

# *Advancing Aquaculture in a Changing World*

**Megan Davis and Anton Post  
FAU Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institute  
3<sup>rd</sup> GEO Blue Planet Symposium  
June 1, 2017**

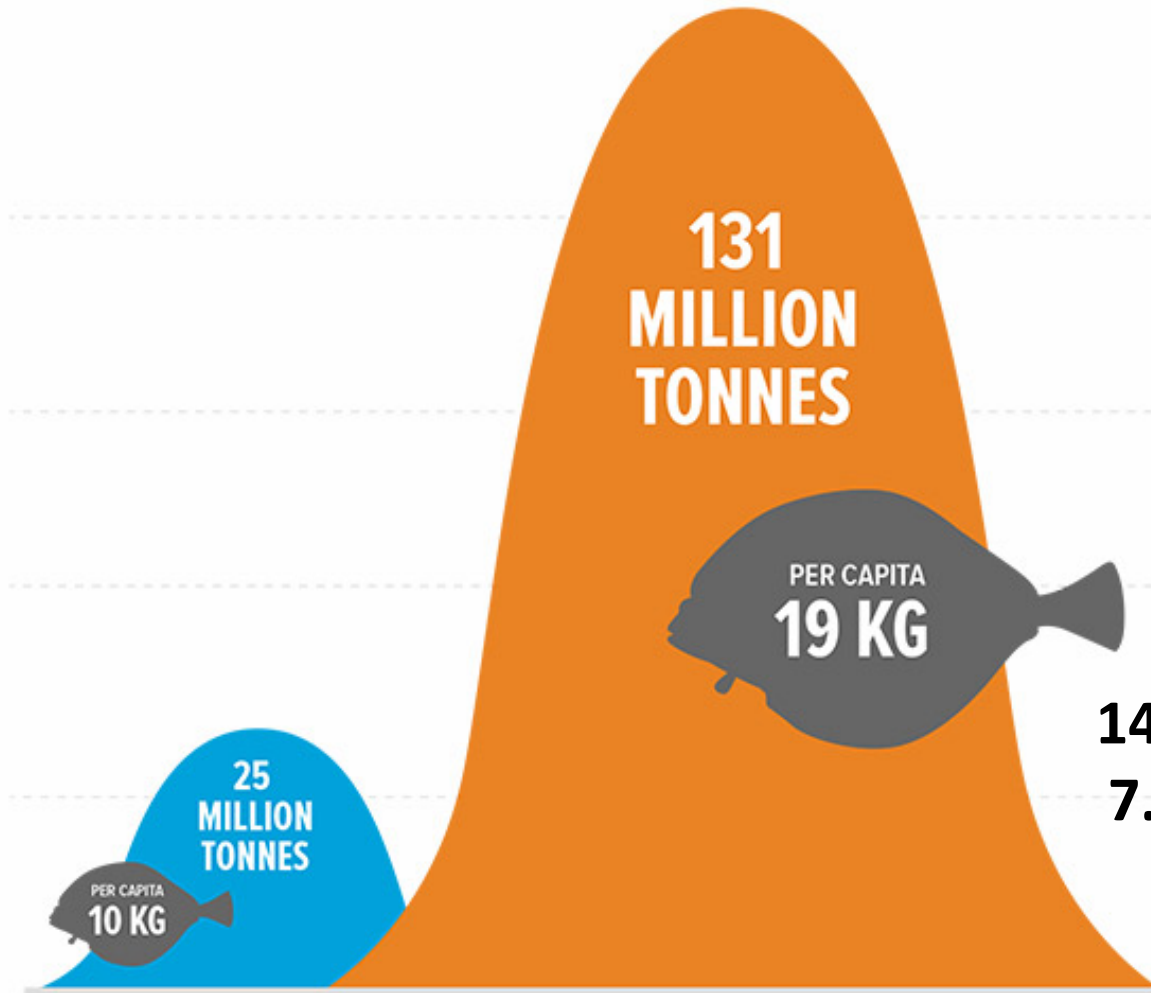


Consumers want:

