

The future of US seafood in a rapidly changing world

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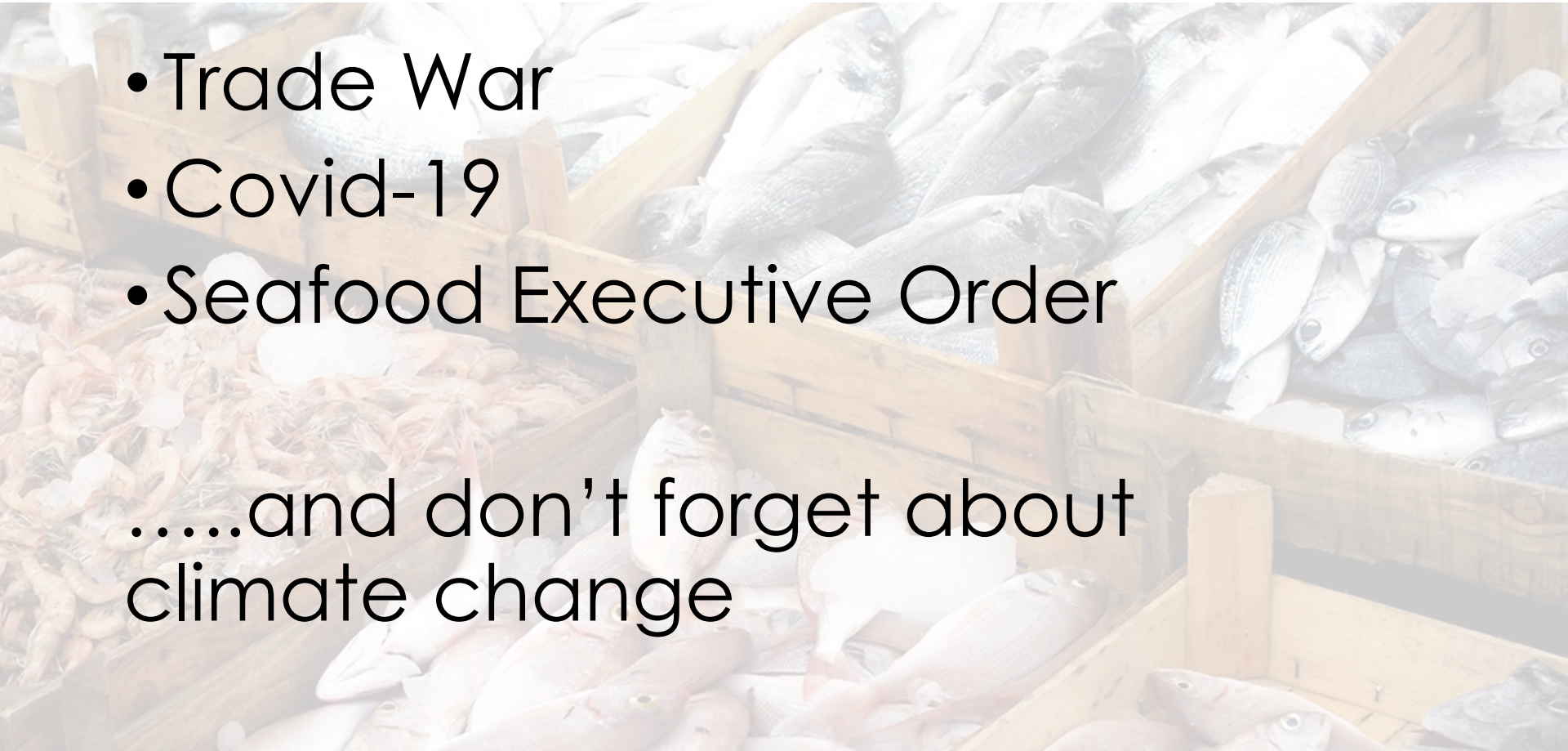
University of California, Santa Barbara



US seafood is in a state of flux

- Trade War
- Covid-19
- Seafood Executive Order

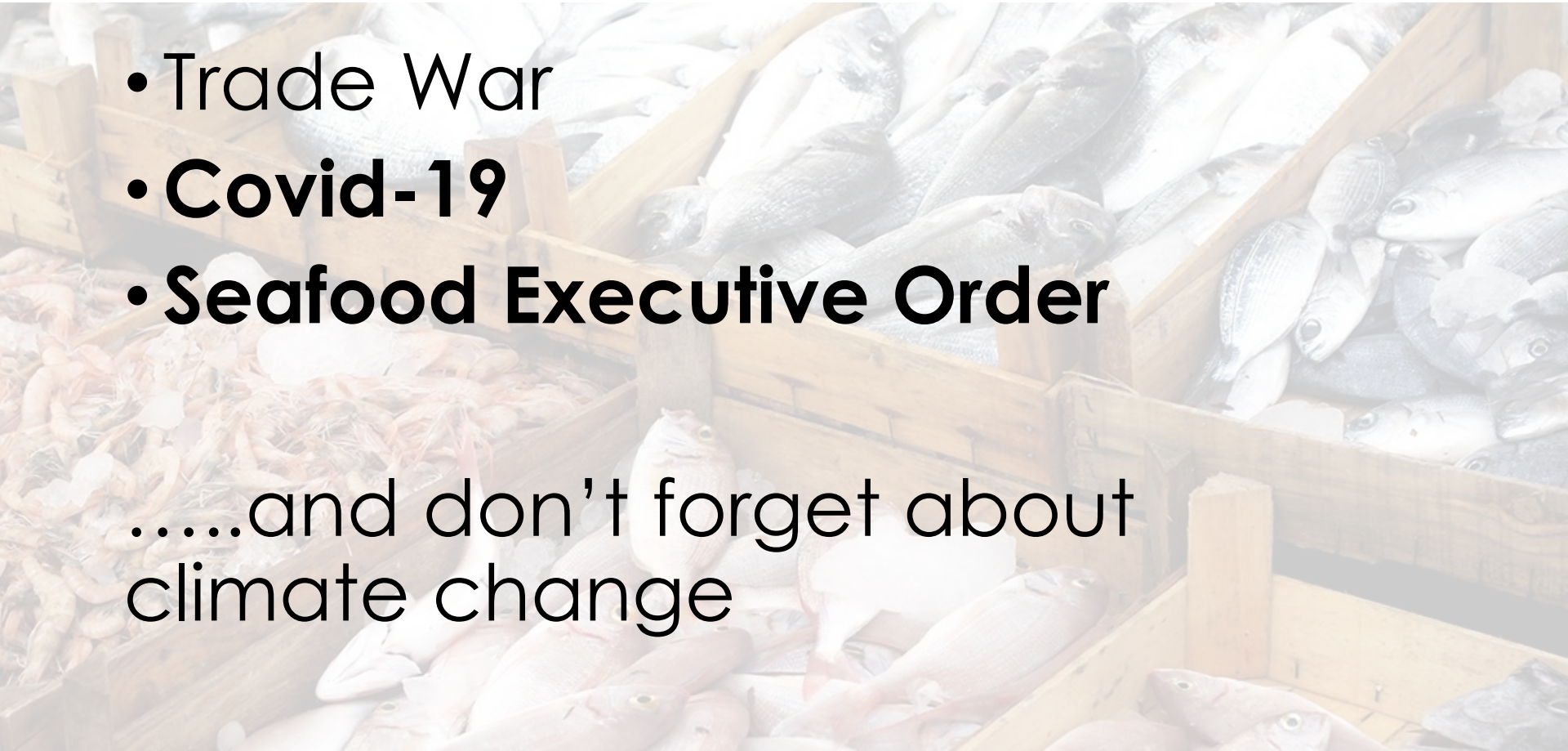
.....and don't forget about
climate change



