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definition; 2.2.5.2 Habitat description; 2.2.5.3 Subhabitats; 2.2.6 Subtidal soft substratum; 2.2.6.1 Habitat definition; 2.2.6.2 Habitat description; 2.2.6.3 Subhabitats; 2.2.7 Subtidal hard substratum; 2.2.7.1 Habitat definition; 2.2.7.2 Habitat description; 2.2.7.3 Subhabitats; 2.2.8 Subtidal seagrass beds; 2.2.8.1 Habitat definition; 2.2.8.2 Habitat description; 2.2.8.3 Subhabitats; 2.2.9 Biogenic reefs; 2.2.9.1 Habitat definition; 2.2.9.2 Habitat description; 2.2.9.3 Subhabitats; 2.3 Quantification of fish habitats in selected European estuarine systems; 2.3.1 Introduction; 2.3.2 European context of the selected estuarine systems; 2.3.2.1 Boreal/Atlantic region; 2.3.2.2 Baltic/Skagerrak region; 2.3.2.3 Mediterranean region; 2.3.3 Distribution and extent of fish habitats; 2.4 Use of habitats by fish in selected European estuarine systems; 2.4.1 Fish species habitat use; 2.4.1.1 Data treatment; 2.4.1.2 Proportion of known data; 2.4.2 Species richness and distribution between habitats; 2.4.2.1 All fish species; 2.4.2.2 Commercial species; 2.4.3 Habitat utilisation; 2.4.4 Habitat importance; 2.4.5 Ecological guilds; 2.5 Discussion; 2.6 References; 3 Recruitment and Production of Commercial Species in Estuaries; 3.1 Introduction; 3.2 Distribution and commercial importance; 3.3 Production; 3.3.1 Production of estuarine fish communities; 3.3.2 Production of some of the main species; 3.3.2.1 Diadromous species; 3.3.2.2 Marine seasonal migrants as adults; 3.3.2.3 Marine migrants as juveniles; 3.3.2.4 Estuarine-resident species; 3.3.3 Discussion; 3.4 Recruitment-related strategies of the life-cycles; 3.4.1 Freshwater spawners; 3.4.2 Brackish-water spawners; 3.4.3 Marine spawners; 3.5 Natural factors affecting recruitment; 3.5.1 Mortality rates; 3.5.2 Abiotic factors; 3.5.2.1 Temperature; 3.5.2.2 Salinity; 3.5.2.3 Oxygen depletion; 3.5.2.4 Hydrodynamics and wind stress; 3.5.2.5 Other parameters; 3.5.3 Biotic factors; 3.5.3.1 Food availability; 3.5.3.2 Predation and cannibalism; 3.5.3.3 Competition; 3.5.3.4 Vegetation and sediment structure; 3.6 Anthropogenic effects on recruitment; 3.6.1 Power stations

Sommario/riassunto

This landmark publication collates information and studies on the use of estuaries, and specific habitats within them, as nursery, feeding and refuge areas, and migration routes of marine and other fish, many of which are of commercial and conservation importance. The editors and authors of the book have carefully compiled a huge wealth of information from the work of 18 organizations across 11 countries, providing a unique collection of data never before brought together within the covers of one book. Chapters within this exceptional publication cover habitat use by fishes, recruitment