



Marine Protected Areas – Communicating the different designations

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Overview

- MPA confusion test!
- Background
- Vision and Aims
- England MPA network
- Way forward



THE MPA CONFUSION TEST

RAMSAR

SSSI

MNR

SAC

mLNR

N2K

EMS

HPMRs

NTZ

MCZ

SPA

MPAs

OSPAR

FCZ

Background – Why MPAs?

- Extremely rich and diverse marine environment
- Contains around half our biodiversity
- Covers an area 3 times greater than land mass
- Continued declines in marine biodiversity
- Presently afforded little protection
- **To recover and protect the richness of our marine wildlife and environment**



Vision and aim

Government's vision –

- *'Clean, healthy, safe, productive and biologically diverse oceans and seas.'*

Government's Aim -

- *'By 2012 we are aiming to have an **well managed ecologically coherent network of marine protected areas** that is well understood and supported.'*
 - *To deliver national and international commitments*
 - *As part of the sustainable management of wider seas*

Marine Protected Areas (MPA)

- MPA is a framework term that encompasses **all** designated areas designed to protect marine biodiversity



2012 MPA Network

The 2012 network will consist of-

1. European Marine Sites
2. National Marine Sites

Together they will form the –

'Ecologically coherent MPA network'

European Marine Sites (EMS)

- Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) –
 - Aims to protect specific species and habitats threatened at a European scale
- Special Protection Areas (SPAs) –
 - Aims to protect specific bird populations threatened at a European scale

National Marine Sites

National sites will complete the MPA network

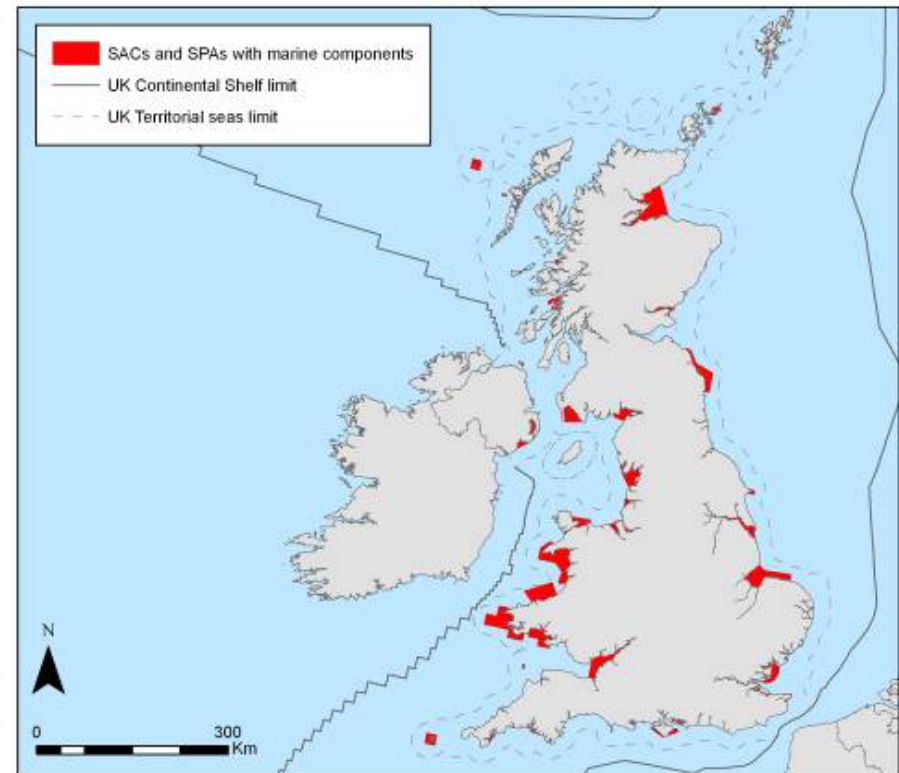
- Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs)
 - Protect species and habitats at a national scale down to mean Low Water.
- Marine Conservation Zones (MCZs)
 - As proposed in the draft Marine Bill
 - Protect and recover species and habitats out to 200nm limit.
 - ‘Some’ areas will be designated as Highly Protected Marine Reserves (HPMRs), all extractive activities will be prohibited
 - Marine Nature Reserve (MNR) designation will transfer.

