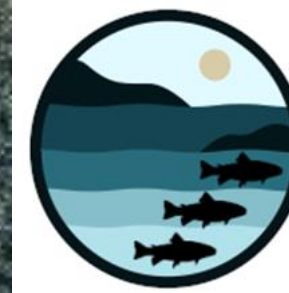


# IDENTIFYING ECOSYSTEM-SCALE THRESHOLDS WITH MARINE ECOSYSTEM MODEL ENSEMBLES

VIV TULLOCH, KATHRYN BERRY, KATHRYN SHEPS, ROBIN BROWN  
PICES Annual Meeting 2024



**BECCI**  
Basin-Scale Events & Coastal Impacts

# BACKGROUND

Co-developed by PICES and NPAFC

Hosted by PICES

Endorsed by UNDOS

Funded by BC Salmon Restoration & Innovation Fund

Collaborative partners:

North Pacific Fisheries Commission

Pacific States Marine Fisheries Council

Long Live the Kings

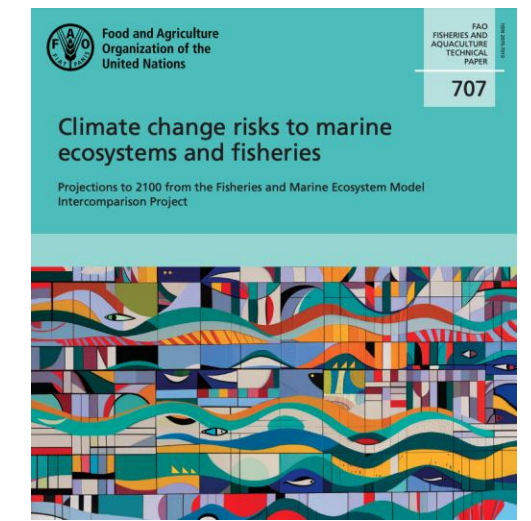
NOAA

DFO

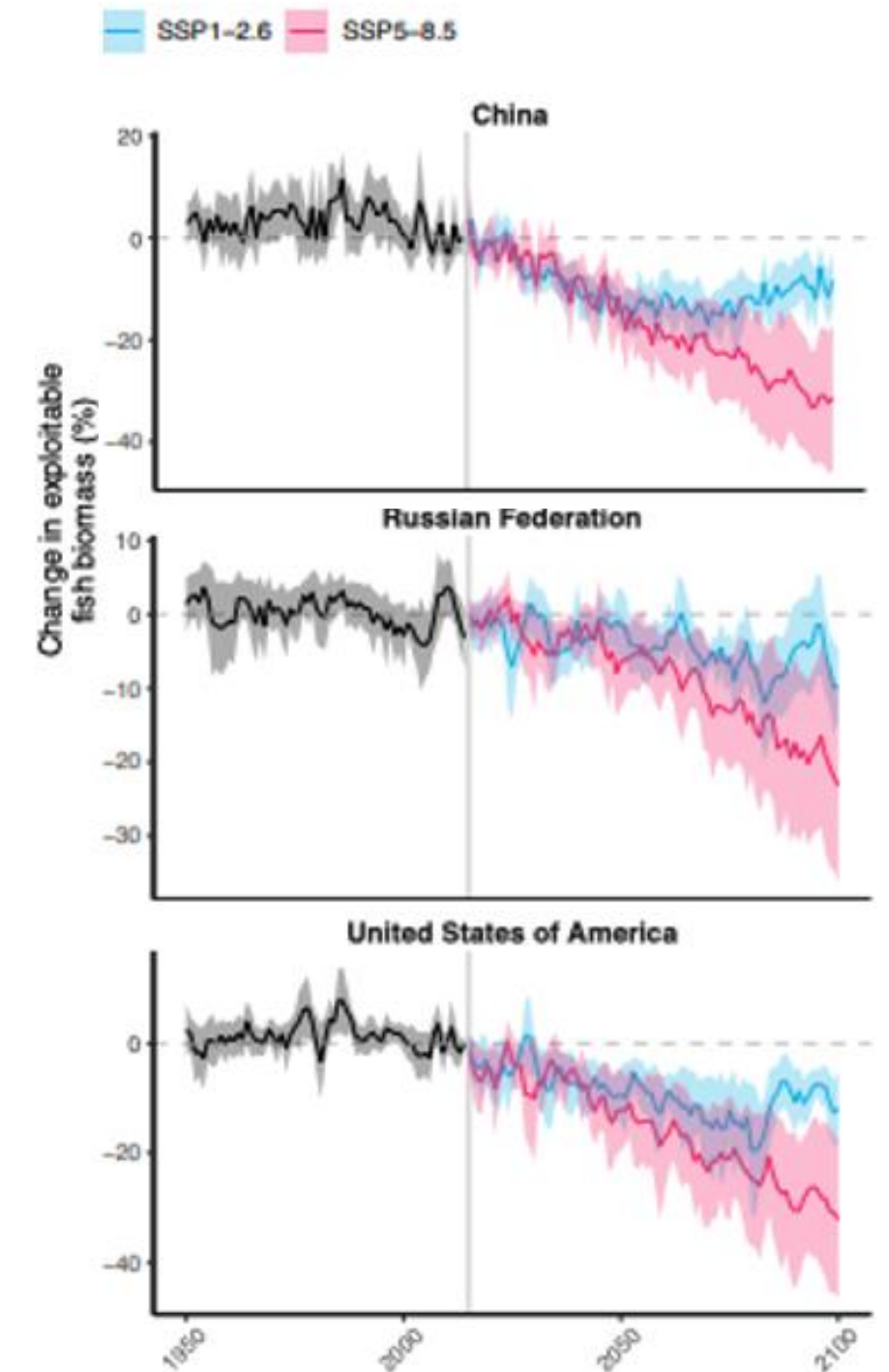
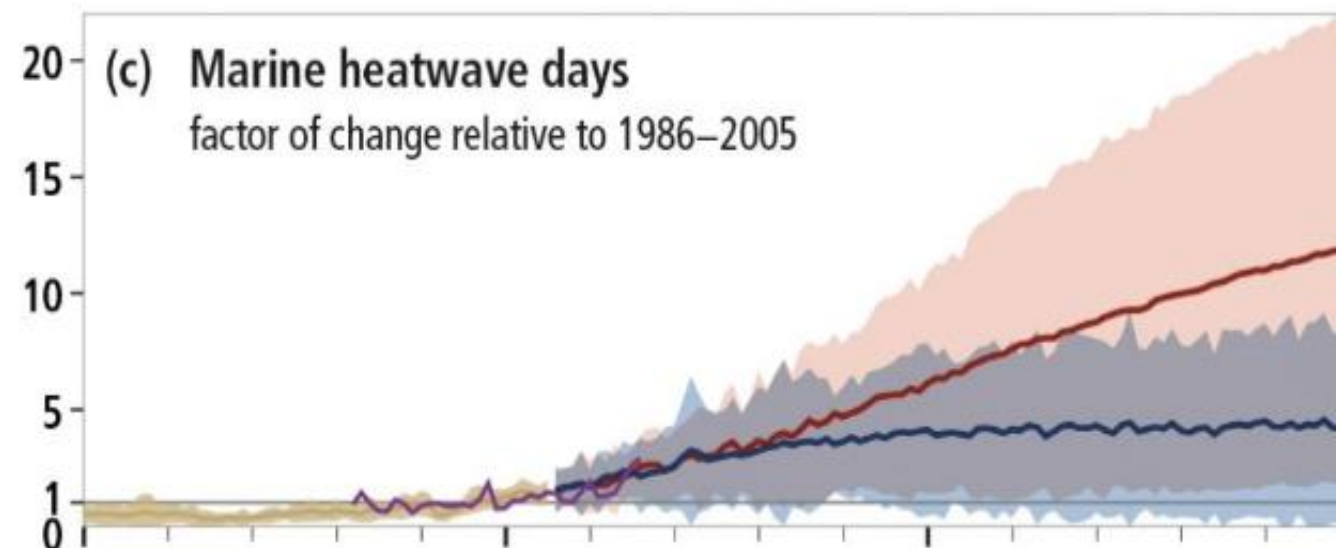
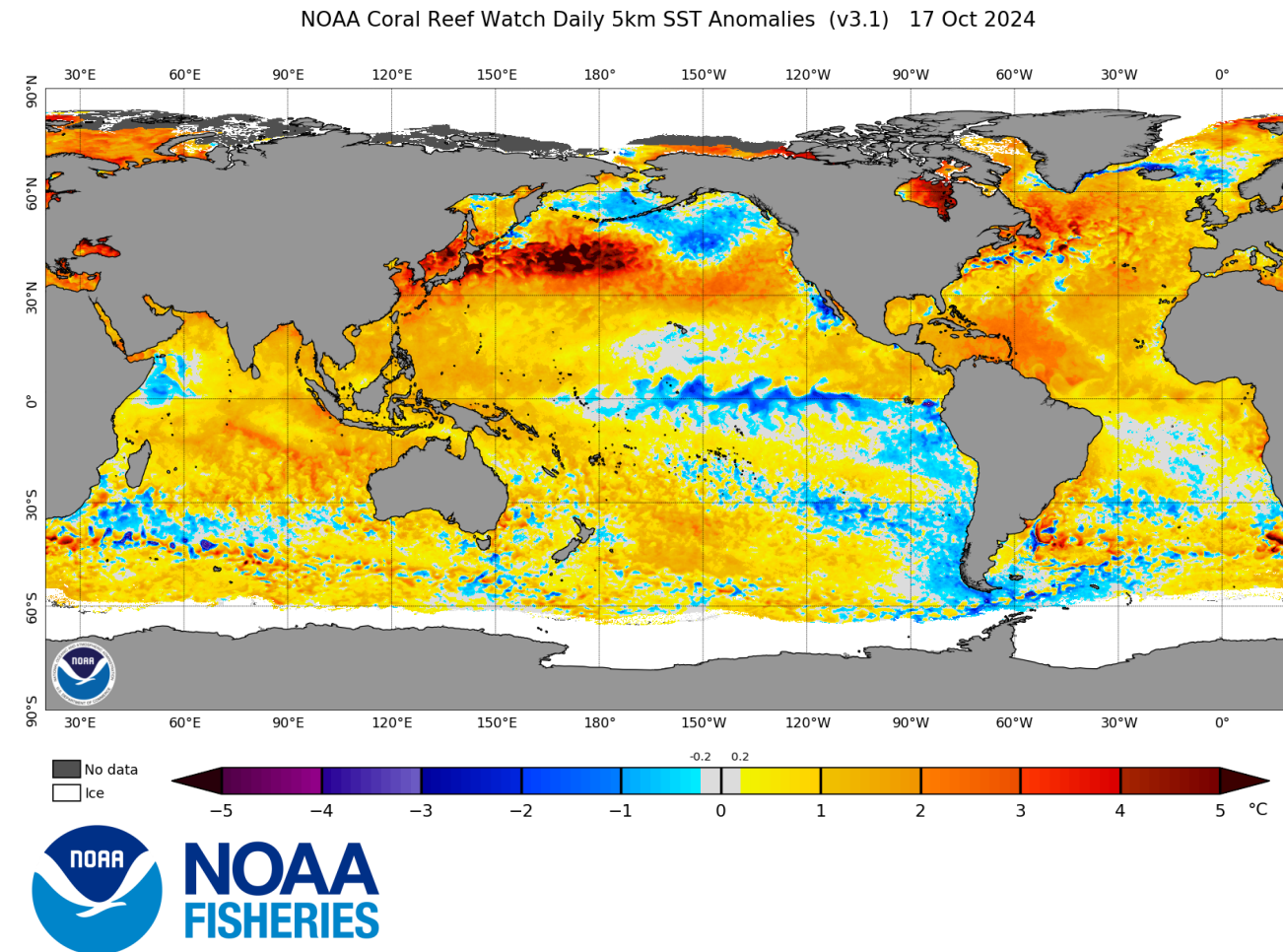
FishMIP



