



ReMeMaRe conference 2026

Restoring estuarine, marine & coastal habitats



Environment
Agency



Ocean
and Coastal
Futures

Supported by:



Scottish & Southern
Electricity Networks



SLIDO



4: Accelerating Restoration Through Industry: Innovation and Investment

Chair – Jennifer Godwin,
CEO

Seabed User Developer Group (SUDG)



Environment
Agency



Ocean
and Coastal
Futures

Supported by:



Scottish & Southern
Electricity Networks

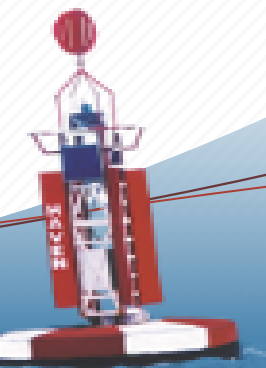


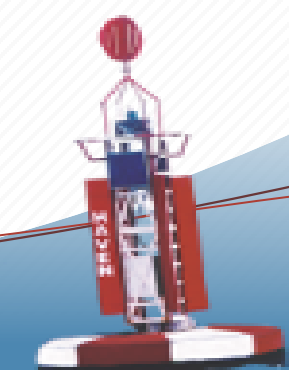
Harwich Haven Authority

Ports and Habitat Restoration



Harwich Haven Authority is the statutory Harbour Authority responsible for marine matters in the **Harwich Haven**, covering the ports of Felixstowe, Harwich International, Harwich Navyyard, Mistley and traffic to ABP Ipswich.





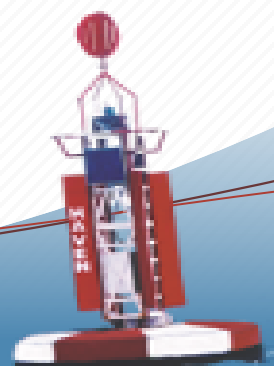
Current maintenance dredging disposal sites

