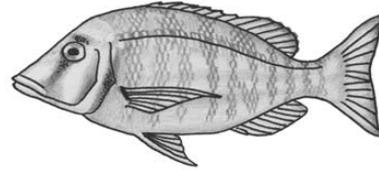




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# Ontogenetic shifts and habitat associations of a key commercial fishery species



Leah Candland  
Michael Taylor



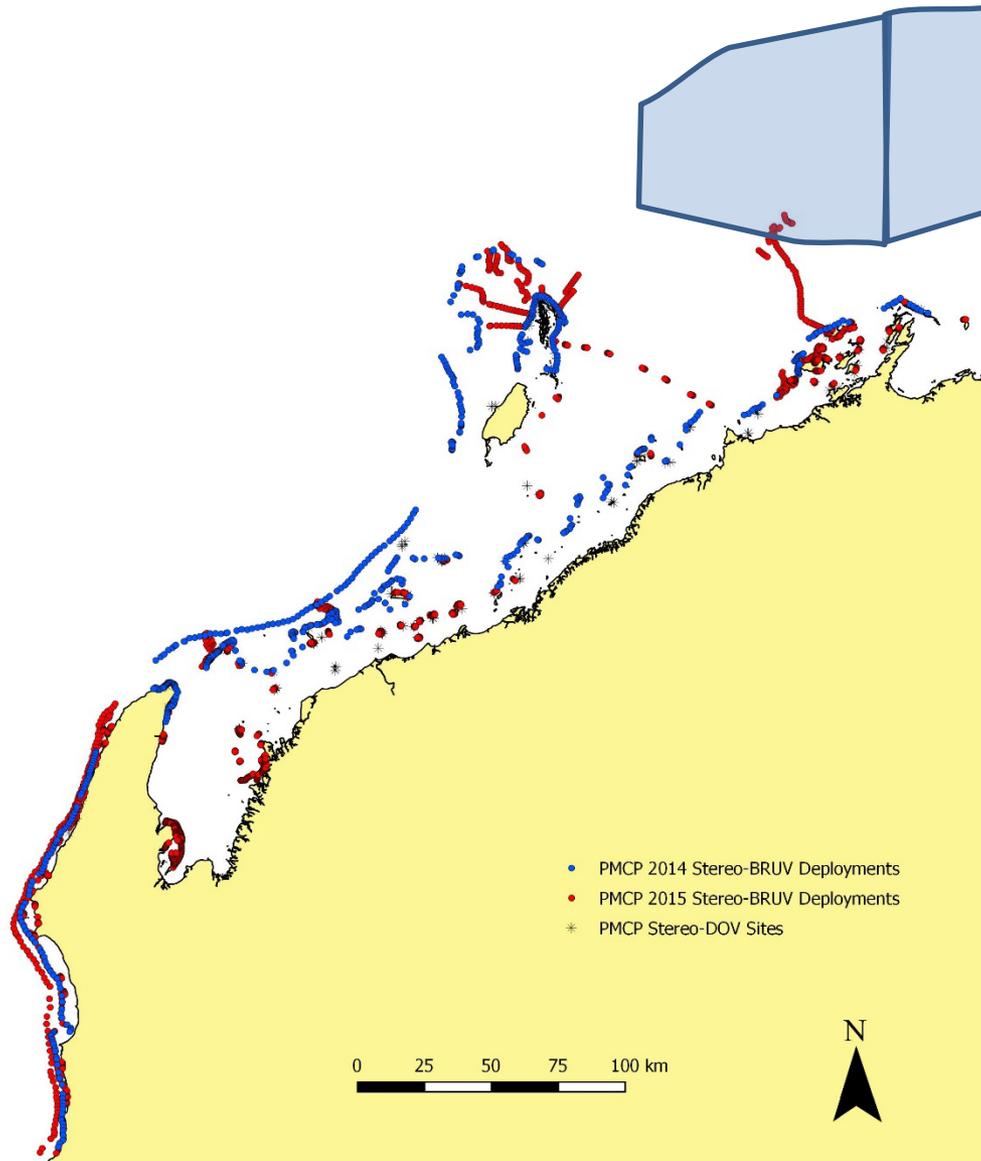
*This project is funded by the Gorgon Barrow Island Net Conservation Benefits Fund,  
which is administered by the WA Department of Parks and Wildlife.*

*Significant project support has also been received from DPaW and the Department of Fisheries, WA*





