

S2 File: Supporting Information Tables and Text

Table A: Composition of discards from prawn trawling in Moreton Bay (Wassenberg and Hill, 1989)

Group	Percentage (weight)
Crustaceans	52
Echinoderms	18
Elasmobranchs	15
Teleost fish	8
Cephalopods	3
Others	4

Table B: Functional groups of the Moreton Bay ecosystem model

No.	Functional group	Components
1	Sea birds	Silver gulls, cormorants, crested terns*
2	Dolphins	Indo-Pacific bottlenose dolphins
3	Sharks	<i>Carcharhinus</i> spp
4	Pelagic fish	Trevally, Tuna, Mackerel and Whiting
5	Demersal fish	Rays, Cod, Bream, Snapper, Tailor and Flathead
6	Omnivores	Mullet and <i>Siganus</i> spp
7	Dugongs	<i>Dugong dugon</i>
8	Turtles	Green turtles
9	Sand crabs	<i>Portunus armatus</i>
10	Prawns	Penaeid prawns
11	Jellyfish	Scyphozoa, <i>Catostylus mosaicus</i>
12	Macrobenthos	Other crabs, mantis shrimps, annelids, gastropods, echinoderms
13	Zooplankton	Zooplankton
14	Seagrasses	Seagrasses
15	Macroalgae	Macroalgae
16	Phytoplankton	Phytoplankton
17	Discards	Discards
18	Detritus	Detritus

* (shorebirds (Skilleter pers. comm.) but included here based on the data sources which grouped them as seabirds)

Table C: Data sources for the different functional groups

No.	Functional group	Source
1	Sea birds	(Blaber and Wassenberg, 1989); Dunning (2007); Australia Fisheries Management Authority www.afma.gov.au/); (Wassenberg and Hill, 1990)
2	Dolphins	(Ansmann et al., 2012, Ansmann Ina Christiane, 2011); (Chilvers et al., 2003); Corkeron et al. (1997); (Chilvers and Corkeron, 2001, Chilvers et al., 2005)
3	Sharks	DAFF; (Stephen, 2007) (Taylor and Bennett, 2013); FishBase; Taylor, (Pierce et al., 2011)
4	Pelagic fish	DAFF; FishBase; (Kruck et al., 2009)
5	Demersal fish	DAFF, (Pierce et al., 2011, Kyne and Bennett, 2002); (Morton et al., 1987); FishBase; (Pollock and Williams, 1983); (Pillans, 2006); (Pollock and Williams, 1983, Pollock, 1982a, Pollock, 1982b, Morton et al., 1987
6	Omnivores	Gribble 2003; (Edgar and Shaw, 1995); (Capper et al., 2006); (Budarf et al., 2011)
7	Dugongs	Lanyon (Lanyon et al., 2010) (2003); Edgar and Shaw, (1995); Takahashi (2008); (Preen, 1995); (Chilvers et al., 2005); (Marsh et al., 1982); (Lanyon et al., 2010); (Perry et al., 1996); (Heinsohn et al., 1977); (Heinsohn et al., 1978); (Sheppard et al., 2006); Burgessa et al 2012; Marsh et al 1999
8	Turtles	Gribble 2003; Takahashi (2008); Limpus 2008; (Limpus et al., 1994); (Brand-Gardner et al., 1999); (Arthur et al., 2007); (Kuiper-Linley et al., 2007); (Arthur et al., 2008); (Bjorndal et al., 2000); (Chaloupka et al., 2004); Bjorndal (1997); (Chaloupka, 2001, Chaloupka et al., 2004, Chaloupka and Limpus, 2001)
9	Sand crabs	Courtney et al (2009); Criales-Hernandez et al 2006; DAFF; Williams, 1982; (Hill and Wassenberg, 1990); Weng 1992; Williams 1981; Wu & Shin 1997; Edgar 1990; (Campbell and Sumpton, 2009)
10	Prawns	Courtney et al (2009); Courtney et al (1995); Gribble 2003; DAFF; (Barber and Lee, 1975); (Masel and Smallwood, 2000); (Skilleter et al., 2005); Brey (2001)
11	Jellyfish	Wang 2012; Pitt & Kingsford, 2003(Pitt and Lucas, 2014); (Matt, 2007); (West et al., 2009); (Titelman et al., 2006); (Pitt and Kingsford, 2003b, Pitt and Kingsford, 2003a); Pitt et al 2007; (Pitt et al., 2007); (Peach and Pitt, 2005); (Kingsford et al., 2000); (Gershwin et al., 2010)
12	Macrobenthos	Edgar & Shaw (1995); Groenewold & Fonds (2000); SeaLifeBase, Brey (2001)
13	Zooplankton	Gribble 2003; Schlacher et al 2009; (Jacoby and Greenwood, 1989); (Greenwood, 1981); (Carr and Pitt, 2008); (Barber and Lee, 1975); (Greenwood, 1982)
14	Seagrasses	EPA 2007; (Young and Kirkman, 1975); (Kirkman, 1978); (Finn et al., 2010); (Boström et al., 2006); Takahashi et al 2008; (McMahon, 2003); (Peterken and Conacher, 1997); (Roelfsema et al., 2009); (Skilleter et al., 2007); (Perry et al., 1996); (Saunders et al., 2013); (Melville and Connolly, 2005)
15	Macroalgae	Fulton & Smith 2010; (Watkinson et al., 2005); (Pittman and Pittman, 2005); (Bell and Elmetri, 2007); (Arthur et al., 1991); Quigg et al 2008

