

MPAs, No Take Closures & Food Security

- All fisheries need management - but this must address the entire stock.
- MPAs that only restrict specific fishing methods or times of fishing are just fisheries management re-named – entire coast of WA is an ‘MPA’ – so category IV (habitat) and VI (managed) could be good for food security.
- No take closures re-allocate access of areas to other purposes (eg tourism) – loss of area will generally result in a reduction in total catch.
- NTC will generate increases for some species inside closed area but these do not automatically result in **fishery production** benefits
- Increase in egg production from closures doesn't mean more recruits unless stocks are recruit limited – and not always then.
- Spillovers only can occur for some species under some circumstances and may be limited in scope.
- If no reduction in effort in other areas NTC can make things worse
- Few results of wider fishery impacts of NTC, most studies restricted to assessing one species or one group – not many accounts of overall region level impacts on fishery production.

