

Large Marine Ecosystem Models of Indicator Assessment

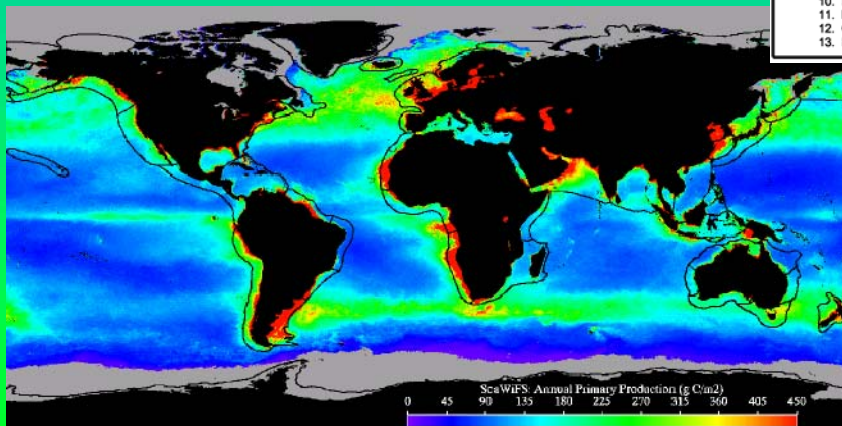
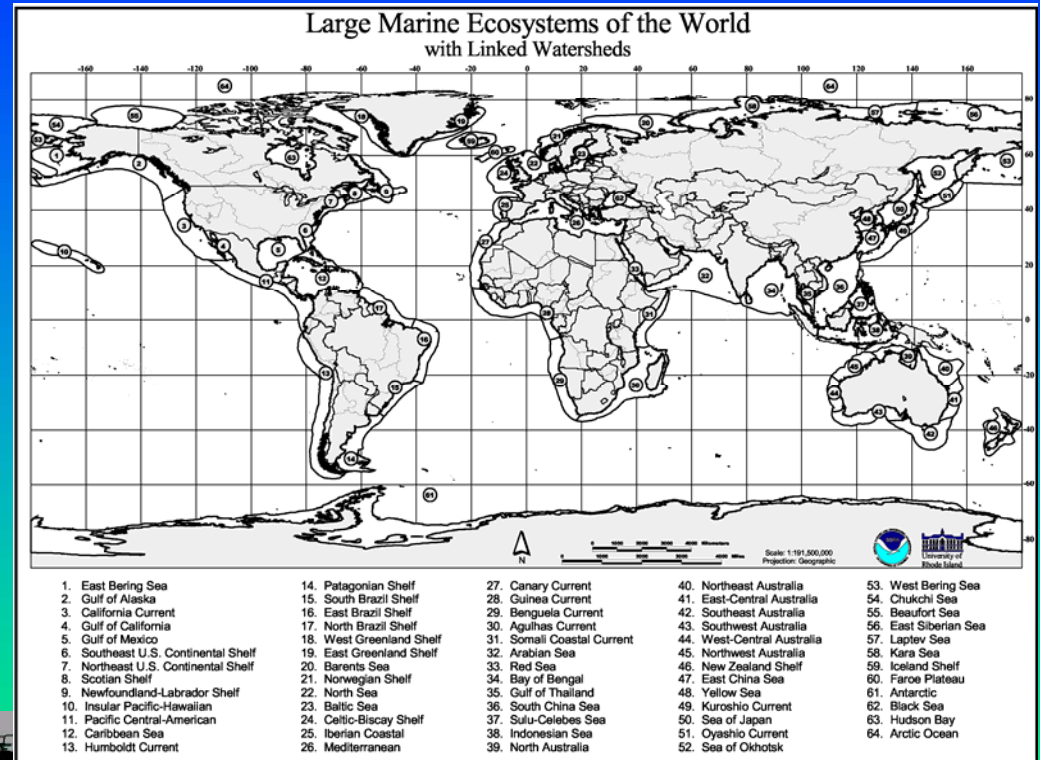
Ken Sherman
NMFS, Narragansett

ECOLOGICAL CRITERIA USED TO DETERMINE AREAL EXTENT OF LMES:

