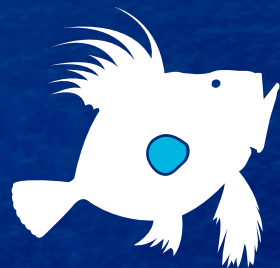


2020 – 2021
Biannual Review



**AKDENİZ
KORUMA
DERNEĞİ**

Mediterranean Conservation Society

CONTENTS

OUR TEAM	4
VISION & MISSION	6
VALUES & AWARDS	7
FOREWORD	8
PROGRAMMES	10
Marine Protected Areas (MPAs)	12
Marine Ranger System	14
Special Environmental Protection Area (SEPA) Management Plan	16
Implementation of the Gökova Special Environmental Protection Area (SEPA) Management Plan	18
Monitoring the Impact of the Climate Crisis on the Mediterranean	20
Mediterranean Seagrass Mapping	22
Sea Water Temperature Monitoring	24
Blue Carbon	26
Wildfires	28
Ecosystem Restoration	30
Invasive Alien Marine Species	32
Marine Clean-up and Collection of Ghost Nets	34
Endangered Species of the Mediterranean	36
Mediterranean Monk Seal	38
Sandbar Shark	40
Marmaris Salamander	42
Training	44
PUBLICATIONS	48
FINANCIAL REVIEW	50
THANK YOU	52
WHO WE WORK WITH	54

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Caner Bayrak | Resource Manager
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Dilara Arslan | Data Manager
Emre Güren | Göcek Marine Ranger
Erol Güren | Göcek Field Manager
Ezgi Saydam | Mediterranean Monk Seal Project Coordinator
Funda Kök | General Director & Conservation Manager
Gizem Akdoğan | Executive Assistant
Harun Güçlüsoy | Member of the Board of Directors
İlkay Kavak | Communication Expert
İskender Demirel | Gökova Marine Ranger
Kerim Çiçek | Audit Board Member
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Mustafa Tunca Olguner | Project Monitoring Assistant
Murat Bağcı | Gökova Marine Ranger
Ömer Balcı | Gökova Marine Ranger
Özkan Anıl | Training & Logistics Planning Consultant
Ramazan Çepel | Member of the Board of Directors
Serdar Subay | Procurement and Operation Officer
Tankut Kurt | Gökova Marine Ranger
Yasemin Ulusoy | Project and Resource Development Specialist
Yunus Emre Başkahraman | Gökova Marine Ranger
Vahit Alan | Member of the Board of Directors & Conservation and Monitoring Manager
Volkan Hürsever | Member of the Board of Directors
Yankı Tandircioğlu | Gökova Field Assistant
Zafer Ali Kızılkaya | President
Zeynep Seda Soylu | Resource Management Officer

Consultants

Dr. Barış Akçalı | Scientific Consultant
Emel Erden | “New Fish” Project Consultant
Esra Başak | Scientific Consultant
Esra Kartal | Project Consultant
Dr. Fethi Bengil | Scientific Consultant
Gökhan Serdaroğlu | Financial Consultant
Güner Ergün | Scientific Consultant
Doç. Dr. İnci Tüney Kızılkaya | Scientific Consultant

Doç.Dr. Kerim Çiçek | Scientific Consultant
Prof. Dr. Vahdet Ünal | Scientific Consultant
Prof. Dr. Zafer Tosunoğlu | Scientific Consultant
Zeynep Mufti | Institutional Communication & Management Consultant



VISION

Ensuring the best conservation and sustainable use of the Mediterranean basin and creating a healthy home for local people and a foundation for their culture while preserving the rich biodiversity.

MISSION

Supporting communities with traditional and science-based projects to protect the Mediterranean ecosystem and create sustainable living spaces.

VALUES

Science

We believe that it is necessary to produce fast and effective solutions to the extinction of living species and habitats all over the world. For this purpose, we implement all our studies based on scientific findings to determine our study subjects and methods in the most effective way.

Co-operation

We believe that working and taking action with people and institutions with different knowledge and experience to ours will strengthen local development and nature conservation efforts. Therefore, we carry out our projects in cooperation with local, national, and international stakeholders.

Local Development

Recognising the inter-connectedness between humans and nature, we value working with groups whose livelihood depends on the existence of biodiversity, such as small-scale fishers, and support these groups to ensure the sustainable use of natural resources today and in the future.

Transparency

We believe in sharing our experience and findings, as well as being transparent about how we work. We provide periodic reporting to our volunteers and donors who contribute to our efforts with their knowledge and skills.

Respect

We respect every human being regardless of ethnicity, language, religion, race and gender, just as we respect diversity in nature. We believe that nature conservation is everyone's responsibility, and we reject all forms of discrimination when working with local groups and volunteers.

While sharing what we know about nature, we respect the knowledge, experience and preferences of all groups and individuals with whom we cooperate.

AWARDS

2012 Marine Conservation Leadership Award, Marsh Award for Marine Conservation Leadership, UK

2013 Whitley Award, Whitley Fund for Nature, UK

2014 Equator Prize, United Nations Development Programme, US

2017 Whitley Gold Award, Whitley Fund for Nature, UK

2017 Changemakers Award, Sabancı Foundation, Turkey

2018 Small-Scale Fisheries Joint Management in the Mediterranean Best Practice Award, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) Mediterranean Fisheries Commission, Malta



Zafer Ali Kızılkaya | Founder and President

For all of us, 2020 and 2021 were challenging years, full of concerns brought by Covid-19. The lock-downs due to the pandemic that started at the end of spring not only restricted some of our activities and slowed down some of our work, but also contributed to a serious increase in illegal fishing in the seas. While we were stuck in our homes, illegal fishers were busy. Over that period of time, our surveillance activities as rangers in Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) were challenged with the highest level of illegal fishing and we saw that we need to continue our conservation and inspection activities without interruption. With the release of the restrictions towards summer, our work in the field gained momentum again. We ran a survey about invasive species in Göcek and Kaş among approximately 500 people, consisting of fishers, restaurant owners and consumers. We have gained significant momentum in bringing invasive fish into the economy, by promoting the edible invasive species, especially lionfish, with the support of key stakeholders including chefs, restaurants, and hotels from different locations in Turkey. We started to purchase invasive fish species from fishers and to collect data to analyse their stocks in the Kaş-Kalkan region.

As part of the support we give to fisheries cooperatives, our Society has provided Datça-Karaköy and Göcek-İnlice Fisheries Cooperatives with all the necessary infrastructure for office keeping, fish storage and sales. Again, with the support of our Society, the fishing gear developed by our founding member, fisherman Ercüment Altınsoy, to catch the invasive pufferfish was tested by Datça-Karaköy fishers and the results were very successful.

Turkey has become the country that has expanded its MPAs the most in the Mediterranean during the pandemic. Following the official announcement of the areas, we are in the process of preparing informative signage and boards. Our on-site rangers have started patrolling in the new areas. Within the scope of the process of declaring new areas that will be “Closed to Purse Seine-Trawl Fishing”, since 22 August 2020; meetings have been held between the officials of the General Directorate of Fisheries and local fishers, upon the requests of local fishers to open the areas to amateur fisheries and to reevaluate some area borders.

One of the most exciting events of 2020 for us was that a cave in Gökova Bay, in which we built an artificial dry platform, was used by seals. This was the first practice in the literature regarding the habitats of Mediterranean monk seals, which showed that if enough safe caves were available, the seals would use these caves. We will continue to work on caves that can be improved with similar rehabilitation. In 2021, we started monitoring sandbar sharks in Boncuk Bay with real-time 24/7 underwater cameras with the support of the General Directorate for Protection of Natural Assets. The images obtained are automatically scanned and detected by a smart software developed by a company in the United States. The same programme is used for the images taken from our cameras in the monk seal caves. In 2020 and 2021, we established new partnerships and raised new funds for our existing projects. We started working with the Mediterranean Fund (MedFund) based in Monaco to support our management activities within the Gökova Bay Special Environmental Protection Area, a partnership that will last for five years. Similarly, the Blue Marine Foundation, based in London, became a new partner for all the projects we carry out. I wish that 2022 will be a year in which we can all overcome the pandemic and add new achievements to our successful work.



Funda Kök | Conservation Manager | General Director

We left behind two years in which we lost thousands of people to the pandemic and acres of forests and thousands of animals to wildfires and sort of witnessed apocalyptic scenes from a movie that sounded alarms in everyone's minds.

While the world is struggling with warming, fires and pollution on the one hand, its resources continue to be depleted on the other. We called the symptoms caused by the destruction of nature first global warming and then climate change. As the destruction and symptoms spread, we could not explain the severity of the situation with these concepts, and we started to call it the climate crisis. It is still in our hands to fight this crisis and to increase the resilience of ecosystems, even if we cannot prevent it completely. So, we focused on results and solutions. We worked hard, we are still working, and we won't stop!

