

## Accepted Manuscript

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PII: S2352-4855(16)30086-X

DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.rsma.2016.07.004>

Reference: RSMA 159

To appear in: *Regional Studies in Marine Science*

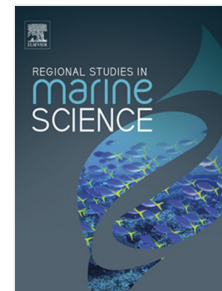
Received date: 6 June 2016

Revised date: 19 July 2016

Accepted date: 19 July 2016

Please cite this article as: Lecornu, B., Schlund, E., Basuyaux, O., Cantat, O., Dauvin, J.-C., Dynamics (from 2010-2011 to 2014) of *Sabellaria alveolata* reefs on the western coast of Cotentin (English Channel, France). *Regional Studies in Marine Science* (2016), <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.rsma.2016.07.004>

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**Dynamics (from 2010-2011 to 2014) of *Sabellaria alveolata* reefs on the western coast of Cotentin (English Channel, France)**

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**ABSTRACT**

The polychaeta *Sabellaria alveolata* (Linnaeus, 1767), commonly known as the honeycomb worm, is a gregarious polychaete present on the European coasts from Scotland to Portugal. It is an important reef-building species which enhances topographic complexity in colonized areas. In Europe, the most extensive reef formation is found in France in the Bay of Mont Saint-Michel. Nevertheless, since 2006, *Sabellaria* bio-constructions (platforms and reefs) have developed on hard substrates along the west coast of Cotentin and in the north of the Bay of Mont-Saint-Michel. The aim of this study is to compare the area covered by bio-constructions in 2010-2011 and in 2014 along 60 km of the west coast of Cotentin, focusing on the temporal changes at four target sites: Champeaux, Lingreville, Blainville-sur-Mer, and

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