- Healthy
- Nutritious
- Convenient
- Variety
- Value
- Sustainability
- Safe



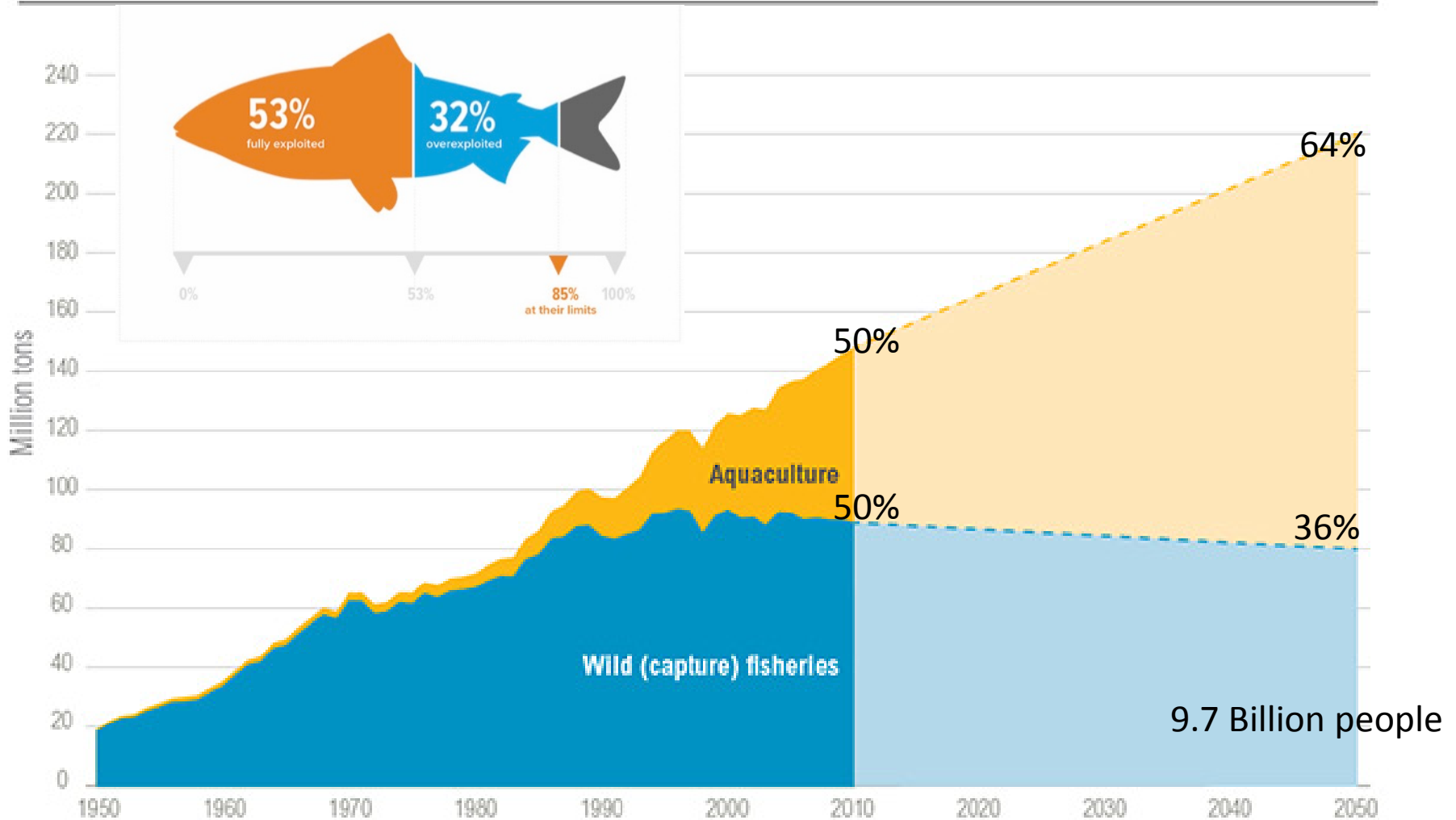
# RISING APPETITE FOR FISH



Population 3 Billion

7 Billion

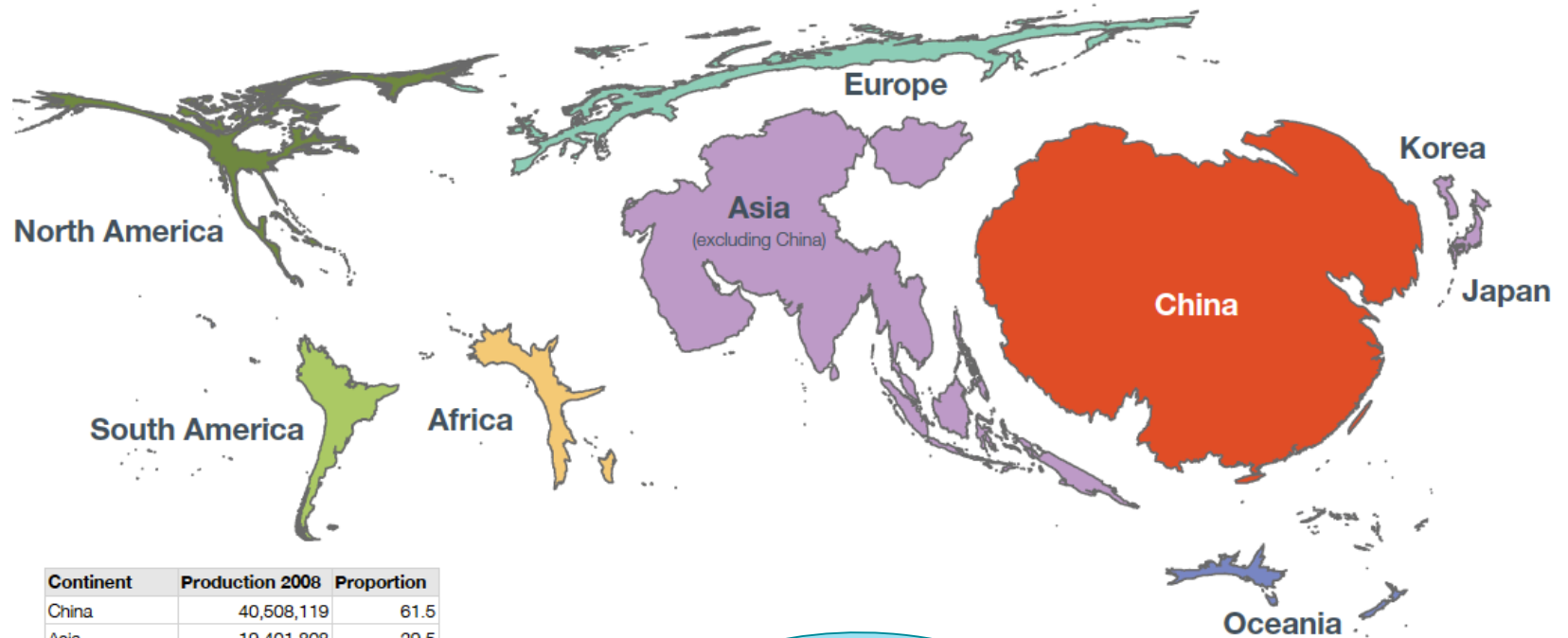
## Aquaculture Is Expanding to Meet World Fish Demand



Source: Historical data 1950–2010: FAO. 2014. "FishStat.J." Rome: FAO. Projections 2011–2050: Calculated at WRI, assumes 10 percent reduction in wild fish catch between 2010 and 2050, and linear growth of aquaculture production at an additional 2 million tons per year between 2010 and 2050.

See [www.wri.org/publication/improving-aquaculture](http://www.wri.org/publication/improving-aquaculture) for full paper.

# Aquaculture Production Worldwide



Continent	Production 2008	Proportion
China	40,508,119	61.5
Asia	19,401,808	29.5
Europe	2,341,646	3.6
South America	1,461,061	2.2
North America	965,792	1.5
Africa	952,133	1.4
Oceania	176,181	0.3

**91% of all  
aquaculture is  
produced in Asia**

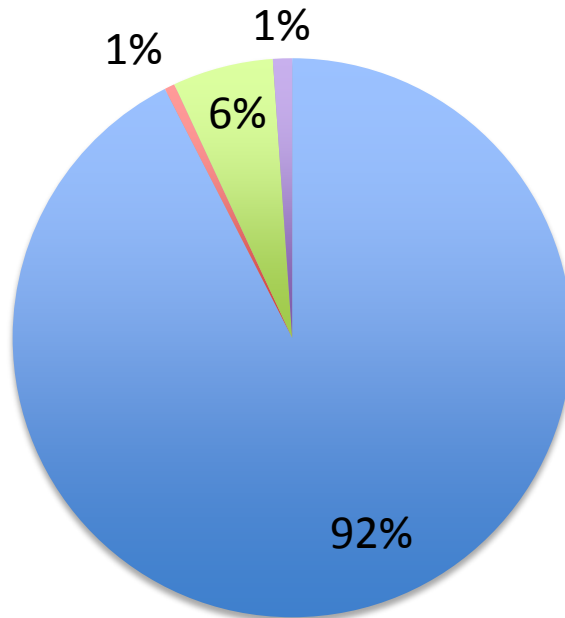
# Fisheries & Aquaculture = 167 M Tons (2014)

	<b>Fisheries (M Tons)</b>	<b>Aquaculture (M Tons)</b>
Inland	12	47
Marine	81	27
Totals	93 (56%)	74 (44%)

# World Aquaculture Production 2014 (FAO)

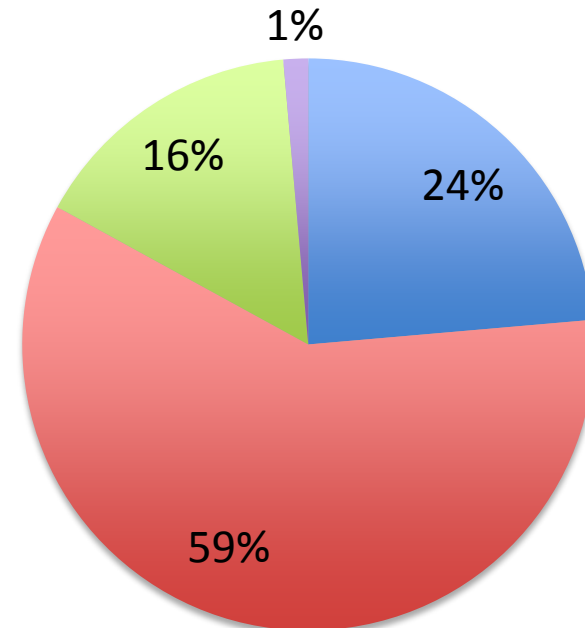
## Inland (47 Million Tonnes)

