



# 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. Asağıda resimleri olan hayvanların doğru isimlerini seçip alttakilerde kutucuklara yazabilir misin?

**KÖPEK BALIĞI / KILIÇ BALIĞI / ORKİNOS / YUNUS / BALINA / AKDENİZ FOKU**



**KÖPEK BALIĞI**



BALINA

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) 😊

2. Yukarıdaki hayvanların hangisinden korkardın? Neden?

Balina çünkü daha önce kendisiyle bir göz temasımız oldu ve her denize girdiğimde o aklıma geliyor ve denizden sıkıyorum özamandan ben hep korkmusumdur.

3. Sence bu hayvan bir balık mı?

Yunus bir balık türüdür yanı evet

## 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!



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

The Rufford Foundation [@ruffordgazete](http://www.rufford.org)

## EKOsistem

The Rufford Foundation [@ruffordgazete](http://www.rufford.org)

## BESİN ZİNCİRİ

Dördüncü tüketiciler  
Üçüncü tüketiciler  
İkinci tüketiciler  
Ayırıcılar  
Birincil tüketiciler  
Üreticiler

The Rufford Foundation [@ruffordgazete](http://www.rufford.org)

## 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.

The screenshot shows the Instagram profile for MAPCON (@mapconservation). The profile picture is a circular logo for MAPCON, which stands for Marine Apex Predator Conservation. The bio reads: "MAPCON Marine Apex Predator Conservation www.rufford.org/projects/nur\_bikem\_kesici". The profile has 29 posts, 236 followers, and 114 following. There are four profile pictures displayed below the bio. Below the profile section, there are four categories with corresponding icons: GÖNDERİLER (Posts), İCTV (Instagram TV), KAYDEĞİLENLER (Saved posts), and ETİKETLENENLER (Tagged posts). The main feed displays nine posts arranged in a grid. The first post is a painting of a Blue Shark with the caption "Blue Shark". The second post is a painting of a Porbeagle shark with the caption "Porbeagle". The third post is a painting of a Shortfin Mako shark with the caption "Shortfin Mako". The fourth post is a painting of a Great White shark with the caption "Great White Shark". The fifth post is a painting of a shark's head. The sixth post is a black screen. The seventh post is a photograph of two people standing on a beach at sunset, with a camera tripod visible. The eighth post is a painting of a shark's head. The ninth post is a black screen. The overall theme of the posts is marine biology and conservation.

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 göstergeleridir. Yürüttüceğimiz projede bilimsel amacımız, Gökçeada etrafında bulunan bu deniz canlılarını popülasyonlarını belirlemek ve bu canlılar ile ilgili ilk sistematiğe 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 işbirliği ile büyük ölçüde artabileceğine 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 BOĞAÇLAŞMA  
TEŞPİT EDİLMİŞ OLUR  
NE KAZIK Kİ BÜTÜRLERİN  
YANINDA BULUNMAKİ  
TEHLİKE ALTHA DA  
OLĞUŞU BELİRTİLMİŞTİR.

**BALINALAR** SAĞLIKLI BİR EKOsistEMİN  
BİLGİSİZLİĞİNİ İNDİRMEK  
BUGÜN HALA BİRÇOK BALINA TÜRÜNÜN  
EKolojisi VETERİ KADAR BİLMEMEKTEDİR.

**MAVİ YÜZGEÇLİ  
ATLANTİK ORKİNOsu**  
STOKLARI AKDENİZDE AŞIRI  
AVULLAŞMA İLE DEĞİŞTİRİLDİ.  
BİLMİKMEDİR.

**SOT YÜZÜYLENİLE ŞÖRE**  
BALONLARIN GENELMESİYLE  
BİLKİTE AKDENİZDE YAKALANAN  
KILIC BALIGI SAYISI,  
1900'LERDE 100.000  
RAKAMLA ULAŞMIŞTIR. YAPILAN  
DEĞERLENDİRME STOŞUN  
ASLA AVLANICIYA  
GÖSTERMEKTEDİR.

**20. YÜZYILDA KARABURNU VE TÜRK  
BOĞAZLARI İSTEMLERDE YAZAYAN  
YUNUSU POPULASYONLARINA CİKOİ  
BİR AZALMA BÖZ KONUSUDUR.  
AÇIKLAMA İÇİN DEĞERLENDİRME  
BU TÜRLER İÇİN DEVAMI BİR  
TENDİT OLUSTURMaktadır.**

**GÜNDEMDE HALA VAR OLAN  
AKDENİZ FOKU**  
POPULASYONLARI  
DÜNYADA İLK DÜZENLİ, VİZİ  
YUNANİSTAN, MORİTİNA VE  
PORTUKALİYEN DESTEKA ADALARI  
KİMDEN BULUNDURADIR.  
BİREY SAYILARI BOYU SECMEN  
DİMLİ FOKLARIN SAYISI 10.000.  
TOPLAMDA YAKASIK 350-450  
BİREY OLDURLARI  
TAHMİN EDİLMEKTEDİR.

**ORFOZLAR** AKDENİZDE  
NEFİDİLER, İLK DÜZENLİ  
ARAFATLAR AVLANMAYAKTADIR.  
UZUN ÖMÜRLERİ, ÜREME OLŞUNLUJUNA  
DÜŞÜKLÜ İŞİLLERİ İLE  
ÖZELLİKLERİNDEN DOLAYI  
AKDENİZ'DEKİ ORFOZO STOKLARI  
TOPLAMDA TEHİDİ ALTMAYADIR.

**MORE THAN 80 SPECIES OF  
CONDRICHTHYANS**  
HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED IN THE  
MEDITERRANEAN UP TO DATE.  
A BIODIVERSITY ASPECT OF THESE PREDATORS, HOWEVER,  
MORE THAN HALF OF THE EXISTING  
SPECIES ARE UNDER THREAT.

**IN 2017, THE MEDITERRANEAN  
SWORDFISH LAUNCHES WERE**  
THE LOWEST OBSERVED SINCE  
THE FULL DEVELOPMENT OF THE  
FISHING INDUSTRY. THE ASSESSMENTS  
INDICATE THAT THE STOCK IS  
OVERFISHED.

**DURUMU 20. YÜZYIL  
DEĞİŞTİRMEK İSTİLENİYOR.**  
DURUMU 20. YÜZYIL  
DEĞİŞTİRMEK İSTİLENİYOR.  
DURUMU 20. YÜZYIL  
DEĞİŞTİRMEK İSTİLENİYOR.  
DURUMU 20. YÜZYIL  
DEĞİŞTİRMEK İSTİLENİYOR.

**WHALESH PROMOTE  
SPECIES RICHNESS AND  
THEY ARE VULNERABLE  
ELLEŞİ DÜŞÜKLÜ  
A HEALTHY ECOSYSTEM.  
DEFENSİF İŞİLLERİ DÜŞÜKLÜ  
RELATİFİLTİR LİTTİ  
ABOUT THE ECOLOGY OF  
MANY WHALE SPECIES.**

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

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

**GROUPERS** HAVE BEEN FISHED  
FOR ALMOST 10.000 YEARS.  
VET, 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.

**AKDENİZ**

**THE MEDITERRANEAN  
SEA**