



ARC Centre of Excellence
Coral Reef Studies

Mapping cumulative impact:

Advances, relevance and limitations to marine management

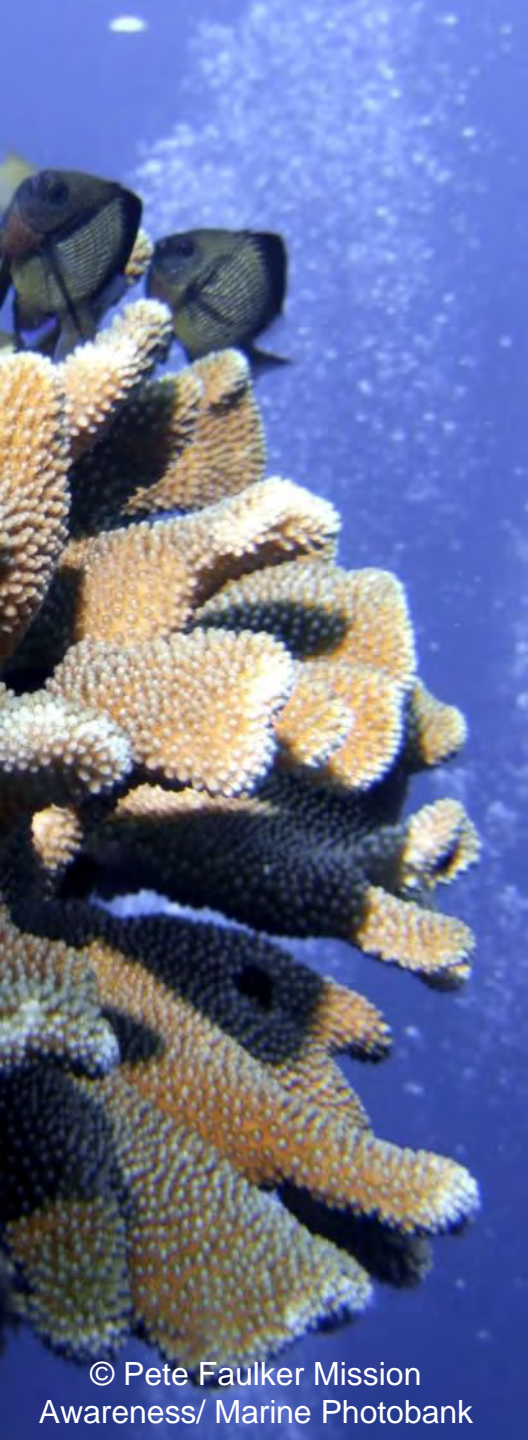


By **Natalie Ban**, Stephen Ban, and Hussein Alidina
Oct. 19, 2012

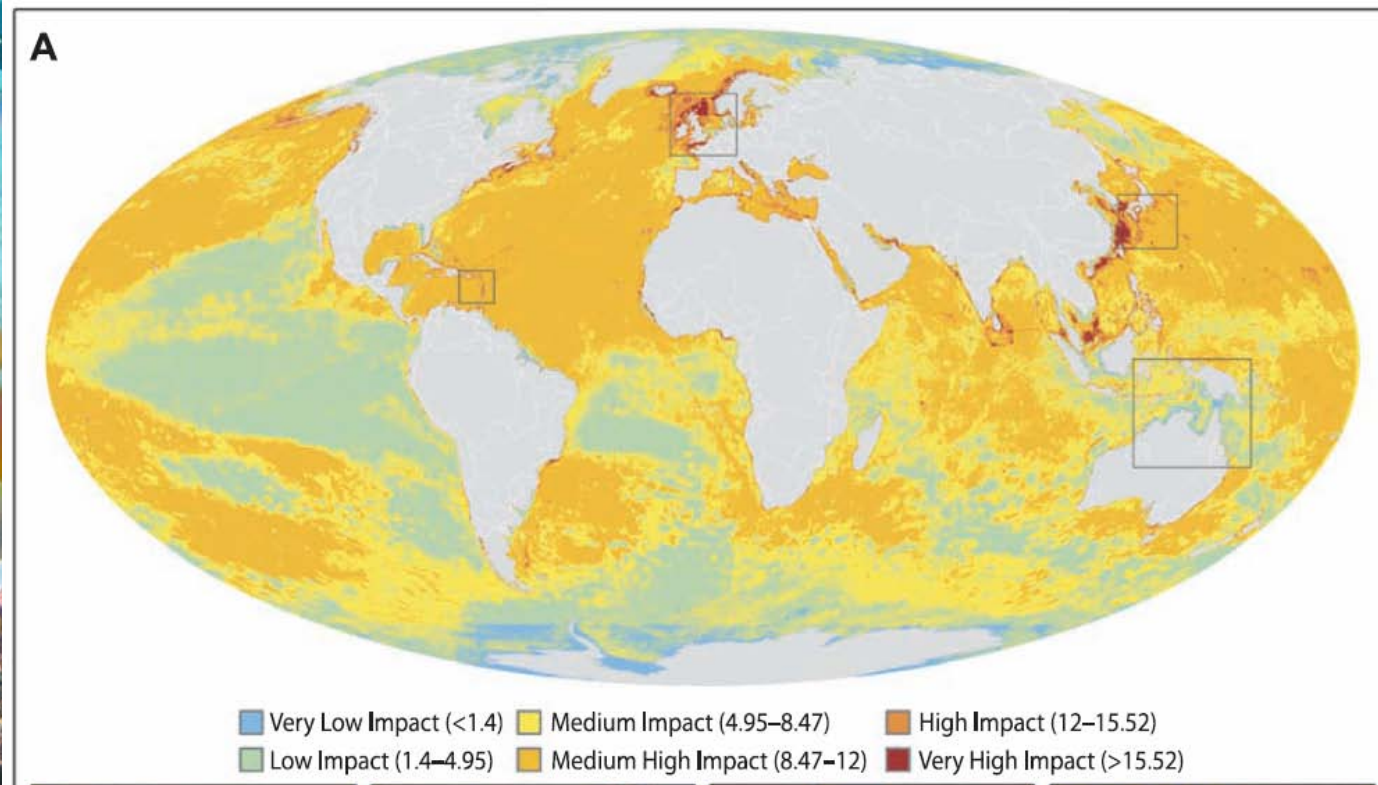
www.coralcoe.org.au

Mapping multiple stressors

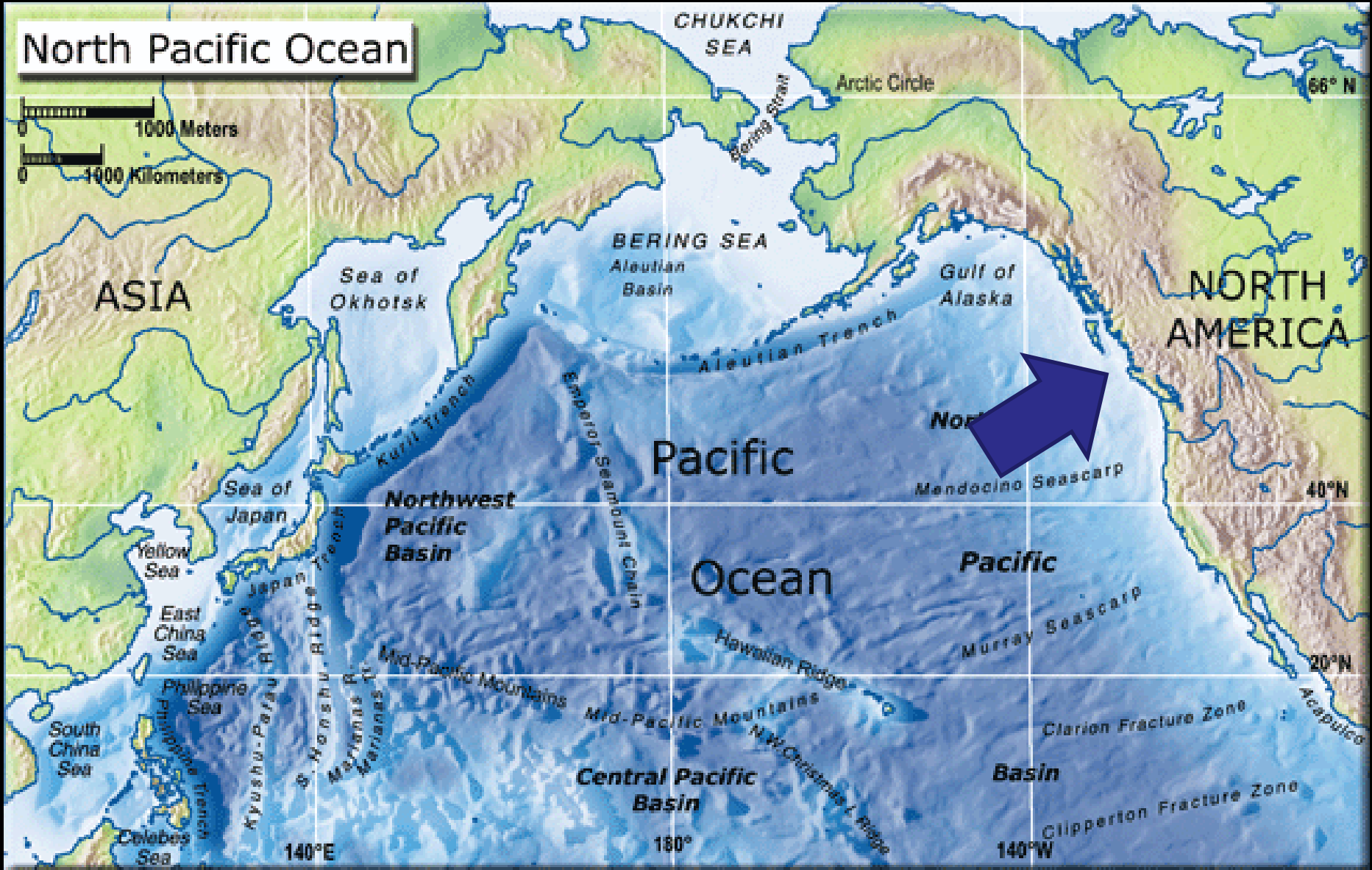
- Global concern about multiple stressors
- A lot of interest in mapping where multiple stressors might be interacting
- Purpose of this presentation: provide an example of methods and data for mapping multiple stressors in a region



Global stressor mapping



North Pacific Ocean



Research questions



- What are the main human-induced stressors in the marine environment in BC?
- Where are cumulative impacts likely to occur?



Methods

- Methods and data from recent studies (Halpern et al 2008, Ban and Alder 2008)
- Four types of information needed:
 1. Locations of activities, and intensities if known