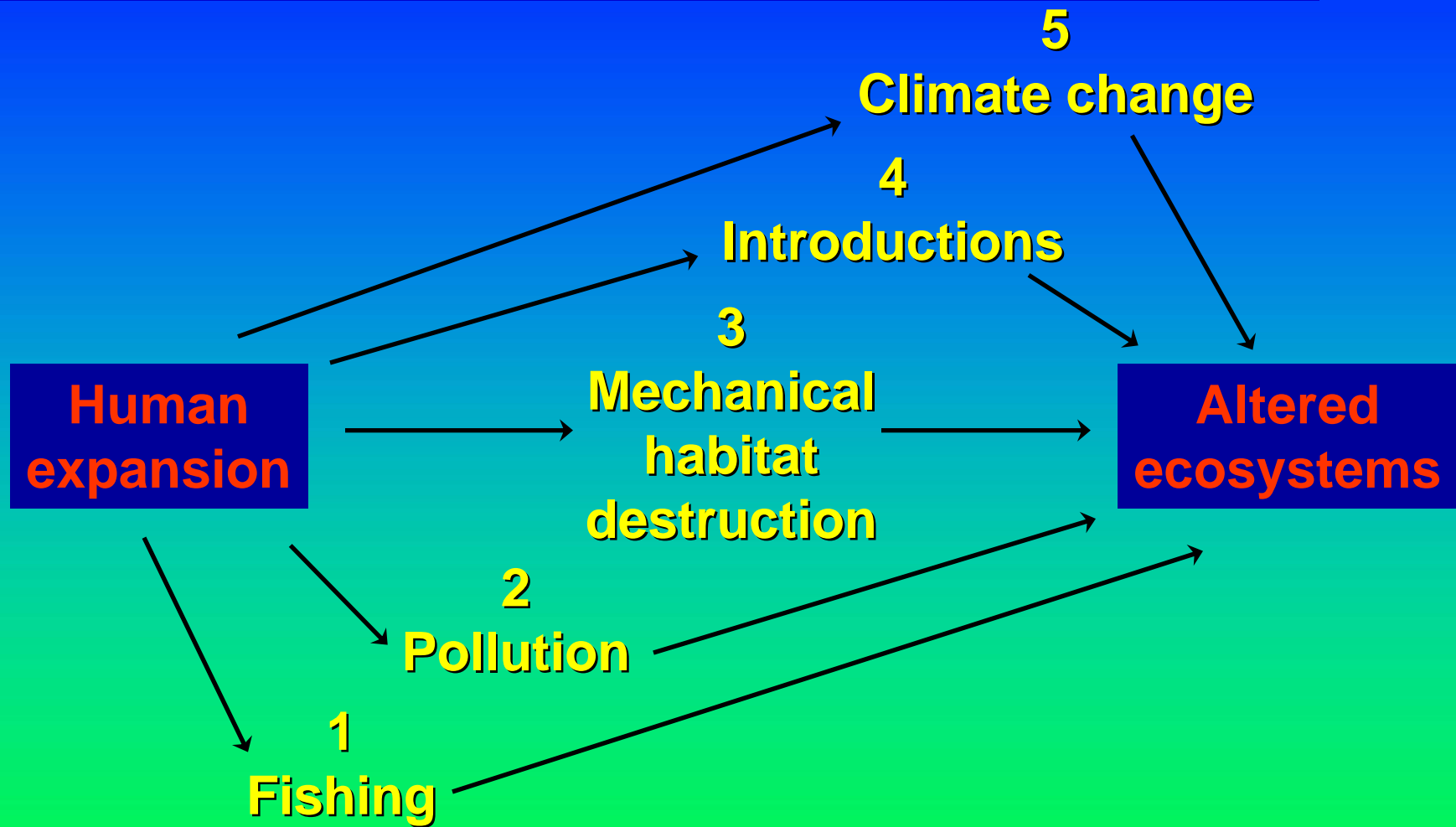
- **Bathymetry**
- **Hydrography**
- **Productivity**
- **Trophodynamics**

THE WORLD'S 64 LMEs

95% of the World's Annual Marine Fishery Catches are Produced in 64 LMEs



PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF LME DEGRADATION



“Then” **“Now”**

(from Jackson *et al.*, *Science* vol. 293, 27 July 2001)

LMEs ARE GLOBAL CENTERS OF EFFORTS TO:

- **REDUCE** coastal pollution
- **RESTORE** damaged habitats
(Coral reefs, mangroves, sea grasses)
- **RECOVER** depleted fishery stocks

**Global Environment Facility (GEF)
LME projects in support of
United Nations Environment Programme
(UNEP) Regional Seas Programme**

- **Integrate land-based sources of pollution Project activities with LME modular assessment strategy**
- **From \$650 million to \$1.8 billion**
- **+ \$200 million (Sub-Sahara World Bank Fisheries Grants and Loans)**
- **Total: \$2 billion**

INDICATORS OF CHANGING ECOSYSTEM STATES:

Productivity

Fish and Fisheries

Pollution

Socioeconomic

Governance

5 MODULES WITH INDICATORS

Modular Assessments for Sustainable Development



PRODUCTIVITY MODULE INDICATORS

- Photosynthetic activity
- Zooplankton biodiversity
- Oceanographic variability
- Zooplankton biomass
- Ichthyoplankton biodiversity

**POLLUTION
&
ECOSYSTEM
HEALTH**

PRODUCTIVITY

**FISH
&
FISHERIES**

SOCIOECONOMICS

GOVERNANCE



POLLUTION & ECOSYSTEM HEALTH MODULE INDICATORS

- Eutrophication
- Biotoxins
- Pathology
- Emerging disease
- Health indices
- Multiple marine ecological disturbances



SOCIOECONOMIC MODULE INDICATORS

- Integrated assessments
- Human forcing
- Sustainability of long-term socioeconomic benefits