# CLIMATE CHANGE IN THE NORTH PACIFIC



- Significantly impacting the world's oceans and marine resources
- Huge variability spatially and temporally in projections, and predicted impacts
- Exploitable fish stocks are projected to decline for most of the world's ocean regions this century
- Climate and fishing interact in a cumulative manner to impact ecosystems
- **Challenging traditional fisheries management approaches**



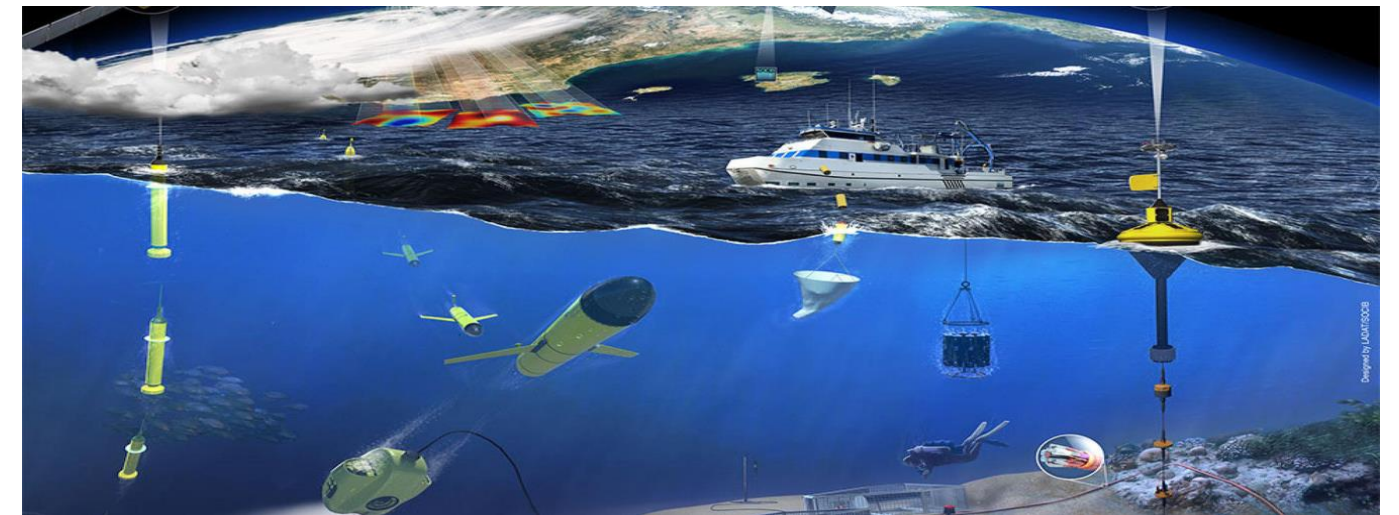
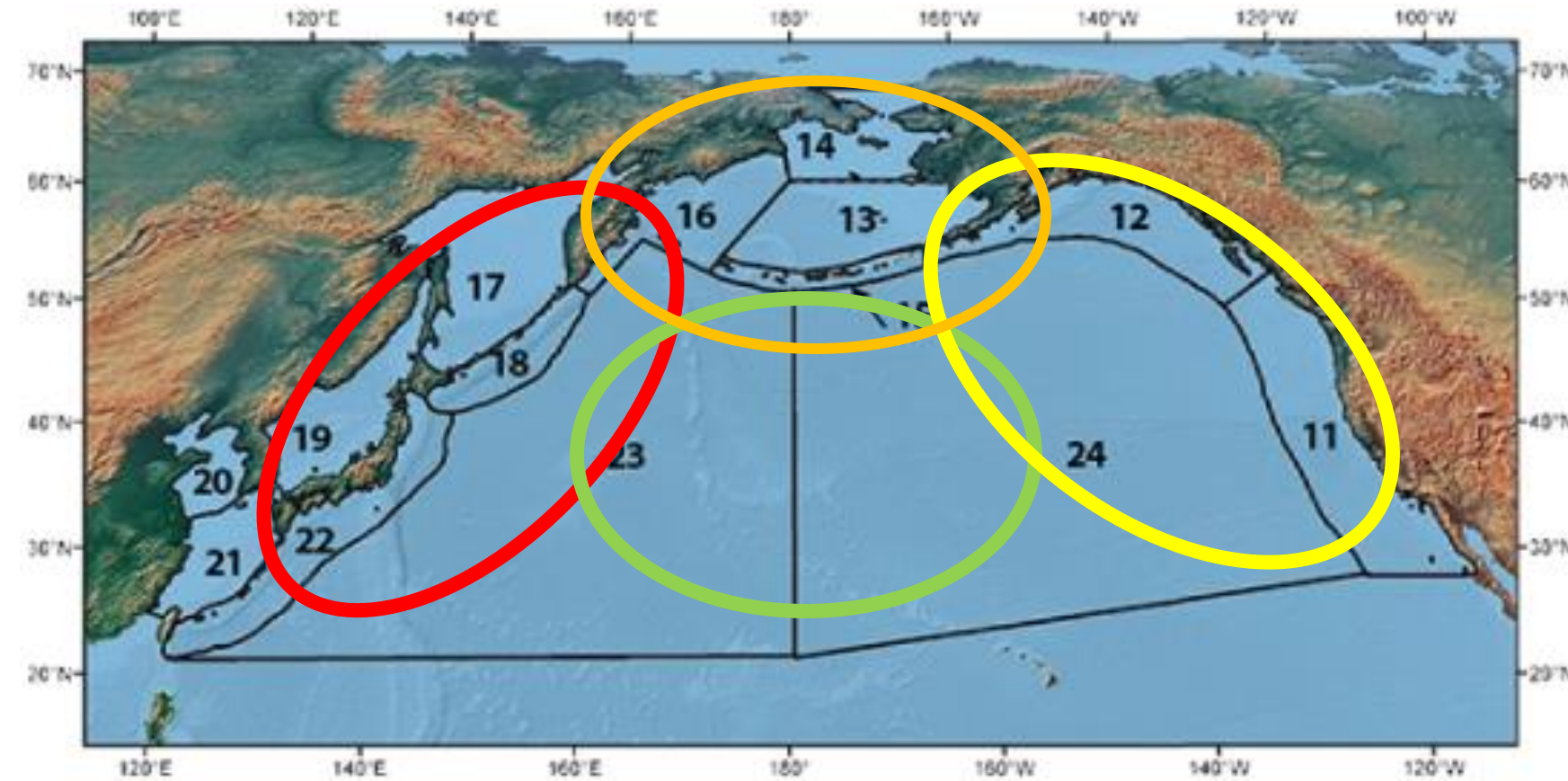
IPCC Special Report IPCC 2019. The Ocean and Cryosphere in a Changing Climate, Fig SPM.1

# MISSION, SCOPE, OVERARCHING OBJECTIVES

**Our mission is to provide researchers, resource managers, and policymakers with comprehensive, actionable information and tools to support climate-informed decision-making**

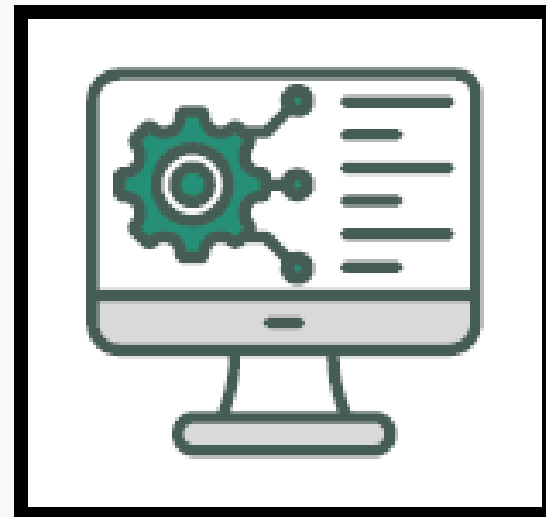
Coordinate international efforts to:

- Assess climate-driven impacts on transboundary and common fishery resources across the North Pacific
- Improve predictions of climate-driven changes at regional and basin scales that account for uncertainty
- Support sustainable resource management, protect marine biodiversity, and enhance ecosystem resilience



