

Building a GFCM framework to combat IUU fishing

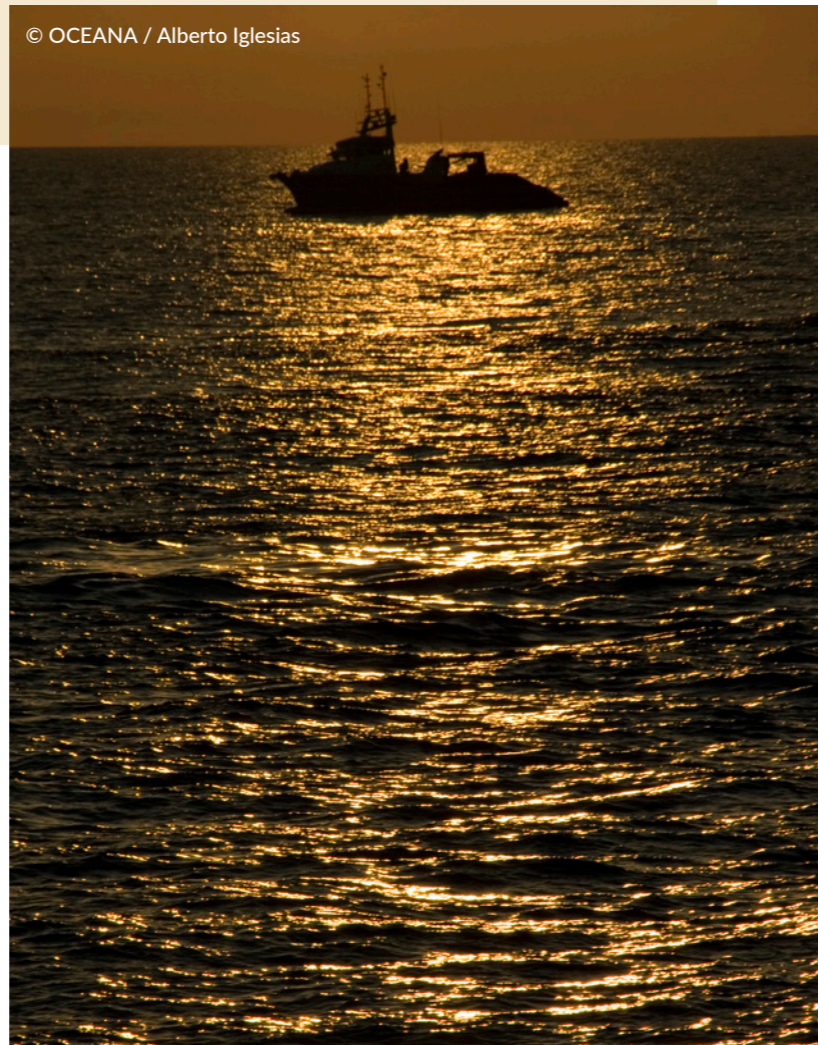
Oceana case studies and recommendations

*Oceana submission to the Working Group on IUU Fishing
Beirut, Lebanon 24-27 April, 2018*

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INTRODUCTION

Monitor, control and surveillance are crucial to ensure proper fisheries management and to rebuild stocks, in particular in the Mediterranean Sea, where 80% of the stocks are considered to be outside biologically safe limits. The General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM) has taken significant steps in the last years towards reversing this situation, including the adoption of a new and better adapted Agreement text. In addition, last October, the GFCM adopted a Regional Plan of Action for the fight against Illegal Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) fishing (RPOA-IUU). This is therefore a crucial moment to strengthen adopted management measures with a sound regional framework to tackle IUU fishing and implement the FAO International Plan of Action to prevent, deter and eliminate IUU fishing (FAO IPOA-IUU)¹ using an effective and up-to-date approach.

In that spirit, Oceana would like to contribute to the debate through these case studies and recommendations, which have been gathered using AIS data provided by Global Fishing Watch:

1. Suspected cases of bottom trawlers operating in existing Fisheries Restricted Areas (FRAs)
2. Suspected cases of foreign fishing vessels active in waters under the jurisdiction of a country that could be:
 - Access agreements between a flag state and a coastal state or between an individual operator and a coastal state that have not been reported.
 - Potential illegal intrusions of a fishing vessel into the waters that are under a country's jurisdiction that qualify as IUU fishing activities.

We would like to draw the attention of the working group in particular to the commitment made in March 2017, by Mediterranean states which gathered and agreed on a benchmark text for the future of fisheries in the region. The Malta Declaration², also called the “MedFish4Ever” Declaration, committed amongst other key steps, to create a network of Essential Fish Habitats by 2018, develop a culture of compliance and eliminate IUU fishing.

It is therefore of paramount importance that the culture of compliance with GFCM management and conservation measures is strengthened and that an adequate framework is proposed ahead of the upcoming GFCM Commission meeting in October this year.

METHODOLOGY

Global Fishing Watch is a free transparency platform that uses public broadcast data from Automatic Identification Systems (AIS), collected by satellite and terrestrial receivers, to show the movement of fishing vessels over time. AIS was initially designed as a safety mechanism for vessels to avoid collisions at sea; a vessel equipped with an AIS transponder autonomously broadcasts vessel identity and location information as frequently as every few seconds, which includes vessel name, position, speed and direction. Global Fishing Watch applies a fishing detection algorithm to this global feed of AIS data to classify fishing or non-fishing (i.e. transiting) activity based on vessel behaviours such as speed, direction and rate of turn.³ Oceana used Global Fishing Watch data to examine apparent fishing^a activities in the GFCM agreement area between January 2013 and January 2018.

Fishing effort was calculated by aggregating apparent fishing hours, defined as the time each vessel spent apparently fishing. Active vessels from the European Union (EU) were confirmed by matching each vessel's name, International Radio Call Sign (IRCS), Community Fleet Register (CFR) number and International Maritime Organization (IMO) number to the Community Fishing Fleet Register of the EU⁴. A potential limitation of this analysis lies in the weaknesses that exist in the regulations in terms of the requirements for vessels to be equipped with AIS systems. The United Nations' IMO requires all ships over 300 gross registered tons on international voyages to be fit with AIS⁵, whereas the EU requires all vessels over 15 meters to carry AIS⁶. Therefore, AIS data is biased to represent larger vessels whose flag states require them to carry AIS. But even those vessels can cheat the system by falsifying their location or by turning off their AIS transponders at will. It is also reasonable to assume that some vessels engaged in illegal fishing will intentionally not broadcast their AIS to avoid being caught. Oceana was unable to document the fishing effort of vessels not transmitting AIS, therefore, the results of this analysis are a conservative estimate of fishing effort in this region and only include those vessels transmitting AIS.

^a Any and all references to “fishing” should be understood in the context of Global Fishing Watch's fishing detection algorithm, which is a best effort to determine “apparent fishing effort” based on vessel speed and direction data from the Automatic Identification System (AIS) collected via satellites and terrestrial receivers. As AIS data varies in completeness, accuracy and quality, it is possible that some fishing effort is not identified and conversely, that some fishing effort identified is not fishing. For these reasons, Global Fishing Watch qualifies all designations of vessel fishing effort, including synonyms of the term “fishing effort,” such as “fishing” or “fishing activity,” as “apparent,” rather than certain. Any/all Global Fishing Watch information about “apparent fishing effort” should be considered an estimate and must be relied upon solely at your own risk. Global Fishing Watch is taking steps to make sure fishing effort designations are as accurate as possible.

CASE STUDIES

1. AIS signals from fishing vessels with prohibited gear in Fishing Restricted Areas

One of the most representative management measures adopted in the region by Contracting Parties to the GFCM are the spatial closures to bottom trawling because of the areas unique ecosystems (Vulnerable Marine Ecosystem) or because the areas represent an essential habitat during the fish stock's lifecycle (Essential Fish Habitats), or both combined. These areas, also called Fisheries Restricted Areas (FRA), have been declared since 2006⁷. Generally, FRAs adopted in Commission sessions enter into force 120 days from the notification day, in line with Article 13 of the GFCM basic text⁸.

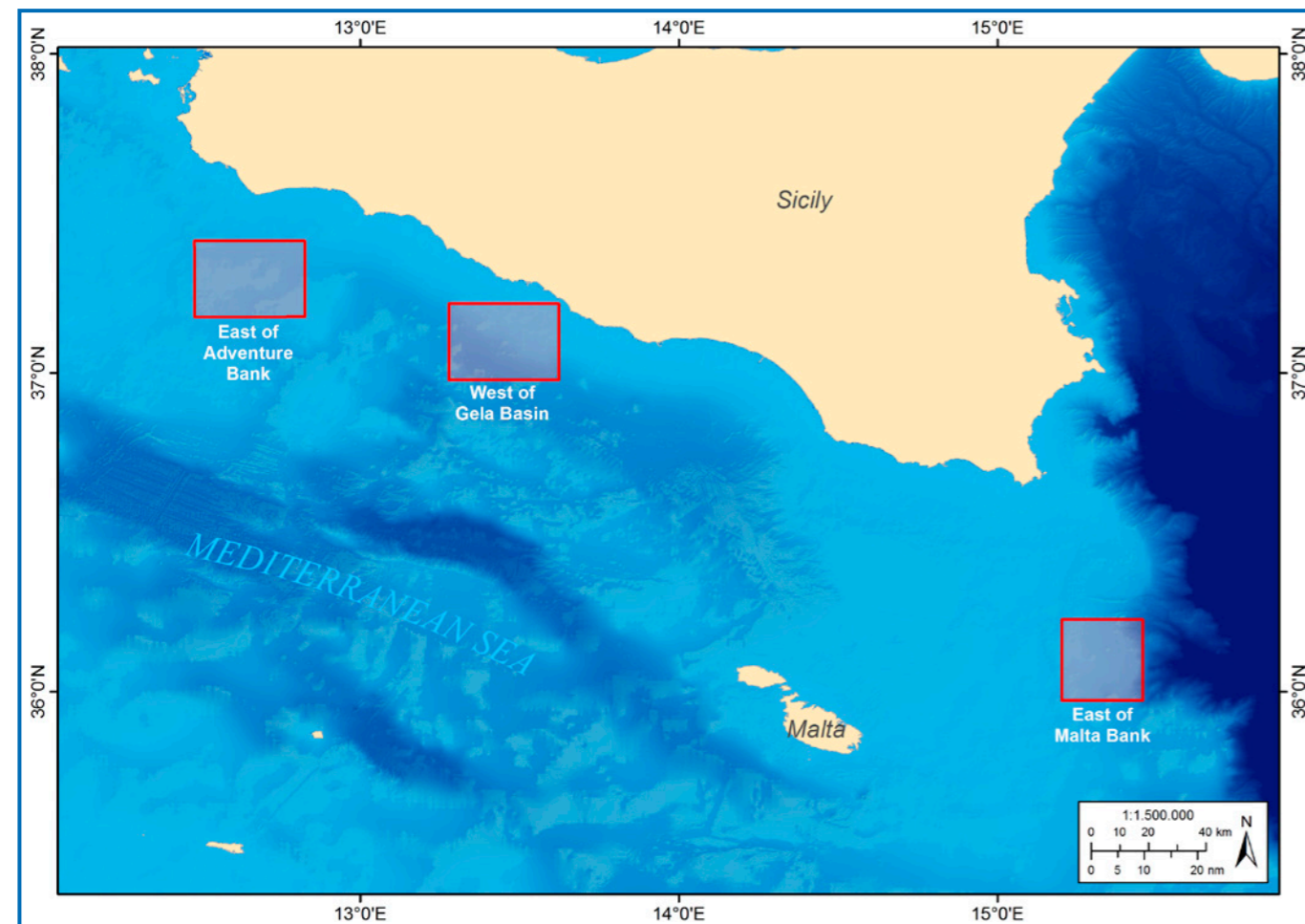
1.1 The Strait of Sicily

Three FRAs - East of Adventure Bank, West of Gela Basin and East of Malta Bank - were established in the Strait of Sicily by a decision adopted at the 40th session of the GFCM Commission⁹ (June, 2016) (see Map 1). They were established under a multiannual management plan (MAP) covering Geographical Sub Area 12 to 16. According to Article 13 of GFCM basic text Agreement¹⁰, this plan was to enter into force by the 1st of October 2016, and should have been transposed into national law by then as well.

The FRAs aim to improve the management of overexploited fisheries of European hake (*Merluccius merluccius*) and deep-water rose shrimp (*Parapenaeus longirostris*). According to the plan, any bottom trawling activity is banned inside the FRAs.

Listed below are 20 bottom trawl vessels for which the Global Fishing Watch fishing detection algorithm suggested a combined total of more than 10,000 fishing hours within the FRAs established under this multiannual plan, between December 2016 and December 2017. Oceana included only the vessels that have one licensed gear listed in the EU fleet register, otherwise the number of vessels would have been much larger. All the vessels detected carry the EU-Italy flag. It is important to note that these figures are likely underestimated, considering that some vessels fishing in the FRAs may have either lacked AIS equipment or have turned off AIS broadcasting.

