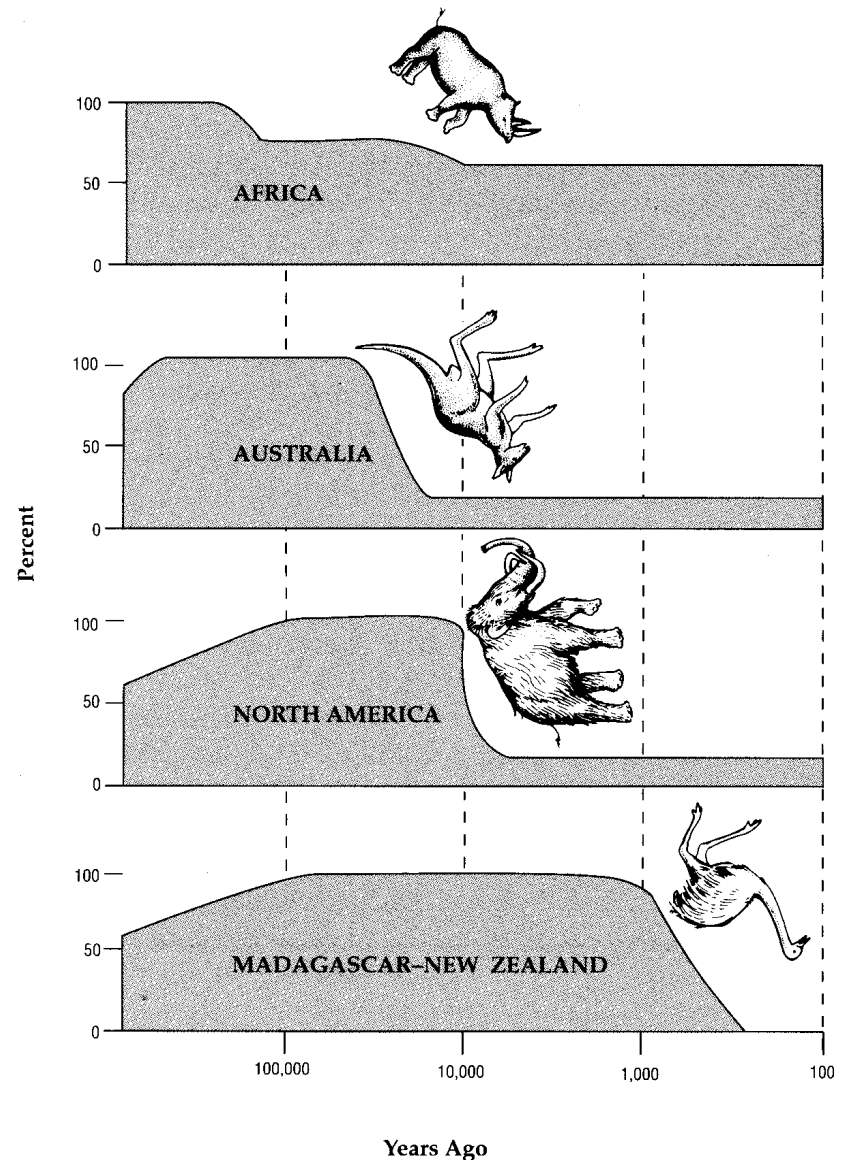


# Are the Pleistocene extinctions\* going to be repeated in the ocean?



\*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.

# The Global Loss of Large Marine Predators

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



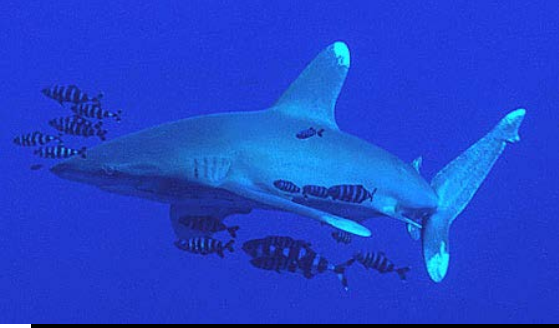
Pew Global Sharks Assessment  
FMAP (Future of Marine Animal Populations)  
<http://www.fmap.ca>

<http://www.globalsharks.ca>

Lenfest Extinction Project  
NSERC

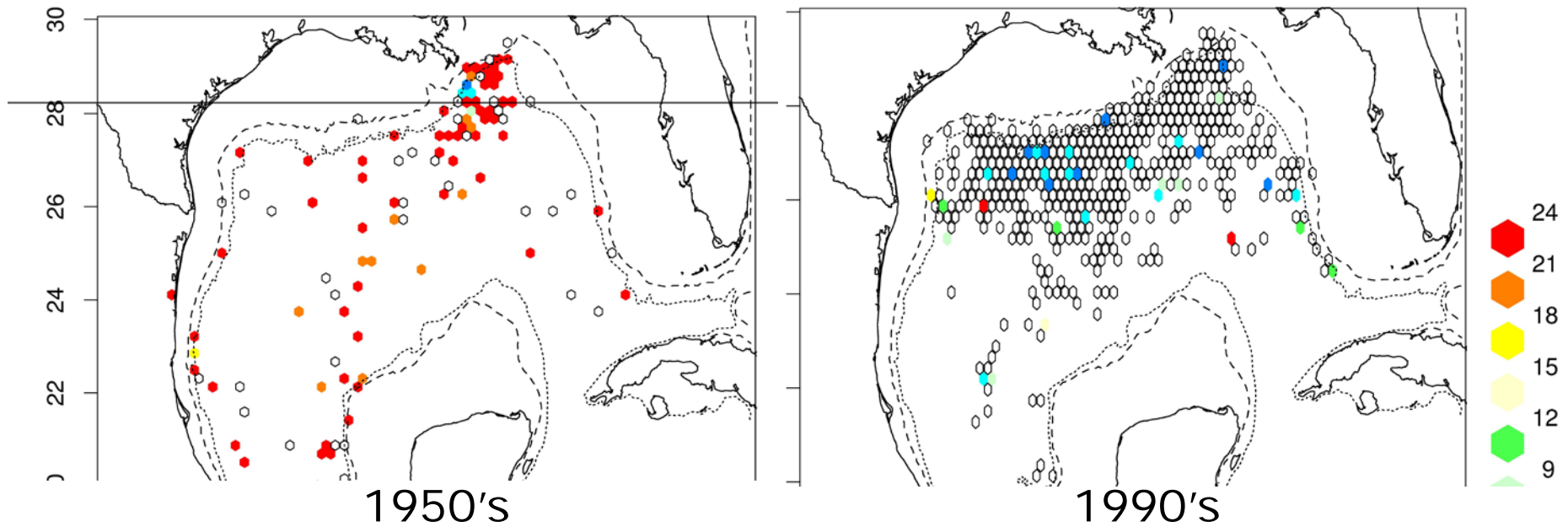
What was the most common large animal (>40 Kg) in the world? (perhaps this one was)





# Loss of sharks in the Gulf of Mexico

300 fold decline – no one noticed

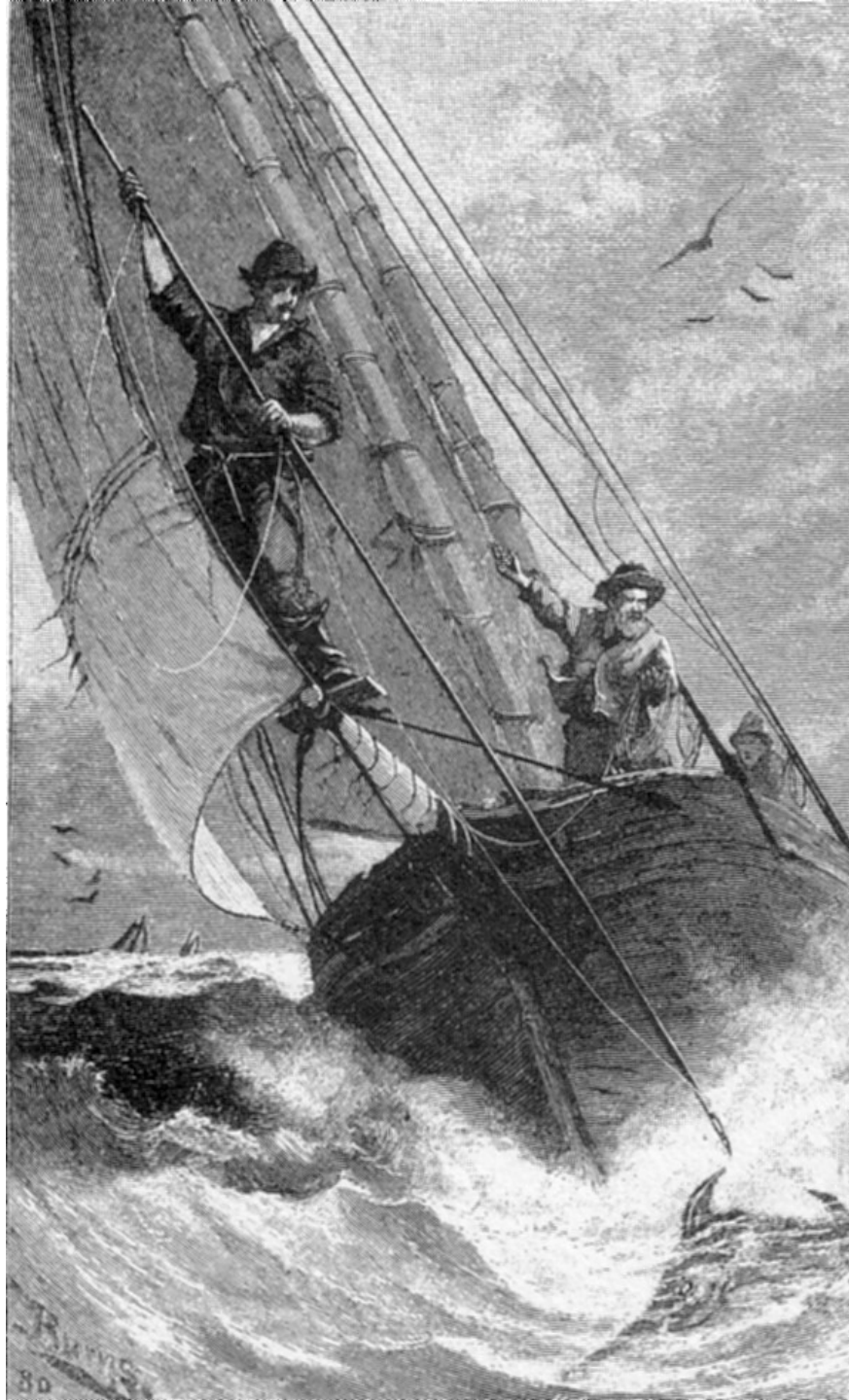


Oceanic Whitetip captures per 10,000 hooks

Circumstantial  
evidence of oceanic  
whitetip sharks being  
common in the Gulf  
of Mexico







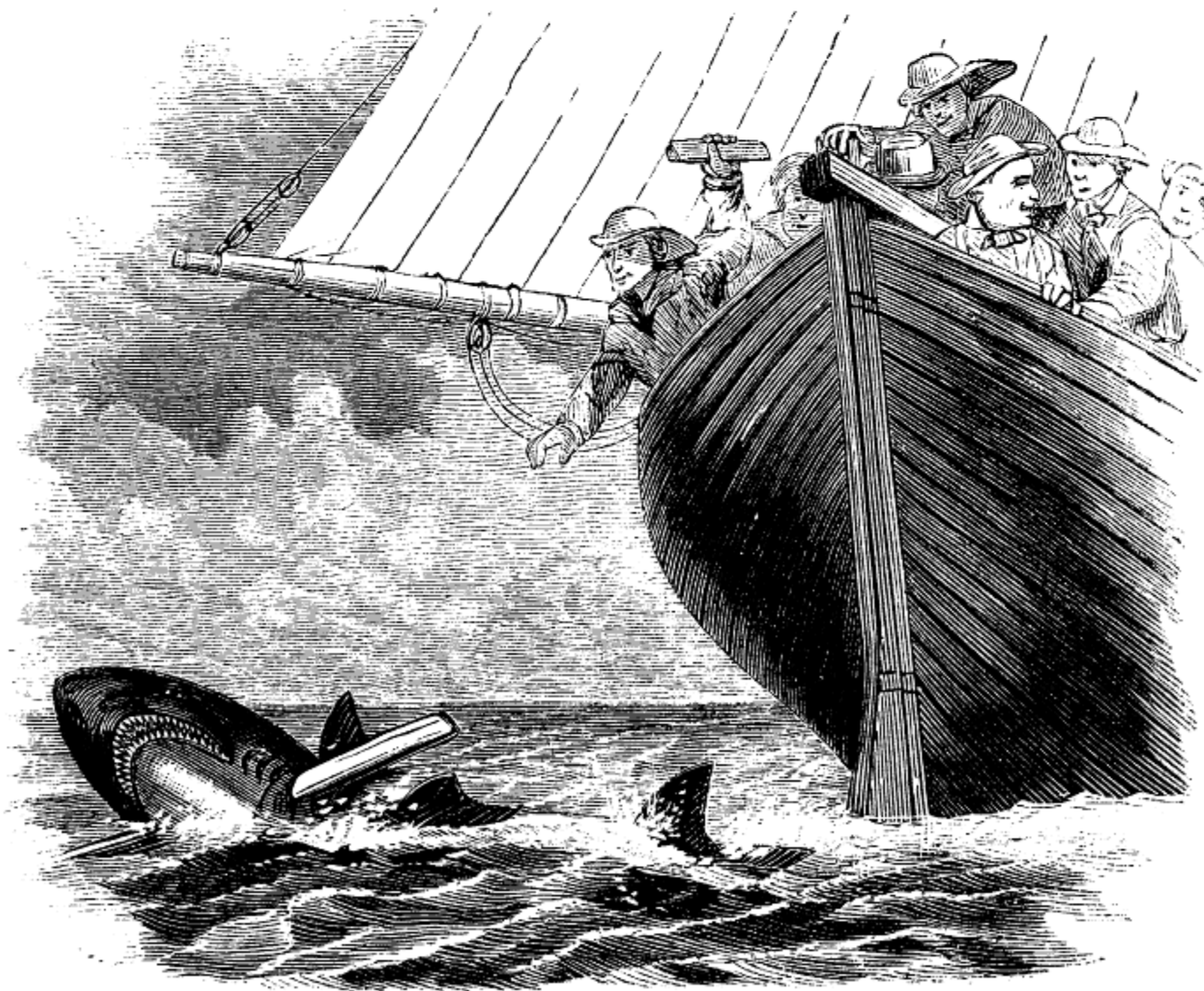
R. W. G. S.  
80



tience as some line got fouled in the rapid hauling, or an obstreperous fellow in the depths below made off with the best part of a valuable line. To an unsophisticated observer our crew,

Fish, like women, are a very uncertain institution, and their tastes are equally unaccountable. When you least expect it, off they sail and leave you in the lurch when the prize is almost

within your grasp; at least such has proved my sailor's experience with them. Thus it was that, while we were merrily hauling up the denizens of Whale Deep, the supply suddenly gave out—either our bait had cloyed on their palates, or, what is quite as likely, they began to smell a submarine rat, and regarded the sudden upward movement of their companions with well-grounded suspicion. As if by simultaneous agreement they suddenly ceased to bite, and after wooing them in vain for a couple of days, we resolved to weigh and head for the northward.



GAFFING A SHARK.

# Where I live in Nova Scotia

- There are no shad in shad bay.
- There are no halibut in halibut cove.
- The walrus are gone that were once abundant.
- The beluga whales are gone in the Bay of Fundy.
- Swordfish have been eliminated along the coast.
- The sharks that were once abundant are largely gone.
- Atlantic salmon are extinct in many of the rivers.



Right whale with lobster bouys- Sept. 2004



Same right whale – April 2005???



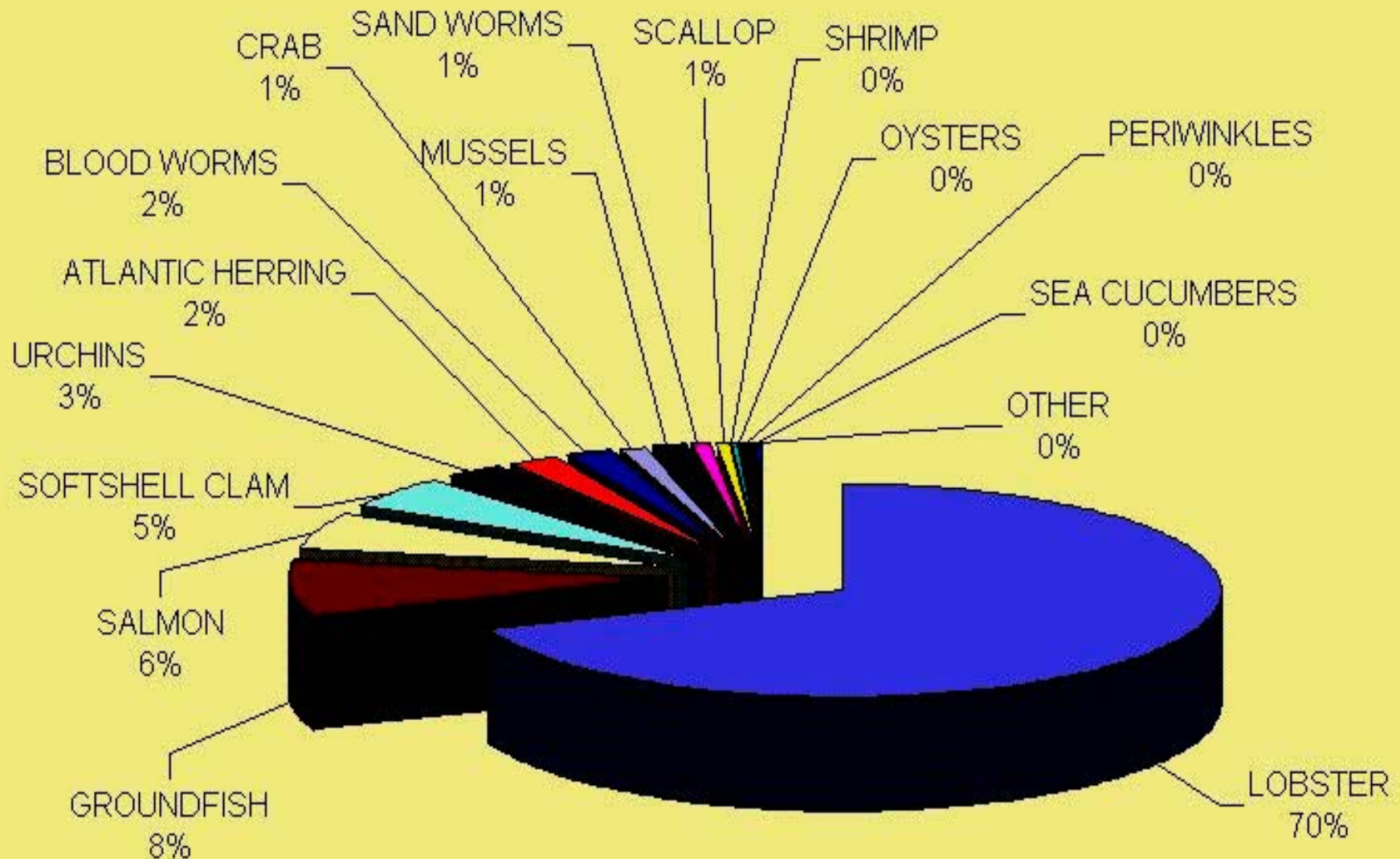
800150091608  
Eg  
Ship Island, Md VA  
3 March 2001  
C.T. Murray



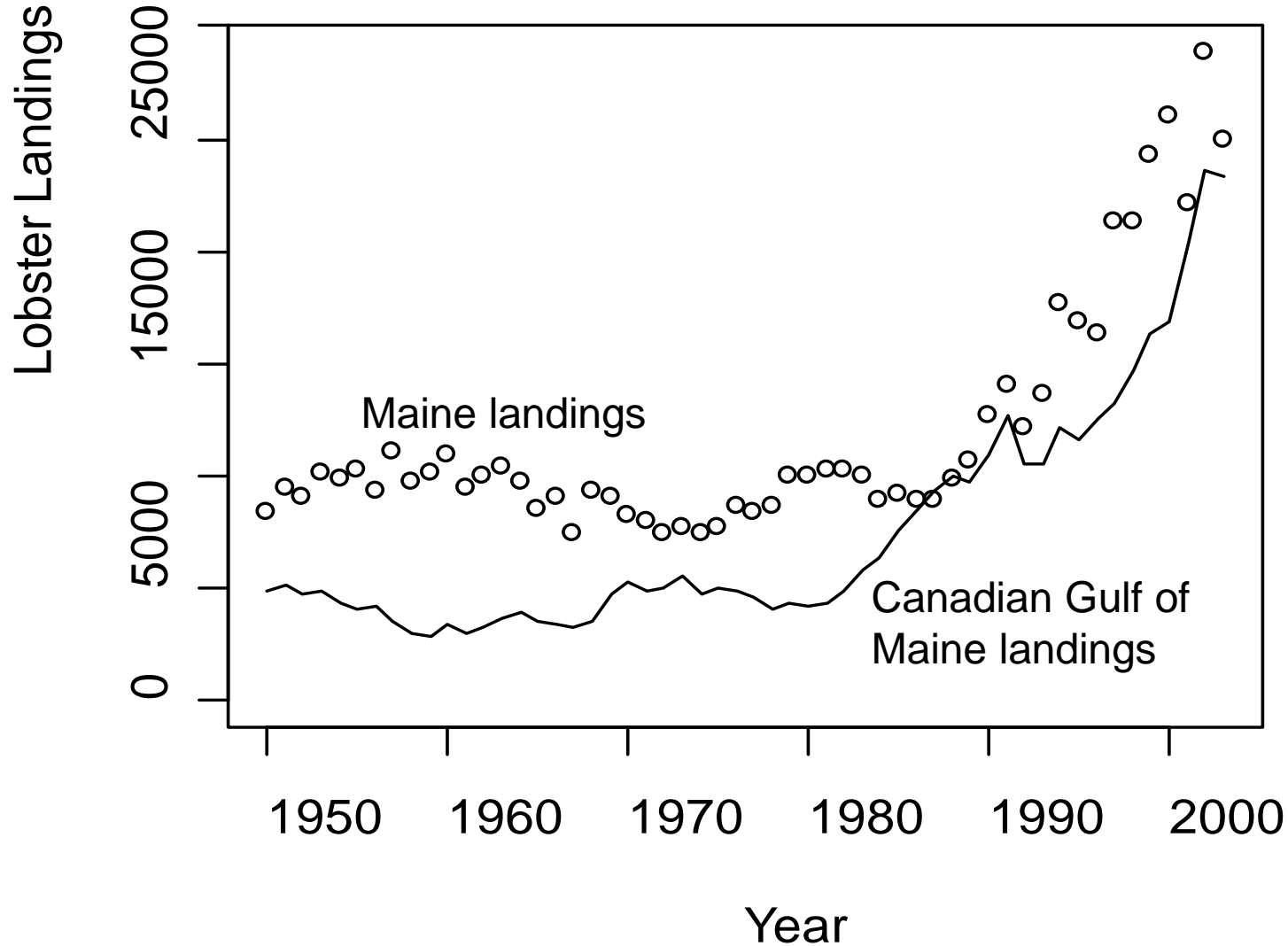
*Only lobster traps as far as the eye can see.....*

# 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





QUÉBEC

3

18

19

15

14a

14b

13b

4

21

20b

20a

17

13a

5

NEWFOUNDLAND

6

MAGDALEN ISLANDS

7

23

22

12

11

NEW BRUNSWICK

25

PEI

24

27

8

37

26a

26b

28

29

10

NOVA SCOTIA

30

31a

31b

9

38

34

33

32

41

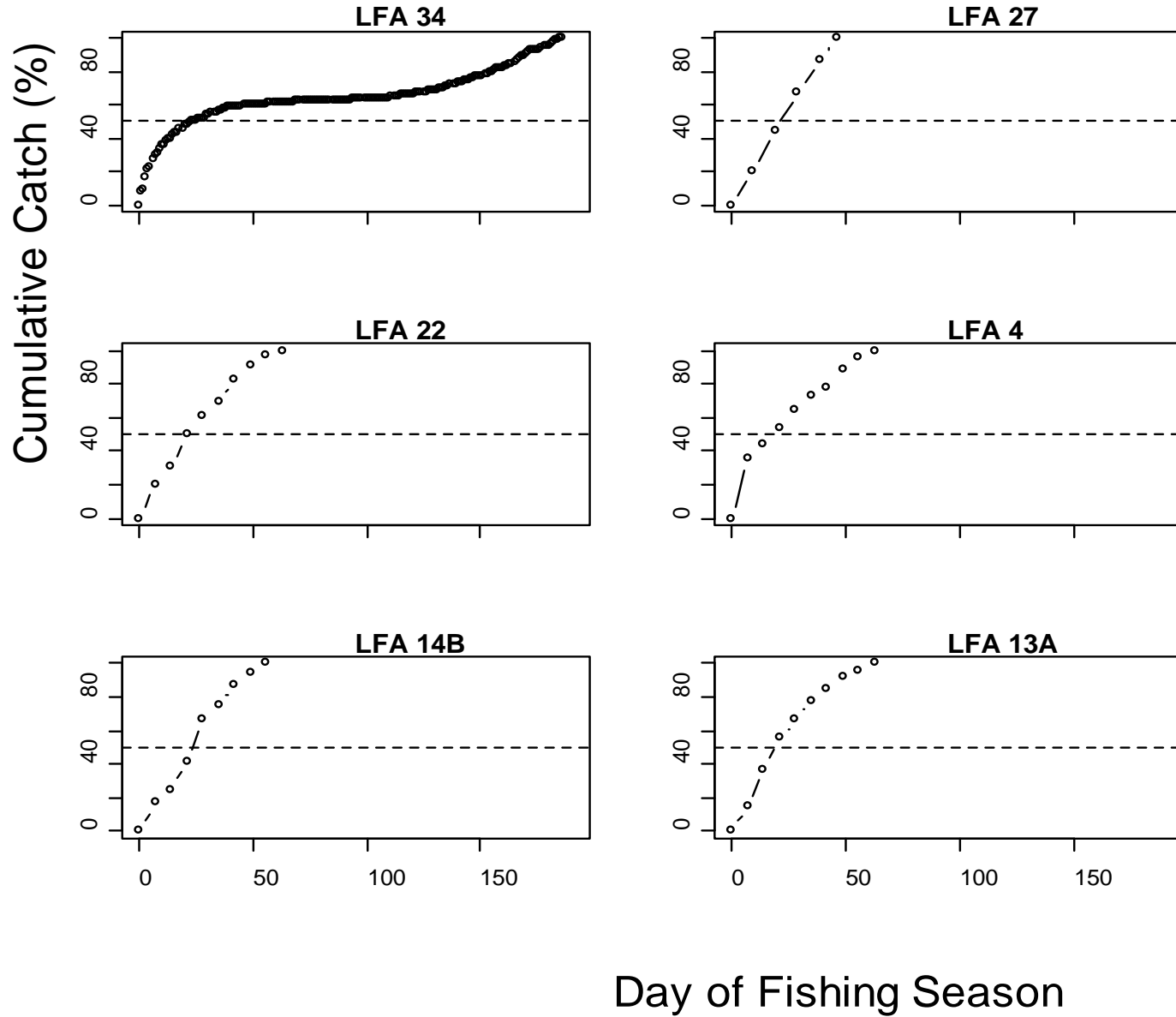
LFA Superimposed on LPA

40

# Comparison in 2003

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

# 50% of the catch is obtained in less than 30 days for all regions in Canada



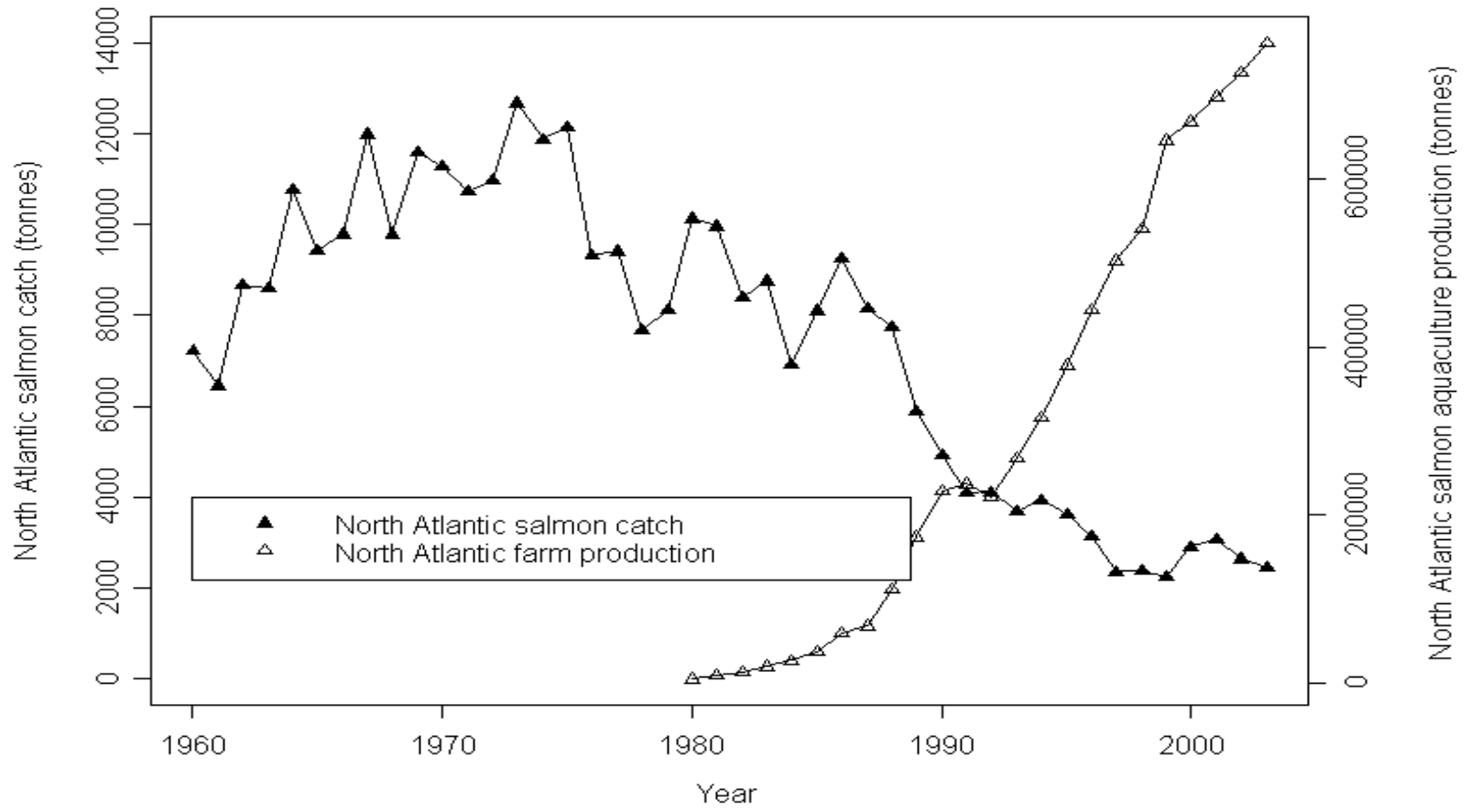
# But these estimates vastly overestimate the number of traps needed.

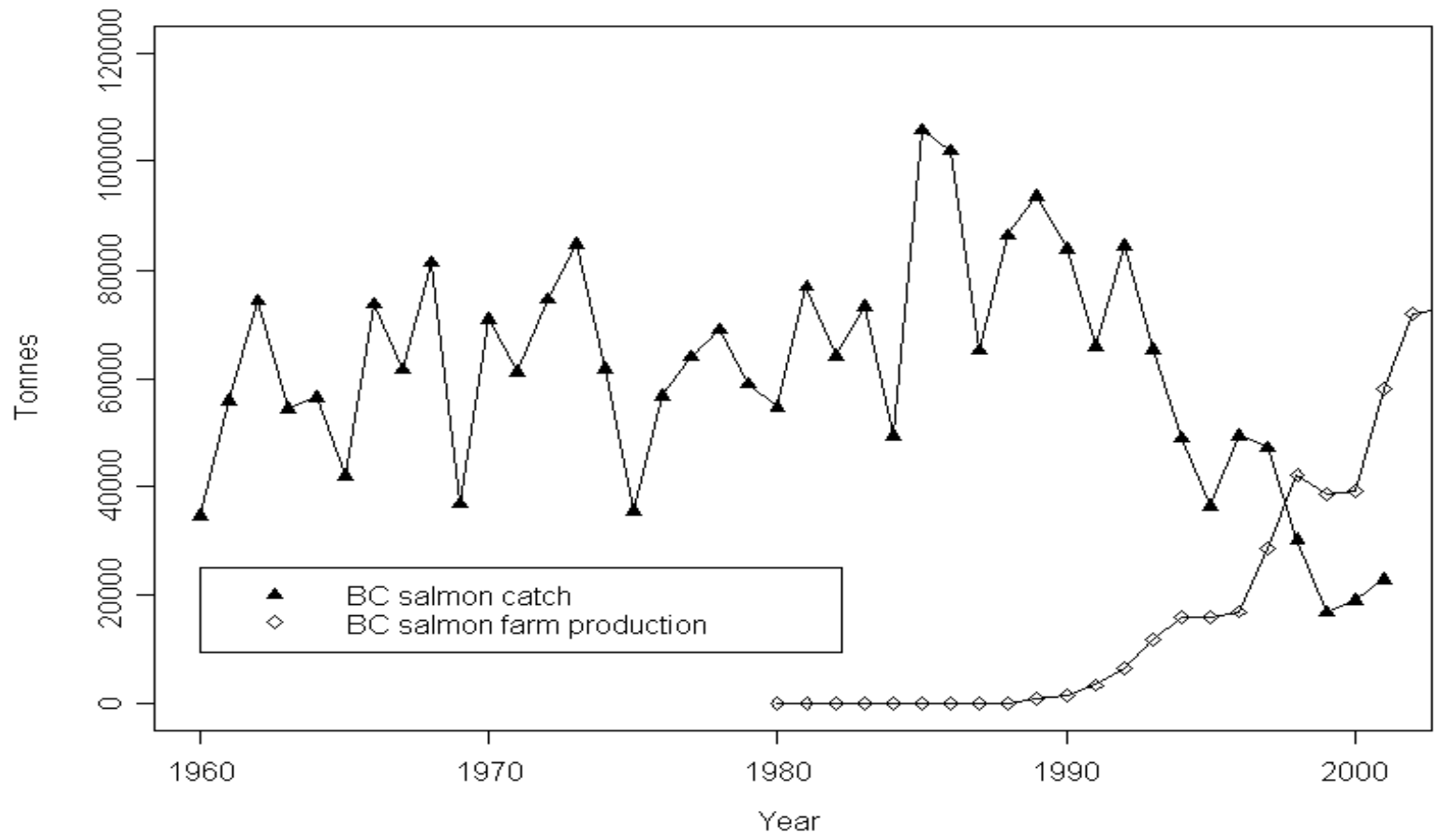
- There is universal agreement among scientist that the fishing mortality is much too high for lobster, typically  $F$  is around 0.8.
- In Canada, the seasons range from 2 to 6 months, and the fishing mortality is as high as they are in Maine.
- In Canada, 50% of the catch is obtained in less than 30 days for all regions.
- This implies that the fishing season could be reduced to one month, and still a high fishing mortality could be obtained (around  $F = 0.4$ ). This fishing mortality is probably still above what is optimal.
- This implies that the amount of effort in Maine is around 75 times too high.

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



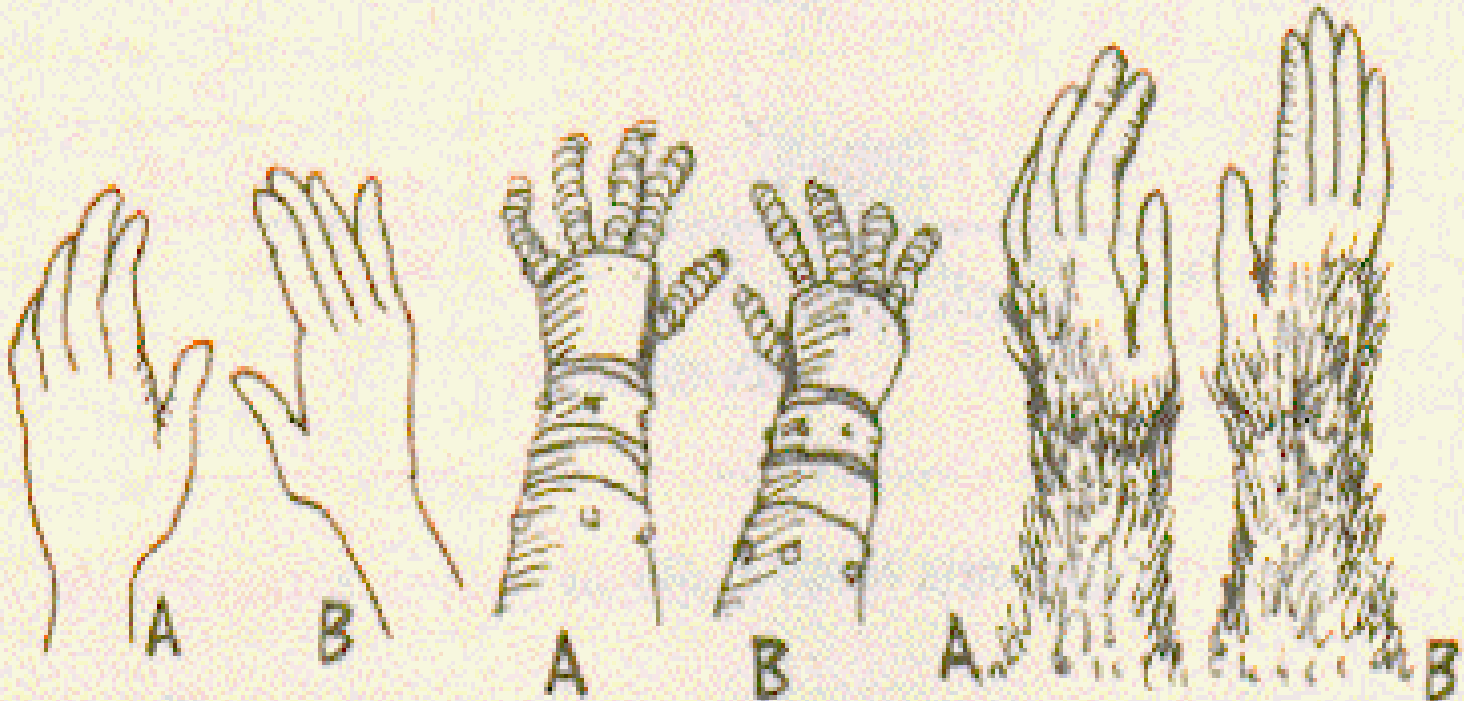
(note all the actual work on this was done by Jen Ford)



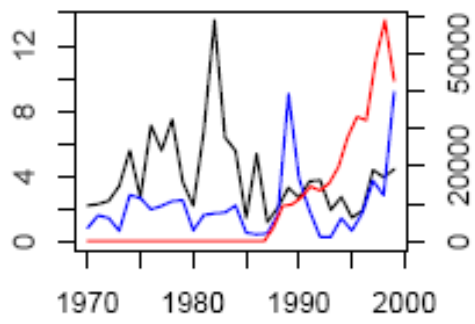


# Meta-analysis of paired comparisons

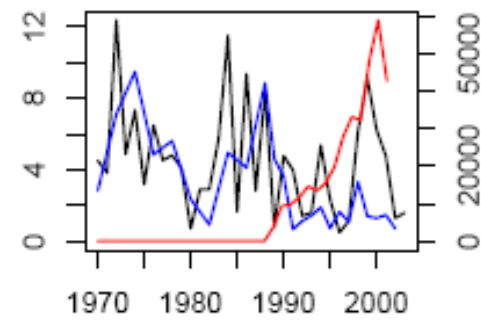
A PAIRED COMPARISON EXPERIMENT IS ONE OF THE MOST EFFECTIVE WAYS TO REDUCE NATURAL VARIABILITY WHILE COMPARING TREATMENTS. FOR EXAMPLE, IN COMPARING HAND CREAMS, THE TWO BRANDS ARE RANDOMLY ASSIGNED TO EACH SUBJECT'S RIGHT OR LEFT HANDS. THIS ELIMINATES VARIABILITY DUE TO SKIN DIFFERENCES.



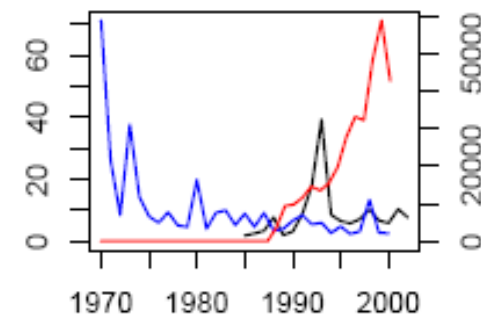




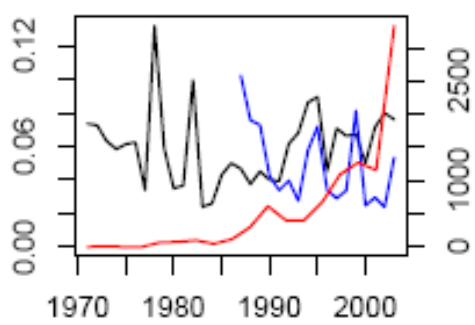
BCchumEJ



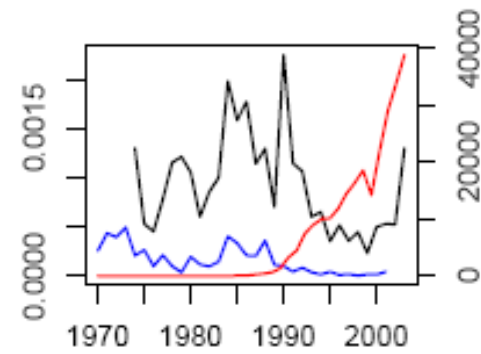
BCpink



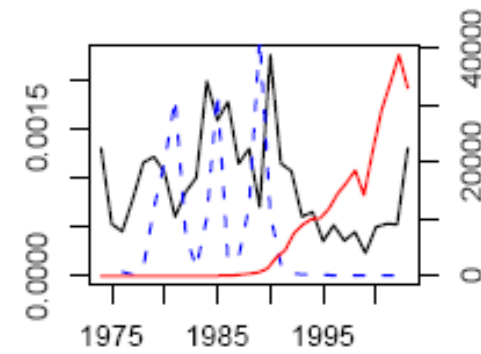
BCcoho



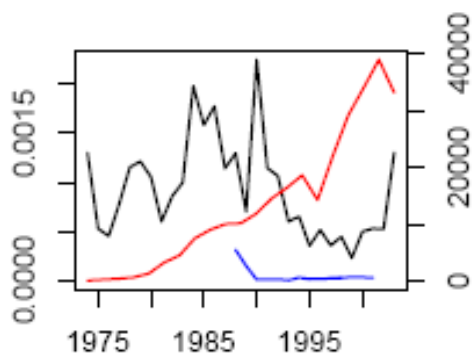
NF



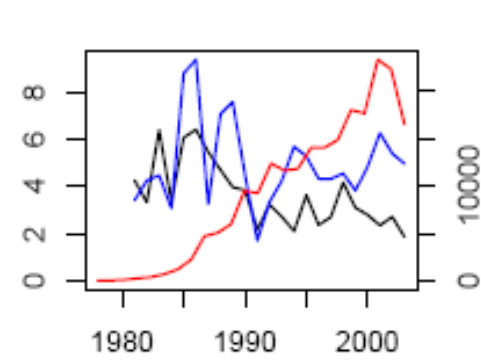
NBiB



NBSt

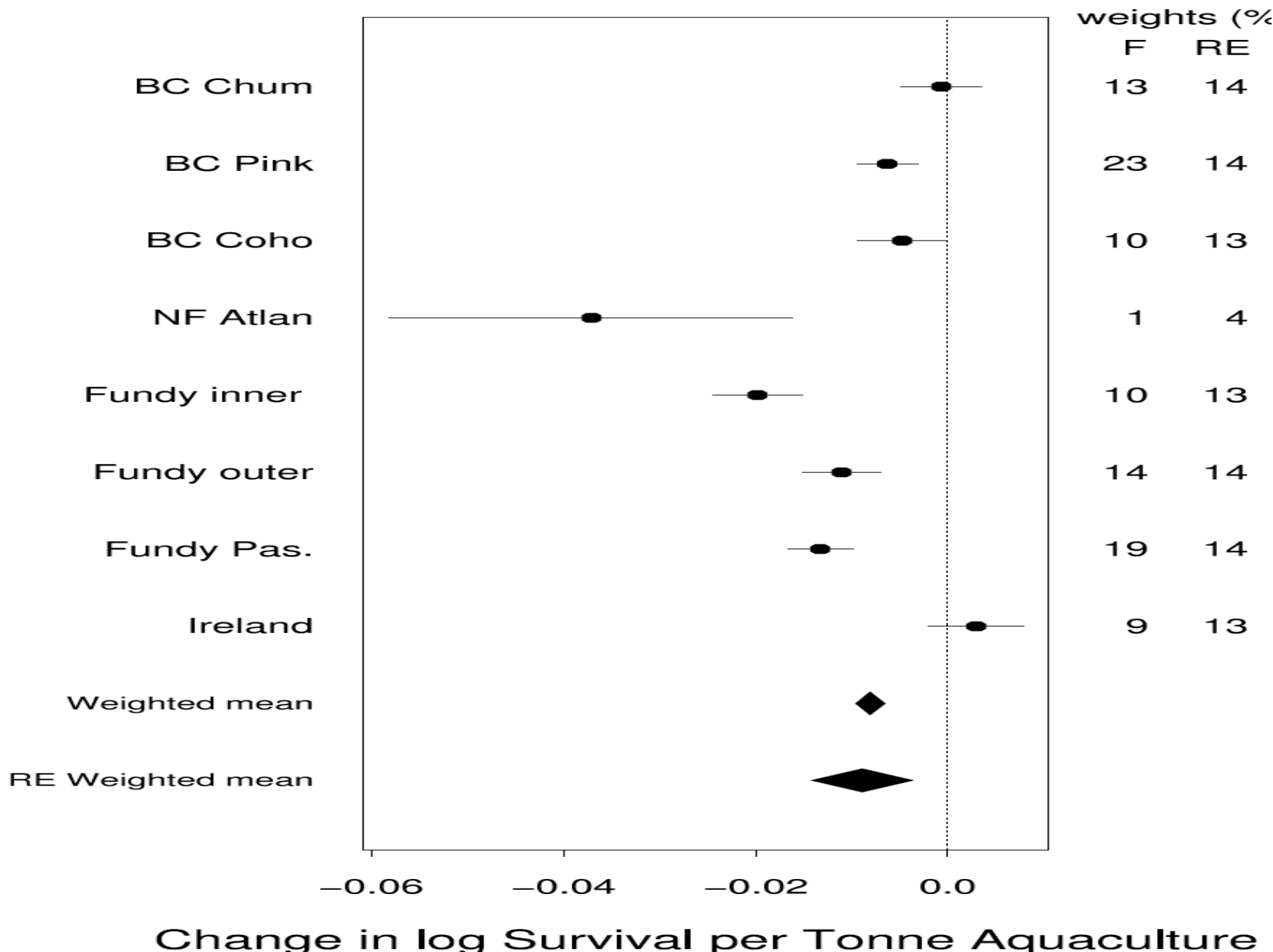


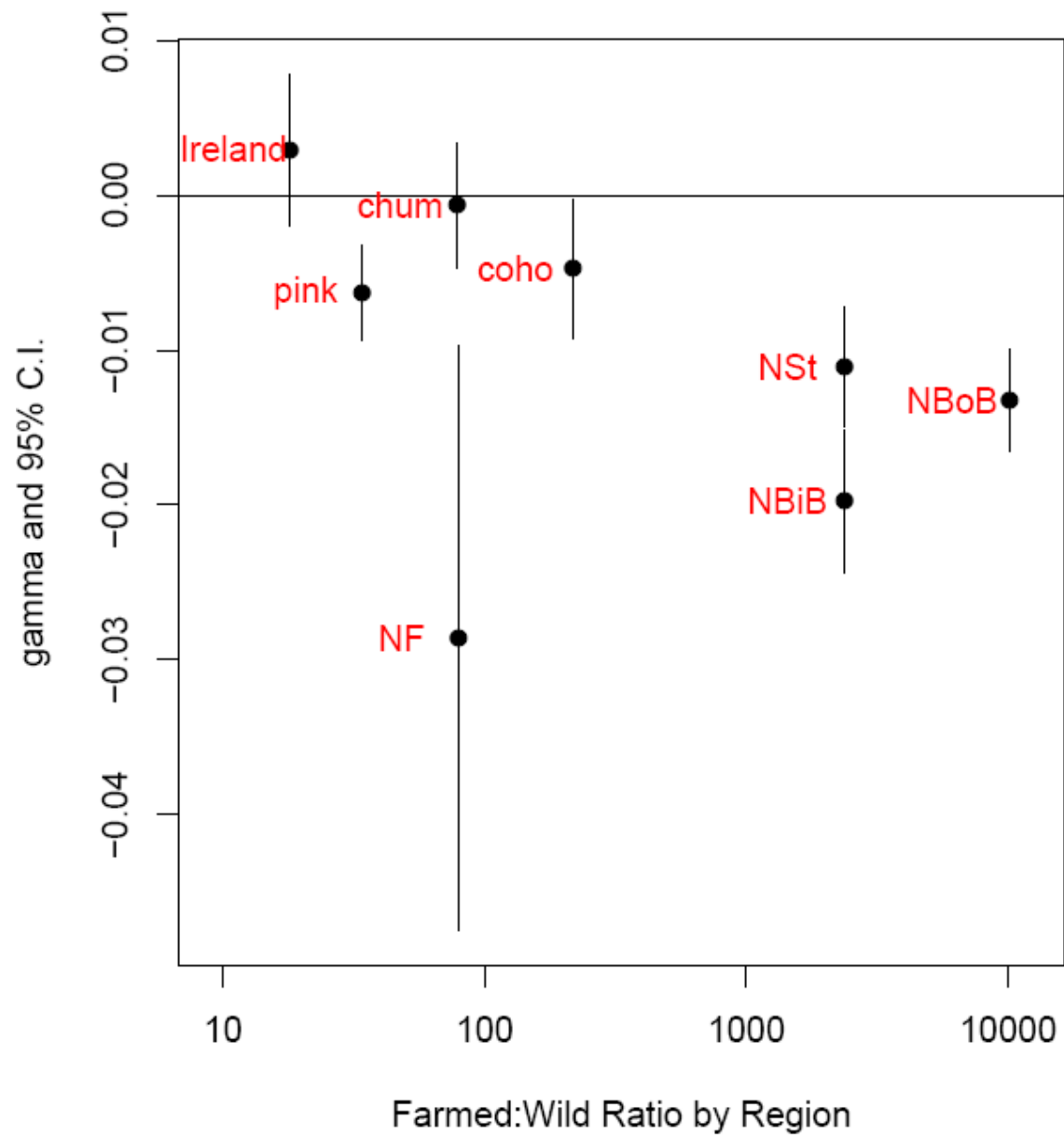
NBoB



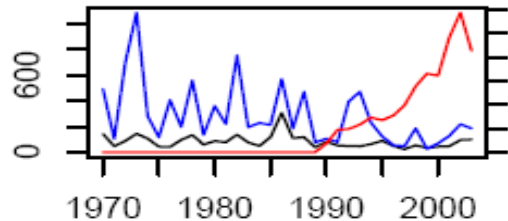
Ireland

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

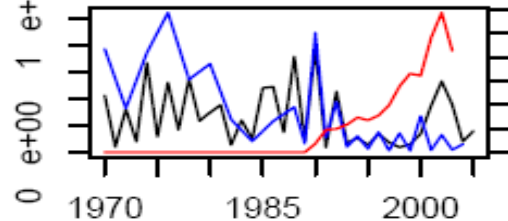




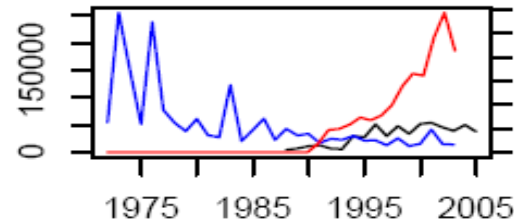
Always repeat all analyses with  
independent data



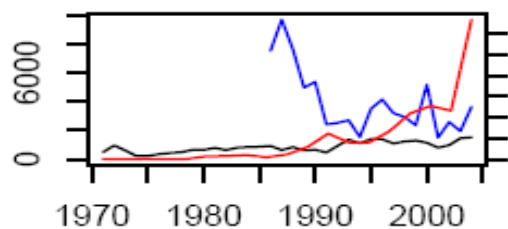
BCchumEJ



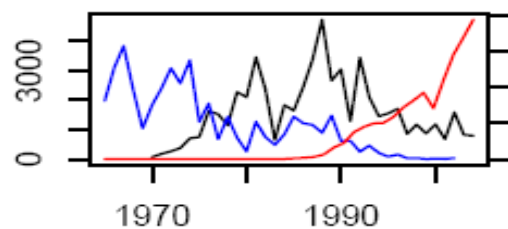
BCpink



BCcoho



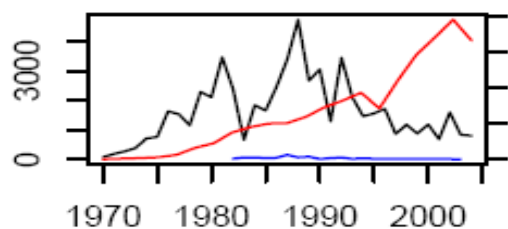
NF



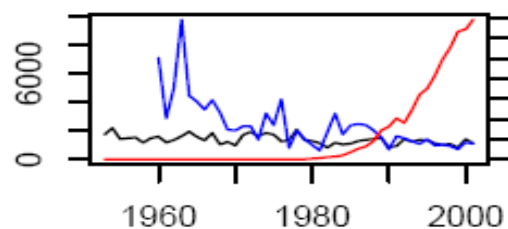
NBiB



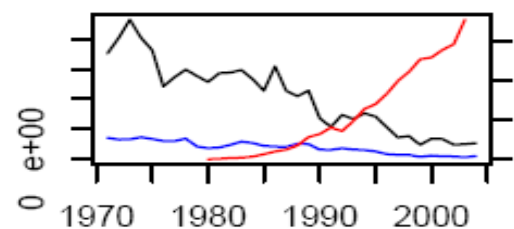
NBSt



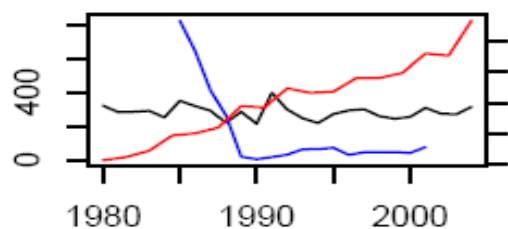
NBoB



ScotCount

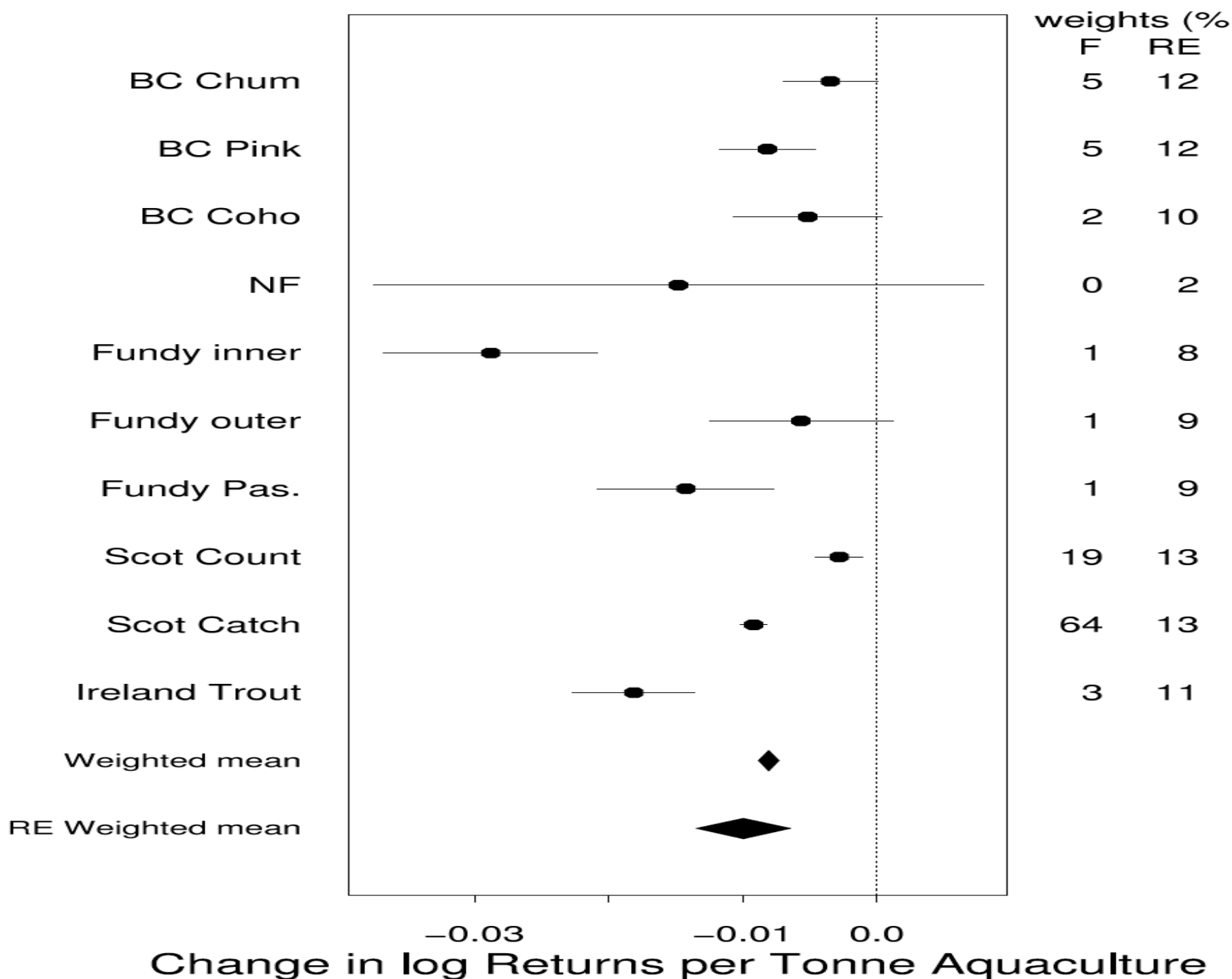


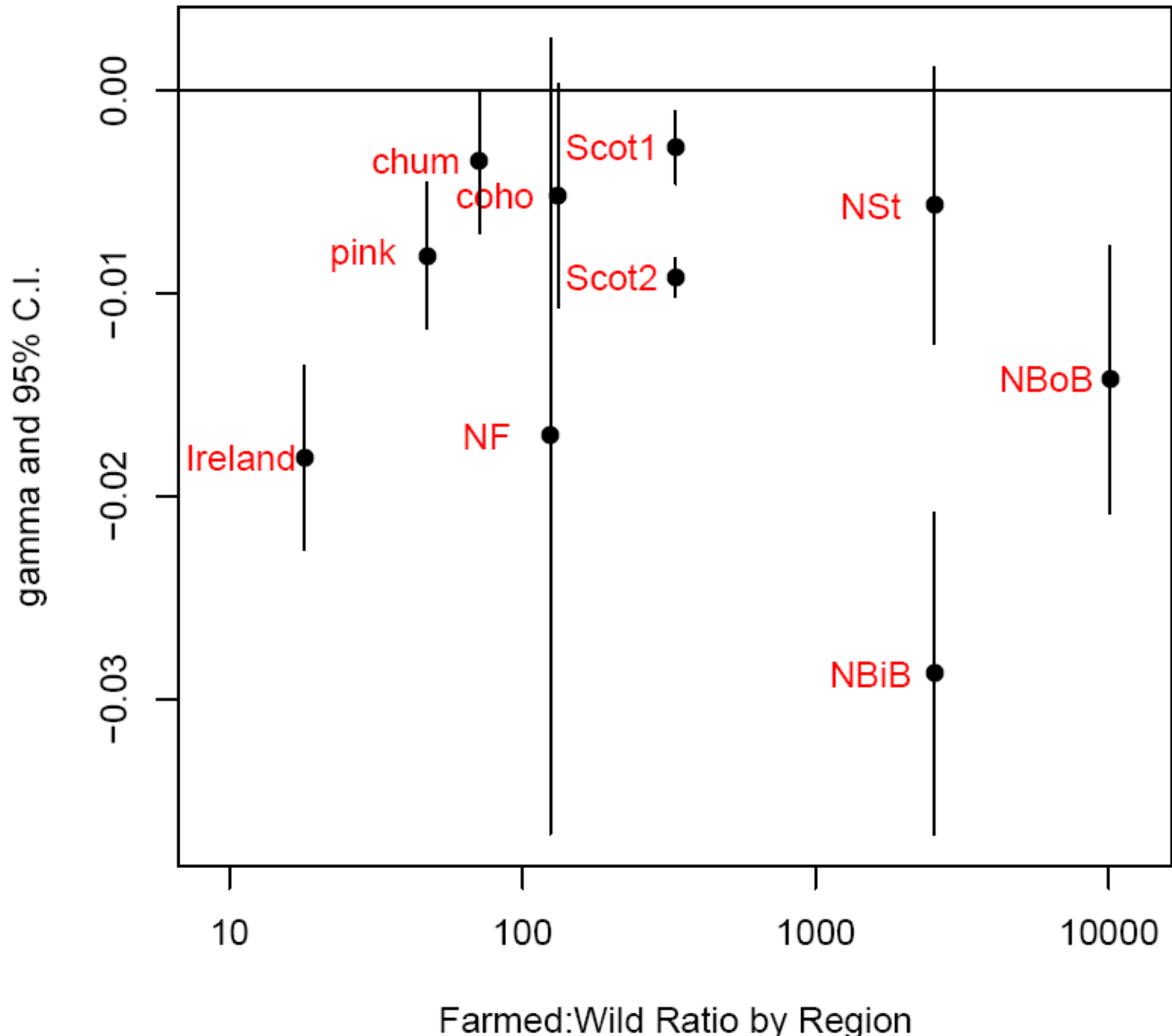
ScotCatch



Ireland

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









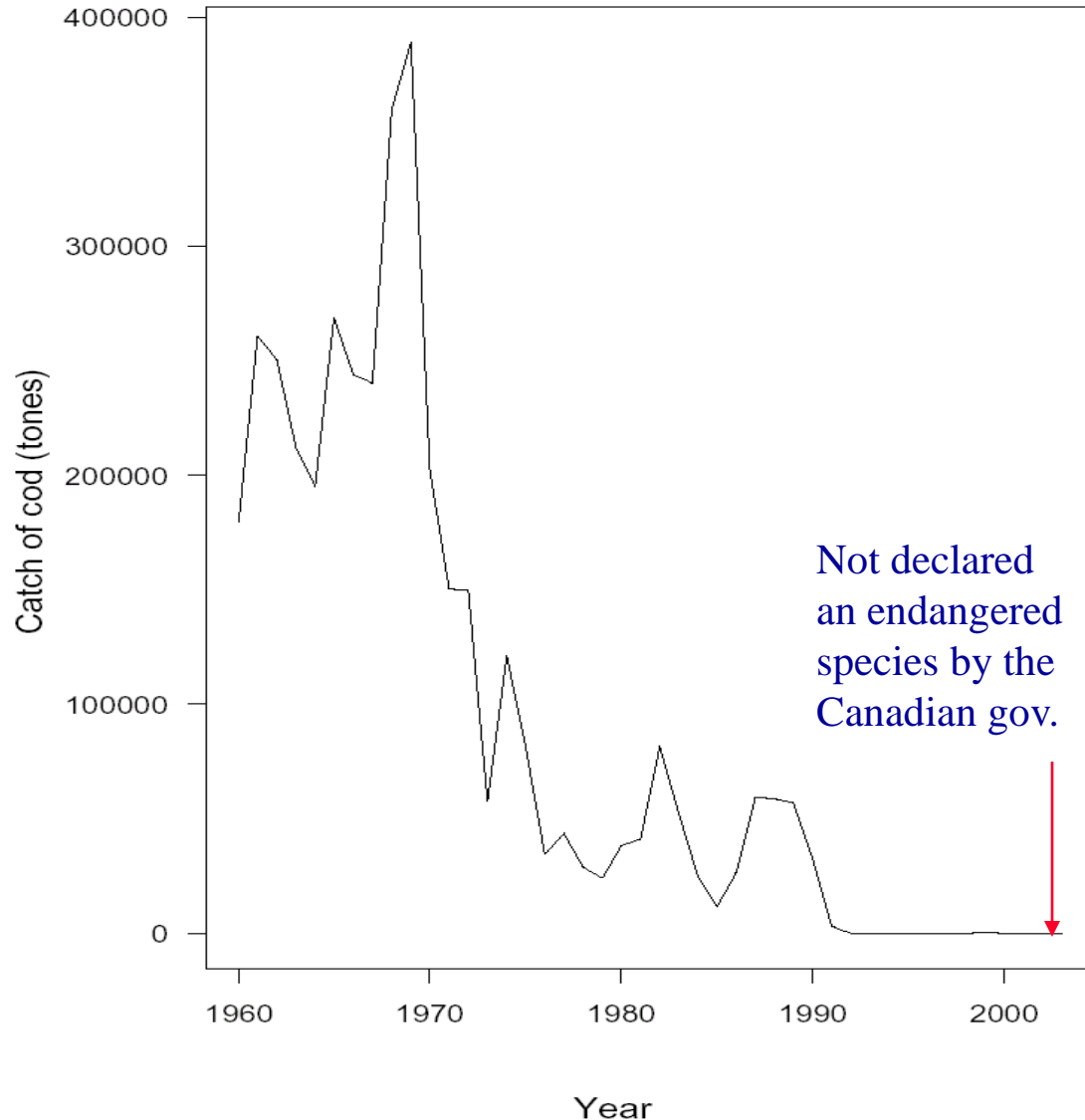


# Collapse of cod: cost ~ Can\$5,000,000,000.00

## Newfoundland cod

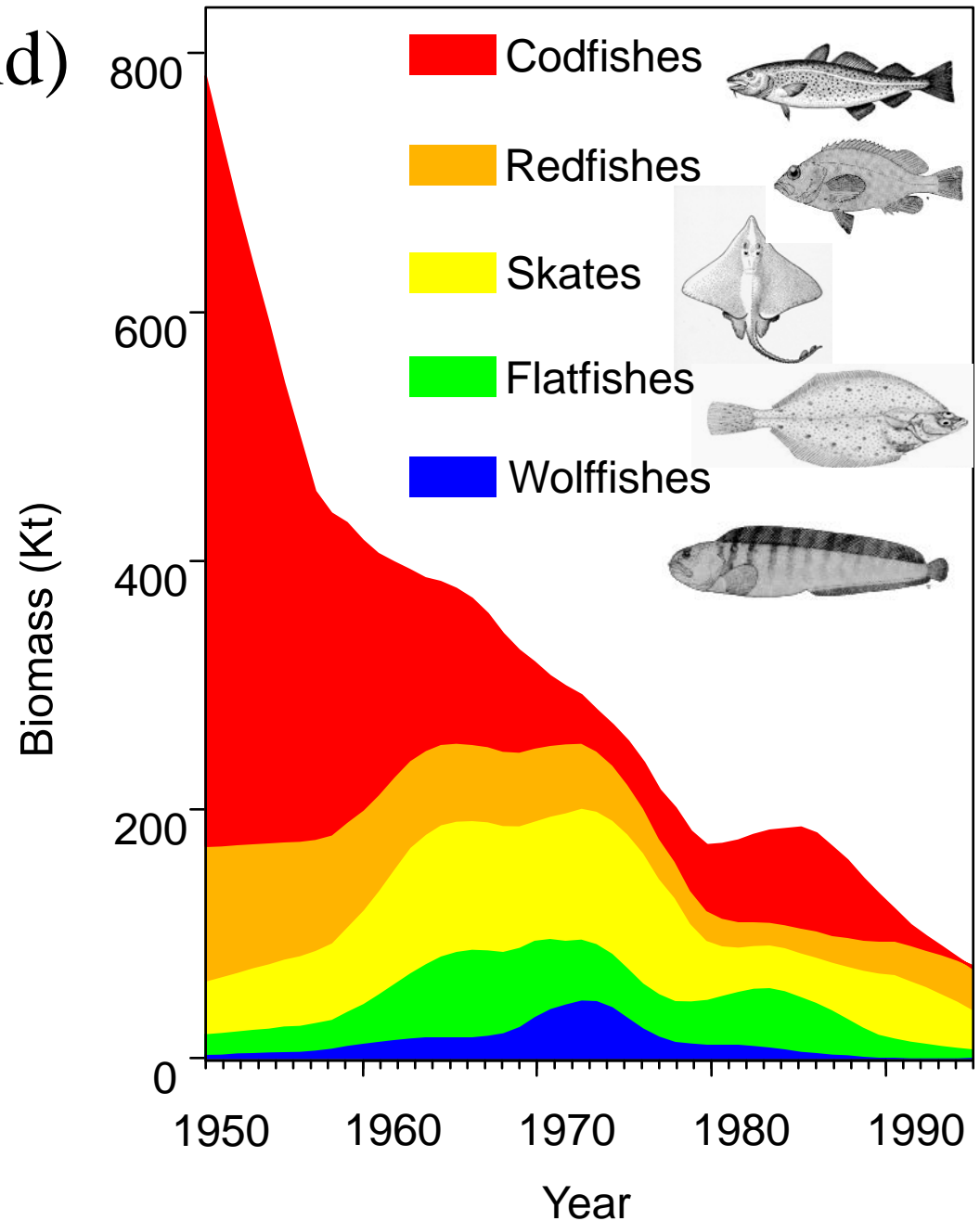
The loss of an industry that employed 40,000 people, and had sustained a culture for 400 years.

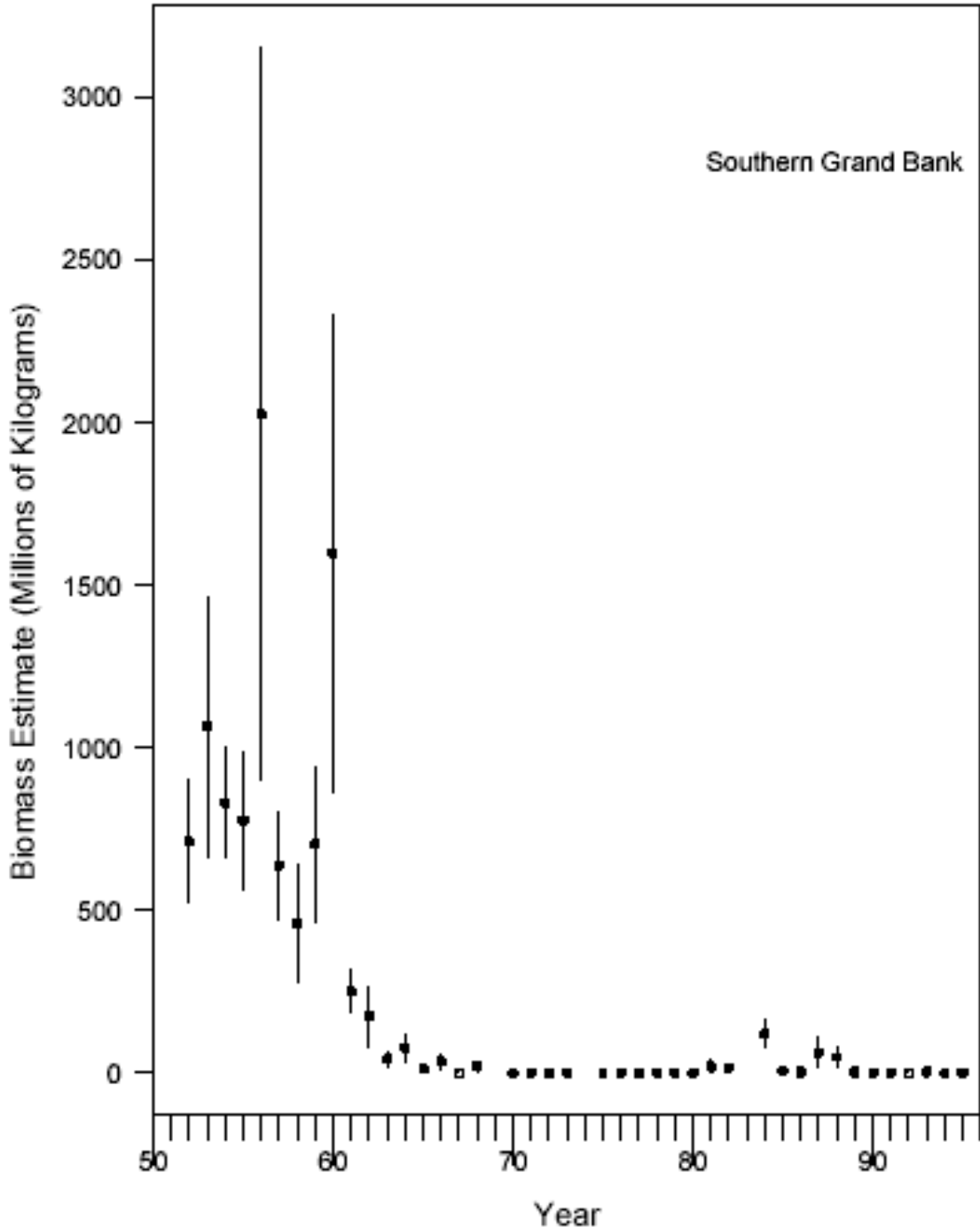
Cod in Newfoundland declared NOT endangered in 2003.



# St. Pierre Bank (south of Newfoundland)

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

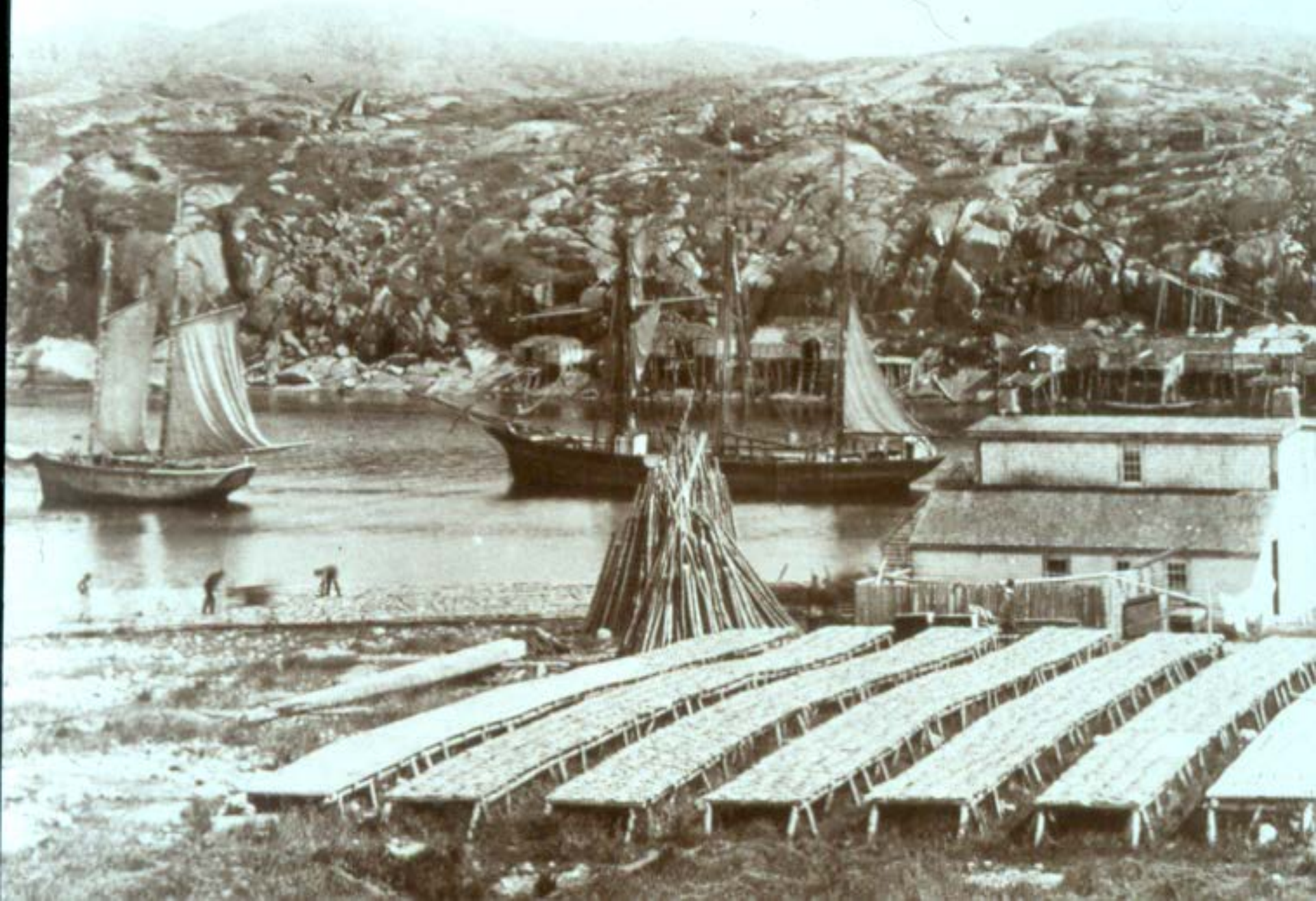




Southern Grand Bank

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

# The Loss of Cod History



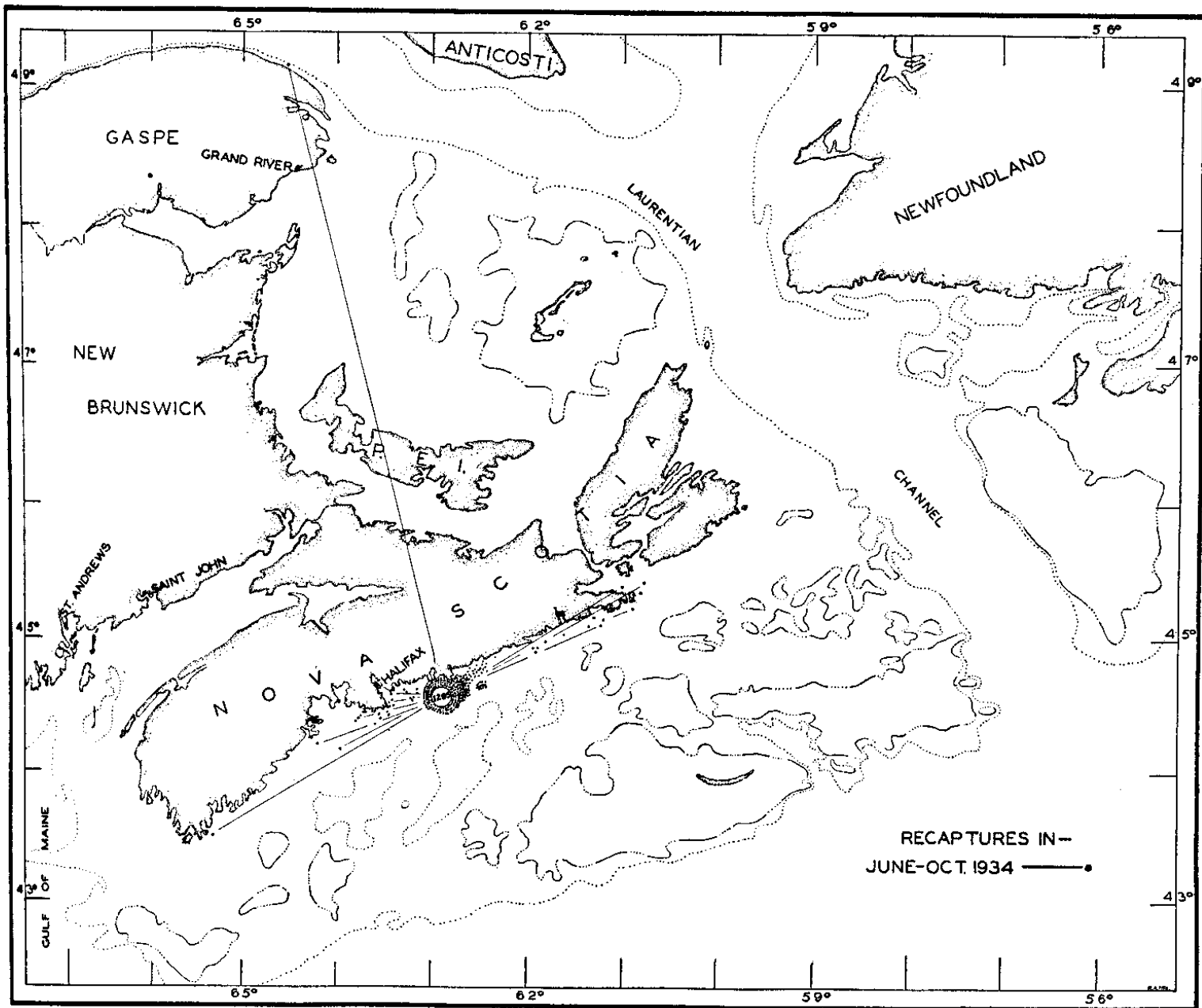


FIG. 21.—Recaptures to October, 1934, of cod tagged in the Jeddore Rock to Egg Island area, N.S., in May, 1934.

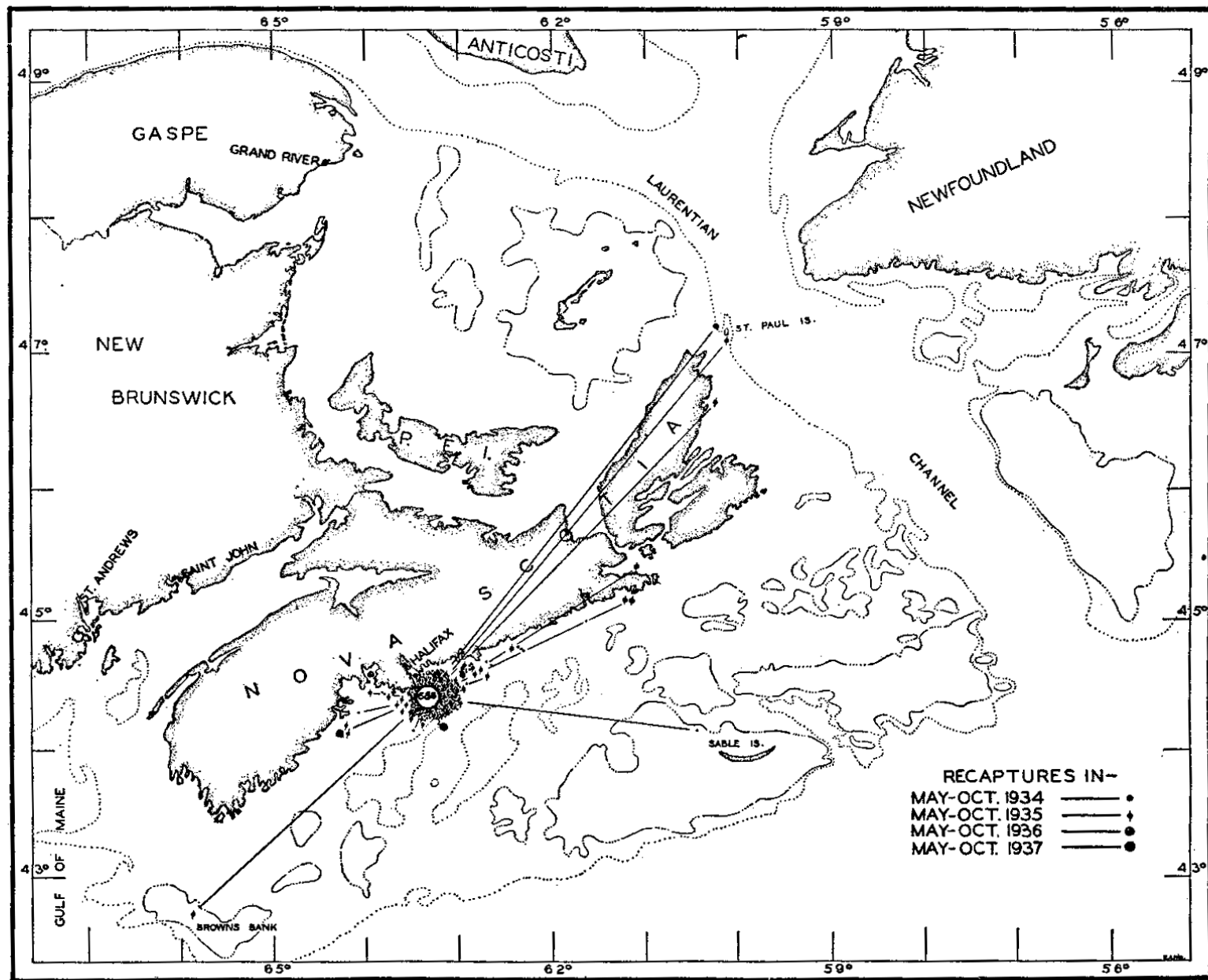


FIG. 18.—Recaptures in May to October, 1934, 1935, 1936 and 1937, of cod tagged near Halifax in June, 1934.

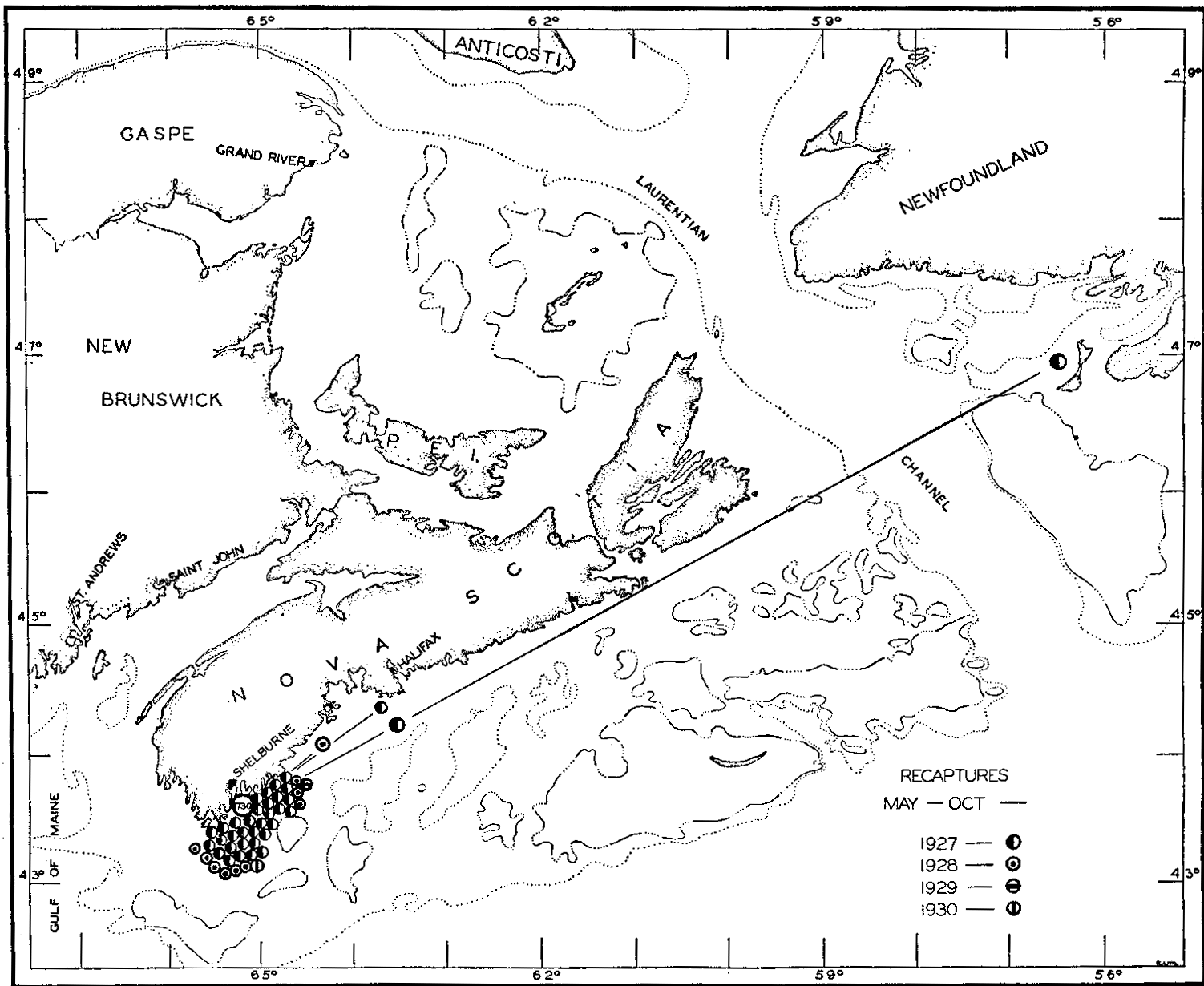
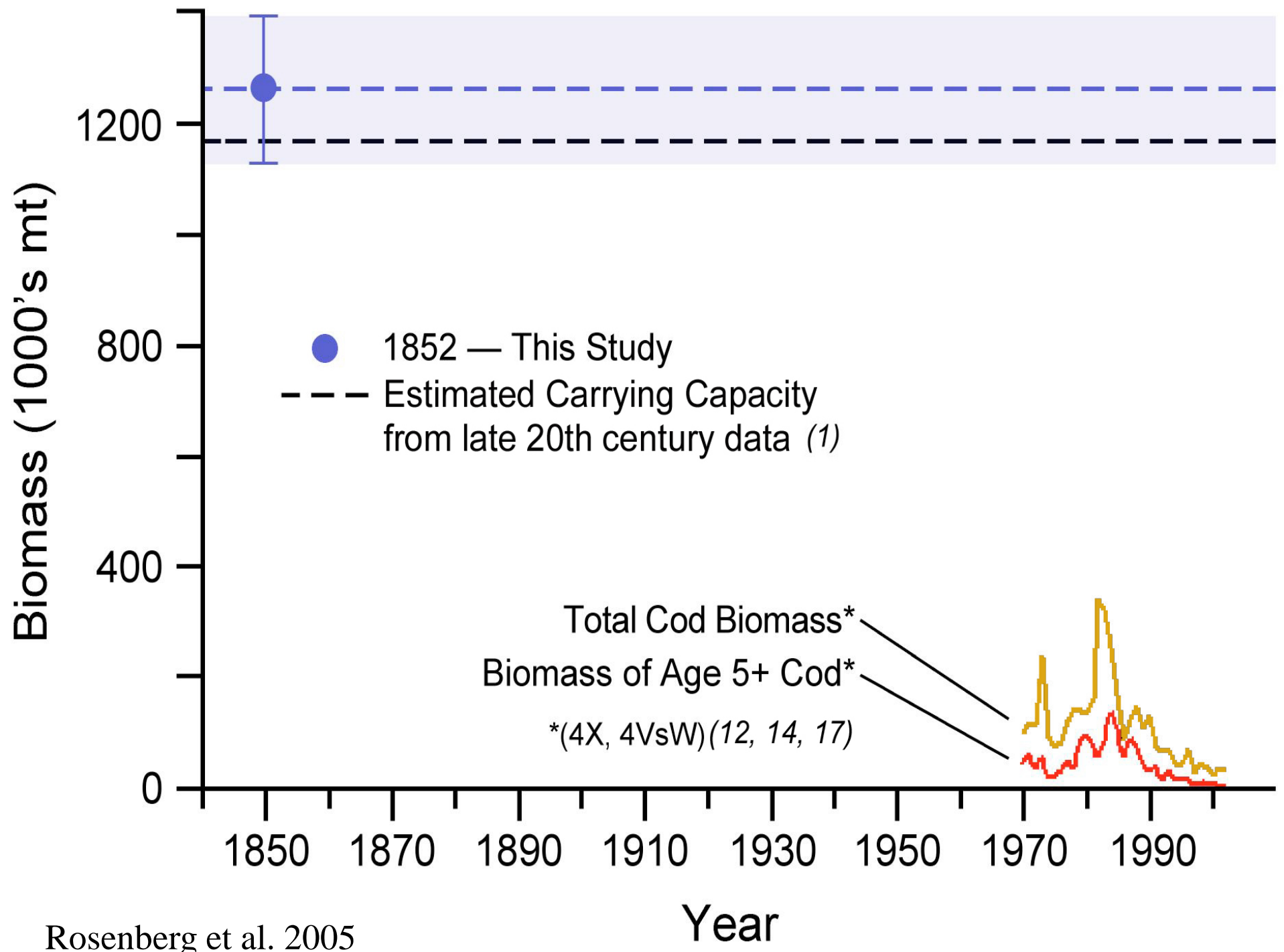
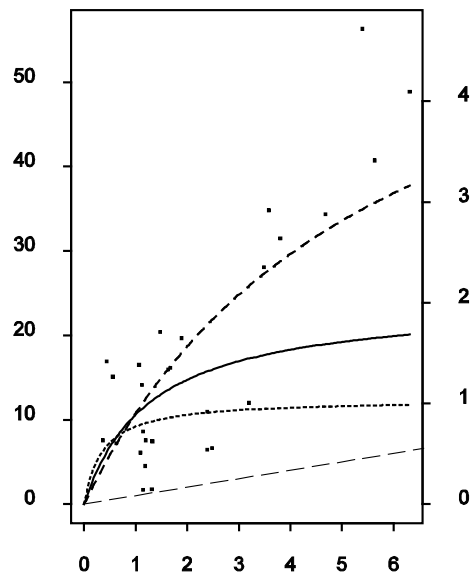


FIG. 15.—Recaptures during "summers" of 1927, 1928, 1929 and 1930 of cod tagged off Shelburne, N.S., during September and the first day of October, 1926.

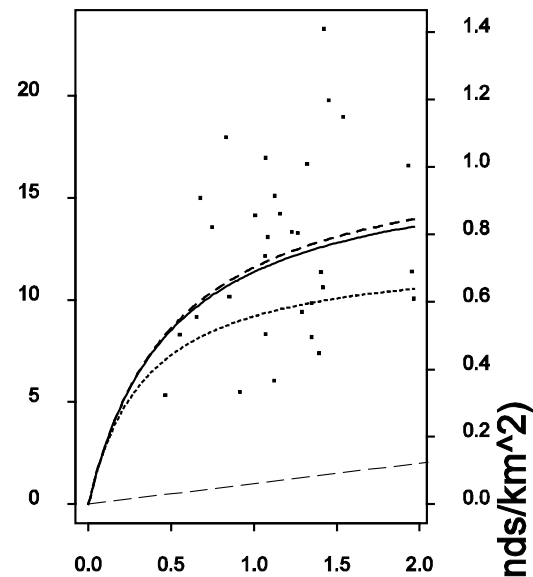




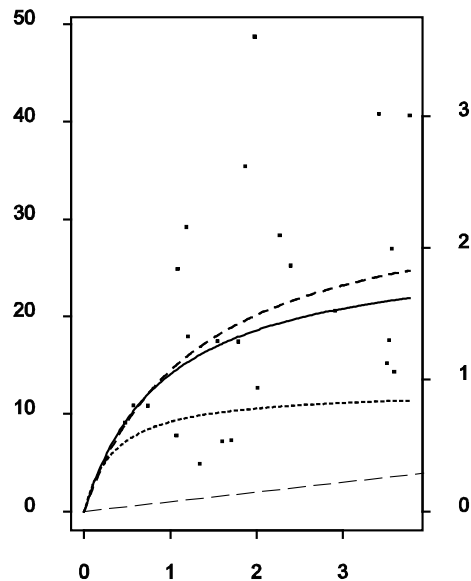
Labrador and N.E. Newfoundland



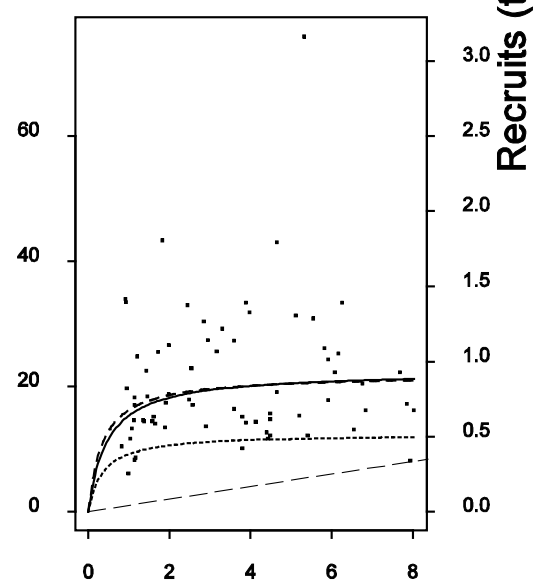
St. Pierre Bank



Central Baltic



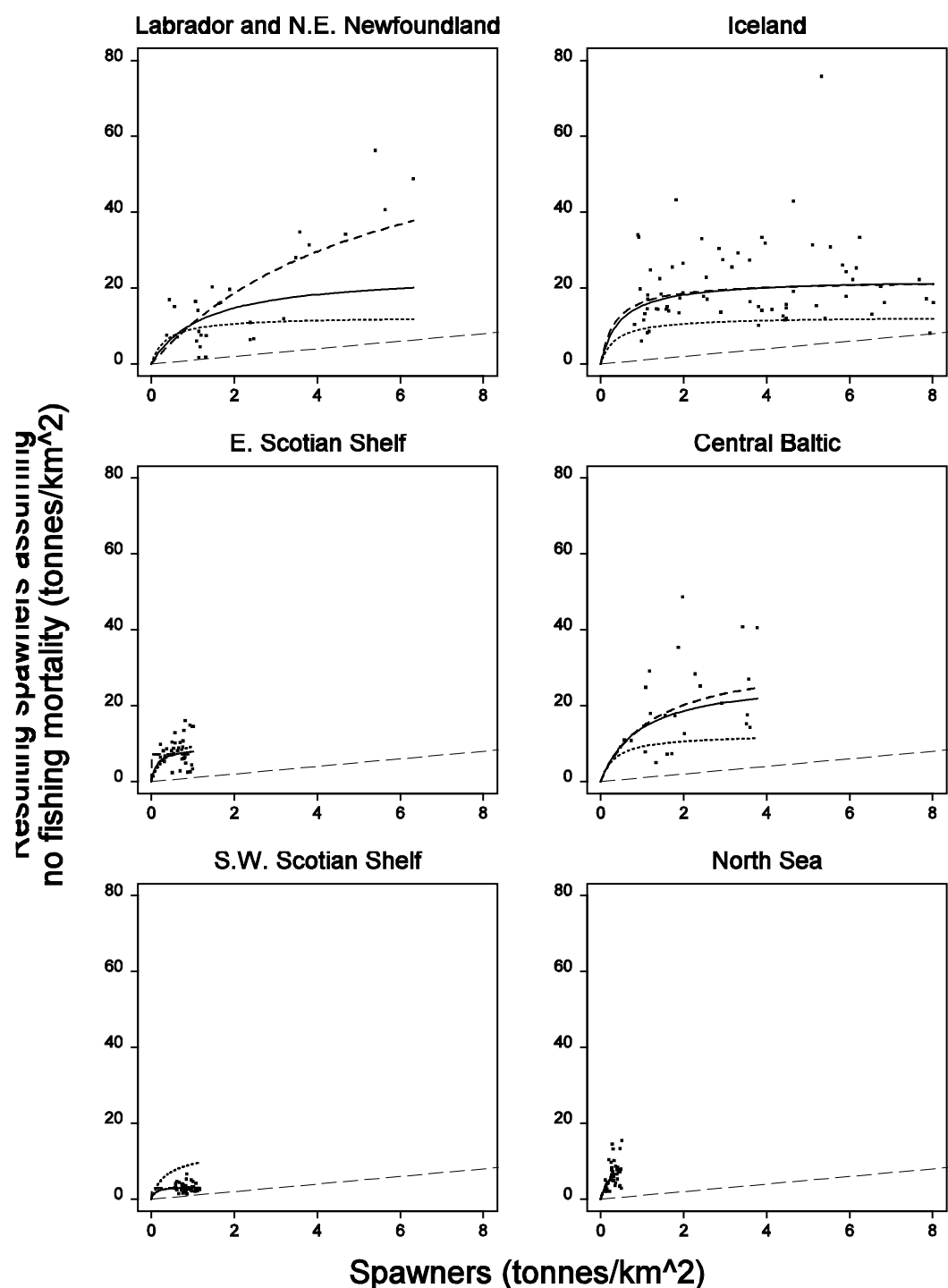
Iceland



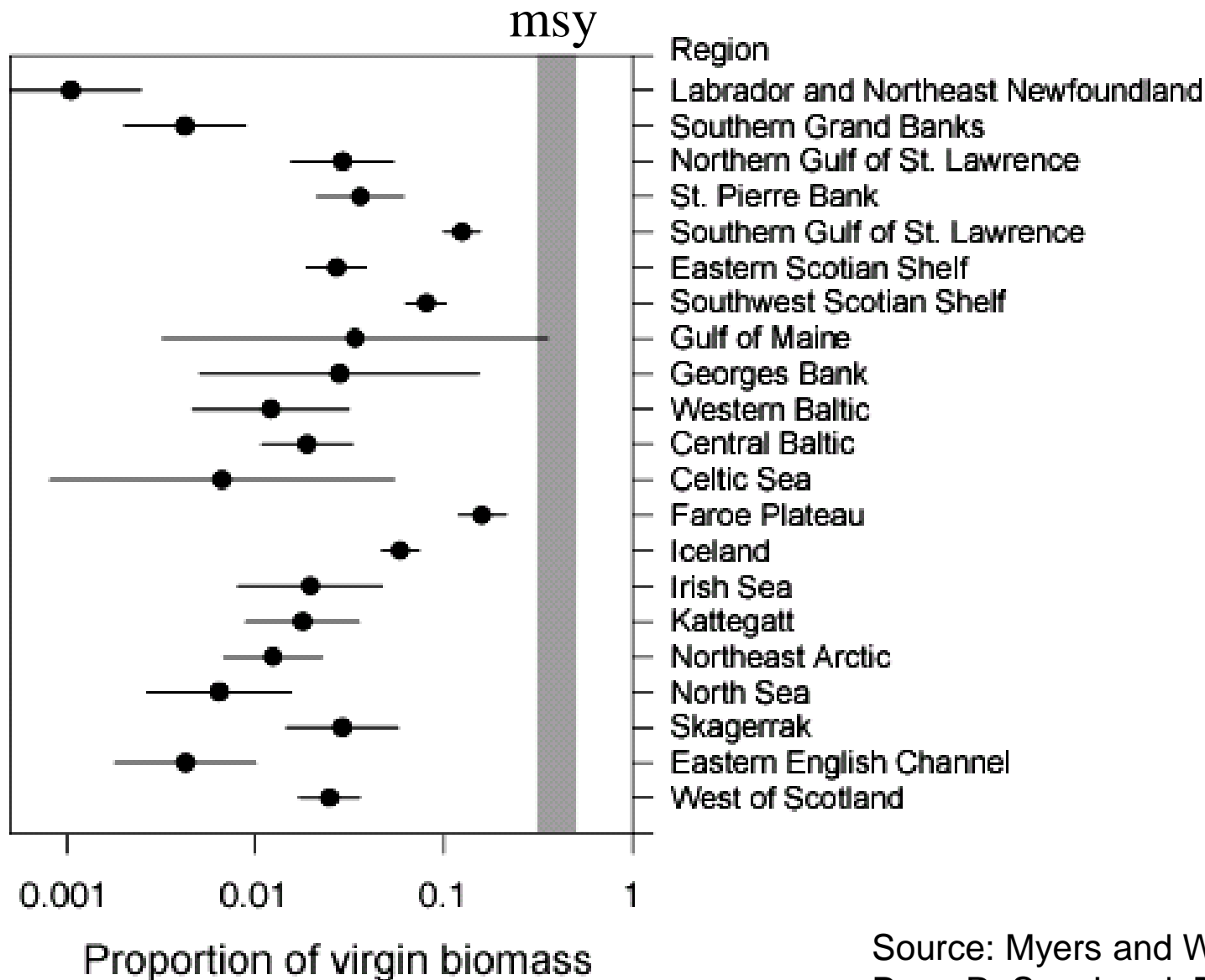
Resulting spawners assuming  
no fishing mortality (tonnes/km<sup>2</sup>)

Recruits (thousands/km<sup>2</sup>)

Spawners (tonnes/km<sup>2</sup>)



# There is much less than 10% of cod left -



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

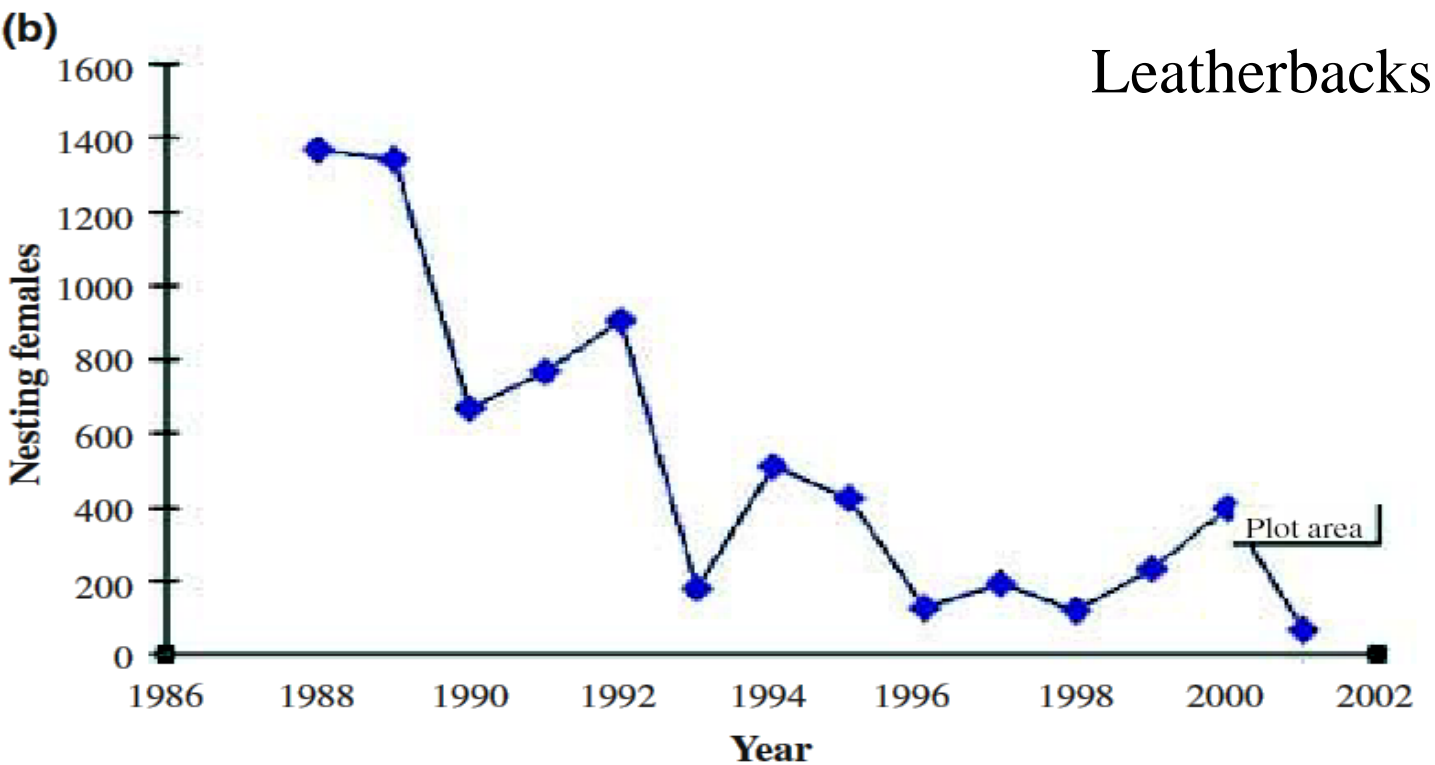
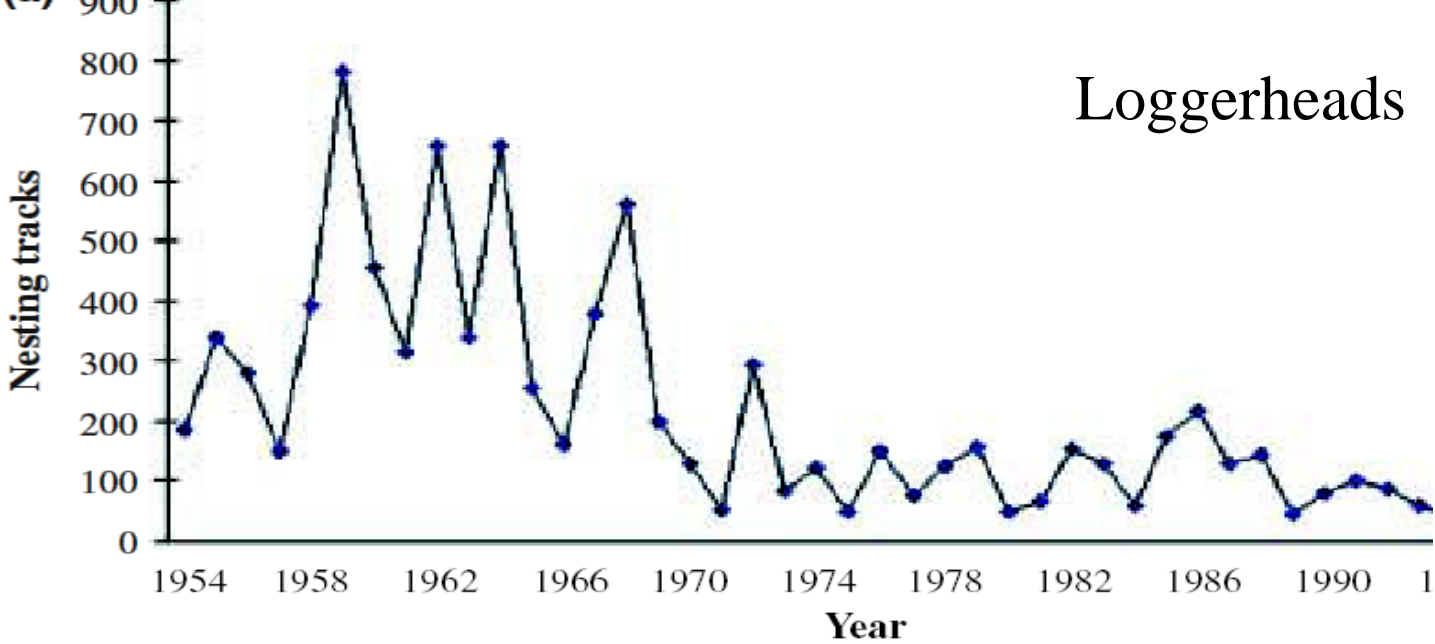




Photo by Matthew Godfrey



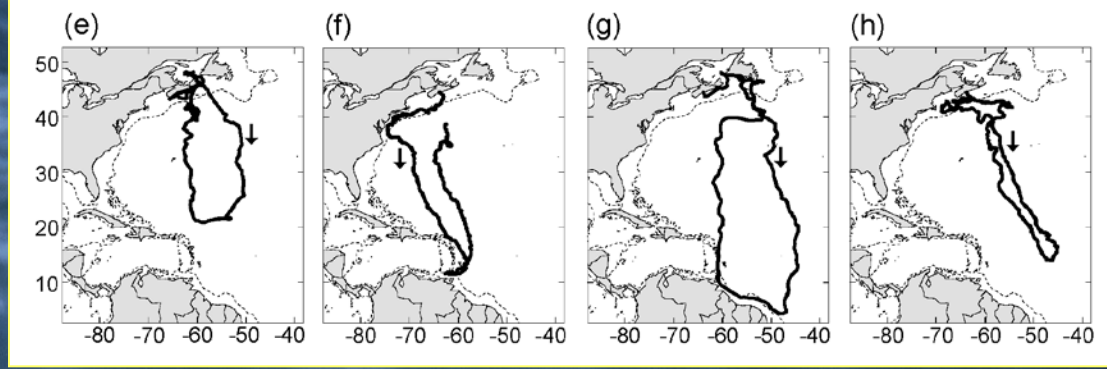


Swordfishing fleet at anchor, Neils Harbour, Cape Breton.—13.



Mike James  
Andrea Ottensmeyer





James, Eckert, Myers  
Mar. Bio. 2005

Three commercial fishing vessels are retrofitted seasonally for turtle research

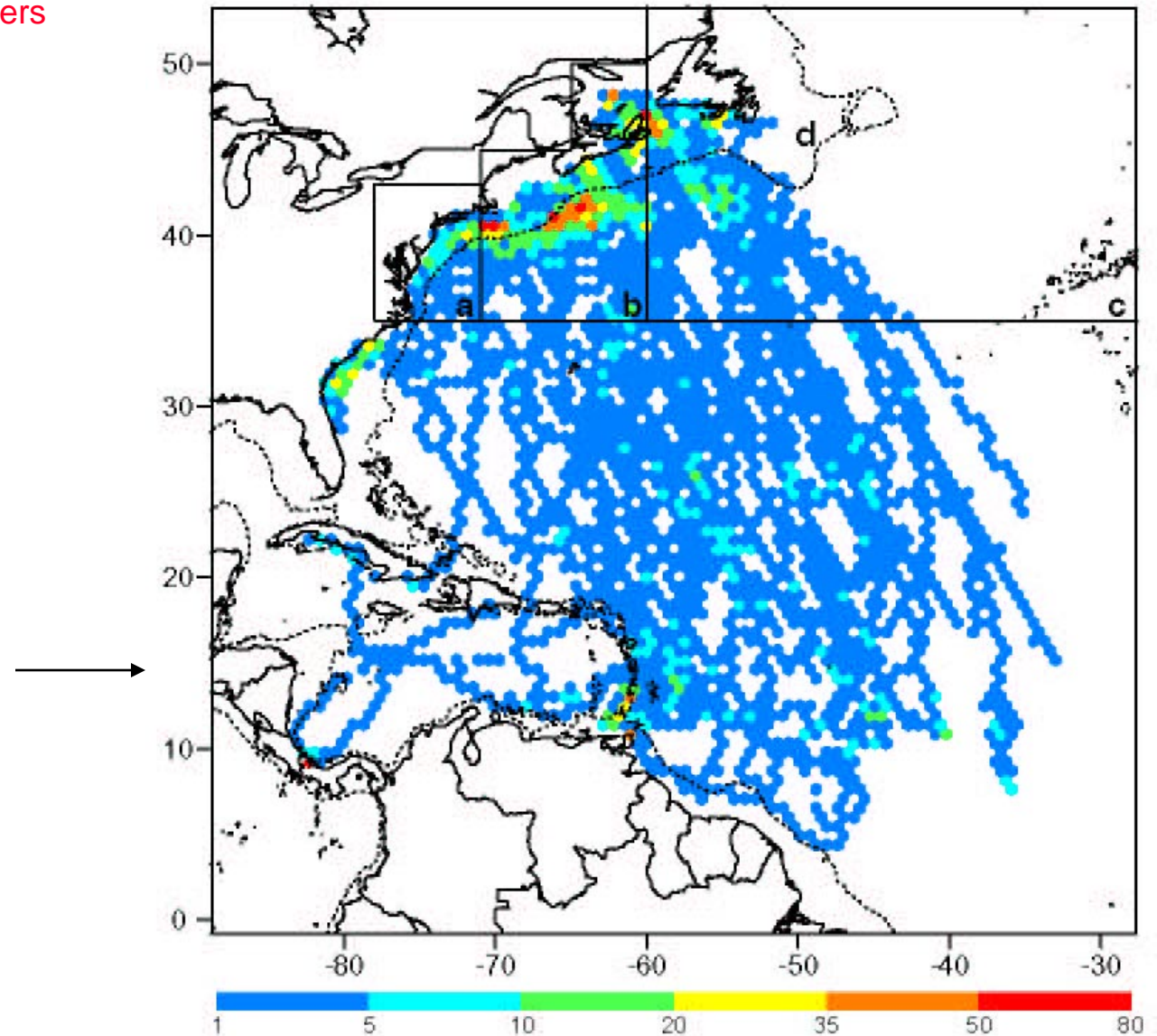




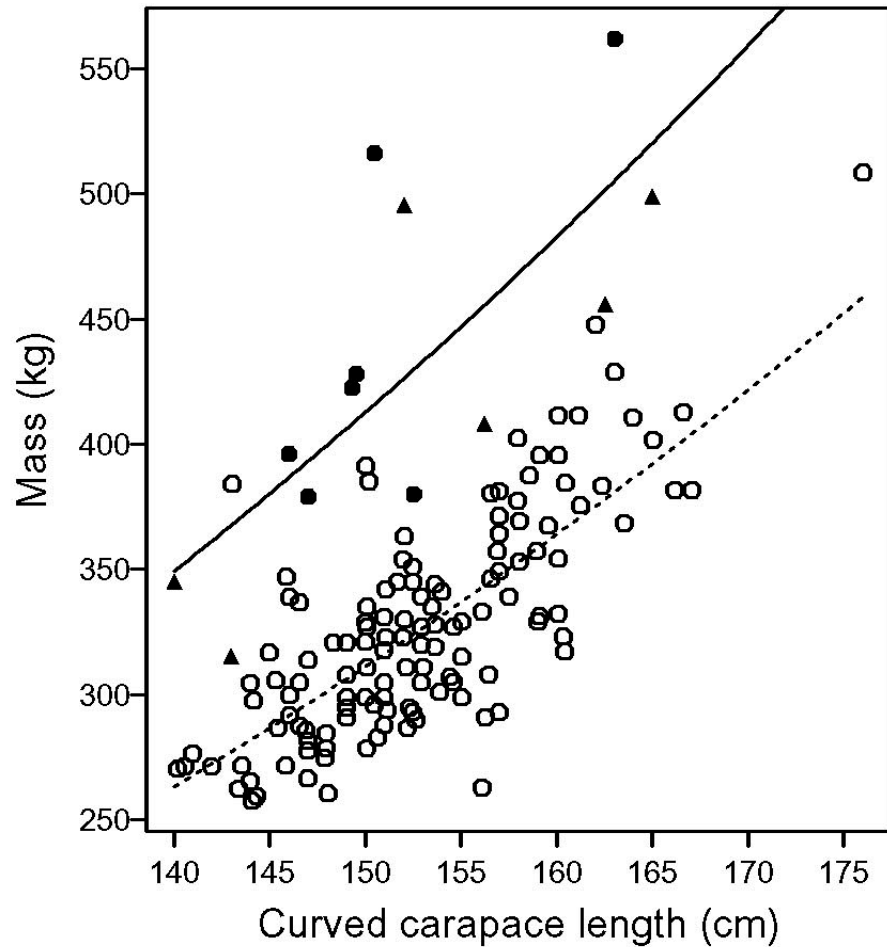


# Identification of high-use areas and threats to leatherback sea turtles in northern waters

James, Ottensmeyer and Myers  
Ecology Letters (2005)



# Weights in Canadian waters

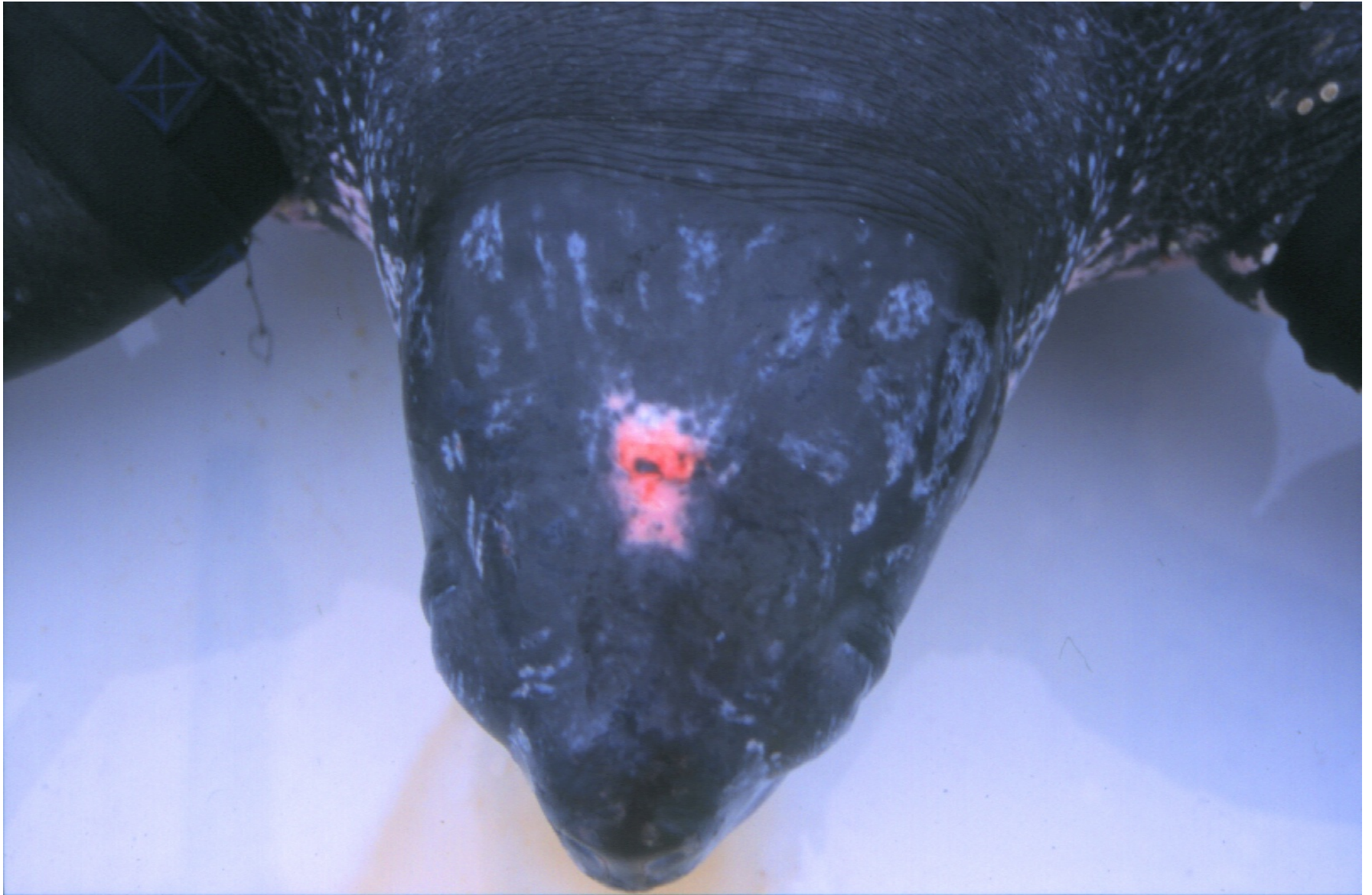


Turtles are  
33% heavier in Canadian coastal  
areas versus on the nesting  
beach



Nesting female morphometrics: St. Croix, U.S.V.I.  
Boulon et al. 1996. Chelonian Conserv, Biol. 2:141-147.  
Lines fit by constant slope analysis of covariance after log transformation.

