

Questionnaire

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The completion of this questionnaire aims to collect information to investigate the typology of recreational inland fishermen who participate in fishing competitions, estimate the economic benefits of this activity in the broader fishing area, and record their ecological knowledge gained from this fishing activity. No identifying information of the respondent will be published.

Date of interview:

- Was the completion of the questionnaire done within the context of a competition?
- If yes, which one?

A. Estimation of “expedition” cost for fishing (transportation, accommodation)

A1. Are you a resident of the area? YES ☐ NO ☐

A2. If not, where is your permanent residence? (to estimate the distance traveled to get here)

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A3. Did you come alone or are you accompanied (e.g., by children or a partner)? If yes, by how many people?

.....

A4. How many days will you stay in the area?

.....

A5. Have you rented a room in the wider area?

.....

A6. During your stay here, do you eat at restaurants in the wider area?

.....

A7. What is your estimated total cost for accommodation and transportation for this “expedition” to engage in fishing?

.....

B. Engagement in fishing

B1. When did you start engaging in recreational fishing?

.....

B2. Are you a member of a fishing club or association? YES ☐ NO ☐

B3. If YES, since when:

B4. a. When did you start participating in fishing competitions (year)?

.....

B4.b. How many competitions do you participate in per year?

.....

B5. Mention if and where you get information about fishing matters:

I don't get informed ☐	Fishermen's cooperative /club ☐
Printed materials ☐	Fishing service ☐
Media ☐	Internet ☐

B6. What fishing equipment do you own?

.....

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B7. How much do you estimate you have spent so far on purchasing fishing equipment?

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B8. Do you fish in other ecosystems?

.....

B9. If yes, what distances are you willing to travel for fishing?

.....

B10. How much do you estimate you spend annually on your fishing activity? (equipment purchase, transportation, accommodation, restaurants, etc.)

.....

B11. What species do you fish?

.....

.....

B12. Disposition of the catch:

Consumption	Percentage:
Donation to others	Percentage:
Release	Percentage:
Other	Percentage:

B13. How many days per month in each season do you engage in fishing?

Season	Days	Season	Days
Spring		Autumn	
Summer		Winter	

B14. How long do the fishing activities last in each season:

Fishing process		Preparation of tools	
Spring		Spring	
Summer		Summer	
Autumn		Autumn	
Winter		Winter	

C. Fishermen's opinions

C1. Have you noticed any environmental degradation of the ecosystem you are fishing in today?

YES ☐ NO ☐ Don't know ☐

C2. If YES, what are the 3 most important environmental problems you have identified?

1.
2.
3.

C3. Have you noticed overfishing of the stocks in the ecosystem you are fishing in today?

YES ☐ NO ☐ Don't know ☐

C4. If YES, which species?

.....
.....

C5. How much do you believe the catches of the ecosystem have decreased compared to 25 years ago?

0%-25% ☐ 25%-50% ☐ 50%-75% ☐ > 75% ☐ Don't know ☐

C6. What do you believe is the main cause of the reduction?

Pollution ☐

Fishing ☐

Water reduction/over-extraction ☐

Habitat destruction (technical works, sand extraction, arrangements, etc.) ☐

Don't know ☐

Other cause (specify):

C7. What species and how big was the largest fish you caught?

When did you catch it?

Species: Weight (Kg): Area: Year:

C8. Do you believe there is a problem with invasive species in this ecosystem?

YES ☐ NO ☐

C9. If YES, which species do you consider most destructive and when did the problem start?

.....

C10. Do you believe the process of stocking in this ecosystem has/will have positive results?

YES ☐ NO ☐

C11. If YES, with which species do you wish to stock?

.....

C12. If NO, what is your personal justification?

.....

C13. Do you believe the existing fishing legislation of inland waters is adequate?

YES ☐ NO ☐

C14. If NO, explain why:

.....

C15. Do you know other fish species found in the ecosystem you are fishing in these days? If yes, which ones?.....

.....

.....

C16. Mention any opinion you want to be considered in the research:

.....

C17. What are the 3 main reasons you engage in amateur fishing?

- Relaxation / tranquility / contact with nature ☐
- For food supply ☐
- Socialization/contact with friends ☐
- Challenge (for winning if done in competition context) ☐
- Challenge (for the excitement from catching fish) ☐
- It's free ☐
- I have easy access ☐
- Knowledge of biodiversity ☐
- Environmental education and awareness ☐
- Because I have invested in equipment ☐
- To stay in shape—to exercise ☐
- Other (describe):

C18. Do you go fishing as often as you want? If not, note the 3 main reasons why this happens.

- Lack of free time due to professional/family obligations ☐
- Personal health problems/old age ☐
- Transportation costs ☐
- Cost of purchasing and maintaining equipment ☐
- Inability to find a companion for fishing ☐
- Limited access to fishing fields (lakes, rivers) ☐
- Other activities (hobbies)/interests ☐
- I don't catch many fish ☐
- Other (describe):

C19. What bothers you about your fishing activity? Mention the 3 main problems.

- There are not enough fishing facilities (e.g., wooden piers) ☐
- Fishing regulations regarding fish sizes are not observed ☐
- There are many fishermen (overcrowding) ☐
- I don't catch many fish ☐
- Bad weather ☐
- Nothing—I like everything about fishing ☐
- Other (describe):

D. DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS

D1. Gender: Male ☐ Female ☐

D2. Age: 12–18 years ☐ 18–40 years ☐ 40–65 years ☐ 65 years ☐

D3. Place of residence: Large city ☐ Province ☐

D4. Education:

Primary school ☐ High school diploma ☐

Primary school diploma ☐ Private school/Technological education ☐

Junior high school diploma ☐ Higher/University education ☐

D5. Your annual income is (in euros):

0–6000 ☐ 6000–12000 ☐ 12000–20000 ☐ 20000 ☐

D6. Was any of your parents an angler?

.....

D7. Marital status:

Single ☐ Married ☐ Divorced—Separated—☐ Widowed ☐

D8. Number of children:

.....

D9. Does any of your children like fishing so much that they come fishing with you?

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Thank you very much for your participation in the research.