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6 **Linking home ranges to protected area size: the case study of the Mediterranean Sea**

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43

44 **Abstract**

45 Protected areas not allowing extractive activities (here called fully protected area) are a
46 spatially explicit conservation management tool commonly used to ensure populations
47 persistence. This is achieved when an adequate fraction of a species' population spends most
48 of its time within the boundaries of the protected area. Within a marine context, home ranges
49 represent a tractable metric to provide guidance and evaluation of fully protected areas. We
50 compiled peer-reviewed literature specific to the home ranges of finfishes and invertebrates
51 of ecological and/or commercial importance in the Mediterranean Sea and related this to the
52 size of 184 Mediterranean fully protected areas. We also investigated the influence of fully
53 protected areas size on fish density in contrast to fished areas with respect to home ranges.
54 Home range estimations were available for 11 species (10 fishes and 1 lobster). The
55 European spiny lobster *Palinurus elephas* had the smallest home range ($0.0039 \pm 0.0014 \text{ km}^2$;
56 $\text{mean} \pm 1 \text{ SE}$), while the painted comber *Serranus scriba* ($1.1075 \pm 0.2040 \text{ km}^2$) had the largest.
57 Approximately 25% of Mediterranean fully protected areas are larger than 2 times the size of
58 the largest home range recorded. Fish densities were significantly higher when fully protected
59 areas were larger than the home range, while no change in density occurred when home
60 ranges were larger than fully protected areas. These results display a direct link between the
61 effectiveness of fully protected areas and species' home range, suggesting that fully
62 protected areas of at least 3.6 km^2 may increase the density of local populations of coastal
63 marine species.

64

65

66 **Keywords:** fully protected areas, marine protected areas (MPA), marine protected area
67 design, fish, coastal species, marine protected area size

68

69 **1. Introduction**

70 In an effort to reach the Aichi Target 11 of the Convention on Biological Diversity to
71 effectively protect 10% of the ocean by implementing management measures by 2020,
72 several countries have established very large (>30,000 km²) marine protected areas
73 (Singleton & Roberts 2014). Marine protected areas are places in the sea designed to protect
74 marine species and ecosystems, while sometimes allowing for sustainable uses of marine
75 resources within their boundaries (Pisco & UNS, 2016). Since 2006, the percentage of marine
76 protected area designations has increased dramatically in the Pacific Ocean due to initiatives
77 by small island countries (e.g. Kiribati, Cook Islands) or nations with territories in the area
78 (e.g. USA, France, the UK) that take advantage of protecting remote areas with relatively
79 little human dependency (Wilhelm *et al.*, 2014). Very large marine protected areas contribute
80 significantly to conserving many aspects of natural marine systems that cannot be protected
81 with small marine protected areas (e.g. wide ranging species, all habitats used during the
82 entire life cycle of marine species including larval dispersing stages) (Wilhelm *et al.*, 2014).
83 In areas far from population centres and markets, strict conservation objectives can prevail.
84 However, in more densely populated areas where conflicting marine resource uses are at
85 stake, conservation benefits must trade-off with fisheries objectives and other human uses,
86 thus, establishing very large marine protected areas can be extremely challenging.

87 Marine protected areas can be multiple use areas containing a fully protected area (also called
88 no-take zone), where all extractive activities are forbidden, and one or more types of partially
89 protected areas, where a range of extractive uses are allowed. Fully protected areas are the
90 most effective type of marine protected areas for protecting ecological systems (Sala and
91 Giakoumi 2017, Giakoumi *et al.*, 2017) in which increased abundance, biomass, diversity,
92 body size, and reproductive output of species have been observed within their borders
93 (Claudet *et al.*, 2008; Sala *et al.*, 2012), which can also provide benefits to the surrounding,

94 fished areas (Green *et al.*, 2015; Di Lorenzo *et al.*, 2016). The movement from inside to
95 outside the fully protected area occurs when the density of species inside a fully protected
96 area increase towards the carrying capacity and organisms spillover via density-dependent
97 diffusion (Kellner *et al.*, 2007). However, there is contrasting evidence concerning the effect
98 of habitat continuity on spillover. Some studies suggest that spillover of certain species can
99 be facilitated by suitable habitat outside the fully protected area (e.g. Forcada *et al.*, 2009),
100 while a recent review demonstrated that fish also cross unsuitable habitats when competition
101 pressure is strong (Di Lorenzo *et al.*, 2016). To effectively reduce fishing-related mortality,
102 the entire home range of individuals must be located within a fully protected area (Kramer &
103 Champman 1999). We define home range as the area in which an individual spends 95% of
104 its time and engages in routine activities, such as foraging and resting; this generally does not
105 include ontogenetic changes in habitat or reproductive migrations (Green *et al.*, 2015).