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



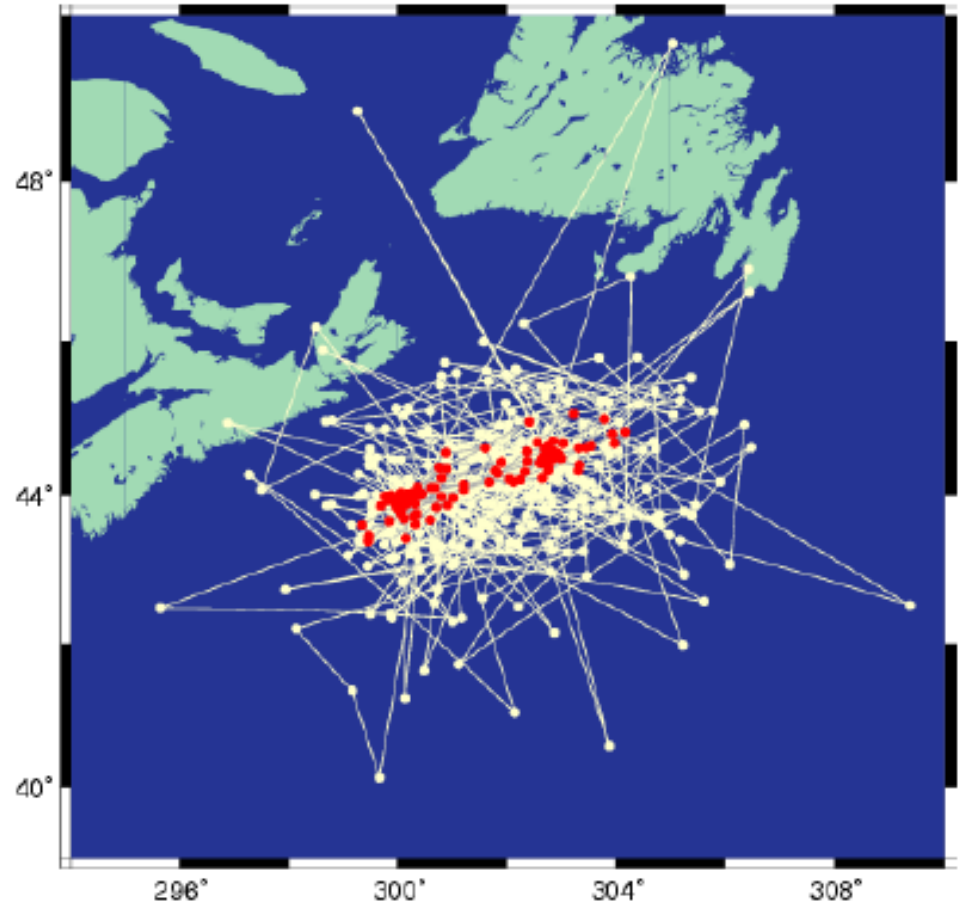


# Argos Satellite Telemetry Data

Getting more out of the data

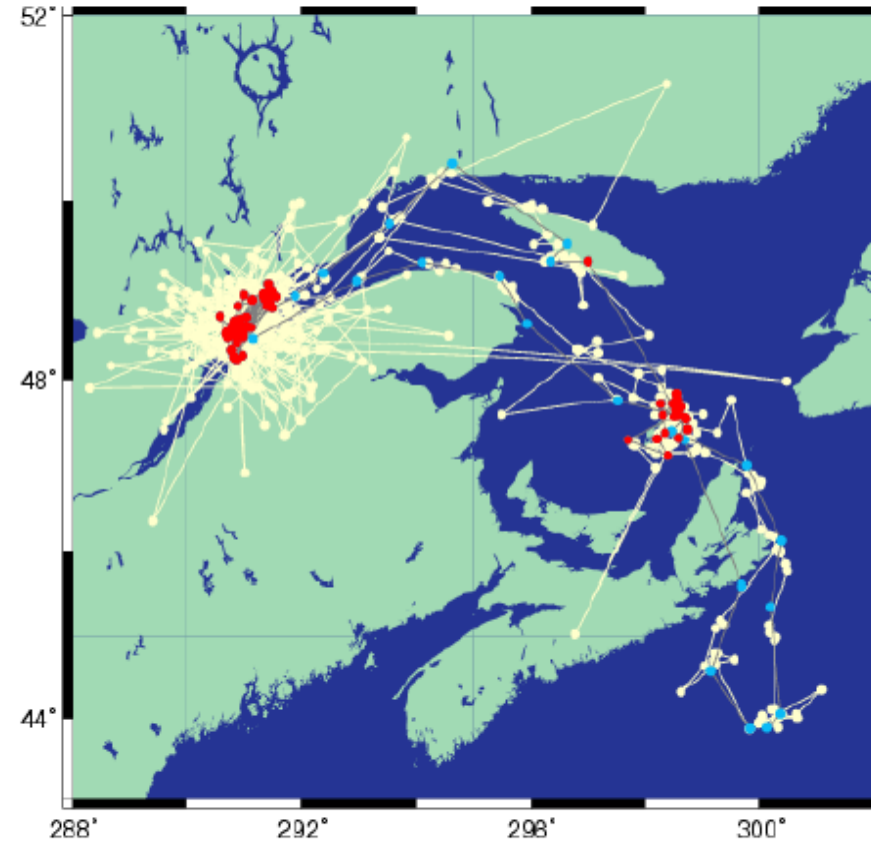
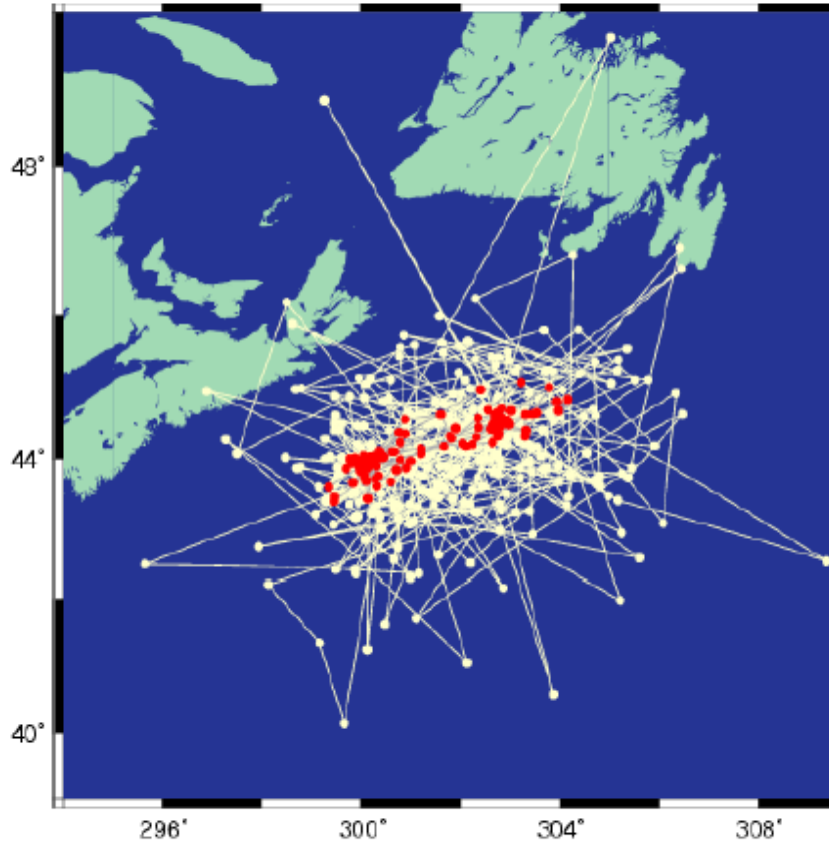
## Goals of State-Space analysis

- Infer true locations from noisy data
- Account for error w/out loss of information
- Infer behaviour, test hypotheses

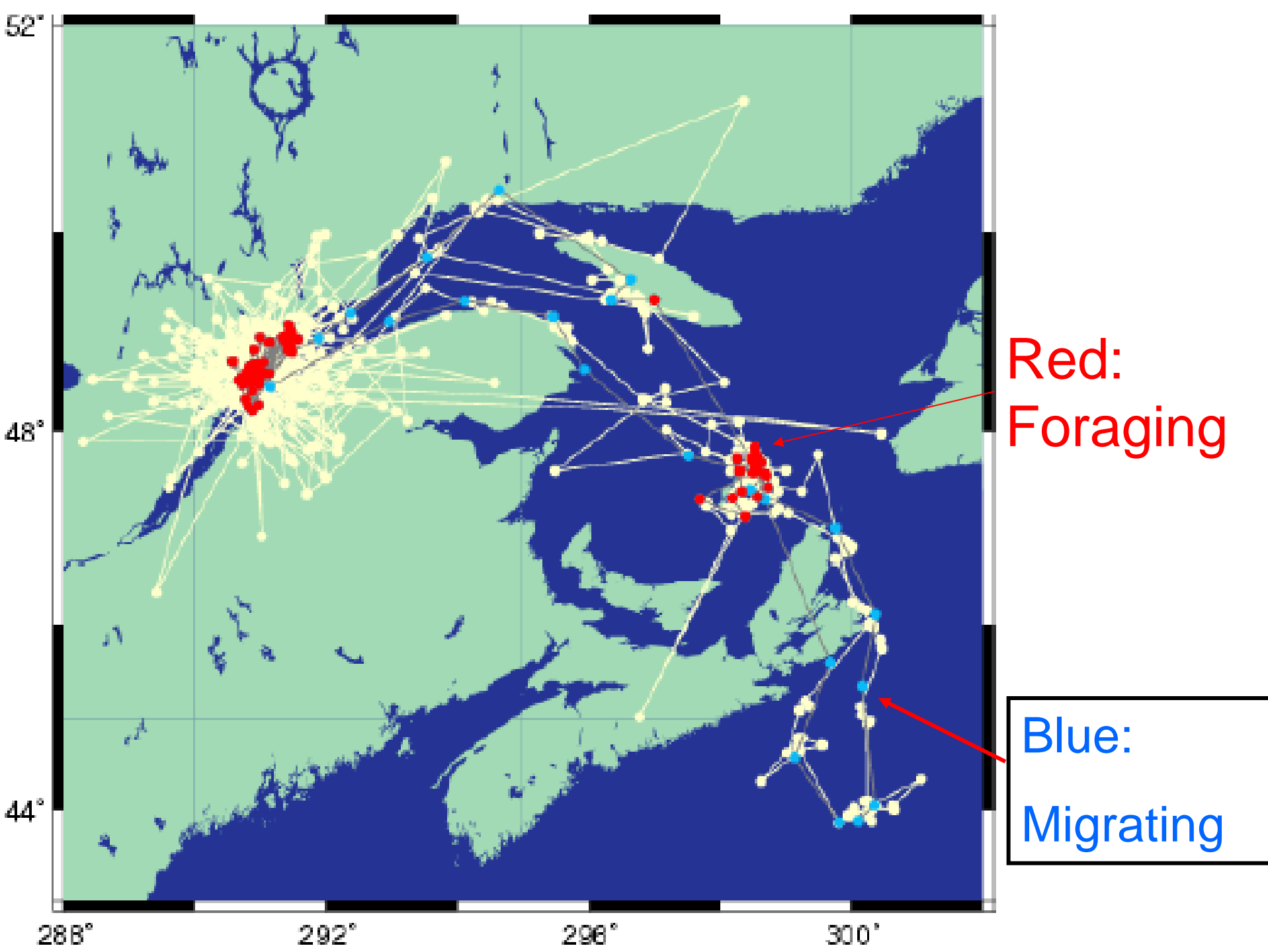


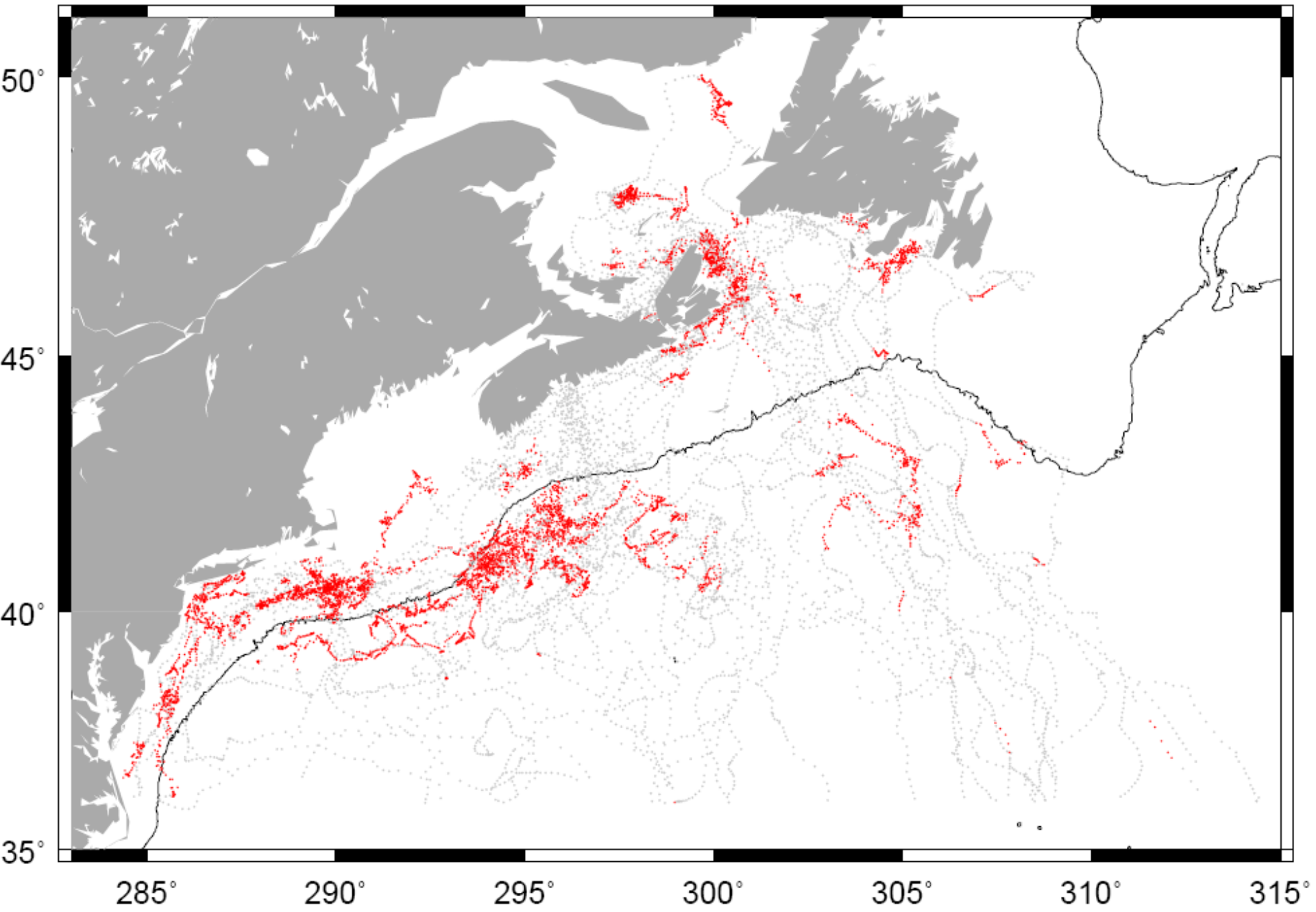
# Data Filtering & State Estimation

Jonsen et al. 2005. Ecology 86:2874-2880

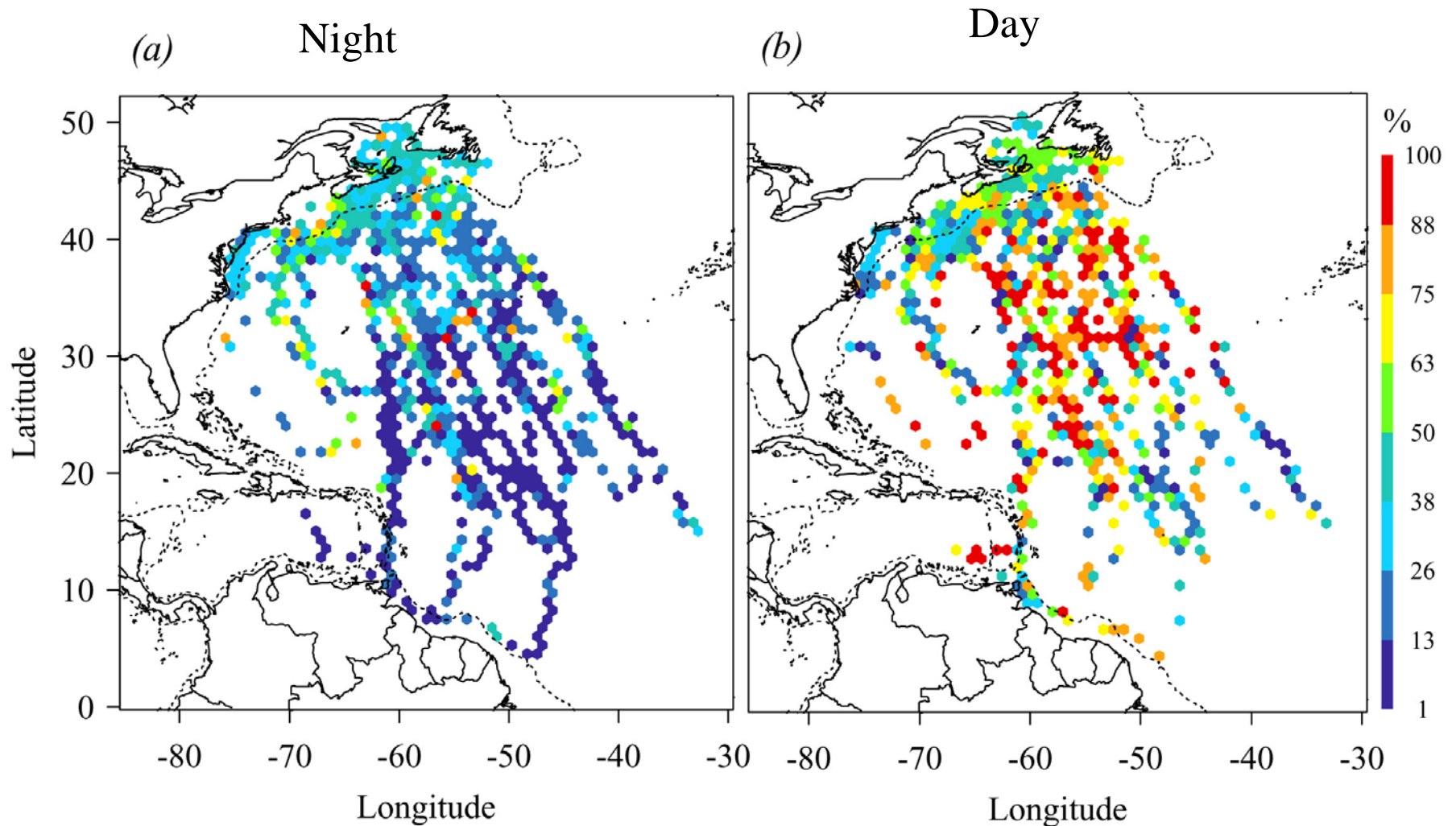


Jonsen, Flemming and Myers (2005) Ecology 86: 2874-2880

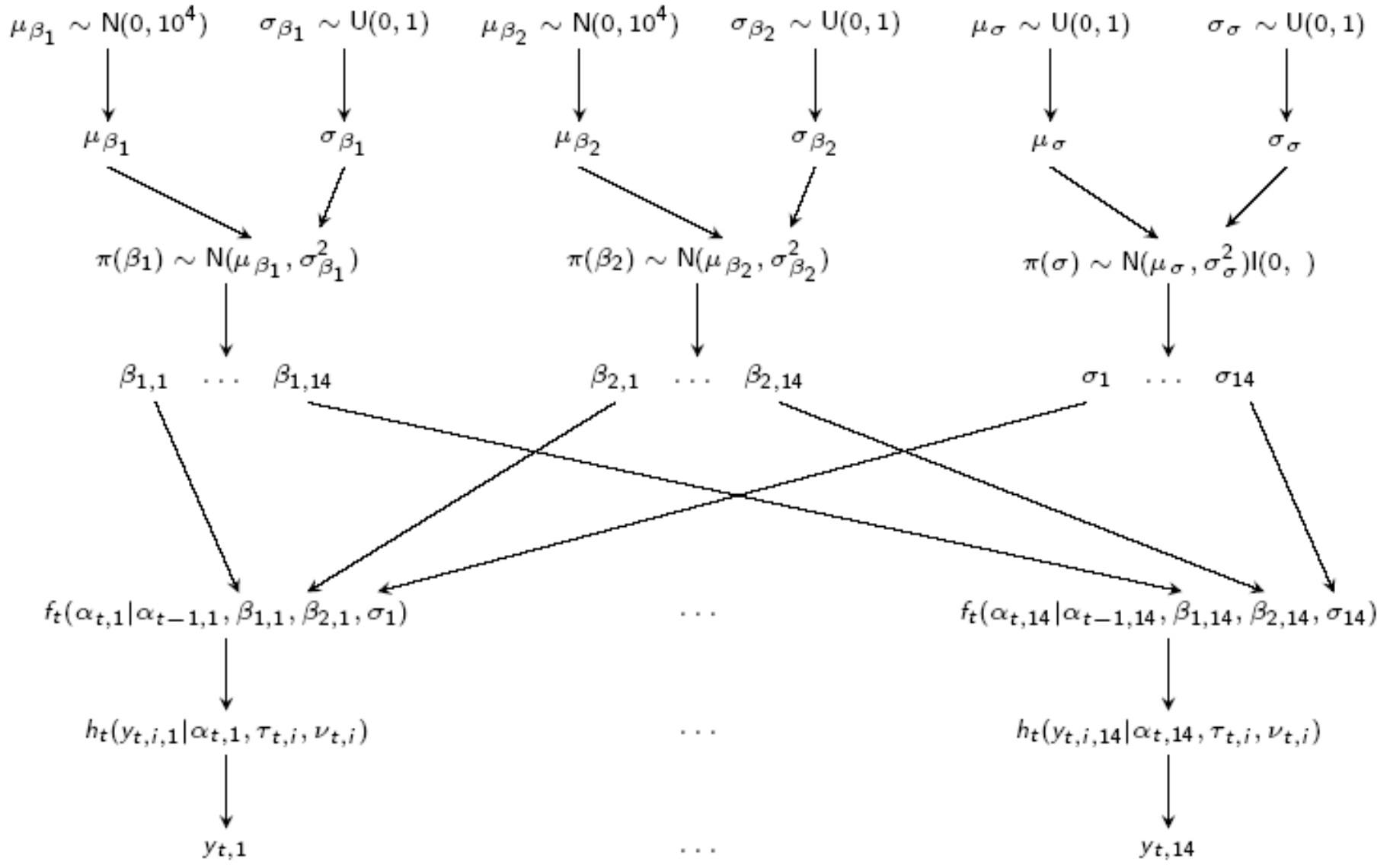




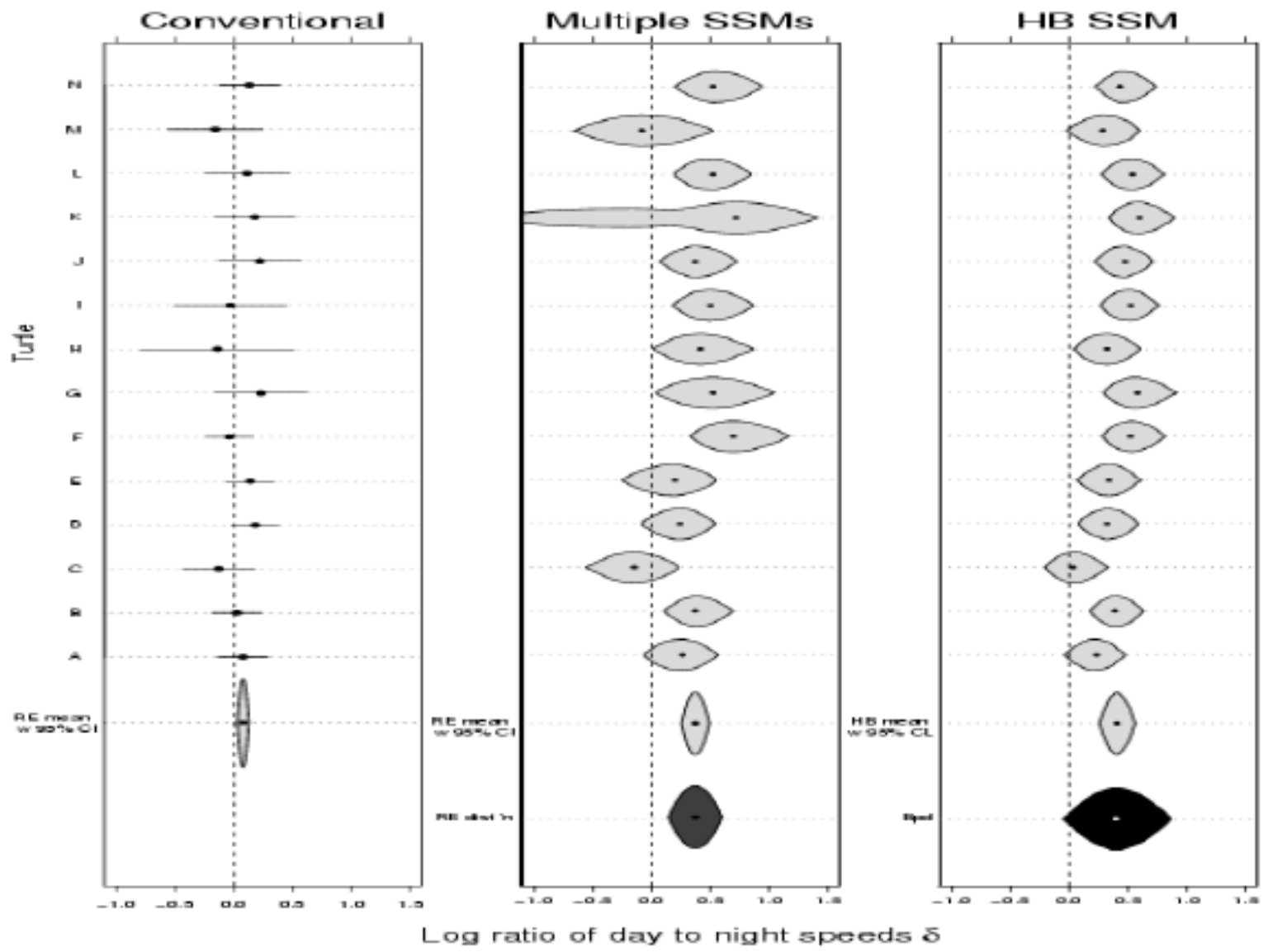
# Turtles are close to the surface during the day during migration



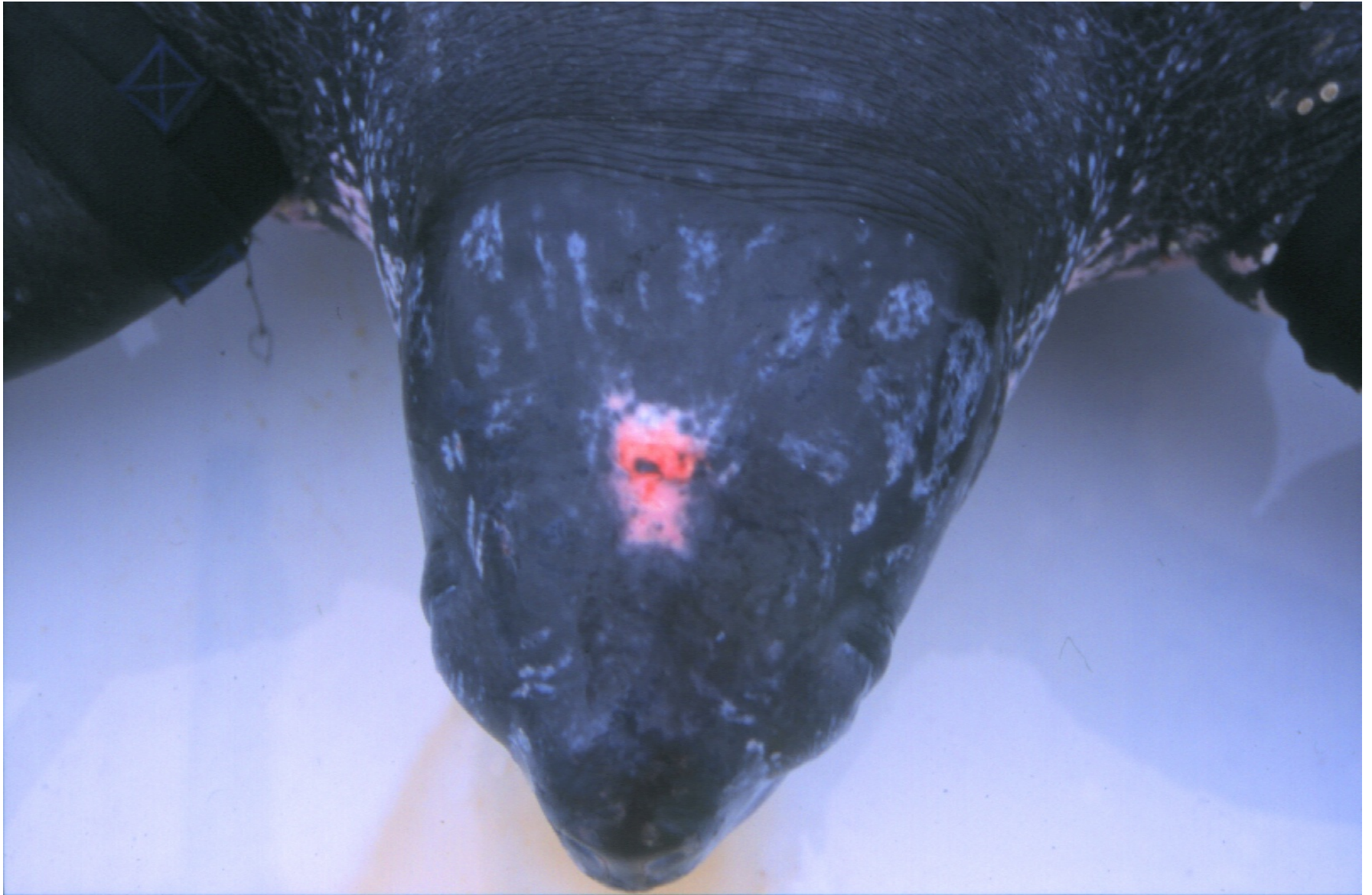
# HB SSM



# Conventional Approaches Do Not Work



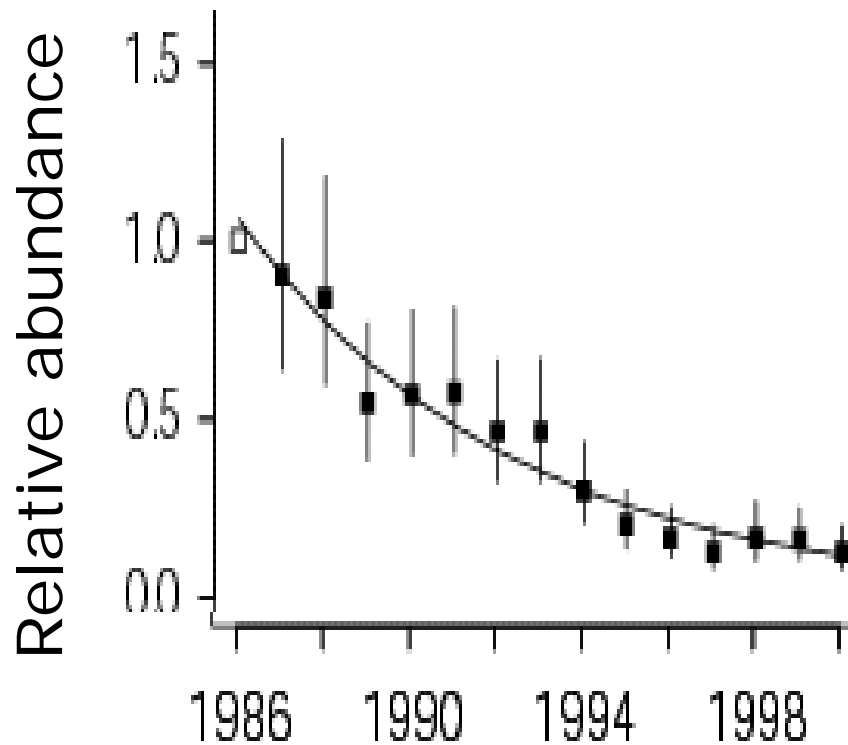
Results are consistent with the hypothesis that the pineal spot improves navigation.





# Hammerhead sharks

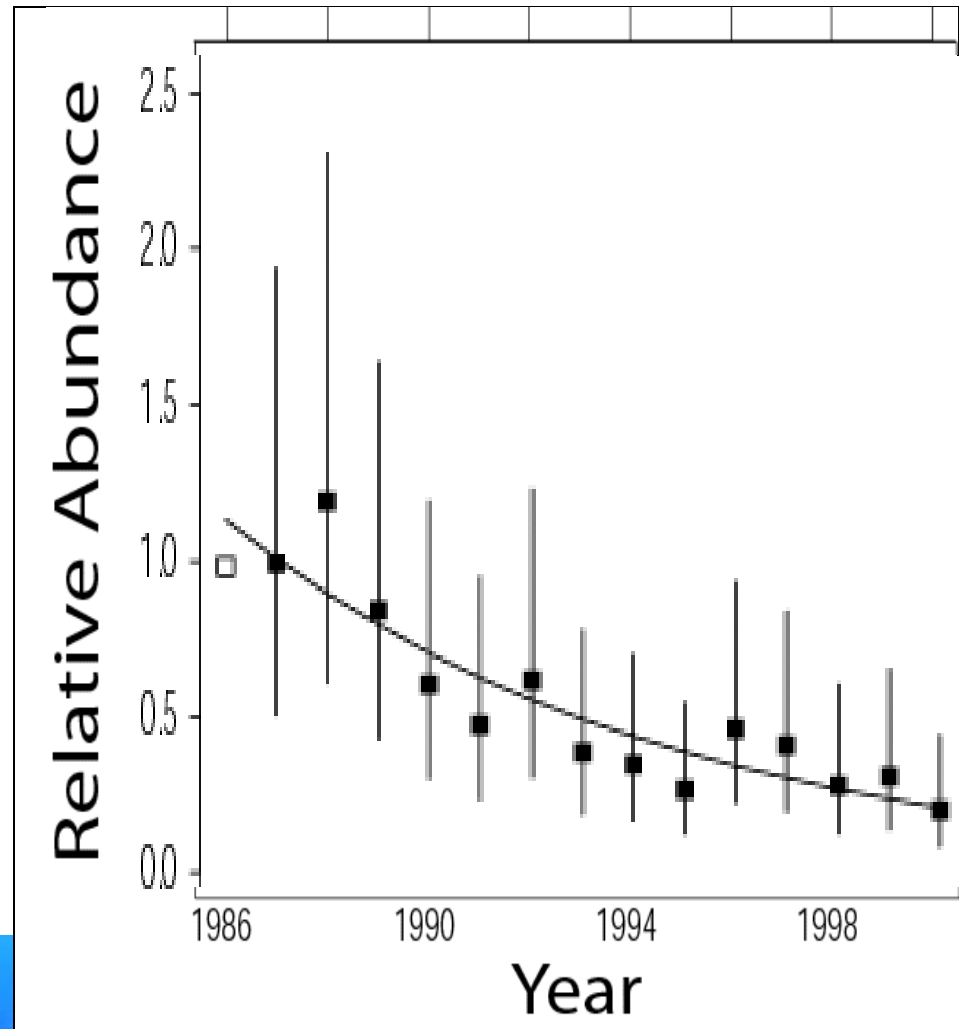
*Sphyrna lewini*



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

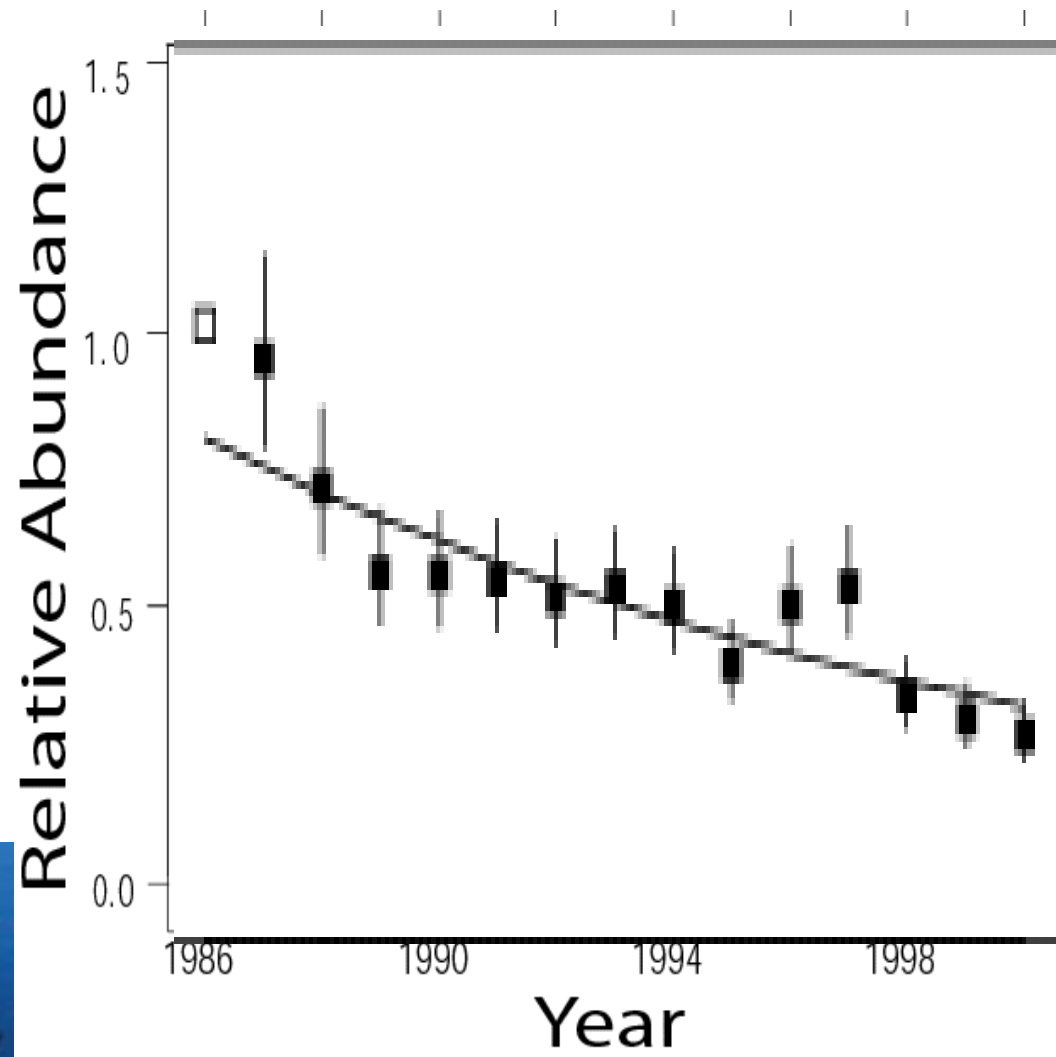
# Thresher sharks

*Alopias spp.*



# Blue sharks

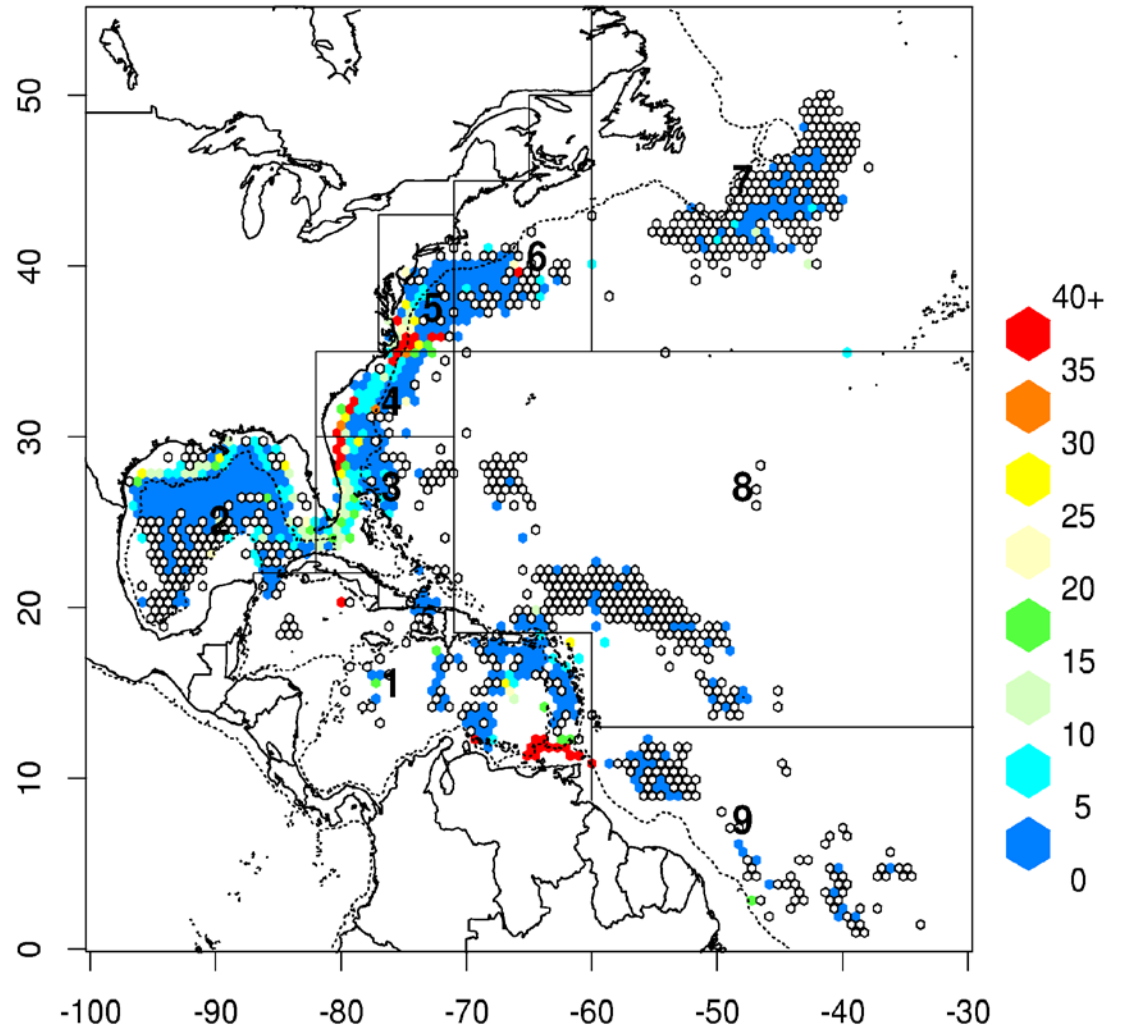
*Prionace glauca*



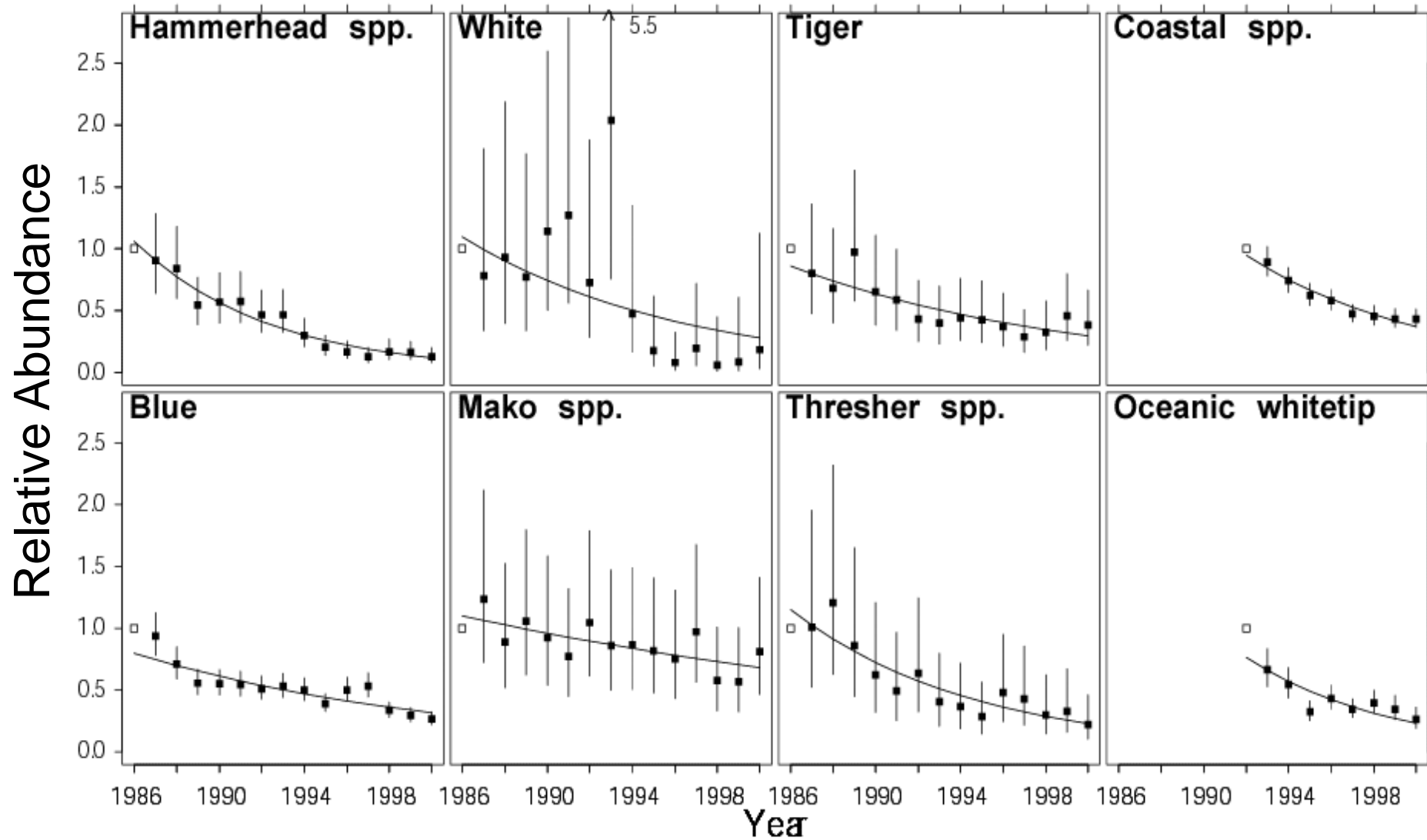
# Hammerhead sharks

*Sphyrna spp.*

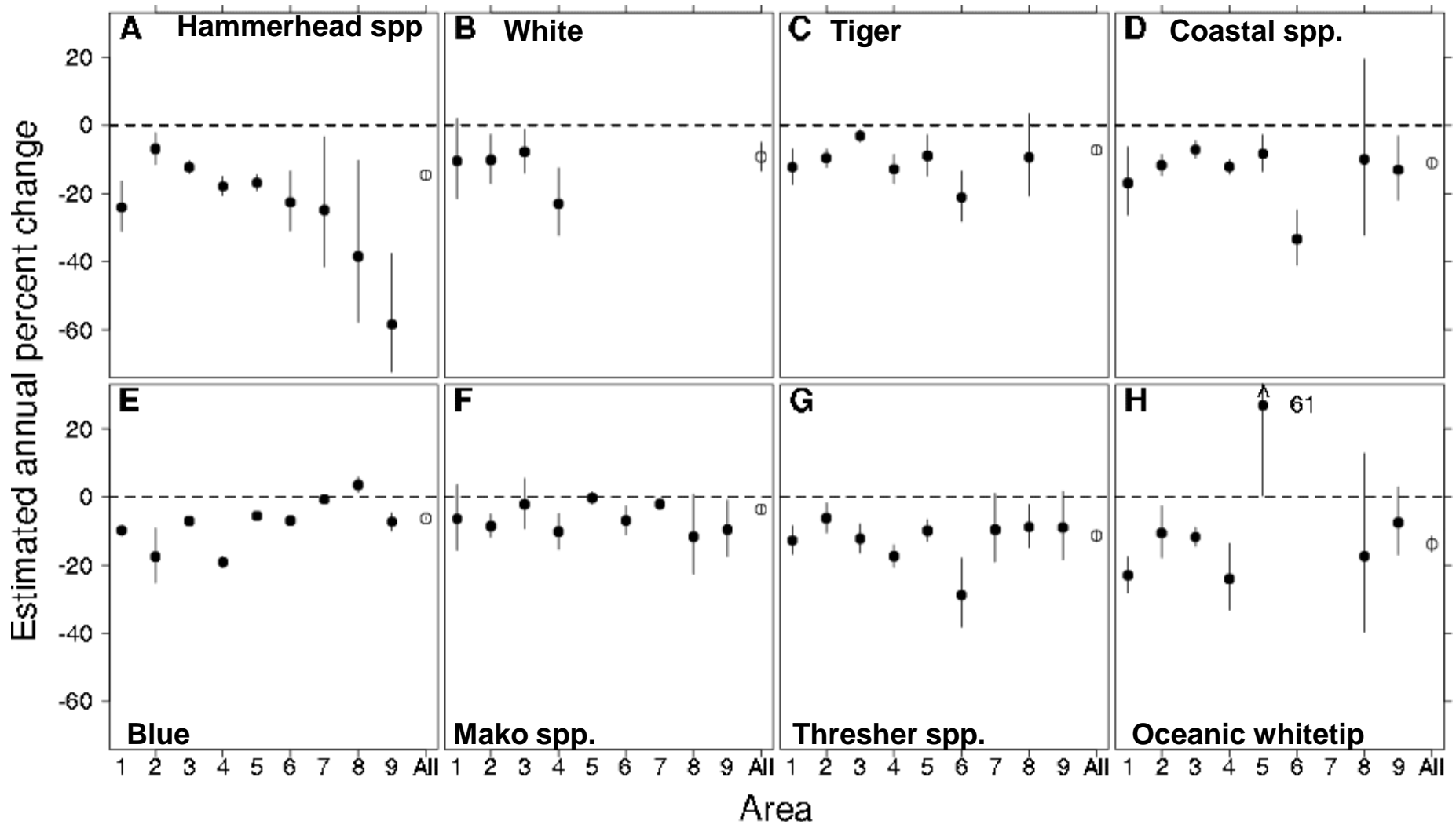
Catch per 10,000 hooks of Hammerhead Sharks



# 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



# Data Analysis

---

- Assume catch follows negative binomial distribution
- Analyse positives only → zero-truncated distribution

$$f(y_T) = \frac{\Gamma(y + \theta)^{y_T}}{\Gamma(y)} \left( \frac{\mu}{\theta + \mu} \right)^{y_T} \left( \frac{\theta}{\theta + \mu} \right)^\theta$$

---

$$1 - \left( \frac{\theta}{\theta + \mu} \right)^\theta$$

# Robustness Analyses

---

*Assume reporting rate has stayed constant for:*

- full dataset
- for a subset of vessels: recorded species at least once  
recorded species at least once in a  
given year

Negative binomial models

Delta-lognormal models

- proportion of positives modelled separately from positives
- standardized CPUE is the product of the two

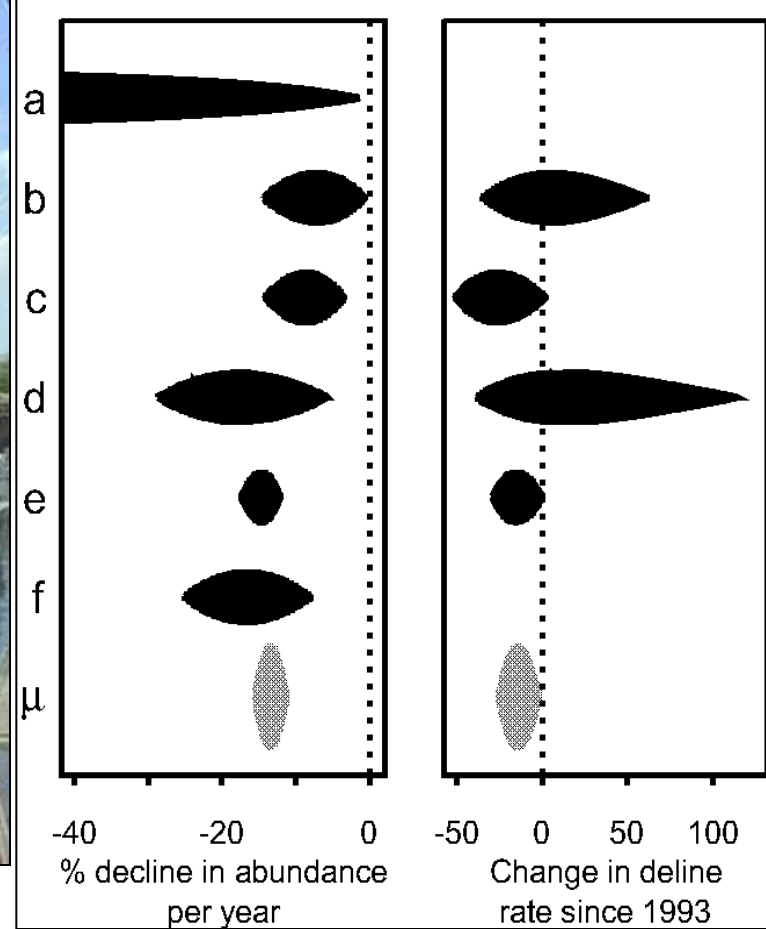
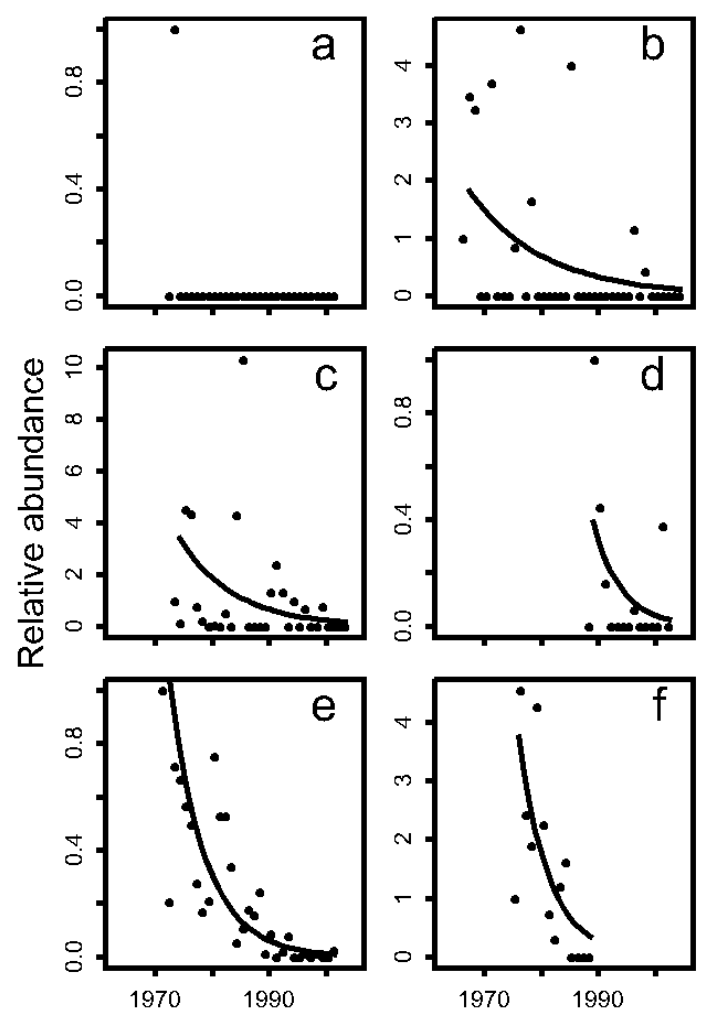




# Shark fins for sale in Malaysia

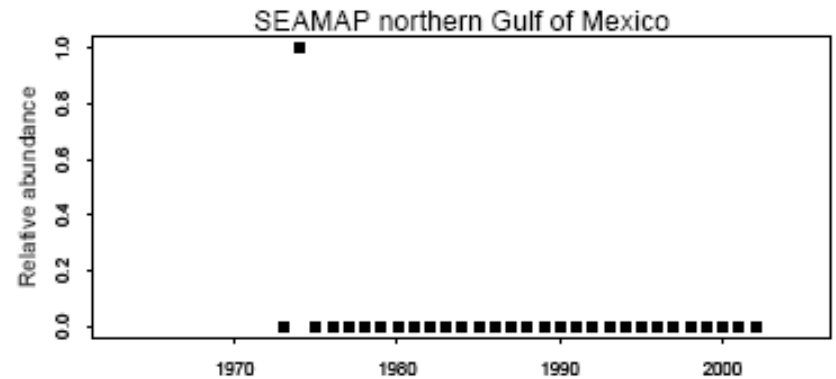
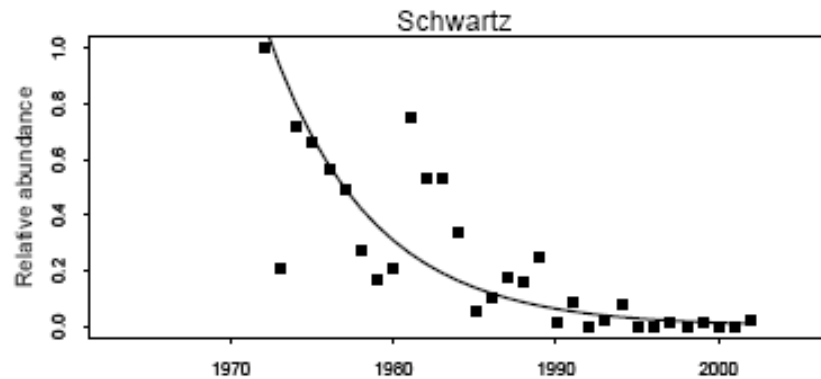
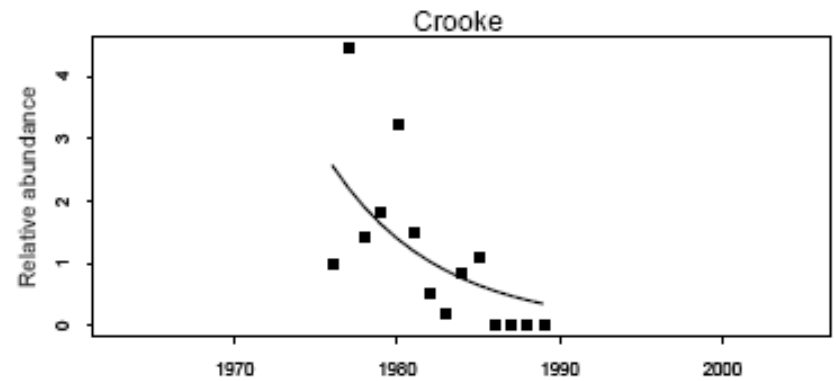
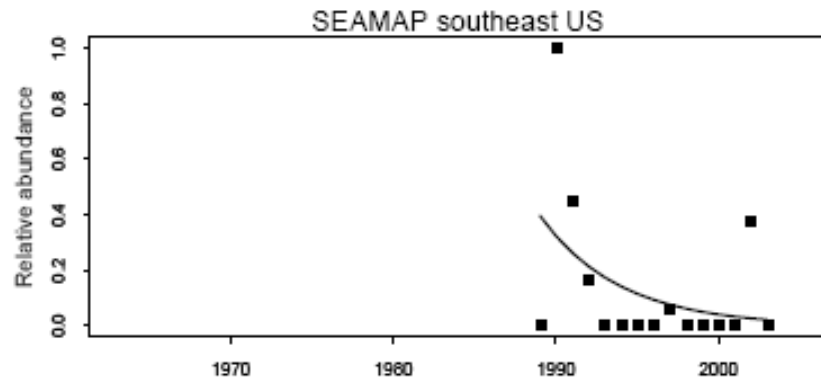
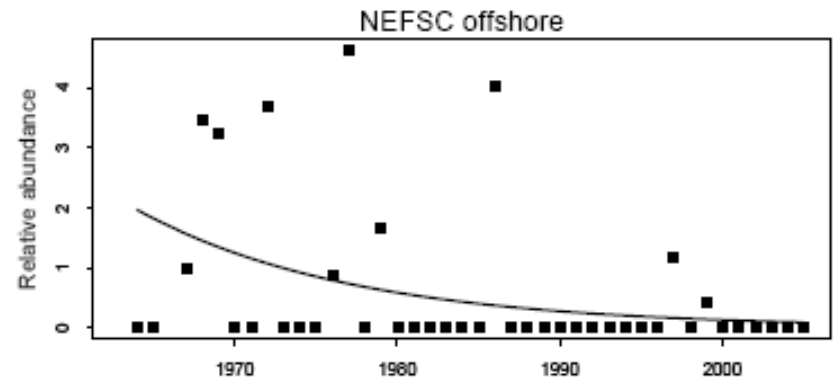
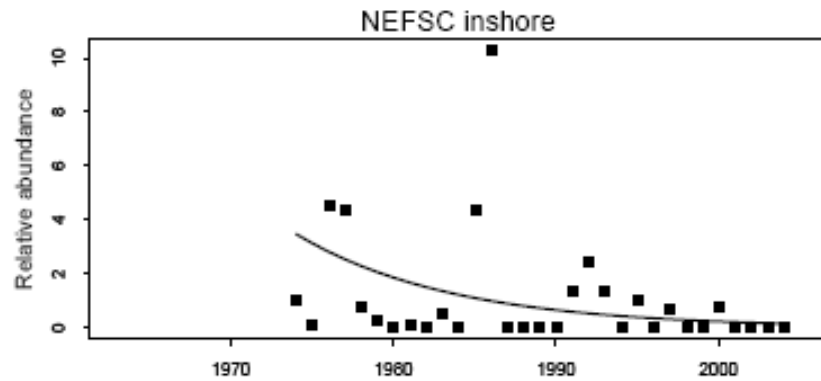


Photo by Sebastian Troeng

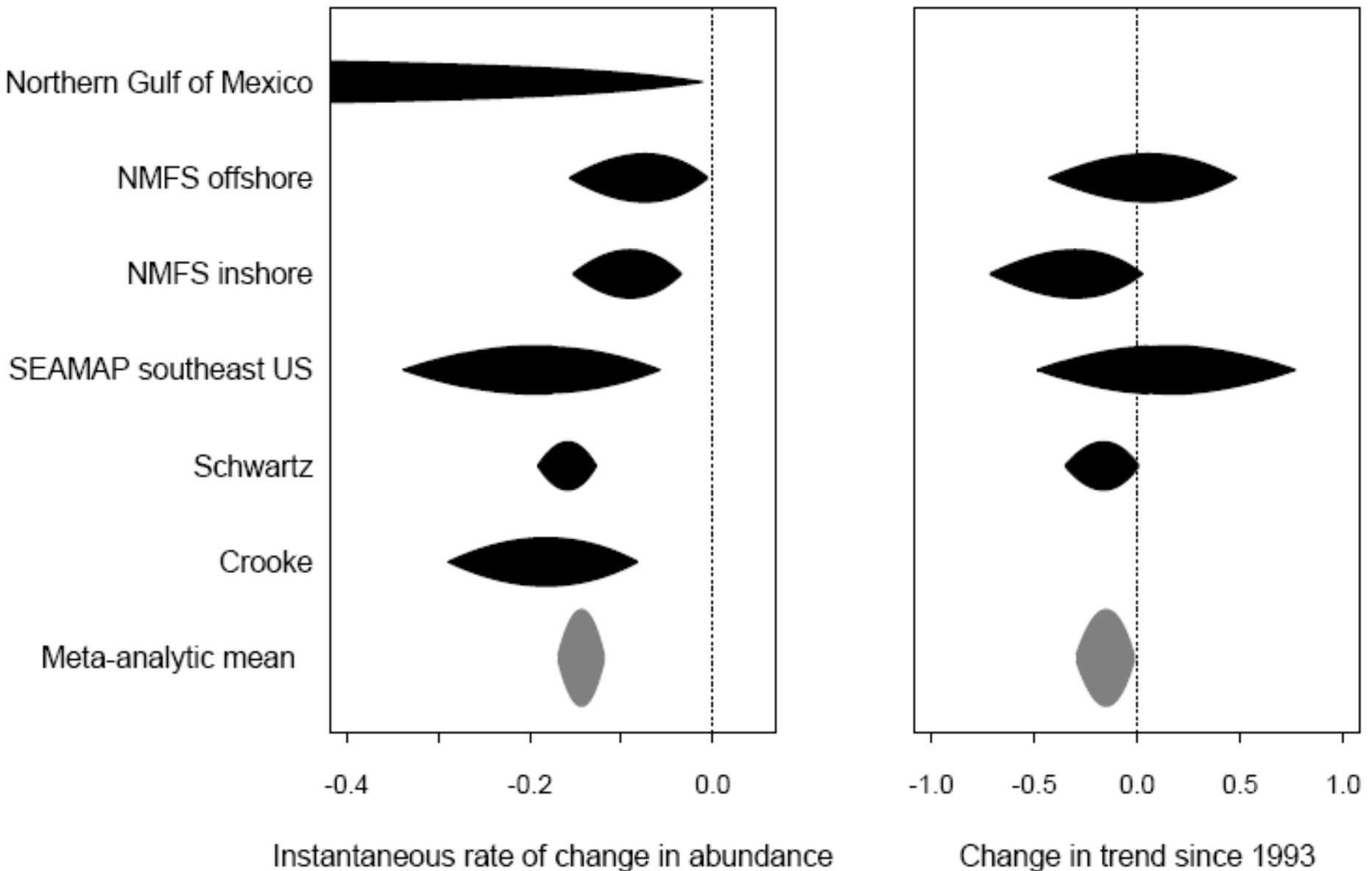


- a. Northern Gulf of Mexico bottom shrimp trawl survey
- b. NMFS offshore bottom trawl survey
- c. NMFS inshore bottom trawl survey
- d. Southeast U.S. SEAMAP bottom shrimp trawl survey
- e. North Carolina Institute of Marine Sciences longline survey
- f. Crooke commercial longline data
- $\mu$ . Meta-analytic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

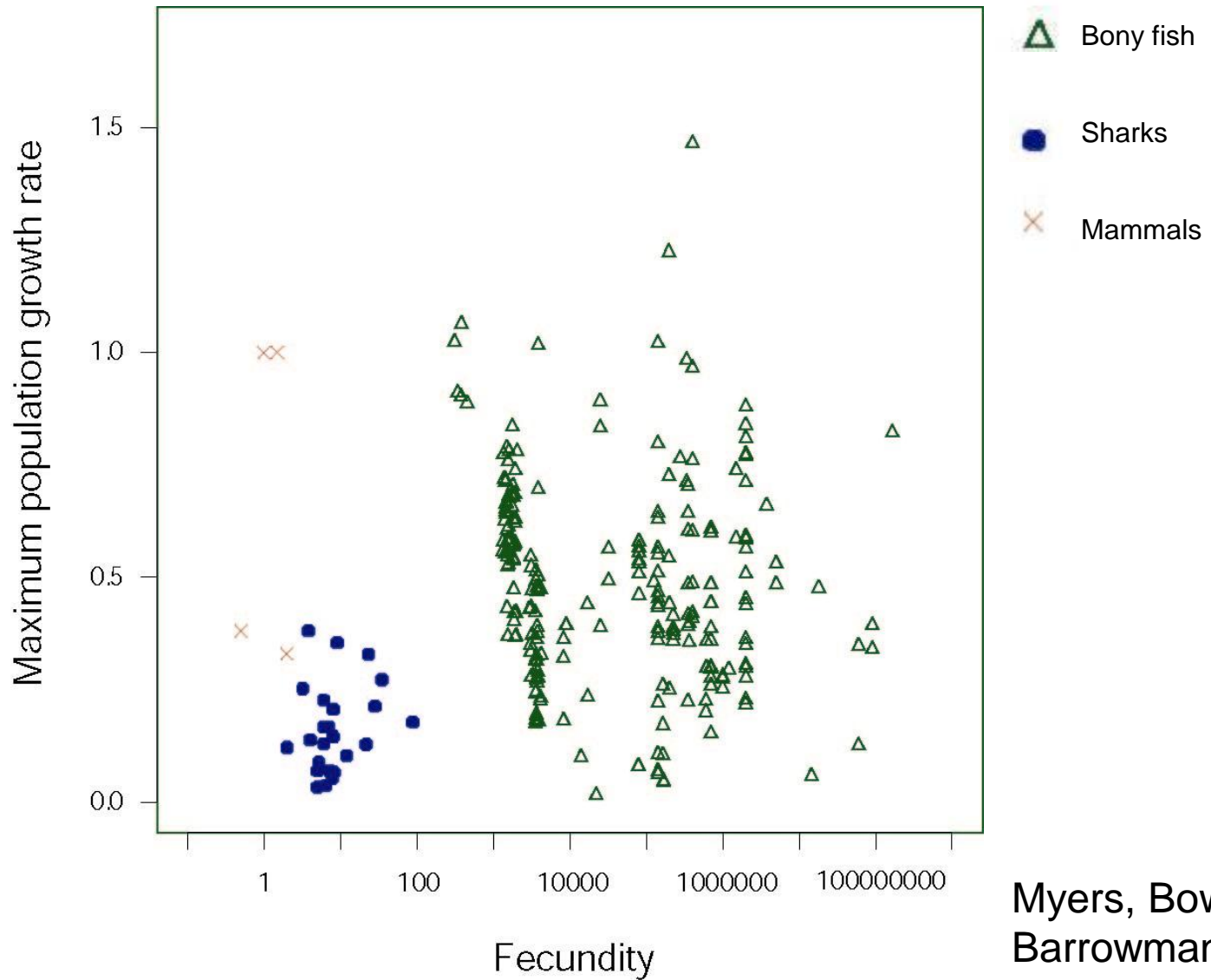
# Loss of Dusky Sharks in the Eastern US



# Consequences of “protection” since 1993: Rate of decline has increased:

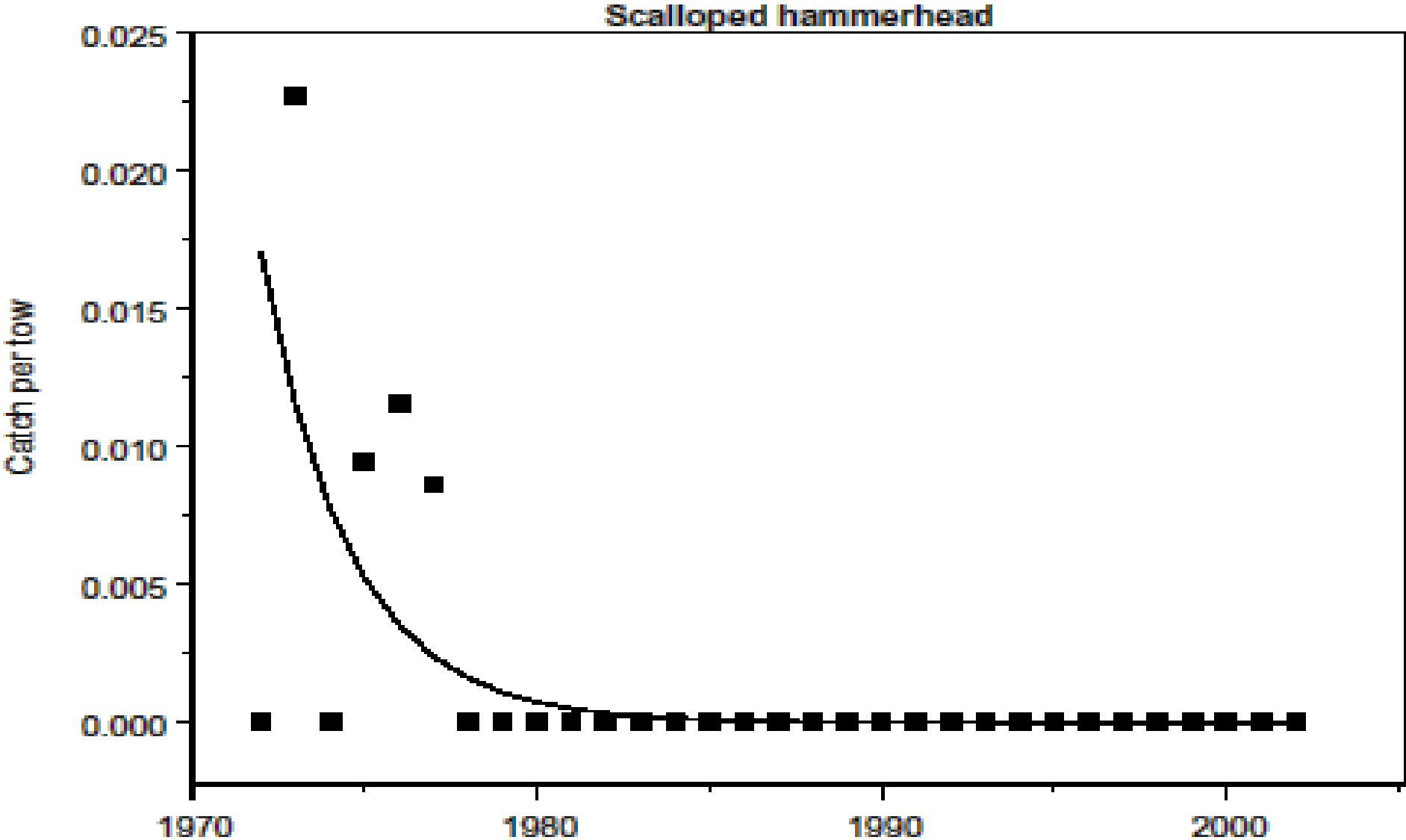


# Are fish different from mammals?

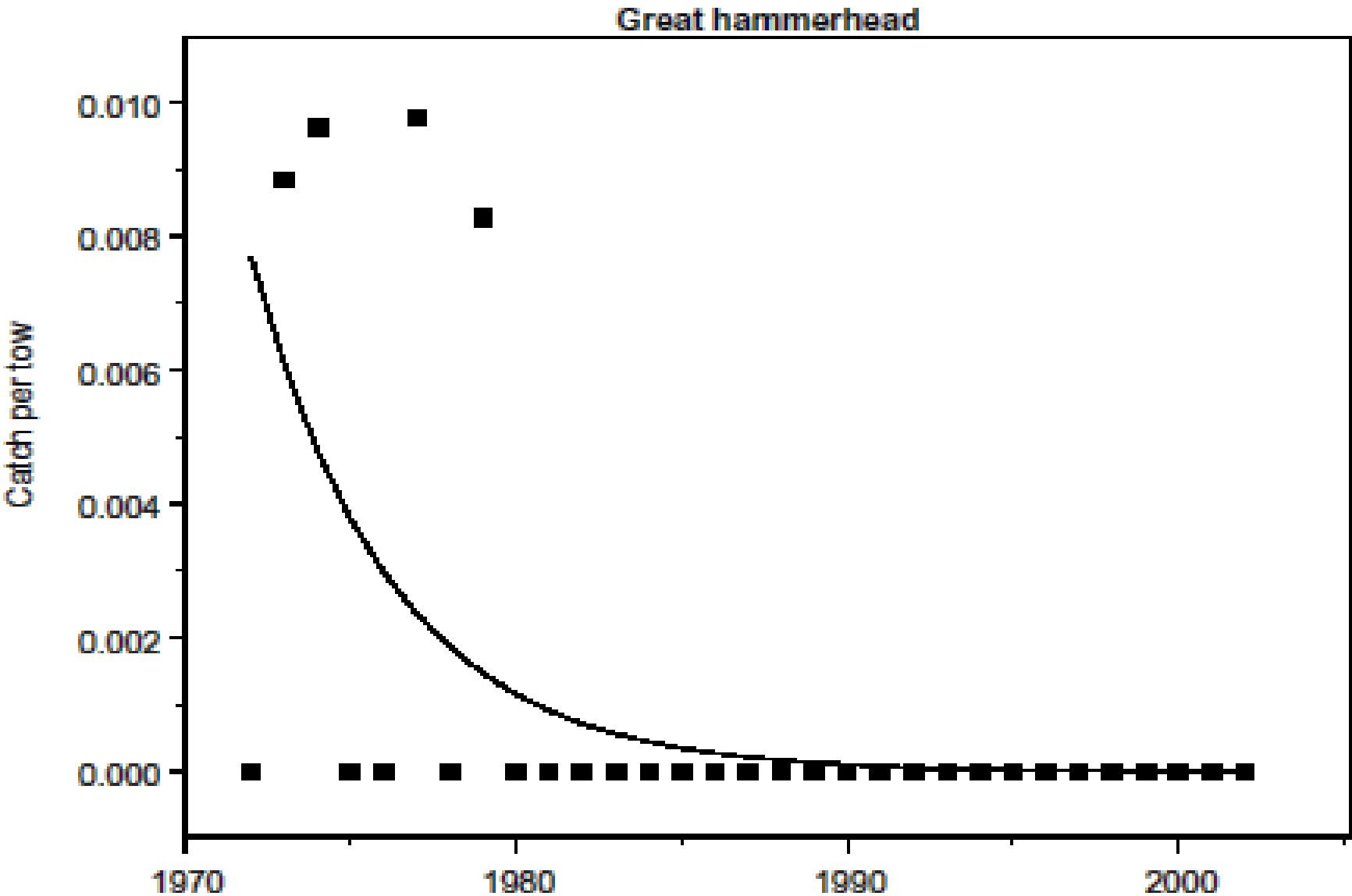


Myers, Bowen,  
Barrowman 1999

# Same results for trawl surveys in Gulf of Mexico

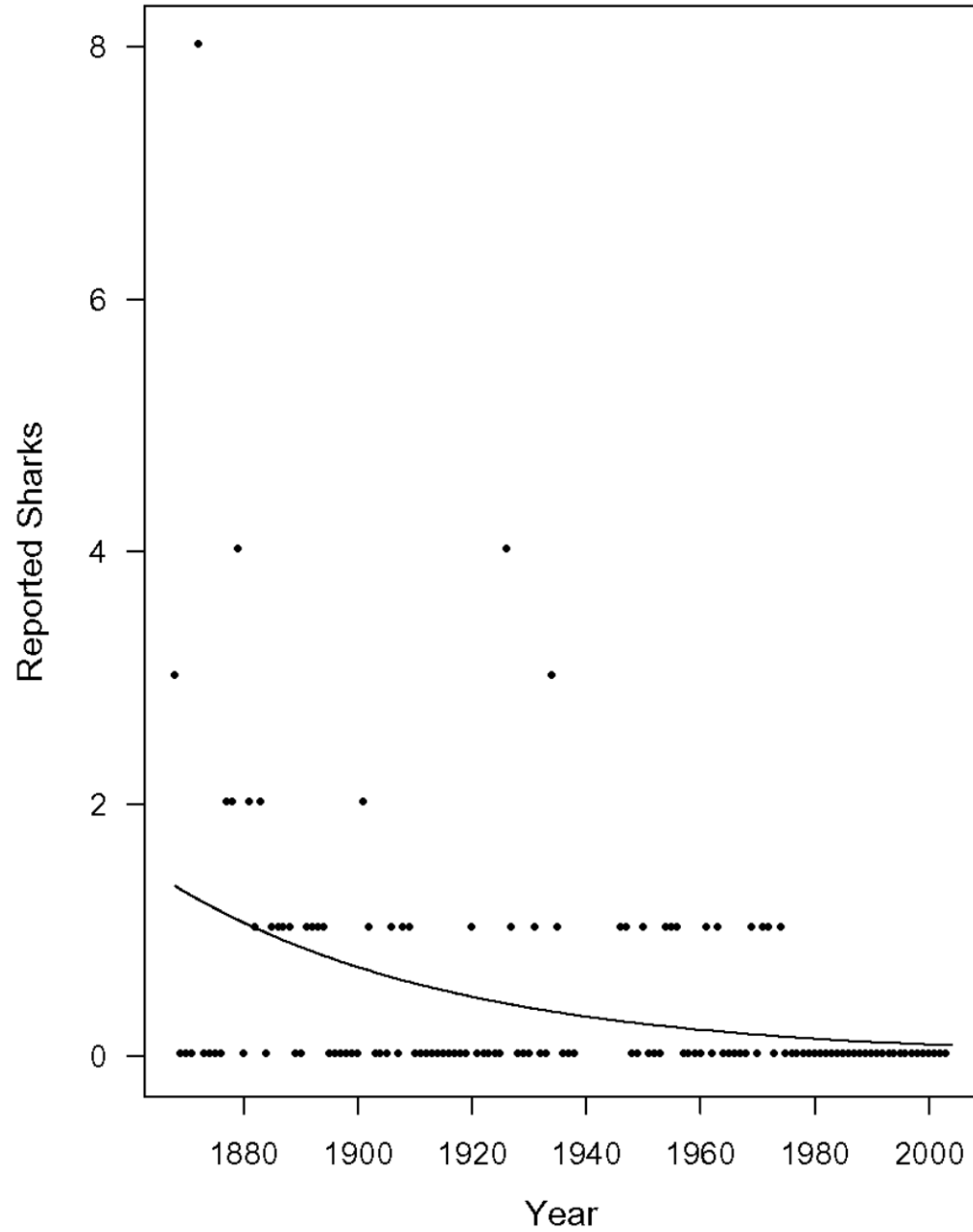


# Same results for trawl surveys in Gulf of Mexico





# 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

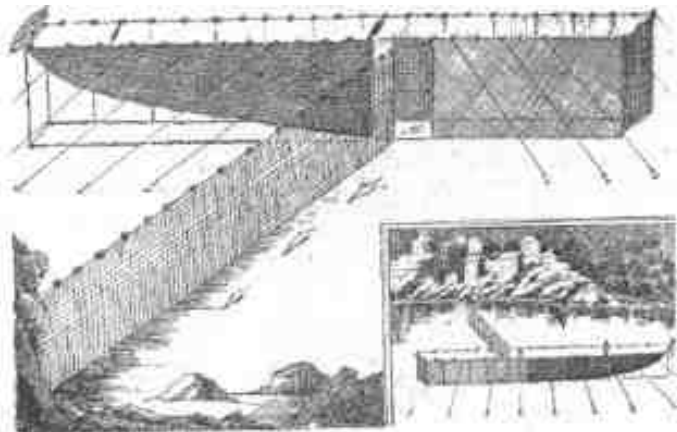
1975+ -**No sightings.**

# Decline of Mediterranean Sharks

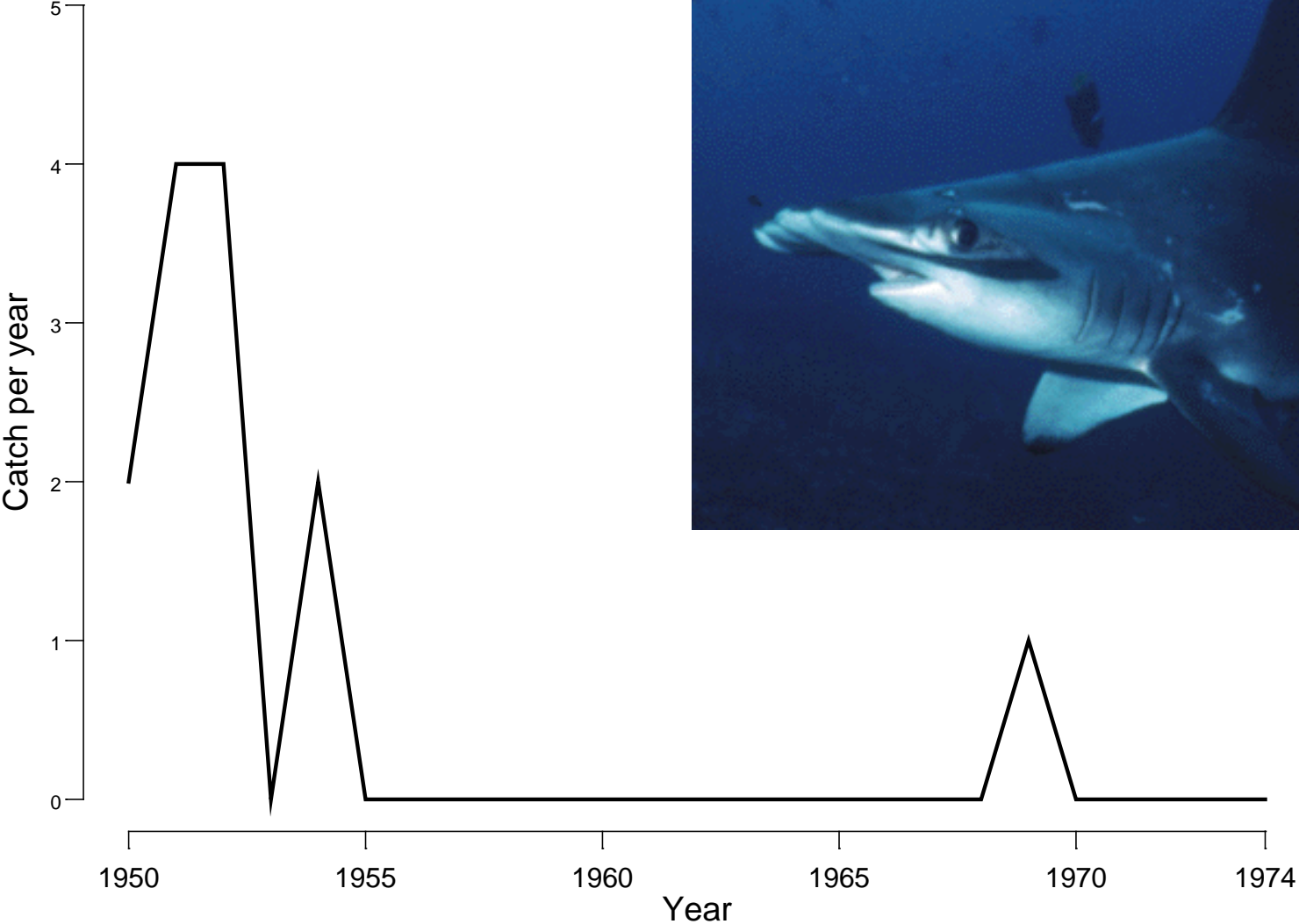
By catch associated with a Tuna Trap

In Ligurian Sea

“Tonnara di Camogli”



# Decline of Hammarhead sharks



# Decline of Mediterranean Sharks

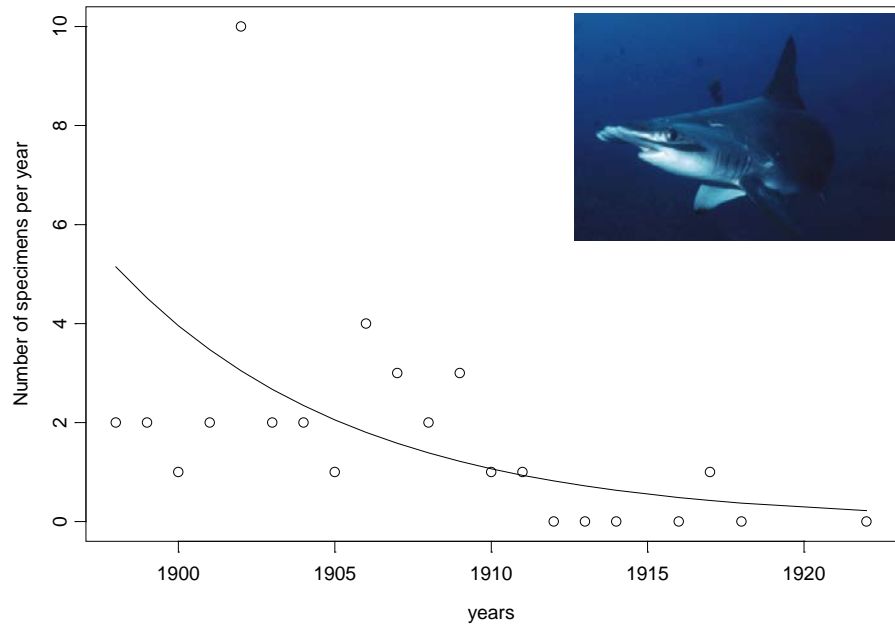
By catch associated with a Tuna Trap  
In Tirrenian Sea



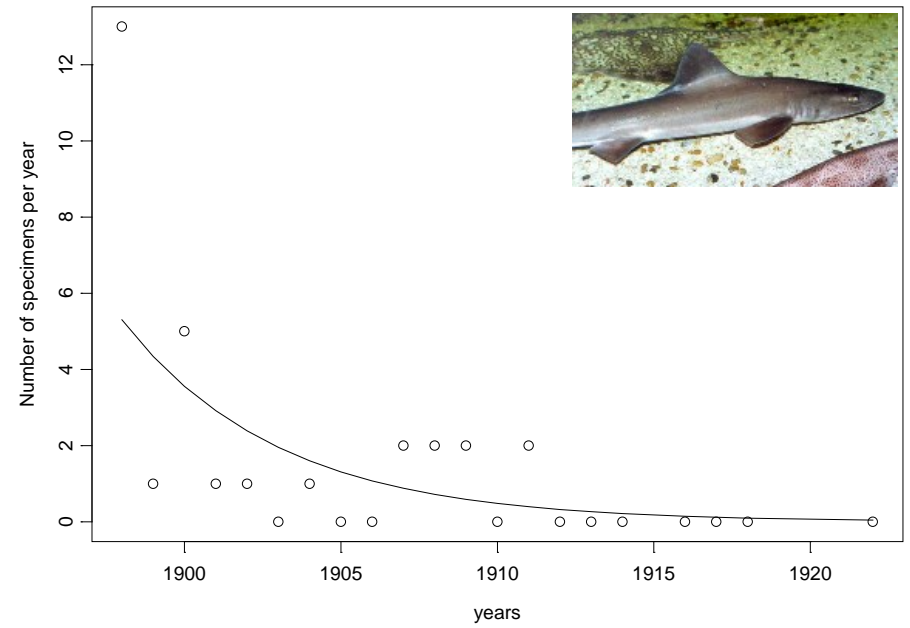
“Tonnarella di Baratti”



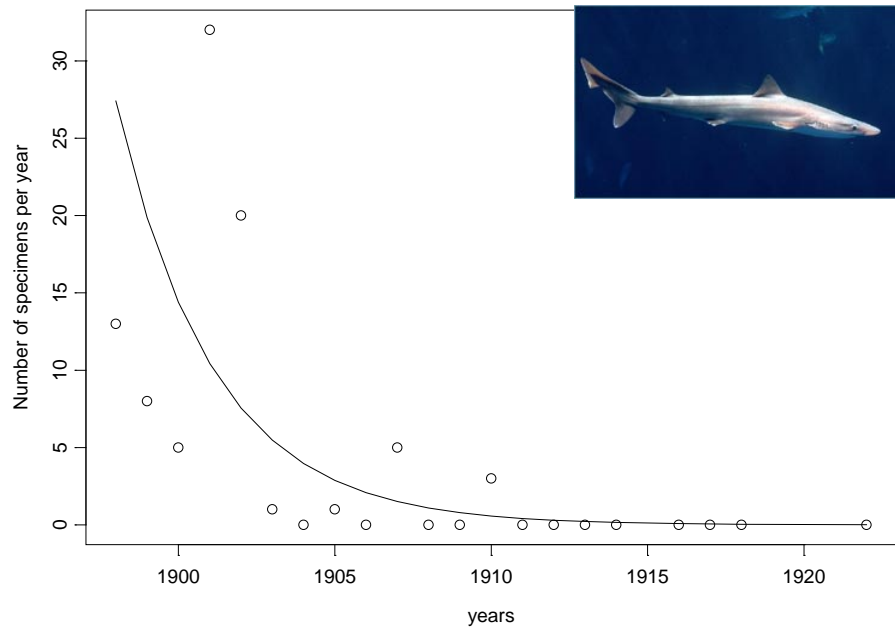
### Hammerhead shark



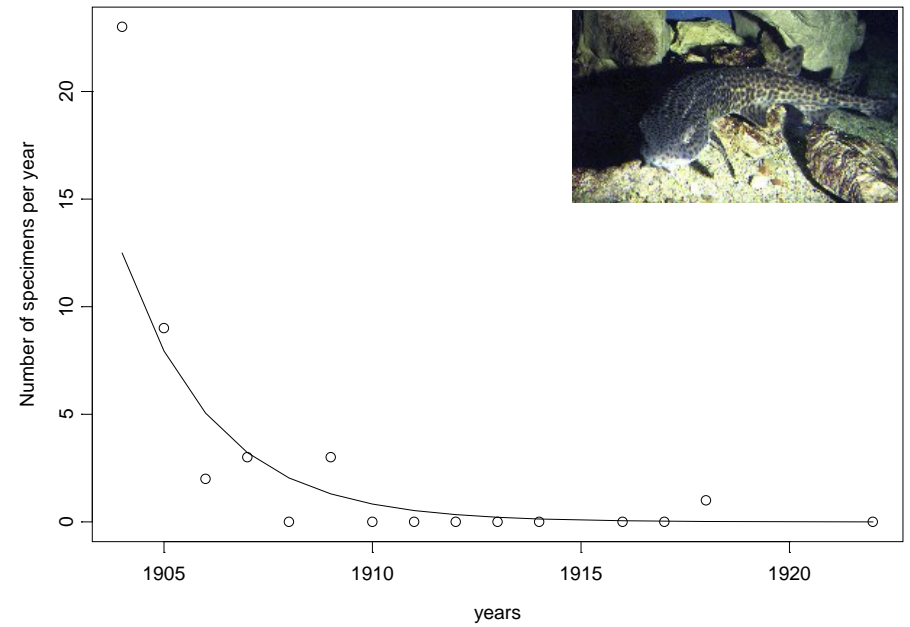
### Smooth-hound



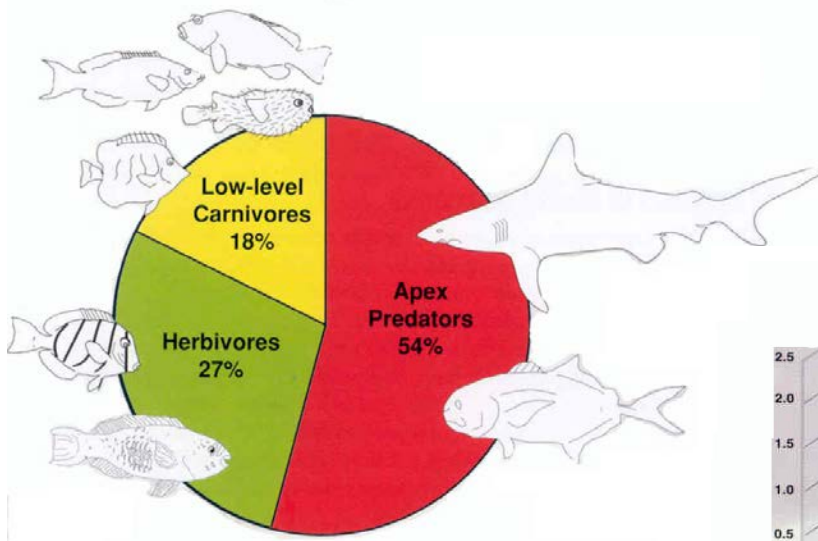
### School shark



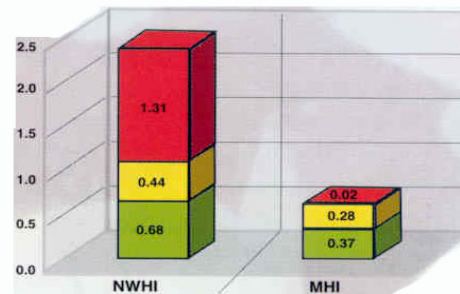
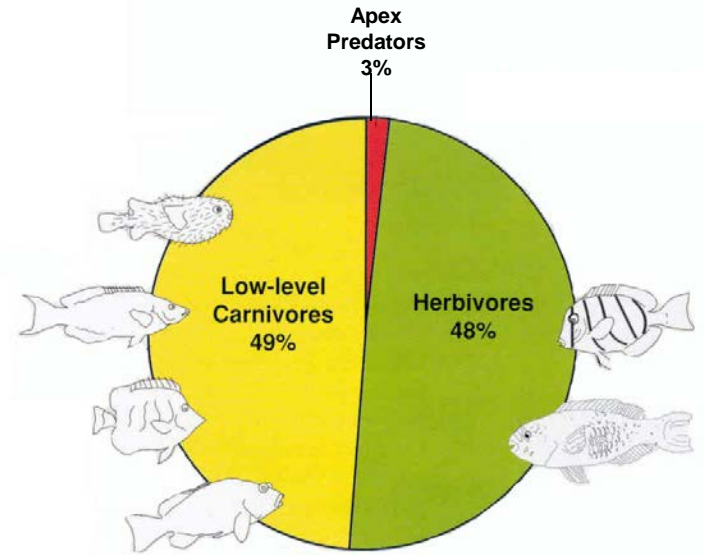
### Nursehound



## NW Hawaiian Islands



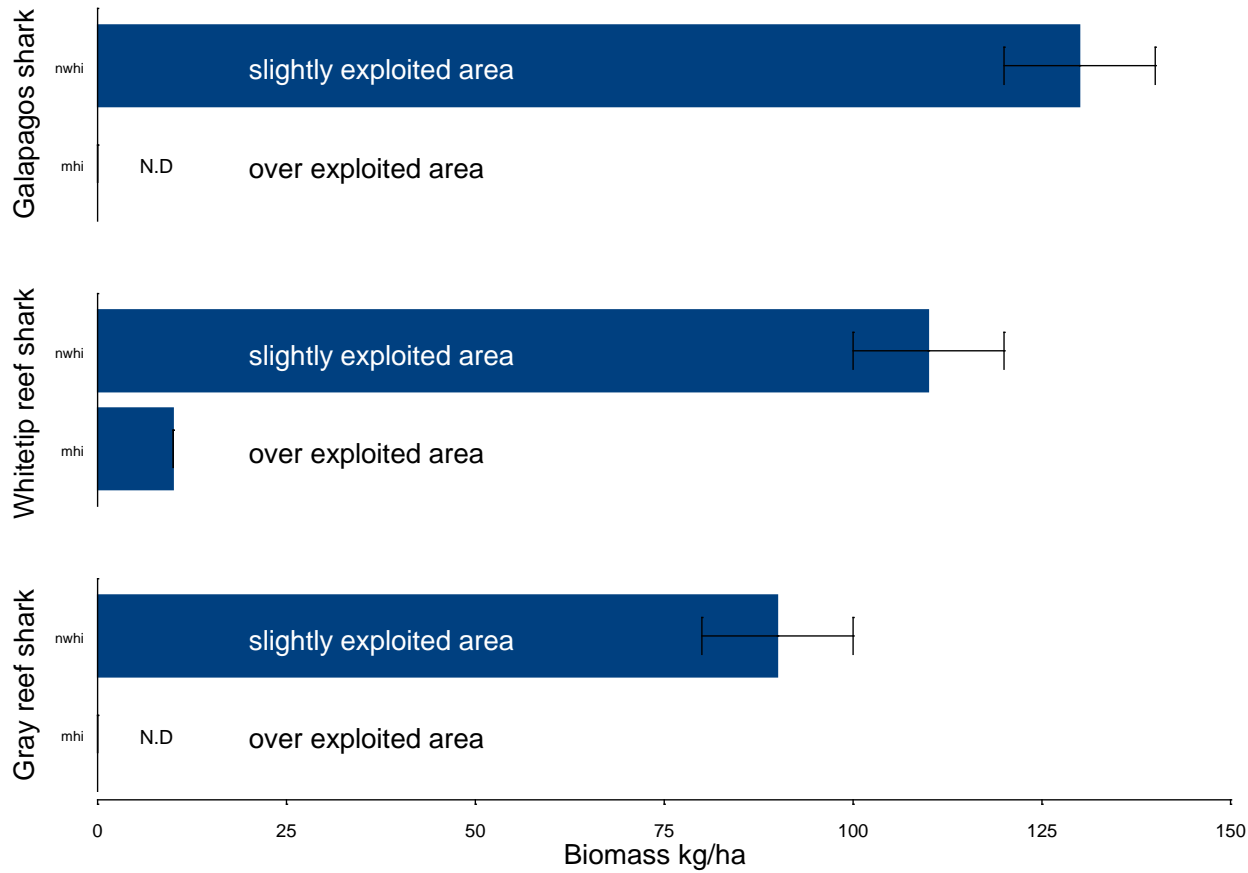
## Main Hawaiian Islands



Comparative fish biomass (mT/ha)

# Loss of Reef Sharks in the Hawaiian Islands

## N.W.Hawaiian Islands vs Main Hawaiian Islands





# nature

www.nature.com/nature

## Net losses

Industrialized fishing hits fish stocks

### Financial markets

You can't buck the physics

### Jupiter's moons

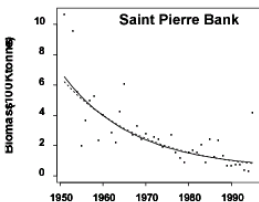
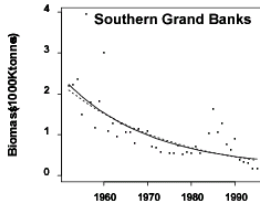
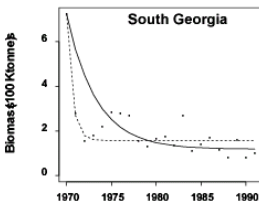
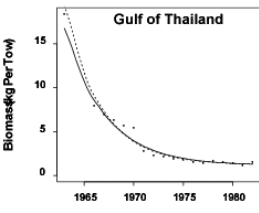
Headed for a hundred

### Functional genomics

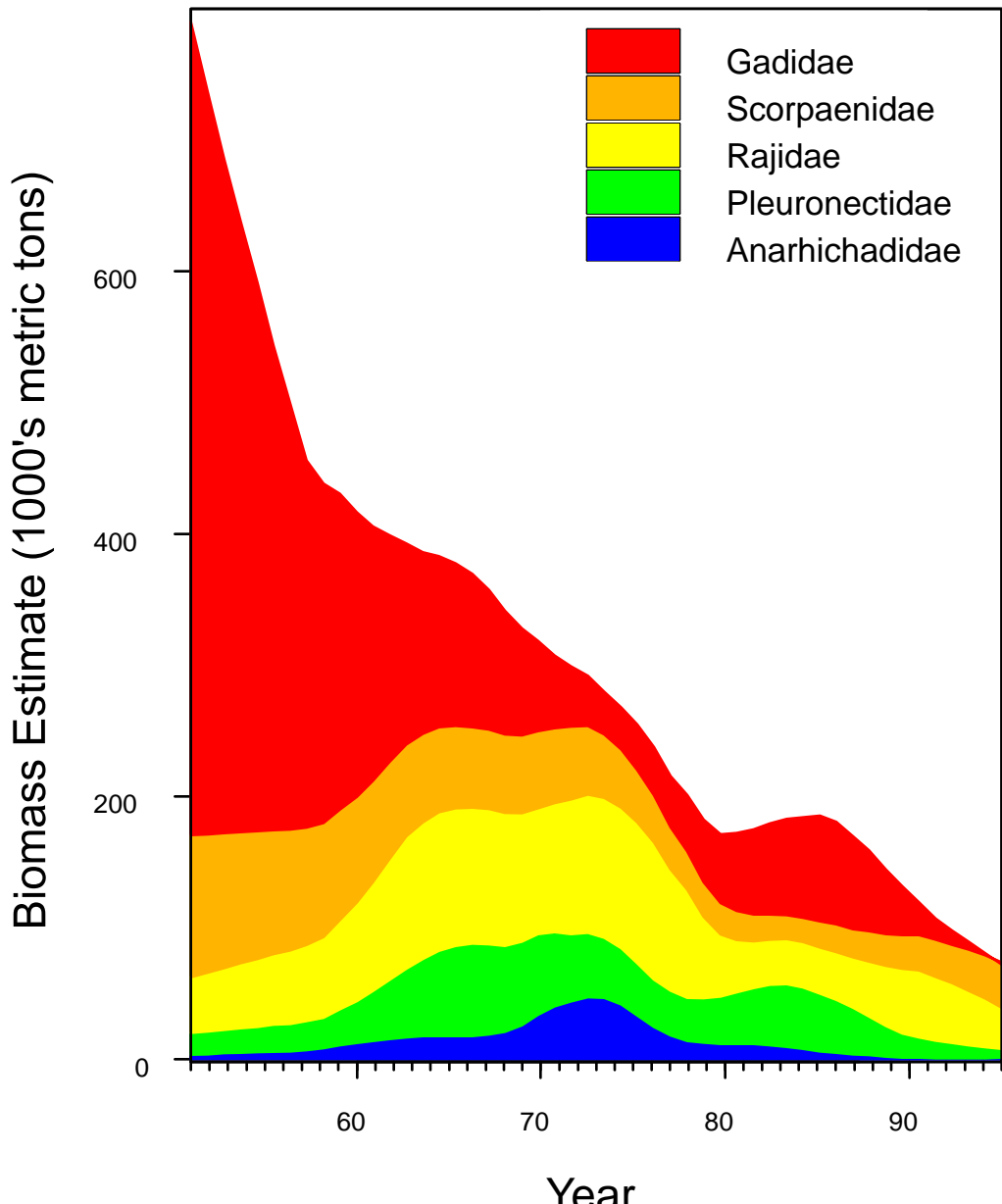
The power of comparison



naturejobs Heidelberg — Europe's molecular biology capital

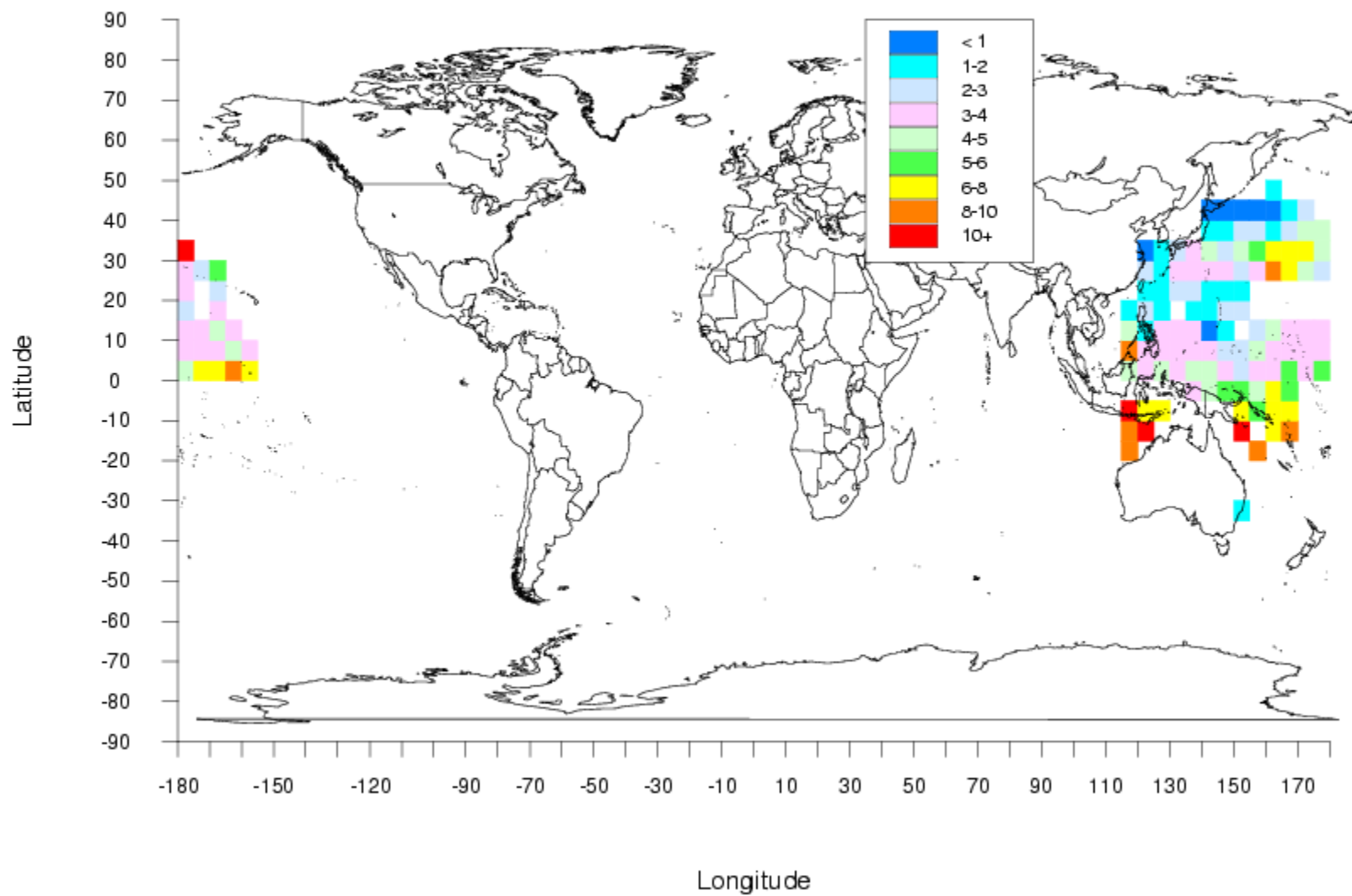


## Community Changes on St. Pierre Bank

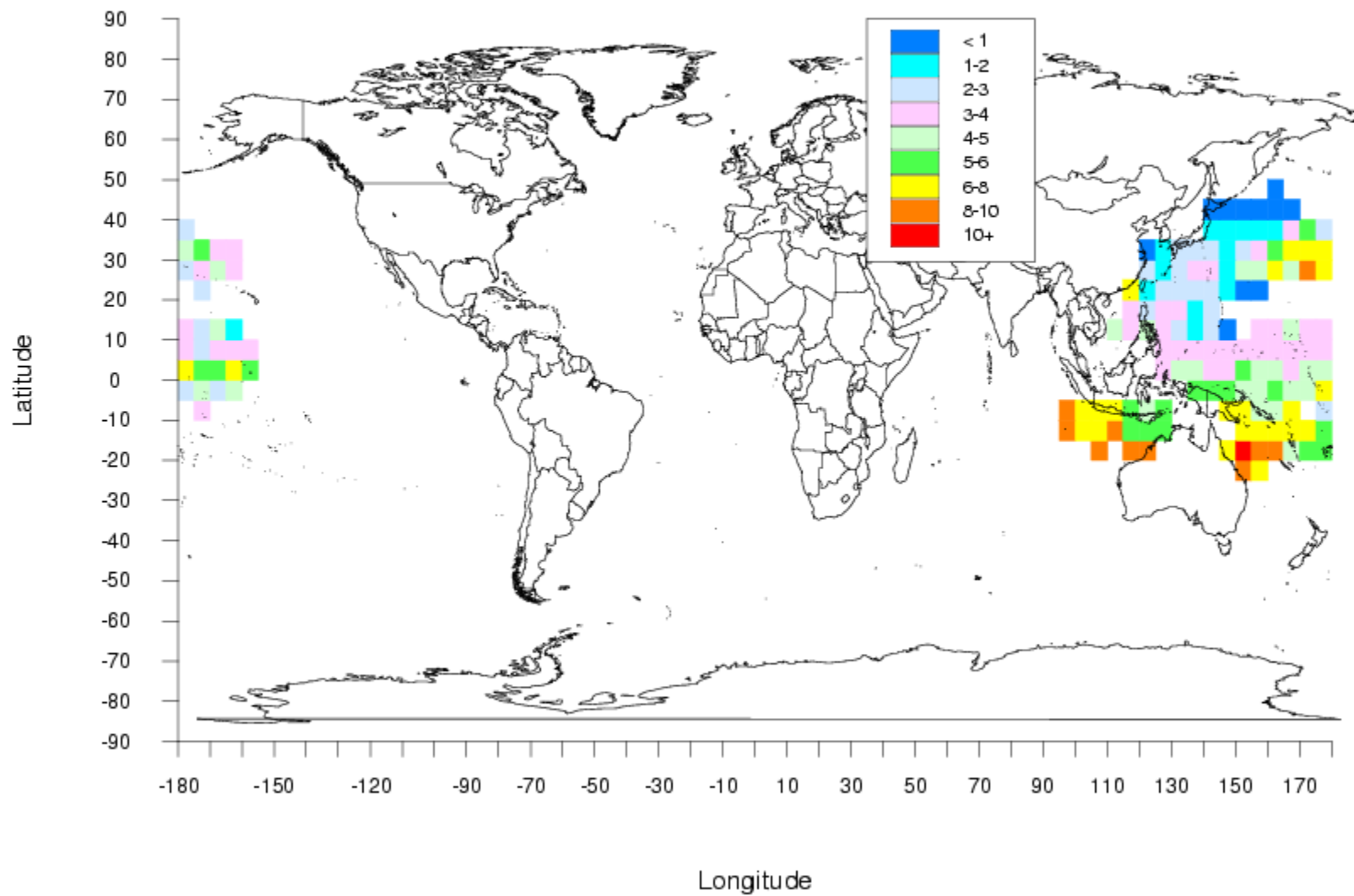




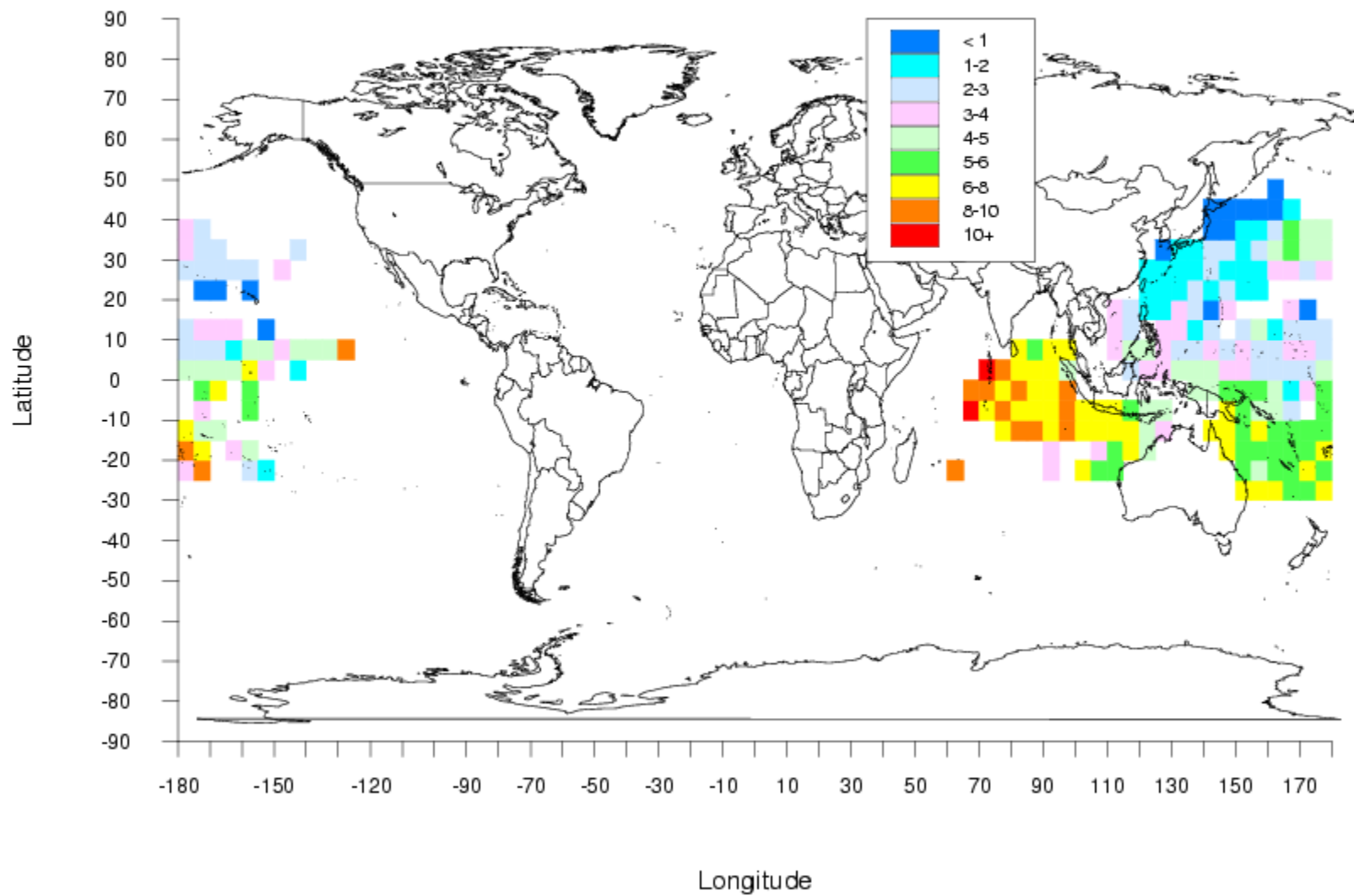
### Catch Per Hundred Hooks, Year = 1952



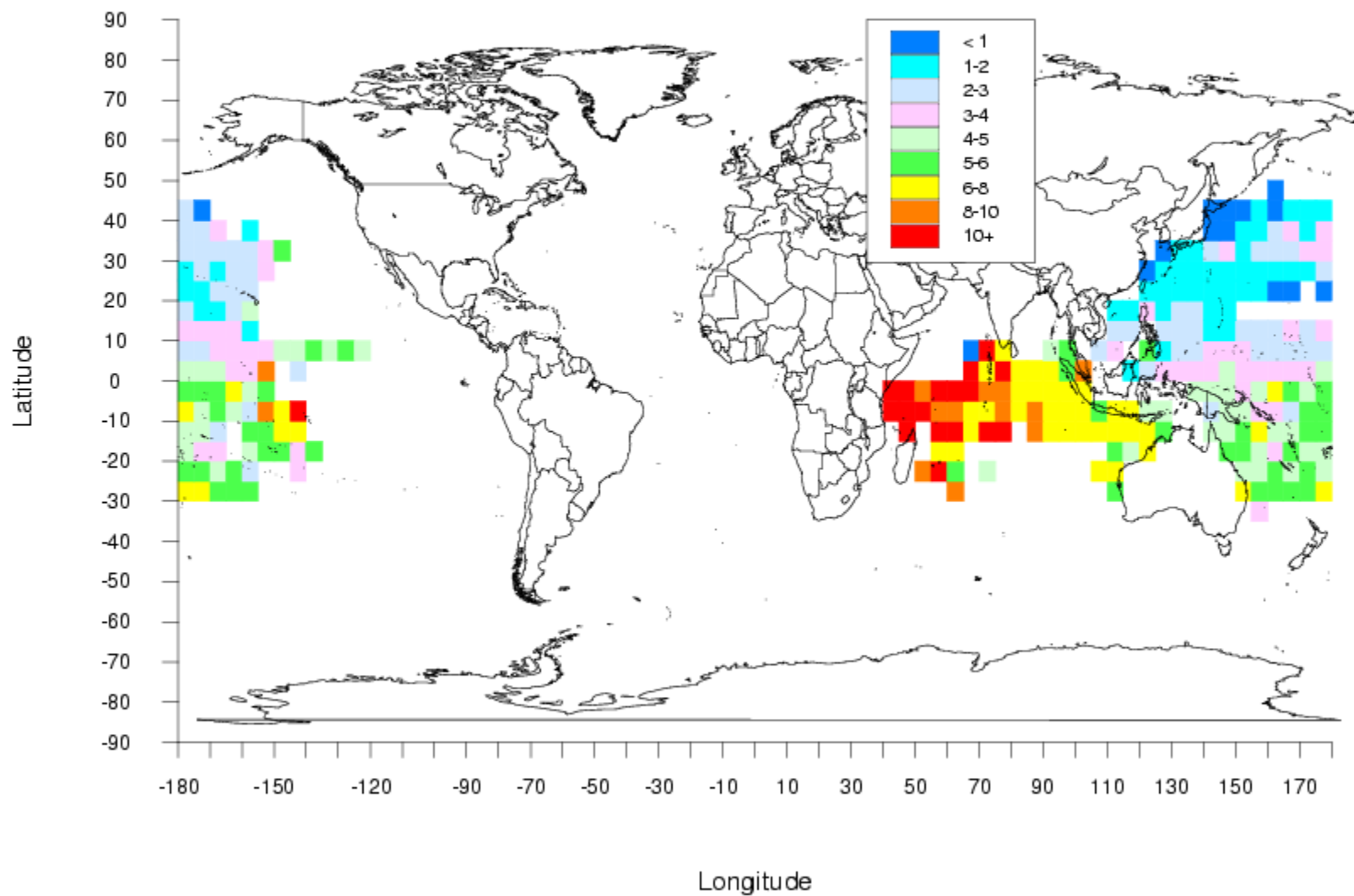
### Catch Per Hundred Hooks, Year = 1953



