



# Putting Human Impacts on Fish Populations in Perspective: Spatial Variation on a Local Scale



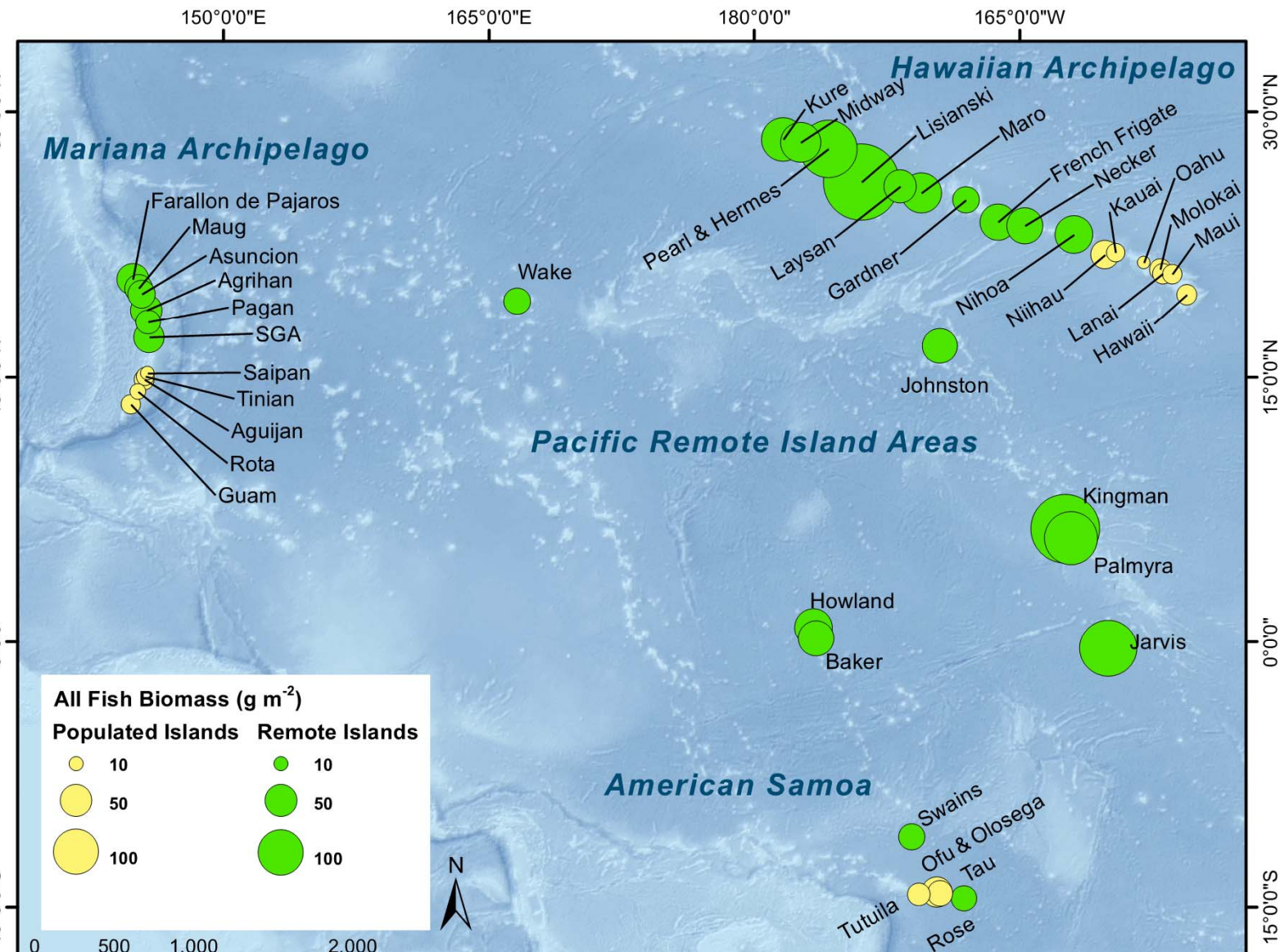
REEF SMART, Hawai'i State Division of Aquatic Resources  
June 26, 2014

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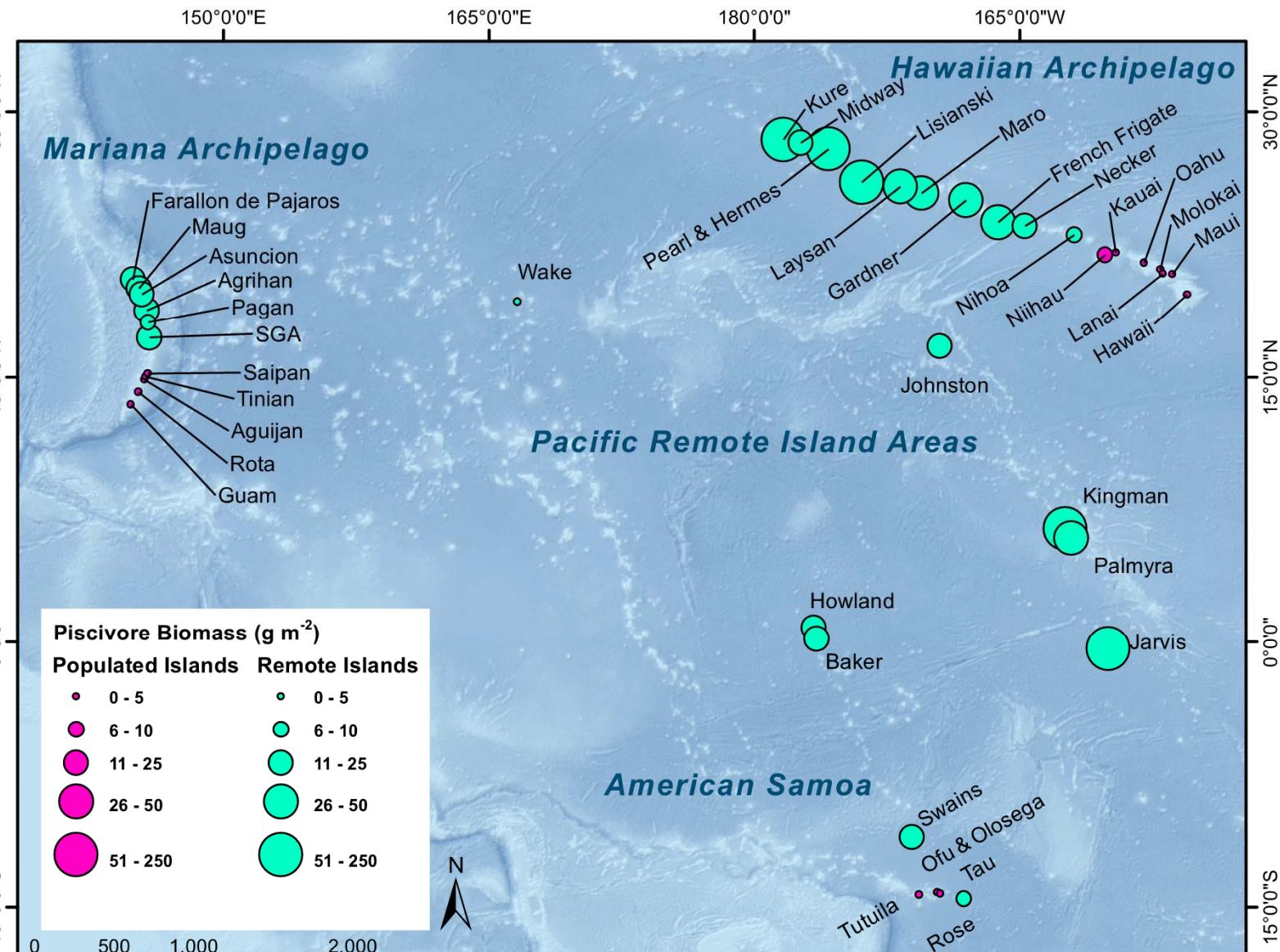
<sup>1</sup>Coral Reef Ecosystem Division, Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center, NOAA

