Electronic Supplementary Material (ESM)

Community-wide scan identifies fish species associated with coral reef services across the Indo-Pacific

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Additional information

Scales of data

Our data were organized at three spatial scales: reef site (n=1824), reef cluster (n=675), and nation/state (n=26).

- i) Reef site (the smallest scale, which had an average of 2.6 surveys/transects hereafter 'reef').
- ii) Reef cluster (which had an average of $2.7 +1$ 2.6 reef sites). Reefs within 4km of each other were clustered, and we used the centroid to estimate reef cluster-level socio-economic variables as described by Cinner *et al.* (2016) [1].
- iii) Nation/state (nation, state, or territory, which had an average of $26 +1$ 42 reef clusters). A larger scale in our analysis was 'nation/state', which are jurisdictions that generally correspond to individual nations (but could also include states, territories, overseas regions), within which reef sites and reef clusters were nested for analysis.

Coral reef services

We considered fish biomass and live coral cover as two proxies for coral reef services as support, among many others, food security, shoreline protection and recreational value [2-5]. Fish biomass and coral cover are already monitored at the global scale using visual censuses as well as underwater video surveys (e.g. Reef Life Survey, Catlin Sea Survey) and are highly sensitive to local human activities (e.g. fishing, habitat destruction, pollution) and global climate change [6] and thus, can be considered as key variables for the health and productivity of coral reefs [1, 7, 8].

Fish Biomass

Reef fish biomass estimates were based on instantaneous visual counts from 4,694 surveys collected from 1,824 reefs (Fig. S1). Surveys were carried out using two census methods (belttransects or distance sampling) and were conducted between 2004 and 2013. On average 2.4 transects (sd=1.32; range: 1-10) were performed on each reef. Within each surveyed area, reef associated fishes were identified to species level, abundance was counted, and total length (TL) estimated.

To make estimates of biomass from these transect-level data comparable among studies, we:

- i) Considered only Indo-Pacific reefs and retained families that were consistently included in surveys and were above a minimum size cut-off. Thus, we only retained counts of non-cryptic reef fish species >10cm in total length, that are reef-associated (30 families, 748 species) (Table S1). We did not include sharks as they were often excluded from visual surveys. We calculated total biomass of fishes on each reef using published species-level length-weight relationship parameters or those available on FishBase [39]. When length-weight relationship parameters were not available for a species, we used the parameters for a closely related species or genus.
- ii) Depth and habitat were included as environmental variables in the model.
- iii) Reef fish biomass estimates were based on instantaneous visual counts using belt-transects or distance sampling. Because several biases were associated with these two methods [9] and the total area of transects changed between locations, we included census method and sampling area as covariates in the model.

Biomass values were calculated at the reef scale and showed a high variability (mean=1,055 kg.ha⁻¹; range: 2-25,910 kg.ha⁻¹).

Live coral cover

Percent cover of live coral was based on 1,715 point-intercept transects or quadrats collected from 741 reefs (Fig. S2). All surveys were conducted between 2008 and 2013. On average 2.3 transects (sd=1.03; range: 1-4) were performed on each reef. To make estimates of coral cover from these transect-level data comparable among studies, we included depth, habitat and census method (which already different in the sampling area) as covariates in the model (see details in Supplementary Material).

Coral cover values were calculated at the reef scale and showed a high variability (mean=27%; range: 3-94%).

Socioeconomic variables

-Gravity of Human Populations: We used two gravity indices (the cumulative gravity of all cities within 500km and the gravity of the nearest human population) for each of our reefs where we had in situ ecological data because those had the strongest relationships with reef fish biomass as described in Cinner *et al.* (2016) [1].

-Management: For each reef, we determined if it was: i) marine reserve- whether it fell within the borders of a no-take marine reserve and we asked data providers to further classify whether the reserve had high or low levels of compliance; ii) restricted - whether there were active restrictions on gears (e.g. bans on the use of nets, spearguns, or traps) or fishing effort (which could have included areas inside marine protected areas that were not necessarily no take); or iii) fished - regularly fished without effective restrictions. To determine these classifications, we used the expert opinion of the data providers, and validated this with a global database of marine reserve boundaries [10].

-Local Human Population Growth: We created a 100km buffer around each reef cluster and used this to calculate human population within the buffer in 2000 and 2010 based on the Socioeconomic Data and Application Centre (SEDAC) gridded population of the world database. Population growth was the proportional difference between the population in 2000 and 2010. We chose a 100km buffer as a reasonable range at which many key human impacts from population (e.g., land-use and nutrients) might affect reefs [11].

