

# Restoring Estuarine & Coastal Habitats

Roger Proudfoot & Ben Green  
Estuaries and Coasts Planning





# Why restore & enhance?

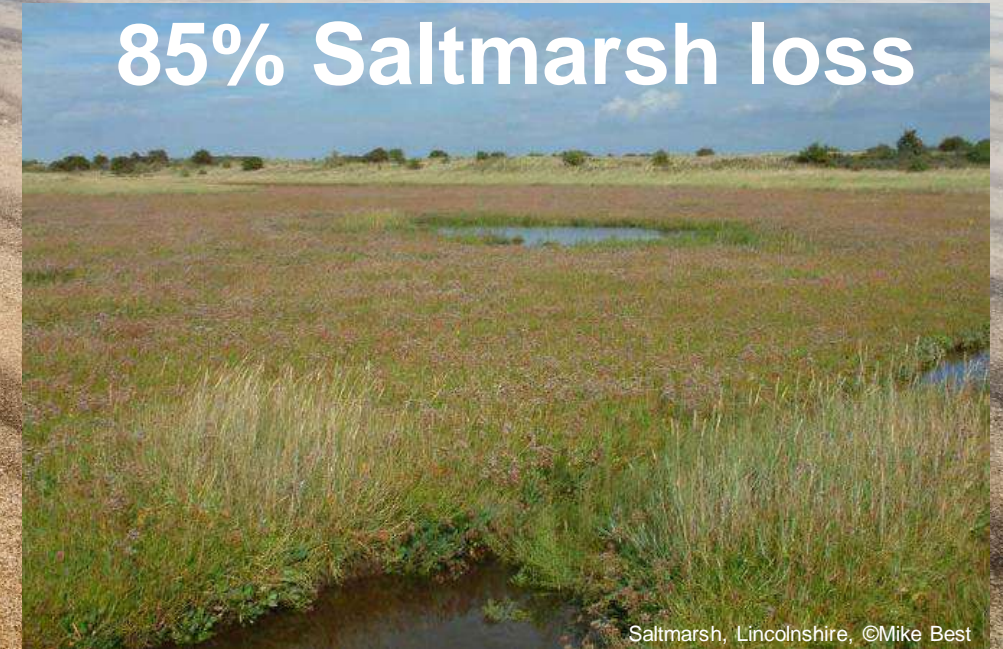
**100% Seagrass loss in  
>50% of English  
waters**