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Deployments: 139

Depth: 1- 56 m

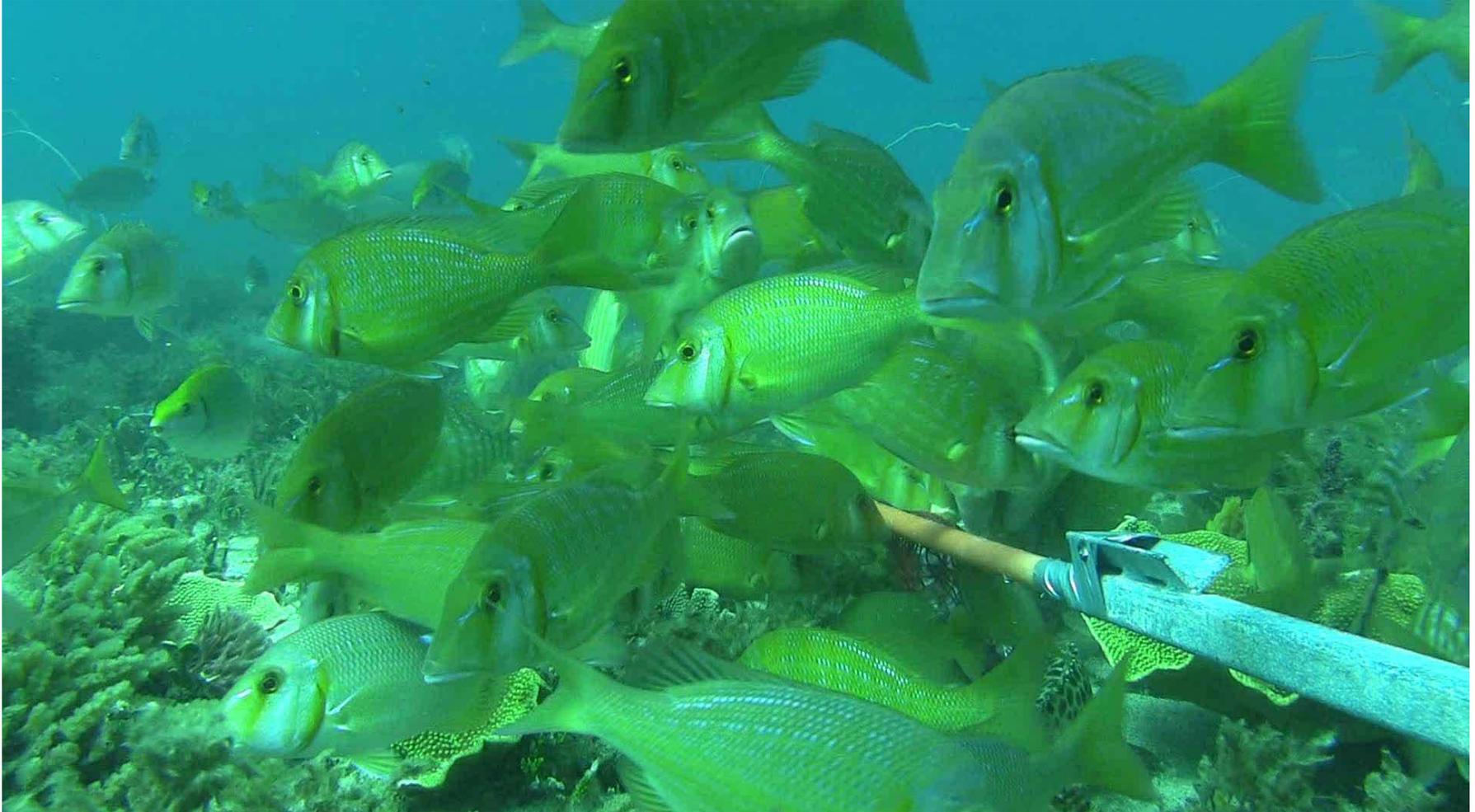




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# *Lethrinus punctulatus* (bluespotted emperor)





# *Lethrinus punctulatus* (bluespotted emperor)

Indicator species for the fishery

High population production

Limited geographic range

Juveniles restricted to *Sargassum*?

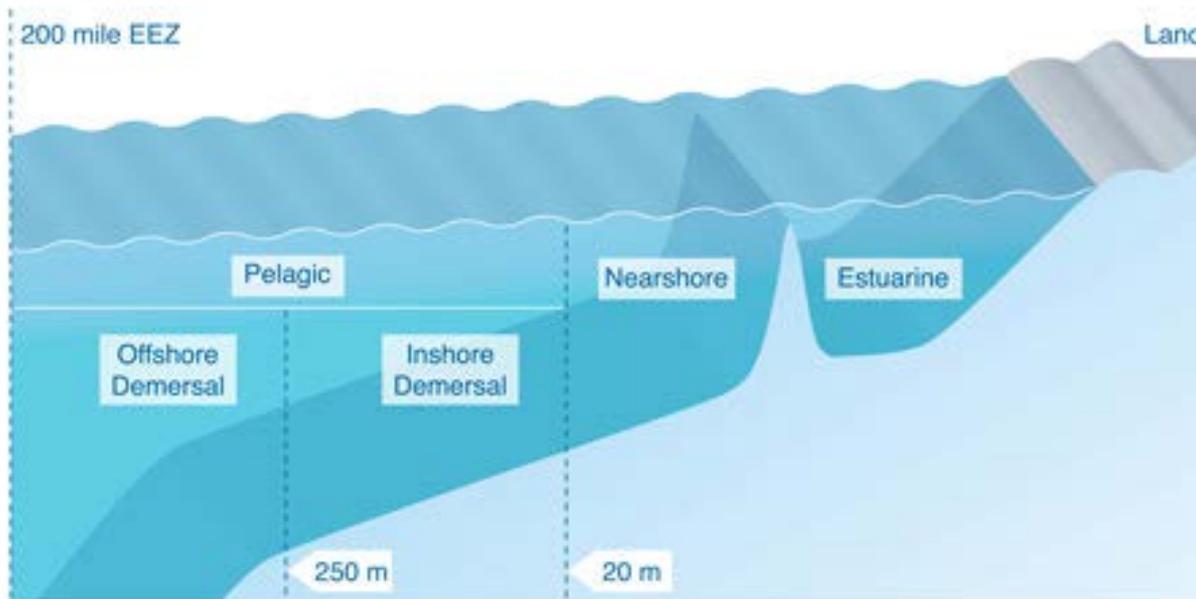
Ontogenetic shift?





