

The Formentera Department of Environment reports that, after a four-week operation that saw crews pull close to 5,000 cubic metres of posidonia seagrass from Cala Saona and Ses Illetes beaches, island residents are being encouraged to request their share.

"This is a great chance to put to work one of our most treasured natural assets", said department chief Antonio J Sanz. Posidonia has historically had an array of uses: as animal bedding or tilling fields, for instance, or as isolation in country homes.

Islanders interested in repurposing some of the seagrass can visit the Àrea de Medi Ambient, make an inquiry via the OVAC, call 971 32 10 87 or send an email to <u>mediambient@conselldef</u> <u>ormentera.cat</u> . The posidonia will be dropped off at no charge, and requests will be granted of up to three truckloads per person.

Conseller Sanz highlighted the collaboration that brought together municipal crews and the coastal authority over the past month. "They've kept beaches clean and other infrastructure operational even during these trying times of public health emergency", he said.

This year's posidonia haul amounts to ten times the volume removed in 2019, a change likely explained by natural factors like storms, which can trigger greater volumes of seagrass turning up on the coastline.

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