

ENVIRONMENTAL VOLUNTEERING DAY ON ARNELA BEACH LIFE FLUVIAL PROJECT (23rd October 2021)

Problem addressed and location chosen

The purpose of the day was based on social awareness of the environmental damage derived from the presence of waste and plastic in the aquatic environment, in this case in the marine environment.

The location chosen on the coast of the municipality of Sada (A Coruña – Galicia - Spain), in addition to suffering the usual pressures from coastal environments close to population centers, also suffers from being an area of moderate marine traffic (recreational and inshore fishing), in addition to having aquaculture facilities nearby (mussel rafts).

In order for the activity to be as demonstrative as possible, a date outside the beach season was chosen (with less intensive cleaning work by the responsible entities) and also that, due to its limited accessibility, no allow the entry of mechanical means for such tasks.

Actions developed

The volunteering activity is part of the dissemination and awareness actions of the LIFE Fluvial project (LIFE16 NAT/ES/000771), of which the Mariñas Coruñesas e Terras do Mandeo Biosphere Reserve is partner.

On this occasion there were ten volunteers as a result of the collaboration of the Biosphere Reserve with the NGO International Cooperation.

The work, supported by the Sada City Council's environmental department, consisted of explanatory talks on the problems of plastic and on invasive alien species of flora, to then proceed to the selective collection of waste found in the beach and surroundings.

Once collected, they were quantified and typed according to the MARNOBA protocol. This platform, created by the Vertidos Cero Association and supported by the Biodiversity Foundation (Ministry for the Ecological Transition and the Demographic Challenge), aims to collect, store or display information on marine litter from beaches, floats and funds through an application and a web viewer.

Results obtained

At the end of the actions on an approximate net area of 7,800 m², approximately 13 kg of micro-plastics and small-format waste were removed.



<http://www.lifefluvial.eu>

<https://vertidoscero.com/marnoba/>