We handle humans, animals, fish, crustaceans, molluscs, algae, trees, and birds with an interspecies and ecosystem-based holistic approach. We sit down with those who are affected, those who are concerned, and alarmed to produce solutions to the problems and implement them.

Climate crisis, overfishing and pollution affect the whole world. An invasive species that enters the Mediterranean waters through the Suez Canal today, could pose a threat when it reaches the Adriatic tomorrow. In Italy, a mask worn to keep safe from infection may reach the sea and get caught by a turtle's fin or be ingested by a migratory sea bird. Illegal and overfishing not only destabilizes the ecosystem but also endangers food security.

Fortunately, these last two years were not only marked with unfortunate and sad situations. The 30'30 movement, committed by many countries with the aim of protecting 30% of Earth's land and ocean area by 2030, also found a voice in Turkey and appeared in the agenda of relevant institutions. As an NGO, we give our utmost support to the effective management of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs). We were accredited for the United Nations Environment Programme – Mediterranean Action Plan last year as we kept fighting in the field with our boats and marine rangers. With our aspirations and contributions, we ensured the monitoring of international policy practices and the development of new ones.

We watched the effects of conservation activities, witnessed positive results, celebrated and shared our happiness with our supporters. We witnessed the birth of the seal “Umut (Hope in English)” in one of the monitored caves, observed 7 sandbar sharks in Boncuk Bay, saw seals resting on the artificial platform we built in a cave – these moments made us believe that “it is possible to fight this crisis if we work and conserve together”.

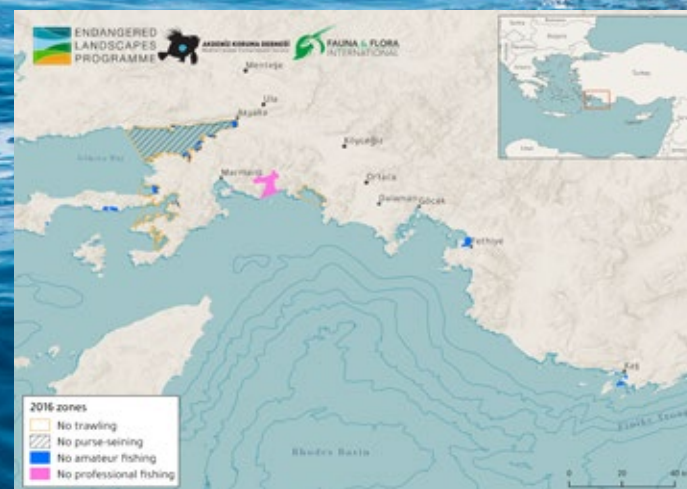
As the Mediterranean Conservation Society, we have grown our team thanks to those who support us, we have reached more people with their motivation and energies and with the presence and contributions of our stakeholders, we have learned and developed together, and we have worked together for nature. Despite the devastating consequences of the pandemic, we continued to expand the scope and scale of our work. The efforts and support of our team and followers, who made this possible, are of vital importance in the upcoming period.

Programmes



MARINE PROTECTED AREAS

Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) are special protection areas designated for the protection of marine life and marine ecosystems. MPAs are known to be one of the most effective management tools in ensuring the sustainability of marine ecosystems, from the maintenance of fish stocks to the conservation of biodiversity as well as endangered species and habitats. While the MPAs can be available for sustainable use of resources, they may be closed to purse-seine and trawler fisheries, diving or any other activity. As signs of healthy seas, effectively managed MPAs can protect natural and cultural values, support local economies, and ensure that the ecosystem remains healthy for future generations.



Turkey aims to protect 30% of its national waters by 2030. Ensuring effective management and protection through the expansion of MPAs is vital for biodiversity and the sustainability of fisheries.

One of the 2020 World Biodiversity targets to which Turkey is a party is as follows: By 2020, at least 10% of coastal and marine areas, especially habitats of particular importance, are declared as Marine Protected Areas and at least 2% of these areas are managed and conserved as no-take zones. Although this target has not been reached yet, there are 1215 MPAs in the Mediterranean Basin as of 2020. In terms of surface area, MPA's have expanded by 4.56% in 2012, 6.81% in 2016, and 8.3% in 2020. Only 4% of Turkey's terrestrial waters have the status of a legally protected area.

Although there are efforts by Mediterranean countries to increase the number and coverage of MPAs, only 1,273% of MPAs in the Mediterranean have an effective protection mechanism. Since 2012, the Mediterranean Conservation Society has been working to monitor and restore the marine ecosystems of endangered species such as the Mediterranean monk seal (*Monachus monachus*), Sandbar shark (*Carcharinus plumbeus*) and Seagrass meadows (*Posidonia oceanica*) in MPAs located in Gökova Bay Special Environmental Protection Area (SEPA) and Fethiye-Göcek SEPA. While contributing to the protection of these species and habitats, we also strive for the continuity of small-scale coastal fisheries.

Although "Marine Protected Areas" do not have legal protection status in Turkey, all protected areas with marine and coastal areas are called MPAs and are protected by national protection status and international conventions to which Turkey is a party.

With the statement published by the Turkish Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry in August 2020, MPAs' coverage increased from 47,016 hectares in 2016 to 66,406 hectares.



In 2020–2021, the Marine Ranger System covered a total distance of 27,885 kilometres in 1,933 patrols in the No Take Zones (NTZs) in Gökova Bay and Fethiye–Göcek.



During our patrols in 2020–2021, we detected 338 illegal fishing operations and notified the relevant public authorities.

MARINE RANGER SYSTEM

The Marine Ranger System, which was put into practice for the first time in Turkey by the Mediterranean Conservation Society in 2013, serves to increase the protection efficiency of the No Take Zones (NTZs) within MPAs. Rangers are selected and recruited by MCS from among the interested local coastal fishers and other local stakeholders. Marine rangers conduct daily patrols in MPAs, record illegal activities such as hunting, improper mooring of boats, dumping of waste into the sea and report these to local units of the Ministries of Interior, Agriculture and Forestry, Environment, Urbanisation and Climate Change through the established communication network.

Since 2013, seven boats and marine rangers are available on call at four stations in Gökova Bay and Fethiye–Göcek. With the SMART (Smart Conservation Tool) application, illegal activities observed in the NTZs are recorded by the marine rangers and reported to the authorised public institutions in real-time.

The Marine Ranger System is a practice that puts the local small-scale coastal fisheries at the forefront of conservation. Small-scale coastal fishers are key stakeholders for the conservation of marine biodiversity and NTZs, and for sustainable fisheries. This way, fishers can protect their livelihoods and be an important part of the management process.



PREPARATION OF THE FOÇA SPECIAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AREA (SEPA) MANAGEMENT PLAN

The project for updating the management plan for the integration of the marine and coastal areas of Foça Special Environmental Protection Area (SEPA), which was implemented by the Mediterranean Conservation Society, coordinated by the Turkish Ministry of Environment, Urbanisation and Climate Change, General Directorate for Protection of Natural Assets and supported by the Specially Protected Areas Regional Activity Centre (SPA-RAC), was completed in 2021.

Within the scope of the project, a workshop was carried out with the participation of 50 representatives from 22 institutions, on-site assessments were made and situation analysis was conducted. As a result, Foça SEPA Management Plan was revised, and the second five-year Management Plan for 2022–2026 was published.