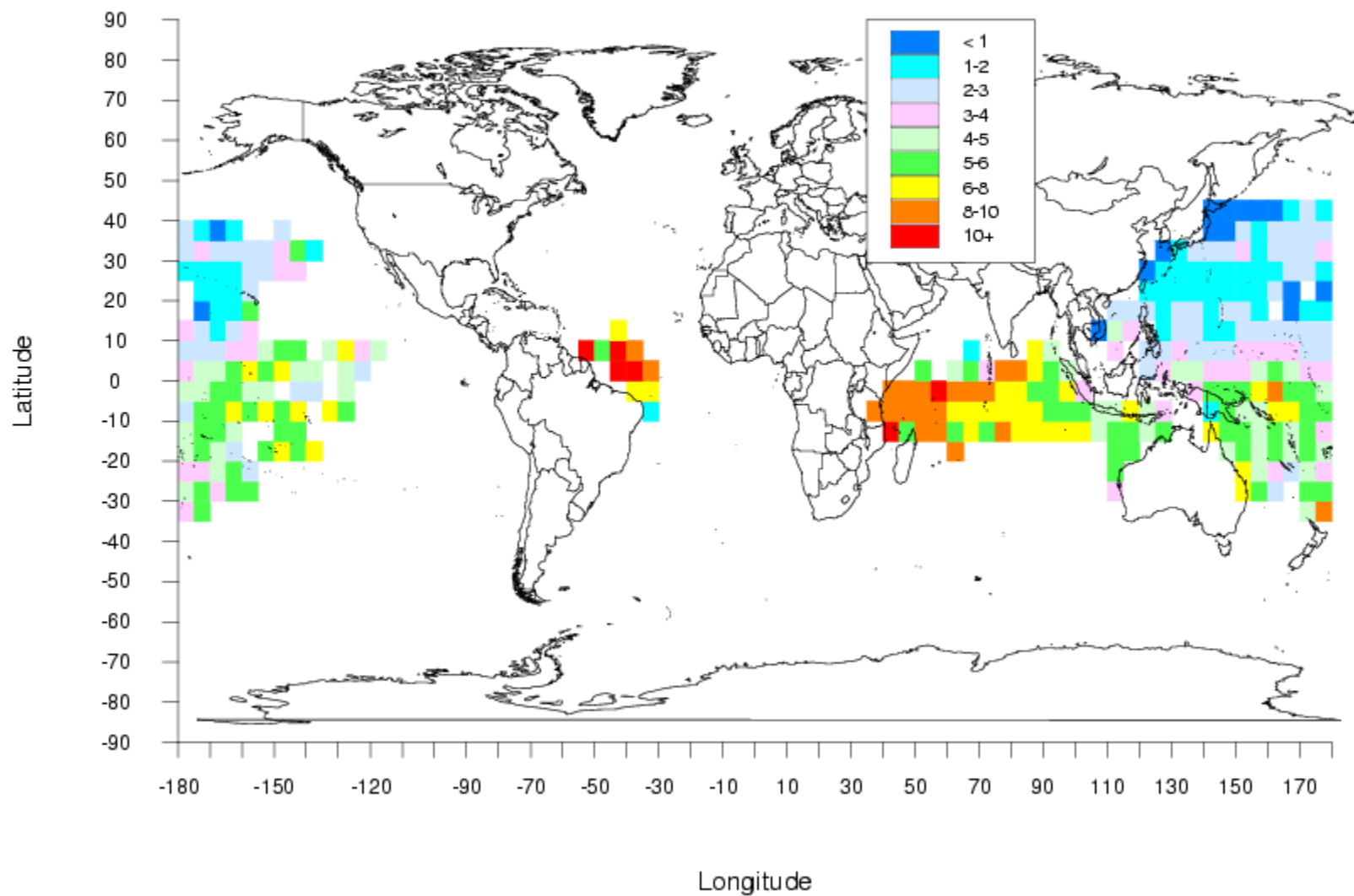
### Catch Per Hundred Hooks, Year = 1954



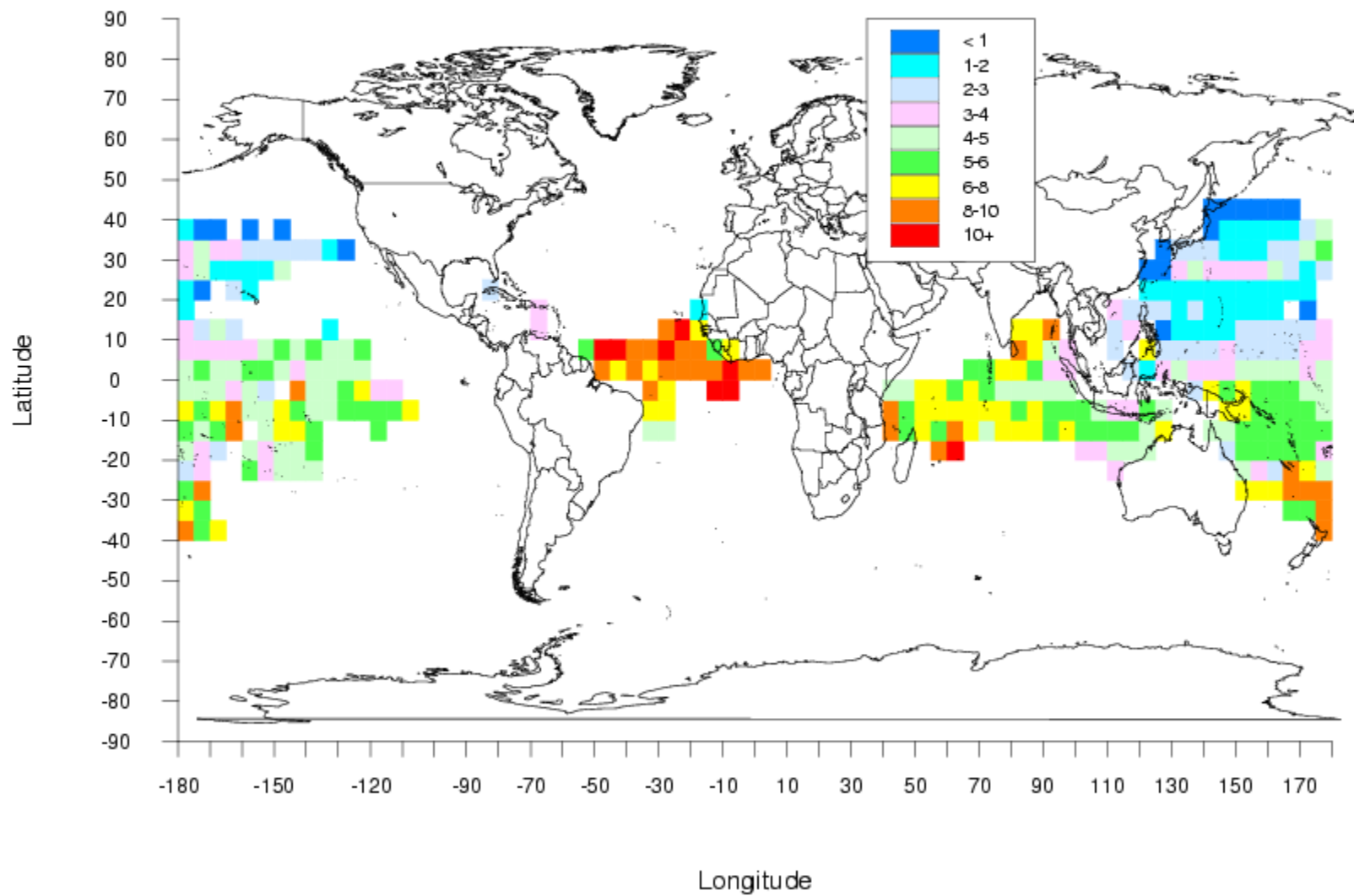
### Catch Per Hundred Hooks, Year = 1955



### Catch Per Hundred Hooks, Year = 1956

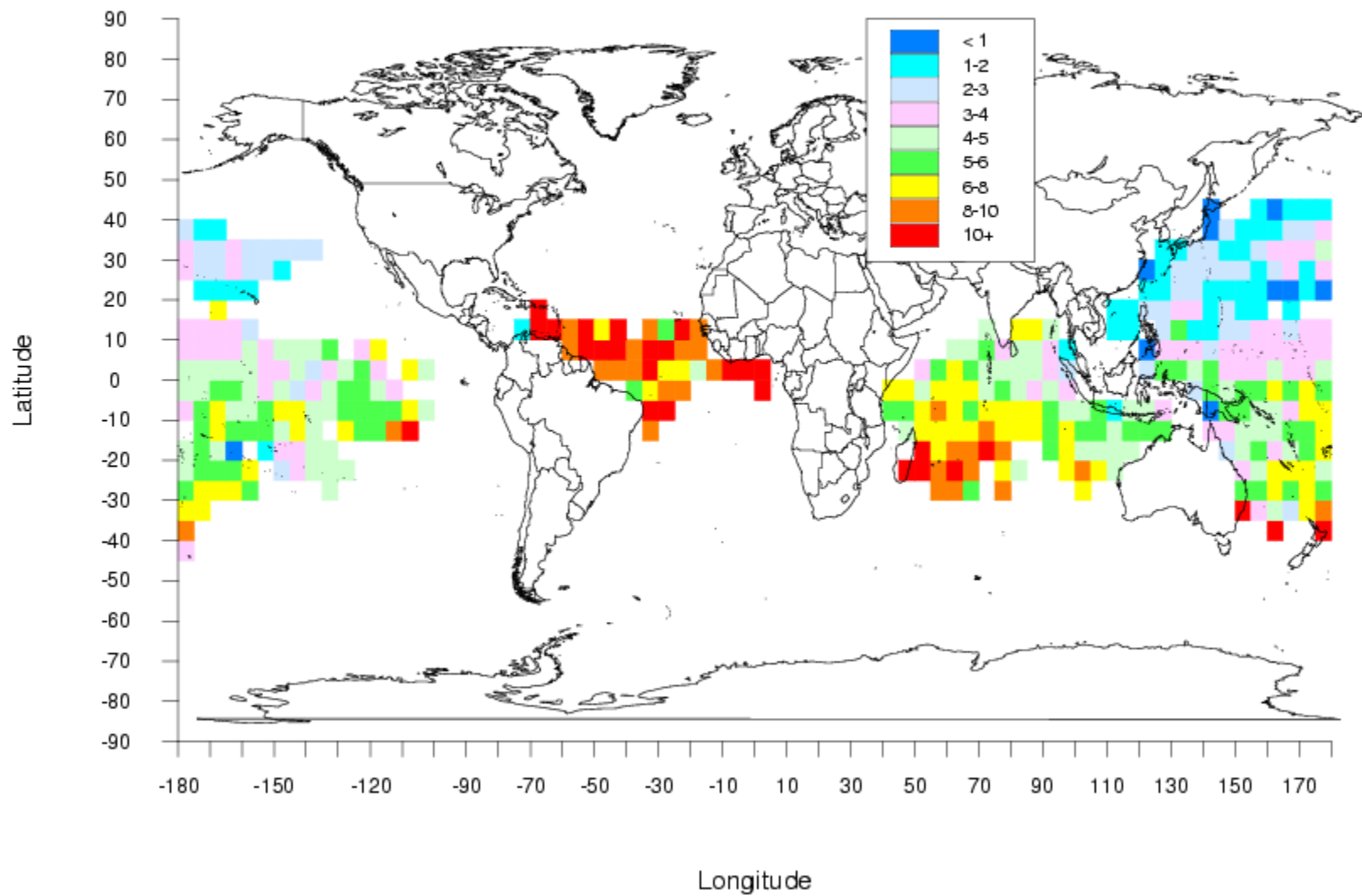


### Catch Per Hundred Hooks, Year = 1957

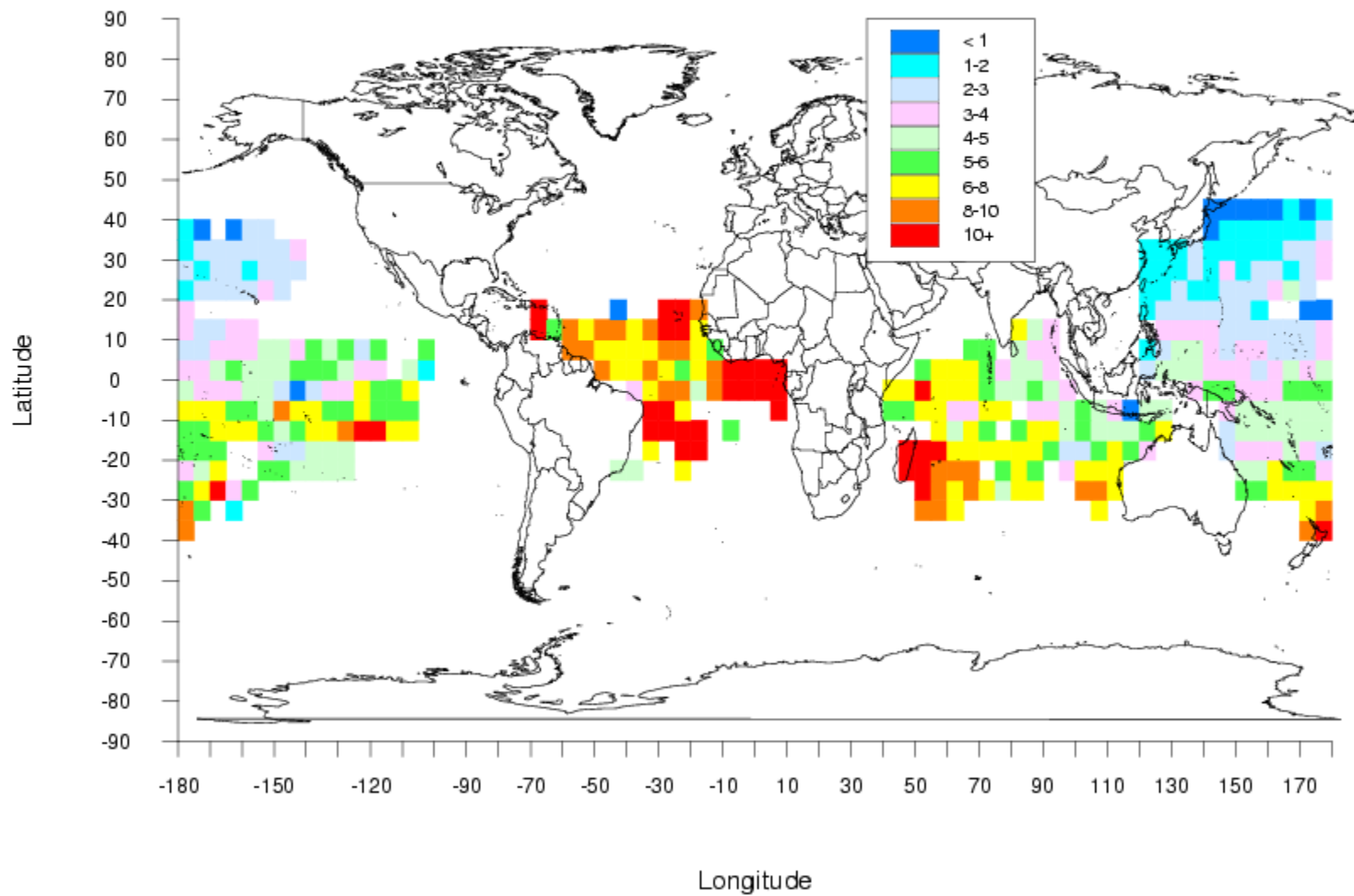




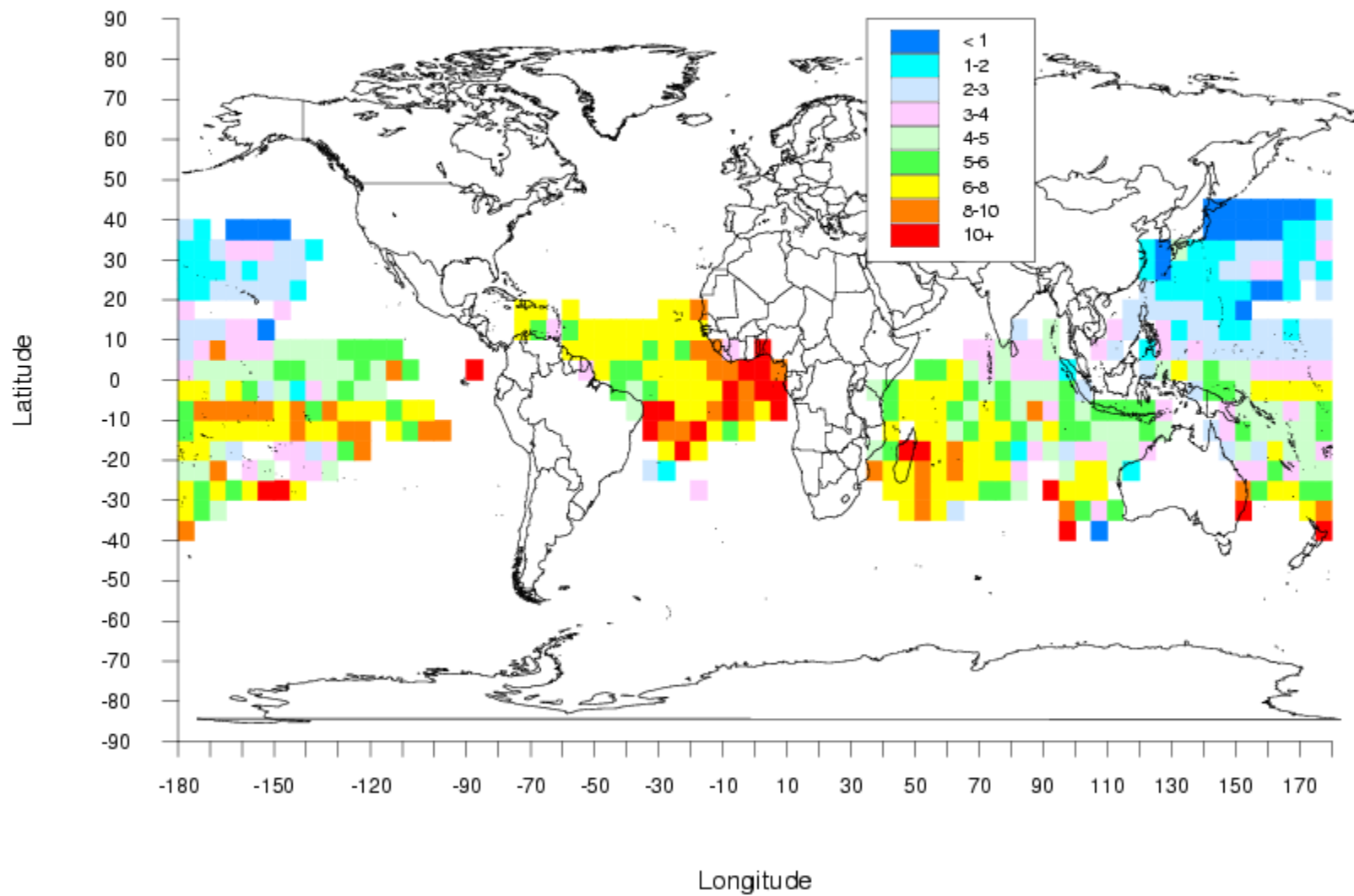
### Catch Per Hundred Hooks, Year = 1958



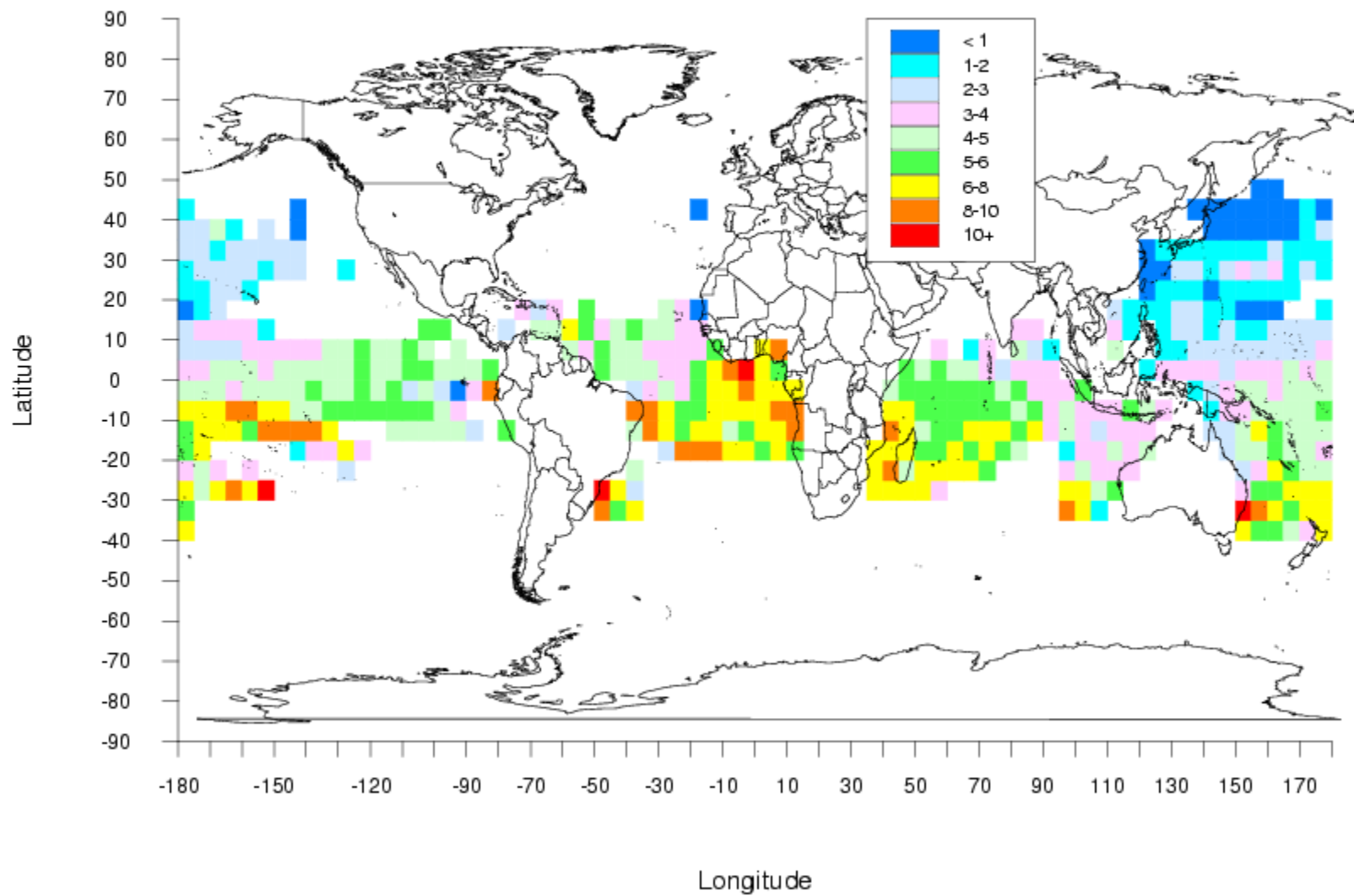
### Catch Per Hundred Hooks, Year = 1959



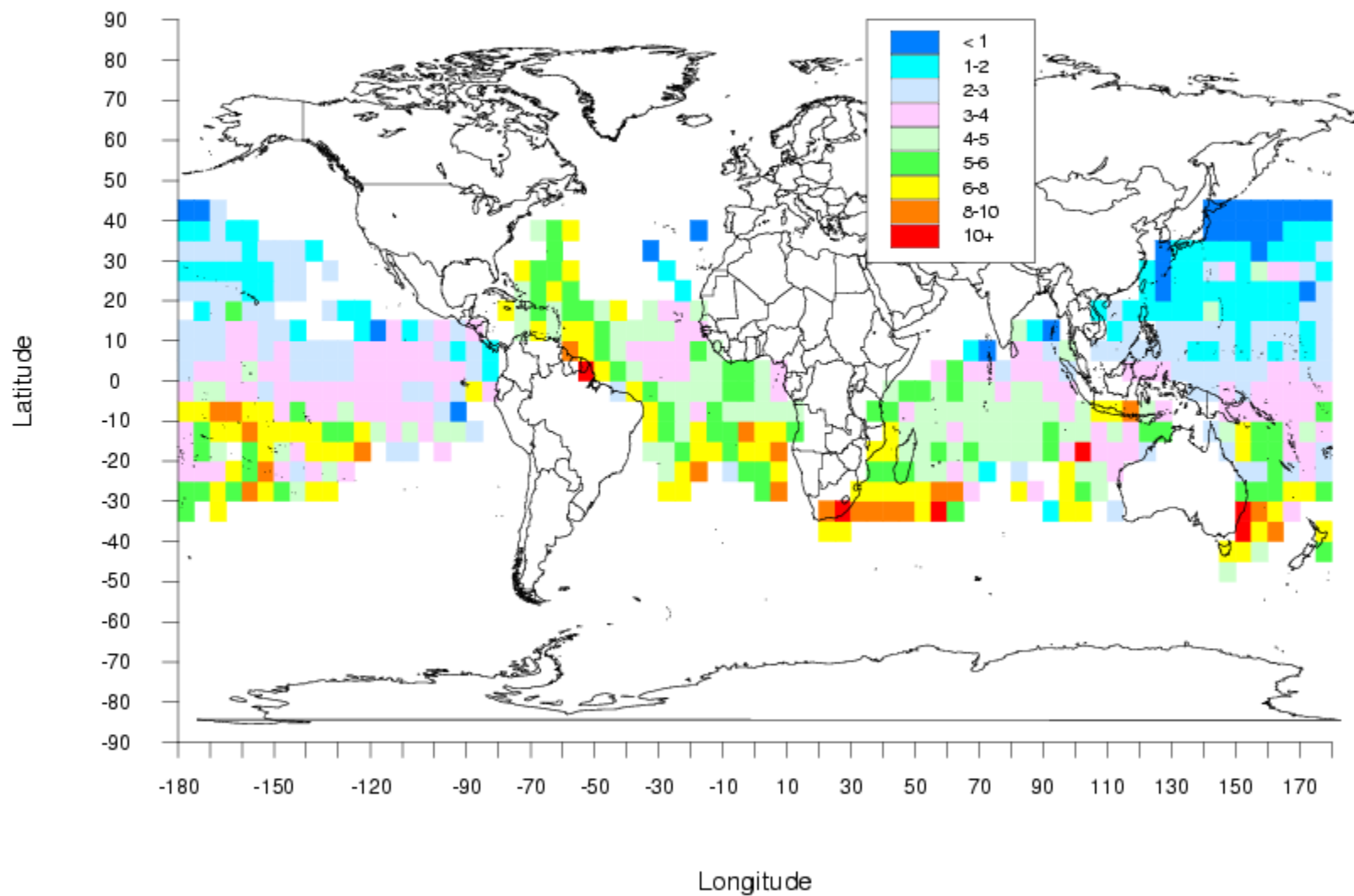
### Catch Per Hundred Hooks, Year = 1960



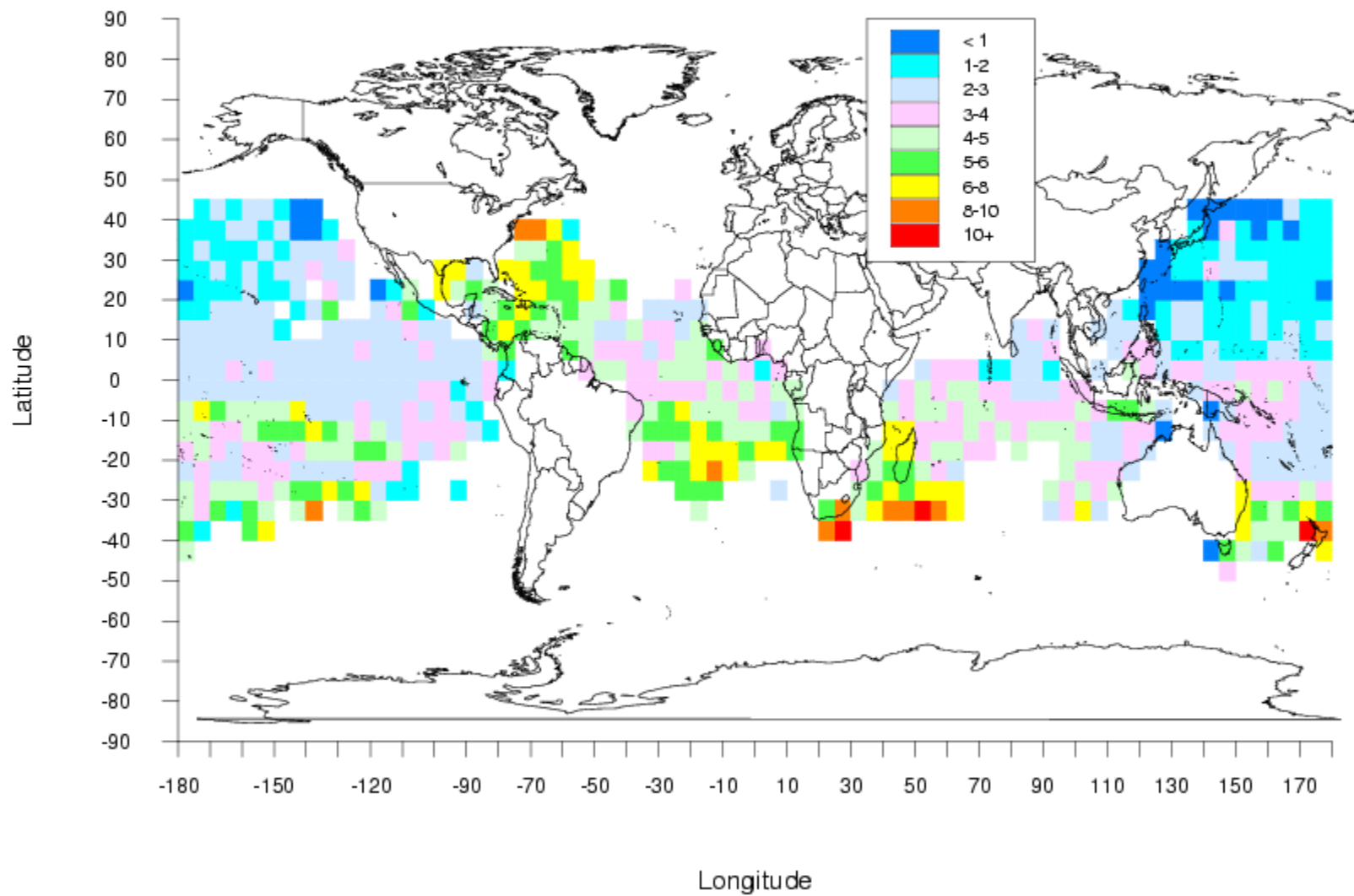
### Catch Per Hundred Hooks, Year = 1961



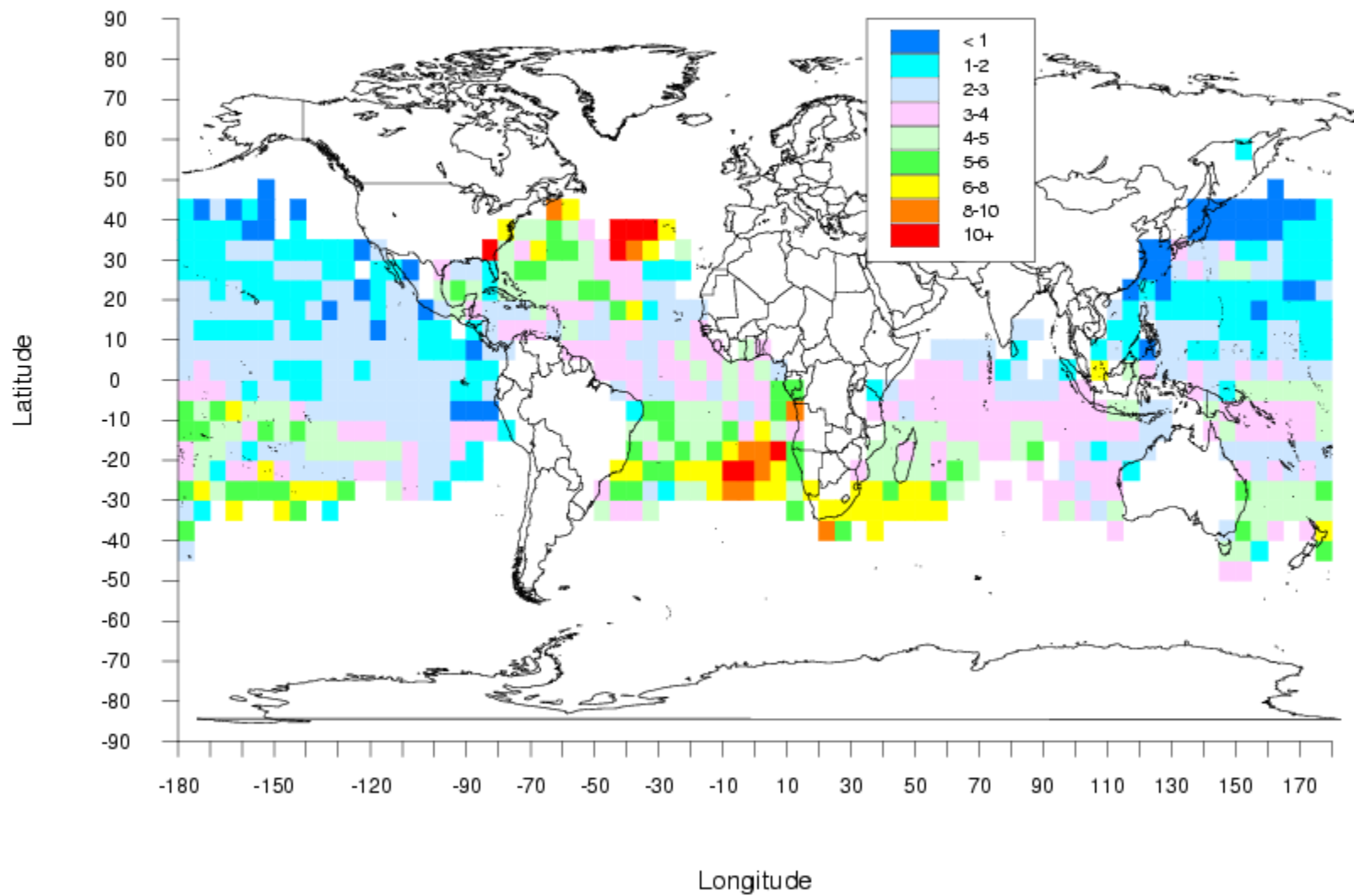
### Catch Per Hundred Hooks, Year = 1962



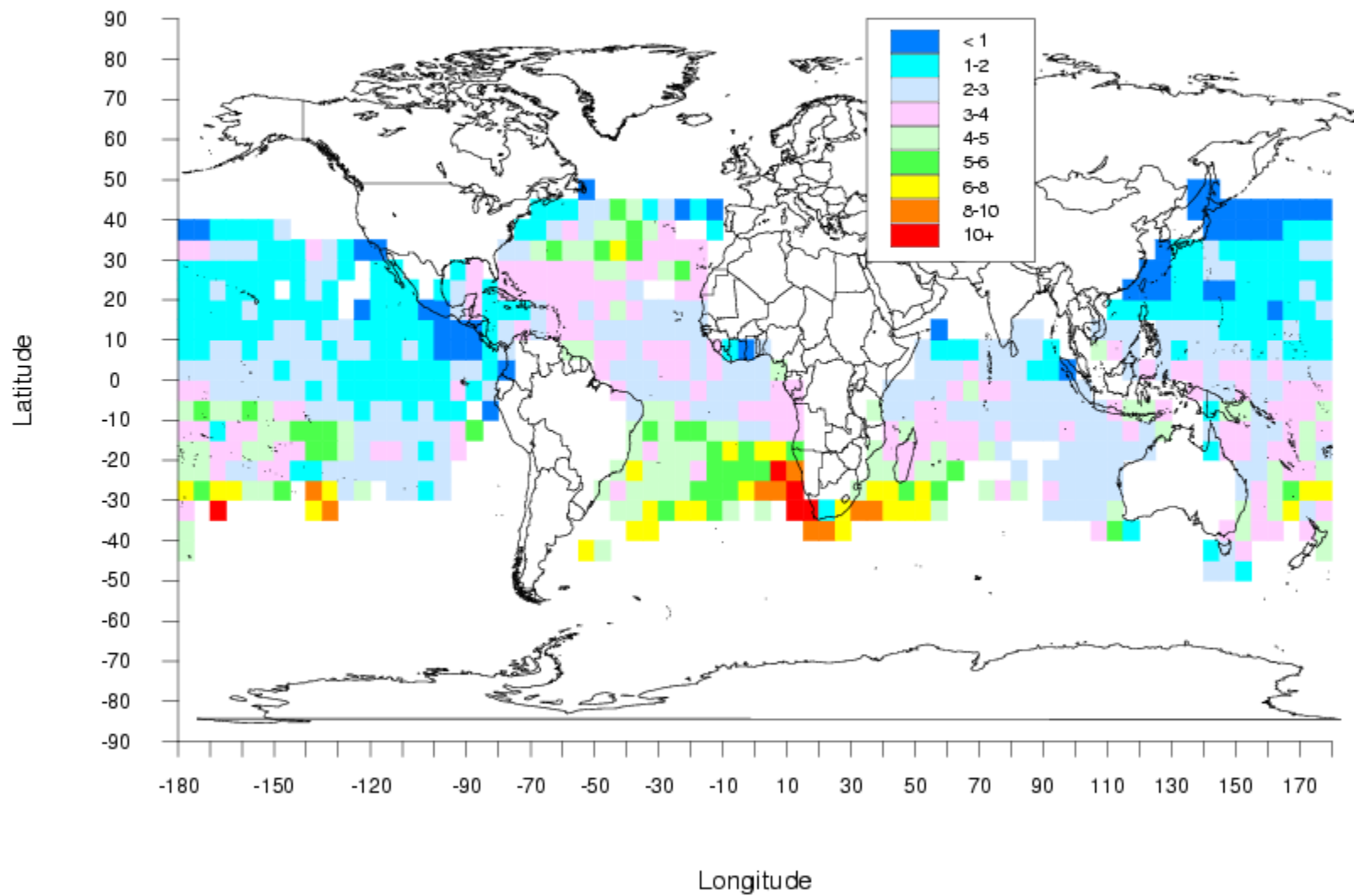
### Catch Per Hundred Hooks, Year = 1963



### Catch Per Hundred Hooks, Year = 1964

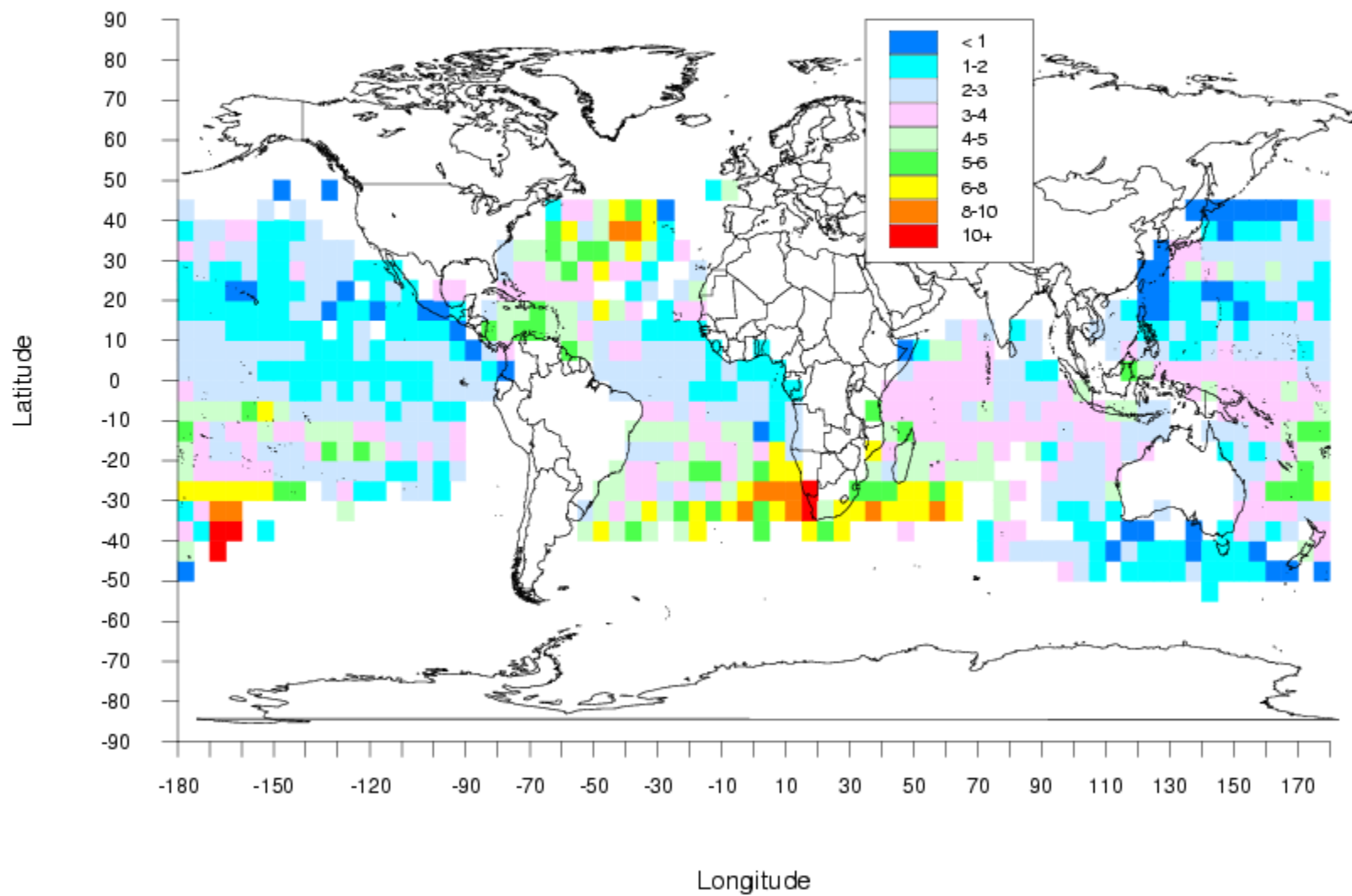


### Catch Per Hundred Hooks, Year = 1965

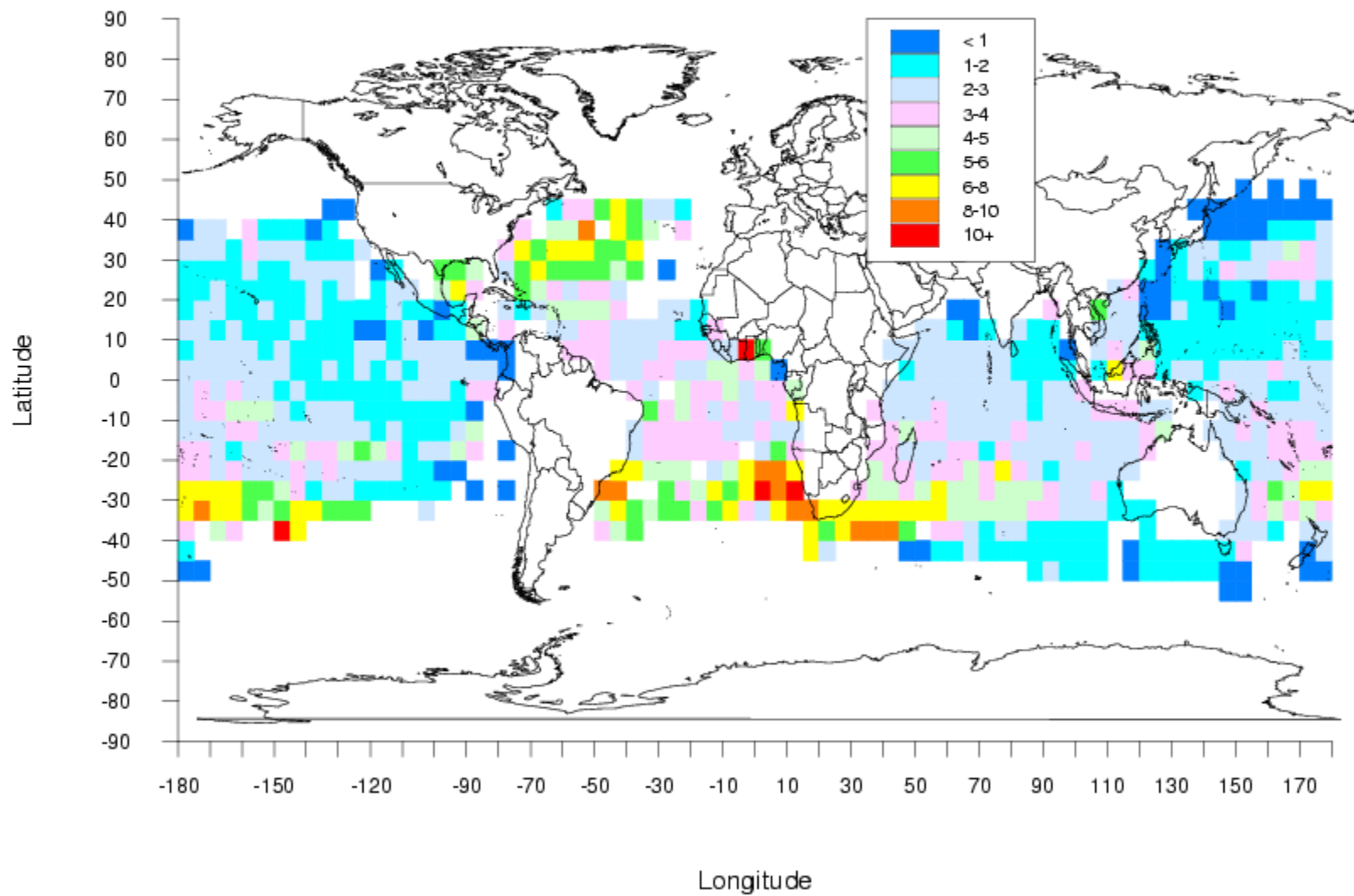




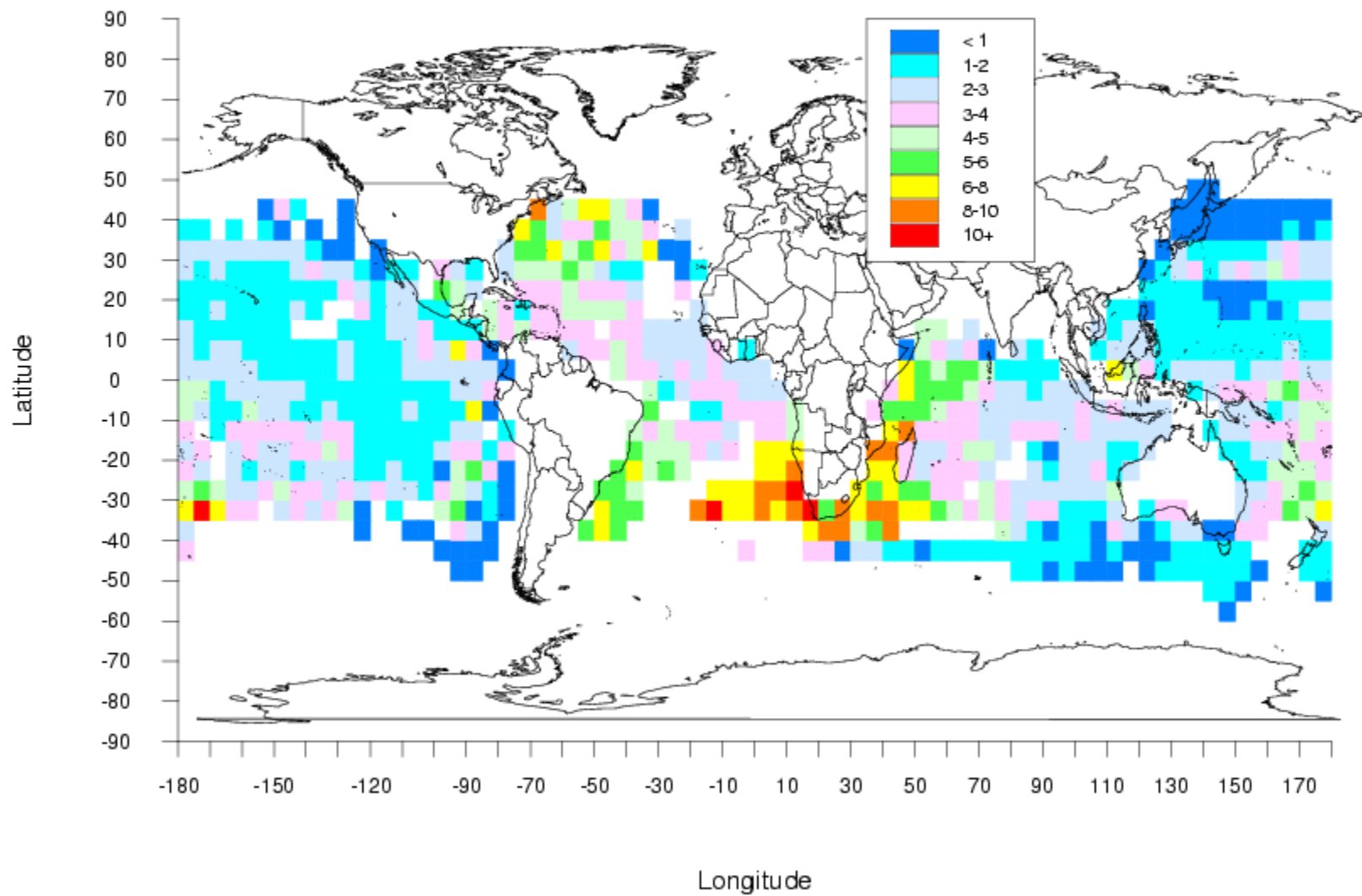
Catch Per Hundred Hooks, Year = 1966



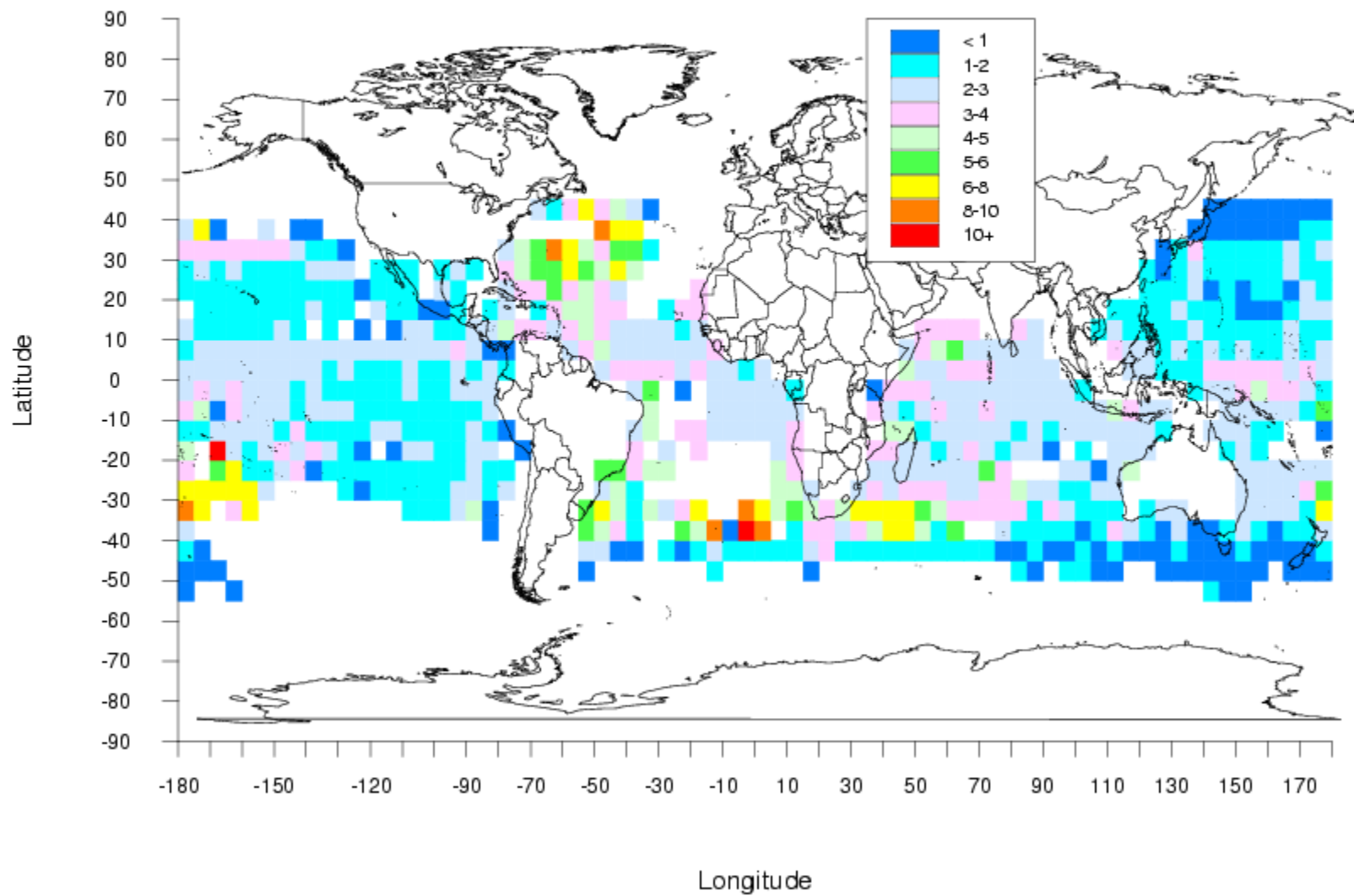
### Catch Per Hundred Hooks, Year = 1967



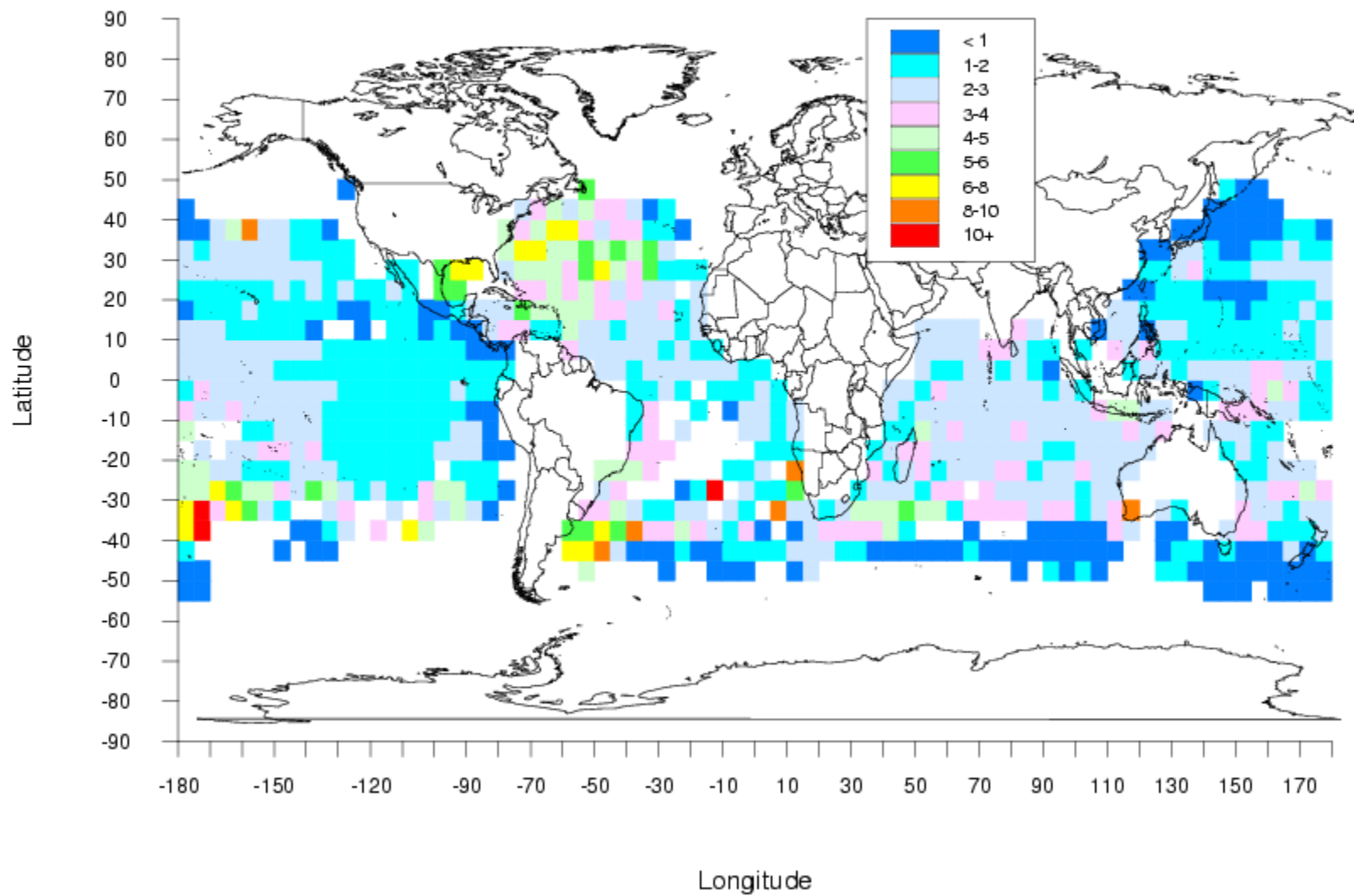
### Catch Per Hundred Hooks, Year = 1968



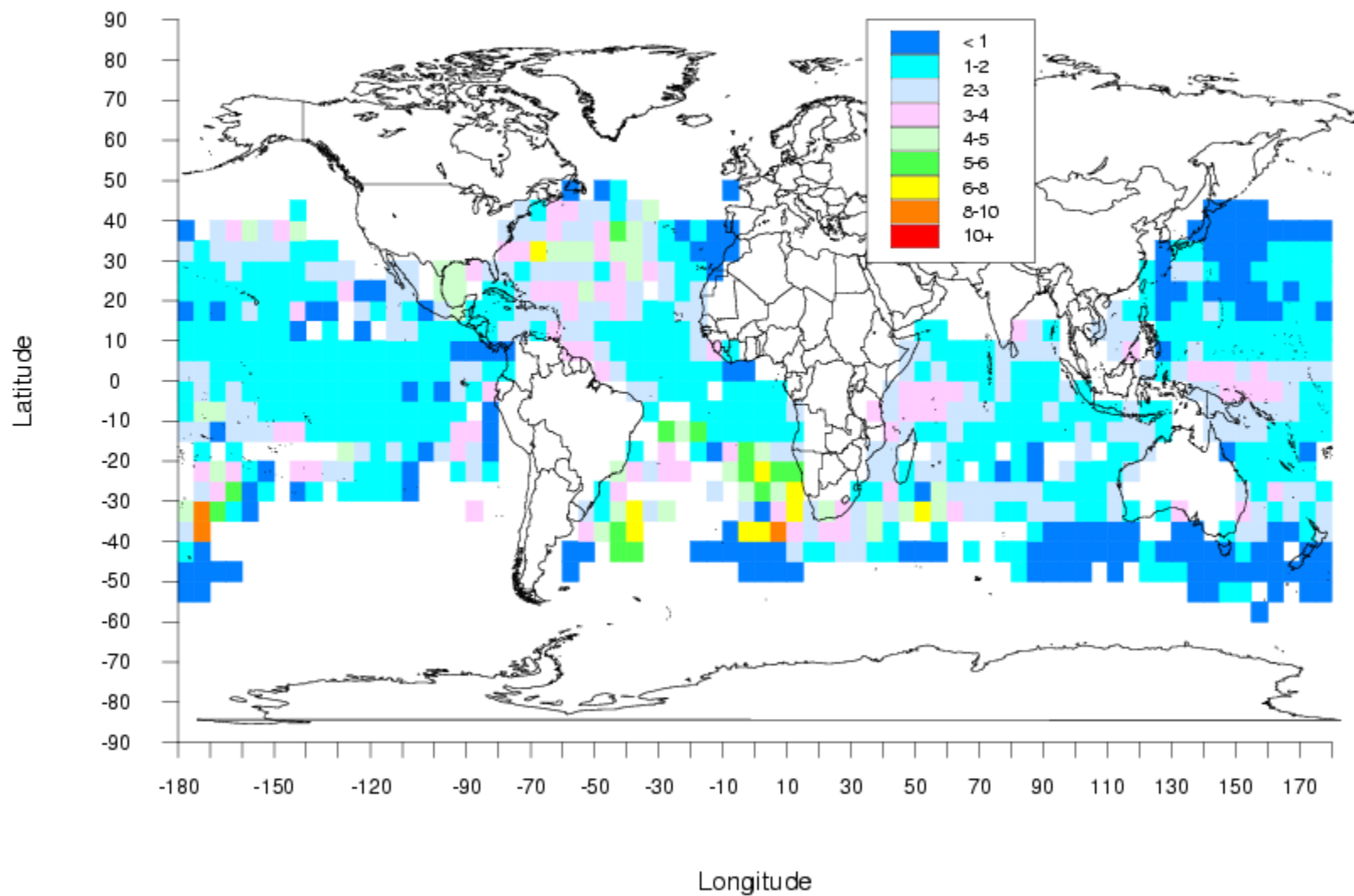
### Catch Per Hundred Hooks, Year = 1969



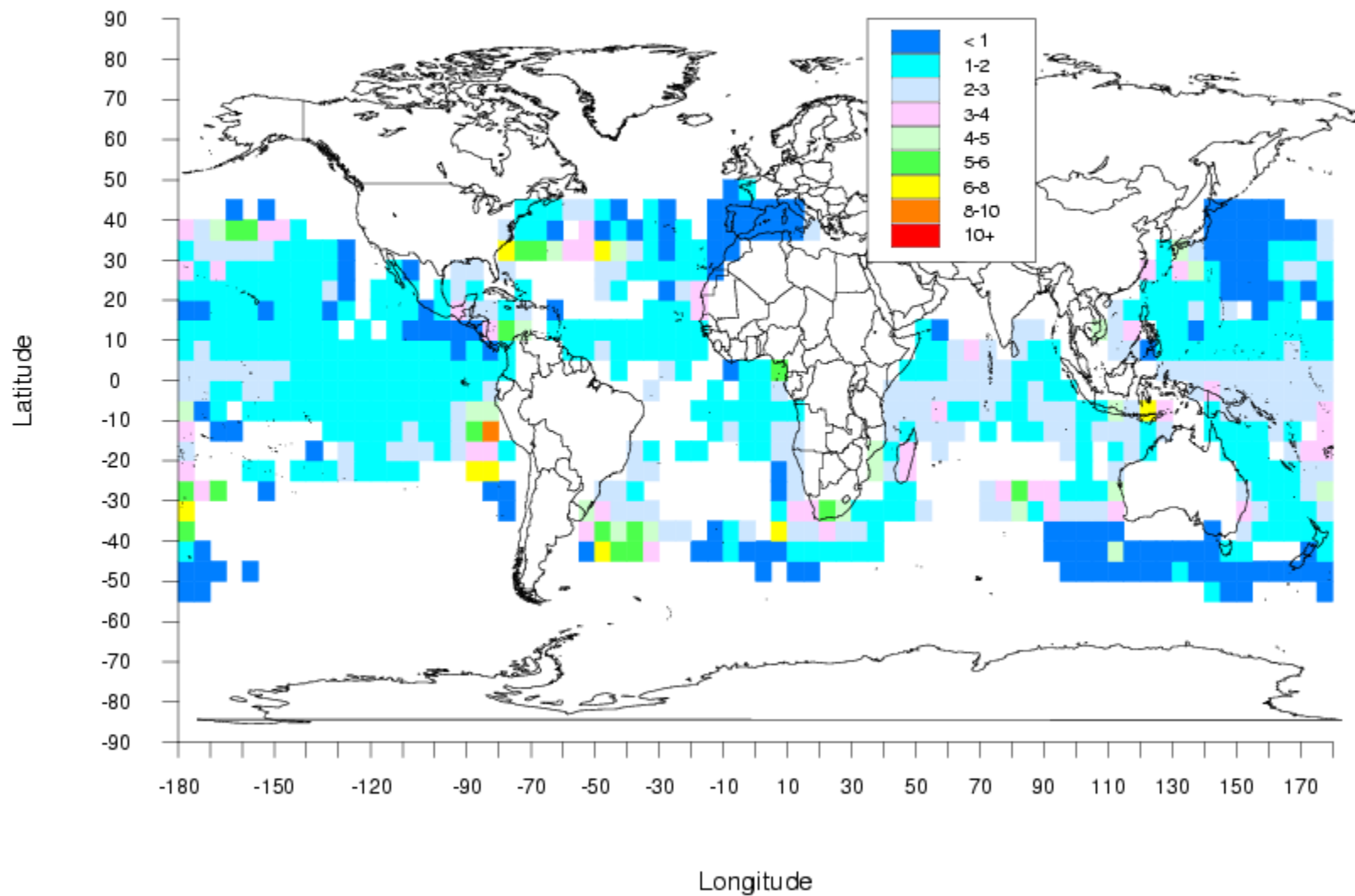
Catch Per Hundred Hooks, Year = 1970



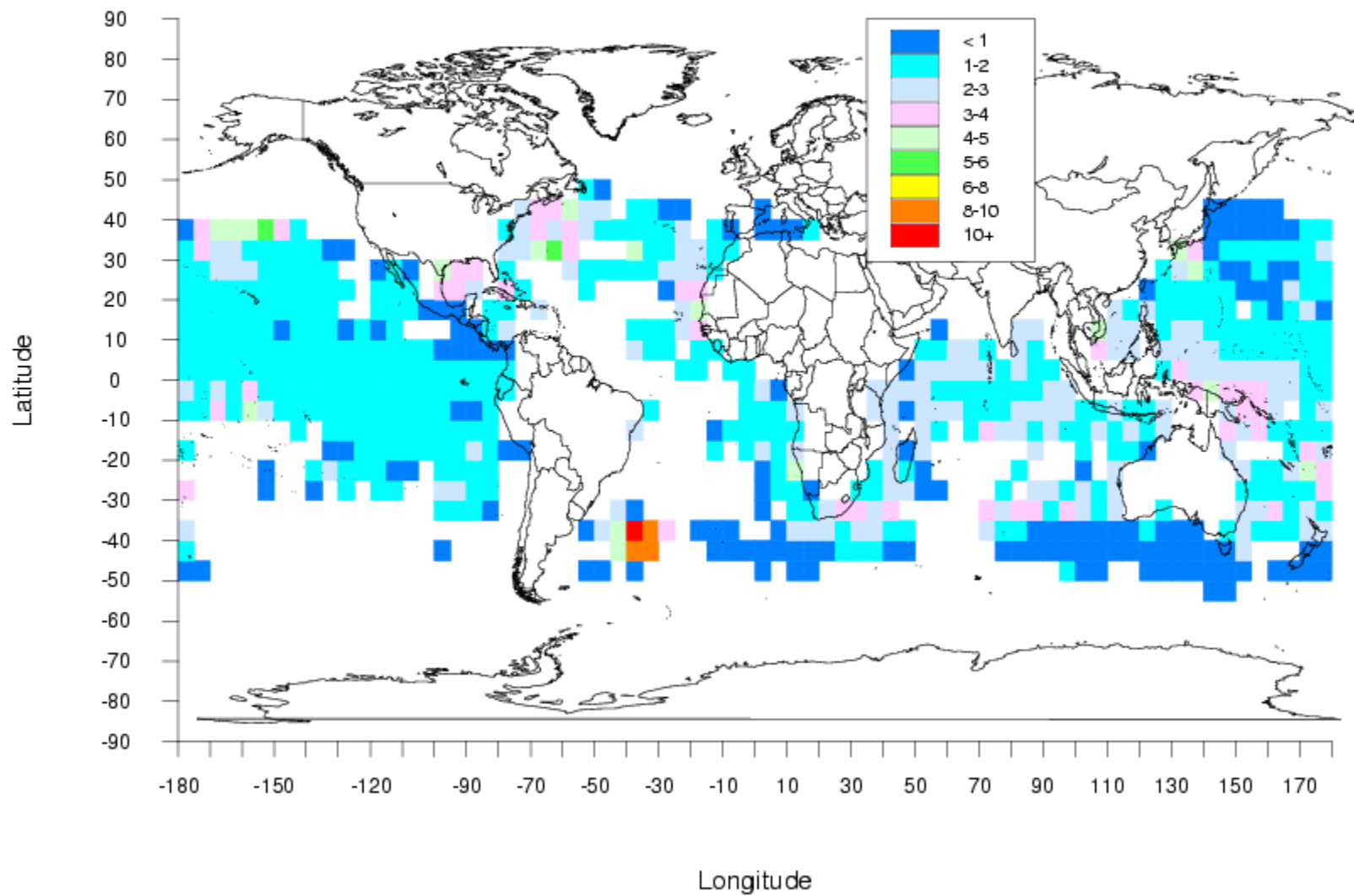
### Catch Per Hundred Hooks, Year = 1971



### Catch Per Hundred Hooks, Year = 1972

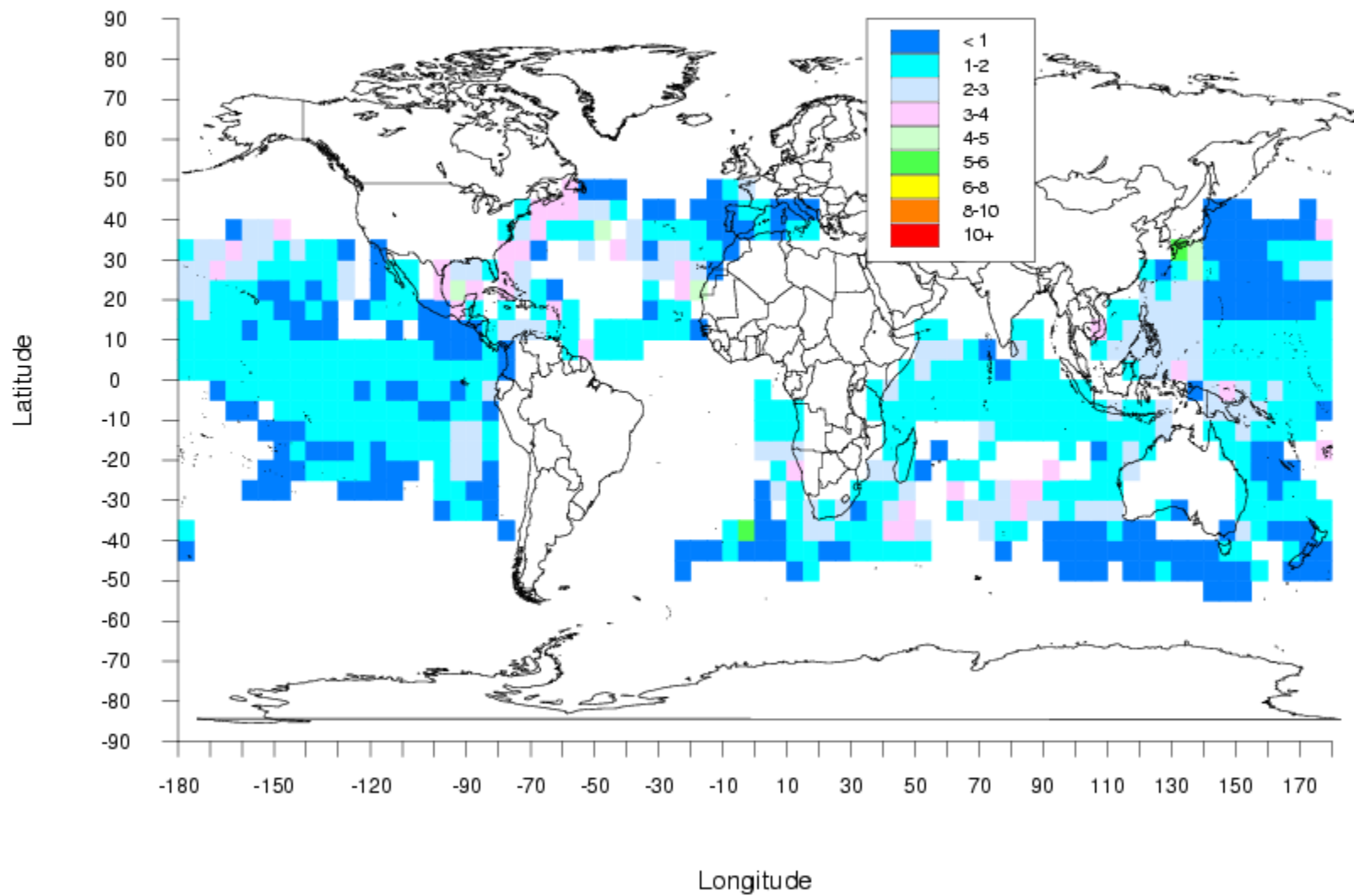


Catch Per Hundred Hooks, Year = 1973

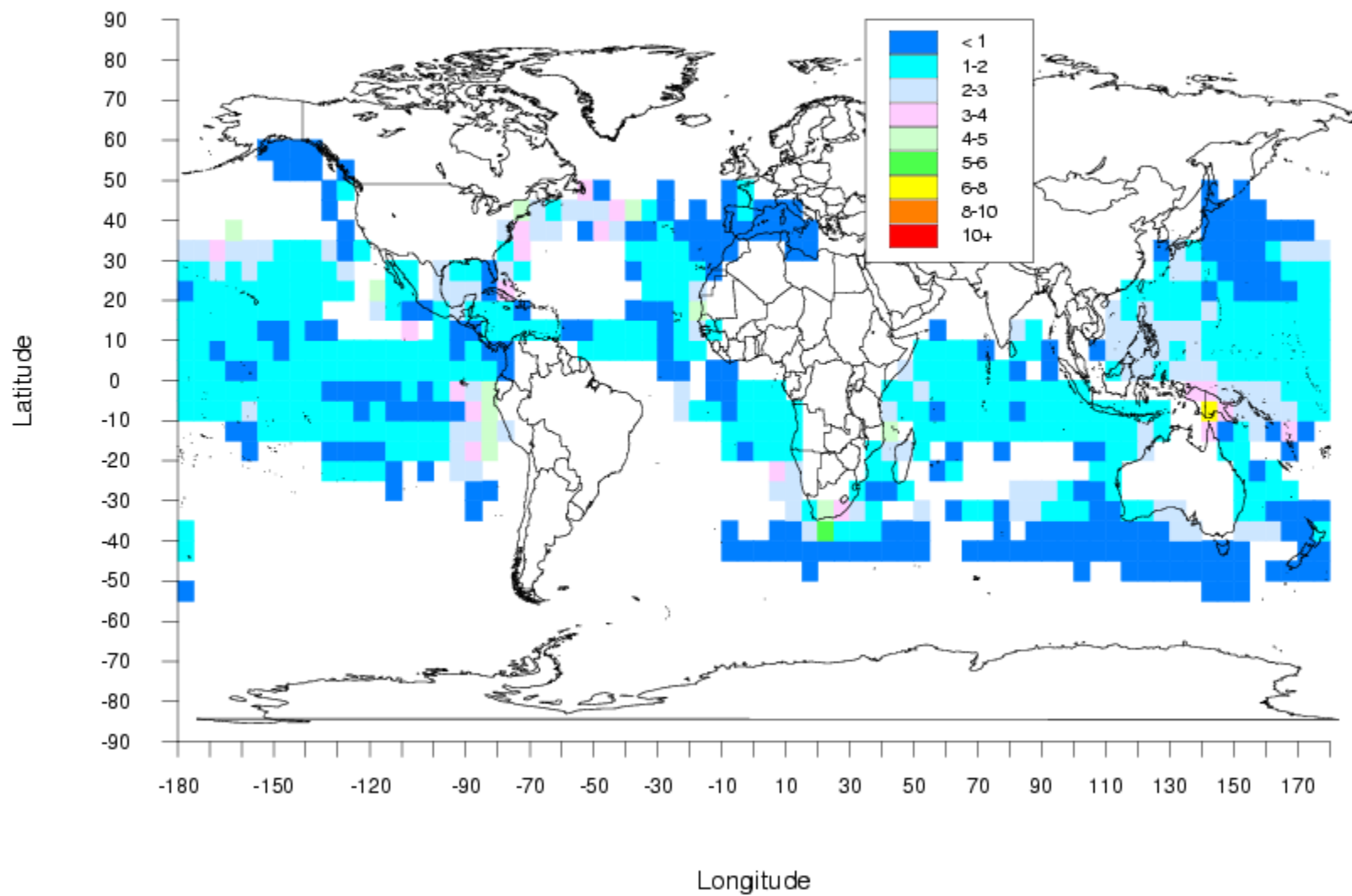




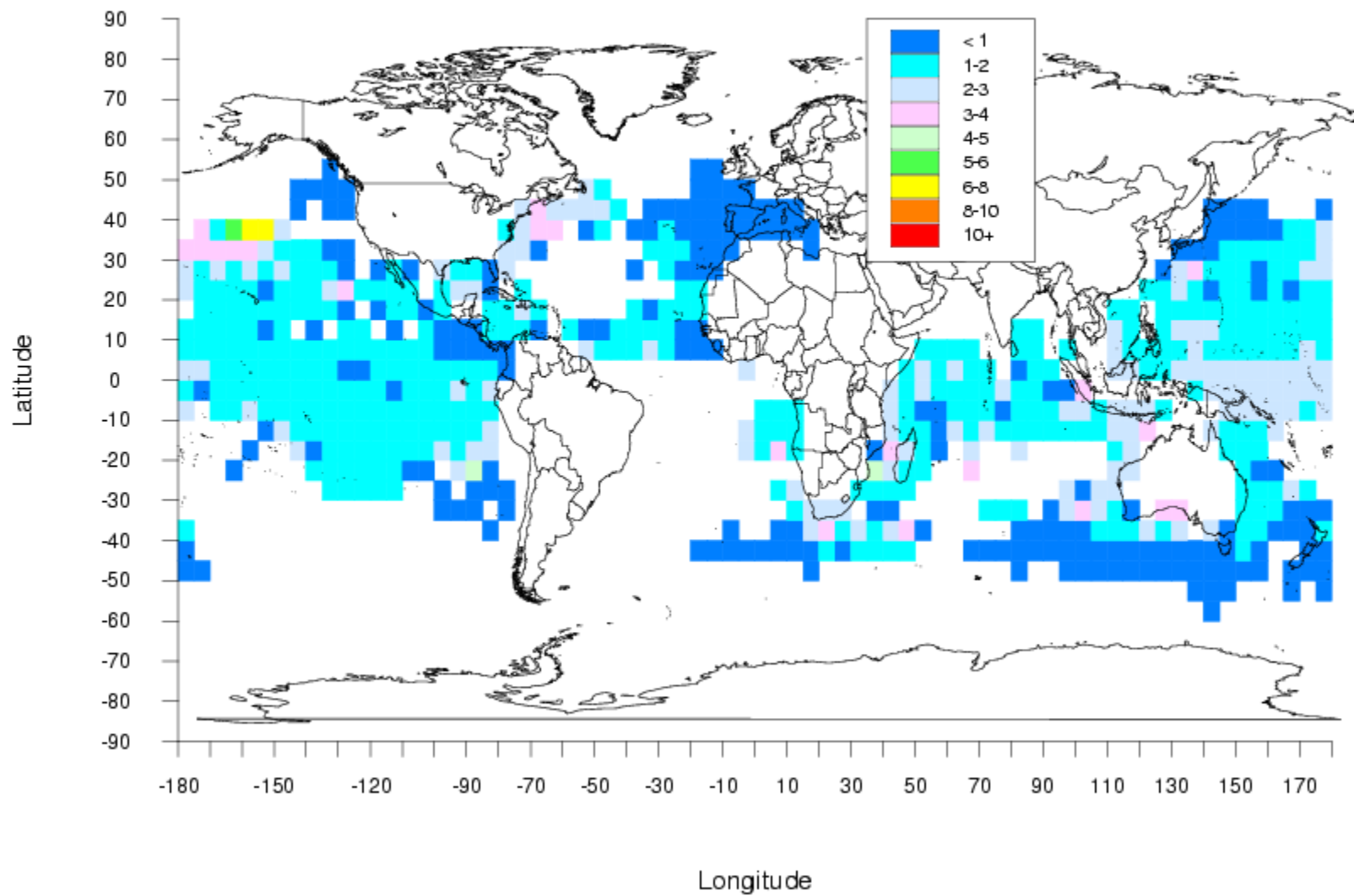
Catch Per Hundred Hooks, Year = 1974



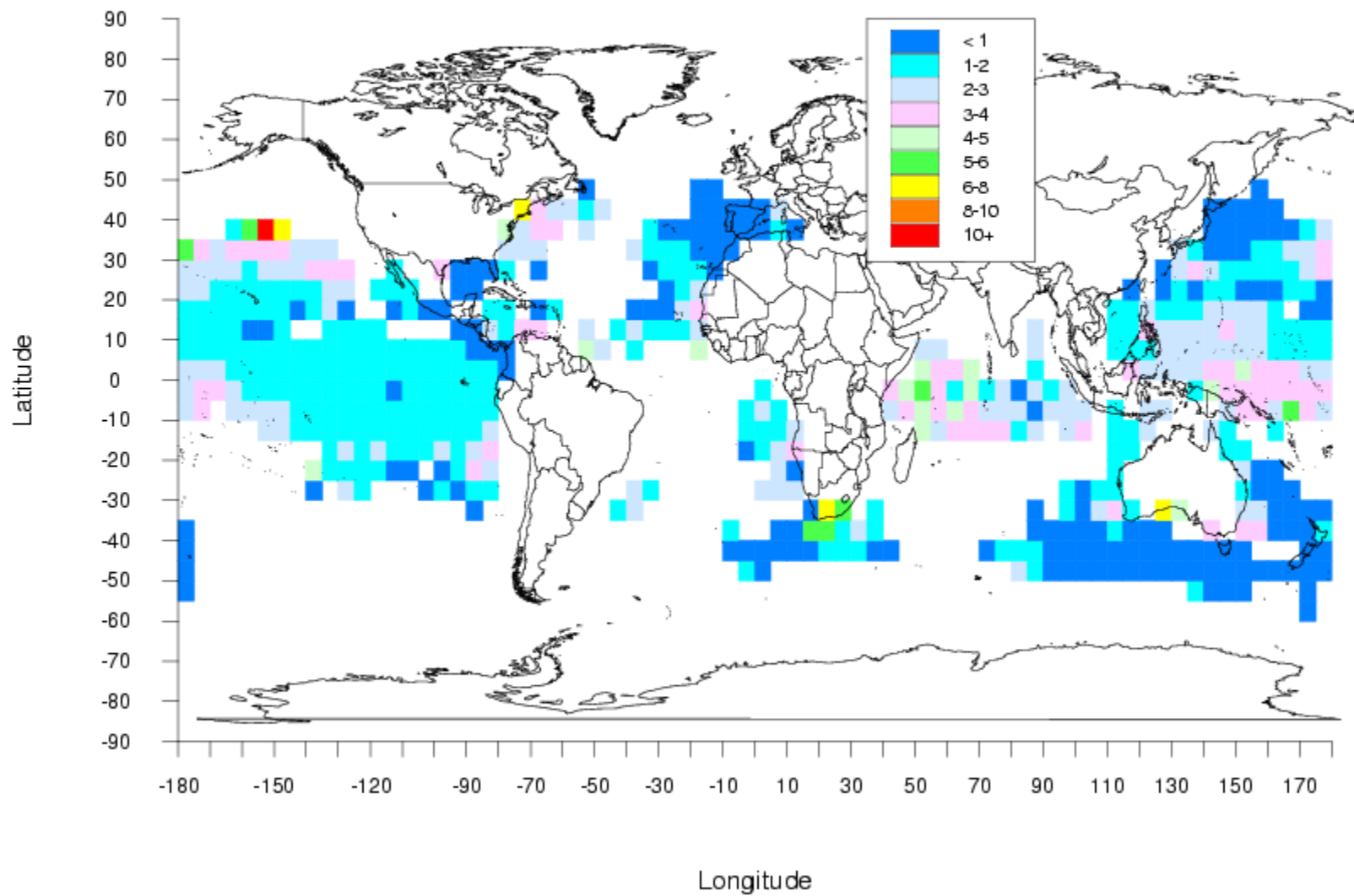
### Catch Per Hundred Hooks, Year = 1975



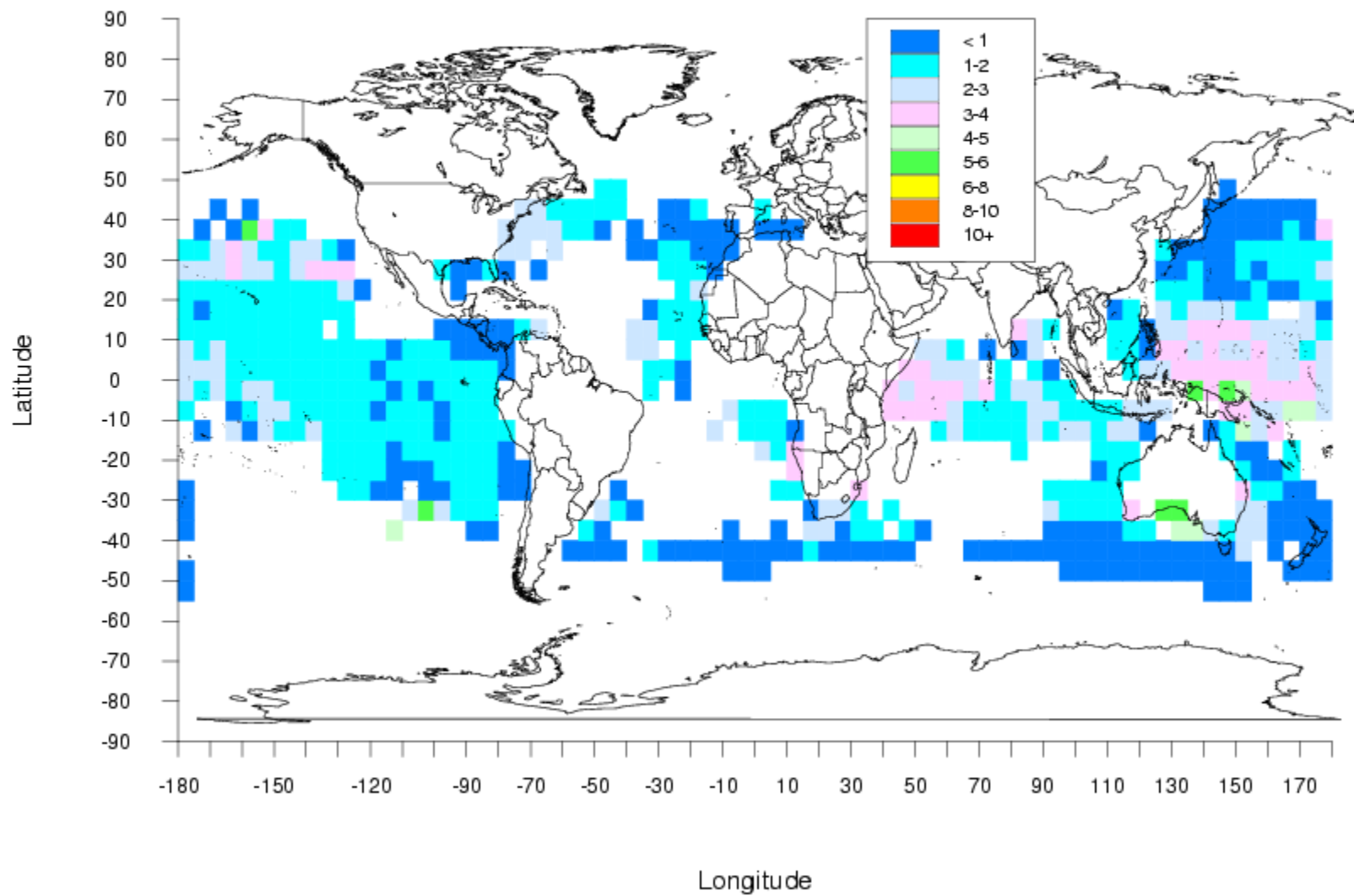
### Catch Per Hundred Hooks, Year = 1976



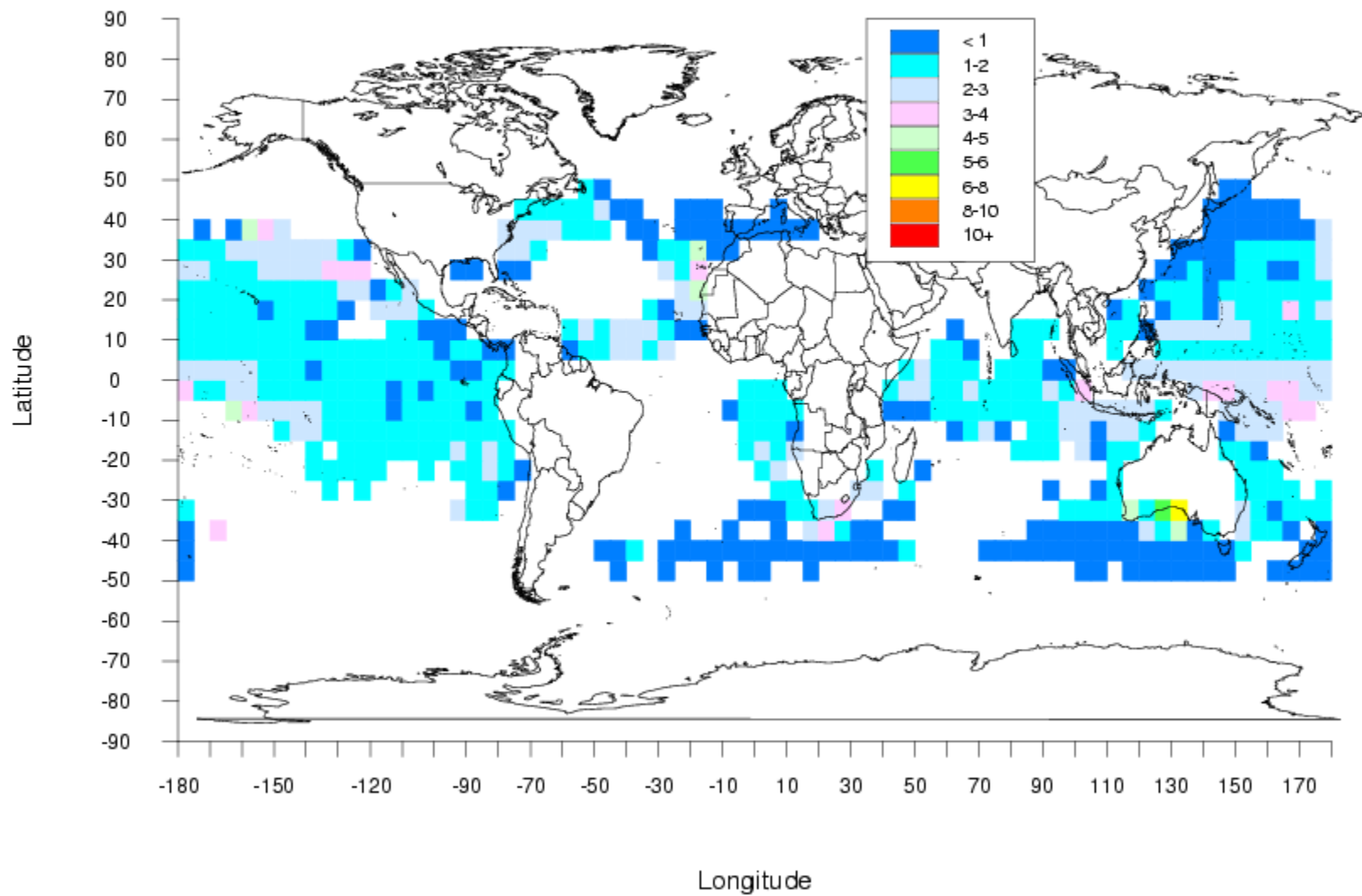
### Catch Per Hundred Hooks, Year = 1977



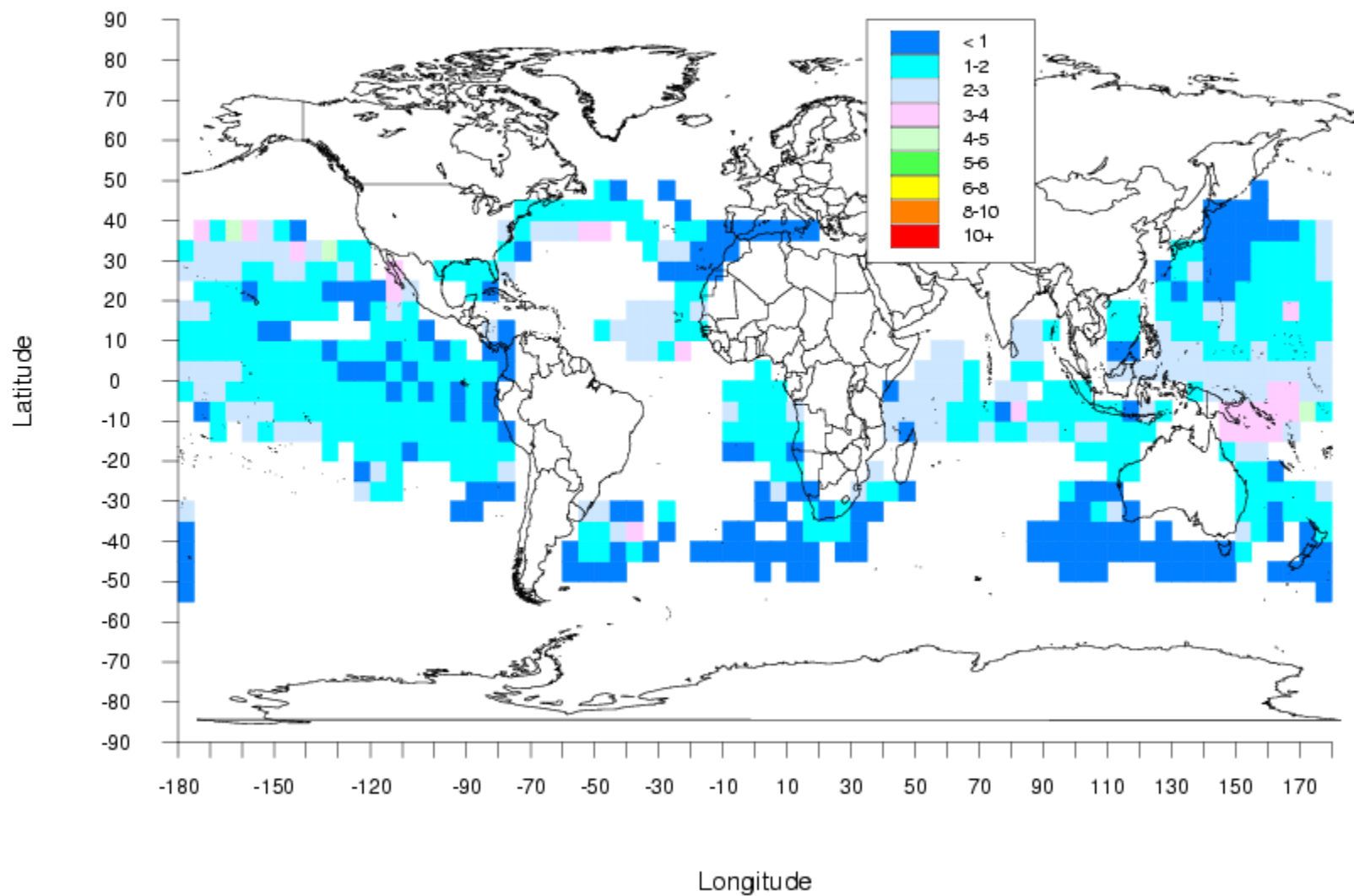
### Catch Per Hundred Hooks, Year = 1978



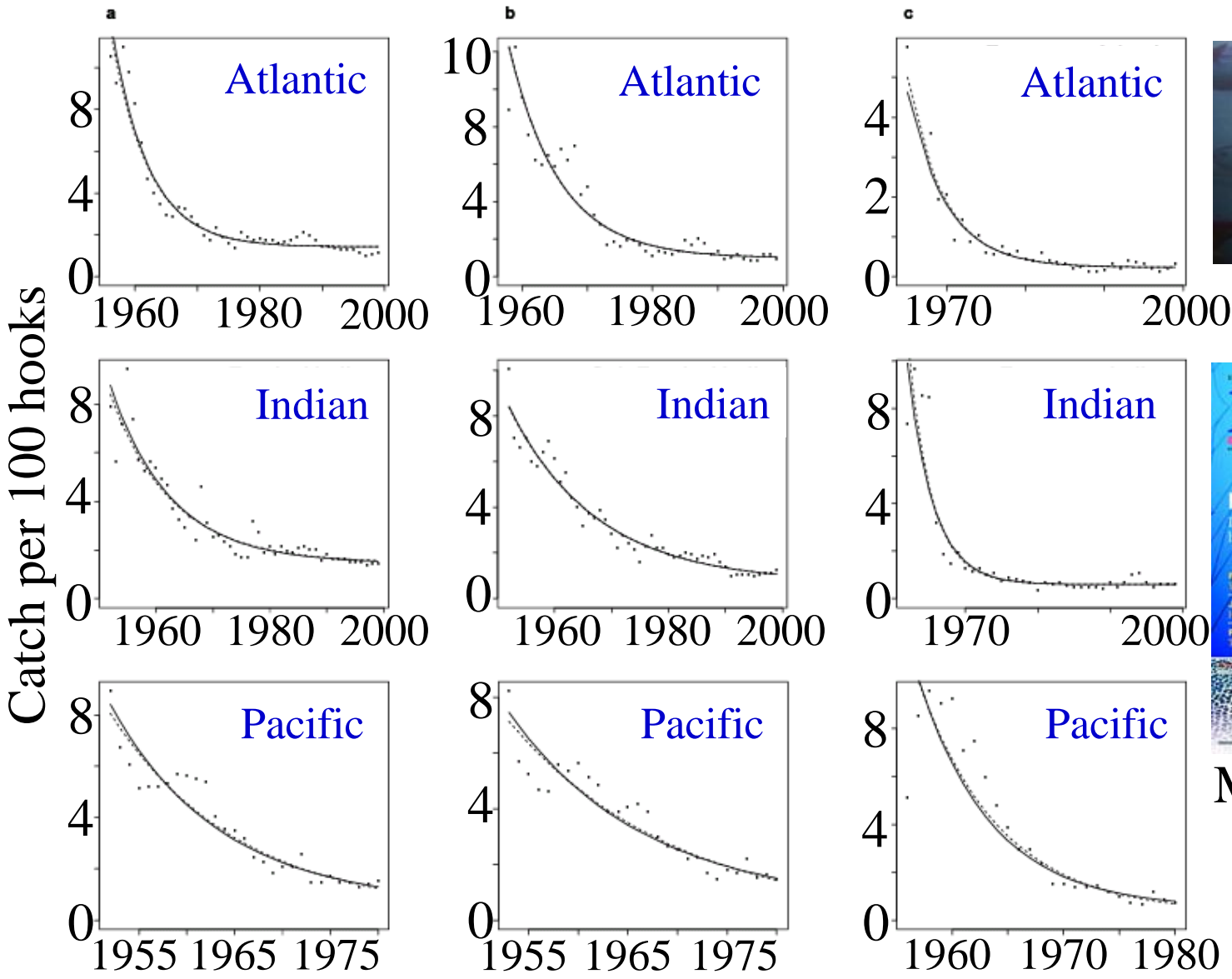
### Catch Per Hundred Hooks, Year = 1979



Catch Per Hundred Hooks, Year = 1980

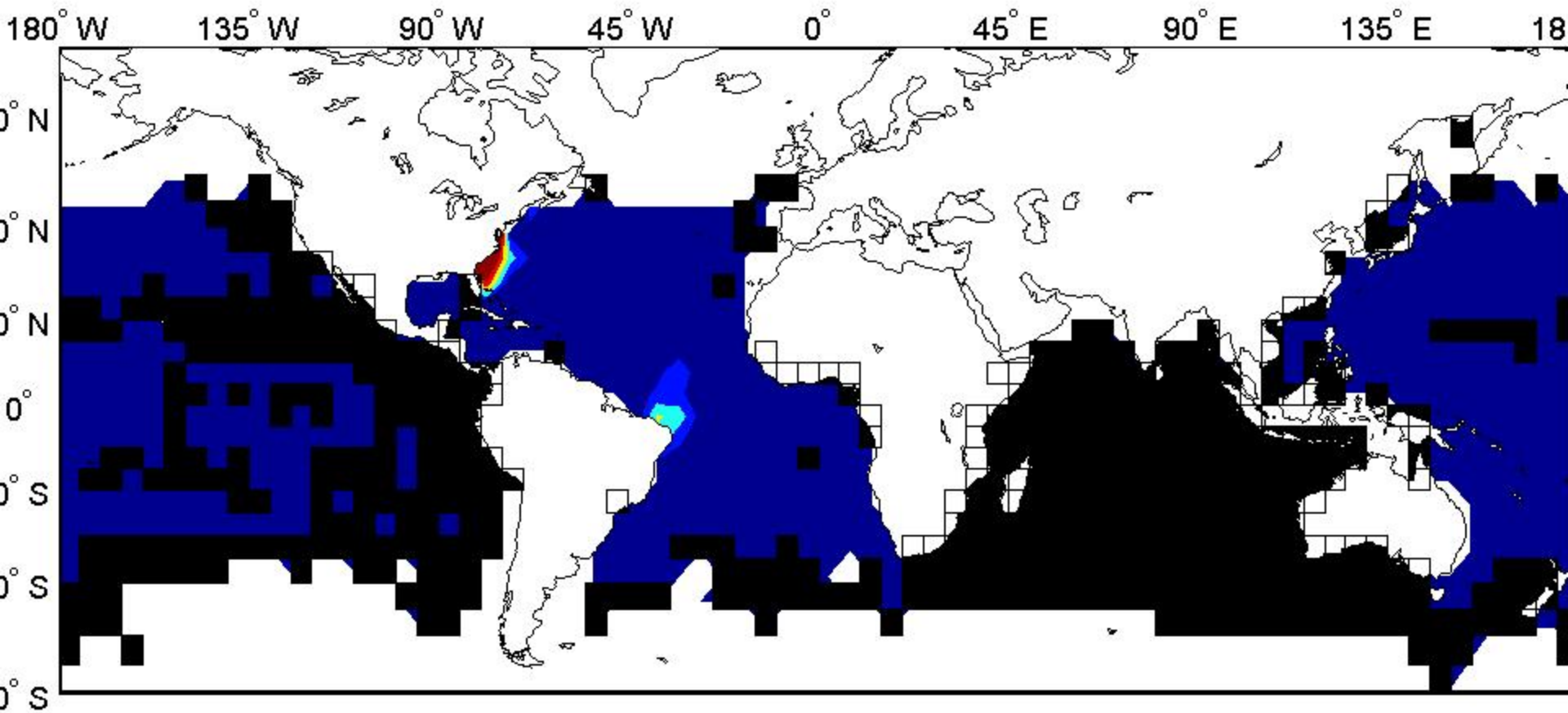


# Common patterns of decline

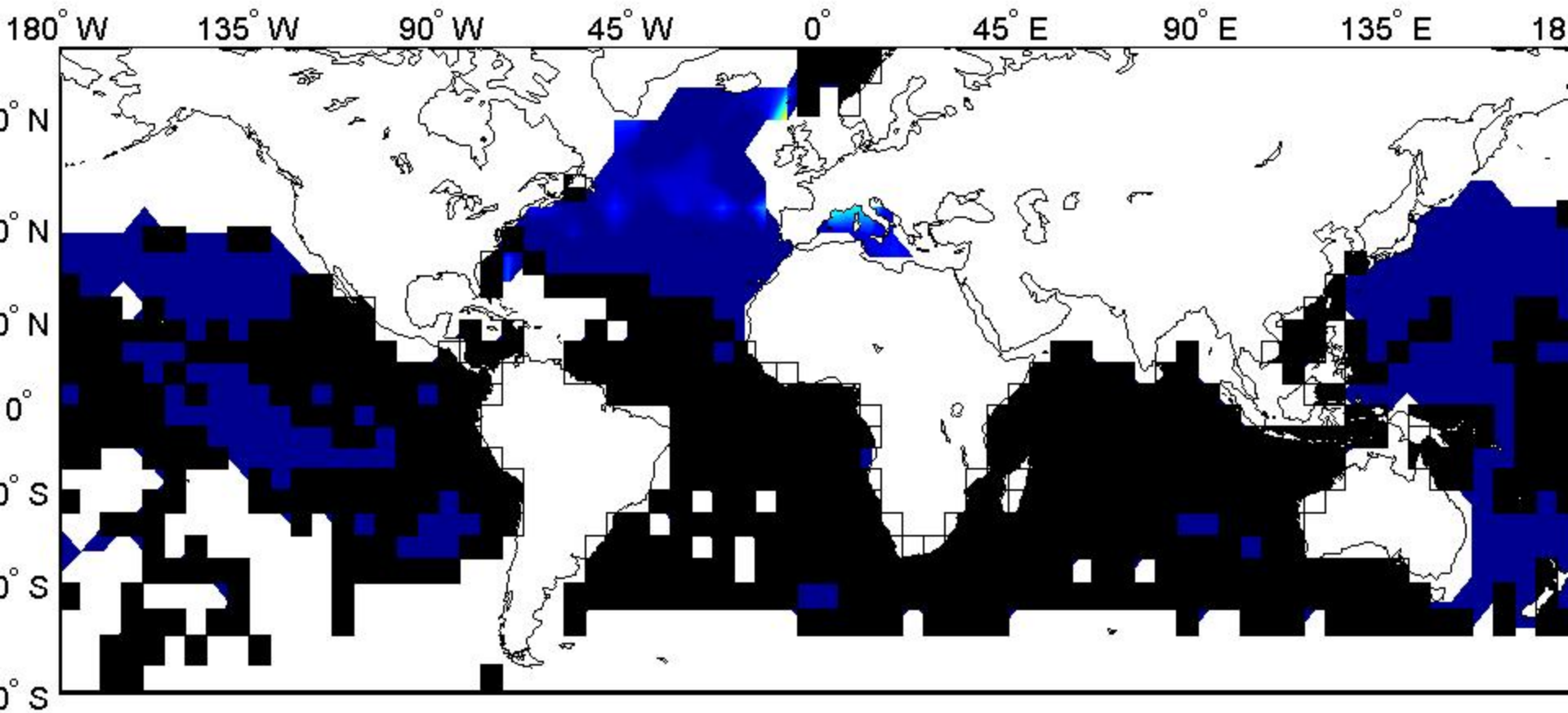


Myers and Worm (2003)





Bluefin Tuna / 1000 hooks 1960

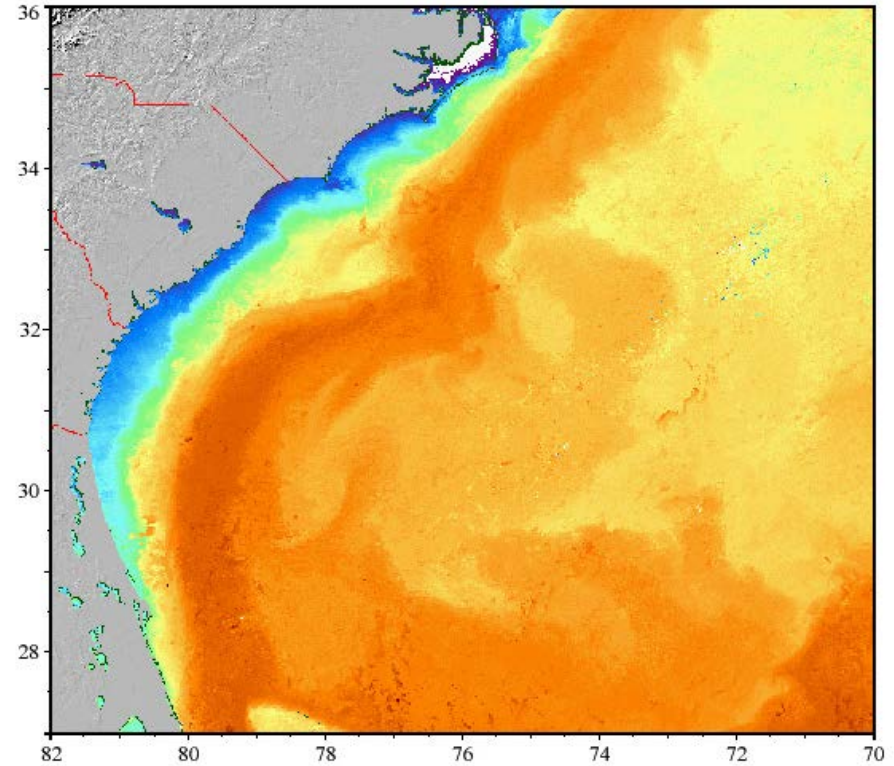
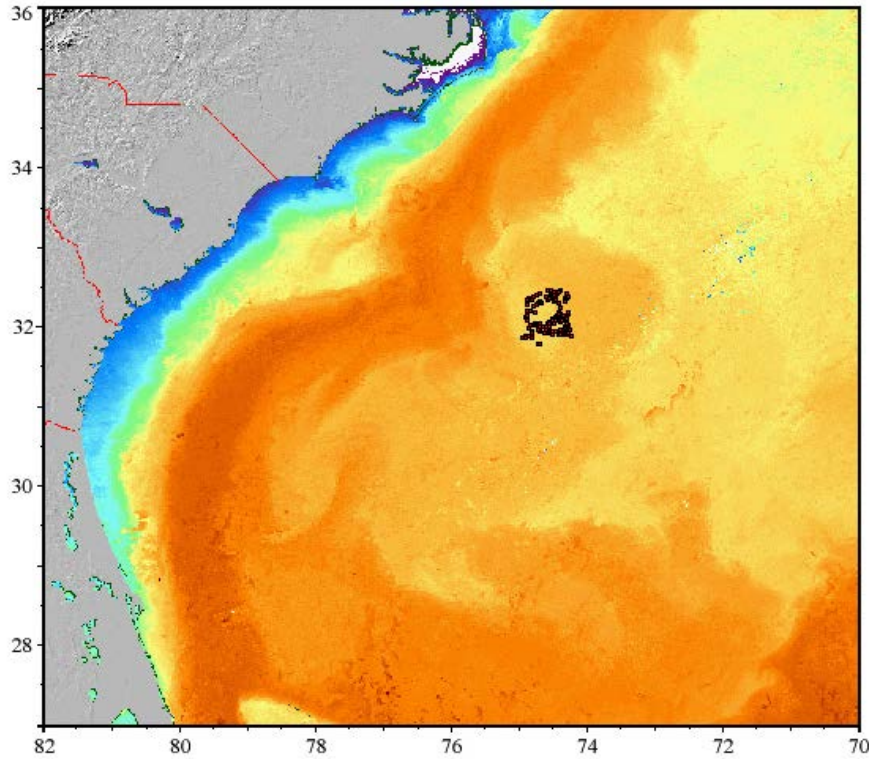


Bluefin Tuna / 1000 hooks 1990

# Totally Stupid Reasons for not Believing the Obvious

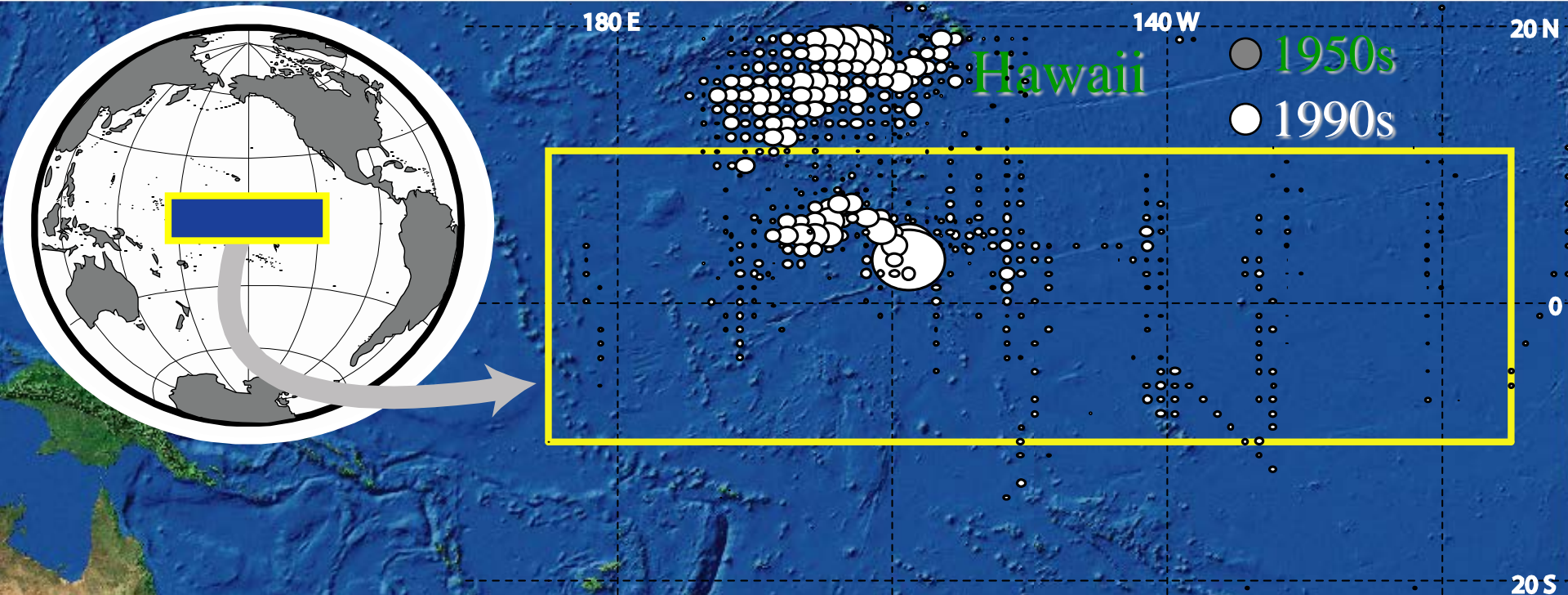
- You ignore research surveys.
- Removing Large Predators Couldn't Possibly Affect Survival of Other Fish.
- Fishing Couldn't Possibly Affect the Size of Tuna.
- Fishermen are so stupid they cannot use satellite data to find tuna.
- Fishermen are so stupid that they don't improve their gear.

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

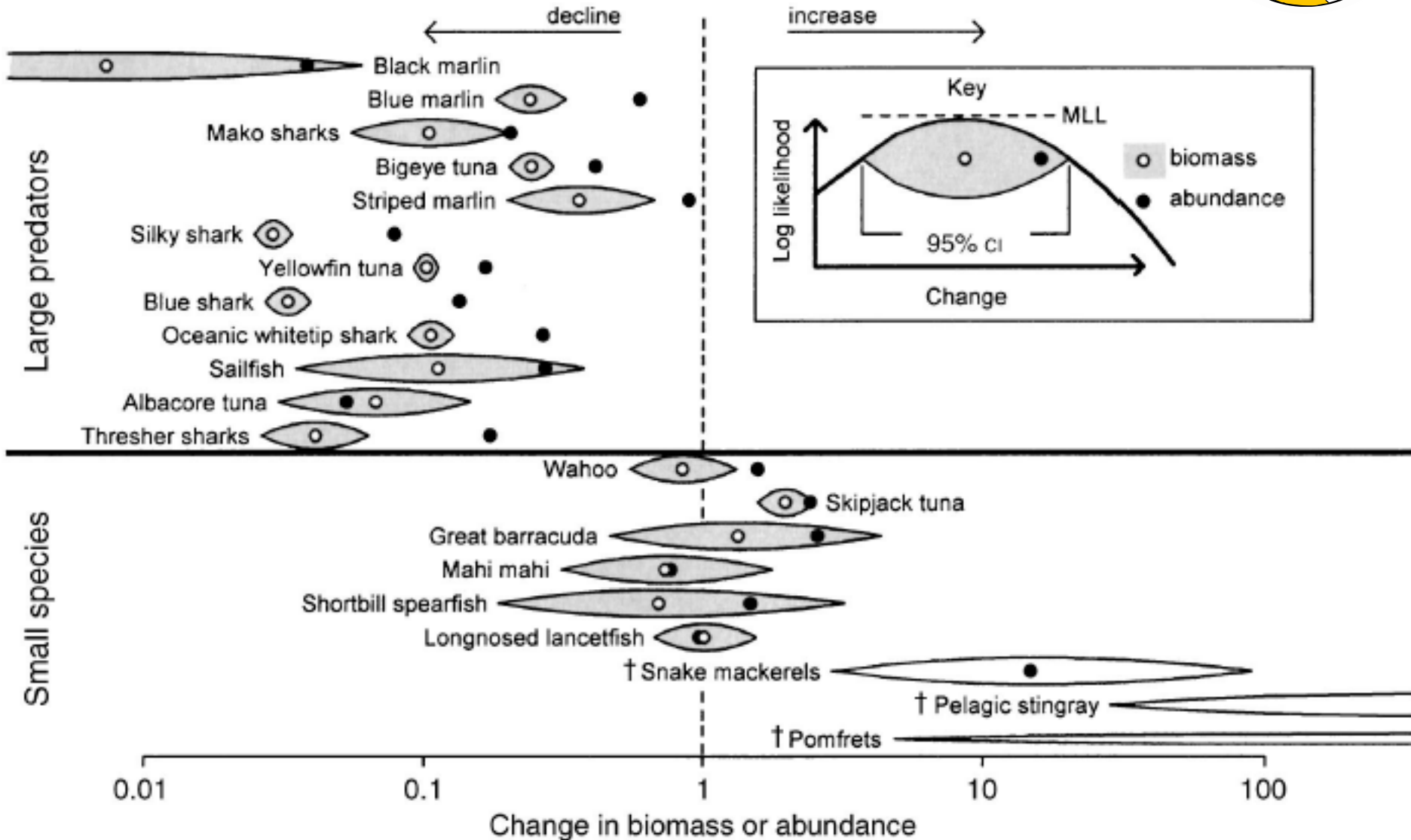
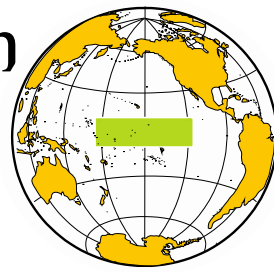


Locations of a leatherback turtle over a two week period tagged by my student Mike James that maintains its position within a cold core ring (somehow).

