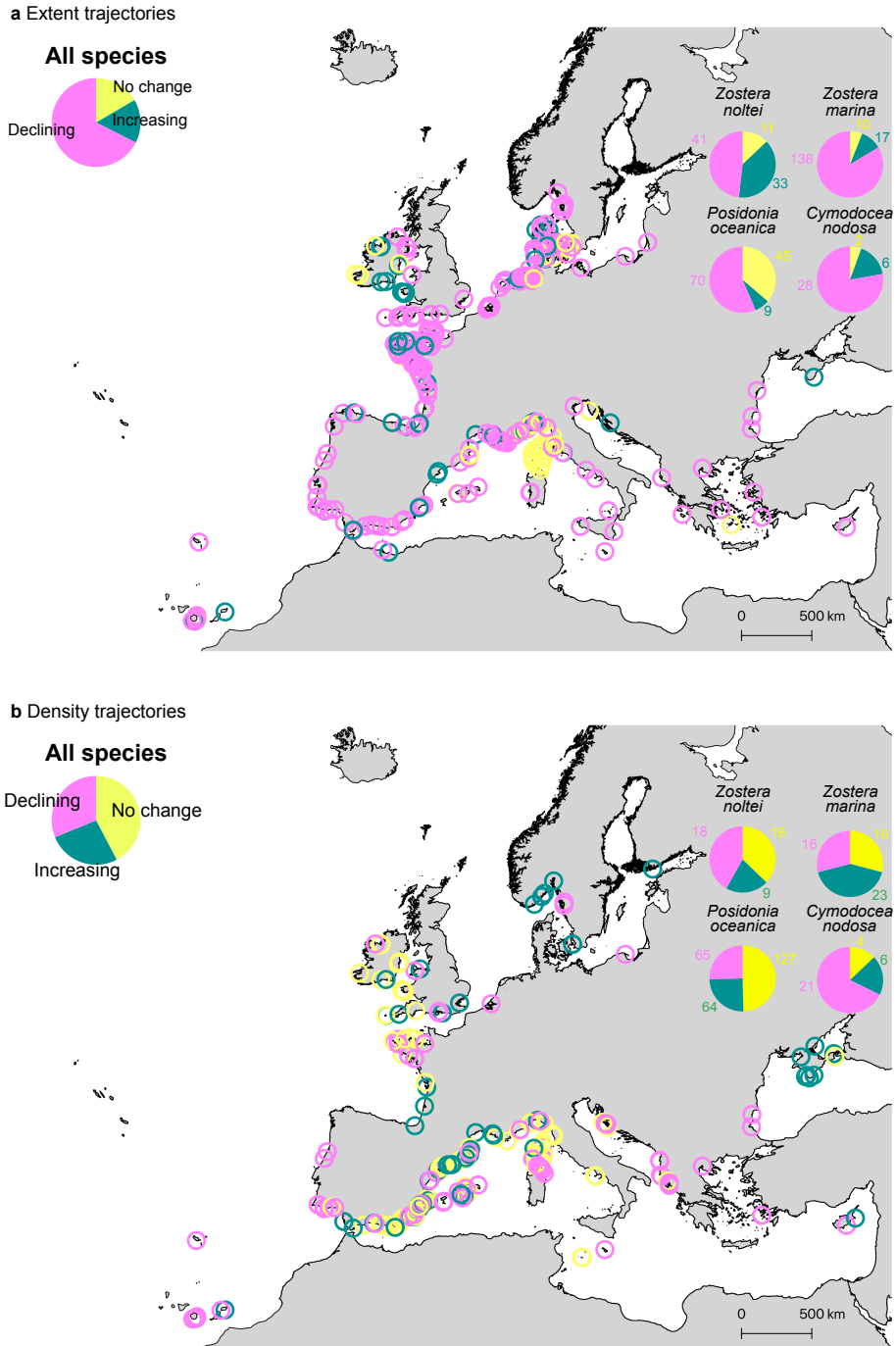