106 Home range is considered a tractable metric to inform the implementation and configuration
107 of effective marine protected areas or networks of marine protected areas (Kramer &
108 Champman 1999; Green *et al.*, 2015). Moreover, it is also a practical measurement to
109 determine the adequacy of a marine protected area and it is an intelligible metric to
110 communicate to stakeholders (Weeks *et al.*, 2016). Information on the home range of marine
111 organisms, and how this varies within (e.g. related to ontogenetic phases and individual size)
112 and among species and with changes in environmental factors (e.g. density, disturbances,
113 habitat composition) is therefore pivotal to designing effective fully protected areas (Green *et*
114 *al.*, 2015). Since home range sizes can vary dramatically across species, the multispecies
115 impacts of fully protected area designs will depend upon the range of biological
116 characteristics of target species. It is difficult to determine the adequacy of fully protected
117 areas for protecting local populations of marine species across their home ranges because the

118 available literature lacks syntheses that associate home ranges and fully protected area sizes
119 (but see McCauley *et al.*, 2015 and Weeks *et al.*, 2016).

120 To better understand the relationship between fully protected area size and species home
121 ranges we synthesised the available data from the Mediterranean Sea as a case study. The
122 Mediterranean Sea is a densely populated coastal area and is one of the most exploited seas
123 worldwide (Micheli *et al.*, 2013a). High coastal population densities, industrialisation,
124 maritime traffic, and tourism-based economies, along with a marine area that is partitioned
125 among many differing countries/regions, are only a few of the challenges that can prevent
126 implementation of large-scale conservation plans for Mediterranean countries and territories.
127 This has resulted in many Mediterranean marine protected areas that are quite small.
128 Although well-enforced small Mediterranean marine protected areas are effective at local
129 scales (Giakoumi *et al.*, 2017), these may be unable to protect adequate proportions of
130 species populations at a regional scale (Guilhaumon *et al.*, 2015). Here we focus on the home
131 range of coastal marine species of the Mediterranean Sea. It should be noted that depending
132 on the source, “full protection” can have different definitions (e.g. no access, no extraction,
133 etc.). However, for our purposes we use the term fully protected area for sites where no
134 removal of biota as a minimum requirement (*sensu* Horta e Costa *et al.*, 2016).

135 The aims of this paper are to: 1) collate all available information on the home ranges of
136 Mediterranean marine species to explore the relationship between body size and home range
137 and identify evidence of overlapping home ranges; 2) evaluate current Mediterranean fully
138 protected area sizes relative to the distribution of home ranges; 3) investigate the influence of
139 fully protected area size on increased density of individuals of the species of interest in fully
140 protected areas compared to fished areas with respect to home range size, and 4) provide
141 information about benefits to local populations based on the size of Mediterranean fully

142 protected areas. Although our focus is the Mediterranean Sea, the findings of this study may
143 have implications for other regional seas.

144

145 **2. Methods**

146 **2.1. Data collection, handling, and analyses**

147 We conducted a comprehensive survey of the peer-reviewed literature to compile data on the
148 home ranges of finfishes and invertebrates from the Mediterranean Sea (see Appendix A for
149 details on search procedure). Studies had to utilise satellite, radio, or acoustic telemetry,
150 because they are the most reliable methods to obtain home range size estimations (Green *et*
151 *al.*, 2015). Species with large home ranges and individually legislated protection (i.e.
152 cetaceans, sea turtles) were not included because these home ranges sizes are not feasibly
153 encompassed by fully protected areas. A total of 15 studies met our criteria (Table 1).

154 We compiled information on movements of individuals as well as the study area (e.g.
155 presence/absence of a marine protected area and protection level; See Table A.2 in
156 Supporting Information). To provide home range estimates at the species level, the values for
157 all individuals within a species were averaged (as in McCauley *et al.*, 2015). Individuals
158 included in our dataset were those that provided reliable estimates of home ranges and were
159 retained in each primary study based on specific quality control criteria defined by the those
160 authors (see Table A1). Across all studies, approximately 22% (55 out 245) of monitored
161 individuals were discarded by the primary authors (Table A1). Due to high variability in
162 tracking time among the retained individuals (see Results and Table A1), we performed
163 sensitivity analyses to determine whether tracking time affected home range estimations and
164 if there was evidence of a threshold in tracking time below which home range estimates
165 should be discarded due to high variability and therefore unreliable (see Appendix A and Fig

166 A1). Variability in home range estimates were not related to tracking time (Appendix A).
167 Therefore all the individuals retained by the primary authors were also included in our dataset
168 and analyses.

169 To test whether home range size varied among species in relation to body size (McCauley *et*
170 *al.*, 2015), we assessed the relationship between the maximum size of a species (extracted
171 from Fishbase with reference to Mediterranean samples) and its mean home range size.

