

Natural Capital and the Sea: the Marine Pioneer Overview

Aisling Lannin

Outline

What is the marine pioneer all about?

Some thoughts on the Natural Capital Approach

Challenges, opportunities and risks

What has been done so far

What would we like to do next

Timeframe and resources



17th January 2018

Outline and key messages

- What is the marine pioneer all about?
- Some thoughts on the natural capital approach
- Challenges, opportunities and risks
- What has been done so far
- What would we like to do next
- Resources and time frame

The pioneer is a test

Multi-disciplinary plus old and n...

Natural Capital Approach is not a silver bullet

The pioneer is a test

The marine pioneer is a **test** not a clearly defined project, a space to be innovative, creative and iterative.

The detail of the programme is **still in development.**

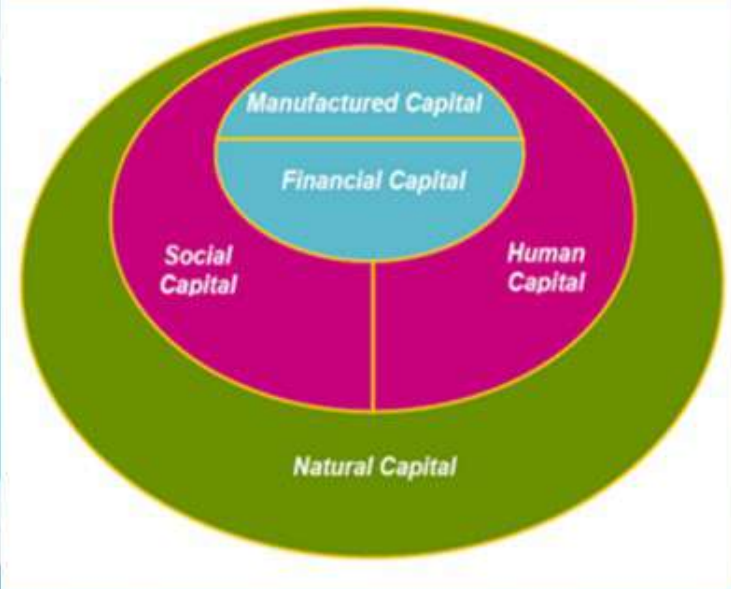
Multi-disciplinary plus old and new perspectives

The pioneer needs **the usual and not so usual people** to be involved so we have good knowledge, understanding and expertise.

Perspectives from e.g. social scientists, communications experts, business and industry, finance experts, experts in cultural and institutional change and multiple government departments.

Natural Capital Approach is not a silver bullet

- We will be **honest** about and **critical** of the approach.
- It needs **more practical testing**, particularly at sea.
- It cannot function alone, it **works with other approaches.**
- We will **consider the system** - different capitals, aspects of nature, people and society, economy and politics.



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What is the pioneer all about?

- To **test delivery of the 25 YEP** and contribute to future iterations
- **Pioneer aims** – NCA, innovative finance, joined-up integrated approach to planning and delivery, sharing lessons, investment in and restoration of the environment
- **Test space, not well defined**, build on existing and current work, accept aspects that don't work as lessons
- Carry out **demonstration projects**