 2. Stressors resulting from these activities
 3. How far the impacts are felt
 4. How vulnerable habitats are to those impacts

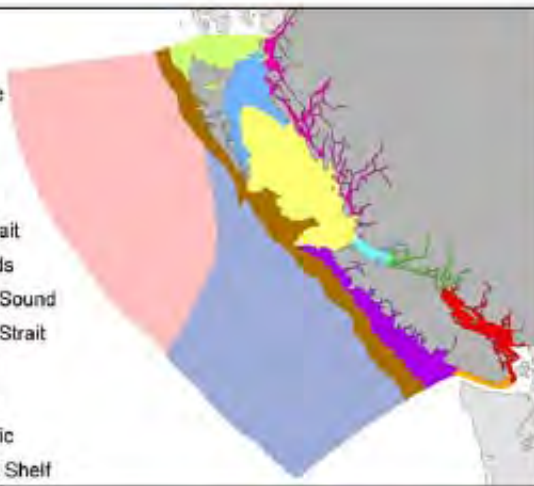
Methods: mapping steps

(a) Assemble Spatial Information on habitats, use and Intensities



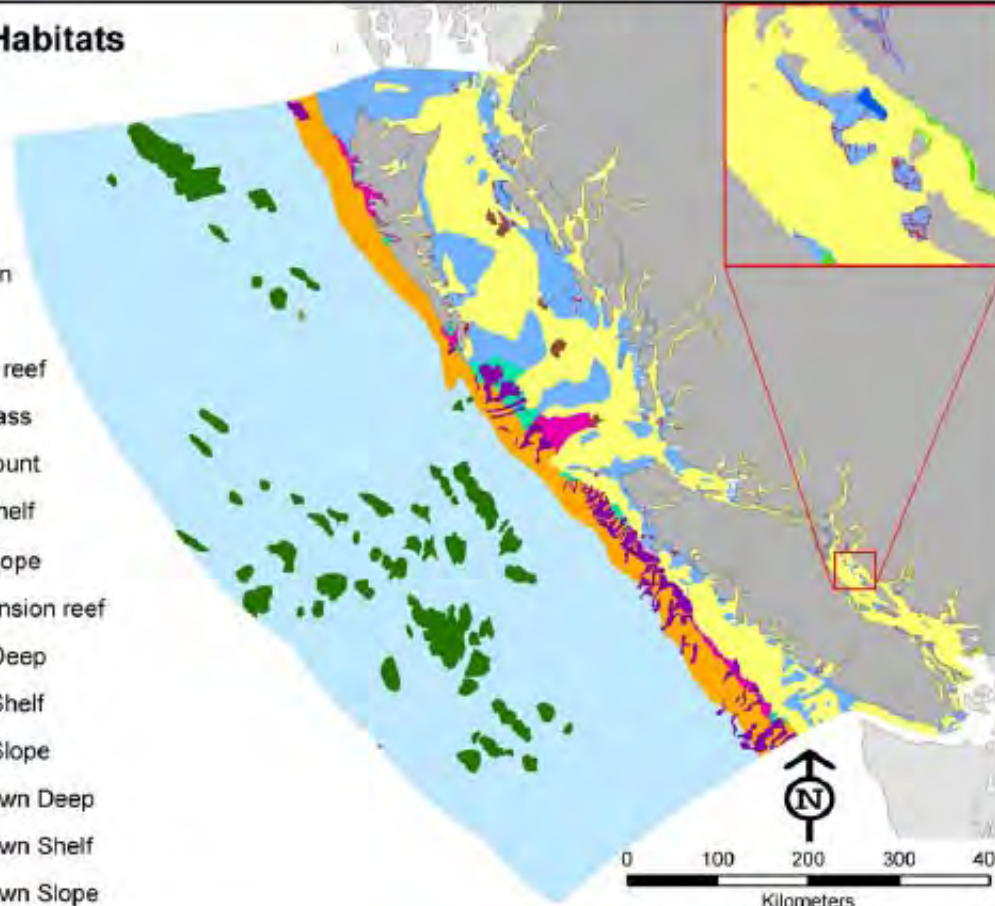
Ecoregions

- Continental Slope
- Dixon Entrance
- Hecate Strait
- Johnstone Strait
- Juan de Fuca Strait
- North Coast Fjords
- Queen Charlotte Sound
- Queen Charlotte Strait
- Strait of Georgia
- Subarctic Pacific
- Transitional Pacific
- Vancouver Island Shelf



Benthic Habitats

- Canyon
- Kelp
- Rocky reef
- Seagrass
- Seamount
- Soft Shelf
- Soft Slope
- Suspension reef
- Hard Deep
- Hard Shelf
- Hard Slope
- Unknown Deep
- Unknown Shelf
- Unknown Slope







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TRITON





EVCO SPRAY

OCEANMARINE
HEIDELBERG

EVCO SPRAY

SHELLFISH TENURE
TAKING OR DESTROYING
SHELLFISH ON LEASE
WITHOUT PERMISSION IS
PROHIBITED BY LAW.







