



# Regional Monitoring to Quantify Uncertainty In Predicted Biological Impacts

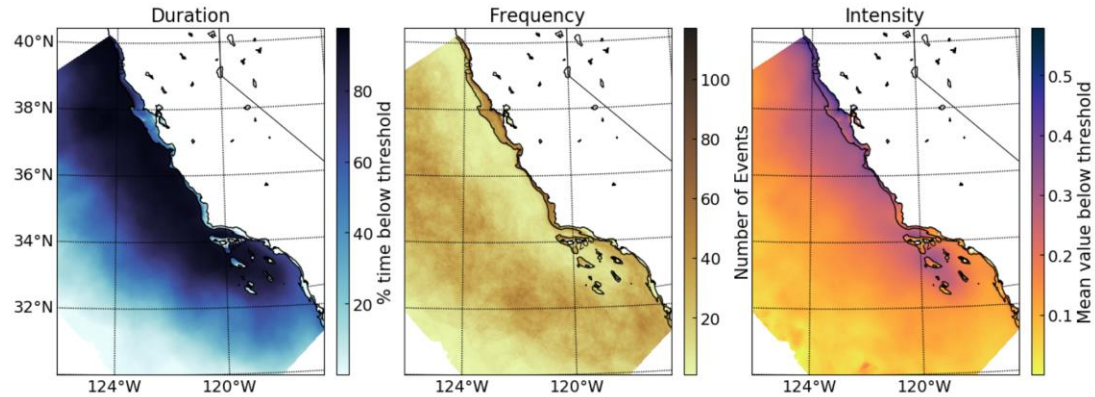
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Presentation to SCCWRP Commission

March 5, 2021

# We Are Applying Tools to Characterize Biological Impacts To Model Output

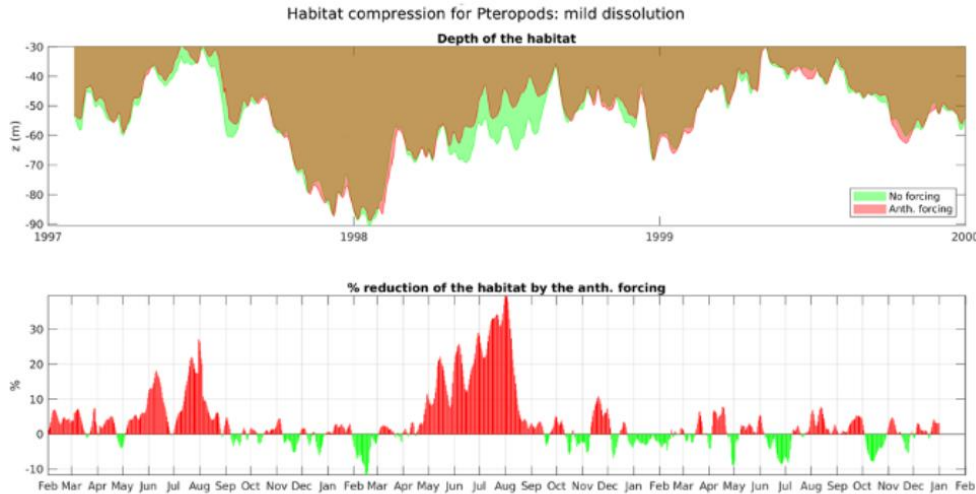
- Univariate metrics
  - OA thresholds for key taxa
- Multi-stressor Metrics
  - Laboratory experiments
  - Metabolic index for temperature dependent oxygen impacts on regionally relevant benthic and pelagic species



*Pteropods juvenile mild dissolution thresholds assessed over 0-200 m*

Are these the right indicators and metrics for the Bight?  
What is the uncertainty in these biological assessments?

