

#### **Artificial fish nurseries**

Rehabilitation and restoration of marine habitats: the added value of artificial structures

Mission Ocean EU Blue Parks workshop - March 7<sup>th</sup> 2024-





#### Who are we?



- 21 years of experience (founded in 2003)
- Main office in Montpellier & one marine station in Marseille
- Dynamic team of, marine biologists, engineers, technicians and professional divers (50%)



### Activity

- Ecological engineering in marine environment.
- Expert in this field





FRANCE



- High end solutions ready to use, ecologically efficient and scientifically demonstrated.
- 3 patents





#### **Core expertise**

Design & creation of 100% operational solutions to give ecologocial functions to artificial structures & boost fish population



**Partners** 



• Institutional partners: French Water Agency, ADEME, Office Français de la Biodiversité, WWF Denmark...



Member of:







# **YESTERDAY** in a natural environment, the fishes rely on adapted habitats

during their different development stages. Shallow coastal areas are essential to their life cycles.





**TODAY** The coastal infrastructures can impact the nursery functions of the shallow water areas, deeply modifying the essential habitat of the post-larvae. This pressure leads to higher juvenile mortality and to a reduction of adult populations.



Artificial ecosystems to restore nurseries in port infrastructures



# **TOMORROW** Biohut habitats rehabilitate the nursery functions that coastal

development has impacted, and thus allow to rebalance the natural cycle.





A fine scale habitat with the key nursery functions Labelled Origin France

Made of steel and natural substrate (shell)

Economy of functionality

22kg weight (13kg in the water)

Dimensions 80 x 50 x 36 cm



### Different types of Biohut adapted to all types of infrastructures with different ecological functions



## Helping early life stages of many fish species



and the second

# **5500 Biohut**<sup>®</sup> installed since 2013 in 14 countries

#### 54 ports equipped in the European area and surroundings in 2023

Rotterdam Keilehaven – NL	Roquebrune-sur-Argens - Port des Issan
Hagesteijn - NL	Antibes – Port Gallice - FR
Lobith - NL	Saint Florent - FR
Lelystad - NL	Mèze – FR
La Haye – Scheveningen - NL	Saint-Tropez – FR
Aarhus - DK	Stes Maries de la Mer – Gardian- FR
Grenå - DK	Valras - FR
Copenhague - DK	Vendres - Port du Chichoulet - FR
Antibes - Port Vauban – FR	San Feliu de Guixols - SP
Argelès - FR	Côte d'Ivoire
Bénodet - FR	Valras ORB Sérignan – FR
Bonifacio - FR	Taarbaek – DK
Cannes - Port Canto - FR	Lillebaelt - Middelfart - DK
Cannes - Vieux-Port - FR	Lillebaelt – Fredericia - DK
Canet en Roussillon – FR	Lillebaelt - Skaerbaek - DK
Cap d'Agde - FR	Lillebaelt - Kolding - DK
Cap d'Ail - FR	Amsterdam – NL
Fréjus - Port Fréjus - FR	Port-Vendres – FR
Golfe-Juan - Port de Camille rayon — FR	Saint-Martin – Galisbay - FR
La Forêt-Fouesnant - FR	Saint-Martin – Marine Anse Marcel -
La Londe Les Maures – FR	Saint Martin – Fort Saint Louis – FR
Leucate - Port Leucate — FR	Rouen – FR
Marseillan plage – FR	Marina de lagos – PO
Marseillan Ville – FR	Théoule sur Mer – FR
Monaco - Port de Fontvieille - FR	Port d'Amchit – LB
Monaco - Port Hercule - FR	
Narbonne – Port de Narbonne plage - F	R

Roquebrune-sur-Argens - Port des Issambres - FR Antibes - Port Gallice - FR Saint Florent - FR Mèze – FR Saint-Tropez – FR Stes Maries de la Mer – Gardian- FR Valras - FR Vendres - Port du Chichoulet - FR San Feliu de Guixols - SP Côte d'Ivoire Valras ORB Sérignan – FR Taarbaek – DK Lillebaelt - Middelfart - DK Lillebaelt – Fredericia - DK Lillebaelt - Skaerbaek - DK Lillebaelt - Kolding - DK Amsterdam – NL Port-Vendres – FR Saint-Martin – Galisbay - FR Saint-Martin – Marine Anse Marcel - FR Saint Martin – Fort Saint Louis – FR Rouen – FR Marina de lagos – PO Théoule sur Mer – FR Port d'Amchit - LB



**Experience** 

#### Experience



NAPPEX : The network of port equipped with Biohut to rehabilitate nursery functions

- > 3 PhD thesis and 11 publications
- In adequation with the European objectives of restoration of Nature for 2030
- + 1 PhD thesis about floating ecosystems- UROS (OFB/IRSTEA)+ 1 PhD thesis about trophic connectivity (ECOSEAS)
- => Documents available on <u>www.ecocean.fr/documents</u>



#### **Biodiversity**

Fishes: 205.000 observations +125 species Invertebrates: 130.000 observations +400 species

Fixed fauna and flora: 2.500 observations +60 taxa





## +550 species observed





 $\Rightarrow$  Different patrimonial and umbrella species (groupers, seahorses, cod, saithe, eel, pike...)



#### **Perfect tool for awareness raising**

The ecological functionalities of the Biohut are also easily completed by:

- Educative activities for youth about the potential role of ports for Biodiversity
- **BioObs** : monitoring activities to assess and touch the species present in the Biohut
- Development of a range of games dedicated to aquatic biodiversity and its functions



#### Complex habitats for rehabilitation and restoration of artificialized freshwater ecosystems



#### ecocean

#### A new range of solution for inland and offshore energy infrastructures

Blue Oracle OCG Data



**BoB Observation buoy** 

#### **Distribution of the Biohut NAPPEX project in Mediterranean MPAs**



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#### **ARTIFICIAL NURSERIES**

Biohut© 0

#### MARINE PROTECTED AREAS

National nature reserve

Biotope protection area

Public maritime domain (Conservatoire du littoral)

- Specially protected area of Mediterranean importance
- National park
- Marine nature park
- **Biosphere reserve**
- Special protection area (N2000, DO) . . .
- Special Area of Conservation (N2000, DHFF) 0 0 0





Raised to be wild

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