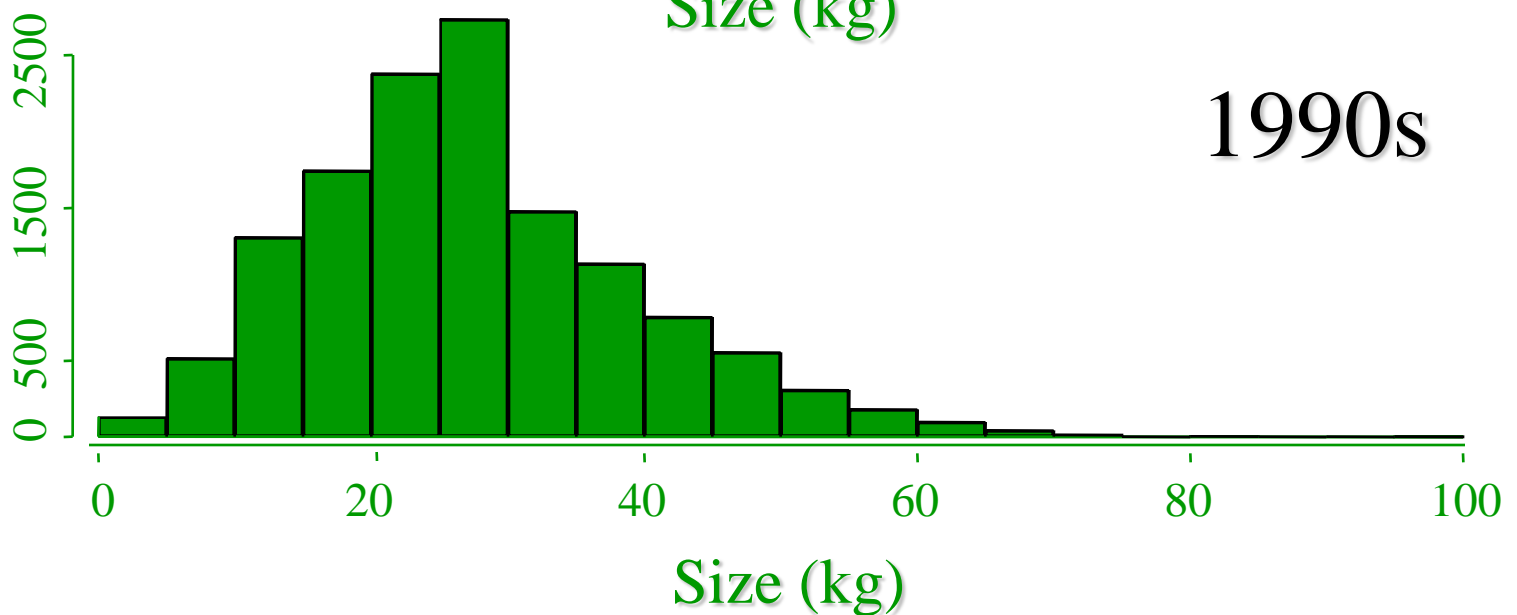
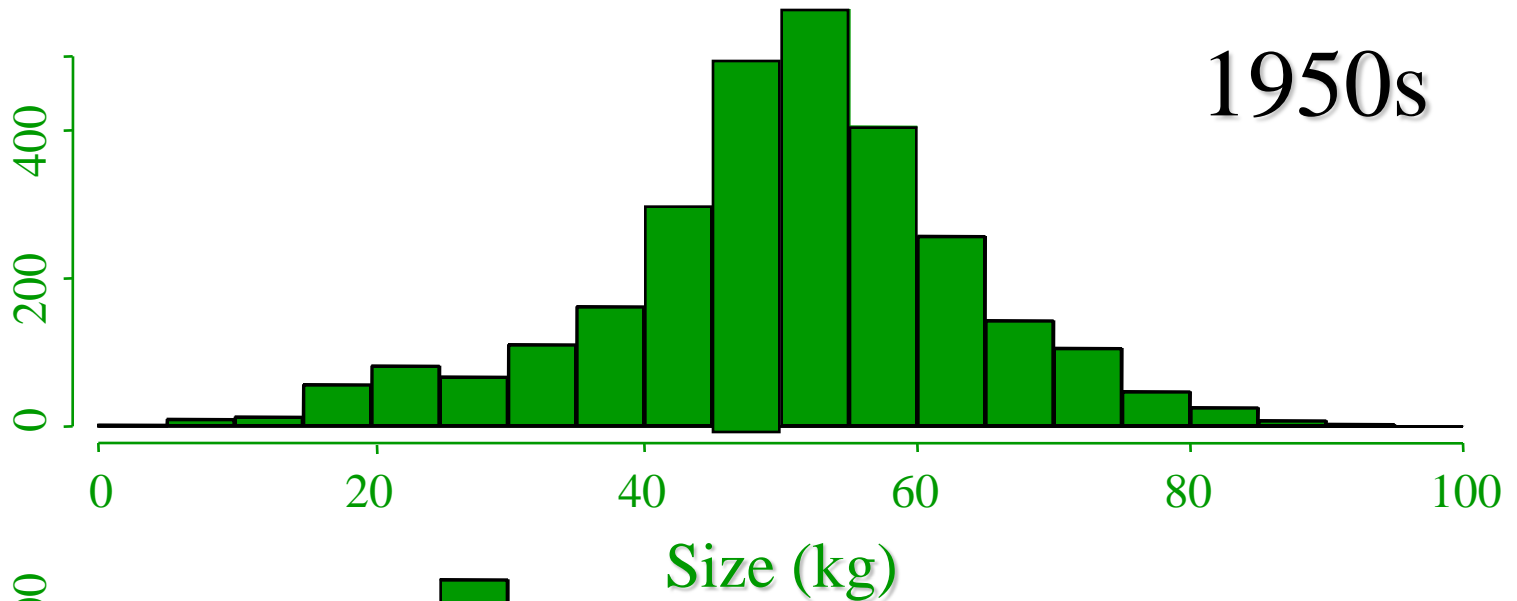
# Study area



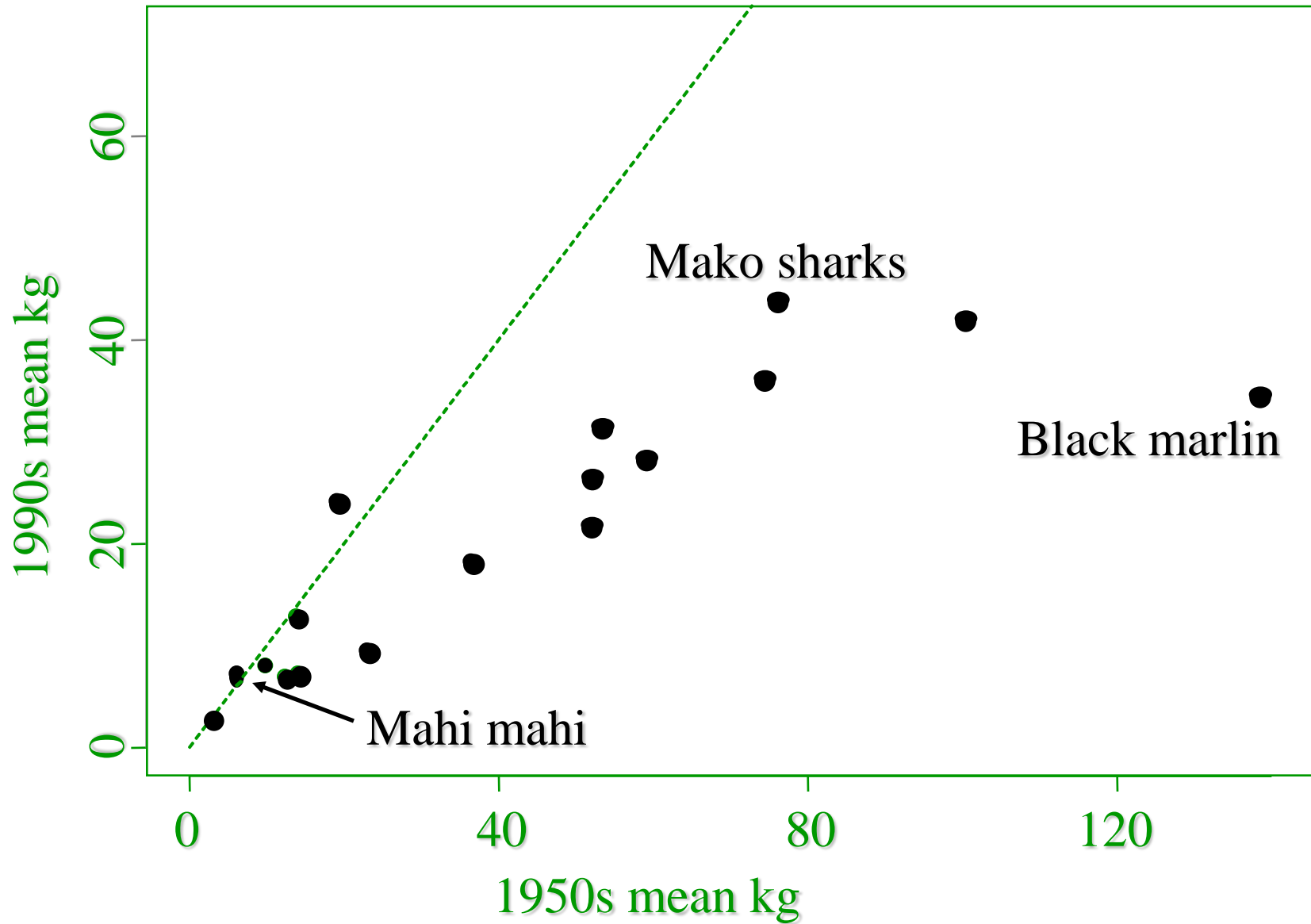
# Analysis repeated using independent research data



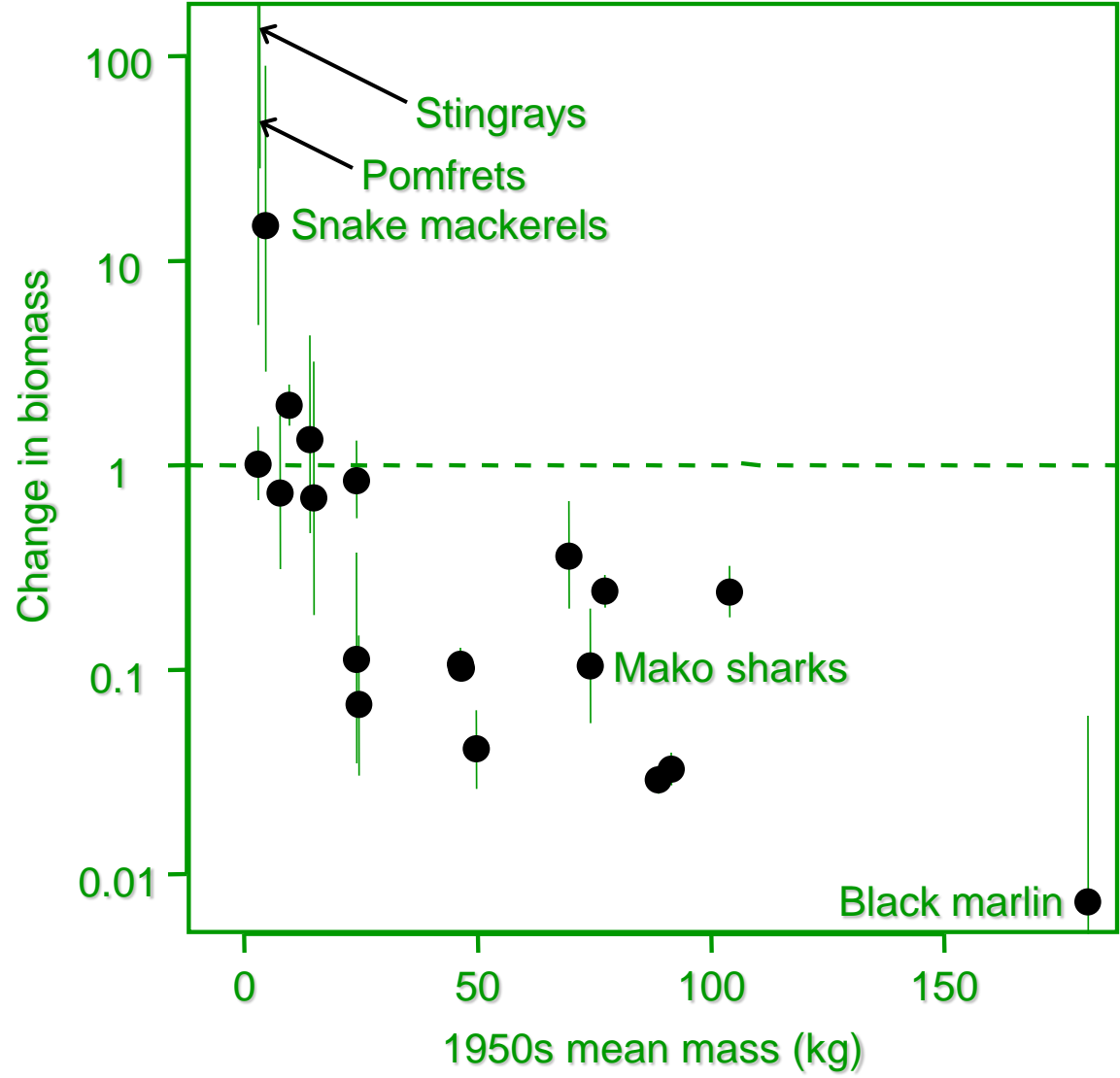
These estimates are conservative: 2 (fish are smaller)



# Change in body size

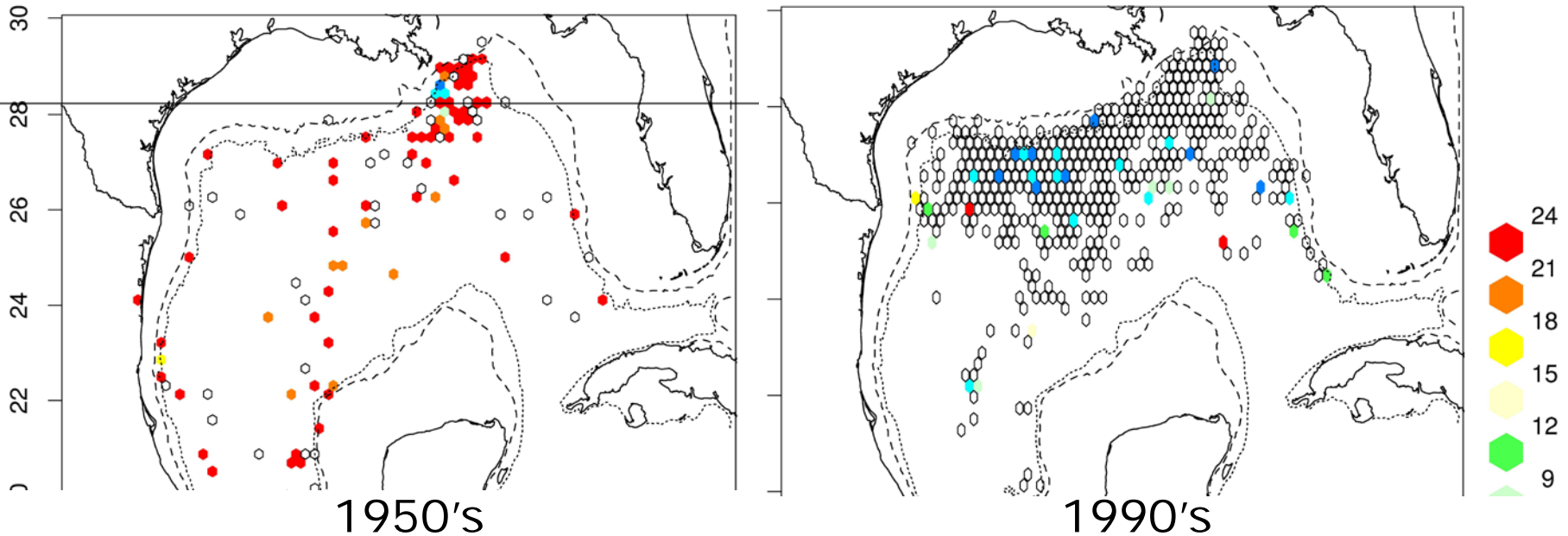






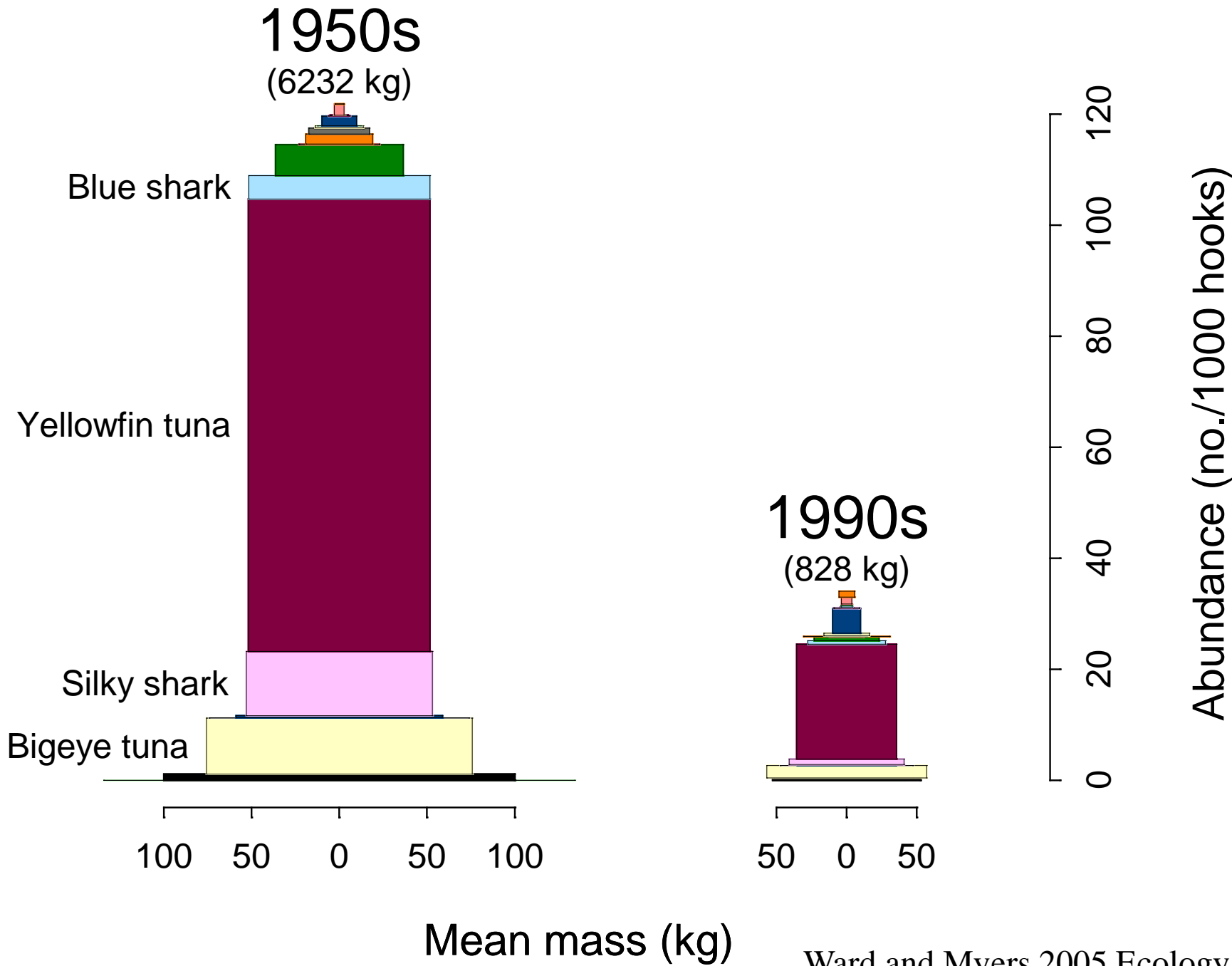
# Loss of sharks in the Gulf of Mexico

## 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*

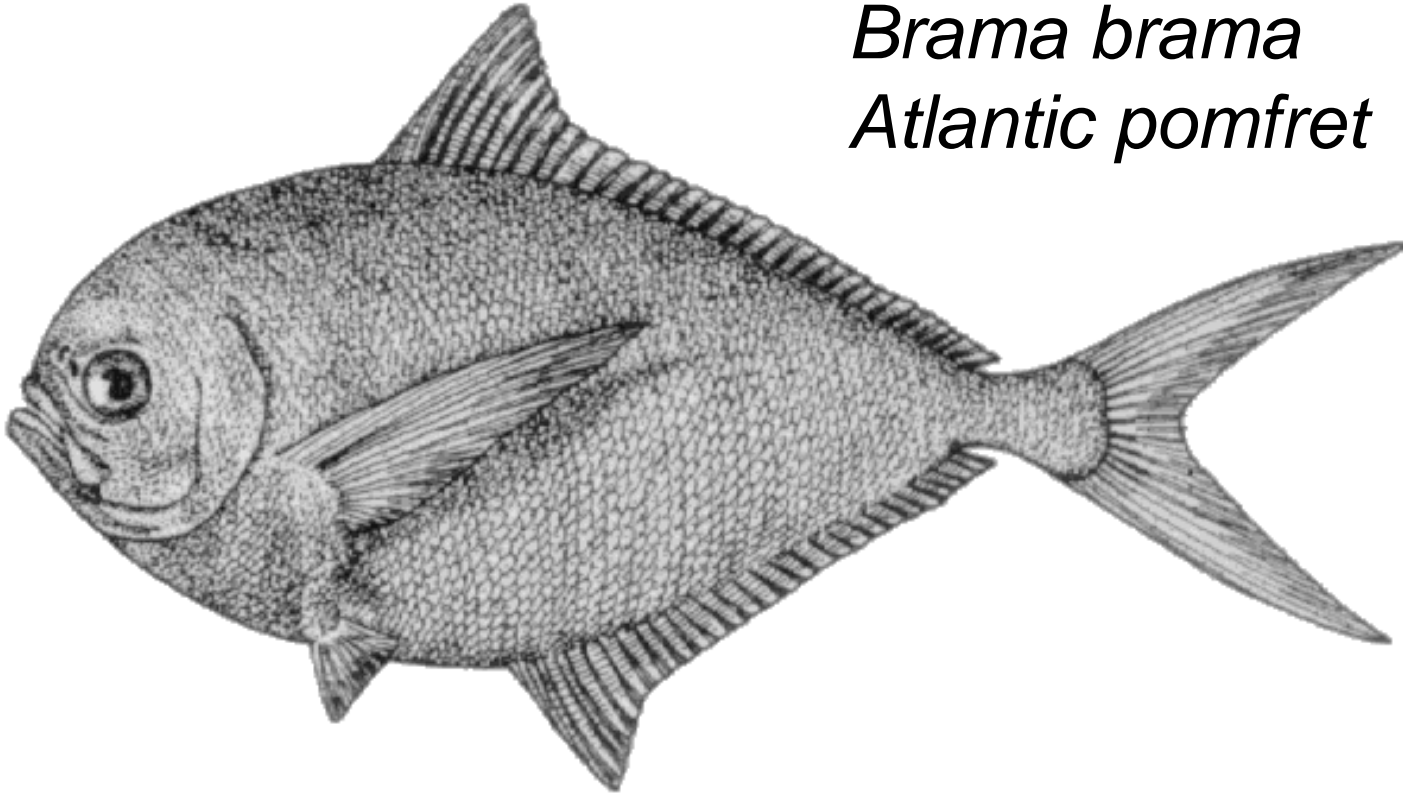
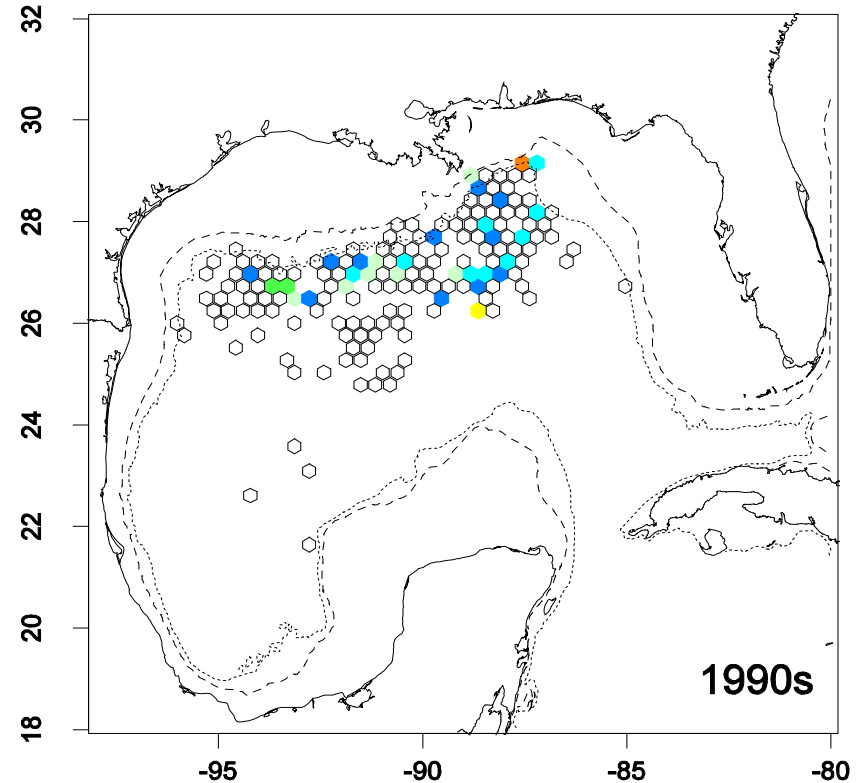
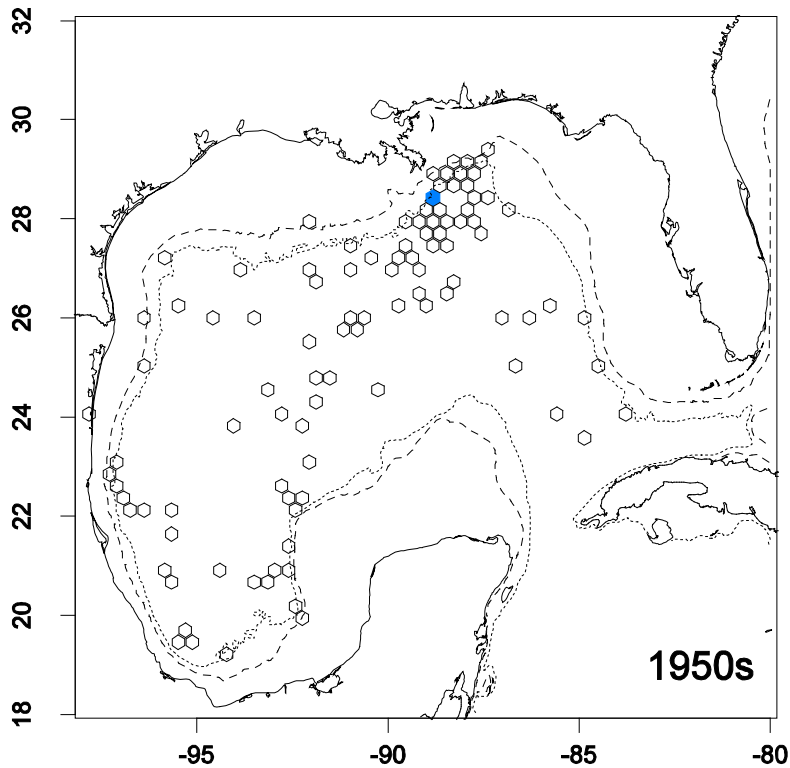


Illustration taken from the book "Encyclopedia of Canadian Fishes" by Brian W. Coad with Henry Waszczuk and Italo Labignan, 1995,

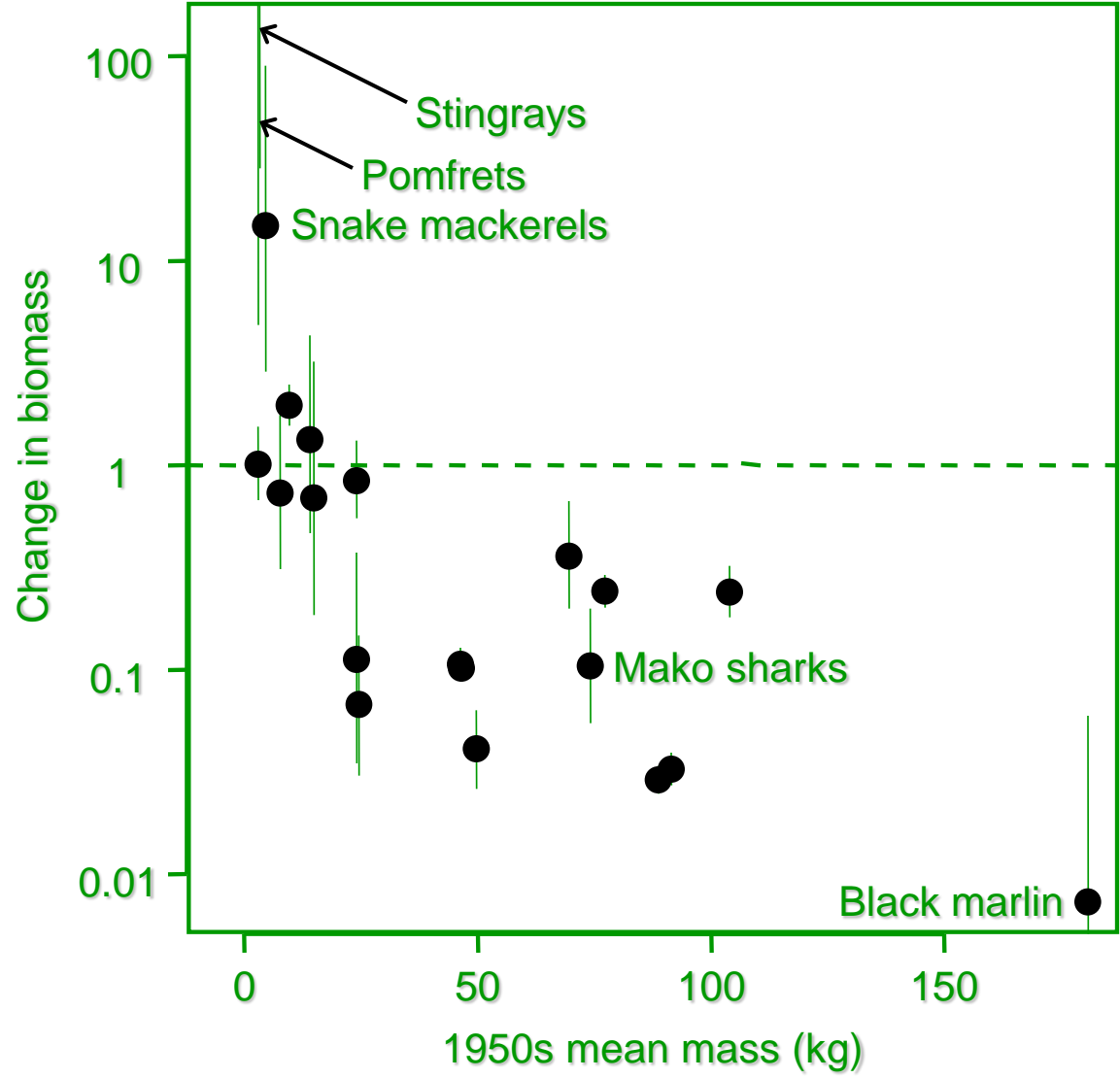
# Explosion of Pomfrets in the Gulf of Mexico ~ 1000 fold increase – no one noticed



1950's

1990's

Pomfret captures per 10,000 hooks



An underwater scene featuring silhouettes of numerous sharks and a diver. The background is a deep blue, with a bright light source in the center creating a circular glow. The sharks are of various sizes and are swimming in different directions. The diver is positioned in the upper center, appearing to be taking a photograph or video.

# Global changes in species diversity

joint work with Boris Worm  
Dalhousie University

# Loss of species density per decade

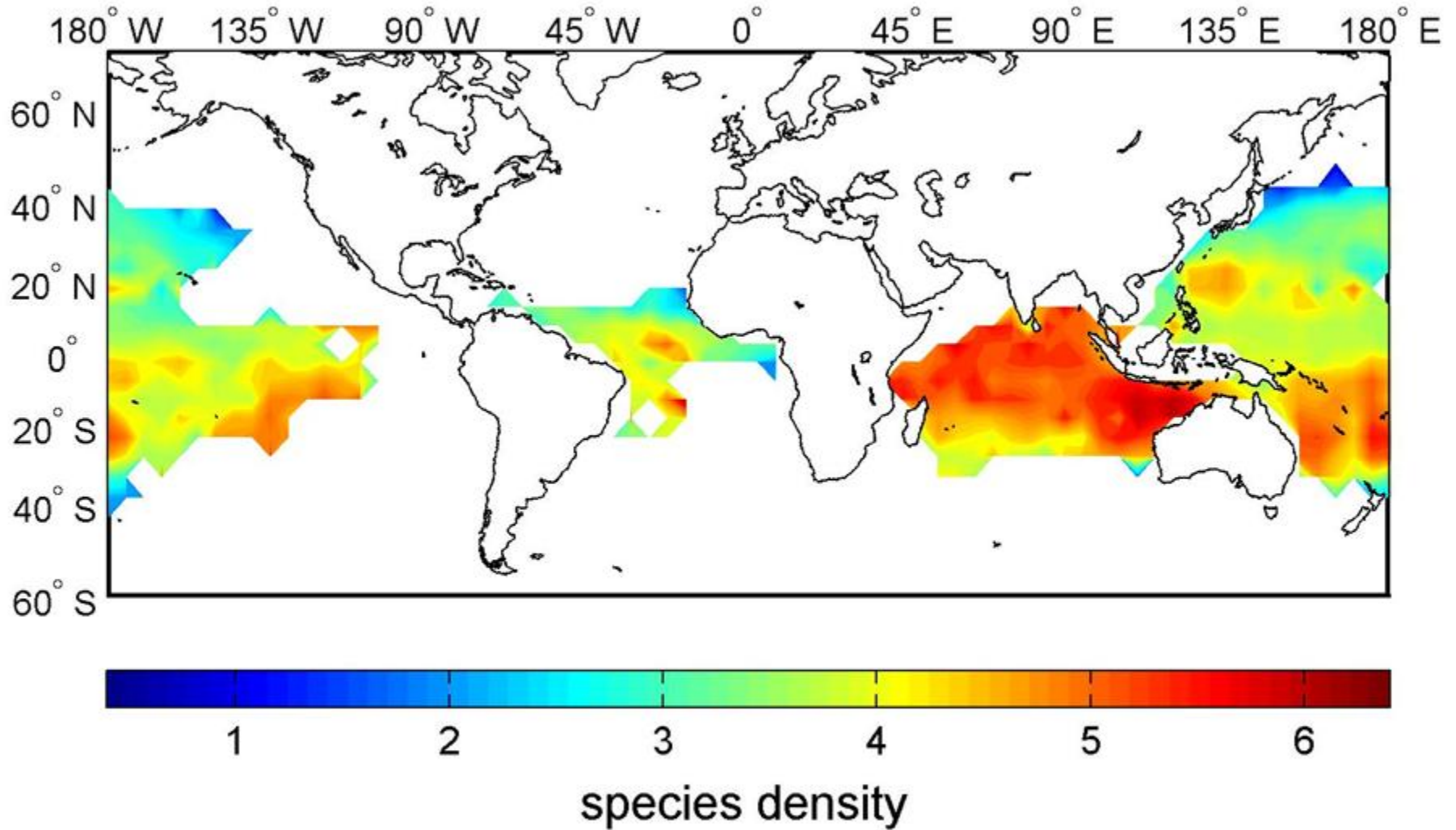
- Displayed is the number of tuna and billfish species that are found on a standard longline with 1000 hooks
- The time series runs from 1952-1999
- It shows how large hotspots are disappearing over time and how few concentrations of diversity remain today

After data from: Worm B, Sandow M, Oschlies A, Lotze HK, Myers RA (2005)

Global patterns of predator diversity in the open oceans. **Science** Aug. 2005.

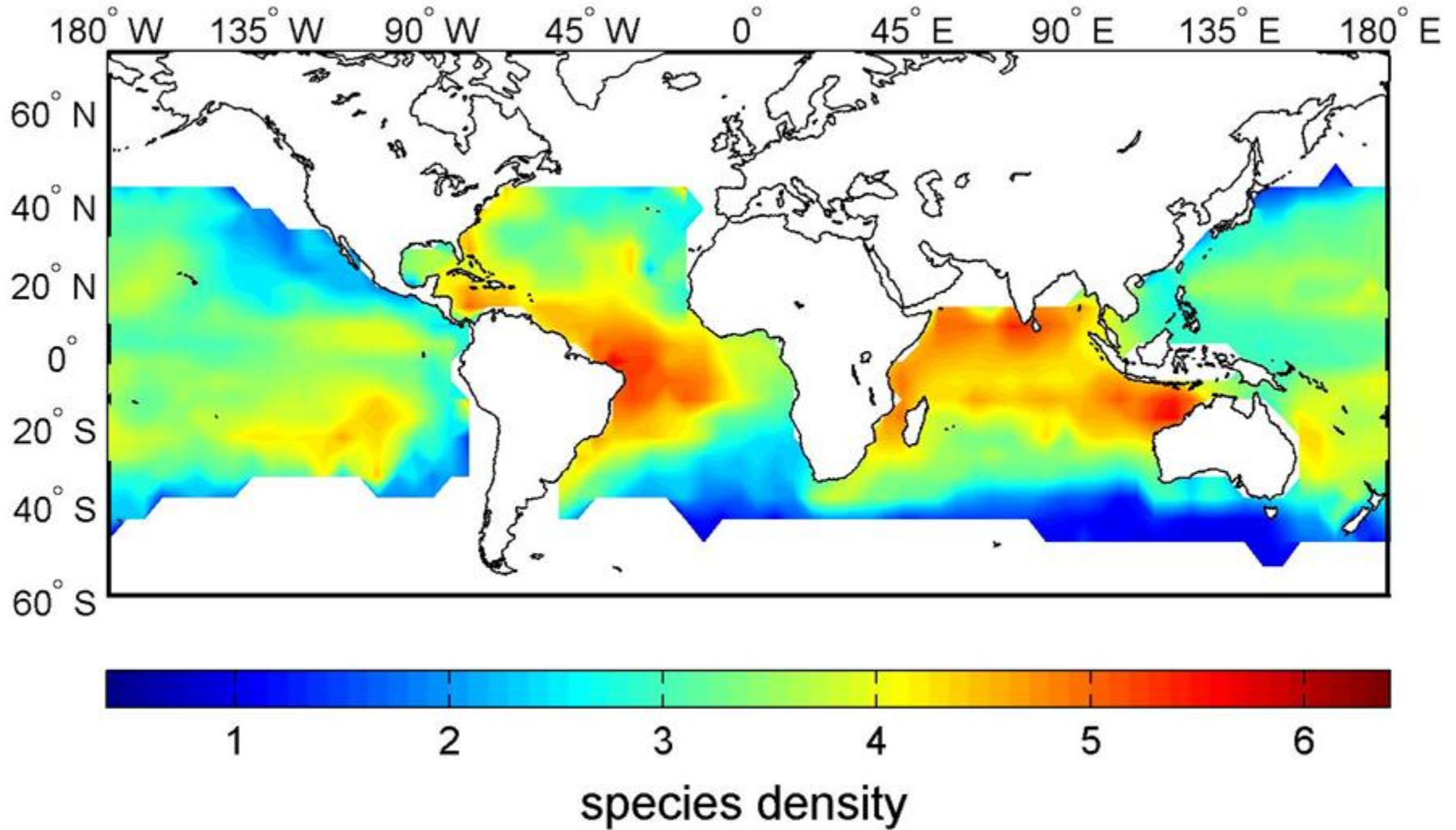


# 1950s



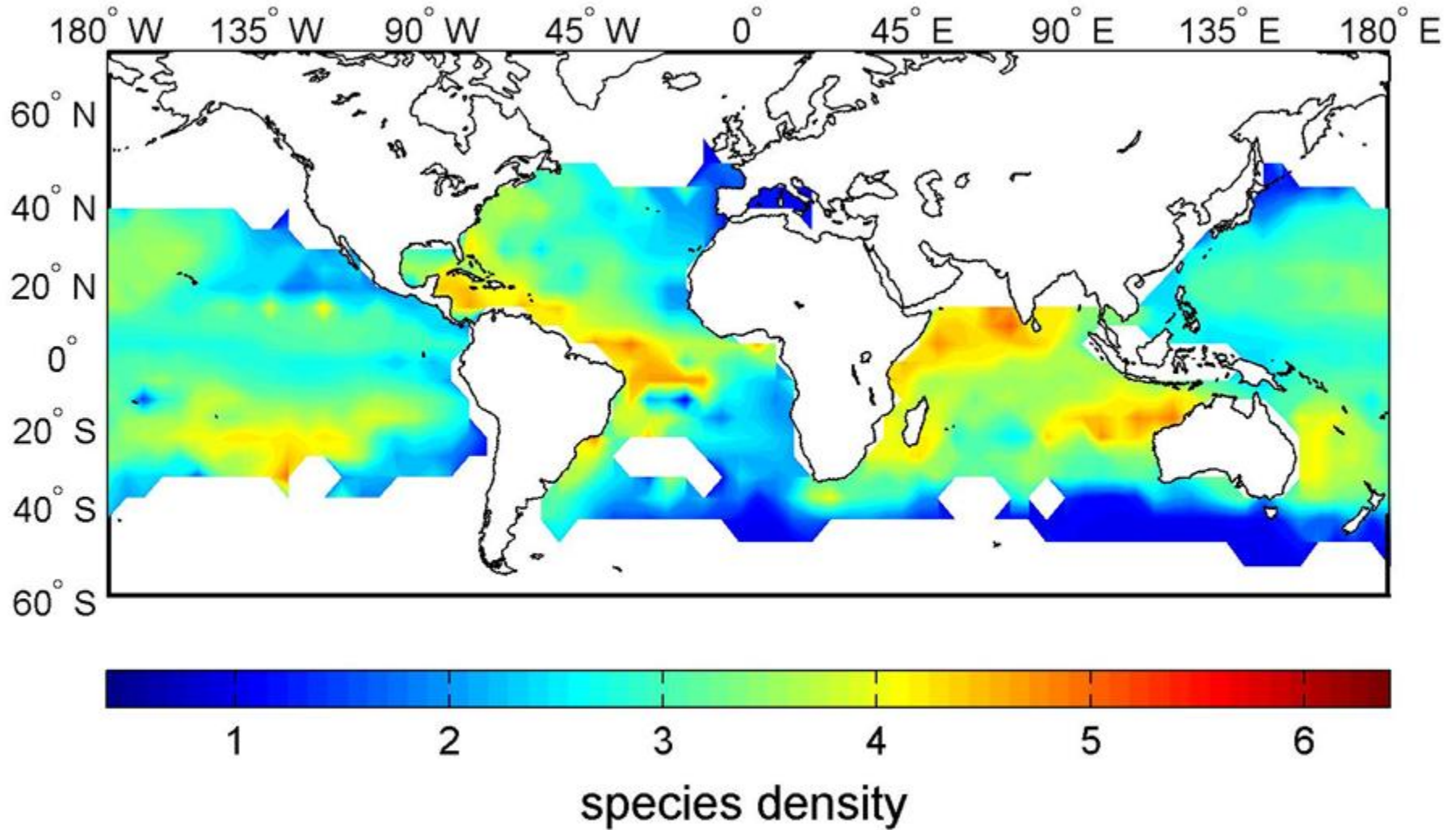
Source: Worm, Sandow, Oschlies, Lotze, Myers 2005. Science 309:1365-1369

# 1960s



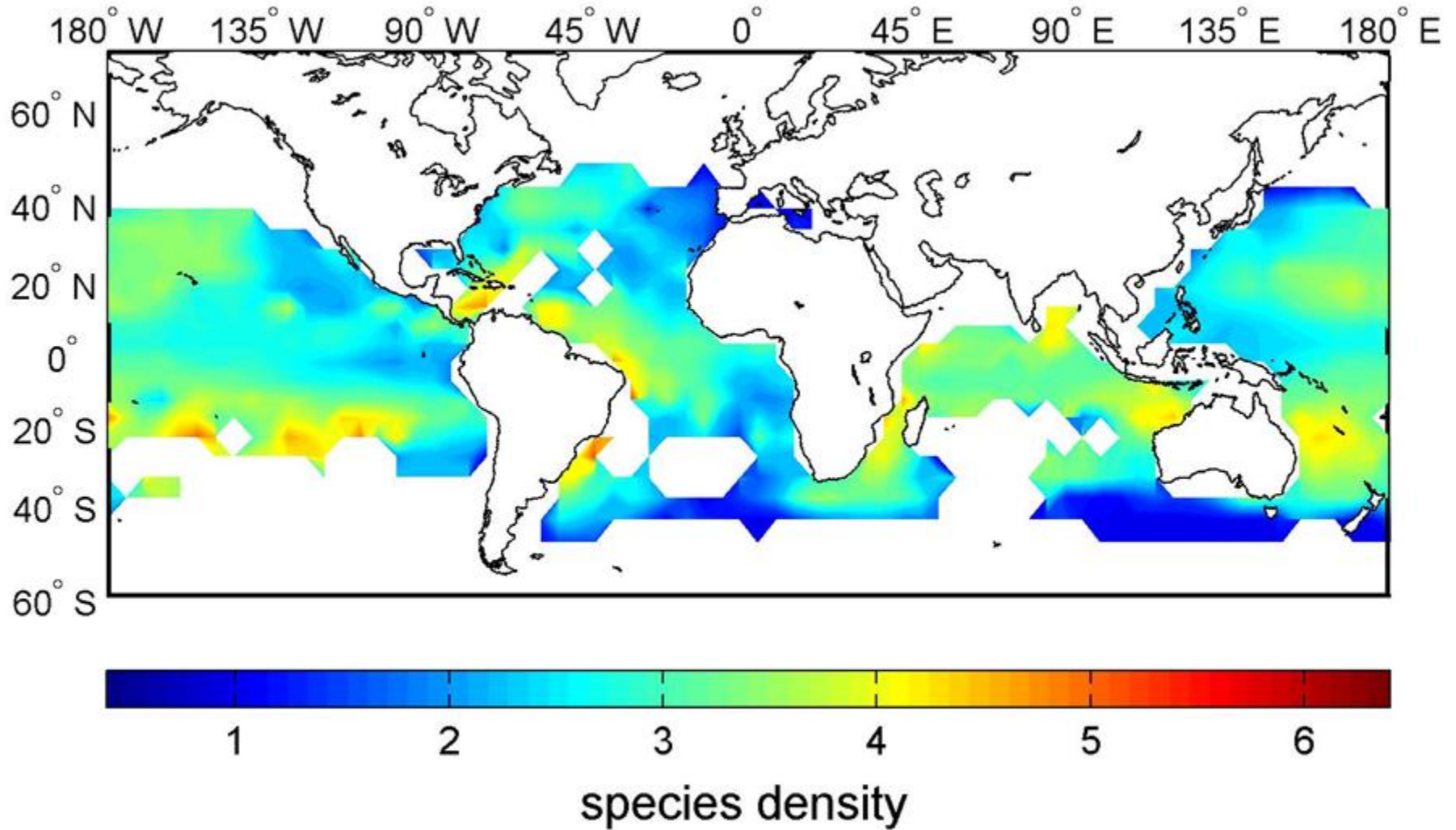
Source: Worm, Sandow, Oschlies, Lotze, Myers 2005. Science 309:1365-1369

# 1970s



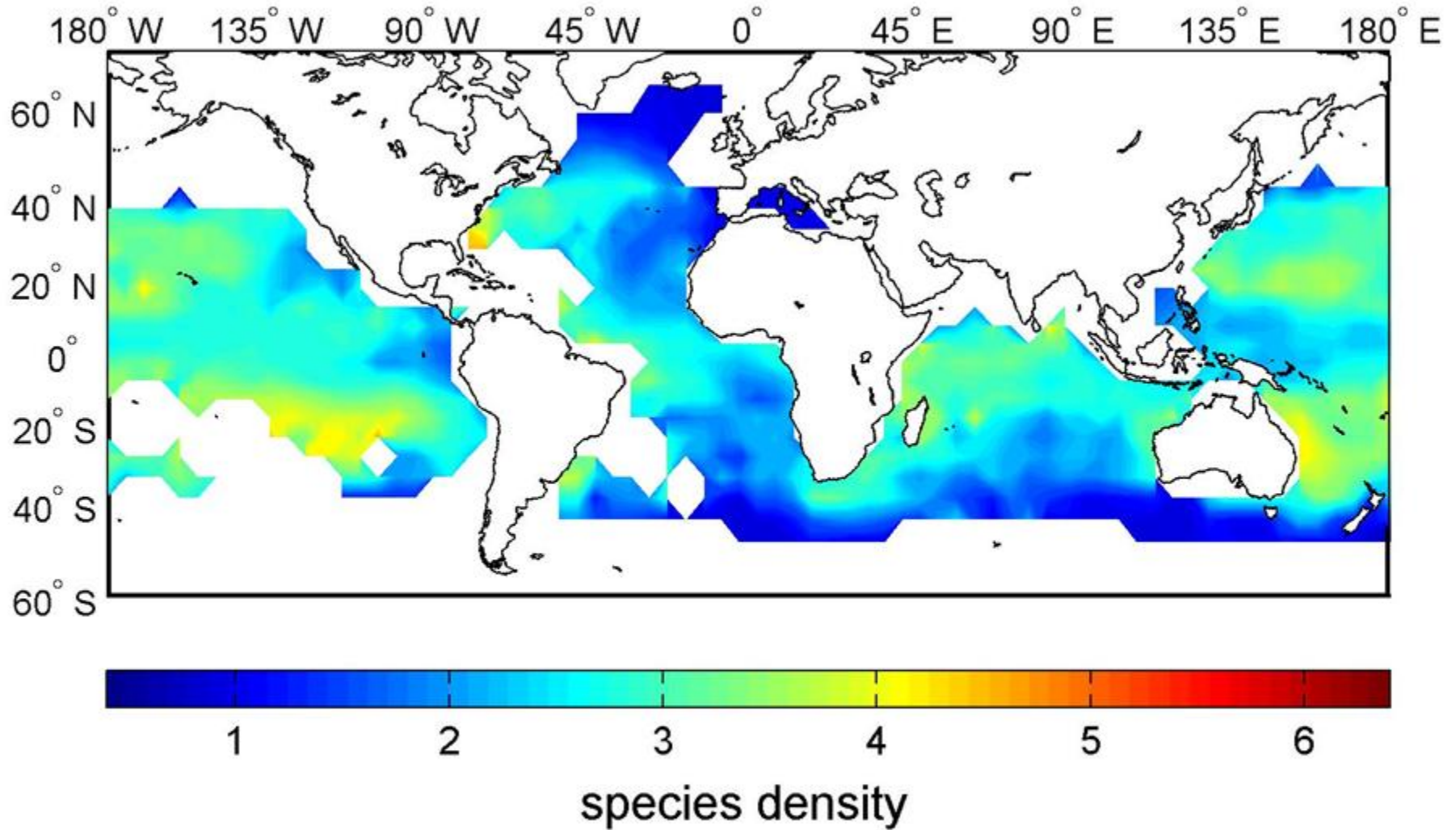
Source: Worm, Sandow, Oschlies, Lotze, Myers 2005. Science 309:1365-1366

# 1980s



Source: Worm, Sandow, Oschlies, Lotze, Myers 2005. Science 309:1365-13

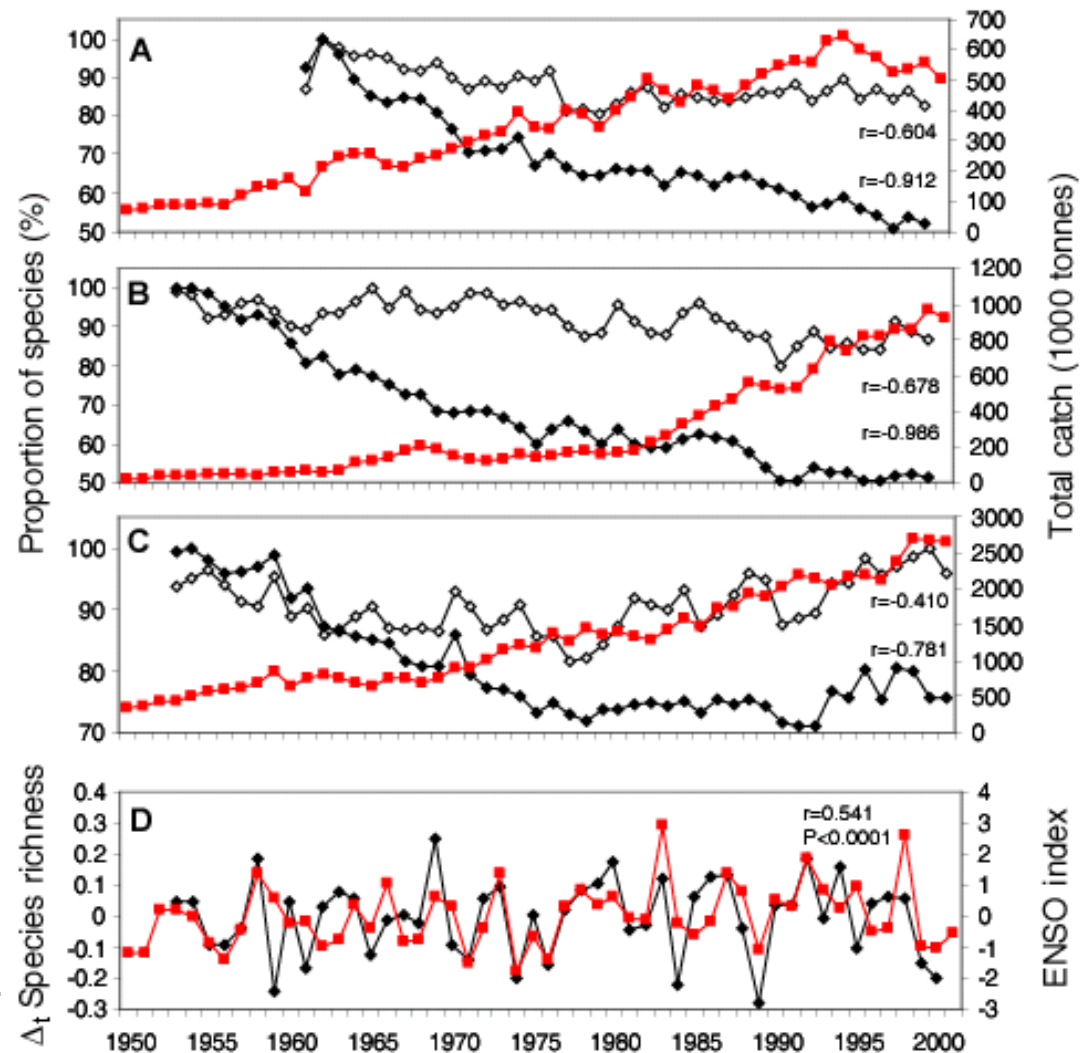
# 1990s



Source: Worm, Sandow, Oschlies, Lotze, Myers 2005. Science 309:1365-1368

# Global decline in ocean predator diversity

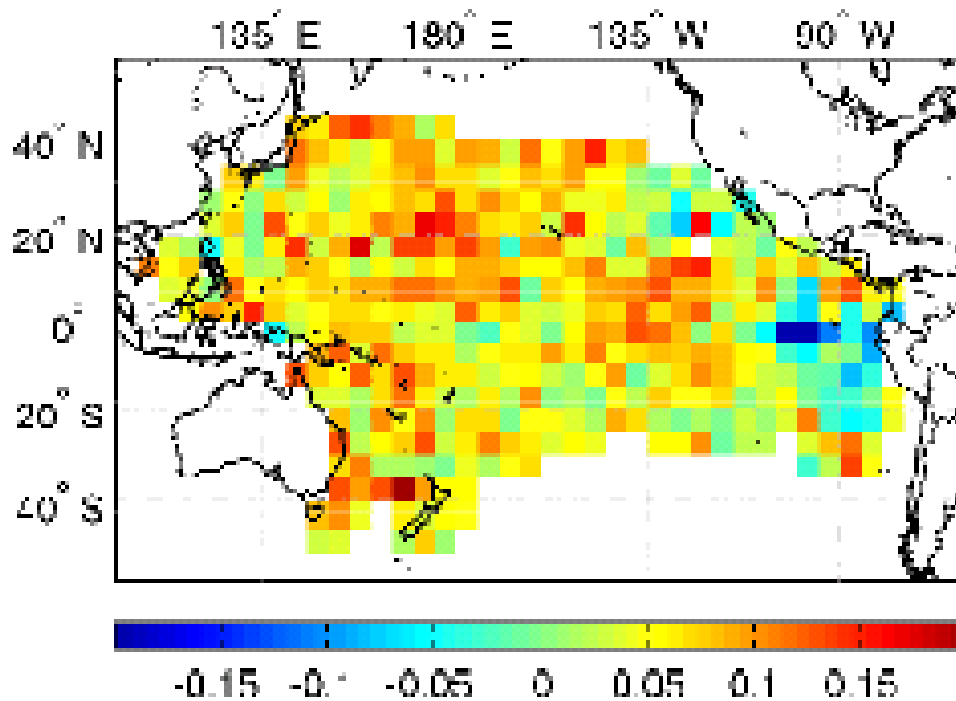
- Increasing catches
- Decreasing diversity
- Long-term decline linked to fishing
- Yearly variability linked to climatic changes



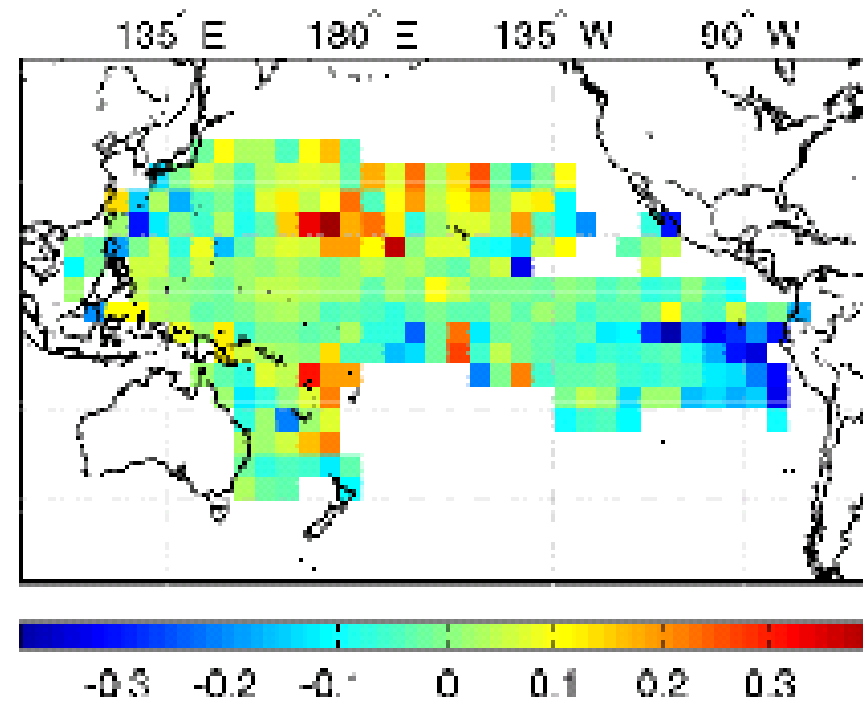
Worm, Sandow, Oschlies, Lotze, Myers 2005.  
 Science 309:1365-1369

# ENSO affects diversity across entire Pacific

Species richness



Blue marlin catch rates



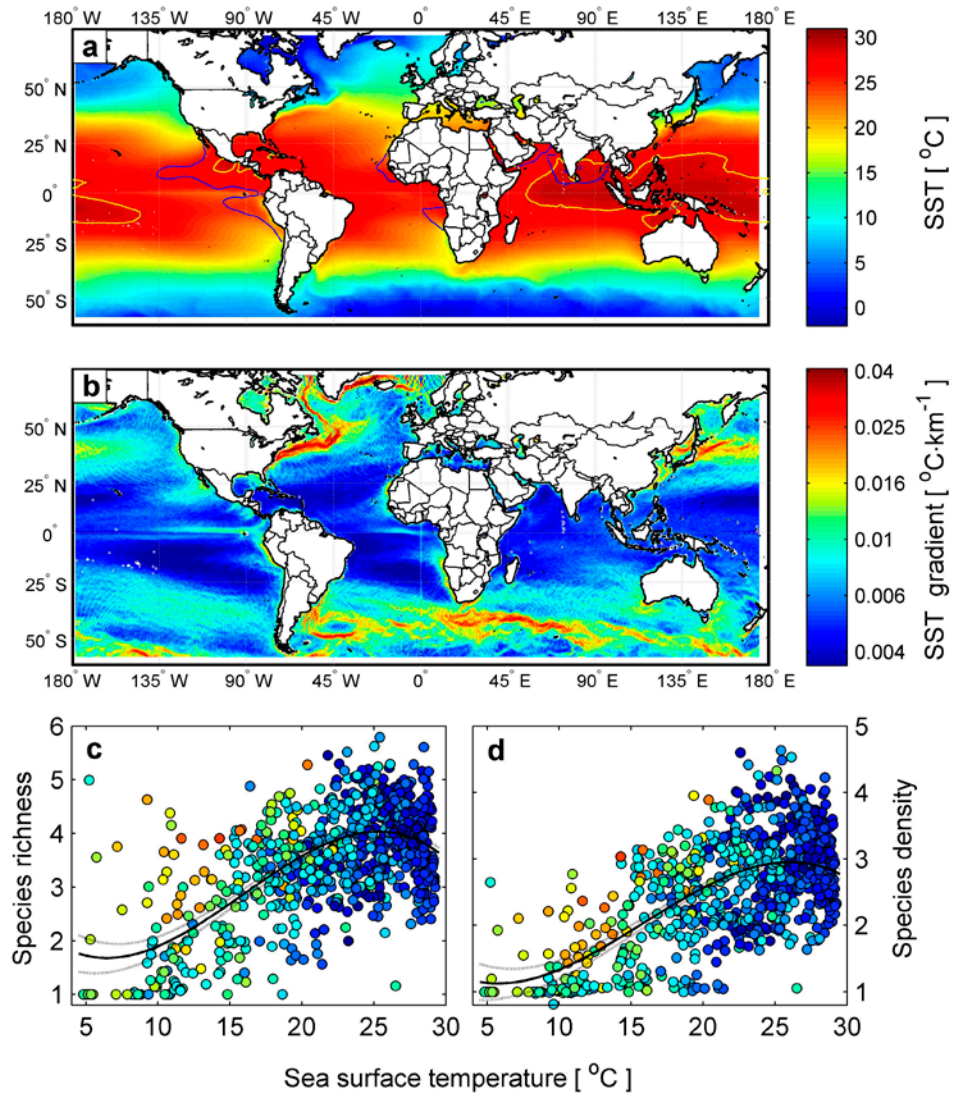
Slope of  $\Delta_t$  with ENSO

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

# Understand oceanographic drivers of diversity

Patterns of diversity  
were explained by

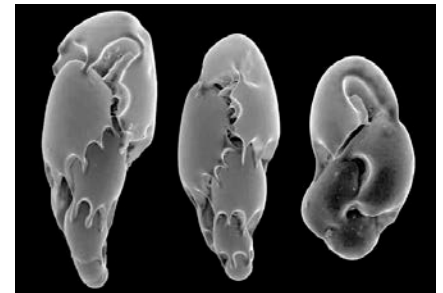
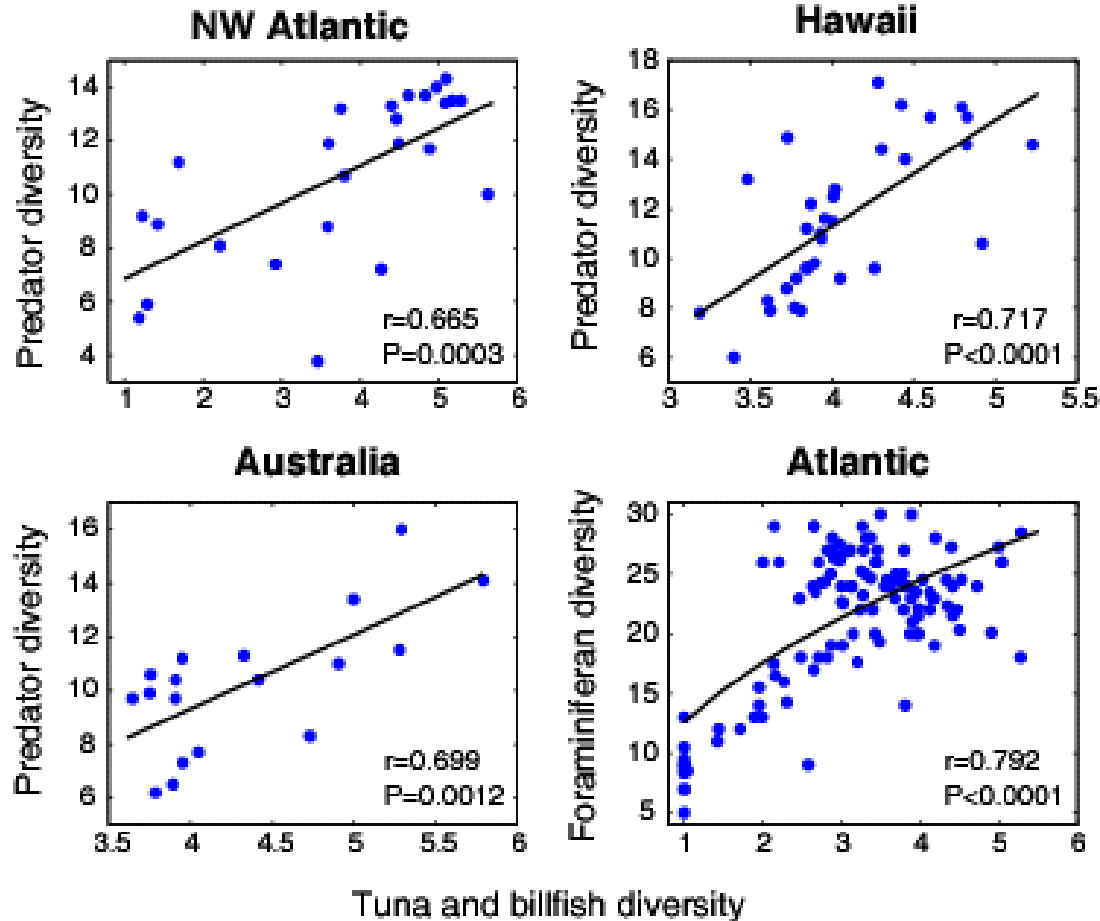
- Mean temperature
- Fronts and eddies
- Oxygen



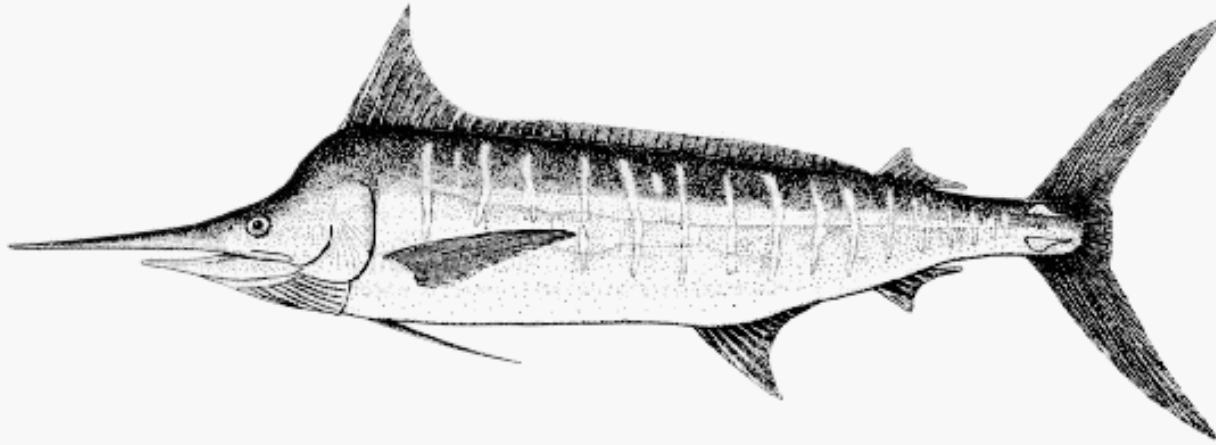
Source: Worm et al. 2005.  
Science 309:1365-1369



# Validate hotspots across species groups



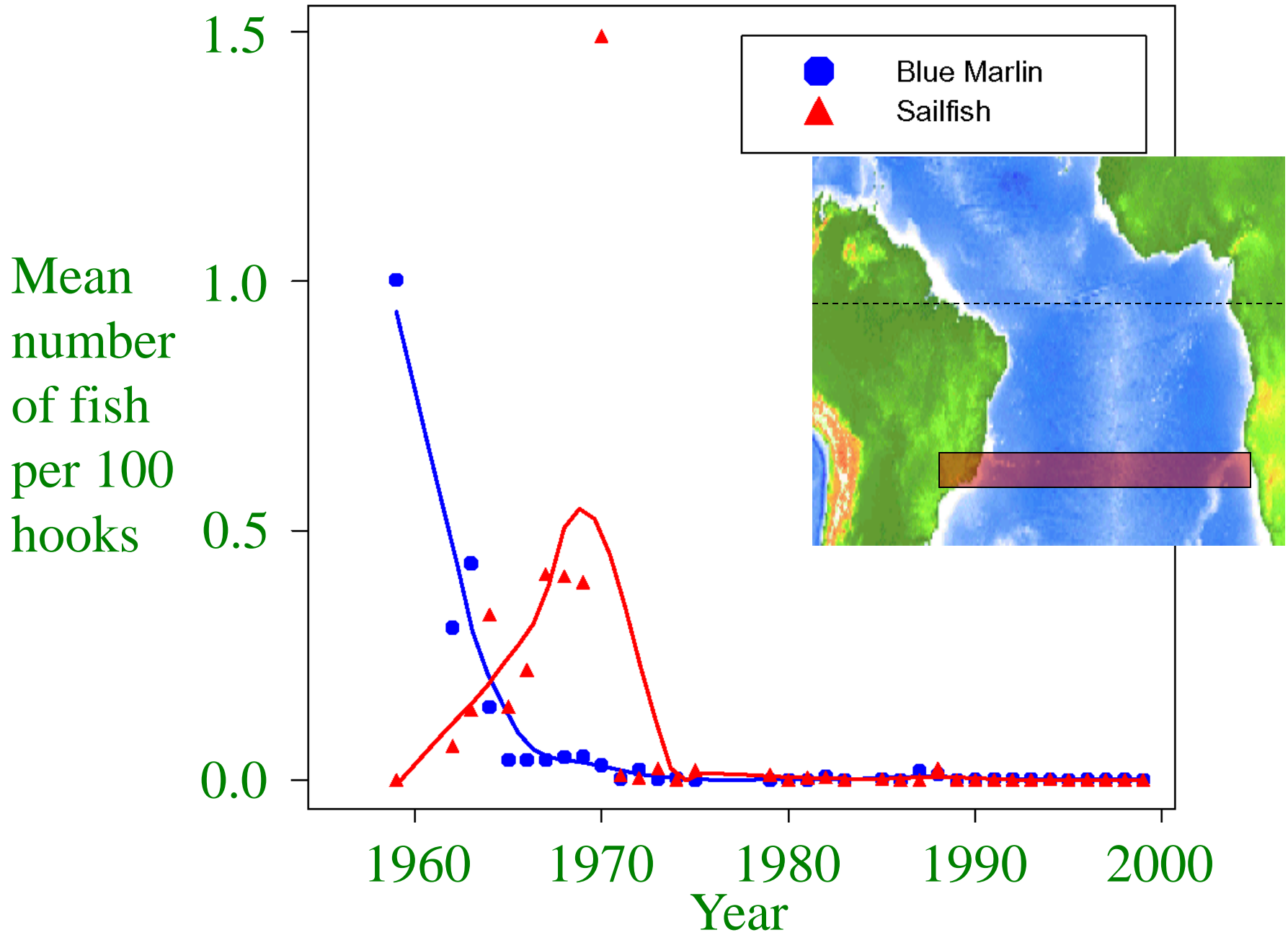
Source: Worm et al. 2005.  
Science: 309:1365-1369



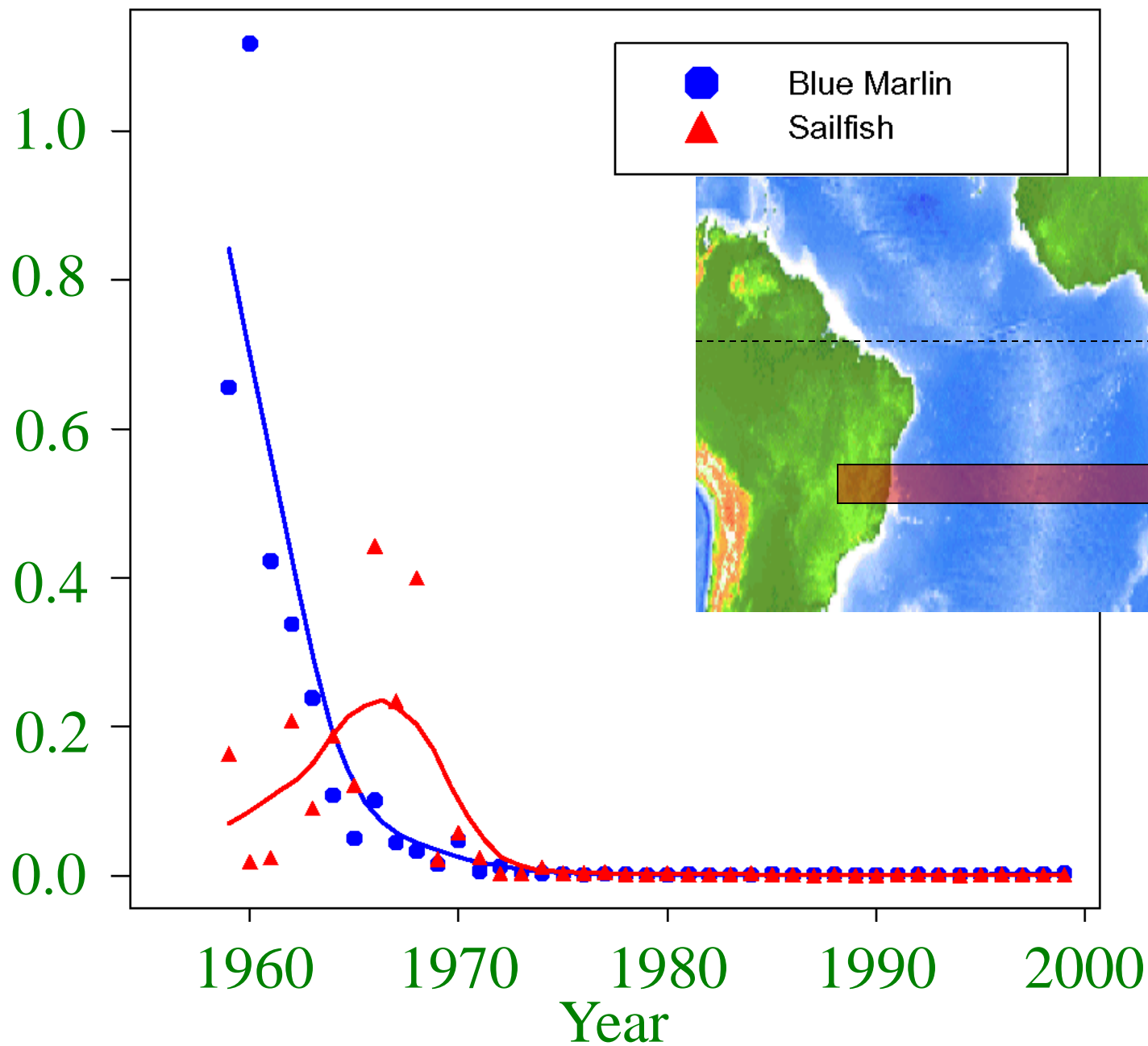
Blue marlin  
(*Makaira nigricans*)



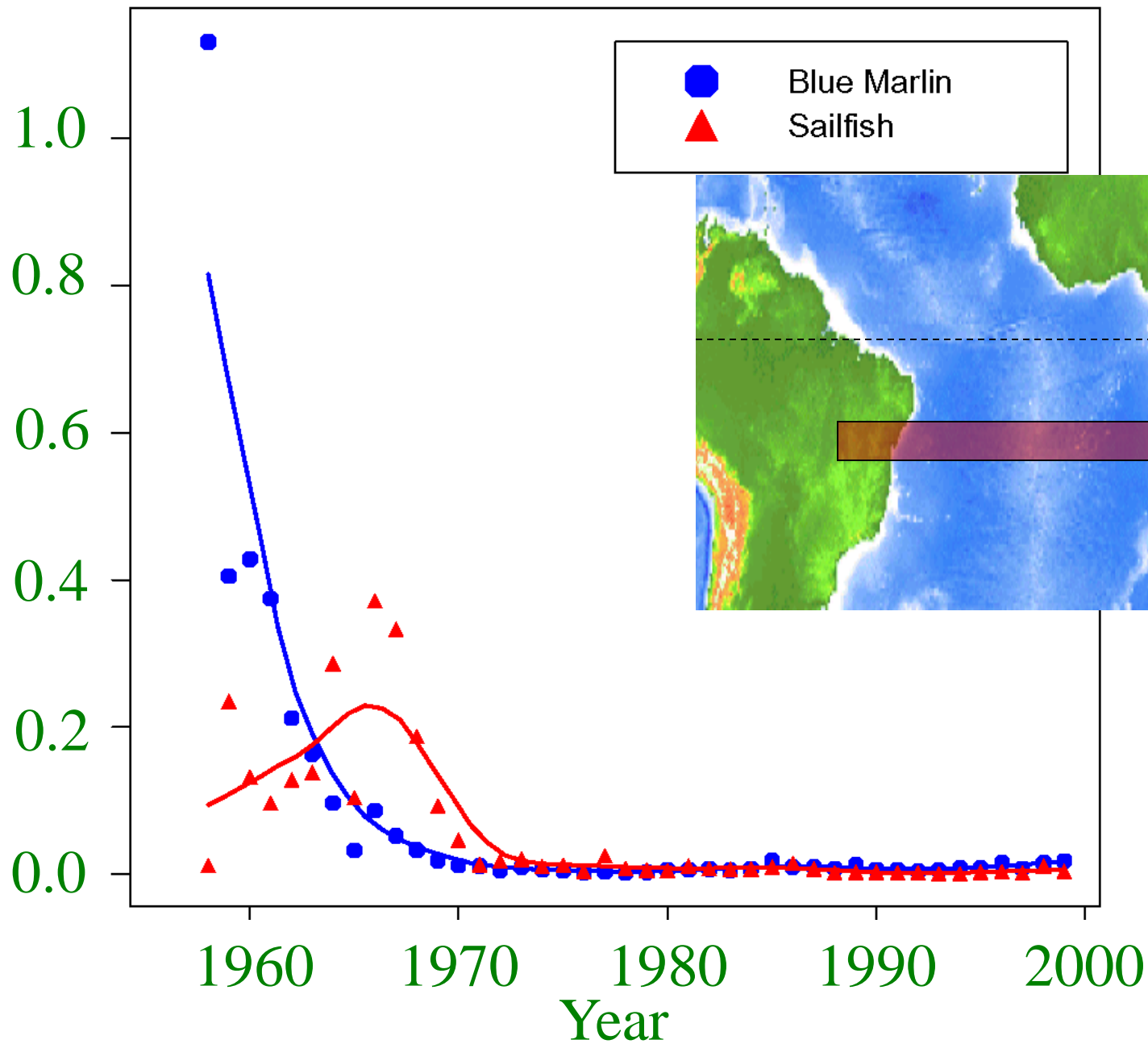
Sailfish  
(*Istiophorus albicans*)



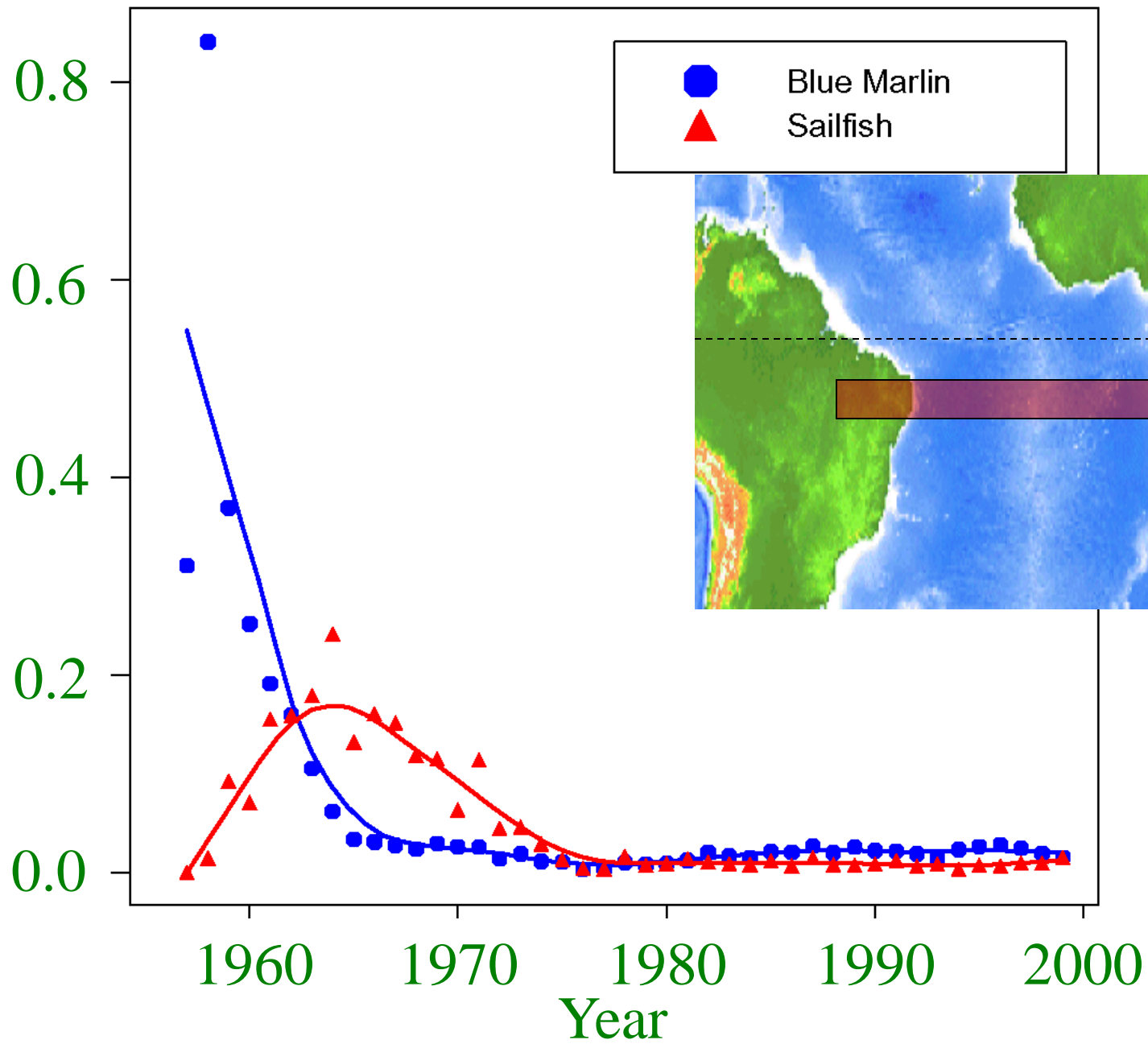
Mean  
number  
of fish  
per 100  
hooks



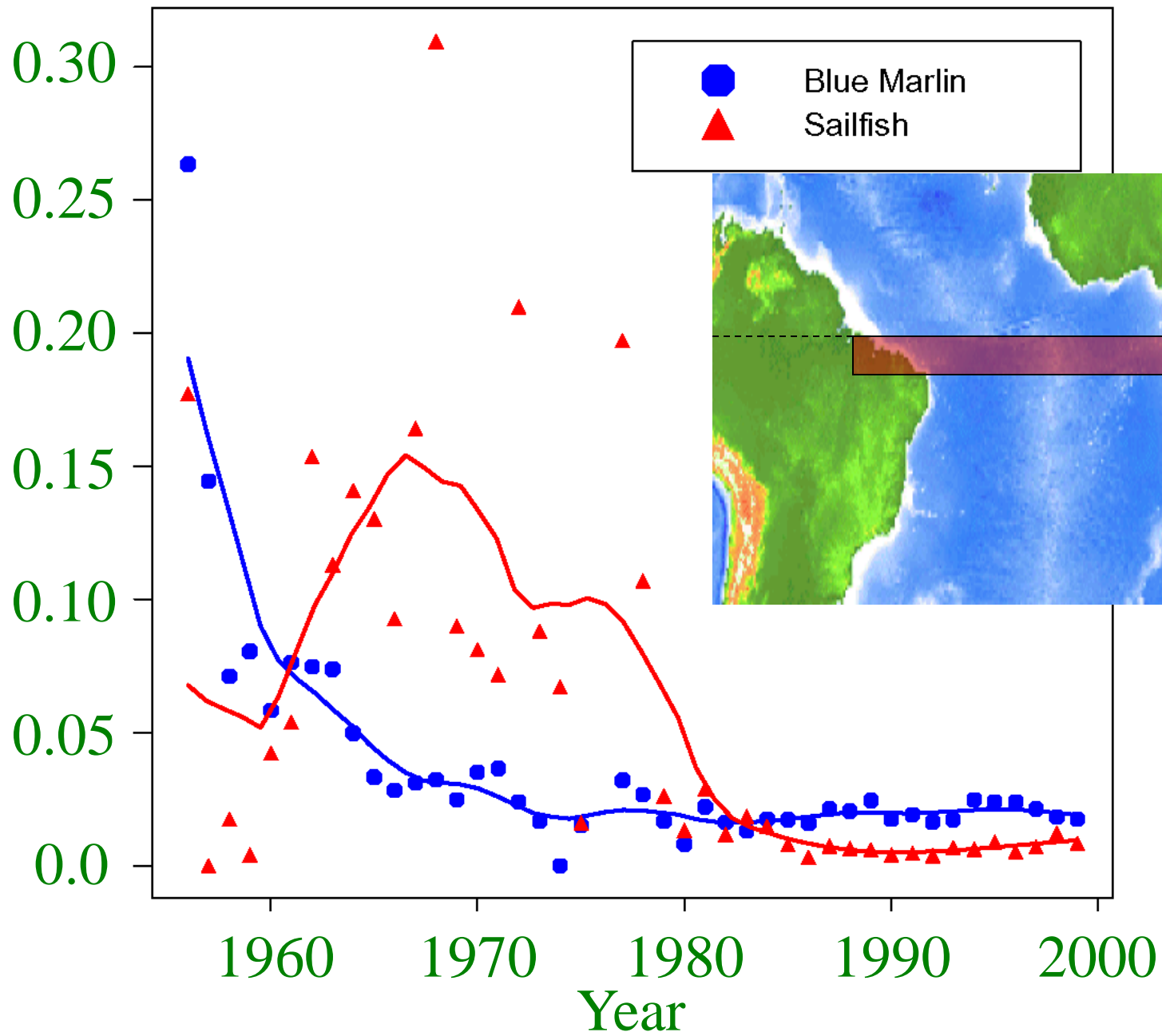
Mean  
number  
of fish  
per 100  
hooks



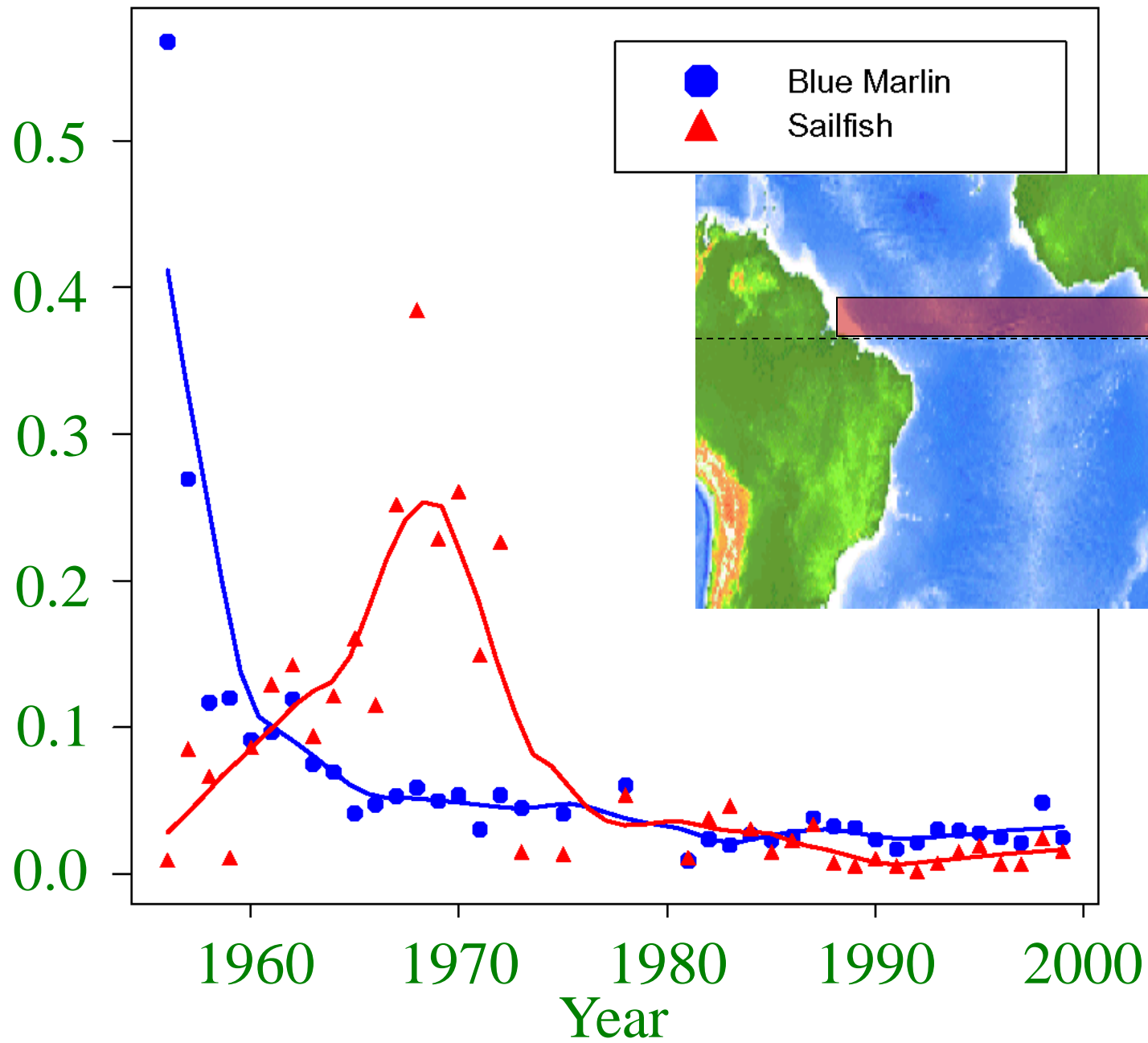
Mean  
number  
of fish  
per 100  
hooks



Mean  
number  
of fish  
per 100  
hooks

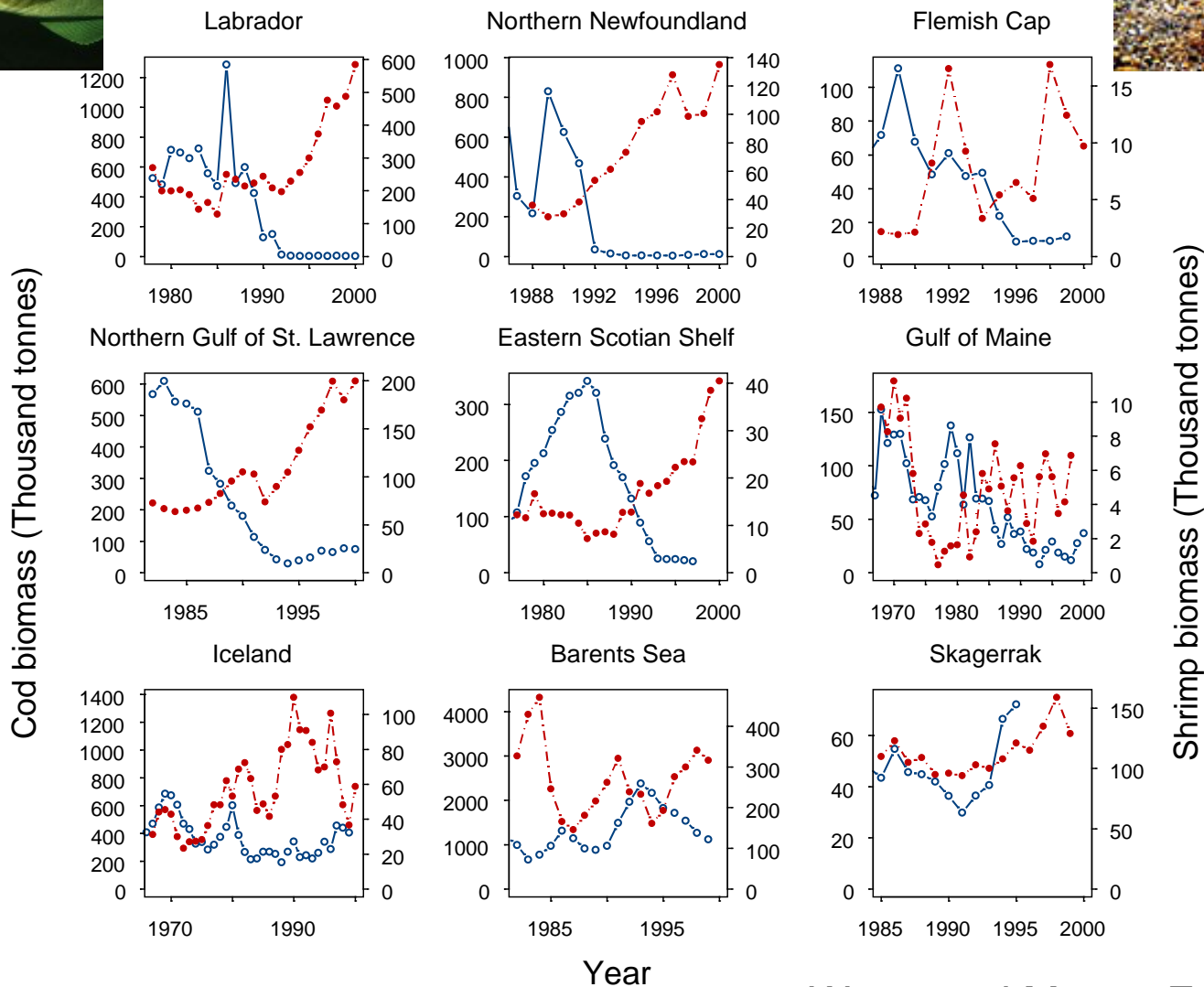


Mean  
number  
of fish  
per 100  
hooks

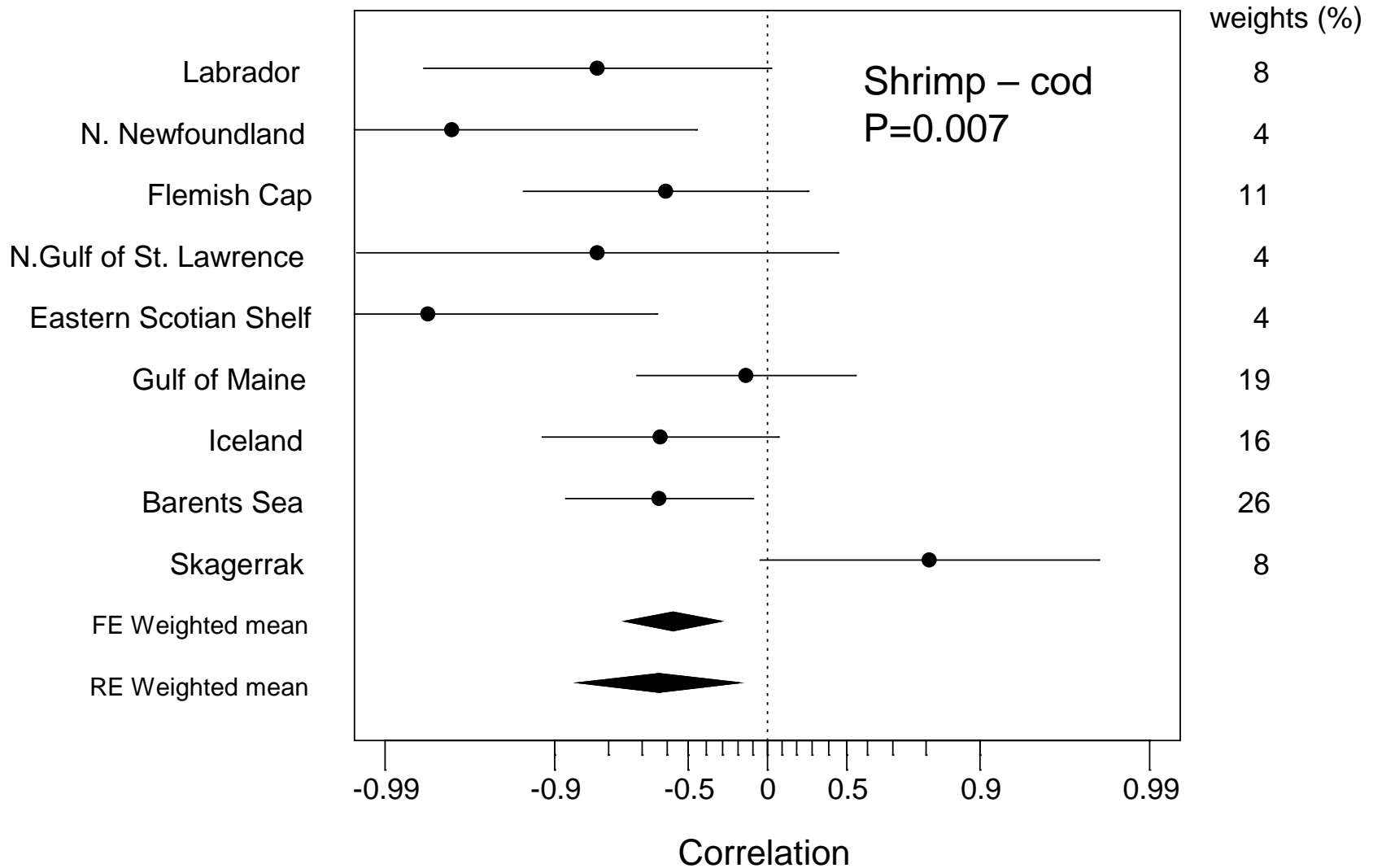




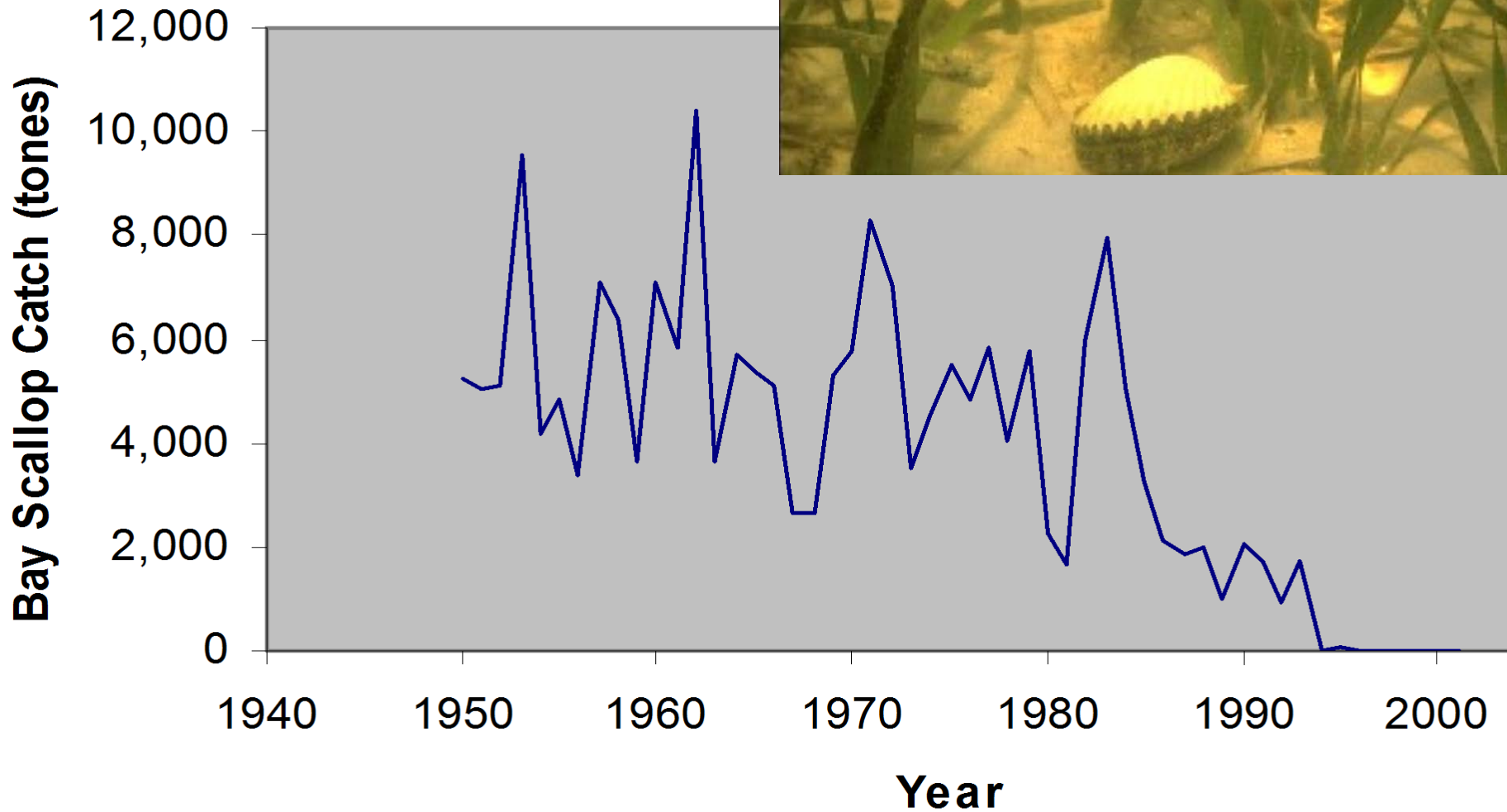
# Cod and shrimp biomass in the North Atlantic: time series



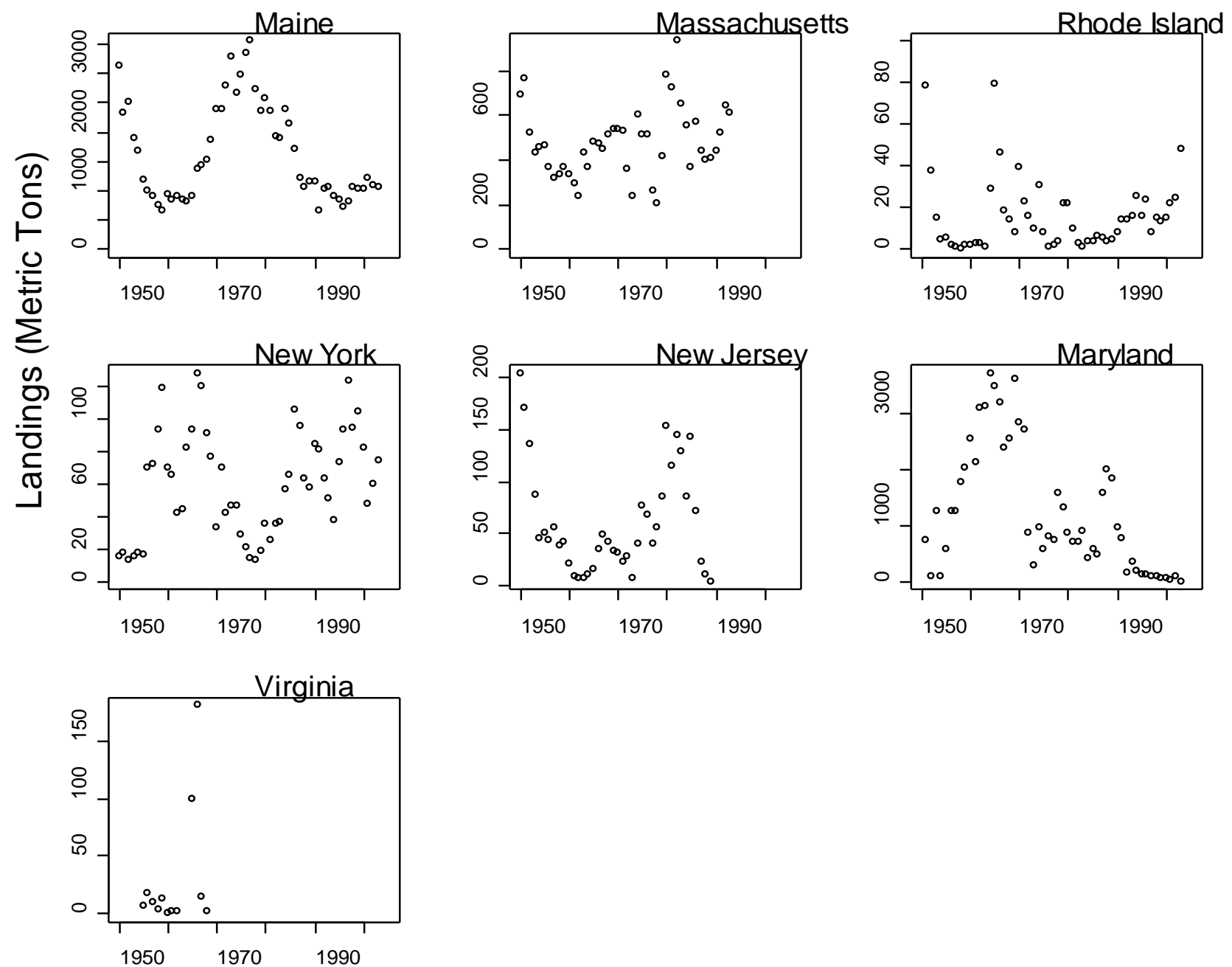
# Random-effects meta-analysis



# USA Bay Scallops Landings



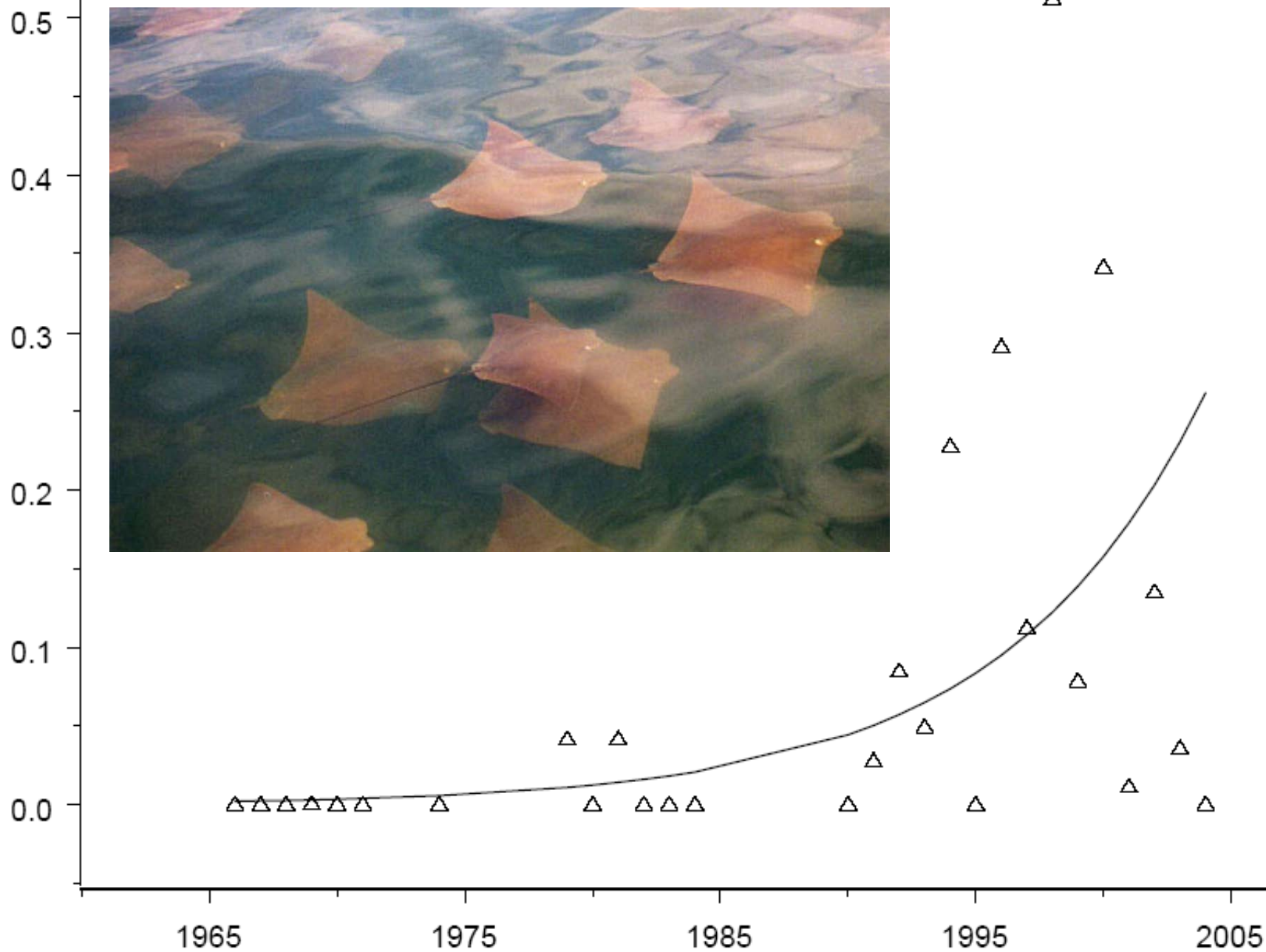
# Loss of softshell clams south of Long Island



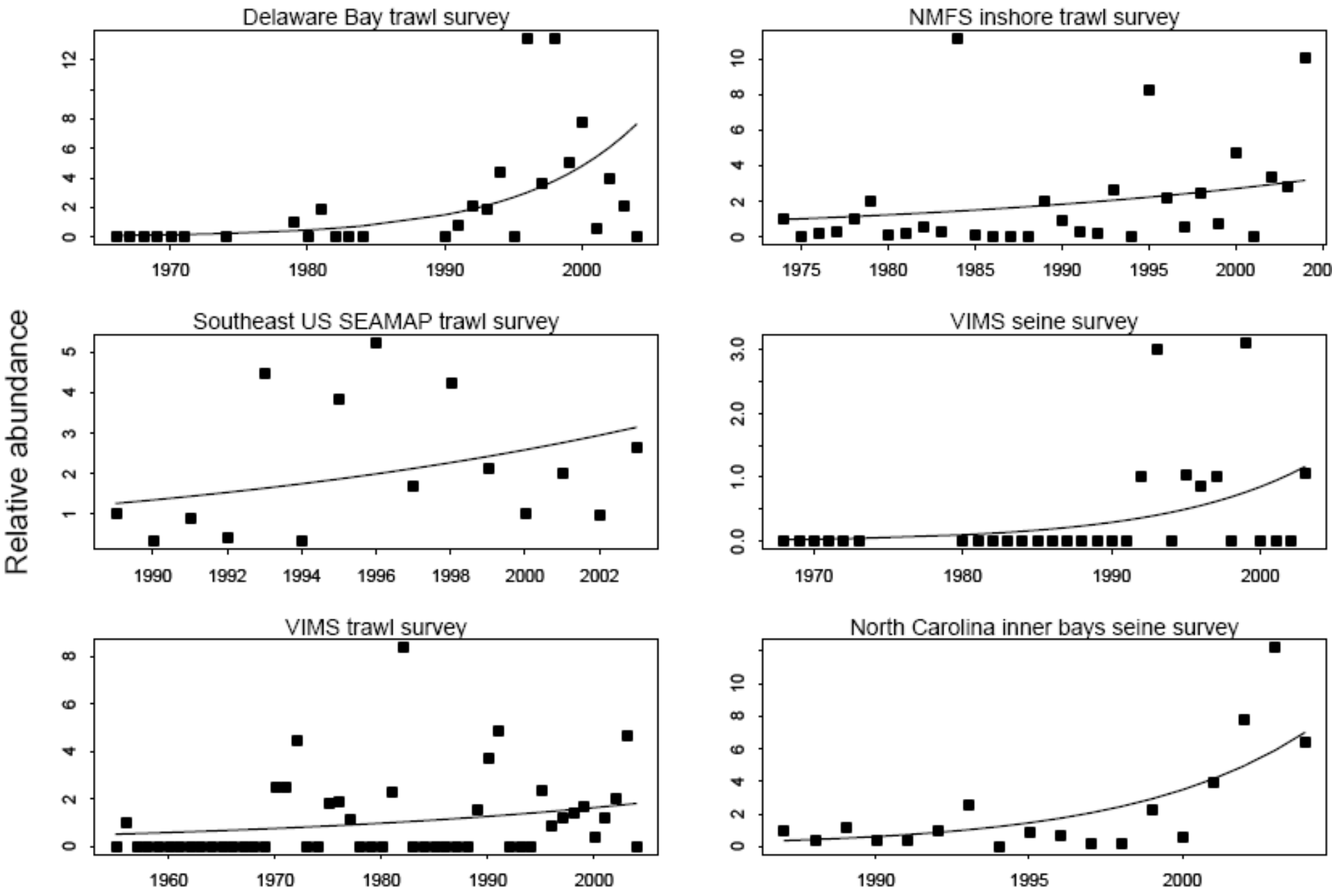
# Cownose Ray - Delaware Bay



Mean standardized catch per tow



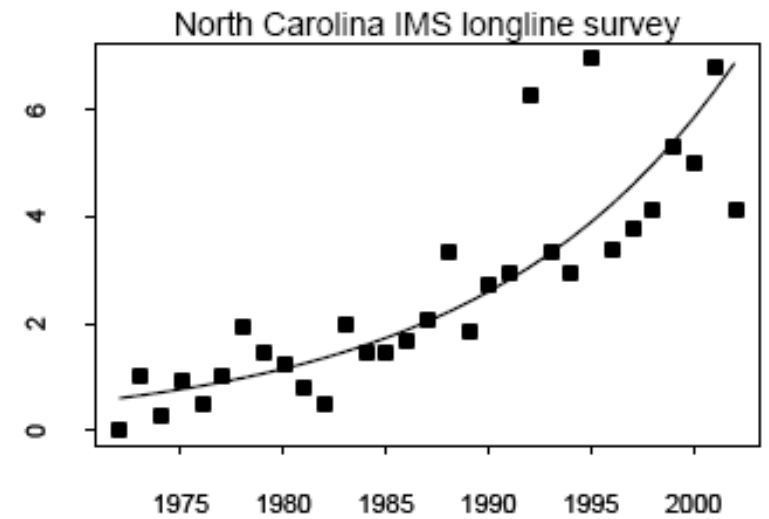
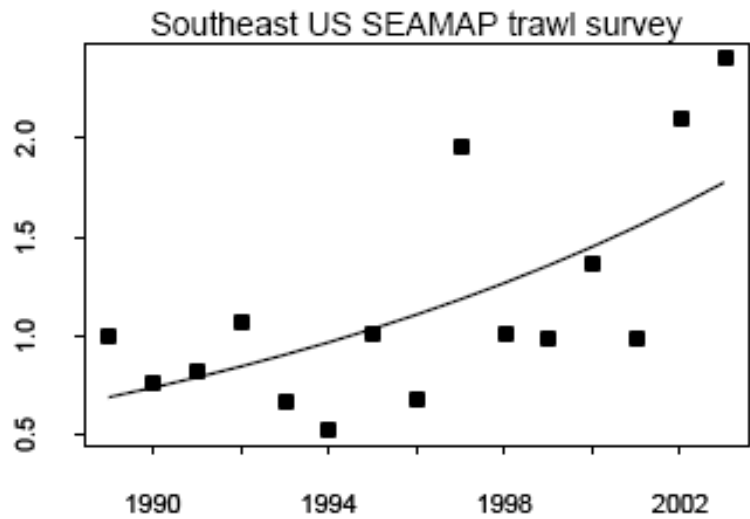
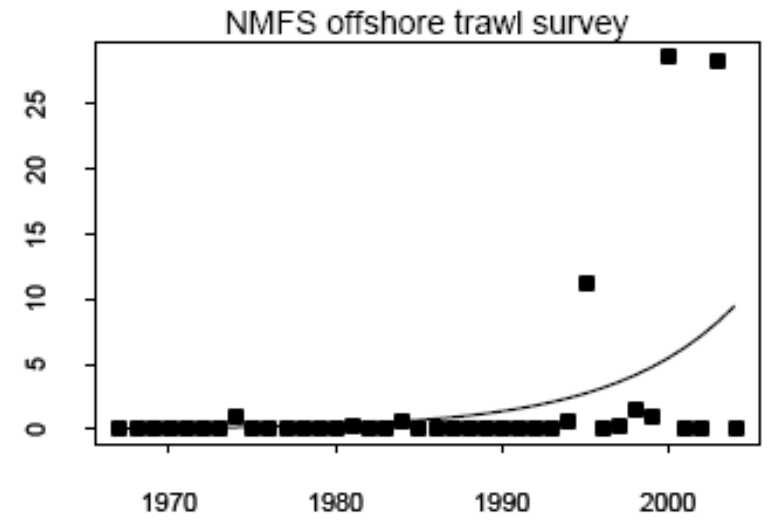
# Meta-analysis of cownose ray trends



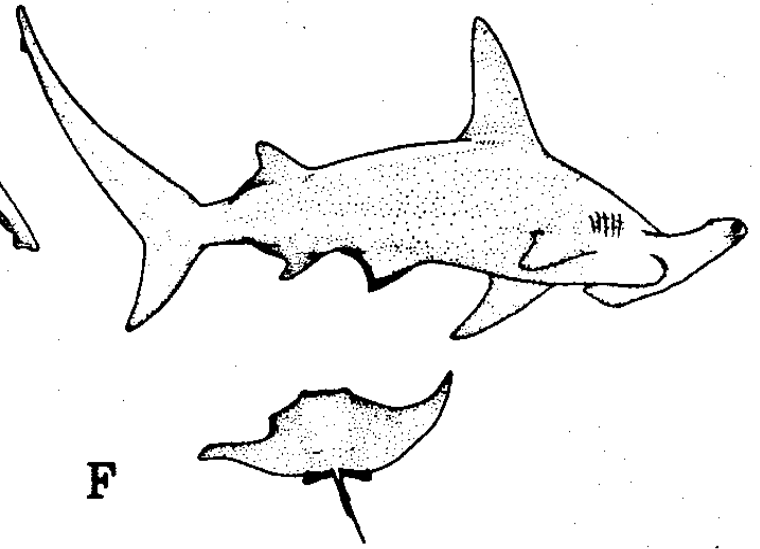
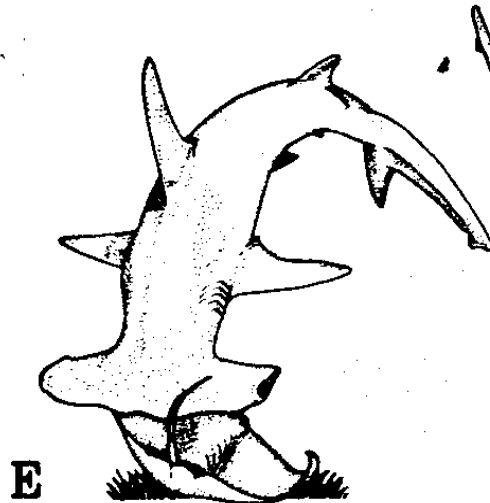
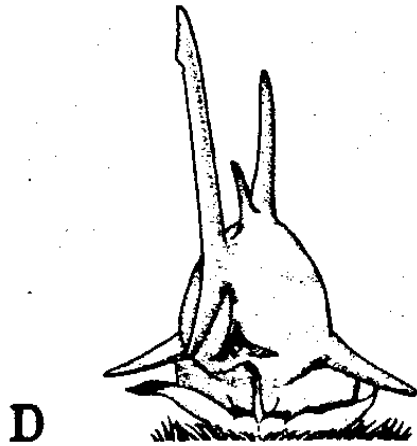
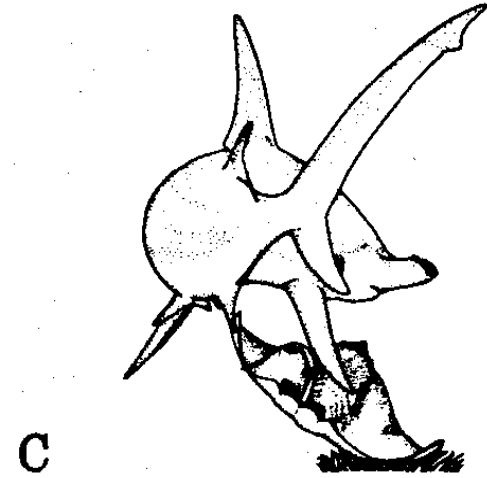
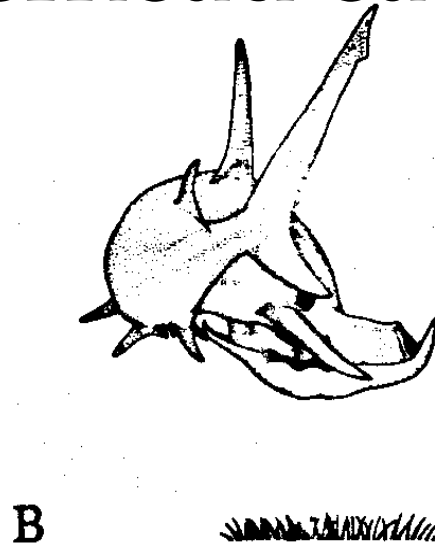
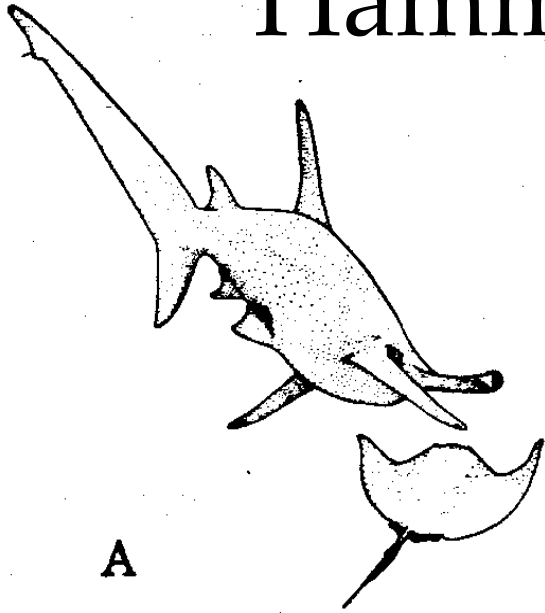
# Increase in small sharks: Sharpnose shark