40 mile round trip
to Inner Gabbard

Disposal sites

Mud

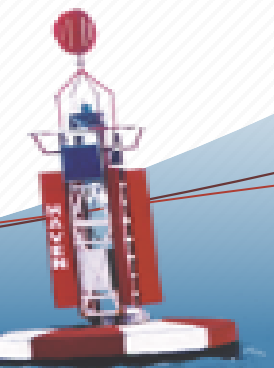
Sand

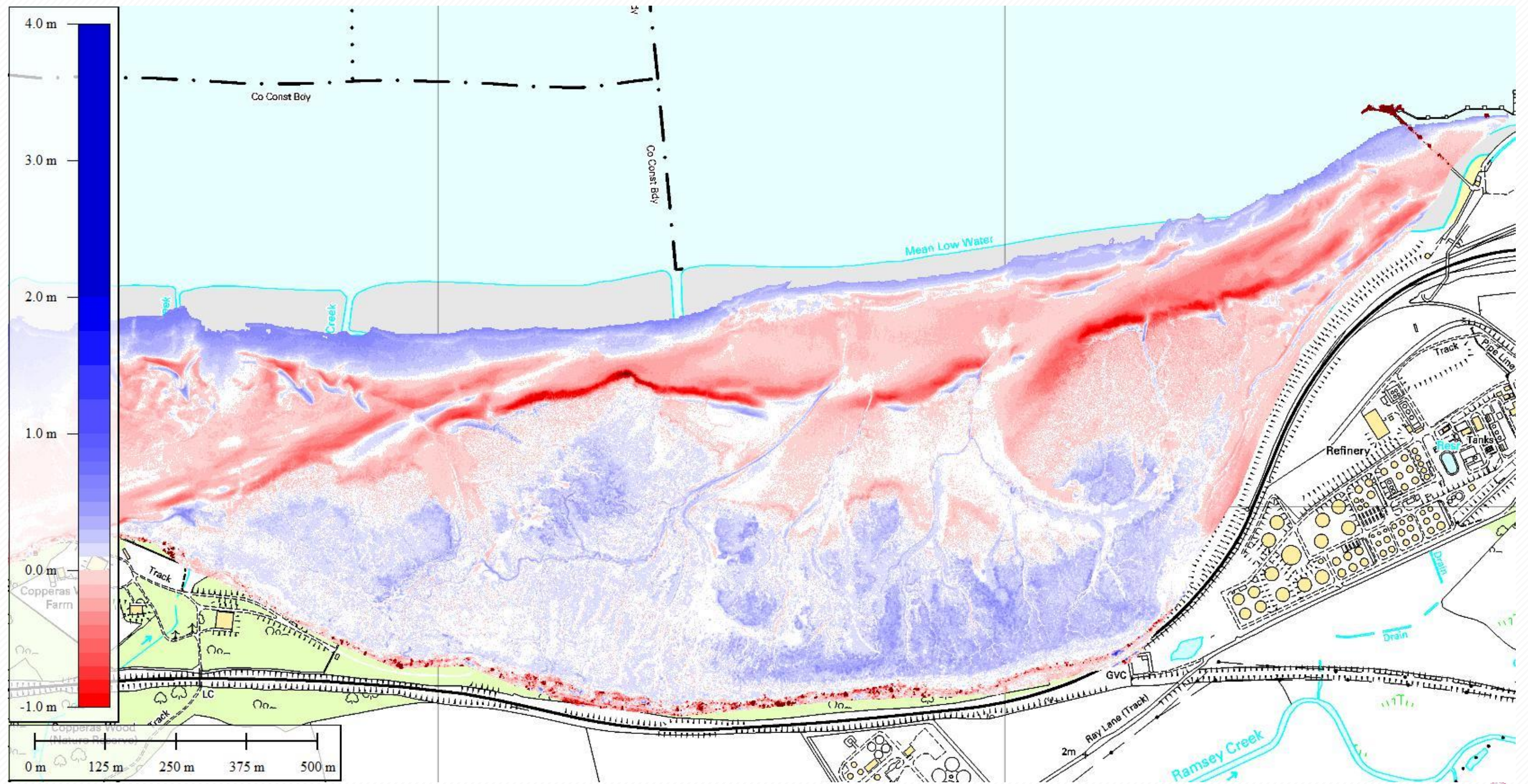


Dredging Strategy Objectives

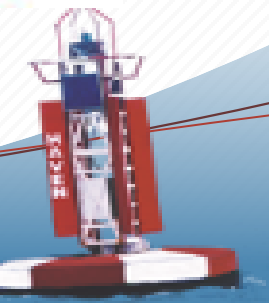
By 2035 to:

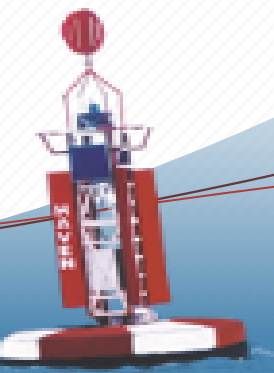
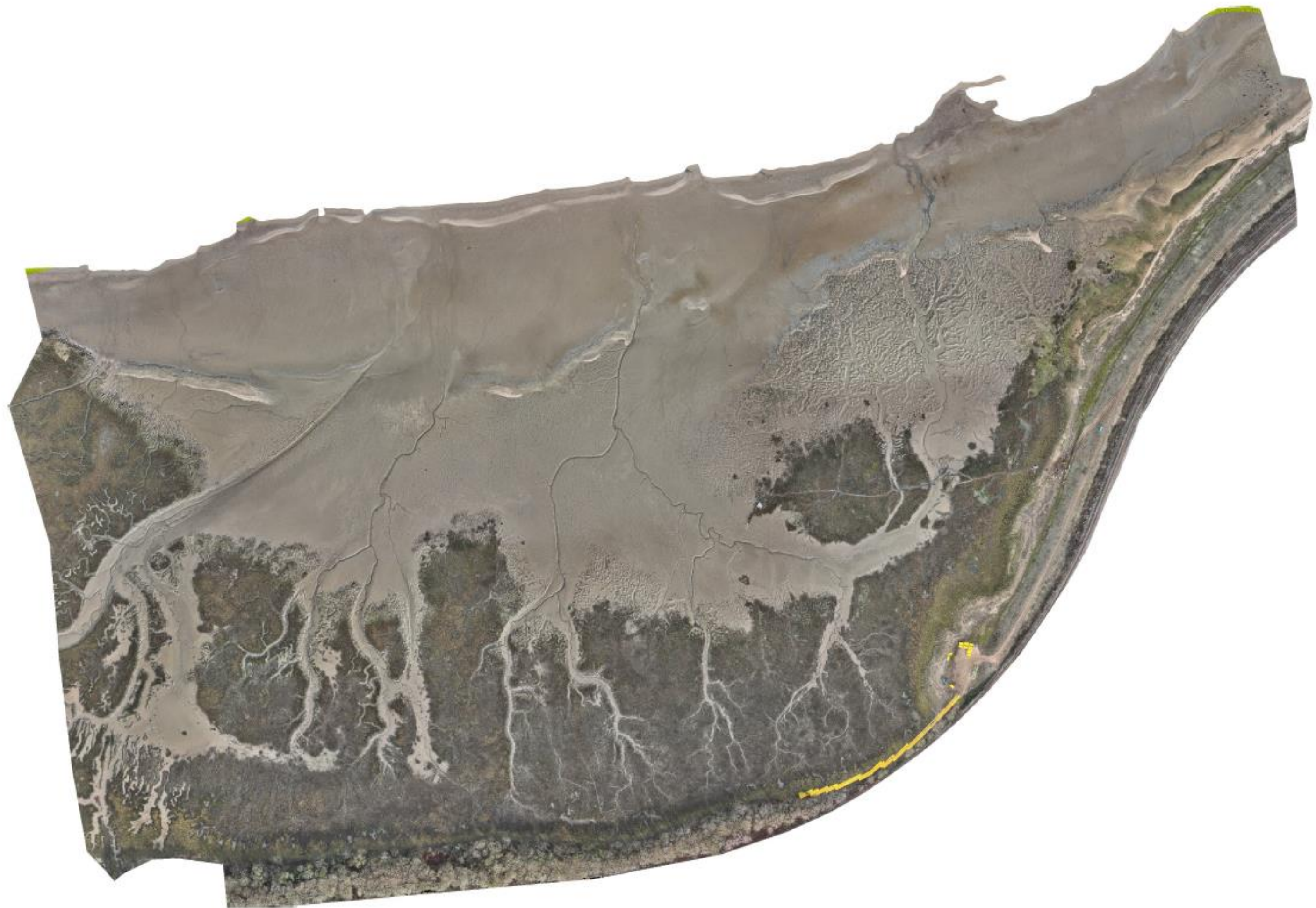
- Half the cost compared to 2025 (inflation adjusted)
- Achieve net zero
- Restore the natural hydrodynamic and sediment regime of the estuary

