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Session 3 – Planning, Development and Governance:

John Chaplin

Director of External Affairs & Special Projects

The Bristol Port Company



PARTNERIAETH MORWAFFREN
ESTUARY PARTNERSHIP



An update from the SEP Team

Alys Morris

Severn Estuary Partnership Manager





Since the last Forum

- 3 New members of staff
- 1 PTY Student
- Expansion of SEP Big Beach Clean
- Expansion of the Litter Free Coast and Sea Somerset
- Joint Estuary Day 2022
- Ongoing Communications activity
- Expanded secretariat service

Strategic direction

- Updated Business Plan (2023-2027)
- Expanded membership
- Revised MoU and benefits paper with School of Earth and Environmental Sciences, Cardiff University
- Championing Coastal Coordination



Context – What is Championing Coastal Coordination (3C's)

**3Cs
Projects**



The map shows the following project locations: 1. North West coast of England (near Liverpool). 2. North East coast of England (near Scarborough). 3. East coast of England (near Norwich). 4. East coast of England (near London). 5. South East coast of England (near Brighton). 6. South coast of England (near Bournemouth). 7. South coast of England (near Southampton). 8. South coast of England (near Portsmouth). 9. South coast of England (near Exeter). 10. West coast of England (near Cardiff). 11. West coast of England (near Plymouth). 12. Isles of Scilly.

- Cheshire Wildlife Trust
- Cornwall Wildlife Trust
- Deben Estuary Partnership
- National Trust (Isle of Purbeck)
- North Devon Biosphere Foundation
- North York Moors National Park Trust
- Recycling Of Used Plastics Limited
- Solway Firth Partnership
- Somerset Wildlife Trust
- Sussex Wildlife Trust
- The Coastal Partnership Network
- Thames21
- University of the West of England

3Cs is an Environment Agency funded initiative with support from Natural England, the Marine Management Organisation, and the Association of Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authorities. It is a collaboration seeking to explore how to enhance and progress coordination for coastal sustainability and resilience in England.



Position – significant loss of coastal habitat, communities at flood and erosion risk
Problem – management of coastal issues poses complex challenges, lack of skill, capacity and resource
Proposal – enhance and progress coordination and collaboration

SEP involvement

- **CoBA: Severn trial.** A case study of a collaborative approach to coastal management from source to sea
- **Severn Vision** -an opportunity to turn the Severn Vision into a deliverable framework for action
- **Coastal Partnerships Network (CPN) A Framework for Coastal Coordination** - co-design a recommendation for a national framework



The Association of Severn Estuary Relevant Authorities or ASERA



- Formed in 1998
- Compliance with the UK Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended) (was EU Habitats and Birds Directive)
- Cost effective, coordinated & integrated approach to managing the Severn Estuary EMS



The Association of Severn Estuary Relevant Authorities (ASERA)



Relevant Authority Action Plan Reporting

Severn Estuary European Marine Site

1st April 2021 – 31st March 2022

Katie Howard-Smith, Severn Estuary European Marine Site Officer



Severn Estuary European Marine Site Management Scheme



Severn Estuary Special
Area of Conservation

Severn Estuary Special
Protection Area

Severn Estuary Ramsar
Site

2018 -2023



Land-based Recreation in the Severn Estuary European Marine Site



This report provides a summary of what is known by ASERA about land-based recreational activities in the Severn Estuary European Marine Site.



November 2015

0-%20Cardiff%20University/Documents/ASERA/Good%20Pratice%20Gui... 20-%20Cardiff%20University/Documents/ASERA/...

Drones

- ✓ Follow the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) "Dronecode"
- Take time to understand the CAA Drone and Model Aircraft Code and take the CAA Theory Test. You are legally responsible for every flight.
- Carry the documents for your class of drone and category of flight. Make sure that your drone is marked with the Operator ID and insured, as required by CAA rules.
- Keep your drone in sight at all times. It can be difficult to judge distance and keep track of it over the estuary. You must have a spotter if flying FPV (first-person view).
- Never fly a drone close to an airport, helicopters, aircraft or airfields.
- ✓ **Protect wildlife by avoiding disturbance**
- Keep your drone at a distance from groups of roosting, feeding or breeding birds to avoid putting birds to flight.
- Keep noise to a minimum, particularly in sheltered creeks and rivers where groups of birds are not easily spooked, and do not disturb animals grazing on farmland.
- When flying, walk around sensitive habitats such as saltmarsh and reefs of Sabellaria (honeycomb tubeworm).
- Always check the tide times and beware of the Severn Estuary's quick-changing tides.

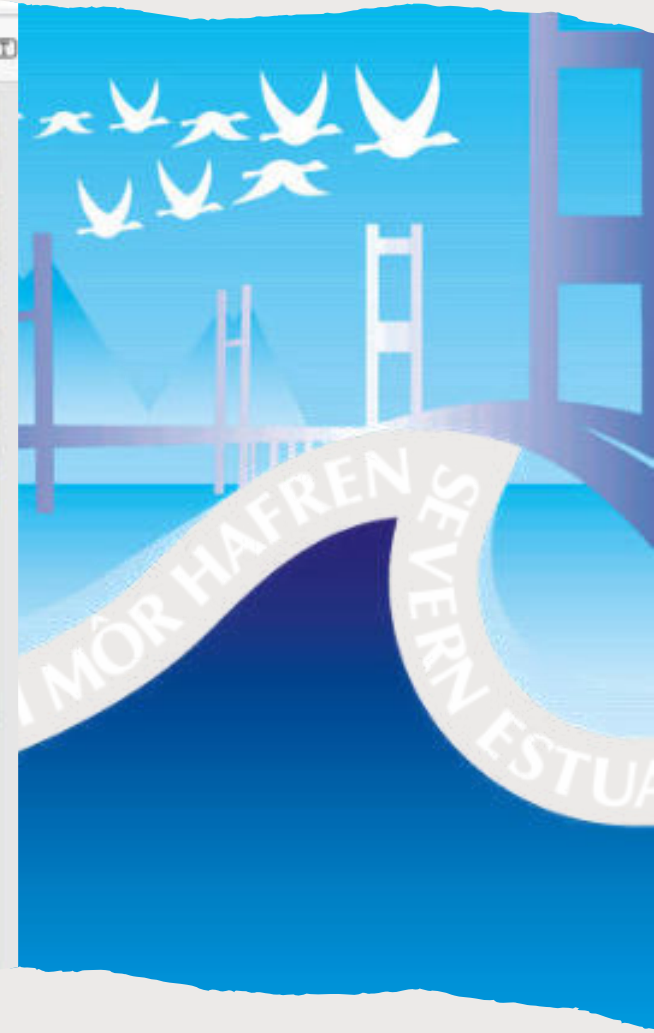
- ✓ Existing CAA Restricted Areas in the Severn Estuary include areas around Hinkley, Berkeley and Oldbury. You will require a National Air Traffic Service permission for Non Standard Flight to fly here.
- Download the Drone Assist app for further information on drone safety.
- ✓ **Drones with cameras should not be flown:**
- Over 400 feet high, or
- Within 50m of a person, vessel or structure.
- Consider rights of privacy of any images you record during flight.
- ✓ **CAA permission is required for all commercial flights and anything deemed as value added.**
- ✓ **Take all of your litter home and dispose of it responsibly.**
- ✓ **For more information, see our guidance on Airborne Recreation.**

www.dronesafe.uk

Good Practice Guidelines

Severn Estuary European Marine Site

Support our estuary



The Association of Severn Estuary Relevant Authorities

The Association of Severn Estuary Relevant Authorities

ORGANISING A BEACH CLEAN? Wildlife Briefing for Participants



- Remind participants that if they bring a dog, they must keep it alongside them, under control, on a short lead if necessary.
- Remind participants that larger bits of rubbish and debris may have become wildlife habitats. They should check very carefully before removing or moving, keeping in mind that tiny animals may be hidden in crevices.
- Ask them to leave natural items on site. Items such as shells, feathers, cuttlefish bones and plants enrich a habitat.
- Advise them to tread carefully. Watch where they place their feet to avoid damaging vegetation.
- Ask them to follow directions on signs. Stick to paths where they exist.
- Only remove visible litter.
- Avoid turning things over and digging for litter.
- Remind them to check with you if unsure. For example they should check with you before removing material that has anything growing on it.
- Walk beside rather than on strandline material.
- Leave seaweed and other natural items in place and undisturbed.

Strandlines (high water marks) are important habitats for many small creatures and a vital feeding ground for birds.

Identify
Plants & Animals

Record
Become a citizen scientist

Explore
Find ancient sites & learn how to enjoy Welsh coasts

From our land,
through our estuaries,
to our seas...

Discover | Enjoy | Respect

Become a Wales Coast Explorer with us
7 April 2022

Available to download on the App Store
7 April 2022

CRWYDRO ARFORDIR CYMRU
WALES COAST EXPLORER

#WalesCoastExplorer | #CrwydroArfordirCrwydro

Work with the SECG and WCGF



Joint appointment of a new Coastal Officer by the Severn Estuary Groups (SECG) and Wales Coastal Group Forum (WCGF).

Role

- Working with stakeholders (at a regional and national level) to advocate for improved coastal risk management policy, raise awareness of coastal processes, plan for change and manage some specific coastal projects.

Specific coastal projects

- **SECG:** Compiling necessary information to produce an updated action plan to accompany the Shoreline Management Plan refresh programme. Involves liaising with multiple stakeholders and arranging workshops.
- **WCGF:** Working on behalf of the forum to provide an update on the 4 Welsh coastal groups progress on action plans and to provide support for the chair.



Litter Free Coast & Sea Somerset

'A community-based campaign to protect bathing water quality and reduce beach and marine litter in Somerset'



- SEP's flagship project
- Launched in 2016 with a focus on Burnham-on-Sea
- Since 2020, this has expanded to include sites in West Somerset





Litter Free Coast & Sea Somerset

Litter Picking

LFCSS supports 6 community litter picking groups around the county

Our Nurdle Trommel is used regularly by local volunteers to filter microplastics from sand

We are continuing to install #2minutelitterpick boards around Somerset



Litter Free Coast & Sea Somerset School Award

Launched in Easter 2021

Schools work through actions based around Waste, Water and Nature

19 primary schools across Somerset currently working on the award



Somerset
Wildlife Trust







Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Blue Recovery and Marine Resilience

12 October 2022, Severn Estuary Forum

Caryn Le Roux, Marine and Fisheries Division, Welsh Government



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Background and scene setting

- Work began following the worst of the Covid pandemic
- Wales Marine Action and Advisory Group asked to assess bids from stakeholders
- Received disparate, not fully formed bids
- Led to a reassessment of what was needed to support Blue Recovery, particularly consistency, collaboration and joined up ‘shovel ready’ projects
- To support both nature and socio-economic recovery

Enablers of a Blue Recovery

- Sustainable funding and financing
- Capacity in coastal communities that enables joined up engagement and involvement in planning for the future

Nature - based solutions (Nature Recovery)

Improved condition of Wales MPA network supporting a resilient marine ecosystem
Coastal and marine restoration that delivers blue carbon, enhances biodiversity and contributes to coastal defences

Transforming Socio-Economic Systems (Socio-economic Recovery)

Sustainable fisheries and aquaculture sector supported by increased markets for seafood consumption
Strong and sustainable coastal tourism sector
Sustainable deployment of marine renewables



Resilient marine ecosystems are fundamental to a Blue Recovery

- ▶ Health & Well-being benefits
- ▶ Increased fish and shell-fish production
 - ▶ Improved coastal protection
- ▶ Opportunities for sustainable businesses
 - ▶ Adaptation to climate change

The Blue Recovery Implementation Plan

3 areas of work to accelerate and enable action:

- ▶ Ocean Literacy

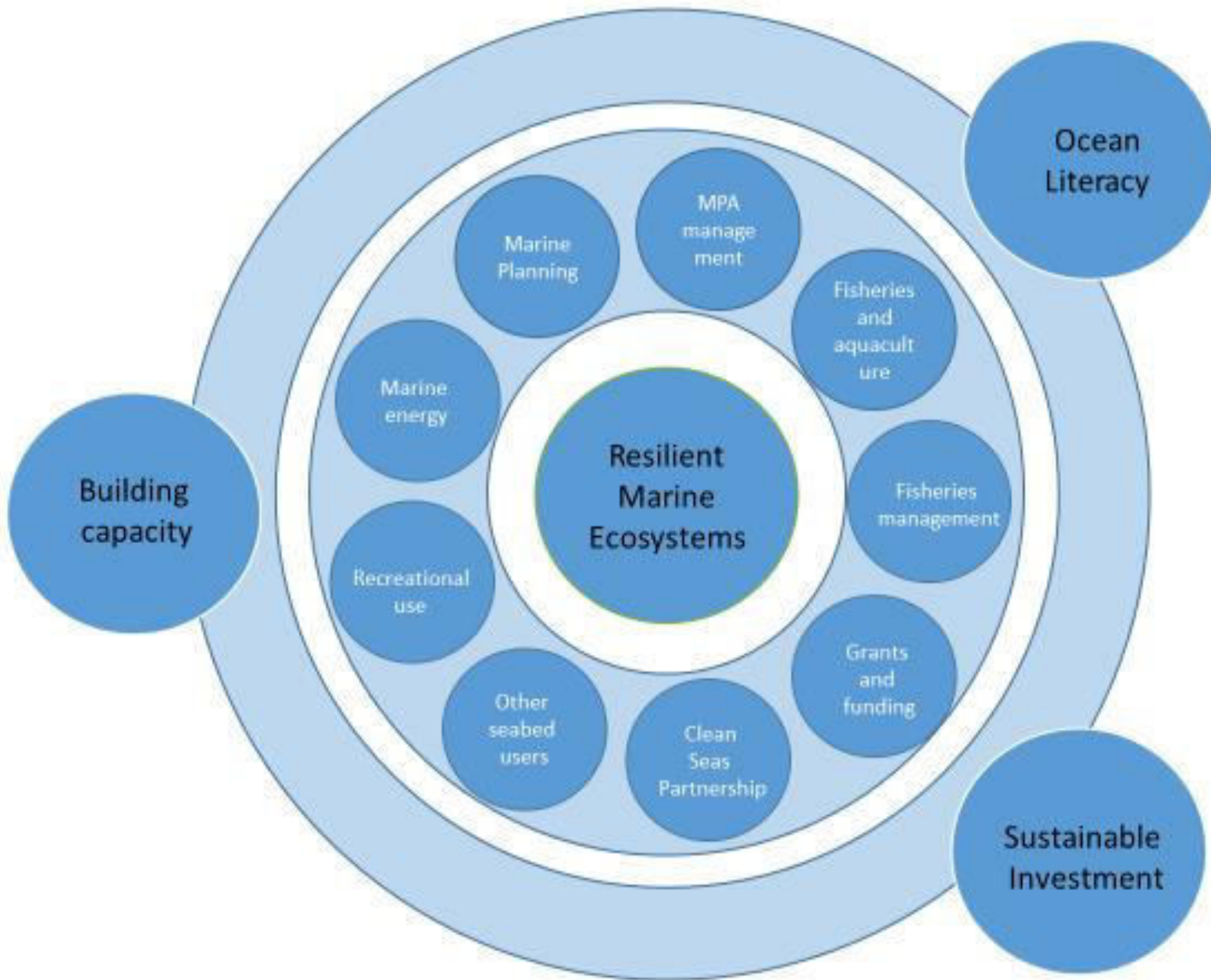
- ▶ Ocean literacy is developed across all parts of society so that understanding of the significance and importance of our coasts and seas will encourage further action across society and policy areas.

