



Conservation of Top Predators through Monitoring and Capacity Building in the Gökçeada Island (North Aegean Sea)

“Additional Report”

Fieldwork

On the days when we could sail, we were off the sea before the dawn and back after sunset!



Except for the day we had an accident...

On the days which we could not sail, we carried out land observations from the highest points of the island.



Questionnaires

The first questionnaire showed us how less they know about the ecosystem that surrounds them.



Anket (06/03/2020)
SINIF:5.

1. Asađıda resimleri olan hayvanların dođru isimlerini secip altlarındaki kutucuklara yazabilir misin?

KÖPEK BALIđI / KILIÇ BALIđI / ORKİNOS / YUNUS / BALİNA / AKDENİZ FOKU



KÖPEK BALIđI



BALINA

2. Yukarıdaki hayvanların hangisinden korkardın? Neden?

Balina çünkü daha önce kendisiyle bir göz temasımız oldu ve her denize girdiğimde o aklıma geliyor ve denizden çıkıyorum o zamandan beri hep korkmuşumdur.

3. Sence bu hayvan bir balık mı?

Yunus bir balık türüdür yani evet

Here one of the students is telling that one time when he saw a whale looking directly into his eyes while he was swimming, and that's why he is so scared to swim in the sea now. (He was probably very confused on what a whale actually is) 😊

Oral Presentations and Video Communications

We had such a great time with kids! It is amazing to be a part of their motivation to take a greater interest in conservation actions!



KÖY

Rufforo Foundation

Akciğer solunumu yaparlar ve **üfleme deliği** olarak bilinen kafalarının üzerindeki burun deliği ile nefes alırlar.



KÖY

The Rufforo Foundation

EKOSİSTEM

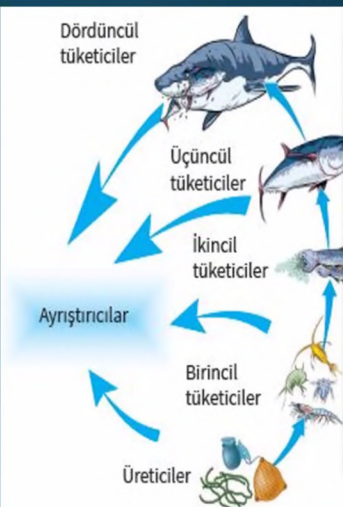
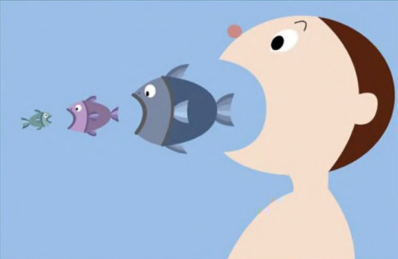


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BESİN ZİNCİRİ



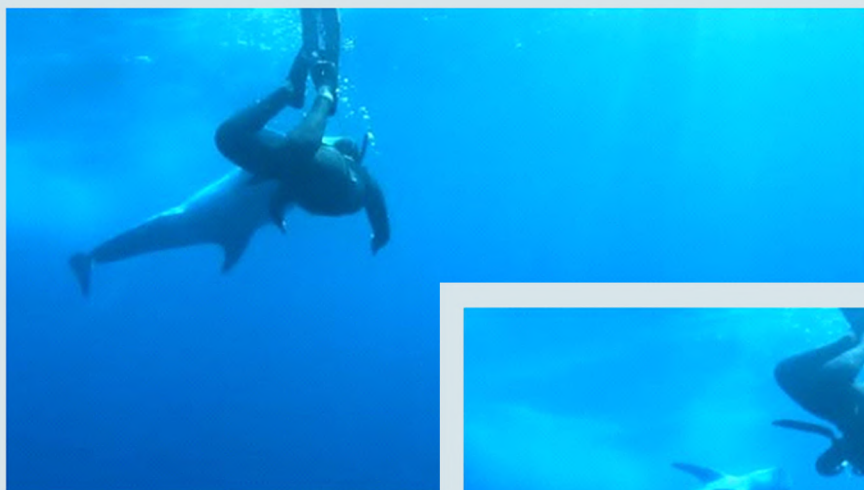
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Local Ecological Knowledge

We have built a strong relationship with the divers and fishermen in the island!
They sent pictures of every top predator they have encountered during the whole year.