- 16 Phytoplankton Glibert (2006); (Wulff et al., 2011); (Gabric et al., 1998); (James et al., 1998); O'Donohue et al 2000; (Glibert et al., 2006, Glibert and Dennison, 2000); (Schlacher et al., 2008), (Quigg et al., 2010);
- 17 Discards Gribble 2003; Wassenberg and Hill, 1990; Wassenberg and Hill 1989;
- 18 Detritus Gribble 2003

Table D: Basic parameter estimates for Moreton Bay ecosystem model with discards (MB 1) (Values in italics were estimated by the model) TL= Trophic level; B= Biomass; P/B= Production/Biomass ratio; Q/B= Consumption/Biomass ratio; EE= Ecotrophic efficiency; P/Q= Production/Consumption ratio

	Group name	TL	B (t/km²)	P/B (/year)	Q/B (/year)	EE	P/Q
1	Seabirds	3.79	0.0051	0.05	0.183	<i>0.196</i>	<i>0.274</i>
2	Dolphins	3.96	0.0918	<i>0.013</i>	0.045	0	0.3
3	Sharks	4.26	0.0366	0.225	1	<i>0.253</i>	<i>0.225</i>
4	Pelagic fish	3.5	0.43	0.4	1.4	<i>0.343</i>	<i>0.286</i>
5	Demersal fish	3.44	0.39	0.4	1.369	<i>0.955</i>	<i>0.292</i>
6	Omnivores	2.75	0.2	0.35	1.396	<i>0.958</i>	<i>0.251</i>
7	Dugongs	2	0.0075	0.009	0.030	0	<i>0.295</i>
8	Turtles	2	0.007	0.02	0.08	<i>0.786</i>	<i>0.25</i>
9	Sand crabs	2.90	0.6	0.7	2.4	<i>0.495</i>	<i>0.292</i>
10	Prawns	2.12	0.7	1.972	7.5	<i>0.368</i>	<i>0.263</i>
11	Jellyfish	3.11	1.075	0.09	0.4	<i>0.697</i>	<i>0.225</i>
12	Macrobenthos	2.45	0.8	1.8	6	<i>0.576</i>	<i>0.3</i>
13	Zooplankton	2.11	6.42	8.48	30	<i>0.42</i>	<i>0.283</i>
14	Seagrass	1	16	25.55	0	<i>0.001</i>	
15	Macroalgae	1	25.91	20	0	<i>0.001</i>	
16	Phytoplankton	1	11.3	28	0	<i>0.549</i>	
17	Discards	1	2			<i>0.960</i>	
18	Detritus	1	3.836			<i>0.006</i>	

