The Ross Sea region MPA





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Key elements of CCAMLR MPA process

- Collate data and map everything
- Define national priorities and policy aims link these to the maps
- Consider alternative boundaries etc. to achieve policy aims
- Negotiate collective set of objectives, boundaries, etc.





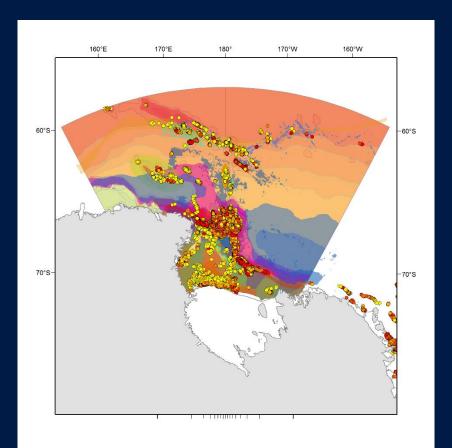






The past USA \rightarrow USA + NZ \rightarrow USA + NZ + 23 OTHER MEMBERS

U.S. stakeholder objectives

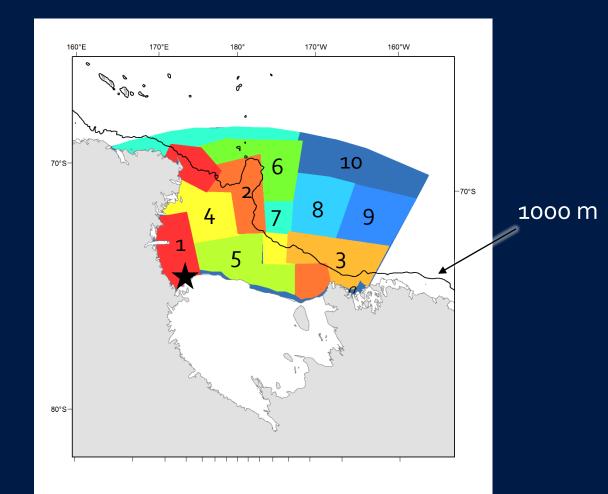


- Protect air-breathing predators
- Protect benthic communities
- Maximize biodiversity
- Maximize rebuilding potential for blue whales
- Protect "depauperate basin assemblages"



Spatial priorities for protection

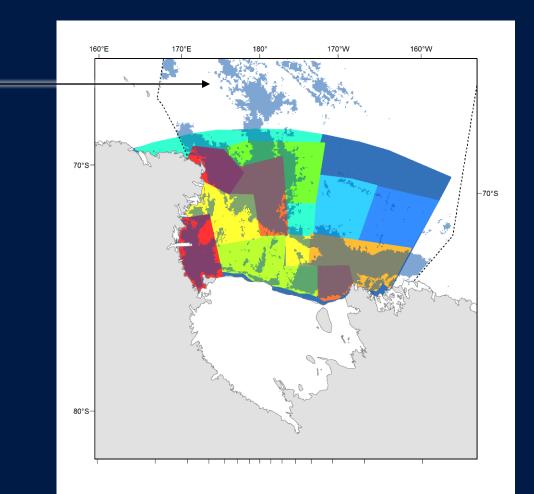
- What MPA boundaries would you draw if you could only protect 10% of the area?
- What if you could protect another 10% (and so on)?





Overlay with 1° objective

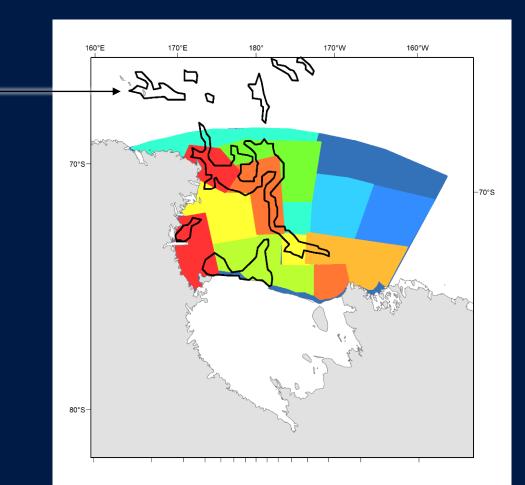
important habitats for air-breathing predators





