

Rob interviewing Anthony, warden at St Brieuc Nature Reserve:

Anthony: VivArmor Nature is an association which groups more than 1000 members. The association aims to work about nature protection in the department and the consideration of overall environment conditions in the department; it's the main objective and goal of the association. VivArmor Nature is concerned with overall Côtes-d'Armor department. Among the different action thematic which VivArmor Nature deals with there is the famous festival Natur'Armor. This festival is the place where naturalists and peoples who want to know more about environment came every year. The next fair was planned initially in 2021 but have to be reported in 2022 in Bégard because of the sanitary conditions. The second famous action of the association concern recreational fishing. VivArmor Nature is broadly implied in actions which aim to develop good recreational fishing activity practices to finally protect and conserve the shore and species concerned by such activity.

Rob: You're talking about fishing at sea or fishing in fresh water, in rivers?

Anthony: Fishing at sea in intertidal rocky area and soft bottom as well. Third main action of the association concerned the mapping of biodiversity at the scale of town or collectivity of town and to improve the consideration of biodiversity in management of town or collectivity of town. It's a very fashionable action. We can cite the mapping biodiversity project of St Brieuc, Plérin and in Lamballe.

Rob: This involves the public?

Anthony: It involves very specific scientific research and it involves also the public with for example the collection of naturalists observations.

Rob: You're talking about counting birds in the garden or?

Anthony: Signal some species presence in some places for example. So, the association also manages the island of Verdelet in the bay of St-Brieuc which is important for breeding birds. The association also coordinates the action of network of natural risk in the Côtes-d'Armor, so there is a lot to do if you are interested in nature and the environment in Côtes-d'Armor and we will be very happy to count you in the association, if you want to improve the consideration of biodiversity in environment in the Côtes-d'Armor.

Rob: I understand there's a website where people can find out more.

Anthony: The website www.vivarmor.fr contains a lot of details and you can learn more about our association and our works.

Rob: The covid obviously has an important impact on the fair that you're going to have in Bégard. What impact do you think has the Covid-19 had on nature in general in the Côtes-d'Armor? Have you noticed a difference?

Anthony: Yes, there is some difference noted by colleague in a lot of place in Côtes-d'Armor. It's a fact that if people don't disturb biodiversity, it's better for biodiversity. So, there is some examples of a place recolonised by some animals but it's quite difficult to perform an accurate assessment of change before after Covid because there's not specific protocols dedicated to do it.

Rob: Well I hope that when the pandemic is over there will be a lot more consideration for the gains that nature has made.

Anthony: Yeah, yeah. I hope so but one of the impacts of covid is definitely also the consideration of nature by people, people were confined in their garden or maybe with a park near their house or apartment, and they start to look at nature and it's definitely a good impact of Covid if we can tell that actually.

Rob: Anthony Sturbois, thank you very much indeed for telling us about your association Vi-varmornature.

Anthony: Thank you. Bye bye.