Oceans & human health: Latest findings & a roadmap for European research

(Mat White, University of Exeter)

The threats to human health from the marine environment are well known





The Rockefeller Foundation-Lancet Commission on planetary health

Safeguarding human health in the Anthropocene epoch: report of The Rockefeller Foundation-Lancet Commission on planetary health

Evidence of the benefits to health & wellbeing is growing





THE REAL voe of blue acres Farm Coarts - Rand related - Litter Course - Ustantniand



Bluehealth is funded by the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme, grant agreement No. 666773.

Research exploring these issues globally is underway





Seas, Oceans & Public **Health in Europe** Linking oceans and health research



SOPHIE is funded by the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme, grant agreement No 774567.





EXETER

COLLEGE OF MEDICINE AND HEALTH Medicine, Nursing and Allied Health Professions



- 1. Quick reminder from Jan 23rd 2013
- 2. Update on findings from the last 6 years
 - Systematic review
 - New methods (e.g. viewsheds & geo-narratives)
 - 'Quality' matters
 - Tackling inequalities
 - Virtual coasts
 - Encourage pro-environmentalism?
 - New risks
 - Monetising 'value'
- 3. Ongoing research
 - BlueHealth
 - Blue Communities

- Planetary health initiative
- SOPHIE (Seas Oceans & Public Health in Europe)
- 5. Some closing thoughts



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Jan 23rd 2013: Flashback #2



Environmental

Ecosystem degradation, flooding, storm surges, water/vector borne diseases, current/wind changes, earthquakes/tsunamis, invasive species, harmful algal blooms, ocean acidification



Pollution

Microbial, chemical, air (from coastal shipping/industry), pharmaceutical, nutrient (run-off), plastics

Human activities

Urbanisation; Mining; Shipping; Fishing Aquaculture; Marine renewables; Marine biotechnology



Socioeconomic -cultural Demographic change, destruction of

traditional (e.g. fishing) communities; shifts in economies and industries; Tourism & 2nd home ownership; peripherality/remoteness





Depledge, Lovell, Wheeler, Morrissey, White, & Fleming (2017). *Review of Evidence: Health and well-being of coastal communities*. Government Office of Science Foresight 'Future of the Sea' Project. London: Author.











Health inequalities: Lower at the coast¹

• **Depression/anxiety**: Lower at the coast²

• **Physical activity**: Higher at the coast³

• **Stress reduction:** Strongest on coastal visits⁴

Wheeler et al. (2012). Does living by the coast improve health and wellbeing?. *Health & place*, *18*(5), 1198-1201.84
White et al., (2013). Coastal proximity and health: A fixed effects analysis of longitudinal panel data. *Health & Place*, 23, 97-103.
White et al. (2014). Coastal proximity and physical activity. *Preventive Medicine*, *69*, *135-140*.
White et al. (2013). Feelings of restoration from recent nature visits. *Journal of Environmental Psychology*, *35*, 40-51.



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Studies: N = 35 (22 good quality)

"The balance of evidence suggested a <u>positive association</u> between greater exposure to outdoor blue spaces and benefits to both <u>mental health and</u> <u>wellbeing and physical activity</u>...

The evidence for ... *general health, obesity, CVD* and related outcomes was <u>less consistent</u>."

Gascón, Zijlema, Vert, White & Nieuwenhuijsen (2017). Blue spaces, human health and well-being: a systematic review. International Journal of Hygiene and Environmental Health, 1207-1221.



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Knutsford 2016

Participants: n =442 residents of Wellington, NZ.

Outcomes: Psychological distress Kessler-10

Exposure: 'Vertical Visibility Index'

of green & blue spaces

<u>**Results</u>**: Blue (but not green) views had with less psychological distress</u>





Fig. 2. Cross-sectional diagram of the VVI measure, highlighting how visibility can be represented as degrees of visibility. The observer on the left (indicated by the dot) has higher visibility of the grassy hill (indicated by a higher VVI value).

Nutsford, D., Pearson, A. L., Kingham, S., & Reitsma, F. (2016). Residential exposure to visible blue space (but not green space) associated with lower psychological distress in a capital city. *Health & place*, *39*, 70-78.



