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## **Interim Report**

**IR-09-059**

### **Propensity of marine reserves to reduce the evolutionary effects of fishing in a migratory species**

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# 1     **Propensity of marine reserves to reduce the evolutionary effects of** 2                                   **fishing in a migratory species**

## 3     **Abstract**

4     Evolutionary effects of fishing can have unwanted consequences diminishing a fishery's value  
5     and sustainability. Reserves, or no-take areas, have been proposed as a management tool for  
6     reducing fisheries-induced selection, but their effectiveness for migratory species has remained  
7     unexplored. Here we develop an eco-genetic model to predict the effects of marine reserves on  
8     fisheries-induced evolution under migration. Our model is parameterized for Atlantic cod  
9     (*Gadus morhua*) in the northern part of its range, describing a stock that undergoes an annual  
10    migration between feeding and spawning grounds. Our analysis leads to the following  
11    conclusions: (i) A reserve in a stock's feeding grounds, protecting immature and mature fish  
12    alike, reduces fisheries-induced evolution, even though protected and unprotected population  
13    components mix on the spawning grounds. (ii) In contrast, a reserve in a stock's spawning  
14    grounds, protecting only mature fish, has little mitigating effects on fisheries-induced evolution  
15    and can sometimes even exacerbate its magnitude. (iii) Evolutionary changes that are already  
16    underway may be difficult to reverse with a reserve. (iv) After a reserve is created or enlarged,  
17    most reserve scenarios result in yield losses. (v) Timescale is very important: in the wake of a  
18    reserve's creation, short-term yield losses can lead to long-term gains.

19    **Keywords:** fisheries-induced adaptive change; contemporary evolution; marine reserve; marine  
20    protected area; density-dependent growth; phenotypic plasticity; migration; Atlantic cod.

## 21 **Introduction**

22 Recent theoretical studies (e.g., Ernande et al. 2004; Thériault et al. 2008; Dunlop et al. 2009;  
23 Arlinghaus et al. 2009; Enberg et al. 2009; Jørgensen et al. 2009) and empirical assessments (e.g.,  
24 Ricker 1981; Grift et al. 2003; Olsen et al. 2004; Mollet et al. 2007) have provided compelling  
25 evidence that fishing can induce evolutionary changes in key life-history traits. For example, the  
26 most commonly observed fisheries-induced trend attributed to evolution is toward earlier ages  
27 and smaller sizes at maturation (see recent reviews by Jørgensen et al. 2007; Kuparinen and  
28 Merilä 2007; Hutchings and Fraser 2008; Dunlop et al. 2009). If occurring, these evolutionary  
29 changes could cause reduced body sizes in the catch; diminish a stock's productivity, stability,  
30 and recovery potential; lead to economic losses; and take a long time to reverse (Kirkpatrick 1993;  
31 Heino 1998; Law 2000; Dunlop et al. 2009; Conover et al. 2009; Enberg et al. 2009). Therefore,  
32 managers need viable options for mitigating the unwanted evolutionary consequences of fishing.  
33 Even though the evidence for fisheries-induced evolution has triggered some lively debate in the  
34 literature (Hilborn 2006; Conover and Munch 2007; Browman et al. 2008; Heino et al. 2008;  
35 Jørgensen et al. 2008b; Kuparinen and Merilä 2008; Swain et al. 2008), the precautionary  
36 approach to fisheries management warrants that the potential consequences of evolution be  
37 carefully considered to ensure sustainable fisheries.

38 Marine reserves are seen as an important tool in bringing an ecosystem perspective to  
39 fisheries management, because they help preserve ecosystem structure and function, with  
40 possibly positive effects also occurring outside the reserves (Costanza et al. 1998; Pauly et al.  
41 2002; Lubchenco et al. 2003). Moreover, by protecting a certain segment of a population from  
42 harvest, marine reserves might also reduce, stop, or reverse the evolutionary consequences of  
43 fishing. This reasoning has led some to propose marine reserves as a potential tool for managing

44 evolving fish stocks (Conover and Munch 2002; Law 2007). Marine reserves may be expected to  
45 reduce the overall selective pressures causing, for example, earlier maturation, because they  
46 could be expected to protect a proportion of the population's individuals with genotypes coding  
47 for delayed maturation (Trexler and Travis 2000). A study by Baskett et al. (2005) supports this  
48 hypothesis. Based on the analysis of a quantitative genetic model, Baskett et al. (2005) predict  
49 marine reserves to reduce fisheries-induced selection for smaller sizes at maturation, provided the  
50 reserves are large enough relative to the target species' dispersal range. Similarly, a simple age-  
51 structured individual-based model by Miethe et al. (2009) also predicts the creation of reserves to  
52 reduce evolution of smaller sizes at maturation. Marine reserves might furthermore offer  
53 additional evolutionary benefits, such as the protection of genetic diversity (Perez-Ruzafa et al.  
54 2006).

55         Compared to traditional management approaches (including size limits and effort limits),  
56 marine reserves may not enhance fisheries or provide effective protection from overexploitation,  
57 particularly in mobile or migratory species (Hannesson 1998; Hilborn et al. 2004; Kaiser 2005).  
58 As many commercially harvested species undergo seasonal migrations or are highly mobile, this  
59 possibility deserves careful consideration. Indeed, most documented cases of fisheries benefits  
60 derived from the implementation of a marine reserve are for coral-reef species, which have a  
61 more localized home range (Halpern and Warner 2002; Halpern 2003). However, even though  
62 reserves may be less effective for highly mobile species (Kramer and Chapman 1999; Botsford et  
63 al. 2001; Gerber et al. 2005), they may still offer much needed protection of life stages or  
64 locations that are particularly vulnerable to harvest (Gell and Roberts 2003; Roberts et al. 2005).

65         Migratory species give rise to additional complications when considering the  
66 effectiveness of reserves for reducing undesirable effects of fisheries-induced evolution. In  
67 particular, for the many commercially important fish stocks that undergo an annual migration

68 between feeding grounds and spawning grounds (including many pelagic species such as tunas  
69 and clupeoids, and demersal species such as Atlantic cod and plaice), the selective pressures  
70 imposed by fishing can vary considerably depending on where fishing takes place. Fishing in the  
71 feeding grounds can be expected to cause evolution of earlier maturation, if both juveniles and  
72 adults are captured (Law and Grey 1989; Heino et al. 2002b; Heino and Godø 2002). In contrast,  
73 fishing in the spawning grounds favors individuals that delay maturation until they are larger and  
74 more fecund (Law and Grey 1989; Heino and Godø 2002). From a combined evolutionary and  
75 management perspective, fishing in the feeding grounds results in possibly undesirable  
76 consequences, because individuals allocate energy away from growth and toward reproduction  
77 earlier in life, potentially altering biomass and yield (Law and Grey 1989). A marine reserve  
78 could have very different effects depending on whether it is located in feeding or spawning  
79 grounds (Law 2007). In such cases, the ideal placement and effects of a marine reserve are not  
80 straightforward. Protection on the feeding grounds might dilute some of the benefits of  
81 implementing a marine reserve, because adults might fully mix in the spawning grounds.  
82 Conversely, protection on the spawning grounds might exacerbate evolution of earlier maturation  
83 caused by a feeding-ground fishery because individuals may gain higher fitness from maturing  
84 early to seek protection on the spawning grounds (Law 2007). So far, it is also unclear how soon  
85 after a reserve's establishment potentially mitigating evolutionary consequences might take  
86 effect, and how trade-offs between short-term and long-term reserve effects might complicate the  
87 evaluation of management strategies.

88 In this study, we present an eco-genetic model (e.g., Dunlop et al. 2007; Thériault et al.  
89 2008; Dunlop et al. 2009; Enberg et al. this issue; Okamoto et al. this issue; Wang and Höök this  
90 issue) to explore the effects of marine reserves on the evolutionary response to fishing in a  
91 migratory species. Our model is motivated by the life history of Atlantic cod (*Gadus morhua*).

92 Many northern populations of Atlantic cod, most notably Northeast Arctic cod off northern  
93 Norway and Icelandic cod on the Icelandic Shelf, display a far-ranging annual migration between  
94 spawning and feeding grounds (Robichaud and Rose 2001; Godø 2003; Pálsson and  
95 Thorsteinsson 2003; Robichaud and Rose 2004). Northern populations of cod also share other  
96 life-history characteristics such as relatively slow growth to potentially large body size and  
97 relatively late maturation at large size. Moreover, cod is among the most valuable fishery targets  
98 in the North Atlantic, and there is evidence suggesting that significant fisheries-induced evolution  
99 has already occurred in many cod populations (Heino et al. 2002b; Barot et al. 2004; Olsen et al.  
100 2004; Olsen et al. 2005; Swain et al. 2007, 2008). Here we do not aim at precisely modeling any  
101 particular cod population, but instead develop and analyze a model representing life history of  
102 cod in the northern parts of its range, as an example of a commercially exploited, long-lived,  
103 migratory fish.

104 The model developed here extends previous marine-reserve models (e.g., Guenette and  
105 Pitcher 1999; Baskett et al. 2005; Hart 2006; Miethe et al. 2009) by (i) considering the evolution  
106 of multiple life-history traits (for growth, maturation schedule, and reproductive investment), (ii)  
107 accounting for density dependence in growth and reproduction, and (iii) examining a migratory  
108 life history. The inclusion of density-dependent somatic growth is a particularly relevant  
109 extension, because it is known to play a critical role in determining the effectiveness of a reserve  
110 under conditions of crowding (Gårdmark et al. 2006).

111 Below, we first present an eco-genetic model for a migratory population harvested on  
112 spawning and feeding grounds. We then investigate scenarios in which a marine reserve is  
113 established either on the stock's spawning grounds or on its feeding grounds, by comparing life-  
114 history evolution, total catch, and fish size in the catch. Finally, we assess the sensitivity of our  
115 findings to assumptions about movement rates, presence or absence of natal homing or spawning

116 migration, and displacement of fishing effort. Our results suggest that a reserve located on a  
117 stock's feeding grounds could mitigate fisheries-induced evolution, but that beneficial effects on  
118 yield can only be expected long after the reserve's establishment.

119

## 120 **Methods**

121 We constructed an individual-based eco-genetic model (for a description of eco-genetic models  
122 see Dunlop et al. 2009) to follow the evolution of four quantitative life-history traits: growth  
123 capacity, reproductive investment, and the intercept and slope of a linear probabilistic maturation  
124 reaction norm (PMRN; described in more detail below). The core of the model is the same as the  
125 example in Dunlop et al. (2009) except with a spatial dimension and annual migration added.  
126 Events in our model occur in discrete annual time steps. In each time step, individuals can  
127 mature, grow, migrate, reproduce, and experience natural and fishing mortality, in this order (Fig.  
128 1). For each individual, we follow its location (reserve or harvested area), size and age, and  
129 maturation status in time. We run the model for 2000 yrs prior to harvest, to ensure that  
130 population abundance and evolving traits have reached a stochastic equilibrium. We  
131 parameterize the model based on Atlantic cod *Gadus morhua* (see Table 1 for parameter values  
132 and justifications) for three reasons: (i) Atlantic cod is one of the commercially most important  
133 fish species worldwide, (ii) several stocks of this species undergo substantial annual spawning  
134 migrations (Rose 1993; Jonsdottir et al. 1999; Comeau et al. 2002; Godø 2003), and (iii) several  
135 stocks have shown evidence of fisheries-induced evolution in maturation schedules and length-at-  
136 age (Heino et al. 2002b; Barot et al. 2004; Olsen et al. 2004, 2005; Swain et al. 2007, 2008).  
137 Parameter values were obtained from published data and were characteristic for Atlantic cod in  
138 the northern part of its range, such as Icelandic cod, Northeast Arctic cod off Norway, and

139 northern cod off the east coast of Canada (Table 1). No one stock contained all parameter values  
140 and so we had to rely on multiple sources of data.

### 141 **Reserve design**

142 All protected areas in the model are no-take reserves. At the time of reserve implementation, all  
143 individuals in the population are assumed to be randomly distributed in space. The reserve is  
144 then implemented by designating a proportion  $A_{L,R}$  of the total area occupied by the population  
145 as no-take, where the location index  $L = F$  stands for a feeding-ground reserve and  $L = S$  for a  
146 spawning-ground reserve. For comparison, we also model populations with no separate feeding  
147 and spawning grounds, to test whether their distinction alters the effectiveness of the reserve.

148 We examined the effectiveness of each reserve location in two different reserve-  
149 establishment scenarios. In the first scenario, the reserve is established when fishing begins.  
150 This allows evaluation of the capacity of reserves to prevent fisheries-induced evolution from  
151 occurring in the first place. In the second scenario, fishing occurs for 50 years before the reserve  
152 is established. This allows examination of the propensity of reserves to slow, stop, or reverse  
153 fisheries-induced evolution once such evolution is already underway. For all scenarios, we  
154 investigated several different relative reserve sizes  $A_{L,R}$  between 0 (no reserve) and 1 (entire area  
155 is protected).

