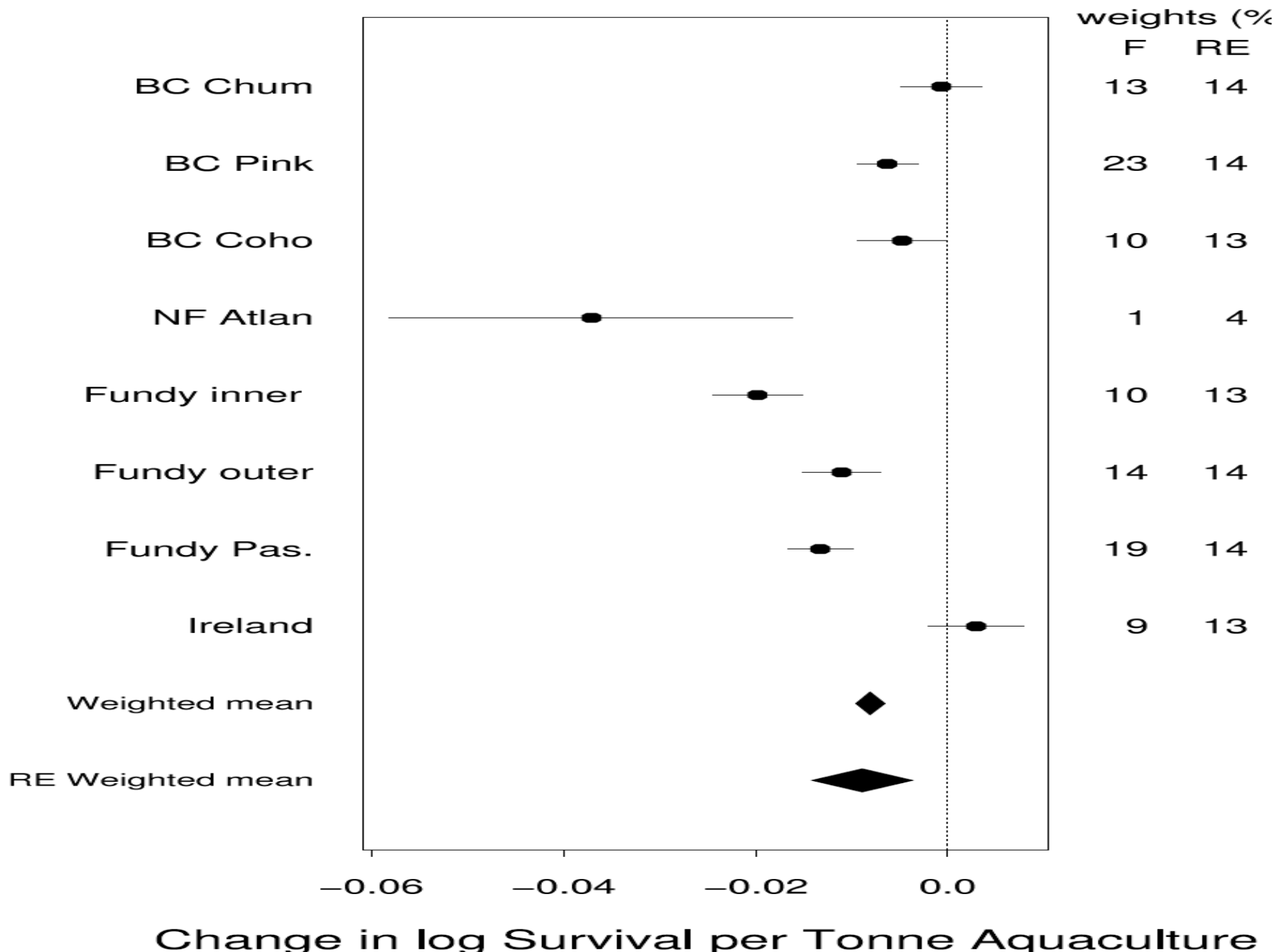


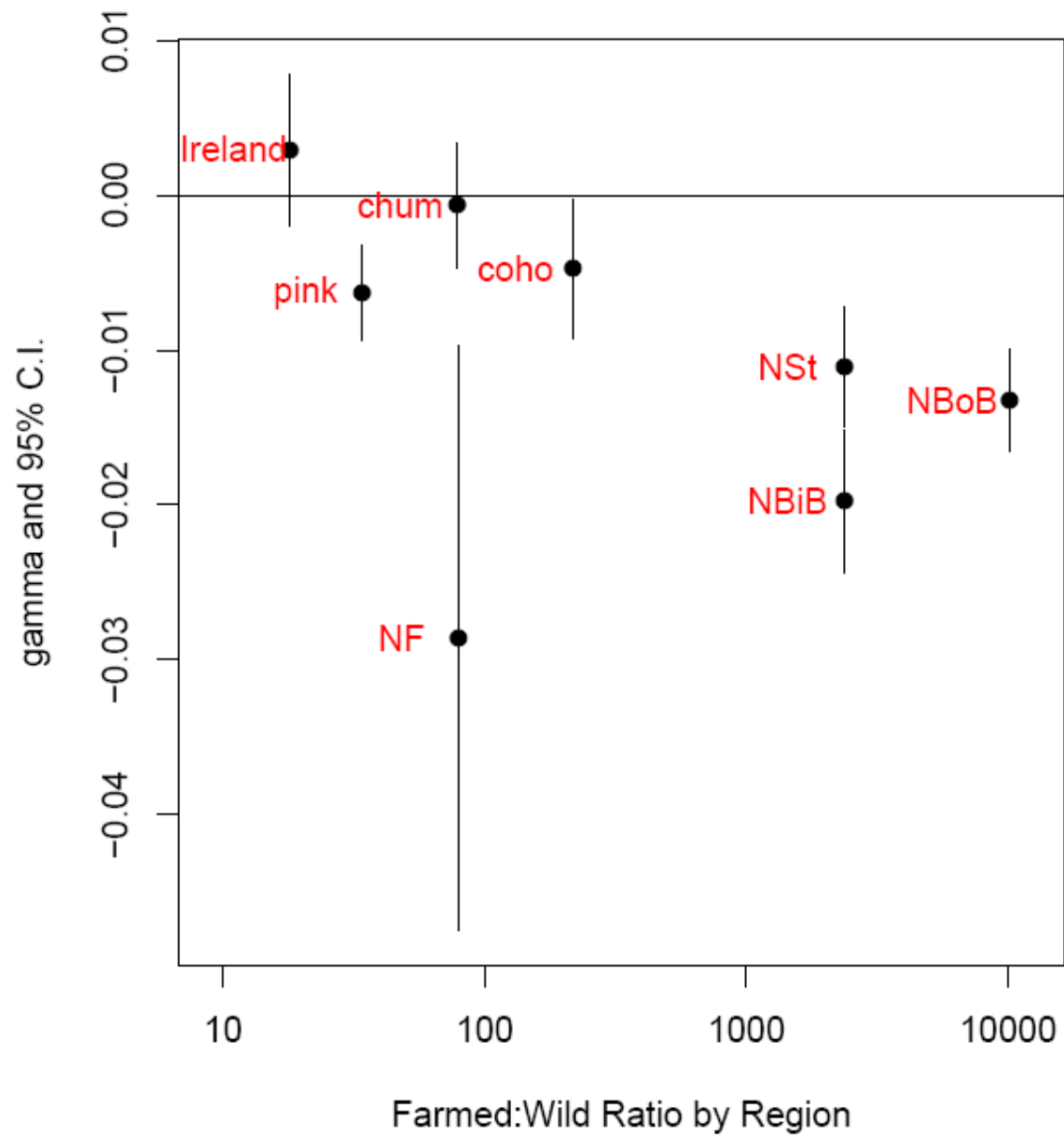
NBoB



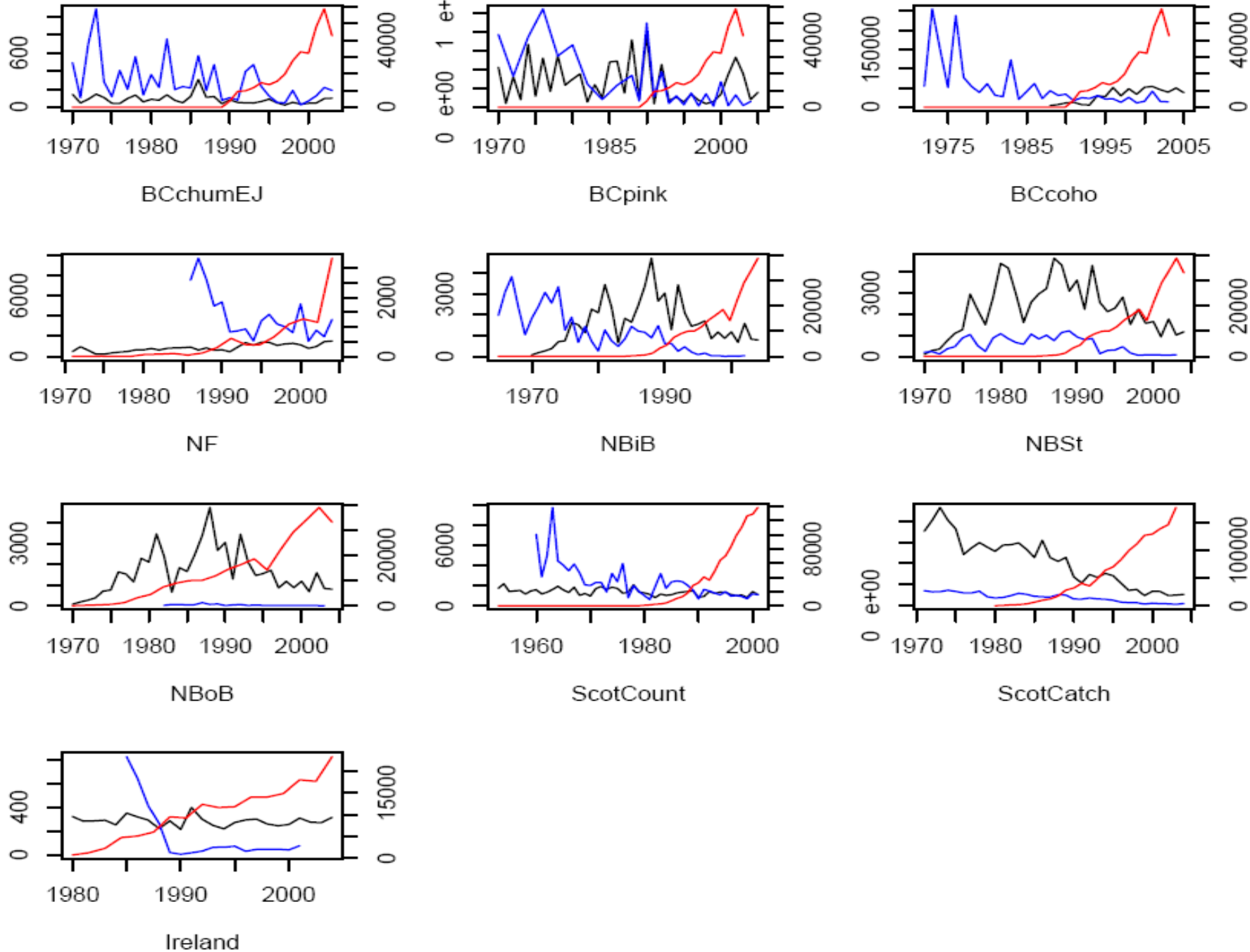
Ireland

Predicted Survivals (left axis), Exposed in Blue, Farmed Production in Red (right axis)

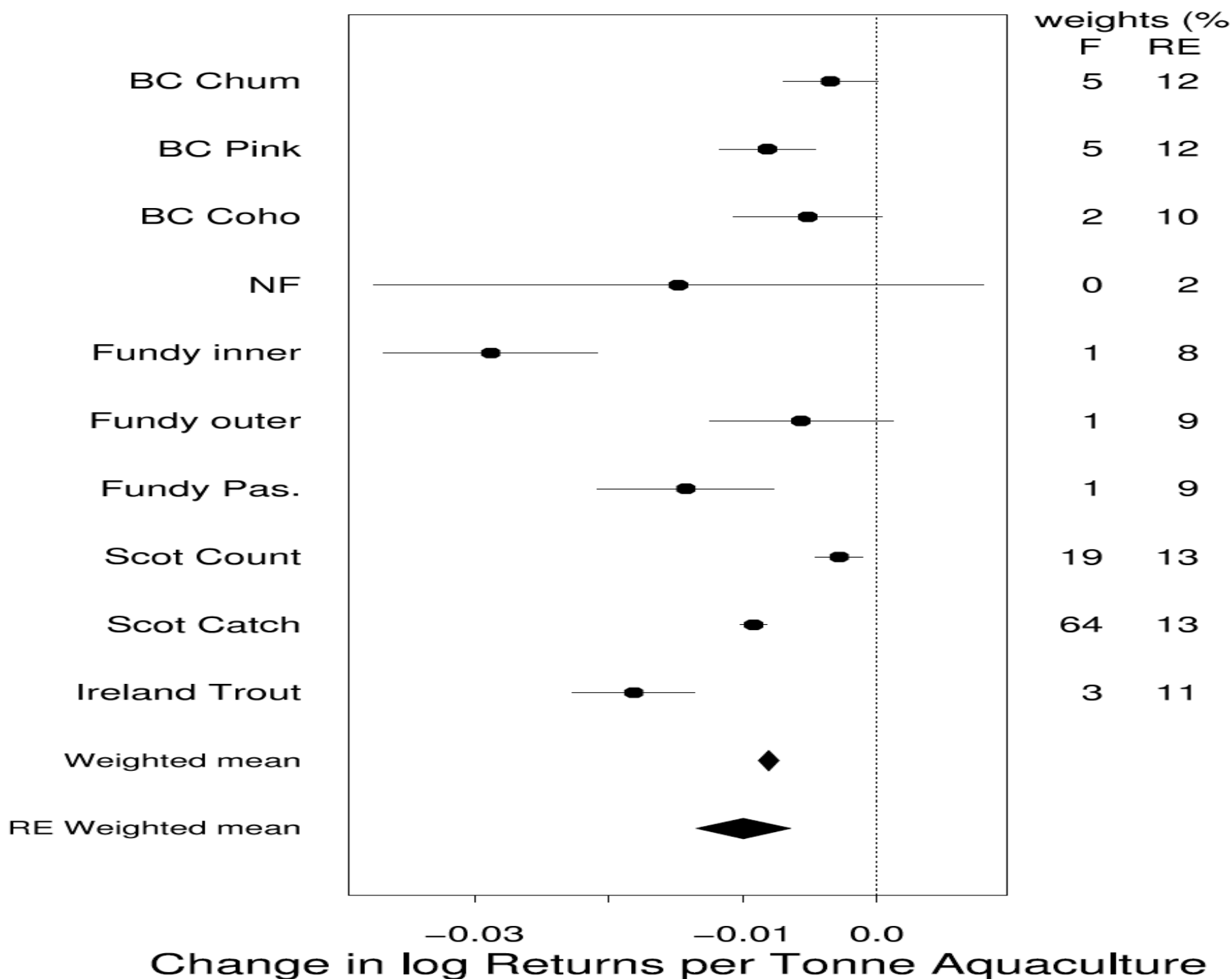


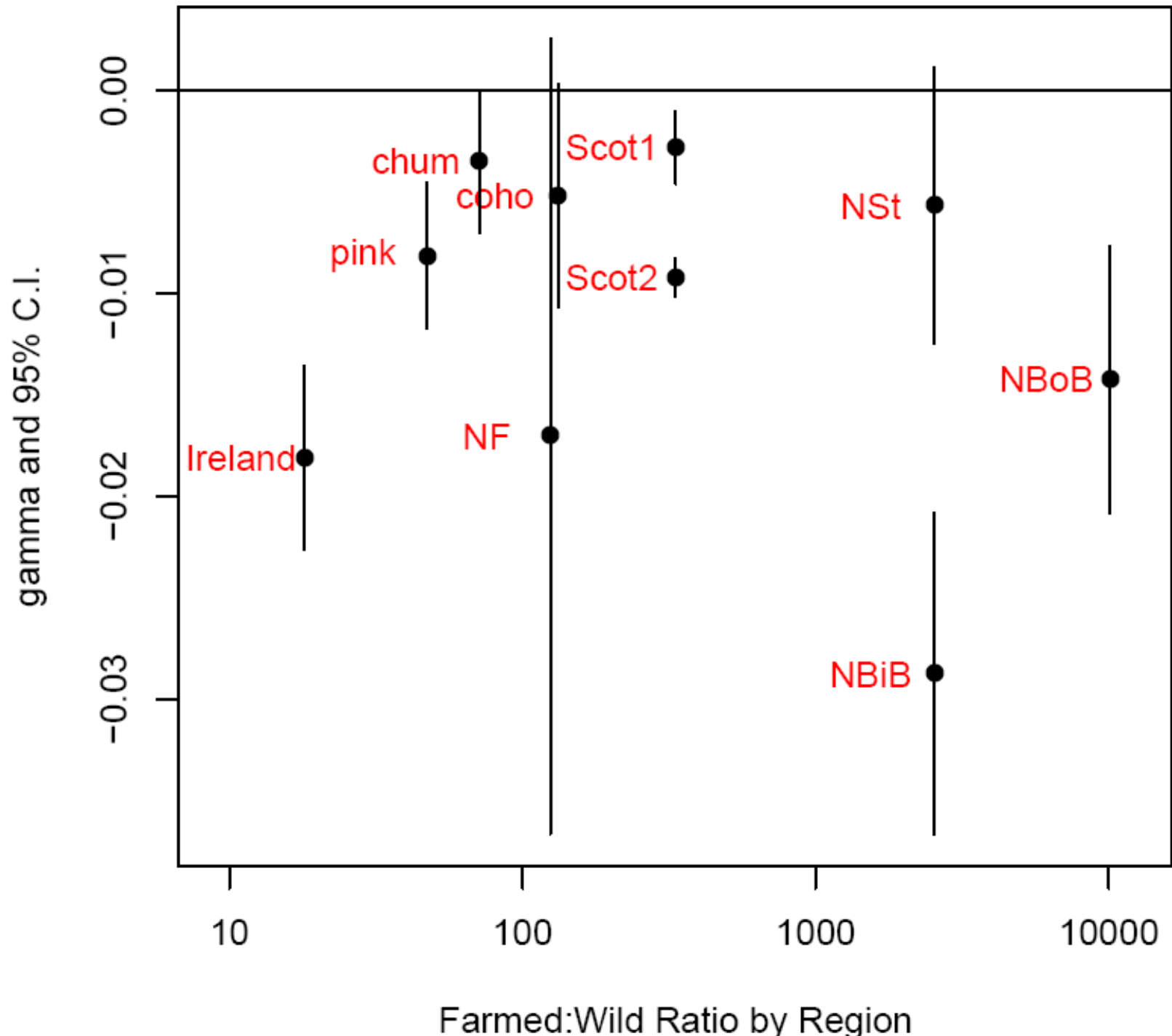


Always repeat all analyses with
independent data



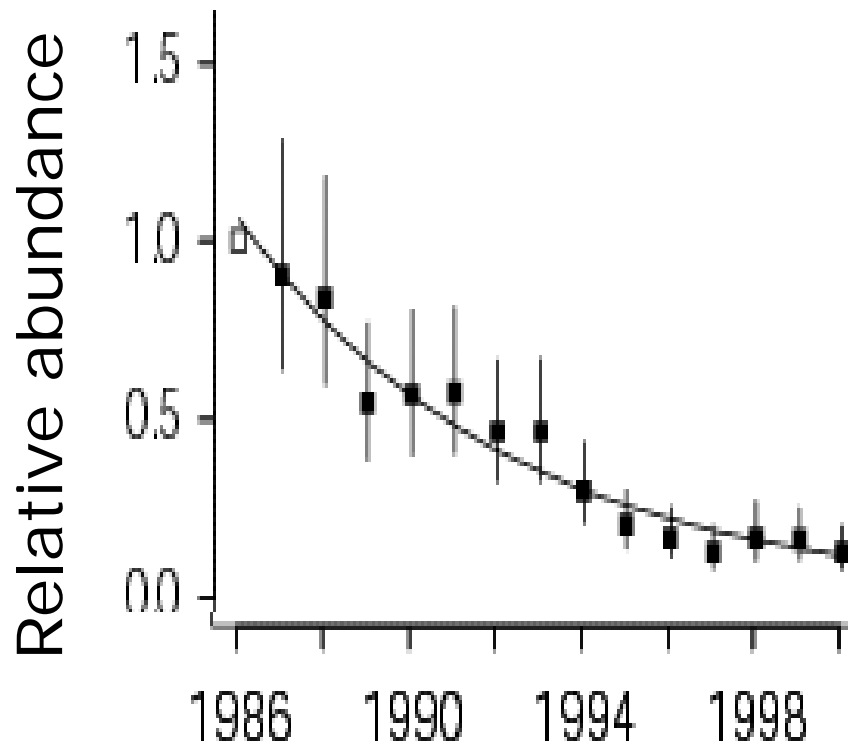
Predicted Returns (left axis), Exposed in Blue, Farmed Production in Red (right axis)





Hammerhead sharks

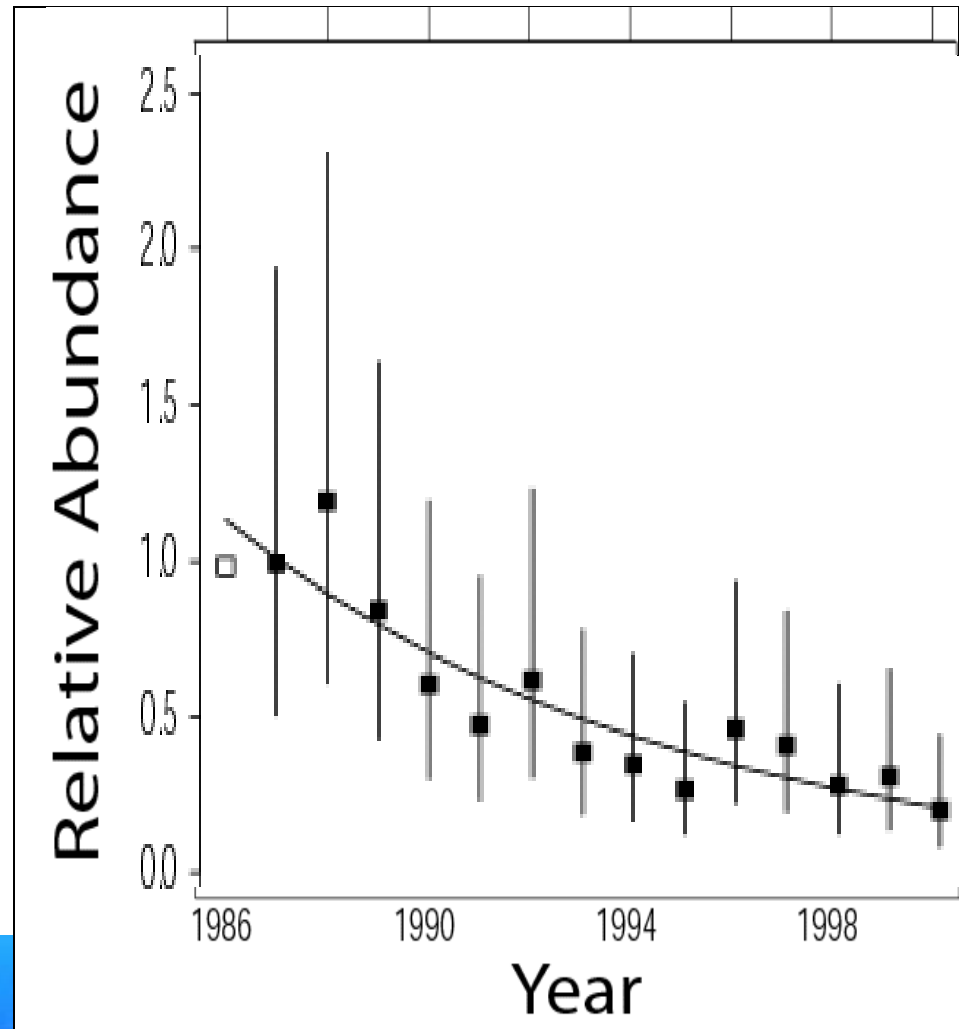
Sphyrna lewini



Science. Jan. 2003. J.K. Baum, R.A. Myers, D.G. Kehler, B. Worm, S.J. Harley, P.A. Doherty

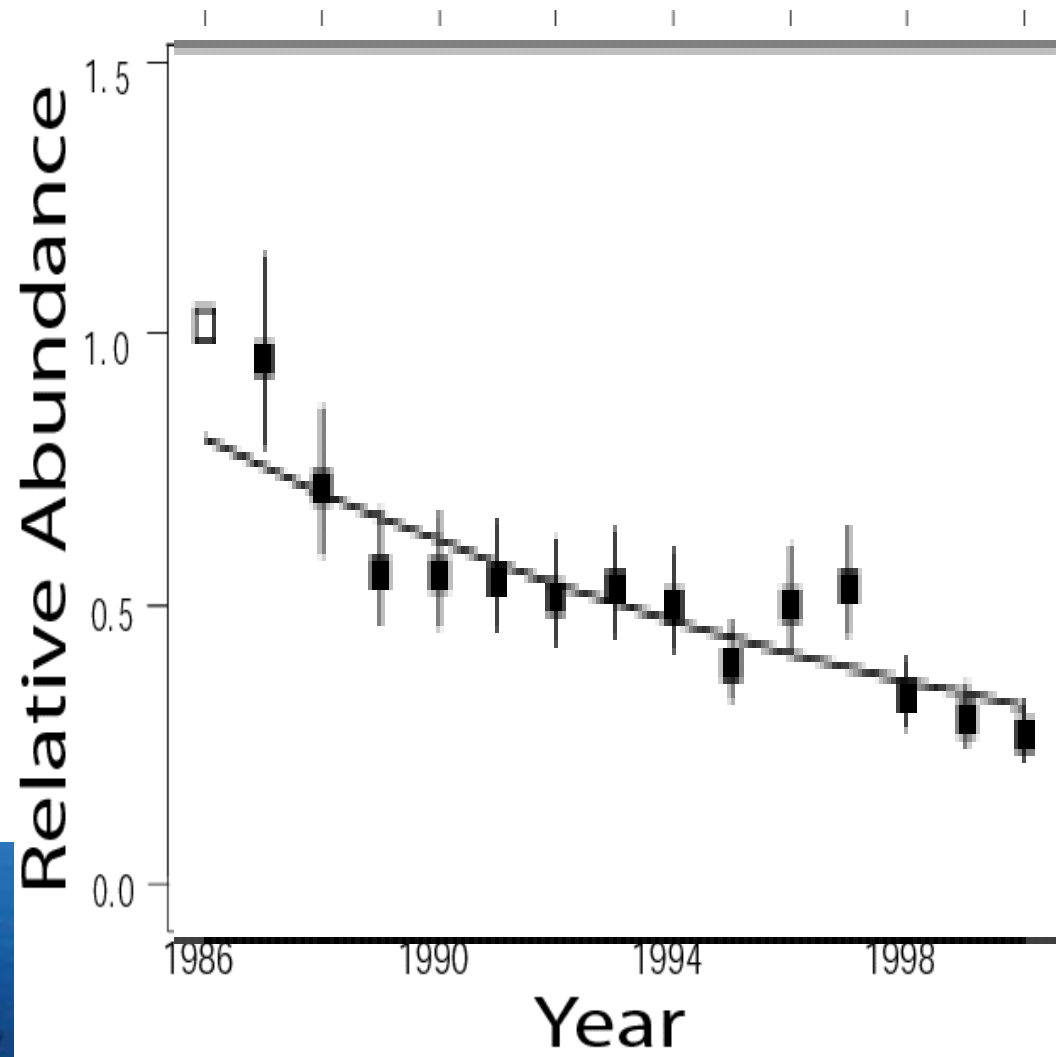
Thresher sharks

Alopias spp.



Blue sharks

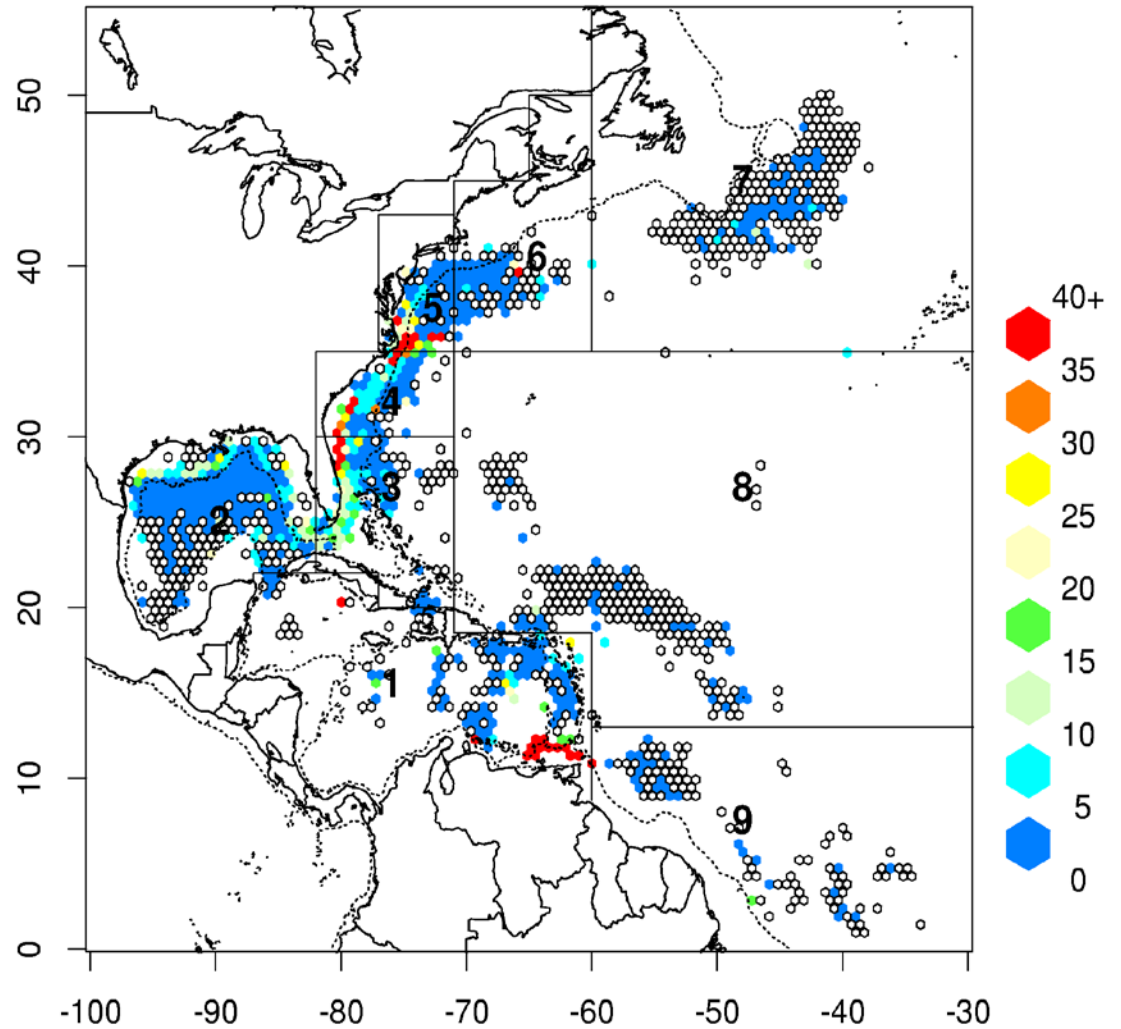
Prionace glauca



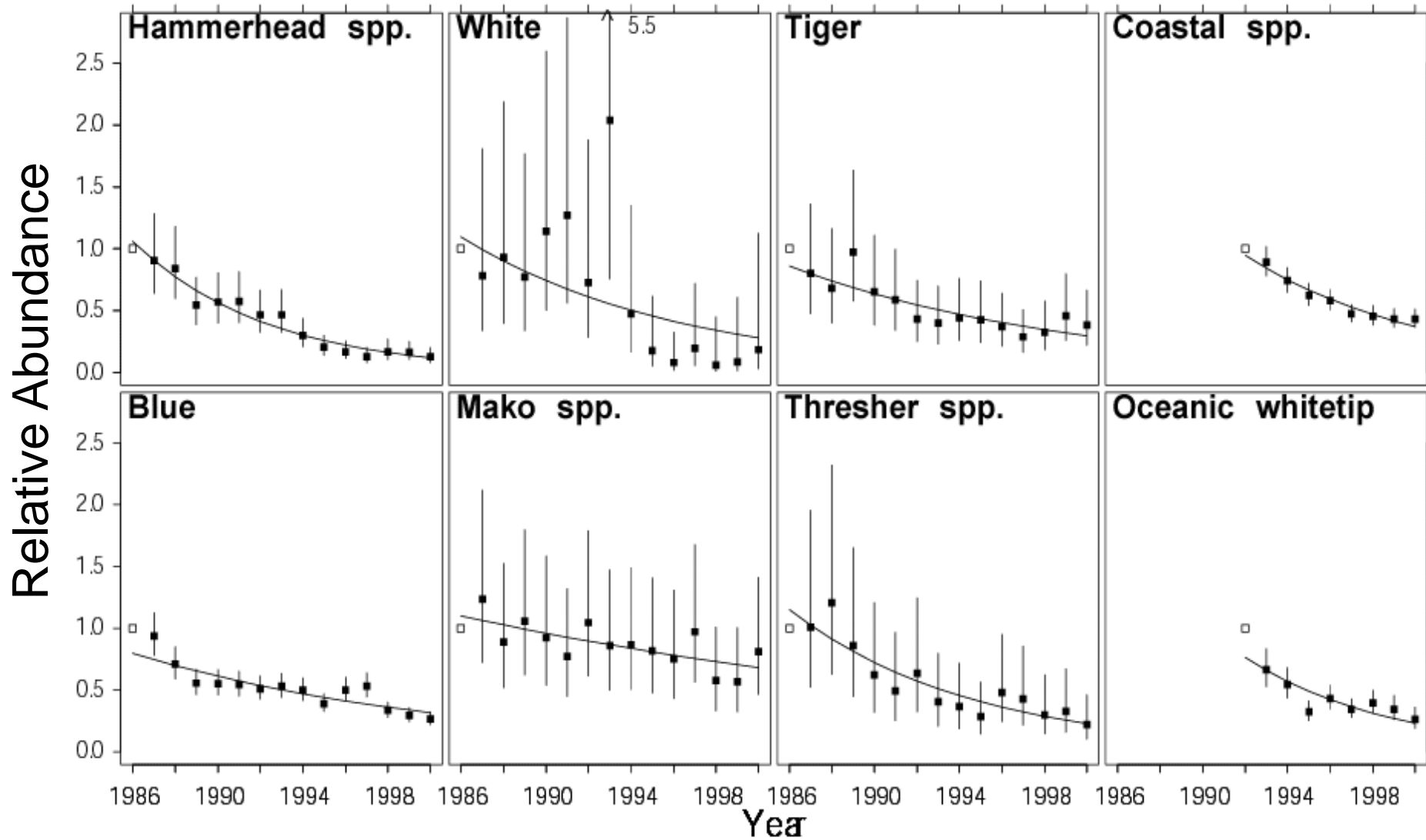
Hammerhead sharks

Sphyrna spp.

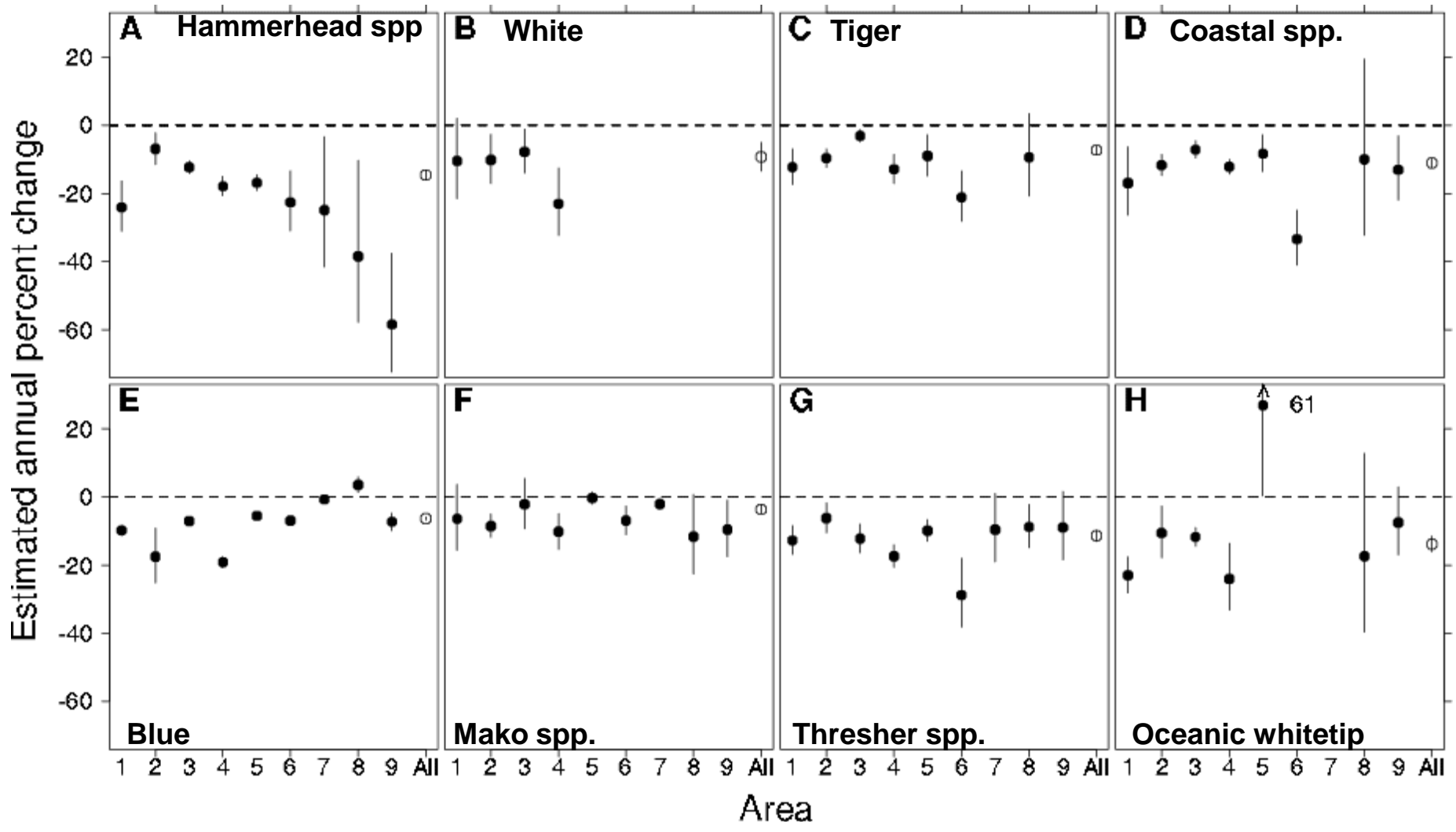
Catch per 10,000 hooks of Hammerhead Sharks

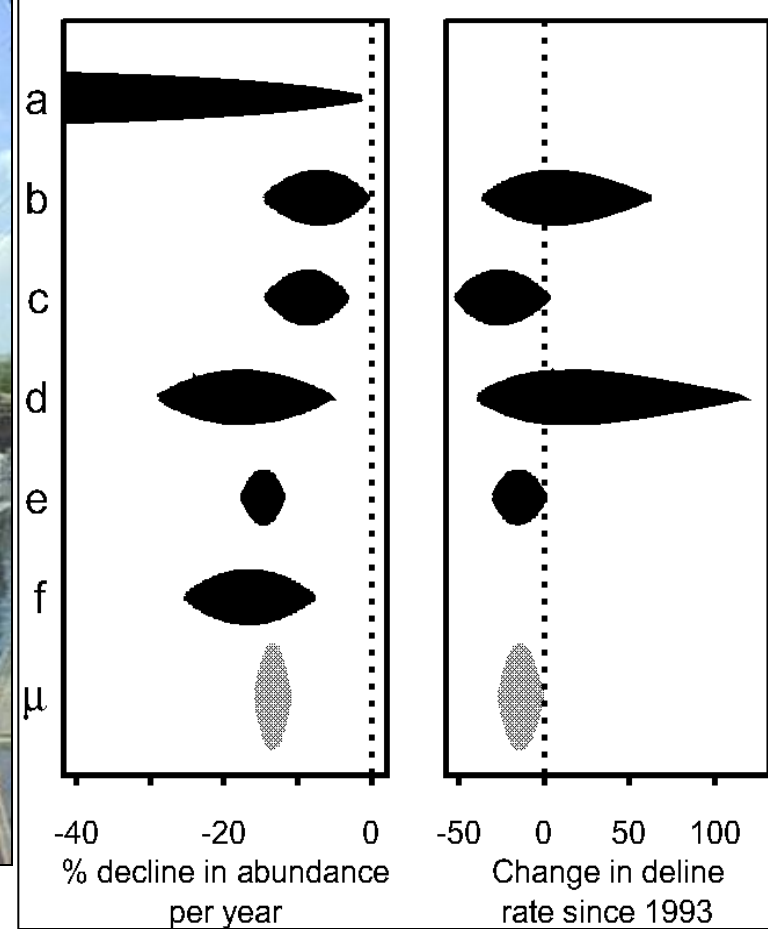
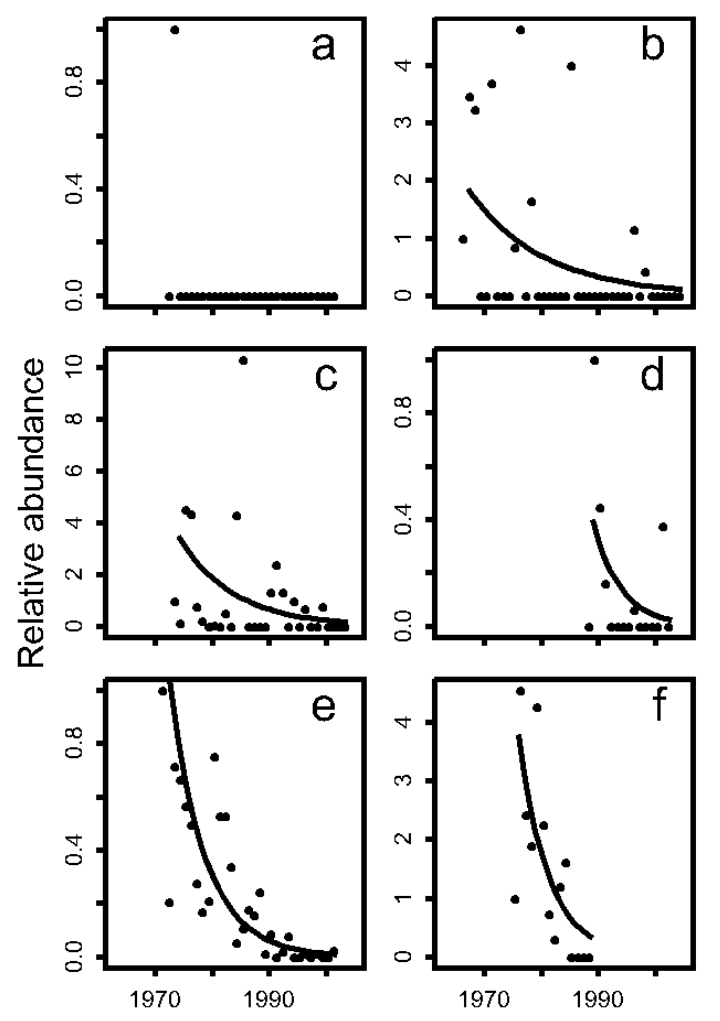


Results



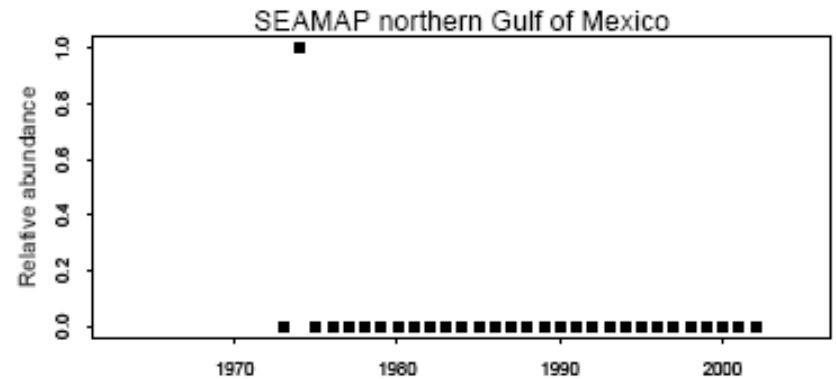
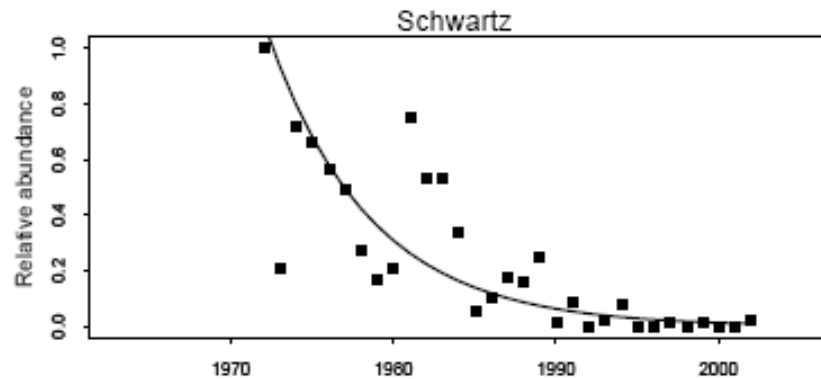
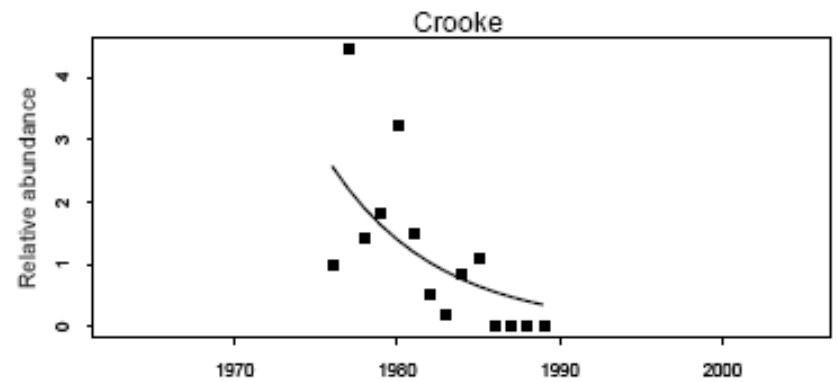
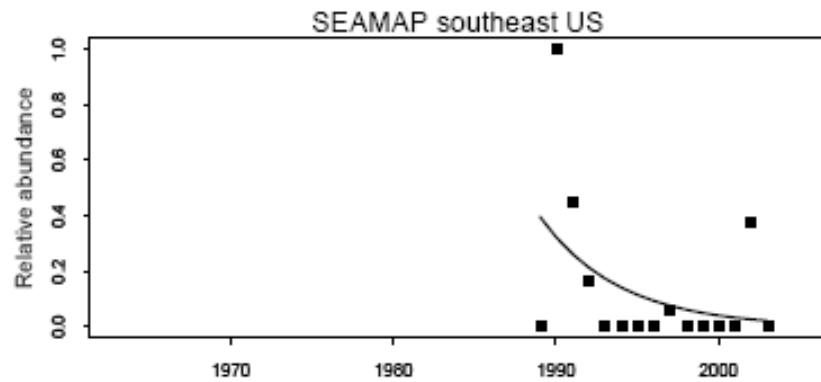
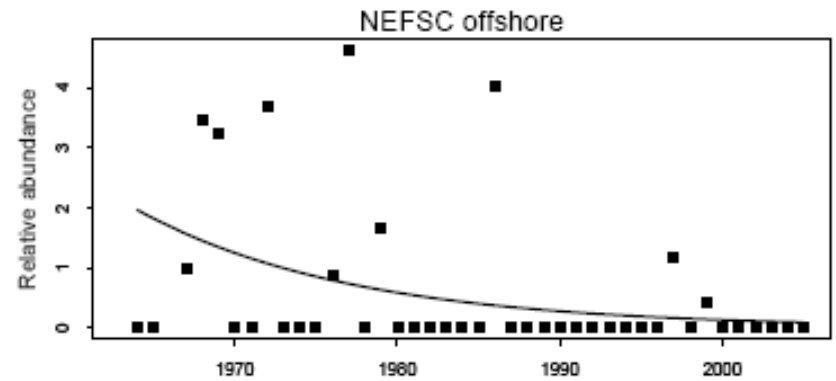
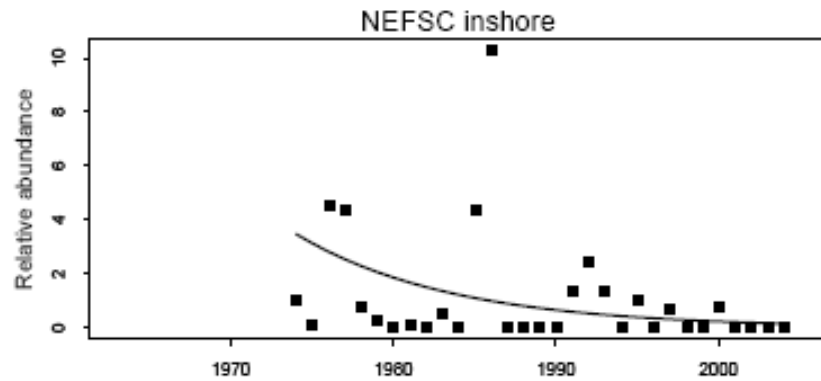
- 1 Caribbean
- 2 Gulf of Mexico
- 3 Florida
- 4 S Atlantic Bight
- 5 Mid Atlantic Bight
- 6 NE Coastal
- 7 NE Distant
- 8 Sargasso
- 9 S America



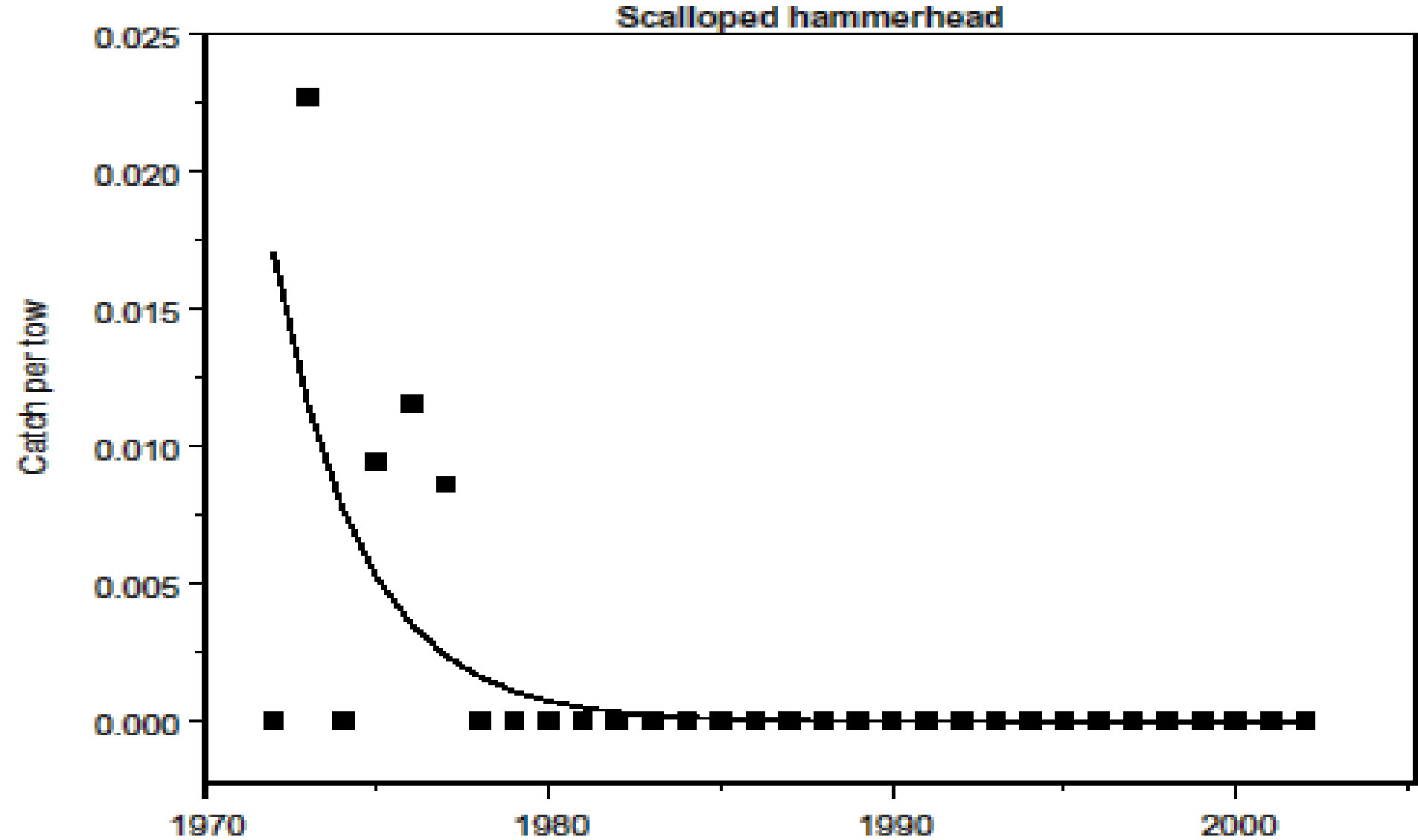


- a. Northern Gulf of Mexico bottom shrimp trawl survey
- b. NMFS offshore bottom trawl survey
- c. NMFS inshore bottom trawl survey
- d. Southeast U.S. SEAMAP bottom shrimp trawl survey
- e. North Carolina Institute of Marine Sciences longline survey
- f. Crooke commercial longline data
- μ . Meta-analytic mean

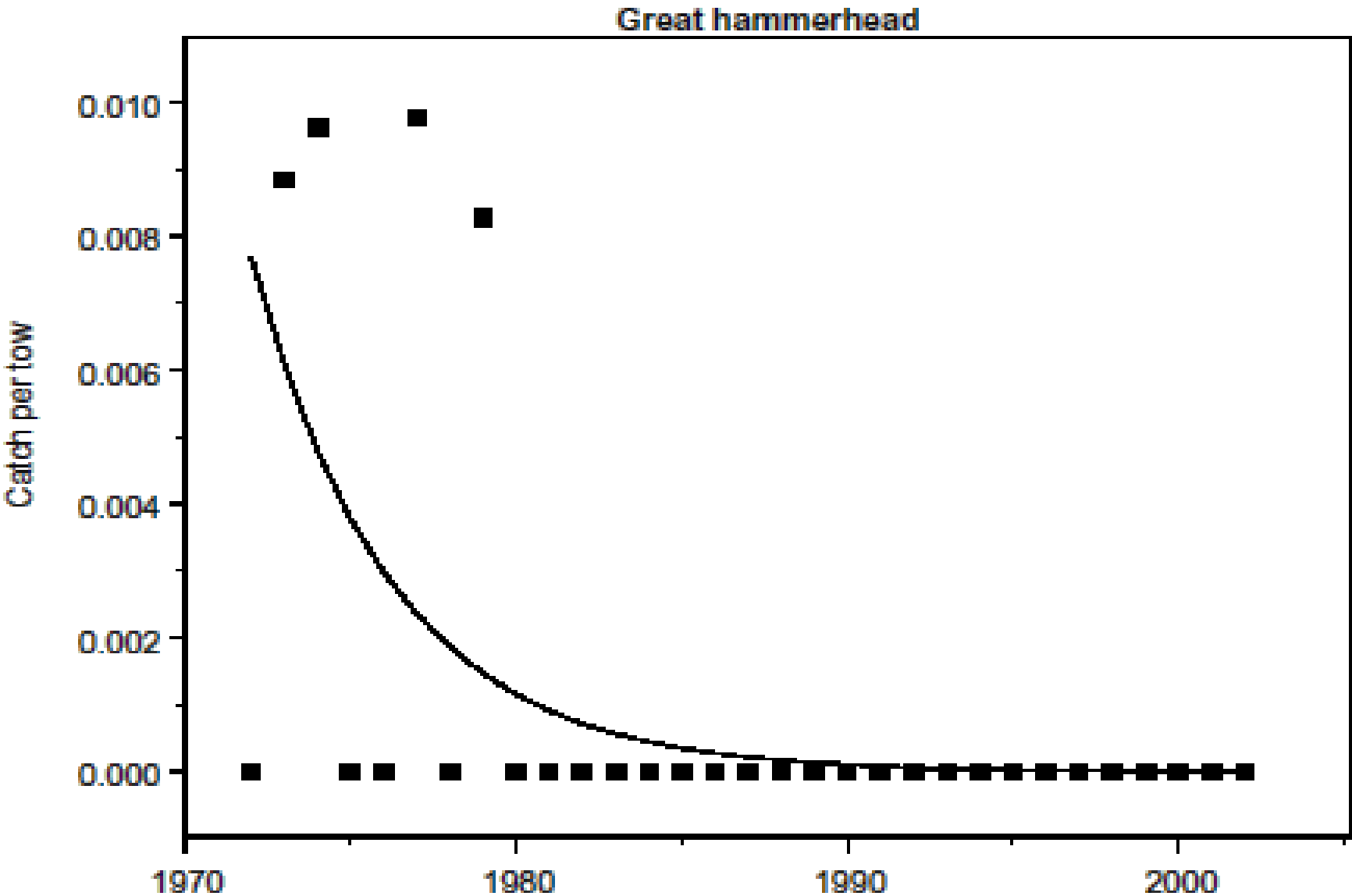
Loss of Dusky Sharks in the Eastern US



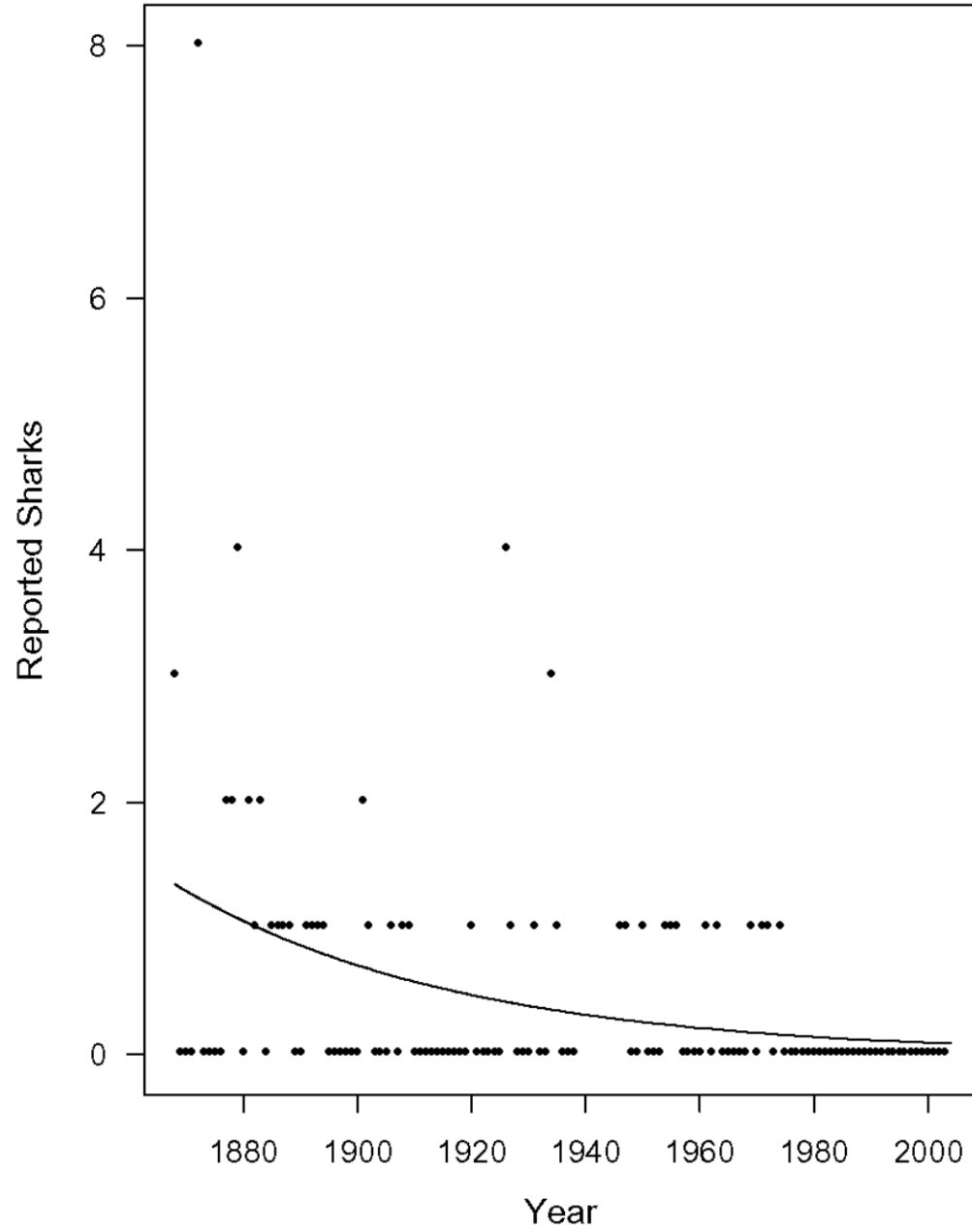
Same results for trawl surveys in Gulf of Mexico



Same results for trawl surveys in Gulf of Mexico



Newspaper reports of sharks in Croatia



With training, “experts” can ignore the most obvious of data:

1872 - Man's head and leg and dolphin in stomach

1872 – 8 Great White Sharks reported caught

1888 - Woman's body and lamb in stomach

1894 - Preserved at Zagreb Nat. Hist. Mus.

1926 - Woman's shoes, laundry in stomach

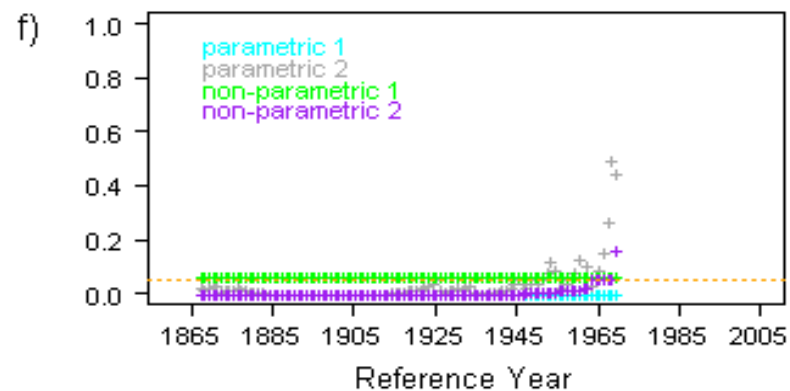
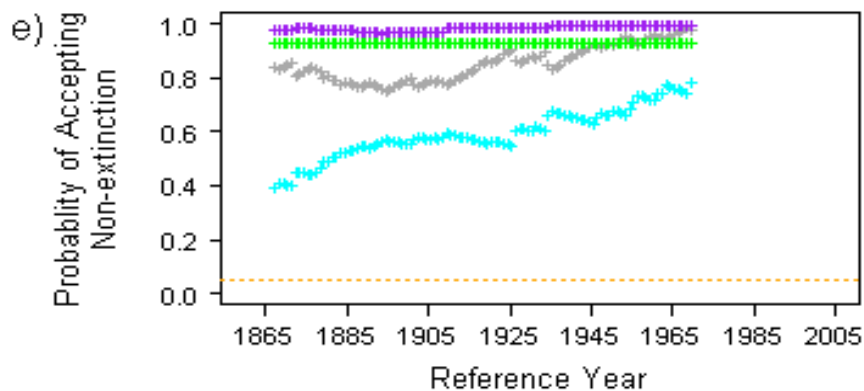
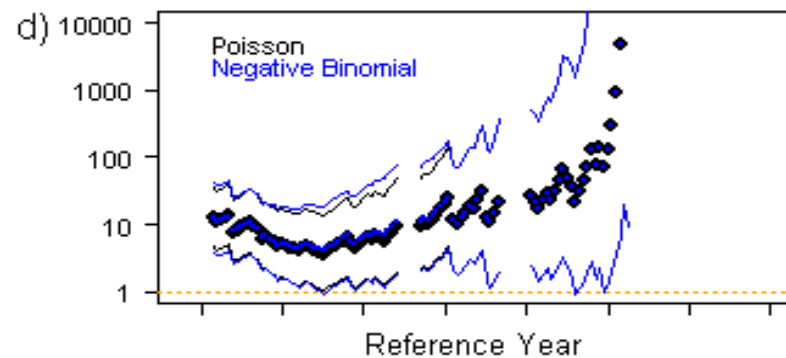
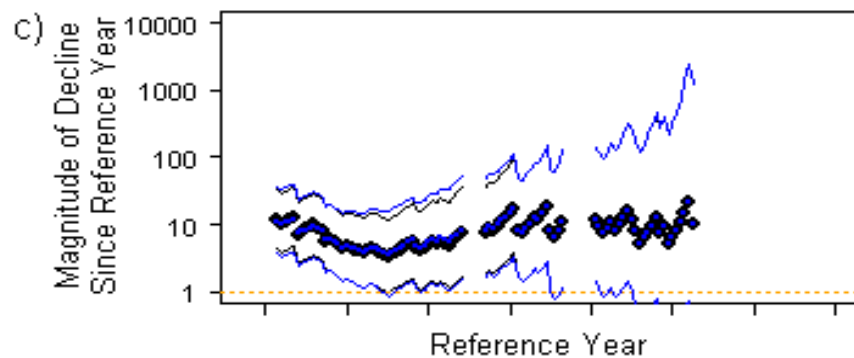
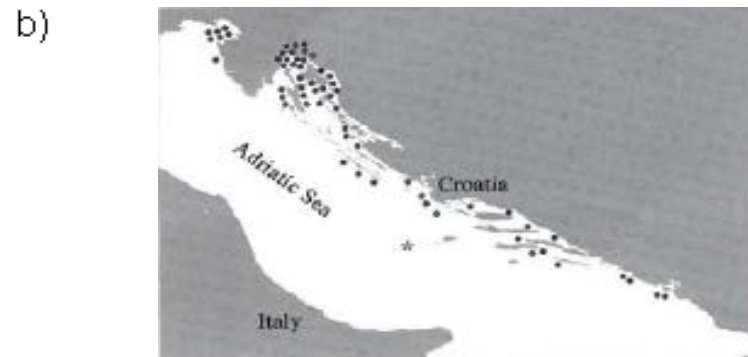
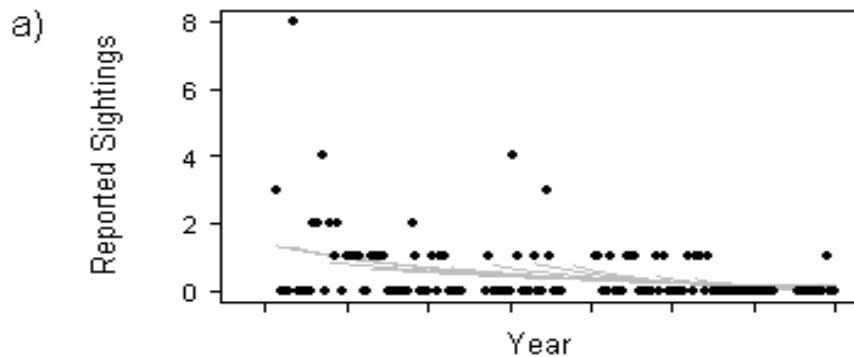
1946 - Pig of 10 kg in stomach

1950 - Encounter during eating a dead calf

1954 - Attack on boat

1975+ -**No sightings.**

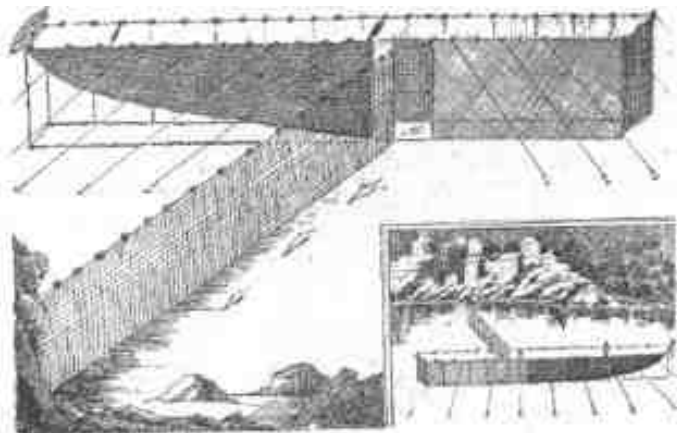
Workshop on estimation of trends from terrible data



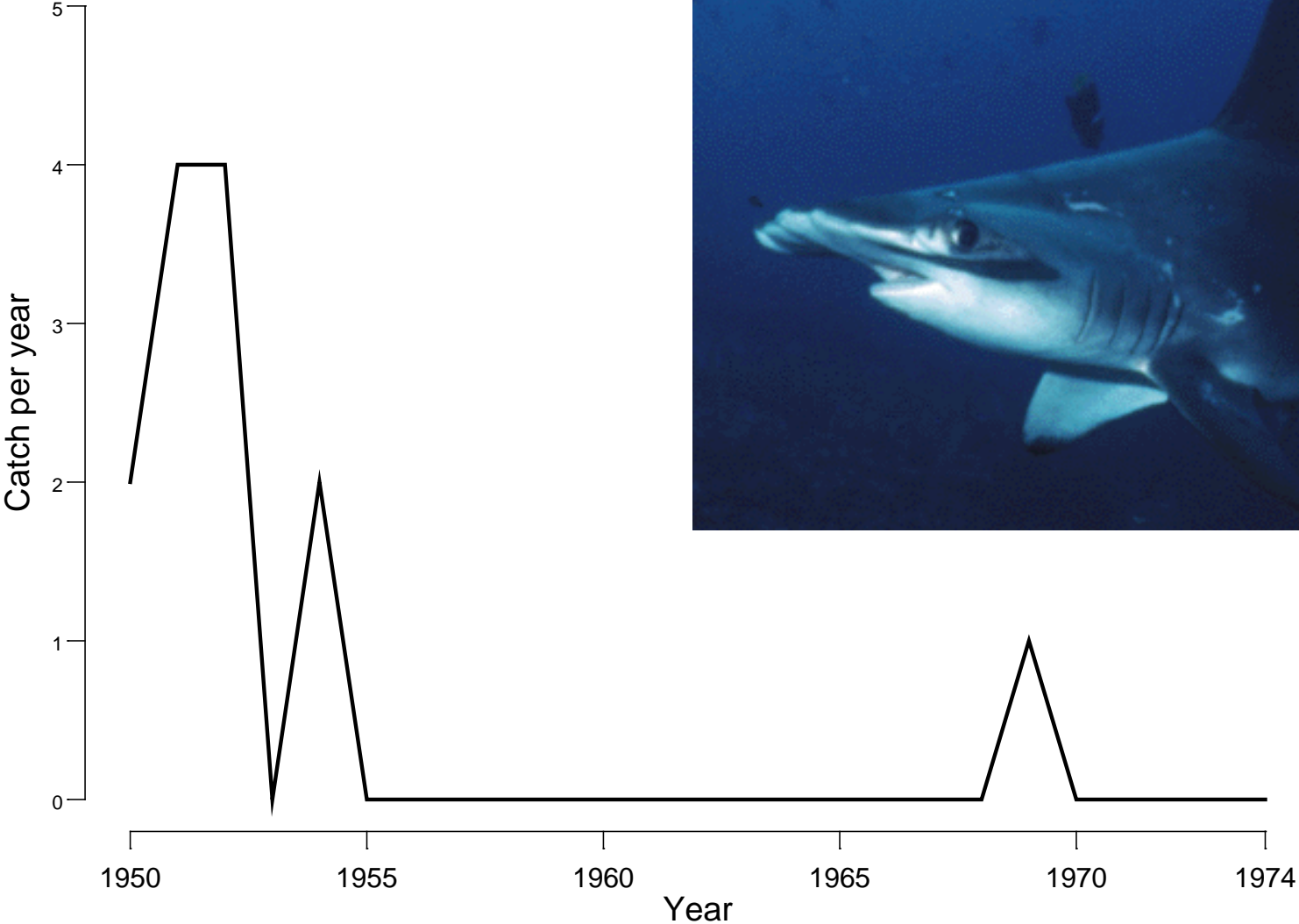
Decline of Mediterranean Sharks

By catch associated with a Tuna Trap
In Ligurian Sea

“Tonnara di Camogli”



Decline of Hammarhead sharks



Decline of Mediterranean Sharks

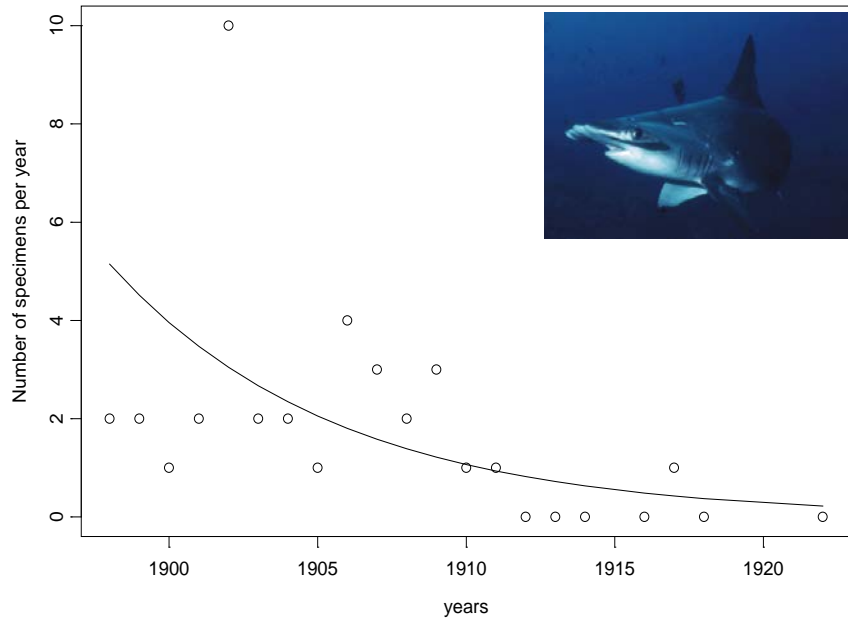
By catch associated with a Tuna Trap
In Tirrenian Sea



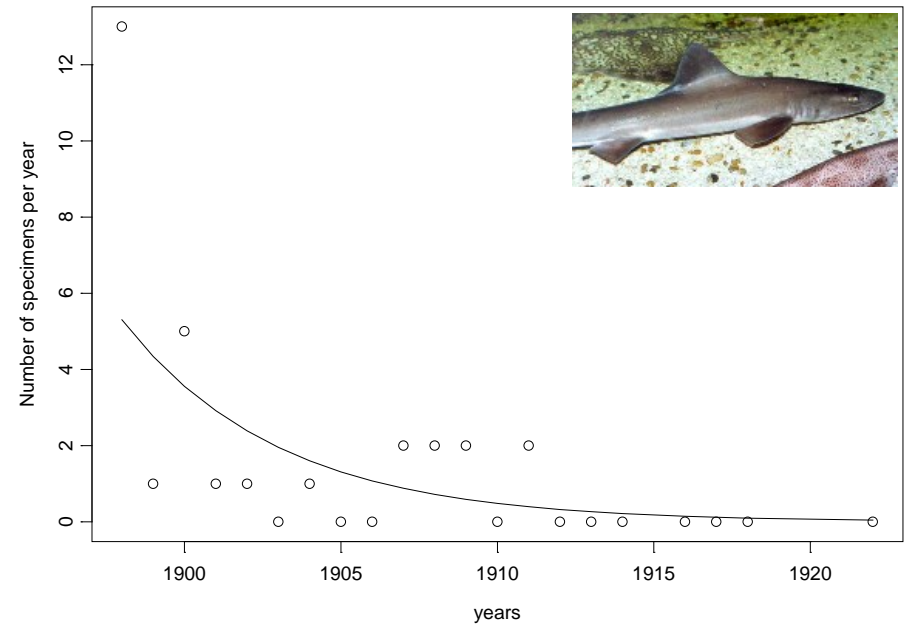
“Tonnarella di Baratti”



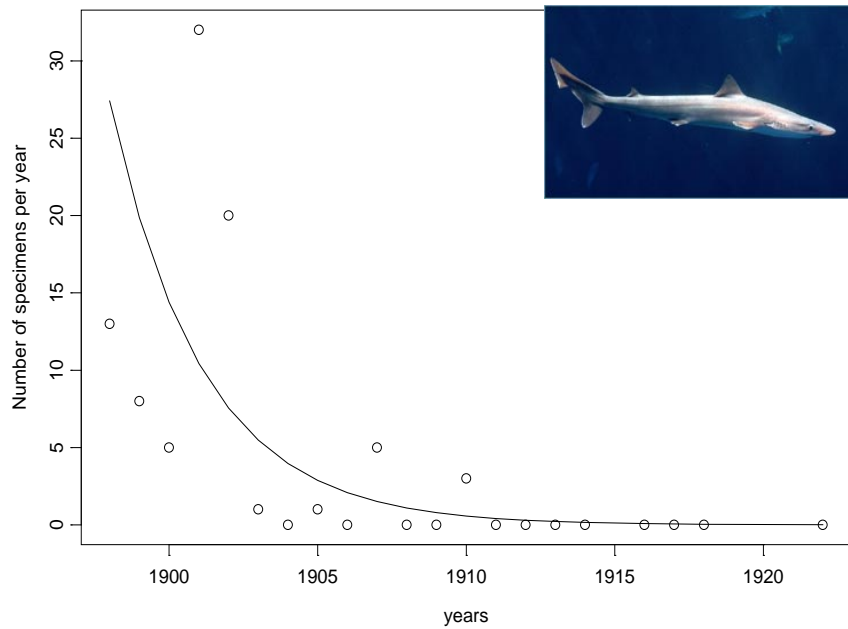
Hammerhead shark



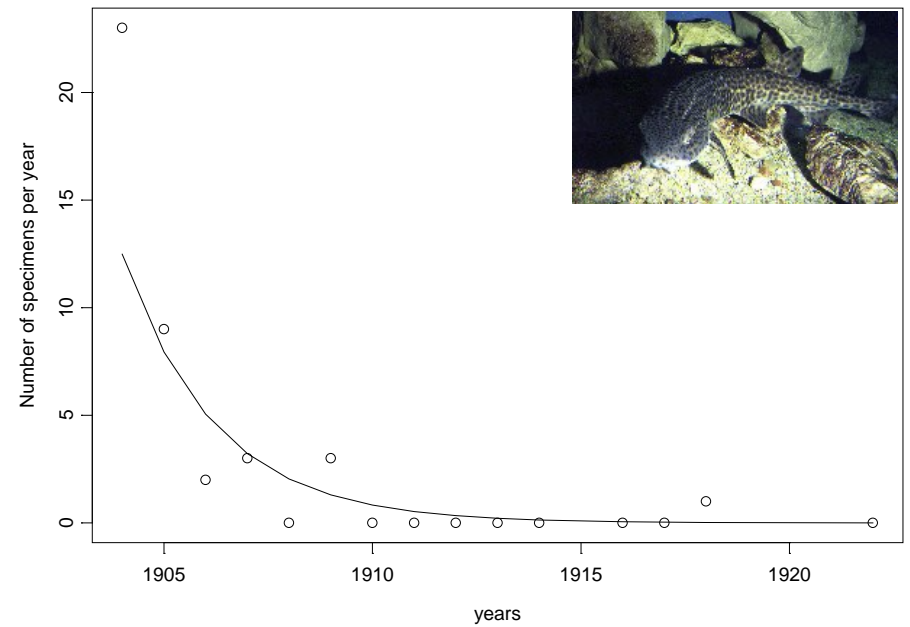
Smooth-hound



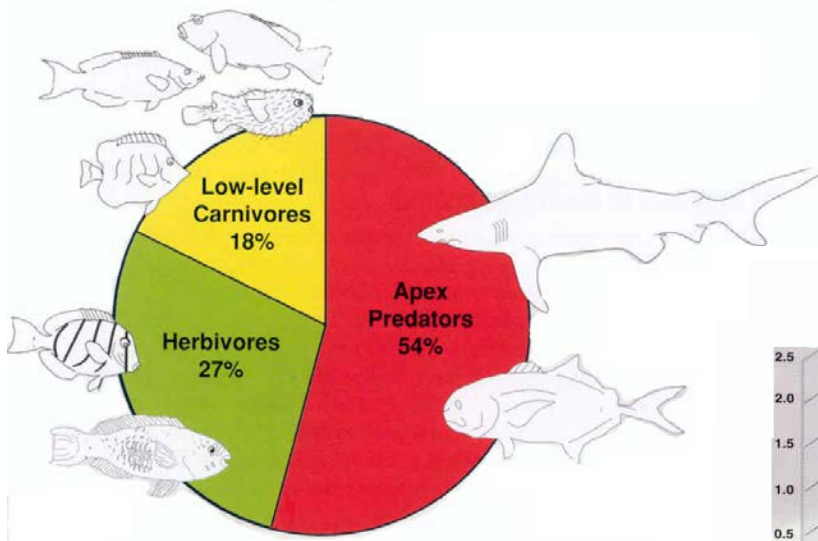
School shark



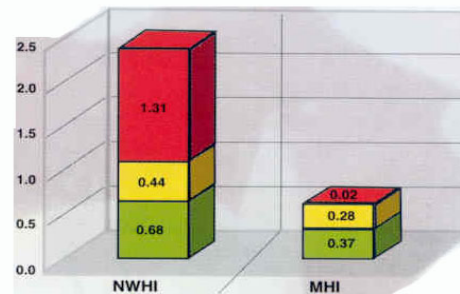
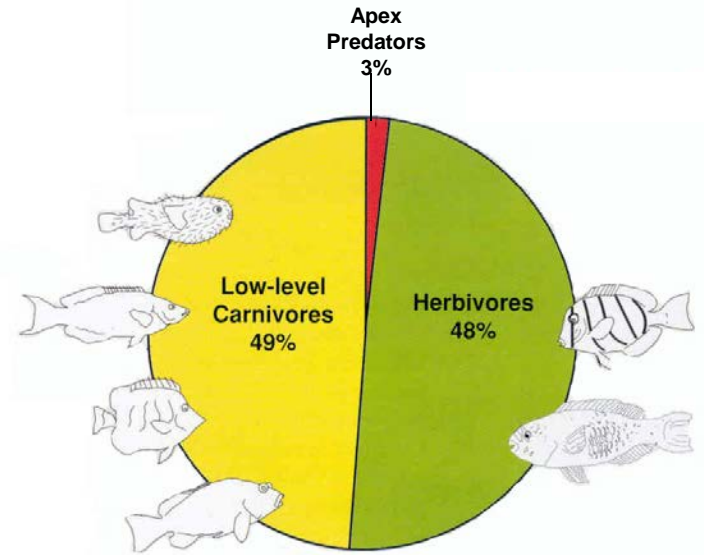
Nursehound



NW Hawaiian Islands



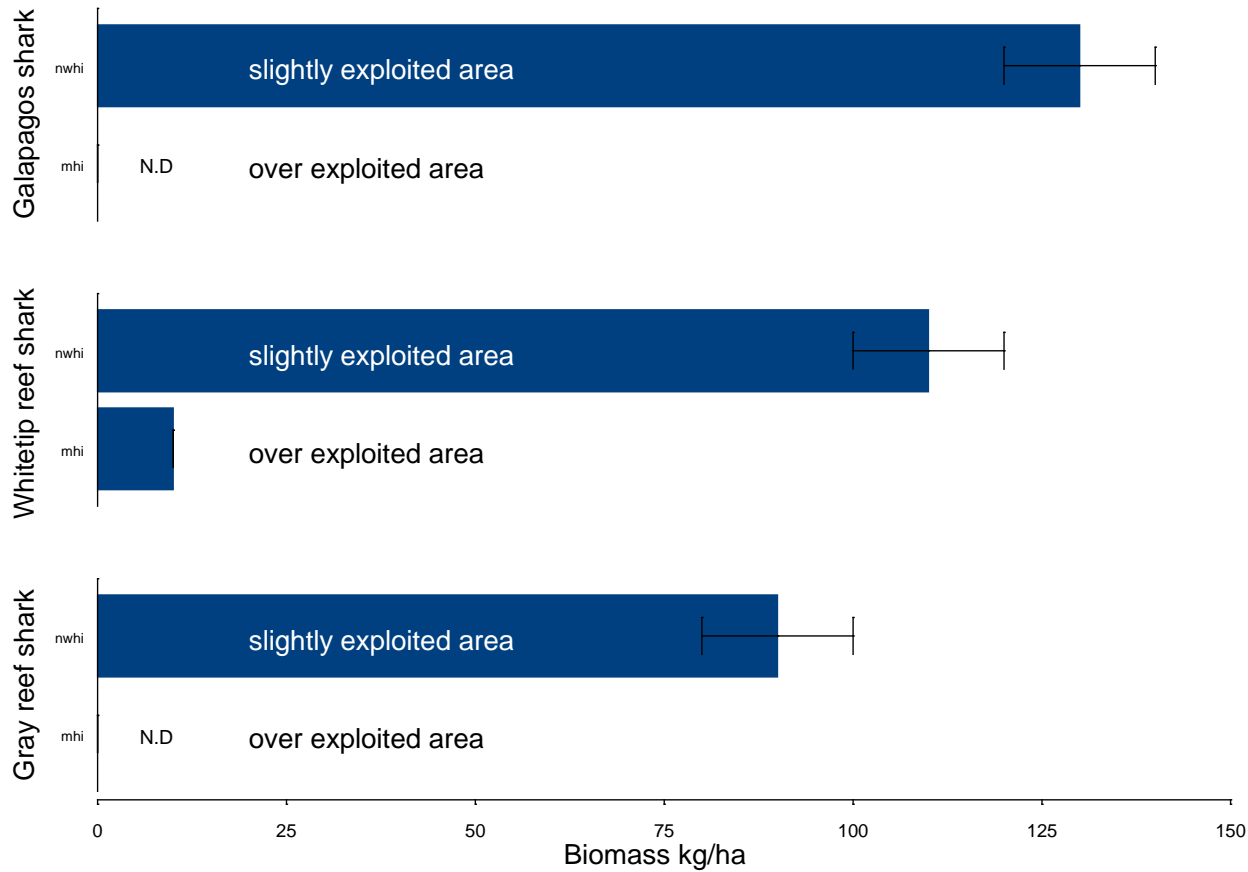
Main Hawaiian Islands



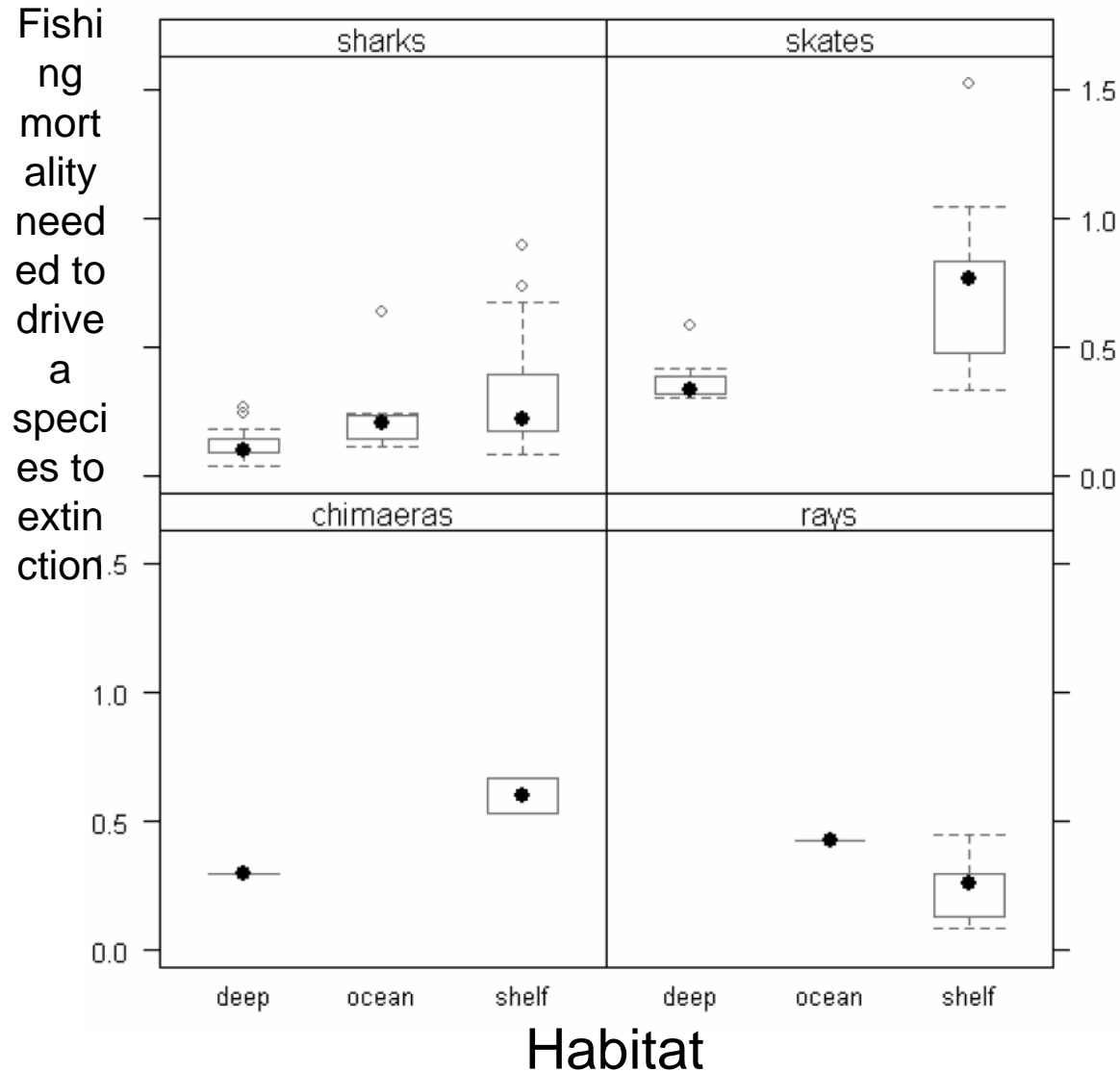
Comparative fish biomass (mT/ha)

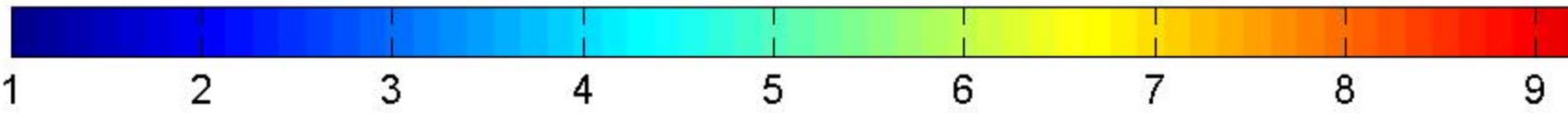
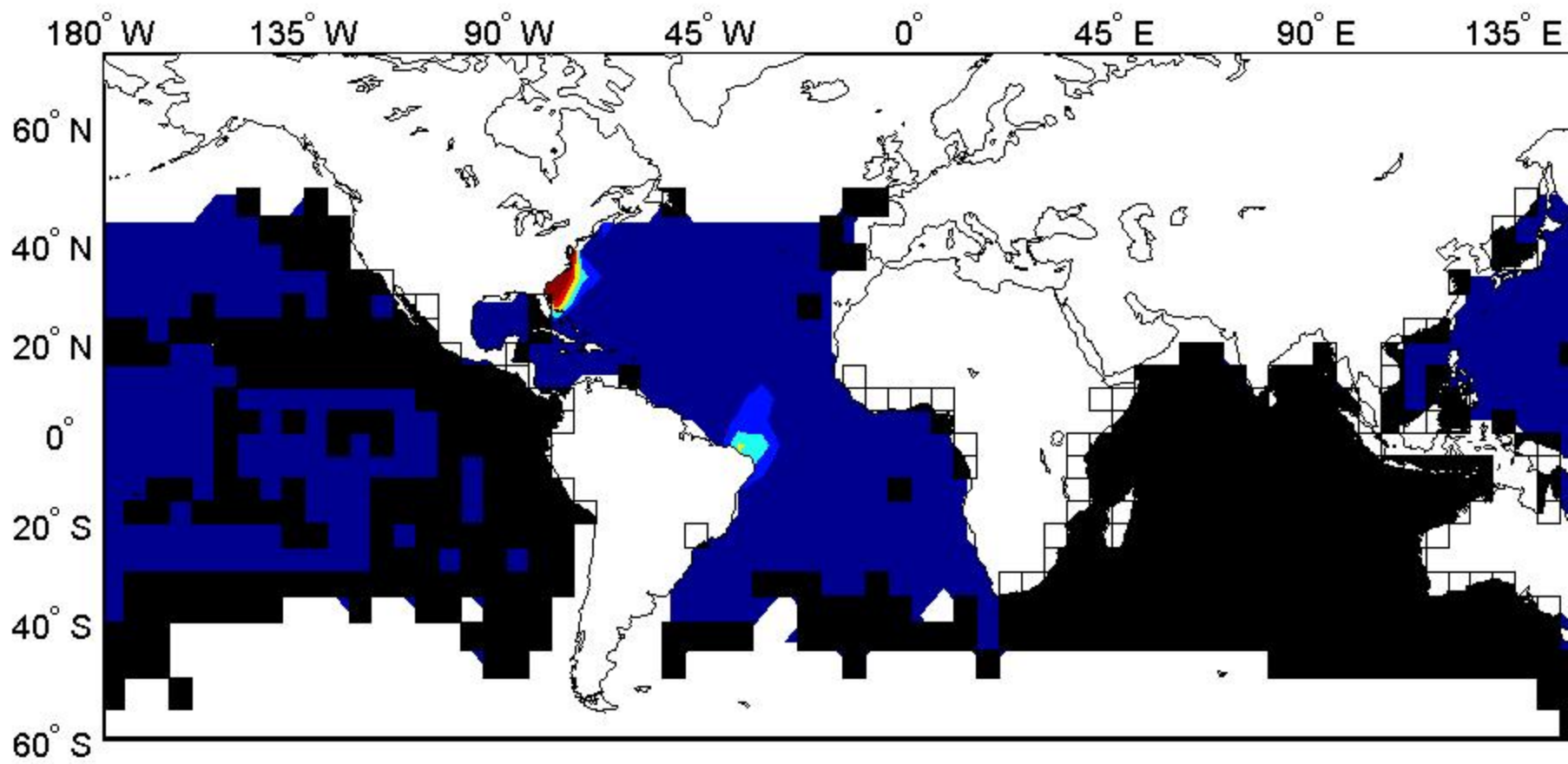
Loss of Reef Sharks in the Hawaiian Islands

N.W.Hawaiian Islands vs Main Hawaiian Islands

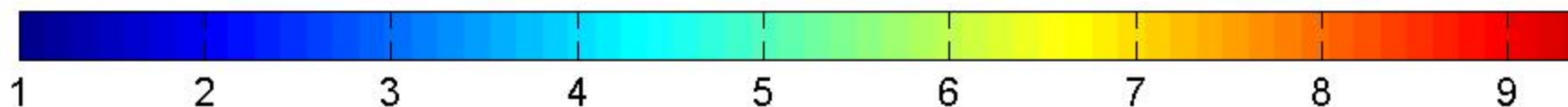
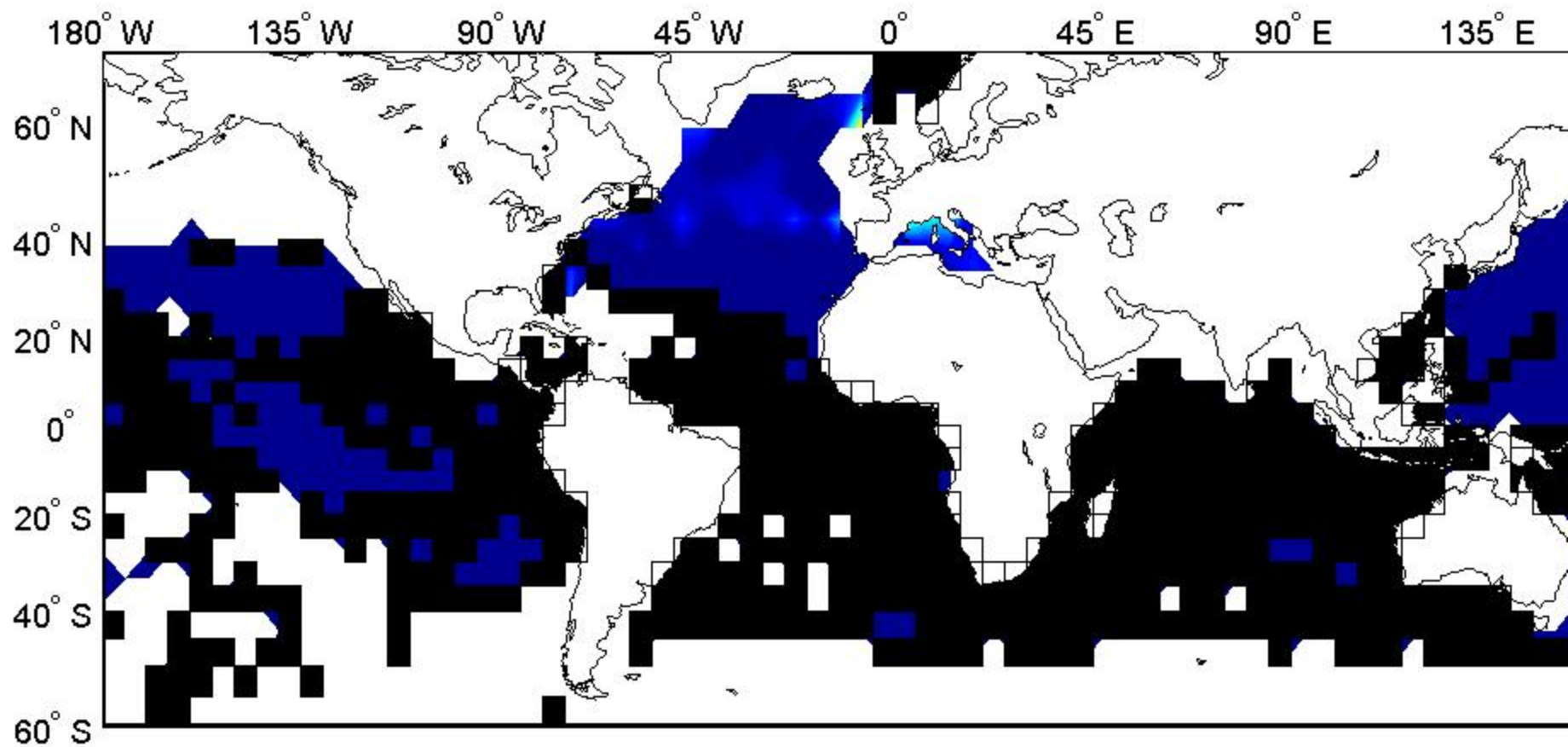


