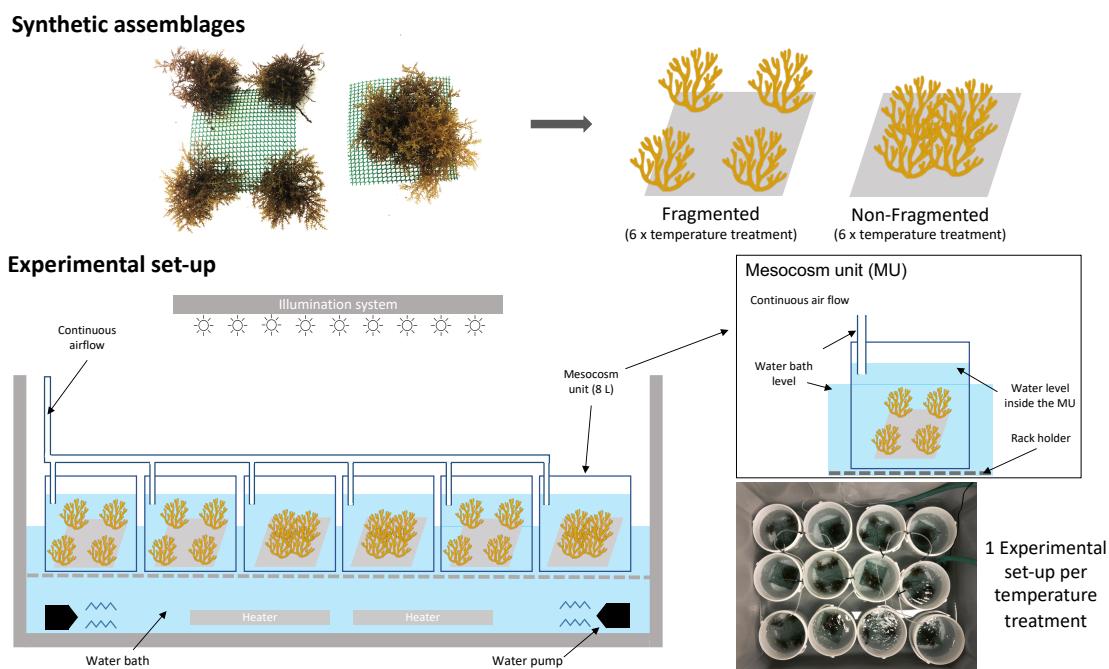


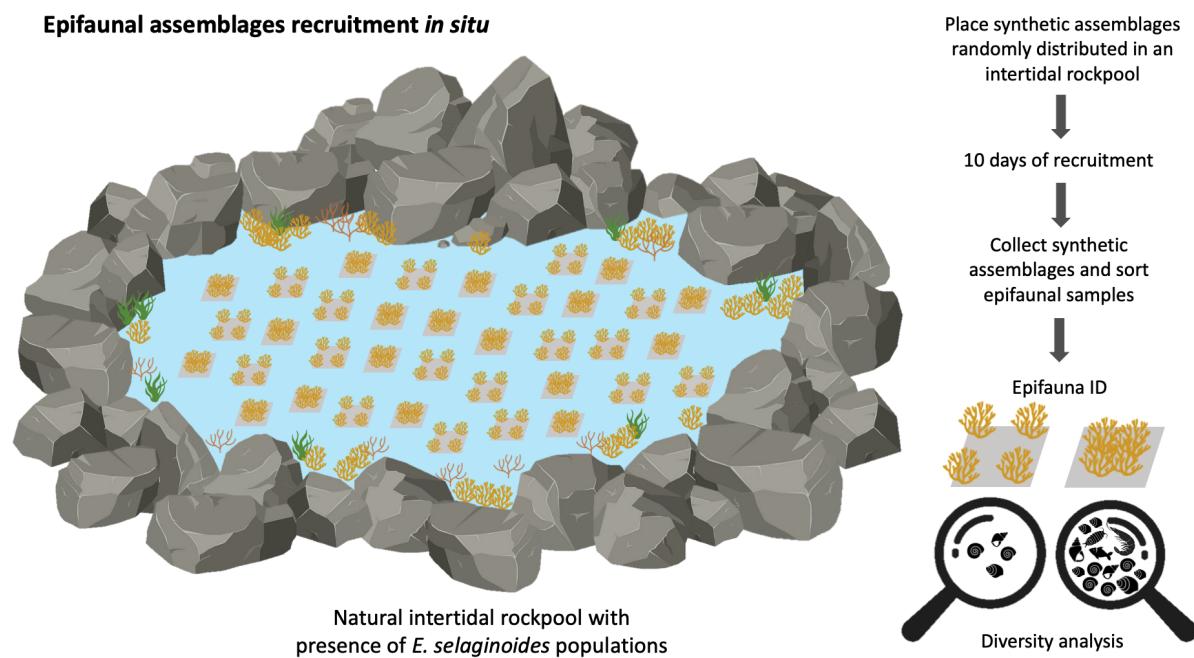
# Prior stress by marine heatwaves and micro-habitat fragmentation drive the colonisation of epifaunal assemblages in marine forests

