

# Looking Back, Moving Forward: Going beyond the Lost Frontier's Project

## PRESENTED BY

**Dr. Simon Fitch**

University of Bradford

## AUTHORS

**1.**Dr. Simon Fitch<sup>1</sup>

**2.**Prof. Vince Gaffney<sup>1</sup>

**3.**Dr. Rachel Harding<sup>1</sup>

**4.**Prof. Richard Bates<sup>2</sup>

**5.**Dr. Andrew Fraser<sup>1</sup>

**6.**Dr. Ruth Plets<sup>3</sup>

**7.**Dr. Tine Missiaen<sup>3</sup>

**1.** University of Bradford, **2.** University of St. Andrews, **3.** Flanders Marine Institute (VLIZ), InnovOcean Campus, Jacobsenstraat 1, 8400 Oostende, België

## ABSTRACT

During the last decade, significant progress has been made regarding our understanding of changes in Holocene relative sea level and the submerged archaeological landscape within the North Sea. Perhaps the most significant of the research during this period has been undertaken as part of the ERC funded Europe's Lost Frontiers (ELF) which ran between 2015-2021. This research, currently being published as several book volumes, has radically improved our understanding of the Early Holocene/Mesolithic landscape of the Southern North Sea region and took the first steps towards locating archaeological sites on the continental shelf.

The progress that has been made by the Lost Frontiers project presents real opportunities to develop new avenues to research the submerged prehistory of this Quaternary Landscape. This presentation will outline the new projects and continuing research which are being undertaken by the team that will allow research in this area to advance beyond what was previously possible and to look deeper into the archaeological past to examine the Late Palaeolithic. Through the use of new computational techniques and AUV technology, it will be argued that the recovery of archaeological materials is becoming an increasingly real prospect for the deeper areas of the continental shelf (>15m deep), a development which is timely given the pressing nature of the accelerating development in these offshore regions.

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