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Effects of ecosystem protection on scallop populations within a community-led temperate marine reserve --Manuscript Draft--

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| Abstract: | <p>This study investigated the effects of a newly established, fully protected marine reserve on benthic habitats and two commercially valuable species of scallop in Lamlash Bay, Isle of Arran, United Kingdom. Annual dive surveys from 2010 to 2013 showed the abundance of juvenile scallops to be significantly greater within the marine reserve than outside. Generalised linear models revealed this trend to be significantly related to the greater presence of macroalgae and hydroids growing within the boundaries of the reserve. These results suggest that structurally complex habitats growing within the reserve have substantially increased spat settlement and / or survival. The density of adult king scallops declined 3-fold with increasing distance from the boundaries of the reserve, indicating possible evidence of spillover or reduced fishing effort directly outside and around the marine reserve. However, there was no difference in the mean density of adult scallops between the reserve and outside. Finally, the mean age, size, and reproductive and exploitable biomass of king scallops were all significantly greater within the reserve. In contrast to king scallops, the population dynamics of queen scallops (<i>Aequipecten opercularis</i>) fluctuated randomly over the survey period and showed little difference between the reserve and outside. Overall, this study is consistent with the hypothesis that marine reserves can encourage the recovery of seafloor habitats, which in turn, can benefit populations of commercially exploited species, emphasising the importance of marine reserves in the ecosystem-based management of fisheries.</p> |

**Effects of ecosystem protection on scallop populations within a community-led
temperate marine reserve**

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Corrections made

- 1) Lat long border placed around map
- 2) Units of measurement no longer use / or per
- 3) References corrected to comply with journal style

1 **Effects of ecosystem protection on scallop populations within a** 2 **community-led temperate marine reserve**

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15 Take Zone (NTZ), Lamlash Bay, Firth of Clyde, ecosystem-based fishery management, nursery habitats

16

17 **Abstract**

18 This study investigated the effects of a newly established, fully protected marine reserve on
19 benthic habitats and two commercially valuable species of scallop in Lamlash Bay, Isle of Arran,
20 United Kingdom. Annual dive surveys from 2010 to 2013 showed the abundance of juvenile
21 scallops to be significantly greater within the marine reserve than outside. Generalised linear
22 models revealed this trend to be significantly related to the greater presence of macroalgae
23 and hydroids growing within the boundaries of the reserve. These results suggest that
24 structurally complex habitats growing within the reserve have substantially increased spat
25 settlement and / or survival. The density of adult king scallops declined 3-fold with increasing
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28 difference in the mean density of adult scallops between the reserve and outside. Finally, the
29 mean age, size, and reproductive and exploitable biomass of king scallops were all significantly
30 greater within the reserve. In contrast to king scallops, the population dynamics of queen
31 scallops (*Aequipecten opercularis*) fluctuated randomly over the survey period and showed
32 little difference between the reserve and outside. Overall, this study is consistent with the
33 hypothesis that marine reserves can encourage the recovery of seafloor habitats, which in
34 turn, can benefit populations of commercially exploited species, emphasising the importance
35 of marine reserves in the ecosystem-based management of fisheries.

36 **Introduction**

37 Never before has the general public been so well informed about the current state of the
38 world's oceans. A recent surge in environmentally focused films, documentaries and
39 campaigns has led to much greater awareness of the methods used to harvest marine
40 resources, and of their impacts on the marine environment (Jacquet and Pauly 2007). In 2013,
41 the United Kingdom (UK) based celebrity chef and environmentalist Hugh Fearnley-
42 Whittingstall launched a television series campaigning for better protection of European
43 waters in which the first episode videoed the damage to the seabed caused by a scallop
44 dredger (www.fishfight.net). Responses from the public and media were strong (Brown 2013;
45 Greenpeace 2013; Renton 2013) with one major retailer pledging to stop selling dredge-caught
46 scallops (Harvey 2013), sparking rebukes from both the fishing industry and their
47 representatives (Gray 2013; SeaFish 2013). Despite the media attention, fisheries for shellfish
48 are rapidly increasing in importance in many parts of the world, as are their environmental
49 impacts (Pauly et al. 1998, 2002; Steneck et al. 2002; Essington et al. 2006; Estes et al. 2011;
50 Howarth et al. 2013).

51 In the UK, landings of the king scallop (*Pecten maximus*) are growing faster than any other
52 commercially targeted shellfish species. Generating over £68 million per year, king scallops
53 represent the UK's second most valuable fishery resource, over 95% of which are caught by
54 scallop dredgers (Keltz and Bailey 2010; Radford 2013). Scallop stocks located around Scotland
55 account for over half of the UK king scallop fishery (Dobby et al. 2012) but concerns have
56 recently been made over increasing mortality, and declining recruitment and spawning stock
57 biomass in several major Scottish stocks (Hall-Spencer and Moore 2000; Howell et al. 2006;
58 Hinz et al. 2011; Barreto and Bailey 2013). These problems are not unique. Scallop fisheries all
59 over the world are well known for exhibiting dramatic fluctuations in recruitment, landings and
60 abundance (Paulet et al. 1988; Orensanz et al. 1991; Beukers-Stewart et al. 2003; Beukers-
61 Stewart and Beukers-Stewart 2009). Such fluctuations are difficult to incorporate into fisheries
62 management strategies and can result in their sudden and unexpected collapse (Frank and
63 Brickman 2001; Beukers-Stewart and Beukers-Stewart 2009). Furthermore, scallop recruitment
64 and mortality are predicted to become increasingly more erratic in the future due to ocean
65 acidification (Gazeau et al. 2007; Kurihara 2008; Watson et al. 2009), a process which is
66 reducing the amount of carbonate available to scallops to form their protective shells (Sabine
67 et al. 2004; Doney et al. 2009). Due to anthropogenic carbon dioxide emissions, ocean acidity
68 is currently increasing at a rate unprecedented for tens of millions of years (Doney et al. 2009).
69 This means scallop fisheries all over the world are at risk if the species they target cannot

70 adapt. Stronger efforts must therefore be made to safeguard the long-term sustainability of
71 commercially important scallop stocks whilst reducing the environmental impact of their
72 fisheries.

73 Although many different management measures exist for maintaining and supporting fish
74 stocks, it has been argued that the establishment of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) closed to
75 some or all types of fishing can allow seafloor habitats to recover (Bradshaw et al. 2001;
76 Howarth et al. 2011), increase the abundance and size of target species (Halpern and Warner
77 2002; Halpern 2003; Lester et al. 2009), enhance local reproductive output (Roberts et al.
78 2001; Gaines et al. 2003; Grantham et al. 2003) and improve the survival and growth of
79 juveniles (Myers et al. 2000; Beukers-Stewart et al. 2005). All of these effects may then result
80 in the greater production of eggs, larvae, juveniles and adults which can disperse ('spillover') to
81 grounds outside MPAs and contribute to fishery landings (McClanahan and Mangi 2000;
82 Harrison et al. 2012). Then again, establishing MPAs can displace fishing effort to surrounding
83 areas (Bohnsack 2000; Kaiser 2005), which can cause wider environmental damage (Dinmore et
84 al. 2003) and reduce profits through the loss of fishing grounds (Rassweiler et al. 2012). Hence,
85 MPAs only truly yield benefits to fisheries when these negative effects are adequately offset by
86 increased recruitment and landings.

87 For populations to benefit from the protection afforded by MPAs, it is necessary that a number
88 of individuals spend a substantial part of their lives within their boundaries (Roberts et al.
89 2005). Thanks to their sedentary nature and relatively fast growth, scallops have been shown
90 to be particularly responsive to closed area protection. In 1994, three areas totalling 17,000
91 km² were closed to fishing gears on Georges Bank in the Gulf of Maine, United States of
92 America (USA). Ten years later, observations revealed that the reduction in fishing mortality
93 was responsible for a 20-fold increase in scallop biomass within the closures, and increased
94 catches in neighbouring fishing grounds (Murawski et al. 2000; Hart and Rago 2006; Hart et al.
95 2013). The scallop fishery on Georges Bank is now the most valuable of any fishery in the USA
96 (Lowther 2013). On a smaller scale, 17 years of protection of within a 2 km² area off the Isle of
97 Man resulted in scallop densities 30 times greater than those observed prior to protection
98 (Beukers-Stewart et al. 2005; Beukers-Stewart and Brand 2007). The reduction in fishing
99 mortality also allowed individuals within the closed area to become older and reach larger
100 sizes, with exploitable and reproductive biomass of scallops becoming 20 and 33 times higher
101 respectively, than on adjacent fishing grounds. In addition, there is growing evidence that
102 export of larval scallops, generated from high rates of breeding within the closed area, have

103 boosted surrounding populations and therefore the fishery (Beukers-Stewart et al. 2005, 2004;
104 Beukers-Stewart and Brand 2007; Neill and Kaiser 2008).

105 In addition to increasing the abundance of target organisms, the exclusion of fishing from an
106 area also eliminates the physical impacts created by mobile fishing gears such as dredges and
107 trawls (Kaiser et al. 2000, 2007). Such gears can cause substantial physical disruption of
108 seafloor habitats by ploughing sediments and fragmenting the biogenic structure of epifaunal
109 assemblages such as hydroids, tunicates and maerl beds (Eleftheriou and Robertson 1992;
110 Dayton et al. 1995; Jennings and Kaiser 1998; Kaiser et al. 2000; Jennings et al. 2001; Cook et
111 al. 2013). However, these organisms provide essential habitat for the settlement of scallops
112 and a large range of other invertebrates and fish species (Bradshaw et al. 2001; Kamenos et al.
113 2004a). Consequently, such locations are often referred to as “nursery areas” as they tend to
114 be highly productive, support high levels of juvenile density, growth and survival, and
115 contribute disproportionately to the production of adult recruits (Beck et al. 2001; Gibb et al.
116 2007; Laurel et al. 2009). The damage inflicted by fishing gears upon nursery habitats has
117 therefore been shown to negatively impact scallop recruitment (Collie et al. 1997; Bradshaw et
118 al. 2002), whilst the protection of nursery habitats has been shown to enhance scallop
119 settlement levels (Howarth et al. 2011).

120 The implementation of MPAs may therefore provide a “win-win” solution to safeguarding the
121 long-term sustainability of commercially important scallop stocks. Not only can MPAs provide
122 fisheries benefits, they also help sustain healthy marine ecosystems by addressing the physical
123 impacts of fishing gears (Bradshaw et al. 2002; Kaiser et al. 2000, 2007) which can then
124 generate numerous benefits that flow back to the species targeted by fisheries (Jennings and
125 Kaiser, 1998; Howarth et al. 2011). It is these ideas that underlie the current push towards
126 ‘ecosystem-based fishery management’, where management priorities begin with the
127 ecosystem, moving away from traditional single-species approaches (Pikitch et al. 2004; Zhou
128 et al. 2010). However, the implementation of MPAs in Europe is still at a very early stage
129 (Fenberg et al. 2012; Metcalfe et al. 2013) and their use as an ecosystem-based fishery
130 management tool remains a highly contentious issue (Boersma and Parrish 1999; Kaiser 2004,
131 2005; Jones 2007; Sciberras et al. 2013).

132 MPAs can be implemented via top-down processes which are government led and enforced, or
133 by bottom-up mechanisms, whereby local communities and stakeholders propose the
134 establishment of an MPA and help with its management, enforcement and monitoring
135 (Kelleher 1999; Jones 2012). There is growing evidence that community and stakeholder

136 involvement in setting up and running MPAs builds greater support and reduces management
137 costs due to lower infringements rates (Pollnac et al. 2012). Although community-led MPAs are
138 relatively common in tropical waters (Johannes 2002), they are very rare in temperate areas
139 and almost non-existent in the UK (Fenberg et al 2012). As an exception, a fully protected
140 marine reserve was established in Lamlash Bay, Isle of Arran, UK, in September 2008
141 prohibiting all fishing within the reserve under the Inshore Fishing (Scotland) Act of 1984
142 (Axelsson et al. 2009). The Firth of Clyde, in which the Isle of Arran sits, is known to be one of
143 the most degraded marine environments in the UK, primarily due to over a century of
144 intensive fisheries exploitation (Thurstan and Roberts 2010; Howarth et al. 2013). The reserve
145 was therefore passed by the Scottish parliament under the rationale that the reduction in
146 fishing pressure should help regenerate the local marine environment and enhance
147 commercial shellfish and fish populations in and around Lamlash Bay, particularly with regards
148 to scallops. Lamlash Bay Marine Reserve came in effect after a decade of campaigning by local
149 residents for better protection of their seas (Community of Arran Seabed Trust or “COAST”;
150 www.arrancoast.com) and is the first and only fully protected marine reserve in Scotland, and
151 the only statutory reserve in the UK that was originally proposed by a local community which
152 bans all extractive activities (Prior 2011). Lamlash Bay is also unique in that the majority of
153 MPAs in the UK were proposed either for conservation (e.g. Lundy Marine Nature reserve and
154 Lyme Bay Marine Reserve) or fishery purposes (e.g. closed areas off the Isle of Man), not for
155 both.

