

netcet NETWORK FOR THE CONSERVATION OF CETACEANS AND SEA TURTLES IN THE ADRIATIC



M. Günther/WWF-Cannon

BOATS, TURTLES AND CETACEANS



A. Zunjjevic

Cetaceans and **turtles** periodically go to the surface to breathe. **Cetaceans** may also swim at surface while **turtles** spend long time at surface for resting and basking. Therefore, they may be hit by **boats** and be injured, especially if the boat is fast and changes its route abruptly. Moreover, cetaceans are highly sensitive to **underwater sounds**, and the noise produced by the boat's engine greatly disturbs them.



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FISHING



B. Lazar

Turtles are air-breathers and **can drown** if submerged for long in a net. When they arrive on the boat, some turtles may be apparently dead or very weak. They may die if released in this condition, because they cannot swim to the surface in order to breathe. **Fishermen can save them** by letting them recover on the boat for a while before releasing them. **Turtles** are attracted by the bait and may be captured by the hooks. Although most turtles are released alive, the ingested line will kill many of them later on. **Fishermen can save them** by cutting the line close to the mouth, thus avoiding it is ingested.



G. Cambiè

13 PARTNERS IN ITALY, SLOVENIA, CROATIA, MONTENEGRO AND ALBANIA WORK TOGETHER OVER 3 YEARS IN THE NETCET PROJECT FOR THE CONSERVATION OF CETACEANS AND SEA TURTLES IN THE ADRIATIC THROUGH REGIONAL COOPERATION.

SEA TURTLES AND CETACEANS OF THE ADRIATIC



M. Günther/WWF-Cannon

The **loggerhead turtle** is the most common sea turtle in the Adriatic Sea, which represents one of the most important foraging ground for this species in the Mediterranean, especially for turtles from Greece.



J. Freund/WWF-Cannon

The **green turtle** breeds in the easternmost part of the Mediterranean (Turkey, Cyprus, Syria) and only few individuals reach the Adriatic, especially the southern part.



J. Freund/WWF-Cannon

Leatherback turtles do not reproduce in the Mediterranean. They come from the Atlantic and can go everywhere in the basin, including the Adriatic.



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The **bottlenose dolphin** is the most common cetacean in the Adriatic Sea, occurring mostly in small groups in the coastal and off-shore waters of the northern and central Adriatic.



T. Genov

The **striped dolphin** is a small, gregarious species occurring in large groups mostly in the pelagic waters of the southern Adriatic.



T. Genov

The **Risso's dolphin** is the largest of Adriatic dolphins with distinct coloration, large dorsal fin and prominent bulbous head. It occurs in the southern Adriatic.



T. Genov / Montenegro

The **common dolphin**, once the most common cetacean in the Adriatic Sea, is now considered regionally extinct. This is an example of the dramatic impact of human activities to the marine environment.



C. Fortuna / ISPRA

The **fin whale** is the biggest cetacean and the only regular baleen whale in the Mediterranean. It is regularly observed in small numbers in the Adriatic, particularly in the central and southern parts.

and **netcet** are helping to save
Sea Turtles and Cetaceans in the Adriatic.

www.netcet.eu



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