



30th edition

Coastal Futures 2023

Our Ocean and Coastal Future for the Next Decade

Programme

25th & 26th January, 2023 | Royal Geographical Society, London & online



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Coastal Futures 2023

Our Ocean and Coastal Future for the Next Decade

We are excited to welcome back delegates in-person for the first time in three years. The two-day conference will be held in-person at the Royal Geographical Society in London and live-streamed to reach a wider audience than ever before.

Conference aims:

- Promote the main theme of Our Ocean and Coastal Future for the Next Decade
- Brief the audience on a wide variety of current programmes and initiatives
- Encourage debate around current issues to support the coastal and marine community

Session themes:

- Tackling the Climate Challenge
- Delivering Marine Restoration
- Governing for Communities
- Fisheries Management
- Strategic Compensation and Spatial Prioritisation
- Marine Protected Areas

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Programme

Day 1 - Wednesday 25th January 2023: Session 1

09:30 Opening **Defra Ministerial address: Therese Coffey MP (invited)**

09:45 Keynote **Dr Aisling Lannin**, Head of Evidence and Evaluation, Marine Management Organisation
Marine Management of our ocean and coast: the next decade.

10:10 **TACKLING THE CLIMATE CHALLENGE: Working together for our ocean and coasts. Chair: Dr Gareth Johnson, Atkins**
What is the future for our ocean and coasts over the next decade?
Speakers will address the challenges & opportunities for adaptation to climate change. They will offer insights into our energy and biodiversity futures, the future for coastal communities & the use of evidence to inform our direction.

Huib den Rooijen, Marine Advisor, The Crown Estate: *Our Energy Future*
Dr Lissa Batey, The Wildlife Trusts: *Our Biodiversity Future: #Defend Nature*
Neil Hornby, Chief Executive, Cefas: *Our Science Led Future*
Dr Pamela Buchan, University of Exeter: *Our People's Coastal Future*
Panel debate

11:40 Refreshments

Day 1 - Wednesday 25th January 2023: Session 2

12:40 **DELIVERING MARINE RESTORATION: Net gain, blue carbon, restoration & re-wilding. Chair: Dr Roger Proudfoot, EA**
Do we have the right policy and technical solutions to deliver environmental restoration?
Speakers will share the latest policy thinking around net gain and blue carbon, followed by examples of technical solutions for restoration.

Policy Challenges:

Alexis Perry, Commercial Director, Environment Bank: *Terrestrial biodiversity Net Gain: Progress on land and potential at sea*
Vicki Castro-Spokes and Lewis White, Defra: *Embedding natural capital approaches into policy for marine and coastal environments*
Vicky West, Senior Marine Ecologist, ABPmer: *Implications of net gain & natural capital approaches for marine and coastal restoration*
Daniel Crockett, Development Director, Blue Marine Foundation: *Can blue carbon markets drive change?*
Q&A

Technical Solutions:

Tom Brook, WWF-UK: *The Blue Carbon Mapping Project – Establishing a baseline to inform policy and management*
Dr Ben Green, Environment Agency: *ReMeMare progress: strategic habitat prioritisation*
Dr James Robinson, Director of Conservation, WWT: *Restoration at scale: from local to global*
Dr Joanne Preston, Portsmouth University: *Restoration principles for the marine environment*
Keith Cooper, Marine Ecologist/Data Scientist, Cefas: *OneBenthic: New insights using big data*
Dr Richard Lilley, Project Seagrass: *Becoming #GenerationRestoration: Innovation and ambition in seagrass conservation*
Panel debate

14:30 Refreshments

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Programme

Day 1 - Wednesday 25th January 2023: Session 3

GOVERNING FOR COMMUNITIES: Integration on the frontline. Chair: Amy Pryor, Thames Estuary Partnership
How can we manage the future of our coast in an integrated way?

15:30

Speakers will highlight the challenges facing our coastal communities, the value of blue health in the face of adaptation to coastal change, and focus on how to drive integration through collaboration and engagement.