■ Finfish ■ Mollusc ■ Crustaceans ■ Other



## Marine and Coastal (27 Million Tonnes)

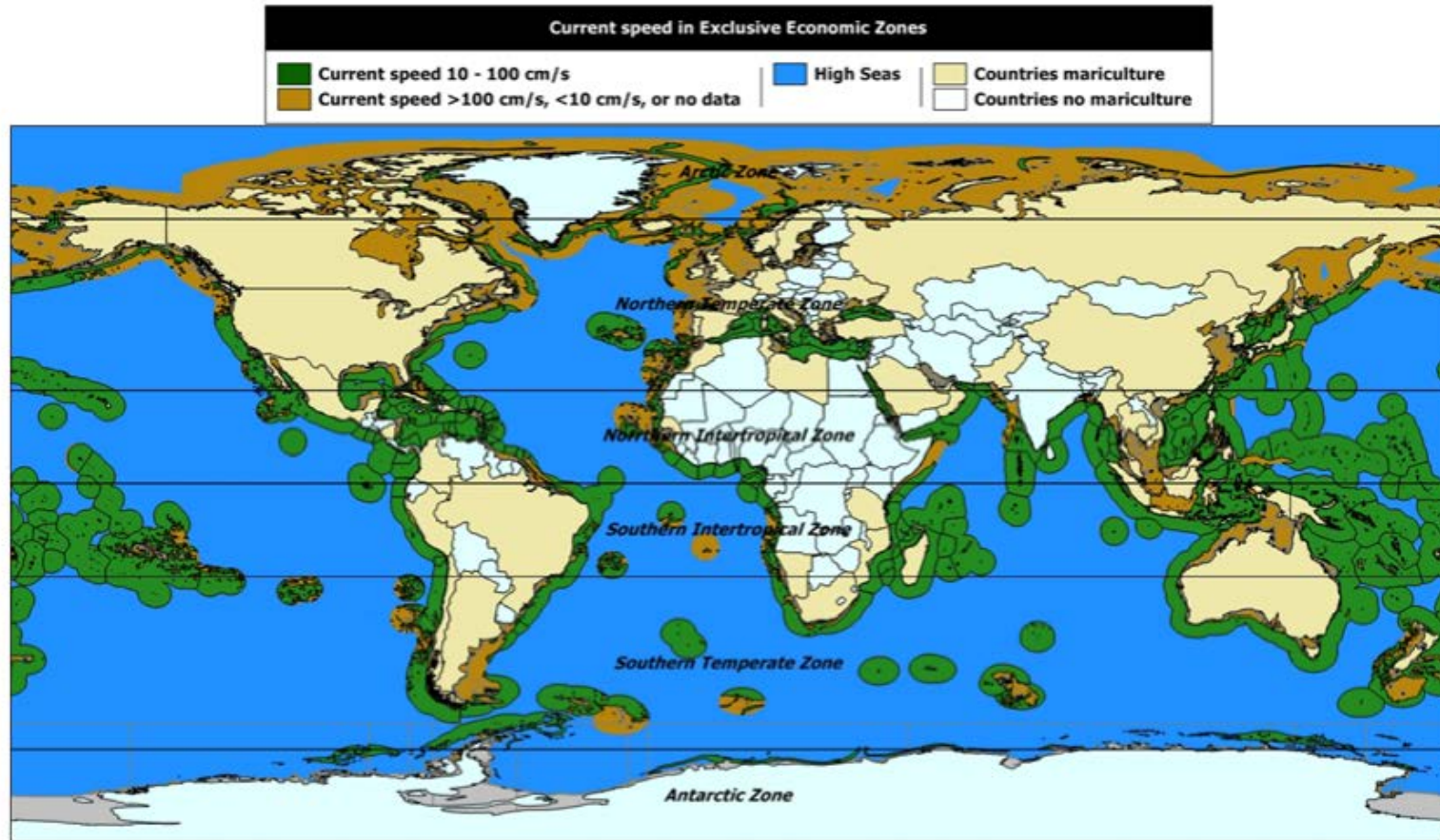
■ Finfish ■ Mollusc ■ Crustaceans ■ Other



# Offshore Aquaculture

Current speeds:  $0.1-1 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ , suitable depth range for cages and longlines

123 countries with at least  $100 \text{ km}^2$  that meet these criteria:  $10^6 - 10^7 \text{ ton y}^{-1}$





# Marine Cage Aquaculture



# HARBOR BRANCH

FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY





USDA National  
Center Cool &  
Cold Water  
Aquaculture  
Research  
Leetown, WV

Freshwater Institute  
Shepherdstown, WV

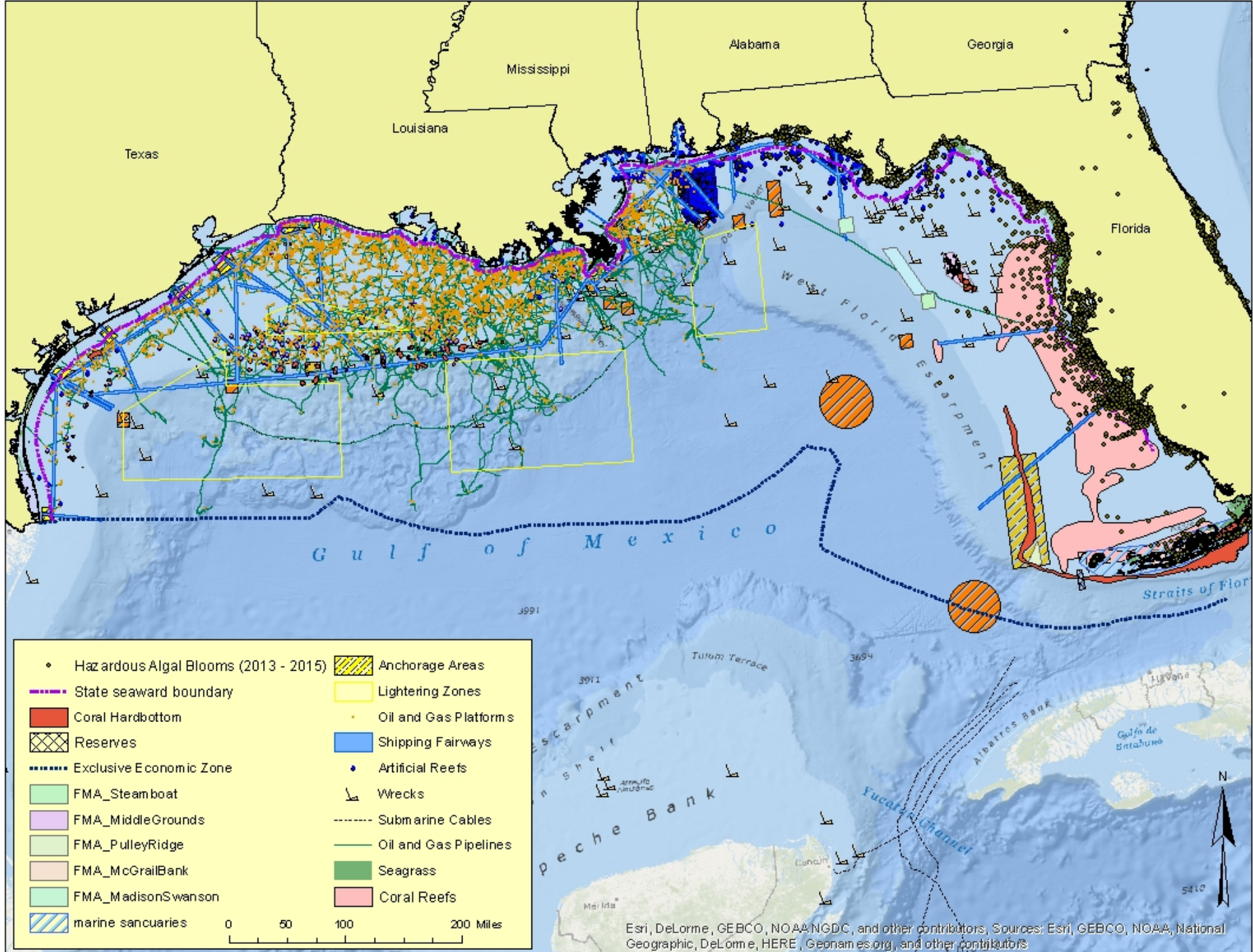


# What does it mean to increase the aquaculture footprint in the coastal zone



# Expanding Offshore Aquaculture – What is needed?

- **Siting Aquaculture Enterprise**
- **Monitoring the Environment** (HABs, water quality parameters including nutrients, weather, oil spills, chemical and toxins, pathogens)
- **Monitoring Aquaculture Enterprise** (nutrient pollution, feeds, pathogens, escapees, location)
- **Selecting Species for Local Conditions** (genomics, domesticated breeding)