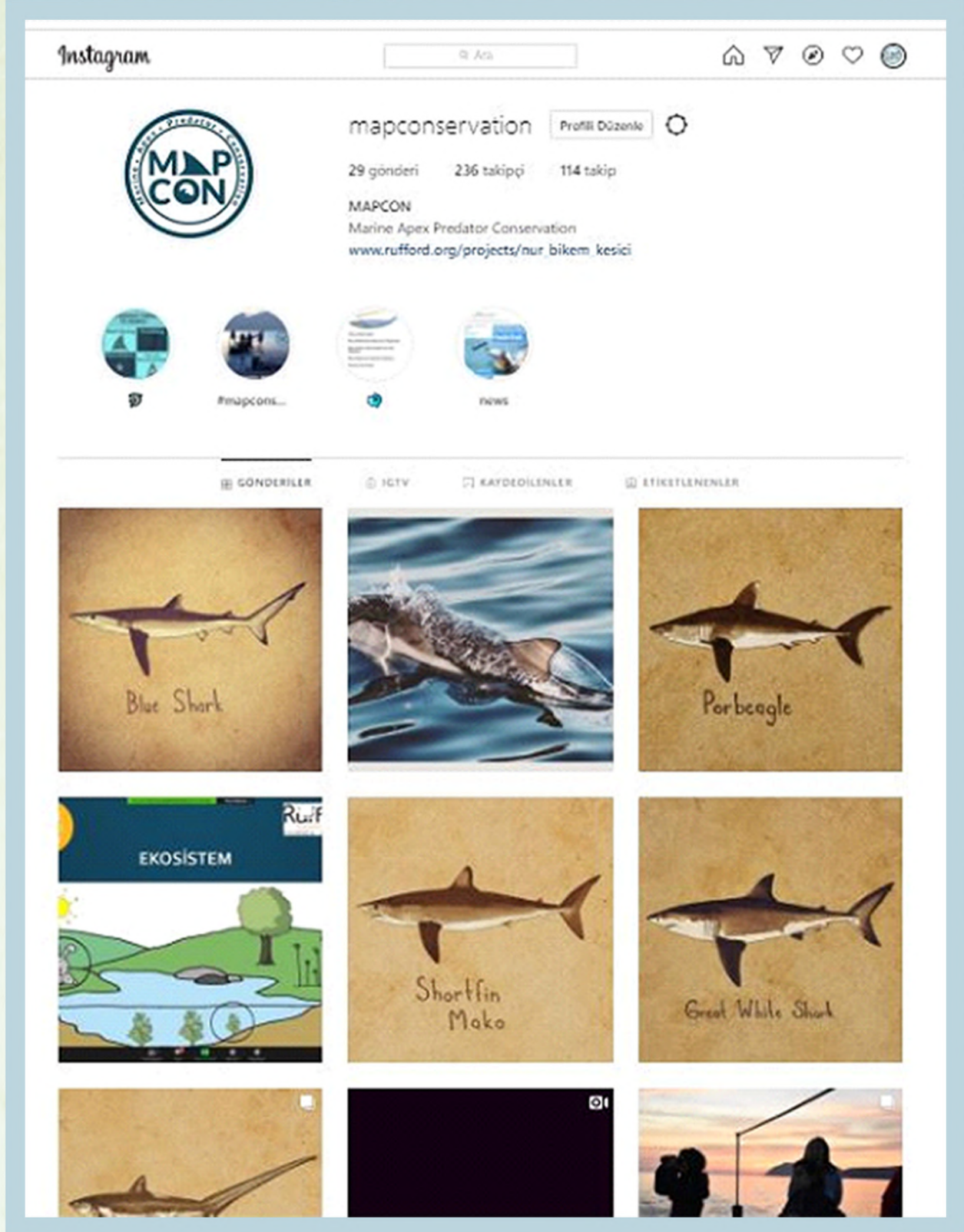


even pictures from a day which they spent with Risso's dolphins...





Brochures and Other Publications

We have created an Instagram account that frequently posts one illustration of a top predator existing in the Turkish waters of the Mediterranean Sea, and gives information on their ecology, current status etc., as well as updates about the project.





Besides, we have prepared some posters and brochures that briefly explains what the aim of the project is and what type of animals we were looking for (in English and in Turkish).



Gökçeada Etrafındaki Büyük Deniz Canlılarının İzleme ve Kapasite Arttırım Yolu ile Korunması

"Top predator" olarak adlandırılan büyük deniz canlıları, sağlıklı bir deniz ekosisteminin en iyi göstergesidir. Yürütülecek projedeki bilimsel amacımız, Gökçeada etrafında bulunan bu deniz canlılarının popülasyonlarını belirlemek ve bu canlılar ile ilgili ilk sistematik izleme çalışmasını gerçekleştirmektir. Proje süresince yapılacak olan deniz ve kara gözlemlerinin yanı sıra, başta çocuklar olmak üzere ada halkı ile iş birliği yaparak, ada halkının çevre bilincinin artırılması hedeflenmektedir. MAPCON ekibi olarak toplum bilincinin iş birliği ile büyük ölçüde artırılacağına inanmaktayız!



Conservation of Top Predators through Monitoring and Capacity Building in the Gökçeada Island (North Aegean Sea)

The Aegean Sea is home to a diverse assemblage of different large predators that are great indicators of a healthy marine ecosystem. However, lack of available information on the local biodiversity is a major obstacle in conservation planning of the target area. The main goal of this project is to perform the first systematic top predator survey to gain knowledge on the distribution and abundance of these species, as well as involving the students and key stakeholders to the project by merging them into the citizen science. As team MAPCON, we believe public awareness can be substantially raised through cooperation!