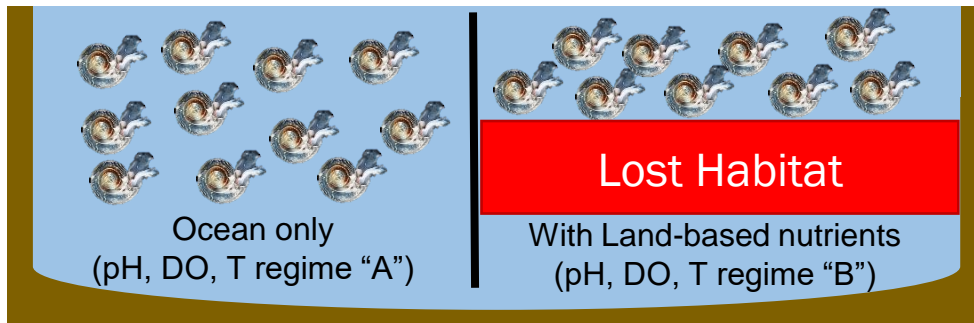
# We Need to Validate How Well the Model Reproduces Predicted Biological Impacts



Does pteropod presence/absence and/or shell condition in the Bight under specific Temperature, Oxygen, and pH conditions match model predictions?



We Need Regional Data!

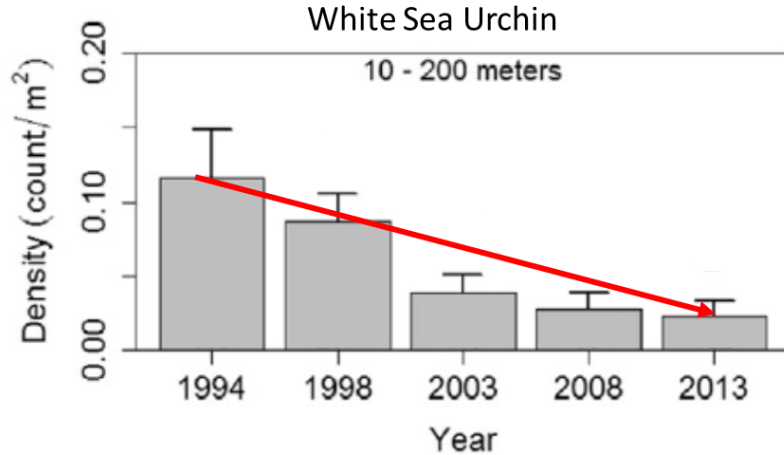


# Bight Program Is Providing Biological Data to “Ground Truth” Biological Implications of Model Predictions

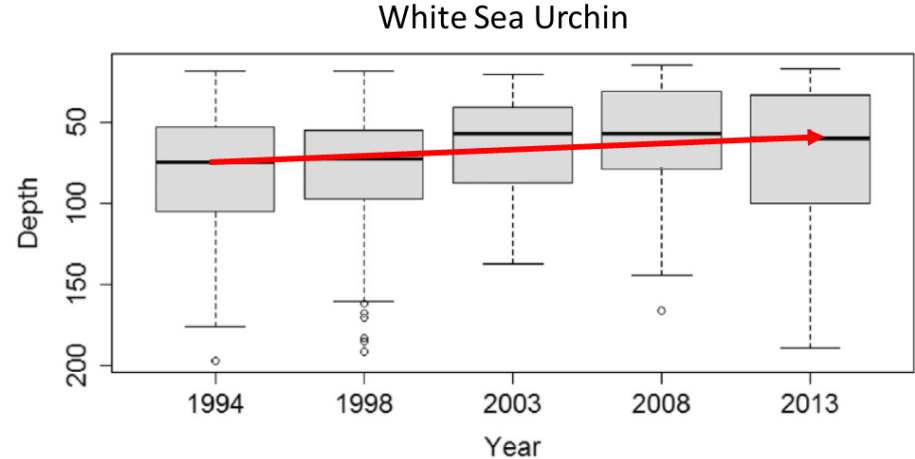
- Bight Historical data
  - Bight infauna and trawl datasets provide hindcast species distributions
  - Pull out key taxa to map out shifting patterns in presence/absence
- Bight '18: Pelagic biological dataset coupled with chemistry
  - Bight '18 pelagic zooplankton species distributions
  - Bight '18 pelagic zooplankton shell/carapace condition

