



CREATURES OF THE DEEP

The Amazing Lives of Rockfish

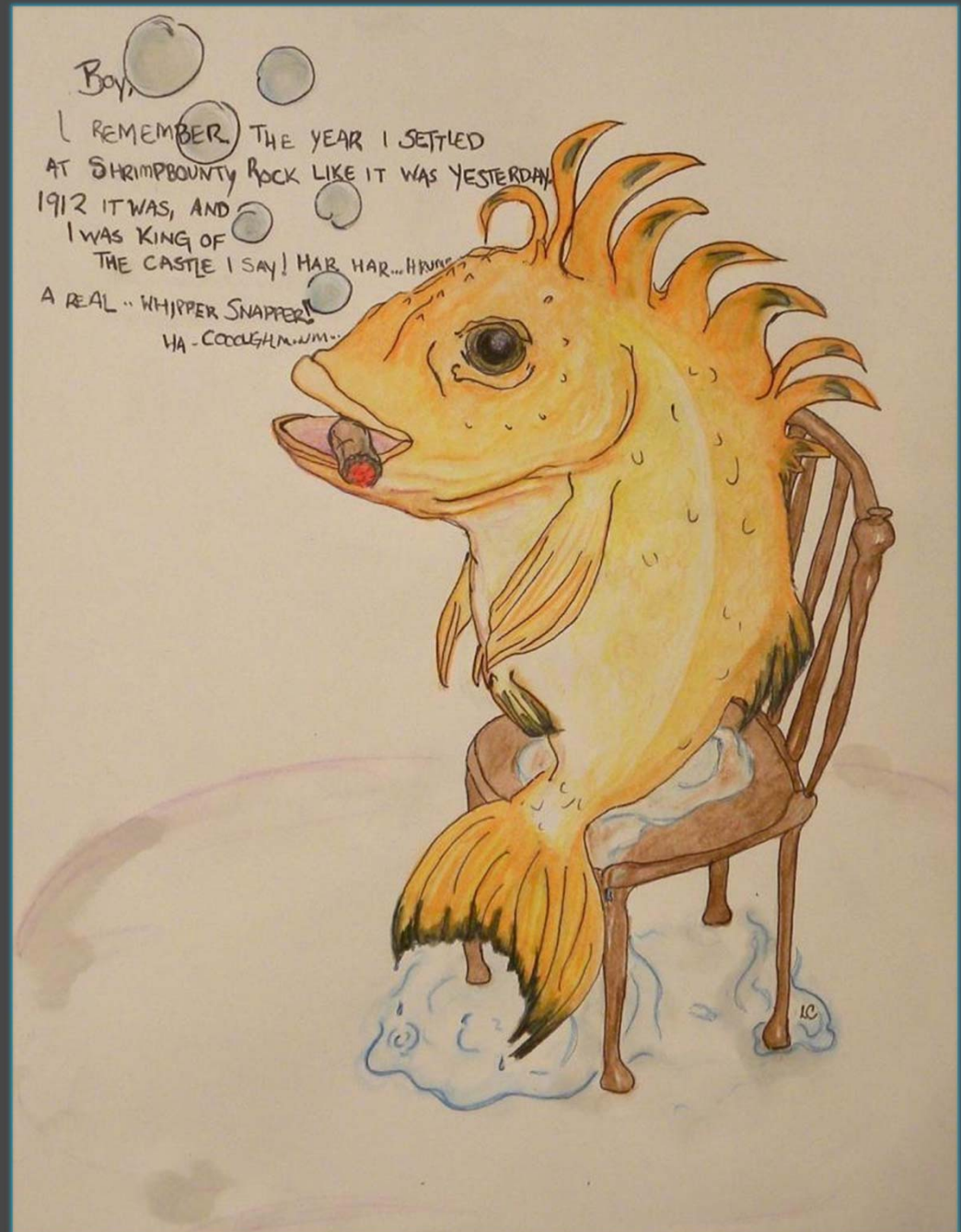
Lia Chalifour, Biologist
Galiano Conservancy Association

Photo by Scott Stevenson, Pacific Marine Imaging

Rockfish

Natural History

- Live larvae – not eggs
- Territorial (Home on the range)
- Long lived
- Late bloomers/ fine wine
- Curious ‘Mesopredators’
- Creatures of the deep
- Under Pressure