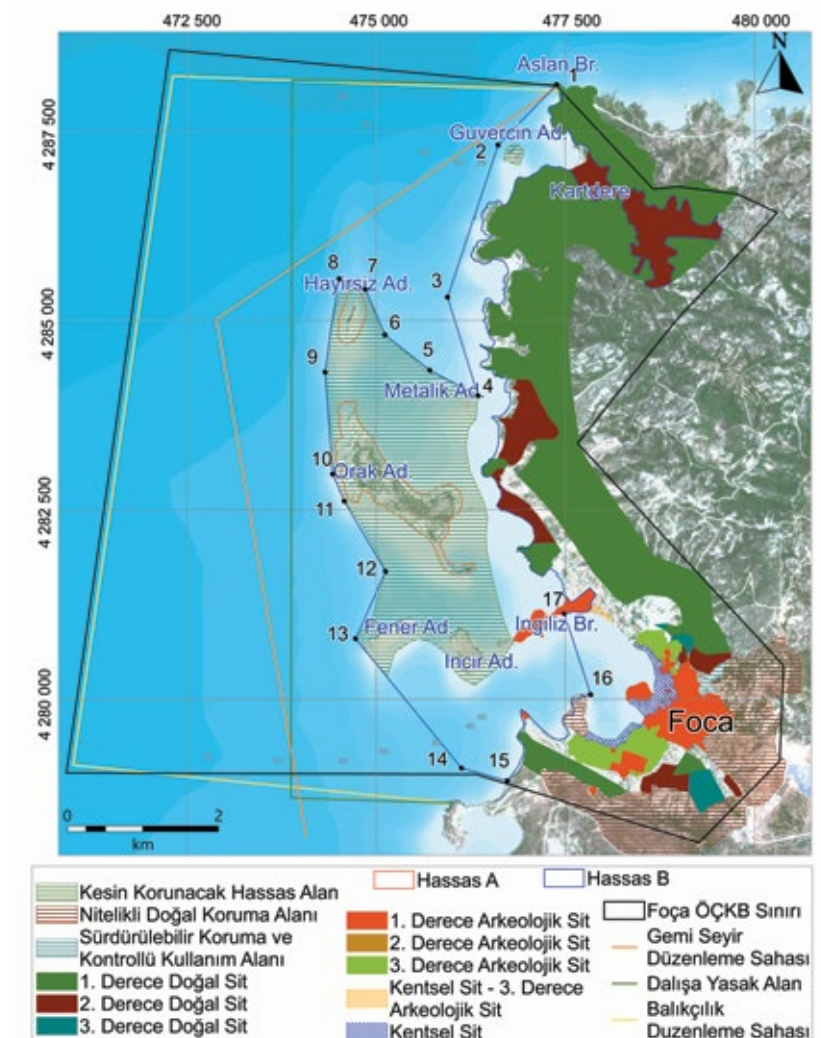
Foça Special Environmental Protection Area (SEPA) is in the administrative boundaries of the Foça District of İzmir province. The main livelihoods in the district are tourism, fisheries, agriculture, livestock and agriculture-based small-scale industry. In addition to its natural bounty, Foça is rich in history and culture. The 3000-year old Foça is home to many historical and touristic sites from the Ionian, Persian, Roman, Byzantine and Ottoman civilisations. Among the important historical artefacts in the district are the Temple of Athena, the Cybele Open-Air Temple, the oldest theatre of Anatolia, which dates to 340–330 B.C., the Archaic Wall and Herodotus Wall, stone houses, natural beaches, historical monuments and Siren Rocks which was mentioned in the works of Homer.

Rich in biodiversity, Foça is also one of the most important fishing areas of the Aegean. Around 30 marine species were recorded as having commercial value. Approximately 50% of the district is covered with red pine forests, which serve as a habitat for various species such as pigs, wolves, jackals, foxes, marten, partridges, doves, and quails. Gediz Delta is frequented by migratory birds and is rich in fish species. To the east of the city are olive groves and most of these areas are designated as natural protected areas of Category I and II.

The coastline of the Foça Peninsula is embroidered with small and large bays. The region is known for the presence of seals that have frequented the peninsula for thousands of years and gave their name to the district.

The Siren Cliffs and cave formations in the western coast of Orak Island are a vital habitat for the reproduction and breeding of seals. The coast is known as a suitable habitat for seals due to the rich fish stocks and shallow seas.

Foça Special Environmental Protection Area was established in 1991 as a pilot project area for the protection of Mediterranean monk seals by the Turkish National Seal Committee under the coordination of the Ministry of Environment.



IMPLEMENTATION OF THE GÖKOVA (SEPA) MANAGEMENT PLAN



The marina rangers undertook 890 patrols in Gökova MPA.



193 illegal fishing operations were identified and reported to authorities.



2 Mediterranean Monk Seals were identified within the Gökova MPA.



As a result of the fish count surveys we conducted within the scope of our monitoring studies, we determined a 27% increase in fish biomass between 2019-2021.

One of the most essential conditions for the adequate protection and management of Marine Protected Areas is to have a management plan prepared with the participation and contribution of all stakeholders. To establish an effective and participatory management and control mechanism at Gökova SEPA, we signed a protocol with Ministry of Environment, Urbanisation and Climate Change, General Directorate for Protection of Natural Assets in 2021 for the integration of the 2020-2024 Gökova SEPA Management Plan into Marine Protected Areas and for its implementation with the Ministry of Environment, Urbanisation and Climate Change, General Directorate for Protection of Natural Assets, responsible for the preparation and implementation of the management plans of Special Environmental Protection Areas.

Within the scope of our project supported by MEDFUND (Environmental Fund for Mediterranean MPAs) for five years, we recruited more members to our team. We marked the borders of the no take zones. To combat illegal fishing, we supported the inspection and monitoring activities of the Coast Guard and the Ministry of Agriculture, Directorate General of Fisheries and Aquaculture. We seized the illegal fishing gears from boats that were detected during patrols or reported to us in NYZs, handed them over to the authorities and released the animals caught by these gears back into the sea.

We observed the rich marine biodiversity and endangered species, which are the most important reasons for the conservation of the region, gathered scientific data and analysed changes over time. We established an underwater and above-water monitoring station with DG PNH in Boncuk Bay, the only known breeding area for sandbar sharks in Turkey. We carried out observations in the region with our volunteers and staff. We worked to reduce improper mooring activity to protect seagrass meadows. We monitored caves used by Mediterranean monk seals and continued our research on the seal population and impacts of possible human interaction. We shared the importance of MPAs, the positive results obtained through ecosystem restoration activities, and the improvements with the fishers and public officials from the bay area and from Kaş and Kalkan.

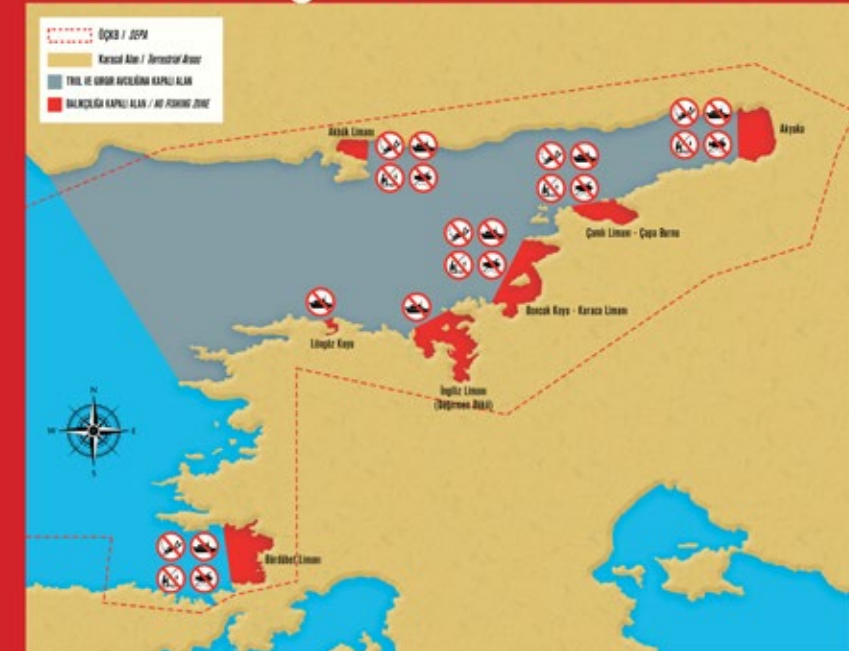


BALIKÇILIĞA KAPALI ALANLAR

NO FISHING ZONES

Balıkçılığa Kapalı Alanlar, 22 Ağustos 2020 tarihli 31221 sayılı Resmî Gazete'de yayımlanarak ilan edilmiştir. Haritada işaretlenen ve koordinatları belirtilen alanlarda her türlü ticari su ürünleri avcılığı yasaktır.

All types of recreational fishing activities are prohibited in the areas marked on the map and the coordinates that are indicated on this page by 31221 numbered regulation implemented on 22 August 2020.



AKDENİZ LİMANI (DEĞİRMEN BÖĞÜ) In the southeast area of the line that connects the coordinates (D° 36.03' N - 28° 05.49' E), (D° 36.08' N - 28° 06.24' E) koordinat noktaları bağlayan hatın doğusunda kalan alan. Buradan itibaren güneydoğuya doğru her türlü balıkçılık faaliyetleri yasaktır. / The area is closed to all kinds of fishing activities except for amateur fishing activities with fishing tackle from the shore.

BONCUK KOYU - KARACA LİMANI In the east area of the line that connects the coordinates (D° 36.02' N - 28° 11.81' E) ile Akdeniz Burununu (D° 36.02' N - 28° 11.81' E) koordinat noktaları bağlayan hatın doğusunda kalan alan. Buradan itibaren güneydoğuya doğru her türlü balıkçılık faaliyetleri yasaktır. / The area is closed to all kinds of fishing activities except for amateur fishing activities with fishing tackle from the shore.

CAMLİ LİMANI - ÇAPA BIRUĞU In the southeast area of the line that connects the coordinates (D° 36.04' N - 28° 13.42' E), (D° 36.05' N - 28° 14.36' E) koordinat noktaları bağlayan hatın güneydoğusunda kalan alan. Buradan itibaren güneydoğuya doğru her türlü balıkçılık faaliyetleri yasaktır. / The area is closed to all kinds of fishing activities except for amateur fishing activities with fishing tackle from the shore.

