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Author Contributions:

**Sophie Wulfing:** Conceptualization, Methodology, Software, Formal Analysis, Writing – Review & Editing

**Ahilya Sudarshan Kadba:** Data Curation, Writing – Original Draft, Writing – Review & Editing

**Mez Baker-Médard:** Validation, Writing – Original Draft, Writing – Review & Editing, Funding acquisition, Supervision, Project administration

**Easton R. White:** Methodology, Validation, Writing – Original Draft, Writing – Review & Editing, Funding acquisition, Supervision, Project administration

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**Highlights**

* *Octopus Cyanea* stocks in Southwestern Madagascar were in a population decline
* Estimates for *Octopus Cyanea* stocks’ per-life stage duration, survivability, and reproductive value were calculated along with the stable stage distribution
* We evaluated different temporary closure scenarios and found that any closure shorter than three months long would not be sufficient to recover stocks

Keywords: *Octopus Cyanea*, matrix model, small scale fisheries, Madagascar, temporary closures