### 156 **Movement**

157 All individuals have an annual probability of moving between the reserve and the harvested area.  
158 The conditional probability of movement is a function of the proportion  $A_{L,R}$  of the total area in  
159 the reserve or the proportion  $A_{L,H} = 1 - A_{L,R}$  in the harvested area. The conditional movement  
160 probability also depends on the reserve's retention probability  $q$ , such that a proportion  $q$  of  
161 individuals remain within the reserve, while the remaining proportion  $1 - q$  disperse globally, and



162 therefore are equally likely to end up in the reserve R or in the harvested area H in strict  
 163 proportion to their relative areas. Hence, the probabilities of remaining in an area and of moving,  
 164 conditional upon the current location, are given by

$$165 \quad P_{L,R|R} = q + (1-q)A_{L,R}, \quad (1a)$$

$$166 \quad P_{L,HH} = q + (1-q)A_{L,H}, \quad (1b)$$

$$167 \quad P_{L,H|R} = (1-q)A_{L,H} \quad (1c)$$

$$168 \quad P_{L,R|H} = (1-q)A_{L,R} \quad (1d)$$

169 where  $L = F$  refers to fish in the feeding grounds and  $L = S$  to fish in the spawning grounds.

170 The amount of movement is likely to influence the efficacy of the reserve (Baskett et al. 2005)

171 and we therefore vary  $q$  to test the influence of retention probability on model predictions.

## 172 **Genetic structure**

173 The genetic component of the model describes (i) the distribution of the evolving genetic traits in  
 174 the initial population, (ii) inheritance of genetic traits from parents to offspring, and (iii) inter-  
 175 individual environmental variation to determine the phenotypic expression of genetic traits. We  
 176 use quantitative genetics to describe changes in trait values (Falconer and Mackay 1996).

177 Following this framework, values for each of the four evolving traits (growth capacity,  
 178 reproductive investment, and the intercept and slope of a linear probabilistic maturation reaction  
 179 norm, PMRN) are assigned to individuals in the initial population based on a normal distribution  
 180 with a mean  $\bar{x}$  given by empirical data and a genetic standard deviation  $\sigma_{G,x}$  calculated from an  
 181 assumed coefficient of genetic variation  $C_G = \sigma_{G,x} / \bar{x}_G$  (Houle 1992), where  $x_G$  indicates the  
 182 value of the genetic trait in question ( $x_G = i_G$  for the PMRN intercept,  $x_G = s_G$  for the PMRN  
 183 slope,  $x_G = g_G$  for growth capacity, and  $x_G = r_G$  for reproductive investment). Offspring inherit

184 the genetic trait values of their parents from a normal distribution with a mean equal to the mid-  
 185 parental value and a variance equal to half the genetic variance in the initial population (thus  
 186 assuming a constant mutation-recombination-segregation kernel; see Roughgarden 1979; Dunlop  
 187 et al. 2009b). All genetic traits evolve independently in this model, and we thus ignore any  
 188 possible pleiotropy or genetic linkage between traits.

189 The phenotypic expression of any genetic trait  $x_G$  occurs annually by drawing phenotypic  
 190 trait values  $x_p$  from a normal distribution with mean  $x_G$  and inter-individual environmental  
 191 variance  $\sigma_{E,x}^2$ . The latter is parsimoniously held constant through time and is calculated as  
 192  $\sigma_{E,x}^2 = \sigma_{G,x}^2(1/h_{x,0}^2 - 1)$ , where  $\sigma_{G,x}^2$  is the initial genetic variance of trait  $x_G$  and  $h_{x,0}^2$  is the  
 193 assumed heritability of  $x_G$  in the initial population (Falconer and Mackay 1996). Therefore, each  
 194 genetic trait value  $x_G$  has a corresponding phenotypic trait value  $x_p$ .

### 195 **Maturation**

196 We include phenotypic plasticity in the maturation process by modeling probabilistic maturation  
 197 reaction norms (Heino et al. 2002a; Dieckmann and Heino 2007). Each individual is  
 198 characterized by a PMRN that represents its genetic predisposition to mature as a function of age  
 199 and size. In our model, two traits describe the PMRN: its slope and intercept. The slope is a  
 200 measure of the degree of phenotypic plasticity in maturation: a slope of zero (i.e., a completely  
 201 horizontal PMRN) indicates that there is phenotypic plasticity in age at maturation but not in size  
 202 at maturation, whereas a slope approaching infinity (i.e., a completely vertical PMRN) indicates  
 203 phenotypic plasticity in size at maturation but not in age at maturation. Together, the PMRN  
 204 intercept and PMRN slope influence the sizes at which maturation occurs for any particular age.

205 Each year, the probability  $p_m$  of an immature individual to mature is a function of its age  $a$  and  
 206 body length  $l_a$ ,

$$207 \quad p_m(a, l) = [1 + \exp(-(l_a - l_{p50,a}) / z)]^{-1}, \quad (2a)$$

208 where  $l_{p50,a}$  denotes the length at 50% maturation probability at age  $a$  (also known as the PMRN  
 209 midpoint at age  $a$ ) and is determined by an individual's phenotypic values for the PMRN slope  
 210  $s_p$  and intercept  $i_p$ ,

$$211 \quad l_{p50,a} = s_p a + i_p. \quad (2b)$$

212 The parameter that controls how the maturation probability  $p_m$  at age  $a$  changes with the  
 213 difference between the length  $l_a$  and  $l_{p50,a}$ ,

$$214 \quad z = w / \ln \frac{p_l^{-1} - 1}{p_u^{-1} - 1}, \quad (2c)$$

215 is described by the PMRN width  $w$ , which measures the length difference at age  $a$  over which  
 216 the maturation probability  $p_m$  increases from  $p_l$  to  $p_u$  (Heino et al. 2002a). The two latter  
 217 probabilities define the upper and lower bounds of what is called the maturation envelope  
 218 (represented in our model by quartiles,  $p_l = 25\%$  and  $p_u = 75\%$ ). The PMRN width is assumed  
 219 to be independent of age and constant in time. This latter assumption is underpinned by the prior  
 220 investigation of models in which  $w$  was incorporated as an additional evolving trait, which  
 221 showed that selective pressures on, and resultant evolutionary changes in,  $w$  were minimal.

## 222 **Somatic growth**

223 The somatic growth of individuals depends on multiple factors: (i) the individual's growth  
 224 capacity phenotype, i.e., the maximum possible growth in the absence of density dependence, but  
 225 including inter-individual environmental variation; (ii) population biomass, owing to density

226 dependence in growth; (iii) inter-annual and inter-individual environmental variance in growth  
 227 capacity; and, after maturation, on (iv) the individual's reproductive investment phenotype. In  
 228 our model, growth takes place in the feeding area and, for a given individual, therefore depends  
 229 on the density of fish residing at the individual's location in the feeding area. This density  
 230 naturally differs between the reserve and the harvested area, yielding an annual amount of energy  
 231 available for growth of

$$232 \quad g_{d,X} = \frac{g_p}{1 + (bB_{F,X} / A_{F,X})^c}, \quad (3a)$$

233 where  $b$  and  $c$  are constants,  $g_p$  is the phenotypic growth capacity,  $B_{F,X}$  and  $A_{F,X}$  are the  
 234 biomass in, and proportional area of, respectively, the feeding area in which the individual is  
 235 located ( $X = R$  for the feeding-ground reserve or  $X = H$  for the feeding-ground harvested area).

236 Immature individuals invest all available energy into growth, growing from length  $l_a$  at  
 237 age  $a$  to length  $l_{a+1}$  at age  $a+1$  (Lester et al. 2004),

$$238 \quad l_{a+1} = l_a + g_{d,X}, \quad (3b)$$

239 with  $l_0 = 0$ . Mature individuals, in contrast, partially utilize energy for reproduction that would  
 240 have gone solely into the growth increment  $g_{d,X}$  (Lester et al. 2004),

$$241 \quad l_{a+1} = \frac{3}{3 + \delta r_p} (l_a + g_{d,X}), \quad (3c)$$

242 where  $r_p$  is the phenotypic reproductive investment, measured as the gonado-somatic index (GSI;  
 243 the ratio of gonad mass to somatic mass), and  $\delta$  is a conversion factor that accounts for the  
 244 higher energy content of gonads relative to somatic tissue (Lester et al. 2004). If the  $r_p$  of an

245 individual in a given year would cause negative growth ( $l_{a+1} < l_a$ ),  $r_p$  for that year is reduced

246 such that  $l_{a+1}$  equals  $l_a$ .

### 247 **Reproduction**

248 After the growing season, mature individuals migrate to the spawning grounds to reproduce.

249 Following a common observation in many fish species (Kjesbu et al. 1998; Lloret and Ratz 2000;

250 Oskarsson et al. 2002; Kennedy et al. 2007), gonad mass  $m_{G,a}$  at age  $a$ , and therefore fecundity

251 at that age, increase allometrically with body length, based on a proportionality constant  $\alpha$  and

252 an allometric exponent  $\beta$ ,

$$253 \quad m_{G,a} = \alpha l_a^\beta r_p, \quad (4a)$$

254 where  $r_p$  is the individual's phenotypic reproductive investment, as measured by its gonado-

255 somatic index (GSI). The fecundity of each female is then equal to  $f = dm_{G,a}$ , where  $d$  is the

256 weight-specific oocyte density. The number  $N_r$  of surviving offspring (i.e., recruits) produced

257 by the population is determined by a Beverton-Holt stock-recruitment function (Hilborn and

258 Walters 1992),

$$259 \quad N_r = \frac{kf_T}{1 + f_T / j}, \quad (4b)$$

260 where the total fecundity  $f_T$  is obtained from summing fecundity over all mature females,  $k$  is

261 the density-independent survival probability of offspring, and  $j$  is the total fecundity at which

262 offspring survival is reduced by 50%.

263 Within a particular spawning area (reserve or harvested area in model designs with a

264 spawning-ground reserve), males and females encounter, and mate with each other at random,

265 with the number of resultant offspring being proportional to each parent's gonad mass. We take

266 this approach because individuals with large gonads are expected to possess larger numbers of  
 267 gametes (eggs or sperm) and therefore will have a larger number of offspring. Also, a given  
 268 female could mate with several males and a given male could mate with several females, in  
 269 accordance with expectations for a batch-spawning species such as Atlantic cod (McEvoy and  
 270 McEvoy 1992).

271 The probabilities of newly born offspring and first-time spawners to end up growing and  
 272 feeding in the reserve or the harvested area equal their relative areas,  $A_{F,R}$  and  $A_{F,H}$ , in those  
 273 locations. This assumes that individuals choose their initial feeding and spawning site randomly.

#### 274 **Natal homing**

275 Our default models assume feeding-site and spawning-site fidelity, but no natal homing. We also  
 276 considered an alternative model with natal homing because (i) there is evidence that many marine  
 277 species have spatially or genetically distinct local sub-populations (Hutchinson et al. 2001;  
 278 Conover et al. 2006; Pampoulie et al. 2006), (ii) there is evidence for natal homing and  
 279 spawning-site fidelity in cod and other species (Robichaud and Rose 2001; Thorrold et al. 2001;  
 280 Hunter et al. 2003; Svedang et al. 2007), and (iii) natal homing could be particularly important  
 281 when designing or implementing spawning-ground reserves (Almany et al. 2007). Further  
 282 methodological details are provided in Appendix A.

#### 283 **Natural mortality**

284 In addition to the offspring mortality described by the stock-recruitment relationship above, a  
 285 classic growth-survival tradeoff is assumed (Stearns 1992), causing a post-recruitment density-  
 286 independent mortality probability of

$$287 \quad p_G = g_G / g_{\max}, \quad (5a)$$

288 where  $g_G$  is the genetic growth capacity and  $g_{\max}$  is the maximum annual length increment at  
 289 which the survival probability drops to 0. The growth survival tradeoff assumes that individuals  
 290 that have a high genetic propensity for growth, independent of the environment, have a higher  
 291 mortality rate. We also impose a constant annual mortality probability  $p_B$  on all individuals, so  
 292 that the total natural mortality probability  $p_T$  equals that used by ICES (2007) in their stock  
 293 assessment of Atlantic cod, i.e.,  $p_B = 1 - (1 - p_T) / (1 - p_G)$ . Mortality probabilities in the model  
 294 are implemented by drawing a random number between 0 and 1; if that number is less than the  
 295 mortality probability, the individual dies and is removed from the population.