- ▶ Sustainable Investment

- ▶ Longer term sources of public and private finance explored and secured to support delivery of key objectives.

- ▶ Building Capacity

- ▶ Particularly at the local level, to enable meaningful community engagement to identify local opportunities and challenges and deliver action.





Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Ocean Literacy

- Ocean Literacy is - An understanding of the ocean's influence on you and your influence on the ocean
- Our aim is to:
 - Build an understanding of how people connect with our coasts and seas
 - How our actions impact on the oceans' health
 - How the ocean's health impacts our everyday lives
 - Improve how we manage and use our coasts and seas
- Our goal is to create an Ocean Literate Wales

Ocean Literacy Workshops

- 78 individual delegates from 56 different organisations in Wales
 - Royal Yachting Association
 - Monmouthshire County Council
 - Gower Seal Group
 - Challenge Wales
 - Cardigan Bay Watersports
 - JNCC
 - Crustacean compassion
 - Plant Ecology Beyond Land

Huge enthusiasm for networking and sharing contact details



SUSTAINABLE INVESTMENT

Sustainable long term investment Securing innovative and longer term forms of public, private and blended finance to help deliver key objectives.

- ▶ Wales Marine and Fisheries Scheme
- ▶ Sustainable Delivery model for nature's recovery
- ▶ Exploring other sustainable investment models such as:
 - Scottish Marine Environmental Enhancement Fund (SMEEF)
 - Carbon codes



BUILDING CAPACITY

- ▶ **Building capacity**, particularly at the local level, to enable meaningful community engagement to identify local opportunities and challenges and deliver action.
- ▶ Develop a local engagement model to work with communities
- ▶ Develop a coastal capacity grant for the Wales Marine & Fisheries Scheme
- ▶ Support Training and Skills
- ▶ Researching other models and examples e.g. National Nature Service, Marine National Parks, Coastal Partnerships

NEXT STEPS

- **Wales Coasts and Seas Partnership**

Natural Resources Wales

Cardiff University

Marine Conservation Society

The Crown Estate

Seafish

Joint

Nature Conservation Committee

Pembrokeshire Coastal Forum

RSPB

Seabed Users and Developers Group

Severn Estuary Partnership

Cragen Llyn a Mor

Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority

Wildlife Trusts Wales

Wales

Environment Link

Welsh Local Government Association

Blue Marine Foundation

Welsh Government

NEXT STEPS

- Publishing our Shared Narrative

Blue Recovery – Towards Marine Resilience in Wales

Following the worst of the Covid pandemic, marine and fisheries Action and Advisory Group came together to form the Wales Coastal Partnership to support sustainable development actions to both help and achieve our vision of Welsh seas that are clean, healthy, safe,

Our coasts and seas make a significant contribution to our Welsh identity. Our coastal zone doubles the size of Wales. Being a coastal nation, our coasts are part of our culture and language. Intrinsic to our identity are our seas and their fascinating habitats and wonderful sea creatures. The sea's natural resources include biodiversity, renewable energy, healthy protein, carbon storage, aquaculture, tourism, recreation and cultural inspiration as well as

Resilient marine ecosystems, underpinned by thriving habitats, are essential for blue recovery. The improved benefits we would get from restoring these ecosystems include increased fish and shellfish production, improved coastal protection, thriving businesses, and greater capacity for adaptation to climate change.

These ecosystems and the benefits they provide are underpinned by natural resources, pollution and climate change. In addition to the benefits from burning fossil fuels for energy and towards renewable energy, we can gain abundance from our seas. It is essential that the way we manage our seas addresses both the climate and nature emergencies, balancing the opportunities for our communities.

In Wales, we have many existing approaches, people and ecosystems and the benefits we receive from them. However, we need to act faster, using our resources effectively. The Partnership has identified the need for enable action for our environment, economy, social and cultural

- *Ocean Literacy – to build understanding of how people, communities and ecosystems connect with Welsh coasts and seas, the impact of our coastal health and how the oceans' health impacts our everyday lives*

NEXT STEPS

- Setting out our Programme of Work for next 3 years with Task & Finish groups taking forward work for each theme

Our 3-year priorities		
<p>Programme for Government commitments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishing a targeted scheme to support restoration of seagrass and saltmarsh habitats along our coastline • Building on our approach to the Foundational Economy to support local businesses • Enabling our town centres (including coastal communities) to become more agile economically by helping businesses to work co-operatively, increase their digital offer and support local supply chains, including local delivery services • Supporting ideas which can make Wales a world centre of emerging tidal technologies 	<p>Deep Dive recommendations including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reform land and marine management and planning • Capacity building, behaviour change, awareness raising and skills development • Embed Nature Recovery in policy and strategy • Renewables Deep Dive recommendations, particularly for <u>Opportunities</u> to scale up Community and Local Energy in Wales and Opportunities to maximise Economic and social value in Wales 	<p>Statutory delivery including:</p> <p>All WG</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Net Zero Wales • Climate Conscious Wales – adaptation plan • Nature Recovery Action Plan <p>Marine and Fisheries</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MPA management • Marine Planning • Fisheries management • Funding schemes • Science, monitoring and enforcement • Policy development for example for MCZs and blue carbon



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Thank you!

Caryn Le Roux, Marine and Fisheries Division, Welsh Government

Caryn.leroux@gov.wales



Western Porth y
Gateway Gorllewin

The Western Gateway Partnership

Your powerhouse working together for
greener, fairer growth



Western Gateway Porth y Gorllewin

Who we are

Your pan-regional partnership. An economic Powerhouse that:

- Spans **two countries**
- Includes up of **8 cities, 3 city regions**
- Is home to **4.4 million** people
- Led by a board that made up of local authorities leaders, city regions, combined authorities, business and academic representatives.





Our opportunities and challenges



An economy worth £110bn



Economy:

- Productivity gap - £34bn by 2030 opportunity
- Export gap - £4bn
- Home to some of the UK's most deprived communities



Clusters of strength:

- Advanced Manufacturing
- Cyber
- FinTech
- Creative
- Green Energy



Some of the UK's least well directly connected major cities



Innovation - Outrank the UK and EU average in the EU Innovation index.



Additional £580m in R&D needed to bring SW England level with the UK average - £420m in Wales.



Our mission

Bring together business, research and governments to work together to create greener, fairer future for all



Add £34 bn to the economy
Connect communities



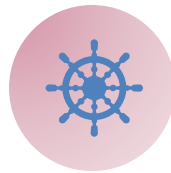
Attract investment and grow exports by £4bn
Unlock innovations



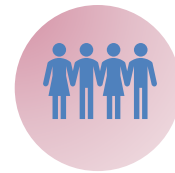
Decarbonise our economy



How we work



Lead



Convene



Collaborate



Advocate



Western Gateway Porth y Gorllewin



Lead: Severn Edge

Site at the heart of the partnership:

- Chance to connect the union
- Access to Hinkley Point C supply chains.
- Supportive communities



Collaborate: Hydrogen

We have launched the **Western Gateway Hydrogen Ecosystem** to turbocharge the development of low carbon energy to help reach net zero goals.



Lead: Strategic Rail Vision

We are mapping what an 'ideal' national and regional rail network might look like by 2050.



Advocate: for our partners

- We provide platforms for our partners to attract investment and champion the area.
- We create opportunities for partners to connect with influencers and bring together talent



Convene: Sustainable energy in the Severn

- Announced an aim to establish an expert-led Independent Commission to explore how the area might harness the renewable energy potential of the Severn Estuary.
- Welcomed by both Michael Gove MP and Vaughan Gething MS at our conference in March.
- Any commission will have an open remit to explore a range of options including looking at what technology exists and how environmental impacts can be minimised.





Western Gateway Porth y Gorllewin



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secretariat@western-gateway.co.uk

Contact us



@WesternGateway_



Western Gateway



Western Gateway Porth y Gorllewin



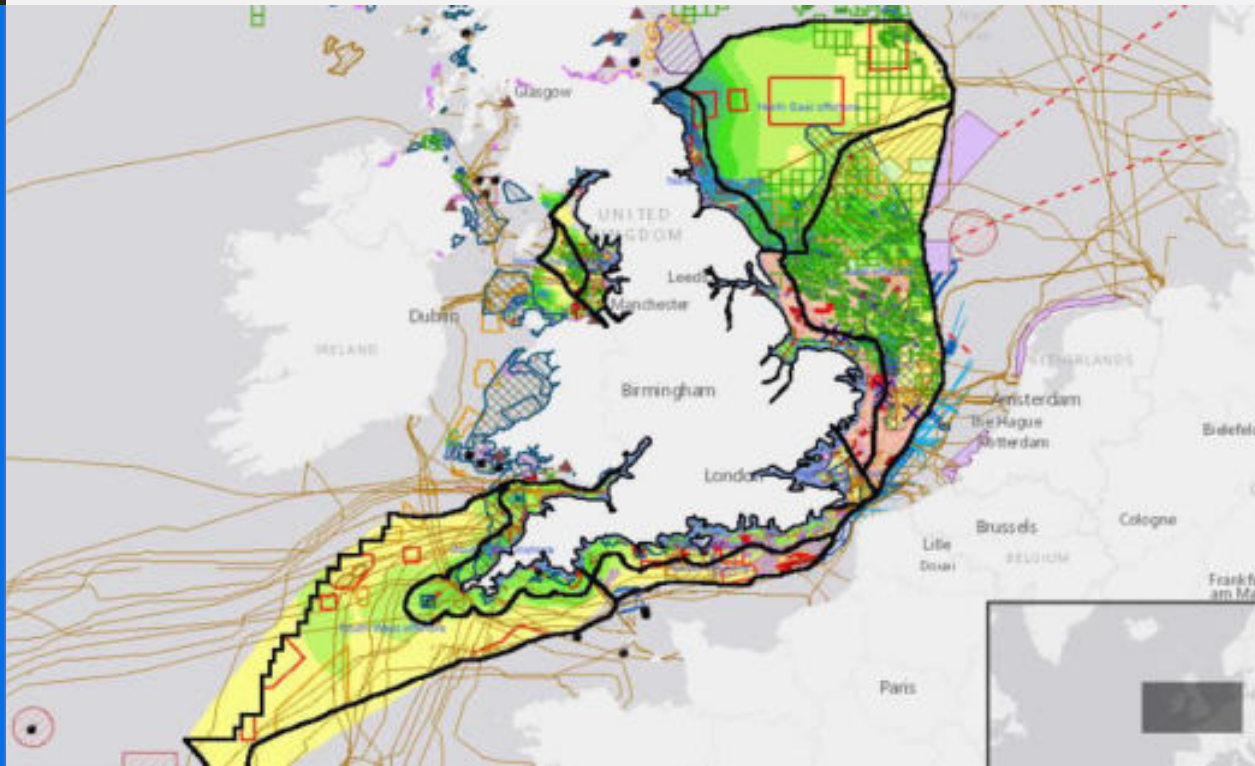


Cross-Border Marine Planning

Alex Curd & Sophie Kendall










Why Marine Planning?



