

1 **Combining mesocosms with models to unravel the effects of global warming**
2 **and ocean acidification on temperate marine ecosystems**

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Running title: Mesocosm data improves biodiversity forecasts

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17 **Abstract**

- 18 1. Ocean warming and species exploitation have already caused large-scale
19 reorganization of biological communities across the world. Accurate projections of
20 future biodiversity change require a comprehensive understanding of how entire
21 communities respond to global change.
- 22 2. We combined a time-dynamic integrated food web modelling approach (Ecosim) with
23 a community-level mesocosm experiment to determine the independent and combined
24 effects of ocean warming and acidification, and fisheries exploitation, on a temperate
25 coastal ecosystem. The mesocosm enabled important physiological and behavioural
26 responses to climate stressors to be projected for trophic levels ranging from primary
27 producers to top predators, including sharks.
- 28 3. We show that under current-day rates of exploitation, warming and ocean acidification
29 will benefit most species in higher trophic levels (e.g. mammals, birds, demersal
30 finfish) in their current climate ranges, with the exception of small pelagic fish, but
31 these benefits will be reduced or lost when these physical stressors co-occur.
- 32 4. We show that increases in exploitation will, in most instances, suppress any positive
33 effects of human-driven climate change, causing individual species biomass to
34 decrease at high-trophic levels. Species diversity at the trailing edges of species
35 distributions is likely to decline in the face of ocean warming, acidification and
36 exploitation.
- 37 5. Synthesis and applications. We showcase how multi-level mesocosm food web
38 experiments can be used to directly inform dynamic food web models, enabling the
39 ecological processes that drive the responses of marine ecosystems to scenarios of
40 global change to be captured in model projections and their individual and combined
41 effects to be teased apart. Our approach for blending theoretical and empirical results

42 from mesocosm experiments with computational models will provide resource
43 managers and conservation biologists with improved tools for forecasting biodiversity
44 change and altered ecosystem processes due to climate change.

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46 Keywords: biodiversity change, fisheries exploitation, food web models, climate change,
47 multiple stressors, species interactions, trophic modelling

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49

50 **INTRODUCTION**

51

52 Marine ecosystems and resources are facing significant challenges due to the cumulative
53 effects of multiple global and local stressors, including overfishing, eutrophication, pollution,
54 habitat destruction, climate change, and ocean acidification (Cheung, 2018; Halpern et al.,
55 2015). Hence, significant effort is needed to generate reliable projections of future changes in
56 marine food webs and fisheries productivity.

57 Past attempts to forecast climate-driven changes in populations of fisheries species
58 have incorporated the direct impact of temperature on species physiology using deterministic
59 food web models (Blanchard et al., 2012; Brown et al., 2010), end-to-end climate models
60 (Olsen et al., 2018), and species distribution models (Cheung et al., 2011; Peterson et al.,
61 2002). Most of these projections, however, are based on species thermal niches or ecological
62 proxies that do not consider real time observations from the natural system or experimental
63 settings. Thus, they ignore the potentially large role of indirect (e.g. shifting predator-prey
64 relationships) and interactive drivers of change (e.g., with ocean acidification) on model
65 outcomes. Although thermal niches play an important role in governing species distributions
66 and their population sizes, the occurrence and abundance of species is also heavily regulated

67 by life-history traits, metapopulation processes and biotic interactions (Fordham et al., 2013;
68 Mellin et al., 2016). While modelling architectures have been developed to improve our
69 understanding of how multiple drivers of global change (including warming, acidification and
70 exploitation) interact and affect marine communities (Fulton and Gorton, 2014; Kaplan et al.,
71 2010; Koenigstein et al., 2018), accounting for complex biotic responses to multiple stressors
72 at the level of the food web has proved difficult.

73 The role of indirect effects of climate change (e.g. shifting predator-prey relationships)
74 on marine communities has received less attention than direct effects, even though they are
75 likely to strongly shape future marine communities (Lord et al., 2017; Nagelkerken et al.,
76 2017). Empirical data that enables biotic interactions to be quantified under near-future
77 climate change scenarios is urgently needed to better project and understand the role of direct
78 and indirect drivers of climate change on biological systems. A promising avenue is to use
79 large-scale mesocosm experiments to quantify the potential effect of global warming on the
80 strength of biotic interactions, rates of species turnover and composition, along with many
81 other key ecological processes that drive population- and community-level responses to
82 climate change (Fordham, 2015; Nagelkerken et al., 2020). Although scale, closed
83 boundaries, simplified ecological communities, and replication can impose challenges for
84 researchers using mesocosm experiments, they have the potential to quantify community-to-
85 ecosystem level responses to scenarios of global warming (Sagarin et al., 2016), particularly if
86 climate change mesocosm experiments align with regional climate projections for their study
87 system (Korell et al., 2020).

88 Dynamic food web simulation models have shown that scenarios of increased
89 temperature or acidification, modelled in isolation, could positively or negatively affect future
90 fisheries through increased primary productivity (Brown et al., 2010) or higher mortality of
91 invertebrates (Griffith et al., 2011; Marshall et al., 2017), respectively. However, the

92 cumulative effects of ocean warming and acidification on complex natural food webs remain
93 largely unknown, despite both stressors being a consequence of human-induced greenhouse
94 gas emissions, affecting marine systems in unison (Brierley and Kingsford, 2009).

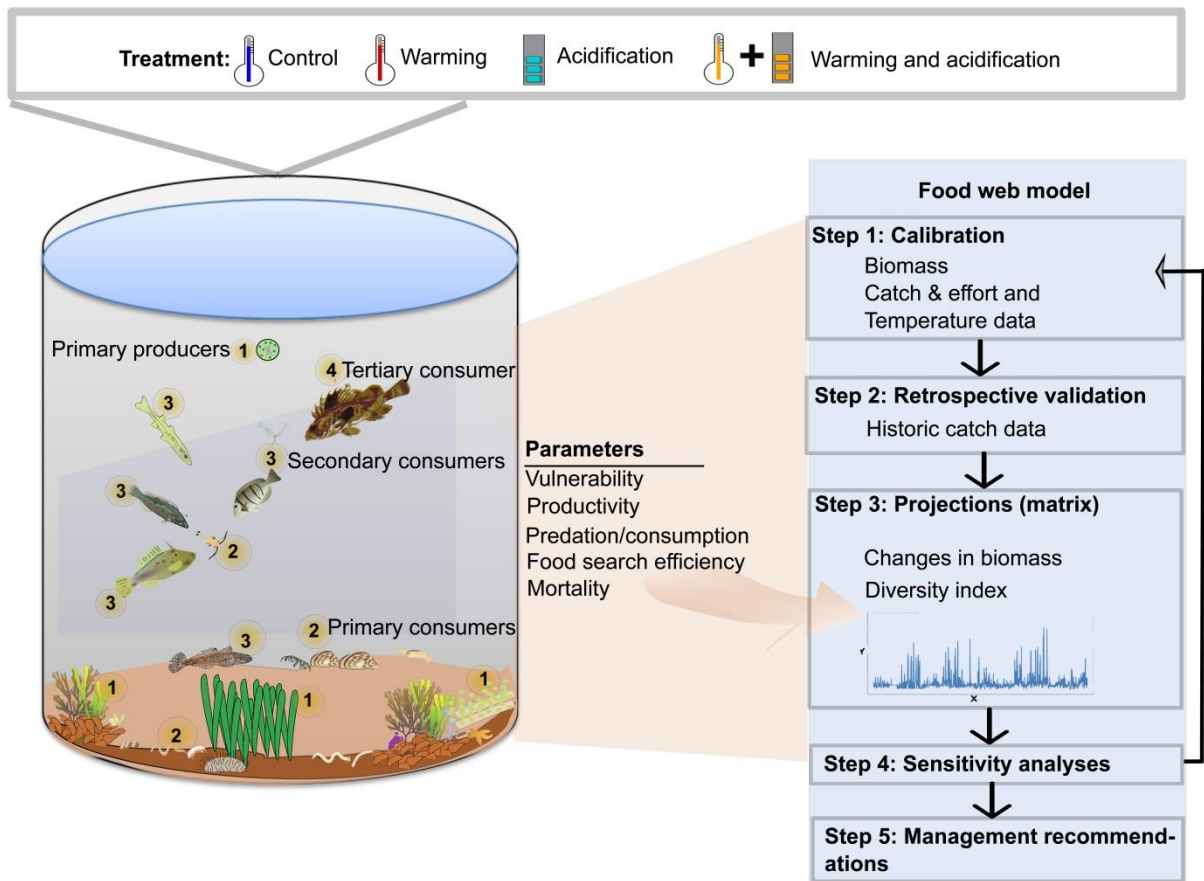
95 We combined empirical data from mesocosm experiments with dynamic food web
96 models to test whether: (1) the combination of ocean warming and acidification is likely to
97 exert synergistic, additive or antagonistic effects on food web structure and function for a
98 temperate coastal ecosystem, and (2) whether increased exploitation will amplify these
99 projected responses to increased greenhouse gas emissions. We use the mesocosm
100 experiments to integrate physiological and behavioral responses of organisms to different
101 scenarios of warming and/or acidification into the food web model, based on observations at
102 trophic levels ranging from primary producers to top predators (including sharks). We show
103 that integrating mesocosm experiments with dynamic food web models can provide
104 ecologically robust frameworks for exploring the consequences of climate change on the
105 structure and function of future food webs and their production capacity.

106

107 **MATERIALS AND METHODS**

108

109 We integrated empirical data from two food-web-level mesocosm studies (and other sources)
110 into an existing food web model for the Port Philip Bay (PPB) temperate coastal marine
111 ecosystem (Victoria, Australia) (Koopman, 2005) using Ecopath (Christensen et al., 2008).
112 We validated the food web model retrospectively, using hindcast validation and then
113 simulated likely future community-level changes for the PPB ecosystem (Fig 1).



114

115 Figure 1: Conceptual representation of how different food web parameters from mesocosm
 116 experiments can be integrated with dynamic modelling approaches to project the state of
 117 future ecosystems. Several trophic level groups are illustrated e.g.: 1) primary producers:
 118 phytoplankton, macroalgae, seagrass, algal turf, microphytobenthos; 2) primary consumers:
 119 gastropods, shrimps, copepods, bivalves, polychaetes, sea urchins, sea stars, sponges,
 120 ascidians, tanaids; 3) secondary consumers: carnivorous (pelagic) fish, omnivorous fish,
 121 herbivorous fish, carnivorous (benthic) fish; 4) tertiary consumer: scorpionfish (behavioural
 122 experiment). Organism symbols were drawn by the authors or were courtesy of the
 123 Integration and Application Network, University of Maryland Center for Environmental
 124 Science (ian.umces.edu/symbols/).

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126 Food web model and scenarios

127 Ecopath is a mass-balance food-web modelling approach used to create a baseline snapshot of
 128 the ecosystem and quantify the flow of energy between food web functional groups
 129 (Christensen et al., 2008). The model requires four primary input variables: biomass (B),

130 production/biomass ratio (P/B), consumption/biomass ratio (Q/B), and diet composition.
131 Experimental data from two large-scale mesocosms (Pistevos et al., 2015; Ullah et al., 2018),
132 and field data published elsewhere, were used to calculate these input variables (see
133 Supporting Information).

134 Differential equations were used to estimate biomass fluxes for each species and/or
135 functional group within the food web using foraging arena theory (Ahrens et al., 2012).
136 Vulnerability parameters were used to define predator consumption rates (Q_{ij}) (Equation 1)
137 (see Supporting Information). For each predator-prey interaction, we calculated Q_{ij} at time t
138 as,

$$139 \quad Q_{ij}(t) = \frac{a_{ij} \times v_{ij} \times B_i(t) \times B_j(t) \times f(t)}{2 \times v_{ij} \times a_{ij} \times B_j(t)} \quad (\text{Eq. 1})$$

140 where a_{ij} is the effective search rate of predator j feeding on prey i , B_i is the biomass of the
141 prey, B_j is the predator biomass, and v_{ij} is the vulnerability of prey i to predator j (Christensen
142 et al., 2008). The forcing function $f(t)$ was used to account for external drivers changing
143 through time affecting Q_{ij} .

144 Climate change was incorporated into model projections using forcing functions that
145 temporally affect the consumption and production of functional groups (Ainsworth et al.,
146 2011; Cornwall and Eddy, 2015) based on observations from the mesocosm experiments (see
147 below). Specifically, we used the estimated effects of warming, acidification and their
148 combination on prey vulnerability, search activity (higher trophic levels), mortality and
149 productivity (primary producers) of trophic groups to alter modelled consumption (Q/B_i) and
150 production (P/B_i) rate.

151 We developed four 85-year simulations (2015-2100): a no-climate-change scenario
152 (baseline), ocean warming (T), ocean acidification (OA) and their combination (OAT). The
153 climate change scenarios assumed a 2.8 °C increase in warming by 2100, representing a high
154 representative concentration pathway scenario (RCP 8.5) for the Port Phillip Bay region (1.9

155 to 3.8 °C increase from a 20-year baseline focused on 1995 (Clarke et al., 2011)). We
156 considered only RCP 8.5 because it was feasible to do the mesocosm experiment under only
157 one RCP scenario. Uncertainty in parameter estimates for biomass (B), production (P/B) and
158 consumption (Q/B) rates, and ecotrophic efficiency (EE) was simulated by varying these
159 parameters randomly within bounds of $\pm 20\%$ coefficient of variation.

160 The no-climate-change scenario (NC) assumes that model parameters do not change in
161 the future, with model drivers, including fishing effort, set to the last year of the historical
162 observation data (2015). For the three climate change scenarios (T, OA, and OAT), we
163 incorporated direct and indirect climate-driven changes in species interactions and mortality
164 of trophic functional groups in the food web. The effects of climate change were assessed by
165 comparing biomasses and ecological indicators observed under the NC scenario with that of
166 the climate change scenarios. Exploitation was initially held constant at 2015 levels for 21st
167 Century climate change scenarios because fisheries management is generally done at decadal
168 temporal resolutions, or finer (Fulton et al., 2018), meaning little is known about how
169 exploitation rates are likely to change by the end of the century. However, we did run further
170 scenarios to test the response of future food webs to increased exploitation. We did this by
171 increasing exploitation by 1.5, 2 and 5-fold compared to present-day fishing pressure.

172

173 **Mesocosm experiment**

174 Empirical data from the mesocosm experiments were used to quantify the effects of climate
175 change on food web structure and function, including trophic level biomass and diversity
176 (Fig. 1; Supporting Information). Three response variables were derived and combined to
177 estimate prey vulnerability to higher order trophic levels (trophic level ≥ 2) using behavioural
178 experiments under the different mesocosm treatments (NC, T, OA, OAT). I) “prey attraction”
179 was calculated as the percentage of time spent in the area close to a food cue relative to the

180 time spent in the entire field of view (Goldenberg et al., 2018). II) ‘food search activity’ was
181 given as the number of position changes in the area close to a food cue relative to the time
182 spent in this area (Goldenberg et al., 2017). III) ‘boldness’ was measured as the percentage of
183 time spent directly in front of a predator within the area close to a food cue relative to the time
184 spent in the entire area close to the food cue. We averaged across the three response variables,
185 weighting each variable equally, to obtain a composite vulnerability index of prey to its
186 predator. For chondrichthyans, we calculated effective search activity as the total time taken
187 by Port Jackson sharks (*Heterodontus portusjacksoni*) to successfully locate prey hidden in
188 the sand using olfactory cues (see methods in (Pistevos et al., 2015) for details). Mortality as a
189 direct function of biomass decline was quantified for functional groups not predated in the
190 system. Primary productivity was measured from community metabolism as gross oxygen
191 production ($\text{mg O}_2/\text{m}^3/\text{min}^1$) once per mesocosm at the end of the experiment. See Supporting
192 Information for more details.

193 We calculated relative effect sizes for prey vulnerability, search activity, mortality and
194 productivity by comparing the NC (control) scenarios with climate change treatments. These
195 effect sizes were used to derive the model forcing functions for different climate change
196 scenarios (OA, T, and OAT) (Table S1). The forcing function (input) and responses (biomass)
197 were standardized to the base scenario by dividing the response value by the base values
198 under a particular scenario. We used linear interpolation to construct a time series for all the
199 forcing function parameters between 2015 and 2100. While it is common practice in climate
200 change ecology to interpolate temporally between climate snapshots (Fordham et al., 2012),
201 doing so can potentially mask important decadal variation (Fordham et al., 2018). We were
202 limited to this approach because the mesocosm experiments were snapshots focussed on year
203 2100. The forcing functions were applied to appropriate functional groups in the model (Table

204 S1). We provide a more detailed explanation of the estimation of different forcing function
205 parameters in the Supporting Information.

206

207 **Analysis and model validation**

208 We pooled food web functional groups into 10 community levels, including pelagic groups
209 (mammals, birds, cephalopods, pelagic finfish), demersal groups (chondrichthians and
210 demersal finfish) and their prey (benthic crustaceans, invertebrates, small pelagic crustaceans,
211 primary producers) (Table S2). We calculated effect sizes for changes in biomass under
212 different model scenarios using Hedges' g (Lakens, 2013). We calculated and compared key
213 biodiversity indicators under different model scenarios, including the Shannon index
214 (Shannon and Weaver, 1963) and Kempton's Q index (Ainsworth and Pitcher, 2006). The
215 Shannon diversity index captures changes in evenness, whereas the Kempton's Q index
216 captures changes in both evenness and richness at the level of functional groups (see
217 Supporting Information for details).

218 We did an ecosystem model skill assessment (Olsen et al., 2016) and a global
219 sensitivity analysis (Fordham et al., 2016) to determine the influence of input parameters on
220 model results (see Supporting Information). To assess ecosystem model skill for our PBB
221 model — and verify that parameters from our mesocosm were transferrable to the PPB coastal
222 marine system — we validated hindcast simulations using independent catch-data (Table S3).
223 Historical abundances (1993 and 2011) were simulated using the full-PBB model and sub-
224 models with only functional groups in the mesocosm experiment. We assessed model-skill
225 using a wide range of metrics (Olsen et al., 2016; Stow et al., 2009): root mean squared error
226 (RMSE), average error (AE), average absolute error (AAE), modelling efficiency (MEF), and
227 Pearson (P) and Spearman (S) correlation.

228 We determined the sensitivity of Ecopath input parameters — biomass (B), production
229 (P/B) and consumption (Q/B) rates, and ecotrophic efficiency (EE) — on estimates of change
230 in biomass under a scenario of projected ocean warming and acidification (OAT) and a
231 scenario that included a moderate level of exploitation as well as OAT. To do this we used the
232 built-in Monte Carlo routine within Ecosim module, which allows model input parameters to
233 be varied (Coll and Steenbeek, 2017; Heymans et al., 2016). Specifically, we ran 100 Monte
234 Carlo simulations with B, P/B and Q/B and EE varying randomly within bounds of $\pm 20\%$
235 coefficient of variation. Initial and projected future biomass for 3 community groups
236 (cephalopods, pelagic finfish and invertebrates) were recorded for the year 2100. We used
237 generalized linear models (GLM) to explore the relative importance of different model input
238 parameters on projected changes in future biomass (Fordham et al., 2016). We did this by
239 calculating standardized regression coefficients (SRC) along with the coefficients and their
240 confidence intervals. Furthermore, we assessed the quality of input data for the PPB model
241 using food web diagnostics (Link, 2010) and explored the effects of parameter uncertainty on
242 model outputs using sensitivity analysis. See Supplementary Information for more details.

