Introduction

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Introduction

Historical challenges faced by southern sea otters (Enhydra lutris), in particular habitat loss and degradation due to human activities, have raised concerns about their population stagnation and limited genetic diversity in concentrated areas (Larson et al., 2012). There has also been a rise in recent years of white shark bites being the most common cause of death along the outer edges of the growing southern sea otter population (Miller et al., 2020), as sharks seem to confuse otters for young seals which are the shark's main prev source. The increasing occurrence of white sharks mistargeting southern sea otters is intensifying throughout the year, disrupting sea otter recovery efforts and necessitating a reevaluation of management strategies that traditionally overlook such dynamic predator-prey conflicts (Moxley et al., 2019). San Francisco Bay (SFB) may provide a vital population localization that can bypass the shark/sea otter conflict. This is because SFB is predominantly a shallow estuary with an average depth of 6m (Conomos et al., 1985), while white sharks avoid the surface and use water to 50m depth when near pinniped rookeries as part of their hunting strategy (Moxley et al., 2019). However, the successful re-colonization of sea otters in SFB, and the appropriateness of instigating a formal reintroduction effort, hinges on an understanding of how the animals can succeed in establishing their habitat in low risk areas away from vessel traffic with adequate foraging possibilities (Rudebusch et al., 2020). The purpose of this thesis study is to assess the benthic invertebrate communities across ten sites within the envisioned foraging range of California sea otters within SFB, mirroring their natural feeding behaviors. This data will be compared with invertebrate assemblages from Elkhorn Slough to evaluate the potential of these sites to support sustainable sea otter populations and to inform future conservation management. The project for class 710 in specific is to assess (1) diversity indexes and (2) abundances of benthic invertebrates using a fake dataset modelled to be a prediction of the data to be collected within the next year.

Analysis

The Null hypothesis is that all sites will have the same species diversity. The Alternate hypothesis is that some sites will have different species diversity.

The best statistical approach would be the Shannon diversity index. The higher the value of the Shannon index, the higher the diversity of species in a particular community. The lower the value of the Shannon index, the lower the diversity. A value of 0 indicates a community that only has one species. The best associated visualization would be a bar graph, to easily see the difference of the numerical output the Shannon index has.

library(tidyverse)

```
## Warning: package 'tidyverse' was built under R version 4.3.2
## Warning: package 'ggplot2' was built under R version 4.3.3
```

```
## Warning: package 'stringr' was built under R version 4.3.3
library(openintro)
## Warning: package 'openintro' was built under R version 4.3.2
## Warning: package 'airports' was built under R version 4.3.2
## Warning: package 'cherryblossom' was built under R version 4.3.2
## Warning: package 'usdata' was built under R version 4.3.2
library(plyr)
## Warning: package 'plyr' was built under R version 4.3.3
library(naniar)
## Warning: package 'naniar' was built under R version 4.3.3
library(vegan)
## Warning: package 'permute' was built under R version 4.3.2
library(ggpubr)
## Warning: package 'ggpubr' was built under R version 4.3.3
library(labdsv)
## Warning: package 'labdsv' was built under R version 4.3.3
# Importing data
benthic <- read.csv("FakeBenthicDataset.csv",header=TRUE)</pre>
# viewing the data
benthic
##
          Date
                   Time
                               Location Weather Crab.Trap.or.Pitfall.Trap
## 1 6/14/2024 7:00 AM
                          Pinole Shores
                                          Sunny
                                                                Crab Trap
## 2 6/14/2024 7:00 AM
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## 9 6/14/2024 9:00 AM Point Pinole
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## 10 6/14/2024 9:00 AM Point Pinole
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## 11 6/14/2024 9:00 AM
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## 15 6/14/2024
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                             Point Pinole
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## 45 6/14/2024
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## 46 6/14/2024
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## 52 6/14/2024
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## 53 6/14/2024
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##
                       Species Carapace.Length..mm. Shell.Length Worm.Length
## 1
        Metacarcinus magister
                                                  39
## 2
        Metacarcinus magister
                                                  42
## 3
        Metacarcinus magister
                                                  41
## 4
            Hemigrapsus nudus
                                                  12
```