#### 296 **Fishing mortality**

297 Fishing occurs during the growing season on the feeding grounds and during the spawning season  
 298 on the spawning grounds (e.g., Godø 2003). The fishery is regulated through an annually set  
 299 total allowable catch  $B_{TAC,t}$ , which is determined by the product of the harvest ratio  $\gamma$  and the  
 300 total harvestable biomass, defined as the total biomass of individuals in the population with  
 301 lengths greater than the minimum size limit  $l_L$  of the fishery,

$$302 \quad B_{TAC,t} = \gamma(H_{F,t} + H_{S,t}), \quad (6a)$$

303 where  $H_{F,t}$  and  $H_{S,t}$  are, respectively, the harvestable biomass in the feeding and spawning  
 304 grounds. We employed a management regime that takes into account the potential displacement  
 305 of effort by a marine reserve, implying that harvest probability for individuals outside a reserve  
 306 become elevated in response to reserve establishment (e.g., Hilborn et al. 2006). As all mature  
 307 individuals are considered to be fully recruited to fishing gear in many fisheries, in our model all  
 308 mature fish on the spawning grounds are vulnerable to harvest and there is no minimum-size  
 309 limit there ( $l_S = 0$ ). We also consider a fishery in which the displacement of effort does not

310 occur and the total allowable catch therefore is given by the proportion of the harvestable  
 311 biomass in the harvested area only (i.e., excluding the harvestable biomass in the reserve). To  
 312 calculate biomass, the length of individuals is converted to weight by raising length to an  
 313 allometric exponent  $\beta$  and multiplying by a proportionality constant  $\alpha$ .

314 The total allowable catch is then divided between catch in the spawning grounds ( $B_{S,t}$ )  
 315 and catch in the feeding grounds ( $B_{F,t}$ ). In each location, individuals in the harvested area that  
 316 are larger than  $l_L$  are randomly harvested until that area's allowable catch has been reached. We  
 317 analyzed several different ratios  $R_F : (1 - R_F)$  between feeding-ground catch and spawning-ground  
 318 catch,

$$319 \quad B_{F,t} = R_F B_{TAC,t} \text{ and } B_{S,t} = (1 - R_F) B_{TAC,t}, \quad (6b)$$

320 where  $R_F$  is the proportion of the total catch that is allocated to the feeding grounds. The  
 321 cumulative catch that we report in the results is calculated as the total biomass of fish captured  
 322 and killed in the fishery, measured over the 100 years during which fishing occurs. The annual  
 323 yield or catch is the biomass of fish captured and killed by the fishery for a given year.

324

## 325 **Results**

326 We start by establishing a baseline through investigating fisheries-induced evolution in the  
 327 absence of a reserve. We then study the effects of reserves on evolutionary changes and on  
 328 cumulative catches, before examining the effects of mobility and the annual spawning migration.  
 329 Finally, we evaluate the expected impacts of reserves that are established only after a longer  
 330 period of fishing.



**331 Evolutionary response to fishing in the absence of reserves**

332 To determine the evolutionary effects of fishing in our model, we first explore outcomes without  
333 reserves. In absence of a reserve (Fig. 2, results on the y-axes), taking an increasing fraction of  
334 total catch in the feeding grounds relative to the spawning grounds (i.e., increasing  $R_F$ ) causes  
335 the PMRN midpoint (Fig. 2a) and growth capacity (Fig. 2c) to decline and the gonado-somatic  
336 index to increase (Fig. 2e). Relative to pre-fishing trait values (dashed lines), reproductive  
337 investment always increases when the stock is adapting to fishing, but maturation and growth  
338 may either increase or decrease, depending on where the larger part of catches are taken. If most  
339 of the catches are taken in the spawning grounds, no maturation evolution occurs relative to pre-  
340 fishing equilibrium, but growth is still evolving. Similarly, one could choose to split the catches  
341 such that no growth evolution would occur.

**342 Influence of reserves on fisheries-induced evolutionary changes**

343 Next, we assess how evolutionary outcomes depend on reserve placement in feeding or spawning  
344 grounds. The creation of a spawning-ground reserve has an overall small impact on the amount of  
345 evolution relative to when the reserve area is 0 (Fig. 2a,c,e), while protecting spawning grounds  
346 can have a large influence on the amount of evolution (Fig. 2b,d,f). Not surprisingly, the  
347 influence of a spawning or feeding ground reserve is greatest when most fishing takes place in  
348 the spawning or feedings ground, respectively. The influence of a reserve on maturation  
349 evolution is qualitative different between feeding and spawning grounds: a reserve in the feeding  
350 grounds favors delayed maturation (Fig. 2b), whereas a reserve in the spawning grounds favors  
351 earlier maturation (Fig. 2a). Similar pattern applies to evolution of growth (Fig. 2c,d), but not  
352 reproductive investment that declines with increasing reserve area both for spawning and feeding  
353 grounds reserves (Fig. 2e,f). Thus, for maturation and growth the impact of creating a feeding

354 ground reserve is the same as taking a larger proportion of catch in the spawning grounds, and the  
355 impact of creating a spawning ground reserve is the same as taking a larger proportion of catch in  
356 the feeding grounds. In this sense, the spawning-ground reserve can be thought of as  
357 exacerbating the evolution towards earlier maturation and slower growth caused by fishing in the  
358 feeding grounds.

359 We do not show results for the evolution of the PMRN slope because almost all of the  
360 evolutionary change in the PMRN is caused by evolution of the PMRN intercept: for example,  
361 fishing solely in the feeding grounds causes a large decrease in the PMRN intercept of 34%  
362 combined with only a slight increase in the PMRN slope of 0.23%, with both changes expressed  
363 relative to the year before fishing (see also Dunlop et al. 2009). Genetic variances were found to  
364 be little influenced by fishing and therefore, not surprisingly, by the creation of a marine reserve  
365 (results not shown). The variation between model runs was relatively small (for example in the  
366 year just prior to fishing the mean and standard deviation of the PMRN intercept was 90.4 and  
367 1.1 cm, respectively).

### 368 **Influence of reserves on yields**

369 To determine the effects of evolutionary changes and of reserves on cumulative catches, we  
370 investigate catches resulting under the different scenarios. Reserves alter the cumulative catch of  
371 the fishery (Fig. 3), as is apparent by comparing simulations without a reserve (i.e., results on the  
372 y-axes) to those with a reserve. In most cases, increasing reserve in one area diminishes catches  
373 in that area (Fig. 3a,d) but improves the catches in the other area (Fig. 3b,c); in most cases the  
374 total catch is decreased because the loss in one area is imperfectly compensated by the gain in the  
375 other area. The influence of a spawning ground reserve on catch close to linear (Fig. 3a,c),  
376 whereas the influence of a feeding ground reserve becomes only apparent above a certain  
377 threshold (Fig. 3b,d); below this threshold, the reserve may slightly improve the total catch when

378 all fishing is in the feeding grounds ( $R_F=1$ ). Feeding ground reserves often improve catch in  
379 terms of mean length of fish in the catch. However, small spawning ground reserves actually  
380 results in a lower mean length.

### 381 **Effects of mobility**

382 To determine the influence on our results of the movement of fish among areas, we tested the  
383 sensitivity of our model results to the level of mobility, by changing the retention probability  $q$  :  
384 decreasing  $q$  results in an increase in the movement between reserves and harvested areas. We  
385 find that greater individual movement lessens the effectiveness of a feeding-ground reserve in  
386 reducing fisheries-induced evolution (Fig. 4a,b,c). As there is little effect of a spawning-ground  
387 reserve on trait evolution, there also is little influence of mobility on the effectiveness of a  
388 spawning-ground reserve (Appendix A). Similar effects of movement were noted in populations  
389 with natal homing (Appendix A), indicating that natal homing had virtually no impact on the  
390 predictions of our model.

### 391 **Effects of annual spawning migration**

392 To quantify the effects of an annual migration between feeding and spawning grounds, we  
393 compared results to a scenario in which the annual spawning migration was switched off  
394 (Appendix B). In the absence of a reserve, a non-migratory population responds to fishing  
395 similarly to a migratory population harvested only on its feeding grounds, but the evolutionary  
396 response is less pronounced (Fig. B1). When a reserve is implemented, the evolutionary  
397 response of this population is almost indistinguishable from that of a migratory population with a  
398 feeding-ground reserve. On the other hand, the evolutionary response of a migratory population  
399 harvested on its spawning grounds differs starkly from that of a non-migratory population, unless  
400 a large part of either population is protected by a reserve (Appendix B).

**401 Effects of creating a reserve only after 50 years of fishing**

402 In the investigations above, we implemented fishing and reserves simultaneously to explore the  
403 potential for reserves to reduce fisheries-induced selection. In a final step, we explore the

404 potential for, and timescale of, fisheries-induced evolution to be reversed through reserve

405 establishment. If 50 years of fishing pass by before a reserve is implemented, its effectiveness in

406 slowing down evolution depends on harvest probability and reserve area (Fig. 5a,c,e).

407 Populations that are fished more intensively show the largest reduction in the rate of evolution

408 when a feeding-ground reserve is implemented (Fig. 5e), whereas implementing a small reserve

409 for a lightly fished population has hardly any noticeable effect on the rate of evolution (Fig. 5a,

410 thin line). The creation of a reserve always causes an initial reduction in annual yield, which may

411 be followed by a short-term recovery in yield when the population approaches its new

412 demographic equilibrium (Fig. 5b,d,f). On longer time scales, we see that fisheries-induced

413 evolution continues despite a reserve, but also that the quantitative difference between the

414 magnitudes of evolution in a protected and a non-protected population increases for a long period

415 of time (Fig. 6a). More importantly, after a while, the annual yield that can be extracted from a

416 population protected by a reserve will be higher than if no reserve were created (Fig. 6b).

417

**418 Discussion**

419 The central goal of this study was to evaluate the effectiveness of marine reserves in reducing the

420 evolutionary effects of fishing in a species undergoing an annual spawning migration. The model

421 presented here suggests that the selective pressures caused by fishing in a stock's feeding grounds

422 are, for the most part, different than the selective pressures caused by fishing in the spawning

423 grounds. This finding of differential selective pressures is in accordance with earlier studies

424 relying on simpler models (Law and Grey 1989). We extend earlier analyses by considering the  
425 effects of reserve placement on fisheries-induced evolution in a migrating population and by  
426 incorporating density-dependent growth and the evolution of life-history traits beyond those  
427 affecting maturation. Some other novel features of our approach are discussed under the heading  
428 ‘Eco-genetic modeling’ below.

#### 429 **Effects of spatial stock structure**

430 The reason for the selective pressures in our model to differ qualitatively between spawning  
431 grounds and feeding grounds is that when fishing occurs in the latter, both juveniles and adults  
432 are subject to being harvested above a minimum-size limit, so that evolution favors fish that  
433 mature earlier, have slower growth, and invest a higher proportion of energy in reproduction (Fig.  
434 2,  $R_F = 1$ ). In contrast, when fishing occurs in the spawning grounds, only adults are harvested,  
435 so that individuals maturing later, when they are larger and more fecund, experience a higher  
436 reproductive success (Fig. 2a,b,  $R_F = 0$ ). Fast growth rates (Fig. 2c,d,  $R_F = 0$ ) and a higher  
437 investment in reproduction (Fig. 2e,f,  $R_F = 0$ ) are also favored by fishing in the spawning  
438 grounds.

439 It is interesting to note that adding a conservative minimum size limit to the spawning ground  
440 fishery could also favor early maturation (Jørgensen et al. 2009). In our model, we chose not to  
441 implement such a minimum-size limit on the spawning grounds, because mature size classes are  
442 often fully recruited to fisheries. Also, spawning ground fisheries often tend to be coastal, using  
443 more traditional methods (e.g., hand lines from smaller boats versus trawling from open-ocean  
444 vessels) that are less selective for size; this is the case, for example, for the spawning-ground  
445 fishery for Northeast arctic cod off Norway (Godø 2003).

446 Owing to the spatially distinct selective pressures, the success of marine reserves in  
447 reducing fisheries-based evolutionary change is contingent upon the location of the reserve. The

448 implementation of a marine reserve in the feeding area can have significant effects by protecting  
449 individuals before reproduction: the evolutionary response to fishing in the modeled life-history  
450 traits diminishes as the area of the reserve increases (Fig. 2b,d,f). However, the propensity of a  
451 marine reserve to reduce evolution is lessened when the reserve is located on the spawning  
452 grounds (Fig. 2a,c,e). As fishing in the feeding grounds causes the largest evolutionary change, a  
453 spawning ground reserve can do little to curb these effects. Furthermore, by protecting spawning  
454 individuals that would have been harvested, selection favoring delayed maturation and faster  
455 growth is lessened. In other words, we see that a spawning ground reserve can enhance the  
456 evolutionary response towards earlier maturation and slower growth that is induced by fishing in  
457 the feeding grounds (Fig. 2). Therefore, if the management goal is to reduce the amount of  
458 fisheries-based evolution, the optimal location for a reserve is in a population's feeding grounds.

