

THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS

NATIONAL INSTITUTE FOR RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT IN ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

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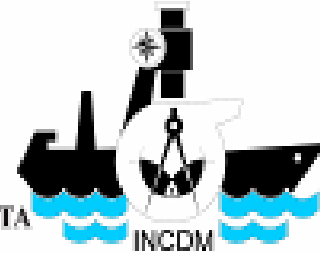
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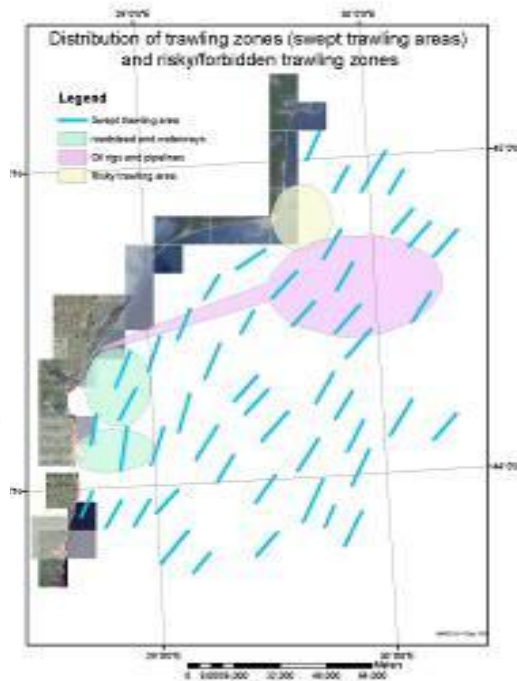
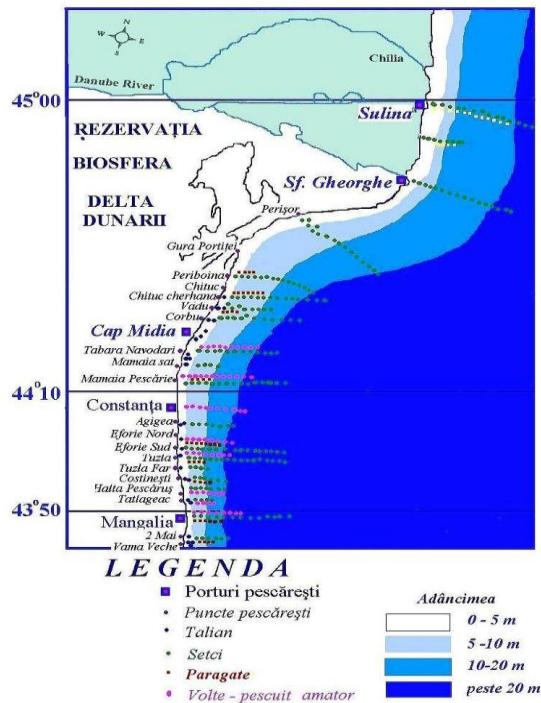
Assessment of Monitoring, Control and Surveillance (MCS) tools in relation to the fishing fleet in Romanian marine area

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Traditionally, the fishing in the Romanian Black Sea area was carried out in two ways:

- Fishing vessels with coastal trawler, type B-410, Baltica, TCMN, other types, equipped with pelagic trawls and turbot gillnets, activating at depths greater than 20 m.
- Fishing practiced along of the coastline in about 28 fishing points between Sulina - Vama Veche, in the coastal area with small depth (3,0 – 11,0m) with fixed gear (pound nets, gillnets, long lines, and beach seine) and up to 40 – 60m depth, with gillnets and long lines mainly for turbot and dogfish.





Vessel type Baltica



Vessel type TCMN



Vessel type B410



National Institute for Marine Research and Development “Grigore Antipa”, Constanta



DRAGONUL



BARACUDA



HENDEM MUSTAFA



Year after year the activity of active fishing decreased gradually to the point where, in 2010 from 20 vessels with LOA between 24-40m registered in the last years in the Fishing Fleet Register, only one vessel was active for a very short period of time. In 2011, number of active vessels of 24-40m was 2, one of them being trawler and the other vessel activating as gillnetter

In 2010, the situation was similar with 2009, the Romanian fleet capacity at the Black Sea was of 476 vessels registered in the FFR at the beginning of the year, structured on length classes as following: 54 boats smaller than 6m; 413 boats in the length class 6-12m, 3 boats in the length class 12-18m, 4 vessels in the length class of 18-24m and 2 vessels in the length class 24-40 m. Small part of this fleet was active (206 boats/vessels).