156 Our study therefore sought to test the hypotheses that: (1) there is a positive relationship
157 between scallop settlement and the abundance of nursery habitat; (2) the marine reserve
158 contains a greater abundance of these nursery habitats; and (3) that the density, age, size,
159 biomass and growth rates of scallops are higher within the marine reserve than areas located
160 outside its boundaries. This was achieved by conducting a series of quantitative diver surveys
161 over a four-year study period.

162 **Materials and methods**

163 Study area and scallop fishery

164 Lamlash Bay Marine Reserve encompasses an area of 2.67 km² (Fig. 1), with water depths
165 ranging between 0 and 29 m below chart datum, but reaching as deep as 43 and 50 m outside
166 to the east and the west of the reserve, respectively (Admiralty Chart 1864; Baxter et al. 2008).
167 Previous surveys (Duncan 2003; Axelsson et al. 2009) indicated a seabed of mixed sediments

168 (i.e. mud, sand and gravel with various proportions of shell) but that the central and southern
169 regions of the bay tend to be characterised by softer sediment, mainly muddy sand. In
170 addition, the area has long been identified as containing important maerl beds, although
171 recent evidence points to deterioration in their health (Howarth et al. 2011).

172 The king scallop (*Pecten maximus*) fishery is the second most valuable in Scotland and has
173 consistently ranked in the top five most valuable UK fisheries for the past 10 years (Dobby et
174 al. 2012). In contrast, landings of the comparatively smaller queen scallop (*Aequipecten*
175 *opercularis*) have fluctuated greatly, meaning they tend to be fished opportunistically by
176 fishers and are worth considerably less (Beukers-Stewart and Beukers-Stewart 2009).
177 European Union (EU) legislation specifies a minimum landing size of 100 mm length for king
178 scallops (Council Regulation (EC) No. 850/98). There are no size limits for queen scallops
179 (although it is generally uneconomic to process them when smaller than 50 mm in width), and
180 there are no limits on landings for either species. Under the Prohibition of Fishing for Scallops
181 (Scotland) Order 2003, scallop fishing vessels are permitted to tow up to a maximum of 8
182 individual dredges per side in Scottish inshore waters (out to six nautical miles). The Order also
183 prohibits the use of “French” dredges (a design incorporating water deflecting plates and rigid
184 fixed teeth). The Firth of Clyde scallop fleet is also subject to a weekend ban (Dobby et al.
185 2012). Unofficial observations made by the Community of Arran Seabed Trust
186 (www.arrancoast.com) indicate fishing effort by trawlers and dredgers has been consistently
187 low outside the boundaries of Lamlash Bay Marine Reserve in recent years, averaging at 2-4
188 fishing boats operating within the area per year since 2008. A small team of commercial
189 scallop divers also operate locally within the area.

190 Dive surveys

191 We began monitoring Lamlash Bay in 2010 (see Howarth et al. 2011). Initially, 40 sites were
192 surveyed, half of which were located within the reserve and the other half outside. These
193 surveys were then repeated and expanded in 2011, 2012 and 2013 by using a greater variety
194 of survey techniques but reducing the number of study sites. Therefore we surveyed 28 sites in
195 2011, 31 sites in 2012, and 32 sites in 2013. Again, these sites were divided so that half fell
196 within the boundaries of the marine reserve (Fig. 1). Sites were chosen so that each one within
197 the reserve could be paired with at least one other suitable control outside, based on similar
198 depth and predominant substrate type (S1-4). It must be noted that this matching of sites was
199 based on visual inspection of the substrate. Ideally, data on several physical characteristics of
200 these sites (e.g. particle size analysis, current speed, percentage cover of benthic habitats)

201 would have been collected prior to protection to ensure these sites were statistically similar.
202 However, no such data existed prior to protection and the collection of such physical data was
203 beyond the scope of this study. Then again we did collect data on the percentage cover of
204 benthic habitats but this only began two after the reserve had been established; at which point
205 differences in seafloor habitats would be expected between sites protected and unprotected
206 from fishing gears.

207 Due to lack of data and prior knowledge of the area, the initial experimental design was a little
208 unbalanced. For example, 12 deep muddy sand sites were surveyed outside the reserve in
209 2010 compared to just 6 inside. This improved with each survey, and by 2012 our experimental
210 design was fully balanced. Sites were limited to areas of the seabed that were shallow enough
211 to remain within diver no decompression limits (i.e. <30m depth). Surveys were also
212 conducted parallel to depth contours to ensure the depth of a single survey did not change by
213 more than 3m.

214 Transects were surveyed along a 50m leaded line that was laid out straight across the seabed.
215 GPS coordinates used for surveys in 2010 and 2011 provided the start and end location of each
216 transect. Attached to both ends of the leaded line were weighted anchors to hold the line in
217 place, in addition to two floating buoys which reached the surface. A team of two divers then
218 made their way from one end of the transect to the other, recording the abundance of all
219 adult unattached scallops and other megafauna (e.g. fish, echinoderms and crustaceans)
220 encountered within 1.5m either side of the transect. The width of the transect was marked by
221 a 3m long pipe that the divers pushed ahead of themselves, creating a total area surveyed of
222 150m² for each transect. To generate semi-quantitative estimates of the abundance of juvenile
223 scallops (taken to be any scallop still attached to the substrata via byssal threads), a SACFOR
224 abundance scale (superabundant, abundant, common, frequent, occasional, rare) was used
225 (see Connor et al. 2004). Unfortunately, distinguishing between juvenile king and queen
226 scallops whilst underwater was difficult and so these had to be grouped as one category. In
227 addition, every adult scallop encountered along the transect was collected and brought back
228 to the surface. These were then scrubbed with a wire brush (to help reveal their annual growth
229 rings) and aged (Chauvaud et al. 2012), measured for shell length (Jennings et al. 2001) and
230 returned to the sea.

231 A SACFOR abundance scale was also used by the divers to estimate the abundance of different
232 benthic taxa. These were live maerl (e.g. *Phymatolithon calcareum* and *Lithothamnion glaciale*),
233 dead maerl, macroalgae (e.g. *Laminaria* and *Ceramium* spp) sponges (e.g. *Pachymatisma*

234 *johnstonia*), anemones (e.g. *Cerianthus lloydi*), tunicates (e.g. *Clavelina lepadiformis* and
235 *Diazona violacea*), hydroids (e.g. *Obelia geniculata*), bryozoans (e.g. *Alcyonidium diaphanum*
236 and *Flustra foliacea*) and soft corals (e.g. *Alcyonium digitatum*). The SACFOR method was
237 chosen to provide quick underwater estimates of benthic cover.

238 Laboratory analysis

239 Scallop dissections were conducted in the years 2010, 2011 and 2013. For these years, 60 king
240 scallops and 60 queen scallops were retained for dissection, with half of these individuals
241 collected from within the reserve (under a permit from Marine Scotland), and the other half
242 from outside. As the number of scallops taken from the reserve was limited, these scallops
243 were chosen to cover the full range of different shell lengths observed within the Lamlash Bay
244 area. Scallops were maintained in seawater to be dissected within 24 hours of their collection.
245 All tissues were then dissected from the samples and blotted dry. From these tissues, the wet
246 weight of the total tissue biomass, exploitable biomass (gonad weight and adductor muscle
247 weight combined) and reproductive biomass (gonad weight only) were obtained. The
248 importance of recording reproductive and exploitable biomass was considered two fold.
249 Firstly, the mass of the gonad organ is an indicator of potential reproductive output (Shephard
250 et al. 2010). Secondly, the adductor muscle is important both economically, as it partly decides
251 the sale value of a scallop, and biologically as it forms the main mechanism of protection from
252 predators such as the common starfish, *Asterias rubens* (Kaiser et al. 2007) and is used for
253 swimming and escaping predation (Labrecque and Guderley 2011).

254 **Data analysis**

255 Multivariate analyses of juvenile scallop distribution

256 All data were tested for normality using histograms, boxplots, QQ plots and the Shapiro–Wilk
257 test. These basic exploratory measures were conducted within the statistical package R
258 (www.r-project.org). The Shapiro–Wilk test was chosen as it is widely accepted to be the most
259 suitable for small and medium-size samples (N up to 2000; Royston 1982, Conover 1999). For
260 statistical analysis, the SACFOR scale used to estimate juvenile scallop abundance and benthic
261 cover was converted into numerical categories ranging from 0 to 6, where a value of 0 would
262 indicate the absence of a taxon and 6 would represent the superabundance of a taxon as
263 denoted by the SACFOR scale. The counts of adult scallops collected by both divers were
264 pooled and adjusted for each transect to generate densities of organisms $\times 100 \text{ m}^{-2}$.

265 The abundance of juvenile scallops was compared between the two treatments (i.e. 'reserve'
266 and 'fishing grounds') and across the years using a two-way ANOVA, with protection and year
267 as the two fixed factors. Levene's test for equality of variances showed that there was
268 homogeneity of variance between the two treatments ($P > 0.05$). To determine whether
269 environmental and ecological data recorded during diver surveys reflected the distribution and
270 abundance of juvenile scallops, a Generalised Linear Model (GLM) was created. Predictor
271 variables used in the GLM were treatment, depth, density of predators, and the SACFOR
272 abundance estimates of maerl, macroalgae, sponges, hydroids, anemones, bryozoans,
273 tunicates and soft corals. Predators of scallops were taken to be all species of starfish,
274 although this is likely to be just a partial characterisation of the total predator assemblage for
275 scallops (see Beukers-Stewart et al. 2005). Although our monitoring program collected higher
276 resolution data on the percentage cover of different benthic taxa through the use of
277 photographic surveys, these surveys did not begin until 2011 and therefore could not be used
278 in this full analysis. Before construction of a GLM, scatter plot and intercorrelation matrices
279 (based upon Spearman's rank correlation) were used to explore basic relationships and
280 determine whether any variables were strongly intercorrelated (i.e. $-0.7 \leq r \leq 0.7$) as such
281 variables would not be allowed together within a GLM (Crawley 2005). As a Kolmogorov-
282 Smirnov (K-S) test found juvenile abundance to not significantly differ from a Poisson
283 distribution ($P > 0.05$), a GLM based upon a Poisson family error was created in R. Backward-
284 forward stepwise reduction was then used to create a minimal adequate model. Diagnostic
285 and Cleveland dotplots were subsequently used to explore how well the models fitted the data
286 and to identify any extreme outliers. An Analysis of Deviance utilising Pearson's Chi-square test
287 (χ^2) was then conducted to determine if the reduced model accounted for significantly less
288 variance than the full model.

289 Density of king and queen scallops

290 Densities of king and queen scallops were compared between the two treatments and across
291 the years using a two-way ANOVA as before. However, the density data had to be square root
292 transformed to comply with the assumption of normality. Density data from 2013 was also
293 split between individuals of sub-legal and legal size classes. For king scallops, this was any
294 individual greater than 100 mm in length (Keltz and Bailey 2010). For queen scallops, a size of
295 50 mm was used as the cut-off point (see above). Differences in the density of these size
296 classes between the two treatments were tested for significance using a Mann-Whitney-

297 Wilcoxon test as the data no longer complied with the assumption of normality when split
298 between different size classes.

