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# Potential economic impacts of climate change on Australian wild fisheries

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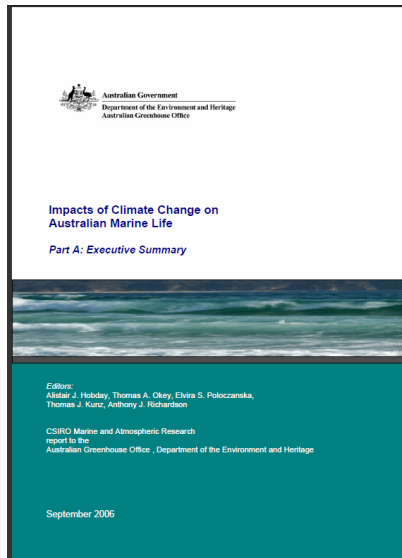
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# Outline of the presentation

- **Background**
  - Current understanding of climate change effects on the marine environment
  - Fisheries looked at in the study
- **Economic impacts of CC to Australian fisheries (3 steps)**
  - Step 1- Estimate effects of changes to fisheries production & associated uncertainties
    - Example: rock lobster fishery
  - Step 2- Link productivity projections and uncertainties to an Input-Output model to investigate effects on the broader economy
  - Step 3 – Monte Carlo simulations on impacts of climate change on fishers' wages, profitability and flow on effects to other sectors in the economy
- **Results**
- **Implications for management and industry**

