Study of Macrobenthic status in the southern Caspian Sea Region in order to cage culture Matin Shakouri^{1*}, Mohammad Ali Afraee², Hamed Gholipour³

1,2-Caspian Sea Ecology Research Center (CSERC), Iranian Fisheries Science Research Institute (IFSRI), Agricultural Research, Education and Extension Organization (AREEO), P.O. Box: 961, Sari.
3-Ph.D. Student, Faculty of Animal Science and Fisheries, Mazandaran University of Agricultural Sciences and

*Corresponding author e-mail: matin.shakoori@yahoo.com

Abstract

Natural Resources

The scientific research experience in the Caspian Sea backs more than a century. The complex process of the emergence and development of the Caspian Sea ecosystem has caused the living creatures to have diverse reach. The aim of this study was investigate the diversity and distribution of macrobenthos in the southern part of the Caspian sea for many years. Results of the study showed that macrobenthos species during the years have been decreasing with a coefficient of variation of 43.9 percent.

Keywords: Macrobenthos, cage culture, Caspian Sea