# Ecosystem recovery following the DWH oil spill evaluated using an end-to-end model

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COLLEGE OF MARINE SCIENCE





### CIMAGE II

- Funded by the Gulf of Mexico Research Initiative since late 2011
- One of 15 funded centers nationwide, one of five in Florida
- 20 academic institutions in seven states and six countries



# Modeling objectives

- Impacts:
  - Fisheries value
  - Fish community structure
  - Ecosystem biodiversity
  - Recovery time
- Evaluate impact of mitigation decisions (fisheries closures and dispersants)
- Socioeconomic analysis
- Evaluating in parallel DWH (2010) and IXTOC I (1979) oil spills



### Atlantis summary

- Atlantis Gulf of Mexico model and a SWGOM model
- Major methodological papers so far on biomass distributions
  (2), diet matrix (2), larval connectivity, and oil dose-response
- 3D Irregular polygon geometry for computational efficiency



# Model architecture

- Bacteria to apex predators ("end-to-end")
- Ocean chemistry & physics (1° coupling to GOM HYCOM, NCDDC)
- 12 hour time step

Features

- Age structured
- Larval transport
- Biogenic & physical habitat associations
- Nutrient and waste cycling
- Fisheries accounting



Fulton, E. A., A. D. M. Smith, and C. R. Johnson. 2004. Biogeochemical marine ecosystem models i: Igbem - a model of marine bay ecosystems. Ecological Modelling 174:267-307.

### Masi, M., Ainsworth, C.H. and Chagaris, D. (2014). A probabilistic representation of fish diet compositions from multiple data sources: a Gulf of Mexico case study. Ecological Modelling, 284(2014): 60–74.

# Food web analysis

1<sup>st</sup> diet study



![](_page_5_Picture_4.jpeg)

Gut content analysis

- ~1200 stomachs analyzed
- Some from C-IMAGE longline surveys
- Literature: Fishbase (235 spp.), SeaLifeBase (15 spp.), FWC FWRI (905 spp.)

Michelle Masi, USF

# Food web analysis

- Fit to a Dirichlet distribution (multivariate Beta) using MLE
- Provides diet estimates (modes of marginal Beta) and error range
- Diet error now being used in sensitivity analysis of Atlanits (Masi, in prep)

![](_page_6_Figure_5.jpeg)

Masi, M., Ainsworth, C.H. and Chagaris, D. (2014). A probabilistic representation of fish diet compositions from multiple data sources: a Gulf of Mexico case study. Ecological Modelling, 284(2014): 60–74.

# Food web analysis

Michelle Masi

Joe Tarnecki

### 2<sup>nd</sup> diet study

- +1000 additional stomachs (including CIMAGE)
- GOM Trophic Interactions Database (TAMUCC)

### Improvement in Atlantis fit

- 2/3<sup>rd</sup> of groups improved
- 23% reduction in SS
- 28% reduction in bias
- Comparison with 10 published food webs
- Just published last week in Fish. Res.

![](_page_7_Figure_12.jpeg)

#### MARFIN , CIMAGE, FL Sea Grant

Tarnecki, J., Wallace, A., Simons, J.D. and Ainsworth, C.H. (in press). Progression of a Gulf of Mexico Food Web Supporting Atlantis Ecosystem Model Development. Fisheries Research.

# GAM for biomass

![](_page_8_Picture_2.jpeg)

### GAM

- Predicting biomass distributions for ~ 50 species groups using generalized additive modeling
- First paper (Drexler) used negative binomial GAM; revision (Gruss) used Delta method

![](_page_8_Figure_6.jpeg)

Drexler, M. and Ainsworth, C. 2013. PLoS ONE 8(5): e64458. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0064458.