**95% Native oyster  
loss**



**85% Saltmarsh loss**





# Restoring Estuarine & Coastal Habitats in the NE Atlantic (REACH)

## Restoring Meadow, Marsh & Reef (ReMeMaRe)



# Restored estuarine & coastal habitats that benefit people & wildlife



Medmerry



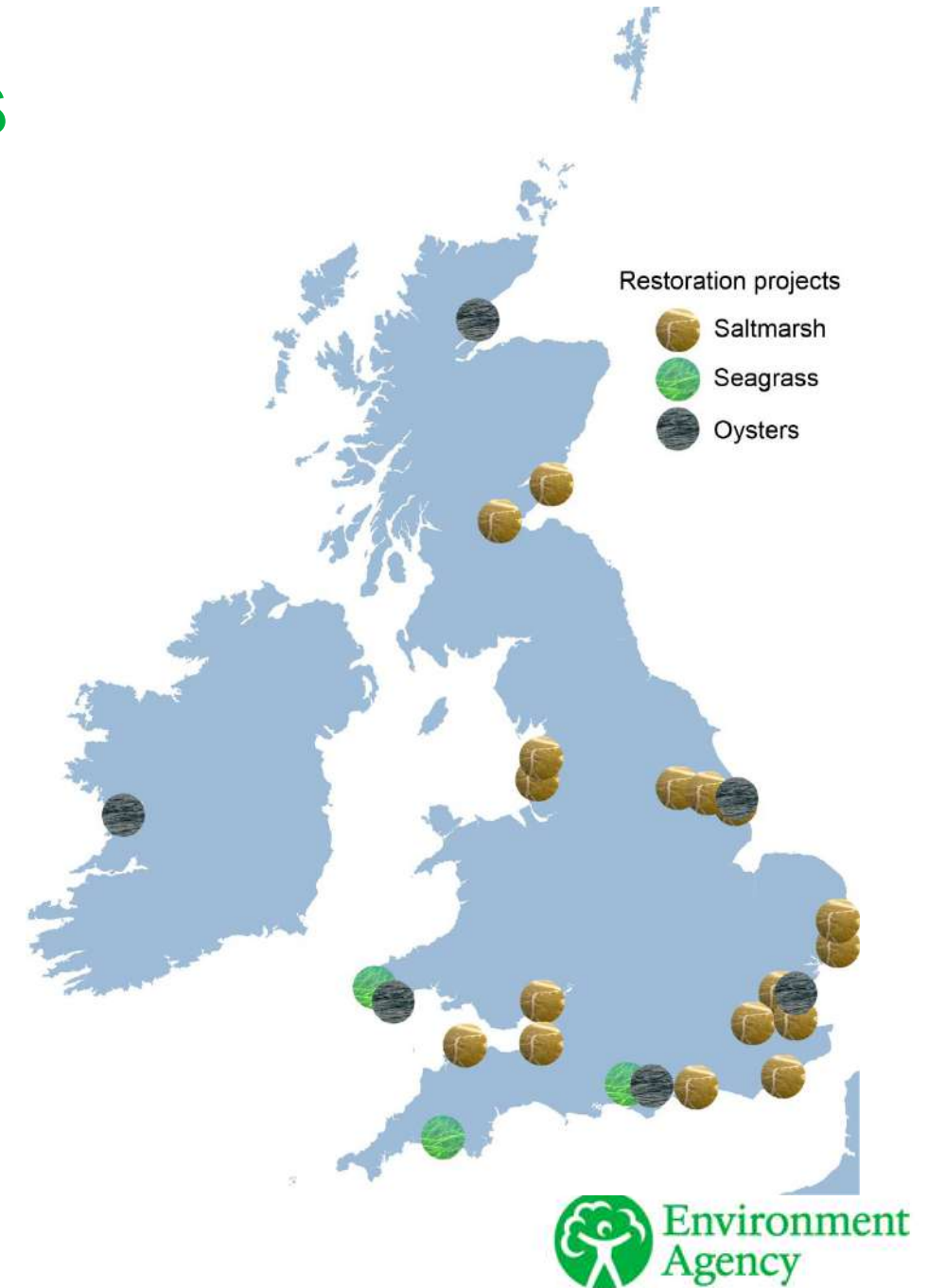
# Drivers

- Responding to climate change
- 25 Year Environment Plan
- International commitments (OSPAR & Biological Diversity Conventions)
- Marine Strategy & Marine Plans
- Water Story & River Basin Plans (to 1nm)
- Flood Risk Management Strategy & Shoreline Management Plans



# Progress - REACH key outcomes

- Seagrass, Saltmarsh, Oyster restoration projects
- Identified need to focus on funding & regulatory regime
- Historical perspective
- Guidance development
- Inspiration!



# Developing Blue Restoration Outcomes: Funding

- Understanding benefits, selling the story, implementing new policy
- Commitment to new methods of funding
- Blended
- Weight of evidence
- Long term strategic management & support



## Ambition?

- Restore 15 % saltmarsh extent over 25 years
- 53 km<sup>2</sup> addition to 355 km<sup>2</sup> of saltmarsh
- Estimated £11M p.a. investment
- Seagrass, oysters ≈ £1M p.a. investment each

## Benefits?

Biodiversity, carbon, nitrogen, recreation, fisheries, wellbeing, flood defence, jobs & expertise.....