FISH & FISHERIES MODULE INDICATORS

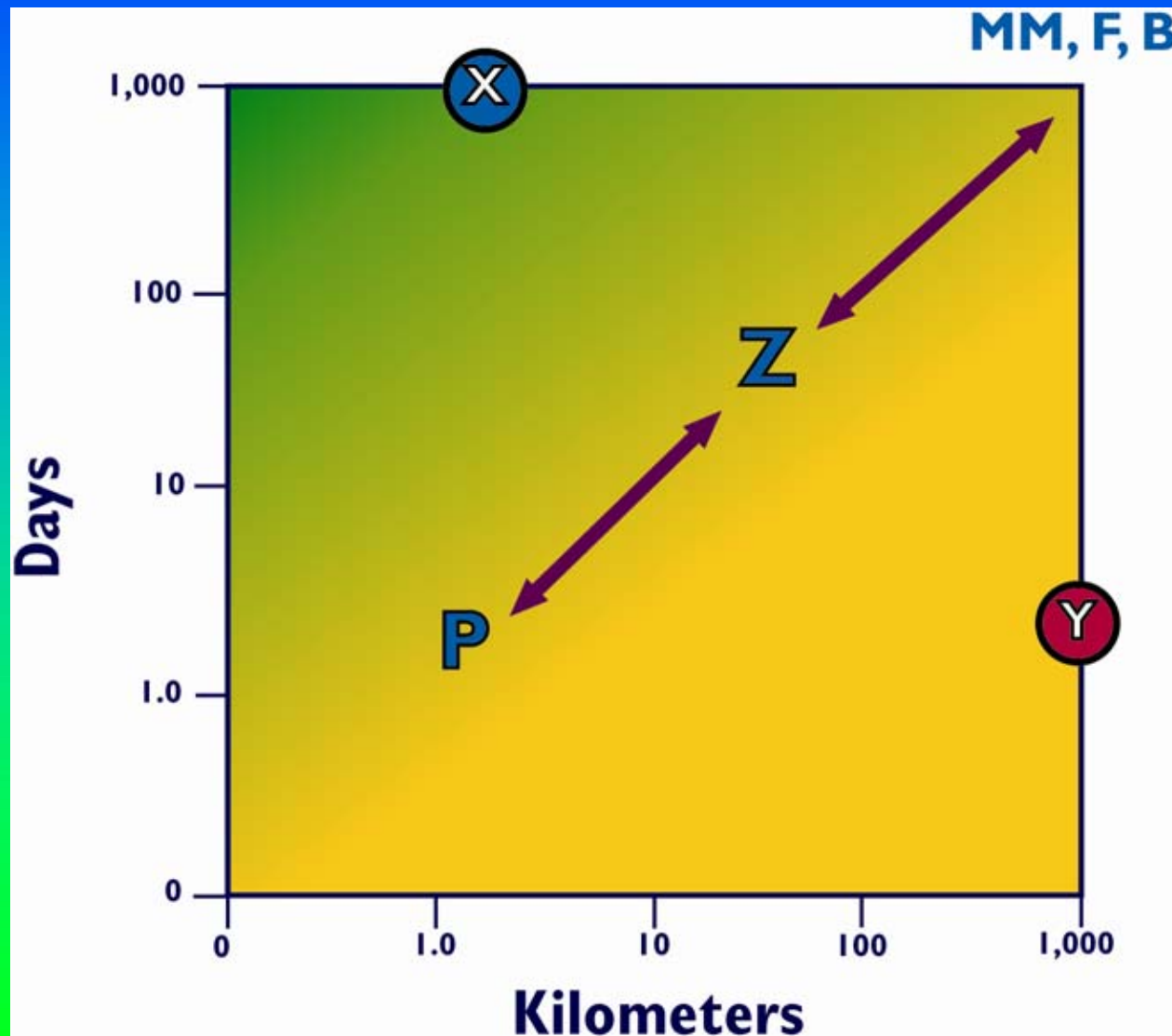
- Biodiversity
- Finfish
- Shellfish
- Demersal species
- Pelagic species