Meta-analysis correcting for phylogeny- Fishing mortality required to drive species extinct





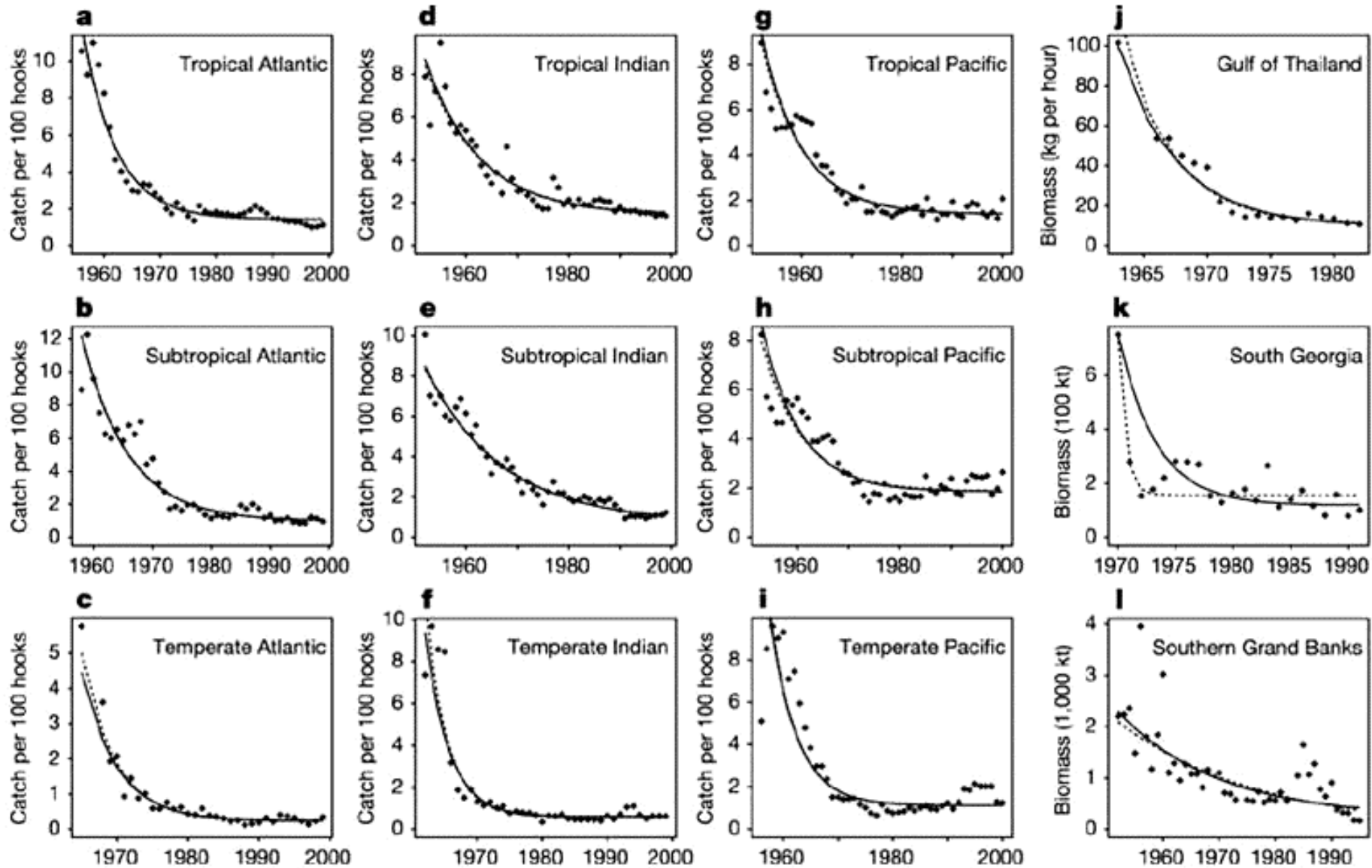
Bluefin Tuna / 1000 hooks 1960

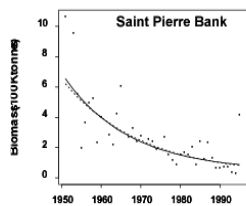
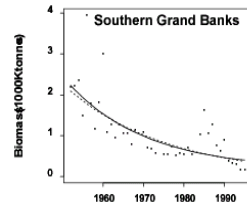
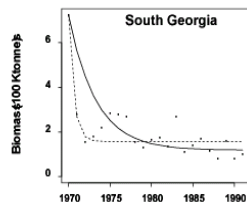
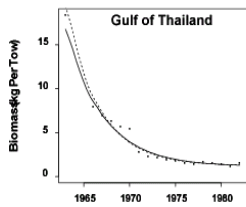


Bluefin Tuna / 1000 hooks 1990

Trends for Large Predatory Fishes

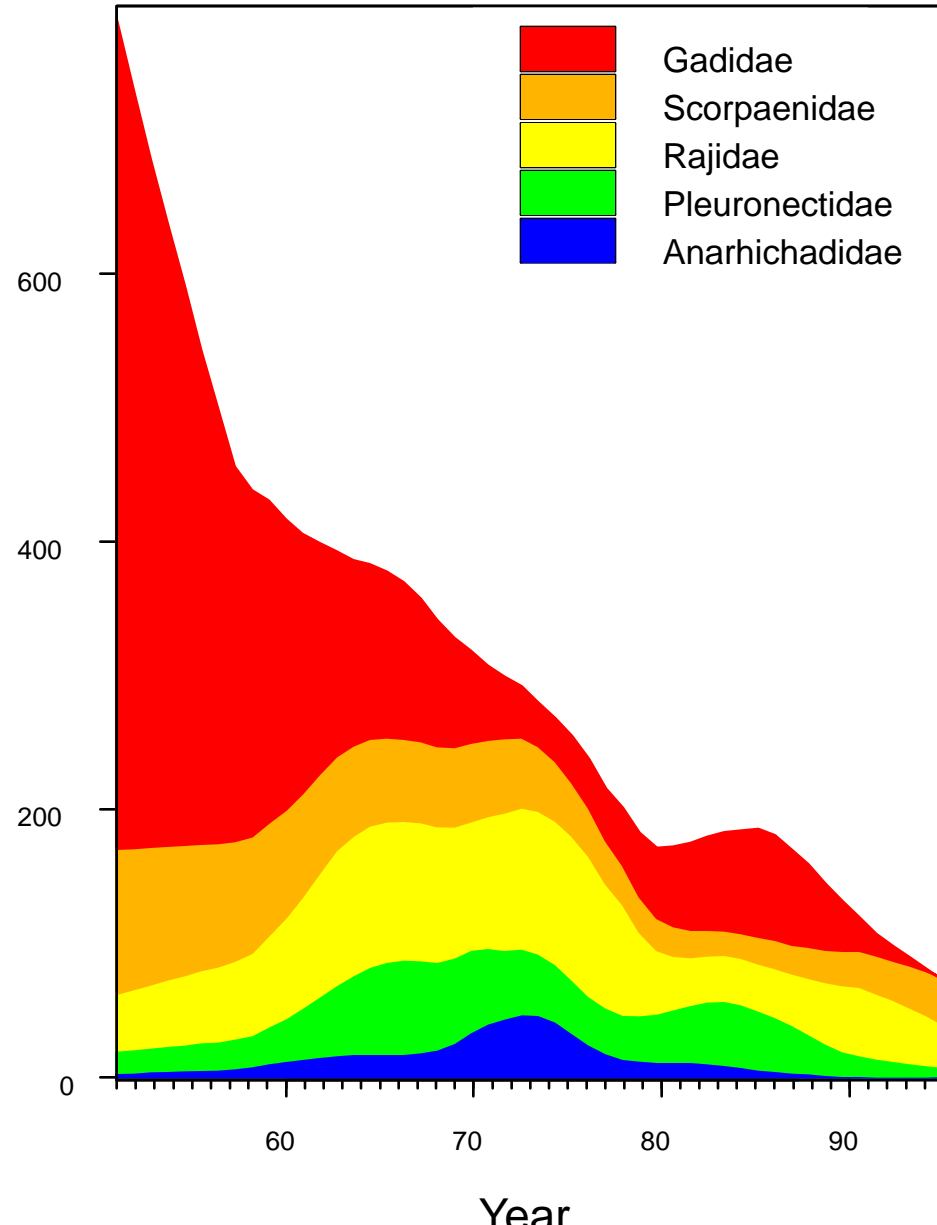
R. Myers & B. Worm (2003). *Nature*





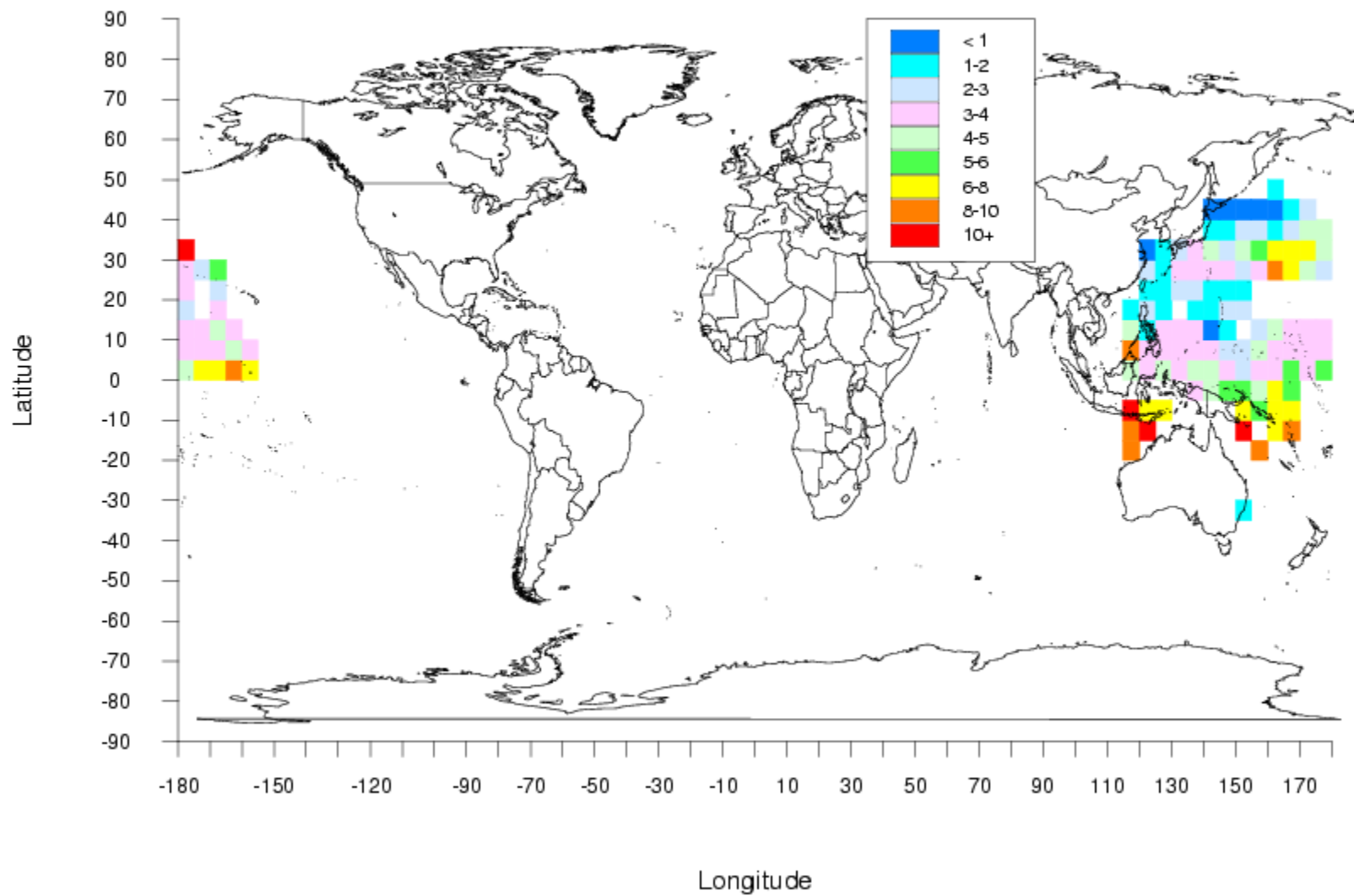
Community Changes on St. Pierre Bank

Biomass Estimate (1000's metric tons)