299 In an attempt to investigate any spillover of scallops and / or a potential “halo effect” of
300 reduced fishing effort close to the boundaries of the reserve (see discussion), the distance of
301 each sampling site from the boundaries of the marine reserve was calculated in the
302 Geographical software ArcGIS 10.1. The mean density of king scallops was then calculated for
303 all sites within the reserve, and sites 0.5 km, 1 km, 1.5 km and >2 km away from the marine
304 reserve. These data were then plotted against distance utilising error bars of ± 1 Standard Error
305 (SE) and tested for significance using the Pearson product-moment correlation coefficient.

306 Population structure of king and queen scallops

307 Size and age distributions were compared between the two treatments using a K–S two
308 sample test for each year. In addition, a one-way ANOVA was used to test the final difference
309 in mean size and age between treatments for data collected during the last year of monitoring
310 in 2013. Size composition data on king scallops (greater than minimum legal landing size) were
311 then compared with government fisheries size data on king scallops caught and landed within
312 the Firth of Clyde region in 2012 and 2013 (data provided by Shona Kinnear of Marine Scotland
313 Science). This was done by performing two K–S tests, one to compare the size of scallops
314 landed within the Clyde against the size of scallops sampled within the reserve, and the other
315 to compare the size of scallops landed within the Clyde against the size of scallops sampled
316 outside the reserve.

317 Mortality and growth rates

318 The mean density per age class of king scallops combined across all years was compared
319 between the two treatments using a line graph. A catch curve analysis was then performed by
320 transforming the data (natural log) and fitting linear trendlines. However, due to poor fit of the
321 catch curve, this was only carried out for scallops greater than 5 years old old. The gradient of
322 this trend line then provided an indication of total mortality (Z). In addition, the mean length at
323 age for both scallop species was plotted using the statistical software Simply Growth (version
324 1.7, <http://www.pisces-conservation.com/>) and fitted with two Von Bertalanffy growth curves
325 to the separate treatments. The log-likelihood ratio test of co-incident curves (Kimura 1980)
326 was then used to test whether the two sampled population curves would differ from a curve
327 created by combining the two sampled populations.

328 Biomass data

329 For the years where scallop dissections were conducted, exploitable and reproductive biomass
330 for both species were tested for differences between the two treatments and across all years
331 using two-way ANOVA. To investigate for any differences in the weight of gonads and adductor
332 muscle per unit shell length between the reserve and outside, the weight of the adductor
333 muscle and the reproductive biomass of king scallops greater than 100 mm length were
334 plotted against shell length and fitted with linear trendlines. ANCOVAs were then performed
335 which took into account differences in body size (i.e. with shell length as the covariate). For
336 this, a Levene's Test of Equality of Error Variances showed homogeneity of variance between
337 the two samples ($P > 0.05$) and comparing the beta values revealed that samples had equal co-
338 variance.

339 **Results**

340 Juvenile scallop abundance and the relationship with benthic habitats

341 The abundance of juvenile scallops was significantly greater within the marine reserve than
342 outside for all years except 2013, when only two sites out of the 32 surveyed contained any
343 juvenile scallops, both of which were located outside the reserve (Table 1). Year, protection
344 and the interaction between the two were all found to be significantly influencing the
345 abundance of juvenile scallops. Overall, the abundance of juvenile scallops has fluctuated from
346 low to high every two years (Fig. 2), with 2010 and 2012 being years of high abundance, and
347 2011 and 2013 being years of low abundance. It should be noted that graphical
348 representations of these differences are very conservative as they treat differences between
349 abundance categories as proportional, whereas measures of abundance on the SACFOR scale
350 actually differ on an exponential scale.

351 In 2010, we found the higher levels of juvenile scallop abundance to be associated with greater
352 levels of macroalgae and other nursery habitats growing within the marine reserve's
353 boundaries (see Howarth et al. 2011). To further explore these relationships, SACFOR
354 estimates of benthic cover and juvenile scallop abundance were combined for the years 2010
355 and 2012 (i.e. years of high juvenile scallop abundance). After employing backward-forward
356 stepwise reduction, a GLM indicated protection and the presence of macroalgae, sponges and
357 hydroids to be significantly influencing the distribution of juvenile scallops (Table 2). This
358 reduced model accounted for 66% of the variance in juvenile scallop abundance and did not
359 explain significantly less variance than the full model (Pearson's Chi-squared; $df = 67$, $\chi^2 = 0.78$,

360 $P > 0.05$). The relationship between juvenile scallop abundance and the presence of
361 macroalgae was found to be positive (Fig. 3a) as was their relationship with hydroids (Fig. 3b).
362 A parallel study (Howarth et al. in review) revealed the percentage cover of these benthic
363 habitats to be significantly greater within the reserve than outside, and that their abundance
364 steadily increased over the study period. In contrast, the relationship between juvenile
365 scallops and sponges was negative.

366 Comparisons of scallop density

367 When monitoring began in 2010, the mean density of king scallops was initially lower within
368 the boundaries of the marine reserve; estimated at $6.2 \text{ individuals} \times 100 \text{ m}^{-2}$ ($\pm 2.1 \text{ SE}$) within
369 the reserve compared to a value of 7.6 ($\pm 2.3 \text{ SE}$) outside the reserve. However, surveys
370 conducted over the following three years revealed that the density of king scallops had
371 steadily increased within the reserve but decreased outside (Fig. 4). Despite these apparent
372 differences, a two-way ANOVA identified neither year nor level of protection (i.e. in or outside
373 the reserve) as having a significant influence on king scallop density (Table 3).

374 Compared to king scallops, queen scallop abundance fluctuated greatly over the study period
375 (S5). In 2010, queen scallop densities did not differ between the reserve and outside;
376 estimated at densities of 6.1 ($\pm 1.8 \text{ SE}$) and 6.0 ($\pm 2.1 \text{ SE}$) $\times 100 \text{ m}^{-2}$ in and outside the reserve
377 respectively. Since then, the density of queen scallops has been in decline, fluctuating from
378 being greater within the reserve some years, to being lower within the reserve for others. For
379 example, the density of queen scallops was 206% greater within the reserve in 2011, but fell to
380 just 29% greater in 2012, before falling to 30% lower within the reserve than outside in 2013.
381 In 2013, the density of queen scallops hit a low of $3 \times 100 \text{ m}^{-2}$ ($\pm 0.8 \text{ SE}$) inside the reserve and
382 2.3 ($\pm 0.9 \text{ SE}$) outside. As a consequence of these strong yearly fluctuations, multivariate
383 analysis found only the year to significantly affect queen scallop density (Table 3).

384 Splitting scallop density data between sub-legal and legal size classes appeared to generate
385 differences between the reserve and outside (Fig. 5). King scallops over 100 mm in length (i.e.
386 individuals of legal landing size) were on average 79.3% more abundant within the reserve
387 than outside in 2013. However, this trend was not significant (Mann-Whitney: $U = 84$, $N = 32$, P
388 > 0.05). Similarly, queen scallops over 50 mm were 39% more abundant within the reserve
389 than outside but was also non-significant (Mann-Whitney: $U = 71$, $N = 32$, $P > 0.05$). In contrast,
390 the mean density of king scallops less than 100 mm was 80% lower within the reserve than
391 outside (Mann-Whitney: $U = 84$, $N = 32$, $P > 0.05$) and queen scallops less than 50 mm were

392 96% less abundant within the reserve (Mann-Whitney: $U = 118$, $N = 32$, $P > 0.05$). Again, none
393 of these differences were significant.

394 Plotting the mean density of king scallops combined for all years against distance from the
395 boundaries of the marine reserve revealed a strong spatial interaction (Fig. 6). Scallop density
396 significantly declined with increasing distance from the marine reserve (Pearson Correlation; N
397 = 91, $R = -2.4$, $P < 0.05$). In fact, sites within or close to the marine reserve supported scallop
398 densities three times greater than sites located over two kilometres away.

399 Comparisons of population structure

400 For both scallop species, the mean size and age were significantly greater within the marine
401 reserve than outside across all years (S6). In 2010, king scallops were on average 18 mm larger
402 (ANOVA, $F_{(1,109)} = 40.45$, $P < 0.05$) and 1.1 years older (ANOVA, $F_{(1,109)} = 42.99$, $P < 0.05$) within
403 the reserve than outside. In 2013, these differences were greater with king scallops being on
404 average 28 mm larger (ANOVA, $F_{(1,250)} = 66.51$, $P < 0.05$) and 1.7 years older (ANOVA, $F_{(1,250)} =$
405 47.88 , $P < 0.05$) within the reserve than outside. Queen scallops were on average 13 mm larger
406 (ANOVA, $F_{(1,108)} = 11.96$, $P < 0.05$) and 0.8 years older (ANOVA, $F_{(1,108)} = 10.88$, $P < 0.05$) within
407 the reserve than outside in 2013.

408 Comparing the overall size and age distributions for both species of scallop between the two
409 areas also revealed scallops within the marine reserve to be made up of significantly older and
410 larger individuals (Table 4). In greater detail, the size (Fig. 7) and age (Fig. 8) of king scallops
411 were continually higher within the reserve for all four years. In 2010, king scallops peaked at
412 131-140 mm in length and 4 years in age within the reserve, and at 101-110 mm and 2 years in
413 age outside. The subsequent year saw this peak size class within the reserve strengthen whilst
414 the peak age class increased to 6 years. This was then followed by the peak size class within
415 the reserve increasing to 141-150 mm in 2012 and finally becoming bi-modal in 2013. In
416 contrast, outside the reserve scallop densities declined across all size and age classes after the
417 first year of monitoring. Subsequent years saw scallop densities outside the reserve recover
418 slightly but remain at levels far lower than those observed in 2010. The year 2013 saw a boost
419 in recruitment of young / small scallops outside the reserve. However, this event was far less
420 pronounced within the marine reserve.

421 In 2010, queen scallops differed from king scallops in that their size (Fig. 9) and age (Fig. 10)
422 distributions were similar. However, as observed for king scallops, queen scallop abundance
423 suddenly declined across all age and size classes outside the reserve. Queen scallops then

424 began to recover in 2012 and 2013 to sizes and ages slightly lower than those observed within
425 the reserve.

426 Utilising government data on the size composition of king scallops caught and landed within
427 the Firth of Clyde region revealed scallop populations in the Lamlash Bay area to be made of
428 larger individuals compared to the Firth of Clyde region as a whole (Fig. 11). When only
429 scallops of legal landing size were considered, individuals sampled within the marine reserve
430 were the largest in size, followed by individuals sampled directly outside it. For example, in
431 2012, king scallops were on average 21 mm larger (± 1.77 SE) within the reserve compared to
432 those landed from the wider Firth of Clyde, whilst scallops located directly outside the
433 boundaries of Lamlash Bay Marine Reserve were 5 mm larger (± 2.66 SE). These size
434 distributions were found to be significantly different in both 2012 (K-S; $N = 8966$, $Z = 3.54$, $P <$
435 0.05) and 2013 (K-S; $N = 9241$, $Z = 3.74$, $P < 0.05$).

436 Comparisons of mortality rates

437 Combining the mean density-at-age data for all four years also revealed distinct differences in
438 the population dynamics of king scallops between the two areas (Fig. 12a). Catch curve
439 analysis (Fig. 12b) of these data for scallops aged between 5-10 years (natural log transformed)
440 produced linear regressions that estimated the total mortality of scallops in the fished area (Z
441 $= 0.89$) to be higher than in the closed area ($Z = 0.77$) (Fig. 12b).

442 Comparisons of growth rates

443 Overlaying Von Bertalanffy growth curves for king scallops within and outside the reserve
444 across all years suggested a faster instantaneous growth rate (or more accurately, rate of
445 approach to theoretical maximum size) for scallops within the reserve ($k = 0.46$, $L_{\infty} = 151.01$, T_0
446 $= 0.13$) compared to outside ($k = 0.38$, $L_{\infty} = 153.18$, $T_0 = 0.13$). The Kimura likelihood ratio test
447 of co-incident curves revealed that these two growth models were significantly different from
448 one another ($RSS_{\omega} = 26784.47$, $X_2 = 6.77$, $df = 1$, $P < 0.05$). In contrast, there was no difference in
449 growth rates between in and outside the reserve for queen scallops ($RSS_{\omega} = 10215.69$, $X_2 = 5.30$,
450 $df = 1$, $P > 0.05$). Plotted growth curves are available in S 7.