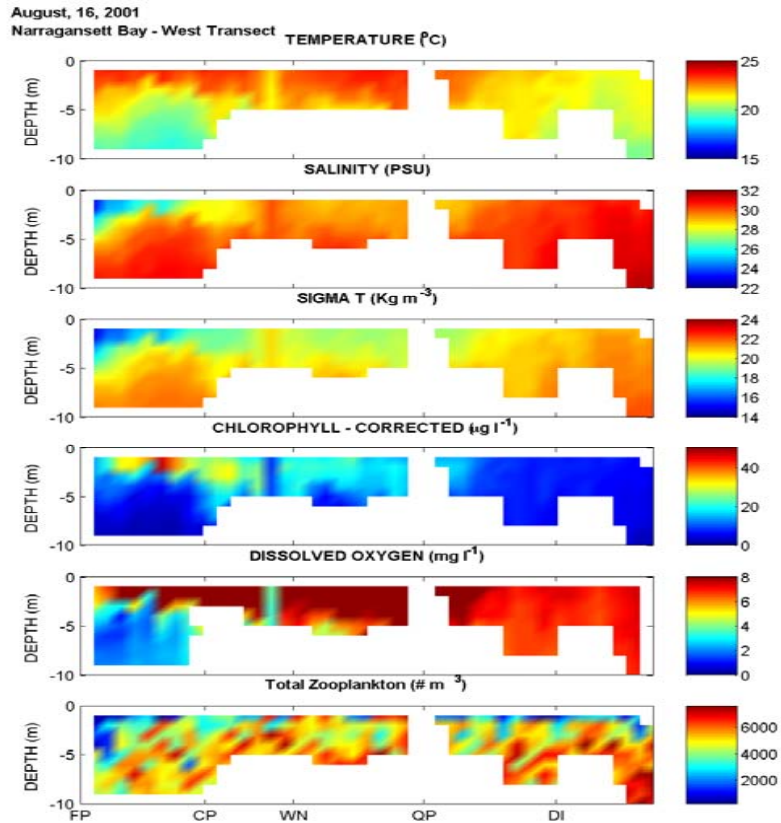
GOVERNANCE MODULE INDICATORS

- Stakeholder participation
- Adaptive management

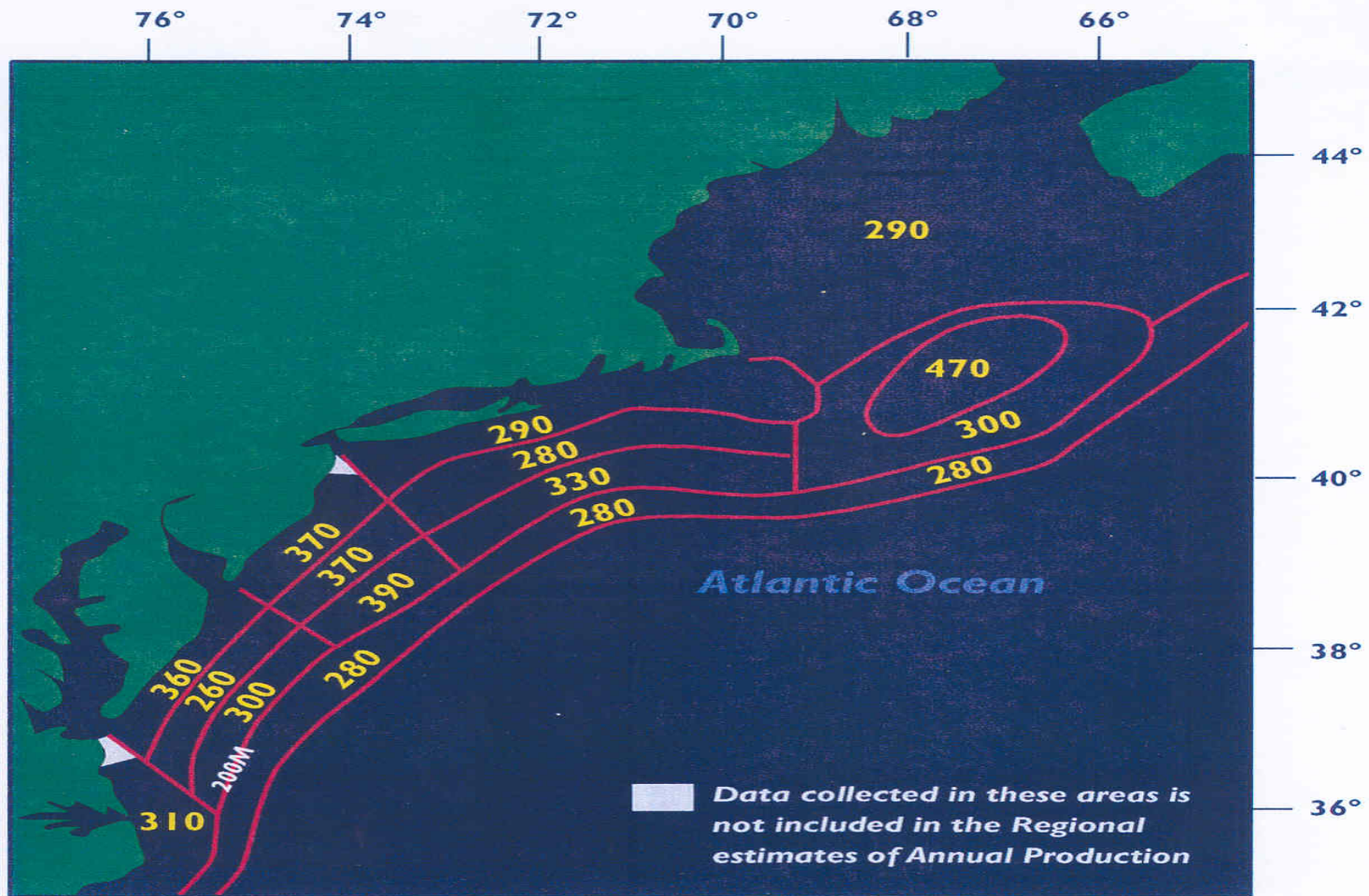
TEMPORAL AND SPATIAL SCALE RELATIONS FOR THE PELAGIC FOOD WEB



PRODUCTIVITY INDICATORS



An undulating oceanographic recorder, towed behind a ship, is used to collect ecological parameters needed to assess the state of the marine ecosystem.