	_		0.5		
##		Hemigrapsus nudus	25	_	_
##		Hemigrapsus oregonensis	21	_	_
##	7	Metacarcinus magister	53	_	-
##	8	Cancer productus	80	_	_
##	9	Hemigrapsus oregonensis	23	_	_
##	10	Leptocottus armatus	_	_	_
##	11	Cancer productus	57	_	_
##	12	Metacarcinus magister	49	_	_
##	13	Leptocottus armatus	_	_	_
##	14	Leptocottus armatus	_	_	_
##		Cancer productus	41	_	_
##		Gemma gemma		5	_
	17	Pachygrapsus crassipes	41	-	_
##		Ostrea lurida	41	61	_
##			16	01	
		Hemigrapsus nudus		_	_
		Hemigrapsus oregonensis	19	-	_
##		Sipuncula spp.	-	_	68
		Hemigrapsus oregonensis	24	_	_
##		Leptocottus armatus	-	=	-
##		Cancer productus	68	_	-
##	25	Cancer productus	23	_	_
##	26	Leptocottus armatus	-	-	_
##	27	Hemigrapsus nudus	21	_	-
##	28	Metacarcinus gracilis	78	_	_
##	29	Metacarcinus gracilis	45	_	_
##	30	Metacarcinus magister	48	_	_
##	31	Metacarcinus magister	39	_	_
##	32	Metacarcinus gracilis	56	_	_
##		Cancer productus	78	_	_
##		Hemigrapsus nudus	18	_	_
##		Metacarcinus magister	38	_	_
##		-	36		
		Leptocottus armatus		_	_
##		Metacarcinus magister	41	-	_
##		Pachygrapsus crassipes	43	_	_
##		Leptocottus armatus	_	_	_
##		Metacarcinus gracilis	23	_	_
##	41	Pachygrapsus crassipes	45	-	_
##		Metacarcinus magister	47	_	_
##		Metacarcinus gracilis	40	-	_
##	44	Metacarcinus magister	4	_	_
##	45	Pachygrapsus crassipes	32	_	-
##	46	Hemigrapsus nudus	23	_	_
##	47	Cancer productus	101	_	_
##	48	Ostrea lurida	_	45	_
##	49	Gemma gemma	_	6	_
##	50	Hemigrapsus nudus	11	_	_
##		Gemma gemma	_	3	_
##		Hemigrapsus nudus	15	-	_
##		Ostrea lurida	-	53	_
		Hemigrapsus oregonensis	16	-	_
##		Ostrea lurida	10	67	-
			- 17	07	-
		Hemigrapsus oregonensis		_	_
##		Pachygrapsus crassipes	28	-	_
##	58	Ostrea lurida	-	61	_

summary(benthic)

```
Date
                         Time
                                          Location
                                                            Weather
##
                                                          Length:59
## Length:59
                      Length:59
                                        Length:59
## Class :character
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                                               Carapace.Length..mm.
## Crab.Trap.or.Pitfall.Trap
                              Species
## Length:59
                                               Length:59
                            Length:59
## Class :character
                            Class : character
                                               Class :character
## Mode :character
                            Mode :character
                                               Mode :character
## Shell.Length
                      Worm.Length
## Length:59
                      Length:59
## Class :character Class :character
## Mode :character
                      Mode :character
```

change - to NA

benthic\$Carapace.Length..mm._NA <- gsub("-", 0, benthic\$Carapace.Length..mm.) %>% as.numeric() %>% tidy benthic\$Shell.Length_NA <- gsub("-", 0, benthic\$Shell.Length) %>% as.numeric() %>% tidyr::replace_na(0) benthic\$Worm.Length_NA <- gsub("-", 0, benthic\$Worm.Length) %>% as.numeric() %>% tidyr::replace_na(0) benthic %>% naniar::replace_with_na(replace = list(x = 0))

Warning: Missing from data: 'x'

