

LandSeaLot Conference LAND-SEA 2026

Marinas as observing hubs An obvious contender?

TransEurope Marinas | Melanie Symes & Amina Kechuindi

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Marinas as novel observing platforms

The opportunity and the gap



Clear potential

- **Marinas: stable, fixed, public-facing infrastructure offering safe water access**
- **A local land-sea interface hub for watersports enthusiasts and visitors**
- **Floating pontoons for submerging devices + easy deployment/retrieval**
- **Low-cost sensors paired with existing local initiatives**
- **Multiple local conservation initiatives willing to collaborate**
- **Evident lack of UK industry guidance for environmental stewardship**

Identified challenges

- **Staff time and seasonal workloads**
- **Engagement fades if staff perceive no follow up or impact**
- **Fiddly deployment, cleaning and uploading requirements**
- **No long-term funding or ownership for continued support**
- **Achieving acceptable data quality and standards using low-cost sensors**
- **Representativeness of sheltered marina water**
- **Fragmented industry landscape**
- **Diverse ownership and governance**



Win-win uses for EnvLoggers suspended from pontoons



Attached to oyster baskets
Photo courtesy of Harbour Oysters



Attached to settlement plates
Photo courtesy of John Hepburn



Developing the groundwork – how to sustain engagement

Co-designing achievable steps, sourcing real motivation, identifying win-wins

A route towards sustainable monitoring



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Having a second dataset alongside our oyster data helps us compare sites and look for links with oyster mortality, especially after this summer's heat.

Charlotte Johns
Co-owner



The Yacht Harbour Association Ltd.

I receive numerous descriptions of environmental initiatives taking place across our network, but no-one seems to be joining the dots.

Jon White
General Manager



We're leveraging the natural environment for financial gain and recognise that we have a responsibility to safeguard the environments we occupy.

Tom Marfleet
Managing Director