Estimates of annual phytoplankton primary production by region (particulate + dissolved organic carbon); $\text{gC m}^{-2} \text{y}^{-1}$

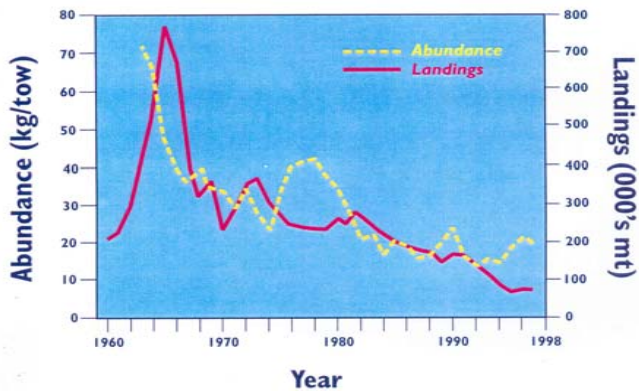
FISH AND FISHERIES INDICATORS

- **Demersal species surveys**
- **Pelagic species surveys**
- **Ichthyoplankton surveys**
- **Invertebrate surveys (clams, scallops, shrimp, lobster, squid)**
- **Essential fish habitat**
- **Marine protected areas**

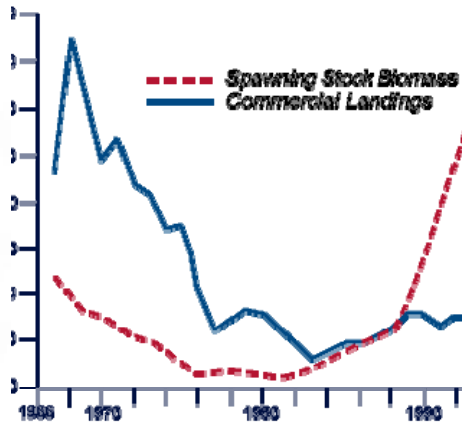
FISH AND FISHERIES INDICATORS

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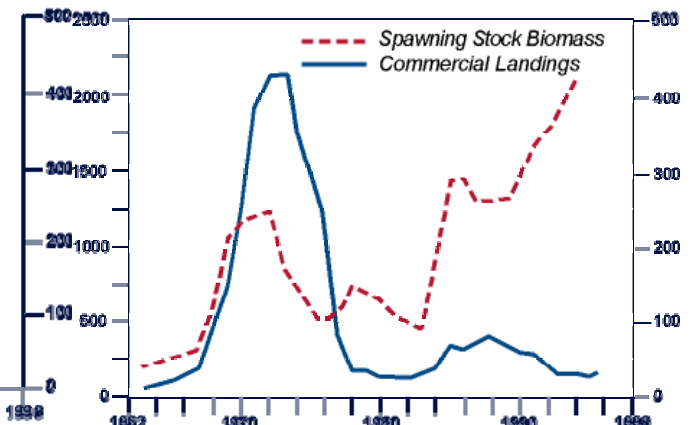
PRINCIPAL GROUNDFISH & FLOUNDERS