# *Lethrinus punctulatus* (bluespotted emperor)

Is there an ontogenetic shift?



- Genetic \$\$\$

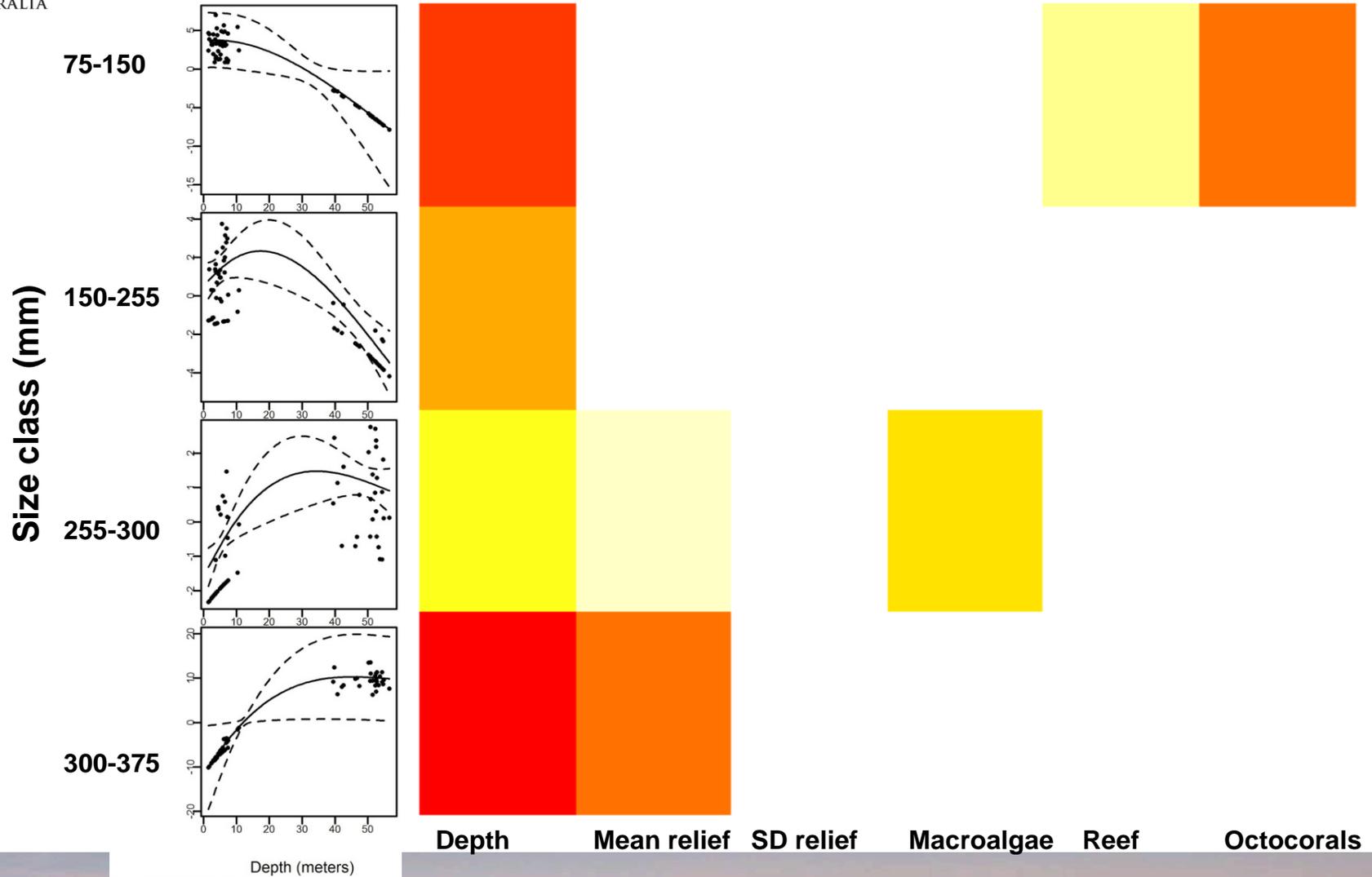
- Observational \$