AKDENİZ LİMANI In the east area of the line that connects the coordinates (D° 36.04' N - 28° 06.00' E), (D° 36.05' N - 28° 06.18' E) koordinat noktaları bağlayan hatın doğusunda kalan alan. Buradan itibaren güneydoğuya doğru her türlü balıkçılık faaliyetleri yasaktır. / The area is closed to all kinds of fishing activities except for amateur fishing activities with fishing tackle from the shore.

BÖRÜK LİMANI In the west area of the line that connects the coordinates (D° 36.02' N - 28° 06.00' E), (D° 36.03' N - 28° 06.18' E) koordinat noktaları bağlayan hatın batısında kalan alan. Buradan itibaren güneydoğuya doğru her türlü balıkçılık faaliyetleri yasaktır. / The area is closed to all kinds of fishing activities except for amateur fishing activities with fishing tackle from the shore.

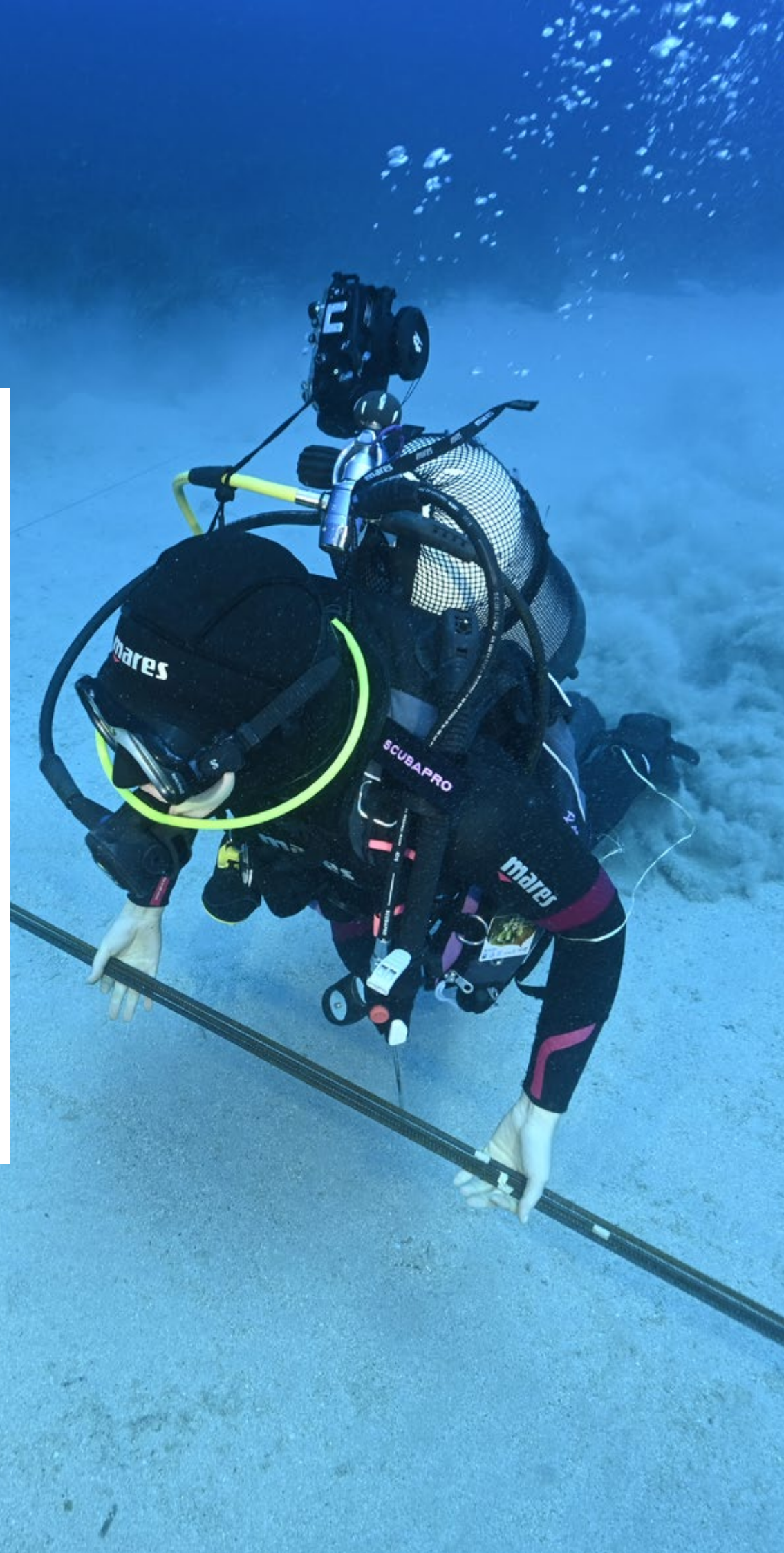
LİNGİT KOYU In the south area of the line that connects the coordinates (D° 36.04' N - 28° 5.71' E), (D° 36.05' N - 28° 5.52' E) koordinat noktaları bağlayan hatın güneyinde kalan alan.

GÖKOVA
Özel Çevre Koruma Bölgesi
GÖKOVA SPECIAL ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTED AREA



MONITORING THE IMPACT OF THE CLIMATE CRISIS ON THE MEDITERRANEAN

Climate change has numerous impacts including an increase in sea surface water temperatures, decrease of ice masses in the poles, decrease in sea surface pH values dissolved oxygen concentrations, and sea-level rise.



Carbon dioxide (CO₂) concentration has increased in the atmosphere with greenhouse gas emissions, leading to global warming of approximately 1.0°C on earth compared to the pre-industrial period (IPCC 2019).

There is a noticeable increase in the adverse effects of the climate crisis, including the acidification of the seas, the decrease in oxygen, changes in water circulation and chemistry, the rise of sea levels, the frequency of storms, and decrease in the diversity and abundance of marine species. Increasing carbon dioxide (CO₂) and other greenhouse gas emissions caused by human activities affect our seas significantly. The deterioration of the coastal and marine ecosystems affects local communities' physical and economic well-being and threatens global food resources.

Sustainable management, protection, and restoration of coastal and marine ecosystems are vital to creating nature-based solutions to combat the climate crisis and support ecosystem services' continued provision. As the Mediterranean Conservation Society, we monitor the effects of the climate crisis on our seas and area users, collect data on the extent and speed of destruction, and share this information with decision-makers and stakeholders who will produce solutions to reduce and stop the adverse effects of degradation.

MEDITERRANEAN SEAGRASS (*Posidonia oceanica*) MAPPING

Posidonia oceanica, lives in salty and clean waters in the Mediterranean, at depths from 0 to 40 meters, and temperatures from 110 – 290 degrees. *Posidonia oceanica*, which takes its name from the mythological sea god POSEIDON, is adversely affected by domestic and industrial wastes leaking into coastal waters, marine transportation, intensive use of coasts, sea bottom dredging methods, over-fishing and aquaculture activities in Turkey as well as in many parts of the Mediterranean. *Posidonia oceanica* are sensitive to the anthropogenic impact and the cited factors have limited its habitat and can lead to a halt in its reproduction.

Seagrass monitoring is a key instrument to measure the condition of the seagrass meadows and the changes the rein. *Posidonia oceanica* is a slow-growing seagrass species; therefore, in case of deterioration in its condition, it is very important to take remedial and protective measures and respond in time. Following the loss of seagrass since the 1980s, there are now monitoring programmes for 31 seagrass species in more than 40 countries. The first step in monitoring is to take inventory of the location and distribution of seagrass; that is, to map and then regularly monitor and measure the changes in its condition. MCS's seagrass monitoring efforts are essential to measure the condition and course of these habitats and to inform conservation and restoration practices of site users and conservation policy makers at the national level.



Studies on the economic value of seagrass reveal that they provide ecosystem services valued at EUR 15,837 per hectare per year (Terrados and Borum, 2004).



Seagrass provides one out of every two breaths we take.



According to a study on *Posidonia oceanica*, Under the worst-case scenario, *Posidonia oceanica* might lose 75% of suitable habitat by 2050 and is at risk of functional extinction by 2100 (Chefaoui et. Al. 2018).



Terrados J., Borum J. (2004). European Seagrasses: An Introduction to Monitoring and Management. "Why are Seagrasses important? – Good and Services provided by seagrass meadows" Ed. J. Borum, CM Duarte, D Krause Jensen and TM Greve Chapter 2 (8-10).

Chefaoui, R.M., Duarte, C.M., Serrão, E.A. (2018) Dramatic loss of seagrass habitat under projected climate change in the Mediterranean Sea. *Global Change Biology* 24(10): 4919-4928.

SEA WATER TEMPERATURE MONITORING

The effects of increasing seawater temperatures and marine acidification on coastal and marine species and ecosystems are already visible. We have been measuring the sea water temperature every 5 meters from the surface to a depth of 40 meters in Gökova Bay since 2015 and in the Fethiye-Göcek and Kaş-Kekova MPAs as of 2020.