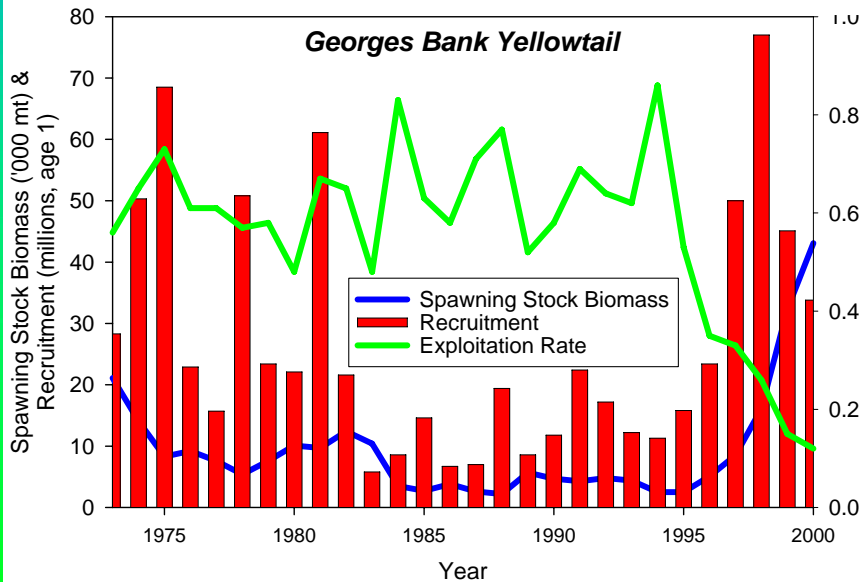
HERRING



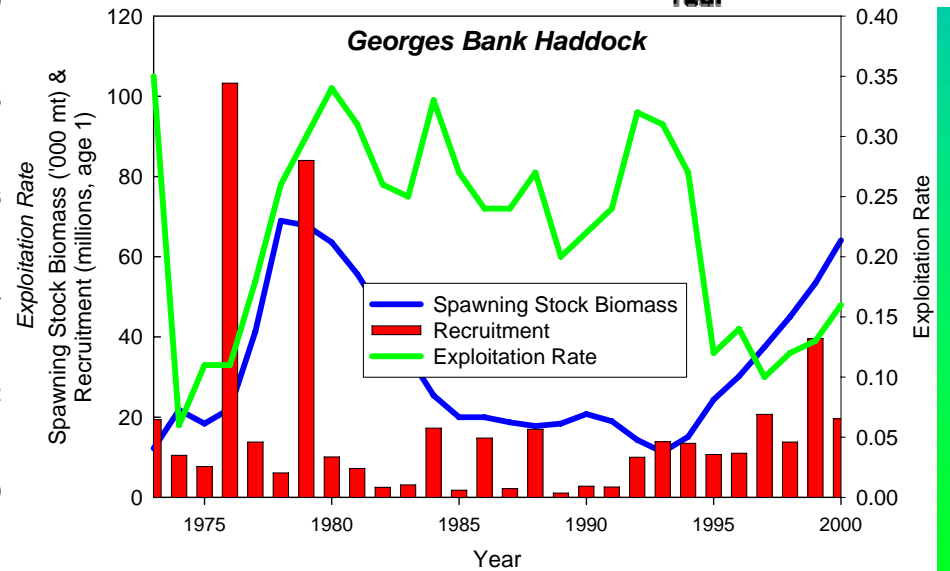
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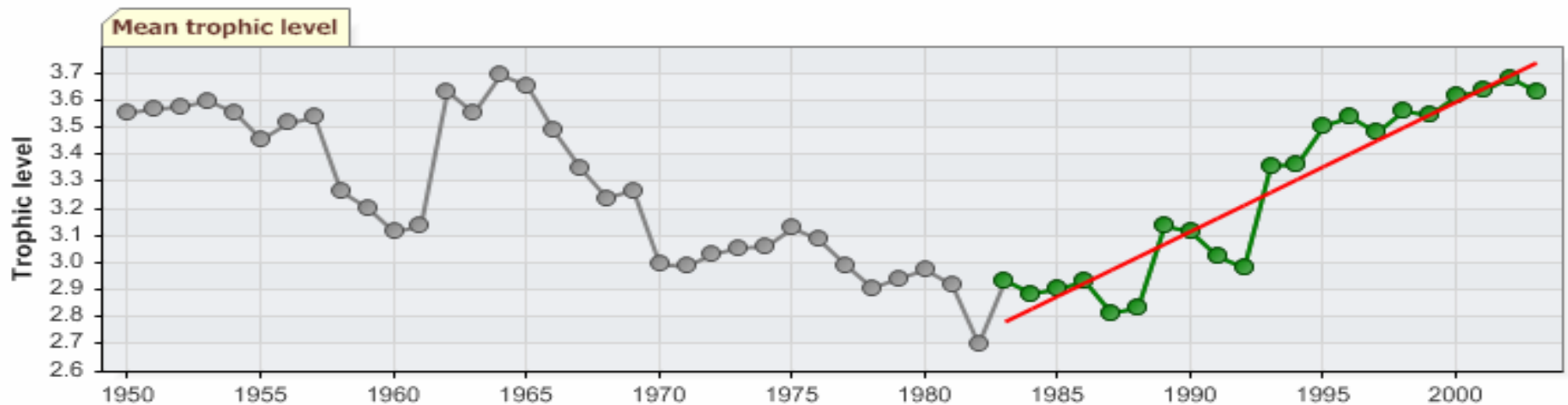
Georges Bank Yellowtail



Georges Bank Haddock



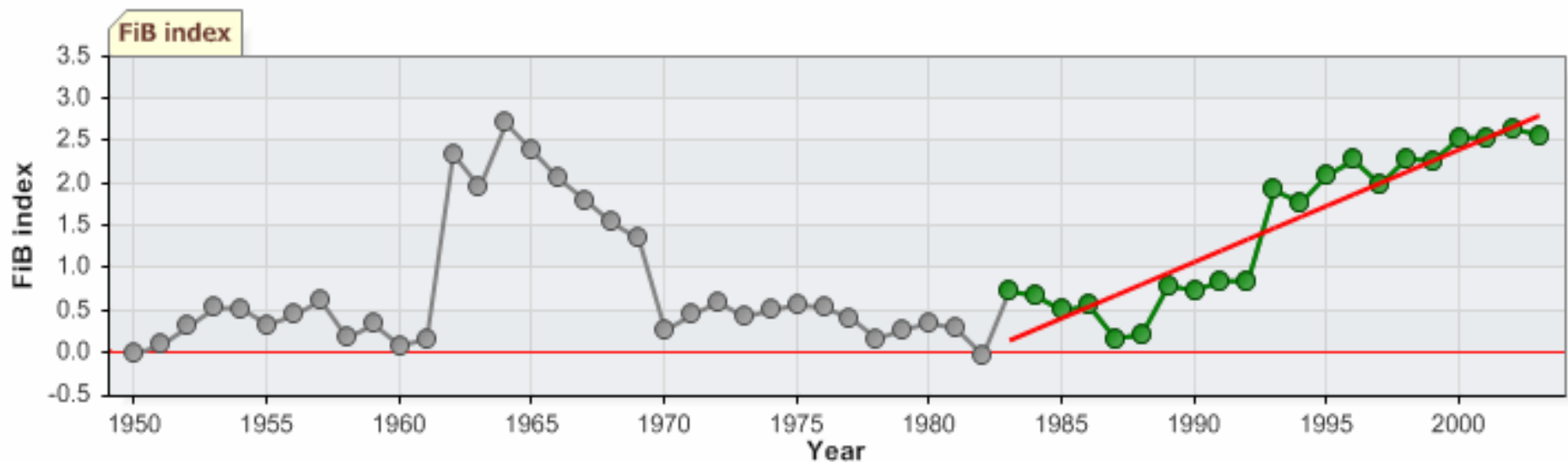
Trophic Index with Regression- Southeast Australia Shelf LME



