

Title of Project: Scientific monitoring of marine areas affecting NATURA 2000 sites and protected areas of fishing interest.

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Problematic: Monitoring of marine areas to maintain under control their situation over time.

Brief description/abstract:

The general objective is the monitoring of the evolution of certain biological indicators, species of fishery interest, and communities in the marine SCIs and protected areas of communities in the marine SCIs and protected areas of fishing interest of Serra Gelada, El Prat de Cabanes-Torreblanca, l' Albufera, and the Marine Area of Marina Alta, by means of standardized samplings, to check their situation and evolution over time. Among the planned actions are included **a)** fish population monitoring through visual censuses in immersion, **b)** monitoring of the catches of target species in the environment of the SCIs, **c)** study of the situation of the *Posidonia oceanica* meadows and characterization of the impact of anchoring on these meadows, **d)** study of the organogenic formations (*Lithophyllum byssoides*, *Dendropoma lebeche*); 'forests' of *Cystoseira* spp. and impacts on them, **e)** monitoring of invertebrates of interest and allochthonous species, **f)** monitoring of global warming.

Picture/Photo:

Locations: Serra Gelada, El Prat de Cabanes-Torreblanca, l' Albufera, and the Marine Area of Marina Alta