

# SPATIAL CLOSURES IN ADRIATIC SEA FOR DEMERSAL SPECIES

PREVIOUS MEDAC OPINIONS AND CONTRIBUTIONS

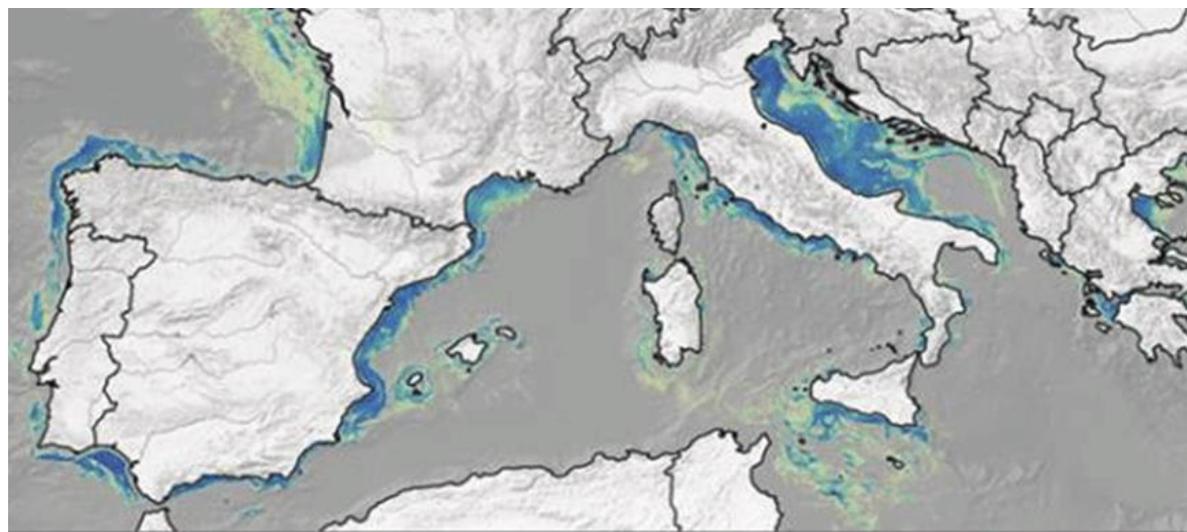


# MEDAC

MEDITERRANEAN  
A D V I S O R Y  
C O U N C I L



Co-founded by the  
European Union



“Ref 163/2019 - Multiannual management plan for demersal resources in the Adriatic Sea”

Main issues raised related to spatial closures:

- there are already **several spatial constraints and restrictions** (i.e. military sites, MPA and biological protection zones, offshore regasification facilities, oil platforms) that reduce the free movement of the fishing fleet in the areas concerned;



Maps and details on spatio-temporal restrictions have been reported in the MEDAC working document (Ref. 193/2019)

- In the case of some ports or in the area around Trieste and the Slovenian coast these restrictions make the available space extremely limited and this is coupled with very shallow waters.

Ref.193/2019

### - **ON FRA to protect EFH:**

MEDAC Ref. 163/2019 MEDAC acknowledged the results of the spatial measures that were implemented in the Jabuka pit. *WWF, MEDREACT, Croatian Trawlers Ass., HOK, AGCI Agrital, Legacoop and Federcoopescas* **hope that [...] further FRAs will be established in GSA 17 and 18.** *WWF, AGCI Agrital, Legacoop, Federcoopescas and Federpesca* **suggest that any further FRA will be established according to the participatory process.**

*WWF, Croatian Trawlers Ass., HOK and AGCI Agrital, Legacoop, Federcoopescas and Federpesca* support the identification and implementation (with the full involvement of stakeholders) of additional FRAs **as a tool to reduce fishing mortality based on scientific results.**

*AGCI Agrital, Legacoop, Federcoopescas and Federpesca* recommend the **need of socioeconomic support for the enterprises impacted by the restrictions.**

### - **ON Other spatial restrictions:**

WWF recommends taking into account recommendations of EU-funded sub regional projects (i.e. MANTIS) **to identify suitable areas where management scenarios have been tested by scientists to improve species and habitat protection.**

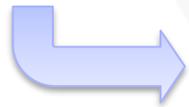
WWF and MEDREACT **Support the 6nm closure** to towed gear combined with effort reduction

Birdlife Spatial restrictions should take breeding, foraging, migration and wintering cycles of protected seabird species into account.

