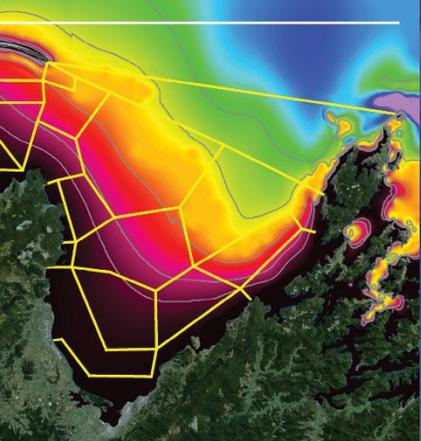


Ecosystem models: Atlantis *model exploration and evaluation*

Vidette McGregor
Peter Horn, Beth Fulton, Matt Dunn

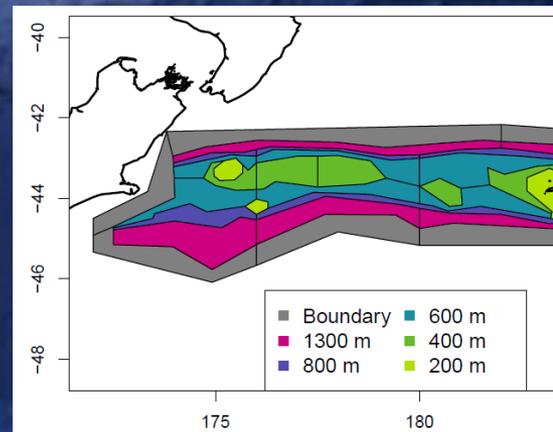
NZ Atlantis models



Tasman and Golden Bays

scenarios exploring 'what-if' type questions
bottom-up (e.g. climate change) *and* top-down
(e.g. fishing) controls
one of the best in the world
implications in Australia, the United States, Europe,
South Africa

Chatham



Understanding our model: it's more than validation

SUSTAINABLE
SEAS

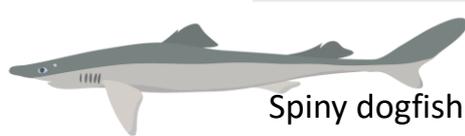
Ko ngā moana
whakauka

- Analyse importance of knowledge gaps
 - Model dynamics and results
- Sensitivity analyses
 - Bottom-up variability
 - Interaction effects
- Comparisons & skill assessments
 - Single-species models
 - Trawl surveys
 - Diet studies

Fur seal



Spiny dogfish



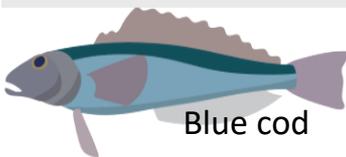
Squid



Bacteria



Blue cod



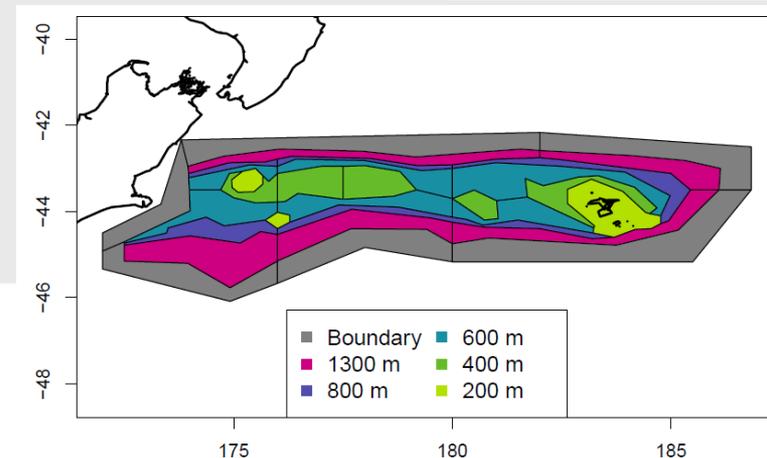
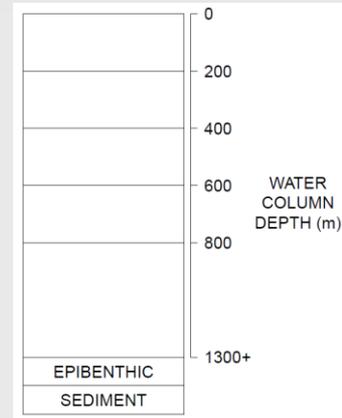
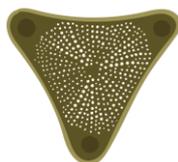
Sponges