Marine Conservation Zones

- Marine Act (presently draft Bill) –
 - Provide the legal driver and framework for MCZ designation
 - Going to parliament Dec / Jan?
- *'..confer a **duty** on the Secretary of State and Welsh Ministers to designate MCZs in order to contribute to an ecologically coherent network of sites which will include highly protected sites.'*

Present UK MPA network

- 148 'Marine Protected Areas' in UK waters consisting of Special Areas of Conservation and Special Protection Areas with marine components*
- Accounts for around 1.7% of UK waters



*Does not include SSSIs

Delivery of England's 2012 MPA Network

- To deliver MPA network Natural England will focus on three areas of work –
 1. Ensure existing sites are well managed (includes SSSIs, SACs and SPAs)
 2. Identify and designate offshore SAC / SPA network
 3. Identify and designate Marine Conservation Zones
 - includes a public awareness campaign

Overview

MARINE PROTECTED AREA NETWORK

European Marine Sites

Special Areas of Conservation

Special Protection Areas

National Marine Sites

Marine Conservation Zones

Highly Protected Marine Reserves

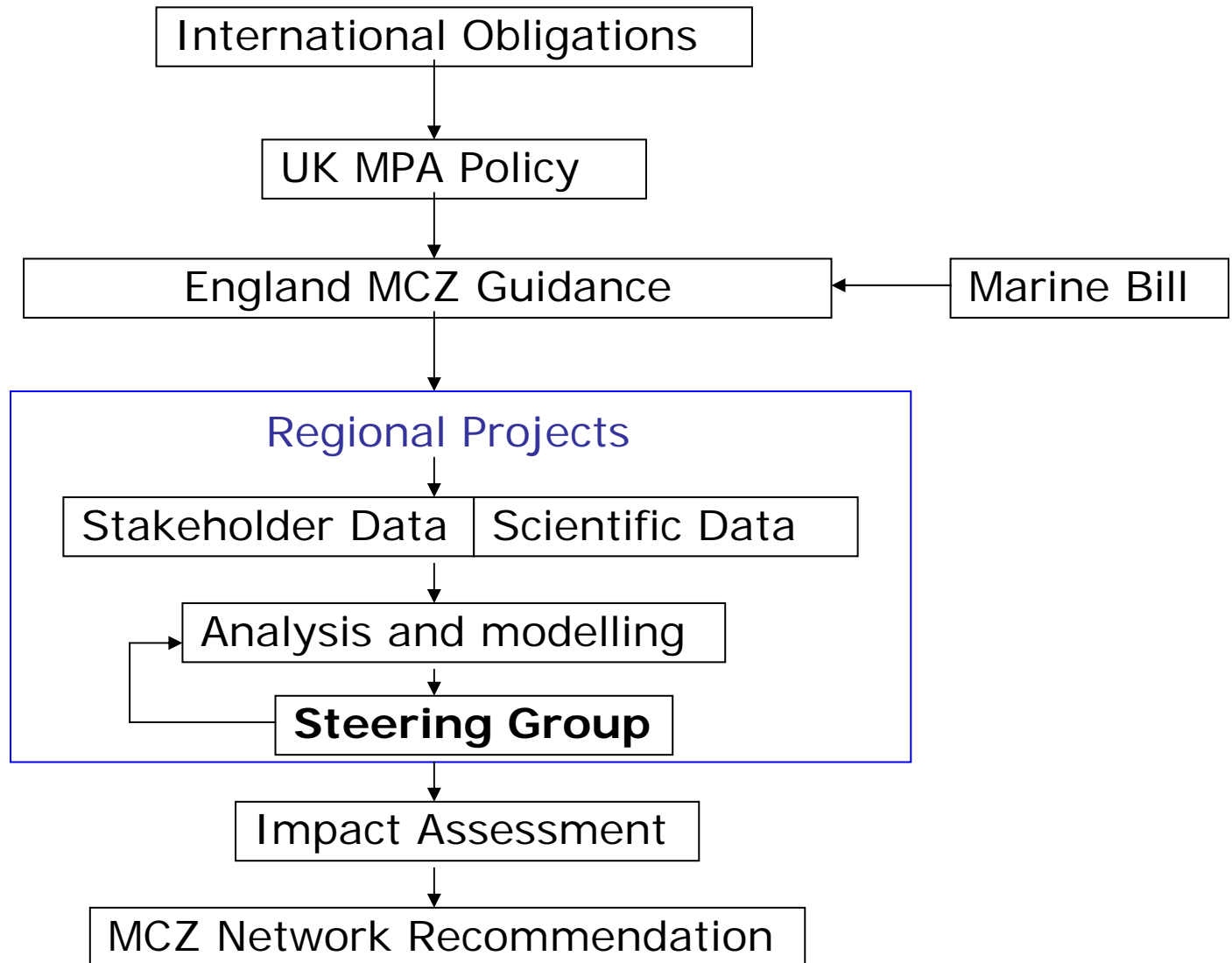
Sites of Special Scientific Interest

Important to not forget why!

