

Electronic tagging data and habitat envelope modeling used to monitor spatial persistency and possible relocation of spawning grounds for the bluefin tuna in the East Atlantic and the Mediterranean Sea

A spawning habitat envelope has been created for bluefin tuna in its traditional spawning ground in the Mediterranean Sea by combining environmental variables and species behavior. We used logistic regressions through a generalized linear model (GLM) approach to determine whether reproduction was affected by spawning habitat characteristics and individual behavior. Results from the implementation of the model predicted a high probability of occurrence of reproductive events associated with 17 tagged tuna. Some of them matched the already well known spawning grounds in the Mediterranean Sea (the area around the Balearic Islands, the Tyrrhenian Sea and the Gulf of Sirte). The model also proposed some other areas seldom or not at all mentioned in the bibliography in both, the Mediterranean and the Atlantic Ocean, such as the Alboran Sea, the Catalan Sea, the Gulf of Lions and the Bay of Biscay. This model provides an objective methodology to predict and adapt spawning areas, and to identify other potential but unknown, or even new, spawning areas and periods for the species. Moreover, the application of the present methodology could help the implementation of an adaptive management approach for Atlantic bluefin tuna by predicting areas suitable for spawning and identifying changes in spawning areas and season in the currently highly changing ocean and climate conditions.

1 Electronic tagging data and habitat envelope modeling used to
2 monitor spatial persistency and possible relocation of spawning
3 grounds for the bluefin tuna in the East Atlantic and the
4 Mediterranean.

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6 Andrés Ospina-Alvarez¹, Susana Sainz Trápaga²,
7 Sergi Tudela³, Antonio Di Natale⁴, Gemma Quílez-Badia⁵

8
9 ¹Núcleo Milenio - Centro de Conservación Marina CCM, Estación Costera de
10 Investigaciones Marinas ECIM, Departamento de Ecología, Facultad de Ciencias
11 Biológicas, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile, Santiago, Chile.

12 ²s.sainztrapaga@gmail.com

13 ³sergitudela@gmail.com

14 ⁴ICCAT Secretariat, C/ Corazón de Maria, 8, 6º, 28002 Madrid, Spain.

15 ⁵WWF Mediterranean Programme Office, C/ Canuda 37 3er, 08002 Barcelona, Spain.

16
17
18 AOA, e-mail address: aospina.co@me.com

19 SST, e-mail address: s.sainztrapaga@gmail.com

20 ST, e-mail address: sergitudela@gmail.com

21 ADN, e-mail address: antonio.dinatale@iccat.int

22 GQB, e-mail address: gemmaqb@gmail.com

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24 *SHORT TITLE*: Spawning habitat of bluefin tuna

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27 **ABSTRACT**

28 A spawning habitat envelope has been created for bluefin tuna in its traditional
29 spawning ground in the Mediterranean Sea by combining environmental variables
30 and species behavior. We used logistic regressions through a generalized linear
31 model (GLM) approach to determine whether reproduction was affected by
32 spawning habitat characteristics and individual behavior. Results from the
33 implementation of the model predicted a high probability of occurrence of
34 reproductive events associated with 17 tagged tuna. Some of them matched the
35 already well known spawning grounds in the Mediterranean Sea (the area around
36 the Balearic Islands, the Tyrrhenian Sea and the Gulf of Sirte). The model also

37 proposed some other areas seldom or not at all mentioned in the bibliography in
38 both, the Mediterranean and the Atlantic Ocean, such as the Alboran Sea, the
39 Catalan Sea, the Gulf of Lions and the Bay of Biscay. This model provides an
40 objective methodology to predict and adapt spawning areas, and to identify other
41 potential but unknown, or even new, spawning areas and periods for the species.
42 Moreover, the application of the present methodology could help the
43 implementation of an adaptive management approach for Atlantic bluefin tuna by
44 predicting areas suitable for spawning and identifying changes in spawning areas
45 and season in the currently highly changing ocean and climate conditions.

46 INTRODUCTION

47 The Mediterranean Sea has been widely acknowledged as one of the main
48 spawning grounds of Atlantic bluefin tuna. Its migration from the Atlantic to the
49 Mediterranean was already known since ancient times and has been used by
50 fishermen to set traps along its path near the Strait of Gibraltar for nearly 3,000
51 years (Desse and Desse-Berset, 1994; Doumenge, 1998). However, the first study
52 making a direct connection between bluefin tuna migration from the Atlantic to the
53 Mediterranean to spawning was the one made by Cetti (1777). Evidence of
54 spawning was later corroborated by the presence of bluefin tuna larvae in the
55 Mediterranean since Ehrembaum (1924) and Sella (1924). Several research
56 surveys targeting bluefin tuna and other species eggs and larvae regionally have
57 been carried out since then (Sanzo, 1929a,b, 1933; Dieuzeide, 1951, Vodianitzki
58 and Kazanova, 1954; Akiüz and Artüz, 1957; Duclerc *et al.*, 1973; Dicenta *et al.*,
59 1975, 1979; 1983; Rodriguez-Roda, 1975; Piccinetti *et al.*, 1976, 1977a,b; Dicenta,
60 1977; Piccinetti and Piccinetti-Manfrin, 1978; Dicenta and Piccinetti, 1978;
61 Potoschi *et al.*, 1994; Cavallaro *et al.*, 1996; Tsuji *et al.*, 1997; Nishida *et al.*, 1998;

62 Piccinetti *et al.*, 1996a,b; Karakulak *et al.*, 2004; Oray and Karakulak, 2005;
63 Alemany, 1997, 2010). Those studies have revealed presence of bluefin tuna larvae
64 in several places around the basin, i.e. Alboran Sea, off Algerian coast, around the
65 Balearic Islands, around Sicily including the Tyrrhenian Sea, the Messina Strait and
66 the Ionian Sea, Adriatic Sea, Gulf of Sirte and south of the Anatolian peninsula.
67 Although its presence has been very scarce in some of them, it has frequently been
68 highlighted in the waters around the Balearic Islands. As reported in Alemany
69 (2008), due to the variety of sampling methodologies and strategies it is difficult to
70 compare the abundances and frequencies of occurrence of bluefin tuna larvae
71 accounted in the available bibliography within the Mediterranean. However,
72 results of basin scale larval surveys (Dicenta, 1977; Dicenta and Piccinetti, 1978;
73 Tsuji *et al.*, 1997; Piccinetti *et al.*, 1996; Nishida *et al.*, 1998) corroborate the
74 importance of the Balearic waters spawning grounds since Atlantic bluefin tuna
75 larvae always appeared in this area and larval densities were always among the
76 highest recorded. Spanish purse seiners, taking advantage of the aggregating
77 behavior of the fish during spawning, is exploiting the Balearic fishing ground
78 every spawning season since the early '80s.

79

80 The Balearic Islands spawning ground is likely the most exhaustively studied and
81 characterized in the Mediterranean (García *et al.*, 2005; Alemany *et al.* 2010).
82 Larvae survey has been conducted around the islands since the '70s, and regularly
83 from 2001 to 2005 along with hydrological data in the framework of the TUNIBAL
84 project (García *et al.*, 2005; Alemany, 2010). This project revealed that Atlantic
85 bluefin tuna spawning peaks in the Balearic Sea from mid-June to mid-July, and is
86 closely related to inflowing surface Atlantic waters mixing with surface

87 Mediterranean waters and generating mesoscale eddies, in part responsible for
88 larval distribution.

89

90 Electronic tagging carried out recently in the Mediterranean has enormously
91 contributed to understand the bluefin tuna population structure, migration routes
92 and habitat use (Fromentin and Lopuszanski, 2013; Cermeño et al., 2015; Quílez-
93 Badia et al., submitted). Combination of data from electronic tagging and satellite
94 derived sea surface temperature, Chlorophyll-a, and sea height anomaly in both
95 sides of the Atlantic and along most of the geographical distribution of the species
96 have provided a deeper insight of bluefin tuna habitat use during both, feeding and
97 spawning (Teo et al. 2007, Druon et al. 2011, 2016). Given its promising results
98 and besides being costly, tagging campaigns will likely increase and expand to the
99 whole Mediterranean and even to other species. It is therefore relevant to ensure
100 the maximum profit from the provided data.

