

## Appendix S1.

### The distribution of experiments among habitats and grazer types

Table S1 details the full list of experiments with publication details, location, habitat and the grazers manipulated. Grazer exclusion experiments were concentrated in Europe (245 experiments), North America (167), Australasia (78) and Asia (66), with few experiments in Central America and the Caribbean (19), South America (19), Africa (11), Pacific Islands (7), and Antarctica (1) (Fig 1a). The experiments were also concentrated in temperate regions, with only 19% in the tropics.

Grazer exclusion experiments have been predominantly carried out on intertidal rocky reefs (355 experiments), subtidal rocky reefs (129) and coral reefs (65) with relatively few in seagrass beds (28), subtidal soft sediments (14), salt marsh (12) or intertidal soft sediments (10). Over half of the 615 herbivore exclusion experiments were conducted with molluscs (326 experiments). There were 139 experiments that simultaneously manipulated more than one major herbivore taxon, 61 manipulated urchins, 52 with fishes, and 23 with crustaceans. Very few experiments involved birds (6 experiments), reptiles (3), mammals (2) or polychaetes (1).

**Table S1** Publications included in the meta-analysis of grazer impacts on marine benthic vegetation. Each publication is listed with its location, habitat, major taxonomic group of grazers manipulated and the number of experiments (each with independent exclusion and control plots) used in the meta-analysis.

| Publication                  | Location        | Habitat               | Grazers manipulated | Number of experiments |
|------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| Aguilera & Navarrete (2007)  | Chile           | Intertidal rocky reef | Molluscs            | 1                     |
| Albert <i>et al.</i> (2008)  | Solomon Islands | Coral reef            | Fish                | 9                     |
| Alberti <i>et al.</i> (2007) | Argentina       | Salt marsh            | Crustaceans         | 2                     |
| Albrecht (1998)              | Germany         | Intertidal rocky reef | Molluscs            | 1                     |
| Alves <i>et al.</i> (2003)   | Madeira Is      | Subtidal rocky reef   | Urchins             | 1                     |
| Anderson (1995)              | Australia       | Subtidal rocky reef   | Molluscs            | 2                     |
| Anderson (1999)              | Australia       | Intertidal rocky reef | Molluscs            | 1                     |
| Anderson & Underwood (1997)  | Australia       | Intertidal rocky reef | Molluscs            | 3                     |
| Andrew & Macdiarmid (1991)   | New Zealand     | Subtidal rocky reef   | Multiple            | 1                     |
| Andrew & Underwood (1993)    | Australia       | Subtidal rocky reef   | Urchins             | 1                     |

