

Table S1. Sediment characteristics for each monitoring station sampled in 2017 and 2018

Treatment	2017				2018			
	Textural Group Classification	Sediment Groups			Textural Group Classification	Sediment Groups		
		% Gravel	% Sand	% Mud		% Gravel	% Sand	% Mud
Mussel	Slightly Gravelly Sandy Mud	0.01%	42.69%	57.29%	Muddy Sand	0.00%	66.04%	33.96%
Mussel	Slightly Gravelly Sandy Mud	0.23%	48.53%	51.24%	Muddy Sand	0.00%	65.02%	34.98%
Mussel	Muddy Sandy Gravel	46.02%	27.69%	26.30%	Muddy Sandy Gravel	38.69%	45.24%	16.07%
Mussel	Muddy Sandy Gravel	48.81%	39.72%	11.47%	Gravel	93.22%	6.78%	0.00%
Mussel	Muddy Sandy Gravel	50.69%	37.64%	11.67%	Muddy Sandy Gravel	69.05%	25.62%	5.34%
Mussel	Muddy Sandy Gravel	53.63%	35.14%	11.23%	Muddy Sandy Gravel	50.36%	41.95%	7.69%
Mussel	Slightly Gravelly Sandy Mud	0.03%	36.38%	63.60%	Muddy Sand	0.00%	59.08%	40.92%
Lobster	Muddy Sandy Gravel	54.79%	36.48%	8.74%	Muddy Sandy Gravel	76.97%	20.27%	2.76%
Lobster	Muddy Gravel	43.13%	26.21%	30.66%	Muddy Sandy Gravel	41.16%	32.82%	26.03%
Lobster	Muddy Sandy Gravel	34.37%	50.13%	15.50%	Muddy Sandy Gravel	61.99%	30.92%	7.09%
Lobster	Muddy Sandy Gravel	63.39%	29.34%	7.27%	Muddy Sandy Gravel	65.07%	30.22%	4.71%
Lobster	Muddy Sandy Gravel	58.56%	36.68%	4.77%	Gravel	88.48%	11.52%	0.00%
Lobster	Muddy Sandy Gravel	57.36%	36.33%	6.31%	Sandy Gravel	61.66%	34.53%	3.82%
Lobster	Gravelly Muddy Sand	18.84%	67.92%	13.24%	Muddy Sandy Gravel	42.87%	42.37%	14.76%
Control	Gravelly Muddy Sand	19.83%	49.41%	30.76%	Gravelly Muddy Sand	21.01%	42.37%	36.62%
Control	Muddy Sandy Gravel	62.59%	27.98%	9.43%	Muddy Sandy Gravel	74.42%	18.83%	6.74%
Control	Gravelly Mud	8.66%	42.50%	48.85%	Gravelly Muddy Sand	7.94%	56.33%	35.73%
Control	Gravelly Mud	27.03%	35.04%	37.93%	Gravelly Mud	11.17%	39.27%	49.56%
Control	Slightly Gravelly Sandy Mud	4.84%	38.71%	56.45%	Gravelly Mud	7.63%	43.05%	49.31%
Control	Gravelly Mud	15.31%	30.60%	54.09%	Gravelly Muddy Sand	26.25%	41.05%	32.70%
Control	Slightly Gravelly Sandy Mud	0.02%	41.46%	58.52%	Muddy Sand	0.00%	59.49%	40.51%
Control	Slightly Gravelly Muddy Sand	0.06%	73.63%	26.31%	Muddy Sand	0.00%	88.44%	11.56%

Fig. S1. nMDS plot based on a) untransformed macrobenthic abundance data, b) presence-absence epifaunal data c) presence-absence BRUV data, and d) untransformed BRUV data (fish only), obtained at stations in each treatment across the study area between monitoring surveys. Triangles: control stations, squares: SBCC stations, circles: mussel stations.