Commercial Fishing	Recreational Fishing	Land-based
1. Groundfish Bottom Trawling 2. Groundfish ZN 3. Schedule II 4. Sablefish Trap 5. Sablefish Longline 6. Prawn Trap 7. Shrimp Trawl 8. Crab Trap 9. Red urchin Dive 10. Green urchin Dive 11. Commercial sea cucumber Dive 12. Commercial krill Net 13. Commercial geoduck Dive 14. Commercial scallop Dive/Net 15. Commercial salmon Troll 16. Commercial salmon Net 17. Commercial squid Net 18. Commercial octopus Dive 19. Commercial herring Net 20. Commercial herring roe Net 21. Commercial gooseneck barnacle Intertidal 22. Commercial dogfish Hook and Line	23. Recreational trap fishing (crab and prawn) 24. Recreational diving (dive, diving, scallops) 25. Recreational fishing – unspecified (probably mostly hook and line fishing)	36. Towns/Human Settlements 37. Pulp and paper 38. Other Industrial 39. Agriculture 40. Mining 41. Logging Related/sediment
	Marine Tourism	
	26. Dive sites 27. Kayak routes 28. Motorized boating 29. Fishing and other floating lodges	
	Aquaculture	
	30. Finfish aquaculture 31. Shellfish aquaculture	
	Marine Transportation	
	32. Ports, moorage, ferry docks, marinas 33. Large vessel activity/traffic	
	Other	
	34. Marine disposal sites 35. Logging-related Docks	

Methods: mapping steps

- (a) Assemble Spatial Information on use and Intensities
- (b) Identify key stressors resulting from these activities
 - Based on literature review that examined which stressors result from activities
- (c) Determine the distance to which stressors of individual activities are felt beyond their origin





Methods: mapping steps

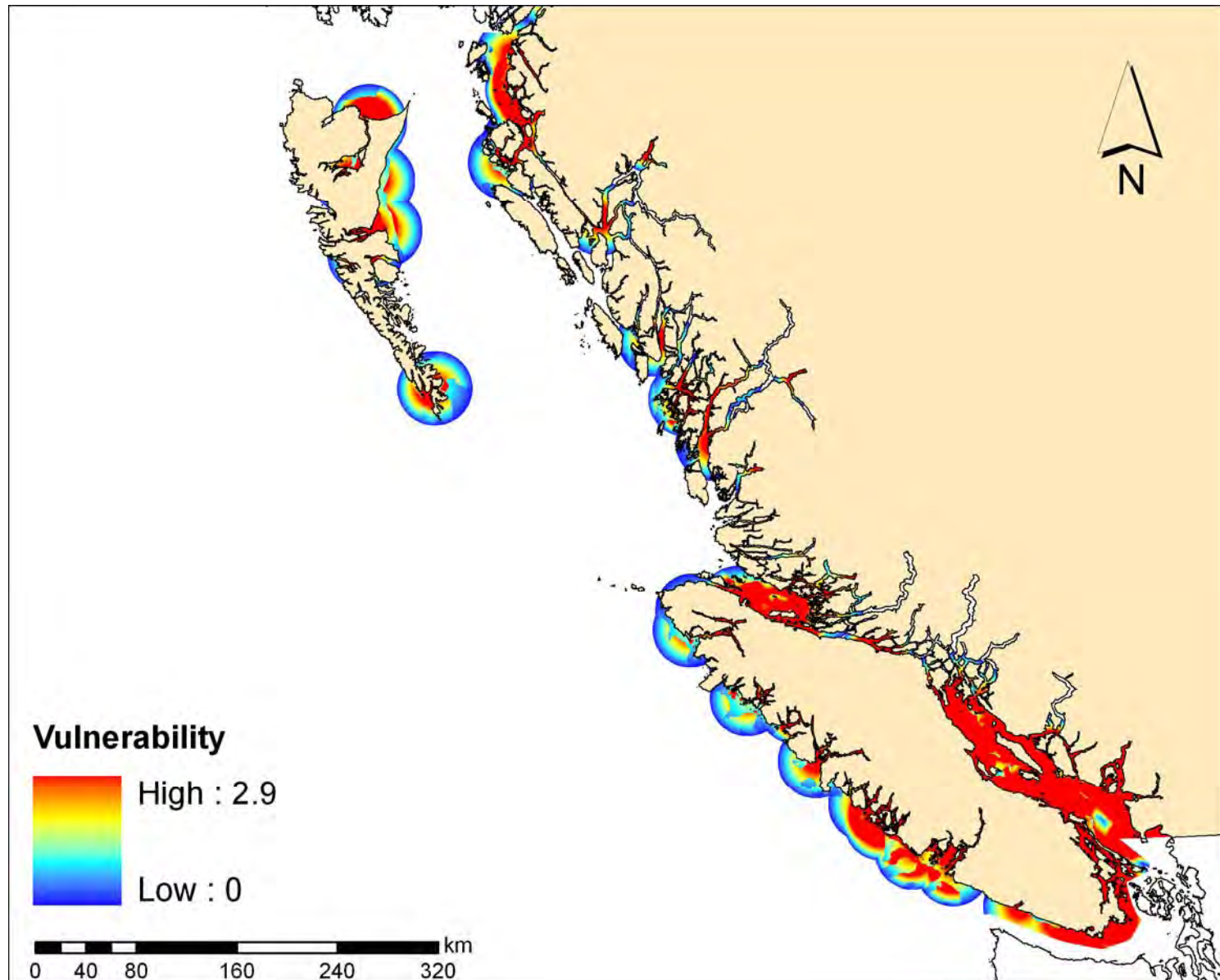
(d) Apply a sensitivity score that translates the relative impact of different activities on benthic (12 broad types), shallow pelagic (surface), and deep pelagic habitats.

•Taken from Halpern et al. 2008, expert-based

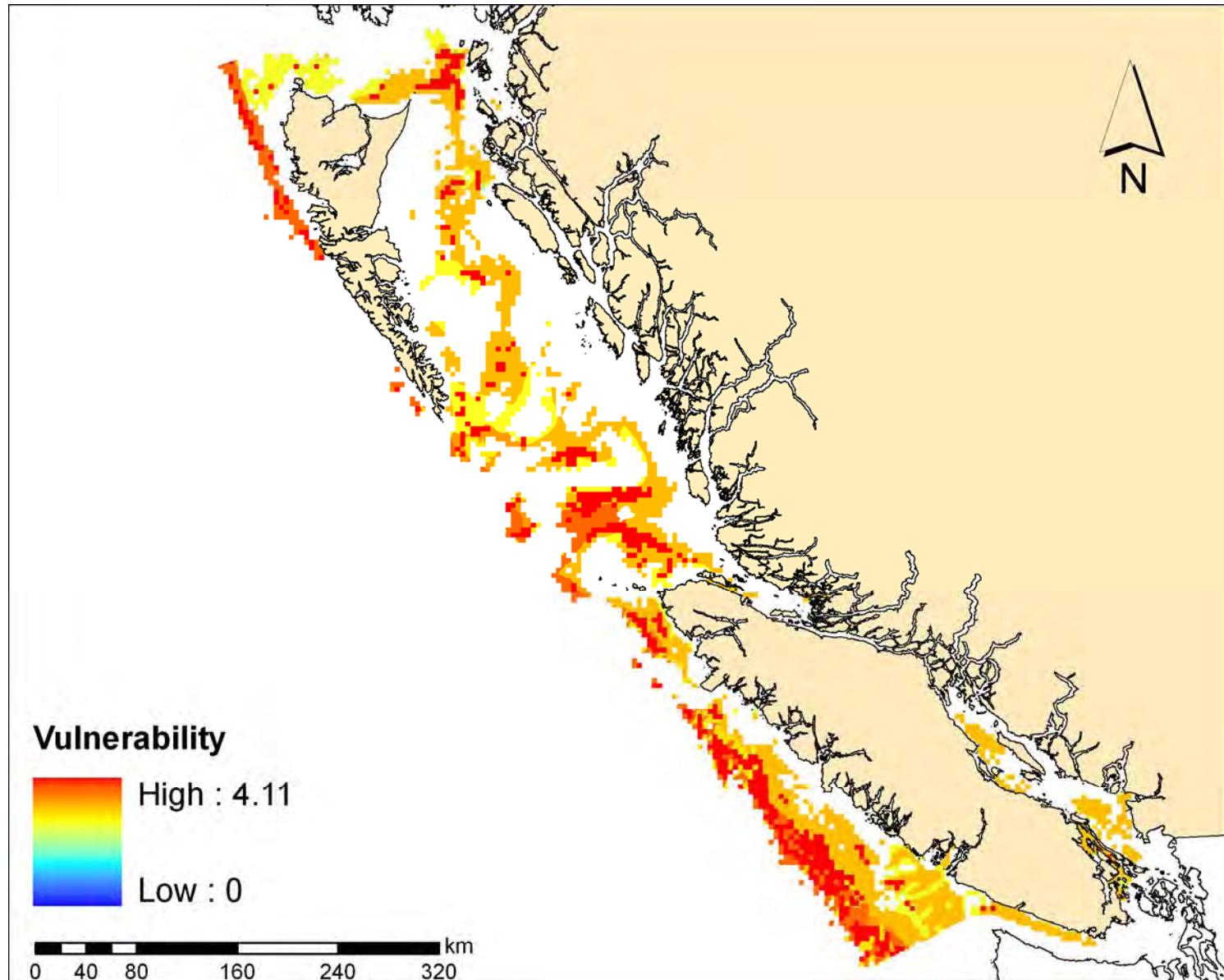
(e) Model a spatially explicit impact score for each activity-habitat combination.

