



Interreg



UNION EUROPÉENNE
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MARITTIMO-IT FR-MARITIME

Fonds européen de développement régional
Fondo Europeo di Sviluppo Regionale

NEPTUNE blue paths

SECCA DELL'ISUELA



**Attention
FRAGILE**



**SPAMI
species**



Diving



**Permit
required**



Natural



**Highly
frequented**

Geographical location

Italia, Liguria, Genova, Portofino

Name of conservation area (or protected area)

Area Marina Protetta Portofino

Degree of environmental protection

Zona B

Diving site name

Secca dell'Isuela

Geographical coordinates (reference system)

LAT **44°19'12.81"N**

LONG **9°08'40.12"E**

Reference system **WGS 84**



LOCATION



Type of access to the diving site by boat

Site characteristics

Maximum depth **45 m**
Difficulty **High**



Natural

Information from the managing organisation

Estimated number of dives carried out on the site per year
1519 (estimates for the year 2020)



INFORMATION



Permit required
www.portofinoamp.it



Diving



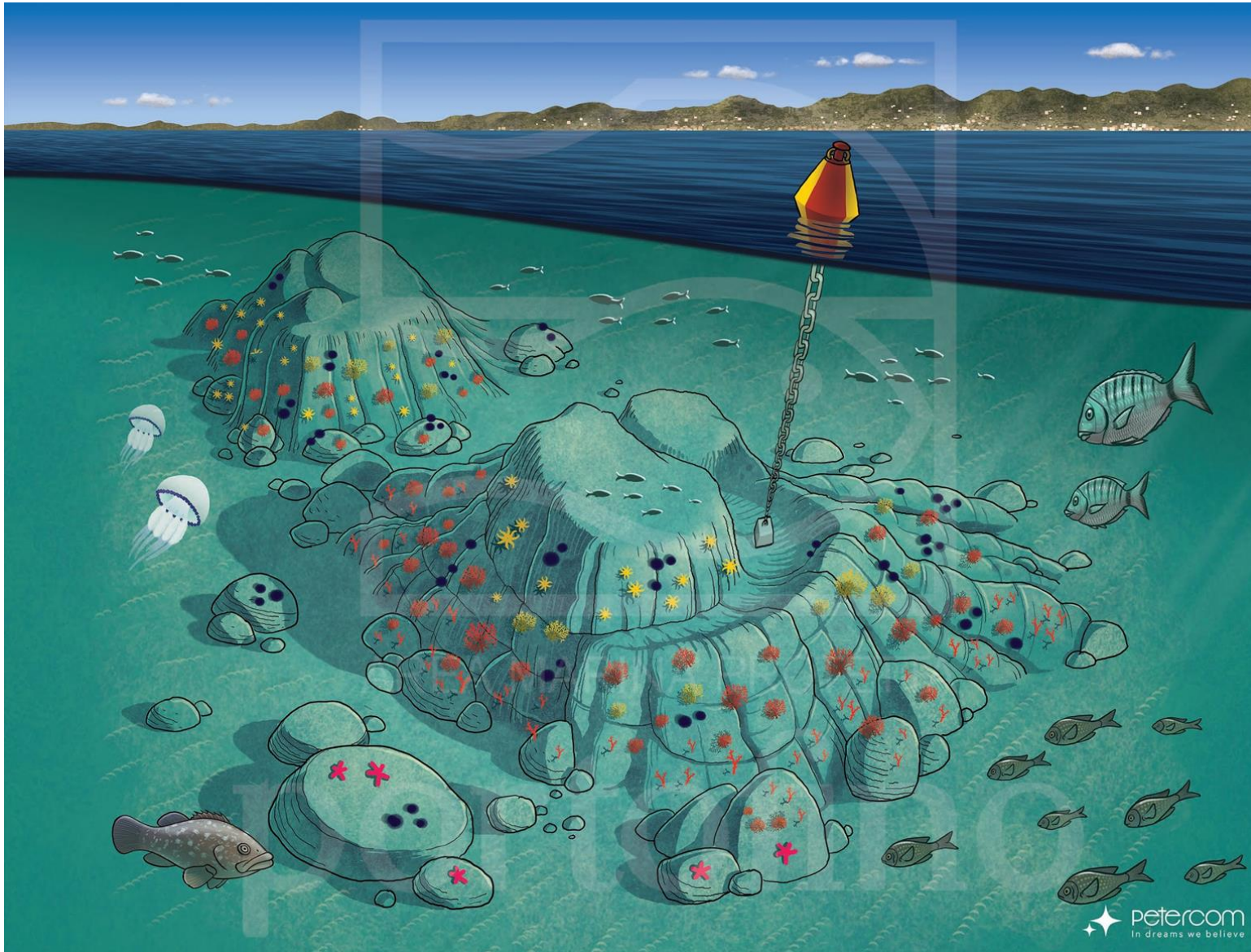
PATH MAP



Attention FRAGILE



SPAMI species



Description of the site of natural interest

It is considered one of the most beautiful dives in the Mediterranean.