Rg. 1. Detribution of radical revirements transplorit Wellington (ity and the grader region



Geo-narratives



N.B. A dot is plotted every 10 seconds (provided the GPS could detect signal). The colour of the dot corresponds to the relative activity level detected by the accelerometer, whilst the location of the dot is determined by the associated GPS reading. Darker coloured dots indicate relatively greater accelerations per 10s time period (i.e. participants were being more active). The greater the distance between the dots, the faster the GPS unit was travelling. This cance trip lasted approx. five hours.



Bell, S. L., Phoenix, C., Lovell, R., & Wheeler, B. W. (2015). Seeking everyday wellbeing: The coast as a therapeutic landscape. *Social Science & Medicine*, *142*, 56-67.



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MENE visit locations

MENE Subset (n = 4,515) asked about <u>experiences</u>

<u>Stress reduction &</u> <u>connectedness to nature</u>: To what extent did they feel 'x' after the visit:

- 1) Calm & relaxed
- 2) Refreshed & revitalised
- 3) Close to nature

Controlled for Who (Age, gender, SES) & What (activities, duration, who with, distance travelled etc.)



Wyles, White, Hattam, Pahl, King, & Austen, (2019). Are some natural environments more psychologically beneficial than others? *Environment and Behavior*, 51(2), 111-143.



Importance of protected/designated areas?



Wyles, White, Hattam, Pahl, King, & Austen, (2019). Are some natural environments more psychologically beneficial than others? *Environment and Behavior*, 51(2), 111-143.



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NATURAL FNGLAND

MENE n = 82,322 visits (urban parks most)



Other natural areas (e.g. woodlands) are dominated by the middle classes

Elliott, White, Grellier, Rees, Waters, & Fleming (2018). Recreational visits to inland and coastal waters in England: Who, where, when, what and why. *Marine Policy*, 97, 305-314



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Tanja-Dijkstra et al. (2018)

<u>**Participants</u>**: 70 dental patients undergoing minor treatment (fillings etc., mean duration = 13 mins)</u>

Exposure: Standard Care vs Virtual City vs. Virtual Beach

Outcomes: Pain a) immediately + b) 7 day recall











Tanja-Dijkstra, K., Pahl, S., White, M.P., Andrade, J., May, J., Stone, RS., Bruce, M., Mills, I., Auvrey, M., Gabe, R. & Moles, D.R. (2018). The soothing sea: A virtual walk on the coast reduces experienced and recollected pain. *Environment & Behavior*, *50*(6), 599-625.



Participants: n=96 general adult public

Manipulation: Boredom induction (boring video)

Exposure: TV or 360-VR or CGI-VR underwater scenes (matched content)

<u>Outcomes</u>: Pre/post: boredom, affect, cognition, nature connectedness. Post: presence









Yeo, N., White, M.P., Garside, R., Dean, S., & Smalley, A. (in prep). Virtual nature and wellbeing: 2D vs. 360° vs CGI



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Zelenski 2015

Participants: 2 Studies, S1: n = 111; S2: n = 121 - students

Exposure/Design: 12 min videos: Nature (BBCs Planet Earth – no fish!) vs Urban (Walks with an Architect - NYC)

Outcomes: Commons dilemma – selfish fishing?



25% less fish exploitation following BBC Planet Earth video

Zelenski, J. M., Dopko, R. L., & Capaldi, C. A. (2015). Cooperation is in our nature: Nature exposure may promote cooperative and environmentally sustainable behavior. *Journal of Environmental Psychology*, *4*2, 24-31.



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A new threat?: Drug resistant E.coli (genes)



The number (%) of surfers and controls colonised by antibiotic-resistant E. coli.

	Surfers $(N = 143)$	Controls $(N = 130)$	Risk ratio (95% CI)	p value
Carriage of cefotaxime- resistant <i>E. coli</i>	13 (9.1%)	4 (3.1%)	2.95 (1.05 to 8.32)	0.040
Carriage of bla _{CTX-M} bearing E. coli	9 (6.3%)	2 (1.5%)	4.09 (1.02 to 16.4)	0.046

Leonard, et al. (2018). Exposure to and colonisation by antibiotic-resistant E. coli in UK coastal water users: Environmental surveillance, exposure assessment, and epidemiological study (Beach Bum Survey). *Environment international*, *114*, 326-333.



