Janelle MR Curtis<sup>1</sup> Ellen Kenchington<sup>1</sup> Christopher N Rooper<sup>1</sup> James Christian<sup>1</sup> Ryan Gasbarro<sup>2</sup> Devon Warawa<sup>1</sup> Jackson WF Chu<sup>1</sup> Karen Hunter<sup>1</sup> Natalie Ban<sup>3</sup> Samuel Georgian<sup>4</sup> Anders Knudby<sup>5</sup>

The cumulative impacts of climate vulnerability and significant adverse impacts (SAIs) caused by bottom-contact fishing on vulnerable marine ecosystems (VMEs) in the North Pacific Fisheries Commission (NPFC) Convention Area

NPFC-2023-SC08-IP07

<sup>1</sup>Fisheries and Oceans Canada <sup>2</sup>UC Santa Cruz / NOAA <sup>3</sup>University of Victoria <sup>4</sup>Marine Conservation Institute <sup>5</sup>University of Ottawa



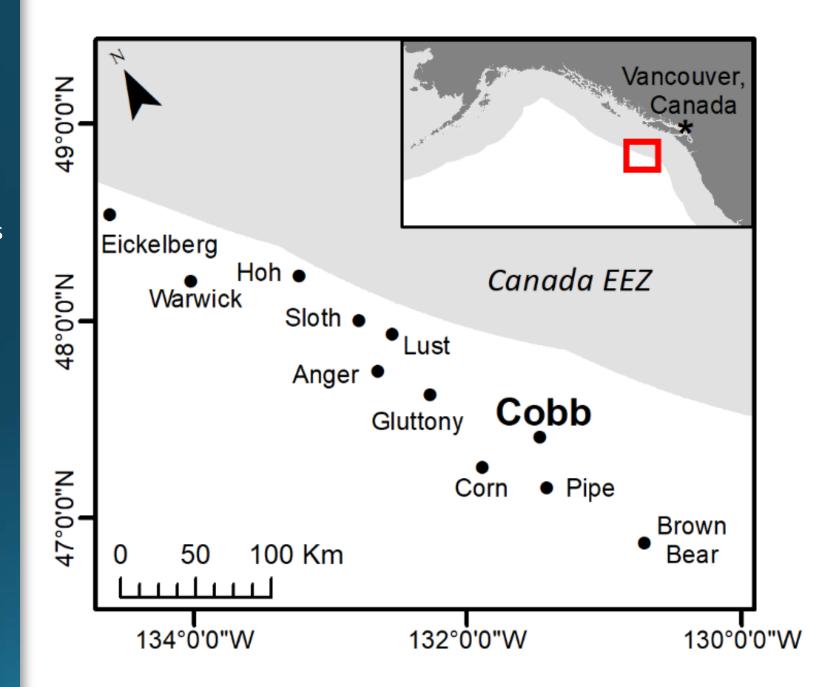
DFO/NOAA

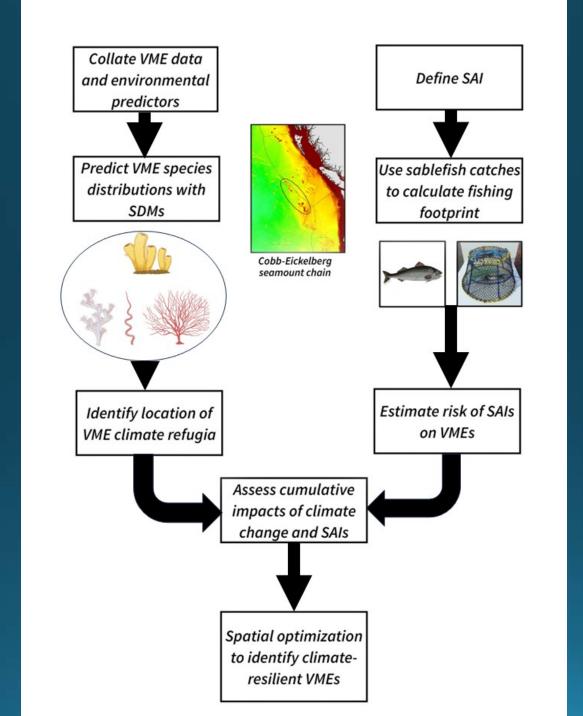
## **Objectives**

- advance progress on defining SAI
- assess the cumulative risks of SAIs to VMEs caused by bottom-contact fishing and anticipated climate-induced changes
- use spatial optimization software to identify climate-resilient VMEs and potential VMEs to protect from SAIs

## **Study Area**

Cobb – Eickelberg seamount chain in the Northeast Pacific Ocean





## Research Proposal submitted to the Competitive Science Research Fund (CSRF)

- Submitted in December 2023
- Hope to have good news in April 2024
- Happy to share proposal text with colleagues





Photos from the Joint Canada-USA International Seamount Survey 2022