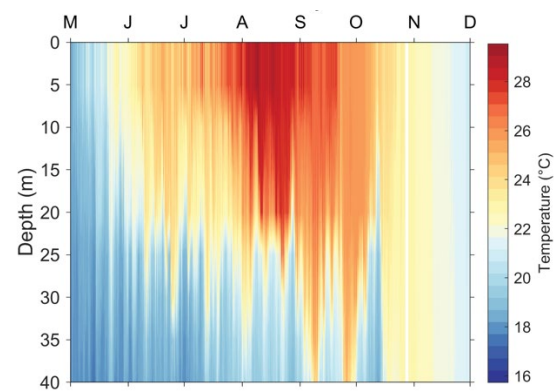
Underwater temperature data loggers are placed near seagrass meadows to take daily temperature records. It is known that the duration and intensity of temperature changes have a strong impact on the *Posidonia oceanica* meadows. We monitor the underwater temperature at three stations in Gökova, Fethiye-Göcek and Kaş-Kekova MPAs and investigate the effects of changing temperature on species' growth, density and distribution.

Our studies have shown that water temperatures are increasing at deeper levels of the sea each year, confirming the tropicalisation of the Mediterranean. This increase leads to the destruction of local habitats, and non-native invasive species are putting increasing pressure on the ecosystem.

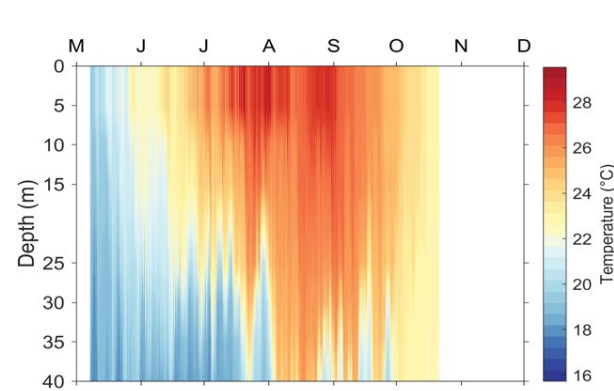
The seawater in the Mediterranean warmed by 1.3°C from 1982 to 2019.

The Mediterranean Sea is not the only region experiencing climate change induced ecosystem change; the Black Sea is becoming Mediterraneanized through the introduction of non-native species and alterations to the food chain. Impacts of this process for the Black Sea will become more evident in the coming years.

GOKOVA – KOREMEN – YEAR 2015



GOKOVA – KOREMEN – YEAR 2021



BLUE CARBON

Coastal ecosystems such as mangroves, salt marshes and seagrass meadows play a vital role in carbon storage and sequestration. These ecosystems are known to trap carbon per unit area more quickly and efficiently than terrestrial forests. When these ecosystems are damaged, destroyed or transformed, an estimated 0.15–1.02 billion tons of CO₂ is released into the atmosphere or ocean each year. This amount corresponds to 19% of global carbon emissions caused by deforestation.

Our monitoring studies on the distribution, coverage, and health of *Posidonia oceanica* (PO), one of the most important carbon reservoirs endemic to the Mediterranean, started with the European Union's Horizon 2020 project in 2016 and continues with the support received from other project grants. Another study that complements and enhances this work is the mapping of *Posidonia Oceanica* habitats with satellite images, within the scope of the Endangered Landscapes Programme (ELP) of 2019. In 2020 MCS started the project with a literature review and compilation of basic data, followed by on-site verification of images for mapping with UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre (WCMC) high-resolution ESA satellite images.

Within the scope of our “1 meter” *Posidonia oceanica* monitoring studies, we took 28 sub-samples representing each layer of the sediment up to 1 m depth on the sea bottom- in the form of 25 ml mud samples, 3 replicates, and 24 core samples were taken with a total of 672 core samples ready for analysis, from 9 stations in Kaş, Göcek, and Gökova in 2021. The samples are used to determine the carbon sequestration rate/amounts in cooperation with Ege University and Bangor University (England). Findings will be shared with decision-makers to establish the necessary protection and management policies for *Posidonia oceanica* and their habitats. This data can also be used in future voluntary carbon credit markets in Turkey.

It is estimated that mangroves around the world protect coasts from flooding and storm disasters, preventing more than \$65 billion in property damage, and reduce the risk of flooding for approximately 15 million people each year. Total ecosystem service benefits are estimated to be between \$462 billion and \$798 billion per year.

According to Turkey's Nationally Determined Contributions announced in 2021, carbon emissions will be reduced by 21% until 2030, and Turkey will reach net zero emissions by 2053.

WILDFIRES

While wildfires are a natural process for the regeneration and continuity of many ecosystems such as Mediterranean maquis and red pine forests, the deepening impacts of the climate crisis, replacement and destruction of habitats and increase in fossil fuel and energy consumption have led to an increase in the scale and occurrence of natural disasters. Fires are just one of these disasters and a threat that is difficult to compensate for all living things and takes a long time to fight. The frequency and severity of fires in Mediterranean maquis and red pine forests, which have a vulnerable ecological structure, and the post-fire practices that are executed by authorities are critical in the recovery of burnt forests.

During the wildfires that started on July 28, 2021, in Marmaris Turkey, as well as in 54 other provinces, Mediterranean Conservation Society supported the fire extinguishing efforts in Marmaris and the surrounding villages with the support of our volunteers and donors. Our regional team supported land and sea evacuation efforts and the follow-up, supply and distribution of basic needs kits at the Marmaris Disaster Coordination Centre. 181,393 hectares of forest land was damaged. The report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) reveals that the Mediterranean will be the centre of climate change in the future and that heat waves, drought and fires may increase in the region. In order to ensure sufficient and timely response to future forest fires, we purchased motor pumps that are used in extinguishing efforts, and made logistical arrangements for these kits to be delivered to fire hotspots on demand.

The 2021 fires destroyed the habitat of many species including the endangered Marmaris salamander. Approximately 25% of the global habitat of this species has already disappeared. Following the forest fires of 2021, Mediterranean Conservation Society started a quick analysis study to determine the impact of the fires to the population of Marmaris salamanders and their habitat. The results of our research are used to support protective measures regarding the impact of environmental disasters on narrowrange species and to increase their resilience by increasing awareness on post-fire practices that are least damaging to the Marmaris salamander.

The habitat of the Marmaris salamander (*Lyciasalamandra flavimembris*) could shrink by 9% in 2050 and 62% in 2070. However, with the 2021 wildfires that burned 65 thousand hectares of forestland in Muğla, approximately 25% of the species' habitat was destroyed.

For the habitat of the Marmaris salamander, the detrimental effects of climate change and resulting habitat shrink that was projected to occur in the next 50 years, was experienced in only two weeks.



ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION

It is estimated that the restoration of 350 hectares of damaged terrestrial and aquatic areas between 2021 and 2030 will have a contribution of \$9 trillion in ecosystem services.



According to the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), ecosystem restoration can be defined as restoring deteriorated or destroyed ecosystems and protecting ecosystems that are still intact. Ecosystem restoration is a concept grounded in establishing and protecting healthier ecosystems with rich biodiversity. The issue of ecological restoration has become increasingly important and widespread with intensifying destruction and deterioration of ecosystems. The United Nations declared 2021– 2030 as the decade of ecosystem restoration:

#GenerationRestoration

While restoring ecosystems degraded by climate change and human impact through restoration works, we consider the socio-economic status of the communities that benefit from these ecosystems, and we care about providing a holistic benefit.

INVASIVE ALIEN MARINE SPECIES

The Mediterranean Sea is the largest of the semi-enclosed European seas and one of the main reservoirs of biodiversity in the world with its marine species. Due to its location, the Mediterranean Sea is one of the hotspots of global change and is to the impacts of climate change.

More than 700 non-native marine plant and animal species have been recorded to date in the Mediterranean. Most of them have the edge on warmer temperatures. Approximately half of the recorded non-indigenous species in the Mediterranean have travelled following the opening of the Suez Canal. The Eastern Mediterranean experiences the most severe environmental impact from non-native, Lessepsian species. In the coming decades, tropical alien species are expected to achieve favourable environmental conditions to colonize the entire Mediterranean, expanding the ecological consequences already observed in some parts of the Mediterranean. Invasive species rapidly adapt to their new ecosystems, putting pressure on native species, some habitats and thus on fisheries.

Small-scale fisheries are a traditional livelihood in Gökova, Kaş-Kekova, Fethiye-Göcek, and Datça-Bozburun Special Environmental Protection Areas (SEPA). While the significant reduction in stocks of native species experienced over the past two decades has been largely due to illegal and overfishing, the increasing competition and threat of habitat shrinkage brought by invasive species over the past decade is a new added threat for small-scale fisheries.