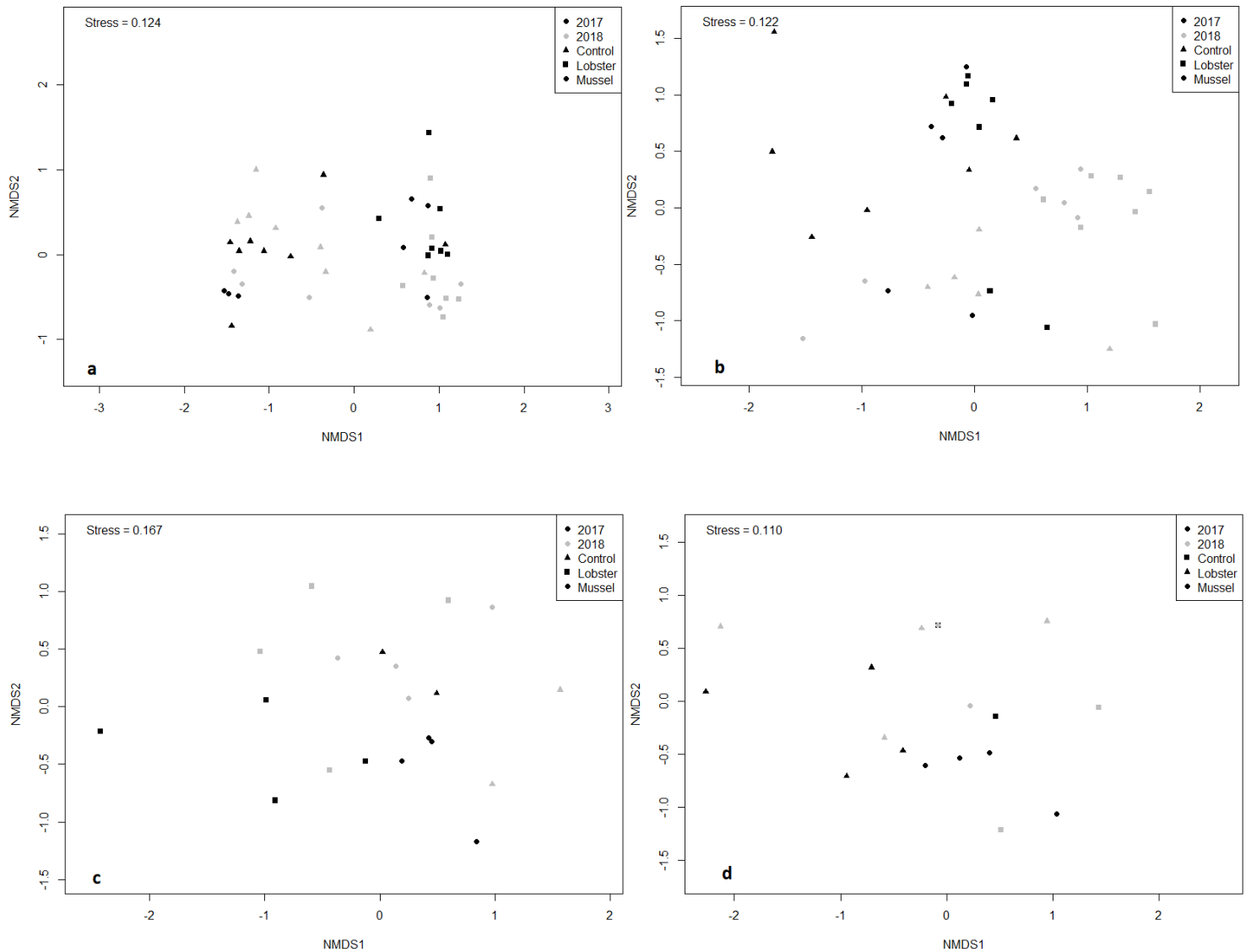


Fig. S2. AZTI Marine Biotic Indices for each monitoring station sampled by benthic grab within the three treatments across the study area in 2017 and 2018. The dashed lines indicate the upper (3.3) and lower (1.2) boundaries of the “good ecological status” category of the Water Framework Directive (Borja et al., 2003).