Table F: Basic parameter estimates for Moreton Bay ecosystem model without discards (MB 2) (Values in italics were estimated by the model) TL= Trophic level; B= Biomass; P/B= Production/Biomass ratio; Q/B= Consumption/Biomass ratio; EE= Ecotrophic efficiency; P/Q= Production/Consumption ratio

	Group name	TL	B (t/km²)	P/B (/year)	Q/B (/year)	EE	P/Q
1	Seabirds	4.28	0.0051	0.05	0.183	<i>0</i>	<i>0.274</i>
2	Dolphins	4.34	0.0918	<i>0.013</i>	0.045	<i>0</i>	0.3
3	Sharks	4.32	0.0366	0.225	1	<i>0.247</i>	<i>0.225</i>
4	Pelagic fish	3.51	0.43	0.4	1.4	<i>0.352</i>	<i>0.286</i>
5	Demersal fish	3.44	0.39	0.4	1.369	<i>0.920</i>	<i>0.292</i>
6	Omnivores	2.75	0.2	0.35	1.396	<i>0.944</i>	<i>0.251</i>
7	Dugongs	2	0.00752	0.009	0.030	<i>0</i>	<i>0.295</i>
8	Turtles	2	0.007	0.02	0.08	<i>0</i>	<i>0.25</i>
9	Sand crabs	2.91	0.6	0.7	2.4	<i>0.447</i>	<i>0.292</i>
10	Prawns	2.12	0.7	1.972	7.5	<i>0.368</i>	<i>0.263</i>
11	Jellyfish	3.11	1.075	0.09	0.4	<i>0.697</i>	<i>0.225</i>
12	Macrobenthos	2.45	0.8	1.8	6	<i>0.544</i>	<i>0.3</i>
13	Zooplankton	2.11	6.42	8.48	30	<i>0.42</i>	<i>0.283</i>
14	Seagrass	1	16	25.55	0	<i>0.001</i>	
15	Macroalgae	1	25.91	20	0	<i>0.001</i>	
16	Phytoplankton	1	11.3	28	0	<i>0.549</i>	
17	Detritus	1	3.836			<i>0.006</i>	

Table H: Catch (t/km²) data inputs for 1990 to 2013 derived from the Qfish database

Name	Sharks	Pelagic fish	Demersal fish	Omnivores	Sand crabs	Prawns	Beam trawl	Otter trawl	Line	Net	Pot
Pool code	3	4	5	6	9	10	1	2	3	4	5
Type	6	6	6	6	6	6	3	3	3	3	3
1990	0.0016	0.0108	0.0147	0.0533	0.0022	0.0941	1	1	1	1	1
1991	0.001	0.0118	0.0131	0.0414	0.0023	0.0779	1.251	1.0736	0.5584	1.1738	1.2895
1992	0.0012	0.0124	0.0146	0.0550	0.0017	0.0744	0.739	0.8210	0.2173	1.1170	1.2435
1993	0.0016	0.0153	0.0119	0.0287	0.0020	0.0550	0.4559	0.7876	0.3837	1.3303	1.9511
1994	0.0019	0.0129	0.0130	0.0433	0.0025	0.0575	0.8205	0.6127	0.1707	1.2914	2.4778
1995	0.0018	0.0132	0.0144	0.0543	0.0021	0.0676	0.7176	0.5951	0.1424	1.4930	2.7015
1996	0.0017	0.0154	0.0106	0.0523	0.0022	0.0971	0.4099	0.9573	0.1594	1.6563	2.4507
1997	0.0029	0.0156	0.0136	0.0343	0.0022	0.0661		1.1069	0.5003	2.0542	2.4768
1998	0.0025	0.0125	0.0117	0.0526	0.0025	0.0822		1.192	0.4611	1.6034	2.4541
1999	0.0026	0.0108	0.0131	0.0650	0.0029	0.0971		1.2328	0.5409	1.7484	3.4257
2000	0.0034	0.0163	0.0166	0.038	0.0028	0.0422	0.6456	0.8552	0.23	1.5498	3.5674
2001	0.0028	0.0135	0.0193	0.0736	0.0042	0.0531	1.8930	0.3545	0.1722	1.4349	3.7211
2002	0.0024	0.0084	0.0126	0.0397	0.003	0.0572	1.7667	0.381	0.1870	1.3605	2.8256
2003	0.0033	0.0139	0.0143	0.0479	0.003	0.0436	1.9327	0.31	0.4415	1.7329	3.2071
2004	0.0023	0.0100	0.018	0.0544	0.003	0.0731	1.4833	0.3013	0.3826	1.435	2.2847
2005	0.0024	0.0088	0.0179	0.0453	0.0025	0.0464	1.2356	0.2054	0.5067	1.1615	1.9007
2006	0.0029	0.0087	0.0141	0.0587	0.0024	0.0278	1.4861	0.2231	0.6186	1.1041	1.7981
2007	0.0030	0.0090	0.0174	0.0275	0.0022	2.83E-02	1.6593	0.1533	0.5023	0.9929	1.3933
2008	0.0028	0.0077	0.0141	0.0425	0.0021	0.0230	1.1978	0.1034	0.4843	1.1384	1.7488
2009	0.0019	0.0071	0.0102	0.0396	0.0029	0.0302	1.204	0.105	0.3795	0.6891	1.6108
2010	0.0012	0.0073	0.0077	0.0345	0.0022	0.0301	0.9408	0.1245	0.2579	0.5279	1.5161
2011	0.002	0.0074	0.0096	0.0311	0.0021	0.0531	0.421	0.1704	0.3191	0.5648	1.5425
2012	0.002	0.009	0.0099	0.0365	0.0025	0.0339	0.3557	0.1291	0.2173	0.631	1.5458
2013	0.002	0.0068	0.0094	0.049	0.0025	0.0507	0.2263	0.1218	0.2627	0.5807	1.7329