Conservation Society aimed to increase the economic value of edible invasive species such as pintail coral (*Nemipterus randalli*), brushteeth lizardfish (*Saurida undosquamis*), marbled and dusky spinefoot (*Siganus rivulatus/luridus*), goldband goatfish (*Upeneus moluccensis*), lionfish (*Pterois miles/volitans*), soldier fish (*Sargocentron rubrum*), flute fish (*Fistularia commersoni*), and striped red mullet (*Parupeneus forsskali*), thus reducing the pressure on habitats while increasing the income and thus the socioeconomic standards of communities that make a living from small-scale fisheries. We've also introduced to the market edible invasive species like the long-spined sea urchin (*Diadema cetosum*) which is tasty and rich in nutritional value, aiming to reduce the pressure on algal habitats.

We started our project in Kaş in 2020 when a study was carried out by the Directorate of Mediterranean Fisheries Research, Production and Training Institute and the Kaş District Fisheries Branch Directorate, indicating that lionfish was beginning to be recognized as an edible invasive species and some restaurants were serving it on their menu. We aimed to increase the scope of the study and to broaden the number of invasive species that are targeted for consumption.

We have established an enterprise whose main objective is to increase the value and consumption of edible invasive marine species, thus ecosystem restoration, and to improve the economic situation of small-scale fisheries, with all profits to be used for conservation work.

To encourage fishers to target lionfish and to ensure that it is available for purchase by restaurants, we invested in a cold chain system which would enable us to buy and store fish and sell to restaurants on demand. We also worked on the improvement of infrastructure in fisheries cooperatives in the coastline from Bozburun to Kaş. Much of the supply at the beginning of the project was provided to chefs and restaurants for free to introduce the species and to encourage incorporation into menus. We also shot promotional films and organised tasting events to raise consumer awareness. Approximately 97% of all invasive species MCS enterprise bought from fishers and cooperatives in 2021 was lionfish. Today, there are twelve restaurants that are regular customers of the enterprise and serve lionfish to guests with creative and delicious recipes.



- New marine species that travelled from the Red Sea to the Mediterranean were named as Lessepsian species in 1970 by Dov Por after the French diplomat and engineer Ferdinand de Lesseps, who made great efforts in the construction of the Suez Canal.
- Within the scope of our programme, we sold 48 kilograms of lionfish in 2020 and 460 kilograms in 2021 in the Kaş region.
- The per kilo price of lionfish, which was TRY 5, increased to TRY 40 during this period.

MARINE CLEAN-UP & COLLECTION OF GHOST NETS

The passive fishing period of ghost nets is between 2-8 years, depending on the material of the fishing gear, the depth, the geographical structure of the sea bottom and hydrodynamic factors.

One of the biggest threats to marine ecosystems is marine litter. While plastic litter, which makes up a large part of marine litter, spreads rapidly due to currents, it can remain undissolved for a long time due to its structure. Marine litter threatens both sea creatures and human health, can be of land origin, as well as from maritime, fishing and tourism activities. Fishing gear that is lost or deliberately left underwater can threaten habitats such as seagrass meadows and coral reefs by covering the marine habitat and reducing light and oxygen permeability. Discarded fishing gear and other fishing equipment do not dissolve in nature and are called "ghost nets", as they continue to hunt passively, while also causing microplastic pollution. Mediterranean Conservation Society has been undertaking the removal, recycling and/or disposal of solid wastes from the sea in Gökova since its foundation 2012, and in Kaş-Kekova and Fethiye-Göcek Special Environmental Protection Areas for the past two years.

We carried out marine clean-ups through a total of 1698 dives in 172 days in 2020-2021 in Gökova, Göcek and Kaş.



ENDANGERED SPECIES OF THE MEDITERRANEAN



MEDITERRANEAN MONK SEAL (*Monachus monachus*)

The Mediterranean monk seal (*Monachus monachus*) is endemic to the Mediterranean and is globally listed as “Endangered (EN)” and in the Mediterranean as Critically Endangered (CR) by the International Union for Conservation of Nature’s (IUCN) Red List. It is estimated that there are around 600–700 individuals of Mediterranean monk seals in the world, 100 of which are known to live on the coasts of Turkey. Every single individual is critical for the survival of the species. The Mediterranean Conservation Society carries out various activities to mitigate the threats faced by this rare species, works in cooperation with the authorities for the protection of the species and its habitat, and actively continues monitoring and awareness-raising activities on the importance of the species.

Threats to the Mediterranean monk seal include habitat destruction, intervention in coastal caves, accidental entanglement with fishing gear, intentional killing, epidemics, illegal and over-fishing, and marine pollution. Human interventions into coastal caves which can be in the form of tourist boats coming near caves, underwater cave diving, and construction close to the caves, may cause the Mediterranean monk seal to abandon the limited living spaces they found, and even to leave behind baby monk seals.

Monitoring studies are carried out to determine the time of the year, how often and which coastal caves are used by the Mediterranean monk seal for breeding and resting, while also working on the identification of individuals. Through the monitoring studies it is also possible to determine where and how often the species is exposed to possible dangers in the caves and how they are affected and to plan conservation activities for the species.

With time, we plan to convert all cam traps to solar powered 24/7 cameras to minimize interference into caves.

The Mediterranean monk seal monitoring and conservation studies on the coastline from Gökova Bay to Kaş is supported by the Endangered Landscapes Programme (ELP) between 2019–2024.

The cave that MCS rehabilitated in 2019 was used for the first time by a Mediterranean monk seal on March 24, 2020!

In 2019, MCS created an artificial dry platform for Mediterranean monk seals to use, a first example of its kind in the world, and 8 months after the platform was built, a Mediterranean monk seal started to use it.

The project was managed under the coordination of the Ministry of Environment, Urbanisation and Climate Change, General Directorate for Protection of Natural Assets, in cooperation with the Muğla Governorship Provincial Directorate of Environment, Urbanisation and Climate Change, and with the support of The Prince Bernhard Nature Fund, and Fauna Flora International (FFI).

Mediterranean monk seal Umut (“Hope”) was born!

One of the happiest news of 2021 for us was the birth of a Mediterranean monk seal in one of the coastal caves in the South Aegean which we monitor with a trap cam. We witnessed the growth of the Mediterranean monk seal pup, and our social media followers voted to name the pup Umut (‘Hope’). Each new individual of this endangered species raises hopes for the survival of the Mediterranean monk seal and the conservation benefits of MPAs.



SANDBAR SHARK (*Carcharhinus plumbeus*)

Sandbar shark (*Carcharhinus plumbeus*) is among the largest coastal shark species in the world. It is known to reach one and a half meters and to live on average twenty-three years. The sandbar shark is also a mild-mannered species, and there is no record of any attacks on humans. Although the sandbar sharks have a long life, due to hunting pressure and low fertility rates, the population is categorized as “Vulnerable (VU)” globally, and “Endangered (EN)” in the Mediterranean Basin in the International Union for Conservation of Nature’s (IUCN) Red List.

One of the most important known breeding spots for the sandbar shark in the Mediterranean Basin is Boncuk Bay, located in the Gökova Special Environmental Protection Area (SEPA). Although hunting of sandbar sharks is illegal in Turkey, it is by-caught in fishing gear and discarded as a non-target species. To protect the sandbar shark, Boncuk Bay was designated one of six “No Take Zones” in Gökova Bay in 2010.

According to previous research and the monitoring studies carried out by the Mediterranean Conservation Society since 2013, sandbar sharks use Boncuk Bay mostly in spring and summer months. While MCS has extensive data on how often sharks use Boncuk Bay, data on the number of individuals and their identification requires further research and assessment. For this reason, in 2021, MCS started a monitoring study under the coordination of the Ministry of Environment, Urbanisation and Climate Change of the Republic of Turkey, General Directorate for Protection of Natural Assets.

Within the scope of this study, we aimed to supplement the monitoring studies carried out by MCS for sandbar sharks in Boncuk Bay with GoPro and snorkel observations, to produce information using new models and thus to protect the species more effectively. We designed the study as an integration of on-site monitoring, underwater and surface full-time cameras, and observations made with the help of drones.

We completed the installation of the underwater camera system in May 2021 and recorded 7 months of footage until the end of 2021 with an average 14 hours of recording per day in daylight hours. Due to the uniqueness of the area in terms of its use by species, in addition to full-time cameras, we made observations throughout the spring and summer months with the help of in-situ snorkelers to determine the sex, size and identifying marks on the skin surfaces of the observed species.

Through our monitoring studies, we continued to measure sea water temperature at different depths to examine effects of climate change and the warming of sea water temperature on the species. MCS’s Marine Ranger System and patrols in Boncuk Bay sustained their effectiveness throughout the year, ensuring timely interventions were made in circumstances where there was illegal boating or fishing activity in the bay by going to the site and making reports to the relevant Government institutions.



In September 2021, a group of seven sandbar sharks were seen through our underwater camera in Boncuk Bay!

In September 2021, we captured a group of seven sandbar sharks through our underwater cameras – not once, but twice! Through our assessment of the underwater footage, we were able to determine that one of the sharks in the group was a juvenile individual shorter than 1 meter in length, a promising finding for the breeding activity of the individual in and around Boncuk Bay.