Relative abundance



# Hammerhead eating stingray





# GREAT HAMMERHEAD SHARK PREDATION UPON SPOTTED EAGLE RAY

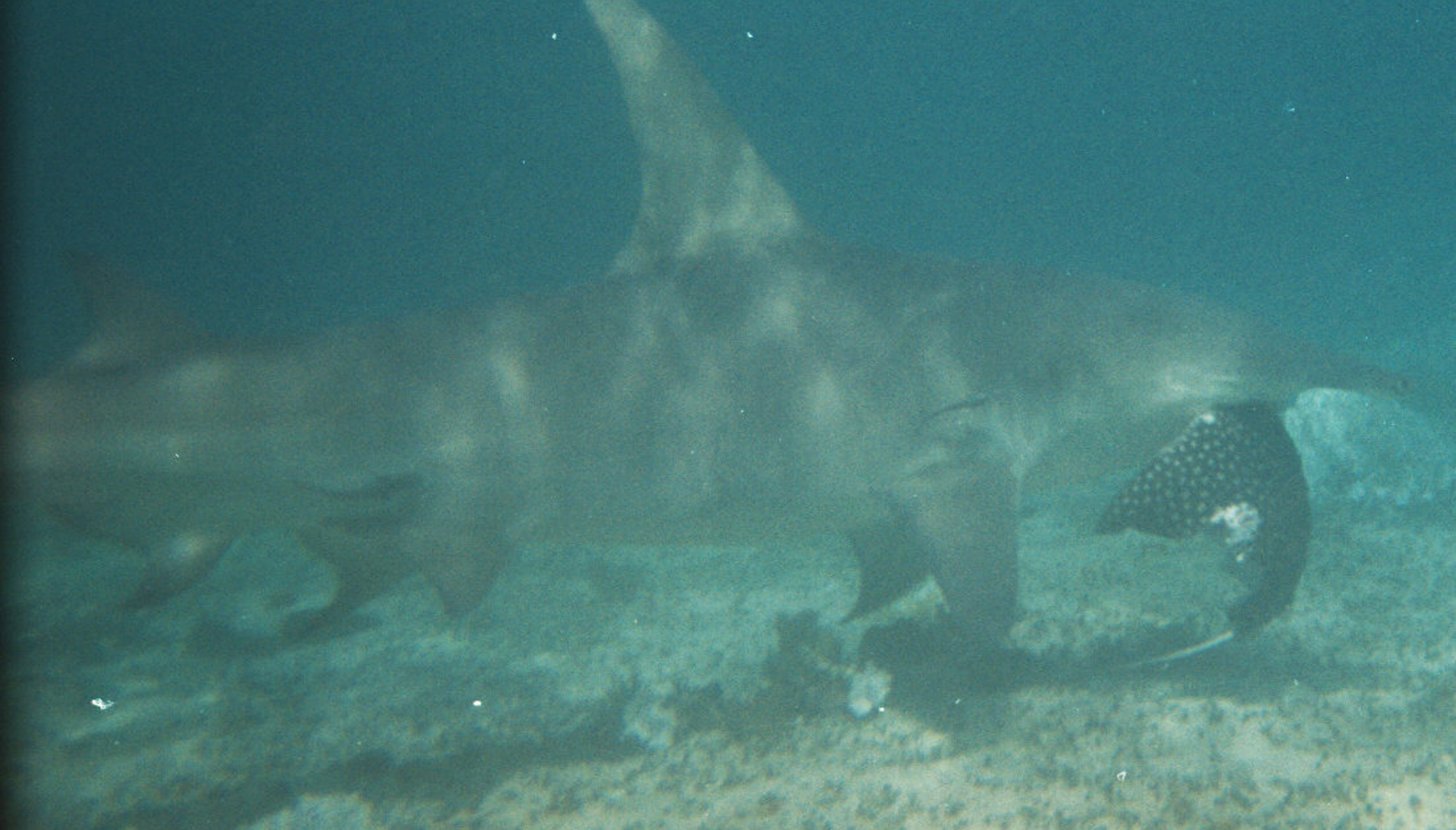
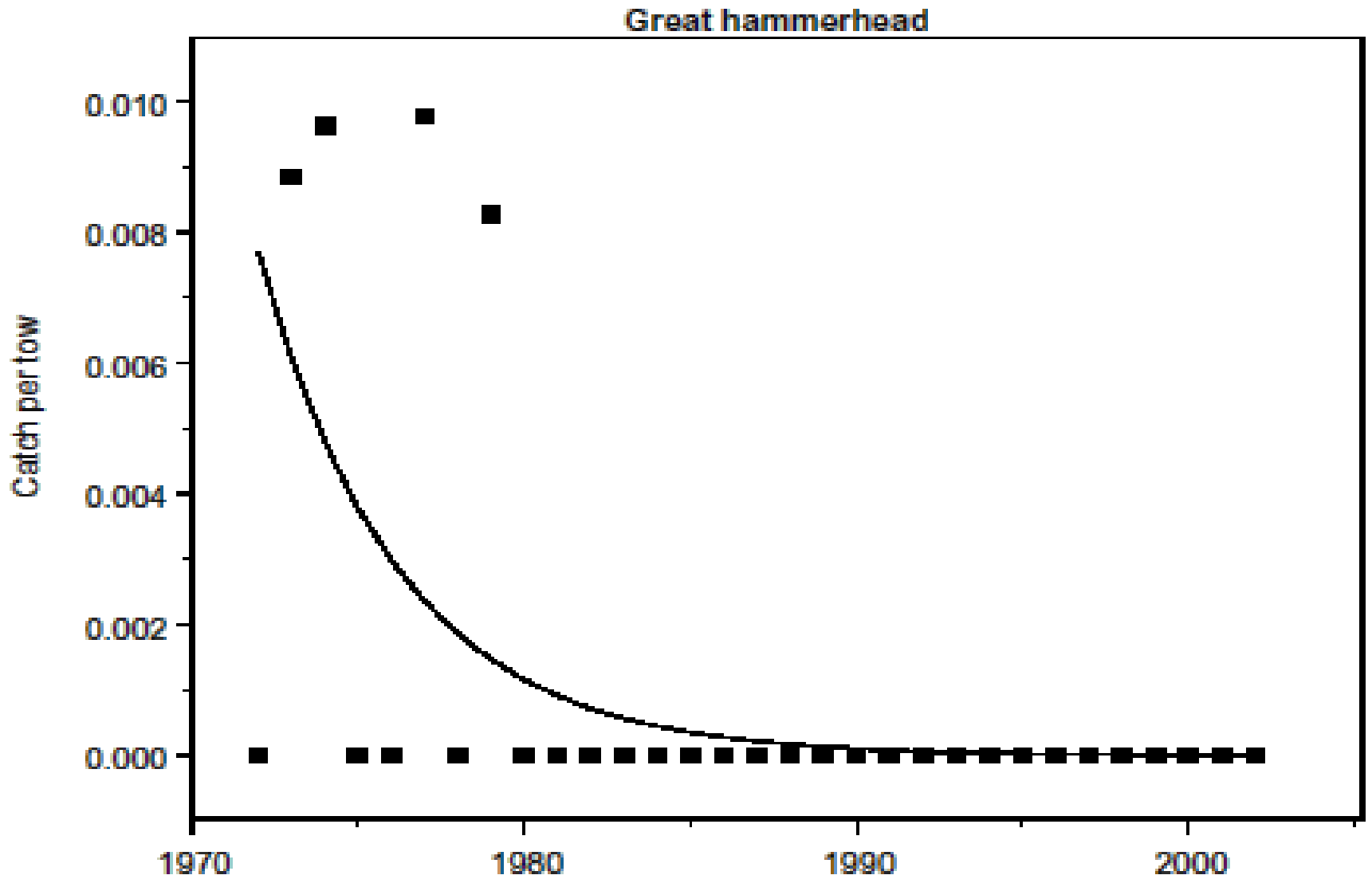


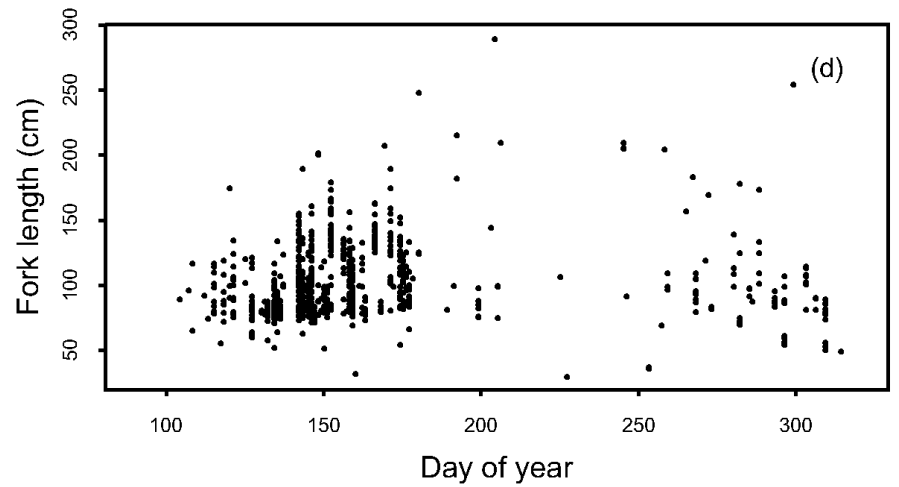
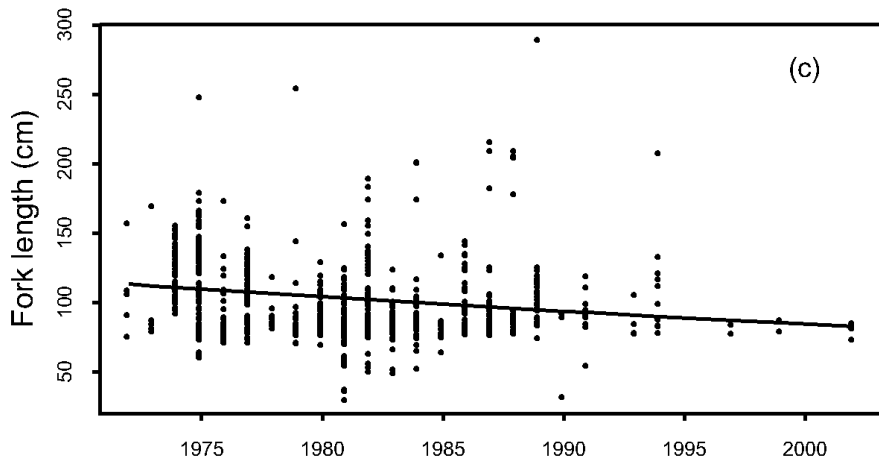
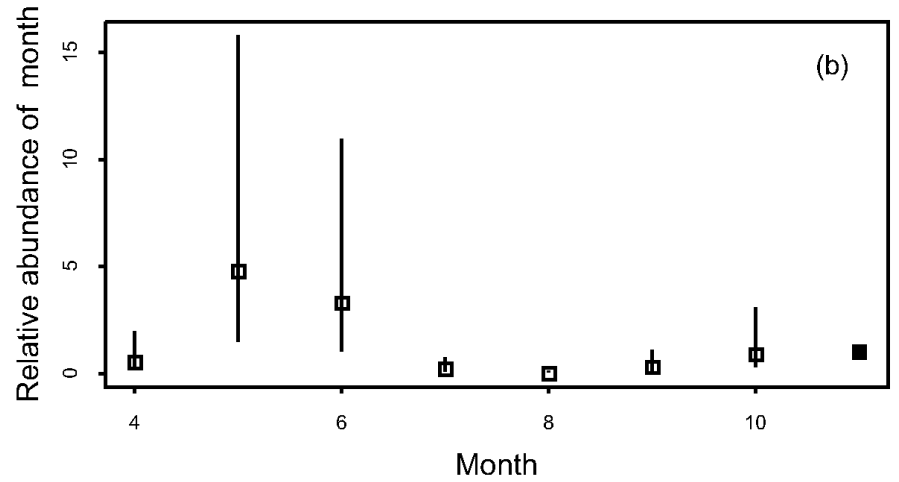
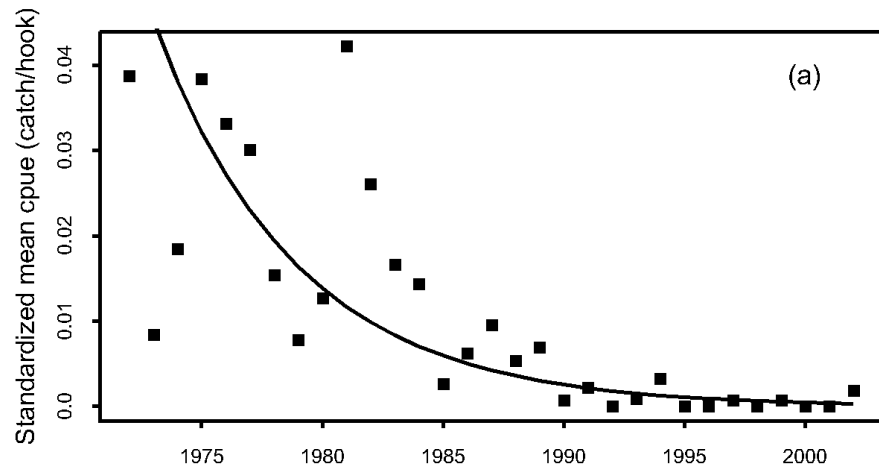
Photo by Demian Chapman

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

# Loss of hammerheads from surveys



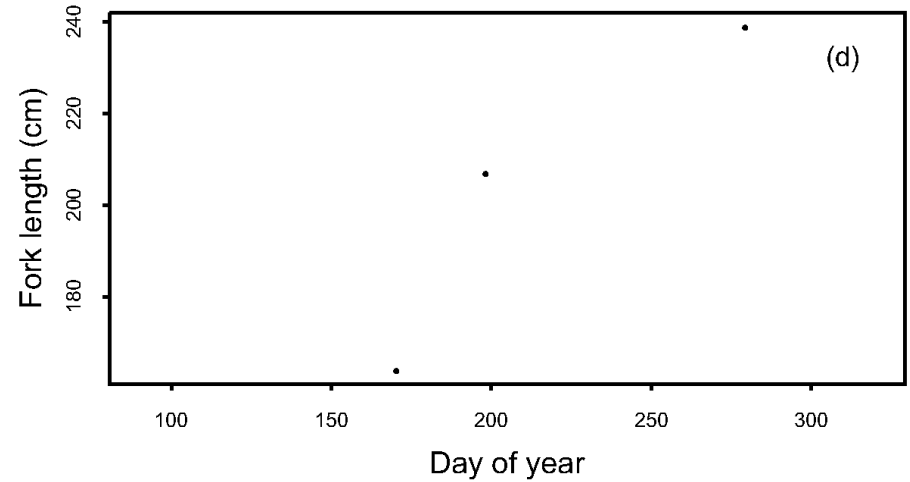
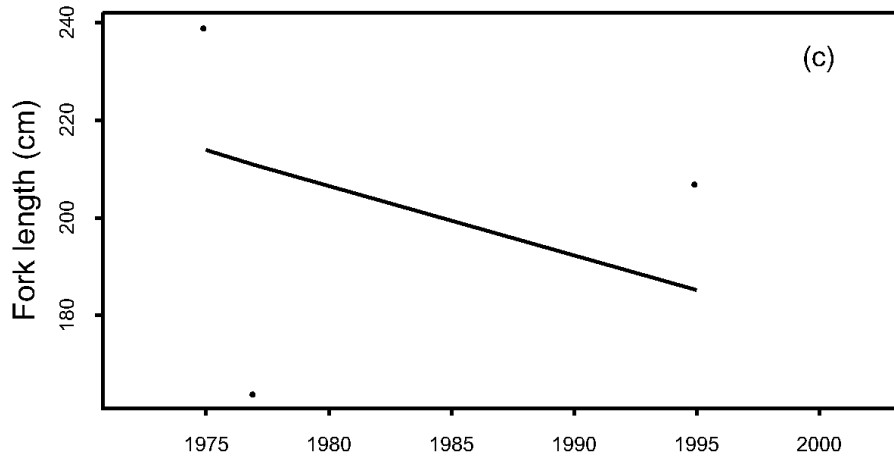
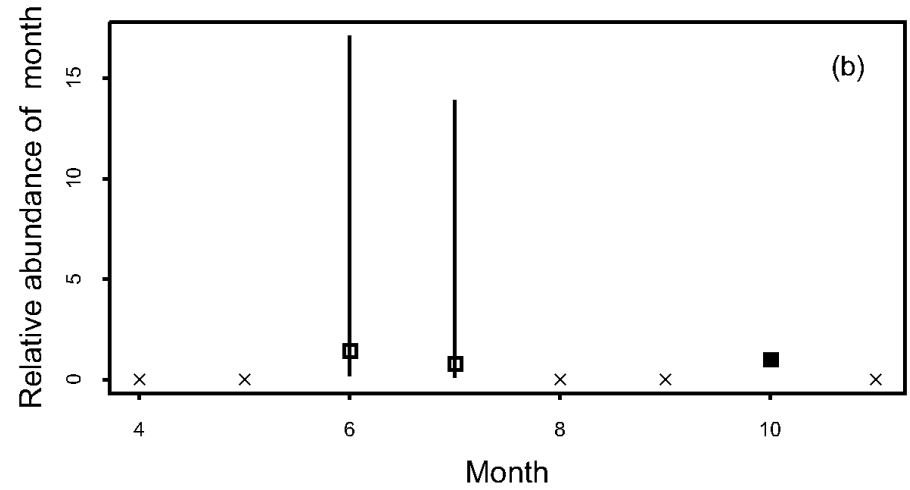
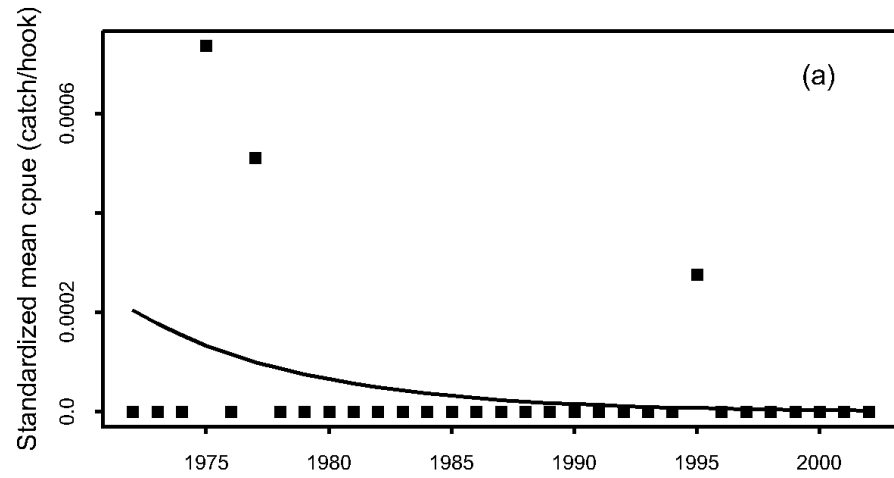
# Dusky shark



## 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

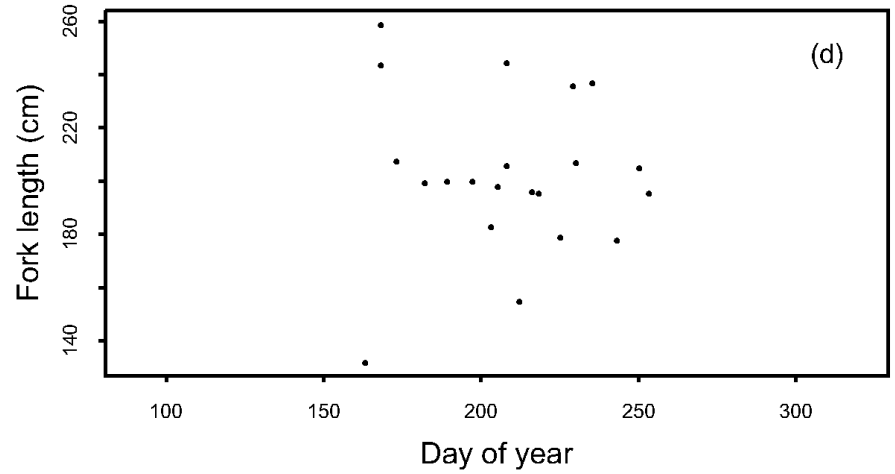
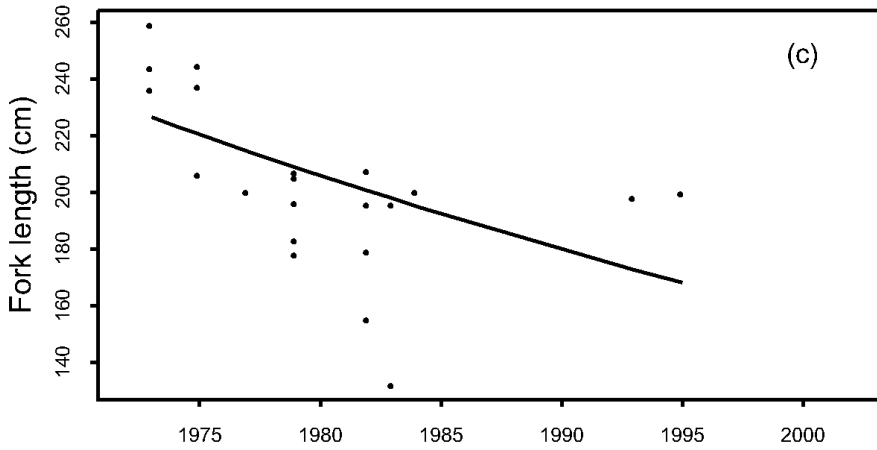
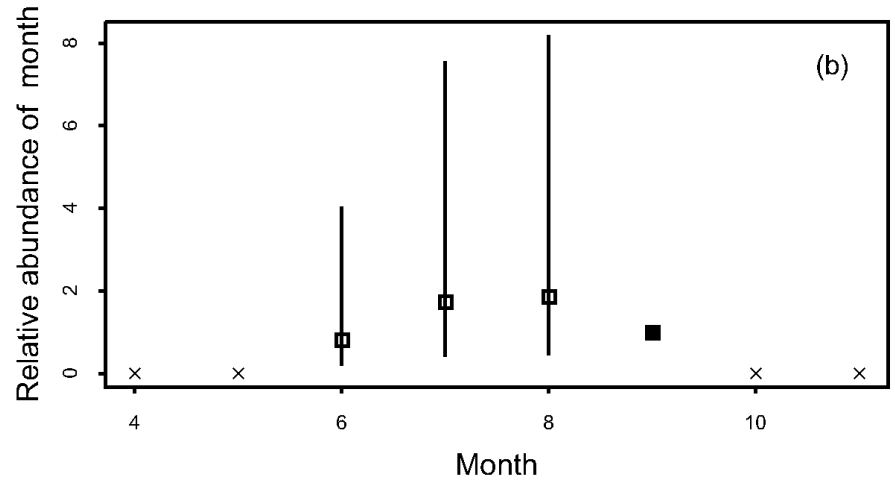
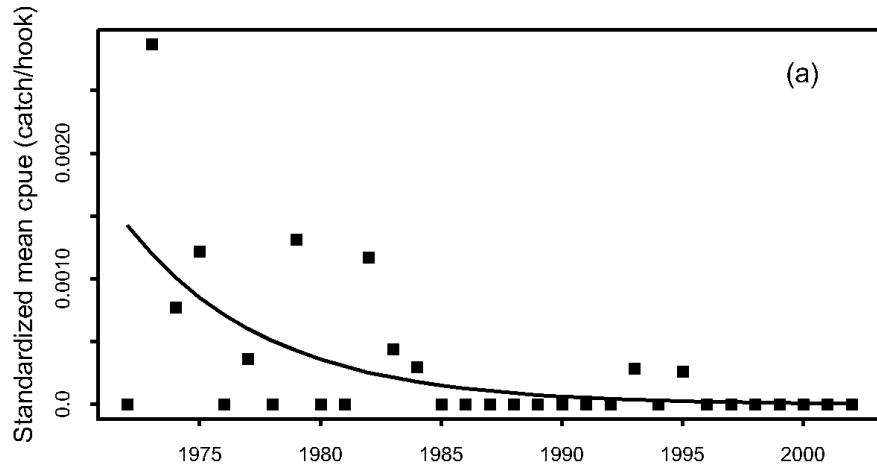
# Great hammerhead



## Generalized linear model results

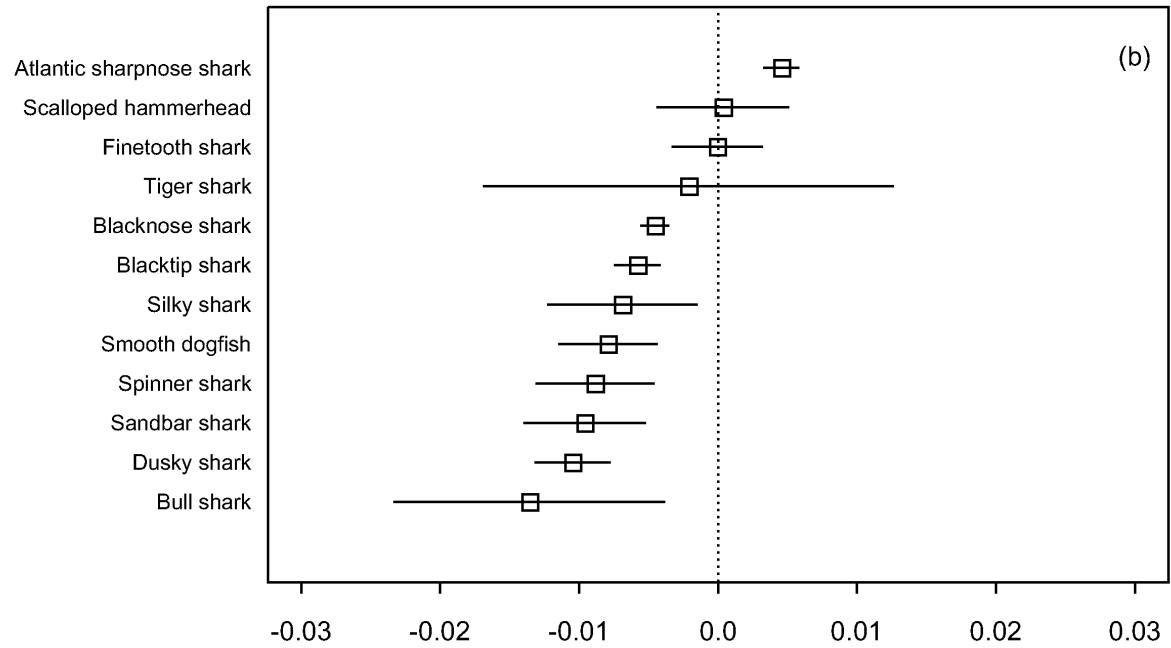
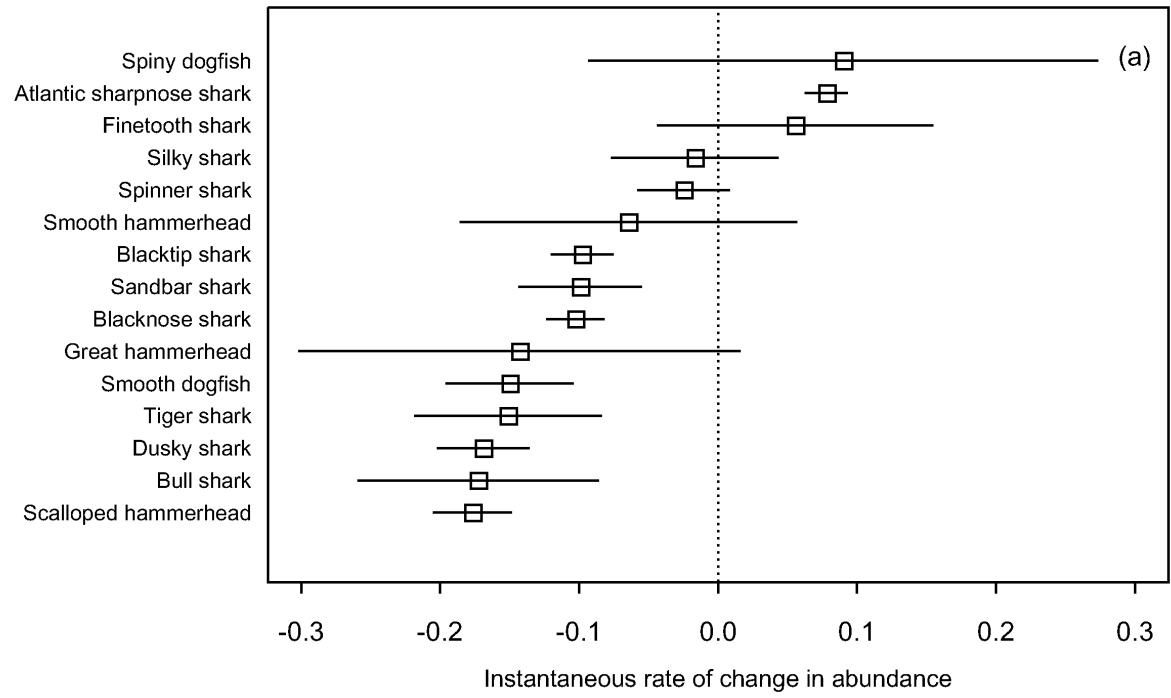
	Estimate	StdErr	p	k/scale
Abundance	-0.143	0.0812	0.079	1.96
Length	-7.19e-3	0.0707	0.919	1

# Bull shark

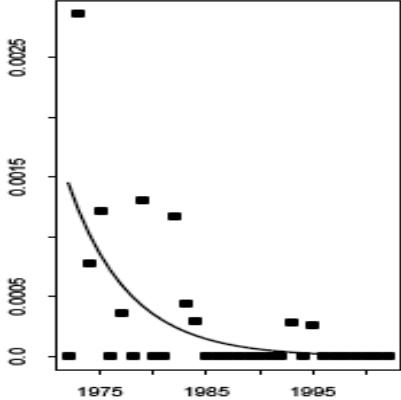


## Generalized linear model results

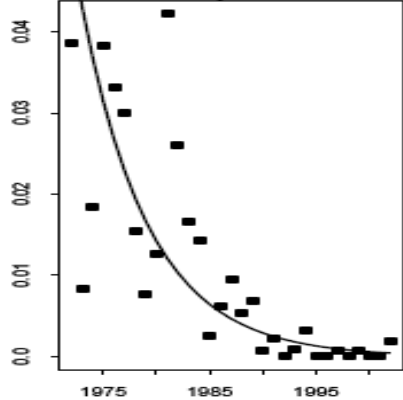
	Estimate	StdErr	p	k/scale
Abundance	-0.172	0.0443	9.99e-5	4.28
Length	-0.0136	5.e-3	6.69e-3	63.2



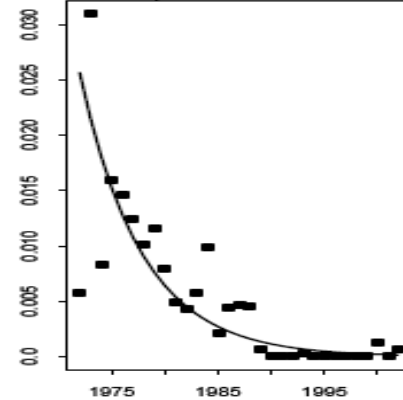
Bull shark



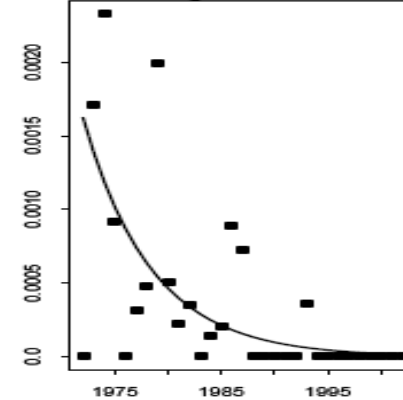
Dusky shark



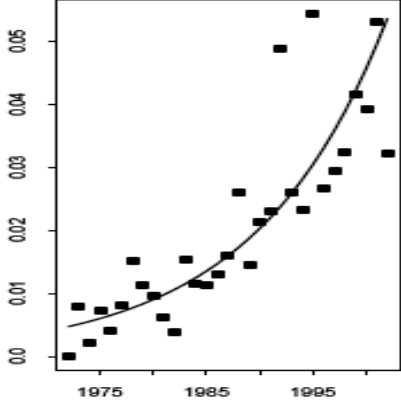
Scalloped hammerhead



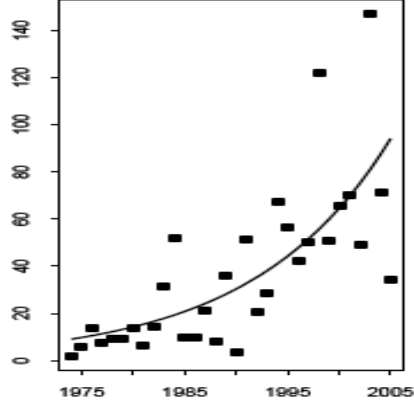
Tiger shark



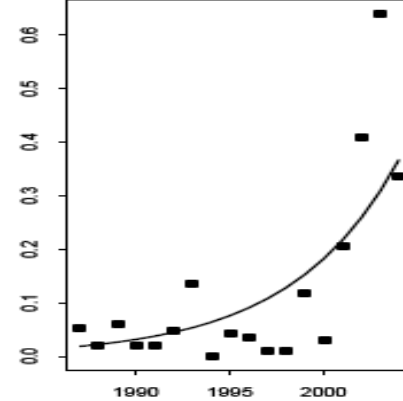
Atlantic sharpnose shark



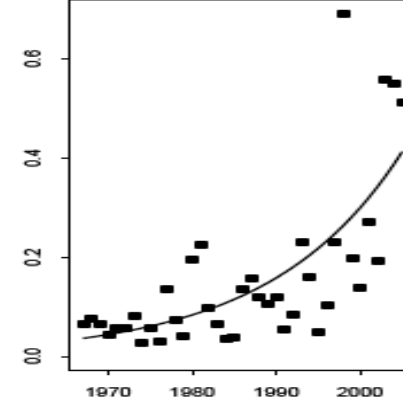
Little skate



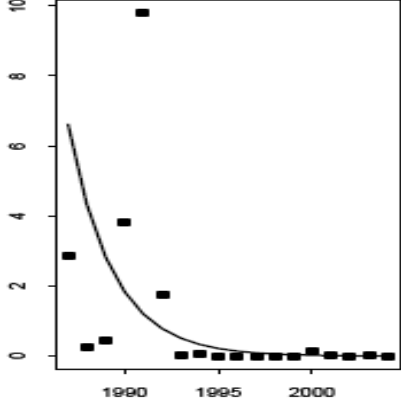
Cownose ray



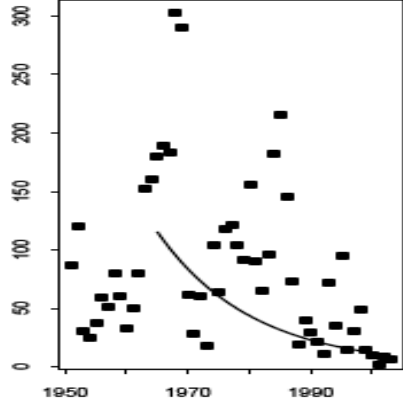
Chain dogfish



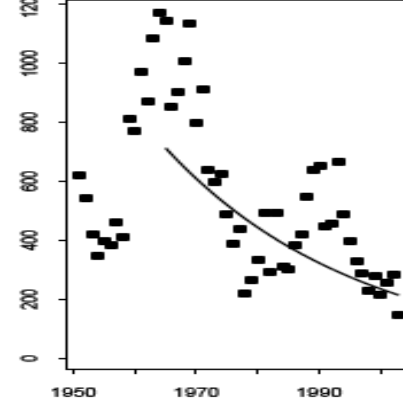
Mollusk sp



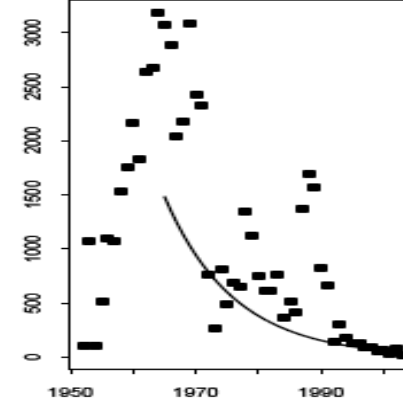
Bay scallop

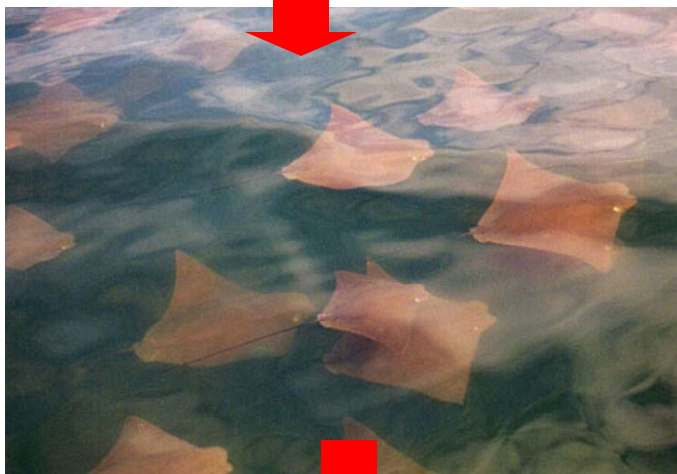
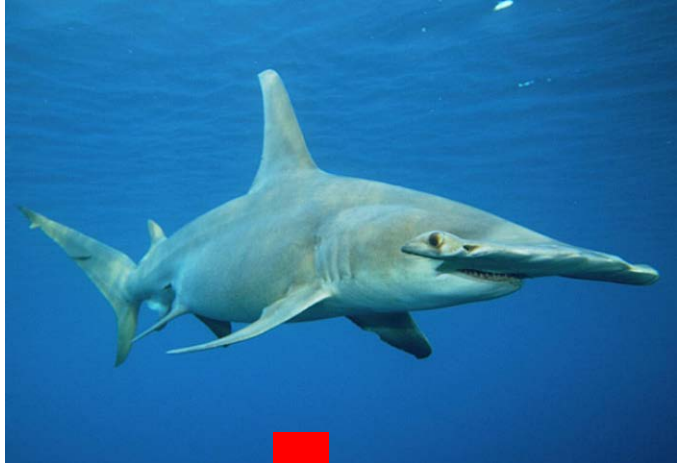


Quahogs

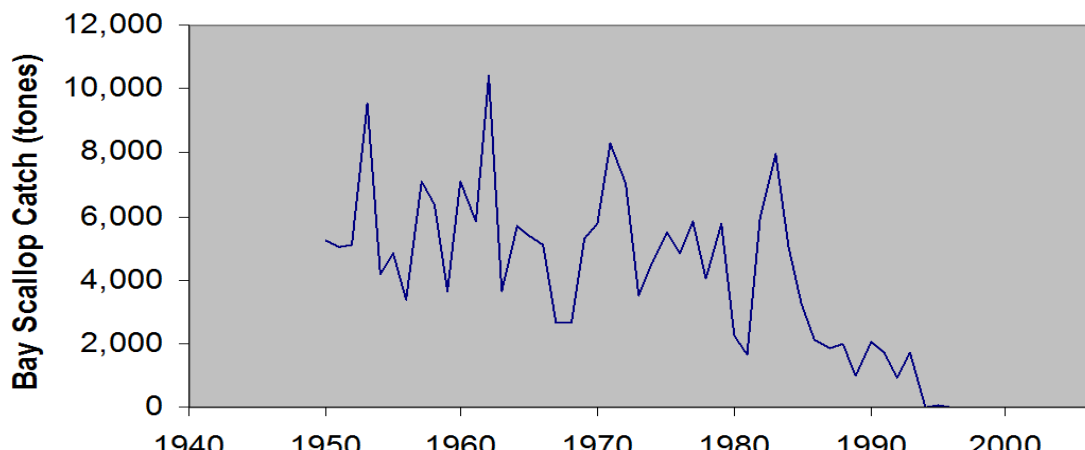
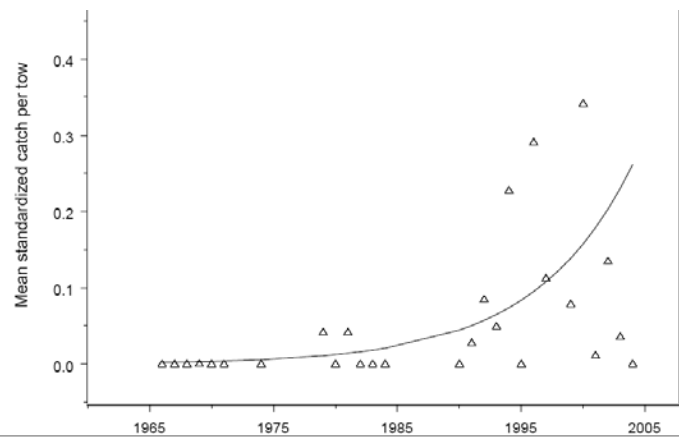
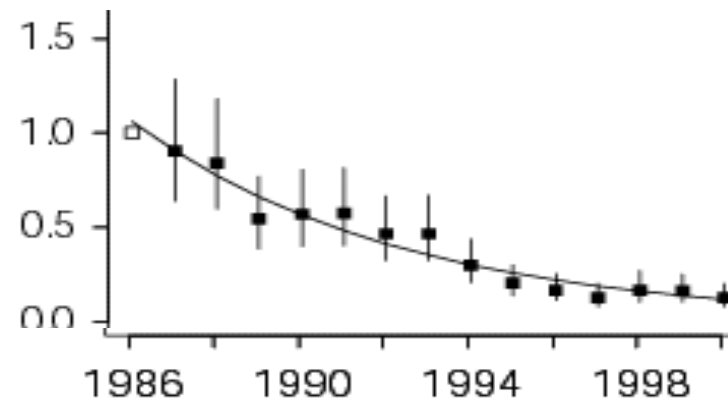


Softshell clams

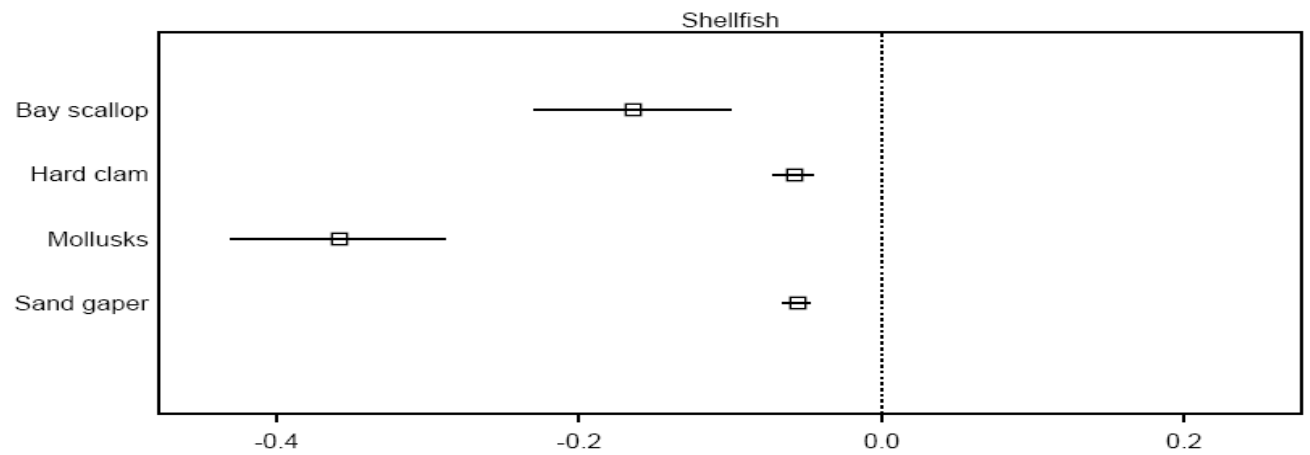
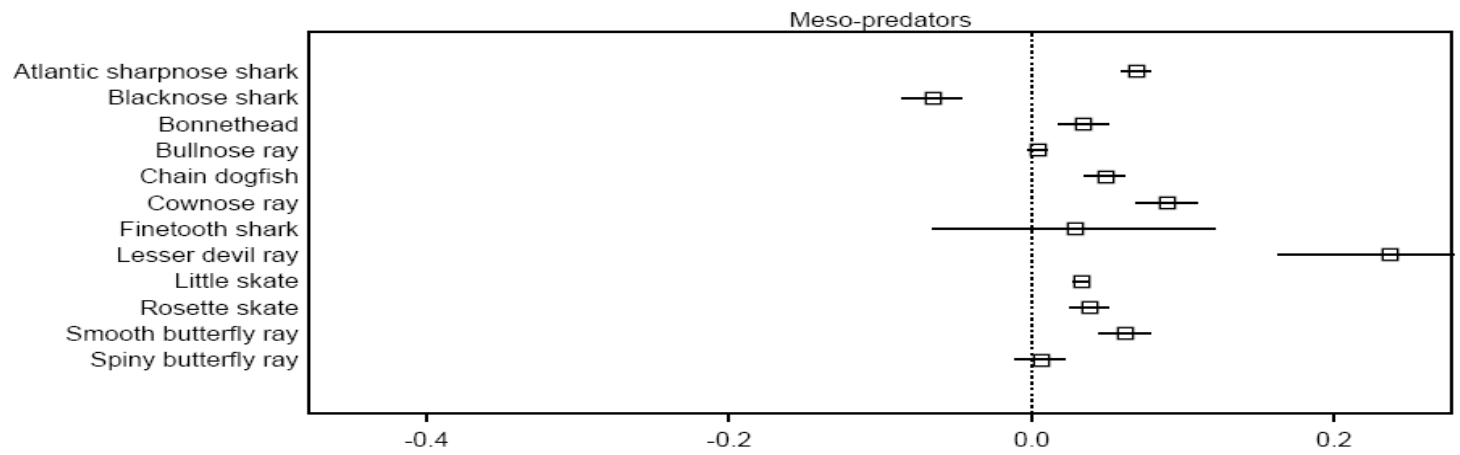
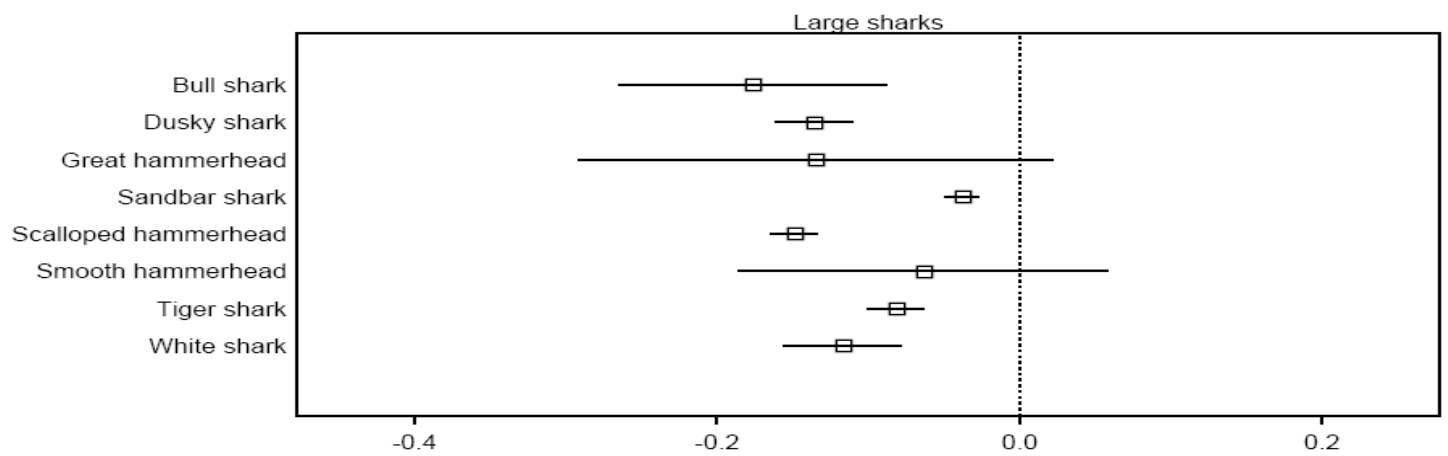




Relative abundance

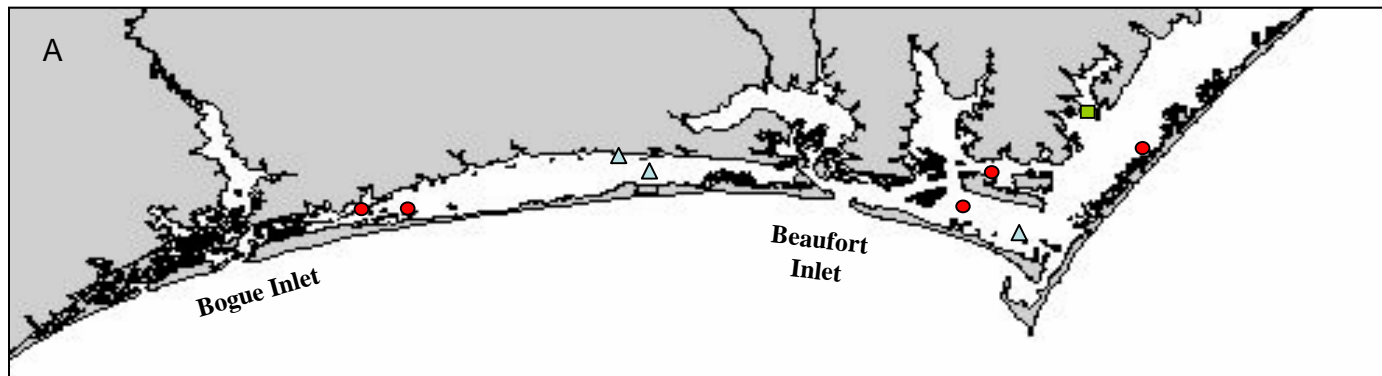
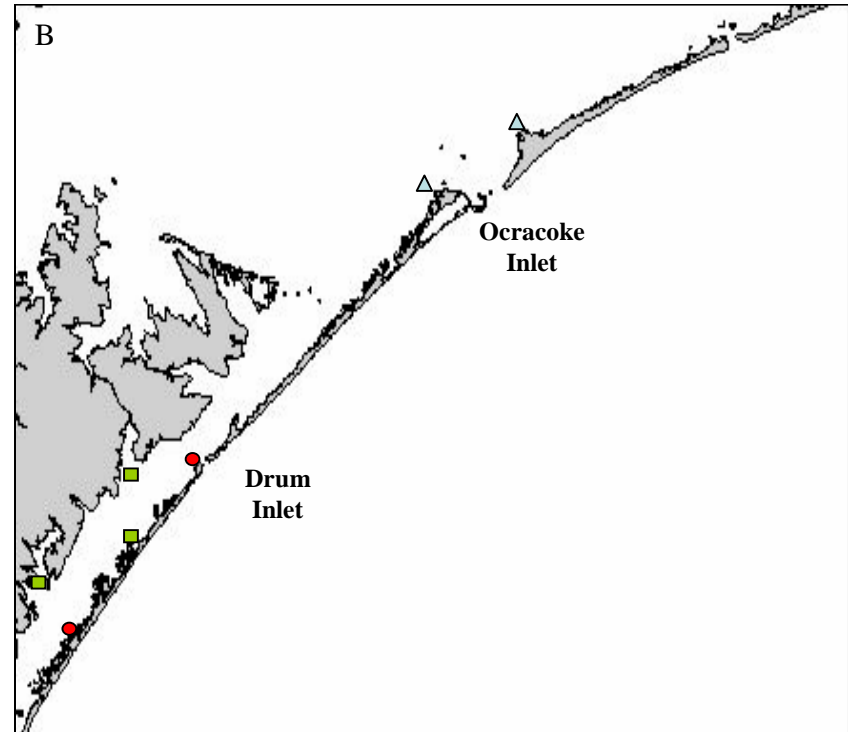
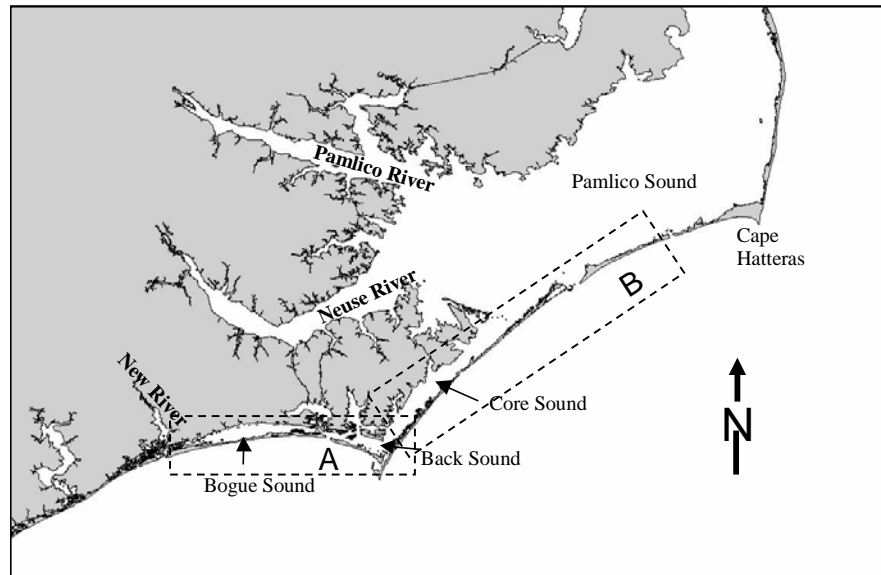






Instantaneous rate of change in abundance with time

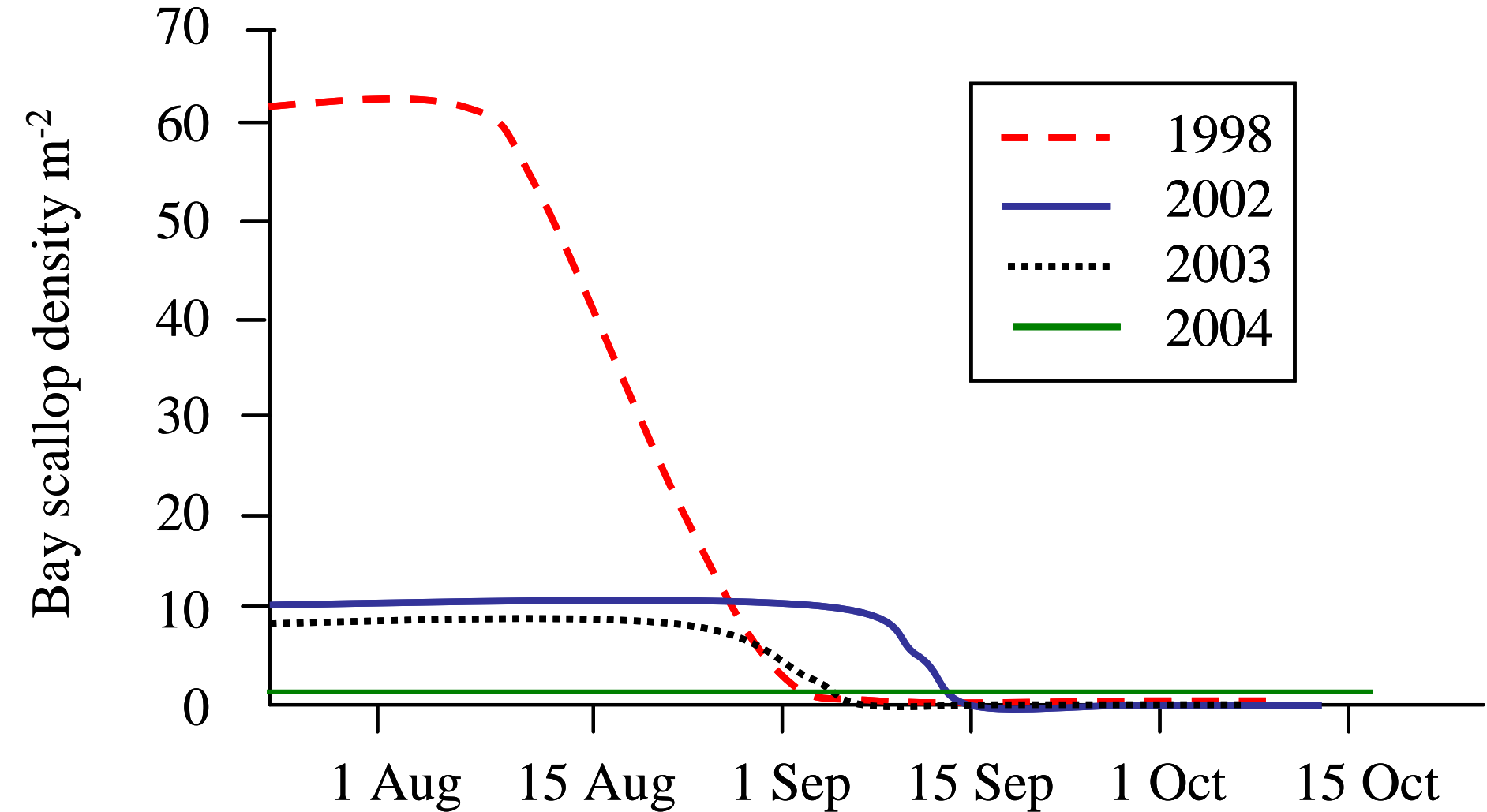
# Experimental Results of Pete Peterson and Sean Powers in North Carolina



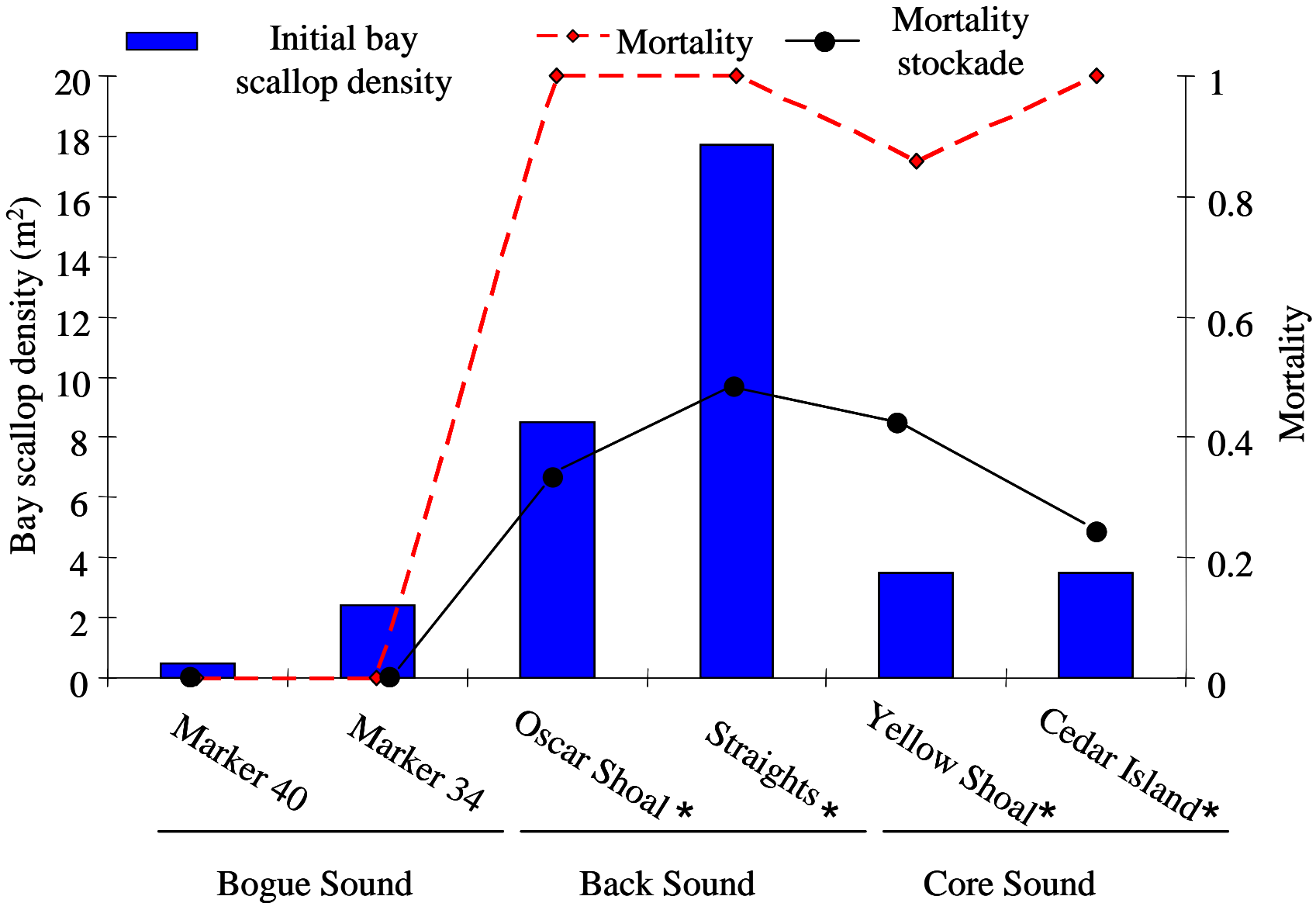
## Legend

- Experimental site
- Before/after density
- △ Sampled but no scallops

# Loss of Bay Scallops with Cownose Ray Fall Migration



# Excluding cownose rays allow the survival of bay scallops.



# Excluding cownose rays allow the survival of bay scallops.

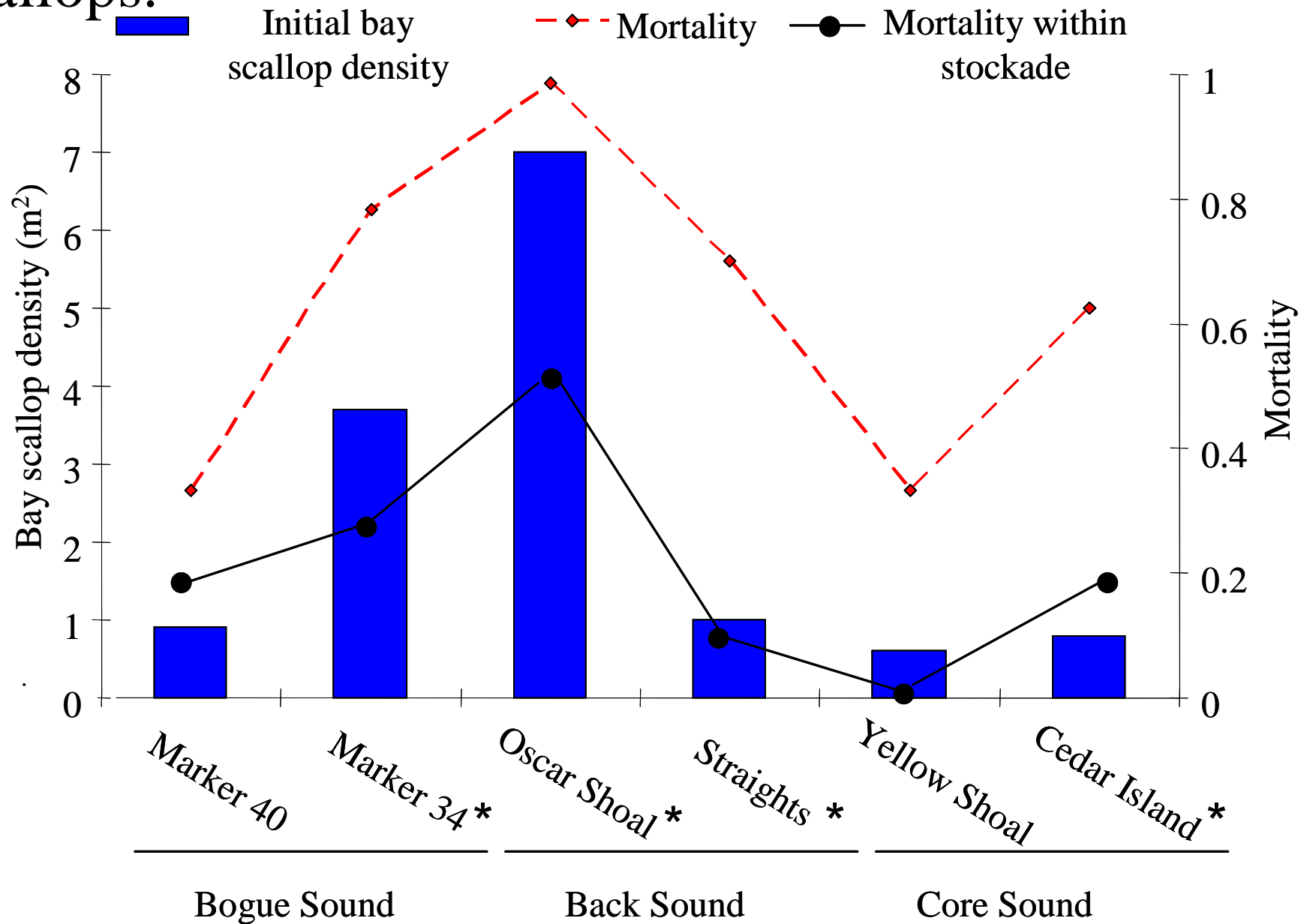
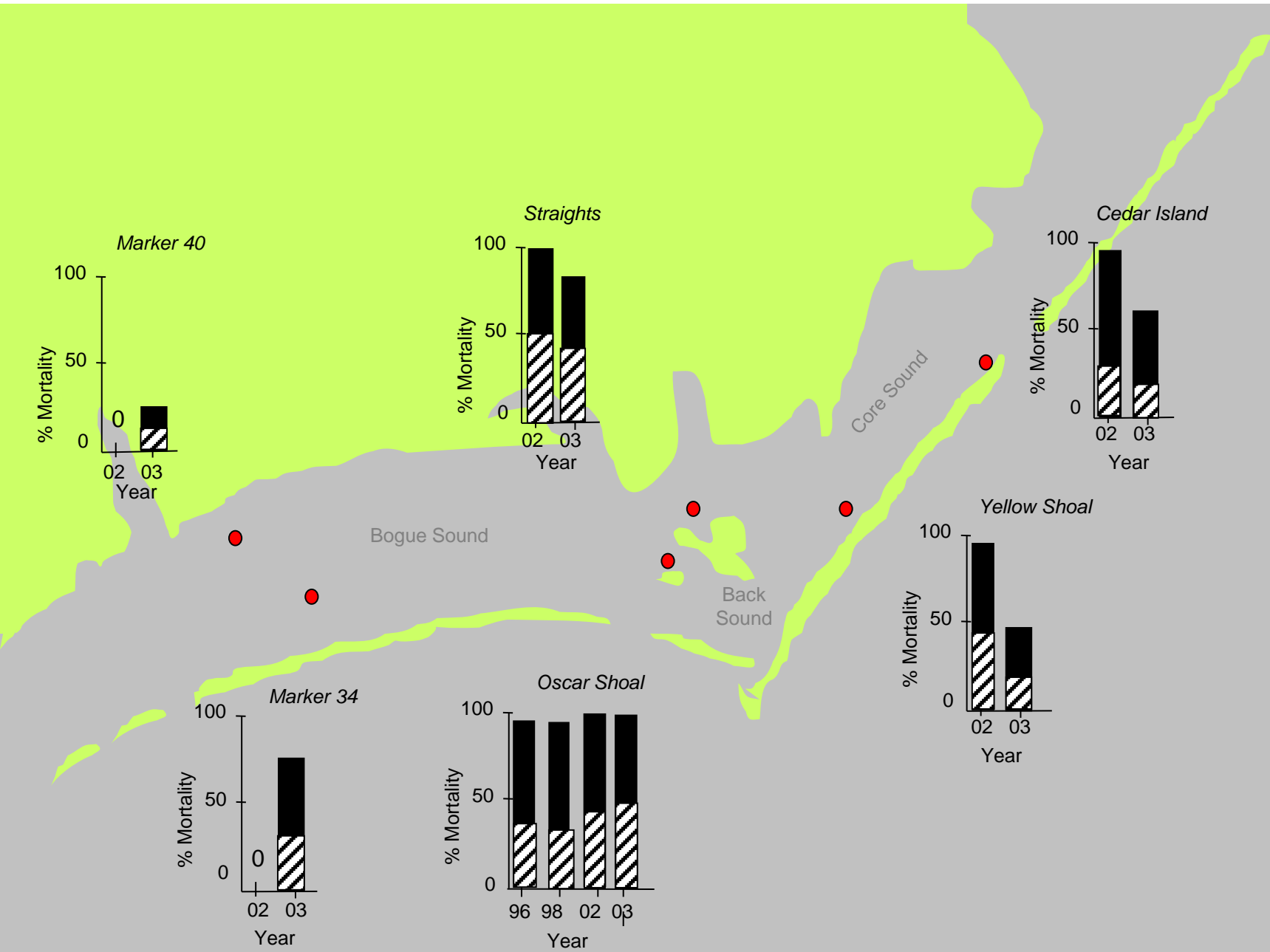
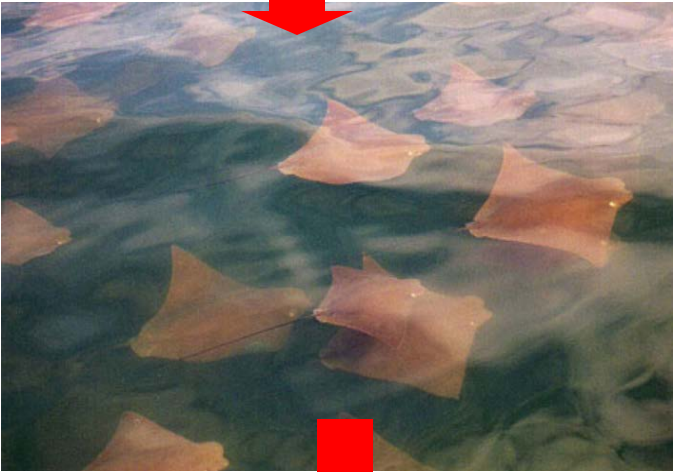
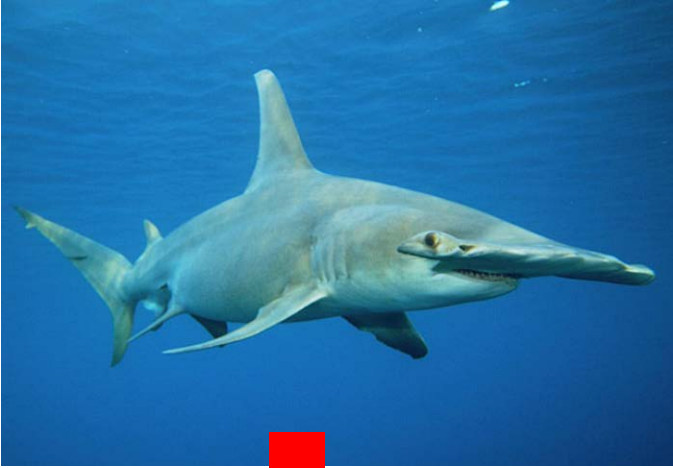


Fig 1. Total and stockade mortality



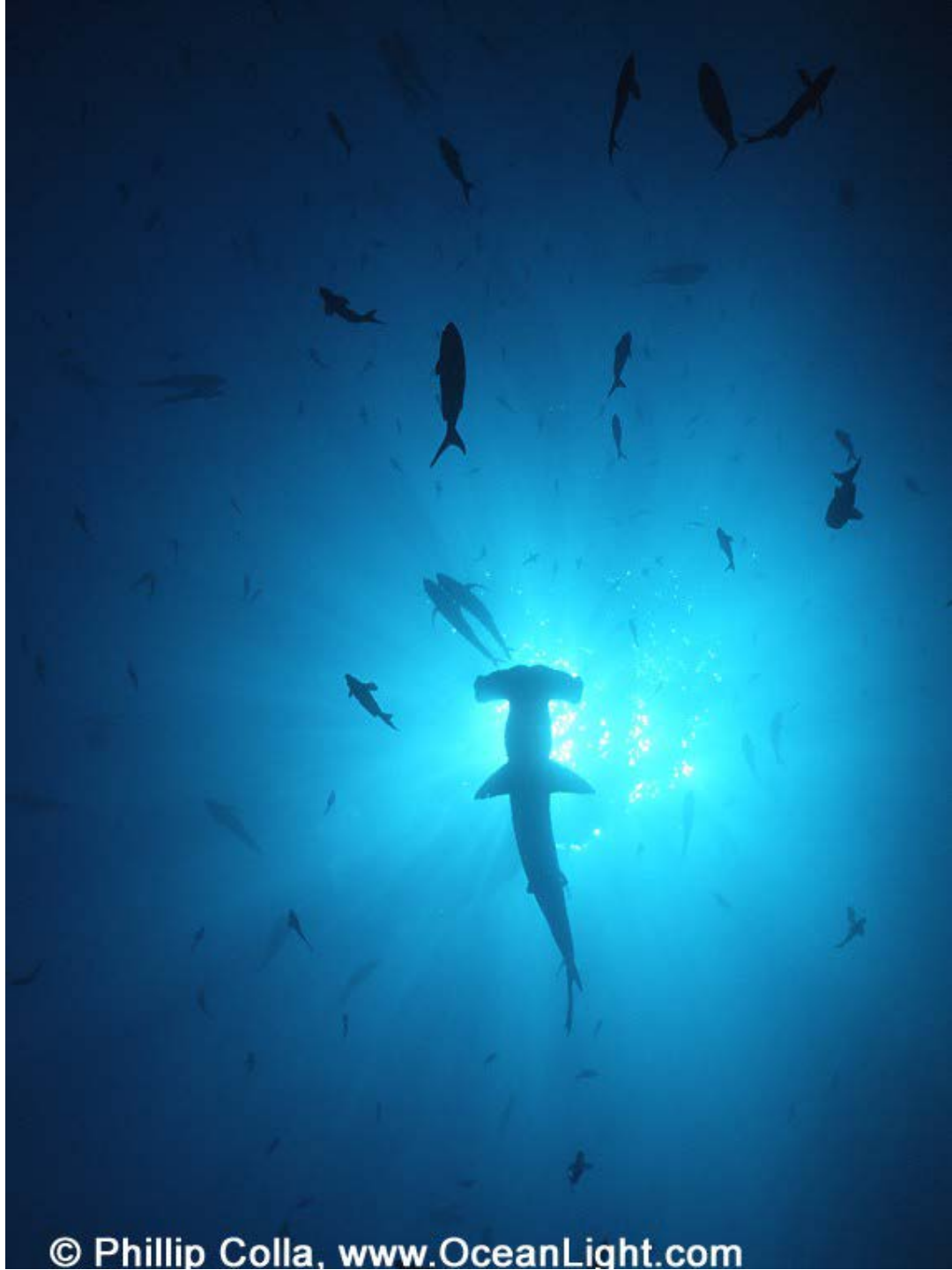


Trophic Cascades:  
Consequences of the  
loss of top predators  
may be greater than  
we think

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

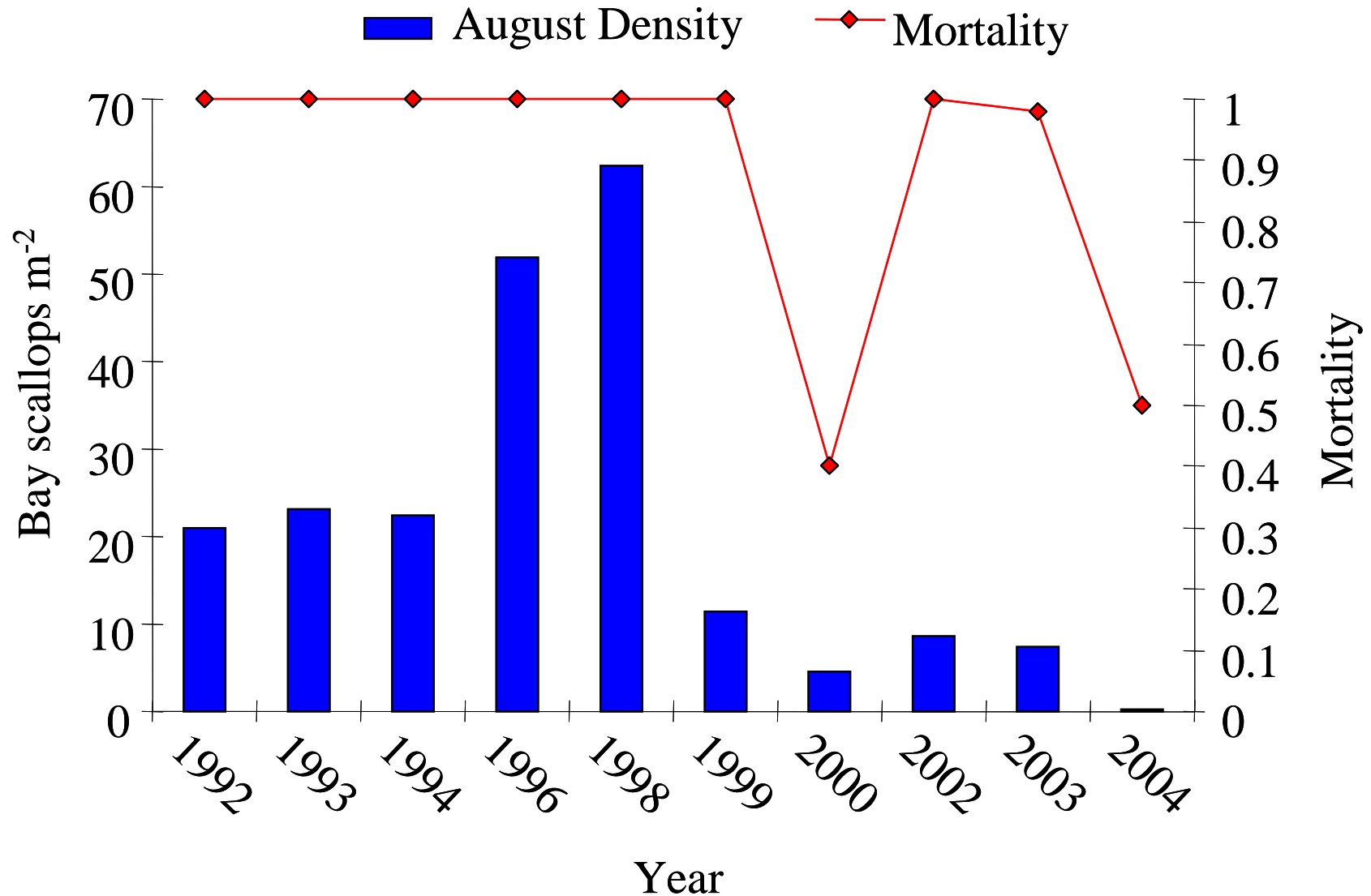
***despite massive denial***

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

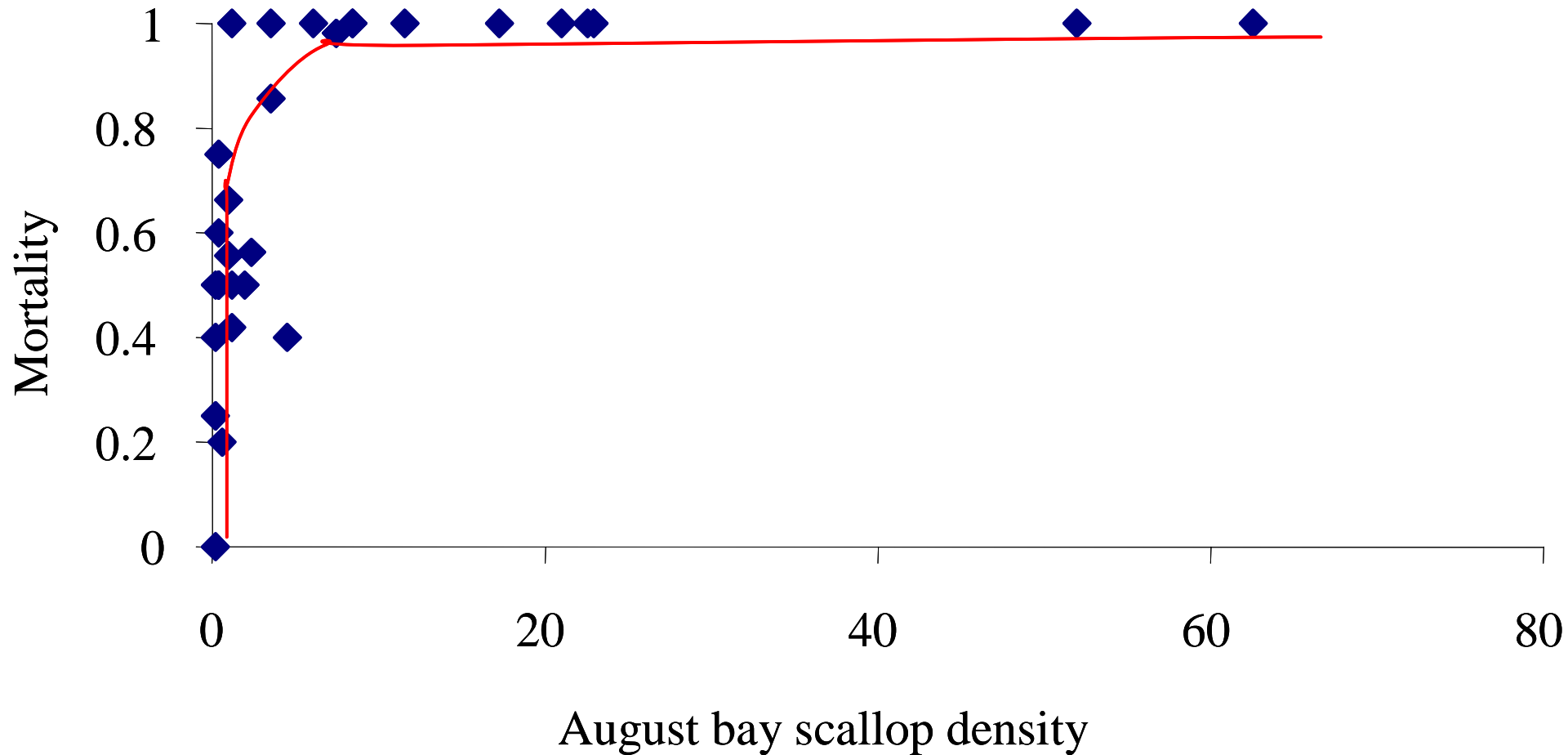




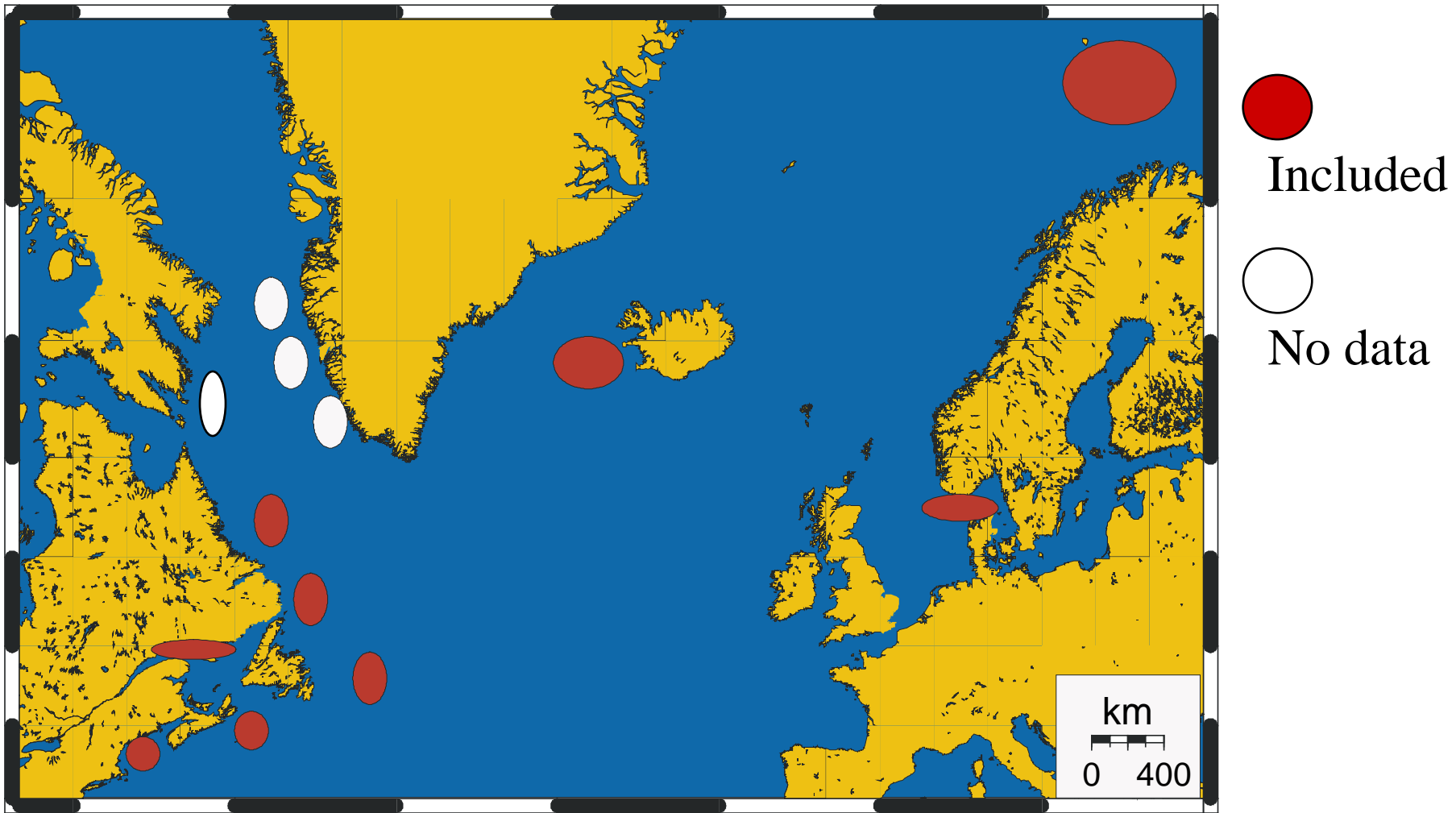
# Mortality of almost 100% during fall migration of cownose rays



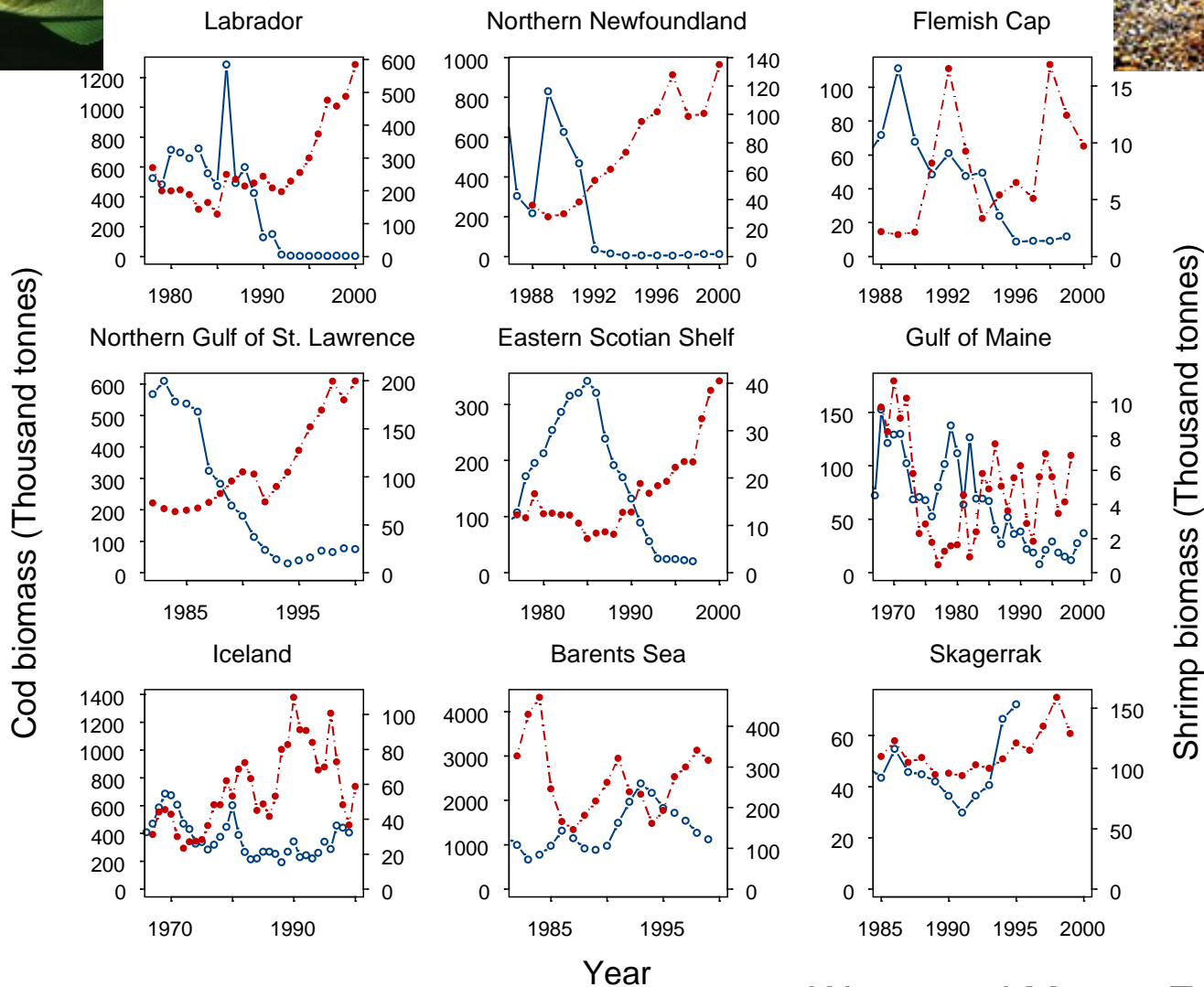
# Mortality of almost 100% during fall migration of cownose rays



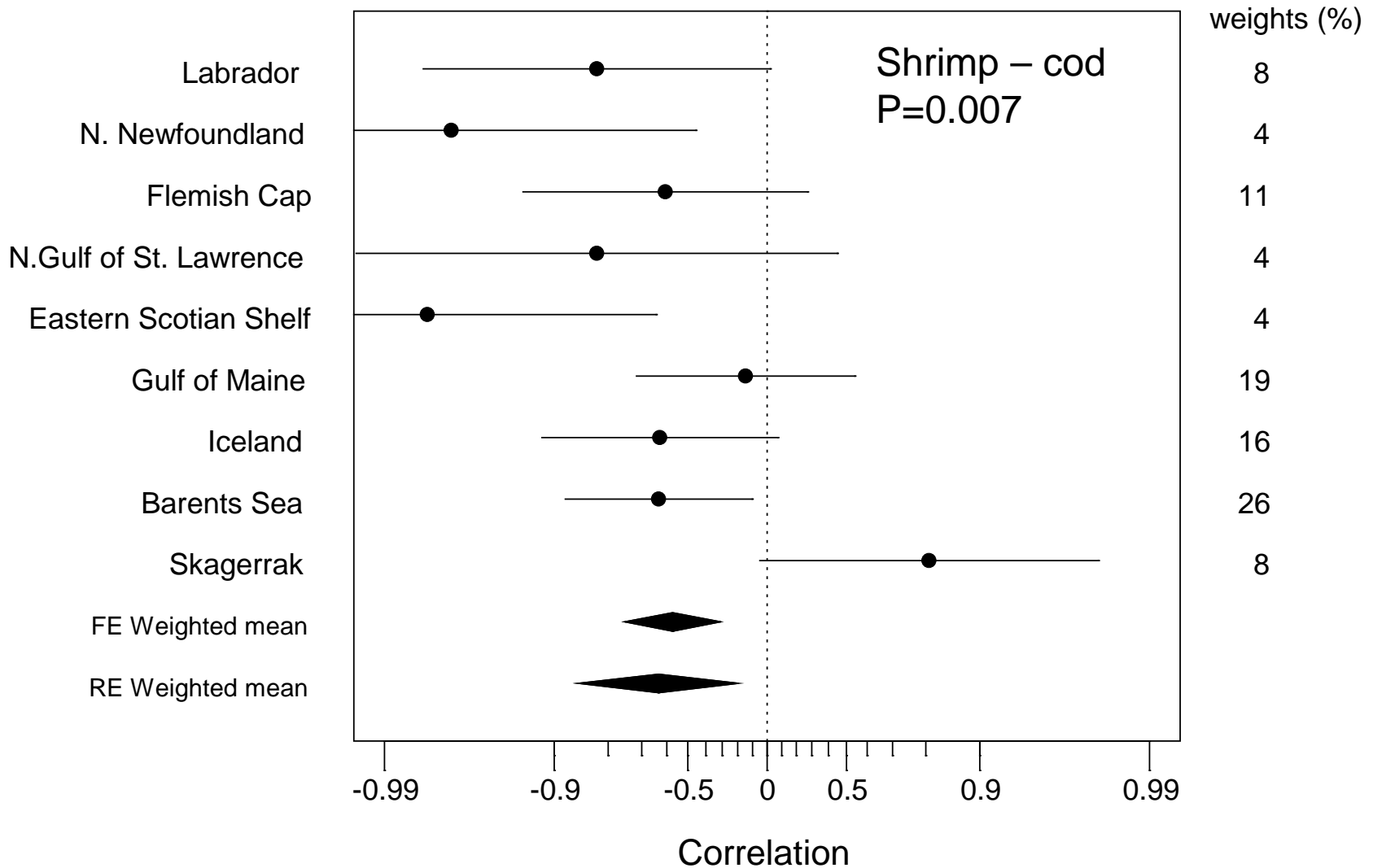
# Major shrimp stocks in the North Atlantic

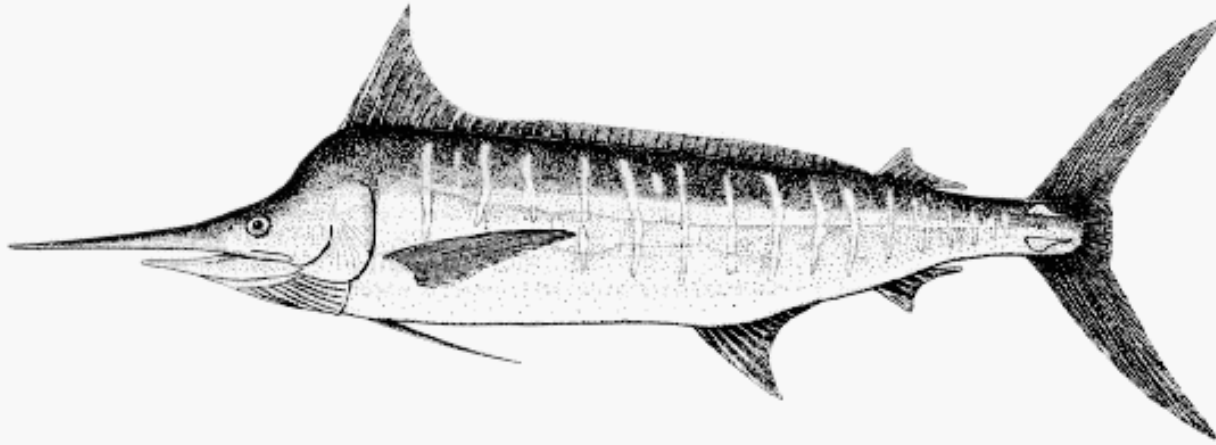


# Cod and shrimp biomass in the North Atlantic: time series



# Step 2: Random-effects meta-analysis

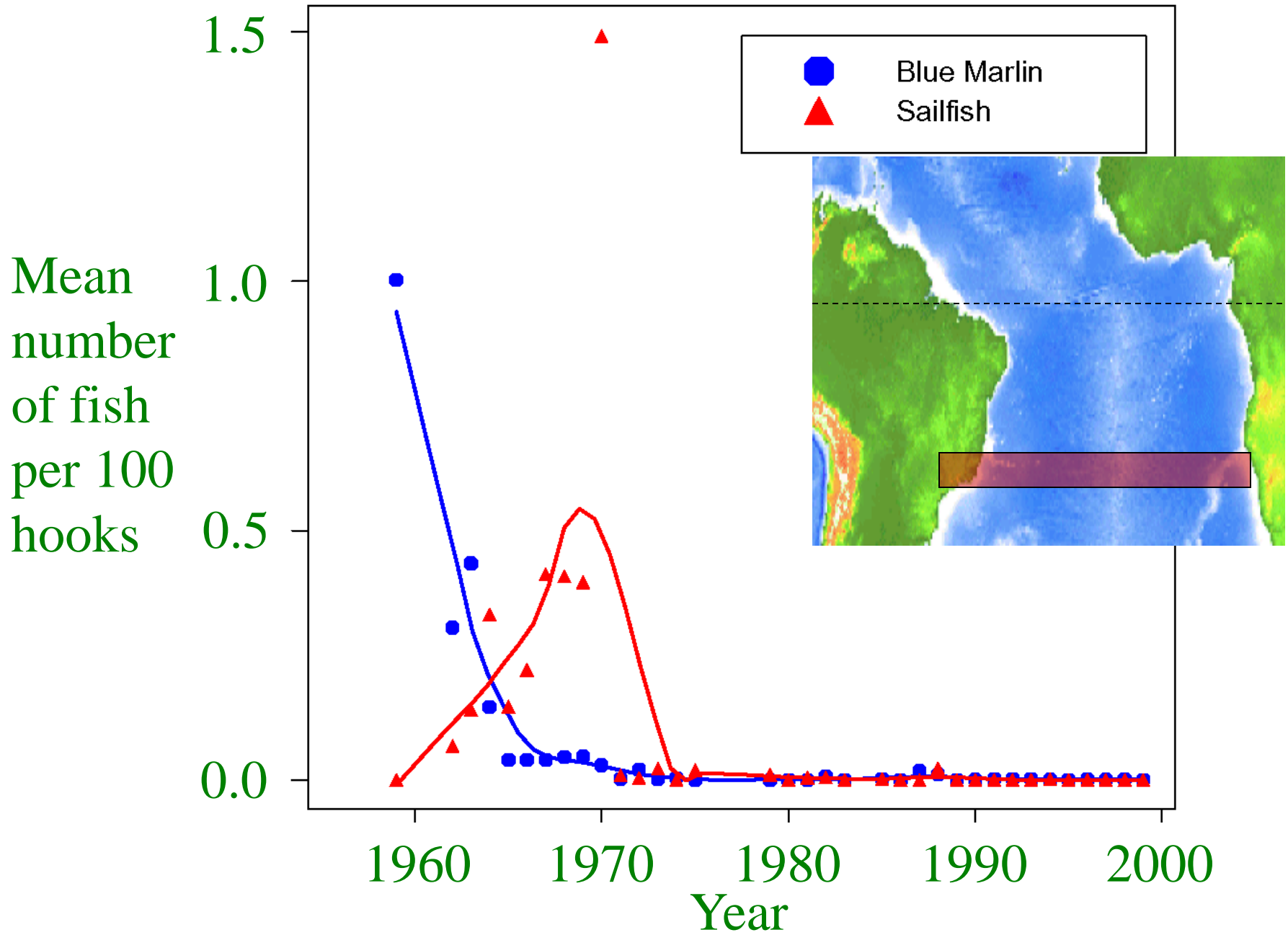




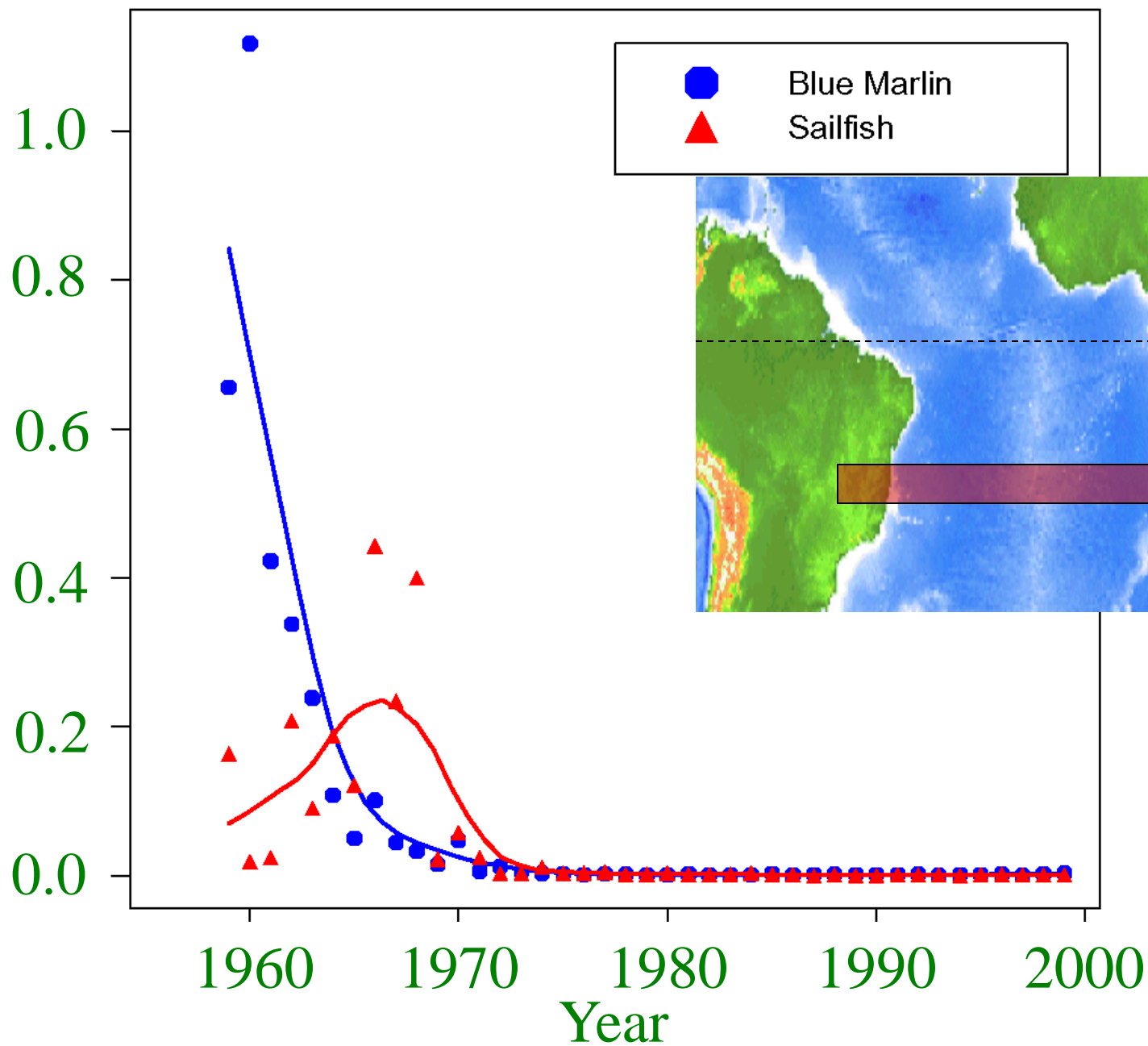
Blue marlin  
(*Makaira  
nigricans*)



Sailfish  
(*Istiophorus  
albicans*)

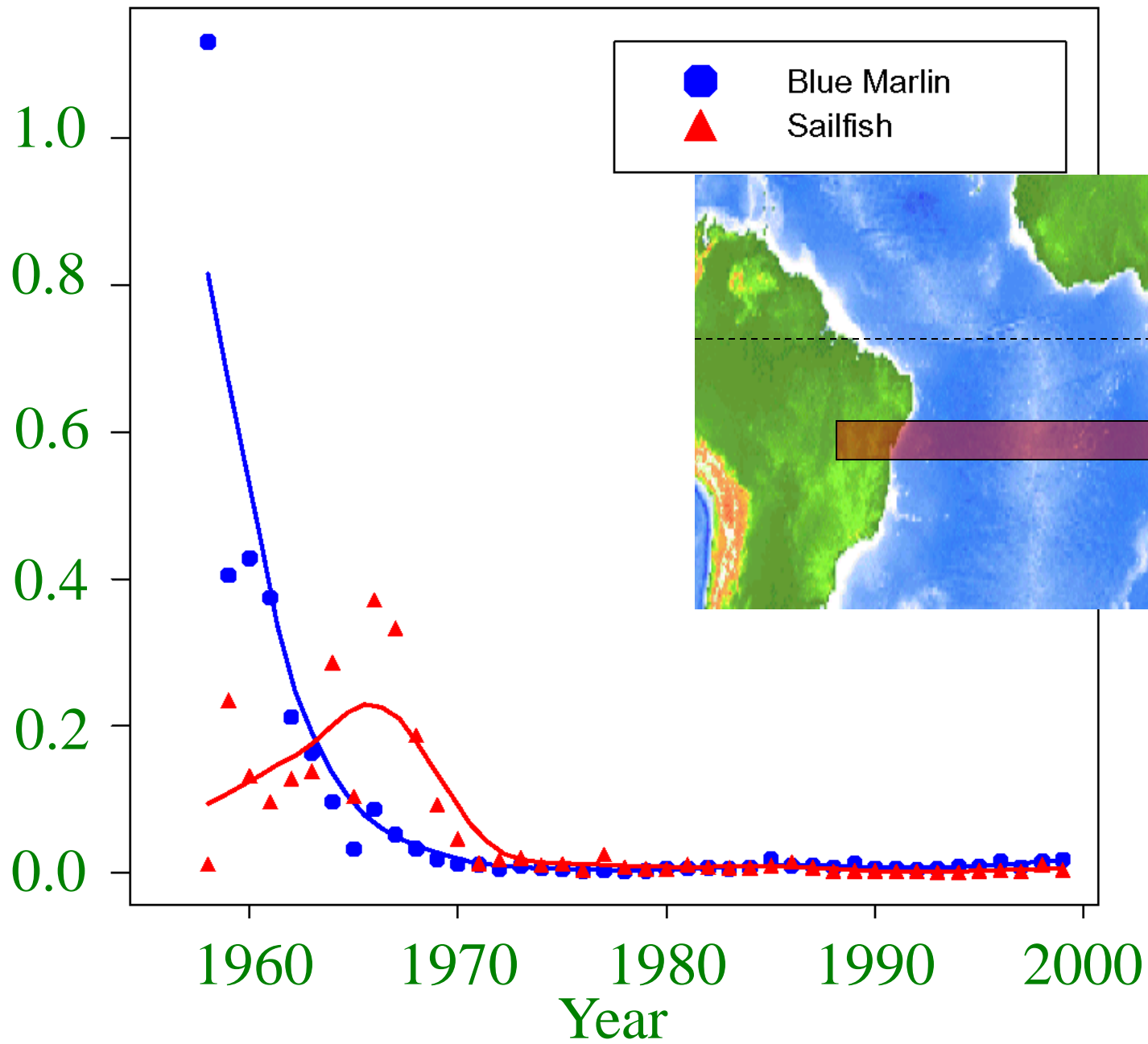


Mean  
number  
of fish  
per 100  
hooks

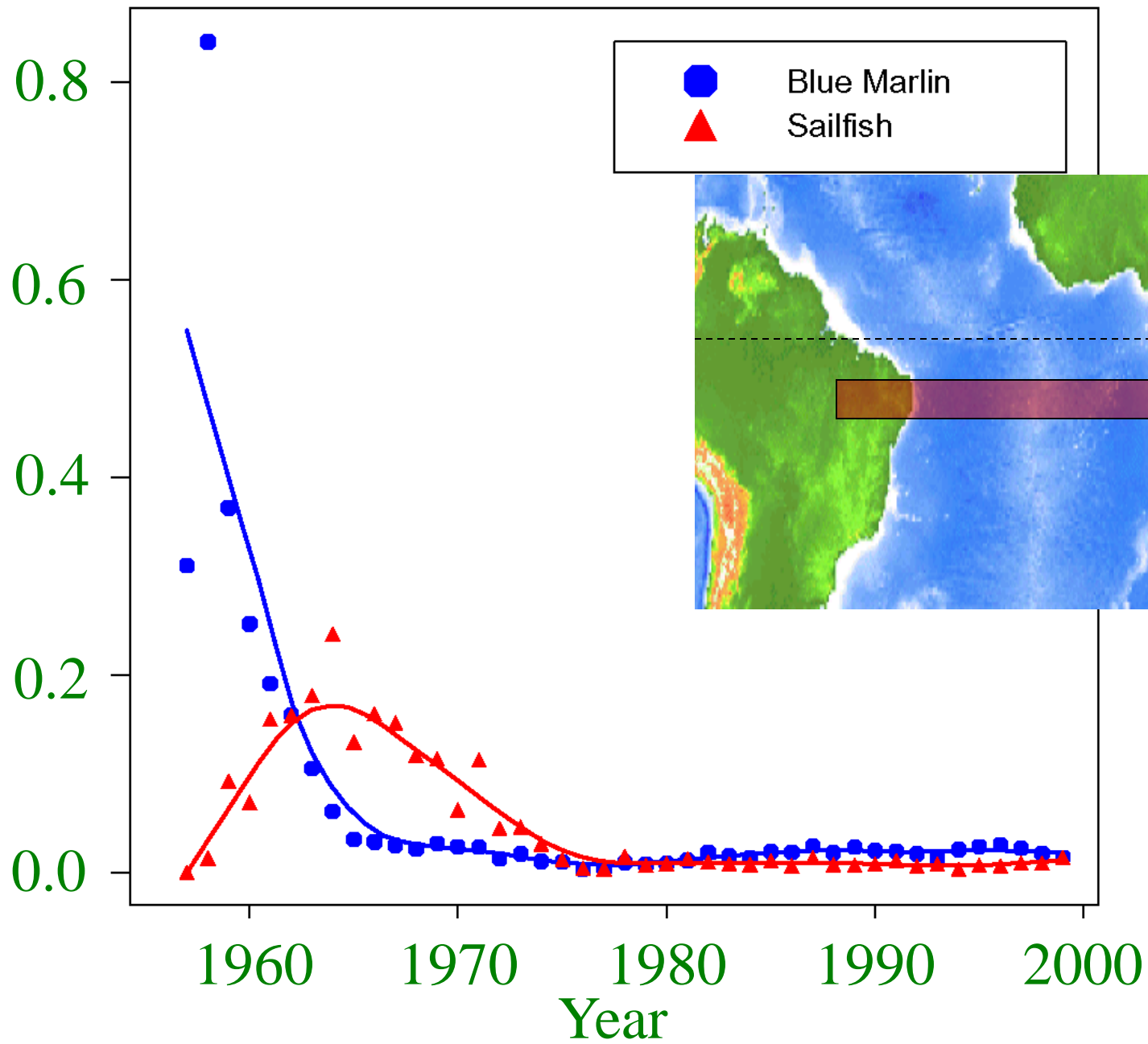




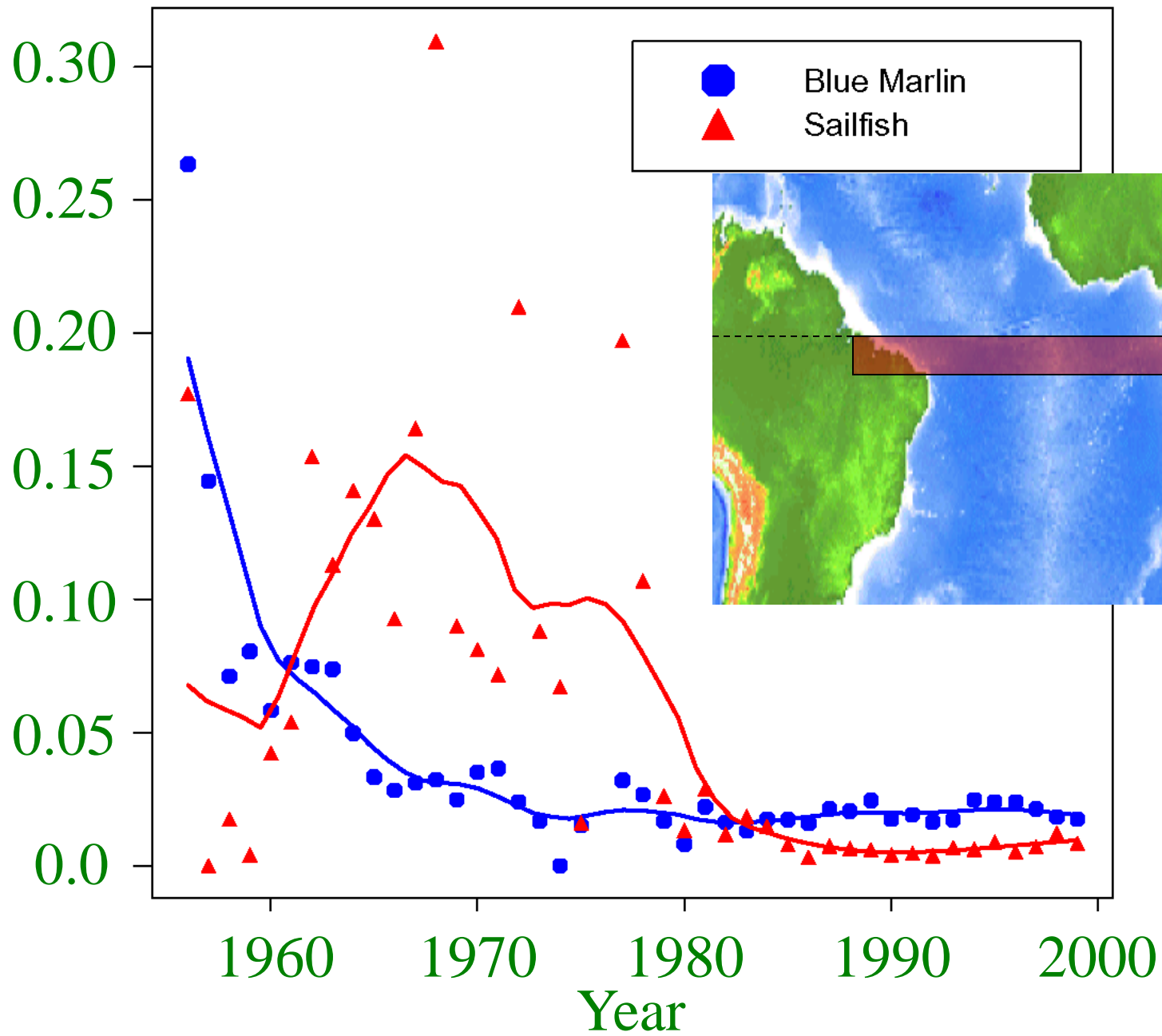
Mean  
number  
of fish  
per 100  
hooks



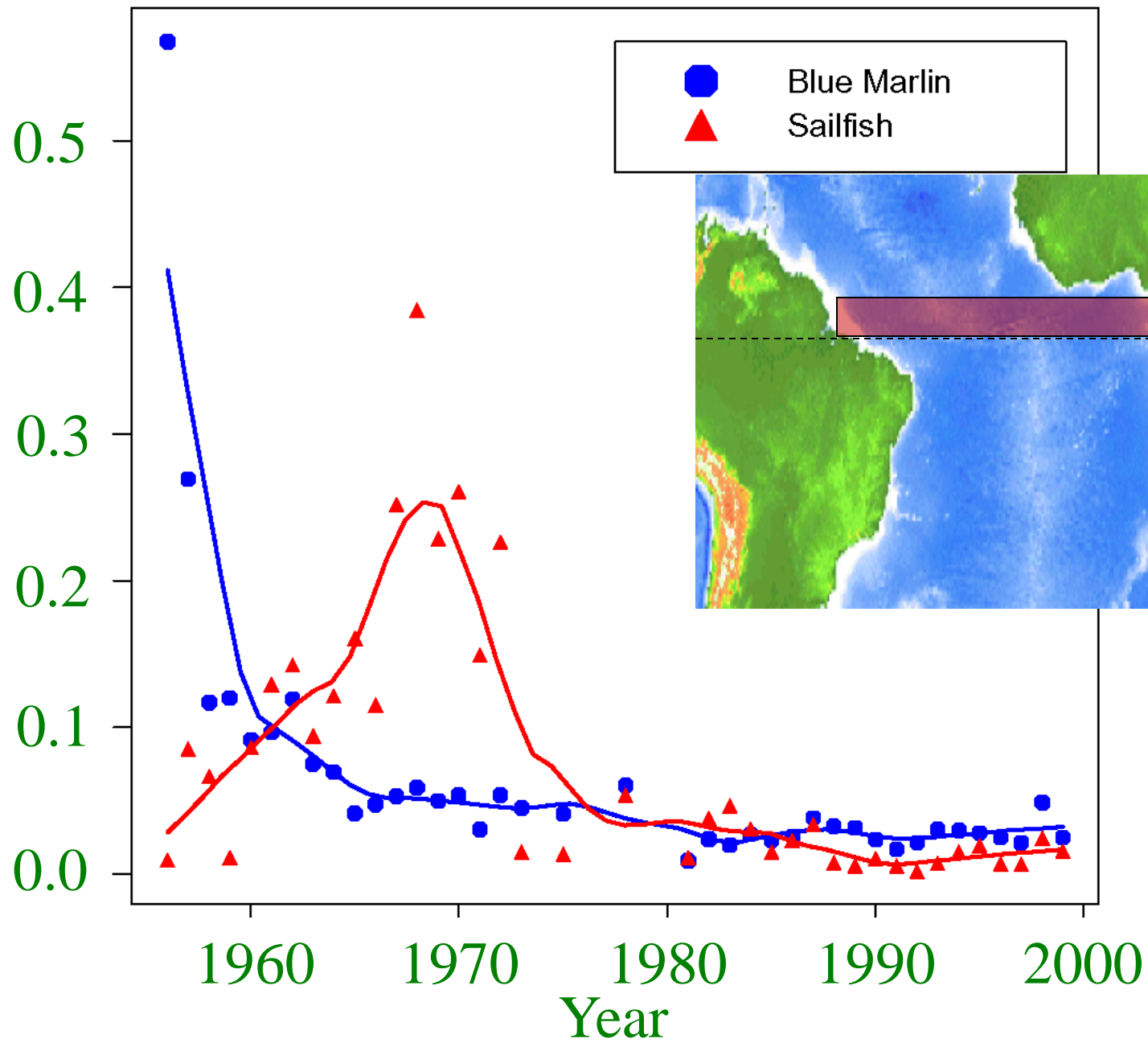
Mean  
number  
of fish  
per 100  
hooks



Mean  
number  
of fish  
per 100  
hooks



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.

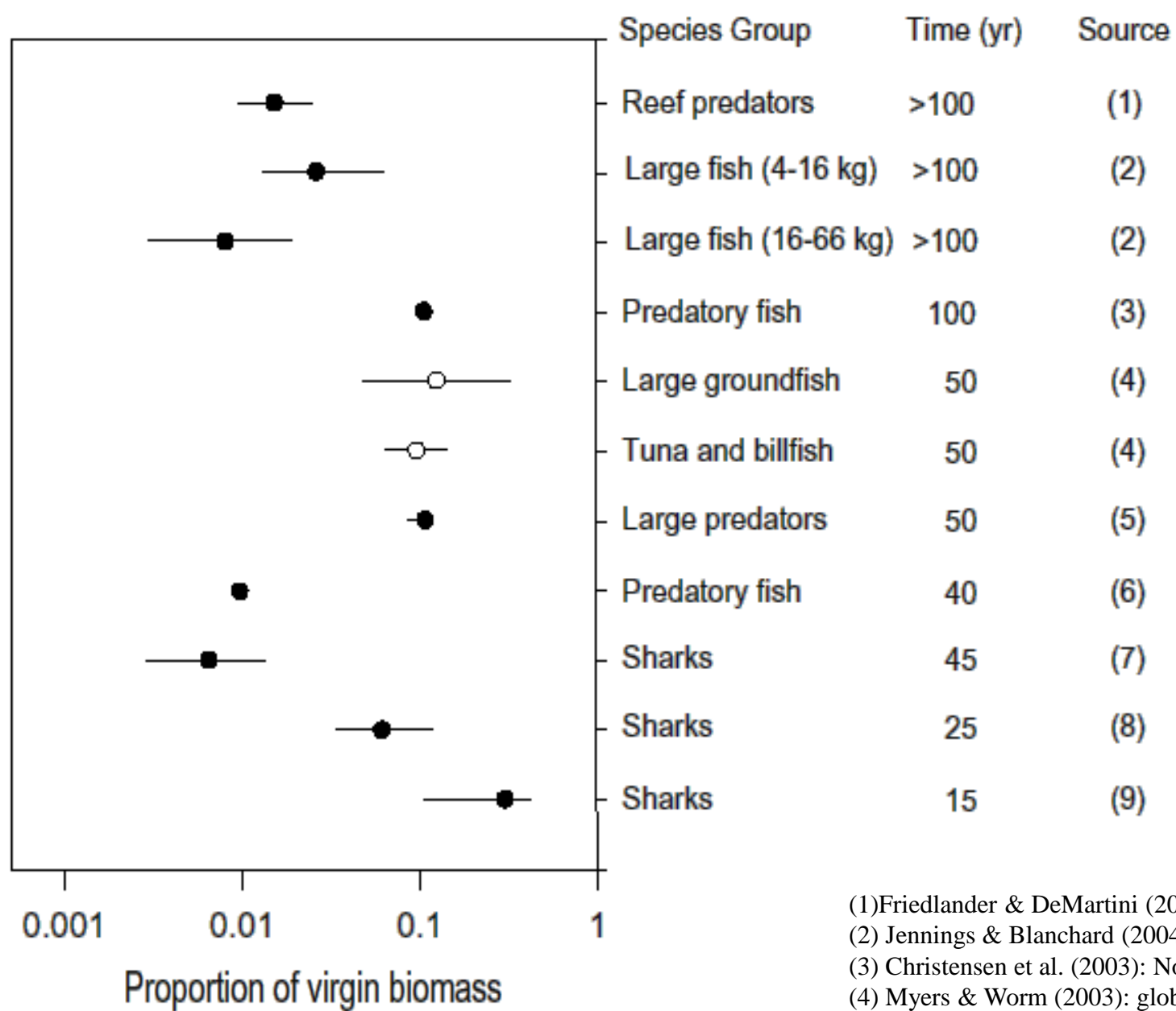


FMAP (Future of Marine Animal Populations)

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.



