



Healthy Waters: Rowing for the Ocean

European Rowing clubs take action to tackle
Plastic Pollution



PART OF THE
EU MISSIONS
RESTORE OUR OCEAN & WATERS

Funded by
the European Union





About The Initiative

The 2025 edition of the [European Rowing Coastal and Beach Sprint Championships](#) that will take place in *Manavgat, Türkiye from 8 to 12 October 2025* will link sport, science, and sustainability.

With a strong focus on **plastic pollution**, **biodiversity protection & restoration**, and **citizen-science engagement**, the event will promote the role of sport associations and rowing clubs in protecting our ocean and waters by fighting plastic pollution.



Protecting &
Restoring
Biodiversity.

Building Plastic-
Free Futures.

Engaging Local
Communities.

As part of the [World Rowing – WWF Healthy Waters Alliance](#) and in collaboration with the [EU BlueMissionMed](#) project and [DEKAFOK](#), European and Rowing clubs in Türkiye will be engaged in two citizen science initiatives:

1

WWF Türkiye [Adopt a Beach](#)
Marine litter monitoring programme

2

Microplastic analysis
A project supported by [Akdeniz \(Mediterranean\) University](#)





Citizen Science



WWF Türkiye

“Adopt a Beach”

- Rowers from European Rowing clubs, volunteers, and local communities join hands to clean and monitor plastic waste along Manavgat’s coastline (Kleopatra Beach).
- Data collected contributes to WWF’s [regional pollution database](#).



Microplastic Analysis

- Rowers from European Rowing clubs and volunteers collect water samples during rowing training on the ocean.
- Akdeniz (Mediterranean) University analyses microplastics in the samples, turning athletes into citizen scientists.



Conservation Leadership

Protection of the endangered *Caretta caretta* (Loggerhead sea turtle) and sensitive coastal species such as the Mediterranean sand lily.



Habitat Protection

We will establish buffer zones around sea turtle nesting sites and Mediterranean sand lily habitats.



Education & Awareness

Athletes & volunteers will be engaged on biodiversity, conservation & marine plastic pollution.



DEKAFOK

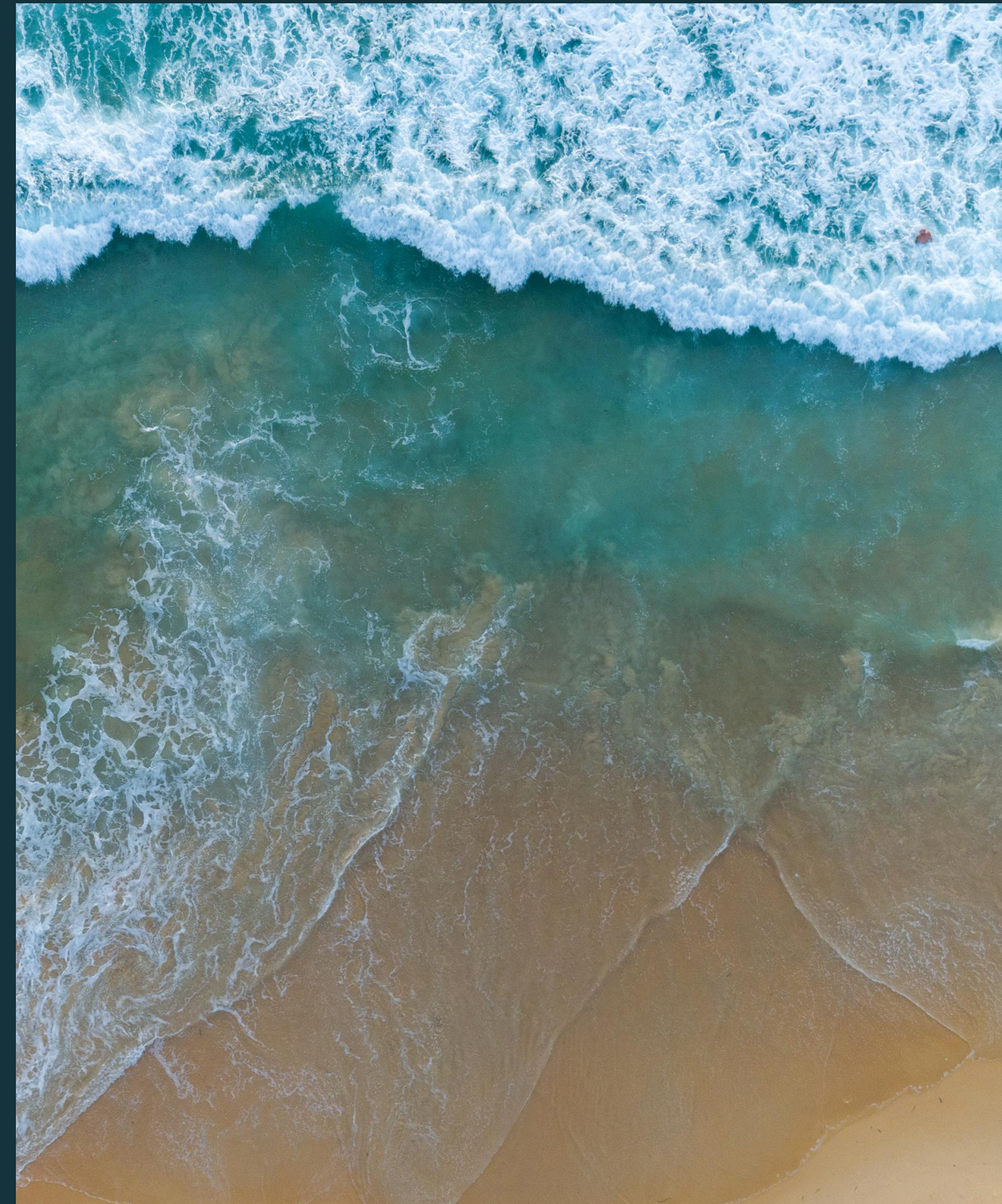
Sea Turtle & Habitat Protection



BlueMissionMed Society4Med Awards Awareness

Join & Promote the 2025 [Society4Med award](#) for Sport & Leisure & for Blue Educational initiatives.

[Read More](#)



Rowing for the Ocean.

