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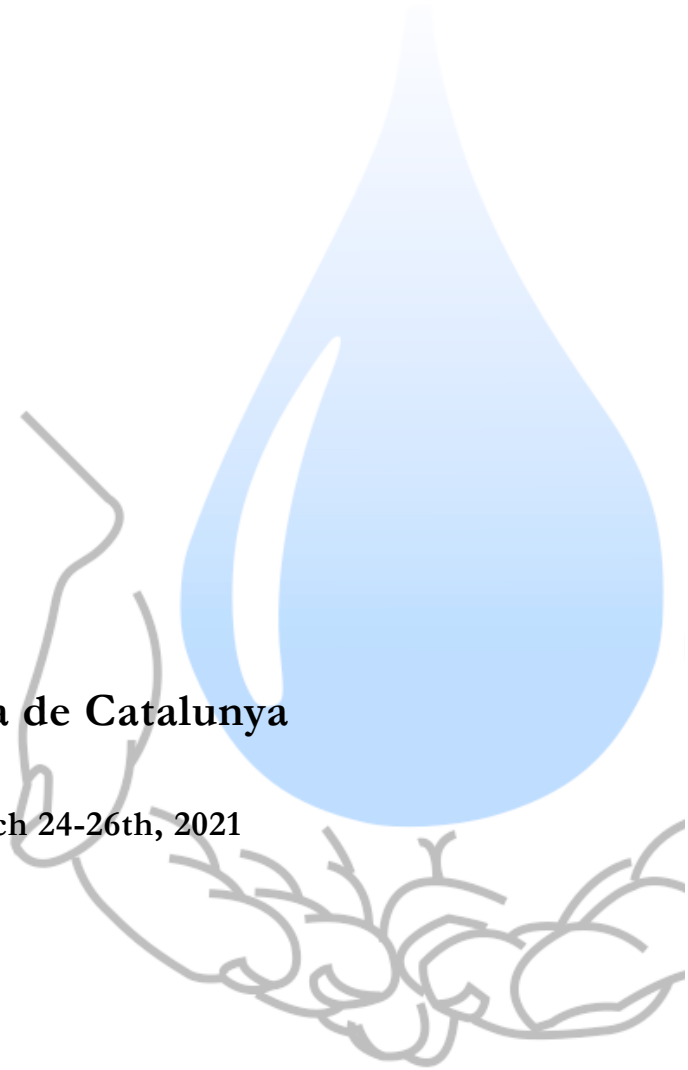

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Editors: Beatriz Amante García, Francisco Belzagui Elder, Valentina Buscio Olivera, Lluc Canals Casals

www.omniascience.com
DOI: https://doi.org/10.3926/icws2021
ISBN: 978-84-123480-0-2
Cover design: Editors - OmniaScience

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Water governance in Spain's Archipelagos

Juan C. Santamarta*

Departamento de Ingeniería Agraria, Náutica, Civil y Marítima. Universidad de La Laguna (ULL), Tenerife, Spain.

Celso García, Pablo Rodríguez-Lozano

Department of Geography. University of the Balearic Islands. Palma, Spain.

Jesica Rodríguez-Martín

Departamento Técnicas y Proyectos en Ingeniería y Arquitectura. Universidad de La Laguna (ULL), Tenerife, Spain.

Noelia Cruz-Pérez

Departamento de Ingeniería Agraria, Náutica, Civil y Marítima. Universidad de La Laguna (ULL), Tenerife, Spain.

*Corresponding author: jcsanta@ull.es; phone:+34 922316502

Abstract

The islands, due to their geographic condition of limited territory, are also limited in the resources available to them for the development of normal life. In Spain there are two archipelagos, the Balearic Islands and the Canary Islands, both have similar characteristics due to their richness in groundwater, few surface water resources and the use of desalination to support the water demand, which rises mainly due to agriculture and the tourism sector, so important in both archipelagos. In addition, both also suffer from similar situations such as marine intrusion in the wells that exploit the

coastal aquifers, deficient wastewater treatment and an increasingly significant increase in the desalination of seawater, with the consequent energy demand that this entails. Therefore, this article has analyzed the current situation of the resources in these islands, as well as the future challenges that arise, in a scenario of climate change, where temperatures are expected to increase and precipitation is expected to decrease in general in Spain.

Keywords: Water management, water resources, groundwater, desalination, Canary Islands, Balearic Islands.

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ISBN 978-84-123480-0-2

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