#### 459 **Effects of reserve size**

460 The size of a reserve that is most effective in reducing fisheries-induced evolution depends on the  
461 ratio between feeding-ground catch and spawning-ground catch, as well as on the mobility of  
462 individuals (Fig. 2 and 4). When the total allowable catch in the feeding grounds is high, even a  
463 smaller reserve can offer benefits in terms of reducing the magnitude of evolutionary changes. In  
464 contrast, if fishing pressure in the spawning grounds is higher, only the very largest reserves are  
465 effective (Fig. 2; Appendix A) and there is so little fisheries-induced selection that it is perhaps  
466 not worthwhile to implement a reserve if its only goal is to prevent fisheries-induced evolution.  
467 We also see that as the mobility of individuals in the population is increased, the reserve needs to  
468 be increasingly larger in order to lessen evolution (Fig. 4); these results are related to arguments  
469 that reserves will be less effective or need to be extremely large for mobile species (Hannesson  
470 1998; Hilborn et al. 2004). Furthermore, when harvest pressure is low, the reserve needs to be  
471 slightly larger when there is an annual migration between spawning and feeding grounds; this is

472 because of the gene flow that occurs between individuals while they reside on the spawning  
473 grounds (Appendix B). The results of our study underscore the idea that taking into account the  
474 selective pressures of fishing in different locations and the patterns of movement of species  
475 among those locations is crucial when assessing implementation options for marine reserves.

#### 476 **Effects of a reserve on yield**

477 Although our model suggests that a feeding-ground reserve can reduce the magnitude of  
478 fisheries-induced evolution, such a reserve has more complex effects on catch. The creation of a  
479 reserve almost always caused a reduction in cumulative catch (Fig. 3-6). Yield increases were  
480 only noted for a few scenarios and tended to be small in magnitude. First, when a reserve was  
481 created and fishing started simultaneously, slight increases in cumulative catch (over 100 years)  
482 were observed when all fishing pressure was concentrated in the feeding grounds (Fig. 3); these  
483 increases were most obvious when movement rates between the reserve and harvested areas were  
484 higher (Fig. 4). Second, creating a feeding-grounds reserve enhanced catches in the spawning  
485 grounds, and creating a spawning-ground reserve could improve catches in the feeding grounds  
486 (Fig. 3). These effects are a consequence of changes that are in part demographic and in part to  
487 evolutionary. Protecting fish in the feeding grounds can enable the rebuilding of size structure in  
488 the population, whereas protecting spawning individuals can enhance offspring production.  
489 Third, when a feeding-ground reserve was fishing created after 50 years of fishing, there was  
490 always an initial reduction in yield (Fig. 5), but after some time, which in our example ranged  
491 from about 50 to several hundreds of years, yield could be enhanced relative to a population that  
492 was not protected (Fig. 6). The increases in catch that were observed in the three situations  
493 described above are probably not substantial enough to warrant creating a reserve solely based on  
494 the goal of enhancing yield.

495           Our results show that marine reserves can help to mitigate fisheries-induced evolution,  
496 but that this mostly implies reduced yield, especially in the short to medium term. Motivated by  
497 the discussion about fisheries benefits of marine reserves (Hannesson 1998; Hastings and  
498 Botsford 1999; Hilborn et al. 2004), one could ask whether the same benefits could have been  
499 achieved by simply reducing the harvest ratio, without implementing a reserve. Our results  
500 confirm that reducing harvest rates can considerably lessen the magnitude of fisheries-induced  
501 evolution (as shown in Fig. 5, as well as Appendices B and C; see also Law and Grey 1989;  
502 Heino 1998; Ernande et al. 2004; Dunlop et al. 2009). As an option for future research, it will  
503 therefore be interesting to compare in detail the costs and benefits associated with the two  
504 alternative management strategies, of reducing harvest ratio and reducing harvest area, to  
505 establish whether, taking fisheries-induced evolution into account, reserves can offer a better  
506 benefit-to-cost ratio than traditional management strategies.

#### 507 **Other reserve benefits**

508 There could be fisheries benefits to slowing down or reducing the magnitude of fisheries-induced  
509 evolution other than those accruing in the form of enhanced yields (e.g., Kirkpatrick 1993;  
510 Baskett et al. 2005). For example, fisheries-induced evolution can lead to reduced body sizes in  
511 the catch, a trend that can be alleviated through creating a feeding-ground reserve (Fig. 3). Also,  
512 there is some indication from our results that the creation of a reserve could improve yield  
513 stability: Fig. 5 shows that there is a steady reduction in yield in response to fishing, but that,  
514 after the strong initial decrease, the creation of a feeding-ground reserve can substantially slow  
515 the decline. Finally, evolution could have other effects, possibly altering species interactions,  
516 recovery potential, and migration patterns (Gårdmark et al. 2003; Jørgensen et al. 2007, 2008a;  
517 Thériault et al. 2008; Jørgensen et al.; Enberg et al. 2009). Protected areas could offer



518 management options for mitigating such other effects, as our results show that feeding-ground  
519 reserves are capable of reducing the magnitude of evolutionary changes caused by fishing.

### 520 **Effort displacement**

521 The impact of effort re-allocation should be considered when designing a marine reserve (Hilborn  
522 et al. 2004). Our model can account for the often high harvest pressure that develops in areas  
523 outside the reserve, because the harvest ratio in our model is expressed as a proportion of the  
524 population's total harvestable biomass, which includes the biomass of individuals residing both  
525 inside and outside the reserve. Therefore, a build-up of biomass in the reserve while the harvest  
526 ratio is kept constant results in higher harvest probabilities per individual outside of the reserve.  
527 We find that even with such a harvesting pattern reflecting effort displacement in the wake of  
528 reserve's creation, feeding-ground reserves can reduce evolution and sometimes enhance yield.  
529 When creating a feeding-ground reserve, excluding effort displacement by setting the harvest  
530 ratio to be a proportion of the harvestable biomass in the harvested area only (thus, not including  
531 the biomass inside the reserve), results in a slight reduction of fisheries-induced evolution, but  
532 only for low harvest ratios and reserves of small to medium size (Appendix C). These results  
533 agree with findings by Baskett et al. (2005), who predicted that sufficiently large reserves may  
534 protect against strong fisheries-induced selection for earlier maturation irrespective of whether or  
535 not harvest rates outside of the reserve were increased through effort displacement.

### 536 **Eco-genetic modeling**

537 The model used here for analyzing the evolutionary effects of marine reserves in migratory  
538 stocks builds upon previous eco-genetic models (Dunlop et al. 2007, 2009b). Our model permits  
539 the examination of multi-trait evolution and of density-dependent growth, features not included  
540 in previous marine-reserve models. We can also study evolutionary transients, something not  
541 possible with many other types of models, such as optimization models or adaptive dynamics

542 models. Full integration of ecological and evolutionary timescales, as offered by eco-genetic  
543 modeling, is important in studies of marine reserves, as where short-, medium-, and long-term  
544 consequences need to be properly balanced and evaluated. In our results, implementing a marine  
545 reserve always caused an initial reduction in yield, even though, as evolutionary effects emerge  
546 over time, the reserve could enhance yield (Fig. 6). By examining the transients in Figs. 5 and 6,  
547 we can discern three stages of this process. First is the immediate drop in yield that occurs with the  
548 displacement of effort. Second is the arched increase in yield that occurs approximately 55-70  
549 years after the reserve establishment, as biomass accumulates in the reserve and the stock's age  
550 and size structure build up. This second stage could be interpreted as an ecological response  
551 (Gaylord et al. 2005). Third is the long-term trend in yield that results from the evolutionary  
552 response. Without a simultaneous treatment of ecological and evolutionary timescales, these  
553 dynamics could not be discerned and examined.

#### 554 **Generalizations to other species**

555 Our modeled population most closely resembles Atlantic cod stocks found in the northern part of  
556 the species range, including Icelandic cod, Northeast Arctic cod off Norway, or northern cod off  
557 the east coast of Canada. We focus on Atlantic cod because data are available to parameterize the  
558 model, the species is of considerable commercial and ecological importance, exploitation rates  
559 are often high, and many stocks of Atlantic cod undergo long spawning migrations resulting in  
560 the geographical separation of feeding and spawning grounds (Robichaud and Rose 2004). The  
561 parameter values we chose are validated in the sense that they result in emergent properties,  
562 including growth patterns and other life-history observables, that are very similar for northern  
563 populations of Atlantic cod (see Table 1). In this sense, our study conforms to the pattern-  
564 oriented modeling approach described by Grimm and Railsback (2005). Although we have not  
565 explored the effects of exploitation and marine reserves on species with other life histories, one

566 simple generalization can be drawn. Our modeled cod population had a moderately high age at  
567 maturation of 8 years in the absence of fishing. Species or populations with shorter generation  
568 times – such as cod in the southern parts of its range, and several key commercial targets such as  
569 herrings and flatfishes – will probably show faster evolutionary responses. As the evolutionary  
570 effects will then accrue more quickly, the benefits of implementing a reserve might also be  
571 observed on a shorter timescale. However, much more investigation is needed to determine the  
572 quantitative influence of life history on the combined effects of fisheries-induced evolution and  
573 marine-reserve implementation. We contend that the results reported here should foster the  
574 understanding that evolutionary impacts of marine reserves be assessed through the calibration of  
575 stock-specific models, before managers and stakeholders commit to costly implementation  
576 measures. For this, the framework laid out here can provide a template.

#### 577 **Model uncertainty**

578 There is little data evidence with which to compare the predictions of our model. This is because  
579 the majority of previous studies have focused on the ecological effects of reserves, or examined  
580 timescales too short for evaluating evolutionary impacts. Some empirical evidence shows that  
581 increases in biomass and species diversity in marine reserves can be observed very quickly, with  
582 the potential for spillover to areas outside reserves, thereby suggesting that there could be  
583 significant demographic, nonevolutionary impacts (e.g., Roberts et al. 2001; Halpern and Warner  
584 2002). However, evolutionary effects are slower and will take longer to observe, which obviously  
585 poses a challenge when trying to evaluate the efficacy of reserves to reduce the magnitude of  
586 fisheries-induced evolution. There is one study that does point to the possible genetic effects of  
587 marine reserves. Perez-Ruzafa et al. (2006) found higher intra-specific allelic diversity for sea  
588 bream inside two Mediterranean reserves than in neighbouring nonprotected areas. At the time of  
589 sampling, the reserves were protected for 4 and 10 years. Although no data on life-history traits

590 were reported, Perez-Ruzafa et al. (2006) suggest that the preservation of individuals with higher  
591 fecundity and faster growth reduced selective pressures induced by fishing, a mechanism that  
592 could have increased allelic diversity in the reserve.

593         While the numerical approach here limits our analysis to the parameter values used, in  
594 this study we tested the sensitivity of our predictions to several parameters, including retention  
595 probability, reserve area, harvest rate, time of reserve implementation, and the presence of natal  
596 homing. In another study (Dunlop et al. 2009b) the sensitivity of the base model was tested to  
597 changes in harvest rate, the minimum-size limit, the stock-recruitment relationship, density-  
598 dependent growth, genetic variation, and the growth-survival trade-off; that sensitivity analysis  
599 revealed that the speed of evolution depends on these functions, supporting their presence in the  
600 models, but the overall qualitative effects of exploitation remained the same: fishing caused most  
601 evolution in the PMRN toward earlier ages and smaller sizes at maturation. However, not all  
602 sensitivity analyses performed for the base model might be completely generalizable to this study  
603 because the base model did not include spatial structure.

604         The scarcity of empirical data on the potential long-term evolutionary effects of reserves  
605 underlines the vital role that carefully constructed and calibrated models ought to assume in  
606 addressing this question. We offer the analyses reported here as a step toward meeting this  
607 challenge. The various considerations above have hopefully made it clear that simple models  
608 featuring just a few variables and parameters are unlikely to do justice to the rich ecological  
609 settings that drive natural and anthropogenic evolutionary changes in nature. While we therefore  
610 believe that a model of the complexity studied here is indeed required for obtaining practically  
611 relevant results, this implies a trade-off with having to assess the adequacy of the adopted  
612 structural assumptions and parameter values. We therefore systematically explored the sensitivity

613 of our model results to various assumptions and parameters, as summarized in Figs 2–6 and A1–  
614 C1.

615         Yet, there were several assumptions that, for the sake of brevity, we could not test here.  
616 For example, a simplifying assumption made in our model is that the four evolving traits are not  
617 subject to pleiotropy or constrained by linkages. This simplification was made because there is  
618 very little information available on wild stocks of Atlantic cod with which we could have  
619 parameterized such constraints or genetic covariances. Our model predicted that the PMRN  
620 midpoint (and specifically the PMRN intercept) underwent the largest evolutionary change  
621 among all four modeled life-history traits (see also Dunlop et al. 2009b), suggesting that the  
622 inclusion of genetic covariances may not have had a large effect on model predictions with regard  
623 to this central finding.