Sum of the product of species fractional trophic level and catch divided by the sum of the catch, where fractional trophic level is determined by the prey in the diet of a species

$$TL_y = \frac{\sum_i (TL_i \cdot Y_{iy})}{\sum_i Y_{iy}}$$

Fishing in Balance (FiB) Index – Southeast Australia Shelf LME



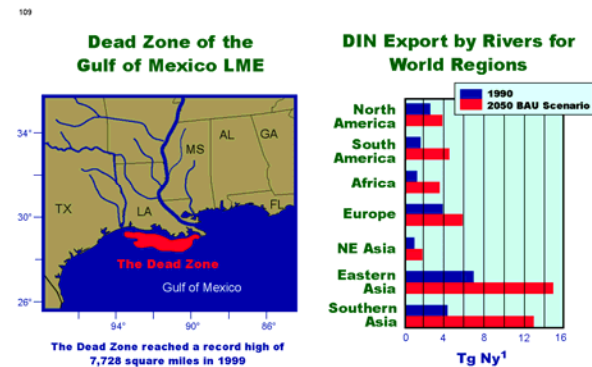
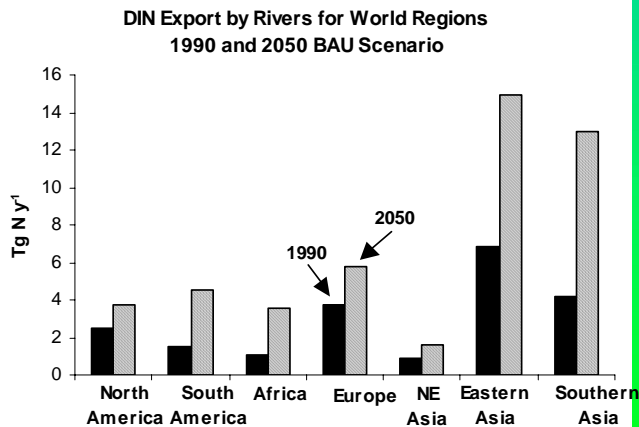
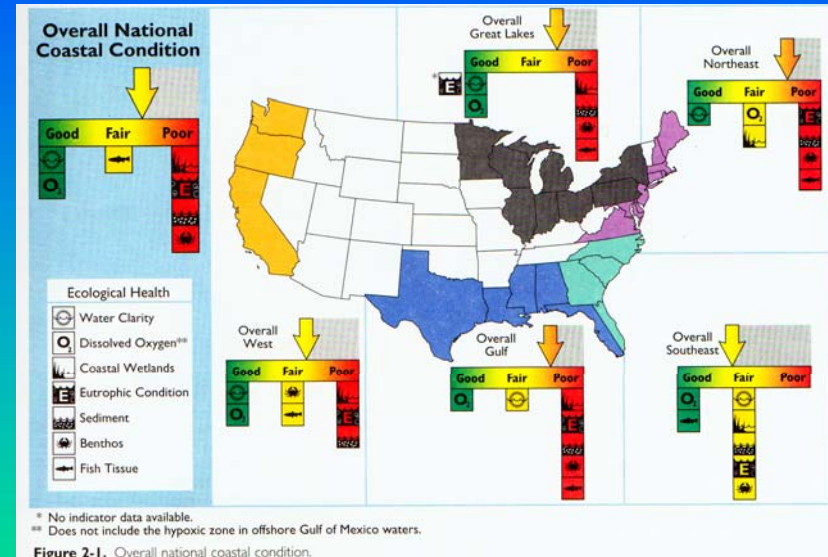
FiB maintains a value of zero when a change in TL is matched by an appropriate change in catch, but will decrease indicates an unsustainable food web and increase an expanding fishery

$$FiB_y = \log \left\{ \left[Y_y \cdot (1/TE)^{TL_y} \right] / \left[Y_0 \cdot (1/TE)^{TL_0} \right] \right\}$$