|                                       |                   |                       |             |    |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|-------------|----|
| Armitage & Fourqurean (2006)          | USA               | Seagrass bed          | Multiple    | 1  |
| Arrontes <i>et al.</i> (2004)         | Spain             | Intertidal rocky reef | Molluscs    | 8  |
| Balducci <i>et al.</i> (2001)         | Italy             | Seagrass bed          | Multiple    | 6  |
| Baynes (1999)                         | Mexico            | Subtidal rocky reef   | Multiple    | 2  |
| Bazterrica <i>et al.</i> (2007)       | Argentina         | Intertidal rocky reef | Molluscs    | 4  |
| Belliveau & Paul (2002)               | Micronesia        | Coral reef            | Fish        | 2  |
| Bellwood <i>et al.</i> (2006)         | Australia         | Coral reef            | Fish        | 1  |
| Benedetti-Cecchi (2000)               | Italy             | Intertidal rocky reef | Molluscs    | 7  |
| Benedetti-Cecchi & Cinelli (1992)     | Italy             | Intertidal rocky reef | Multiple    | 2  |
| Benedetti-Cecchi & Cinelli (1993)     | Italy             | Intertidal rocky reef | Molluscs    | 4  |
| Benedetti-Cecchi & Cinelli (1995)     | Italy             | Intertidal rocky reef | Urchins     | 2  |
| Benedetti-Cecchi & Cinelli (1996)     | Italy             | Intertidal rocky reef | Multiple    | 6  |
| Benedetti-Cecchi <i>et al.</i> (1996) | Italy             | Subtidal rocky reef   | Molluscs    | 2  |
| Benedetti-Cecchi <i>et al.</i> (1998) | Italy             | Subtidal rocky reef   | Urchins     | 1  |
| Benedetti-Cecchi <i>et al.</i> (2000) | Italy             | Intertidal rocky reef | Molluscs    | 16 |
| Benedetti-Cecchi <i>et al.</i> (2001) | Italy             | Intertidal rocky reef | Molluscs    | 12 |
| Bertness <i>et al.</i> (1999)         | USA,              | Intertidal rocky reef | Molluscs    | 2  |
| Bertness <i>et al.</i> (2006)         | Argentina         | Intertidal rocky reef | Molluscs    | 3  |
| Bertness <i>et al.</i> (2009)         | USA               | Salt marsh            | Crustaceans | 2  |
| Boaventura <i>et al.</i> (2002)       | Portugal, UK      | Intertidal rocky reef | Molluscs    | 4  |
| Brenner <i>et al.</i> (1976)          | USA               | Salt marsh            | Crustaceans | 2  |
| Bulleri <i>et al.</i> (1999)          | Italy             | Subtidal rocky reef   | Urchins     | 6  |
| Bulleri <i>et al.</i> (2000)          | Italy             | Intertidal rocky reef | Molluscs    | 8  |
| Bulleri <i>et al.</i> (2002)          | Italy             | Subtidal rocky reef   | Urchins     | 6  |
| Bulleri <i>et al.</i> (2009)          | Italy             | Subtidal rocky reef   | Urchins     | 3  |
| Carpenter (1981)                      | US Virgin Islands | Coral reef            | Urchins     | 1  |
| Carpenter (1986)                      | US Virgin Islands | Coral reef            | Multiple    | 2  |
| Carter <i>et al.</i> (2007)           | USA               | Subtidal rocky reef   | Urchins     | 1  |
| Cervin & Åberg (1997)                 | Sweden            | Subtidal rocky reef   | Molluscs    | 3  |
| Cervin <i>et al.</i> (2004)           | Sweden            | Intertidal rocky reef | Molluscs    | 1  |
| Cervin <i>et al.</i> (2005)           | UK                | Intertidal rocky reef | Molluscs    | 1  |