# Historical Data Shows Changing Species Assemblages

## Lower Densities



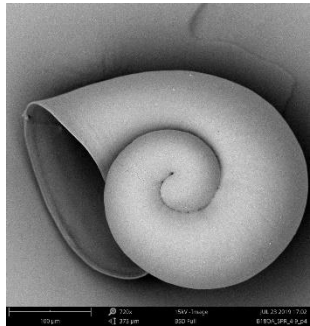
## Habitat Compression



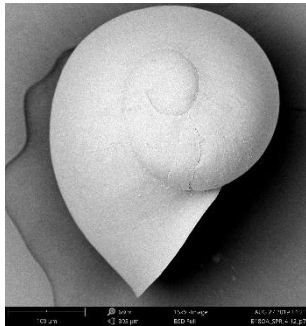
Do hindcast model simulations predict species shifts due to changes in temperature, dissolved oxygen and pH/carbonate saturation state?

# We Are Evaluating New OA-Specific Indicator Species and Biological Metrics

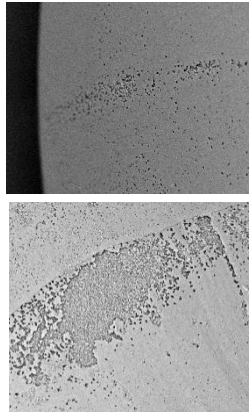
- The Bight Program routinely detected (1 or more seasons) three potential OA indicators with wide-spread distributions
  - Pteropods: *Limacina* and *Heliconoides*
  - Crab Larvae