Map 1. FRAs in the Strait of Sicily



In June 2017, Oceana notified the European Commission that it had detected over 13,000 hours of fishing activity by Italian flagged bottom trawling fishing vessels operating in the three FRA established under the multiannual management plan in the Strait of Sicily. These infractions have not been dealt with, almost one year later.

Oceana compiled a list of vessels on the basis of the following criteria:

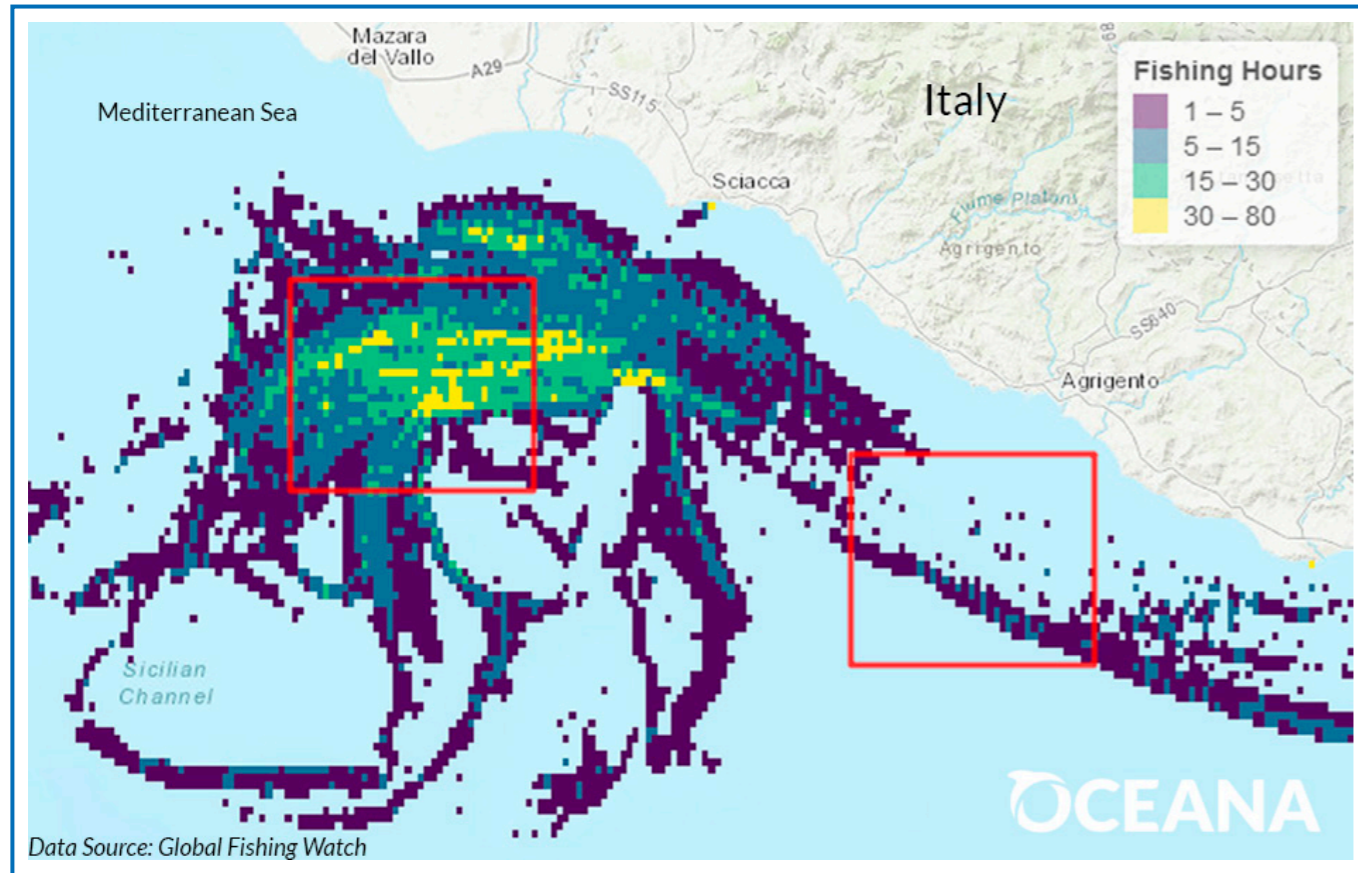
- Vessels that might have been engaged in bottom trawling from the 1st of December 2016 until the end of December 2017;
- Within the three FRAs established under the multiannual management plan of the Strait of Sicily.

Table 1: List of bottom trawling vessels that the Global Fishing Watch fishing detection algorithm suggests are operating in the FRAs of the Strait of Sicily. Source: Global Fishing Watch; European Fleet Register. (OTB: Bottom otter trawls; PS: Purse seines Gear; GND: Drift net; LLS: Set longlines; PTM - Midwater pair trawls; LHP - Handlines and pole-lines; FRA 1: East of Adventure Bank; FRA 2: West of Gela Basin; FRA 3: East of Malta Bank); GFCM fleet register

Nr	Vessel Name	Flag	CFR	Gear in European Fleet register	Second gear in European fleet register	Gear authorized in GFCM	Total fishing hours in FRA December 2016 December 2017	FRA
1	Irene	Italy	ITA000010742 ¹¹	OTB	No	Trawl	1,299	1
2	Nuovo Leonardo	Italy	ITA000026808 ¹²	OTB	No	Trawl	879	1
3	Eliana	Italy	ITA000010913 ¹³	OTB	No	Trawl	878	1
4	Anna e Giuseppe S.	Italy	ITA000015105 ¹⁴	OTB	No	Trawl	850	1
5	Nuovo Ardor	Italy	ITA000010885 ¹⁵	OTB	No	Trawl	769	1
6	Maria Ausiliatrice	Italy	ITA000018743 ¹⁶	OTB	No	Trawl	745	1
7	Nuova Virginia	Italy	ITA000010994 ¹⁷	OTB	No	Trawl	729	1
8	Luna Rossa I	Italy	ITA000024967 ¹⁸	OTB	No	Trawl	703	1
9	Ermete Zacconi	Italy	ITA000010934 ¹⁹	OTB	No	Trawl	666	1
10	Nuovo Genitore	Italy	ITA000018144 ²⁰	OTB	No	Trawl	632	1
11	Nuovo Lealdo	Italy	ITA000019247 ²¹	OTB	No	Trawl	441	1
12	Nuovo San Pio	Italy	ITA000023260 ²²	OTB	No	Trawl	369	1
13	Nuovo Salvatore E Daniela	Italy	ITA000015082 ²³	OTB	No	Trawl	363	1
14	Nuova Galilea	Italy	ITA000026751 ²⁴	OTB	No	Trawl	354	1
15	Madre SS. Di Pompei	Italy	ITA000015787 ²⁵	OTB	No	Trawl	281	1
16	Immacolata Concezione	Italy	ITA000010624 ²⁶	OTB	No	Trawl	276	1
17	Samuel Figlio	Italy	ITA000010626 ²⁷	OTB	No	Trawl	272	1
18	Romana Madre	Italy	ITA000010978 ²⁸	OTB	No	Trawl	266	1
19	Adriana Madre	Italy	ITA000010561 ²⁹	OTB	No	Trawl	265	1
20	Giuseppe Pio	Italy	ITA000026653 ³⁰	OTB	No	Trawl	227	2
Total							11,264	



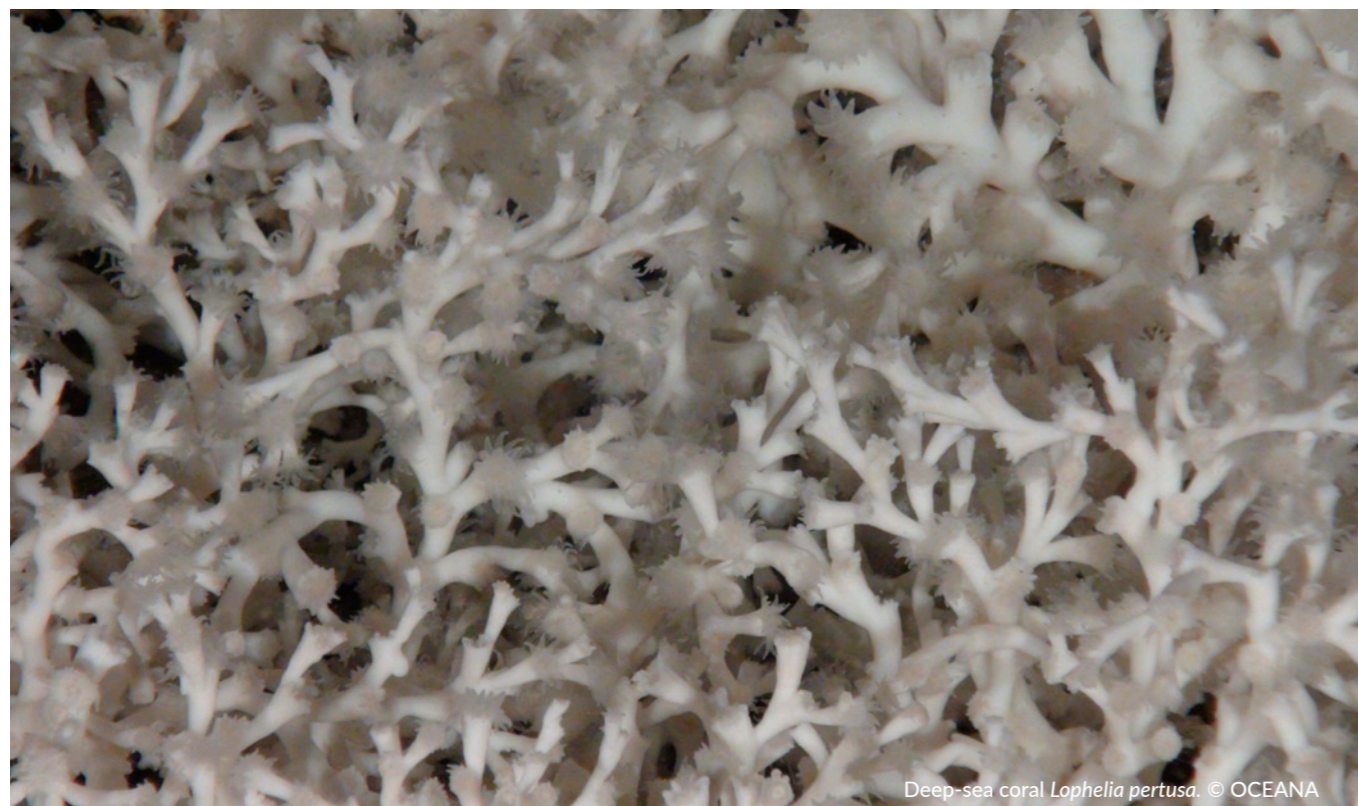
Map 2. Cumulative fishing effort (number of fishing hours per square kilometre) for all vessels listed in Table 1, operating in East of Adventure Bank from December 2016 - December 2017.



