Off the western coast of mainland Greece lies the Inner Ionian Marine Protected Area. Designated because of its historic diversity of marine life and its naturally secluded and protected physical environment, it has the capacity to harbor a rich and diverse ecosystem both in the water and on land. However, despite its formal protection status, enforcement is limited and competing interests have led to a degraded environment. During a two-week stay on the island of Kalamos, Sophia provided GIS and mapping support to Terra Sylvestris, a small non-profit organization that seeks to ‘rewild’ the region through scientific research and community action.

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* or how I spent my summer vacation