



**Fifth Conference on Cetacean Conservation in
South Mediterranean Countries
(CSMC5)**

**Online, 13 – 15 April 2021
Lebanon**

**Cetacean in Libyan waters: recorded via a citizen science
project and mining social media platforms**

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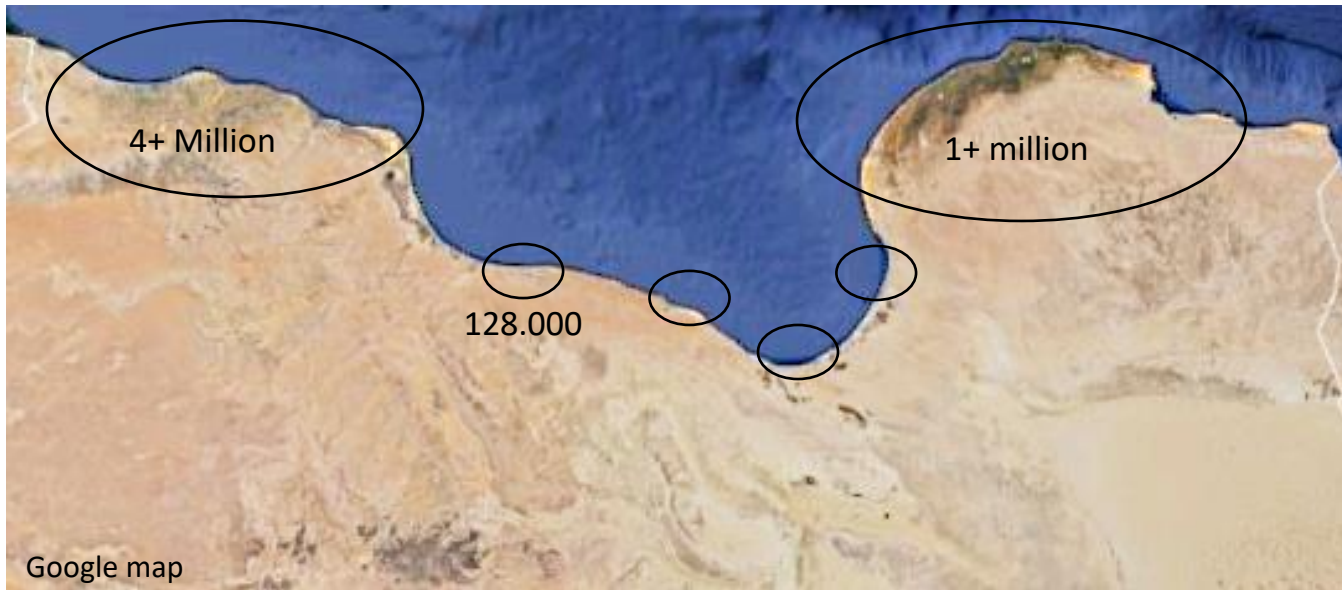
Faculty of Agriculture