# GAM for biomass

Mike Drexler, USF Arnaud Gruss, UM

![](_page_9_Picture_2.jpeg)

Environmental

and habitat

parameters

(2)

Environmental and

habitat parameters

![](_page_9_Figure_3.jpeg)

Delta method

 $g(\eta) = s(\text{depth}) + s(\text{chl a}) + s(\text{temperature}) + s(\text{DO})$ 

+factor (sediment type)

- $\eta$  is probability of presence or abundance
- Logit-link/binomial and log-link/quasi-Poisson
- Uses SEAMAP groundfish trawl: includes validation to 1/3 of data set
- Automated model selection
- Methodology has spawned a Restore Act project (UM, Babcock)
- OSMOSE, Ecospace, Atlantis

![](_page_9_Figure_12.jpeg)

# Diagnostics

### Equilibrium catch & biomass

![](_page_10_Figure_2.jpeg)

### Historical reconstruction 1990-2010

![](_page_10_Figure_4.jpeg)

![](_page_10_Picture_5.jpeg)

NOAA Technical Memorandum NMFS-SEFSC-676 doi:10.7289/V5X63JVH

#### AN ATLANTIS ECOSYSTEM MODEL FOR THE GULF OF MEXICO SUPPORTING INTEGRATED ECOSYSTEM ASSESSMENT

Edited by Cameron H. Ainsworth, Michael J. Schirripa, and Hem Nalini Morzaria Luna

![](_page_10_Figure_9.jpeg)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration National Marine Fisheries Service Southeast Fisheries Science Center 75 Virginia Beach Drive Miami, Florida 33149

April 2015

Ainsworth, C.H., Schirripa, M.J. and Morzaria-Luna, H. (eds.), (2015). An Atlantis ecosystem model for the Gulf of Mexico supporting Integrated Ecosystem Assessment. US Dept. Comm. NOAA Technical Memorandum NMFS-SEFSC-676. 149 pp.

# Modeling oil impacts

### Effects included so far...

Vertebrate direct mortality Vertebrate growth Vertebrate recruitment Fisheries closures Uptake-depuration dynamics Mode of uptake (ingestion or absorption)

### In progress...

Invertebrate toxicology Benthic oxygen limitation Zooplankton bloom

![](_page_11_Picture_5.jpeg)

# Oil distribution

### Dynamic oil concentrations

- Consults Lagrangian particle model for oil concentrations (Paris, UM)
- Includes microbial degradation (Müller, Valladares, Schedler, TUHH)

![](_page_12_Figure_4.jpeg)

#### Paris et al. 2012

![](_page_12_Figure_6.jpeg)

Paris, C.B, Le Hénaff, M., Aman, Z.M., Subramaniam, A., Helgers, J., Wang, D., Kourafalou, V.H., Srinivasan, A. 2012. Evolution of the Macondo Well Blowout: Simulating the Effects of the Circulation and Synthetic Dispersants on the Subsea Oil Transport. Environmental Science & Technology,; : 121203084426001 DOI: 10.1021/es303197h

Claire Paris, UM

# Dose response

### Growth and mortality functional responses

- AIC model selection
- Dornberger et al. in revisions
- CIMAGE responses (otolith/lesion) & literature

![](_page_13_Figure_5.jpeg)

Dornberger, L., Ainsworth, C., Gosnell, S., Coleman, F. In revisions. Developing a polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon exposure dose-response model for fish health and growth. Marine Pollution Bulletin

# Vertebrate growth & mortality effects

- $\varphi_t$  Bioavailable oil concentration
- $E_t$  # oiled grid points
- *O<sub>i,t</sub>* Oil conc. at gridpoint *i*, time *t*
- $\rho$  Depuration rate
- $\mu$  Uptake rate (*benthic or pelagic*)
- $\alpha, \beta$  Mortality model parameters
- $\gamma, \delta$  Growth model parameters
- *K* Sediment-to-water ratio
  - **B** Benthic diet fraction

#### **Uptake-depuration dynamics**

$$\varphi_t = O_{i,t-1} \cdot \frac{E_t}{I} \cdot \sum_{i}^{I} (\mu \cdot O_{i,t}) \cdot e^{-\rho}$$

(ecotoxicology experiments forthcoming)