Amphipod



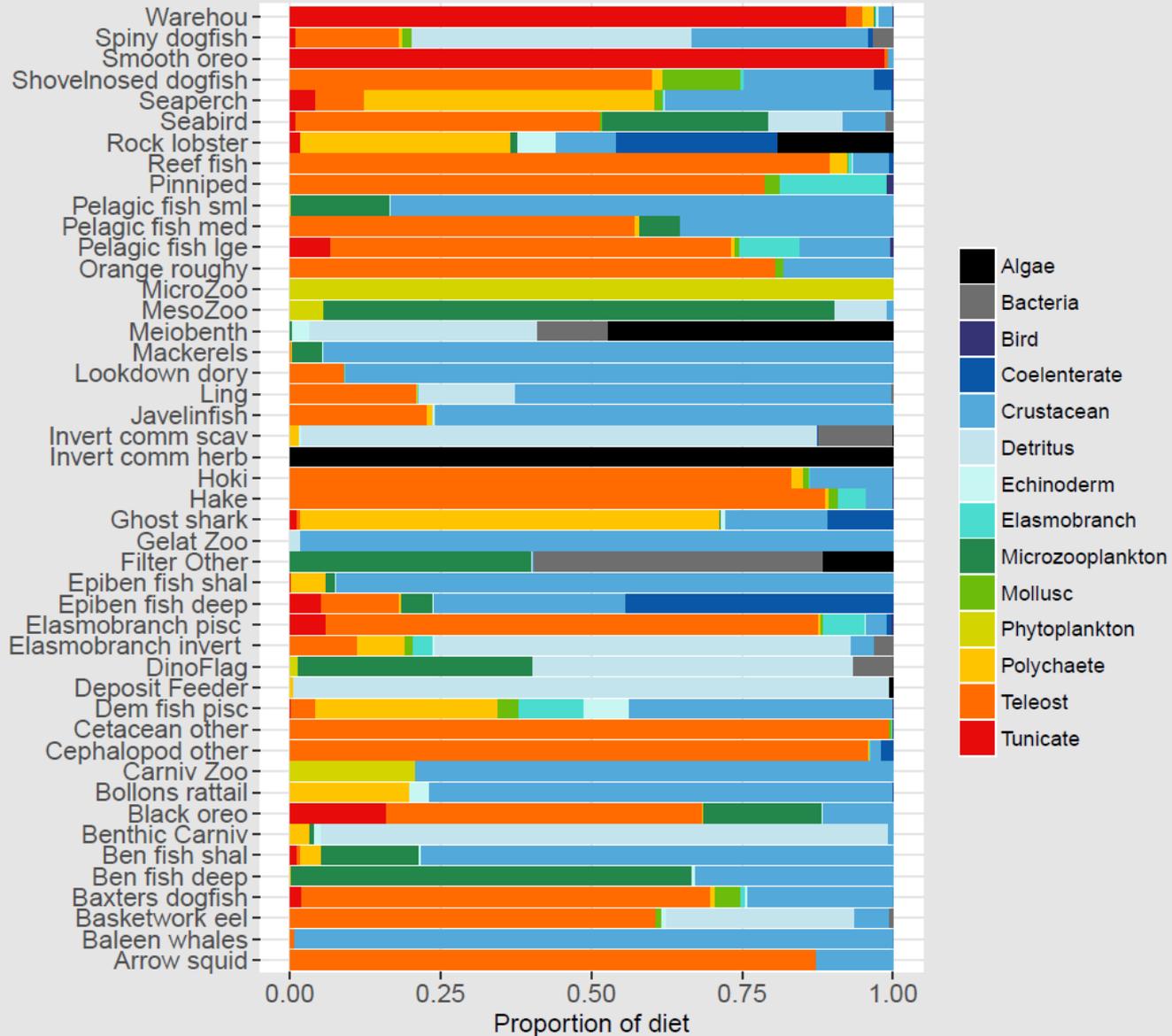
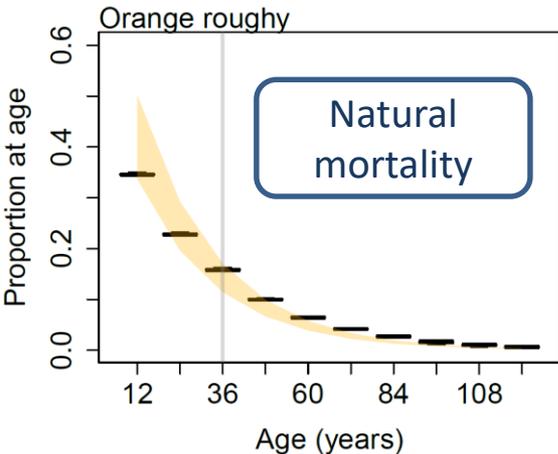
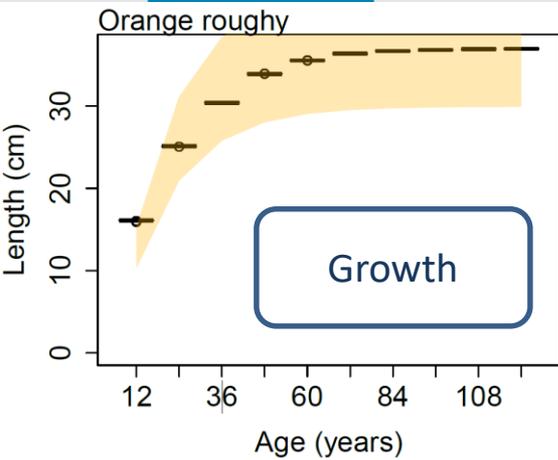
Diatom



