

Index

1. Introduction

1.1 General view about Deep Sea Mining (DSM).....	10
1.2 Mineral deposits and their distribution.....	12
1.3 General rules and guidelines about DSM.....	19
1.4 Exploration contracts.....	25
1.5 Economic, political and environmental aspects of Deep-Sea Mining.....	28
1.6 Noise pollution: what about it?.....	35
1.6.1 Physical and physiological effects of noise pollution.....	41
1.6.2 Behavioural effects of noise pollution in marine organisms.....	51
1.7 Standards and guidelines about noise pollution.....	61
2. Aim of PhD project	65
3. Biological-environmental module.....	68
3.1 Underwater high frequency noise: biological responses in sea urchin <i>Arbacia lixula</i> (Linnaeus, 1758)	70
3.1.1 Materials and methods.....	74
3.1.2 Results.....	84
3.1.3 Discussion.....	90
3.2 Effects of acoustic stimulus on biochemical parameters in digestive gland of <i>Mytilus galloprovincialis</i> (Lamarck, 1819)	95
3.2.1 Materials and methods.....	98
3.2.2 Results.....	103
3.2.3 Discussion.....	107
3.3 <i>In-situ</i> experiment: the biochemical effects of watergun acoustic emission on vertebrates (<i>Chromis chromis</i>) and invertebrates (<i>Holothuria tubulosa</i> and <i>Arbacia lixula</i>)	110
3.3.1 Materials and methods.....	111
3.3.2 Results.....	125
3.3.3 Discussion.....	138
3.4 The effect of low frequency noise on the behaviour of juvenile <i>Sparus aurata</i>	157
3.4.1 Materials and methods.....	160
3.4.2 Results.....	169
3.4.3 Discussion.....	175
4. Technical-technological module.....	181
4.1 Acoustic effects on the behaviour of <i>Sparus aurata</i> juveniles: <i>in vivo</i> measurements and agent-based modelling.....	182
4.1.1 Materials and methods: Numerical modelling methodology.....	184
4.1.2 Results.....	193
4.1.3 Discussion and Conclusion.....	200
5. Standard and standardization module.....	211
5.1 A proposal of technical rules for noise pollution of Deep Sea Mining activity....	219
6. Conclusion.....	234
7. Funding Acknowledgments.....	240
8. Glossary.....	242
9. Congresses.....	259
10. Scientific paper	261
11. References.....	263