Overlay with fishing

- important fishing areas (Antarctic toothfish, 1997-2011)
- displace > 50% of fishing to protect top 20% of U.S. stakeholder priorities
- displace 100% to protect top 60%





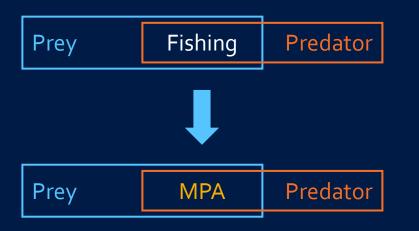
Two planning pathologies

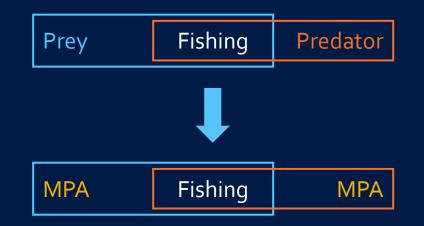
DISEASE 1

 Protect 50% of prey and predator habitats where the ecology occurs

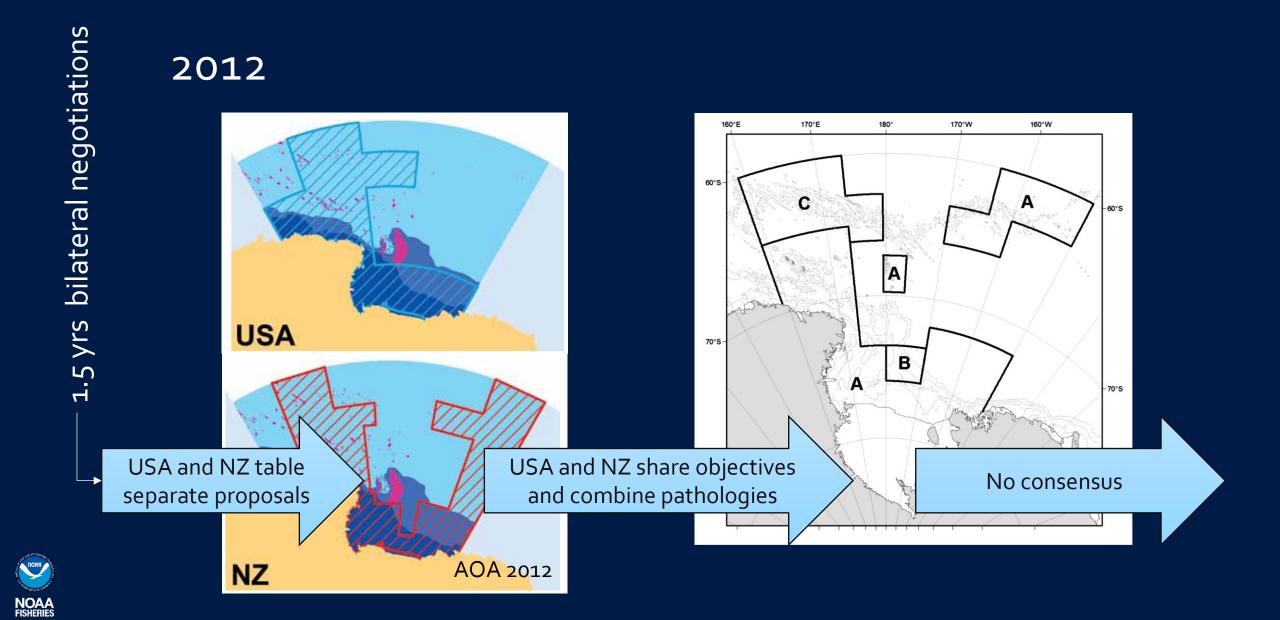
DISEASE 2

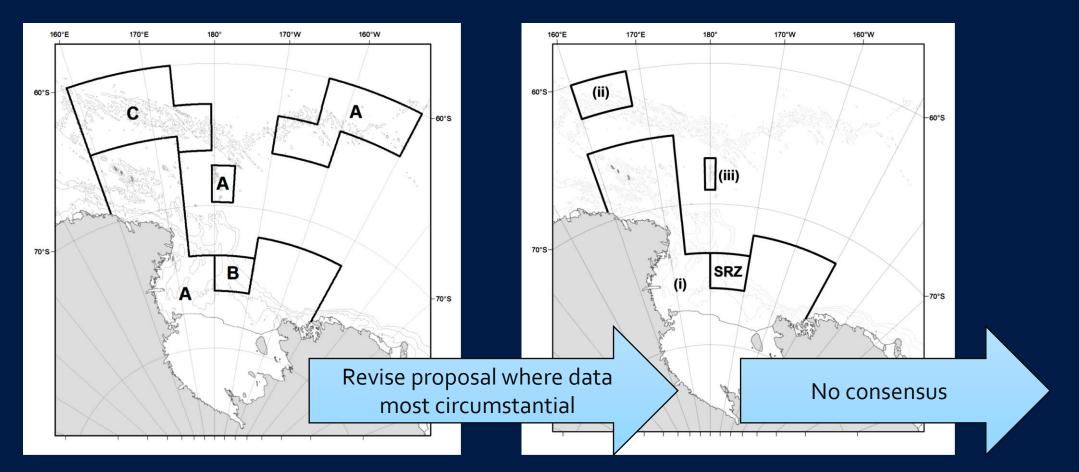
• Protect 50% of prey and predator habitats while minimizing cost