# DECISION SUPPORT TOOLKIT AND WORKFLOW

## Information Integration & Analytics



## Decision Science



## International Collaboration & Knowledge Exchange

*Engagement with:*  
RFMOs  
NOAA/DFO  
FishMIP/ISIMP  
Indigenous stewardship

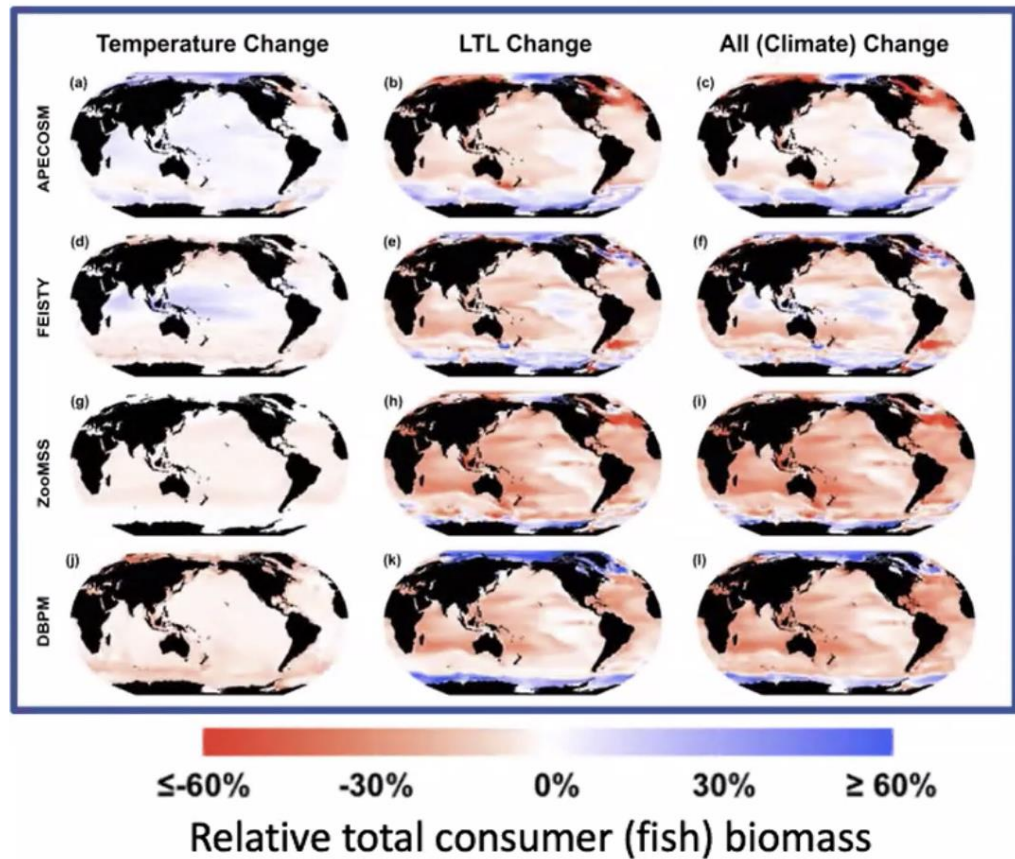
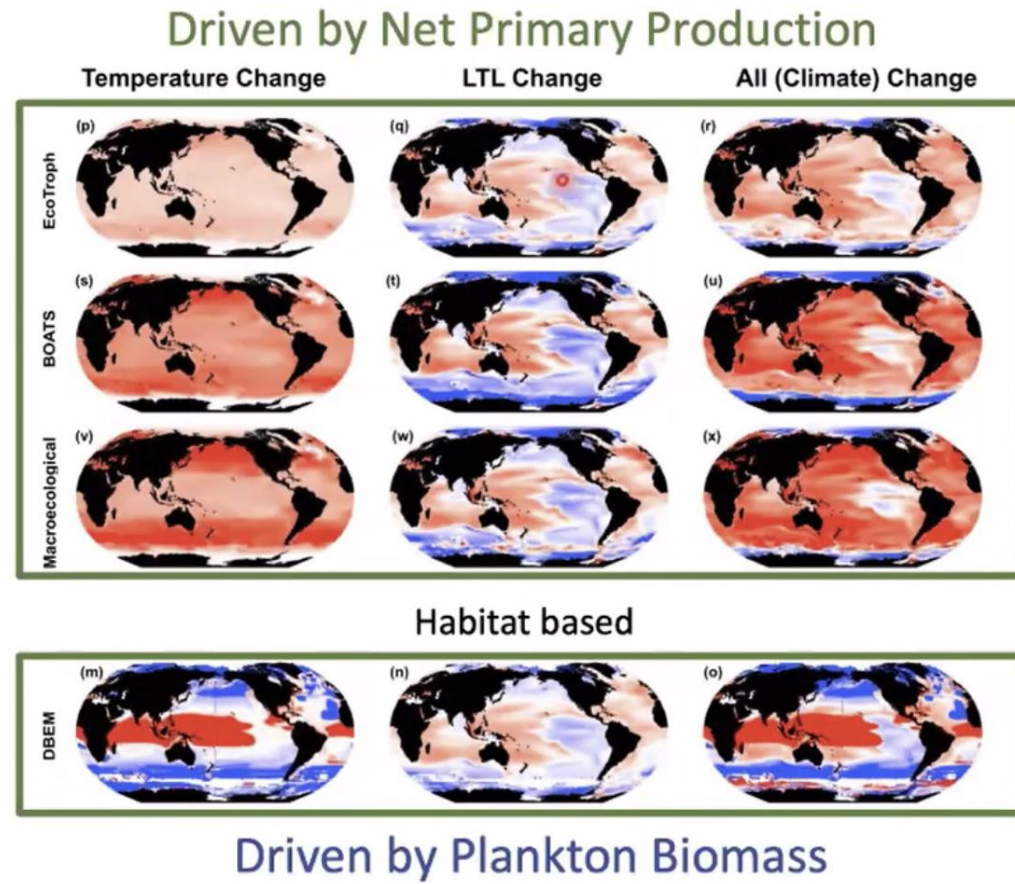
## Predictive Modelling

*Statistical models*  
*Qualitative models*  
*Expert Elicitation*  
*Risk assessment*  
*Population models*  
*SDMs*  
*Ecosystem models*

*Structured approach to using data to inform decisions based on values and objectives*