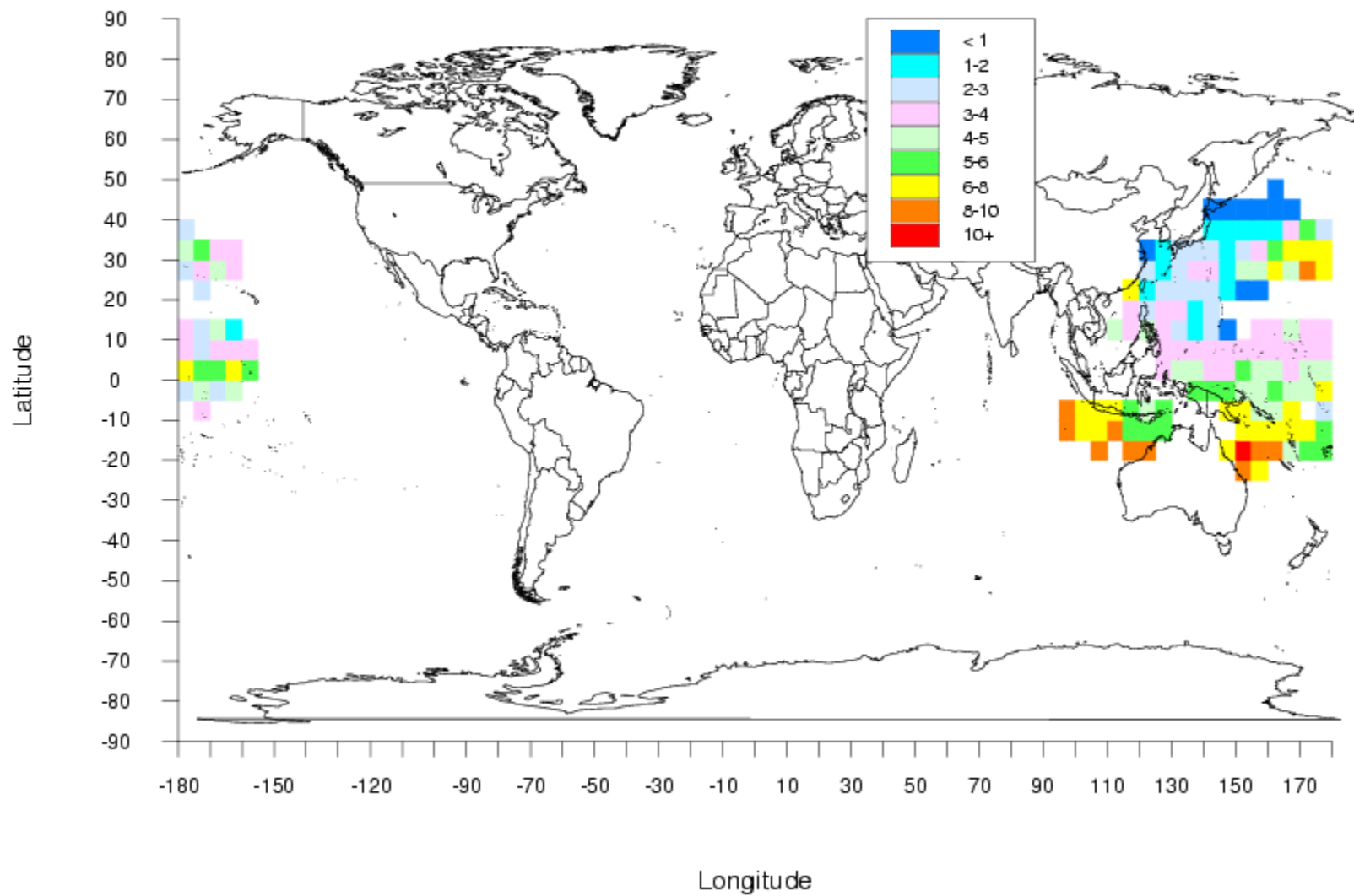




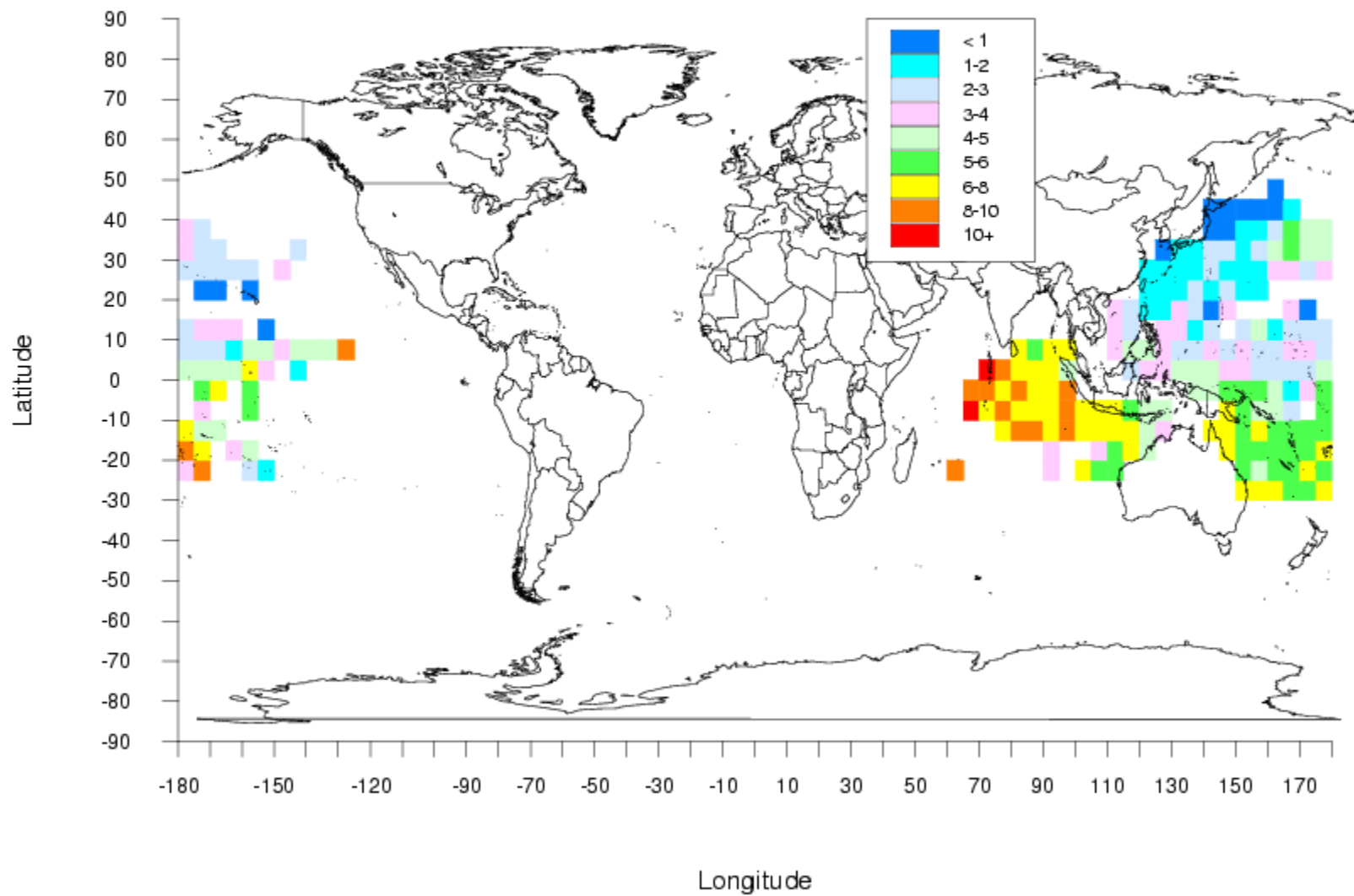
Catch Per Hundred Hooks, Year = 1952



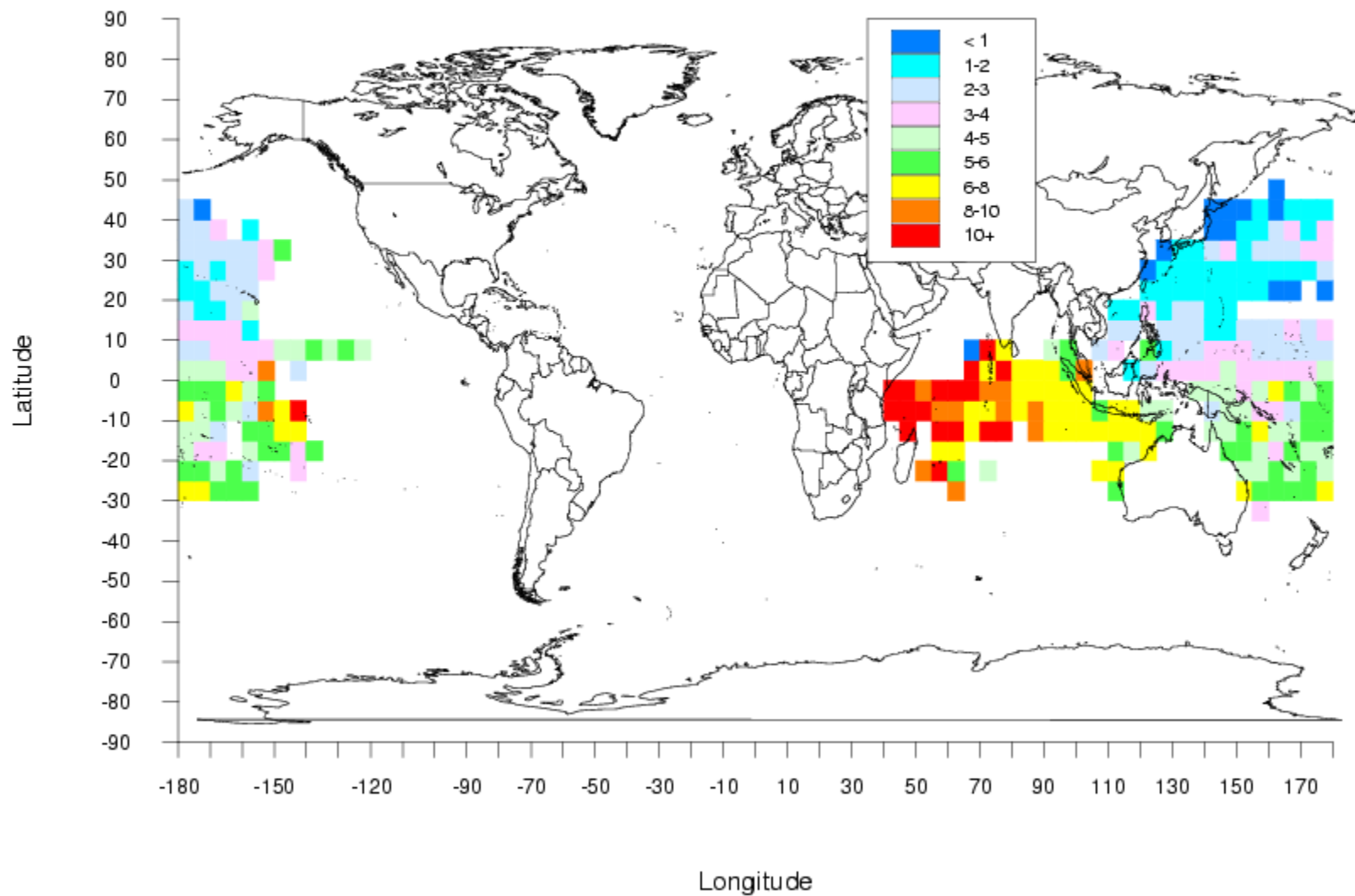
Catch Per Hundred Hooks, Year = 1953



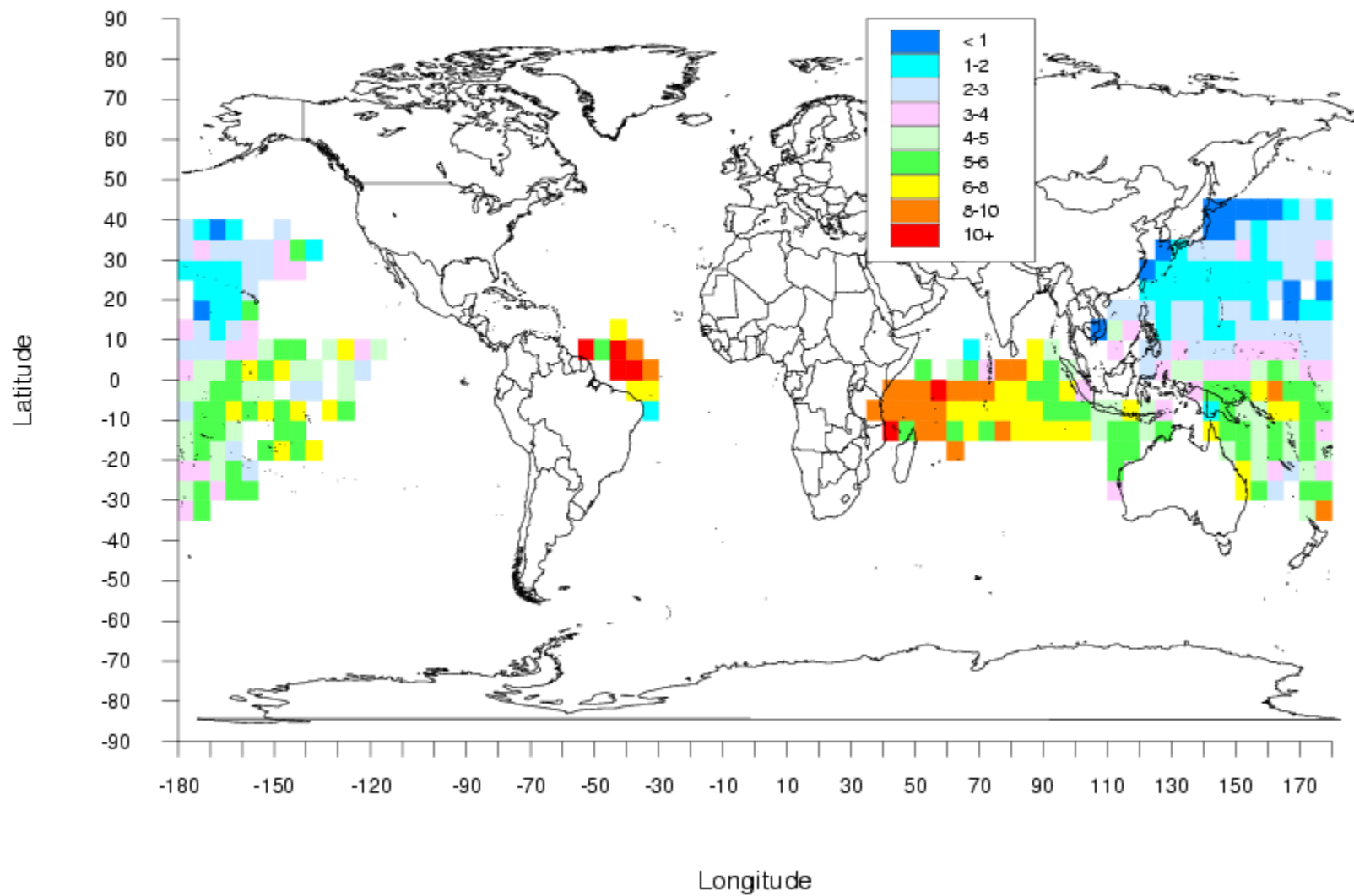
Catch Per Hundred Hooks, Year = 1954



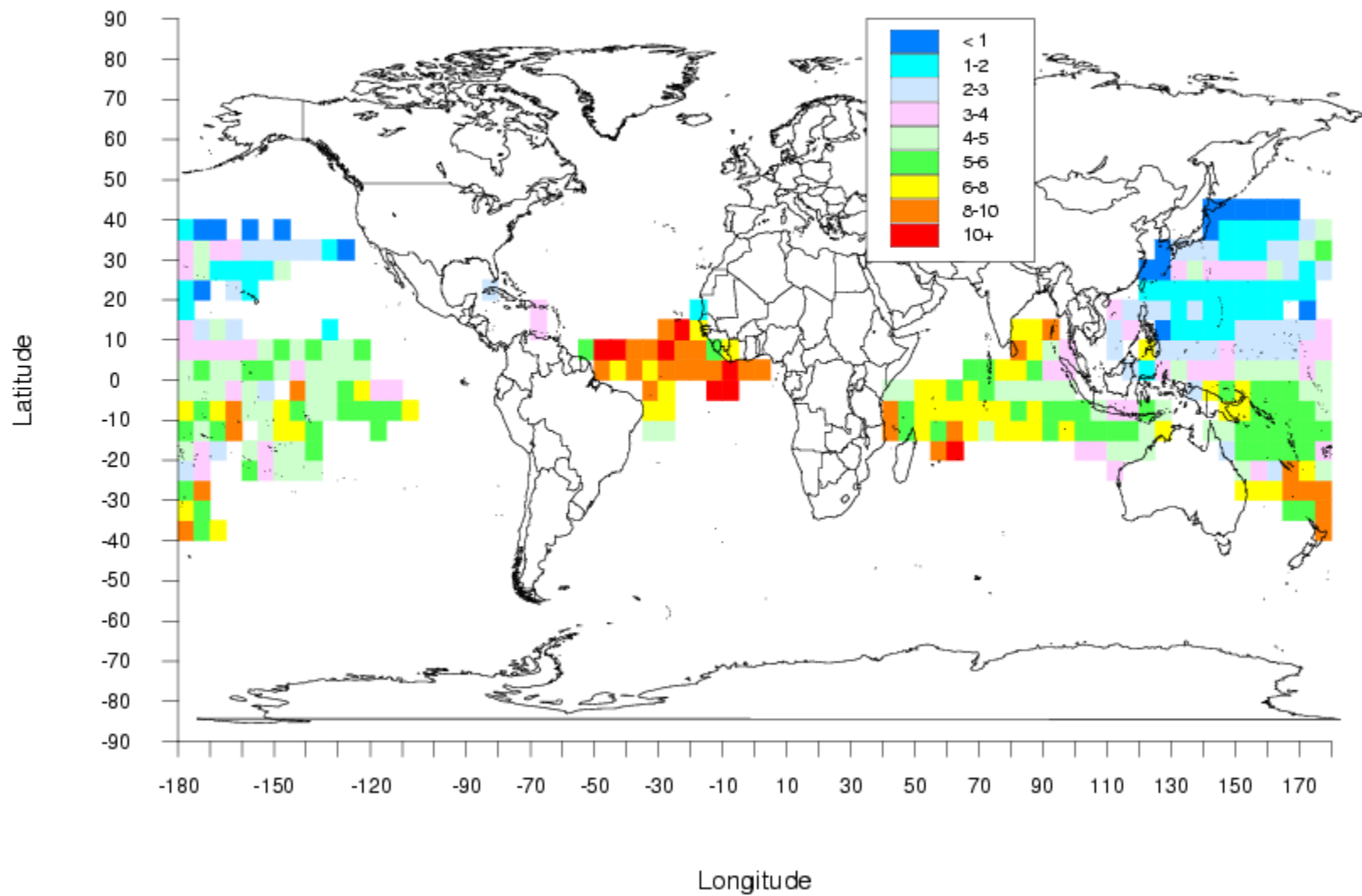
Catch Per Hundred Hooks, Year = 1955



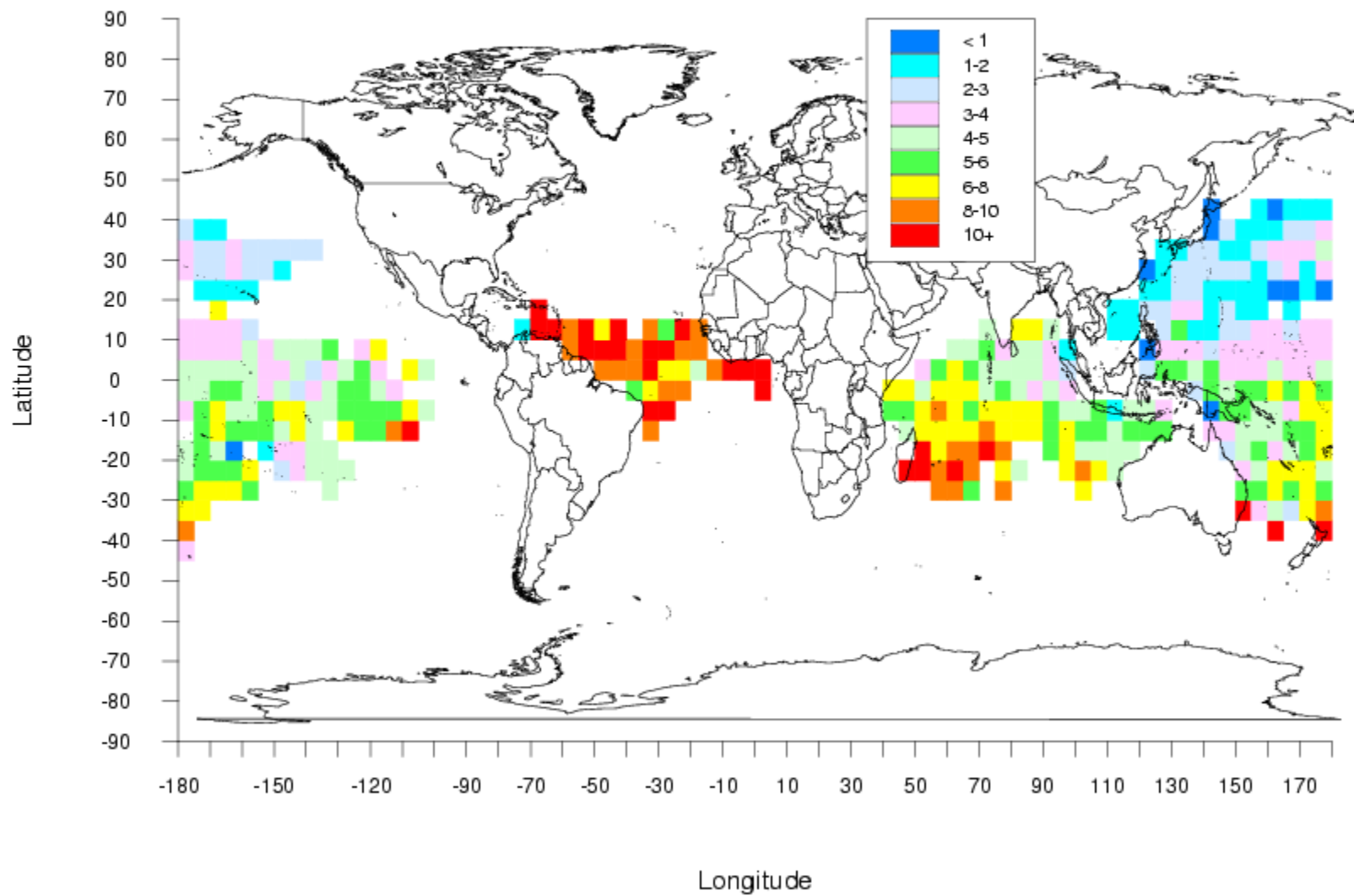
Catch Per Hundred Hooks, Year = 1956



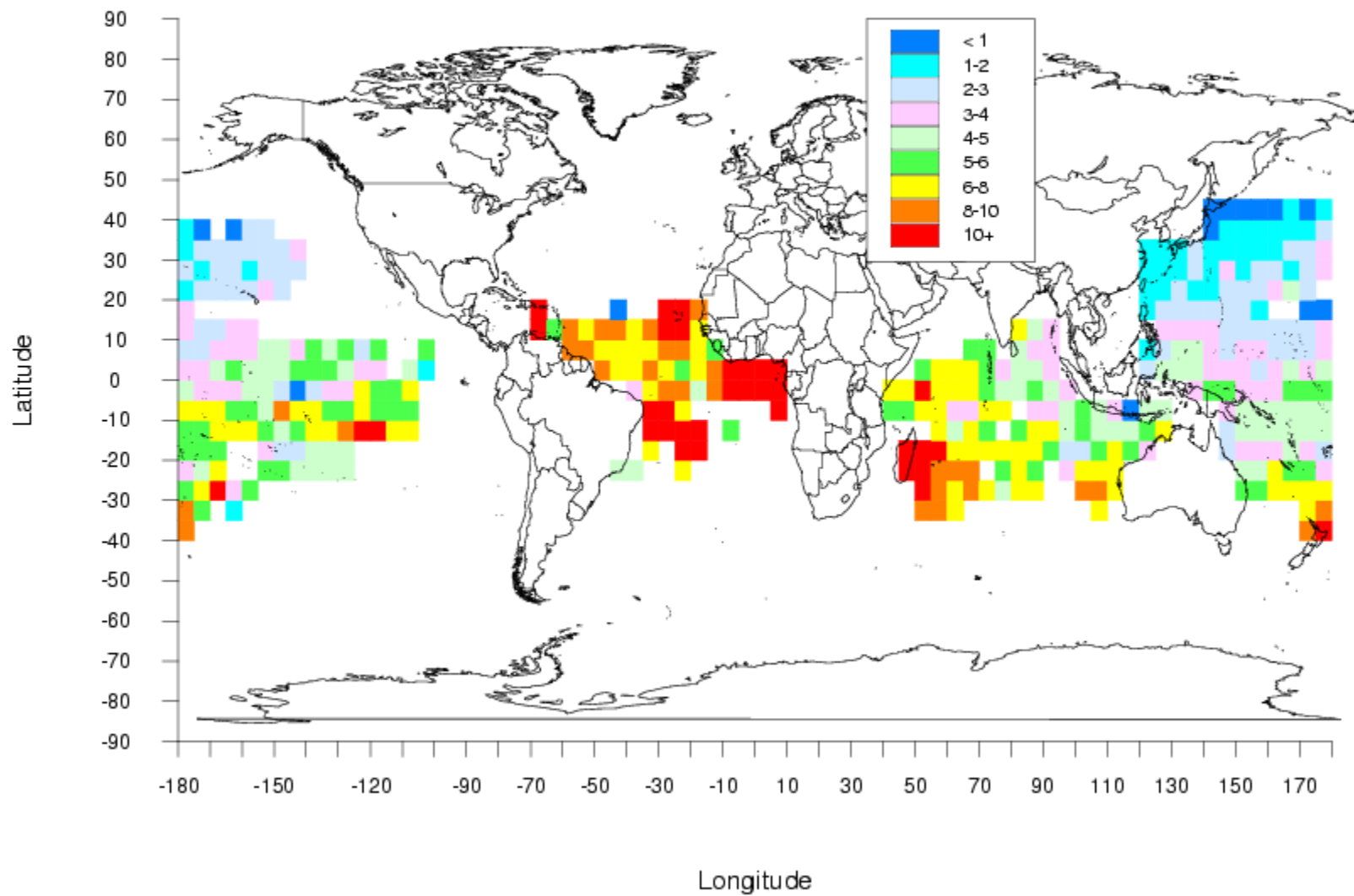
Catch Per Hundred Hooks, Year = 1957



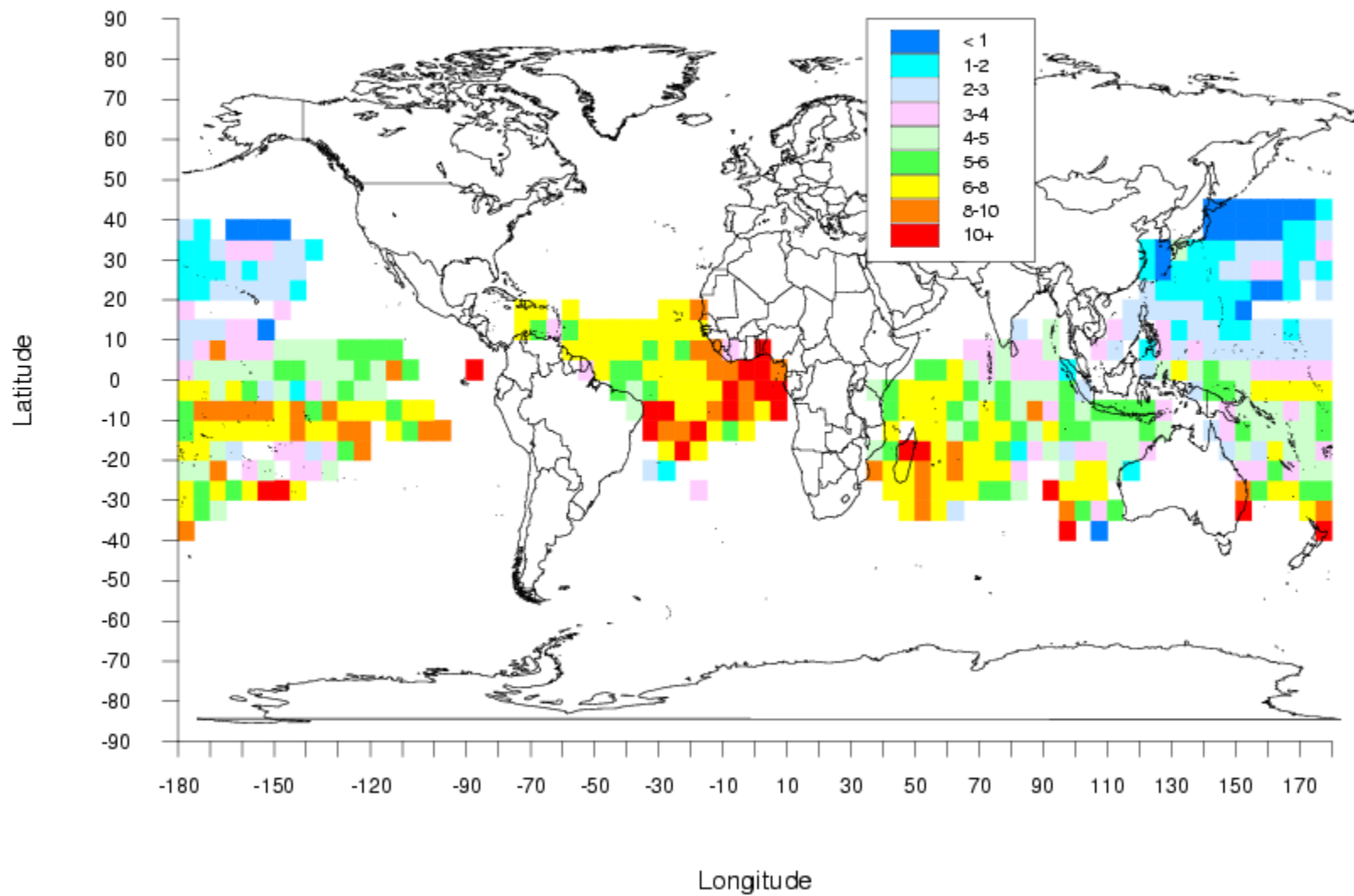
Catch Per Hundred Hooks, Year = 1958



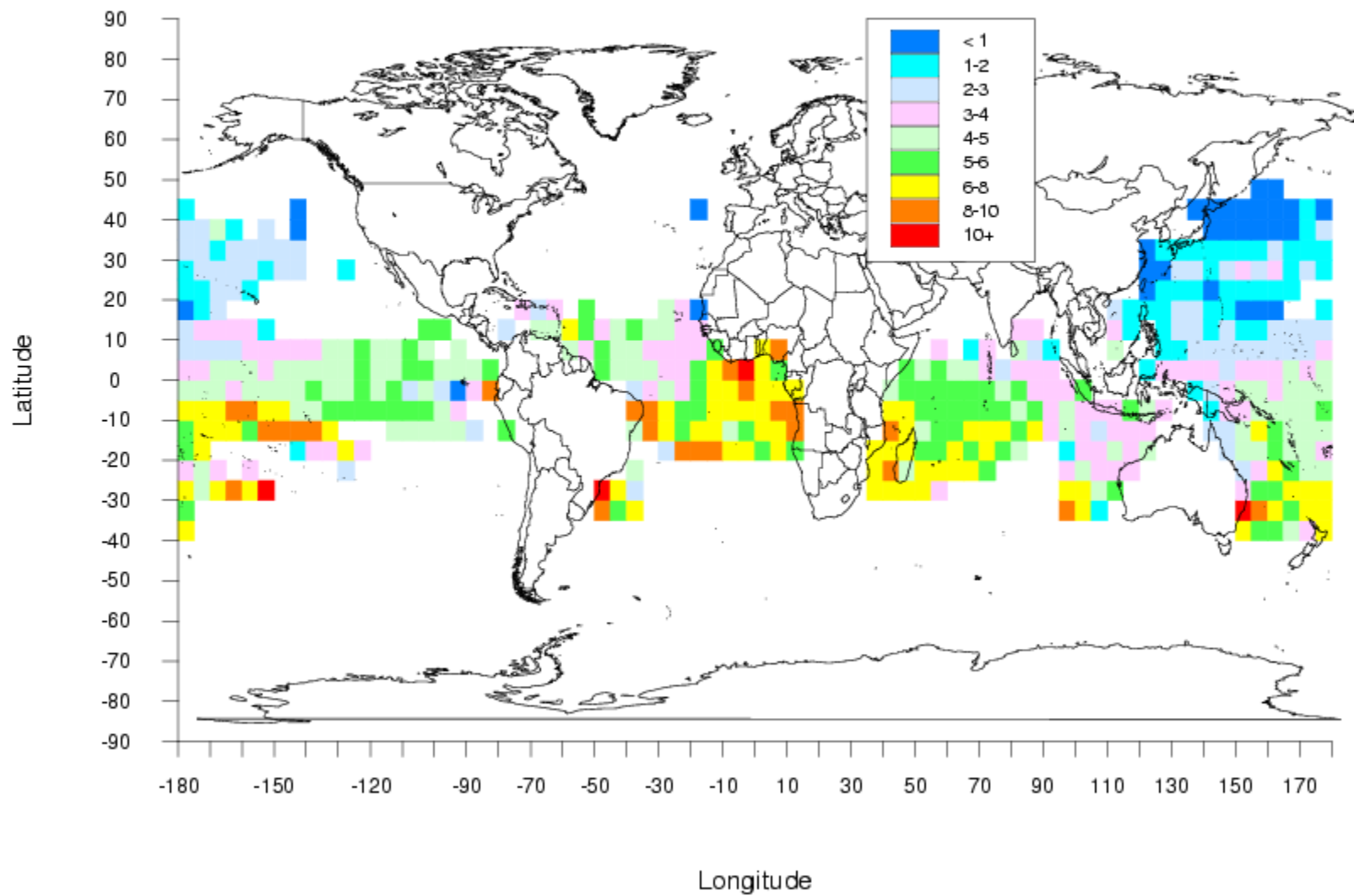
Catch Per Hundred Hooks, Year = 1959



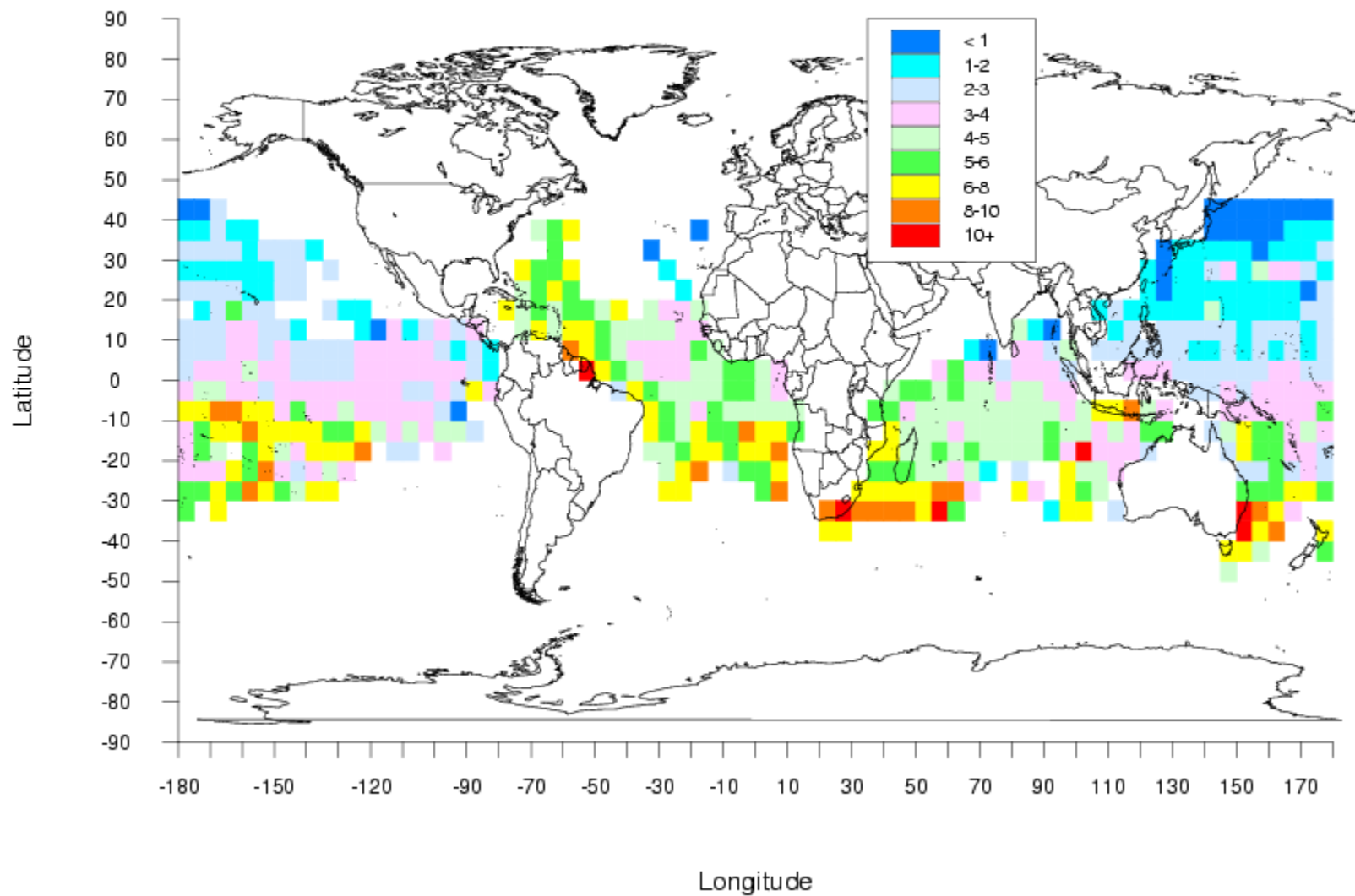
Catch Per Hundred Hooks, Year = 1960



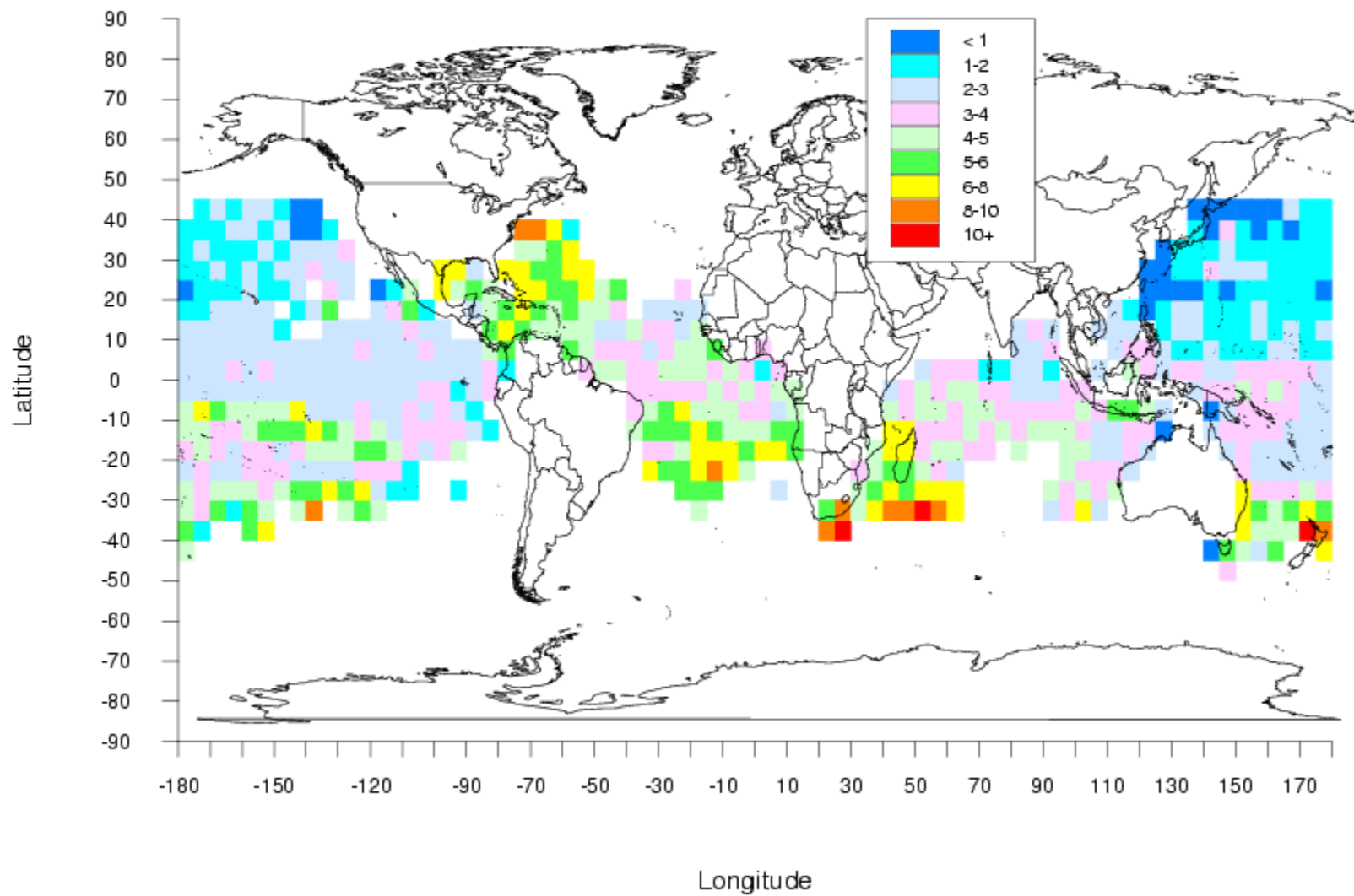
Catch Per Hundred Hooks, Year = 1961



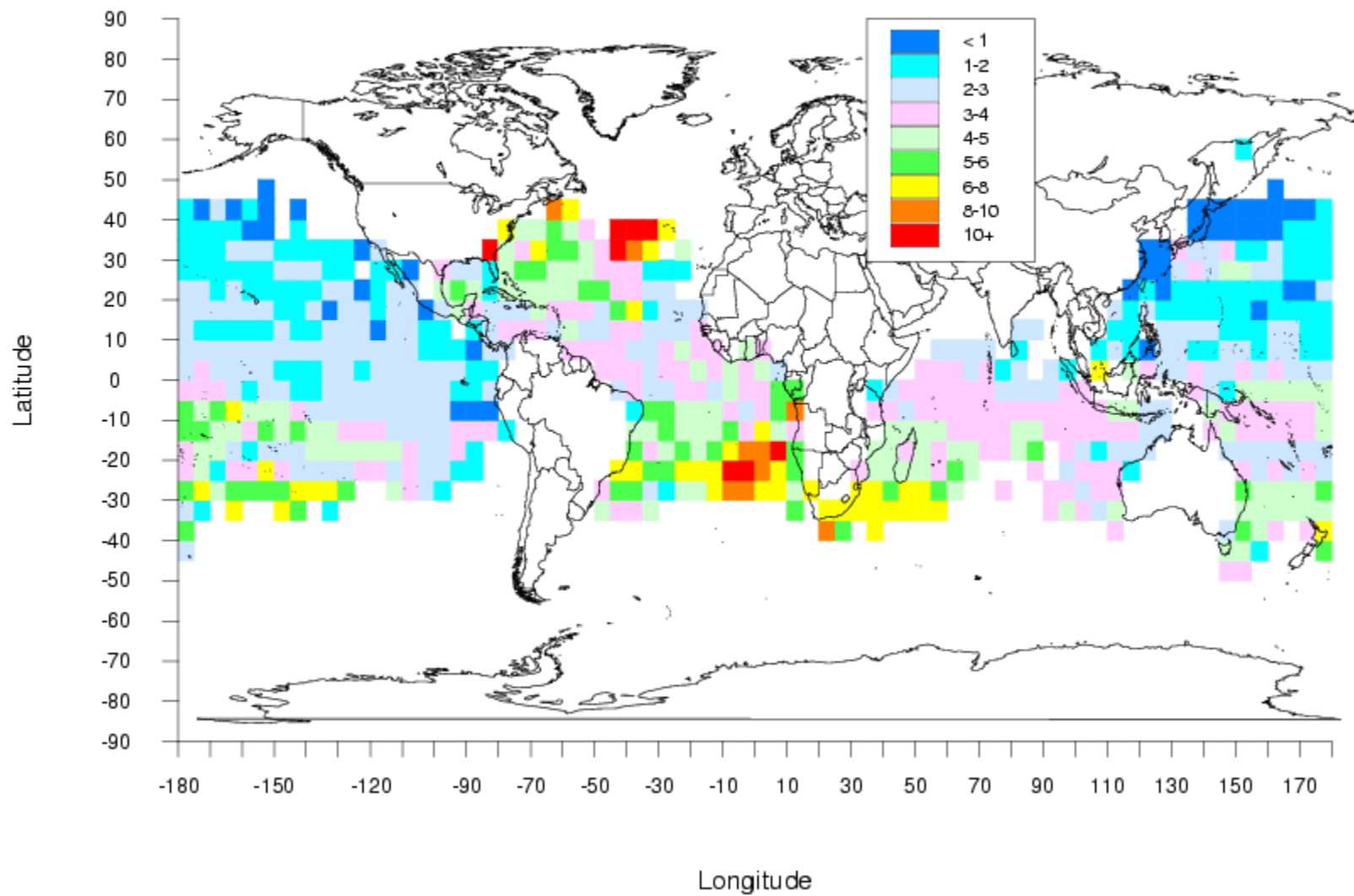
Catch Per Hundred Hooks, Year = 1962



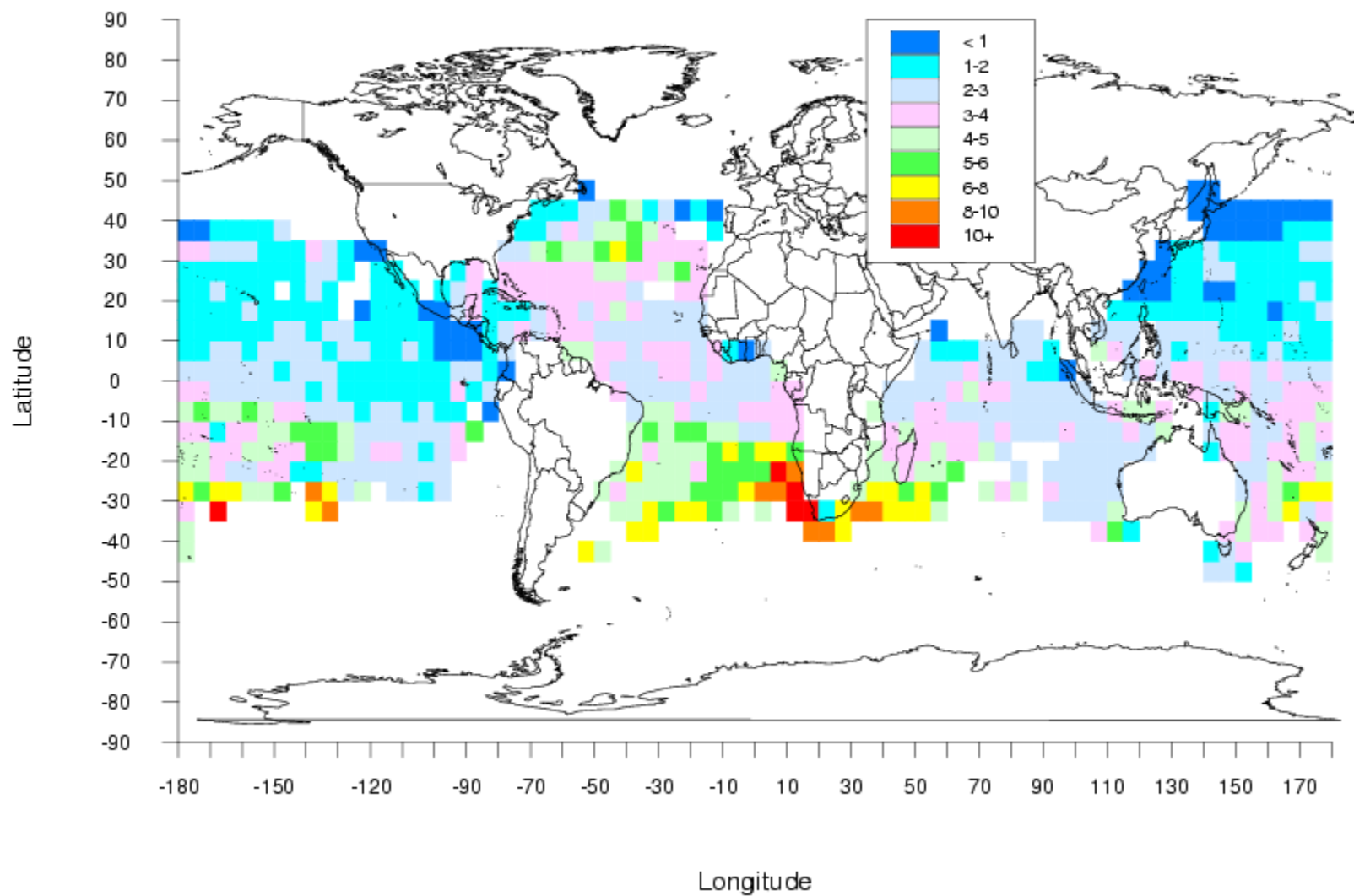
Catch Per Hundred Hooks, Year = 1963



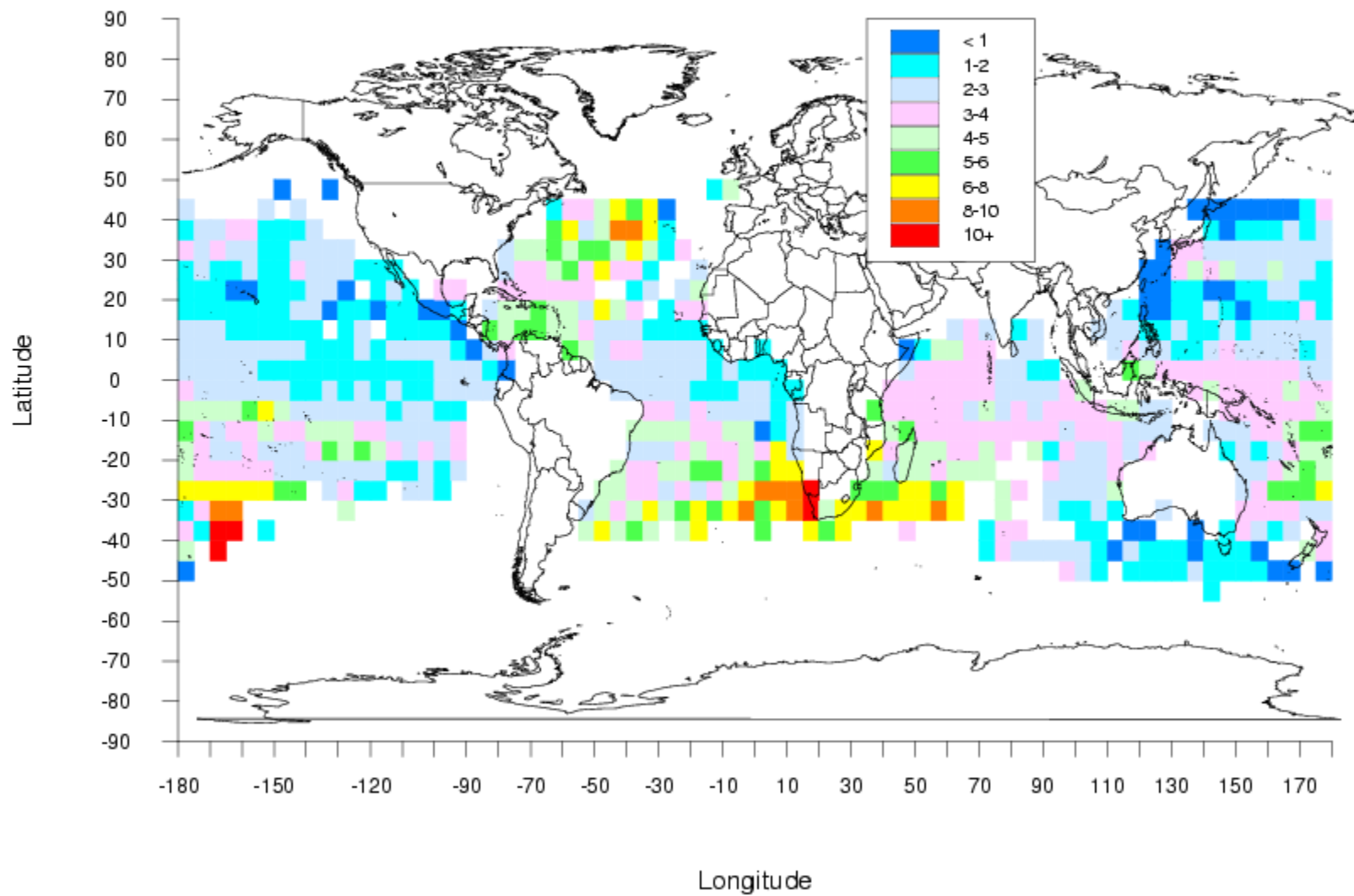
Catch Per Hundred Hooks, Year = 1964



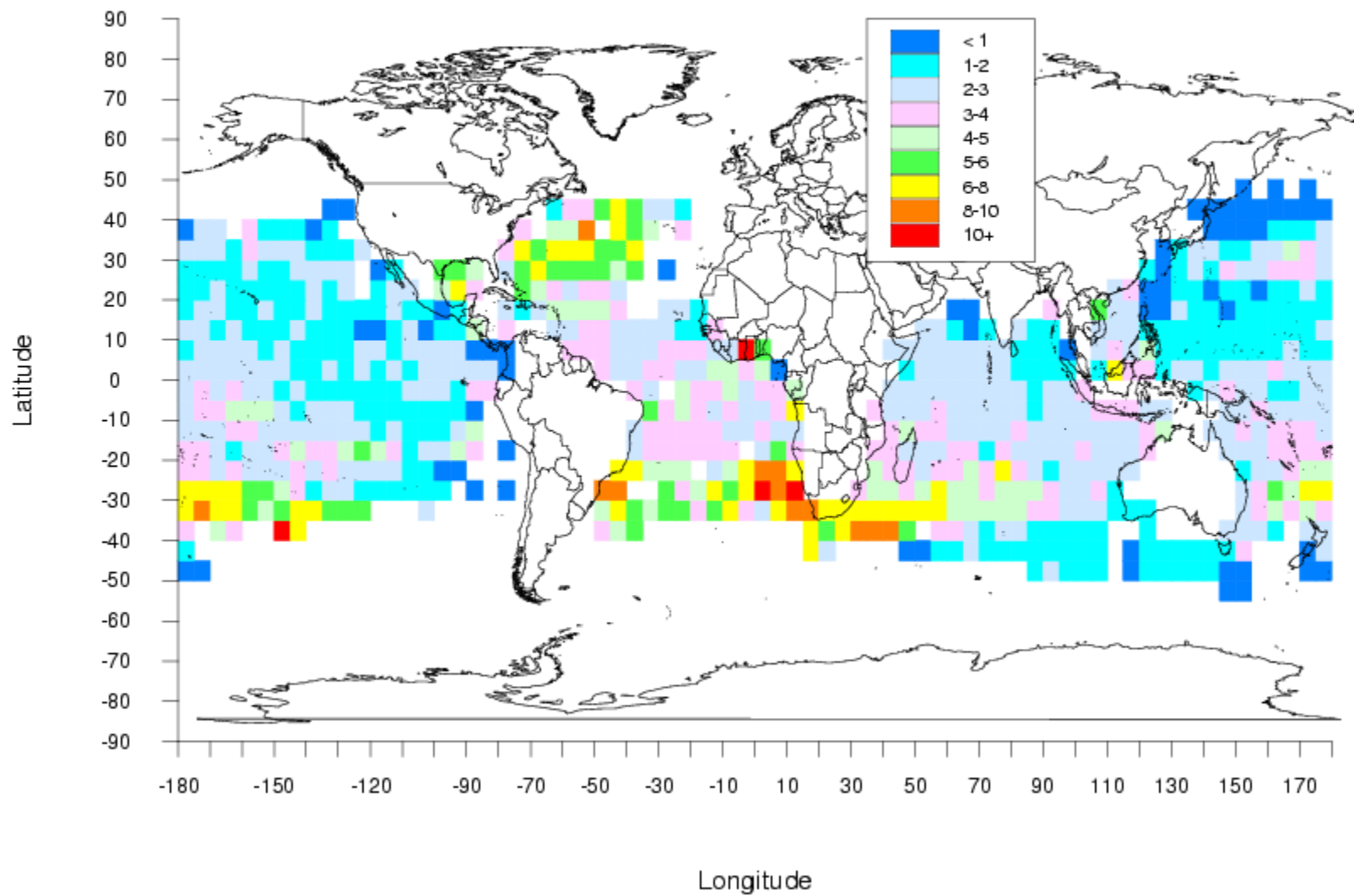
Catch Per Hundred Hooks, Year = 1965



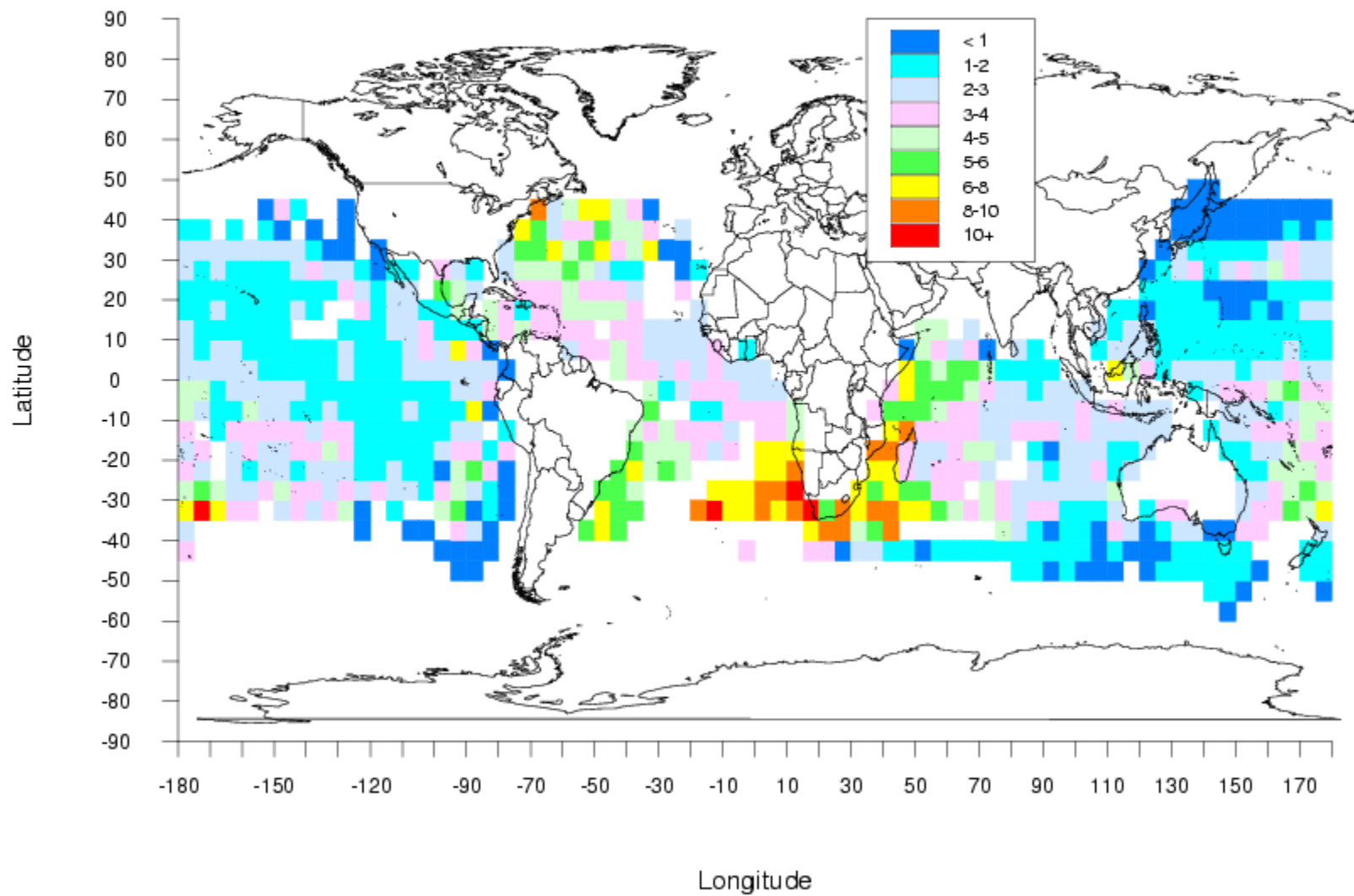
Catch Per Hundred Hooks, Year = 1966



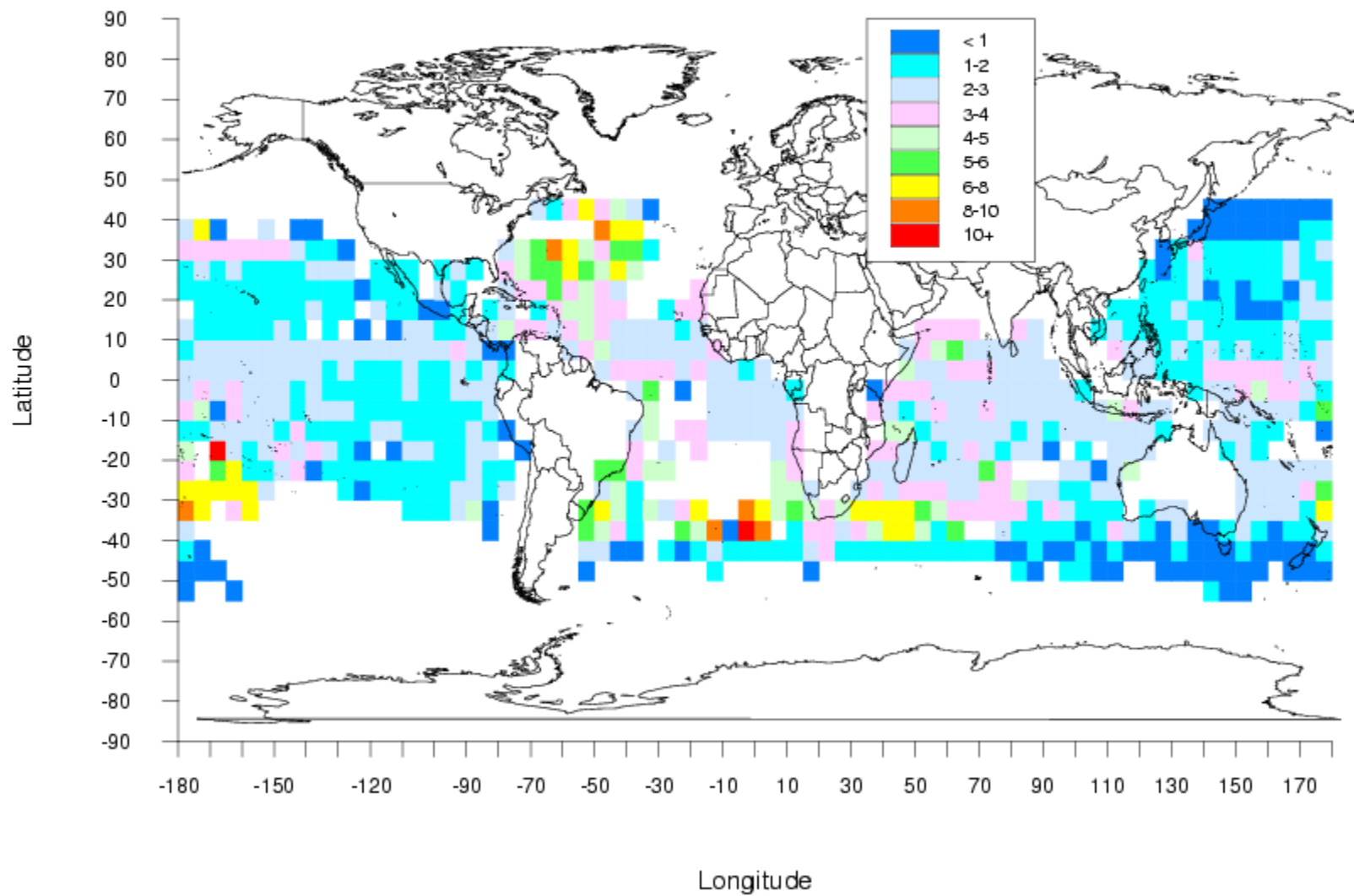
Catch Per Hundred Hooks, Year = 1967



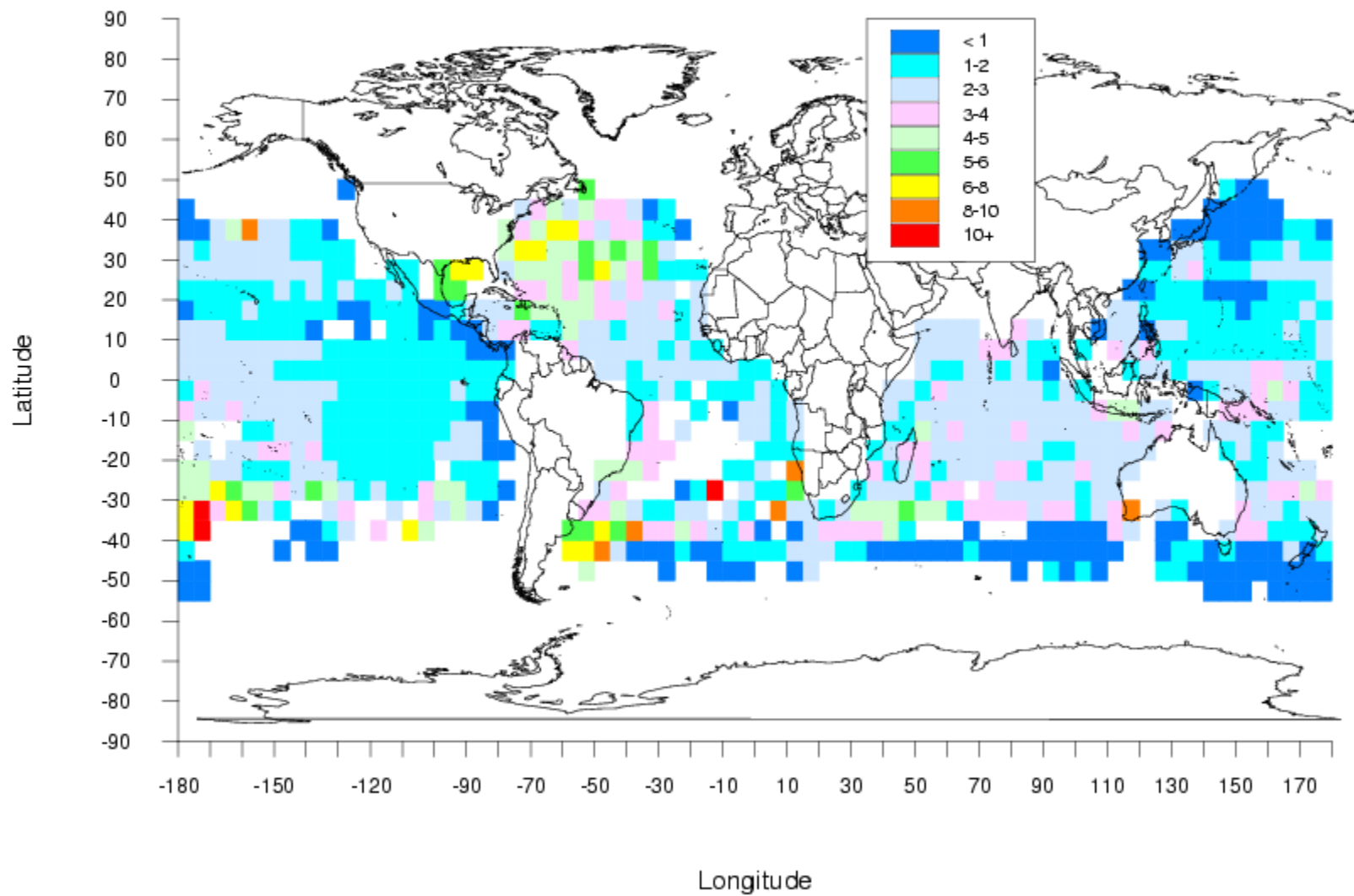
Catch Per Hundred Hooks, Year = 1968



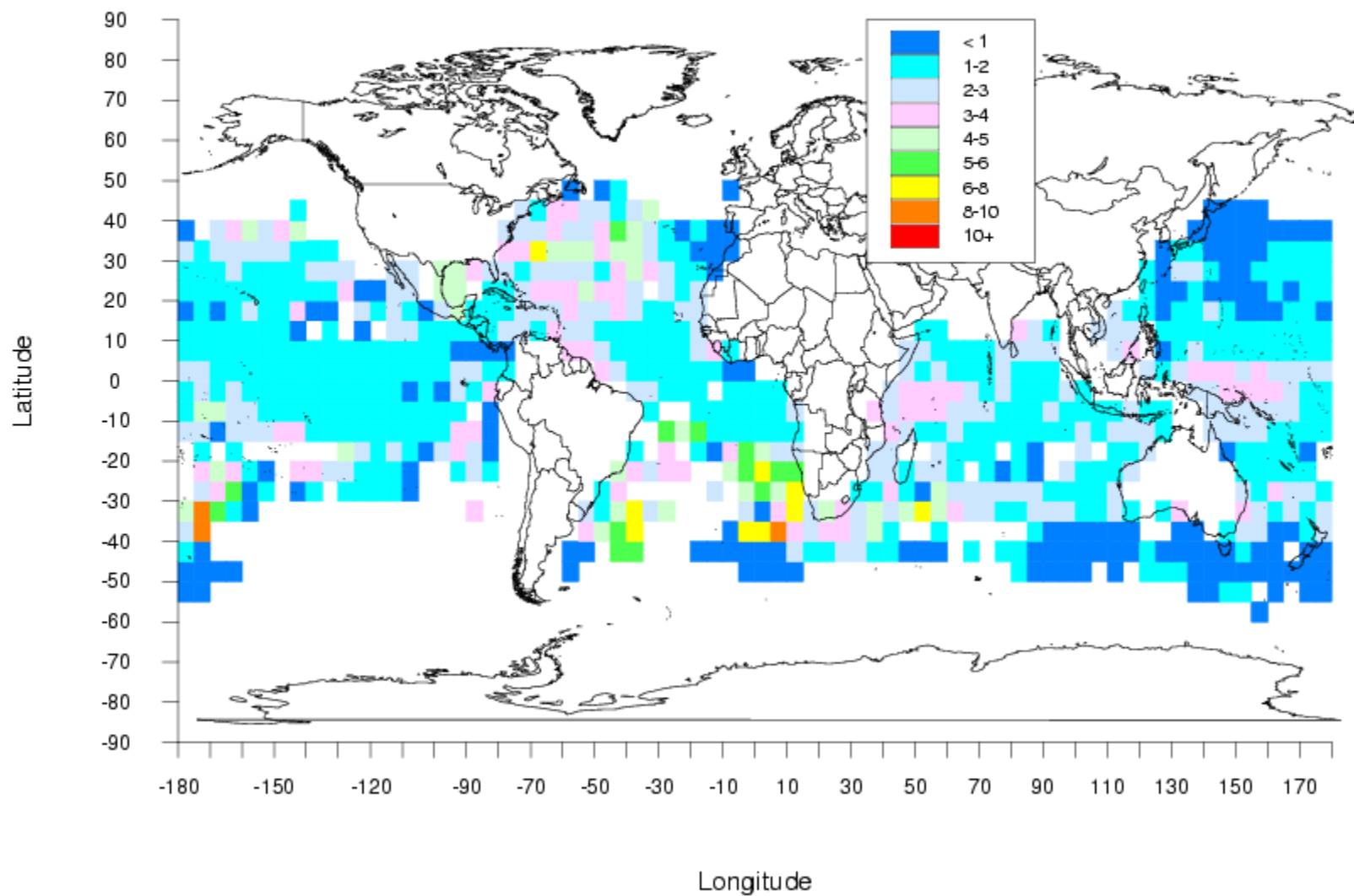
Catch Per Hundred Hooks, Year = 1969



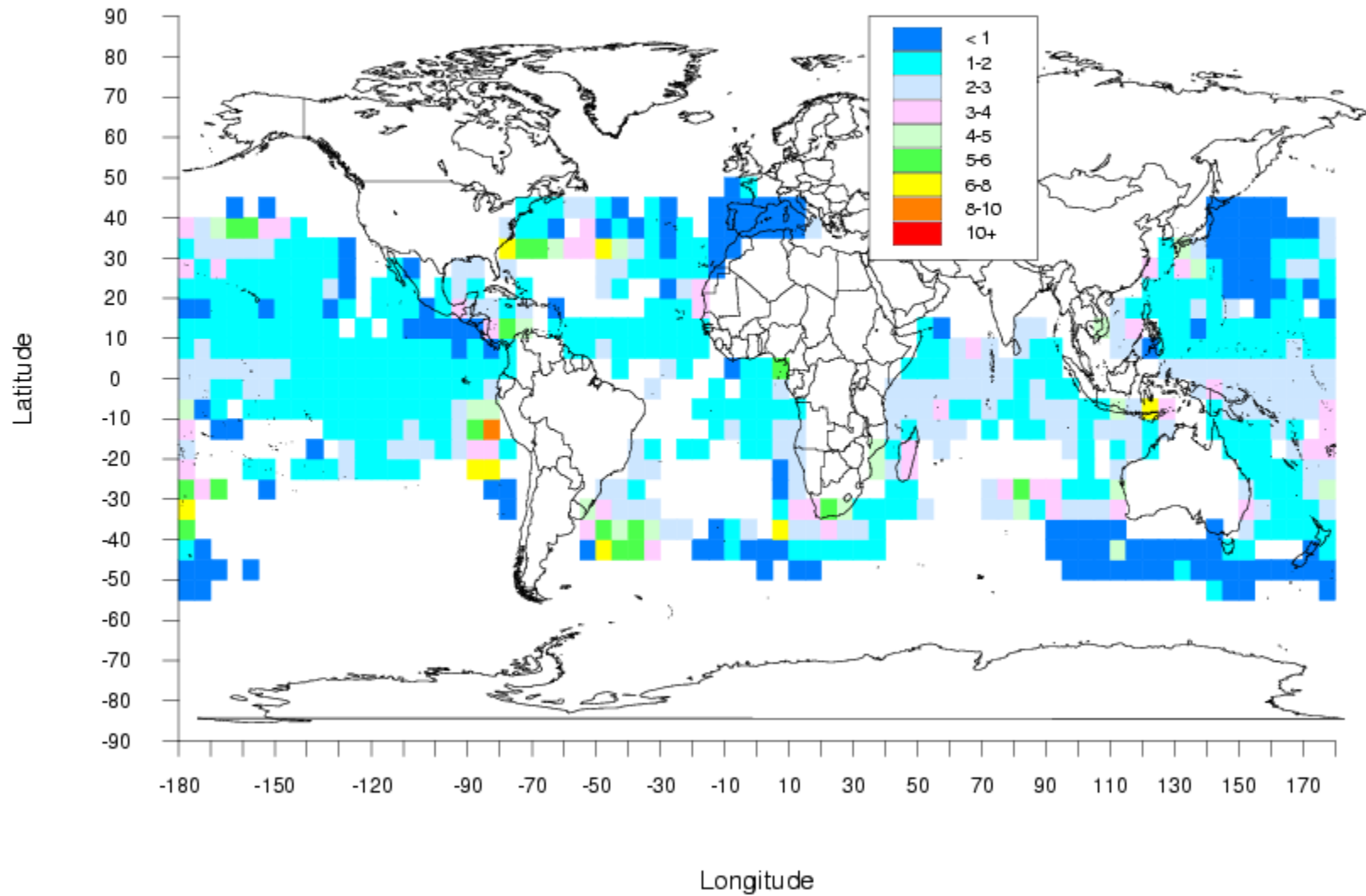
Catch Per Hundred Hooks, Year = 1970



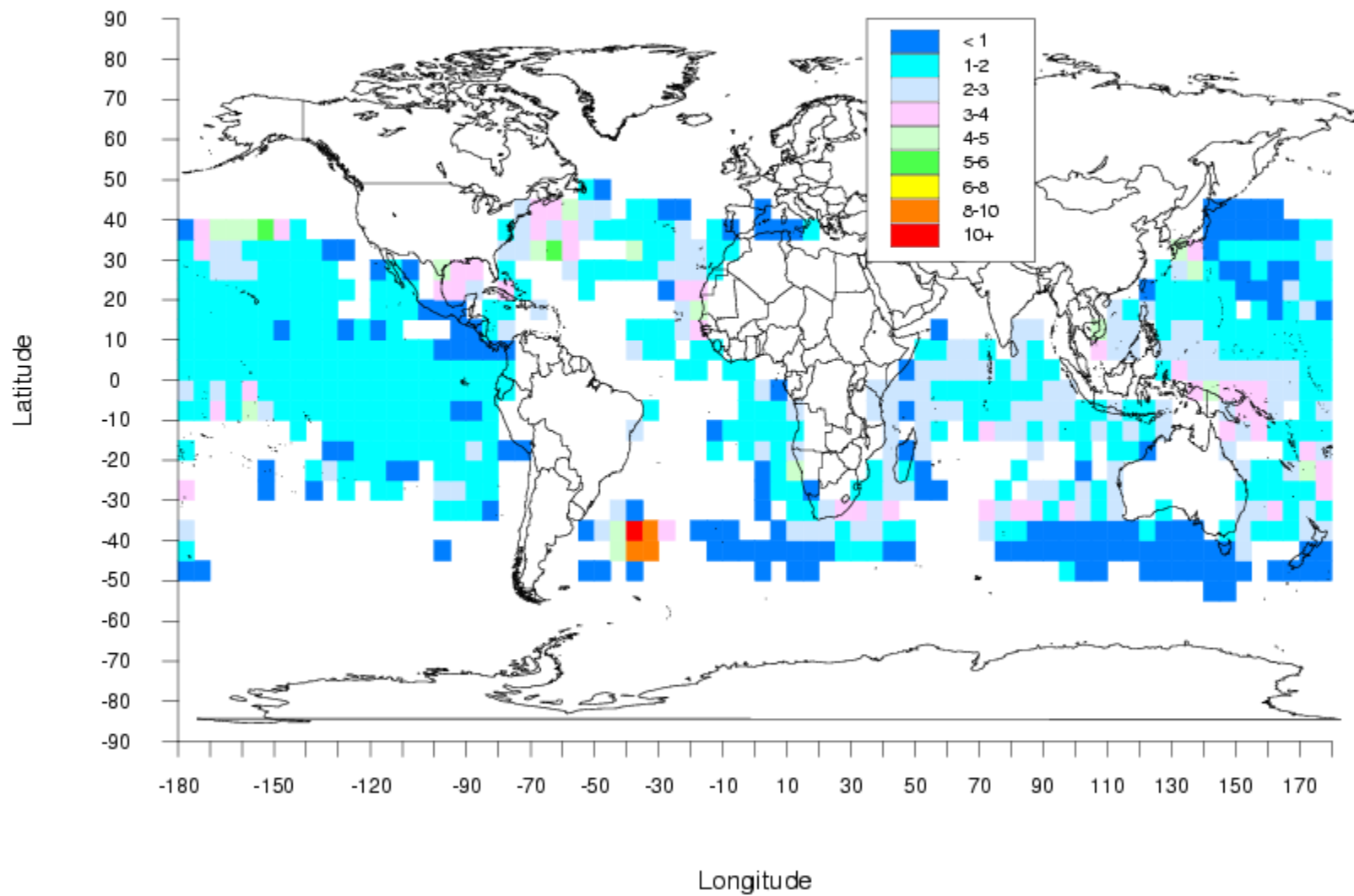
Catch Per Hundred Hooks, Year = 1971



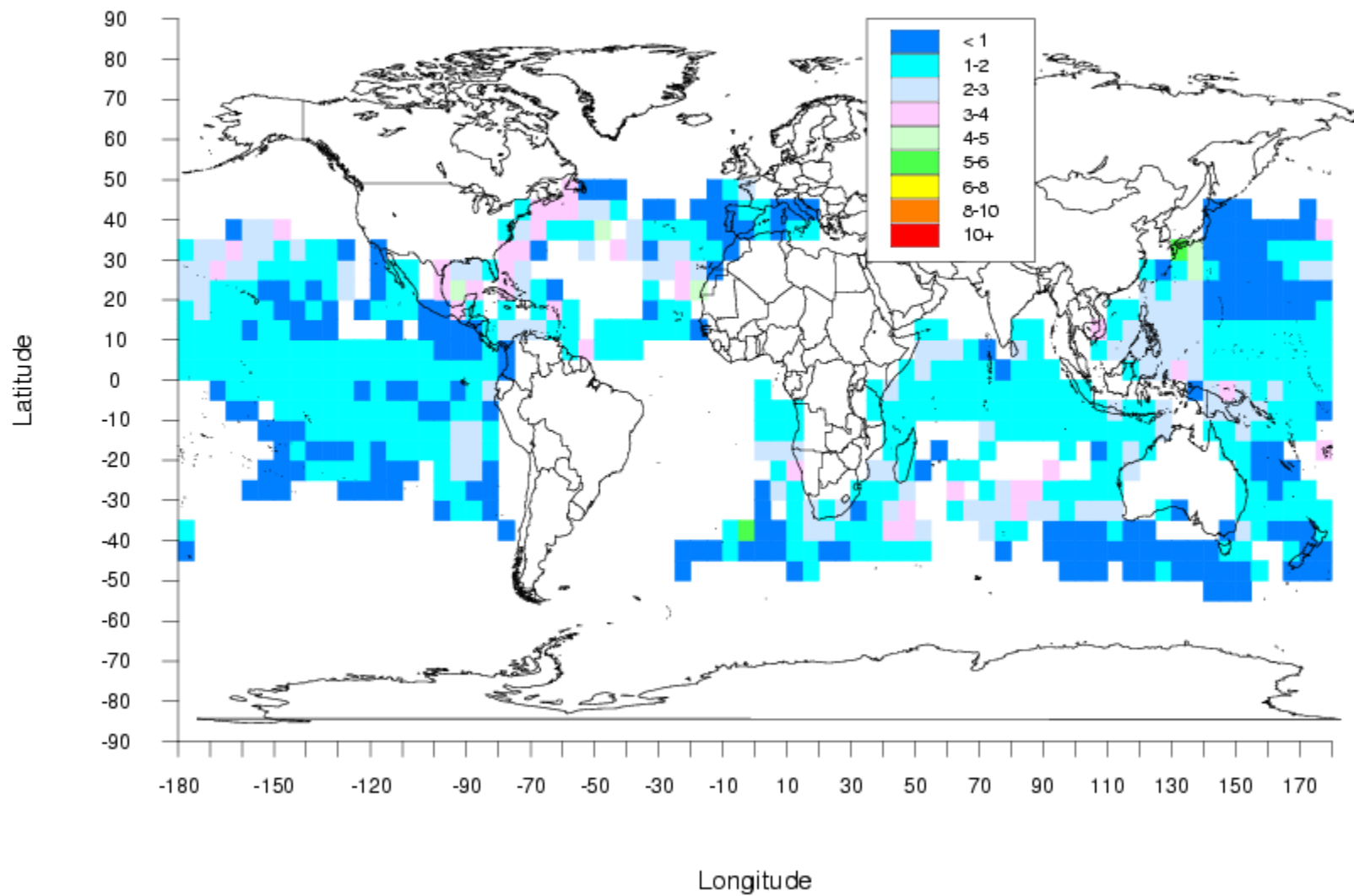
Catch Per Hundred Hooks, Year = 1972



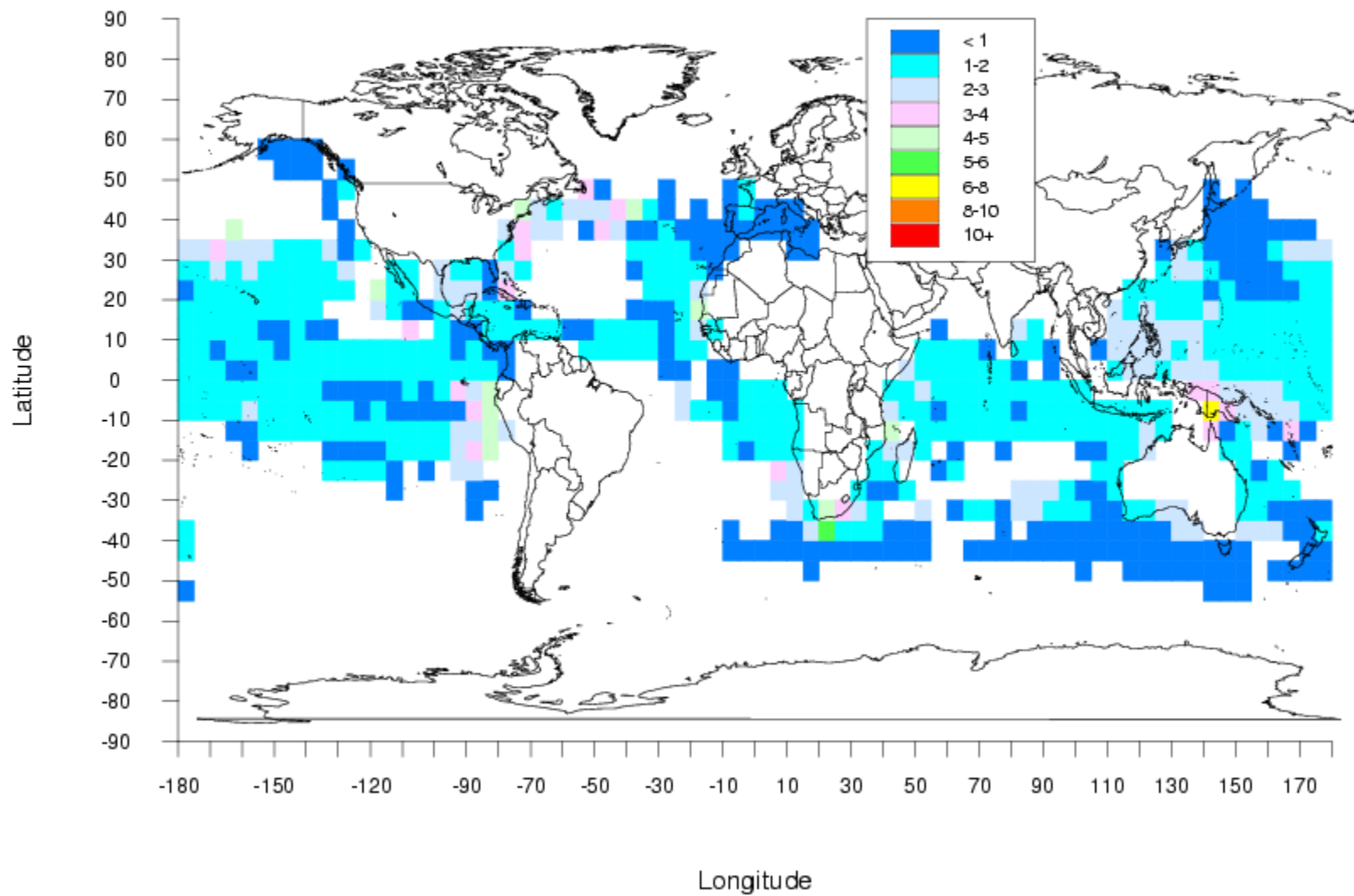
Catch Per Hundred Hooks, Year = 1973



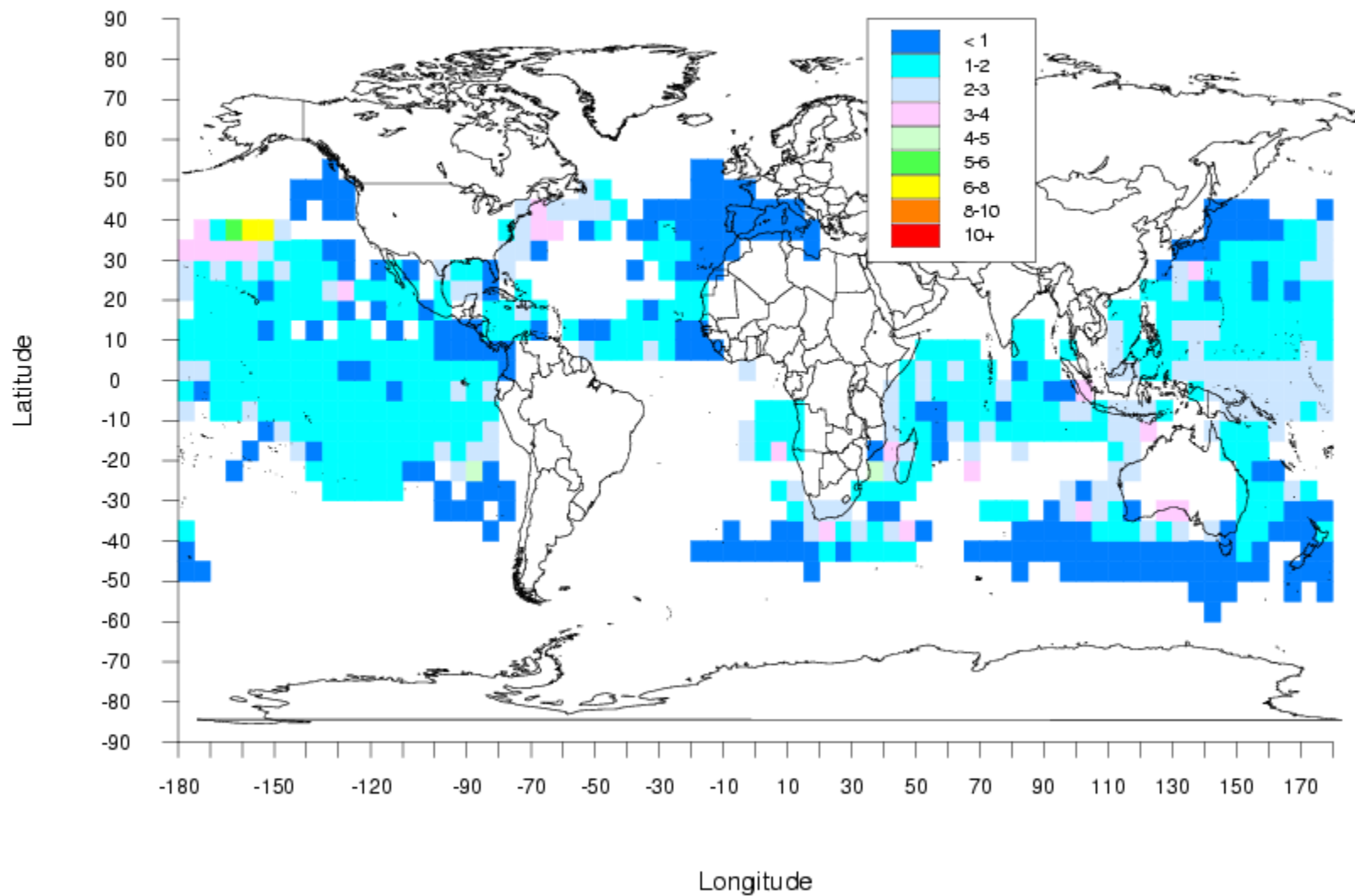
Catch Per Hundred Hooks, Year = 1974



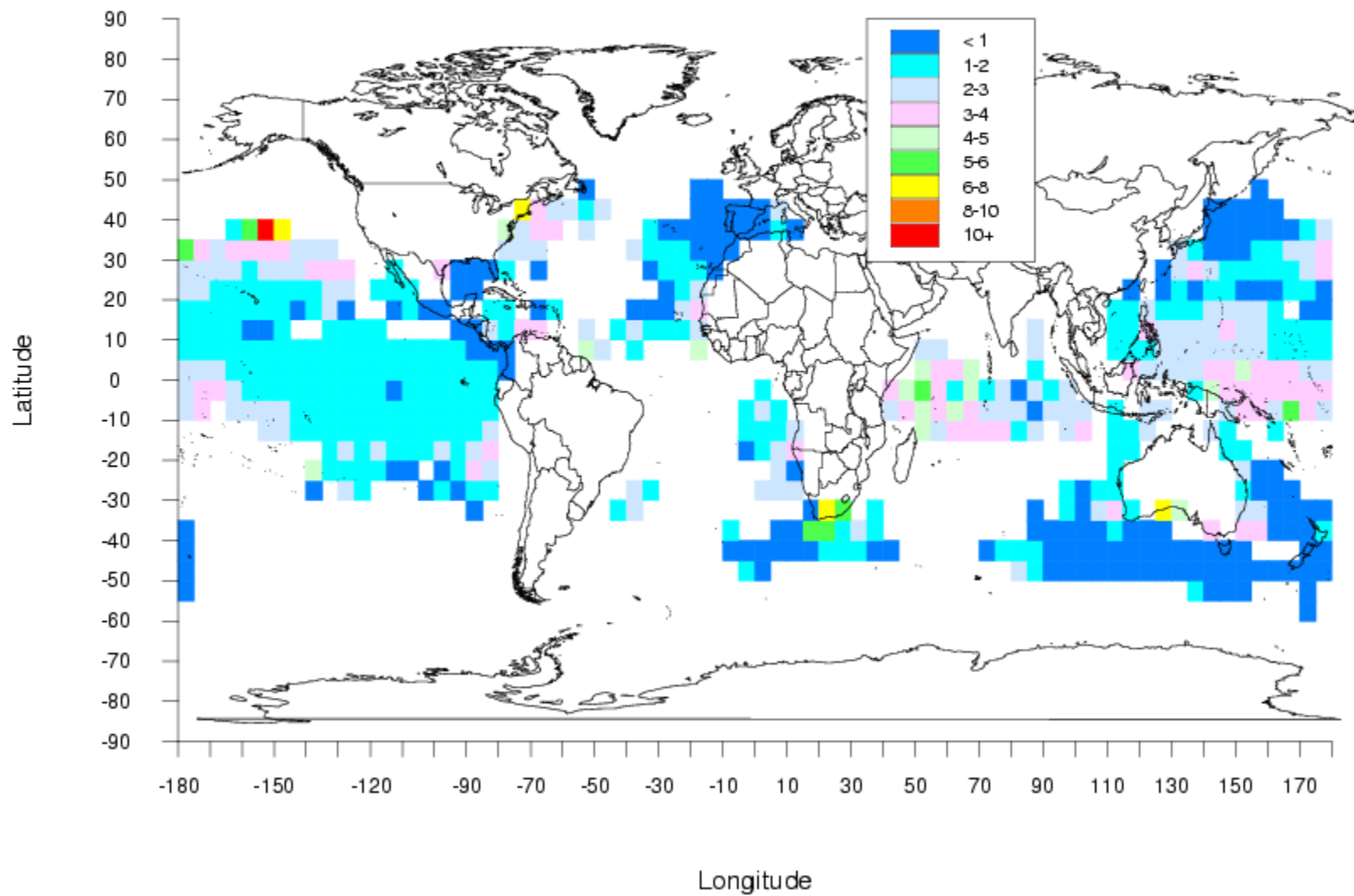
Catch Per Hundred Hooks, Year = 1975



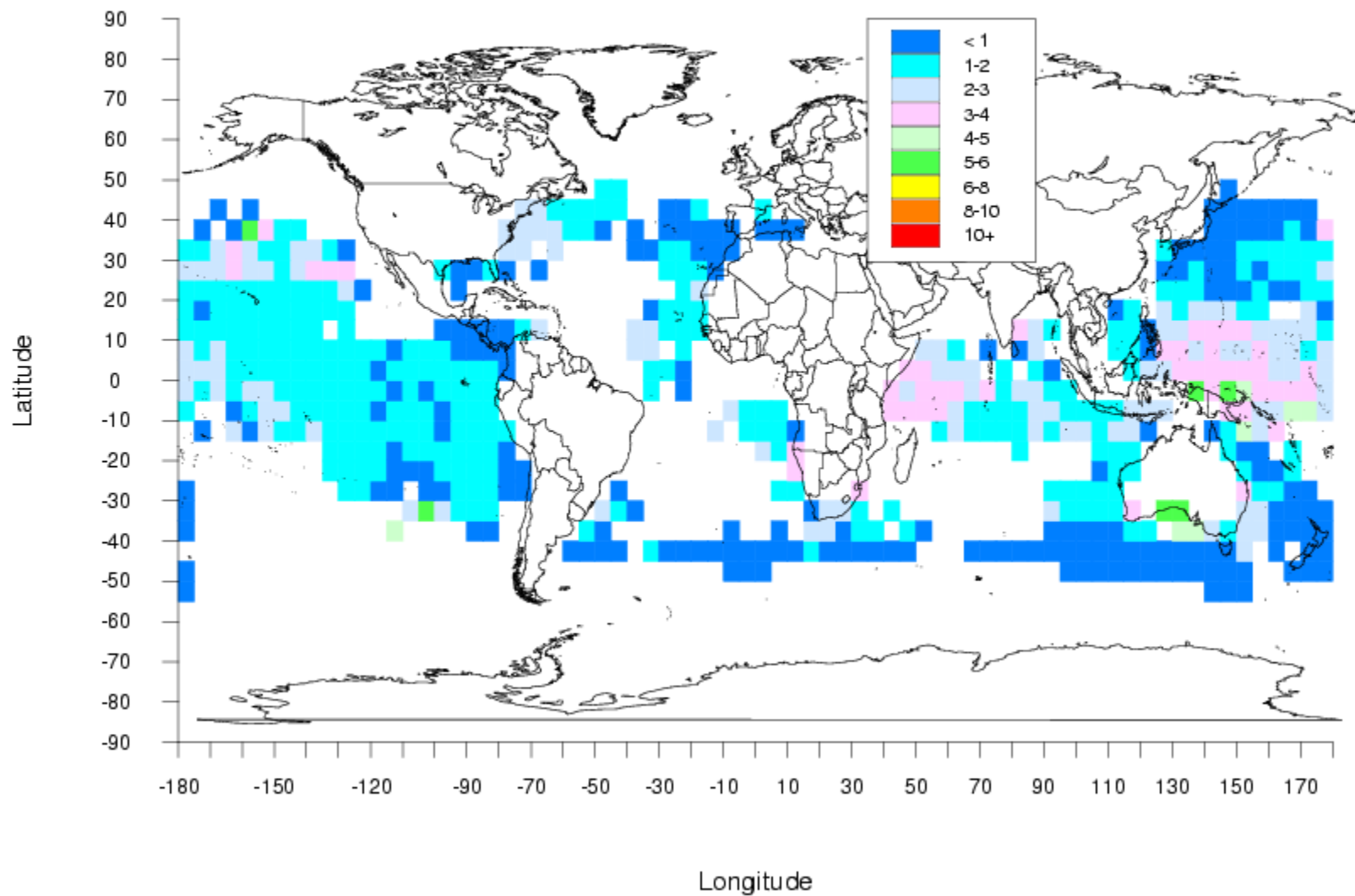
Catch Per Hundred Hooks, Year = 1976



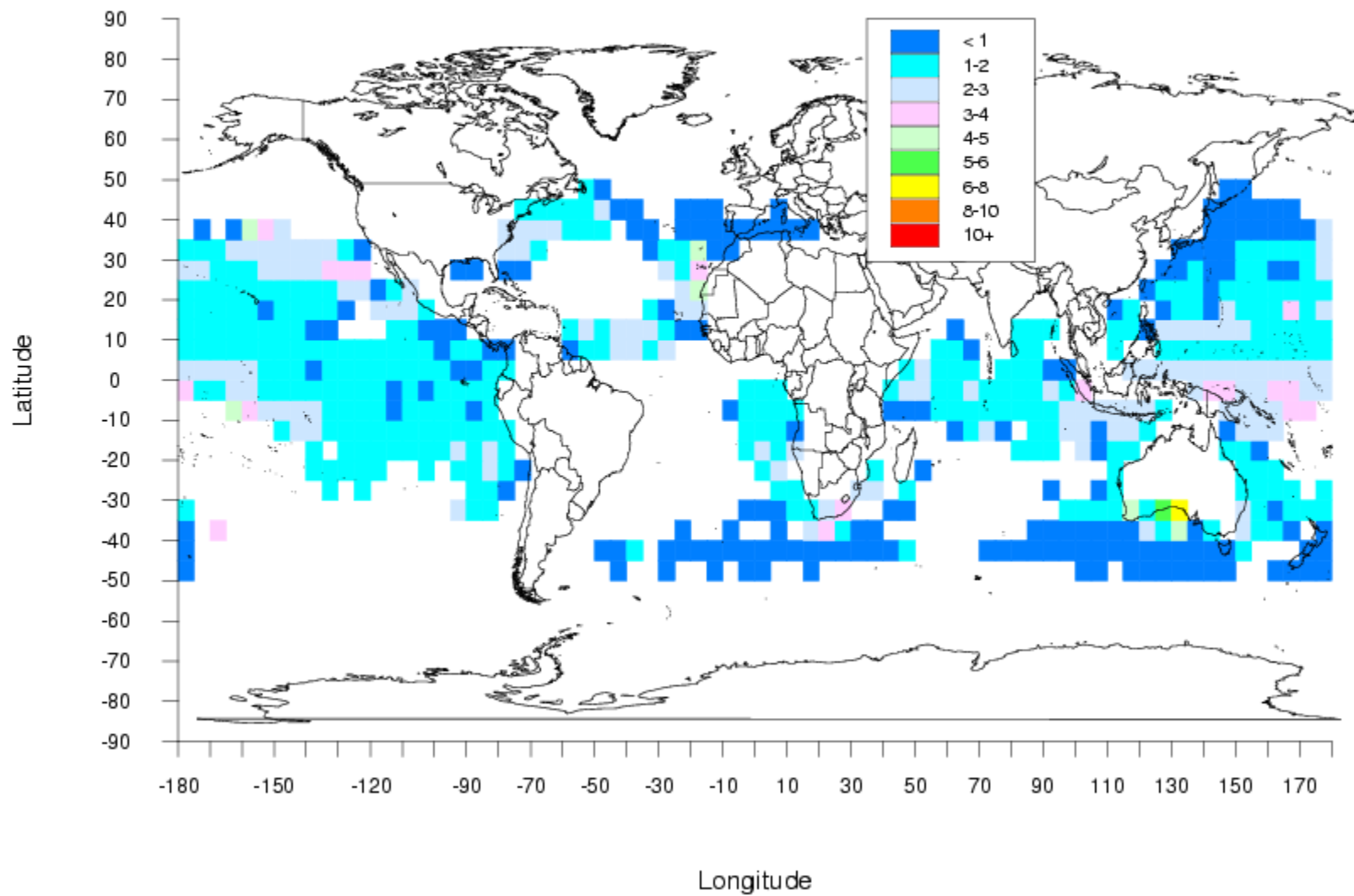
Catch Per Hundred Hooks, Year = 1977



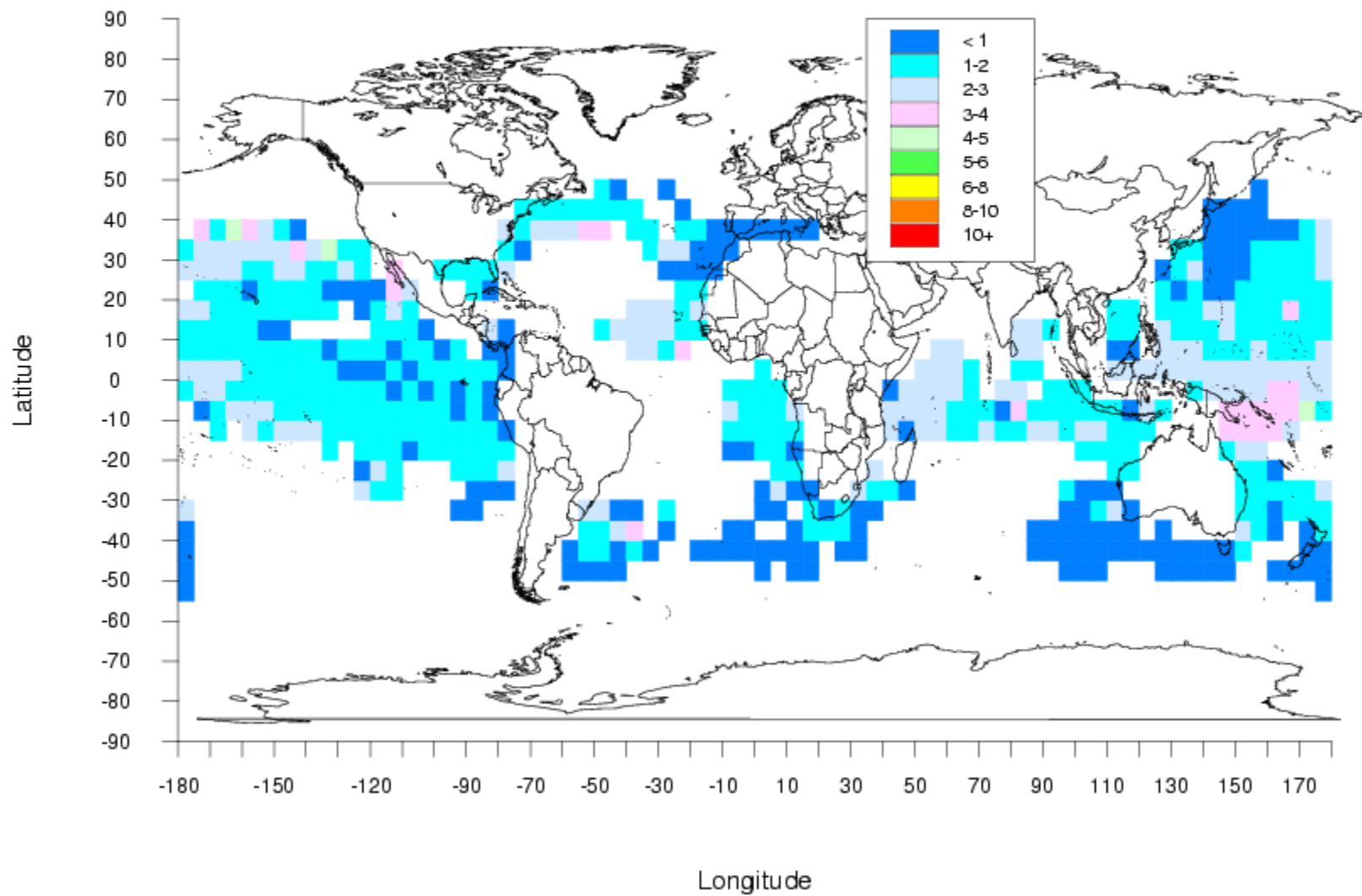
Catch Per Hundred Hooks, Year = 1978



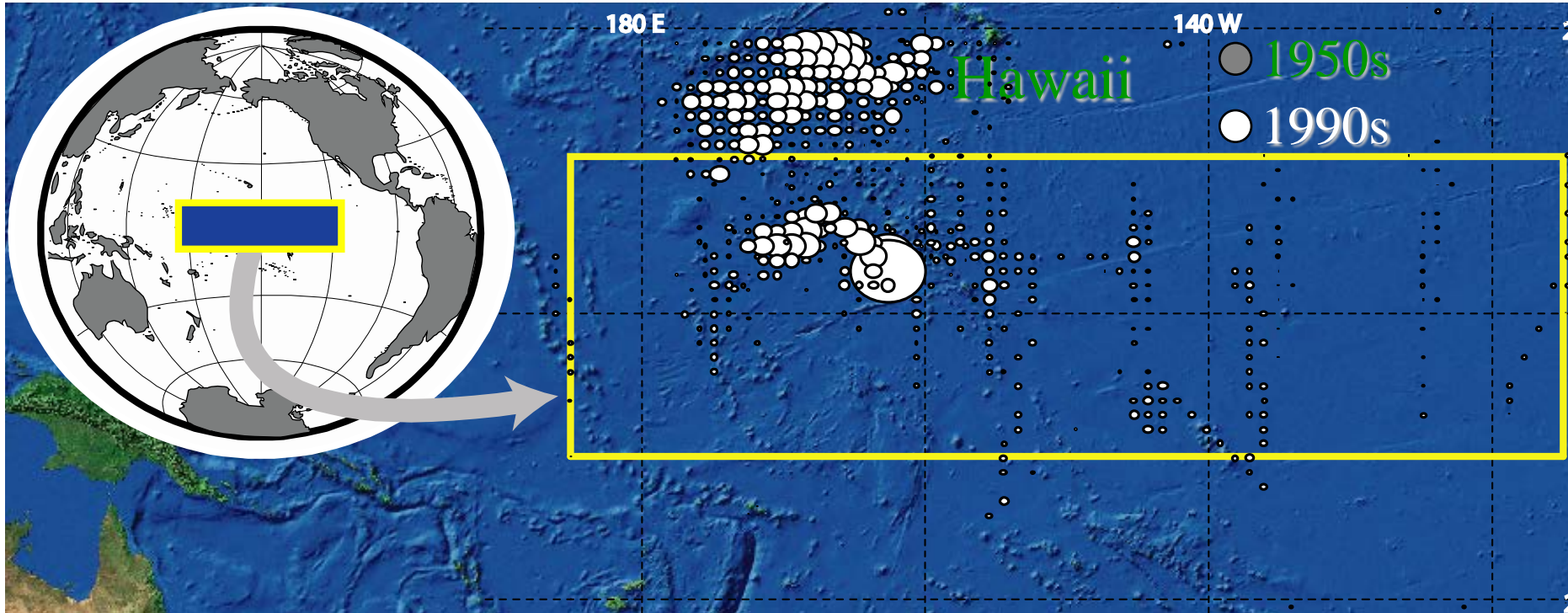
Catch Per Hundred Hooks, Year = 1979



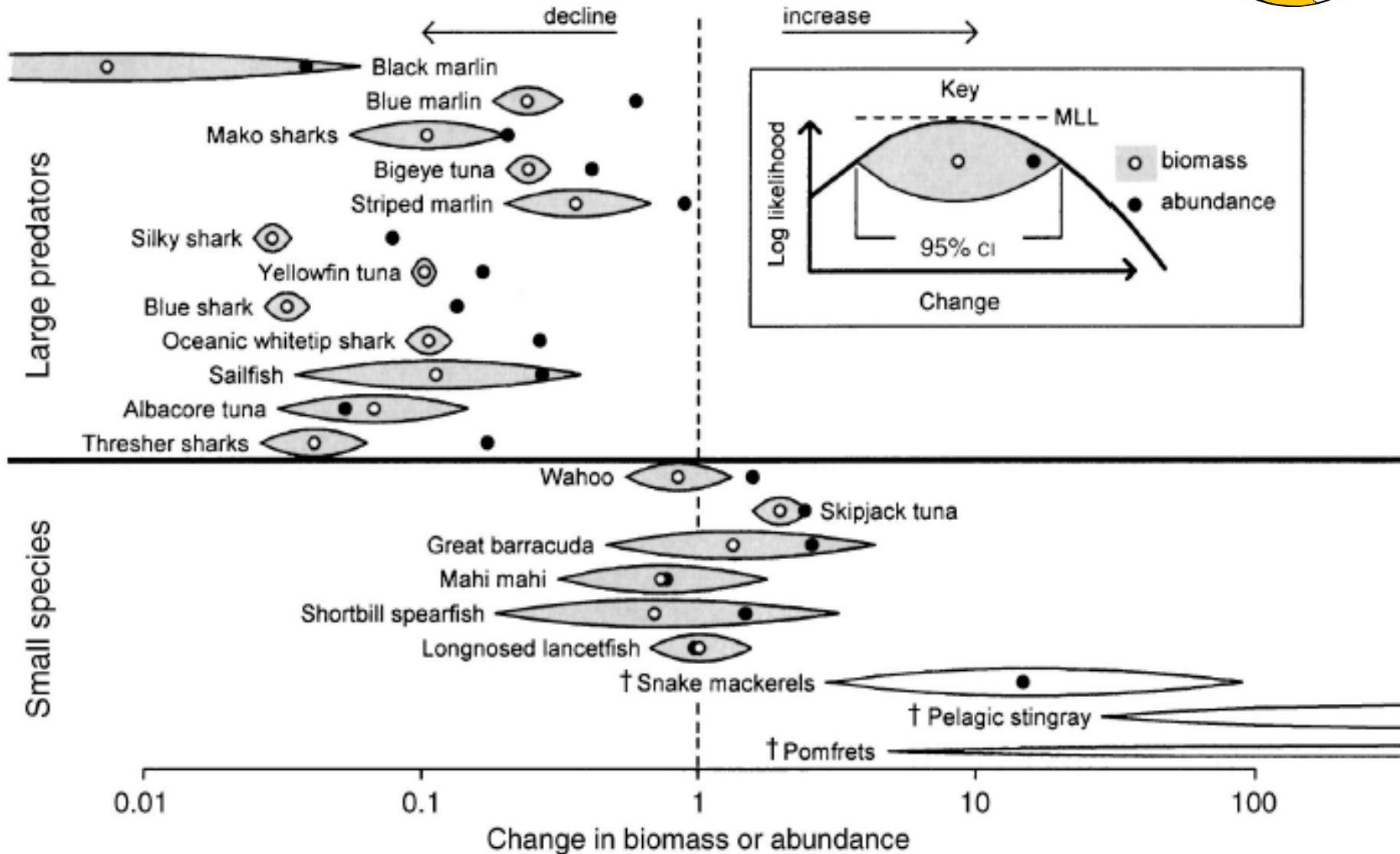
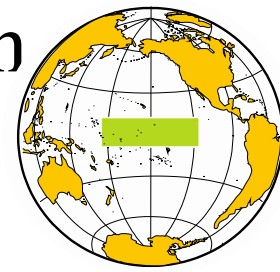
Catch Per Hundred Hooks, Year = 1980



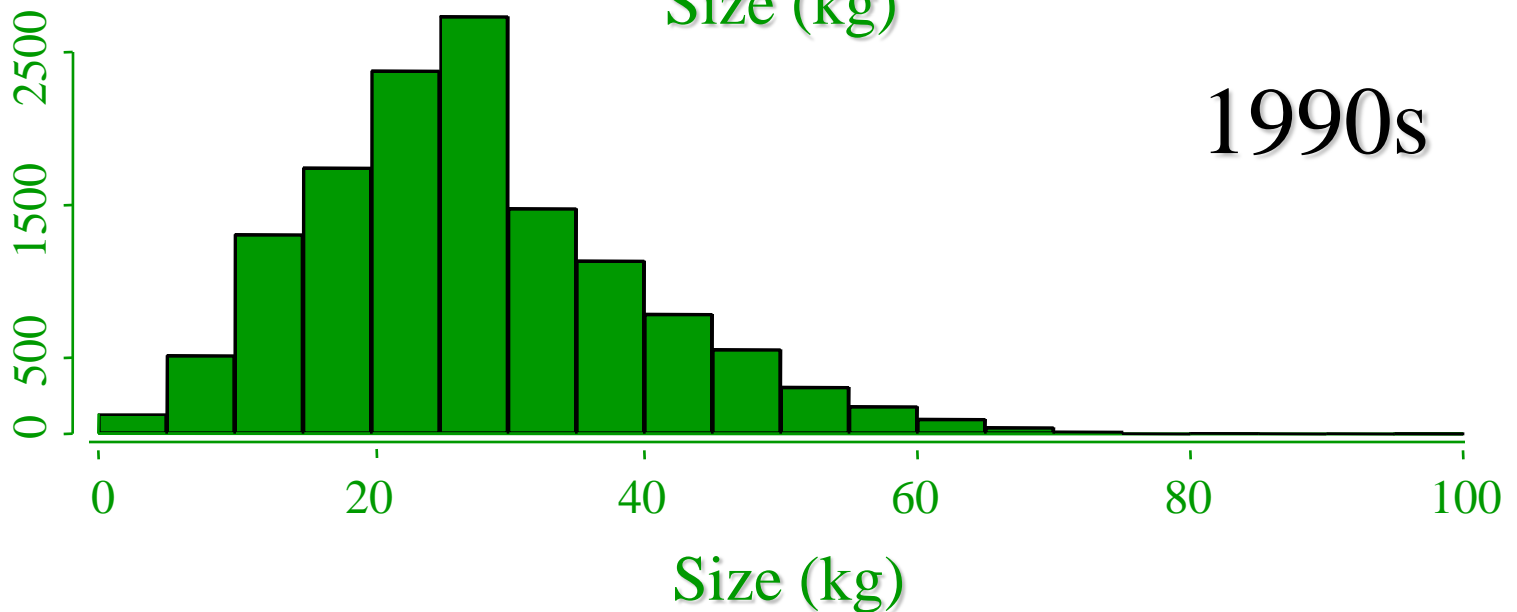
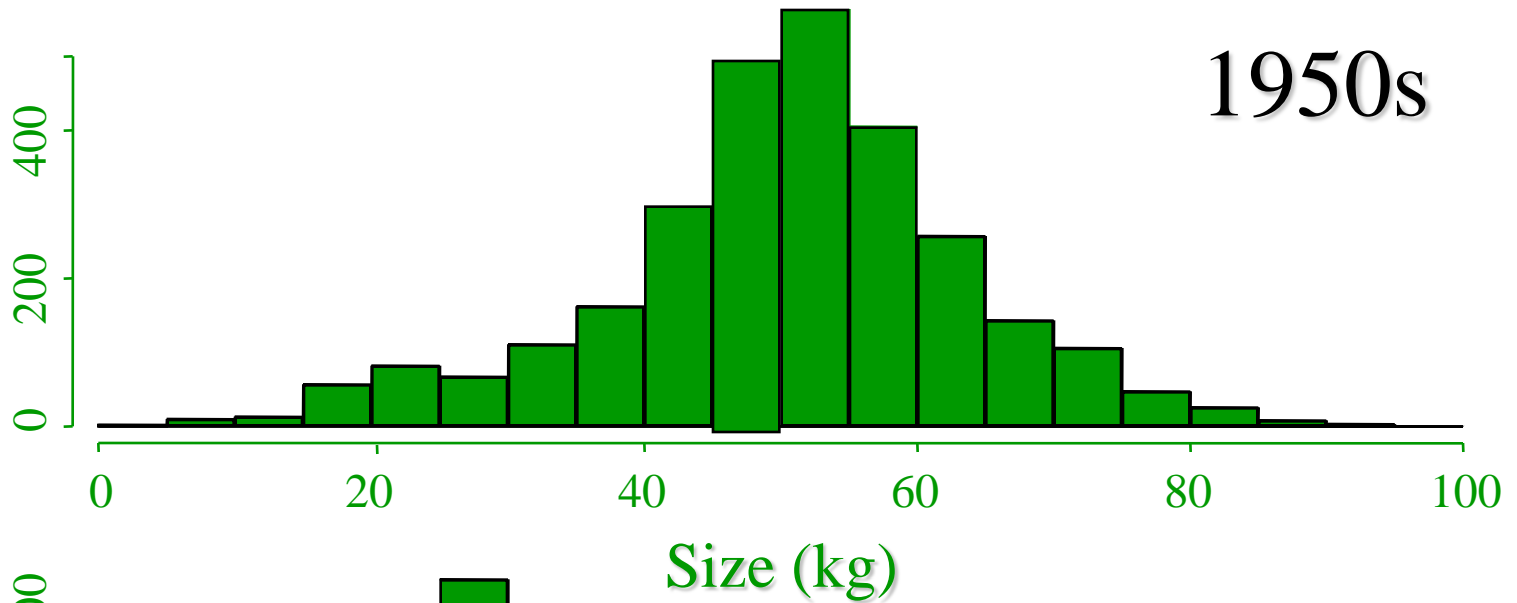
Study area

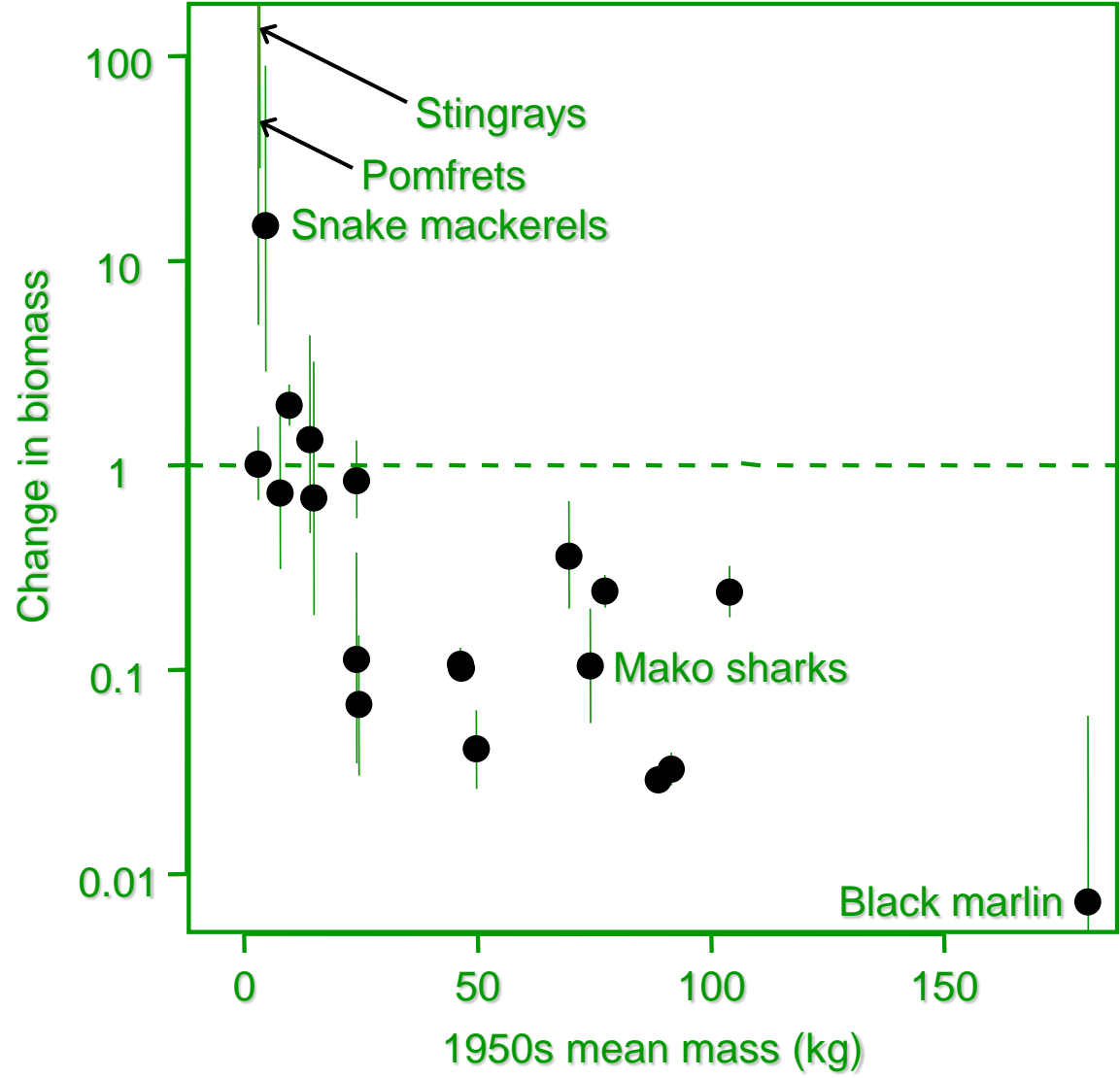


Analysis repeated using independent research data



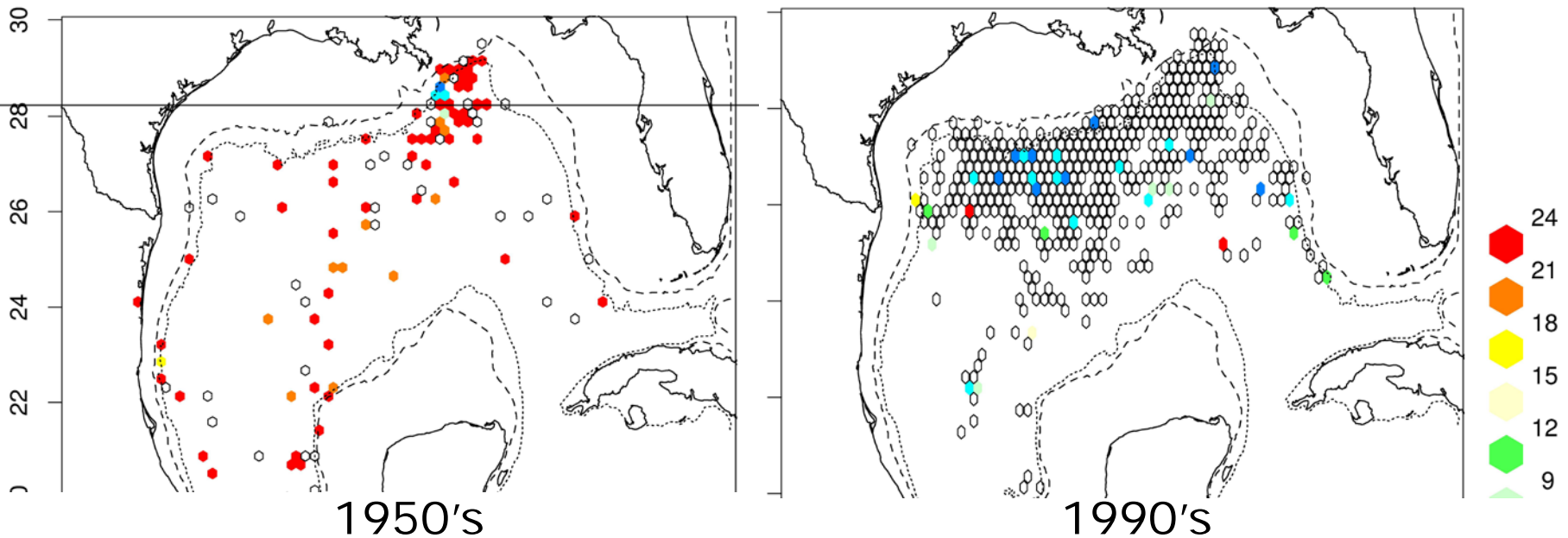
These estimates are conservative: 2 (fish are smaller)





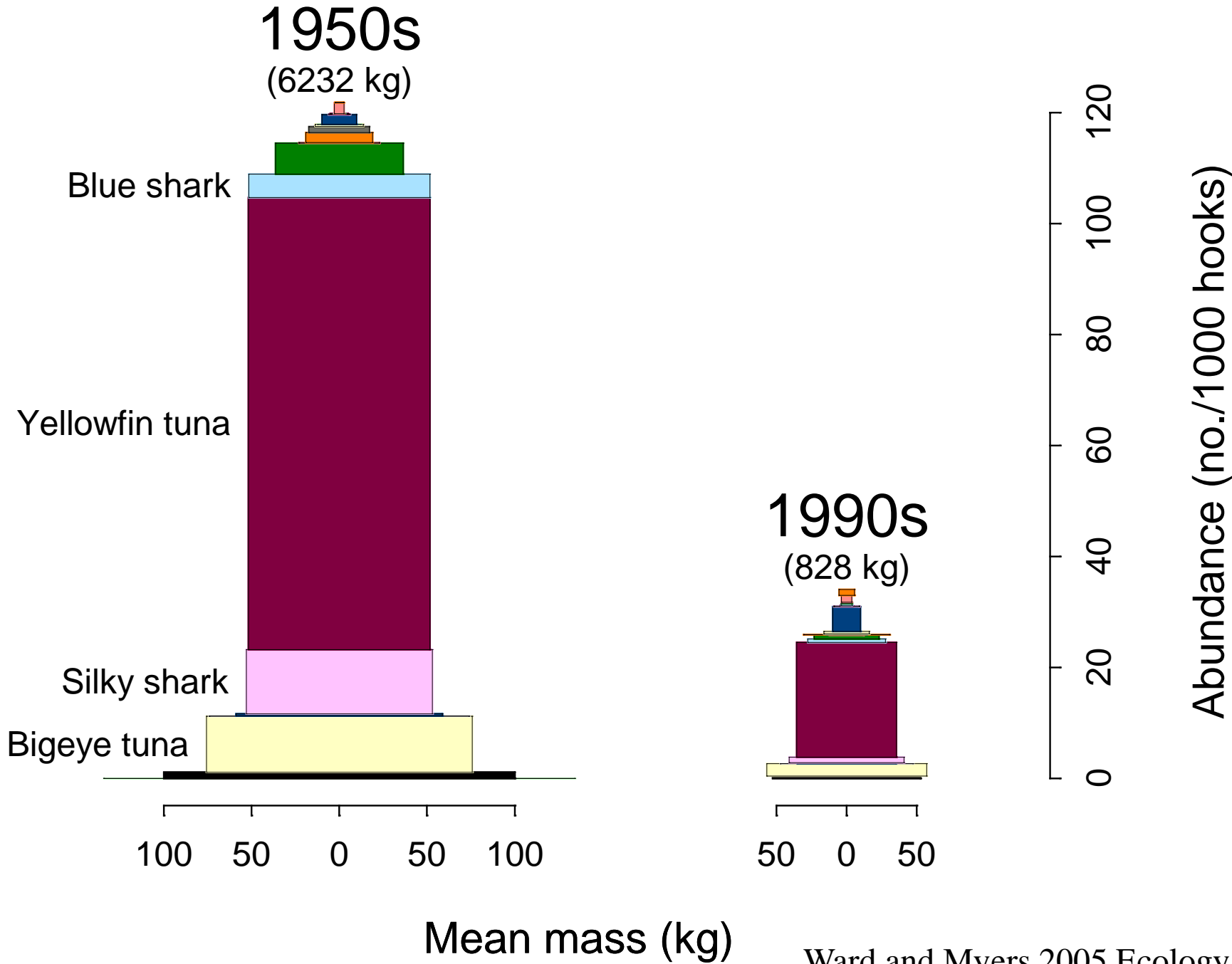
Loss of sharks in the Gulf of Mexico

300 fold decline – no one noticed



Oceanic Whitetip captures per 10,000 hooks

Many thanks to NMFS for data and advice



What about prey fish?

Brama brama
Atlantic pomfret

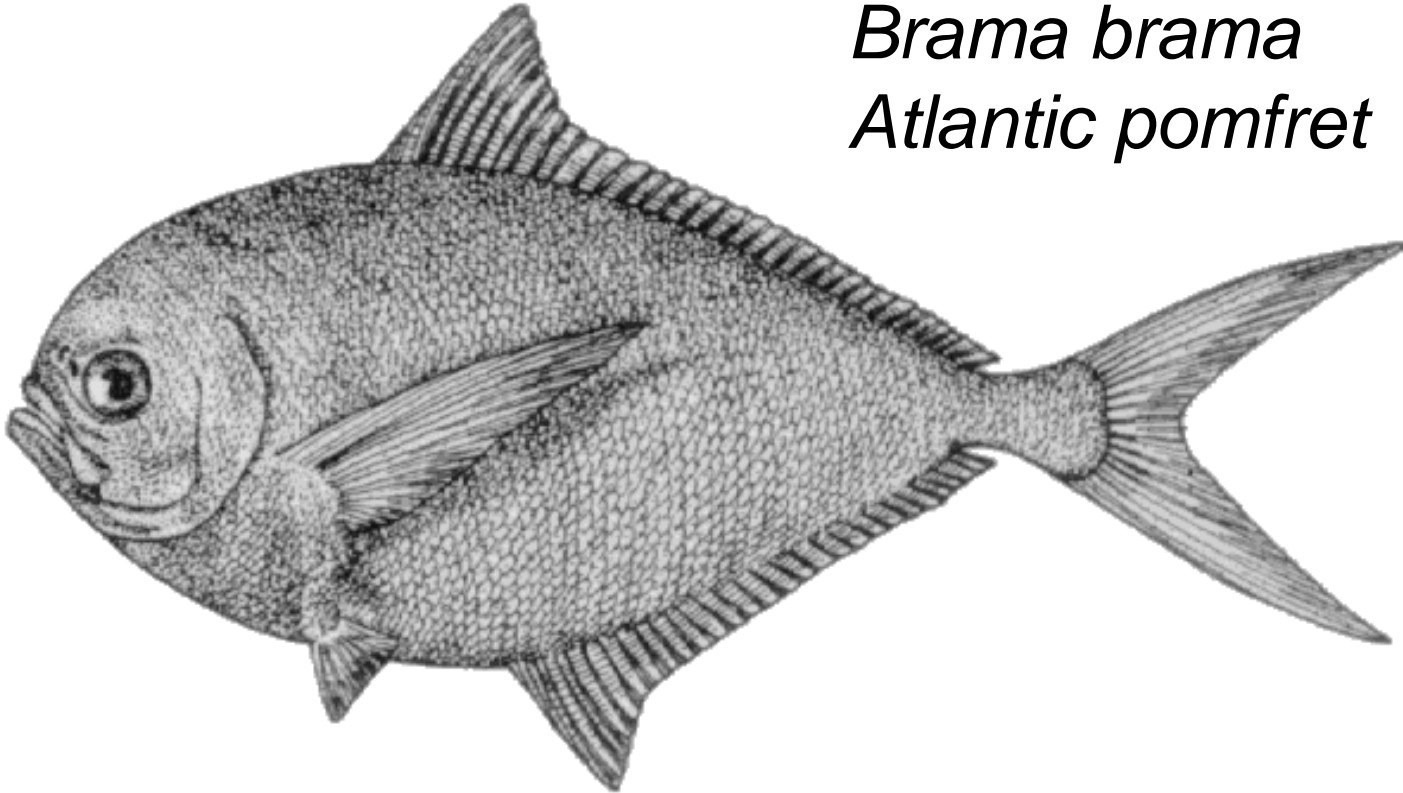
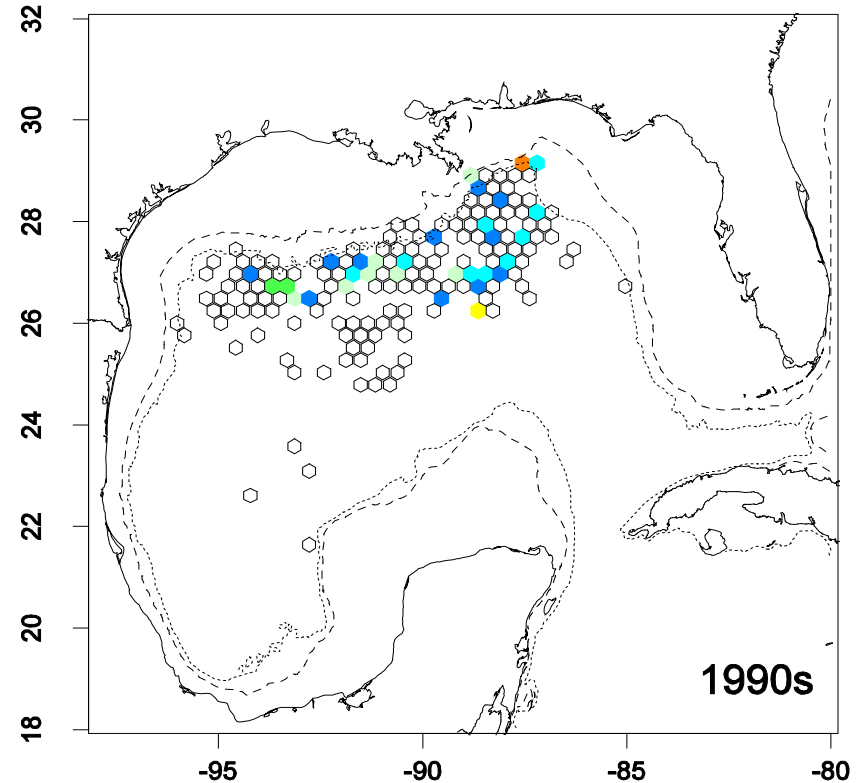
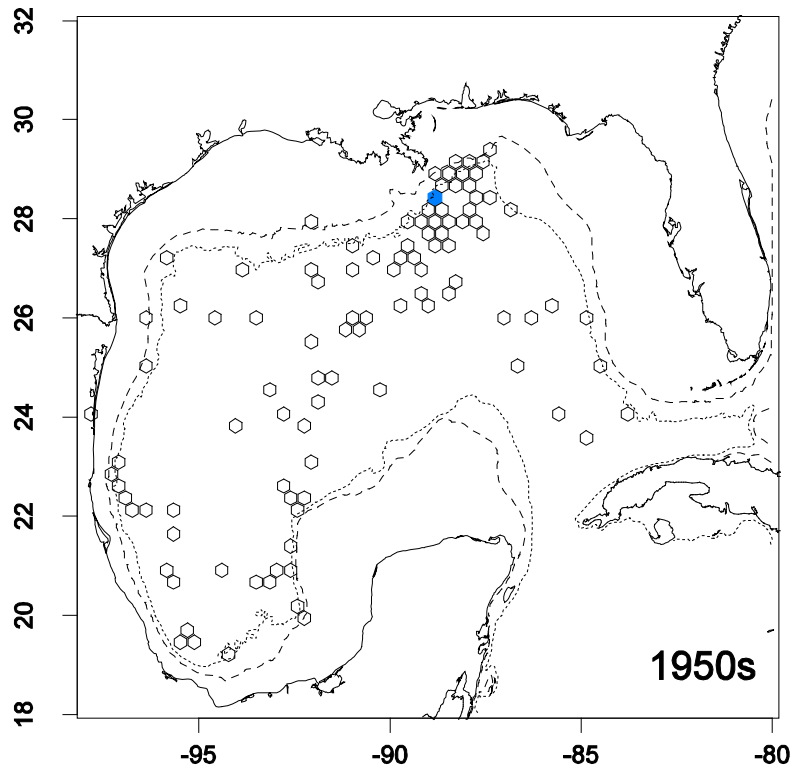


Illustration taken from the book "Encyclopedia of Canadian Fishes" by Brian W. Coad with Henry Waszczuk and Italo Labignan, 1995,

Explosion of Pomfrets in the Gulf of Mexico ~ 1000 fold increase – no one noticed

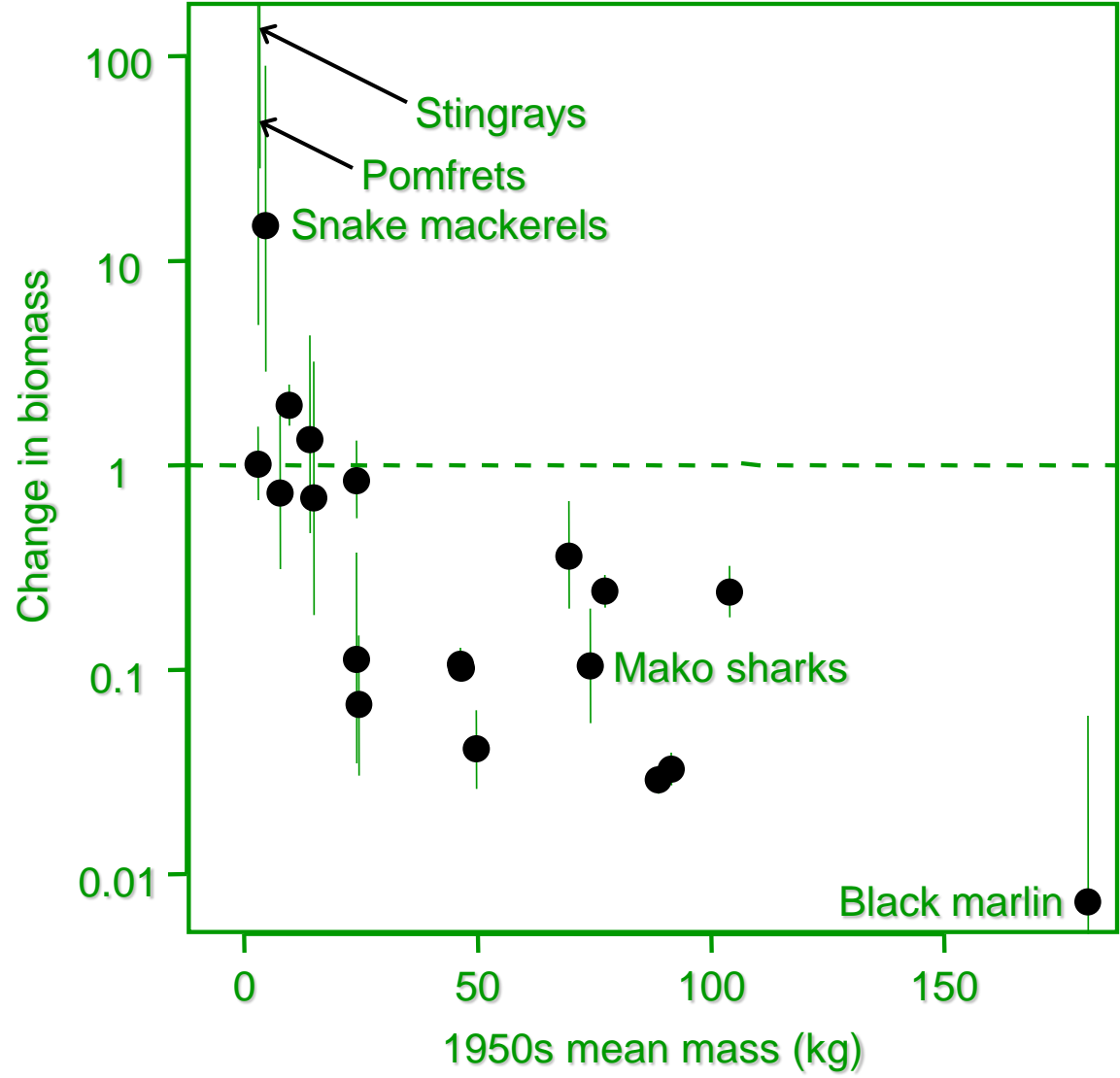


1950's

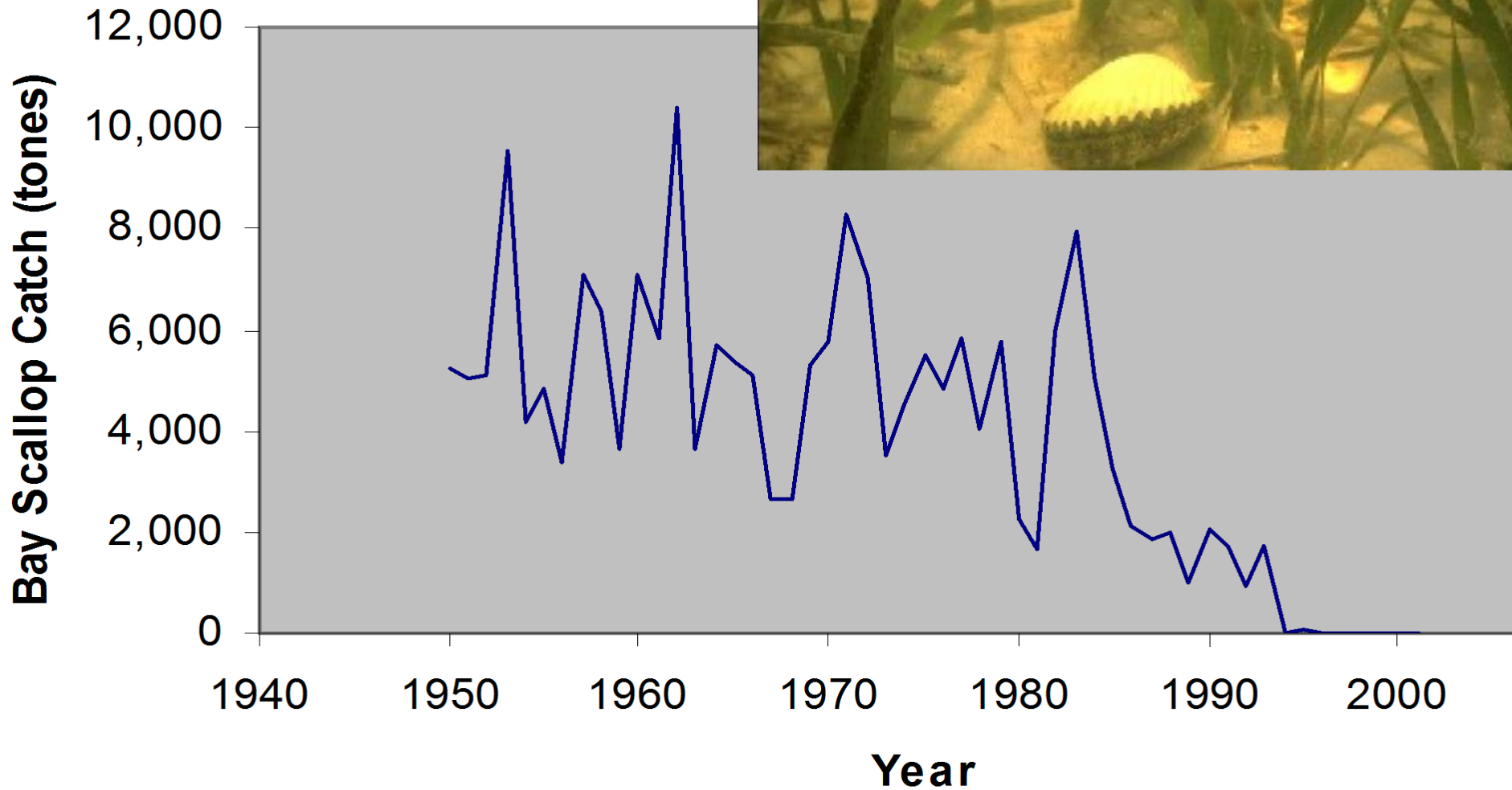
1990's

Pomfret captures per 10,000 hooks

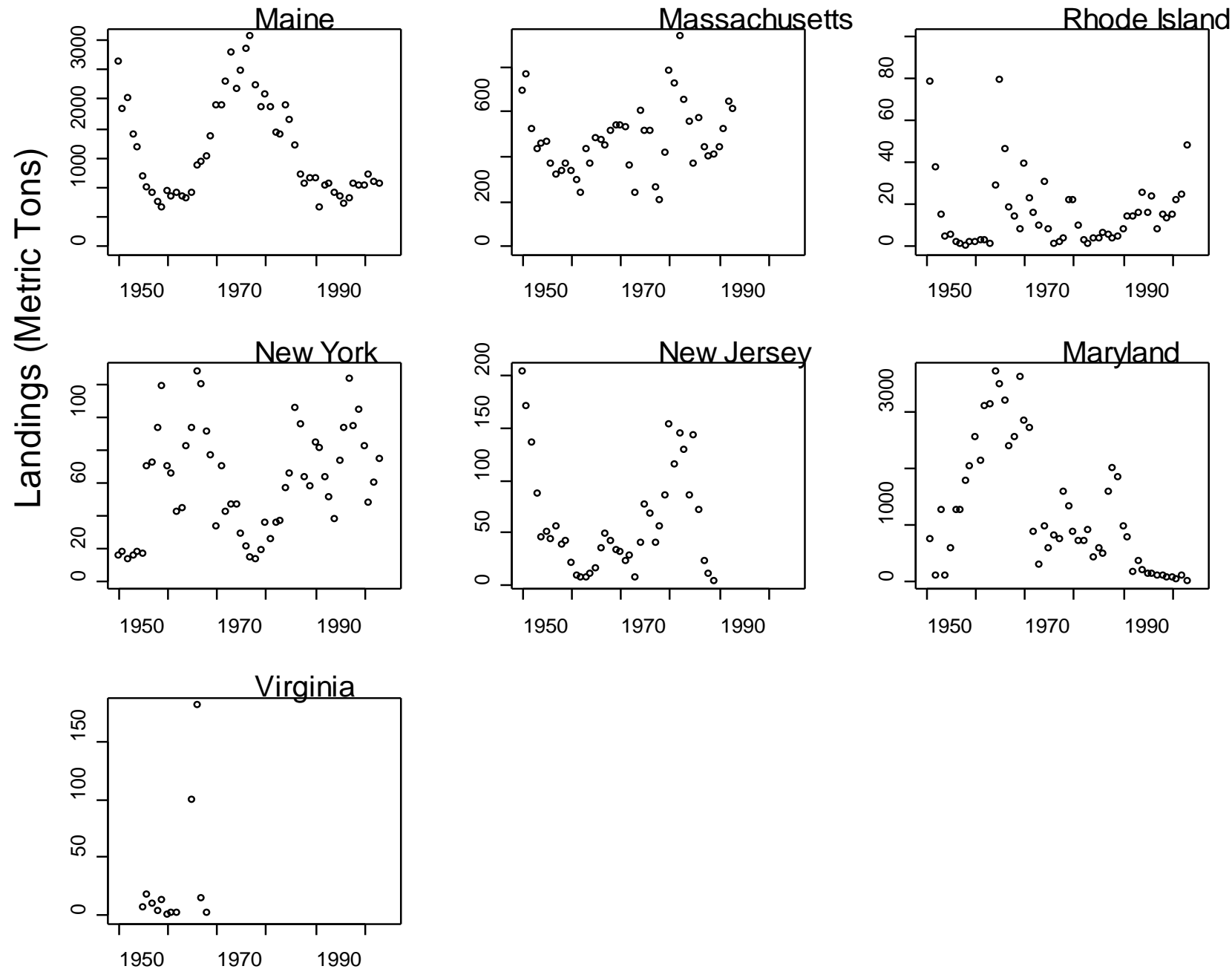
Many thanks to NMFS for data and advice



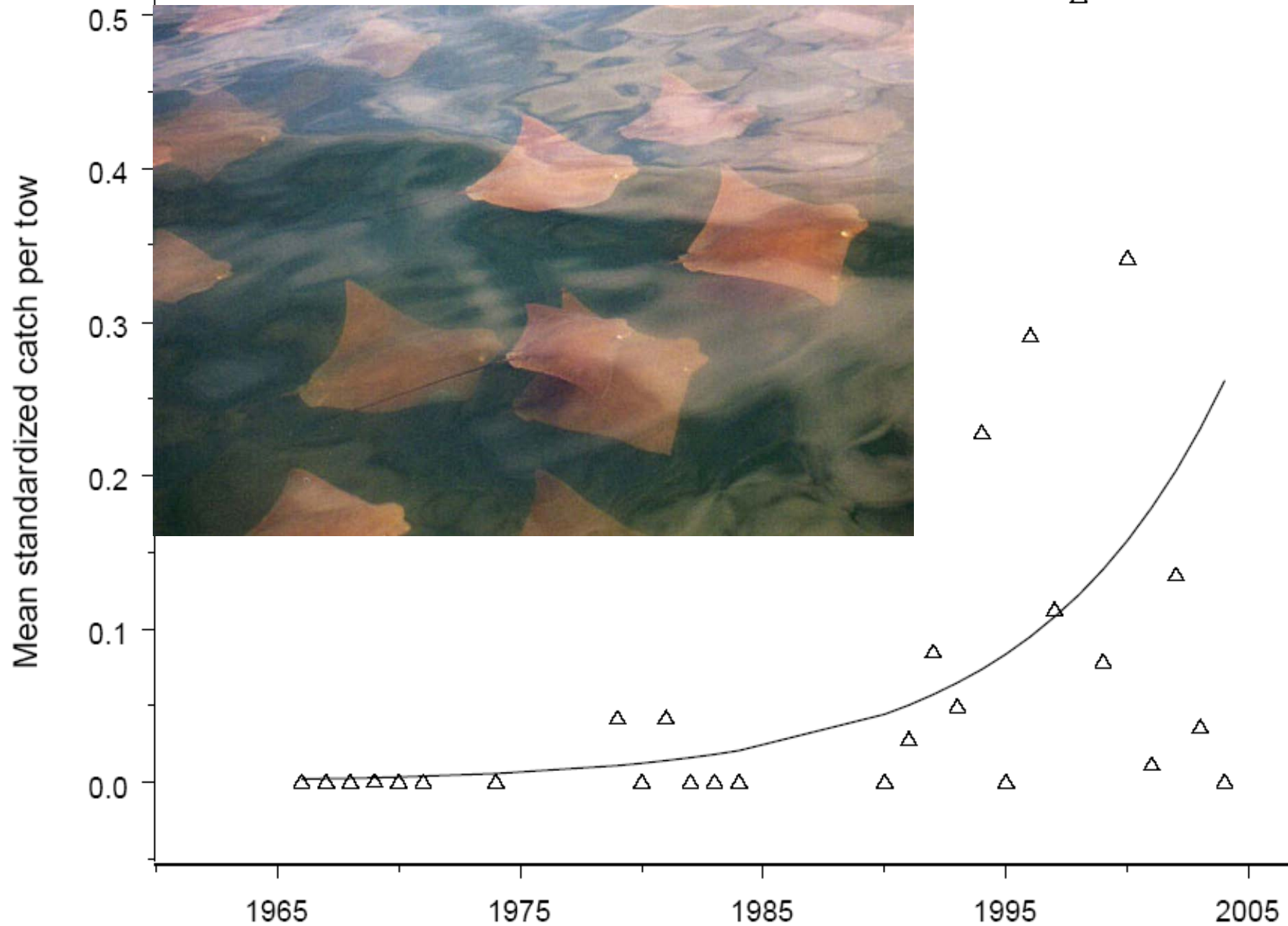
USA Bay Scallops Landings



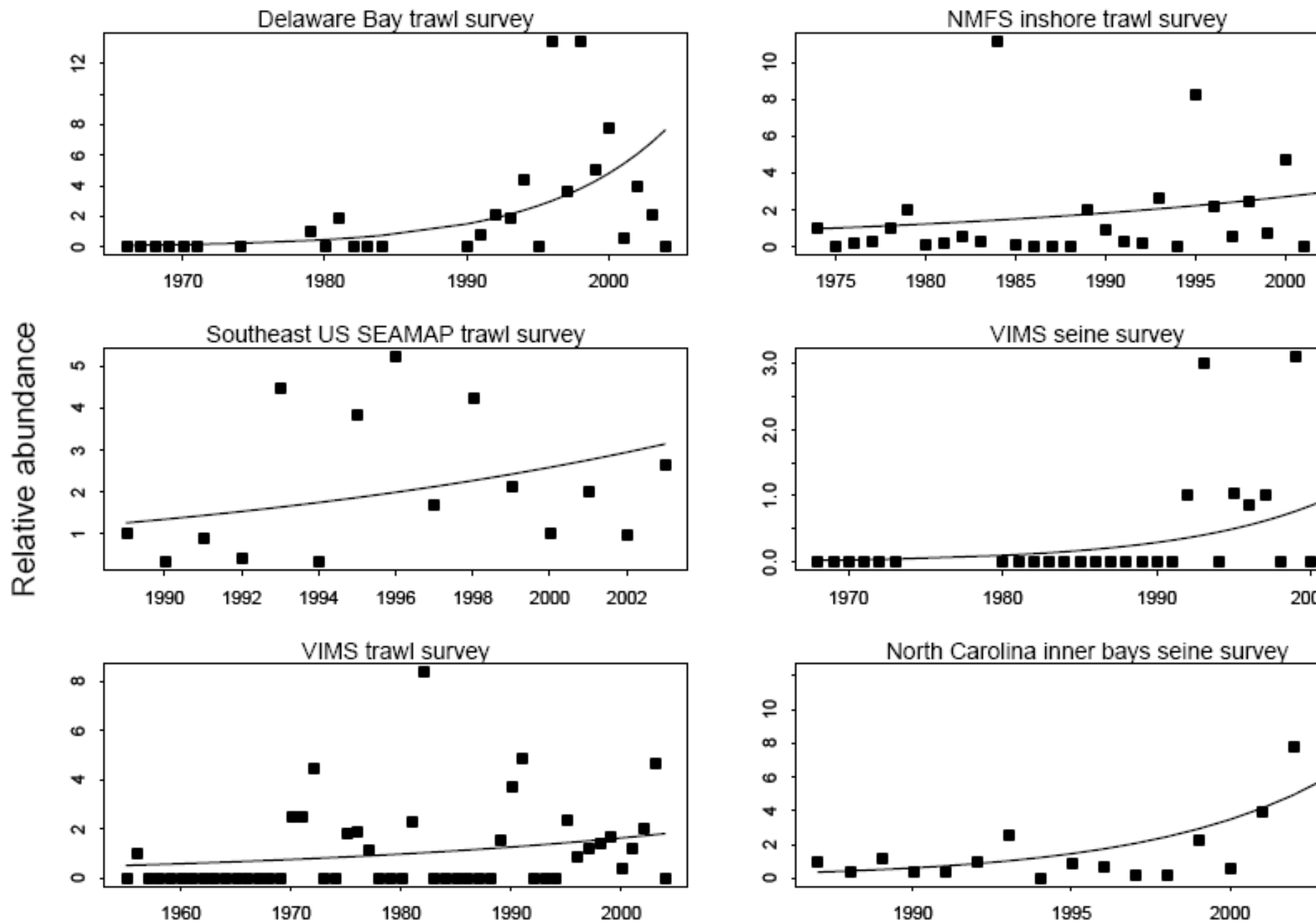
Loss of softshell clams south of Long Island



Cownose Ray - Delaware Bay



Meta-analysis of cownose ray trends

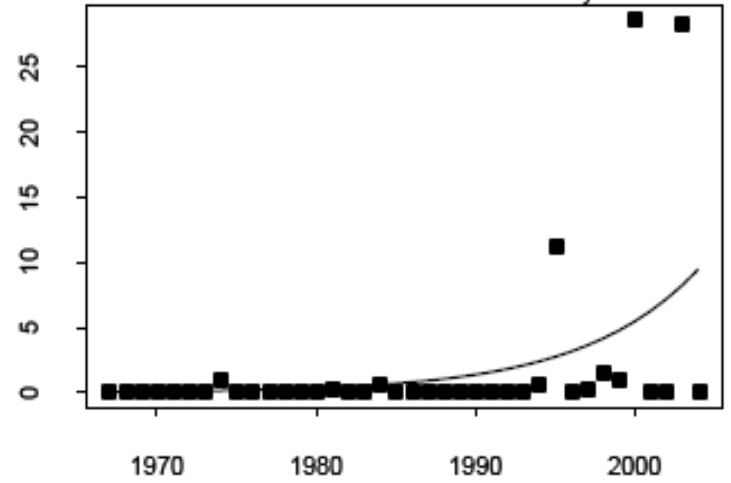


Increase in small sharks: Sharpnose shark

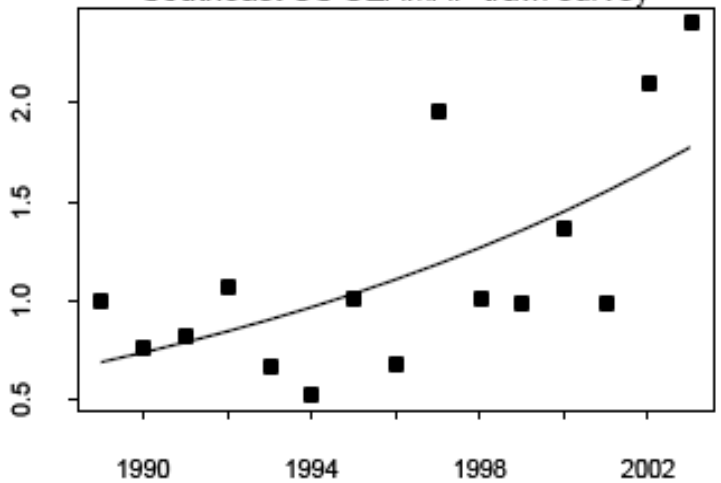
Relative abundance



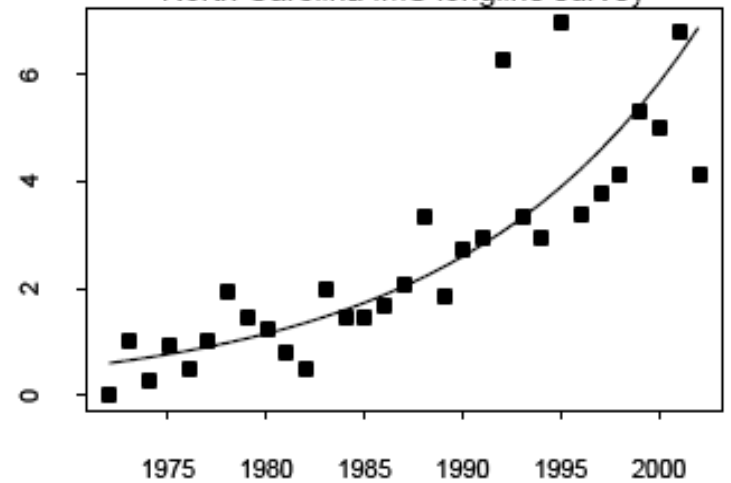
NMFS offshore trawl survey



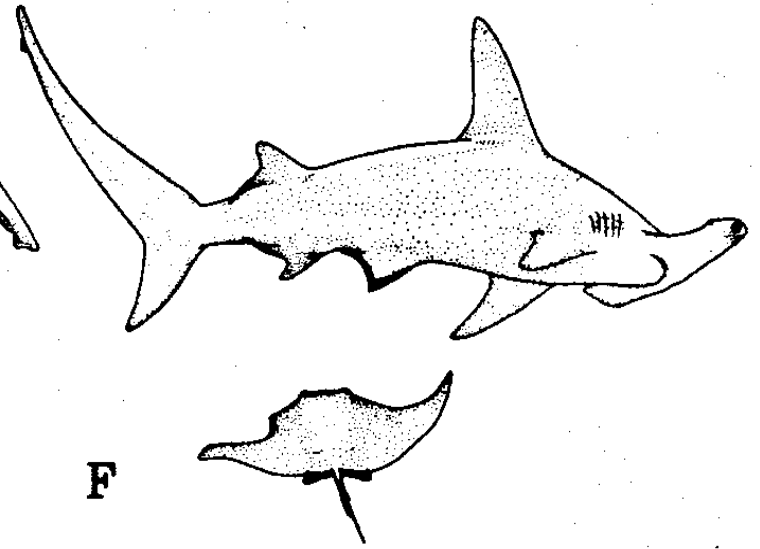
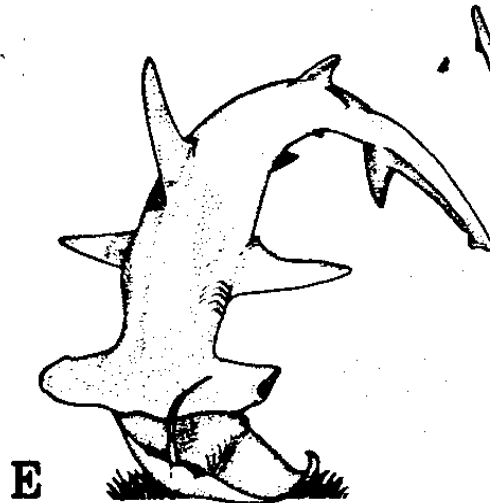
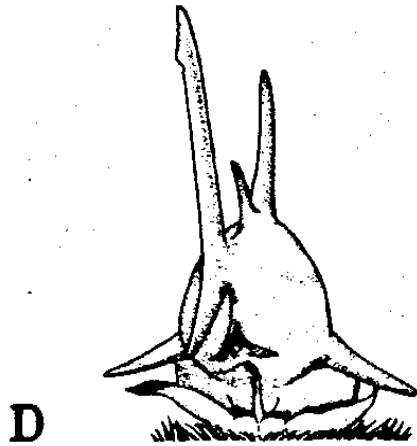
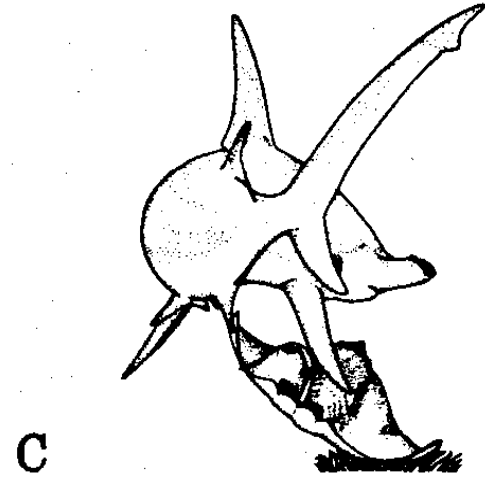
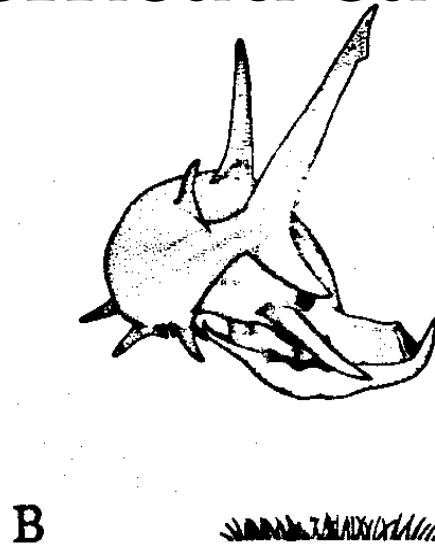
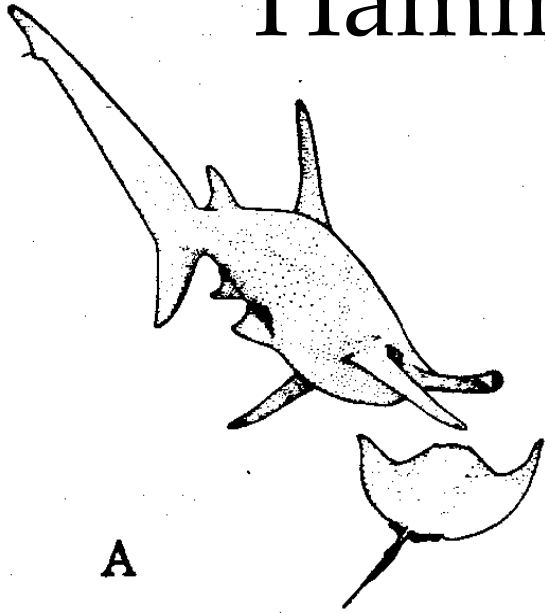
Southeast US SEAMAP trawl survey



North Carolina IMS longline survey



Hammerhead eating stingray



GREAT HAMMERHEAD SHARK PREDATION UPON SPOTTED EAGLE RAY

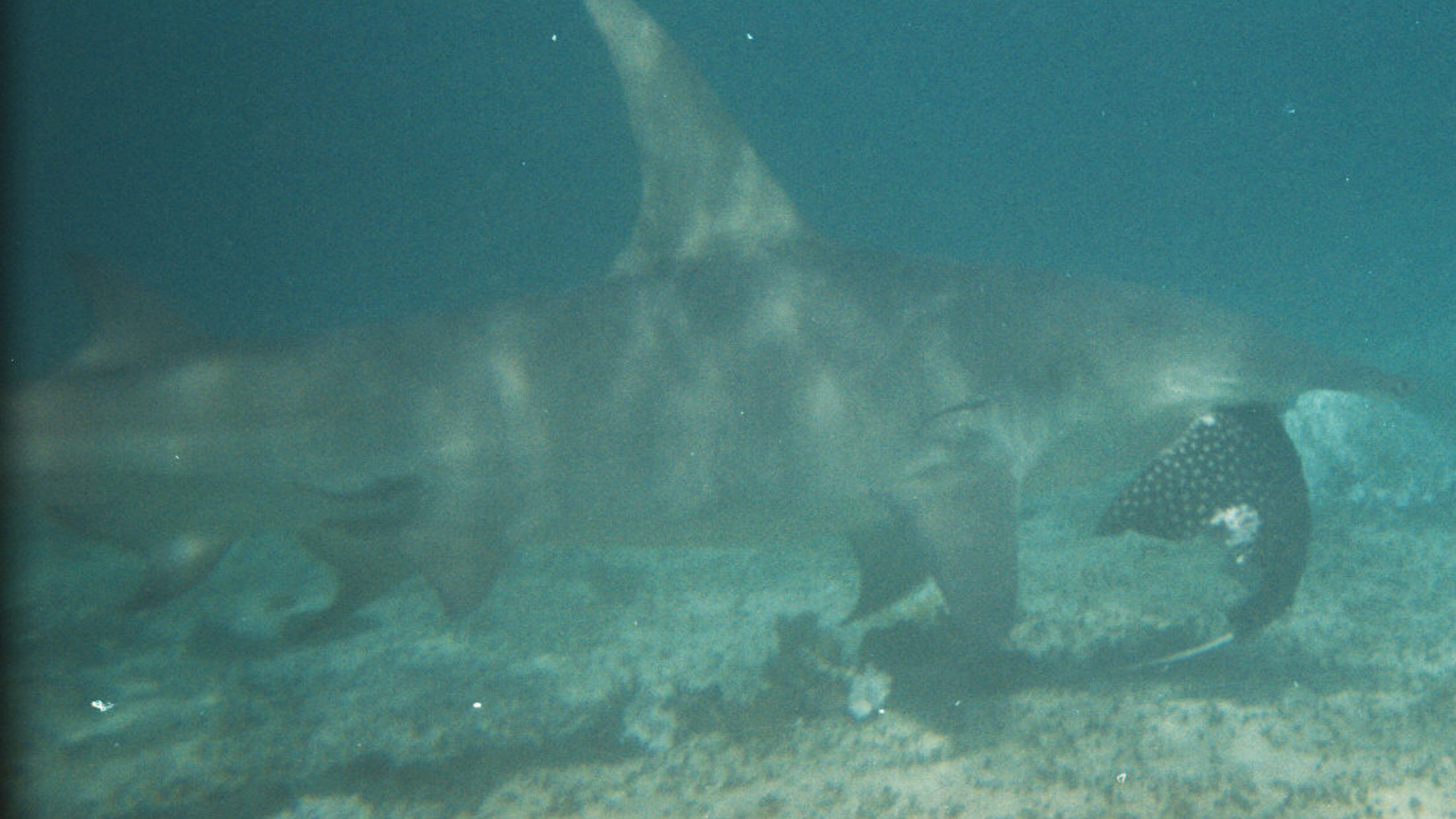
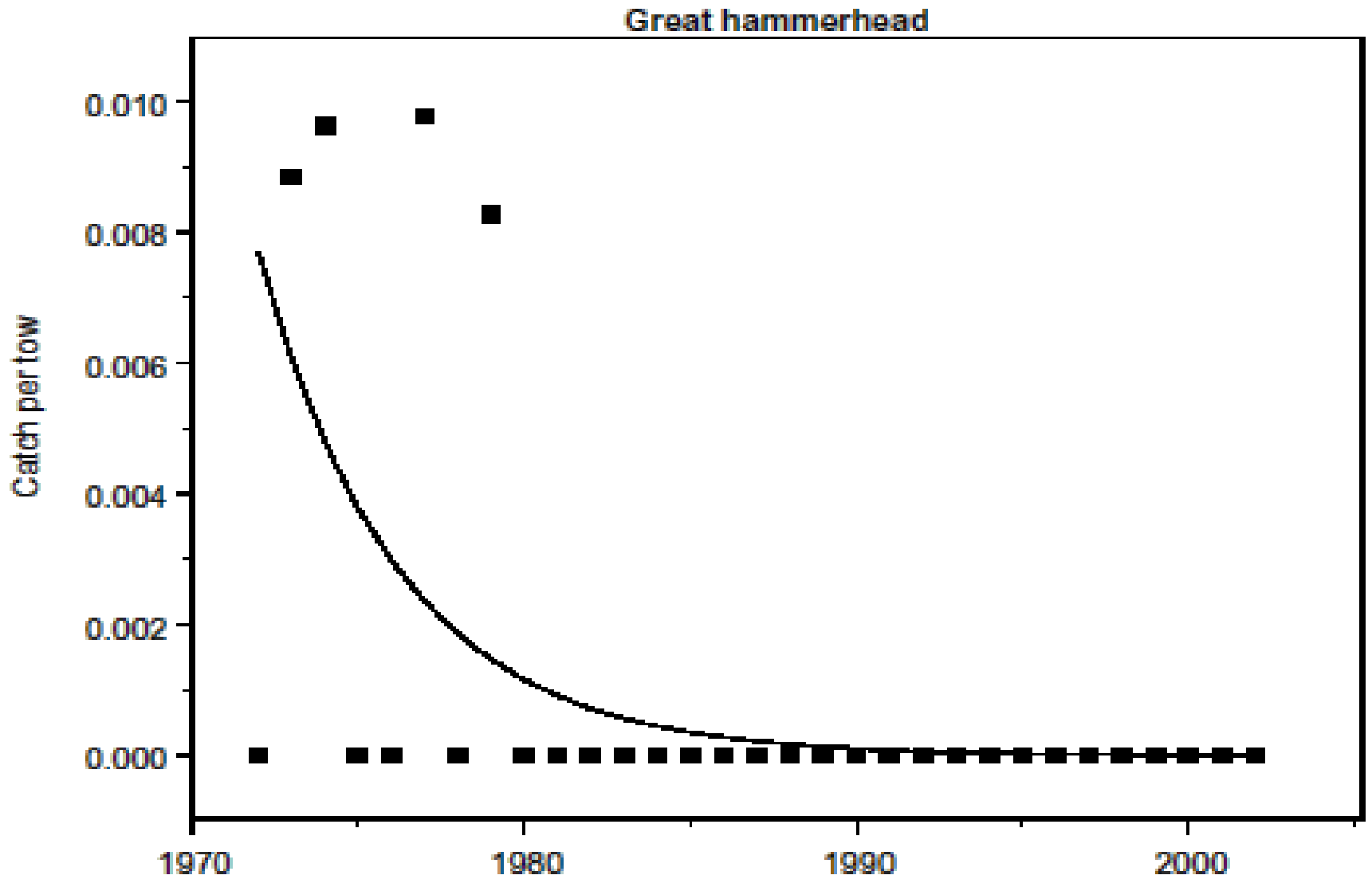


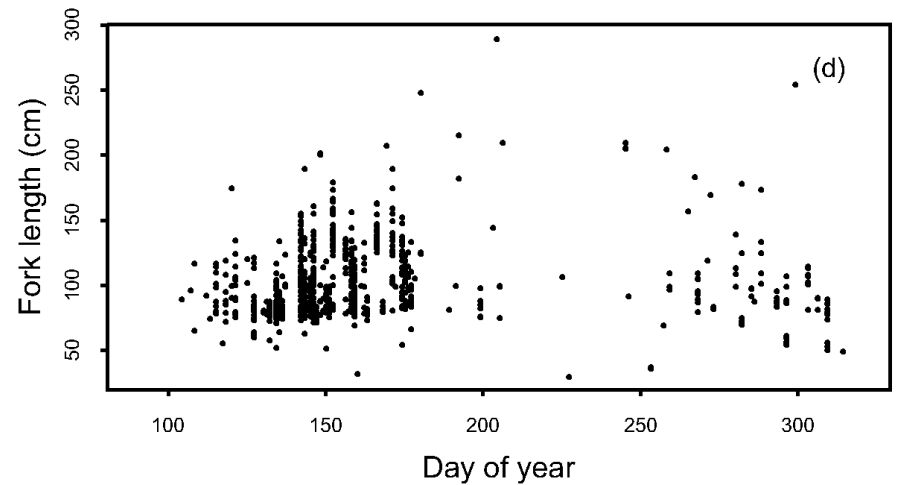
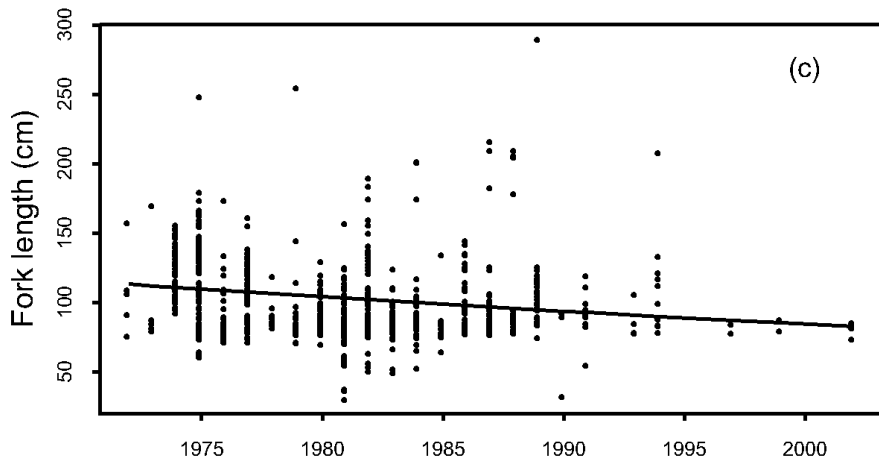
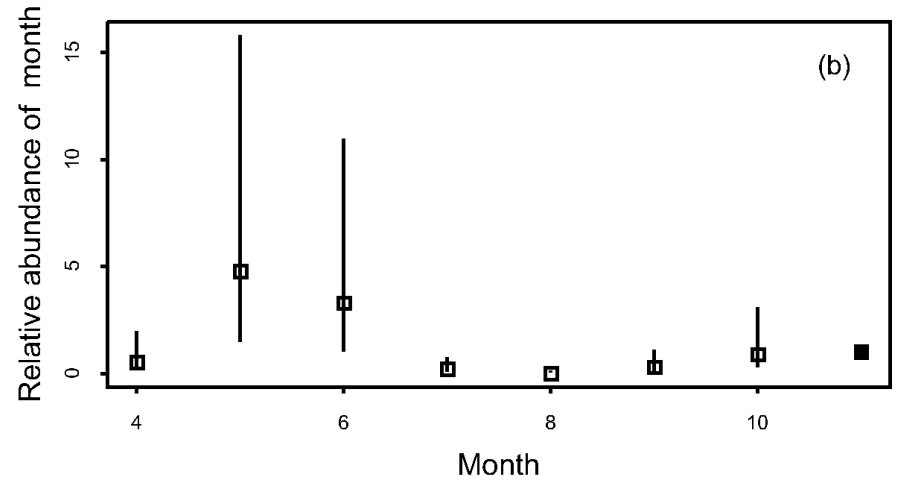
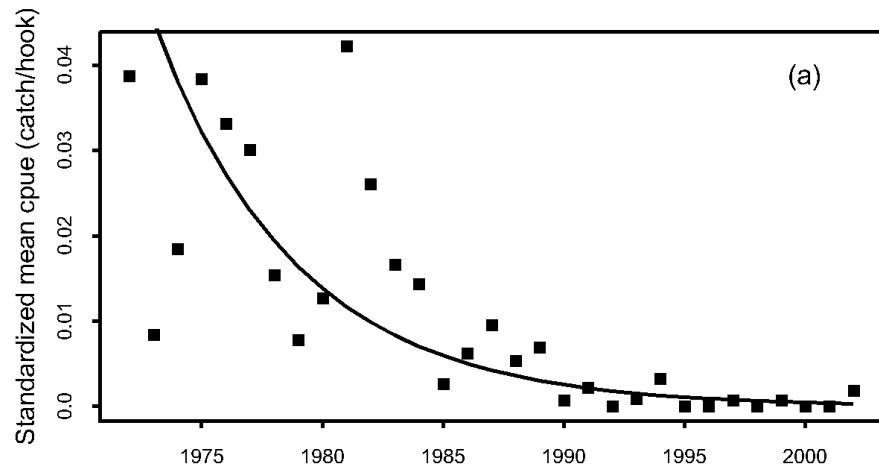
Photo by Demian Chapman

D. D. Chapman and S. H. Gruber, 2002 Bull. of Mar. Sci. 70: 947–952

Loss of hammerheads from surveys



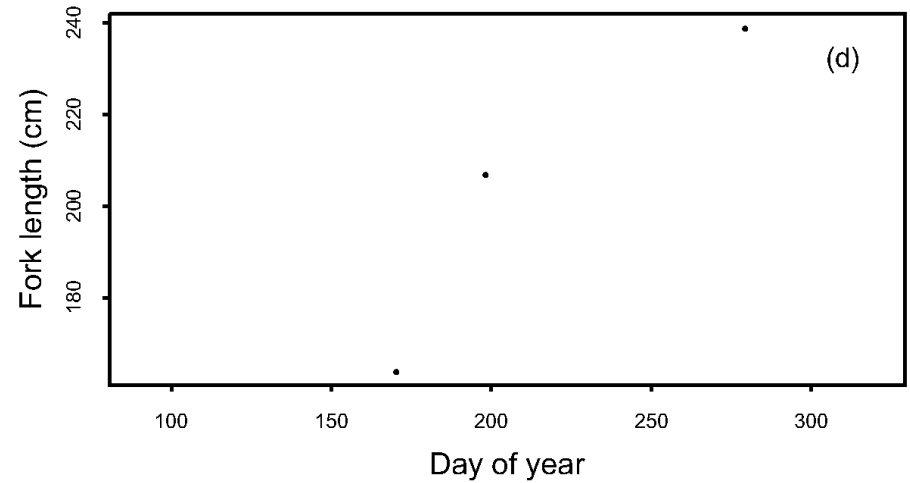
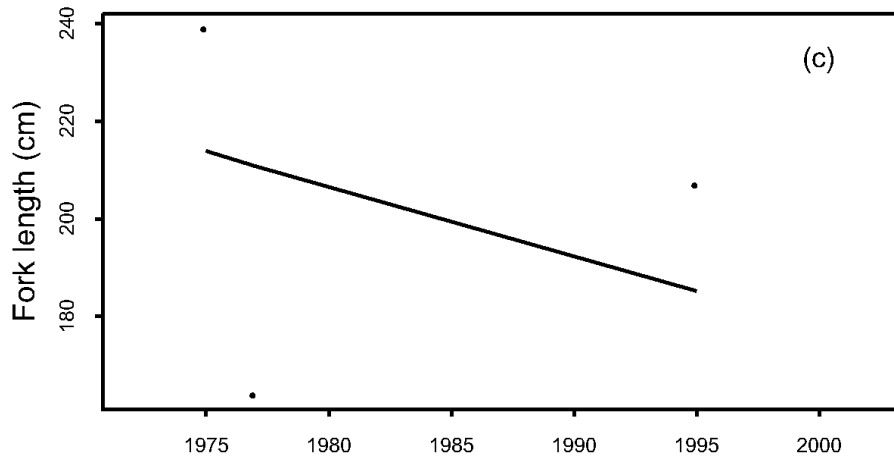
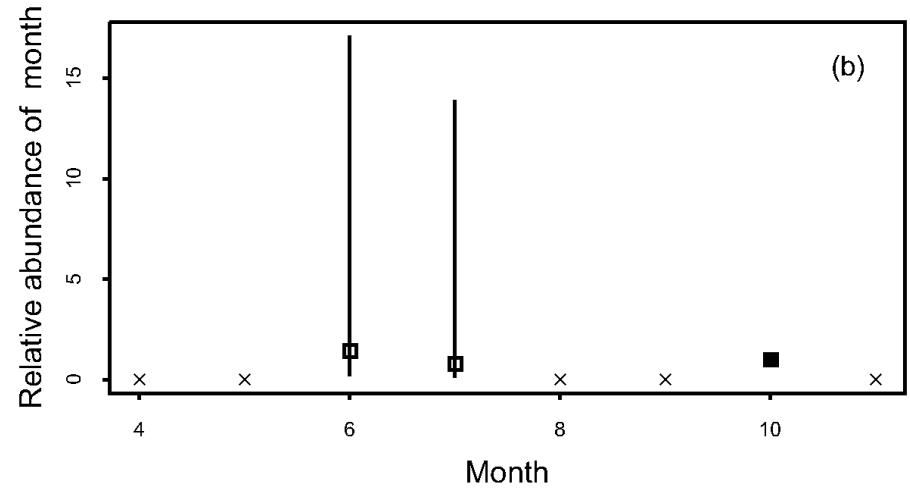
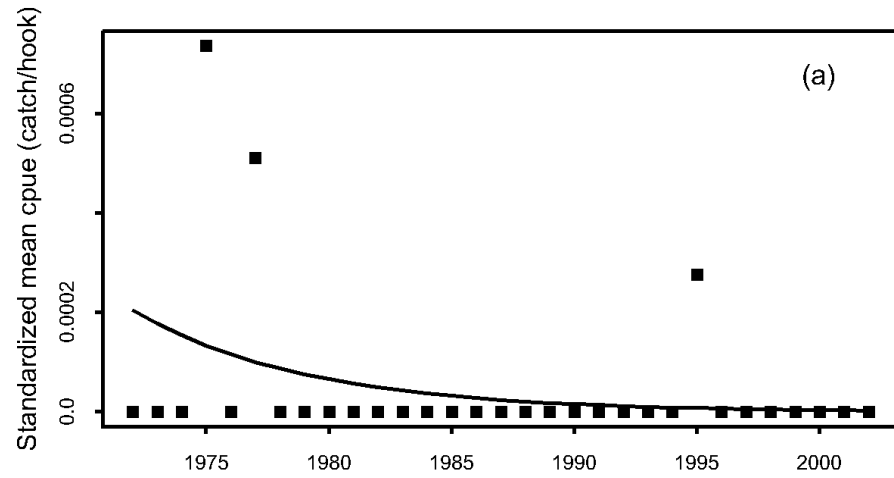
Dusky shark