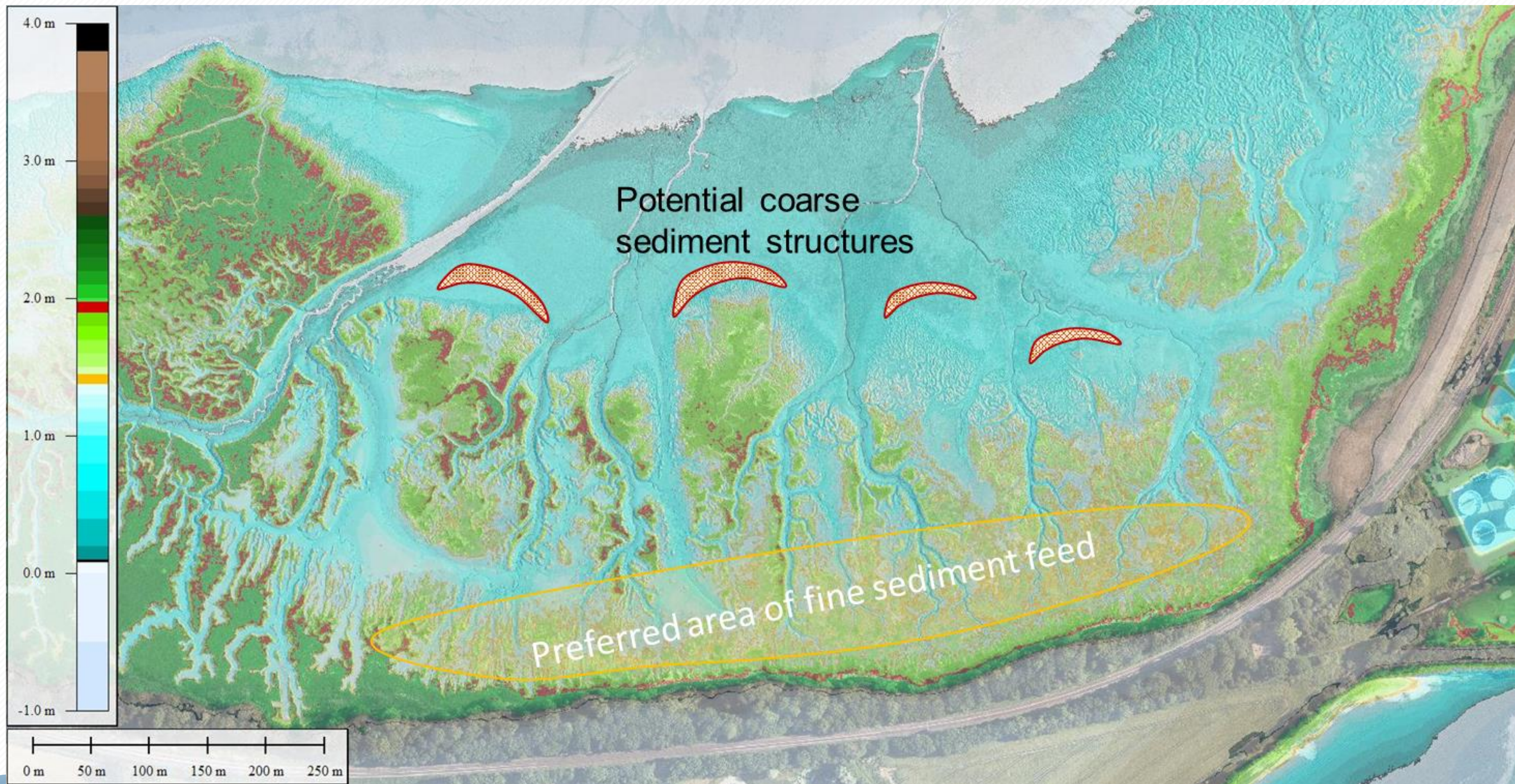




Changes in level 2013 - 2021

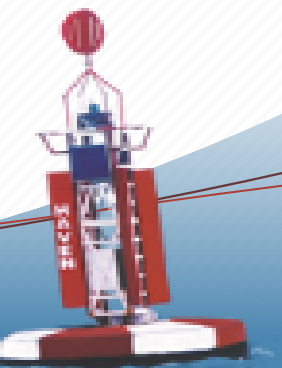