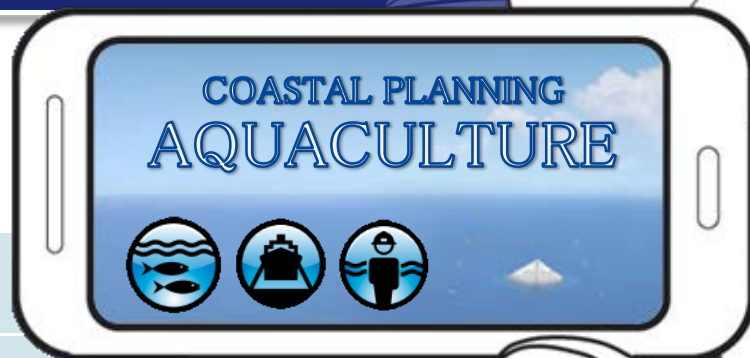
•	Hazardous Algal Blooms (2013 - 2015)		Anchorage Areas
	State seaward boundary		Lightering Zones
	Coral Hardbottom	•	Oil and Gas Platforms
	Reserves		Shipping Fairways
	Exclusive Economic Zone	•	Artificial Reefs
	FMA_Steamboat		Wrecks
	FMA_MiddleGrounds		Submarine Cables
	FMA_PulleyRidge		Oil and Gas Pipelines
	FMA_McGrailBank		Seagrass
	FMA_MadisonSwanson		Coral Reefs
	marine sanctuaries		

0 50 100 200 Miles

Esri, DeLorme, GEBCO, NOAA/NGDC, and other contributors, Sources: Esri, GEBCO, NOAA, National Geographic, DeLorme, HERE, Geonames.org, and other contributors

# Siting Offshore Farms

- Use temporal and spatial observing data systems to refine ocean circulation models
  - Agency and industry data
- Outcomes from disasters provide additional models (e.g., Deep Horizon Oil Spill)
- New offshore aquaculture ruling in Gulf of Mexico



## National Projects

- ✓ Building the Coastal Aquaculture Planning Portal/Toolbox
- ✓ National Guidelines for Environmental Monitoring
- ✓ Global review of aquaculture environmental models
- ✓ SAV interactions with shellfish aquaculture
- ✓ Eutrophication management and shellfish culture (Bricker/CCMA)



# Monitoring the Environment

- **Ocean observing systems** are used to monitor the environment (sea level rise, environmental changes, weather)
- **Environmental tracking** – (*Vibrio* and other pathogens, nutrient loading, temperature, salinity, acidification, phytoplankton)



# The Indian River Lagoon Observatory Network (IRLON)





# Environmental Impacts of Open-Ocean Aquaculture

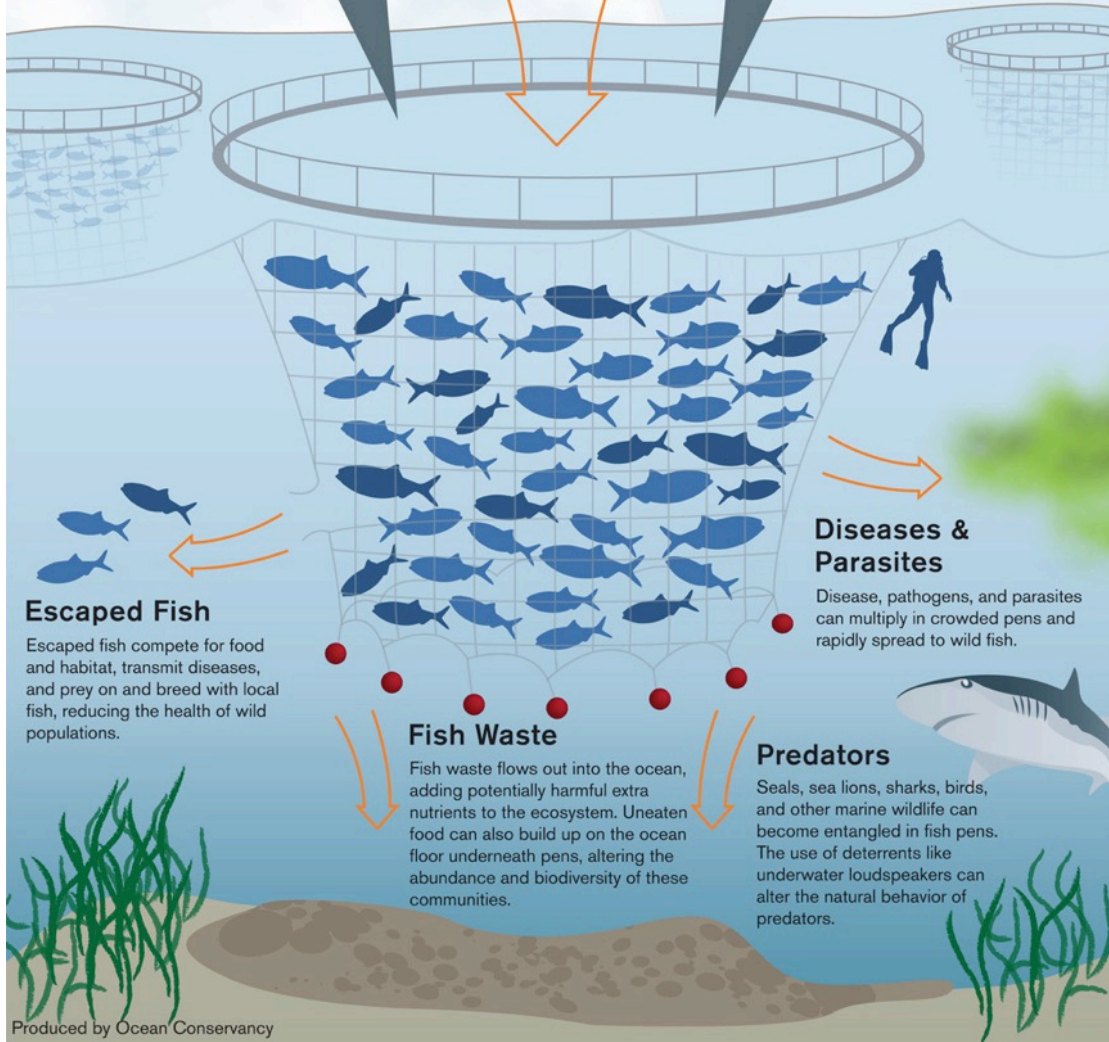
## Fish Meal & Fish Oil

Using wild-caught fish to feed farmed fish puts additional pressure on these populations and can impact other wildlife that depends on them for food.



## Drugs & Chemicals

When used, antibiotics, parasiticides, and other chemicals flow out of pens and can affect wild fish as well as the broader marine ecosystem.



## Escaped Fish

Escaped fish compete for food and habitat, transmit diseases, and prey on and breed with local fish, reducing the health of wild populations.

## Diseases & Parasites

Disease, pathogens, and parasites can multiply in crowded pens and rapidly spread to wild fish.

## Fish Waste

Fish waste flows out into the ocean, adding potentially harmful extra nutrients to the ecosystem. Uneaten food can also build up on the ocean floor underneath pens, altering the abundance and biodiversity of these communities.