(f) Calculate the cumulative impact of activities – the cumulative impacts is the additive (summed) impacts of all activities over the different habitat types in which they occur.

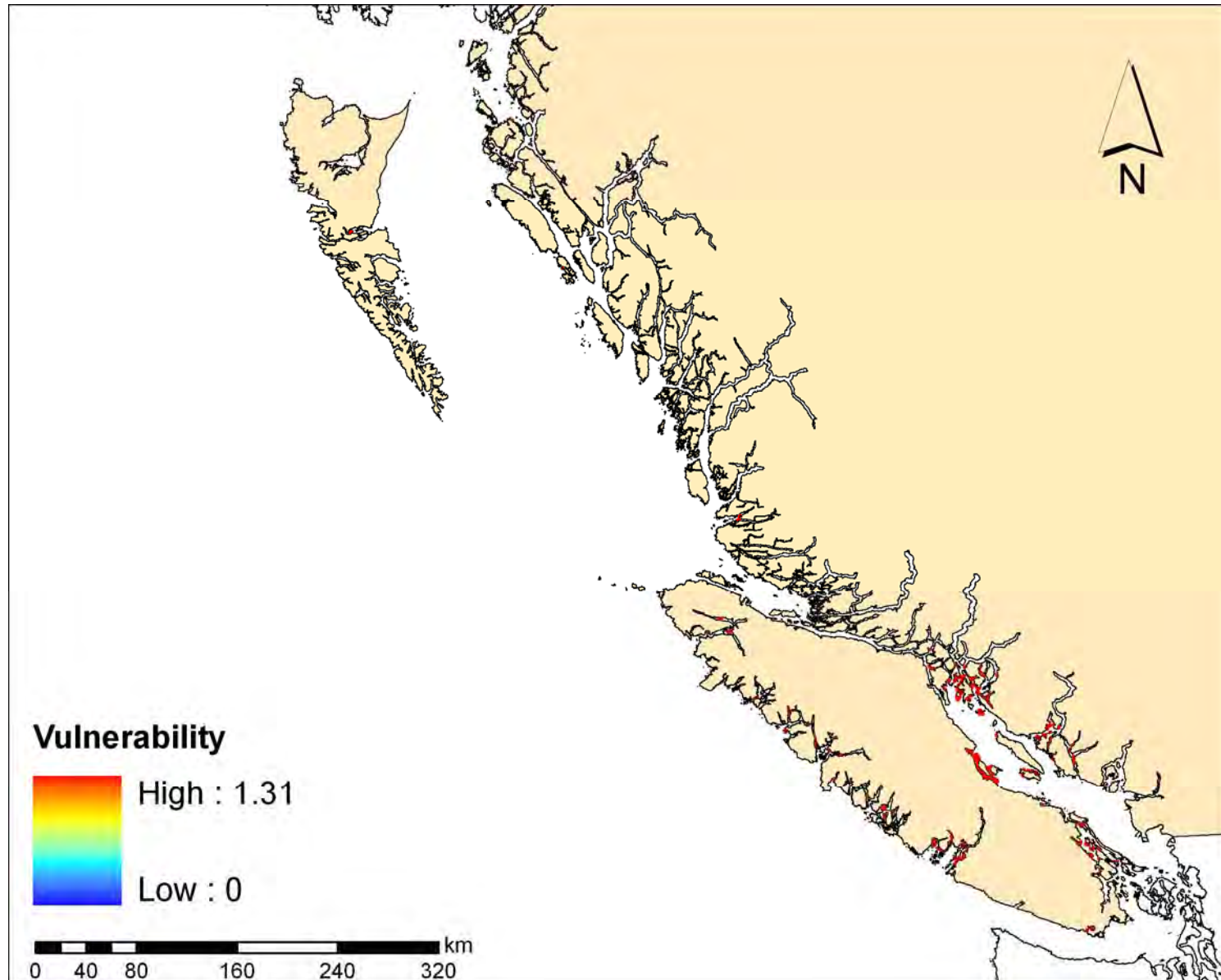
