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Restoration ecology as a tool in marine ecosystems management

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Restoration ecology is the part of biology which studies how to change the state of a degraded ecosystem into a non-degraded one. It is also used regarding damaged or destroyed ecosystems, specially used in ecosystems altered or degraded by human in order to revitalize ecosystems integrity and functionality. There are a lot of different theories about the importance of restoring ecosystems or species and their value, for example the value of them itself, but one of the most persuasive arguments is the importance of the ecosystem services. Marine ecosystems are a great source of ecosystem services, for instance provisioning services (food, energy) or recreation. They also supply other ecosystem services such as regulation of global climate, sink of nutrients or acting as a reservoir for CO₂, which are less known or considered. Ecological restoration can help these ecosystems, providing an important source of ecosystem services and ensuring their continuity in time.

Biography

Lidia Ochoa Peñas has completed a Master's Program in Ecological Restoration, specialized in Marine Ecosystems from Alcalá de Henares University, Complutense University, Politécnica de Madrid University and Rey Juan Carlos University. Her most recent studies, in collaboration with different organizations, consist of the invasion process of macro-algae along the Atlantic and Cantabrian coasts and its effects in the intertidal communities, and about the state of a seagrass in the Canary Islands.

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