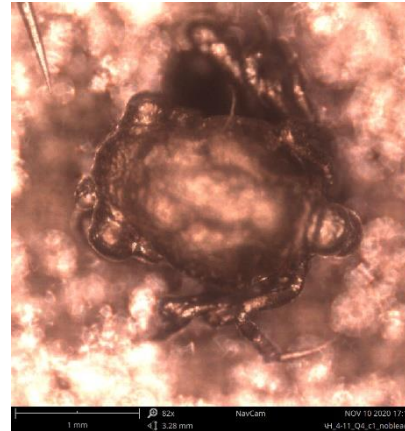
*Heliconoides*



*Limacina*

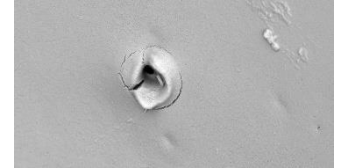


Intensity and Percent Cover of Dissolution

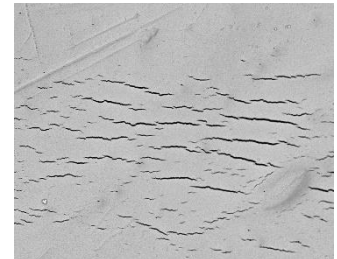


*Crab Larvae*

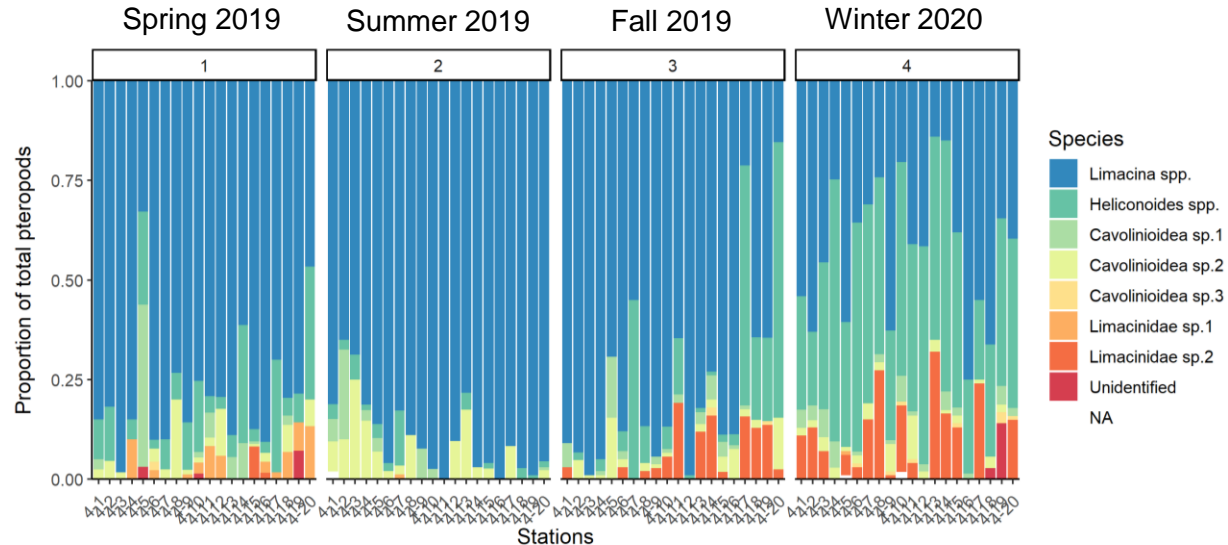
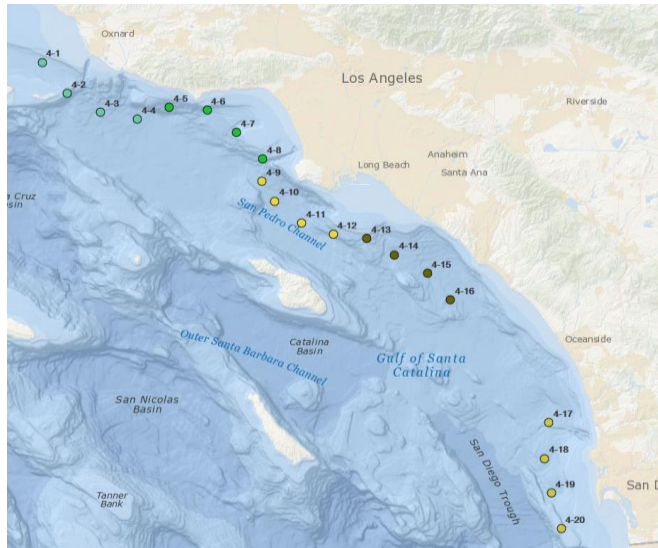
Dissolution of mechanoreceptors