# Relatively recent examination of climate change effects in fisheries



CSIRO 2006

CSIRO 2009

Australian Government  
Department of Climate Change



UNEP 2008

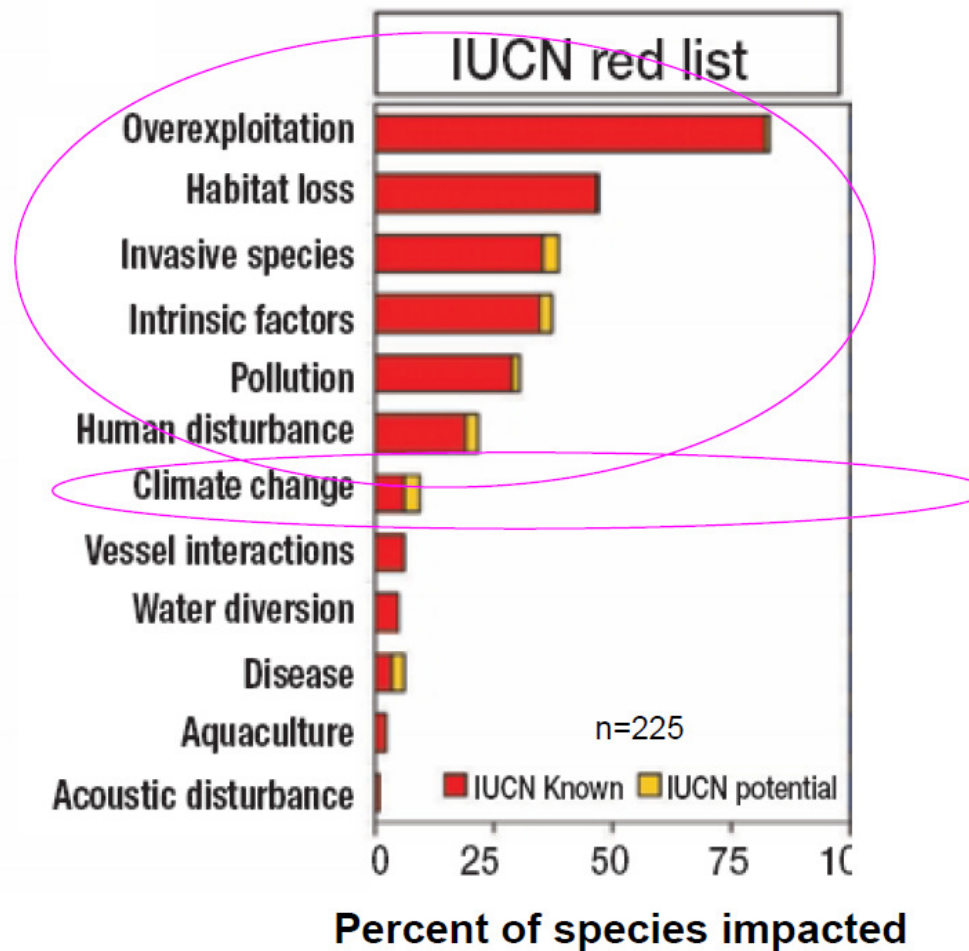


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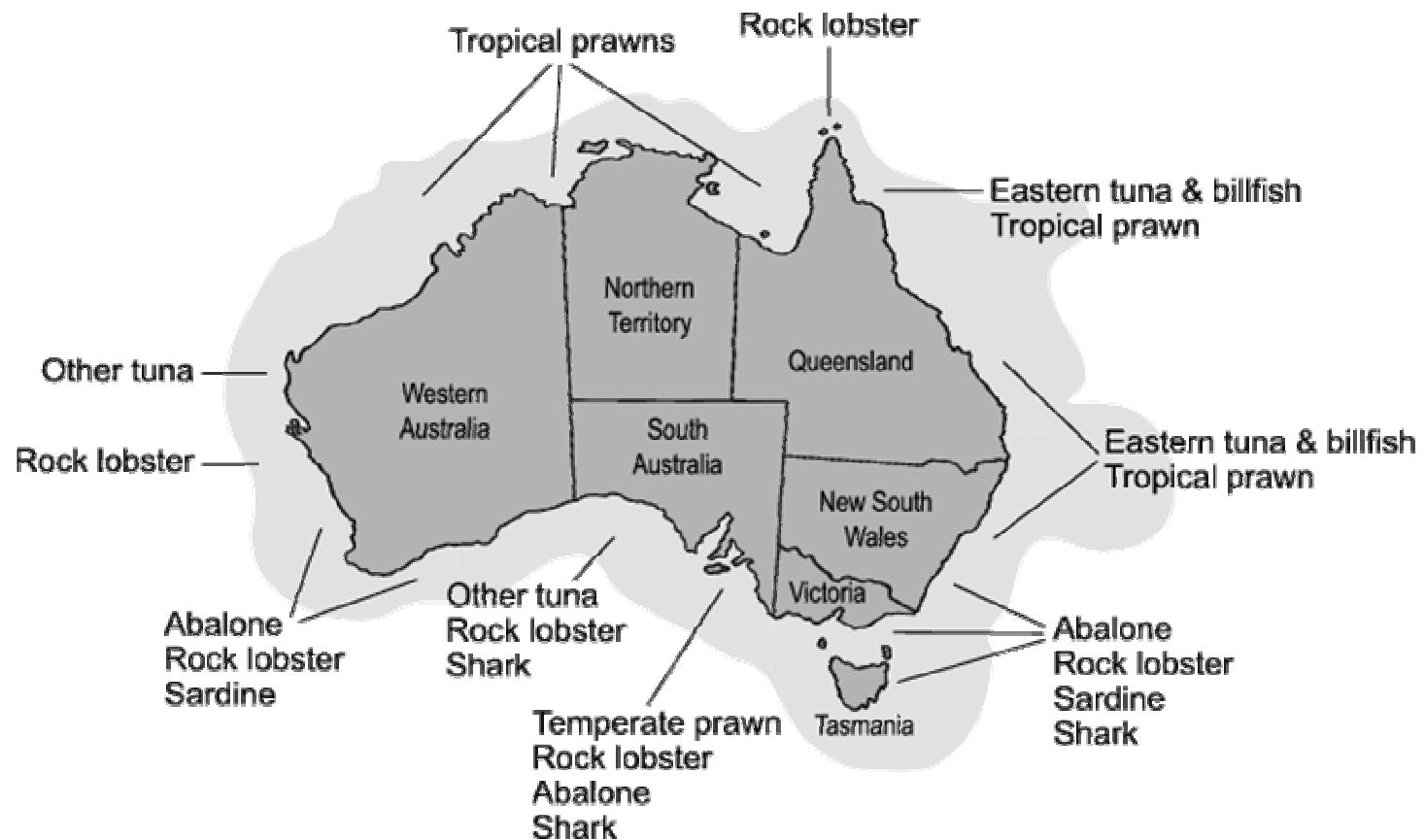
# Climate change in perspective: threats to marine life



