

## The word of the President

In this second part of the year, the association has been solicited several times to participate to events and in particular the "Grenelle de la Mer", at the GIP Littoral Aquitain conference or also a meeting of the Gironde General Council on artificial reefs. This is a true recognition of work done by ALR since 1996.

Since May, 26<sup>th</sup>, we have among us a new assistant, Elodie Rubio, graduated with a Master 2 "Valorization of the inheritances and territorial cultural policies". She will be present 35 hours per week in order to deal mainly with the administrative part. She will also help me to manage the Association's communication.

**Gérard Fourneau**



**Our assistant Elodie Rubio**

## Summary of the activities for the months of June and July 2009.

### Monday, June 15<sup>th</sup>:

Participation in the Regional Day of "Grenelle de la Mer", in Artigues, near Bordeaux."

### Tuesday, June 16<sup>th</sup>:

Oral Presentation of Emilie Milon's training period work on developing a standardized biological monitoring protocol on Landed artificial reefs.

### Sunday, June 28<sup>th</sup>:

Diving in Soustons-Vieux-Boucau and Moliets with a film crew from Channel Season.

### Monday, 28 June<sup>th</sup>:

Participation in the conference "Littoral Aquitain" at Moliets.

### Tuesday, 30 June<sup>th</sup>:

Meeting with the partners Eskal Eureka in order to give a progress report on the Association's activities.

### From Thursday July 2<sup>th</sup> to Thursday July 9<sup>th</sup>:

Water exit and careenage of Piccolo

### Friday, 3 July<sup>rd</sup>:

Meeting with the Gironde General Council on the topic "artificial reefs: current situation; what prospects for the Gironde department". Presentation of the ALR's action.

### Saturday, 18 July<sup>th</sup>

Meeting with Tech-Ocean concerning a draft on ecological moorings on the Basque Coast diving sites.

## Participation in the « Grenelle de la Mer »

Monday, June 15<sup>th</sup>, ALR was invited, among 500 others persons from Aquitaine to express its opinion during the regional Days of "Grenelle de la Mer". After a general presentation of the day, guests were divided into four discussion workshops. We therefore participated in the called workshop « *Between threats and potentials, a fragile and promising sea of future* », led by Serge Larzabal, president of the fishing committee of Bayonne, and Raynald Vallée, assistant regional director for maritime activities. In total, it is 150 proposals which were adopted during this working day of this group in Paris; these proposals were regrouped in 8 themes. After a presentation of these outcomes, it was requested from the present persons to share their opinions and their proposals in order to supplement the work already carried out.

Concerning the artificial reefs, Dominique Bordes-Sue notably offered to create reefs in the "Bassin d'Arcachon" to enhance the reproduction of young fishes. Gérard Fourneau also suggested to create and develop sites of aquaculture and artificial reefs in Marine Protected Areas. These remarks were largely approved and are taken into account in the general report of this Regional Day. We now wait to know which ideas will be taken into account by the government and will lead to true applications.

## **Aquitaine Landes Récifs**

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### **Participation in the conference « Littoral Aquitaine » in Moliets**

The ALR was invited to attend the discussions on the Aquitaine Coastal Region organized in Moliets by The Littoral Aquitaine Public Interest Group. The meetings was chaired by Alain Rousset, President of the Aquitaine District Council. The day started with the reception of the participants by Mrs Anne-Marie Cancouet, mayor of Moliets-et-Maa, Mr Hervé Bouyrie, the representant of Mr Henri Emmanuelli, President of the Landes General Council, Mr Alain Rousset, President of the Aquitaine Regional Council and President of the GIP Littoral Aquitaine and Mr Frederic Mac Kain, SGAR Aquitaine, the representant of Mr the Prefect of Aquitaine Region.

Jean-Christophe Victor, the program designer and animator of literally «*The underside of cards*» on ARTE and director of the laboratory of political and cartographic studies (LEPAC), was chosen to be the great witness of this day. The day was divided into two work tables having for topics « *how to preserve environmental equilibrium and face up coastal changes?* » and «*how to organize the sustainable development of the coastal region ?*». Many speakers shared their knowledge and their experience. This conference is the starting point for the GIP communication and an important step in the the preparation of its sustainable development plan. Alain Rousset has also expressed the wish to see this meeting becoming an annual appointment.

### **Meeting with the Gironde General Council on the subject «Artificial reefs: current situation - What prospects for the Gironde?».**

The Gironde General Council is currently thinking about opportunity of establishing artificial reefs off his coasts or in the middle of the Basin d' Arcachon. In this context, a meeting took place at Lanton on July 3<sup>rd</sup>, in order to discuss around this set of themes with various personalities having an experience in this field.

The C.G.33 required the ALR to present its experiments in the Landes. We thus presented our association, our reefs establishment experience and our projects. Laurent Soulier, of the IMA, presented the artificial reefs. One representing of the Maritime activities was also attending in order to discuss the regulation aspects. Denis Lacroix, long-term prospective coordinator for Ifremer and Jeff Marailhac, president of the Association SCAPHPRO have also shared their experiences. Following these presentations, a debate took place, in the presence of professional fishermen, some representatives of the yachtmen and scuba divers, in order to know their opinion on the possible installation of artificial reefs in the Gironde, their advantages and their disadvantages.

### **Diving at Soustons-Vieux-Boucau and Messanges-Azur-Moliets in company of a film crew from channel Season.**

On June 28<sup>th</sup>, we carried out a diving excursion on board the Jean B. For the occasion, we were accompanied by a film crew that currently prepares a documentary on young fish in France, while following the actors of the group going from Artouste to the artificial reefs of Capbreton. It will be a 52 minutes documentary, broadcast on Channel Season then in various countries such as Spain or Italy."



The association Divers have made 6 dives on the reefs of Soustons-vieux- Boucau (3 dives) and Messanges-Azur-Moliets (3 dives).



**Departure of the Jean B for the sites of Soustons-Vieux-Boucau and Messanges-Azur-Moliets**



**Shrimps Bouquet present per hundreds**



**Tubes covered with alciones and young Pouts**



**Dogfish Egg on one of the reefs**



**Manu and Anne-Catherine**



**On the site of Messanges-Azur-Moliets: two swordfishes crossed our road.**

**Water exit and hull careenage of Piccolo**

On Thursday July 2<sup>nd</sup>, Piccolo was left out of water to carry out the hull refurbishing, to drain and change the bottom of the base plate. The removal from the waterbody took place on Thursday July 9<sup>ne</sup>.



**Both Gilbert are focused to offer a second youth to Piccolo...**



**...With help of our assistant, Elodie.**



**Surprised during the cleaning of the base plate, an eel had found refuge as in 2007**



**Pepito's painting activity on the base plate**



**Removal of Piccolo from the sea**