MCZ Planning

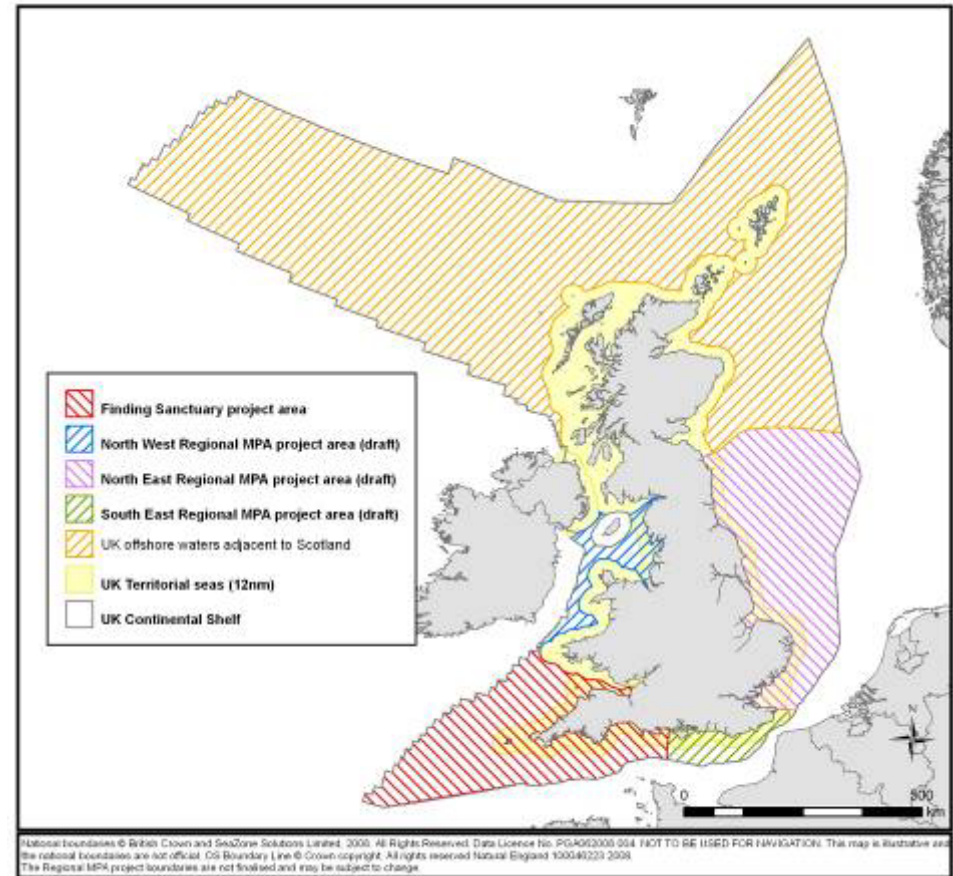
- Stage 1 – MCZ programme initialization, guidance development and pilot
 - 2009
- Stage 2 – Regional identification and recommendation
 - 2009-2011
- Stage 3 – Ministerial consultation
 - 2011-2
- Stage 4 – Network management
 - 2012+

MCZ Identification process



MCZ Planning -Developing Finding Sanctuary

- FS has developed and shaped the development of MCZ programme
- FS now has the framework and the mandate to deliver for MPAs
- NE, JNCC and Defra recognise the work of FS over the past 3 years!
- Government needs to ensure that FS will deliver.



MCZ Planning - Developing Finding Sanctuary

- Needs to evolve as an formal part of the national MCZ programme –
 - Review existing MOUs / TOR etc
 - Are there areas where FS needs to change?
 - Presently not fully integrated into the MCZ programme
- NE and JNCC aim to provide –
 - adequate funding to deliver recommendations
 - national data support
 - develop and manage the required national process structures
 - Undertake required international and national liaison
 - Support the project team, Project Board and **most importantly you.**

MCZ Programme – Process and Principles

Process –

- The Finding Sanctuary model is being used to inform national process
 - Review which will inform national process development, meeting on 4th November with FS
 - Additional conference to learn from overseas
 - Process will need to be agreed to Defra

Principles –

- The FS principles are being used to develop national guidance
 - Engagement with FS over the development of national principles
 - Scale, size and level of protection
- However, national guidance may be different.

Steering Group

- Regional Steering Group will **remain central to the identification of MCZs**
- National structures will support regional decision making
- Regional network will need to meet nationally set guidance
- Your role will shape the future of the marine environment in the SW.



Challenges and risks

- Timetables
- SAC / SPA process
- Funding
- Data
- Stakeholder engagement



Next steps

- FS and SG need to integrate into MCZ programme
 - Review TOR, MOU, membership and other governance structures
- Engage with national plan development, process and principles
 - Ensure that FS delivers for the national MCZ programme
- Questions?

Background

- MPA planning is developing very quickly
- NE / JNCC have now been formally tasked with delivering MCZ networks
- Need to support FS to ensure delivery for MCZs