172 Only 76 of the 1,231 marine protected areas designated in the Mediterranean include one or
173 more fully protected areas, with a total of 184 individual fully protected areas (collated from
174 MAPAMED 2016 following the fully protected area definition provided by Horta e Costa *et*
175 *al.* 2016). To investigate the influence of fully protected area size on fish densities compared
176 to external unprotected areas, we used data compiled by Giakoumi *et al.*, (2017) and a
177 weighted meta-analytical approach for each of the 11 species (see Appendix A for details on
178 analytic procedure). The effect size for each study was estimated by using the log-response
179 ratio, $\ln (X_T / X_c)$, where X_T and X_c are the mean values of density inside (treatment site) and
180 outside the fully protected area (control site), respectively. Density was selected as opposed
181 to biomass due to the greater availability of studies and data. Only studies from highly
182 enforced fully protected areas, (*sensu* Giakoumi *et al.* 2017) were considered because
183 multiple studies have shown that the increase in density (or biomass) in marine protected
184 areas is strongly linked to enforcement (Guidetti *et al.*, 2008, Edgar *et al.*, 2014, Giakoumi *et*
185 *al.*, 2017). Moreover, it would be impossible to disentangle the effects of inadequate
186 enforcement and ineffective marine protected area size on density in our analyses. The effect
187 sizes for all species were compiled into two groups: a) fully protected areas smaller than
188 species home ranges and b) fully protected areas larger than species home ranges. We used
189 the average estimated home range size for each species (see Results) compares to fully
190 protected area size. This approach could show that fully protected areas larger than the home

191 range size result in a greater density of fishes when compared to fully protected areas that do
192 not encompass the entire home range.

193 Previous studies suggested, as a conservative guideline, that a fully protected area should be
194 at least twice the size of the species' home range to provide significant benefits to a
195 population (Kramer & Chapman 1999; Green *et al.*, 2015). We applied this criterion to
196 conservatively assess the potential for fully protected areas to protect local populations of
197 each species. In fact, if fully protected areas larger than the average home range size of a
198 species lead to significant increase in density (see previous paragraph and Results),
199 implementing fully protected areas at least twice the size of target species' home ranges
200 would further ensure ecological benefits at the local population scale. We calculated the
201 percent of individual fully protected areas greater than twice the size of the largest individual
202 home range assessed for a given species, thus accounting for intra-specific, inter-individual
203 variability in home range estimates (Appendix A). This allowed us to estimate the fraction of
204 current fully protected areas that could provide significant benefits to a particular species.

205

206 **3. Results**

207 Home range estimates were available for 11 species (10 fish and one lobster species) in nine
208 study areas, with a total of 190 monitored individuals (Table A.1). Most of the 15 studies
209 (86%) were conducted in marine protected areas and more than half (53%) contain home
210 range estimates from fully protected areas (Table 1, Table A2). Individuals were monitored
211 for periods ranging from three to 372 days, with an average (± 1 S.E.) and median tracking
212 time of 158(± 8) and 147 days, respectively. More than three-quarters (79%) of individuals
213 were tracked for more than one month and 62% were tracked for more than 100 days (Table
214 A.2). Individual home ranges varied in size between 10s of square meters (i.e. 0.00004 km²,

215 *Epinephelus marginatus* tracked for one year within the fully protected area of Cabo de Palos
216 - Islas Hormigas, Spain) and a few square kilometres (1.874 km², *Sarpa salpa* tracked for 71
217 days in Medes Islands marine protected area and the surrounding fished area, Spain). Of the
218 nine studies that released individuals within fully protected areas, six studies reported that all
219 individuals stayed completely within the fully protected area throughout the study period,
220 ranging from one month to one year (Table A1). A significant positive relationship between
221 fish size and home range size was identified for only one species (*Epinephelus costae*) in one
222 study (Table 1). All studies reported evidence of overlapping home ranges among conspecific
223 individuals.

224 At the species level, the home range of the European spiny lobster *Palinurus elephas* was the
225 smallest (0.0039±0.0014 km²; mean± 1 SE). The painted comber *Serranus scriba*
226 (1.1075±0.2040 km²) had the largest home range and was the only species with a home range
227 > 1 km² (Fig. 1).

228 When considering only the fish species, the relationship between maximum total length and
229 average home range is well described by an exponentially decaying curve (Fig. 2). This
230 relationship is highly significant (F= 31.37, n=10, p= 0.0005) and explains 79% of the
231 variability in home range size.

232 Mediterranean fully protected areas range from 0.01 to 153.94 km², with approximately 50%
233 between 0.01 and 1 km² (Fig. A2). A further 13% of the fully protected areas are between 1
234 and 2 km². Only 8.7% of Mediterranean fully protected areas are larger than 10 km² (Fig.
235 A2).

236 When considering the combined effect of multiple species, we found density was
237 significantly affected by fully protected area size. Fully protected areas larger than the

238 species' home ranges resulted in higher densities of that species (log-response ratio: $E=$
239 0.39 ± 1.01 , 95% CI, $n=7$) (Fig. 3).

240 Combining information about fish home ranges and the size of individual fully protected
241 areas, we found that 24.5% of Mediterranean fully protected areas are larger than two times
242 the largest home range size recorded of the investigated species (that of the salema, *S. salpa*,
243 Table 1) (Fig. 1, Table A3). Approximately 36% of fully protected areas are larger than twice
244 the home range size of most species considered in this analysis (8 out the 11 species, Table
245 A4).