- Historically, the marine area didn't have the same scale of development as on land
- Now there is more of a demand for space and an increasing use of the marine area by multiple sectors (e.g. shipping; offshore renewables, fishing)
- Need strategic, plan-led management to avoid conflict, promote co-existence and achieve **sustainable development**, through considering the **environment, economy** and **society**

The Benefits


-  Manages the **increasing demands** on space and resources
-  Greater consistency, clarity and guidance on what activity should or should not take place
-  Enables **sustainable** economic growth whilst protecting the marine environment and recognising social benefits
-  Better access to current **evidence**
-  Creates a stronger understanding of local resources, activities, and potential
-  Improved **involvement** of coastal communities and stakeholders
-  More cohesion with **terrestrial plans** and other coastal plans

The Challenges


 Very dynamic and frequently changing

 Continually evolving evidence base

 Few hard boundaries

 Many mobile species

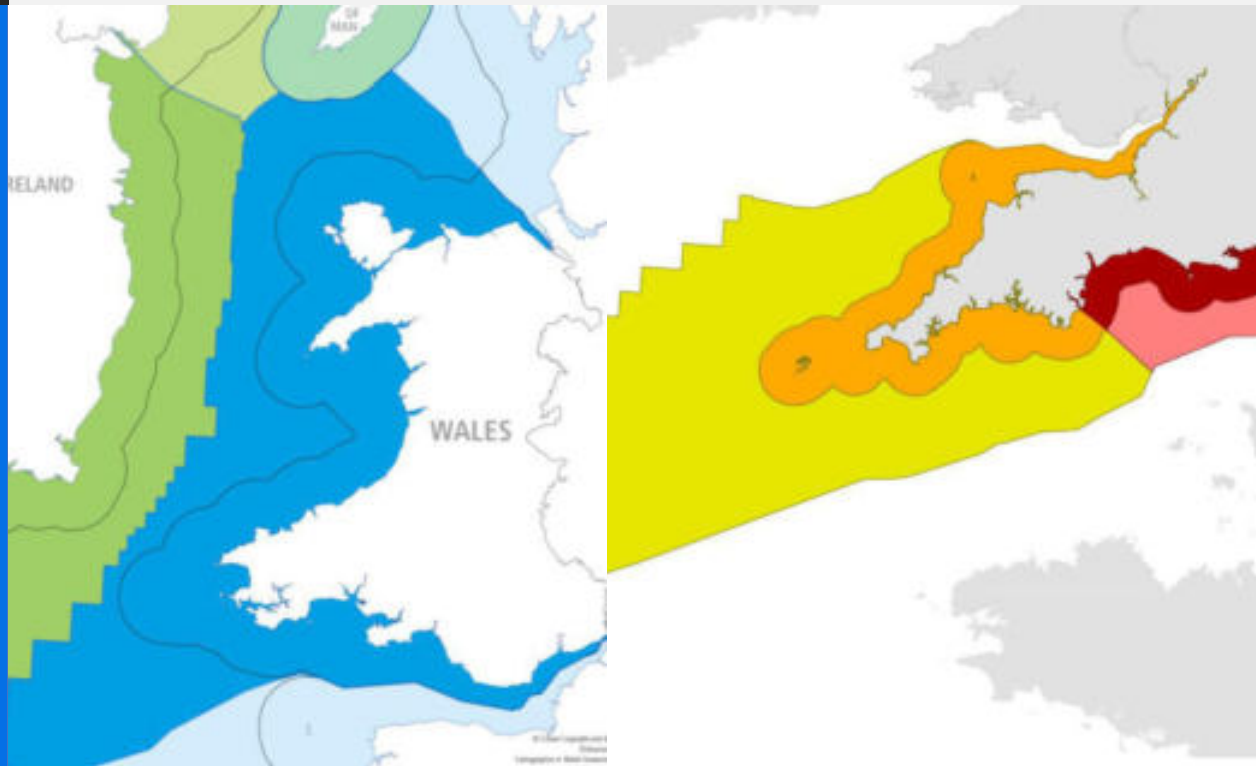
 Legislative changes

 Integration with terrestrial planning

 Collating the variety of stakeholder views



The Marine Plans



- Welsh National Marine Plan published in 2019, South West Marine Plan published in 2021
- Own vision and objectives that support the UK vision and High Level Marine Objectives
- Include specific cross-border policies on cooperation and plan compatibility
- In future both are looking to become more spatial
- Always looking to learn from each other through collaboration!

The Legislation

The **Marine and Coastal Access Act** states that *"a marine plan authority must take all reasonable steps to secure that [its] plan is compatible with the marine plan for any [other] marine plan area"* as well as any relevant terrestrial plan. The UK Marine Policy Statement builds on this requirement and sets out that the planning authorities are committed to *"the co-ordination of marine planning across administrative boundaries"* which includes *"planning for activities which extend across national or Marine Plan area boundaries"*.

The **Marine Policy Statement** sets out *"UK Administrations are committed to the co-ordination of marine planning across administrative boundaries¹⁸ and have made it a requirement of their respective legislation."*

Cross-Border Engagement

- Quarterly engagement meetings between the MMO and Welsh Government to discuss plan policy, stakeholder events, implementation, training and evidence
- Collaborated throughout the plan development processes including through the provision of advice, feedback, and comments on developing proposals
- Attended each other's stakeholder engagement events during the plan development process
- Jointly attended several tidal partnership and coastal forum meetings
- Attend and run implementation meetings together

The Severn Estuary: A cross-border marine planning guide

- Welsh Government and the MMO have collaborated to develop a cross border marine planning guide for the Severn Estuary
- Developed to aid implementation of marine planning policy and provide additional clarity to marine users on management and governance processes in the Severn Estuary
- The guide does not introduce new statutory planning policy or regulatory responsibilities on marine sectors or decision-makers or provide advice on how to apply for consents
- Covers environmental, social, and economic considerations

The Severn Estuary: A cross-border marine planning guide

- Decisions affecting the marine area should be made with due regard to the vision and objectives of all adjacent planning areas, both marine and terrestrial
- Proposals should provide evidence that coordination across the different administrations has been considered
- Should demonstrate consideration of any relevant cross-border impacts including economic, social, and environmental impacts
- It is the responsibility of the public authority receiving the application to notify relevant public authorities of any neighbouring administration that it considers to be affected by a proposal and may wish to make representations

Using the Marine Plans

Why do you need to take account of marine plans?

- Legal requirement for marine plans to be considered in all decisions that affect the marine area, now and into the future
- Requirement as part of [Section 58](#) of the [Marine and Coastal Access Act](#)
- Decisions that take account of marine plans:
 - ✓ have a reduced risk of legal challenge
 - ✓ are informed by the best available evidence
 - ✓ and are considered against wider context, both on land and at sea
- Implementation training in England is upcoming late-2022/early-2023



Thank you!



Motion for the Ocean

#Motion4theOcean

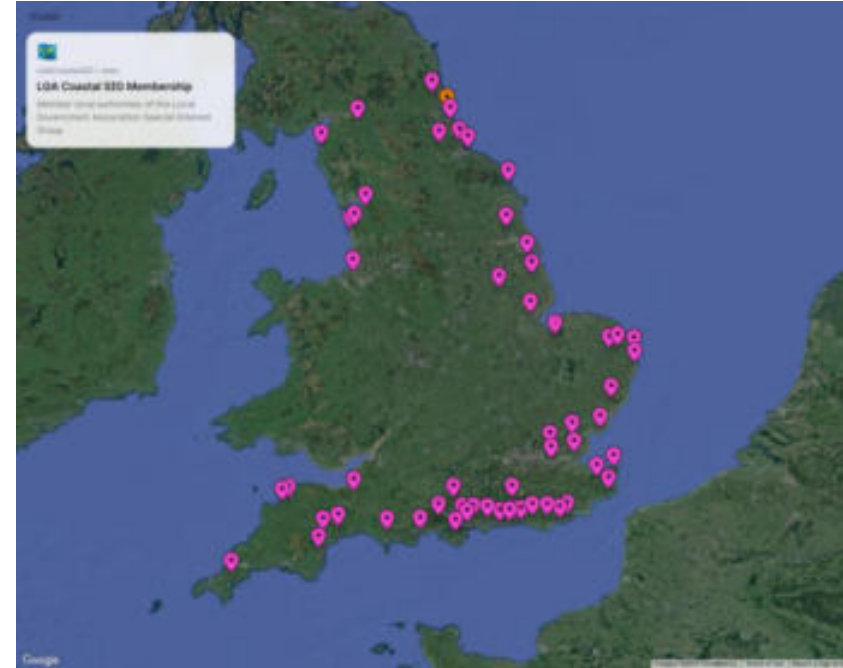


Beccy MacDonald-Lofts
Lead Officer, LGA Coastal SIG

By Severn Beach : Estuary & Second Severn Crossing by Lewis Clarke, CC BY-SA 2.0,
<https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=123766555>

LGA Coastal SIG

- Local Government Association Coastal Special Interest Group
- Membership of 57 coastal councils
- Covering ~60% of the English coastline
- Representing around 16 million people
- Open to all coastal/estuarine councils who are members of the Local Government Association



<https://lgacoastalsig.com/>
@LGACoastalSIG



LGA Coastal SIG



The LGA Coastal SIG champions the collective interests of coastal communities by increasing awareness and debate on environmental, economic and social issues at all levels in relation to the coast.

Our priority work themes:

- Coastal Adaptation
- Flooding and Coastal Erosion Risk Management
- Beach and Water Safety
- Regeneration and Maritime
- Fishing and Marine Conservation
- Coastal Water Quality
- Coastal Landfill



<https://lgacoastalsig.com/>
@LGAcoastalSIG



Motion for the ocean

The ocean is an essential ally in our fight against climate change

But it is often missing from our climate emergency response

A source-to-sea approach is needed

There are huge opportunities in the blue economy

But it must be developed sustainably and to benefit local people

Ocean pollution – plastic, water, chemical – starts on land

Action must also start on land

Too few people understand what the ocean does for us and how our actions impact the ocean

We need to grow ocean literacy

This starts with first-hand experience



<https://lgacoastalsig.com/>

@LGACoastalSIG



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<https://lgacoastalsig.com/>
@LGACoastalSIG

A model Motion for the Ocean to help local authorities play their part in realising a clean, healthy and productive ocean and all of the direct economic, health and wellbeing benefits it will bring.

Model 'Motion for the Ocean' for Local Authorities This Council declares an urgent need for Ocean Recovery.

We recognise that we need ocean recovery to meet our net zero carbon targets, and we need net zero carbon to recover our ocean.

This Council pledges to:

1. Report to Full Council within 12 months on the actions and projects that will begin an ocean recovery in [COUNCIL AREA]
2. Embed ocean recovery in all strategic decisions, plans, budgets, procurement and approaches to decisions by the Council (particularly in planning, regeneration, skills and economic policy), aligning with climate change mitigation and adaptation requirements, and considering ocean-based solutions in our journey towards a carbon neutral and climate resilient future.
3. Ensure that local planning supports ocean recovery, working closely with the Marine Management Organisation to embed strong links between the Local Plan and the [area] Marine Plan to support ocean recovery.
4. Ensure that the Local Nature Recovery Strategy strives to support ocean recovery.
5. Work with partners locally and nationally to deliver increased sustainability in marine industries and develop a sustainable and equitable blue economy that delivers ocean recovery and local prosperity, including the local fishing industry and the vital work of [Coast] IFCA.
6. Grow ocean literacy and marine citizenship in [COUNCIL AREA], including ensuring all pupils are given the opportunity to experience the ocean first-hand before leaving primary school - striving to include home-schooled children - and promote sustainable and equitable access to the ocean through physical and digital experiences for all residents.
7. Create an online portal of the Council website to update on ocean recovery progress, signpost to ocean literacy development opportunities, and marine citizenship pledges.
8. Write to the Government asking them to put the ocean into net recovery by 2030 by
 - a) Ensuring Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authorities have the resources they need to effectively research and monitor our growing number of marine

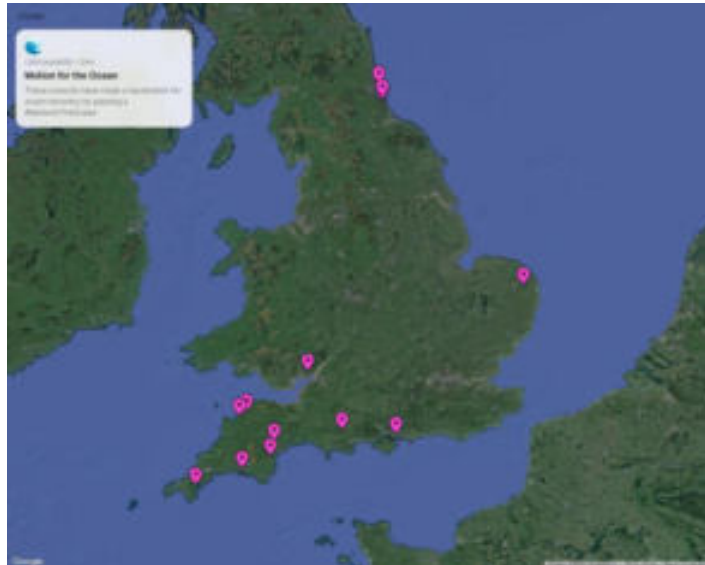
protected areas, and to set and enforce appropriate fishing levels that support local economies and deliver environmental sustainability.

- b) Work with coastal communities to co-develop marine policy to ensure it delivers equitable and sustainable outcomes in local placemaking.
- c) Appoint a dedicated Minister for Coastal Communities.
- d) Stop plastic pollution at source by strengthening the regulations around single-use plastics and set standards for microfibre-catching filters to ensure that all new domestic and commercial washing machines are fitted with a filter that captures a high percentage of microfibres produced in the wash cycle.
- e) And by listening to marine and social scientific advice to update the Marine Policy Statement and produce a national Ocean Recovery Strategy which will
 - i. Enable the recovery of marine ecosystems rather than managing degraded or altered habitats in their reduced state.
 - ii. Consider levelling up, marine conservation, energy, industrial growth, food and coastal erosion risk management, climate adaptation and fisheries policy holistically rather than as competing interests.
 - iii. Develop a smarter approach to managing the health of the entire ocean that moves beyond Marine Protected Areas and enables links to be made across sectors towards sustainability.
 - iv. Establish improved processes for understanding the benefits of ocean recovery, leaving no doubt the links between this and human lives, livelihoods, and wellbeing.

End of document



Councils declaring for ocean recovery



Plymouth City Council	22 November 2021
Falmouth Town Council	10 January 2022
South Tyneside Council	13 January 2022
North Norfolk District Council	9 February 2022
North Devon Council	23 February 2022
Monmouthshire County Council	3 March 2022
Seaton with Slingley Parish Council	16 March 2022
Seaham Town Council	22 March 2022
Torridge District Council	6 June 2022
Portsmouth City Council	17 May 2022
Blandford Forum Town Council	25 July 2022
Teignbridge District Council	26 July 2022





GALL NEWIDIADAU BACH
WNEUD GWAHANIAETH MAWR
SMALL CHANGES CAN MAKE
A BIG DIFFERENCE



MOTION FOR THE RIVERS AND OCEAN

Monmouthshire County Council
October 2022
SEP Forum



monmouthshire
sir fynwy



GALL NEWIDIADAU BACH
WNEUD GWAHANIAETH MAWR
SMALL CHANGES CAN MAKE
A BIG DIFFERENCE



How we got here

- MCC approached by Beccy Macdonald Lofts
- Then discussion with LGA Coastal SIG
- Outline motion taken to Council 3 March 2022
- Councillors included Rivers in the motion
- Unanimous agreement



monmouthshire
sir fynwy



GALL NEWIDIADAU BACH
WNEUD GWAHANIAETH MAWR
SMALL CHANGES CAN MAKE
A BIG DIFFERENCE



“This Council is proud to be a coastal county and the starting point of the Wales Coastal Path. We recognise the importance of the marine ecosystem and our role as a stakeholder and guardian of it. A report should be brought forward to Council within 6 months of this motion containing appropriate recommendations to ensure we play our part in ensuring realising clean, healthy and productive rivers and oceans alongside our existing commitment to tackle the climate emergency.”