-Human Development Index (HDI): HDI is a summary measure of human development encompassing: a long and healthy life, being knowledgeable, and having a decent standard of living. In cases where HDI values were not available specific to the State (e.g. Florida and Hawaii), we used the national (e.g. USA) HDI value.

-Population Size: For each nation/state, we determined the size of the human population. Data were derived mainly from census reports, the CIA fact book, and Wikipedia.

-Tourism: We examined tourist arrivals relative to the nation/state population size (above). Tourism arrivals were gathered primarily from the World Tourism Organization's Compendium of Tourism Statistics.

-National Reef Fish Landings: Catch data were obtained from the Sea Around Us Project (SAUP) catch database (www.seaaroundus.org), except for Florida, which was not reported separately in the database. We identified 200 reef fish species and taxon groups in the SAUP catch database to define landings in tons/km2 of reef.

-Voice and Accountability: This metric, from the World Bank survey on governance, reflects the perceptions of the extent to which a country's citizens are able to participate in selecting their government, as well as freedom of expression, freedom of association, and a free media. In cases where governance values were not available specific to the Nation/state (e.g. Florida and Hawaii), we used national (e.g. USA) values.

Environmental variables

-Depth: The depth of reef surveys was grouped into the following categories: <4m, 4-10m, >10m to account for broad differences in reef fish community structure attributable to a number of inter-linked depth-related factors. Categories were necessary to standardize methods used by data providers and were determined by pre-existing categories used by several data providers.

-Habitat: We included the following habitat categories: i) Slope: The reef slope habitat is typically on the ocean side of a reef, where the reef slopes down into deeper water; ii) Crest: The reef crest habitat is the section that joins a reef slope to the reef flat. The zone is typified by high wave energy (i.e. where the waves break) and a change in the angle of the reef from an inclined slope to a horizontal reef flat; iii) Flat: The reef flat habitat is typically horizontal and extends back from the reef crest for 10's to 100's of meters; iv) Lagoon / back reef: Lagoonal reef habitats are where the continuous reef flat breaks up into more patchy reef environments sheltered from wave energy. These habitats can be behind barrier / fringing reefs or within atolls. Back reef habitats are similar broken habitats where the wave energy does not typically reach the reefs and thus forms a less continuous 'lagoon style' reef habitat.

For this analysis, we excluded other less prevalent habitat types (channels and banks) and we verified the sites' habitat information using Google Earth, and site depth information.

-Productivity: We extracted oceanic productivity for each reef following the procedure described by Gove et al. (2013) [12]. We delimited a 100km buffer around each site, we removed shallow waters pixels (those that intersected or were contained within the depth contour of 30m from the General Bathymetric Chart of the Oceans 2014

(http://www.gebco.net/), a global gridded bathymetry dataset) and then calculated the average of monthly chlorophyll-a concentration (proxy for phytoplankton biomass) using data provided at a 4km-resolution by Aqua MODIS (Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectro-radiometer) for years 2005 to 2010 (in hdf format).

Analyses

We used linear mixed models to analyze biomass and live coral cover after checking that both log-transformed variables were normally distributed. For both models, we set site, regional locations and nation/state as random effects to account for the hierarchical nature of the data (i.e. reefs nested in sites, sites nested in regional locations and in nations/states). All continuous covariates were standardized for the analysis and their corresponding Akaike weights were computed to assess their importance (Table S2 $\&$ S3).

To check the fit of the linear mixed model, we checked for the representation of actual versus predicted values and we calculated the accuracy of the two models which came to 88% for biomass and 83% for coral cover. To examine homoscedasticity, we checked residuals against fitted values. We checked that the residuals were normally distributed. All analyses were undertaken using R (3.3) statistical packages.

Functional traits to describe fish species.

The 381 candidate fish species were functionally described using six traits extracted from Mouillot et al. (2014) [13]: (1) size, coded using 3 ordered categories: 10-30cm, 30.1-50cm, >50cm ; (2) mobility, coded using 3 ordered categories: sedentary, mobile within a reef and mobile between reefs; (3) period of activity, coded using 3 ordered categories: diurnal, both diurnal and nocturnal, and nocturnal ; (4) schooling, coded using 5 ordered categories: solitary, pairing, or living in small (3-20 individuals), medium (20-50 individuals) or large groups (>50 groups) ; (5) vertical position in the water column, coded using 3 ordered categories: benthic, bentho-pelagic and pelagic; (6) diet, coded using 7 trophic categories: herbivorousdetritivorous, macro-algal browser, invertivorous targeting sessile invertebrates, invertivorous targeting mobile invertebrates, planktivorous, piscivorous, and omnivorous, i.e. fish for which both plant and animal material are important in their diet. Since all traits were categorical, species with identical traits were grouped into functional entities.