1.2. Lophelia reef of Santa Maria di Leuca

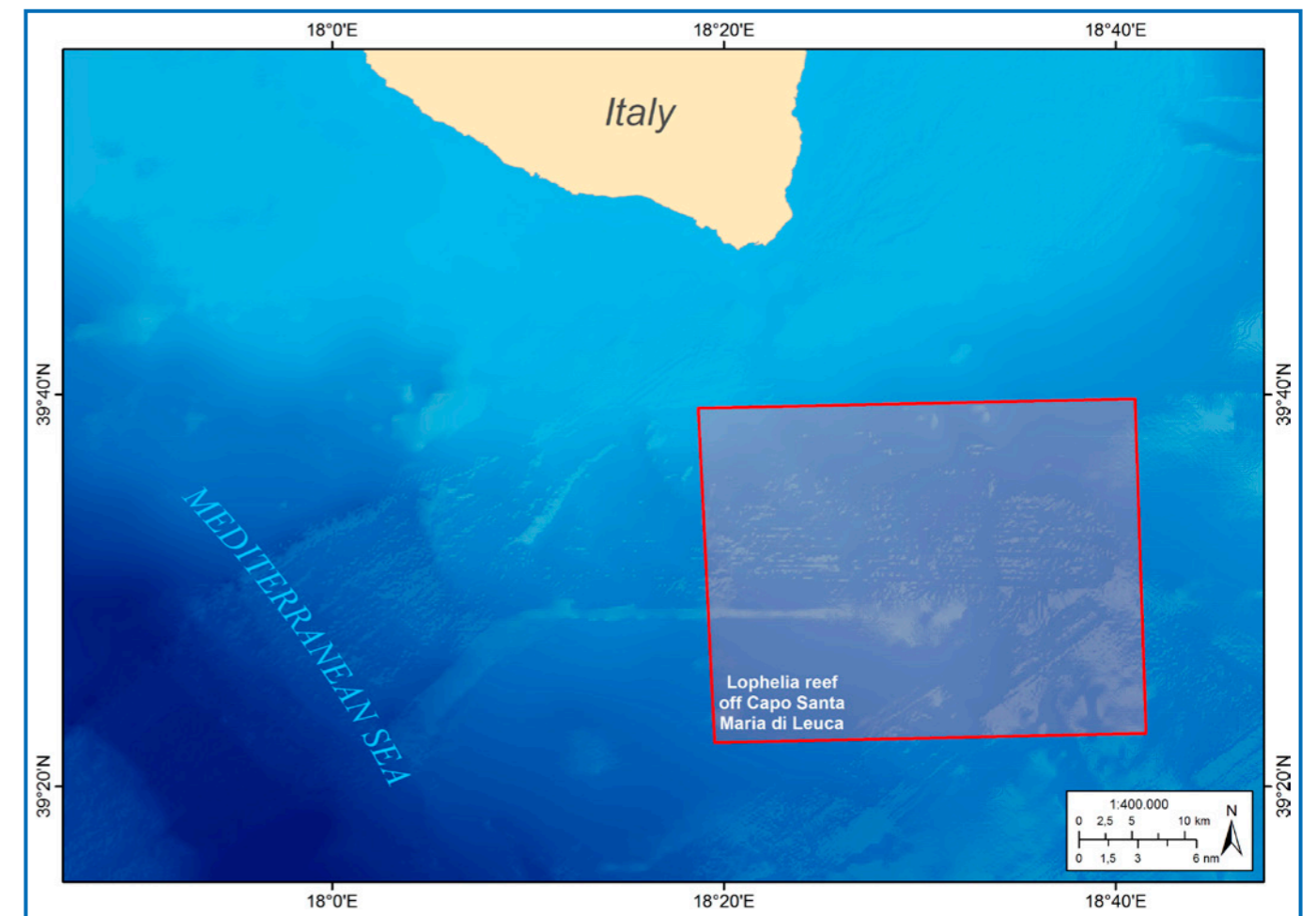
This FRA (see map 3) was established in January 2006 under the Recommendation GFCM/30/2006/3 Establishment of fisheries restricted areas in order to protect the deep sea sensitive habitats (1,672.6 km²,

GSA 19). In this FRA, fishing with towed dredges and bottom trawl nets is prohibited, as it aims to guarantee the conservation of a unique ecosystem of cold-water corals.



Deep-sea coral *Lophelia pertusa*. © OCEANA

Map 3. FRA Lophelia reef off Santa Maria di Leuca



Oceana detected two bottom-trawling vessels that likely fished in the FRA for more than 593 hours. The table below lists these two vessels.

A recent study also observed evidence of impacts in the FRA due to trawl nets⁵⁷.

Table 2: List of bottom trawling vessels that the Global Fishing Watch fishing detection algorithm suggests are fishing in the FRA of the Lophelia reef of Santa Maria di Leuca. Source: Global Fishing Watch; European Fleet Register. (OTB: Bottom otter trawls; PS: Purse seines Gear; GND: Drift net; LLS: Set longlines; PTM - Midwater pair trawls; LHP - Handlines and pole-lines) GFCM authorised vessels

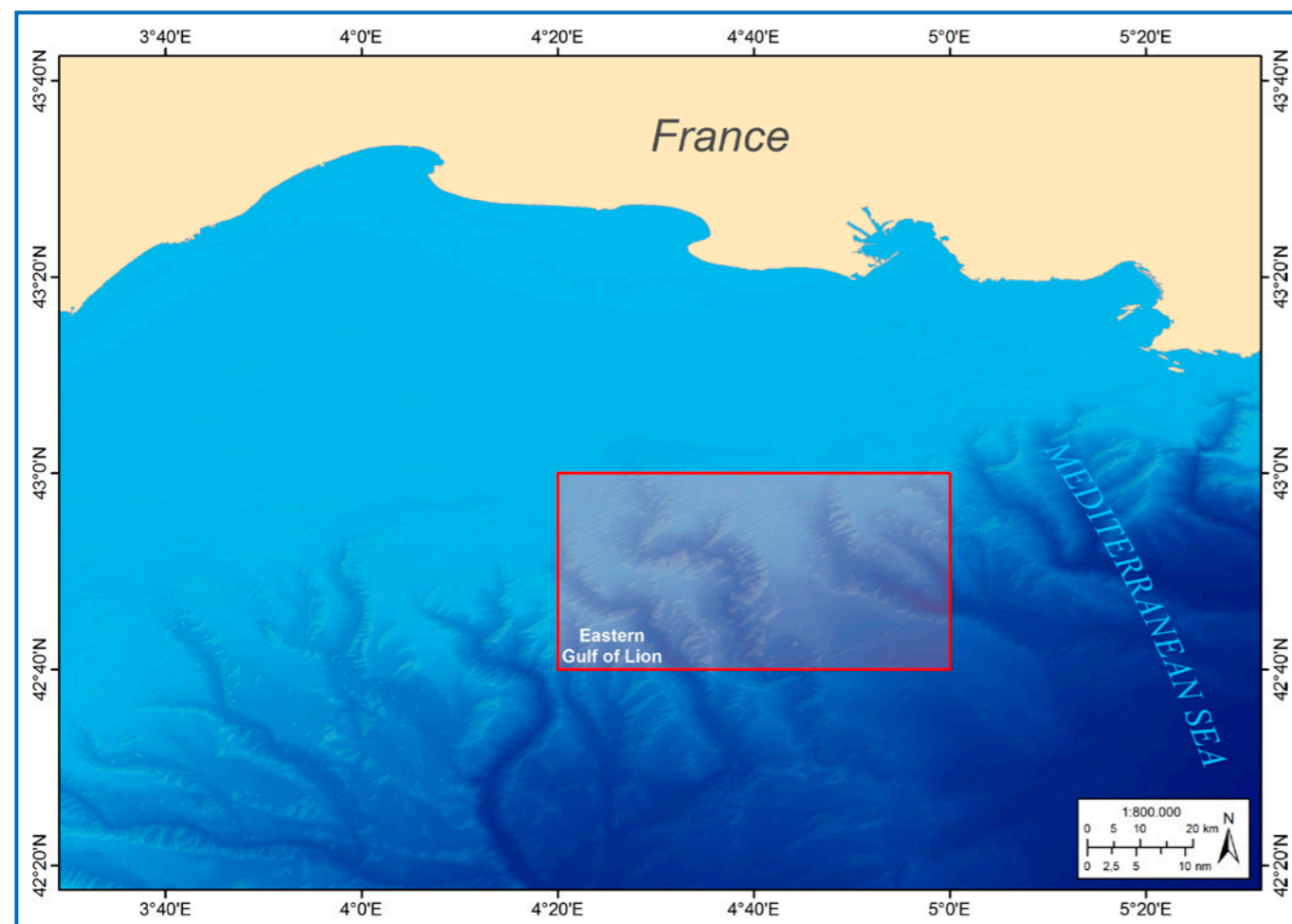
Nr	Vessel Name	Flag	CFR	Gear in European Fleet register	Second gear in European fleet register	LOA	Gear authorized in GFCM	Total fishing hours in FRA November 2013 December 2017
1	Gabriella e Chiara	Italy	ITA000026096 ³¹	OTB	No	17,3	Trawl	396
2	Nuovo Falco dell' Adriatico	Italy	ITA000026906 ³²	OTB	No	19,2	Trawl	197

1.3. Gulf of Lion

The FRA in the Gulf of Lion was adopted during the 33th session of the Commission in Tunis (23-27 March, 2009). It was agreed under the Recommendation GFCM/33/2009/1 *On the establishment of a Fisheries Restricted Area in the Gulf of Lion to protect spawning aggregations and deep sea sensitive habitats* (GSA 07, 3741.6 km²) and aims to specifically protect part of the continental slope of the Eastern Gulf of Lion, which is a refuge for large spawners of several commercially

exploited species (e.g hake, *Merluccius merluccius*). The sole restriction measure in the FRA to date, has been the freezing of fishing effort (for demersal stocks) of vessels using towed nets, bottom and mid-water longlines, bottom-set nets to levels that cannot exceed those applied in 2008 (vessels without records of fishing in the area prior to 31 December 2008 are not authorized to start fishing in the FRA)⁷. A total of 67 boats are included in the list of authorized fishing vessels³³.

Map 4. FRA Gulf of Lion



Using the Global Fishing Watch fishing detection algorithm, Oceana found one mid water and bottom trawler vessel potentially operating in the FRA without being on the authorized vessels list.

Table 3: The Global Fishing Watch fishing detection algorithm suggests that one mid water and bottom trawler vessel was likely fishing in operating in the FRA of Gulf of Lion. Source: Global Fishing Watch; European Fleet Register. (OTM: Midwater otter trawl; OTB: Bottom otter trawls; PS: Purse seines Gear; GND: Drift net; LLS: Set longlines; PTM - Midwater pair trawls; LHP - Handlines and pole-lines); GFCM authorised vessels

Nr	Vessel Name	Flag	CFR	Gear in European Fleet register	Second gear in European fleet register	LOA	On authorized vessel list Gulf of Lion	Gear authorized in GFCM	Total fishing hours in FRA August 2014 August 2017
1	Stephane Cardone	France	FRA000819573 ³⁴	OTM	OTB	24,9	No	Yes - Trawl	28

In addition, Oceana observed apparent fishing activities of one vessel that is authorized to fish using mid water trawls as well as bottom trawls in the Gulf of Lion for a limited number of days, and which, given the fishing hours determined by Global Fishing Watch algorithms, might have surpassed its limit.

Table 4: The Global Fishing Watch fishing detection algorithm suggests that one vessel in the FRA of Gulf of Lion might have surpassed its authorised fishing hours. Source: Global Fishing Watch; European Fleet Register. (OTM: Midwater otter trawl; OTB: Bottom otter trawls; PS: Purse seines Gear; GND: Drift net; LLS: Set longlines; PTM - Midwater pair trawls; LHP - Handlines and pole-lines); GFCM authorised vessels

Nr	Vessel Name	Flag	CFR	Gear in European Fleet register	Second gear in European fleet register	On authorized vessel list Gulf of Lion	Fishing days in the FRA per year	Gear authorized in GFCM	Total fishing hours in FRA in 2017
1	Bernadette II	France	FRA000330139 ³⁵	OTM	OTB	Yes	2	Yes - trawl	100

2. Unreported access agreements and possible IUU fishing

In 2014, the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tuna (ICCAT) adopted Recommendation 14-07 on Access Agreements³⁶. This Recommendation was adopted to “ensure transparency among CPCs^b in respect of conditions for accessing the waters of coastal States, in particular to facilitate joint efforts to combat IUU fishing,” and to ensure compliance with Recommendation 13-02, which requires CPCs to ensure that their vessels do not conduct unauthorized fishing within areas under the national jurisdiction of other states, through appropriate cooperation with the coastal states concerned, and other relevant means available to the flag CPC.

To comply with Recommendation 14-07, CPCs have to notify ICCAT (individually or jointly) prior to the beginning of the following scenarios:

- foreign-flagged vessels that fish in waters under their jurisdiction for species managed by ICCAT
- CPCs whose vessels fish in waters under the jurisdiction of another CPC or non-Contracting party (NCP) for species managed by ICCAT

A copy of the written agreement has to be provided, as well as information on the number of vessels, gear authorized, time period of the agreement, stock or species authorised for harvest, any applicable catch limits, the CPC’s quota or catch limit to which the catch will be applied, the monitoring, control, and surveillance measures required by the flag CPC and coastal State and the data reporting obligations stipulated in the agreement, including those between the parties involved.

No access agreements have been reported by Albania, Algeria, Egypt, Montenegro, Morocco, Syria, Tunisia and Turkey under this ICCAT reporting mechanism in 2016.

A similar reporting mechanism for access agreements has been established in the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC)³⁷ in 2014.

In addition, in 2017, the European Union adopted the Regulation on the sustainable management of external fishing fleets (EU 2017/2403)³⁸. In Article 39 of this Regulation, the EU sets out the creation of a public database that would include the fishing authorisations of all EU-flagged vessels outside of EU waters. It will also include, for each vessel, its name, flag and unique vessel identifier, as well as its type of authorization and target species, fishing area and fishing period. Any form of access agreements for EU vessels will be included in this register, as will direct authorisations, where an EU

vessel fishes in the waters of a non-EU country, outside the framework of a Sustainable Fisheries Partnership Agreement, an RFMO or an agreement on exchange of fishing opportunities.

Internationally, the Fisheries Transparency Initiative (FiTI)³⁹ released the FiTI Standard⁴⁰ in 2017, which includes a provision for FiTI countries to provide public information of all foreign access agreements, as well as the creation of a public registry of fishing authorisations or licenses, and information on payments and catches. Indonesia, Guinea, Mauritania, Senegal and Seychelles have expressed their commitment to join FiTI and are currently in the process of adhering to and meeting the FiTI standard.

Transparency, as well as validation by the coastal and flag state, could also be beneficial for operators, as such a measure could reduce risks associated with access agreements.

