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Position: Research Fellow (formerly Associated Professor at the University of Genoa)

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Personal keywords: Marine ecology; Seascape ecology; Ecological indices; Marine biodiversity; Marine biogeography.

Scientific interests in a nutshell:

Trans-disciplinary research within the Marine Environmental Sciences. Four major themes can be defined: 1) Marine and estuarine biodiversity; 2) ecosystem change with time; 3) human impact on the coastal zone; 4) seascape semiotics and diagnostics (characterization and evaluation). Specific topics deal for the great majority with marine benthos, and are marked by a main guideline that has been developing with time and that concerns the study of the complexity of ecological systems. The research of C.N. Bianchi has encompassed the "historical" period of the ecological sciences that saw the passage from the so-called equilibrium ecology, dominating in the 1970s, to the ecology of change, that has become the dominant paradigm in the last decades. C.N. Bianchi has been one of the major Italian interpreters of this approach, which pays greater attention to the understanding of ecosystem variability at different space and time scales, rather than to the definition of their central tendency.

Condensed research sentence:

Bionomics, mapping and biogeography of the marine coastal environment. Benthic community structure, gradient analysis, bioconstruction, effects of climate change on marine ecosystems. Long-term ecological data.

Five selected publications:

1. **Bianchi C.N.**, Azzola A., Cocito S., Morri C., Oprandi A., Peirano A., Sgorbini S., Montefalcone M., 2022. Biodiversity monitoring in Mediterranean marine protected areas: scientific and methodological challenges. *Diversity*, 14 (1): 43. DOI: 10.3390/d14010043
2. **Bianchi C.N.**, Cocito S., Diviacco G., Dondi N., Fratangeli F., Montefalcone M., Parravicini V., Rovere A., Sgorbini S., Vacchi M., Morri C., 2018. The park never born: outcome of a quarter of a century of inaction on the sea-floor integrity of a proposed but not established Marine Protected Area. *Aquatic Conservation: Marine and Freshwater Ecosystems*, 28: 1209-1228. DOI: 10.1002/aqc.2918
3. **Bianchi C.N.**, 2007. Biodiversity issues for the forthcoming tropical Mediterranean Sea. *Hydrobiologia*, 580: 7-21. DOI: 10.1007/s10750-006-0469-5
4. **Bianchi C.N.**, Morri C., 2001. The battle is not to the strong: serpulid reefs in the Lagoon of Orbetello (Tuscany, Italy). *Estuarine, Coastal and Shelf Science*, 53: 215-220. DOI:10.1006/ecss.2001.0793
5. **Bianchi C.N.**, Morri C., 2000. Marine biodiversity of the Mediterranean Sea: situation, problems and prospects for future research. *Marine Pollution Bulletin*, 40 (5): 367-376. DOI: 10.1016/S0025-326X(00)00027-8