246

247 **4. Discussion**

248 Conservation practices in densely populated and highly used areas such as the Mediterranean
249 Sea are constrained by multiple social, economic, and political considerations. Thus, it is
250 unlikely that fully protected areas will be implemented at sizes large enough to protect
251 individuals and populations of wide ranging species (e.g. sharks, Heupel *et al.*, 2004,
252 carangids, Brown *et al.*, 2010, or turtles, Schofield *et al.*, 2013), or that they will encompass
253 the entire range of ecological requirements (e.g., spawning grounds) of even small-ranging
254 species. These constraints, however, do not preclude marine protected areas from meeting
255 other important conservation goals such as effectively protecting an area that contains most
256 of the ecological requirements of species with smaller home ranges. Although very large
257 marine protected areas protect a wider range of species during their varied life histories, small
258 marine protected areas can lead to positive effects for coastal species with high economic
259 value like those considered in the present study. Here, we found that about one-third of the
260 Mediterranean fully protected areas are large enough to encompass twice the size of the home
261 ranges of most of the 11 studied species (10 finfishes and one lobster), despite the small

262 average size of Mediterranean fully protected areas. The 10 fish species on average (± 1 S.E.)
263 accounted for 31.1(± 0.7)% of species richness and 40(± 2.0)% of total coastal fish biomass in
264 the 13 Mediterranean marine protected areas investigated by Guidetti *et al.*, (2014). The 10
265 fish species in the present study include two high trophic level predators (*E. marginatus* and
266 *E. costae*), two keystone species that feed on sea urchins, a group responsible for the creation
267 of barrens in the Western Mediterranean Sea (*D. sargus* and *D. vulgaris*), and the only two
268 autochthonous herbivorous fishes in the Mediterranean Sea (*S. salpa* and *S. cretense*). In
269 addition, six of the 11 species (*E. marginatus*, *E. costae*, *D. sargus*, *D. vulgaris*, *Sciaena*
270 *umbra*, *Palinurus elephas*) are commercially important across the Mediterranean (Guidetti *et*
271 *al.*, 2014). Despite the existence of tracking studies for only 11 species, they are highly
272 ecologically and economically important when determining the effectiveness of
273 Mediterranean marine protected areas. However, the interpretation of our results could be
274 made more robust by increasing the number of studied species and the number of tracked
275 individuals of each species. Including more species and habitat-specific information both
276 within the fully protected area and the surrounding area would allow for comparative
277 analyses (inside vs. outside marine protected area) both at the level of the individual and the
278 community, further increasing application to assist the design/management of fully protected
279 areas relative to species' movements.

280 Although biodiversity conservation is commonly the objective of marine protected areas and
281 their fully protected areas at the global level (Watson *et al.*, 2014; Sala and Giakoumi 2017),
282 fisheries interests can strongly offset these objectives in densely populated regions such as
283 the Mediterranean Sea. In the Mediterranean, coastal fisheries are mostly small-scale and
284 multispecific (Di Franco *et al.*, 2016), suggesting that optimal fully protected area size should
285 be a compromise between the inclusion of the home ranges of most species and the optimal

286 size for spillover to neighbouring areas (Di Lorenzo *et al.*, 2016), which are often partially
287 protected (Di Franco *et al.*, 2016).

288 Here, we highlight the potential of enforced fully protected areas to produce significant
289 increases in fish densities when the fully protected areas are larger than the average home
290 range sizes of each target species. Conversely, fish abundances did not show any response to
291 protection in highly enforced fully protected areas smaller than the species' home ranges.
292 This, however, does not necessarily transfer to the species level. Protection of a population,
293 or ultimately species, within fully protected areas can only occur when a viable and
294 sustaining proportion of the species' population is protected. Local protection of species can
295 also be achieved through a large network of marine protected areas that protect a significant
296 portion of a population (Guilhaumon *et al.*, 2015; Giakoumi *et al.*, 2017).

297 Among the 11 species studied, *Epinephelus marginatus* and *E. costae* are two of the most
298 important high-level coastal predators because they have important effects on ecosystem
299 functioning (Prato *et al.*, 2013). Globally, high-level predators with large home ranges (>100
300 km²) are primarily sharks (McCauley *et al.*, 2015), which have mostly disappeared along
301 Mediterranean coasts due to overfishing (Sala *et al.*, 2012). The two Mediterranean high-
302 level predators for which home range estimates were available had very small home ranges;
303 these contribute to the negative relationship between species size and home range. This
304 suggests that within small fully protected areas, integral ecological functions mediated by
305 specific large-sized, high-level predators with low mobility may be conserved or recovered.