451 Comparisons of exploitable and reproductive biomass

452 For the years in which scallop dissections were conducted, the exploitable (Fig. 13a) and
453 reproductive (Fig. 13b) biomass of king scallops were substantially greater within the reserve

454 than outside. In 2010, the average exploitable and reproductive biomass of king scallops was
455 18% and 39% greater within the reserve respectively. The following years saw the biomass of
456 king scallops increase within the reserve but remain relatively static outside. By 2013, the
457 exploitable and reproductive biomass of king scallops within the reserve had increased to
458 become 2 and 2.5 times more than in the fished area. Two-way ANOVA found level of
459 protection, but neither year nor the interaction between the two, to significantly affect king
460 scallop biomass (Table 5).

461 Similar to the fluctuations in queen scallop density, the exploitable and reproductive biomass
462 of queen scallops also fluctuated greatly over time. In 2010, there was little difference in both
463 the exploitable and reproductive biomass of queen scallops between the reserve and outside.
464 However, in 2011, the exploitable biomass of queen scallops tripled within the reserve before
465 returning to approximately 2010 levels in 2013. Overall, the exploitable biomass of queen
466 scallops was higher within the reserve across all years. In contrast, reproductive biomass was
467 lower within the reserve across all years and also fluctuated substantially. Two-way ANOVA
468 found level of protection, but not year nor the interaction between the two, to significantly
469 influence the exploitable biomass of queen scallops (Table 5). In comparison, level of
470 protection, year and the interaction between the two were all found to significantly influence
471 the reproductive biomass of queen scallops.

472 Plotting the exploitable and reproductive biomass of king scallops greater than 100 mm in
473 length combined for all years against shell length revealed little difference between the
474 reserve and outside, suggesting that the weight of gonads and adductor muscle per unit shell
475 length were not greater within the reserve than outside. Confirming this, ANCOVAs that took
476 into account differences in body size did not find any significant difference in the exploitable
477 biomass (ANCOVA; $F_{(1, 180)} = 0.05$, $P > 0.05$) and reproductive biomass (ANCOVA; $F_{(1, 180)} = 0.34$, P
478 > 0.05) of king scallops between the reserve and outside.

479 **Discussion**

480 This paper highlights a number of differences in the abundance, age, size and biomass of two
481 commercially important scallop species between a fully protected marine reserve and
482 surrounding fishing grounds. However, it must be stressed that there is no data available prior
483 to the establishment of the reserve. Ideally, a before-after control-impact (BACI) approach
484 would have been employed, capable of identifying that any differences between the reserve
485 and outside were due to the protection afforded by the marine reserve (Hilborn et al. 2004;

486 Sale et al. 2005). As this was not possible, we instead compared sites within the reserve to
487 reference sites located outside its boundaries over a study period of four years. In some cases,
488 the differences between the reserve and fishing grounds significantly increased over time,
489 meaning that the protection afforded by the marine reserve is likely to be responsible. For
490 instance, both the abundance of juvenile scallops and the reproductive biomass of queen
491 scallops displayed a significant interaction between year and protection. For all other cases, we
492 have evidence that differences between the reserve and outside exist but cannot confidently
493 conclude that protection is responsible for creating them.

494 Juvenile scallops were between two to five times more abundant within the marine reserve
495 than surrounding areas. Their greater abundance was related to a greater presence of nursery
496 habitat growing within the boundaries of the marine reserve. That is, the distribution of
497 juvenile scallops was strongly positively associated with the presence of macroalgae and
498 hydroids, showing that scallop spat settle more successfully in structurally complex habitats
499 (Paul 1981; Minchin 1992; Bradshaw et al. 2001; Kamenos et al. 2004a, b). Although data prior
500 to the establishment of the reserve was not collected, a parallel study (Howarth et al. in
501 review) found the abundance of these nursery habitats to be twice as great within the reserve
502 than on neighbouring fishing grounds, and that the abundance of these habitats had steadily
503 increased within the reserve over the four year study period. Theory and empirical evidence
504 suggest that differences between MPAs and references sites should become more pronounced
505 the longer the reserve is established (Roberts et al. 2005; Edgar et al. 2014). These results
506 therefore add to previous studies (e.g. Kaiser et al. 2000; Bradshaw et al. 2002; Howarth et al.
507 2011) which indicate that protecting areas from fishing can allow seafloor habitats to recover,
508 and as a result, can generate benefits that flow back to commercially important species. In the
509 long term, these effects are highly likely to increase the numbers of juvenile scallops entering
510 the adult stock as a greater proportion of juveniles survive to reach maturity (Beukers-Stewart
511 et al. 2003; Vause et al. 2007).

512 Over the four year study period, we found the abundance of juvenile scallops to fluctuate
513 greatly, alternating between high and low levels every two years. Since king and queen
514 scallops typically undergo at least one major spawning event around spring/summer (Brand
515 2006; Orensanz et al. 2006), and as our dive surveys were conducted between June-
516 September, it is unlikely that they were conducted too early in the year to detect the presence
517 of juvenile scallops. Rather, it is more likely that the populations were exhibiting the strong
518 natural fluctuations in recruitment typically observed in most scallop species (Paulet et al.

519 1988; Orensanz et al. 1991; Beukers-Stewart et al. 2003; Beukers-Stewart and Beukers-Stewart
520 2009). Nonetheless, it is argued that by allowing populations and spawning stock biomass to
521 recover, MPAs should offer higher and less variable catches in adjacent fishing grounds
522 (Bradshaw et al. 2001; Roberts et al. 2001, 2005). The following lines of discussion support
523 this.

524 When monitoring began in 2010 it was concluded that, despite providing apparent benefits to
525 juvenile scallops, the reserve in Lamlash Bay was yet to have a significant effect on the density
526 of adult scallops (Howarth et al. 2011). Likewise, in this extended study, neither time, nor level
527 of protection (i.e. in or outside the reserve), nor the interaction between the two were found
528 to be significantly affecting the density of adult king scallops. This result was surprising as the
529 density of king scallops had been consistently greater within the reserve than outside for the
530 past three years, and their density within the reserve had steadily increased over the four year
531 study period. Even so, as scallops breed by releasing both male and female gametes into the
532 water column during synchronised spawning events (Brand 2006), any increase in population
533 density will likely result in a rapid increase in fertilisation success (Macleod et al. 1985; Stoner
534 and Ray-Culp 2000; Vause et al. 2007).

535 Despite finding no significant difference in the density of adult scallops between the two
536 treatments, we did find that scallop density significantly declined with increasing distance from
537 the boundaries of the marine reserve. Many studies have detected similar gradients
538 (McClanahan and Mangi 2000; Harmelin-Vivien et al. 2008; Halpern et al. 2010; Ludford et al.
539 2012) and several possibilities could explain such a trend. Environmental gradients and spatial
540 heterogeneity of habitats are known to result in gradients of abundance (Vandeperre et al.
541 2011) but as our survey design was balanced (i.e. we surveyed an equal number of sites of
542 similar habitat and depth) this is unlikely. It could be that spillover of larvae and juveniles from
543 within the reserve to outside has occurred, and that its effects diminish with increasing
544 distance from the reserve (Kellner et al. 2007). This is possible as the larvae of these two
545 species typically spend 3–6 weeks in the water column where they can disperse over
546 considerable distances (Brand et al. 1980; Macleod et al. 1985). Then again, it may be that
547 fishers have been avoiding areas immediately outside and around the marine reserve since its
548 establishment, meaning fishing pressure would consequently increase with distance from the
549 reserve. This could be occurring as the marine reserve protects the north entrance to Lamlash
550 Bay (see Fig. 1), meaning fishers may choose to bypass the general area. Otherwise they would
551 have to haul their fishing gears whilst they passed over the reserve, or attempt to turn around

552 while fishing in the unprotected southern half of Lamlash Bay. As scallop densities were similar
553 out to 1 km away from the reserve, but then suddenly dropped at 1.5 km and remained similar
554 out to >2 km, this may be evidence of such a “halo effect” occurring. Furthermore, scallops
555 from the wider Clyde were substantially smaller than those measured in the Lamlash Bay area,
556 further supporting this idea.

557 We also found evidence that Lamlash Bay Marine Reserve was allowing the age and size
558 structure of scallop populations within its boundaries to return to a more natural and
559 extended state. The size and age of both scallop species were consistently greater within the
560 reserve than surrounding areas over the study period. On average, we found king scallops to
561 be 28 mm larger and 1.7 years older within the reserve than outside. Likewise, we found
562 queen scallops to be 13 mm larger and 0.8 years older within the reserve. King scallops within
563 Lamlash Bay Marine Reserve were also substantially larger than king scallops caught and
564 landed by the wider Firth of Clyde scallop fishery, suggesting this was not just a localised
565 phenomenon. By the end of our study, the exploitable biomass of king scallops within the
566 reserve was twice than what was observed outside, and the reproductive biomass 2.5 times
567 greater. As there was no significant interaction between protection and year, we could not
568 definitively attribute this difference to protection. Nevertheless, the greater levels of
569 reproductive biomass within the reserve should mean the reserve is contributing
570 disproportionately to recruitment compared to the size of area it protects by exporting large
571 amounts of larvae to surrounding areas (Beck et al. 2001; Gibb et al. 2007; Laurel et al. 2009;
572 Harrison et al. 2012). Furthermore, because scallops are broadcast spawners, the high
573 densities of scallops inside the reserve would have increased the proximity of individuals to
574 one another, which will enhance rates of fertilisation success and further add to levels of larval
575 export (Beukers-Stewart et al. 2005).

576 The greater abundance, age and size of scallops within the reserve are consistent with the
577 hypothesis that closing areas to fishing can protect individuals within their boundaries from
578 fishing-induced mortality. Although mortality rates were indeed lower within the reserve than
579 outside, we expected it to be far lower than the 0.77 observed in this study. For instance, a
580 study within a closed area off the Isle of Man estimated the natural mortality of king scallops
581 to be just 0.22 (Beukers-Stewart et al. 2005). The difference between our study and the one in
582 the Isle of Man can be explained by the relatively young age of the reserve in Lamlash Bay. This
583 area only became protected in 2008, meaning any scallops older than 2 years old had been
584 subject to fishing pressure, and still applies to any individuals greater than 5 years sampled in

585 2013 at the end of this study. Consequently, these older year classes remained at a low density
586 throughout our study. Furthermore, due to poor fit of the catch curve, we were only able to
587 plot the catch curve analysis on scallops older than 5 years, meaning all individuals within this
588 bracket would have been subject to fishing prior to the reserve becoming established. In
589 comparison, the Isle of Man closed area had been protected for over 14 years. It is therefore
590 highly likely that in order to achieve results like those observed in the Isle of Man, Lamlash Bay
591 marine reserve would have to be established for at least 10 to 15 years before it will give a
592 true indication of the natural population and natural mortality. Still, the overall reduction in
593 fishing pressure observed in this study should mean that scallops within the marine reserve are
594 no longer being damaged by mobile fishing gears and having to divert energy into shell repair
595 (Beukers-Stewart et al. 2005). One previous study off Devon, UK, found that this allowed
596 scallops within the boundaries of protected area to invest a greater proportion of metabolic
597 energy into body growth and gonad development (Kaiser et al. 2007). On the contrary, we
598 observed no difference in the weight of adductor muscle or gonads per unit shell length
599 between Lamlash Bay Marine Reserve and fishing grounds, in agreement with the study off the
600 Isle of Man (Beukers-Stewart et al. 2005).

