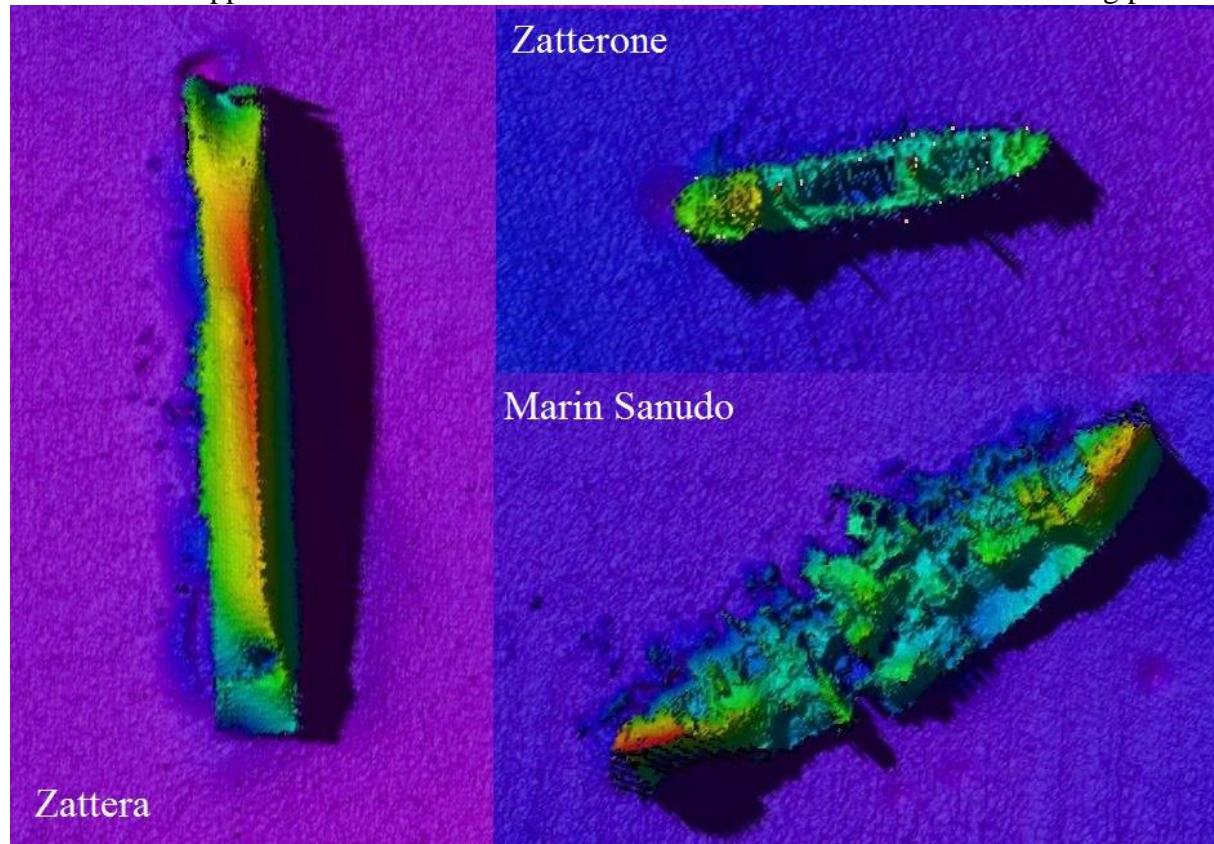
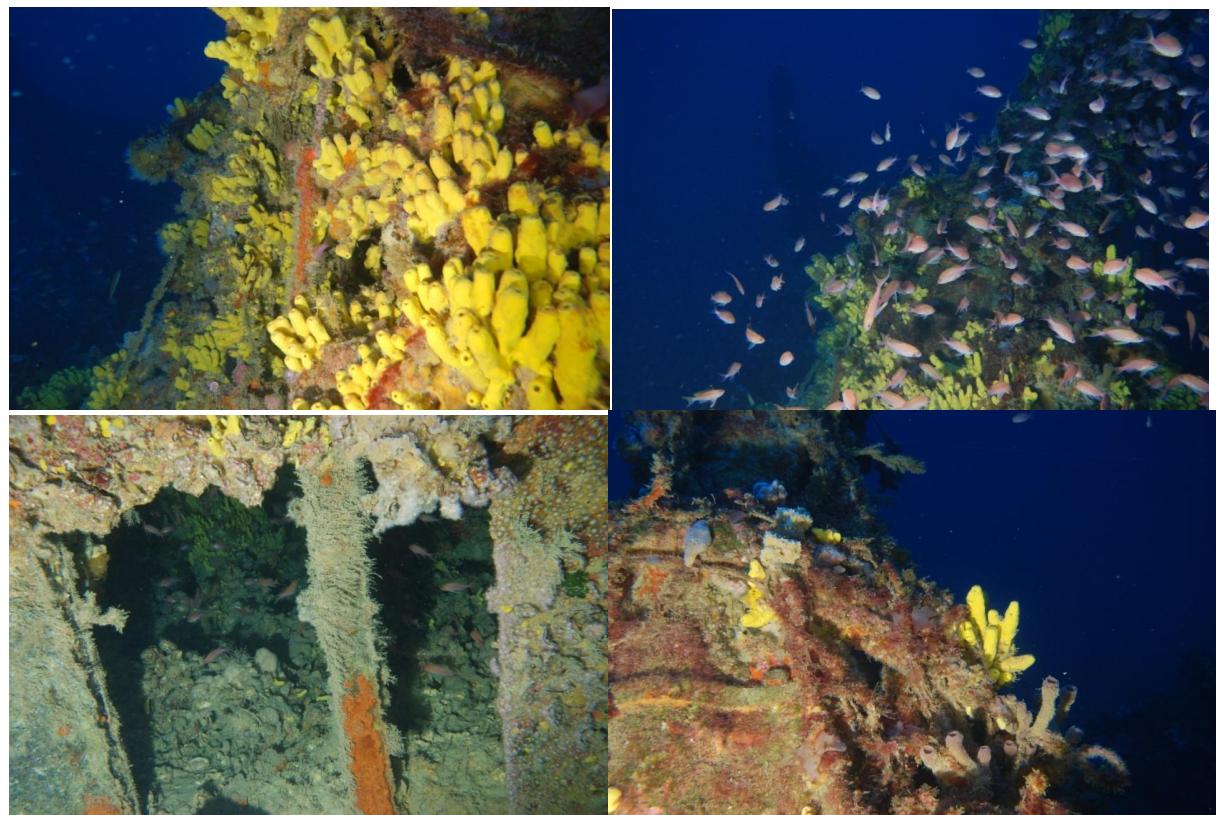