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A QALY based approach to valuing physical activities in natural settings

Participants: n = 280,790 English population (MENE)

Exposure: Physical activity in nature

<u>Outcomes</u>: % of people who achieve PA recommendations all or in part in nature



Table 3

In which type of natural environments did 'active visits' in England take place (2009/10-2014/15)?

	Moderate intensity visits 3-5.99 METs (Annual M)		Vigorous intensity visits ≥6 METs (Annual M)		
	N/%	(Std error)	N/%	(Std error)	
Town parks	272,409,5007	(12,2970,703)	13,644,500	(1,333,222)	
	23.4	(0.4)	20.7	(0.9)	
Play areas	88,372,167	(2,181,257)	2,550,833	(277,520)	
	3.7	(0.1)	3,9	(0.2)	
Open space towns	59,812,833	(3,707,415)	3,257,000	(558,036)	
	5.1	(0.1)	5.1	(0.8)	
Allotments	4,600,333	(349, 158)	0	(0)	
	0.4	(0.0)	0	(0)	
Country parks	75,291,500	(3,745,706)	4,355,000	(366,573)	
	6.5	(0.2)	6.7	(0.3)	
Woodlands	102,087,833	(3,369,598)	4,626,500	(463,317)	
	8.8	(0.2)	7.0	(0.4)	
Inland waters	66,643,333	(3,369,597)	3,540,167	(325,030)	
	5.7	(0.1)	5.5	(0.5)	
Open countryside	83,000,333	(4,477,708)	3,715,000	(170,544)	
	7.2	(0.6)	5.8	(0.3)	
Farmland	46,245,000	(1,585,392)	1,794,833	(205, 460)	
	4.0	(0.1)	2.9	(0.4)	
Uplands	17,043,667	(1,566,540)	1,715,333	(360, 272)	
15	1.5	(0.1)	2.6	(0.5)	
Pathways	52,354,333	(2,053,455)	9,583,833	(504,654)	
Beaches	51,364,167	(2495,8343)	1,681,833	(259,204)	
	4.4	(0.2)	2.5	(0.3)	
Other coast	27,983,167	(1,174,162)	1,057,333	(208, 246)	
	24	(0.1)	1.6	(0.2)	
Other	28,309,333	(2,137,877)	2,553,167	(363,243)	
	2.5	(0.2)	4.0	(0.5)	
Multi-environment	188,627,167	(15,037,827)	11,109,333	(971,702)	
	16.1	(0.8)	17.1	(1.1)	
Total	1,164,152,000 100*	(40,479,926)	65,191,667 100*	(4,243,887)	

Bold/italic = defined as 'Active visits' in the present analysis.

Column totals may not sum to 100% due to rounding.

White, Elliott, Taylor, Wheeler, Spencer,, Bone,... & Fleming, L. E. (2016). Recreational physical activity in natural environments and implications for health: a population based cross-sectional study in England. *Preventive medicine*, *91*, 383-388.



<u>Participants</u>: n = 8,290 English population (Health Survey for England)

Exposure: Water sports

Outcomes: Annual energy expenditure

Table 5

Potential QALY gains and health benefits valuation for water based PA for England (lower estimate).

	Estimated number of participants	MET per hour	Total hours	Total METhr	Potential QALY gain for	QALY valuation for England				
					England	Low	Central	High £3.08		
						£0.73	£2.45			
Sailing	110,541	3.3	22,958,235	75,762,177	7778	£55,306,389	£185,617,333	£233,347,504		
Kayaking/ canoeing	78,945	5.4	10,753,203	58,067,295	5961	£42,389,125	£142,264,872	£178,847,268		
Fishing/angling	73,708	3.5	19,609,040	68,631,639	7046	£50,101,096	£168,147,515	£211,385,447		
Surfing	42,113	3.0	3,763,831	11,291,493	1159	£8,242,790	£27,664,157	£34,777,797		
Rowing	31,596	5.8	855,712	4,963,127	510	£3,623,083	£12,159,662	£15,286,432		
Scuba diving	26,315	7.0	2,862,199	20,035,395	2057	£14,625,838	£49,086,717	£61,709,016		
Water skiing	15,798	6.0	57,047	342,285	35	£249,868	£838,597	£1,054,237		
Wind surfing	10,517	5.0	341,812	1,709,059	175	£1,247,613	£4,187,195	£5,263,903		
Snorkelling	10,517	5.0	256,359	1,281,794	132	6025 710	£2140 207	£2 047 027		
Total	400,050	14 <u>5</u>	61,457,438	242,084,263	24,853	£176,721,512	£593,106,445	£745,619,531		