Governance

The Marine pioneer will explore how to

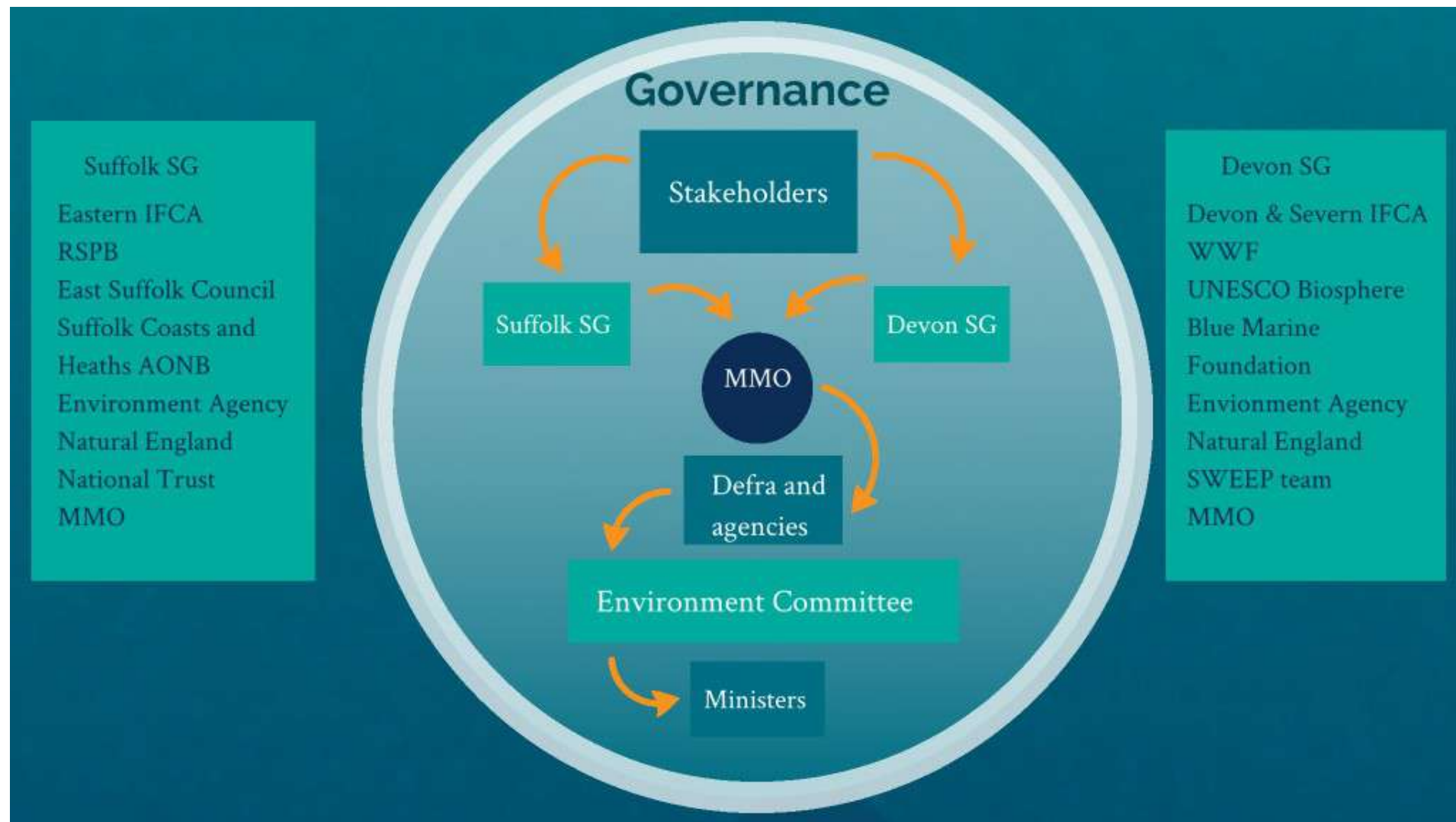
Marine pioneer aim

Marine pioneer aim

To use partnership projects in North Devon and Suffolk to test pioneering management of the marine environment and share the lessons.

The Marine pioneer will explore how to

- apply a **natural capital approach**
- identify local **environmental priorities** in Suffolk and North Devon's coast and sea
- improve inter and intra government and non-government **working together**
- **increase people's care** for and understanding of the marine environment
- **gather information** about all of the marine system (social, economic, ecological)
- increase the use of **social and economic science and practice** in management
- develop a **plan for prioritising investment** to restore natural capital
- explore **innovative finance** opportunities
- **share lessons** learned and best practice widely
- contribute to implementing and updating the **25 year environment plan**



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Some thoughts on the Natural Capital Approach

- Capital is a concept used to describe wealth, it is an **asset** from which there is a **flow of benefits** that contribute to wellbeing
- **5/7 capitals**
- Need to balance the capitals and invest to achieve **sustainable development**
- "The elements of nature that directly or indirectly produce value to people, including ecosystems, species, freshwater, land, minerals, the air and the oceans as well as the natural processes and functions"
- Living and non-living **natural capital provides ecosystem and other goods and services** which brings benefits to people thus wellbeing

To note

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- Wise to be **critical** and to challenge while testing this in practice - no single solution
- People are influenced by **leading discourses** e.g. in media, society, politics and economics
- Valuing nature is very **current** (some interesting antidotes are the Bolivian and Costa Rican approaches)
- There are valuable **concurrent** initiatives e.g. marine planning so we must integrate and complement

