

{rokbox title=|Experimento sobre nacra, *Pinna nobilis* :: Foto: Maite Vázquez-Luis (COB-IEO)|
thumb=|images/stories/ieo/imagenespublicaciones/centro-oceanografico-baleares-influencia-anclas-barcos-sobre-pinna-vazquez-luis-et-al-2015-thumb.jpg|}images/stories/ieo/imagenespublicaciones/centro-oceanografico-baleares-influencia-anclas-barcos-sobre-pinna-vazquez-luis-et-al-2015.jpg{/rokbox}

Maite Vázquez-Luis, Joseph A. Borg, Carlos Morell, Gàlia Banach-Esteve and **Salud Deudero**, 2015.

[Influence of boat anchoring on *Pinna nobilis*: a field experiment using mimic units](#)

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Abstract: Anchoring by recreational boats causes several different effects on marine habitats and species. The influence of boat anchoring on the Mediterranean endemic bivalve *Pinna nobilis* was assessed experimentally in the field by deploying non-biological mimic units of the bivalve around the islands of Mallorca and Malta. In each of these two localities, two study areas having different levels of boat anchoring activities, namely, 'control' (no anchoring allowed) and 'affected' (anchoring allowed), were used for the field experiment. A significant number of *P. nobilis* mimic bivalves were affected by boat anchoring; the influence was three times higher at anchoring sites than in control areas. Boat anchoring also had an adverse effect on *Posidonia oceanica* meadows, with seagrass cover, shoot density and global density being lower in the anchoring areas. Moreover, lower values of natural *P. nobilis* density and size classes were recorded from the anchoring areas.

Keywords: anchoring effect, bivalve mimics, coastal tourism, recreational boating, seagrass