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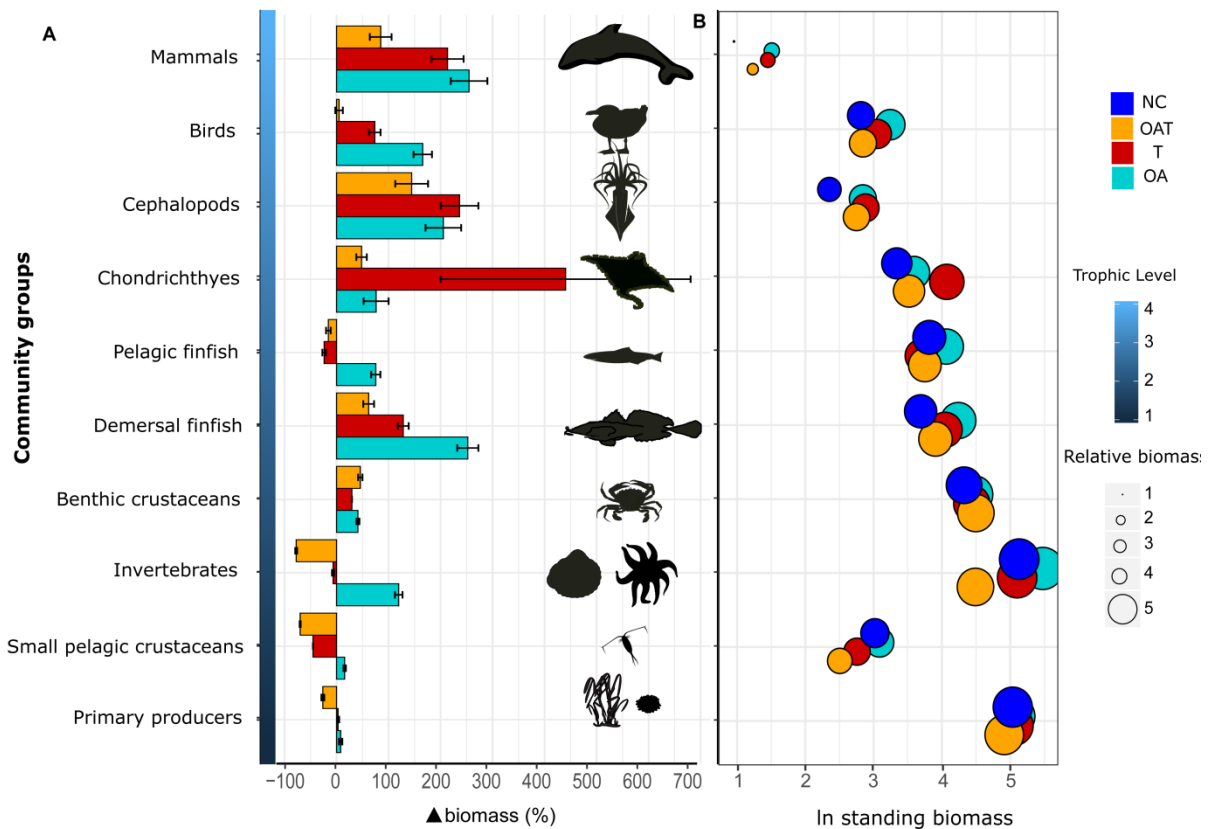
244 **RESULTS**

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246 **Biomass changes under future climate change**

247 Model simulations show that the total biomass of most higher-trophic-order community
248 groups (mammals, cephalopods, chondrichthians, and demersal finfish) is likely to benefit
249 from ocean warming (T) or acidification (OA), when modelled separately (Fig. 2, Fig S1).
250 However, the combination of the two stressors has an antagonistic effect on biomass increase.
251 At the level of individual species or functional group the positive effects on biomass are more
252 disparate (Figs. S2, S3).

253 Our models project an average increase in marine mammal biomass of 85% by the end
 254 of the 21st Century under the combined effect of acidification and warming (OAT) compared
 255 to no-climate-change and current levels of fish exploitation ('no change' scenario) (Fig. 2A).
 256 Modelling acidification (OA) and warming (T) separately resulted in even higher average
 257 increases in marine mammal biomass: 254% and 213%, respectively. Cephalopod biomass is
 258 projected to increase by 144% under OAT, while warming and acidification in isolation likely
 259 boost biomass by 237% and 205%, respectively. Although chondrichthyans showed the
 260 largest increase in their biomass under warming, this increase in biomass was affected by
 261 parameter uncertainty. Demersal finfish and seabirds are projected to increase their biomass
 262 the most in response to OA (252% and 165%, respectively), with a smaller increase under T.
 263 Pelagic finfish showed a negative response to warming, irrespective of acidification, with
 264 small pelagics (mostly planktivores) showing severe depletions (>70%) under both under T
 265 and OAT (Fig. S2).



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268 FIGURE 2:: A) Mean (\pm 95% confidence interval) relative change in biomass (Δ %) in year
269 2100 for different food web community groups under three climate change scenarios relative
270 to a no-climate-change (NC) scenario. OA = ocean acidification, T = ocean warming, and
271 OAT = combined ocean acidification and warming. Functional groups of food web models
272 are aggregated to community groups (CGs) for better representation and clarity. The order of
273 CGs is based on the mean trophic level (shown in blue). B) The future standing biomass
274 (kg/km^2 ; ln- transformed) estimates for each CG. The bubble size is proportional to its
275 biomass. Exploitation rates for all scenarios are modelled at present-day rates.

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278 Conversely, ocean warming – either alone or in combination with ocean acidification
279 – is projected to exert a negative effect on lower trophic-level faunal groups, with the
280 exception of benthic crustaceans (Fig. 2A). Invertebrates (predominantly molluscs and
281 invertebrates that do not possess a chitinous exoskeleton; Table S5), and small pelagic
282 crustaceans (zooplankton) are projected to experience biomass declines of 7-78% and 45-
283 70%, respectively, under T or OAT (Fig. 2).

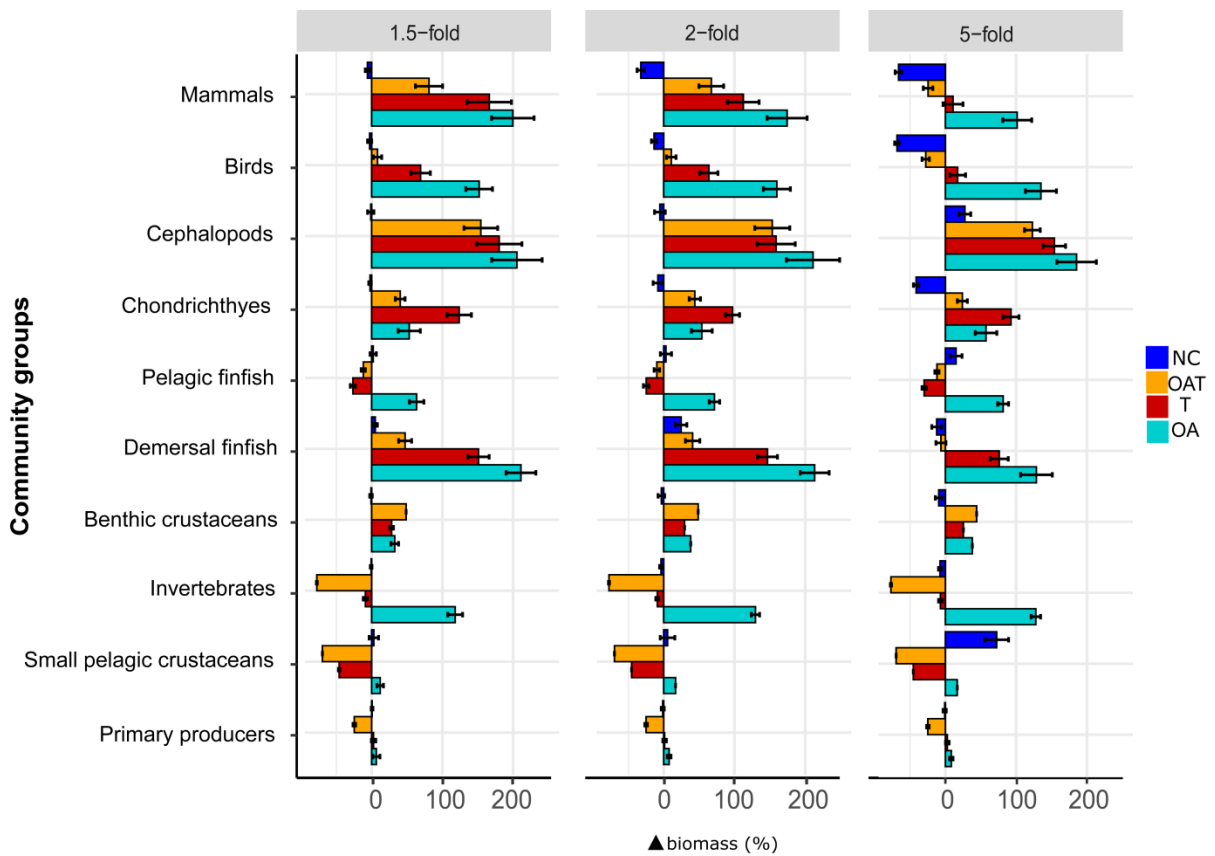
284 The standing biomass of primary producers increased under OA and T, but decreased
285 by \sim 26% under OAT (Fig. 1A), largely driven by a reduction of phytoplankton, micro-
286 phytobenthos and macro-algal biomass (Fig. S3). Turf algae, in contrast, experienced a large
287 increase in biomass (Fig. S3).

288

289 **The combined effect of warming, acidification and exploitation**

290 In the absence of ocean warming and acidification, exploitation reduced (by 1-32%) projected
291 biomass in the year 2100 for most higher-order community groups under a 1.5- to 2-fold
292 increase in exploitation rate (Fig. 3). Further increases in exploitation (up to 5-fold)
293 exacerbated this declining trend (by 41-66%) for mammals, birds (due to reduced prey) and
294 chondrichthians. Negative effects of up to a 2-fold increase in exploitation were suppressed at

295 higher trophic levels (except for pelagic finfish) under modelled climate change (OA, T and
 296 OAT), due to greater top-down control of consumers on prey resources (Fig. 2). However, a
 297 5-fold increase in exploitation caused the biomass of mammals and birds to collapse under
 298 warming scenarios, causing some functional groups for example cephalopods to increase in
 299 biomass (T: 178%; OAT: 144%) (Fig. S4). Whilst both T and OA scenarios positively
 300 affected higher trophic levels in the face of medium-to-high increases in exploitation, their
 301 largely negative effects on lower trophic levels (primary producers, small pelagic crustaceans
 302 and invertebrates) were not decreased by increased exploitation (Fig. 3; Fig. S5).



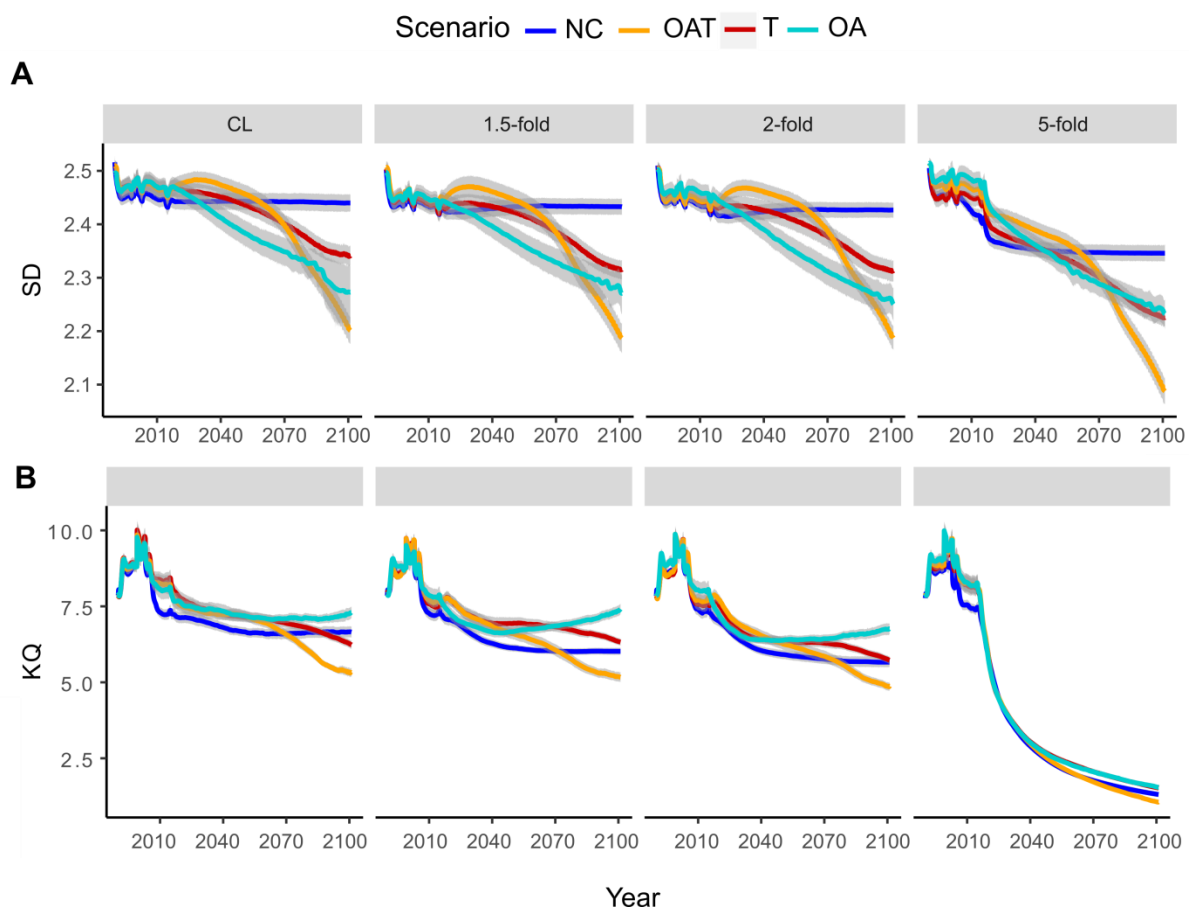
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304 FIGURE 3: Mean (\pm 95% confidence interval) relative change in biomass (Δ %) in year 2100
 305 compared to no change in climate and fishing from present-day levels (NC). OA = ocean
 306 acidification, T= ocean warming, and OAT = combined ocean acidification and warming.
 307 Functional groups are aggregated to community groups (CGs) for better representation and
 308 clarity. Number of ‘folds’ equals the magnitude of increase in fishing pressure starting in
 309 2015.

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Under the NC scenario, the Shannon diversity index remained relatively stable in the future under 1.5- and 2- fold increases in exploitation, whilst it decreased by ~ 4% under a 5-fold increase in exploitation (Fig. 4A). In contrast, the Shannon diversity index declined under all global change scenarios with the largest declines projected for OAT, under a 5-fold increase in exploitation (Fig. 4A). The Kempton Q metric for higher trophic levels showed a stronger decline (after year 2070) under OAT compared to the other climate change scenarios (Fig. 4B). A 5-fold increase in exploitation resulted in a steep and immediate decline in the Kempton Q index regardless of the climate change scenario.



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FIGURE 4: Ecological indicators of change in community composition, showing A) Shannon diversity index and B) Kempton Q index. The grey shadows represent the 95% percentile and 5% percentile. NC = no change in climate from present-day levels, OA = ocean acidification,

325 T = ocean warming, and OAT = combined ocean acidification and warming. CL= current
326 level of fishing effort. Number of ‘folds’ equals the magnitude of increase in fishing pressure
327 starting in 2015.

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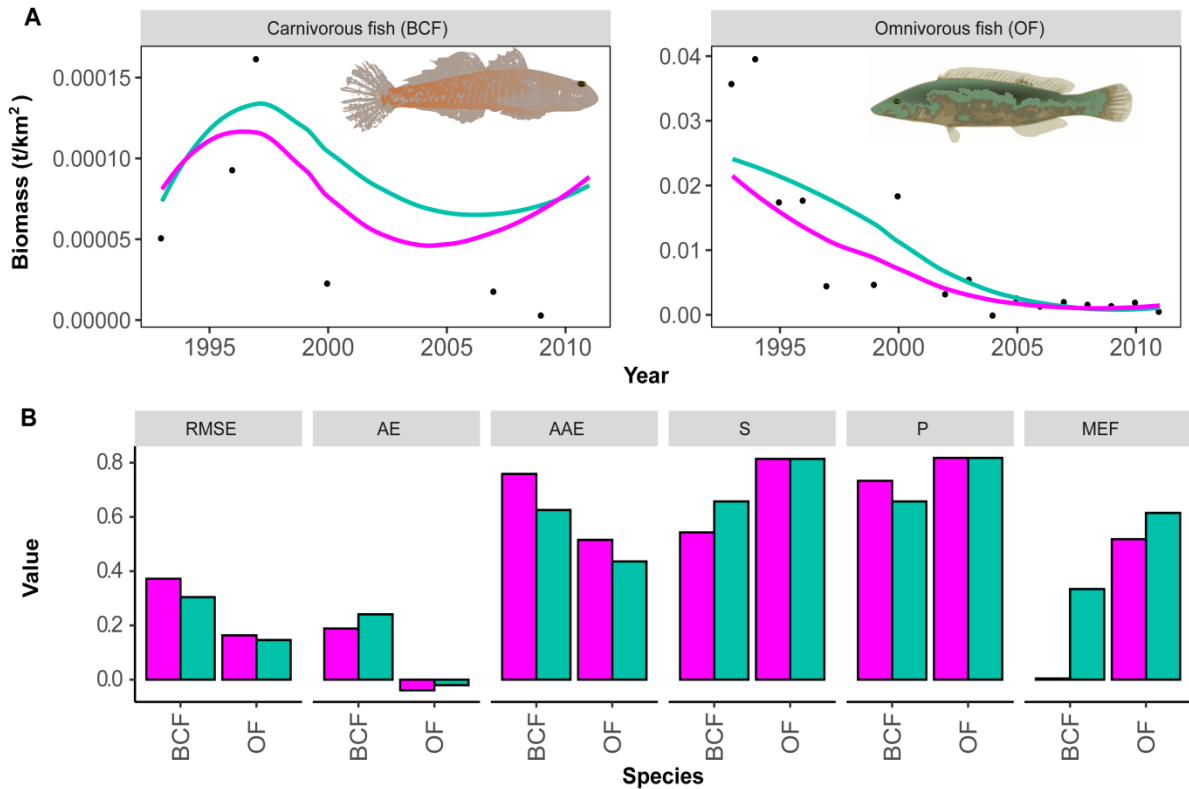
330 **Model validation and sensitivity**

331 Hindcasts of biomass from models parameterized using mesocosm data were correlated with
332 empirical field data for carnivorous fish and omnivorous fish (correlation coefficient [r] =
333 0.54-0.82). The food web model skill assessment showed that models parametrized with
334 mesocosm data are generally as skillful at projecting changes in biomass as models
335 parameterized with field data (Fig. 5). Model projections for carnivorous and omnivorous fish
336 biomass were relatively synchronous with independent biomass (survey) data, regardless of
337 whether the models were parameterized using empirical data from the field ($r = 0.73$, $RMSE$
338 ≤ 0.0001 ; $r = 0.82$, $RMSE = 0.007$, respectively) or mesocosm ($r = 0.69$, $RMSE \leq 0.0001$; $r =$
339 0.82 , $RMSE = 0.007$, respectively) data. Models parameterized with either field or mesocosm
340 data did worse at projecting observed temporal variability in biomass for Port Jackson shark (r
341 $= 0.12$, $RSME = 0.011$, $r = 0.29$, $RSME = 0.011$, respectively). Estimates of modelling
342 efficiency (MEF) suggest that models for omnivorous fish and carnivorous fish do better than
343 random (MEF > 0). This was not the case for Port Jackson sharks (Fig. S6). Importantly, bias
344 (average error) in model projections remained low for all functional groups for models
345 calibrated with field (carnivorous fish: + 0.24 g; omnivorous fish: - 0.02 g; Port Jackson
346 shark: -0.12 g) or mesocosm data (carnivorous fish: + 0.18 g; omnivorous fish: -0.03 g; Port
347 Jackson shark: -0.09 g).