624         Other simplifying assumptions implied by our modeling closed populations, excluding  
625 multi-species interactions, variable environmental conditions, or other evolving traits. One  
626 benefit of reserves is that they protect multiple species. Fisheries-induced evolution could alter  
627 species interactions (Gårdmark et al. 2003) and by only modeling a single species, we could be  
628 missing other possible reserve effects (Mangel and Levin 2005; Baskett et al. 2006, 2007a)  
629 especially when size- or location-specific predation affects the evolution of the traits explored  
630 here. Also, the spatial structure of our model was kept simple and could therefore not account for  
631 edge effects that develop when fishing is concentrated along reserve boundaries, or for localized  
632 fishing effort concentrating on previously untargeted areas, two spatial factors that can alter a  
633 reserve's effectiveness (Kaiser 2003; Roberts et al. 2005; Kellner et al. 2007). Finally, many  
634 other traits in addition to the traits we model here could evolve in response to fishing (Heino and  
635 Godø 2002; Walsh et al. 2006) and could be impacted differentially by the creation of a reserve.  
636 For example, population-level migration patterns or individual-level mobility may evolve in

637 response to fishing (Jørgensen et al. 2008a; Thériault et al. 2008) or reserve implementation  
638 (Heino and Hanski 2001; Baskett et al. 2007b; Miethe et al. 2009), effects we have not modeled  
639 here.

#### 640 **Management implications**

641 Several findings from this study have management implications. First, reserves may reduce the  
642 evolutionary effects of fishing even in a migratory species. This is important because many  
643 commercially and ecologically important species migrate between feeding and spawning  
644 grounds. While it has been suggested that reserves would not be effective when individuals from  
645 reserves can spawn together with those from harvested areas, our results show that protection on  
646 the feeding grounds effectively reduces evolution. Second, feeding-ground reserves are capable  
647 of reducing fisheries-induced evolution, whereas spawning-ground reserves can exacerbate the  
648 evolutionary response toward earlier maturation. A clear management recommendation therefore  
649 is that if the goal is to reduce fisheries-induced maturation evolution, the reserve should not be  
650 placed in the stock's spawning grounds. Third, even when taking into account evolution caused  
651 by fishing, the implementation of reserves probably reduces yield over decadal timescales. It  
652 might have been thought that by mitigating yield-reducing evolutionary effects, implementing a  
653 reserve could improve yield, or at least keep it constant; our results show that this is mostly not  
654 the case, as such an effect only occurs in a narrow range of settings and only when a long-term  
655 perspective is taken. Fourth, evolutionary changes that are already well underway are difficult to  
656 reverse through implementing a reserve. Given that even stopping harvest altogether results only  
657 in a relatively slow recovery (Law and Grey 1989; Dunlop et al. 2009b, Enberg et al. 2009), a  
658 more effective management strategy is to prevent evolutionary changes from occurring in the first  
659 place, rather than trying to stop or reverse them once underway. Fifth, our results show that it is

660 advisable to manage populations as a whole and account for potential stock structure, because  
661 fishing in one area may cause evolution that can drastically alter yield in another area.

662         How do the predictions of our model relate to current management practices of Atlantic  
663 cod and similar species? Protection of spawning aggregations of Atlantic cod has been proposed  
664 as an essential measure for ensuring the sustainability of exploited stocks (Vitale et al. 2008).  
665 Indeed, several closed areas currently implemented tend to focus protection on spawning grounds  
666 (Murawski et al. 2000; Hu and Wroblewski 2009). Although protection of spawning individuals  
667 may be important for demographic reasons, our results show that protecting individuals on  
668 feeding grounds is just as, if not more, important for safeguarding a stock against fisheries-  
669 induced evolution. This has implications for stocks such as Northeast Arctic cod for which the  
670 introduction of industrial trawling has led to high rates of exploitation in the stock's feeding  
671 grounds (Law and Grey 1989; Heino et al. 2002b; Godø 2003). Our results suggest that  
672 protecting this stock's feeding grounds is highly advisable as a means of counteracting the  
673 observed fisheries-induced maturation evolution toward younger ages and smaller sizes.

674         As mentioned previously, marine reserves may have benefits that go beyond effects on  
675 single species. For example, reserves may provide protection of critical habitat that could sustain  
676 fish productivity. Our model, being a single-species model without habitat dynamics, obviously  
677 cannot account for these added reserve benefits. We therefore recommend that the approach to  
678 assessing the evolutionary impacts of fishing proposed here should be incorporated as one  
679 element of an ecosystem-based approach to fisheries management (Francis et al. 2007). Of the  
680 many model-based studies of marine reserves (for a review, see Gerber et al. 2003), only a few  
681 have considered evolution (e.g., Trexler and Travis 2000; Baskett et al. 2005; Miethé et al. 2009),  
682 so we really have only just begun to examine the full suite of potential benefits and consequences  
683 of mitigating fisheries-induced evolution through the creation of marine reserves.

684 Over mere decades, fishing can cause evolutionary changes in key life-history traits  
685 governing growth, maturation, and reproductive investment. Evolutionary changes induced by  
686 fishing can have far-reaching consequences, possibly altering yield, recovery potential, stock  
687 stability, profits from a fishery, species interactions, and migration patterns (Jørgensen et al.  
688 2007). As these evolutionary effects may be slow or difficult to reverse (Conover et al. 2009;  
689 Dunlop et al. 2009b; Enberg et al. 2009; Stenseth and Dunlop 2009), the precautionary approach  
690 warrants that managers consider evolution when planning and implementing sustainable  
691 harvesting practices. In particular, the establishment of marine reserves may reduce the  
692 evolutionary effects of fishing, but appropriate reserve placement taking into account the spatial  
693 patterns of fisheries-induced selection pressures is crucial to their success.

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- 969

970 **Table 1.** Parameter values for the eco-genetic model of Atlantic cod.

971	Description	Symbol	Equation	Value	Source
972	Initial mean genetic PMRN intercept (cm)	$\bar{i}_{G,0}$	–	93 (90.3)	1
973	Initial mean genetic PMRN slope (cm yr <sup>-1</sup> )	$\bar{s}_{G,0}$	–	-0.052 (-0.052)	1
974	Initial mean genetic gonado-somatic index	$\bar{r}_{G,0}$	–	0.12 (0.12)	1
975	Initial mean genetic growth capacity (cm)	$\bar{g}_{G,0}$	–	12.8 (12.9)	1
976	Initial genetic coefficient of variation	$C_{G,0}$	–	0.08	2
977	Initial heritability	$h_{x,0}^2$	–	0.2	2
978	Default retention probability	$q$	1a-d	0.8	3
979	PMRN width (cm)	$w$	2c	25.9	4
980	Density-dependent growth constant (g <sup>-1</sup> )	$b$	3a	$1.02 \cdot 10^{-8}$	5
981	Density-dependent growth exponent	$c$	3a	0.3	5
982	Weight-specific oocyte density (g <sup>-1</sup> )	$d$	–	$4.4 \cdot 10^3$	6
983	Conversion factor for gonado-somatic index	$\delta$	3c	1.73	7
984	Proportionality constant for weight (g cm <sup>-<math>\beta</math></sup> )	$\alpha$	4a	$3.2 \cdot 10^{-3}$	8
985	Exponent of length-weight allometry	$\beta$	4a	3.24	8
986	Density-independent stock-recruitment constant	$k$	4b	$5.3 \cdot 10^{-3}$	9
987	Density-dependent stock-recruitment constant	$j$	4b	$8.3 \cdot 10^5$	10
988	Maximal growth increment (cm)	$g_{\max}$	5a	80	11
989	Background natural mortality probability	$p_B$	–	0.02	12
990	Minimum-size limit on feeding grounds (cm)	$l_F$	–	60	13

992 Values in parentheses are mean pre-fishing equilibrium trait values, averaged over 30  
 993 independent model runs. PMRN = probabilistic maturation reaction norm.

994 Rationale and sources: (1) Set so that the pre-fishing equilibrium of evolving traits is reached  
 995 within 2000 yrs and values are within empirical ranges for Atlantic cod reported for PMRNs  
 996 (Heino et al. 2002b; Olsen et al. 2004), gonado-somatic indices (Lloret and Ratz 2000; Rose and  
 997 O'Driscoll 2002; McIntyre and Hutchings 2003), and growth rates (Marshall et al. 2004; Olsen et  
 998 al. 2005; ICES 2007). (2) Within the range reported by Houle (1992) and Mousseau and Roff  
 999 (1987). (3) Model assumption. (4) Olsen et al. (2005). (5) Set so that the range of phenotypic  
 1000 growth rates predicted by the model is within the empirical range for Atlantic cod (Marshall et al.  
 1001 2004; Olsen et al. 2005; ICES 2007). (6) Thorsen and Kjesbu (2001). (7) Lester et al. (2004).  
 1002 (8) From survey data for 1999-2007 collected by the Norwegian Institute of Marine Research  
 1003 (O.R. Kjesbu, pers. comm.). (9) Marshall et al. (2000). (10) Scaled from Marshall et al. (2000)  
 1004 so that population abundance at pre-fishing equilibrium is computationally manageable (ca.  
 1005 20,000). (11) Set so that growth capacity at pre-fishing equilibrium produces phenotypic growth  
 1006 rates within the empirical range for Atlantic cod (Marshall et al. 2004; Olsen et al. 2005; ICES  
 1007 2007). (12) Set so that the total natural mortality probability equals 0.18 (ICES 2007). (13)  
 1008 Model assumption as in Dunlop et al. (2009b).

1009 **Figure captions**

1010 **Figure 1.** Schematic illustration of the eco-genetic model of Atlantic cod. Processes that occur  
 1011 in each area, either in the feeding grounds or in the spawning grounds, are indicated within the  
 1012 boxes. The initial spawning location in the spawning grounds and the initial landing location of  
 1013 the larvae in the feeding grounds are chosen in proportion to the area of the locations.

1014 **Figure 2.** Effects of a spawning-ground reserve (left) and feeding-ground reserve (right) on  
 1015 fisheries-induced evolution of maturation, growth and reproductive investment. The feeding-  
 1016 ground proportion of catch ( $R_F$ ) represents the fraction of the total allowable catch that is  
 1017 permitted in the feeding grounds relative to the spawning grounds. Line and symbol thickness  
 1018 increases with increasing  $R_F$  between 0 (all fishing is in the spawning grounds) and 1 (all fishing  
 1019 is in the feeding grounds). Fishing occurred for 100 years with an annual harvest ratio of 0.5.  
 1020 The length at 50% maturation probability is the midpoint of the probabilistic maturation reaction  
 1021 norm (PMRN) for the mean age at maturation (8 years) in the initial population,  $l_{p50,8} = 8s_G + i_G$ ,  
 1022 where  $s_G$  is the genetic PMRN slope and  $i_G$  is the genetic PMRN intercept. Genetic growth  
 1023 capacity ( $g_G$ ) describes the maximum potential average growth effort without density  
 1024 dependence. The genetic gonado-somatic index ( $r_G$ ) is the genetic measure of reproductive  
 1025 investment. The horizontal dashed line indicates the value of the trait in the year before fishing is  
 1026 started when the population was at an evolutionary and ecological equilibrium. Values shown are  
 1027 means for 30 independent model runs. Legend in panel B applies to all panels.

1028 **Figure 3.** Effects of a spawning-ground reserve (left) and feeding-ground reserve (right) on  
 1029 catch from the fishery. The feeding-ground ratio ( $R_F$ ) of catches represents the fraction of the  
 1030 total allowable catch that is permitted in the feeding grounds relative to the spawning grounds.

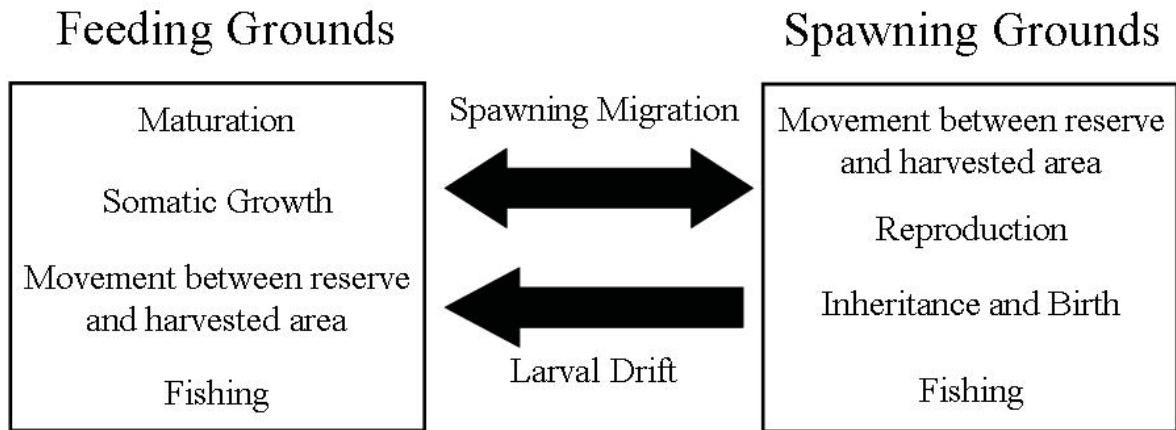
1031 The thickness of lines and symbols increases with increasing  $R_F$  between 0 (all fishing is in the  
1032 spawning grounds) and 1 (all fishing is in the feeding grounds). Fishing occurred for 100 years  
1033 with an annual harvest ratio of 0.5. Values shown are means for 30 independent model runs.  
1034 Legend in panel B applies to all panels.