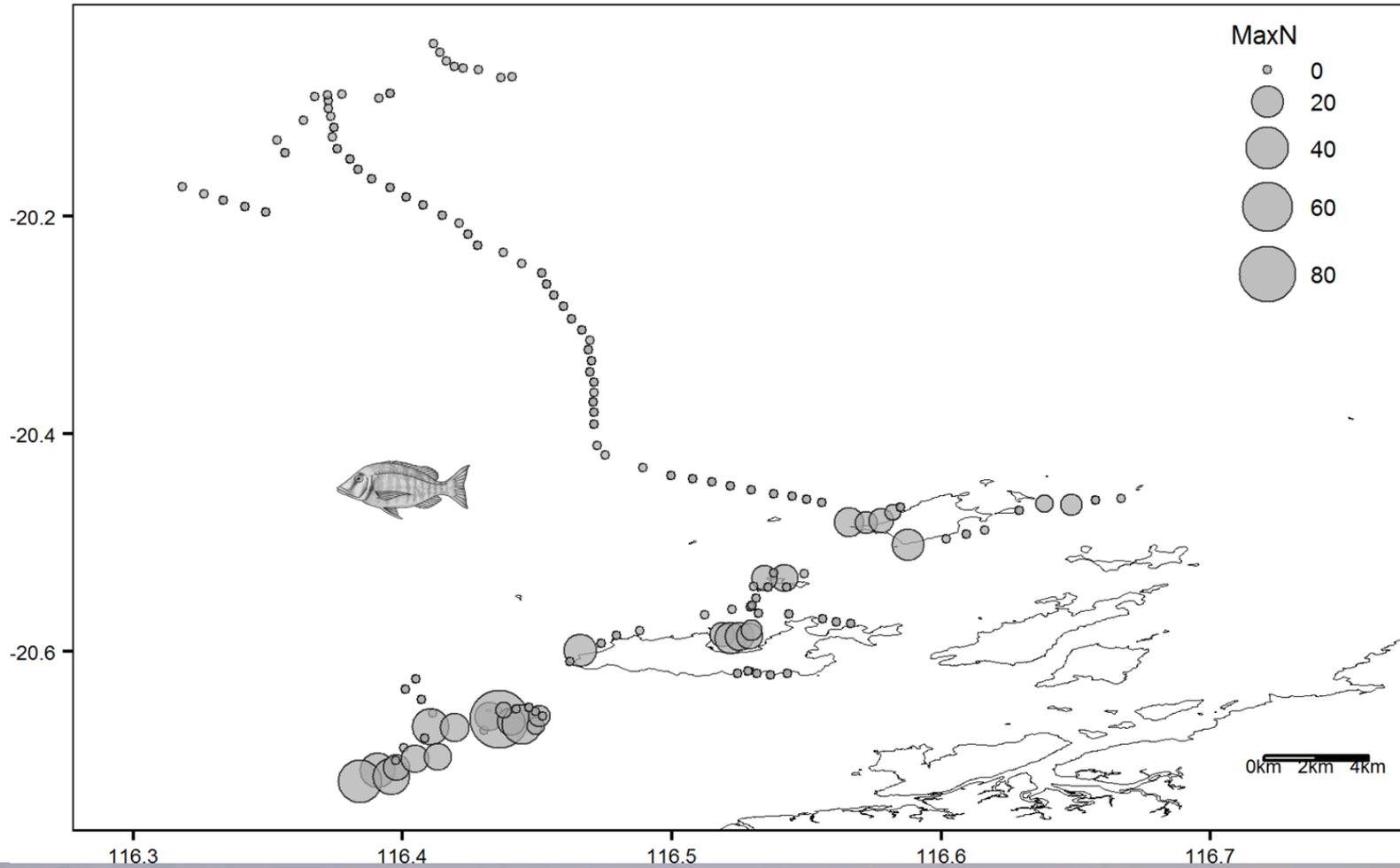
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# Influence of depth and habitat on size-distribution