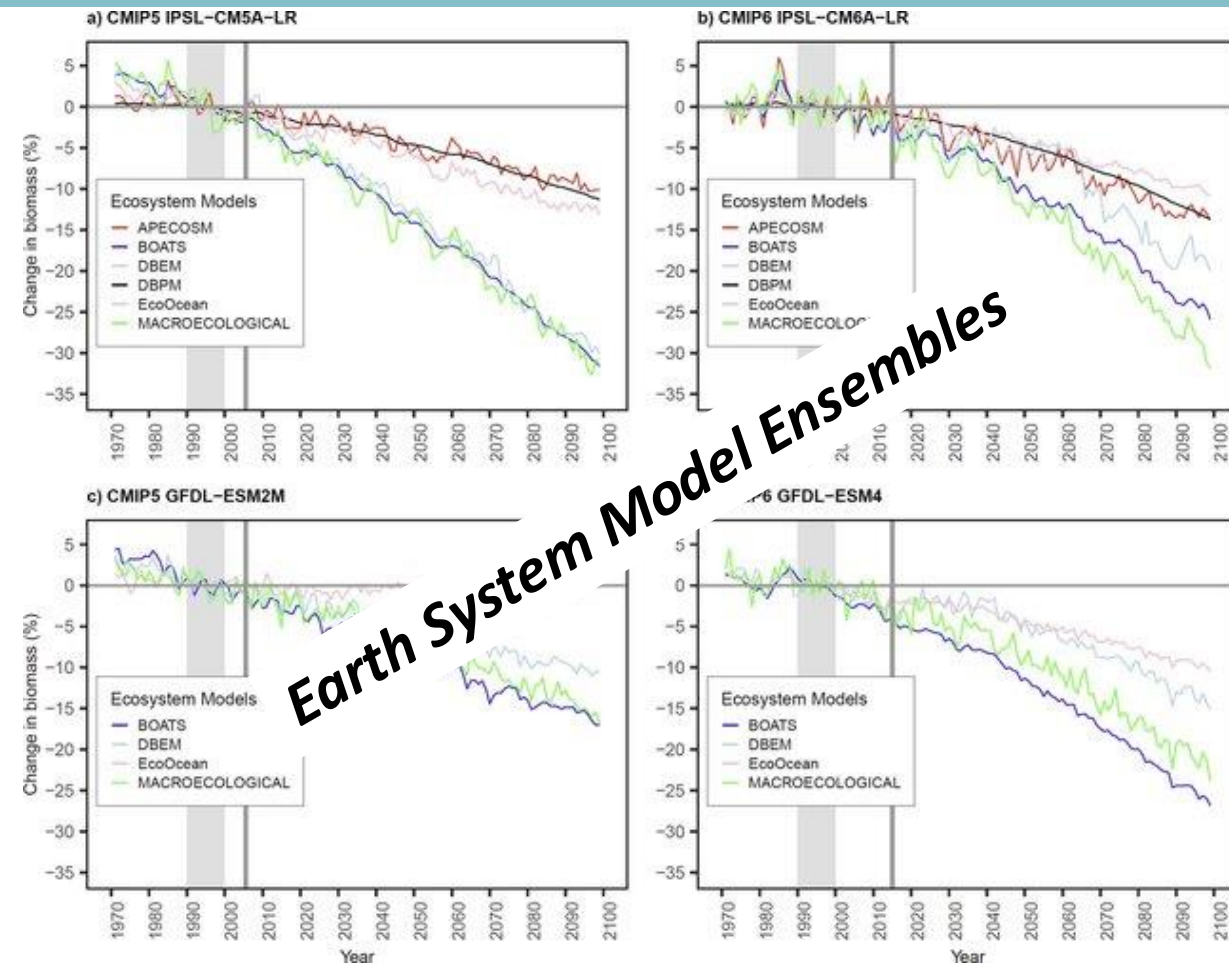
## Environmental Monitoring & Research

# CLIMATE CHANGE VARIABILITY AND UNCERTAINTY

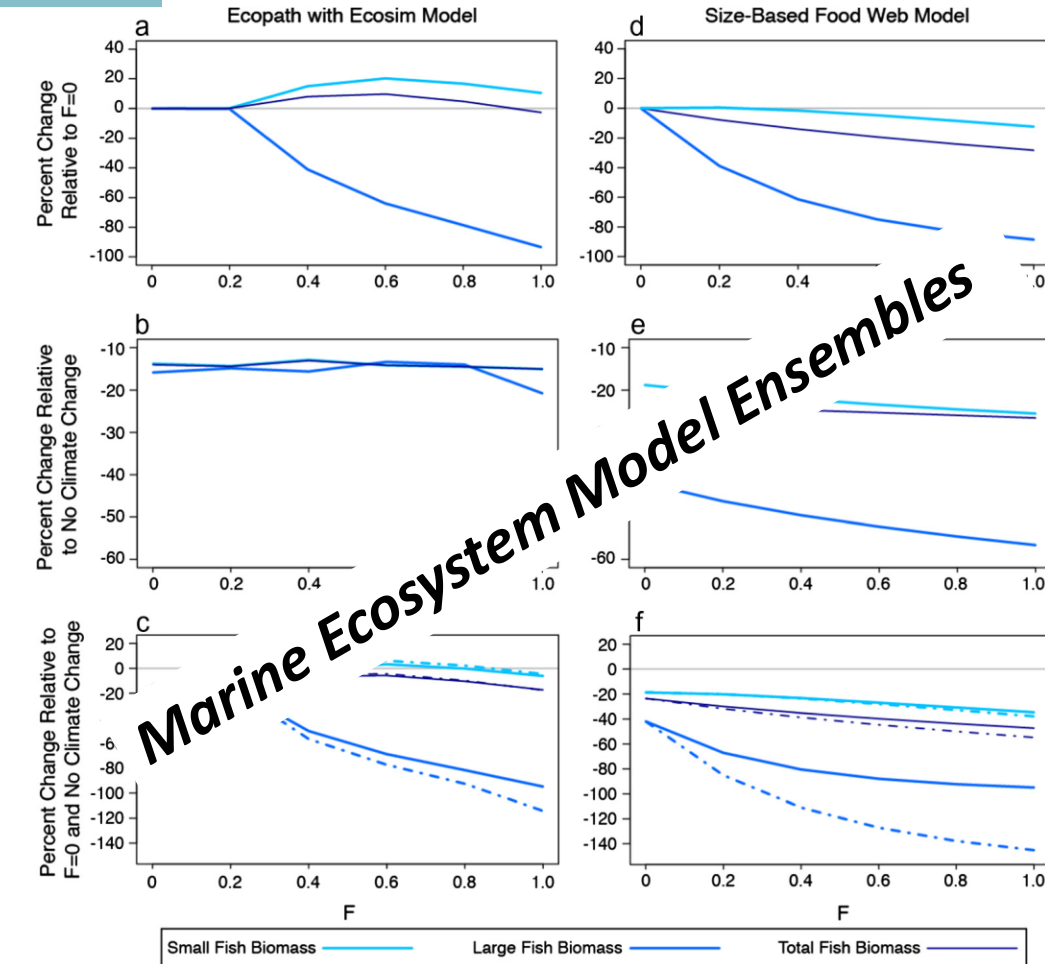


**FishMIP**  
Fisheries & Marine Ecosystem  
Model Intercomparison Project

Heneghan et al. 2021



Tittensor et al. 2021 Nat. Clim. Chng



Woodworth-Jefcoats et al. 2015

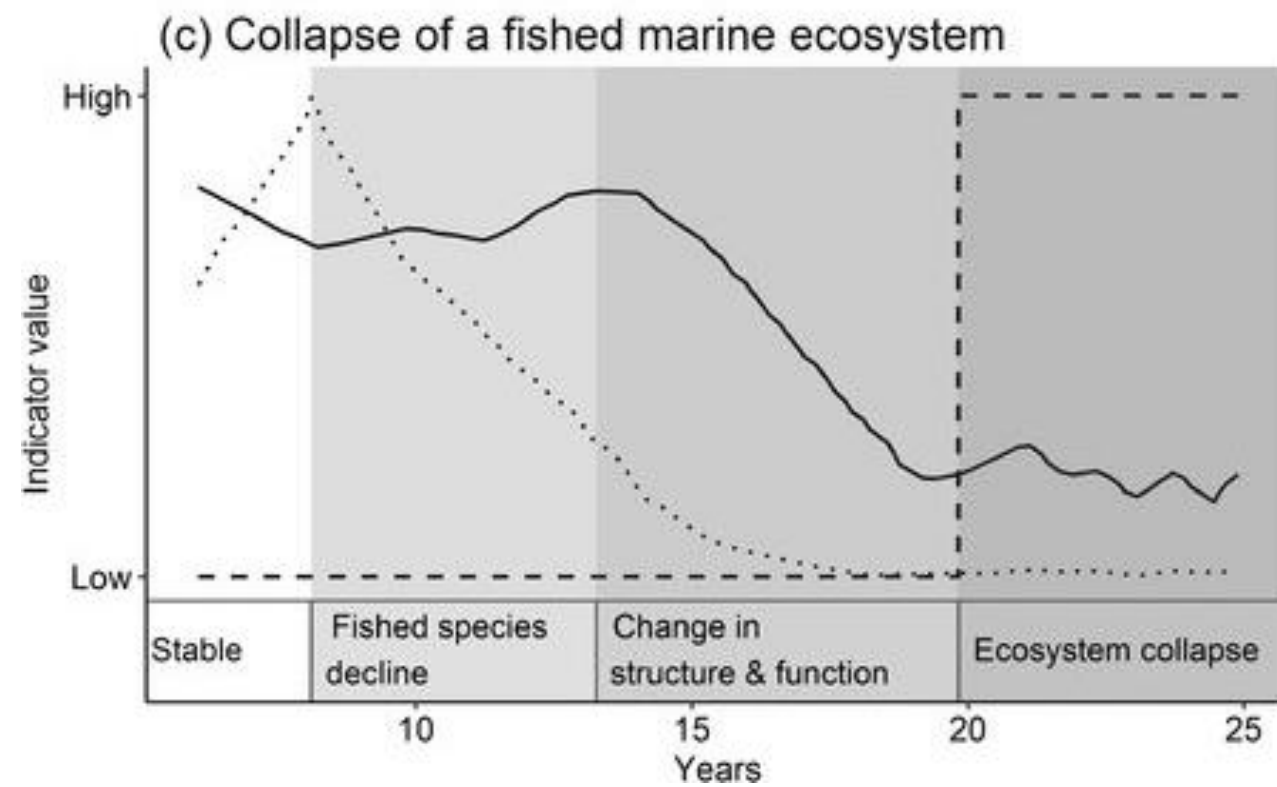
*Climate change = high uncertainty, huge variability*

*Model ensembles/multi-model approaches help identify structural uncertainties, characterize confidence in projections, understand internal variability*

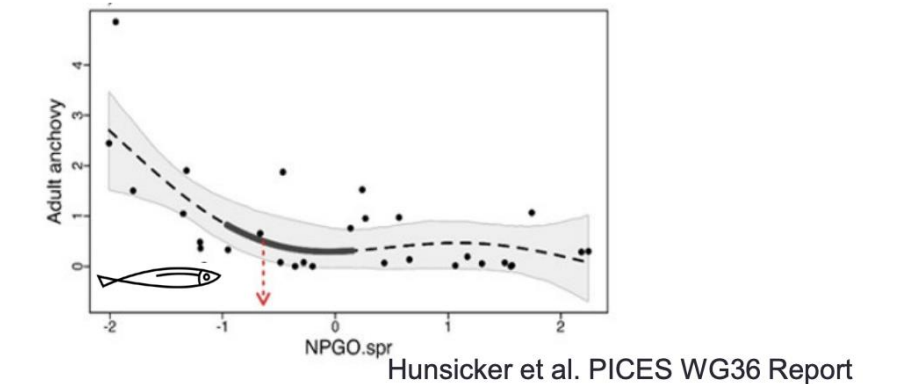
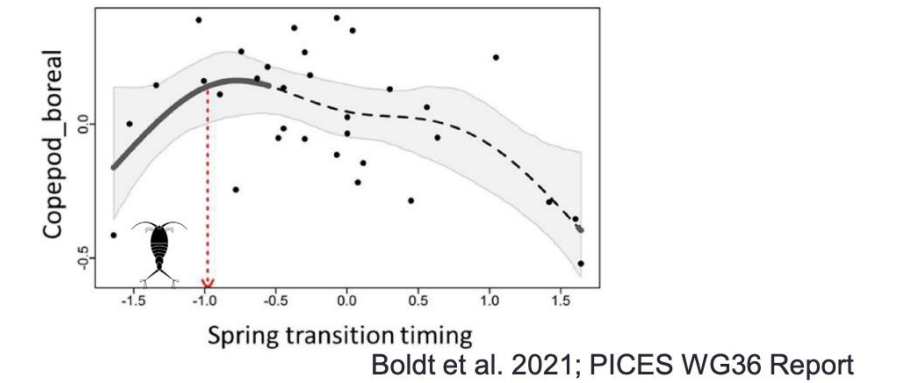
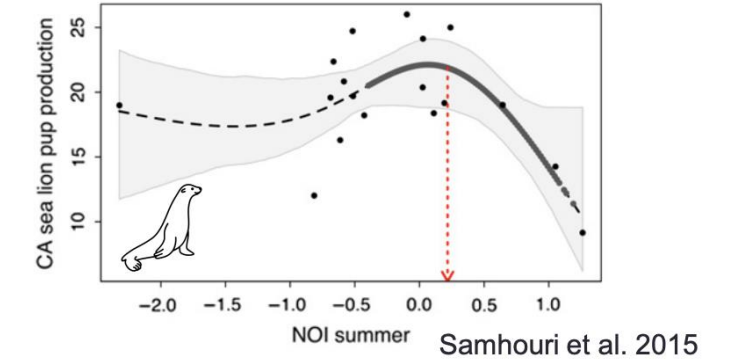
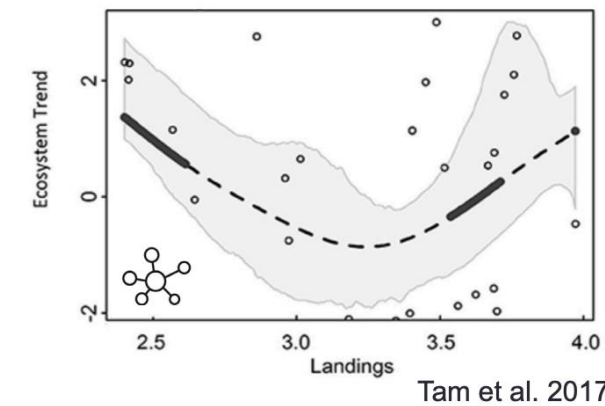


# ECOLOGICAL THRESHOLDS AND UNCERTAINTY

## Ecosystem-scale thresholds



- Example indicators
- Leading: Fishing effects (eg Target species landed biomass)
  - Coincident: Ecosystem structure & function (eg Community composition)
  - - - Lagging: Ecosystem collapse



## Addressing uncertainty in ecological thresholds?

Hunnisker - ICES-PICES Small Pelagic Fish Symposium November 2022

*How can we improve our confidence in identifying species- and ecosystem-scale thresholds in the North Pacific?*

# NORTH PACIFIC MULTI-MODEL ENSEMBLES - NOMEME

## North Pacific Ocean Marine Ecosystem Model Ensemble (NOMEME)

Develop a North Pacific Ocean Marine Ecosystem Model Ensemble (NOMEME) at the basin scale, linked to earth system models (ESMs), to inform transboundary fisheries management across the Northeast Pacific, and outline protocol for expansion to Northwest Pacific.