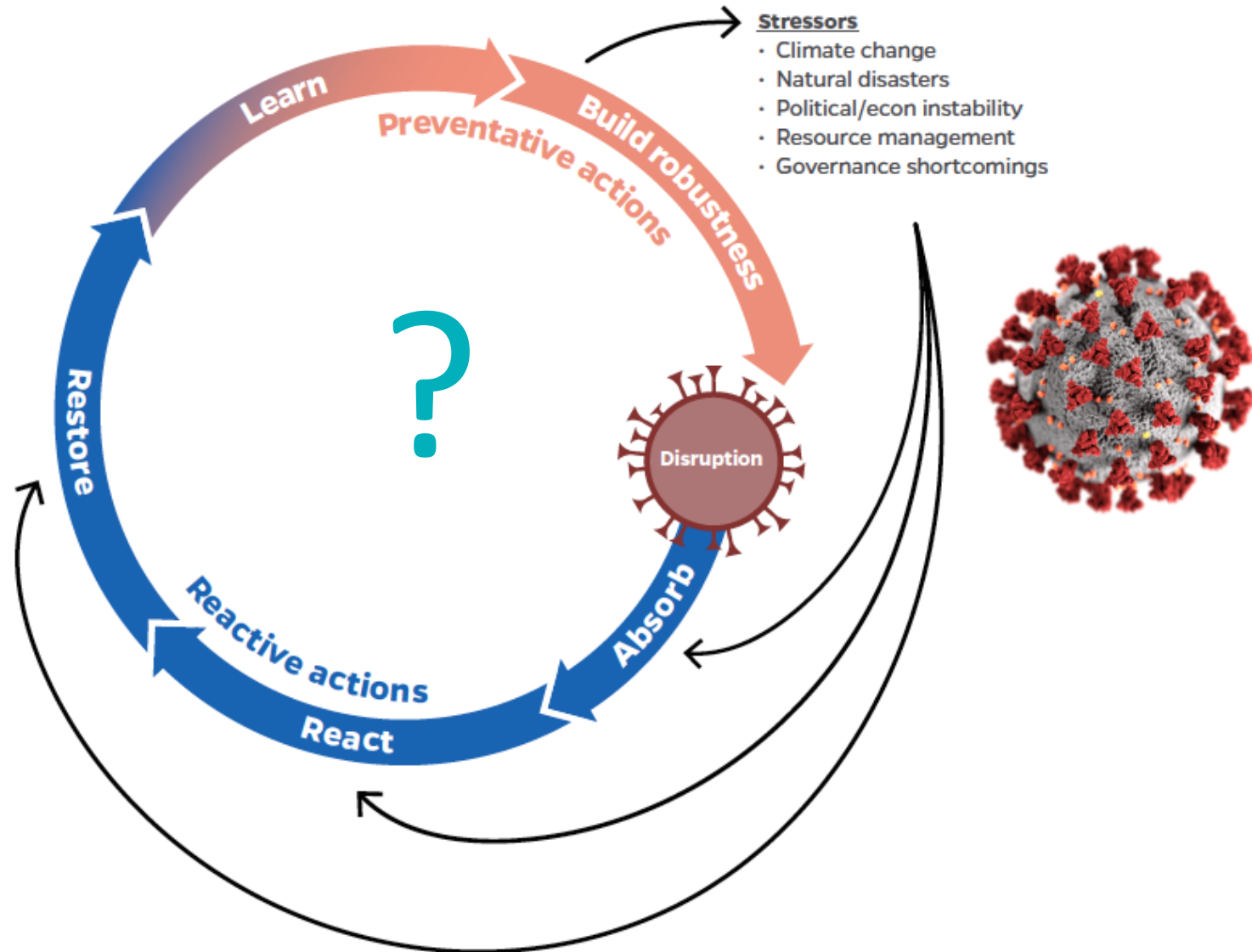
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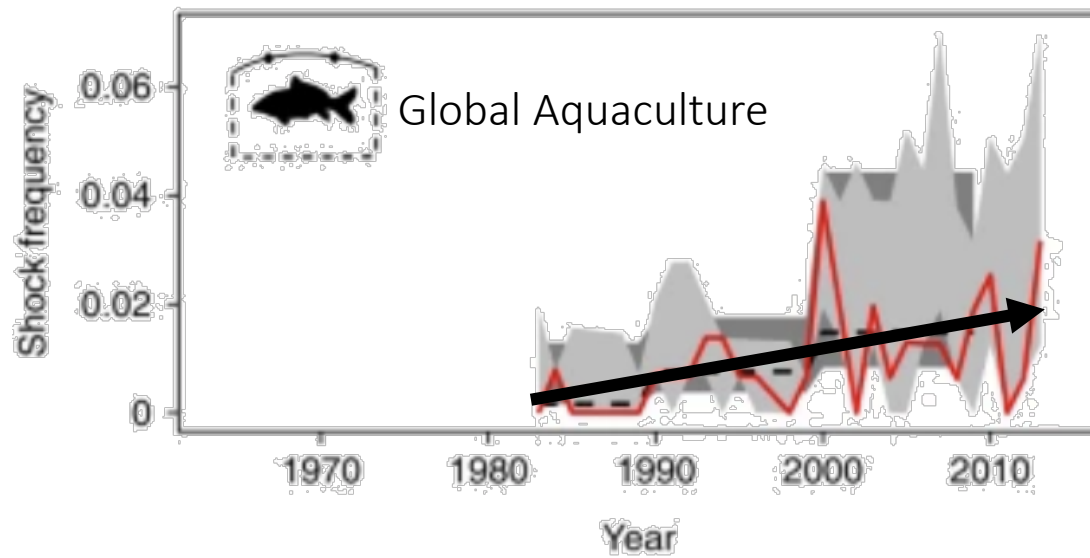
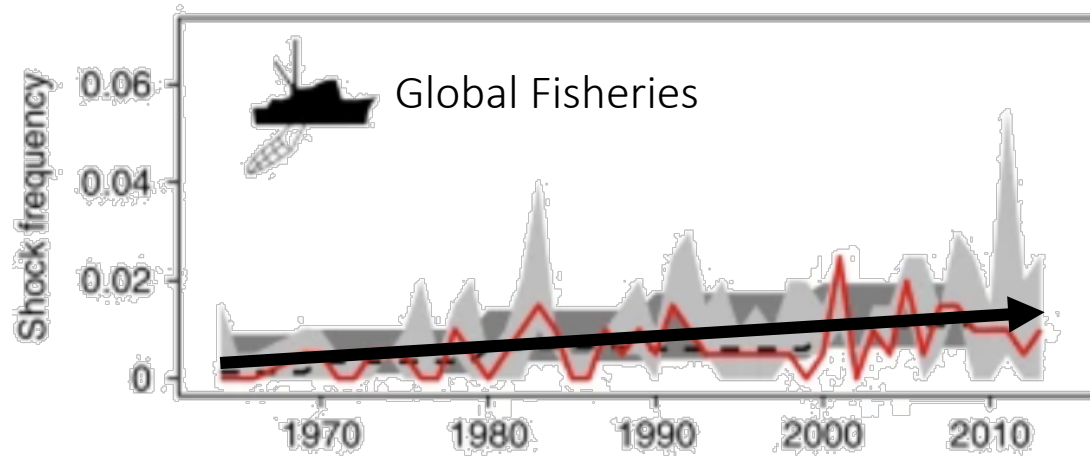
Resilience action cycle



