

Coral Soul

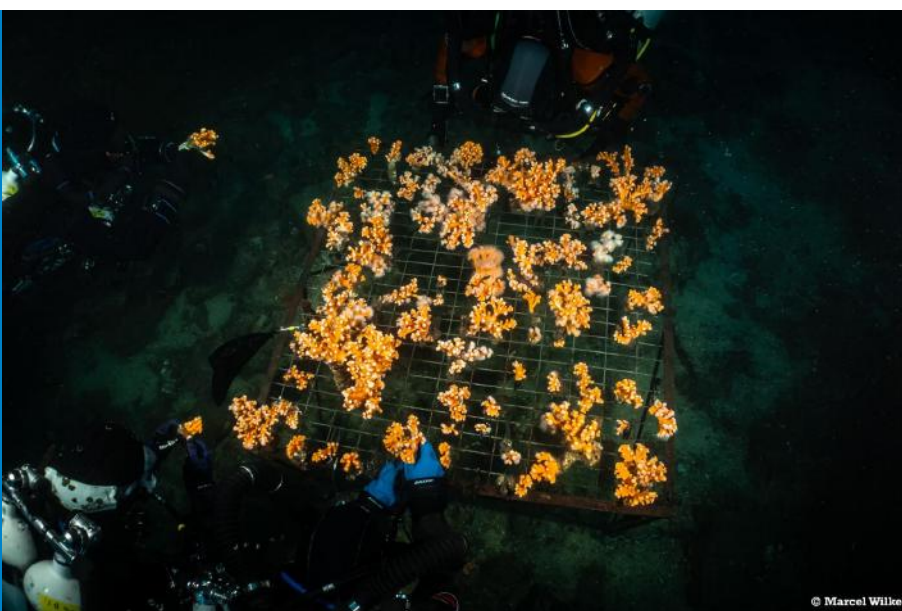
GUE PROJECT BRIEF - 2024

From the 01-10.10 a group of GUE divers supported the deep-sea coral restoration project "Coral Soul" in La Herradura Spain.



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<https://differentscubaschool.com/> and <https://www.coralsoul.org/>



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The Coral Soul Deep Core Project is a conservation effort in Punta de la Mona, La Herradura, Spain, focusing on the cold-water coral, *Dendrophyllia ramea*. This area's unique coastal upwelling zone offers ideal conditions for sustaining the local marine biodiversity. However, the coral population here has been severely impacted by human activities such as fishing and pollution, which can create infections amongst the coral as well. Tasks on this project include:

- Coral cleaning (removing epibiont parasites) and trash removal
- Coral repopulation (planting with epoxy)
- Nursey structure removal (or relocation, often using lift bags and DPVs)

With the working depth between 30-46 metres, environmental considerations such as currents, and the task loading, the complexities of this project are enhanced. However, this year, the 2024 iteration was even more of a success: 9 intense days of diving, 16 reef restoration dives, and a cumulative 400 minutes of decompression time.

There has been a 42% increase in species diversity in the restored area than the control, but there is still a long way to go to advocate for a Marine Protect Area status in this fragile part of the world.

STATUS: ACTIVE. future iterations are yearly in October. Contact erik@gue.com for more info.

HOW TO BE PART OF THIS PROJECT

Tech1/CCR1 divers. Ideally you have collected some experience in doing research underwater with GUE's scientific diver program.

PARTNERS:

Coral Soul / Coral Guardian / Differentscubaschool



LOCATION:

La Herradura Spain

CONTACT

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