



**BELIZE
FISHERIES
PROJECT**

**Belize Fisheries Project
Stock Analyses**

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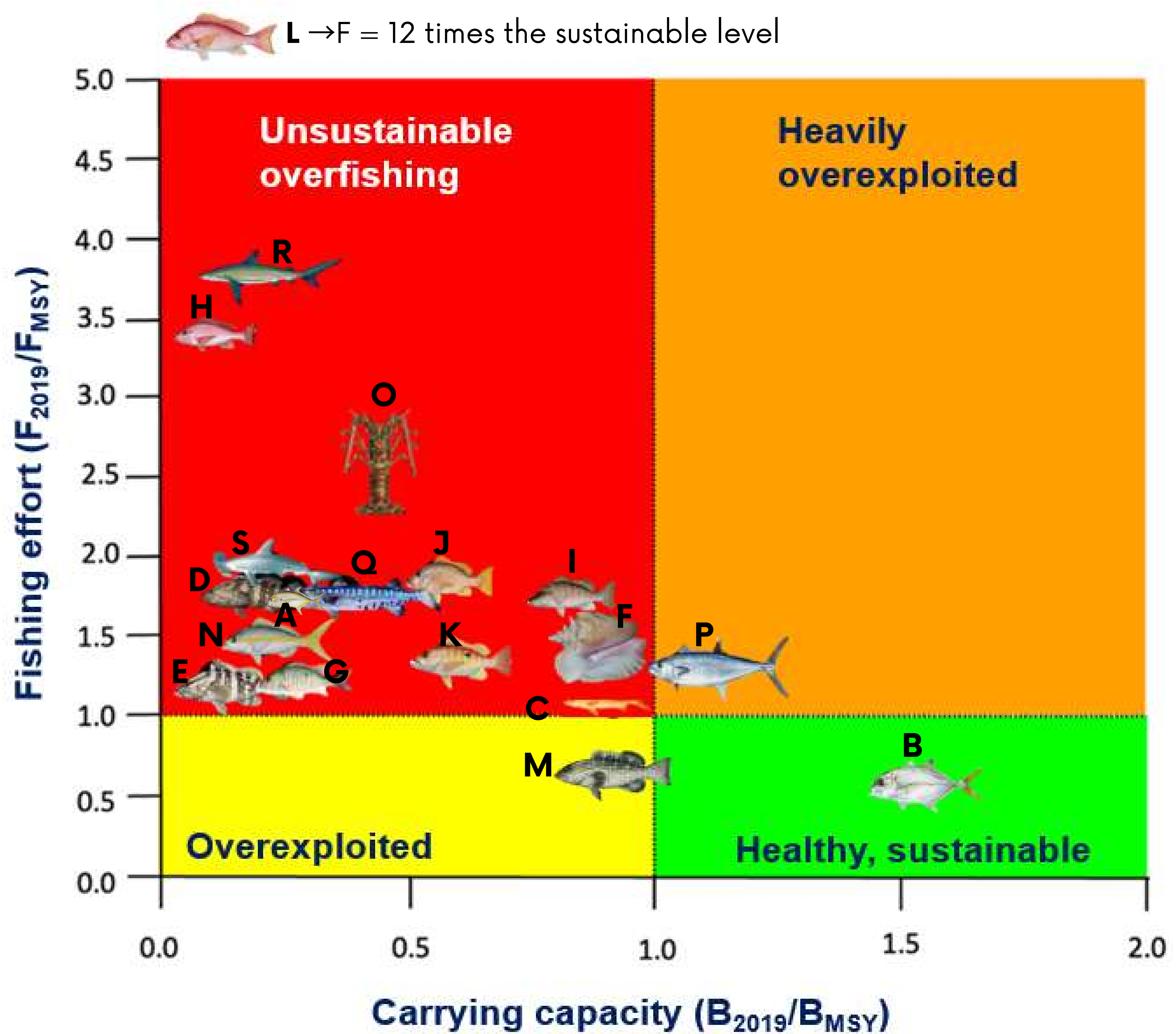
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Stock Analyses

A. List of Species

- A. Crevalle jack
- B. Horse-eye jack
- C. Common snook
- D. Atlantic goliath grouper
- E. Nassau grouper
- F. Queen conch
- G. Mutton snapper
- H. Southern & Northern red snapper
- I. Grey snapper
- J. Dog snapper
- K. Lane snapper
- L. Silk snapper
- M. Black grouper
- N. Yellowtail snapper
- O. Caribbean spiny lobster
- P. King mackerel
- Q. Great barracuda
- R. Caribbean reef shark
- S. Scalloped hammerhead

B. KOBE Plots



C. Methodology

Stock assessments were conducted using the CMSY methodology, which relies on catch data to estimate how much fish is left in the water for a given stock.

D. Key Findings

Seventeen of 20 species taken in Belize's fisheries, including queen conch and Caribbean spiny lobster, are "in the red", meaning they are overexploited. For these species, the fishing pressure is too high, which implies that their biomass - already too low to support maximum sustainable yields - will decrease further.

Management changes are needed to get these species, as well as the two in the yellow and orange zones, back into the green zone with the goal of enabling sustainable fishing and supporting fishers' livelihoods.

E. Recommendations

- Limit licenses/effort/access to match fishing capacity with what the stocks can sustain
- Develop science-based FMPs to focus on fisheries rebuilding and sustainability, within and outside MPAs
- Enhanced monitoring, control and surveillance capacity with clear presence and enforcement results