Biosedimentary evolution of one of the more important area for birds in the Natural Reserve of the Bay of Somme.

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The Natural Reserve of the Bay of Somme has been created in XXX, mainly because of the importance of this area for bird conservation. This is partly due to the abundance of the benthic fauna of this estuary. A biosedimentary follow up has been initiate in 1996 in the first management plan of the Reserve. The benthic fauna has been sampled in ten stations, twice a year, in spring and autumn. The ten stations are organised in two transects. The species have been determinate and weighted as dry weight. The granulometric composition of the sediment has been characterised by the weighted granulometric technique. The faunistic composition is typical of estuaries area: *Macoma balthica*, *Hydrobia ulvae*, *Nereis diversicolor*, *Cerastoderma edule* and *Pygospio elegans*. The two transects don't have the same evolution. The determinant role of granulometric modification, specially sandy arrival, in the community composition is well characterised. This has an impact on the diversity and the biomass of the area. The role of biotic factor, as *Cerastoderma edule* concentration, in some periods, are important in the evolution of the community. The main role of this species in the ecosystem is suggested.