



MANTIS: Marine protected Areas Network Towards Sustainable fisheries in the Central Mediterranean

Report of the stakeholders meeting of the Strait of Sicily –Sciaccia

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Meeting objectives

The fourth “stakeholder meeting” of the Mantis project for the Sicilian Channel was held in Sciacca, on the 22th of July 2018. The meeting organized by CNR-Mazara del Vallo and WWF, saw a reduced participation of local stakeholders, with a representative of the region's fisheries department, a fisherman and a representative of the fishers Cooperative.

The objective of the meeting is to present to the stakeholders the results of simulations of different scenarios of fishery management in the Strait of Sicily (SoS) carried out within the Mantis project under the coordination of Tommaso Russo (University of Tor Vergata), and collect the indications and opinions of local fishermen about these results.

Following the introduction of the project by Fabio Fiorentino and the presentation of the results of the 4 management scenarios tested by Tommaso Russo, the discussion was opened.

Open discussion

- Fisherman: the FRA of the Adventure banks is essential for local fishing not only for the species mentioned but also for many other species that have supported local fishing for 50 years, including squids, “cappuccetto” and small shrimps. These species are essential for the Sciacca market. Indicates that the deep water rose shrimp does not reach the age of one, it is fished before by trawlers. The mullet saves itself the rocky areas and reaches a maximum of 5 years of age.
He claims that if the Adventure Bank is not fished for more than two months the production of calamari and shrimp falls. The closure of the Adventure Bank would have drastic consequences for Sciacca. 120 boats depend on it, and 4/5 people per crew, each with family. 80% of Sciacca depends on the sea.
- Fiorentino: stresses that the future of trawling cannot be based on squid fishing, cappuccetto or small shrimp as it is illegal fishing (species that are caught only with irregular meshes and non-selective nets, prohibited). The target of fishing must be moved towards the DPRS and red shrimp, the fishermen of Sciacca must equip themselves with freezers on board as the Mazara fishers. Suggests a plan for the conversion of fishing, with the elimination of the smaller boats of Sciacca that cannot survive.
- Fisherman: He proposes closures of maximum 2 months for the bank and the 40mm mesh size for all.

Main causes of conflict between sea users

Giuseppe Scarcella asks what may be the major conflicts in the event of closure of a fishing area. Anchors and wells are indicated.

Participants list



Sciaccia
22 luglio 2018

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