

# MEDAC ADVICE ON RECREATIONAL FISHERIES

A REGULATORY FRAMEWORK FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN AND  
INTERACTIONS WITH OTHER SMALL-SCALE FISHERIES

# 2016 ADVICE

MEDAC Advice for a regulatory framework and efficient management for recreational fisheries in the Mediterranean based on "FAO Technical Guidelines on Responsible Recreational Fisheries"

## RECREATIONAL FISHERIES IN THE MEDITERRANEAN

MEDAC Advice for a regulatory framework and efficient management

Ref: 155/2016 Split, 20th April 2016



Ref.:262/2016 Rome, 10 November 2016

### MEDAC OPINION ON THE INTERACTIONS BETWEEN RECREATIONAL (RF) AND SMALL-SCALE FISHERIES (SSF) IN THE MEDITERRANEAN WATERS

In view of the results obtained from the constructive exchange of views between the commercial and recreational fisheries sectors in the MEDAC during the meeting held on October 2014 in Split, the WG4 proposed that as a starting point the members of each of the two categories identify mutual conflicts/problems and develop in-depth recommendations for the Mediterranean waters. Unfortunately, only recreational fishing stakeholders provided their contributions, for this reason the result document was rejected by the Executive Committee meeting held in Split on 20 April 2016. Nevertheless, RF considers that the information provided here may be very useful for a better management of coastal ecosystems in the Mediterranean, so the WG4 involved again commercial fisheries on this issue.

**June 2016**

During the second round of this job, some representatives of commercial sector and OCEANA provided very useful suggestions, while on some issues, mainly distance from shore of SSF netting and SSF catches registration, it is rather difficult to find a compromise (SSF has been very clear on this).

Furthermore, "RF as a stakeholder" has become a hot issue opposed – unanimously - by commercial sector. The Recreational Fishery sector believes that it is a misunderstanding about the meaning of "Recreational Fisheries as stakeholder": this means to involve RF in decisional process on resources management and on its own management, not in decisional process on small scale fisheries (or commercial) management.

Both sectors agree on the necessity to fight against illegal fishing practices and illegal sales of catches on black market because it is a transverse problem which can't be clearly ascribed to a sector or another.

Malta commercial fisheries representative arose the problem of an increasing number of commercial fishermen fishing from recreational fishing boat instead of commercial fisheries vessels, this makes harder to identify who is who, and it happens not only in Malta.

To be able to give a realistic picture of the conflicts between the 2 sectors, we decided to rename and rewrite the boxes in "point of view" avoiding to suggest any solution for which an external facilitator (or *super partes* decision maker) should be necessary.

Furthermore, we added a column named "agreement level" in which a light shows the chance of agreement between the two sectors on each issue, it is interesting to note that green and yellow lights are the majority if compared to the red light.

**October 2016 (WG4 Ajaccio) :**

The problem called "poaching" (agreement level green) has been added as the result of the debate within the WG4 after the presentation of this document.

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# Regulatory framework and efficient management

- FAO Technical Guidelines on Responsible Recreational Fisheries 2012
- Description and development of a regulatory framework
  - Characterization of Mediterranean RF
  - Social and economic criteria
  - Principles and values
- Management framework
  - Adaptive framework suggested
- Policy and institutional framework
  - Governance structure
  - Access rules, governance, compliance and enforcement
  - Funding and licensing
  - Design principles for sustainable management
- Recreational fisheries management
- Recreational fishing practices
- Information, knowledge sharing and research

# Interactions between recreational fisheries and small-scale fisheries

- Small-scale definition – Not towed gear < 12 m (EC 508/2014 (EMFF) Art. 3)
- Recreational fisheries- Non-commercial fishing activities exploiting marine living aquatic resources for recreation, tourism or sport (EC 1224/2009) but also EC 1967/2006 and EC 199/2008.
- Problems, Recreational Fisheries, Small-scale Fisheries, Agreement level



# Interactions between recreational fisheries and small-scale fisheries

- Passive gears (distance from the coast) - 😐
- Spawning grounds and spawning fish – 😐
- Data collection – 😊
- Fisheries management – 😞
- New fishing techniques – 😐
- Black market – 😊
- MPAs – 😐
- Fishing pressure – 😞
- Recreational boats for commercial purpose – 😊
- Poaching – 😊

# 2017 – Working plan

- 3 most endangered species inshore ecosystems
- Ecology
  - Fingerling grounds
  - Spawning grounds
  - Migrations
  - Breeding season
  - Main habitats
- Main threats
  - External to fisheries
  - Related to fisheries
- Suggest solutions/management measures



Thank you for  
your attention!

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