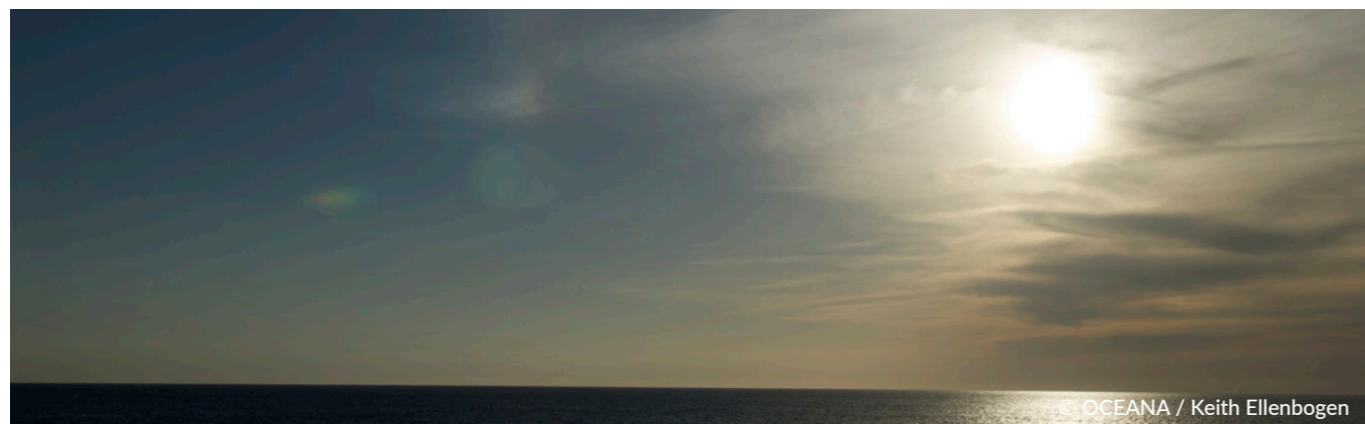
Box 1: Example of lack of transparency and risks associated with access agreements

In 2012, Spanish and French purse seine vessels had to be withdrawn from Liberian waters when it became clear that licences extended to them by a representative of the Liberian government were not valid. Orthongel, OPAGAC and ANABAC called back their vessels (around 30 in total) and settled with Liberia for late payment of fees, following their use of what turned out to be forged licences for amounts of up to USD 50,000-300,000 per vessel⁴¹.

This case reveals the lack of transparency associated with access agreements, the risks for EU operators, and the potential overfishing of local resources that may result due to lack of oversight. In response, the industry called for a system of “*standardised contracts, for example, EU-wide*”, that would be the same country to country⁴².

Following this case, Spain established a system whereby licences issued to vessels under private agreements are to be subjected to control and validation through diplomatic channels. In addition, payments are to be made directly to the public treasury of the countries licensing the fishing activities⁴³.

^b CPCs means Contracting Parties to the ICCAT Convention and Cooperating Non Contracting Parties, Entities or Fishing Entities



To have an overview of the possible existing access agreements in the GFCM agreement area, Oceana analysed data derived by Global Fishing Watch using the AIS signals of foreign flagged vessels in the waters under the jurisdiction^c of CPCs^d from January 2016 to January 2018.

From January 2016 to January 2018, Global Fishing Watch data suggests that at three EU-flagged vessels likely fished for more than 900 hours in waters under the jurisdiction of Libya, and 1,523 hours in Tunisia, possibly under an access agreement or possibly unauthorised. Transparency on access agreements between the CPCs would allow for legal fishing activities to continue operating and would bring to the surface any unauthorised fishing behaviour.

Table 5: Bottom trawl vessels likely fishing, identified using the Global Fishing Watch fishing detection algorithm in waters under Libyan jurisdiction. Source: Global Fishing Watch; European Fleet Register. (OTB: Bottom otter trawls; PS: Purse seines Gear; GND: Drift net; LLS: Set longlines; PTM - Midwater pair trawls; LHP - Handlines and pole-lines) GFCM and ICCAT authorised vessels

Vessels observed in waters under Libyan jurisdiction between January 2016 and January 2018									
Nr	Vessel Name	CFR Number/IMO	Flag	Fishing hours	Gear in EU fleet register	Secondary gear in EU fleet register	GFCM authorisation	ICCAT authorisation	
1	Alexander K	CYP000000791 ⁴⁴ IMO: 5392238	Cyprus	502	OTB	No	Yes - Trawls	Inactive - Tow boat	
2	Stella del Mare 2	CYP000000780 ⁴⁵	Malta	341	OTB	No	Yes - Trawls	No	
3	Fenice	ITA000000757 ⁴⁶	Italy	117	OTB	No	Yes - Trawls	Yes - Bottom Trawler	
Total				960					

Table 6: Bottom trawl vessels likely fishing, identified using the Global Fishing Watch fishing detection algorithm in waters under Tunisian jurisdiction. Source: Global Fishing Watch; European Fleet Register. (OTB: Bottom otter trawls; PS: Purse seines Gear; GND: Drift net; LLS: Set longlines; PTM - Midwater pair trawls; LHP - Handlines and pole-lines) GFCM and ICCAT authorised vessels

Vessels observed in waters under Tunisian jurisdiction between January 2016 and January 2018									
Nr	Vessel Name	CFR Number/IMO	Flag	Fishing Hours	Gear in EU fleet register	Secondary gear in EU fleet register	GFCM authorisation	ICCAT authorisation	
1	Alexander K	CYP000000791 ⁴⁷ IMO: 5392238	Cyprus	510	OTB	No	Yes - Trawls	Inactive - Tow boat	
2	Stella del Mare 2	CYP000000780 ⁴⁸	Malta	390	OTB	No	Yes - Trawls	No	
3	Fenice	ITA000000757 ⁴⁹	Italy	623	OTB	No	Yes - Trawls	Yes - Bottom Trawler	
Total fishing hours				1,523					

In addition, Oceana observed at least four vessels in waters under the jurisdiction of Syria, for which Global Fishing Watch data suggests that they may have fished for more than 250 hours under possible access agreements or possibly unauthorised.

Table 7: Vessels likely fishing, identified using the Global Fishing Watch fishing detection algorithm in waters under Syrian jurisdiction. Source: Global Fishing Watch; GFCM and ICCAT authorised vessels; FAO vessel finder

Vessels observed in waters under Syrian jurisdiction between January 2016 and January 2018								
Nr	Vessel Name	IMO/National registration number	Flag	IRCS	Fishing hours	GFCM authorisation	ICCAT authorisation	FAO fishing vessel finder - gear and authorisations
1	Beyaz Melek	TUR001432078	Turkey	TC7705	103	Yes - Trawl	Inactive - purse seine	Purse seine vessel and no active ICCAT authorisation ⁵⁰
2	Ibrahim Kaptan	TUR001450248	Turkey	TC7309	86	Yes - Trawl	Inactive - purse seine	N/A
3	Nesa 1	TUR001440051	Turkey	TC6150	41	Yes - Trawl	No	N/A
4	Halil Karnas	TUR002078699	Turkey	TCA3793	30 ^e	Yes - Trawl	No	N/A
Total fishing hours					260			

The amount of fishing hours detected by Global Fishing Watch suggests that there might be access agreements for foreign vessels to access the waters of Albania and Montenegro. Listed below are five examples of vessels that may have fished for more than 1300 hours in waters under Albanian jurisdiction, and more than 2,600 hours in waters under the jurisdiction of Montenegro in the period between January 2016 and January 2018.

Table 8: Vessels likely fishing, identified using the Global Fishing Watch fishing detection algorithm in waters under Albanian and/or Montenegrin jurisdiction. Source: Global Fishing Watch; European Fleet Register. (OTB: Bottom otter trawls; PS: Purse seines Gear; GND: Drift net; LLS: Set longlines; PTM - Midwater pair trawls; LHP - Handlines and pole-lines) GFCM and ICCAT authorised vessels

Nr	Vessel Name	IMO / National registration number	Flag	Gear in EU fleet register	Fishing hours In jurisdiction of Albania	Fishing hours In jurisdiction of Montenegro	GFCM authorisation	ICCAT authorisation
1	Mar&Mar	115/3	Albania			1139	Yes - Trawls	No
2	Aldebaran	ITA000007069 ⁵¹	Italy	OTB	815	46	Yes - Trawls	Yes - Bottom Trawler
3	Pasquale E cristina	ITA000019238 ⁵²	Italy	OTB	106 ^f	723	Yes - Trawls	Yes - Bottom Trawler
4	Alba	ITA000001348 ⁵³	Italy	OTB	102	693	Yes - Trawls	No
5	Tonia	ITA000007151 ⁵⁴	Italy	OTB	366	20 ^g	Yes - Trawls	Yes - Bottom Trawler
Total fishing hours					1,389	2,621		

Finally, Global Fishing Watch data suggests that two Greek-flagged vessels may have fished in waters under the jurisdiction of Lebanon and Egypt in 2017.

Table 9: Vessels fishing, identified using the Global Fishing Watch fishing detection algorithm in waters under Egyptian and Lebanese jurisdiction. Source: Global Fishing Watch; European Fleet Register. (OTB: Bottom otter trawls; PS: Purse seines Gear; GND: Drift net; LLS: Set longlines; PTM - Midwater pair trawls; LHP - Handlines and pole-lines) GFCM and ICCAT authorised vessels

Nr	Vessel Name	IMO/National registration number	Flag	IRCS	Gear in EU fleet register	Second gear in EU fleet register	Fishing hours In jurisdiction of Egypt	Fishing hours In jurisdiction of Lebanon	GFCM authorisation	ICCAT authorisation
1	Konstantinos Angeliki III	GRC000037678 ⁵⁵ IMO: 8229987 MMSI: 240994000	Greece	SVA4009	LLD	GTR	155	80	No	Yes - multipurpose vessel, hooks and lines
2	Chrysopigi Taxiarchis	GRC000745055 ⁵⁶ IMO: 8229949 MMSI: 240452000	Greece	SY5740	LLD	LLS	121	68	No	Yes - multipurpose vessel, hooks and lines
Total fishing hours							276	148		

^e Global Fishing Watch algorithm suggests that this vessel is likely fishing, additional information on access agreements are needed to determine this with certainty.

^f GFCM currently does not require CPCs to report access agreements.

^g Idem.

3. Recommendations

Transparency, accountability and an effective and deterrent monitoring and sanctioning system are the most effective tools with which to tackle IUU fishing. Noting GFCM Recommendation 441/2017/7 on RPOA-IUU and Recommendation 33/2009/8 on the establishment of a list of vessels presumed to have carried out IUU fishing, and specifically Article 1, Oceana proposes the following recommendations:

Transparency

- Adopt a GFCM Recommendation to create a mandatory reporting system for all access agreements that is transparent and appropriate for:
 - foreign-flagged vessels to fish in waters under a given CPC jurisdiction for species managed by GFCM
 - CPCs whose vessels fish in waters under the jurisdiction of another CPC or non-Contracting party (NCP) for species managed by GFCM
- Create a Compliance Committee (COC) regular revision mechanism of fishing activities conducted under a CPC jurisdiction by vessels flying the flag of a state other than a coastal state, which have not been reported under the point above, aimed at the inclusion of non-authorized vessels in the GFCM IUU vessels list in accordance with FAO IPOA-IUU and the RPOA-IUU.
- Increase the coordination and information exchange between ICCAT and GFCM on access agreements reporting. As the reporting gap affects both GFCM and ICCAT, and these case studies suggest that mandatory reporting under ICCAT might not have been fulfilled for the Mediterranean region.

Monitoring and sanctioning

- Mandate IMO numbers as per the Recommendation GFCM/33/2009/6 concerning the establishment of a GFCM record of vessels over 15 metres authorized to operate in the GFCM area consistent with the practice of other RFMOs.
- Require fishing vessels above a certain length or gross tonnage to be equipped with and continually transmit positions via AIS. In parallel, Oceana encourages GFCM to strengthen provisions for VMS implementation in the region.
- Adopt specific VMS or reporting requirements to monitor vessels authorised to conduct fishing activities within FRA boundaries, to be able to distinguish the vessels that would not be allowed to operate in the FRA. This is especially relevant for vessels with multiple gear licenses.
- Create a regular cycle of compliance assessment for the region that is evaluated by the Compliance Committee and escalated to Commission level when needed.
- Adopt, similarly to ICCAT, a sanctioning scheme for countries that fail to comply with the Recommendations in force.