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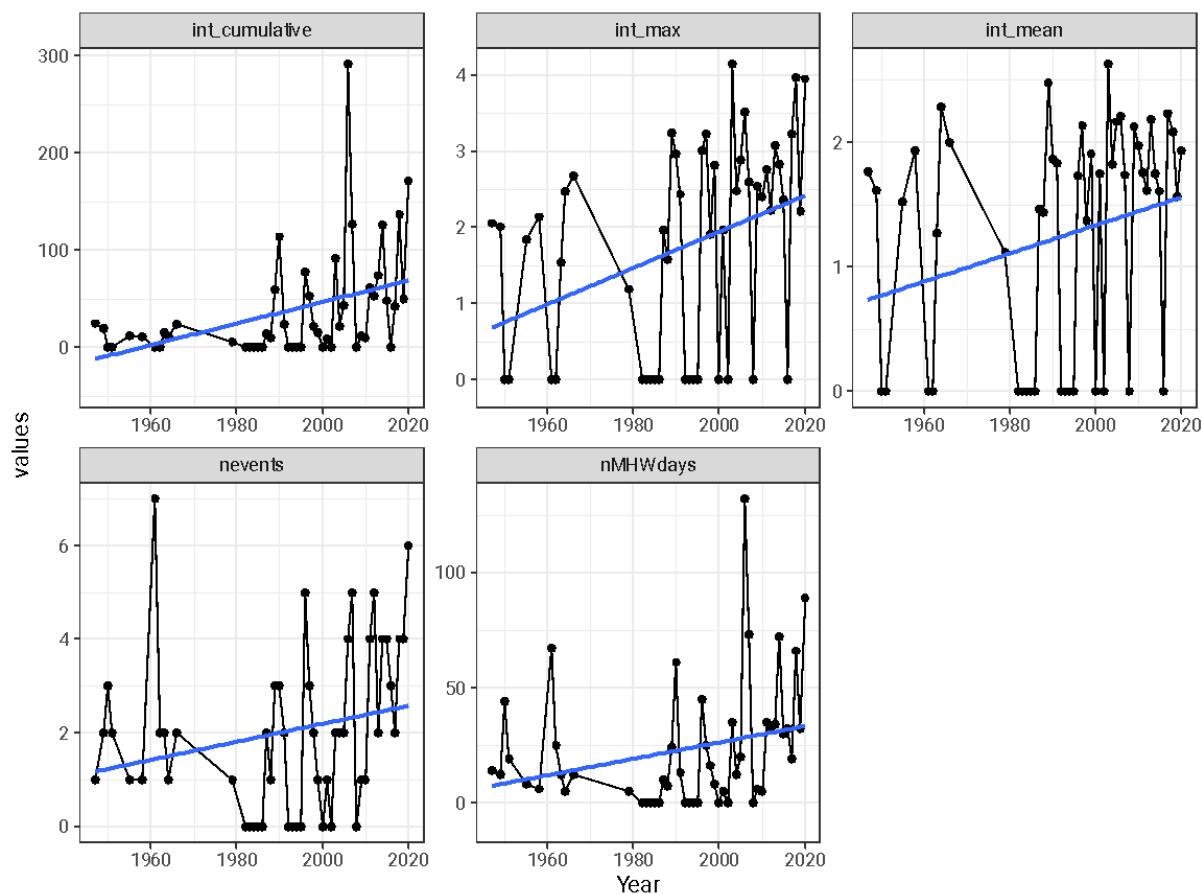
**Figure S1.** Detail of synthetic assemblages of *E. selaginoides* mimicking microhabitat fragmentation in two different configurations (Fragmented vs. Non-Fragmented), and detail of the experimental set-up during the MHW experiment under laboratory conditions.