101

102 Previous research studies carried out since the early '90s has indicated that the
103 relationship between bathymetry, SST, salinity, surface chlorophyll concentration,
104 eddy kinetic energy, and thermohaline stratification of the water column is critical
105 for understanding tuna reproductive habitat (Teo et al., 2007; Alemany, et al.,
106 2010; Reglero et al., 2012). These environmental variables define a spawning-
107 habitat envelope that needs to be better described to facilitate identification of
108 individual reproductive events. Spawning was observed to start at SST over
109 20.5°C, with a preference for waters between 21.5°C and 26.5°C (Alemany, 2010)
110 and in presence of a well-defined thermocline, preferably having a negative
111 gradient of 3°C (Di Natale, 2010; Piccinetti et al., 2012). Additionally, reproductive

112 tuna exhibit specific behaviors during spawning: a marked preference for
113 permanency at depths of less than 40 m (Aranda et al., 2013); and a significantly
114 more residential and highly sinuous movement paths (Teo et al. 2007). Moreover,
115 adults in spawning areas present a particular diving behavior, characterized by
116 repeated and brief oscillatory movements up and down through the mixed layer
117 (Aranda, et al, 2013), which is consistent with low horizontal speed and high
118 preference rate by surface waters.

119

120 The characterization of the bluefin tuna spawning habitat is essential to improve
121 fisheries management. The strengthening of the management framework of the
122 Eastern Atlantic bluefin tuna stock from 2006, after scientists and civil society calls
123 due to the alarming state of the stock, has proven to give successful results in
124 effectively increasing biomass abundance and recovering the stock. However,
125 efforts to improve the understanding of the biology of the species and its fisheries
126 management are taking place due to be considered essential to effectively sustain
127 the health of the stock in the long term. In this context, the identification of bluefin
128 tuna spawning areas has been considered a priority by ICCAT (Di Natale, 2011 and
129 ICCAT Recommendations 08-05, 10-04, 12-03, 13-07 and 14-04). However, as
130 recently suggested by Reglero et al. (2012) and Cermeño et al. (2015), bluefin tuna
131 seem to be opportunistic spawners that follow environmental signals and adapt to
132 variability. Taking into account ocean variability, likely amplified by the recent
133 increased climate variability, makes even more important the characterization of
134 the spawning environment in support to an adaptive management approach.

135

136 An accurate definition of the spawning habitat envelope would be extremely
137 helpful in allowing: 1) An identification of reproductive or non-reproductive
138 individuals relying on data from electronic tagging; 2) The identification of
139 potential but still unknown spawning areas; 3) The prediction of both emergent
140 and relocation of spawning areas due to environmental impacts such as climate
141 change; and 3) A more adaptive and precautionary management framework for
142 the species in Eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean.

143

144 In this study we incorporate biological knowledge of the species-habitat
145 relationship to create a spawning habitat envelope that constrains the
146 environmental variables and species responses as behaviors that match with tuna
147 reproduction events. We propose a predictive model that accounts for the spatial
148 limits of bluefin tuna spawning from electronic tagging data in the most well-
149 known spawning ground, around the Balearic Islands. This approach, in turn,
150 provides an objective methodology to predict and adapt those known limits, and to
151 identify other potential but unknown, or even new, spawning areas and periods for
152 the species.

153

154 METHODS

155 Electronic tagging methodology and data

156 A total of 27 electronic Pop-up Satellite Archival Transmitting (PSAT) tags that
157 were deployed between 2011 and 2015, were used in the present work. These tags
158 were deployed within the framework of a larger tagging program that has
159 deployed 124 PSAT tags between 2008 and 2015. Nevertheless, for the specific

160 analysis presented here, only those tags that were attached to the tuna during the
161 spawning season and that were at liberty for at least 18 days were used.

162

163 Following the same protocol as the one described in Quílez-Badia et al. (*submitted*),
164 Atlantic bluefin tuna were tagged with electronic tags in expeditions that occurred
165 between 2008 and 2015 in locations along the eastern Spanish coast - Roses,
166 Llançà and Garraf (NE Spain), Moraira (E Spain) and Algeciras (SE Spain) -; in the
167 Balearic Islands - Port of Pollença (N Majorca, Spain)-; in the Adriatic Sea - in San
168 Benedetto del Tronto and Porto Barricata, E and NE Italy, respectively -; and in
169 Larache (E Morocco). The research presented in this manuscript involved no
170 endangered or protected species and no harm to the animals. No special
171 permission was required for the study in any of the locations as it was not
172 required, however a special permit was granted by the Spanish Ministry
173 "Agricultura, Alimentación y Medio Ambiente" for the 2011 tagging operations in
174 Roses and Llançà.

175

176 The tagging was conducted with electronic tags (built by Wildlife Computers,
177 Redmond Washington, using PAT Hardware version 2.0), which recorded
178 pressure, light and water temperature every 60 seconds interval and were
179 grouped in 6- or 24-hour binned histograms (for 2012 to 2015, and 2011 tags,
180 respectively). Temperature layers were set at 3, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18, 21, 24, 27, 30, 33
181 and over 33 °C and depth layers at 0, 2, 10, 20, 50, 100, 150, 250, 300, 400, 500,
182 and over 500 m. In addition to these histogram data, the minimum and maximum
183 daily temperatures observed at different depths were also obtained. When all
184 dives during a summary period were less than 400 m the tag defaulted to low-

185 resolution profiles, meaning 8 different depths fitting into one message per
186 summary period. Whereas when the tag ventured below 400 m it defaulted to
187 high-resolution profiles, meaning 16 different depths fitting into two messages per
188 summary period. For these vertical profiles of temperature, depth points were
189 distributed between the minimum and maximum depths observed during each
190 summary period.

191

192 All bluefin tuna trajectories were estimated by CLS (Collecte Localisation
193 Satellites) applying the Kalman filtering of the light-based geolocations and using
194 satellite obtained sea surface temperature (SST) and bathymetry as constraints
195 (for more details see Cermeño et al., 2015).

196

197 Statistical analyses and modelling

198 A series of generalized linear models were fitted to analyze the relationship
199 between individual reproductive state of tuna and a set of environmental and
200 behavioral variables. Following a habitat envelop concept similar to the one
201 developed by Walker (1991) and Zarnetske (2007) as an ecological representation
202 of a species feature's observed distribution based on the spatial intersection of
203 multiple attributes, we constructed a habitat envelope for 15 individuals passing
204 through the Balearic Islands well known spawning area during the spawning
205 season to obtain the binary dependent variable representing reproduction or non-
206 reproduction for each individual. The area was approximated by an 85.5 km²
207 polygon defined by 4 geographical coordinates (39.89N, 0.66E; 40.75N, 4.64E;
208 37.61N, 5.03E; 38.37N, 0.53E), and the season by a 78 days period, from JD 135 to
209 JD 213 (14 or 15 May and 31 July or 1 August, depending on the year). The

210 environmental variables used as habitat descriptors influencing tuna reproduction
211 were: sea surface temperature (SST) and difference in temperature between 0 and
212 24 m (i.e., the vertical temperature gradient at the thermocline hereafter `diff_ther`).
213 The behavioral variables used to complete the habitat envelope were: daily
214 average of the percentage of time spent between 21 and 27 °C (hereafter TAT 21-
215 27 °C); daily average of the percentage of time spent between 0 and 20 m
216 (hereafter TAD 0-20 m); and tuna velocity (km/h). All five variables were
217 extracted or calculated from electronic tagging data. We assume that spawning
218 aggregation fine-tunes its precise location to match environmental conditions; and
219 that each of these conditions prevail for at least 75% of the time adults remain in
220 spawning areas.