1035 **Figure 4.** Effects of movement between the reserve and harvested area influencing the  
1036 effectiveness of a feeding-ground reserve. The continuous line corresponds to the default  
1037 retention probability of 0.8, while the dashed line refers to a retention probability of 0.2. All  
1038 fishing was in the feeding grounds ( $R_F = 1$ ) and occurred for 100 years with an annual harvest  
1039 ratio of 0.5. Values shown are means for 30 independent model runs. Legend in panel B applies  
1040 to all panels.

1041 **Figure 5.** Effects of fishing for 50 years followed by the creation of a feeding-ground reserve.  
1042 All fishing takes place in the feeding grounds ( $R_F = 1$ ). Three different annual harvest ratios  
1043 (0.2, 0.4, and 0.6) and reserve areas (0.2, 0.4, and 0.6) are considered. Fishing at these harvest  
1044 ratios continued after the reserve was created. Reserve area increases with line thickness. Values  
1045 shown are means for 30 independent model runs. Legend in panel B applies to all panels.

1046 **Figure 6.** Effects of fishing for 50 years followed by the creation of a feeding-ground reserve.  
1047 The annual harvest ratio was 0.6 in the stock's feeding grounds ( $R_F = 1$ ) and was continued  
1048 before and after creation of the reserve. Three different reserve areas are considered (0.2, 0.4,  
1049 and 0.6); reserve area increases with line thickness. The dashed lines describe a population that  
1050 is not protected by a reserve. Values shown are means for 30 independent model runs. Legend in  
1051 panel B applies to both panels.

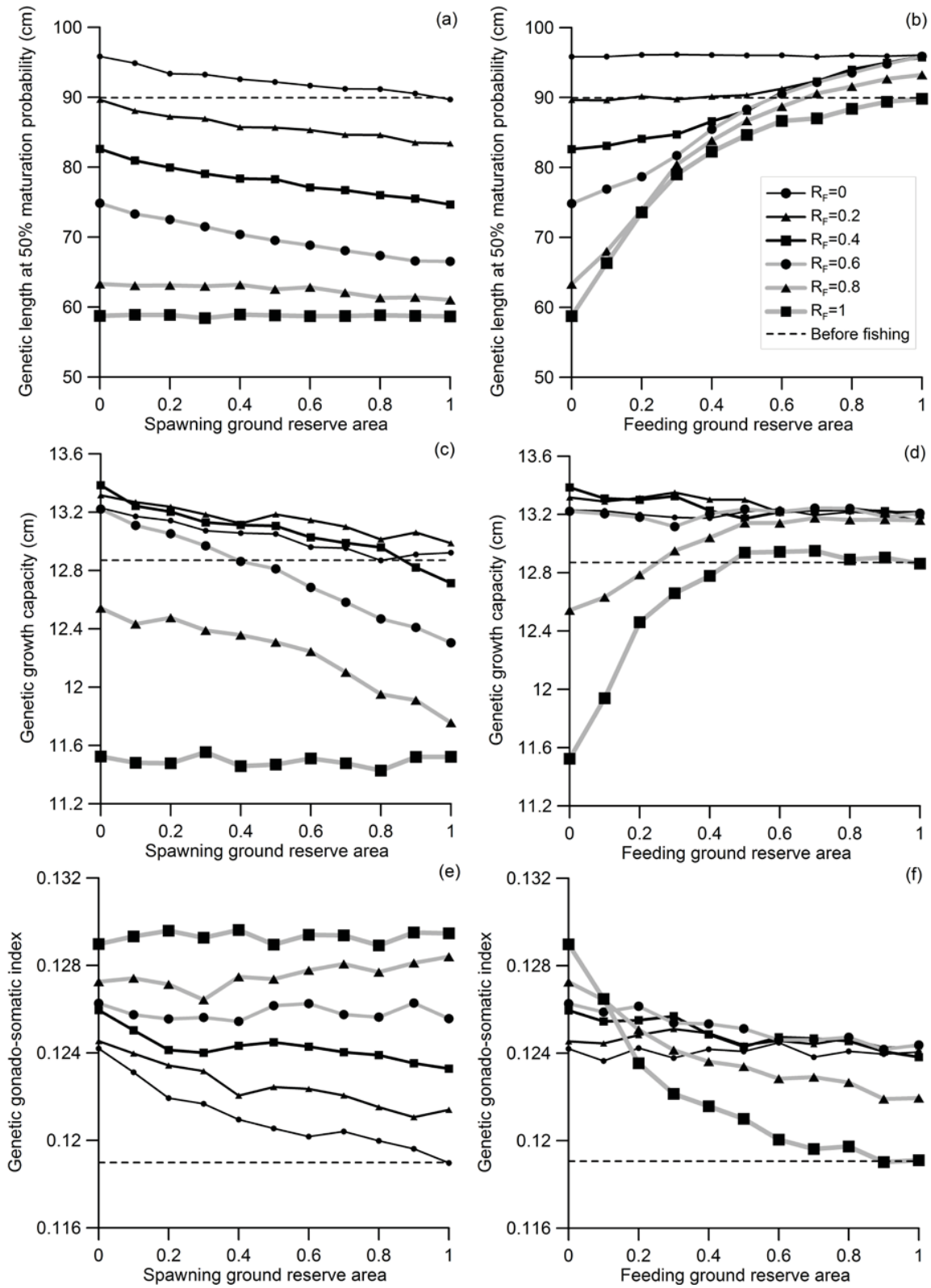
1052 Figure 1.



1053

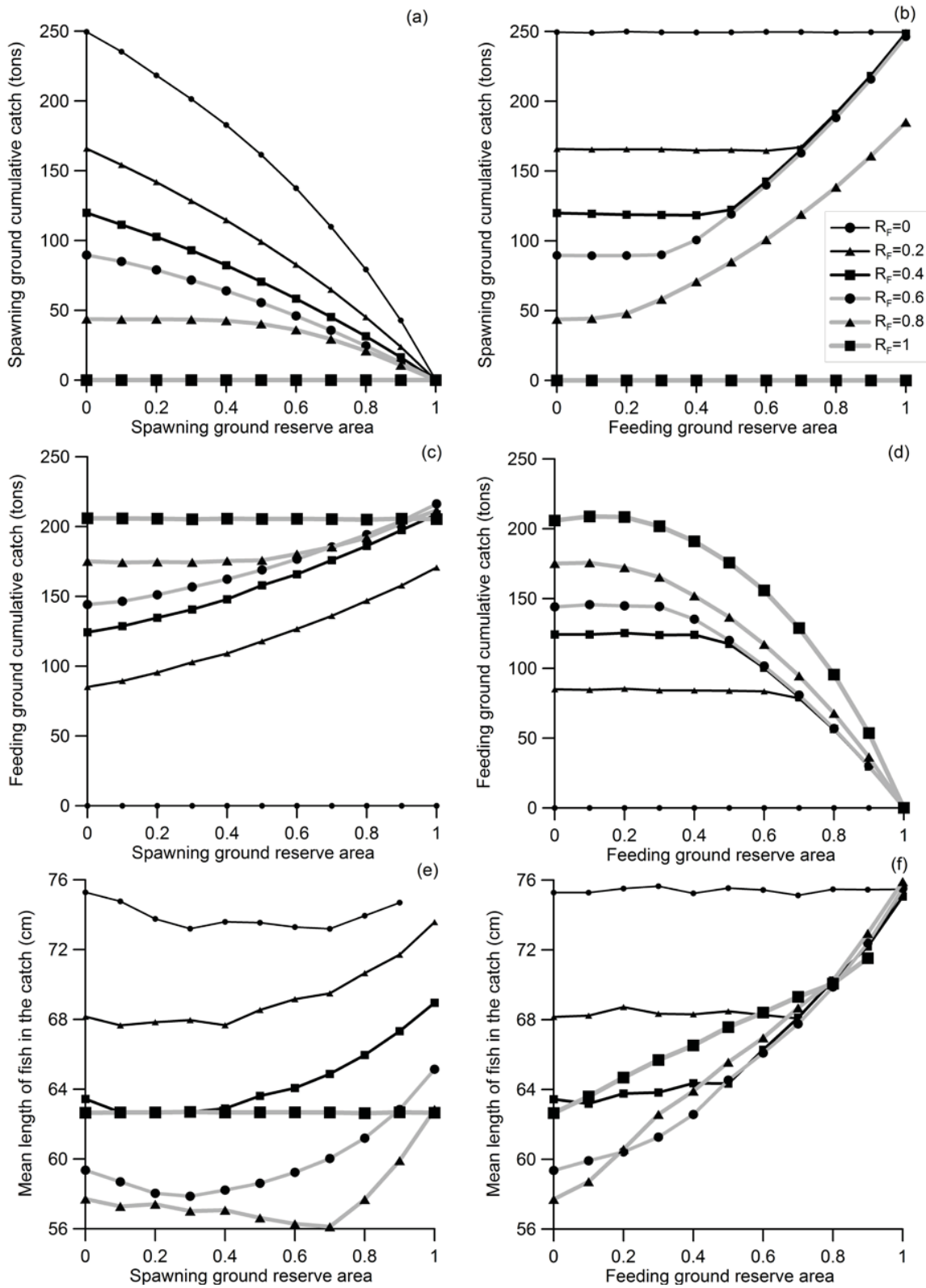


1054 Figure 2.



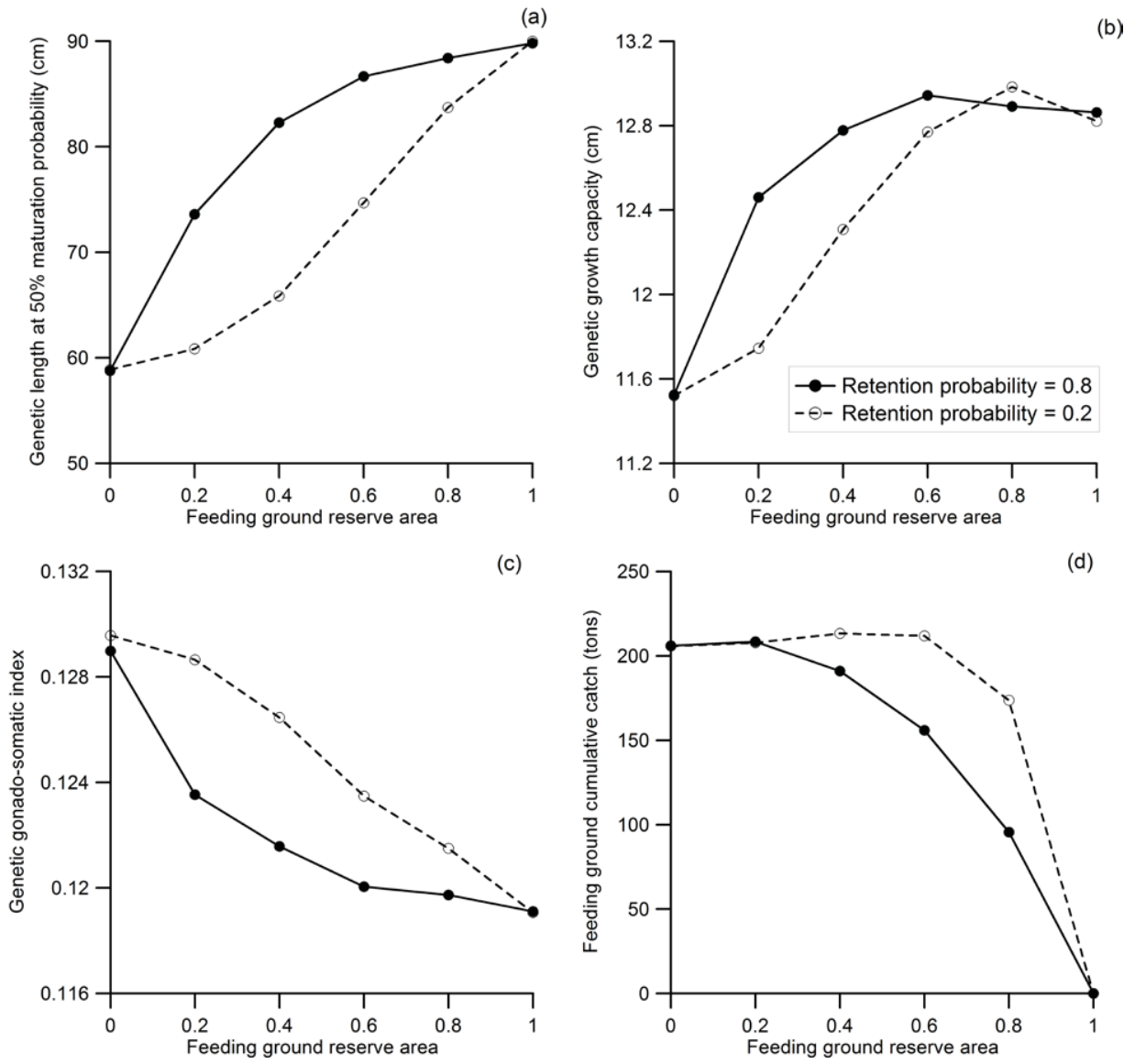
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1056 Figure 3.