306 Many of the movements compiled here were performed within the boundaries of effective
307 marine protected areas (Claudet *et al.*, 2008; Guidetti *et al.*, 2014). By protecting populations
308 of exploited species and habitats, marine protected areas also preserve and re-establish
309 species interactions. Provided the age of a well-managed marine protected area is sufficient to

310 allow the complete response of species to protection, some populations within a fully
311 protected area may approach their carrying capacity (García-Rubies *et al.*, 2013). Due to the
312 need to forage further to find resources, fishes associated with fully protected areas may have
313 larger home ranges than those at fished sites. Few studies (all conducted outside the
314 Mediterranean Sea) have concurrently tagged individuals of the same species both inside and
315 outside marine protected areas, and those that did so reported no clear effect due to high
316 variability among individual movements (Parson *et al.*, 2010 and references therein). Despite
317 the lack of within-study comparisons in our dataset, the home ranges of *D. sargus*, *D.*
318 *vulgaris*, and *S. salpa* (the three species for which we had information from both marine
319 protected areas and fished areas) from the fully protected areas were larger than their
320 conspecifics from fished areas. These studies also showed that some individuals from the
321 fully protected areas moved into fished areas, supporting goals to augment fisheries with the
322 implementation of fully protected areas. This evidence supports the concept that within fully
323 protected areas increased density-dependence can drive spillover. However, this cannot be
324 applied generally because specific studies comparing home ranges in protected and
325 unprotected conditions are scarce, and further research is needed to clarify this process.
326 Likewise, information specific to environmental factors (e.g. habitat coverage and spatial
327 distribution, depth; Topping *et al.*, 2005) are needed to determine home range variability
328 between marine protected areas and fished areas.

329 The use of the '2 × home range' criterion within this study is applied from Kramer &
330 Chapman (1999) and Green *et al.*, (2015). These studies and the present one recognise that
331 this value is a minimal threshold. Other information concerning habitat requirements and
332 individual distribution is needed to fully characterise movement of species throughout their
333 life cycle to ensure the protection of individuals and populations (D'Aloia *et al.*, 2017).
334 Although we used the largest home range recorded for a species as a conservative estimate,

335 extreme movements during stages of high vulnerability such as spawning aggregations often
336 occur beyond fully protected area boundaries (Di Lorenzo *et al.*, 2014) and are likely not
337 reflected in these reviewed studies. Furthermore, this study lacks information on the habitat
338 requirements of Mediterranean fishes at different spatial scales, as well as habitat distribution
339 maps beyond marine protected area boundaries. Suitable habitat outside the studied marine
340 protected areas or at greater depths may have impacted home range observations as
341 individuals would have moved more, or less, according to specific requirements. Therefore,
342 when assessing the ability of marine protected areas to afford protection to particular species
343 there is a strong need to assess the habitat requirements of species at every phase of their life
344 cycle, their specific needs during crucial phases (i.e. spawning and nursery areas), and the
345 degree of overlap of individual home ranges. At the same time, extensive habitat mapping
346 efforts and concomitant species distribution and abundance studies are required within and
347 outside marine protected areas to assess habitat discontinuities that impact observed home
348 ranges.

349 Of the 76 Mediterranean marine protected areas that are either fully protected s, or include at
350 least one fully protected area, only 10 were implemented after 2006; the year of the first
351 home range study (Jadot *et al.*, 2006, Tables 1). This suggests that species' home ranges were
352 not considered in the design of the majority (87%) of Mediterranean marine protected areas,
353 even for those where fish/invertebrate protection was a primary conservation goal.

354 Furthermore, existing conservation planning studies identifying priority areas for
355 conservation in the Mediterranean Sea, either at local scales or at the regional scale, have not
356 considered multiple species' home ranges (Micheli *et al.*, 2013b).

357 In summary, we demonstrated that one fourth of Mediterranean fully protected areas are large
358 enough to provide protection to local populations of 11 ecologically and commercially
359 important species (with these species representing a considerable proportion of

360 Mediterranean coastal fish assemblages). However, the strong protection offered by fully
361 protected areas is only ensured by appropriate design and effective enforcement (Guidetti *et*
362 *al.*, 2014). Recent work has shown that small Mediterranean marine protected areas tend to
363 have higher levels of enforcement, underscoring their value as a marine conservation tool in
364 this crowded region (Giakoumi *et al.*, 2017). Mediterranean fully protected areas of at least
365 3.6 km² may have increased density of local populations of the species investigated in the
366 present study.

367 Although the species covered in this study include a relevant set of economically important
368 and targeted species in the Mediterranean (Guidetti *et al.*, 2014), a spatial area of 3.6 km²
369 should be considered a minimal threshold and augmented when new home range data are
370 available, thus ensuring benefits to as many species as possible. The transfer of protection
371 benefits from single populations (inhabiting marine protected areas) to meta-populations and
372 species depends on the aggregate benefits from all protected areas (Grorud-Colvert *et al.*,
373 2014).