University of Tripoli

Libya



Libyan coastal area



Background information

Project snowball:
2016-ongoing
Social media mining
Citizen science
Field surveys

Disease surveillance

Megafaun
a



Non-native
species

Public awareness

Microproject
s

Methodology

6 FB groups

Mining social media
platforms

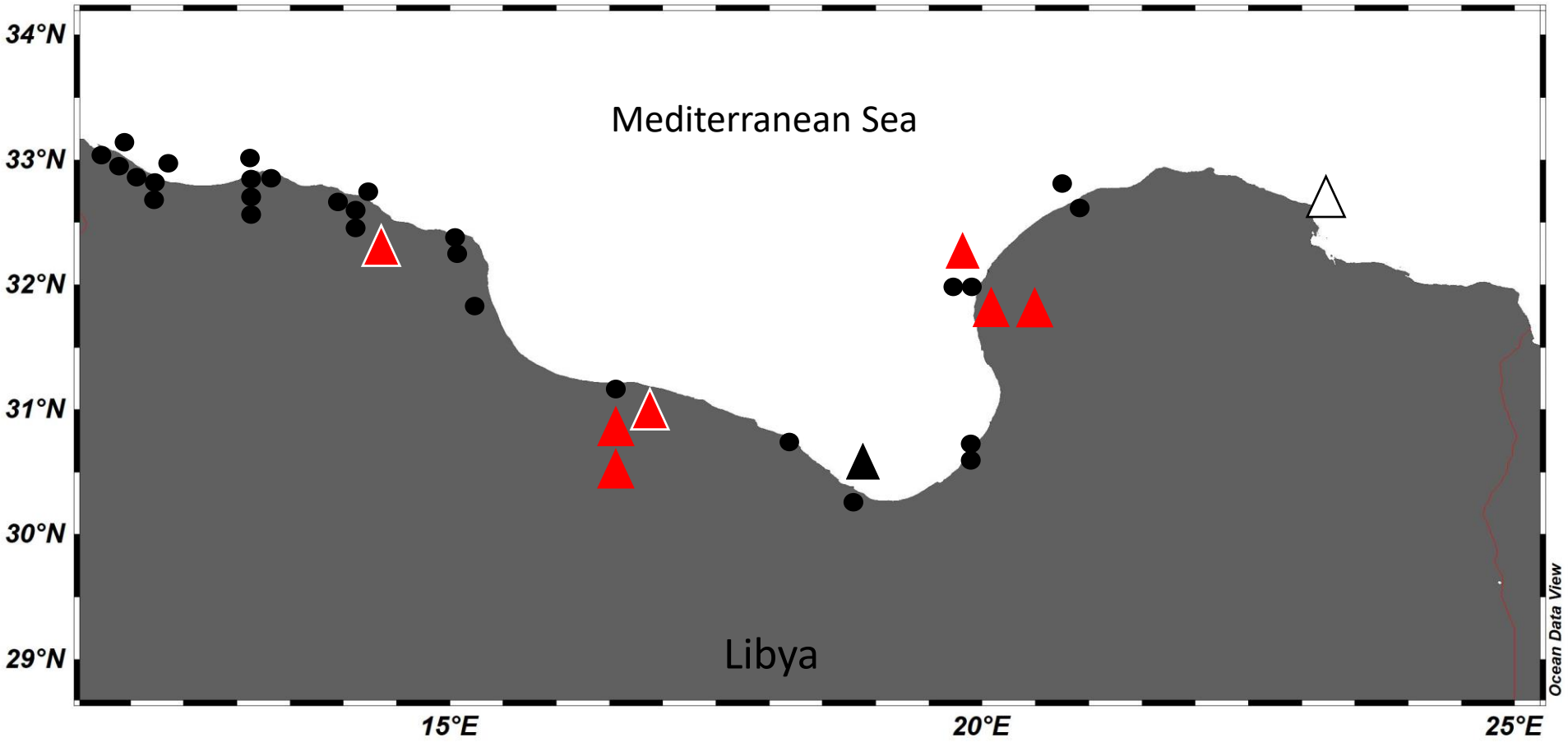


Twitter

YouTube

Facebook

Key Findings



Key Findings

Cause of stranding/ death

- Intentional killing
- Disease
- Accidental catch
- Unknown



Source: Facebook, anonymous

Key Findings

Reaction to stranded animal

- Public awareness
- Consumption



Key Findings

Pitfalls/ drawbacks

- Deactivated Facebook accounts, unknown owner
- Cause for stranding/ mortality speculated.
- Multiple posting, different years
- Necroscopy

Key Findings



Benjawad 27.4.2020



In conclusion

- Ongoing research
- Potential
- Signalization network; social media?
- Public awareness campaigns
- Funding scientific research in Libya
- Collaboration

Acknowledgments

I thank Usma Bosachra, Ayob AL Furgi, Muhanad Aokok, Joma Warfeli, Roro, and Hesham Nashnoush for allowing the use of the images and information used herein. I also thank the administrator of the six Facebook groups (أسرار صيد السمك) شباب ليبيا . , أسرار وتعاليم صيد الأسماك في ليبيا , الصيد البحري في ليبيا , سرتمة , بالقصبة في ليبيا (البحر والسمك , للرحلات الصحراوية والبحرية) who allowed me to use the FB group for the present study .