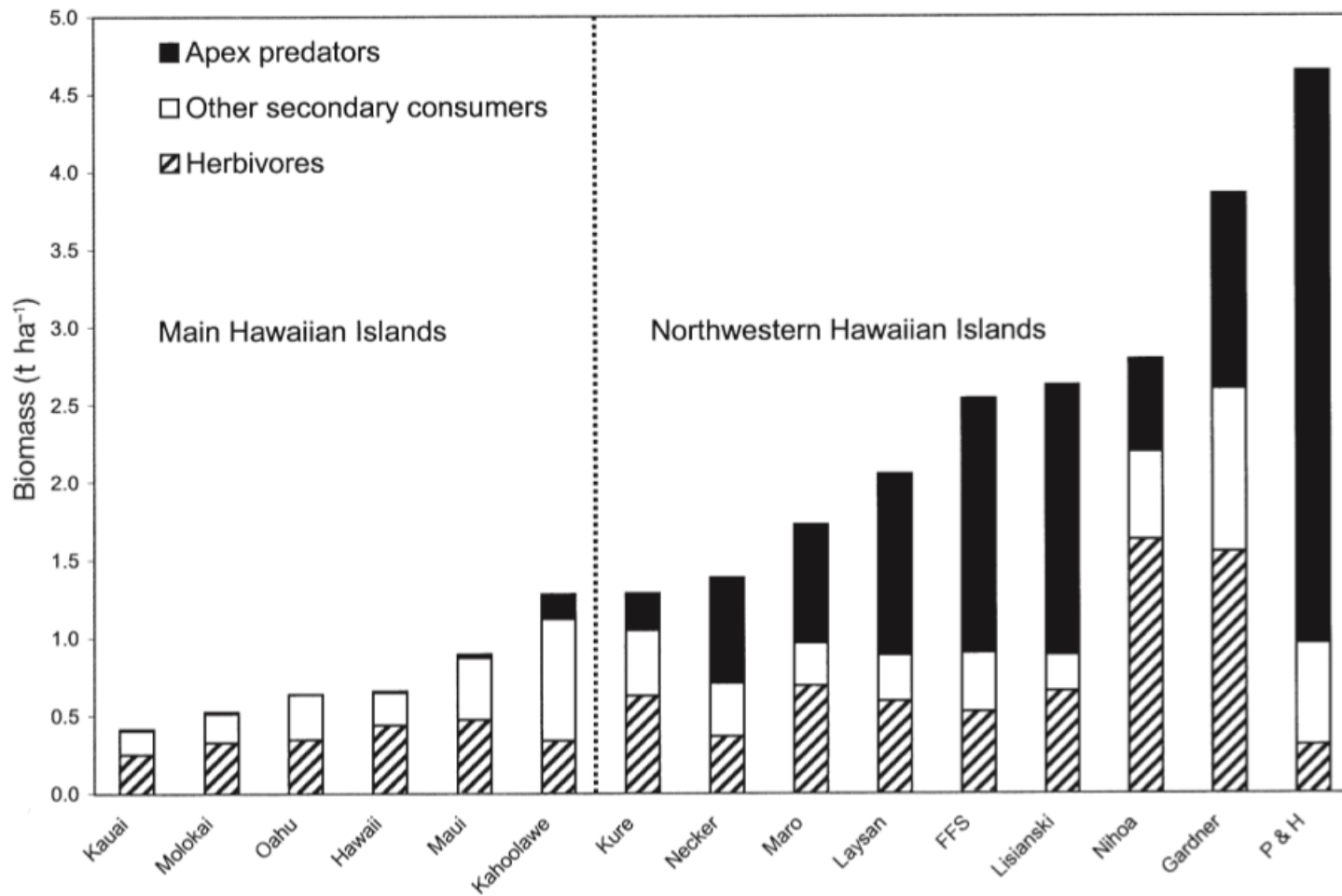
<sup>2</sup>Hawai'i Institute of Marine Biology, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa

# Pacific Reef Assessment and Monitoring Program

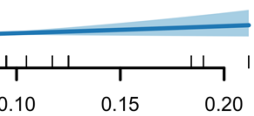


# Pacific Reef Assessment and Monitoring Program

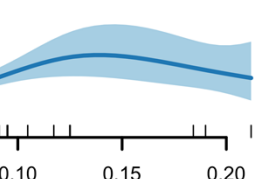




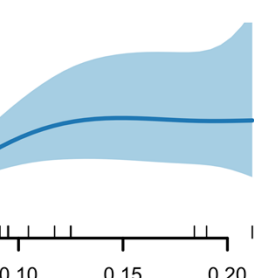
Primary Consumers



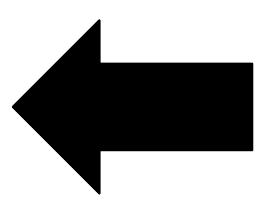
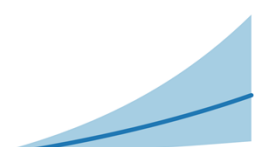
Secondary Consumers



Planktivores

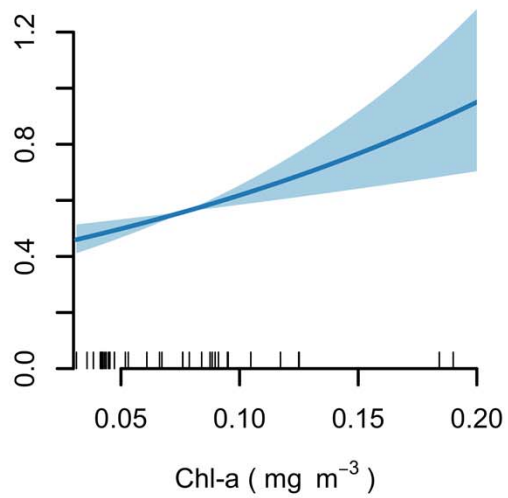


Piscivores

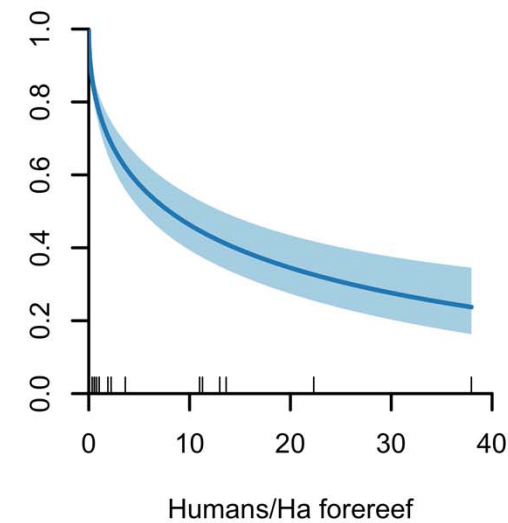


### ALL FISH

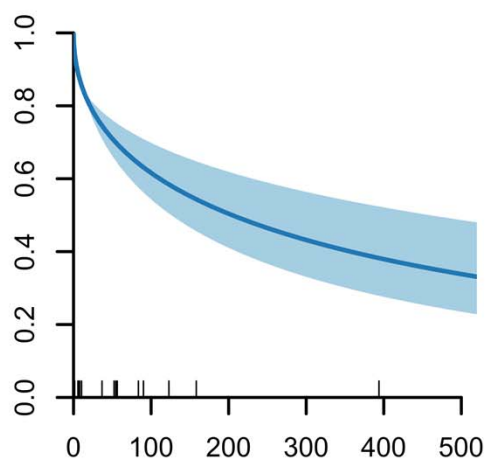
Chl-a (CHL)



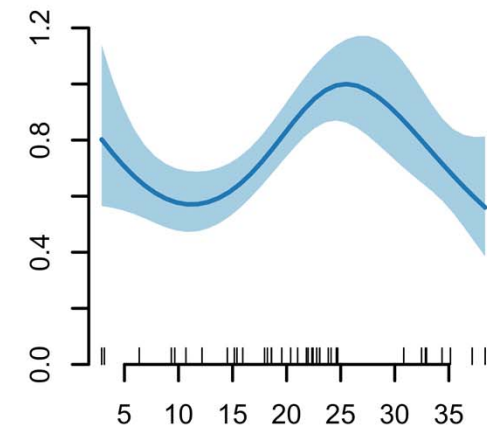
Resident Humans (HUM)



Non-resident Humans (HDIST)



Hard Coral (HC)



## Long-term Goals:

To continue to explore the effects of both habitat variation and human impacts on fish biomass

To gain an understanding of anthropogenic impact on fish populations on a site-specific scale

To establish a framework for analyzing our data on a species-level, beginning with DAR's ten priority species

Top Ten Priority Species

(see Local Action Strategy Hawaii)

