

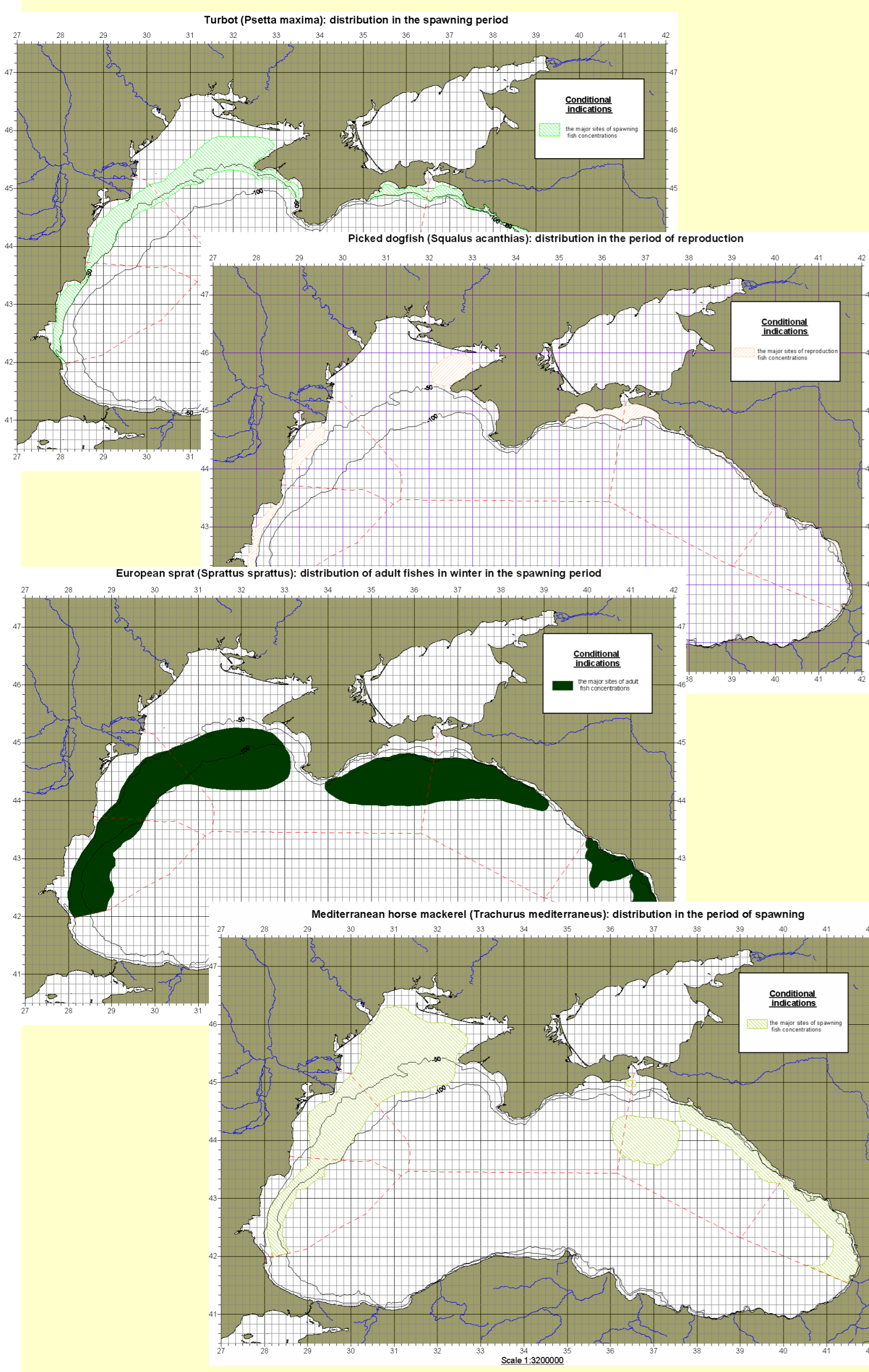
DEVELOPMENT OF THE HABITAT MAPPING FOR COMMERCIAL FISH AND INVERTEBRATE SPECIES

Outcomes: Basing on the developed HABITAT MAPPING recommendations for the establishment of fisheries-free zones and marine protected areas are accepted by the BSC and riparian countries and a working plan is implemented in national strategies

The main objectives are to:

- Support an adequate and reliable assessment of the negative effect of pollution on populations of the main fish species of the Black Sea
- Map the main areas within the Black Sea, which require urgent protective and/or conservation measures directed at rehabilitation of the marine environment, with particular emphasis on those important for the reproduction of fish stocks

Maps of major grounds of turbot, picked dogfish, sprat and horse mackerel spawning (reproduction)

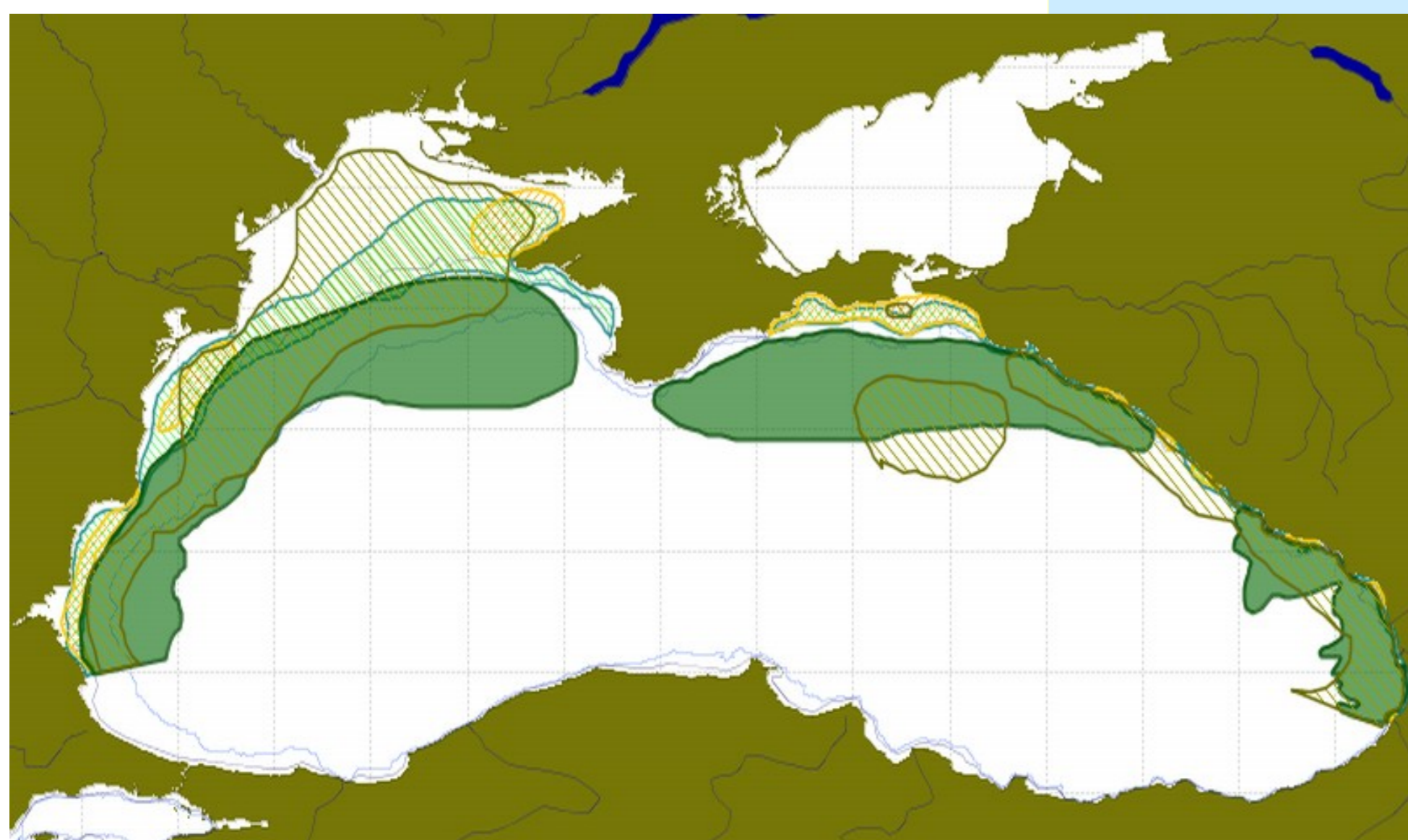
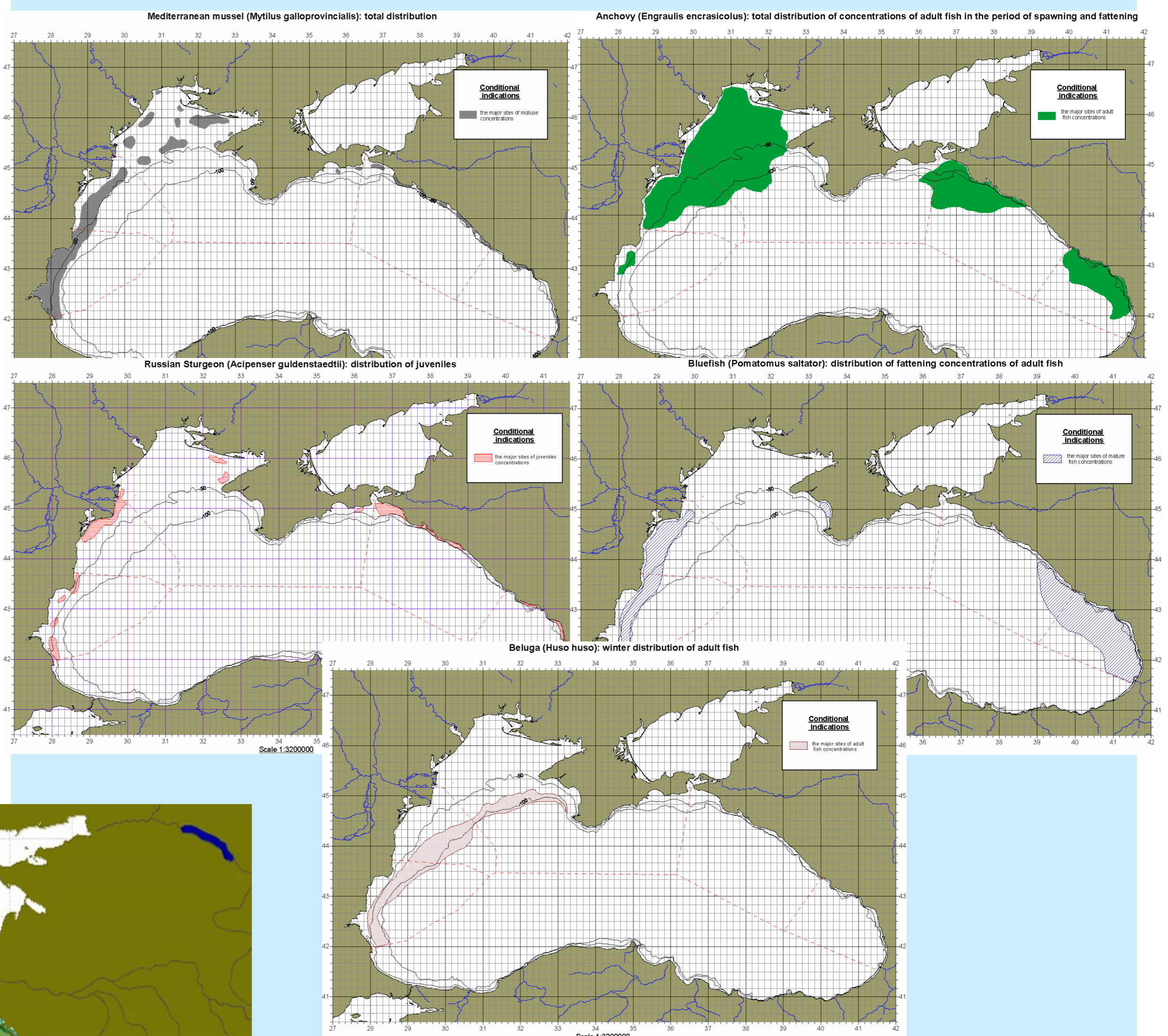


Outputs:

There were developed 44 regional maps (excluding Turkish sector) for distribution of areas of the most sustainable concentrations of anadromous fishes (4 species), spawning in the Black Sea fishes (8 species), transboundary fishes (3 species) and commercial mollusks (3 species); all the maps are provided with descriptions.

Areas of wintering, spawning and fattening of adults, juveniles and larvae and total distribution of species (for fishes – seasonal distribution, for mollusks – annual distribution) are mapped.

The work was carried out by experts from five Black Sea countries – V. Raykov (Bulgaria), R. Coradze (Georgia), G. Radu (Romania), I. Korpakova (the Russian Federation) and V. Shlyakhov (coordinating expert, Ukraine)



Digitalized maps may be overlapped one another to reveal areas with negative affect of pollution on populations, the most important spawning grounds and to solve other problems associated with protection and rehabilitation of the Black Sea ecosystem