**Figure S2.** Diagram and scheme with steps of the recruitment field experiment conducted



**Figure S3.** Annual marine heatwaves (MHWs) metrics for the Cantabrian Sea during 1947–2021. Int\_cumulative = cumulative intensity, int\_max = maximum intensity, int\_mean = mean intensity, nevents = number of MHWs, nMHWdays = number of MHW days per year.



**Table S1.** PAIR-WISE results showing the interaction effect of Marine Heatwaves (MHW levels: ‘Control’, ‘Current MHW’ and ‘Future MHW’) and Fragmentation (levels: Fragmented (Frag) and Non-Fragmented (Non-Frag)) over the structure and composition of the epifaunal assemblages.

**PAIR-WISE test**

**Structure**

	Within level ‘Control’ of factor ‘MHW’		Within level ‘Current MHW’ of factor ‘MHW’		Within level ‘Future MHW’ of factor ‘MHW’	
	MS	F	MS	F	MS	F
<b>Factor ‘Fragmentation’</b>						
Frag vs Non-Frag	0.17	4.90**	0.19	3.48*	0.16	1.00
Withing level ‘Frag’ of factor ‘Fragmentation’						
	MS	F	MS	F	MS	F
<b>Factor ‘Temperature’</b>						
Control vs Current MHW	0.68	12.59**	0.70	20.11**		
Current MHW vs Future MHW	0.48	3.72*	0.45	5.57**		
Control vs Future MHW	1.17	9.26**	1.54	24.99**		

Sig. codes: \*\*\*0.001, \*\*0.01, \* 0.05, . 0.1

**PAIR-WISE test**

**Composition**

	Within level ‘Control’ of factor ‘MHW’		Within level ‘Current MHW’ of factor ‘MHW’		Within level ‘Future MHW’ of factor ‘MHW’	
	MS	F	MS	F	MS	F
<b>Factor ‘Fragmentation’</b>						
Frag vs Non-Frag	0.33	4.16**	0.33	2.76*	0.21	0.92
Withing level ‘Frag’ of factor ‘Fragmentation’						
	MS	F	MS	F	MS	F
<b>Factor ‘Temperature’</b>						
Control vs Current MHW	0.94	7.93**	1.03	2.74**		
Current MHW vs Future MHW	0.61	3.07*	0.58	3.85**		
Control vs Future MHW	1.29	6.57**	1.73	15.04**		

Sig. codes: \*\*\*0.001, \*\*0.01, \* 0.05, . 0.1

**Table S2.** Results of SIMPER analysis showing taxa that contributed to the similarity between levels of ‘MHW’ and ‘Fragmentation’. SIMPER analysis was based on square-root transformed abundance of the epifaunal assemblage.