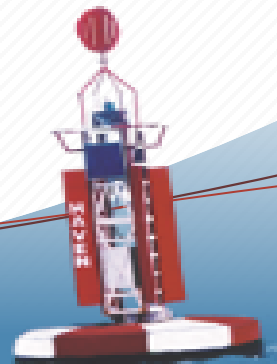
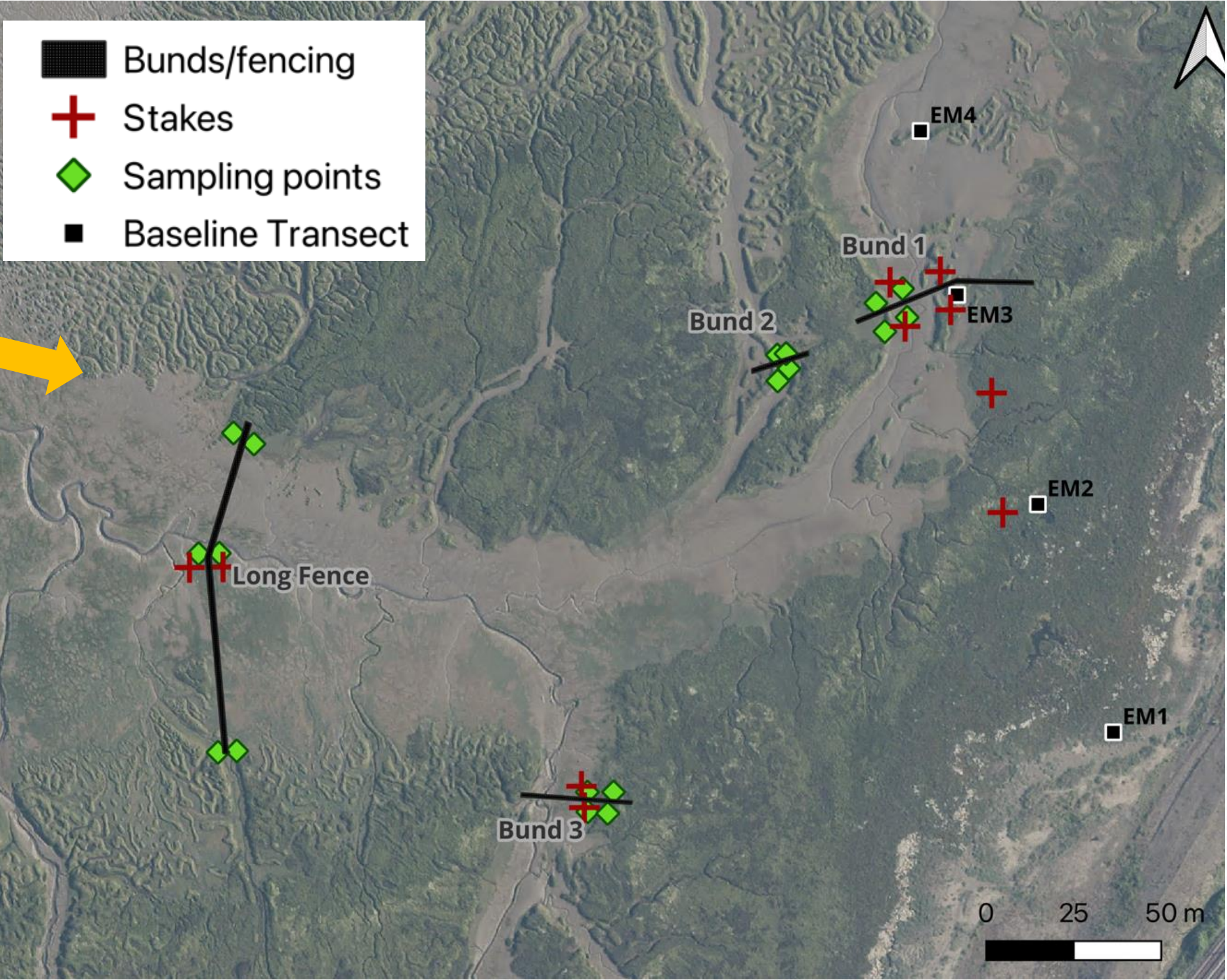
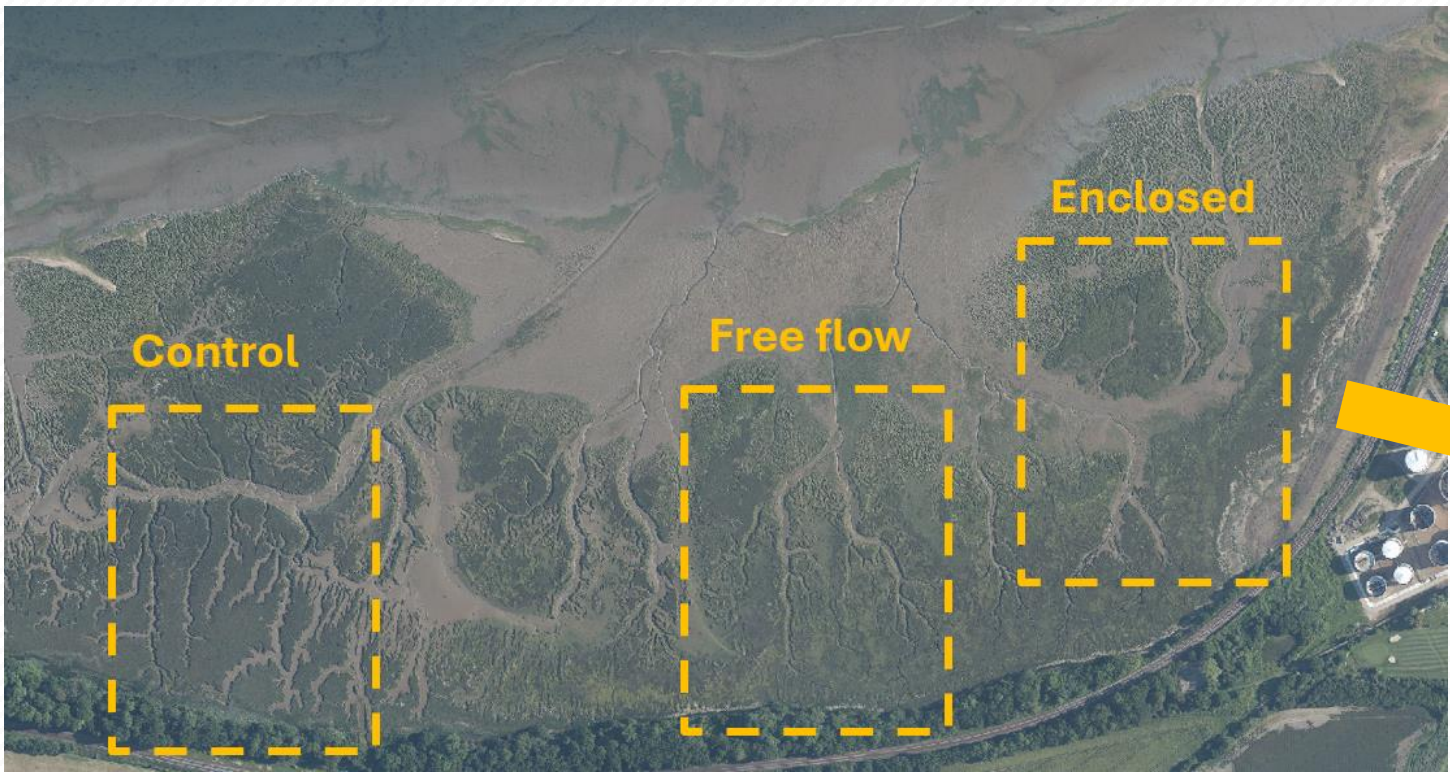