# Impacts of climate change considered in the analysis: recapping on Alistair's presentation

- **Sea surface temperature (SST)**
  - 1-2°C increase in SST with the greatest warming off in the south-east
- **Winds / Currents**
  - Strengthening of winds will also strengthen the East Australia Current (EAC)
  - Weakening of the Leeuwin current in the West coast
- **Acidification**
  - A decline in pH by around 0.1 units
- **Rainfall**
  - On average, rainfall will decrease by 0-5% over most of Australia, although the frequency of storms and cyclones (in the north) is expected to increase
- **Sea level**
  - Projected to rise by 0.3-0.5 m around Australia
- **Primary productivity**
  - Flow on effects from primary producers

# Fisheries included in the study

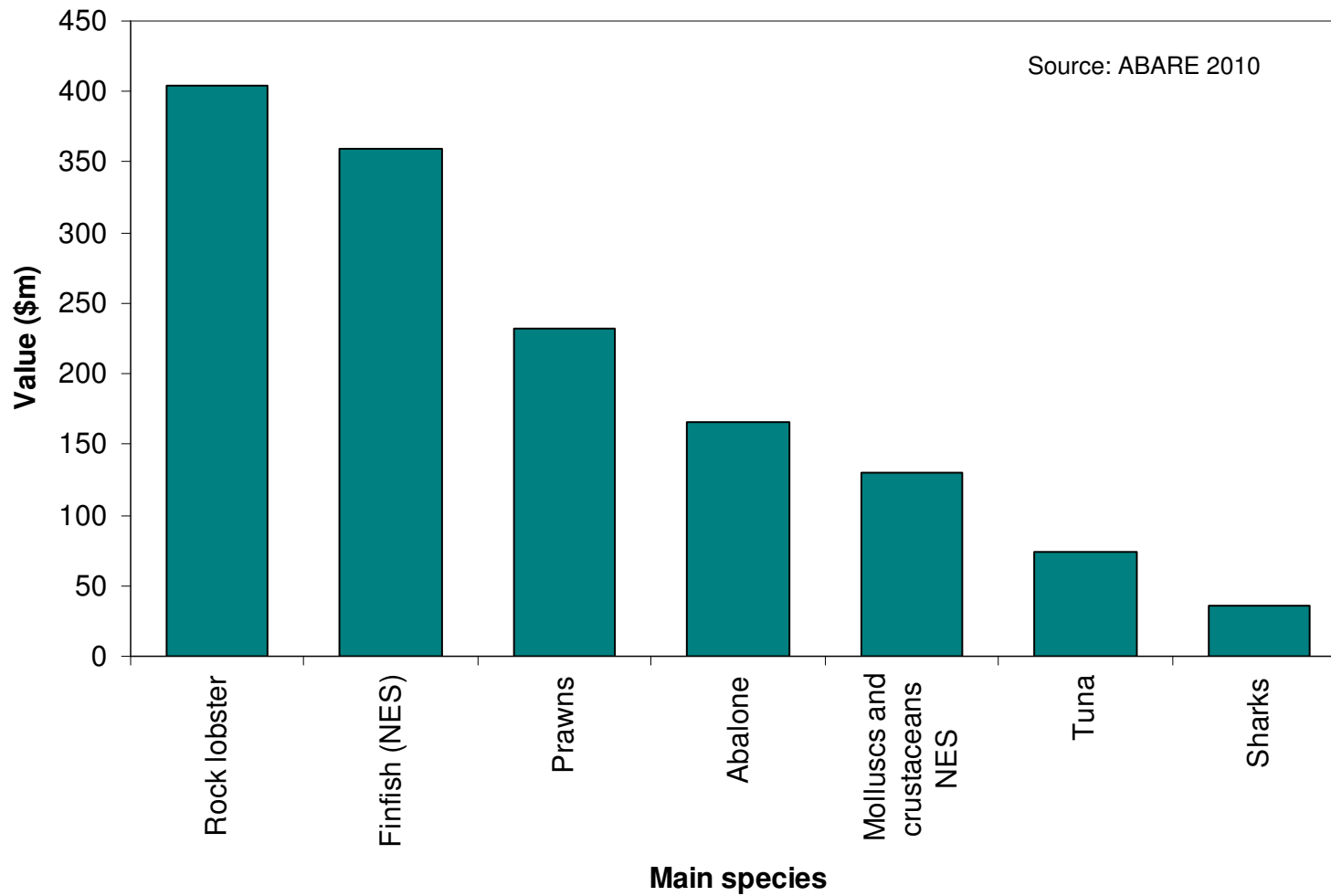


■ Extent of the Australian Fishing Zone

— Wild fisheries

Note: "Other finfish" and "Other Molluscs and Crustaceans" are found all around Australia so are not identified.

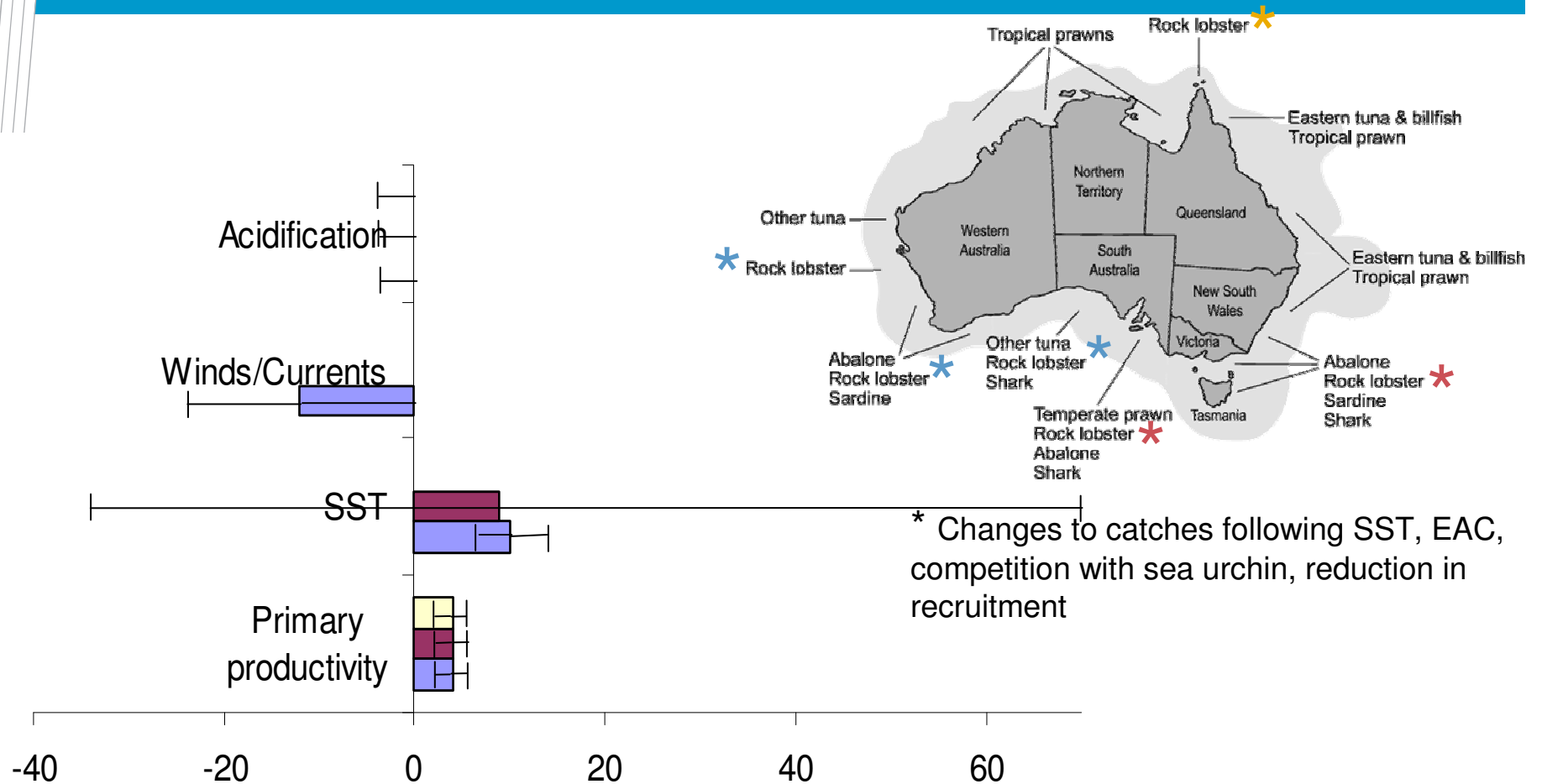
# Value (\$m) Australian fisheries (2008-09)