Generalized linear model results

	Estimate	StdErr	p	k/scale
Abundance	-0.169	0.0171	5.67e-23	4.28
Length	-0.0105	1.4e-3	8.85e-14	18.8

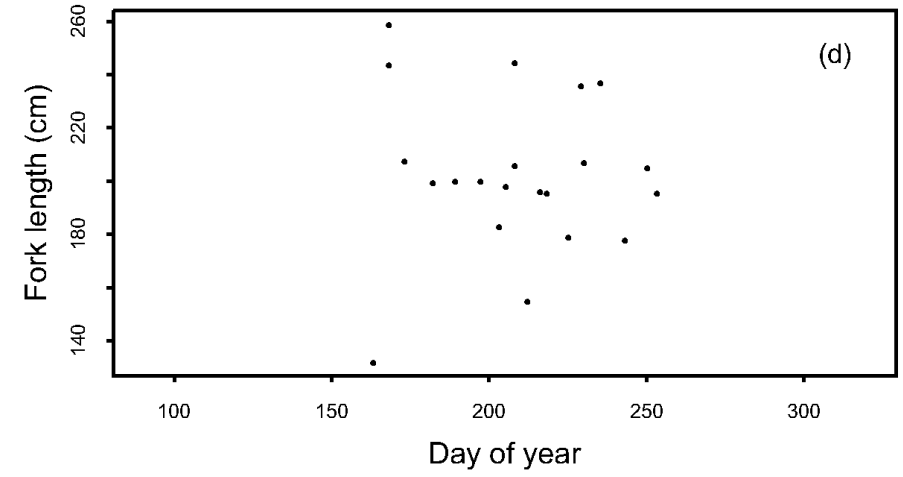
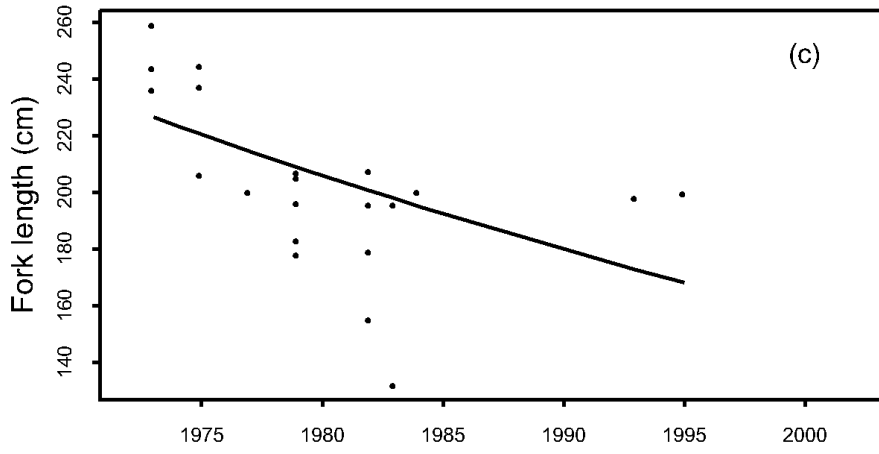
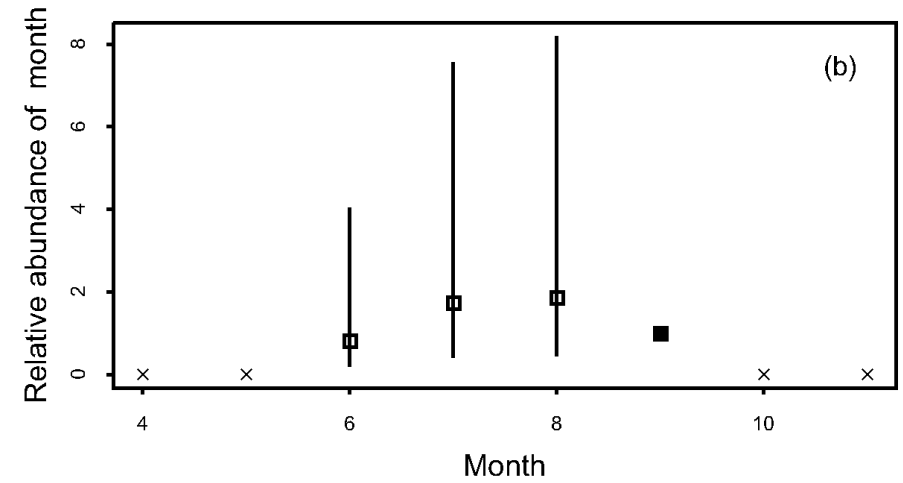
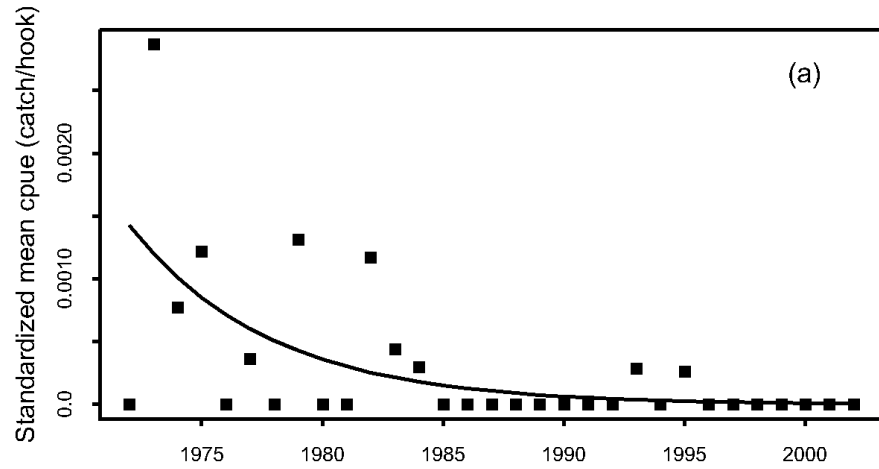
Great hammerhead



Generalized linear model results

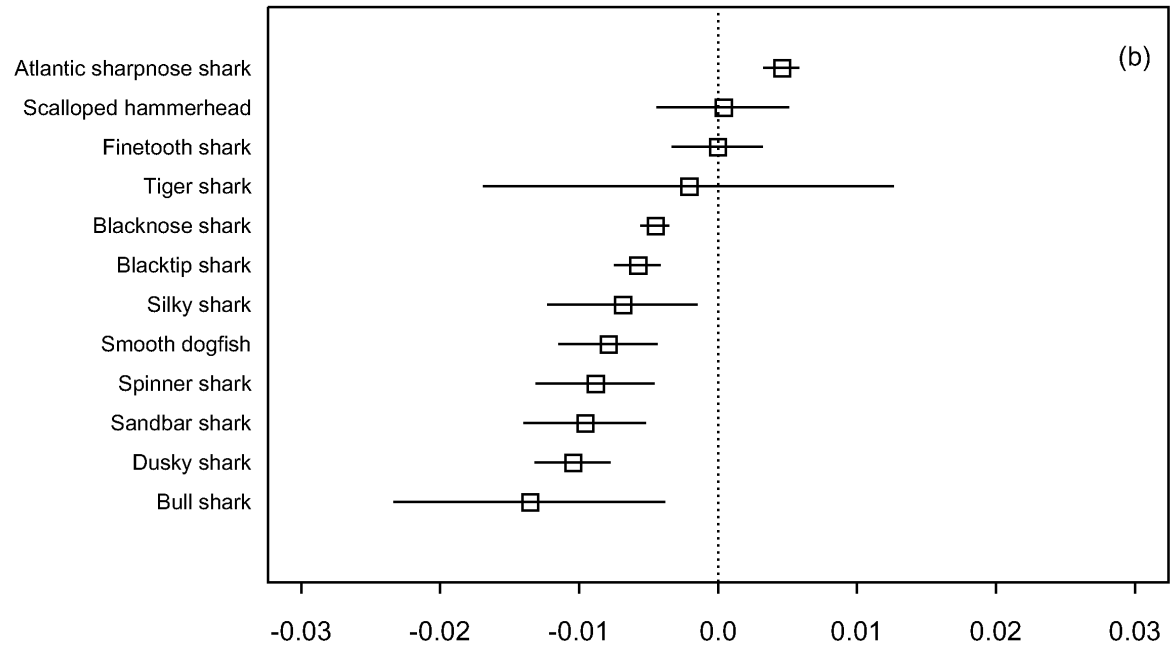
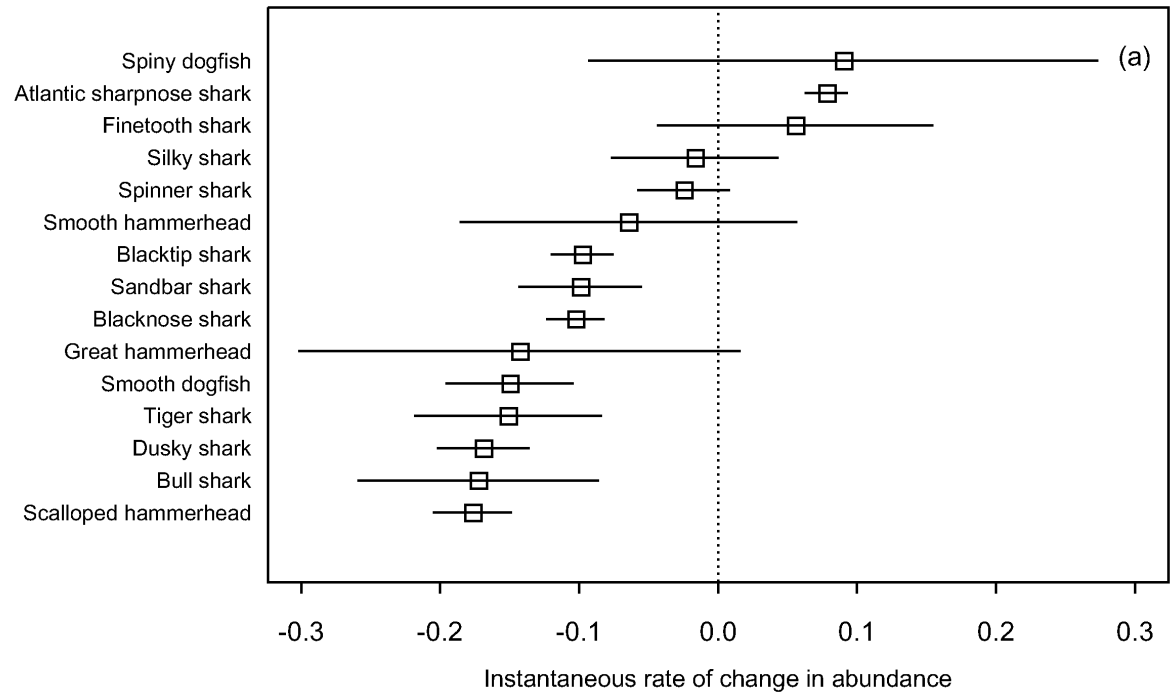
	Estimate	StdErr	p	k/scale
Abundance	-0.143	0.0812	0.079	1.96
Length	-7.19e-3	0.0707	0.919	1

Bull shark

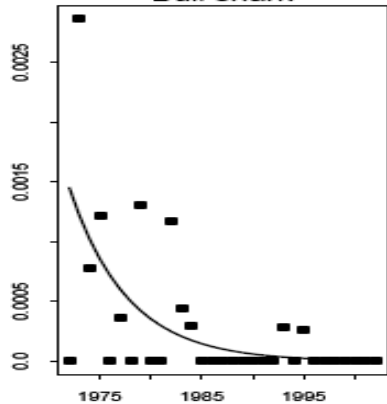


Generalized linear model results

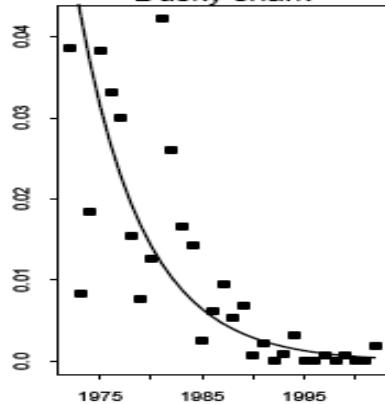
	Estimate	StdErr	p	k/scale
Abundance	-0.172	0.0443	9.99e-5	4.28
Length	-0.0136	5.e-3	6.69e-3	63.2



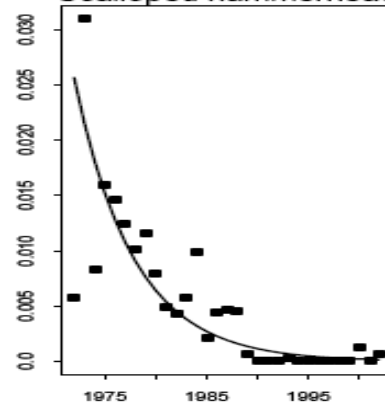
Bull shark



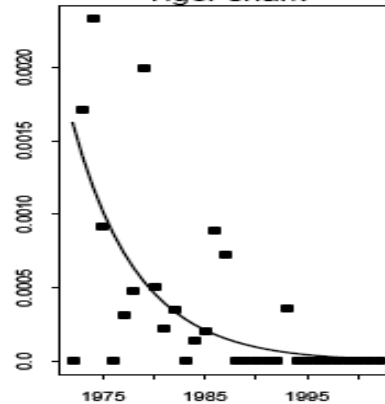
Dusky shark



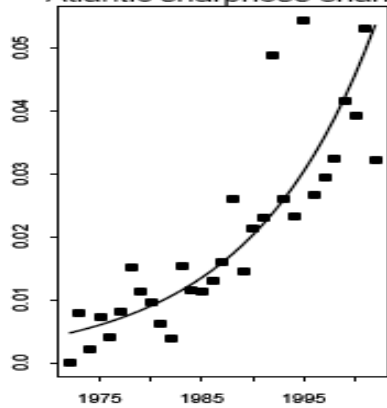
Scalloped hammerhead



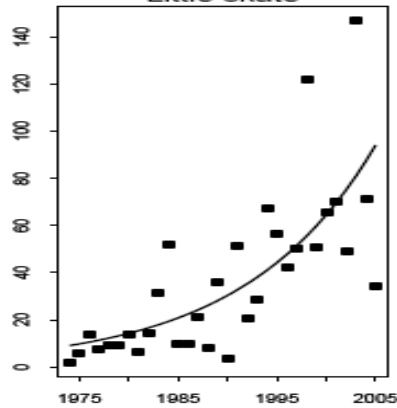
Tiger shark



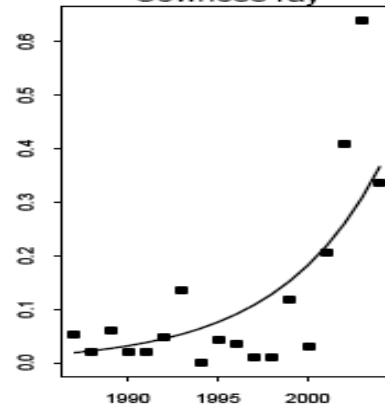
Atlantic sharpnose shark



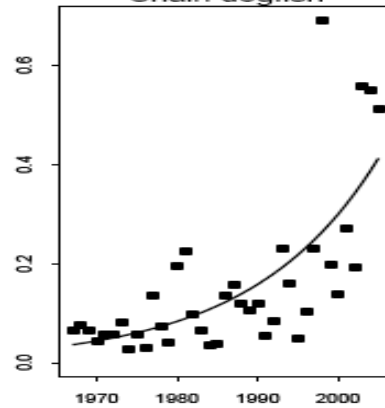
Little skate



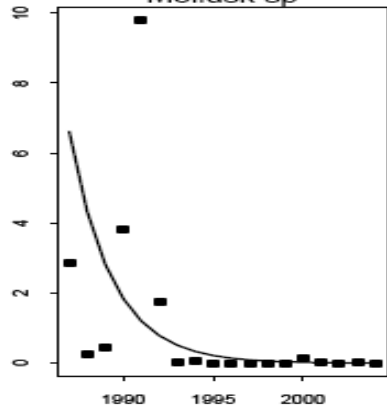
Cownose ray



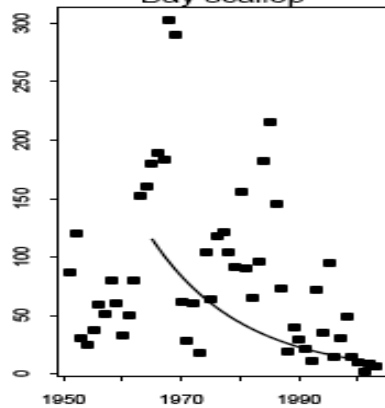
Chain dogfish



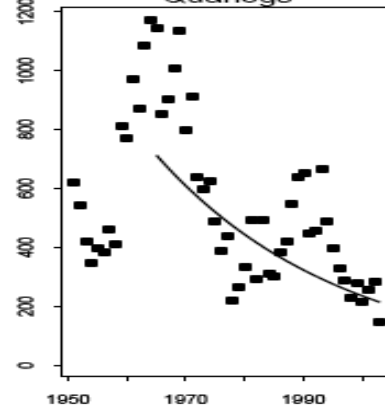
Mollusk sp



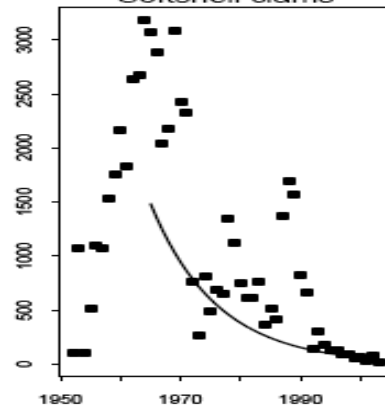
Bay scallop

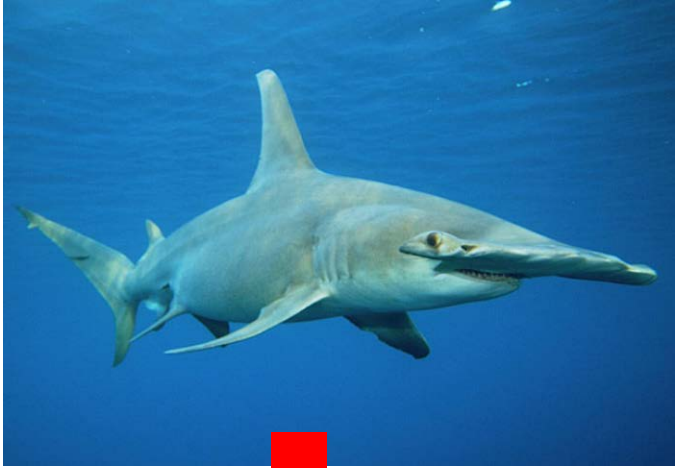


Quahogs

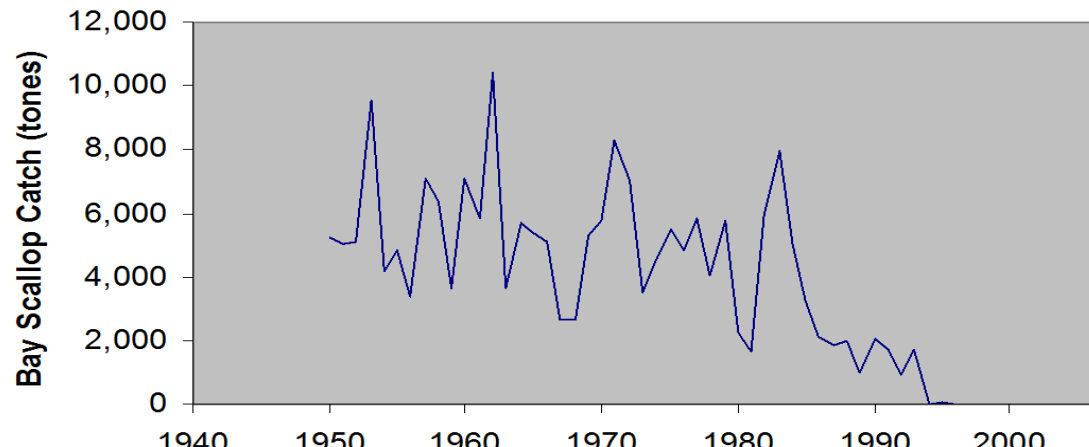
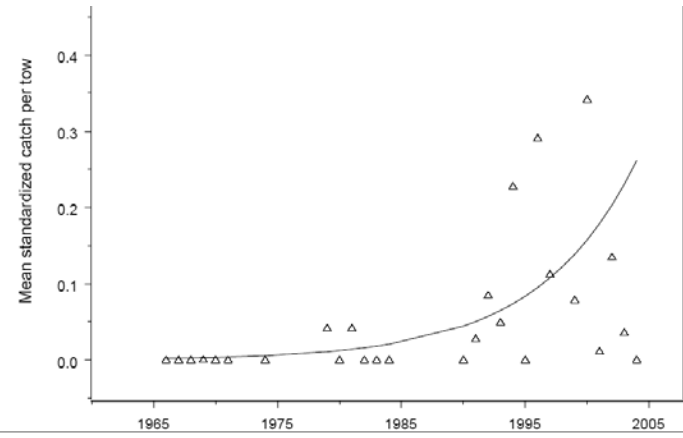
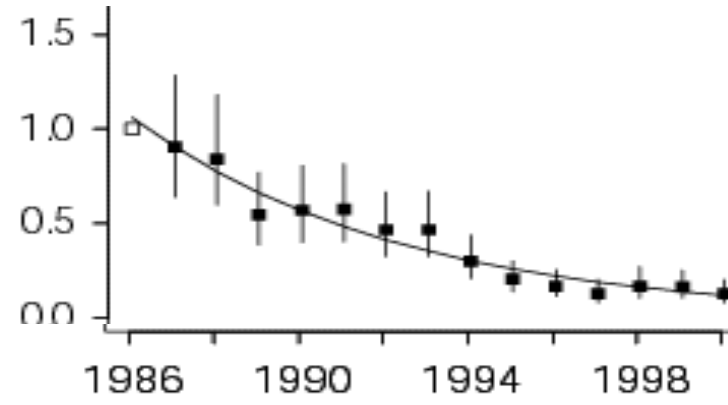


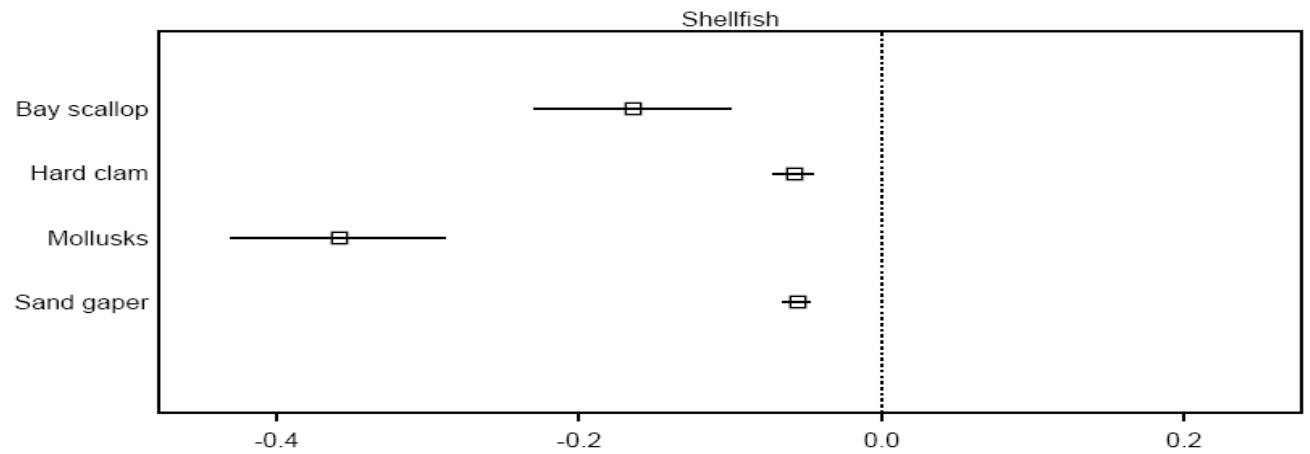
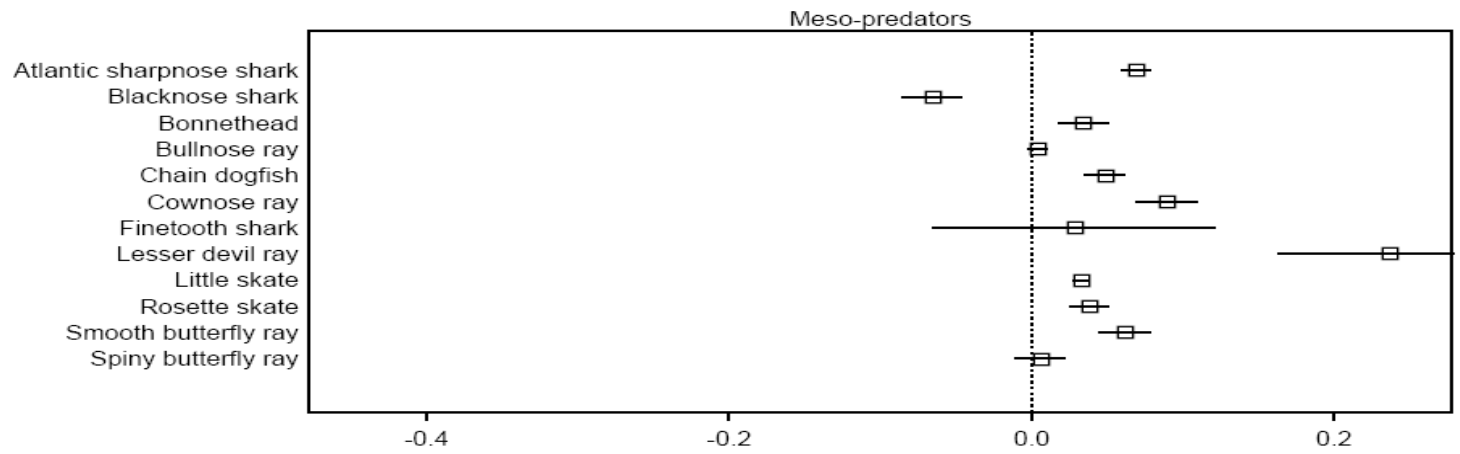
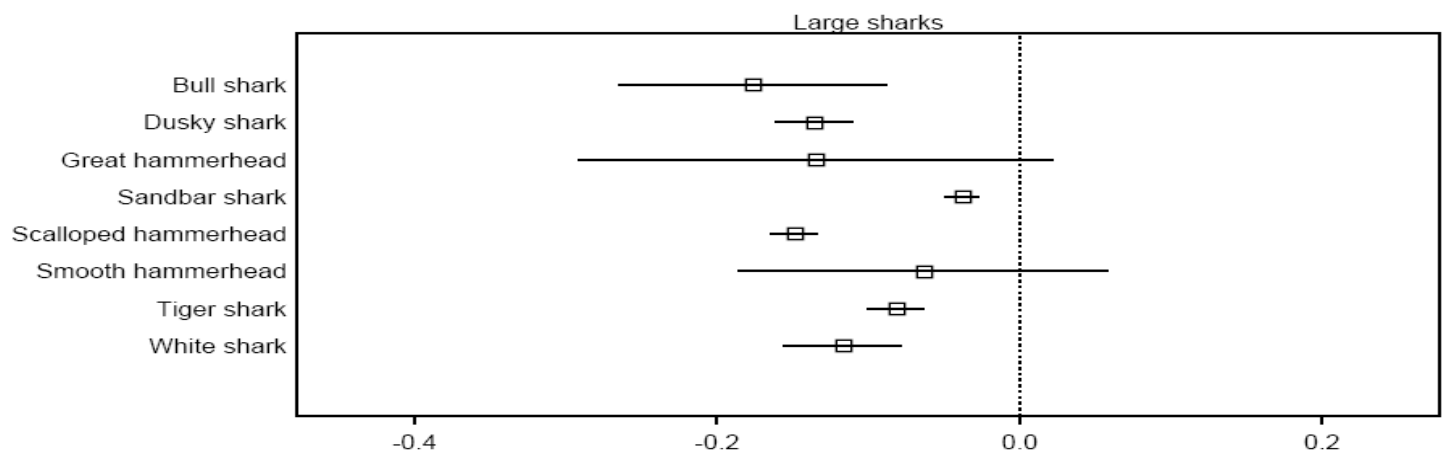
Softshell clams





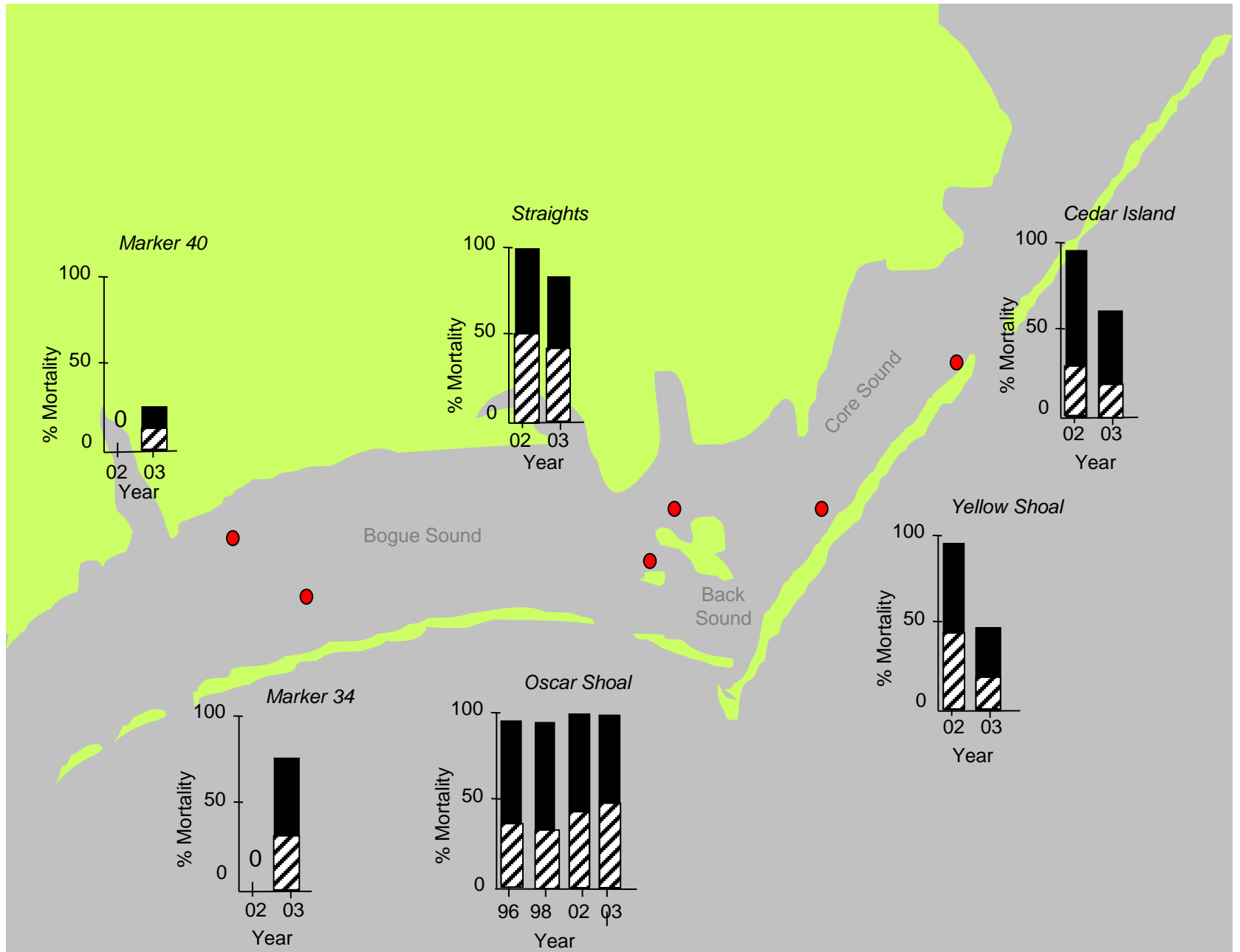
Relative abundance



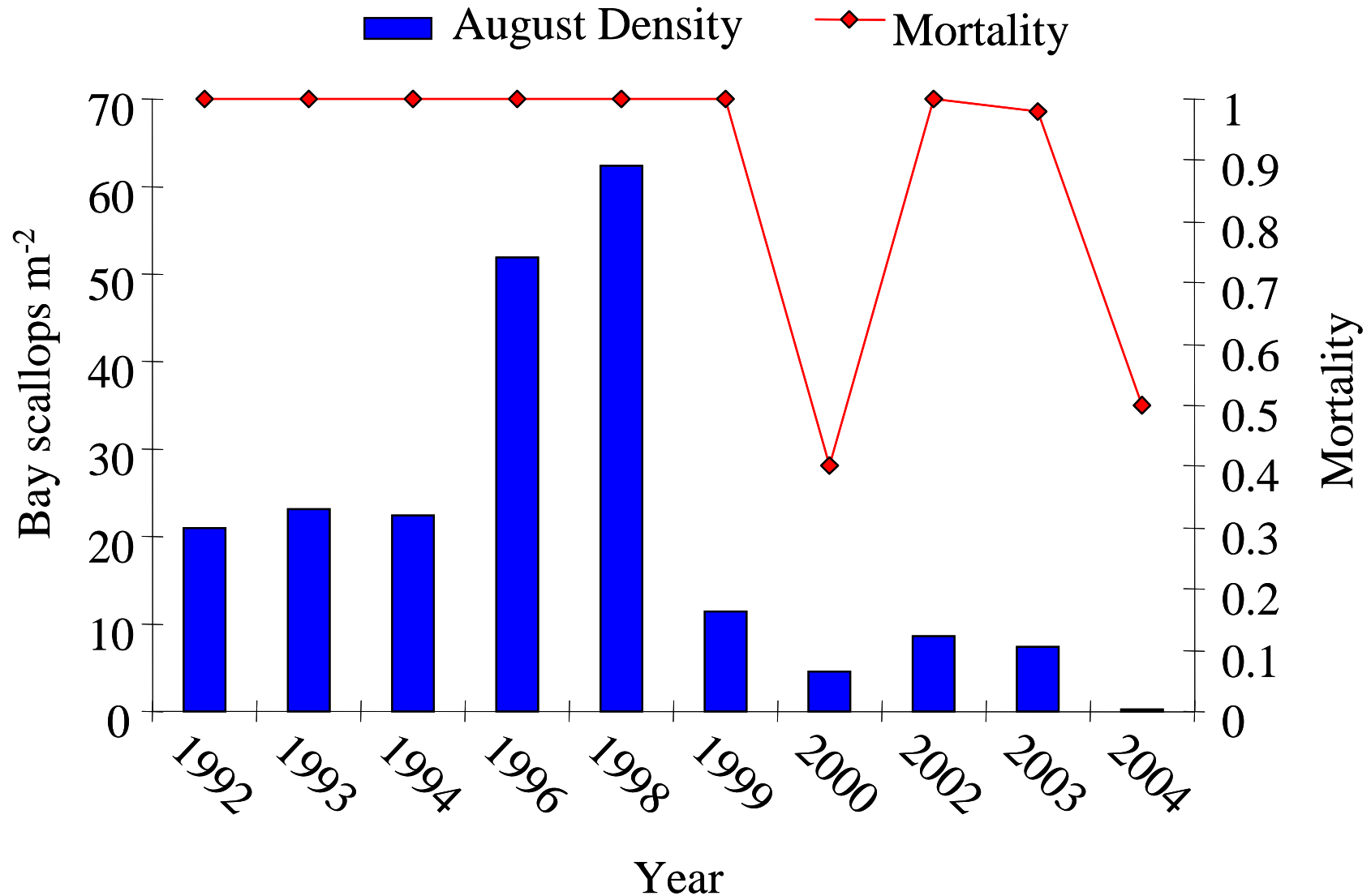


Instantaneous rate of change in abundance with time

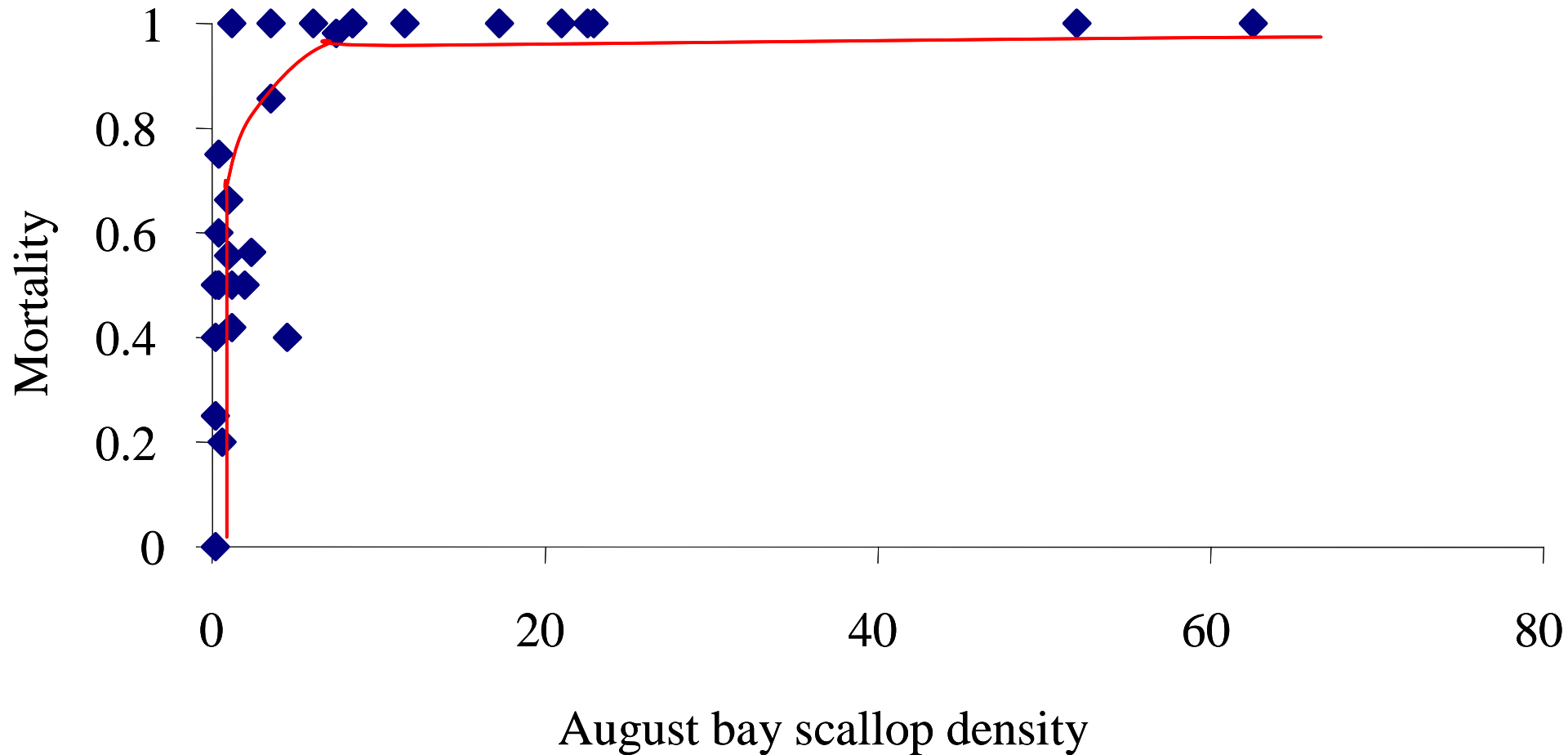
Fig 1. Total and stockade mortality

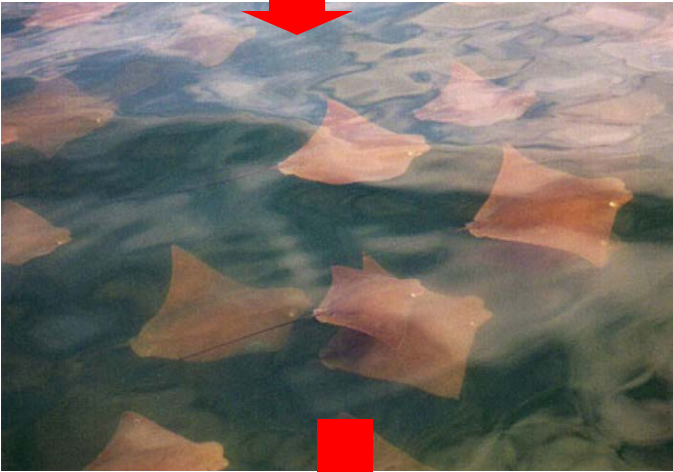
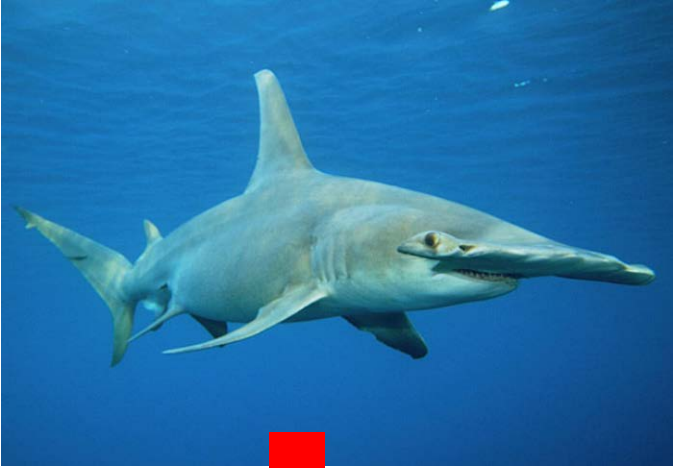


Mortality of almost 100% during fall migration of cownose rays



Mortality of almost 100% during fall migration of cownose rays





Trophic Cascades:
Consequences of the
loss of top predators
may be greater than
we think



**Conservation of coral reefs
by the global network
of Marine Protected Areas**

By Camilo Mor

Conservation of coral reefs

Deleterious Activities



Consequences



How to change things?

...confronting the large scale crisis [of biodiversity] requires major scaling –up of management efforts...

- International policies in the control of human threats
- Generation of human conscience about threats
- Efficient networks of Protected Areas

Protection of coral reefs by Marine Protected Areas

Prohibition of harvesting

Reduction of mortality

Only if MPAs are effective

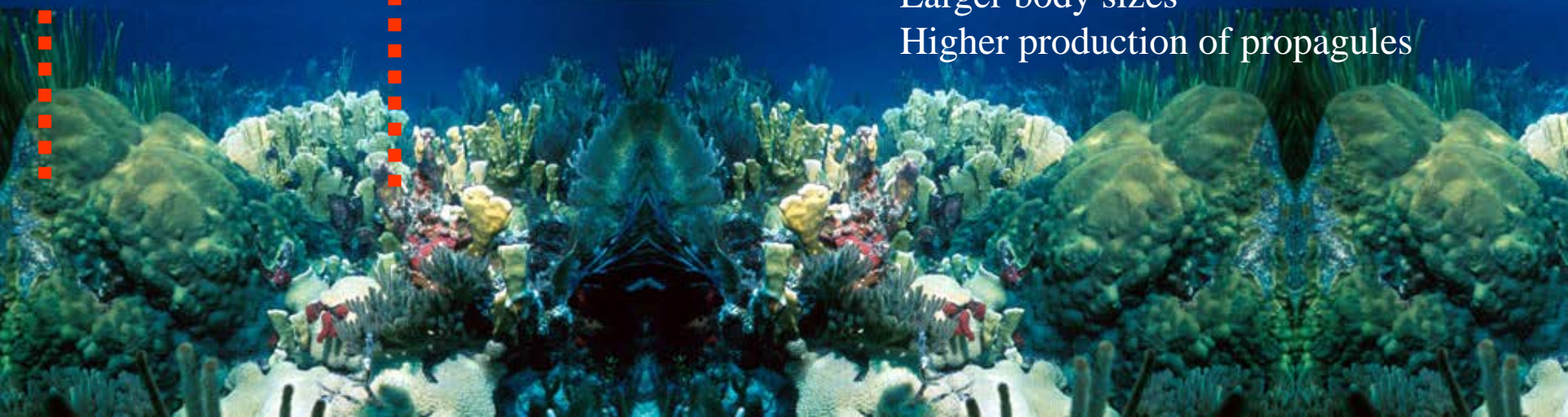
Protection of biodiversity

Increases in abundance

Larger body sizes

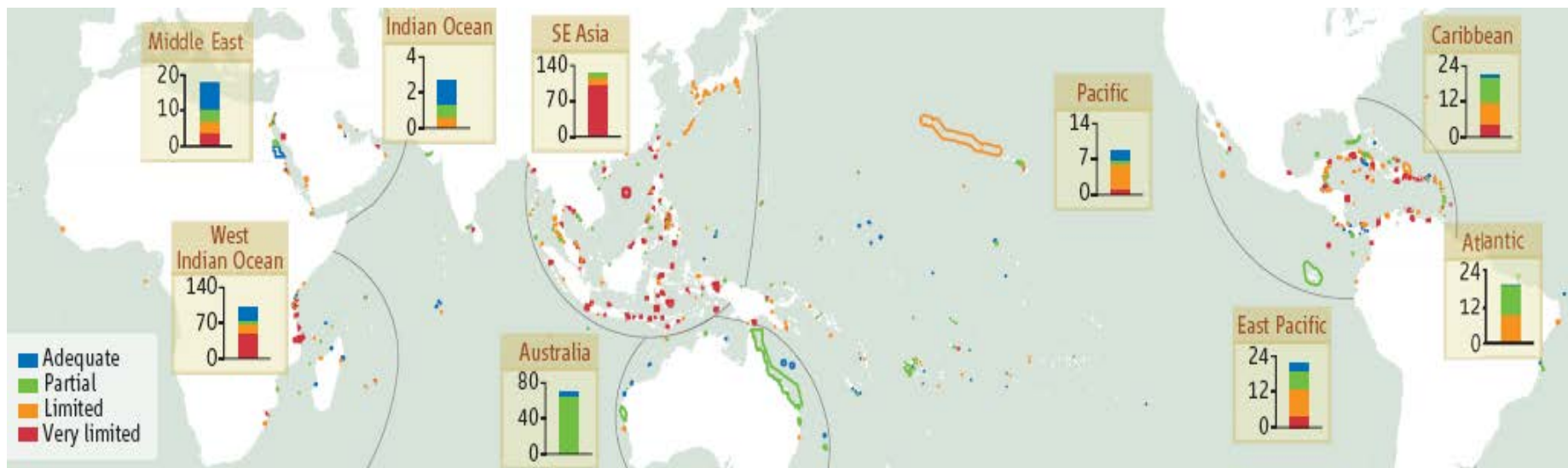
Higher production of propagules

Reserve boundaries



0.01% of the world's coral reefs are fully protected from over-harvesting, poaching, and pollution.

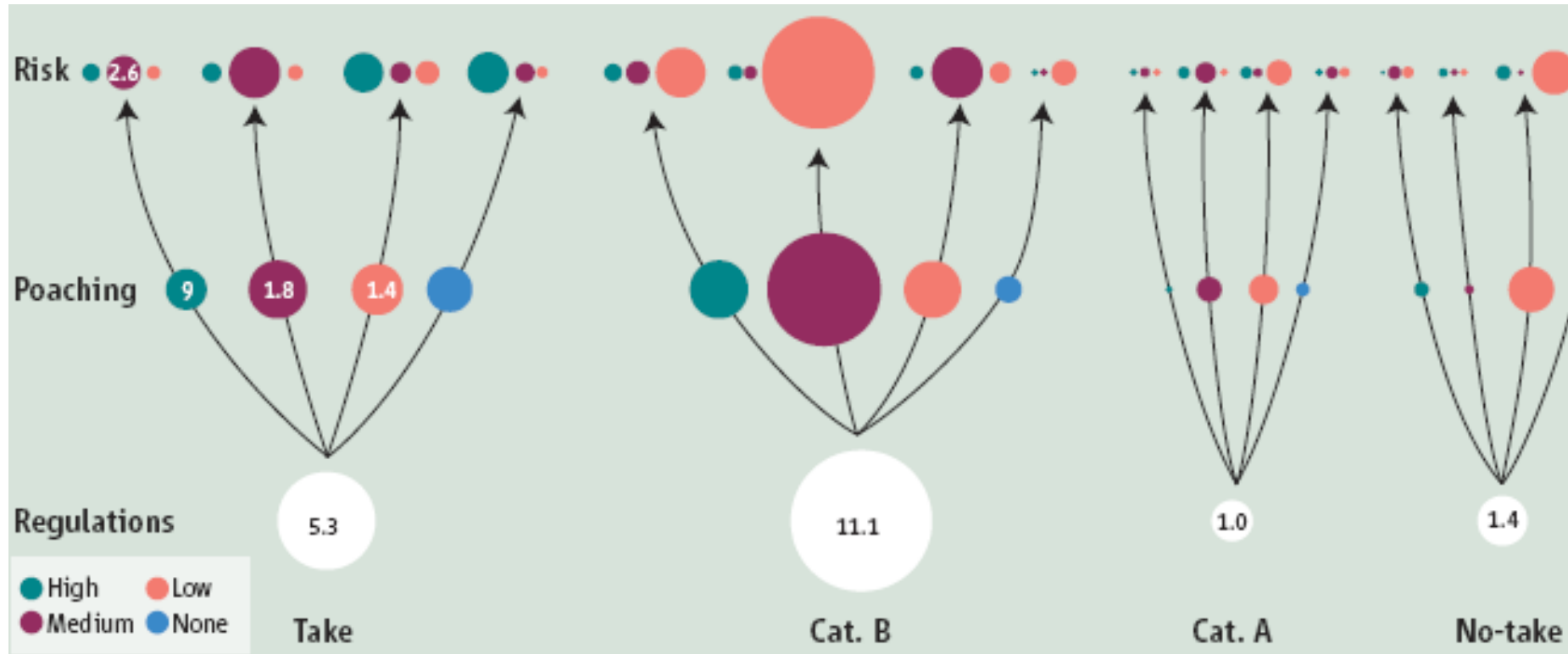
First, map all the coral reefs in the world.



Science, Mora et al. Embargoed until June 22

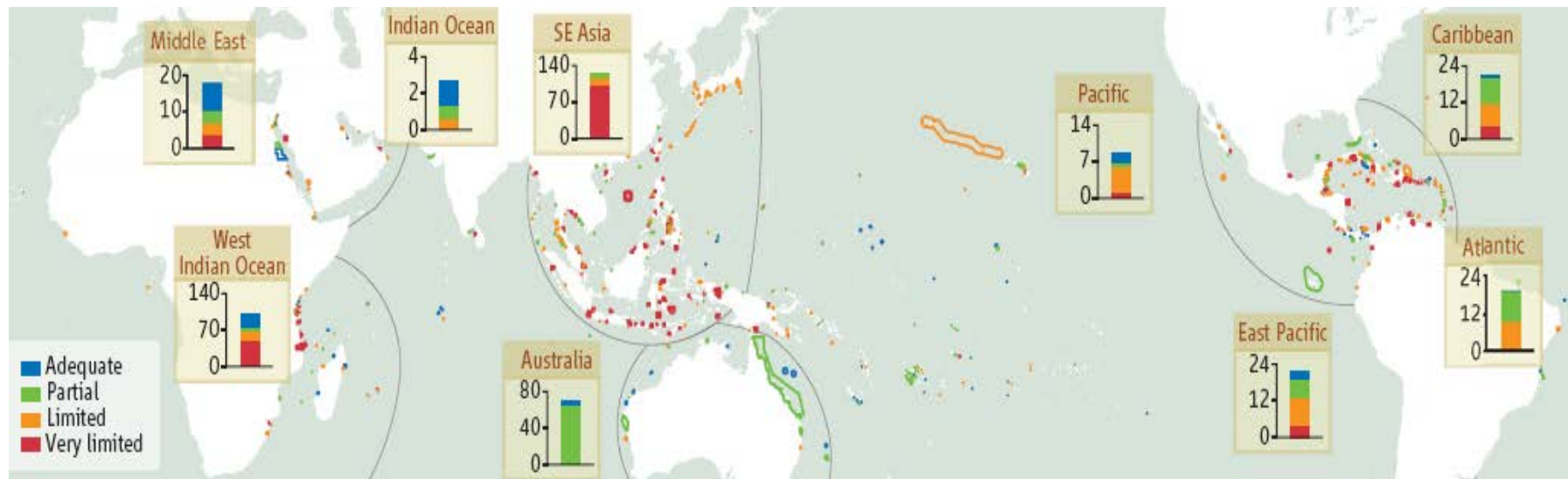
0.01% of the world's coral reefs are fully protected from over-harvesting, poaching, and pollution.

Second, interview over 1000 coral reef managers.



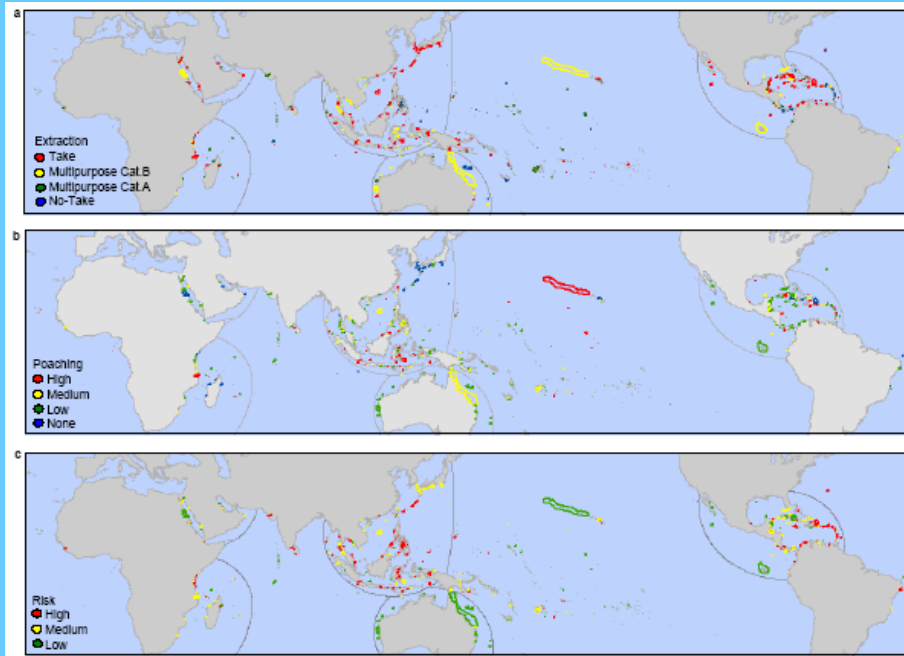
0.01% of the world's coral reefs are fully protected from over-harvesting, poaching, and pollution.

Third compile the results.

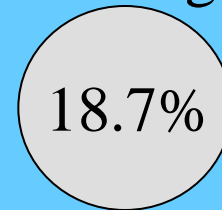


Science, Mora et al. Embargoed until June 22

Effectiveness of coral reef MPAs worldwide



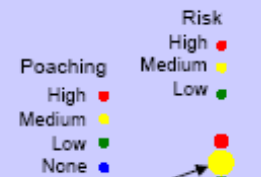
Coverage



Take
5.3%

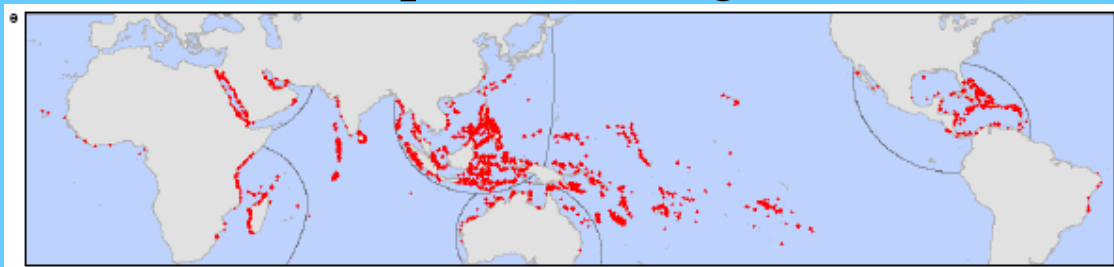
Multipurpose
12%

1.4%
No-take



0.01%

Gaps to coverage



If one has in mind that...

1) coral reefs are declining worldwide, and

2) their conservation is currently inadequate and insufficient

...then, it is not bad to conclude that

coral reefs are currently screwed!

To be published in Science June 23

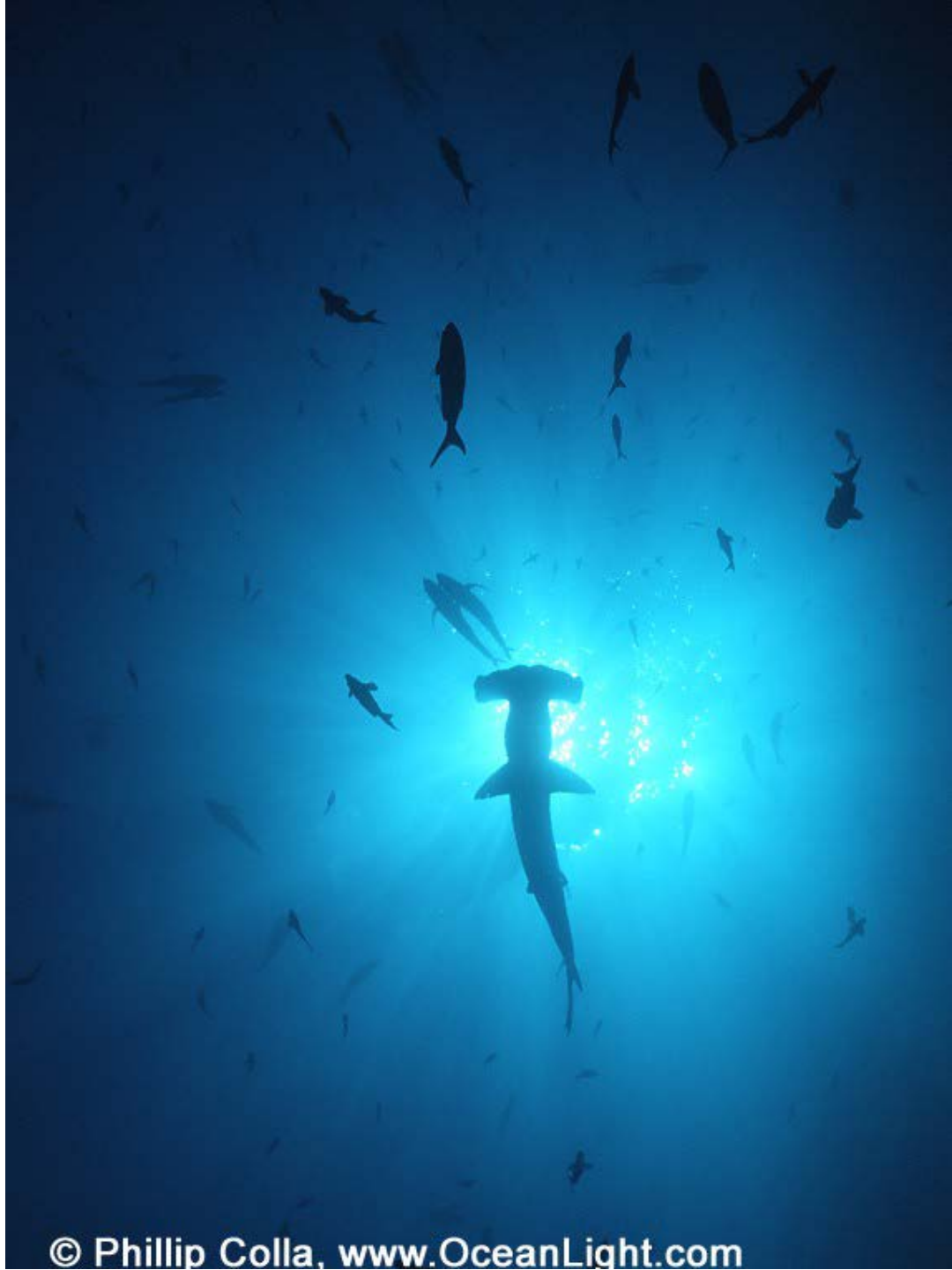
Coral Reefs and the Global Network of Marine Protected Areas

Camilo Mora, Serge Andréfouët, Mark J. Costello, Christine
Kranenburg, Audrey Rollo,¹ John Veron, Kevin J. Gaston,
Ransom A. Myers

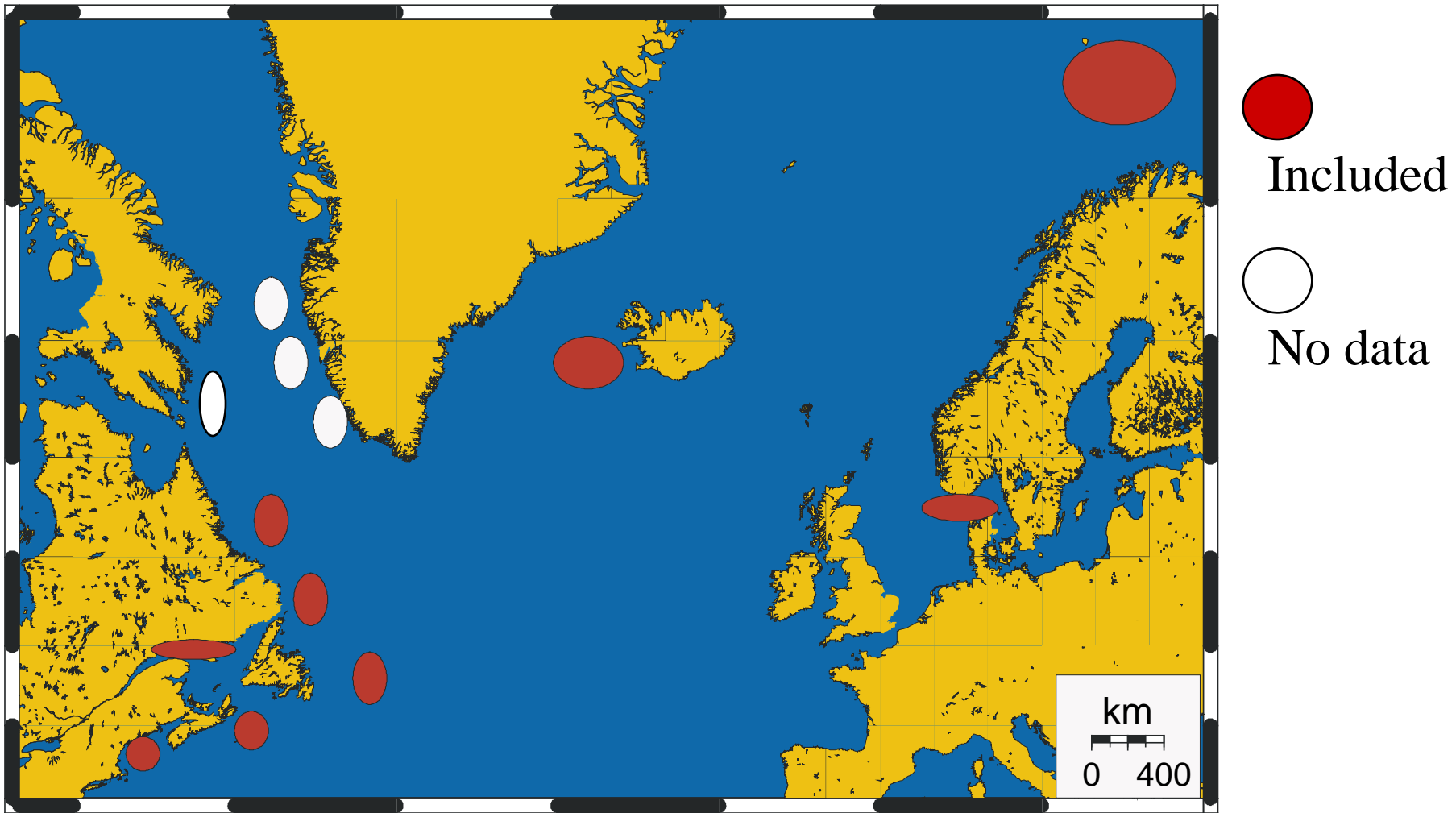
***The First Collective Act of
Humanity was to save the
great whales –***

despite massive denial

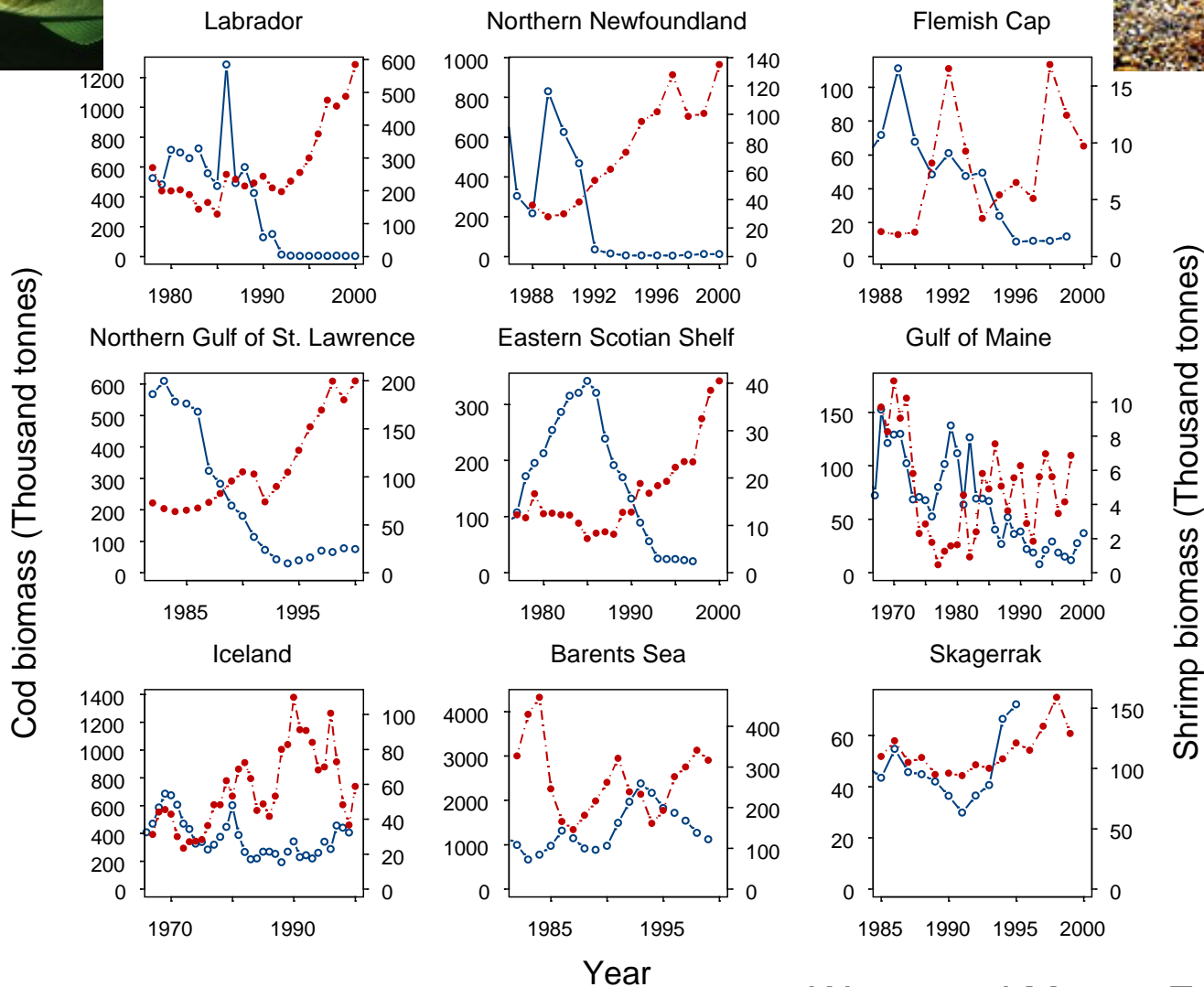
***– we can do
the same for the remaining
virgin areas of the oceans
and for the great sharks.***



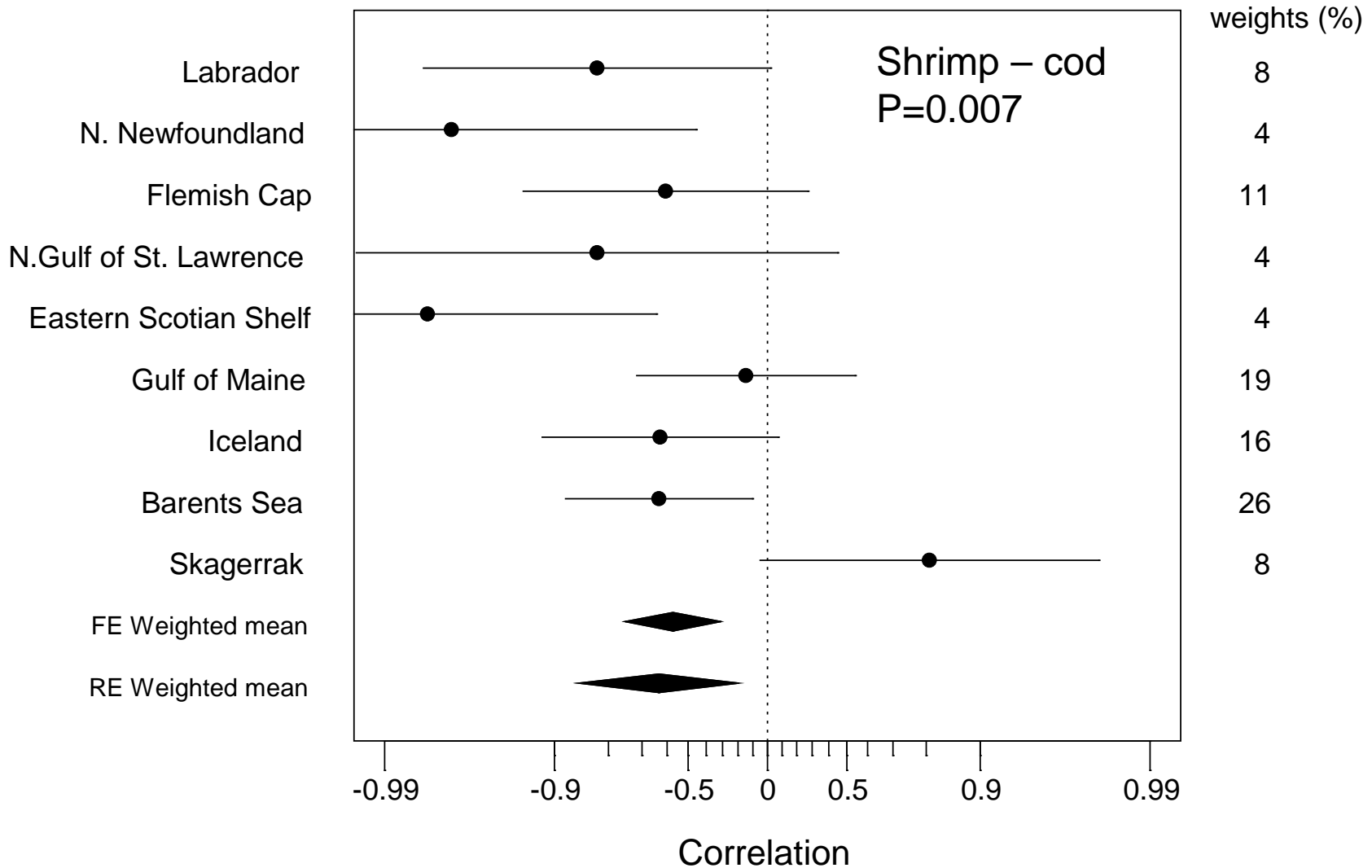
Major shrimp stocks in the North Atlantic

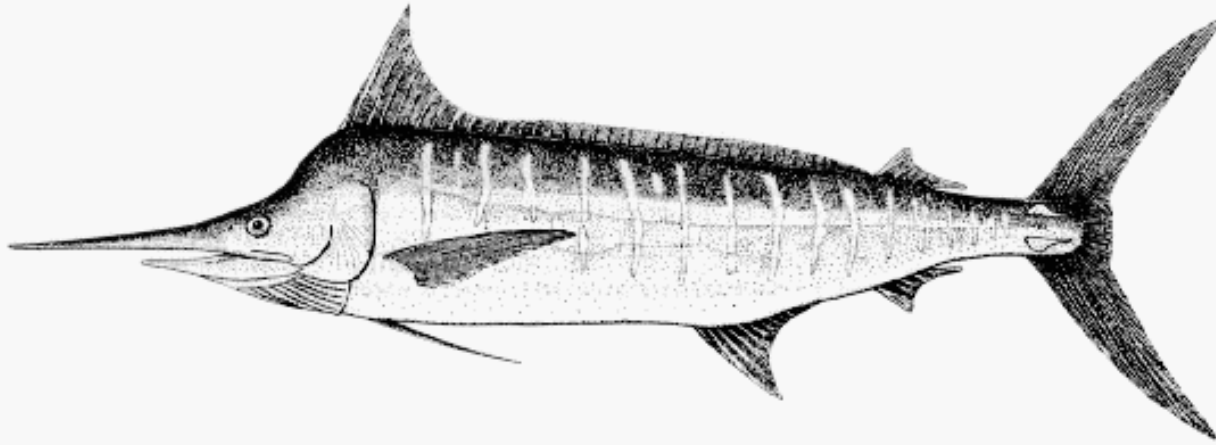


Cod and shrimp biomass in the North Atlantic: time series



Step 2: Random-effects meta-analysis

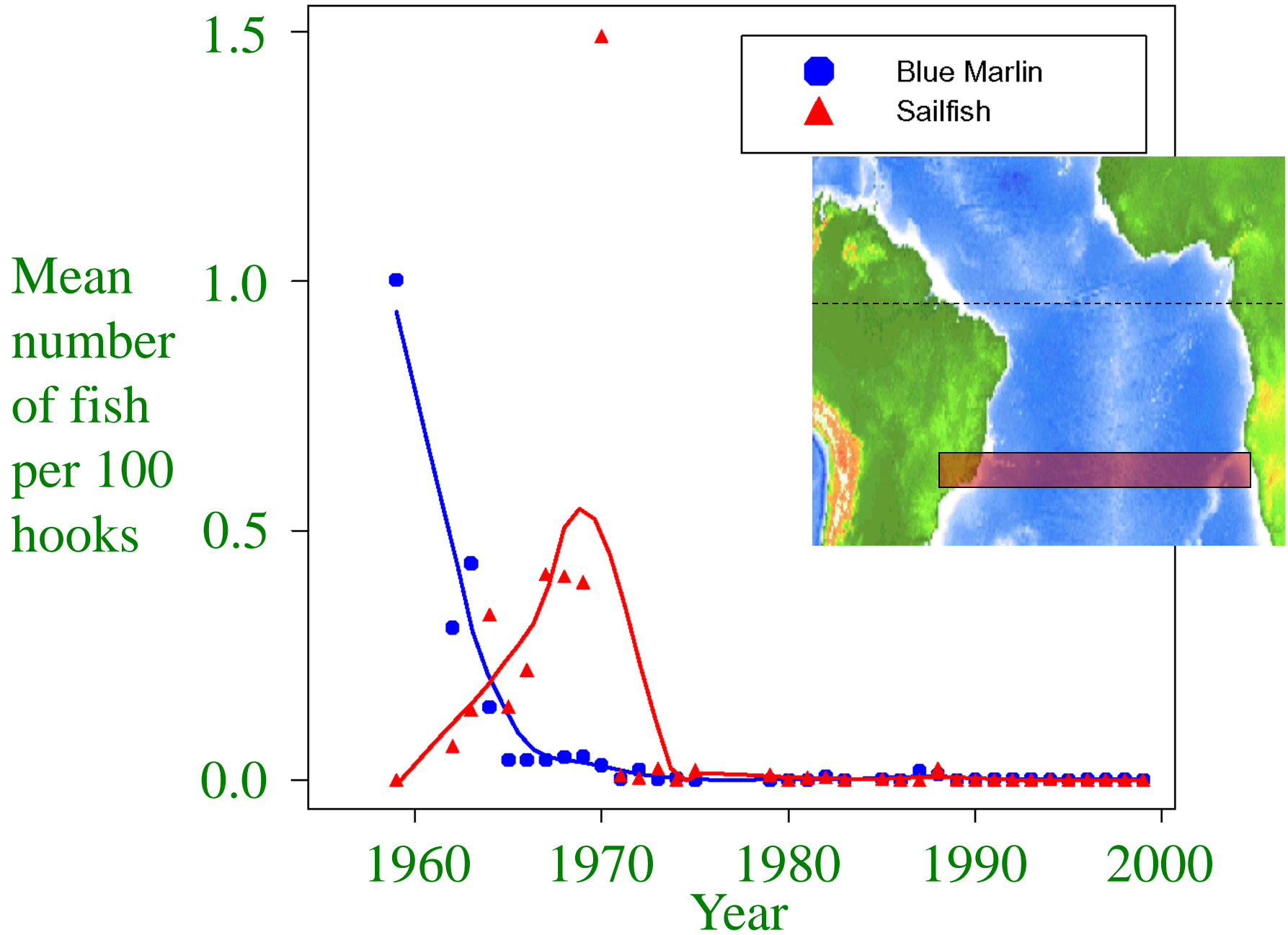




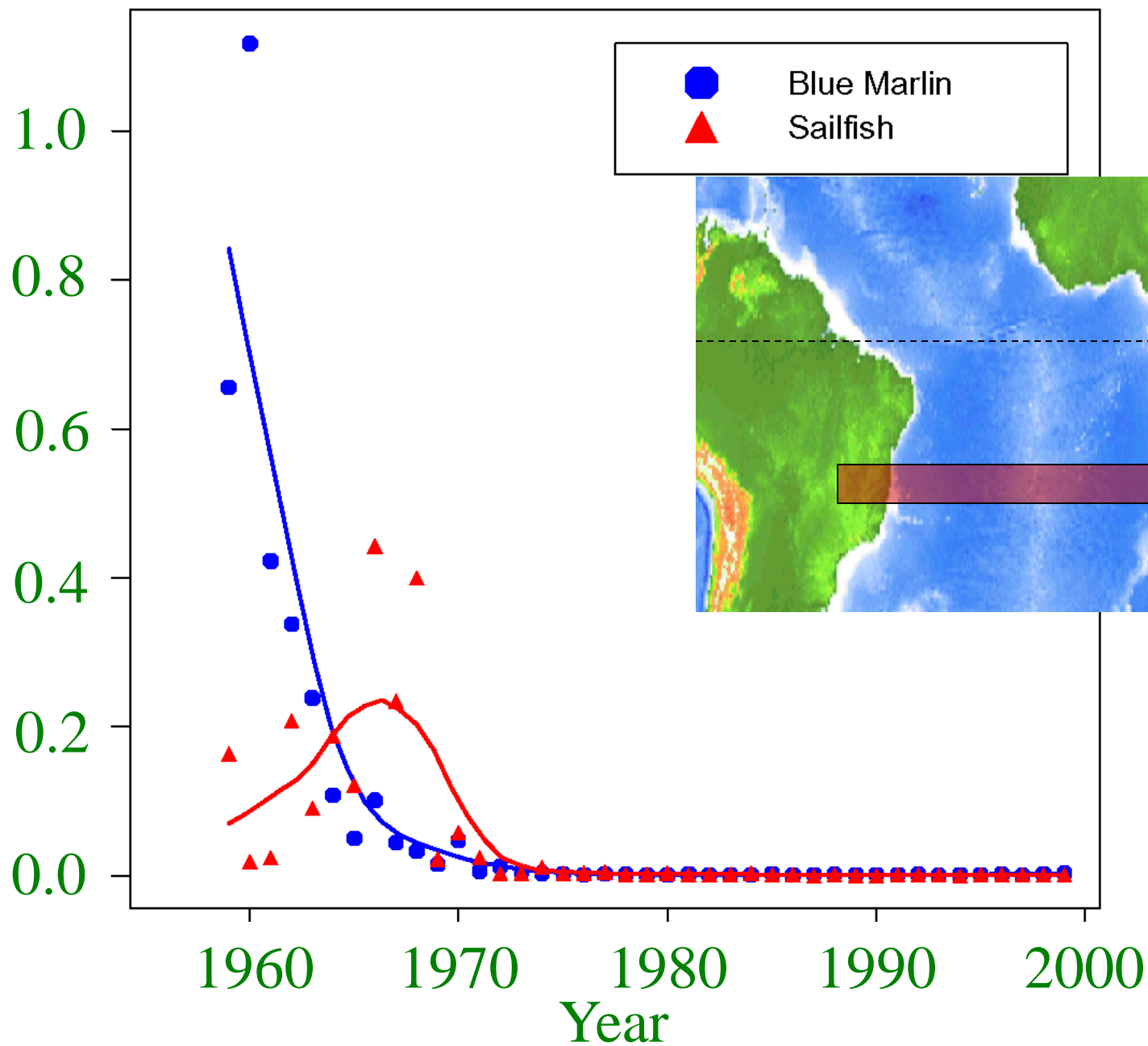
Blue marlin
(*Makaira nigricans*)

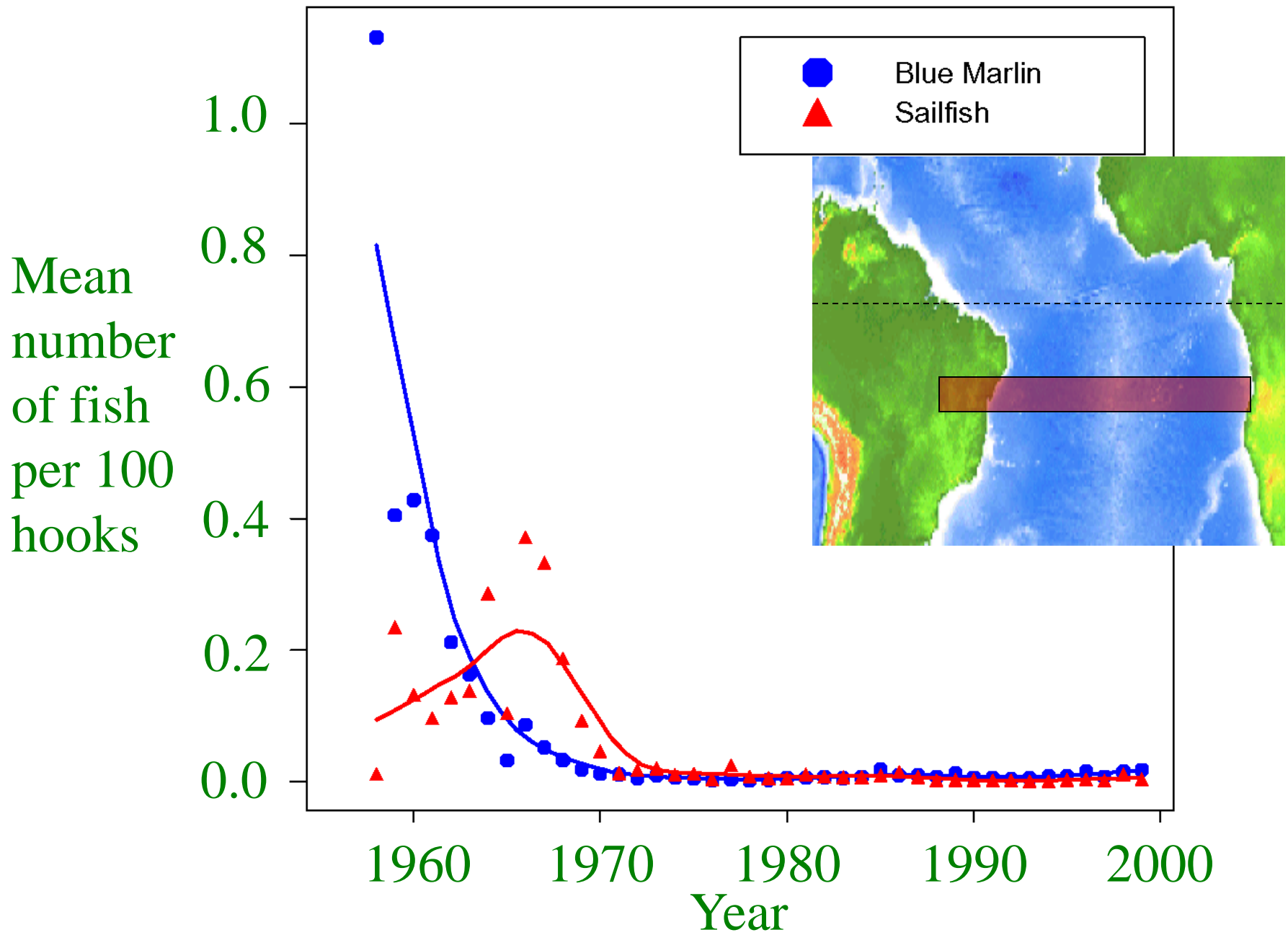


Sailfish
(*Istiophorus albicans*)

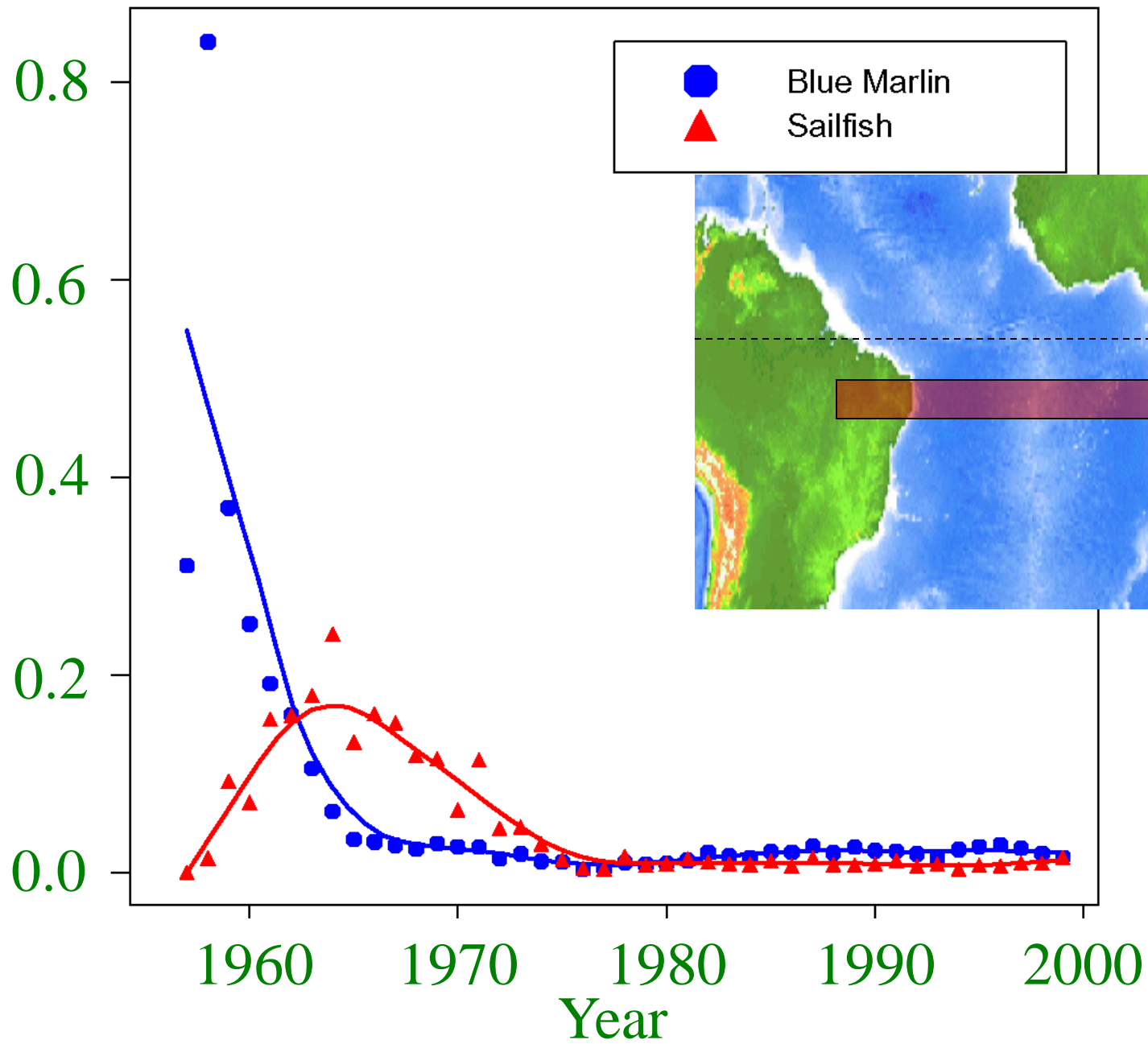


Mean
number
of fish
per 100
hooks

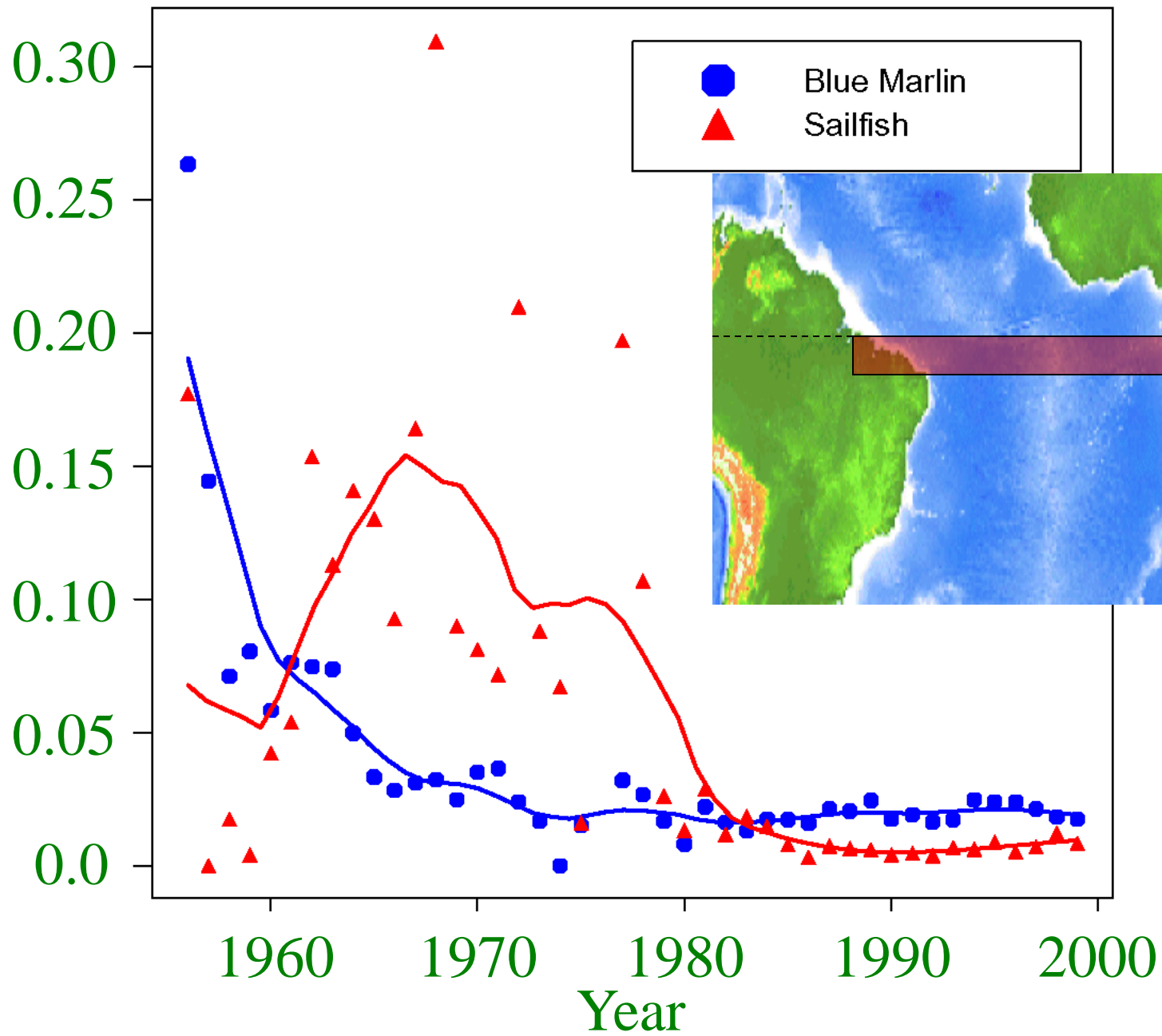




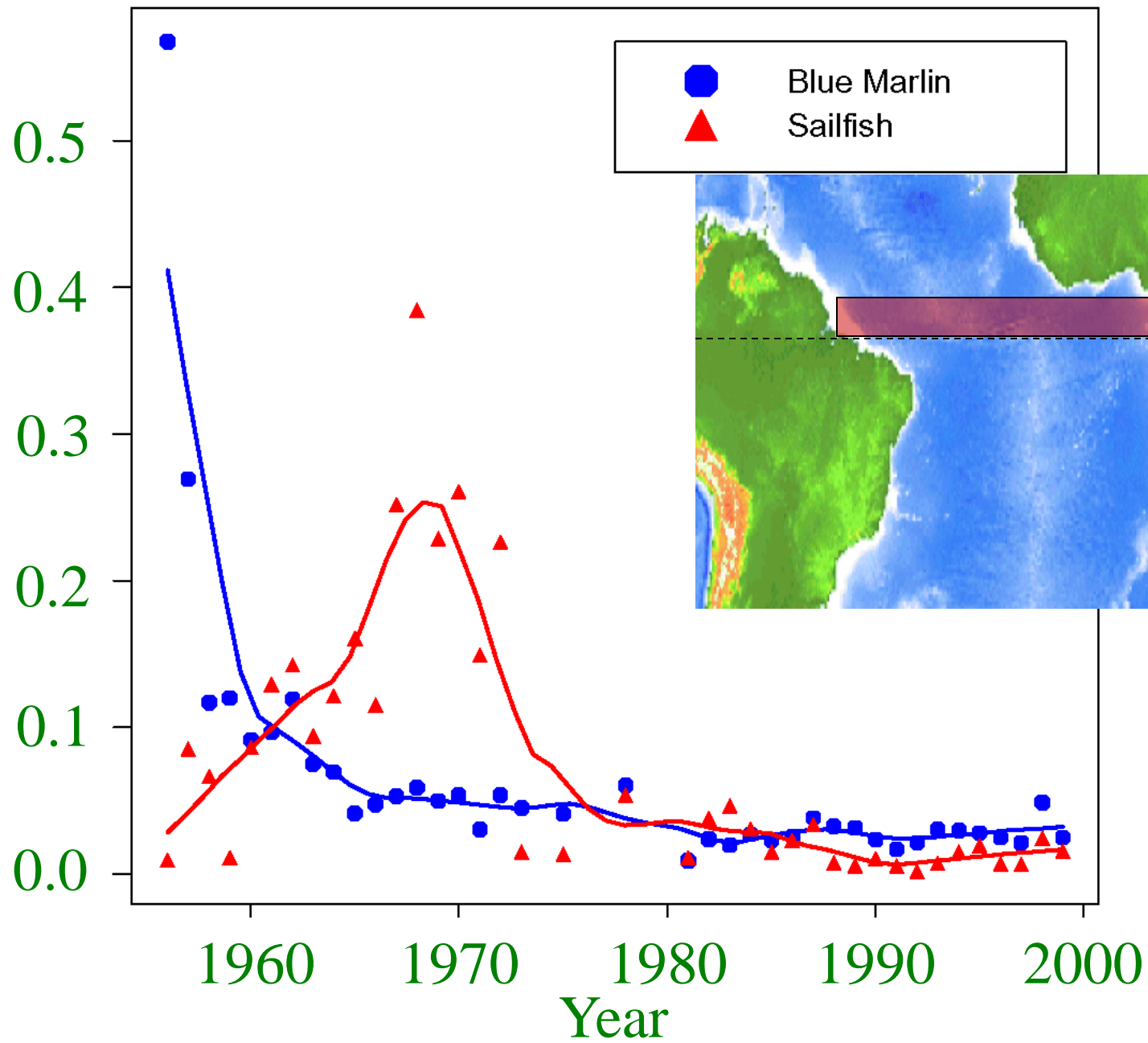
Mean
number
of fish
per 100
hooks



Mean
number
of fish
per 100
hooks



Mean
number
of fish
per 100
hooks



Not only have large predators declined by at least a factor of 10, but mesopredators have often increased by at least a factor of 10.