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Annex I Vessel Information

Image 1. Global Fishing Watch data using the AIS signals for vessel Gabrielle e Chiara in FRA Santa Maria di Leuca

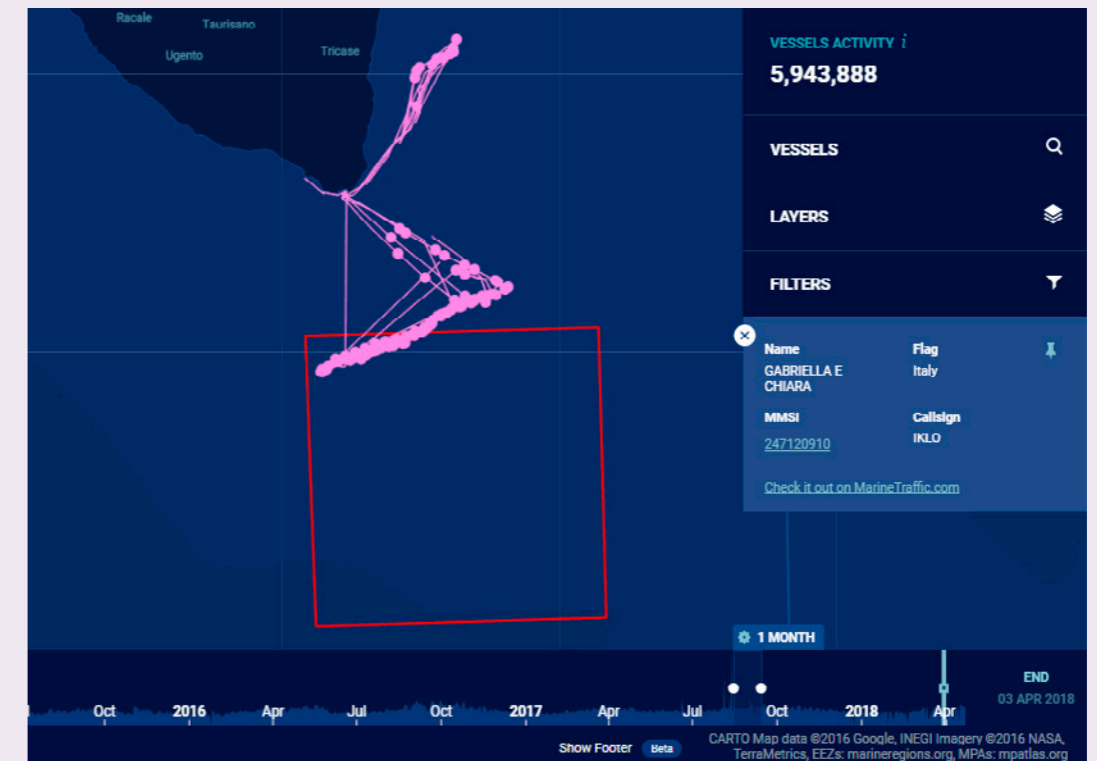


Image 2. Global Fishing Watch data using the AIS signals for vessel Nuovo Falco dell' Adriatico in FRA Santa Maria di Leuca

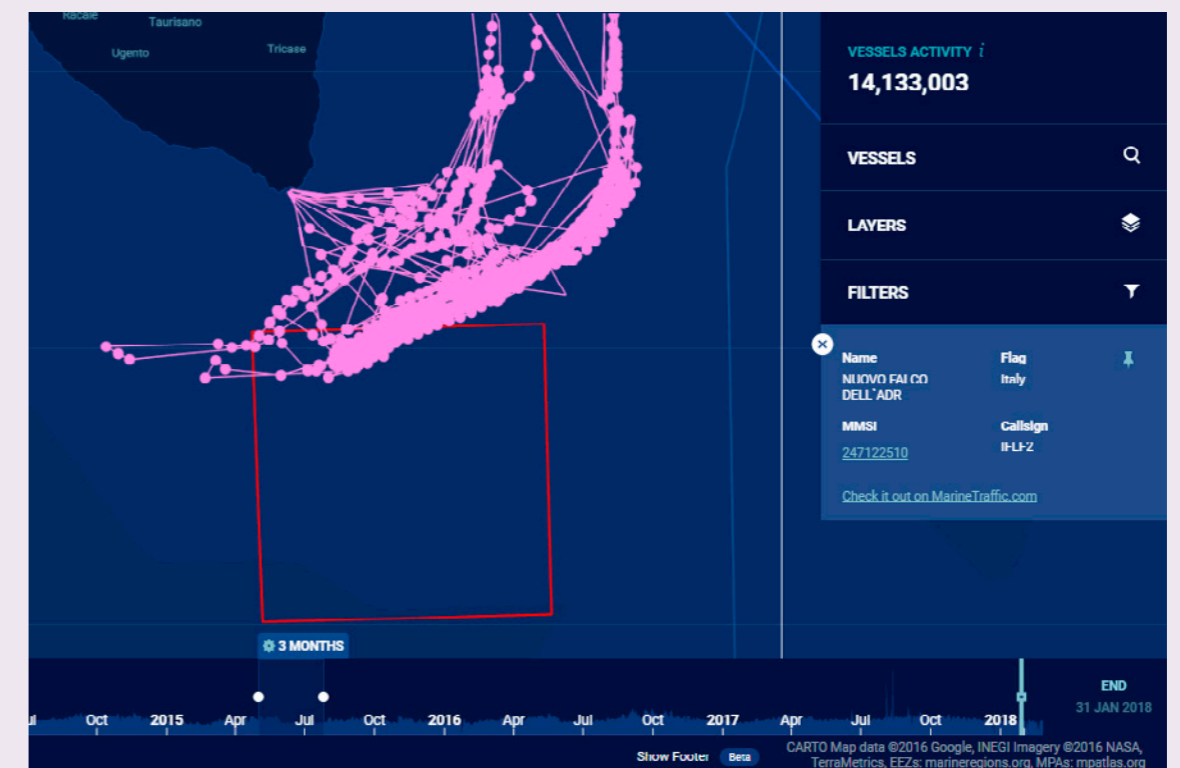


Image 3. Global Fishing Watch data using the AIS signals for vessel Stephane Cardone in FRA Gulf of Lion

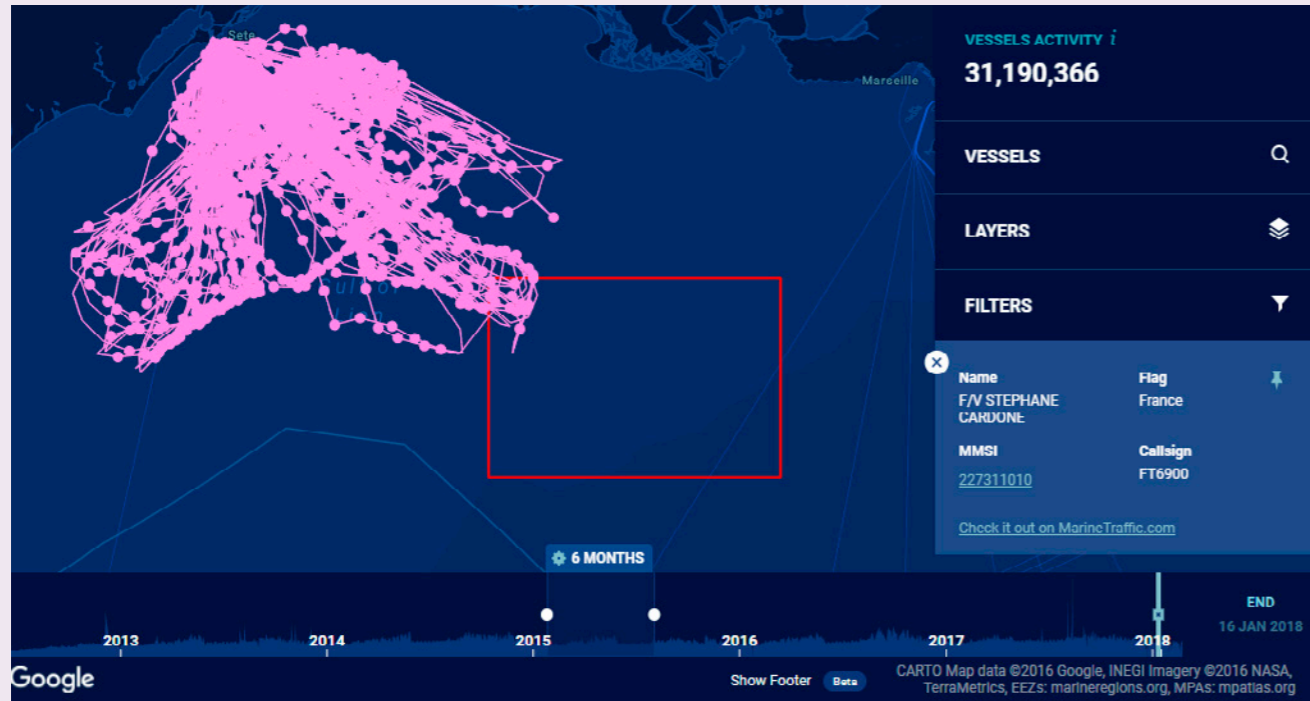


Image 5. Global Fishing Watch data using the AIS signals for vessel Alexander K in waters under jurisdiction of Libya and Tunisia

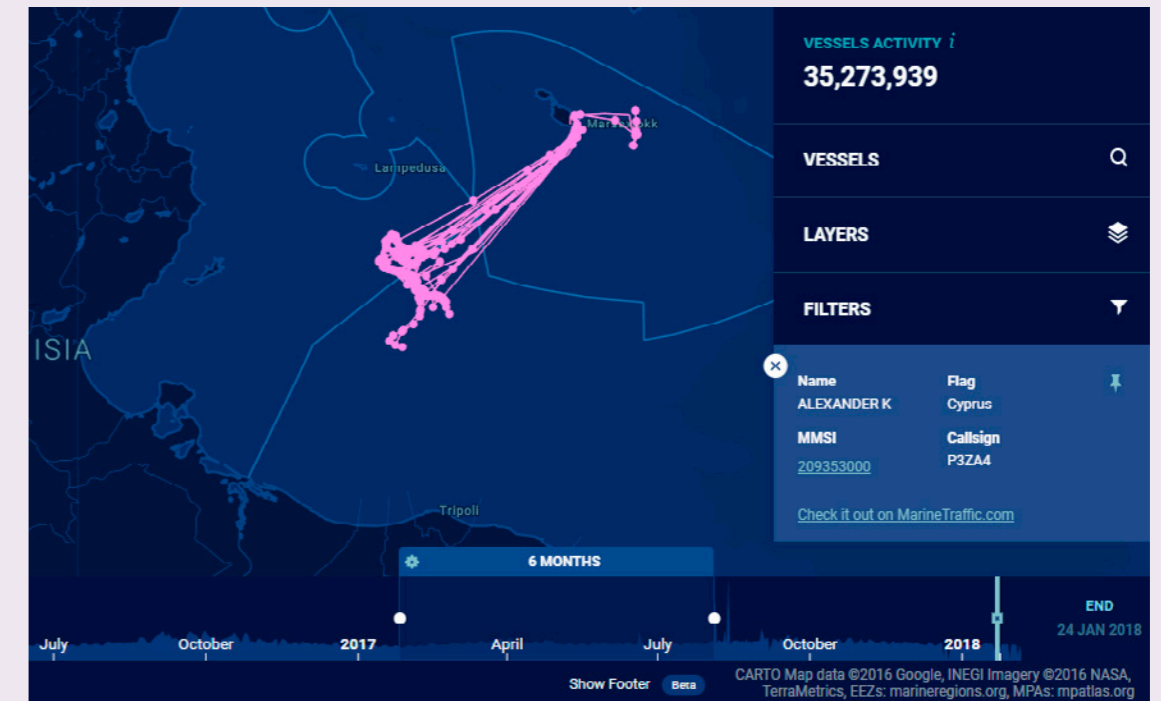


Image 4. Global Fishing Watch data using the AIS signals for vessel Bernadette II in FRA Gulf of Lion

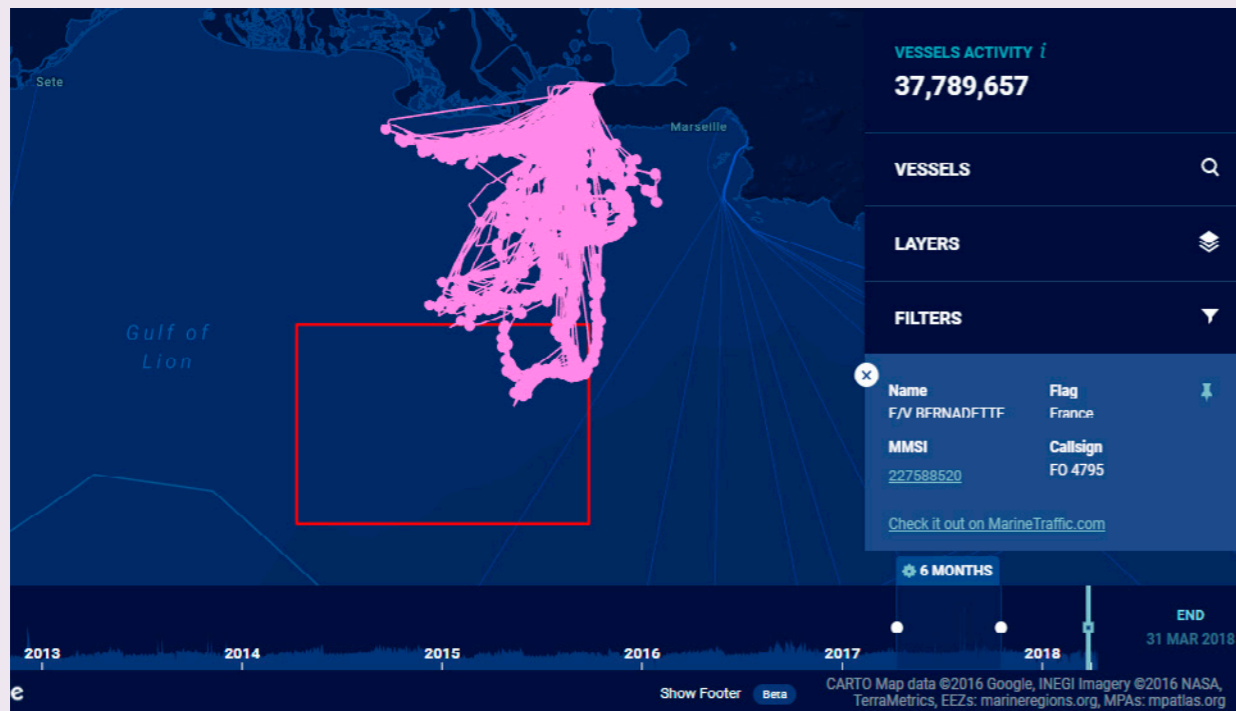


Image 6. Global Fishing Watch data using the AIS signals for vessel Stella Del Mare 2 in waters under jurisdiction of Libya and Tunisia