- **Bringing together modellers, researchers and practitioners** in the North Pacific who understand the climate-fisheries landscape and can guide objectives and initiatives;
- **Review of modelling tools, approaches and initiatives** currently operational to incorporate the effect of climate change and fisheries management on ecosystems of the North Pacific Ocean;
- **Develop a protocol** for combining disparate ecosystem-scale models;
- Identification of **appropriate environmental forcing variables** for North Pacific Ocean regions, and potential ensemble ESMs to address model and climate uncertainty;
- **New ensemble simulations that address knowledge gaps** for focal fish and associated fisheries management or conservation problems in an ensemble of candidate regional MEMs.

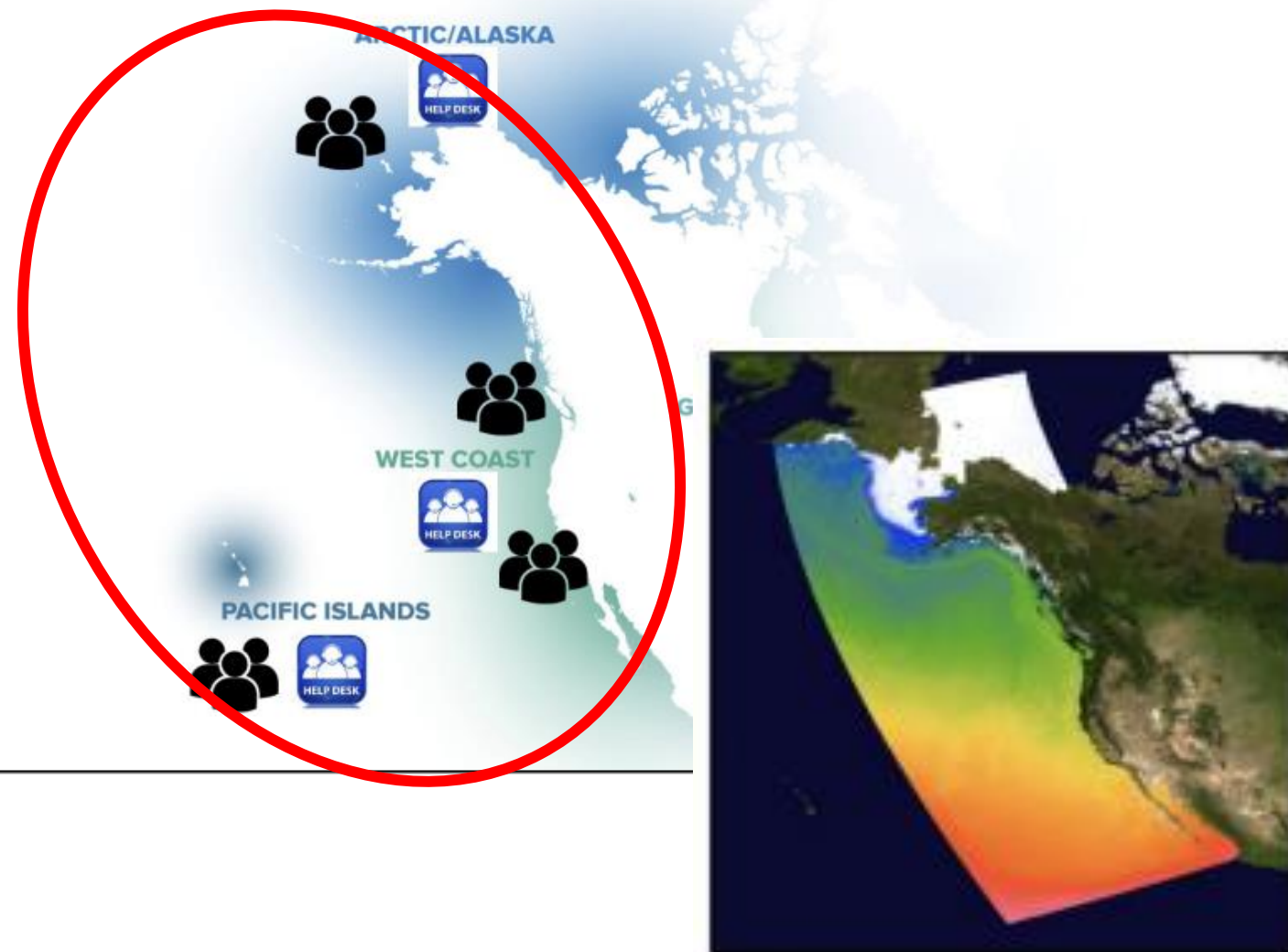


# BUILDING ON EXISTING INITIATIVES

## Climate, Ecosystems and Fisheries Initiative (CEFI)

- ACLIM/GOACLIM/West Coast

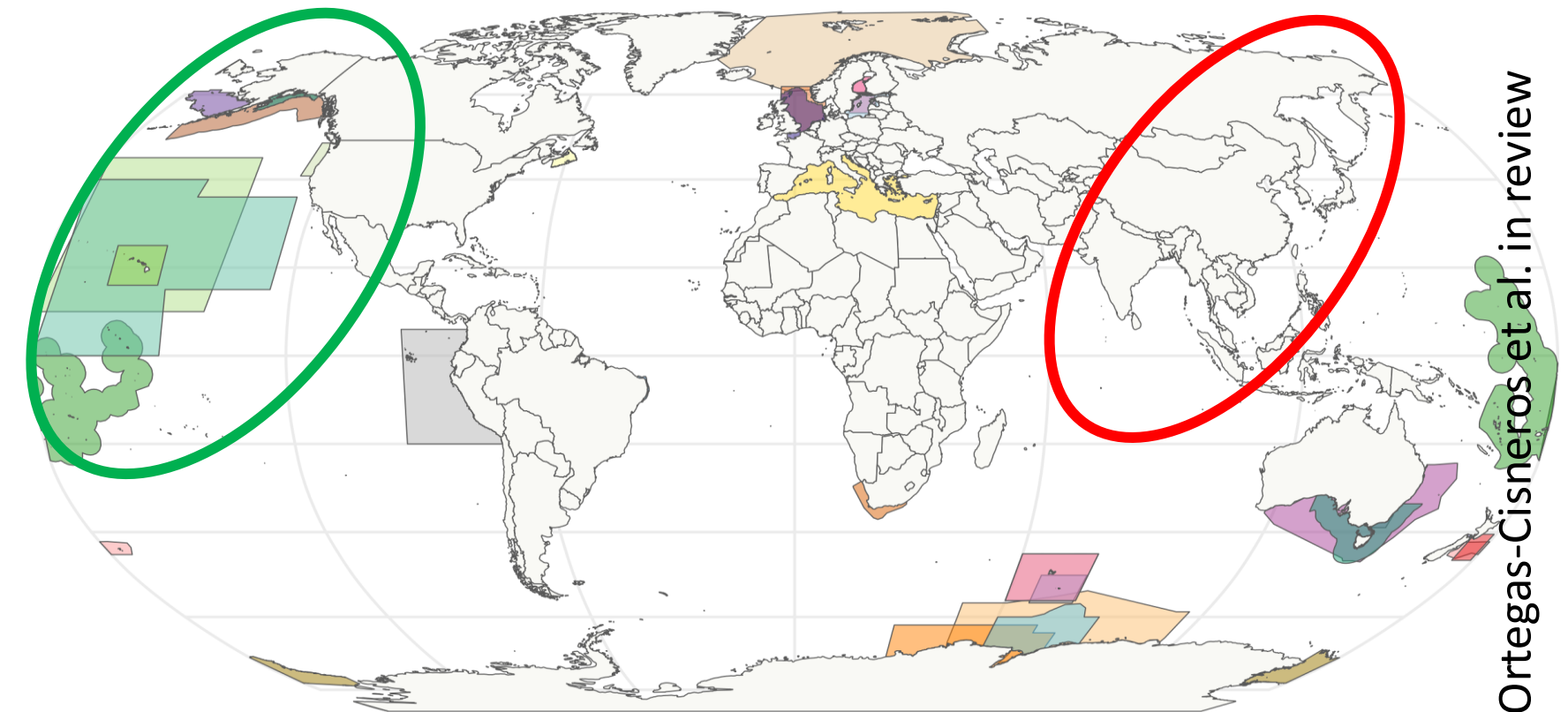
### CEFI Regional Teams



High resolution MOM6

## FishMIP

- Global-to-Regional Modelling Protocol
- SOMEME Protocol (Southern Ocean Marine Ecosystem Model Ensemble)