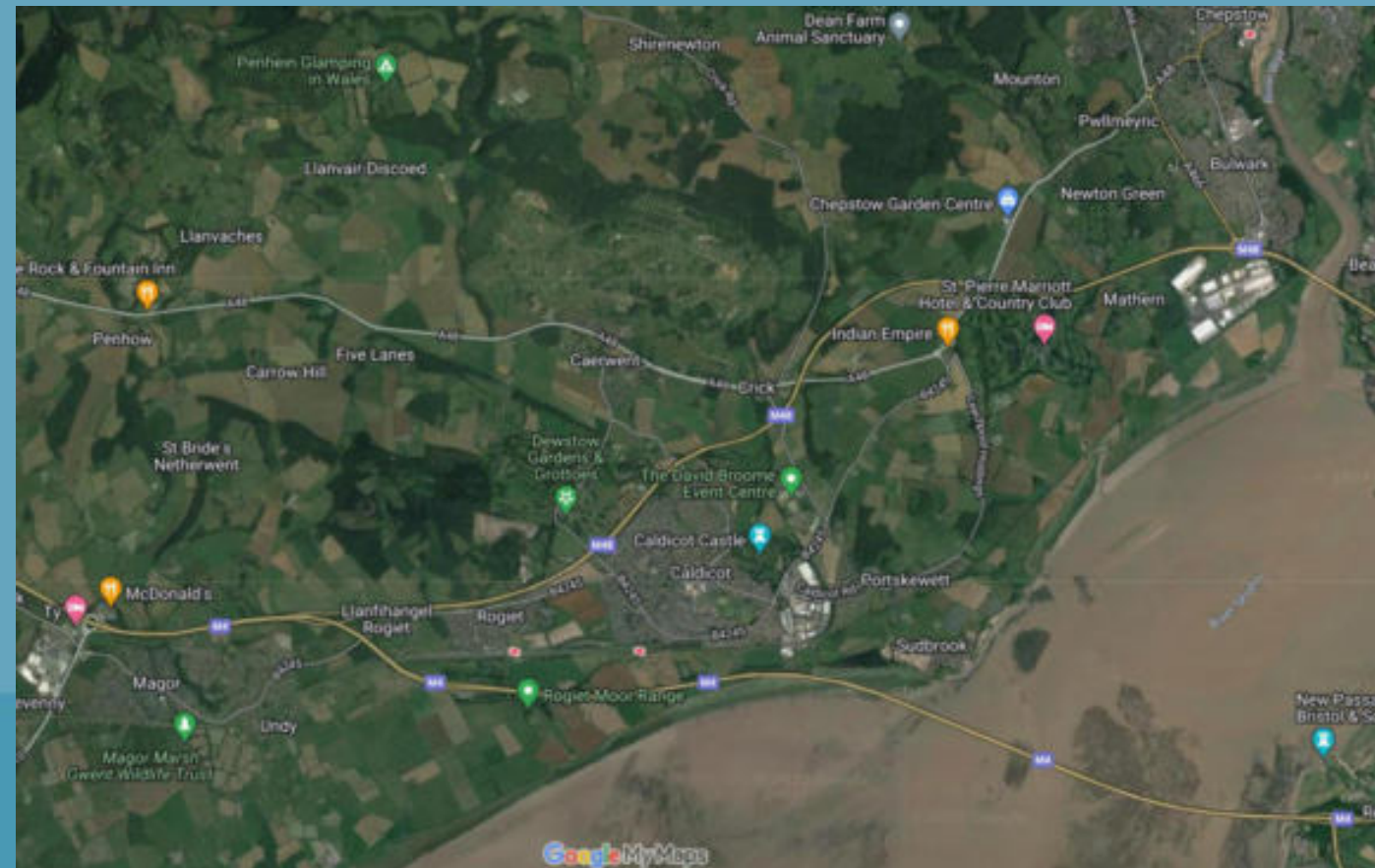
monmouthshire
sir fynwy



GALL NEWIDIADAU BACH
WNEUD GWAHANIAETH MAWR
SMALL CHANGES CAN MAKE
A BIG DIFFERENCE



The Monmouthshire Context: Estuary not seaside!





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The Monmouthshire Context: Lots of rivers



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The Monmouthshire Context: Significant pollution issues

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News website of the year

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Wildlife Energy Pollution

This article is more than 1 year old


'It's like pea soup': poultry farms turn Wye into wildlife death trap



Brookham on the River Wye. Conservationists say the pollution from free-range poultry farms is now seriously damaging the river. Photograph: David Chesters/Kiary

Pollution blow for Wye and Usk

By Local contributor
Wednesday 17th February 2021 9:56 am



The Wye at Redbrook

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THE River Usk has the highest incidence of phosphate pollution among Wales' nine river Special Areas of Conservation, while the Wye is ranked equal second worst.



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The Monmouthshire Context: Huge public concern

Hundreds turn out to join in protest over river pollution

By Jon Davies
Thursday 28th April 2022 5:00 pm
jon.davies@abergavennychronicle.com



Campaigner Angela Jones at the protest in Abergavenny on Saturday (Pic from Angela Jones)



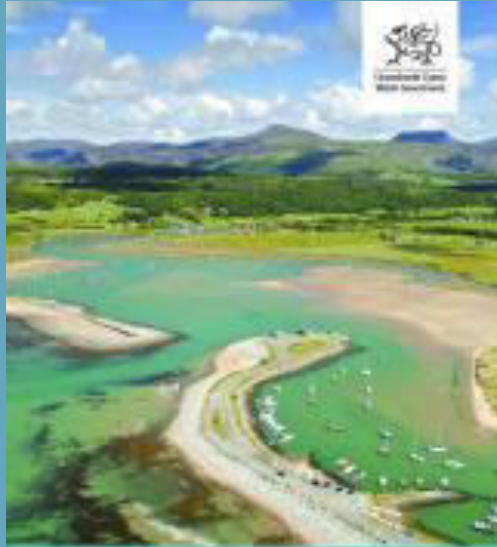
Protesters as part of the Save the Wye pilgrimage (source: @nyebeauty)



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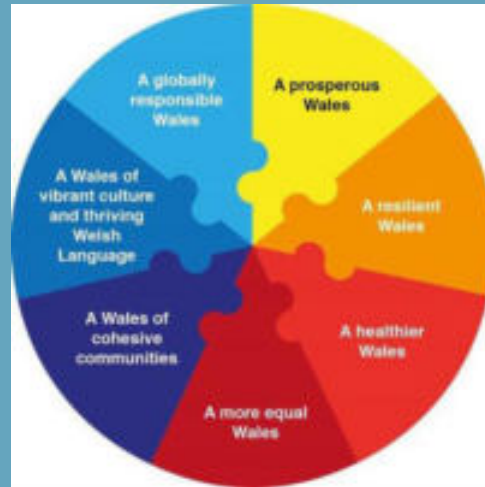


The Monmouthshire Context: Wales is different to England!



Welsh National Marine Plan

November 2019



Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru
Natural Resources Wales

Search (e.g. permits, walking or n...)

Flooding Permits and permissions Evidence and data

Coronavirus (COVID-19)
Updates on changes to our services

Home > About us > Area Statements

Marine Area Statement



Phosphate now a material planning consideration for schemes near the rivers Wye and Usk

You are viewing content from Sunshine Radio Herefordshire and Monmouthshire. Would you like to make this your preferred location?

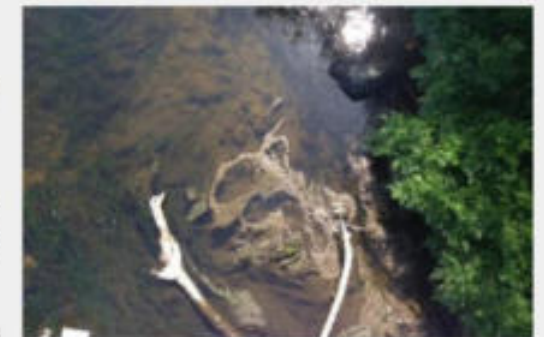
News Home More from Local News

Tuesday, January 26th, 2021 5:18pm

By Eigan Hearn - Local Democracy Reporter



Planners will have to consider the level of phosphates a development might produce, in planning applications near both the rivers Wye and Usk.



Last week the Welsh Government environment body, Natural Resources Wales (NRW) published new stricter targets for phosphate levels in rivers that are Special Areas of Conservation (SACs).

Following the review, NRW said that phosphorus breaches are widespread within Welsh SAC rivers with over 60 per cent of waterbodies failing against the challenging targets set.



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What's already happening?

- Loads of partnerships! Catchment Partnerships, Nutrient Management Boards, Severn Estuary Partnership, ASERA etc
- Some progress as part of existing work e.g. especially around Plastic Free, litter campaigns etc



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What has happened since?

- New Labour administration – rivers and water quality is a key priority
- Officer workshops to understand who is doing what and where
- Collation of what MCC is already doing, and identifying gaps
- Understanding what is within MCC's scope
- Developed an action plan – agreed Sept 2022



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What will happen next?

- Embedding the action plan within existing Climate Emergency reporting arrangements
- Maintain or strengthen role in partnerships
- Increased pressure from politicians on other partners
- Significant policy decisions on development being informed by phosphates issue
- Reporting back to members every six months



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Thanks and any questions?

Hazel Clatworthy
Sustainability Policy Officer
Monmouthshire County Council
hazelclatworthy@monmouthshire.gov.uk

Twitter @hazelclatworthy

Delivering a Vision for the Bristol Channel and Severn

CHAMPIONING COASTAL COORDINATION

Beccy MacDonald-Lofts

<https://severnvision.org/>

GEOGRAPHIC AREA

The geographic scope of this project stretches from Tewkesbury (Gloucestershire) to Morte Point (North Devon) and Port Eynon (Gower) and includes the major rivers, Severn Estuary and Bristol Channel.





OUR VISION...

Is for a Severn Estuary that:

- is restored as a healthy functioning ecosystem, valued for its internationally important wildlife, habitats and landscapes;
- provides more benefits for people, local communities, places, and economies, including greater resilience to climate change; and
- becomes a natural powerhouse, where development is planned and managed in a way that sustains and enhances the estuary's resources.



OUR SEVEN STEP VISION TO DELIVERING A MAGNIFICENT ESTUARY

The Severn, one of the UK's natural wonders, deserves much better. A magnificent future, where the collective impact of all those who use, care about, and value the estuary is positive for nature and people. An environment where leadership is strong but inclusive and where the urgent need to close the gap between vision and reality is used to inspire new and better approaches. We offer these 'seven steps' to help catalyse a dialogue with all those who can help make the changes necessary to restore this magnificent estuary.

1

AVOID FURTHER LOSS OF NATURE

The most practical and (cost) effective way of sustaining wildlife nature and landscapes is to prevent habitat destruction and degradation. Beyond this where damage is genuinely unavoidable, no net loss should occur within the estuary's bounds of its wildlife, habitats, significant landscapes or the benefits they deliver.

2

RESTORE NATURE

The restoration of the estuary is fundamental to ensuring that it can act as a healthy, fully functioning natural system that both supports nature and continues to provide a wide range of benefits to people. We need a bold new approach to restoration at this scale, and our ambition is to see 6,000 ha* of intertidal and associated habitat created by 2040, with half of this by 2025.

3

USE COASTAL HABITATS TO REDUCE CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS

Intertidal habitats can provide efficient and cost effective solutions to help protect people and property from coastal erosion, storms and flooding. The estuary's role in building more resilience to climate change should be championed as a good investment for a safer and more productive future.

4

USE THE ESTUARY TO HELP REDUCE CARBON EMISSIONS

Intertidal and associated habitats are large reservoirs of so-called 'blue carbon'. Conserving them will retain this and, in the long term, new habitat creation can lock up additional carbon. New initiatives are needed that blend conserving and restoring habitats as complementary and additive strategies for reducing greenhouse gas emissions, with appropriate financing.

5

GROW KNOWLEDGE TO ENABLE BETTER DECISION MAKING

There remain many gaps in our understanding of the estuary and how it functions. A wide range of stakeholders can provide support for building our collective knowledge of the estuary. Our [Map Journal \(severntrust.org\)](https://www.severntrust.org) focuses on the estuary's biodiversity, natural assets and services, but there are knowledge gaps waiting to be filled in these and other areas, and these are key to better decision making.

6

DEVELOP - IN HARMONY WITH NATURE - TIDAL RENEWABLE ENERGY

A renewable energy revolution is at the heart of fighting dangerous climate change which is itself arguably the biggest threat to nature. Tidal energy from the Severn has a rightful place in this, but it should not itself become another driver of biodiversity loss and wider environmental damage. Tidal energy should be developed in harmony with nature and not reduce the stock of 'natural capital'.

7

ESTABLISH STRONGER GOVERNANCE FOR A SUSTAINABLE SEVERN

The estuary system is a great source of natural, economic and cultural wealth for the east of Britain and an integrated management approach that includes all interests is needed. Existing approaches need to be urgently examined and adapted to ensure stronger, inclusive 'whole estuary' governance that is fit for delivering a restored and sustainable estuary.

THE SIX THEMES OF THE SEVERN VISION

THEME 1:
**Ecosystem recovery
& resilience**

THEME 2:
Governance

THEME 3:
**Sustainable
development & use
of natural resources**

THEME 4:
**Climate adaption &
mitigation pathways**

THEME 5: **Connecting people & place**

THEME 6: **Evidence & data**

Workstream 1

Delivering the Severn Vision – creating a deliverable framework for action

Using the themes of the Severn Vision, key stakeholders were invited to engage in deep dive sessions to explore the elements of the framework approach (see below) to determine the key actions required for the restoration and recovery of the project area and its communities.



5 themed workshops
public questionnaire
1-2-1 interviews

Workstream 2

Develop climate adaptation plans through stakeholder and community engagement

Building on previous climate adaptation projects, this workstream focused on increasing community level of understanding of the impacts of climate change and climate adaptation pathway for sea-level rise and focused on identifying opportunities for and barriers against Nature-based Solutions across the estuary, together with stakeholders and local communities.