Cities and towns – shallow pelagic



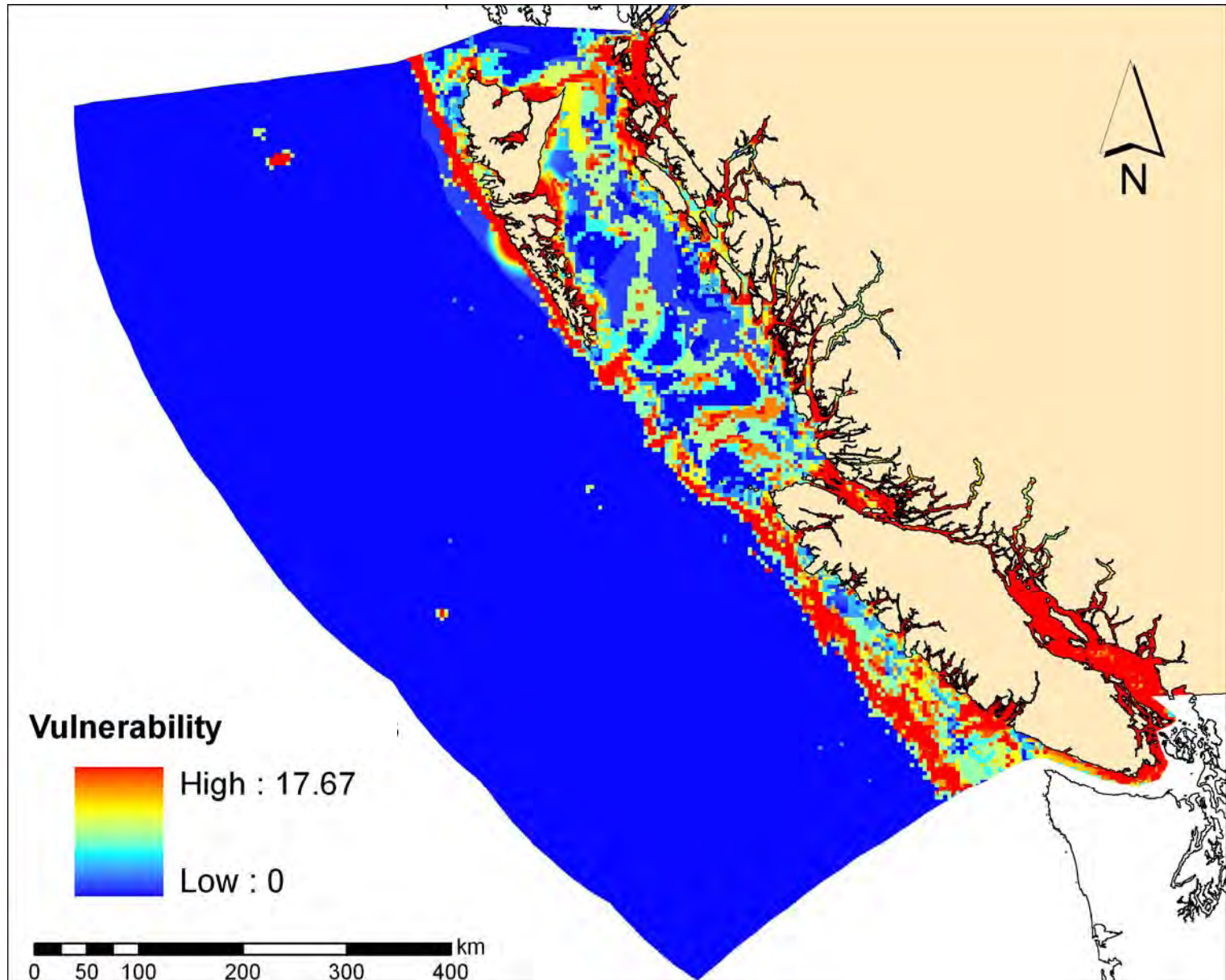
Groundfish bottom trawl - benthic

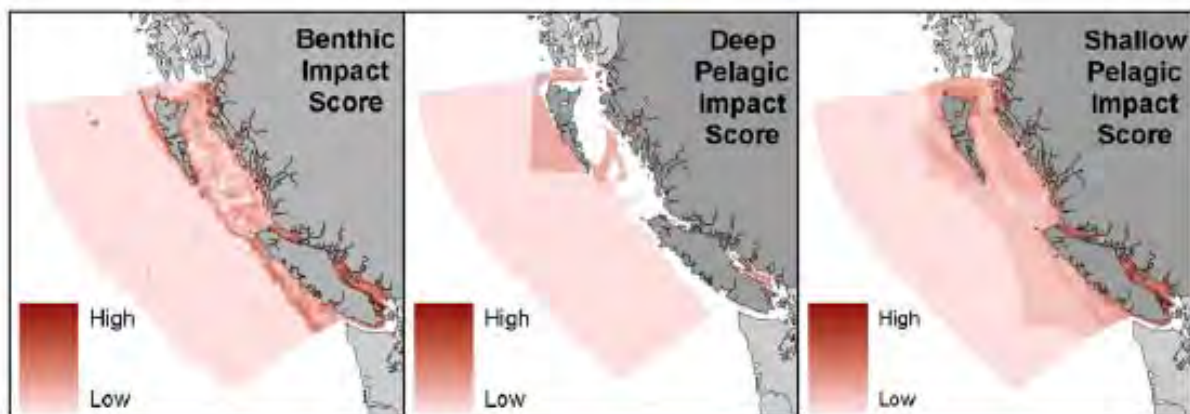
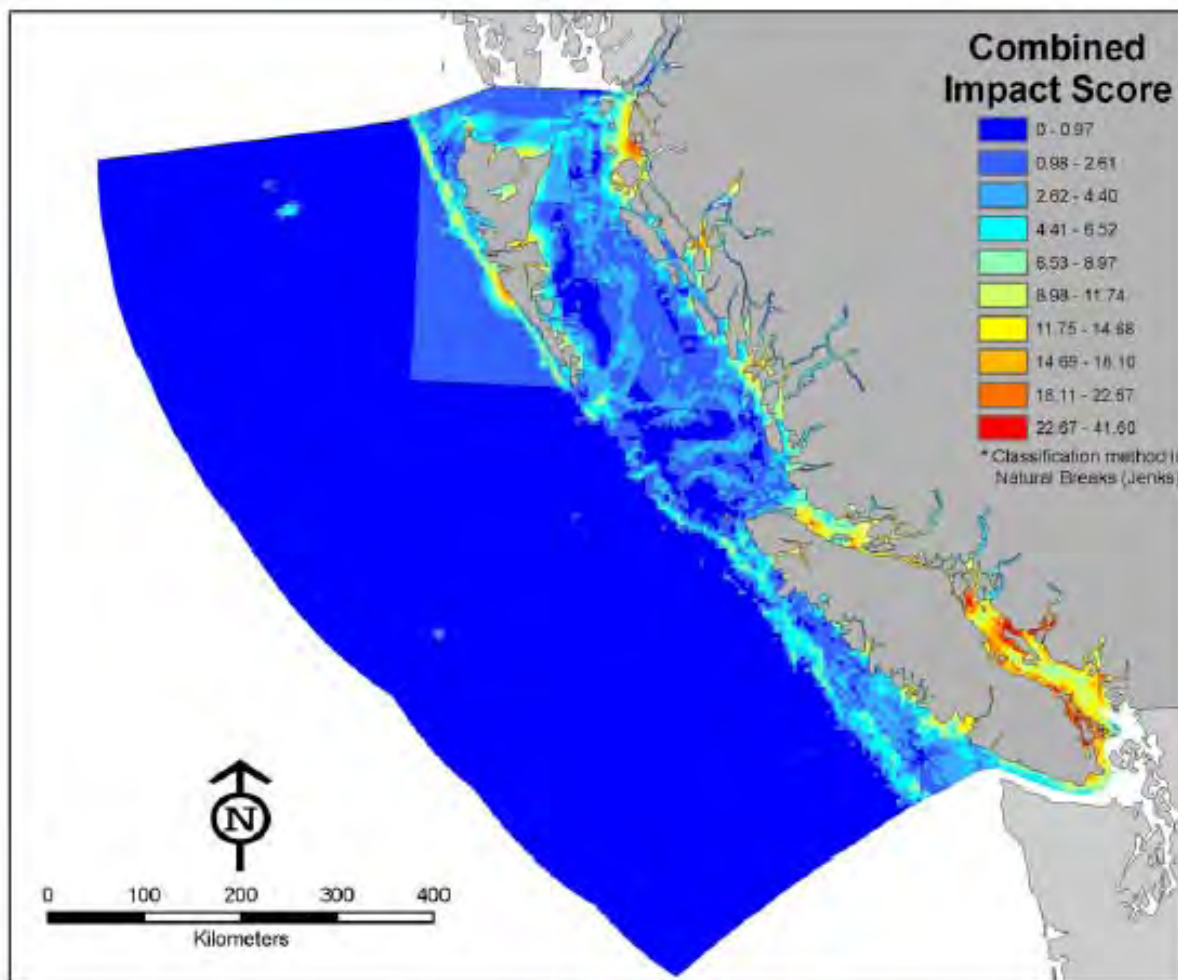