221

222 Prior to statistical analysis, explanatory variables were scaled (mean = 0, standard
223 deviation = 1) to approach normality and to reduce the influence of extreme
224 values. Spearman rank correlations were computed between all pairs of
225 explanatory variables in order to examine for the presence of collinearity. From
226 each pair of highly correlated variables ($r > 0.7$), only the one demonstrating the
227 stronger association with the response variable was retained for further analysis
228 (Zar 1996).

229

230 The 15 tuna adults passing through the Balearic Islands spawning area were
231 categorized as reproductive or non-reproductive if all explanatory variables have
232 passed a defined set threshold value. To avoid subjective errors in determining the
233 threshold value for each variable we obtained descriptive statistics for all set of

234 predictive variables and we identified the quartiles, first or third depending on the
235 variable, encompassing the 75% of data distribution.

236

237 We used logistic regressions through a generalized linear model (GLM) approach
238 to determine whether reproduction was affected by spawning habitat
239 characteristics and individual behavior. The dependent variable
240 (reproduction/non-reproduction of tuna) was binomial, and we subsequently used
241 the logit as the link function. Five predictive variables were used: (1) SST and (2)
242 diff_ther, describing the habitat, and (3) TAT 21-27 °C; (4) TAD 0-20 m; and (5)
243 tuna velocity describing individual behavior. This technique converts binary data
244 into probabilities values by fitting a binomial general linear model through the
245 observations that matched with the defined habitat envelope criteria for
246 reproductive tuna. A stepwise procedure with both directions was performed to
247 test the statistical significance of each variable in turn. The model selection was
248 based on Akaike's information criterion (AIC). Those variables that contributed to
249 the largest significant change in the deviance from the null model were selected as
250 best predictors. Model fit was assessed by examining deviance and Pearson' χ^2
251 residuals.

252

253 We test the model's accuracy and its consistency with the data by comparing the
254 reproductive state according to the habitat envelope criteria and the predicted
255 reproductive state following the formula: $1 - (\text{misclassification error})$.

256 Additionally, we calculated the area under the Receiver Operating Characteristic
257 ROC curve (true positive rate against the false positive rate). As a rule of thumb, a

258 model with good predictive ability should have an area under the curve closer to 1
259 than to 0.5.

260

261 A synthetic model was then built using the best variables from all five sets of
262 variables. Finally, the best model was used in a predictive mode to generate the
263 binary response reproductive or non-reproductive state for tuna in the
264 Mediterranean and the North East Atlantic (27 tags). All analysis and modelling
265 was performed using R version 3.2.2 (2015-08-14), software ([http://www.r-
266 project.org/](http://www.r-project.org/)).

267

268 RESULTS

269 The historical spawning area of Balearic Islands is characterized by high sea
270 surface temperatures (mean 22.210 °C). Reproductive adults had a rate of
271 permanency of 75% in areas with SST over 21.23 °C and thermal difference
272 between 24 m and surface below -2.292 (Table 1). The 75% of reproductive adults
273 remained 41.53% and 69.14% of time between 21 to 27 °C and 0 to 20 m depth,
274 respectively. Swimming speed of bluefin tuna was lower in the Balearic Islands
275 area (mean of 1.514 km/h, 0.019 min. and 9.267 max.) that in remaining areas
276 (mean 2.007 km/h, 0.031 min. and 21.024 max.). Reproductive adults swam 75%
277 of the time below 2.788 km/h in the Balearic Islands spawning area (Table 1).

278

279 An initial model with the five predictor variables showed an AIC = 97.494 and
280 deviance explained = 54.99 %. Stepwise regression analysis removed the non-
281 significant variables (z-statistic) and ultimately yielded the best combination of
282 significant variables and their terms with the lowest AIC and the highest deviance

283 explained values as compared to their individual and/or linear combinations of the
284 previous steps (Table 2). For the optimal model, step-wise analyses revealed that
285 the combination of four variables including two habitat descriptor (SST and
286 diff_ther) and two tuna behaviors (TAD 0-20 m and velocity) were the best
287 predictors of reproductive state (AIC = 96.372, deviance explained 54.528 %, Table
288 3).

289
290 The accuracy of the model (1-misclassification error) was high (92.843%) in the
291 training set (i.e. using data from Balearic Islands spawning area). The area under
292 the ROC curve was high also (97.145%). Both parameters indicate the good
293 performance of the parsimonious model. Used in a predictive mode, the model
294 generates the binary response “reproductive state” for all available tagged tuna.

295
296 Filtering the response of the model, we identified each day matching with the
297 variables within the defined habitat envelope (reproductive event) for the 27
298 individuals (Tables 4, 5). 236 reproductive events from 3253 records
299 corresponding to 17 of 27 bluefin tuna trajectories were predicted by the model
300 within a wide range of probabilities of occurrence (Fig. 1a). Highest probabilities of
301 reproductive events within the established habitat envelope (> 75%) which relates
302 to 162 events corresponding to 16 tunas showed presumable spawning in 4
303 different areas within the Western and Central Mediterranean and in 3 areas in the
304 Eastern Atlantic (Fig. 1b). The presumable spawning areas identified by the model
305 within the Mediterranean are: a) the western Mediterranean from the Alboran Sea
306 to Corsica and Sardinia Islands (111 events from 12 tunas), mostly in an area
307 covering the well described spawning ground south of the Balearic Islands (44

308 events from 11 tunas), expanded to the north to the Catalan Sea and reaching the
309 Gulf of Lions (14 events from 2 tunas), to the east, to the Sardino-Balearic Plain (48
310 events from 4 tunas), and to the southwest, to the Algerian Basin (2 events from 2
311 tunas) and even the Alboran Sea (3 events from 2 tunas); b) the Tyrrhenian Sea (4
312 events from 1 tuna); c) an area covering from the southern Adriatic Sea to the
313 south of Sicily including the Ionian Sea (29 events from 1 tuna); and d) the Gulf of
314 Sirte (7 events from 1 tunas). The presumable spawning areas identified by the
315 model in the Atlantic Ocean are the Bay of Biscay (6 events from 1 tuna), around
316 Madeira Island (2 events from 2 tunas), and northeast of Lanzarote Island (2
317 events from 2 tunas).

318

319 The predicted reproductive events in the western Mediterranean from the Alboran
320 Sea to Corsica and Sardinia Islands took place from late May to late September, i.e.,
321 from 25 May to 15 July in the south of the Balearic Islands during the 5 years,
322 extending up to 22 August in the Mallorca channel and the Catalan Sea in 2011,
323 and up to 23 September in the Catalan Sea reaching the Gulf of Lions in 2015. The
324 events in the Tyrrhenian Sea were predicted from 19 to 24 June in 2013. In the
325 area covering from the southern Adriatic Sea to the south of Sicily, including the
326 Ionian Sea, were predicted from 4 June to 16 September, and in the Gulf of Sirte
327 from 20 to 27 June in 2012. The 10 events predicted in the Eastern Atlantic took
328 place from 12 to 20 August 2013 in the Bay of Biscay, in June and July 2012 around
329 Madeira Island, and in August and September 2012 in the northeast of Lanzarote
330 Island.

331

332 Reproductive events of the same tuna in more than one of the mentioned areas
333 were predicted for 3 different tunas (Fig. 2): one (tag ID 114007) in the south of
334 the Balearic Islands (late May), in the Gulf of Sirte (late June), and in the northwest
335 of Madeira Island (late July) on 2012; another one (tag ID 114006) in the south of
336 the Balearic Islands and the Sardino-Balearic basin (June) and in the northeast of
337 Lanzarote Island (mid August) in 2012; and the last one (tag ID 120446) in the
338 south of the Balearic Islands (late June and early July) and in the Bay of Biscay
339 (August) in 2013.