374 Even though our analyses, coupled with recent Mediterranean-wide analyses (Giakoumi *et*
375 *al.*, 2017), suggest that many of the small existing marine protected areas are individually
376 providing benefits to the local populations of these 11 species, the overall benefits (i.e. at
377 meta-population and species level) could be small because the total coverage of marine
378 protected areas is cumulatively small. Currently only 0.04% of the Mediterranean Sea is
379 declared as fully protected from fishing (PISCO & UNS, 2016). By linking these spatial
380 requirements of fully protected areas to recent studies on connectivity among protected areas,
381 we can extrapolate minimal requirements needed to implement beneficial marine protection.
382 Taking the entire Mediterranean coastline as a practical example and conservatively allowing
383 for no more than 50 km between marine protected areas (based on recent connectivity
384 estimates for a few Mediterranean coastal fishes, Di Franco *et al.*, 2015 and reference therein,

385 and for other species from outside the Mediterranean sea, Almany *et al.*, 2017 and reference
386 therein), at least 1.7% of the coastal area between 0 and 50 meters of depth (the area where
387 most coastal fishes live) should be protected from any form of fishing through a network of
388 fully protected areas. This recommendation is in line with the recent call to fully protect 2%
389 of the Mediterranean Sea issued in the Tangier Declaration
390 (<https://drive.google.com/file/d/0Bw8D-TFFFccxUHVMTFdQMEIPOVU/view>) by
391 researchers and conservation practitioners. Much more progress is needed to increase spatial
392 coverage and the effective implementation of management measures to benefit species while
393 meeting international targets for marine protection and also benefiting resource users. Here,
394 we provide a synthesis of the home ranges of Mediterranean marine species, providing
395 powerful, empirically-based information that can be used to inform marine spatial planning.
396

397

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405

406

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571

572 **Table 1.** Summary of home ranges (HR) of Mediterranean fish species and one invertebrate.
573 Information is reported for each species in each study. UD 95% was used as home range
574 descriptor in all the studies, except in Giacalone *et al.*, 2015 where authors adopted MCP
575 100%. “Protection level” indicates if the study was carried out in fully protected area (FPA),
576 Partially protected (Buffer) and/or fished area (f.a.); “HR” reports estimated home range in
577 km² (mean± 1 SE); “# individuals (in FPA)” indicates the number of individuals for which
578 HR was estimated (within parenthesis the number of individuals released within FPA); “%
579 HR in FPA” indicates the percentage of tagged individuals showing HR within the FPA;
580 “TL/HR” indicates if the authors detected a significant relationship between fish length (or
581 weight) and HR; “Overlapping” indicates if authors detected evidence of overlapping home
582 ranges among conspecific individuals. Ref= reference (appended below the table), N/A= not
583 applicable, NA= not assessed. .

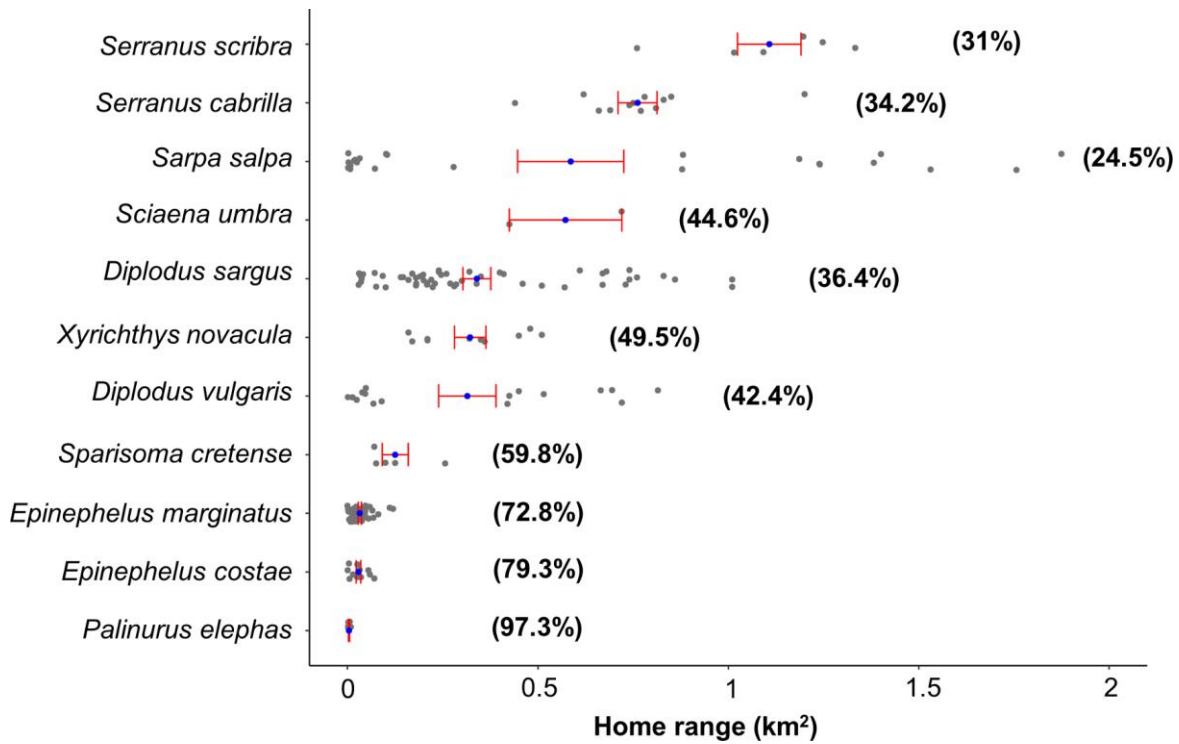
Species	Protection level	HR	# individuals (in FPA)	% HR in FPA	TL/HR	Overlapping	Ref
<i>Diplodus sargus</i>	Buffer	0.13±0.035	3	N/A	No	Yes	1
<i>Diplodus sargus</i>	FPA, buffer, f.a.	0.48±0.26	31 (20)	100	No	Yes	2
<i>Diplodus sargus</i>	FPA	0.36±0.27	20 (20)	100	No	Yes	3
<i>Diplodus vulgaris</i>	FPA, buffer	0.041±0.01	8 (8)	37.5	No	Yes	4
<i>Diplodus vulgaris</i>	F.a.	0.58±0.15	8	N/A	No	Yes	5
<i>Epinephelus costae</i>	FPA, Buffer	0.029±0.21	13 (1)	100	Yes	Yes	6
<i>E. marginatus</i>	FPA and Buffer	0.034±0.19	37 (15)	100	No	Yes	6
<i>E. marginatus</i>	FPA	0.013±0.001	6 (6)	100	No	Yes	7
<i>Palinurus elephas</i>	FPA	0.0039±0.0031	5 (5)	100	No	NA	8
<i>Sarpa salpa</i>	F.a., buffer	0.049±0.02	14	N/A	No	Yes	9
<i>Sarpa salpa</i>	FPA, buffer, f.a.	1.337±0.10	10	28	No	Yes	10
<i>Sciaena umbra</i>	F.a.	0.57±0.20	2	N/A	NA	Yes	11
<i>Serranus cabrilla</i>	Buffer	0.76±0.17	12	N/A	No	Yes	12
<i>Serranus scriba</i>	Buffer	1.10±0.08	6	NA	No	Yes	13
<i>Sparisoma cretense</i>	FPA, buffer	0.125±0.03	5 (5)	0	NA	Yes	14
<i>Xyrichthys novacula</i>	Buffer	0.32±0.13	10	N/A	No	Yes	15

