

SAFARI

Societal Applications in Fisheries and Aquaculture using Remotely-Sensed Imagery

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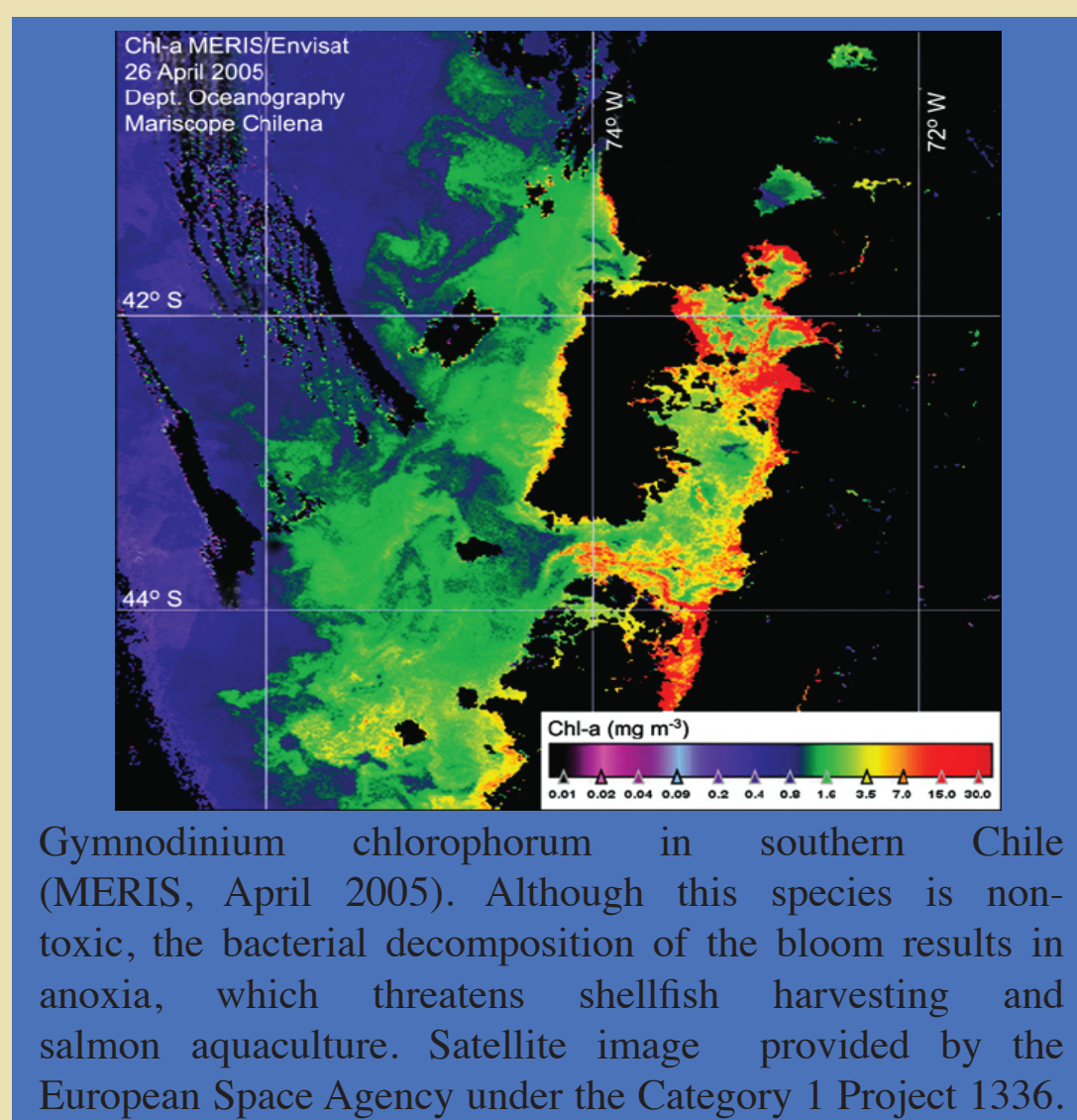
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Current & potential societal benefits of ocean observation data in the management of fisheries & aquaculture.

SAFARI was launched in 2007 under GEO (Group on Earth Observations) task number AG-06-02. The main objective of SAFARI is international coordination of applications of remotely-sensed ocean observation data to the societal benefits in fisheries and aquaculture.

Applications of remote sensing to fisheries include its use in:

- fish stock assessment, where ocean observation data are instrumental for understanding of the effects of seasonal and inter-annual variability of the phytoplankton community to stock growth and recruitment;
- fisheries management, where the ecosystem-based approach is now universally accepted and has been introduced into the regional management of fisheries; and
- fisheries harvesting, for example by the identification of potential fishing zones.