Dissolution of carapace



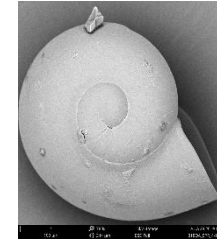
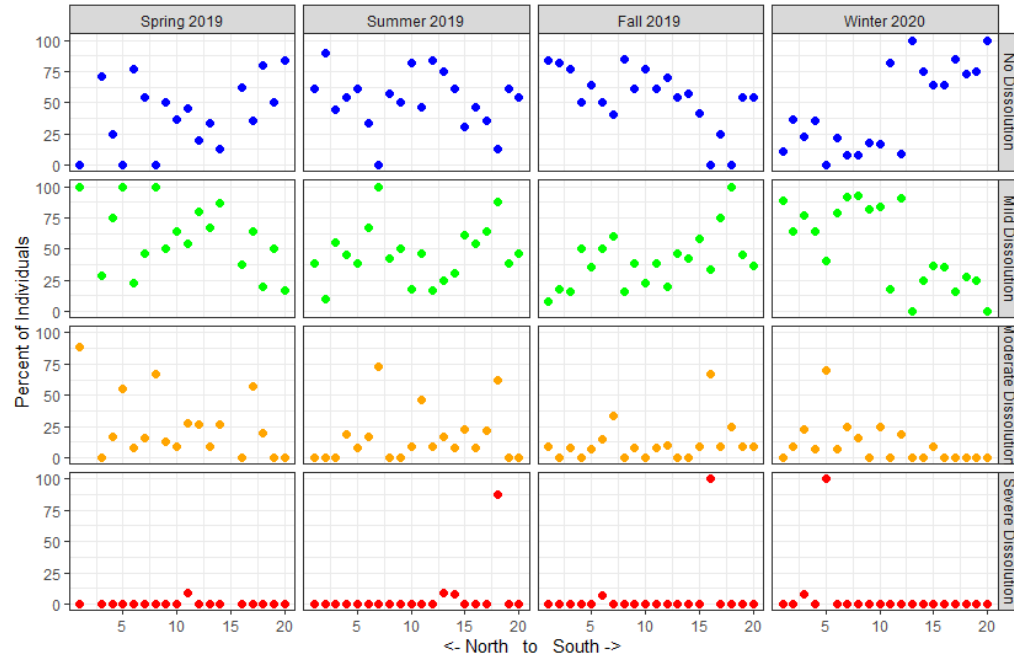
# Pteropod Species Presence/Absence Under Different Environmental Conditions



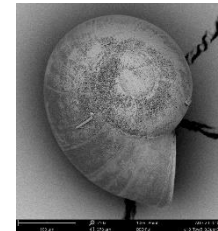
How do observed species distributions match model predictions based on temperature, dissolved oxygen and pH/carbonate saturation state?

# Shell Condition Under Different Environmental Conditions

- SEM microscopy reveals shell condition and how it changes through time and space compared to chemical condition



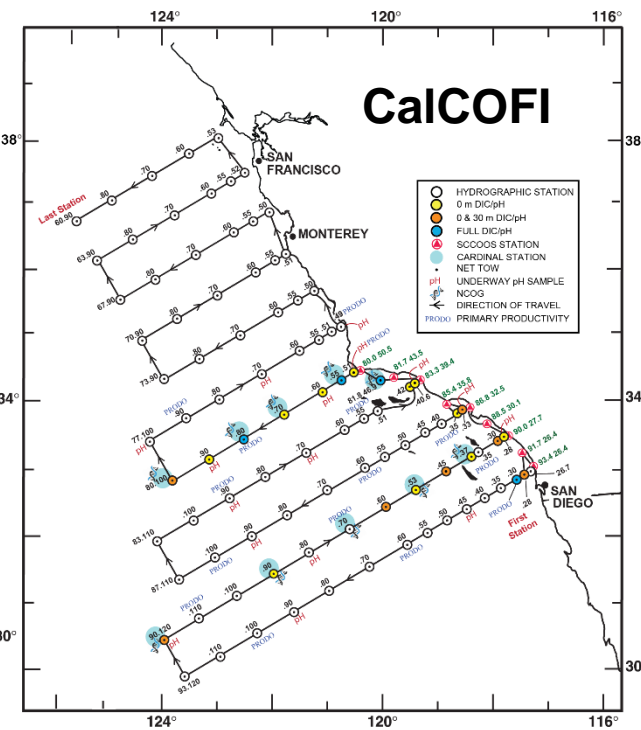
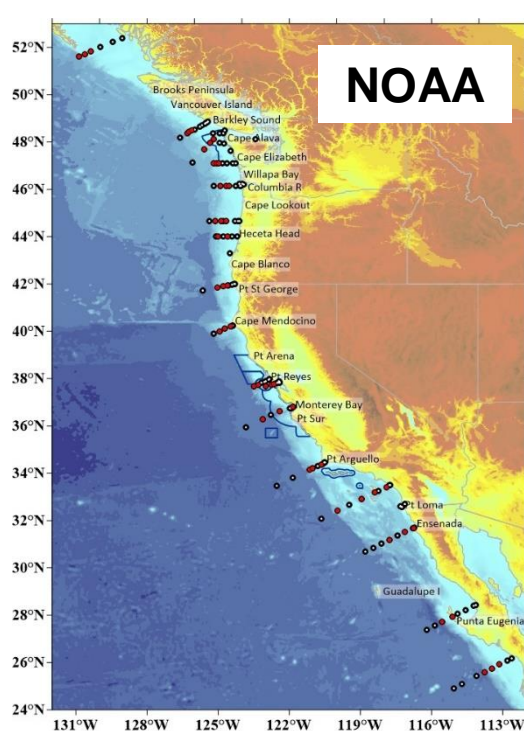
*No dissolution*