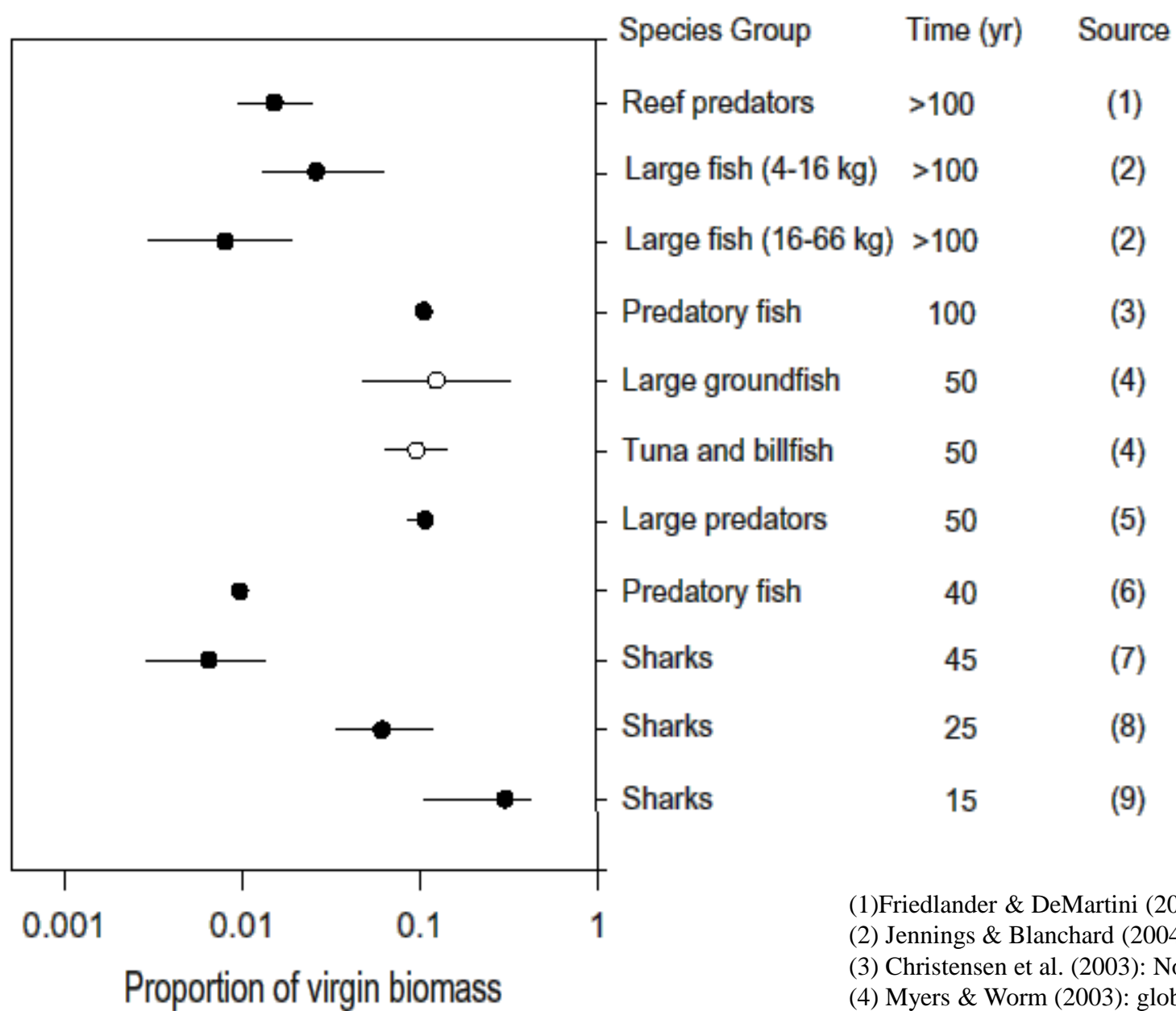


FMAP (Future of Marine Animal Populations)

part of the Sloan Census of Life <http://www.fmap.ca>

Pew Global Sharks Assessment

<http://www.globalsharks.ca>



- (1) Friedlander & DeMartini (2002): Hawaiian reefs;
 (2) Jennings & Blanchard (2004): North Sea;
 (3) Christensen et al. (2003): North Atlantic;
 (4) Myers & Worm (2003): global;
 (5) Ward & Myers (2003): North Pacific;
 (6) Tang et al. (2003): Bohai Sea;
 (7) Baum & Myers (2004): Gulf of Mexico;
 (8) Vacchi et al. (2000): Mediterranean Sea;
 (9) Baum et al. (2003): Northwest Atlantic.

Source: Myers and Worm 2005.

Proc. R. Soc. Lond. B (2005)

Not only have large predators declined by at least a factor of 10, but mesopredators have often increased by at least a factor of 10.



FMAP (Future of Marine Animal Populations)

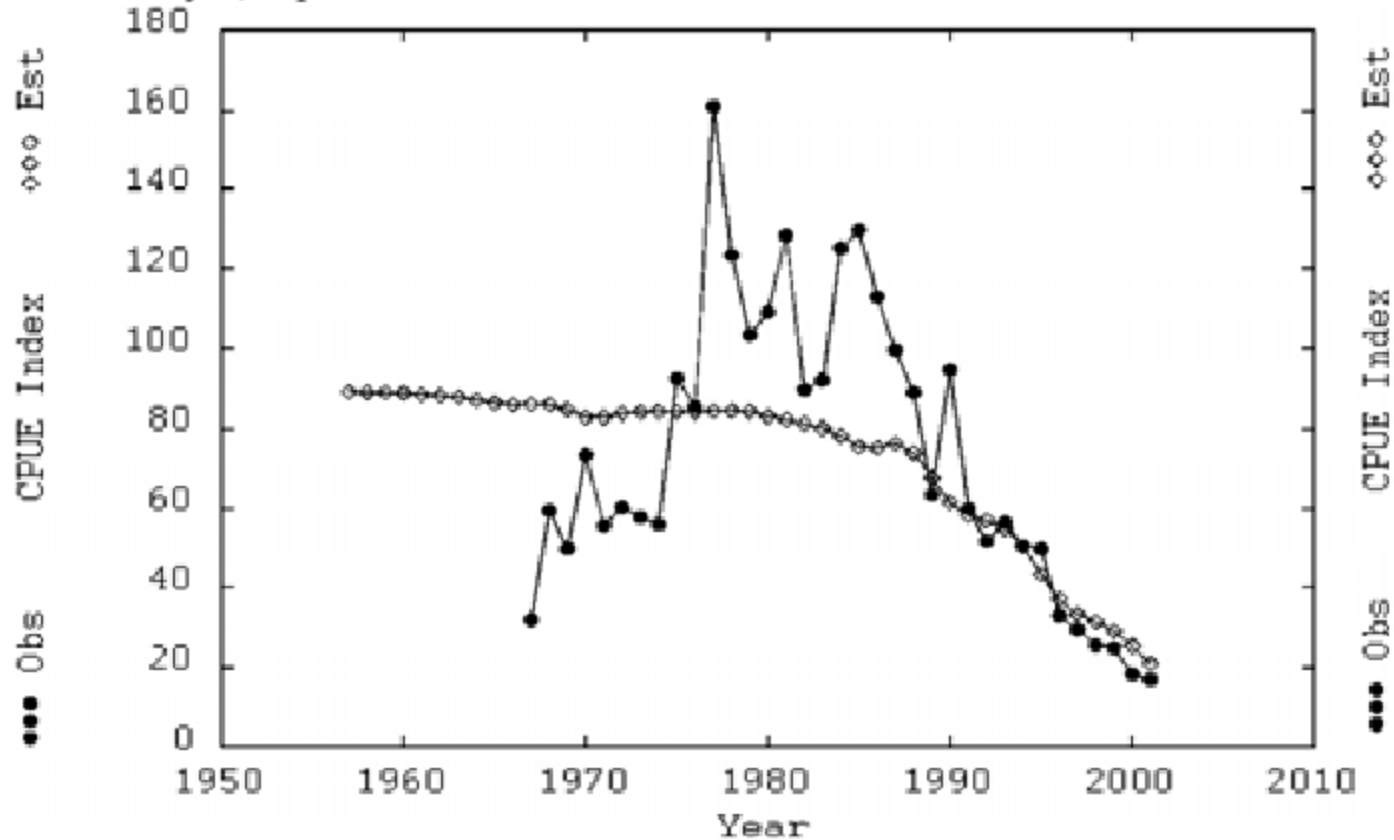
part of the Sloan Census of Life <http://www.fmap.ca>

Pew Global Sharks Assessment

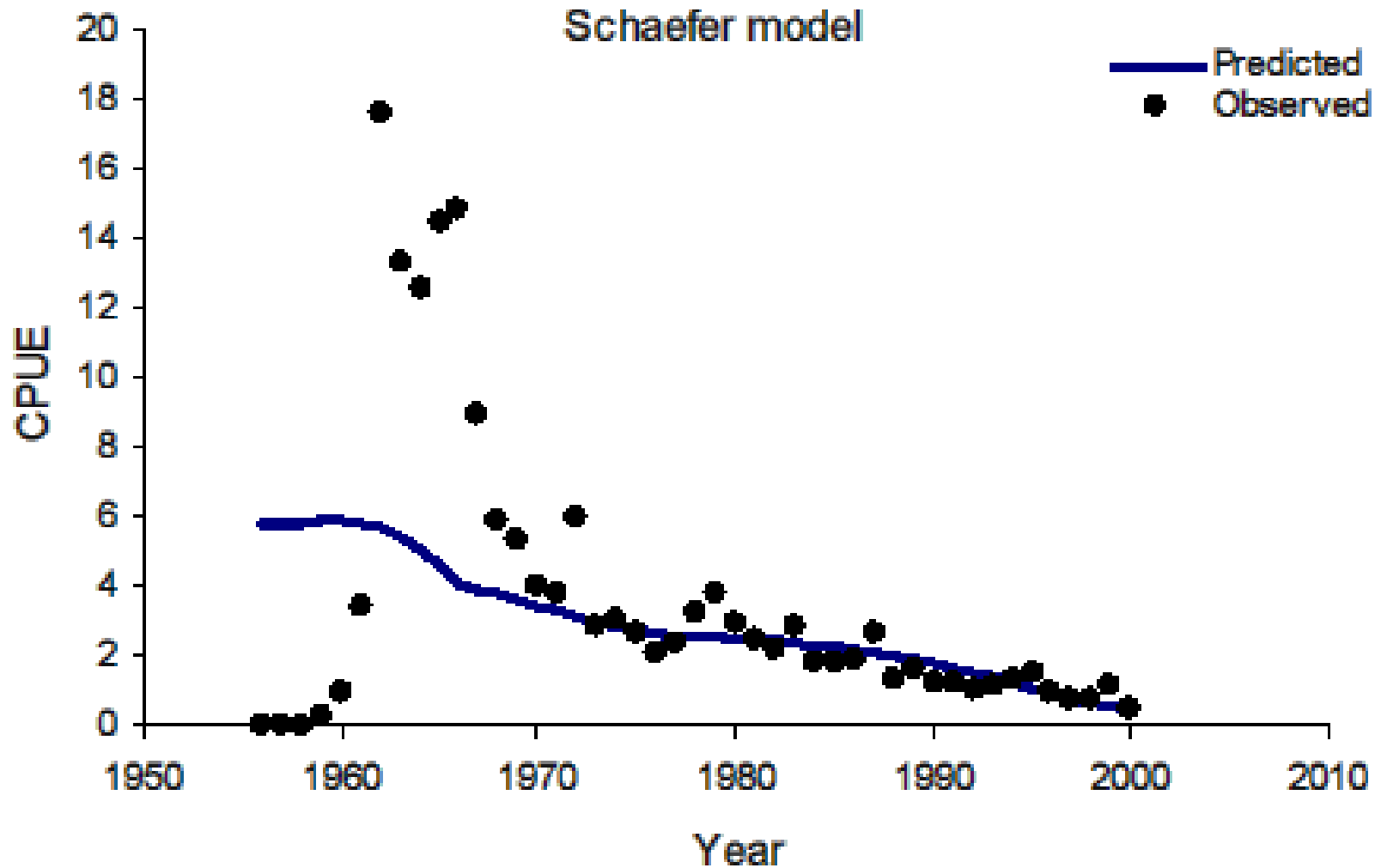
<http://www.globalsharks.ca>

Single species models are not even remotely consistent with the data, e.g. Swordfish from the South Atlantic

Sensitivity 4, Japanese index



White Marlin: Atlantic, single species models do not work
Very well.



ICCAT shark assessments in the Atlantic don't even remotely fit reliable data:
Similar pattern for US government research surveys.

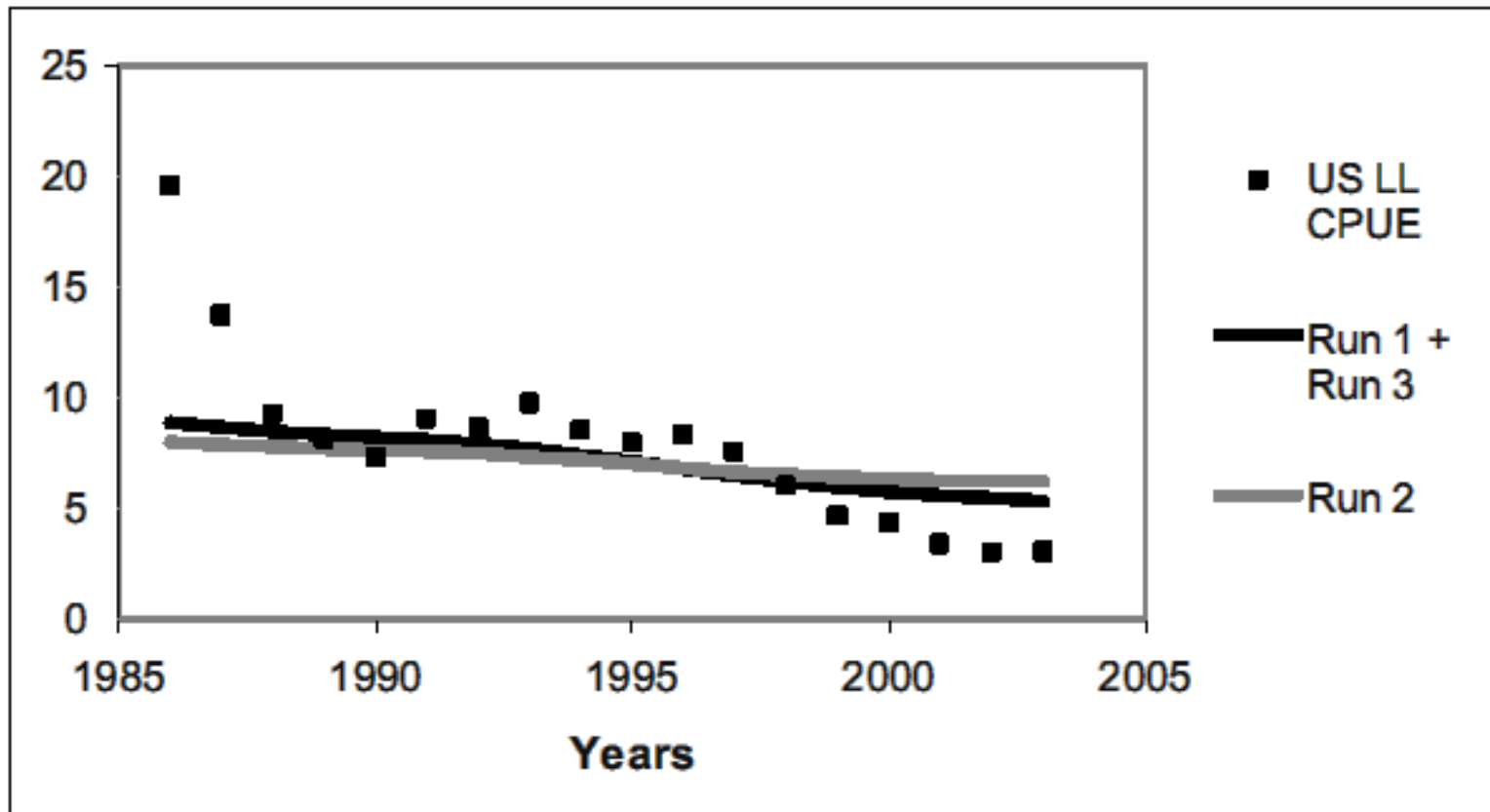
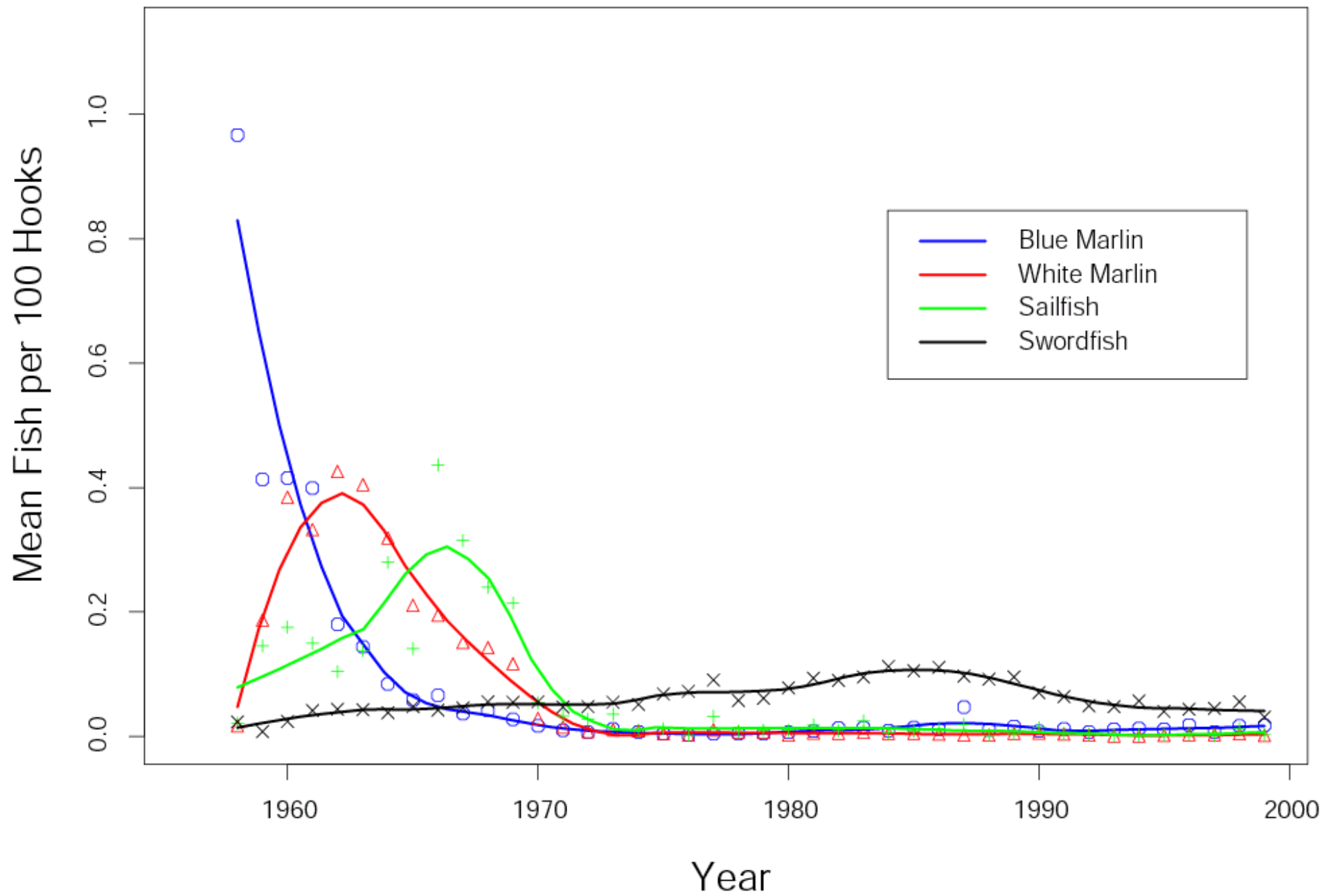
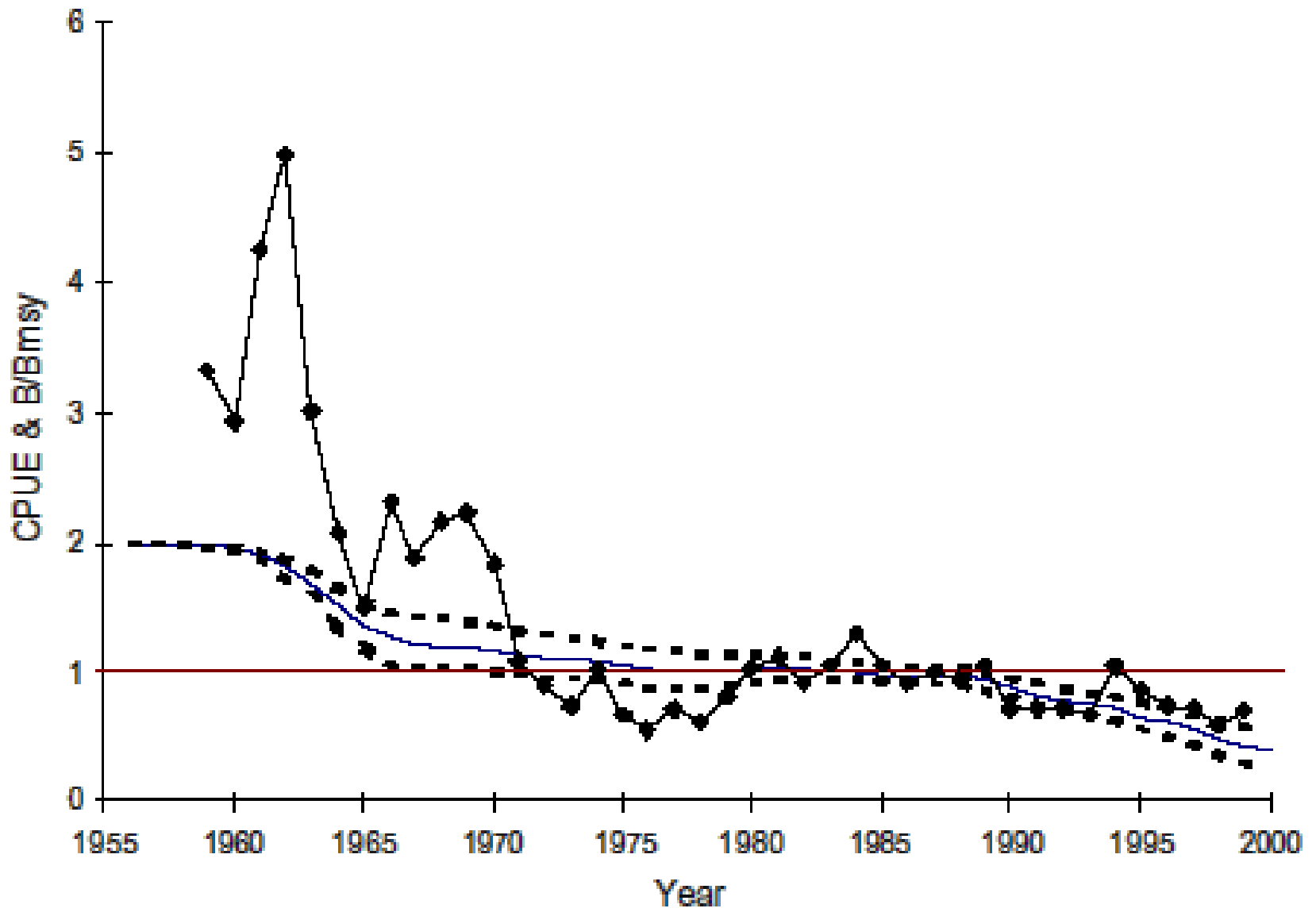


Figure 10 (above). Fit of the model to the North Atlantic blue shark CPUE data for each of the runs considered.

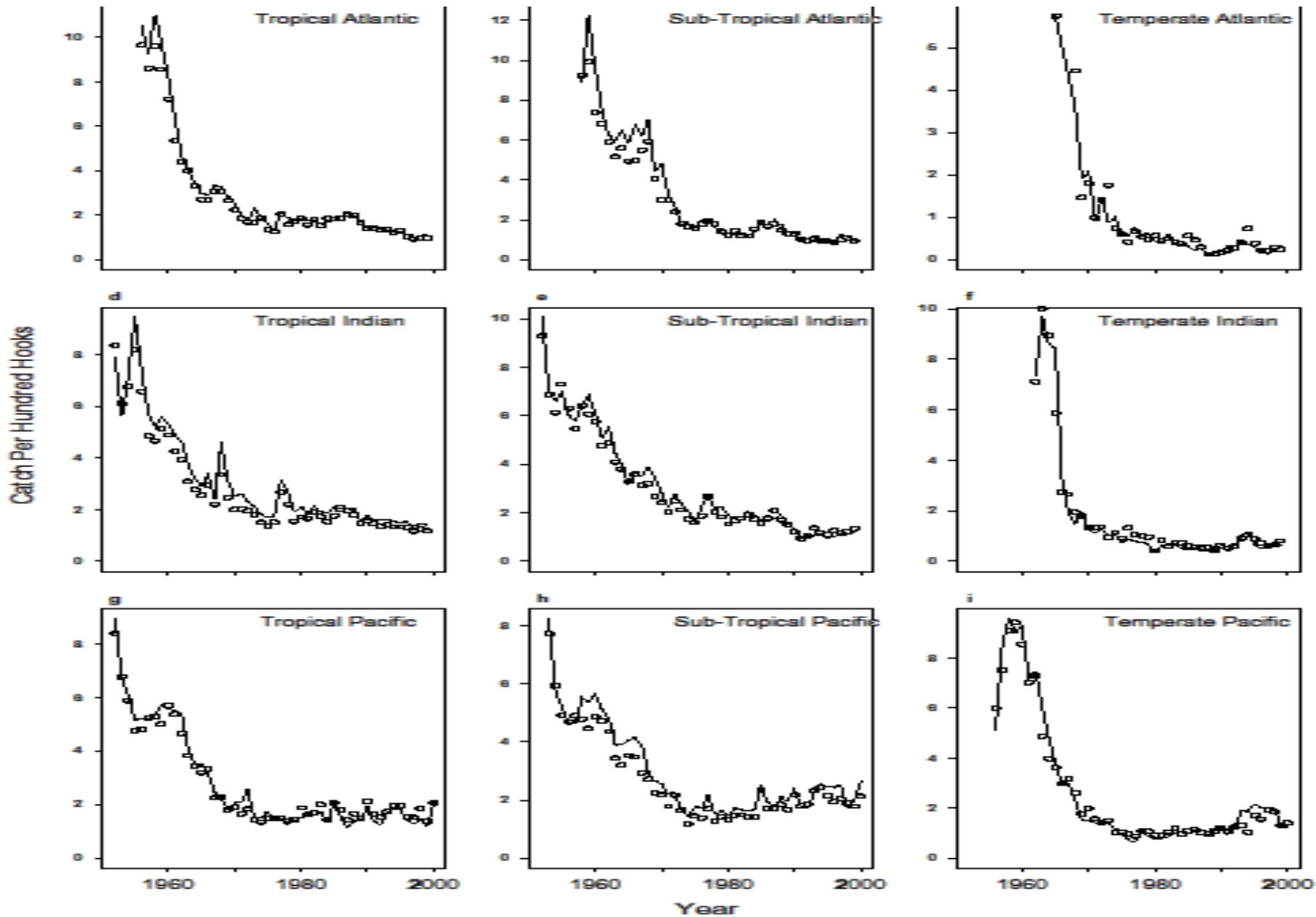
Atlantic, Latitude = -15 to -10



Bluefine tuna (observed diamonds) and modeled – not a very good fit.

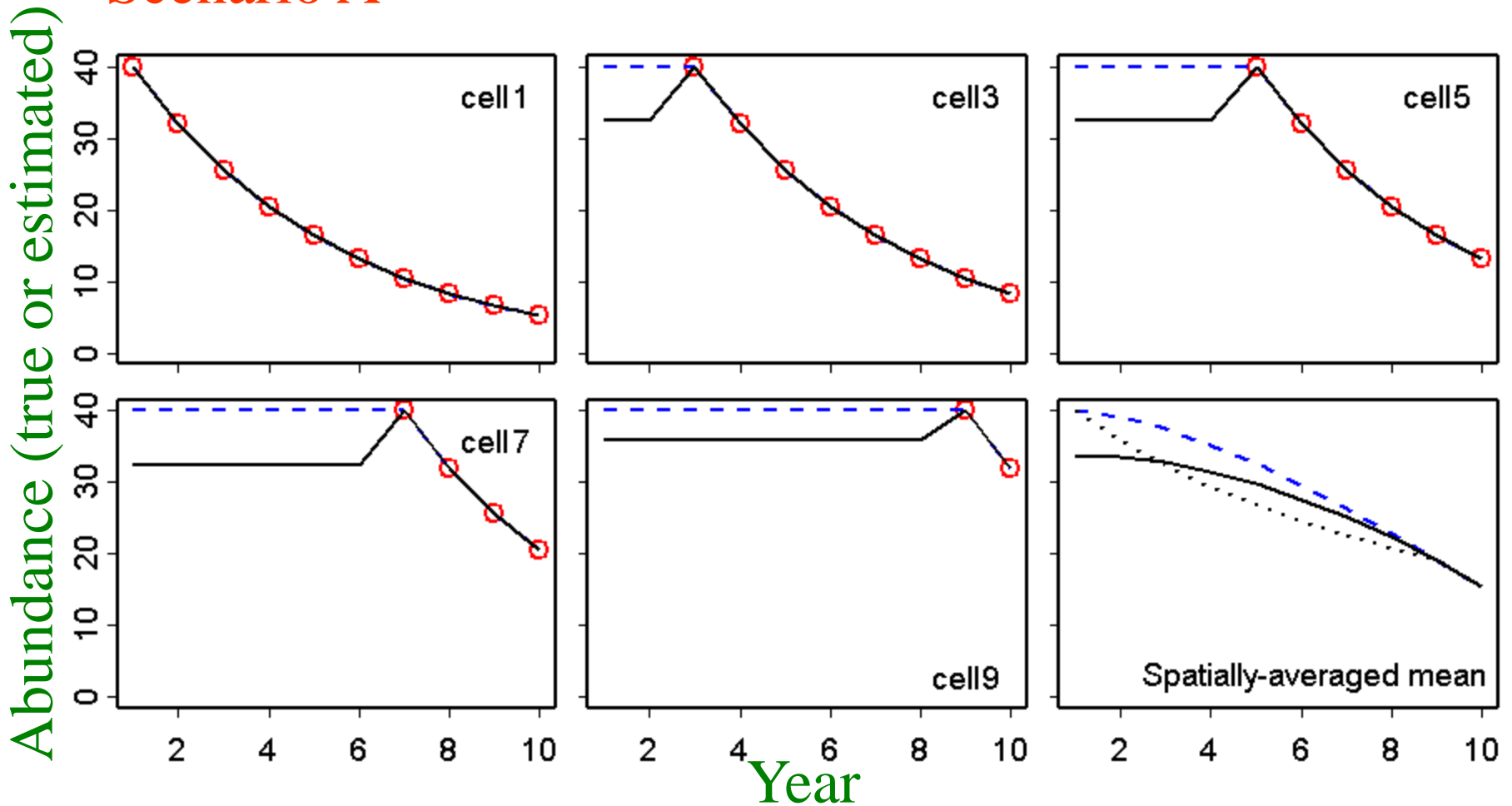


RED HERRING 1: RATIO ESTIMATION



RED HERRING 2: SPATIAL ESTIMATION

Scenario A



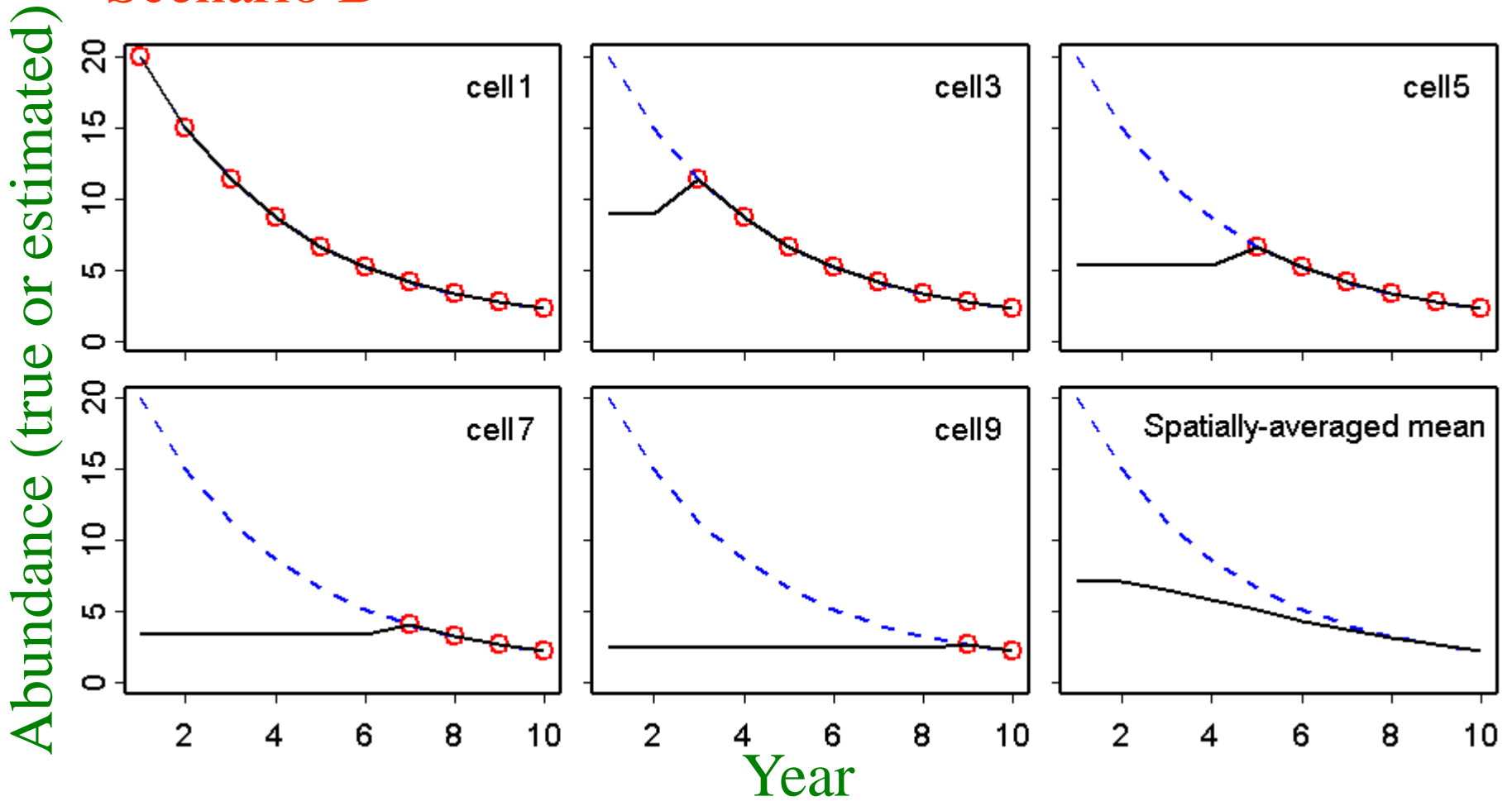
----- True population

○ Abundance estimate from CPUE

———— Abundance estimate, Walters' method

..... Spatial estimate, Myers and Worm's method

Scenario B



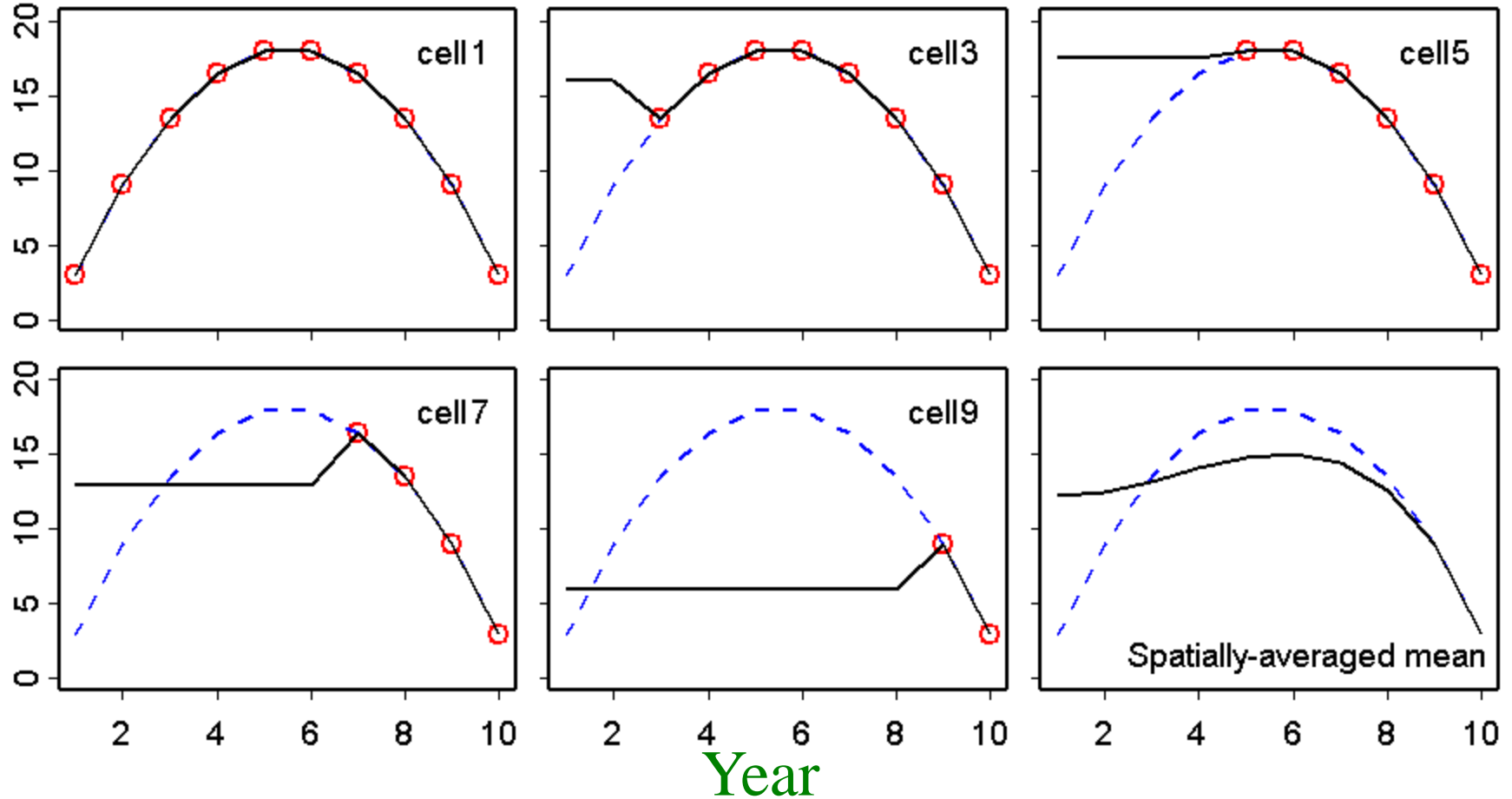
----- True population

○ Abundance estimate from CPUE

———— Abundance estimate, Walters' method

Scenario C

Abundance (true or estimated)



----- True population

○ Abundance estimate from CPUE

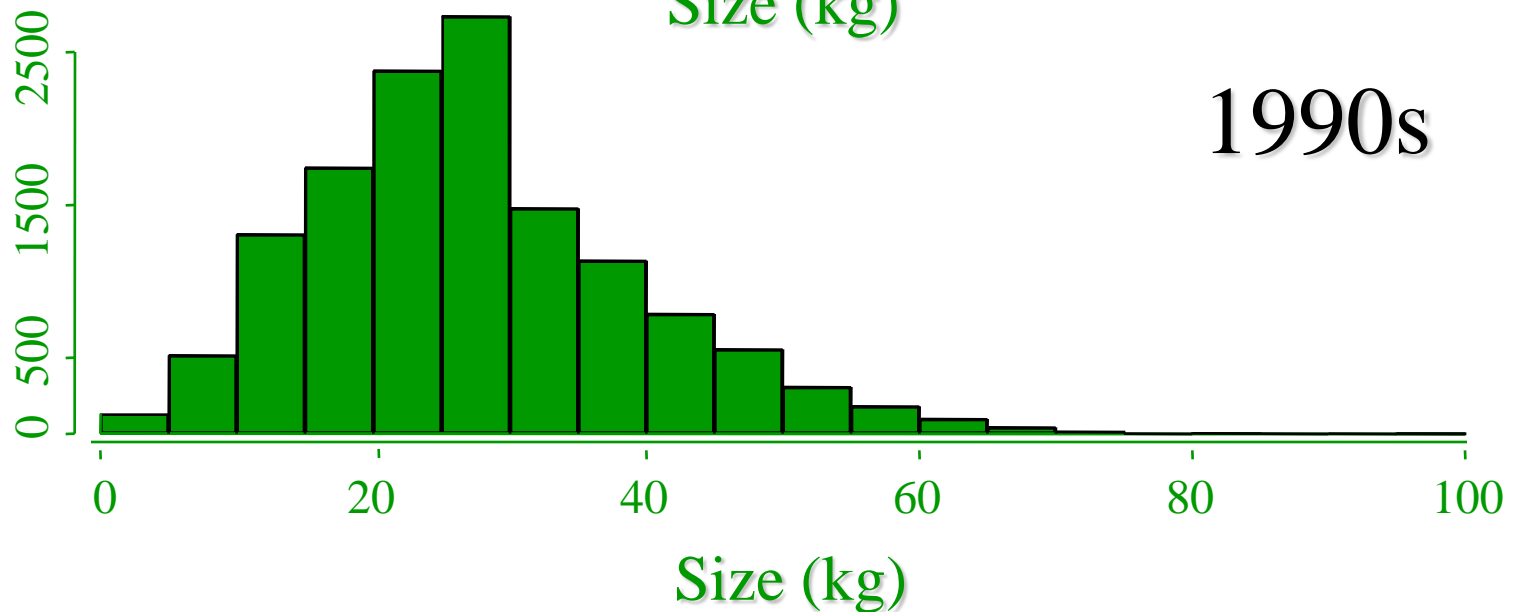
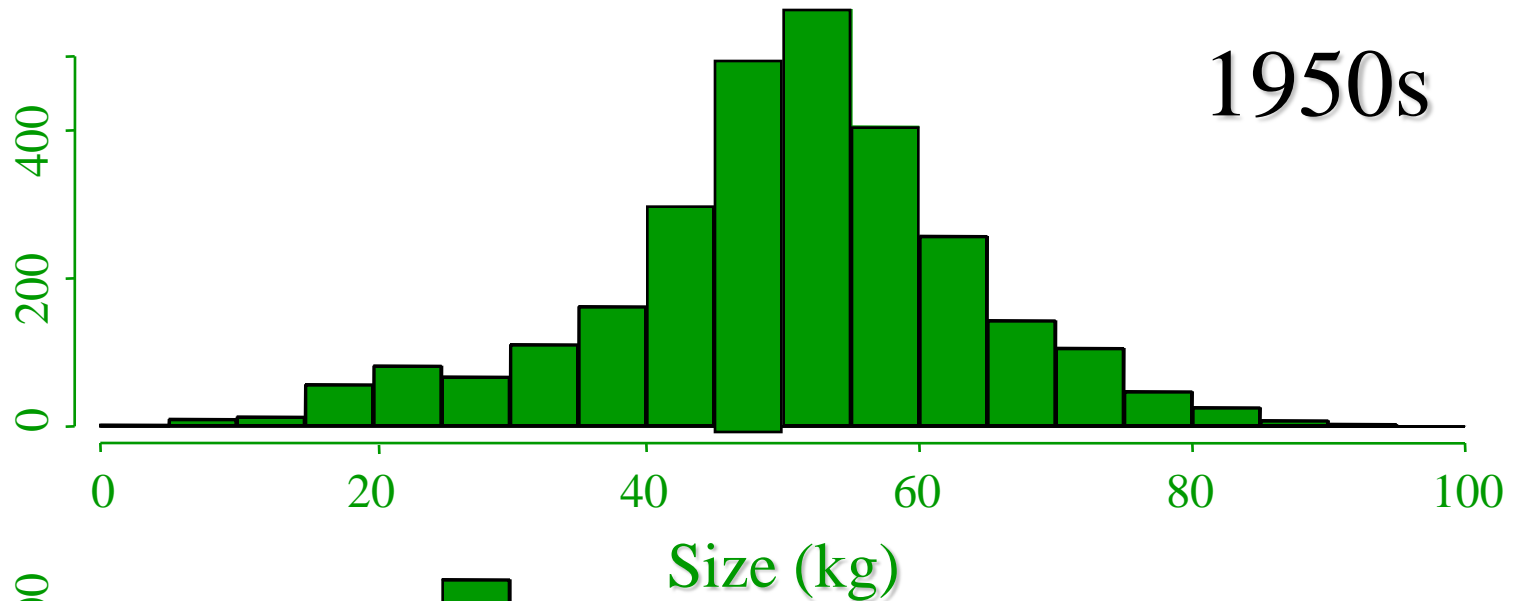
———— Abundance estimate, Walters' method

These estimates are conservative: 1.

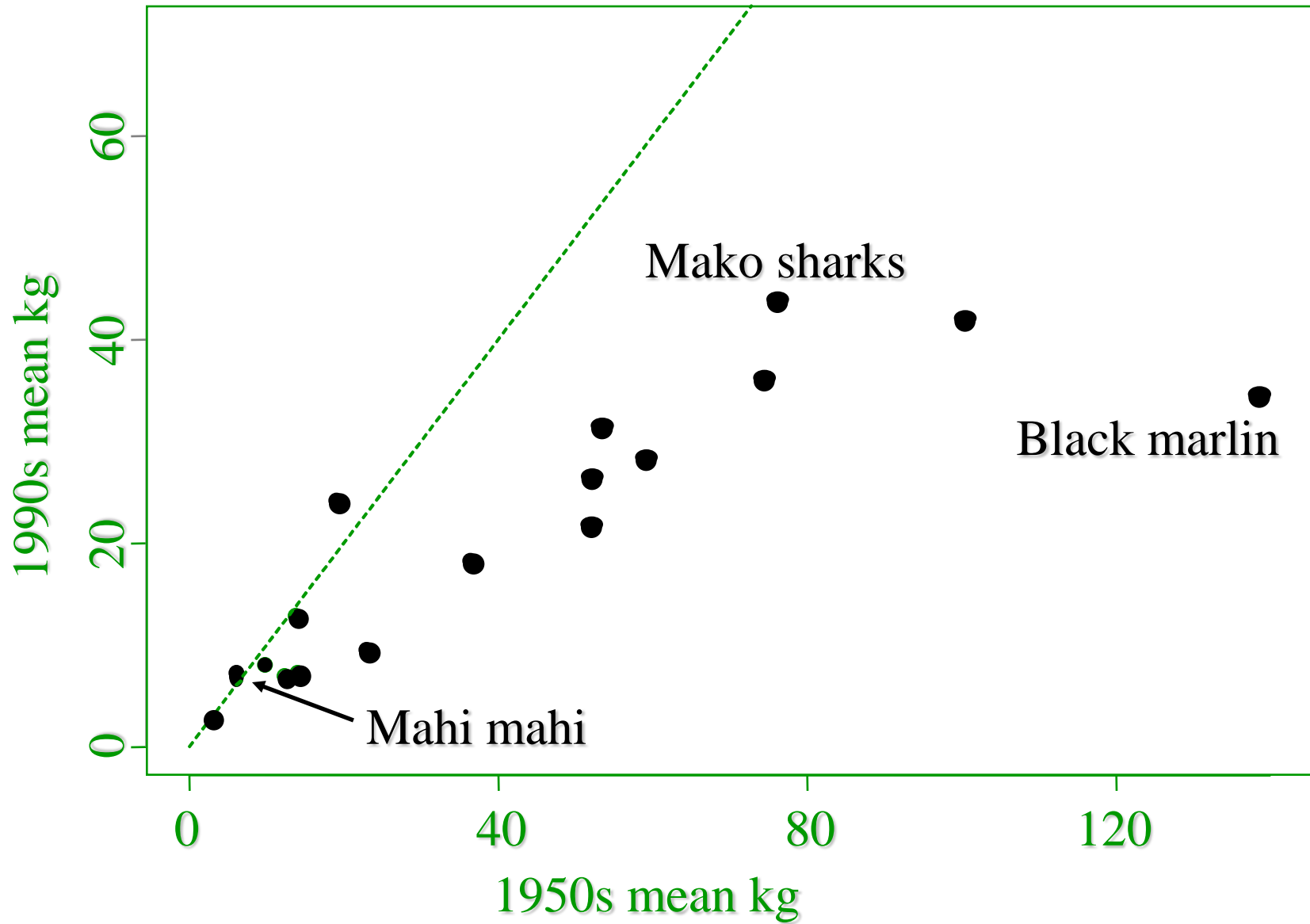
Bits of tuna did not count;
~25-30% of tropical tunas were initially not counted because of shark damage.



These estimates are conservative: 2 (fish are smaller)



Change in body size

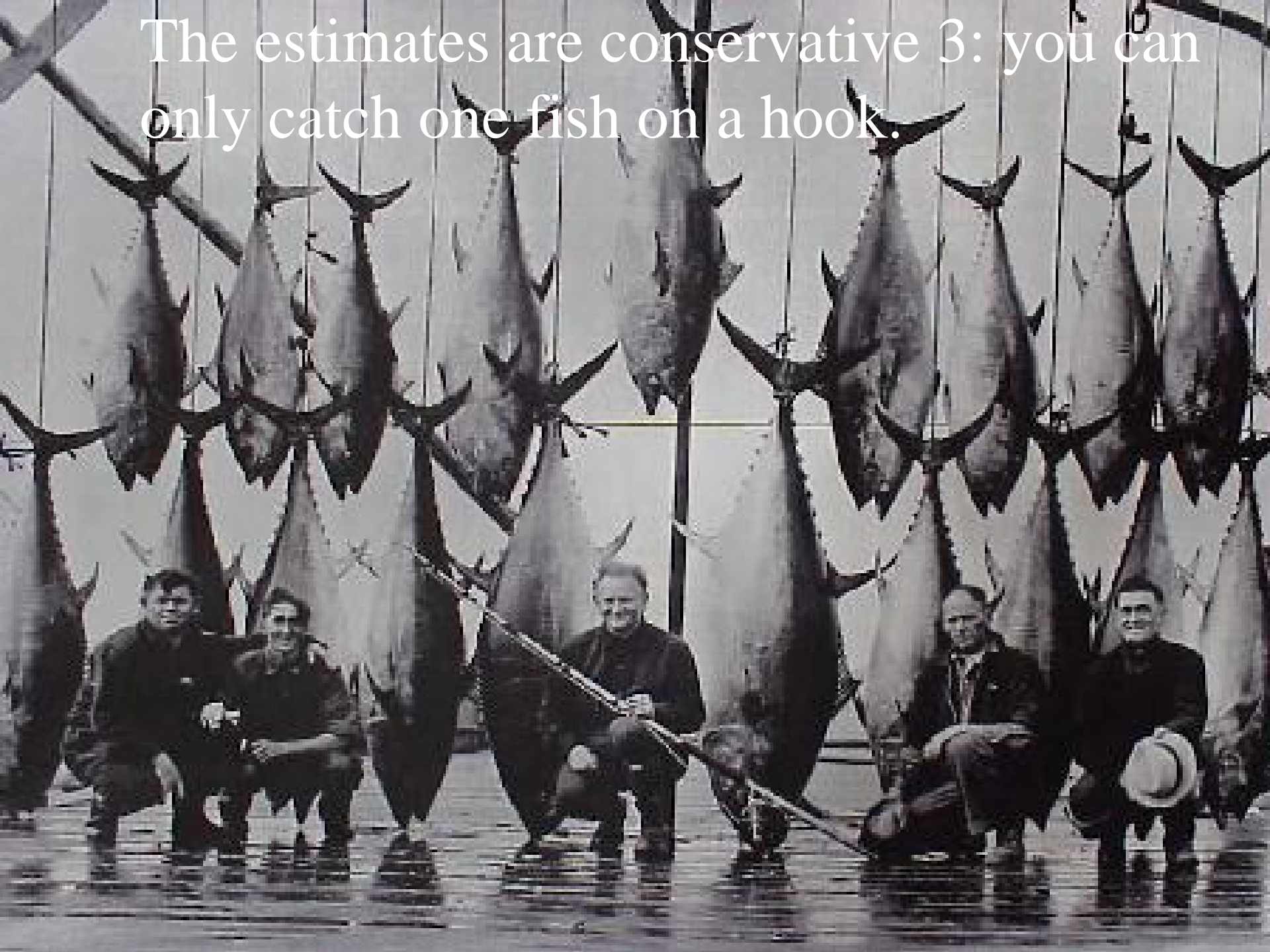


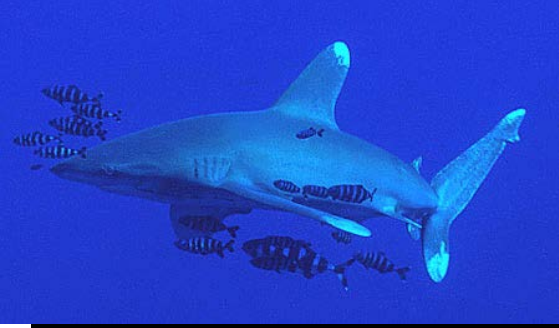


555
lbs.
Cabo Blanco

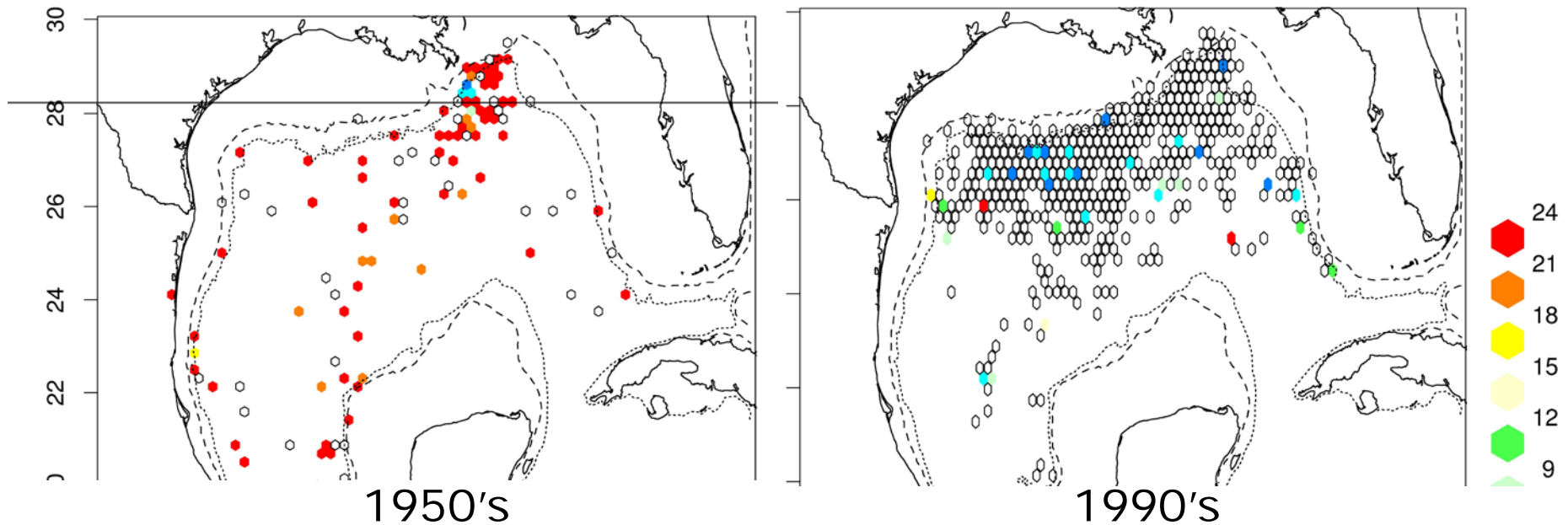
LBS.
1135
CABO
BLANCO

The estimates are conservative 3: you can only catch one fish on a hook.





These estimates are conservative
4: The sharks probably declined
more.

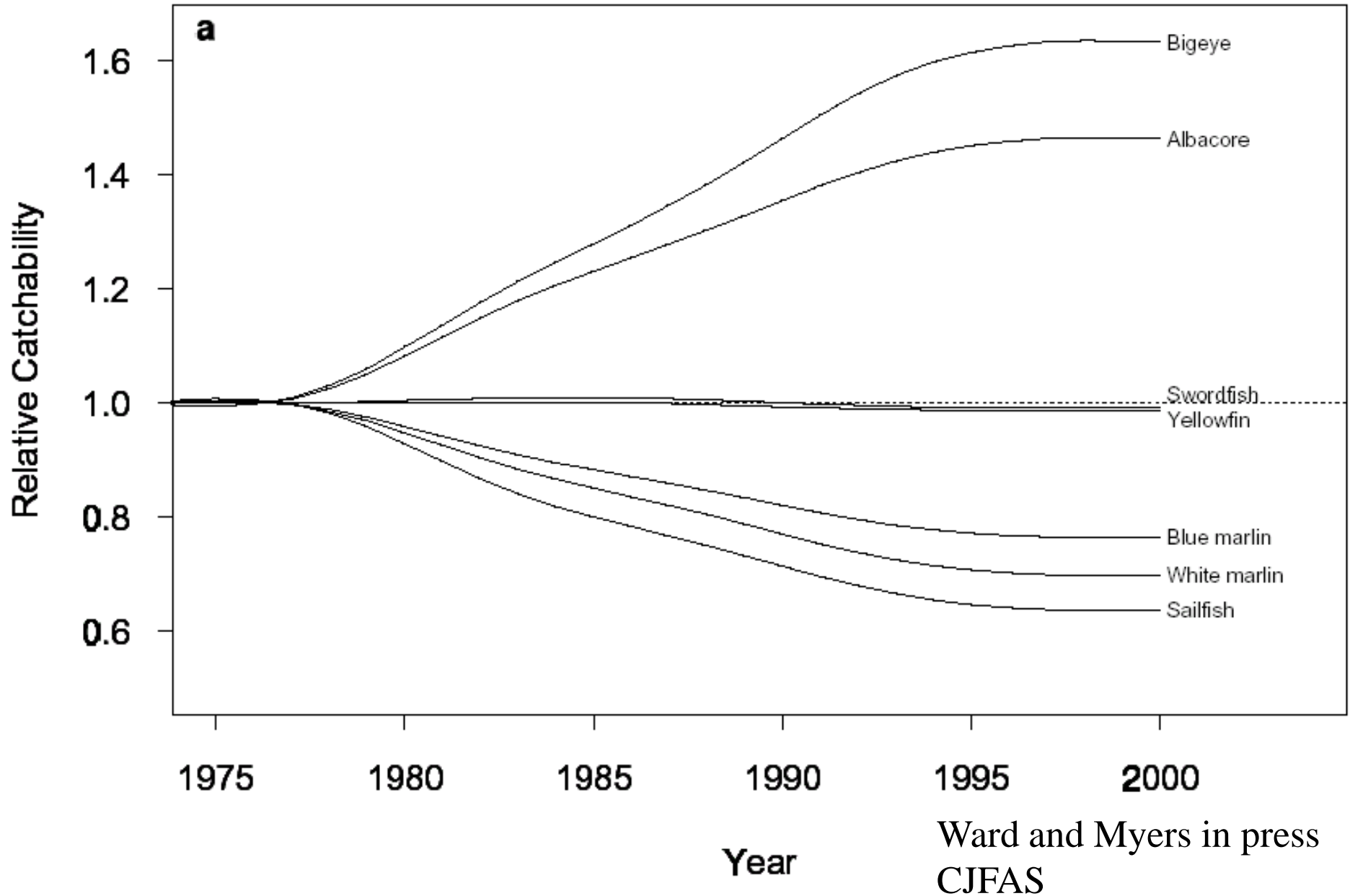


Oceanic Whitetip captures per 10,000 hooks

These estimates are conservative 5: The oceans were not virgin.

- Japan harvested ~1,000,000 tons of tuna and marlin in the 5 years before WWII.
- In 1950 the US harvested ~170,000 tons.
- The 1950 harvest of albacore by Spain was greater than the total recent harvest in the North Atlantic.
- Species that migrate long distances (e.g. southern bluefin tuna, northern bluefin tuna, and albacore) would have reduced by these harvests.

These estimates are conservative 7:
changes in depth increases overall efficiency.

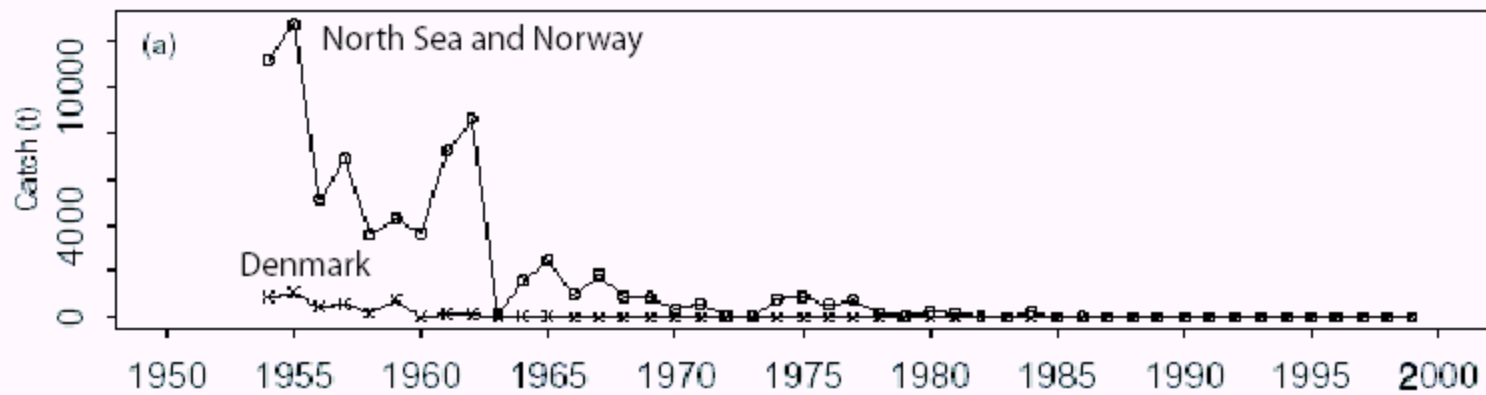


Declines confirmed by independent data:

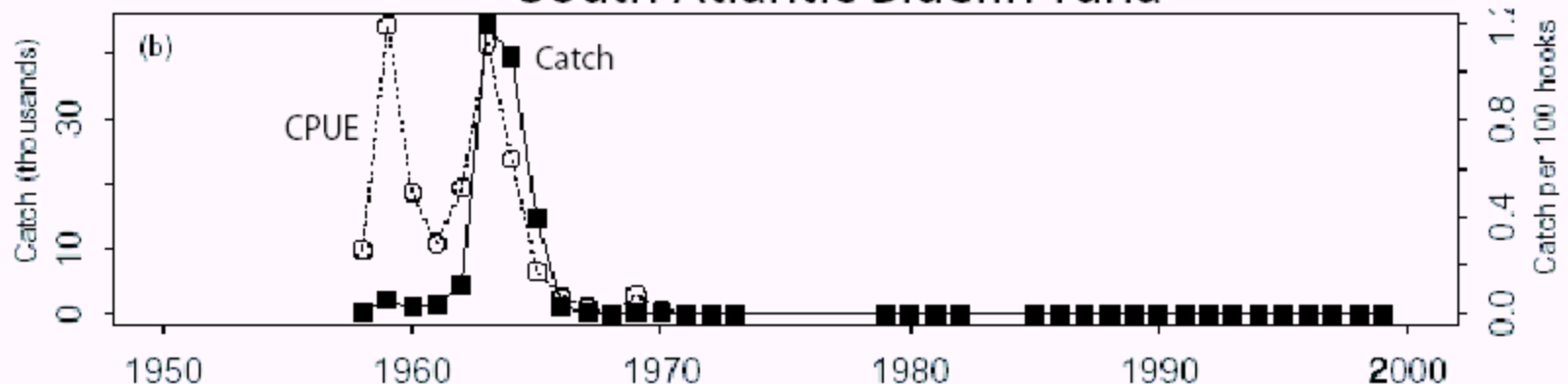
- The initial high catch rates were seen in early research surveys by Japan and US.
- Declines seen in harpoon fisheries for swordfish and tuna.
- Most tuna traps in the Mediterranean have largely been abandoned, Italy there is a decline from 100 to 3 tuna traps.
- Complete loss of species in some areas.

Loss of Bluefin Tuna Populations in the Atlantic

North Sea Bluefin Tuna



South Atlantic Bluefin Tuna

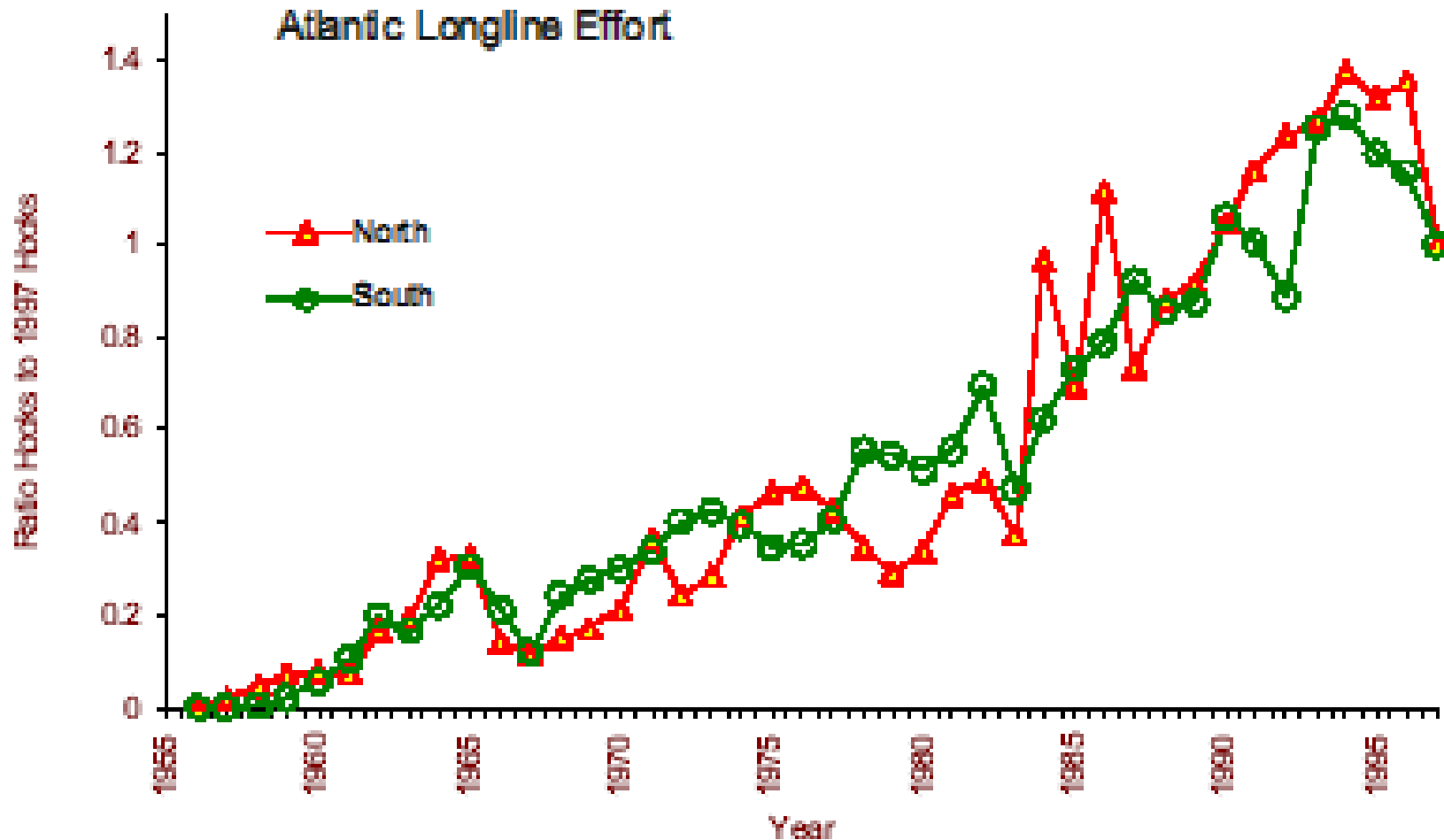


Perceived Contradiction in Initial Rapid Decline in CPUE

- 1. Large declines occurred when effort was relatively small

Perceived Contradiction in Initial Rapid Decline in CPUE

2. Present effort is much higher.



Perceived Contradiction in Initial Rapid Decline in CPUE

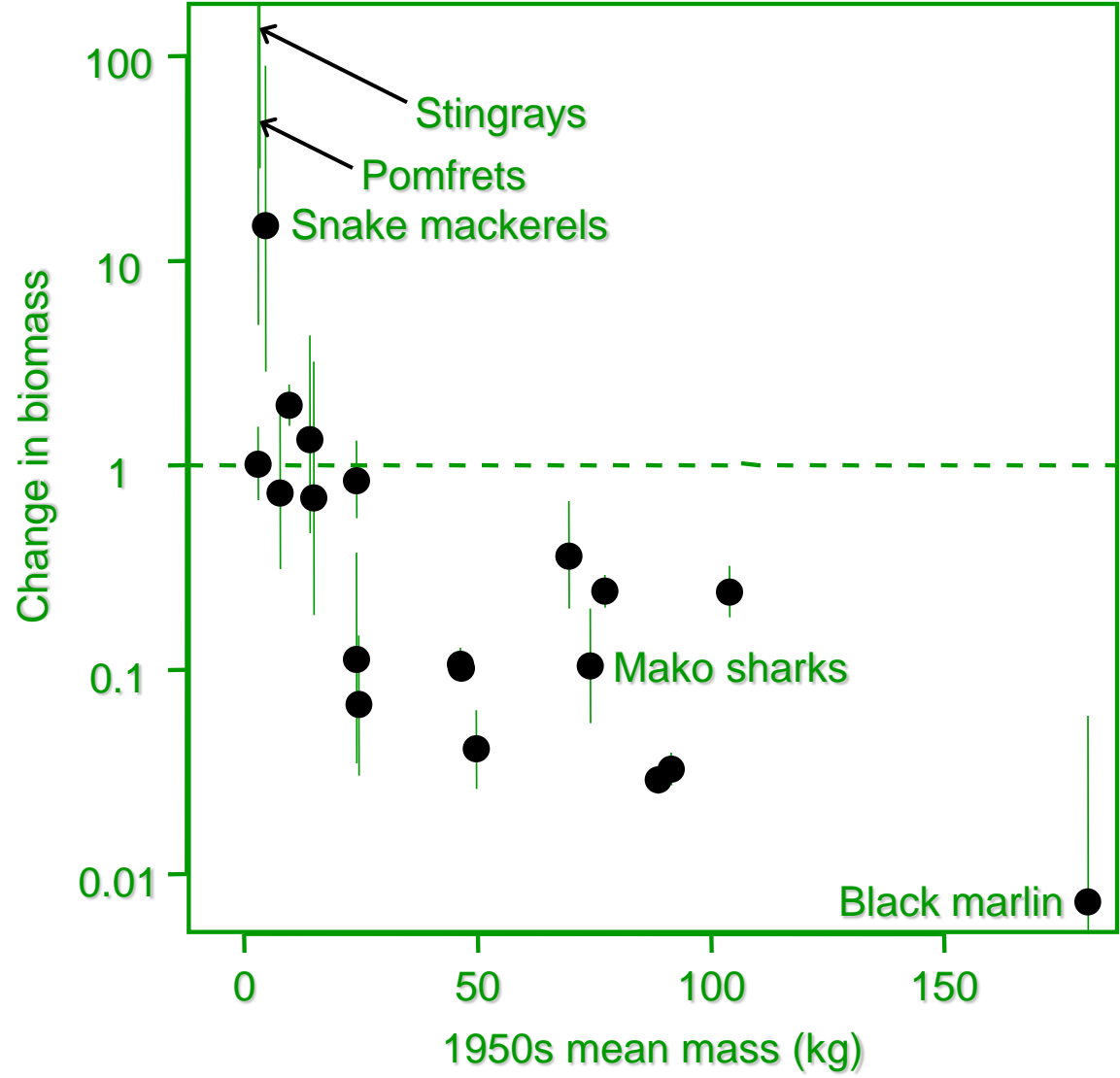
3. Present fishing mortality due to longlines is around 0.6

Perceived Contradiction in Initial Rapid Decline in CPUE

IF catchability is constant

THEN the population dynamics are impossible.

However, catchability decreases with size and size
has declined



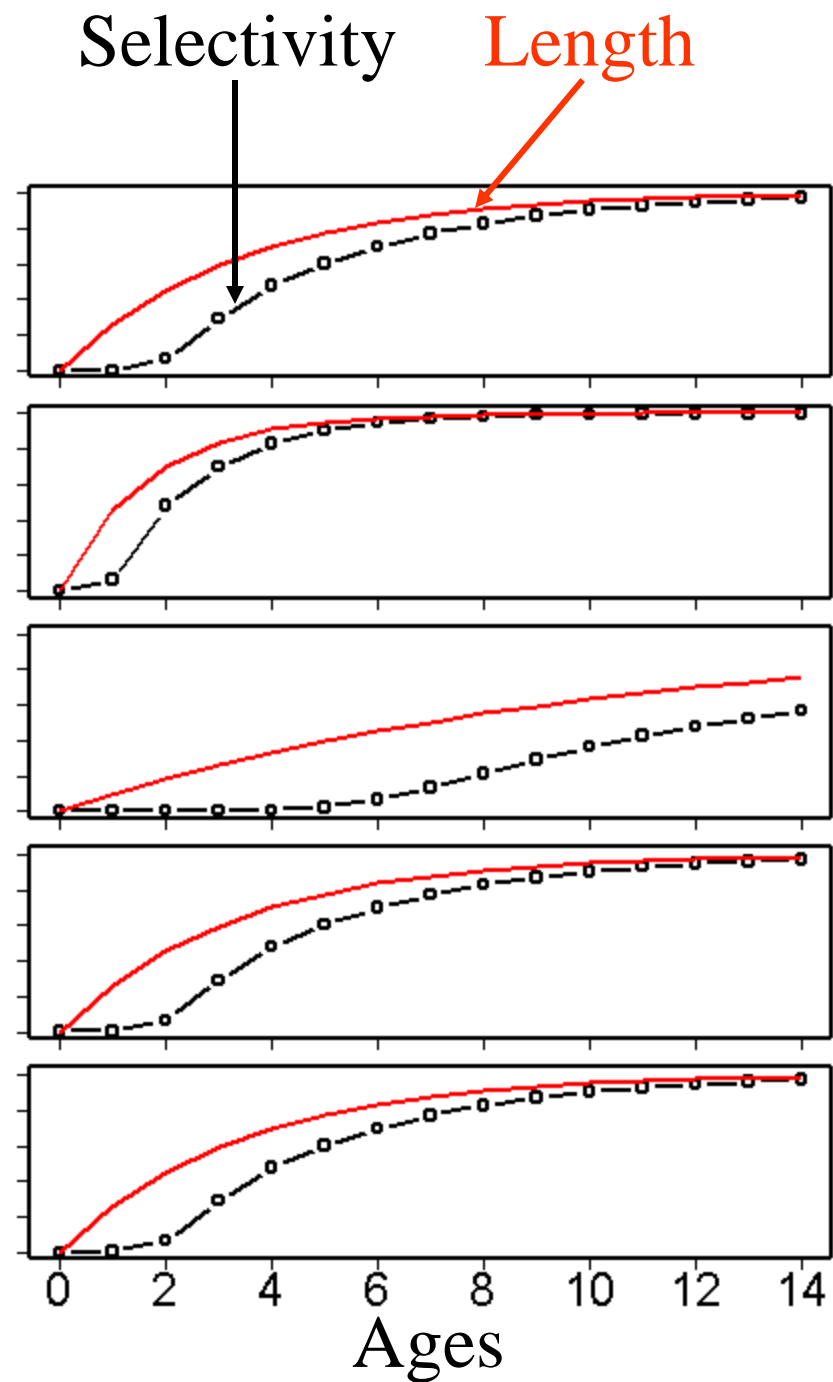
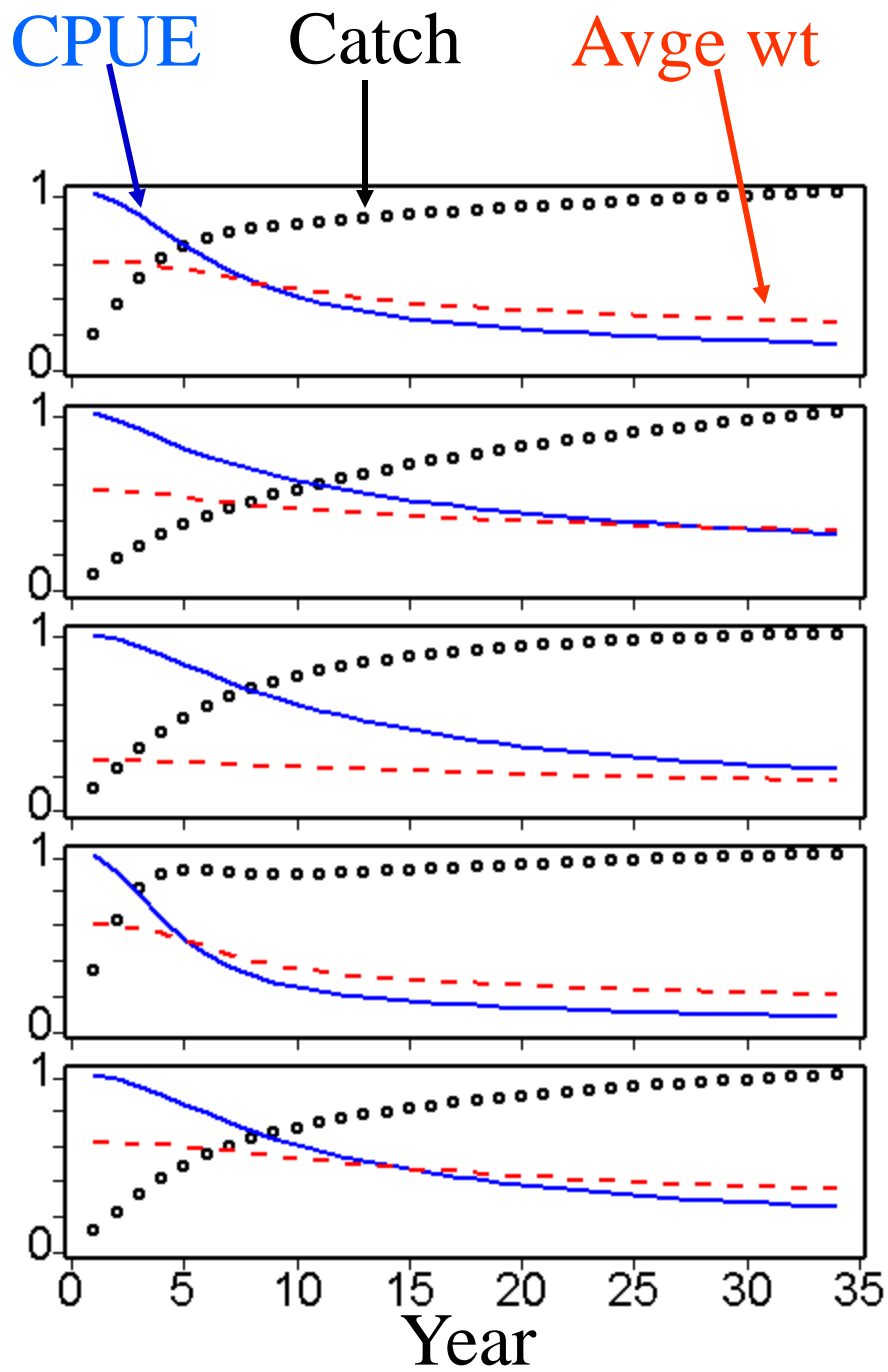


555
lbs.
Cabo Blanco

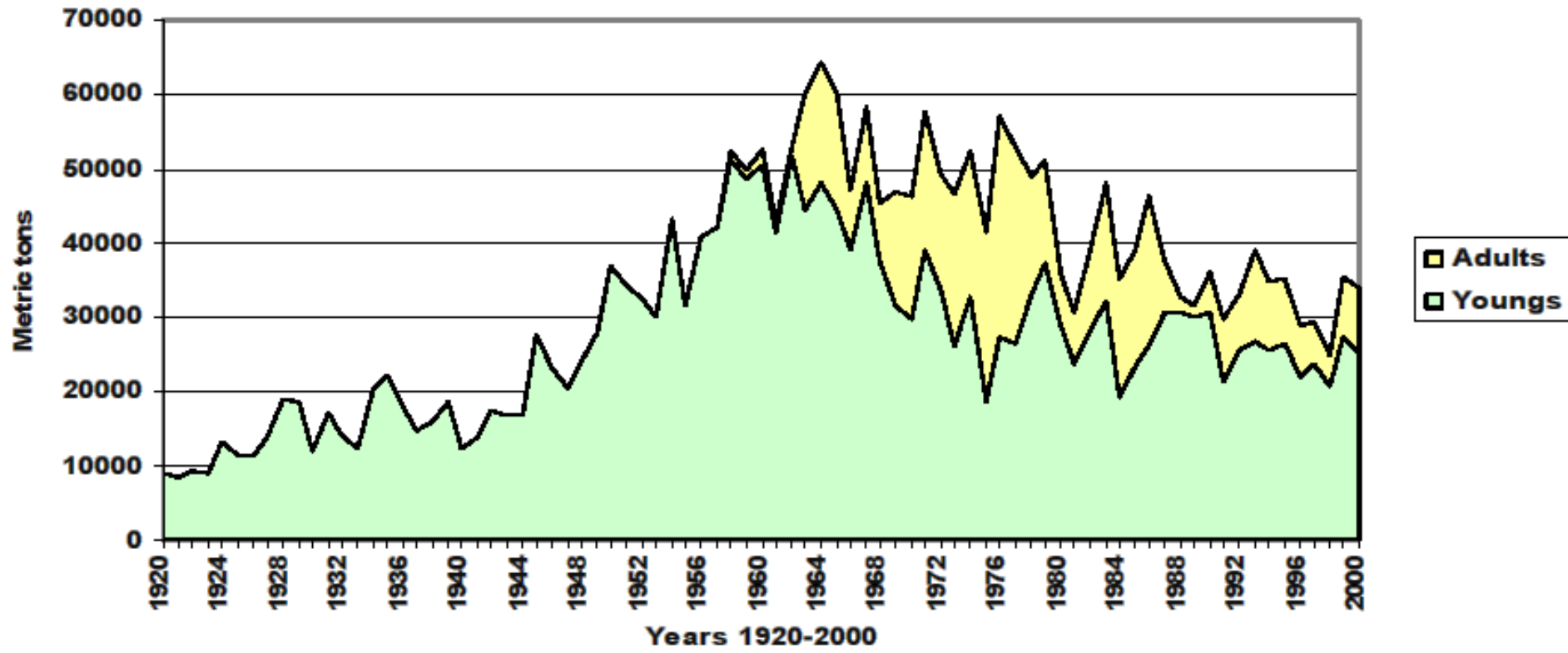
LBS.
1135
CABO
BLANCO

A Toy Model

- Recruitment constant
- Longline effort increases linearly over 35 years
- Catchability is proportional to the product of: (a) a cumulative normal and (b) food intake (respiration is proportional to the $2/3$'s power of mass)
- Present fishing mortality is around 0.6.



North Atlantic albacore cumulated catches of youngs and adults fish



Conclusion

- Immediate action needed to protect some sharks, leatherbacks, loggerheads, and some tuna (Atlantic northern bluefin)
- Productivity (juvenile survival) has increased with exploitation.
- Rapid declines in CPUE reflect real declines in large fish
- Reduced effort is needed to achieve greater economic yield

Acknowledgements

- **Boris Worm, Peter Ward, Leah Gerber, Julia Baum, Dan Kehler, Francesco Ferretti**
- **Pew Charitable Trusts**
- **Sloan Foundation – Census of Marine Life, Future of Marine Animal Populations (FMAP)**
- **NSERC**
- **Pelagic Fisheries Research Program**
- **German Research Council**
- **Killam Foundation**
- **Numerous colleagues who shared data**

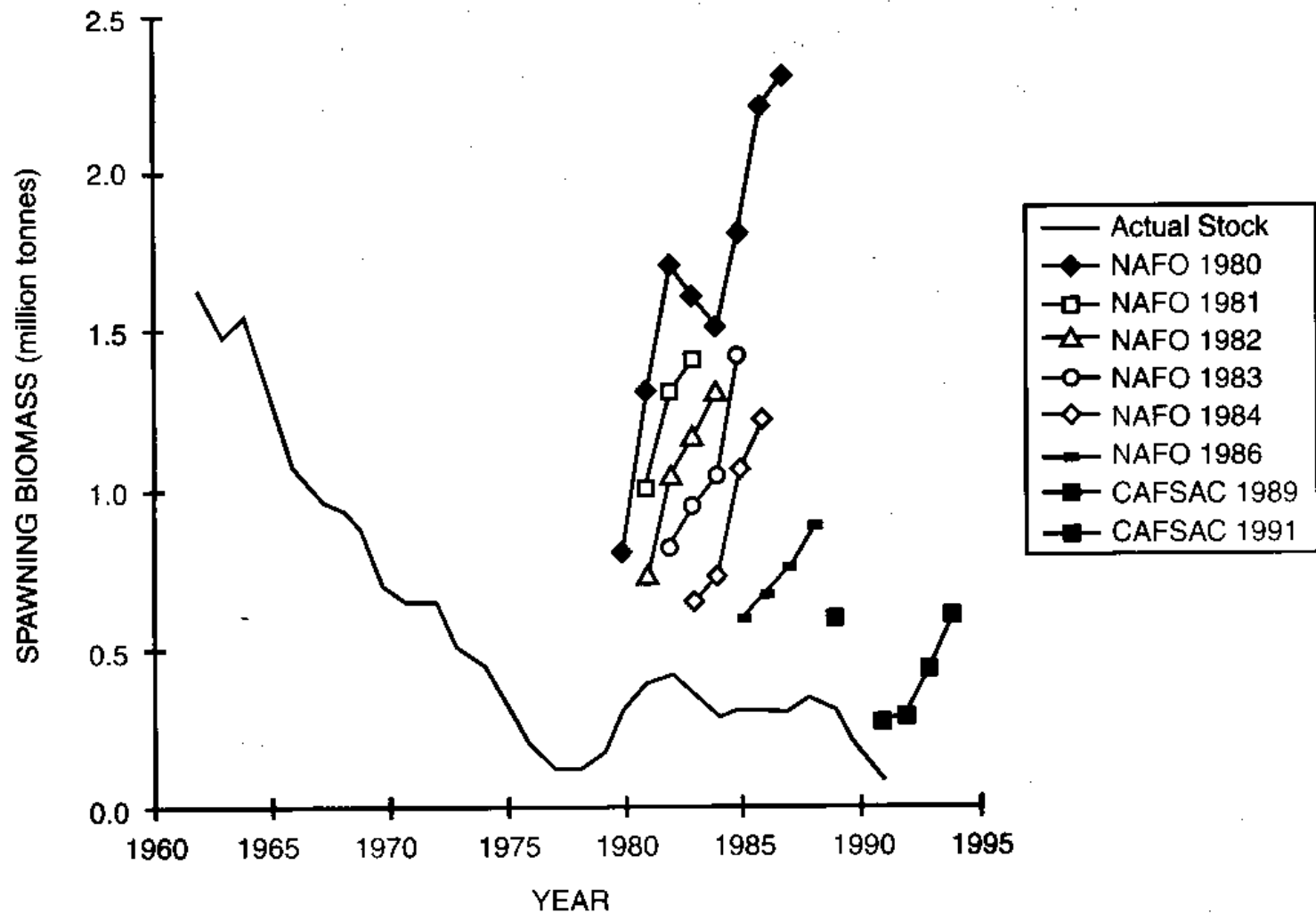


Fig. 3. Recent reconstruction, using virtual population analysis, of the Newfoundland northern cod decline, compared with estimates and projections published in various years after Canada took over the fishery under extended jurisdiction. VPA estimates based on data in Baird *et al.* (1992) (see also Hutchings and Myers, 1994). NAFO estimates from annual reports for years indicated of North Atlantic Fisheries Organization Scientific Council Reports, Dartmouth, NS. CAFSAC estimates from Canadian Atlantic Fisheries Scientific Advisory Committee Advisory Documents 89/1 and 91/1.

Rapid decline in older albacore.

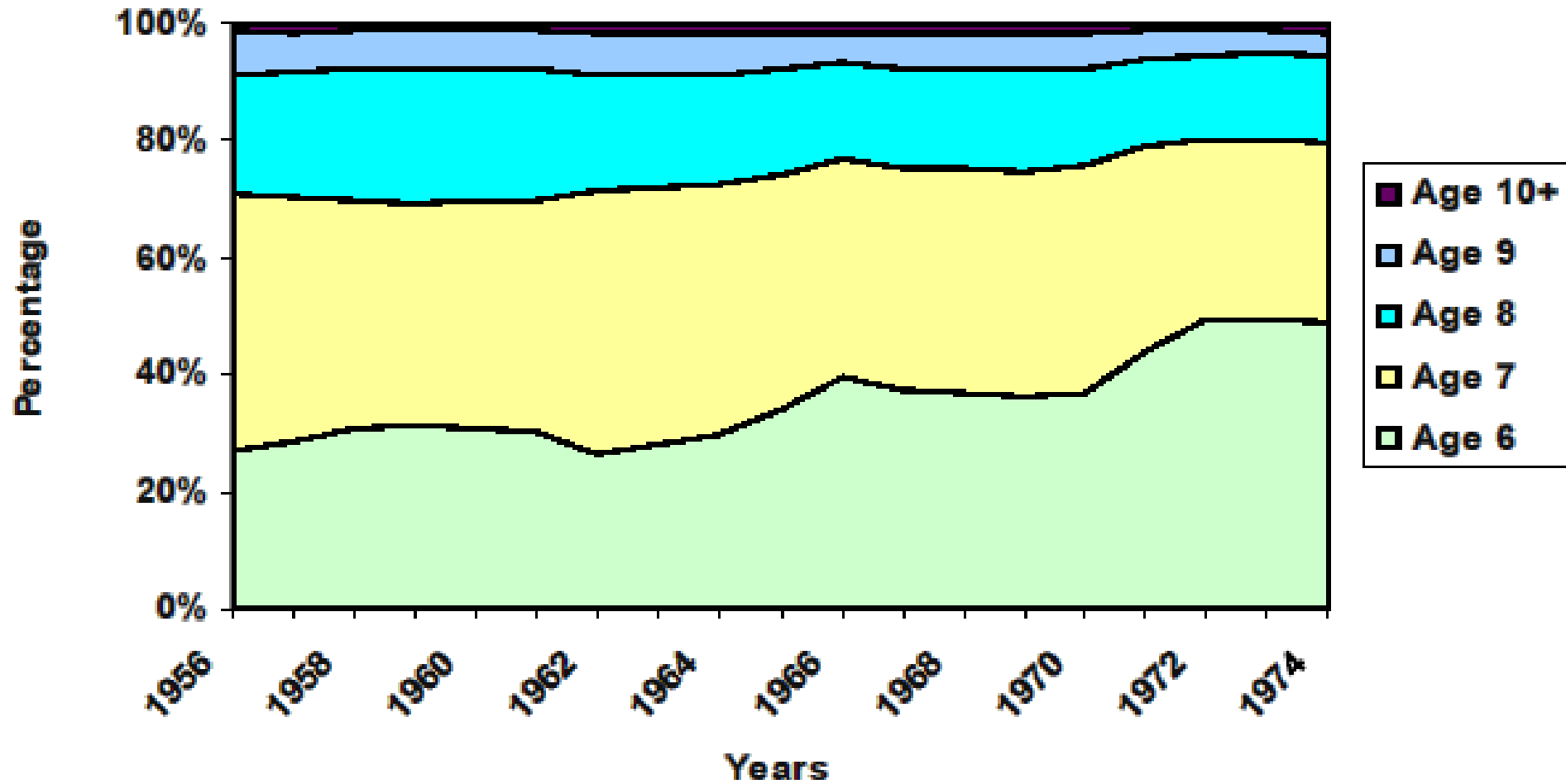
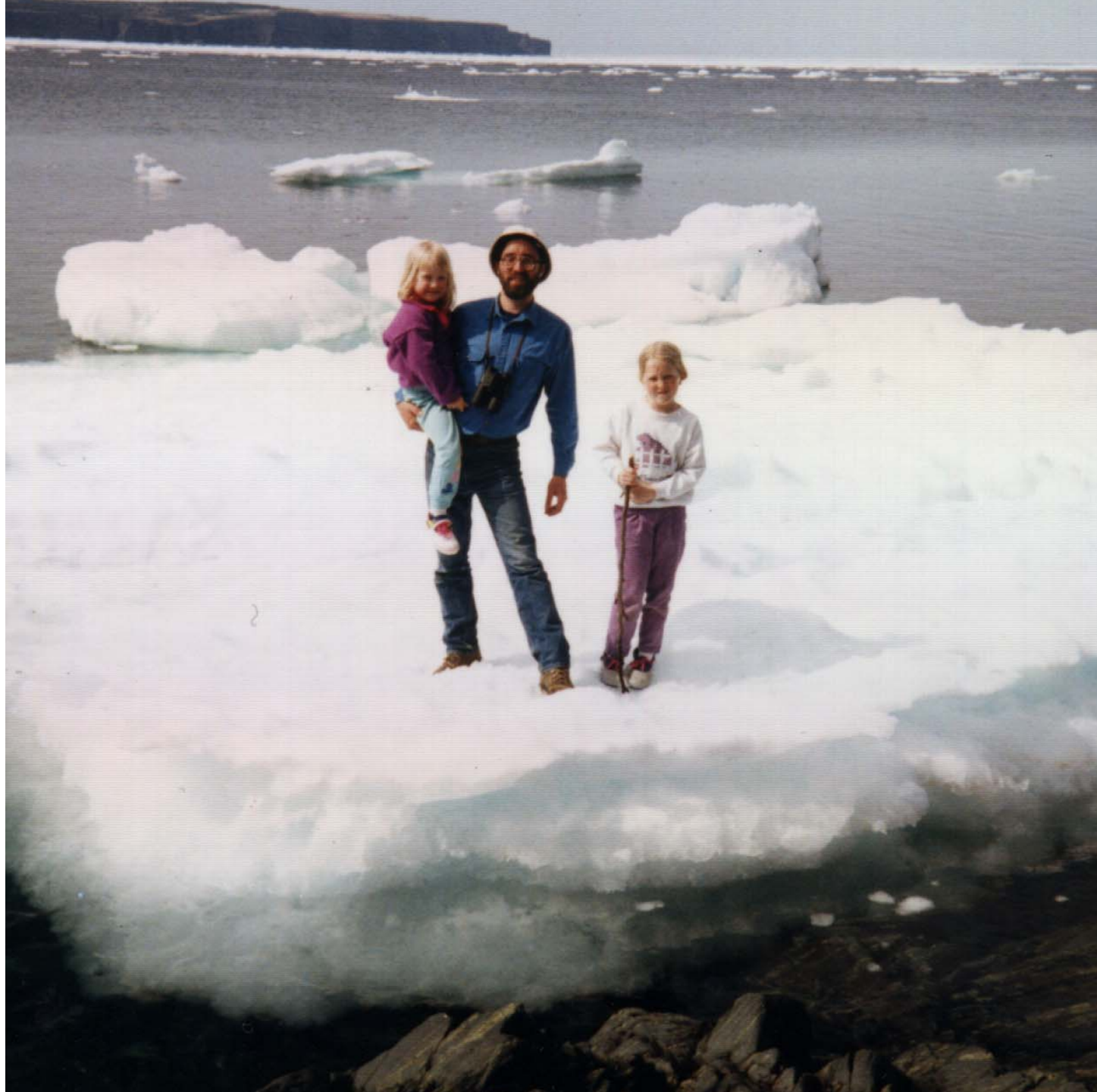


Figure 7 : Evolution of contribution of age classes 6 to 10+ computed by Morita (1977) in longliners albacore catches, 1956-1974.



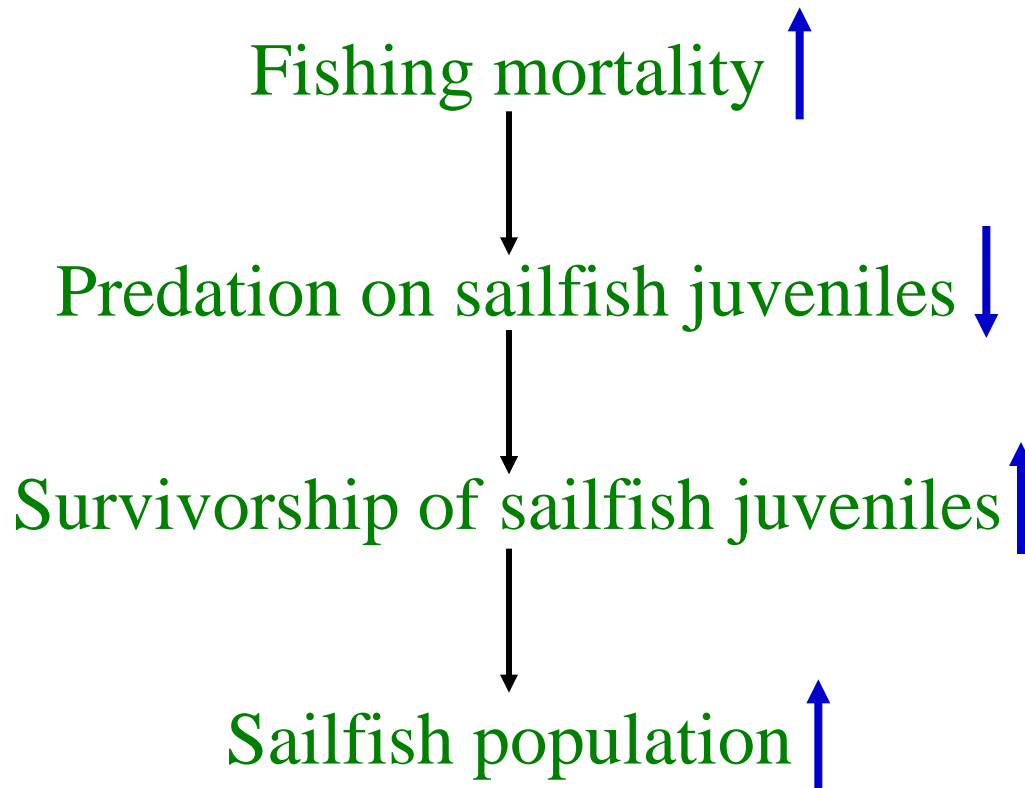
A large school of fish swimming in a circular pattern against a blue background. The fish are dark in color and are arranged in a dense, swirling formation that resembles a vortex or a large-scale circular movement. The background is a gradient of blue, with the fish appearing as dark silhouettes.