## Predators

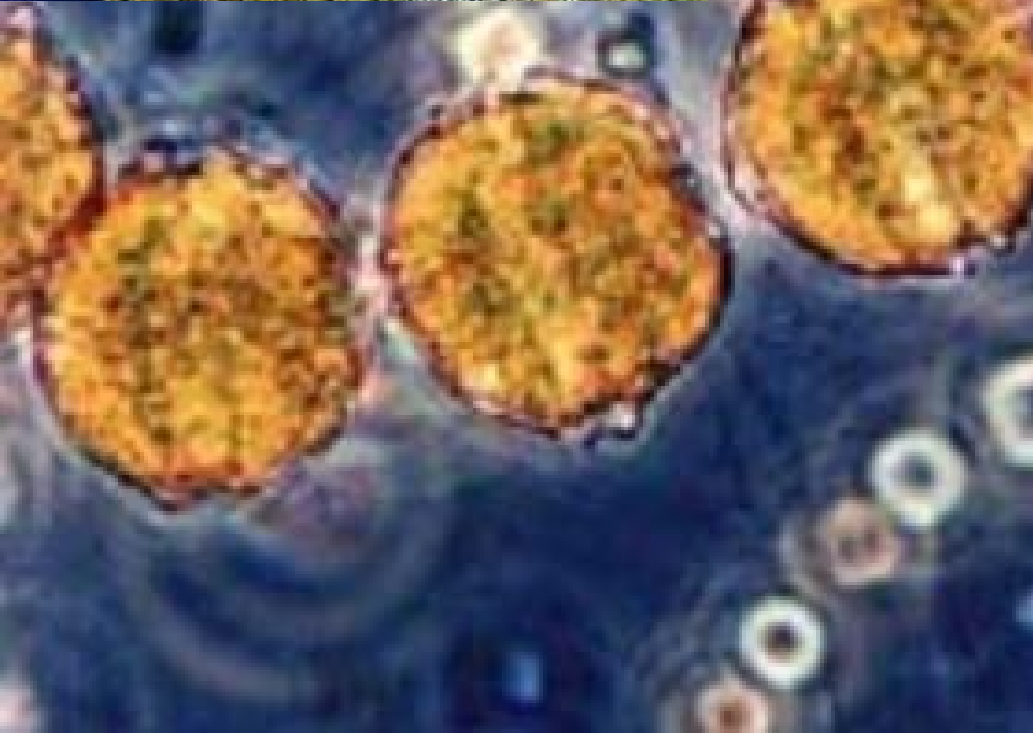
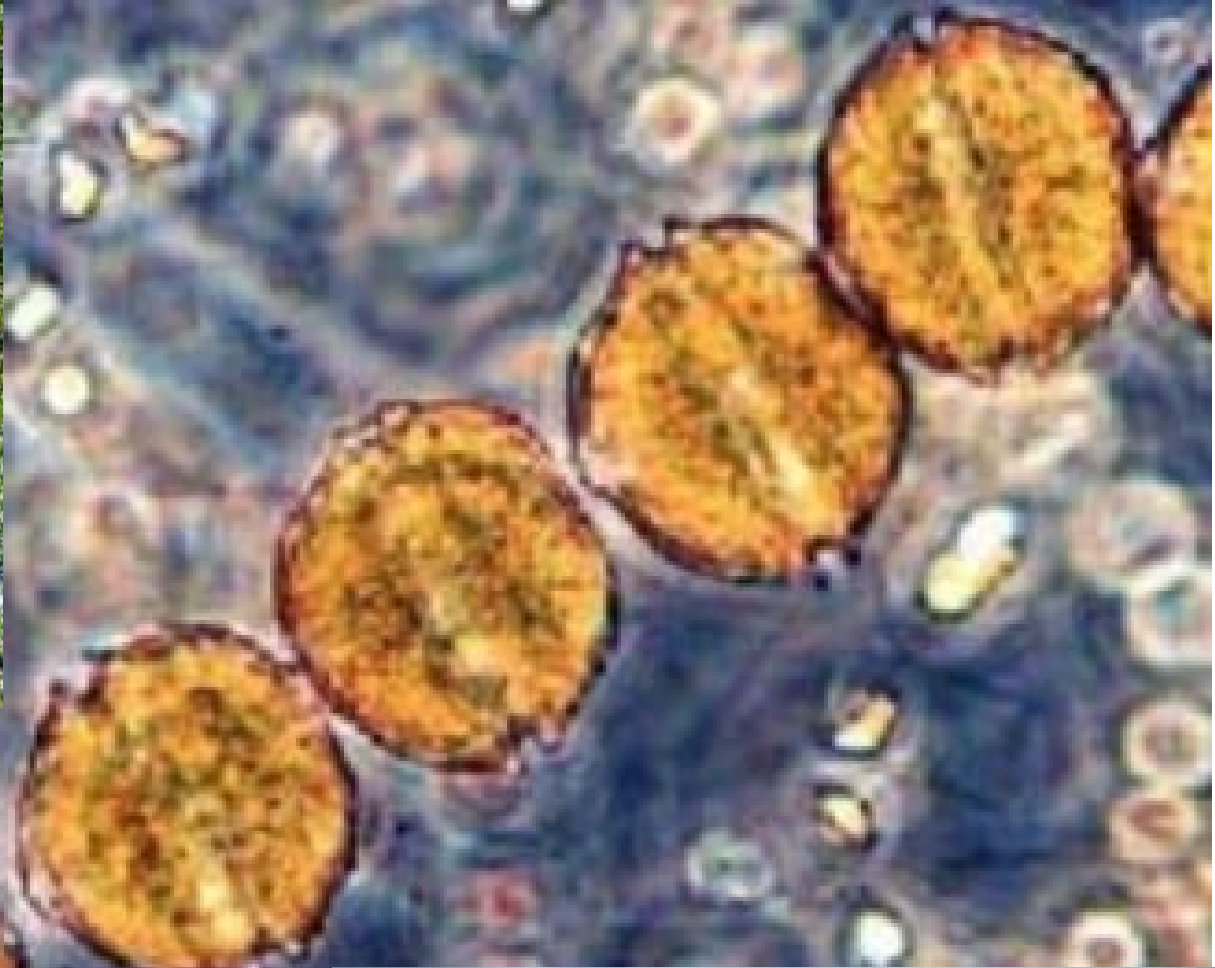
Seals, sea lions, sharks, birds, and other marine wildlife can become entangled in fish pens. The use of deterrents like underwater loudspeakers can alter the natural behavior of predators.

# Monitoring Aquaculture

- Water quality
- Entanglements
- Escapements
- Algal blooms
- Food wastage
- Nutrients
- Cage location

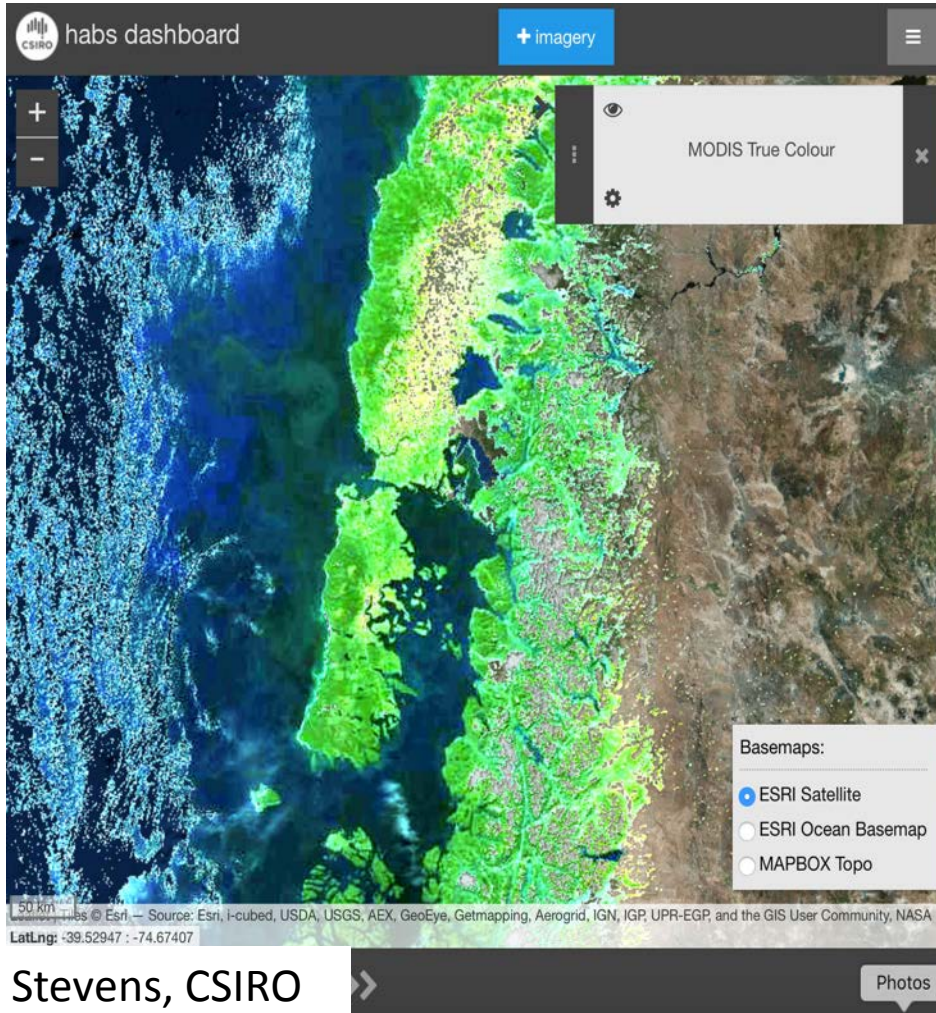
# Farmed Salmon





# Chile HABs warning system project

objective: Develop a prototype early warning system for algal blooms in the Southern regions (X, XI and XII)