|                                  |              |                           |             |    |
|----------------------------------|--------------|---------------------------|-------------|----|
| Chapman (1990)                   | Canada       | Intertidal rocky reef     | Multiple    | 2  |
| Coen (1988)                      | Belize       | Coral reef                | Crustaceans | 1  |
| Coleman <i>et al.</i> (2006)     | Europe       | Intertidal rocky reef     | Molluscs    | 80 |
| Cowen <i>et al.</i> (1982)       | USA          | Subtidal rocky reef       | Urchins     | 2  |
| Davies <i>et al.</i> (2007)      | UK           | Intertidal rocky reef     | Molluscs    | 2  |
| Dayton (1971)                    | USA          | Intertidal rocky reef     | Molluscs    | 1  |
| Dethier (1994)                   | USA          | Intertidal rocky reef     | Molluscs    | 1  |
| Dethier & Duggins (1988)         | USA          | Intertidal rocky reef     | Molluscs    | 4  |
| Diaz-Pulido & McCook (2003)      | Australia    | Coral reef                | Fish        | 1  |
| Diaz-Pulido <i>et al.</i> (2007) | Colombia     | Subtidal rocky reef       | Multiple    | 2  |
| Dudgeon <i>et al.</i> (1999)     | USA          | Intertidal rocky reef     | Molluscs    | 3  |
| Duffy <i>et al.</i> (1997)       | USA          | Subtidal soft sediments   | Multiple    | 4  |
| Duggins & Dethier (1985)         | USA          | Intertidal rocky reef     | Molluscs    | 4  |
| Dungan (1986)                    | Mexico       | Intertidal rocky reef     | Molluscs    | 2  |
| Dunmore & Schiel (2003)          | New Zealand  | Intertidal rocky reef     | Molluscs    | 2  |
| Dye (1995)                       | South Africa | Intertidal rocky reef     | Molluscs    | 3  |
| Falace & Bressan (2002)          | Italy        | Subtidal rocky reef       | Urchins     | 1  |
| Ferreira <i>et al.</i> (1998)    | Brazil       | Subtidal rocky reef       | Fish        | 1  |
| Fletcher (1987)                  | Australia    | Subtidal rocky reef       | Multiple    | 4  |
| Fong <i>et al.</i> (2000)        | Hong Kong    | Seagrass bed              | Molluscs    | 1  |
| Foster (1982)                    | USA          | Intertidal rocky reef     | Molluscs    | 1  |
| Freidenburg <i>et al.</i> (2007) | USA          | Intertidal rocky reef     | Molluscs    | 19 |
| Gacia <i>et al.</i> (1999)       | USA          | Seagrass bed              | Fish        | 1  |
| Gaines (1985)                    | USA          | Intertidal rocky reef     | Molluscs    | 2  |
| Geller (1991)                    | USA          | Intertidal rocky reef     | Molluscs    | 7  |
| Gerdol & Hughes (1994)           | UK           | Intertidal soft sediments | Crustaceans | 4  |
| Gobler <i>et al.</i> (2006)      | Fiji         | Coral reef                | Fish        | 1  |
| Harley (2003)                    | USA          | Intertidal rocky reef     | Molluscs    | 2  |
| Harley (2006)                    | USA          | Intertidal rocky reef     | Molluscs    | 1  |
| Hata & Kato (2003)               | Japan        | Coral reef                | Multiple    | 2  |
| Hatcher & Larkum (1983)          | Australia    | Coral reef                | Fish        | 8  |

|                                 |                   |                           |             |    |
|---------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|-------------|----|
| Hay & Taylor (1985)             | US Virgin Islands | Subtidal rocky reef       | Urchins     | 1  |
| Hill <i>et al.</i> (2003)       | Australia         | Subtidal rocky reef       | Urchins     | 1  |
| Hillebrand & Kahlert (2001)     | Sweden            | Subtidal rocky reef       | Multiple    | 4  |
| Hillebrand & Kahlert (2002)     | Sweden            | Subtidal soft sediments   | Multiple    | 4  |
| Hillebrand <i>et al.</i> (2000) | Germany           | Subtidal rocky reef       | Multiple    | 6  |
| Hixon & Brostoff (1996)         | Hawaii            | Coral reef                | Fish        | 1  |
| Hootsmans <i>et al.</i> (1993)  | Mauritania        | Seagrass bed              | Crustaceans | 1  |
| Hori <i>et al.</i> (2006)       | Japan             | Intertidal rocky reef     | Birds       | 1  |
| Hughes <i>et al.</i> (2000)     | UK                | Intertidal soft sediments | Polychaetes | 1  |
| Hughes <i>et al.</i> (2007)     | Australia         | Coral reef                | Fish        | 1  |
| Irving & Witman (2009)          | Galapagos Islands | Subtidal rocky reef       | Urchins     | 1  |
| Jayewardene (2009)              | Hawaii            | Coral reef                | Fish        | 3  |
| Jenkins <i>et al.</i> (1999a)   | UK                | Intertidal rocky reef     | Molluscs    | 2  |
| Jenkins <i>et al.</i> (1999b)   | UK                | Intertidal rocky reef     | Molluscs    | 2  |
| Jernakoff & Nielsen (1997)      | Australia         | Seagrass bed              | Multiple    | 1  |
| Johnson (1992)                  | USA               | Intertidal rocky reef     | Molluscs    | 3  |
| Johnson & Mann (1986)           | Canada            | Intertidal rocky reef     | Molluscs    | 1  |
| Jompa & McCook (2002)           | Australia         | Coral reef                | Fish        | 2  |
| Kaehler & Froneman (2002)       | South Africa      | Intertidal rocky reef     | Molluscs    | 1  |
| Kaehler & Williams (1997)       | Hong Kong         | Intertidal rocky reef     | Multiple    | 26 |
| Keuskamp (2004)                 | Australia         | Seagrass bed              | Molluscs    | 1  |
| Kim (1997)                      | Canada            | Intertidal rocky reef     | Molluscs    | 1  |
| Klumpp <i>et al.</i> (1987)     | Australia         | Coral reef                | Multiple    | 1  |
| Korpinen & Jormalainen (2008)   | Finland           | Subtidal rocky reef       | Multiple    | 10 |
| Korpinen <i>et al.</i> (2007)   | Finland           | Subtidal rocky reef       | Multiple    | 2  |
| Korpinen <i>et al.</i> (2008)   | Finland           | Subtidal rocky reef       | Multiple    | 3  |
| Lever & Valiela (2005)          | USA               | Subtidal soft sediments   | Multiple    | 3  |
| Levings & Garrity (1984)        | Panama            | Intertidal rocky reef     | Molluscs    | 1  |
| Lewis (1986)                    | Belize            | Coral reef                | Fish        | 1  |
| Lindberg <i>et al.</i> (1998)   | USA               | Intertidal rocky reef     | Molluscs    | 1  |
| Lirman (2001)                   | USA               | Coral reef                | Multiple    | 3  |

