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GFCM Input in relation to the draft list of species and habitats

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UNEP/MAP
Athens, 2015

GFCM input in relation to the draft list of species and habitats

Introduction

In the framework of the activities of common interest to the GFCM and UNEP-MAP, as expressed in our common Memorandum of Understanding, and specifically within the work carried out by the GFCM towards the assessment and monitoring of the status of Mediterranean and Black Sea exploited populations and their ecosystems, the GFCM has been actively participating in the definition of indicators, targets and monitoring needs within the UNEP-MAP Ecosystem Approach, especially in relation to Descriptor 3. The work is being carried out under the framework of the Scientific Advisory Committee on Fisheries (SAC) and communication with UNEP-MAP and its relevant technical groups on these issues have been carried out through the Secretariats of the GFCM and UNEP-MAP.

Acting on the request (in July 2015) from the UNEP-MAP secretariat to provide inputs to the draft list of species and habitats for the attention of the 5th Meeting of the Ecosystem Approach Coordination Group (Rome, Italy, 14-15 September 2015), the GFCM Secretariat will like to provide the information included within the GFCM Data Collection Reference Framework (DCRF), approved by the SAC and endorsed by the GFCM at its 39th Session (May 2015) as the most up-to-date adopted work of the GFCM on priority species and monitoring needs.

This document briefly describe the contents of the DCRF and includes as appendixes those aspects more relevant for the 5th EcAP Coordination meeting, extracted from the DCRF. The complete DCRF document is also submitted as background information for the consideration of participants to the 5th EcAP Coordination meeting.

The GFCM Data Collection Reference Framework (DCRF)

The DCRF is the first comprehensive GFCM framework for the collection and submission of fisheries-related data in the GFCM area (Mediterranean and Black Sea), and is the result of three years of intensive work done in consultation with the technical bodies of the GFCM and all the GFCM Members. It encompasses all data requirements included in existing GFCM Recommendations, as well as information requested by the SAC to provide a precise advice on the status of marine living resources, ecosystems and socio-economic aspects related to fisheries. The DCRF aims to be instrumental in achieving an efficient data collection programme throughout the entire region and better integrating data collection and subregional multiannual management plans. During the next months, a revision of the Compendium of GFCM decisions will be carried out, including proposals for updating and harmonizing the requirements in the existing GFCM decisions and the DCRF requirements. The revised Compendium should be endorsed by the GFCM Commission next May 2016 and therefore the first data submissions in line with the DCRF provisions is expected to take place in 2017. A pilot plan for the adaptation of GFCM Members to the DCRF and its dedicated submission tools is being launched in September 2015 in order to facilitate the capacity of Members to collect and submit information following the DCRF.

The DCRF includes detailed information on priority species that have been identified on the basis of criteria relevant to the objectives of the GFCM (development, conservation and management) and taking into consideration the subregional approach to fisheries (GFCM Subregions - Appendix 1) in order to better address the specificities of the Mediterranean and the Black Sea area. Following this approach, three different groups have been defined (Appendix 2):

- Group 1: Species for which assessment is regularly carried out.
- Group 2: Species that are important in terms of landing and/or economic values at regional and subregional level, and for which assessment is not regularly carried out.

- Group 3: Species within international/ national management plans and recovery and/or conservation action plans as well as non-indigenous species with the greatest potential impact.

The identified species list for each group and GFCM subregion are a dynamic tool; on the basis of the information gathered, any change (i.e. deletion or insertion of species) should be brought to the attention of the SAC for approval.

Countries are requested to collect biological information for all the species identified in all GFCM subregions where their fisheries take place. For all the selected species in Group 1, Group 2 and Group 3, length data per fleet segment should be collected. Individual information on sex and length at maturity is mandatory for species belonging to G1. Countries are also kindly invited to provide this information for species belonging to G2 and G3, if available. Exceptions can be applied for the collection of biological data related to certain species, according to the following criteria:

1. the species is/are not present in the country;
2. the species is present in the country, but its weight accounts for less than 2% of total landings of the country.