It is recommended to descend along the catenary that ends on the cap of the shoal at a depth of about 14 m. Already at this depth you can observe a large number of fish: dusky groupers (*Epinephelus marginatus*), seabream (*Diplodus sp.*), common dentex (*Dentex dentex*) are among the protagonists. The plateau of the cap quickly turns into a wall. Attention must be paid to the strong currents and, depending on the latter, follow the south-west or south-east slope. The scenery is breathtaking with a large expanse of violescent sea-whip (*Paramuricea clavata*), yellow gorgonians (*Eunicella cavolinii*) and cracks with red coral (*Corallium rubrum*), from 25 m up to 55 m and more. Often visible are cracks and rock roofs covered with sea daisies, solitary madrepores and some forkbeard (*Phycis phycis*). It is advisable to maintain the maximum height of 35 m and then ascend on the opposite side of the shoal.



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Main species list

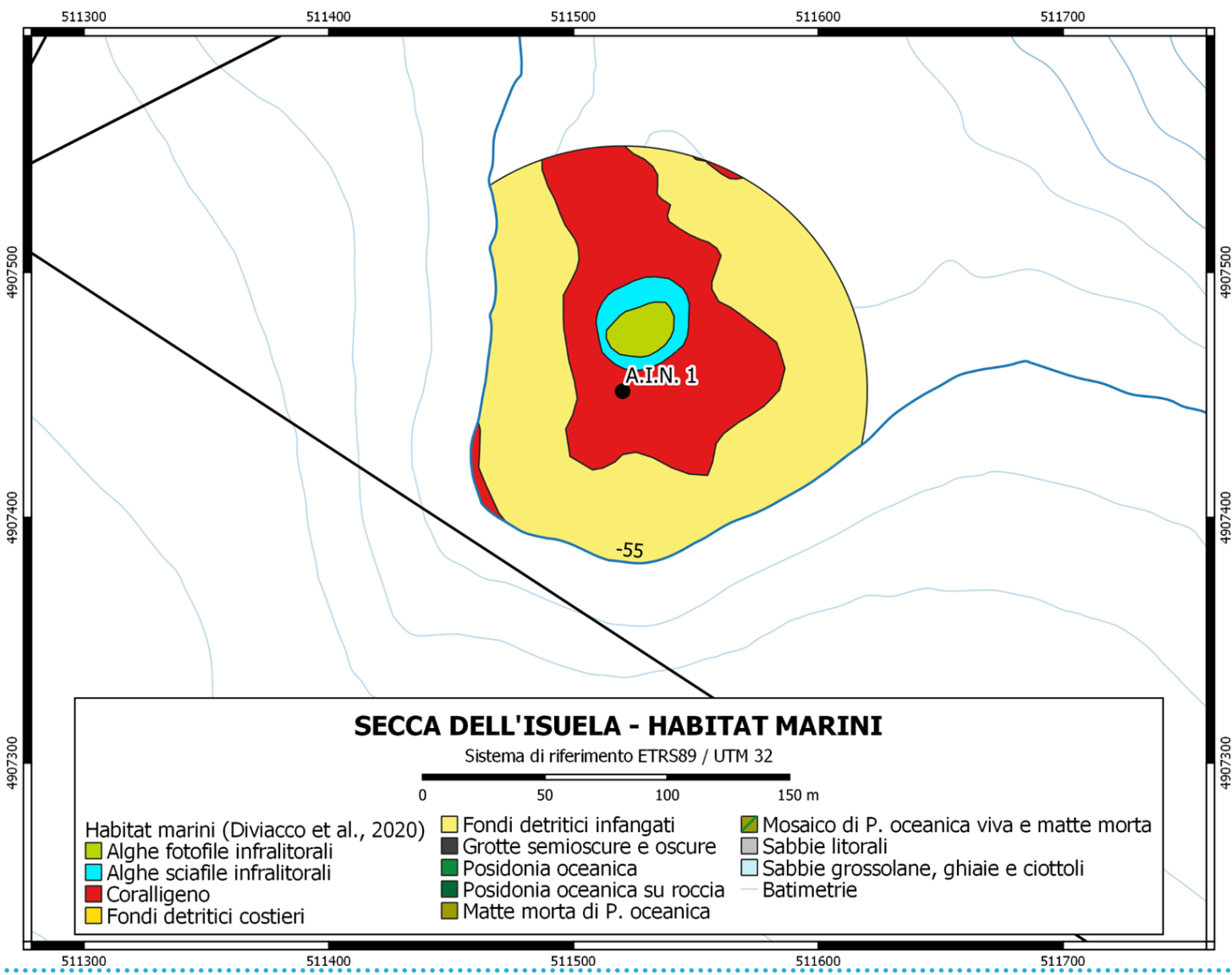
- *Corallium rubrum*
- *Paramuricea clavata*
- *Eunicella cavolinii*
- *Epinephelus marginatus*
- *Phycis phycis*