AGCI Agrital, Legacoop, Federcoopescas and Federpesca **don't fully disagree with the 6 nm closure**, especially considering the objective of the modulation of effort reduction in terms of fishing days. However, **the closure should be adapted according to the local marine morphology and it should include the vessels over 15 m LOA.**

“Ref. 164/2019 MEDAC letter on socioeconomic indicators”

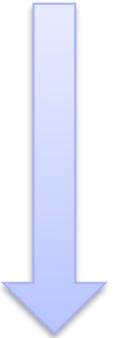
MEDAC members highlighted the relevance of **consultation with stakeholders** in evaluating the **socio-economic implications** of the proposed measures in the Multiannual plan of demersals



Reiterated also in **MEDAC opinions: Ref.163/2019 – Ref. 176/2019 – Ref. 193/2019**



Reported during the STECF EWG 19-02 and the SRC-AS 2019.



**Need of bio-economical models ad hoc**, considering the diversification of conditions and fishery segmentation in the Med and indicating any interventions to support the sector from Member States and/or the EU.

## Spatial and temporal closure

25. [...] CPCs shall **close the coastal zone**, irrespective of depth, **out to 6 nm**, or 4 nm for vessels not allowed to fish beyond 6 nm, **to towed gear targeting demersal stocks**, for a continuous period of **at least eight weeks**.

**OR**

26. In **alternative** to paragraph 25, CPCs shall set a **closure of at least 30 continuous days** and covering **at least 20 percent of territorial sea** for fishing activities with OTB, PTB, OTT and TBB irrespective of their overall length in the **areas and periods recognized as important for the protection of juveniles of demersal stocks**. [...]

**?**

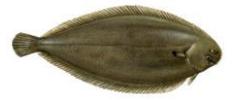
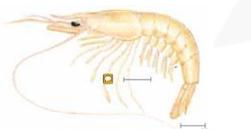
## Spatial and temporal closure

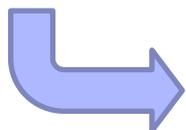
## List of key stocks addressed by the recommendation



Name	Scientific name	GSA 17	GSA 18
European hake	<i>Merluccius merluccius</i>	X	X
Norway lobster	<i>Nephrops norvegicus</i>	X	X
Common sole	<i>Solea solea</i>	X	
Deep-water rose shrimp	<i>Parapeneus longirostris</i>	X	X
Red mullet	<i>Mullus barbatus</i>	X	X

**Where?** “with a view to protecting spawning and nursery areas for the following demersal stocks”

	Name	EXPLOITATION
	European hake GSA 17, 18	High overexploitation
	Norway lobster GSA 17, 18	High overexploitation
	Common sole GSA 17	Low overexploitation
	Deep-water rose shrimp GSA 17,18,19	High overexploitation
	Red mullet GSA 17,18	Low overexploitation



THE SCIENTIFIC RESULTS...

This slide can be useful

“According to art.18 par. 2 of Reg. (EU) 1380/2013, Member States having a direct management interest affected by the measures referred to conservation, such as Multiannual Plans, shall also consult the relevant Advisory Councils. Therefore, MEDAC should play a key role in providing advice on conservation and management measures reflecting the views of its members from the fishing industry, scientists, NGOs, recreational fisheries and other stakeholders having interests in the area of application. Prior to including measures in a multiannual plan, account shall be taken of possible impacts of the plan under environmental, economic and social point of view based on best available data.”