Predator-prey checks

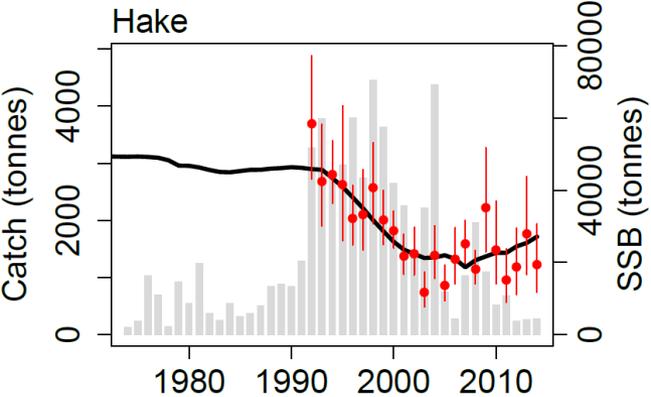
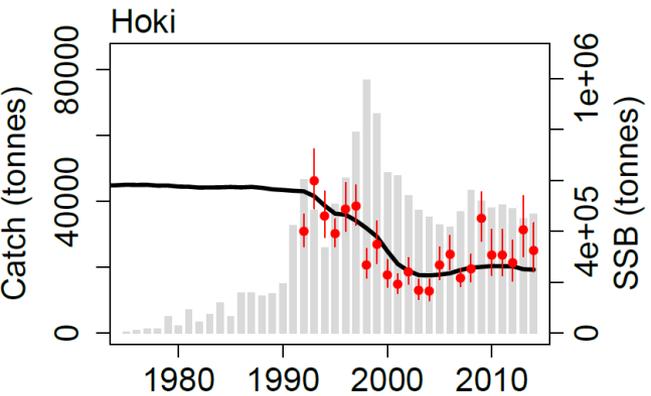
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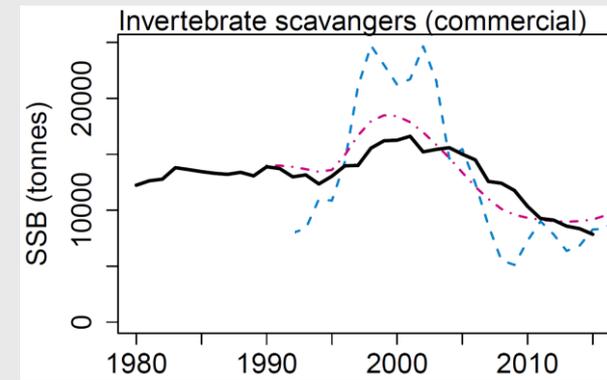
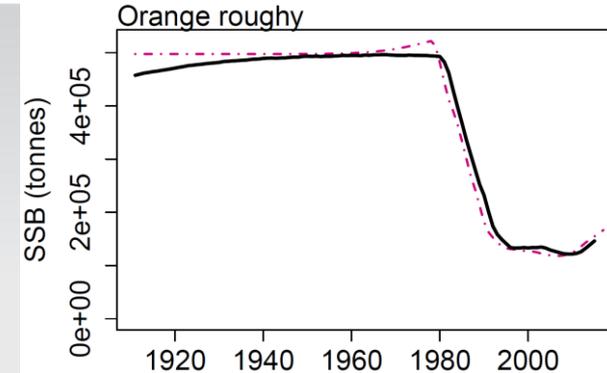
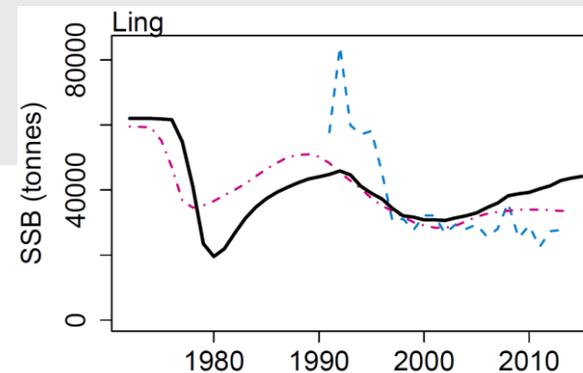