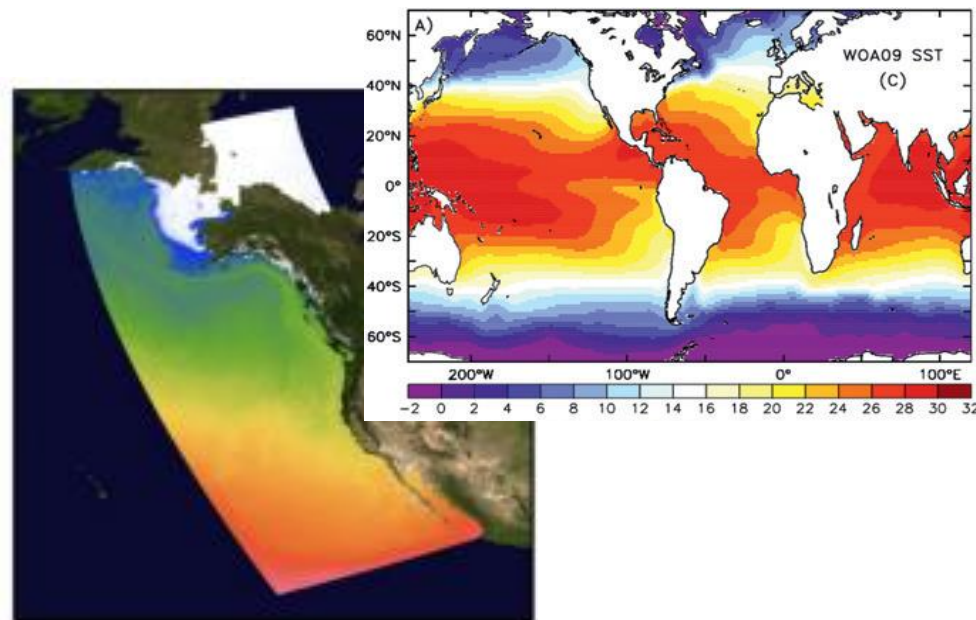
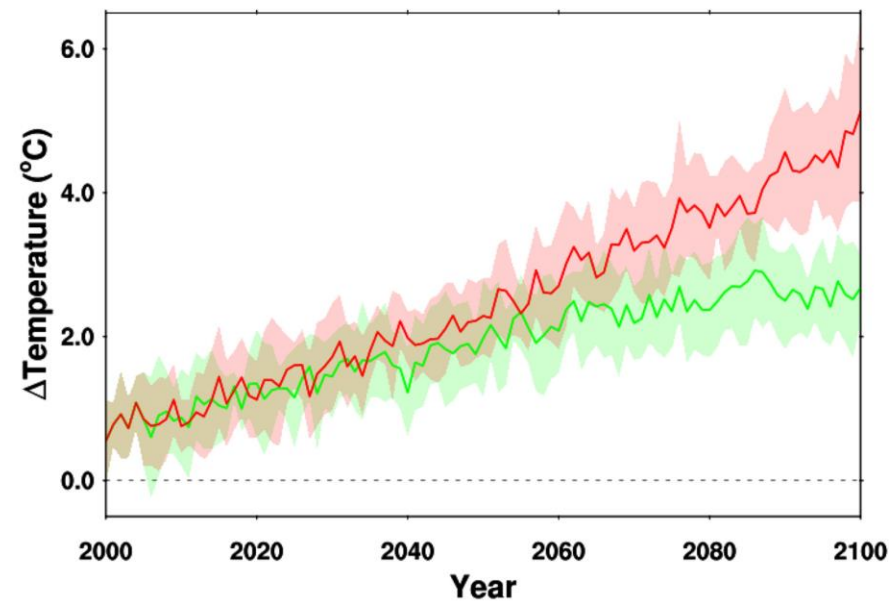


9

Baltic Sea EwE	East Antarctica EwE	Kerguelen Plateau EwE	Northern Gulf of Alaska
Baltic Sea Mizer	East Bass Strait	Main Hawaiian Islands	Prydz Bay
Brazil NE	East Bering Sea	Mediterranean Sea	Puget Sound Atlantis
Central North Pacific	East Scotian Shelf	Nordic and Barents Sea	Ross Sea MBTM
Central South Pacific	Gulf Alaska	North Humboldt	SE Australia Atlantis
Chatham Rise	Hawai'i based Longline	North Sea EwE Mizer	SE Australia Mizer
Cook Strait	Kerguelen EwE	North Sea OSMOSE	Southern Benguela
East Antarctica Atlantis	Kerguelen Mizer	Northern California Current	Tasman and Golden Bays

# MULTI-MODEL ENSEMBLES TO RESOLVE UNCERTAINTIES

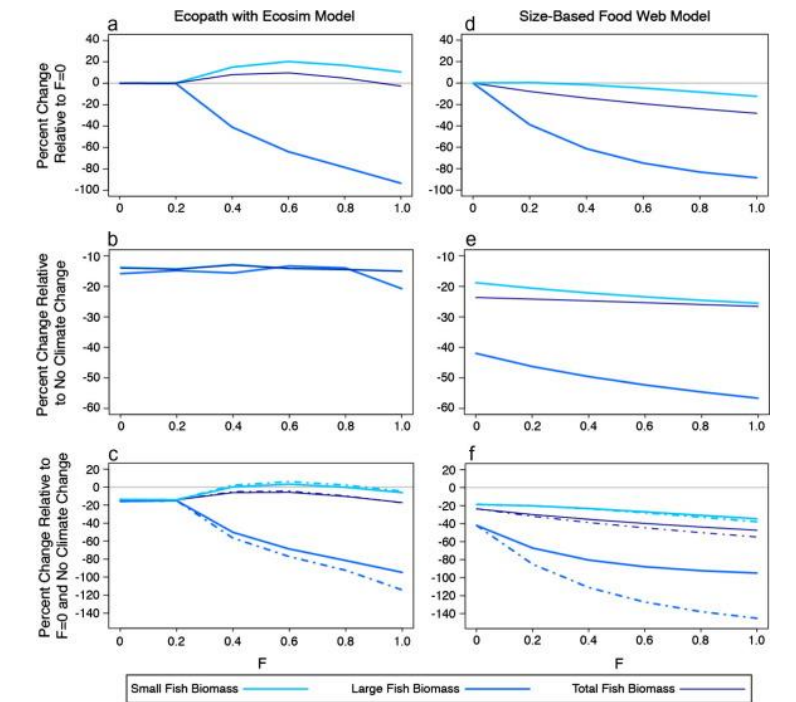
Multiple ESMs – resolve climate uncertainties



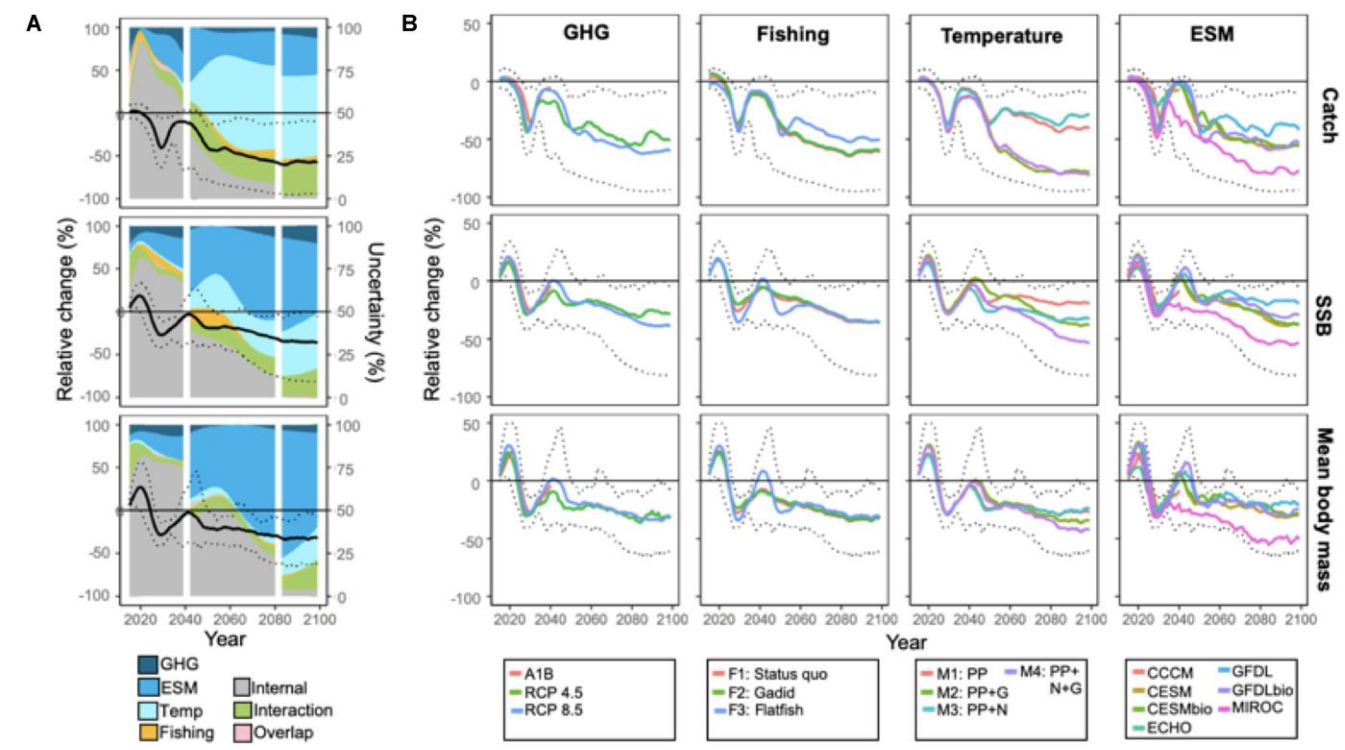
Multiple MEMs - resolve functional/structural uncertainties

- Atlantis
- State-space
- Global (BOATS/FEISTY)
- CEATTLE
- DBPM
- Ecopath with Ecosim,
- EcoTran
- MICE
- Mizer/thermizer
- OSMOSE
- NEMURO.FISH
- tinyVAST
- CVA

Compare outputs – resolve threshold uncertainty

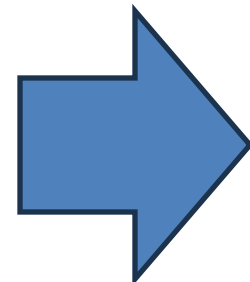
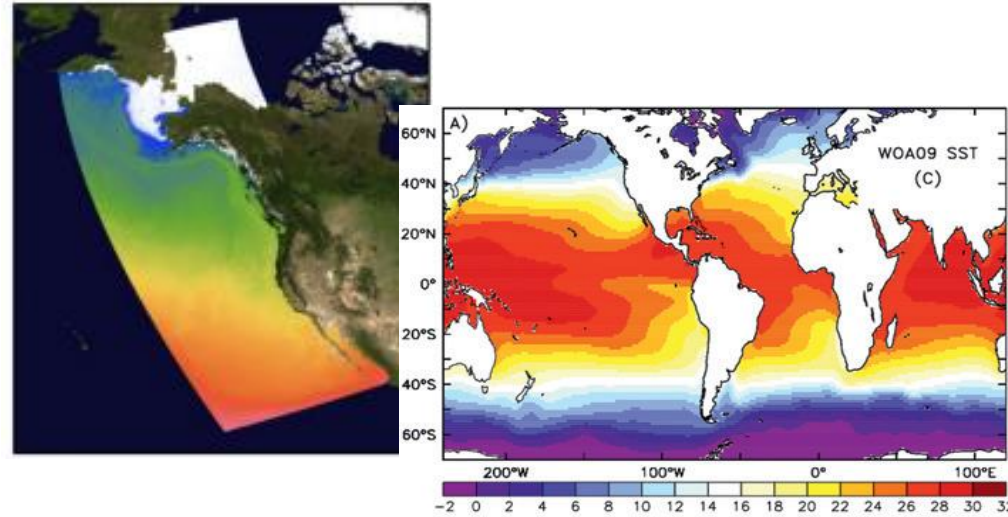


