**Table S1**. Physicochemical water parameters of the three sites surveyed in situ experiment at the Marina of Leixões, NW Portugal in February, March, May, July and October of 2022 and February 2021. A (N3 - Braided PE), site B (N2 - Braided Nylon) and site C (N1 - Thin Nylon). Values represent average ± SD.

| Sampling time | Sampling site | Temperature (ºC) | Salinity (psu) | pH | Turbidity (FNU) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| February 2020 | A | 13.90 | 28.44 | 7.95 | 0.95 |
| | B | 13.94 | 28.22 | 8.04 | 1.12 |
| | C | 13.91 | 27.85 | 8.07 | 2.18 |
| March 2020 | A | 14.02 | 31.27 | 8.35 | 4.65 |
| | B | 14.01 | 30.73 | 8.41 | 3.14 |
| | C | 14.03 | 31.34 | 8.42 | 4.51 |
| May 2020 | A | 17.80 | 32.65 | 8.69 | 0.69 |
| | B | 17.98 | 33.10 | 8.75 | 2.43 |
| | C | 17.86 | 32.03 | 8.82 | 0.47 |
| July 2020 | A | 17.95 | 35.48 | 8.42 | 0.34 |
| | B | 17.74 | 35.57 | 8.44 | 0.60 |
| | C | 17.78 | 35.53 | 8.45 | 0.51 |
| October 2020 | A | 15.33 | 33.39 | * | 7.23 |
| | B | 15.39 | 31.72 | * | 4.81 |
| | C | 15.39 | 31.78 | * | 4.77 |
| February 2021 | A | 13.53 | 28.28 | 7.69 | 1.78 |
| | B | 13.58 | 28.75 | 7.74 | 1.93 |
| | C | 13.53 | 28.49 | 7.78 | 1.54 |

*no data due to technical problems with the multiparametric probe.

**measurements made with another multiparameter probe. Values represent a single read.

**Table S2**. Physicochemical water parameters of the nine sampling sites (1-9) surveyed in coastal Marine Protected Area (Parque Natural do Litoral Norte (PNLN) in Ofir/Esposende) in January (winter), March (spring) and June (summer) 2019. Sites 1-6 are within the lost gear hotspot area and sites 7-9 are outside.

| Sampling time | Sampling site | Temperature (ºC) | Salinity (psu) | pH | Turbidity (FNU) |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| January 2019 | 1 | 14.65 | 35.48 | 8.14 | 0.39 |
| | 2 | 14.64 | 35.48 | 8.10 | 0.10 |
| | 3 | 14.64 | 35.48 | 7.94 | 0.18 |
| | 4 | 14.50 | 35.25 | 8.14 | 0.93 |
| | 5 | 14.63 | 35.44 | 8.15 | 0.50 |
| | 6 | 14.64 | 35.46 | 8.16 | 0.35 |
| | 7 | 14.58 | 35.34 | 8.13 | 0.72 |
| | 8 | 14.60 | 35.39 | 8.13 | 0.51 |
| | 9 | 14.63 | 35.47 | 8.15 | 0.38 |
| March 2019 | 1 | 13.05 | 35.48 | 8.25 | 2.01 |
| | 2 | 13.03 | 35.48 | 8.25 | 0.96 |
| | 3 | 13.03 | 35.48 | 8.24 | 0.27 |
| | 4 | 13.07 | 35.46 | 8.25 | 1.92 |
| | 5 | 13.04 | 35.48 | 8.25 | 1.57 |
| | 6 | 13.32 | 35.25 | 8.26 | 0.60 |
| | 7 | 13.09 | 35.43 | 8.20 | 2.87 |
| | 8 | 13.07 | 35.45 | 8.15 | 1.52 |
| | 9 | 12.99 | 35.47 | 8.09 | 0.69 |
| June 2019 | 1 | * | * | * | * |
| | 2 | * | * | * | * |
| | 3 | 14.28 | 35.32 | 8.26 | 0.01 |
| | 4 | 14.36 | 35.37 | 8.29 | 0.00 |
| | 5 | 15.51 | 35.18 | 8.31 | 0.04 |
| | 6 | 14.11 | 35.32 | 8.25 | 0.01 |
| | 7 | 14.11 | 35.32 | 8.22 | 0.17 |
| | 8 | * | * | * | * |
| | 9 | * | * | * | * |

* no data due to technical problems with the multiparametric probe.