Group Control - Fragmented					
Average similarity: 66.62					
Species	Av.Abund	Av.Sim	Sim/SD	Contrib%	Cum.%
<i>Rissoa parva</i>	6.59	28.73	5.96	43.13	43.13
<i>Barleeia unifasciata</i>	2.61	10.41	5.34	15.63	58.76
<i>Dynamene bidentata</i>	2.52	8.77	2.69	13.16	71.93
<i>Bittium reticulatum</i>	1.8	5.34	1.15	8.02	79.94
<i>Tricolia pullus</i>	1.19	4.91	7.74	7.37	87.31
<i>Steromphala umbilicalis</i>	0.86	1.84	0.78	2.77	90.08
Group Control - Non-Fragmented					
Average similarity: 83.10					
Species	Av.Abund	Av.Sim	Sim/SD	Contrib%	Cum.%
<i>Rissoa parva</i>	7.89	22.87	26.57	27.52	27.52
<i>Dynamene bidentata</i>	4.38	11.95	6.07	14.38	41.9
<i>Barleeia unifasciata</i>	3.28	9.09	5.77	10.94	52.83
<i>Rissoa guerinii</i>	2.93	8.46	18.92	10.18	63.02
<i>Bittium reticulatum</i>	2.53	6.3	4	7.58	70.6
<i>Tricolia pullus</i>	1.54	3.99	5.1	4.8	75.4
<i>Microdeutopus</i> sp.	1.43	3.61	4.75	4.35	79.75
<i>Microprotopus</i> sp.	1.19	3.13	9.4	3.76	83.51
<i>Xantho pilipes</i>	1.14	3.13	9.92	3.76	87.28
<i>Steromphala umbilicalis</i>	1.28	2.95	1.35	3.55	90.82
Group Current MHW - Fragmented					
Average similarity: 61.51					
Species	Av.Abund	Av.Sim	Sim/SD	Contrib%	Cum.%
<i>Rissoa parva</i>	3.97	34.88	8.12	56.7	56.7
<i>Rissoa guerinii</i>	1.43	11.21	6.11	18.22	74.93
<i>Dynamene bidentata</i>	1.22	5.74	0.75	9.34	84.26

<i>Barleeia unifasciata</i>	0.8	4.05	0.78	6.59	90.85
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Group Current MHW - Non-Fragmented

Average similarity: 71.54

Species	Av.Abund	Av.Sim	Sim/SD	Contrib%	Cum.%
<i>Rissoa parva</i>	4.23	25.29	8.37	35.35	35.35
<i>Dynamene bidentata</i>	3.18	17.7	4.36	24.75	60.09
<i>Rissoa guerinii</i>	1.42	6.57	1.31	9.18	69.28
<i>Tricolia pullus</i>	1.15	5.14	1.33	7.19	76.46
<i>Barleeia unifasciata</i>	1.3	4.63	1.24	6.47	82.93
<i>Steromphala umbilicalis</i>	0.97	4.38	1.34	6.12	89.05
<i>Bittium reticulatum</i>	1.16	3.38	0.76	4.72	93.78

Group Future MHW - Fragmented

Average similarity: 48.50

Species	Av.Abund	Av.Sim	Sim/SD	Contrib%	Cum.%
<i>Rissoa parva</i>	1.68	11.67	0.78	24.07	24.07
<i>Barleeia unifasciata</i>	1.04	10.04	1.27	20.69	44.76
<i>Bittium reticulatum</i>	1.05	6.55	0.75	13.51	58.27
<i>Rissoa guerinii</i>	1.01	6.27	0.77	12.93	71.19
<i>Tricolia pullus</i>	0.79	5.78	0.78	11.91	83.1
<i>Dynamene bidentata</i>	0.94	5.5	0.78	11.33	94.43

Group Future MHW - Non-Fragmented

Average similarity: 64.12

Species	Av.Abund	Av.Sim	Sim/SD	Contrib%	Cum.%
<i>Rissoa parva</i>	2.71	28.45	7	44.37	44.37
<i>Dynamene bidentata</i>	1.76	16.77	3.71	26.15	70.52
<i>Rissoa guerinii</i>	1.11	9.84	1.29	15.35	85.87
<i>Barleeia unifasciata</i>	0.74	5.05	0.78	7.87	93.74