

TURKEY-JAPAN MARINE FORUM

NOVEMBER 5-12, 2012



*Abstract Book*

**HARMONIZATION OF BIODIVERSITY  
AND MARINE INDUSTRIES**



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# ABSTRACT BOOK

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THE SASAKAWA PEACE FOUNDATION





## OP16

**The Pursuit of the Sandbar Shark [*Carcharhinus plumbeus* (Nardo, 1827)]****Halit FİLİZ\*, Anıl GÜLŞAHİN, Hasan CERİM and Gökçen BİLGE***\*Muğla Sıtkı Koçman University, Faculty of Fisheries, 48000, Kötekli, Muğla, Turkey*

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**Abstract**

Boncuk Bay in the Gökova Special Environmental Protection Area (SEPA) is a critical habitat for sandbar shark (*Carcharhinus plumbeus*) since the bay has been used as a nursery area by this species. The monitoring studies have been supported annually since 2006 by the Ministry of Environment and Urbanization, General Directorate for Protection of Natural Assets (GDPNA) (formerly the Ministry of Environment and Forestry – Environmental Protection Agency for Special Areas).

In 2012, a study entitled “The Observation of Sandbar Sharks in Boncuk Bay in Gökova Special Environmental Protection Area” was carried out by a scientific team from Muğla Sıtkı Koçman University Faculty of Fisheries under the project “Strengthening the System of Marine and Coastal Protected Areas of Turkey” managed by the GDPNA and implemented by UNDP with the financial support from GEF.

Sandbar shark individuals in the Gökova SEPA were observed, counted and photographed via free diving method. The study period was between 12 May and 28 September 2012. A total of 21 field studies (in May: 3 days; June: 5 days; July: 4 days; August: 5 days and September: 4 days), and 105 free diving observations (FDOs) were made. The surface seawater temperatures were measured as  $20.2 \pm 0.4^\circ\text{C}$  in May,  $23.3 \pm 1.1^\circ\text{C}$  in June,  $23.5 \pm 0.2^\circ\text{C}$  in July,  $26.6 \pm 0.3^\circ\text{C}$  in August and  $24.8 \pm 0.5^\circ\text{C}$  in September. We encountered sandbar sharks 49 times in 105 FDOs, and totally 93 individuals were counted.

**Key words:** Sandbar shark, *Carcharhinus plumbeus*, Boncuk Bay, Gökova, Special Environmental Protection Areas