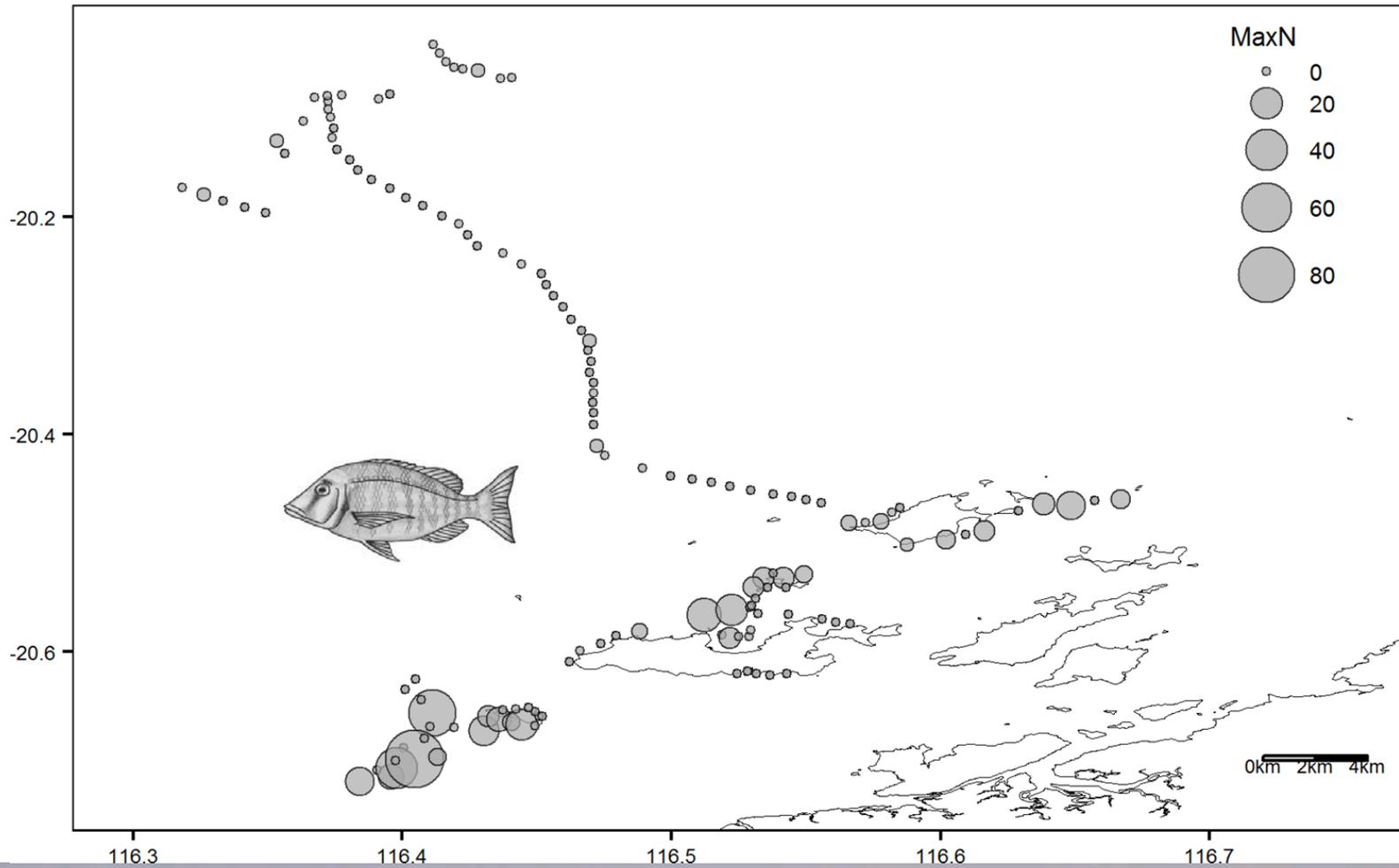




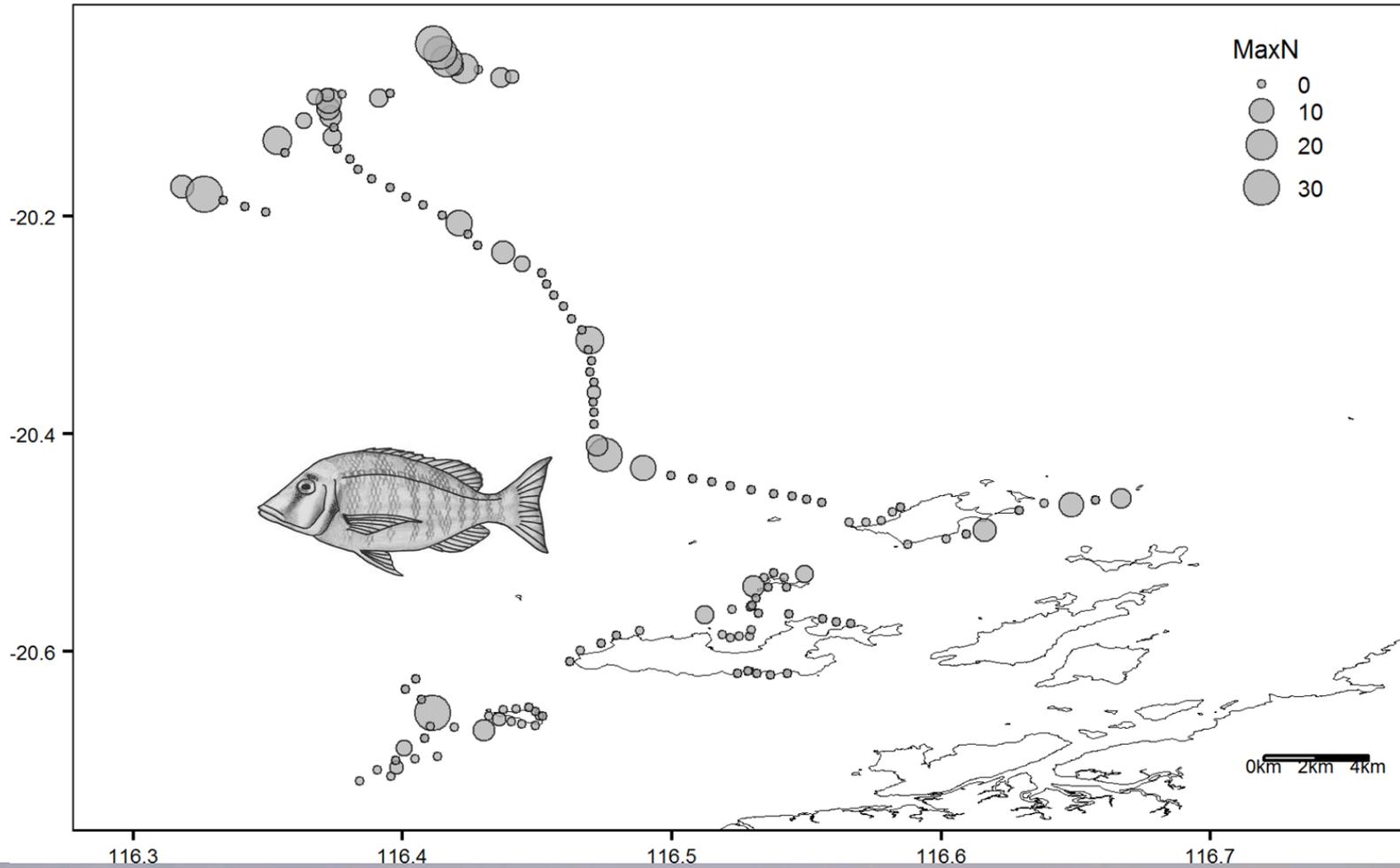