##		Date	T	ime	L	ocation	Weather	Crab.Trap.or.Pitfall.	Trap
##	1	6/14/2024	7:00	\mathtt{AM}	Pinole	Shores	Sunny	Crab '	Trap
##	2	6/14/2024	7:00	AM	Pinole	Shores	Sunny	Crab '	Trap
##	3	6/14/2024	7:00	AM	Pinole	Shores	Sunny	Crab '	Trap
##	4	6/14/2024	7:00	\mathtt{AM}	Pinole	Shores	Sunny	Crab '	Trap
##	5	6/14/2024	7:00	AM	Pinole	Shores	Sunny	Crab '	Trap
##	6	6/14/2024	7:00	AM	Pinole	Shores	Sunny	Crab '	Trap
##	7	6/14/2024	7:00	AM	Pinole	Shores	Sunny	Crab '	Trap
##	8	6/14/2024	7:00	AM	Pinole	Shores	Sunny	Crab '	Trap
##	9	6/14/2024	9:00	AM	Point	Pinole	Sunny	Crab '	Trap
##	10	6/14/2024	9:00	AM	Point	Pinole	Sunny	Crab '	Trap
##	11	6/14/2024	9:00	AM	Point	Pinole	Sunny	Crab '	Trap
##	12	6/14/2024	9:00	AM	Point	Pinole	Sunny	Crab '	Trap
##	13	6/14/2024	9:00	AM	Point	Pinole	Sunny	Crab '	Trap
##	14	6/14/2024	9:00	AM	Point	Pinole	Sunny	Crab '	Trap
##	15	6/14/2024	9:00	AM	Point	Pinole	Sunny	Crab '	Trap
##	16	6/14/2024	9:00	AM	Point	Pinole	Sunny	Pitfall '	Trap
##	17	6/14/2024	9:00	AM	Point	Pinole	Sunny	Pitfall '	Trap
##	18	6/14/2024	9:00	AM	Point	Pinole	Sunny	Pitfall '	Trap
##	19	6/14/2024	9:00	$\mathtt{M}\mathtt{A}$	Point	Pinole	Sunny	Pitfall '	Trap
##	20	6/14/2024	9:00	$\mathtt{M}\mathtt{A}$	Point	Pinole	Sunny	Pitfall '	Trap
##	21	6/14/2024	9:00	$\mathtt{M}\mathtt{A}$	Point	Pinole	Sunny	Pitfall '	Trap
##	22	6/14/2024	9:00	AM	Point	Pinole	Sunny	Pitfall '	Trap
##	23	6/14/2024	12:00	PM	Cast:	ro Cove	Sunny	Crab '	Trap
##	24	6/14/2024	12:00	PM	Cast:	ro Cove	Sunny	Crab '	Trap
##	25	6/14/2024	12:00	PM	Cast	ro Cove	Sunny	Crab '	Trap