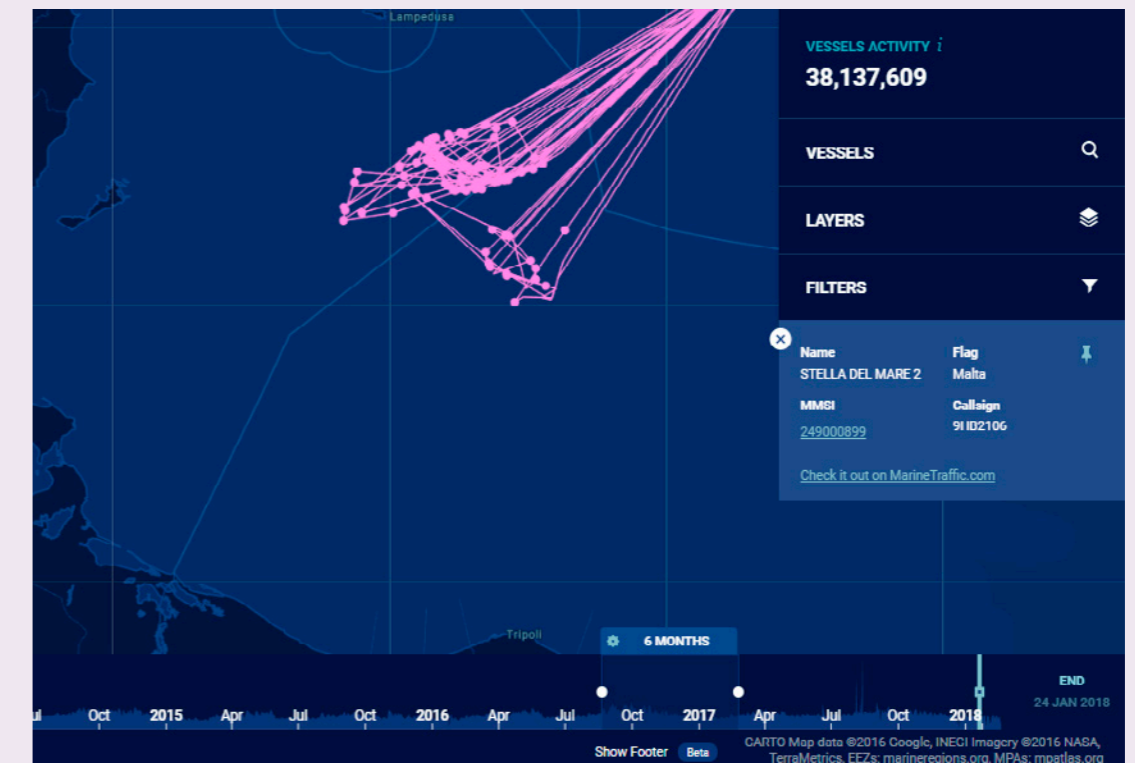


Image 7. Global Fishing Watch data using the AIS signals for vessel Fenice in waters under jurisdiction of Libya

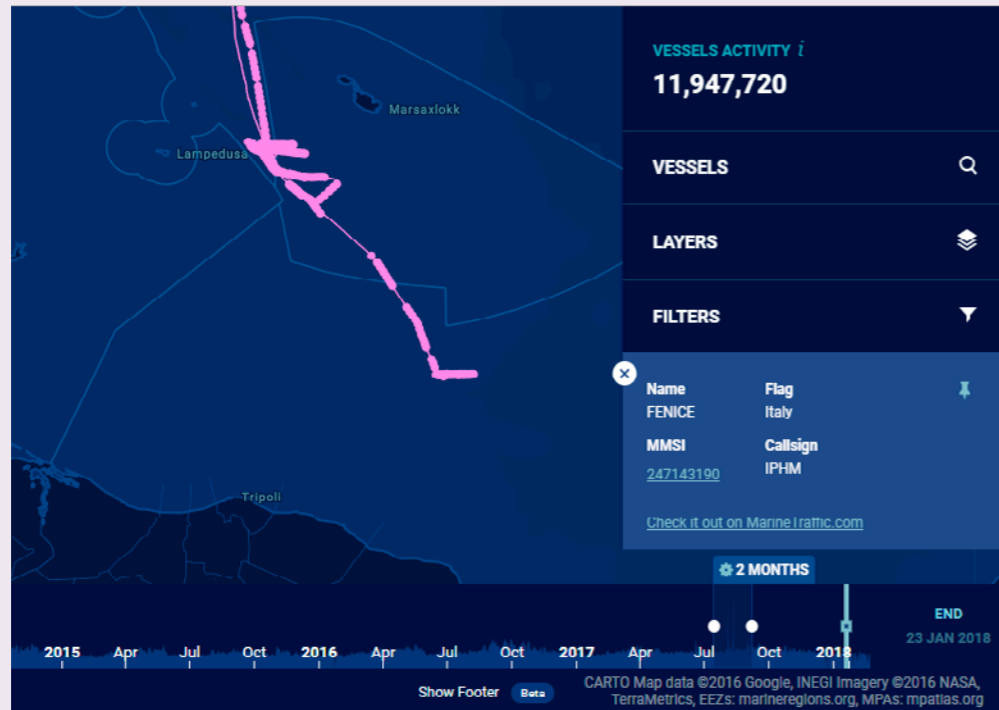


Image 9. Global Fishing Watch data using the AIS signals for vessel Beyaz Melek in waters under jurisdiction of Syria

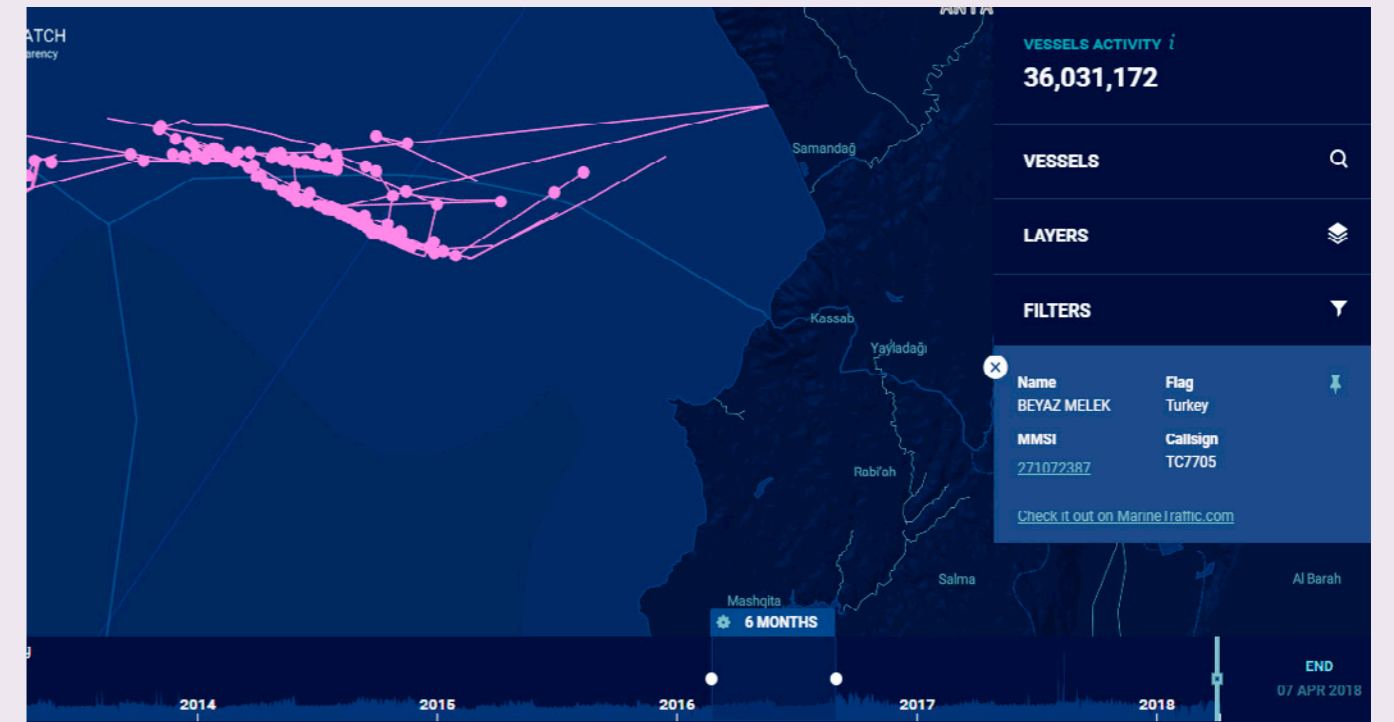


Image 8. Global Fishing Watch data using the AIS signals for vessel Fenice in waters under jurisdiction of Tunisia

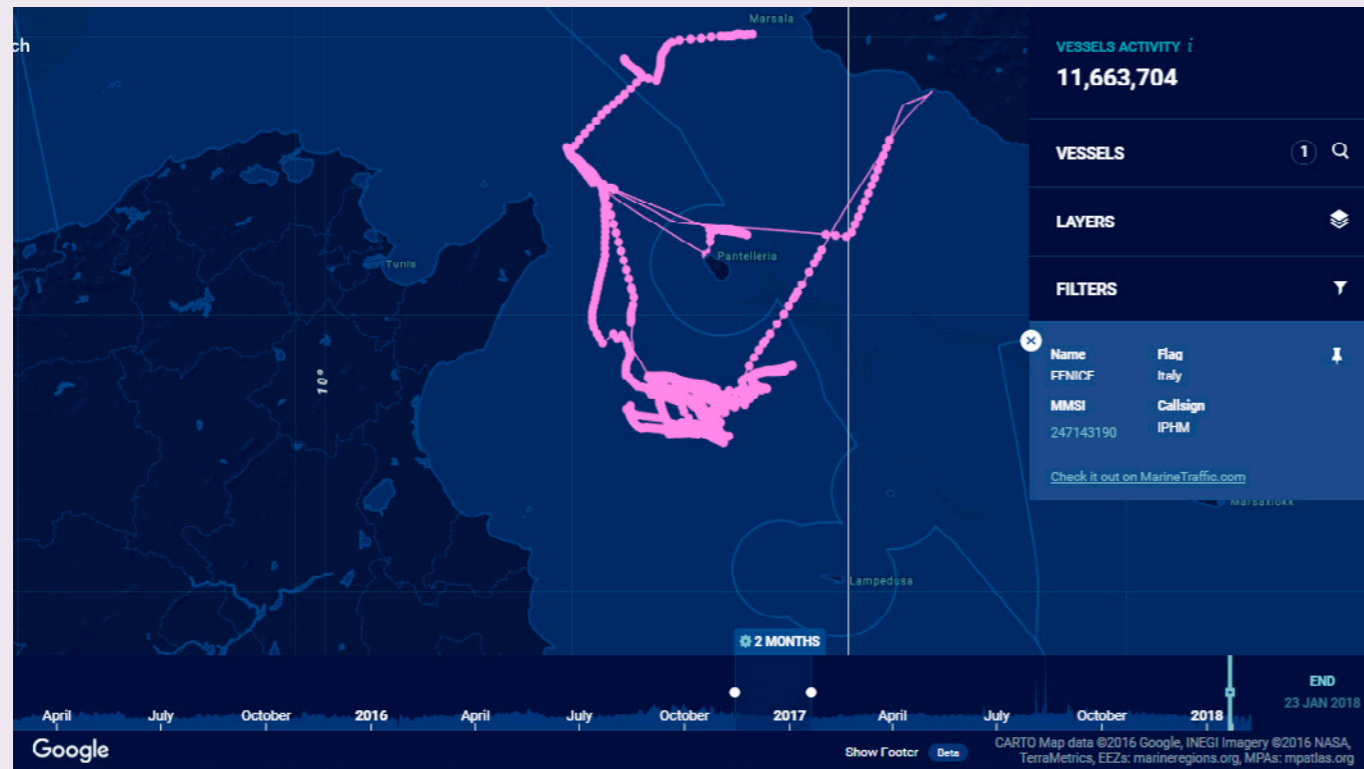


Image 10. Global Fishing Watch data using the AIS signals for vessel Ibrahim Kaptan in waters under jurisdiction of Syria

