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Asunto: Supporting letter

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Delegación de Medio Ambiente

ALMERÍA

From the Natural Park "Cabo de Gata-Níjar" (Andalusia, Spain), we express the interest of the proposal "Impact of Ocean acidification in a changing climate".

Cabo de Gata-Níjar is the first terrestrial and marine Natural Park in Andalusia and was declared on 1987, being a Reserve of Biosphere from 1997. It is also LIC, SPAs, SPAMI, wetland of international importance according to the RAMSAR agreement and European and Global Geopark under UNESCO's auspices.

The Natural Park protects a high geological value (volcanic areas) and the coastal waters (It has a coast line of about 50 km and one mile far from the coast). The high diversity of the coast is mainly supporting by the marine angiosperm *Posidonia oceanica* meadows but also marine macroalgae including calcifying organisms. Among the calcifying substrate, the vermetid reefs are considered very important both by its biodiversity but also due to its functional aspects, i.e., protection of the coast line and tourism services.

The project MEDACID is very interesting since it can contribute to know the effects of ocean acidification on key organisms in the coastal environment of the Natural Park. The results of this project can give us information to improve the conservation and management of the Natural Park in future scenarios of Climate change.



Rodalquilar, 2 de diciembre de 2009
EL JEFE DE SERVICIO DE ESPACIOS NATURALES,

Emilio Roldán del Valle