A. Stevens, CSIRO

**Mehuín, 39°**

*A. catenella*  
outbreaks  
2016 (2009)

2002 (1998)

1994 (1992)

1991

1981

1989

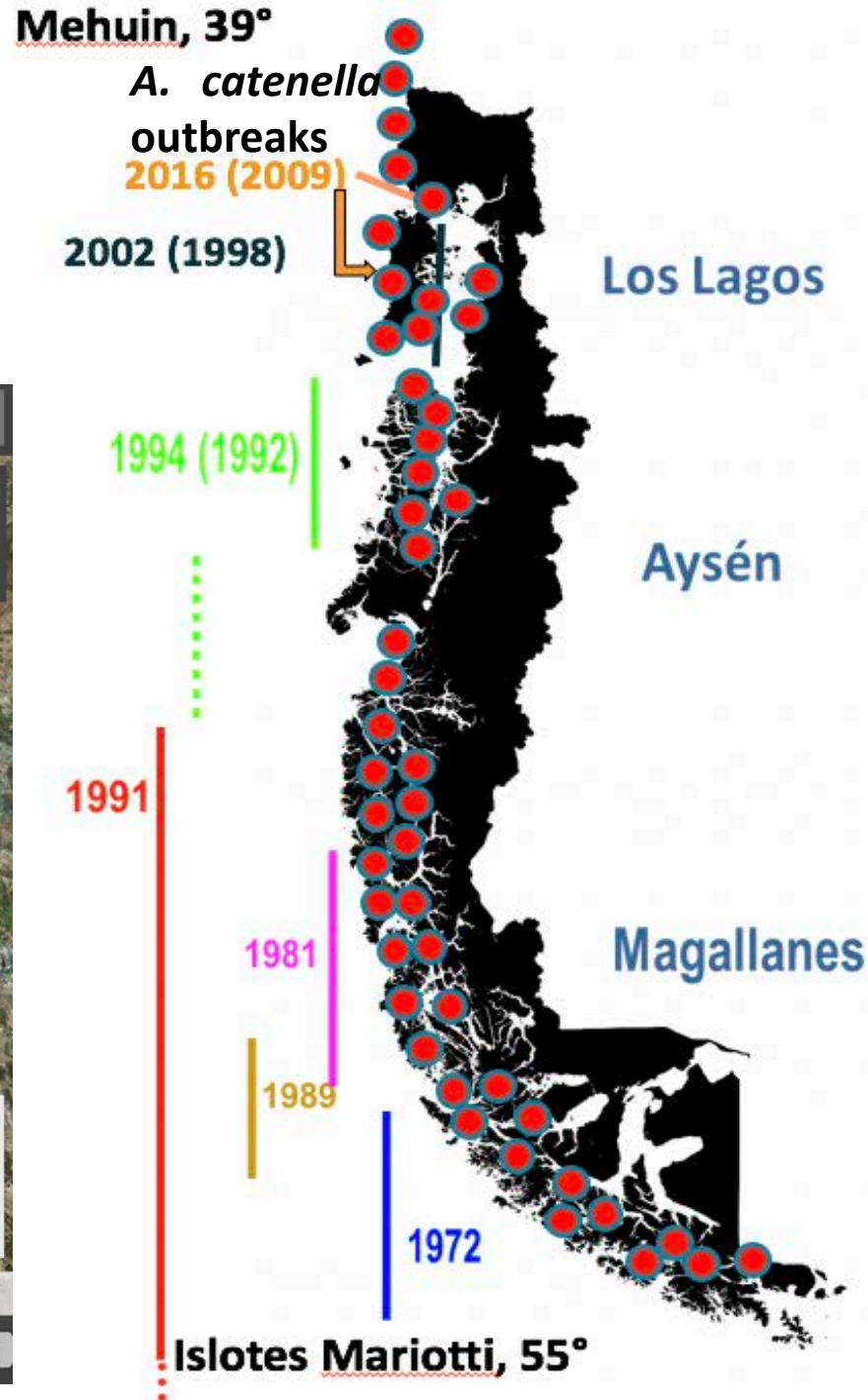
1972

**Islotes Mariotti, 55°**

Los Lagos

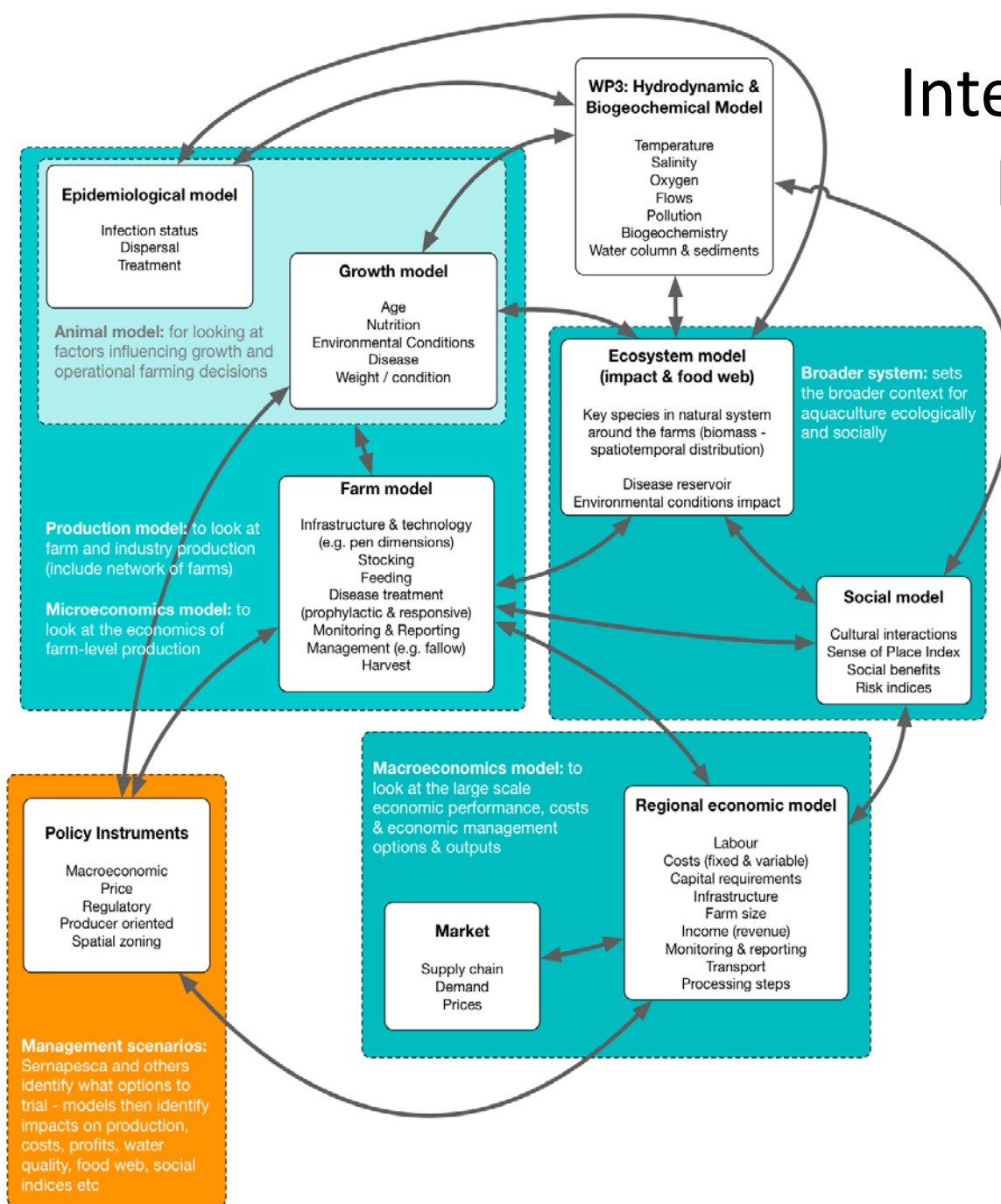
Aysén

Magallanes





# Integrated Systems Modelling of Aquaculture



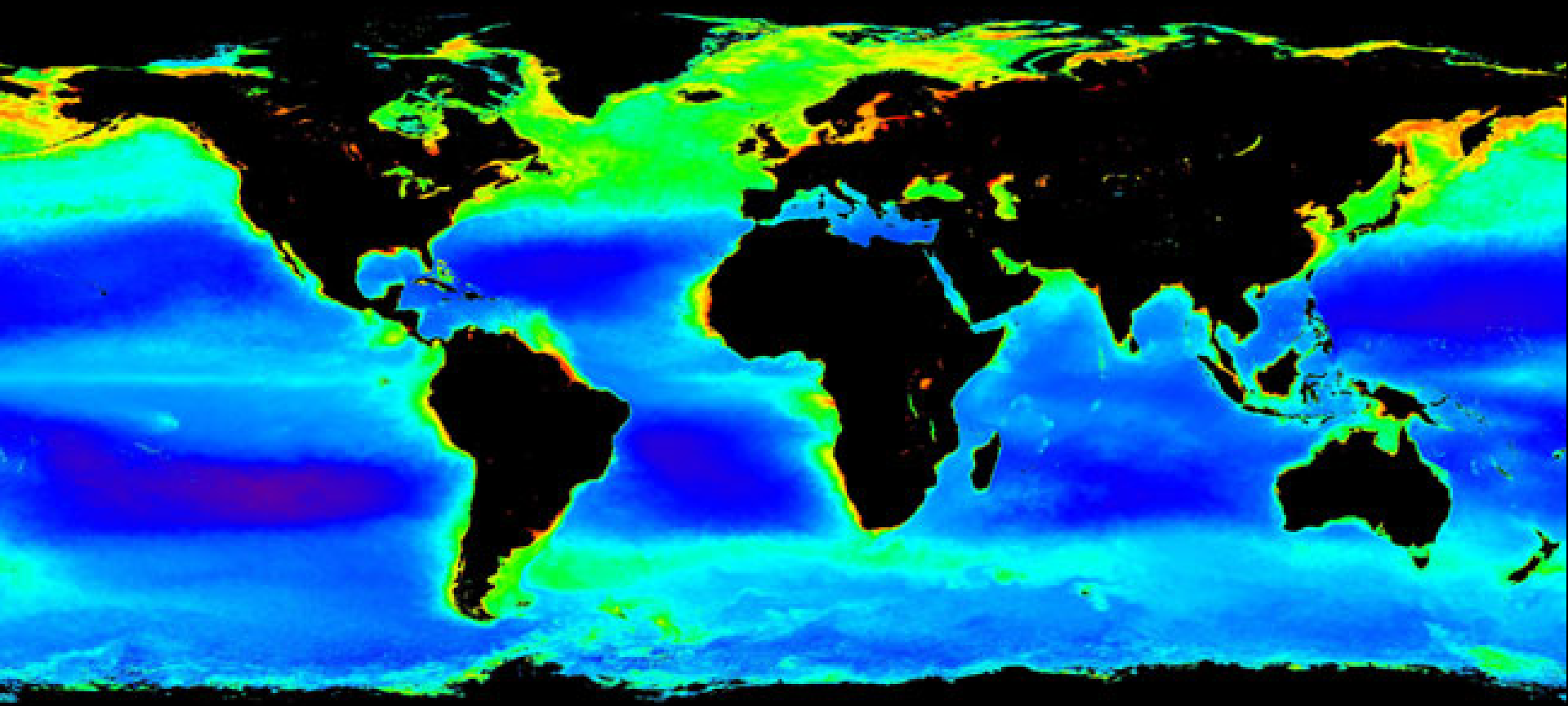
# Shellfish Farms





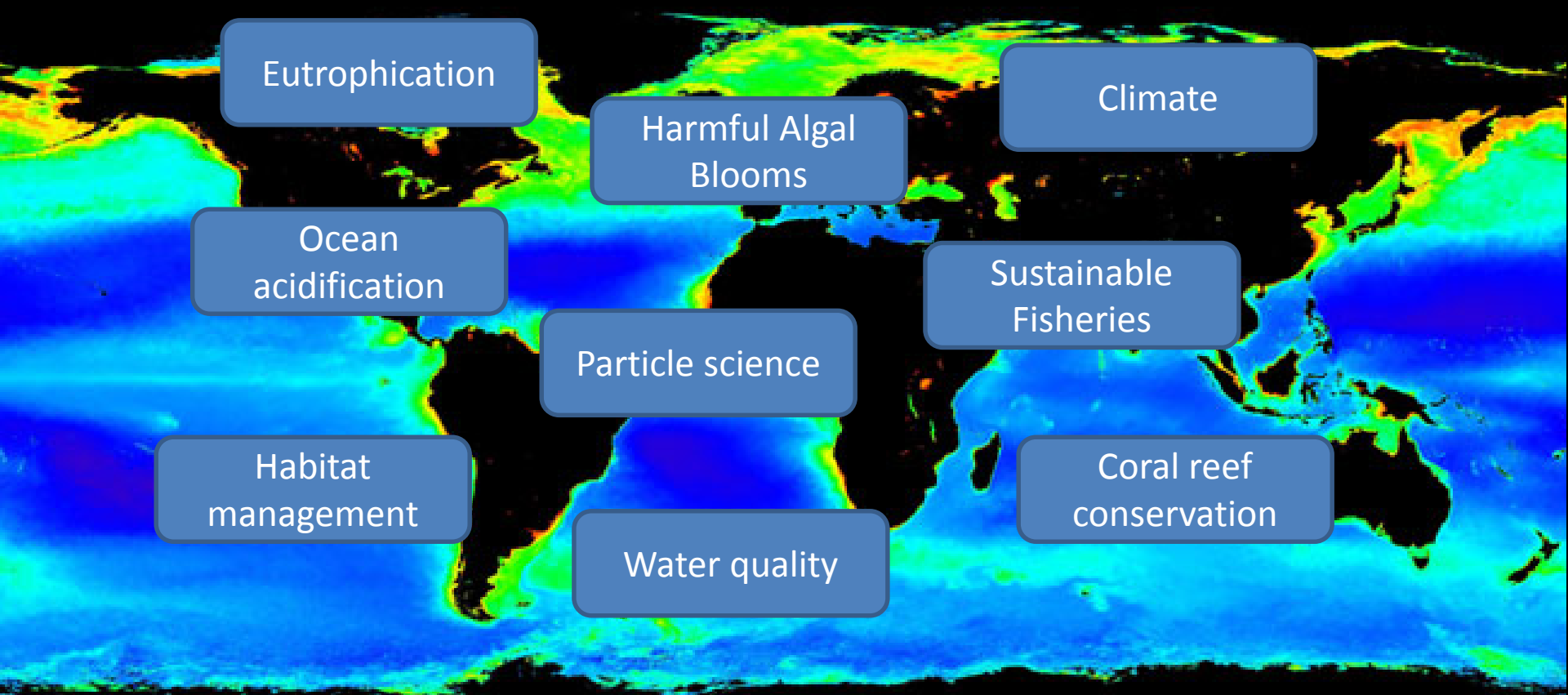


satellite mission