*Acanthurus rubroviolaceus*

*Acanthurus melampyrgus*

*Acanthurus porphyreus*

*Acanthurus unicornis*

*Acanthurus midichthys vanicolensis*

*Acanthurus spilurus*

*Acanthurus triostegus sandvicensis*

*Acanthurus achilles*

*Acanthurus nactylus sexfilis*



# Collection:

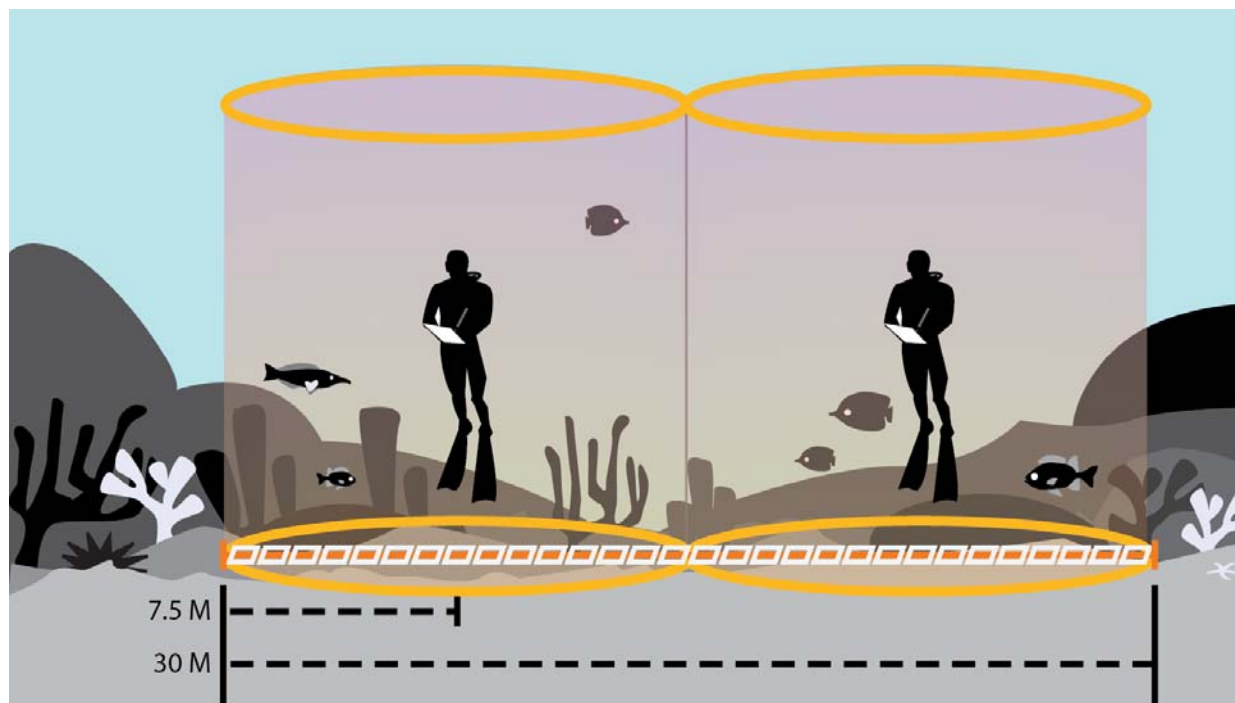
Stationary-Point-Count

Randomized hard-bottom location at depths of 0-30m

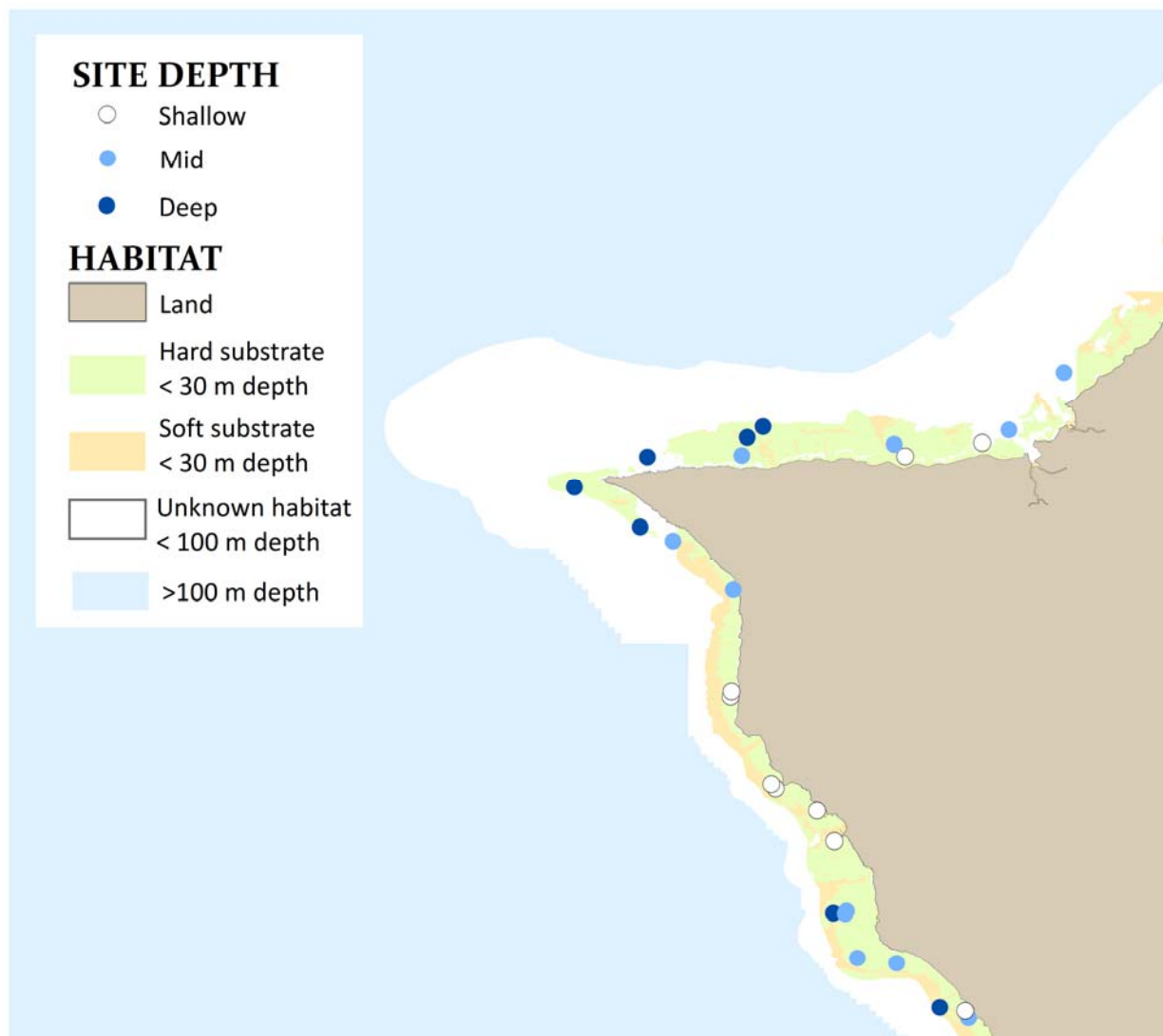
15-m diameter cylinders

Counts and lengths of fish: **TOTAL BIOMASS** or **SPECIES-LEVEL BIOMASS**

Photographs of benthos taken along transects: **HABITAT VARIATION**



# Sampling Design: stratified random based on depth





# How is our data used?

Pacific RAMP: Long-term ecological monitoring

Collaborations with academia

NOAA NMFS stock assessment: Magnuson-Stevens Act 2006

Coral Reef Conservation Program: Short-term management goals

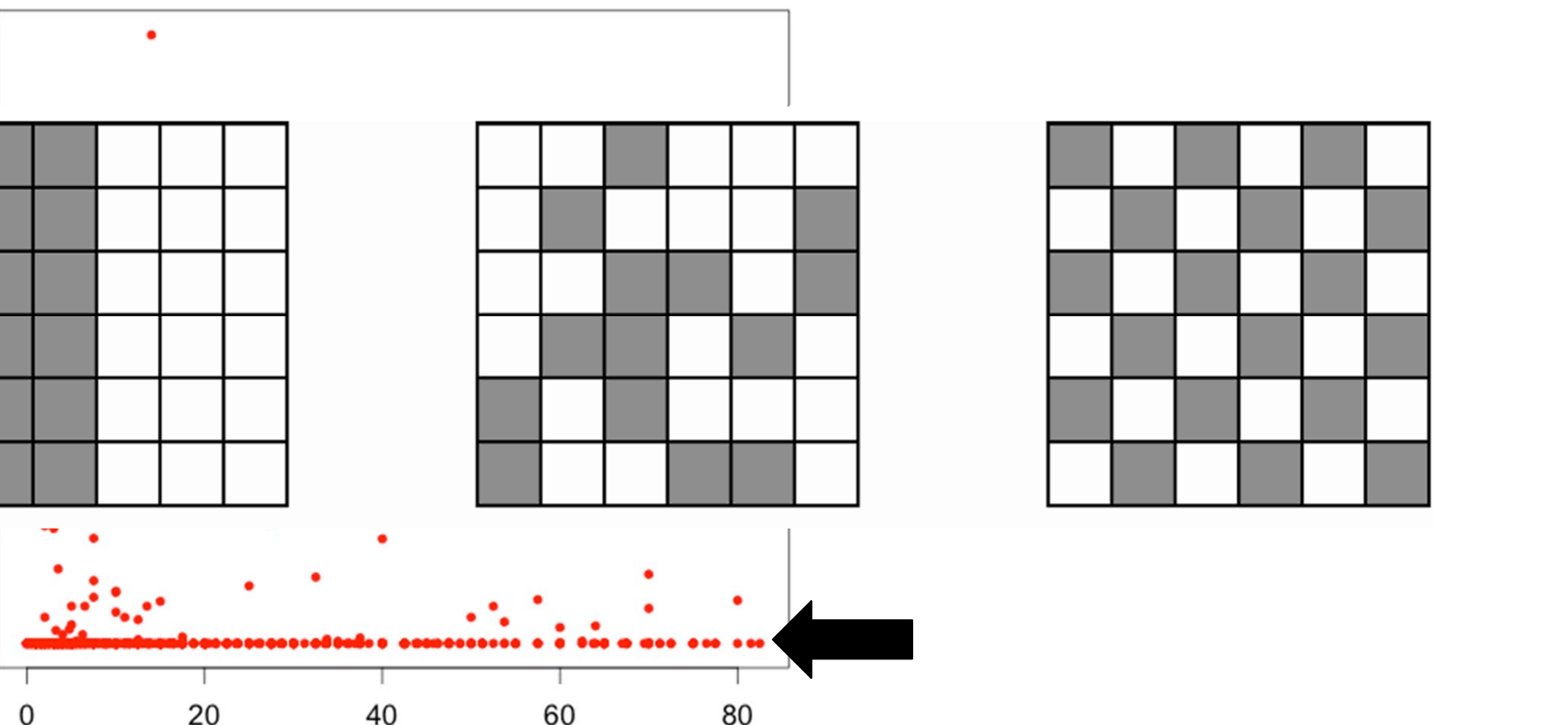
From Coral Reef Conservation Program's Goals and Objectives 2010-2015:

".....Federal-local partnerships must be strengthened, particularly in the areas of communication, collaboration, and implementation of joint management actions."

# Data Challenges:

Zero-inflation

Hierarchical spatial dependence



# Bayesian vs “classical” statistics

EXAMPLE: I do an experiment where I flip a coin 10 times, and get 4 tails.

**What is the probability that the coin is fair?**

Null-hypothesis significance testing (NHST) statistics:

- Probability of the data given your hypothesis

If the coin is fair, then what’s the probability of obtaining 4 tails?

If  $p < 0.05$  you reject your null hypothesis

Bayesian statistics:

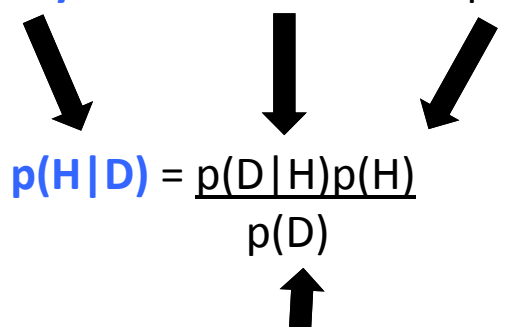
- Probability of a hypothesis given your data

If we observe 4 tails, then **what is the probability that the coin is fair?** →  $p(H|D)$

posterior probability

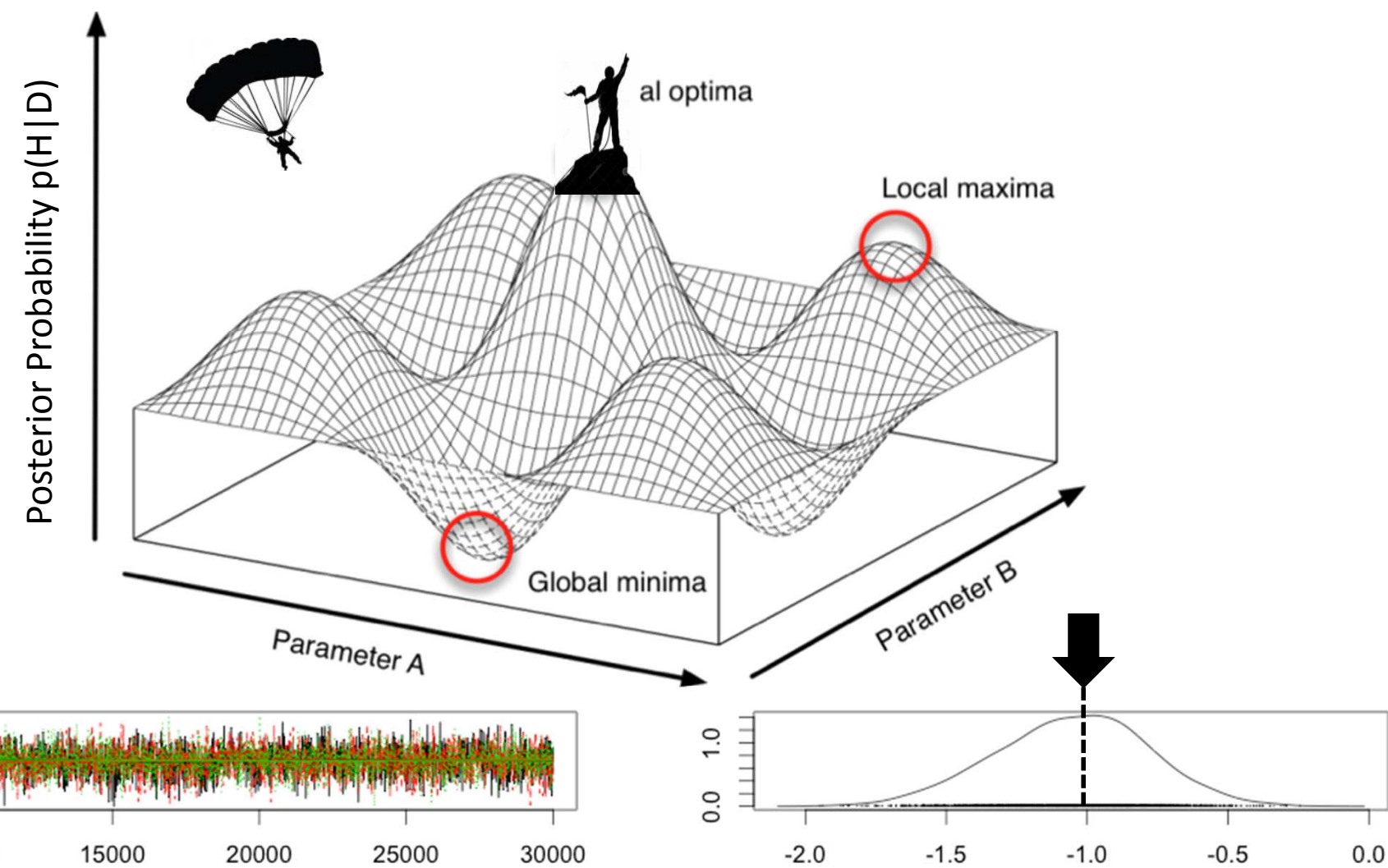
likelihood

prior


$$\text{Bayes' rule: } p(H|D) = \frac{p(D|H)p(H)}{p(D)}$$

# MCMC Markov Chain Monte Carlo

believable hypothesis



# Take home message

Data Challenges:

Zero-inflation

Hierarchical spatial dependence

Bayesian analysis:

Seamlessly handles zero-inflation

(1) presence/absence vs (2) abundance

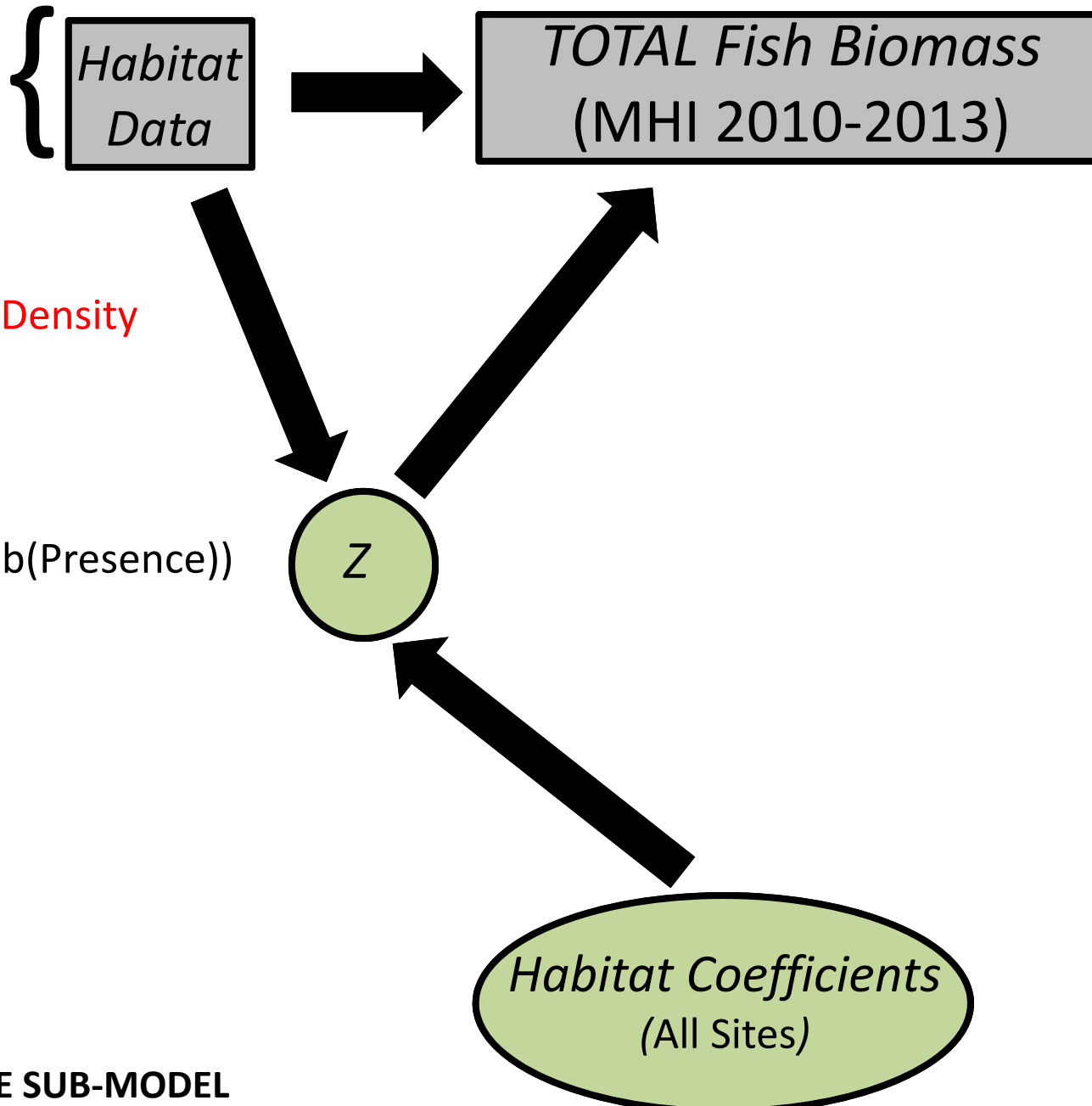
Allows for hierarchical analyses

- Organize the analysis such that parameters are estimated according to spatial groupings

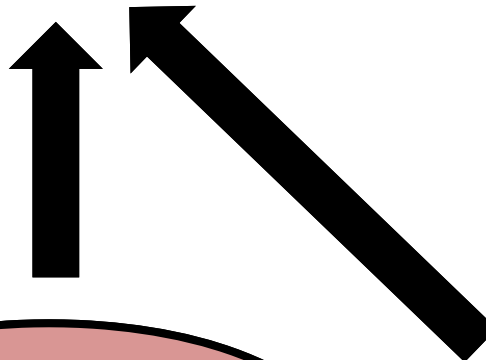
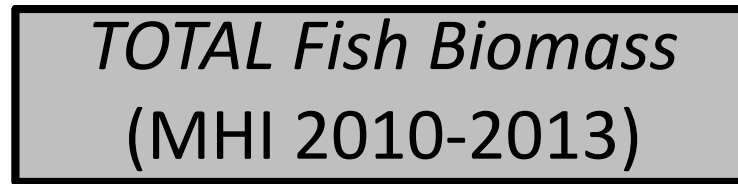
exity  
oral Cover  
over  
Population Density

NOULLI (Prob(Presence))

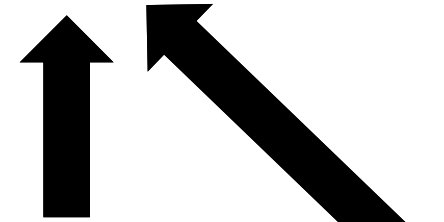
ENCE/ABSENCE SUB-MODEL



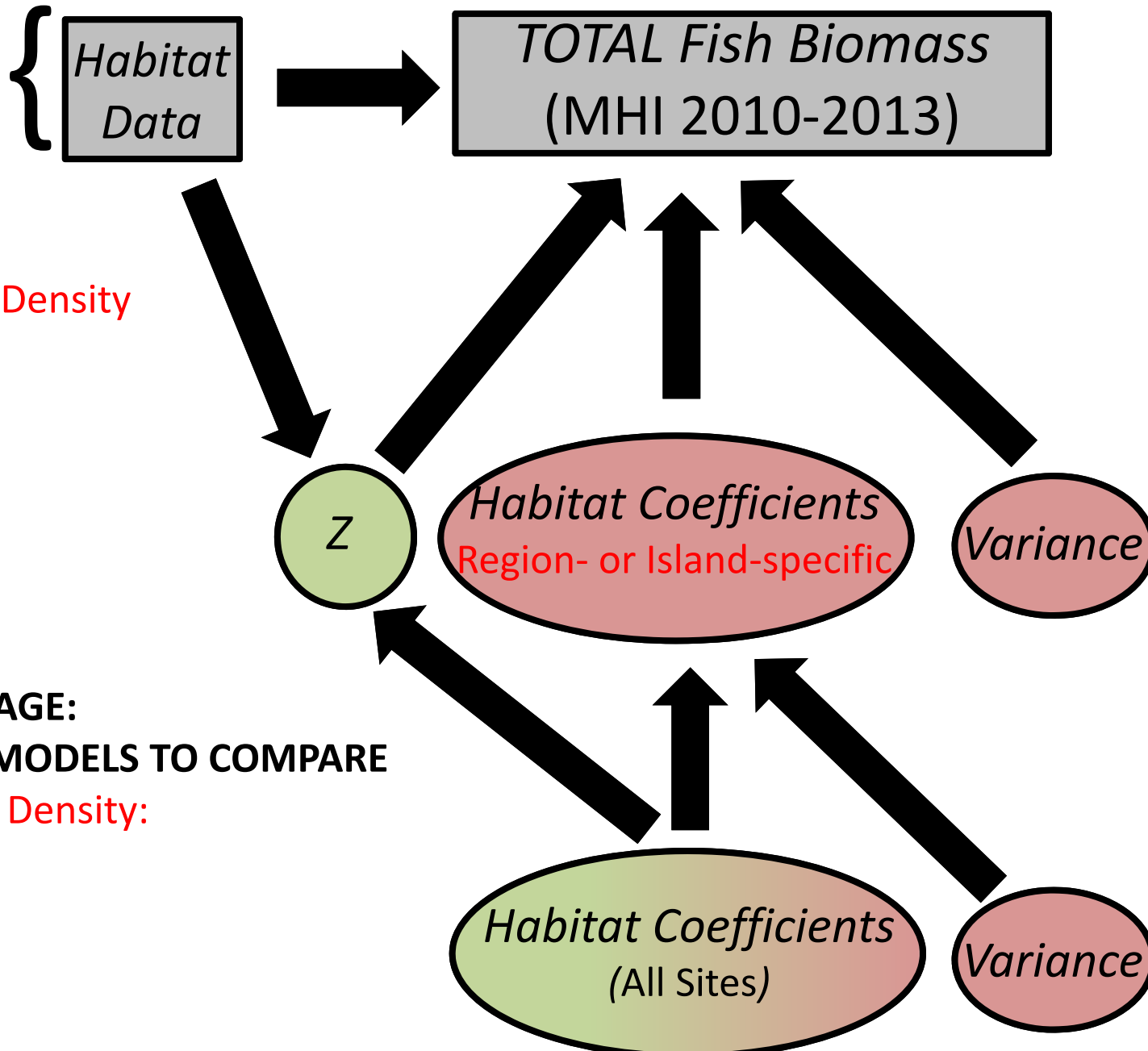
exity  
oral Cover  
over  
Population Density