Marine ecosystem robustness and the collapse of marine fisheries

Ransom A. Myers (RAM)

**Dalhousie University, Halifax,
Canada**

One hypothesis:

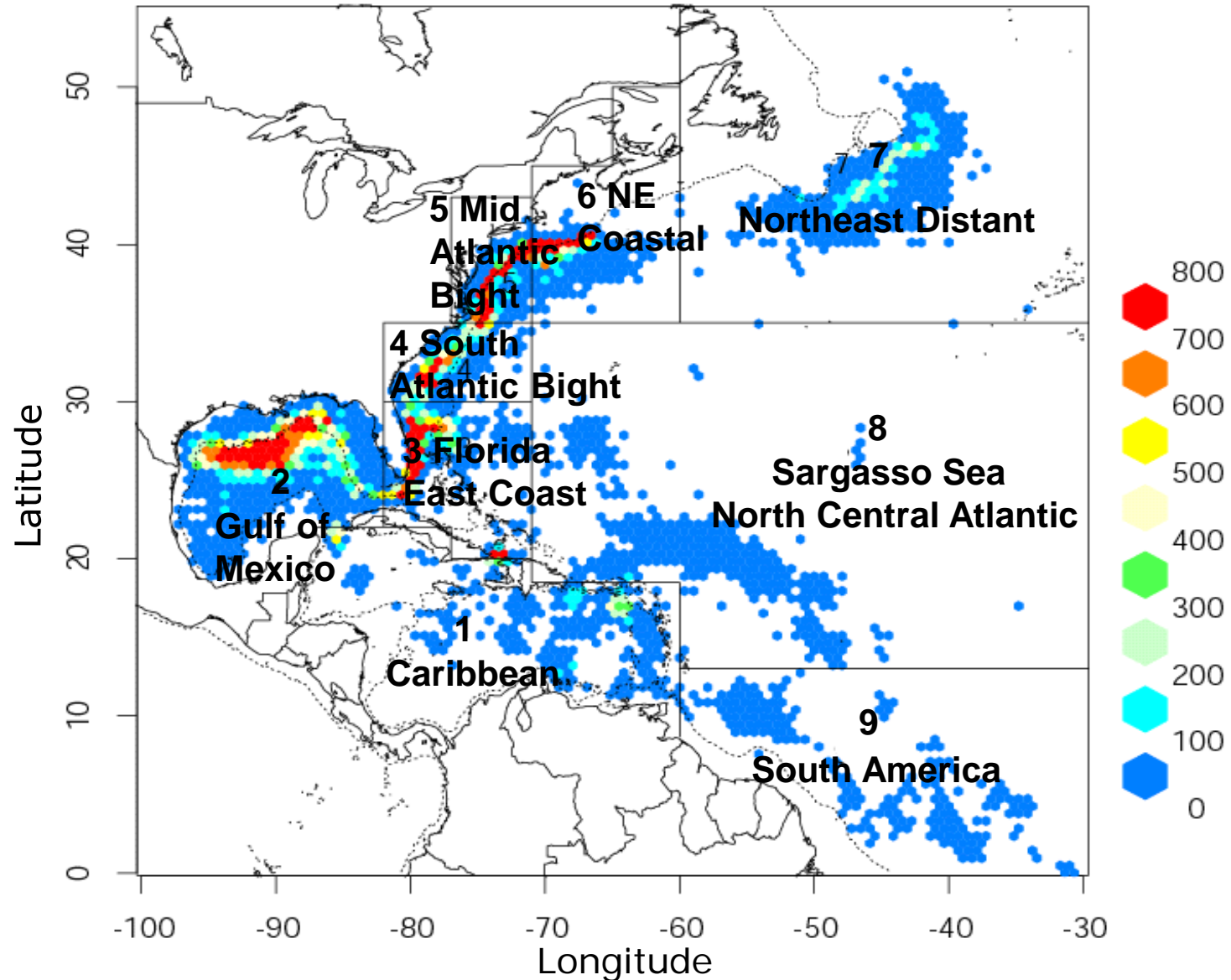


Collapse and Conservation of Shark Populations in the Northwest Atlantic



Science. Jan. 2003. J.K. Baum, R.A. Myers, D.G. Kehler, B. Worm, S.J. Harley, P.A. Doherty

U.S. Atlantic pelagic longline sets 1986-2000

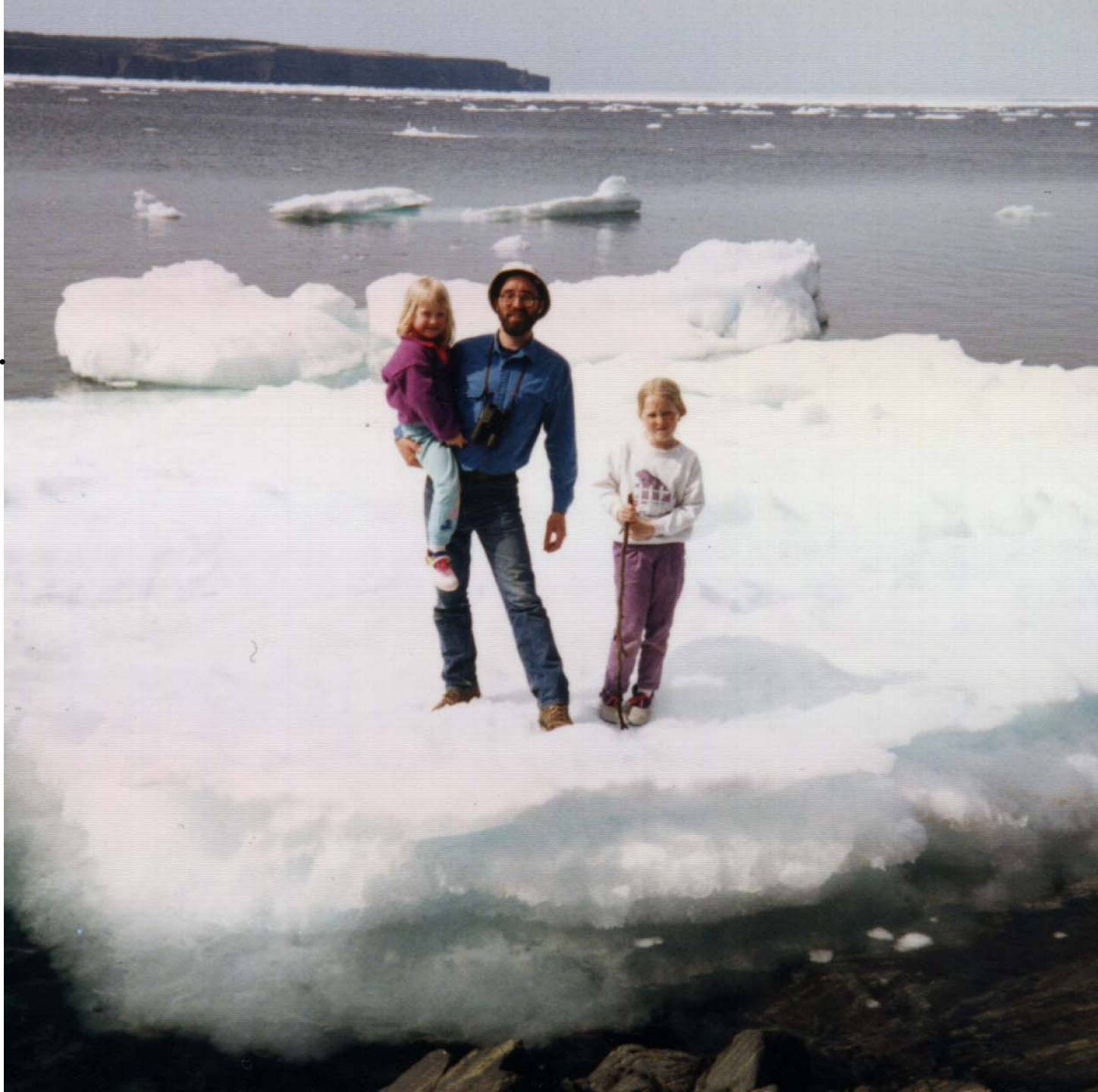


Political action is
costly for any
scientist.

However, it also
has great benefits.

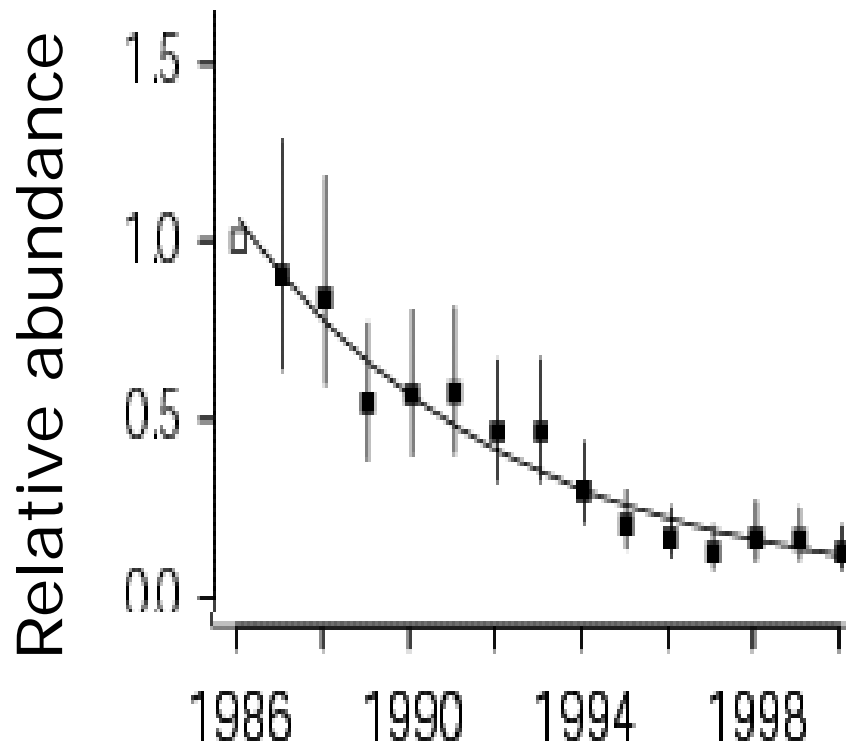
To act is to live.

To be suppressed
is to die.



Hammerhead sharks

Sphyrna lewini

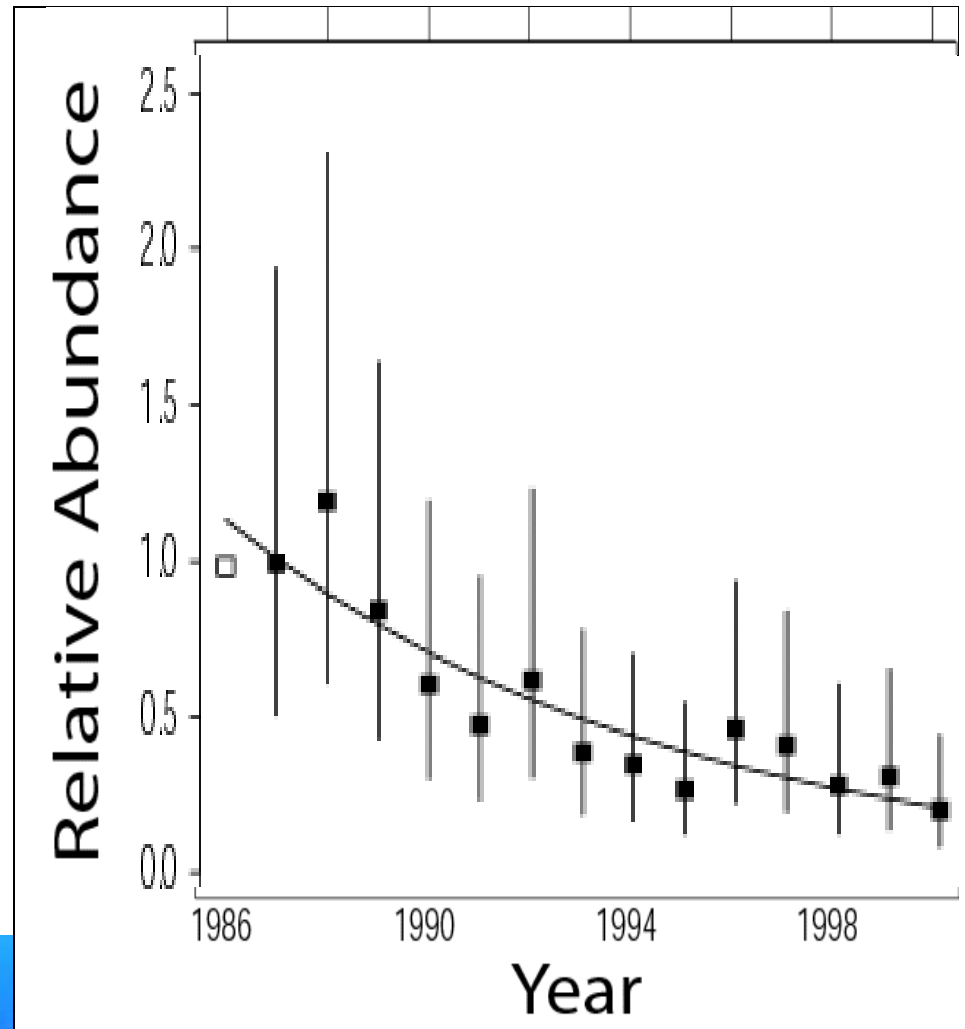


The rest of the slides are back up.



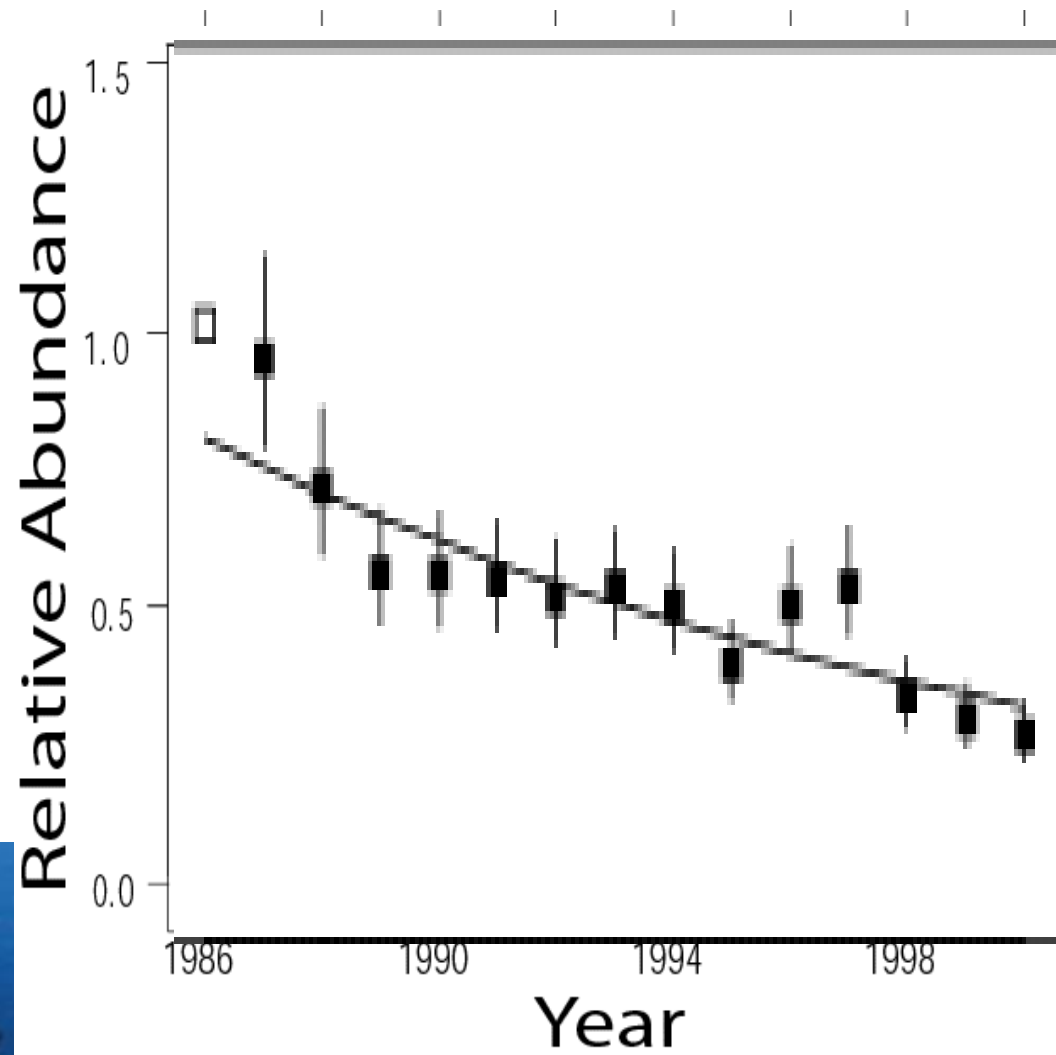
Thresher sharks

Alopias spp.



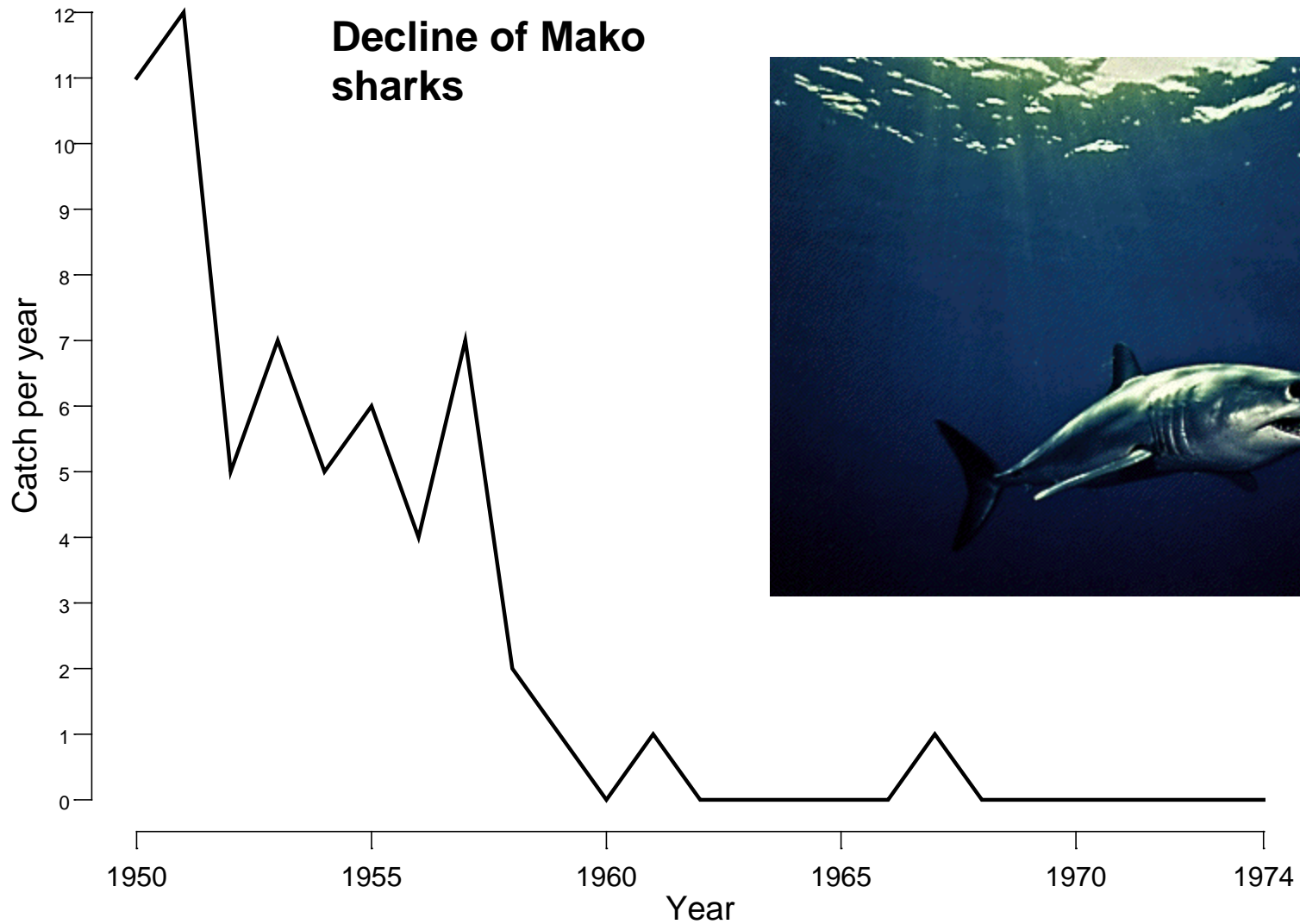
Blue sharks

Prionace glauca



Letter from senate

Put in cod

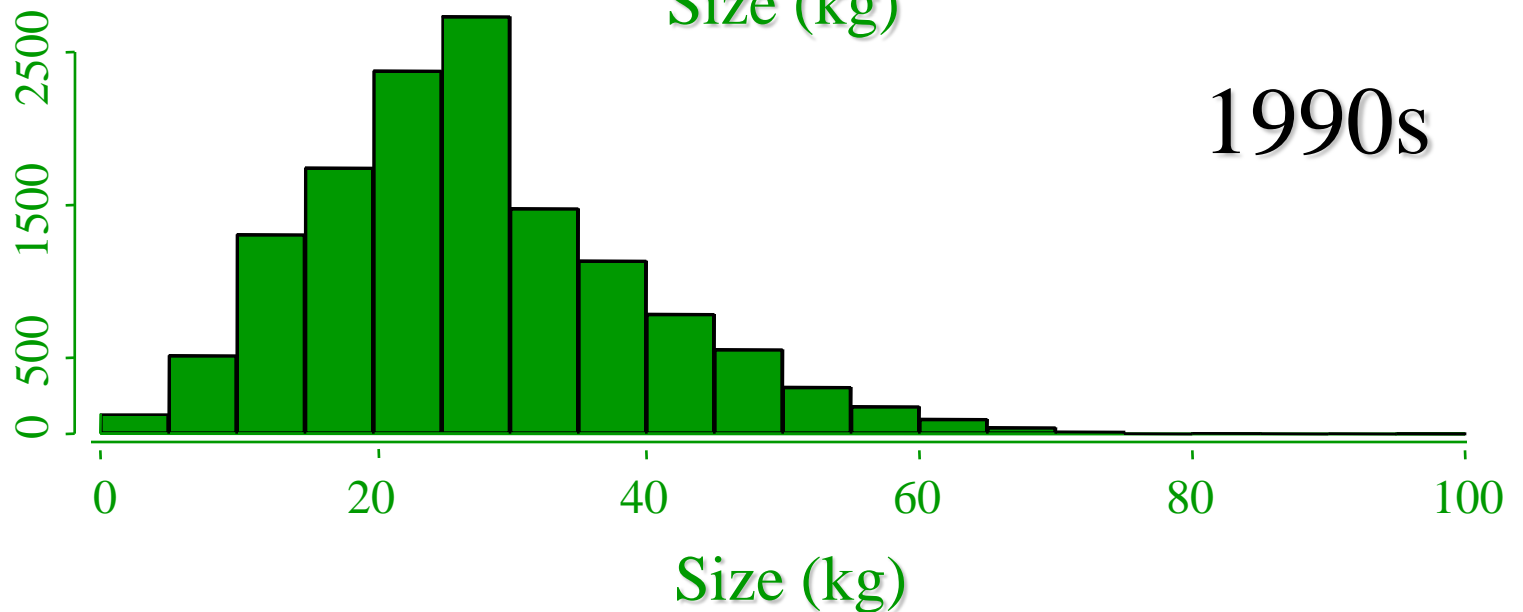
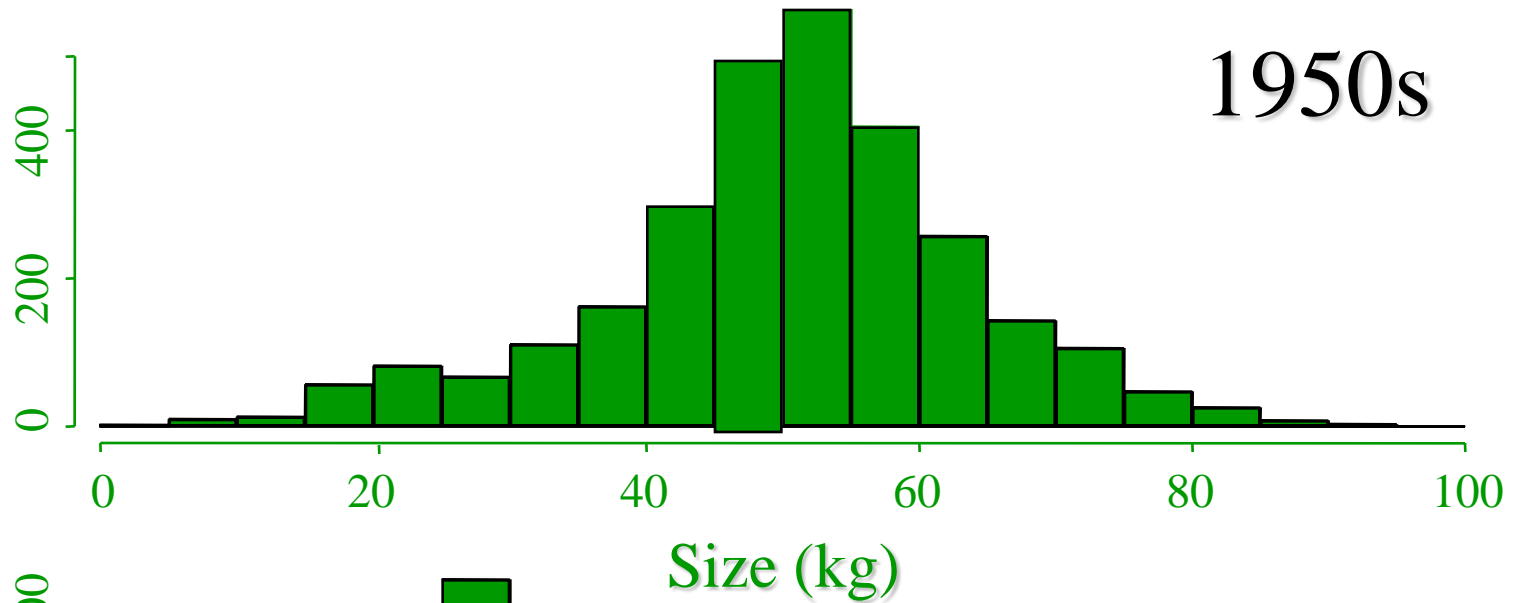


These estimates are conservative: 1.

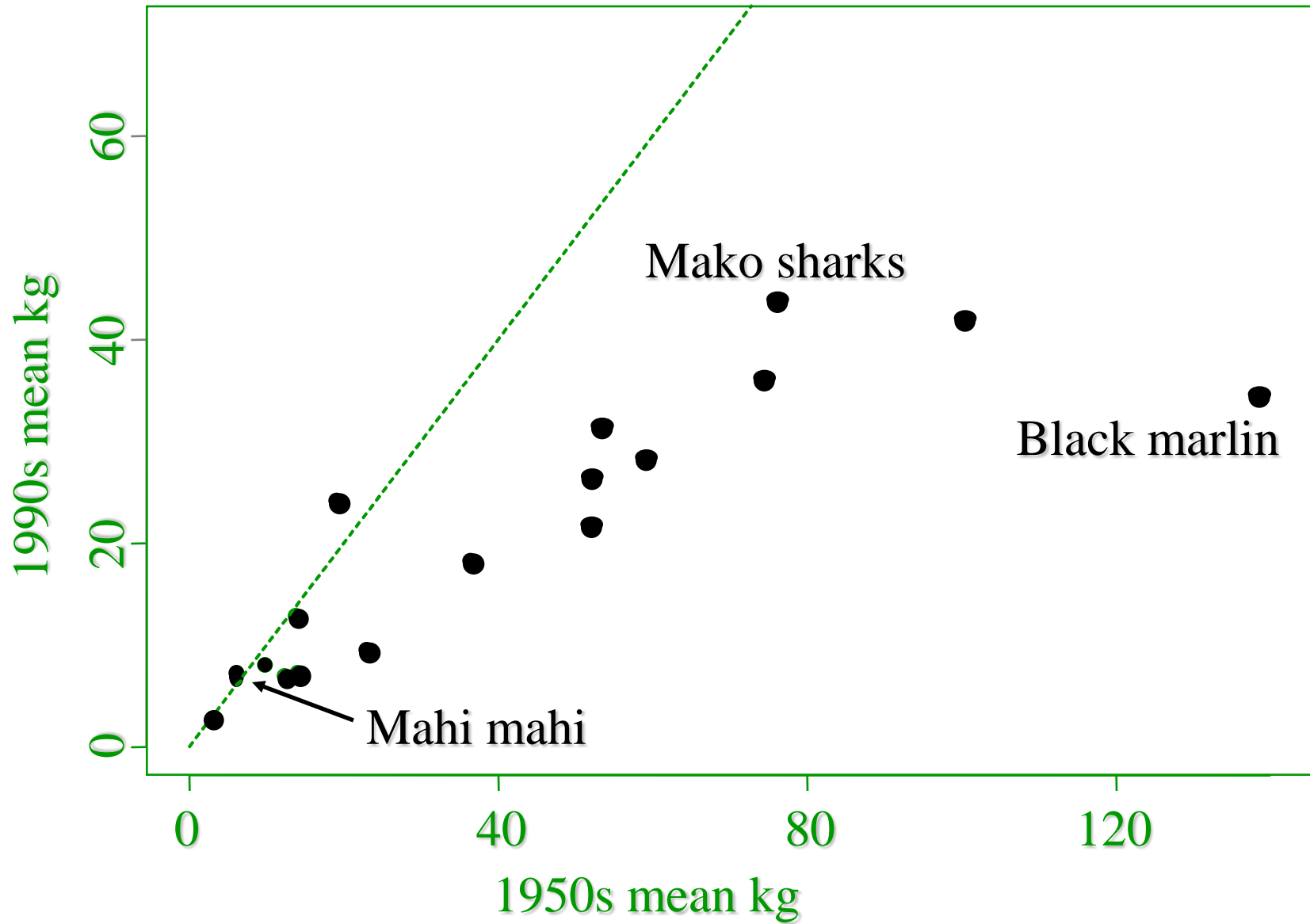
Bits of tuna did not count;
~25-30% of tropical tunas were initially
not counted because of shark damage.



These estimates are conservative: 2 (fish are smaller)

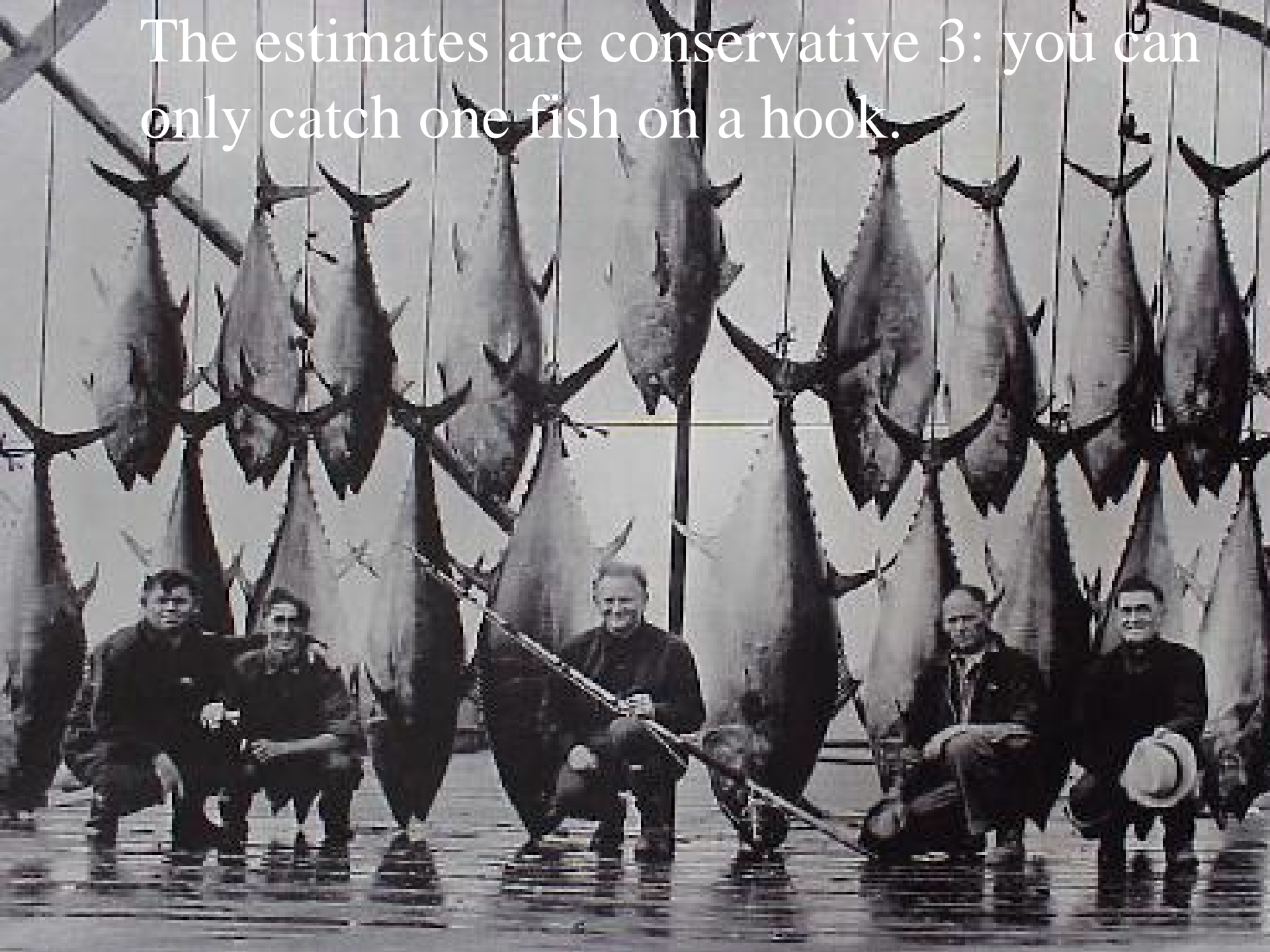


Change in body size





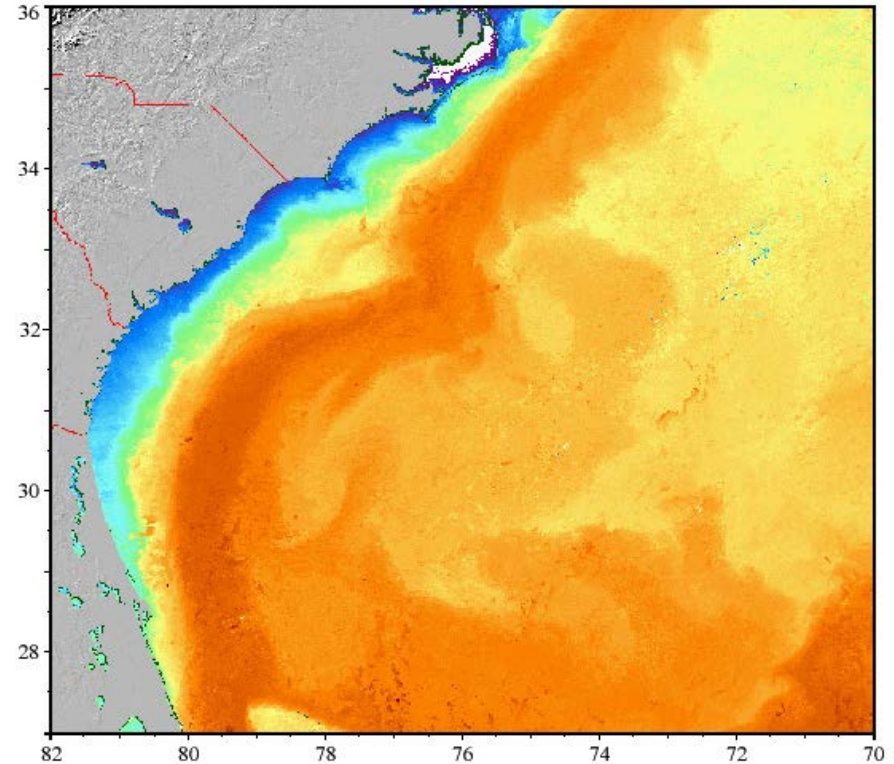
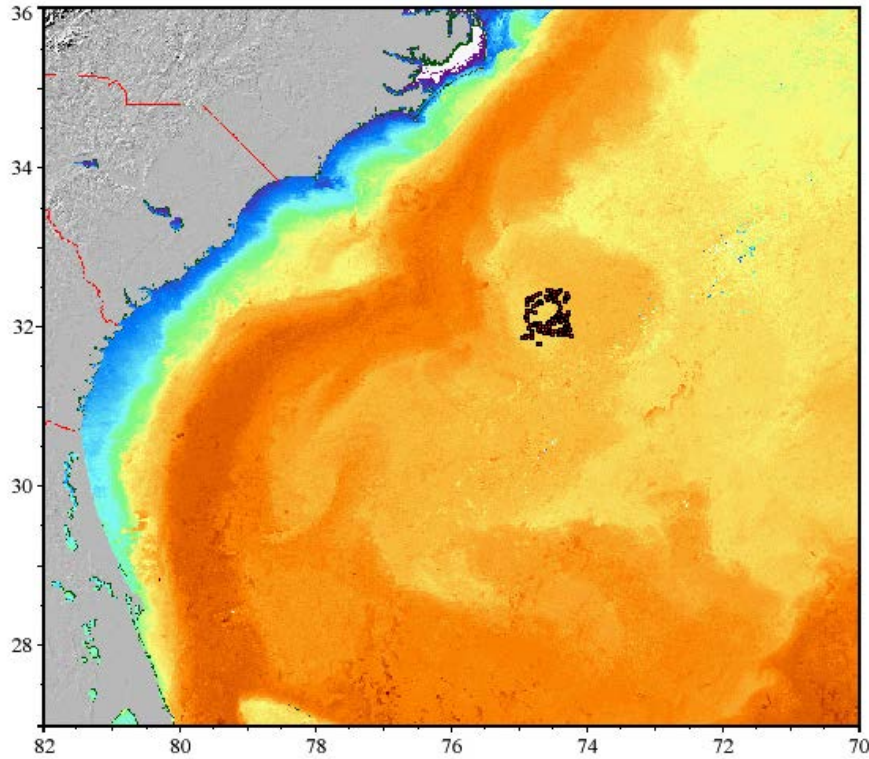
The estimates are conservative 3: you can only catch one fish on a hook.



These estimates are conservative 5: The oceans were not virgin.

- Japan harvested ~1,000,000 tons of tuna and marlin in the 5 years before WWII.
- In 1950 the US harvested ~170,000 tons.
- The 1950 harvest of albacore by Spain was greater than the total recent harvest in the North Atlantic.
- Species that migrate long distances (e.g. southern bluefin tuna, northern bluefin tuna, and albacore) would have reduced by these harvests.

These estimates are conservative: 6 Fishermen are smarter (gps, satellite information, **ACDP** (Acoustic Current Doppler Profiler)).



Locations of a leatherback turtle over a two week period tagged by my student Mike James that maintains its position within a cold core ring (somehow).

However, fish may be a lot smarter too (the stupid ones were caught).

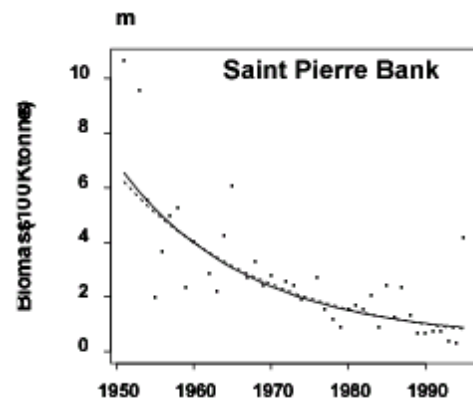
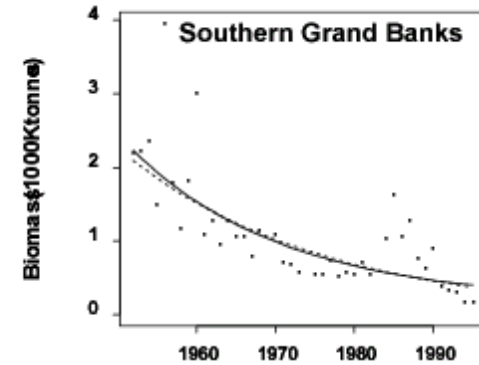
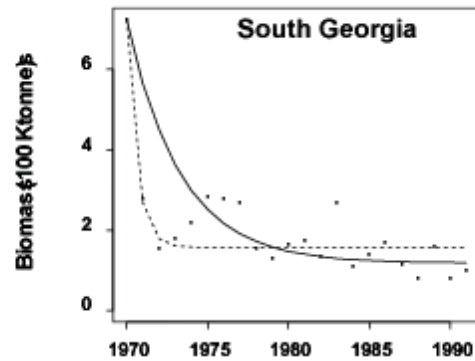
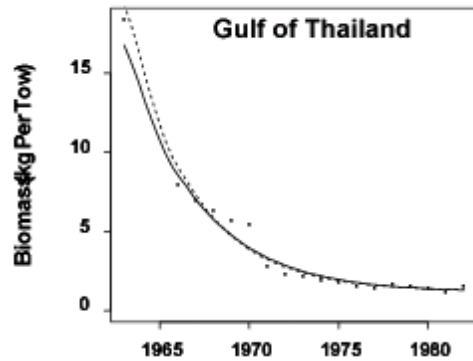
Step 8: You need emotional support. Support from colleagues and family is essential. You cannot do it (for long) by yourself.



Why is it so important.

What makes them work.

Shelf seas



Lessons I Learned from the Cod Disaster:

- Government constrained scientists may consistently ignore what the data tells them.
- Independence is key.
- Multiple, independent analyses are crucial; or else you will be dismissed.
- Speak clearly and honestly to the press, the politicians must know that someone is watching.
- Be proactive, once an animal is ecologically extinct it is too late.

15 May 2003

International weekly journal of science

nature

ISSN 0950-0804

www.nature.com/nature

Net losses

Industrialized fishing
hits fish stocks

Financial markets

You can't buck the physics

Jupiter's moons

Headed for a hundred

Functional genomics

The power of comparison



RAM's 12 step plan: From hard core math weenie
to passionate conservationist: A PERSONAL
ODYSSEY.



Reaching the heart through mathematics.

Final point: keep fighting, keep hoping!

This happened last week: Oceanic Whitetip declared critically endangered by ICUN

- Last year it was “species of least concern”.
- This change was not because we published one paper in Science, but papers based upon 3 independent datasets (plus 2 math/stats technical papers).
- Skeptics remain – more analyses are in prep from scuba surveys of jellyfish (one notices large sharks while diving in the clear open ocean.



Conclusion: The Factor of 10 Hypothesis

- Scientific investigations of marine fish stocks almost always begin after the fact.
- Here we compile data from which the size of the community of large predatory fishes can be estimated.
- New fisheries tend to deplete the biomass of large predators by at least a factor of 10 .
- These declines happen very rapidly, usually in a decade or less.

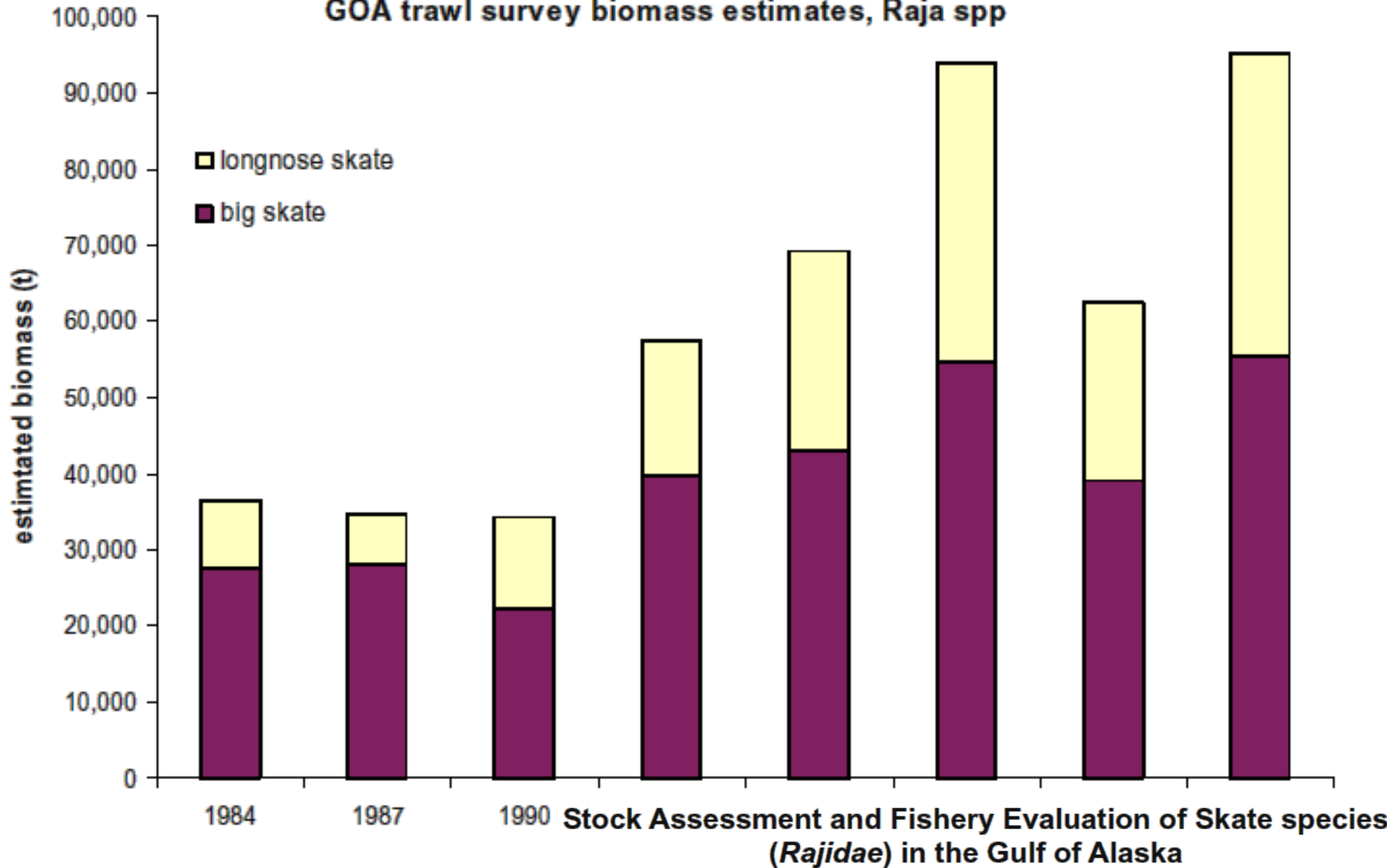


**Long - Term Changes In
The Gulf Of Alaska
Marine Ecosystem**

Figure stolen from Paul Anderson

- The Good -
 - Ban directed fisheries on sharks.
 - Control fishing on skates.
 - Keep a watch on bycatch.
-
- The Alaska Board of Fisheries prohibited all directed fisheries for sharks in 1998. In Southeast the bycatch rate for sharks and skates taken during other longline fisheries is 35% of the target species.

GOA trawl survey biomass estimates, Raja spp



by
Sarah Gaichas¹, Michael Ruccio², Duane Stevenson¹, and Rob Swanson³

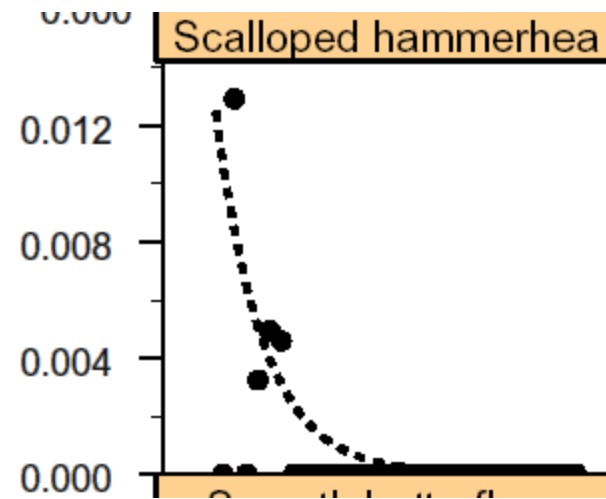
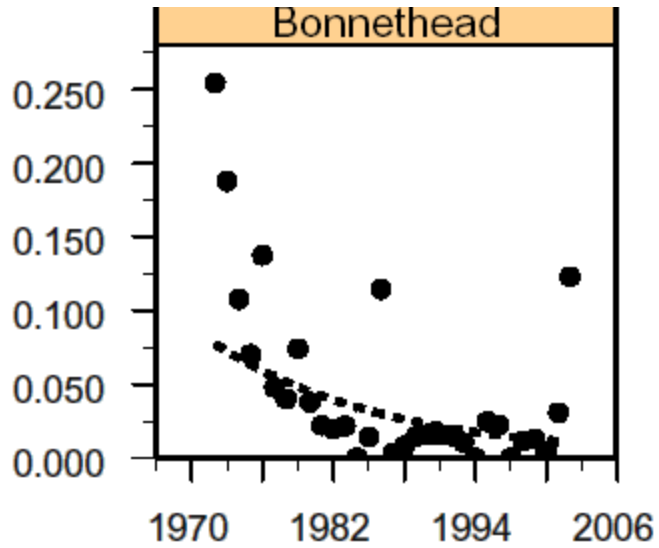


Figure 1. Big skate, *Raja binoculata*, with stock assessment author for scale.

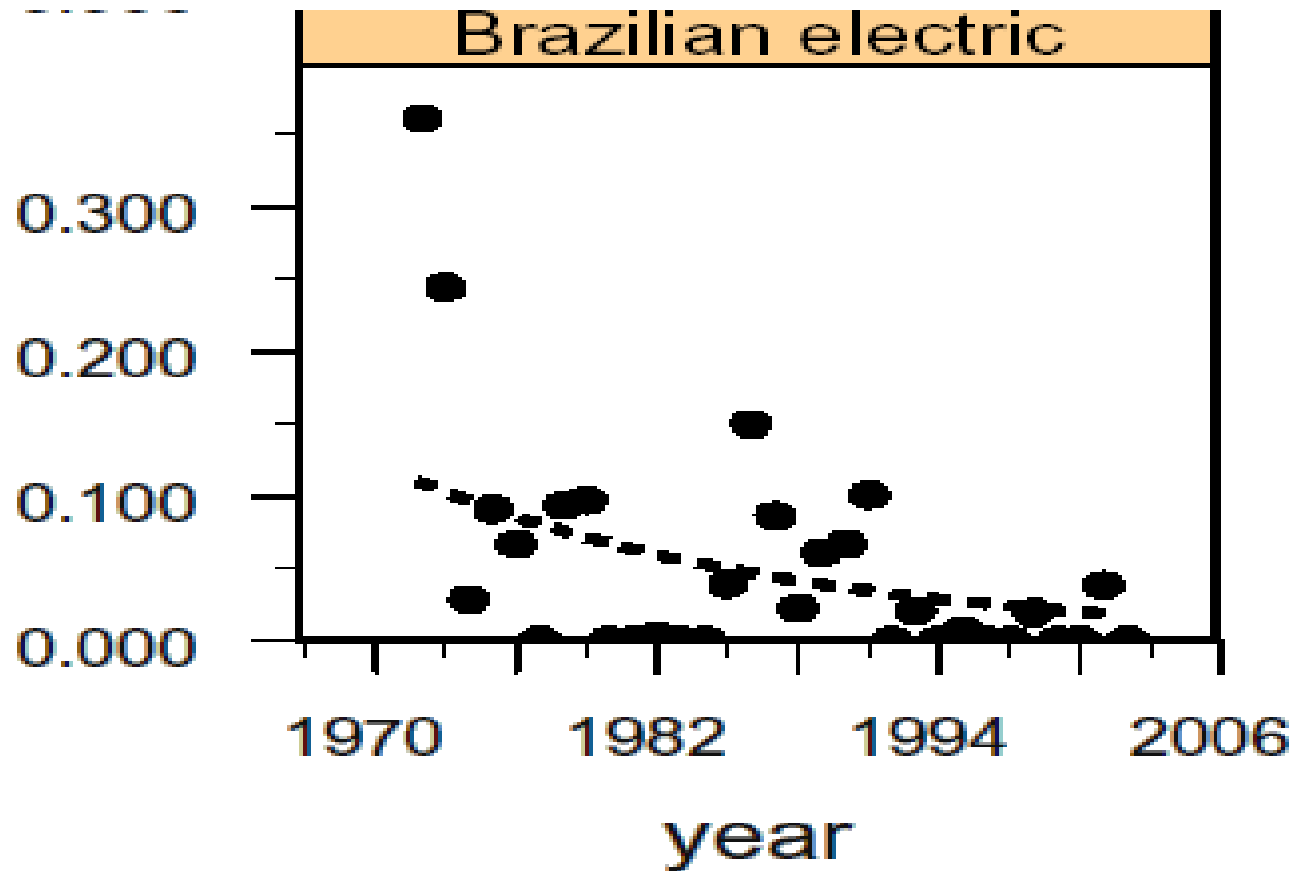
**Stock Assessment and Fishery Evaluation of Skate species
(*Rajidae*) in the Gulf of Alaska**

by
Sarah Gaichas¹, Michael Ruccio², Duane Stevenson¹, and Rob Swanson³

All large sharks declined



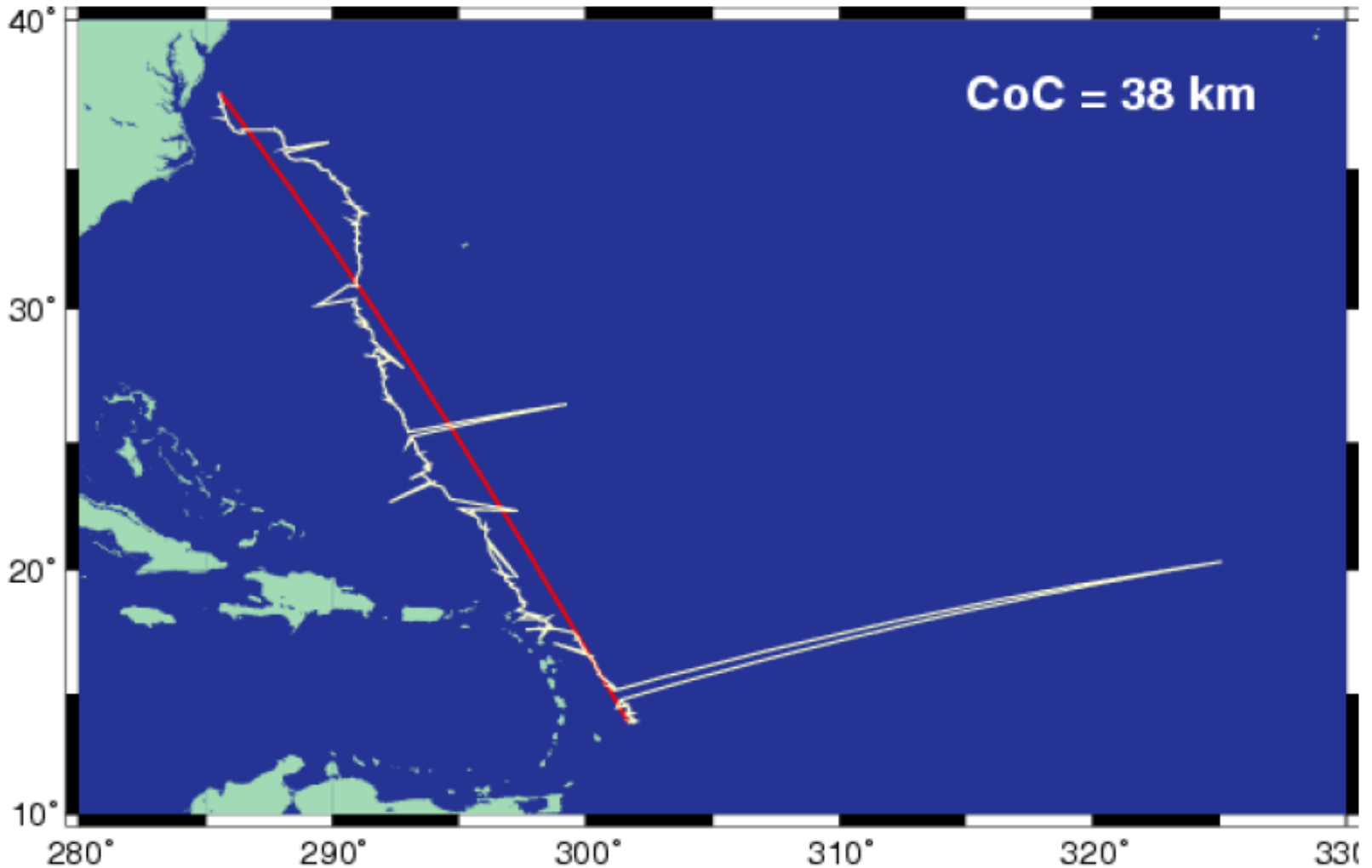
Shallow water species that do not survive discarding: large declines:



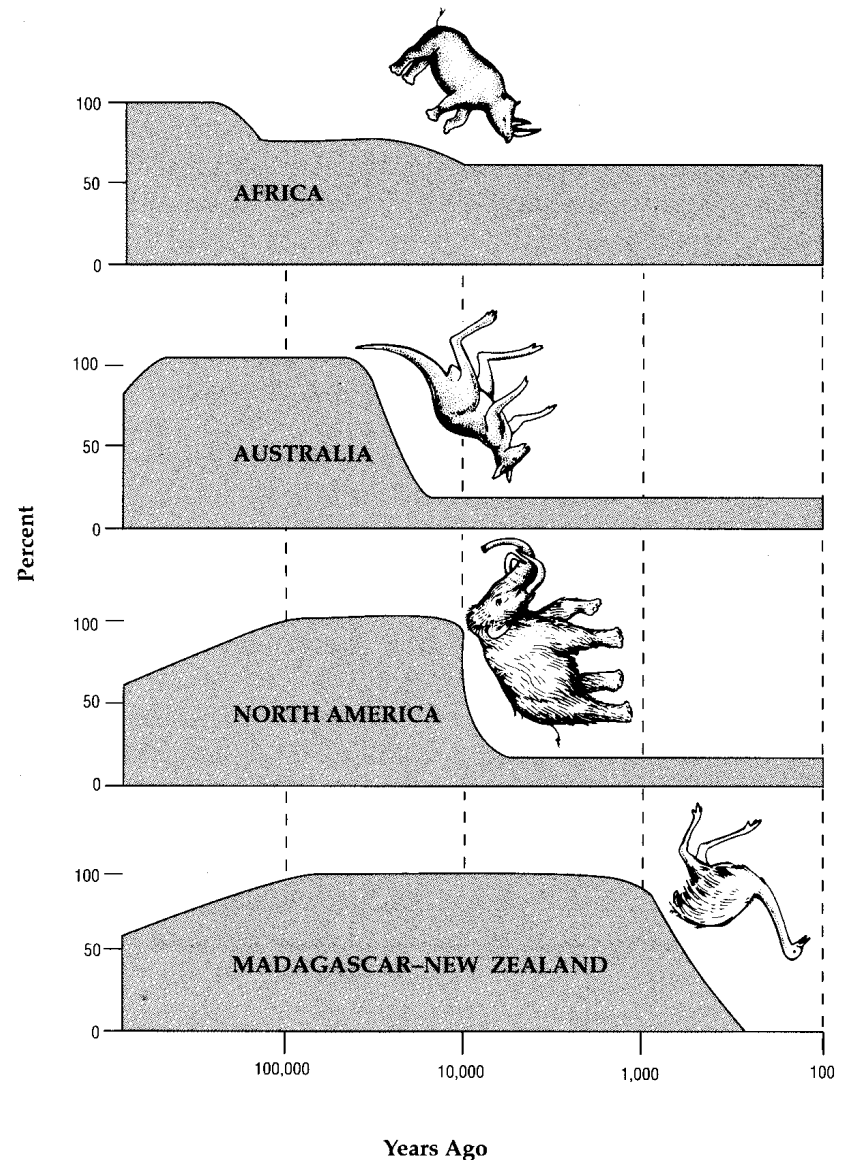
State-space models allow you to think about things, that it is very difficult to think about otherwise

Navigation: Estimating the “Circle of Confusion”

Flemming et al. in press. Environmetrics



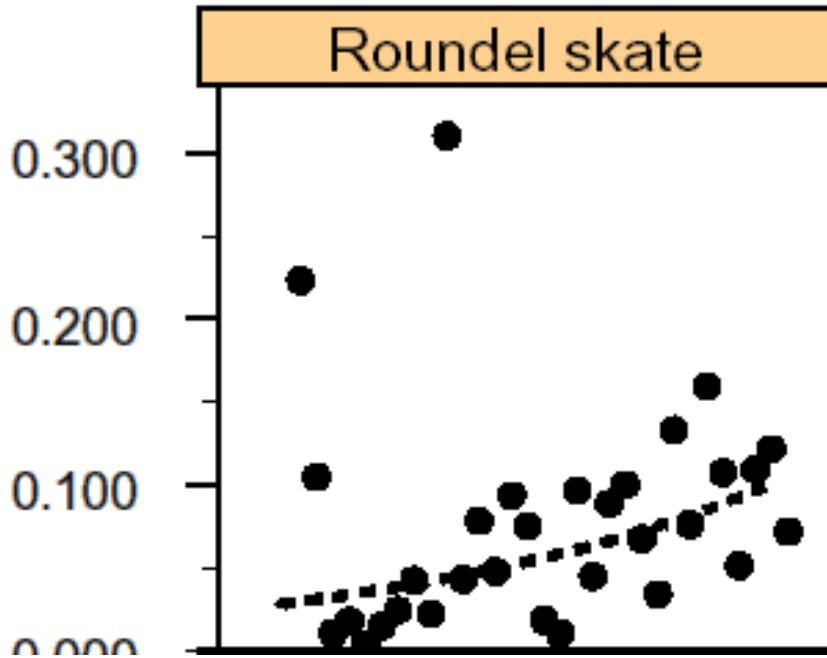
Are the pleistocene extinctions* going to be repeated in the ocean?

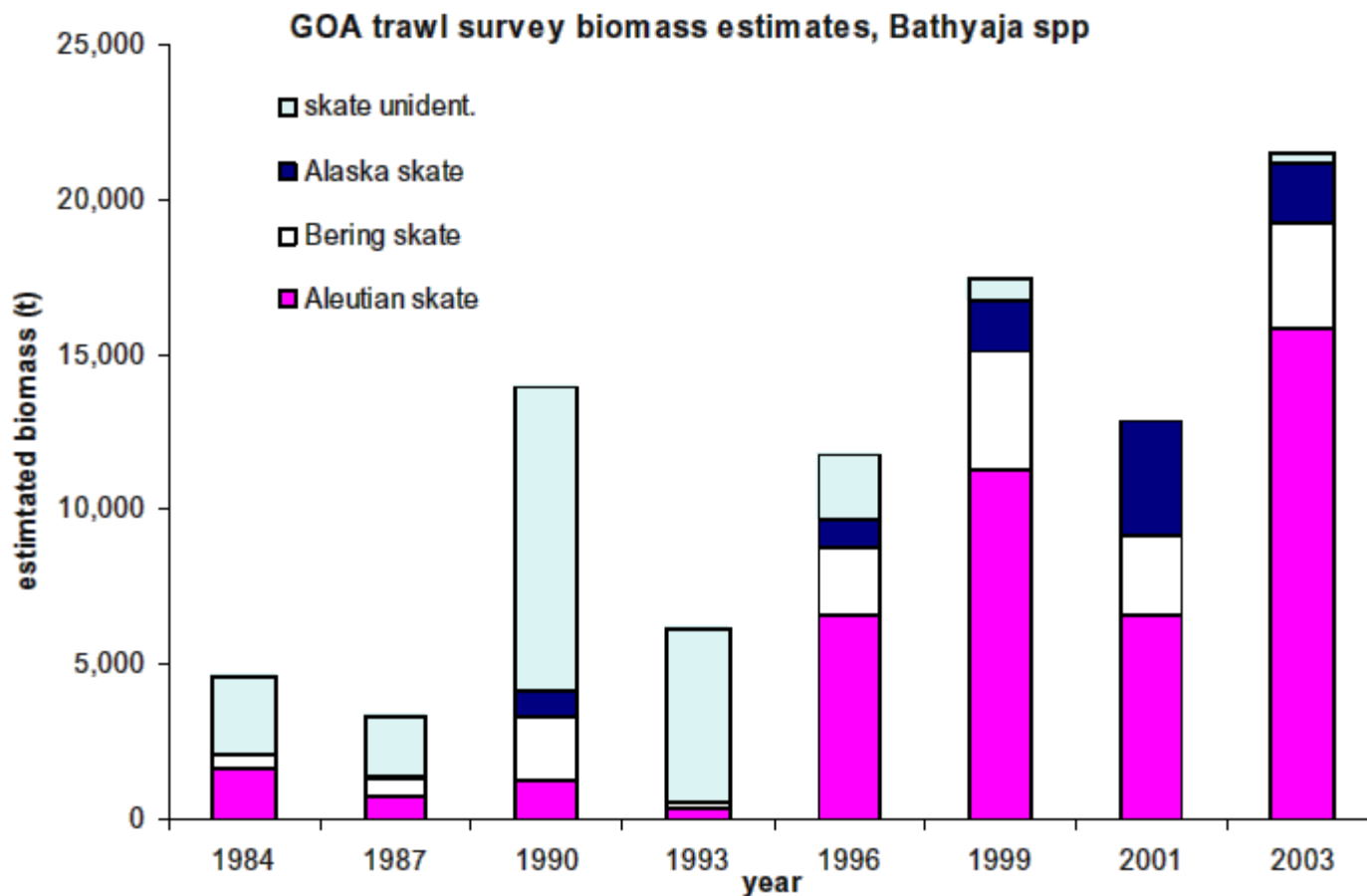


*Present North American biota has lost almost all large species – We have no mammoths, mastodons, giant ground sloths, giant beavers, and 65 other species that weighted more than 100 kilograms.

The extinction of large mammals and flightless birds coincided closely with the arrival of humans in North America, Madagascar, and New Zealand, and less decisively earlier in Australia. In Africa, where humans and animals evolved together for millions of years, the damage was less severe.

Deeper skate species that survive discarding increased

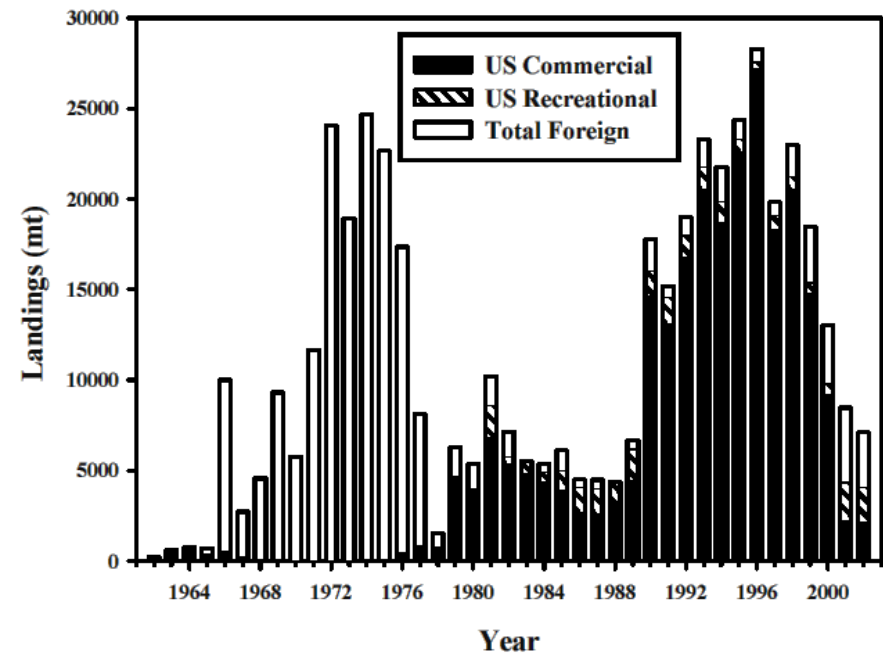
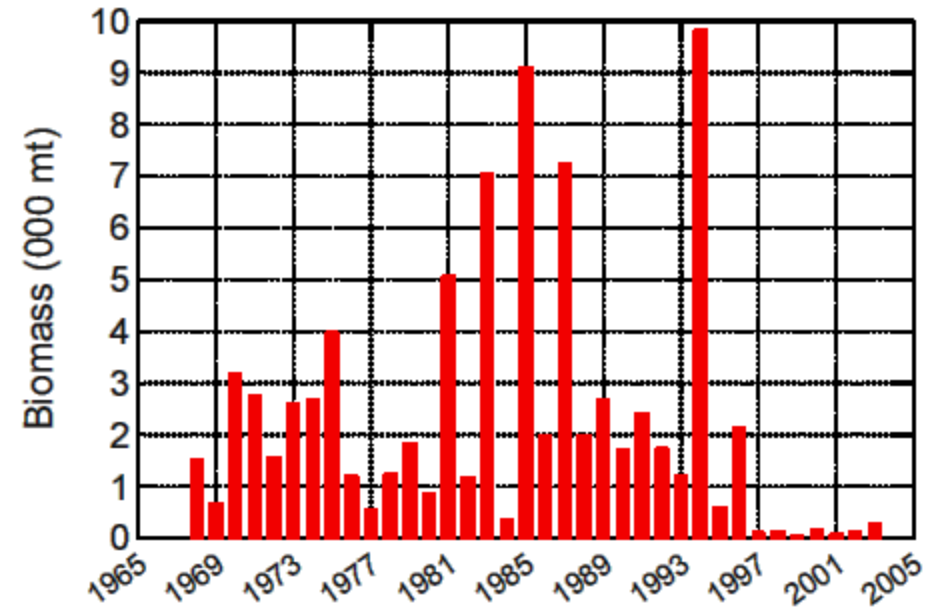




**Stock Assessment and Fishery Evaluation of Skate species
(*Rajidae*) in the Gulf of Alaska**

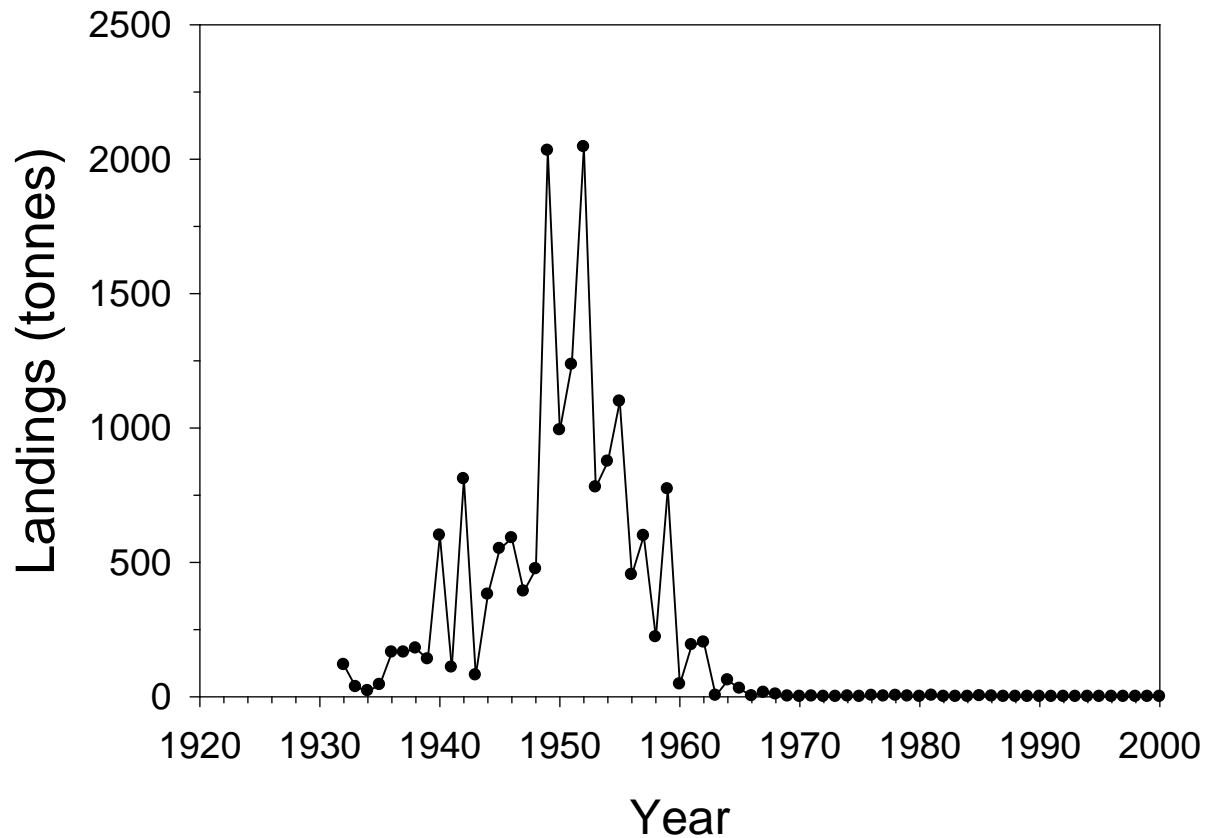
by
Sarah Gaichas¹, Michael Ruccio², Duane Stevenson¹, and Rob Swanson³

Spiny Dogfish, Northwest Atlantic: Good Science – Ugly Decisions



Danish Landings of Bluefin Tuna

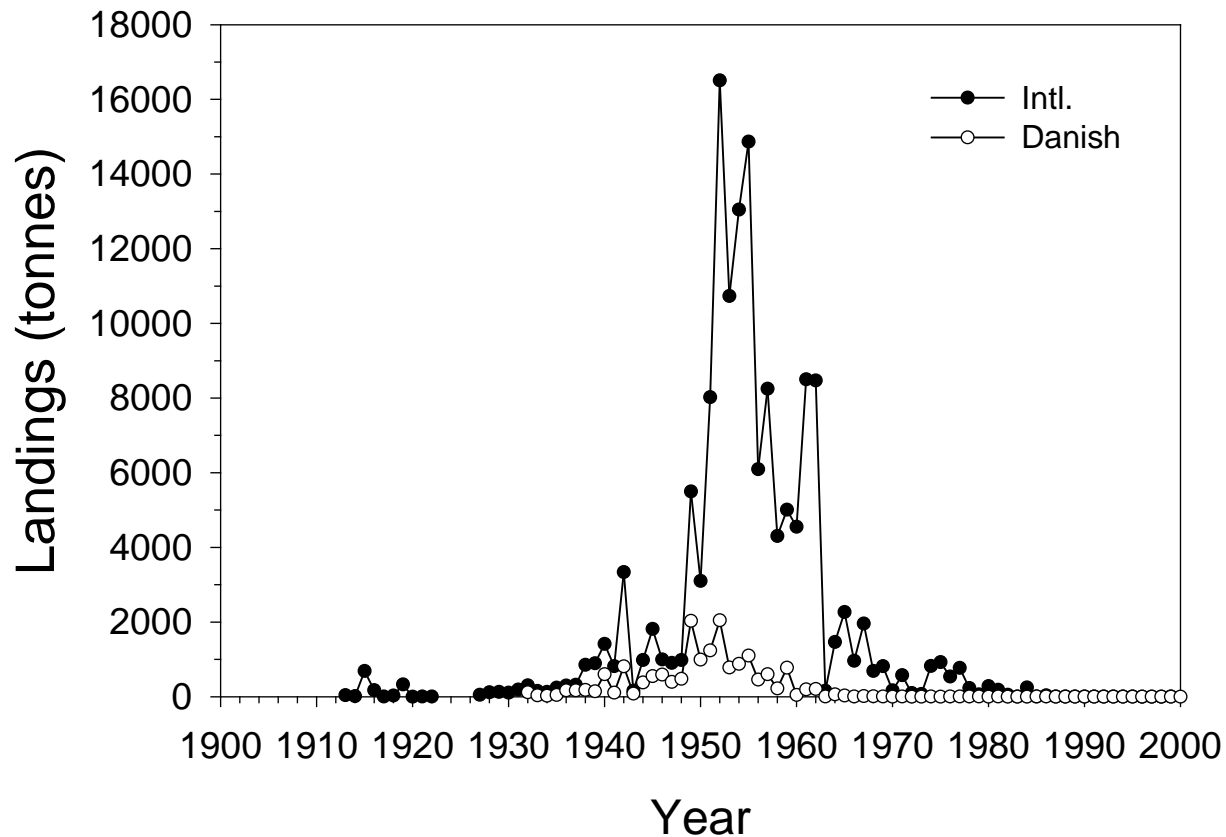
Thunnus thynnus



Data source: DIFRES, ICES, FAO

Landings of Bluefin Tuna

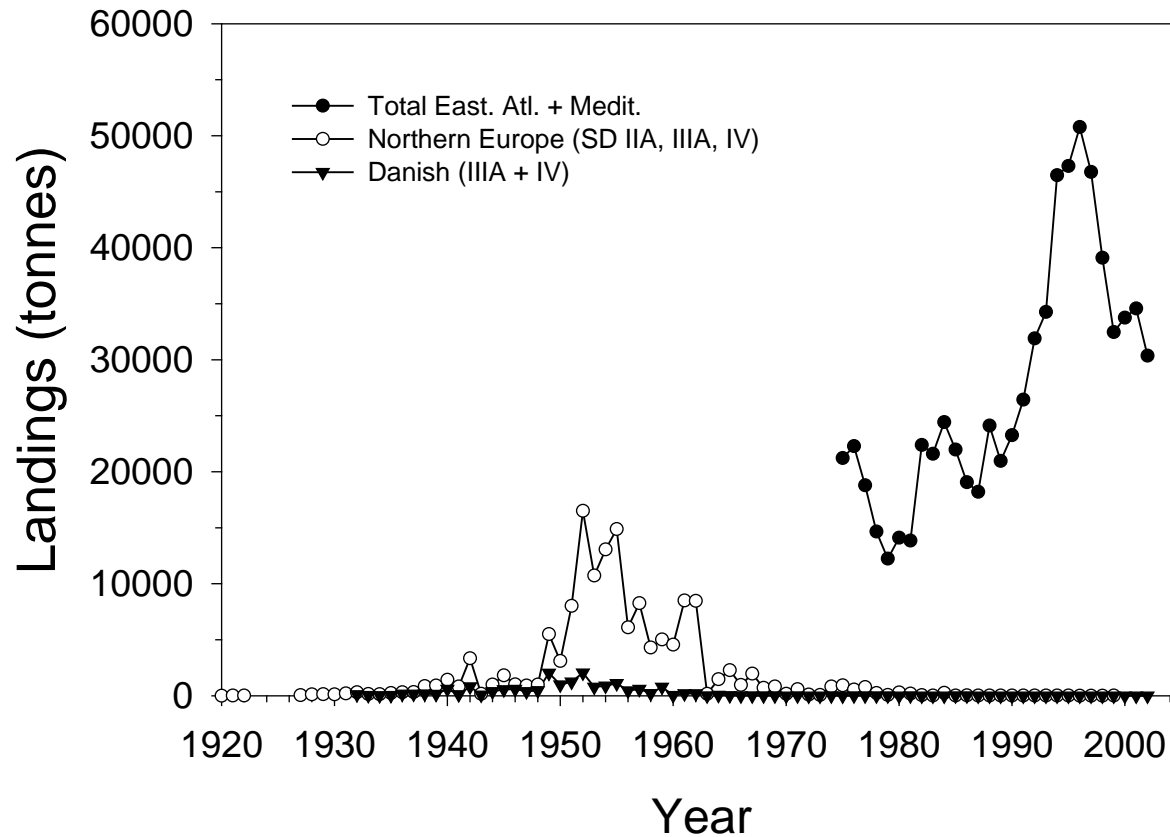
Thunnus thynnus in Northern Europe*

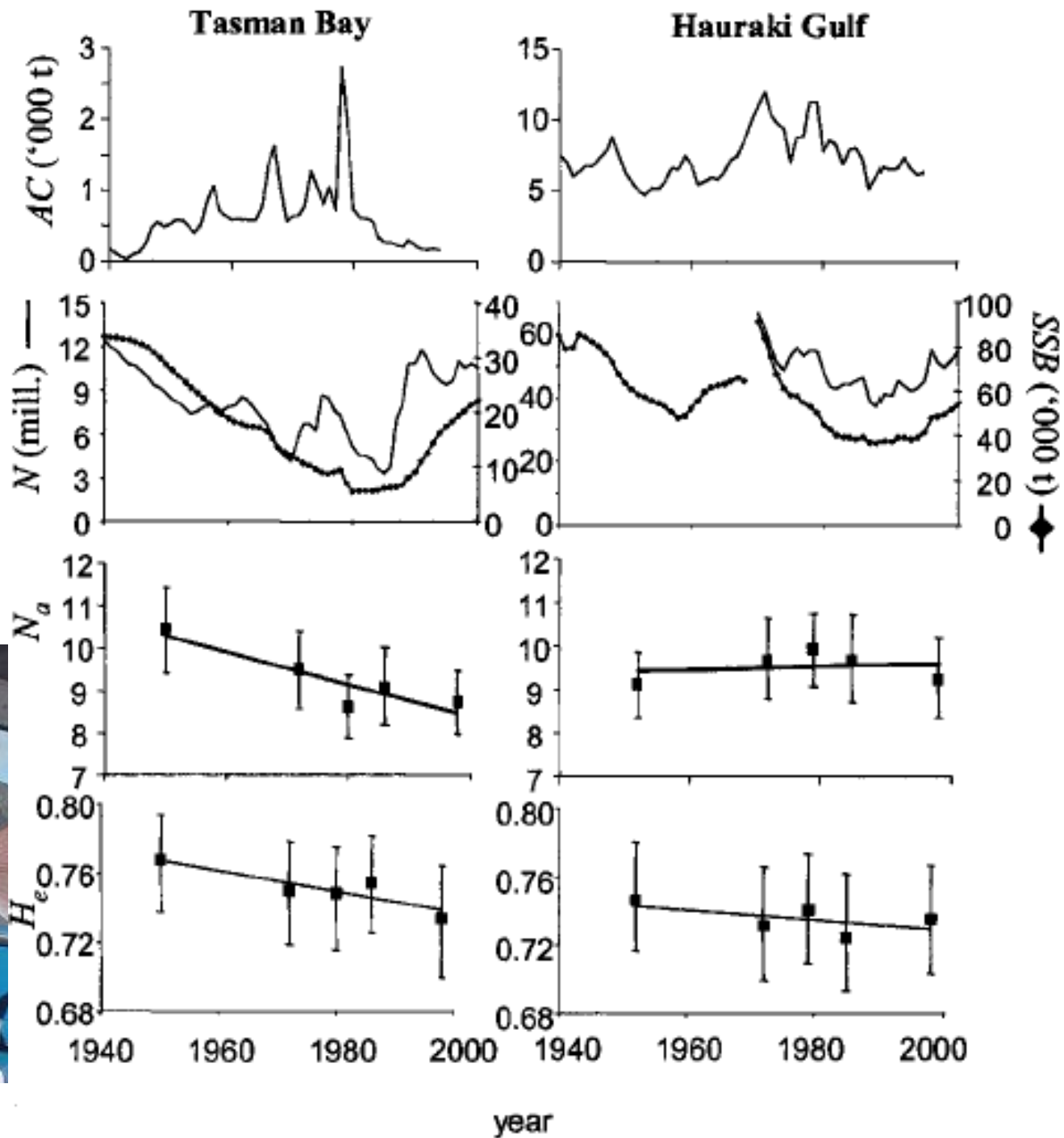


* = Norwegian Sea, North Sea, Skagerrak, Kattegat, Øresund

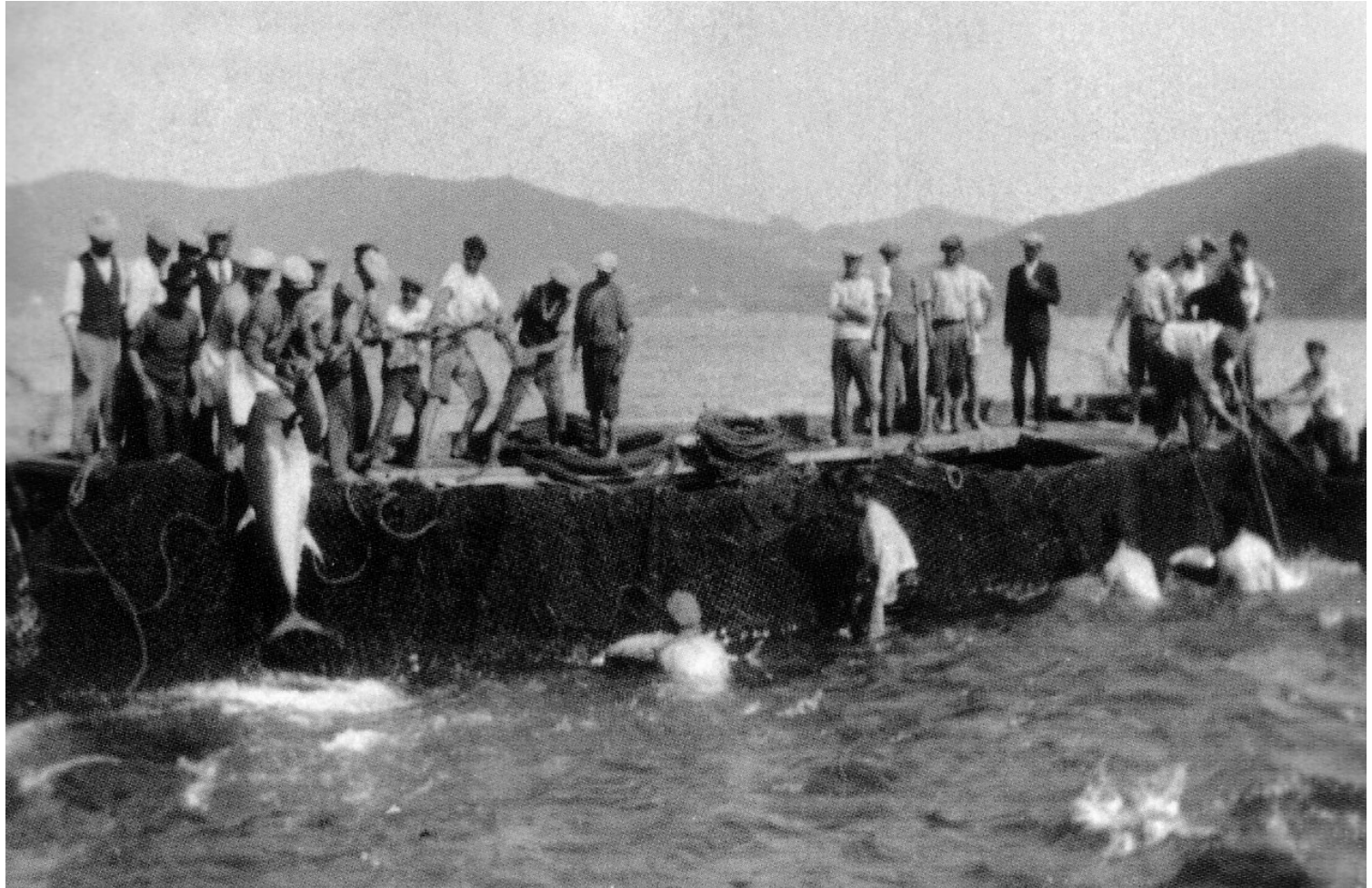
Landings of Bluefin Tuna

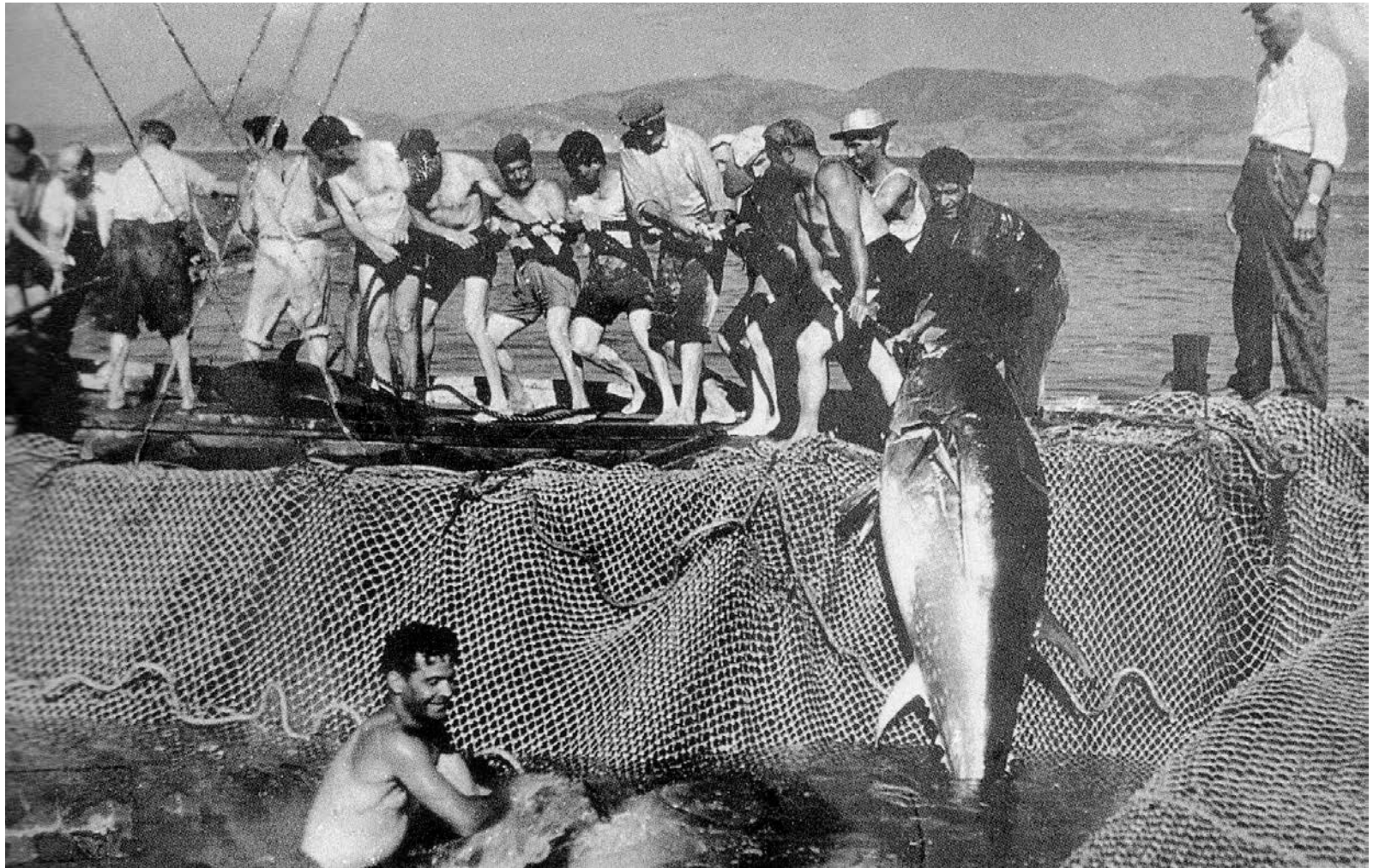
Thunnus thynnus in Northeast Atlantic

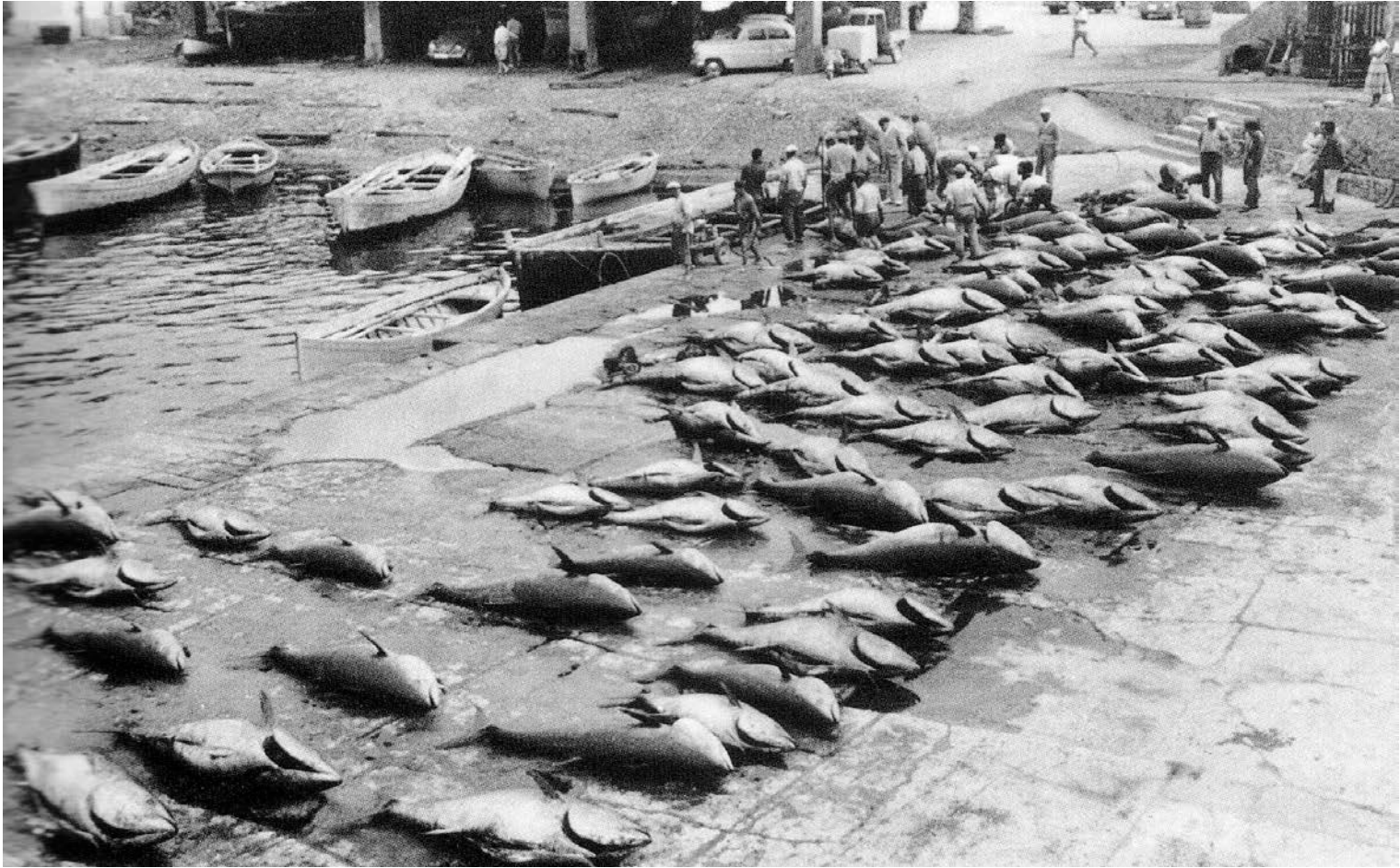




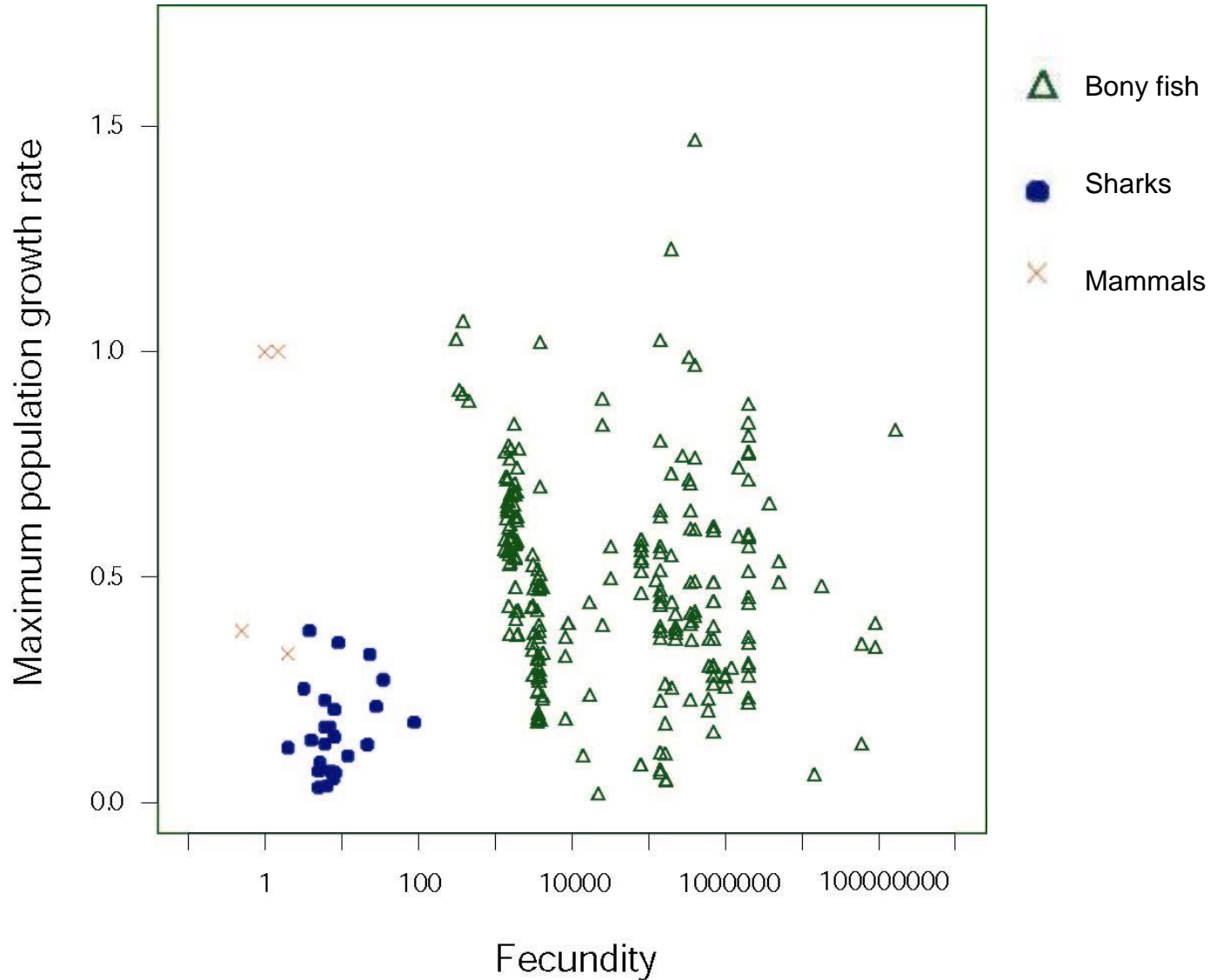
Hauser, et al. PNAS, 2002





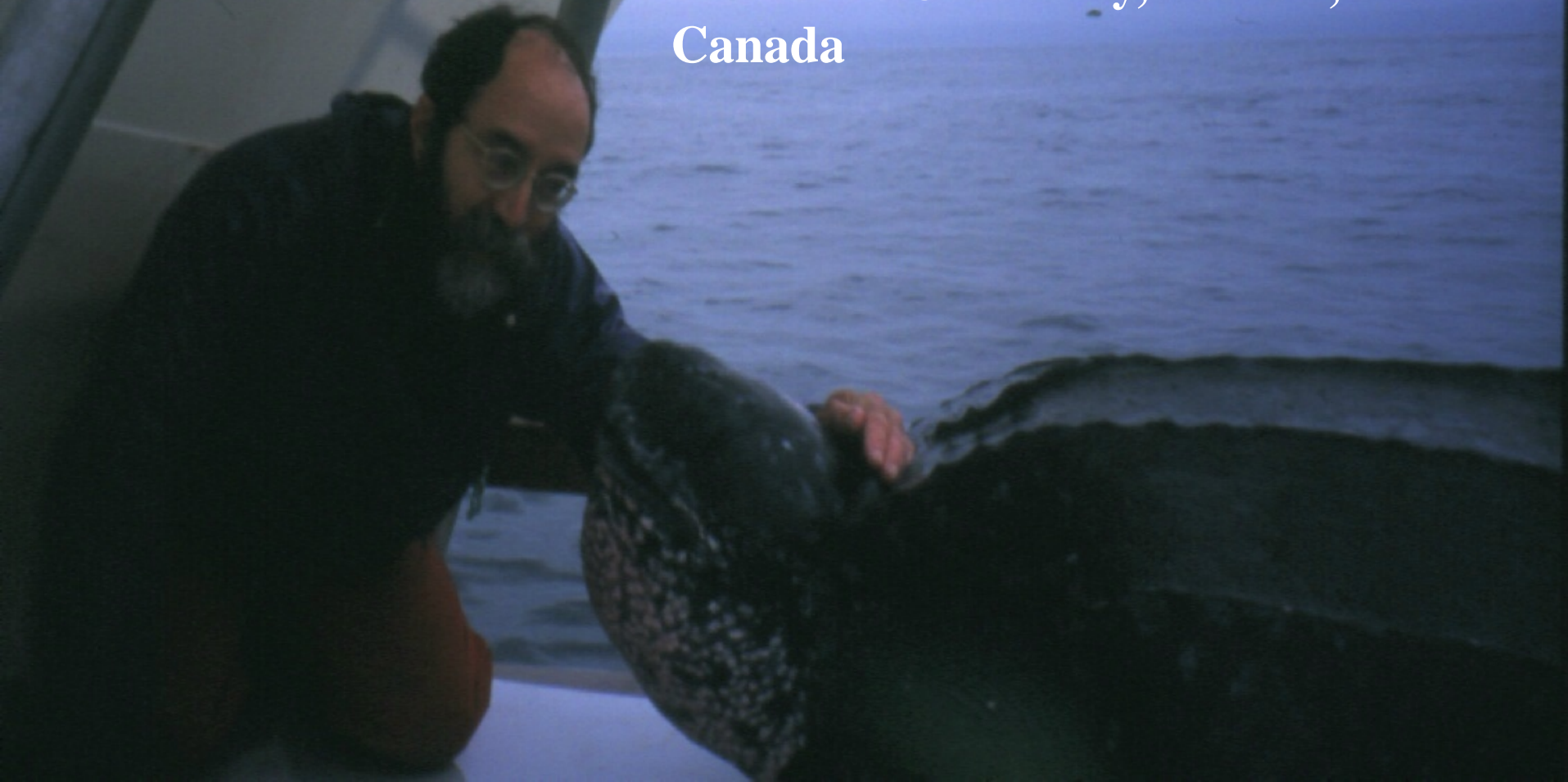


Life history of sharks...