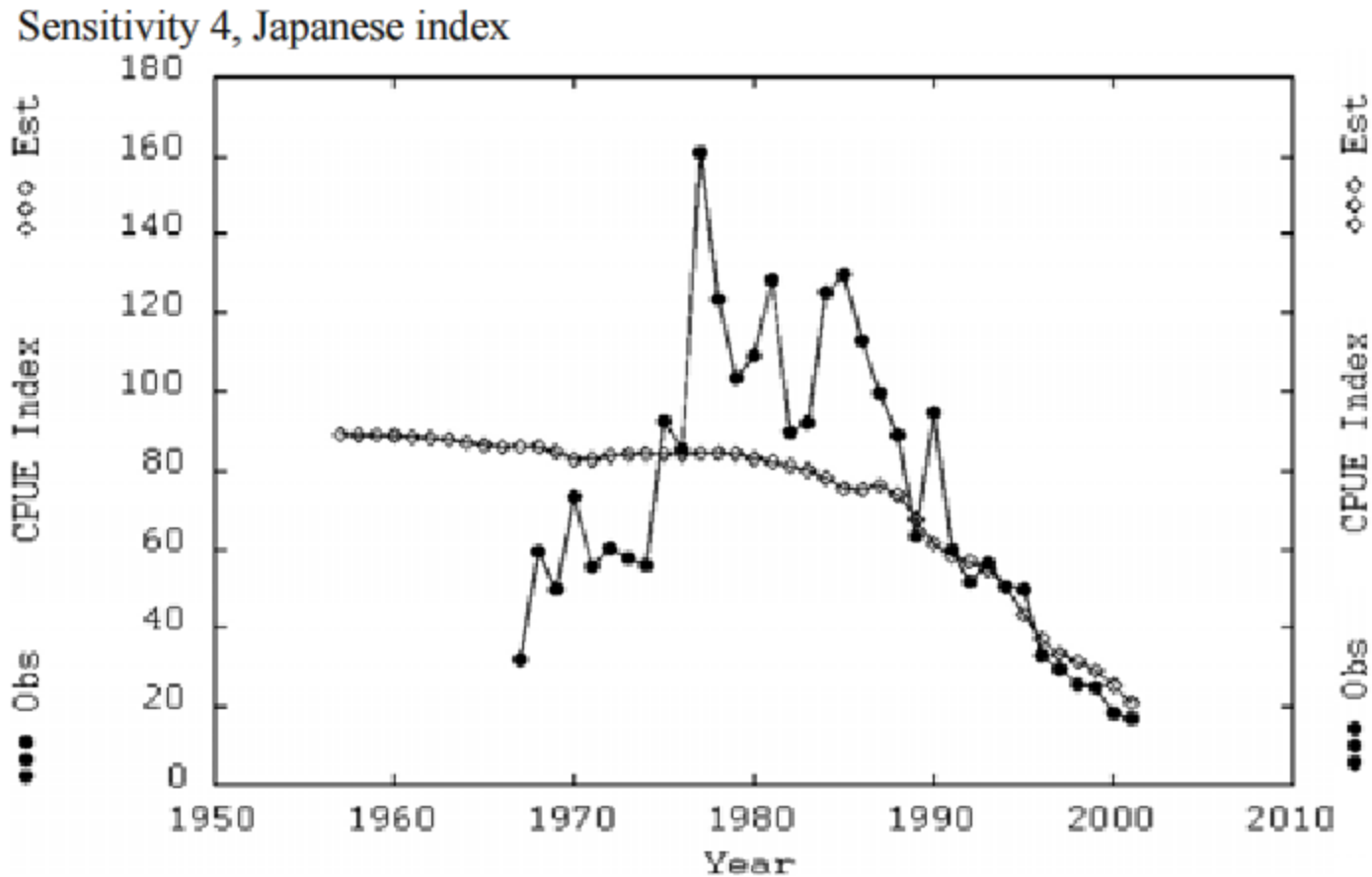
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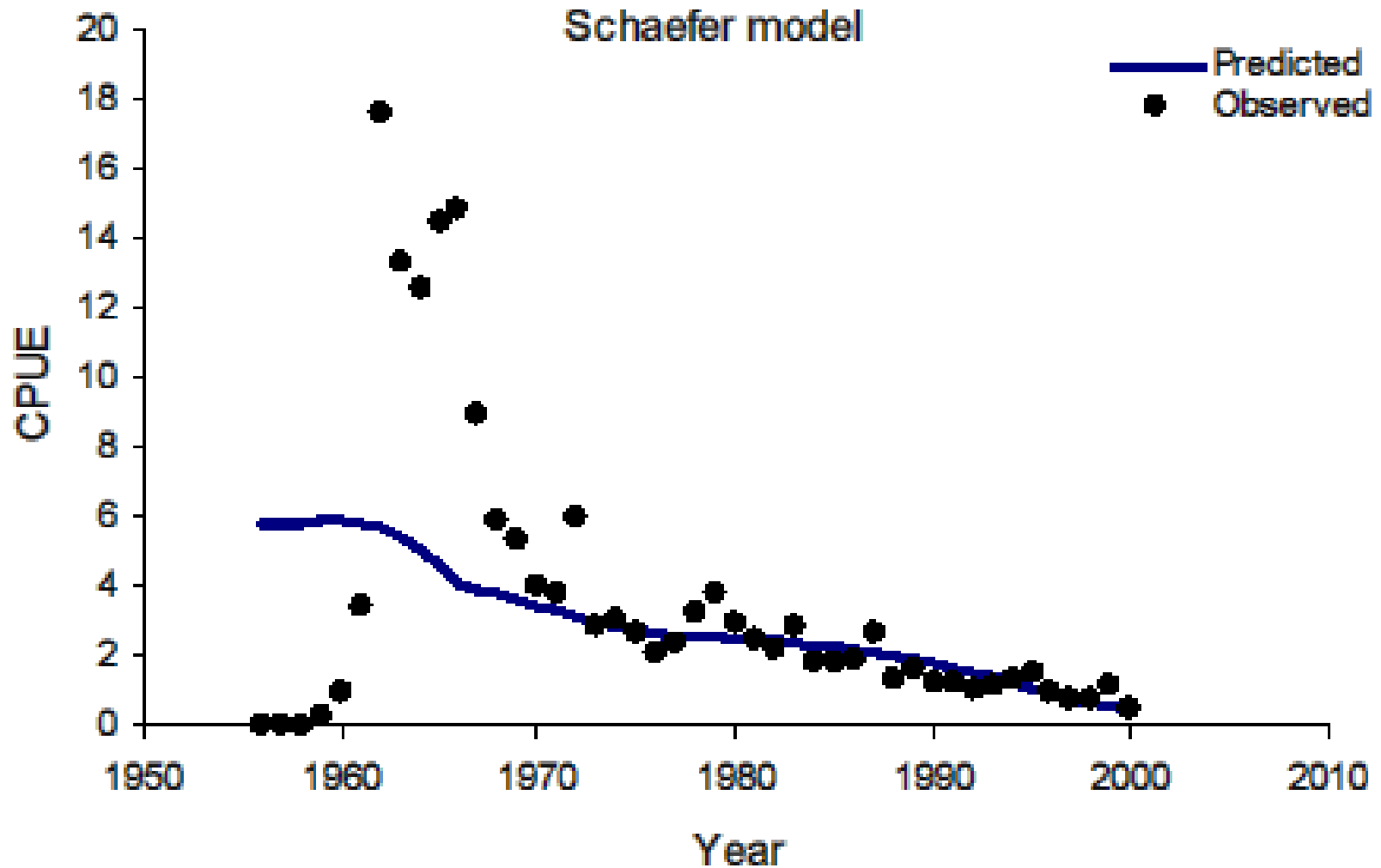
<http://www.globalsharks.ca>

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

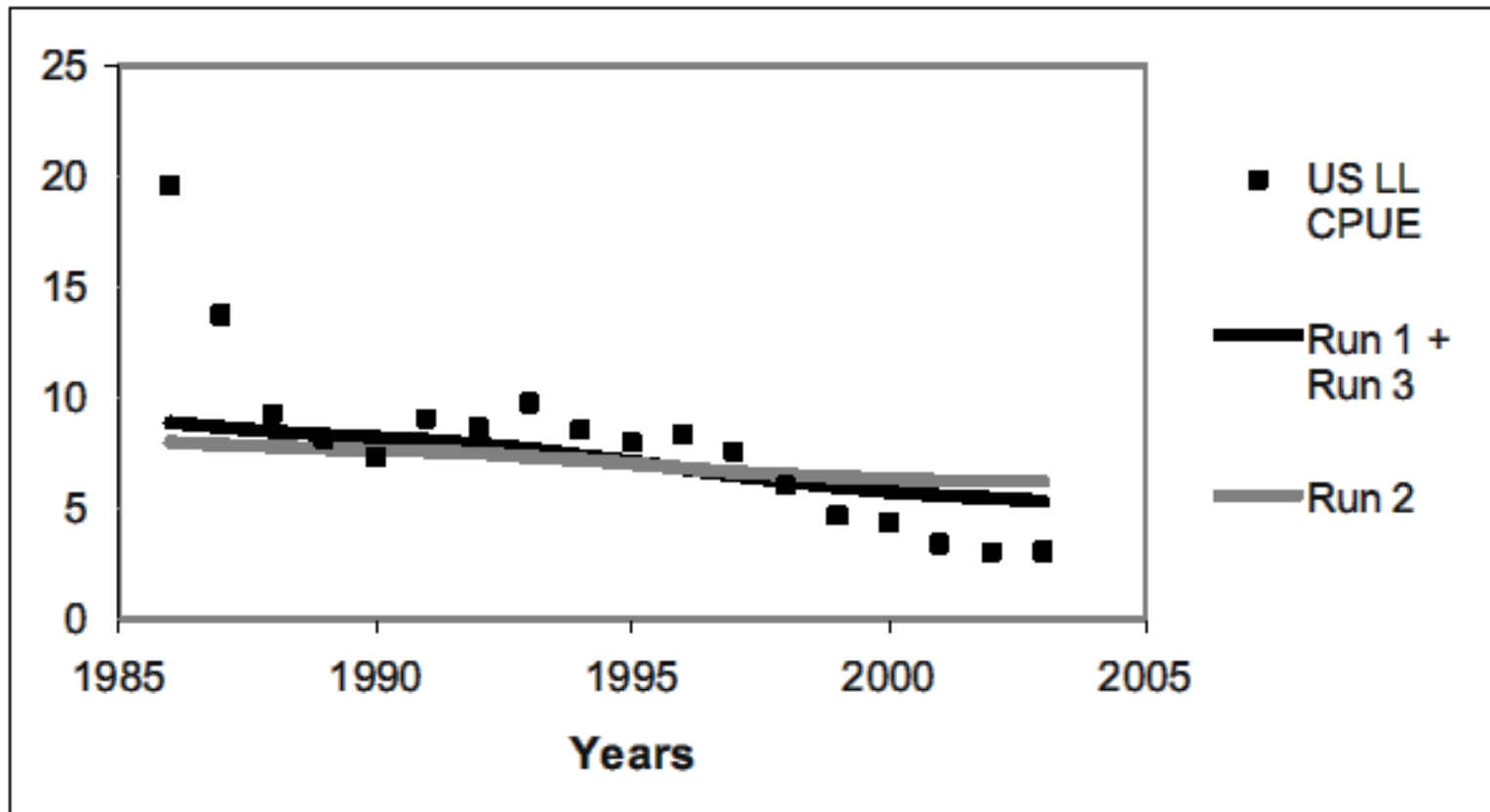




White Marlin: Atlantic, single species models do not work  
Very well.



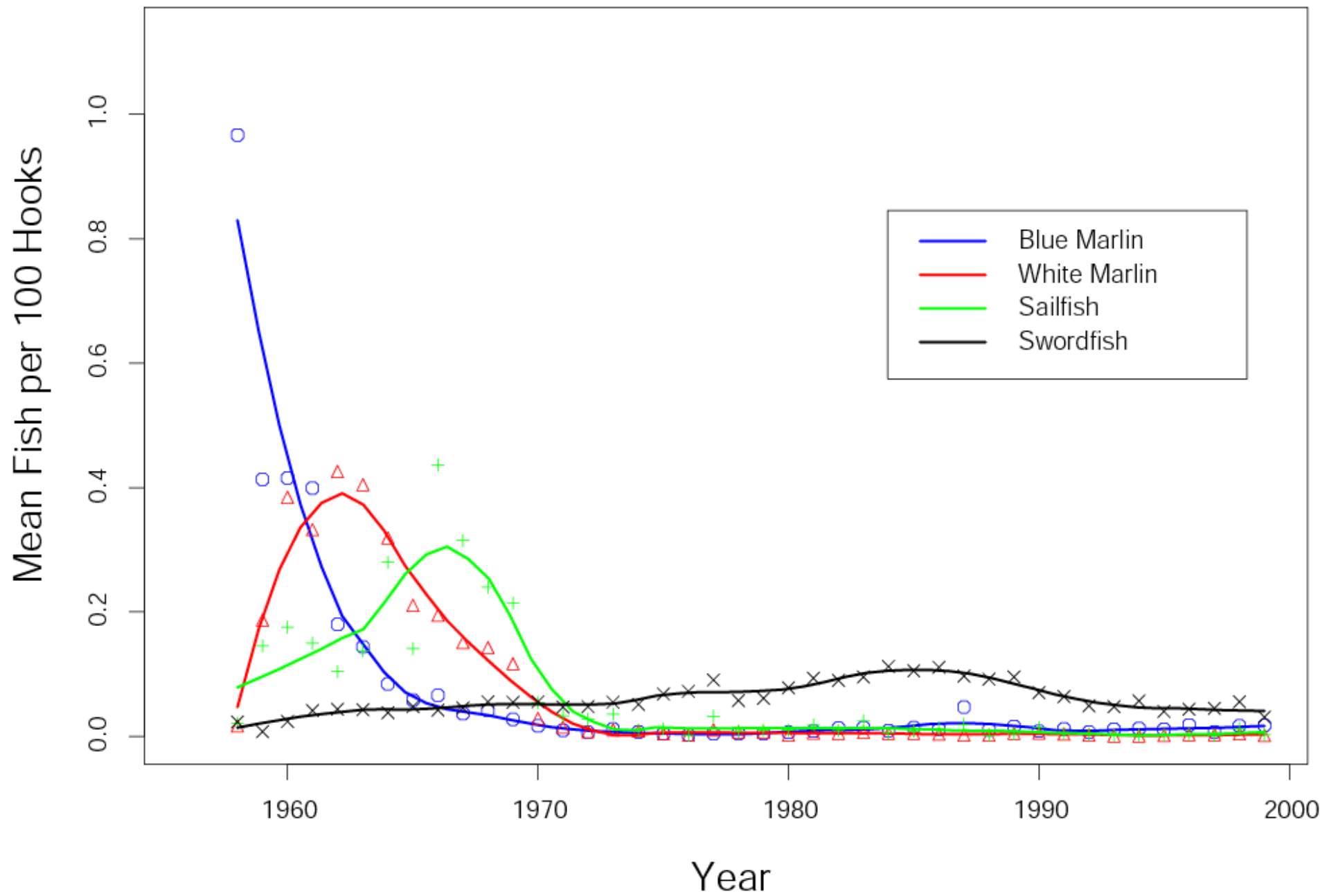
ICCAT shark assessments in the Atlantic don't even remotely fit reliable data:  
Similar pattern for US government research surveys.



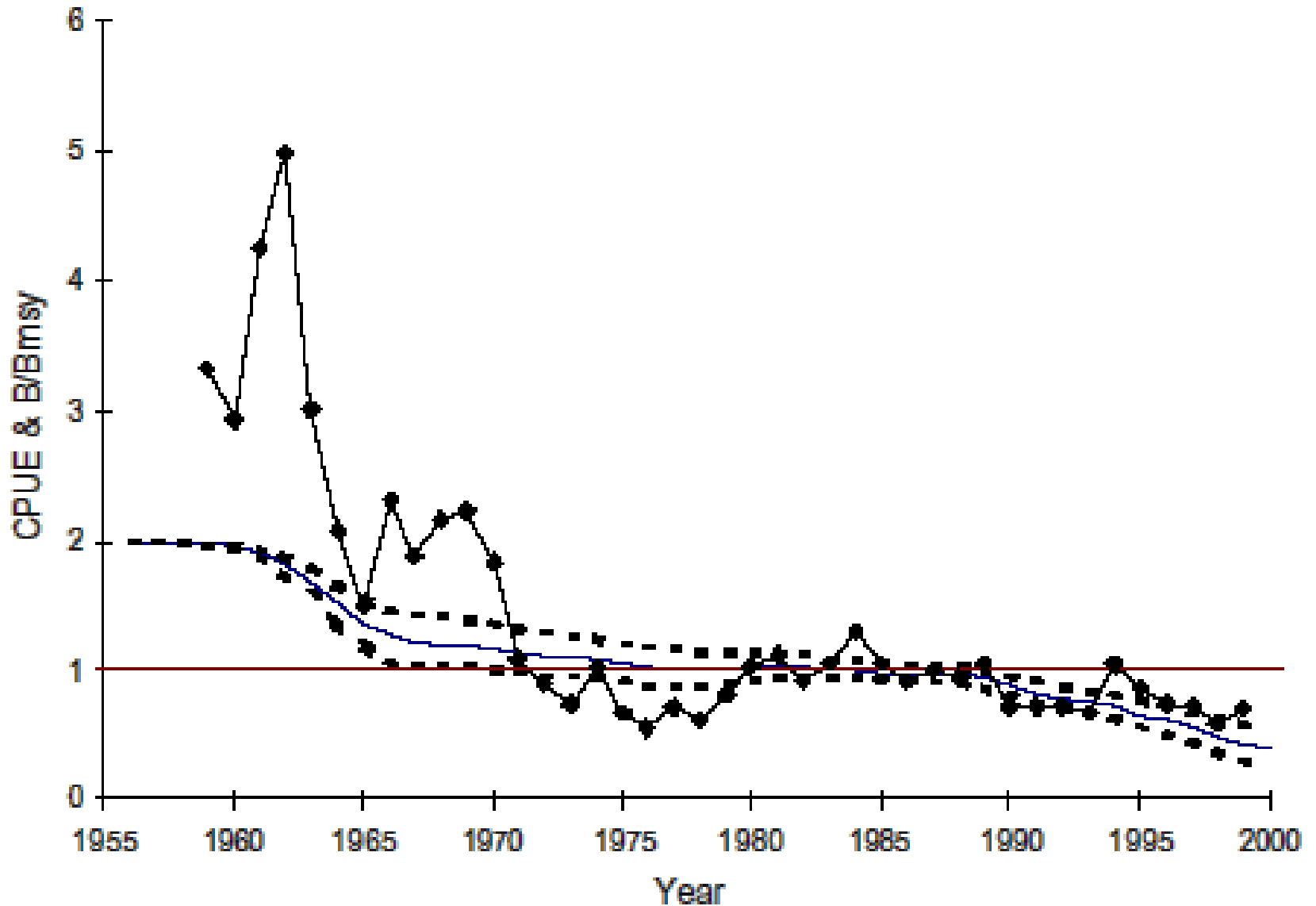
**Figure 10** (above). Fit of the model to the North Atlantic blue shark CPUE data for each of the runs considered.



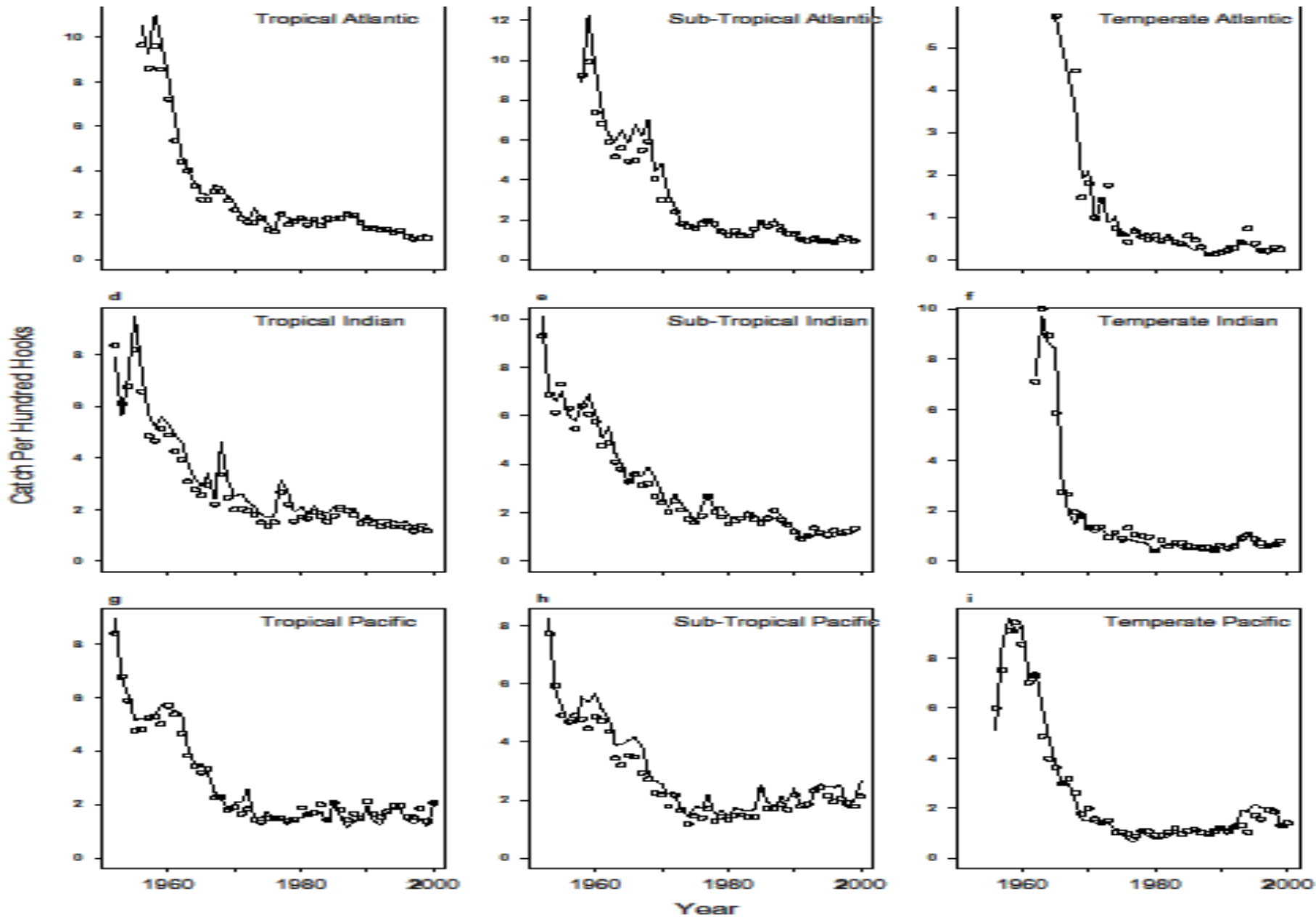
# Atlantic, Latitude = -15 to -10



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

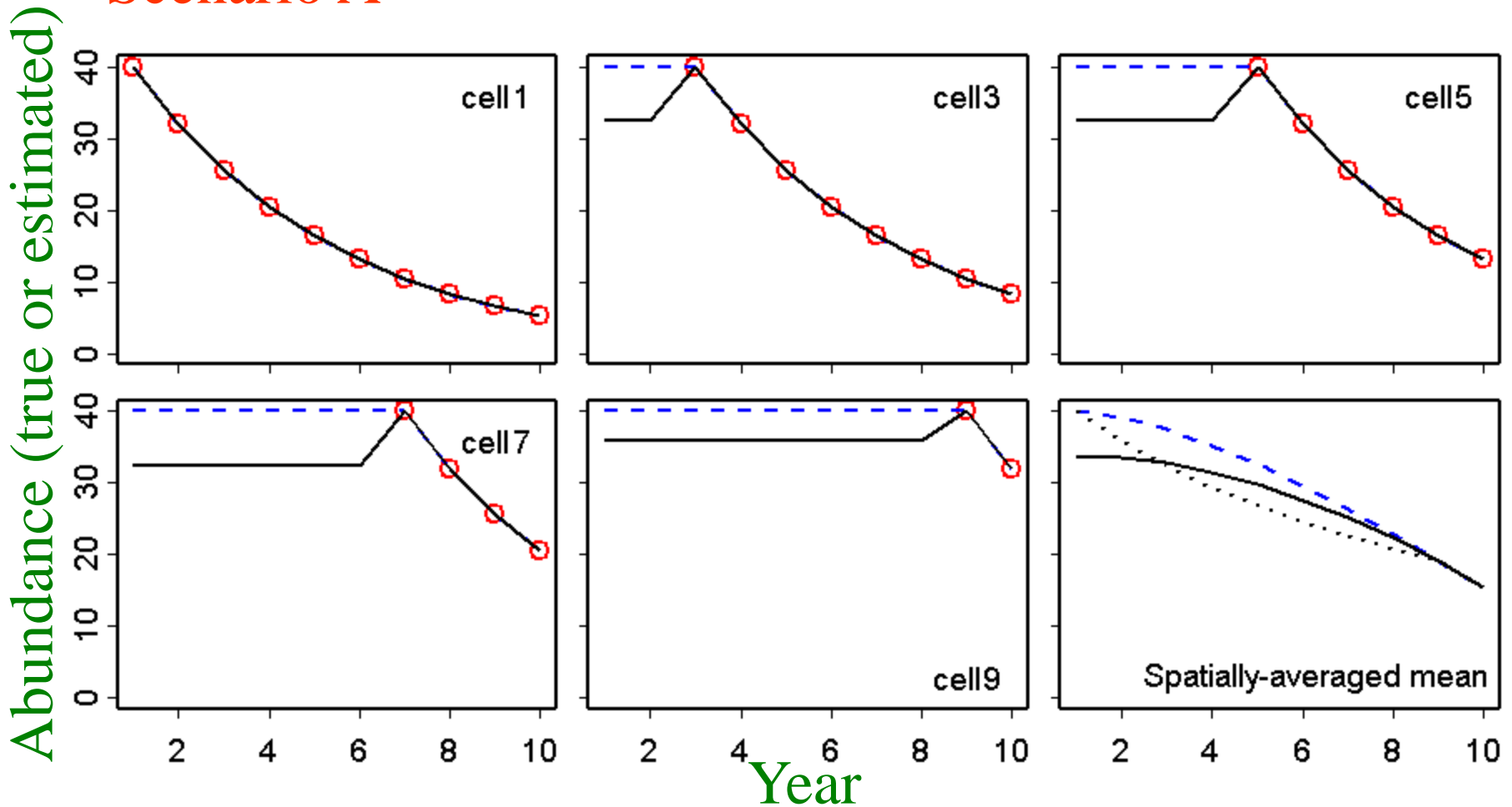


# RED HERRING 1: RATIO ESTIMATION



# RED HERRING 2: SPATIAL ESTIMATION

# Scenario A



----- True population

○ Abundance estimate from CPUE

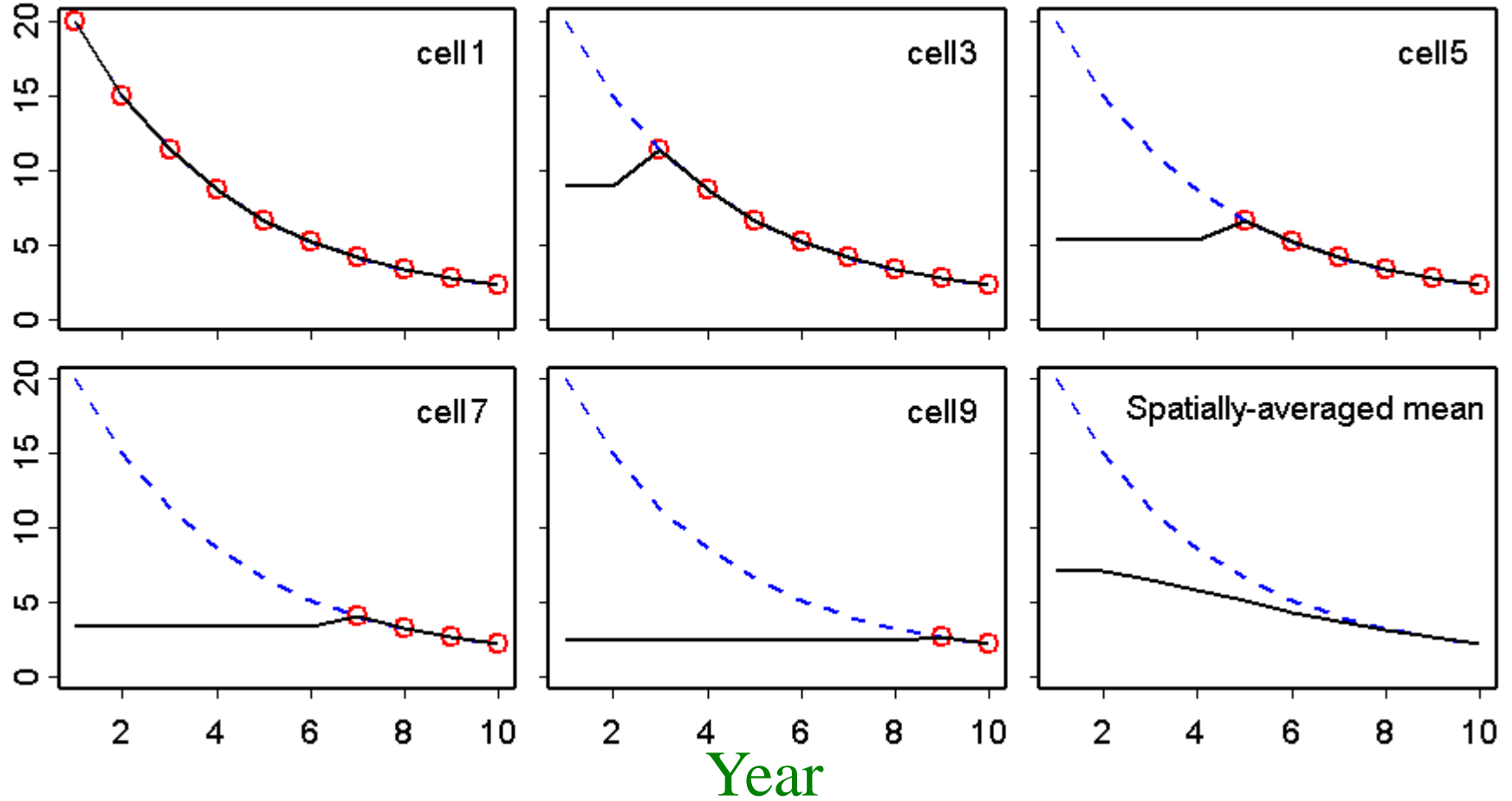
———— Abundance estimate, Walters' method

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



# Scenario B

Abundance (true or estimated)



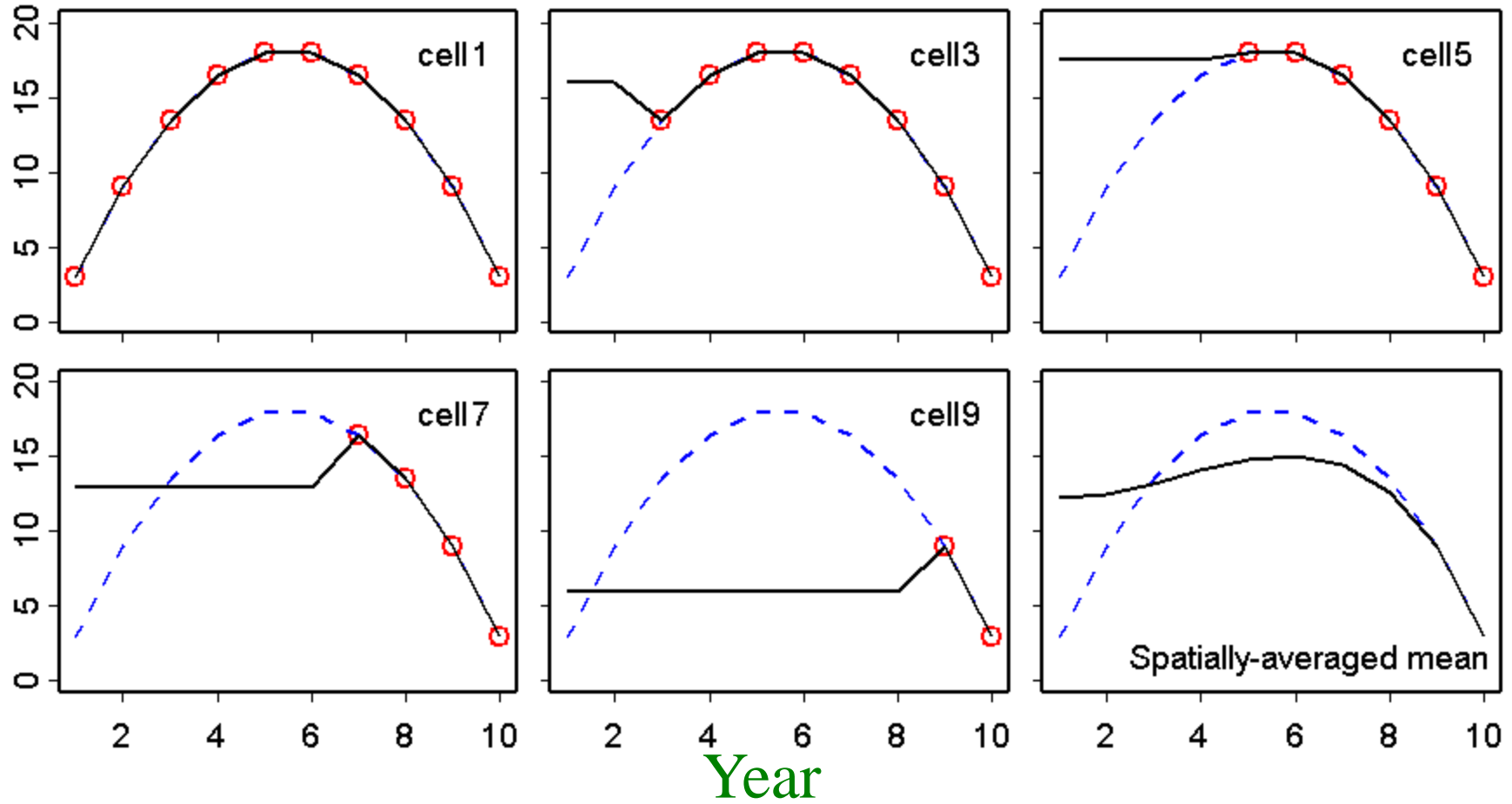
----- True population

○ Abundance estimate from CPUE

———— Abundance estimate, Walters' method

# Scenario C

Abundance (true or estimated)



----- True population

○ Abundance estimate from CPUE

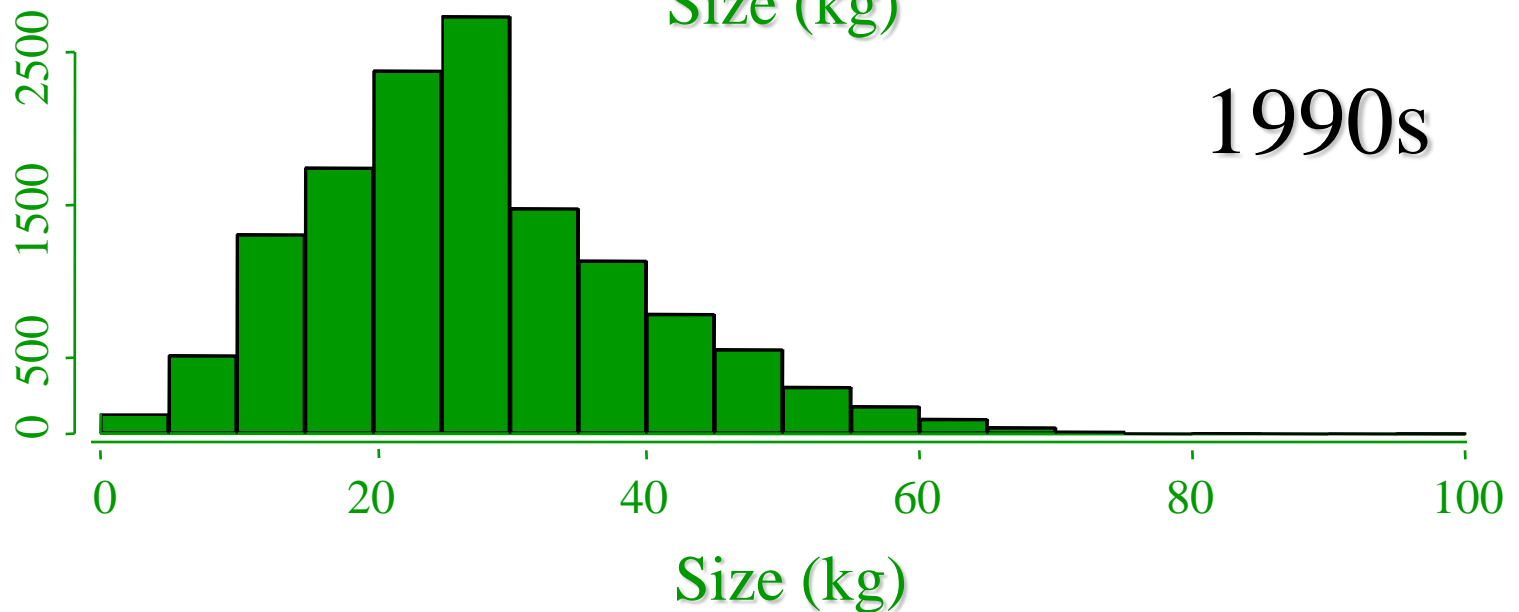
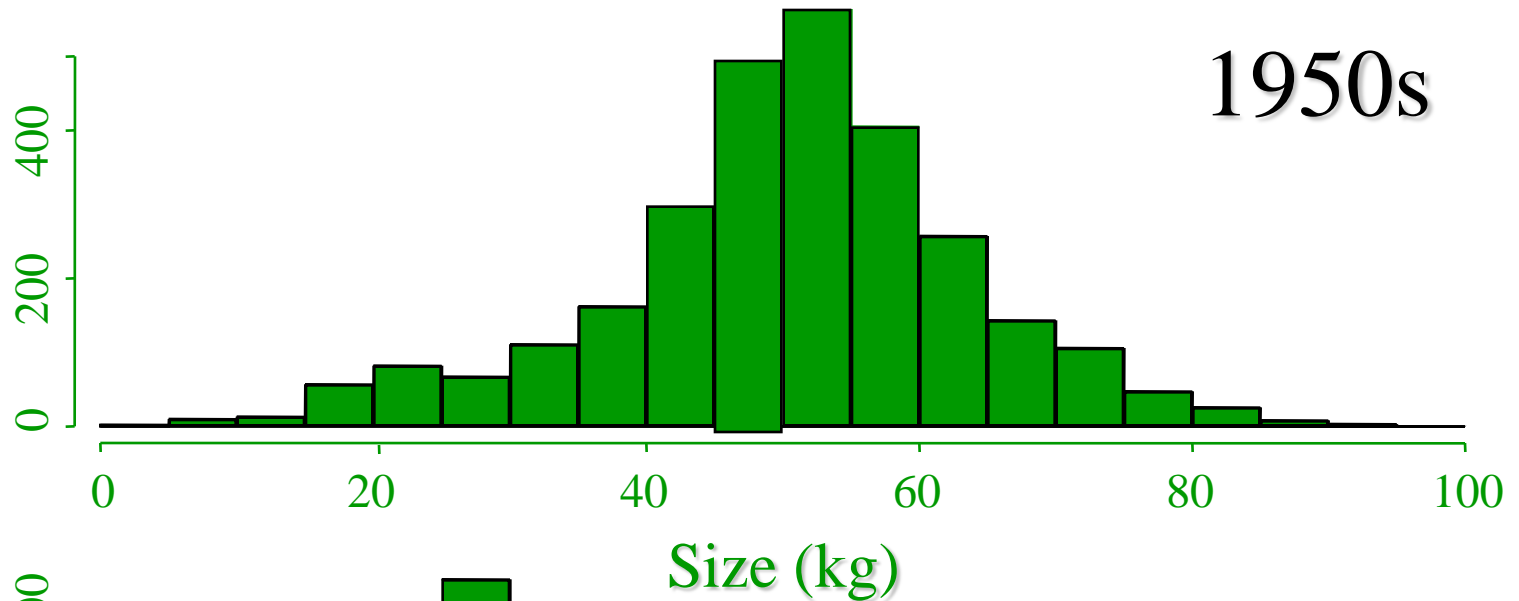
———— Abundance estimate, Walters' method

These estimates are conservative: 1.

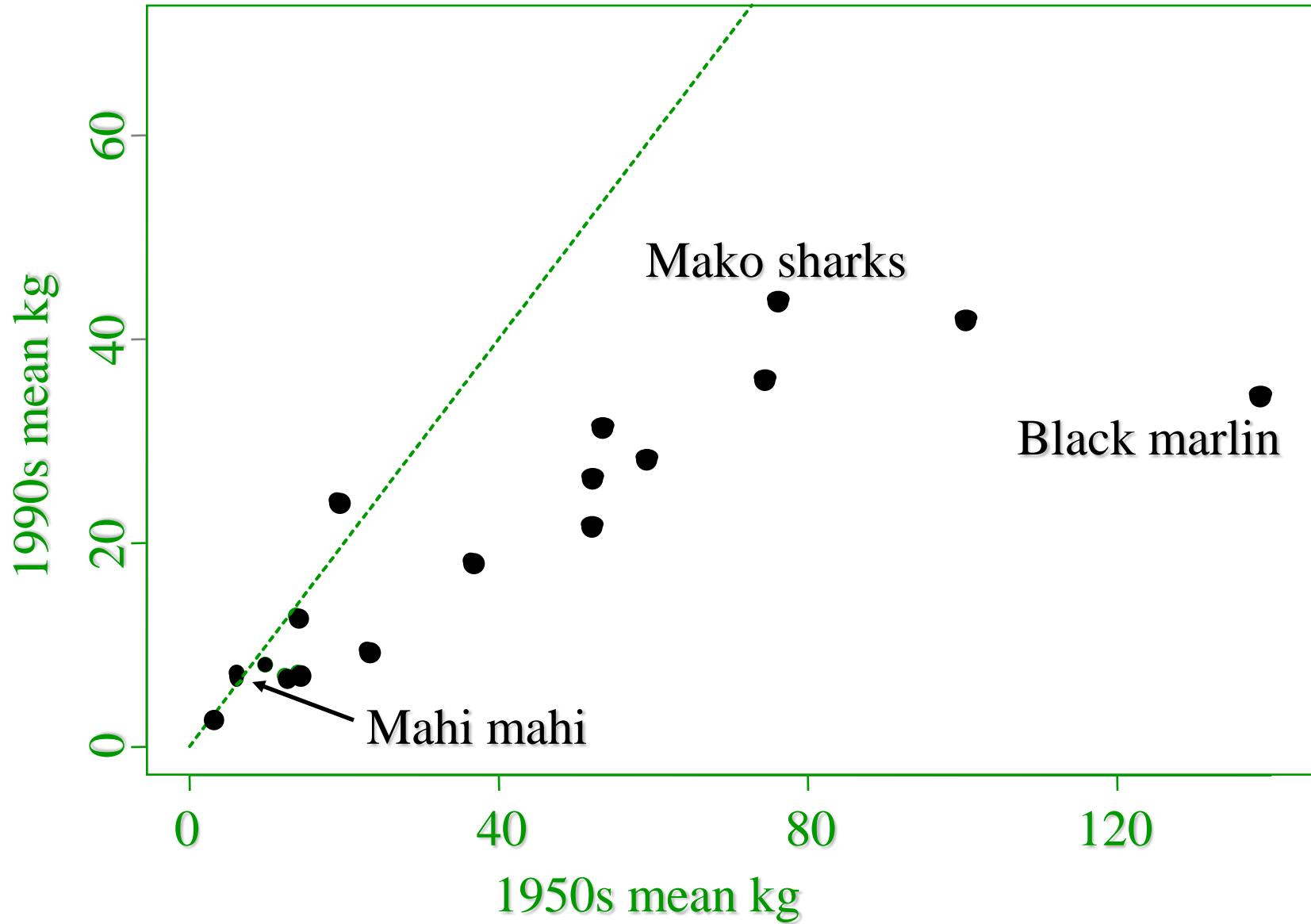
Bits of tuna did not count;  
~25-30% of tropical tunas were initially not counted because of shark damage.



These estimates are conservative: 2 (fish are smaller)

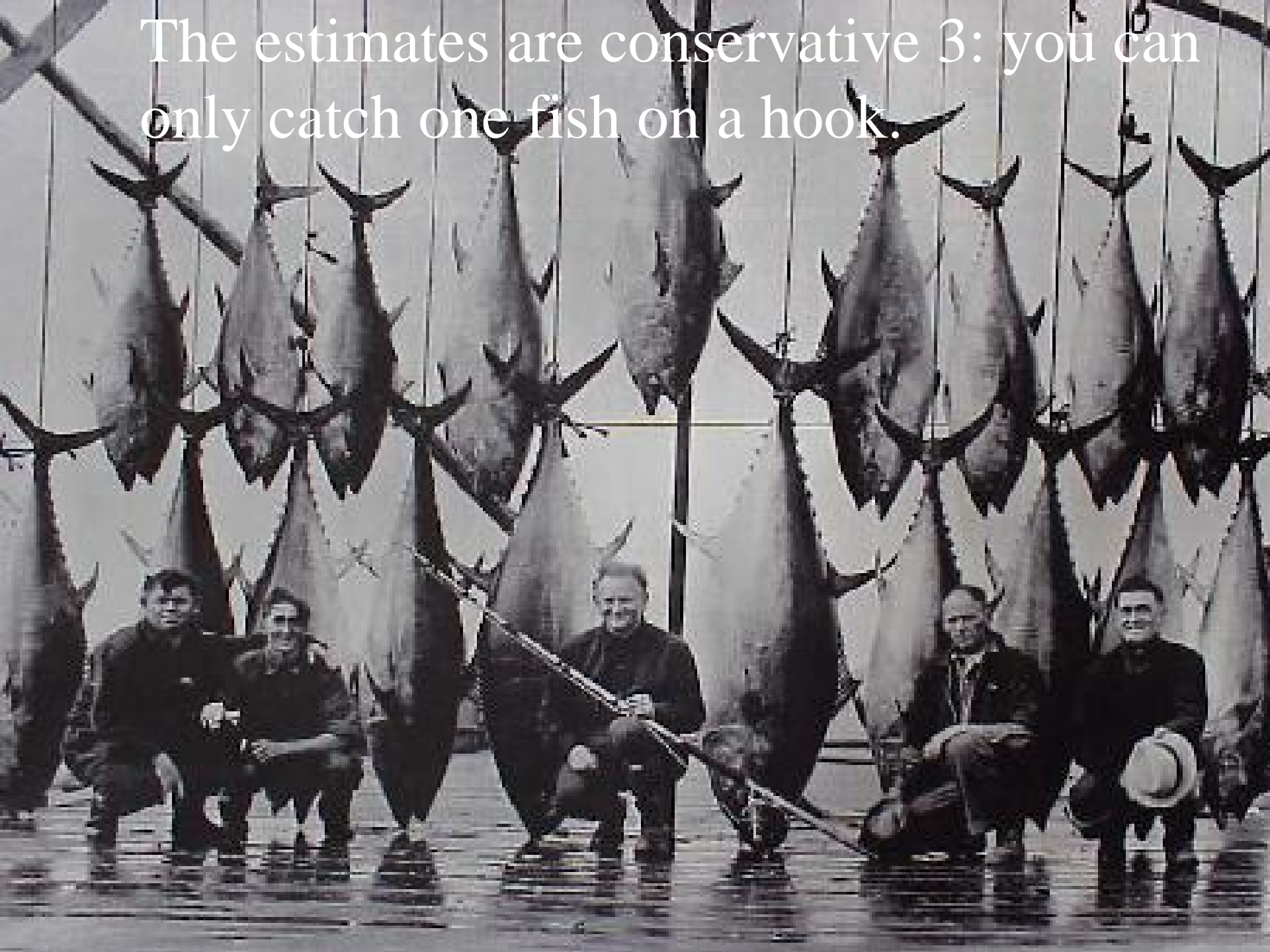


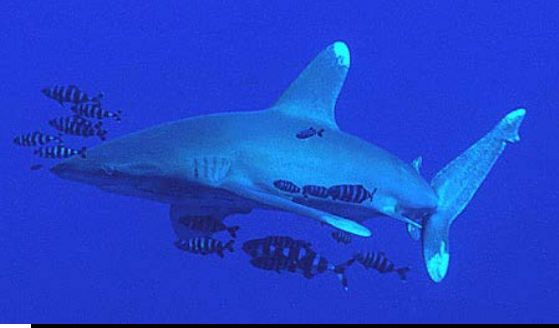
# Change in body size



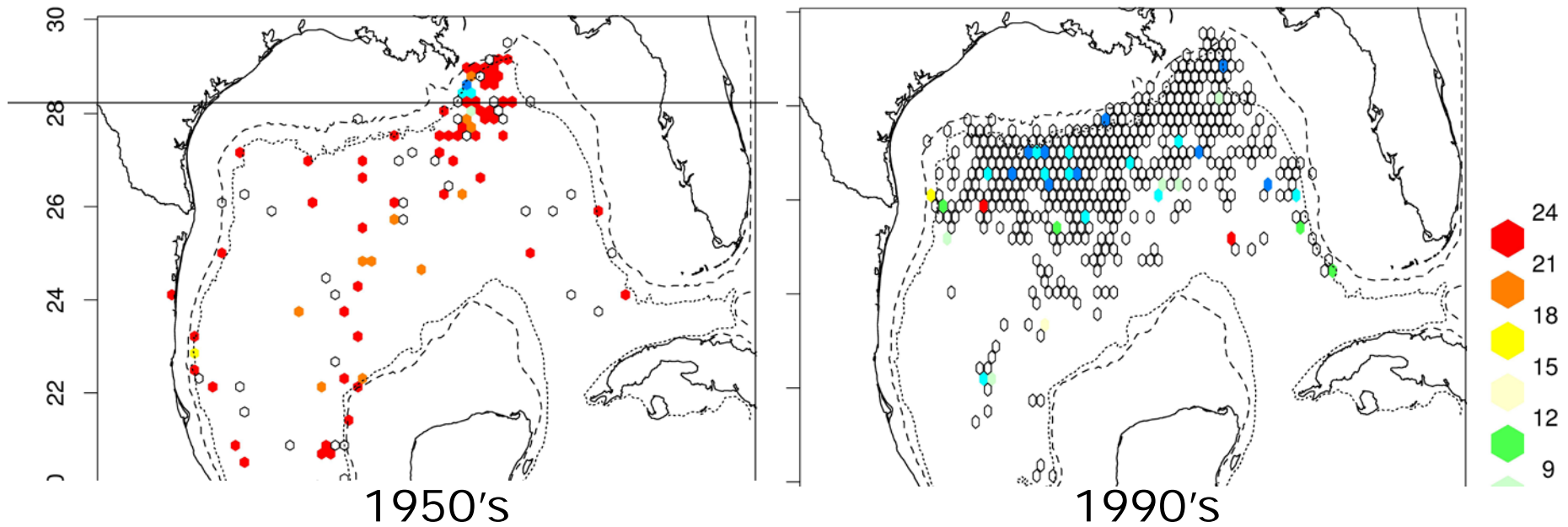


The estimates are conservative 3: you can only catch one fish on a hook.





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



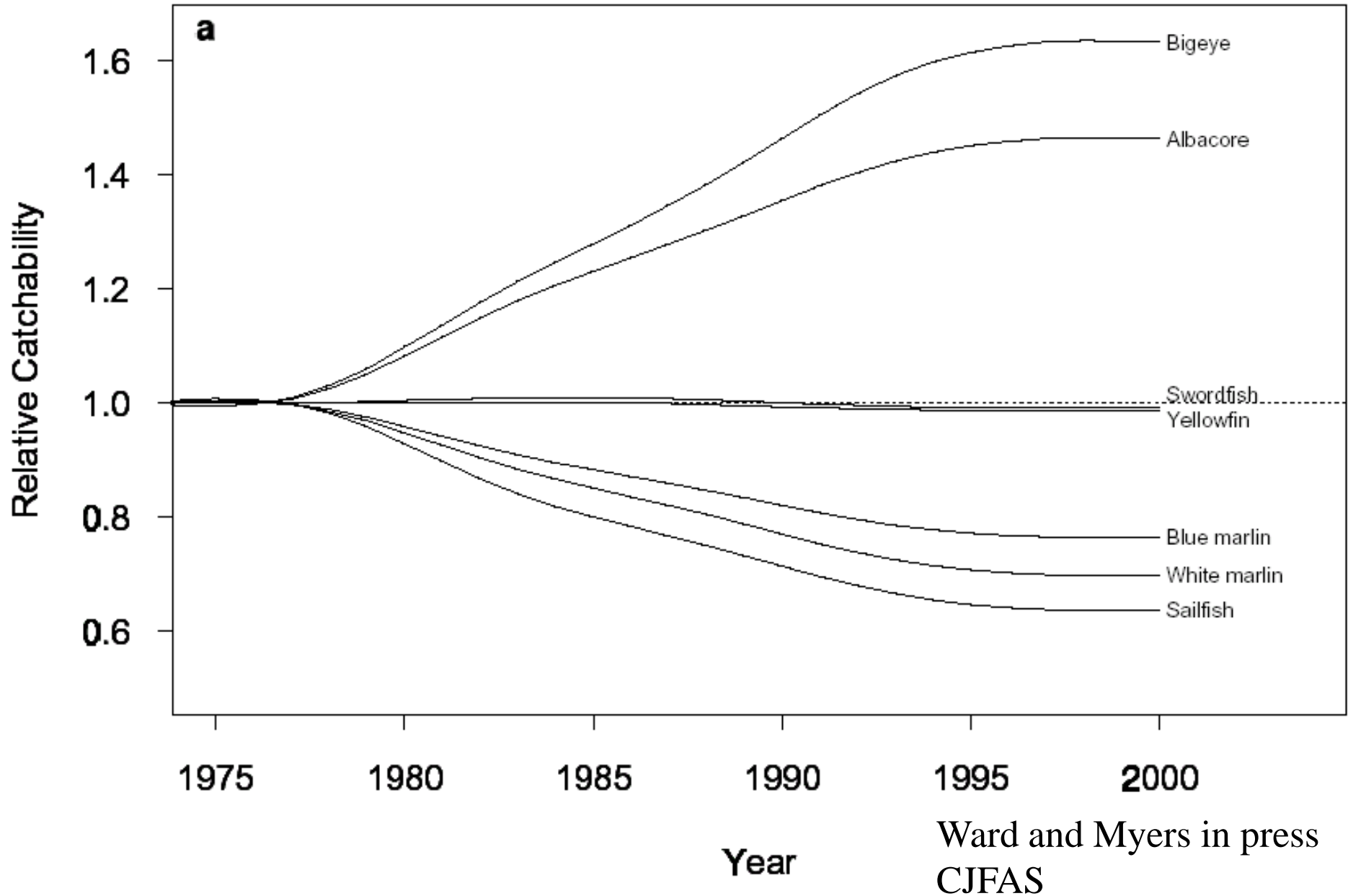
Oceanic Whitetip captures per 10,000 hooks



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.

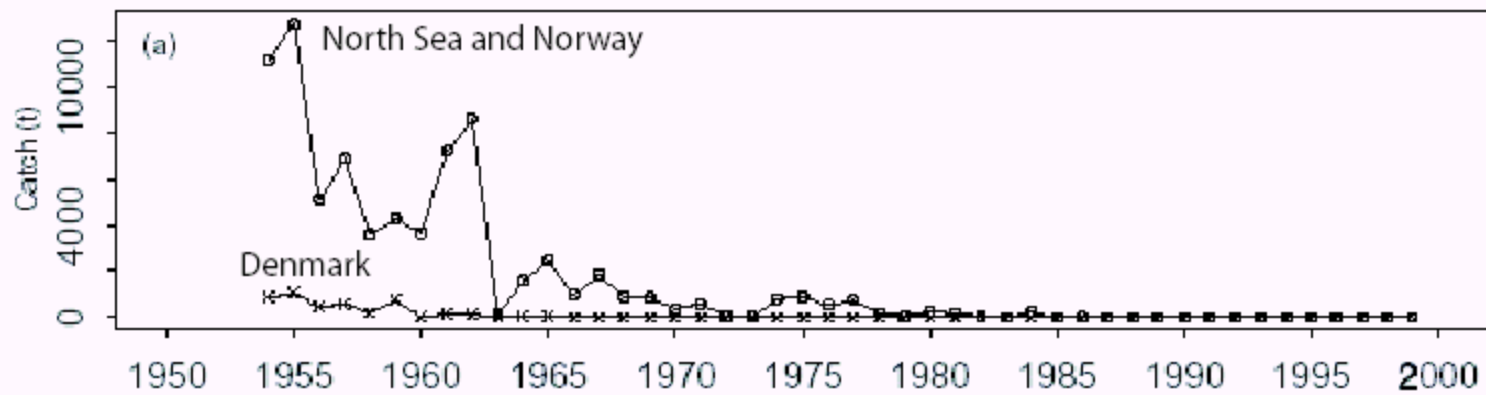


## Declines confirmed by independent data:

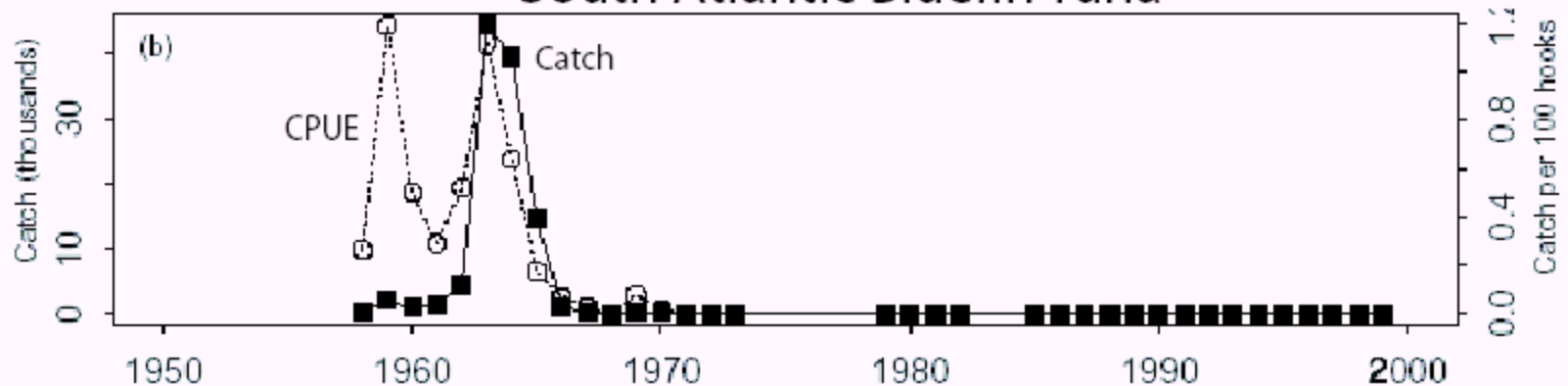
- The initial high catch rates were seen in early research surveys by Japan and US.
- Declines seen in harpoon fisheries for swordfish and tuna.
- Most tuna traps in the Mediterranean have largely been abandoned, Italy there is a decline from 100 to 3 tuna traps.
- Complete loss of species in some areas.

# Loss of Bluefin Tuna Populations in the Atlantic

## North Sea Bluefin Tuna



## South Atlantic Bluefin Tuna

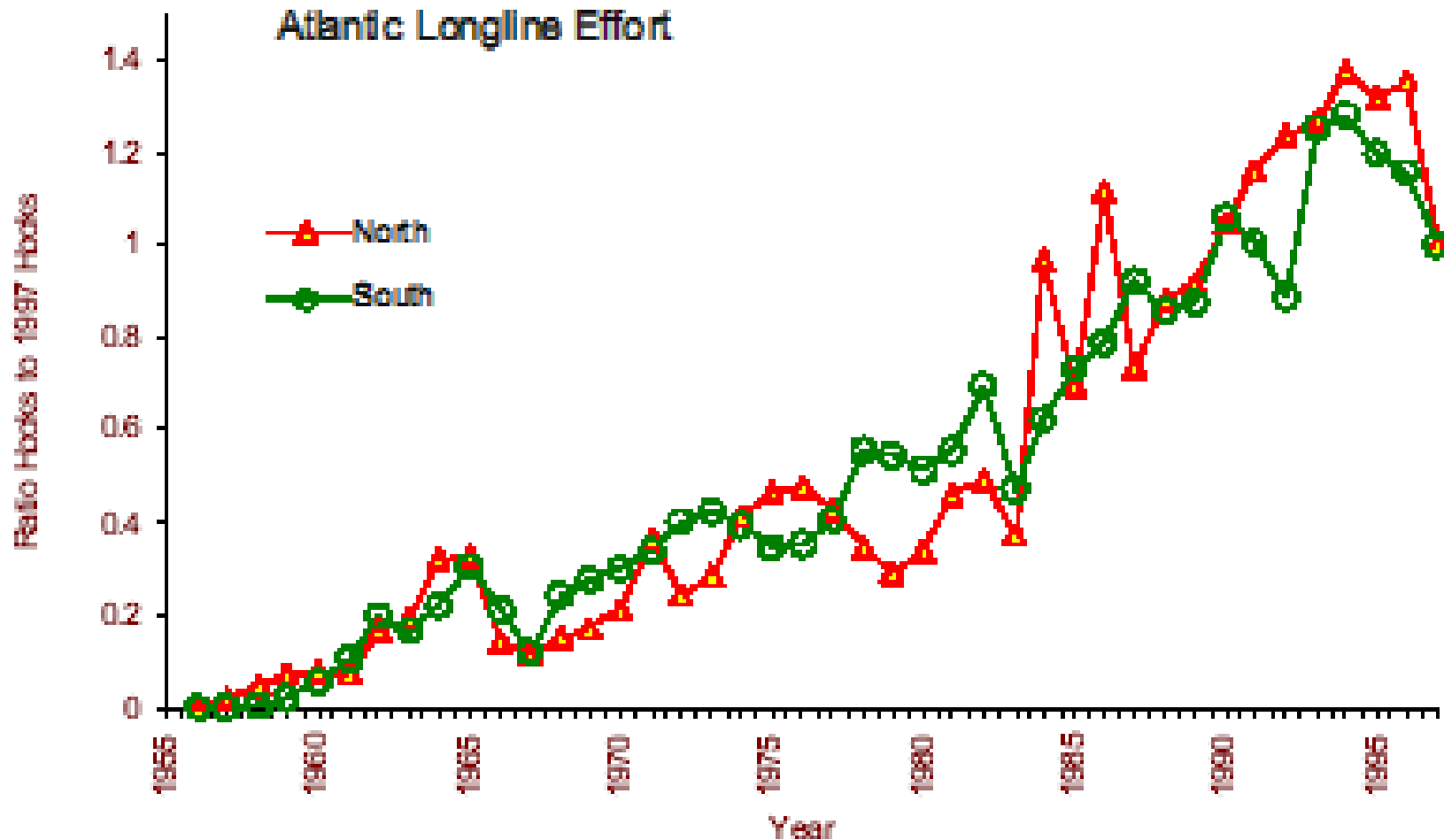


# Perceived Contradiction in Initial Rapid Decline in CPUE

- 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

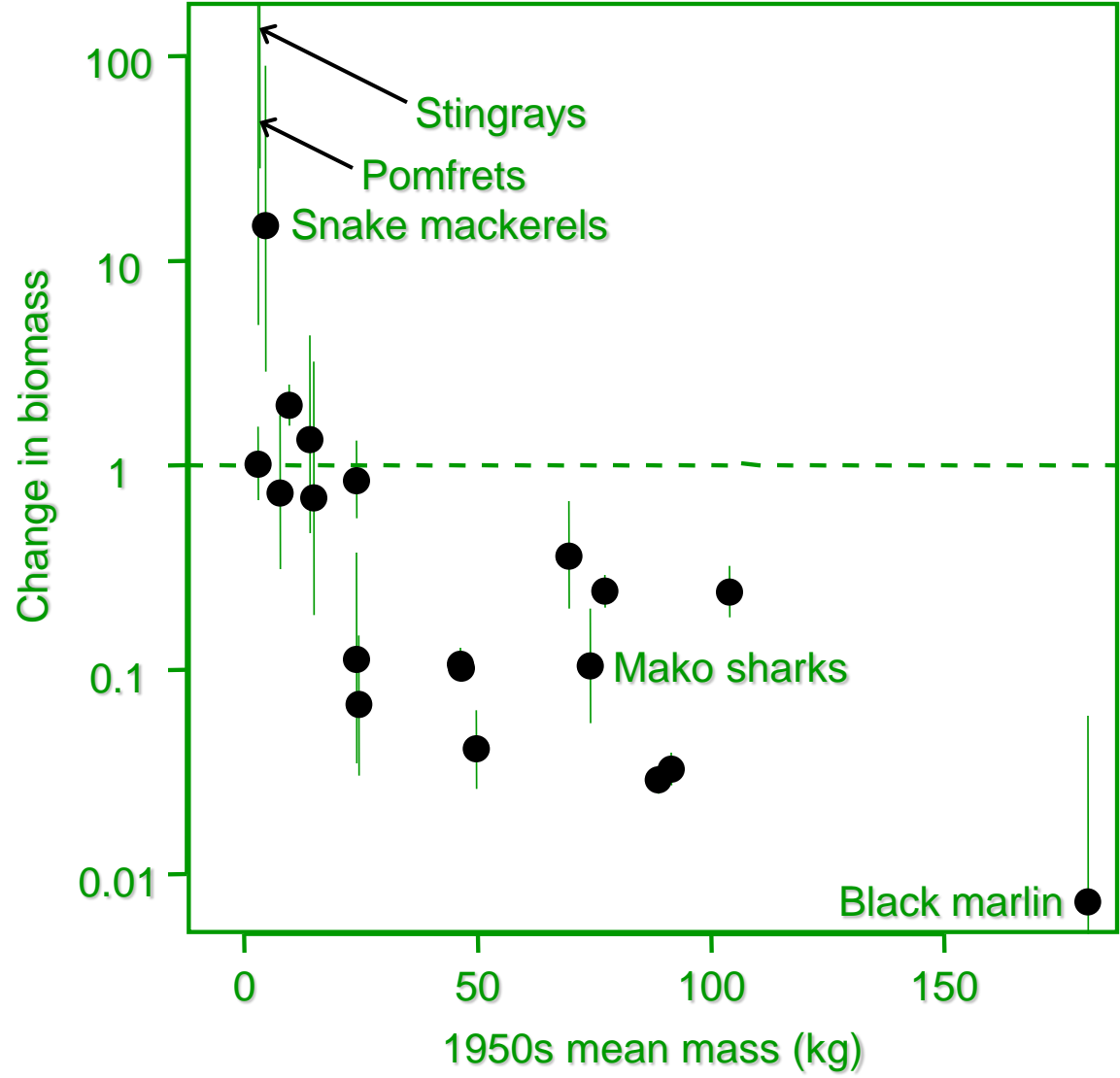
# Perceived Contradiction in Initial Rapid Decline in CPUE

IF catchability is constant

THEN the population dynamics are impossible.

However, catchability decreases with size and size  
has declined







# 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.

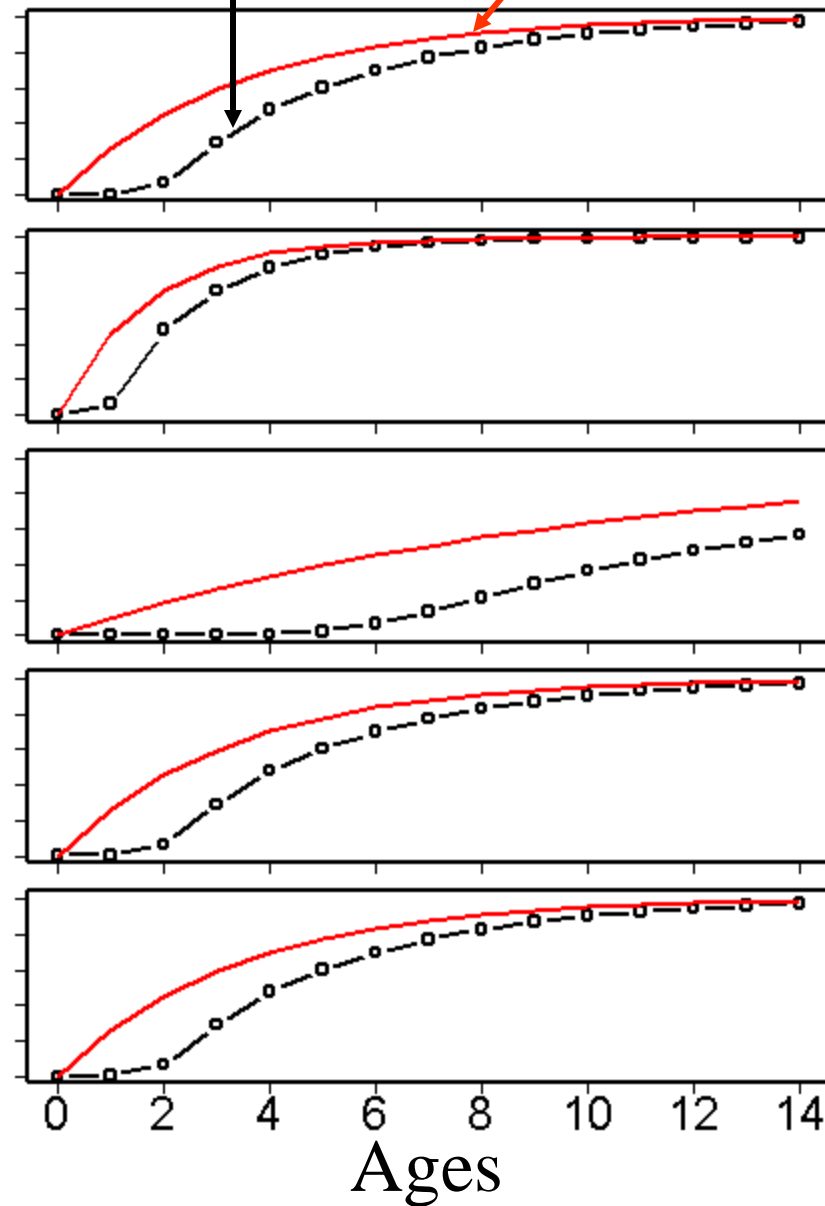
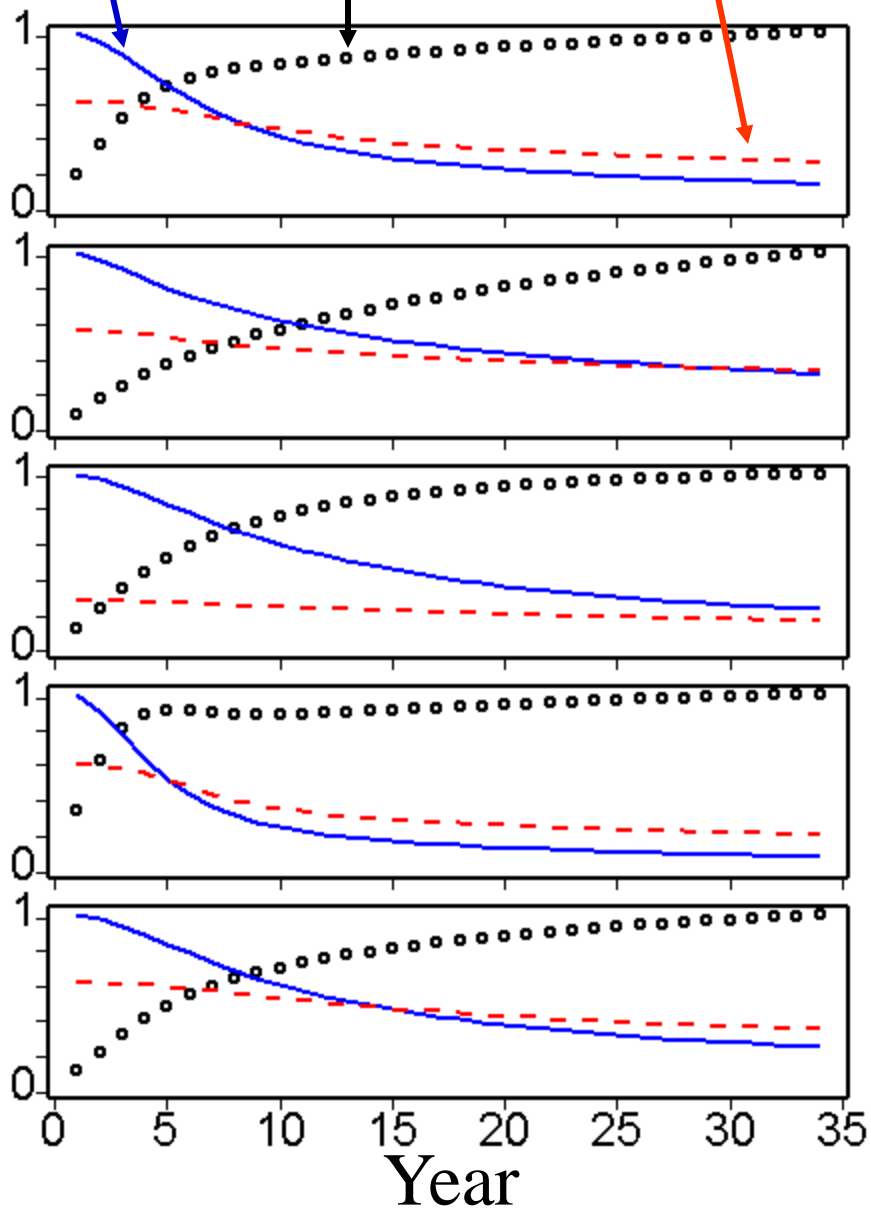
CPUE

Catch

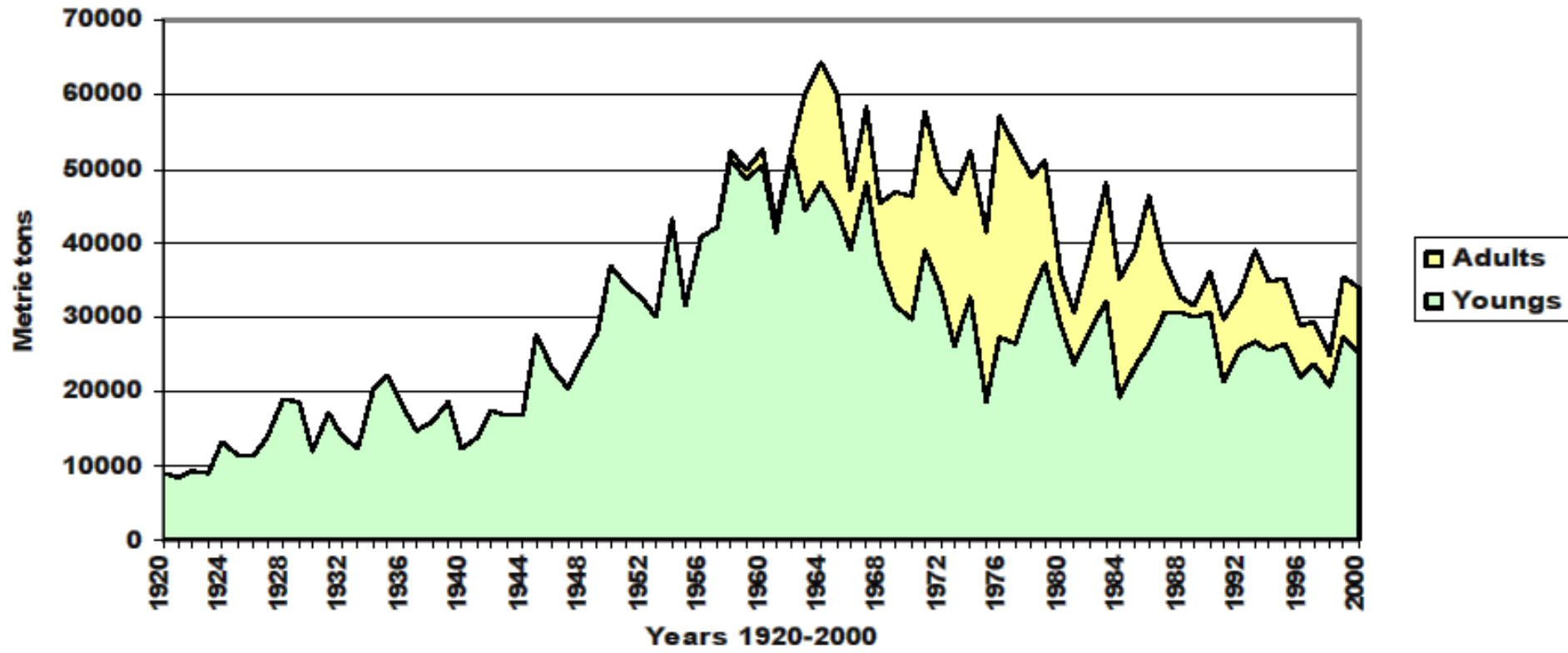
Avg wt

Selectivity

Length




North Atlantic albacore cumulated catches of youngs and adults fish

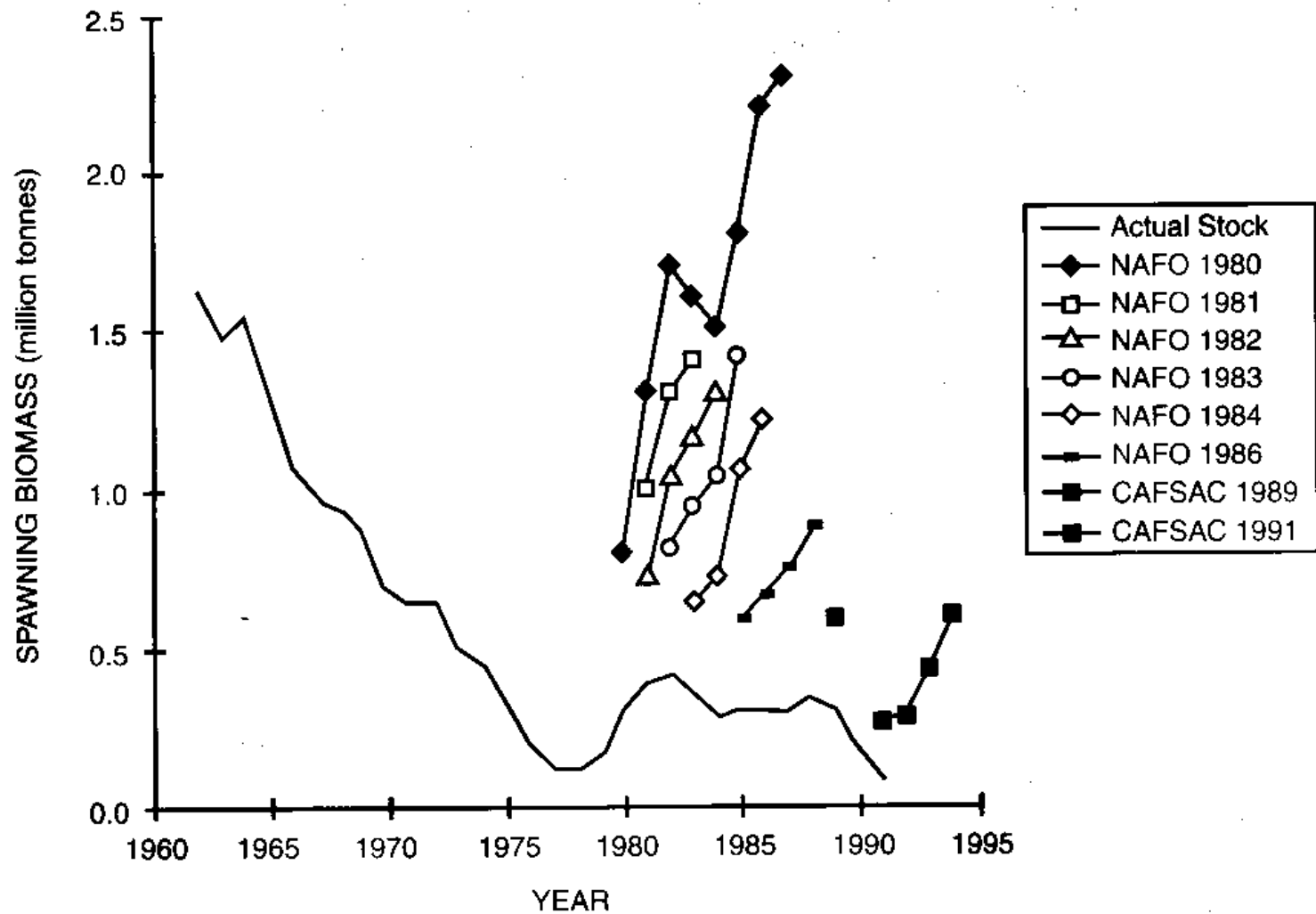


# Conclusion

- 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**
- 
- A blue marlin is captured in mid-leap, its long, pointed snout and dorsal fin cutting through the deep blue water. The fish is angled upwards and to the right, with its tail still partially submerged, creating a splash of white water. The background is a vast expanse of clear, deep blue ocean under a bright sky.



**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.

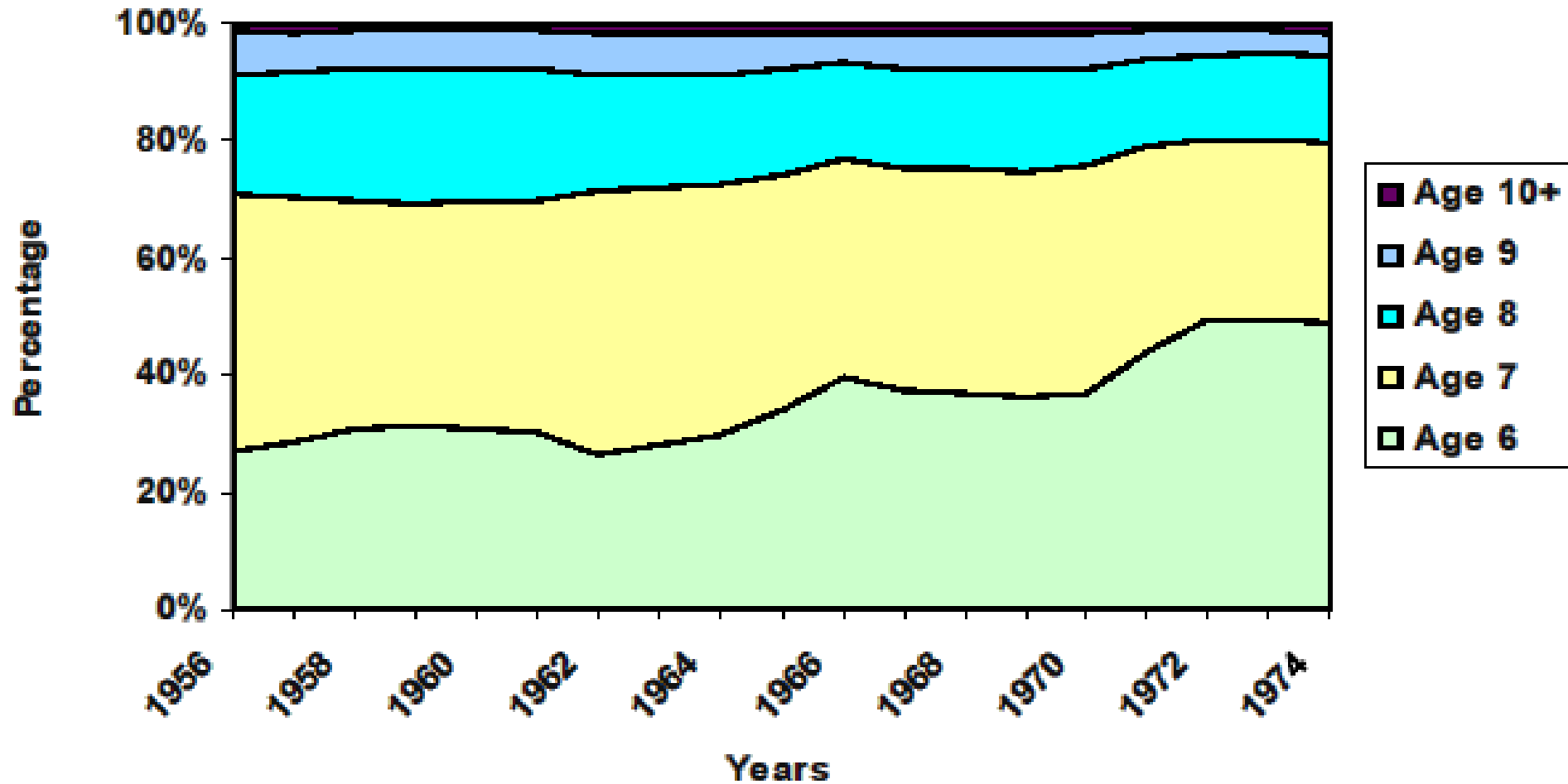
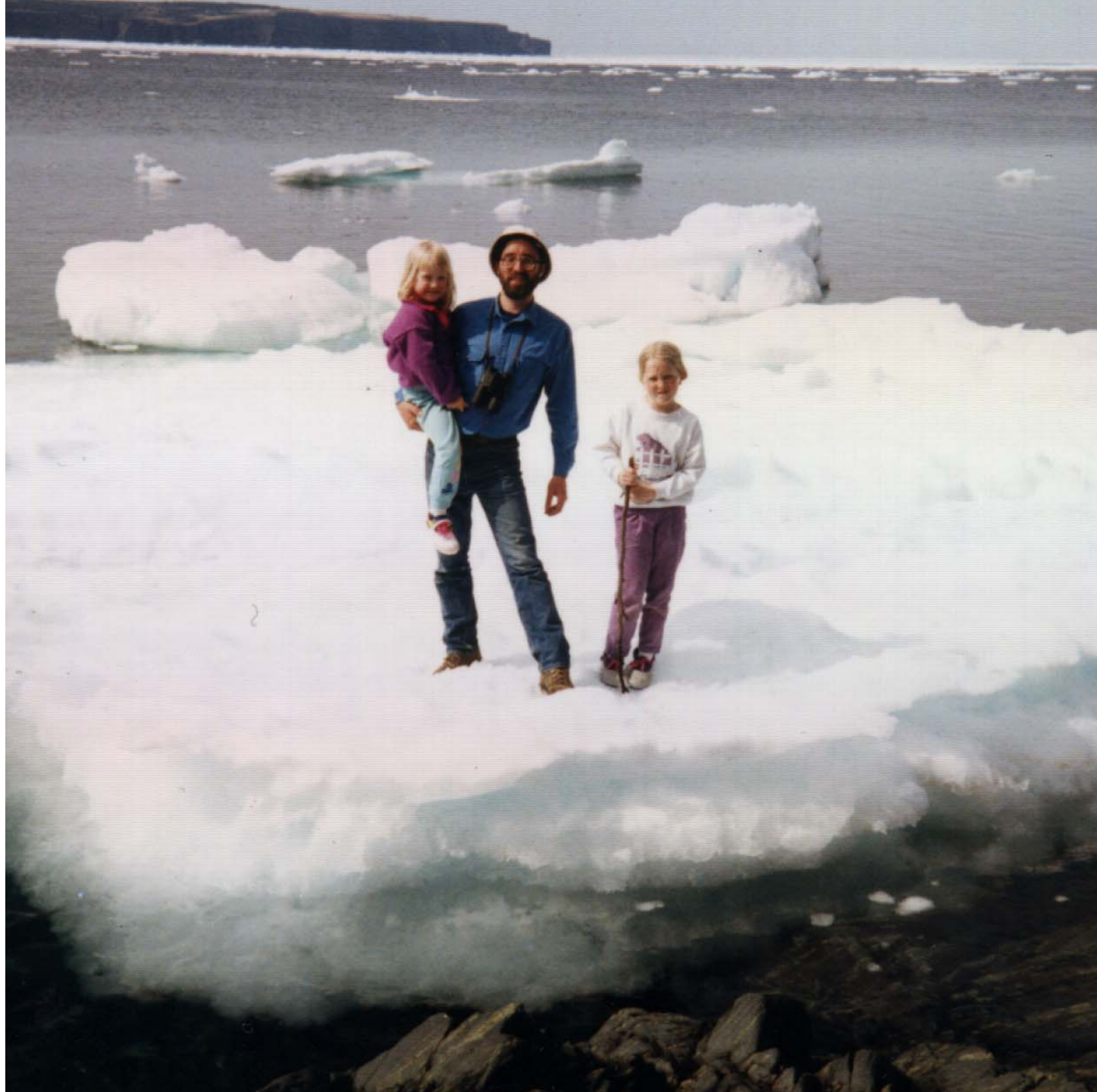


Figure 7 : Evolution of contribution of age classes 6 to 10+ computed by Morita (1977) in longliners albacore catches, 1956-1974.



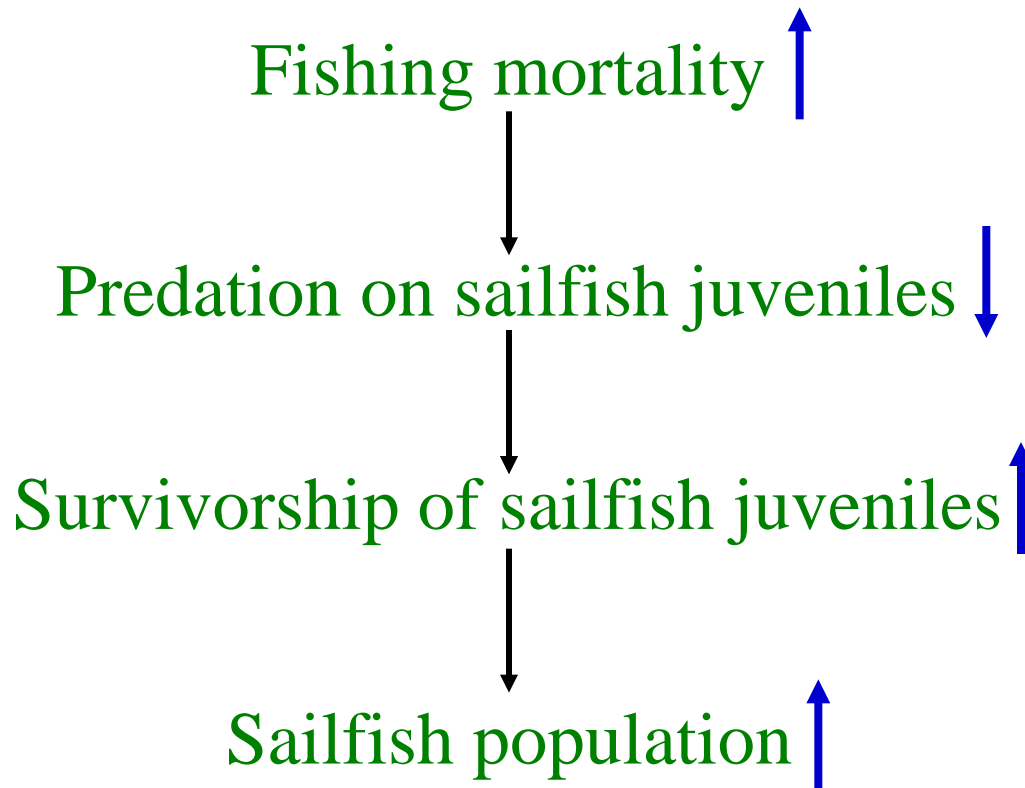
A large school of fish swimming in a circular pattern against a blue background. The fish are dark and silhouetted against the lighter blue water, creating a dense, swirling vortex effect. The background is a gradient of blue, darker at the edges and lighter in the center.

# Marine ecosystem robustness and the collapse of marine fisheries

**Ransom A. Myers (RAM)**

**Dalhousie University, Halifax,  
Canada**

# One hypothesis:

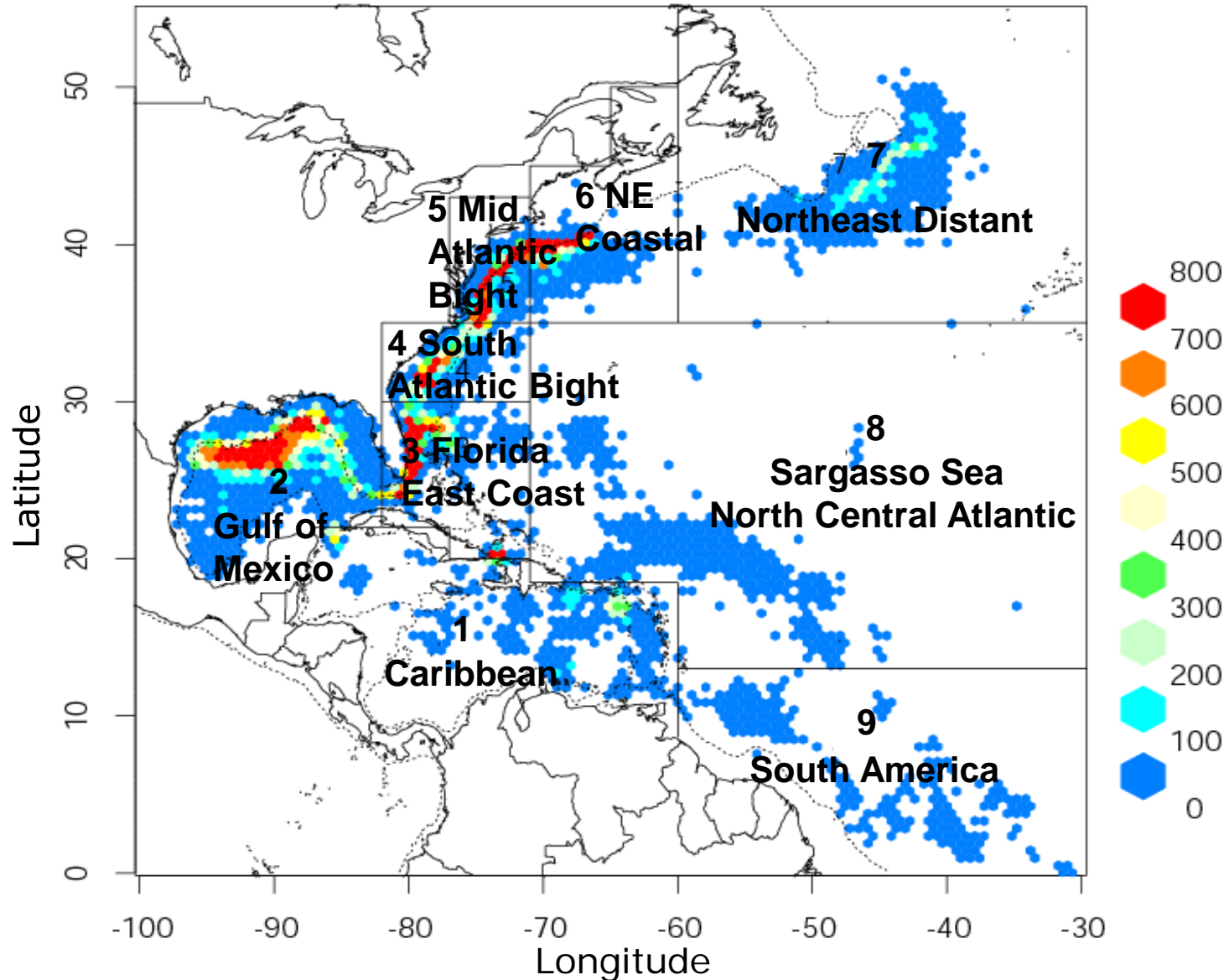


# Collapse and Conservation of Shark Populations in the Northwest Atlantic



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

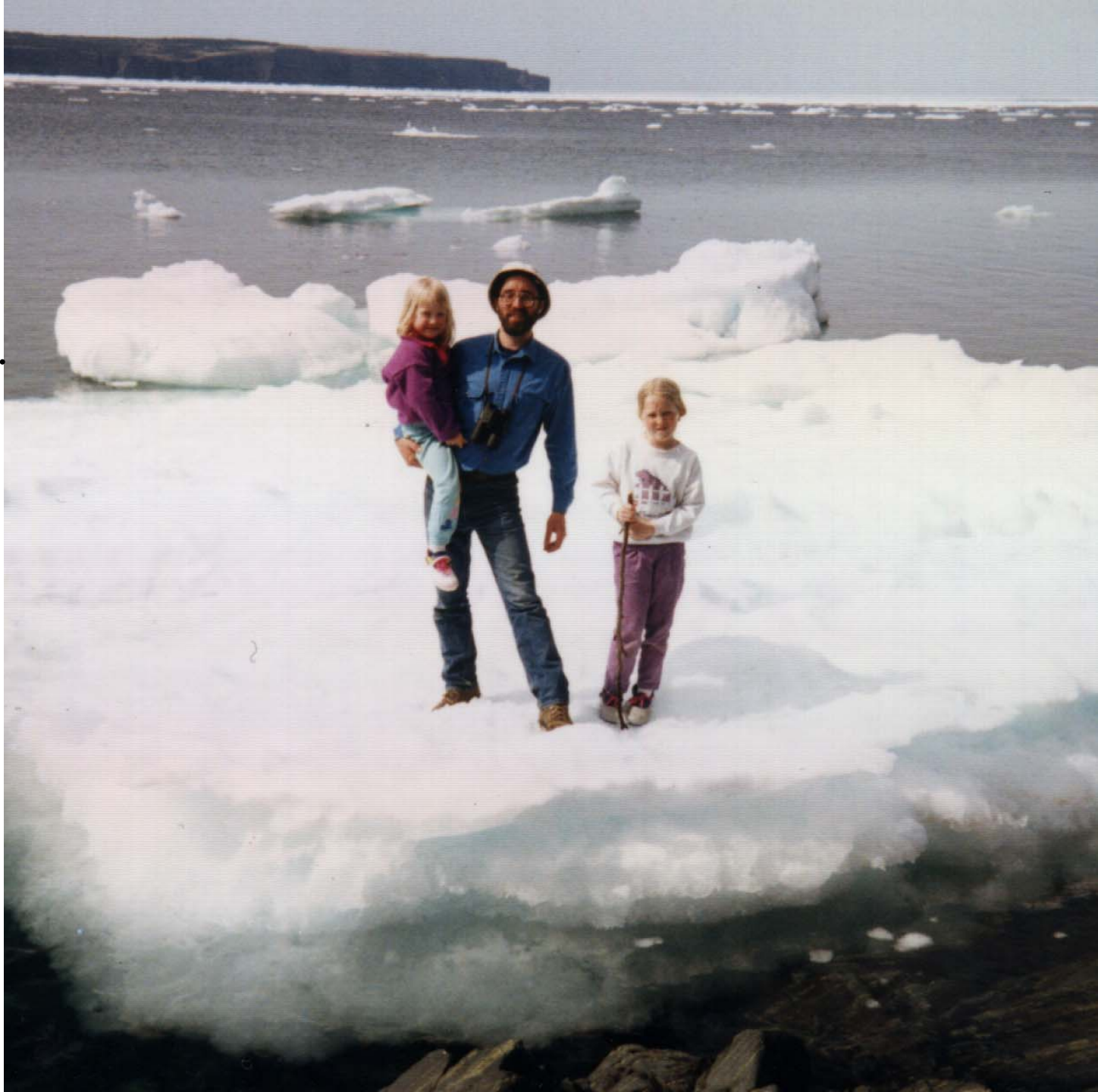


Political action is  
costly for any  
scientist.

However, it also  
has great benefits.

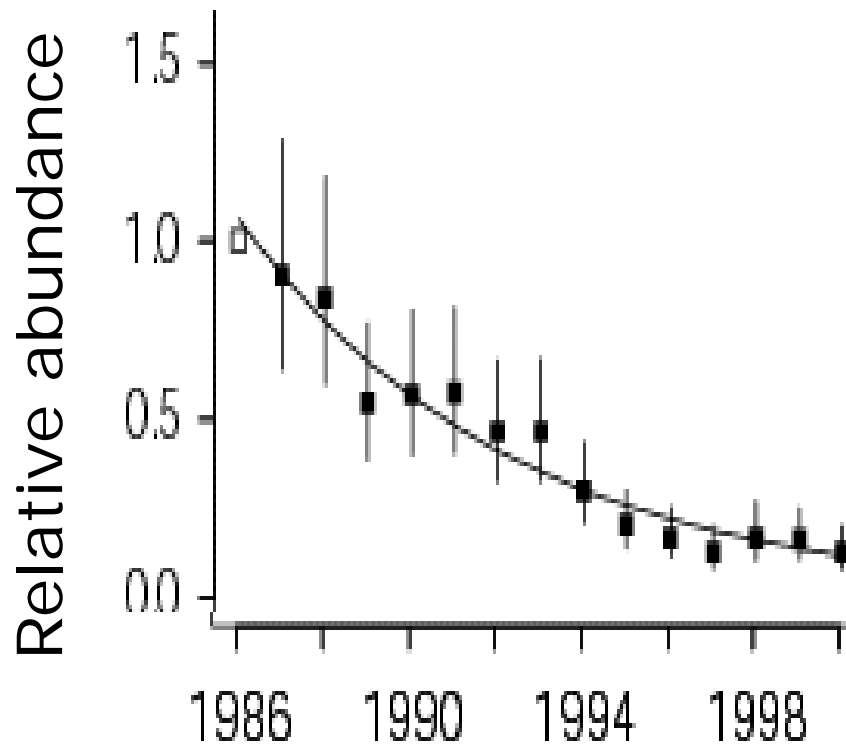
To act is to live.

To be suppressed  
is to die.



# Hammerhead sharks

*Sphyrna lewini*





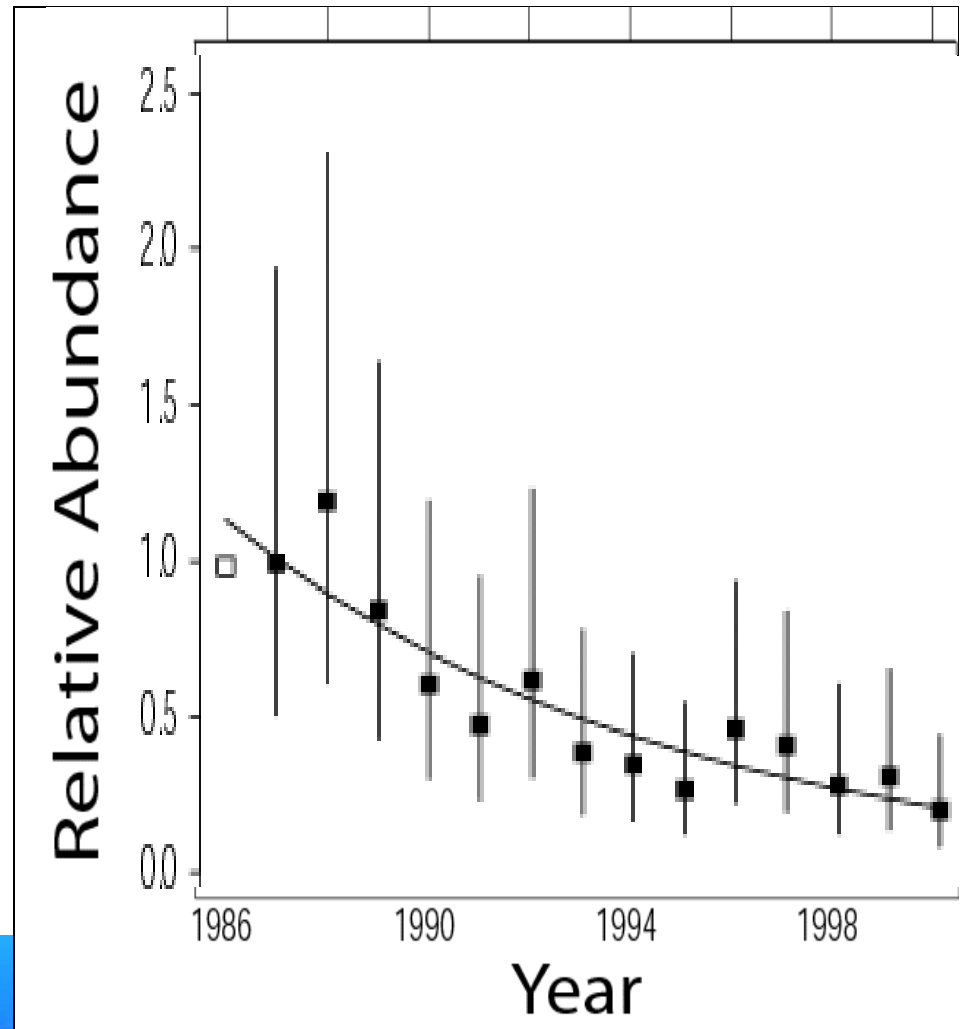


The rest of the slides are back up.



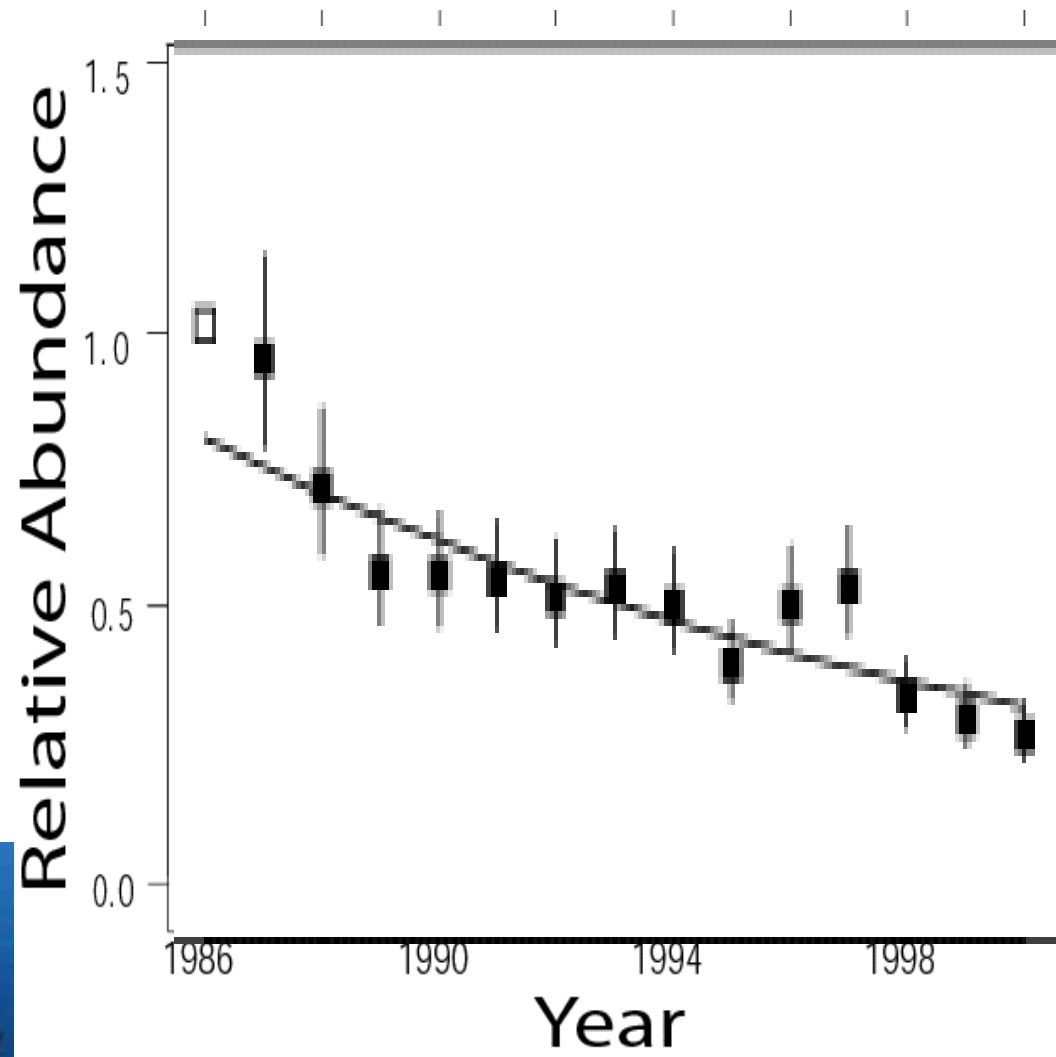
# Thresher sharks

*Alopias spp.*



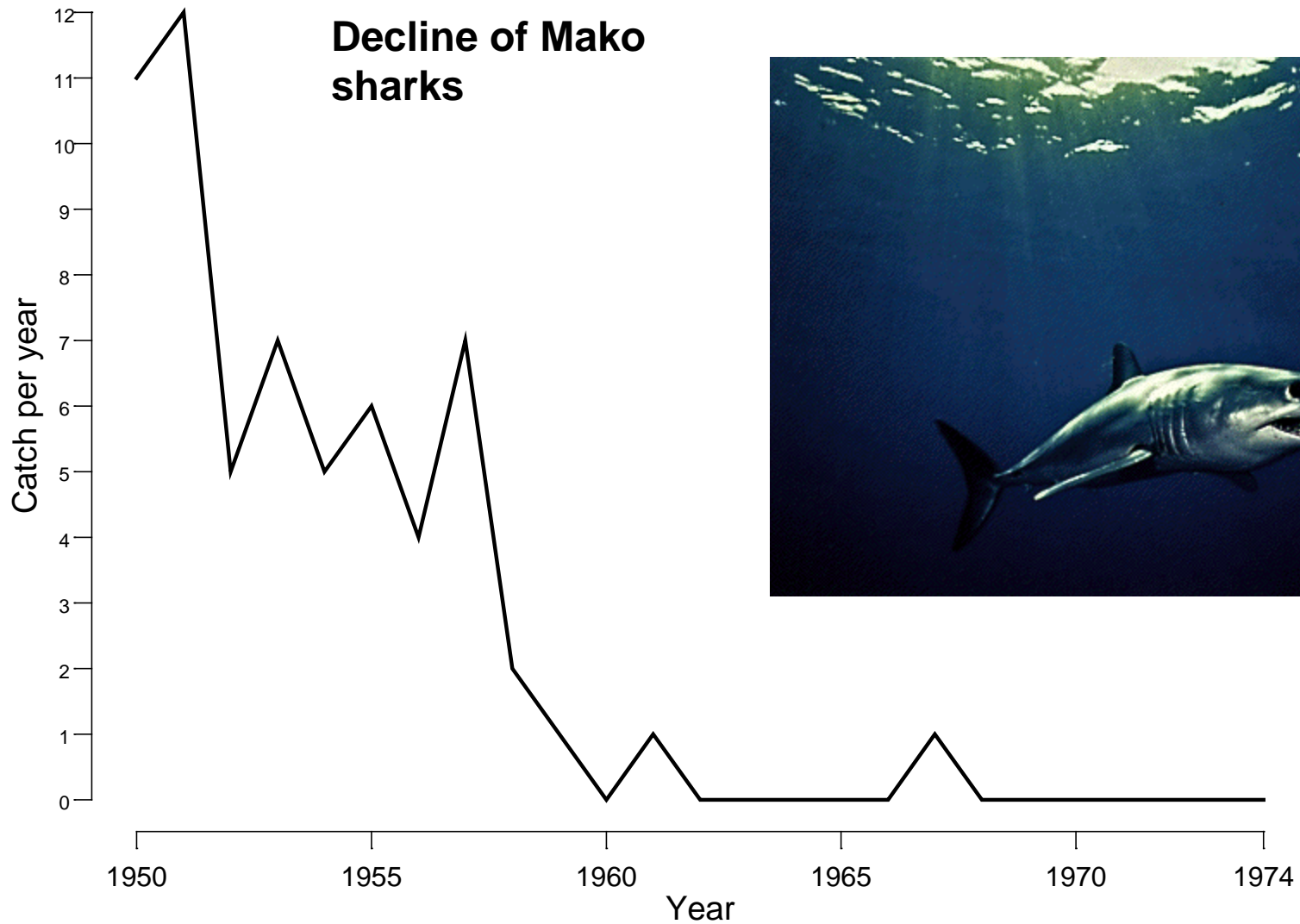
# Blue sharks

*Prionace glauca*



Letter from senate

# Put in cod



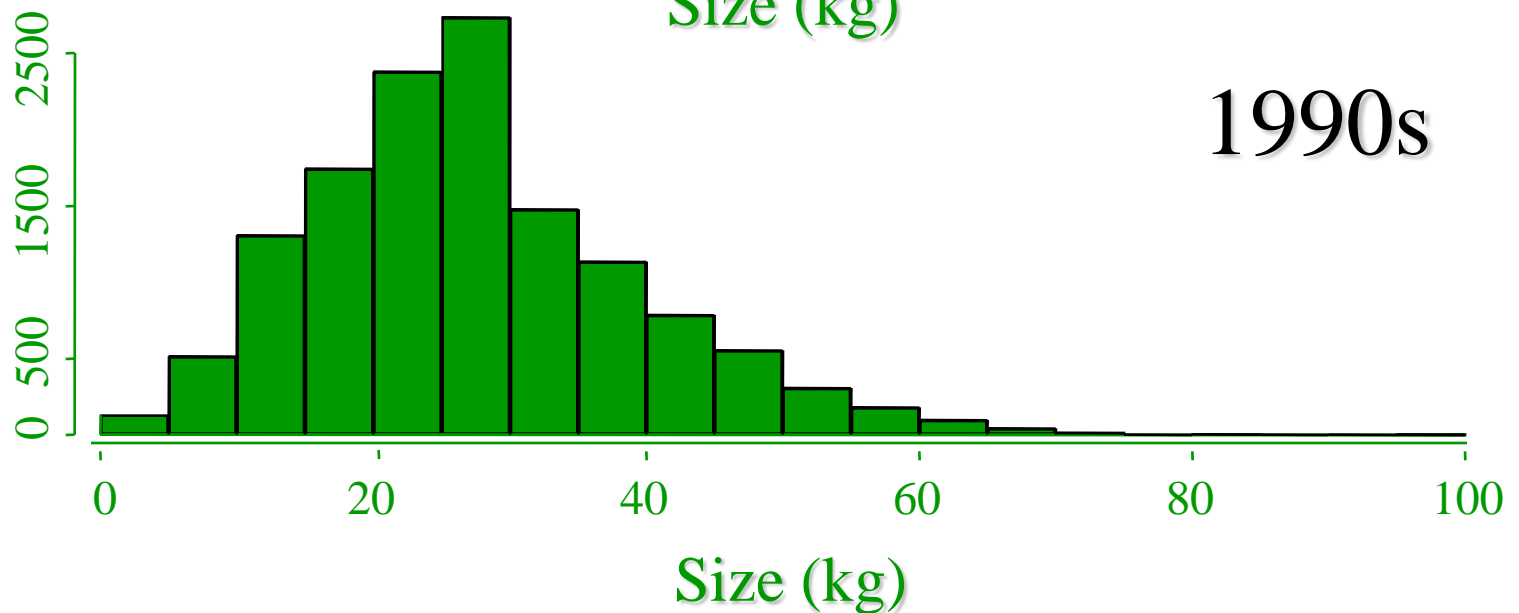
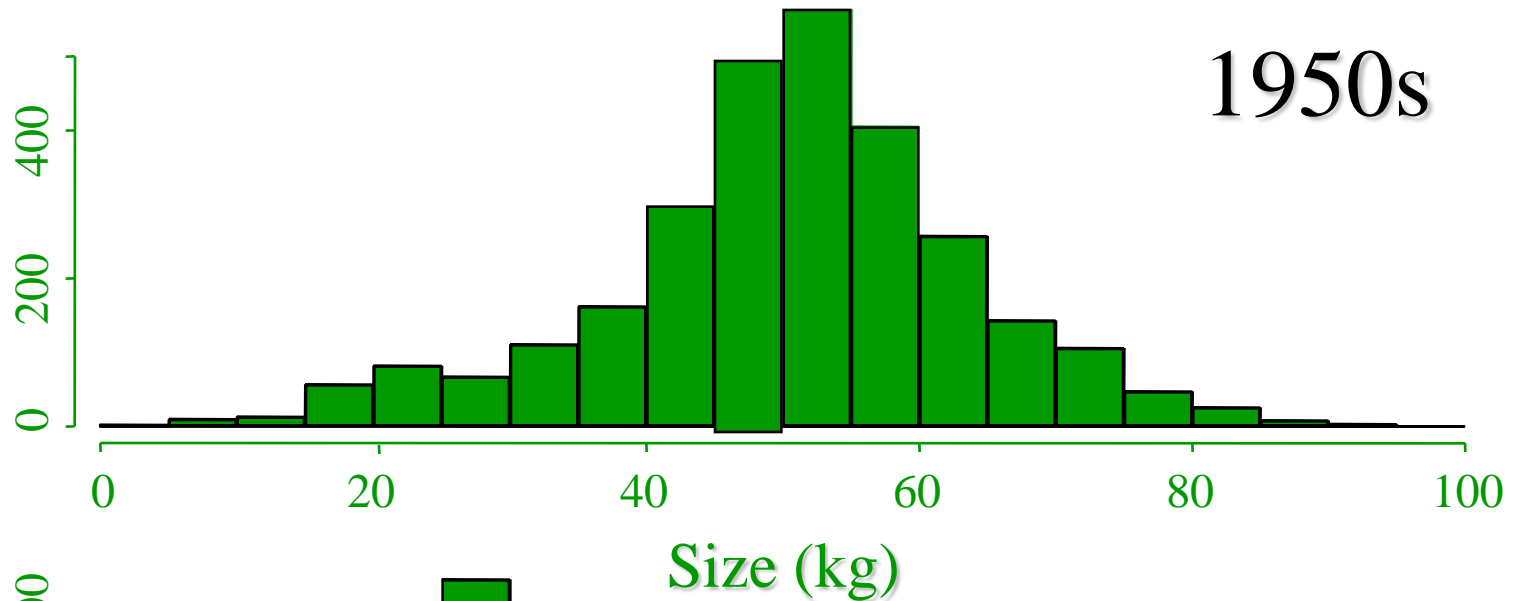
# These estimates are conservative: 1.

Bits of tuna did not count;  
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not counted because of shark damage.

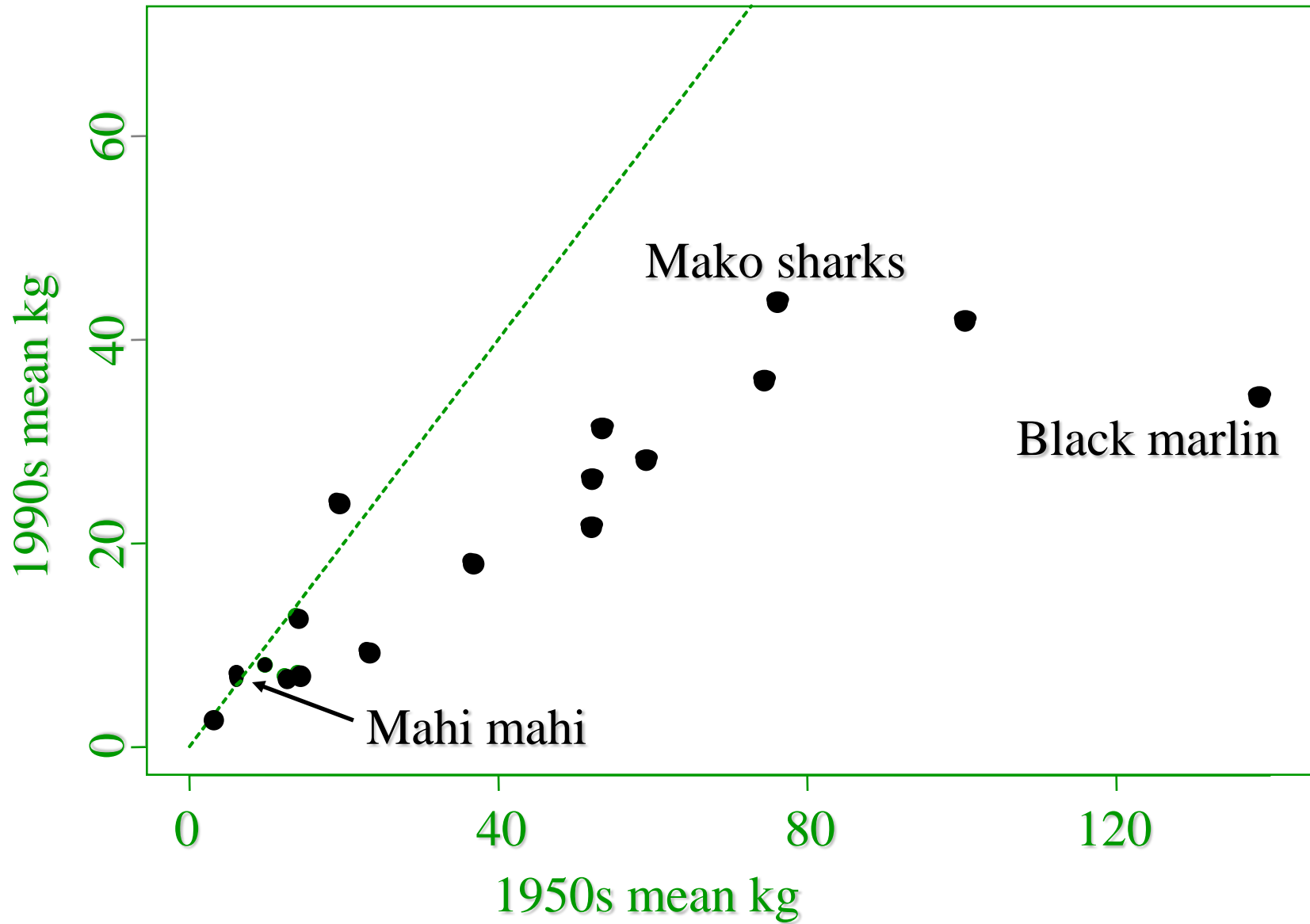




These estimates are conservative: 2 (fish are smaller)

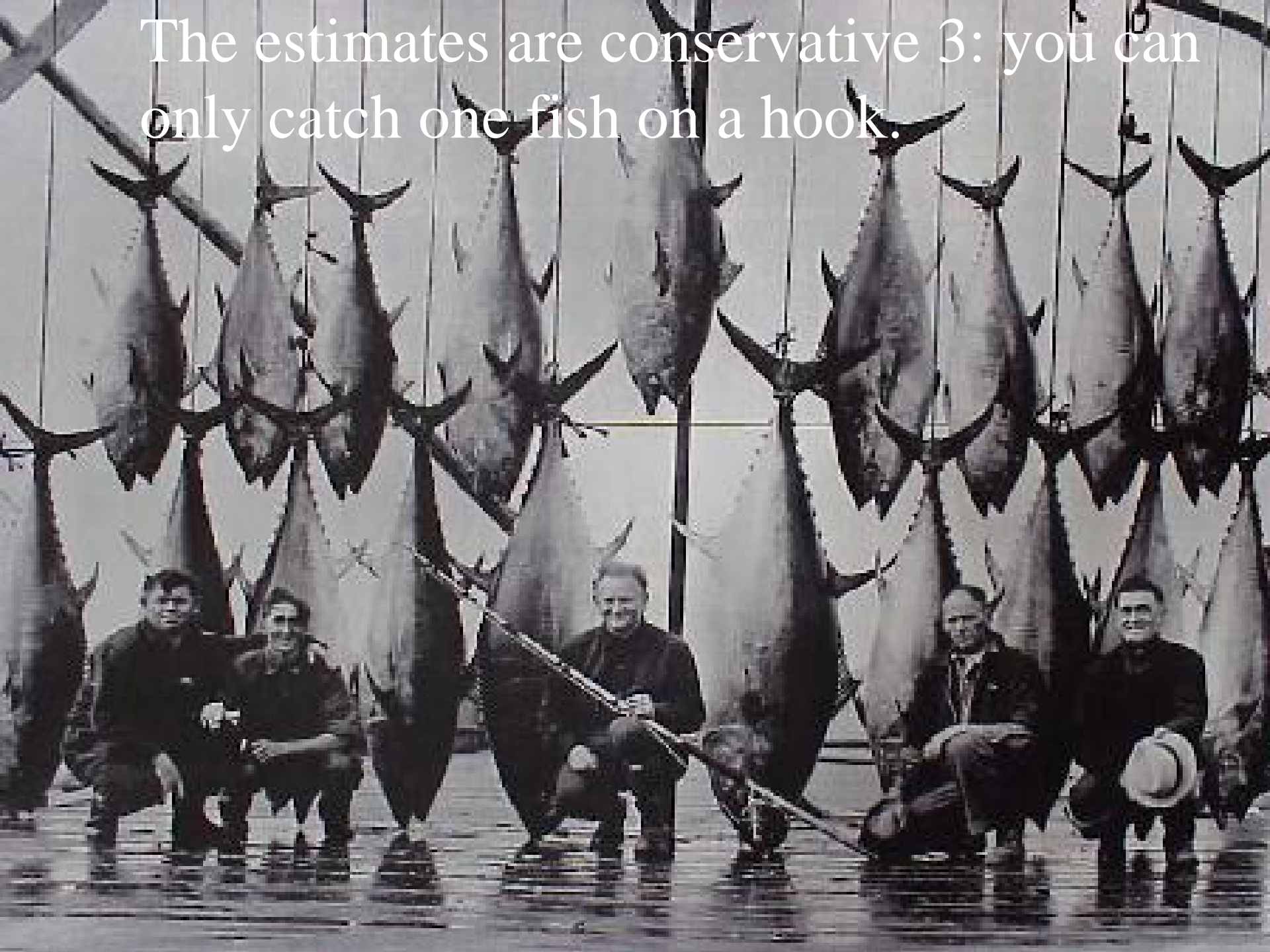


# Change in body size





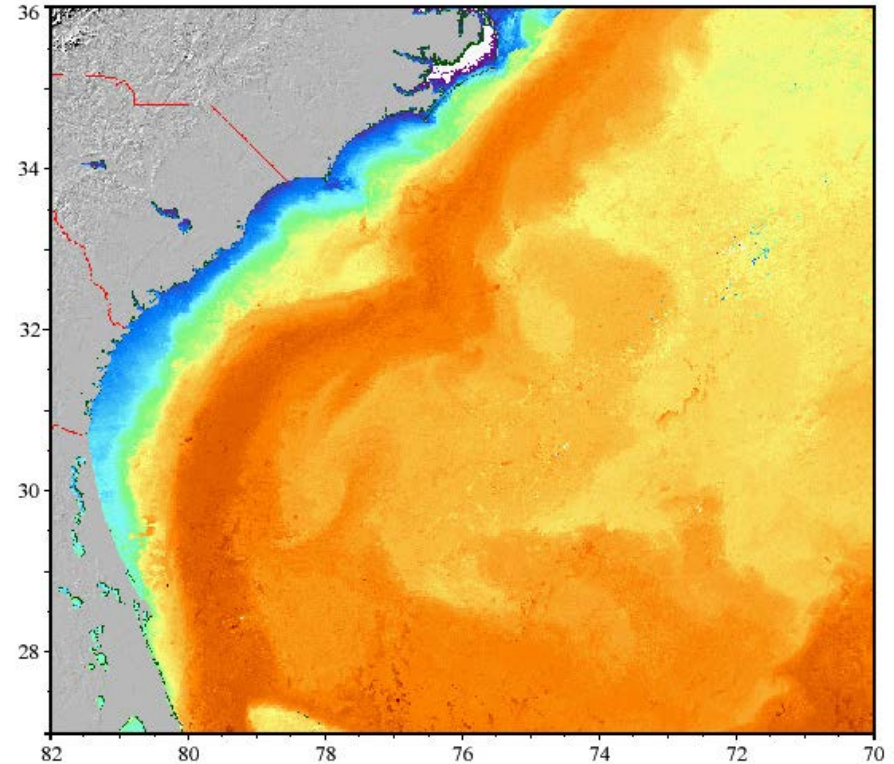
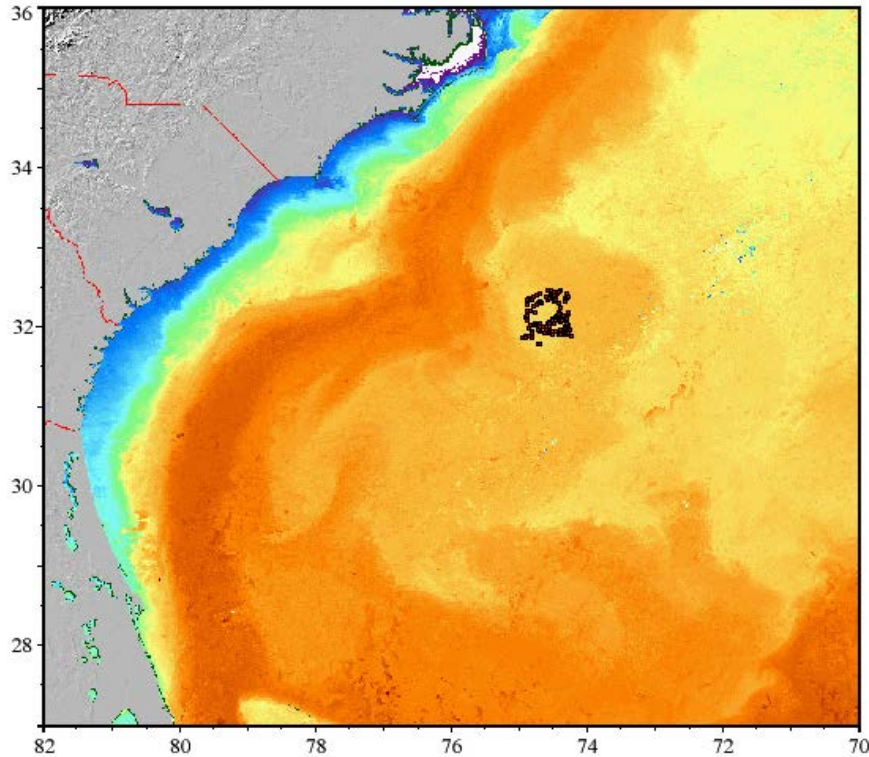
The estimates are conservative 3: you can only catch one fish on a hook.