<150mm



150-225mm

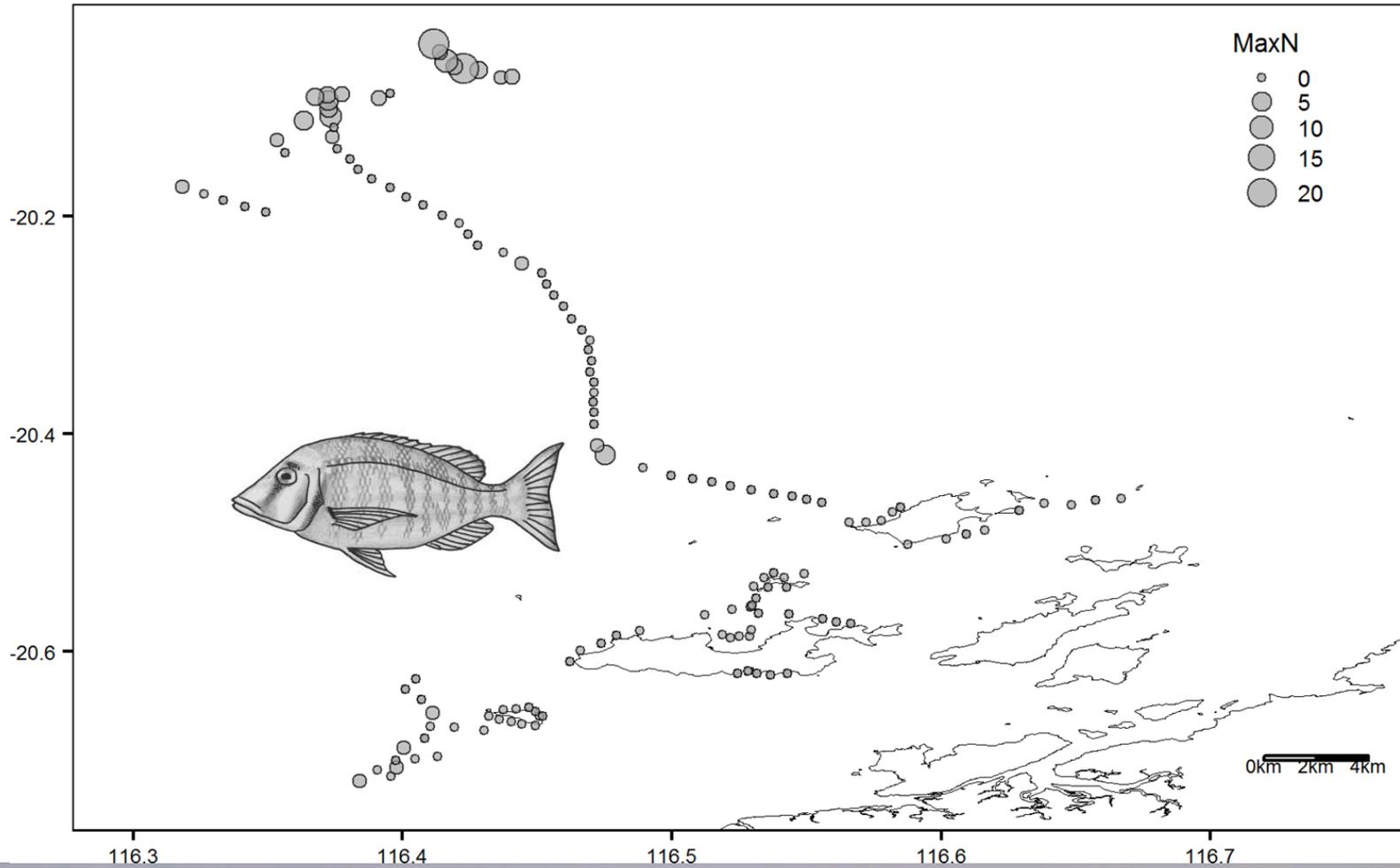


225-300mm





>300mm