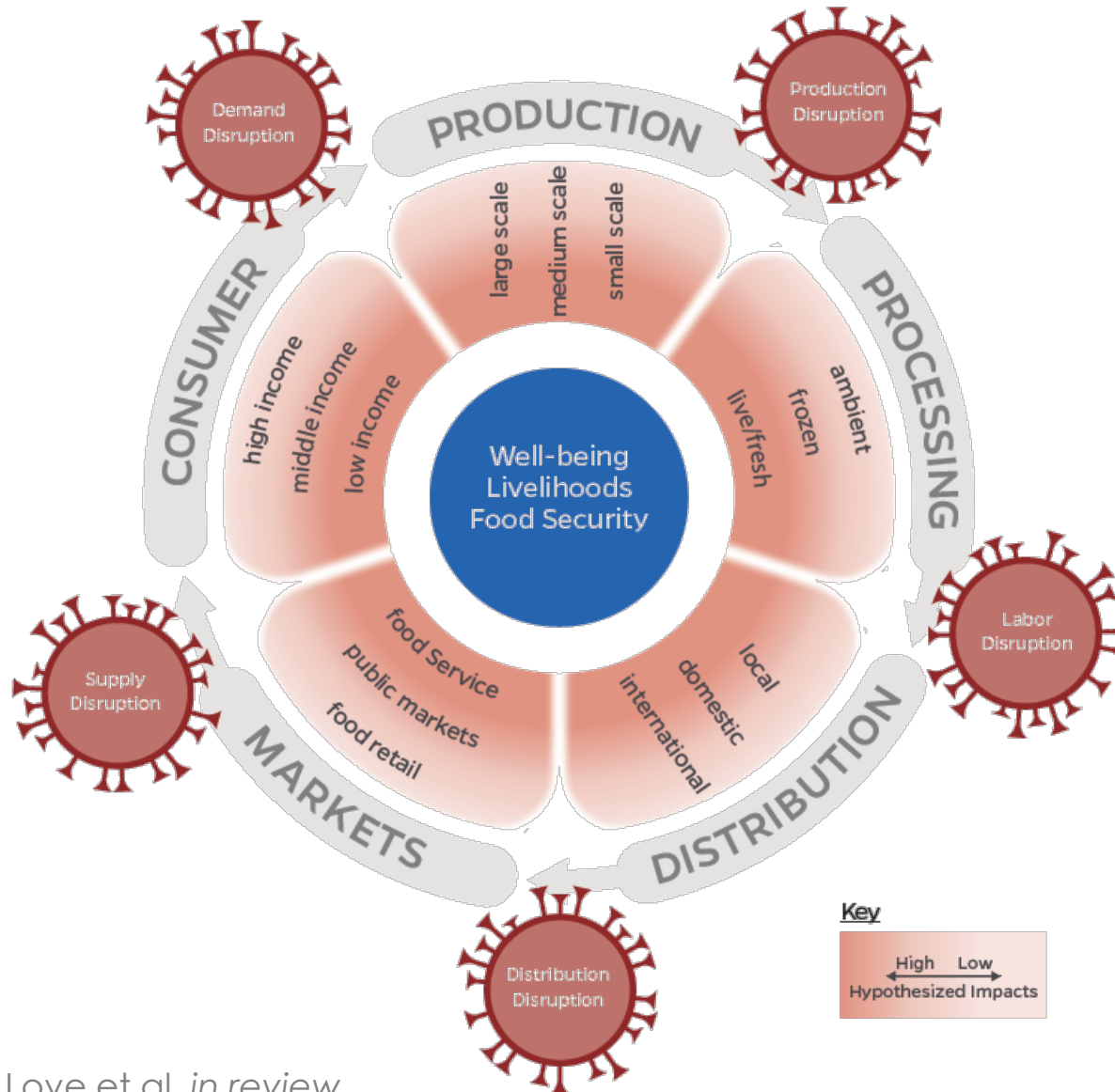
Disruptions & Reactions



Disruptions are common and seem to be increasing over time



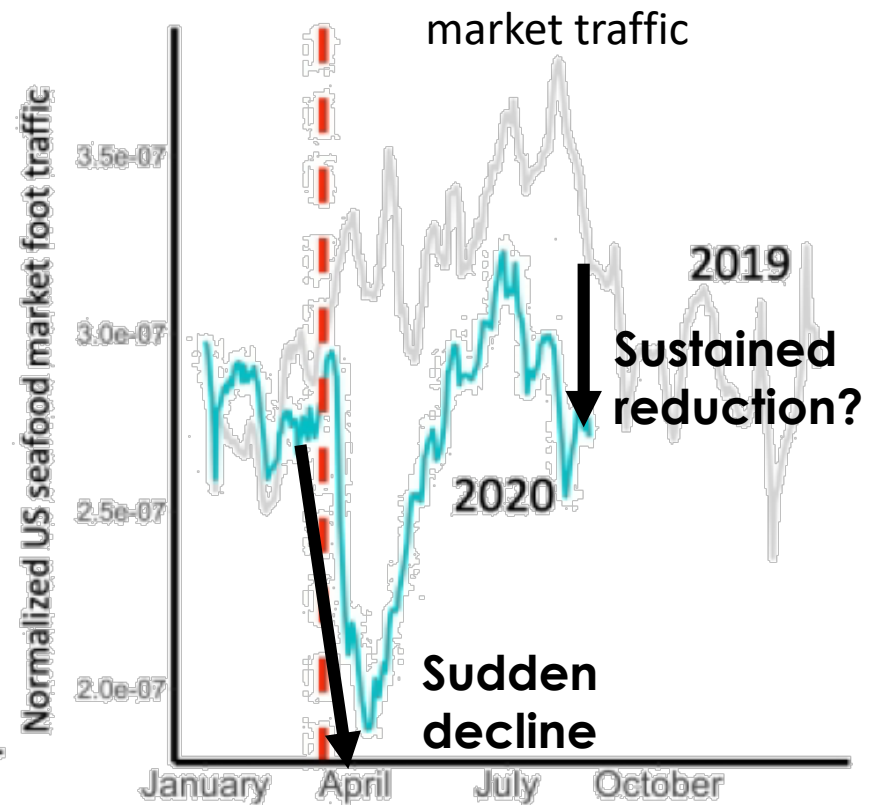
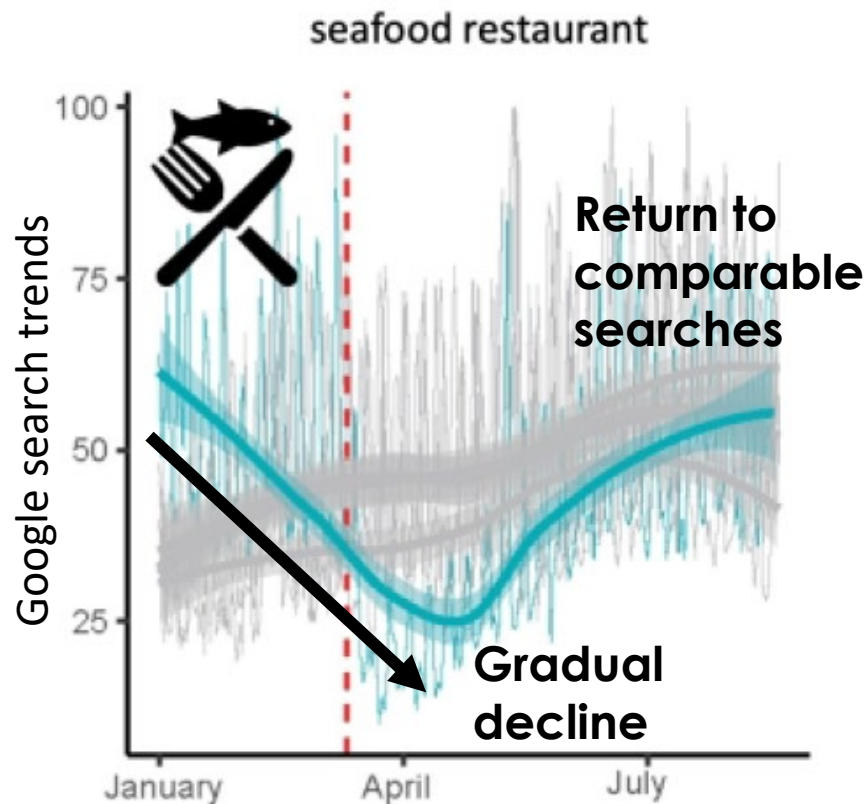
COVID-19 is unique



Indicators of response

restaurant searches & foot traffic declined

Pre-COVID **65% of US consumer seafood expenditures (\$\$)** were at **restaurants**