MARMARIS SALAMANDER (*Lyciasalamandra flavimembris*)

Marmaris salamander (*Lyciasalamandra flavimembris*), one of the seven Lycian salamander species in the world, is an important part of the Mediterranean ecosystem and inhabits a small area around Muğla, Turkey. The Marmaris salamander is categorised as “Endangered (EN)” in the International Union for Conservation of Nature’s (IUCN) Red List, and its population is determined as declining.

Irregular precipitation and temperature changes caused by climate change, wildfires, habitat loss, highways dividing the habitat, collection of the salamanders are the main threats to the population of Marmaris salamander. Waste left in nature after picnics and camping, rubble dumps, domestic wastes, fertilizers and chemicals used in agriculture also have a negative impact on the species and its habitat.

In 2020–2021, with the support of the Rufford Foundation’s Rufford Small Grants for Nature Conservation programme, we continued our research on the population structure and dynamics (reproductive phenology, population size, and density) of the Marmaris salamander, its distribution in the limited habitat, and threats to its survival. The results of our study were used as a scientific resource in the species action plan and the nature management plan of Muğla region. We also conducted awareness-raising activities with multiple interest and age groups to improve understanding of the Marmaris salamander at the local level.

A rapid population assessment of the Marmaris Salamander was made in areas affected by the 2021 summer wildfires in Southeastern Turkey.

According to the findings of the Marmaris salamander habitat modelling study, which was jointly carried out by the Mediterranean Conservation Society and Ege University and published in 2020, the population of the species is expected to shrink by 9% in 2050, and 62% by 2070.

During the 2021 wildfires in Southeastern Turkey, 65 thousand hectares of forest burned in Muğla, 7050 hectares (about 10%) of this was in the Muğla Special Environmental Protection Area. As a result of the wildfires, nearly 25% of Marmaris salamanders’ remaining habitat was destroyed.

As a species, the Marmaris salamander spends the summer months sleeping underground and resurfaces in winter months when precipitation increases. Following the wildfires, salamanders woke up to a completely changed habitat in November 2021.

We initiated a rapid population assessment study at the end of 2021 to determine the impact of the wildfires on the remaining population of salamanders, carrying out research in areas exposed to the wildfires and areas that were unburned. The nutrient-containing layer of the soil in the areas where forest fires occur provides a moist cover for salamanders to spend this winter, while also providing the germination of seeds of plant species representing forest and scrub habitats, and therefore, ploughing the soil in these areas immediately after the fire has the potential to increase the severity of the danger for salamanders. We have tried to share with the relevant institutions and organisations and our followers on social media that in order for salamanders to overcome the effects of forest fire with minimal damage, the forest should renew itself within the natural cycle.

TRAINING



YOUNG FISHERS EXPERIENCE SHARING MEETING

The average age of small-scale coastal fishers in Turkey is increasing. The number of people who prefer fishing professionally is decreasing due to reasons such as increasing costs of the occupation and decrease in the abundance of fish in the sea. Mediterranean Conservation Society, with Prof. Dr Vahdet Ünal from Ege University Faculty of Fisheries conducted research in 2021 on the socio-economic structure of small-scale fisheries. According to the research findings, 18.8% of fishers in Kaş-Kalkan Special Environmental Protection Area (SEPA) and 2.1% of fishers in Fethiye-Göcek SEPA are under 30 years old.

We organized the Young Fishers Experience Sharing Meeting to talk to young fishers of Kaş, Kalkan, Akbük and Akyaka regions about the future of the fishing occupation and sustainable fishing in MPAs. In the two-day meeting, experts and fishers discussed and exchanged information on the future of the fishing profession, how to keep daily catch data, fishing tourism, the climate crisis and its impact on fishing, as well as the impact of invasive species in the Mediterranean.

Public institutions and cooperatives operating in the region, as well as academics from universities working in the field participated in the Young Fishers Experience Sharing Meeting. The meeting was an important opportunity for young fishers of different age groups to engage in communal thinking and action for sustainable fishing.

Small Scale Fishers in the Mediterranean are Getting Older!

The average age of fishers is increasing; the average age in Gökova is 51, Datça-Bozburun 49, Fethiye, Göcek, Kaş-Kekova 46. Sustainable fishing practices are carried out for the protection of smallscale fisheries.



ECOLOGICAL HERITAGE TRAINING

Within the scope of the Phoenix Archeology Project carried out in Taşlıca, whose ancient name is Phoenix, we conducted an ecological heritage training for primary school students with Marmaris District Directorate of National Education. The training was delivered in Söğüt Vacide Tugay Primary School with the participation of 100 students of 8-12 years of age. We conducted interactive activities on the nature of Taşlıca and the Bozburun Peninsula, as well as the Mediterranean Monk Seal. One of our colleagues who was dressed in a Mediterranean monk seal costume became the centre of attention.

The Phoenix Archaeology Project, which Mediterranean Conservation Society supports, is being carried out in and around the ancient city of Phoenix, located in Taşlıca and Söğüt villages in Muğla, Marmaris. The main purpose of the project is to document the tangible and intangible cultural heritage in the southwest of Bozburun Peninsula, showcase findings and data to the scientific world, and to contribute to the protection of cultural assets.



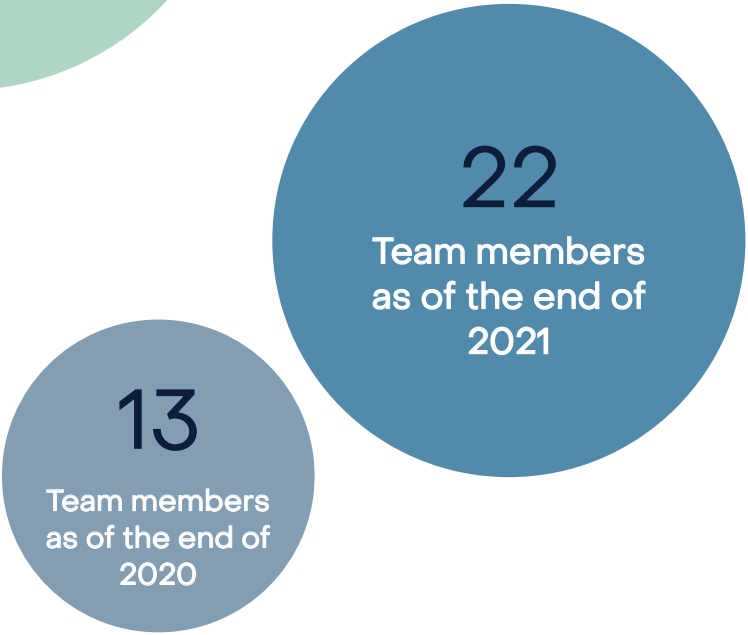
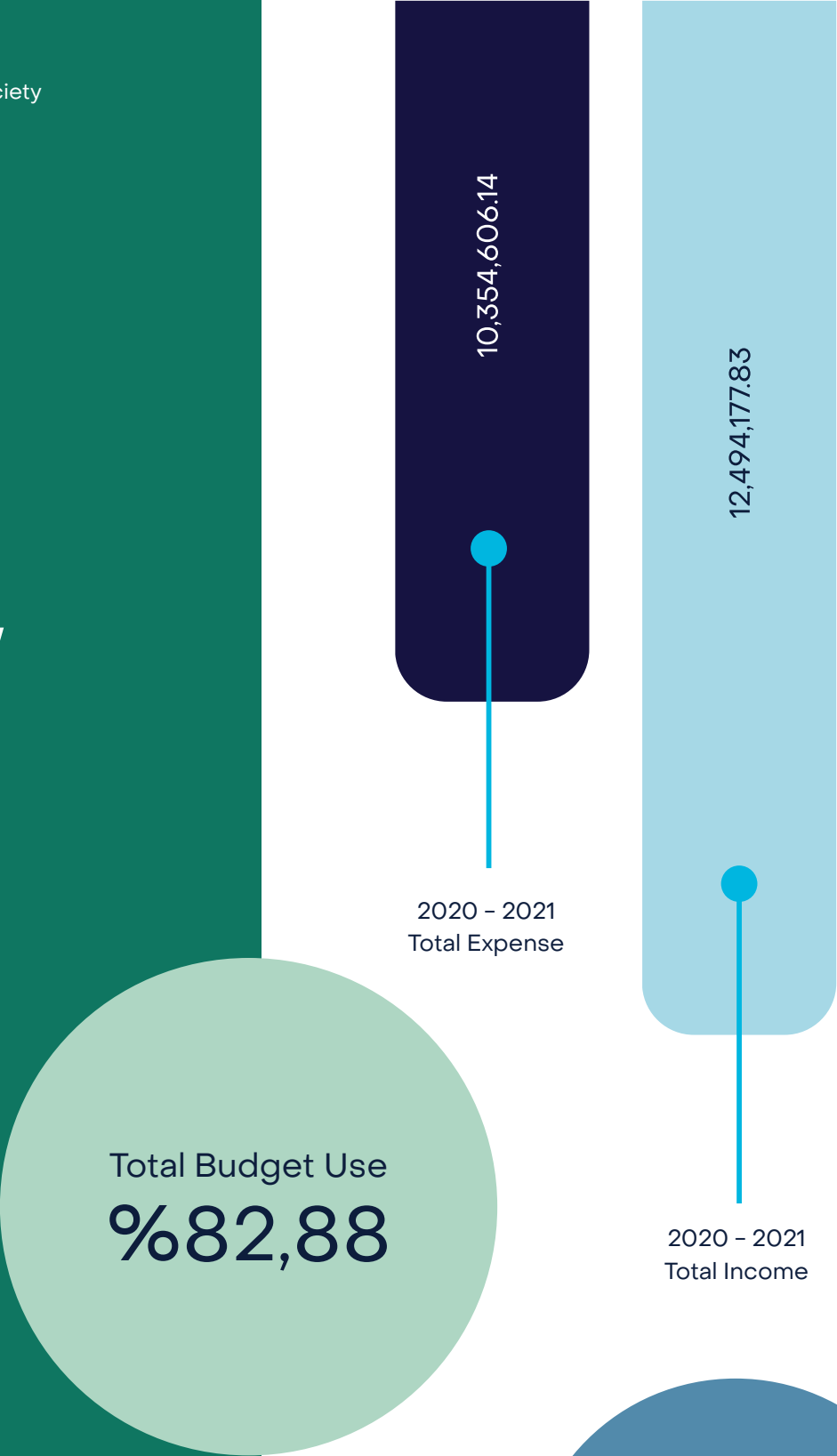
SEABED CLEANING TRAINING IN ADANA KARATAŞ MUNICIPALITY