At the beginning of each sampling year (starting from 2016), each country should submit a proposed list of the species, based on the identified regional species groups, for which data collection (i.e. length, sex and maturity) will be carried out, to be revised by the SAC.

In addition to this, Members are requested to submit information on bycatch of vulnerable species, which are listed in Appendix 4.

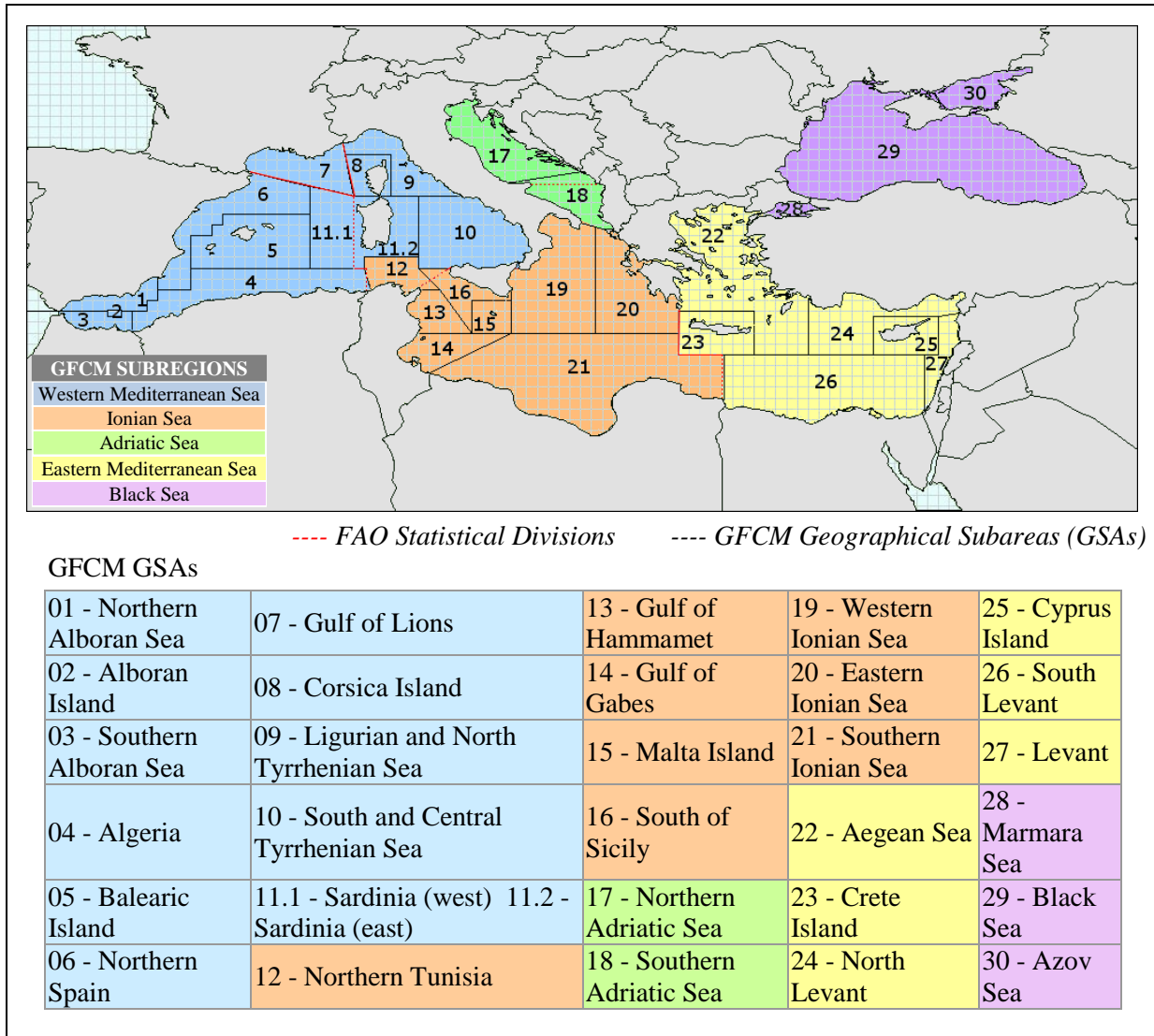


Figure 1 of the DCRF: Map of the GFCM area of competence (Subregions and Geographical Subareas)