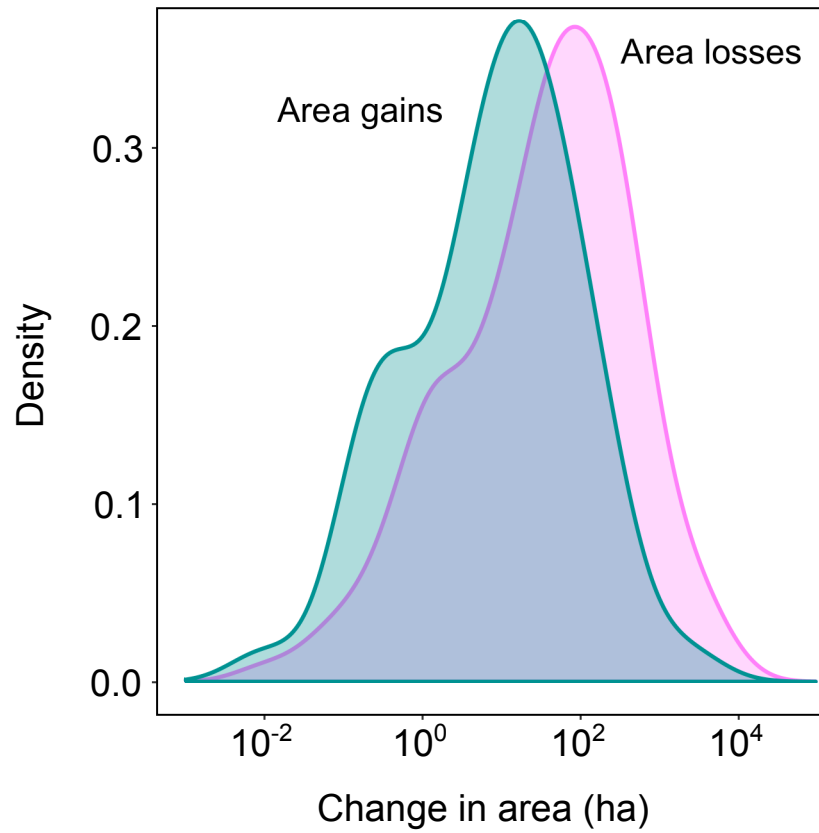