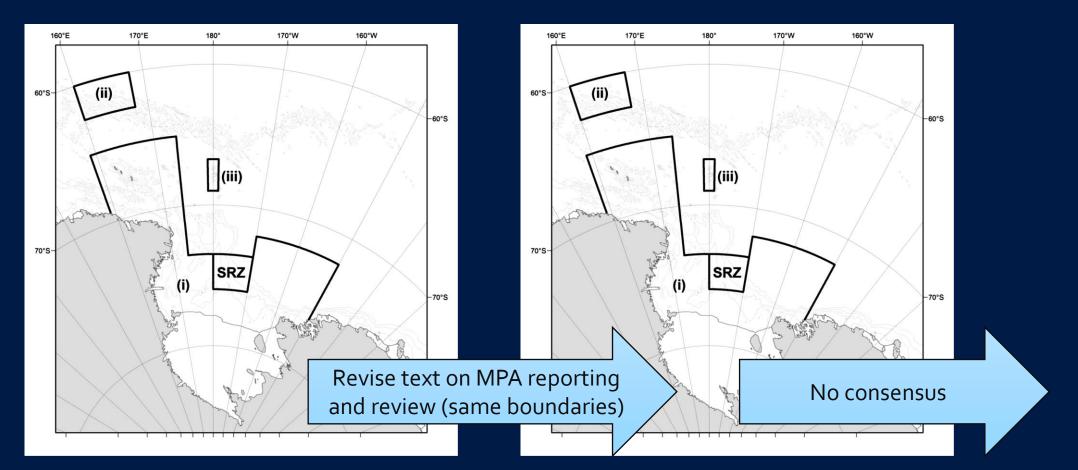




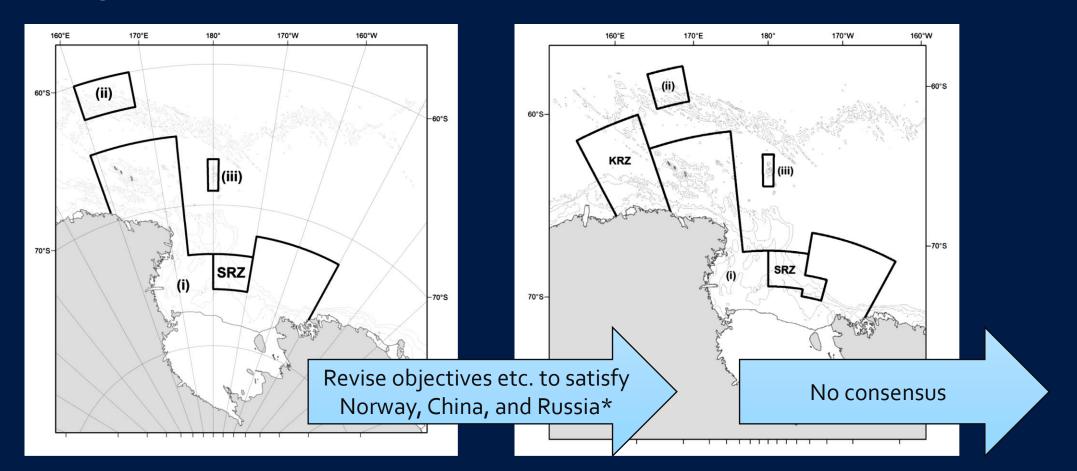




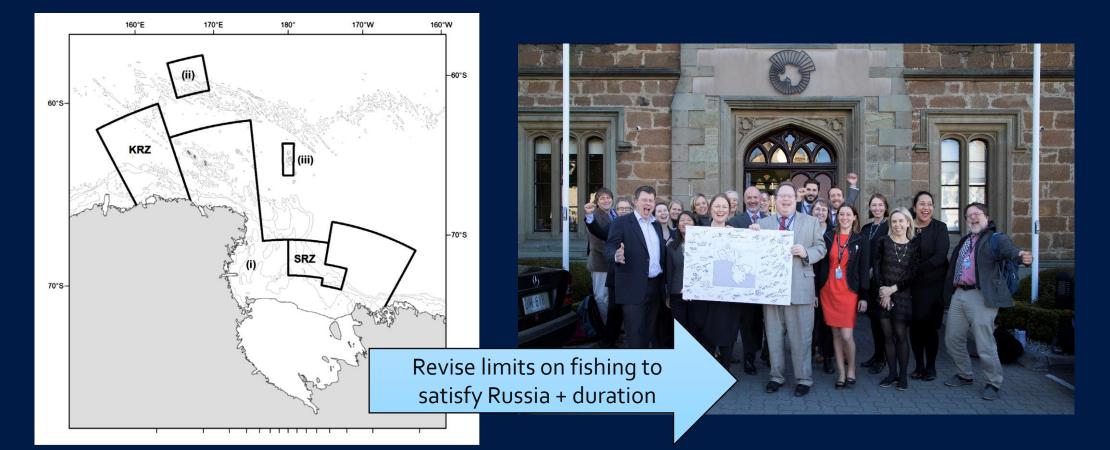








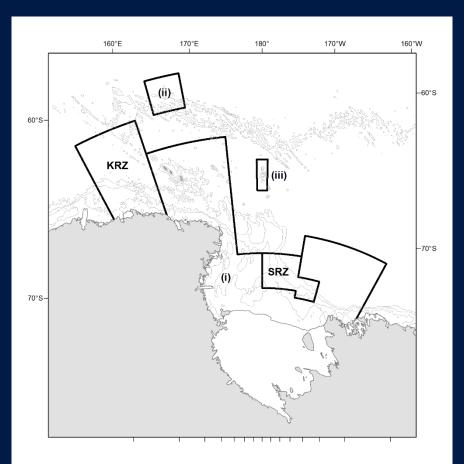






The present

RSRMPA

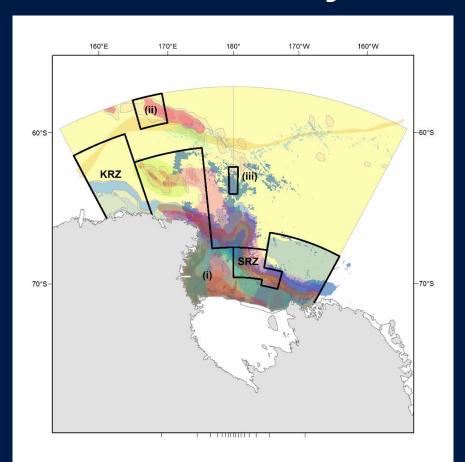


- 11 specific objectives
- 3 zones
- 35 yrs beginning 1 Dec 2017
- Review at least every 10 yrs
- Research and Monitoring Plan submitted



Conservation Measure 91-05 (CCAMLR 2016)