|                                 |                  |                           |             |   |
|---------------------------------|------------------|---------------------------|-------------|---|
| Littler <i>et al.</i> (1995)    | Mexico, Honduras | Coral reef                | Molluscs    | 1 |
| Lotze & Worm (2000)             | Germany          | Subtidal rocky reef       | Multiple    | 1 |
| Lotze <i>et al.</i> (2000)      | Germany          | Subtidal rocky reef       | Multiple    | 2 |
| Lotze <i>et al.</i> (2001)      | Germany, Canada  | Subtidal rocky reef       | Multiple    | 5 |
| Lubchenco (1983)                | USA              | Intertidal rocky reef     | Molluscs    | 3 |
| Lubchenco & Menge (1978)        | USA              | Intertidal rocky reef     | Multiple    | 6 |
| Lubchenco <i>et al.</i> (1984)  | Panama           | Intertidal rocky reef     | Multiple    | 2 |
| Macia (2000)                    | USA              | Seagrass bed              | Urchins     | 2 |
| Mak & Williams (1999)           | Hong Kong        | Intertidal rocky reef     | Molluscs    | 3 |
| Mancinelli & Rossi (2001)       | Italy            | Seagrass bed              | Crustaceans | 1 |
| Maneveldt & Keats (2008)        | South Africa     | Intertidal rocky reef     | Molluscs    | 1 |
| Mapstone <i>et al.</i> (2007)   | French Polynesia | Coral reef                | Urchins     | 1 |
| Markel & DeWreede (1998)        | Canada           | Intertidal rocky reef     | Molluscs    | 1 |
| Masini <i>et al.</i> (2001)     | Australia        | Seagrass bed              | Mammals     | 1 |
| McCall & Rakocinski (2007)      | USA              | Seagrass bed              | Crustaceans | 3 |
| McClanahan <i>et al.</i> (1994) | Kenya,           | Coral reef                | Urchins     | 2 |
| McClanahan <i>et al.</i> (1996) | Kenya            | Coral reef                | Urchins     | 3 |
| McClanahan <i>et al.</i> (2003) | Belize           | Coral reef                | Fish        | 1 |
| McCook (1997a)                  | Australia        | Coral reef                | Fish        | 2 |
| McCook (1997b)                  | Australia        | Coral reef                | Fish        | 3 |
| McGlathery (1995)               | Bermuda          | Seagrass bed              | Urchins     | 2 |
| Menge <i>et al.</i> (1986)      | Panama           | Intertidal rocky reef     | Molluscs    | 1 |
| Menge <i>et al.</i> (1999)      | New Zealand      | Intertidal rocky reef     | Molluscs    | 4 |
| Menge <i>et al.</i> (2005)      | USA              | Intertidal rocky reef     | Molluscs    | 2 |
| Miller & Hay (1996)             | USA              | Subtidal rocky reef       | Multiple    | 1 |
| Miller & Hay (1998)             | USA              | Coral reef                | Fish        | 1 |
| Miller <i>et al.</i> (1999)     | USA              | Coral reef                | Fish        | 1 |
| Morrison (1988)                 | Jamaica          | Coral reef                | Urchins     | 2 |
| Murphy (1984)                   | USA              | Intertidal soft sediments | Crustaceans | 2 |
| Nacken & Reise (2000)           | Germany          | Seagrass bed              | Birds       | 1 |
| Nielsen (2001, 2003)            | USA              | Intertidal rocky reef     | Molluscs    | 2 |