Following the monitoring studies carried out in Gökova Bay, we started the coastal biodiversity monitoring study, which was conducted for the first time in the Adana Karataş region with Karataş Municipality and Dokuz Eylül Institute of Marine Science and Technology. Before the monitoring study, we held a meeting with local institutions and relevant stakeholders for the monitoring and conservation of Karataş coast and discussed the scope and importance of the study. The monitoring study reveals the biodiversity of the area, determines changes experienced due to the climate crisis, and establishes a baseline for appropriate interventions. We also organised theoretical and practical training on how to clean ghost nets from the seabed, and Mr Necip Topuz, Mayor of Karataş Municipality, also participated in these activities.

PUBLICATIONS

Scientific Title of the Publication	Turkish Title of the Publication	Authors	Publishers	Date & Loc.
The MPA Guide: A framework to achieve global goals for the ocean	Deniz Koruma Alanları (DKA) Kılavuzu: Okyanus için küresel hedeflere ulaşma kılavuzu	Kızılkaya, Z.	Science 373	USA, 2021
Assessing population status and conservation of endangered Marmaris salamander, <i>Lycisalamandra flavimembris</i> (Mutz and Steinfartz, 1995), in Southwestern Turkey	Güneybatı Türkiye’de nesli tükenmekte olan Marmaris semenderi, <i>Lycisalamandra flavimembris</i> ’in (Mutz ve Steinfartz, 1995) popülasyon durumunun değerlendirilmesi ve korunması	Arslan, D., Yaşar, Ç., İzgin, A., Çiçek, K.	Herpetology Notes	Turkey, 2020
Mass Mortality Of The Fan Mussel, <i>Pinna nobilis</i> in Turkey (Eastern Mediterranean)	Türkiye’de Fan Midyesi, <i>Pinna Nobilis</i> ’in Toplu Ölüm Oranı (Doğu Akdeniz)	Öndes, F., Alan V., Akçalı B., Güçlüsoy H.	Marine Ecology	Turkey, 2020
Descriptive Capability of Datasets as Proxy of Sea Water Temperature in Coastal Systems: An Evaluation from the Aegean Sea	Veri kümelerinin kıyı sistemlerinde deniz suyu sıcaklığının tanımlanmasında tanımlayıcı yeteneği: Ege Denizi’nden Bir Değerlendirme	Bengil, F., Mavruk, S., Kızılkaya, Z., Bengil, E.G.T., Alan, V., Kızılkaya, I.T.	Turkish Journal of Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences, 21	Turkey, 2021
The distribution and biogeography of amphibians and reptiles in Turkey	Amfibiyan ve sürüngenlerin Türkiye’deki dağılımı ve biyocoğrafyası	Yaşar, Ç., Çiçek, K., Mulder, J., Tok, C.	North-Western Journal of Zoology	Turkey, 2021

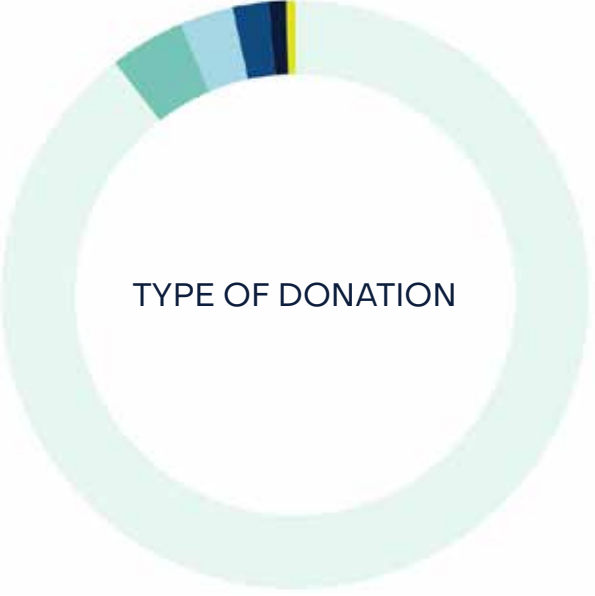
FINANCIAL OVERVIEW



Human Resources ₺ 4.029.104,83 %38,91	Equipment Supply Maintenance & Repair ₺ 3.506.133,42 %33,86
Management Costs ₺ 379.467,91 %3,66	Field & Training Activities ₺ 2.097.364,19 %20,26
Awareness Raising Activities ₺ 342.535,78 %3,31	



Gökova SEPA ₺ 3.873.545,9 %37,41	Fethiye – Göcek SEPA ₺ 1.895.735,48 %18,31
Datça – Bozburun SEPA ₺ 1.293.092,42 %12,49	Kaş – Kekova SEPA ₺ 1.845.757,73 %17,83
Bornova Head Office ₺ 1.133.423,37 %10,95	Foça SEPA ₺ 313.051,22 %3,02



Project Income ₺ 11.399.331,27 %91,24	Wildfire Relief Donation ₺ 526.464,04 4,21
Commercial Donation ₺ 122.673,40 %0,98	Individual Donation ₺ 404.906,22 %3,24
Other ₺ 31.682,90 %0,25	Membership Fee ₺ 9.120,00 %0,07

THANK YOU

TRUSTS & FOUNDATIONS

- Fauna & Flora International
- Blue Marine Foundation
- Endangered Landscapes Programme
- MedFund
- Sigrid Rausing Trust
- Rufford Small Grants Programme
- GEF Small Grants Programme
- The Prince Bernhard Nature Fund
- Marine Ecosystem Restoration in Changing European Seas – MERCES
- Regional Activity Centre for Specially Protected Areas (SPA/RAC)

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WHO WE WORK WITH



MINISTRIES & AFFILIATED INSTITUTIONS

Republic of Turkey Ministry of Environment, Urbanisation and Climate Change

Republic of Turkey Ministry of Interior Coast Guard and Gendarmerie Command

Republic of Turkey Ministry of Culture and Tourism
Republic of Turkey Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry

Republic of Turkey Ministry of Environment, Urbanisation and Climate Change, General Directorate for Protection of Natural Assets

Republic of Turkey Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry
Mediterranean Fisheries Research, Production and Training Institute

Republic of Turkey Ministry of National Education Muğla Provincial Directorate of National Education

Republic of Turkey Governorate of Muğla

Republic of Turkey District Governorate of Marmaris

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Republic of Turkey District Governorate of Foça

Ege University

Dokuz Eylül University

MUNICIPALITIES

Muğla Metropolitan Municipality

İzmir Metropolitan Municipality

Ula Municipality

Fethiye Municipality

Marmaris Municipality

Kaş Municipality

Menteşe Municipality

Karataş Municipality

COOPERATIVES

Akbük Fisheries Cooperative

Akyaka Fisheries Cooperative

Akçapınar Fisheries Cooperative

Bozburun Fisheries Cooperative

Fethiye Çalış Fisheries Cooperative

Göcek Fisheries Cooperative

Datça Fisheries Cooperative

Demre Fisheries Cooperative

Karaköy Fisheries Cooperative

Kalkan Fisheries Cooperative

Marmaris Fisheries Cooperative

Palamutbükü Fisheries Cooperative



Bozburun fisherwoman Memduha Dinç returns from fishing with her boat in the evening.
Photograph: Zafer Ali Kızılkaya



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