# Developing Blue Restoration Outcomes - Regulation

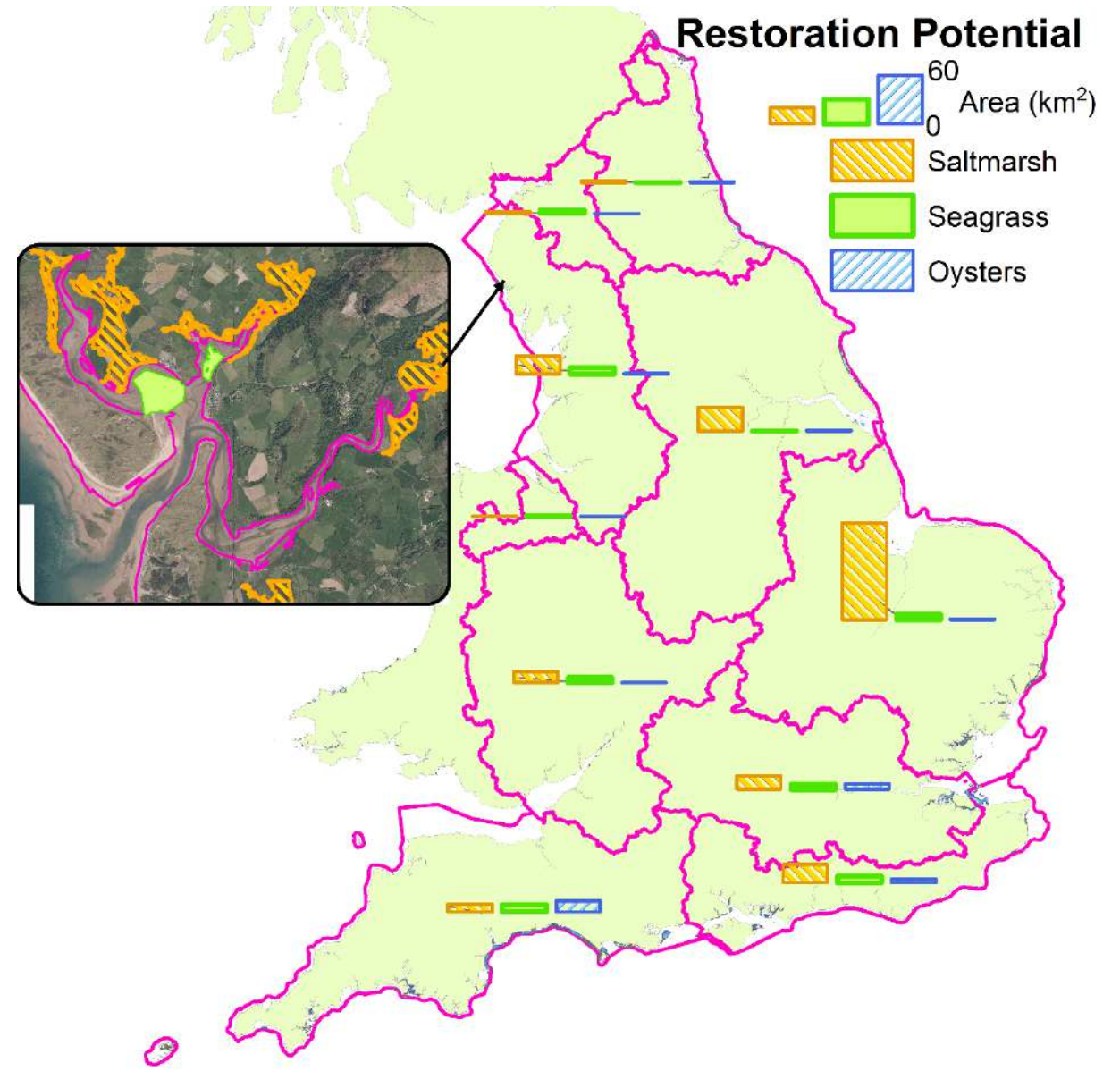
- Access to support funds / grants
- Restructuring legislative regime?
- Support to licencing / planning officers
- Guidance pack & case studies





# Challenges & Choices

- Restoration potential maps for saltmarsh, seagrass & oyster restoration
- Published as part of consultation & plans
- Promote local discussion