WHO declares pandemic

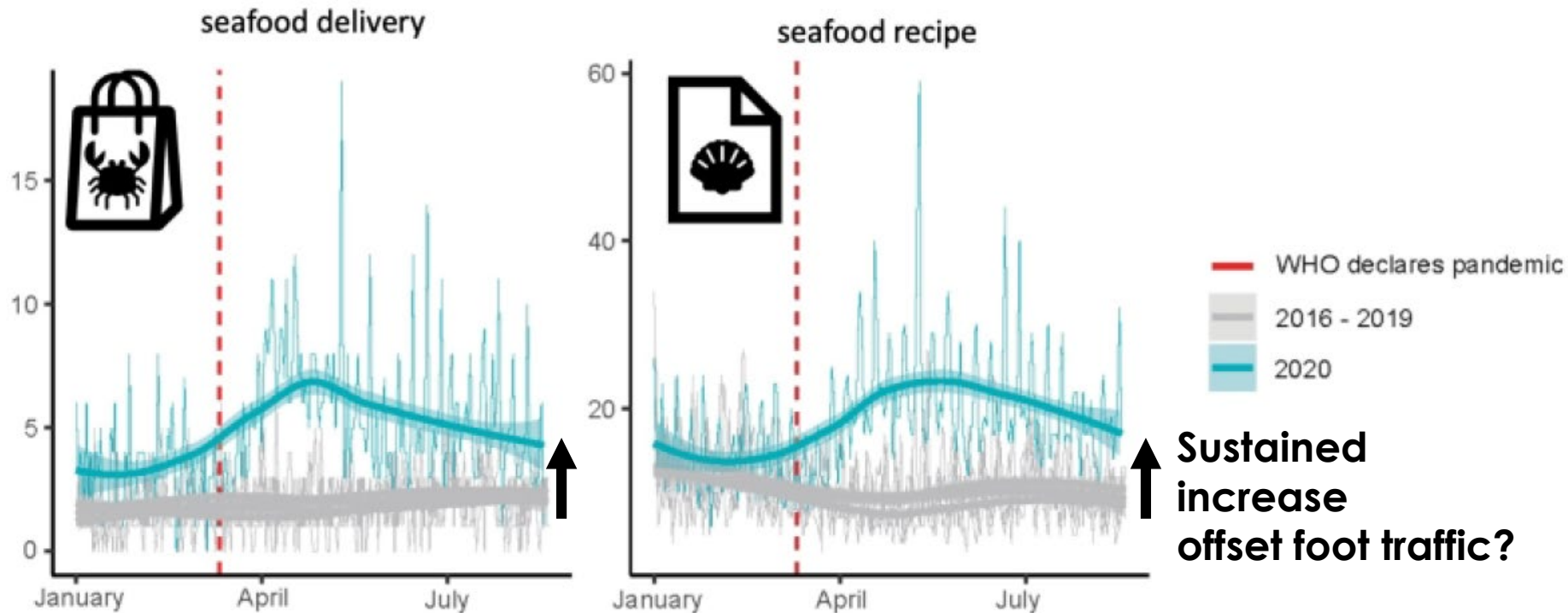
2016 - 2019

2020

Indicators of response

an up-tick in delivery & recipe searches

Pre-COVID US adults consumed **63% of seafood (by weight) at home**



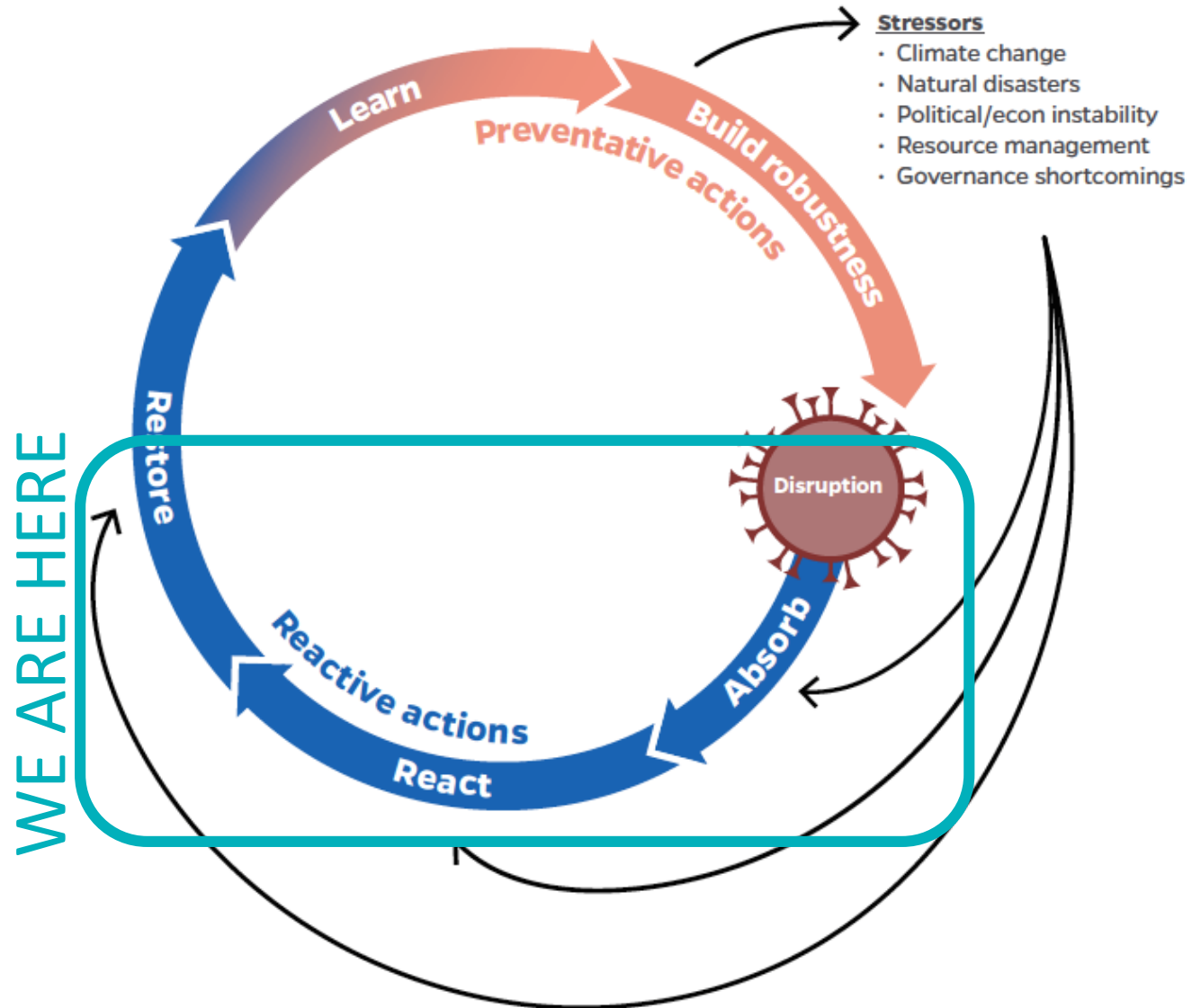
Indicators of response

Relief funding for businesses