Threats to Rockfish:

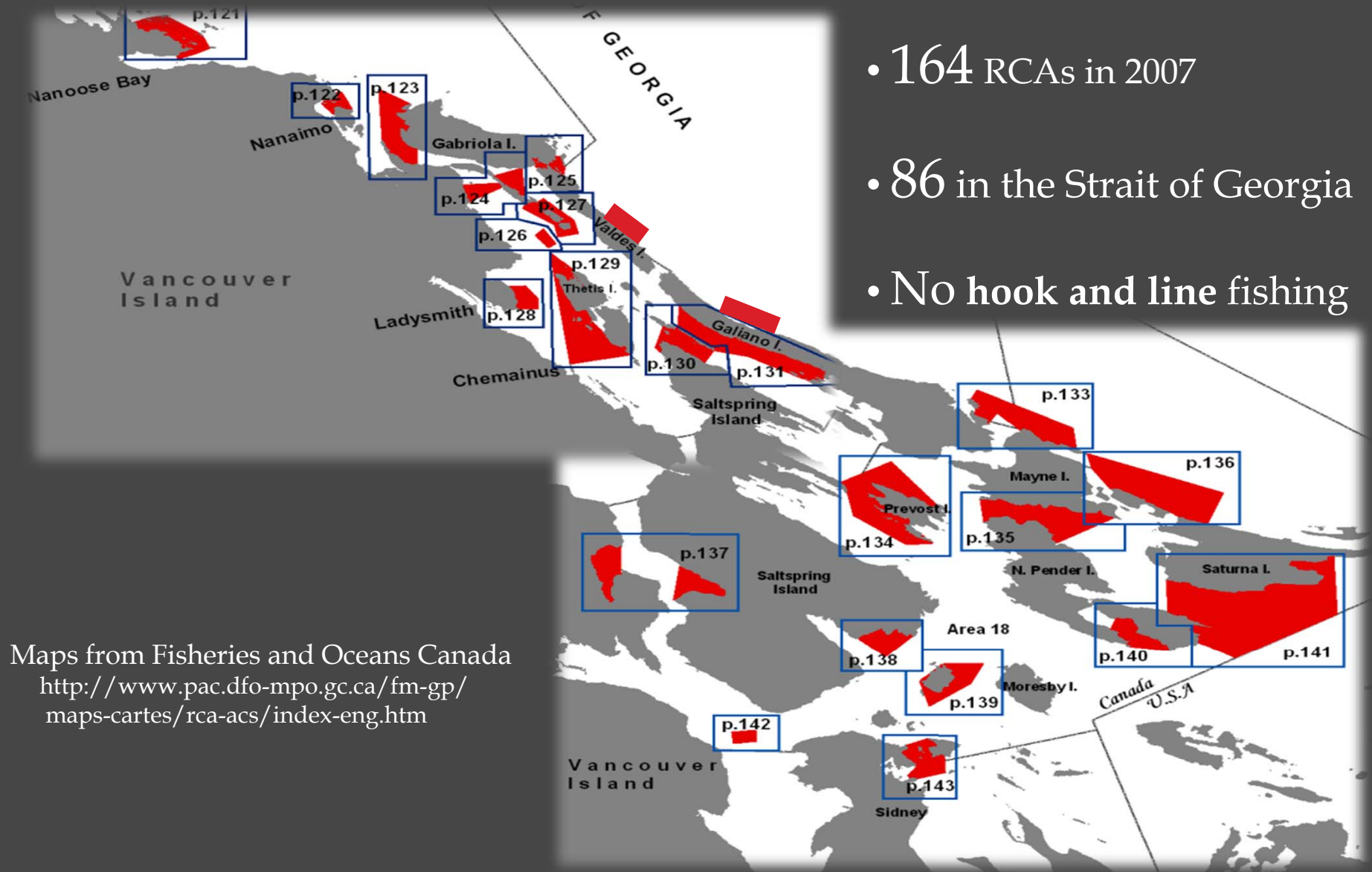
- Overfishing
- Habitat degradation
- Pollution
- Derelict fishing nets
- Climate Change



