Comment on essd-2021-93
Anonymous Referee #1

Referee comment on "New historical data for long-term swordfish ecological studies in the Mediterranean Sea" by Brian R. MacKenzie et al., Earth Syst. Sci. Data Discuss., https://doi.org/10.5194/essd-2021-93-RC1, 2021

It is highly interesting and timely paper that contributes at the same time to the knowledge about the populations of a marine species target of long term exploitation and which status is not fully addressed, while showing the value of alternatives sources of information besides current quantitative assessments. Historical marine ecology and the resourcing to long term data series brings new and relevant information and can directly contribute to the conservation and/or management of marine fish populations. Moreover, it opens new avenues of research that complement current day research in fisheries' management with historic previously neglected data while addressing long term interactions and impacts of societies in marine ecosystems. I strongly recommend the publication.