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FISHFORUM²⁰₁₈



BOOK OF ABSTRACTS

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FISH FORUM BOOK OF ABSTRACTS



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Presentation title

Ecological basis to embrace temporal assessment and spatial management of European hake in the western Mediterranean

Abstract

Beyond restrictions in fishing effort to reverse the current overexploitation of European hake in the Mediterranean Sea, the challenge according to the Mid-term strategy (2017–2020) is to improve the ecological basis of the assessment procedures in relation to: i) the critical ecological processes, ii) the information available and the capacity to annually retrieve it, and iii) the life stage/s that will frame the main management measures. However, one of the main limitations to respond to this challenge is that, for most geographic subareas, quantitative information is only available for recruits and juveniles, while considerably limited for adults. Here, we used two case studies of the Western Mediterranean (the Spanish Iberian coast and the

Alboran Sea) to synthesize the increasing available knowledge on capital ecological processes in recruits and juveniles susceptible to be implemented in the assessment and management procedures. Indeed, spatial management of hake juveniles is becoming an effective measure to be broadly implemented in the Mediterranean. However, it is currently unconnected with the population dynamics and the quantitative assessment. Here, we reviewed information on the structural complexity of populations, oceanic and demographic connectivity, hydroclimate and life history influence on survival, and drivers of the spatial-temporal distribution. These processes can help to improve the knowledge about the stock-recruitment relationships, natural mortality vectors, or habitat-based standardization of catch per unit efforts (CPUEs). We discuss that an effective implementation of ecological knowledge can help to embrace quantitative periodic assessment and spatial management in an operational way, providing a more holistic and ecosystem-based approach of hake.

This volume includes all the abstracts of the keynotes, oral contributions and posters presented by participants on the occasion of the Forum on Fisheries Science in the Mediterranean and the Black Sea (Fish Forum 2018). Organized by the GFCM at FAO headquarters, Rome, Italy, from 10 to 14 December 2018, in collaboration with technical partners, the Fish Forum 2018 is a first-of-the-kind event gathering scientists, researchers, engineers, academics, practitioners, managers and decision-makers from around the world to discuss and share knowledge on the latest developments in fisheries science.

The material contained in this book of abstracts stems from the contributions received from participants and selected by an international scientific committee based on their technical quality and relevance. The abstracts are subdivided according to the three main themes of the Fish Forum 2018: Better science for better advice; Healthy seas and sustainable fisheries; and Economic analysis and technology for societal benefit. Each theme is introduced by a keynote presentation, followed by oral presentations and posters. These documents form the basis of the discussions held during parallel sessions and poster sessions of the Fish Forum 2018.

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