Appendix A of the DCRF - Priority species

A.1 - Group 1 species. Species that drive the fishery and for which assessment is regularly carried out.

| | | Western Mediterranean Sea | Ionian Sea | Adriatic Sea | Eastern Mediterranean Sea | Black Sea |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|--|--------------------------------------|---|---|---|
| <i>GFCM subregions</i> | | | | | | |
| <i>GSA</i> s | | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 | 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 19, 20, 21 | 17, 18 | 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27 | 28, 29, 30 |
| <i>Countries</i> | | Algeria, France, Italy, Morocco, Spain | Italy, Greece, Libya, Malta, Tunisia | Albania, Croatia, Italy, Montenegro, Slovenia | Cyprus, Egypt, Greece, Israel, Lebanon, Syria, Turkey | Bulgaria, Romania, Turkey, (Georgia, Russia, Ukraine)** |
| <i>Scientific name</i> | <i>FAO 3-alpha code</i> | | | | | |
| <i>Engraulis encrasicolus</i> | ANE | X | X | X | X | X |
| <i>Merluccius merluccius</i> | HKE | X | X | X | X | |
| <i>Mullus barbatus</i> | MUT | X | X | X | X | |
| <i>Mullus surmuletus</i> | MUR | X | X | | X | |
| <i>Nephrops norvegicus</i> | NEP | X | X | X | | |
| <i>Parapenaeus longirostris</i> | DPS | X | X | X | X | |
| <i>Psetta maxima</i> | TUR | | | | | X |
| <i>Sardina pilchardus</i> | PIL | X | X | X | X | |
| <i>Sprattus sprattus</i> | SPR | | | | | X |
| <i>Squalus acanthias</i> * | DGS | | | | | X |
| <i>Trachurus mediterraneus</i> | HMM | | | | | X |

* Species included in Appendix III (species whose exploitation is regulated) of the Barcelona Convention (protocol concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean).

** All States, including non-members of the GFCM which are known to fish in its competence area, are encouraged to cooperate in joint actions undertaken in accordance with applicable international obligations (i.e. Article 63 UNCLOS).

A.2 - Group 2 species. Species which are important in terms of landing and/or economic values at regional and subregional level, and for which assessment is not regularly carried out.

| Scientific name | FAO 3-alpha code | GFCM subregions | | | | |
|---------------------------------|------------------|--|--------------------------------------|---|---|--|
| | | Western Mediterranean Sea | Ionian Sea | Adriatic Sea | Eastern Mediterranean Sea | Black Sea |
| | | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 | 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 19, 20, 21 | 17, 18 | 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27 | 28, 29, 30 |
| Countries | | Algeria, France, Italy, Morocco, Spain | Greece, Italy, Libya, Malta, Tunisia | Albania, Croatia, Italy, Montenegro, Slovenia | Cyprus, Egypt, Greece, Israel, Lebanon, Syria, Turkey | Bulgaria, Romania, Turkey, (Georgia, Russia, Ukraine)* |
| <i>Alosa pontica</i> | SHC | | | | | X |
| <i>Aristaeomorpha foliacea</i> | ARS | | X | | | |
| <i>Aristeus antennatus</i> | ARA | X | | | | |
| <i>Boops boops</i> | BOG | X | X | X | X | |
| <i>Chamelea gallina</i> | SVE | | | X | | |
| <i>Coryphaena hippurus</i> | DOL | | X | | | |
| <i>Diplodus annularis</i> | ANN | | X | | | |
| <i>Eledone cirrhosa</i> | EOI | X | | X | | |
| <i>Eledone moschata</i> | EDT | | | X | | |
| <i>Galeus melastomus</i> | SHO | X | | | | |
| <i>Lophius budegassa</i> | ANK | X | X | | | |
| <i>Merlangius merlangius</i> | WHG | | | | | X |
| <i>Micromesistius poutassou</i> | WHB | X | | | | |
| <i>Octopus vulgaris</i> | OCC | X | X | X | X | |
| <i>Pagellus bogaraveo</i> | SBR | X | | | | |
| <i>Pagellus erythrinus</i> | PAC | X | X | X | X | |
| <i>Raja asterias</i> | JRS | X | | | | |
| <i>Raja clavata</i> | RJC | X | X | | | |
| <i>Rapana venosa</i> | RPW | | | | | X |
| <i>Sardinella aurita</i> | SAA | X | X | | X | |
| <i>Saurida undosquamis</i> | LIB | | | | X | |
| <i>Scomber japonicus</i> | MAS | X | | | X | |
| <i>Scomber scombrus</i> | MAC | X | X | | | |
| <i>Sepia officinalis</i> | CTC | X | X | X | | |
| <i>Siganus luridus</i> | IGU | | | | X | |
| <i>Siganus rivulatus</i> | SRI | | | | X | |
| <i>Solea vulgaris</i> | SOL | | | X | X | |
| <i>Sphyraena sphyraena</i> | YRS | | X | | | |
| <i>Spicara smaris</i> | SPC | | | X | X | |
| <i>Squilla mantis</i> | MTS | | | X | | |
| <i>Trachurus mediterraneus</i> | HMM | X | | | | |
| <i>Trachurus picturatus</i> | JAA | X | | | | |
| <i>Trachurus trachurus</i> | HOM | X | X | | X | |

