

Overview of the Definition of Recreational Fishing

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Transversal Workshop on the monitoring recreational fisheries in the GFCM Area in Palma de Majorca (20-22 October 2010)



What do we mean by recreational fisheries (RF)?

- Polemic around the term of RF.
- Different classification can be made:

Goal based classification	Classification by the location and tools used	Three sub-categories for boat-based RF
Amateur fishing	Boat-based	Stationary fishing (anchored or drifting)
Sport fishing	Shore-based	Passive or harvest fishing
Tourism fishing	Underwater fishing	Active fishing
	<i>Pêche à pied</i>	

- The European Anglers Alliance
- ICCAT (Working Group on Sports & Recreational Fishing)
- Confederation Internationale de la Peche Sportive
- EU
- EIFAC (SEC/EIFAC/OP₄₂)
- Articles
- GFCM Reports
- GFCM Glossary

Definition by the European Anglers Alliance

- Recreational fishing is fishing, which is not deemed to be commercial fishing.
- Angling, recreational angling, small boats equipped with nets or longlines, hand-held lines or nets, gill nets, stationary nets on the seabed, free-divers and sport-divers with spearguns, are various forms of fishing included in the definition of recreational fishing as long no sale of fish involved.

Definition by EU

- **Recreational fishing** is fishing which is not deemed to be commercial fishing (i.e. it does not have sale or profit connotations), and is not undertaken for predominantly subsistence purposes.

EC Directorate-General for Fisheries
Unit FISH-1

Sport Fishing C2362

FINAL REPORT

EU contract FISH/2004/011 on “Sport Fisheries” (or Marine Recreational Fisheries) in the EU

For The European Commission Directorate-General for Fisheries

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Table 2.1: Definitions of 'recreational fishing'

Term	Definition	Source
Recreational and game fisheries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All fishing activities not conducted for commercial fishing purposes 	European Commission (2001)
Recreational fishing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fishing (i.e. an activity intended to catch fish or other aquatic organism) which is not deemed to be commercial fishing (i.e. catching and selling fish in order to support a livelihood, at least in part). Angling, the use of nets, longlines, hand-held lines from small boats or from the shore, and capture of fish by free divers and sport divers with spear guns, are various forms of fishing included in the definition of recreational fishing, provided that no sale of fish is involved. 	EAA (2004b)
Recreational fishing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Harvesting fish for personal use, fun, and challenge. Recreational fishing does not include sale of catch. 	Roberts <i>et al</i> (no date)
Marine [§] recreational fishing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fishing primarily with hook and line for pleasure, amusement, relaxation, or home consumption. If part or all of the catch is sold, the monetary returns constitute an insignificant part of the person's income. 	Witzig (2004)

§. The term includes the word 'marine' but the description does not specifically describe what constitutes 'marine'.

RF definition in the article



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The definition of marine recreational fishing in Europe

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Definitions of 'recreational fishing'		
Term	Definition	Source
Recreational fisheries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All fishing activities not conducted for commercial fishing purposes Refers to and includes the fishery resources, fishermen and businesses providing needed goods and services. 	[8]
Recreational fishing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fishing (i.e. an activity intended to catch fish or other aquatic organism) which is not deemed to be commercial fishing (i.e. catching and selling fish in order to support a livelihood, at least in part) Angling, the use of nets, longlines, hand-held lines from small boats or from the shore, and capture of fish by freedivers and sportdivers with spearguns, are various forms of fishing included in the definition of recreational fishing, provided that no sale of fish is involved. Harvesting fish for personal use, fun and challenge. Recreational fishing does not include sale of catch. Fishing primarily with hook and line for pleasure, amusement, relaxation or home consumption. If part or all of the catch is sold, the monetary returns constitute an insignificant part of the person's income. 	[9] [10] [10] [9] [9] [11]
Angling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Angling is fishing with a hook and either rod and line or hand-held line and can be for both commercial and non-commercial purposes. (Note that this also includes the use of hook-less lures where fish capture depends on entanglement, e.g. billfish, squid <i>Loligo</i> spp., eels <i>Anquilla anquilla</i>.) 	[10]
Recreational angling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Non-commercial activity using hook and line Catch may be returned or retained to be consumed within the immediate social circle but not sold or bartered for other goods. Motivations for recreational angling may include challenge, achievement, sport, recreation, relaxation, social activity involving water, etc. Includes anglers, tackle shops and tackle manufacturers, bait suppliers, charter-boating, recreational boat builders and chandlery suppliers, marine operators and specialised angling media, angling tourism and other related businesses and organisations as well as the whole management environment (e.g. public agencies) to varying degrees dependent on, or directed at, recreational angling 	[10]
Recreational fishermen	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fisherman who fishes during leisure time and does not sell the catch 	[14]
Subsistence/household fisherman	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recreational fisherman who mainly uses gill nets or other static gear 	[14]
Sports fisherman	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recreational fisherman who mainly uses rod and line 	[14]

Definition by EIFAC

- Fishing of aquatic animals that do not constitute the individual's primary resource to meet nutritional needs and are not **generally** sold or otherwise traded on export, domestic or black markets.
- The unambiguous demarcation between pure recreational fisheries and pure subsistence fisheries is often difficult. However, using fishing activity to generate resources for livelihood marks a clear tipping point between recreational fisheries and subsistence fisheries.

Definition in the GFCM report

GENERAL FISHERIES COMMISSION FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN

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MEDITERRANEAN COUNTRIES: A REVIEW
OF EXISTING LEGAL FRAMEWORKS



- Amateur fishing: is defined as unorganized hobby fishing (as ICCAT definition). Unorganized in the sense that it is not associated with a specific event or competition.
- Sport fishing: it described on the opposite as an organized activity involving free competition between fishermen to catch the largest fish of certain species, the largest number of specimens or the largest total weight depending on the rules of each particular competition (SFITUM).
- Tourism fishing: Can be understood as a fishing activity carried out by a third party who organizes a fishing expedition for tourists. Tourism can be conducted by commercial fishermen (*pesca turismo*) or by recreational fishing professionals (*charter*).

Definition by GFCM Glossary

- Non commercial fishing activities exploiting marine living aquatic resources. It is prohibited to sell or trade the catches obtained
- For Mediterranean fisheries management purposes it comprises [four independent] segments:
 - Leisure,
 - Sport,
 - Underwater,
 - Charter fisheries

Report of the 10th meeting of the Sub-committee on Economic and Social Sciences (SCESS) Malaga, Spain, 30 November-3 December 2009

- **Leisure fishing:** recreational fishing practiced for pleasure.
- **1. Sport fishing:** recreational fishing contest practiced within an established institutional framework which sets rules, collects data on catches and informs on the outcomes of the event.

- **Underwater fishing:** fishing activity practiced as a sport or for leisure by snorkeling techniques
- **Charter fishing:** recreational fishing practiced from a rented boat, with a captain or fishing guide on board, for leisure or sport purposes.

Expected outcomes from...



**GENERAL FISHERIES COMMISSION FOR
THE MEDITERRANEAN
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Transversal workshop on the monitoring recreational fisheries in the GFCM area

Palma de Majorca, Spain, 20-22 October 2010

- Monitoring can be defined as :
“the continuous requirement for the measurement of fishing characteristics and resource yields” (FAO, 1995).
- Monitoring measures include:
 - data collection
 - analysis
 - diffusion

- Consensus on the common definition of RF to be used in the monitoring framework
- Identify the key elements for a monitoring framework which includes the required data and information



Are we going to accept one of the
existing definition of RF?

or

Are we going to create a new
definition for RF?

Thanks for your attention...