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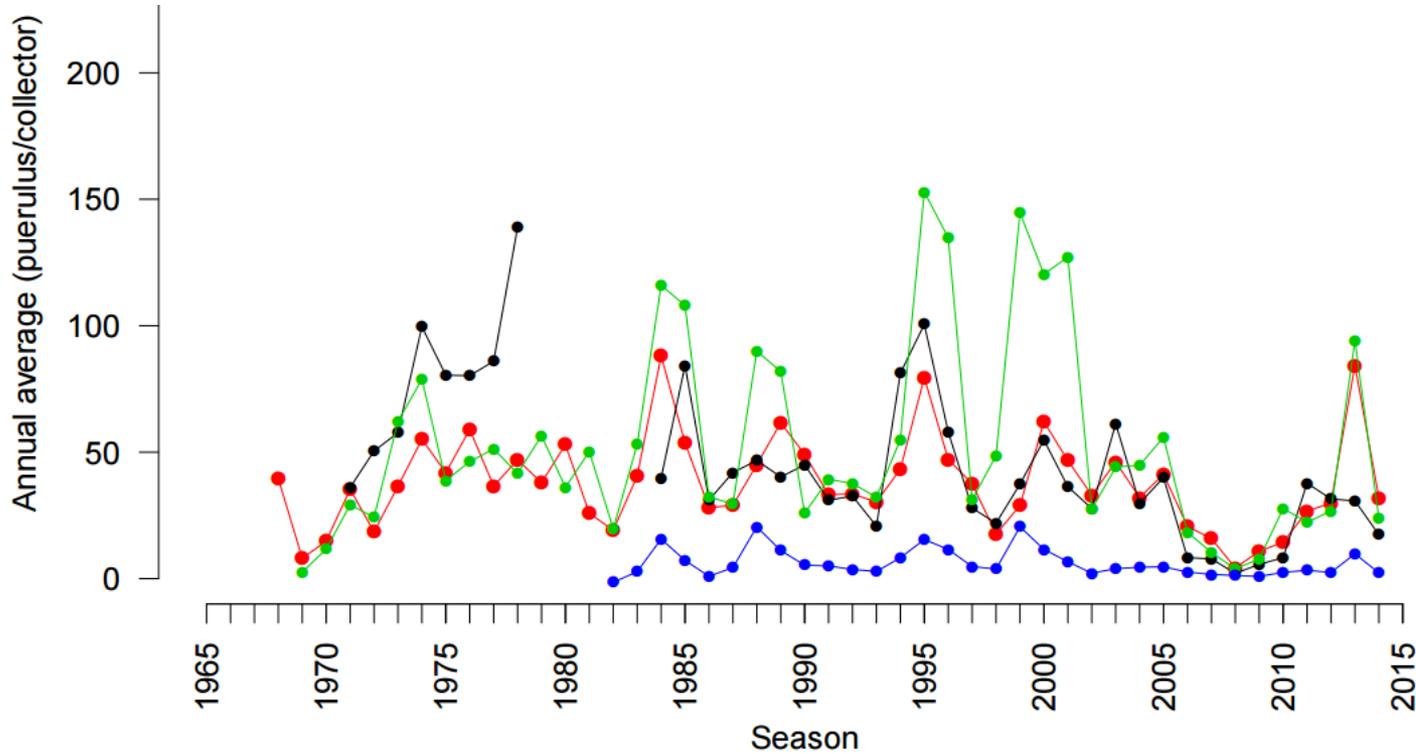