Shellfish aquaculture - benthic

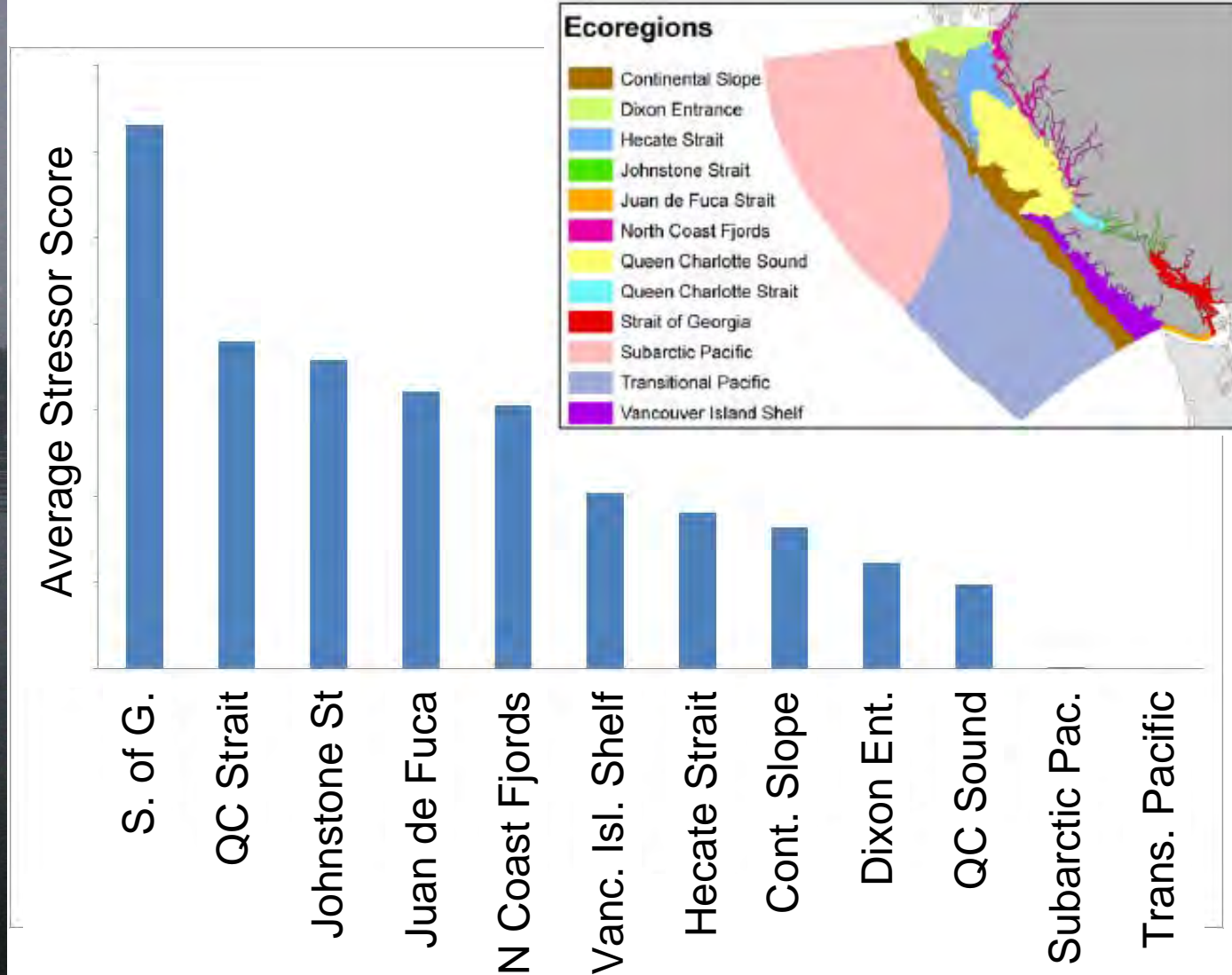


Cumulative impacts: benthic habitats

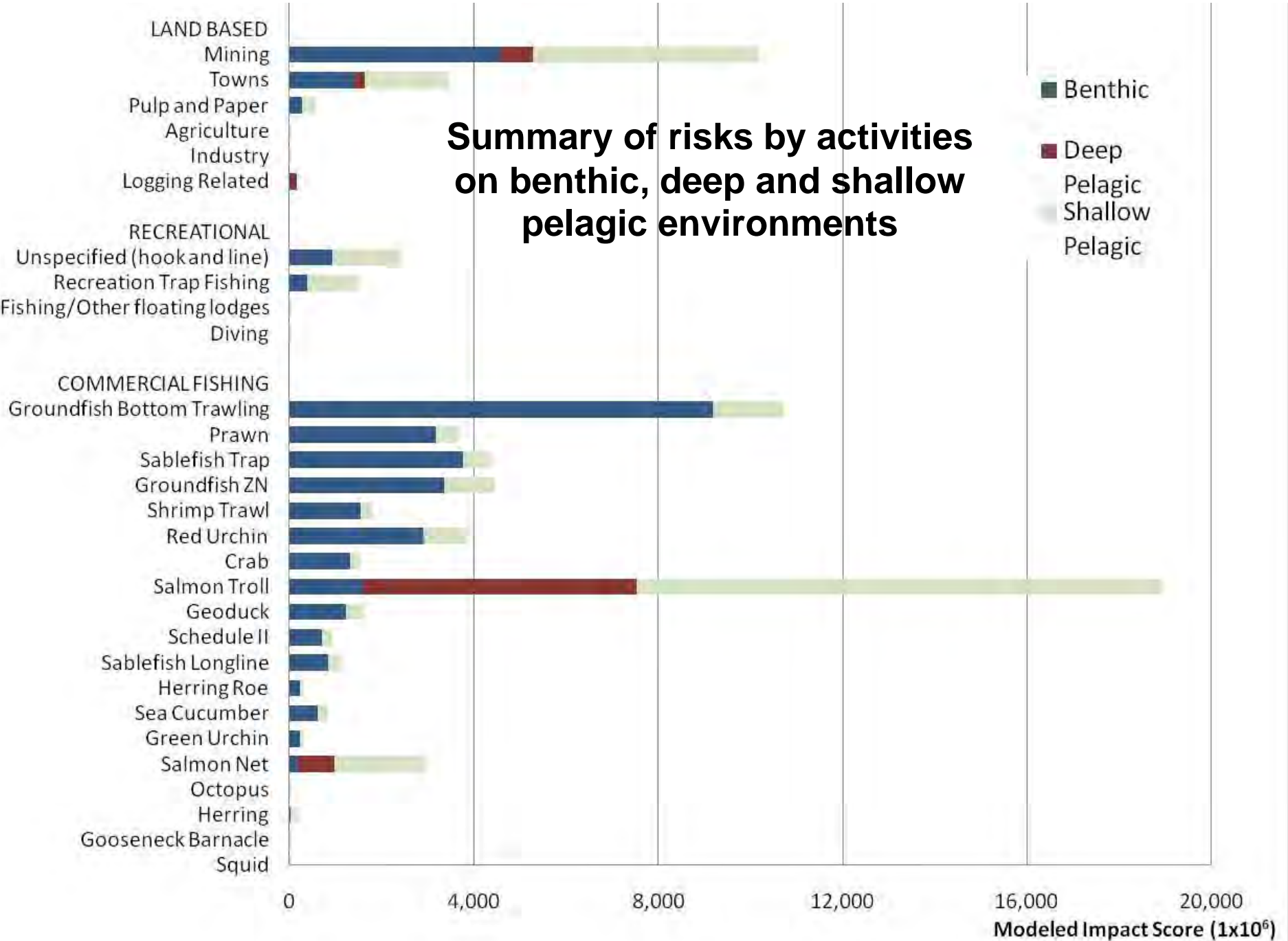




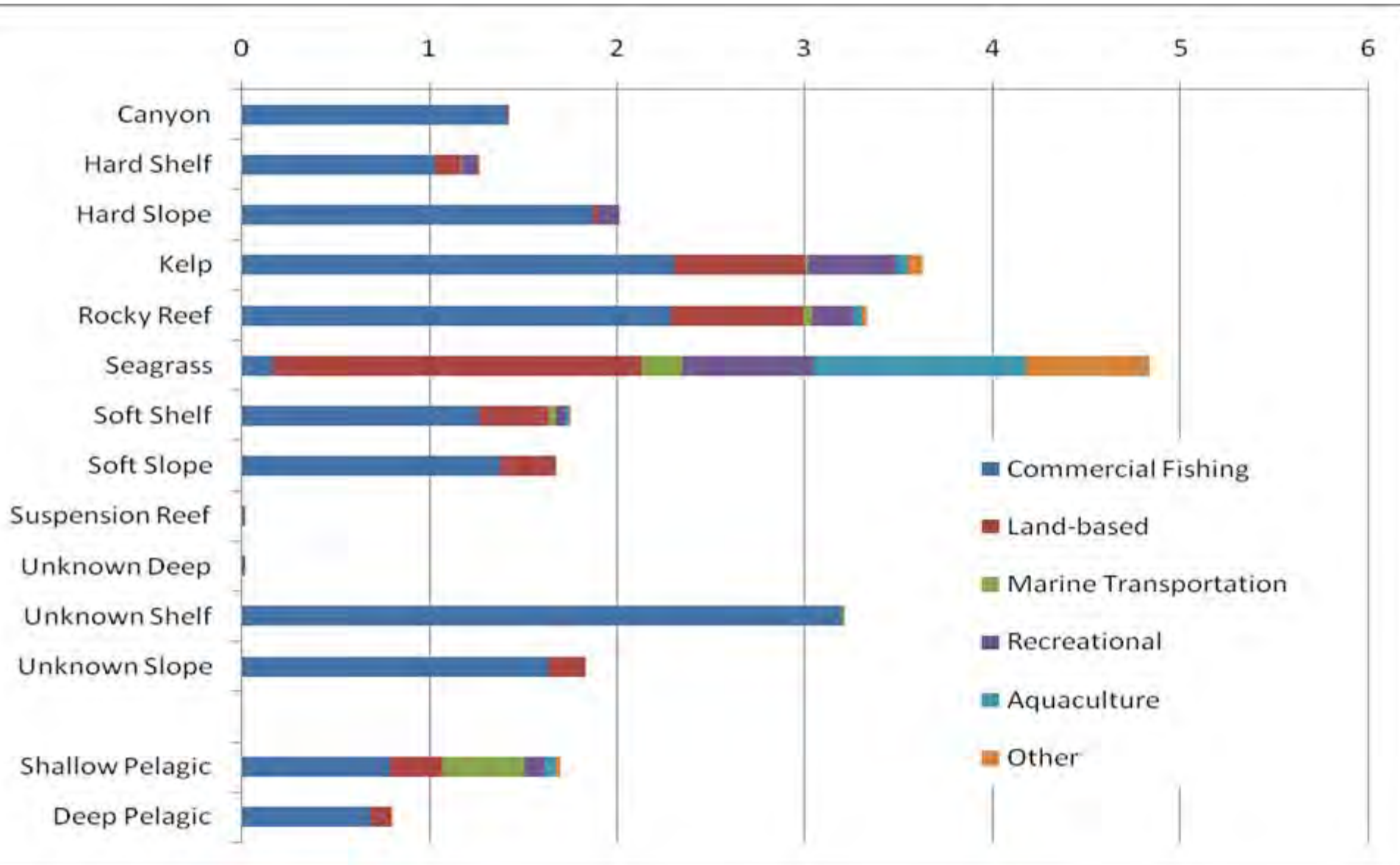
Cumulative stressors by ecoregion, benthic habitats



Summary of risks by activities on benthic, deep and shallow pelagic environments



Summary of risks on habitat types by activities