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## 26 6/14/2024 12:00 PM
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## 59 6/14/2024
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                                            Foggy
##
                       Species Carapace.Length..mm. Shell.Length Worm.Length
## 1
                                                  39
        Metacarcinus magister
## 2
        Metacarcinus magister
                                                  42
## 3
        Metacarcinus magister
                                                  41
## 4
            Hemigrapsus nudus
                                                  12
## 5
            Hemigrapsus nudus
                                                  25
      Hemigrapsus oregonensis
## 6
## 7
        Metacarcinus magister
                                                  53
## 8
             Cancer productus
                                                  80
## 9
      Hemigrapsus oregonensis
                                                  23
## 10
          Leptocottus armatus
                                                  57
## 11
             Cancer productus
## 12
        Metacarcinus magister
                                                  49
## 13
          Leptocottus armatus
## 14
          Leptocottus armatus
## 15
             Cancer productus
                                                  41
## 16
                                                                5
                  Gemma gemma
## 17
       Pachygrapsus crassipes
                                                  41
## 18
                Ostrea lurida
                                                               61
## 19
            Hemigrapsus nudus
                                                  16
```

##	20	Hemigrapsus oregonensis		19		-	_
##	21	Sipuncula spp.		-		-	68
##	22	Hemigrapsus oregonensis		24		-	-
##	23	Leptocottus armatus		-		-	-
##	24	Cancer productus		68		-	_
##	25	Cancer productus		23		-	-
##	26	Leptocottus armatus		-		-	-
##	27	Hemigrapsus nudus		21		-	-
	28	Metacarcinus gracilis		78		-	-
	29	Metacarcinus gracilis		45		_	-
	30	Metacarcinus magister		48		-	-
	31	Metacarcinus magister		39		-	-
	32	Metacarcinus gracilis		56		-	-
	33	Cancer productus		78		-	-
	34	Hemigrapsus nudus		18		-	-
	35	Metacarcinus magister		38		-	-
	36	Leptocottus armatus		-		-	-
	37	Metacarcinus magister		41		-	-
	38	Pachygrapsus crassipes		43		_	-
	39	Leptocottus armatus		-		_	-
	40	Metacarcinus gracilis		23		_	_
	41	Pachygrapsus crassipes		45		_	_
	42	Metacarcinus magister		47		_	_
	43	Metacarcinus gracilis		40		_	_
	44	Metacarcinus magister		4		_	_
	45	Pachygrapsus crassipes		32		_	_
	46	Hemigrapsus nudus		23		_	_
	47	Cancer productus		101		4 -	_
	48	Ostrea lurida		-		45	_
##		Gemma gemma		-		6	-
	50	Hemigrapsus nudus		11		_	-
	51	Gemma gemma		15		3	_
	52 53	Hemigrapsus nudus		15		E 2	_
		Ostrea lurida		16		53	_
	55	Hemigrapsus oregonensis Ostrea lurida		16		67	_
##		Hemigrapsus oregonensis		17		-	_
	57	Pachygrapsus crassipes		28		_	_
	58	Ostrea lurida		20		61	_
	59	Sipuncula spp.		_		-	142
##	00	Carapace.LengthmmNA	Shell Length NA	Worm	Length NA		142
##	1	39	0	WOIM	0		
##		42	0		0		
##		41	0		0		
##		12	0		0		
##		25	0		0		
##		21	0		0		
##		53	0		0		
##		80	0		0		
##		23	0		0		
	10	0	0		0		
##		57	0		0		
	12	49	0		0		
##	13	0	0		0		

##	14	0	0	0
##	15	41	0	0
##	16	0	5	0
##	17	41	0	0
##	18	0	61	0
##	19	16	0	0
##	20	19	0	0
##	21	0	0	68
## ##	22 23	24 0	0	0
##	24	68	0	0
##	25	23	0 0	0
##	26	0	0	0
##	27	21	0	0
##	28	78	0	0
##	29	45	0	0
##	30	48	0	0
##	31	39	0	0
##	32	56	0	0
##	33	78	0	0
##	34	18	0	0
##	35	38	0	0
##	36	0	0	0
##	37	41	0	0
##	38	43	0	0
##	39	0	0	0
##	40	23	0	0
##	41	45	0	0
##	42	47	0	0
##	43	40	0	0
##	44	4	0	0
##	45	32	0	0
##	46	23	0	0
##	47	101	0	0
##	48	0	45	0
##	49	0	6	0
##	50	11	0	0
##		0	3	0
##		15	0	0
##		0	53	0
##		16	0	0
##		0	67	0
##		17	0	0
##		28	0	0
##		0	61	0
##	59	0	0	142

numspecies <- benthic %>% dplyr::count (Location, Species)
numspecies

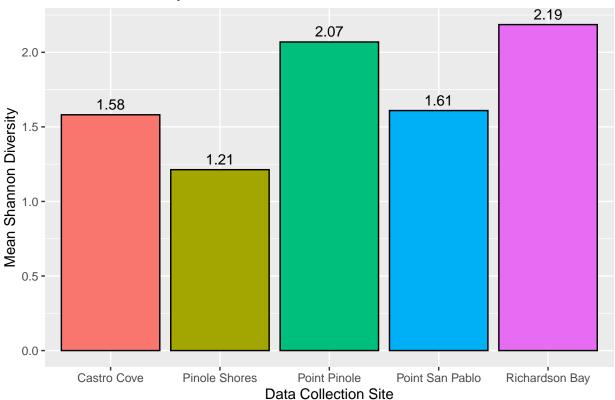
##	Location	Species n
## 1	Castro Cove	Cancer productus 2
## 2	Castro Cove	Hemigrapsus nudus 1
## 3	Castro Cove	Leptocottus armatus 2

