

Map 1.2: Posidonia oceanica habitat

Data description:

Two datasets are used:

1. the potential Posidonia habitats map done by the DG-MARE during the MEDISEH project (Specific Contract 2 / Task 1.3). See references below for more details.
2. Broad-scale seabed habitat layer made by Emodnet and updated the 1st July 2019 (<https://www.emodnet-seabedhabitats.eu/access-data/download-data/>).

References:

Mediterranean Sensitive Habitats (2013). Edited by Giannoulaki M., A. Belluscio, F. Colloca, S. Fraschetti, M. Scardi, C. Smith, P. Panayotidis, V. Valavanis M.T. Spedicato. DG MARE Specific Contract SI2.600741, Final Report, 557 p.

M. Scardi, C.S. Martin, V. Valavanis, S. Fraschetti, A. Belluscio, M. Gristina, M. Salomidi, E. Punzo, P. Panayotidis, M. Giannoulaki 2013. Modeling of protected habitats using predictor variables, Mediterranean Sensitive Habitats (MEDISEH) Final Report, DG MARE Specific Contract SI2.600741

Mapping method:

A joint layer has been designed. The first layer is the potential Posidonia coming from Mediseh project which is a raster layer with pixel values between 0% for no-confidence to 100% for full-confidence. The pixels which have between 90 and 100 % confidence value have been selected.

The second layer is a seabed habitat (vector layer) coming from the Emodnet platform.

Both layers have the same color to show a joint coverage.

Analytical part:

Some hotspots at the regional level appears, mainly on the north coasts of the basin. In France, west coast of Italy, Croatia and south of Greece, the pressure generated by high anchoring of leisure boating on Posidonia Oceanica meadow seems intense.

In Tunisia and eastern Egypt, the high coverage of Posidonia Oceanica doesn't seem to be so far under pressure due to few leisure boating activities.