# **Recent trend reversal for declining European seagrass meadows**

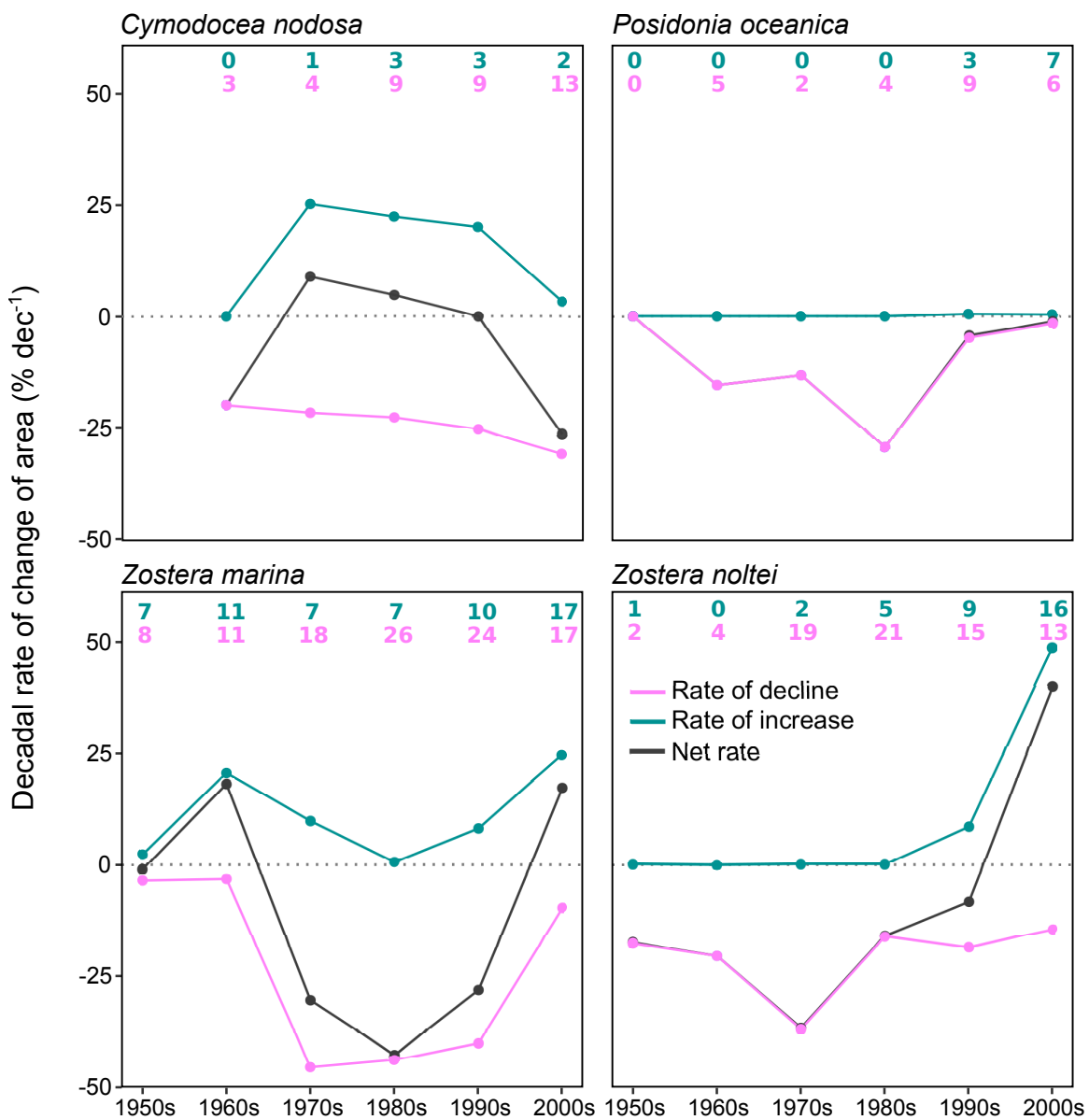
de los Santos *et al.*, 2019



**Supplementary Figure 1.** Distribution of compiled seagrass sites in Europe and their trajectories. Seagrass sites in Europe showing no change (yellow circles,  $n = 68$  for extent and  $n = 163$  for density), increase (green circles,  $n = 65$  for extent and  $n = 102$  for density), and decline (magenta circles,  $n = 277$  for extent and  $n = 120$  for density) trajectories between 1869 and 2016 for (A) extent metrics (occurrence, area, depth limits) and (B) density metrics (cover, shoot density, biomass). Pie charts show the overall and species-specific frequencies of trajectories. Number of sites per trajectories for each species is given next to the pie charts. Trajectories are based on the available time-series reports and thus correspond to different time windows.



**Supplementary Figure 2.** Changes in seagrass area for the compiled sites in Europe. Density plots for the losses (magenta,  $n = 136$ ) and gains (green,  $n = 56$ ) in area of European seagrasses compiled between 1869 and 2016. Note the  $\log_{10}$  x-scale.



**Supplementary Figure 3.** Decadal rate of change of area of European seagrass species (1950s – 2000s). Decadal analysis includes time-series > 8 years. Number of sites per decade and trajectory are given at the top of the plot.

**Supplementary Table 1.** Nature of the combination of multiple causes in documented seagrass losses.

<b>Cause 1</b>	<b>Cause 2</b>	<b>Cause 3</b>	<b>N</b>
Coastal modification	Extreme events		1
Coastal modification	Mechanical damage		3
Extreme events	Mechanical damage		2
Extreme events	Overgrazing		2
Extreme events	Algae invasion		1
Mechanical damage	Algae invasion		1
Water quality degradation	Coastal modification		7
Water quality degradation	Extreme events		1
Water quality degradation	Mechanical damage		3
Water quality degradation	Overgrazing		1
Coastal modification	Extreme events	Mechanical damage	1
Water quality degradation	Coastal modification	Extreme events	2
Water quality degradation	Coastal modification	Mechanical damage	1
Water quality degradation	Coastal modification	Wasting disease	1

N: number of sites reported per each combination.