

MANIFESTO FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE WAVES

This manifesto is a public declaration of the value of and need to conserve surfbreaks as a part of our natural heritage and as a sporting, socio-economic and cultural resources .

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Travel broadens the mind, providing exposure to other landscapes, other peoples, other cultures and customs. Travelling and surfing round the world puts us in touch with the global ocean, whose varied and various coastlines experience shared problems. Contamination of its waters, urbanisation, coastal degradation and the impact of this on the flora and fauna, and also the threat to and destruction of surfbreaks; and without surfbreaks there is no surfing.

In the face of global problems, we need global voices that support the strongest and most active groups and empower the smallest and weakest in the search for their own solutions. This manifesto is a global public declaration of the value of and need to protect surfbreaks as part of our natural heritage and as a sporting, socio-economic and cultural resource.

It is a commitment of the intercultural community, a generational challenge. A road to inspire change in others, with the help of all. An expression of the ethic and cultural values of surfing: respect for and harmony with Nature, of which we all form a part. The way an individual or collective relates with their environment demonstrates their essential being, it is a key to civilization and culture.

Someone said that a human being is the size of its dreams. As surfers, travellers, academics, scientists, parents and ocean lovers, one of our dreams is to preserve that which has given us the most beautiful part of our soul. Join the Surf & Nature Alliance, it is time for the waves.

#ManifiestoParaLaProtecciónDeLasOlas

#SomosLoQueProtegemos

surfnaturealliance.org

FOR THE
PROTECTION
OF THE WAVES

WAVES [~] BLUE HERITAGE OF GALICIA

Patrimonialization of the hydrodiversity, sustainable management of the surf and conservation of singular surf breaks in Ferrolterra.

Ondas [~] Patrimonio Azul de Galicia is a strategy proposed by the SURF & NATURE ALLIANCE in collaboration with the OCEANO SURF CLUB for the enhancement, sustainable management and conservation of the areas with interest for surfing in the Ferrolterra coast.

The coastal breaks and the practice of surfing have a growing recognition in our society. To their natural values we must add a high added value - cultural, recreational and sports -, becoming a socioeconomic resource of Galicia in constant growth in recent years.

Waves are the raw material for surfing. Its quality is directly proportional to its demand and capacity to attract specific tourism. It is necessary to conform policies that tend to guarantee its conservation. Its loss or degradation would also translate into the loss and degradation of Galicia's natural heritage. Territorial management policies centred on the mere promotion of surfing and waves as a tourist product bring with them serious planning problems, impacts of different kinds and conflicts of interest with other coastal and littoral uses.

All this justifies the interest of the present proposal that would contribute to shape a model of sustainable development through:



1. Patrimonialization of the hydrodiversity [blue heritage], with special attention to the singular breaks of interest for surfing in Ferrolterra.
2. Promotion of education for sustainability and ocean culture.
3. Legal protection and conservation of the singular breaks of interest for surfing in Ferrolterra.
4. Promotion of sustainability in the development of the surfing sector in Ferrolterra.

The protection of the surf breaks has been a reality for a decade in countries like Australia, New Zealand or Peru. In Europe, the first advances are beginning to be made. In Galicia, during the last few years, a growing social demand has been formed by the main agents and entities of the Galician surfing sector, which justifies the interest of the present proposal as the first step of an innovative project that seeks to give a solution to an adequate balance between the conservation of what constitutes a natural and cultural heritage, and the sustainable use of what is becoming a strategic blue resource for Galicia, and specifically, Ferrolterra, and that will culminate in a Network of Surf Reserves in Galicia integrated in the instruments and plans of territorial planning and autonomous sustainable development.



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