348 The global sensitivity analysis (Table S6) showed that estimates of change in biomass
349 (years 2015 to 2100) under an OAT scenario for pelagic finfish and invertebrates are most
350 sensitive to changes in the Ecopath input parameter B followed by PB. For cephalopods,

351 estimates of change in biomass were most sensitive to changes in QB, followed by PB. The
 352 most important parameter for each community remained the same regardless of whether
 353 exploitation was modelled or not.

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 357 **FIGURE 5: A) Mesocosm transferability.** Comparison of the Port Phillip Bay (PPB) model
 358 built with the field (pink) and experimental data from the mesocosms (green) to standing
 359 catch biomass (tonnes per km²; solid black dots) for two major functional groups between
 360 years 1993 and 2011. BCF = benthic carnivorous fish and OF = omnivorous fish.

361 **B) Ecosystem model skill assessment** for models built using empirical field (pink) and
 362 experimental mesocosm data (green) for Port Phillip Bay (between 1993 and 2011): root
 363 mean squared error (RMSE), average error (AE), average absolute error (AAE), Spearman
 364 rank (S) and Pearson (P) correlation, and modelling efficiency (MEF) for 2 species. Y-axis
 365 limited to show values between -0.05 and 1.00.

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368 **DISCUSSION**

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370 By integrating empirical data on species physiological and behavioural performance from two
371 large-scale mesocosm experiments into dynamic food web models, accounting for historical
372 exploitation rates, we show that climate change is likely to benefit the biomass of animals at
373 higher trophic levels in some temperate marine ecosystems, albeit at a potential cost to
374 biodiversity. Increased biomass under warming results from strengthened top-down control of
375 consumers that occupy higher trophic levels, supported by a positive biomass response of
376 some of their prey groups. Accordingly, the structure of future temperate marine food webs
377 appears to be shaped by altered predator-prey dynamics, resulting from a reshuffling of
378 predatory and prey species abundances in response to warming, and not a continuous fuelling
379 of the food web from the bottom up as would be the case if ocean acidification was the
380 dominant climate stressor (Nagelkerken et al., 2020; Sswat et al., 2018).

381 Organisms at higher trophic levels are likely to increase their top-down control on
382 their prey, and therefore increase in biomass, in response to temperature-driven enhancements
383 in their metabolic rates (Brown et al., 2010). Although an increase in top-down control by
384 consumers has been previously suggested as a response to ocean warming for simplified
385 (three-trophic-level) food webs (Goldenberg et al., 2017; Marino et al., 2018), a robust
386 understanding of how higher-order consumers or apex predators will respond to global
387 warming, and the subsequent effects for lower-order trophic levels, has until now been
388 lacking. We show that under future scenarios of warming, the biomass of all higher-order
389 consumers and apex predators (mammals, birds, cephalopods, chondrichthians, and demersal
390 finfish) is likely to increase compared to a no-warming scenario due to amplified rates of prey
391 consumption (pelagic finfish, invertebrates and small pelagic crustaceans), driven, in part, by
392 increases in biomass of benthic crustaceans (major prey group in the system). Our new

393 results, for a temperate marine ecosystem, suggest that the benefit of warming for higher
394 trophic levels is likely to be universal, with associated negative effects for their prey at lower
395 trophic levels.

396 Acidification alone is not expected to enhance top-down control by consumers
397 because elevated CO₂ tends not to positively affect the metabolism of consumers (Carter et
398 al., 2013; Kroeker et al., 2013). Recent food web studies showed that enhanced primary
399 production can enlarge available prey resources, which can boost the growth of consumers
400 under acidification (Nagelkerken et al., 2017; Sswat et al., 2018). This was true for all higher-
401 order predators in our study, although for chondrichthians the biomass increase was weak.
402 Elevated CO₂ is known to affect the foraging behaviour (e.g. reduced prey search efficiency
403 and impaired odour tracking) of chondrichthians which might explain the reduced increase in
404 biomass for this group (Pistevos et al., 2015). Because of their different physiology, highly
405 active predators such as marine mammals, birds, and non-bony animals such as cephalopods
406 tend to be more tolerant to increasingly acidic environmental conditions (Melzner et al.,
407 2009). They benefit from amplified acidification only if increased resource availability at the
408 bottom of the food web is transferred up the food web.

409 Although warming and acidification in isolation showed striking positive effects on
410 the biomass of predators, their combined effect was antagonistic for many of the top
411 consumers in the food web and caused a decline in the biomass of many lower-order
412 consumers. Previous studies have shown that warming and acidification can antagonistically
413 affect the growth of carnivores such as sharks by affecting prey search time (Pistevos et al.,
414 2015), and of herbivores by increasing the degree of unpalatable or poor-quality food (Poore
415 et al., 2013). Two of the major prey groups in our model (small pelagic crustaceans and
416 invertebrates) experienced collapses in their biomass under the combined effect of warming

417 and acidification, reducing the availability of resources for higher level consumers, resulting
418 in reduced rates of change in consumer biomass under this scenario.

419 In contrast to other invertebrates, benthic crustaceans sustained a biomass increase
420 under all modelled climate scenarios, enabling an increase in the biomass of their consumers
421 (e.g. demersal fish, and consecutively some higher-order predators). Benthic crustaceans
422 (e.g. lobsters, crabs, and shrimp) are generally considered to have a higher tolerance to
423 acidification than other invertebrates (Kroeker et al., 2013) and show, in some cases, positive
424 responses to warming (Faulkner et al., 2014). These observations could explain their
425 successful propagation under scenarios of global warming.

426 Exploitation is a local stressor that negatively affected the biomass of all higher order
427 community groups, except pelagic finfish. However, warming and acidification negated these
428 negative effects, boosting the biomass of top predators at exploitation intensities equal to or
429 smaller than a two-fold increase. Global-scale models, with static fishing rates, suggest that
430 some commercial fisheries (ranging from crustaceans, small and large fish, to sharks) in high-
431 latitude regions could experience an increase in future catches, owing to temperature-driven
432 shifts in species distributional ranges (Cheung et al., 2010). However, we here limited our
433 findings to changes in food webs based on current species distributions (i.e. at their climate
434 trailing edges). Dynamic food web approaches also project a productivity increase in pelagic
435 fisheries in response to forecast warming of oceans (Blanchard et al., 2012), and increased
436 yields of commercially valuable fish stocks by 2050 under future warming (Merino et al.,
437 2012). While the latter studies modelled food web responses, they used a simplified approach,
438 with phytoplankton productivity as the only primary source of energy input, exploited species
439 as the primary elements of the food web, and ocean warming as a single stressor. Here, using
440 a more inclusive dynamic food web modelling approach, we show that opportunistic and less-
441 targeted groups such as cephalopods are likely to flourish in their biomass at higher fisheries

442 exploitation (\geq two-fold) rates due to a decrease in the biomass of major commercial species
443 such as demersal finfish irrespective of climate change. Overall, we show that the greatest
444 effects on future marine food webs are likely to arise at the top of the food web when
445 overexploitation coincides with the combined effect of warming and acidification.

446 Ocean warming and acidification have a much greater negative effect on functional
447 diversity in food webs than overexploitation. Future ocean warming and acidification can
448 significantly reduce diversity (i.e., Shannon diversity) within temperate coastal food webs
449 even under present-day exploitation levels, owing to declines in the biomass of primary
450 producers (i.e. non-weedy species such as macrophytes and certain species of phytoplankton),
451 small pelagic crustaceans, invertebrates, and pelagic fish species. Moreover, it can cause a
452 reduction in evenness (Kempton Q index) for higher-order groups in the food web. These
453 changes in diversity and evenness are likely to enable ecological opportunistic species to
454 flourish (Woodruff, 2001), such as high-order cephalopods and lower-order “weedy” turf
455 algae, leading to further simplification of community structure (Nagelkerken and Connell,
456 2015). Together, global warming and fishing will likely shift the distribution of biomass
457 within the community and reduced diversity of future food webs.

458 By combining empirical data on species response to climate change from large
459 mesocosms with historical population data (from scientific surveys and fisheries landings) in
460 a dynamic food web model, we moved from experimental ecology to making projections and
461 management recommendations aimed at safeguarding marine biodiversity under climate
462 change. Blending mesocosm experiments with “real world” ecological models has been
463 questioned on the grounds that they are unlikely to attain realistic projections (Carpenter,
464 1996). By independently validating our model projections against historical population data
465 (trawl surveys), we not only show that our dynamic food web model does a fair to good job at
466 reconstructing observed historical trends in biomass (particularly for selected functional

467 groups), but that models based on mesocosm experiments provide a relatively close
468 representation of ‘real world’ food webs. Therefore, mesocosms with realistic multifactorial
469 experiments that capture food web complexity can indeed be used with confidence to
470 parameterize ecosystem models and help to bridge the gap between simplified experimental
471 conditions and the real world.

472 Our modelling approach, like other modelling techniques, has its own caveats. El
473 Niño–Southern Oscillation (ENSO) is known to influence Australia’s marine ecosystem
474 through its year-to-year dynamics in climate variability (Lough and Hobday, 2011). These
475 fine temporal scale climate dynamics could not be captured in the mesocosm experiment and
476 therefore the food web model. This could, potentially, affect our modelled trajectories of
477 biomass and community composition. To calculate the vulnerability of fish to their
478 consumers, all fish species were considered into two major categories, namely carnivores and
479 omnivores (feeding guilds). The somewhat poor fit of modelled projections to observed data
480 for Port Jackson shark is likely to reflect an over-simplification of food web structure for the
481 validation exercise (see Supplementary Information). Likewise, important and unaccounted
482 uncertainties in the validation data (i.e., detection probability) could partly explain the
483 difference between predicted and observed patterns of temporal variability in biomass
484 (Guillera-Arroita, 2017). Despite these limitations, our study included the best available
485 historical data and the most robust estimates of physiology and behaviour responses to global
486 warming for a 4-trophic level temperate food web system.

487

488 **CONCLUSIONS**

489 Here we used a novel approach to simulate the effects of global warming, ocean acidification,
490 and fishing on the biomass and diversity of species in a temperate coastal ecosystem, using
491 experimental data on the effects of ocean warming and ocean acidification on species

492 interactions and physiology, and historical fisheries (survey and catch) data. By simulating the
493 potential magnitude and direction of biomass changes for different functional groups, we
494 show that the structure and function of future temperate marine food webs under ocean
495 warming is likely to be altered by predator-prey dynamics at the top of the food web rather
496 than changes from the bottom up. Consumers at higher trophic levels are likely to benefit
497 from ocean warming and acidification, but these benefits will be reduced or lost when these
498 stressors co-occur. More generally, we show that mesocosm experiments can be integrated
499 with food web models to better manage marine biodiversity in response to 21st century
500 climate change.

501

502 **DECLARATION OF INTEREST STATEMENT**

503 The authors have no conflicts of interest to declare.

504

505 **AUTHORS' CONTRIBUTIONS**

506 HU, IN and DF conceived the research; HU and SG collected the data; HU developed the
507 methods; HU analysed the data; HU, IN and DF wrote the manuscript; All authors contributed
508 to revisions and approved the final submission.

509

510 **DATA AVAILABILITY STATEMENT**

511 Data will be available via the Dryad Digital Repository upon the acceptance of the article.

512

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521

522 **Appendix A.** Supporting Information

523

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669

Combining mesocosms with models to unravel the effects of global warming and ocean acidification on temperate marine ecosystems

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SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

1. Modelling approach

We used Ecopath and Ecosim (EwE) (Christensen *et al.* 2008) to simulate the effect of future climate change and fishing effort on the biomass of different functional groups of a coastal marine food web. Ecopath is a food-web modelling approach used to create a baseline snapshot of the ecosystem and quantify the flow of energy between food web functional groups.

1) We developed a static food web (Ecopath) model using principals pertaining to trophic mass-balance, where removal from the system (e.g. predation, fishing, emigration, etc.) equal total production. To do this, we generated a static snapshot of the ecosystem focused on a baseline year of 1990. To parameterize the Ecopath model we used two ‘master’ equations: one for production (Equation 1) and the other for the energy balance (Equation 2). The first equation ensures energy-balance among groups by distributing total production of a group into the catch, predators' diet and other mortality (death caused by factors other than predation and catch).

The production of each group was calculated as (1):

Production = predation mortality + biomass accumulation + net migration + other mortality
and written as:

$$P_i = B_i \times M2_i + E_i + BA_i + P_i(1 - EE_i) \quad (\text{Eq. 1})$$

where P_i is the total production rate of the group (i), B_i is the biomass of a group (i), $M2_i$ is the instantaneous predation rate for the group (i), E_i is the net migration rate (emigration - immigration), BA_i is the biomass accumulation rate for (i), EE_i is the ecotrophic efficiency of (i) describing the proportion of the production utilized in the system, and $(1 - EE_i)$ represents mortality other than predation.

32 This formula incorporates all the production (or mortality) except gonadal products which are
 33 assumed to be ending up being eaten by other groups, hence here considered under other mortality.
 34 Therefore Equation 1 can be expressed as:

$$35 \quad B_i (P/B)_i \times EE_i - \sum_{j=1}^n B_j \left(\frac{Q}{B}\right)_j \times DC_{ji} - E_i - BA_i = 0 \quad (\text{Eq. 2})$$

36
 37 where P/B_i is the production/biomass ratio for (i), Q/B_j is the consumption/biomass ratio of the
 38 predator (j) and DC_{ji} is the fraction of prey (i) in the average diet of predator (j). All other variables
 39 are the same as those described for Equation 1.

40
 41 The second equation computes the energy balance within a functional group such as:

$$43 \quad Q_i = P_i + R_i + UA_i \quad (\text{Eq. 3})$$

44
 45 where Q_i is the consumption by a group (i), P_i is the total production of the group (i), R_i is the
 46 respiration of the group (i) and UA_i is the unassimilated food of the group (i).

47
 48 **2)** We used Ecosim to simulate the dynamics of each functional group over time using Ecopath inputs
 49 as starting information and incorporating different forcing functions associated with climate change.
 50 Ecosim keeps track of changes in the biomass of species (functional groups) as a function of temporal
 51 changes in their catch patterns, food-web complexity (predator-prey interaction), and environmental
 52 conditions (Walters, Christensen & Pauly 1997). We modeled changes in biomass for each trophic
 53 group (i) over time through using the differential equation (Equation 4) derived from Eq. 1 that is
 54 based on the “foraging arena” theory and embedded within Ecosim (Walters, Christensen & Pauly
 55 1997; Ahrens, Walters & Christensen 2012):

$$57 \quad \frac{dB_i}{dt} = \left(\frac{P}{Q}\right)_i \sum_j Q_{ji}(t) - \sum_j Q_{ij}(t) + I_i - B_i \times (M_i + F_i + e_i) \quad (\text{Eq. 4})$$

58
 59 where $\frac{dB_i}{dt}$ is the biomass growth rate of group i in the time dt , $\frac{P}{Q}_i$ is its production/consumption ratio,
 60 Q_{ji} is the consumption of group j (predator) on prey group(s) i , Q_{ij} is the consumption for predation by
 61 all predators j on the group i (prey), I_i is the immigration rate, B_i is the starting biomass, M_i and F_i are
 62 the natural and fishing mortality rates of group i , respectively, and e_i is the density-dependent
 63 emigration rate. In our case, e_i and I_i were set as zero.

64
 65 Following the “foraging arena” theory, consumption rates (Q_{ij}) are quantified using a nonlinear
 66 relationship between prey and predator, which assumes that only a portion of the biomass of the prey

67 is available to a predator. This means that the biomass of prey i is divided between a vulnerable and a
68 non-vulnerable state. The vulnerability concept incorporates density-dependency and expresses how
69 far a group is from its carrying capacity (Christensen & Walters 2004; Christensen *et al.* 2008). The
70 vulnerability rate can be modelled both as top-down and bottom-up controls of the predator-prey
71 interactions. For example, vulnerabilities greater than 2 describe top-down control of the predator-
72 prey relationship, where the predator biomass drives the prey mortalities, whilst vulnerabilities below
73 2 define bottom-up control, where the biomass of the predator has little effect on the predation
74 mortality of that prey.

75

76 **1.1. Food web model**

77 We updated an existing food web Ecopath model for Port Philip Bay (PPB) (Koopman 2005), initially
78 developed to model the benthic-demersal system of the Bay for the sand flathead (*Platycephalus*
79 *bassensis*) fishery, with recent and more reliable data that include single species, groups of species
80 and developmental phases of species (multi-stanza approach) focusing on both pelagic and demersal
81 component of the ecosystem. PPB is a temperate coastal marine system which is designated as a
82 sustainably managed ecosystem in terms of its fisheries exploitation (Flood *et al.* 2014). Fishing
83 pressure decreased by approximately fivefold between 1990 and 2016 in PPB (Fig. S7). PPB is a
84 temperate coastal marine system which is designated as a sustainably managed ecosystem in terms of
85 its fisheries exploitation.

86

87 The model by (Koopman 2005) is composed of 30 different components or groups (that include single
88 species, groups of species and developmental phases of one species) focused on 1990 (Table S4).
89 Input data came from a wide variety of sources (Table S5). Biomass estimates for most species were
90 based on trawl surveys conducted in 1990 (Hobday, Officer & Parry 1999). Site-based diet data
91 (Table S7 and S8) were obtained from the literature, and when quantitative information was not
92 available, proportions were estimated. A thorough technical description of the model, including all the
93 data, basic input parameters, relevant assumptions, diagnostic features is provided by (Koopman
94 2005), located at <http://dro.deakin.edu.au/view/DU:30026826>.