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.**

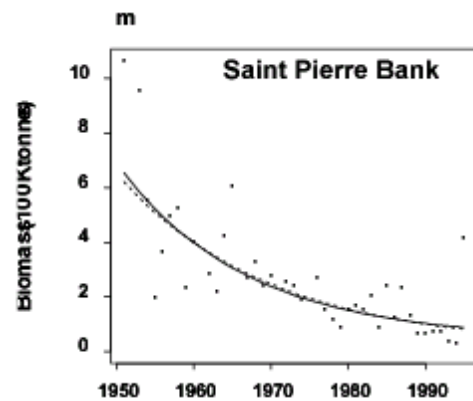
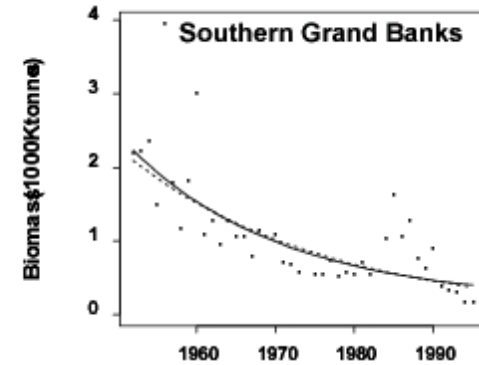
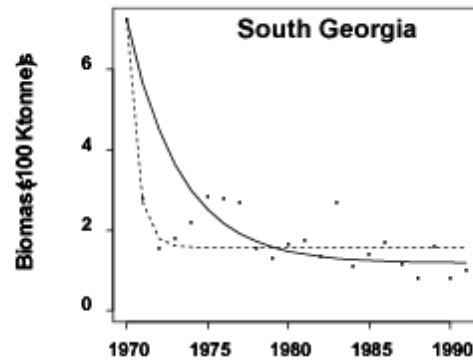
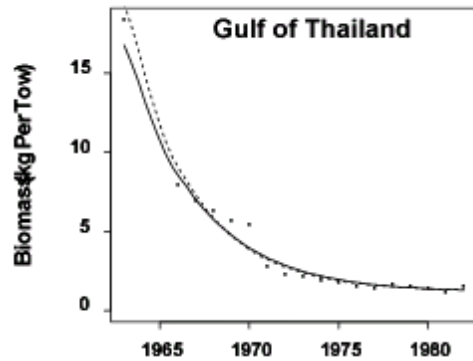


Why is it so important.

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](http://www.nature.com/nature)

## Net losses

Industrialized fishing  
hits fish stocks

### Financial markets

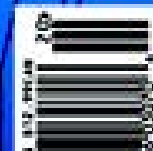
You can't buck the physics

### 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.



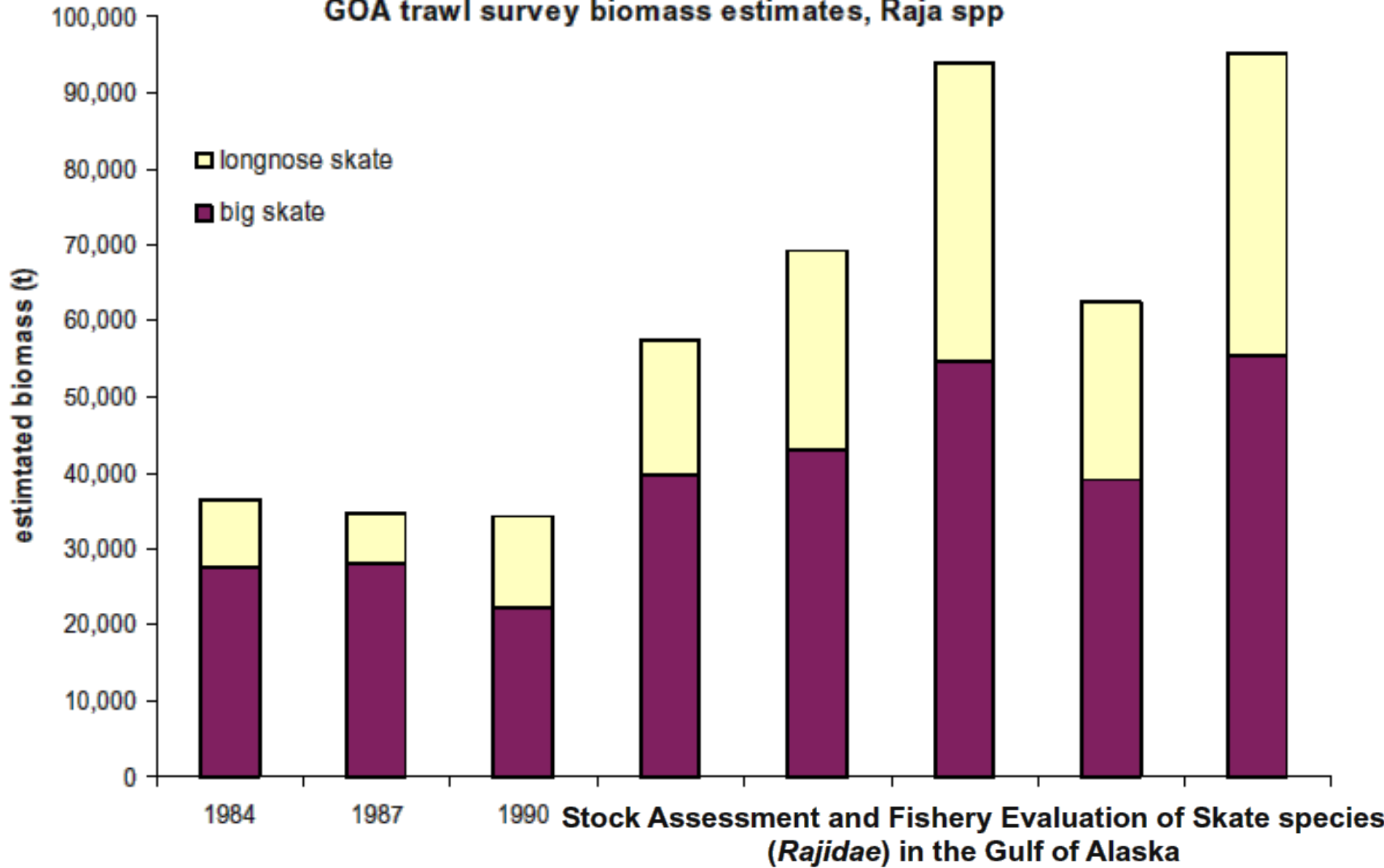
**Long - Term Changes In  
The Gulf Of Alaska  
Marine Ecosystem**

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 Gaichas<sup>1</sup>, Michael Ruccio<sup>2</sup>, Duane Stevenson<sup>1</sup>, and Rob Swanson<sup>3</sup>

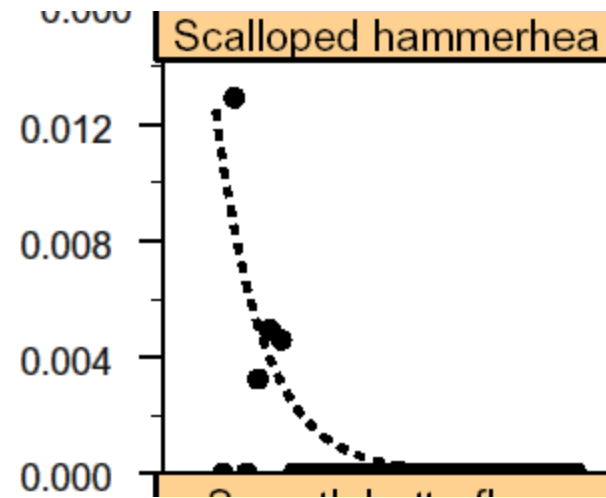
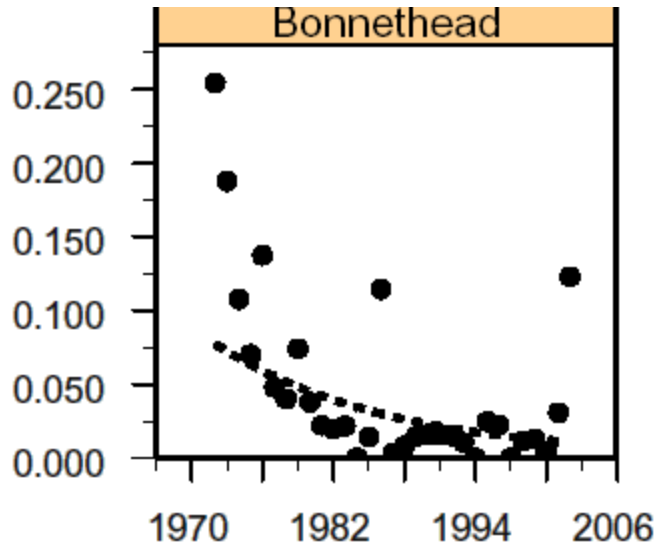


Figure 1. Big skate, *Raja binoculata*, with stock assessment author for scale.

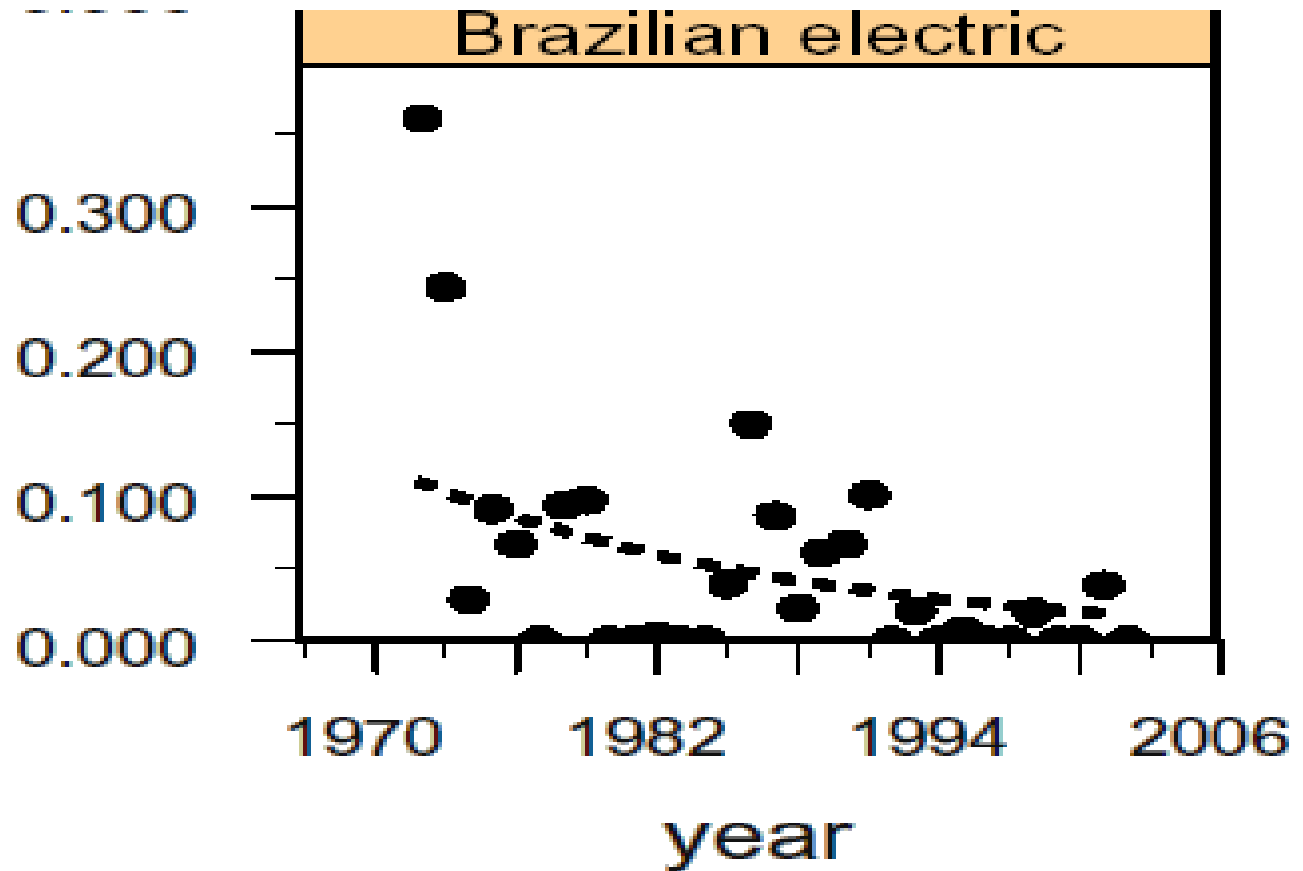
**Stock Assessment and Fishery Evaluation of Skate species  
(*Rajidae*) in the Gulf of Alaska**

by  
Sarah Gaichas<sup>1</sup>, Michael Ruccio<sup>2</sup>, Duane Stevenson<sup>1</sup>, and Rob Swanson<sup>3</sup>

# All large sharks declined



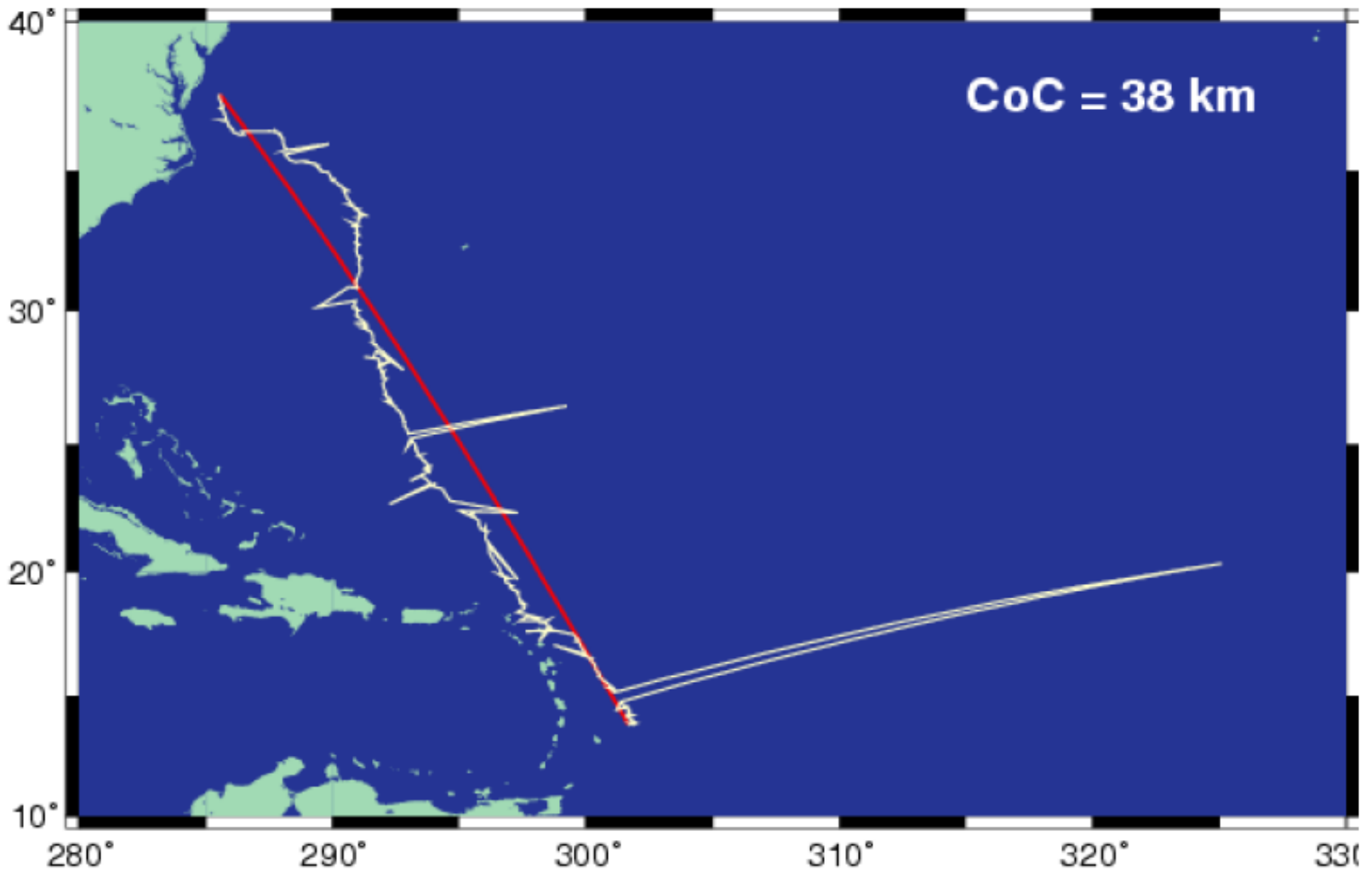
Shallow water species that do not survive discarding: large declines:



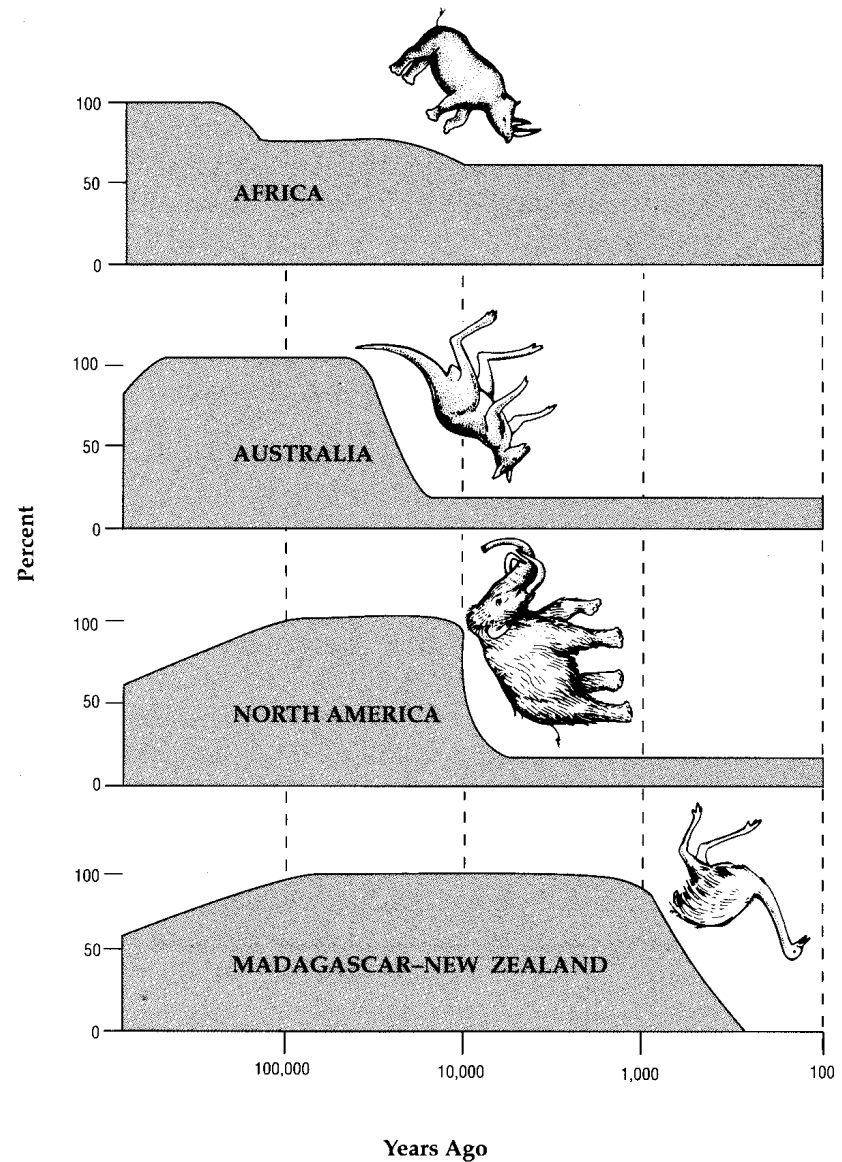
State-space models allow you to think about things, that it is very difficult to think about otherwise

## Navigation: Estimating the “Circle of Confusion”

Flemming et al. in press. Environmetrics



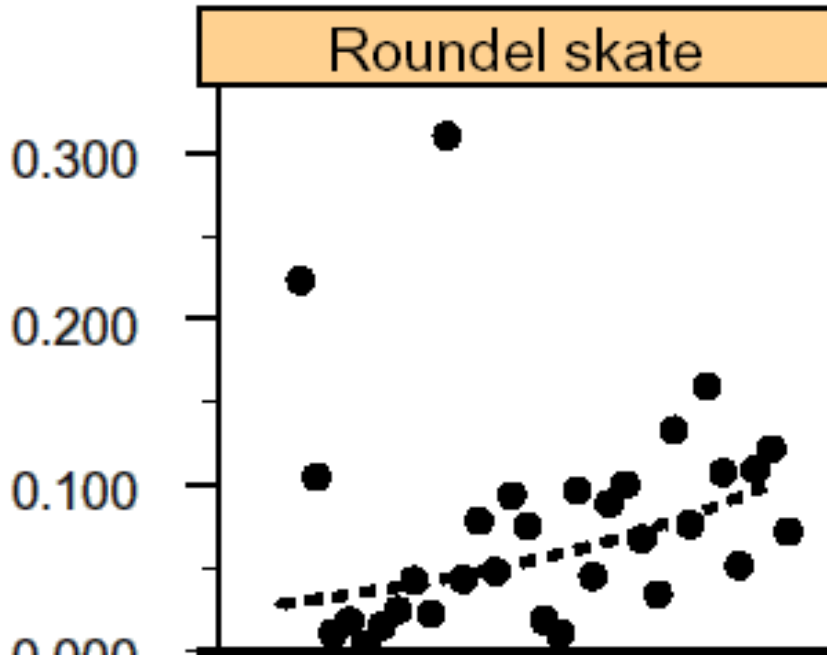
# Are the pleistocene extinctions\* going to be repeated in the ocean?



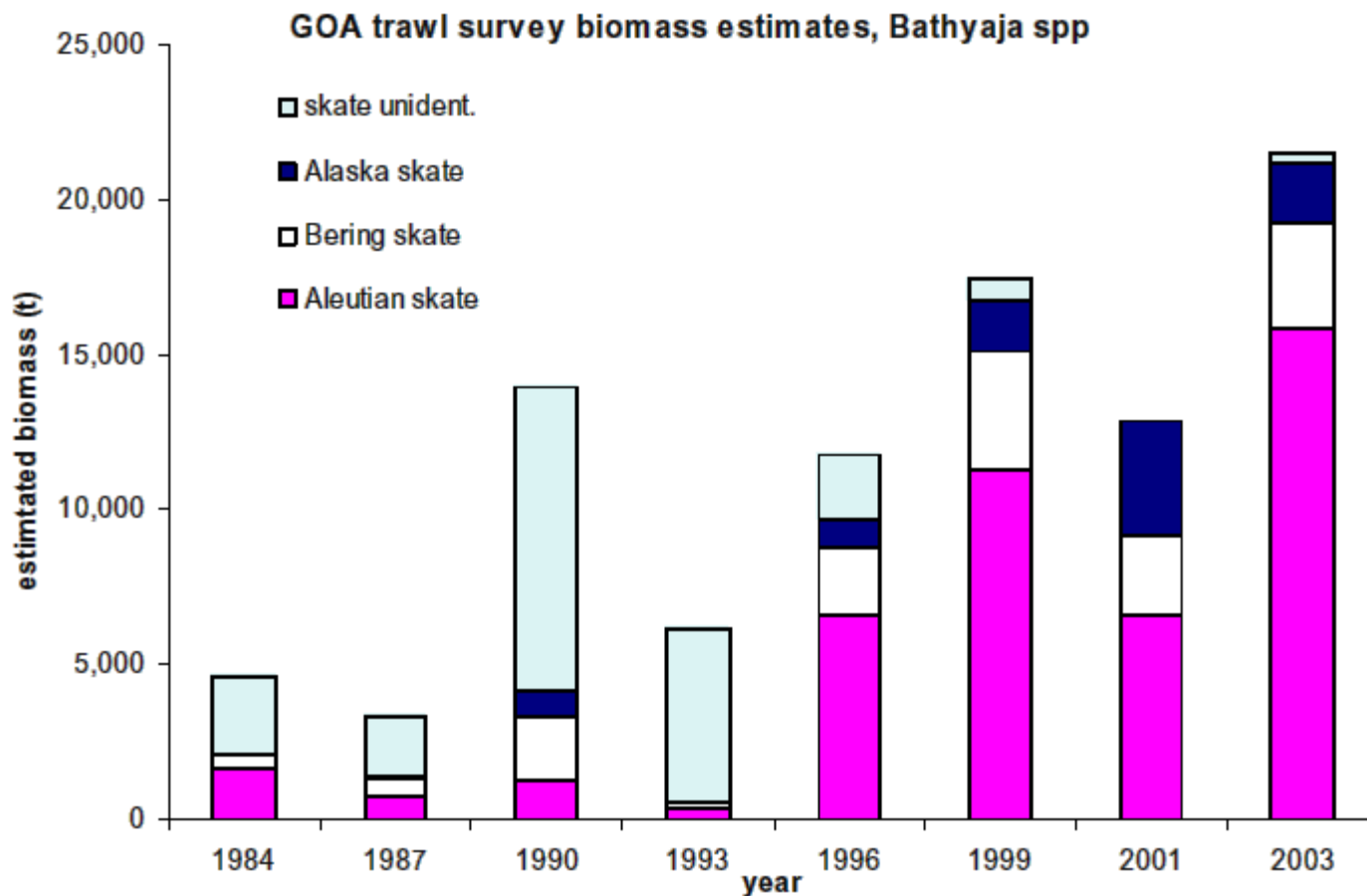
\*Present North American biota has lost almost all large species – We have no mammoths, mastodons, giant ground sloths, giant beavers, and 65 other species that weighted more than 100 kilograms.

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



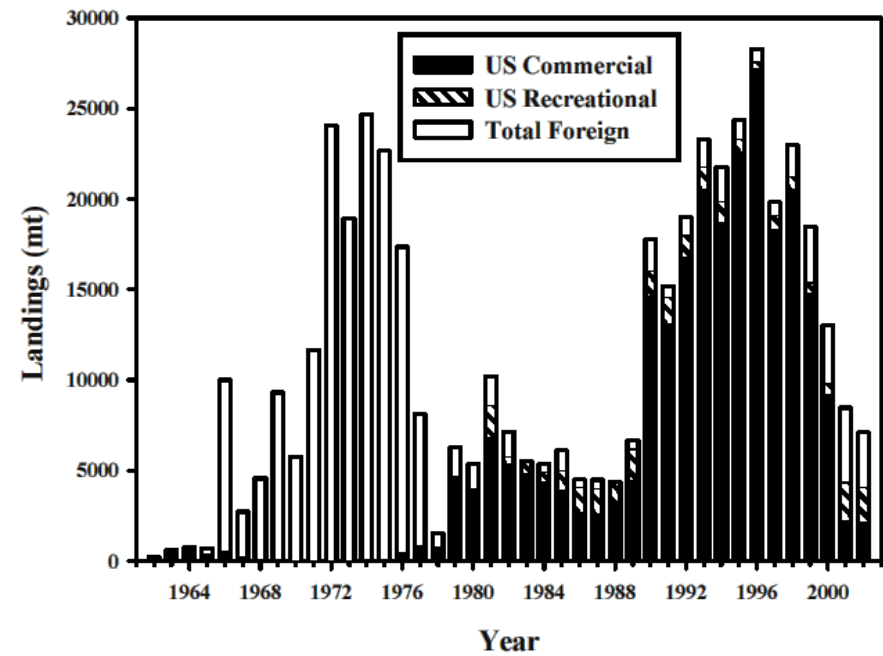
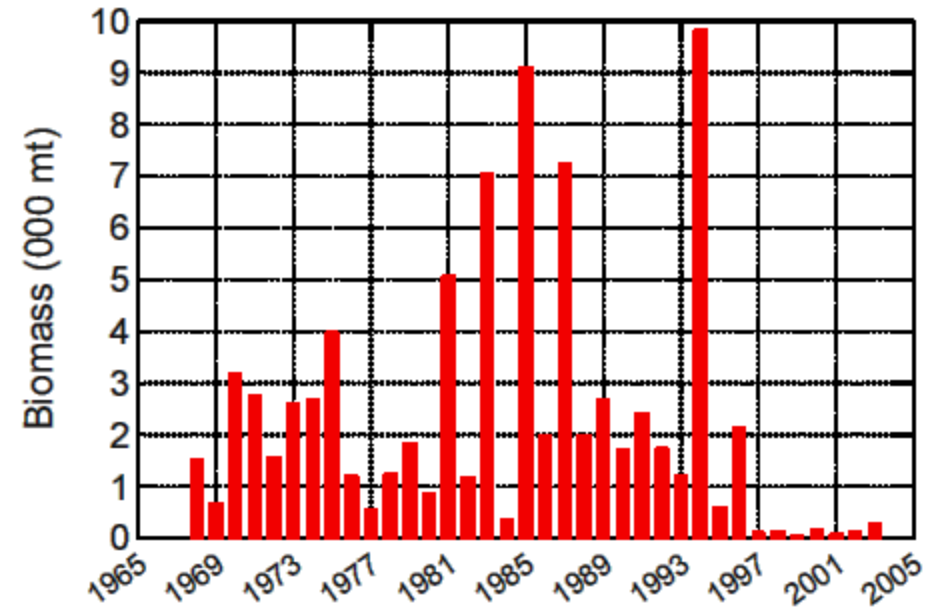




**Stock Assessment and Fishery Evaluation of Skate species (*Rajidae*) in the Gulf of Alaska**

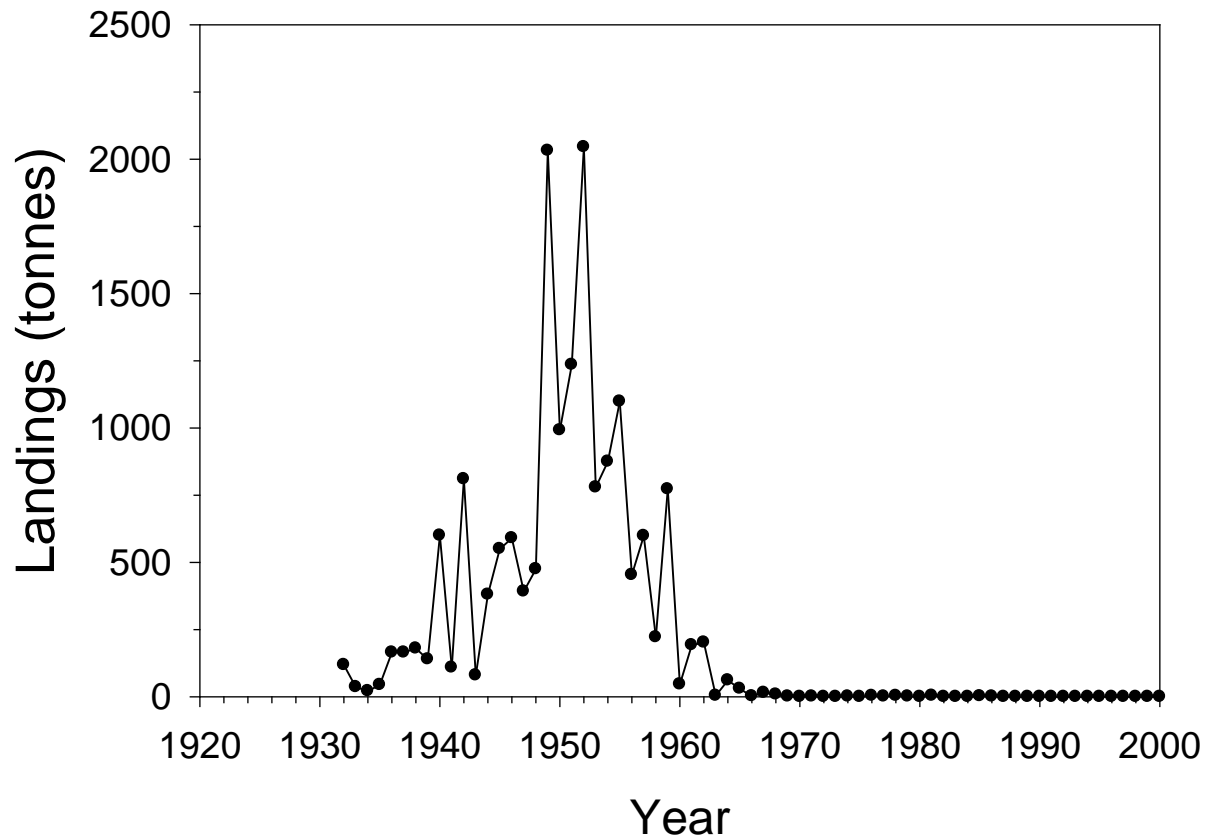
by  
 Sarah Gaichas<sup>1</sup>, Michael Ruccio<sup>2</sup>, Duane Stevenson<sup>1</sup>, and Rob Swanson<sup>3</sup>

# Spiny Dogfish, Northwest Atlantic: Good Science – Ugly Decisions



# Danish Landings of Bluefin Tuna

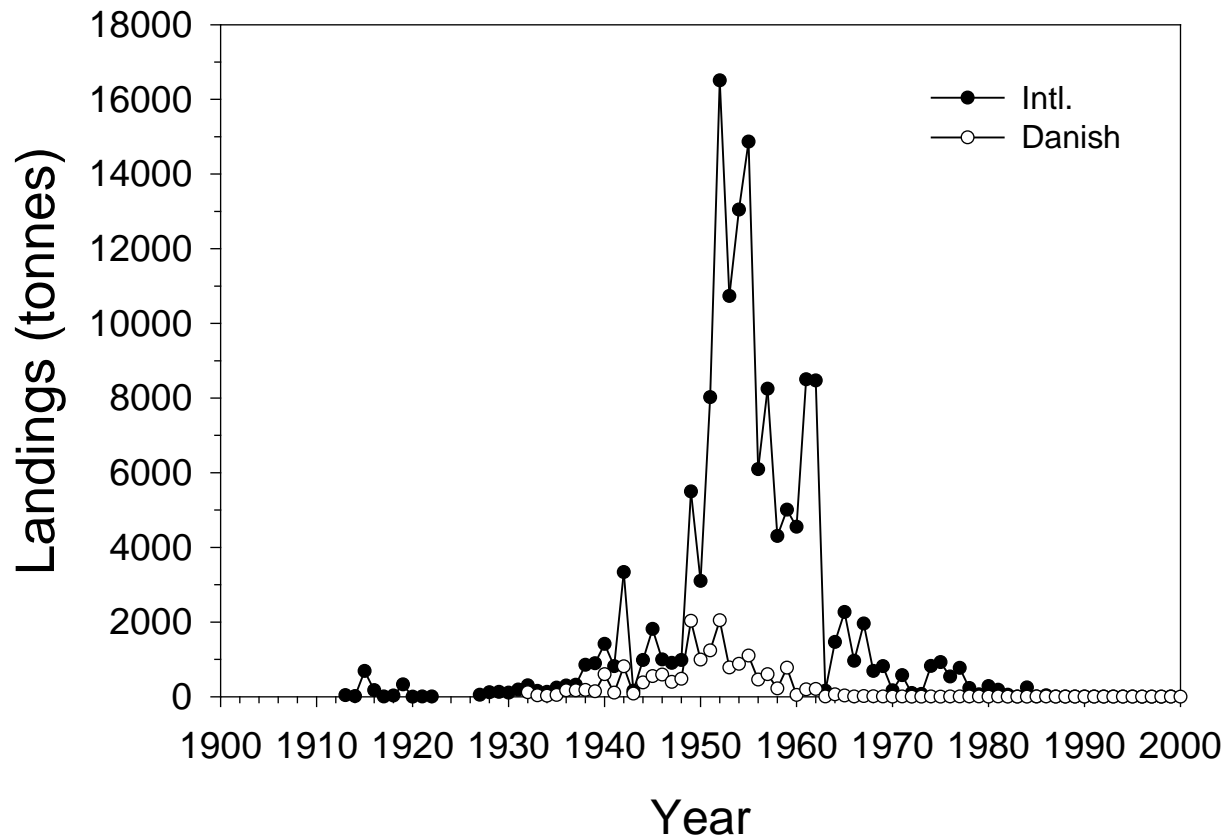
## *Thunnus thynnus*



Data source: DIFRES, ICES, FAO

# Landings of Bluefin Tuna

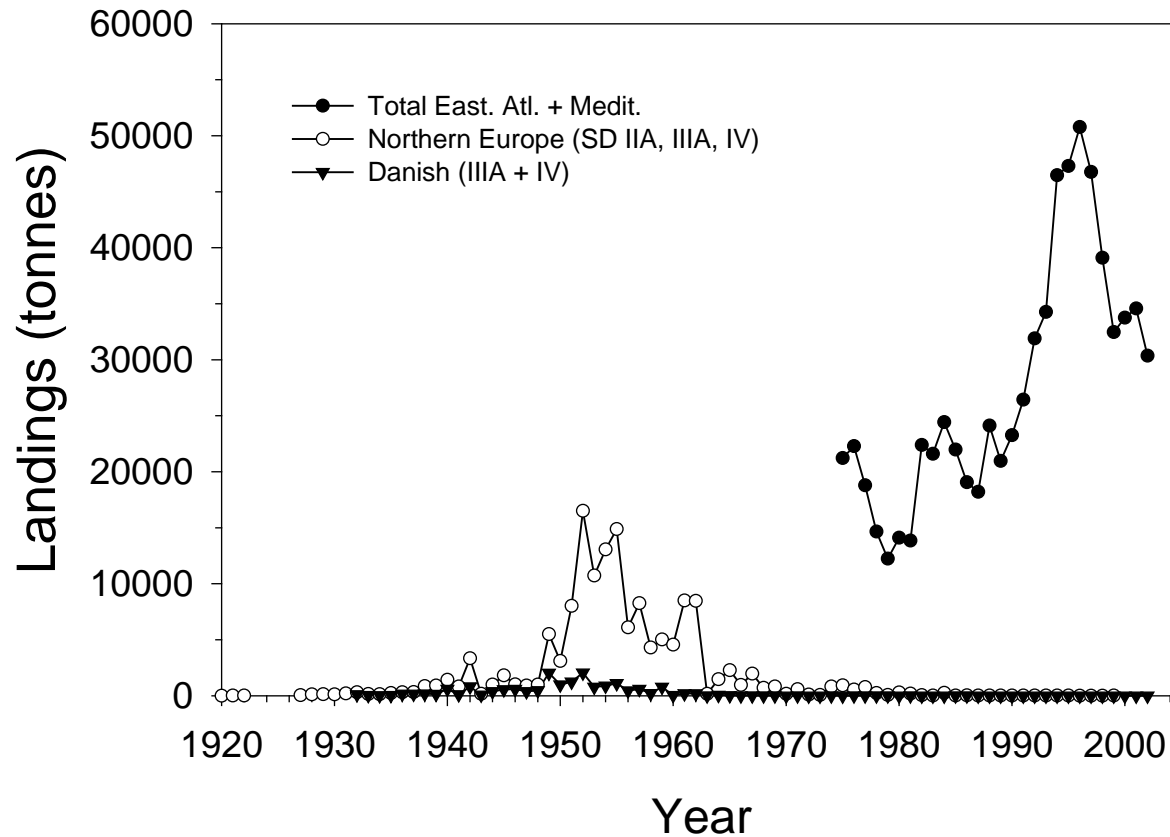
## *Thunnus thynnus* in Northern Europe\*

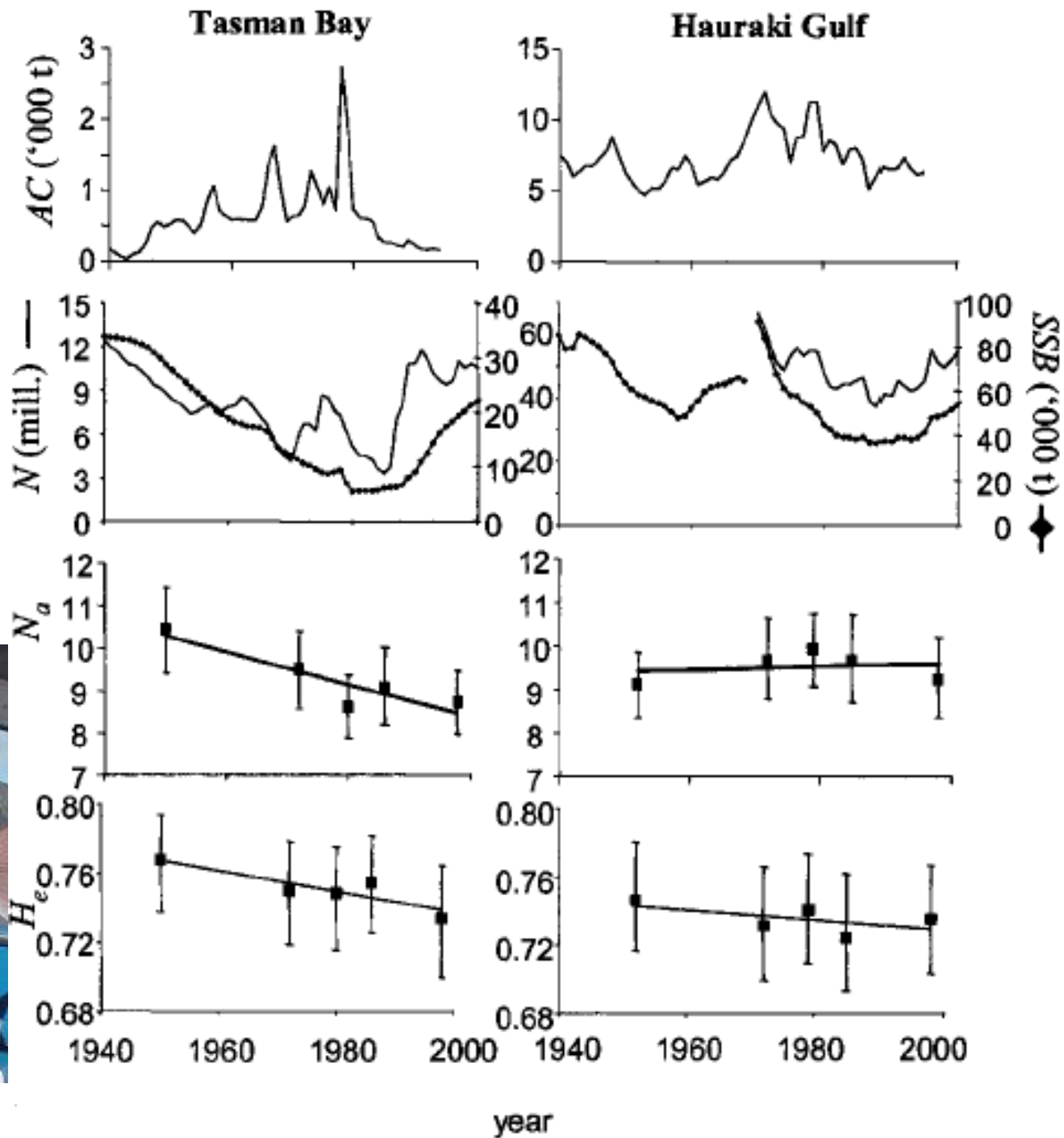


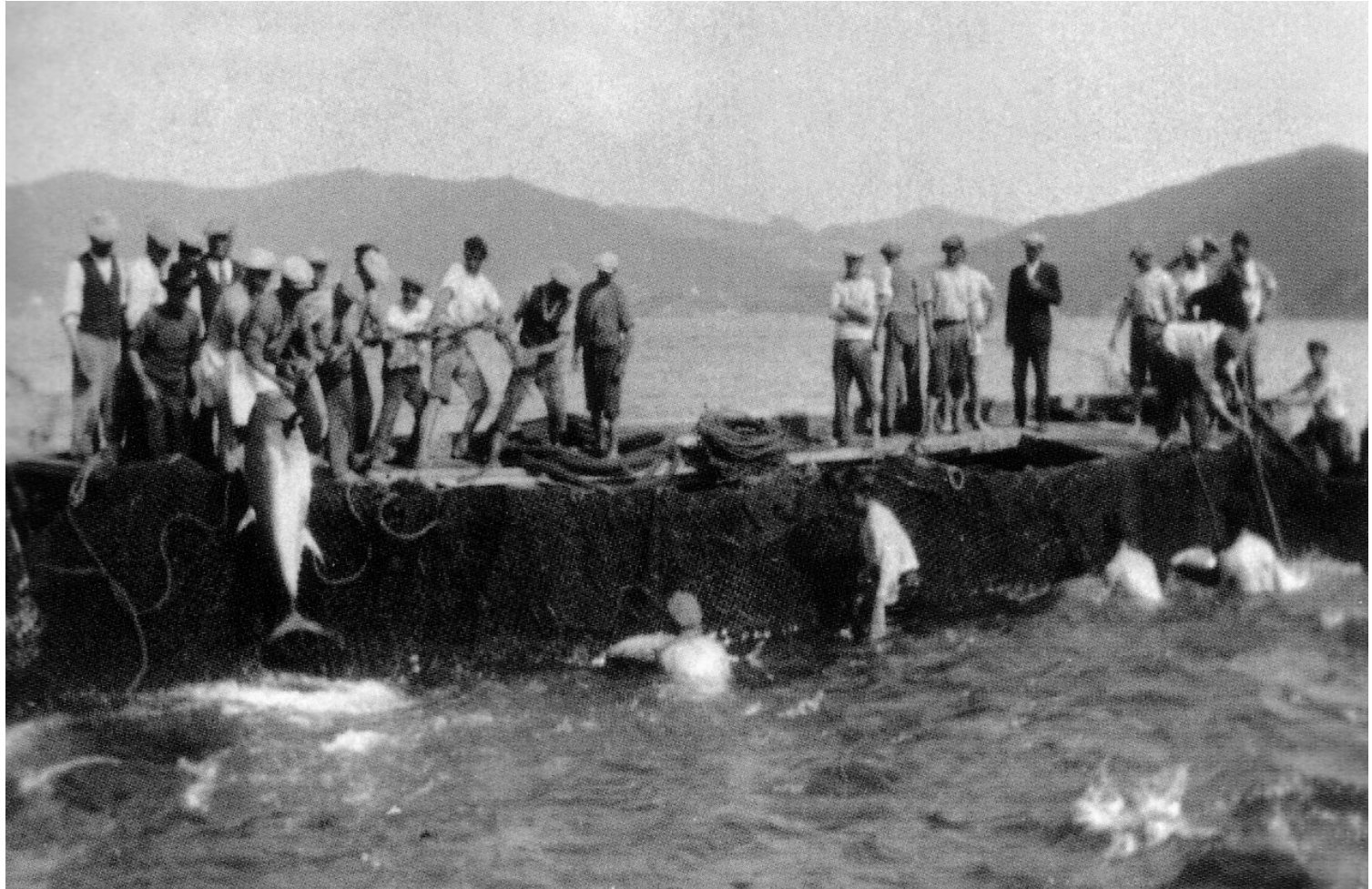
\* = Norwegian Sea, North Sea, Skagerrak, Kattegat, Øresund

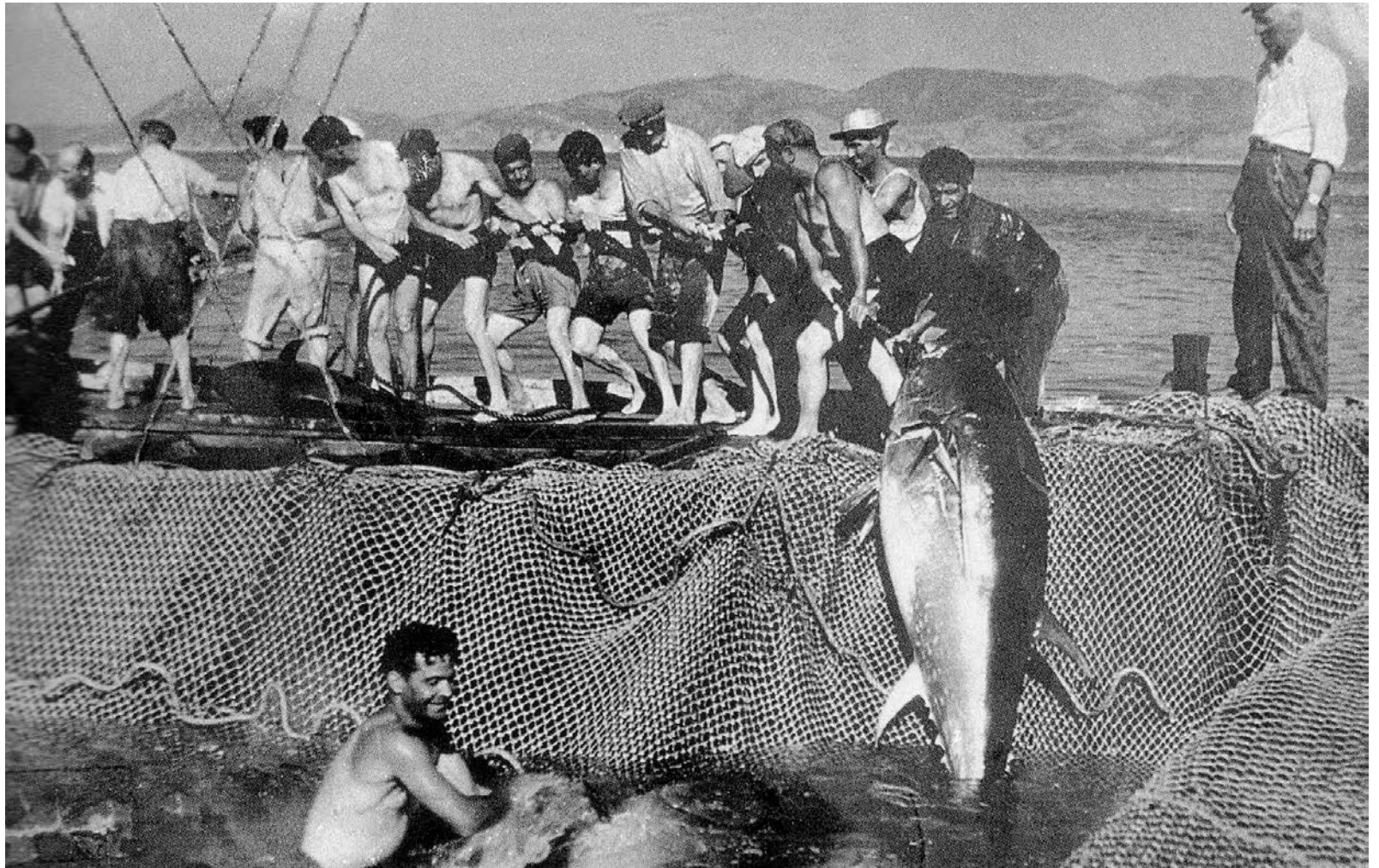
# Landings of Bluefin Tuna

## *Thunnus thynnus* in Northeast Atlantic

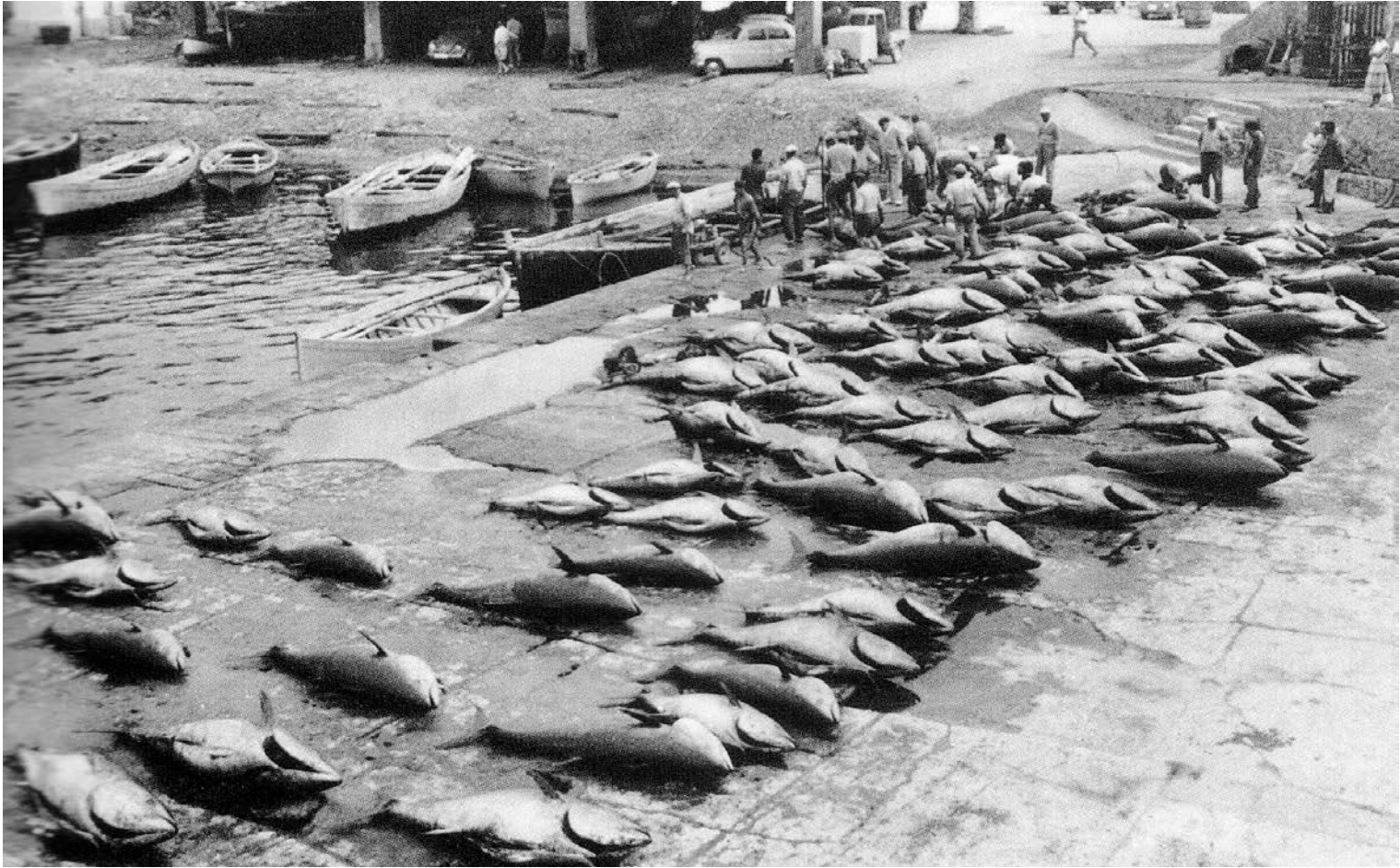








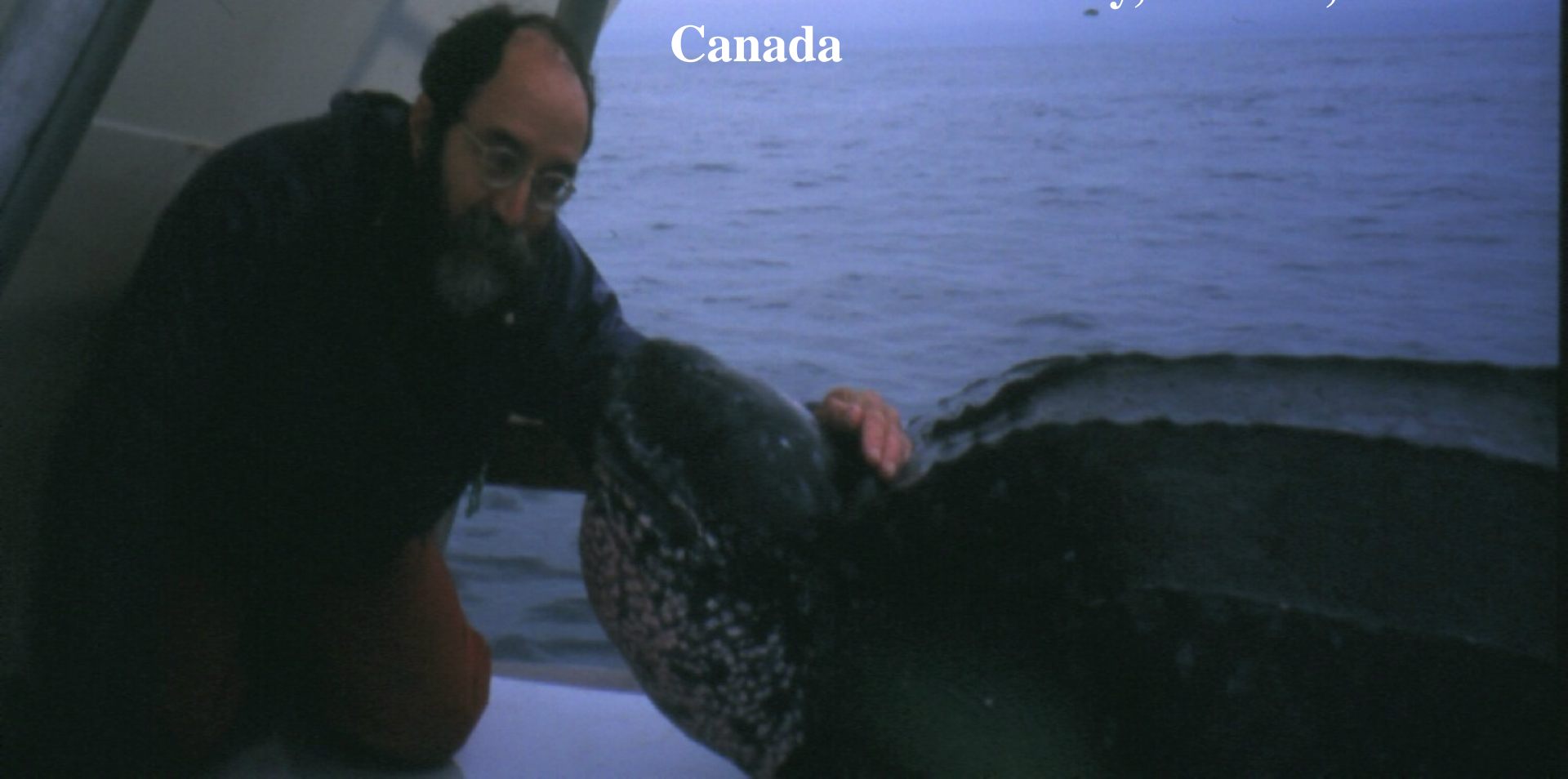




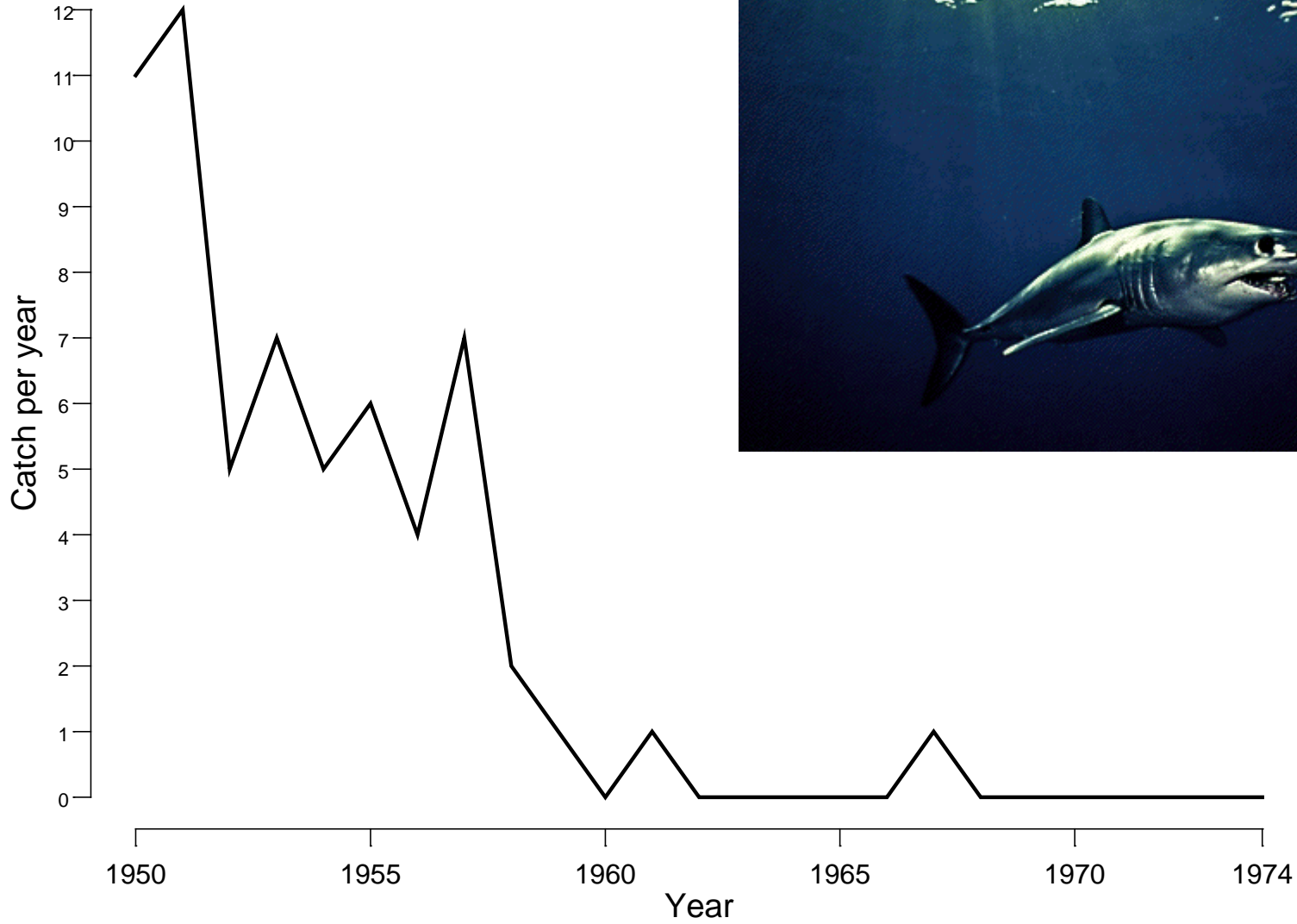


We Cannot Imagine the Loss of Life in the Ocean: We have to look at data.

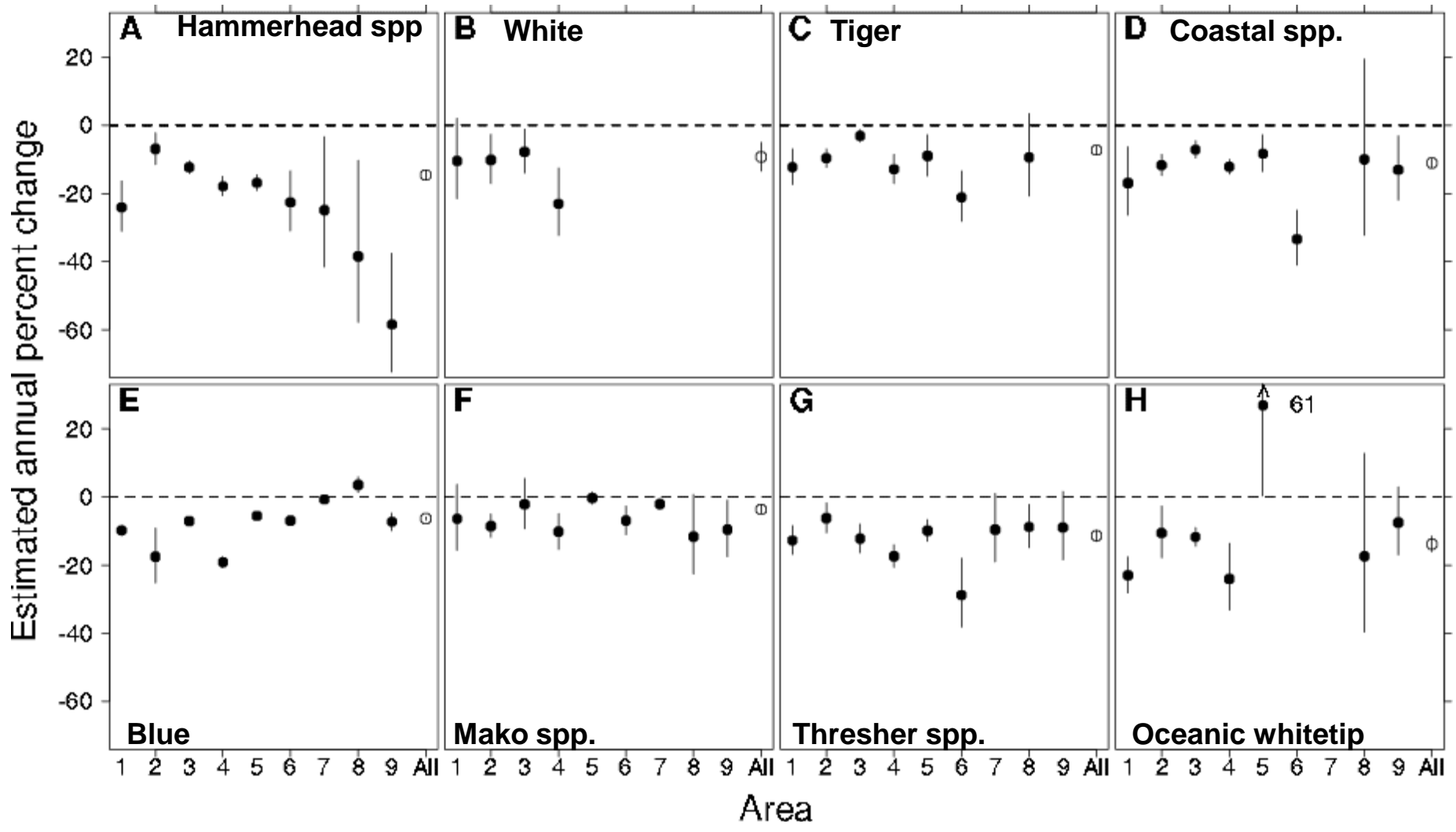
**Ransom A. Myers (RAM)**  
Dalhousie University, Halifax,  
Canada



# Decline of Mako sharks

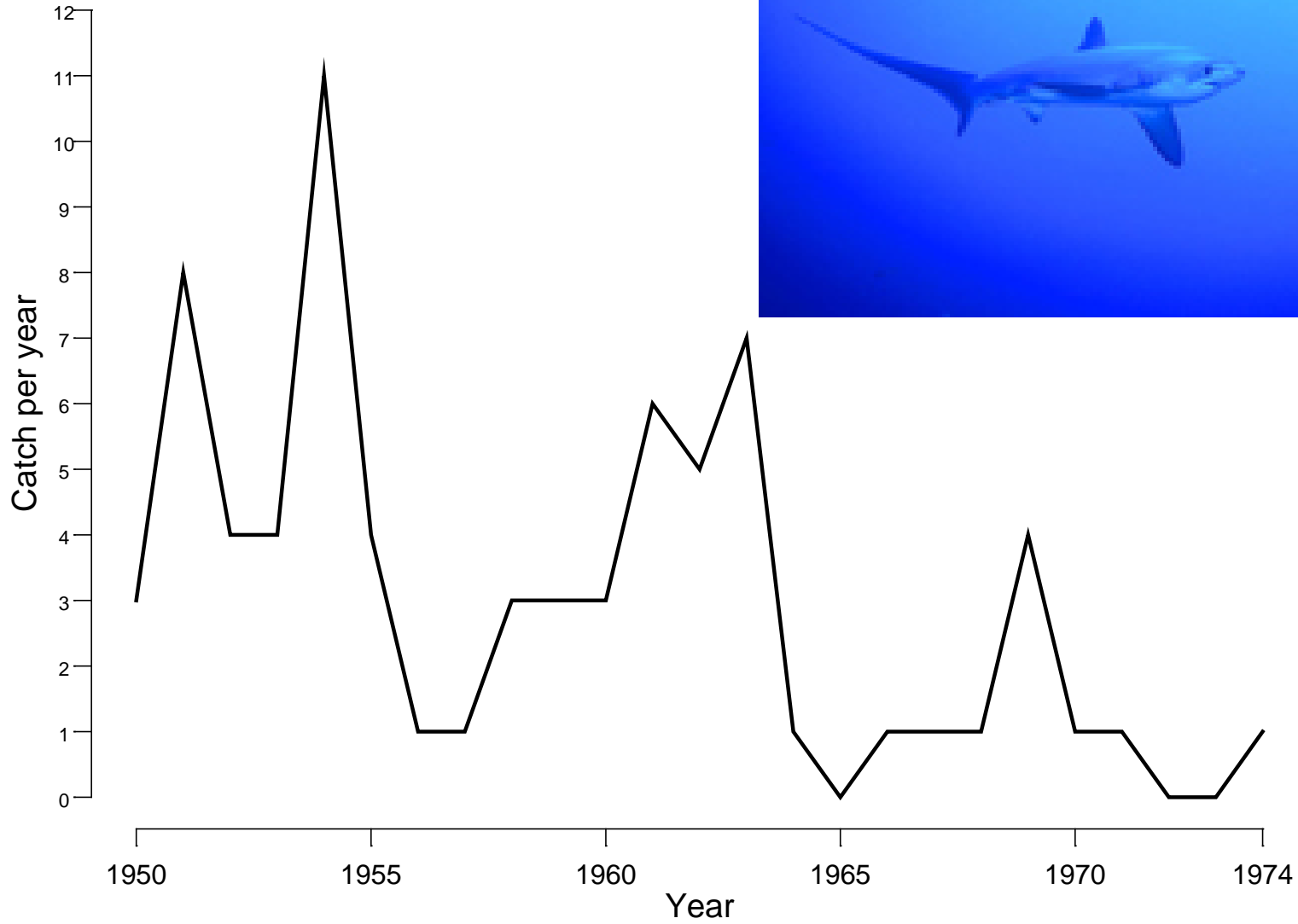


- 1 Caribbean
- 2 Gulf of Mexico
- 3 Florida
- 4 S Atlantic Bight
- 5 Mid Atlantic Bight
- 6 NE Coastal
- 7 NE Distant
- 8 Sargasso
- 9 S America



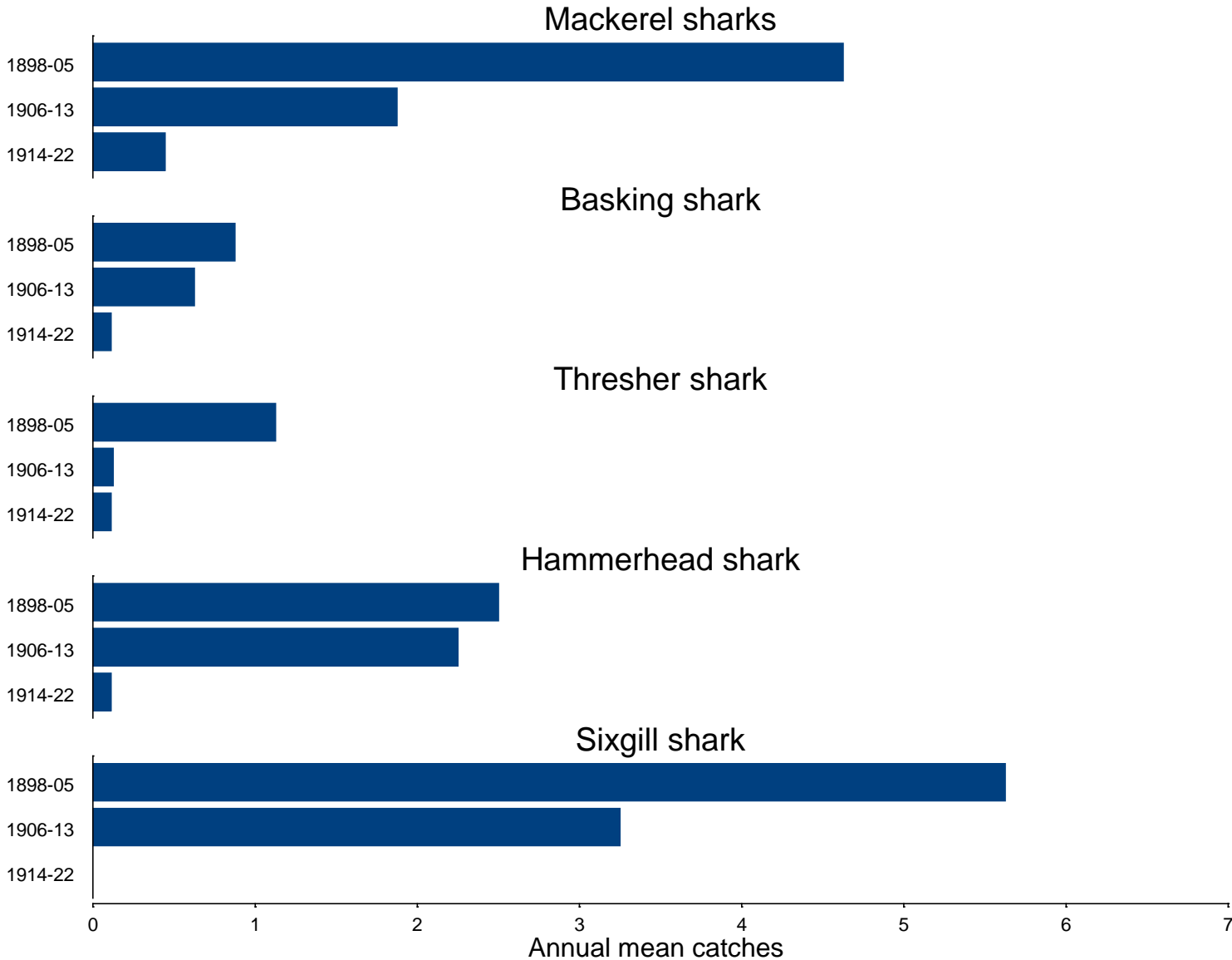


# Decline of Thresher sharks



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

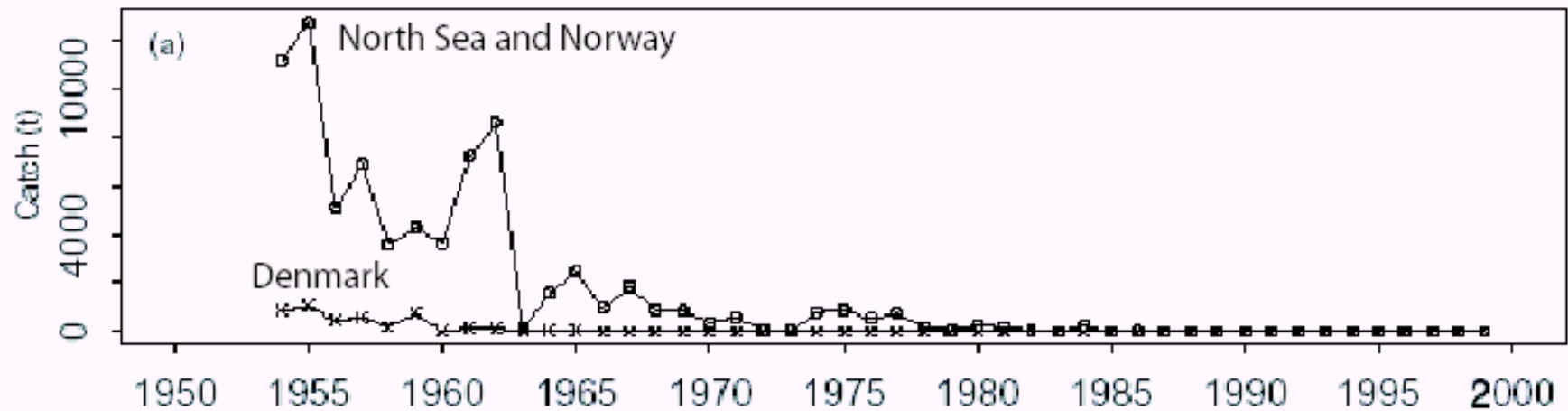
## Baratti's "Tonnarella"



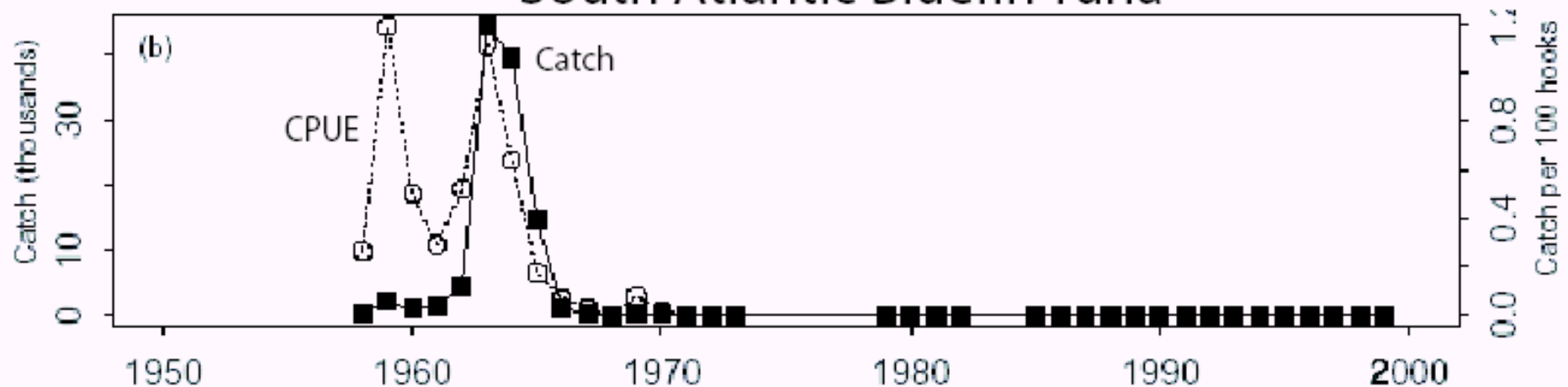


# Loss of Bluefin Tuna Populations in the Atlantic

## North Sea Bluefin Tuna



## South Atlantic Bluefin Tuna

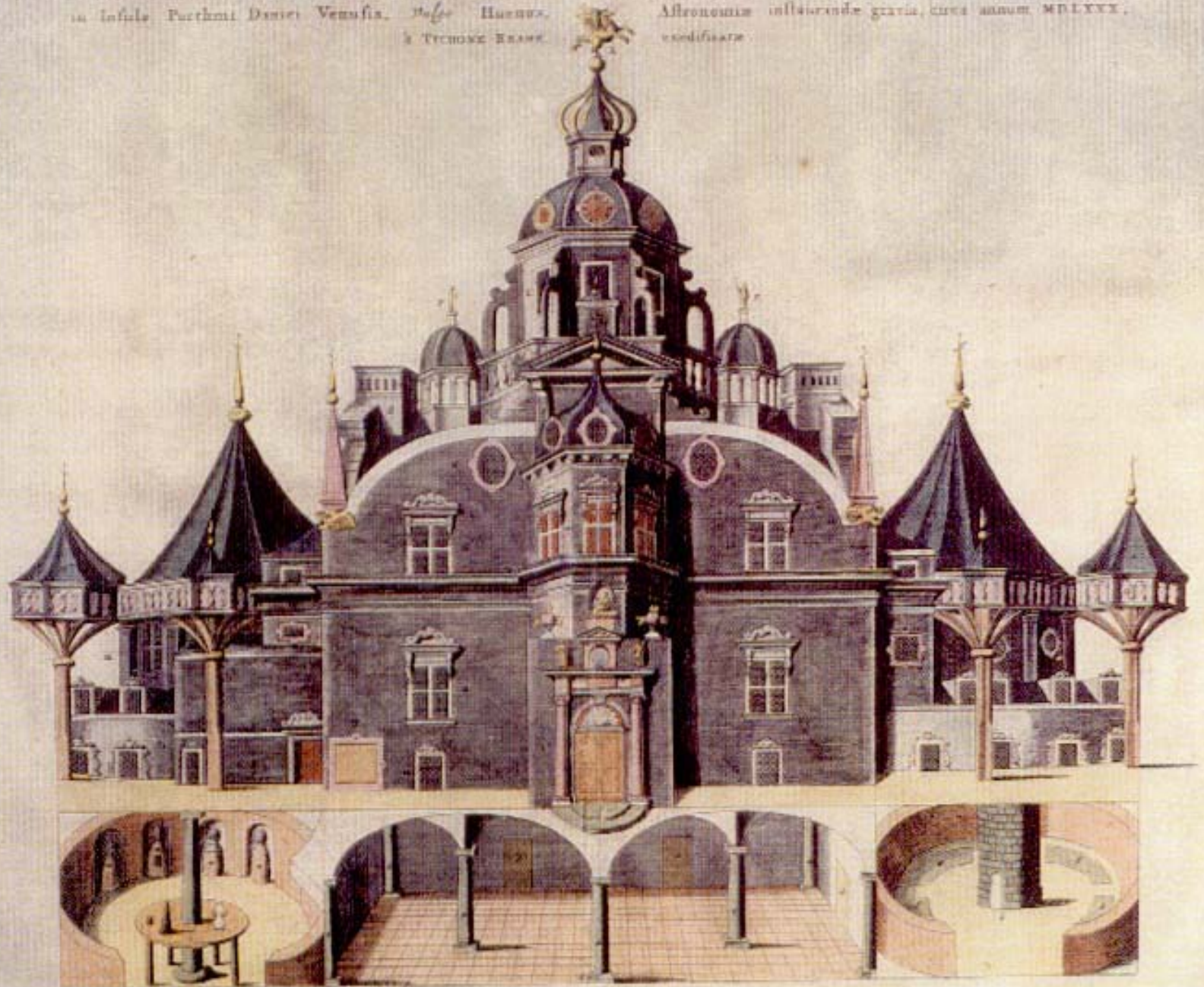




ORTHOGRAPHIA PRÆCIPVÆ DOMVS ARCIS VRANIBV RGI

in Insula Pomeraniæ Daniæ Veneris. *Stylus* HUGONIS.  
à TICHONNE BRANN.

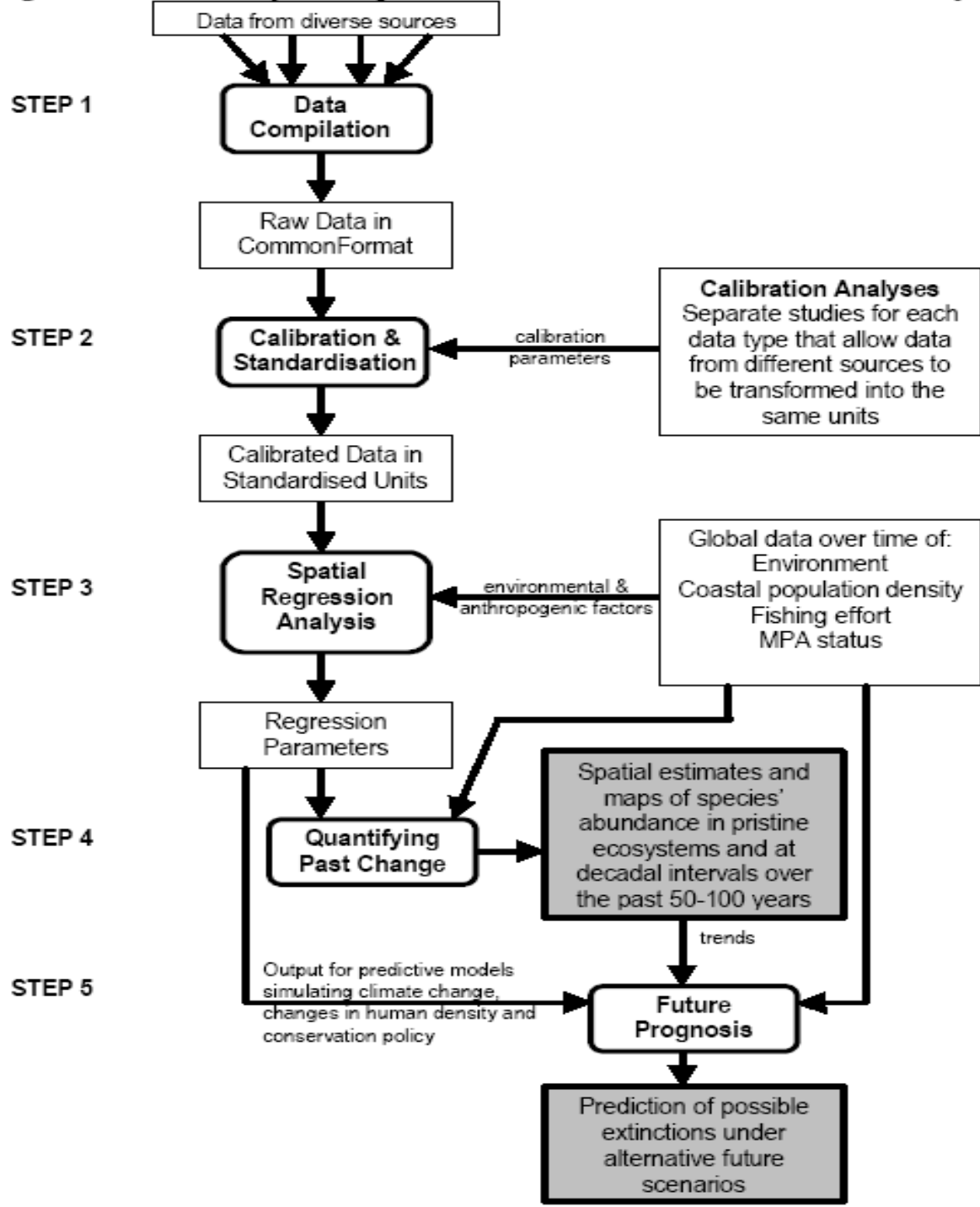
Astronomis illusterrimæ gratiæ, curâ annuæ MDLXXX.  
restituitur.





# 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

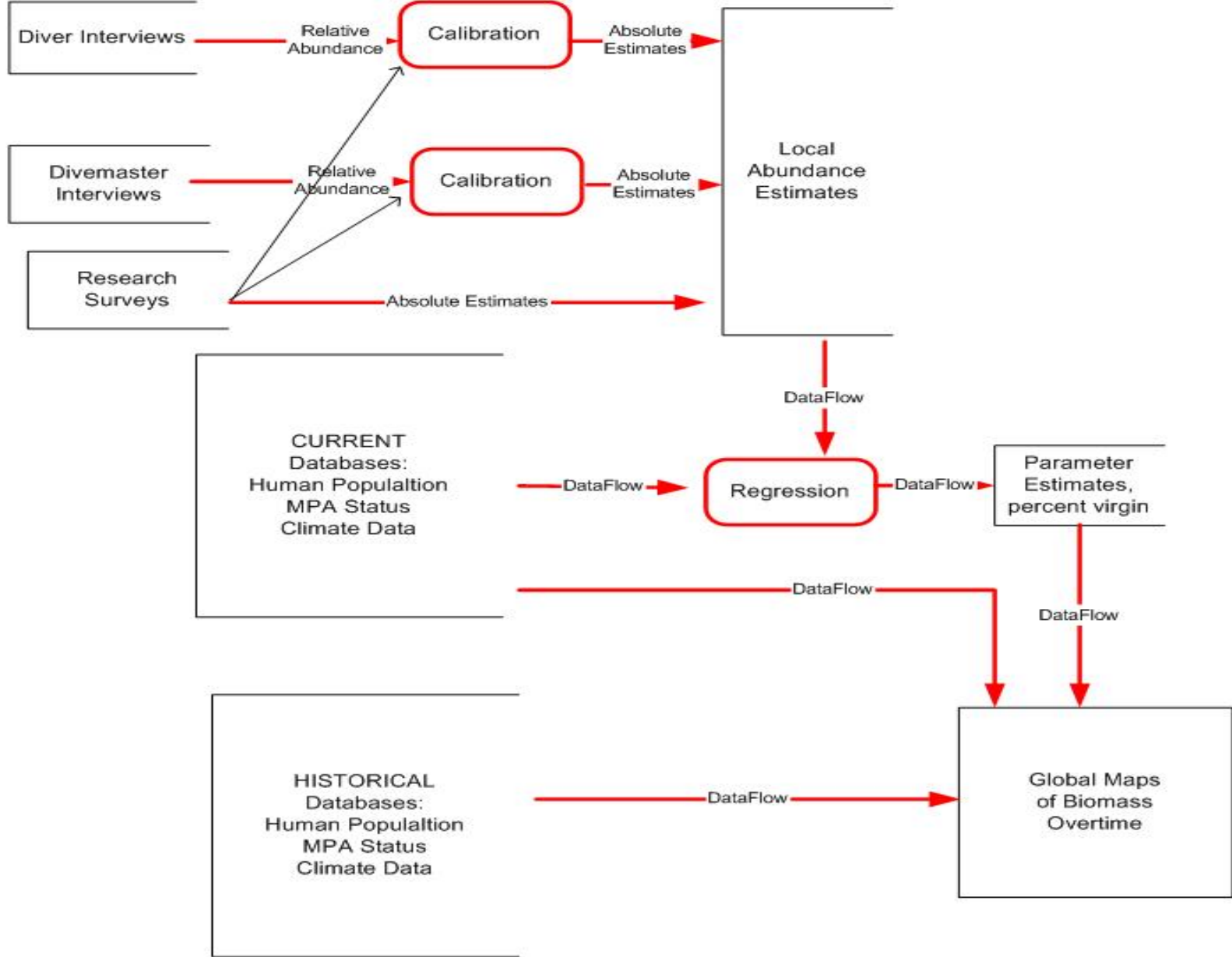




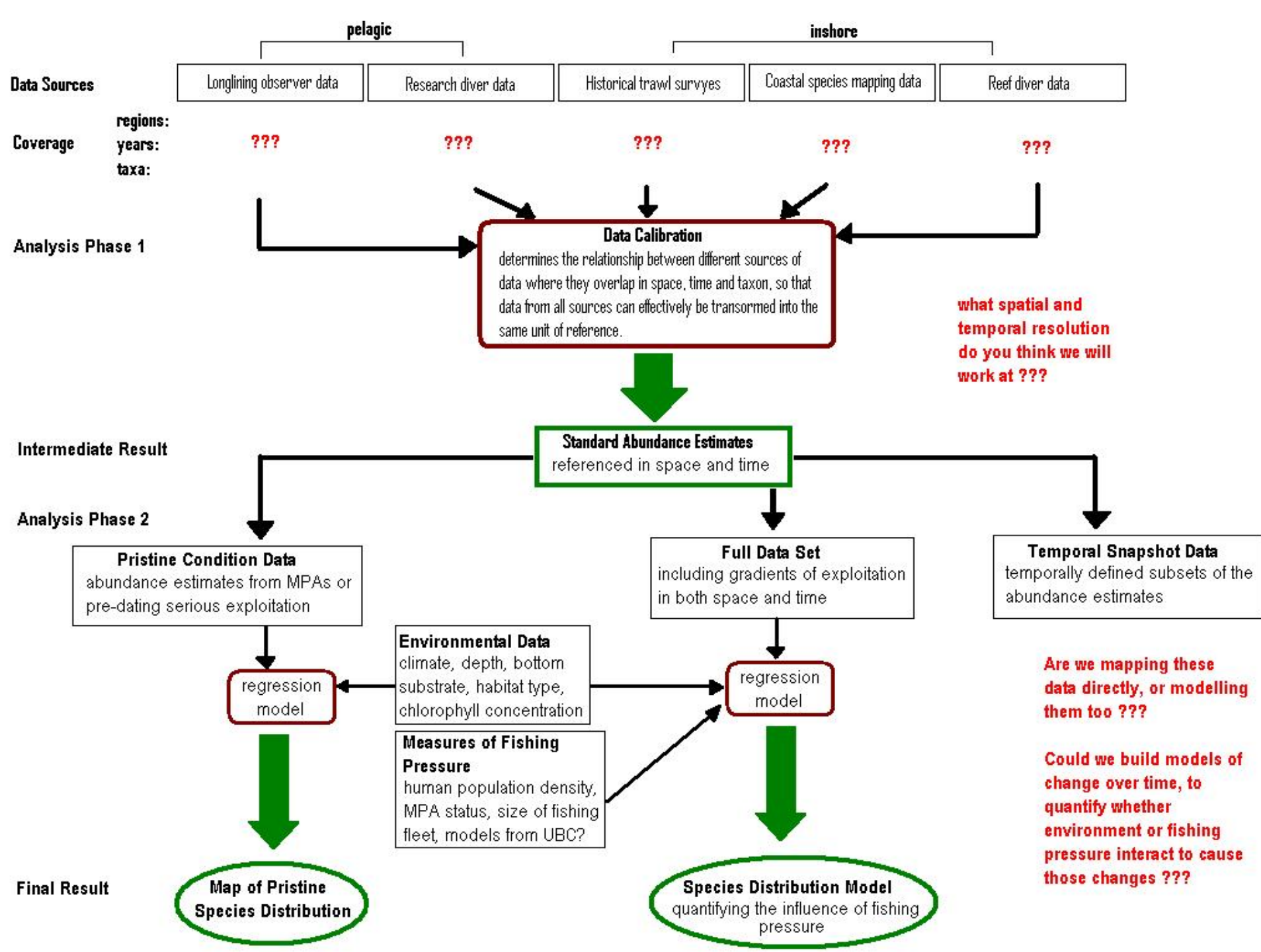


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Outline of data flow to produce global maps of abundance for reef species. The goal is produce maps for species that are of interest to divers over time, and estimate the “pristine” abundances and biomass, and the time trends over time to the present.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

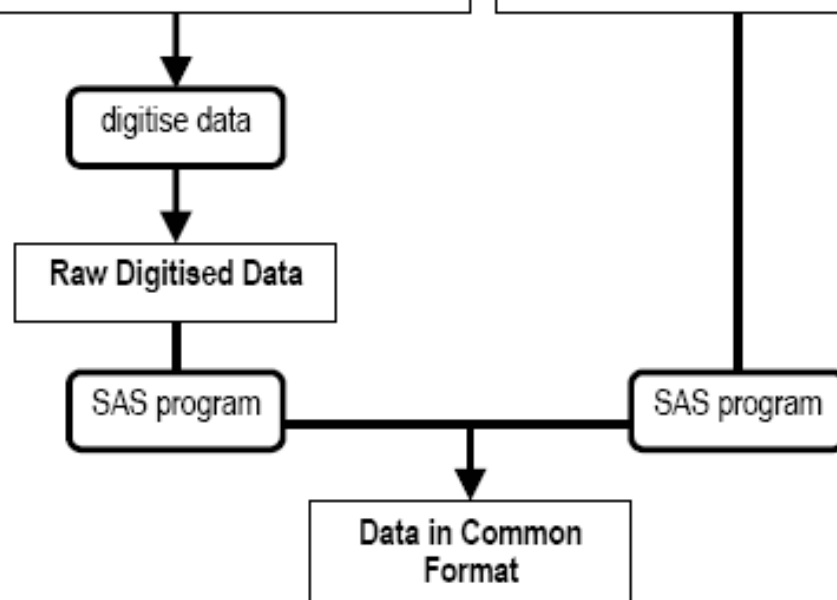


**Raw data on paper:**

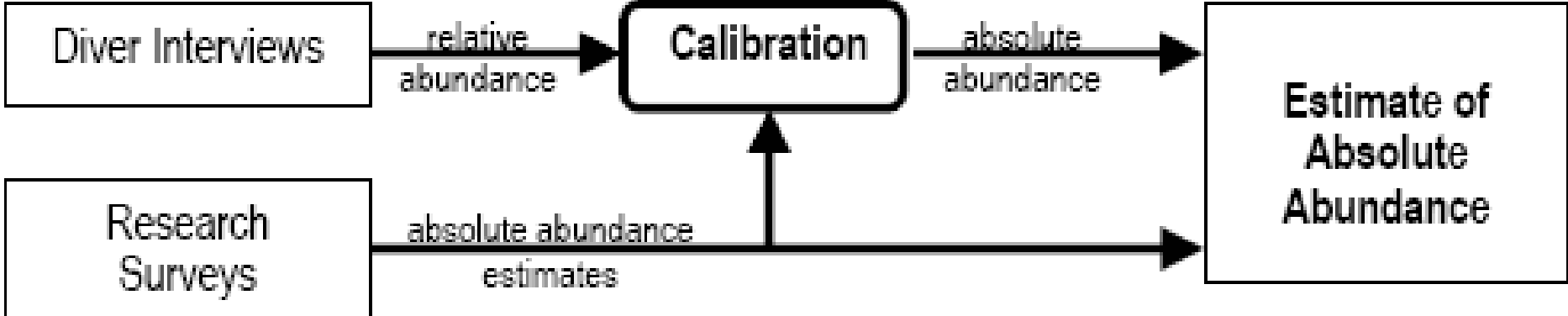
- old Japan data from Pacific
- old Japan data from Atlantic (one publication from equatorial Atlantic)
- old California Department of Fish and Game reports
- recent Japan data ICCAT documents (at least 5)
- old Canadian data
- old US east coast reports (we have a few on hand, others may be hidden at NMFS Gloucester 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:**

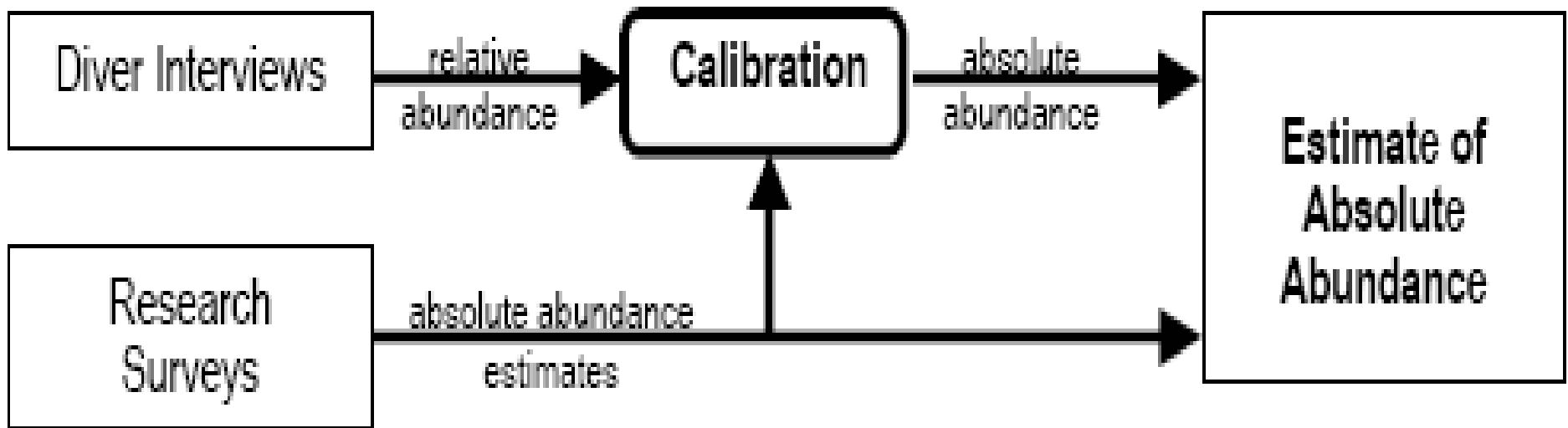
- updates on Canadian data
- updates on US data
- observer data from the Mediterranean
- South Pacific Commission (we have much of this and could get more)
- Indian Ocean Commission?
- data sources in supplement to Lewison: Ecology Letters (2004) 7: 221-231
- Costa Rica
- cooperative shark tagging in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



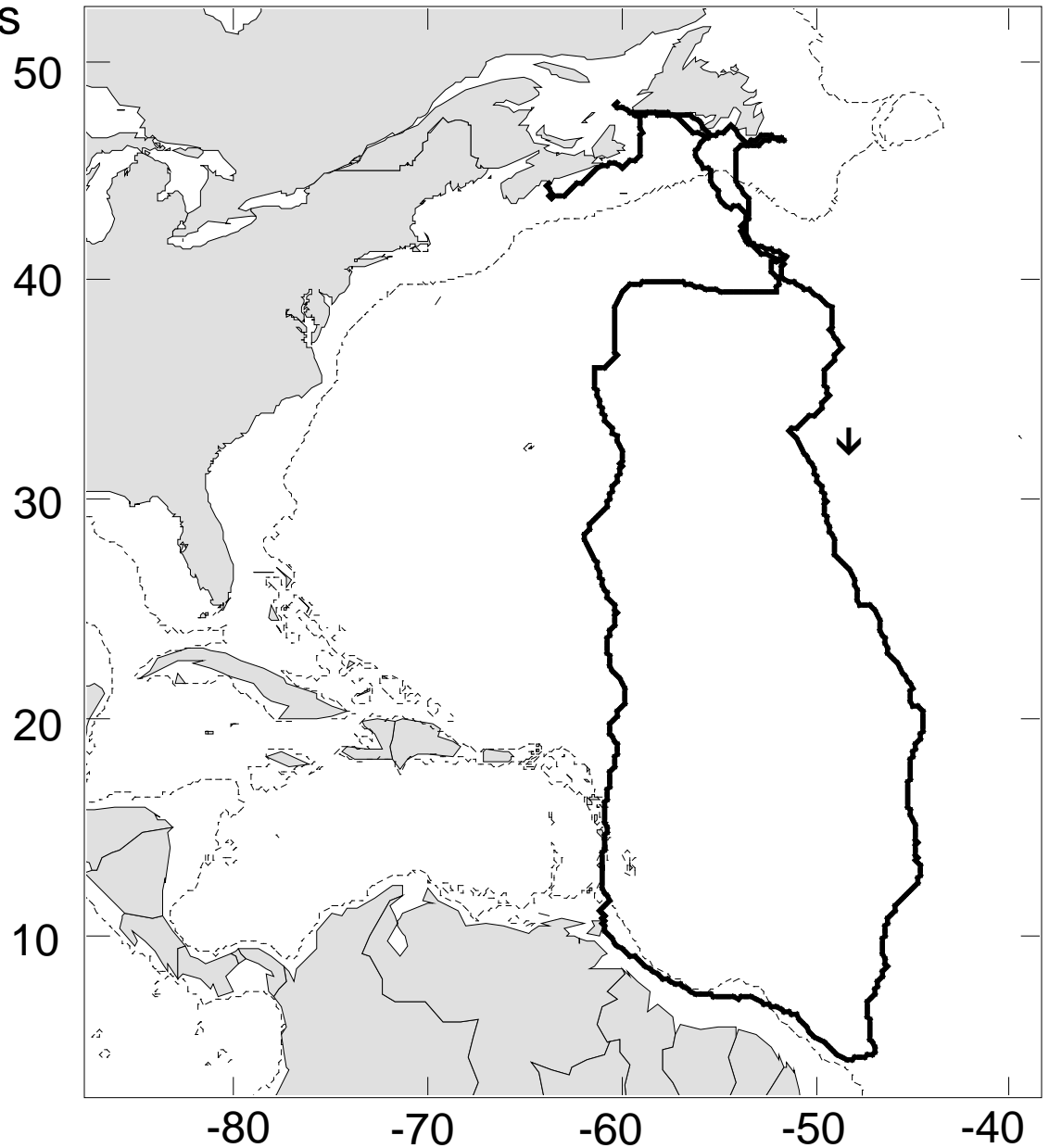




## Male leatherback movements

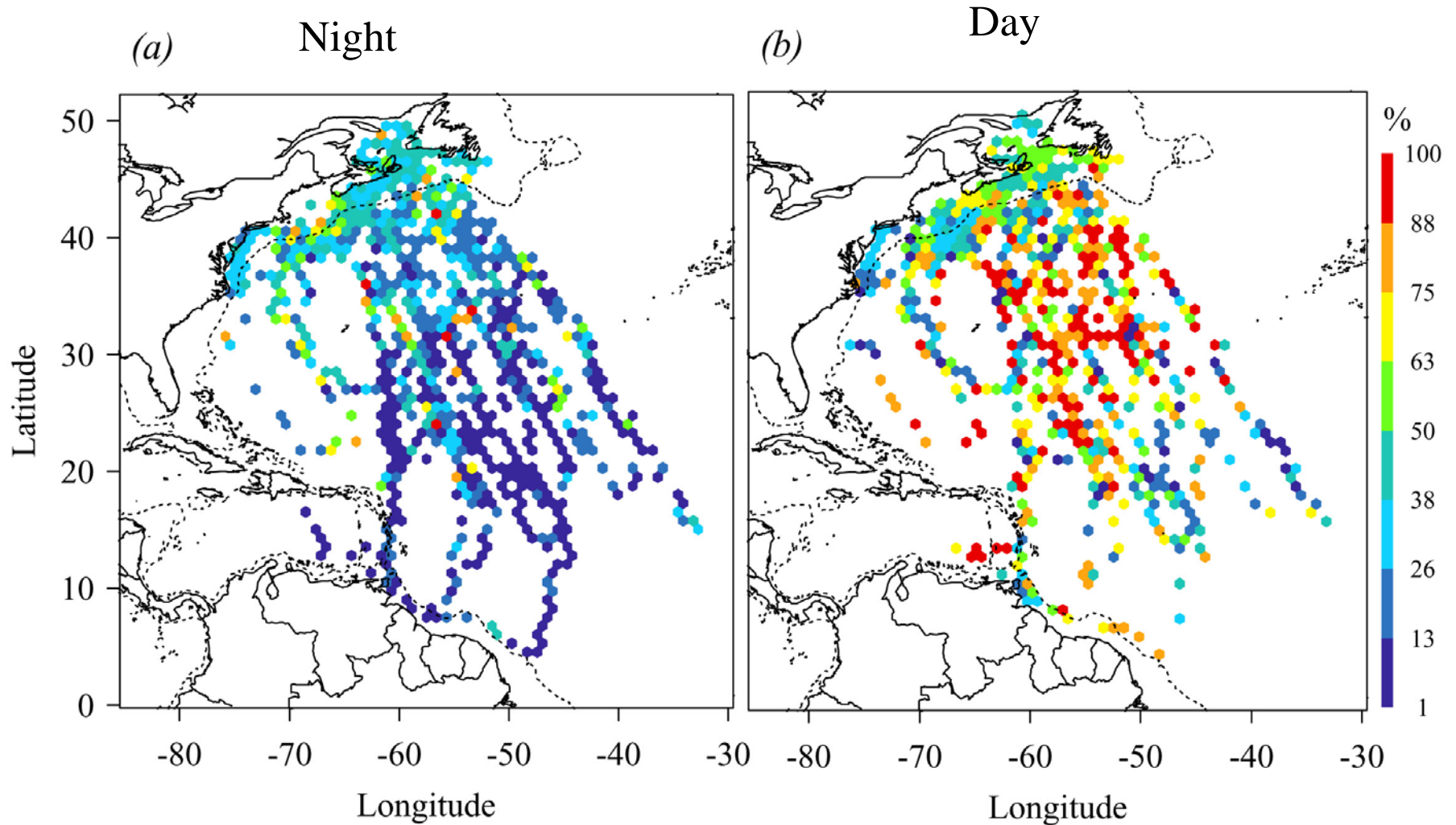
- not previously described
- annual migratory cycle that includes movement between temperate foraging areas and tropical breeding areas

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

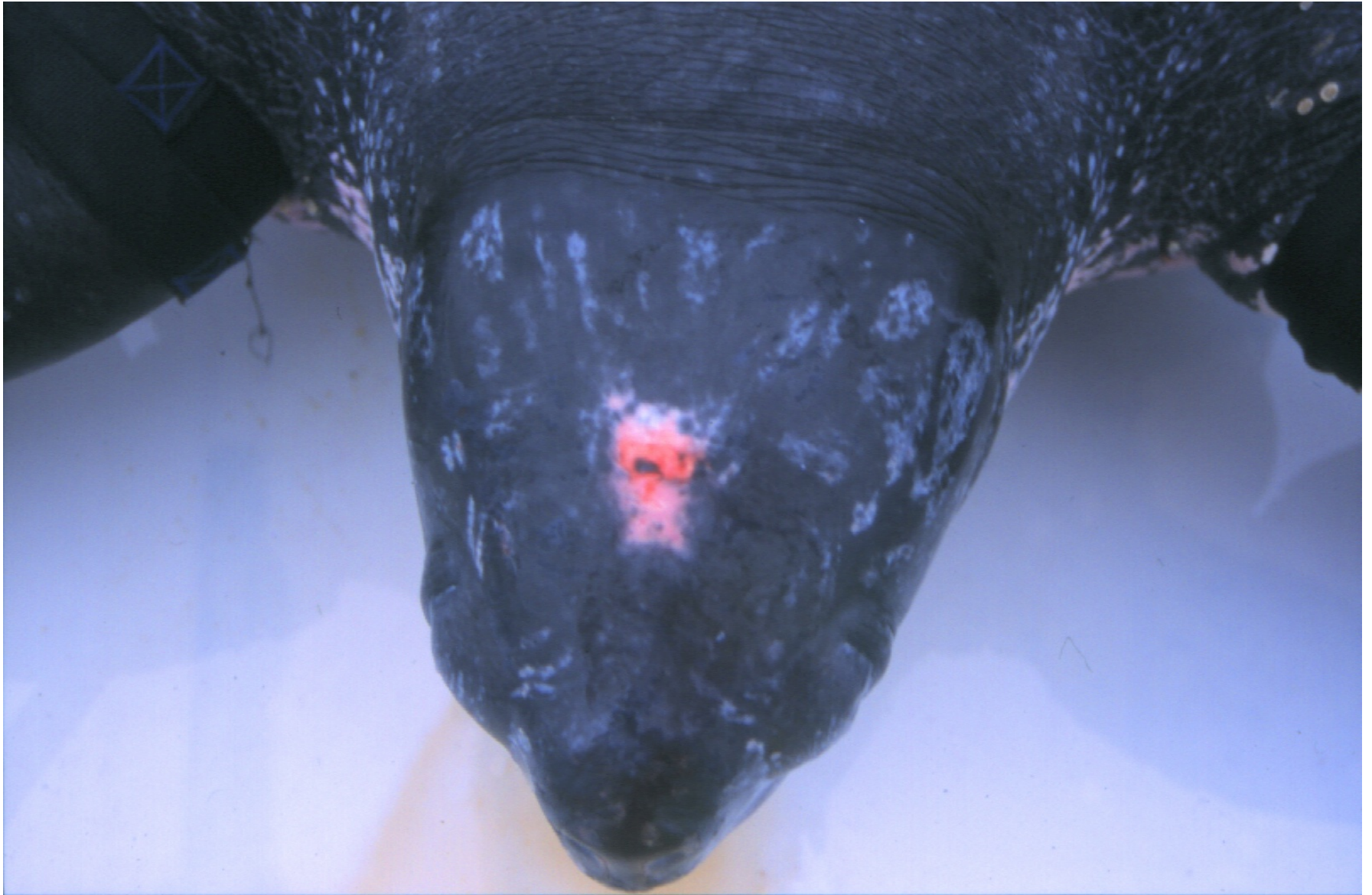




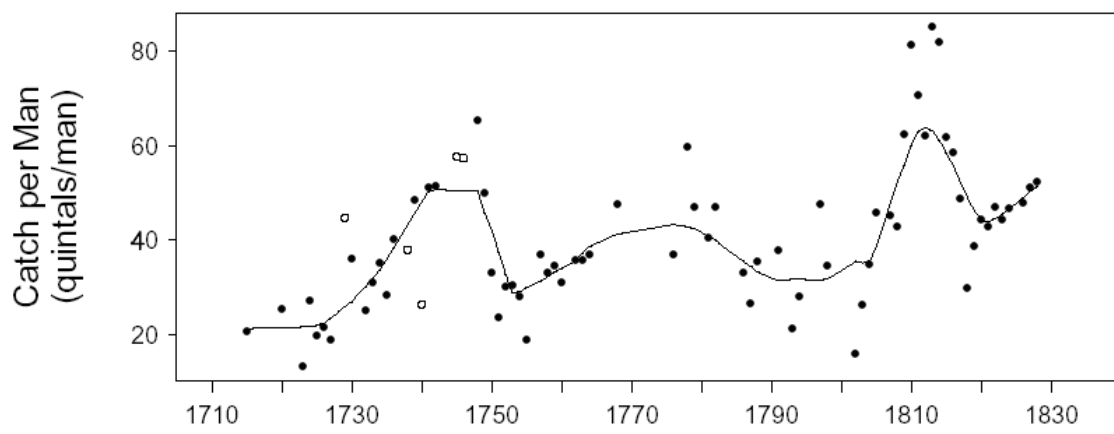
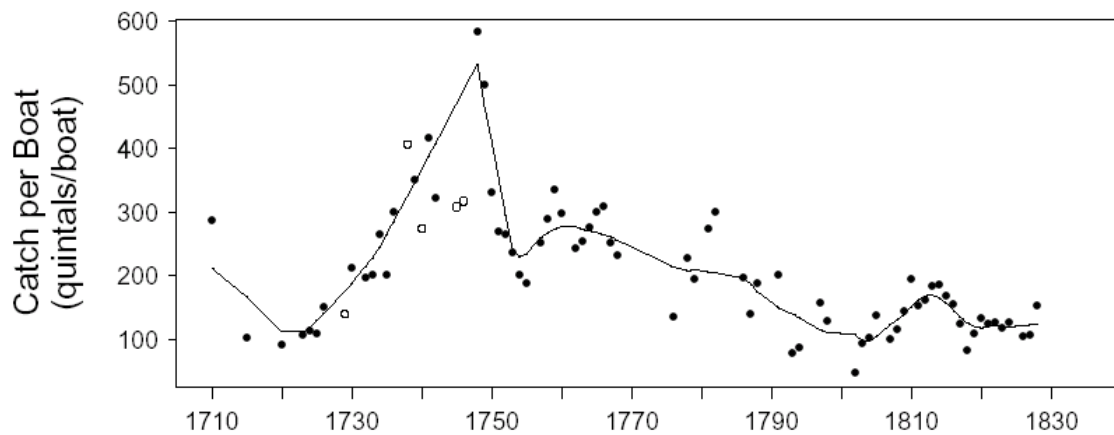
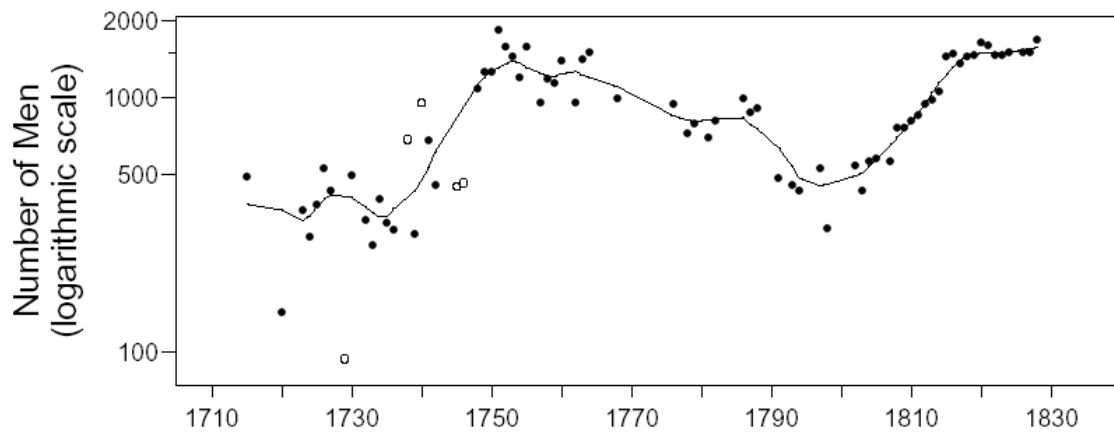
# Turtles are close to the surface during the day during migration



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

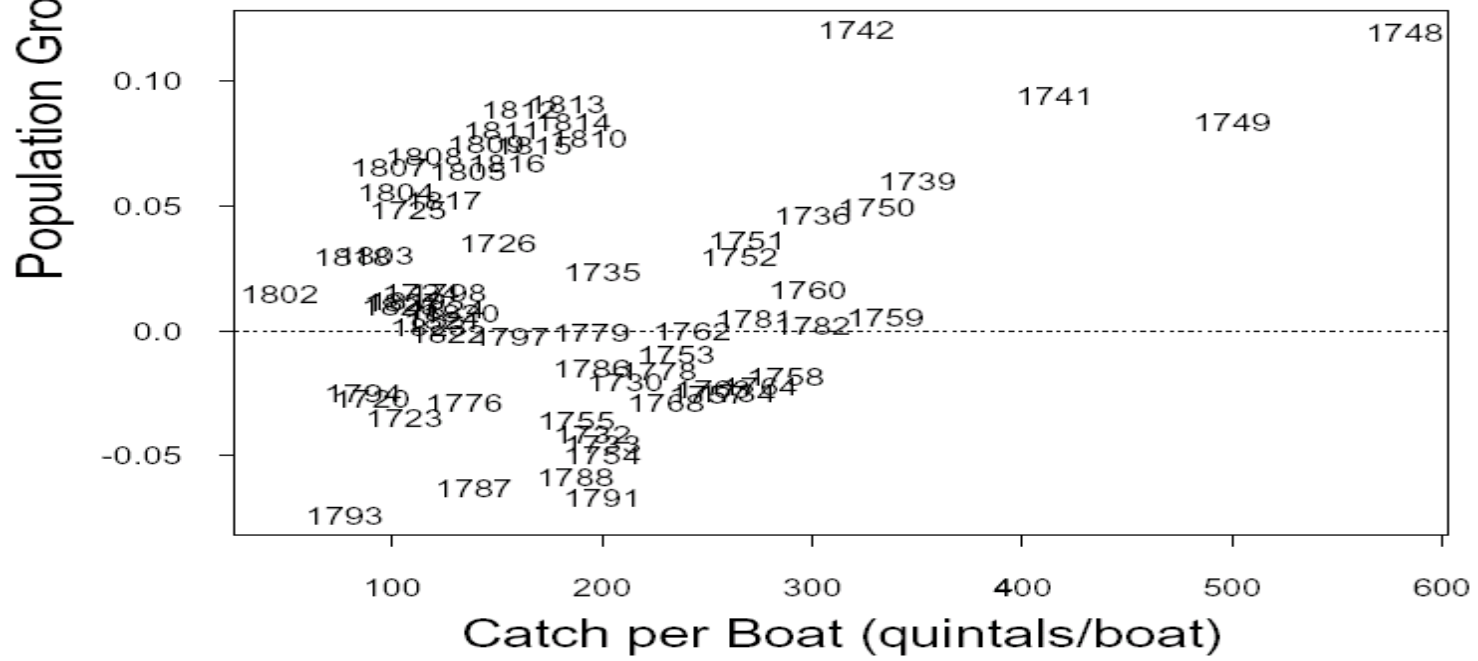
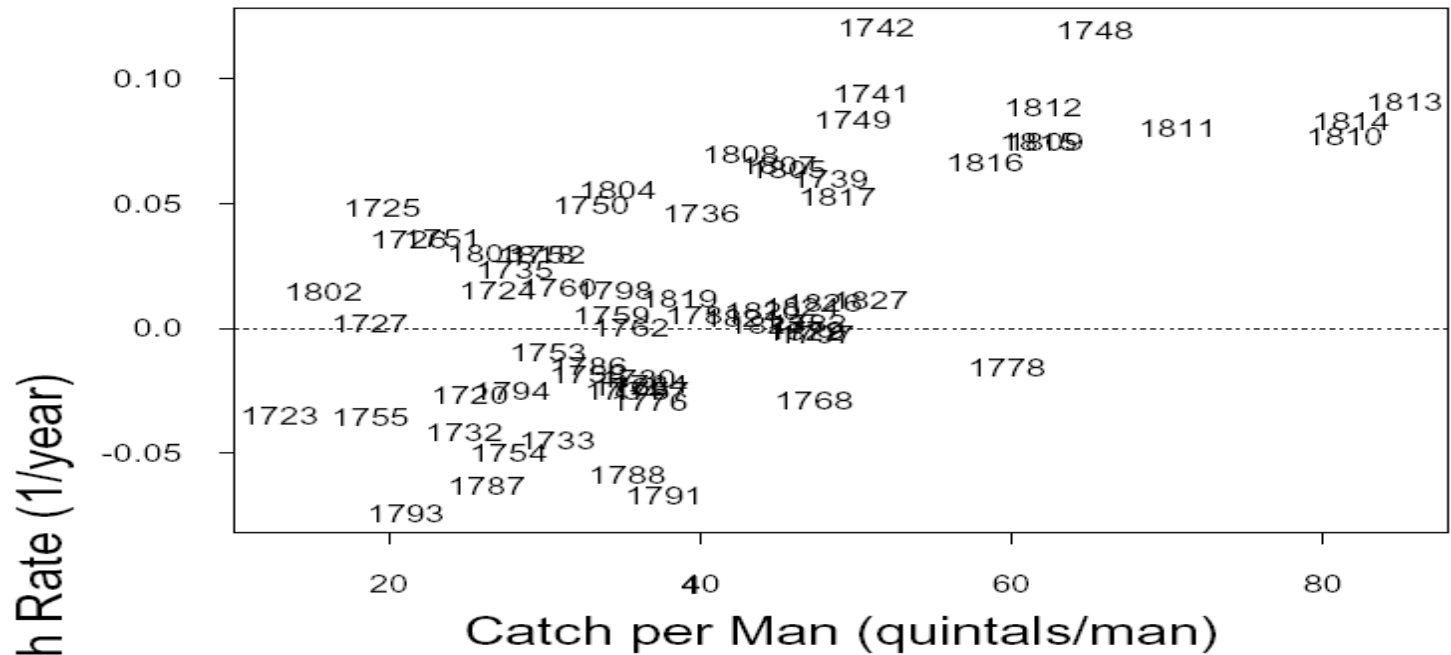


# Trinity Bay

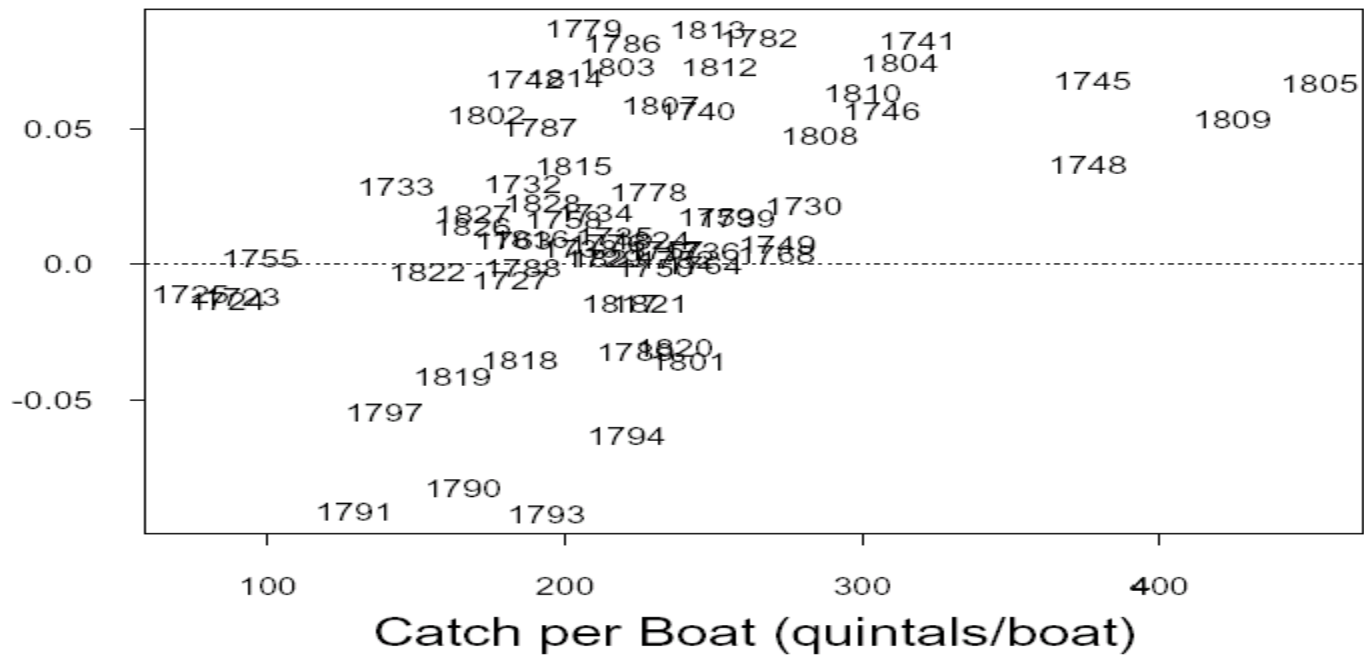
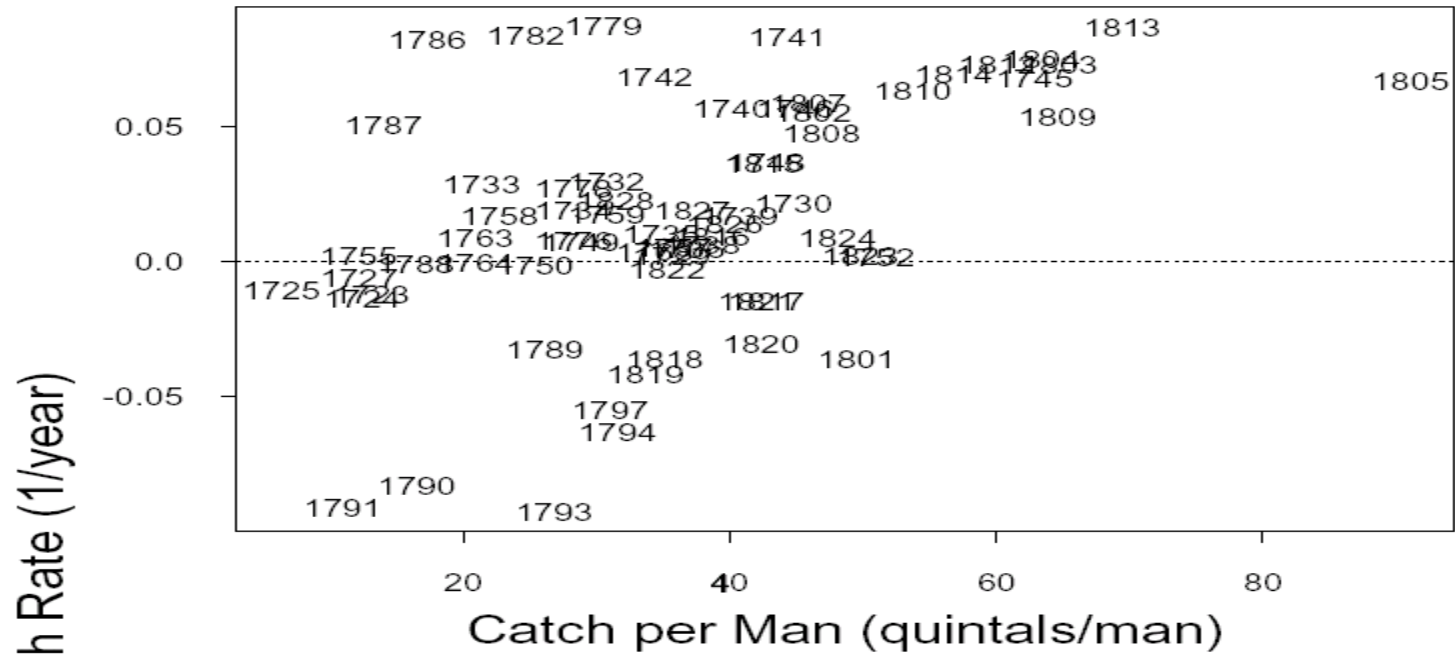


Year

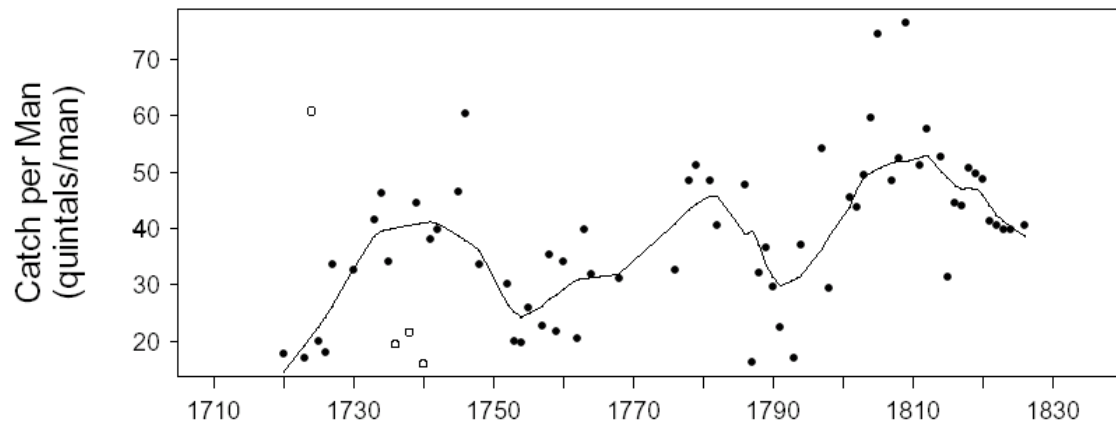
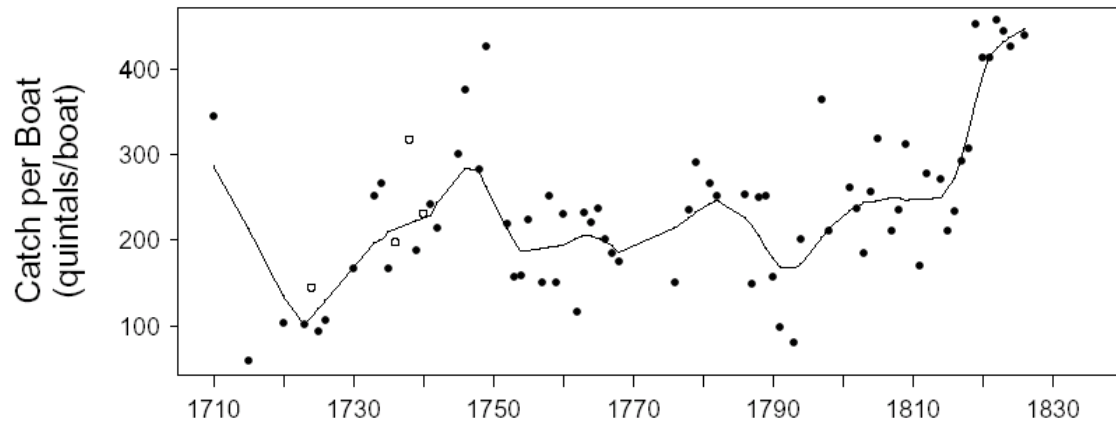
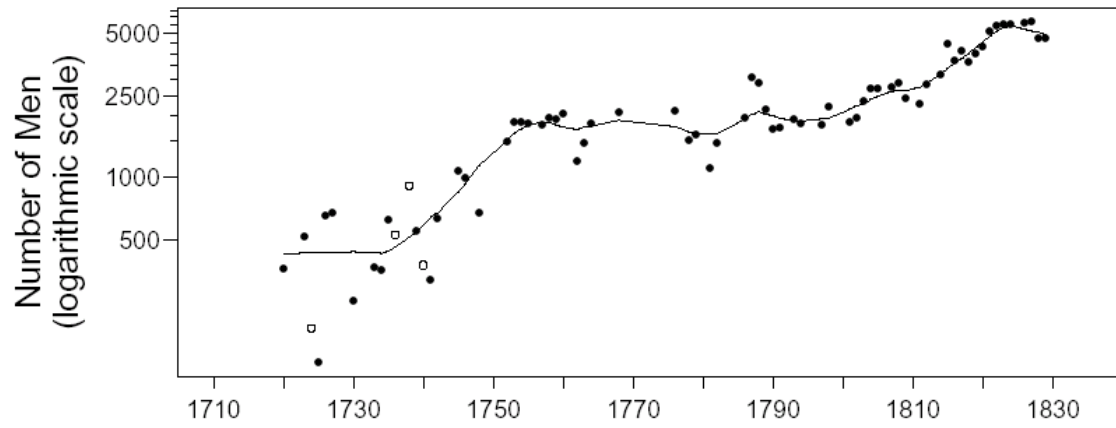
# Trinity Bay



# St. John's to Cape Race



# Conception Bay

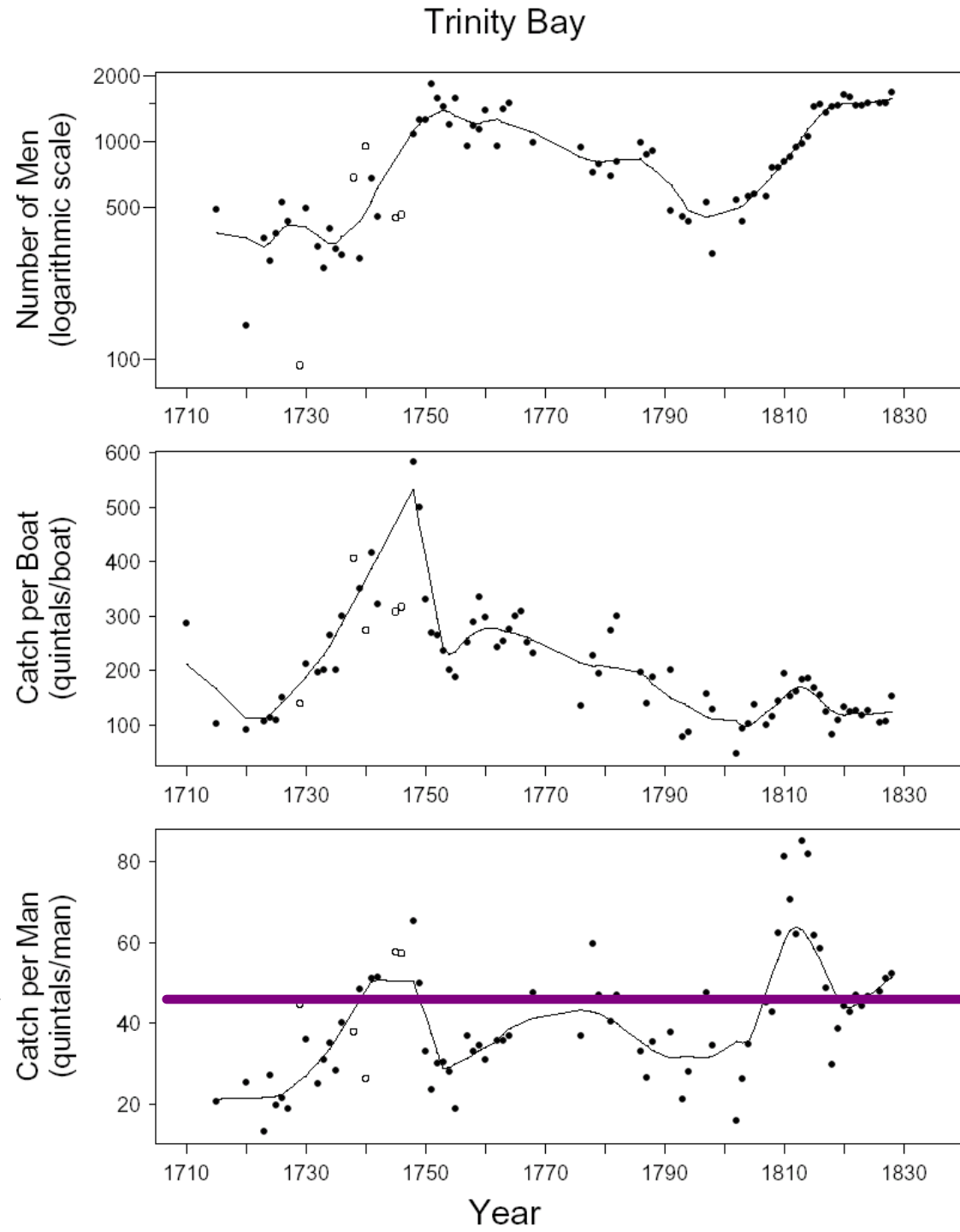


Year

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.

