

Shifted baselines and the policy placebo effect in conservation

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SUPPLEMENTARY TABLE 1 Number of interviewees in each age, experience and profession category, and gender across the three islands.

	Antigua	Barbuda	Montserrat	Total
Number of interviewees	5	15	20	40
Age				
Young (<35 years)	2	5	7	14
Middle-Age (35–55 years)	2	6	6	14
Old (>55 years)	1	4	7	12
Experience				
Low Experience (<15 years)	0	4	8	12
Medium Experience (15–30 years)	2	6	8	13
High Experience (>30 years)	3	5	4	13
Profession				
Fisherman ($\geq 75\%$ income)	2	9	7	18
Other Income (<75% income)	3	6	13	22
Gender				
Male	5	15	17	37
Female	0	0	3	3

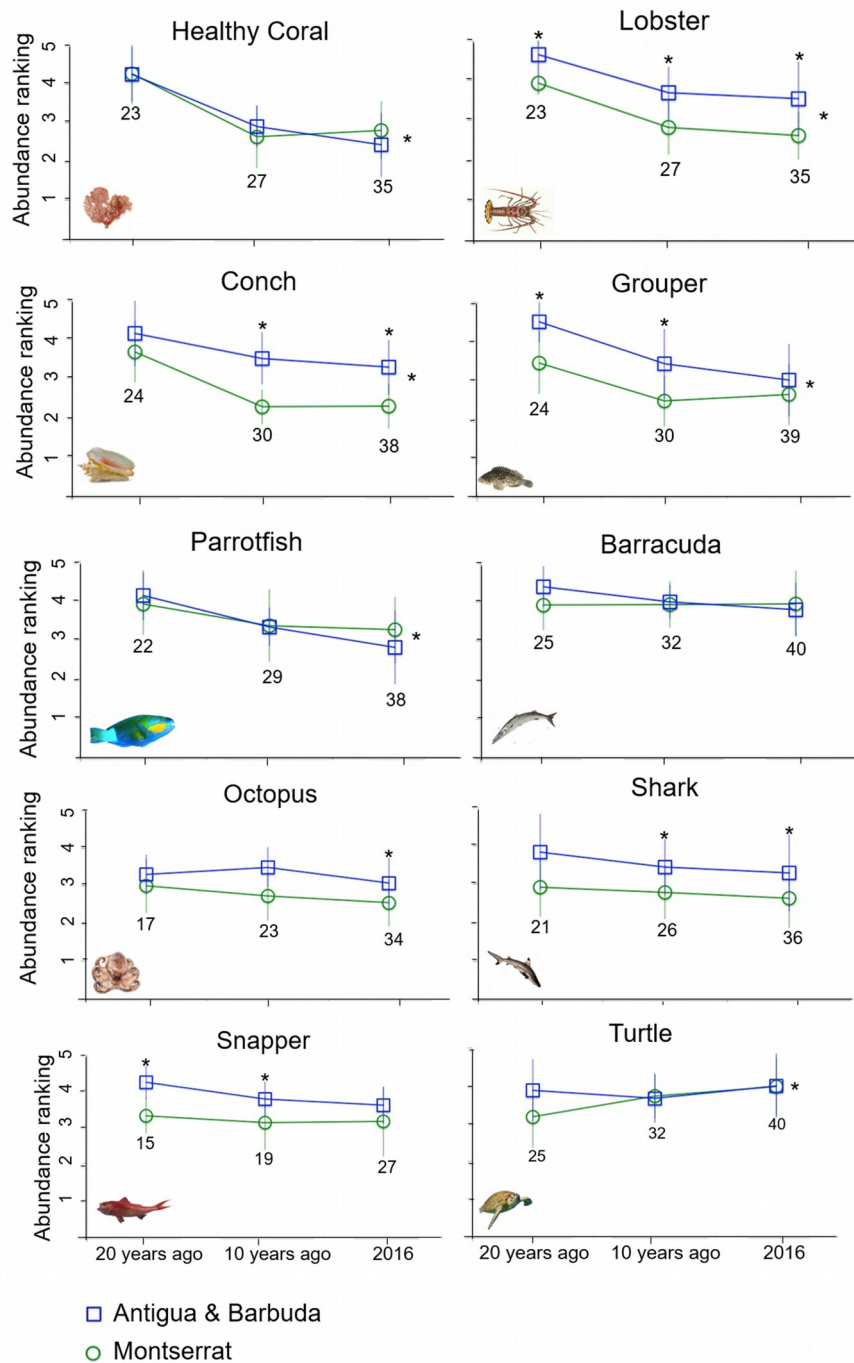
SUPPLEMENTARY TABLE 2 Marine taxa reported as decreasing, increasing, or recently increasing but declining overall. Numbers are total number of interviewees who reported a change in each taxa. Taxa of interest specifically inquired about are noted with an asterisk.