340

341 DISCUSSION

342 The model has predicted reproductive events in already well known spawning
343 grounds in the western and central Mediterranean: around the Balearic Islands, in
344 the Tyrrhenian Sea, and in the Gulf of Sirte (Druon, 2009 and references herein).
345 Those areas have been identified in the past by both, the presence of larvae, and by
346 the fishing activity of purse seine fleets which takes advantage of the spawning
347 aggregations (Alemany 2008; Di Natale, 2011). Moreover, the model also predicts a
348 high probability of reproductive events in areas in the Alboran Sea, the Catalan Sea,
349 the Gulf of Lions, the Sardino-Balearic Plain and in an area covering from the
350 southern Adriatic Sea to the waters around Malta, including the Ionian Sea. Bluefin
351 tuna larvae were found in the Alboran Sea, off the Algerian coast and in the Ionian
352 Sea (Rodriguez-Roda and Dicenta, 1981; Piccinetti et al., 1976, 1977a; Piccinetti et
353 al., 1996a and b), corroborating the presumable spawning also in those areas. The
354 previously known areas, likely due to the design of the sampling methodologies
355 and the behavior of the tuna fleets, were usually represented as disconnected
356 spawning grounds throughout the basin. Fig. 1a, however, suggest a continuous

357 distribution area of reproductive events with high probability spots in certain
358 places, matching the needed environmental conditions. This would confirm the
359 results of previous studies (Reglero et al., 2012 and Cermeño et al., 2015) which
360 suggest that bluefin tuna is an opportunistic spawner that reproduce only once
361 favorable environmental conditions are met. The aerial surveys carried out by
362 ICCAT's GBYP during 4 years, between 2010 and 2015, in potential spawning areas
363 during the spawning season (mostly in June), have reported bluefin tuna sights in
364 the eastern Alboran Sea, the Catalan Sea, the Sardino-Balearic Plain, and the area
365 between the south of Sicily and around Malta (Di Natale et al., 2015), which could
366 have been also related to spawning. On the other hand, the areas near the Strait of
367 Gibraltar, the Gulf of Lions, and the southern Adriatic and northern Ionian Seas
368 were not considered spawning areas by the project (Di Natale et al., 2015).

369

370 The model has also predicted 3 different presumable reproductive events in the
371 Atlantic Ocean. Based on the presence of very small juveniles or of spawners, the
372 possible presence of potential bluefin tuna spawning areas around Azores, the
373 Canary Islands and Madeira was already suggested in the past (Di Natale et al.,
374 2013 and references herein). However, potential reproduction of bluefin tuna in
375 the Bay of Biscay has never been reported before. In addition, the reproductive
376 events south of the Balearic Islands during the 5 years correspond to a typical
377 spawning season for this area, from 25 May to 15 July. However, those in the
378 Catalan Sea and in the Gulf of Lions, areas never reported as spawning grounds,
379 have extended the spawning season until August and even September. It is
380 noteworthy the case of one of the tunas which was in the south of the Balearic
381 Islands during the typical spawning season (2-15 June) in 2015 but did not

382 reproduce there, instead, it showed possible reproduction two and three months
383 later in the Catalan Sea and the Gulf of Lions. The events predicted in the Gulf of
384 Sirte in 2012 and in the Tyrrhenian Sea in 2013, both in late June, also match with
385 the usual reproduction period (de la Serna and Alot, 1992; Medina et al., 2002).
386 The predictions in the Atlantic Ocean, north east and north west of Madeira,
387 correspond to events that would have taken place in June and July 2012
388 respectively. The ones observed north east of Lanzarote would have taken place
389 also in 2012 but in Mid August and mid September. The events predicted in the
390 Bay of Biscay would have taken place from mid August to mid September. It is
391 interesting to notice that all three tunas showing reproductive events in both, the
392 Atlantic Ocean and the Mediterranean Sea, have presumably reproduced before in
393 the very well known spawning ground south of the Balearic Islands (Fig. 2) which
394 still presents a higher number of reproductive events.

395

396 There is a broad body of evidence that climate change may strongly influence
397 distribution and abundance of fish through changes in growth, survival,
398 reproduction, or responses to changes at other trophic levels (Stebbing et al., 2002;
399 Brander et al., 2003; Beaugrand et al., 2002; 2003; Perry et al., 2005; Poulard and
400 Blanchard, 2005; Rose, 2005; Desaunay et al. 2006; Beare et al. 2004a, b; Mamie et
401 al. 2007; Anadón, 2009; Heath et al., 2012; Petitgas *et al.*, 2013). Lusitanian species,
402 for example, have increased in recent decades (e.g. sardine (*Sardina pilchardus*),
403 anchovy (*Engraulis encrasicolus*) and horse mackerel (*Trachurus trachurus*)),
404 especially at the northern limit of their distribution areas (Beare et al., 2004c;
405 Rijnsdorp et al., 2009, 2010). Therefore, seasonal migrants that feed in the North
406 Atlantic but spawn further south (e.g. bluefin tuna), may also be undergoing

407 migration shifts due to the changes in their key forage fish (Rose, 2005). In
408 addition, even though bluefin tuna possess a unique physiology that allows them to
409 tolerate colder waters than other tuna, which has facilitated their expansion into
410 feeding areas in the North Atlantic (Lutcavage et al., 2000), they also may be
411 adversely affected by warm (>28–30°C) waters (Blank et al., 2004). In fact, adult
412 bluefin tuna target moderately warm waters to spawn. In the Mediterranean,
413 spawning has been observed to start at SST over 20.5 °C, with a preference for
414 waters between 21.5 °C and 26.5 °C (Alemany, 2010). Thus, if the beginning of
415 spawning requires a minimum water temperature and adult bluefin tuna cannot
416 tolerate waters above a maximum temperature limit, a specific “thermal window”
417 exists for spawning activity. It is therefore likely that variations in the water
418 temperature of their spawning grounds will affect the spatial and/or the temporal
419 distribution of bluefin tuna spawning effort (Muhgling et al., 2011). Moreover,
420 larval growth rates are high in warm water (Brothers et al., 1983; Miyashita et al.,
421 2000) and oligotrophic waters may present favorable feeding conditions for larvae
422 with specialized diets (Bakun, 2006; Llopiz et al., 2010). Under climate change
423 conditions, therefore, primary and secondary productivity regimes are being
424 altered (Anadón, 2009; Brander, 2010; Rijnsdorp et al., 2009, 2010; Petitgas et al.,
425 2012, 2013) and the current “match” between suitable water temperatures and
426 low productivity in the spring (Muller-Karger et al., 1991) might not be
427 maintained. If this is the case, then the survival rates of bluefin tuna larvae might
428 be changing, as concentrations of planktonic prey and predators might also be
429 changing. In addition, temperature increase can also modify water circulation, with
430 clear consequences on larval dispersal and recruitment (Bianchi and Morri, 2004).
431 Furthermore, we have to bear in mind that the actual location of spawning has to

432 represent a balance between the requirements of the larvae and the physiological
433 limitations of the adults (Rooker et al., 2007), which might not be met in a climate
434 change scenario.

435

436 An example of the climate change effect in the north-western Mediterranean is the
437 ornate wrasse, *Thalassoma pavo*, a warm water species that lives in rocky habitats,
438 which is now commonly found on the Catalan Sea coast and the Gulf of Lion, while
439 a few decades ago it was only found abundantly in more southern areas. The same
440 is also the case for the pearly razorfish, *Xyrichtys novacula*, the bluefish,
441 *Pomatomus saltatrix*, the bastard grunt, *Pomadasys incisus* and the dusky grouper,
442 *Epinephelus marginatus* (Francour et al. 1994). In addition, in the Catalan coast,
443 some warm water species that were not present in the past are now established
444 and reproducing. This is the case for *Sardinella aurita* (Sabatés et al., 2006) and
445 *Pomatomus saltatrix* (Sabatés et al. 2012 and Villegas-Hernández et al 2015).
446 Similarly, in the Bay of Biscay the sea-surface temperature increase that has been
447 observed in the past two decades (Palanque et al 2003; Anadón 2009) has directly
448 and indirectly influenced fish stocks, and in particular the pelagic ones (e.g.
449 sardine, anchovy, bonito). The Bay of Biscay is the subtropical boreal transition
450 sub-province between the Atlantic boreal province and the northern subtropical
451 sub-province, so life may respond rapidly to small shifts in climate (Blanchard and
452 Vandermeirsch 2005). Anadón (2009) also observed how boreo-Atlantic species of
453 the Cantabrian coast are suffering a “Mediterraneanisation”, thus, their
454 populations are shrinking and are being replaced by warm water ones.

