Role of Natura 2000 sites and other MPAs in marine restoration





STONE REEFS IN DENMARK

Blue Reef Denmark Baltic (2006-2013)

- Restore favourable conservation status to offshore reefs
- 5ha of degraded reef restored and 6.5 ha of disturbed reef stabilised
- Restrictions on fishing in the area from the start (complete ban)
- In practice strictly protected due to currents
- 6 ton increase in algae
- 3 ton increase in bottom fauna
- 3-6 fold increase in cod















Drawing by Jens Overgaard Christensen

- Improving habitats for coastal birds
- Stone reefs to provide feeding areas for coastal birds
- Objective to increase habitat suitable for blue mussel population and seagrasses for juvenile fish

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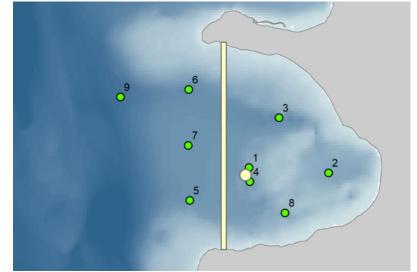


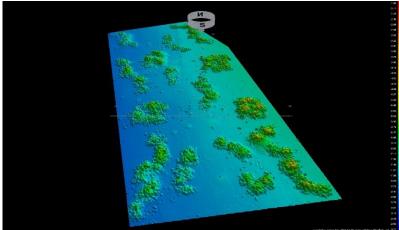






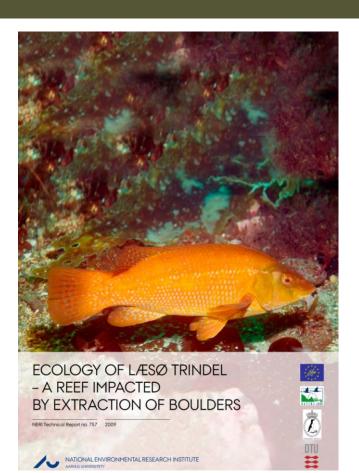
- 2800 m³ stones
- 6-8 m depth
- Voluntary protection
 - -8 km^2
- Protection from fishing for 7 years
- Cod and Harbour porpoise

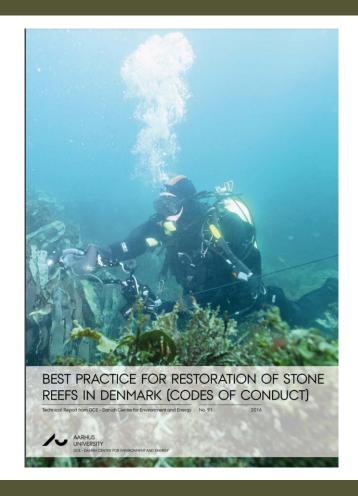






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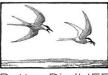


SEAGRASS RESTORATION









Better BirdLIFE



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LIFE Recreation Remedies



Remove pressures......
.....seagrass returns





Method 1: Seeds in hessian bags





Method 3: Injection



CLOSING THOUGHTS

- Way behind terrestrial restoration
- Argument for just removing the pressures and let nature repair itself
- There are some good reasons to carry out restoration
- Restoration needs to be more than just for the habitat x or species y – it needs to be for multiple benefits:
 - Oyster reefs: biodiversity, coastal protection, water quality
 - Seagrass: biodiversity, nursery areas, stabilising sediments, carbon sequestration, removal of pollutants