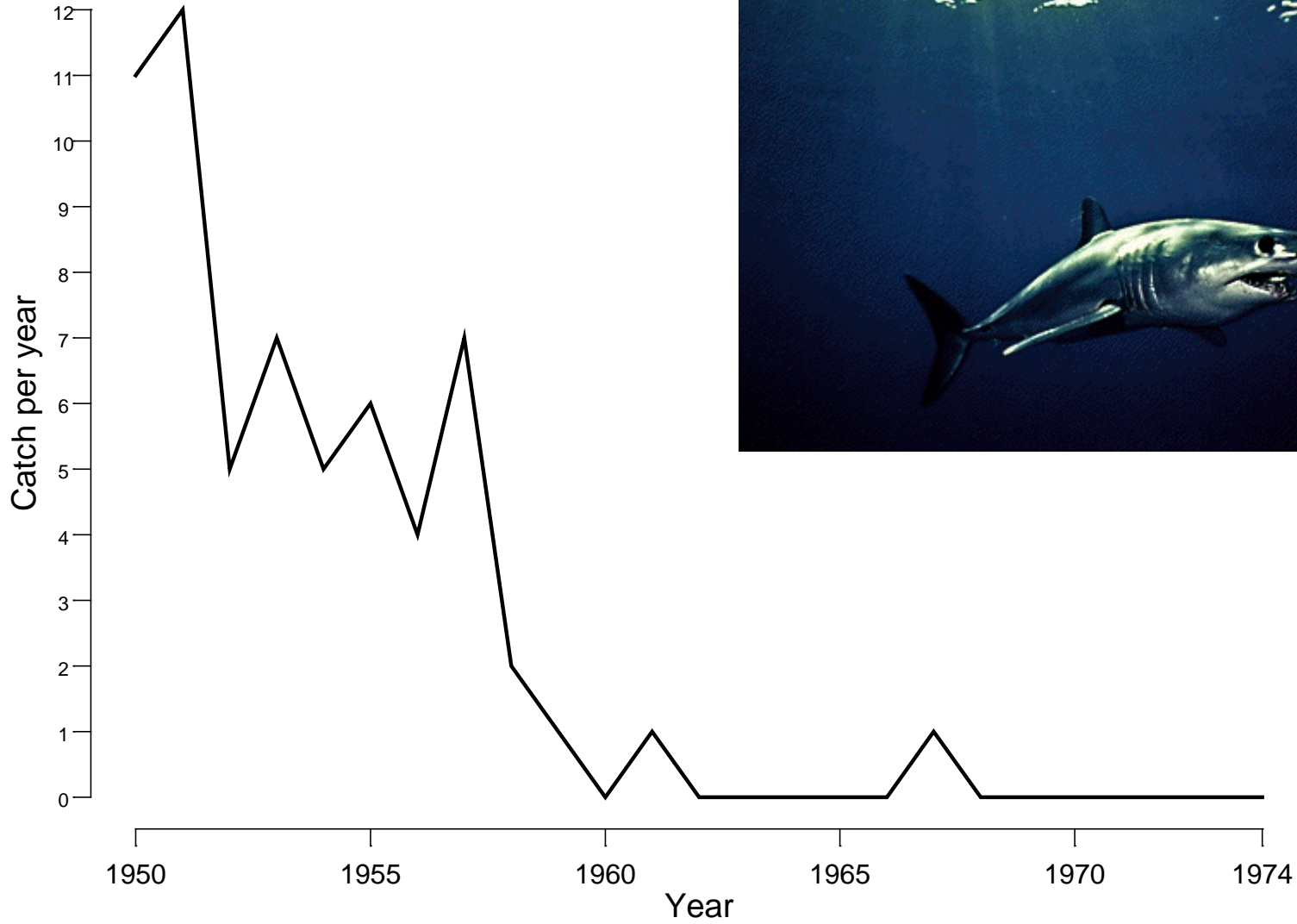


We Cannot Imagine the Loss of Life in the Ocean: We have to look at data.

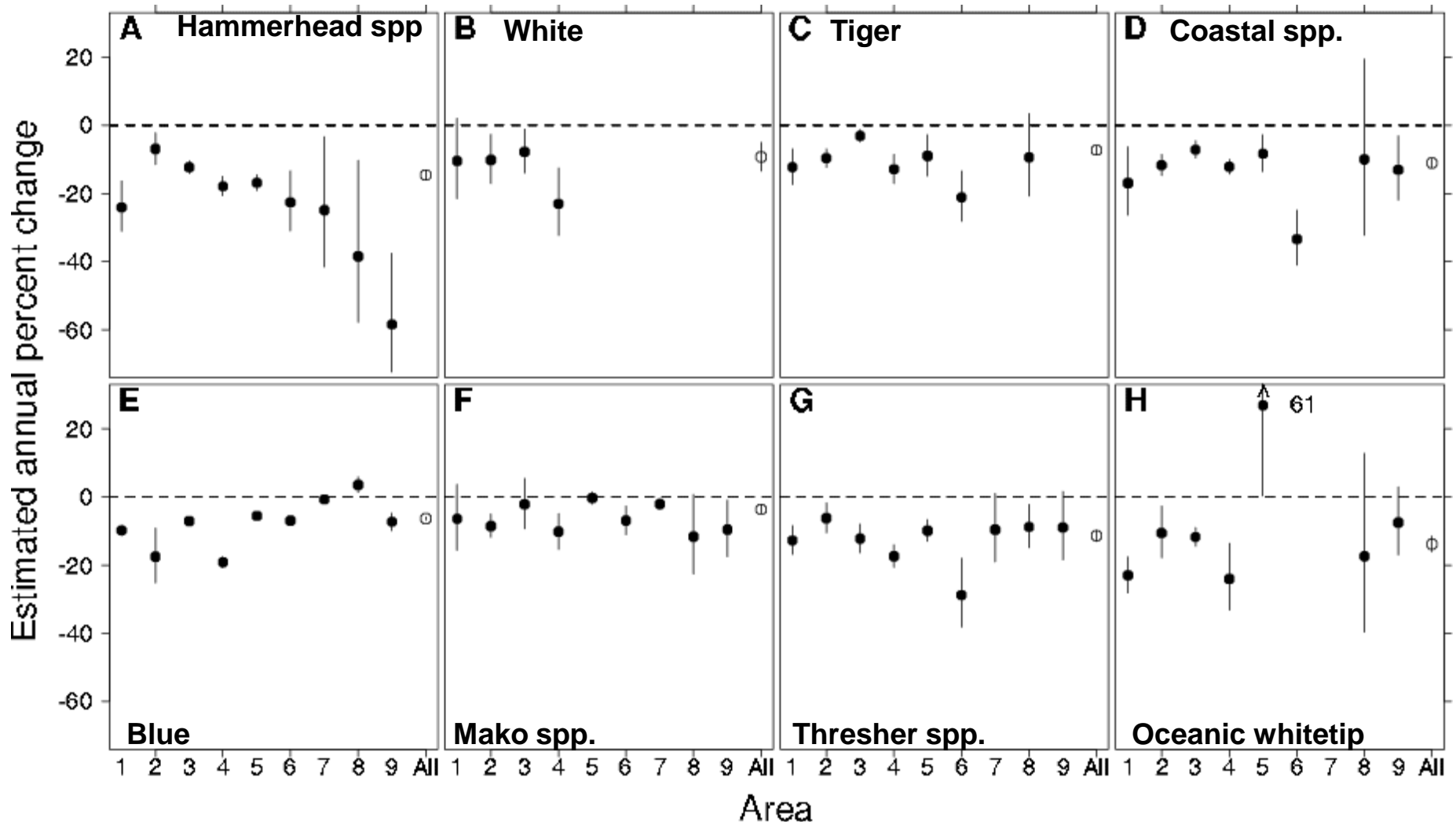
Ransom A. Myers (RAM)
Dalhousie University, Halifax,
Canada

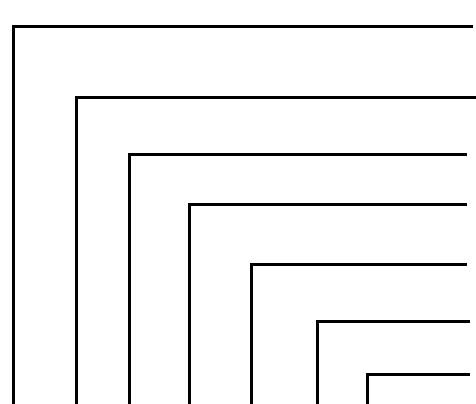


Decline of Mako sharks

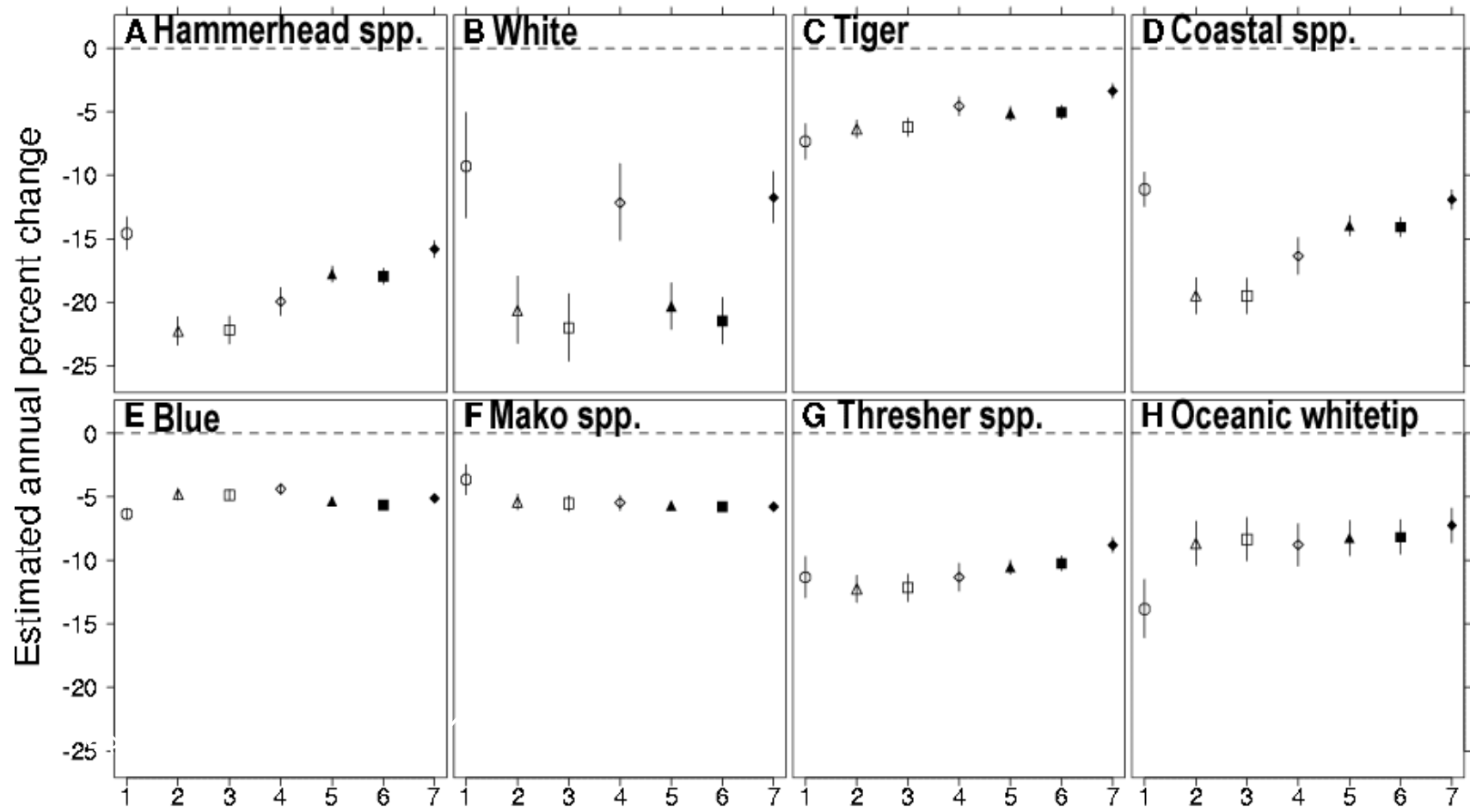


- 1 Caribbean
- 2 Gulf of Mexico
- 3 Florida
- 4 S Atlantic Bight
- 5 Mid Atlantic Bight
- 6 NE Coastal
- 7 NE Distant
- 8 Sargasso
- 9 S America

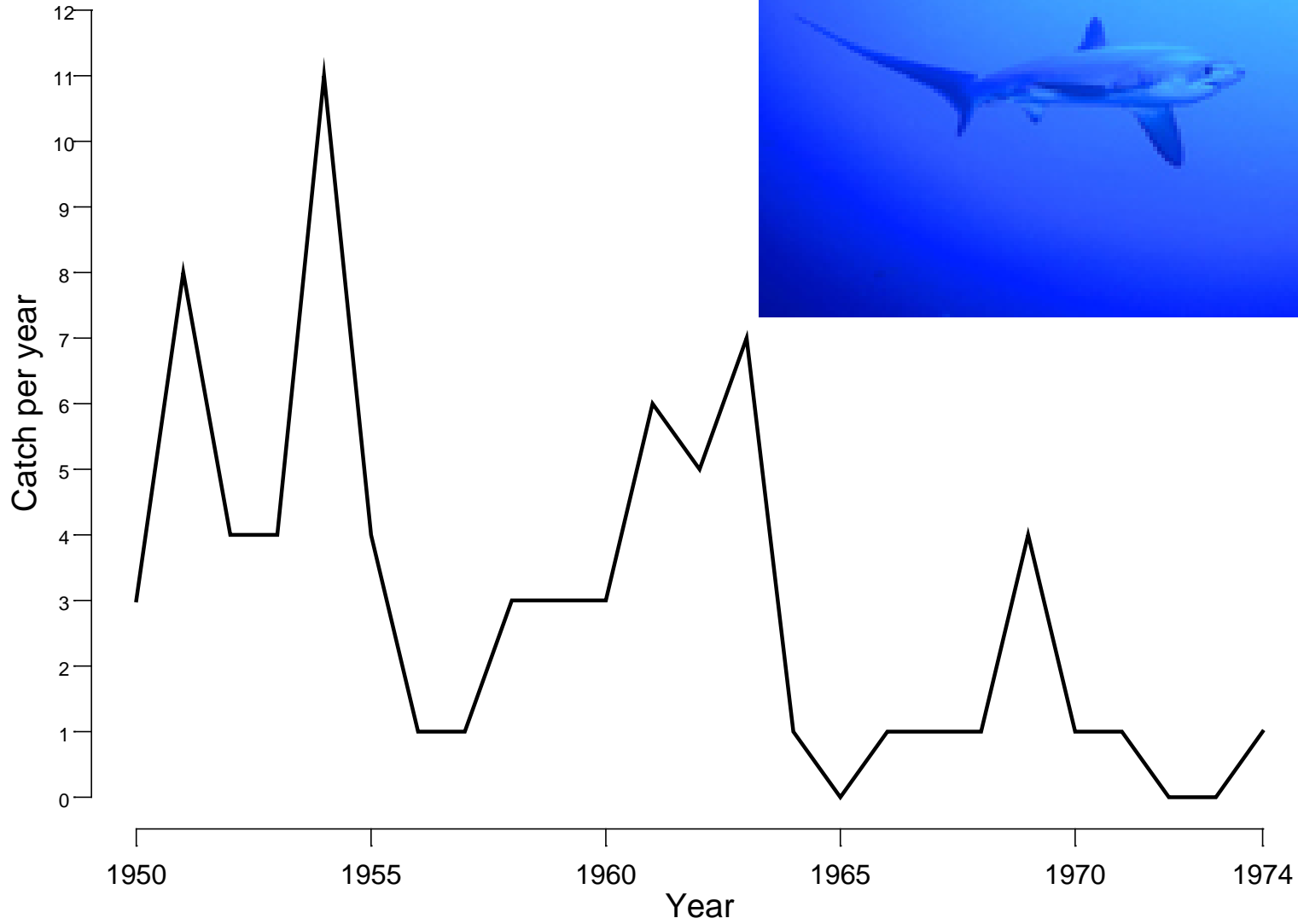




TNB
NB - all data
NB - vessels recorded species once
NB - vessels recorded species every year
DL - all data
DL - vessels recorded species once
DL - vessels recorded species every year

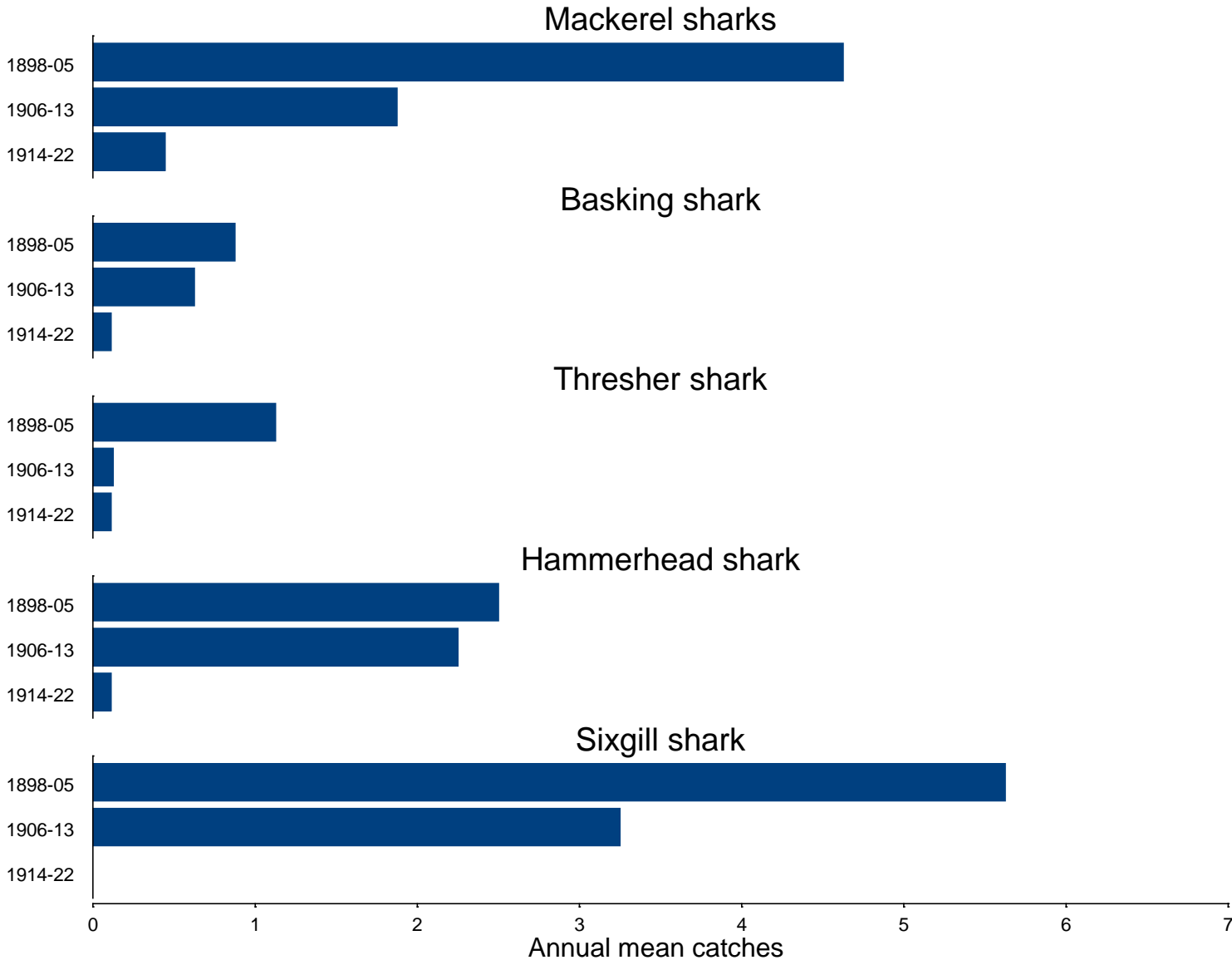


Decline of Thresher sharks



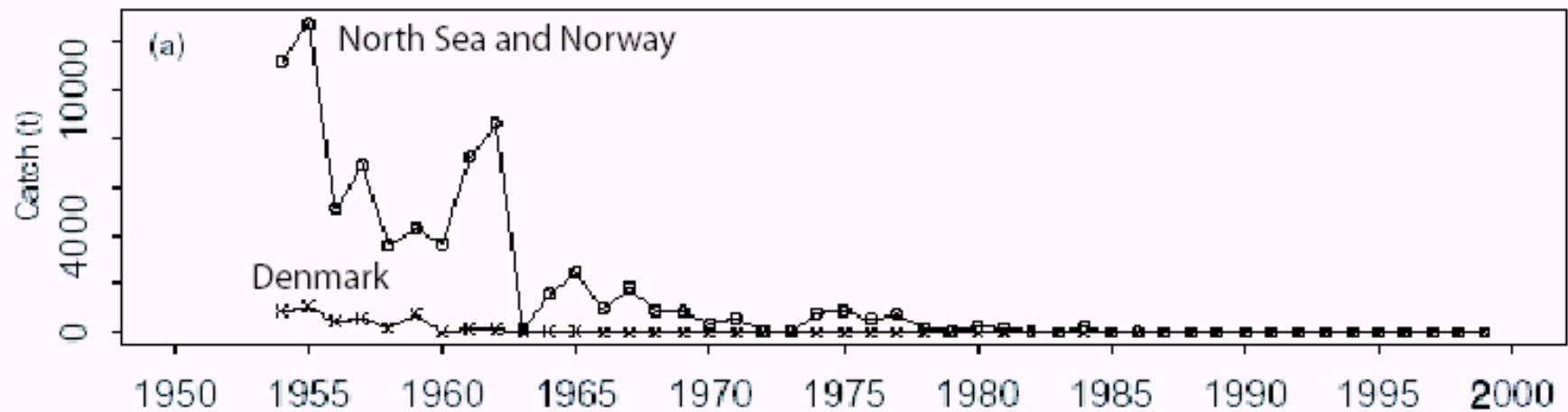
Decline in Large Sharks's Catches by an Italian Tuna Trap

Baratti's "Tonnarella"

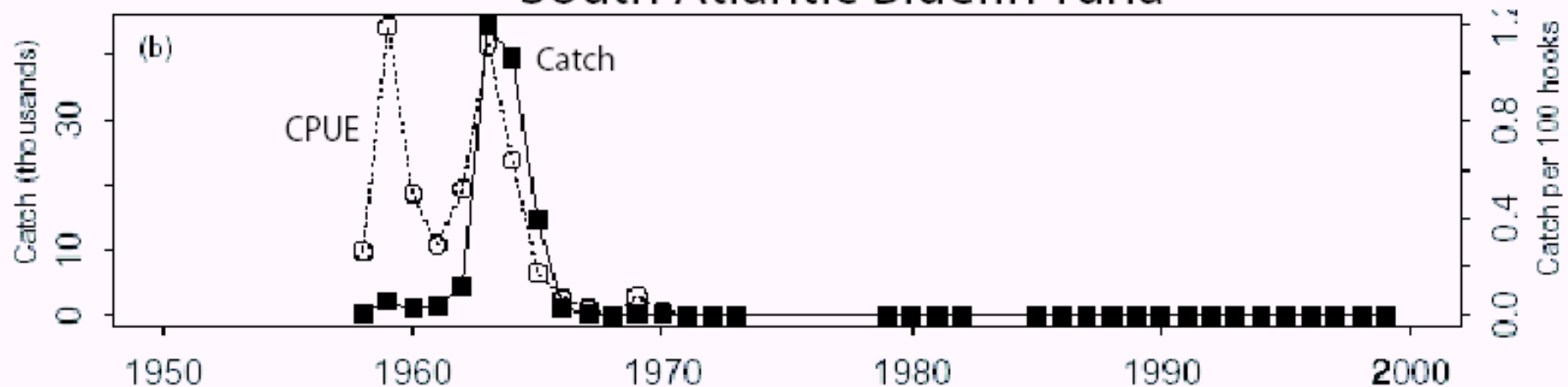


Loss of Bluefin Tuna Populations in the Atlantic

North Sea Bluefin Tuna



South Atlantic Bluefin Tuna

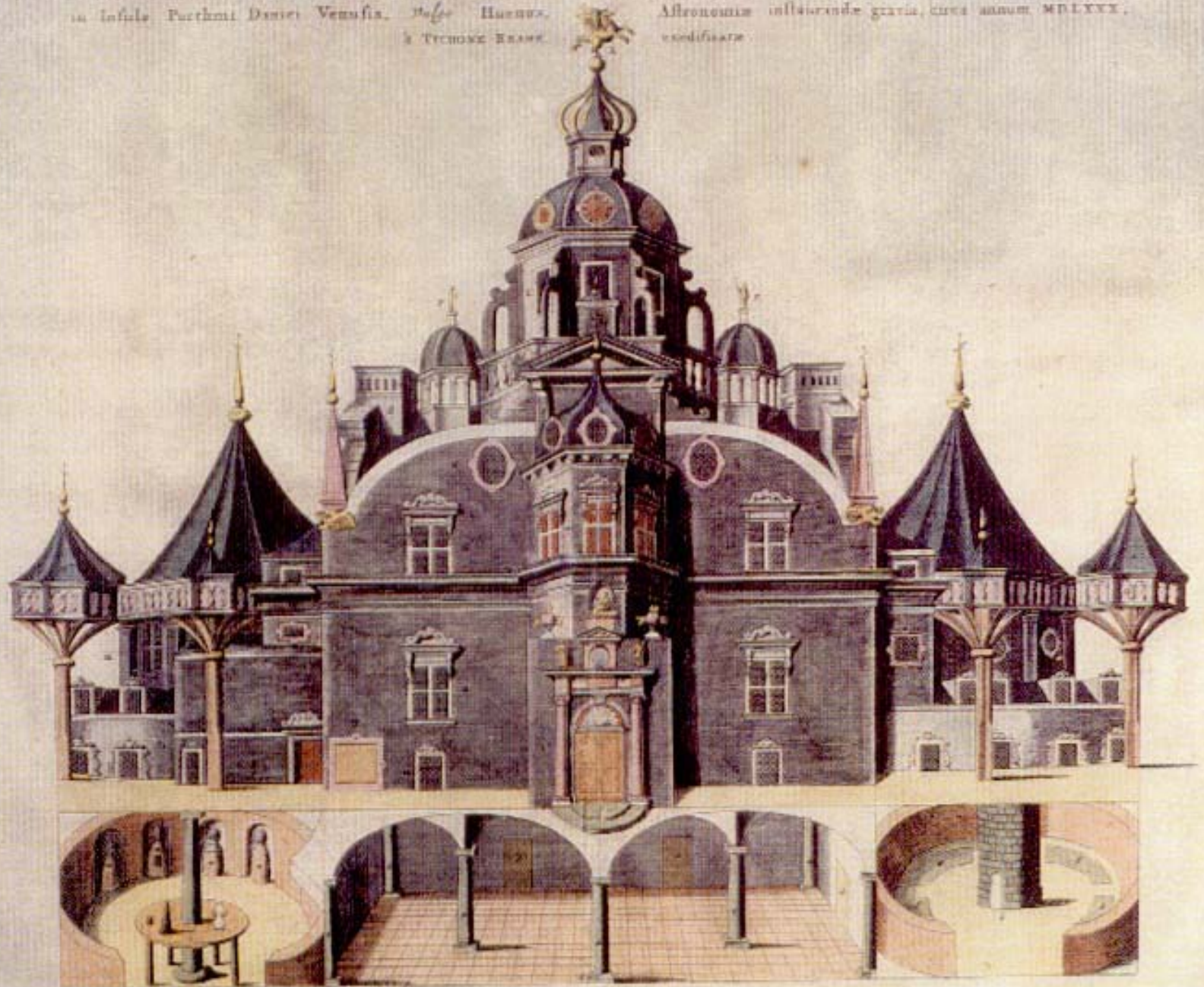




ORTHOGRAPHIA PRÆCIPVÆ DOMVS ARCIS VRANIBV RGI

in Insula Pomerani Dantis Veneris. *Stylus* HUGONIS.
& TICHONIS ERANNI.

Astronomis illusterrime gratia, cura anno MDCXXX.
restituta.

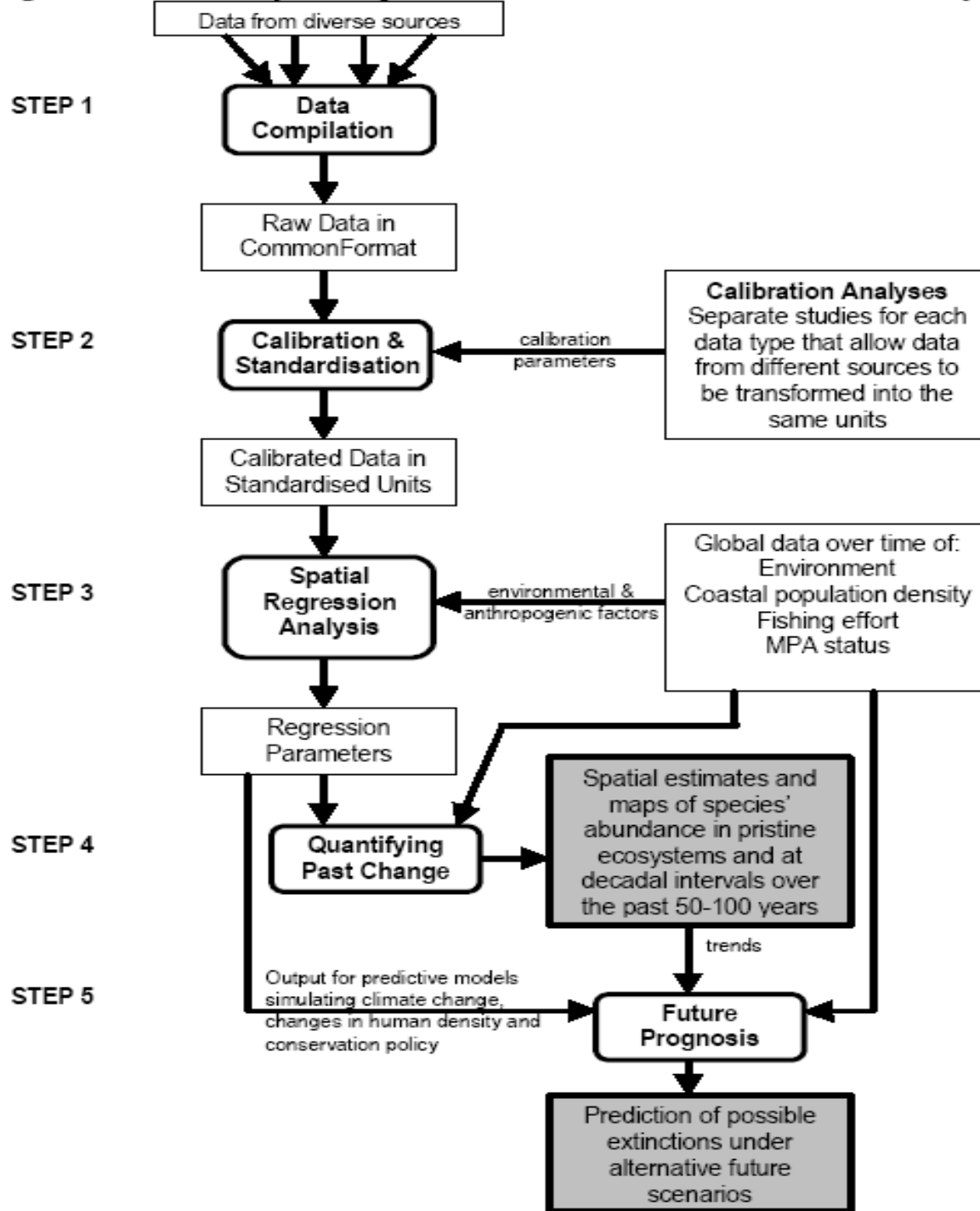


OFFICE OF THE DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE
WASHINGTON, D.C.
1887



Strategy:

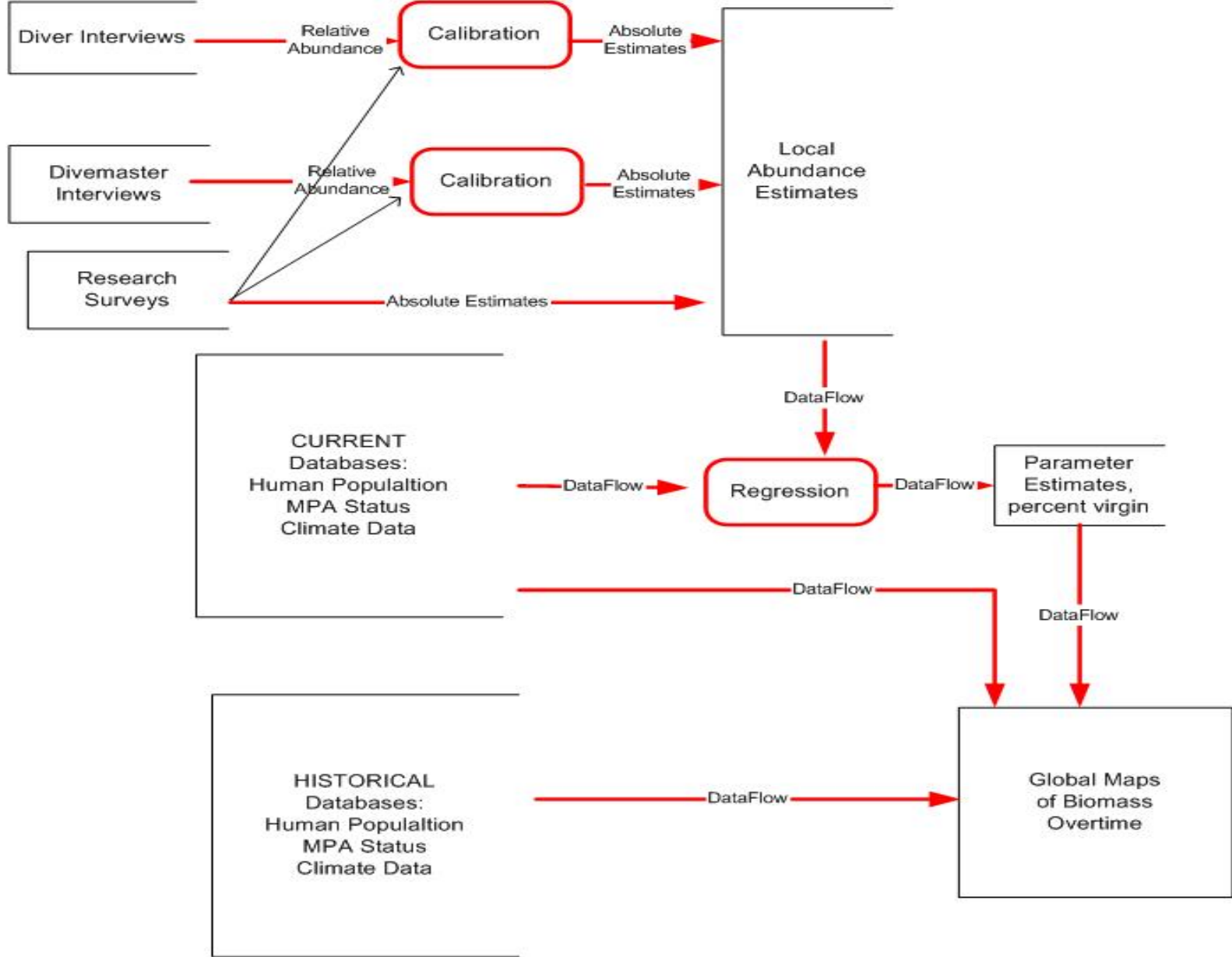
- Formulate the most important problem in terms of a critical model where in terms of a few parameters that can be well estimated.
- Compile all data in the world on the issue
- Analyze it the right way



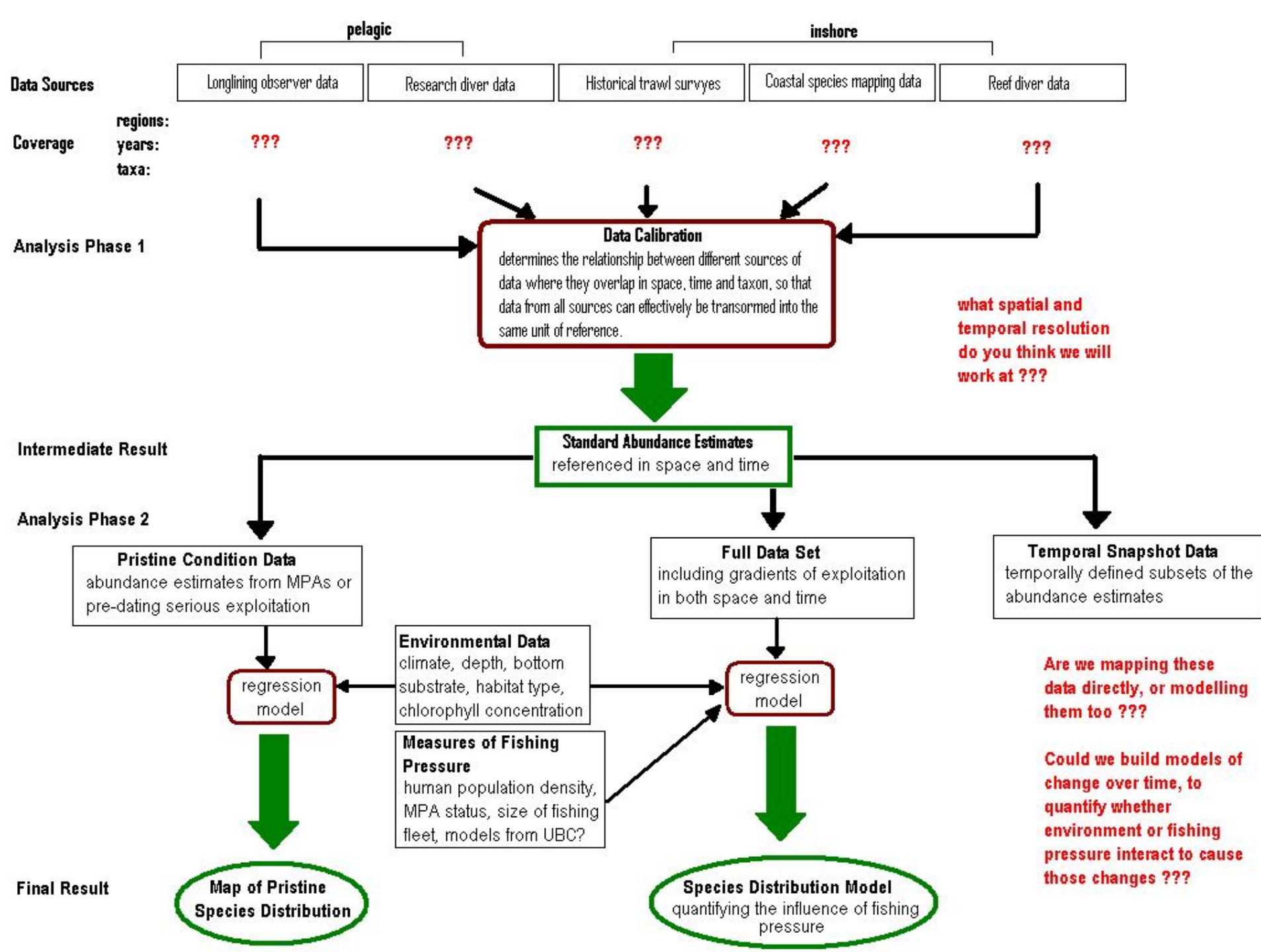




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Outline of data flow to produce global maps of abundance for reef species. The goal is produce maps for species that are of interest to divers over time, and estimate the “pristine” abundances and biomass, and the time trends over time to the present. This will be critical to estimating extinction probability.



Raw data on paper:

- old Japan data from Pacific
- old Japan data from Atlantic (one publication from equatorial Atlantic)
- old California Department of Fish and Game reports
- recent Japan data ICCAT documents (at least 5)
- old Canadian data
- old US east coast reports (we have a few on hand, others may be hidden at NMFS Gloester lab or in Miami)
- US expedition to the Indian Ocean in 1960 (Andy Bakum)
- Uruguay (p. 825 in Swordfish white books)
- Dave Long does longline surveys at NOAA La Jolla

Raw data in digital form:

- updates on Canadian data
- updates on US data
- observer data from the Mediterranean
- South Pacific Commission (we have much of this and could get more)
- Indian Ocean Commission?
- data sources in supplement to Lewison: Ecology Letters (2004) 7: 221-231
- Costa Rica
- cooperative shark tagging in RI
- NE US, Simpendorfer 2002
- Bolten's data from Azores

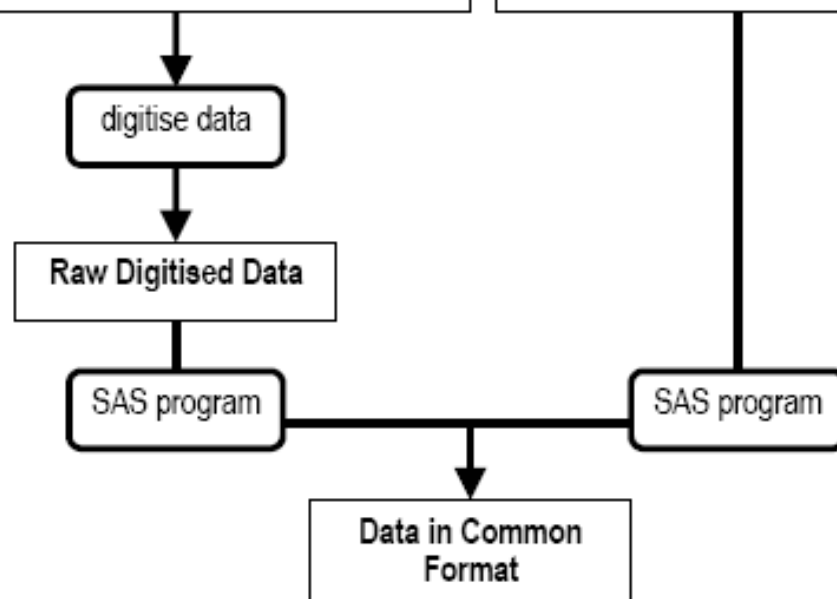


Figure 3. Calibration of data gathered from professional and amateur divers.

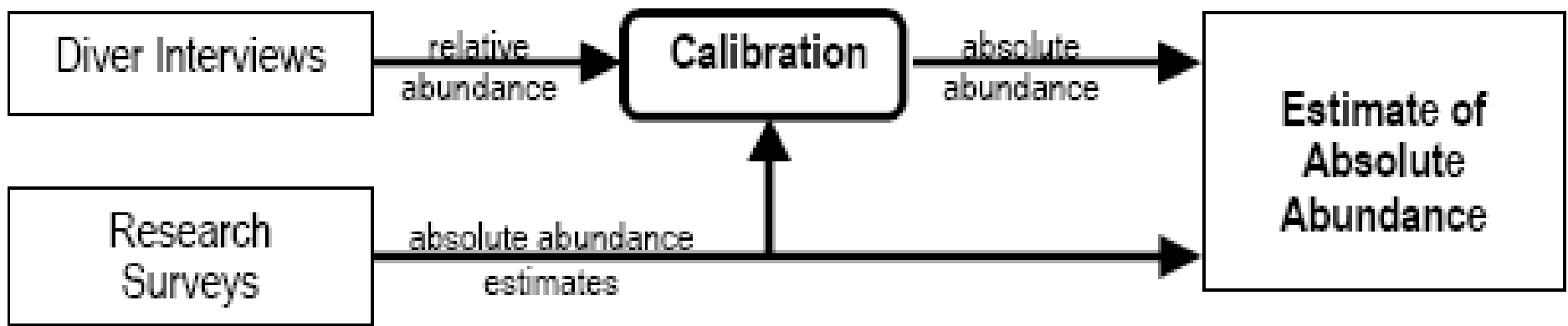
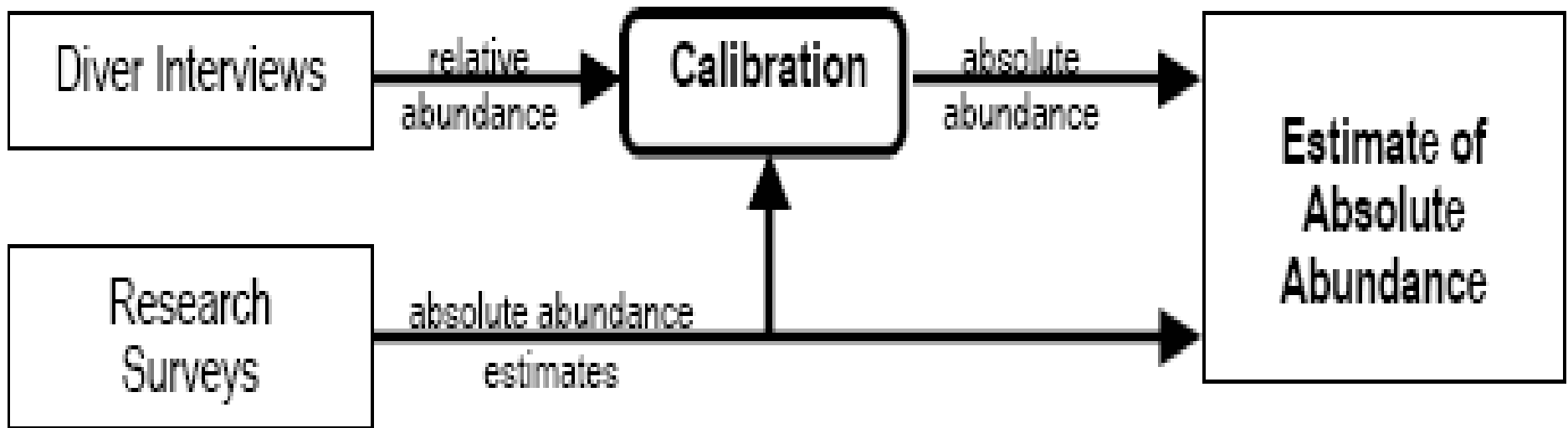


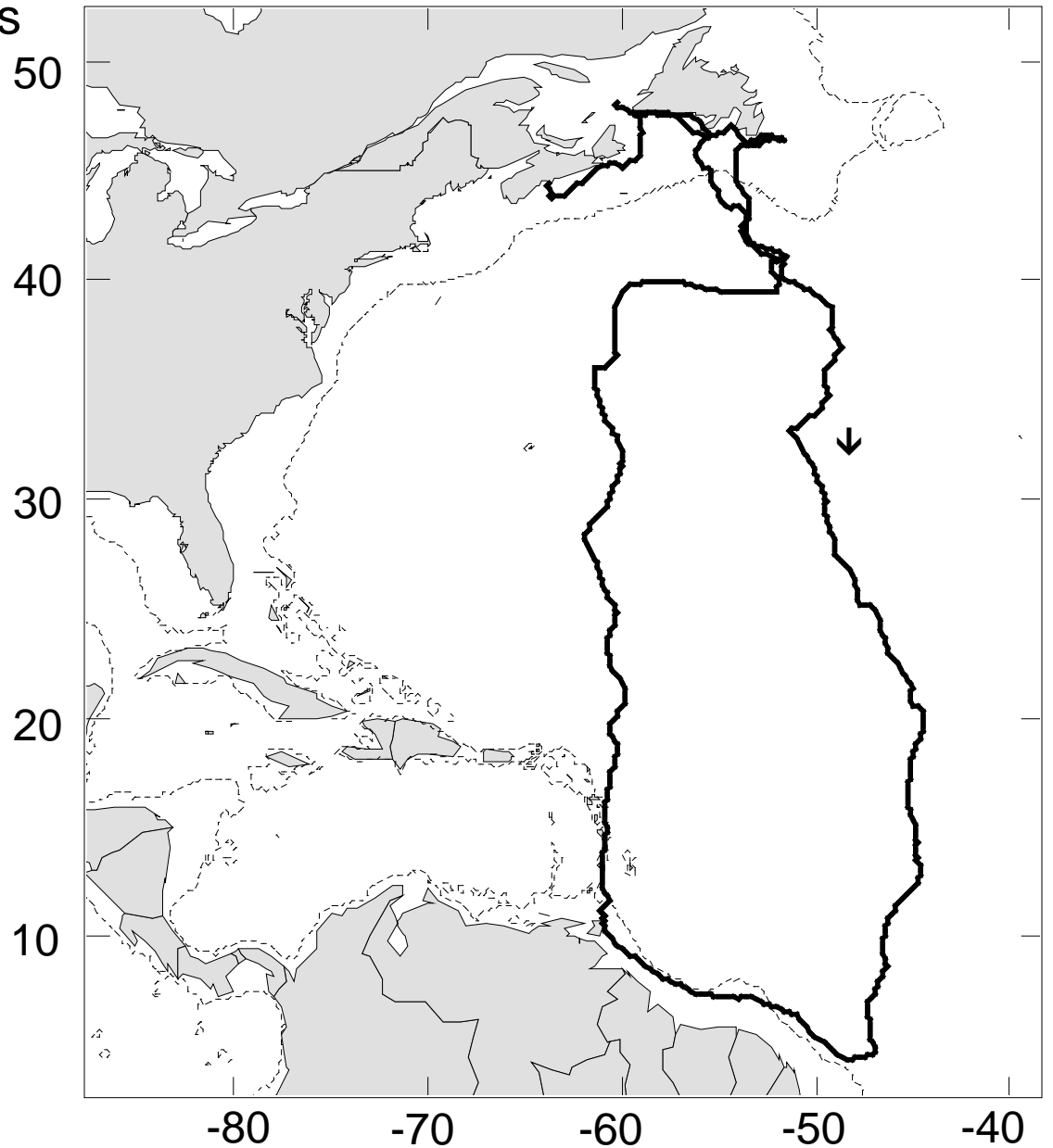
Figure 3. Calibration of data gathered from professional and amateur divers.



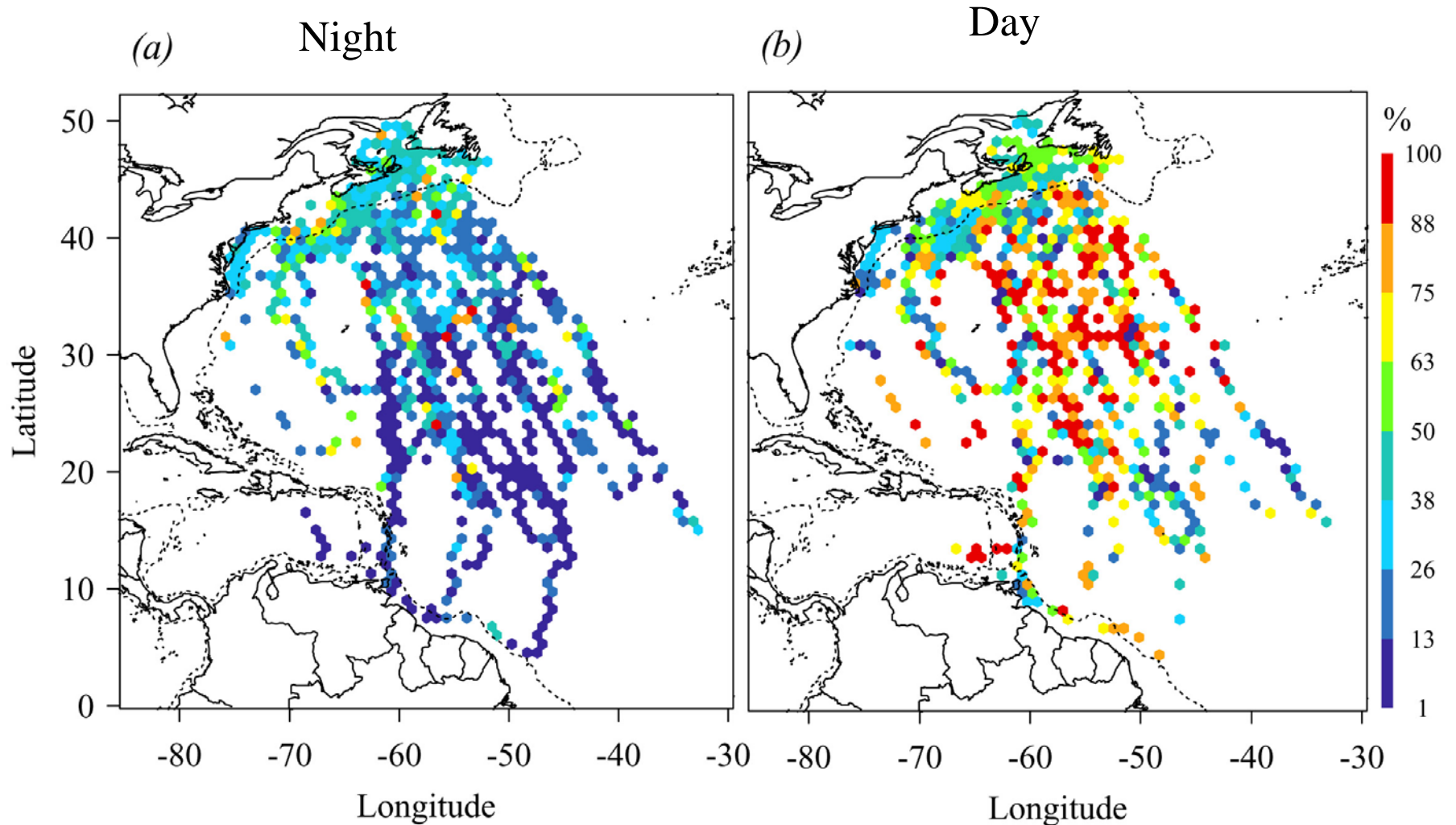
Male leatherback movements

- not previously described
- annual migratory cycle that includes movement between temperate foraging areas and tropical breeding areas

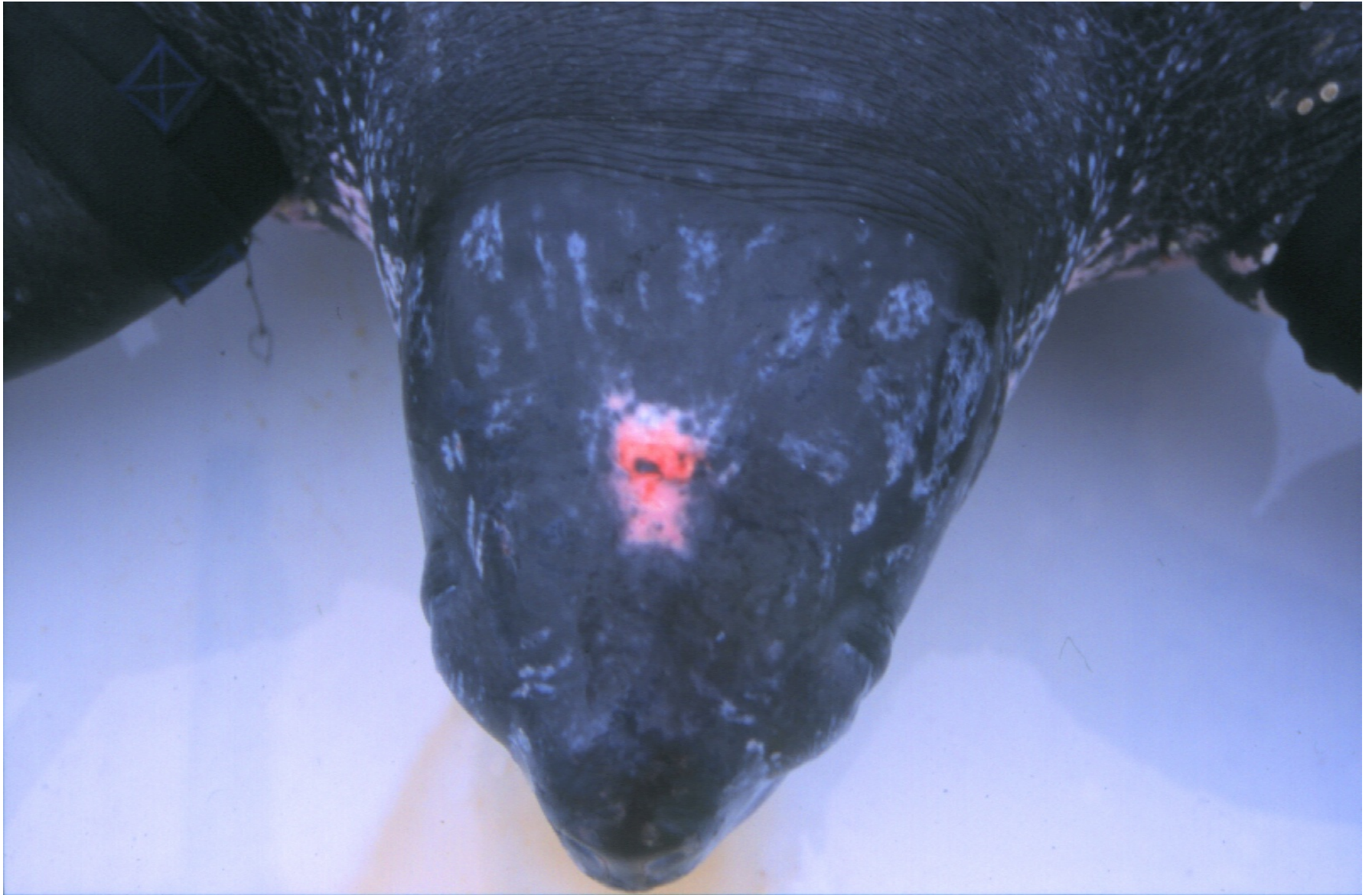
James, Eckert and Myers
Marine Biology (*in press*)



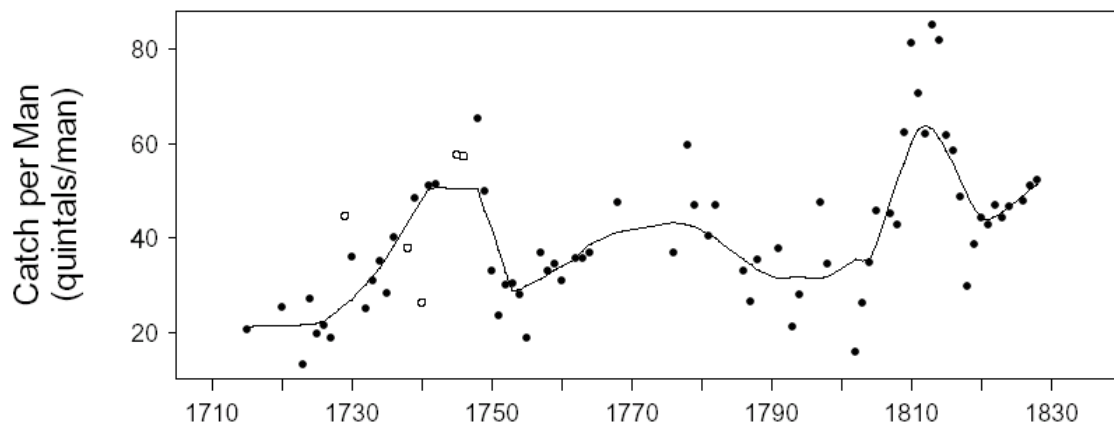
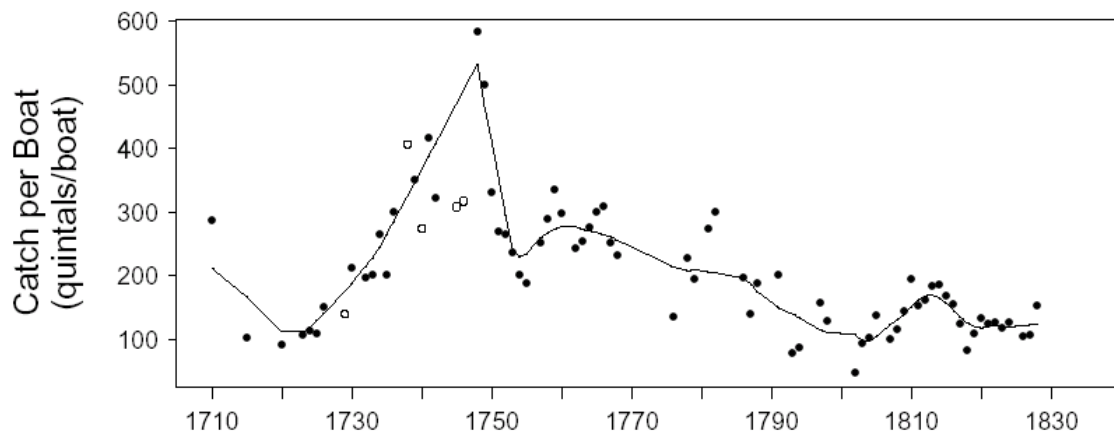
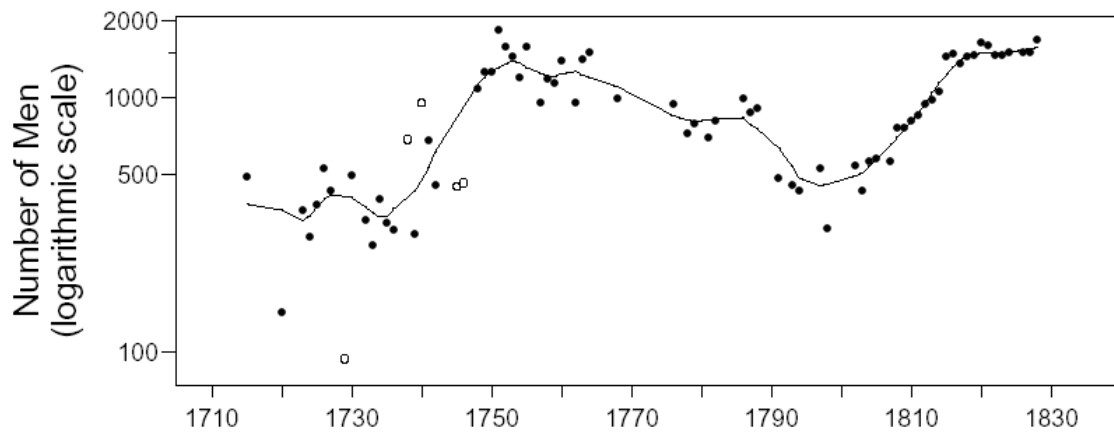
Turtles are close to the surface during the day during migration



Leatherback turtles are unique in that they expose their pineal spot to sunlight.

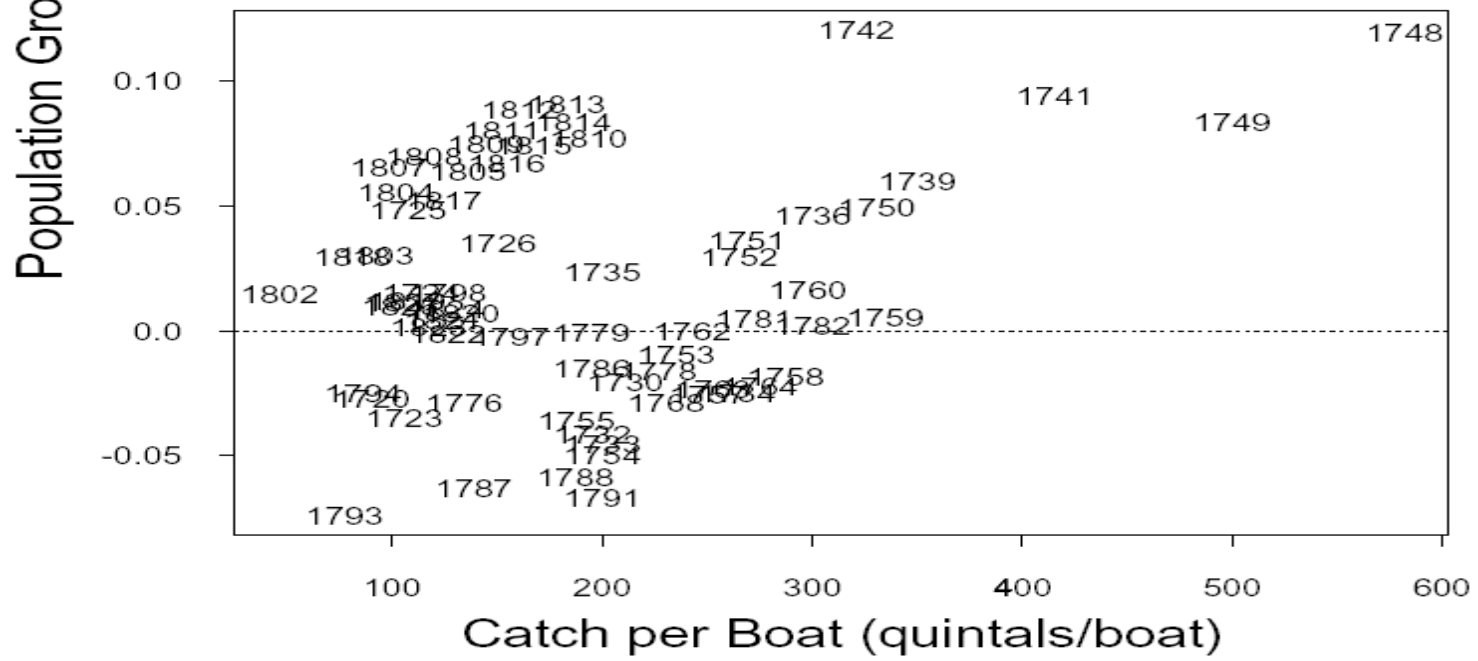
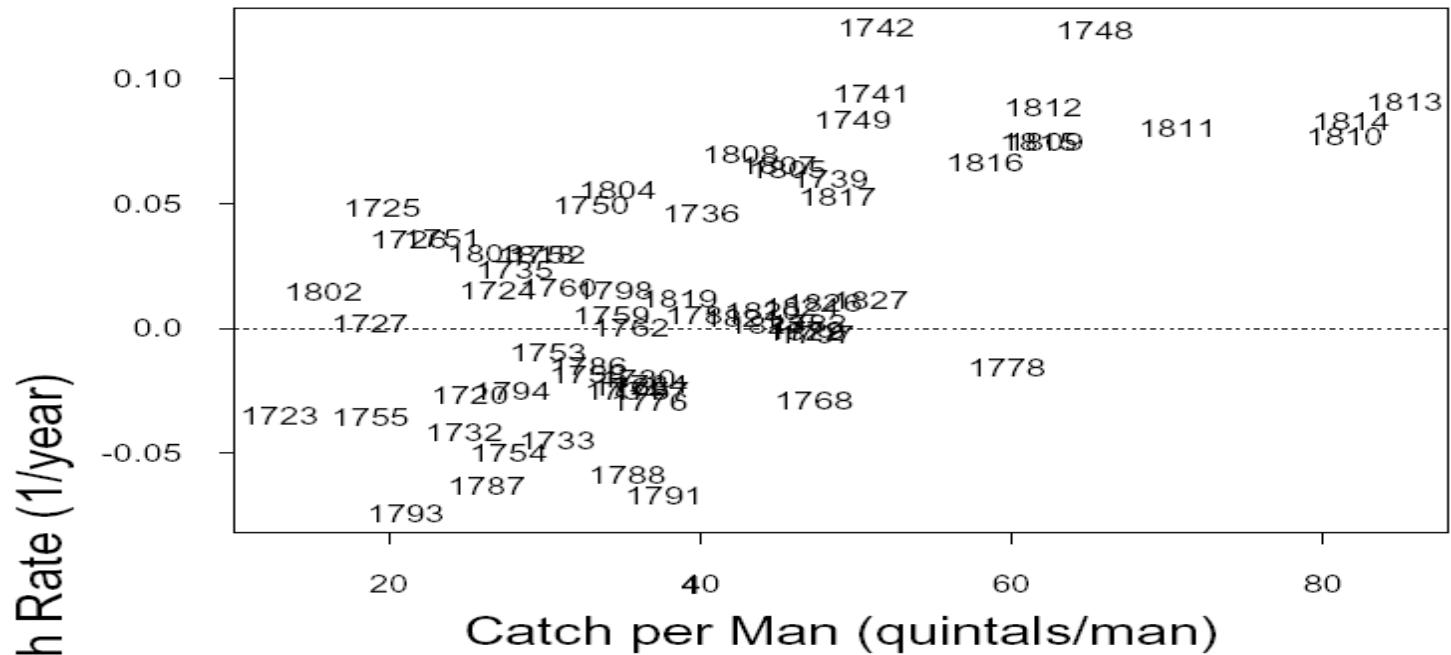


Trinity Bay

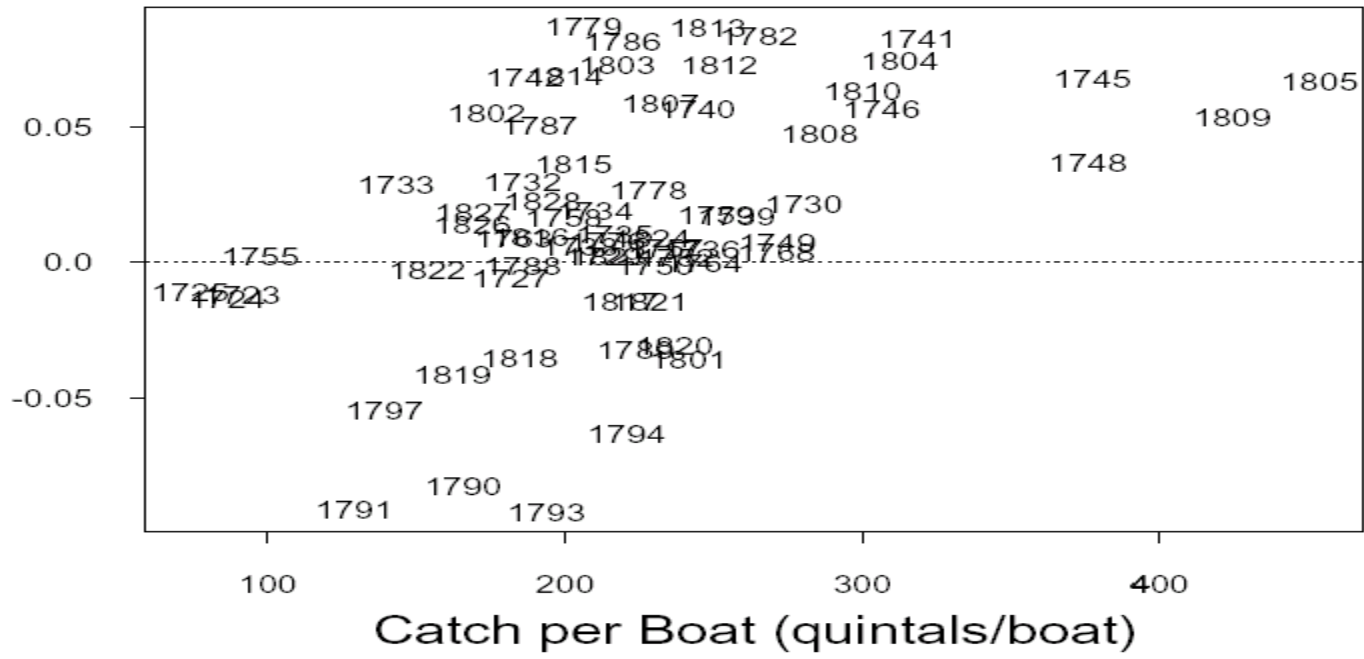
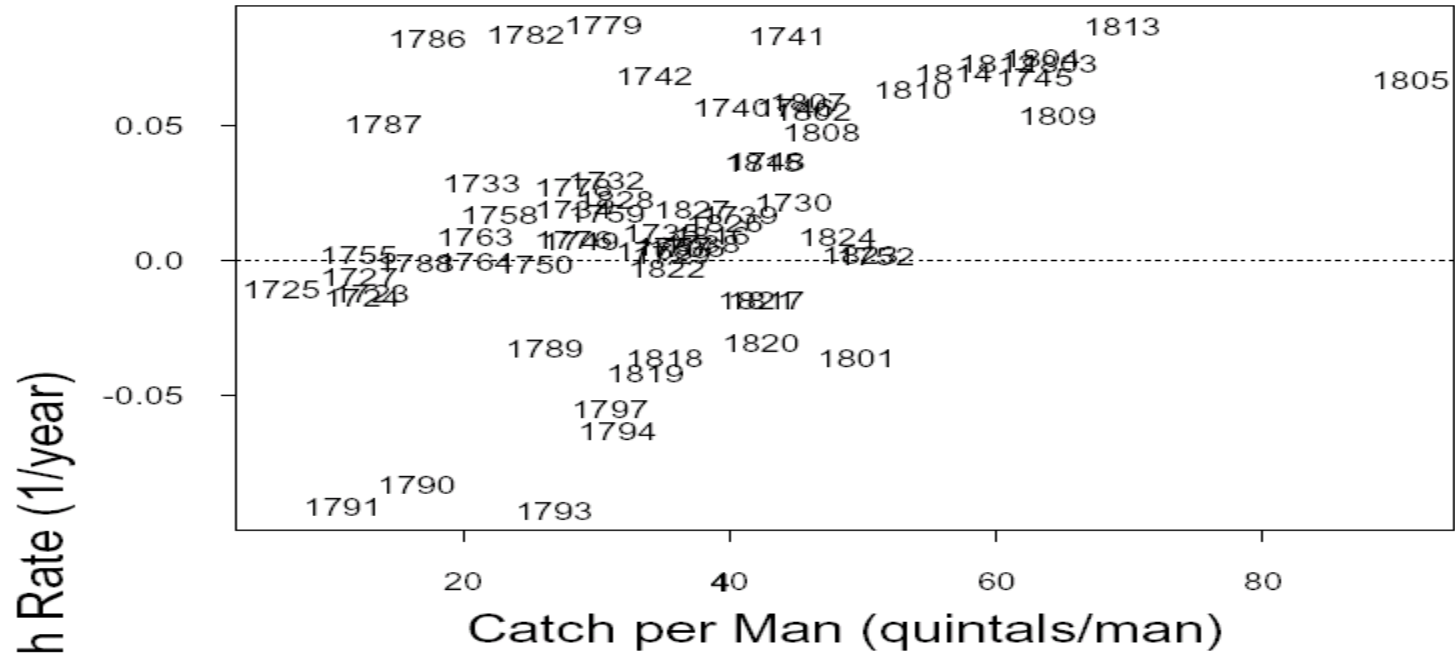


Year

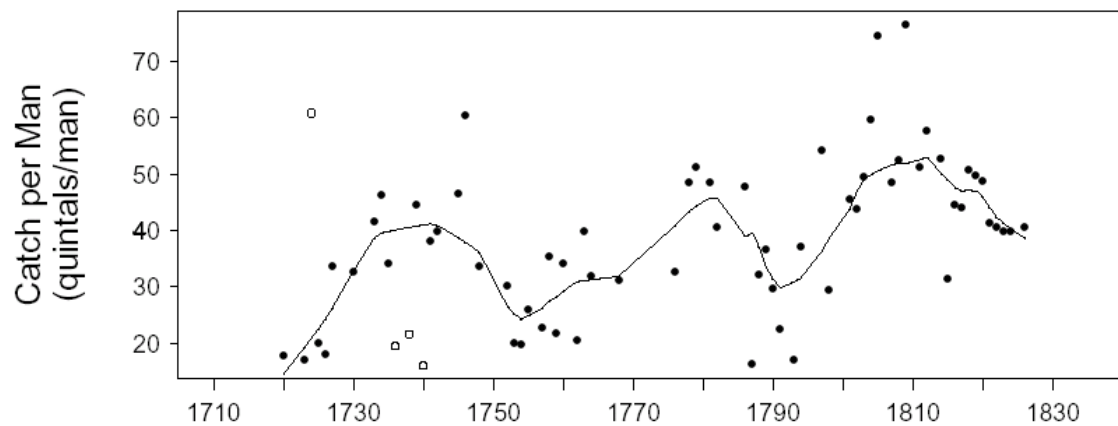
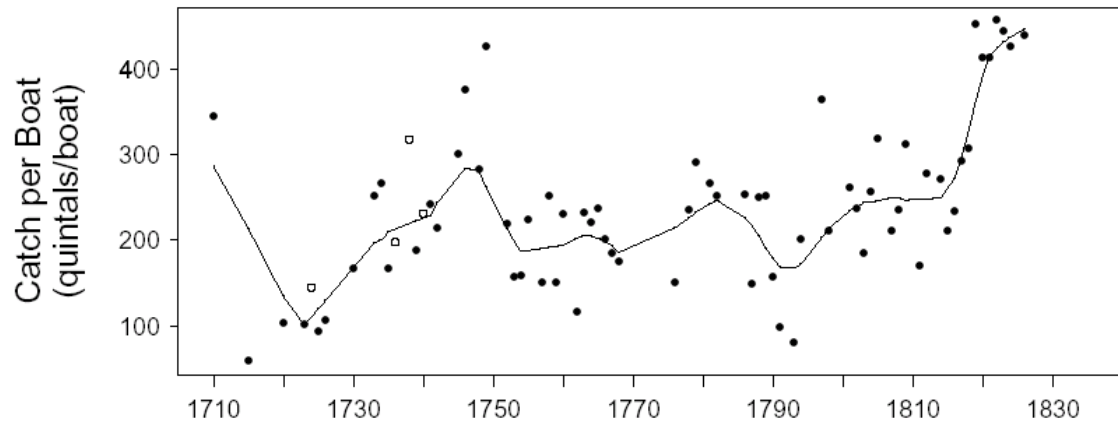
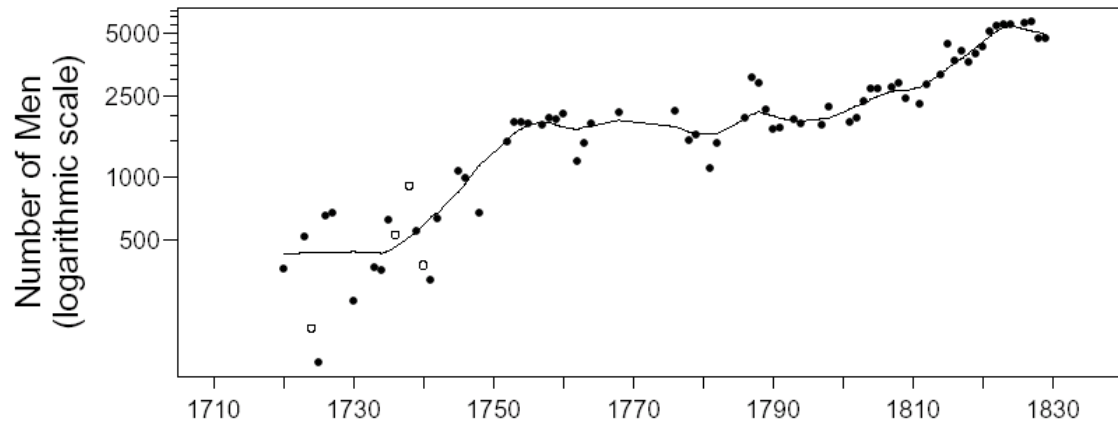
Trinity Bay



St. John's to Cape Race



Conception Bay

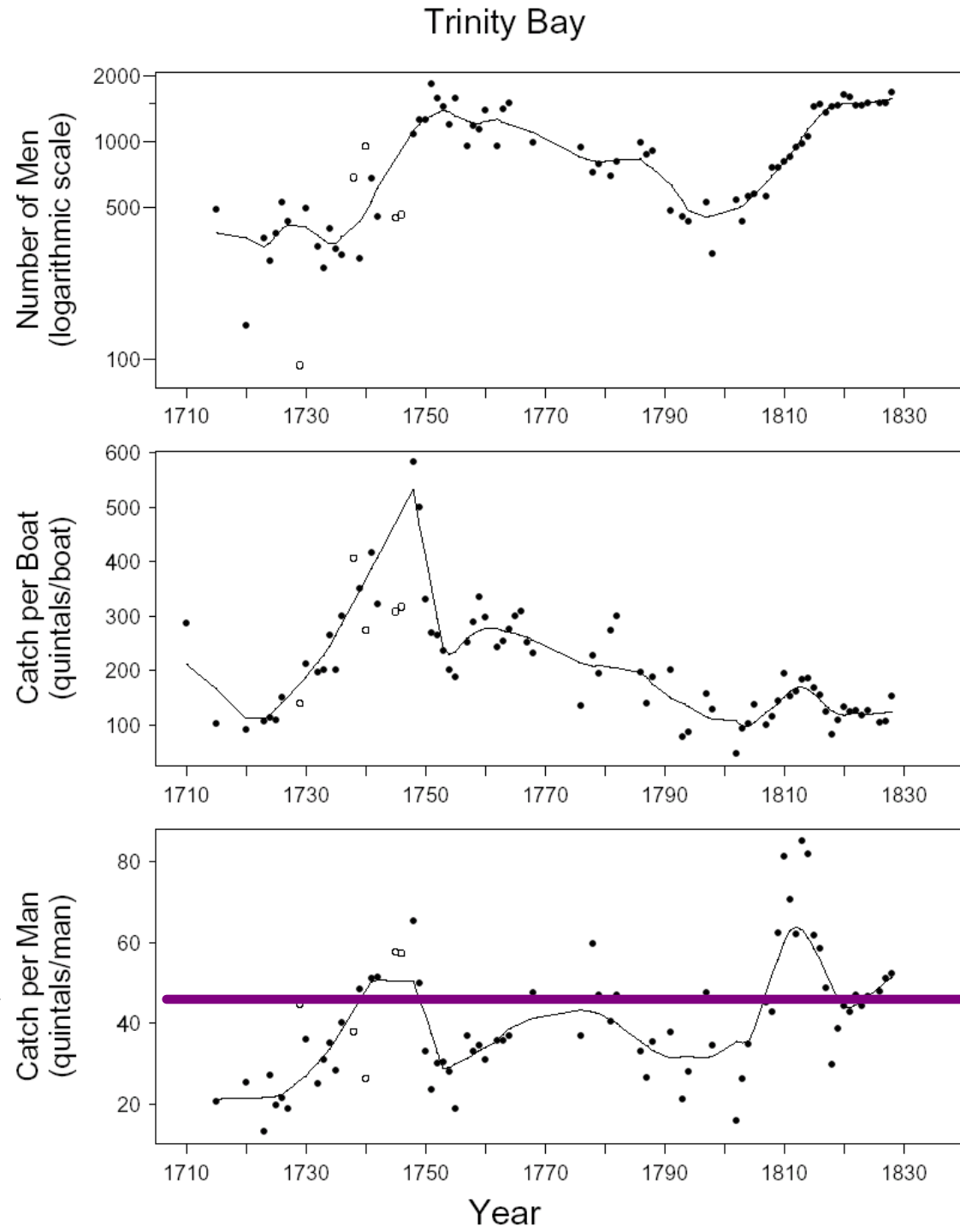


Year

The efficiency of the Newfoundland cod fishery had not changed in 4 centuries.

The only bioeconomic equilibrium of a highly subsidized fishery is zero fish.

Catch rates in the 1980's per person (20,000 fishers who caught ~200,000 metric tonnes of cod).





Marine data
 Communities are
 Claimed to be
 Very complex:
 Link, MEPS. 2002.

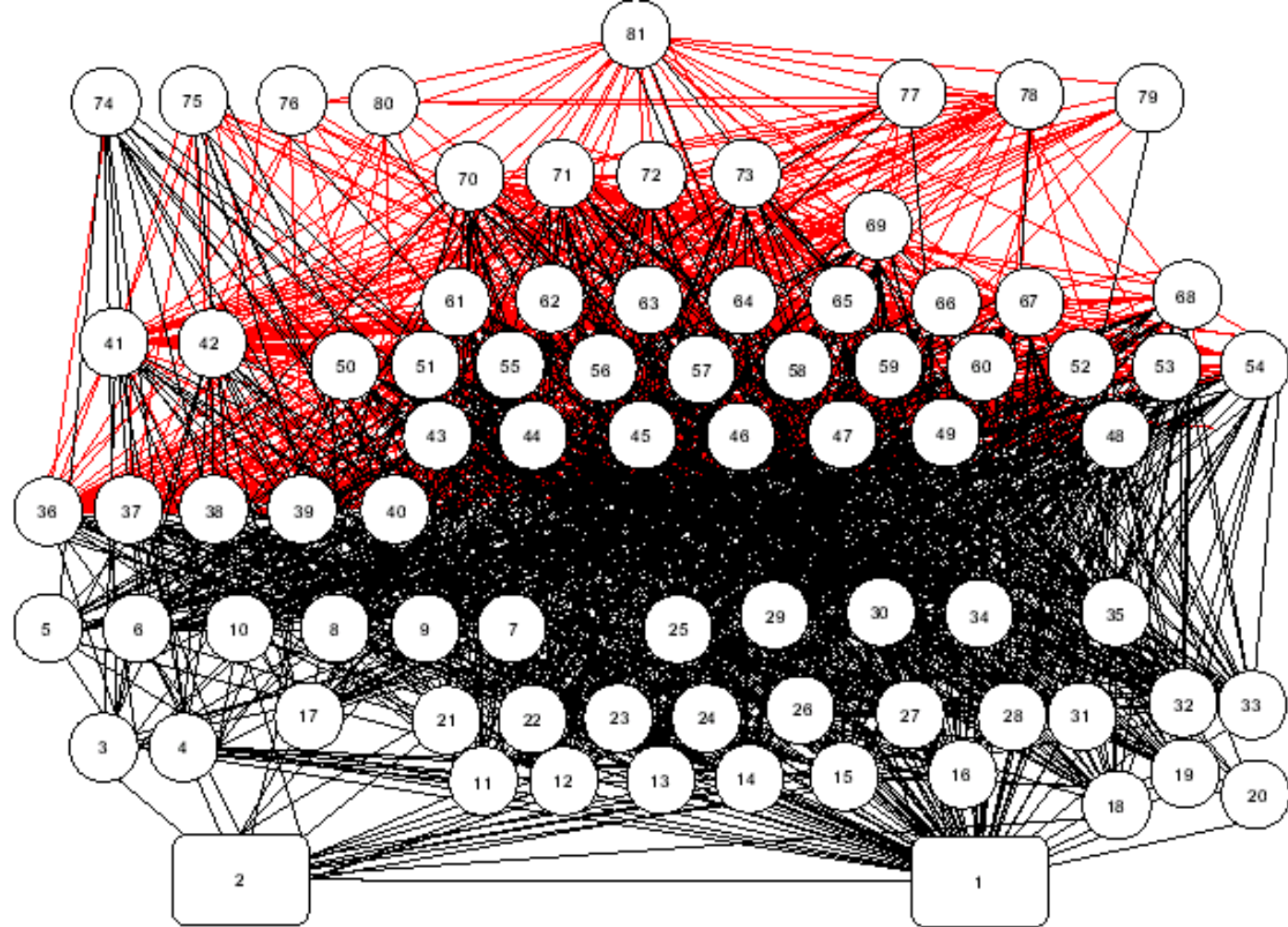


Fig. 1. Species and links of the northwest Atlantic food web. This tangled 'bird's nest' represents interactions at the approximate trophic level of each species, with increasing trophic level towards the top of the web. The left side of the web generally typifies pelagic organisms, and the right to middle represents more benthic/demersally oriented organisms. Red lines indicate predation on fish. 1 = detritus, 2 = phytoplankton, 3 = *Calanus* sp., 4 = other copepods, 5 = ctenophores, 6 = chaetognaths (i.e. arrow worms), 7 = jellyfish, 8 = euphasiids, 9 = *Crangon* sp., 10 = mysids, 11 = pandalids, 12 = other decapods, 13 = gammarids, 14 = hyperiids, 15 = caprellids, 16 = isopods, 17 = pteropods, 18 = cumaceans, 19 = mantis shrimps, 20 = tunicates, 21 = ponifera, 22 = cancer crabs, 23 = other crabs, 24 = lobster, 25 = hydroids, 26 = corals and anemones, 27 = polychaetes, 28 = other worms, 29 = starfish, 30 = brittle stars, 31 = sea cucumbers, 32 = scallops, 33 = clams and mussels, 34 = snails, 35 = urchins, 36 = sand lance, 37 = Atlantic herring, 38 = alewife, 39 = Atlantic mackerel, 40 = butterfish, 41 = loligo, 42 = illex, 43 = pollock, 44 = silver hake, 45 = spotted hake, 46 = white hake, 47 = red hake, 48 = Atlantic cod, 49 = haddock, 50 = sea raven, 51 = longhorn sculpin, 52 = little skate, 53 = winter skate, 54 = thorny skate, 55 = ocean pout, 56 = cusk, 57 = wolfish, 58 = cunner, 59 = sea robins, 60 = redfish, 61 = yellowtail flounder, 62 = windowpane flounder, 63 = summer flounder, 64 = witch flounder, 65 = four-spot flounder, 66 = winter flounder, 67 = American plaice, 68 = American halibut, 69 = smooth dogfish, 70 = spiny dogfish, 71 = goosefish, 72 = weakfish, 73 = bluefish, 74 = baleen whales, 75 = toothed whales and porpoises, 76 = seals, 77 = migratory scombrids, 78 = migratory sharks, 79 = migratory billfish, 80 = birds, 81 = humans

Changes in the Bohai Sea

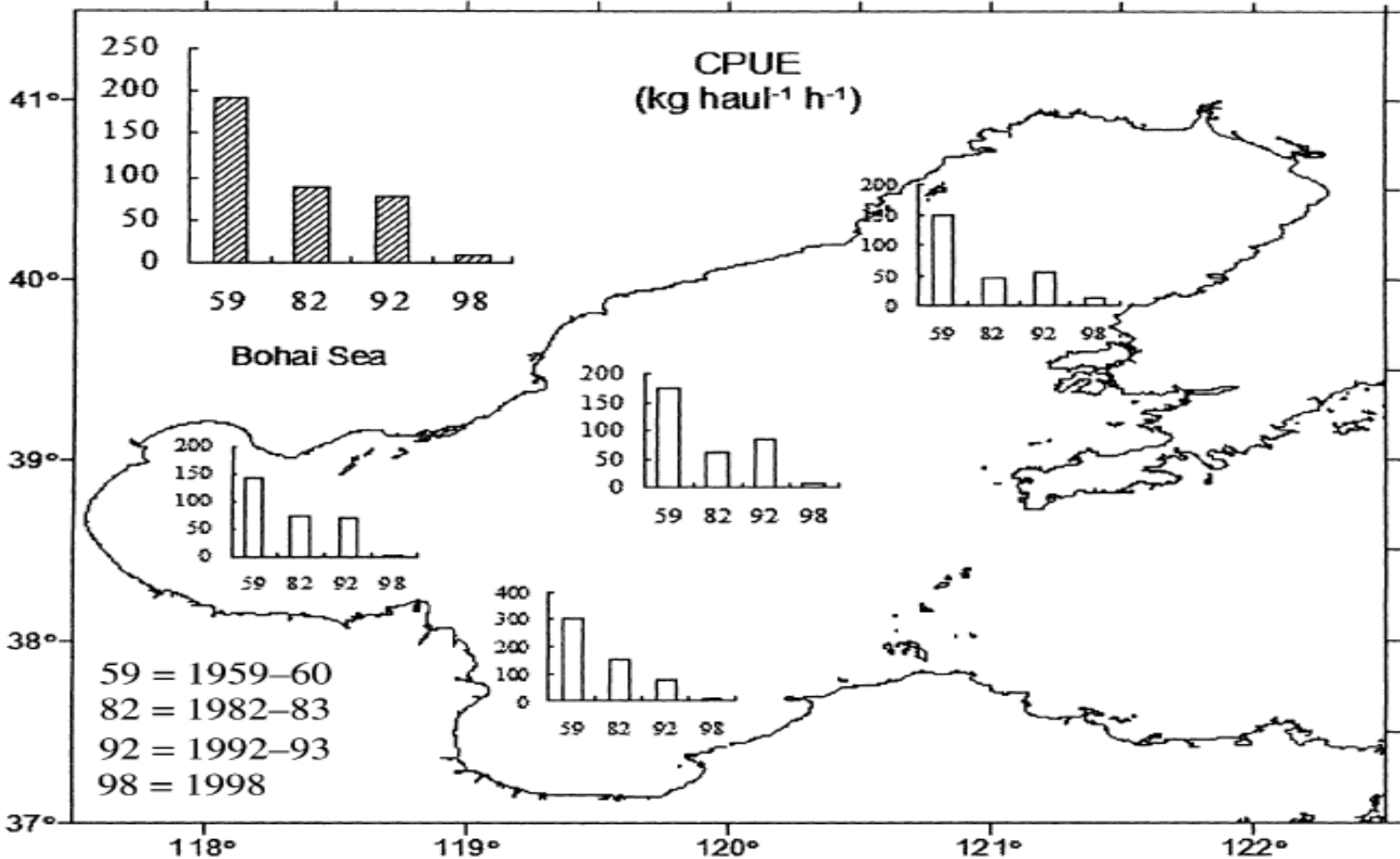
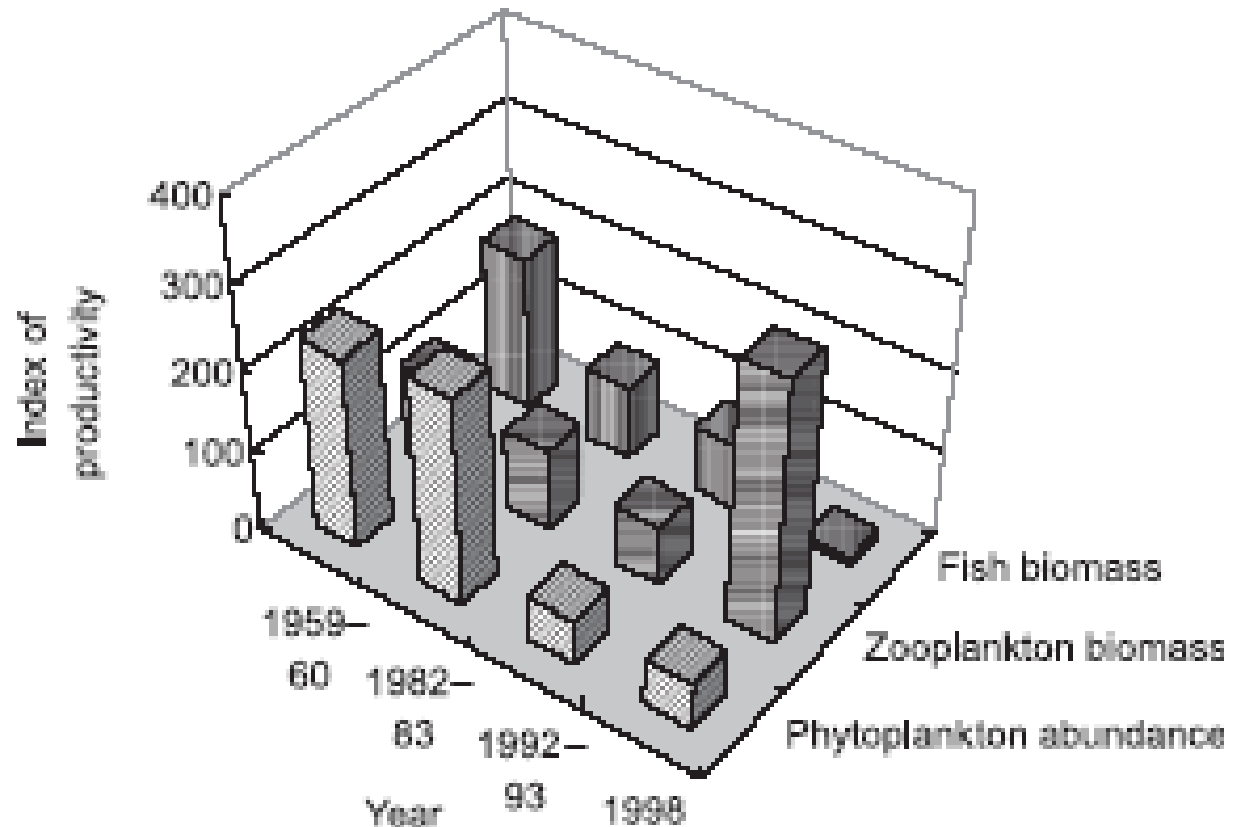


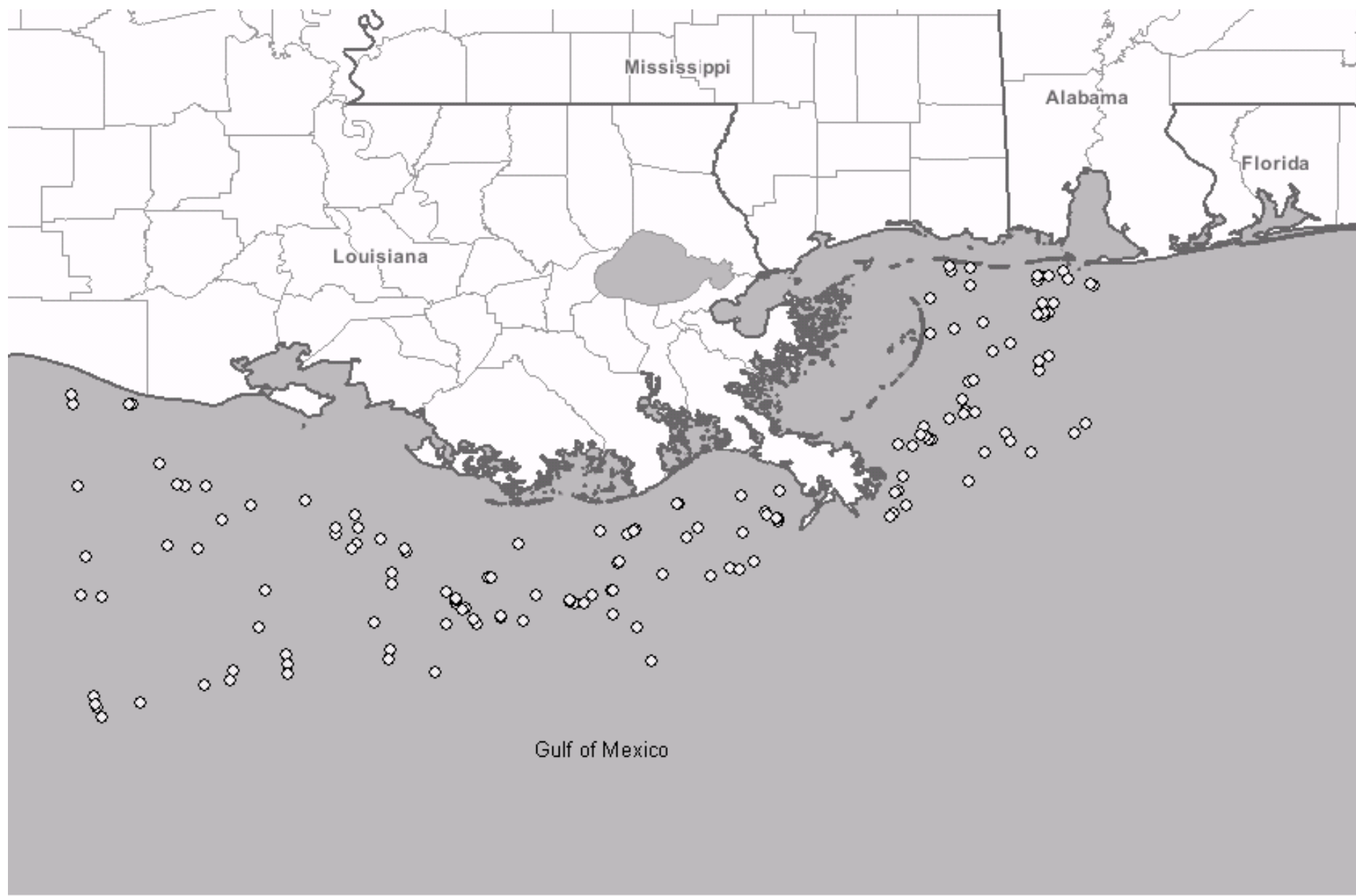
Figure 10. Decadal-scale variations of ecosystem productivity at different trophic levels in the Bohai Sea (phytoplankton abundance, $\times 10^4$ cell m^{-3} , zooplankton biomass, $mg m^{-3}$, fish biomass, $kg haul^{-1} h^{-1}$).