95

96 The updated PPB model comprised 23 additional species or functional groups, including 3 multi-
97 stanza functional groups (Table S4). These included species or groups at the top of the food web (e.g.
98 large sharks, large pelagic fish, birds, mammals, southern calamari), demersal finfish (such as silver
99 trevally, yellow-eye mullet, leatherjacket, rock flathead), pelagic finfish groups (e.g. Australian
100 sardine, southern anchovy, Australian salmon, longfin pike, southern garfish), invertebrate trophic
101 groups (such as filter-feeding molluscs, other grazing molluscs, predatory molluscs, abalone, southern
102 rock lobster, sea urchins, exotic sea stars) and one primary producer group (algal turf). The inclusion

103 of these functional groups in our new food web model was done primarily to accommodate for apex
104 predators and, invasive species, and to better simulate the likely appearance of opportunistic groups in
105 the future.

106 The new comprehensive food web model included a total of 53 functional groups, with 17 groups of
107 demersal finfish, 7 groups of pelagic finfish, 7 groups of chondrichthyans, 11 groups of invertebrates,
108 2 groups of cephalopods, 5 groups of primary producers, one bird and one mammal group, and a non-
109 living group detritus (Table S4). Functional groups for the PPB model were designated based on
110 different biological and ecological characteristics of the species such as feeding habits, growth rates,
111 body size, consumption rates, diets, predators, and habitat distribution.

112 Apex predators such as mammals are ecologically important because they can constrain the
113 parameters of other consumers and influence ecosystem structure and function through strong
114 predation-driven consumptive effects or fear-driven non-consumptive effects with relatively few
115 individuals (Roemer, Gompper & Van Valkenburgh 2009). We have therefore included marine
116 mammals as a functional group in our PPB model. The inclusion of seabirds as a separate functional
117 group in our model allowed us to appropriately account for a link between birds and vertebrate fish
118 predators in the food web. Migratory patterns of seabirds were also taken into account by modeling
119 temporarily-variant proportion of the diet composition of this group as imports to the system.

120 We included rock flathead in the updated PPB model since rock flathead showed an increasing
121 contribution in the landings of major species caught at PPB in the recent decades compared to sand
122 flathead and yank flathead that showed a decline. Because the southern calamari is by far the most
123 important target species both in the recreational and commercial cephalopod fishery in PPB, we
124 treated southern calamari as a separate functional group in our model.

125 We modeled complex trophic ontogeny and patterns in potential exploitation of juveniles (referred to
126 as ‘stanzas’ here) for some key fish species (e.g. sand flathead). We modeled juvenile sand flathead as
127 a stanza group for sand flathead because this makes their dynamics more ecologically realistic and
128 provides insights on stock-recruitment relationships. To do this juvenile sand flathead were treated as
129 a separate functional group in the model. In addition to sand flathead, we have added three more
130 multi-stanza groups. This was done for the three species of highest commercial interest in PPB: King
131 George whiting, red mullet, and snapper. To represent multi-stanza groups, we used baseline
132 estimates of total mortality rate (Z) and diet composition for each stanza and biomass and QB
133 (consumption over biomass) for the “leading” adult stanza. We also incorporated information on time
134 (in months) between stanzas (e.g. adult and juvenile) (Bani & Moltschaniwskyj 2008; Smallwood,
135 Hesp & Beckley 2013; Froese 2019). To do this we used the von Bertalanffy growth curve parameter
136 (k) (Froese 2019), and the estimate of relative weight at maturity as a fraction of weight at infinity

137 ($W_{\text{mat}}/W_{\text{inf}}$) (Heymans *et al.* 2016; Froese 2019). Mortality rates and diet composition are assumed to
138 be similar for individuals within each stanza.

139 We have added several trophic groups of small pelagic species to the model: Australian sardine,
140 southern anchovy, southern garfish, Australian salmon and pike. Small pelagic species are
141 ecologically and commercially important forage fishes (Pikitch *et al.* 2014) in ecosystems such as
142 PPB (e.g. sardine, anchovy). The inclusion of higher taxonomic resolution for some foraging fishes
143 enabled us to explore if particular predators had high diet dependencies on individual forage fish
144 species (Koehn *et al.* 2016) making them more vulnerable to disturbance. We have also added few
145 more individual small demersal fish (e.g. yelloweye mullet, silver trevally) as a separate functional
146 group given the importance of the benthic compartment of the shallow coastal ecosystem of PPB.
147 There were still several other small pelagic and demersal species which were modeled as an
148 aggregated group due to their low individual biomass and importance in the model or due to their
149 insufficient and unreliable taxonomic resolution.

150 We included an invasive species in our updated model. The exotic seastar (*Asterias amurensis*) is one
151 of Australia's most serious invasive marine pests. It was introduced into Port Phillip Bay in 1995 and
152 by 2000 its biomass peaked at 56% of the resident fish biomass in the deeper region of the Bay (Parry
153 & Hirst 2016). This species was responsible for the decline in biomass of shovelnose stingaree, eagle
154 ray, and globefish (Parry & Hirst 2016). Furthermore, it can lead to the local extinction of its prey,
155 altering benthic community structure (Parry & Hirst 2016). Functional groups such as abalone, rock
156 lobster, and sea urchin were also included in the updated model.

157 We split molluscs into three functional groups given their variable importance for trophic flows
158 (Covich, Palmer & Crowl 1999) and to ensure that inter-specific competitions are considered. Algal
159 turfs were incorporated as an additional functional group since they can dominate ecosystems,
160 especially those prone to disturbances (Hatcher & Larkum 1983).

161 Basic model input parameters such as biomass (B), production per unit of biomass (P/B),
162 consumption per unit of biomass (Q/B), and diet matrix were obtained directly for PPB taxa when
163 available. These were primarily based on published surveys and sampling (Parry *et al.* 1995; Officer
164 & Parry 1996). We also used various other sources (Tables S2, S4). If site-specific information was
165 not available, we used the most appropriate estimates based on other ecosystems from the literature
166 (Table S5).

167

168 **1.2. Model balancing**

169 We used the pre-balancing (PREBAL) approach to first ensure that the model parameter was in
170 agreement with energetic laws for ecosystem structure (Link 2010). The initial diagnostics suggest

171 that our model satisfies these underlying assumptions. For example, the slope of the biomass (on a log
172 scale) declined by 5–10% across all taxa ordered by trophic level (Link 2010). We then balanced the
173 model following key ecological rules and the laws of thermodynamics (Jørgensen & Fath 2004). We
174 considered the model balanced when estimated ecotrophic efficiency (EE) values of all functional
175 groups were <1 and where values were high (≥ 0.95) for exploited species and species with high
176 naturally predation rates (such as small pelagic fish species), and low (< 0.5) for unexploited top
177 predators (such as mammals and yank flathead).

178 We assumed an EE value of 0.95 for some heavily predated species in the ecosystems such as those
179 with forage fish (Polovina 1984; Christensen & Pauly 1998; Christensen & Walters 2004). For groups
180 with the little information on exploitation rates (e.g. cephalopods and calamari), biomass was
181 estimated in Ecopath assuming an EE of 0.95 (Lassalle *et al.* 2011). We also made sure that the values
182 of production/consumption (P/Q) for functional groups of the model were between 0.1 and 0.35,
183 except for spinney gurnards (Christensen *et al.* 2008). This was achieved by incrementally changing
184 the diet matrix of key functional groups in the model.

185 Updating the diet matrix with stomach content analysis based on local studies can improve Ecopath
186 models (Ainsworth & Mumby 2015). In our case, most of the diet data came from the local
187 ecosystem. It was, however, still necessary to adjust the diet of a few functional groups, including
188 birds, banjo rays, small pelagics and small demersal fish. These adjustments were cross-checked with
189 FishBase (Froese & Pauly 2018) to ensure confidence intervals of the estimation of trophic levels
190 were reasonably close to the values published.

191 We assessed the quality of the model using the pedigree routine (Christensen *et al.* 2008), which
192 assesses the precision of the input data, setting confidence intervals for uncertainty analysis
193 (Christensen & Walters 2004; Morissette 2007). Pedigree values for input data range from 0 (when it
194 is not based on local data) to 1 (fully rooted in local data). The pedigree index of our model computed
195 as 0.52 (a measure of fit $t = 4.32$) which is in the upper part of the range (0.16–0.68) of 150 Ecopath
196 models published (Morissette 2007), suggesting that the input data is reasonably robust and the model
197 is of acceptable quality (Christensen *et al.* 2008).

198 Finally, we calculated Hedges' g as a measure of effect size for changes in biomasses for different
199 functional groups using the following formula:

200

$$201 \text{ Hedges' } g = \frac{M1 - M2}{SD_{*pooled}}$$

202

203 where $M1-M2$ = difference in means of two groups and SD^*_{pooled} = pooled and weighted standard
204 deviation. To remove small positive bias within Hedges' g for small sample size (under 50), a
205 correction factor was derived using the following equation:
206

$$\left(1 - \frac{3}{4(n_1 + n_2) - 9}\right)$$

207

208 **1.3. Food web model calibration**

209

210 The base Ecopath model was calibrated within the time dynamic Ecosim approach using historic
211 time-series data from 1990 to 2015 to reconstruct the historical trends (Fig. S8). The hindcast
212 approach was done using an automated stepwise fitting procedure (Scott *et al.* 2016). The fitting
213 process identified highly influential interactions in the model and calibrates those to improve the
214 statistical fit using the weighted sum of squared deviations (SS). The SS was calculated using the
215 disparity between the logarithm of observed and predicted catches (Christensen *et al.* 2008). Then the
216 Akaike Information Criterion (AIC) (Akaike 1974) and the AIC corrected for small sampling sizes
217 ($AICc$) (Burnham & Anderson 2004) were calculated as follows:

$$AIC = n \log \left(\frac{\min SS}{n} \right) + 2k$$

$$AICc = AIC + 2k(k - 1)/(n - k - 1)$$

218

219 where n is the number of observations, $\min SS$ is the minimum sum of squares resulting from the
220 comparison between predicted and observed time series, and k is the number of parameters.

221 We used AIC to test for statistical support for an effect of changes in predator-prey dynamics (also
222 called vulnerabilities: V_s): primary production (PP anomaly, considering the number of PP spline
223 points (sPP) for smoothing the time series), and/or impact of fishing and possible combinations of all
224 of the above-mentioned factors (Table S9). AIC penalizes for fitting too many parameters and comes
225 up with a "best" model (the one yielding the lowest AIC) considering a good fit and the least number
226 of estimated parameters. For our model selection, we used $AICc$ since it accounts for small sample
227 sizes (n of observations).

228 The updated Ecopath model was first calibrated with historical time series data to assess model
229 performance before simulating the effect of future climate change on food web dynamics. The
230 predictive skill was assessed using the sum of squares (SS) ratio between predicted and independent
231 observation data (Christensen *et al.* 2008). The latter consisted of 52 time series of data covering a

232 range of metrics, including observed biomass, landed catch, and fishing effort. The biomass time-
233 series data were mostly for demersal and benthic groups (Gregory Parry, pers. com.). Among the
234 groups, the estimated model biomass (future) for small demersal fish (miscellaneous groups) and rock
235 flathead were not considered for the final model biomass calculation due to the poor model fit and
236 spurious behavior.

237 The surveys of demersal fish assemblages were done annually using demersal trawl nets at 20 stations
238 stratified by depth in Port Phillip Bay from 1990 to 2011. These surveys cover about 78% (1,506 km²)
239 of the whole PPB area (317 km²-shallow, 155 km²-west, 403 km²-intermediate and 631 km²-deep).
240 The shallowest trawl of the bay was at 7 m while the deepest was at 20 m. There was no trawling in
241 1998 and 2001. We used average biomass across depth as our biomass time series input for the
242 demersal fish functional group.

243 The time series for the commercial fisheries landings and fishing effort were obtained from the
244 Department of Primary Industries (VFA 2016). The estimates of annual recreational catch in Port
245 Phillip Bay for new functional groups were taken from (Fulton & Smith 2004). Recreational bycatch
246 fisheries were supplied by Simon Conron (pers. com.). The chlorophyll *a* data on the PPB was taken
247 from (EPA 2002), while the water temperature data were obtained from the Bureau of Meteorology of
248 the Australian Government (BOM 2018). Chlorophyll *a* and water temperature data were used to
249 calibrate the model using an environmental forcing function approach within EwE.

250 We first calibrated the model with chlorophyll as a sole environmental driver along with other
251 parameters. This, however, did not show a good fit for some demersal groups in the model,
252 particularly for chondrichthyans. We, therefore, added mean maximum annual temperature to account
253 for their effect on zooplankton consumption indirectly via their intermediate predators. Temperature
254 trends can affect the search rate and feeding area of a predator and at the same time change the
255 vulnerability rate of a prey (Heymans *et al.* 2016). Adding the effects of temperature as an additional
256 environmental driver improved the performance of our model fitting (Table S9). The best model from
257 the fitting exercise was obtained when trophic interactions and fishing were included together in the
258 model run (Step 6 in Table S9). The fitted vulnerability values of all the model functional groups are
259 shown in Supplementary Table S10.

260

261 **1.4. Representing global warming and ocean acidification**

262 The estimation of predator-prey interactions in food web models is challenging due to their dynamic
263 nature and often complex trophic structure. We addressed this challenge by using estimates of species
264 interactions from two community-level mesocosm experiment, which includes both direct (Ullah *et*
265 *al.* 2018) and indirect estimates of the vulnerability of prey to predators (Goldenberg *et al.* 2018),
266 effective search rate of predators for their prey (Pistevos *et al.* 2015) and the mortality of some lower

267 trophic prey groups accounted in the food web model (Ullah *et al.* 2018). In both experiments, the
268 mesocosm had the same crossed design of elevated CO₂ and temperature with 3 replicate mesocosms
269 per treatment combination. Both mesocosm systems I) assumed and simulated an increase in future
270 temperature of approximately +2.8 °C, II) were multi-trophic from the producer (e.g. algae) through
271 primary consumer (amphipod) to predator (e.g. either shark or carnivorous fish) capturing the
272 complexity of a food web, III) include a total habitat volume of ~2,000 L, and IV) were supplied by a
273 flow-through of seawater from the same source ensuring comparable nutrient levels. The similarity
274 between the two systems is critical as geographical variation and experimental contexts can alter the
275 effect of climate change on consumer-resource interactions and lead to additional sources of
276 variability (Marino, Romero & Farjalla 2018).

277 We used predation pressure which is the consumption rate (mg/4hr/individual) of species relative to
278 control condition (present day condition at 2100) to estimate the vulnerability (direct estimate) of
279 lower trophic level (trophic level ≤ 2) species/functional groups to their predators. This was done
280 using data from stomach content analysis and *in situ* feeding trials that incorporated different
281 treatment effects (e.g. temperature, acidification or their combination) (Ullah *et al.* 2018). The
282 estimation of prey vulnerability through *in situ* feeding trials is robust because feeding at the
283 community level incorporates the complex interplay between morphology, physiology, behavior,
284 population dynamics, and predator-prey interactions (Brodeur *et al.* 2017). For further details about
285 the experimental design and stomach content analysis see (Goldenberg *et al.* 2018) and (Ullah *et al.*
286 2018), respectively.

287 We applied a combination of direct and indirect approaches to estimate the vulnerability of prey
288 groups for higher order trophic groups (trophic level ≥ 2) under warming and acidification. The
289 indirect approach was based on behavioral experiments related to foraging and predation of
290 consumers. A detailed description of the experimental setup is given in (Goldenberg *et al.* 2018) and
291 we provide here only a summary including the information most relevant to our study. After 2.5
292 months of exposure to the climate treatments, a total of 3 behavioral trials lasting 7 min. each were
293 conducted in each mesocosm in the presence of a predator. The scorpionfish *Gymnapistes*
294 *marmoratus* (a predator) was caged and presented with five prey species – little weed whiting
295 (*Neoodax balteatus*), blue weedy whiting (*Haletta semifasciata*), longfin goby (*Favonigobius*
296 *lateralis*), zebrafish (*Girella zebra*) and toothbrush leatherjacket (*Acanthaluteres vittiger*). This was
297 done using a small container placed in front of the predator cage that emitted food cues to attract the
298 prey species to the general area and encourage foraging related behaviours. Using video recordings,
299 the position of each individual prey fish throughout the trial was assessed through manual tracking
300 using the software Solomon Coder, and this was used to quantify foraging and risk-taking behaviours.
301 The field of view of the camera was subdivided into an area distant to the food cue, which also
302 provided shelter habitat and the area close to the food cue, which was unsheltered and faced the

303 predator cage. The area close to the food cue was further subdivided into the side directly in front of
304 the predator cage, where predation risk was highest, and the side further away.

305

306 Three response variables were derived and combined to estimate prey vulnerability. I) “prey
307 attraction”, II) ‘food search activity’, and III) ‘boldness’. Prey fishes may approach a predator to
308 inspect it – a characteristic behavior termed predator inspection (Pitcher, Green & Magurran 1986) –
309 which likely reduces their vulnerability by decreasing the chance being predated by their predator. We
310 excluded the data obtained during such predator inspection behavior for the calculation of the three
311 response variables to obtain the vulnerable component of the prey isolated from its non-vulnerable
312 components.

313

314 The direct mortality, vulnerability rate, and effective search rate were used as forcing functions in our
315 Ecosim models. These functions were applied to appropriate species in the model (Table S1). We
316 calculated the relative effect size of these rates under different climate scenarios compared to control
317 conditions using the absolute values (Table S1). In all cases, the value for present-day baseline
318 conditions was 1. Lastly, we used linear interpolation to generate an annual time series of values for
319 forcing functions from 2015 to 2100. We used community-level groups because indicators at the
320 community level are reliable for detecting effects of perturbations on marine ecosystems (Fulton,
321 Smith & Punt 2005).

322

323 **1.5. Calculation of diversity indexes**

324 We examined indices of diversity and evenness at broad taxonomic scales (functional group). We
325 expressed diversity within general functional pools by using a form of the Shannon diversity index
326 (Shannon & Weaver 1963),

$$H' = \sum_{i=1}^s p_i \times \ln(p_i)$$

327 Where diversity (H') is a function of the proportion (p) of each functional group i that makes up the
328 total biomass of the s pools that make up a general functional pool which in our case either individual
329 species or a functional group such as zooplankton. As H' increases, species diversity increases.

330 The diversity index Kempton’s Q (Kempton & Taylor 1976) describes the slope of the cumulative
331 species logarithmic abundance curve. This is adapted in our modeling approach in a way where
332 taxonomic species are also grouped into aggregate biomass pools of functionally similar organisms,
333 species are replaced by the species groups of the model, and the biomasses of these groups serve as a
334 proxy for the number of individuals in that species or groups (Ainsworth & Pitcher 2006). This

335 modified Kempton's Q species diversity index was calculated considering organisms with trophic
336 levels 3 or higher and defined as:

$$Q_i = \frac{0.8 Fg}{\log(R_1/R_2)}$$

337 where Fg is the total number of functional groups in the model, and R_1 and R_2 are the representative
338 biomass values of the 10th and 90th percentiles in the cumulative abundance distribution.