Table I: Biomass estimates from the Monte Carlo routine for CV = 0.1 to 0.5 on 100 trials

	Group name	Mean	CV=0.1		CV=0.2		CV=0.3		CV=0.4		CV=0.5	
			Lower limit	Upper limit	Lower limit	Upper limit	Lower limit	Upper limit	Lower limit	Upper limit	Lower limit	Upper limit
1	Seabirds	0.0051	0.00408	0.00612	0.00306	0.00714	0.00204	0.00816	0.00102	0.00918	0.0026	0.0102
2	Dolphins	0.0918	0.07344	0.11016	0.05508	0.12852	0.03672	0.14688	0.01836	0.16524	0.0459	0.1836
3	Sharks	0.0366	0.02928	0.04392	0.02196	0.05124	0.01464	0.05856	0.00732	0.06588	0.0183	0.0732
4	Pelagic fish	0.43	0.344	0.516	0.258	0.602	0.172	0.688	0.086	0.774	0.215	0.86
5	Demersal fish	0.39	0.312	0.468	0.234	0.546	0.156	0.624	0.078	0.702	0.195	0.78
6	Omnivores	0.2	0.16	0.24	0.12	0.28	0.08	0.32	0.04	0.36	0.1	0.4
7	Dugongs	0.00752	0.00602	0.00902	0.00451	0.01053	0.00301	0.01203	0.00150	0.01354	0.0038	0.0150
8	Turtles	0.007	0.0056	0.0084	0.0042	0.0098	0.0028	0.0112	0.0014	0.0126	0.0035	0.014
9	Sand crabs	0.6	0.48	0.72	0.36	0.84	0.24	0.96	0.12	1.08	0.3	1.2
10	Prawns	0.7	0.56	0.84	0.42	0.98	0.28	1.12	0.14	1.26	0.35	1.4
11	Jellyfish	1.075	0.86	1.29	0.645	1.505	0.43	1.72	0.215	1.935	0.5375	2.15
12	Macrobenthos	0.8	0.64	0.96	0.48	1.12	0.32	1.28	0.16	1.44	0.4	1.6
13	Zooplankton	6.42	5.136	7.704	3.852	8.988	2.568	10.272	1.284	11.556	3.21	12.84
14	Seagrass	16	12.8	19.2	9.6	22.4	6.4	25.6	3.2	28.8	8	32
15	Macroalgae	25.91	20.728	31.092	15.546	36.274	10.364	41.456	5.182	46.638	12.96	51.82
16	Phytoplankton	11.3	9.04	13.56	6.78	15.82	4.52	18.08	2.26	20.34	5.65	22.6