601 The differences between the Lamlash Bay Marine Reserve and control areas observed in this
602 study are less pronounced than those documented in other MPAs (Beukers-Stewart et al.
603 2005; Hart et al. 2013). However, those studies were conducted over a decade after MPA
604 implementation and in control areas subject to much greater fishing pressure. If anything,
605 these studies suggest further improvements in scallop stocks are likely to occur within Lamlash
606 Bay Marine Reserve in the future, since it had only been established for 2-5 years during the
607 period of study (Roberts et al. 2001, 2005). Our findings also present an interesting
608 comparison to a recent study conducted in Wales, which found no evidence of scallop recovery
609 within an MPA (Sciberras et al. 2013). The lack of response in that case was attributed to high
610 levels of natural disturbance. However, this study was conducted during just the first 23
611 months of protection and high levels of illegal fishing within the MPA have since been detected
612 (Milford and West Wales Mercury 2012; Misstear 2012; Morris 2014). In contrast, due to
613 almost constant visual surveillance of Lamlash Bay Marine Reserve by COAST and its members,
614 illegal fishing has been comparatively rare in Lamlash Bay (VMS data Marine Scotland 2014). It
615 is therefore possible that the action and involvement of the local community in establishing
616 and monitoring Lamlash Bay Marine Reserve has contributed to its success in improving
617 scallop stocks.

618 It should be noted that several other scientists have performed scallop surveys in Lamlash Bay.
619 The first of these was done just a month after the reserve was established in October 2008
620 (Axelsson et al. 2009). These surveys estimated the density of both scallop species to be
621 around 3 individuals per 100 m². In contrast, we estimated the densities of both scallop species
622 to be between 6-8 per 100 m² in 2010. This difference could be taken as evidence of the
623 reserve allowing scallop densities to return to more natural levels over the preceding two
624 years. However, those early surveys utilised drop-down cameras to record the abundance of
625 scallops. Diver surveys, such as those employed in our study, are thought to produce more
626 accurate and reliable estimates of scallop density (Mason et al. 1982; Beukers-Stewart et al.
627 2001) meaning direct comparisons cannot be made. Emphasizing potential differences
628 between these two methodologies, drop down cameras employed by Boulcott et al. (2012)
629 estimated the density of king scallops in 2010 to be between 4-5 individuals per 100 m². In
630 comparison, our study estimated king scallop density to be markedly higher at 6-7.5 individuals
631 per 100 m². It should be noted that, in agreement with our work, neither of these previous
632 studies found significant differences in the density of adult inside and outside of the reserve.
633 However, given the lower densities they detected, this would have been less likely than using
634 our methodology.

635 In summary, we have presented several lines of evidence that suggest Scotland's first and only
636 fully protected marine reserve is benefitting two commercially important scallop species. The
637 growing abundance of nursery habitats within the marine reserve appears to be substantially
638 increasing the settlement juvenile scallops, suggesting that protecting areas from fishing can
639 generate ecological benefits that flow back to species commercially targeted by fisheries. Then
640 again, for fisheries to truly benefit from marine reserves, it is essential that larvae, juveniles
641 and adults originating from within the reserve spillover into surrounding fishing grounds where
642 they can then contribute to landings (McClanahan and Mangi 2000; Stelzenmüller et al. 2007).
643 The greater size, age and reproductive biomass we observed within the reserve should
644 translate to higher reproductive output and scallop recruitment both within the marine
645 reserve and surrounding fishing grounds, especially if these trends continue to increase over
646 time (Pelc et al. 2010). Overall, our results support an increasing number of other studies
647 which suggest the implementation of MPAs can be a useful tool in ecosystem-based fishery
648 management. This is important as studies into the effects of MPAs are far less common in
649 temperate and cold waters, and are particularly limited in Europe and the UK (Lester et al.
650 2009; Caveen et al. 2012; Fenberg et al. 2012). Lamlash Bay is the first and only fully protected
651 marine reserve in Scotland, and the only statutory reserve in the UK that was originally

652 proposed by a local community which bans all extractive activities (Prior 2011). Researching
653 the marine reserve in Lamlash Bay has therefore offered a vital insight into the benefits that
654 highly protected marine reserves can provide. In particular, this study highlights that full
655 protection and support from the local community is likely to be highly important in maximising
656 the effectiveness of MPAs as any illegal extraction would have further weakened the
657 differences between Lamlash Bay Marine Reserve and surrounding fishing grounds.

658

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668

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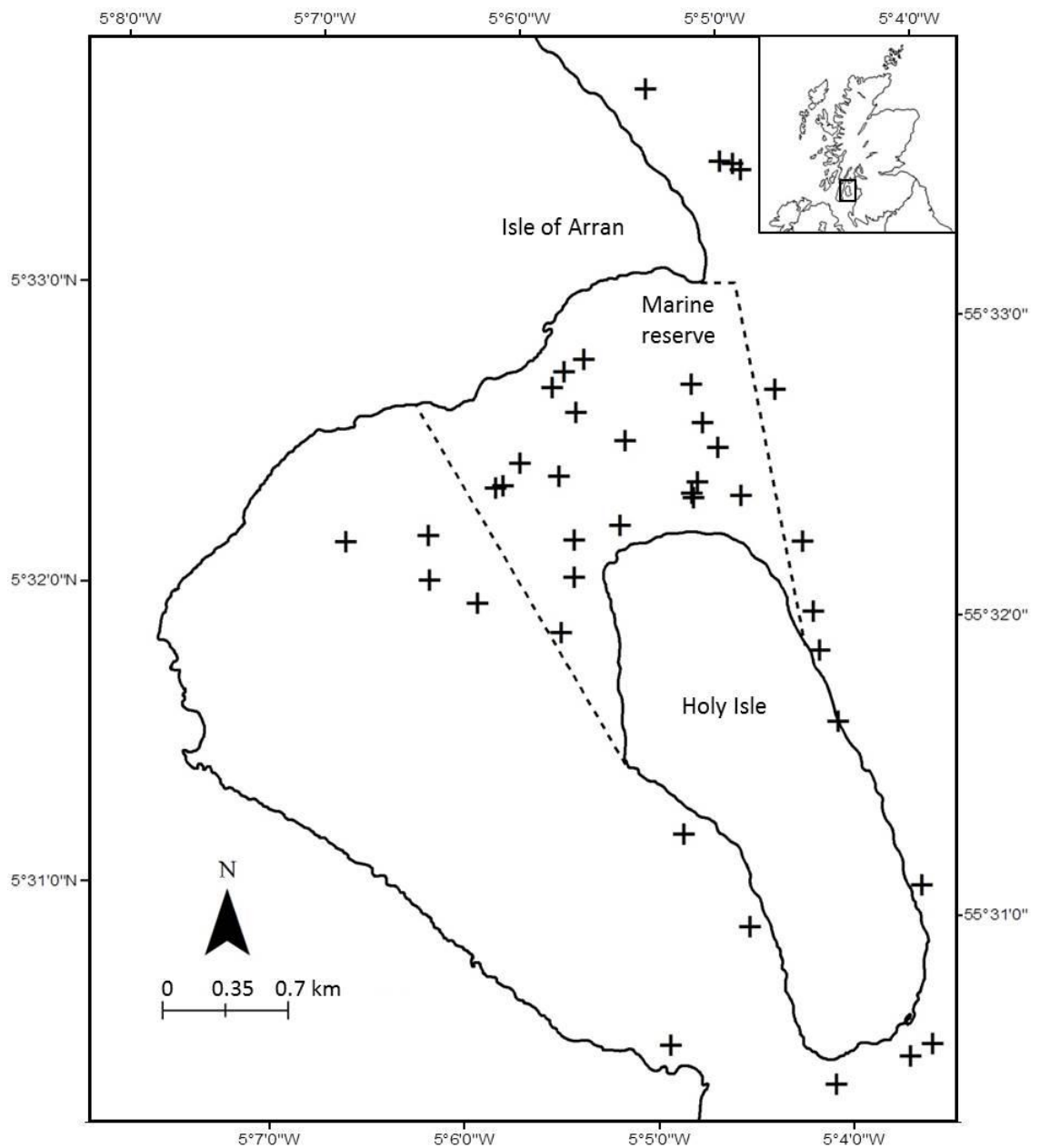
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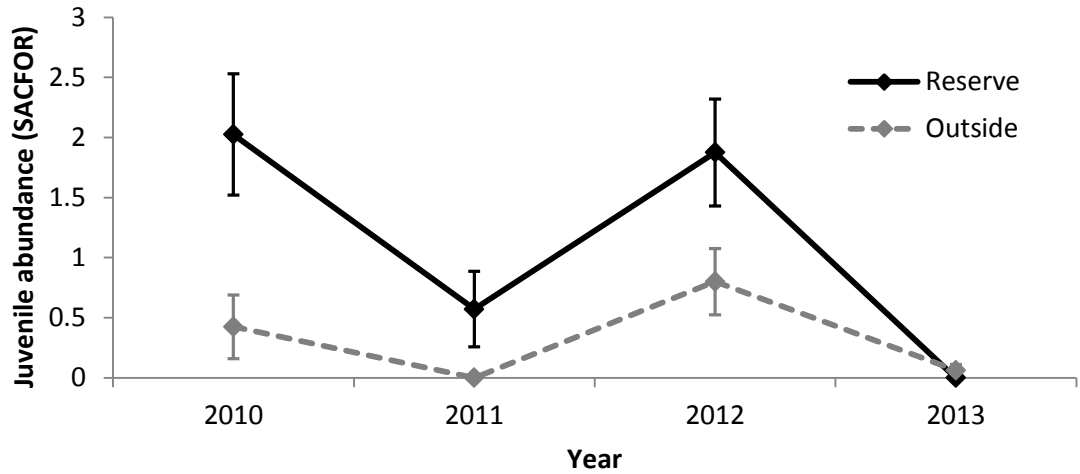
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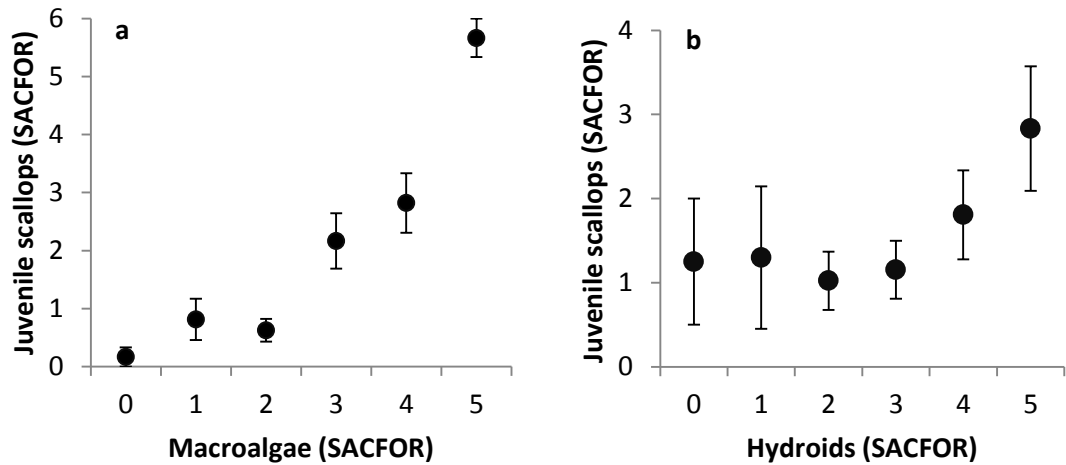
2 **Fig. 1** Site locations of dive transects for all years. Also displayed are the boundaries of the
3 Lamlash Bay fully protected marine reserve. The inset shows the location of the Isle of Arran
4 off the west coast of Scotland, United Kingdom.

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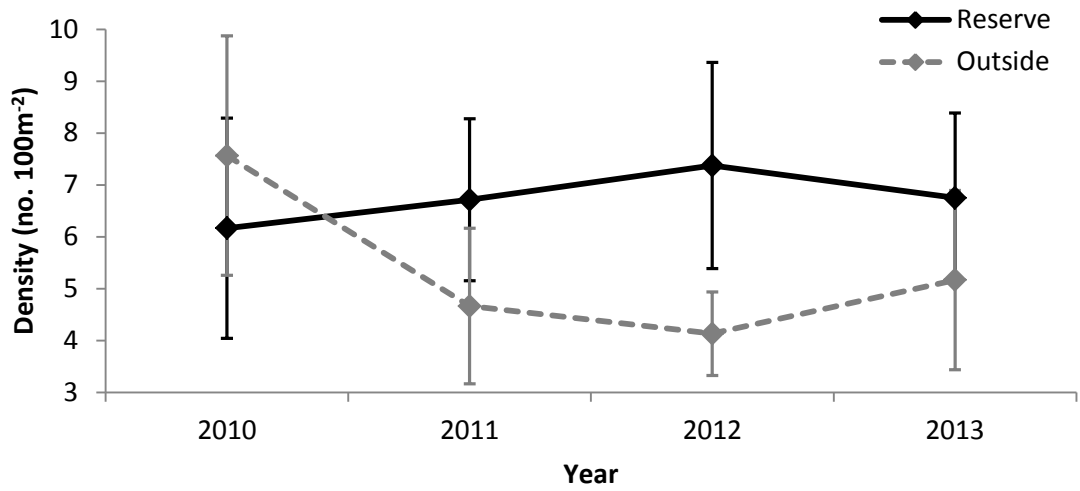
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7 **Fig. 2** The mean estimated abundance (SACFOR) of juvenile scallops within and outside the
 8 fully protected marine reserve across four years. Error bars represent ± 1 SE.