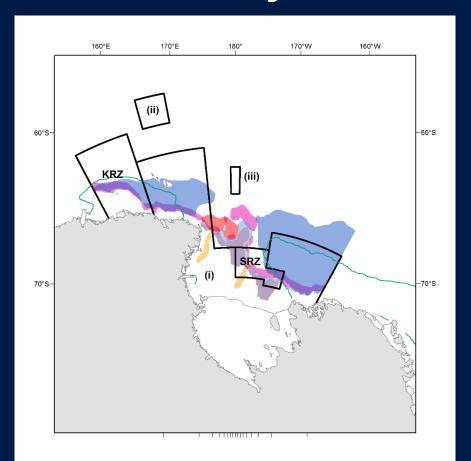
Protection objectives



- "representative" benthic and pelagic bioregions
- large-scale "ecosystem-process areas"
- core distributions of key prey species
- core foraging areas of land-based predators or those possibly in direct competition with fisheries
- coastal locations of ecological importance
- toothfish habitats
- rare or vulnerable benthic habitats



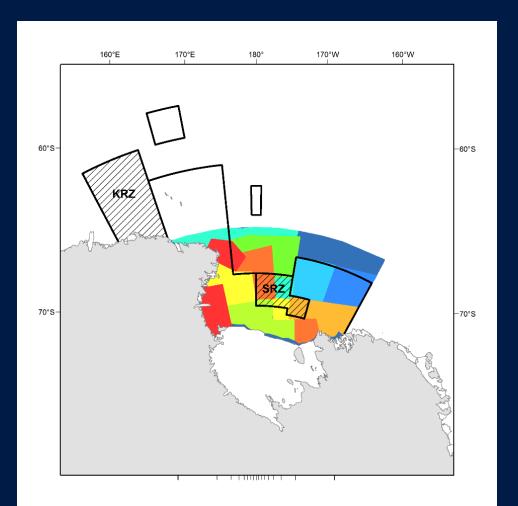
Science objectives



- Spatial comparisons to learn about ecosystem effects of fishing and climate change
- Tagging to underpin toothfsih stock assessment and learn about their distribution and movement
- Studies to understand ecosystem role of krill



U.S. stakeholder priorities revisited





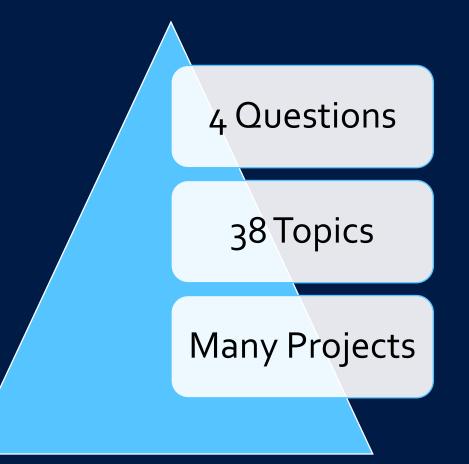
The future

EVALUATING CCAMLR'S RSRMPA

Research and Monitoring Plan

Deliver knowledge to assess

- degree to which objectives being achieved
- degree to which objectives still relevant in given location
- actions to improve achievement of objectives





Questions

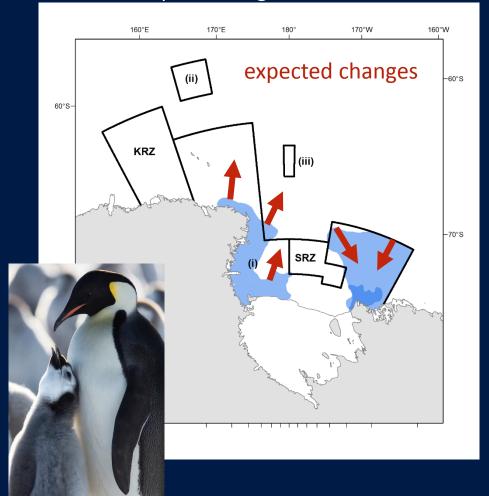
- 1. Does the RSRMPA adequately encompass *stuff* included pursuant to its objectives?
- 2. What are the ecosystem roles of *stuff* that is (not) encompassed by the RSRMPA?
- 3. How is *stuff* affected by fishing, the environment, etc.?
- 4. Does *stuff* differ inside and outside the RSRMPA?

stuff = habitats, processes, populations, communities, etc.



Example

Emperor Penguin Habitats



Question 1: Does the MPA "adequately encompass" stuff? Topic 17: "Movements and foraging requirements of ... emperor penguins in the eastern RSR."

Project X: Tracking study of emperor penguins