455

456 Regarding the genus *Thunnus*, we have recently observed how *T. alalunga* has not
457 only extended its range from the south to the north of the western Mediterranean
458 (Lloret et al 2015) but it also has changed its migratory route in the Bay of Biscay,
459 shifting to the north. This is in association to the displacement of the 18 °C
460 isotherm (Anadón 2009). Increasing water temperatures might, therefore, be
461 affecting the spawning times and locations, larval growth, feeding, and survival of
462 fish, including bluefin tuna, which might be what we are starting to observe in the
463 present study.

464 CONCLUSION

465 The contribution of this work is twofold: (i) the creation of a reproductive habitat
466 envelope combining environmental variables and bluefin tuna behavior, and a
467 model which allows the prediction of reproductive events according to the defined
468 habitat envelope from electronic tagging data; and (ii) the prediction of
469 reproductive events associated with 17 tagged tuna, some of them matching with
470 the already well known spawning grounds in the Mediterranean Sea (the area
471 around the Balearic Islands, the Tyrrhenian Sea and the Gulf of Sirte) and
472 supporting some other areas seldom or not at all mentioned in the bibliography in
473 both, the Mediterranean and the Atlantic Ocean, such as the Alboran Sea, the
474 Catalan Sea, the Gulf of Lions and the Bay of Biscay.

475

476 The authors believe that the implementation of the present methodology could be
477 instrumental in supporting an adaptive management approach for Atlantic bluefin
478 tuna by predicting areas suitable for spawning and identifying changes in
479 spawning areas and season in the currently highly changing ocean and climate
480 conditions. This, in turn, establishes a set of novel hypothesis that will be of great

481 interest to the scientific community, and that might lead to a highly relevant
482 discussion on the conservation and management of this highly valued fish species.

483

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497

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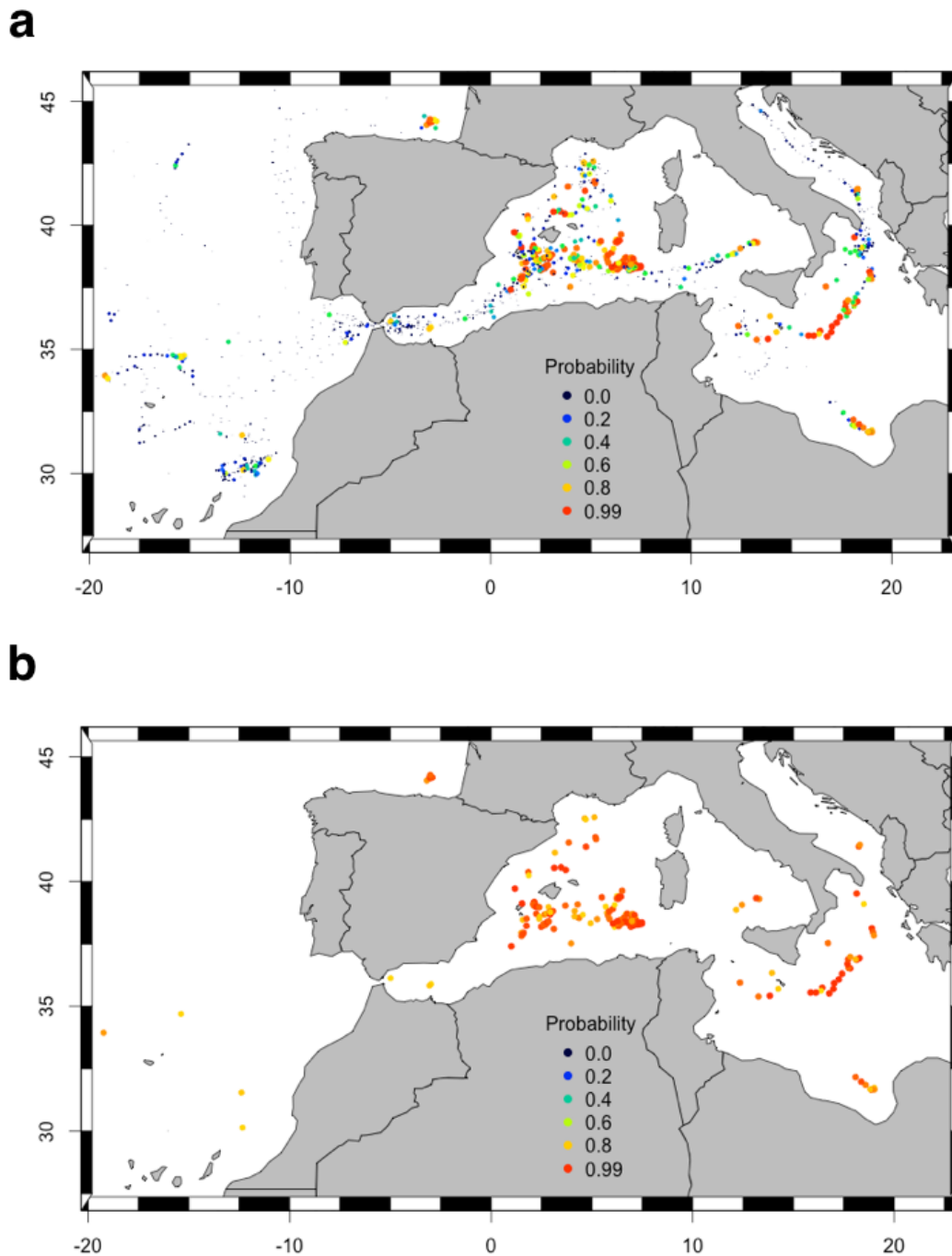
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838 LIST OF FIGURES

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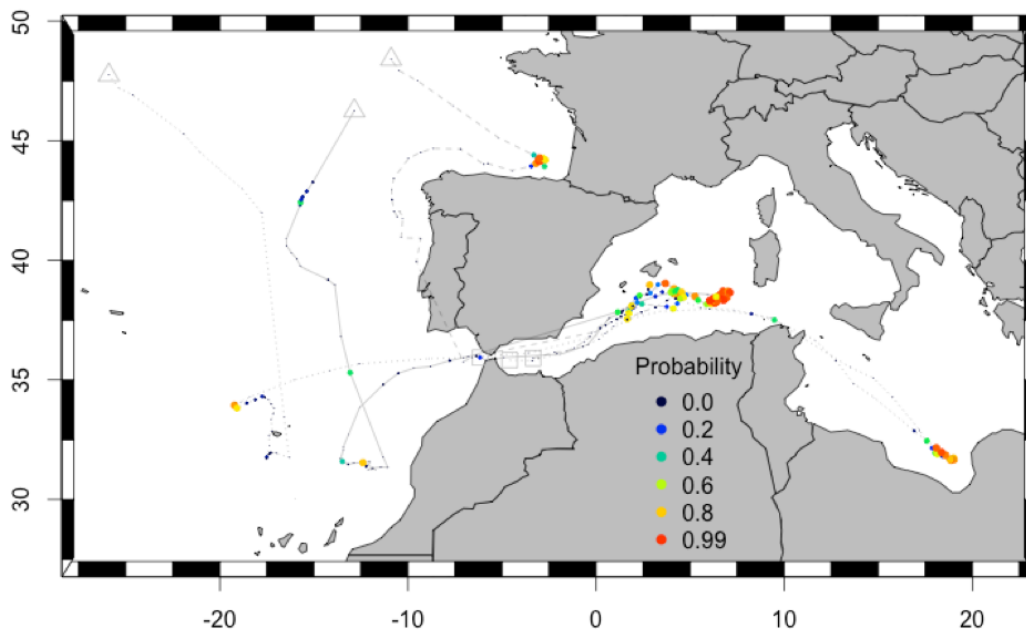
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844 Figure 1. Best-fit reproductive state model predictions for tuna in their habitat
845 envelope (Balearic Islands) and Mediterranean and East Atlantic Ocean. Model:
846 $\text{Reproduction state} \sim \text{SST} + \text{diff_ther} + \text{TAD } 0\text{-}20 \text{ m} + \text{velocity}$. AIC = 96.372 and
847 total deviance explained of 54.53%: a) All reproductive events (236 of 3253