|                                 |             |                           |             |    |
|---------------------------------|-------------|---------------------------|-------------|----|
| Nielsen & Navarrete (2004)      | Chile       | Intertidal rocky reef     | Molluscs    | 2  |
| Ojeda & Munoz (1999)            | Chile       | Intertidal rocky reef     | Fish        | 1  |
| Ozolinsh & Kupriyanova (2000)   | Russia      | Subtidal rocky reef       | Urchins     | 1  |
| Pace (1979)                     | USA         | Intertidal soft sediments | Molluscs    | 2  |
| Palacin <i>et al.</i> (1998)    | Spain       | Subtidal rocky reef       | Urchins     | 1  |
| Petraitis (1987)                | USA         | Intertidal rocky reef     | Molluscs    | 1  |
| Phillips & Hutchison (2008)     | New Zealand | Intertidal rocky reef     | Molluscs    | 4  |
| Poore <i>et al.</i> (2009)      | Australia   | Subtidal rocky reef       | Crustaceans | 2  |
| Portig <i>et al.</i> (1994)     | UK          | Seagrass bed              | Birds       | 1  |
| Preen (1995)                    | Australia   | Seagrass bed              | Mammals     | 1  |
| Prince (1995)                   | Australia   | Intertidal rocky reef     | Urchins     | 2  |
| Robertson & Mann (1982)         | Canada      | Seagrass bed              | Molluscs    | 1  |
| Robles (1982)                   | USA         | Intertidal rocky reef     | Multiple    | 3  |
| Russ (1987)                     | Australia   | Coral reef                | Multiple    | 2  |
| Russ & McCook (1999)            | Australia   | Coral reef                | Fish        | 2  |
| Russell & Connell (2005)        | Australia   | Subtidal rocky reef       | Molluscs    | 1  |
| Sala & Boudouresque (1997)      | Spain       | Subtidal rocky reef       | Fish        | 1  |
| Sammarco (1983)                 | Australia   | Coral reef                | Fish        | 1  |
| Scheibling (1994)               | Australia   | Subtidal rocky reef       | Molluscs    | 1  |
| Scheibling <i>et al.</i> (2009) | Canada      | Subtidal rocky reef       | Multiple    | 14 |
| Schiel (1982)                   | New Zealand | Subtidal rocky reef       | Urchins     | 1  |
| Sharpe & Keough (1998)          | Australia   | Intertidal rocky reef     | Molluscs    | 1  |
| Silliman & Bertness (2002)      | USA         | Salt marsh                | Molluscs    | 2  |
| Silliman & Zieman (2001)        | USA         | Salt marsh                | Molluscs    | 1  |
| Sjotun <i>et al.</i> (2007)     | Norway      | Subtidal rocky reef       | Multiple    | 1  |
| Smith <i>et al.</i> (1996)      | UK          | Intertidal soft sediments | Crustaceans | 1  |
| Smith <i>et al.</i> (2001)      | Hawaii      | Coral reef                | Multiple    | 1  |
| Sotka & Hay (2009)              | USA         | Coral reef                | Multiple    | 1  |
| Sousa (1979)                    | USA         | Intertidal rocky reef     | Multiple    | 4  |
| Sousa <i>et al.</i> (1981)      | USA         | Intertidal rocky reef     | Urchins     | 4  |
| Srivastava & Jefferies (1996)   | Canada      | Salt marsh                | Birds       | 3  |