Common name	Scientific name/group	Decline	Increase	Recent increase/ overall decline
Coral*	Scleractinia	21	0	0
Spiny lobster*	<i>Panulirus argus</i>	19	0	3
Conch*	<i>Strombus gigas</i>	17	0	1
Parrotfish*	<i>Scarus</i> spp.	16	3	2
Grouper* (Nassau, coney, red hind, graysby, goliath)	<i>Epinephelus striatus</i> , <i>Epinephelus guttatus</i> , <i>Cephalopholis fulvus</i> , <i>Cephalopholis cruentata</i> , <i>Epinephelus itajara</i>	15	1	2
Grunt	<i>Haemulon</i> spp.	7	2	0
Seagrass	<i>Thalassia testudinum</i>	6	2	0
Angelfish	<i>Holacanthus</i> spp.	6	1	0
Barracuda*	<i>Sphyraena barracuda</i>	5	2	0
Octopus*	<i>Octopus briareus</i>	4	0	0
Snapper* (mangrove, queen, mutton, dog, cubera, red)	<i>Lutjanus griseus</i> , <i>Etelis oculatus</i> , <i>Lutjanus analis</i> , <i>Lutjanus jocu</i> , <i>Lutjanus cyanopterus</i> <i>Lutjanus campachanus</i>	4	2	2
Jack	<i>Caranx hippos</i>	4	1	0
Striped croaker	<i>Bairdiella sanctaeluciae</i>	4	0	0
Sea urchin	<i>Diadema antillarum</i>	3	0	0
Surgeonfish (blue tang, ocean surgeon, doctorfish)	<i>Acanthurus coeruleus</i> , <i>Acanthurus bahianus</i> , <i>Acanthurus chirurgus</i>	3	1	0
Turtle*	<i>Chelonia mydas</i> , <i>Eretmochelys imbricata</i>	3	20	0
King mackerel	<i>Scomberomorus cavalla</i>	2	0	0
Mahi mahi	<i>Coryphaena hippurus</i>	2	2	0
Remora	<i>Remora remora</i>	2	0	0
Saltwater catfish	Ariidae	2	1	0
Shark* (nurse, lemon, tiger, reef)	<i>Ginglymostoma cirratum</i> , <i>Negaprion brevirostris</i> , <i>Galeocerdo cuvier</i> , <i>Carcharhinus perezii</i> ,	2	5	0
Tuna	<i>Thunnus</i> spp.	2	0	0
Wahoo	<i>Acanthocybium solandri</i>	2	0	0
Trunkfish	<i>Lactophrys</i> spp.	2	0	0
Whelk	<i>Cittarium pica</i>	1	1	0
Pufferfish	<i>Sphoeroides nephelus</i>	1	0	0
Rays	Batoidea	1	0	0
Swordfish	<i>Xiphias gladius</i>	1	0	0
Goatfish	Mullidae	1	0	0