Woodworth-Jefcoats et al. 2015

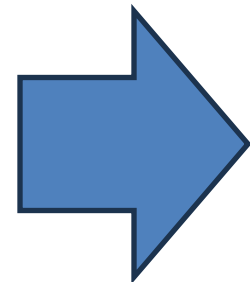


Reum et al. 2020

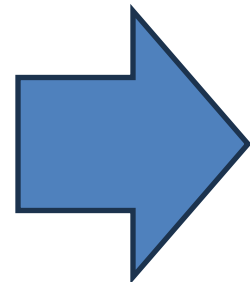
# ECOSYSTEM-SCALE: MATCHING INDICATORS TO NEEDS



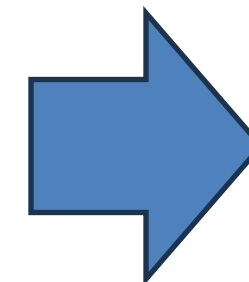
**ESM/scenario ensembles = uncertainty and variability**



**MEM ensembles = functional benchmarks (single and multiple species)**

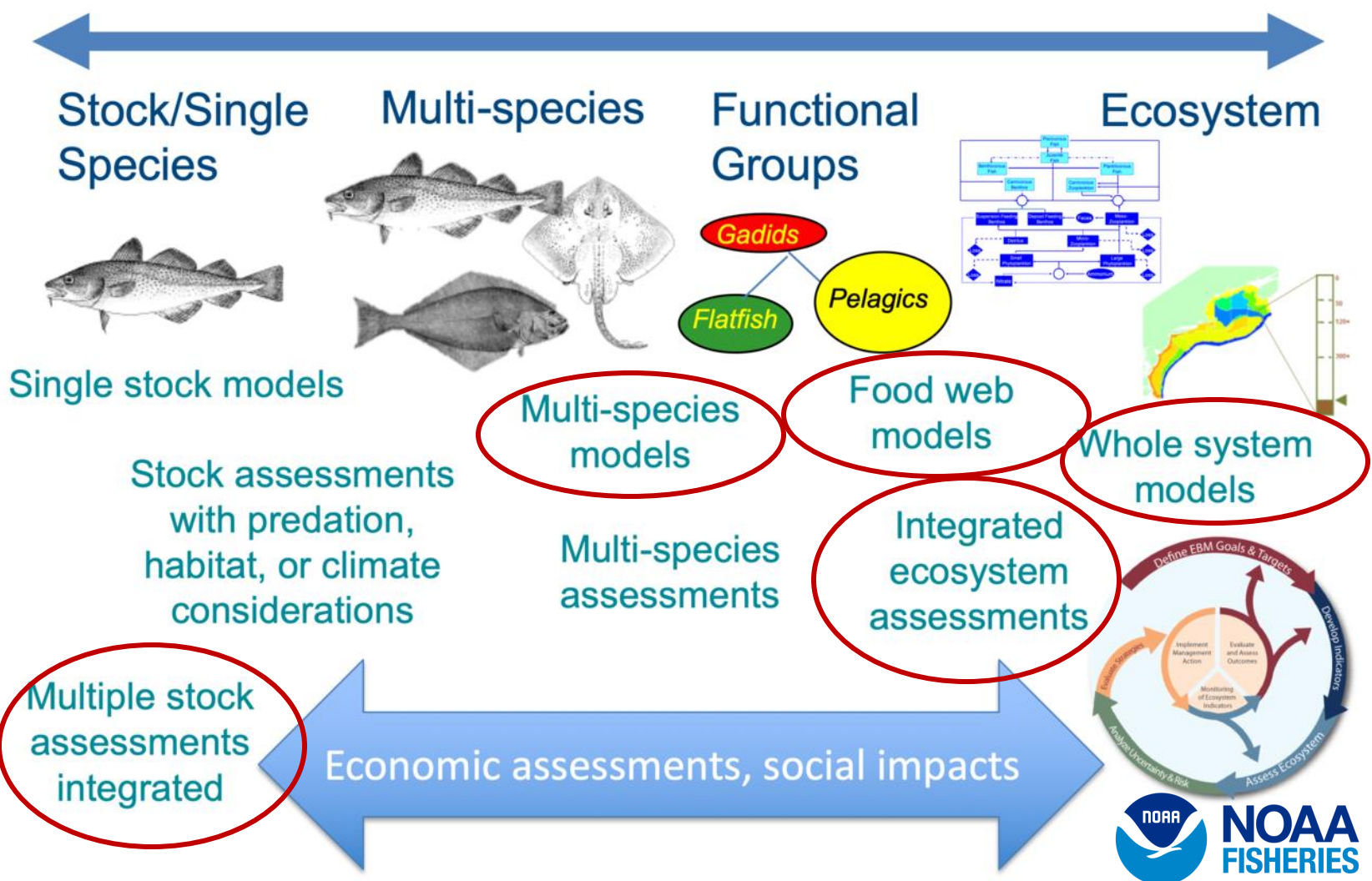


**Model ensembles can be used to quantify variability and find thresholds where one model was unsuccessful**



- Species and ecosystem indicators:
- Population
  - Productivity
  - Functional
  - Trophic
  - “Resilience”
  - Fisheries

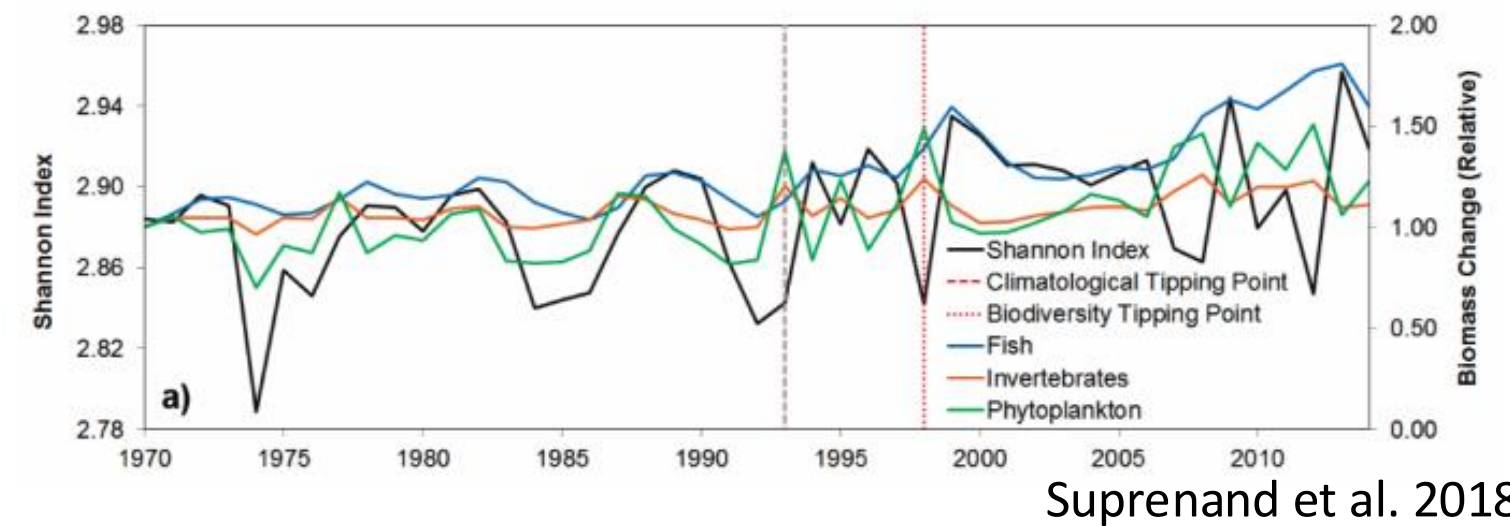
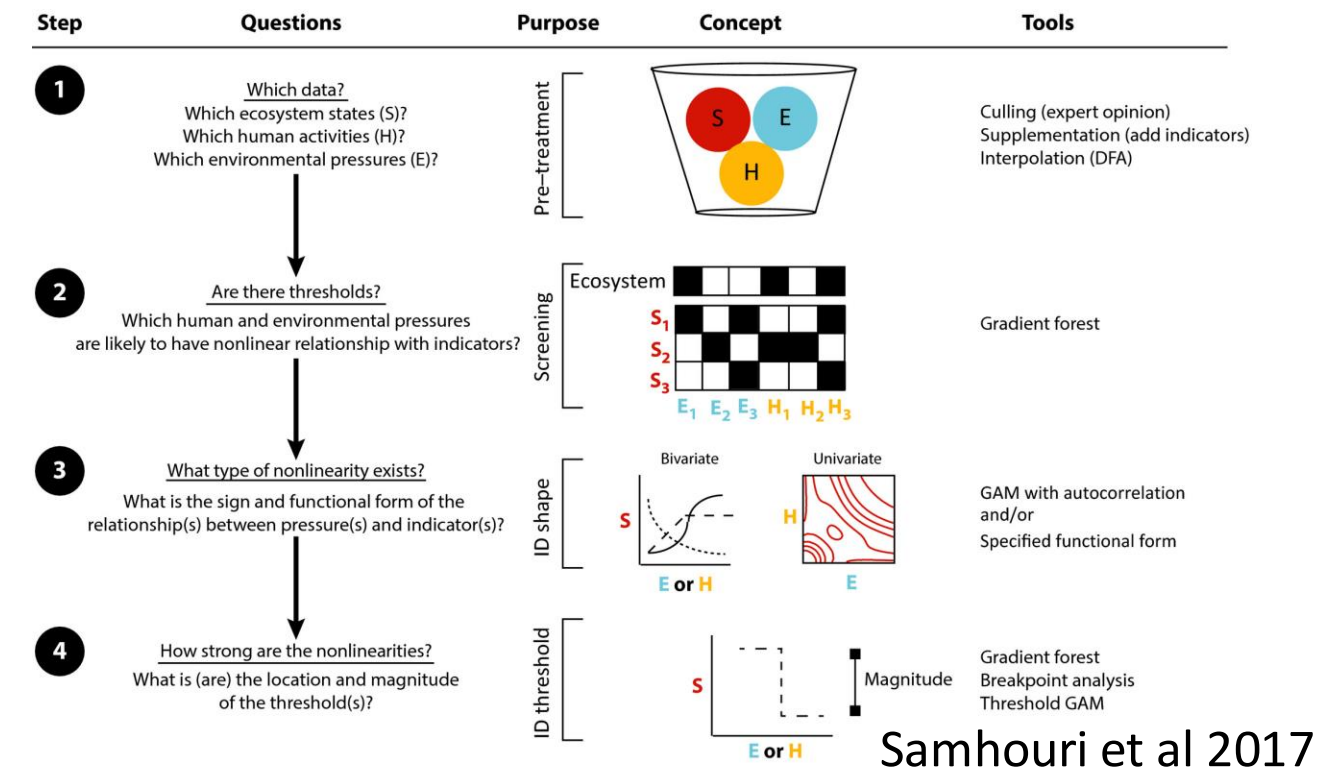
## Spectrum of tools for many uses