339 Within EwE a functional group cannot go extinct and is represented by a very low but non-zero
340 biomass value. This means each simulation at its conclusion will contain the same number of
341 functional groups as the base model. The Kempton's Q index is reasonably invariant to model
342 structure since each functional group potentially can affect only one point on the log-abundance
343 curve. Thus this may induce a change in the overall slope only marginally (Ainsworth & Pitcher
344 2006). In contrast, the Shannon index is considered more sensitive to the aggregation method used in
345 the mass balanced model.

346

347 **1.6. Approach used for the retrospective test**

348 To independently evaluate our modelling approach and test the assumption that mesocosms provide a
349 realistic representation of the real world, we built two simplified Ecopath models, one using
350 mesocosm data and the other using published data for Port Philip Bay (see above). Both models
351 comprised an equal number of functional nodes and similar food web functional groups, making their
352 results directly comparable, allowing us to test whether the mesocosm parameters are relevant to the
353 PPB system for the period 1990 and 2015. The rationale being that if the model based on mesocosm
354 parameters can replicate the PPB model, we should have an increased level of confidence in using the
355 forcing functions derived from the mesocosm to simulate future food web dynamics under global
356 change. As well as testing for model congruence, we also tested the predictive skill of both models
357 using independent validation data. We used the same P/B ratio, Q/B ratio and diet data for mesocosm
358 and simplified Port Philip Bay model for all model groups. Biomass data (per unit area) for two fish
359 functional groups (carnivorous and omnivorous fish) were used to calibrate and compare both the
360 models. We did not include herbivores as an individual functional group in our model due to the
361 absence of major herbivorous fish (in terms of biomass) in our modelled ecosystem. We also included
362 chondrichthyans (Port Jackson sharks) in our model validation exercise. The presence of apex sharks
363 and predators were required for a direct comparison of models parameterised using mesocosm and
364 field-based observations since these top predators can exert significant cascade effects within the food
365 web.

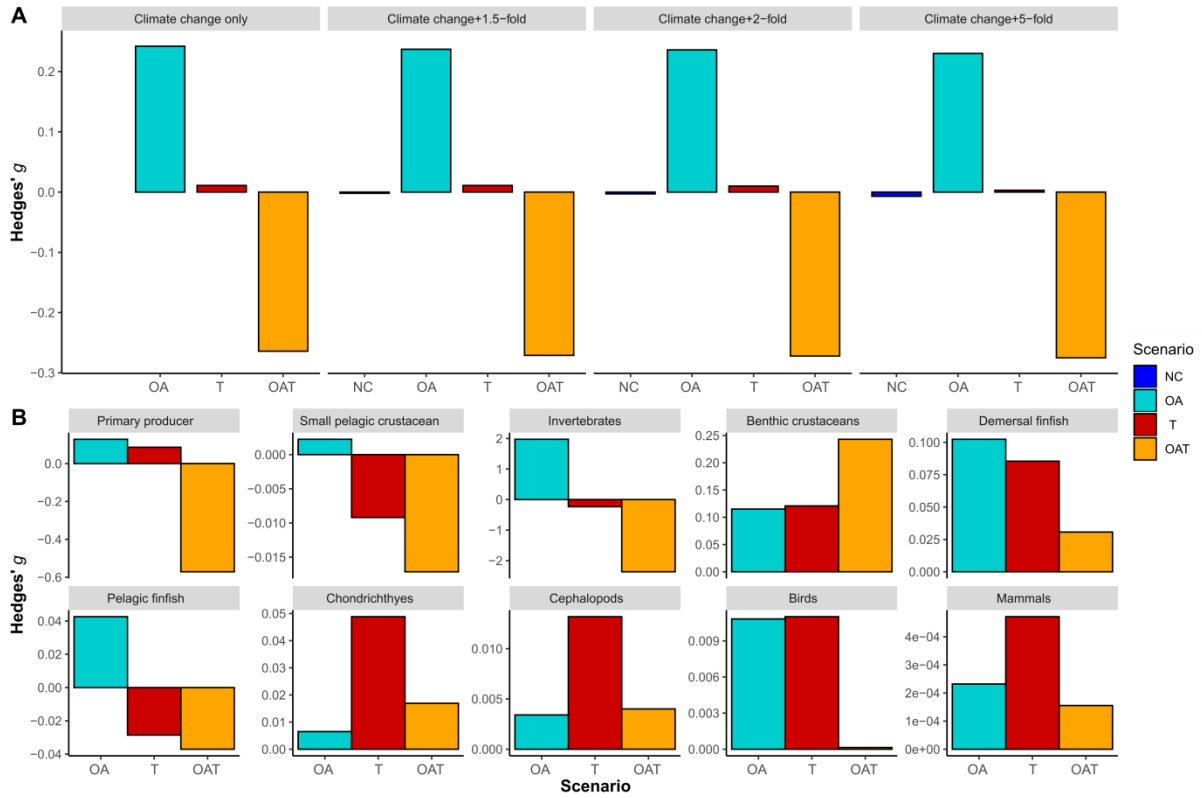
366

367 **1.7. Model skill assessment and sensitivity analyses**

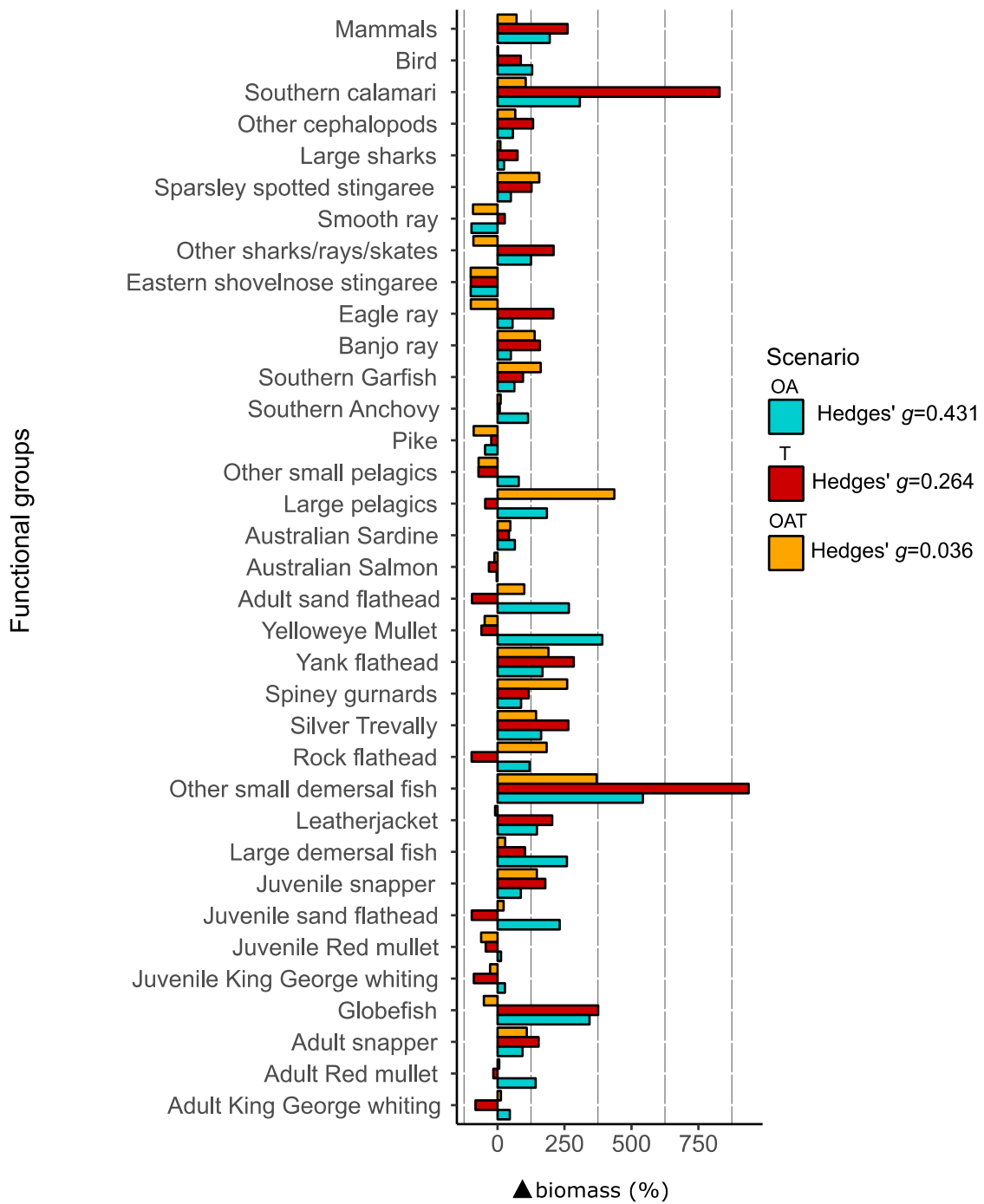
368

369 To assess the skill of our model we used independent observation data for two model functional
370 groups (Fig. 5A, Table S3) and calculated six model skill assessment metrics (Fig. 5B) as has been
371 recommended for ecosystem model assessments (Stow *et al.* 2009; Olsen *et al.* 2016). These model
372 skill assessment metrics were: root mean squared error (RMSE), average error (AE), average absolute
373 error (AAE), correlation coefficient (Pearson and Spearman), and modeling efficiency (MEF). The
374 global sensitivity analysis is described in the Methods in the main paper.

375



380 Figure S1: Mean effect size (in std. dev. unit) and the direction of impacts on the change in biomass
 381 (Δ) of (A) food web and (B) community groups under three climate change scenarios relative to a
 382 scenario of no change in climate and fishing from present-day levels (NC). Additionally, the mean
 383 effect size was also shown (A) under the combination of different climate and fishing effort scenarios
 384 relative to NC. Here the number with 'folds' refers to the magnitude of fishing increase that starts in
 385 the year 2015 and is held constant up to 2100 compared to the NC scenario.



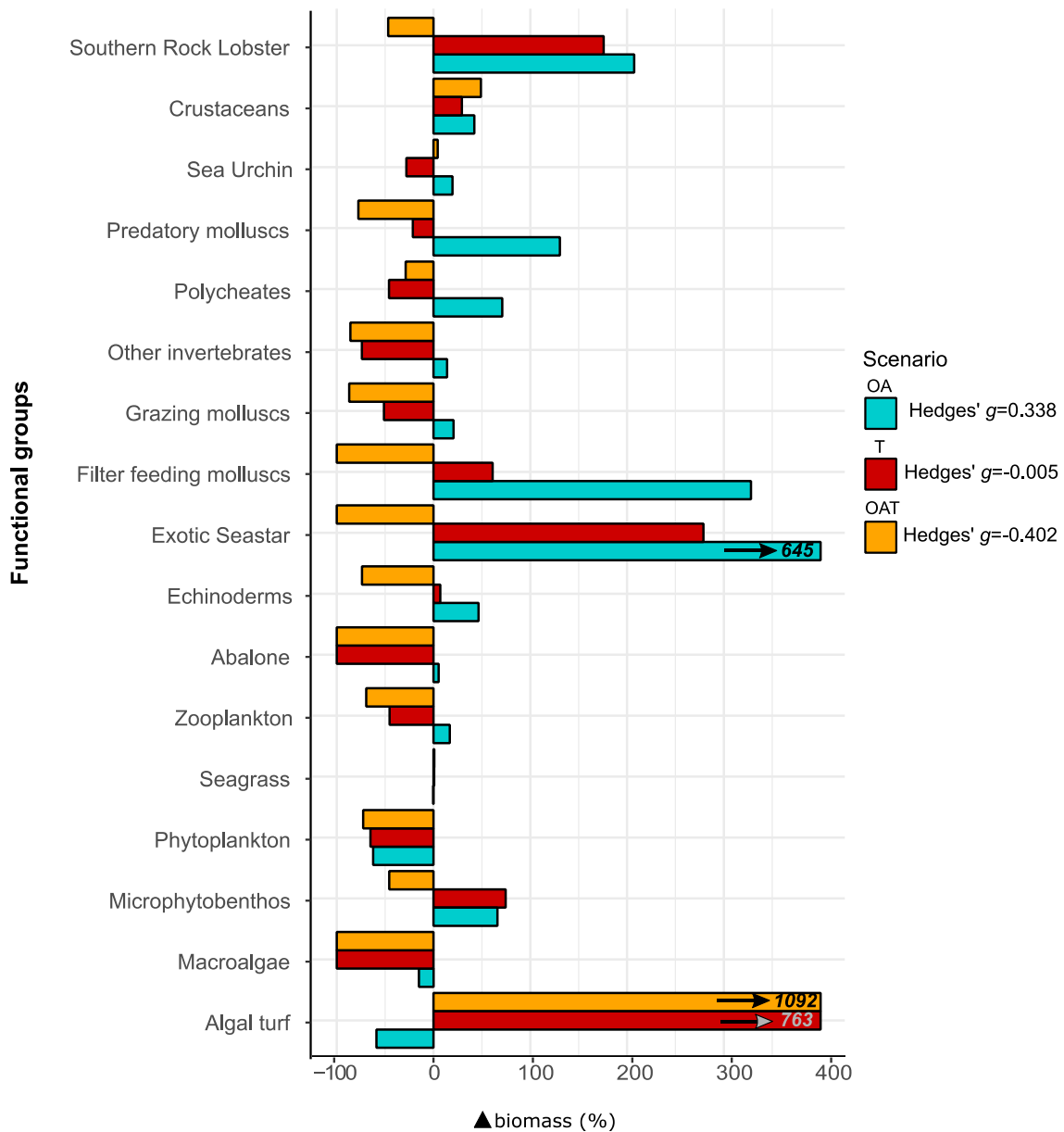
386

387 Figure S2: Change in biomass (Δ %) of different ecosystem functional groups (trophic levels

388 ≥ 3) under three climate change scenarios relative to a no change in climate (NC) scenario.

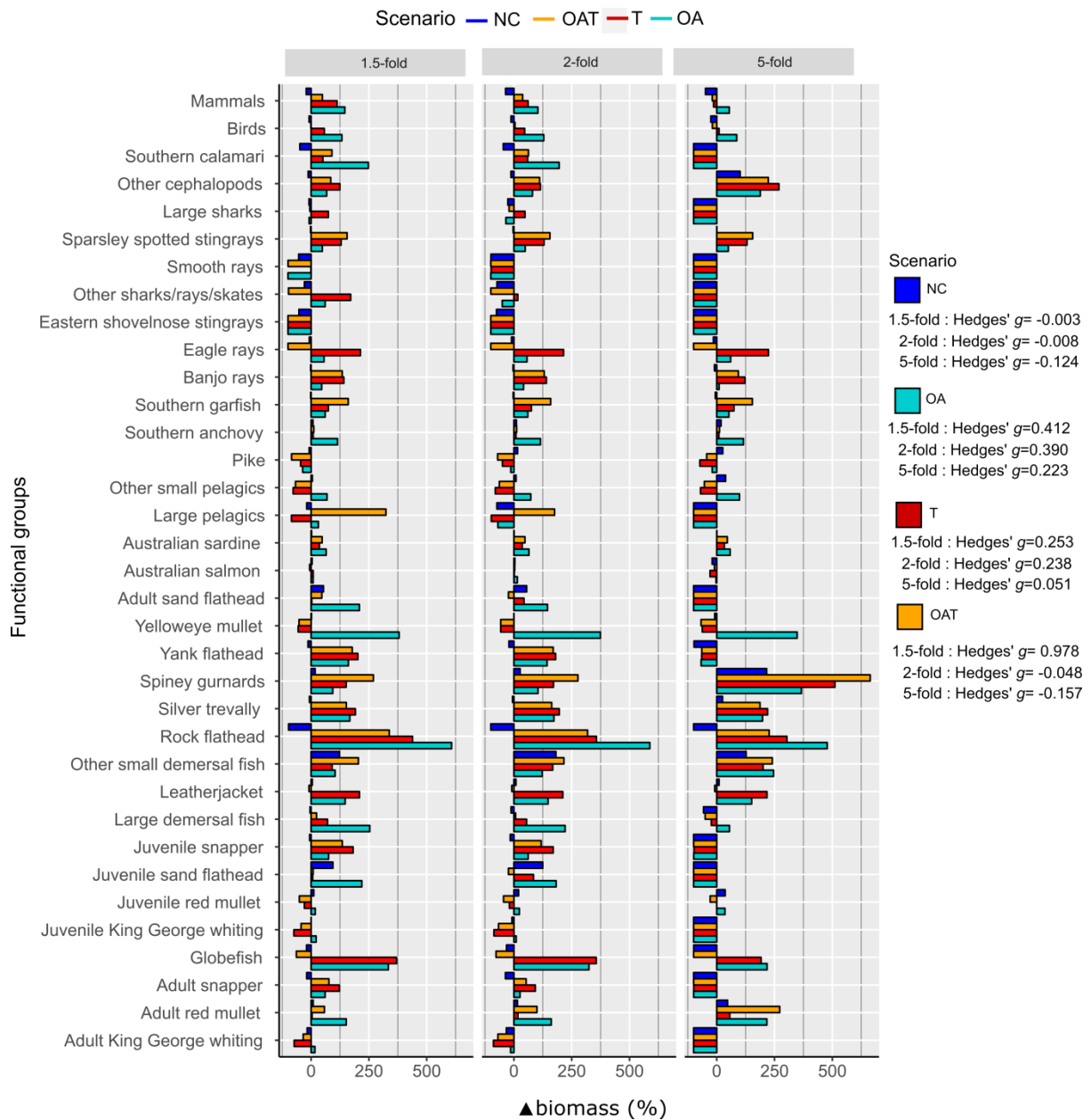
389 OA = ocean acidification, T = ocean warming, and OAT = combined ocean acidification and

390 warming.