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Some challenges

- 25 YEP **vision but no plan** (general election, new SoS, status of pioneers)
- Take the **best of the past and current** without limiting creativity
- **Being inclusive** in the absence of the 25 YEP
- Engaging with the future world of the **next generation**
- Need a **critical mass of diverse people** engaged to make a difference to long term environmental outcomes
- **Natural capital accounting in the marine area** could be tricky as accounts are based on habitat maps and relatively static, visible assets.....
- We need to increase equality, access, capacity and skills which highlights the **link to the SDGs**
- **Dialogue and discourse** on ethics, culture, institutions and politics

Opportunities

Risks

Opportunities

- To restore and improve the quality of the environment
- Contribute to positive culture change
- Integrate decision making and investment further
- To get more people involved with the sea

Risks

- Minimal resources to deliver big ambitions
- Desired outcomes and impact not yet well defined
- Focusing on benefits to people does not always conserve nature
- Relying on accounting and monetary valuation for decision making
- Concentrating on just NCA could put all eggs in one basket
- More jargon, another approach!

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What has been done so far

- **Initial steering** groups set up
- **Stakeholder groups** – existing groups to date
- Eftec natural capital **baseline project**
- **Project officers** appointed - June 2017
- **Aims/goals discussed**
- **Action plans, PID, programme plan drafted**
- **Initial demonstration project list** developed
- South west natural capital **conference**
- **System mapping** workshop
- **Suffolk** demonstration projects **resource workshop**
- **SWEEP** natural capital decision making tool workshop
- **What is it all about** document drafted
- **Contact** with the Crown Estate, Peter Barham on behalf of SUDG, Wildlife Trust, Historic England

Devon's
Demonstration
projects

Suffolk's
demonstration
projects

Devon's Demonstration projects



Development of a
natural capital
decision support tool
including geofabrica...

Increasing
effectiveness and
sustainable
management of ...

Local spatial
plan - idea in
development

Sustainable
fisheries
marketing - in
development

Joint work with
the landscape
pioneer - in
development

SWEEP

Development of a natural capital decision support tool including geodatabase with values and risk register –
SWEEP – Plymouth Marine Laboratory, University of Plymouth

UKSeas

Increasing effectiveness and sustainable management of UK Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) by developing and demonstrating approaches that support regional management, engaging stakeholders and the public, investigating new financial mechanisms for MPA management - WWF

Local spatial plan - idea in development

Using spatial information to develop a local marine spatial plan that can inform prescriptive decisions - in conjunction with MMO marine planners - pioneer project officer and others

Sustainable fisheries marketing - in development

Exploring the potential for some regional management of fish stocks e.g Herring, exploration of the potential to use a sustainably caught marketing strategy for North Devon fisheries - IFCA, Blue Marine Foundation and the Biosphere

Joint work with the landscape pioneer - in development

Explore the potential for public
service boards similar to those
operating in Wales, use a
natural capital approach to
integrate management from
river source to estuary -
Landscape pioneer programme
lead and marine pioneer
steering group

Suffolk's demonstration projects



Natural capital
account for
saltmarsh

Flood
resilience
investment
plan

Environmental
net gain
investment
case

Offshore
environmental
net gain
investme...

Natural capital account for saltmarsh

Develop an asset register, risk register, priorities for investment, investment plan and funding opportunities.



Flood resilience investment plan

Using the asset register, risk registers and environmental priorities already in place for Benacre and Kessingland develop a flood resilience investment plan and seek funding through a joined-up integrated planning and delivery group.



Environmental net gain investment case

The Steering group and others are interested in examining the environmental, social and economic net gain from investing in a Shingle engine.

Offshore environmental net gain investment case

This really is in development!
It is a desire to focus offshore
but we need to speak to a
number of interested people
and organisations to develop
the idea. Now that the 25 YEP
is in place we hope to do that
very soon.