848 records) corresponding to 17 of 27 bluefin tuna trajectories predicted by the
849 model and its respective probabilities of occurrence; b) Highest probabilities of
850 reproductive events (> 75%) equivalent to 162 events from 16 tunas showing
851 presumable spawning in 4 different areas within the Western and Central
852 Mediterranean and in 3 areas in the Eastern Atlantic.
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860 Figure 2. Reproductive events of the same tuna in more than one of the 4 different
861 areas within the Western and Central Mediterranean or the 3 areas in the Eastern
862 Atlantic. Highest probabilities of reproductive events (> 75%) for 3 different tunas
863 are showed. See results section to a complete description of presumable
864 reproduction events for these individuals.
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868 TABLES

869

870 Table 1. Descriptive statistics of sea surface temperature, difference in temperature between 24 and 0 m (diff_ther), TAT 21-27 °C, TAD 0-20
871 m and tuna velocity for individuals passing through the Balearic Islands spawning area.

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	SST	diff_ther	TAT 21-27 °C	TAD 0-20 m	velocity
Min.	18.510	-10.300	0.00	32.60	0.035
1st Qu.	21.180	-4.162	45.48	72.71	0.549
Median	22.010	-2.900	74.26	84.85	1.068
Mean	22.150	-3.350	62.26	80.51	1.548
3rd Qu.	23.020	-2.292	89.11	93.24	2.225
Max.	25.590	-0.167	97.10	99.22	9.267

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889 Table 2. Model selection for the reproductive state of bluefin tuna from environmental and behavioral characteristics extracted from
 890 electronic satellite tag data. Df refers to degrees of freedom and AIC to the Akaike Information Criterion. The lowest AIC value is bolded
 891 and underlined.
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model	Df	Residual deviance	AIC
rep. state ~ SST + diff_ther + TAT 21-27 °C + TAD 0-20 m + velocity		85.494	97.494
rep. state ~ diff_ther + TAT 21-27 °C + TAD 0-20 m + velocity	1	85.865	99.865
rep. state ~ SST + diff_ther + TAD 0-20 m + velocity	1	86.372	<u>96.372</u>
rep. state ~ SST + TAT 21-27 °C + TAD 0-20 m + velocity	1	90.817	100.817
rep. state ~ SST + TAD 0-20 m + velocity	1	92.962	100.962
rep. state ~ diff_ther + TAD 0-20 m + velocity	1	98.759	106.759
rep. state ~ SST + diff_ther + TAT 21-27 °C + TAD 0-20 m	1	114.979	124.979
rep. state ~ SST + diff_ther + TAD 0-20 m	1	125.774	133.774
rep. state ~ SST + diff_ther + TAT 21-27 °C + velocity	1	125.851	135.851
rep. state ~ SST + diff_ther + velocity	1	140.122	148.122

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Table 3. Deviance table for the parsimonious logistic regression model to predict individual reproductive state for tuna in their habitat envelope. Model: $\text{Reproduction state} \sim \text{SST} + \text{diff_ther} + \text{TAD 0-20 m} + \text{velocity}$. AIC = 96.372 and total deviance explained of 54.53%. Terms added sequentially (first to last).

	Df	Deviance Resid.	Df	Resid. Dev	Pr(>Chi)
NULL			139	189.947	
Velocity	1	42.322	138	147.626	7.743×10^{-11}
TAD 0-20 m	1	37.935	137	109.690	7.315×10^{-10}
SST	1	16.728	136	92.962	4.314×10^{-5}
diff_ther	1	6.590	135	86.372	0.010

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Table 4. Summary of reproductive events predicted with the most parsimonious model; mean, minimum and maximum of predictive variables and probability of reproductive state.

ID	repro. events	SST			diff_therm			TAT 21-27 °C			TAD 0-20 m			Velocity			Probability of reproduct state		
		mean	min	max	mean	min	max	mean	min	max	mean	min	max	mean	min	max	mean	min	max
66697	39	26.243	21.680	28.618	-7.468	-10.956	-1.981	65.081	5.100	97.225	72.229	37.750	96.450	1.204	0.158	3.165	0.860	0.518	0.951
97462	5	24.627	23.085	25.742	-4.240	-5.100	-2.900	87.960	77.500	97.000	86.880	74.500	96.900	0.570	0.135	1.520	0.974	0.951	0.951
107360	40	24.371	21.000	35.650	-5.703	-12.600	-1.500	86.320	22.200	98.100	78.310	34.300	93.900	0.615	0.074	1.836	0.826	0.511	0.951
114006	24	23.079	20.232	25.455	-3.925	-6.700	0.050	81.798	0.000	98.000	89.723	67.650	96.975	0.673	0.083	1.835	0.869	0.521	0.951
114007	14	24.379	20.664	26.040	-2.276	-3.850	-1.050	86.541	12.625	98.750	80.802	69.425	98.025	0.561	0.122	1.388	0.790	0.551	0.951
114009	4	22.160	21.205	23.342	-0.917	-1.450	-0.050	41.115	0.000	88.900	90.652	84.775	97.000	0.618	0.406	0.844	0.643	0.506	0.951
118755	31	23.512	21.184	25.388	-4.564	-6.400	-2.775	82.646	32.700	95.567	92.277	80.550	97.967	0.720	0.051	1.953	0.925	0.625	0.951
118760	7	23.863	23.182	24.764	-2.348	-3.900	-1.167	73.830	19.425	98.000	84.724	78.750	91.867	0.737	0.106	1.423	0.773	0.511	0.951
120084	4	21.178	20.799	21.347	-1.827	-1.933	-1.775	16.606	0.250	32.100	93.206	91.025	95.375	0.395	0.245	0.536	0.725	0.694	0.951
120086	5	22.326	21.877	22.915	-3.420	-4.100	-2.700	78.888	51.800	96.175	80.695	74.200	86.725	0.365	0.095	0.677	0.626	0.523	0.951
120446	22	22.349	20.705	24.075	-2.997	-6.000	-1.500	77.342	1.000	97.500	90.539	78.750	98.950	0.646	0.075	2.057	0.782	0.564	0.951
130543	5	21.412	19.422	22.143	-2.990	-3.550	-1.600	67.710	0.000	94.925	98.008	96.375	99.367	0.709	0.147	2.141	0.810	0.540	0.951
137384	5	22.660	21.400	24.000	-2.943	-3.950	-2.300	86.415	74.700	93.850	86.290	71.500	92.625	0.527	0.035	0.867	0.750	0.596	0.951
137385	10	23.280	21.100	25.000	-3.690	-5.500	-2.100	84.318	0.000	97.050	93.570	85.333	98.667	1.256	0.409	2.568	0.878	0.613	0.951
147073	17	24.071	20.700	27.300	-3.578	-6.300	-0.800	77.767	13.300	96.500	82.997	65.600	94.900	0.926	0.094	2.401	0.798	0.532	0.951
118758B	2	19.994	19.827	20.162	-3.575	-3.750	-3.400	27.763	19.100	36.425	98.450	98.200	98.700	0.589	0.412	0.767	0.790	0.772	0.951
86238E	2	21.881	21.663	22.098	-3.975	-4.100	-3.850	27.113	22.500	31.725	81.788	79.975	83.600	0.714	0.695	0.734	0.513	0.504	0.951
Grand Total	236	23.879	19.422	35.650	-4.496	-12.600	0.050	76.512	0.000	98.750	84.243	34.300	99.367	0.776	0.035	3.165	0.831	0.504	0.951