# MULTI-MODEL ECOSYSTEM-SCALE INDICATORS

## Multi-model approaches to identifying thresholds of ecological indicators to fishing pressure under climate change

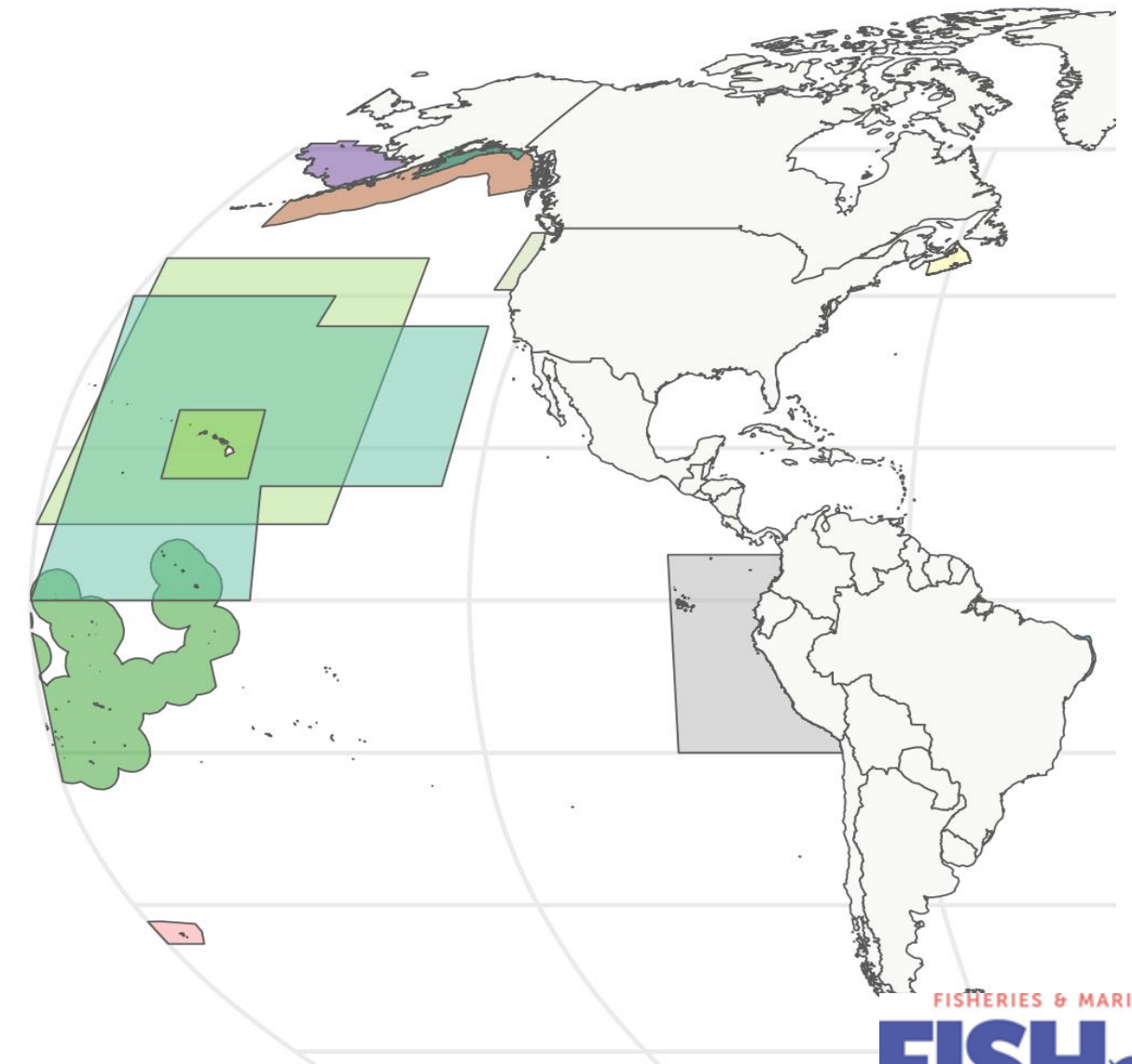
- 1. Driver thresholds for ind. species –** thresholds/tipping points from nonlinear statistical relationships btw catch (response) and temperature (pressure) (Holsman et al. 2020, Samhuri et al. 2017)
- 2. Ecosystem-scale indicators-** Statistically significant tipping points in whole-ecosystem biodiversity using statistical analysis of ecological indicators e.g. Shannon Index (Suprenand et al. 2018)
- 3. Addressing uncertainty -** Using generalized additive models (GAMs) fitted to outputs from a multi-ecosystem, multi-model simulation experiment (Fu et al. 2019;



# COMPARING THRESHOLDS AT MULTIPLE SCALES

**Multi-model approaches to identifying thresholds of ecological indicators to fishing pressure under climate change**

1. Comparing across model outputs to address uncertainties = improving predictions of thresholds
2. Comparing ecosystem outputs across space = early warnings for different regions
3. Retrospective and forecasting analyses = identify potential points of concern in the future under uncertainty



FISHERIES & MARINE ECOSYSTEM  
**FISH-MIP**  
MODEL INTERCOMPARISON PROJECT



**BECI**

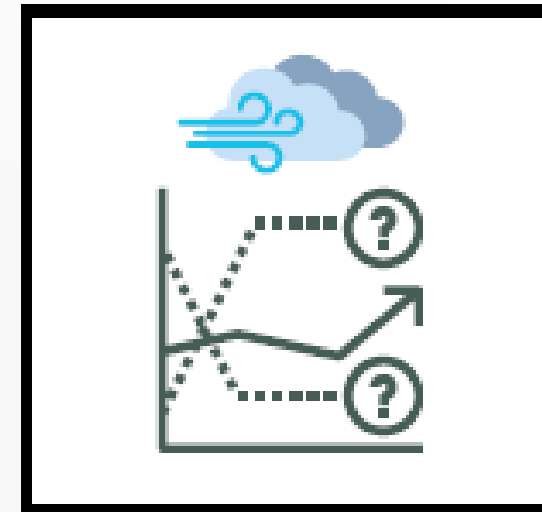
Basin-Scale Ecosystems and Fisheries Interactions  
Stevenson et al. 2020

# DECISION SUPPORT TOOLKIT AND WORKFLOW

**Information Integration & Analytics**



**International Collaboration & Knowledge Exchange**



**Predictive Modelling**

**Decision Science**



**Environmental Monitoring & Research**



# NEXT STEPS AND ONGOING COLLABORATION

- Workshop just held at PICES Annual Meeting 26 October 2024 – workshop report soon
- Upcoming webinar with SUPREME/FUTURE to progress collaboration with FishMIP and lead into next workshop – 20 November 2024
- Online discussion group for ensemble ecosystem modelling in the Nth Pacific and follow-up workshops TBA

**We are building a community of practice!**

**We invite interested folks to contact us if you are keen to join the NOMEME working group, salmon-focused initiatives, information integration, or to find out more!**

**BECI Special Workshop**  
Bringing together models for fisheries management under climate change – multiple model ensembles and inference to guide decision-making

**Duration:**  
TBD

**Convenors:**  
Vivitskaia Tulloch (Canada), *corresponding*  
Kathryn Berry (Canada)

**Invited Speakers:**  
TBD

Due to its structure, the workshop does not have an open call for abstracts for oral presentations.

The Basin-scale Events to Coastal Impacts (BECI) project is a UN Ocean Decade program led by the North Pacific Marine Science Organization (PICES) and North Pacific Anadromous Fish Commission (NPAFC), with goals of providing decision support to detect and predict ecosystem impacts and inform fisheries management under climate change.

The primary goal of this workshop is to enhance regional marine ecosystem



Monday, September 30, 2024 1:00 PM (PDT)

**Sept Webinar: Topics at the nexus of climate change, fisheries & blue foods**

[View event details](#)

## Topics at the nexus of climate change, fisheries, and blue foods

A webinar series highlighting the impact of climate change on fisheries, aquaculture, and the communities who depend on them

This webinar series is jointly hosted by the UN Ocean Decade endorsed programs Blue Food Futures, FishSCORE, SmartNET, SUPREME, and as of August 2024, FishMIP and Basin-Scale Events to Coastal Impacts (BECI). This webinar series highlights current efforts and challenges at the climate-fisheries nexus. Presentations and discussions will range from data-driven efforts to better understand oceanographic and biological changes affecting fisheries, to how the results can be used to inform fisheries management, aquaculture, and sustainable food decisions, to the many ways people and broader communities are being impacted by and adapting to changes in marine ecosystems and marine resource use.



Organized by  
Gulf of Maine Research Institute



[Follow](#) [Contact](#)



**BECI**  
Basin-Scale Events & Coastal Impacts

# BASIN SCALE EVENTS AND COASTAL IMPACTS

Viv Tulloch [Viv.tulloch@pices.int](mailto:Viv.tulloch@pices.int)

Kathryn Berry

[Kathryn.berry@pices.int](mailto:Kathryn.berry@pices.int)

Kathryn Sheps

[Kathryn.Sheps@pices.int](mailto:Kathryn.Sheps@pices.int)

Acknowledgements:

Phoebe Woodworth-Jefcoats (NOAA), Kirstin Holsman (NOAA), Kieran Murphy (UTAS), Julia Blanchard (UTAS), Kelly Ortega-Cisneros (CU), Hem Morzaria-Luna (Long Live the Kings), Isaac Kaplan (NOAA), Beth Fulton (CSIRO), Eva Plaganyi (CSIRO), Jon Reum (NOAA), Robin Brown (BECI), Josep Planas (IPHC), Cheryl Harrison (LSU) and others!



**PICES Annual Meeting 2024,  
Hawaii**