Table J: The number of paths for consumption and trophic levels (TL) for the groups in the models with discards (MB 1) and without discards (MB 2) from the Ecopath models

	Functional group	MB 1		MB2	
		No. of pathways	TL	No. of pathways	TL
1	Seabirds	119	3.79	112	4.18
2	Dolphins	119	3.96	107	4.34
3	Sharks	77	4.26	70	4.32
4	Pelagic fish	42	3.5	38	3.51
5	Demersal fish	21	3.44	19	3.44
6	Omnivores	76	2.75	69	2.75
7	Dugongs	2	2	2	2
8	Turtles	2	2	2	2
9	Sand crabs	11	2.9	11	2.91
10	Prawns	2	2.12	2	2.12
11	Jellyfish	1	3.11	1	3.11
12	Macrobenthos	6	2.45	5	2.45
13	Zooplankton	1	2.11	1	2.11

Table K: Mann-Whitney U tests for the prey biomass of (A) seabirds and (B) dolphins between the two scenarios

A: Seabirds

Prey	U-value	Z-score	p
Pelagic fish	0	-5.9282	0*
Omnivores	95	-3.9693	0.00008*
Discards	0	5.9282	0*

* Significant at p=0.05

B: Dolphins

Prey	U-value	Z-score	p
Pelagic fish	0	-5.9282	0*
Omnivores	114	-3.5775	0.00034*
Discards	0	5.9282	0*

*significant at p=0.05

Text A: Ecopath and Ecosim Equations (Christensen et al, 2008)

The Ecopath master equation defines the mass-balance between consumption, production, and net system exports over a given time period for each functional group (*i*) in an ecosystem as follows:

Production = Predation+ Fishery catches + Biomass accumulation + Net migration + other Mortality

$$Bi * (P/Bi) EE = Yi + \sum Bj (Q/B)j * DCj$$

where *Bi* and *Bj* are biomasses (the latter pertaining to *j*, the consumers of *i*); *P/Bi* is the ratio of production to biomass, equivalent to total mortality; *EEi* is the ecotrophic efficiency which is the fraction of production that is consumed within, or caught from the system (by definition between 0 and 1); *Yi* is equal to the fisheries catch (i.e., $Y = FB$); *Q/Bj* is the food consumption per unit of biomass of *j*; and *DCji* is the contribution of (*i*) to the diet of (*j*), and the sum is overall predators (*j*). Biomass accumulation and migration can also be added to the right hand side of the equation. Each model can deal with an unknown parameter (*B* or *EE*; *P/B* or *Q/B*) that can be estimated by the model, if no data is available.

The basics of Ecosim consist of biomass dynamics expressed through a series of coupled differential equations. The equations are derived from the Ecopath master equation and is as follows:

$$dB_i/dt = g_i \sum Q_{ji} - \sum Q_{ij} + I_i - (M_{0i} + F_i + e_i)B_i$$

where dB_i/dt represents the growth rate during the time interval dt of group (*i*) in terms of its biomass, *Bi*, g_i is the net growth efficiency (production/consumption ratio), M_{0i} the non-predation ('other') natural mortality rate, F_i is fishing mortality rate, e_i is emigration rate, I_i is immigration rate, (and $e_i \cdot B_i - I_i$ is the net migration rate). The two summations estimates consumption rates, the first expressing the total consumption by group (*i*), and the second the predation by all predators on the same group (*i*). The consumption rates, Q_{ji} , are calculated based on the 'foraging arena' concept, where B_i 's are divided into vulnerable and invulnerable components.

Text B: Model Calibration

The Ecosim model was calibrated using the varying vulnerability and forcing functions on primary production repeated for predator and prey/predator interactions as follows:

Baseline

Baseline and vulnerabilities

Baseline and primary production

Baseline and vulnerabilities and primary production

Fishing

Fishing and vulnerabilities

Fishing and primary production

Fishing and vulnerabilities and primary production

References for Table C

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