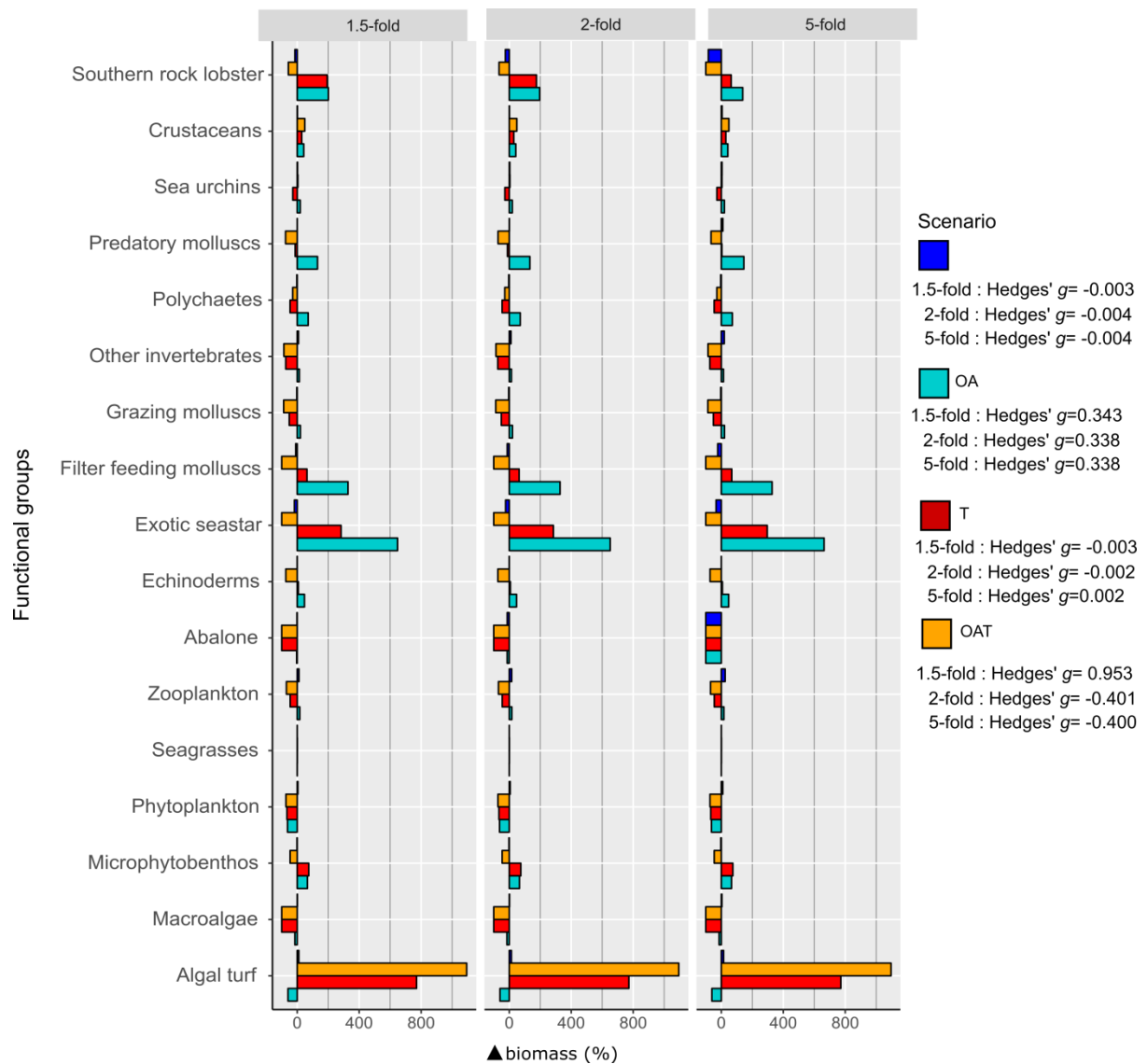
393 Figure S3: Change in biomass (Δ %) of different ecosystem functional groups (trophic levels
 394 < 3) under three climate change scenarios relative to a no change in climate (NC) scenario.

395 OA = ocean acidification, T = ocean warming, and OAT = combined ocean acidification and
 396 warming. We limited the X axis between -100 and 400 for better visualization of the graph
 397 (algal turf and exotic seastar showed greater increases for certain scenarios).



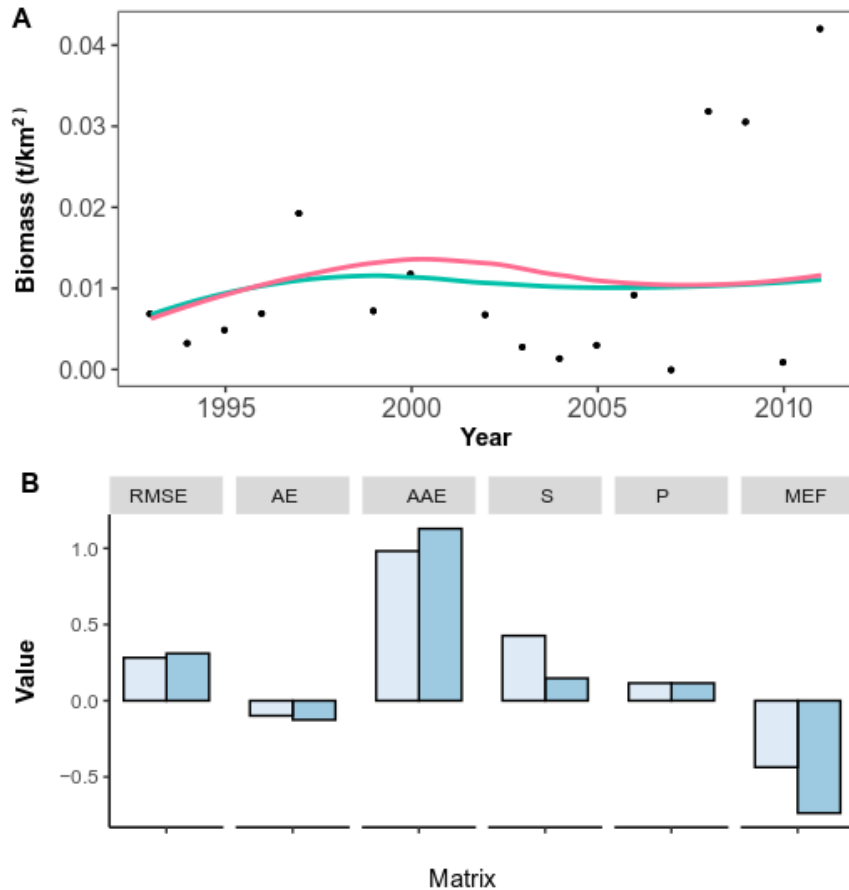
398

399 Figure S4: Change in biomass (Δ %) of different functional groups (trophic levels ≥ 3) under
 400 the combination of different climate and fishing effort scenarios relative to the biomass in
 401 2100 under a scenario of no change in climate from present-day levels (NC). OA = ocean
 402 acidification, T = ocean warming, and OAT = combined ocean acidification and warming.
 403 Here the number with 'folds' refers to the magnitude of fishing increase that starts in the year
 404 2015 and is held constant up to 2100 compared to the NC scenario.



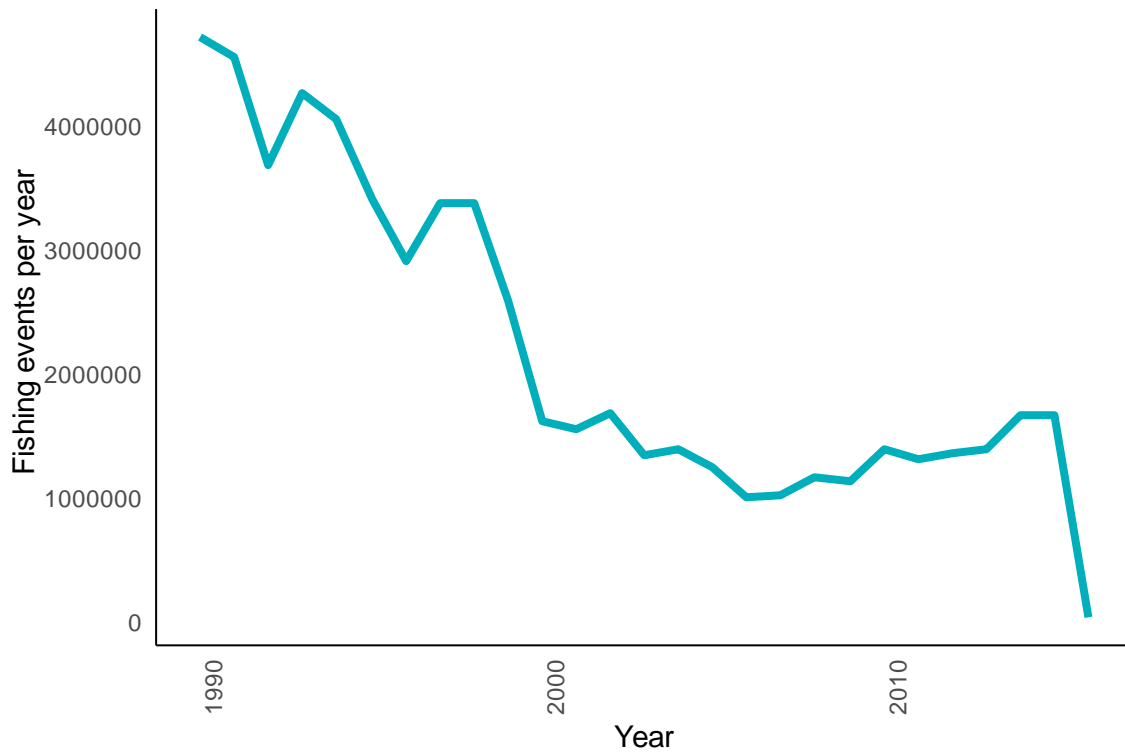
405

406 Figure S5: Change in biomass (Δ %) of different functional groups (trophic levels < 3) under
 407 the combination of different climate and fishing effort scenarios relative to the biomass in
 408 2100 under a scenario of no change in climate from present-day levels (NC). OA = ocean
 409 acidification, T = ocean warming, and OAT = combined ocean acidification and warming.
 410 Here the number with 'folds' refers to the magnitude of fishing increase that starts in the year
 411 2015 and is held constant up to 2100 compared to the NC scenario.



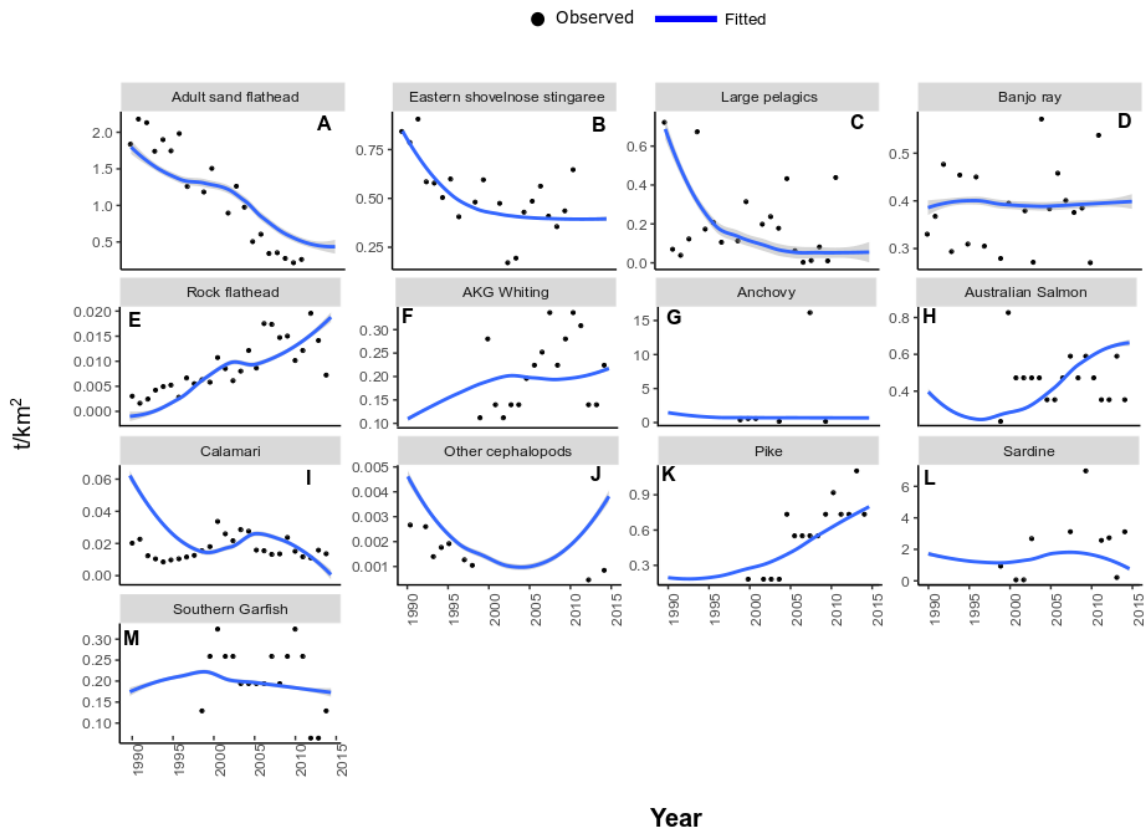
412

413 Figure S6: (A) Tests of mesocosm transferability. Comparison of the Port Phillip Bay (PPB)
 414 model (pink), calibrated using data from our mesocosm experiments (green) and observed
 415 standing biomass (tonnes per km²) for Port Jackson shark between years 1993 and 2011. The
 416 PPB model was built using similar functional groups that comprise the mesocosm model.
 417 Black dots represent observed standing biomass in different years. Root-mean-square error
 418 (RMSE) indicates the differences (errors are measured in the same units as the response; here
 419 biomass (tonnes per km²) between observed and predicted values by a model. (B) Hindcast
 420 model skill metrics for biomass data. Pairwise comparison of model skill for models built
 421 using empirical field (dark blue) and mesocosm data (light blue) for Port Phillip Bay
 422 (between 1993 and 2011): root mean squared error (RMSE), average error (AE), average
 423 absolute error (AAE), modelling efficiency (MEF), Spearman rank (S) and Pearson (P)
 424 correlation. Y-axis limited to show values between -0.8 and 1.2.



425

426 Figure S7: Historical trends of fishing efforts (fishing events) obtained for the commercial
427 fishery in the Port Philip Bay ecosystem calculated by multiplying the number of fishing days
428 and number of fishers.



429

430 Figure S8: Predicted (solid lines) versus observed (dots) values (tonnes.km^{-2}) for some of the
 431 commercially and ecologically important groups within the Port Philip Bay ecosystem model
 432 fitted with available historical time series data (during the period 1990–2015). Groups (A-D)
 433 were fitted with biomass (tonnes.km^{-2}) survey (trawl) data while other groups (E-M) were
 434 fitted with CPUE (catch per unit effort) data.

TABLES

Table S1. Index (forcing function) used to drive the vulnerability parameters of future food web simulations (OA, T, and OAT). The effect size between the no-change-scenario (NC) and various climate scenarios is shown. OA = ocean acidification, T = ocean warming, and OAT = combined ocean acidification and warming. Source groups refer to consumers whose consumption depends on the vulnerability (parameters) of their prey groups. Forcing function as direct mortality for some of the model functional groups was also applied. For model functional groups or species number see Table S1.

Index used to drive vulnerability parameters	Baseline value		Effect size		Applied on the following functional groups or species	Source group
	NC	OA	T	OAT		
Vulnerability index of carnivorous fish	1	0.99	1.08	0.82	2, 5, 6, 10, 11, 14, 15, 17, 18, 22, 23, 24, 25, 27, 28, 32, 33, 34, 35	Relevant consumers/predators
Vulnerability index of omnivorous fish	1	1.07	1.16	0.85	16, 26, 29, 30, 31	Relevant consumer/predator
Vulnerability index of zooplankton	1	1.97	0.87	1.15	42	Carnivorous consumers
Vulnerability index of polychaetes	1	1.11	0.63	1.70	37	Carnivorous consumers
Vulnerability index of epifauna	1	0.99	1.24	1.79	36, 37	Carnivorous consumers
Vulnerability index of bivalves	1	0.78	1.43	2.15	38	Carnivorous consumers
Vulnerability index of gastropods	1	10.56	6.17	1.90	39	Carnivorous consumers
Vulnerability index of copepods	1	2.97	1.66	1.91	42	Omnivorous consumers
Vulnerability index of polychaetes	1	5.36	1.29	0.01	37	Omnivorous consumers
Vulnerability index of epifauna	1	3.10	2.88	0.88	36, 37	Omnivorous consumers
Vulnerability index of bivalves	1	1.65	3.18	0.91	38	Omnivorous consumers
Vulnerability index of gastropods	1	14.60	1.81	0.60	39	Omnivorous consumers
Search efficiency of chondrichthyans	1	0.21	1.07	0.32	2, 5-8, 10, 11, 14, 16, 17, 21, 22, 24, 27, 28, 30, 33, 34, 36-41, 43,	Chondrichthyans
Algal turf productivity	1	1.07	1.82	1.58	49	Relevant consumers
Macrophytes productivity	1	1.28	0.24	0.46	48	Relevant consumers
Phytobenthos productivity	1	1.32	0.69	1.23	51	Relevant consumers
Phytoplankton productivity	1	1.66	0.44	0.99	50	Relevant consumers

Forcing function	NC	OA	T	OAT		Type
Biomass grazing molluscs	1	1.17	0.47	0.12	39	Mortality (as a function of biomass)
Biomass of filter feeders	1	1.24	0.28	0.15	38	Mortality (as a function of biomass)
Biomass of crustaceans	1	1.38	1.25	1.44	43	Mortality (as a function of biomass)
Biomass of polychaetes	1	1.74	0.50	0.68	37	Mortality (as a function of biomass)
Biomass of zooplankton	1	1.16	0.57	0.68	42	Mortality (as a function of biomass)

Table S2. Community groups considered for the representative model functional groups. Habitats and feeding guilds of the relevant groups are also shown. Feeding guild is only shown for the finfish group because model input data on species interaction was based on omnivorous and carnivorous finfish groups. Fg. no. = functional group number, NA = not applicable.

