

Setting Priorities for Regional Conservation Planning in the Mediterranean Sea

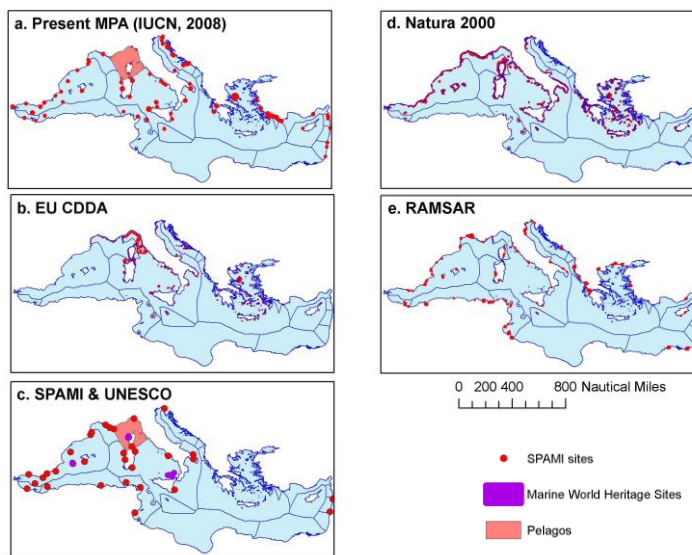
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→ A result of the first workshop on advancing marine conservation planning in the Mediterranean Sea in Santorini (Greece) in 2012:

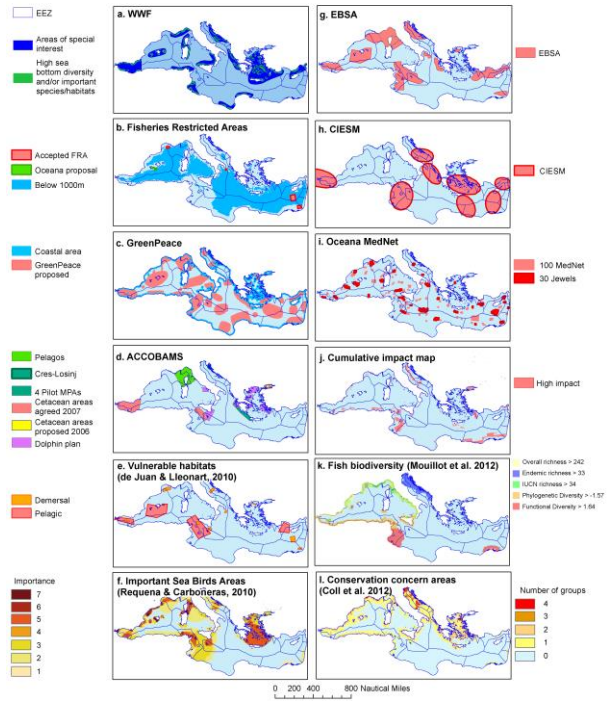
Giakoumi, S. et al. 2012. Advancing Marine Conservation Planning in the Mediterranean Sea. *Reviews in Fish Biology and Fisheries*. 22:943-949

1. Setting conservation priorities areas: A review of six existing conservation initiatives



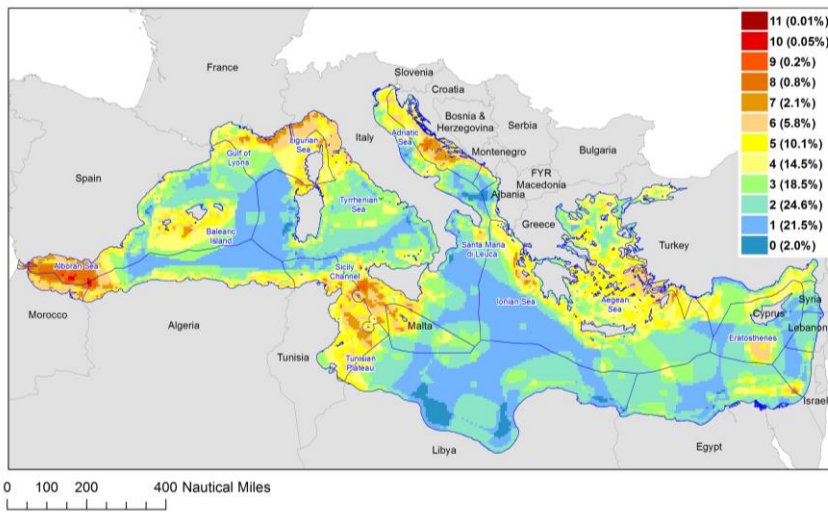
Micheli et al. 2013. PLoS ONE

1. And 12 conservation proposals



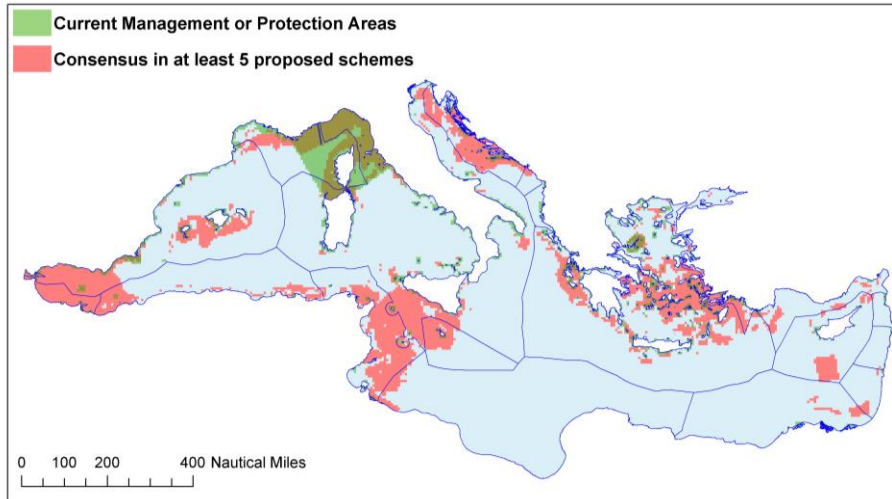
Micheli et al. 2013. PLoS ONE

2. Consensus areas selected by multiple proposals



Micheli et al. 2013. PLoS ONE

20% selected by at least 5 proposals



Micheli et al. 2013. PLoS ONE

Main results and conclusions

- Multiple spatial conservation plans have been developed in recent years.
- Gaps in conservation and management planning, particularly within the southern and eastern regions and for offshore and deep sea habitats.
- Ten areas, encompassing 10% of the Mediterranean Sea, are consistently identified among the existing proposals, with an additional 10% selected by at least five proposals.
- These areas represent top priorities for immediate conservation action.
- Major challenges :
 1. the need for spatial prioritization,
 2. acquisition of additional information from data-poor areas, species or habitats, and
 3. establishment of transboundary governance and collaboration in socially, culturally and politically complex conditions.
- Collective prioritised action is needed for the north, western, and high seas, while developing initial information-based plans for the south and eastern is urgent.