**Figure S1. Shipwrecks' multibeam reconstructions.**

The shipwrecks' position is evidenced by the false-colour multibeam reconstruction. Zattera was flooded on its upper-work while Marin Sanudo and Zatterone flooded on their cruising positions.



**Figure S2. Assemblages of benthonic species and associated fish recorded by ROV inspections.** Assemblages of Porifera (*A. Aerophoba*), fish (*A. anthias*) and Bryozoa to shipwrecks in the Sicily Strait (Lampedusa) - ROV Pollux with Nikon D80.



**Table S1. Shipwrecks' main features.** Water depth at flooding site (-70 m), and bottom type (sand, *Maërl* formations) are common features.

		Zattera	Zatterone	Marin Sanudo
Weight	t	Unknown	Unknown	5081
Weight (net)	t	Unknown	Unknown	3189
Length	m	Unknown	Unknown	123.25
Width	m	Unknown	Unknown	16.22
Height	m	Unknown	Unknown	7.54
Burrowing	m	Unknown	Unknown	7.42
Build	y	1900's	Unknown	1926
Flooded date	date	Undefined -WWII	Undefined -WWII	March 5 <sup>th</sup> , 1942
Flooding position	-	Upper work	Cruising position	Cruising position
Latitude	WGS84	35° 23.821 N	35° 29.363 N	35° 24.709 N
Longitude	WGS84	12° 16.320 E	12° 23.744 E	12° 12.511 E
Charge	-	Commercial	Commercial	Weapons

**Table S2. Presence/absence of benthic species.** Control sites presence are zero for all considered groups/species and are not included in this table.