# Overall direct effects on Australian fisheries

- Difficult to assess the flow on effects that CC will have in Australian fisheries
- Direct effect from physical variables
  - E.g., the timing of spawning, or the tolerance to increased SST
- Range and distribution (including local or global extinction)
- Composition and interaction within communities

# Example of specific climatic effects to rock lobster fisheries in North, West and South of Australia



■ Panulirus cygnus (West) ■ J. edwardsii (South) □ Trop. Panulirus (North)

% change in productivity to different rock lobster spp following different physical and primary productivity effects from 2004 to 2030

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# Impacts due to multiple factors

## Example: Prawn fisheries

Fisheries	Primary Production	Uncert.	Specific spp	Temp.	Uncert	Acidification	Uncert.	Sea level	Uncert.	Cyclone	Uncert.	Rainfall	Uncert.
Temp. prawns	17%	±4.25%	<i>M. latisulcatus</i>	8%	±3%	0%	-3%, 0%	No estimates identified	±4%	No estimates identified	±12%	No estimates identified	±12%
				Higher temp. could benefit the popn. (Dixon et al, 2006) as in <i>P. monodon</i> From (Jackson and Wang 1998) model, at 20C the final weight is ~15g. If temp. increase by 1.5C, growth could be 7.5% higher.	Lower impacts in crustaceans than molluscs (Cooley and Doney 2009). Assume this spp. has the same calcification rate as oyster ( <i>Crassostreas gigas</i> ) (Gazeau et al. 2007). Calcification in oysters at pCO2 level= 450ppm is 3% lower								
Tropical prawns	11%	±2.75%	<i>P. merguensis</i>	8%	±3%	0%	-3%, 0%	Expected sea level rise by 17cm (Henessy et al. 2006) from this assumed 1to5% increase in mangrove area (400- 2000 ha) (Dowling and MacDonald 1982). Higher catches due to inundation of mangrove swamps (Y=13.79+ 0.129mangrove area) (Loneragan et al. 2005)	±4%	No estimates identified	±12%	A 40% increase in rainfall will increase catch by 45% (Rothlisberg et al. 1988). Asumed linear relationship between rainfall & catch	±12%
				Same explanation as above	Same explanation as above								
Tropical prawns	Same explanation as above	Same explanation as above	<i>P. semisulcatus</i> <i>P. esculentus</i>	8%	±3%	0%	(-3%, 0%)	No estimates identified	±0.03%	-1%	±0.03%	No estimates identified	No estimates identified
				Same explanation as above	Same explanation as above								