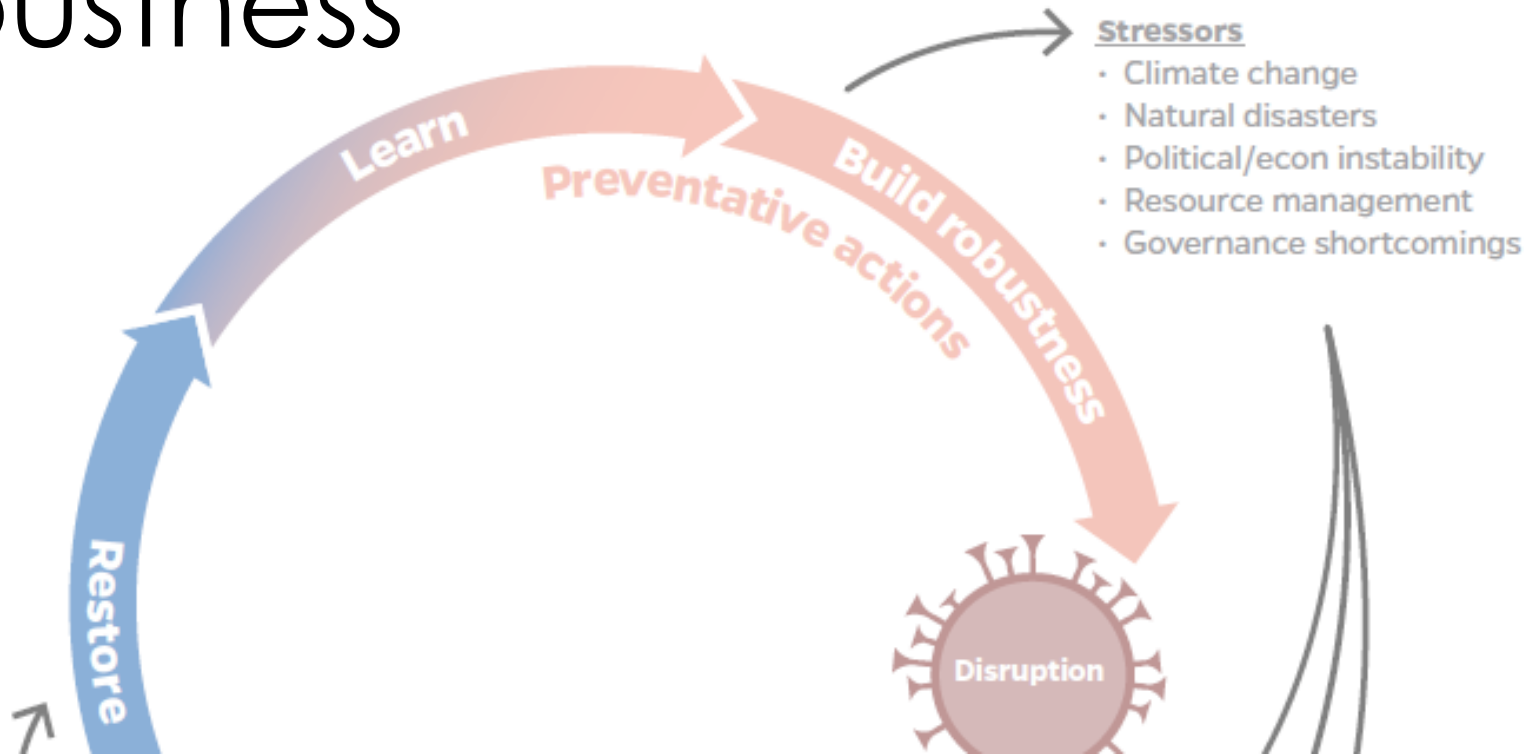
Surveys of 600 (Jan-Mar) and 300 (Apr-June) aquaculture businesses

- Nearly all (80-90%) report being impacted
- **<1/2 applied** for support
- But, **56% Federal assistance** or 33% State assistance would help
 - CARES funds (< 0.017% of the \$1.8 trillion) delayed
 - Buyback < 1% total annual production