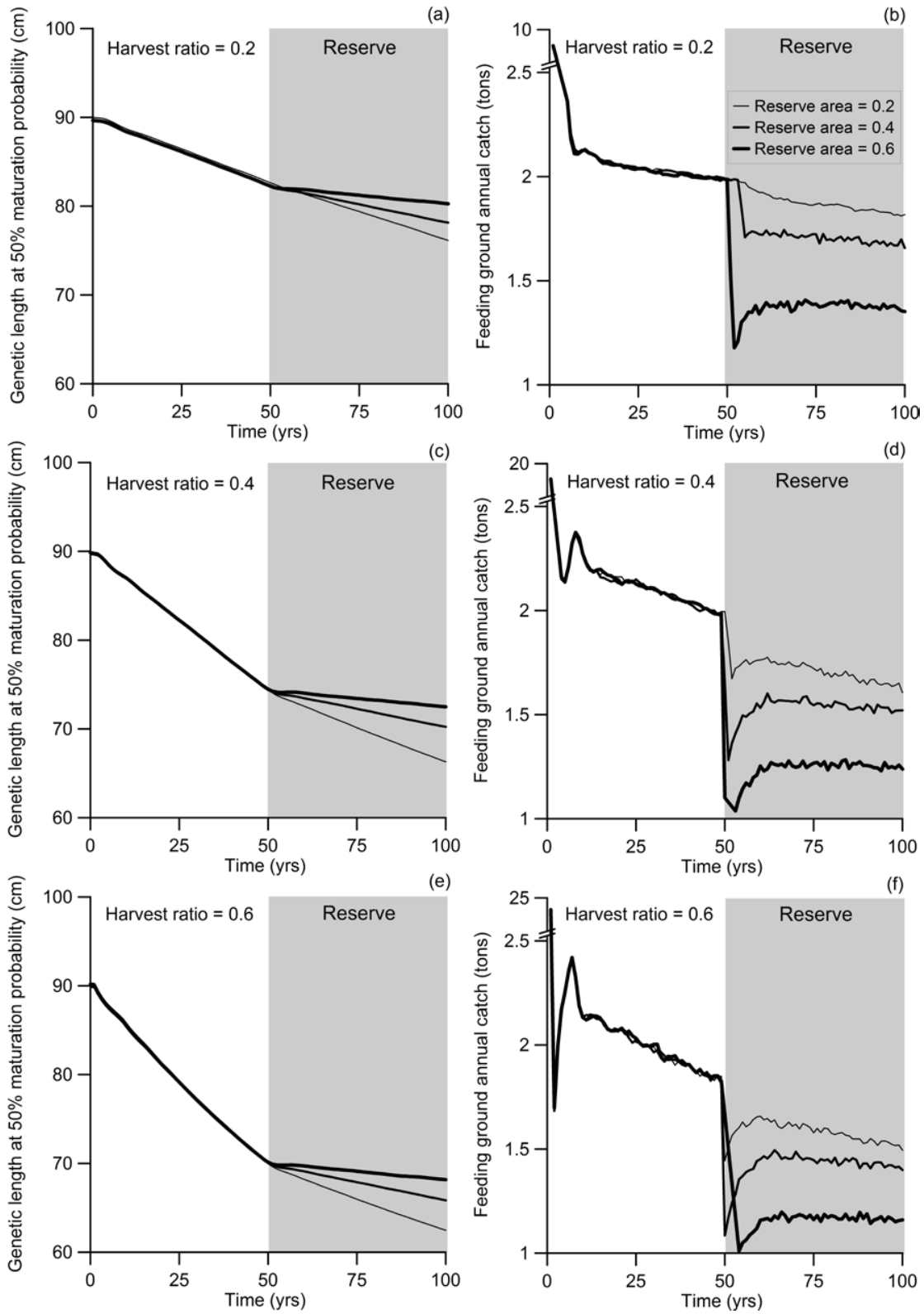
1057

1058 Figure 4.



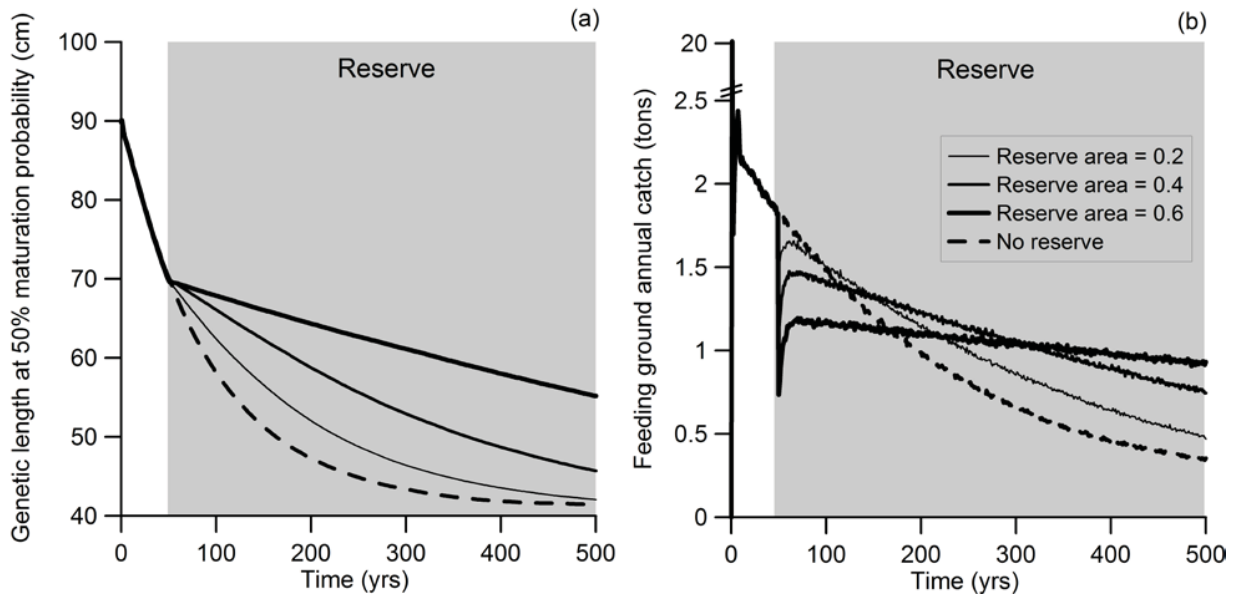
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1060 Figure 5.



1061

1062 Figure 6.

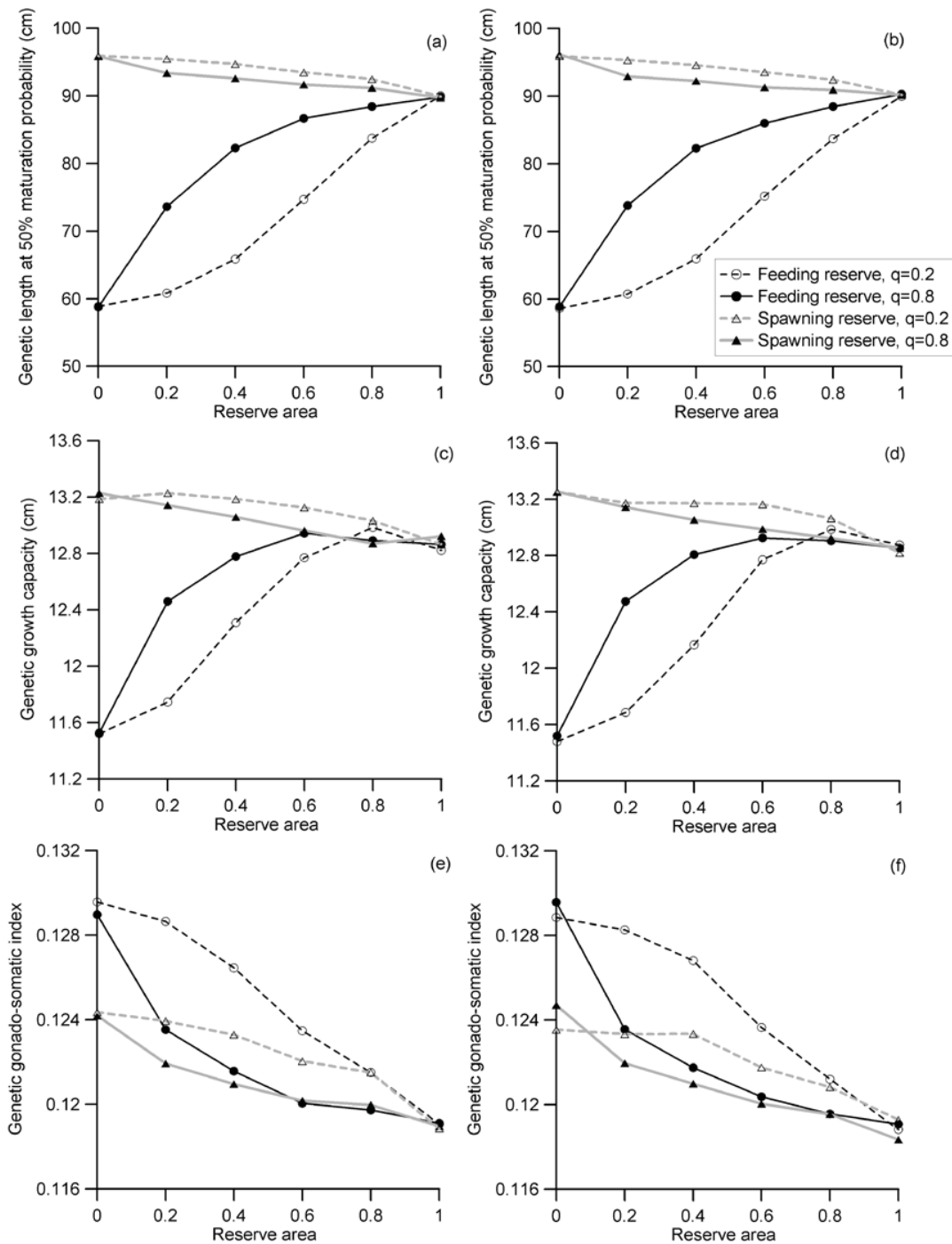


1063

**1064 Appendix A. Effect of natal homing on spawning-ground and feeding-ground reserves**

1065 In this appendix, we examine the influence of incorporating natal homing in our model. When  
1066 natal homing is introduced, individuals in the population have a tendency to spawn in their area  
1067 of birth. In other words, an individual born in a spawning-ground reserve will tend to return to  
1068 that spawning-ground reserve for spawning. Individuals have only a ‘tendency’ to return, because  
1069 there is movement between the harvested area and the reserve that introduces some variability in  
1070 whether an individual actually returns to their area of birth (eqns 1a-d in the main text).

1071 Results of this investigation show very little difference between situations with and  
1072 without natal homing (there is little difference between the left and right columns in Fig. A1);  
1073 this was true for both a spawning-ground reserve and for a feeding-ground reserve. Changing the  
1074 retention probability  $q$  did influence predictions, but natal homing had little effect on those  
1075 predictions. For a feeding ground reserve, there was more evolution to smaller lengths at 50%  
1076 genetic maturation probability (owing mainly to a decrease in the probabilistic maturation  
1077 reaction norm intercept), higher GSIs, and smaller genetic growth capacities (Fig. A1) when the  
1078 retention rate parameter was low (i.e., when there was more movement between the reserve and  
1079 harvested area). For a spawning ground reserve, the difference between results for the two  
1080 retention probabilities was less than for a feeding-ground reserve. For a spawning-ground  
1081 reserve, lower retention probabilities (and therefore more movement) led to evolution of larger  
1082 lengths at 50% genetic maturation probability, higher genetic growth capacity, and higher genetic  
1083 GSI (Fig. A1). Therefore, with the exception of the GSI, more movement coupled with a  
1084 spawning-ground reserve had an opposite effect of more movement coupled with a feeding  
1085 ground reserve. This is perhaps not surprising given the different selective pressures acting when  
1086 fishing occurs in the spawning grounds as opposed to in the feeding grounds (as discussed in more  
1087 detail in the main text).