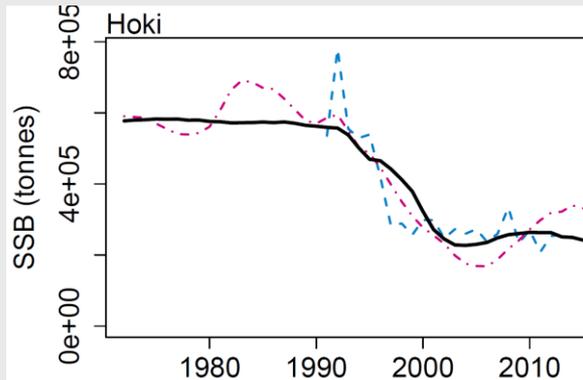
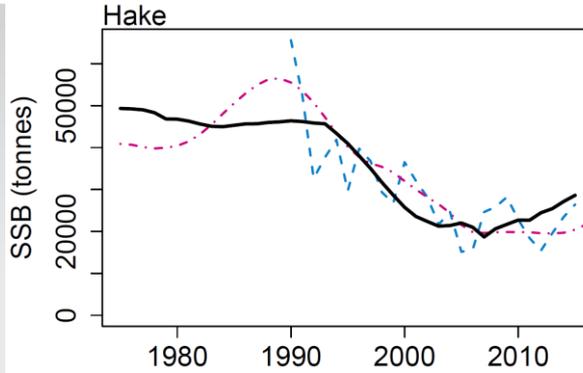


Responding to fishing mortality

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Catches (forced)
 Model estimated biomass
 Trawl survey estimated biomass