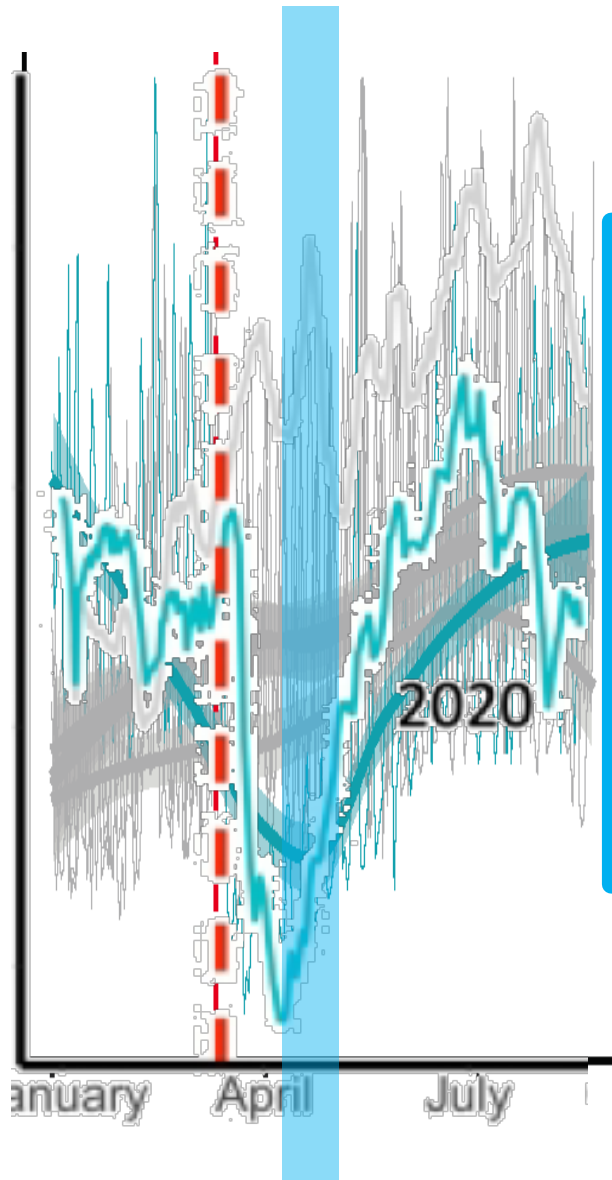
Resilience action cycle



Learn & (Re)build Robustness



*Deregulate fisheries and support
aquaculture reform and growth
(especially offshore)*



EXECUTIVE ORDERS

Executive Order on Promoting American Seafood Competitiveness and Economic Growth

ECONOMY & JOBS | Issued on: May 7, 2020



How?

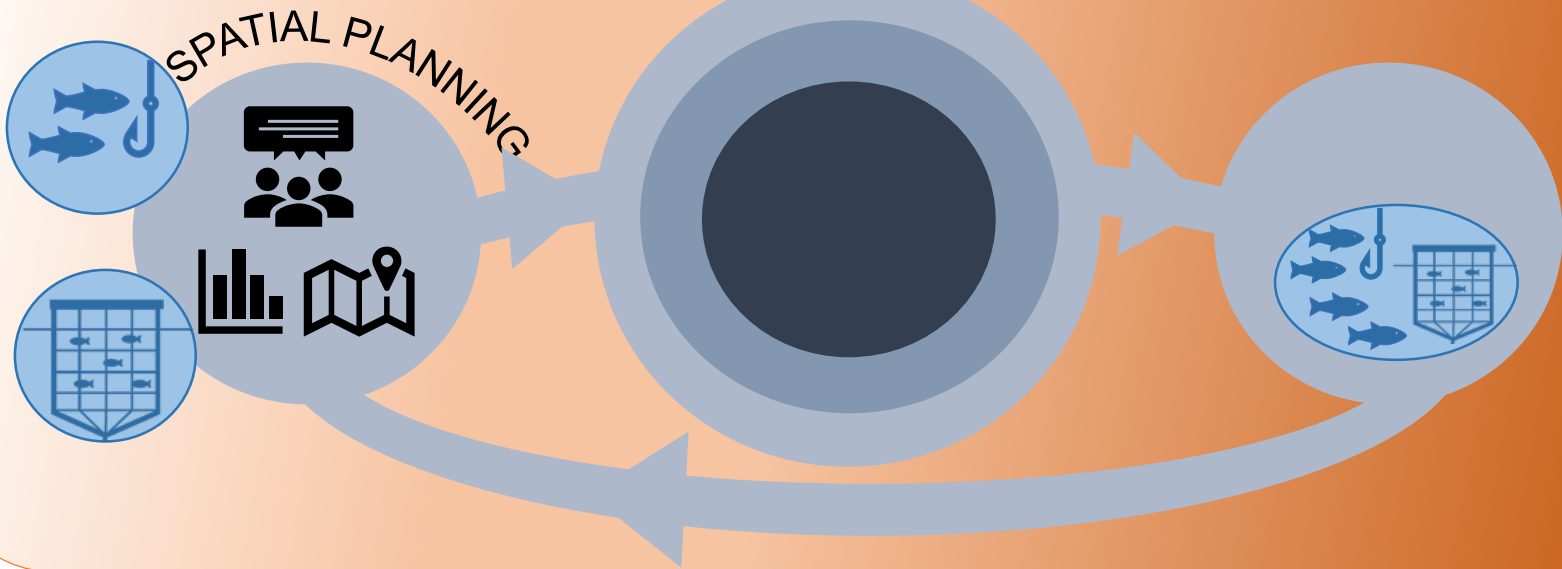
5 guiding principles

1. Make precise and strategic fisheries reforms
2. Integrate fisheries & aquaculture through an ecosystem-based approach
3. Explicitly address social resistance to aquaculture
4. Collect more comprehensive aquaculture data
5. Reconcile nationalism in a global market

