

# Review of: "Larache's Coastal in Morocco: Evaluating Dredging's Impact on Fisheries and Shorelineevolution"

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**Potential competing interests:** No potential competing interests to declare.

I thank the editor for the opportunity to review this paper.

The manuscript "Larache's Coastal in Morocco: Evaluating Dredging's Impact on Fisheries and Shoreline Evolution" studies the consequences of dredging activity on fisheries and shoreline.

In my opinion, this article needs to be revised in several points: first, the style of citations. Second, the discussion and conclusion must show clearer data.

I have a few suggestions to improve the manuscript, which I mention below.

## **Title**

I think there is a mistake in the title; the words "shoreline" and "evolution" must be separated.

## **Introduction**

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"Dredging can disturb the reproduction and development processes of benthic organisms by destroying spawning areas, disrupting marine currents, and altering water quality (Garrad & Hey in 1987)." But changes in water quality will also affect the planktonic and nektonic compartments. I would like to read something about this in the introduction.

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## **Description of the studied area**

All citations must be in the same style; I suggest, for example, "(Hakkou et al. 2011)".

In point 2.2.1, the article talks about the terrestrial vegetation, but I think it can be more interesting to talk about the aquatic plants and algae that can be affected by dredging. I suggest giving more information on aquatic vegetation.

All scientific species names (flora and fauna) must be in italics.

## **Results**

I think it can be interesting to visualize the changes of the coastline from 2011 to 2020 in the same modality as 2011-2016

and 2016-2020.

To better understand the changes in the shoreline (and the environmental impact), it would be necessary to know the position of the dredging activity.

### **Discussion of the results obtained.**

In point 5.2, the article talks about the impact of dredging on fisheries, but it's not explained if dredging started in 2010 and before that year was never made.

### **Discussion**

“Recent cessation of sand dredging in Larache due to the pandemic is highlighted as a potential explanation for a slight increase in the quantity of pelagic fish caught off the Atlantic coast, spanning from Moulay Bouselham to Cap Spartel (Tangier). This could confirm a causal link between dredging and the decline in fishery resources.” The cessation of dredging does not seem to be linked to fisheries from the data reported in Table 4, but the data to support this is also lacking. I suggest reporting more data and analysing more variables.

### **Reference:**

In the list, the citation is missing:

- Mohamed Dahmani et al. 2018
- DRAPOR 2020
- Antoine PEREDA BUSTAMANTE 2017
- Mounir HAKKOU 2016

In the text, the citation is missing:

- GEODE 2012. Environmental monitoring of dredging and disposal operations. Methodological Guide. Report 134 p.