Atlantis
 CPUE
 Stock assessment

Sensitivity analysis: Connectivity and influence

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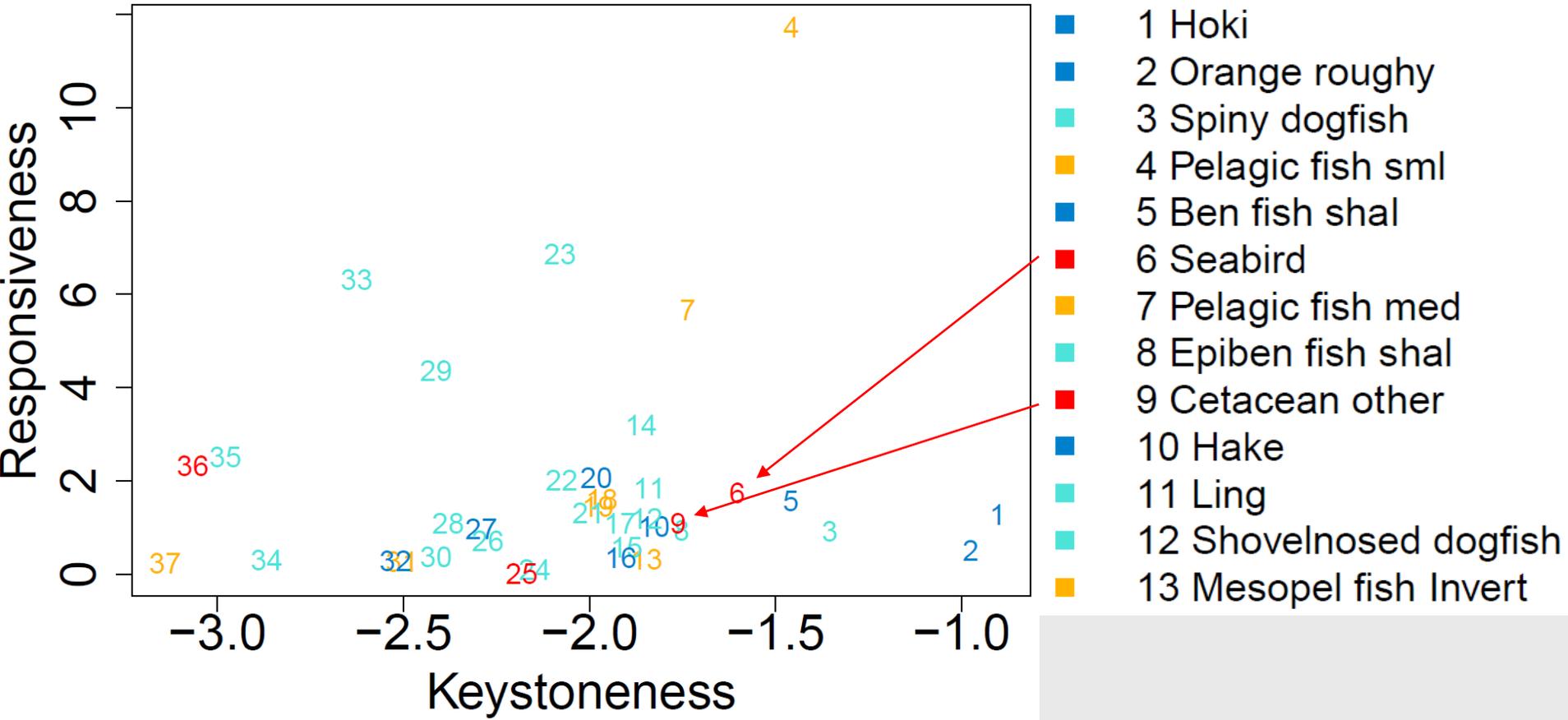
Between species groups

- **Most influential (keystoneness):**
hoki, orange roughy, spiny dogfish, myctophids
- **Most responsive:**
myctophids, smooth oreo, scampi, barracouta

Bottom-up variability

- **Most responsive:** Diatoms, zooplankton, detritus, bacteria, and scampi

Bringing it together



- No data gaps, performed well, abundance index available
- Slight data gaps and/or poor performance
- Some data gaps and/or poor performance
- Poorly specified

Next steps

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- Testing model for climate change scenarios
 - Primary production, sea temperature, nutrients
- Is it chaotic? How sensitive to initial conditions
- Carry out similar analyses with TBGB Atlantis model
- Comparisons with alternative ecosystem models

Thank you

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