Taxa	Marin Sanudo	Zattera	Zatterone	Taxa	Marin Sanudo	Zattera	Zatterone
<i>Aplysina</i> sp.	*	*	-	<i>L. sarmentosa</i>	*	-	-
<i>S. cunctatrix</i>	*	*	*	<i>E. singularis</i>	*	-	-
<i>A. oroides</i>	*	-	-	<i>E. cavolinii</i>	*	-	-
<i>P. ficeiformis</i>	*	*	-	<i>E. paraplexauroides</i>	*	-	-
<i>S. spinosulus</i>	*	-	-	<i>P. macrospina</i>	*	-	-
<i>A. damicornis</i>	*	*	*	<i>Eudendrium</i> sp.	*	-	-
<i>A. verrucosa</i>	*	*	*	<i>Aglaophenia</i> sp.	*	-	-
Spongia spp.	*	*	-	<i>C. smithii</i>	*	-	-
<i>S. scalaris</i>	*	-	-	<i>A. acaule</i>	*	-	-
<i>H. mediterranea</i>	*	*	*	<i>A. palmatum</i>	*	-	-
<i>I. variabilis</i>	*	*	-	<i>P. spinulosum</i>	*	-	-
<i>D. avara</i>	*	-	-	<i>P. axinellae</i>	*	-	-
<i>D. fragilis</i>	*	-	-	<i>C. viridis</i>	*	-	-
Porifera	<i>C. nicaeensis</i>	*	*	<i>Plumularia</i> sp.	*	-	-
	<i>C. reniformis</i>	*	-	<i>Caryophyllia</i> spp.	*	-	-
	<i>Crella</i> sp.	*	*	<i>V. cymorum</i>	-	*	-
	<i>P. spinifera</i>	*	-	<i>S. spallanzani</i>	*	*	-
	<i>R. viminalis</i>	*	-	<i>P. tubularia</i>	*	*	*
	<i>S. foetidus</i>	*	-	<i>Filograna</i> sp.	*	-	-
	<i>A. aerophoba</i>	*	*	<i>Serpulidae</i> sp.	*	-	-
	<i>A. cavernicola</i>	*	*	Crustacea	<i>P. elephas</i>	*	-
	<i>I. foetida</i>	*	*		<i>D. violacea</i>	*	-
	<i>S. agaricina</i>	*	*		<i>A. mentula</i>	*	*
	<i>S. officinalis</i>	*	*		<i>A. virginea</i>	*	*
Echino dermata	<i>A. polypoides</i>	*	-		<i>A. tabarquensis</i>	*	*
	<i>C. crambe</i>	-	*		<i>H. papillosa</i>	*	*
	<i>C. nucula</i>	-	*		<i>D. variolosus</i>	*	-
	<i>O. ophidianus</i>	*	*		<i>Microcosmus</i> sp.	*	-
	<i>E. sepositus</i>	*	*		<i>Hornera</i> sp.	*	-
Bryozoa	<i>H. tubulosa</i>	*	*	<i>Bryozoa</i>	<i>Schizomavella</i> sp.	*	-
	<i>H. polii</i>	*	-		<i>H. lichenoides</i>	*	-
Mollusca	<i>F. affinis</i>	*	-		* = presence; - = absence		

**Table S3. Principal features of considered fish species (trophic-web pollution).**

Species	<i>S. cabrilla</i>	<i>S. cantharus</i>	<i>D. vulgaris</i>
<b>Habitat</b>	Reef-associated	Benthopelagic Mediterranean sea; Atlantic ocean; England; Cabo Verde; Canarian and Mederian Islands	Benthopelagic Mediterranean sea; Black sea; Atlantic ocean; England; Cabo Verde; Canarian and Mederian Islands
<b>Geographic distribution</b>	Mediterranean sea; Black sea; South Africa; England		
<b>Bathimetric distribution</b>	Demersal, 10-90 m till 250 m	Demersal, 50-150 m	Demersal, 0-70 m
<b>Main prey</b>	Fish ( <i>Gobius niger</i> , <i>Sardina pilchardus</i> ), Mysids, decapods, brachyurans.	Mysids, crustaceans.	Bivalves ( <i>Mytilus galloprovincialis</i> ), Polychaetes, echinoderms, Fish.
<b>L<sub>max</sub> (cm)</b>	40	60	45
<b>L<sub>mean</sub> (cm)</b>	20	-	-
<b>Meristic formula</b>	D = X+13/15; A = III+7/8; C =17; P = 14; V = I-5	D = XI+11/13; A = III+9/11; C =15/17; P = 13/15; V = I+5	D = XI/XII+13/16; A = III+12/15; C =3+17+3; P = 15; V = I+5
<b>Spawning type</b>	Sinchrone hermaphrodites	Proterogynic hermaphrodites	hermaphrodite
<b>Spawning period</b>	Late spring-Summer in Mediterranean	February-May	Autumn- early Winter
<b>Reproductive size (cm)</b>	9-15	20	17
<b>Max life period (year)</b>	5	10-14	9-14
<b>Fishing</b>	Italy, Sicily, Turkey, Greece; Tunis; Cyprus	Pregiate in Italy	Pregiate in Italy
<b>Troph level range</b>	3.30-4.37	3.29	3.00-3.70
<b>Troph level mean</b>	3.71	3.29	3.31
<b>References</b>	Tortonese, 1975; Bauchot, 1987; Zorica et al., 2006; D'Ancona, 1949; Relini, 1995; Tuset et al., 1996; Tserpes and Tsimenides 2001; Politou and Papacostantinou, 1995; Costa, 1991.	Bauchot, 1987; Bauchot and Hureau, 1986; Gonclaves and Erzini, 2000; Pita et al., 2002; Pajuelo and Lorenzo, 1999b; Cefali et al., 1999; Costa, 1991	Bauchot and Hureau 1986; Lissia Frau and Pala, 1968; Tortonese, 1975; Gonclaves et al., 2003; Pepe et al., 1996; Pallaoro et al., 2006; Rosecchi, 1987; Pajuelo and Lorenzo, 2003; Beltrano et al., 2003; Costa, 1991