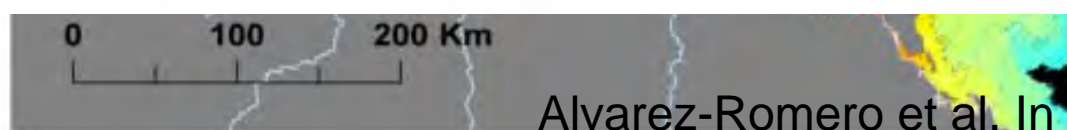
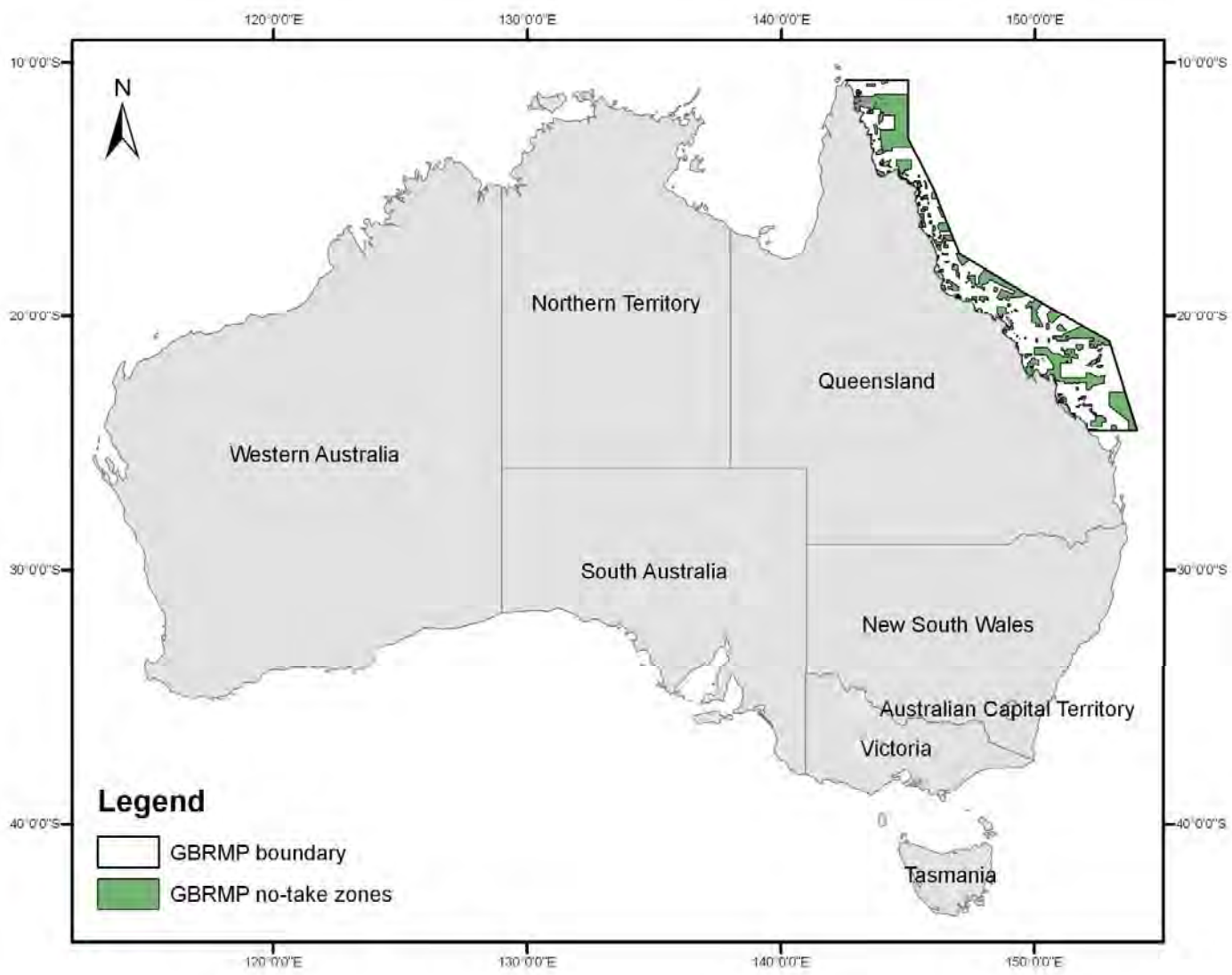
Limitations

- Data availability and quality
- A snapshot in time
- Assumptions – stressors as additive
- Results make sense at a regional scale, but no ground-truthing

Potential improvements

- Improving spatial data
- Use better information about potential interactions of multiple stressors