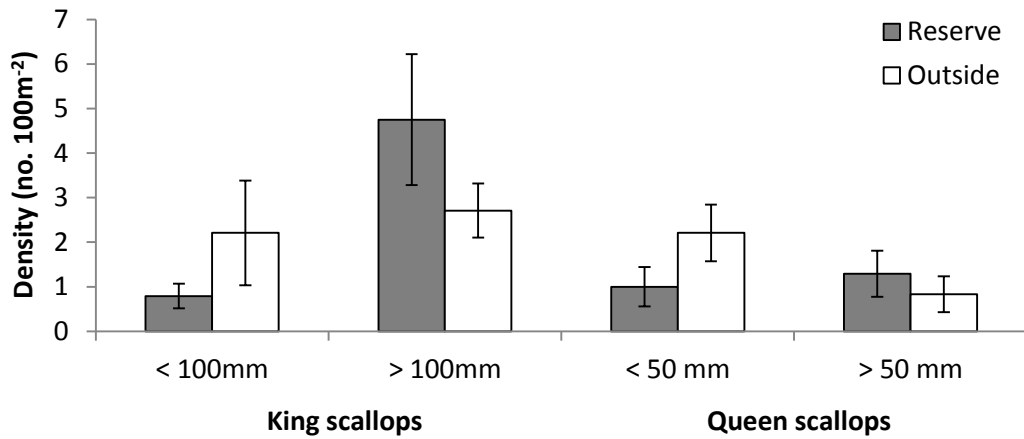
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10 **Fig. 3** Mean abundance of juvenile scallops in relation to the mean abundance of macroalgae
 11 (a) and hydroids (b). These trends were highlighted as significant by a GLM. Error bars
 12 represent ± 1 SE.



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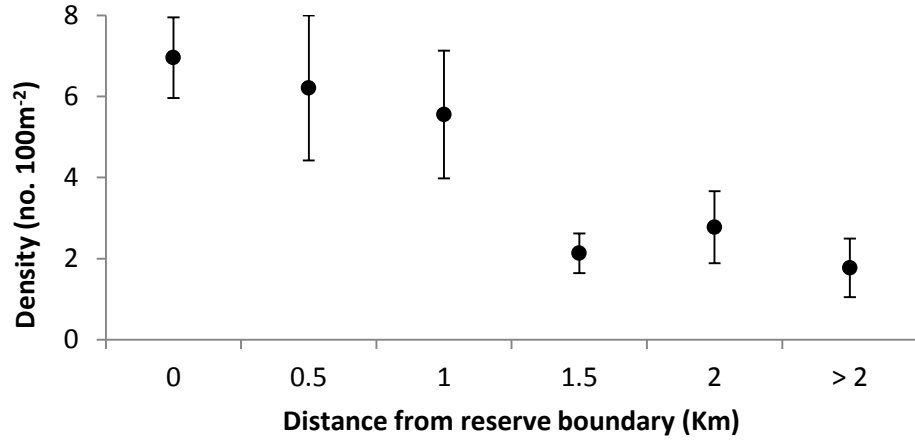
Fig. 4 The mean density of king scallops in and outside the fully protected marine reserve across four years. Error bars represent ± 1 SE.



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Fig. 5 The density of different size classes of two scallop species sampled in 2013 within and outside a fully protected marine reserve. Error bars represent ± 1 SE.



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24 **Fig. 6** Mean density of king scallops for the years 2010-2013 plotted against distance from the
25 marine reserve. A distance of 0 represents those sites located within the marine reserve. Error
26 bars represent ± 1 SE.

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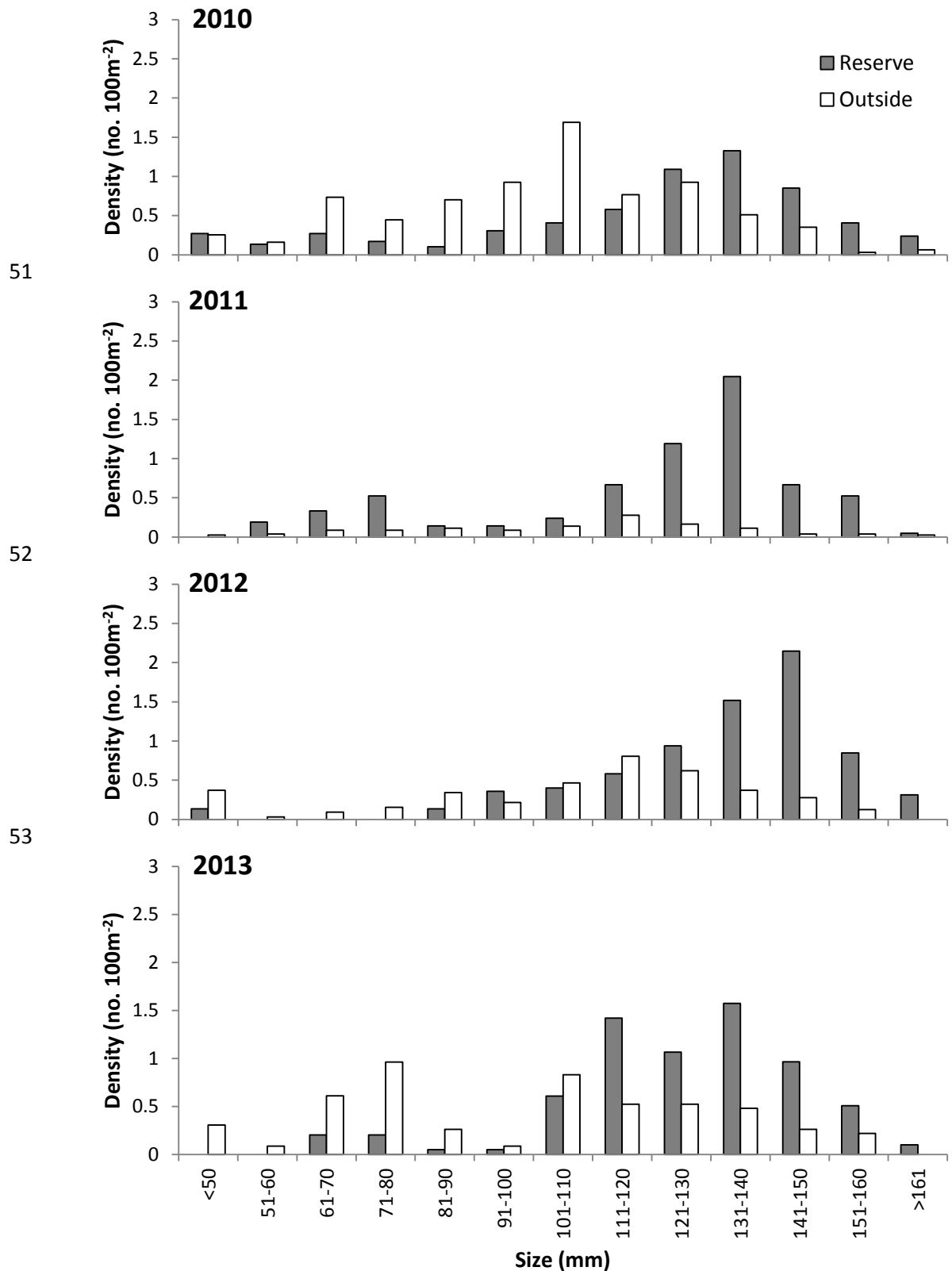
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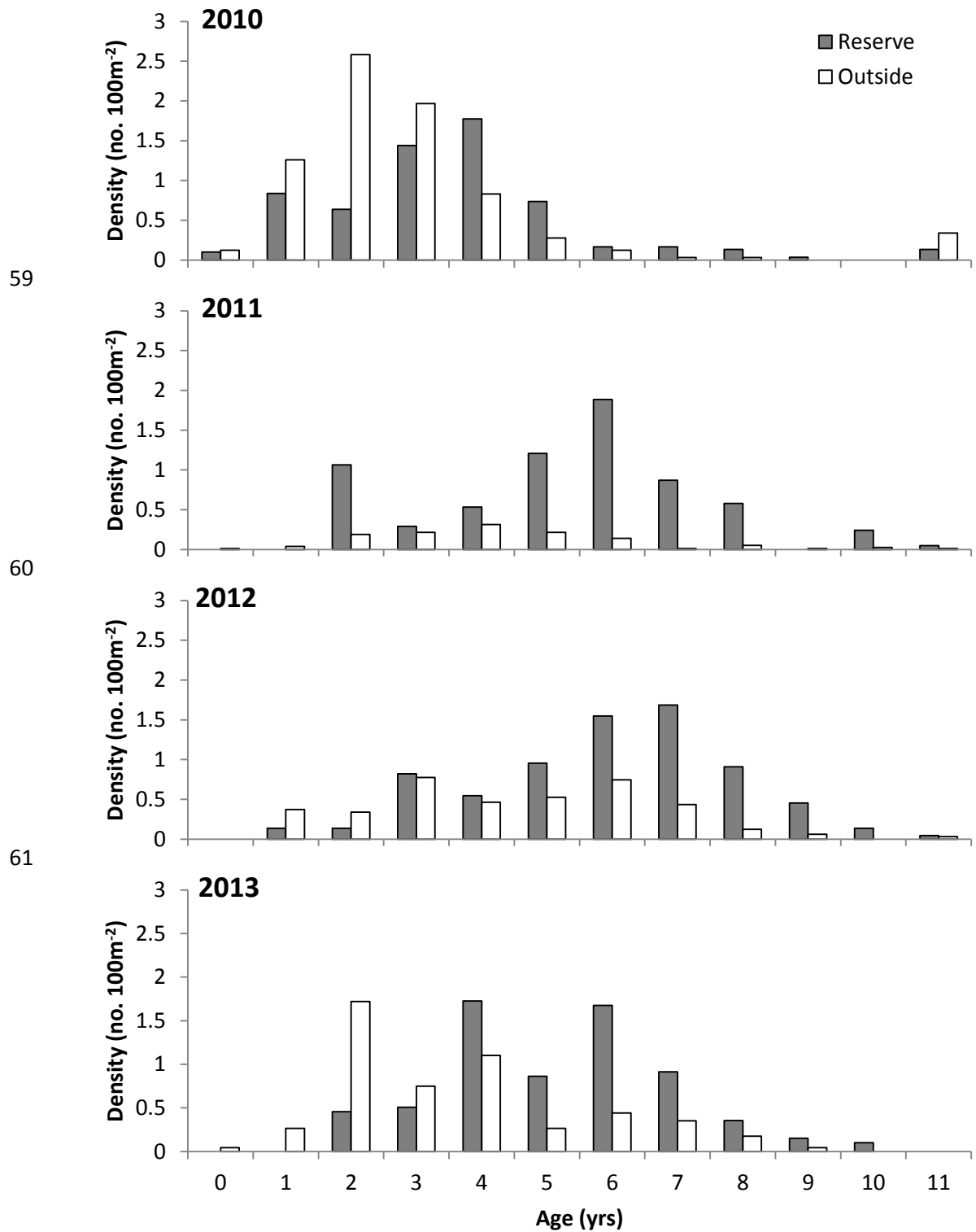
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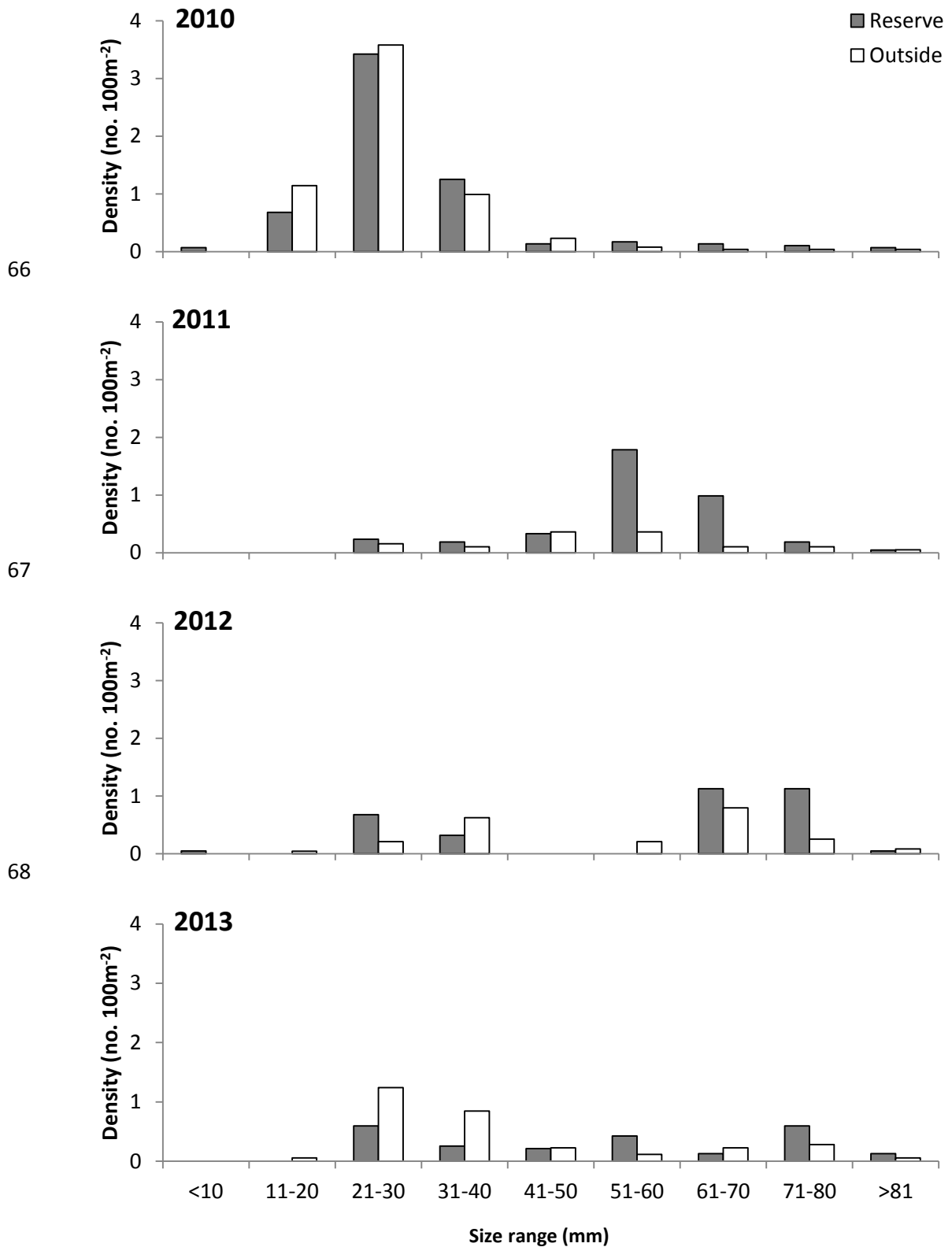
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 55 **Fig. 7** The size structure of king scallops sampled within and outside the fully protected marine
 56 reserve across four years. The number (N) of individuals sampled from each population is
 57 available in Table 4.
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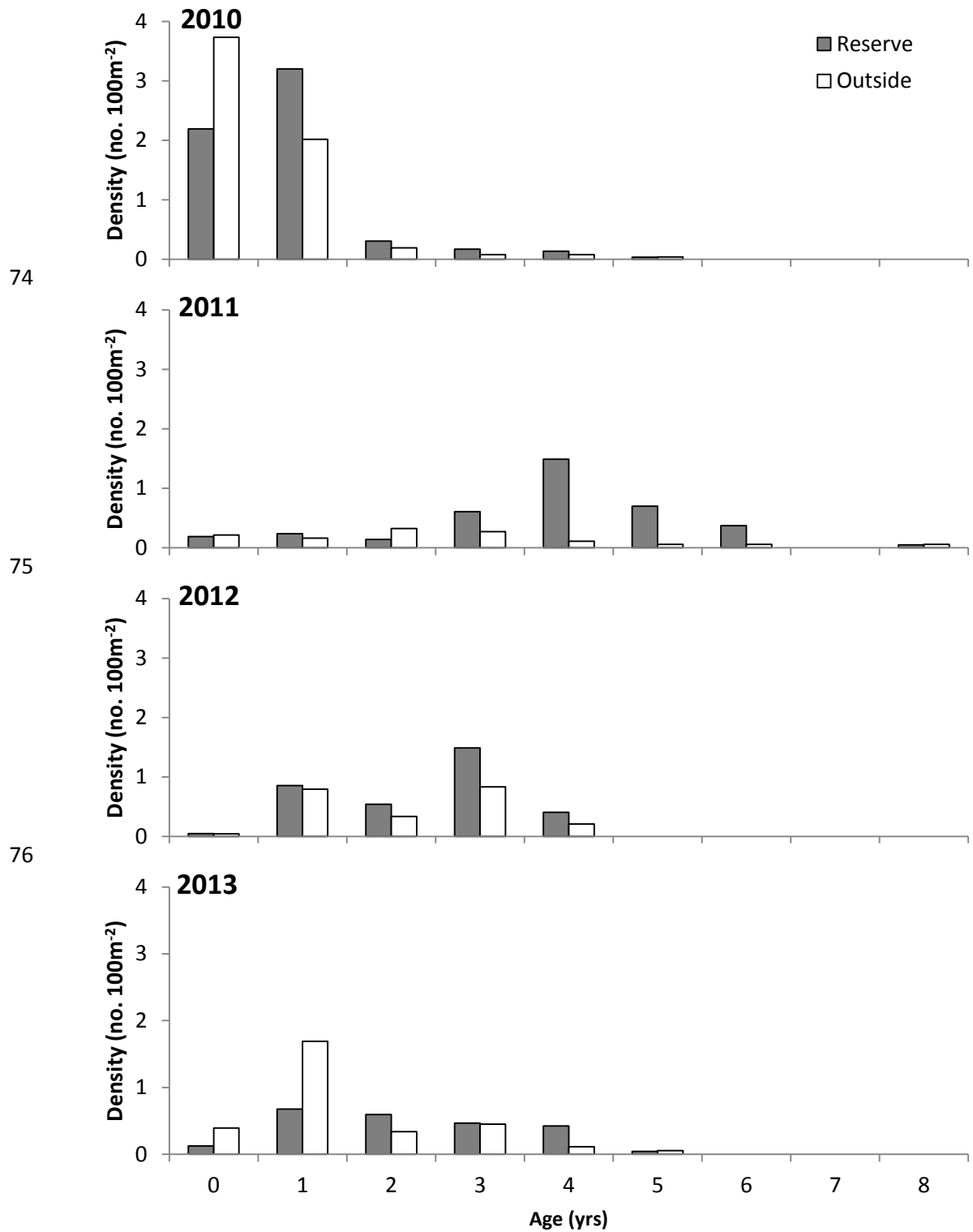