KÖPEKBALIKLARI AKDENİZ'DE BİRÇOK FAZLA KÜÇÜK BALIK TÜRÜ TESPİT EDİLMİŞ OLUP NE YAZIK KI BU TÜRLERİN YARISINDAN FAZLASI TEHLİKE ALTINDA OLMUŞ BULUNMAKTADIR.

2017 YILI VERİLERİNE GÖRE BALIKÇILIK GELİMEYİLE BİRLİKTE AKDENİZ'DE YAKALANAN KILIC BALIĞI SAYISI 1980'LERDEN BU YANA EN DÜŞÜK RAKAMLARA ULAŞMIŞTIR. YAPILAN DEĞERLENDİRMELER STOKUN AĞIR AVLANDIĞINI GÖSTERMEKTEDİR.

30. YI BOYUNCA KARADENİZ VE TÜRK BOĞAZLAR SİSTEMİNDE YAŞAYAN YUNUS POPÜLASYONLARINDA CİDİİ BİR AZALMA SÖZ KONUSUDUR. ANTRPOJENİK ETKİLER BU TÜRLER İÇİN DEVAMLİ BİR TEHDİT OLUŞTURMAKTADIR.

GÜNÜMÜZDE HALA VAR OLAN AKDENİZ FOKU POPÜLASYONLARI DÜNYADA YALNIZCA TÜRKİYE, YUNANİSTAN, MORİTANYA VE PORTEKİZİN MADİRA ADALARI KOYUNLARINDA BULUNMAKTADIR. BİREY SAYILARI İYİ SEÇMEYEN DAĞINIK KOLONİLER HALİNDE TOPLAMDA YAKLAŞIK 350-450 BİREY OLUKLARI TAHMİN EDİLMEKTEDİR.

BALINALAR SAĞLIKLIK BİR EKOSİSTEMİN EN ÖNEMLİ GÖSTERGESİDİR. BUNUN HALA BİRÇOK BALINA TÜRÜNÜN EKOLOJİSİ YETERİ KADAR BİLİNMEMEKTEDİR.

TON BALIKLARI KUVVETLİ VE HIZLI BİRER YÜZÜCÜDÜR. MAVİ YÜZGEÇLİ ATLANTİK ORKİNOBU STOKLARININ GÜNÜMÜZDE AĞIRI AVCI İŞİ MARUZ KALDIĞI BİLİNMEKTEDİR.

ORFOZLAR AKDENİZ'DE NEREDEYSE 10.000 YILDIZ İNBAĞAN ARZINDAN AVLANMAKTADIR. UZUN ÖMÜRLERİ, ÇİREME OLGUNLUŞUNA GEÇMEYENLERİ GİBİ ÖZELLİKLERİNİN DOLAYI AKDENİZ'DEKİ ORFOZ STOKLARI TÜKENME TEHDİDİ ALTINDADIR.



AKDENİZ



MORE THAN 80 SPECIES OF CONDRICHTHYANS HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED IN THE MEDITERRANEAN UP TO DATE - A BIODIVERSITY HOTSPOT FOR MORE THAN HALF OF THE EXISTING SPECIES ARE UNDER THREAT.

IN 2017, THE MEDITERRANEAN SWORDFISH LANDINGS WERE THE LOWEST OBSERVED SINCE THE FULL DEVELOPMENT OF THE FISHERIES IN THE MID-1980S. THE ASSESSMENTS INDICATE THAT THE STOCK IS OVERFISHED.

DURING THE 20TH CENTURY, A DRAMATIC DECLINE HAS BEEN DETECTED IN THE ABUNDANCE OF DOLPHINES IN THE BLACK SEA AND THE TURKISH STRAITS SYSTEM. ANTHROPOGENIC EFFECTS POSE CONTINUOUS THREATS TO THESE SPECIES.

IN THE WORLD, VIABLE MEDITERRANEAN MONK SEAL POPULATIONS EXIST ONLY ALONG THE COASTS OF TURKEY, GREECE, MAURITANIA AND PORTUGAL (DORIA ISLANDS). THE POPULATION CURRENTLY CONSISTS OF ABOUT 350-450 ANIMALS SPLIT INTO SEVERAL COLONIES IN DIFFERENT AREAS.

WHALES PROMOTE SPECIES RICHNESS AND THEY ARE VULNERABLE ELEMENTS OF A HEALTHY ECOSYSTEM. DESPITE MUCH EFFORT, RELATIVELY LITTLE IS KNOWN ABOUT THE ECOLOGY OF MANY WHALE SPECIES.

TUNAS ARE STRONG AND FAST SWIMMERS. IT IS PREDICTED THAT THE STOCK WILL CONTINUE TO BE OVERFISHED DUE TO INADEQUATE PROTECTION.

GROUPERS HAVE BEEN FISHED FOR ALMOST 100 YEARS IN THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA. YET, DUE TO CERTAIN LIFE HISTORY TRAITS OF THE SPECIES SUCH AS SLOW GROWTH, LONG LIFE SPAN AND LATE MATURATION CURRENT STOCKS ARE UNDER THREAT OF OVER-EXPLOITATION.



THE MEDITERRANEAN SEA