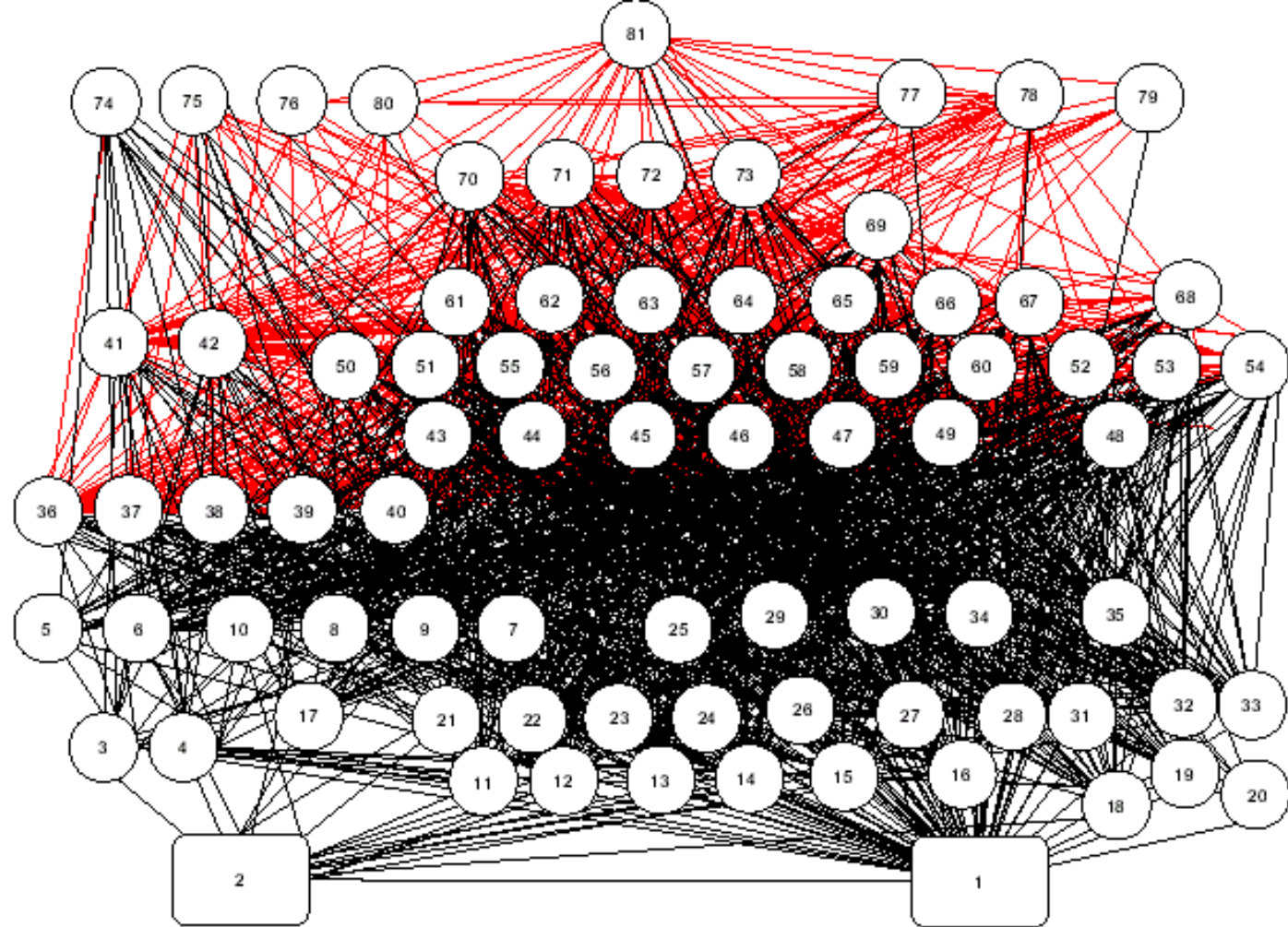


Fig. 1. Species and links of the northwest Atlantic food web. This tangled 'bird's nest' represents interactions at the approximate trophic level of each species, with increasing trophic level towards the top of the web. The left side of the web generally typifies pelagic organisms, and the right to 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 = turricates, 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

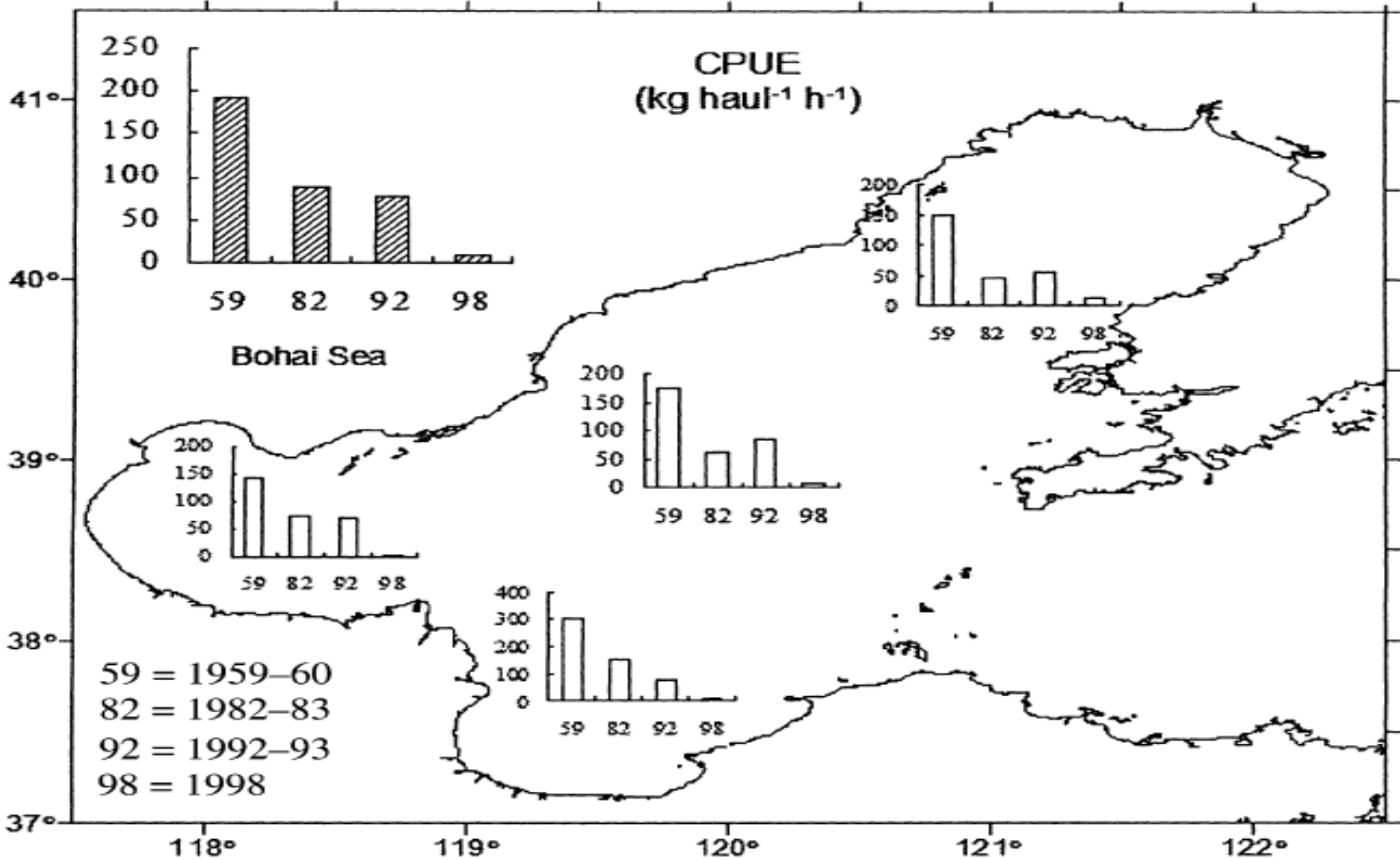
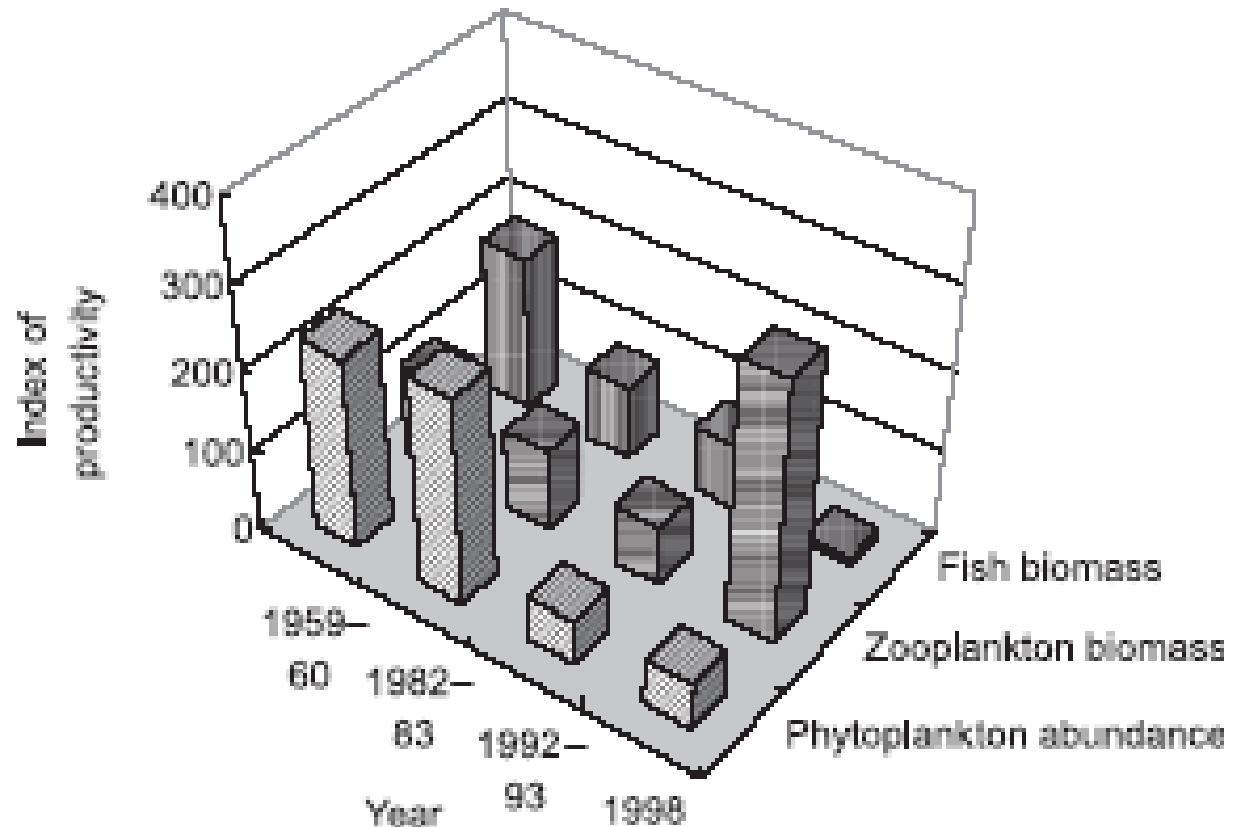


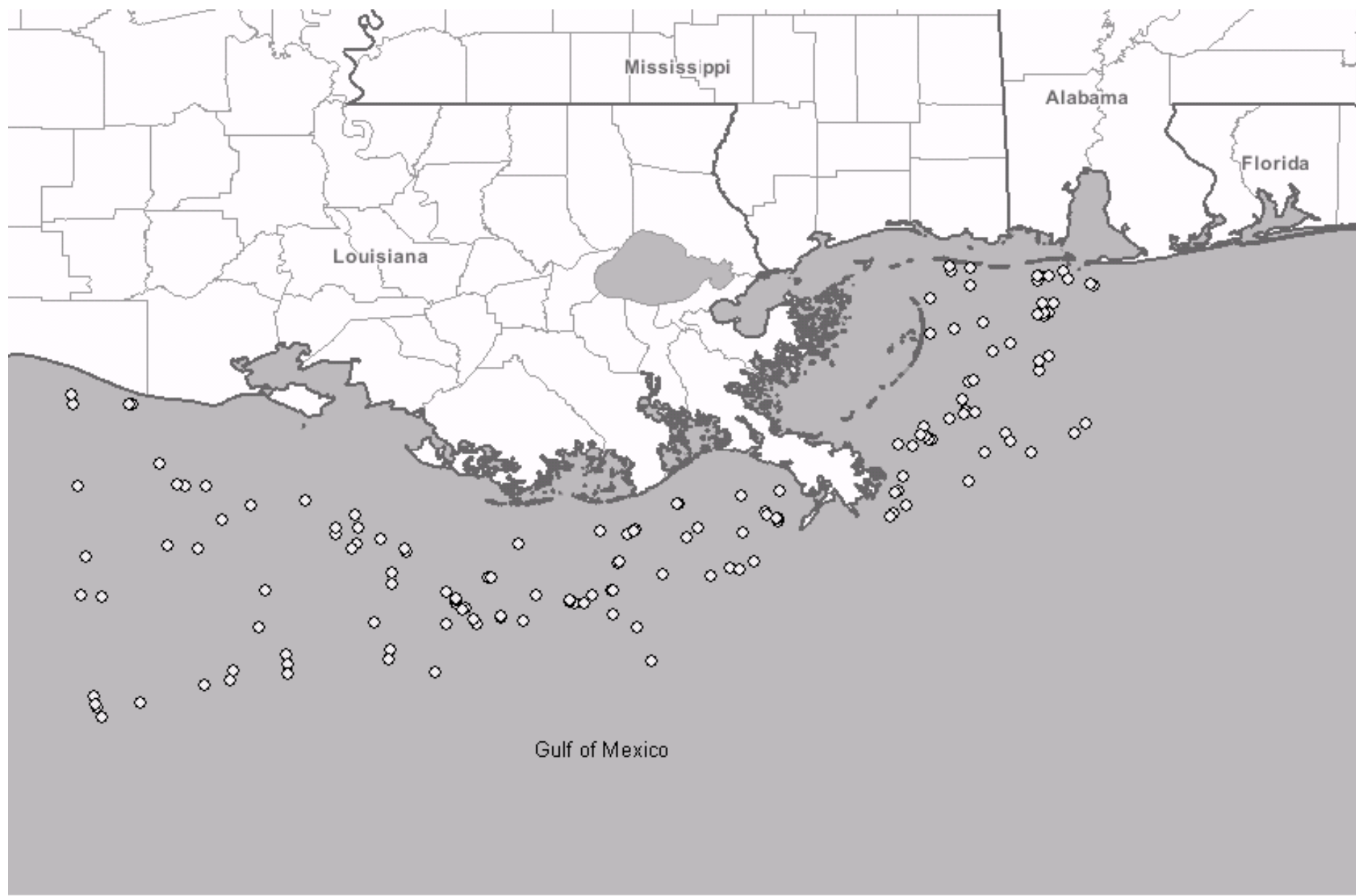
Figure 10. Decadal-scale variations of ecosystem productivity at different trophic levels in the Bohai Sea (phytoplankton abundance,  $\times 10^4$  cell  $m^{-3}$ , zooplankton biomass,  $mg\ m^{-3}$ , fish biomass,  $kg\ haul^{-1}\ h^{-1}$ ).



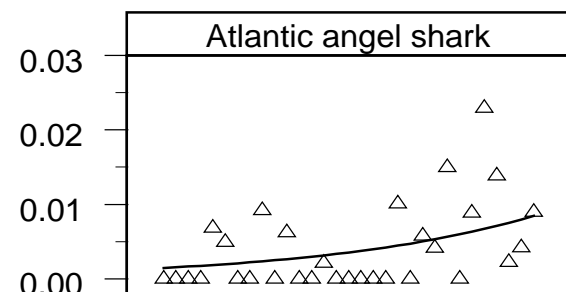
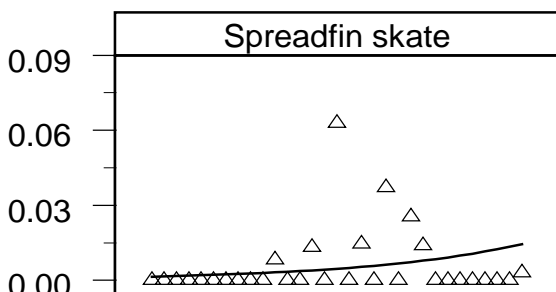
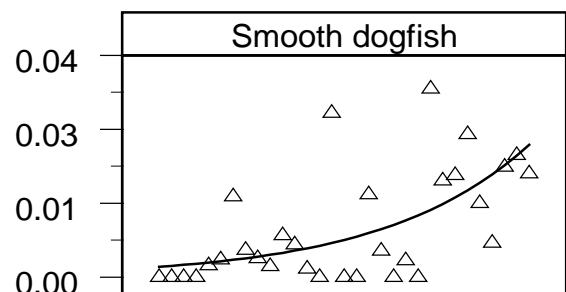
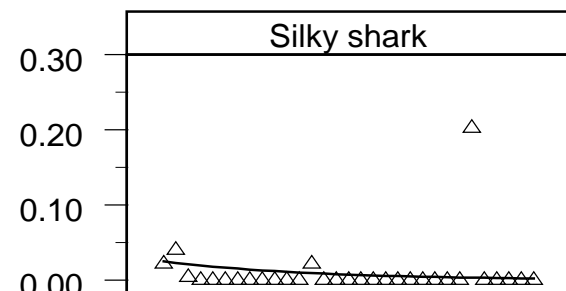
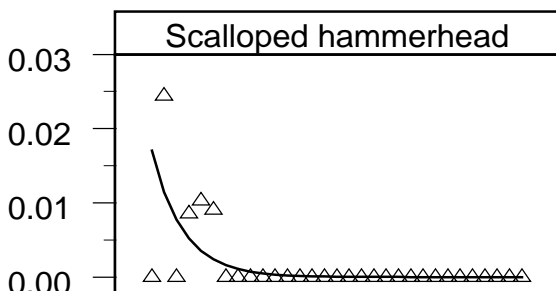
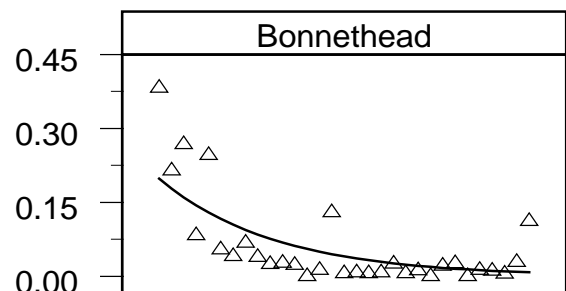
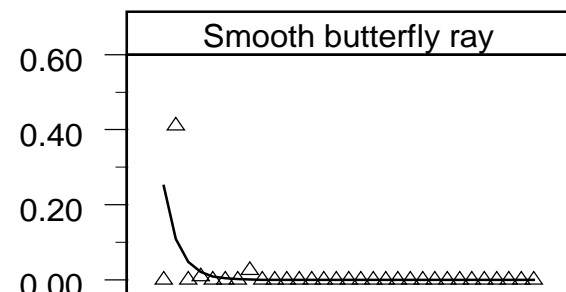
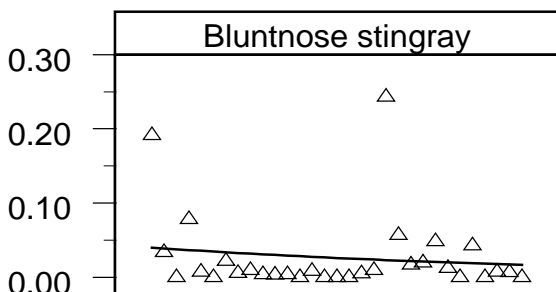
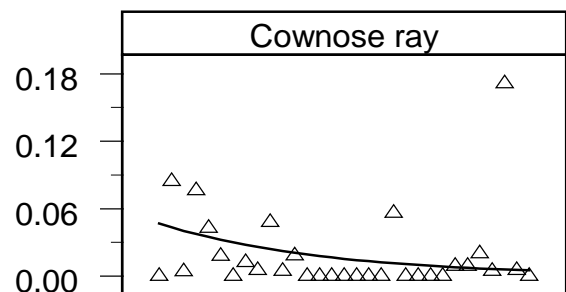
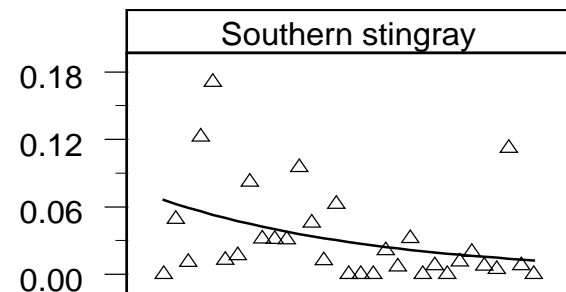
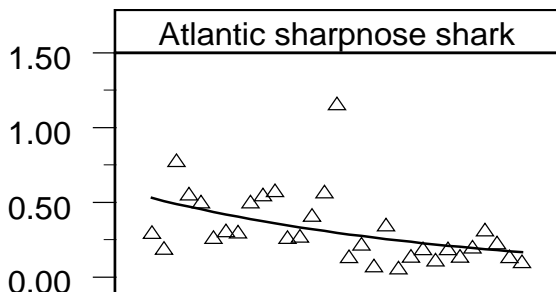
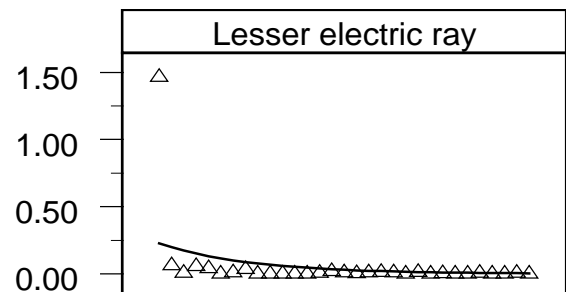
QISHENG TANG,\* XIANSHI JIN, JUN WANG,  
ZHIMENG ZHUANG, YI CUI AND  
TIANXIANG MENG

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

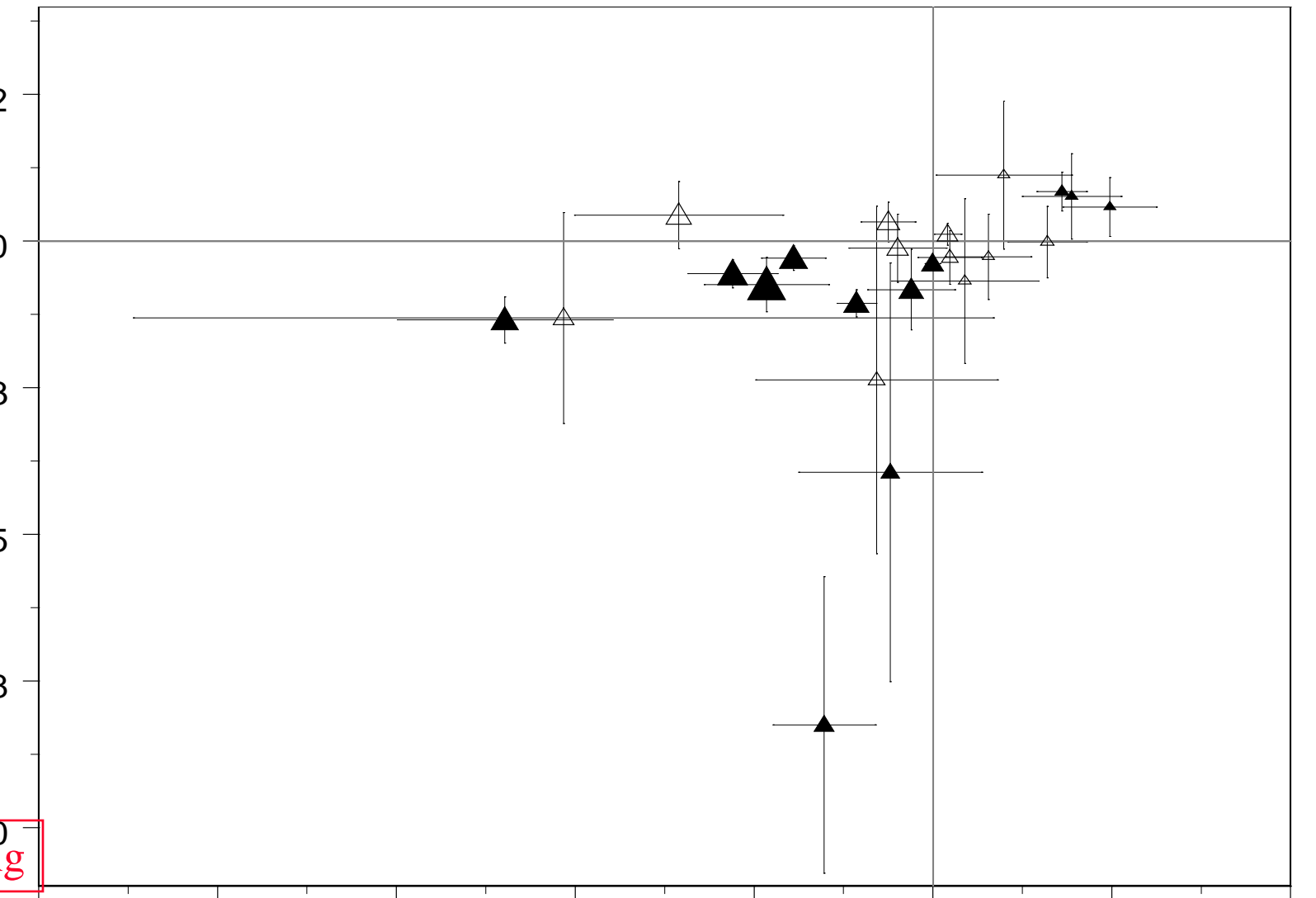


# Shallow species are going extinct Deep species are increasing

Increase

Instantaneous rate of change in abundance per year

Decreasing

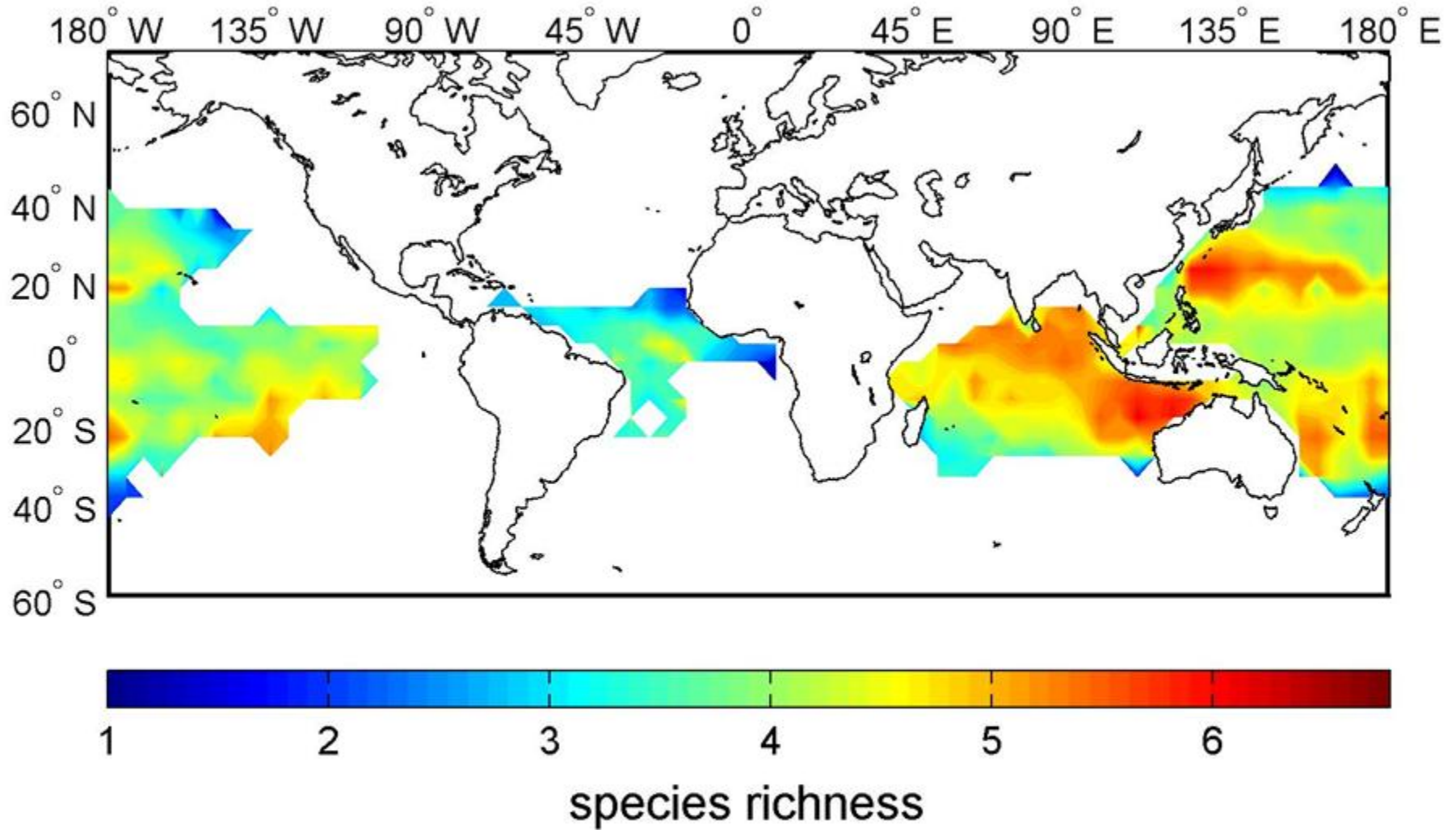


Shallow

Deep

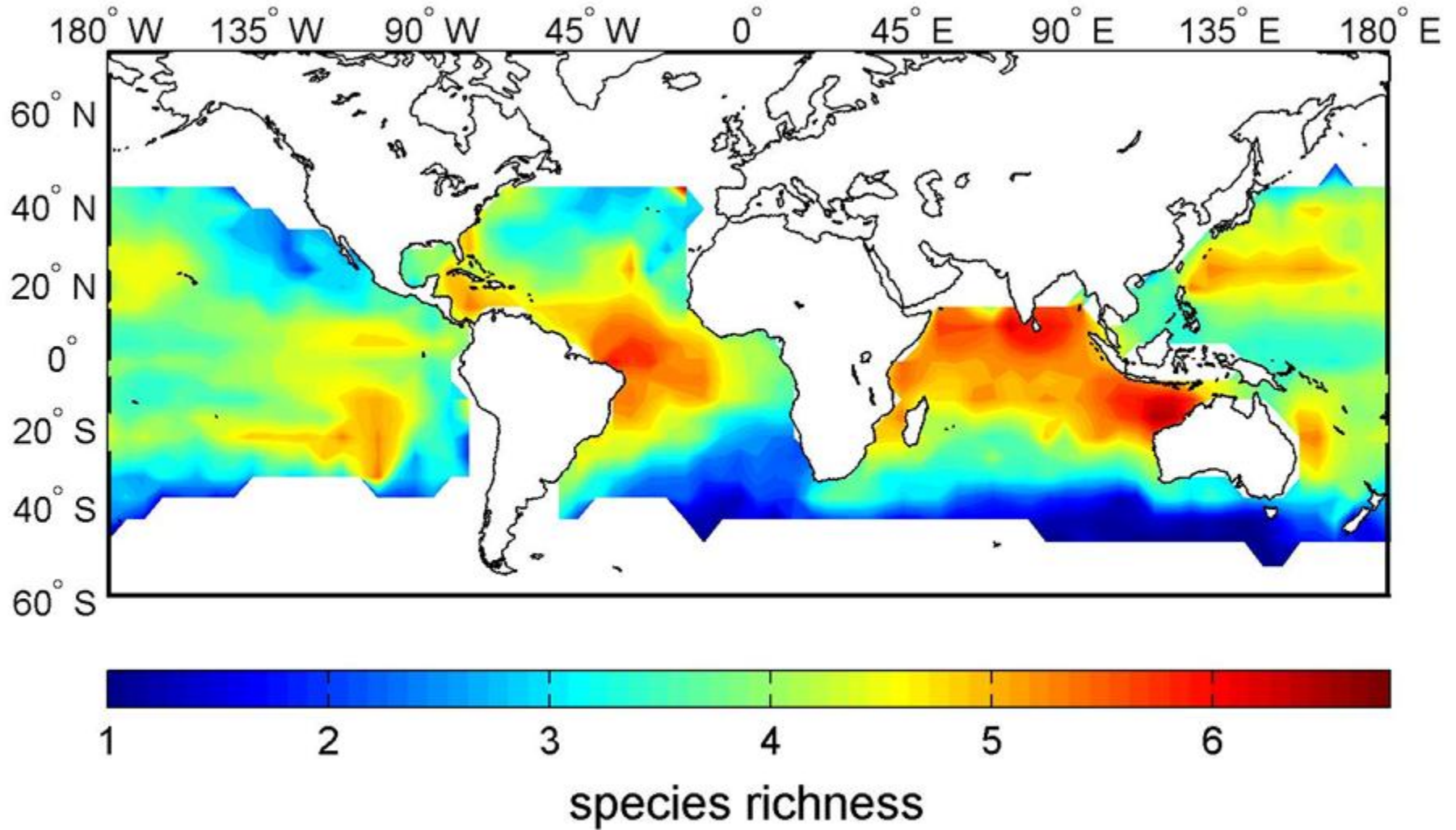
Instantaneous rate of change in abundance per meter

# 1950s



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

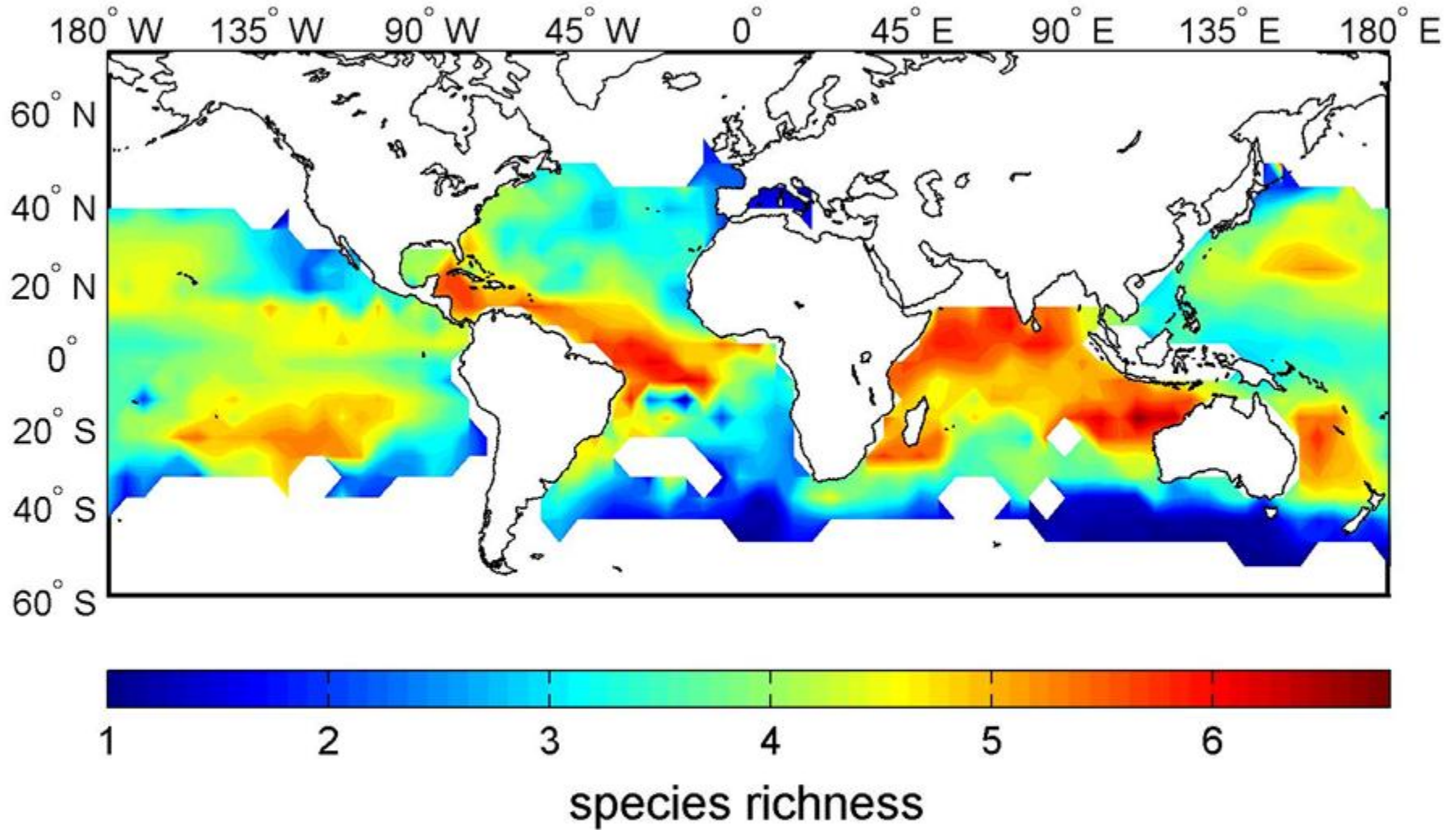
# 1960s



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

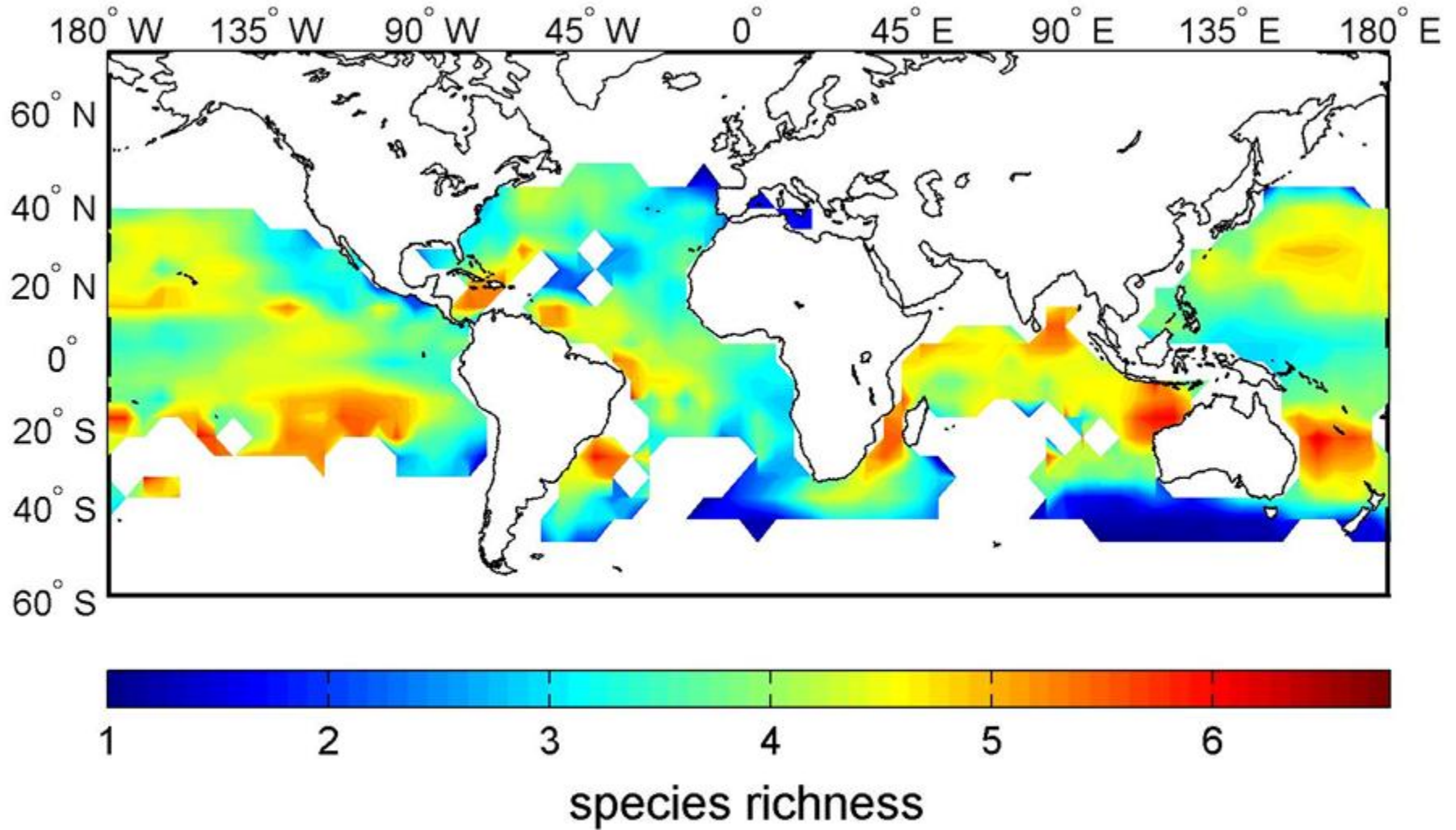


# 1970s



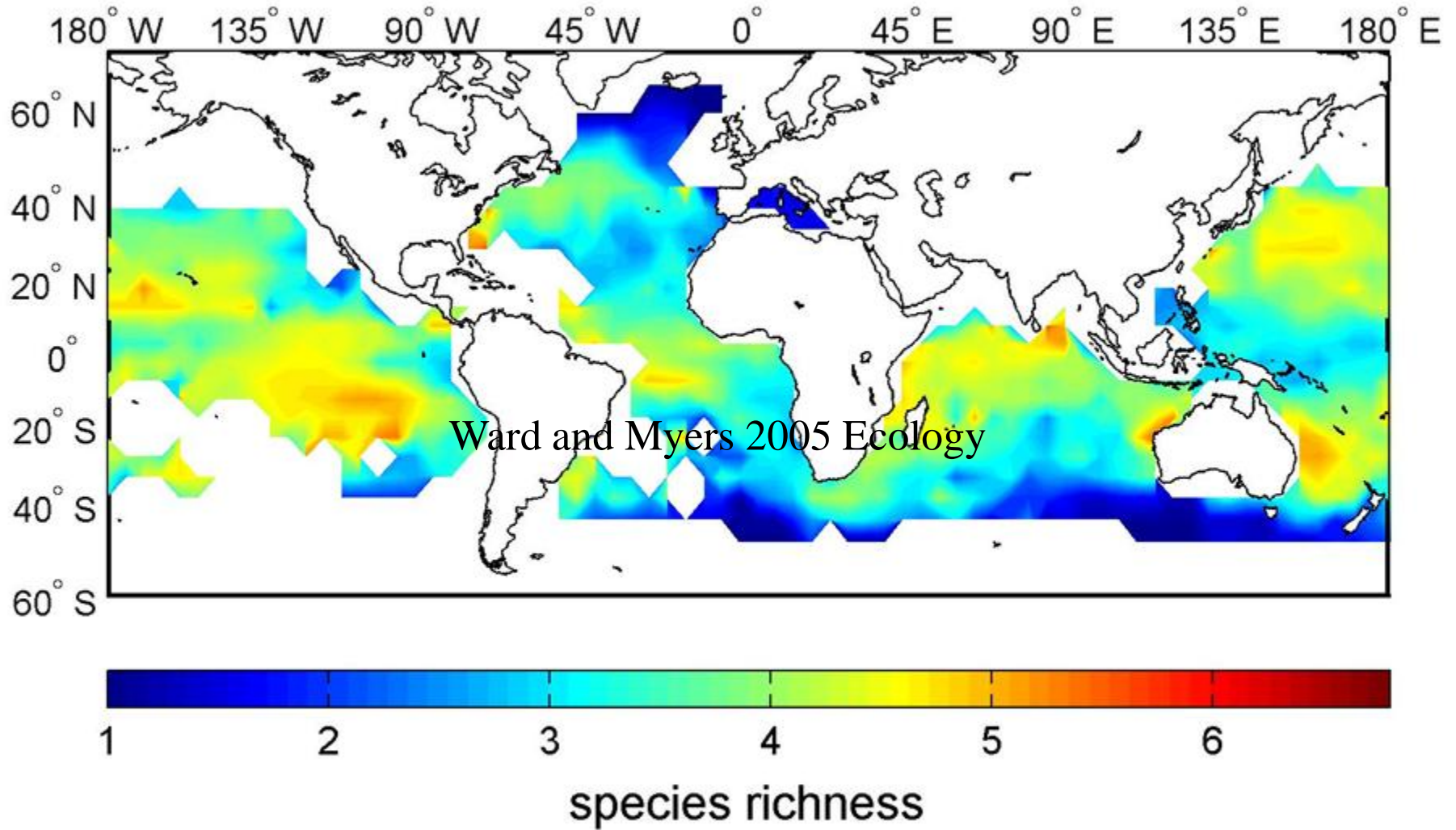
Source: Worm, Sandow, Oschlies, Lotze, Myers 2005. Science 309:1365-1369

# 1980s



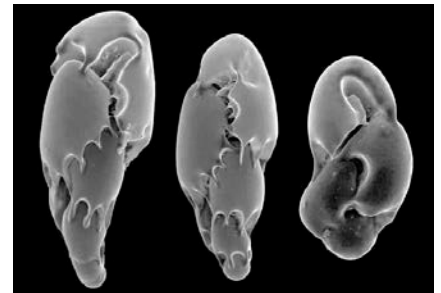
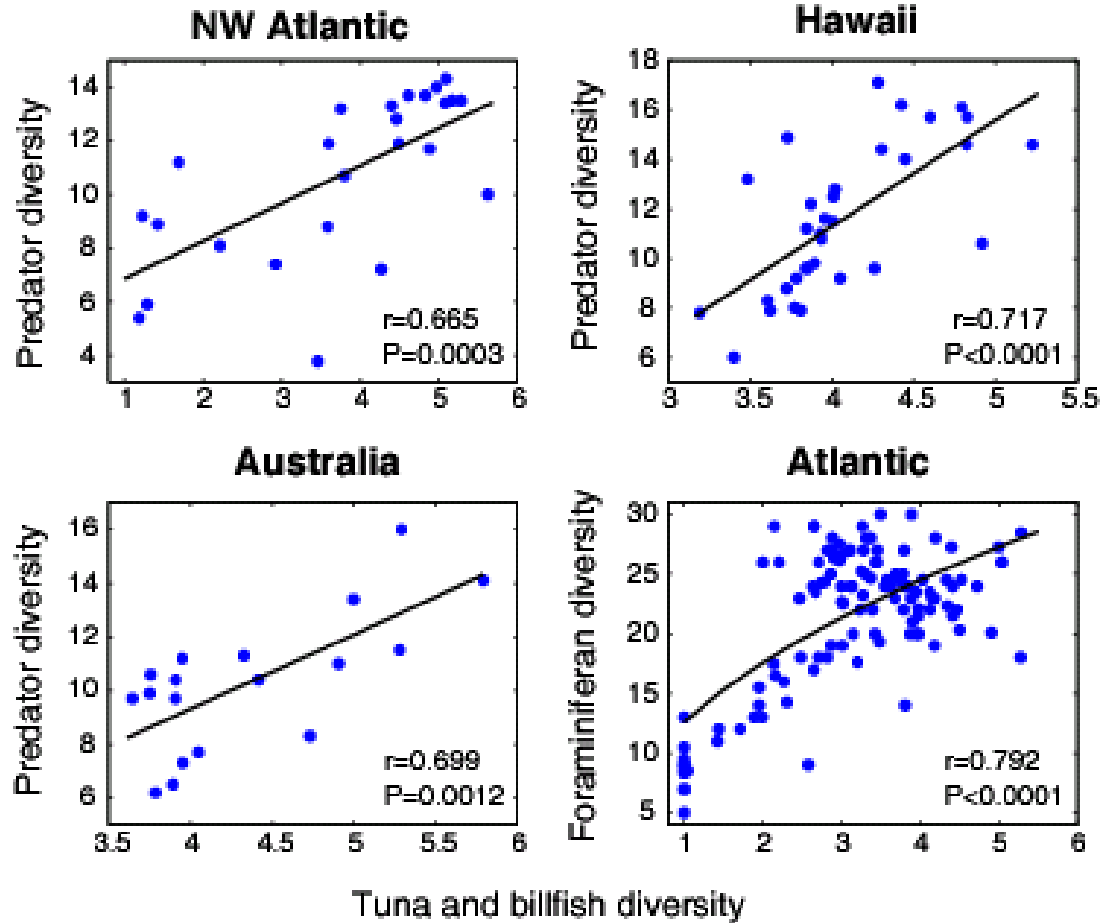
Source: Worm, Sandow, Oschlies, Lotze, Myers 2005. Science 309:1365-1369

# 1990s



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

# Validate hotspots across species groups



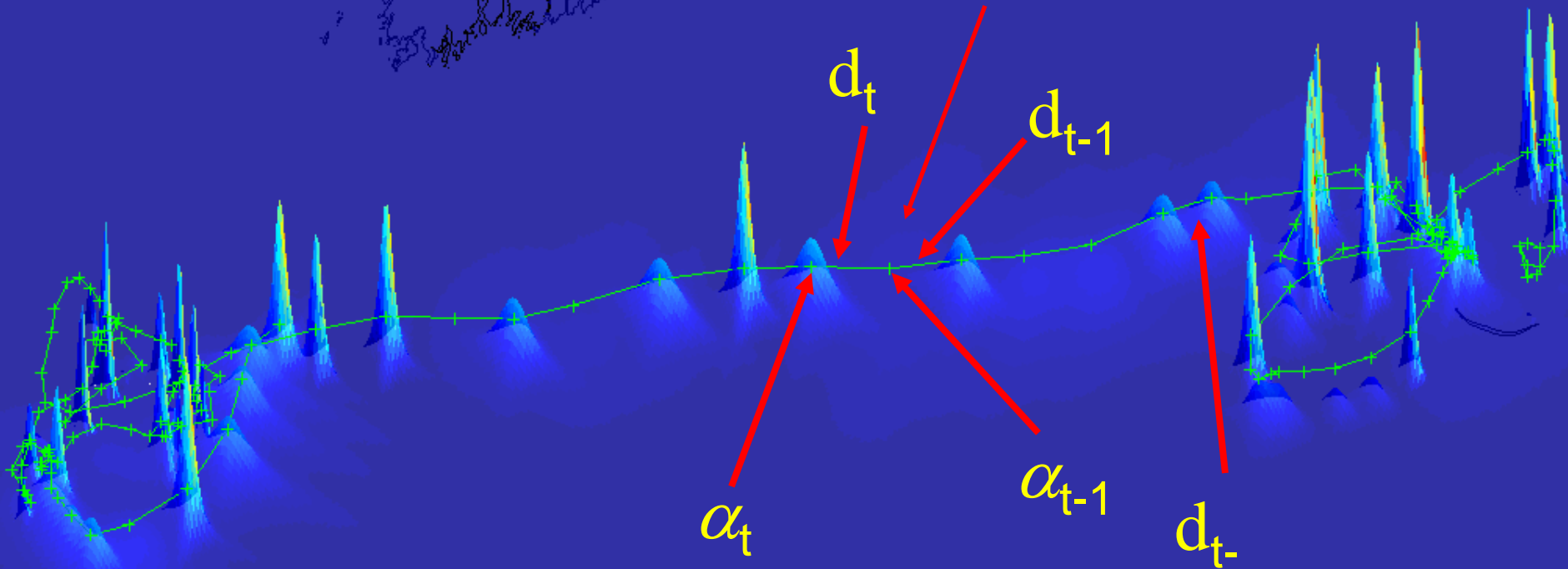
Source: Worm et al. 2005.  
Science: 309:1365-1369

# 3-State Movement Equation

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

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

$\theta$  (turn angle)



$s$  = behavioural state (1 = migrating; 2 = foraging<sup>5</sup>; 3 = search)

$\gamma$ ,  $\theta$ , &  $\Sigma$  are now 3 element vectors, 1 element for each state

# Movement (Transition) Equation

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

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

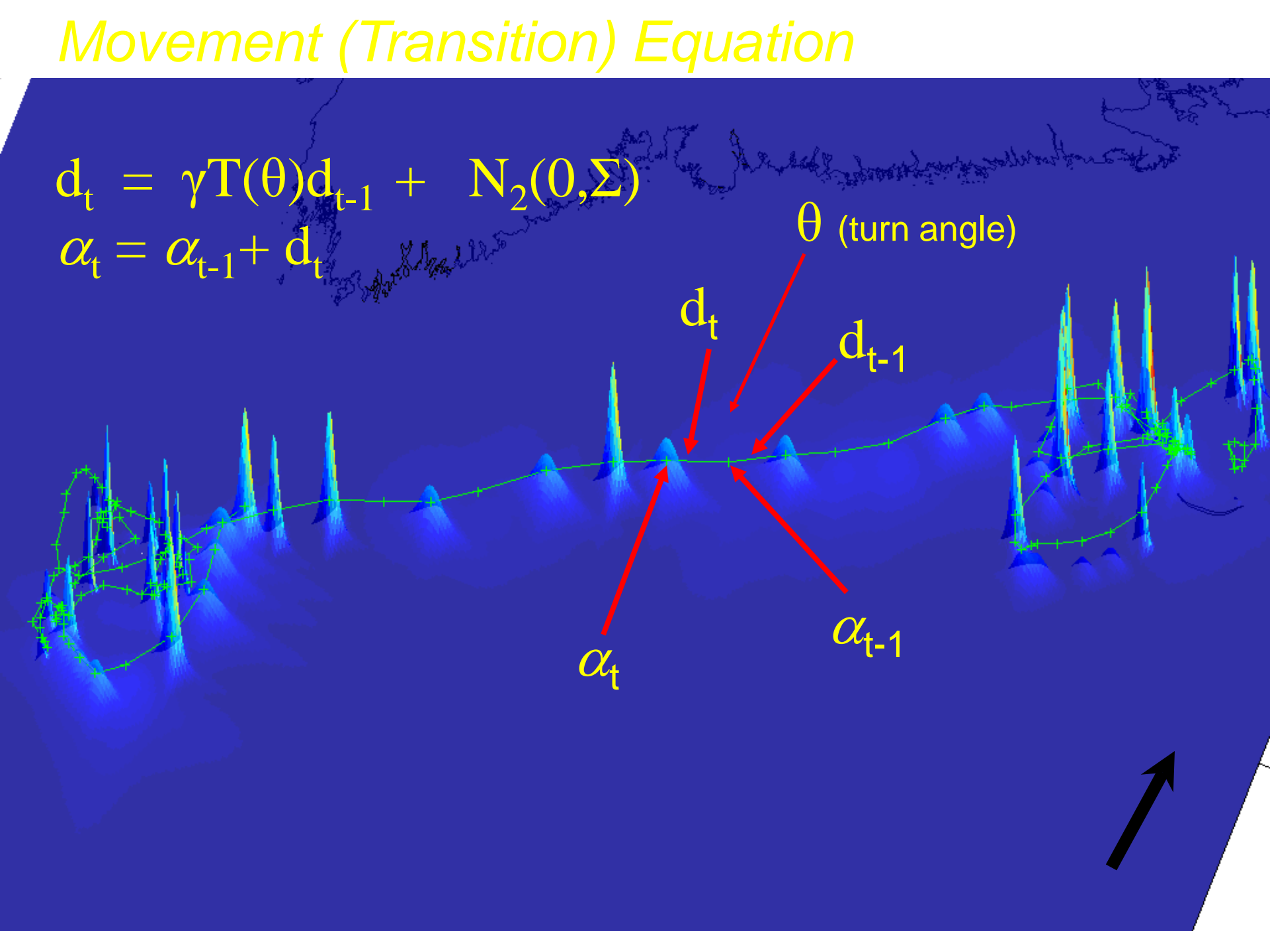
$\theta$  (turn angle)

$d_t$

$d_{t-1}$

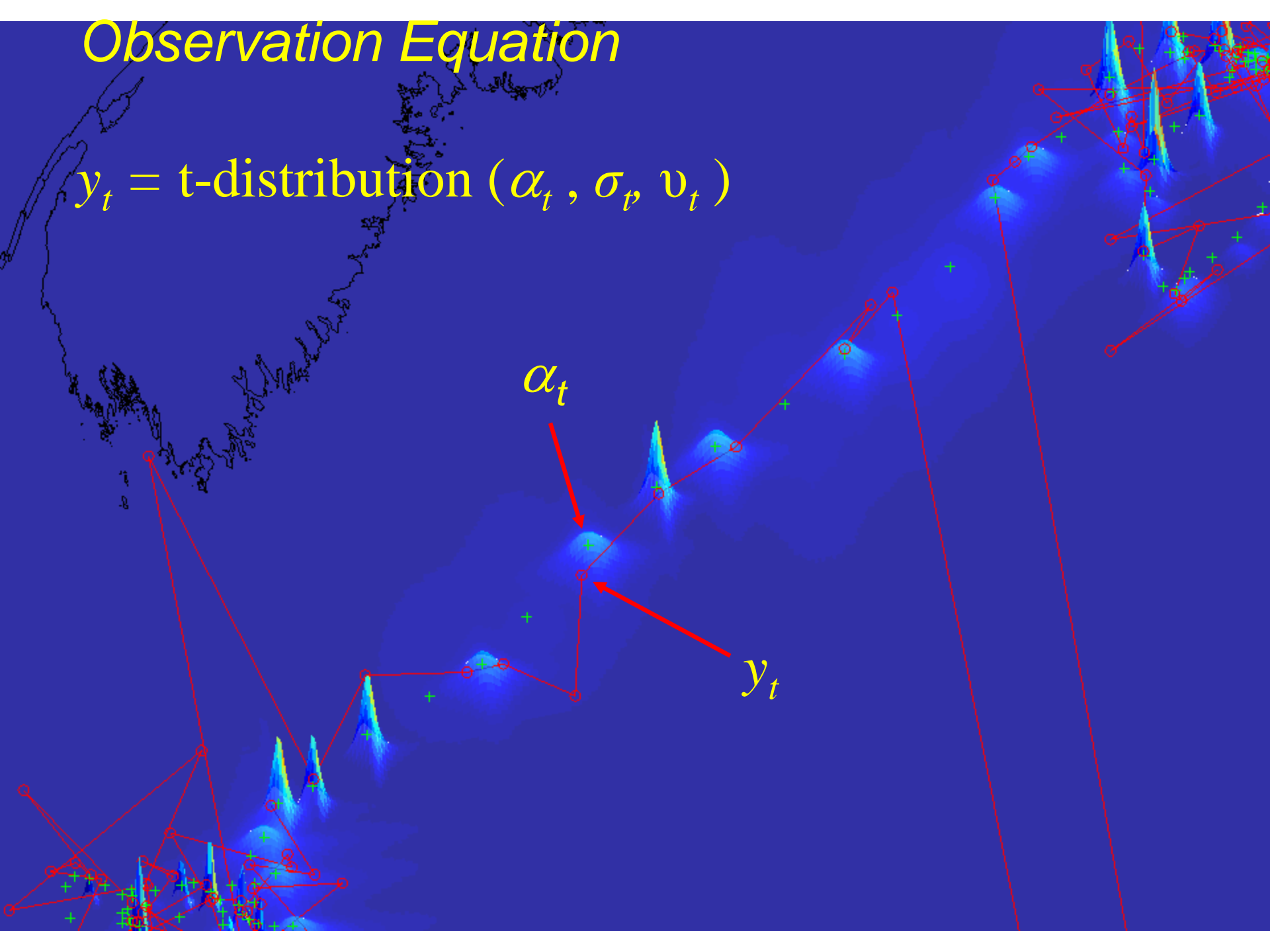
$\alpha_t$

$\alpha_{t-1}$



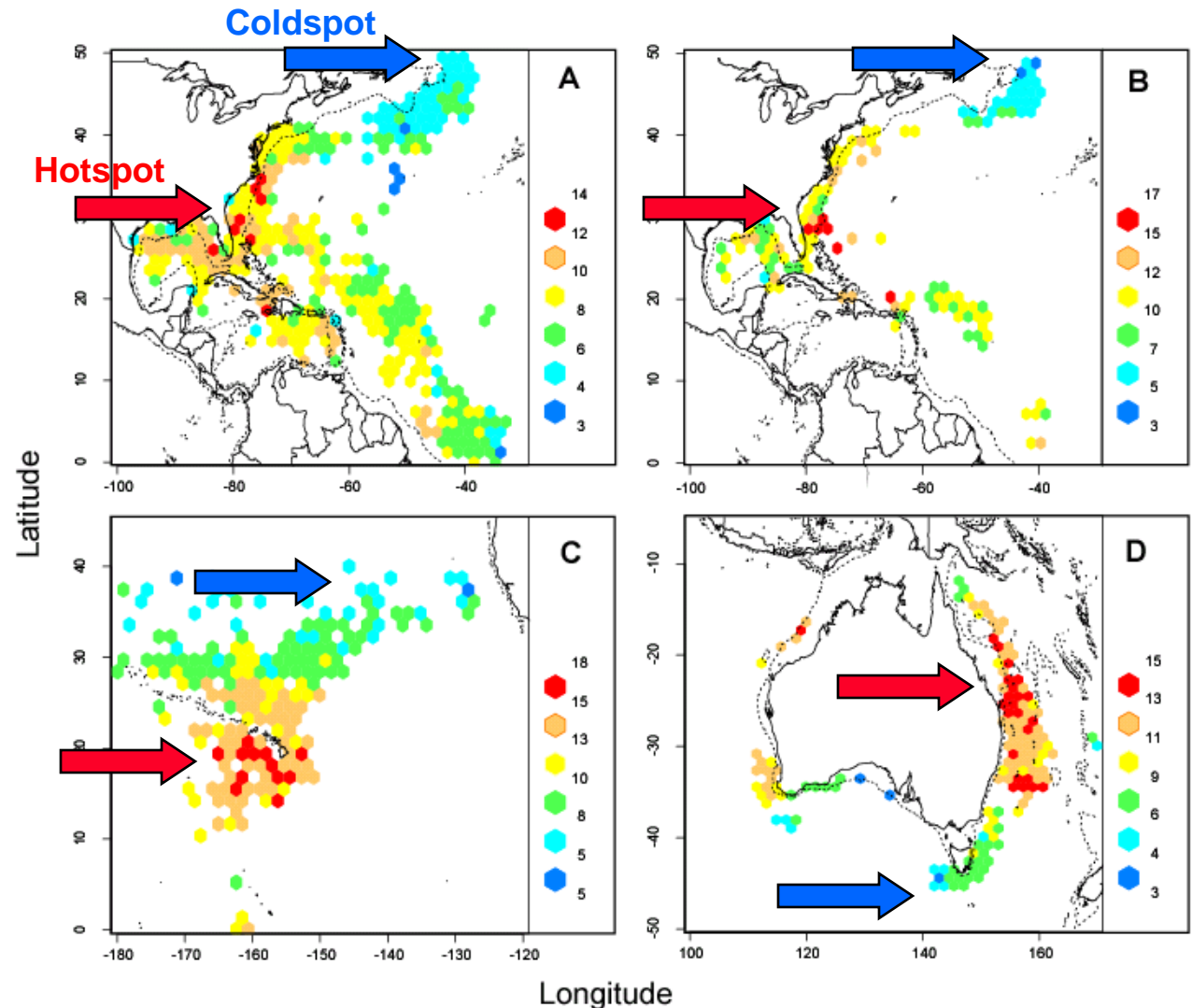
# Observation Equation

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



# Protect diversity hotspots in national waters

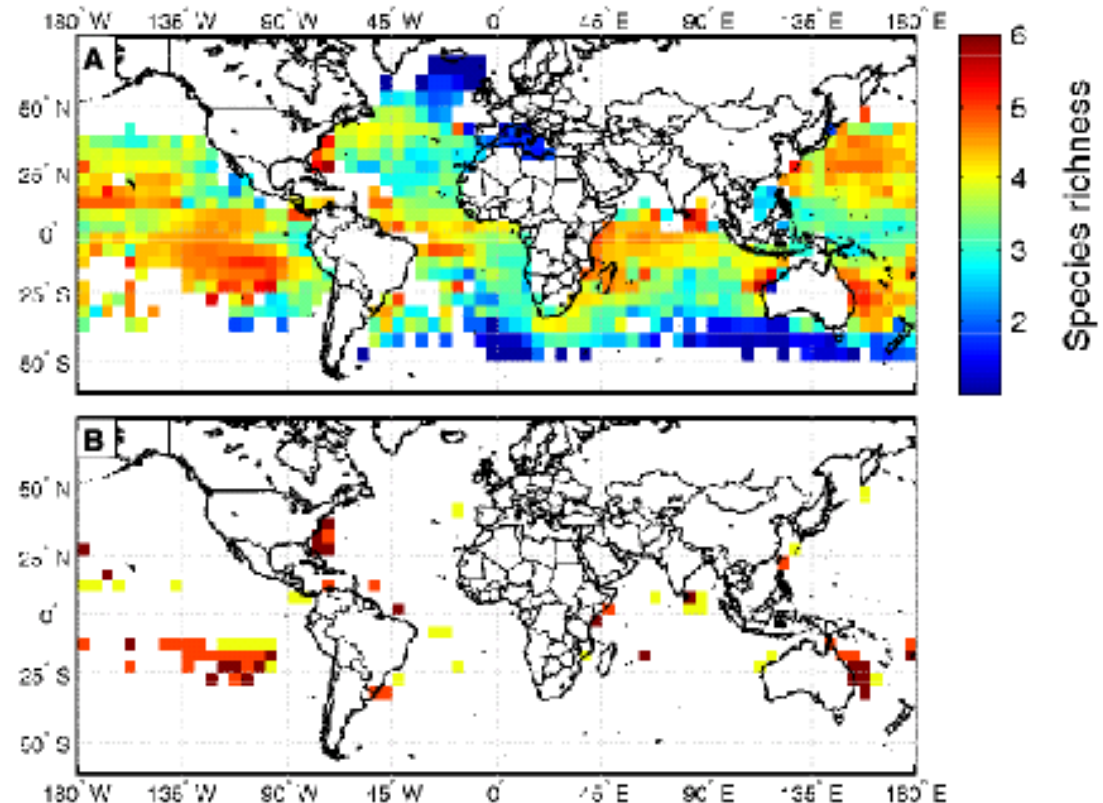
- Special places where many species aggregate
- Key habitats
- Food supply





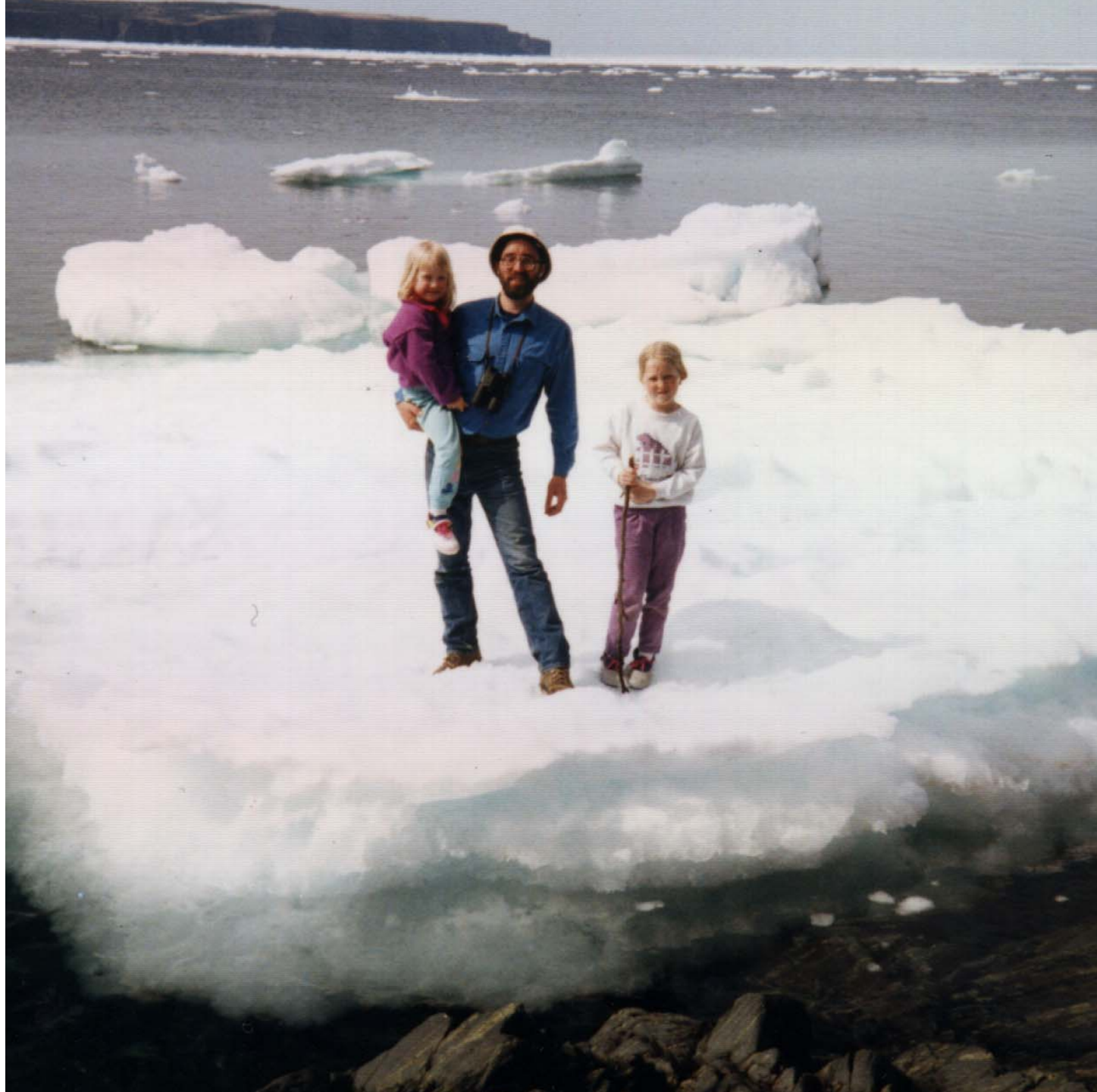
# Use remaining hotspots for global conservation

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



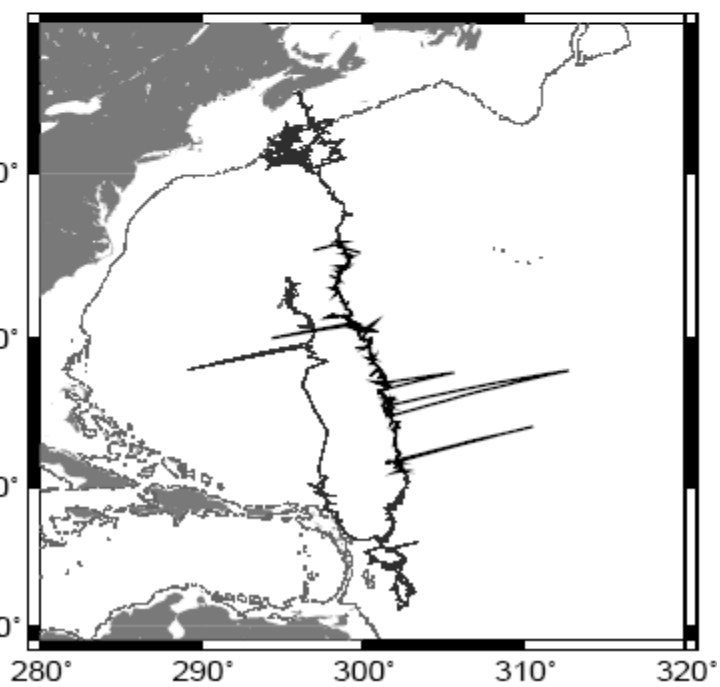
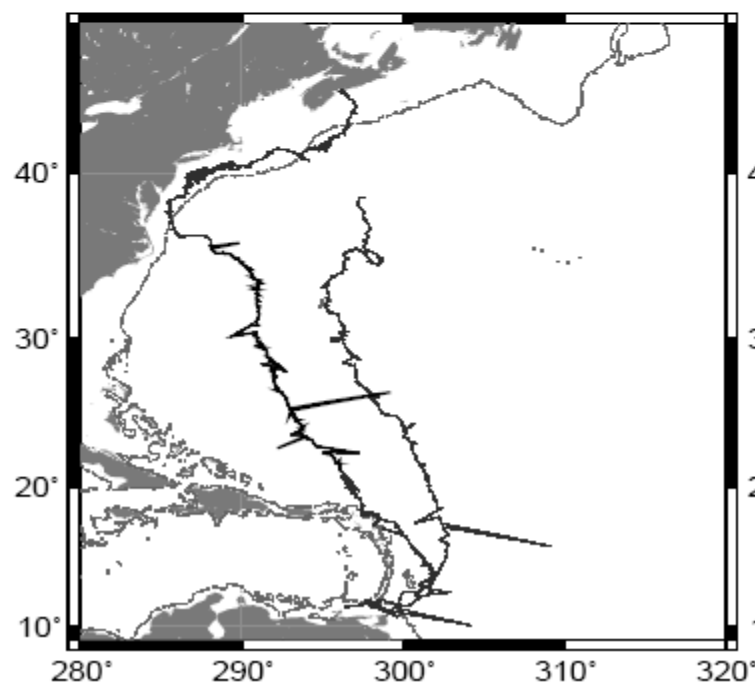
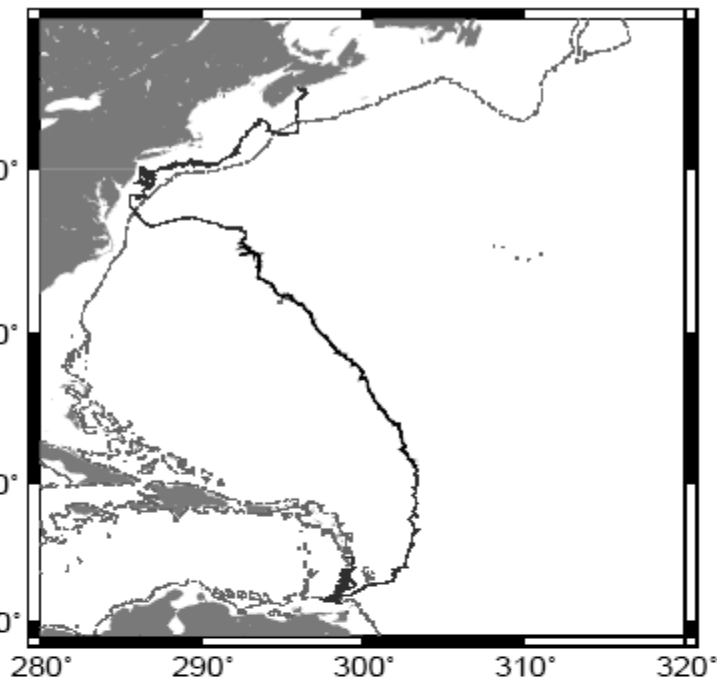
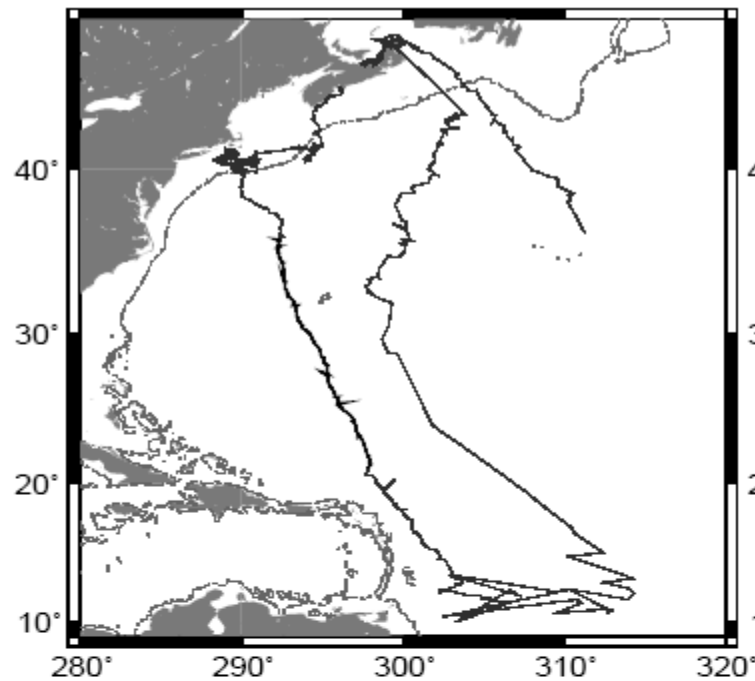
# Questions?

- 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?

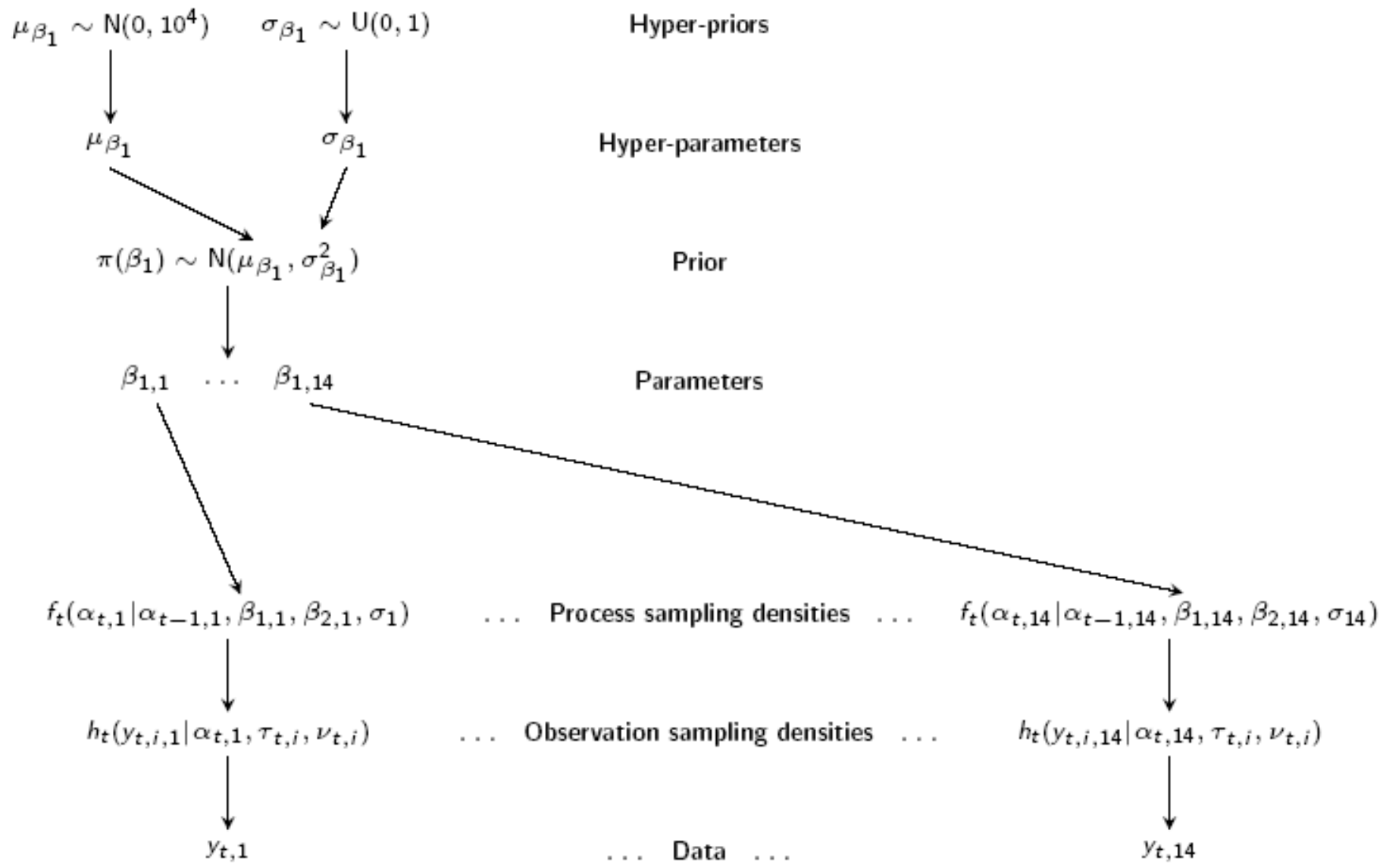


**“Take all of these scientists if they feel constrained working within government and make them free,” he said. “Scientists are as capable of being prima donnas and as petulant and pompous as anybody else.”**

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

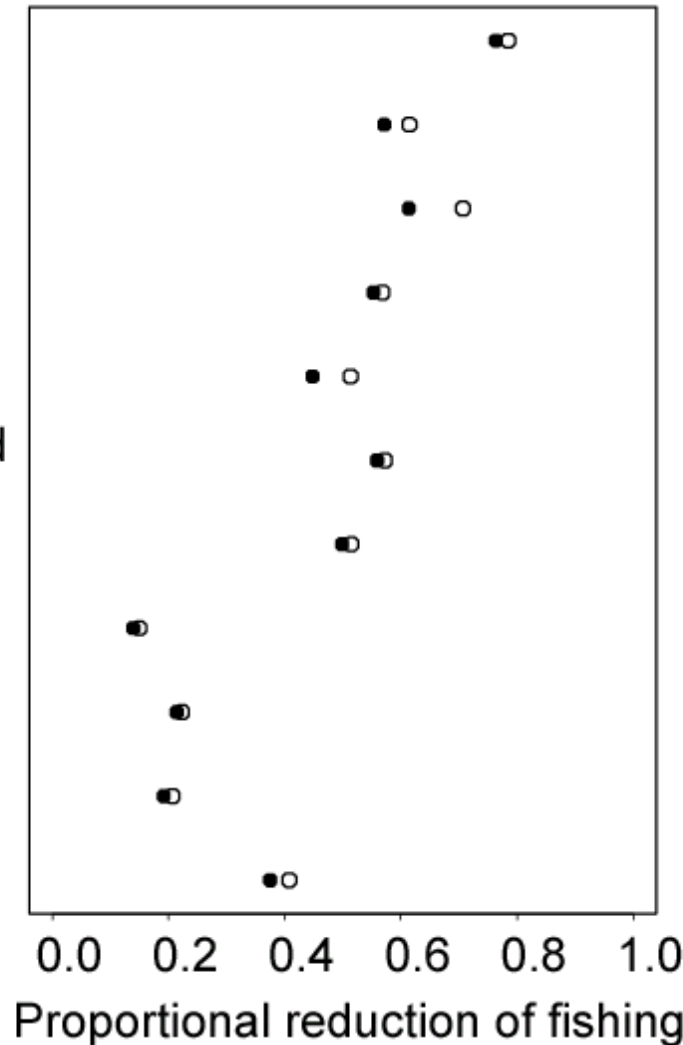


# Hierarchical Bayes State-Space Model (HB SSM)



# 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



# The Rise of the Marine Mesopredators



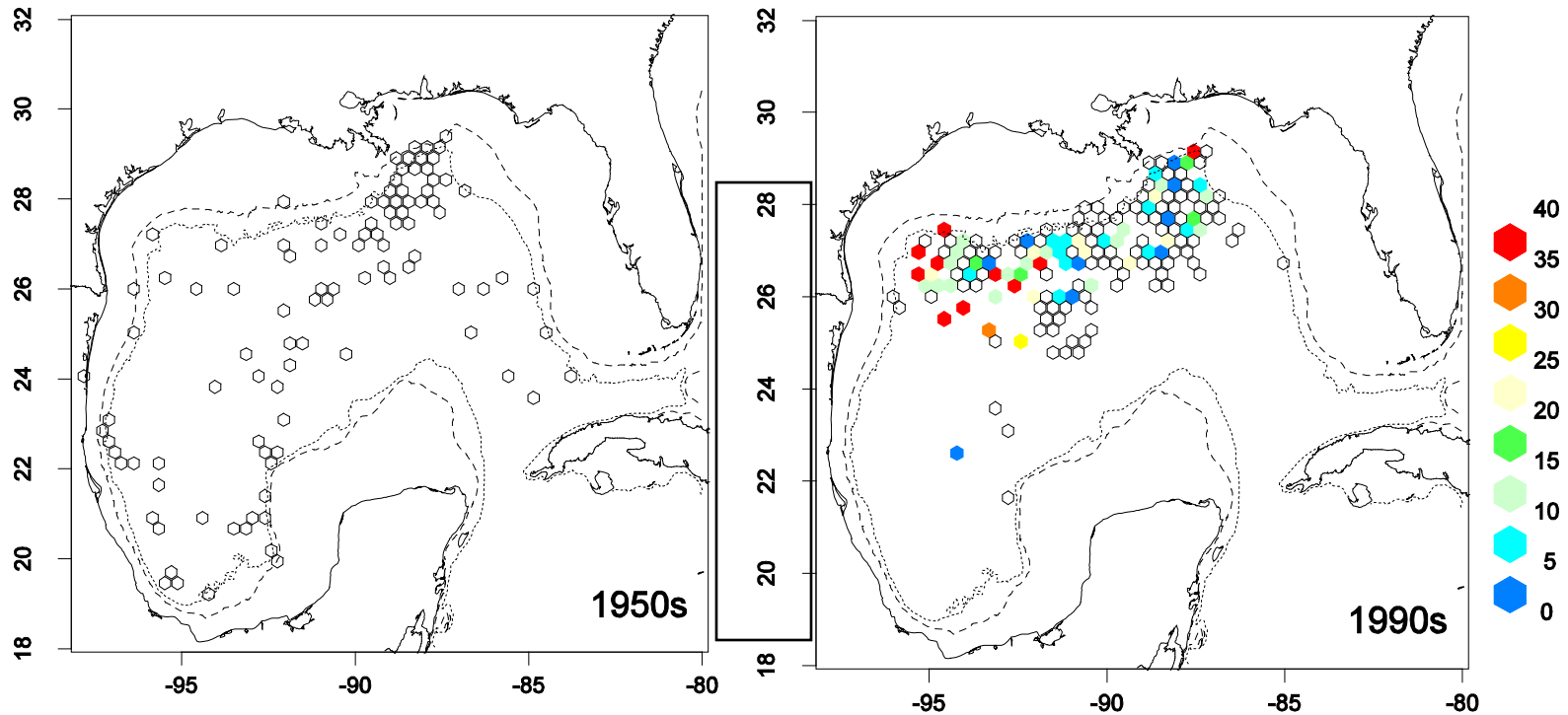
**Pelagic Sting Ray**  
*Pteroplatytrygon violacea*



Photos from Phillip Colla, photography



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

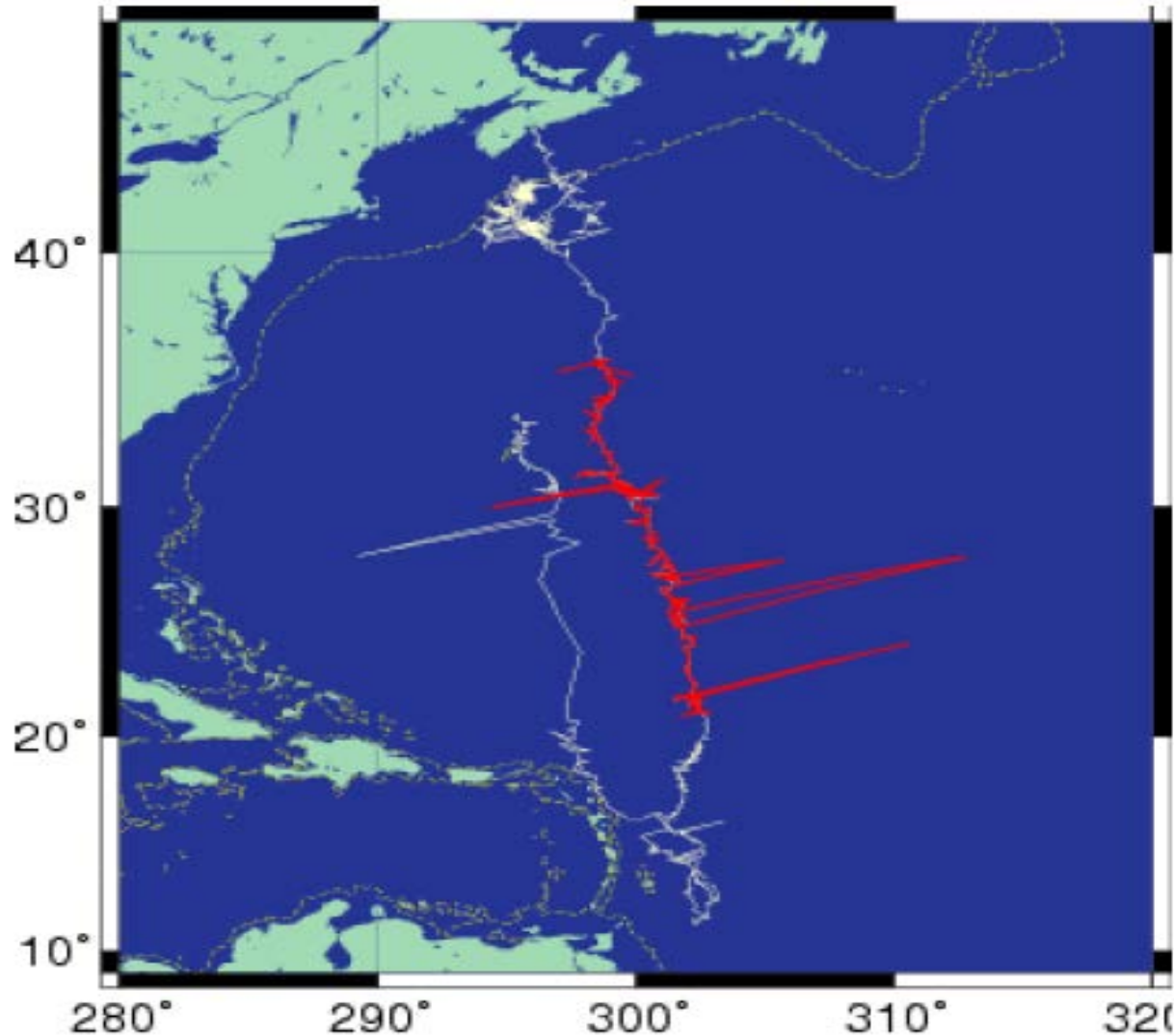


1950's

1990's

Pelagic stingray captures per 10,000 hooks

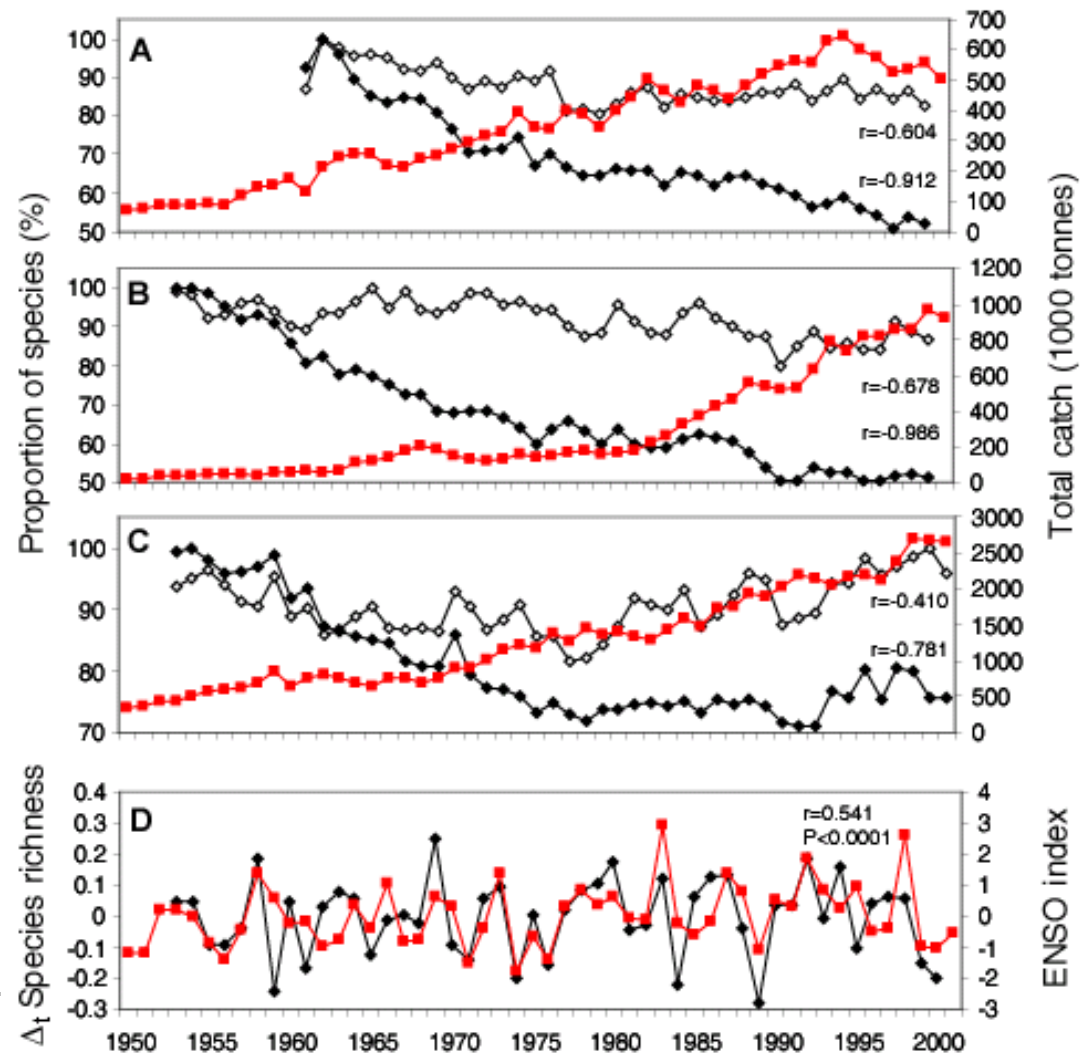
# Examining Diel Migration Behaviour in Leatherbacks



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

# Global decline in ocean predator diversity

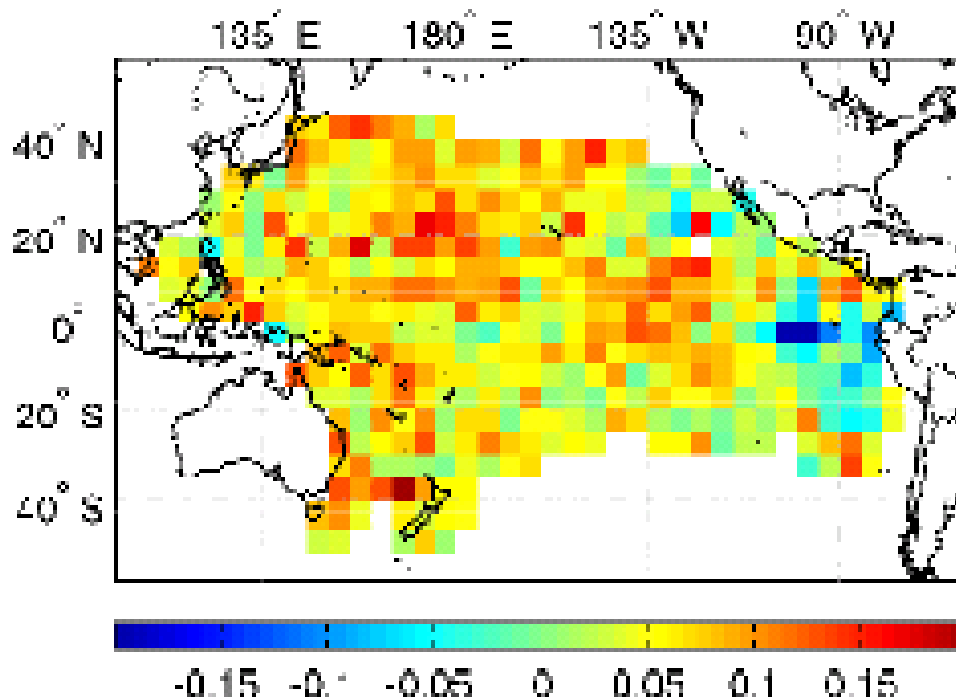
- Increasing catches
- Decreasing diversity
- Long-term decline linked to fishing
- Yearly variability linked to climatic changes



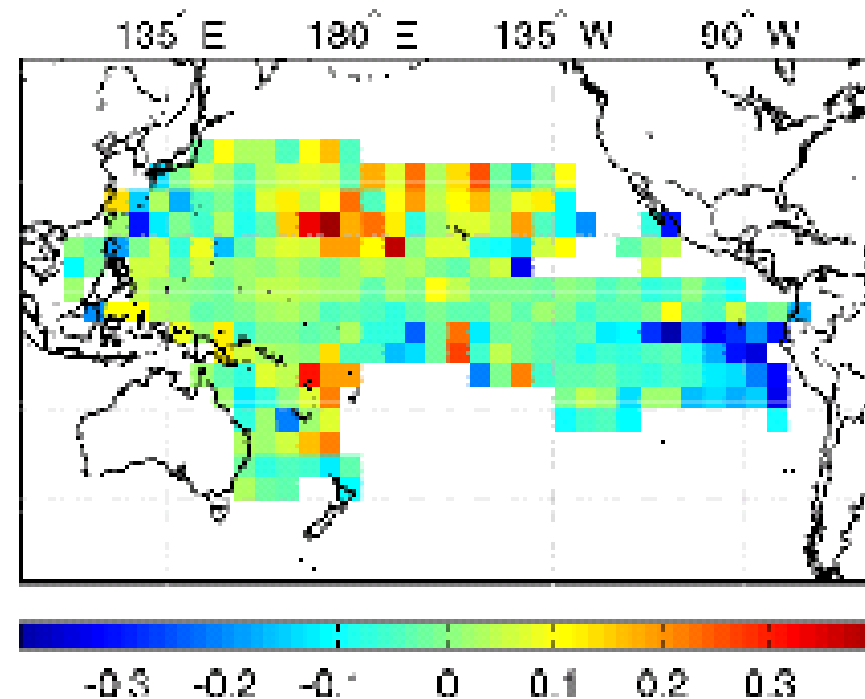
Worm, Sandow, Oschlies, Lotze, Myers 2005.  
 Science 309:1365-1369

# ENSO affects diversity across entire Pacific

Species richness



Blue marlin catch rates



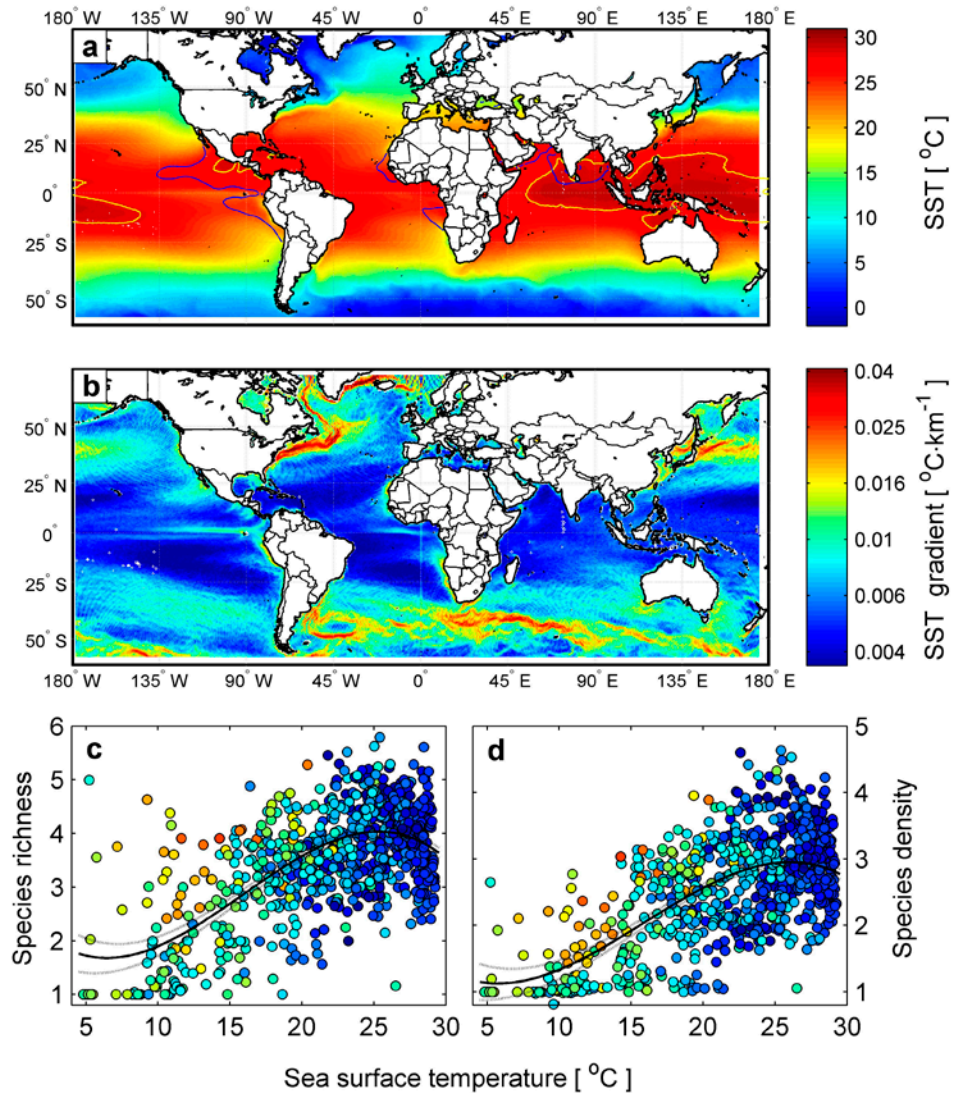
Slope of  $\Delta_t$  with ENSO

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

# Understand oceanographic drivers of diversity

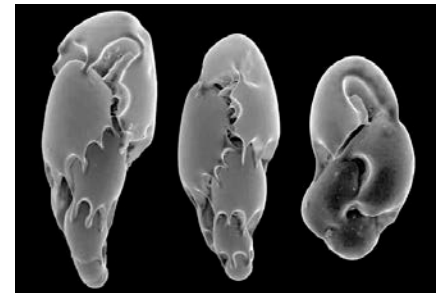
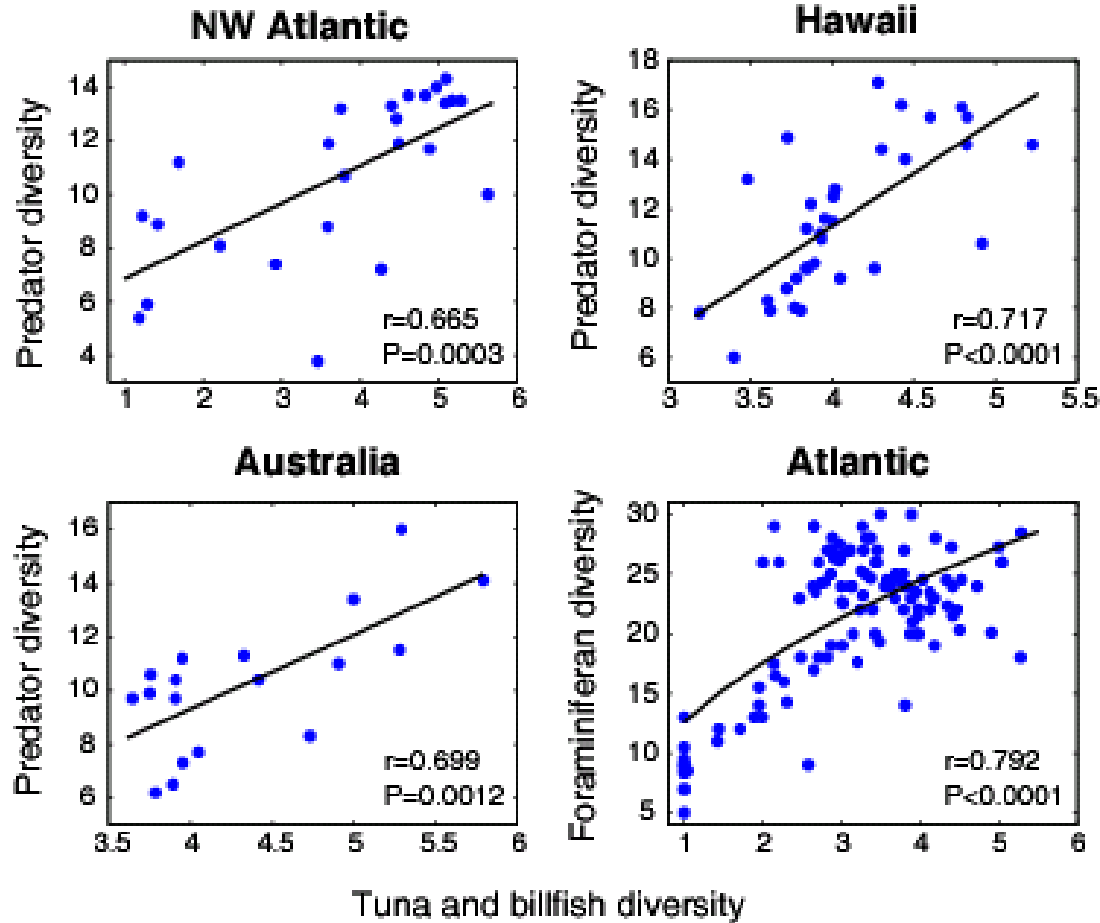
Patterns of diversity  
were explained by

- 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.