$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} 0, \text{ if } Z = 0 \\ \sim \text{NORMAL}(\text{Region-specific} \\ \text{mean and variance}), \text{ if } Z = 1 \end{array} \right.$



exity  
oral Cover  
over  
Population Density



HOME MESSAGE:  
ARE FOUR MODELS TO COMPARE  
Population Density:  
0km radius  
00km radius  
s:  
HI/NWHI



# Model Comparison

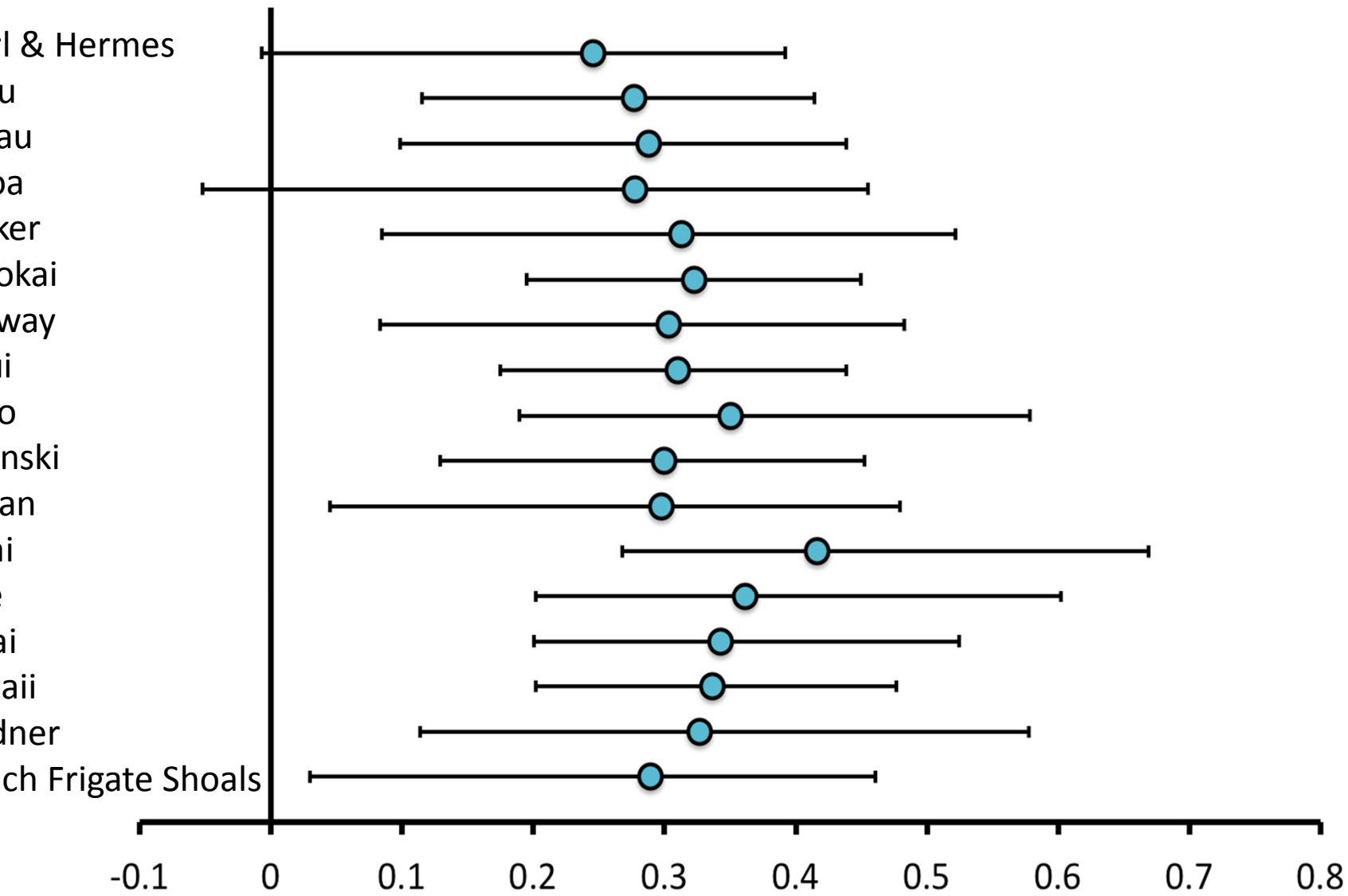
HOME MESSAGE:

THE BEST MODEL USED HUMAN IMPACTS ON A 200KM SCALE

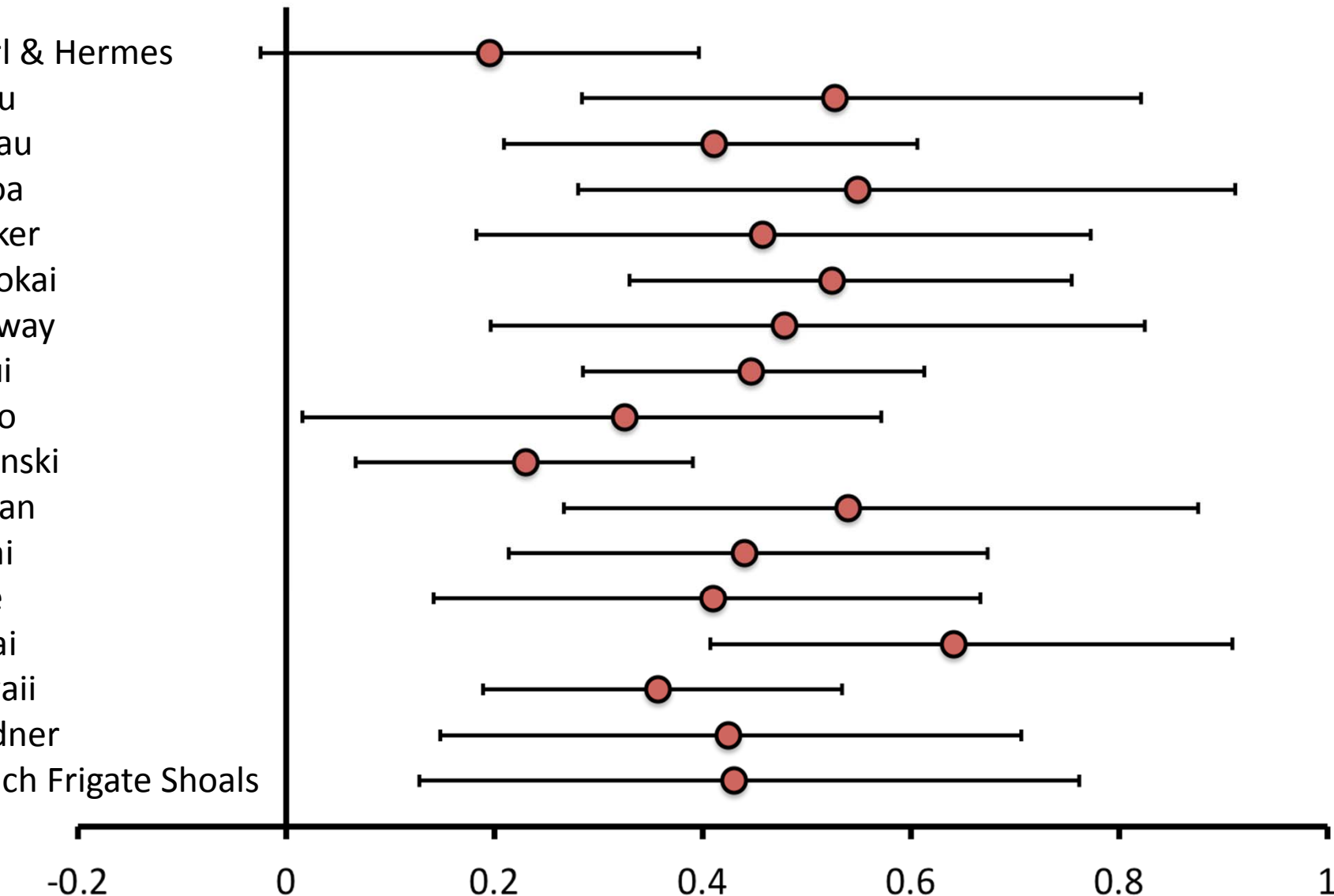
AND HABITAT RELATIONSHIPS ON AN ISLAND-SCALE

BIOMASS	Individual Islands		NWHI vs MHI	
	20km	200km	20km	200km
Deviance (i.e., model fit)	2163	2162	2250	2258
Complexity (i.e., model complexity)	39.24	36.26	7.899	11.84
Deviance + Penalty	2202	2198	2258	2270