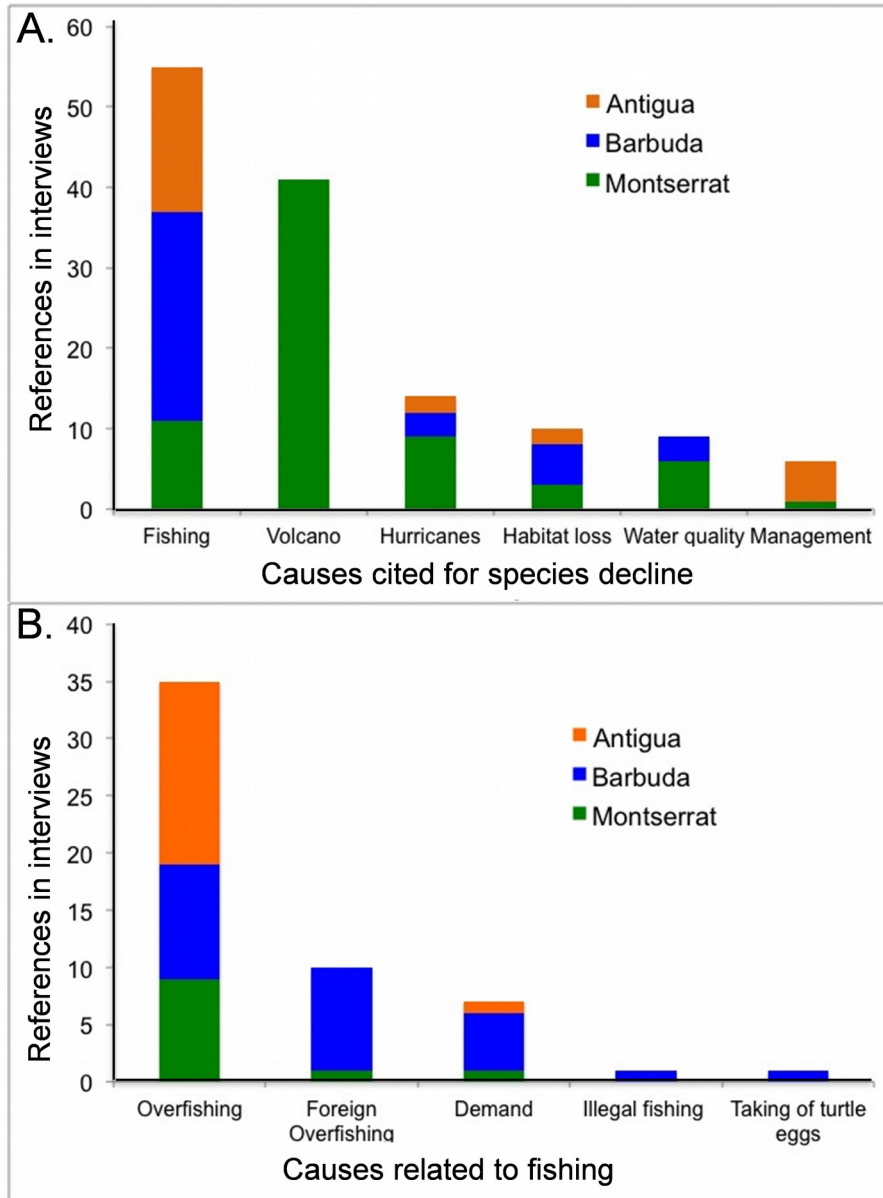
Common name	Scientific name/group	Decline	Increase	Recent increase/ overall decline
Needlefish	Belonidae	1	0	0
Triggerfish	Balistidae	1	1	0
Land crab	<i>Gecarcinus ruricola</i>	1	0	0
Helmet shells	Cassidae	0	1	0
Jellyfish	Cnideria	0	2	0
Sargassum	<i>Sargassum</i> spp.	0	3	0
Filefish	Monacanthidae	0	1	0
Lionfish	<i>Ptserois volitans</i>	0	17	0
Porgies	Sparidae	0	1	0

SUPPLEMENTARY TABLE 3 Descriptions of species exploitation from archaeological and historical material.

Reference/ archaeological evidence	Year	Location	Source
Archaeological evidence of turtle, reef fish, mollusk, and manatee exploitation from Archaic and Lithic civilizations	2000–500 BCE	Antigua and Barbuda	Fitzpatrick & Keegan, 2007
Four species of turtle are found on the shores of this island, the green turtle, the hawk's bill...the loggerhead, and the land-tortoise... The green turtle is reckoned one of the greatest delicacies in the West Indies.	1790	Antigua and Barbuda	Riddell, 1792
The coast is beset with shoals and reefs under water...	1825	Antigua and Barbuda	Coleridge, 1825
A stray barracouta...may occasionally take his pastime therein...all men...should make a point of murdering and exterminating these barbarous brutes by all means in their power...When the net became contractedwe had chiefly barracoutas.	1825	Antigua and Barbuda	Coleridge, 1825
I have a grateful recollection of the turtle at the Court House...	1825	Montserrat	Coleridge, 1825
Plenty of turtell	<1884	Antigua and Barbuda	Lanaghan, 1884



SUPPLEMENTARY FIGURE 1 Differences in mean perceived abundance for the 10 species of interest among islands. Mean perceived abundance on Montserrat (green circle) were consistently lower than those on Antigua and Barbuda (blue square). Error bars represent standard deviation. Significant differences ($P < 0.05$) in perceived abundances between the islands are represented with an asterisk above the island icons. Values were significant ($P < 0.05$) after Bonferroni corrections for multiple testing.



SUPPLEMENTARY FIGURE 2 Perceived causes for species decline on Montserrat, Barbuda, and Antigua (Fig. 3). (a) Causes grouped into categories. The category ‘fishing’ includes five responses (b); ‘water quality’ also includes sedimentation, ‘habit loss’ includes loss of coral reefs due to pathogens and bleaching, and ‘management’ includes lack of enforcement and lack of regulations. Only causes cited three or more times in the interviews are included here. (b) All fishing-related causes of decline cited by interviewees.