#### Mortality & growth dose-response

$$m_t = \alpha \cdot \log \left[ K\varphi_t \cdot \frac{1}{\beta} \right] \cdot \omega^{-1}$$
$$g_t = 1 + (K\varphi_t)^{\gamma} - \delta$$

#### Ingestion / absorption uptake mode

$$M_{t} = m_{t_{pelagic}} \cdot (1 - B) + m_{t_{benthic}} \cdot B$$
$$G_{t} = g_{t_{pelagic}} \cdot (1 - B) + g_{t_{benthic}} \cdot B$$

### Dornberger, L., Ainsworth, C., Gosnell, S., Coleman, F. *In revisions*. Developing a polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon exposure dose-response model for fish health and growth. Marine Pollution Bulletin

### Invertebrate response

### Work in progress

![](_page_15_Figure_3.jpeg)

### **Macrofaunal Density Post Spill**

Montagna, P.A., Baguley, J. G., Cooksey, C., Hartwell, I., Hyde, L. J., Hyland, J. L., ... & Rhodes, A. C. (2013). Deep-sea benthic footprint of the Deepwater Horizon blowout. PloS one, 8(8), e70540.

### **Recruitment effects**

Emily Chancellor, Steve Murawski, USF

![](_page_16_Picture_2.jpeg)

### Overlap between oil and ichthyoplankton provides recruitment impact

![](_page_16_Figure_4.jpeg)

### Relative losses

![](_page_16_Figure_6.jpeg)

# Fishery closures

• Complex history of closures updated daily in the model

![](_page_17_Figure_2.jpeg)

![](_page_17_Picture_3.jpeg)

# **DWHOS simulations**

![](_page_18_Figure_1.jpeg)

### 100 day exposure

Only a few percent change for most groups under conservative scenario

Most affected groups

- Elasmobranchs
- Gag, Red snapper
- Other Lutjanidae
- Other Demersals

![](_page_18_Figure_9.jpeg)

# Recovery time

### **Recovery time**

![](_page_19_Figure_2.jpeg)

### Functional group fate

![](_page_19_Figure_4.jpeg)

# Model validation

- Significant post-spill shifts in fish community structure (PERMANOVA p<0.001) (fewer planktivores, more invertivores)</li>
- Poor recruitment apparent for some reef fishes (e.g., red snapper)
- PAHs persist in liver tissue samples into 2012; 2013 analyses ongoing
- Within species shifts observed in trophic position; smaller size-at-age
- Some recovery in community structure apparent by spring/summer 2013

![](_page_20_Figure_6.jpeg)

# Outputs

### Improved socioeconomics

- David Yoskowitz (Harte)
- Shore-based industry impacts & indicators
  - o Commercial harvesters
  - Primary dealers and processors
  - Seafood wholesalers and distributors
  - o Grocers
  - o Restaurants
  - o Fuel service
  - o Equipment retailers
  - o Marinas
  - Hotels/motels/bed & breakfast
  - o Boat building and repair

### Virtual Ecosystem Simulator

![](_page_21_Picture_15.jpeg)

# Acknowledgements

U South Florida (Murawski, Hollander, Romera) Mote (Wetzel, Main) U South Alabama (Patterson) SEFSC-NOAA (Schirripa, Kelble, Zimmerman) NWFSC-NOAA (Levin, Kaplan) **NEFSC-NOAA** (Link) University of Miami (RSMAS) (Die, Babcock, Paris) Florida State University (Coleman, Gosnell) FWRI (Mahmoudi, Chagaris) CSIRO (Fulton, Gorton) NCDDC (Beard, Parsons, Carleton) UNAM (Gracia) CICIMAR-IPN (Arreguin-Sanchez) ICIMAP, UAM, & many others

![](_page_22_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_22_Picture_3.jpeg)

Ainsworth lab, USF CMS

![](_page_22_Picture_5.jpeg)

![](_page_22_Picture_6.jpeg)

![](_page_22_Picture_7.jpeg)

![](_page_22_Picture_8.jpeg)

![](_page_22_Picture_9.jpeg)