# satellite mission



Eutrophication

Climate

Harmful Algal Blooms

Ocean acidification

Sustainable Fisheries

Particle science

Coral reef conservation

Habitat management

Water quality



# Unoccupied Aircraft Systems Give New Perspectives of Aquaculture



Wellfleet, Massachusetts

SPAT, Inc. / SkyBandit Media

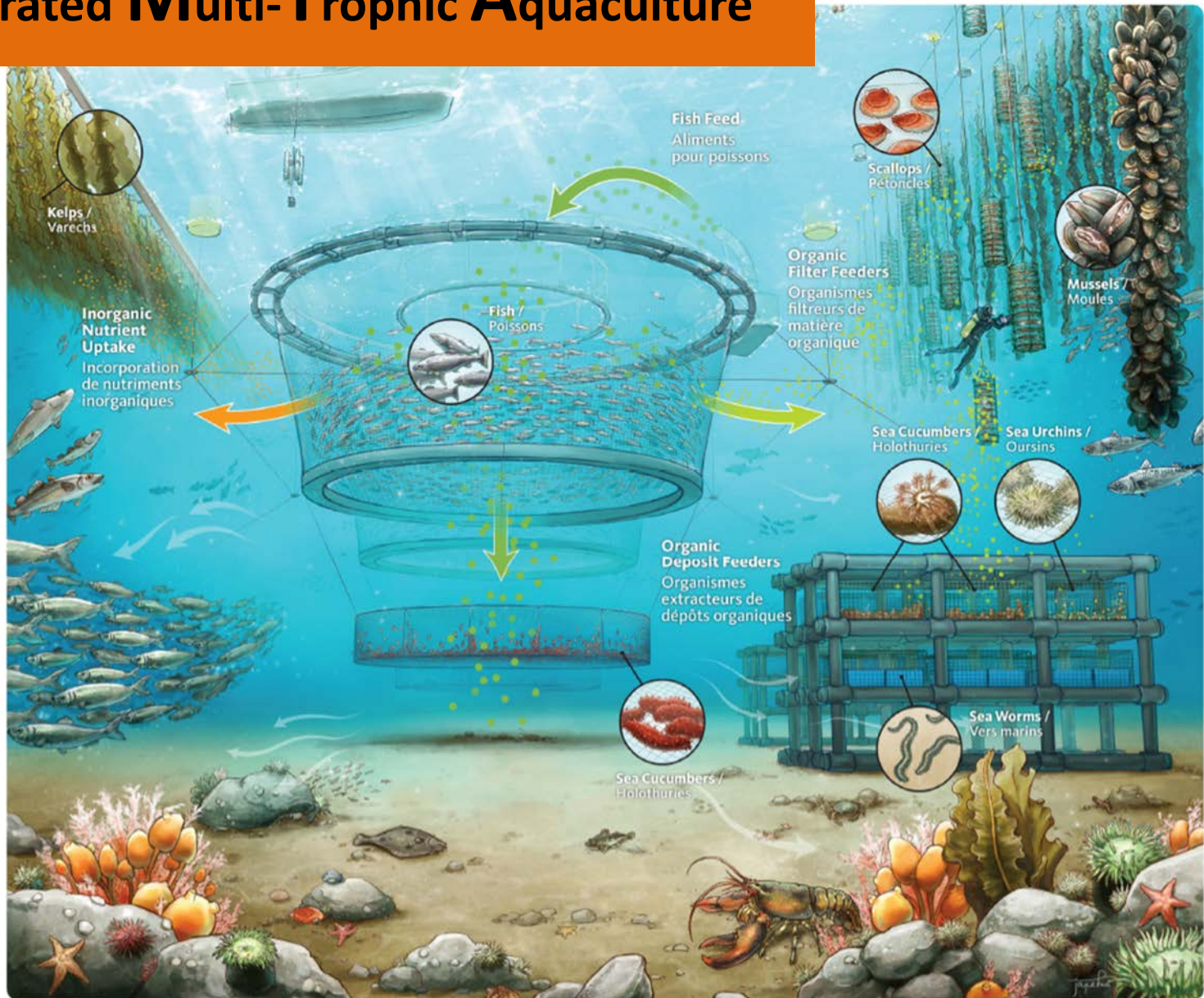
# What does the future look like?

--to meet the growing seafood needs--

