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## **Croatia – Stone Age settlement and navigation**

### **Abstract**

Exploration of Stone Age sites is an emerging field in Croatian underwater archaeology. Many sites have been found recently through recreational diving, construction activities, and pedestrian surveys of intertidal zones. Most of the sites are near-shore areas; the majority belong to the period c. 8200-6000 cal. BP (Neolithic), and include cultural deposits rich in artefacts of stone, pottery and bone. Some sites exhibit interesting constructions made of substantial wooden poles. The evidence indicates open sea fishing and seafaring during both the Neolithic as well as the Mesolithic periods. Other near-shore sites display examples of human activity through worked lithic artefacts and the remains of terrestrial mega fauna, preserved from previous periods when sea level was much lower than today.