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 63 **Fig. 8** The age structure of king scallops sampled within and outside the fully protected marine
 64 reserve across four years. The number (N) of individuals sampled from each population is
 65 available in Table 4.

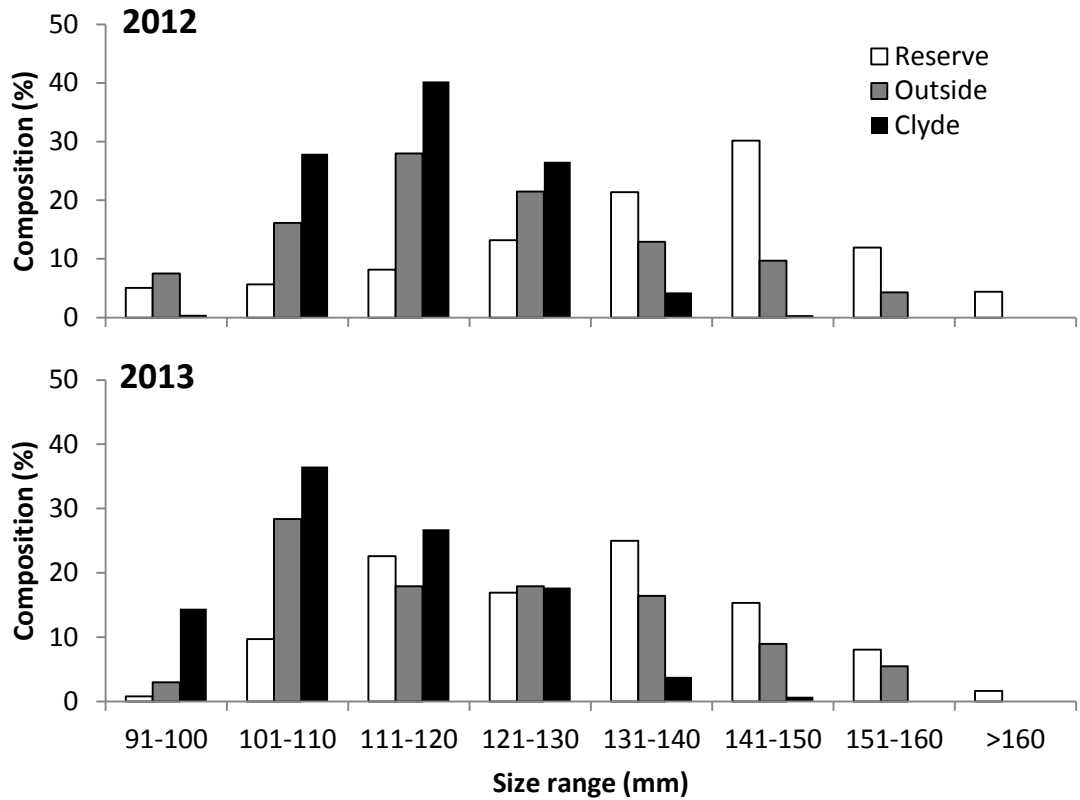


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70 **Fig. 9** The size structure of queen scallops sampled within and outside the fully protected
 71 marine reserve across four years. The number (N) of individuals sampled from each population
 72 is available in Tables 4.
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 78 **Fig. 10** The age structure of queen scallops sampled within and outside the fully protected
 79 marine reserve across four years. The number (N) of individuals sampled from each population
 80 is available in Table 4.



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Fig. 11 The size composition of king scallops above legal landing size sampled within and outside the fully protected marine reserve across two years. Also displayed is the size composition of king scallops caught and landed within the Firth of Clyde region. Data provided by Shona Kinnear of Marine Scotland - Science.