584 References: 1= D’Anna *et al.*, 2011, 2= Aspillaga *et al.*, 2016, 3= Di Lorenzo *et al.*, 2014, 4= La Mesa *et al.*,
585 2013, 5= Alos *et al.*, 2012b, 6= Hackradt 2012, 7= Pastor *et al.*, 2009, 8= Giacalone *et al.*, 2015, 9= Jadot *et al.*,
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587 2010, 14= La Mesa *et al.*, 2012, 15= Alos *et al.*, 2012a

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589 **Figures**

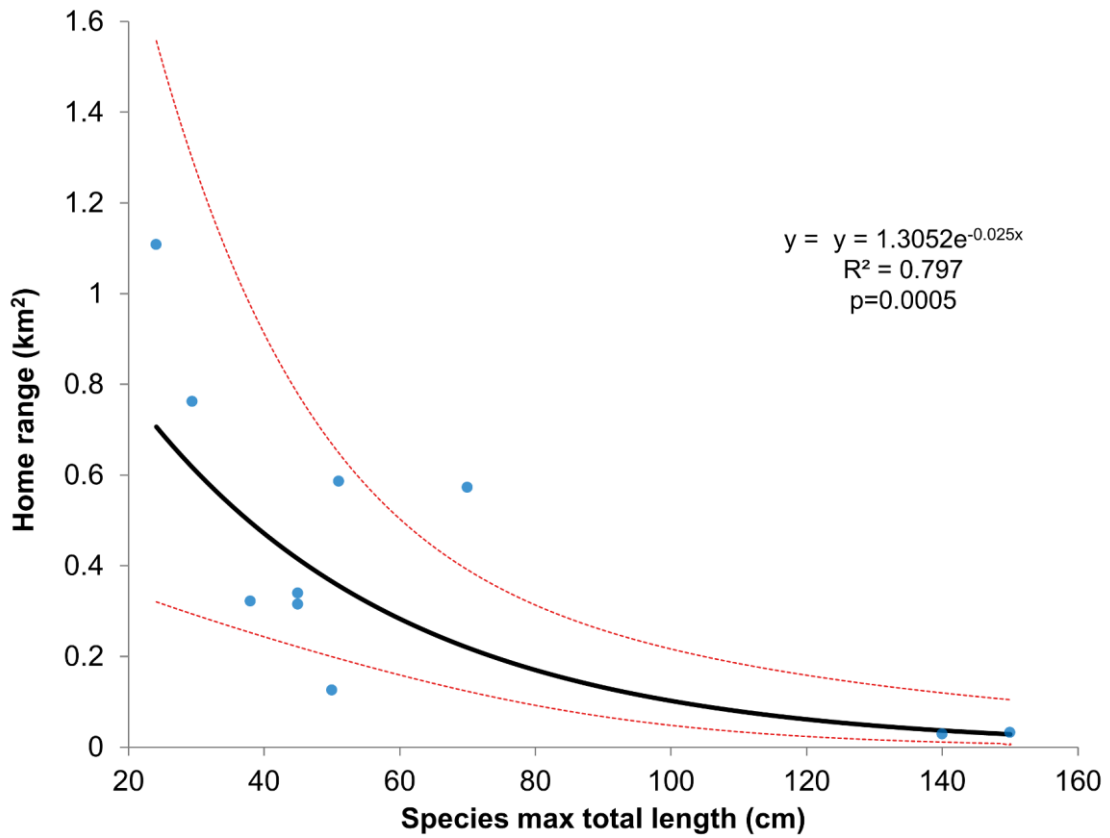
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591