# Economic effects of changes in fisheries productivity

- Changes to fisheries productivity with climate change will affect
  - Directly, fishing sector
  - Indirectly, other sectors supplying and demanding inputs/outputs from fisheries sectors
  - Indirectly, flow on effect to other sectors in the economy
  - Indirectly, consumers
- Wider economic implications of climate change to fisheries and other sectors
  - Employment
  - Profitability
  - Household income, changes in income affect expenditure on other goods and services

# Input-Output analysis

- **Main aim of I-O analysis is to produce multipliers**
  - Degree to which a change in one sector will flow on to other sectors, and the cumulative impact in the whole economy
- **Step 1: Determine how climate change is likely to impact fishers (direct effect)**
- **Step 2: Incorporate likely climate change effects into an input-output model of the Australian economy (2004-05)**
  - Re-estimate cost-structures of the industries given assumptions about changes in landings
  - Assumes that current management arrangements continue (and current fleet sizes)
  - Estimate impacts on other sectors (indirect effect) and consumers (induced effect)
- **Step 3: Undertake Monte Carlo simulations on the basis of the associated uncertainties to climate change projections**

# Income multipliers

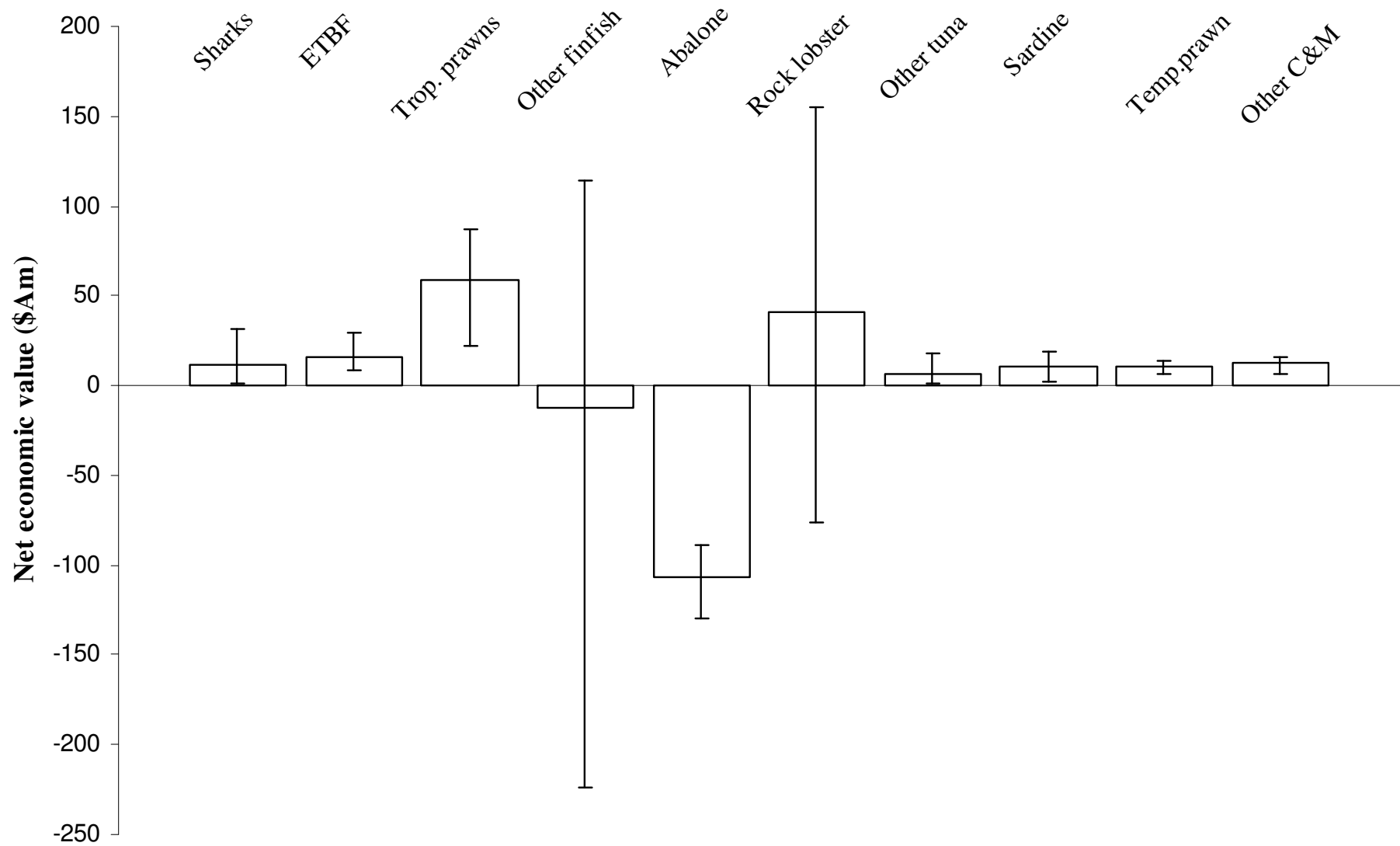
- Total (includes direct, indirect and induced) income multipliers
  - e.g. \$1 increased income in the shark fisheries results in \$2.12 income in the broader economy (which includes the initial \$1 direct impact)