*Moderate Dissolution*

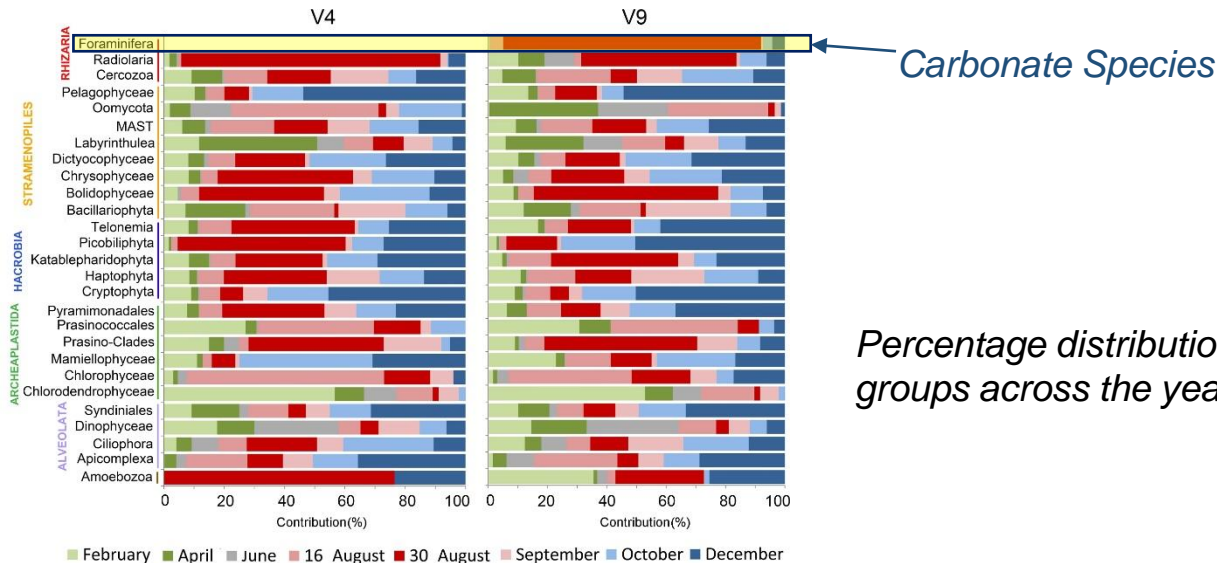
# We Are Expanding Partnerships Increase Spatial Coverage and Leverage with Other Programs

- NOAA PMEL
  - Summer 2021- partner with to repeat our Bight '18 metrics west coast wide
- CalCOFI
  - Collaborating to match up protocols for OA monitoring
  - Connects their offshore data to our nearshore data



# New Measurement Methods Increase Our Understanding of Species Assemblages

- DNA metabarcoding can fill in the gaps in species assemblages
  - Cheaper, faster, more accurate
- Shows how species come and go seasonally and interannually