Photo by Scott Stevenson, Pacific Marine Imaging

Rockfish Conservation Areas

- 164 RCAs in 2007
- 86 in the Strait of Georgia
- No hook and line fishing



Rockfish Conservation Areas Galiano Island

Pebble Beach RCA

Trincomali Channel RCA

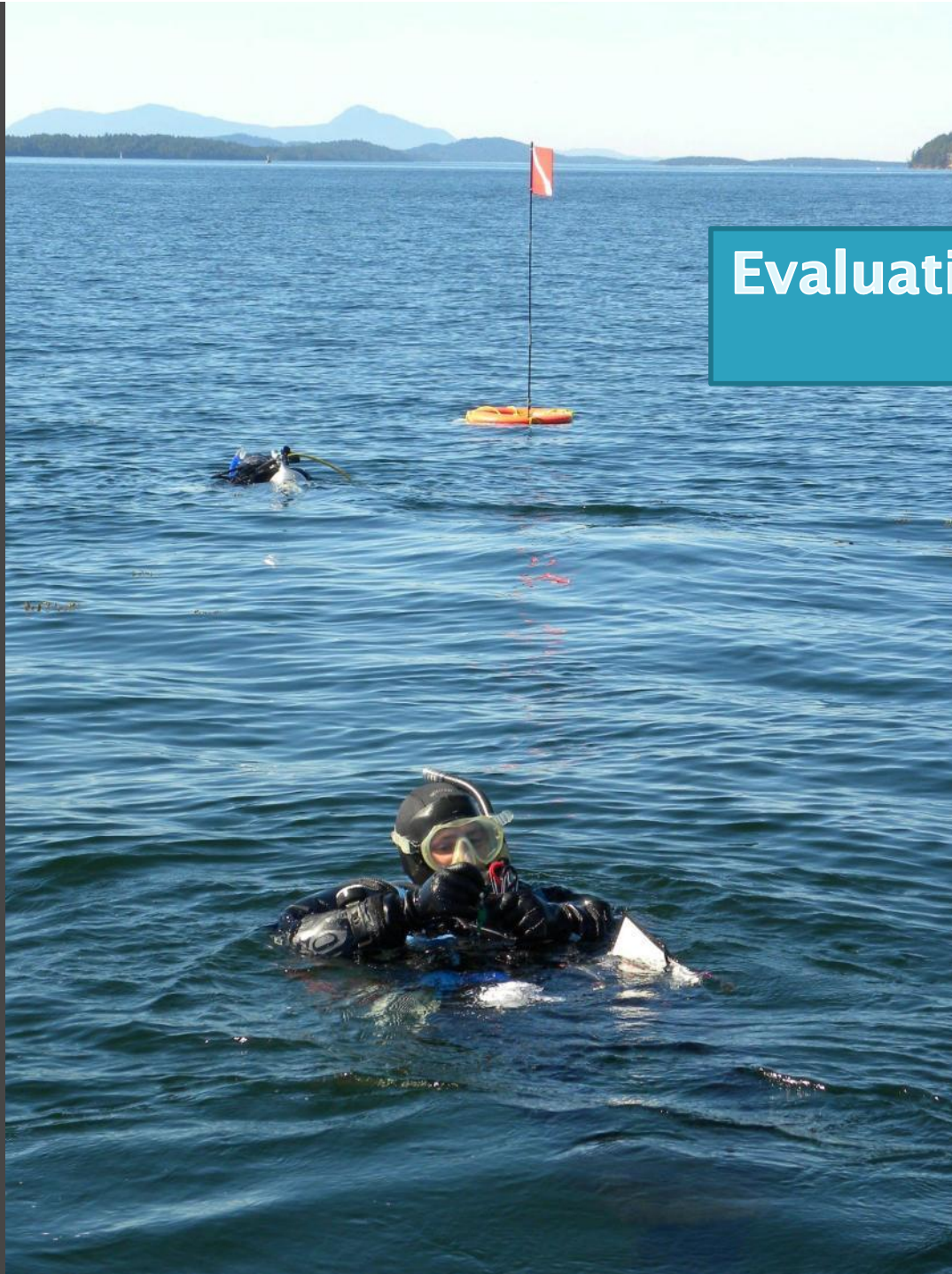
Gossip RCA



2,600 1,300 0 2,600 Meters



Evaluating RCA Efficacy



Rockfish Surveys



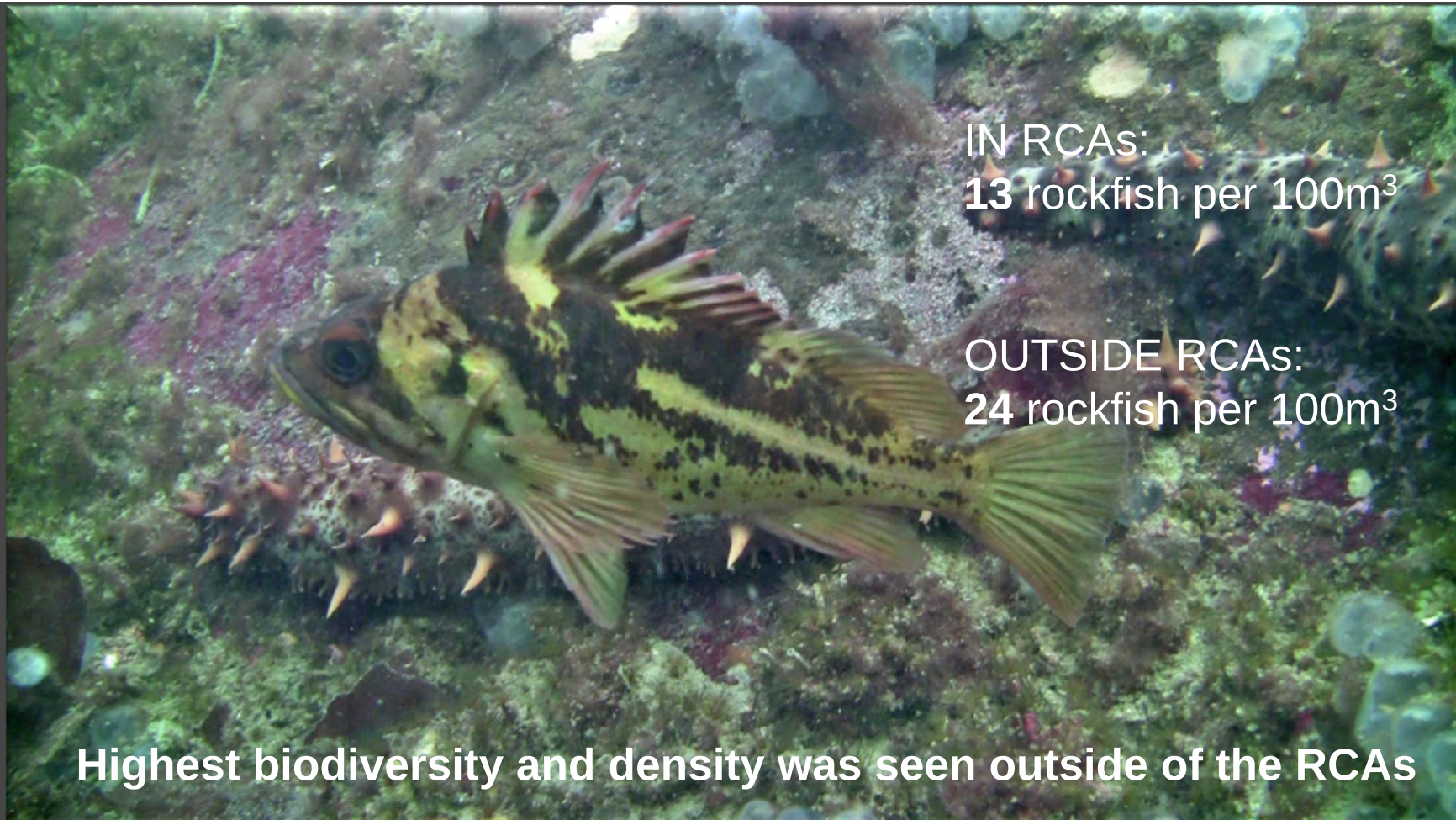
Rockfish Photos by Scott Stevenson

What we Found



Out of 18 transects:

- 189 rockfish
- 5 species
- Mostly Quillback and Copper



IN RCAs:
13 rockfish per 100m³

OUTSIDE RCAs:
24 rockfish per 100m³

Highest biodiversity and density was seen outside of the RCAs



Protected by Association



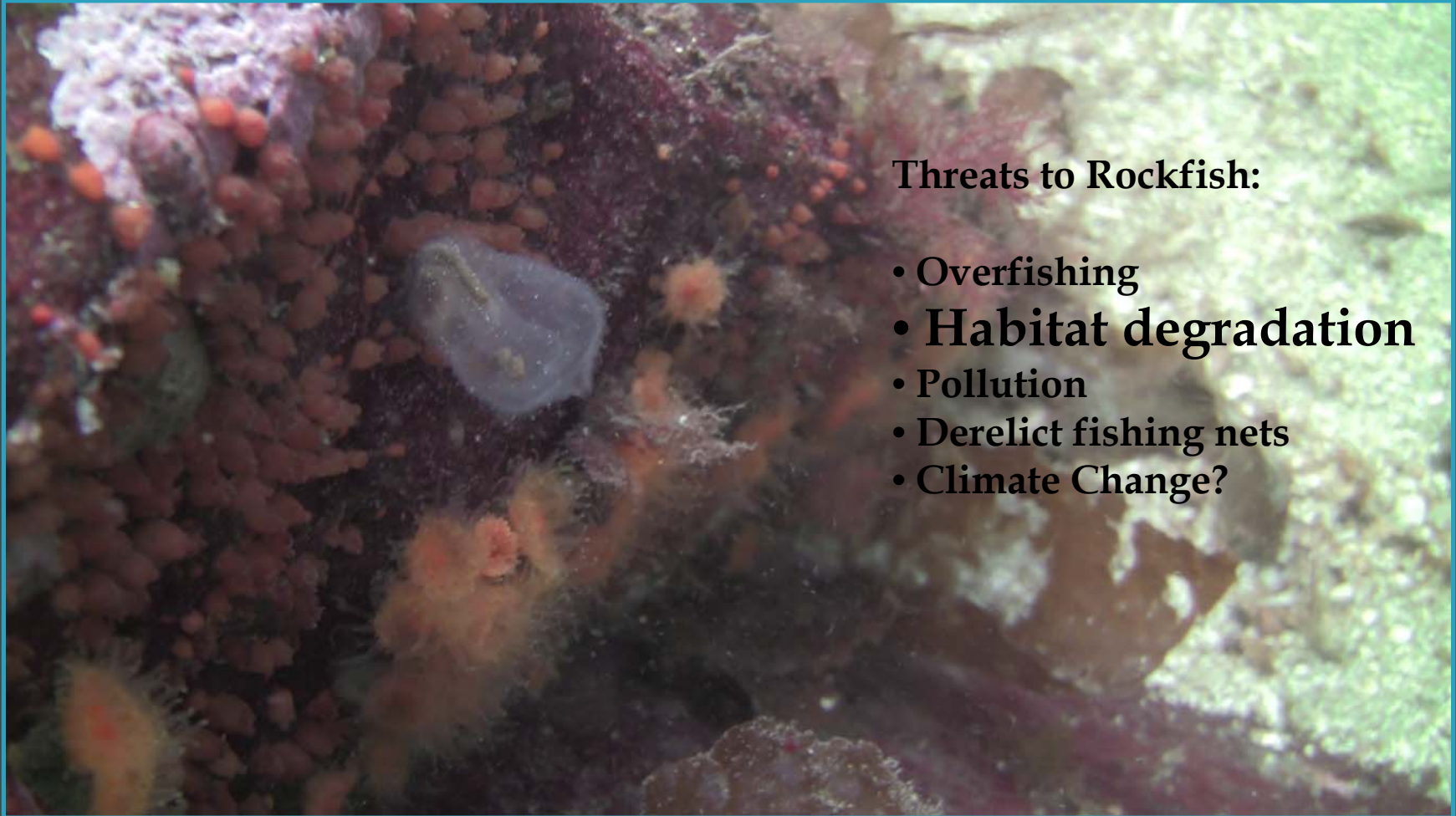
Multiple benefits of Rockfish Conservation Areas?



Biodiversity Galore



Associated Habitat



Threats to Rockfish:

- Overfishing
- **Habitat degradation**
- Pollution
- Derelict fishing nets
- Climate Change?

Thank You!