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Marine
Management
Organisation

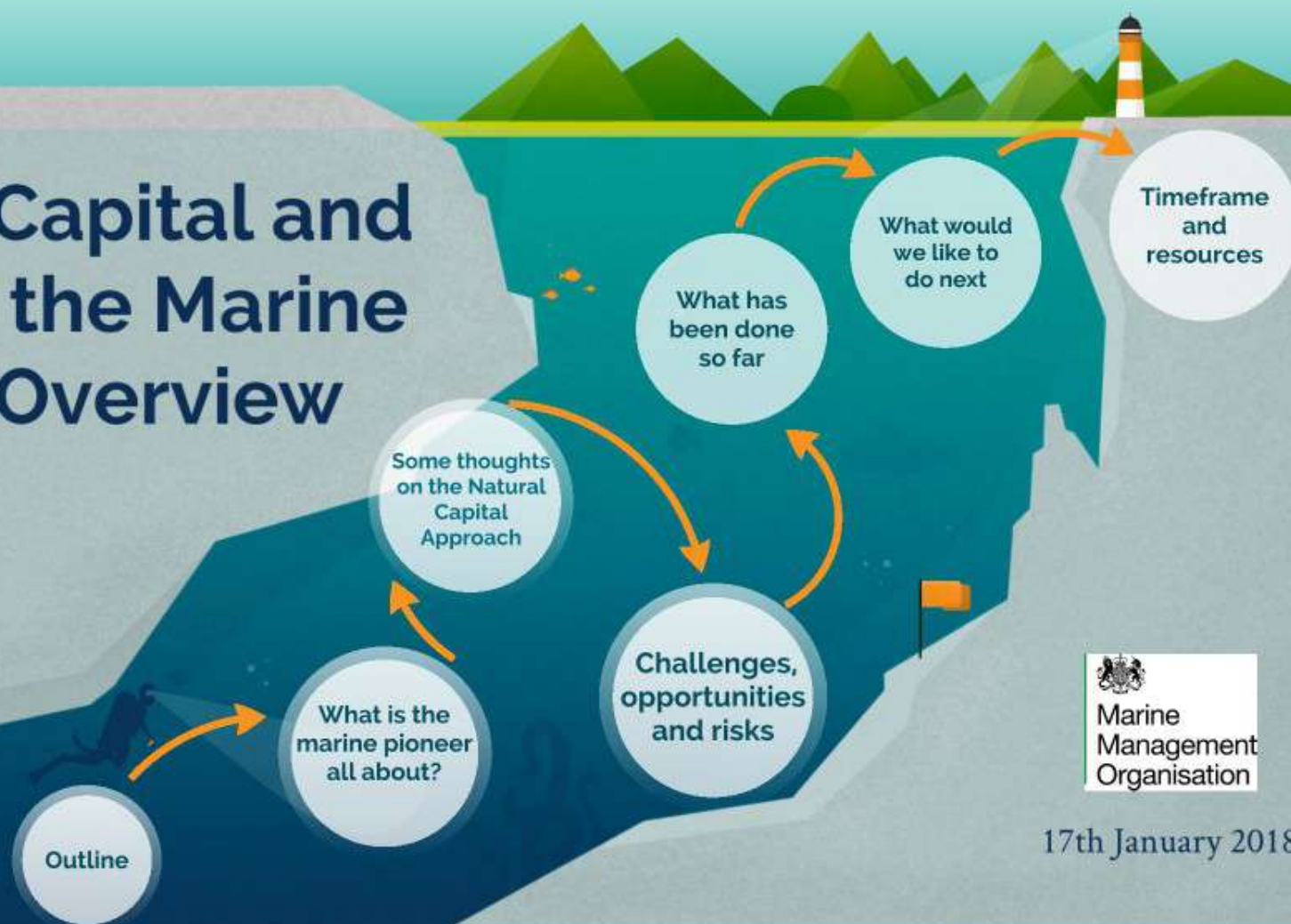
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What would we like to do next

- Make ourselves **more public and approachable**
- Get all **demonstration projects developed** in detail and running their first iteration
- Work more closely with **government departments and local authorities** now we have a 25 YEP
- Develop demonstration work with **industry, the Crown Estate, NGOS and others** now that we have the 25 YEP
- Implement a **monitoring and evaluation** framework
- Set up a **marine pioneer advisory group** – natural capital approach, marine specific approach, multi-disciplinary, finance, systems, participatory, behavioural insights, change
- Work with organisations and consortiums on **funding** for evidence gathering and methods practice

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Timeframe and resources

- Approximately three years duration
- 2.8 dedicated full time equivalents
- Funding for project officers for 1 to 2 years
- Steering groups contribute as part of their current roles
- SWEEP fully funded for five years prior to Devon pioneer
- WWF contributing part time three staff to Devon pioneer via UKSeas
- Blue Marine Foundation contributing staff time in Devon

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