* All States, including non-members of the GFCM which are known to fish in its competence area, are encouraged to cooperate in joint actions undertaken in accordance with applicable international obligations (i.e. Article 63 UNCLOS).

A.3 - Group 3 species. Species within international/ national management plans and recovery and/or conservation action plans; non-indigenous species with the greatest potential impact.

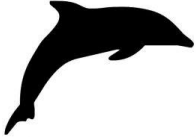
| Scientific name | FAO 3-alpha code | GFCM subregions | Western Mediterranean Sea | Ionian Sea | Adriatic Sea | Eastern Mediterranean Sea | Black Sea |
|----------------------------------|------------------|-----------------|--|--------------------------------------|---|---|---|
| | | GSA | 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 | 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 19, 20, 21 | 17, 18 | 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27 | 28, 29, 30 |
| | | Countries | Algeria, France, Italy, Morocco, Spain | Greece, Italy, Libya, Malta, Tunisia | Albania, Croatia, Italy, Montenegro, Slovenia | Cyprus, Egypt, Greece, Israel, Lebanon, Syria, Turkey | Bulgaria, Romania, Turkey, (Georgia, Russia, Ukraine)** |
| <i>Dalatias licha</i> | SCK | | X | X | X | X | |
| <i>Dipturus oxyrinchus</i> | RJO | | X | X | X | X | |
| <i>Emopterus spinax</i> | ETX | | X | X | X | X | |
| <i>Galeus melastomus</i> | SHO | | | X | X | X | |
| <i>Hexanchus griseus</i> | SBL | | X | X | X | X | |
| <i>Mustelus asterias*</i> | SDS | | X | X | X | X | |
| <i>Mustelus mustelus*</i> | SMD | | X | X | X | X | |
| <i>Mustelus punctulatus*</i> | MPT | | X | X | X | X | |
| <i>Myliobatis aquila</i> | MYL | | X | X | X | X | |
| <i>Prionace glauca*</i> | BSH | | X | X | X | X | |
| <i>Pteroplatytrygon violacea</i> | PLS | | X | X | X | X | |
| <i>Raja asterias</i> | JRS | | | X | X | X | |
| <i>Raja clavata</i> | RJC | | | | X | X | X |
| <i>Raja miraletus</i> | JAI | | X | X | X | X | |
| <i>Scyliorhinus canicula</i> | SYC | | X | X | X | X | X |
| <i>Scyliorhinus stellaris</i> | SYT | | X | X | X | X | |
| <i>Squalus acanthias*</i> | DGS | | X | X | X | X | |
| <i>Squalus blainvillei</i> | QUB | | X | X | X | X | |
| <i>Torpedo marmorata</i> | TTR | | X | X | X | X | |
| <i>Torpedo torpedo</i> | TTV | | X | X | X | X | |
| <i>Fistularia commersonii</i> | FIO | | | | | X | |
| <i>Lagocephalus sceleratus</i> | LFZ | | | | | X | |
| <i>Marsupenaeus japonicus</i> | KUP | | | | | X | |
| <i>Metapenaeus stebbingi</i> | MNG | | | | | X | |
| <i>Scomberomorus commerson</i> | COM | | | | | X | |
| <i>Corallium rubrum</i> | COL | | X | X | X | X | |
| <i>Anguilla anguilla</i> | ELE | | X | X | X | X | |


