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Climate driven changes in subtidal kelp forest communities in NW Spain

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Highlights:

- A decline of almost 1400ha of kelp was observed in NW Spain 2007
- All SST characteristics affecting kelp increased significantly during the past 30 years
- There was a loss in cold temperate canopy forming species and vertical community structure.
- Kelp associated fauna abundance decreased after the kelp decline
- Recovery appears to be occurring at depth, however no forest is present yet

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