Fg. no.	Functional group name	Community group	Major species/common name	Habitat (water column)	Feeding guild
1	Large sharks	Chondrichthyans	<i>Notorynchus cepedianus</i>	Pelagic	NA
2	Large pelagics	Pelagic finfish	<i>Thyrsites atun</i> , <i>Pomatomus saltatrix</i> , <i>Seriolella brama</i> , <i>Seriolella punctata</i> , <i>Trachurus declivis</i>	Pelagic	Carnivorous
3	Bird	Bird	Australasian gannet <i>Morus serrator</i>	Bentho-pelagic	NA
4	Mammals	Mammals	Dolphins and seals	Bentho-pelagic	NA
5	Yank flathead	Demersal finfish	<i>Platycephalus speculator</i>	Demersal	Carnivorous
6	Rock flathead	Demersal finfish	<i>Platycephalus laevigatus</i>	Demersal	Carnivorous
7	Other cephalopods	Cephalopods	<i>Nototodarus gouldi</i>	Pelagic	NA
8	Southern calamari	Cephalopods	<i>Sepioteuthis australis</i>	Pelagic	NA
9	Smooth ray	Chondrichthyans	<i>Dasyatis brevicaudata</i>	Demersal	NA
10	Adult sand flathead	Demersal finfish	<i>Platycephalus bassensis</i>	Demersal	Carnivorous
11	Juvenile sand flathead	Demersal finfish	<i>Platycephalus bassensis</i>	Demersal	Carnivorous
12	Banjo ray	Chondrichthyans	<i>Trygonorrhina fasciata</i>	Demersal	NA
13	Eastern shovelnose stingaree	Chondrichthyans	<i>Trygonoptera imitata</i>	Demersal	NA
14	Adult King George whiting	Demersal finfish	<i>Sillaginodes punctata</i>	Demersal	Carnivorous
15	Juvenile King George whiting	Demersal finfish	<i>Sillaginodes punctata</i>	Demersal	Carnivorous
16	Large demersal fish	Demersal finfish	<i>Rhombosolea tapirina</i> , <i>Nemadactylus macropterus</i> , <i>Pentaceropsis recurvirostris</i> , <i>Eubalichthys mosaicus</i> , <i>Genypterus tigerinus</i> , <i>Gonorynchus greyi</i> , <i>Meuschenia freycineti</i> , <i>Platycephalus richardsoni</i>	Demersal	Omnivorous
17	Adult red mullet	Demersal finfish	<i>Upeneichthys vlamingii</i>	Demersal	Carnivorous
18	Juvenile red mullet	Demersal finfish	<i>Upeneichthys vlamingii</i>	Demersal	Carnivorous
19	Eagle ray	Chondrichthyes	<i>Myliobatis australis</i>	Demersal	NA

20	Other sharks/rays/skates	Chondrichthyans	<i>Squatina australis, Callorhynchus milii, Mustelus antarcticus, Dipturus whitleyi, Heterodontus portusjacksoni, Galeorhinus galeus, Urolophus gigas, Dentiraja lemprieri</i>	Demersal	NA
21	Sparsely spotted stingaree	Chondrichthyans	<i>Urolophus paucimaculatus</i>	Demersal	NA
22	Australian sardine	Pelagic finfish	<i>Sardinops sagax</i>	Pelagic	Carnivorous
23	Southern anchovy	Pelagic finfish	<i>Engraulis australis</i>	Pelagic	Carnivorous
24	Australian Salmon	Pelagic finfish	<i>Arripis trutta</i>	Pelagic	Carnivorous
25	Pike	Pelagic finfish	<i>Dinolestes lewini</i>	Pelagic	Carnivorous
26	Southern garfish	Pelagic finfish	<i>Hyporhamphus melanochir</i>	Pelagic	Omnivorous
27	Small pelagics	Pelagic finfish	<i>Hyperlophus vittatus, Cristiceps australis, Arripis georgianus</i>	Pelagic	Carnivorous
28	Silver trevally	Demersal finfish	<i>Pseudocaranx georgianus</i>	Demersal	Carnivorous
29	Yelloweye mullet	Demersal finfish	<i>Aldrichetta forsteri</i>	Demersal	Omnivorous
30	Leatherjacket	Demersal finfish	<i>Scobinichthys granulatus, Acanthaluteres vittiger, Acanthaluteres spilomelanurus, Thamnaconus degeni</i>	Demersal	Omnivorous
31	Small demersal fish	Demersal finfish	<i>Contusus brevicaudus, Ammotretis rostratus, Pseudophycis bachus, Neosebastes scorpaenoides, Neosebastes scorpaenoides, Neodax balteatus, Contusus richei, Gymnapistes marmoratus, Kathetostoma laeve, Parequula melbournensis, Sillago flindersi, Vincentia conspersa, Lepidotrigla vanessa, Tetractenos glaber, Chelidonichthys kumu, Aracana ornate, Scorpaena papillosa, Aracana aurita, Favonigobius lateralis</i>	Demersal	Omnivorous
32	Globefish	Demersal finfish	<i>Diodon nictemerus</i>	Demersal	Carnivorous
33	Spiney gurnards	Demersal finfish	<i>Lepidotrigla papilio</i>	Demersal	Carnivorous
34	Adult snapper	Demersal finfish	<i>Pagrus auratus</i>	Demersal	Carnivorous
35	Juvenile snapper	Demersal finfish	<i>Pagrus auratus</i>	Demersal	Carnivorous
36	Other invertebrates	Invertebrates	Acidian, tunicate, sponge, coral	NA	NA
37	Polychaetes	Invertebrates	<i>Phyllochaetopterus socialis</i> and other annelids	NA	NA
38	Filter feeding molluscs	Invertebrates	Mostly bivalves such as <i>Notospisula trigonella, Chioneryx cardiodes, Fulvia tenuicostata, Mytilus edulis</i>	NA	NA
39	Grazing molluscs	Invertebrates	Gastropods such as <i>Actinoleuca calamus, Microstraea aurea, Rhyssoplax tricostalis, Phasianella australis, Bulla quoyii</i> , tunicate	NA	NA
40	Predatory molluscs	Invertebrates	<i>Ectosinum zonale, Austroginella johnstoni, E. zonale, Sigaretotrema umbilicata</i>	NA	NA

41	Echinoderms	Invertebrates	Mostly echinoids such as <i>Echinocardium cordatum</i> and other ophiuroids	NA	NA
42	Zooplankton	Small pelagic crustacean	Copepod, small copepods mostly <i>Paracalanus indicus</i> (Caldocera and larvaceans) and <i>Acartia tranteri</i>	NA	NA
43	Benthic crustaceans	Benthic crustacean	Small decapoda such as <i>Neocallichirus limosa</i> , <i>Dimorphostylis cottoni</i> , amphipods, crabs	NA	NA
44	Abalone	Invertebrates	Blacklip abalone and greenlip abalone	NA	NA
45	Southern rock lobster	Benthic crustacean	<i>Jasus edwardsii</i>	NA	NA
46	Sea Urchin	Invertebrates	Black urchin (<i>Centrostephanus rodgersii</i>) and white urchin (<i>Heliocidaris erythrogramma</i>)	NA	NA
47	Exotic seastar	Invertebrates	<i>Asterias amurensis</i>	NA	NA
48	Macroalgae	Primary producer		NA	NA
49	Algal turf	Primary producer		NA	NA
50	Phytoplankton	Primary producer		NA	NA
51	Microphytobenthos	Primary producer		NA	NA
52	Seagrass	Primary producer		NA	NA
53	Detritus	Detritus		NA	NA

Table S3. Basic input parameters for simplified Port Phillip Bay (PPB) and mesocosm models built for the retrospective test of mesocosm transferability. Values of trophic level (TL), biomass, production/biomass (P/B), consumption/biomass (Q/B), ecotrophic efficiency (EE), and production/consumption (P/C) ratios are shown. FGs = functional groups.

FGs	Functional group name	TL		Biomass (t/km ²)	PB (/year)		QB (/year)		EE		P/C	
		PPB	Meso		PPB	Meso	PPB	Meso	PPB	Meso	PPB	Meso
1	Port Jackson shark	3.04	3.09	0.01	0.20	0.40	2.60	2.60	0.00	0.00	0.08	0.15
2	Herbivore fish	2.07	2.17	0.01	0.72	1.37	14.10	94.06	0.08	0.04	0.05	0.01
3	Omnivorous fish	2.99	2.99	0.04	1.09	1.17	12.55	111.75	0.00	0.00	0.09	0.01
4	Carnivorous fish (benthic)	2.82	2.91	0.00	1.27	1.00	17.30	28.99	0.14	0.00	0.07	0.03
5	Echinoderms	2.06	2.06	51.28	0.80	0.80	9.41	9.41	0.00	0.00	0.08	0.08
6	Herbivorous macroinvertebrates	2.00	2.00	4.02	2.09	0.50	10.49	8.46	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.06
7	Small epifaunal invertebrates	2.07	2.07	0.32	2.72	3.67	13.59	18.00	0.54	0.54	0.20	0.20
8	Filter Feeders	2.40	2.40	24.02	2.80	2.05	11.80	7.60	0.11	0.15	0.24	0.27
9	Macro-crustaceans	2.41	2.26	25.97	4.50	0.80	22.48	10.72	0.07	0.37	0.20	0.07
10	Tanaids	2.05	2.05	2.61	11.51	11.51	40.15	40.15	0.81	0.95	0.29	0.29
11	Copepod	2.00	2.00	1.38	23.80	108.71	38.61	336.98	0.67	0.63	0.62	0.32
12	Microzooplankton	2.00	2.00	0.90	36.80	23.11	59.78	63.49	0.08	0.67	0.62	0.36
13	Meiobenthos	2.00	2.00	9.12	8.88	8.88	58.40	58.40	0.80	0.80	0.15	0.15
14	Macrophytes	1.00	1.00	25.91	20.00	2.07		0	0.02	0.17		
15	Algal turf	1.00	1.00	0.71	30.85	28.87		0	0.39	0.40		
16	Phytobenthos	1.00	1.00	26.88	45.00	36.69		0	0.24	0.20		
17	Phytoplankton	1.00	1.00	6.41	259.30	299.29		0	0.53	0.29		
18	Detritus	1.00	1.00	12573					0.39	0.41		

Table S4. Biomass estimates (tonnes.km⁻² total weight) and other functional group parameters of the updated Port Philip Bay (PPB) Ecopath model. Values of trophic level (TL), biomass, production/biomass (P/B) ratio, consumption/biomass (Q/B) ratio, ecotrophic efficiency (EE), and production/consumption (P/C) ratio were shown. FGs = functional groups.

FGs	Functional group name	TL	Biomass (t/km ²)	PB (year ⁻¹)	QB (year ¹)	EE	P/C	FGs in PPB Model
1	Large sharks	4.33	0.01	0.18	1.75	0.60	0.10	Included
2	Large pelagics	4.02	0.72	0.40	3.92	0.62	0.10	Koopman, 2005
3	Bird	3.82	1.02	0.07	1.69	0.15	0.04	Included
4	Mammals	4.02	0.02	0.09	19.88	0.00	0.00	Included
5	Yank flathead	3.58	0.09	0.40	3.80	0.18	0.11	Koopman, 2005
6	Rock flathead	3.33	0.07	0.38	2.45	0.95	0.16	Included
7	Other cephalopods	3.48	0.18	1.70	6.00	0.95	0.28	Koopman, 2005
8	Southern calamari	3.47	0.25	1.83	8.00	0.95	0.23	Included
9	Smooth ray	3.33	0.14	0.32	2.72	0.47	0.12	Koopman, 2005
10	Adult sand flathead	3.46	1.84	0.40	2.31	0.43	0.17	Koopman, 2005
11	Juvenile sand flathead	2.40	0.42	0.40	4.20	0.95	0.10	Koopman, 2005
12	Banjo ray	3.45	0.33	0.23	2.37	0.22	0.10	Koopman, 2005
13	Eastern shovelnose stingaree	3.28	0.84	0.49	2.41	0.08	0.20	Koopman, 2005
14	Adult King George whiting	3.18	0.12	1.10	4.40	0.97	0.25	Koopman, 2005
15	Juvenile King George whiting	3.29	0.21	1.10	8.12	0.53	0.14	Included
16	Large demersal fish	3.40	0.05	0.92	4.33	0.79	0.21	Koopman, 2005
17	Adult Red mullet	3.13	0.05	0.92	5.19	0.92	0.18	Koopman, 2005
18	Juvenile Red mullet	2.02	0.01	1.84	13.04	0.69	0.14	Included
19	Eagle ray	3.14	0.41	0.20	3.37	0.02	0.06	Koopman, 2005
20	Other sharks/rays/skates	3.11	0.07	0.22	2.20	0.86	0.10	Koopman, 2005
21	Sparsley spotted stingaree	3.11	0.57	0.41	4.16	0.03	0.10	Koopman, 2005
22	Australian sardine	3.06	2.89	1.12	6.00	0.95	0.19	Included
23	Southern anchovy	3.04	2.54	0.70	5.04	0.95	0.14	Included
24	Australian salmon	3.96	0.41	0.44	4.20	0.95	0.10	Included
25	Pike	4.04	0.21	0.30	3.00	0.95	0.10	Included
26	Southern garfish	2.61	0.23	1.55	10.40	0.95	0.15	Included
27	Small pelagics	3.01	3.53	0.82	10.02	0.95	0.08	Koopman, 2005

28	Silver trevally	3.28	0.31	0.57	2.20	0.95	0.26	Included
29	Yelloweye mullet	3.02	0.15	1.32	10.60	0.95	0.12	Included
30	Leatherjacket	2.68	0.12	0.92	9.65	0.99	0.10	Included
31	Small demersal fish	3.10	0.72	1.42	12.31	0.95	0.12	Koopman, 2005
32	Globefish	3.11	1.17	0.68	3.04	0.14	0.22	Koopman, 2005
33	Spiny gurnards	3.05	0.04	0.87	2.40	0.95	0.36	Koopman, 2005
34	Adult snapper	3.31	0.26	0.49	2.20	0.98	0.22	Koopman, 2005
35	Juvenile snapper	3.05	0.20	0.55	3.71	0.77	0.15	Included
36	Other invertebrates	2.39	24.02	3.26	16.28	0.13	0.20	Koopman, 2005
37	Polychaetes	2.29	24.22	2.93	11.53	0.91	0.25	Koopman, 2005
38	Filter feeding molluscs	2.07	24.97	2.72	13.59	0.95	0.20	Included
39	Grazing molluscs	2.00	4.02	2.09	10.49	0.95	0.20	Included
40	Predatory molluscs	3.32	0.94	2.72	13.59	0.57	0.20	Included
41	Echinoderms	2.05	51.28	0.80	9.41	0.33	0.08	Koopman, 2005
42	Zooplankton	2.04	4.66	54.75	153.36	0.55	0.36	Koopman, 2005
43	Benthic crustaceans	2.05	25.97	4.50	22.48	0.95	0.20	Koopman, 2005
44	Abalone	2.00	0.26	0.73	12.41	0.70	0.06	Included
45	Southern rock lobster	3.23	0.03	0.73	12.41	0.53	0.06	Included
46	Sea urchin	2.00	4.72	0.88	11.68	0.71	0.08	Included
47	Exotic seastar	3.05	0.00	0.52	2.60	0.00	0.20	Included
48	Macroalgae	1	18.13	20.00	0.00	0.23		Koopman, 2005
49	Algal turf	1	0.71	30.85	0.00	0.97		Included
50	Phytoplankton	1	6.41	259.30	0.00	0.82		Koopman, 2005
51	Microphytobenthos	1	26.88	45.00	0.00	0.11		Koopman, 2005
52	Seagrass	1	58.21	11.13	0.00	0.07		Koopman, 2005
53	Detritus	1	12573			0.29		Koopman, 2005

Table S5 The source of basic input parameters for the Port Phillip Bay model. Juvenile fish groups represent those <3 years old. P/B = production/biomass, Q/B = consumption/biomass, M = natural mortality, Z = total mortality, F = fishing mortality, FGs = functional groups.

FGs	Group name	Biomass (t/km ²)	PB (/year)	QB (/year)	Ecotrophic efficiency (EE)
1	Large sharks	Model estimation	Average of M for bronze whalers and 7-gilled sharks (Froese 2019)	Calculated empirically (Palomares & Pauly 1989)	Assumed <i>EE</i> = 0.60 (Blanchard, Pinnegar & Mackinson 2002)
2	Large pelagics	Trawl survey	(Annala 1994; Tilzey 1994) (Weighted by the relative abundance of component species)	Calculated empirically	
3	Bird	(Briggs <i>et al.</i> 1987)	(Briggs <i>et al.</i> 1987)	(Briggs <i>et al.</i> 1987)	
4	Mammals	(Fulton & Smith 2004)	(Fulton & Smith 2004)	(Fulton & Smith 2004)	
5	Yank flathead	Trawl survey	As for sand flathead	Calculated from (Officer & Parry 2000)	
6	Rock flathead	Model estimation	(Koopman 2005)	Averaged from sand and yank flathead	Assumed <i>EE</i> = 0.95 (Polovina 1984)
7	Other cephalopods	Model estimation	(Manickchand-Heileman, Soto & Escobar 1998)	(O'Sullivan & Cullen 1983; Arreguín-Sánchez, Seijo & Valero-Pacheco 1993)	Assumed <i>EE</i> = 0.95 (Polovina 1984)
8	Southern calamari	Model estimation	(Fulton & Smith 2004)	(Watson <i>et al.</i> 2013)	Assumed <i>EE</i> = 0.95 (Polovina 1984)
9	Smooth ray	Trawl survey	Used <i>T</i> _{max} from similar species (<i>Dasyatis chrysonota</i>)(Cowley 1997) to estimate M	Calculated from data in (Officer & Parry 1996; Officer & Parry 2000)	
10	Adult sand flathead	Trawl survey	Z (Calculated from catch curve)	Calculated from data in (Officer & Parry 1996)	
11	Juvenile sand flathead	Trawl survey	Z (Calculated from catch curve)	Model estimation	

12	Banjo ray	Trawl survey	M (Froese & Pauly 2018)	Calculated from (Officer & Parry 1996)	
13	Eastern S. stingaree	Trawl survey	M (Froese & Pauly 2018)	Calculated from (Officer & Parry 1996)	
14	Adult King George whiting	Trawl survey	M doubled to get Z (Fowler 2000)	Calculated empirically (Palomares & Pauly 1989)	
15	Juvenile King George whiting	Model estimation	M (Fowler 2000)	Model estimation	
16	Large demersal fish	Trawl survey	M (Froese & Pauly 2018), then added F. F from catch rate/biomass = $0.1552/0.357=0.4347$	Q/B, an average of related demersal fish (Froese & Pauly 2018)	
17	Adult red mullet	Trawl survey	M, an average of other species of goatfish (Froese & Pauly 2018)	Q/B, an average of other species of goatfish (Froese & Pauly 2018)	
18	Juvenile red mullet	Model estimation	As for adult red mullet (Froese & Pauly 2018)	Model derived	
19	Eagle ray	Trawl survey	Used T_{max} from similar species (<i>Myliobatis californica</i>) (Martin & Cailliet 1988) to estimate M	Calculated from data in (Officer & Parry 1996)	
20	Other sharks /rays/skates	Trawls survey	(Froese & Pauly 2018)	Q/B, an average of similar species (Froese & Pauly 2018)	
21	Sparsely spotted stingaree	Trawl survey	(Froese & Pauly 2018)	Calculated from data in (Officer & Parry 1996)	
22	Australian sardine	Model estimation	Z value for similar species <i>Sardinella lemuru</i> (Gaughan & Mitchell 1999)	(Goldsworthy <i>et al.</i> 2013)	
23	Southern anchovy	Model estimation	(Goldsworthy <i>et al.</i> 2013)	(Goldsworthy <i>et al.</i> 2013)	Assumed $EE = 0.95$ (Polovina 1984)
24	Australian salmon	Model estimation	(Goldsworthy <i>et al.</i> 2013)	(Hughes <i>et al.</i> 2014)	Assumed $EE = 0.95$ (Polovina 1984)
25	Pike	Model estimation	(Froese & Pauly 2018)	(Froese & Pauly 2018)	Assumed $EE = 0.95$ (Polovina 1984)