917 Table 5. Prediction of reproductive events with probabilities >75% showing reproductive areas and dates and means of predictive variables and probability
 918 of reproductive state.
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ID	date ini.	date final	consecutive days in repro. window		mean SST	mean diff_ther	mean TAT 21-27 °C	mean TAD 0-20 m	mean velocity	mean Lat.	mean Lon.	mean probability of reproductive state	Area
107360	10-Jun-11	10-Jun-11	0	NA	21.2816	-3.8000	97.1000	91.1000	0.5547	38.5960	2.4100	0.7937	Southwest from Mallorca, Southeast from Ibiza, Balearic Isl
107360	13-Jun-11	19-Jun-11	6	3	22.9815	-6.4286	95.7429	86.8286	0.4121	38.7340	2.8809	0.9272	South from Minorca, Balearic Isl
107360	29-Jun-11	11-Jul-11	12	10	24.3607	-3.2923	97.0846	89.0077	0.8318	39.1517	6.0648	0.9158	Sardino-Balearic plain, West from Sar
107360	22-Jul-11	22-Jul-11	0	11	24.5518	-9.4000	97.0000	80.5000	0.6964	40.4600	3.6990	0.9918	Magonis valley, Northeast from Mallorca Isl
107360	24-Jul-11	24-Jul-11	0	2	24.1322	-6.5000	97.0000	90.7000	0.5018	40.5670	3.4660	0.9945	Off Mataro canyon head, Northeast from Mallorca Isl
107360	27-Jul-11	27-Jul-11	0	3	24.1661	-7.9000	97.0000	90.8000	0.4827	40.5460	3.1300	0.9974	Off Mataro canyon head, Northeast from Mallorca Isl
107360	05-Aug-11	05-Aug-11	0	9	25.8000	-5.4000	77.6000	70.1000	0.2517	38.9700	2.3870	0.9504	Mallorca Channel, West from Mallorca, Balearic Isl
107360	16-Aug-11	16-Aug-11	0	11	35.6500	-11.3000	50.0000	35.4000	0.6973	39.1160	1.5300	0.9996	Off Ibiza North coast, Balearic Isl
107360	22-Aug-11	22-Aug-11	0	6	26.3764	-12.6000	22.2000	79.2000	0.8538	39.7140	1.1790	0.9994	Off Valencia, Southeast from Columbretes Islands, North from
97462	20-Jun-11	20-Jun-11	0	NA	23.0850	-4.1000	97.0000	96.9000	0.3056	37.4020	0.9970	0.9897	Off Algiers, Algerian Isl
97462	28-Jun-11	28-Jun-11	0	8	24.2650	-2.9000	84.8000	87.3000	0.5466	37.8160	1.5080	0.9512	Algerian basin, South from Ibiza, Balearic Isl
97462	07-Jul-11	07-Jul-11	0	9	24.8873	-4.3000	89.7000	87.8000	0.3409	38.3800	2.7910	0.9902	Southwest from Mallorca, Southeast from Ibiza, Balearic Isl
97462	10-Jul-11	10-Jul-11	0	3	25.1564	-5.1000	77.5000	74.5000	0.1351	38.3980	2.8570	0.9611	Southwest from Mallorca, Southeast from Ibiza, Balearic Isl
97462	15-Jul-11	15-Jul-11	0	5	25.7424	-4.8000	90.8000	87.9000	1.5201	37.9010	1.5650	0.9755	Algerian basin, South from Ibiza, Balearic Isl
118755	31-May-12	08-Jun-12	8	NA	22.1549	-3.8185	75.4417	95.3037	0.3733	39.0703	2.1566	0.9477	Mallorca Channel, West from Mallorca, Balearic Isl
118755	14-Jun-12	14-Jun-12	0	6	21.9436	-2.7750	76.8500	96.3500	1.1249	38.3280	4.9340	0.8115	Mallorca Channel, West from Mallorca, Balearic Isl
118755	20-Jun-12	07-Jul-12	17	6	24.5564	-5.2009	89.3338	90.4662	0.7617	38.3688	7.0212	0.9638	Sardino-Balearic plain, Southwest from Sar
114007	29-May-12	29-May-12	0	NA	20.6638	-2.5750	12.6250	98.0250	0.5327	38.9740	2.8460	0.8155	South from Mallorca, Balearic Isl
114007	20-Jun-12	21-Jun-12	1	22	24.5561	-1.0750	94.4500	83.5000	0.3539	31.6580	19.0170	0.8840	Gulf of Sidra, I
114007	23-Jun-12	27-Jun-12	4	2	25.6116	-2.8683	93.8750	80.9900	0.8108	31.8616	18.5402	0.9178	Gulf of Sidra, I
114007	25-Jul-12	25-Jul-12	0	28	23.2241	-2.1333	93.9250	87.7250	0.4065	33.9360	-19.2320	0.8786	Northwest from Madeira Island, Atlantic O
114006	02-Jun-12	02-Jun-12	0	NA	22.2199	-4.4500	76.9500	96.9750	0.9549	39.0340	3.6790	0.9469	South from Mallorca, Southwest from Minorca, Balearic Isl
114006	04-Jun-12	04-Jun-12	0	2	21.9855	-4.4000	56.1250	92.3750	0.9935	38.8160	4.1420	0.8536	Southeast from Mallorca, Southwest from Minorca, Balearic Isl
114006	08-Jun-12	08-Jun-12	0	4	21.8809	-3.6667	93.8667	94.5667	0.7720	38.4880	5.2560	0.8894	Sardino-Balearic plain, Southwest from Sar
114006	11-Jun-12	13-Jun-12	2	3	22.3319	-3.5500	87.7056	91.7250	0.6023	38.2063	6.2567	0.8729	Sardino-Balearic plain, Southwest from Sar
114006	17-Jun-12	17-Jun-12	0	4	22.6773	-3.6000	90.7500	88.8500	0.2888	38.4930	6.5070	0.9283	Sardino-Balearic plain, Southwest from Sar