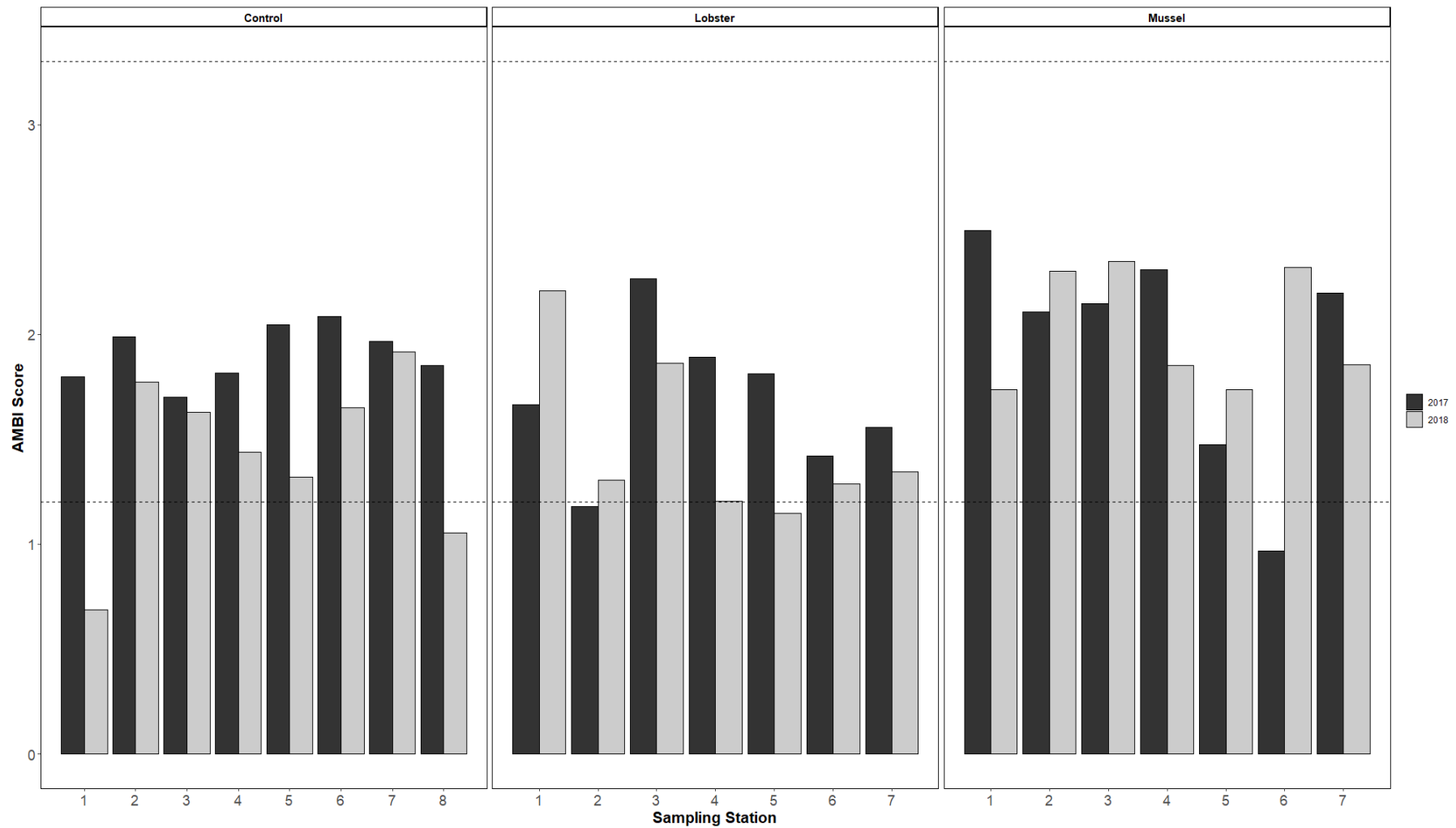


Fig. S3. a) Principal Components Analysis ordination of presence-absence BRUV data obtained at stations in each treatment in 2017 and 2018 across the LG2 survey area and b) with overlaid species vectors.

