

Institut Universitari Cavanilles de Biodiversitat i Biologia Evolutiva





Automatic monitoring of biodiversity in the North Sea using eDNA

Prof Dr Sofie Derycke

Flanders research institute for agriculture, fisheries and food (Belgium)

Environmental DNA (eDNA) metabarcoding is a powerful tool to capture spatial patterns in fish and invertebrate communities, even at small spatial scales. When analysed at three consecutive time points with roughly six months interval, eDNA metabarcoding consistently detected more fish species and had a finer spatiotemporal resolution than beam trawl data. However, many epibenthos species found in the beam trawl were not recovered with eDNA, indicating that further improvement in the methodology is needed. This study opens important perspectives for autonomous monitoring of marine biodiversity with zero impact on the habitat or its organisms.

WHERE?	Meeting room – SS6 (Institutes building floor -1)
WHEN?	Thursday 22/02/2024 – 12:00 h
LANGUAGE?	English