The situation was repeated in 2011, of total number of 488 boats, only 200 were active (Tabele 1 and 2). Among active boats, most of them were under 12 m (197) and have activated with gill nets, long lines and hand lines. Only three vessels have been longer 18m and activated one with trawl and two with gillnets



Segmentation of the Romanian fleet in 2011

Length class LOA (m)		< 6 m	6 – 12 m	12– 18 m	18- 24m	24- 40m	>40m	Total
Total vessels registered		56	425	3	2	2	-	488
Active vessels		41	156		1	2	-	200
Midwater otter trawl	Mixed demersal and pelagic species	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Pound nets	Small pelagic fish Demersal fish	2	15	-	-	-	-	17
Set gillnets	Pelagic and demersal species	28	93	-	1	1	-	123
Artisanal fisheries (hand lines, set long lines, beach seine)	Other finfish	11	48	-	-	-	-	59



Fishing technique, number of fishing gears and catch per fishing technique (t)
2011

Fishing technique	Number of fishing gears	Catch per fishing technique (t)
Trawls	2	131.637
Pound nets	15	98.437
Beach seines	3	0.487
Gill nets - Total	5202	104.462
Hand lines	256	3.047
Long Lines	252	5.345
Manual harvesting		225.269
TOTAL		568.197



Monitoring or controlling system for fishing fleet

In order to monitor the commercial fishing boats and vessels, there are track records on length categories; boats up to 12 m are recorded in the Coastal Fishing Logbook, while those equal to or longer than 12 m are recorded in the Black Sea Fishing Logbook and must be equipped with Vessel Monitoring System.

All vessels licensed for commercial fishing in the Black Sea must be assigned to the Landing Point (LP) and First Sale Center/Pointt (FSP) with whom they have signed Service Provision Contracts, for all the fish caught.

When landing the fish, a document called **Landing Statement** must be filled-in, having an important role in subsequent monitoring and verification of catches for the respective landing point, on the one hand, and for the economic operator filling-in the document, on the other hand.

These Landing Points and First Sale Centers are strictly nominated and authorized to operate by NAFA, by Order of the National Authority dealing with fisheries and aquaculture.

Also, the Border Police, through the Coast Guard, has implemented of three years the Sea Operational Control System (SCOMAR), with complex facilities, comprising 12 surveillance and primary information acquisition stations, spread along the Romanian coast from Sulina to Vama Veche.



A fishing vessel can obtain the Special Turbot Fishing Authorization if it fulfils the following conditions:

- a) It is included in the Community Fleet Register (CFR);
- b) has a valid fishing license;
- c) paid legal fees for issuing the special turbot fishing authorization;
- d) is equipped with special gillnets for turbot, with a minimum mesh size not less than 400 mm in accordance with Order no. 449/2008 of MARD and marked with marks provided by NAFA, marks which will be registered in the Special Turbot Fishing Authorization;
- e) has a global positioning equipment (GPS) to mark the place where turbot nets, used in fishing, are located;
- f) vessels with an overall length above 15 m has Black Sea fishing log book, and the ones under 15 m has coastal fishing log book;
- g) have a VHF communication equipment or GSM;
- h) have a supplying service contract with a landing point or a first sale point from the mentioned areas;
- i) has not been involved in illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, as defined by Regulation (EC) no. 1005/2008;
- j) have to respect the working programme of the landing point or a first sale point where it has a contract;



The fishing vessel which holds a Special Turbot Fishing Authorization has to abide the following conditions:

The allocated fishing area;

The fish captured must be landed in the established landing point and transported to the first sale point;

To use gears (gill nets) with mesh side $2a = 400$ mm, according to the current legislation and marked accordingly;

The minimum dimension for turbot to be at least 45 cm, according to art. 18 from (CE) Reg. No 850/98;

To announce by phone the designated fishing area and to announce within 2 hours before landing at the subordinated landing point;

Vessels exceeding 15 m must have VMS installed



Romanian coastline has been divided in areas delimited by latitude, each area being listed in the special authorization for turbot fishing



Turbot fishing areas at the Romanian Black Sea coastline



The coordinates of these areas are the following:

1. Sulina - the border with Ukraine (~450 09') – 440 58' N
2. Sf. Gheorghe - 440 58' N - 440 42' N
3. Periboina – Perisor - 440 42' N - 440 25' N
4. Midia - 440 25' N - 440 16' N
5. Mamaia - 440 16' N - 440 06' N
6. Tuzla - 440 06' N - 440 01' N
7. Costinesti - 440 01' N - 430 55' N
8. Olimp - 430 55' N - 430 51' N 9.
9. Mangalia - 430 51' N - the border with Bulgaria (~430 45' N).

In each of the seven LPs (Landing Points) zone fishing inspectors nominated for monitoring, inspection and control must be notified by phone 2 hours before exiting and entering into the point.



