

Ancona, 01-01-2022

Dear Editor,

please find attached the file of a manuscript, entitled “*Effects of hydraulic-dredging reduction due to the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic on macrofauna assemblages in the Northern Adriatic Sea*”, by Nepote E., Corinaldesi C., Dell’Anno A., Lo Martire M. Greco S. and Danovaro R.

The manuscript is original work, not being submitted elsewhere and based on an investigation of the effects of the lockdown imposed by COVID19 emergency on the macrofauna assemblages of the Northern Adriatic Sea. We showed that the stop to fisheries provided a boost for the resilient of the clam population in the region.

All authors contributed significantly to this work and agree with the contents and with the ms submission for possible publication to Aquatic Science & Management.

Here below a list of potential reviewers:

* Prof Joanna Norkko [joanna.norkko@helsinki.fi](mailto:joanna.norkko@helsinki.fi) Helsinki University, Finland.
* Dr. [Sarah Clarke](https://www.cambridge.org/core/search?filters%5BauthorTerms%5D=Sarah%20Clarke&eventCode=SE-AU) [sarah.clarke@marine.ie](mailto:sarah.clarke@marine.ie) Marine Institute, Rinville, Oranmore, County Galway, Ireland.
* Prof. Antonio Terlizzi [aterlizzi@units.it](mailto:aterlizzi@units.it) University of Trieste, Italy.
* Dr. Teresa Amaro [amaro.teresa@gmail.com](mailto:amaro.teresa@gmail.com) University of Aveiro, Portugal.

We would like also to exclude Prof. Laura Airoldi from the list of possible reviewers for conflict of interest

Many thanks in advance. Hoping to hear from you in the due time, I remain

Dr. PhD Ettore Nepote