5 workshops
(geographical)
1-2-1 interviews

Workstream 3

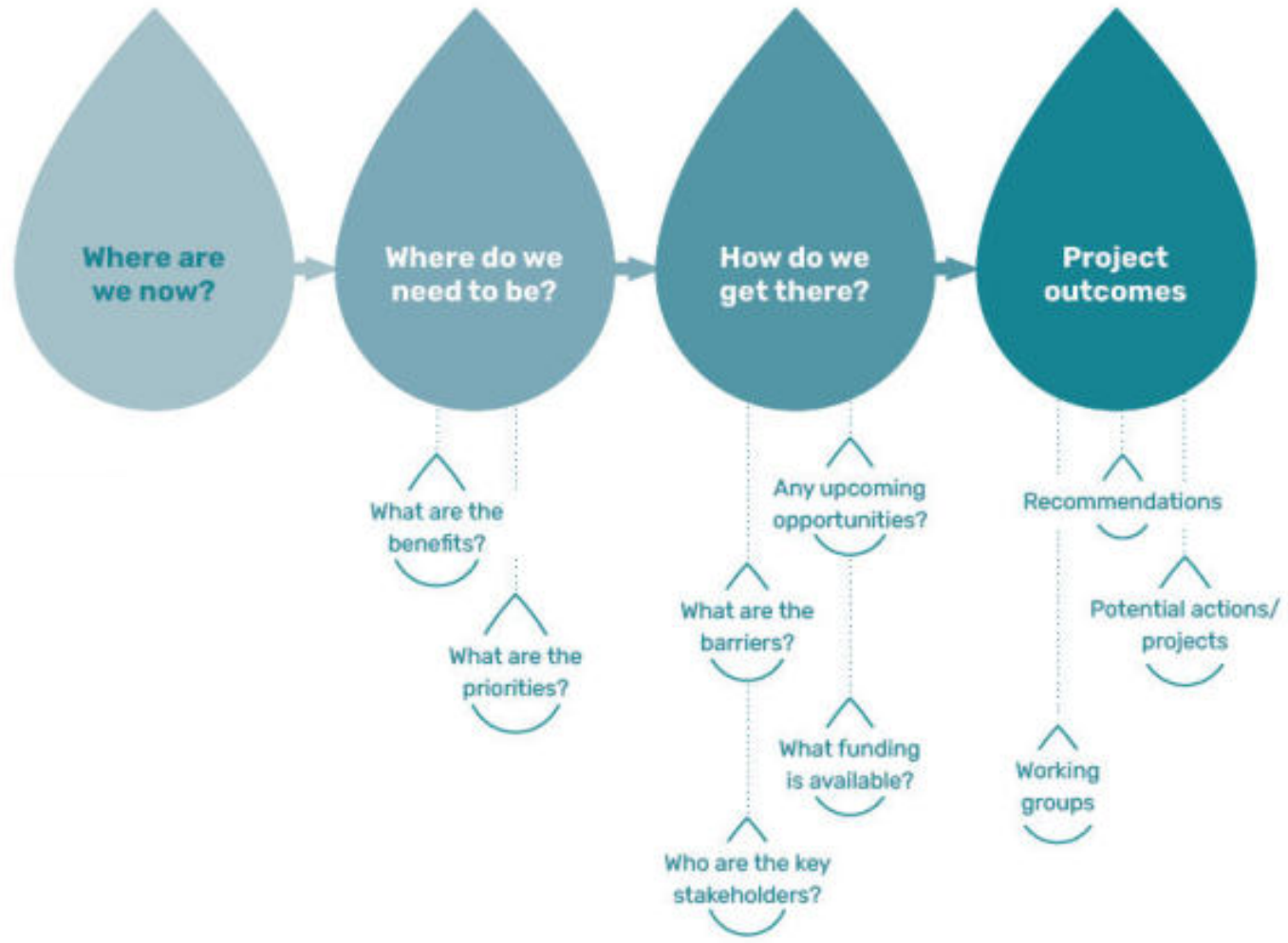
Recruitment of 10 Coastal champions

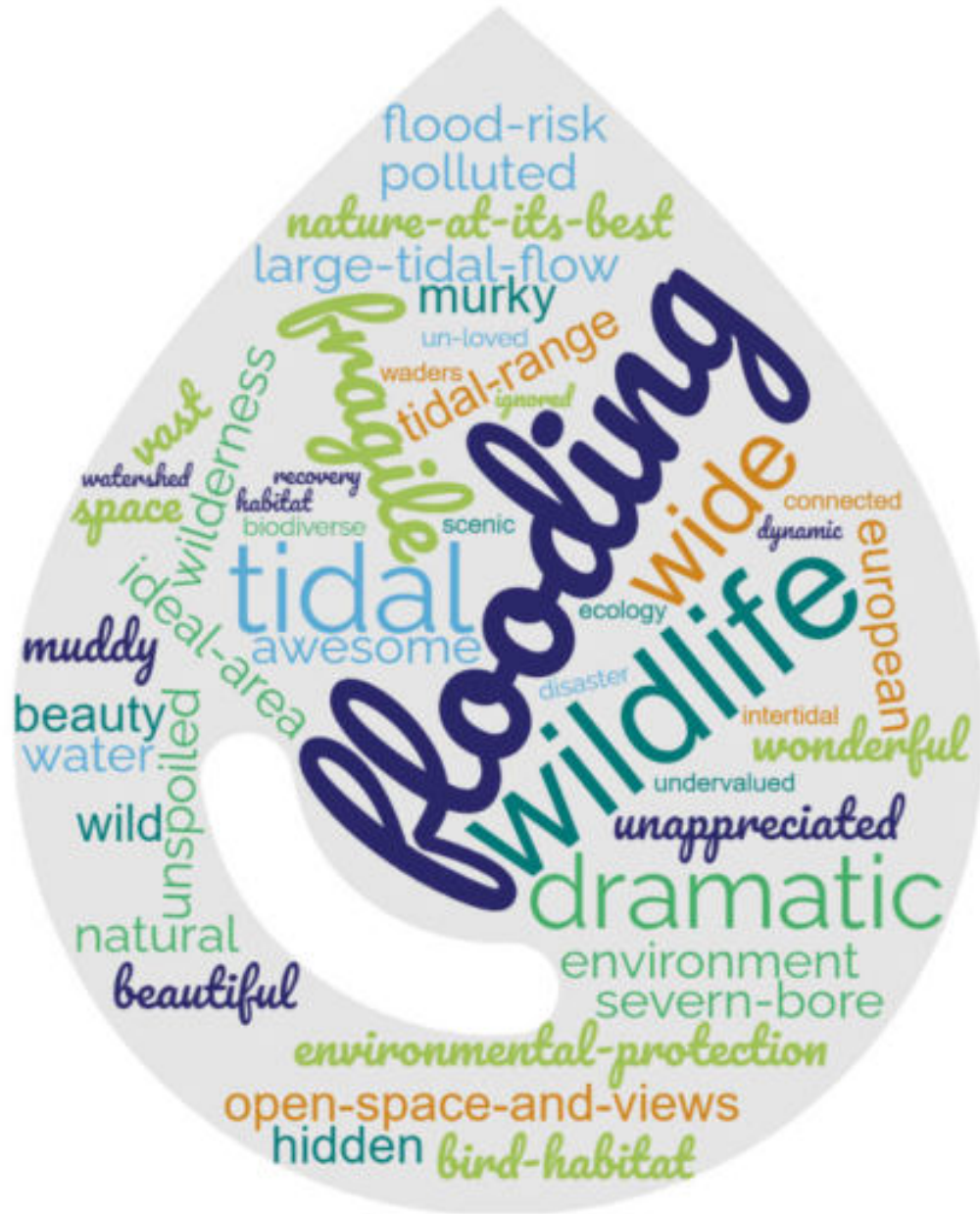
Coastal champions were recruited from a cross-section of communities to strengthen capacity and capability in local stewardship and were offered commitment, expertise and financial support to develop ongoing or new community projects to restore the project area for nature and/or to develop coastal climate adaptation plans

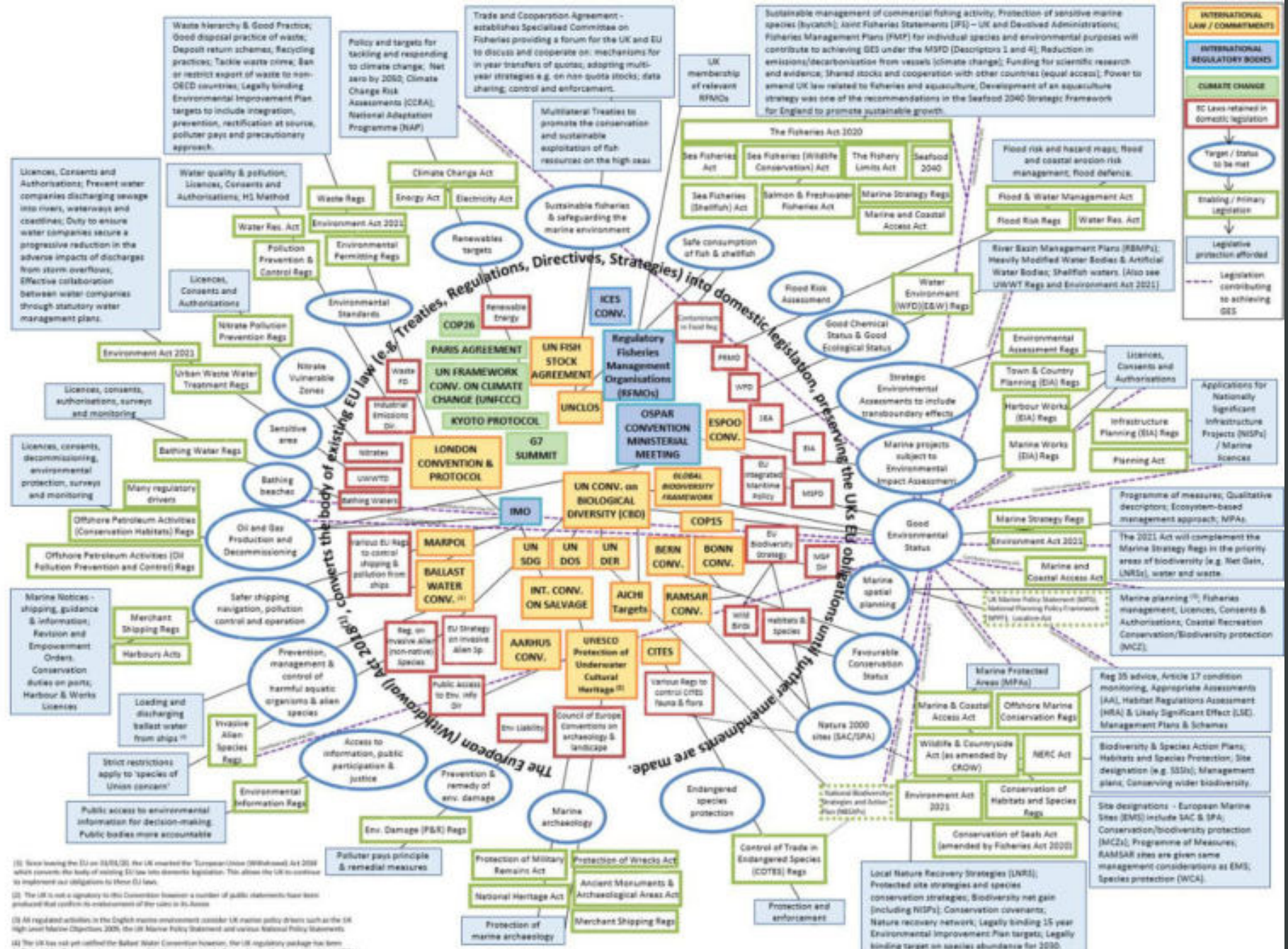


4 workshops
7 practical training
sessions









Main Headlines

- Concern around the lack of biodiversity data and evidence available across the project area; data available is mostly of a poor quality, yet it is being considered as Best Available Evidence.
- There is a strong need, and opportunity, to improve integrated and collaborative working approaches within and between organisations in all sectors.
- Marine teams across all sectors are poorly resourced and not supported with the capacity of their terrestrial counterparts which severely restricts research, engagement and conservation within the project area.
- The short-term nature of funding streams is negatively impacting the connections between local communities, decision makers and industry, and the biodiversity of the area.
- Governance needs to be uniform and complementary because the current siloed approach between counties and countries is impacting the sustainable management of the area.
- A nature and people centric Marine Park could provide an approach to sustainably manage and protect the marine environment whilst supporting levelling up of communities and reconnecting them with their environment.
- Any approach to development must be sustainable by considering high quality data on the biodiversity and socio-economic impacts to allow zonation of the marine environment to ensure all needs are met whilst protecting, restoring, and enhancing the biodiversity.

Next steps.....

- Establish Governance Working Group to:
 - Agree prioritised SMART targets
 - Consider ways to enhance and expand current partnerships including the role of Severn Estuary Partnership
 - Role and direction of subsequent working groups
- Secure funding to support a project officer to carry forward the recommendations of this report
- Determine how this report aligns with the Southwest Area Marine Plan and Welsh National Marine Plan.

