



SEA THE VALUE

MARINE BIODIVERSITY BENEFITS
FOR A SUSTAINABLE SOCIETY

Supporting nature recovery
by advancing natural capital
practices and developing
essential finance mechanisms

Deepening understanding of how biodiversity provides benefits

An asset-risk natural capital approach was applied at two case study sites, the well studied Solent and data poor Cromarty.

Fieldwork filled gaps on how habitat quality and biodiversity shape ecosystem services provided by seagrass, saltmarsh, mudflats and oysters.

Engaging Communities in Pioneering Participatory Approaches

Coastal communities were actively involved in generating maps that link natural features, benefits, and beneficiaries. This process improved community access to, and understanding of, their local environment.

The maps have been made freely available, and actively shared with schools, councils and a museum, and have supported local decisions on planning and restoration activities.



Valuing benefits of biodiversity and applying finance mechanisms

The diversity and dynamic qualities of the marine environment were reflected in the monetary valuation of ecosystem services. This provided a better understanding of uncertainties, and improved valuation data for economic appraisal, policy-developments, natural capital accounting, and green investment options.

Monetary values were integrated with ecosystem restoration science and beneficiary information (from the participatory research) to contextualise potential financial mechanisms to support marine habitat restoration.

Interdisciplinary collaboration resulting in enriched data, improved methods and impactful outputs

The project fostered deep interdisciplinary connections within the team and with project partners including government, NGOs and industry.

Training Coastal Partnerships in Natural Capital Approaches

Through four workshops the team shared expertise, empowering 24 coastal managers with practical skills.

Comments from attendees:

'I found it extremely interesting and useful to attend.'

'Very useful, really thought provoking'

'Absolutely brilliant session, really interesting and I can see how this would fit in clearly with our work.'



Training materials are available to download from our website



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