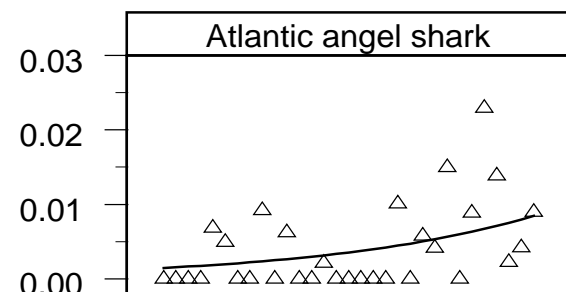
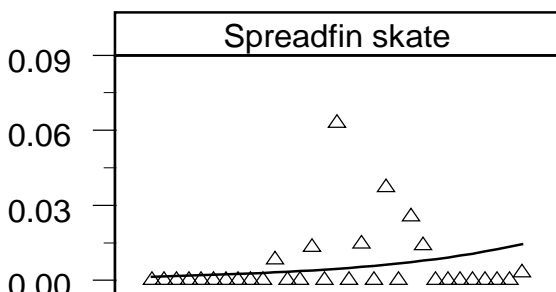
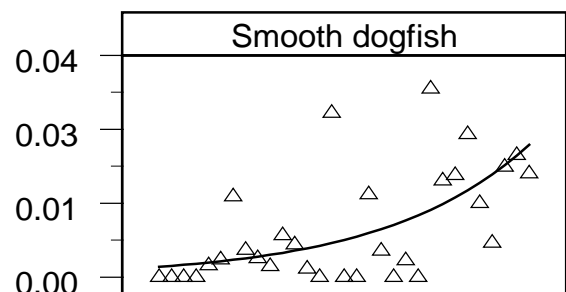
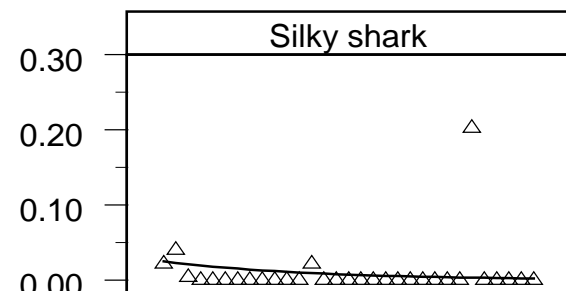
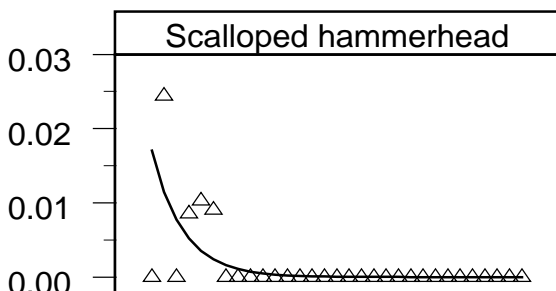
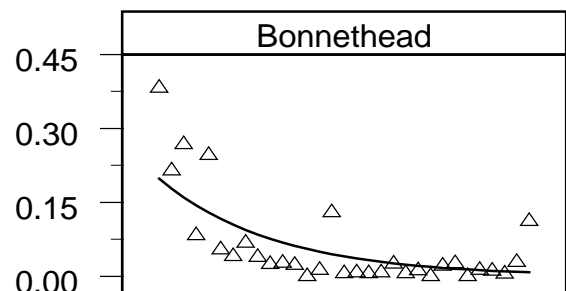
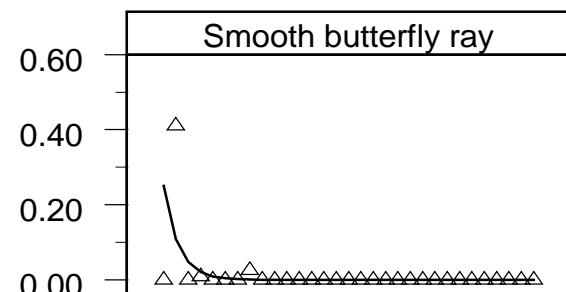
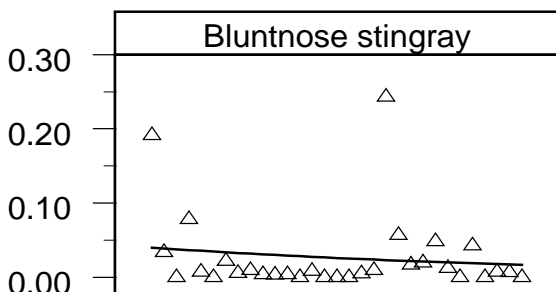
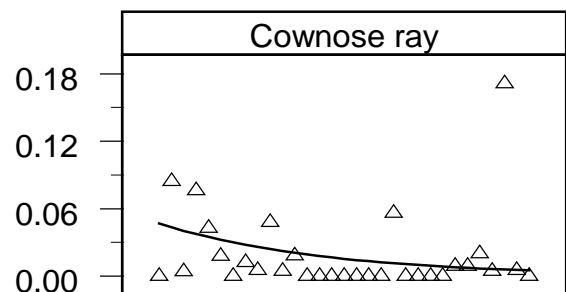
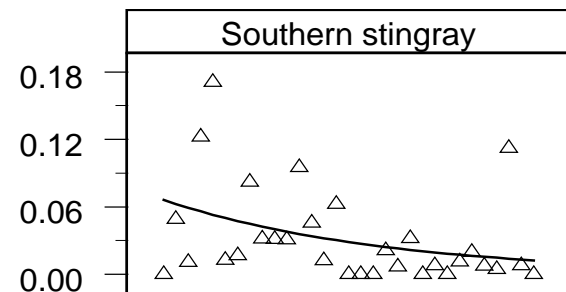
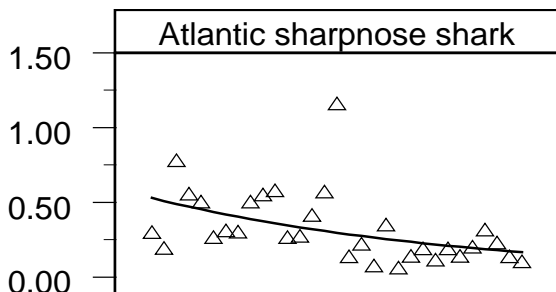
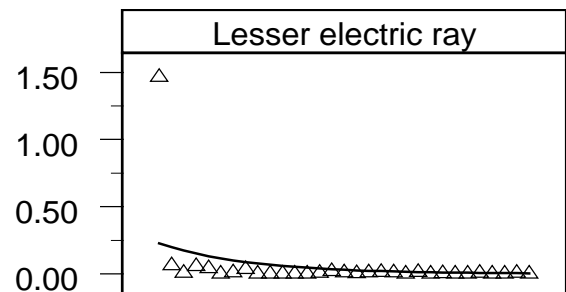
QISHENG TANG,* XIANSHI JIN, JUN WANG,
ZHIMENG ZHUANG, YI CUI AND
TIANXIANG MENG

Yellow Sea Fisheries Research Institute, CAFS, 106 Nanjing
Road, Qingdao 266071, China

Is shrimp trawling driving sharks and rays extinct?



Mean standardized catch per tow

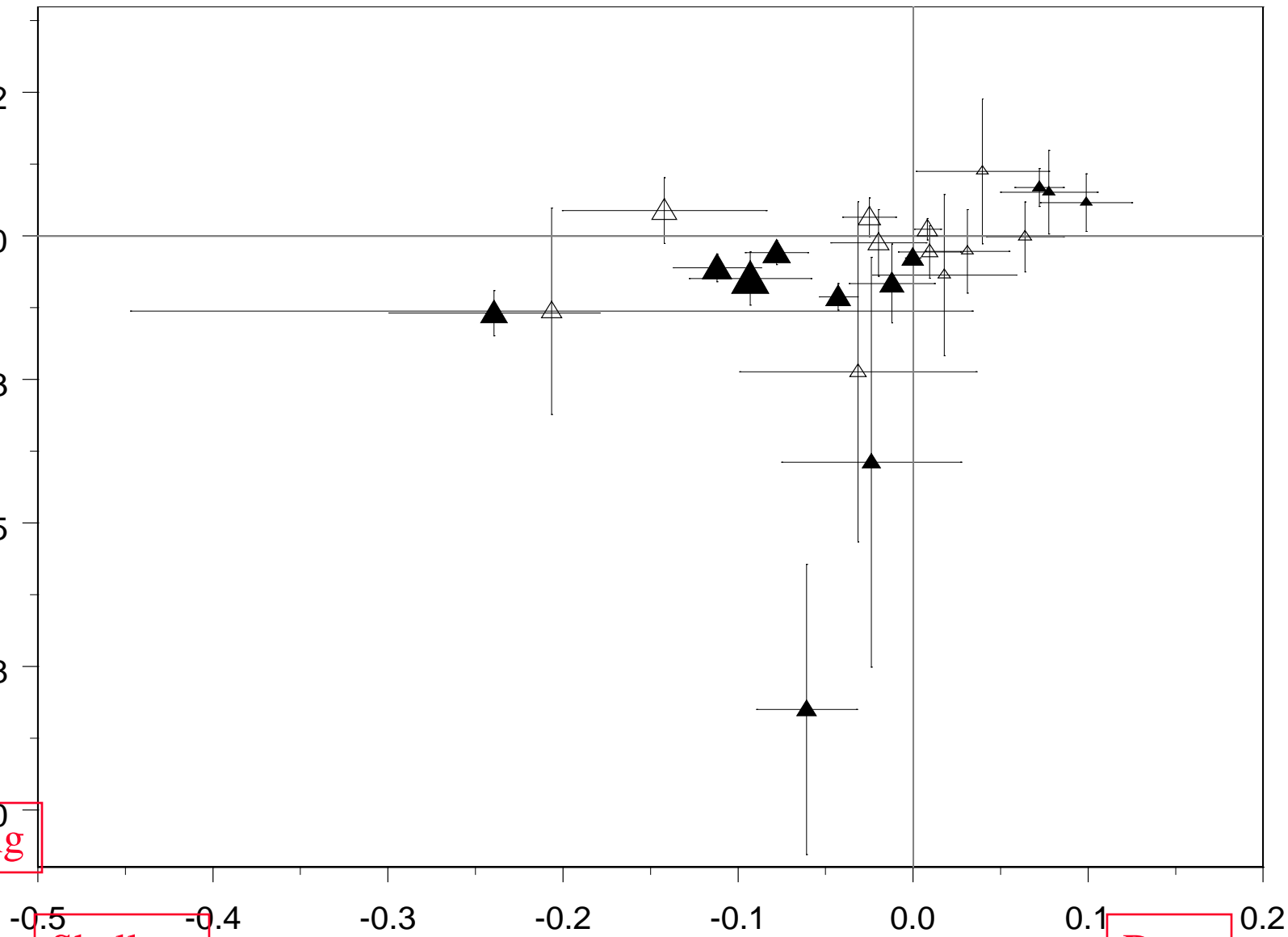


Shallow species are going extinct Deep species are increasing

Increase

Instantaneous rate of change in abundance per year

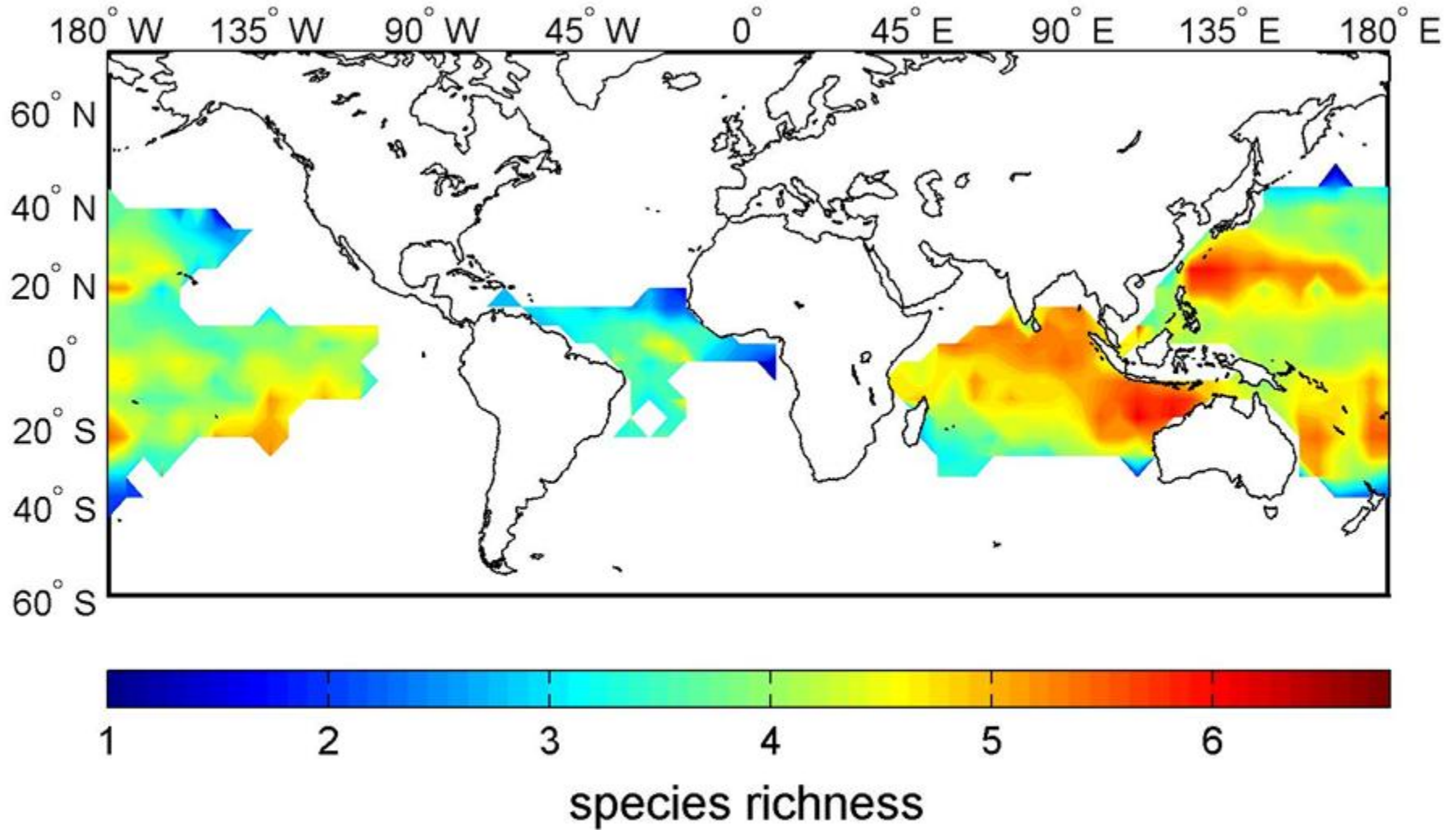
Decreasing



Shallow

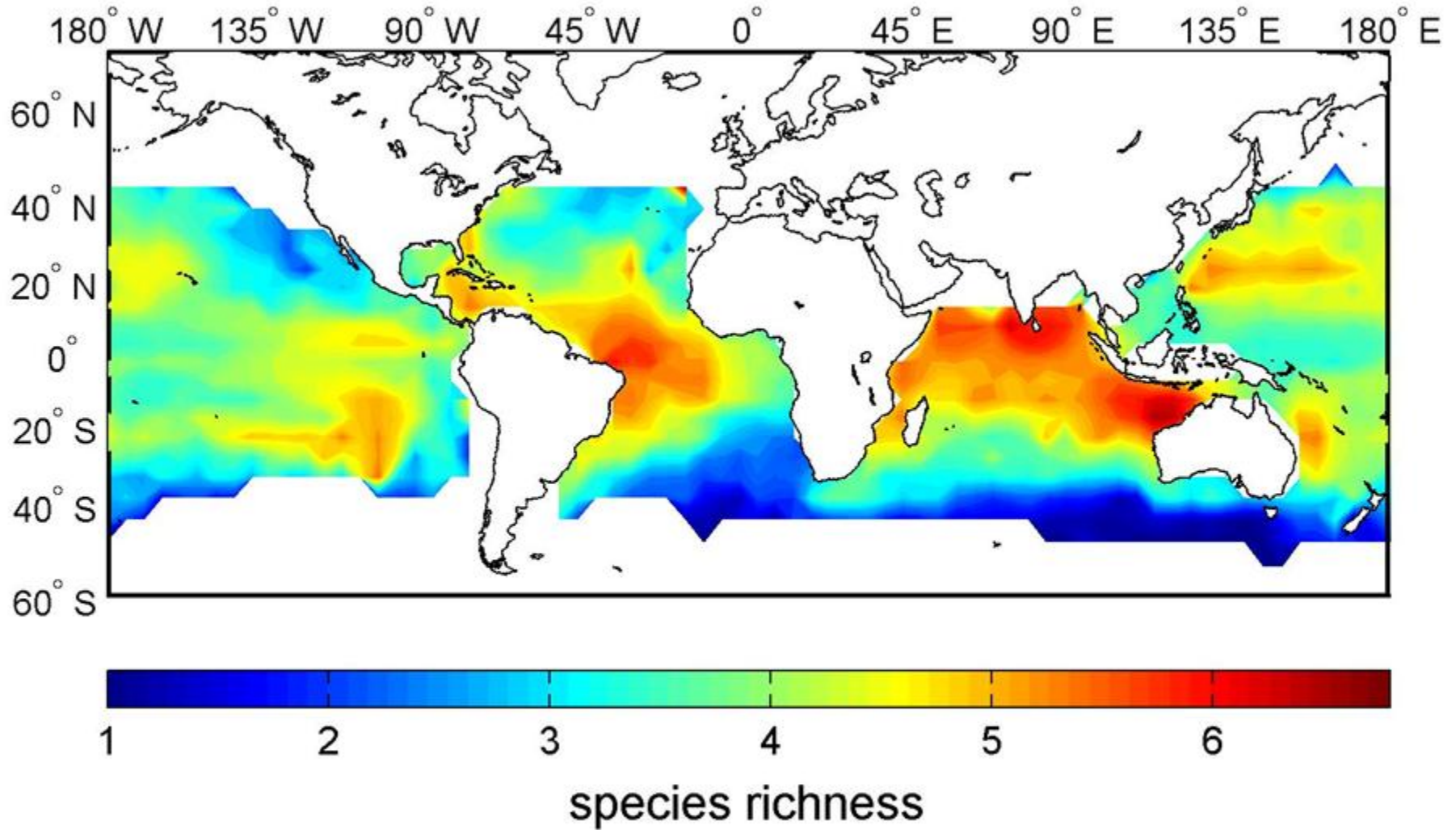
Deep

1950s



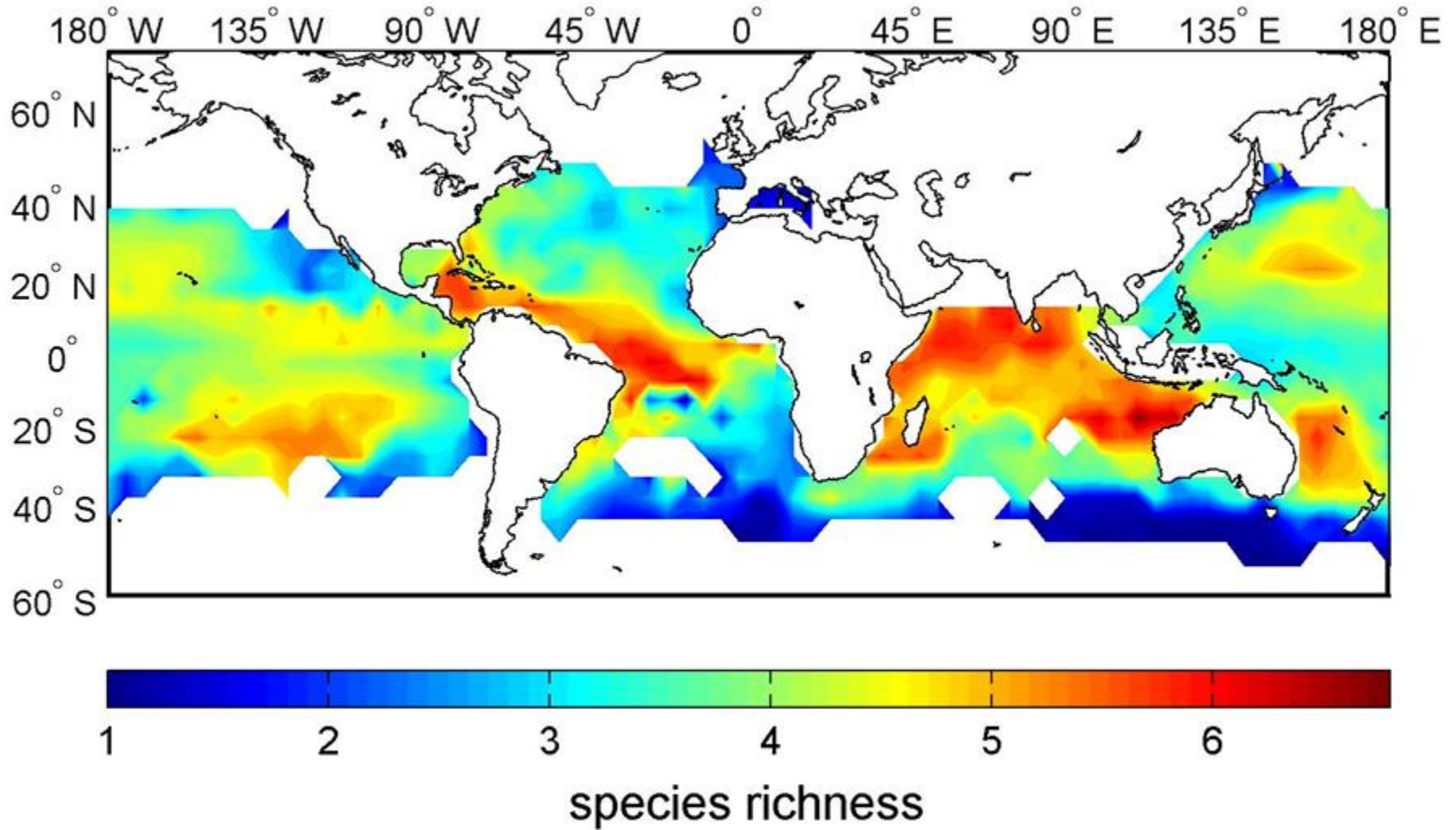
Source: Worm, Sandow, Oschlies, Lotze, Myers 2005. Science 309:1365-1369

1960s



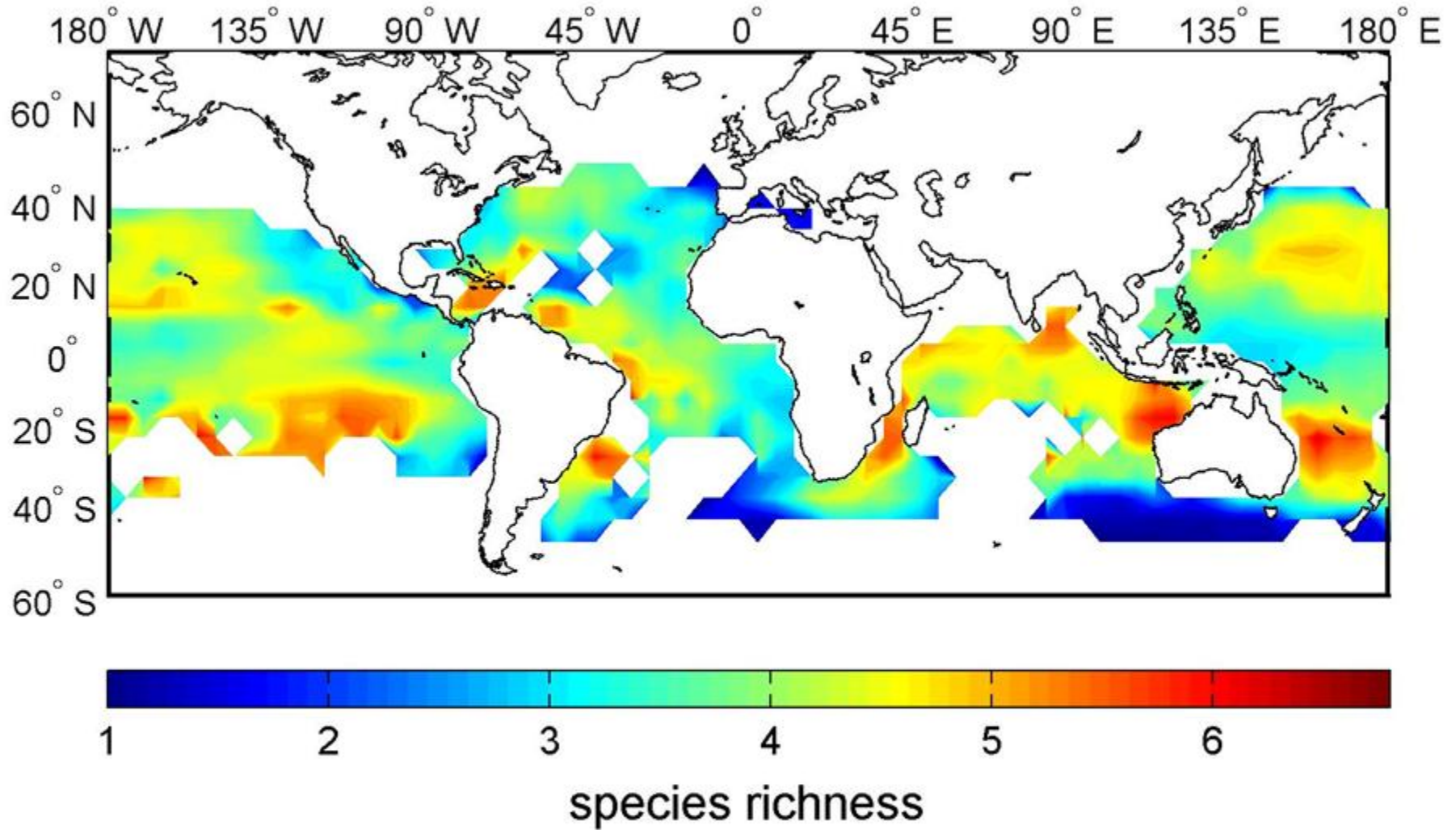
Source: Worm, Sandow, Oschlies, Lotze, Myers 2005. Science 309:1365-1369

1970s



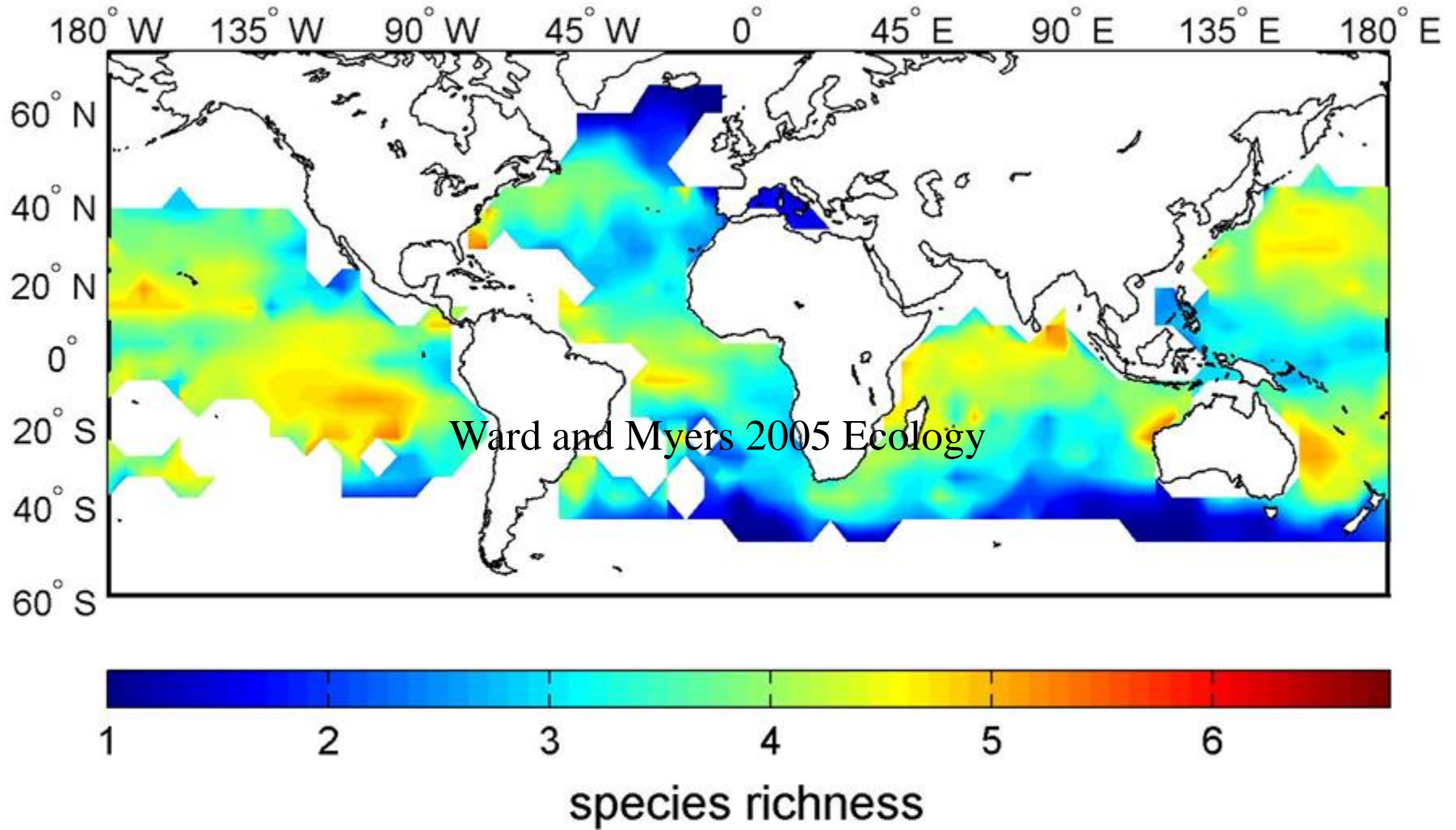
Source: Worm, Sandow, Oschlies, Lotze, Myers 2005. Science 309:1365-1369

1980s



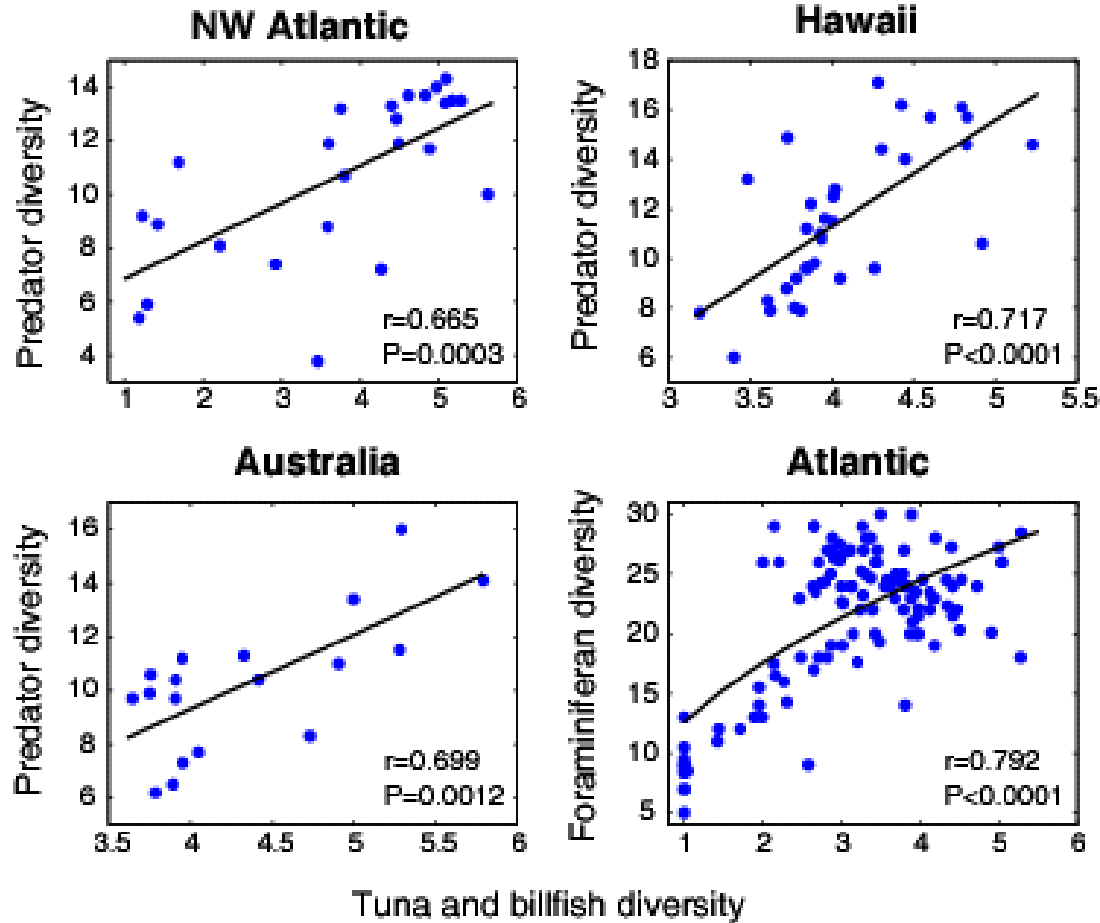
Source: Worm, Sandow, Oschlies, Lotze, Myers 2005. Science 309:1365-1369

1990s



Source: Worm, Sandow, Oschlies, Lotze, Myers 2005. Science 309:1365-1369

Validate hotspots across species groups



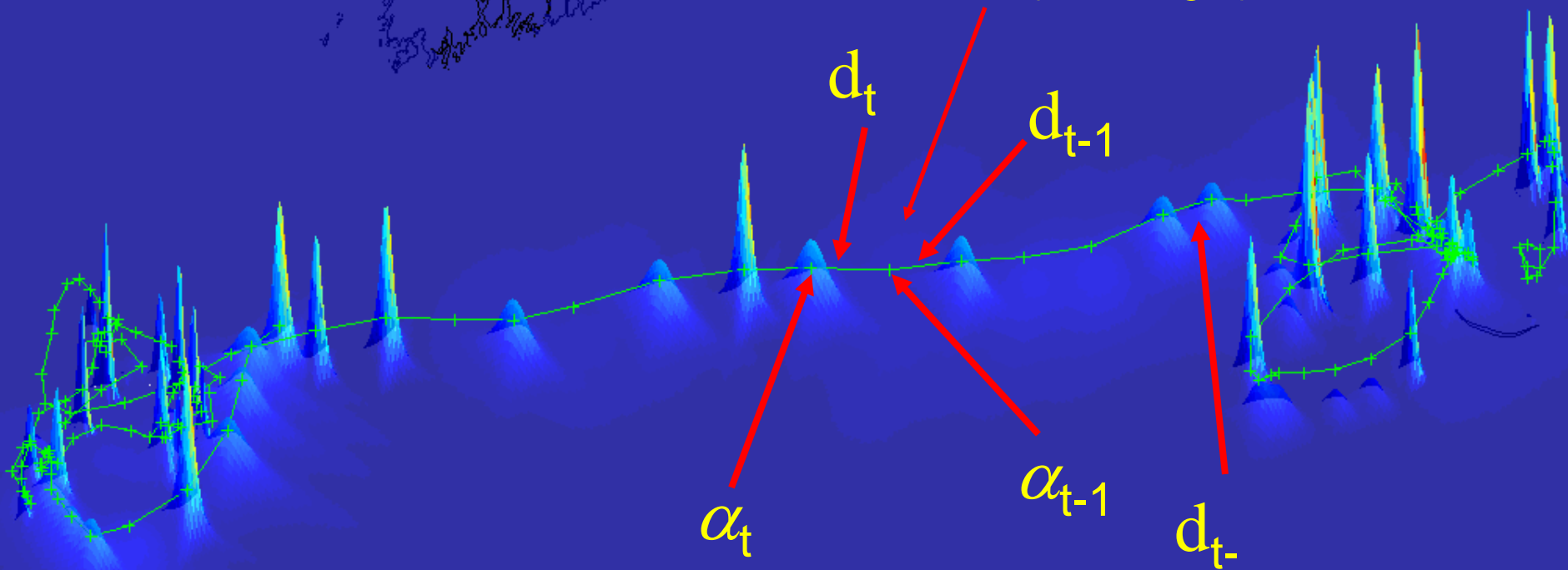
Source: Worm et al. 2005.
Science: 309:1365-1369

3-State Movement Equation

$$d_t = \gamma_s T(\theta_s) d_{t-1} + \delta_s T(\theta_{t-5}) d_{t-5} + N_2(0, \Sigma)_s$$

$$\alpha_t = \alpha_{t-1} + d_t$$

θ (turn angle)



s = behavioural state (1 = migrating; 2 = foraging⁵, 3 = search)

γ , θ , & Σ are now 3 element vectors, 1 element for each state

Movement (Transition) Equation

$$d_t = \gamma T(\theta) d_{t-1} + N_2(0, \Sigma)$$

$$\alpha_t = \alpha_{t-1} + d_t$$

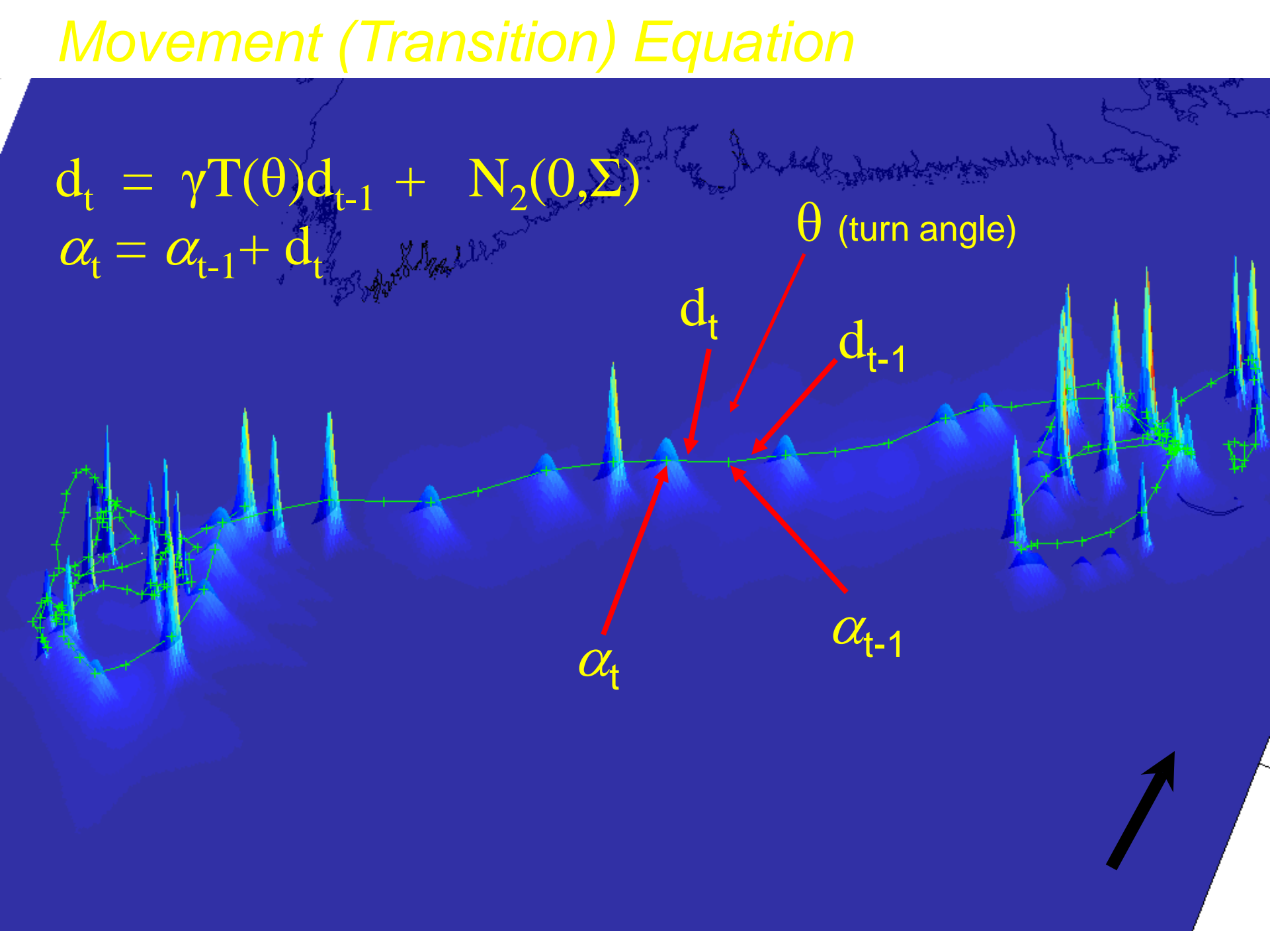
θ (turn angle)

d_t

d_{t-1}

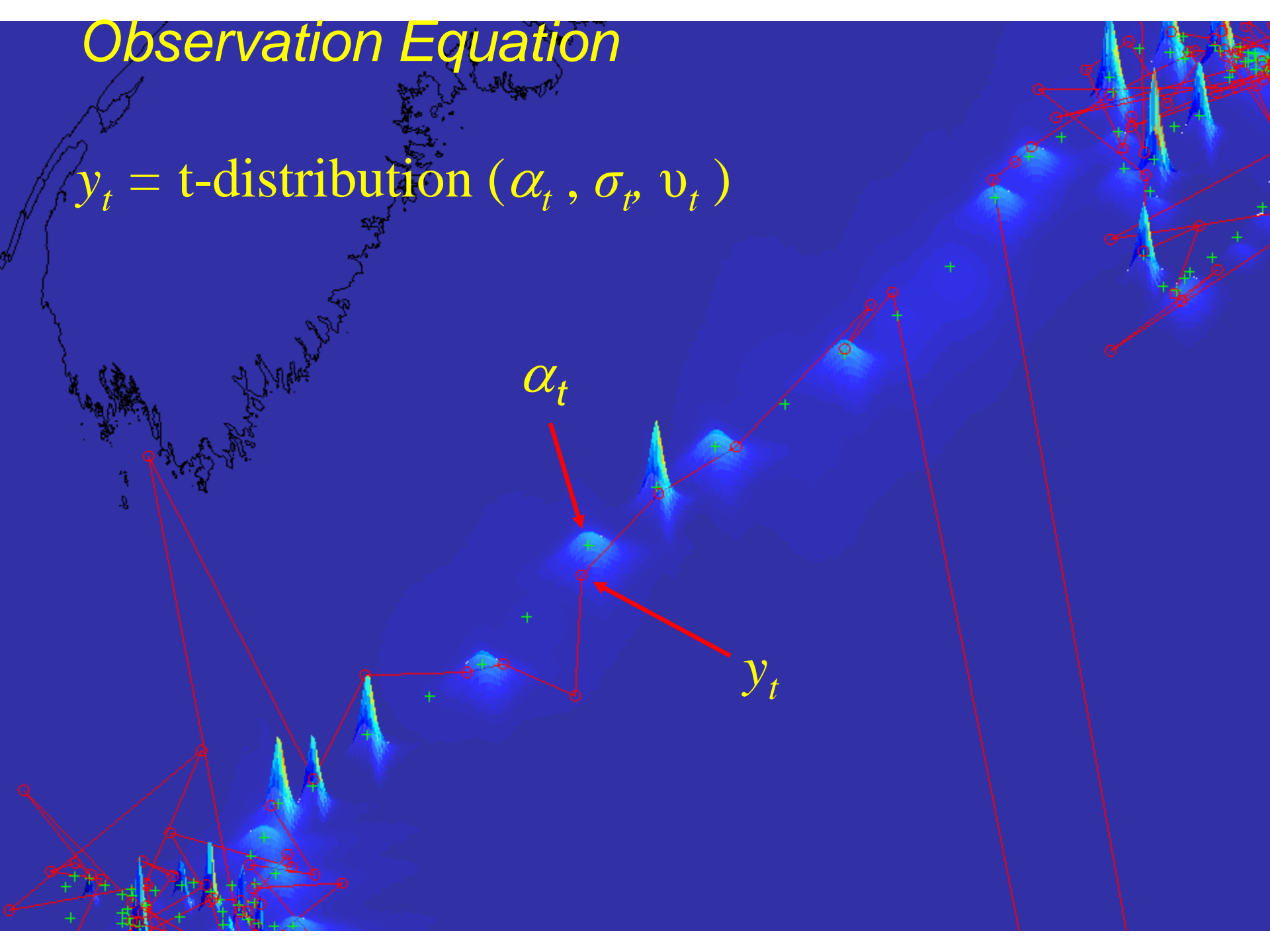
α_t

α_{t-1}



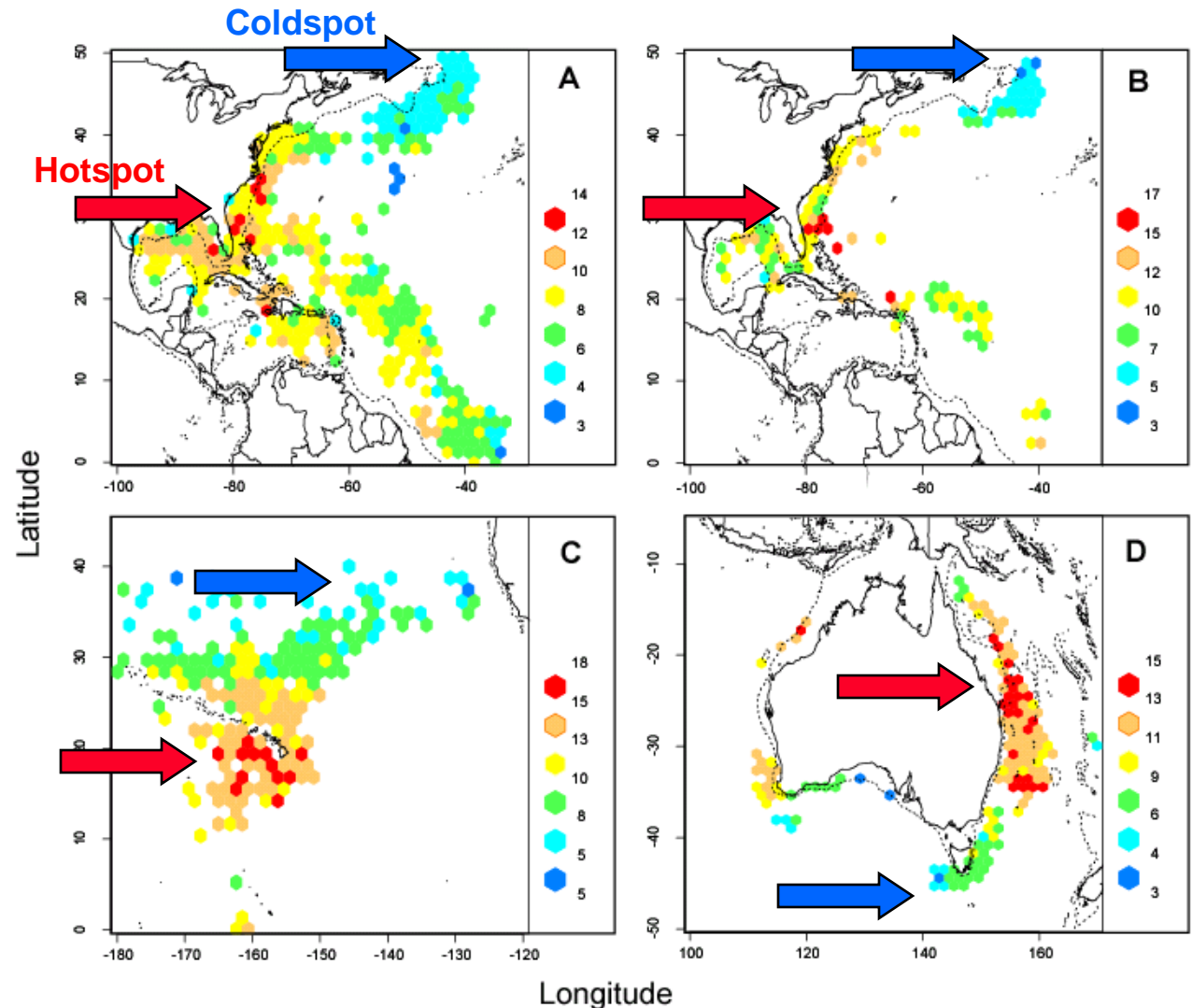
Observation Equation

$$y_t = \text{t-distribution}(\alpha_t, \sigma_p, v_t)$$



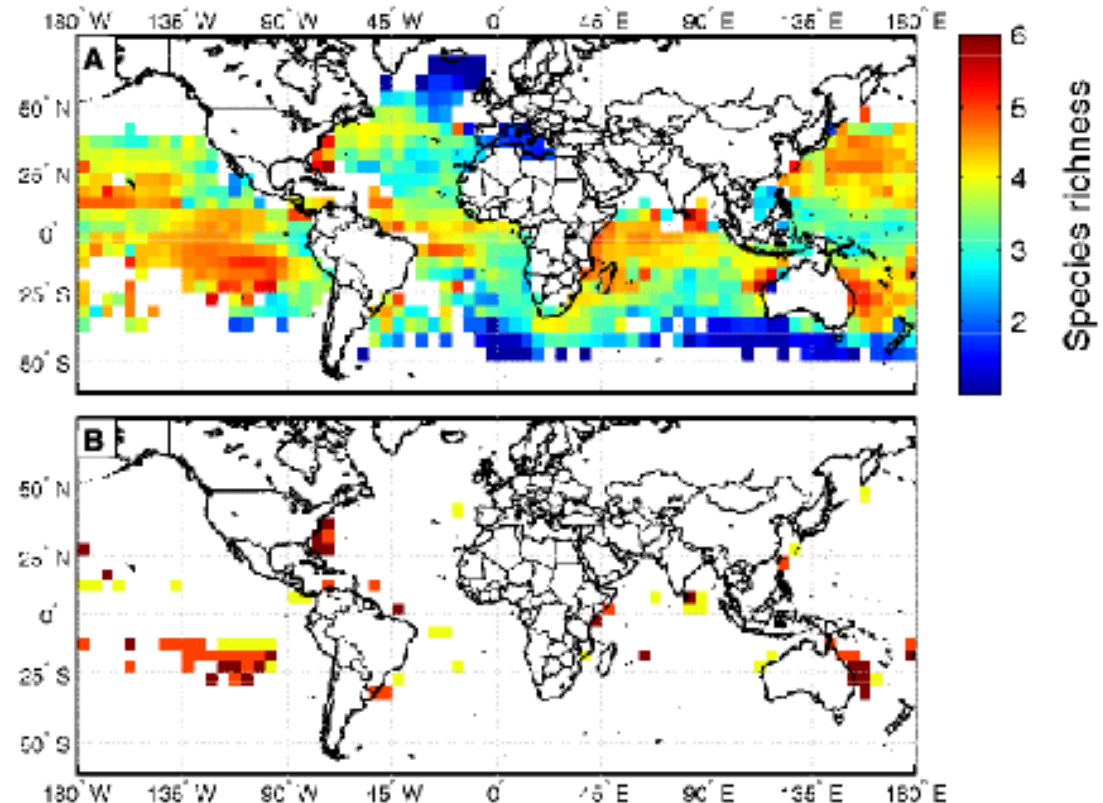
Protect diversity hotspots in national waters

- Special places where many species aggregate
- Key habitats
- Food supply



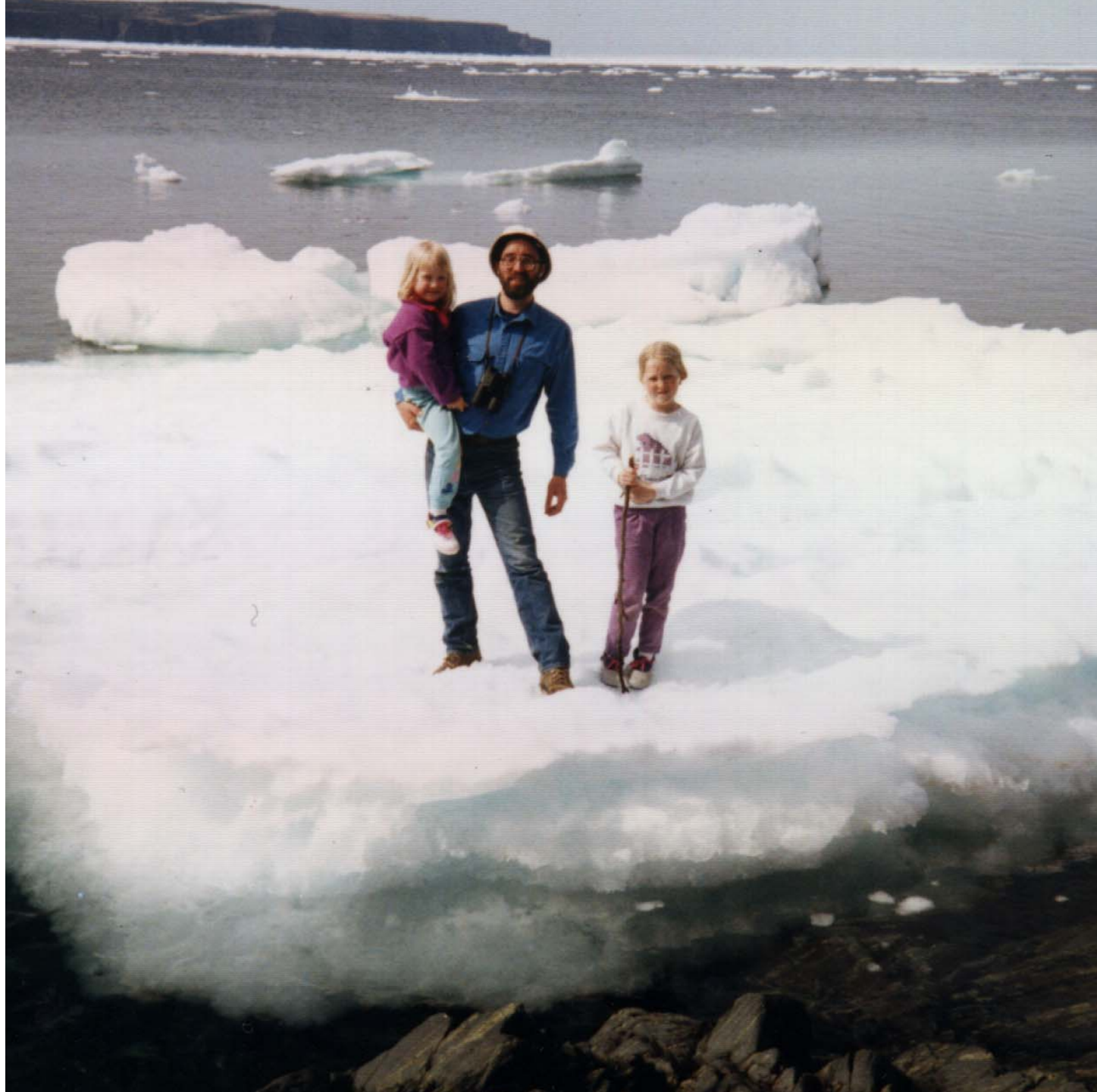
Use remaining hotspots for global conservation

- Consistent patterns of species richness and density
- Five major hotspots:
 - U.S. east coast
 - Hawaiian chain
 - Southeast Pacific
 - Australian east coast
 - Sri Lanka



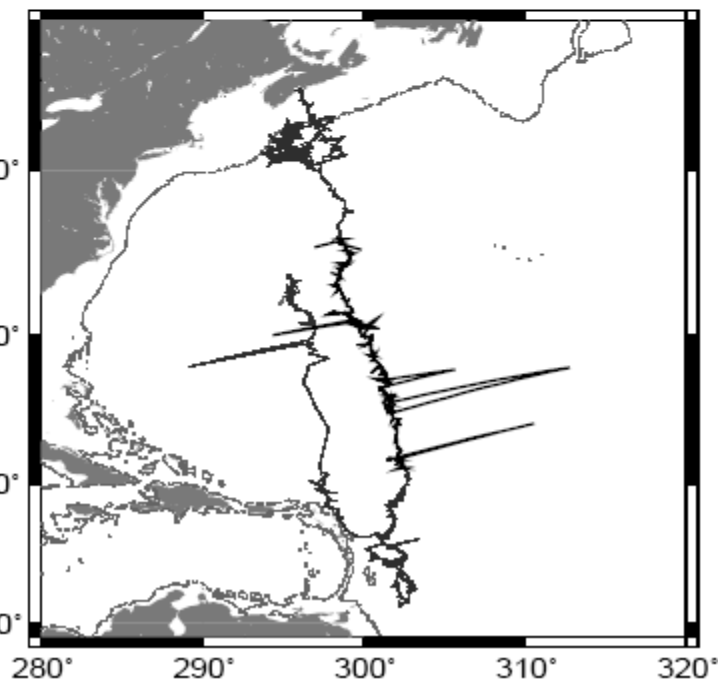
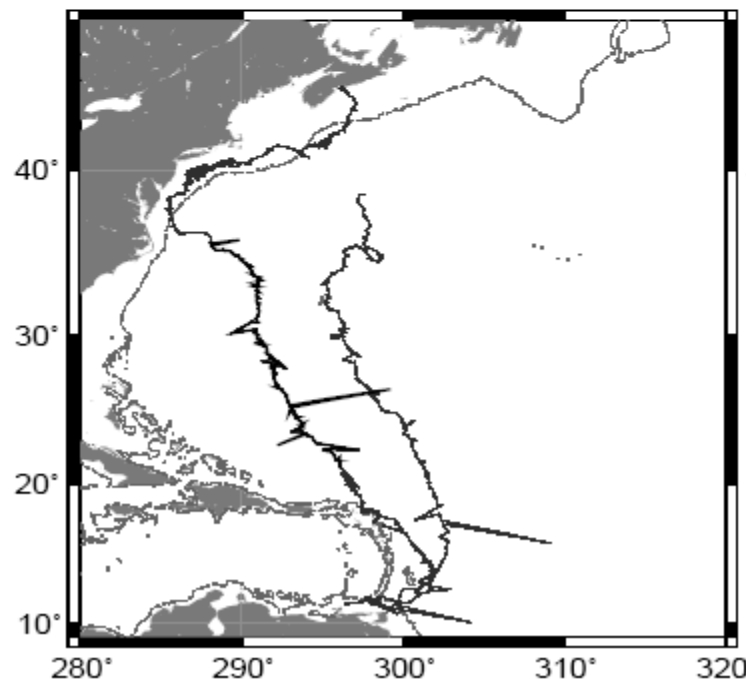
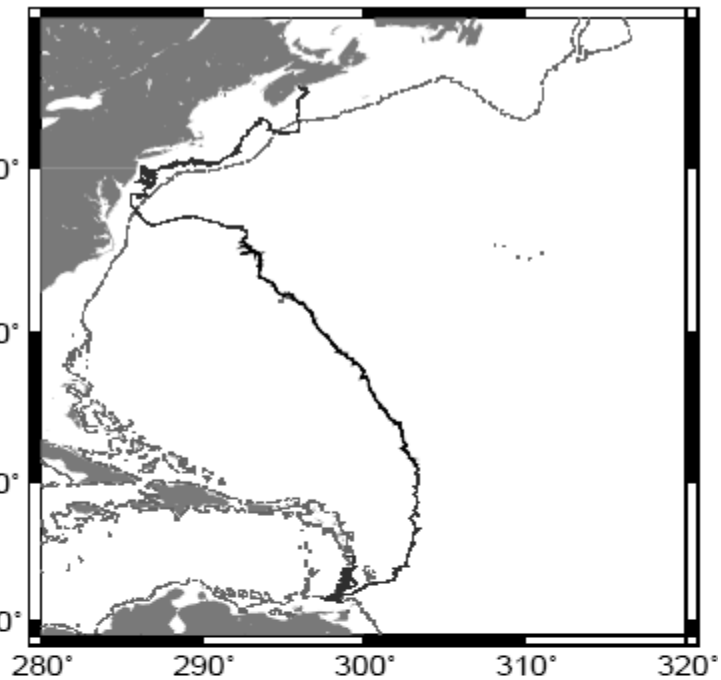
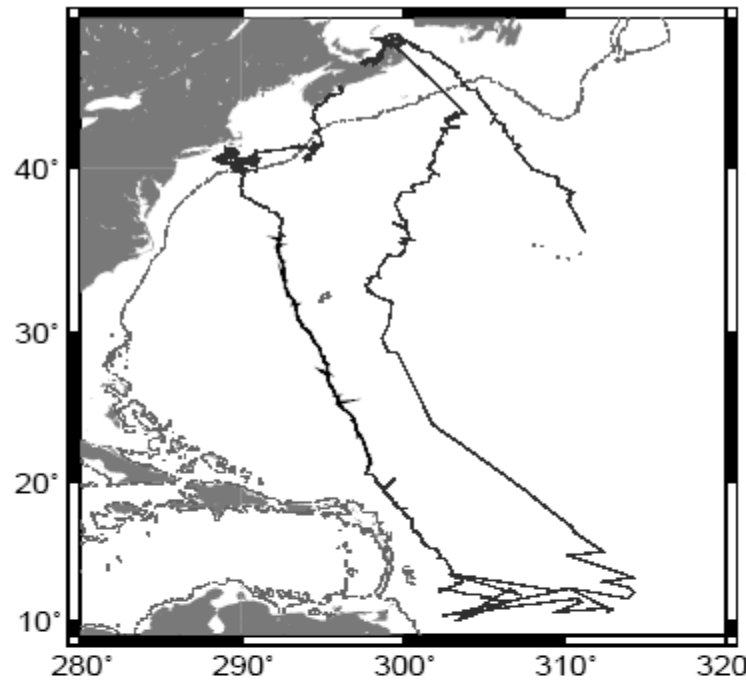
Questions?

- What are the fundamental changes in a community that occur after the apex predators are removed?
- Have lower trophic levels responded?
- How can we carry out a meta-analysis in different communities that may not be independent?

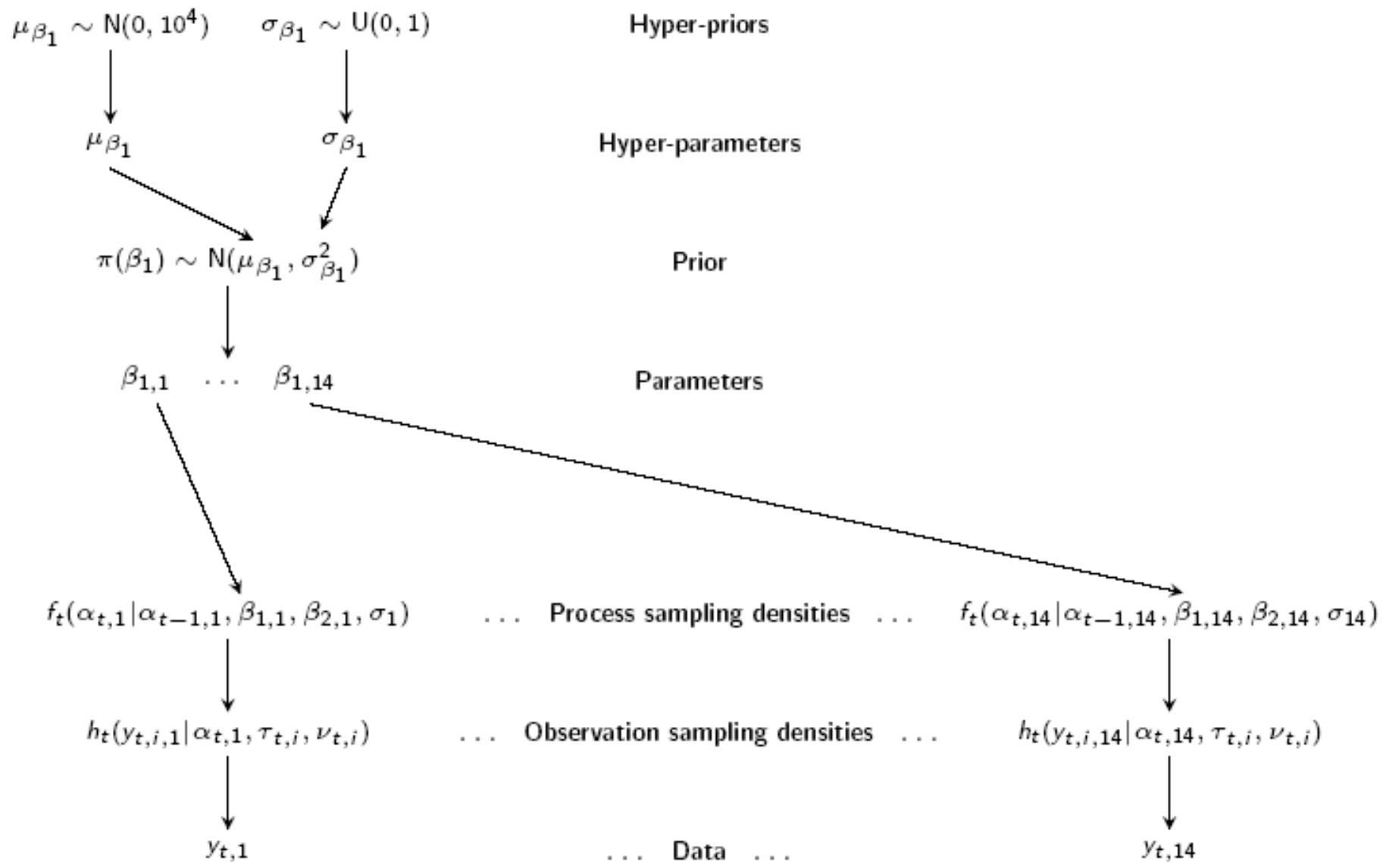


“Take all of these scientists if they feel constrained working within government and make them free,” he said. “Scientists are as capable of being prima donnas and as petulant and pompous as anybody else.”

Former fisheries minister Brian Tobin. Globe and Mail
Aug. 23, 1997.

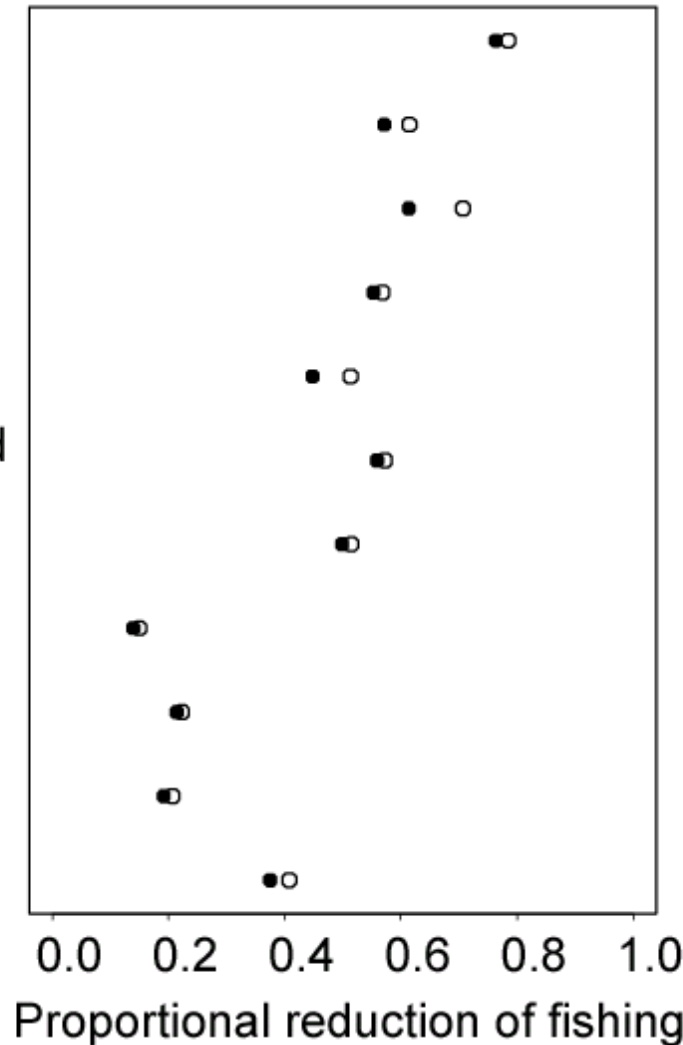


Hierarchical Bayes State-Space Model (HB SSM)



Reduce fishing mortality for sensitive species for survival of the species

Dusky
Silky
Blacktip
Bigeye thresher
Common thresher
Scalloped hammerhead
White
Mako
Tiger
Blue
Oceanic whitetip



Dusky shark. Source: NMFS

The Rise of the Marine Mesopredators

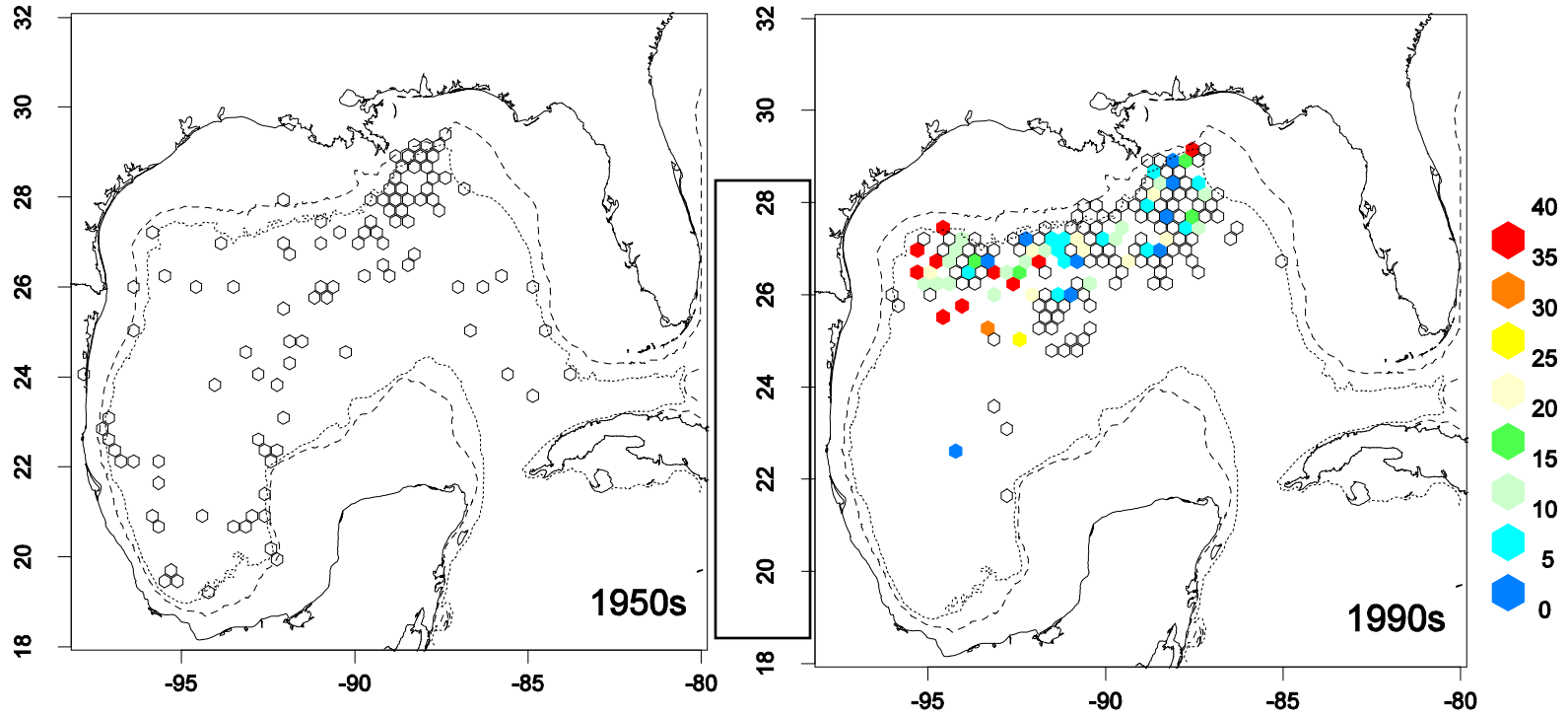


Pelagic Sting Ray
Pteroplatytrygon violacea



Photos from Phillip Colla, photography

Explosion of Pelagic Stingrays in the Gulf of Mexico ~ 1000 fold increase – no one noticed

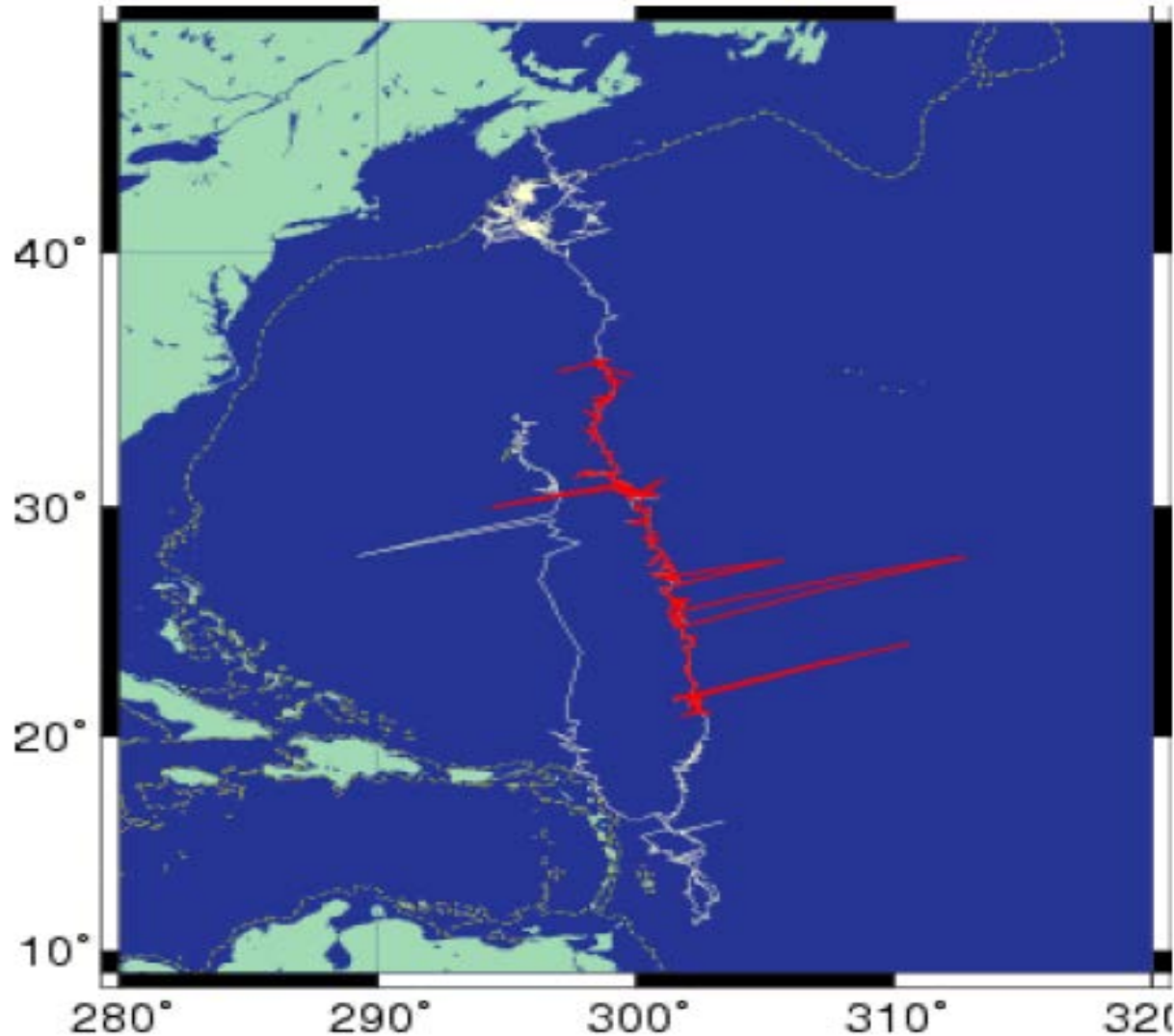


1950's

1990's

Pelagic stingray captures per 10,000 hooks

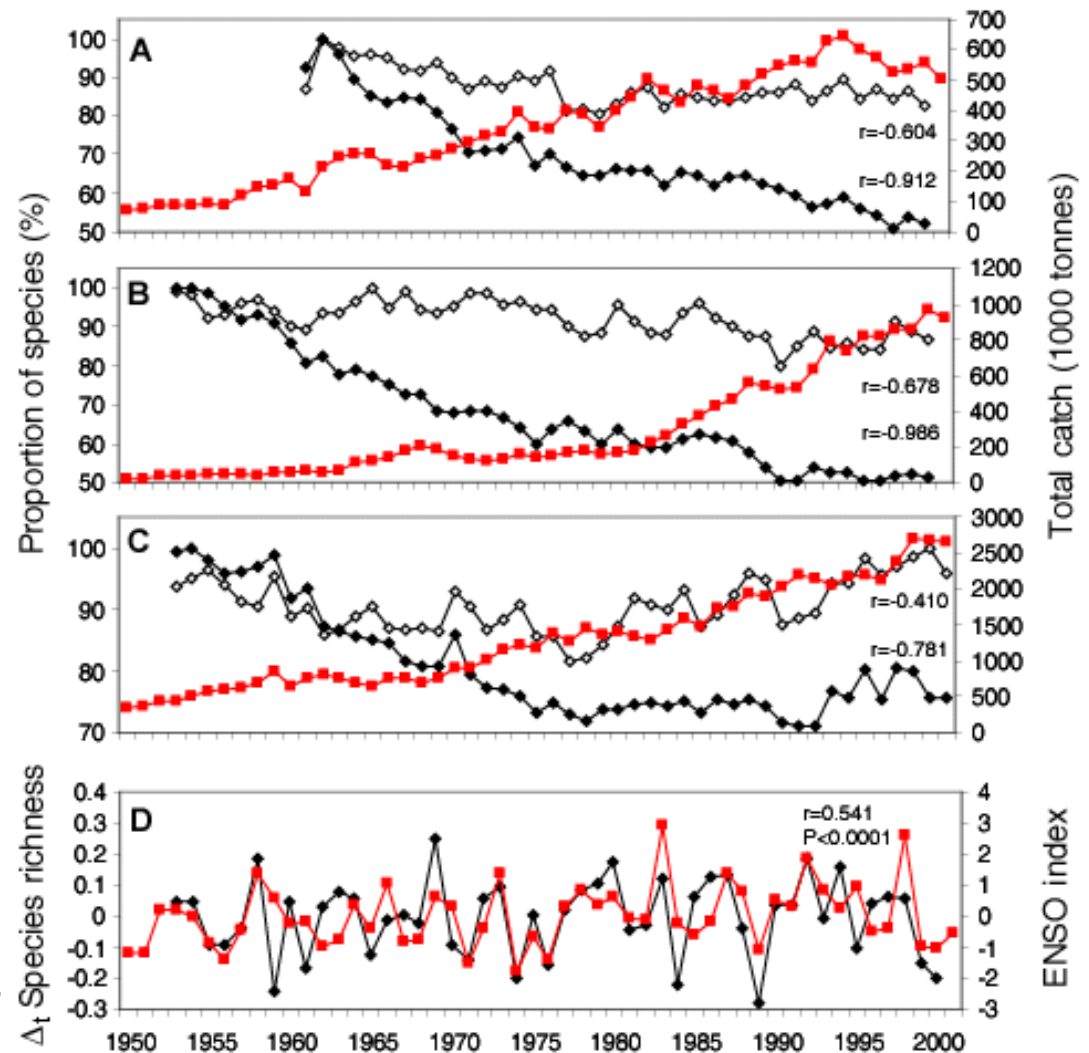
Examining Diel Migration Behaviour in Leatherbacks



Jonsen, James Myers. in press (almost). *Journal of Animal Ecology*

Global decline in ocean predator diversity

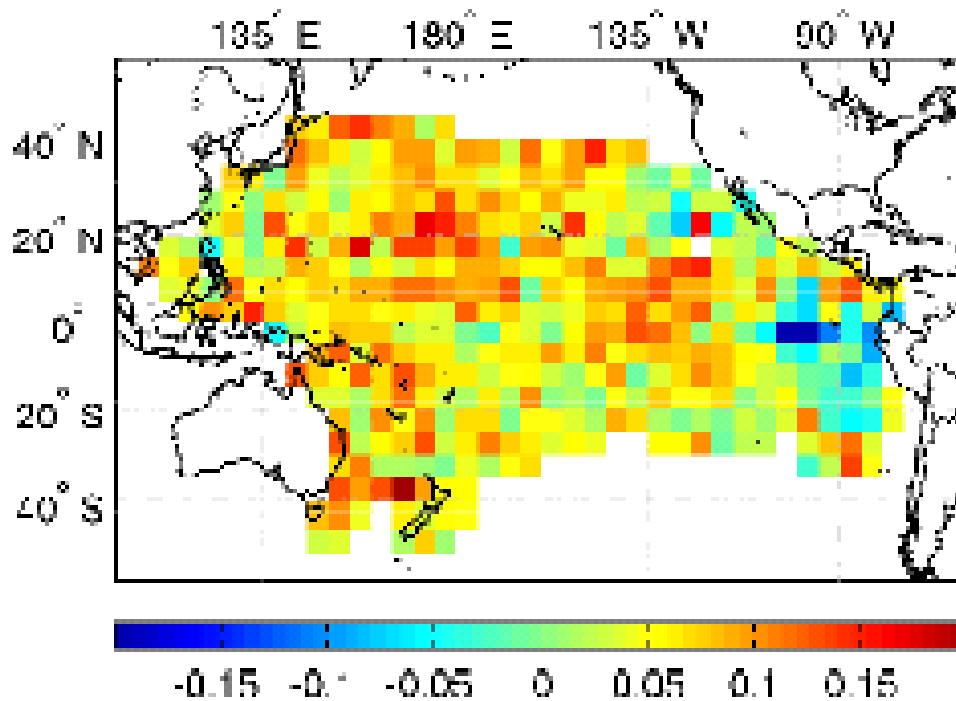
- Increasing catches
- Decreasing diversity
- Long-term decline linked to fishing
- Yearly variability linked to climatic changes



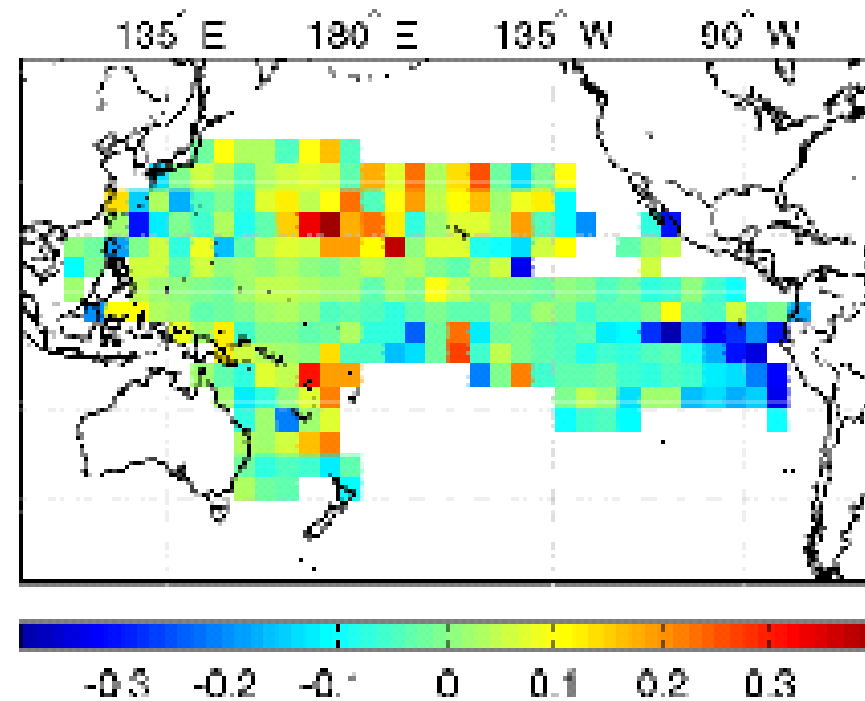
Worm, Sandow, Oschlies, Lotze, Myers 2005.
 Science 309:1365-1369

ENSO affects diversity across entire Pacific

Species richness



Blue marlin catch rates



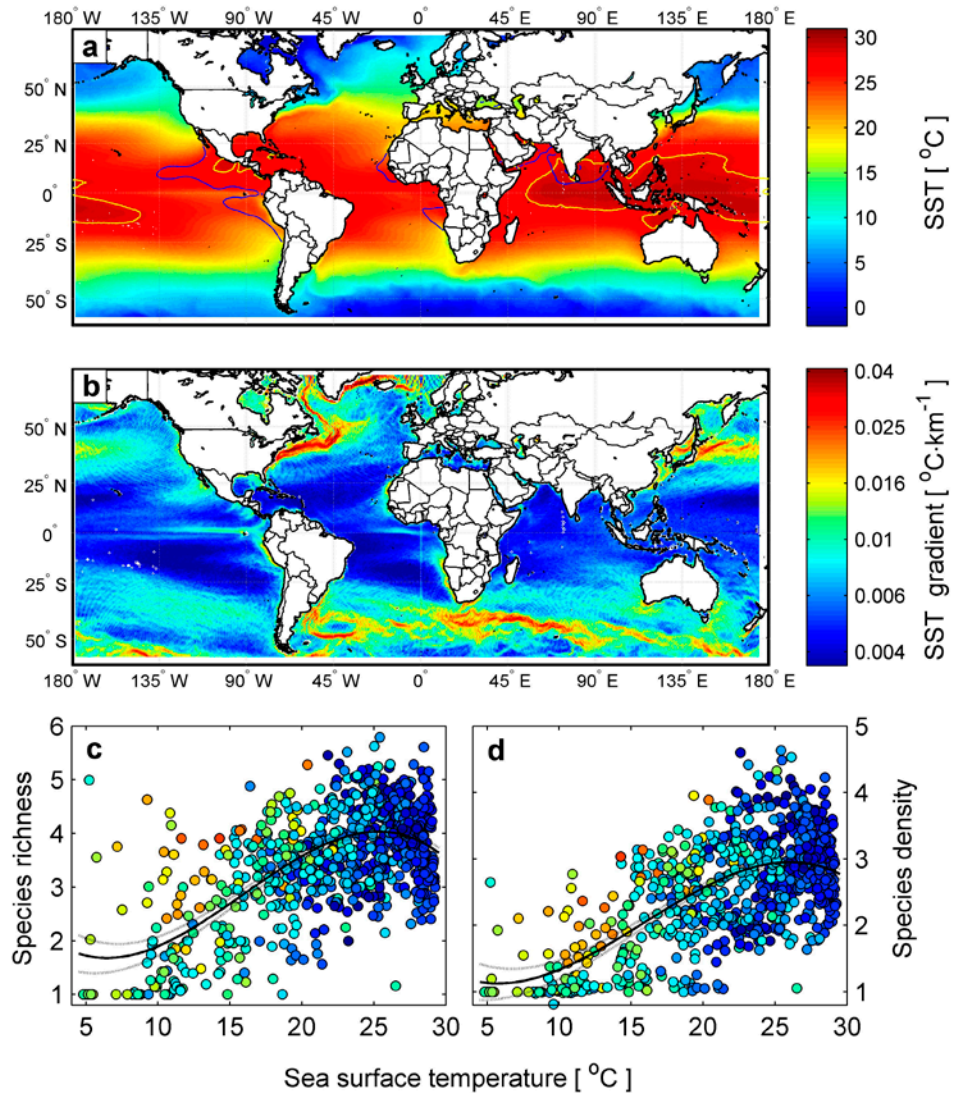
Slope of Δ_t with ENSO

Source: Worm, Sandow, Oschlies, Lotze, Myers 2005.
Science 309:1365-1369

Understand oceanographic drivers of diversity

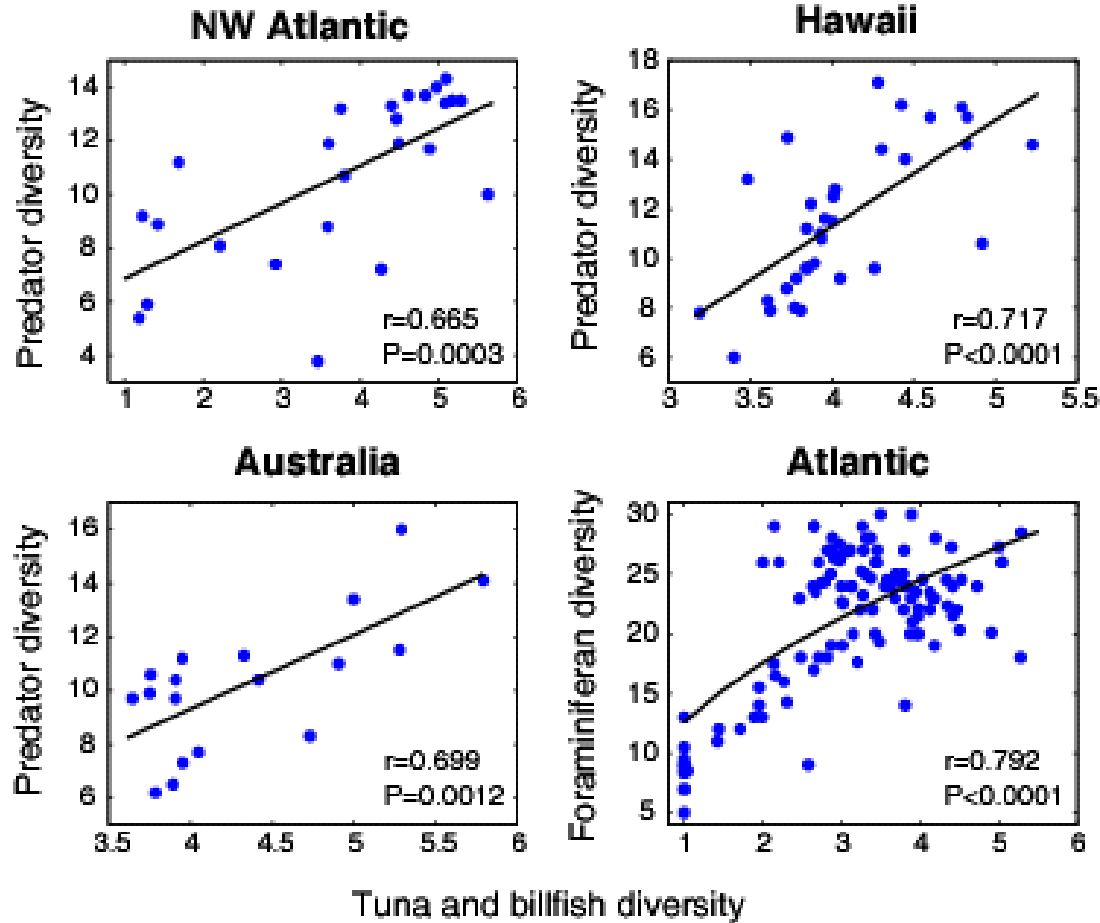
Patterns of diversity
were explained by

- Mean temperature
- Fronts and eddies
- Oxygen



Source: Worm et al. 2005.
Science 309:1365-1369

Validate hotspots across species groups



Source: Worm et al. 2005.
Science: 309:1365-1369

There is always a rapid loss of fitness in the wild with hatcheries; after a few generations hatchery salmon may be useless for recovery.