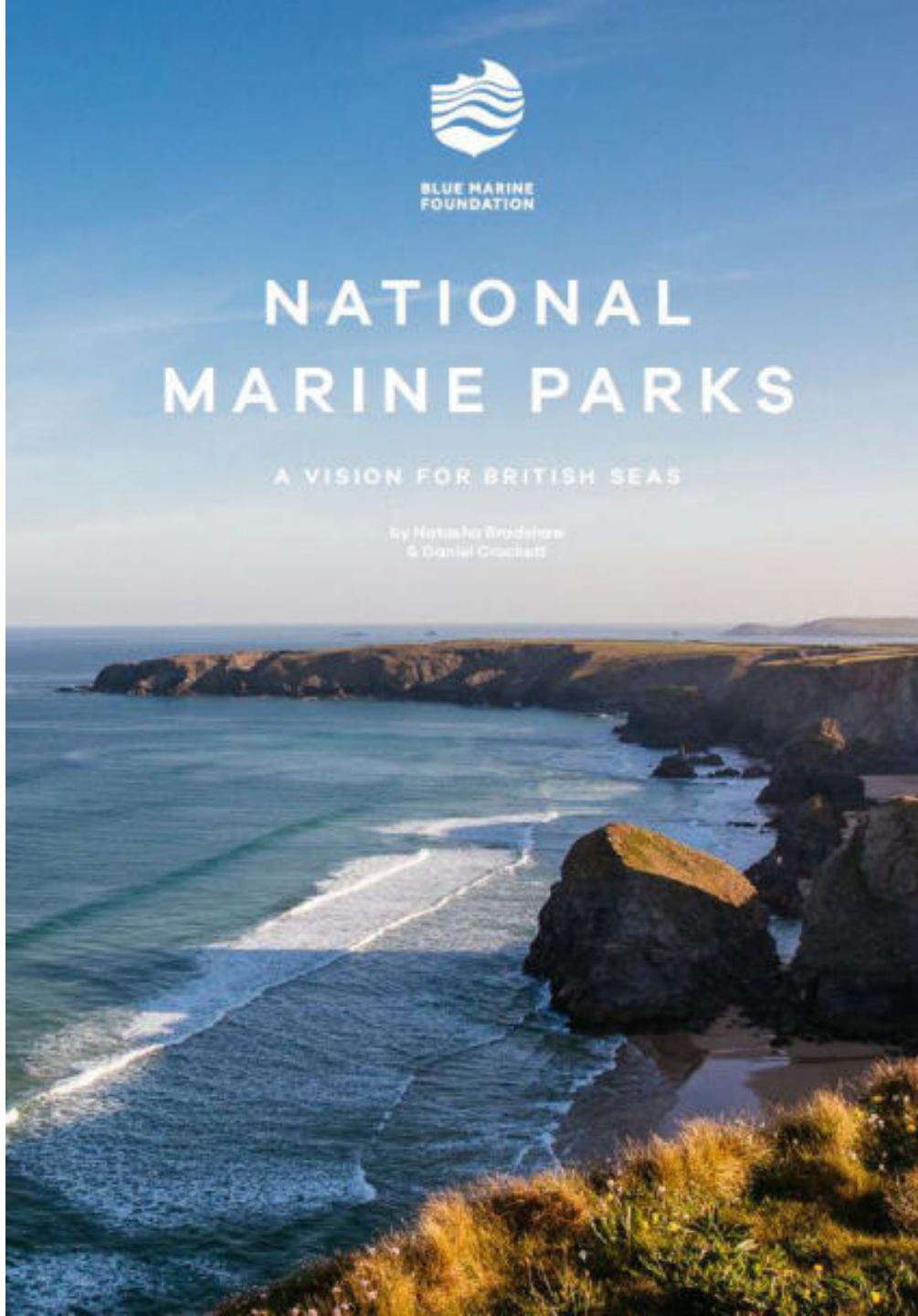


BLUE MARINE
FOUNDATION

NATIONAL MARINE PARKS

A VISION FOR BRITISH SEAS

by Natasha Bradshaw
& Daniel Crockett



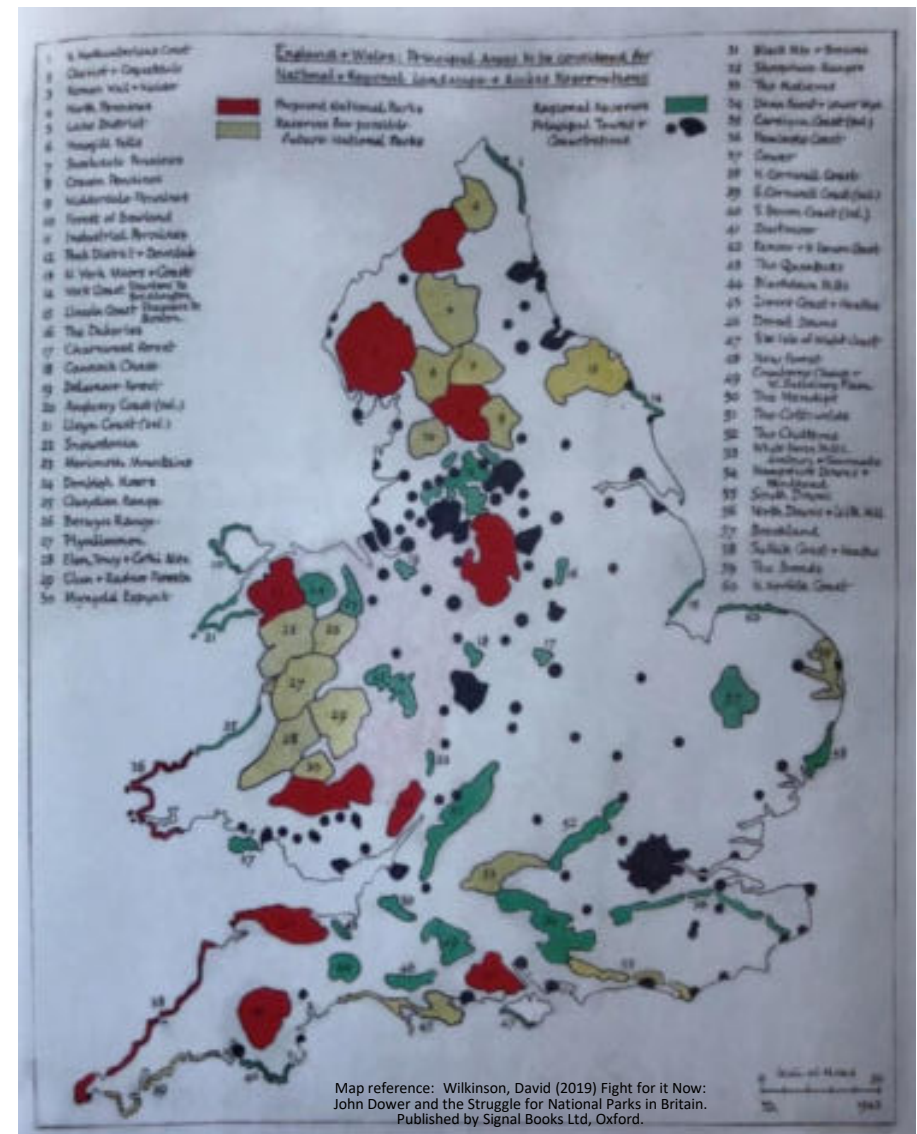
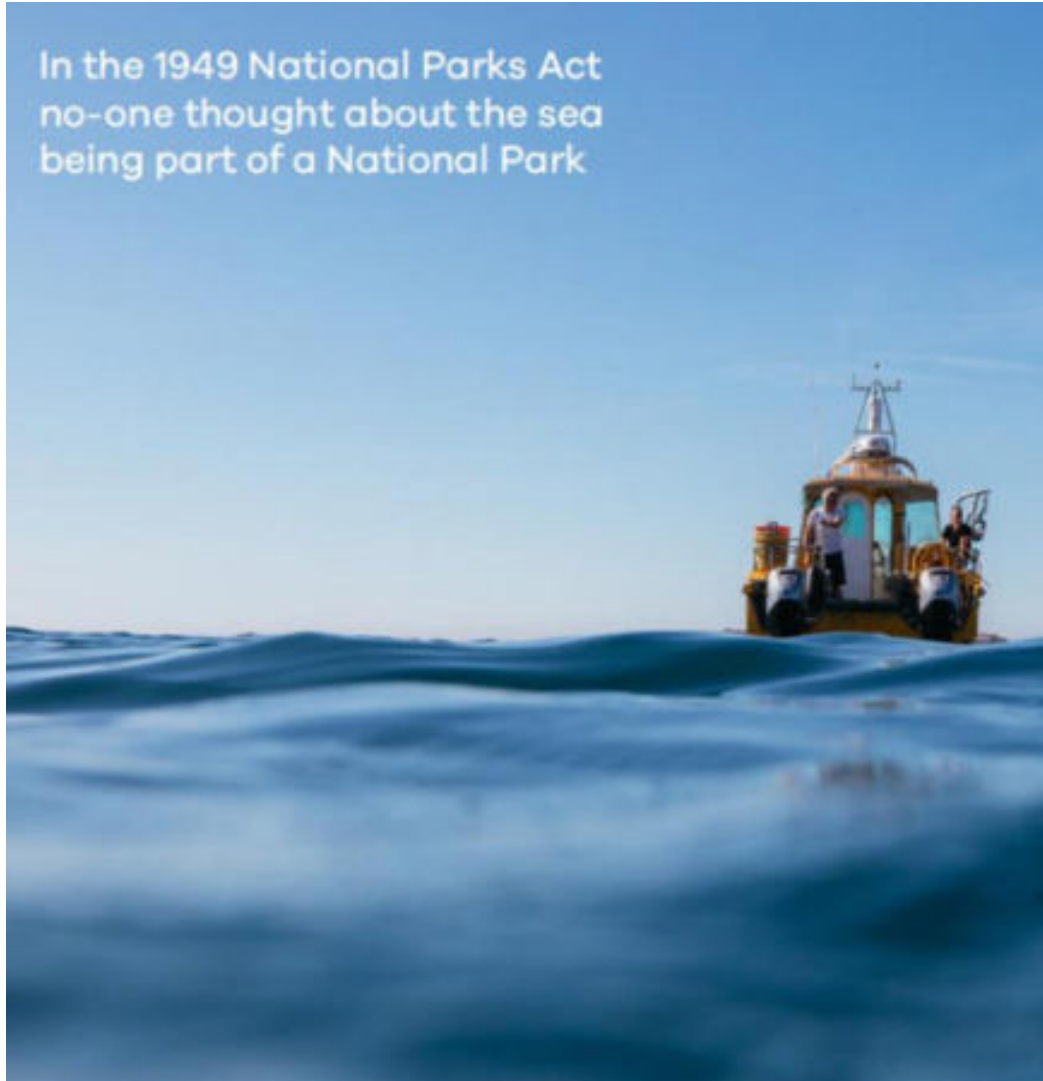
A Vision for National Marine Parks: The Severn Sea



Natasha Bradshaw, Blue Marine Foundation
Severn Estuary Forum, 12th October 2022

The Evolution of National Parks

In the 1949 National Parks Act no-one thought about the sea being part of a National Park



“There can be few national purposes which, at so modest a cost, offer so large a prospect of health-giving happiness for the people”

John Dower (1943)

Current context

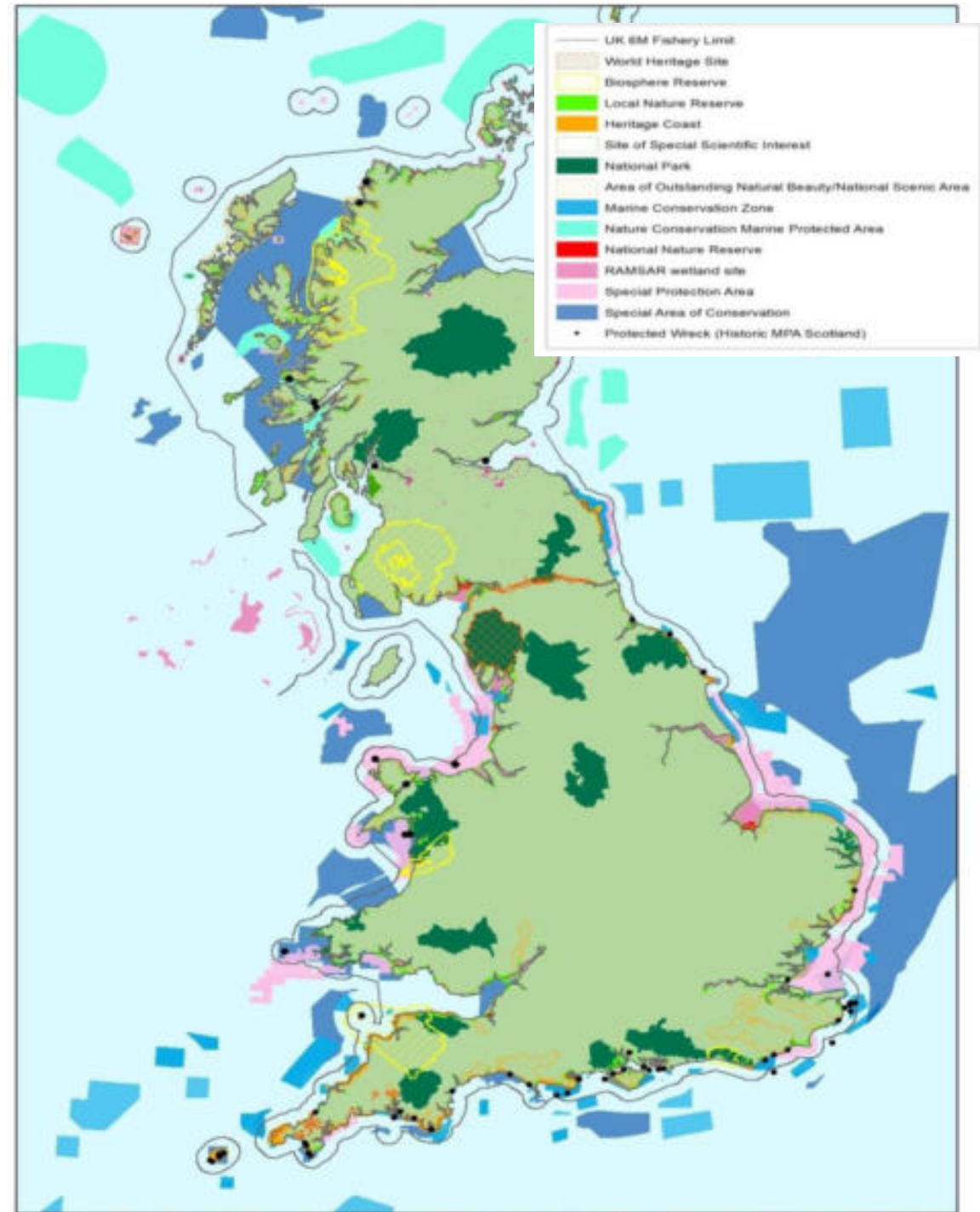
Challenges

- Complex range of designations hard to understand
- Disconnect between people and the sea/estuary
- Domination of a few marine sectors
- Limited opportunities to access and therefore understand the marine environment.