Fishery	Base year (2004-05)	Average CC effects
Sharks	2.12	2.04
ETBF	3.23	2.81
Tropical prawns	3.24	2.94
Other finfish	3.34	3.39
Abalone	2.31	2.70
Rock lobster	2.61	2.54
Other Tuna	2.76	2.61
Sardine	2.09	1.97
Temperate prawns	2.45	2.30
Other C & M	2.98	2.89

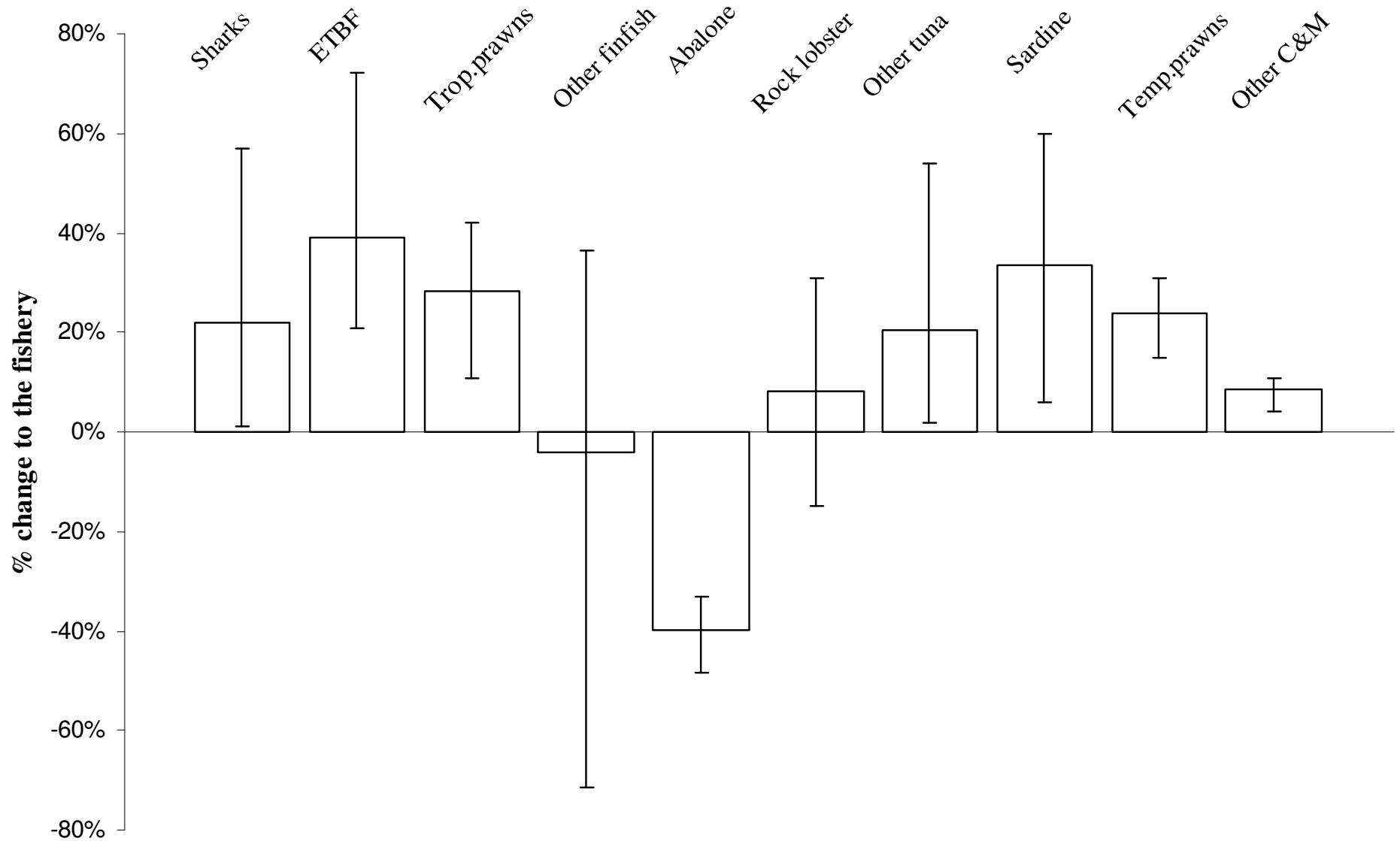
## Example - Change in income in the rock lobster fishery, intermediate and final demand sectors

