UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

Capacity shortfalls and performance of Marine Protected areas

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ARTICLE

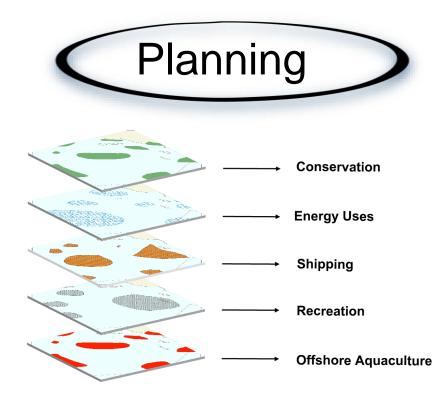
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Capacity shortfalls hinder the performance of marine protected areas globally

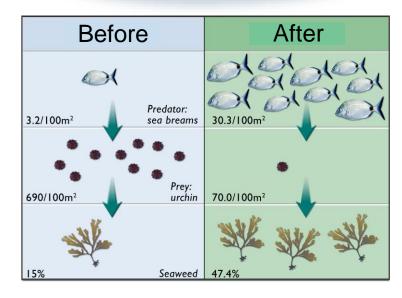
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Effectiveness of protected areas









The important stuff

Most of the MPAs had ineffective and potentially inequitable management processes

Ecological performance strongly correlated with available staff and financial capacity

Our ability to assess effectiveness depends on understanding what would have happened in the absence of protection

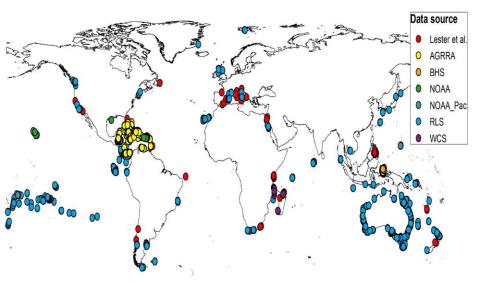


Protection as a treatment





Data coverage



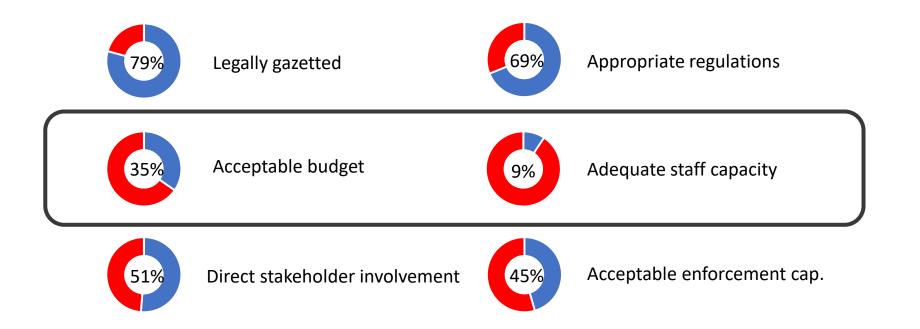
16,000 fish surveys 218 MPAs



Overlap: 62 MPAs



We are not there

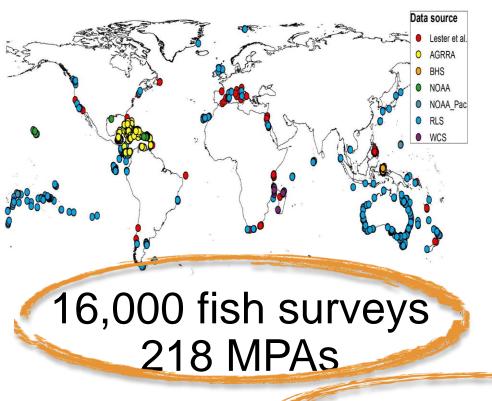


Blue = adequate

Red = inadequate



Data



Management 433 MPAs

Overlap: 62 MPAs

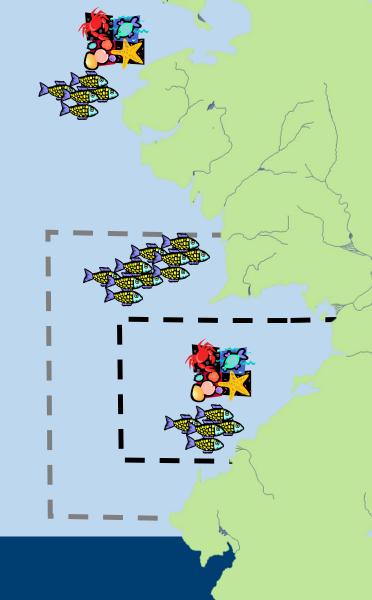


BACI vs. counterfactuals

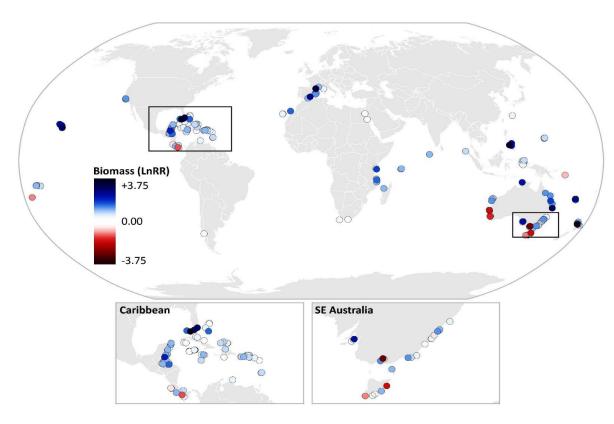
- 1. Protected areas are not located at random
- 2. Context influence baseline and performance







Most MPAs are doing better than outside!



- Positive (blue) MPA better than *matched* outside
- Zero (white) MPA same as matched outside
- Negative (red) MPA worse than *matched* outside



Predictors of outcome

 Both no-take and multiuse MPAs were better than 100% outside % Increase • But no-take were best 50% 0%

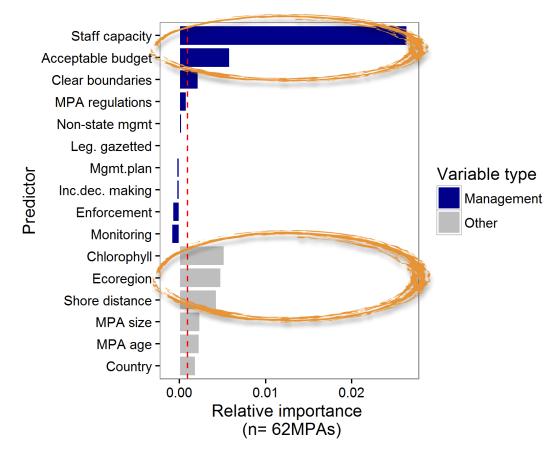
Multi-use (n=126)



Predictors of outcomes

 Adequate Staffing followed by budget were most important predictors

 Also chlorophyll (waves), geography and distance to shore were important





Perspectives

- Most of our MPAs are lacking the essential management component needed to secure their *performance*
 - When resources and staff is present they make a difference

- If we want to understand if our MPAs are working we need to measure <u>outcomes</u>
 - This require basesline data and/or measures in comparable outside setting





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Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions

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Thank you