```
## 4
          Castro Cove
                        Metacarcinus gracilis 2
## 5
          Castro Cove
                        Metacarcinus magister 2
## 6
        Pinole Shores
                             Cancer productus 1
## 7
        Pinole Shores
                             Hemigrapsus nudus 2
## 8
        Pinole Shores Hemigrapsus oregonensis 1
## 9
        Pinole Shores
                        Metacarcinus magister 4
## 10
         Point Pinole
                             Cancer productus 2
## 11
         Point Pinole
                                   Gemma gemma 1
## 12
         Point Pinole
                             Hemigrapsus nudus 1
## 13
         Point Pinole Hemigrapsus oregonensis 3
## 14
         Point Pinole
                           Leptocottus armatus 3
## 15
         Point Pinole
                        Metacarcinus magister 1
         Point Pinole
##
  16
                                 Ostrea lurida 1
## 17
         Point Pinole
                       Pachygrapsus crassipes 1
## 18
         Point Pinole
                                Sipuncula spp. 1
## 19 Point San Pablo
                              Cancer productus 1
## 20 Point San Pablo
                             Hemigrapsus nudus 1
## 21 Point San Pablo
                           Leptocottus armatus 1
## 22 Point San Pablo
                        Metacarcinus gracilis 1
## 23 Point San Pablo
                        Metacarcinus magister 1
## 24
       Richardson Bay
                             Cancer productus 1
## 25
       Richardson Bay
                                   Gemma gemma 2
       Richardson Bay
                             Hemigrapsus nudus 3
## 26
       Richardson Bay Hemigrapsus oregonensis 2
## 27
## 28
       Richardson Bay
                           Leptocottus armatus 1
  29
       Richardson Bay
                        Metacarcinus gracilis 2
## 30
      Richardson Bay
                        Metacarcinus magister 3
  31
       Richardson Bay
                                 Ostrea lurida 4
## 32
       Richardson Bay
                        Pachygrapsus crassipes 4
## 33
       Richardson Bay
                                Sipuncula spp. 1
```

```
data_wide <- spread(numspecies, Species, n)
data_wide</pre>
```

```
##
             Location Cancer productus Gemma gemma Hemigrapsus nudus
## 1
         Castro Cove
                                       2
                                                   NA
                                                                        1
## 2
                                                                        2
       Pinole Shores
                                       1
                                                   NA
## 3
        Point Pinole
                                       2
                                                     1
                                                                        1
## 4 Point San Pablo
                                       1
                                                   NA
                                                     2
     Richardson Bay
                                       1
     Hemigrapsus oregonensis Leptocottus armatus Metacarcinus gracilis
## 1
                            NA
## 2
                             1
                                                  NA
                                                                           NΑ
## 3
                             3
                                                   3
                                                                          NA
## 4
                            NA
                                                   1
                                                                            1
## 5
                             2
                                                   1
     Metacarcinus magister Ostrea lurida Pachygrapsus crassipes Sipuncula spp.
## 1
                           2
                                         NA
                                                                   NA
                                                                                   NA
## 2
                           4
                                         NA
                                                                   NA
                                                                                   NA
## 3
                           1
                                          1
                                                                    1
                                                                                     1
## 4
                           1
                                         NA
                                                                                   NA
                                                                   NA
                           3
## 5
                                                                                     1
```

Shannon Diversity Per Site



We reject the Null hypothesis as each site clearly have different species diversity index values. Richardson Bay has the highest value of 2.19 which means it is the most species diverse out of all the sites. Pinole Shores has the least amount of diversity with a value of 1.21. Interestingly enough, Point Pinole and Pinole Shores have vastly different species diversity even though they are located directly beside one another. Further research into the habitats of these location may provide insights for the difference in diversity.

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