# Index of recruitment?





# Index of recruitment?



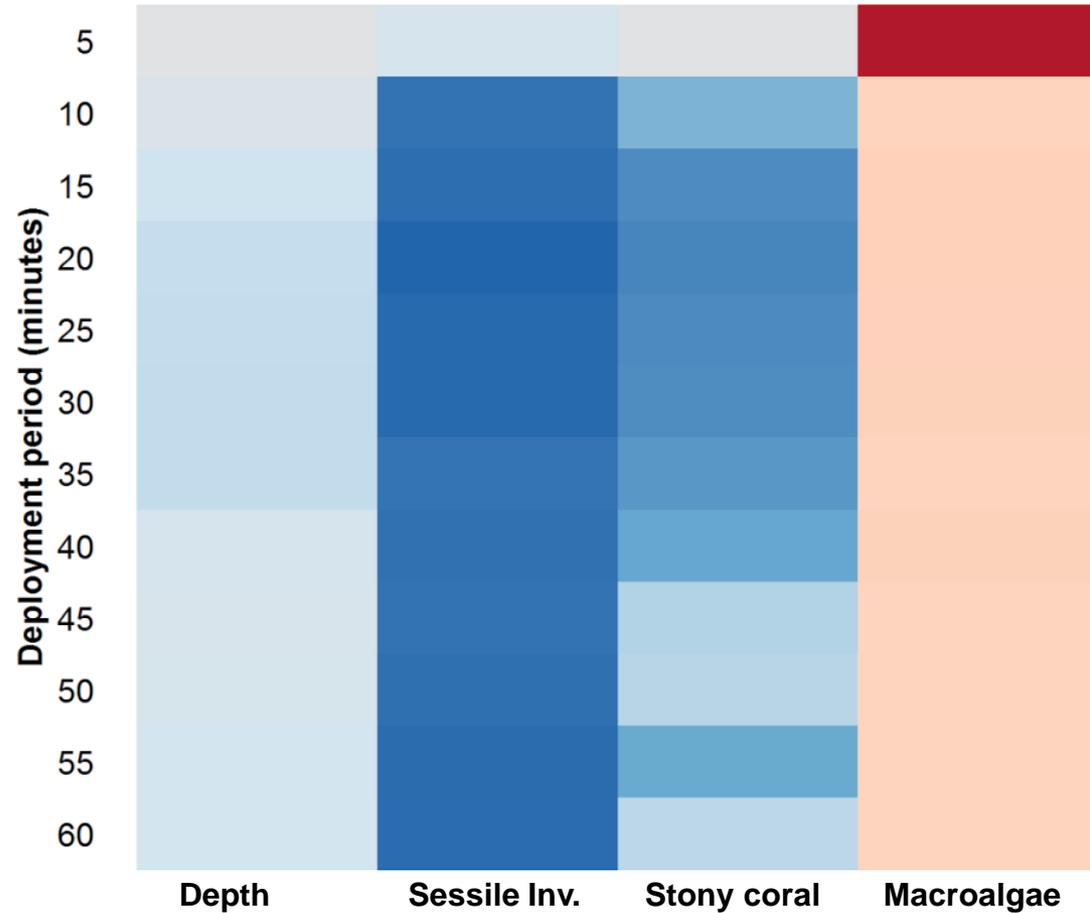
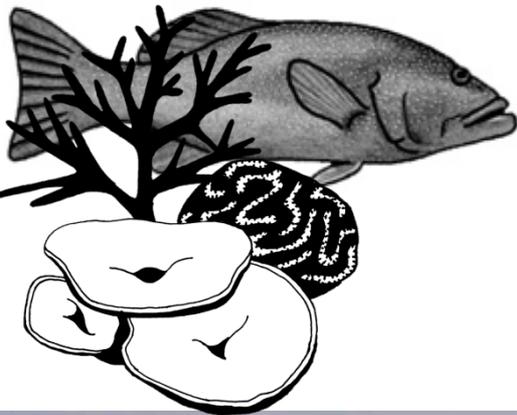
- Reliable
- Cost effective





# Sampling time to model habitat association

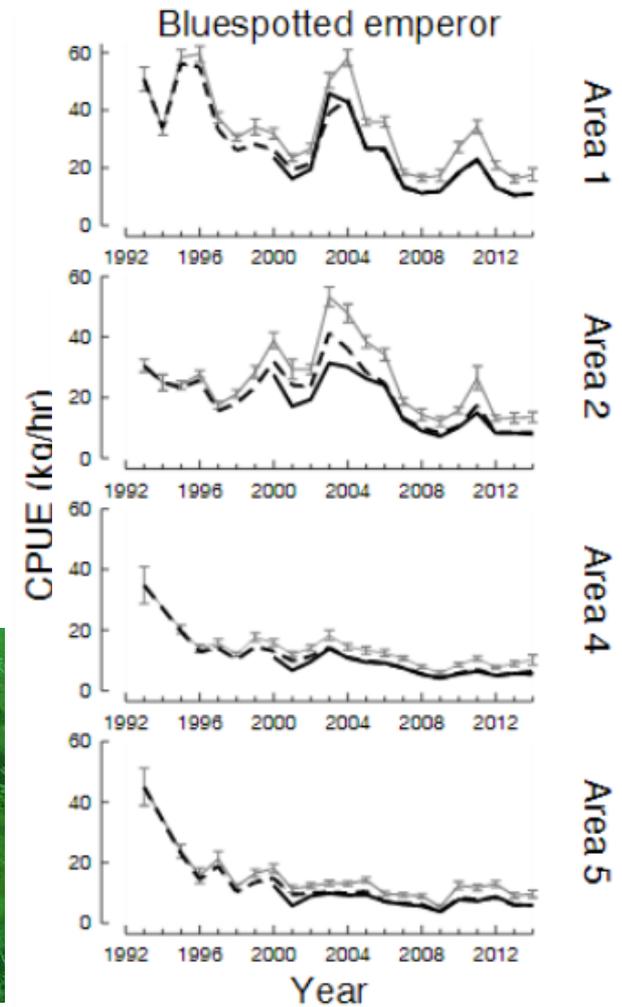
*Lethrinus punctulatus* (juvenile)





# Management implications

Importance of the shallow macroalgal habitats for recruitment of key fisheries species





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# Acknowledgements

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Gorgon Barrow Island  
Net Conservation Benefits Fund  
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