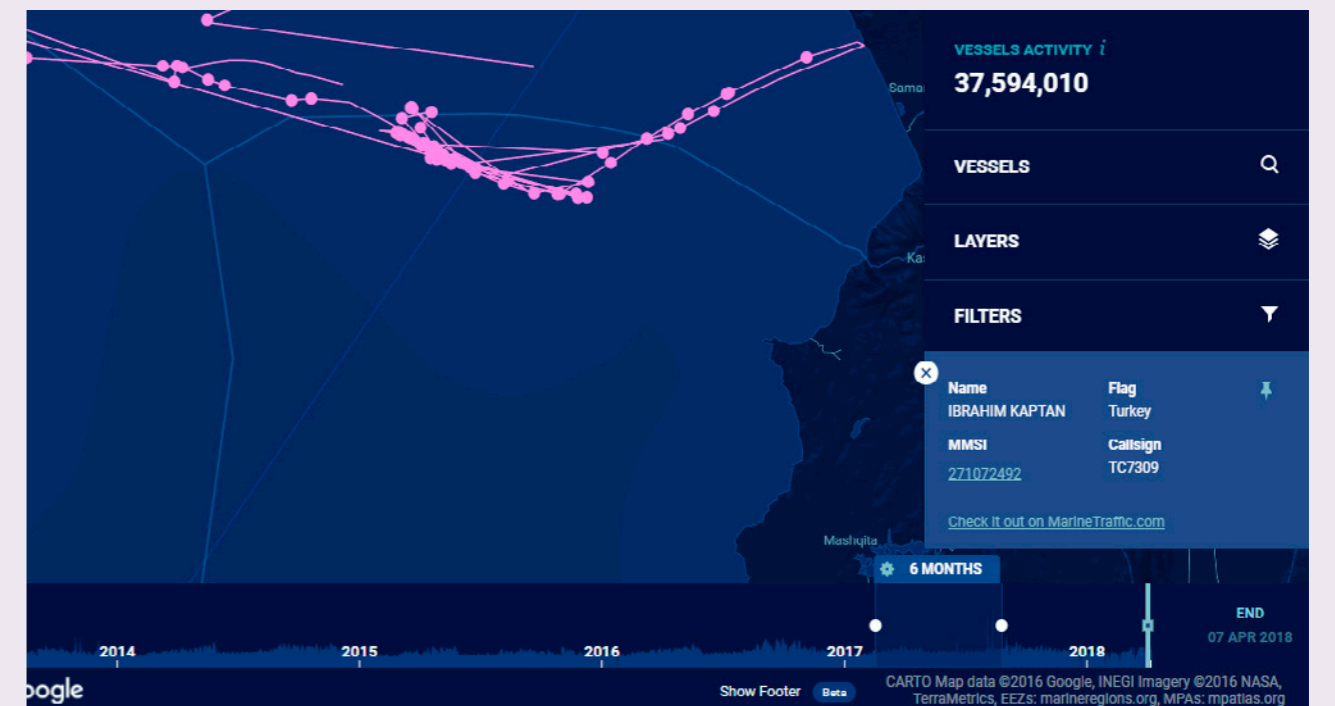


Image 11. Global Fishing Watch data using the AIS signals for vessel Nesa 1 in waters under jurisdiction of Syria

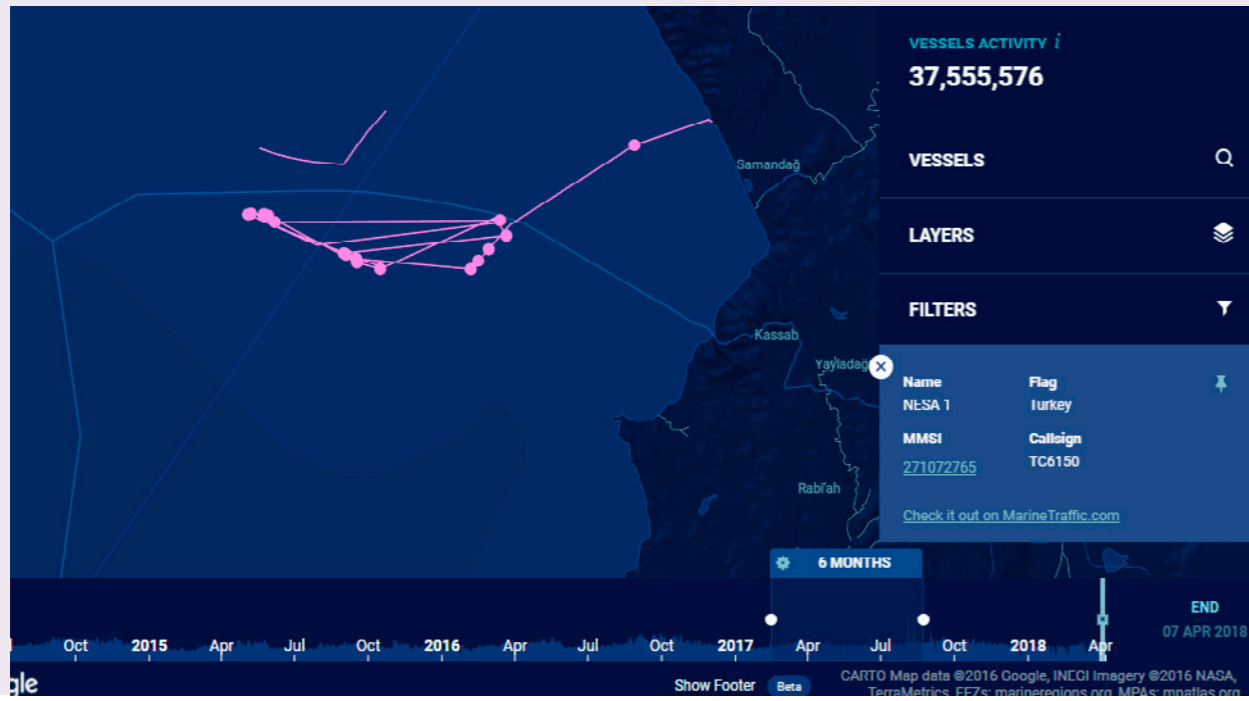


Image 13. Global Fishing Watch data using the AIS signals for vessel Mar&Mar in waters under jurisdiction of Montenegro

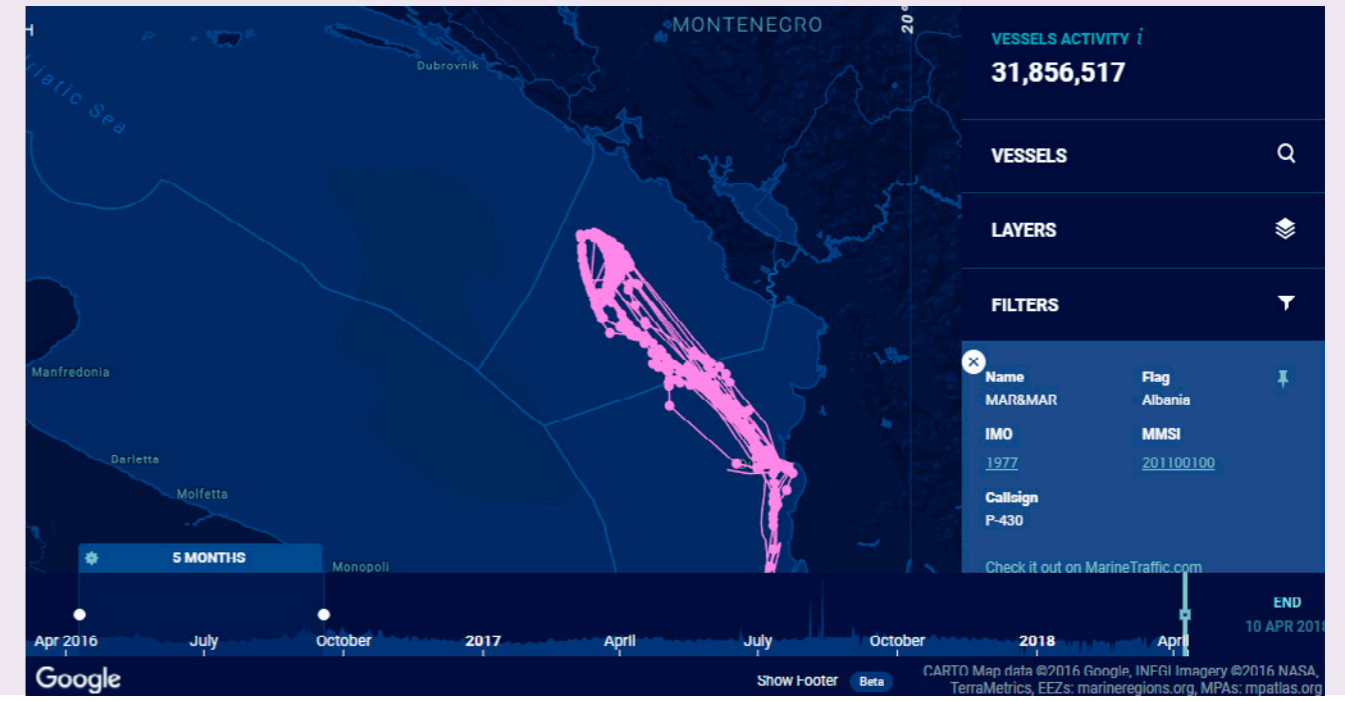


Image 12. Global Fishing Watch data using the AIS signals for vessel Halil Karnas in waters under jurisdiction of Syria

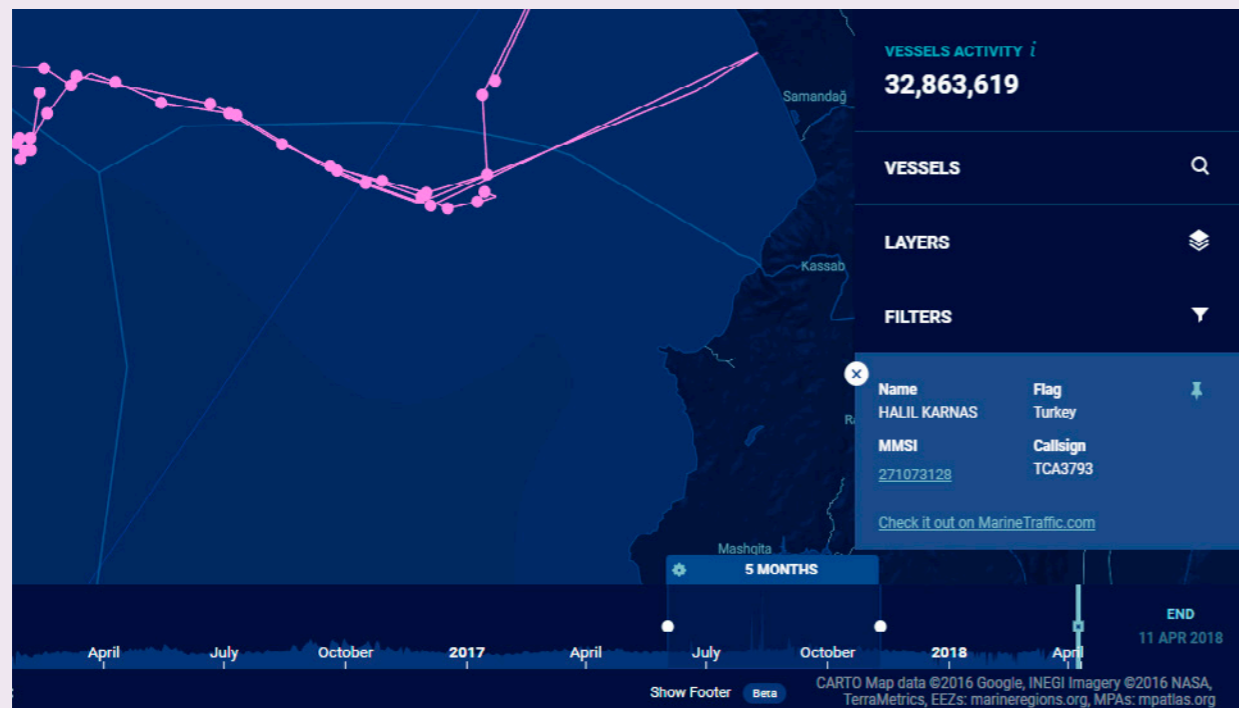


Image 14. Global Fishing Watch data using the AIS signals for vessel Aldebaran in waters under jurisdiction of Albania and Montenegro