1088

1089 **Figure A1** Influence of natal homing on the effectiveness of a reserve. Fishing occurs in the spawning  
 1090 grounds when the reserve is located in the spawning grounds, and fishing occurs in the feeding  
 1091 grounds when the reserve is located in the feeding grounds. Fishing occurs for 100 years with an annual harvest  
 1092 ratio of 0.5. Panels on the left (A, C, E) are for a population without natal homing (default) and panels  
 1093 on the right (B, D, F) are for populations in which there is a tendency for individuals to spawn in the area of  
 1094 their birth. The retention probability  $q$  was also varied (eqns 1a–d in the main text). Values shown are  
 1095 means for 30 independent model runs. Legend in panel B applies to all panels.

**1096 Appendix B. Effect of a reserve on a population without annual spawning migration**

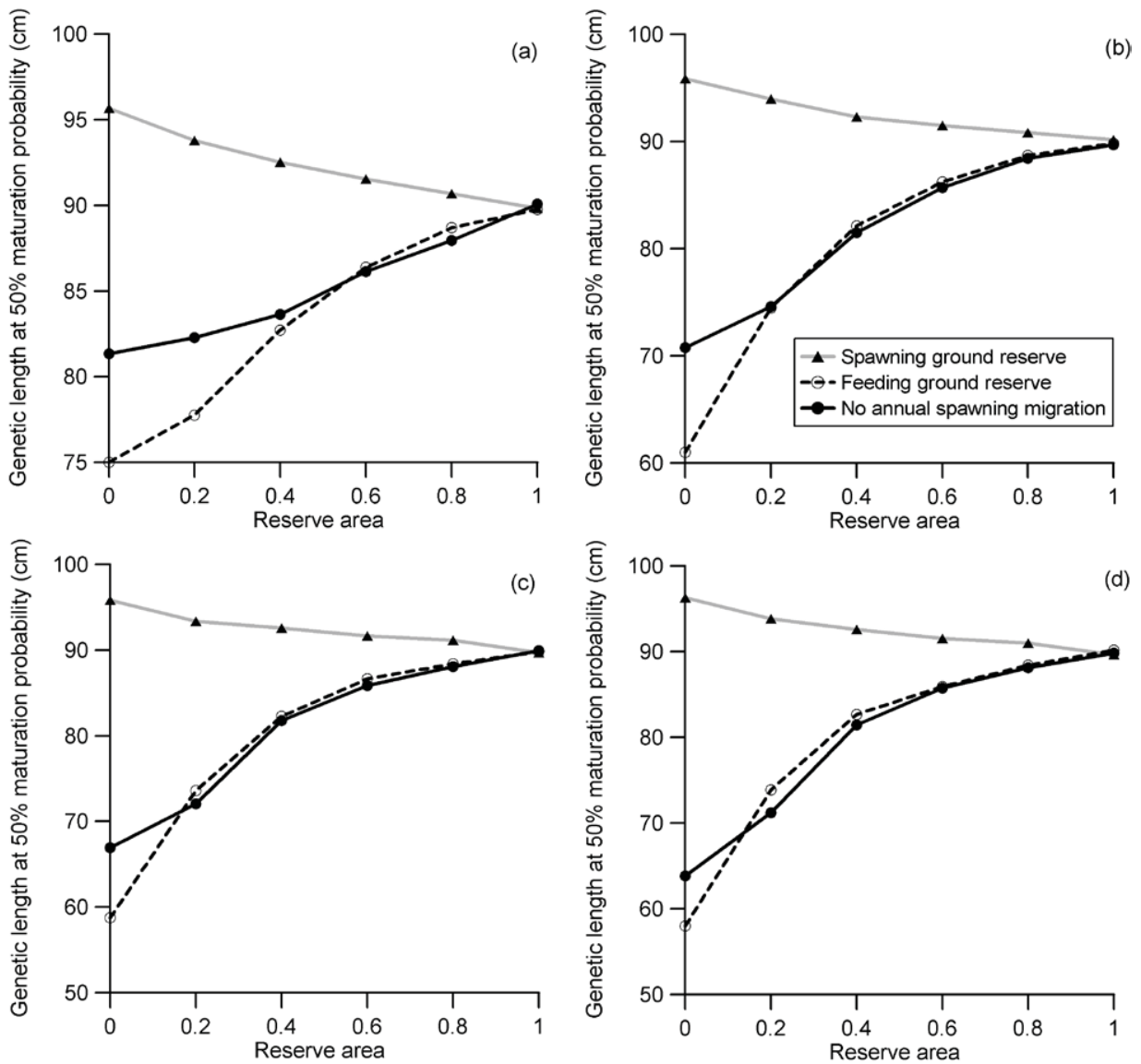
1097 In this appendix, we test the impact of a reserve on fisheries-induced evolution in a species that  
1098 does not undergo an annual spawning migration. The harvestable biomass for this type of reserve  
1099 is equal to the biomass of individuals above the minimum-size limit in the reserve and the  
1100 harvested area. Everything else is equivalent to the baseline model described in the main text.

1101 Results of this investigation show that the difference between a population that annually  
1102 migrates to spawning grounds and a population that does not migrate depends on the area of the  
1103 reserve and on the annual harvest ratio (Fig. B1). For low annual harvest ratios and small to  
1104 medium reserve areas, a reserve created for a nonmigrating population results in less evolution  
1105 than a feeding-ground reserve created for a migrating population (Fig. B1). This is a likely result  
1106 of the genetic mixing that occurs in the spawning grounds during reproduction when there is an  
1107 annual spawning migration. An individual occupying the feeding-ground reserve could mate  
1108 with an individual that occupies the feeding ground's harvested area, resulting in offspring trait  
1109 values that will average between the two parental trait values.

1110 Generally, a feeding-ground reserve has an effect more similar to a reserve created for a  
1111 nonmigrating population than to a spawning-ground reserve created for a migrating population  
1112 (Fig. B1). The reason for the higher similarity is that harvest pressure on juveniles and adults  
1113 causes selection for earlier maturation; this selection pressure can be reduced by protecting the  
1114 juveniles and adults that reside in the reserve. The dissimilarity between situations with a  
1115 spawning-ground reserve and with a nonmigrating population occurs because there is no targeted  
1116 fishery of spawning individuals in the later case. A fishery of spawning individuals creates  
1117 selection pressures mostly in the opposite direction than a fishery for juveniles and adults, and the  
1118 subsequent protection of spawning individuals through the creation of a spawning-ground reserve  
1119 has very different implications than protecting juveniles and adults above a minimum-size limit.



1120



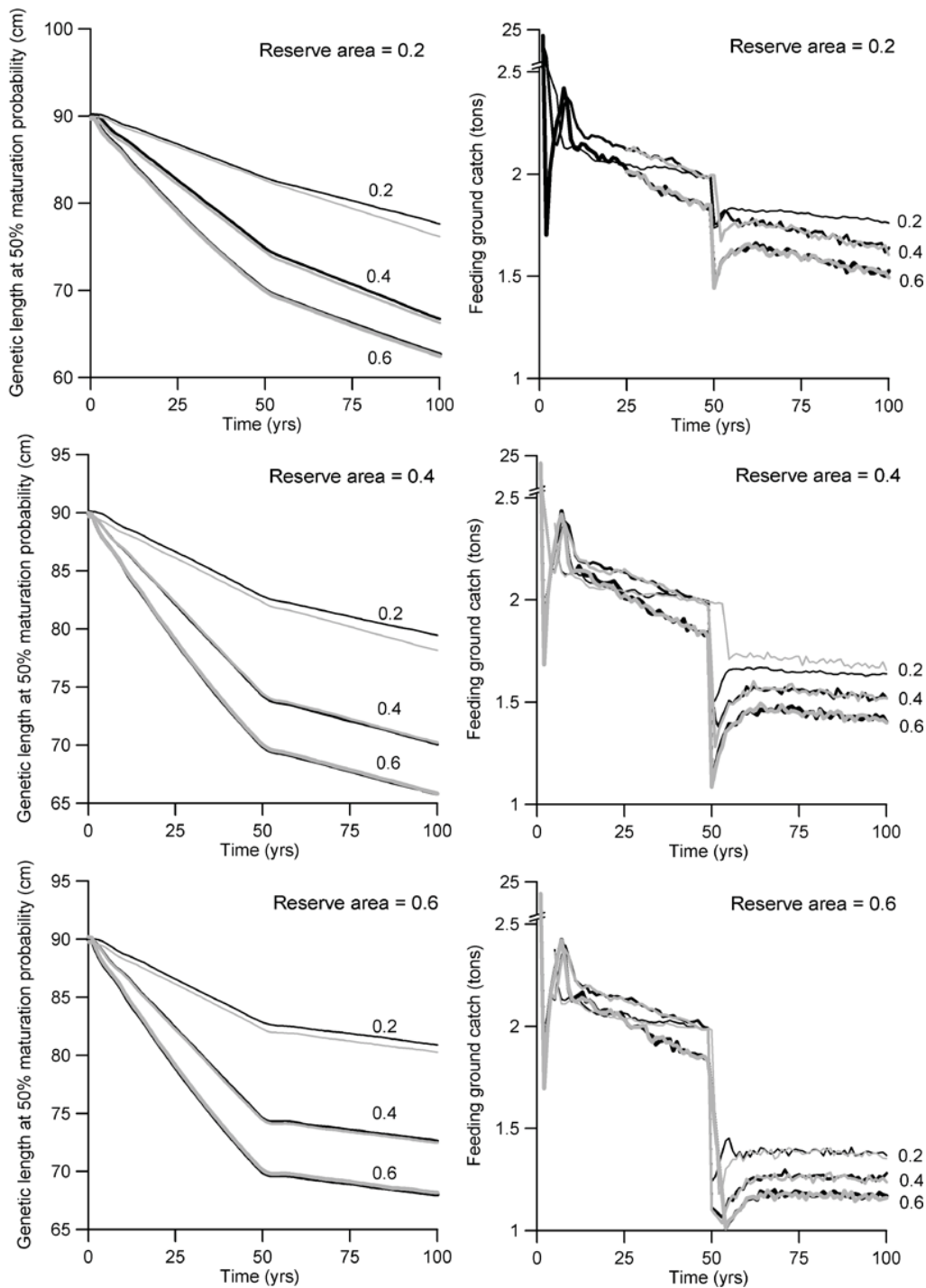
1121

1122 **Figure B1** Influence of an annual spawning migration on the effectiveness of a reserve. Fishing occurs in  
 1123 the spawning grounds when the reserve is located in the spawning grounds, and fishing occurs in the  
 1124 feeding grounds when the reserve is located in the feeding grounds. Fishing occurs for 100 years with an  
 1125 annual harvest ratio of 0.2 (a), 0.4 (b), 0.5 (c), or 0.6 (d). Values shown are means for 30 independent  
 1126 model runs. Legend in panel B applies to all panels.

**1127 | Appendix C. Effect of excluding effort displacement**

1128 | In the model presented in the main text, harvestable biomass is determined as the biomass of all  
1129 | harvestable individuals in the reserve and the harvested area. This was to account for the effort  
1130 | displacement that can occur when a reserve is created. In this appendix, we test a scenario, in  
1131 | which the harvestable biomass equals the harvestable biomass in the harvested area, so that the  
1132 | former is unaffected by biomass in the reserve and no effort displacement occurs.

1133 |         We examine this scenario by considering fishing that occurs for 50 years prior to the  
1134 | creation of a feeding-ground reserve. Our results show that effort displacement generally causes  
1135 | little difference in the effect of a reserve on evolution (Fig. C1). The only difference occurs for  
1136 | low annual harvest ratios and small reserve areas (Fig. C1). In cases showing a difference, the  
1137 | reserve is less effective at curbing evolution when there is effort displacement (Fig. C1).



1138

1139 **Figure C1** Effect of changing the measure of harvestable biomass. Grey lines describe settings with  
 1140 effort displacement, in which the harvestable biomass equaled the harvestable biomass in the reserve and  
 1141 the harvested area (default). Black lines describe settings without effort displacement, in which the  
 1142 harvestable biomass equaled the harvestable biomass in the harvested area alone. Line thickness increases  
 1143 with the annual harvest ratio (0.2, 0.4, and 0.6). Fishing occurs for 50 years followed by the creation of a  
 1144 feeding-ground reserve. Values shown are means for 30 independent model runs.