Wild Fisheries	Income effects	Base year (2004-05)	Average CC effects (Monte Carlo simulations)	Coefficient of variation (CV)
	Fisheries Wages	143.4	154.8	10%
	Fisheries Profits	124.5	144.1	19%
Rock lobster	Induced Income	230.9	238.3	4%
	Total	498.8	537.1	9%
	Net Income		<b>38.3</b>	

# Net economic effect to fisheries from climate change



# Percentage change in income from climate change



# Summary and caveats

- Results indicate most Australian wild fisheries could see economic benefits as a result of climate change by 2030 although there are large uncertainties surrounding these results
  - Longer term impacts may differ
    - For example, there are expectations that southern rock lobster will initially improve but decline in the longer term
  - Estimates of CC impacts in Australian fisheries & associated probability distributions were derived from the literature & expert consultations
    - Assume additive relationship between different physical effects
- The analysis provides a reference point for future studies assessing economic benefits and costs of adaptations to climate change and an indicator to key areas where adaptation strategies may be beneficial or essential

# What are the implications for fisheries management?

- Fishing is still the main factor affecting the health of Australia's commercial fisheries and the economic benefits it generates for the broader community
  - Management that focuses on ensuring appropriate effort and/or catch controls is essential irrespective of climate change
- In the medium term, many fisheries could benefit from climate change and management strategies need to be developed with flexibility to capture some of these benefits
  - Adaptation strategies should consider minimising losses and maximising the benefits that could be brought by climate change
- Output controls may be more flexible in this regard
  - It is easier to increase a TAC than allow more effort back into a fishery once it has been removed

## What are the key messages for industry?

- The future is still highly uncertain in regard to the effects of climate change on fishers' incomes but in most cases is not a “bad-news” story on average
  - at least in the medium term
- Fishers can not rely on any benefits from climate change in the future to solve current problems
  - Any benefits will be at least 10-20 years away while current problems need to be addressed now
- Fishers need to work with managers to help develop flexible management strategies that can capture the benefits when they do emerge and limit costs if they occur
  - While average impacts may be positive, substantial negative impacts may appear in any given year
    - e.g. cyclones, floods
    - e.g. WA Rocklobster

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