592 **Figure 1.** Home range for each individual (grey dots) of 11 Mediterranean marine species.
 593 Blue dots and red bars represent, respectively, mean \pm 1 SE for each species. Species are
 594 listed from largest to smallest average home range. Values within parenthesis indicate the
 595 percent of fully protected areas greater than twice the size of the largest individual home
 596 range assessed for a given species.

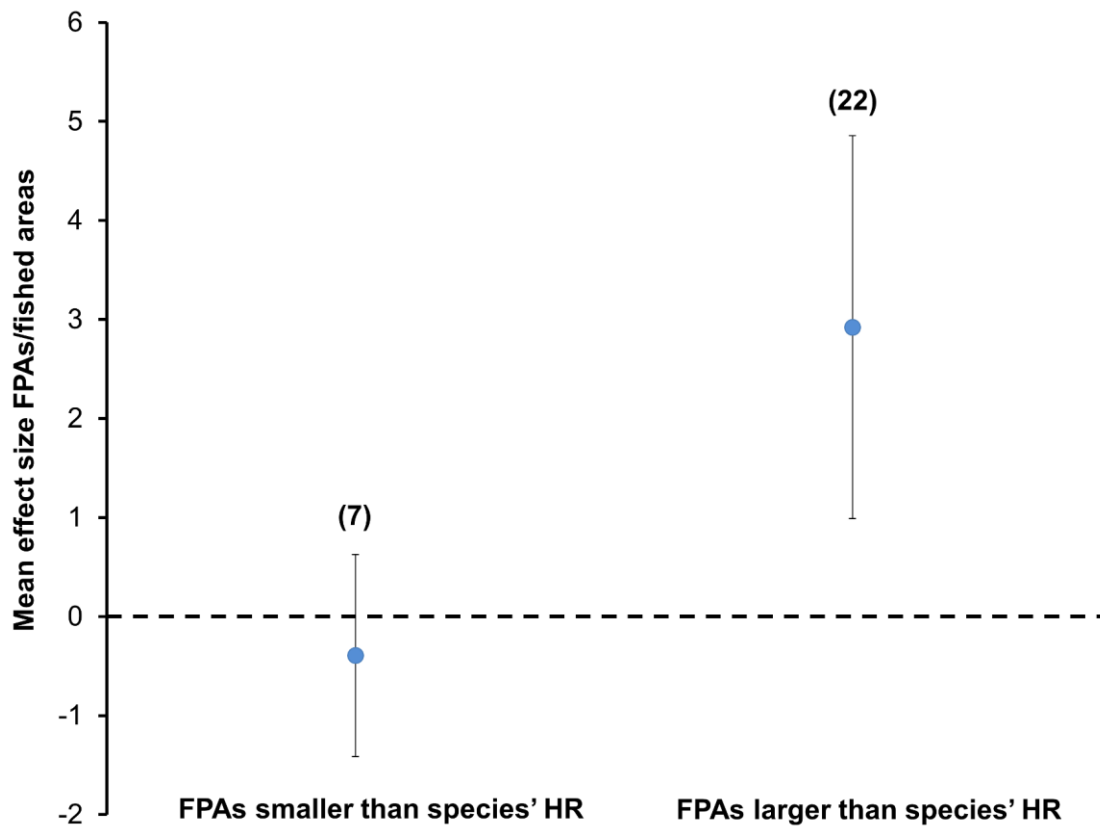
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599 **Figure 2.** Exponential relationship between maximum total length and average home range
 600 of 10 Mediterranean fishes. Red dotted lines show the 95% confidence intervals calculated by
 601 using the simultaneous Working–Hotelling procedure.

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604

605 **Figure 3.** Effect of fully protected area on fish density as the mean of effect sizes across
 606 species calculated between the fully protected areas (FPAs) and fished areas in fully
 607 protected areas smaller and larger than species home range (HR). The graph displays the
 608 weighted ratio and 95% Confidence Interval (CI) in and out of the fully protected areas

609