

THE DISTRIBUTION OF SEA BIRDS RELATIVE TO THEIR FISH PREY OF AIN KIAM LAGOON, ZELITEN IN LIBYA

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Abstract

The Libyan coast and its lagoons play an important role in the biodiversity and productivity of Mediterranean marine life; it is fairly, unpolluted, and includes gigantic beds of marine plants, which are used by different fauna species for shelter and nursery grounds during breeding and other stage of their life cycle. This makes the Libyan coast profitable for fish production and also, widely distributed of birds. This paper discussed the most important sea birds in Ain kiam lagoon, Zeliten in Libya. Example, Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax aristotelis*), Grey Heron (*Ardea cinerea*), Great Egret (*Ardea alba*) and Kingfisher (*Alcedo atthis*). The results show that Cormorant, Kingfisher, Grey Heron and Great Egret, were abundant respectively in the lagoon and their fish prey.

Keywords: Sea birds, Distribution, Ain Kiam lagoon