Defining presence of species based on abundance threshold.

The community-wide scan (CWS) approach can be adapted for a wide range of taxa from all the ecosystems. The way candidates are tested can be modulated while respecting independence between predicted and explanatory variables (binary variables are a convenient way to test the effect of candidates). More specifically, presence of terrestrial or marine taxa can be determined using any convenient abundance threshold such as a minimum number of individuals, cover rate or biomass.

As an application, we tested two procedures to define presence of reef fish species based on a biomass threshold and compared key species found with those two procedures:

i) the relative intraspecific biomass which defines presence of a species in a community as soon as its biomass reaches upper percentiles of the distribution of biomass of this species over all studied communities. We used the 99th and 95th percentiles (the top 1 and 5%) of the biomass distribution over reef sites as thresholds. This approach is particularly relevant for species widely distributed with normal distribution of biomass while it may not be used for species infrequently encountered or with a skewed biomass distribution.

ii) the relative community biomass which defines presence as soon as the focal species reach a defined minimum percentage of the total biomass of the fish community. Hence, this approach is not affected by biomass distribution among sites. As two thresholds, we tested a contribution of species to total biomass in excess of 1 and 5%, respectively.

Figures and Tables

Figure S1. Map of the reef fish biomass observed in 1,824 reefs located in the Indo-Pacific.

Figure S2. Map of the live coral cover observed in 741 reefs located in the Indo-Pacific. Information on coral cover was not available for all sites at which reef fish biomass was surveyed.

Figure S3. Accuracy and residuals of the two initial models (fish biomass and coral cover). The accuracy of each model is assessed using the Pearson correlation between predicted and observed values which came to 88% for biomass (A) and 83% for coral cover (B). We checked that residuals of the initial model of fish biomass (C) and coral cover (D) were normally distributed.

Figure S4. Net effect of the 4 key fish species linked to the highest levels of fish biomass (top) and live coral cover (bottom). We extracted the pure effects of all the key species and determined which were related to the highest levels of biomass and coral cover respectively, using a partial plot from each LMM while the other variables are held constant.

Table S1: List of coral reef fish families included in the study and their common name. Families included are: Acanthuridae, Balistidae, Caesionidae, Carangidae, Chaetodontidae, Cirrhitidae, Diodontidae, Ephippidae, Haemulidae, Holocentridae, Kyphosidae, Labridae, Lethrinidae, Lutjanidae, Monacanthidae, Mullidae, Nemipteridae, Pempheridae, Pinguipedidae, Pomacanthidae, Priacanthidae, Pseudochromidae, Scombridae, Serranidae, Siganidae, Sparidae, Sphyraenidae, Synodontidae, Tetraodontidae, Zanclidae.

Table S2. Relative importance of variables of the fish biomass initial model. The relative importance of each variable is based on the sum of Akaike weights of all the possible models (i.e. all the possible combination of variables) in which the variable is present.

Table S3. Relative importance of variables of the coral cover initial model. The relative importance of each variable is based on the sum of Akaike weights of all the possible models (i.e. all the possible combination of variables) in which the variable is present.

Table S4. Details of key fish species for reef fish biomass. AIC of the initial model M₀ (environment, socio-economics and species richness) provides reference Akaike Information Criterion (AIC M_0). Presence of each species has been added to M_0 as binary variable using occurrence (i.e. presence of at least 1 individual). For each species, number of occurrences, coefficient in the model (Coeff.) and AIC of the model accounting for the species (AIC M1) are reported. Comparisons with reference AIC (AIC M0) are also provided ($\triangle AIC$).

Table S5. Details of key fish species for live coral cover. AIC of the initial model M₀ (environment, socio-economics and species richness) provides reference Akaike Information Criterion (AIC M_0). Presence of each species has been added to M_0 as binary variable using occurrence (i.e. presence of at least 1 individual). For each species, number of occurrences, coefficient in the model (Coeff.) and AIC of the model accounting for the species (AIC M1) are reported. Comparisons with reference AIC (AIC M0) are also provided ($\triangle AIC$).

