MEDITERRANEAN SWORDFISH

George Tserpes

HCMR

RACMED - Oct 9, 2012



Summary information on the stock status



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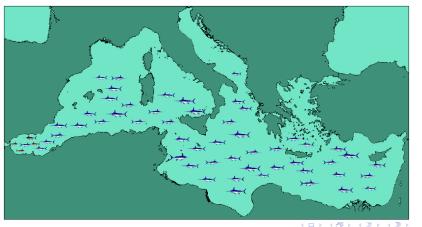
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Biology

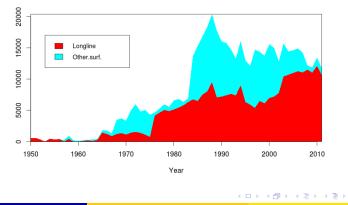
- O Unique Stock (limited mixing with Atlantic stocks)
- O Unique biological characteristics (growth, maturity, etc)
- O Substocks?



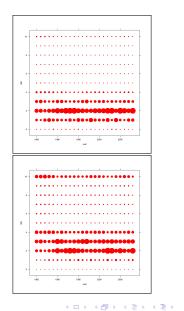


Fisheries

- O Main gears: longlines and gillnets
- $\rm O\,$ Catches around 12000-16000 t in the last 15 years
- O 11750 t in 2011 (the lowest observed in the last 15 years)



 Juveniles dominate the catches (50-70% in terms of numbers, 20-35% in terms of weight)



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Stock status (the bad news)

Last assessment: 2010 using catch data up to 2008 High degree of unncertainty

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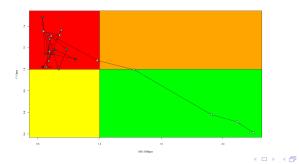
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- O Current (2008) fishing mortality slightly higher than the optimum



Stock status (the bad news)

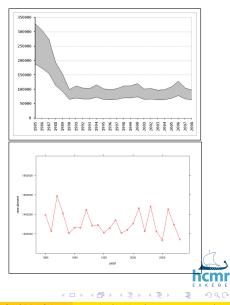
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- O Stock biomass is significantly below (54%) the level which supports maximum sustainable yield
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O Biomass and recruitment levels stable over the last 15 years



${\rm O}\,$ Seasonal closures of different duration

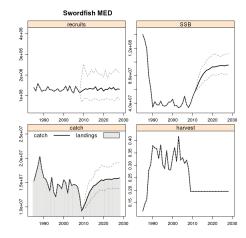
- O Capacity reduction 20%
- ${\rm O}$ Catch quota

Were considered:

- O Uncertainties about recruitment
- O Risk of stock collapse



Current (2008) status



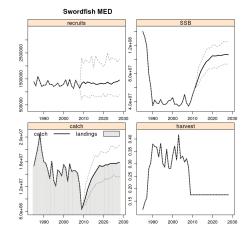


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2-month fishery closure

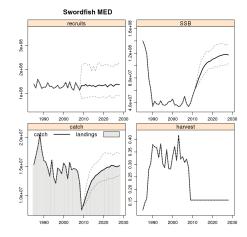


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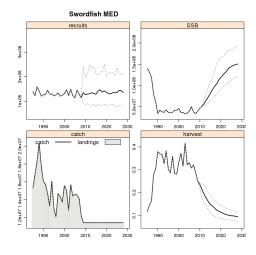
Capacity reduction (20%)





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Low quota (11430 t)





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Next assessment most likely in 2014





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