ID	date Ini.	date final	consecutive days in repro. window	days from last repro.	mean SST	mean diff_ther	mean TAT 21-27 °C	mean TAD 0-20 m	mean velocity	mean Lat.	mean Lon.	mean probability of reproductive state	Area
114006	18-Jun-12	18-Jun-12	0	1	22.8166	-3.8500	91.2667	92.4667	0.5316	38.5680	6.6180	0.9545	Sardino-Balearic plain, Southwest from Sar
114006	20-Jun-12	22-Jun-12	2	2	23.0649	-3.8361	91.1722	93.1722	0.5921	38.6863	6.9570	0.9521	Sardino-Balearic plain, Southwest from Sar
114006	24-Jun-12	30-Jun-12	6	2	24.6358	-5.3738	81.9357	87.1750	0.7458	38.3577	6.4694	0.9648	Sardino-Balearic plain, Southwest from Sar
114006	12-Aug-12	12-Aug-12	0	43	21.8261	0.0500	98.0000	95.4000	0.1865	31.5380	-12.3970	0.8065	Off Morroco, Northeast form Lanzarote Island, Atlantic O
66697	04-Jun-12	04-Jun-12	0	NA	21.6800	-3.2500	5.1000	93.1500	0.9189	39.0960	18.4930	0.7710	Ioniar
66697	12-Jun-12	14-Jun-12	2	8	23.6521	-4.3104	94.5083	93.2167	1.0558	37.9747	18.9423	0.9466	Ioniar
66697	21-Jun-12	21-Jun-12	0	7	24.9477	-5.9417	96.9750	89.3250	0.8194	36.5150	17.8160	0.9927	Ioniar
66697	24-Jun-12	26-Jun-12	2	3	26.1672	-6.0653	86.1333	82.3000	1.3578	36.8900	18.1667	0.9389	Ioniar
66697	01-Jul-12	04-Jul-12	3	5	27.3294	-6.3646	87.3938	76.4938	1.8105	36.7705	17.7355	0.9473	Ioniar
66697	06-Jul-12	14-Jul-12	8	2	27.7920	-10.3229	28.9861	70.2111	1.1373	35.7739	16.6877	0.9697	East from Malta, South from Sicily, Ioniar
66697	18-Jul-12	20-Jul-12	2	4	26.2957	-10.6208	70.9500	63.6583	1.0480	35.5003	13.7787	0.9087	Southwest from M
66697	27-Jul-12	27-Jul-12	0	7	25.9353	-10.2625	69.5500	70.0750	1.8535	35.9420	12.3450	0.9356	West from M
66697	31-Jul-12	31-Jul-12	0	4	25.8962	-7.0875	69.5750	67.7250	1.3760	36.3330	13.9270	0.8232	Northwest from Malta, South from
66697	04-Aug-12	04-Aug-12	0	4	27.5913	-8.4063	60.7000	59.5000	1.1484	37.5290	16.7120	0.9310	Off Calabria, Ioniar
66697	17-Aug-12	17-Aug-12	0	13	27.3867	-7.9813	67.2000	67.1000	0.6813	39.5190	18.1340	0.9872	Off Apulia, Ioniar
66697	15-Sep-12	16-Sep-12	1	29	24.2427	-4.9344	87.7375	84.2250	1.0155	41.4370	18.2695	0.9235	Adriatic plain, Adriati
120084	08-Jun-12	08-Jun-12	0	NA	21.3469	-1.7750	20.6250	95.3750	0.5358	34.6920	-15.3930	0.7786	South from Lion Seamount, North from Madeira Island, Atlant
120086	18-Jun-12	18-Jun-12	0	NA	22.9149	-2.7000	96.1750	86.7250	0.3832	38.4120	6.9820	0.8609	Sardino-Balearic plain, Southwest from Sar
114009	13-Sep-12	13-Sep-12	0	NA	23.3419	-1.4500	44.9250	84.7750	0.4064	30.1330	-12.3410	0.7762	Off Morroco, Northeast form Lanzarote Island, Atlantic O
1187588	16-Jun-13	17-Jun-13	1	NA	19.9944	-3.5750	27.7625	98.4500	0.5893	35.8580	-3.0245	0.7897	South from Alborán Island, Alborar
118760	19-Jun-13	20-Jun-13	1	NA	24.0513	-2.7500	36.9250	85.5375	0.9097	38.9655	12.3015	0.8541	Northwest from Ustica Island, Tyrrheniar
118760	23-Jun-13	24-Jun-13	1	3	24.4869	-3.5000	77.5292	89.3208	0.9917	39.3165	13.2225	0.9452	North from Ustica Island, Tyrrheniar
130543	22-Jun-13	24-Jun-13	2	NA	22.0264	-3.2667	93.3583	97.4083	0.3730	38.2453	2.5793	0.9578	Southwest from Mallorca, Southeast from Ibiza, Balearic Isl
120446	24-Jun-13	26-Jun-13	2	NA	21.9801	-2.8111	74.2917	93.0667	0.4607	38.5640	4.2790	0.8789	Southeast from Mallorca, South from Minorca, Balearic Isl
120446	02-Jul-13	02-Jul-13	0	6	22.3378	-1.5750	92.9000	94.3500	0.8994	38.6680	4.5460	0.7820	Southeast from Mallorca, South from Minorca, Balearic Isl
120446	12-Aug-13	16-Aug-13	4	41	22.4455	-3.9900	96.1600	96.9933	0.4789	44.1486	-3.0324	0.9608	Landes plateau, Bay of Biscay, Atlantic O
120446	20-Aug-13	20-Aug-13	0	4	22.8294	-2.4000	97.0500	96.4500	0.6814	44.2710	-3.0250	0.9449	Landes plateau, Bay of Biscay, Atlantic O
137384	10-Jun-14	10-Jun-14	0	NA	22.2000	-2.9000	84.1750	84.5000	0.0355	38.5010	2.3800	0.8098	Southwest from Mallorca, Southeast from Ibiza, Balearic Isl
137384	14-Jun-14	14-Jun-14	0	4	24.0000	-3.9500	90.3000	90.2500	0.6812	38.7030	2.2380	0.9713	Southwest from Mallorca, Southeast from Ibiza, Balearic Isl

ID	date Ini.	date final	consecutive days in repro.	days from last repro. window	mean SST	mean diff_ther	mean TAT 21-27 °C	mean TAD 0-20 m	mean velocity	mean Lat.	mean Lon.	mean probability of reproductive state	Area
137385	12-Jun-14	13-Jun-14	1	NA	23.2500	-4.8500	92.6500	93.3500	1.5702	38.4860	1.6590	0.8897	Southeast from Ibiza, Balearic Isl
137385	15-Jun-14	15-Jun-14	0	2	23.2000	-2.8000	97.0000	98.0000	0.5984	38.2250	1.7470	0.9776	Southeast from Ibiza, Balearic Isl
137385	17-Jun-14	17-Jun-14	0	2	22.8000	-3.1000	97.0000	98.0000	0.4089	37.9430	1.5990	0.9795	Prunes seamount, South from Ibiza, Balearic Isl
137385	21-Jun-14	21-Jun-14	0	4	22.9000	-4.2000	87.9000	88.8000	1.0168	37.9430	1.4960	0.8612	Prunes seamount, South from Ibiza, Balearic Isl
137385	26-Jun-14	26-Jun-14	0	5	23.4000	-4.1000	94.5000	94.9500	1.3657	38.2920	2.7240	0.9397	South from Mallorca, Southeast from Ibiza, Balearic Isl
137385	29-Jun-14	29-Jun-14	0	3	23.7000	-4.7000	90.4333	85.3333	0.4202	38.0980	3.1090	0.9591	South from Mallorca, Southeast from Ibiza, Balearic Isl
137385	16-Jul-14	16-Jul-14	0	17	25.0000	-2.3000	94.0000	90.8000	1.6810	37.5190	3.9640	0.8909	Off Algiers, Algerian I
137385	07-Sep-14	07-Sep-14	0	53	21.1000	-3.9000	0.0000	98.6667	1.3623	36.1220	-4.9920	0.7749	Gibraltar valley, East from Strait of Gibr
147073	13-Jun-15	13-Jun-15	0	NA	22.3000	-4.7000	87.6500	91.8500	0.7065	39.0780	4.2850	0.9289	Southeast from Mallorca, South from Minorca, Balearic Isl
147073	19-Jul-15	19-Jul-15	0	36	25.5000	-2.6000	96.5000	92.3000	1.1042	41.3920	4.7030	0.9805	Off Palamos canyon head, South from the Gulf of
147073	05-Aug-15	05-Aug-15	0	17	23.3000	-6.0000	83.0000	85.6000	1.5191	42.5740	5.1160	0.8350	Off Grand Rh[one canyon, Gulf of
147073	08-Aug-15	08-Aug-15	0	3	25.2000	-2.9000	85.6000	83.7000	0.7435	41.5600	3.8480	0.9454	Palamos canyon head, Catalar
147073	13-Aug-15	13-Aug-15	0	5	27.3000	-6.1000	28.9000	65.6000	0.6811	40.3750	1.8430	0.9580	Off Catalonia, Northwest of Mallorca Is
147073	17-Aug-15	17-Aug-15	0	4	25.4000	-0.8000	88.9000	82.4500	0.9155	41.1530	3.1600	0.8249	Blanes canyon head, Catalar
147073	24-Aug-15	25-Aug-15	1	7	23.8500	-3.3500	83.6500	85.0000	0.1632	41.7350	5.1880	0.9535	La Renaixença hills, South from Gulf of
147073	31-Aug-15	31-Aug-15	0	6	23.2000	-6.3000	68.0000	77.0667	0.6296	42.5300	4.6360	0.8359	Off Montpellier canyon head, Gulf of
147073	02-Sep-15	02-Sep-15	0	2	23.1000	-3.5000	93.9000	91.0000	1.4455	42.4870	4.6900	0.7960	Off Montpellier canyon head, Gulf of
147073	23-Sep-15	23-Sep-15	0	21	24.1000	-2.6000	84.7000	82.8000	0.9598	40.2390	1.8610	0.7679	Off Catalonia, Northwest of Mallorca Is