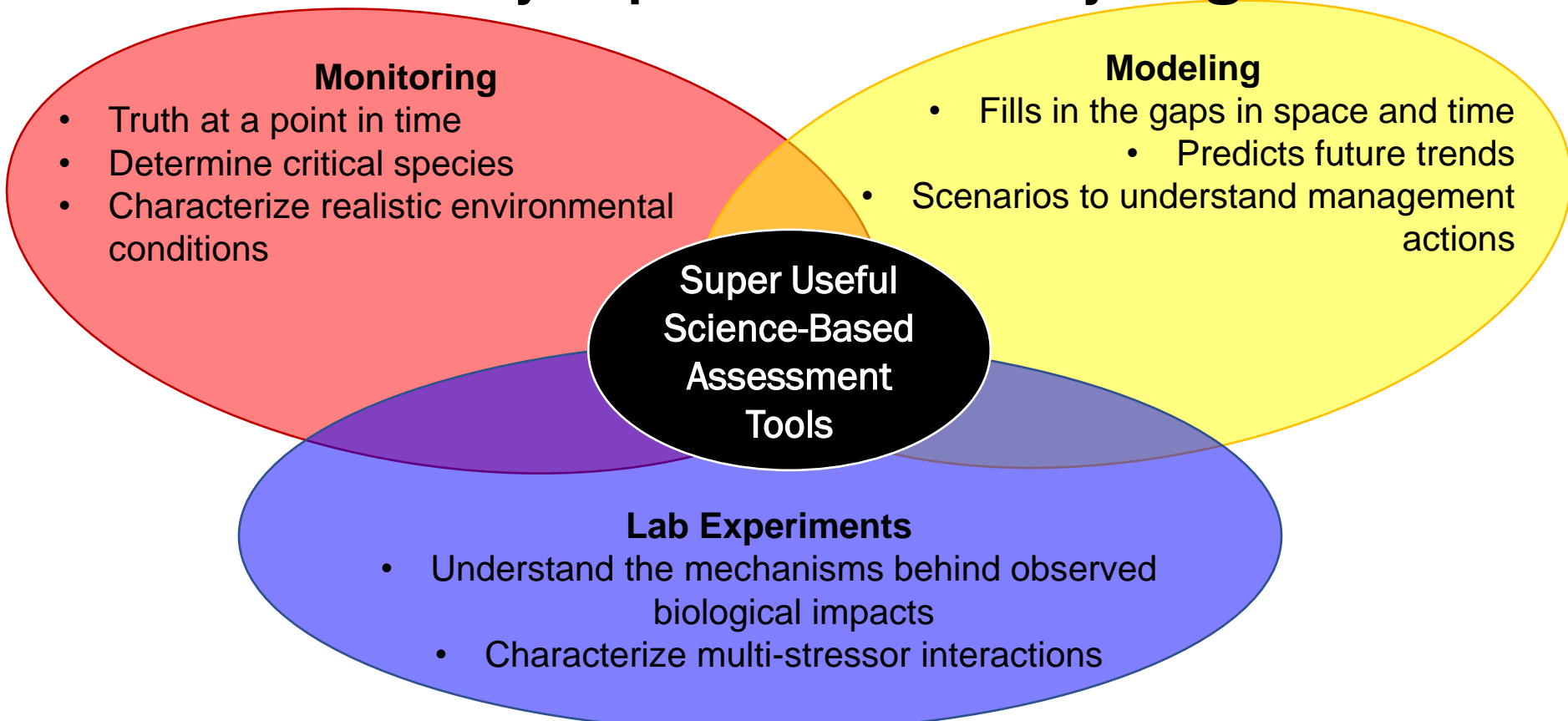
*Percentage distribution of marine protist taxonomic groups across the year in the Gulf of Naples.*

# Regional Monitoring Data Can Be Used as a “Ground Truth” for Model Predictions of Biological Impacts

- Check on whether indicator taxa are relevant for the Bight
- Check on whether the measured biological condition (shell dissolution) matches model predictions
- Check on whether species distributions match expectations of habitat compression

But it's not just a one-way street!

# Regional Monitoring and Regional Modeling and Laboratory Experiments are Synergistic



# Questions?