Travis Beaulieu – Dive partner,
videographer, 'keystone teammate'

Dana Haggarty – Aid in methods
and Surveying

Dr. Tom Mommsen – Rockfish
biology and habitat

Galiano Community Volunteers!

Dr. K. Lynne Yamanaka – DFO
data, background and site choice

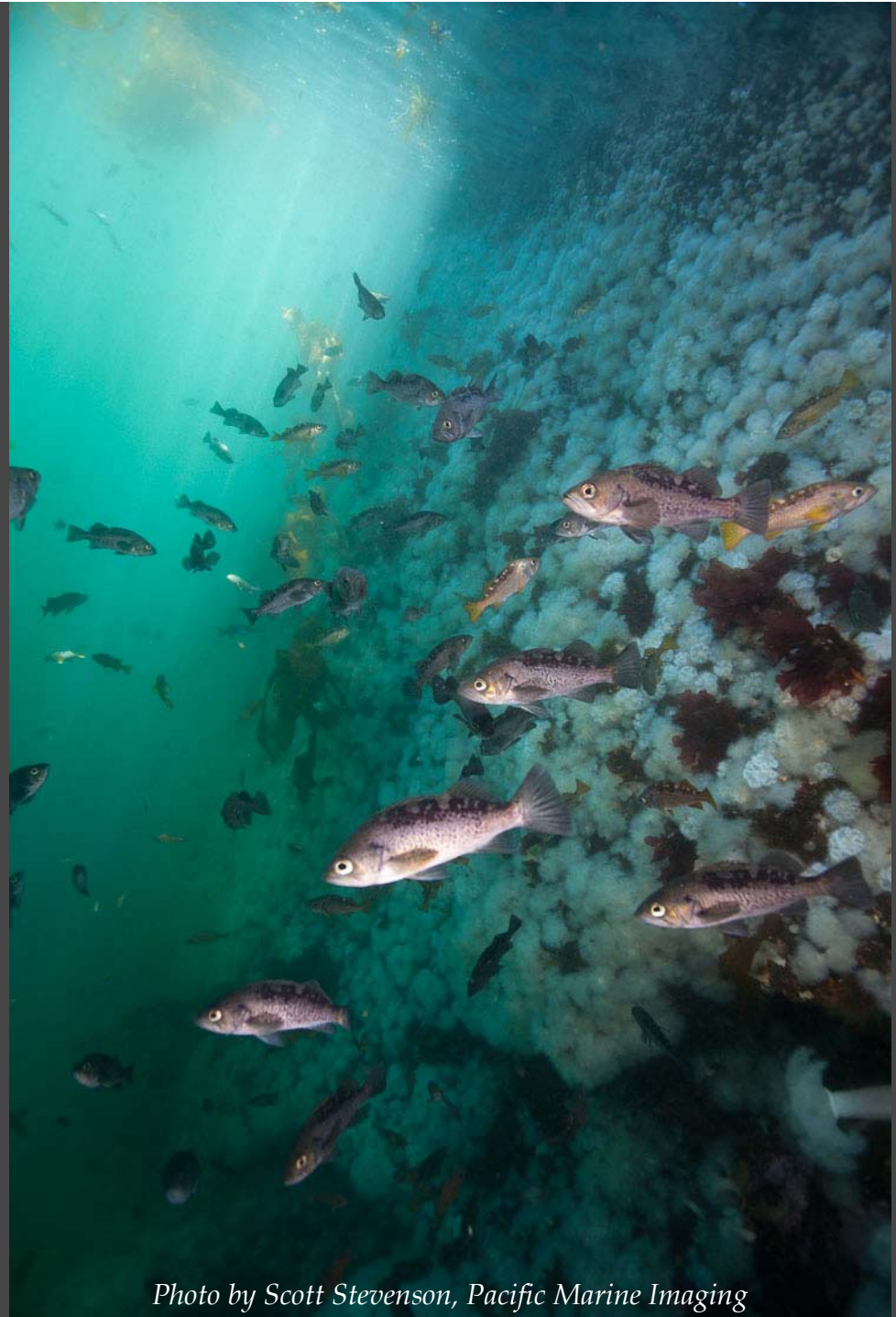


Photo by Scott Stevenson, Pacific Marine Imaging