* Species included in Appendix III (species whose exploitation is regulated) of the Barcelona Convention (protocol concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean).

**All States, including non-members of the GFCM which are known to fish in its competence area, are encouraged to cooperate in joint actions undertaken in accordance with applicable international obligations (i.e. Article 63 UNCLOS).

Appendix E of the DCRF - Vulnerable species

E.1 – Vulnerable species. List of vulnerable species included in Appendix II (endangered or threatened species) and Appendix III (species whose exploitation is regulated) of the Barcelona Convention (*Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean*). The list also contains the Amendments of Annexes II and III of the Protocol concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity in the Mediterranean (2012/510/EU: *Council Decision of 10 July 2012, establishing the position to be adopted on behalf of the European Union with regard to the amendments to Annexes II and III to the Protocol concerning Specially Protected Areas and Biological Diversity SPA/BD in the Mediterranean of the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean, adopted by the seventeenth meeting of the Contracting Parties, Paris, France, 8 - 10 February 2012*).

| Group of vulnerable species | Family | Species | Common name |
|--|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| <p style="text-align: center;">Cetaceans</p>  | Balaenopteridae | <i>Balaenoptera acutorostrata</i> | Common minke whale |
| | | <i>Balaenoptera borealis</i> | Sei whale |
| | | <i>Balaenoptera physalus</i> | Fin whale |
| | | <i>Megaptera novaeangliae</i> | Humpback whale |
| | Balenidae | <i>Eubalaena glacialis</i> | North Atlantic right whale |
| | Physeteridae | <i>Physeter macrocephalus</i> | Sperm whale |
| | | <i>Kogia simus</i> | Dwarf sperm whale |
| | Phocoenidae | <i>Phocoena phocoena</i> | Harbour porpoise |
| | Delphinidae | <i>Steno bredanensis</i> | Rough-toothed dolphin |
| | | <i>Grampus griseus</i> | Risso's dolphin |
| | | <i>Tursiops truncatus</i> | Common bottlenose dolphin |
| | | <i>Stenella coeruleoalba</i> | Striped dolphin |
| | | <i>Delphinus delphis</i> | Common dolphin |
| | | <i>Pseudorca crassidens</i> | False killer whale |
| | | <i>Globicephala melas</i> | Long-finned pilot whale |
| <i>Orcinus orca</i> | | Killer whale | |
| Ziphiidae | <i>Ziphius cavirostris</i> | Cuvier's beaked whale | |
| | <i>Mesoplodon densirostris</i> | Blainville's beaked whale | |
| Seals | Phocidae | <i>Monachus monachus</i> | Mediterranean monk seal |