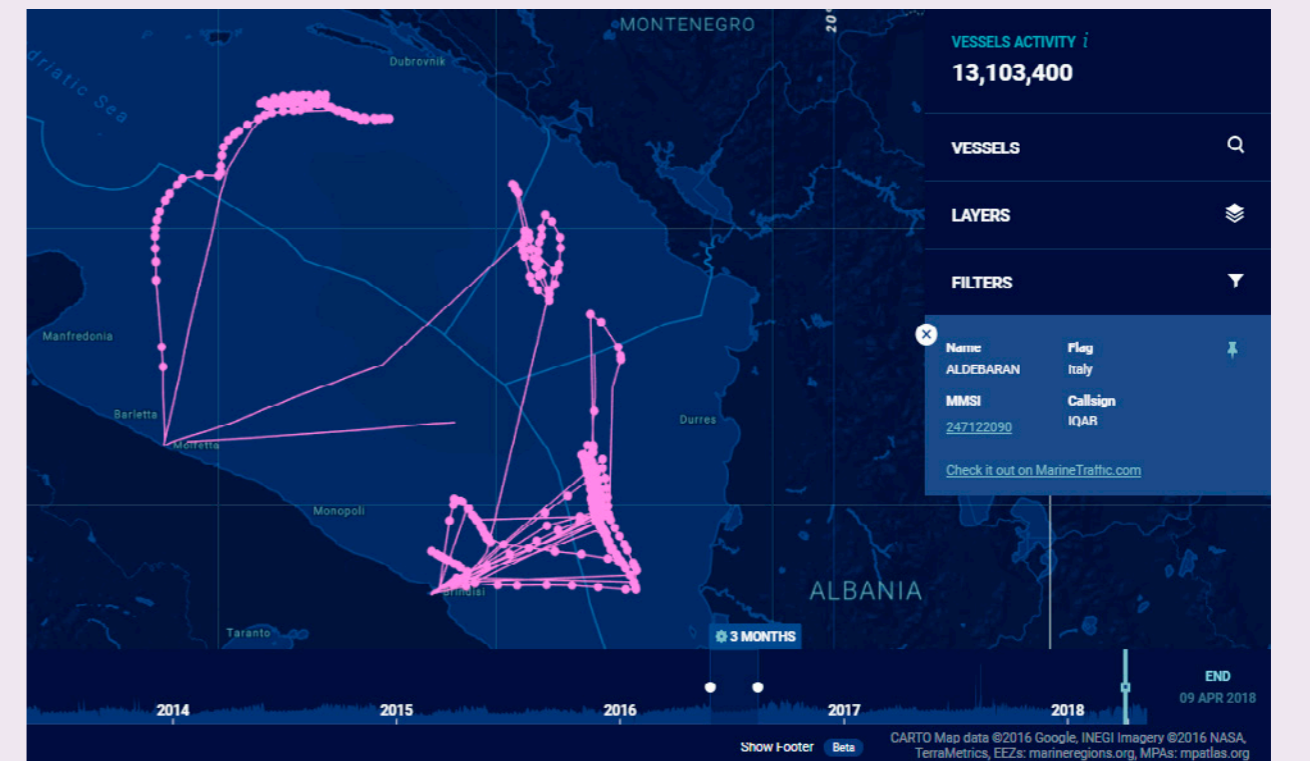


Image 15. Global Fishing Watch data using the AIS signals for vessel Pasquale e Cristina in waters under jurisdiction of Albania and Montenegro

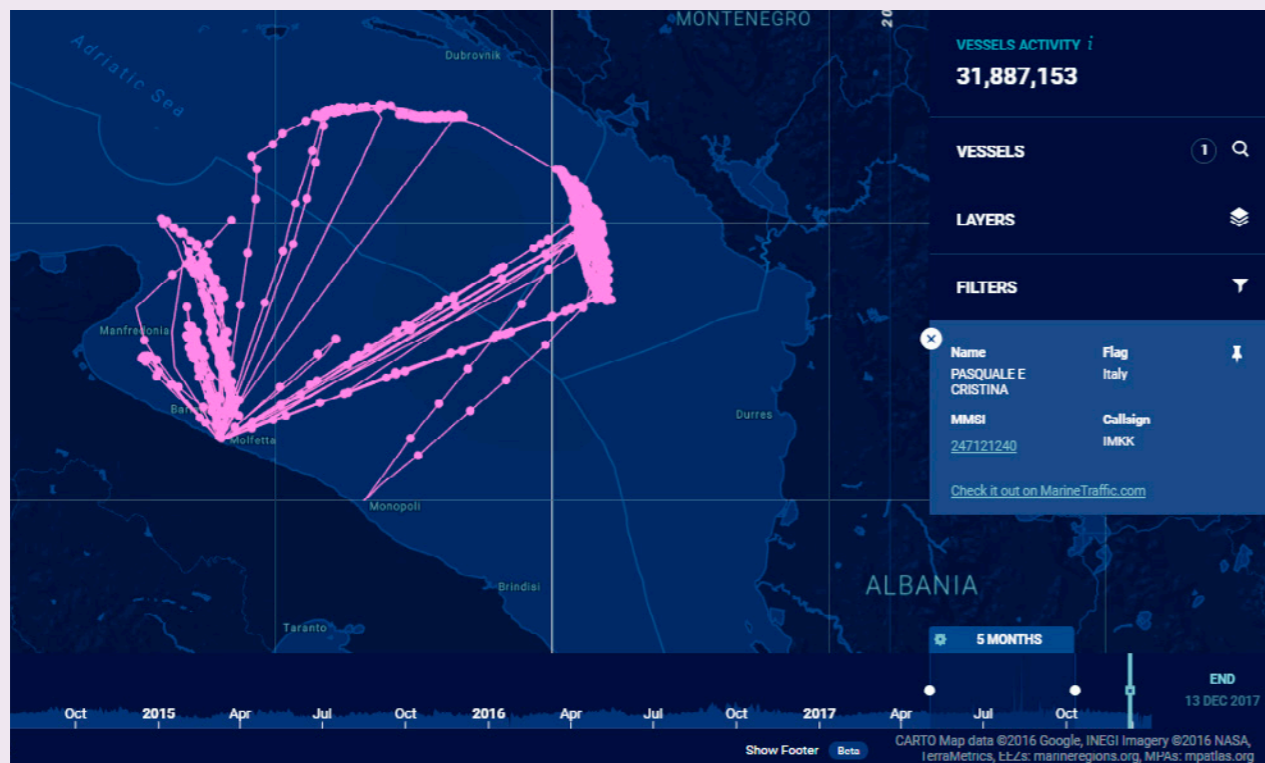


Image 17. Global Fishing Watch data using the AIS signals for vessel Tonia in waters under jurisdiction of Albania



Image 16. Global Fishing Watch data using the AIS signals for vessel Alba in waters under jurisdiction of Albania and Montenegro

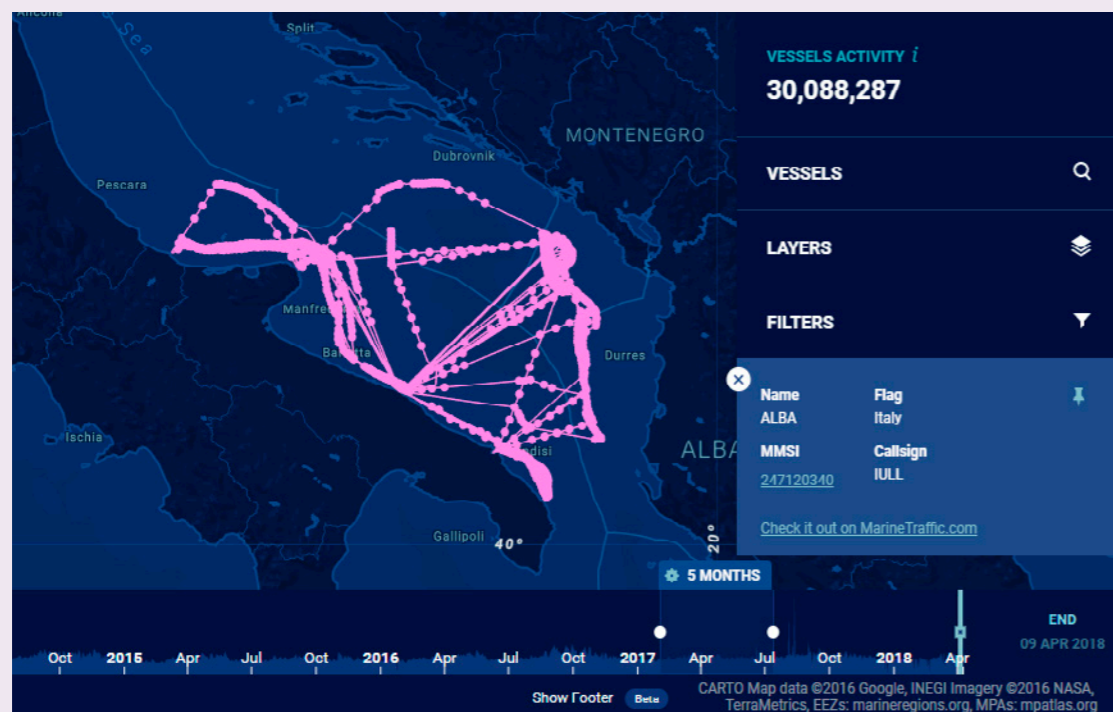
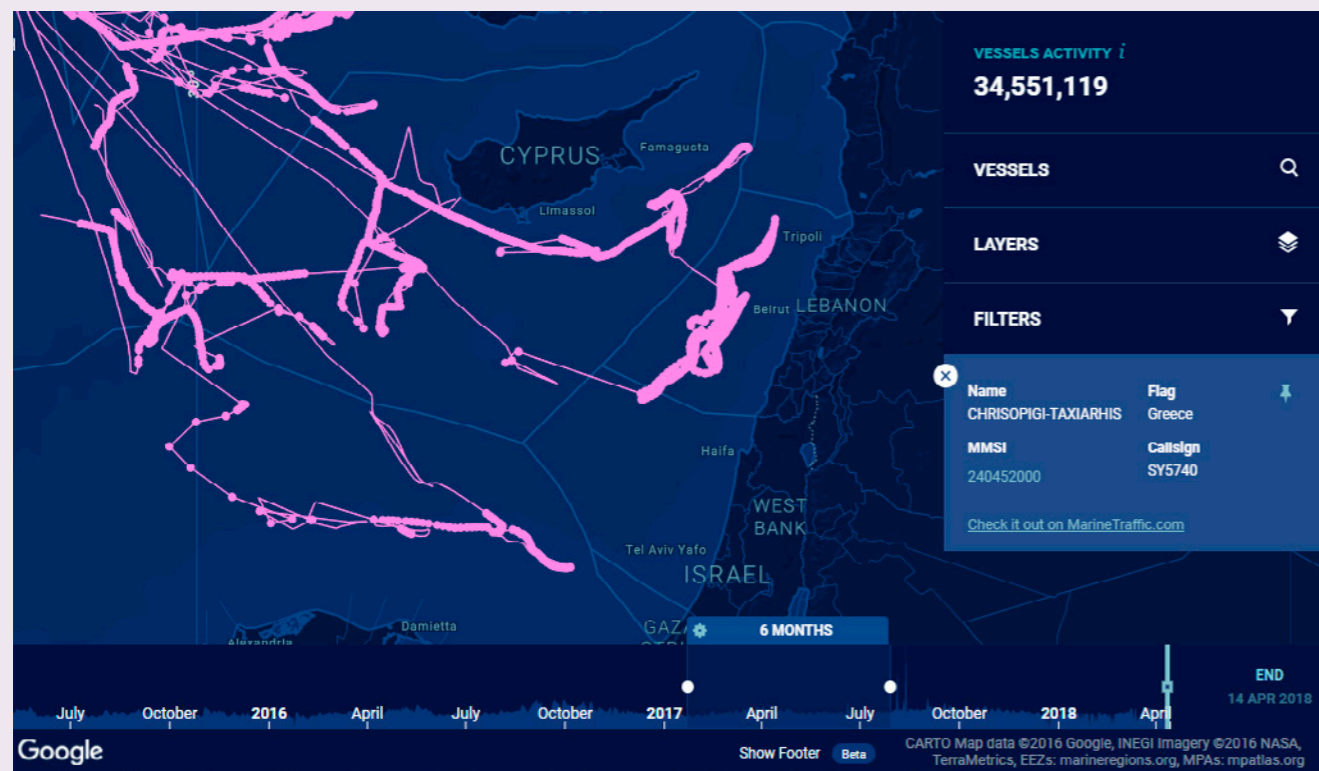


Image 18. Global Fishing Watch data using the AIS signals for vessel Konstantinos Angeliki III in waters under jurisdiction of Egypt and Lebanon



Image 19. Global Fishing Watch data using the AIS signals for vessel Chrysopigi Taxiarchis in waters under jurisdiction of Egypt and Lebanon



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