Opportunities

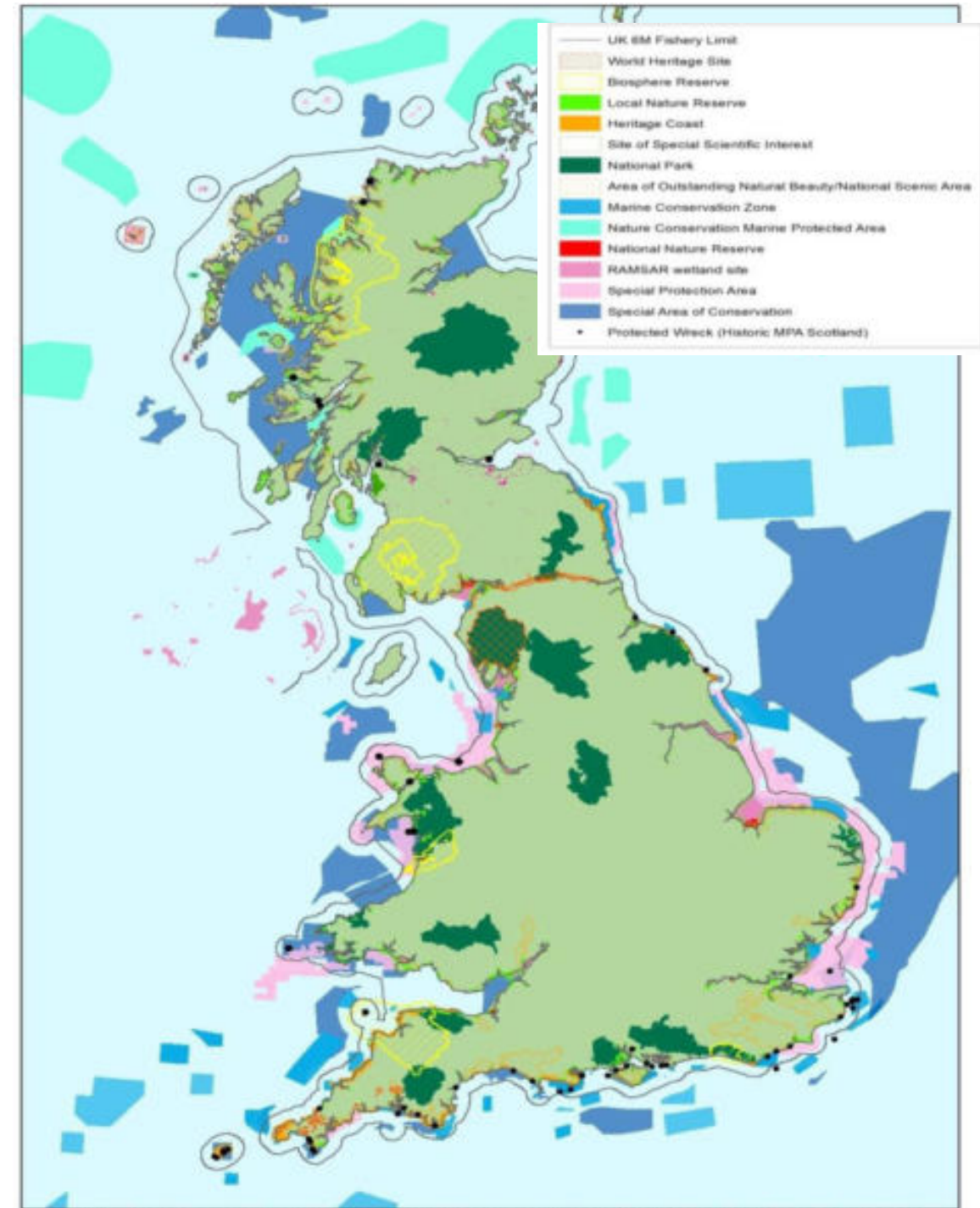
- Increasing recognition of seascape
- Blue health through access and recreation
- Levelling-up agenda for coastal communities
- Marine planning

What difference could a National Marine Park make?

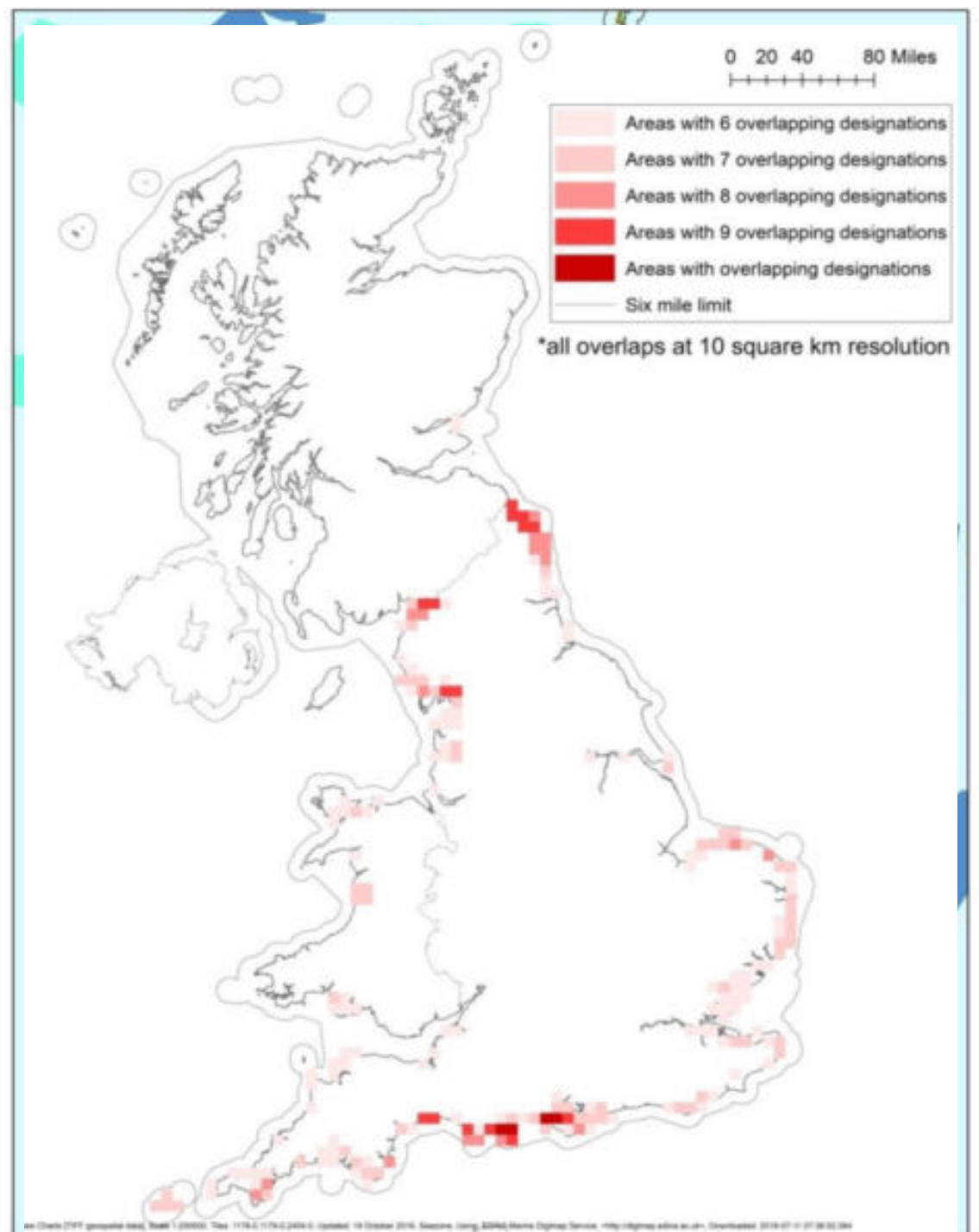


National Marine Park status

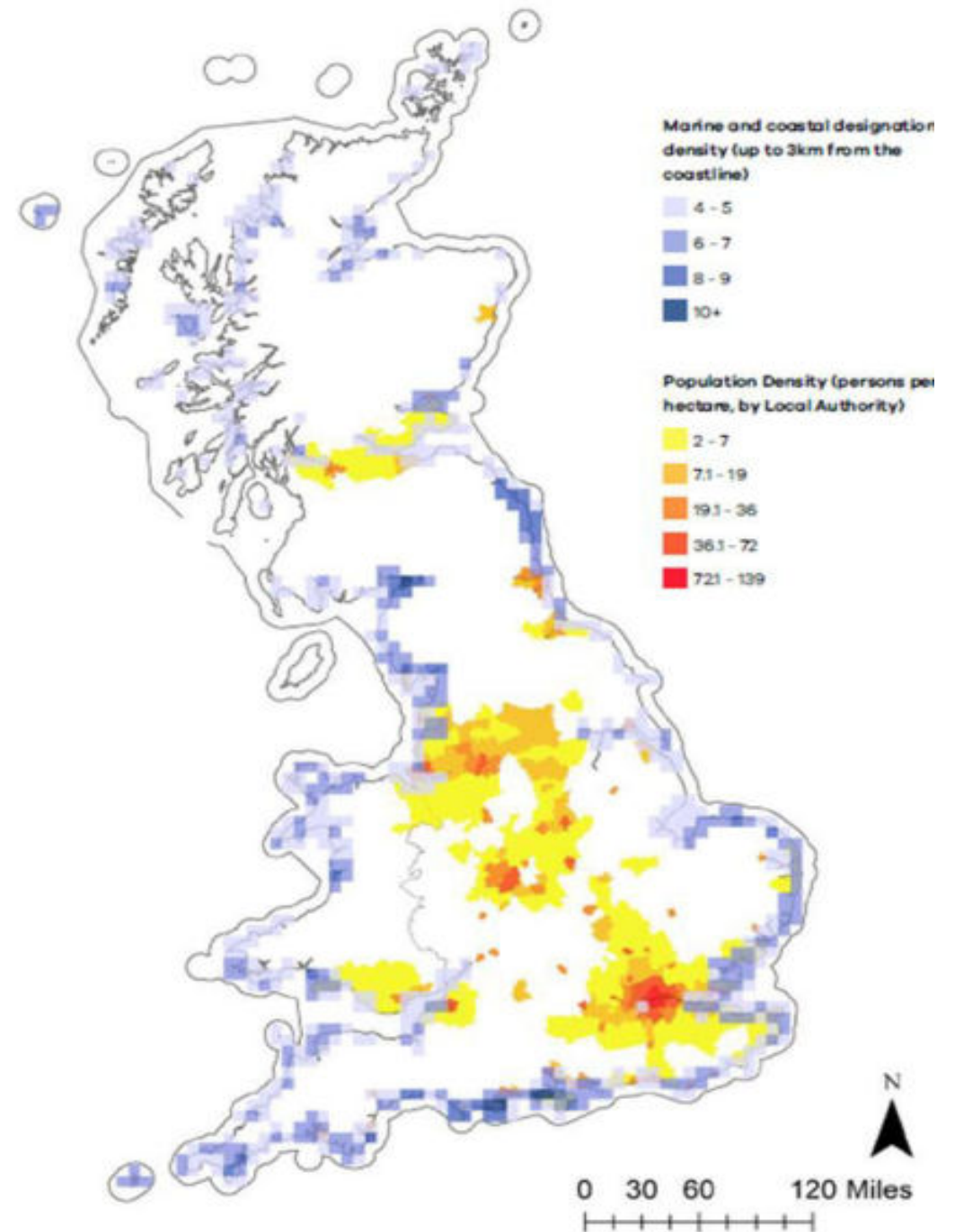
- Provide an 'umbrella' over clusters of existing designations;
- Broaden connections with the sea for the wider public;
- Encourage balance between access, development and conservation: based on the model and purposes of National Parks on land;
- Branding to support understanding and awareness of the sea.



Coastal and Marine Designation Density 'hotspots'



Coastal and Marine Designation Density 'hotspots' + Population Density





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NATIONAL MARINE PARKS

A VISION FOR BRITISH SEAS

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& Daniel Crockett



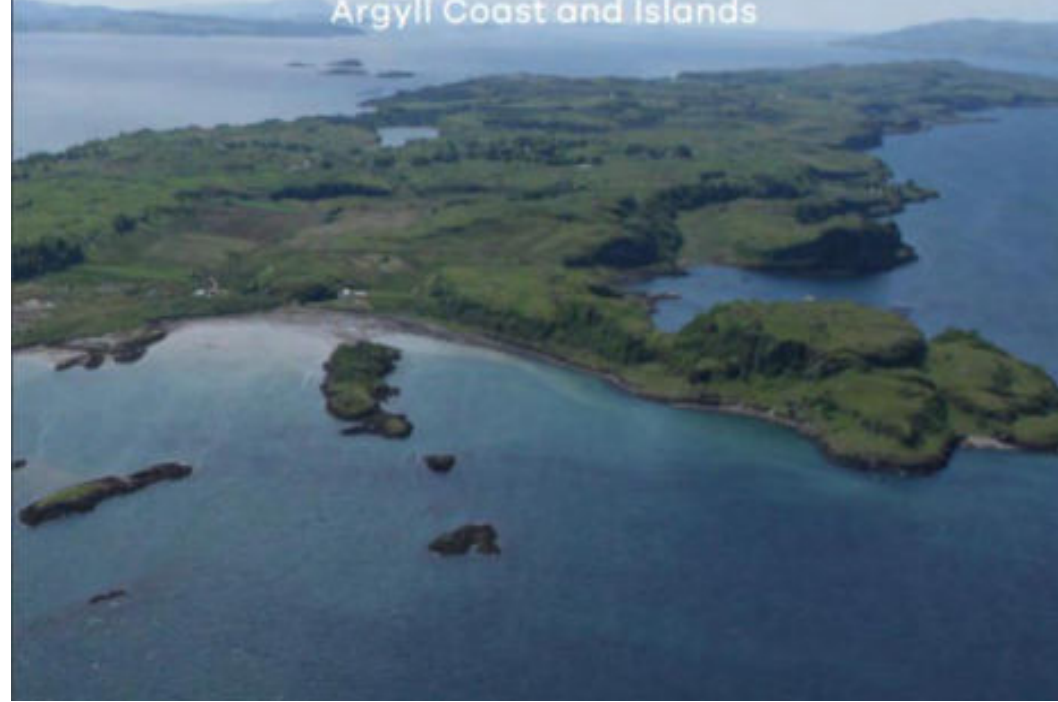
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NATIONAL MARINE PARKS

