

Mediterranean ecosystem

Restoration sites

Coastal & marine



Deconstructing to build back nature in Spain

The sea coast above Cap de Creus in Spain remained untouched by the transforming hand of man until the middle of the last century, one of the last completely unspoiled stretches of Catalan coastline. The tourist boom of the 1950s/60s led to the construction of the Club Mediterranee, a “holiday village” with a series of facilities (bungalows, warehouses, swimming pool, bar and restaurant, etc.) in the Tudela area. From 1962 until June 2004, the club operated its facilities as a tourist establishment. The Club ended its economic activity in 2003, as it was an obsolete tourist model that was not economically viable and not socially accepted due to its location in an environment of great value and protected as a Natural Park since 1998.

Goals

The Special Plan for the Natural Park included the deconstruction of the whole Club Med facilities, and restoring and planning the area for visiting. The practice was mainly addressing environmental challenges to recover natural habitats (fauna, flora, soils, beaches...)

General information



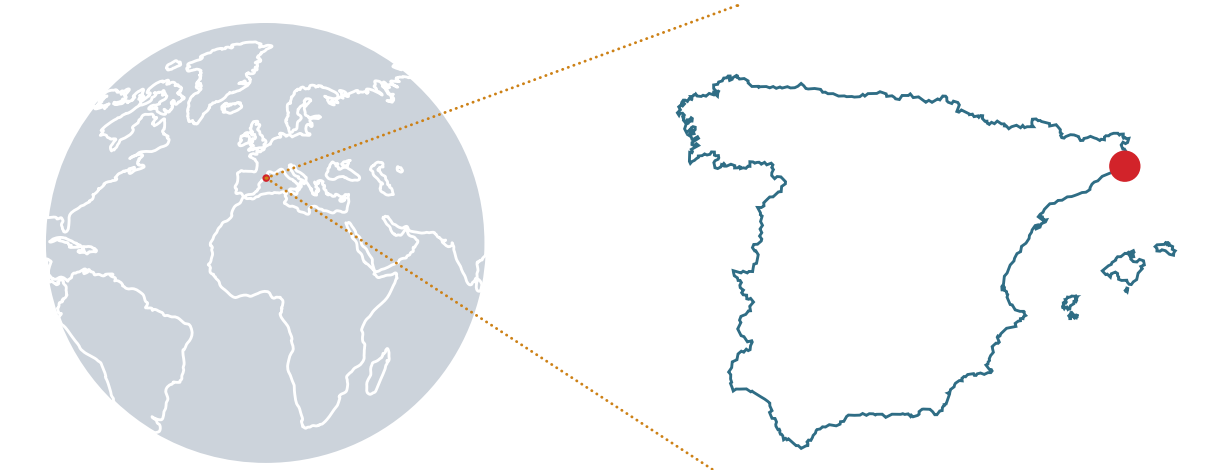
Organisation
Parc Natural del Cap de Creus,
Catalunya, Spain

Type of organisation
Local or subnational government,
including field extension services

Contact person
Francesc Xavier Vilabella Pecondon
xavier.vilabella@gencat.cat

Website
<https://parcsnaturals.gencat.cat/ca/xarxa-de-parcs/cap-creus/inici/>

Site location



Latitude
42°19'17.6"N

Longitude
3°17'51.7"E

Implementation area
40 ha

Restoration started
2009



Scan the code
for full description



Type of restoration intervention

- Natural regeneration
- Assisted natural regeneration
- Tree planting
- Control of invasive alien species

Main drivers of degradation

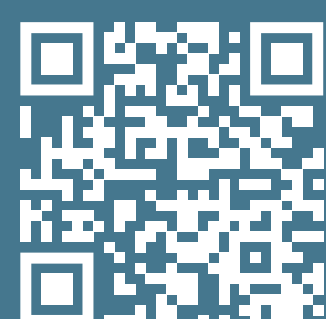
- Infrastructure and industrial development
- Cultural and urbanization

What is the practice about

- Deconstruct buildings, paved areas, levelled areas and roadways
- Eliminate invasive plants
- Restore native habitats and plant communities
- Enable accessibility and visits
- Implement a business collaboration agreement between the Department of the Environment and Housing of Catalunya (public) and the company, Gestora de Runes de la Construcció S.A. (public-private), which financed and executed the environmental restoration project.

Achievements and impact

- Elimination of invasive exotic vegetation : 56 ha.
- Rearrangement of the road system and organisation of public use.
- 16,020 m² of tot-U paving, asphalt and paving of the main road.
- 3,419 m² of paving of the coves and beach. 65 % (2,233 m²) of concrete.
- 38,659 m³ of rubble to be managed:
- 32,383 m³ of construction and urbanisation rubble.
- 3,232 m³ of tot-U and country stone.
- 3,043 m³ of country stone walls.
- Recovery and colonisation of native species, especially for two endangered plant species: *Seseli farrenyi* (strictly endemic to the Park) and *Limonium tremores*
- Management of invasive exotic species ongoing



Scan the code for more information about Mediterranean Ecosystem Restoration sites



UNITED NATIONS DECADE ON
**ECOSYSTEM
RESTORATION**
2021-2030