Table S6. Functional traits of key fish species for reef fish biomass and live coral cover. 23, 25 and 3 fish species are significantly related to biomass (BM), live coral cover (CC) or both (BOTH) of those proxies of coral reef services respectively. Each species is described using six traits: (1) size, coded using 3 ordered categories: 10-30cm, 30.1-50cm, >50cm; (2) mobility, coded using 3 ordered categories: sedentary, mobile within a reef and mobile between reefs; (3) period of activity, coded using 3 ordered categories: diurnal, both diurnal and nocturnal, and nocturnal; (4) schooling, coded using 5 ordered categories: solitary, pairing, or living in small (3-20 individuals), medium (20-50 individuals) or large groups (>50 groups); (5) vertical position in the water column, coded using 3 ordered categories: benthic, benthopelagic and pelagic; (6) diet, coded using 7 trophic categories: herbivorous-detritivorous (HD), macro-algal herbivorous (HM), invertivorous targeting sessile invertebrates (IS), invertivorous targeting mobile invertebrates (IM), planktivorous (PK), piscivorous (FC), and omnivorous (OM), i.e. fish for which both vegetal and animal material are important in their diet. Several species can have the same functional traits (trait combinations with the same Funct. Entity ID) and thus, represent the same functional entity. In total, 51 key fish species are described, which represent 35 different functional entities with 6 entities common to both fish biomass and coral cover (highlighted in grey).

Table S7. Comparative results of potential key species for fish biomass using relative intra-community (left) and intra-specific (right) biomass to define presence (threshold defined as 1% **).** AIC of the initial model M_0 provides reference Akaike Information Criterion (AIC M0). Presence of each species has been added to M_0 as binary variable using 2 criteria: i) contribution of species to total biomass higher than 1% and ii) the 99th percentile of the biomass distribution of each species. For each species, number of raw occurrences, number of occurrences meeting the biomass threshold, and AIC of the model accounting for the species (AIC M1) are reported. For clarity, only key species are presented and those that are significantly related to fish biomass under the 2 approaches are highlighted in grey. One species had an AIC lower than M0 but did not exceed the performance criterion $(AAIC > 4)$ to be considered as key species (underlined).

Table S8. Comparative results of potential key species for fish biomass using relative intra-community (left) and intra-specific (right) biomass to define presence (threshold defined as 5%). AIC of the initial model M_0 provides reference Akaike Information Criterion (AIC M0). Presence of each species has been added to M_0 as binary variable using 2 criteria: i) contribution of species to total biomass higher than 5% and ii) the 95th percentile of the biomass distribution of each species. For each species, number of raw occurrences, number of occurrences meeting the threshold, and AIC of the model accounting for the species (AIC M1) are reported. For clarity, only key species are presented and those that are significantly related to fish biomass under the 2 approaches are highlighted in grey. Some species did not reach the minimal occurrence required and thus could not be tested using the intra-specific approach (asterisk).

Table S9. Comparative results of potential key species for coral cover using relative intracommunity (left) and intra-specific (right) biomass to define presence (threshold defined as 1%). AIC of the initial model M_0 provides reference Akaike Information Criterion (AIC M0). Presence of each species has been added to M_0 as binary variable using 2 criteria: i) contribution of species to total biomass higher than 1% and ii) the 99th percentile of the biomass distribution of each species. For each species, number of raw occurrences, number of occurrences meeting the threshold, and AIC of the model accounting for the species (AIC M1) are reported. For clarity, only key species are presented and those that are significantly related to coral cover under the 2 approaches are highlighted in grey. Some species did not reach the minimal occurrence required and thus could not be tested using the intra-specific approach (asterisk), while some species had an AIC lower than M0 but did not exceed the performance criterion $(\triangle AIC > 4)$ to be considered as key species (underlined).

Siganus argenteus 20 8 -38.1

Table S10. Comparative results of potential key species for coral cover using relative intra-community (left) and intra-specific (right) biomass to define presence (threshold defined as 5%). AIC of the initial model M_0 provides reference Akaike Information Criterion (AIC M0). Presence of each species has been added to M_0 as binary variable using 2 criteria: i) contribution of species to total biomass higher than 5% and ii) the 95th percentile of the biomass distribution of each species. For each species, number of raw occurrences, number of occurrences meeting the threshold, and AIC of the model accounting for the species (AIC M1) are reported. For clarity, only key species are presented and those that are significantly related to coral cover under the 2 approaches are highlighted in grey. Some species did not reach the minimum occurrence and thus could not be tested using the intra-specific approach (asterisk).

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