James Grellier, Exeter Medical School: *Coastal blue space, health and wellbeing – opportunities and challenges*

Caroline Douglass, Executive Director, Environment Agency: *Adaptation to coastal change*

Beccy MacDonald-Lofts, Local Government Association Special Interest Group: *Collaborative working to support coastal local authorities and their communities*

Dr Emma McKinley, Cardiff University: *Ocean Literacy for the UN Ocean Decade: UK insights*

Susannah Bleakley, Independent: *Voices from the frontline making an impact*

Panel debate

17:00

Keynote

Helen Scales, Author and Guardian columnist

17:30-
19:30

Wine Reception

Keynote Speakers



Hugo Tagholm
Executive Director, Oceana



Helen Scales
Author & Guardian columnist



Alan Lovell
Chair, Environment Agency



Aisling Lannin
Head of Evidence & Evaluation, MMO

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Day 2 - Thursday 26th January 2023: Session 4

09:30 Keynote **Alan Lovell**, Chair, Environment Agency

FISHERIES MANAGEMENT: The future for UK fisheries and fishing communities. Chair: **Sally Songer**, Cefas
How do we tackle the disparity between aspiration and reality?

10:00 Speakers will answer this question through updates on Fisheries Management Plans, aquaculture and partnership working between industry, science, NGOs and the seafood supply chain.

Tony Tomlinson, Chair, Association of Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authorities: *IFCAs making a difference*
Jon Davies, Defra: *How Fisheries Management Plans can support sustainable fisheries around England*
Libby West, Natural England: *Implementing an ecosystem approach to fisheries management: evolution or revolution?*
Dawn Purchase, Marine Conservation Society: *Aquaculture's role in providing food for the future*
Jo Pollett, Marine Stewardship Council: *Project UK, a sustainable future for UK fisheries*
Panel debate

11:30 Refreshments

Day 2 - Thursday 26th January 2023: Session 5

BALANCING ACT: Strategic compensation and spatial prioritisation. Chair: **Peter Barham**, MBE, SUDG
How do we deliver strategic marine resource management in the UK?

12:30 Speakers will discuss the future for marine planning and how we manage environmental impact strategically, co-existence for offshore wind and fisheries, and what role there is for the UK Marine Strategy

Olivia Thomas, The Crown Estate: *One space, multiple pressures: the need for a coordinated and holistic approach to managing the UK sea space*
Defra TBC, Domestic Marine Policy: *Marine net gain, marine planning, offshore wind and HPMA's*
Kat Route-Stephens, Offshore Wind Industry Council: *Collaboration on Offshore Wind Strategic Compensation*
Mark Duffy, Natural England: *Strategic compensation*
Katie-Jo Luxton, Director of Global Conservation, RSPB: *Harnessing Nature Positive to deliver strategic ecosystem restoration solutions for our seas*
Celestia Godbehere, Orsted: *Strategic compensation as part of marine recovery*
Dr Andrew Gill, Cefas: *How can we understand the outcomes of co-existence?*
Panel debate

14:00 Refreshments

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Programme

Day 2 - Thursday 26th January 2023: Session 6

MPAs: From paper to protection. Chair: Dr Sue Gubbay

How can governments and stakeholders be mobilised and motivated over the next decade to achieve real ocean protection?

14:50

Speakers will offer a global, European and UK perspective on how well countries are progressing protection of habitats and species through marine management.

Dr Simon Cripps, Executive Director – Global Marine Programme, Wildlife Conservation Society: *A global perspective on the UK reaching 30x30 targets*

Donal Griffin, Fair Seas Ireland: *Ireland's Fair Seas: on our way to 30x30*

Nick Greenwood, Head of Marine Conservation, Marine Management Organisation

Phil Taylor, Head of Policy, Open Seas

Panel debate

16:00 Keynote **Hugo Tagholm**, Executive Director and Vice President of Oceana in the UK: *'Campaigns for a Wild Ocean'*

16:20 **Bob Earll & Natasha Bradshaw**
Reflection on thirty years of Coastal Futures and ambitions for the next decade

16:30 Close

Programme details and timings may be subject to change

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