

DECLINE OF THE OHRID TROUT POPULATIONS DUE TO LACK OF FISH STOCK MANAGEMENT AND OVERFISHING

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Abstract

The main purpose of this paper is to describe the driving elements that are driving elements that are directly related to a reduction of trout harvest in the Lake Ohrid in the last two decades. Following different source of information it is clear that over fishing seems to be major cause of the decline of the trout population, and therefore the controls on the number and size of countries. While several plans and projects are implemented, the declining fish priority. Further to that the conception of the lake as an integrated one, implementing the RMB practices and start with monitoring via WFD will be a set of further steps to secure the survival of the endemic trout population. In the last two decades the landings in Albania increased dramatically, while those in Macedonia began to fall. The differences in finishing pressures in the two countries are the results of differences in the social and political situation and the fishing regulations in each country. According to local statistics the fish harvest has been reduced from 1995 and 2010 by 30% (from the 17 500kg to 12 000kg) and that is directly reflecting the current state of the population in the lake.

Keywords: *Ohrid Lake, Ohrid trout, fishery, management, populations*