

ROCKPOOL REPORT

APRIL, 2024



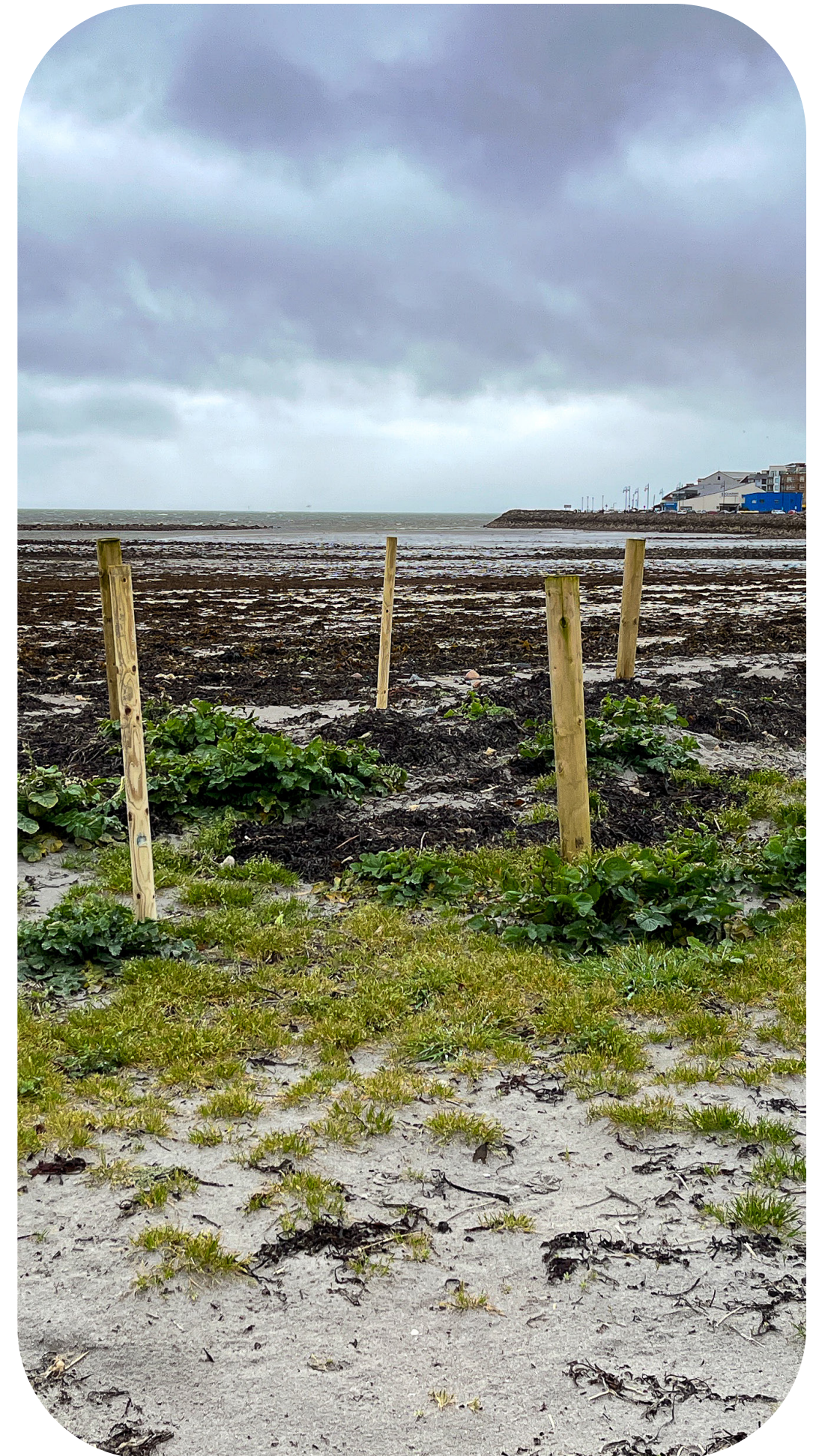


Rockpool Report April

Hello all, This month we were only able to get out twice!

The weather and Low-Tides were not the best, but we still managed to learn something new about the shore!

Let's Go Explore The Shore



Books and Swatches Ready!



The European eel (*Anguilla anguilla*)

We found this species on
the 12/04/2023.

The European eel is
now listed as '**critically
endangered**' on the
IUCN Red List. Other
potential causes include
parasites and changes
to the course of the
Gulf Stream. Poaching
(illegal, unreported and
unregulated fishing) and
the illegal export of eels
to Asia are additional
pressing concerns.



**Five-bearded rockling
(*Ciliata mustela*)
With Eggs!**

When Rockpooling we must BE EXTRA careful when turning rocks.

I found this species under a rock, and as you can see it is very heavy with eggs.

A smaller female may lay as few as 9,000 eggs when spawning, while the largest females may lay as many as 30,000.



Sand mason worm

Lanice conchilega

This worm builds its own home out of bits of shell and sand. It can be spotted on Grattan Beach at low tide.



Dog Whelk Egg Cases

Dog whelks lay their eggs in small yellowish capsules which can be spotted under rocky overhangs on the lower shore.

Each capsule contains up to a thousand eggs - though most of these will become food for the few that hatch and develop.



Pholis gunnellus





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