



Presented by Mark Costello, Nord University

Mapping optimal locations for Marine Protected Areas in all

European seas for a network including high biodiversity of species, habitats, and ecosystems, and blue carbon stores for improving Marine Spatial Planning in a changing climate, from January 2023 to April 2026.

Progress to date:

- 1
 - Compiling a compendium of environmental and habitat data;
- 2
 - Adding over 3 million species records into OBIS;
 - 3 Engaging with stakeholders in the Baltic, Black Sea, Atlantic and Mediterranean ocean basins;
 - 4 Compiling a new database on sediment organic carbon stocks in European



regional seas;

5 Calculating wave exposure for all European coasts.

Carbon sequestration, storage and deposition

Develop blue carbon scoring system

Connectivity modelling (present) **Climate velocity** (recent and future)

> Design MPA networks covering 10% and **30% of European seas** that maximise coverage of biodiversity and blue carbon

> > Conversations with spatial planners regarding regional or national case studies

30 000 SPECIES Environmental niche modelling . Estimate richness .

Benthic habitats (EMODNET) -Modelled habitat distributions -



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