Papathanasopoulou, E., White, M. P., Hattam, C., Lannin, A., Harvey, A., & Spencer, A. (2016). Valuing the health benefits of physical activities in the marine environment and their importance for marine spatial planning. *Marine Policy*, *63*, 144-152.



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2016 2020

Investigate the relationship between urban blue infrastructure and health and wellbeing in Europe



Bluehealth is funded by the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme, grant agreement No. 666773.



Pan European project looking at blue space & health across 14 European (+ 4 non-European countries).

WP1 - Management

WP2 – Large surveys

- WP3 Natural experiments
- WP4 Health care & VR

WP5 – Acupuncture interventions

- WP6 Future scenarios
- WP7 Policy development (WHO)
- WP8 Communication/Dissemination







Blue health survey (>18,000)





Environment



How typical are the UK findings (e.g. 2013)?



Frequency of visits to different locations across the world during different seasons

Elliott, White, et al. (in prep). Blue space visits across 18 countries worldwide.



European Centre for Environment & Human Health Acupuncture Interventions: e.g. Teat's Hill in Plymouth





High deprivation, mainly social housing, and poorly maintained park/beach area





£150 £200 Over £200 Site observations¹

Mishra, Bell, White, Elliott, et al. (in prep). Behavioural observational before and after a coastal regeneration project.
Shellock, Hattam, Borger & White (in prep). A contingent valuation study of an urban bluespace regeneration project.
van den Bogerd, Elliott, White, Bell, Sekhra, Fleming (in prep). Urban blue acupuncture & well-being: A case study from a deprived area of Plymouth, UK.

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€6,000,000 2016 _____ 2020

Investigate the relationship between urban blue infrastructure and health and wellbeing in Europe

2018

£6,000,000

2022

Build capacity for sustainable interactions with marine ecosystems for the benefit of health, well-being, and livelihoods of coastal communities in Southeast Asia

Bluehealth is funded by the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme, grant agreement No. 666773.

Blue Communities: Sustainable Marine Planning

Section 1: Perceptions of the marine environment in Palawan

In this section we would like you to think about Palawan, how has it changed over the last ten years, what do you think will happen in the next 10 years. In particular we would like you to think of the following activities:

Q1) Compared to <u>10 years ago</u> (2009) would you say the state of the following features in Palawan is better, worse the same?	Much worse (1)		About the same (4)			l b	Much etter (7)	Don't know/ prefer not to answer
Resources								
a) Amount (number) of wild fish, diversity of fish types	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	99
b) Amount of wild shellfish, diversity of shellfish types	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	99
c) Amount of fish aquaculture (e.g. fish cages)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	99
d) Amount of shellfish aquaculture (e.g. mussel lines)	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	99
e) Amount of seaweed farming	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	99
Habitats								
f) Quality of coral reefs, diversity of coral types	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	99
g) Seagrass coverage, number of seagrass species	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	99
h) Mangrove coverage, diversity of mangrove types	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	99
j) Other beach tree cover	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	99
Water quality								
j) Amount of farming pesticides/fertilisers in the water	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	99

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The Rockefeller Foundation-Lancet Commission on planetary health

is Rever Emderick Balte Anthony & Canon Re

Safequarding human health in the Anthropocene epoch: report of The Rockefeller Foundation-Lancet Commission on planetary health

Search terms: marine (22); ocean* (44); coast* (23)