- Move from **hindcast** to **forecast models**  
(mitigation, emergency harvests, healthy & safe seafood)
- **Integrated aquaculture systems**
- **Selecting species** for local conditions
- **Sustainable aquaculture**
  - For the environment
  - For food security
  - For consumer confidence



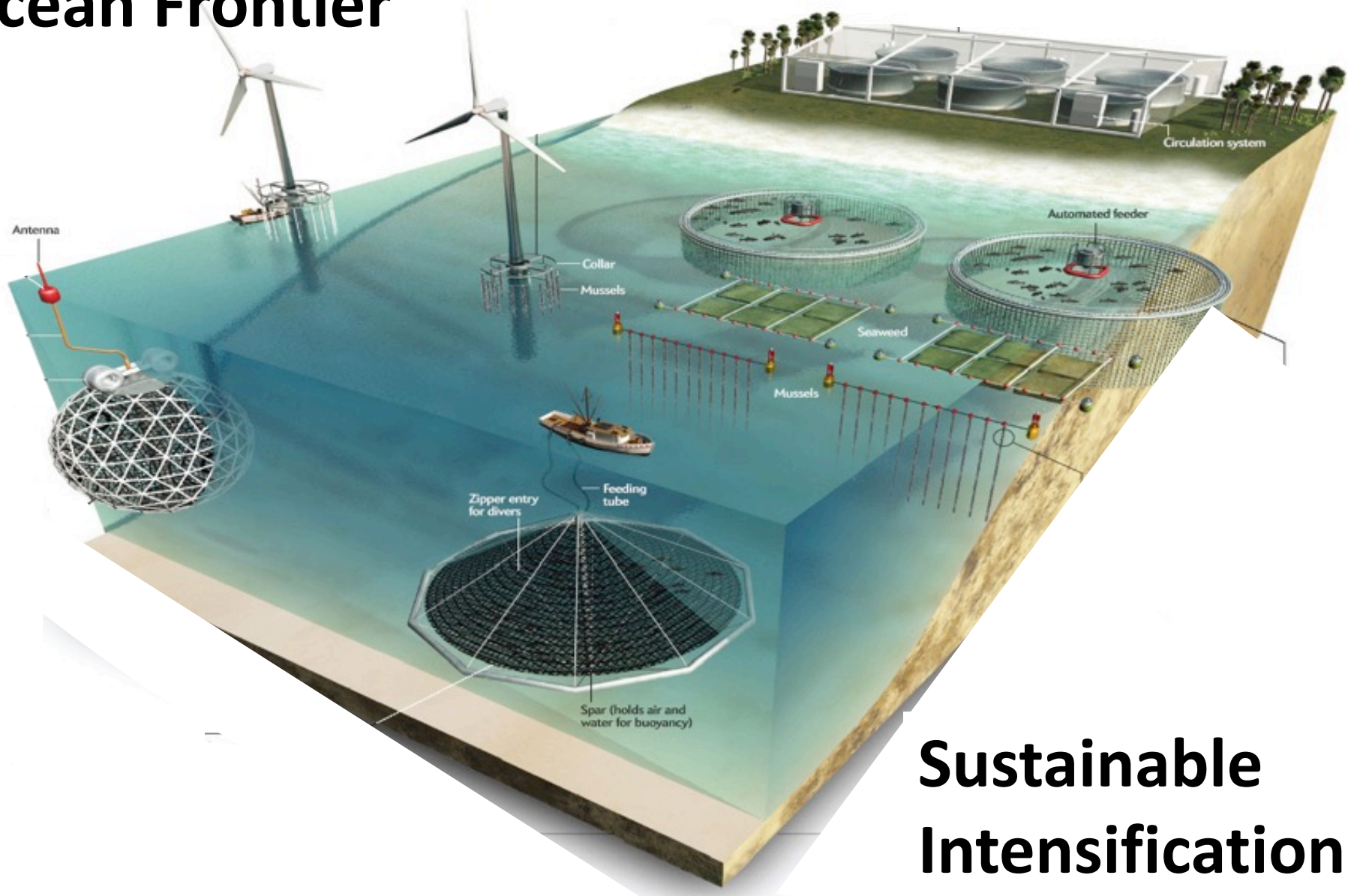
# Integrated Multi-Trophic Aquaculture



# Seaweed Culture



# Ocean Frontier



**Sustainable  
Intensification**