|                               |                   |                       |          |    |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|----------|----|
| Stoner <i>et al.</i> (1995)   | Bahamas           | Seagrass bed          | Molluscs | 2  |
| Taylor & Schiel (2010)        | New Zealand       | Subtidal rocky reef   | Fish     | 5  |
| Thacker <i>et al.</i> (2001)  | Guam              | Coral reef            | Fish     | 1  |
| Thompson <i>et al.</i> (2004) | UK                | Intertidal rocky reef | Molluscs | 1  |
| Tomas <i>et al.</i> (2005)    | Spain             | Seagrass bed          | Multiple | 2  |
| Toth <i>et al.</i> (2007)     | Sweden            | Intertidal rocky reef | Molluscs | 1  |
| Underwood (1980)              | Australia         | Intertidal rocky reef | Molluscs | 3  |
| Underwood (1984)              | Australia         | Intertidal rocky reef | Molluscs | 1  |
| Underwood (1998)              | Australia         | Intertidal rocky reef | Molluscs | 1  |
| Underwood & Jernakoff (1984)  | Australia         | Intertidal rocky reef | Molluscs | 6  |
| Valentine & Johnson (2005)    | Australia         | Subtidal rocky reef   | Urchins  | 1  |
| Van Tamelen (1987)            | USA               | Intertidal rocky reef | Molluscs | 1  |
| Vanderklift & Kendrick (2005) | Australia         | Subtidal rocky reef   | Urchins  | 3  |
| Viejo <i>et al.</i> (1999)    | Sweden            | Subtidal rocky reef   | Molluscs | 4  |
| Vinueza <i>et al.</i> (2006)  | Galapagos Islands | Intertidal rocky reef | Reptiles | 2  |
| Wai & Williams (2006)         | Hong Kong         | Intertidal rocky reef | Molluscs | 18 |
| Williams (1988)               | US Virgin Islands | Seagrass bed          | Reptiles | 1  |
| Witman (1987)                 | USA               | Subtidal rocky reef   | Urchins  | 1  |
| Wootton <i>et al.</i> (1996)  | USA               | Intertidal rocky reef | Molluscs | 3  |
| Worm & Chapman (1998)         | Canada            | Intertidal rocky reef | Multiple | 1  |
| Worm & Lotze (2006)           | Canada, Germany   | Intertidal rocky reef | Multiple | 23 |
| Worm <i>et al.</i> (2000)     | Germany           | Subtidal rocky reef   | Multiple | 1  |
| Worm <i>et al.</i> (2001)     | Germany           | Subtidal rocky reef   | Multiple | 2  |
| Worm <i>et al.</i> (2002)     | Canada, Germany   | Subtidal rocky reef   | Multiple | 2  |
| Yoneda <i>et al.</i> (2007)   | Japan             | Subtidal rocky reef   | Urchins  | 1  |
| Zacher <i>et al.</i> (2007)   | Antarctica        | Intertidal rocky reef | Molluscs | 1  |
| Zieman <i>et al.</i> (1984)   | US Virgin Islands | Seagrass bed          | Urchins  | 1  |

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