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Area of main habitats (within a 100m radius of the site)

- Muddy debris seabed 13'231 mq
- Coralligenous 7'115 mq
- Sciaphilous algae 683 mq
- Sciaphilous algae 462 mq



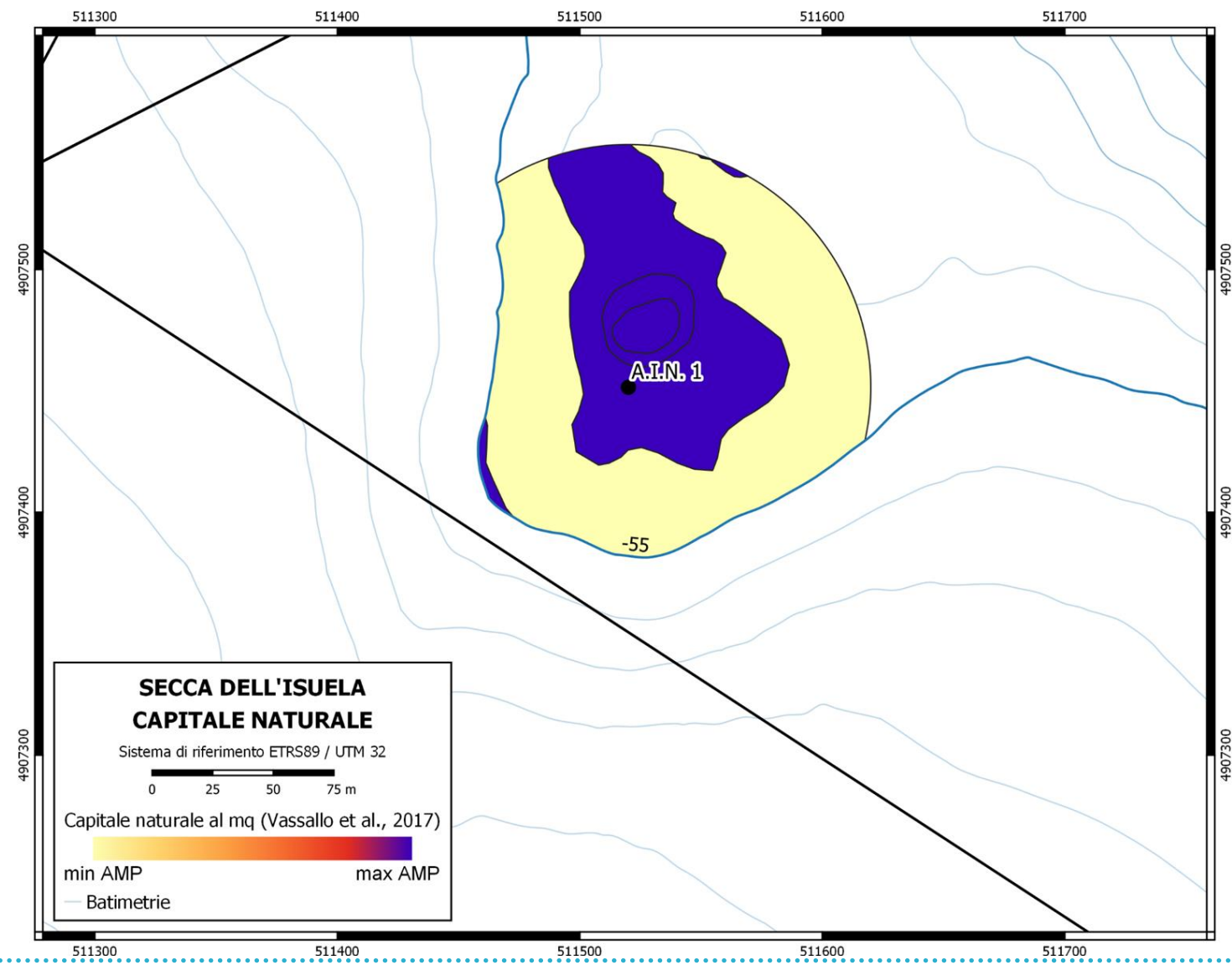
Habitat map (GIS)



NATURAL

Habitats with natural capital greater than the average value found in MPAs (within 100m of the site)

- Coralligenous
- Photophilic algae
- Sciaphilous algae



Natural capital map (GIS)



NATURAL

Environmental heritage photos

Portofino MPA archive photo
(A. Tessera)



Portofino MPA archive
photo (D. Mazzocchi)



Portofino MPA archive photo
(M. Trezzi)



Portofino MPA archive
photo (E. Trezzi)