A Vision for British Seas: Supplementary Report

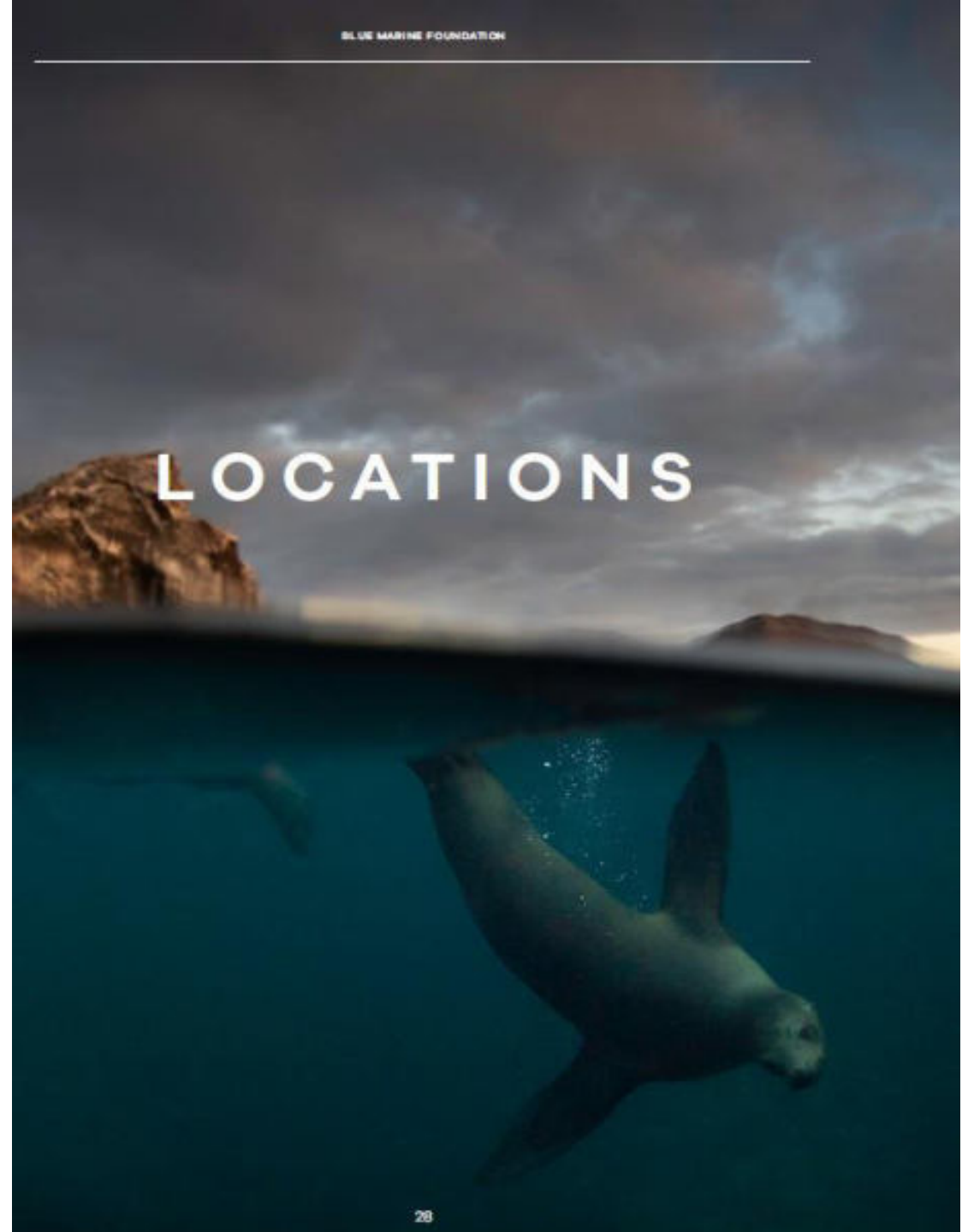
SCOTLAND

Argyll Coast and Islands



- 1. The South**
Plymouth Sound National Marine Park
Dorset, Solent and the Isle of Wight to Sussex
- 2. The Greater Thames**
London Gateway, North Kent & South Essex
- 3. East Anglia**
Suffolk, The Wash & North Norfolk
- 4. North East England**
Tyne to Tees Seascape, Northumberland
and Berwickshire
- 5. North West England**
Cumbria's Colourful Coast, the Solway Firth
and Coastal Regional Parks
- 6. The Severn Sea**
Severn Estuary and the Bristol Channel
- 7. Atlantic Cornwall**
The Isles of Scilly
- 8. Wales**
Pembrokeshire
- 9. Scotland**
Argyll Coast & Islands
- 10. A Crown Dependency**
Jersey

LOCATIONS





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National Marine Parks

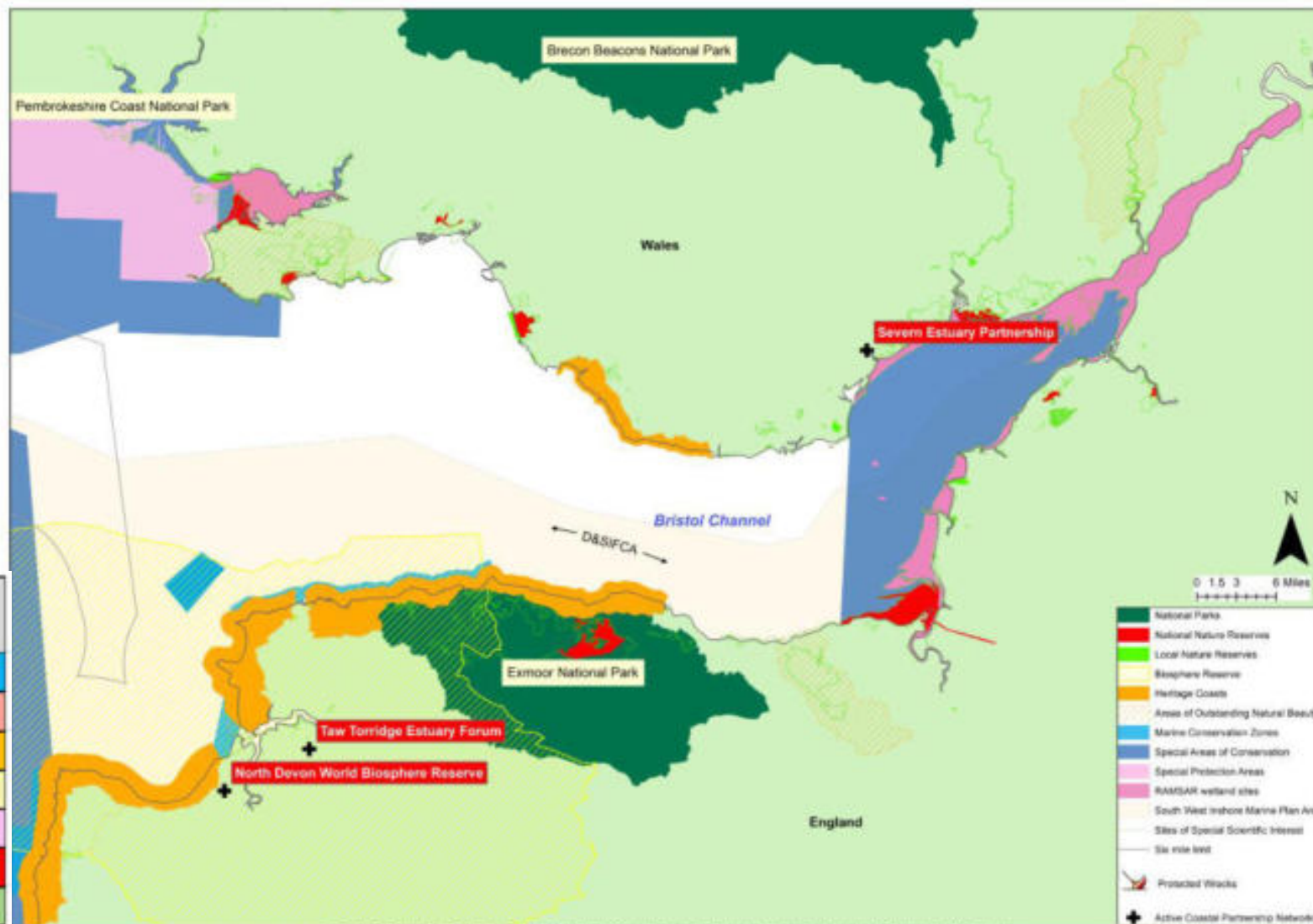
A vision for British Seas
Technical Report

Natasha Bradshaw
BLUE MARINE FOUNDATION

V5_April 2021

This report and the annexes will be periodically reviewed as the vision evolves.

Bristol Channel / Mor Hafren / Severn Estuary → The Severn Sea?



Marine natural and cultural heritage assets around The Severn Estuary and Bristol Channel	
Marine Conservation Zones	4
Protected wreck sites	2
Heritage Coasts	8
Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty	6
European Marine Sites (SAC, SPA)	6 & 3
National Nature Reserve	13
National Park	3

Blue Marine Current Activity

Plymouth Sound NMP

Supporting role (since 2018)

Board engagement (ongoing)

Lessons learnt interviews & report (2022)

Scoping Locations

Pembrokeshire (Wales)

Seascapes (NE)

Sussex Bay and Dorset (South)

The Severn Sea

North Norfolk and The Wash Estuary

Morecambe Bay

Cornwall & Isles of Scilly

Argyll Coast & Islands (Scotland)



Strategic Working Group



Members

- Martin Attrill (Plymouth University)
- Paul Brewer (Adur and Worthing Council) Strategic local (Sussex)
- Nikki Sinclair (Scottish Campaign National Parks)
- Peter Davis (Wales Marine Stakeholder Group)
- Rose O'Neill (Campaign for National Parks)
- John Watkins (National Association of AONBs)
- Antony Firth (Historic England)
- Kirsten Carter (Wildlife and Countryside Link)
- Elaine Hayes (Plymouth NMP CEO)
- Rebecca MacDonald-Lofts (LGA Coastal SIG)
- Sarah Manning (Natural England)
- Andrew Sells (Isles of Scilly Partnership Chair)

Perspective

- NMP concept origins: CHAIR
- Scotland
- Wales
- National Parks leadership
- Protected landscapes leadership
- Marine heritage leadership
- Marine group chair
- NMP delivery
- Local Government
- Landscape management/governance
- Strategic conservation

National Framework

Marine Parks



National Parks

Increase public understanding and stewardship

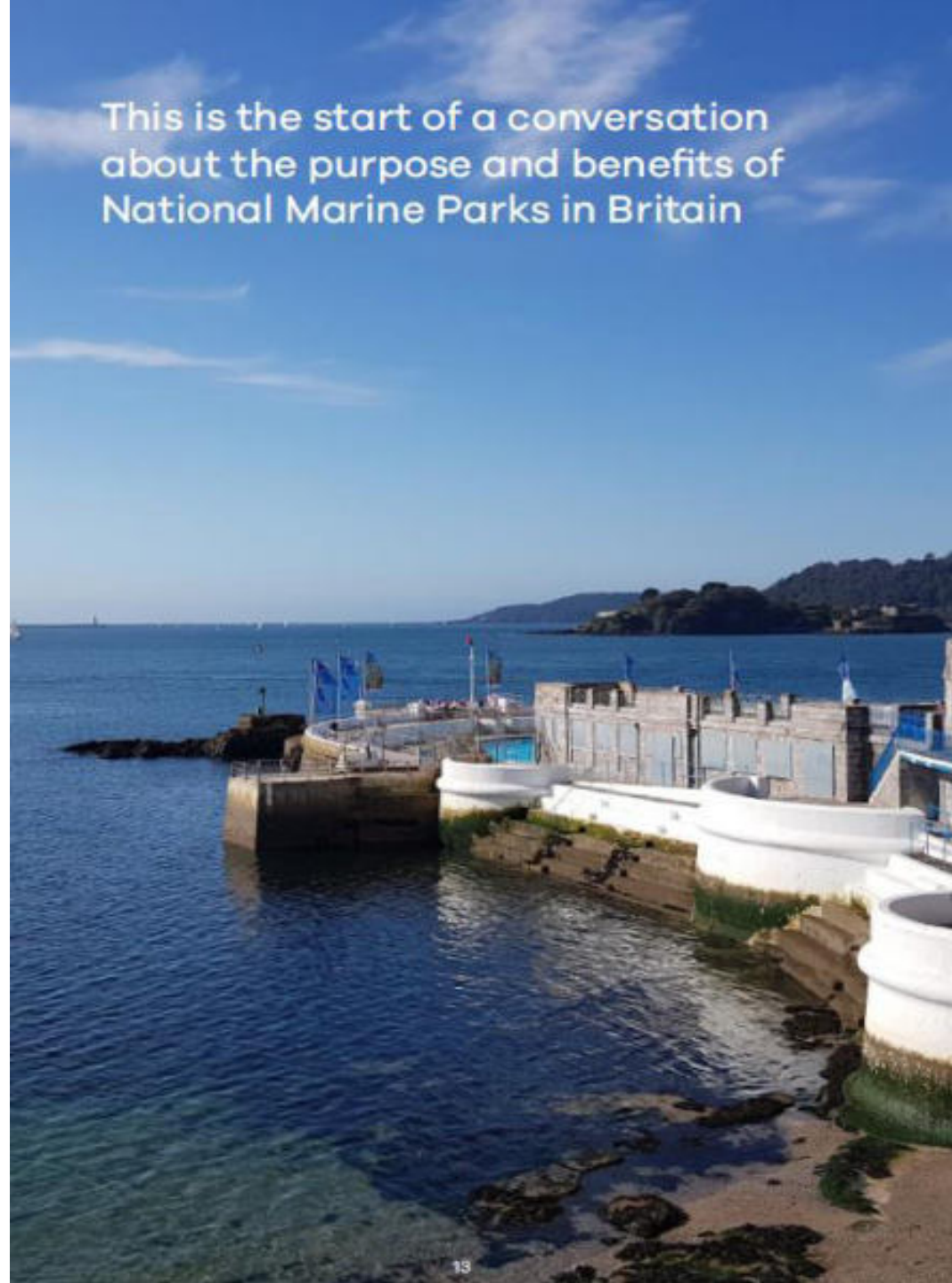


Seascape access and conservation



Build on existing governance mechanisms and experience

This is the start of a conversation
about the purpose and benefits of
National Marine Parks in Britain



“Marine Parks have the potential
to take us a new distance towards
engaging people with the sea”

Dan Laffoley, IUCN



Discover the Severn Wonders

A Festival of Events

May 20th – June 10th 2006





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NATIONAL MARINE PARKS

A VISION FOR BRITISH SEAS

by Natasha Brodeur
& Daniel Crockett

Thank You

Blue Marine film

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AeK-s9av8uE>

National Marine Parks: A Vision report

<https://www.blumarinefoundation.com/2021/04/06/national-marine-parks-a-vision-for-british-seas/>

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