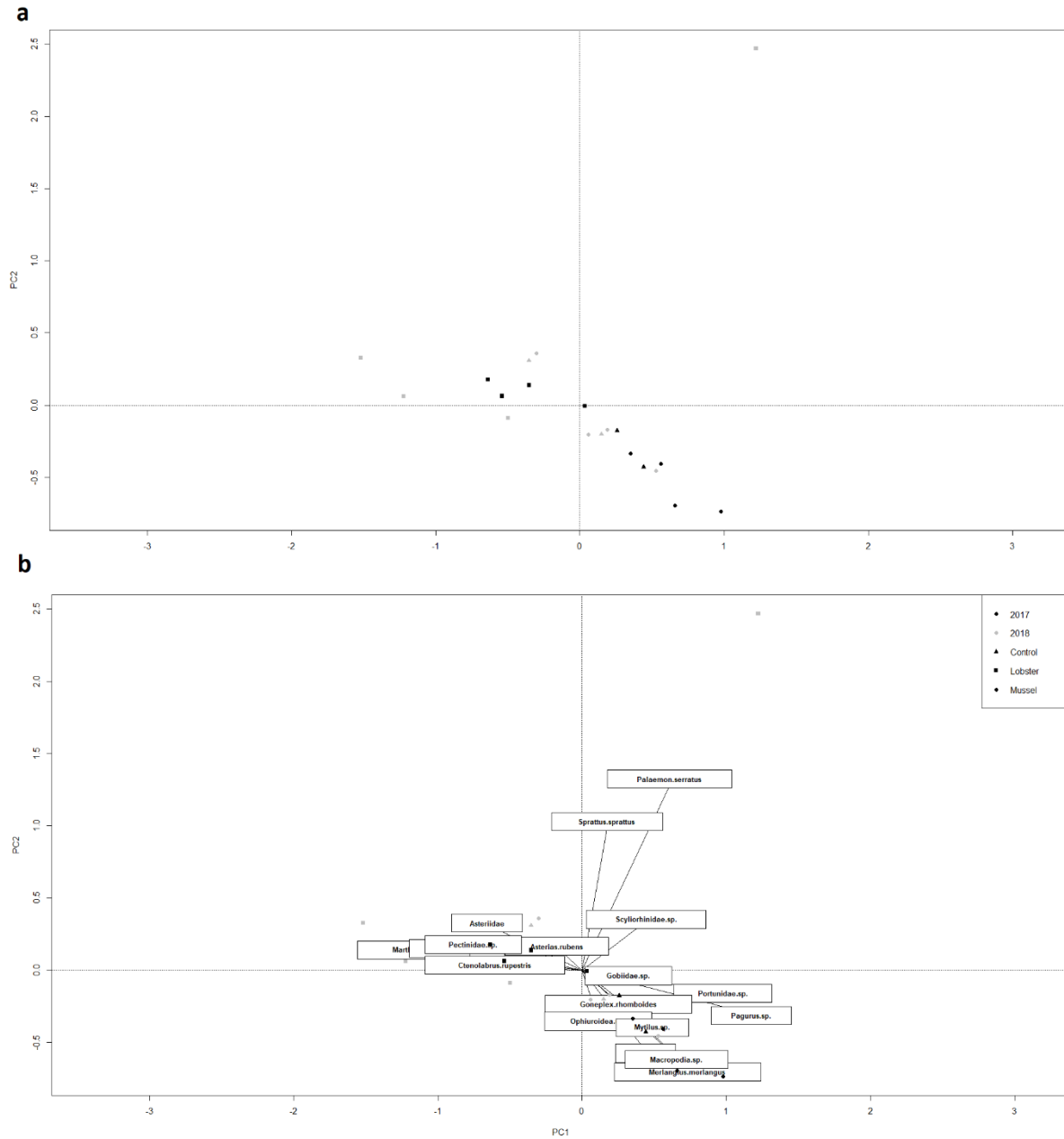


Fig. S4. Results of two-factorial ANOVA performed on individual taxa abundance data obtained by BRUV deployments across the LG2 survey area in 2017 and 2018.

Source	d.f.	S.S.	M.S.	F-value	Probability
Gobiidae					
Year	1	20.00	20.00	3.16	0.097
Treatment	2	8.45	4.23	0.67	0.528
Year*Treatment	2	7.25	3.63	0.57	0.576
Residuals	14	88.50	6.32		
Labridae					
Year	1	11.25	11.25	1.74	0.21
Treatment	2	21.68	10.84	1.67	0.22
Year*Treatment	2	16.88	8.44	1.30	0.30
Residuals	14	90.75	6.48		
<i>Merlangius merlangus</i>					
Year	1	88.20	88.20	1.36	0.623
Treatment	2	156.30	78.15	1.21	0.328
Year*Treatment	2	208.80	104.40	1.61	0.234
Residuals	14	906.50	64.75		
Scyliorhinidae					
Year	1	0.45	0.45	2.10	0.169
Treatment	2	0.30	0.15	0.70	0.513
Year*Treatment	2	0.80	0.40	1.87	0.191
Residuals	14	3.00	0.21		