| Group of vulnerable species | Family | Species | Common name |
|---|---------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| <p>Sharks, Rays, Chimaeras</p>  | Alopiidae | <i>Alopias vulpinus</i> | Common thresher |
| | Carcharhinidae | <i>Carcharias taurus</i> | Sand tiger |
| | | <i>Carcharhinus plumbeus</i> | Sandbar shark |
| | | <i>Carcharodon carcharias</i> | Great white shark |
| | | <i>Prionace glauca</i> | Blue shark |
| | Centrophoridae | <i>Centrophorus granulosus</i> | Gulper shark |
| | Cetorhinidae | <i>Cetorhinus maximus</i> | Basking shark |
| | Gymnuridae | <i>Gymnura altavela</i> | Spiny butterfly ray |
| | Hexanchidae | <i>Heptranchias perlo</i> | Sharpnose sevengill shark |
| | Lamnidae | <i>Isurus oxyrinchus</i> | Shortfin mako |
| | | <i>Lamna nasus</i> | Porbeagle |
| | Myliobatidae | <i>Mobula mobular</i> | Devil fish |
| | Odontaspidae | <i>Odontaspis ferox</i> | Small-tooth sand tiger shark |
| | Oxynotidae | <i>Oxynotus centrina</i> | Angular rough shark |
| | Pristidae | <i>Pristis pectinata</i> | Smalltooth sawfish |
| | | <i>Pristis pristis</i> | Common sawfish |
| | Rajidae | <i>Dipturus batis</i> | Common skate |
| | | <i>Leucoraja circularis</i> | Sandy ray |
| | | <i>Leucoraja melitensis</i> | Maltese skate |
| | Rhinobatidae | <i>Rostroraja alba</i> | Bottlenose skate |
| <i>Rhinobatos cemiculus</i> | | Blackchin guitarfish | |
| <i>Rhinobatos rhinobatos</i> | | Common guitarfish | |
| Sphyrnidae | <i>Sphyrna lewini</i> | Scalloped hammerhead | |
| | <i>Sphyrna mokarran</i> | Great hammerhead | |
| | <i>Sphyrna zygaena</i> | Smooth hammerhead | |
| Squatinaidae | <i>Squatina aculeata</i> | Sawback angel shark | |
| | <i>Squatina oculata</i> | Smoothback angel shark | |
| | <i>Squatina squatina</i> | Angel shark | |
| Triakidae | <i>Galeorhinus galeus</i> | School/Tope shark | |


| Group of vulnerable species | Family | Species | Common name |
|-----------------------------|--------|---------|-------------|
|-----------------------------|--------|---------|-------------|

Sea birds




| | | |
|-------------------|--|---------------------------|
| Falconidae | <i>Falco eleonorae</i> | Eleonora's falcon |
| Cerylidae | <i>Ceryle rudis</i> | Pied kingfisher |
| Charadriidae | <i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i> | Kentish plover |
| | <i>Charadrius leschenaultii columbinus</i> | Greater sand plover |
| Halcyonidae | <i>Halcyon smyrnensis</i> | White-throated kingfisher |
| Hydrobatidae | <i>Hydrobates pelagicus</i> | European storm petrel |
| | <i>Hydrobates pelagicus melitensis</i> | European storm petrel |
| | <i>Hydrobates pelagicus pelagicus</i> | European storm petrel |
| Laridae | <i>Larus audouinii</i> | Audouin's gull |
| | <i>Larus armenicus</i> | Armenian gull |
| | <i>Larus genei</i> | Slender-billed gull |
| | <i>Larus melanocephalus</i> | Mediterranean gull |
| Pandionidae | <i>Pandion haliaetus</i> | Osprey |
| Pelecanidae | <i>Pelecanus crispus</i> | Dalmatian pelican |
| | <i>Pelecanus onocrotalus</i> | Great white pelican |
| Phalacrocoracidae | <i>Phalacrocorax aristotelis</i> | European shag |
| | <i>Phalacrocorax pygmaeus</i> | Pygmy cormorant |
| Phoenicopteridae | <i>Phoenicopterus ruber</i> | American flamingo |
| Procellariidae | <i>Calonectris diomedea</i> | Cory's shearwater |
| | <i>Puffinus puffinus yelkouan</i> | Yelkouan shearwater |
| | <i>Puffinus yelkouan</i> | Mediterranean shearwater |
| | <i>Puffinus muretanicus</i> | Balearic shearwater |
| Scolopacidae | <i>Numenius tenuirostris</i> | Slender-billed curlew |
| Sternidae | <i>Sterna albifrons</i> | Little tern |
| | <i>Sterna bengalensis</i> | Lesser crested tern |
| | <i>Sterna sandvicensis</i> | Sandwich tern |
| | <i>Sterna caspia</i> | Caspian tern |
| | <i>Sterna nilotica</i> | Gull-billed tern |