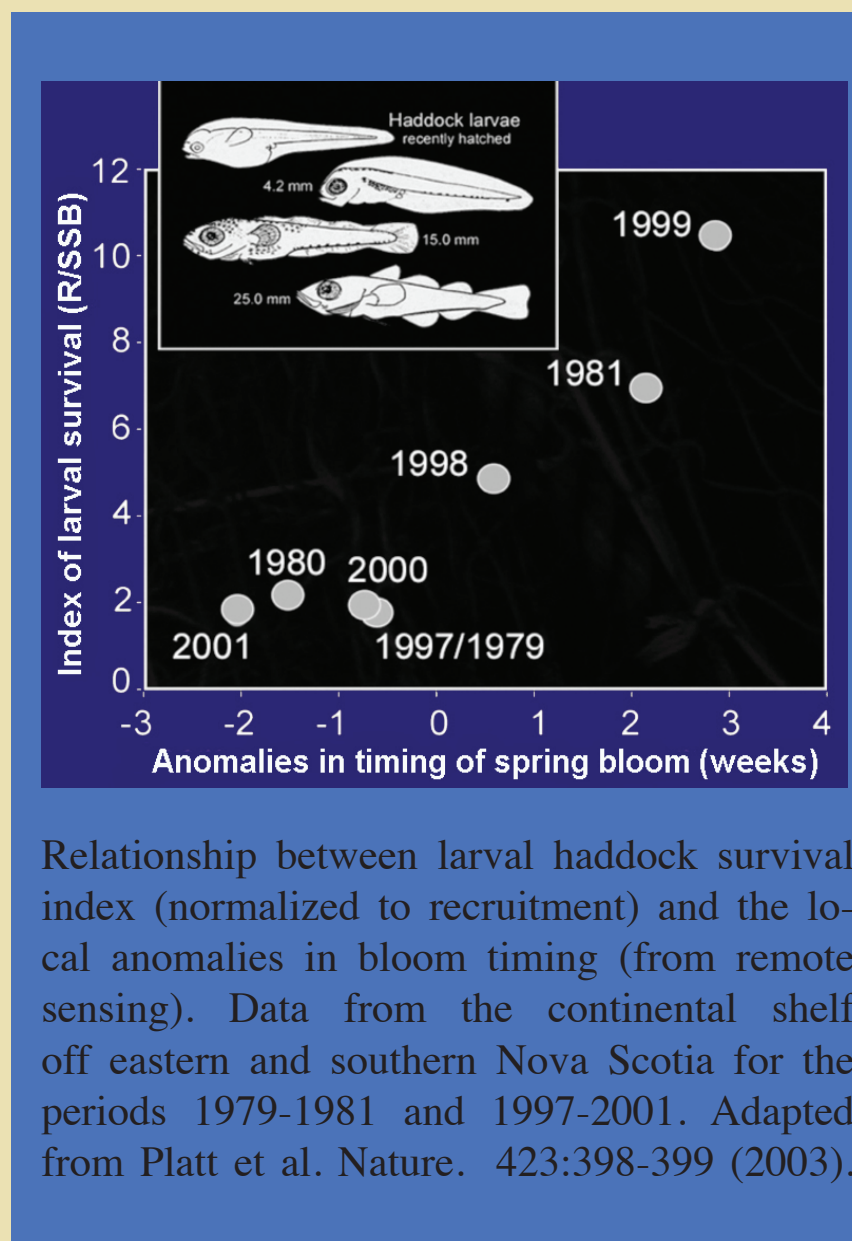


Researchers from more than 15 countries including Argentina, Australia, Canada, Columbia, France, India, Italy, Japan, New Caledonia, Peru, South Africa, Sri Lanka, UK, Spain and USA participate in the SAFARI network.

Collaboration with other international networks, such as IOCCG and ChloroGIN will facilitate the expansion of SAFARI worldwide.

Future goals of the SAFARI Network

- Utilise the increased spectral resolution of ocean colour sensors, for identifying phytoplankton functional types and species, and for improving chlorophyll retrieval through regional algorithms.
- Future fisheries management research will rely on ocean observation data, including ocean colour radiometry and sea-surface temperature. It is essential to ensure the continuity of these data streams. In collaboration with IOCCG (International Ocean Colour Coordination Group), SAFARI aims to advocate the continuity and availability of this technology, currently being proposed through the Ocean Colour Radiance Virtual Constellation.
- Advocate that future ocean-colour sensors have a high spatial resolution, such as MERIS's full resolution images (300 m), to maximize coastal observations.



On a global scale, SAFARI endeavours to reach all levels of participants engaged in fisheries research and management. SAFARI activities include the organisation of international workshops, information sessions and symposia as a platform for fisheries industry, government officials and resource managers to discuss current research in ocean observation and fisheries management.