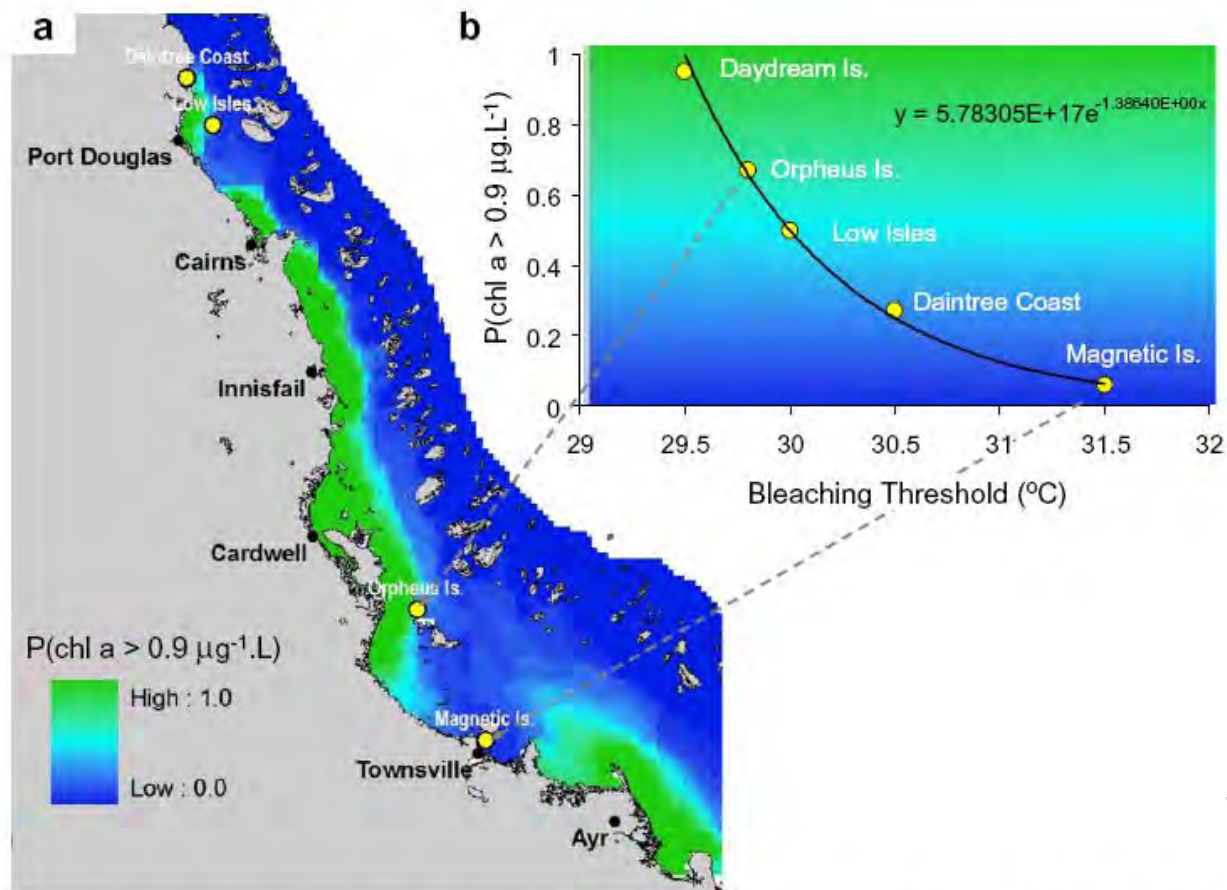
Interactions among stressors

- Use better information about potential interactions of multiple stressors
 - Meta-analyses
 - Expert elicitation
 - Bayesian approach useful – can integrate such information as “prior beliefs”, and update as new information becomes available



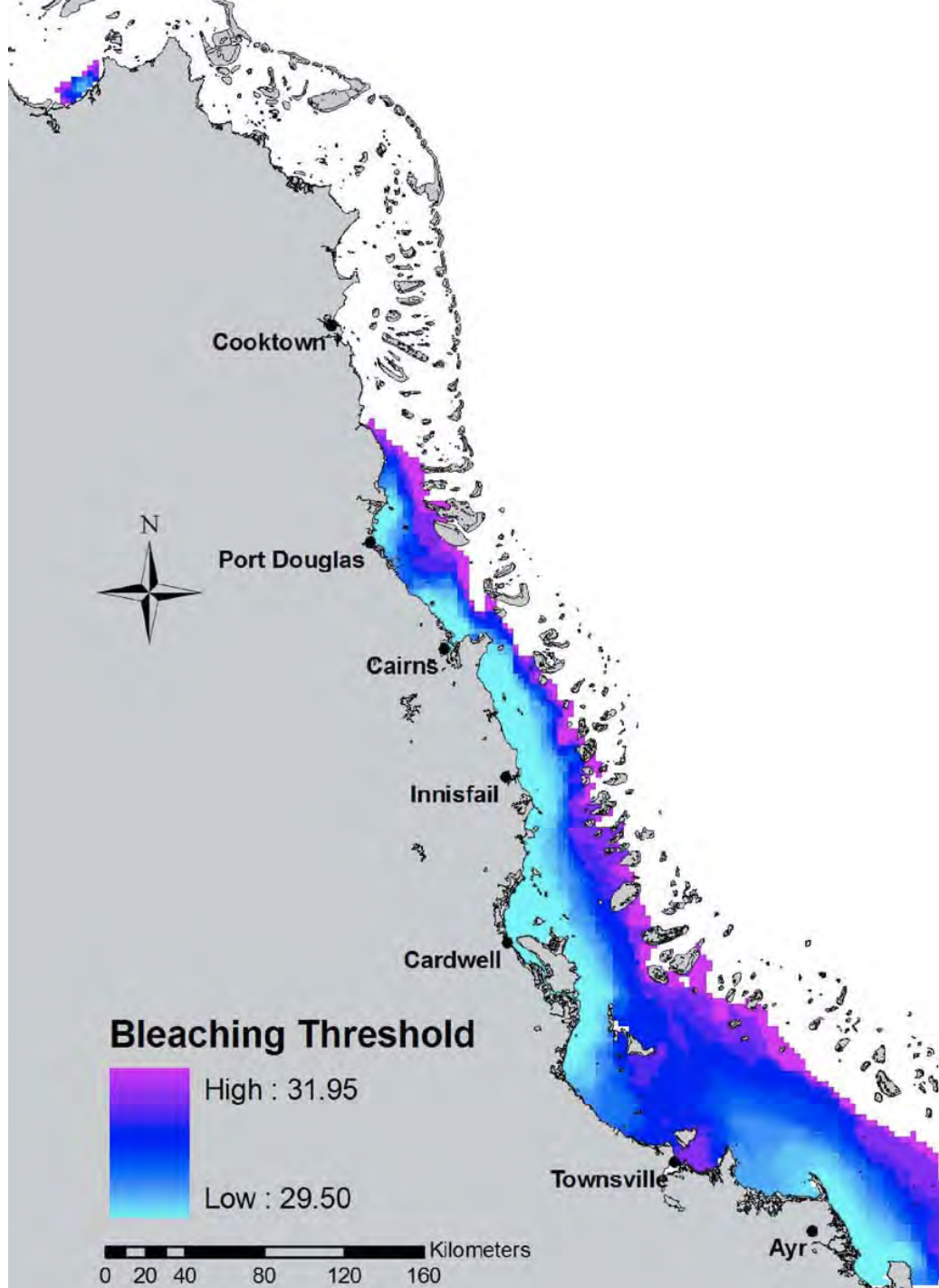
Stressor Interaction Example

- Probability of exceeding a threshold of chlorophyll concentration
- Link between chlorophyll and coral bleaching



Wooldridge, 2009

Fig. 3. (a) Flood plume analysis for the GBR lagoon (1969–2002) showing the annual exceedence probability of Chl a > 0.9 µg/L (after Wooldridge et al., 2006), (b) Quantitative spatial link between upper thermal bleaching limits and degree of exposure to nutrient-enriched terrestrial waters.





Conclusions

- Informative use of existing data and information
- Baseline for future mapping
- Opportunities to improve mapping approaches
- Need to ground-truth mapping efforts

Ban, N. C., H. M. Alidina, and J. A. Ardron. 2010. Cumulative impact mapping: Advances, relevance and limitations to marine management and conservation, using Canada's Pacific waters as a case study. *Marine Policy* 34:876-886.

Thank you

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**Great Barrier Reef
Marine Park Authority**



6th International SOLAS Summer School

Xiamen, China
23rd August - 2nd September 2013

- To expose graduate students and young scientists to recent developments and methodologies in the study of biogeochemical and physical feedbacks between the ocean and atmosphere in a changing environment
- First time to be held in Xiamen, China after 5 continuous successful schools in Cargese, Corsica, France



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Phil Nightingale
Alberto Piola
Eric Saltzman

**Application Open
1st October 2012**

**Application Deadline
1st February 2013**