Zonal fisheries inspectors have met the following attributes:

- Have kept records of the vessels in the LP area;
- Have kept track of data in a record book (entry/exit inputs)
- Have kept track of data in a record book regarding catches per boat;
- Have approved the documents regarding entries and fish;
- Have checked the gillnets for turbot and the mesh size, and also that the dimension of the landing turbot is under the minimum dimensions admitted by Order no.36/2011 of the Minister for Agriculture and Rural Development;
 - It was cross checked the logbook, the Black Sea fishing log/the coastal fishing log, the landing declarations, the transport notes, the first sale notes and any correlation between the landing point to first sale point.
- Terrestrial inspections were carried out daily by the inspectors subordinated the respective ports, both on land and at sea.



International agreement on IUU fishing in the Black Sea

Currently, a complex joint inspection and control plan is being developed by Romania and Bulgaria, targeting fishery activities in both EEZs, landings and trading the Black Sea resources, mainly turbot.

There is a schedule set for number of actions, locations, on months and days, targeted objectives, as well as the measures required to apply in the same manner and the documents to be drawn-up similarly, mainly inspection reports at sea, in ports (landing points and first sale centers), in markets and stores.

After carrying out this program in both countries, the entitled policy makers shall draw-up the conclusions, based on which a potential international fishery agreement for the Black Sea could be created and ratified.



Results in 2010

In the period 1st of January – 31st of December 2010 were held:

- 206 actions to prevent and combat poaching in the Black Sea fisheries, on water and land access routes along with representatives of institutions that NAFA has concluded cooperation agreements. In these actions have been used NAFA's and Border Police vessels, Mangalia and Constanta Naval Group as well as information obtained through the Border Police's SCOMAR Constanta.

720 activities of stakeholders verifications, inspection and control, monitoring, cross-checking the documents in LPs and FSP sites as follows:

The results of the fishing inspectors' activity are the following:

- 22 fines have been imposed with a total value of 19,200 lei;
- were seized: 1714 commercial fishing gears,
- A quantity of 524 kg of fresh turbot was seized worth of 4432 lei;
- 11 criminal cases have been prepared.



Results in 2011

In the period 1st of January – 30th of October 2011 there were 261 turbot landings and for all landings, the national fisheries inspectors have drawn up Reports of inspection. Has not been taken into account other fishing activities for other species of fish, because fishing vessels that possess Special authorizations for Turbot Fishing have performed only turbot fishing.

There were made a total of 55 unannounced controls in ports, with 7 infringements worth of 4,600 lei.

There were made 139 joint actions with other institutions, to prevent and combat IUU fish in the Black Sea, on water and on land with representatives of the institutions with which NAFA has concluded protocols of collaboration. In these actions there were used vessels of NAFA and CIBP-Mangalia and Constanța Naval Group as well as information obtained through the SCOMAR of CIBP Constanța;



There were made 667 activities and have been found irregularities at 12 economic agents (persons authorised by NAFA to sell fish and fish products), with regard to inspection, control, monitoring, and control of documents in landing points and first sale points consisting of:

- Verification of catches over recorded in the log, and landing statement were compared with the amounts stated in the first sale notes
- Checking coordinates installation gear from the logbook and the comparison with information received from SCOMAR and VMS
- Check the number of exits, course followed by the vessels registered in the fishing journal and SCOMAR/VMS.

Results:

- 7 fines were applied totaling 4,600 lei;
- Were confiscated: 592 commercial fishing gear,
- The quantity over 795 kilograms was seized worth of 8374,7 lei;
- 5 criminal cases were set up.



Some conclusions from NAFA

The experience from 2010 and 2011 with this monitoring and control landing system and monitoring of landing traceability leads to organizing these activities for future, in the mentioned LP and FSP, with the release of the authorizations in the limits of the quota for the vessels that reports a certain catch quantity, with the repartition of the quota in one instalment, in an competitive system, following with ending the turbot fishing when reaching the quota.

The vessels that did not report any catch and those that have not abided the licensing conditions of the LP and FSP shall be excluded from the turbot fishing.

For the suppressing of IUU and the protection of the Black Sea ecosystem are being taken into consideration Common Inspection programmes with Bulgaria, and also organizing training programmes, specific for fish control and turbot landing in the Black Sea waters.

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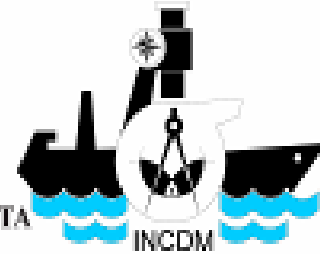
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Thank you!