5 guiding principles

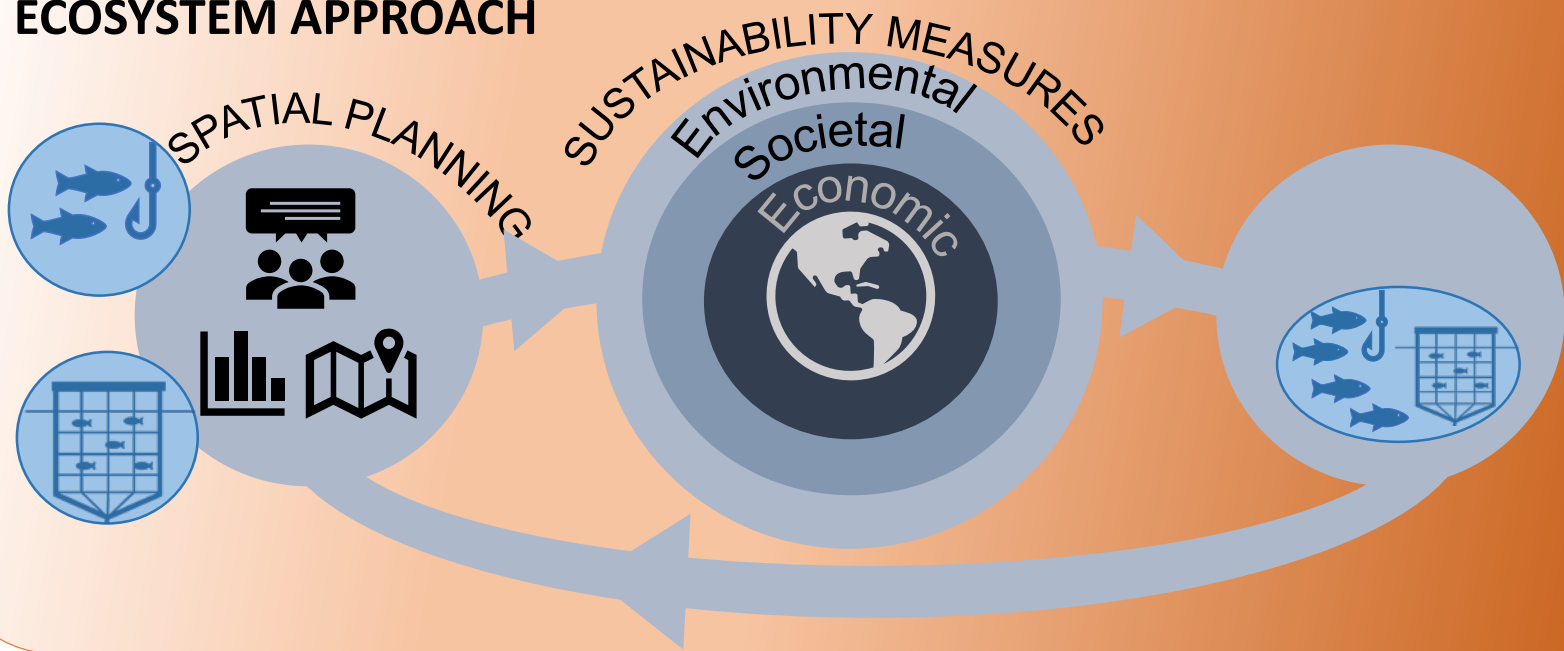
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ECOSYSTEM APPROACH



Recognize multiple goals of managing living marine resources and seek to improve alignment among ecological, social, & economic objectives of fished & farmed systems

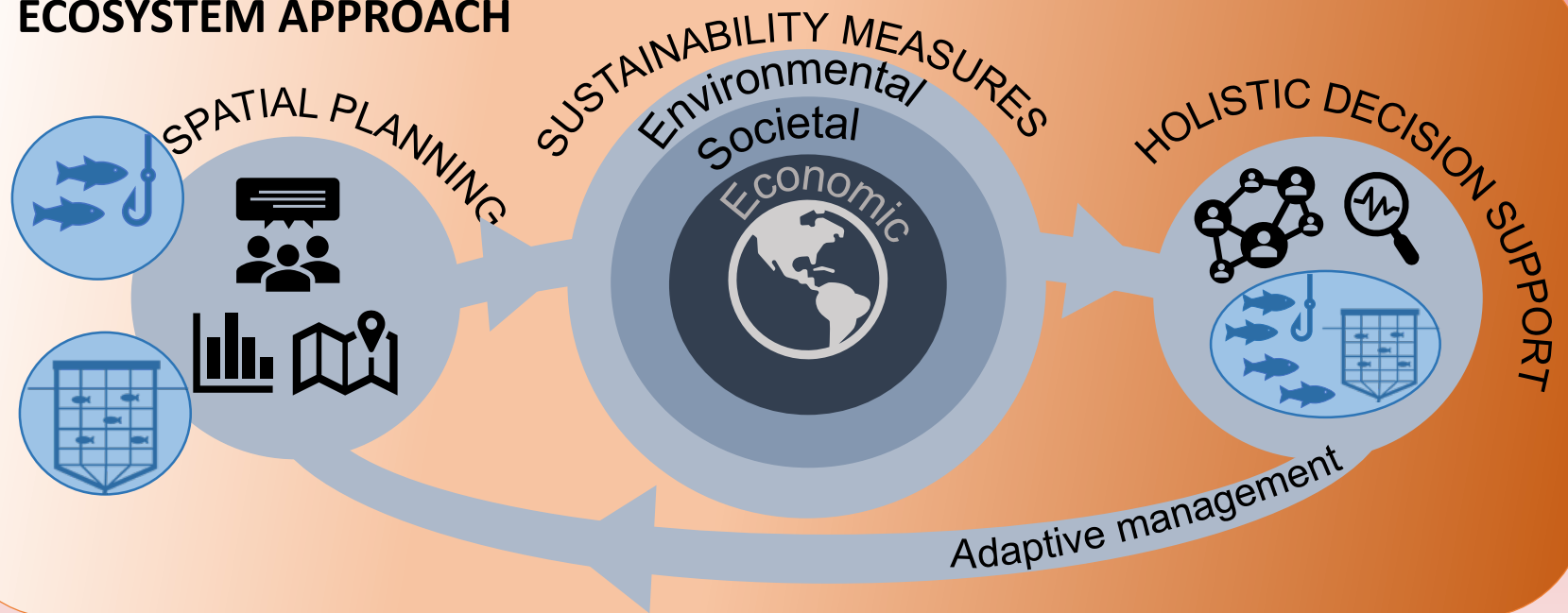
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CLIMATE CHANGE

ECOSYSTEM APPROACH



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Summary

- Still in 'reactive state' from COVID-19 black swan event.
- Fishers, farmers, & seafood businesses are adapting short term, but federal assistance is critical.
- Co-occurring Executive Order may help aquaculture, but ecosystem approach is sorely need for better coordination.

Thank you



Eumicrotremus spinosus



Photo: Rene Martin



WebFigure 2. Alaskan weekly landings (pounds) for halibut (*Hippoglossus stenolepis*) and sablefish (*Anoplopoma fimbria*) for 2020 (black line) and past years (grey lines). Data is updated at <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/alaska/commercial-fishing/fisheries-catch-and-landings-reports>