26	Southern garfish	Model estimation	(Steer <i>et al.</i> 2012)	(Froese & Pauly 2018)	Assumed <i>EE</i> = 0.95 (Polovina 1984)
27	Small pelagics	Model estimation	M, an average of all species of small pelagic (Froese & Pauly 2018)	Calculated empirically (Palomares & Pauly 1989)	Assumed <i>EE</i> = 0.95 (Polovina 1984)
28	Silver trevally	Model estimation	(Farmer <i>et al.</i> 2005)	Calculated empirically (Palomares & Pauly 1989)	Assumed <i>EE</i> = 0.95 (Polovina 1984)
29	Yelloweye mullet	Model estimation	M doubled to get Z (Froese & Pauly 2018)	Calculated empirically (Palomares & Pauly 1989)	Assumed <i>EE</i> = 0.95 (Polovina 1984)
30	Leatherjacket	Trawl survey-2	M, an average of all species of the group (Froese & Pauly 2018)	Calculated empirically (Palomares & Pauly 1989)	
31	Small demersal fish	Model estimation	Average for unvegetated sites in (Edgar & Shaw 1995)	P/B divided by average P/Q for unvegetated sites in (Edgar & Shaw 1995)	Assumed <i>EE</i> =0.95 (Polovina 1984)
32	Globefish	Trawl survey-2	(Froese & Pauly 2018)	Calculated from data in (Officer & Parry 1996)	
33	Spiny gurnards	Trawls survey	Used M from similar species within family (Booth 1997)	Calculated from data in (Officer & Parry 1996)	
34	Adult snapper	Calculated empirically (Annala, Sullivan & O'Brien 2000)	(Fulton & Smith 2004)	Calculated empirically (Palomares & Pauly 1989)	
35	Juvenile snapper	Model estimation	(Fulton & Smith 2004)	Model estimation	
36	Other invertebrates	Calculated from (Wilson, Cohen & Poore 1993)	Average of values for all species from literature presented in (Edgar 1990; Wilson, Cohen & Poore 1993)	Calculated assuming P/Q ratio of 0.2 (Arreguín-Sánchez, Seijo & Valero-Pacheco 1993)	
37	Polychaetes	Calculated from (Wilson, Cohen & Poore 1993)	Average values for polychaetes from literature presented in (Edgar 1990; Wilson, Cohen & Poore 1993)	(Poore 1992; Wilson, Cohen & Poore 1993)	
38	Filter feeding molluscs	Calculated from (Wilson, Cohen & Poore 1993)	Average values for molluscs from literature presented in (Edgar 1990; Wilson, Cohen & Poore 1993)	Calculated assuming P/Q ratio of 0.2 (Arreguín-Sánchez, Seijo & Valero-Pacheco 1993)	

39	Grazing molluscs	Calculated from (Wilson, Cohen & Poore 1993)	Average values for molluscs from literature presented in (Edgar 1990; Wilson, Cohen & Poore 1993)	Calculated assuming P/Q ratio of 0.2 (Arreguín-Sánchez, Seijo & Valero-Pacheco 1993)
40	Predatory molluscs	Calculated from (Wilson, Cohen & Poore 1993)	Average values for molluscs from the literature presented in (Edgar 1990; Wilson, Cohen & Poore 1993)	Calculated assuming P/Q ratio of 0.2 (Arreguín-Sánchez, Seijo & Valero-Pacheco 1993)
41	Echinoderms	Calculated from (Wilson, Cohen & Poore 1993)	(Miller & Mann 1973)	(Miller & Mann 1973)
42	Zooplankton	(Holloway & Jenkins 1993)	(Holloway & Jenkins 1993)	(Holloway & Jenkins 1993)
43	Crustaceans	Model estimation	Average values for Crustaceans from the literature presented in (Edgar 1990; Wilson, Cohen & Poore 1993)	Calculated assuming P/Q ratio of 0.2 (Arreguín-Sánchez, Seijo & Valero-Pacheco 1993) Assumed <i>EE</i> = 0.95 (Polovina 1984)
44	Abalone	(Fulton & Smith 2004)	(Fulton & Smith 2004)	(Fulton & Smith 2004)
45	Southern rock lobster	(Fulton & Smith 2004)	(Fulton & Smith 2004)	(Fulton & Smith 2004)
46	Sea Urchin	(Worthington & Blount 2003)	(Fulton & Smith 2004)	(Fulton & Smith 2004)
47	Exotic seastar	Calculated from (Parry, Werner & Heislars 2004)	(Palomares & Pauly 2019)	(Palomares & Pauly 2019)
48	Macroalgae	(Murray & Parslow 1997)	(Murray & Parslow 1997)	
49	Algal turf	(Murray & Parslow 1997)	(Bozec, Gascuel & Kulbicki 2004)	
50	Phytoplankton	(Beardall, Roberts & Royle 1996)	(Beardall, Roberts & Royle 1996)	
51	Micro-phytobenthos	(Beardall & Light 1994)	(Beardall & Light 1994)	
52	Seagrass	(Bulthuis, Axelrad & Mickelson 1992)	(Bulthuis & Woelkerling 1983)	
53	Detritus	(Koopman 2005)		

Table S6. Results of global sensitivity analysis for the changes in biomass for three representative community groups under a combined ocean acidification and warming (OAT) scenario. Standardized regression coefficients (SRC) scaled between zero and 1 (based on unsigned values), actual model coefficients (Coeff) and their upper and lower confidence intervals (0.025 and 0.975 bootstrap percentiles, respectively) for changes in the mean biomass according to a generalized linear model, with the dependent variables: biomass (B), consumption/biomass (Q/B), production/biomass (P/B), and ecotrophic efficiency (EE), ‘2-fold’ equals the magnitude of increase in fishing pressure starting in 2015.

Model	Community groups	Dependent variable	SRC	Coeff	Lower CI	Upper CI
Climate model only	Cephalopods	B	0.20	-0.38	-1.04	0.29
		QB	0.32	-0.03	-0.24	0.02
		PB	0.28	-0.11	-0.05	0.00
		EE	0.20	-0.46	-1.03	0.11
	Pelagic finfish	B	0.40	0.37	0.34	0.39
		QB	0.27	-0.12	-0.14	-0.11
		PB	0.30	0.91	0.81	1.02
		EE	0.03	0.31	0.06	0.56
	Invertebrates	B	0.51	0.17	0.15	0.19
		QB	0.16	-0.32	-0.45	-0.19
		PB	0.21	1.06	0.73	1.38
		EE	0.12	2.41	1.04	3.77
Climate model and 2-fold increase in fishing effort	Cephalopods	B	0.33	-0.70	-1.21	-0.19
		QB	0.54	-0.04	-0.06	-0.02
		PB	0.11	-0.04	-0.12	0.04
		EE	0.02	0.04	-0.39	0.48
	Pelagic finfish	B	0.41	0.38	0.36	0.41
		QB	0.25	-0.11	-0.13	-0.10
		PB	0.26	0.82	0.71	0.92
		EE	0.08	0.78	0.50	1.05
	Invertebrates	B	0.55	0.17	0.15	0.19
		QB	0.17	-0.31	-0.43	-0.20
		PB	0.23	1.07	0.80	1.34
		EE	0.04	0.81	-0.34	1.97

Table S7. Matrix of diet used as input. Raw data across functional groups of predators in columns and prey species in rows.

SI	Functional group name	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
1	Large sharks	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	Large pelagics	0.10	0	0.03	0.09	0	0	0.05	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	Birds	0	0	0.01	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4	Mammals	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5	Yank flathead	0.01	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6	Rock flathead	0.01	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.01	0.01	0	0	0	0
7	Other cephalopods	0.06	0.00	0.03	0.06	0.089	0	0.02	0.02	0	0.02	0	0	0
8	Southern calamari	0.04	0	0.03	0.15	0.01	0.08	0.03	0.02	0	0.02	0	0.02	0
9	Smooth ray	0.07	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10	Adult sand flathead	0.01	0	0	0.02	0	0	0	0.03	0.12	0	0	0.05	0
11	Juvenile sand flathead	0.02	0	0	0.02	0.04	0	0	0.03	0.20	0	0	0	0
12	Banjo ray	0.05	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
13	Eastern shovelnose stingaree	0.15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
14	Adult King George whiting	0.01	0	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
15	Juvenile King George whiting	0	0	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0.03	0	0	0	0	0
16	Large demersal fish	0.07	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
17	Adult red mullet	0	0	0	0.01	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.05	0
18	Juvenile red mullet	0	0	0	0.04	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
19	Eagle ray	0.09	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
20	Other sharks/rays/skates	0.02	0	0	0.01	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
21	Sparsely spotted stingaree	0.17	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
22	Australian sardine	0.03	0.59	0.28	0.05	0	0	0.05	0.02	0	0	0	0	0
23	Southern anchovy	0	0.26	0.08	0.05	0	0	0	0.04	0	0	0	0	0
24	Australian Salmon	0.03	0.02	0.02	0.02	0	0	0	0.02	0	0	0	0	0
25	Pike	0	0.02	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
26	Southern garfish	0	0.02	0.03	0.01	0	0	0	0.01	0	0	0	0	0
27	Small pelagics	0.01	0.00	0.07	0.05	0.05	0	0.08	0.05	0	0.304	0	0.16	0
28	Silver trevally	0.02	0.02	0.01	0.02	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
29	Yelloweye mullet	0	0	0.01	0.03	0	0	0.01	0.02	0	0	0	0	0
30	Leatherjacket	0.02	0	0	0	0.06	0	0.02	0	0	0	0	0.02	0
31	Small demersal fish	0	0	0.019	0.04	0.18	0.17	0.06	0.04	0	0.017	0	0.08	0
32	Globefish	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
33	Spiney gurnards	0.00	0	0	0	0.08	0	0.01	0	0	0	0	0	0
34	Adult snapper	0.02	0	0	0.06	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
35	Juvenile snapper	0	0	0.03	0.04	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
36	Other invertebrates	0	0	0.04	0	0.06	0.01	0.04	0.08	0	0.02	0	0.00	0
37	Polychaetes	0	0	0.06	0	0.00	0	0.01	0	0.13	0.05	0.10	0.00	0.94
38	Filter feeding molluscs	0	0	0.06	0	0	0	0.03	0	0	0.01	0.08	0.03	0.01
39	Grazing molluscs	0	0	0	0	0	0.01	0.01	0	0	0.09	0.02	0	0.01
40	Predatory molluscs	0	0	0	0.03	0	0	0.02	0.02	0	0.02	0	0	0.01
41	Echinoderms	0	0	0	0.10	0.01	0	0.03	0.10	0	0.00	0	0	0.04
42	Zooplankton	0	0	0	0.03	0	0.42	0	0.02	0	0	0.05	0	0
43	Benthic crustaceans	0	0.07	0.03	0.07	0.42	0.3	0.52	0.45	0.54	0.44	0.1	0.59	0.01
44	Abalone	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.01	0	0	0	0	0	0
45	Southern rock lobster	0	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0.00	0	0	0	0.00	0

Table S7 Continued

SI	Functional group name	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47
1	Large sharks	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	Large pelagics	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	Birds	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4	Mammals	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5	Yank flathead	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6	Rock flathead	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7	Other cephalopods	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
8	Southern calamari	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
9	Smooth ray	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10	Adult sand flathead	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
11	Juvenile sand flathead	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
12	Banjo ray	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
13	Eastern shovelnose stingaree	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
14	Adult King George whiting	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
15	Juvenile King George whiting	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
16	Large demersal fish	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
17	Adult red mullet	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
18	Juvenile red mullet	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
19	Eagle ray	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
20	Other sharks/rays/skates	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
21	Sparsely spotted stingaree	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
22	Australian sardine	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
23	Southern anchovy	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
24	Australian Salmon	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
25	Pike	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
26	Southern garfish	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
27	Small pelagics	0	0	0.08	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
28	Silver trevally	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
29	Yelloweye mullet	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
30	Leatherjacket	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
31	Small demersal fish	0	0	0.12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
32	Globefish	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
33	Spiny gurnards	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
34	Adult snapper	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
35	Juvenile snapper	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
36	Other invertebrates	0.00	0.00	0.04	0	0.01	0	0	0	0.3	0	0	0	0	0.08	0	0
37	Polychaetes	0.00	0.01	0.06	0	0.06	0.08	0	0	0.33	0.02	0	0.00	0	0.28	0	0.05
38	Filter feeding molluscs	0.30	0.01	0.09	0.026	0.09	0.08	0	0	0.16	0	0	0	0	0.31	0	0.35
39	Grazing molluscs	0.05	0.01	0.02	0	0.02	0	0	0	0.04	0	0.001	0	0	0	0	0.35
40	Predatory molluscs	0.05	0	0.02	0	0	0	0	0	0.07	0	0	0	0	0.08	0	0
41	Echinoderms	0.19	0	0.09	0	0.03	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.08
42	Zooplankton	0	0	0	0	0.04	0	0.07	0	0.06	0.01	0.04	0.02	0	0.01	0	0
43	Benthic crustaceans	0.4	0.97	0.48	0.97	0.11	0.08	0	0	0.03	0.02	0	0.02	0	0.23	0	0.12
44	Abalone	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.00	0	0	0.00	0	0.00	0	0
45	Southern rock lobster	0	0	0	0.00	0	0	0	0	0.00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
46	Sea Urchin	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.01	0.00	0	0.00	0	0.01	0	0.05

Table S8. The source of diet data for the Port Phillip Bay model. Juvenile fish groups represent those <3 years old.

Functional groups number	Group name	Diet
1	Large sharks	(Ebert 1991)
2	Large pelagics	(Officer & Parry 2000)
3	Bird	(Briggs <i>et al.</i> 1987)
4	Mammals	(Fulton & Smith 2004)
5	Yank flathead	(Officer & Parry 2000)
6	Rock flathead	(Froese & Pauly 2018)
7	Other cephalopods	(O'Sullivan & Cullen 1983; Arreguín-Sánchez, Seijo & Valero-Pacheco 1993)
8	Southern calamari	(Officer & Parry 2000)
9	Smooth ray	(Officer & Parry 2000)
10	Adult sand flathead	(Officer & Parry 2000)
11	Juvenile sand flathead	(Officer & Parry 2000)
12	Banjo ray	(Officer & Parry 2000)
13	Eastern shovelnose stingaree	(Officer & Parry 2000)
14	Adult King George whiting	(Officer & Parry 2000)
15	Juvenile King George whiting	(Officer & Parry 2000)
16	Large demersal fish	(Officer & Parry 2000)
17	Adult red mullet	(Officer & Parry 2000)
18	Juvenile red mullet	(Officer & Parry 2000)
19	Eagle ray	(Officer & Parry 2000)
20	Other sharks/rays/skates	(Officer & Parry 2000)
21	Sparsely spotted stingaree	(Officer & Parry 2000)
22	Australian sardine	(Froese & Pauly 2018)
23	Southern anchovy	(Froese & Pauly 2018)
24	Australian Salmon	(Hughes <i>et al.</i> 2014)
25	Pike	(Froese & Pauly 2018)
26	Southern garfish	(Robertson & Klumpp 1983)
27	Small pelagics	Assumed to be 100% zooplankton

28	Silver trevally	(French <i>et al.</i> 2013)
29	Yelloweye mullet	(Platell, Orr & Potter 2006)
30	Leatherjacket	(Hallett & Tweedley 2015)
31	Small demersal fish	(Officer & Parry 2000)
32	Globefish	(Officer & Parry 2000)
33	Spiney gurnards	(Officer & Parry 2000)
34	Adult snapper	(Officer & Parry 2000)
35	Juvenile snapper	(Officer & Parry 2000)
36	Other invertebrates	See crustaceans
37	Polychaetes	See crustaceans
38	Filter feeding molluscs	See crustaceans
39	Grazing molluscs	See crustaceans
40	Predatory molluscs	See crustaceans
41	Echinoderms	See crustaceans
42	Zooplankton	(Holloway & Jenkins 1993)
43	Crustaceans	Breakdown of feeding groups in (Wilson, Cohen & Poore 1993) Feeding groups allocated the following diet: deposit feeders eat detritus; predators eat inverts-distributed according to biomass; scavengers eat detritus; suspension feeders eat 7.5% zooplankton and 92.5% phytoplankton; grazers eat micro-phytobenthos and seagrass
44	Abalone	(Fulton & Smith 2004; Palomares & Pauly 2019)
45	Southern rock lobster	(Fulton & Smith 2004; Palomares & Pauly 2019)
46	Sea Urchin	(Fulton & Smith 2004; Palomares & Pauly 2019)
47	Exotic seastar	(Lockhart & Ritz 2001)

Table S9. Results of the temporally dynamic fitting procedure of the Port Phillip Bay Ecopath model from 1990s to 2015. T = temperature, SL = serial number, K = number of parameters included in the each model run, NVs = number of vulnerabilities included in each iteration, sPP = number of primary production spline points (for smoothing of the time series), SS = weighted sum of squared deviations. NVs and sPP are shown only for those models with the lowest Akaike Information Criterion (AIC). The “best” model (shown in bold) is the one yielding the lowest corrected Akaike Information Criterion (AICc) and used to fit the Port Philip Bay model.

T	SL	Steps	Description	K	NVs	sPP	SS	AIC	AICc
	1	Baseline	Trophic interactions with default prey-predator Vulnerabilities ($v_{ij} = 2$; mixed effect). No environmental or fishery data are used to drive the model.	0	0	0	462.99	-39.53	-39.53
	2	Baseline and trophic interaction	Trophic interactions with different vulnerabilities. No environmental or fishery changes are used to drive the model.	24	24	0	262.95	-272.45	-270.13
	3	Baseline and environment	The “PP anomaly” is used to drive the model. No fishery data are used to drive the model.	3	0	3	439.10	-59.60	-59.60
Yes	4	Baseline, trophic interactions and environment	No fishery data are used.	27	25	2	270.00	-253.00	-250.00
	5	Fishery	Fishing effort is included as model driver. Trophic interactions are set as default and no environmental data are used.	0	0	0	456.51	-46.59	-46.59
	6	Trophic interaction and fishery	No environmental data are used.	15	15	0	253.74	-309.83	-308.97
	7	Fishing and PP anomaly	Trophic interactions are set as default	8	0	8	425.16	-65.94	-65.71
	8	Trophic interactions, environment and fishery	All the components are jointly included in the model as drivers.	21	18	3	246.58	-311.00	-309.00
No	1	Baseline, trophic interactions and environment	No fishery data are used.	21	14	7	328.3	-167.9	-166.2

Table S10. Model estimated vulnerability parameters for different functional groups of the Port Phillip Bay Ecopath model.

Functional groups number	Functional groups	Vulnerability	S.	Functional groups	Vulnerability
1	Large sharks	2	27	Small pelagics	2
2	Large pelagics	2	28	Silver Trevally	>1000
3	Bird	2	29	Yelloweye Mullet	2
4	Mammals	2	30	Leatherjacket	1
5	Yank flathead	1	31	Small demersal fish	2
6	Rock flathead	52	32	Globefish	>1000
7	Other cephalopods	2	33	Spiny gurnards	2
8	Southern calamari	2	34	Adult snapper	2
9	Smooth ray	>1000	35	Juvenile snapper	2
10	Adult sand flathead	2	36	Other invertebrates	28
11	Juvenile sand flathead	2	37	Polychaetes	2
12	Banjo ray	2	38	Filter feeding molluscs	>1000
13	Eastern shovelnose stingaree	2	39	Grazing molluscs	2
14	Adult King George whiting	2	40	Predatory molluscs	2
15	Juvenile King George whiting	2	41	Echinoderms	2
16	Large demersal fish	1	42	Zooplankton	1
17	Adult Red mullet	2	43	Crustaceans	2
18	Juvenile Red mullet	2	44	Abalone	2
19	Eagle ray	2	45	Southern Rock Lobster	2
20	Other sharks/rays/skates	2	46	Sea urchin	2
21	Sparsely spotted stingaree	2	47	Exotic seastar	2
22	Australian Sardine	2			
23	Southern Anchovy	2			
24	Australian Salmon	2			
25	Pike	5			
26	Southern Garfish	2			

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