Conservation-focused biomass rebuilding plan is important for climate adaptation

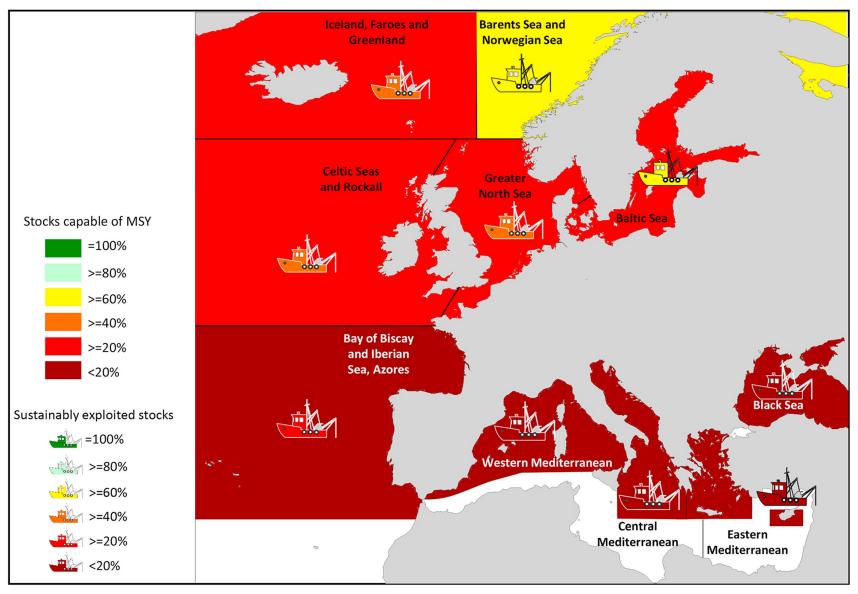






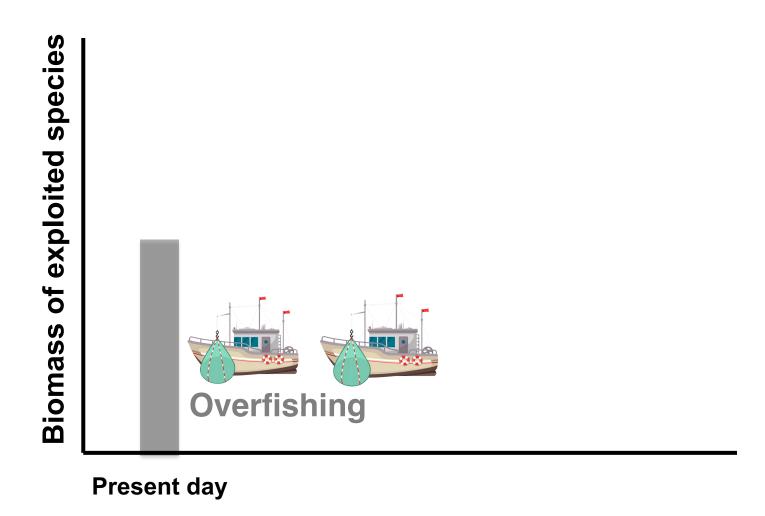


Many exploited fish stocks need to be rebuilt

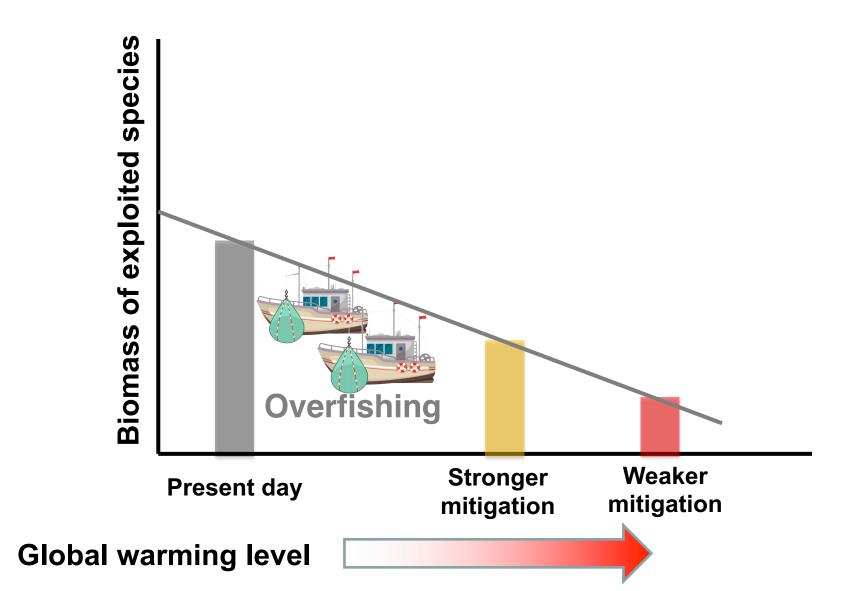


Source: Froese et al. (2018) ICES Journal of MS

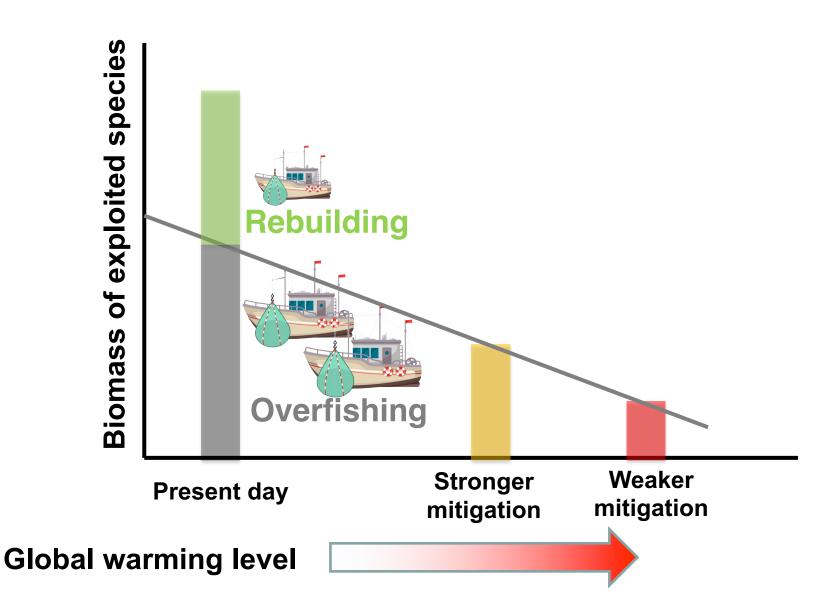
Stock biomass of over-exploited is <50% of unexploited level



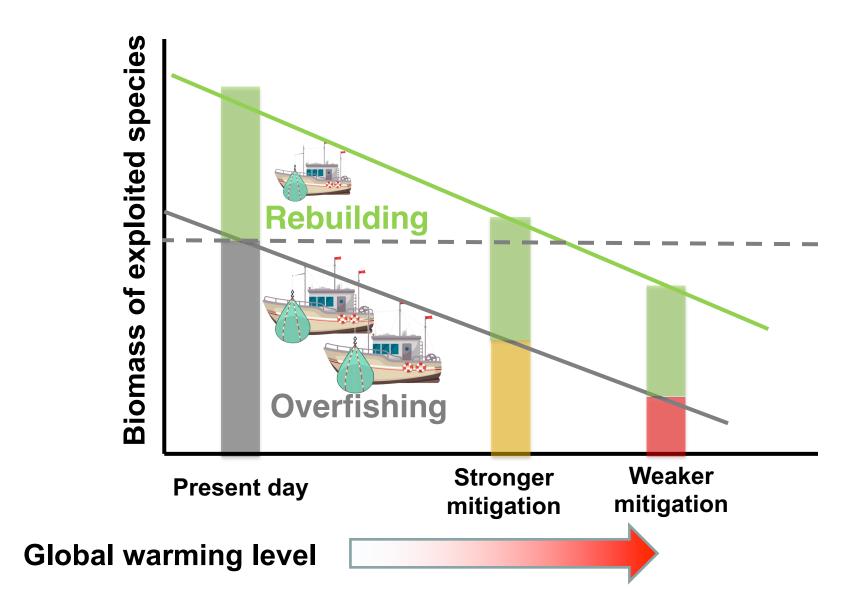
Climate change is projected to further reduce stock biomass in most European marine regions, especially those in the south



Fishing intensity needs to be reduced substantially to rebuild overexploited fish stocks to sustainable targets



More conservation-focused rebuilding plan, in addition to climate mitigation, is needed to achieve biomass target under climate change



Modelling and data analysis



Stock biomass of 15 Europe's marine regions (relative to pre-industrial unexploited level)

Weak carbon mitigation (+ 3.5 °C)

Strong carbon mitigation (+1.5 °C)





Maximum sustainable yield as target

29 - 42%

39 - 45%



Conservation- focused target

46 – 67%

63 - 69%

Summary

• Conservation-focused biomass rebuilding plan, including managing fishing effort and setting up effective marine protected areas, is needed to achieve rebuilding targets under climate change;

• Portfolio of ocean-based solutions are necessary, including sustainable fisheries management, transformation to low carbon ocean economy, and other nature-based solutions.