# Habitat Coefficients: Depth



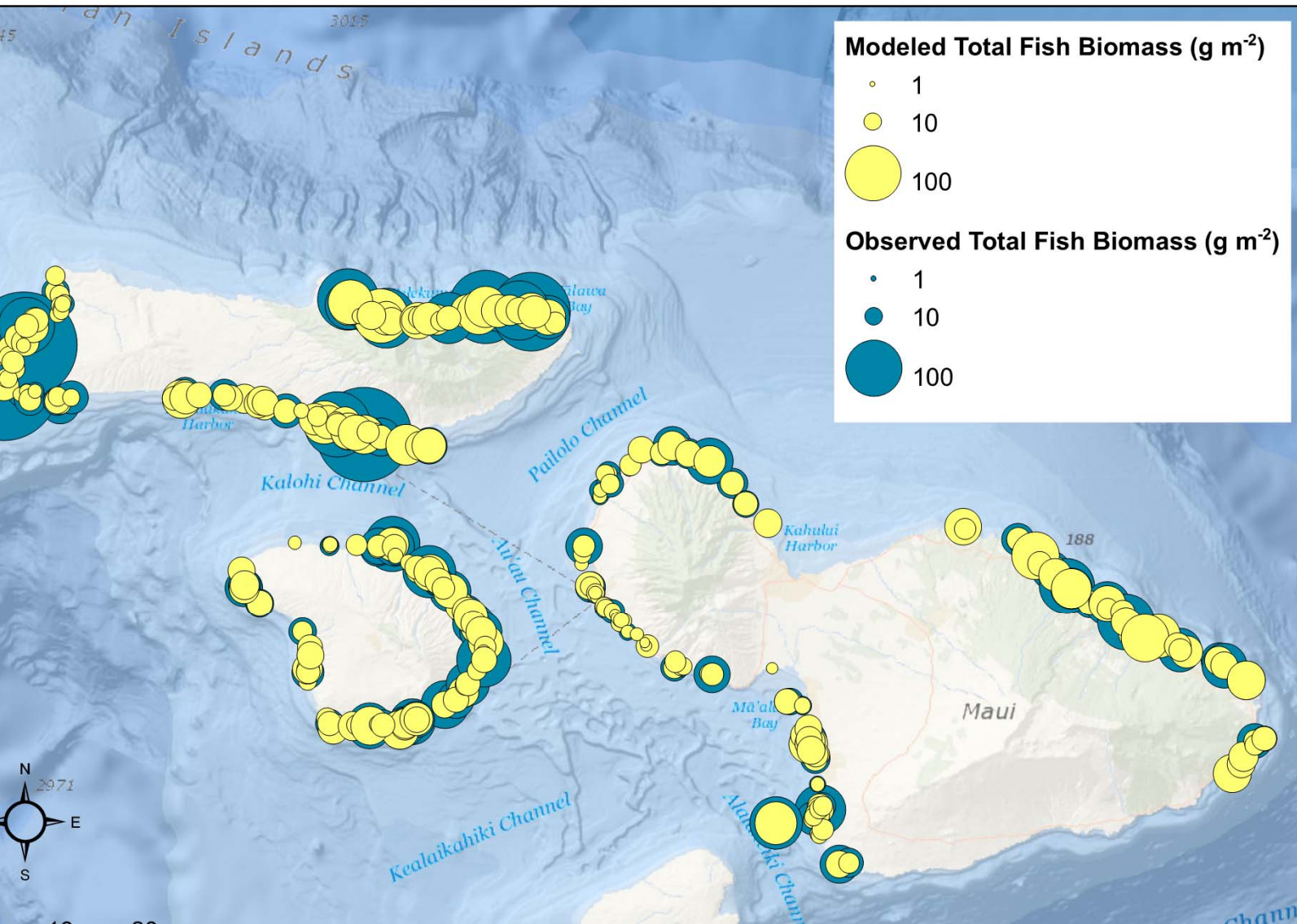
# Habitat Coefficients: Complexity



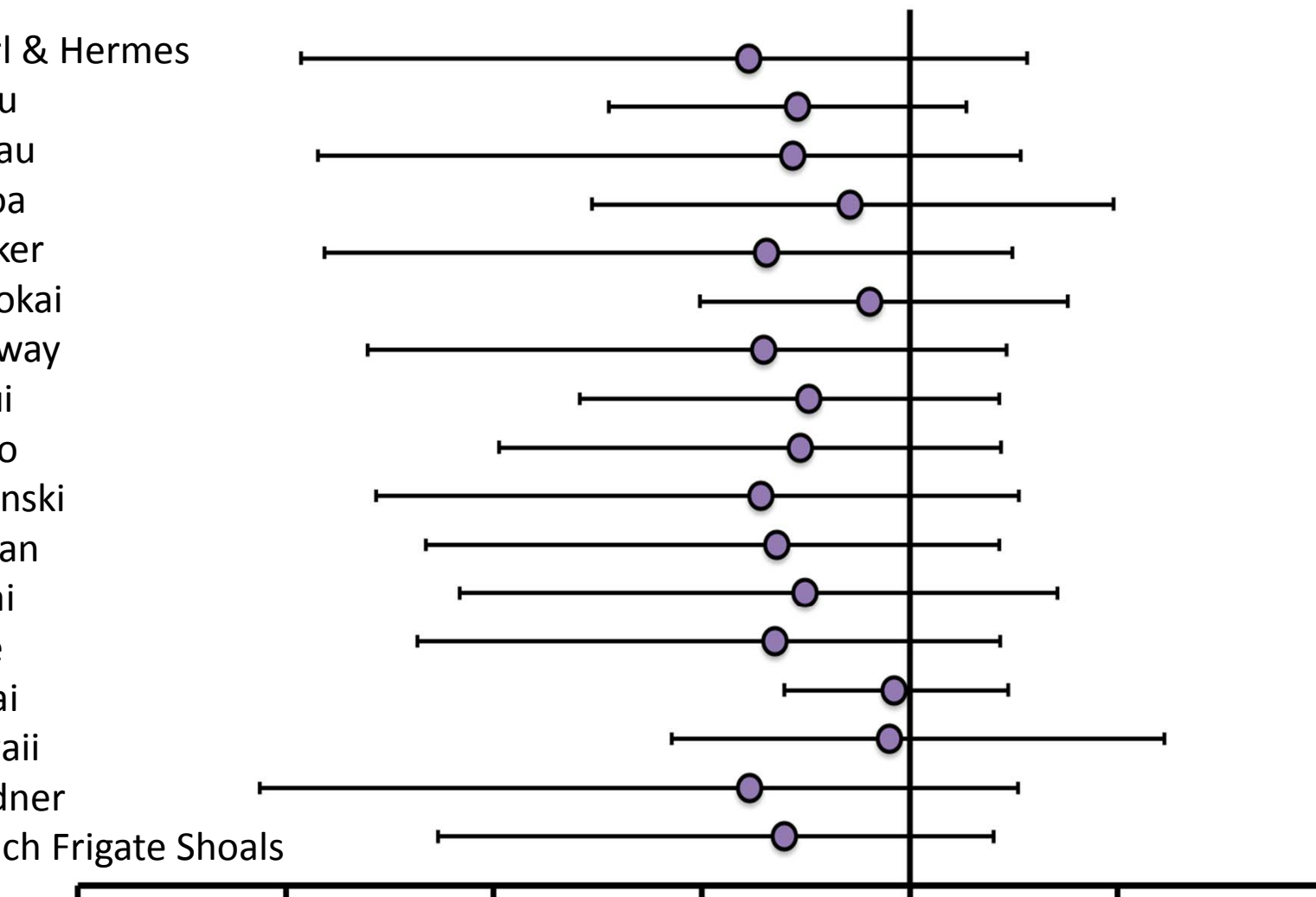
# Model Validation

## TAKE HOME MESSAGE:

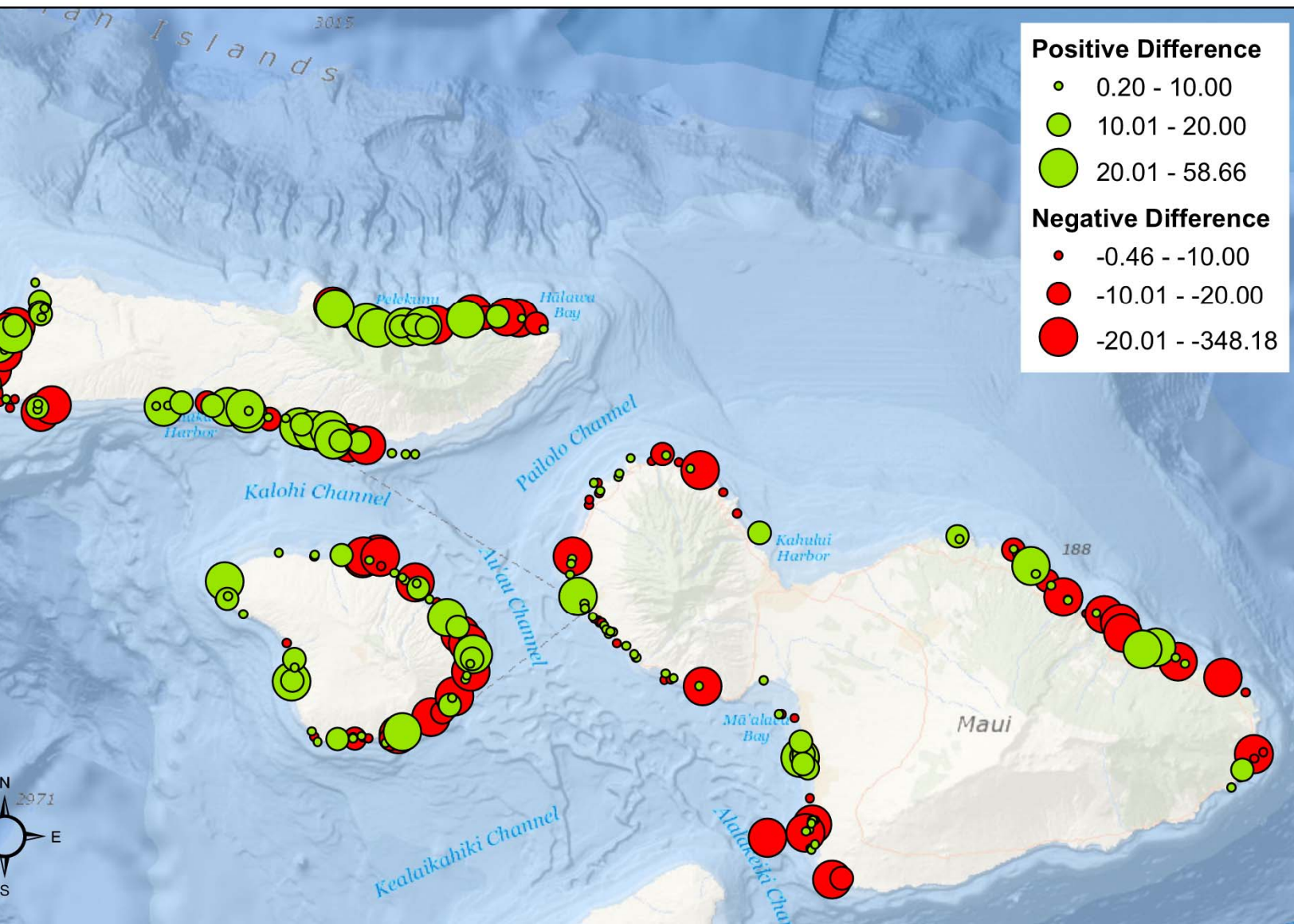
- MODELS ARE NOT PERFECT
- ROOM FOR IMPROVEMENT



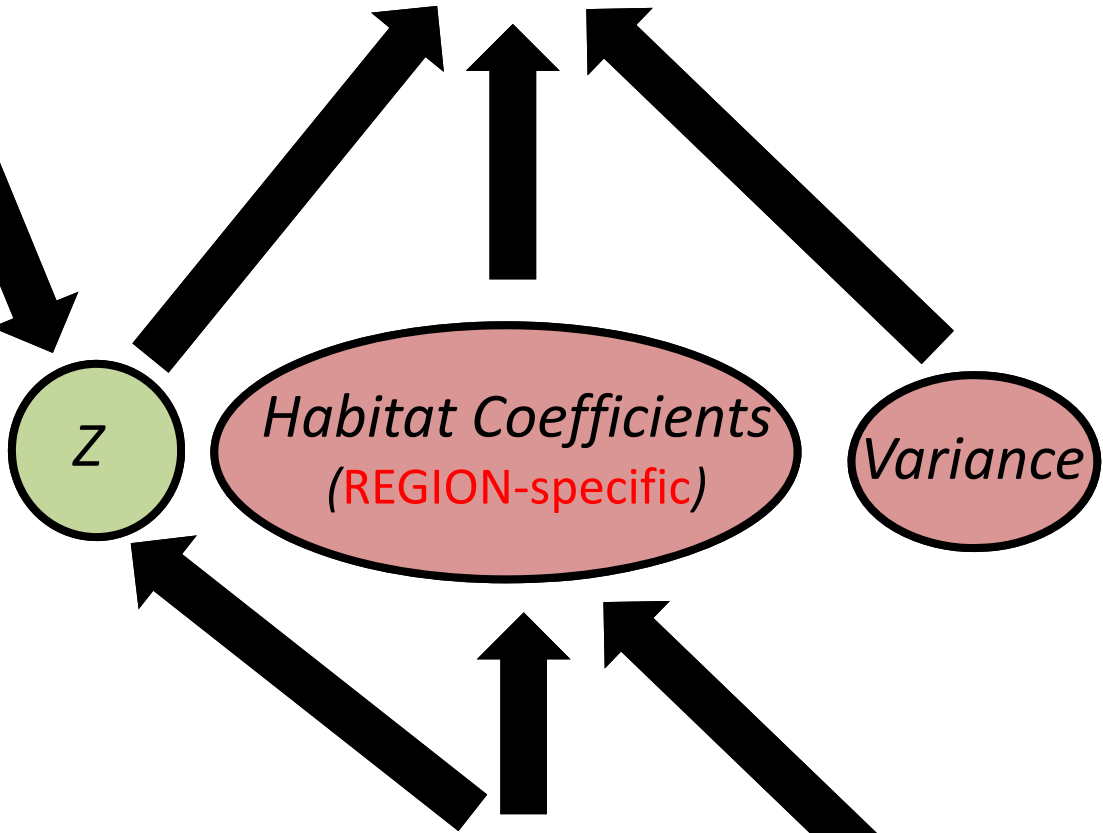
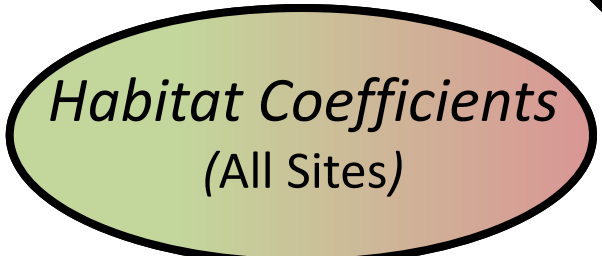
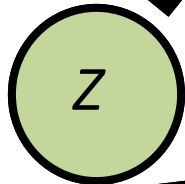
# Human Population Density $\rightarrow 0$



# Local human impact



Complexity  
Coral Cover  
over  
N Population Density



# Species-level Model Comparisons

	Individual Islands		NWHI vs MHI	
	20km	200km	20km	200km
Total Fish Biomass		X		
<i>Acanthurus rubroviolaceus</i>		X		
<i>Paranx melampygus</i>		X		
<i>Parupeneus porphyreus</i>	X			
<i>Plaso unicornis</i>	X			
<i>Mulloidichthys vanicolensis</i>		X		
<i>Thlorurus spilurus</i>	X			
<i>Acanthurus triostegus sandvicensis</i>	X			
<i>Acanthurus achilles</i>	X			
<i>Polydactylus sexfilis</i>	NA			
<i>Acanthurus dussumieri</i>	X			



# Next Steps

Incorporate intra-island (e.g., “sectors”) groups into hierarchical analysis

Add oceanographic data

Develop a framework for optimizing species-specific models

Work more closely with DAR



MART

# MAHALO!

CRED  
CRED Fish Team  
DAR  
NOAA  
Reef Smart



Questions??

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