MS Thesis Department of Environmental Science and Policy College of Science George Mason University

Candidate: Nicole Beetle
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Title: Mapping evidence of fishery improvements to study intervention effectiveness

Thesis Director: Dr. Diego Valderrama Committee: Dr. Ingrid Visseren-Hamakers, Dr. Chris Kennedy

ABSTRACT

This thesis describes fishery improvement interventions aimed at the sustainable harvest of marine living resources and contextualizes them by examining common populations and outcomes. The research analysis evaluates intervention effectiveness from the included evidence and makes recommendations for future research based on documented evidence gaps. For a fishery improvement intervention to be designated as a Fishery Improvement Project (FIP) it must meet public and transparent requirements in relation to NGO guidelines and the Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) fisheries standard. In the process of researching and writing this thesis, the author conducted a literature search, analyzed peer-reviewed articles, and consulted the available grey literature. A systematic map protocol was also developed in the process of conducting the research. This thesis aims to be a reference point that helps researchers navigate development and conservation projects that support fishery sustainability and connect the available evidence from development and conservation organizations to academic research.