POLLUTION AND ECOSYSTEM HEALTH INDICATORS

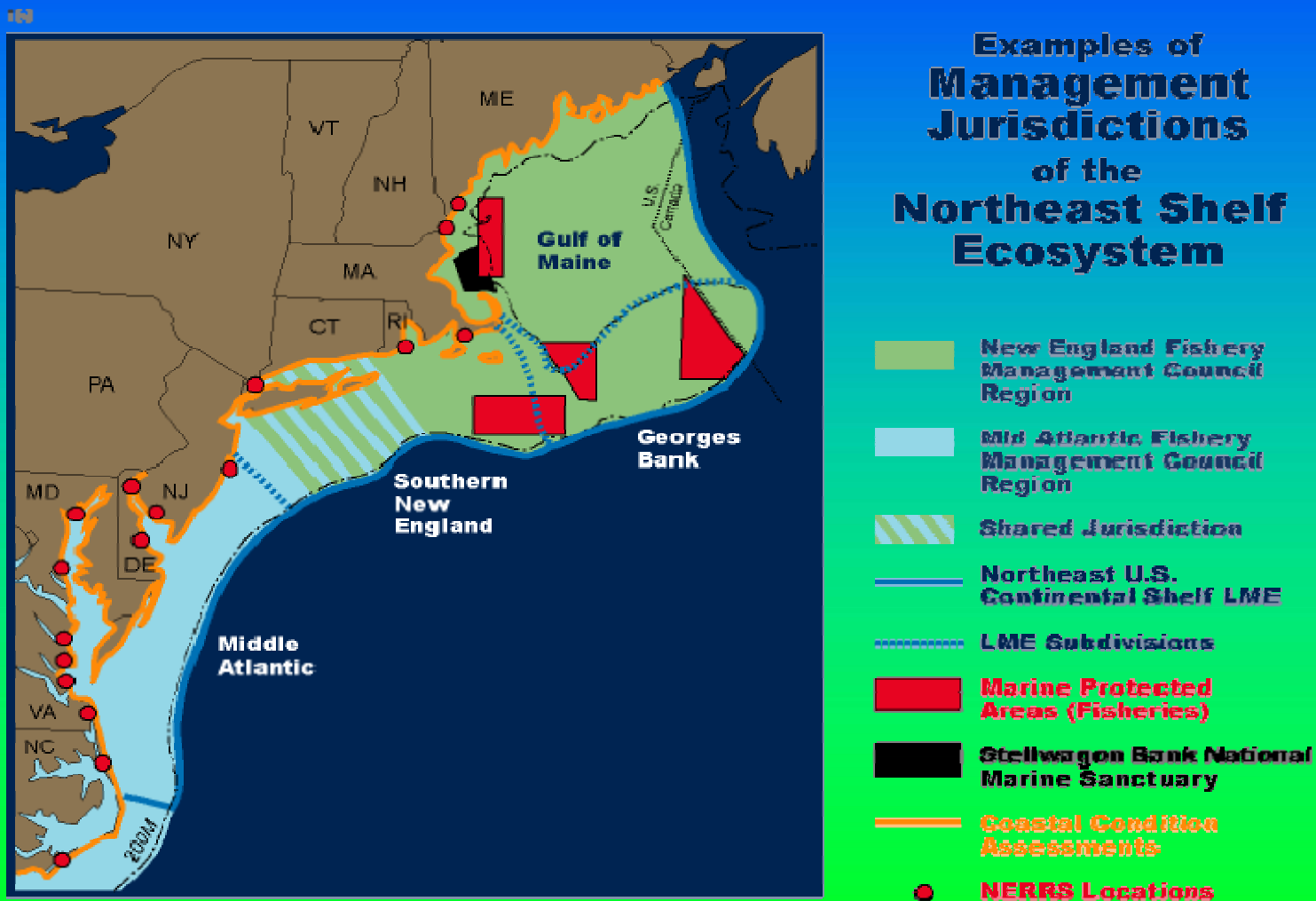
Indicators:

- Water Clarity*
- Dissolved Oxygen*
- Coastal Wetland Loss*
- Eutrophic Condition*
- Sediment Contamination*
- Benthic Index*
- Fish Tissue Contaminants*
- Multiple Marine Ecological Disturbances*



SOCIOECONOMICS AND GOVERNANCE

NORTHEAST SHELF MANAGEMENT JURISDICTIONS



ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT: A PARADIGM SHIFT

FROM	TO
Individual species	Ecosystems
Small spatial scale	Multiple scales
Short-term perspective	Long-term perspective
Humans: independent of ecosystems	Humans: integral part of ecosystems
Management divorced from research	Adaptive management
Managing commodities	Sustaining production potential for goods and services

NOTE: Some of the substantive changes between traditional resource management and ecosystem management.

PLANNING ACTIONS

1. Transboundary Diagnostic Analysis (TDA) – provides consensus priorities from analysis and ranking of water-related resources issues, their environmental and socioeconomic impacts, immediate and root causes and possible remedies

2. Strategic Action Program (SAP) – provides national and regional commitments to policy, legal and institutional reforms, and investments to remedy root causes of priority transboundary issues identified in TDA

IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS

3. Ecosystem-based assessment and management strategy for TDA and SAP

3.1 Productivity indicators and assessments

3.2 Fish and fisheries indicators and assessments

3.3 Pollution and ecosystem health indicators and assessments

3.4 Socioeconomic indicators and assessments

3.5 Governance indicators and assessments

**Ecosystem-Based
Assessment and
Adaptive Management**