Peng Gong, Peter Head, Richard Horton, Georgino M Mece, Robert Marten, Samuel S Myers, Sania Nohtar, Steven Subhrendu K Pattongvok, Montina I Pongsin, Cristing Romanelli, Agnes Soucet, Jeanette Vega, Derek Yach H Marine fish capture 100 Global marine fish capture (million tonnes of fish) 75 240 220 50 200 180 160 25 ¥ 140-120-Aquaculture N III 100 80 K Ocean acidification 60 9 Wild (capture) fisheries 40 hydrogen ion concentration; nmol/kg) 20 Global ocean acidification (mean 0 1960 1970 1980 2000 2010 2020 2030 2040 2050 1950 1990 8 Year Figure 14: Aquaculture production is expanding to meet world fish demand (million tons), 2011–2050 7 14 Anthropocene trends

2 (mainly) marine

1 explored in detail

The Rome Declaration was adopted at the EurOCEAN 2014 Conference, Rome, 08 October 2014.

European Centre for

Rome Declaration

Setting a vision for seas and ocean science

Delivering impact, global leadership and sustainable blue growth for Europe

Europo is emerging from the worst financial crisis in recent history. Rebuilding our economies demands that we identify sustainable opportunities for jobs and economic growth. The ocean is a source of food, water, energy and raw materials; a medium for toursm, transport and commerce; and can provide solutions to many European and global policy chalenges. But the costs is neither increasible nor immune to damage. In the contait of rapid global change and human population growth, it is imperative to achieve human wellbeing by combining economic benefit with environmental protection. This presents a highly complex challenge. Collaborative and cross-disciplinary European research is the key to providing the knowledge and tools that we need to achieve acceptiem-based management and protection of valuable marine resources and services.

THE FOUR ROME DECLARATION GOALS

- 1. Valuing the ocean Promoting a wider awareness and understanding of the importance of the seas and ocean in the everyday lives of European citizens.
- 2. Capitalizing on European leadership Building on our strengths to reinforce Europe's position as a global leader in marine science and technology
- Advancing ocean knowledge Building a greater knowledge base through ocean observation and fundamental and applied research.
- 4. Breaking barriers Addressing the complex challenges of blue growth and ocean sustainability by combining expertise and drawing from a range of scientific disciplines and stakeholders.

EUrOCEAN²⁰¹⁴

The Rome Declaration was adopted on 8 October 2014 at the EurODEAN 2014 Conference (7-9 October 2014, Format

Policy Goal 1: Valuing the Ocean

"Europe needs a coordinated, interdisciplinary and integrated programme on Oceans and Human Health, understanding and managing the risks and benefits of our interactions with the seas"

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Creating a research agenda for OHH in Europe

€6,000,000 2016 _____ 2020

Investigate the relationship between urban blue infrastructure and health and wellbeing in Europe

Build capacity for sustainable interactions with marine ecosystems for the benefit of health, well-being, and livelihoods of coastal communities in Southeast Asia

Produce a **research agenda** for oceans and human health for the European context

Seas, Oceans and Public Health in Europe: SOPHIE

Network & Research Agend

Stakeholder Engagement

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European Centre for

Environment & Human Health

• Evidence from <u>around the world</u> supports the UK data presented in 2013

European Centre for

Environment & Human Health

- Evidence from around the world supports the UK data presented in 2013
- <u>Innovative methods</u> have been developed (viewsheds, geo-narratives)

- Evidence from <u>around the world</u> supports the UK data presented in 2013
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- Rolling up our sleeves to try and <u>improve situations</u> on the ground

Search words: marine OR ocean OR coast

2017 Pollution & health report:

- Methylmercury discussed but no mention that the main source of human contact is through eating fish/shellfish
- Ocean acidification barely mentioned despite being a major (CO₂) pollution issue

Please help us shape the agenda by engaging with SOPHIE (<u>https://sophie2020.eu/</u>)

Seas, Oceans and Public Health in Europe: SOPHIE

Stakeholder Engagement

COLLEGE OF MEDICINE AND HEALTH Medicine, Nursing and Allied Health Professions

Coastal Futures 23/01/19

Oceans & human health: Latest findings & a roadmap for European research

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