

CORALS TRANSPLANTATION IN RAS LAFFAN AND HALUL ISLAND WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE INSTALLATION OF SUBMARINE CABLES BETWEEN RAS LAFFAN AND HALUL ISLAND

MIDDLE EAST



Client : LS CABLE & SYSTEM FRANCE

Detailed description of project

LS Cable, as EPIC Contractor, intended to conduct near shore trenching prior to cable installation (also referred to as Near Shore Pre-Trenching) at locations Ras Laffan and Halul Island. The intended near shore trench was approximately 2.0m in width (3.0m maximum width) extending to the 1.5m water depth contour (reference LAT):

- At Ras Laffan, the 1.5m water depth contour is approximately 800m from the shoreline.
- At Halul Island, the 1.5m water depth contour is approximately 250m from the shoreline.

The Environmental Baseline Study described the presence of live corals within the marine footprint of the project. Following the request of the MoE of Qatar, mitigation measures had to be implemented to promote the conservation of the sensitive marine ecosystems including coral reefs. In order to study the best available management options, a Coral Management Plan was produced in August 2013. In September 2013, LS Cable requested CREOCEAN for Coral Relocation Works at Ras Laffan and Halul Island.

Type and scope of services provided

- Coral Relocation at Ras Laffan.
- Coral Relocation at Halul Island.
- Baseline Coral Monitoring.
- Reporting.

The main objective of this project was to successfully relocate corals out of the footprint of the cable corridor trench. Efficient Coral Relocation Works has been the key of this success and long-term monitoring will allow its assessment.