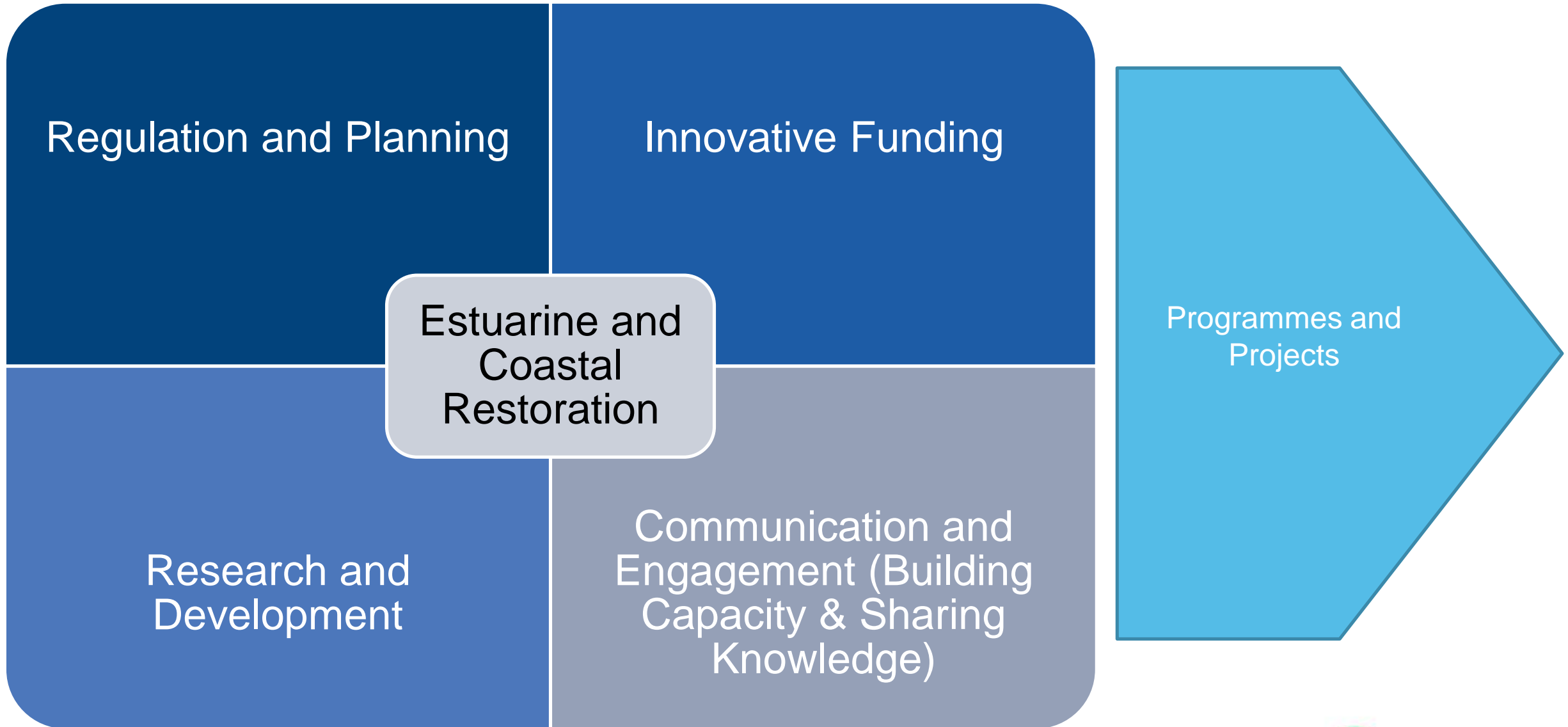


# 5 Year Plan Summary

Financial Year	Project Year	Aim
2018/19	0	The Marine Outcome System is committed to leading a programme of estuarine and coastal habitat restoration.
2019/20	1	We are ready to undertake restoration pilots / learn from existing pilots having identified locations / projects and secured partners.
2020/21	2	We have undertaken and learned from pilots and developed a strategy and plan for long-term funding of the programme. We have published practical guidance on the 3 priority habitats: saltmarsh, seagrass and oyster reef.
2021/22	3	We have completed 1 year of monitoring and evaluation of the restoration pilots, refining our tools following first year feedback. We support capacity building.
2022/23	4	We have completed 2 years of monitoring and evaluation of the restoration pilots and have continued to build capacity.
2023/24	5	We have developed and are implementing a funded programme of estuarine and coastal waters habitat restoration with our partners.



# Challenges





# Conference - Restoring Estuarine & Coastal Habitats in the North East Atlantic (REACH 2 )

Royal Geographic Society, London 14<sup>th</sup> July, 2020



NATURAL  
ENGLAND





# Steering Group

**EA:** Roger Proudfoot/Rachael Hill MBE /  
Ben Green

**MMO:** Aisling Lanning / Chris Graham

**NE:** Dr James Bussell / Angela Marlow /  
Sue Rees

**Cefas:** Will Manning / Dr Keith Cooper

**JNCC:** Prof. Christine Maggs

**Defra:** Eden Hannan / Dr Jon Davies /  
Dr Rob Cook

**CE:** Dr David Tudor