| Group of vulnerable species | Family | Species | Common name |
|-----------------------------|--------|---------|-------------|
|-----------------------------|--------|---------|-------------|

| | | | |
|---|----------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| <p style="text-align: center;">Sea turtles</p>  | Cheloniidae | <i>Caretta caretta</i> | Loggerhead turtle |
| | | <i>Chelonia mydas</i> | Green turtle |
| | | <i>Eretmochelys imbricata</i> | Hawksbill Turtle |
| | | <i>Lepidochelys kempii</i> | Kemp's ridley sea turtle |
| | Dermochelyidae | <i>Dermochelys coriacea</i> | Leatherback sea turtle |
| | Trionychidae | <i>Trionyx triunguis</i> | African softshell turtle |

E.2 – Rare elasmobranchs species. This list reports elasmobranchs species that are considered rare but are present in the Mediterranean and the Black Sea (Bradai et al., 2012).

| Group of rare species | Family | Species | Common name |
|---|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------|
| Sharks, Rays, Chimaeras  | Alopiidae | <i>Alopias superciliosus</i> | Bigeye thresher |
| | Hexanchidae | <i>Hexanchus nakamurai</i> | Bigeye sixgill shark |
| | Echinorhinidae | <i>Echinorhinus brucus</i> | Bramble shark |
| | Squalidae | <i>Squalus megalops</i> | Shortnose spurdog |
| | Centrophoridae | <i>Centrophorus uyato</i> | Little gulper shark |
| | | <i>Centroscymnus coelolepis</i> | Portugese dogfish |
| | Somniosidae | <i>Somniosus rostratus</i> | Little sleeper shark |
| | | <i>Isurus paucus</i> | Longfin mako |
| | Lamnidae | <i>Galeus atlanticus</i> | Atlantic catshark |
| | Carcharhinidae | <i>Carcharhinus altimus</i> | Bignose shark |
| | | <i>Carcharhinus brachyurus</i> | Bronze whaler shark |
| | | <i>Carcharhinus brevipinna</i> | Spinner shark |
| | | <i>Carcharhinus falciformis</i> | Silky shark |
| | | <i>Carcharhinus limbatus</i> | Blacktip shark |
| | | <i>Carcharhinus melanopterus</i> | Blacktip reef shark |
| | | <i>Carcharhinus obscurus</i> | Dusky shark |
| | | <i>Galeocerdo cuvier</i> | Tiger shark |
| | | <i>Rhizoprionodon acutus</i> | Milk shark |
| | Torpedinidae | <i>Torpedo nobiliana</i> | Great torpedo |
| | | <i>Torpedo sinuspersici</i> | Variable torpedo ray |
| | Rajidae | <i>Dipturus nidarosiensis</i> | Norwegian skate |
| | | <i>Leucoraja fullonica</i> | Shagreen skate |
| | | <i>Leucoraja naevus</i> | Cuckoo skate |
| | | <i>Raja africana</i> | African skate |
| | | <i>Raja brachyura</i> | Blonde skate |
| | | <i>Raja montagui</i> | Spotted skate |
| | | <i>Raja polystigma</i> | Speckled skate |
| | | <i>Raja radula</i> | Rough skate |
| | | <i>Raja undulata</i> | Undulate skate |
| | Dasyatidae | <i>Dasyatis centroura</i> | Roughtail stingray |
| | | <i>Dasyatis marmorata</i> | Marbled stingray |
| | | <i>Dasyatis pastinaca</i> | Common stingray |
| <i>Dasyatis tortonesei</i> | | Tortonese's stingray | |
| <i>Himantura uarnak</i> | | Honeycomb whipray | |
| <i>Taeniura grabata</i> | | Round fantail stingray | |
| Myliobatidae | <i>Pteromylaeus bovinus</i> | Bullray | |
| Rhinopteridae | <i>Rhinoptera marginata</i> | Lusitanian cownose ray | |
| Sphyrnidae | <i>Sphyrna tudes</i> | Smalleye hammerhead | |