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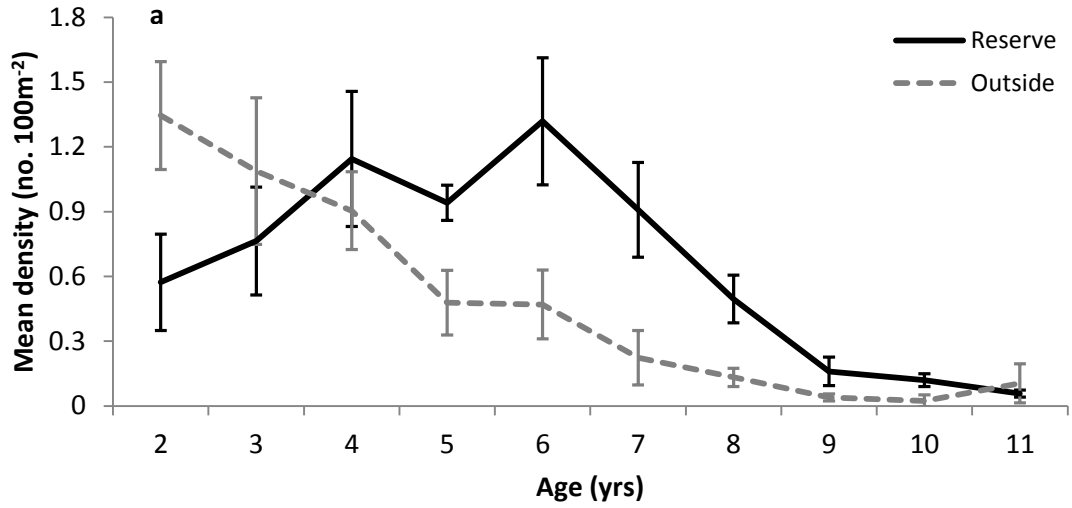
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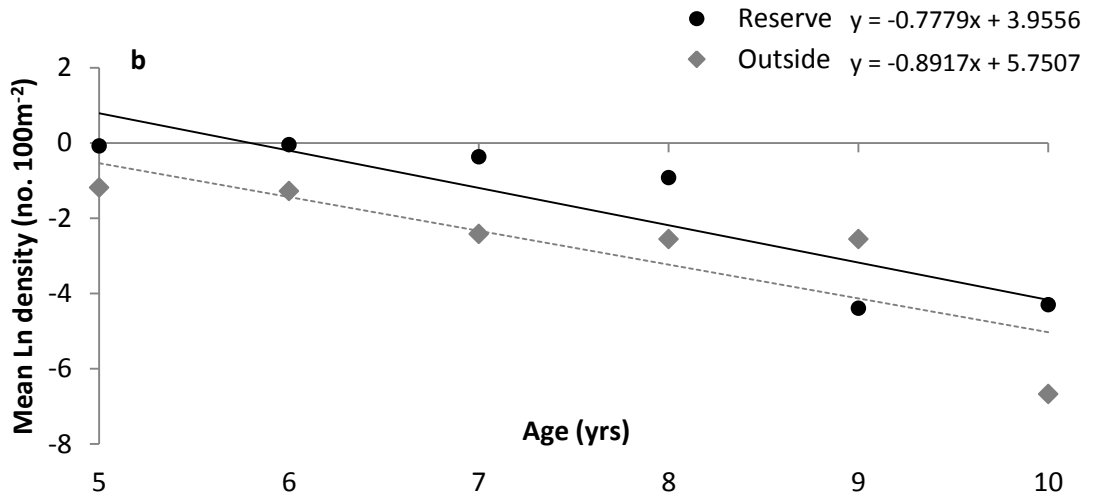
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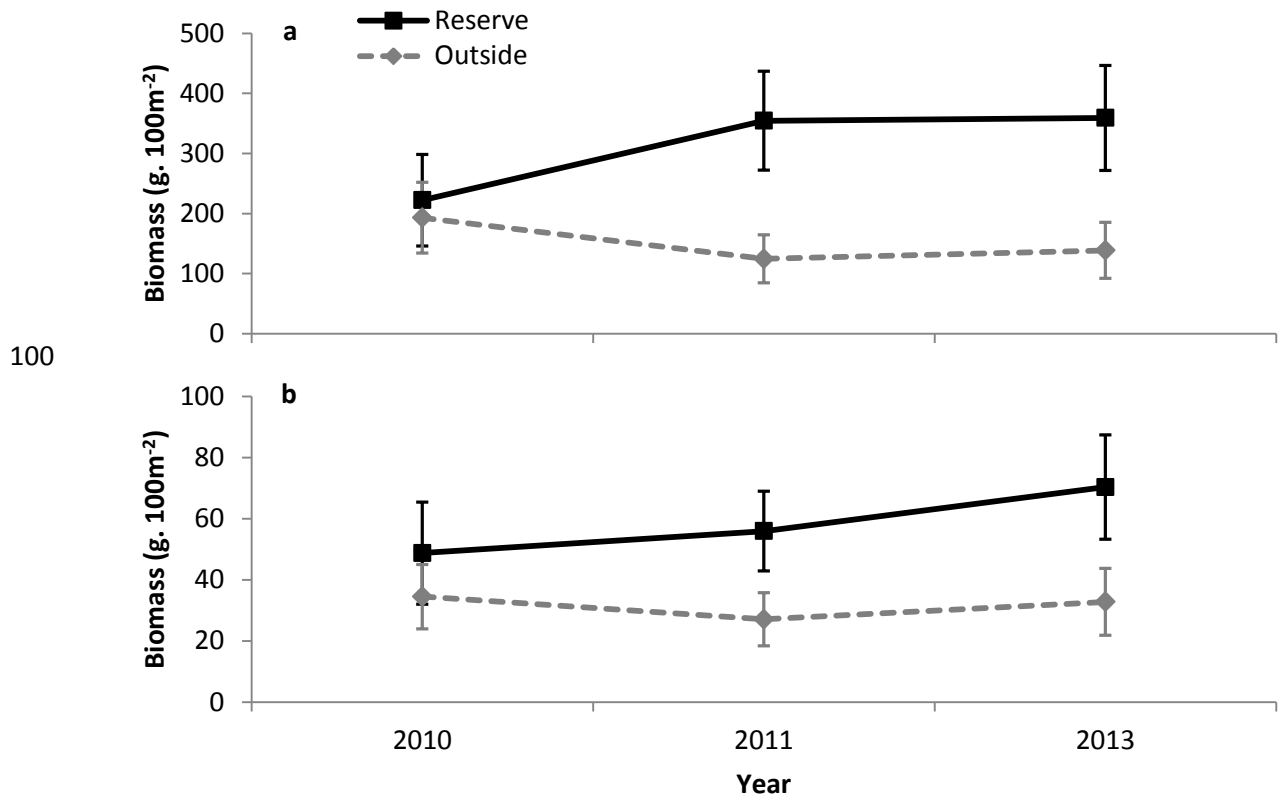


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97 **Fig. 12** (a) The density per age-class of king scallops within and outside the reserve across the
 98 years 2010-2013. (b) Catch curve analysis (total mortality estimates) of king scallops within and
 99 outside the reserve across the years 2010-2013.



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 102 **Fig. 13** The mean exploitable (a) and reproductive (b) biomass of king scallops within and
 103 outside the fully protected marine reserve for the years when scallop dissections were
 104 conducted. Error bars represent ± 1 SE.

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1 **Table 1.** Two-way ANOVA comparing juvenile scallop abundance between the marine reserve
 2 and outside across the years 2010-2013. Significant results are denoted by (*).

| Test variable | SS | df | MS | F | P |
|-------------------|--------|-----|-------|-------|---------|
| Year | 55.89 | 3 | 18.63 | 13.96 | *<0.001 |
| Protection | 23.33 | 1 | 23.33 | 17.48 | *<0.001 |
| Year x Protection | 18.57 | 3 | 6.19 | 4.63 | *0.004 |
| Residual | 206.82 | 155 | 1.33 | | |

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5 **Table 2** The reduced and full models were created from a Poisson GLM to test whether
 6 environmental and ecological data reflected the distribution and abundance of juvenile
 7 scallops. Significant terms are denoted by (*).

| Variables retained by reduced model | | | |
|-------------------------------------|------|-------|---------|
| Variable | SE | Z | P |
| Macroalgae | 0.07 | 7.98 | *<0.001 |
| Hydroids | 0.12 | 3.91 | *<0.001 |
| Sponge | 0.16 | -1.7 | * 0.043 |
| Protection | 0.22 | 1.7 | * 0.046 |
| Variables removed from model | | | |
| Variable | SE | Z | P |
| Depth | 0.04 | -0.75 | 0.449 |
| Dead maerl | 0.06 | -0.47 | 0.635 |
| Live maerl | 0.2 | -0.8 | 4.432 |
| Anemones | 0.11 | 0.72 | 0.474 |
| Soft coral | 0.19 | -1.78 | 0.076 |
| Tunicates | 0.1 | -0.01 | 0.994 |
| Bryozoans | 0.11 | -0.41 | 0.68 |

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17 **Table 3.** Two-way ANOVA comparing scallop densities (sqrt transformed) between the marine
 18 reserve and outside across the years 2010-2013. Significant results are denoted by (*).

| Species | Test variable | SS | df | MS | F | P |
|-------------------|-------------------|--------|-----|------|-------|-------|
| King scallops | Year | 0.14 | 3 | 0.05 | 0.02 | 0.99 |
| | Protection | 0.79 | 1 | 0.8 | 0.38 | 0.54 |
| | Year x Protection | 4.61 | 3 | 1.54 | 0.74 | 0.53 |
| | Residual | 254.3 | 123 | 2.1 | | |
| Queen scallops | Year | 18.45 | 3 | 6.15 | 3.506 | *0.01 |
| | Protection | 0.07 | 1 | 0.07 | 0.04 | 0.84 |
| | Year x Protection | 1.9 | 3 | 0.62 | 0.36 | 0.79 |
| | Residual | 215.78 | 123 | 1.75 | | |

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22 **Table 4** Outputs from the Kolmogorov–Smirnov (K–S) 2 sample tests used to compare the size
 23 and age distributions (% composition) of two commercially important species of scallop
 24 located in and outside the fully protected marine reserve.

| | Year | Reserve (N) | Outside (N) | Size | | Age | |
|-------------------|------|-------------|-------------|------|----------|-------|---------|
| | | | | KS-Z | P | K-S Z | P |
| King scallops | 2010 | 181 | 237 | 4.12 | * <0.001 | 3.38 | * <0.01 |
| | 2011 | 139 | 98 | 2.83 | * <0.001 | 2.59 | * <0.01 |
| | 2012 | 162 | 125 | 3.97 | * <0.001 | 2.42 | * <0.01 |
| | 2013 | 133 | 118 | 3.65 | * <0.001 | 3.09 | * <0.01 |
| Queen scallops | 2010 | 179 | 161 | 1.64 | * 0.009 | 2.26 | * <0.01 |
| | 2011 | 81 | 24 | 1.39 | * 0.041 | 1.39 | * 0.04 |
| | 2012 | 74 | 53 | 1.4 | * 0.04 | 5.17 | * <0.01 |
| | 2013 | 133 | 54 | 5.77 | * <0.001 | 3.77 | * <0.01 |

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32 **Table 5** Two-way ANOVAs comparing the exploitable and reproductive biomass of two species
 33 of scallop between the marine reserve and outside. Significant results are denoted by an (*).

| Source | Test variable | SS | df | MS | F | P |
|---|-------------------|------------|----|-----------|------|--------|
| King scallops (exploitable biomass) | Year | 2235.37 | 2 | 1117.68 | 0.36 | 0.69 |
| | Protection | 17447.68 | 1 | 17447.68 | 5.61 | *0.02 |
| | Year x Protection | 2613.66 | 2 | 1306.83 | 0.42 | 0.66 |
| | Residual | 8343594.12 | 94 | 78655.26 | | |
| King scallops (reproductive biomass) | Year | 34078.71 | 2 | 17039.35 | 0.22 | 0.81 |
| | Protection | 625559.91 | 1 | 625559.91 | 7.95 | *<0.01 |
| | Year x Protection | 229638.67 | 2 | 114819.33 | 1.46 | 0.24 |
| | Residual | 7393594.64 | 94 | 78655.26 | | |
| Queen scallops (exploitable biomass) | Year | 1508.74 | 2 | 754.37 | 2.42 | 0.1 |
| | Protection | 1138.27 | 1 | 1138.27 | 3.65 | *0.05 |
| | Year x Protection | 884.79 | 2 | 442.39 | 1.42 | 0.25 |
| | Residual | 29332.83 | 94 | 312.05 | | |
| Queen scallops (reproductive biomass) | Year | 766.83 | 2 | 383.42 | 7.76 | *<0.01 |
| | Protection | 298.31 | 1 | 298.31 | 6.04 | *0.02 |
| | Year x Protection | 306.65 | 2 | 153.33 | 3.10 | *0.05 |
| | Residual | 4645.80 | 94 | 49.42 | | |

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Supplementary material

[Click here to download Electronic Supplementary Material \(Tables, Figures, Video, Movie, Audio, etc.\): Supplementary material.docx](#)