Problems with Copperas Bay

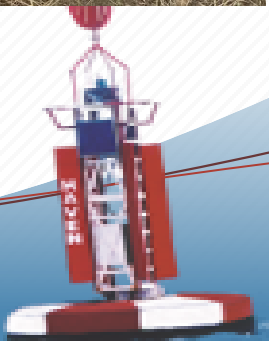
- Birds – means four weeks to do all the work including stoppages in cold weather, hence size of ship, weekend and 24hr working.
- Mud everywhere/ smothering of marsh – means pipeline to give more precise delivery, bunds to retain, bunds at MHWN.
- Compaction of marsh – means track mats to get pipe in place.
- MMO want everything in detail up front.





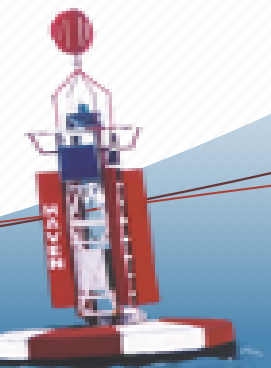
Copperas Bay –BUDS pumping

- Pumping straight from dredger (5 days)
- Limit is mean high tide neap (no higher)
- Total slurry volume $\sim 24,000\text{m}^3$

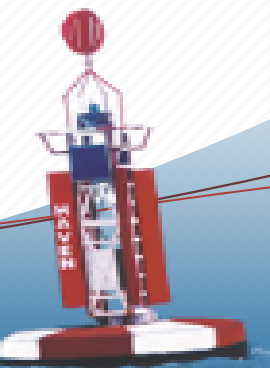
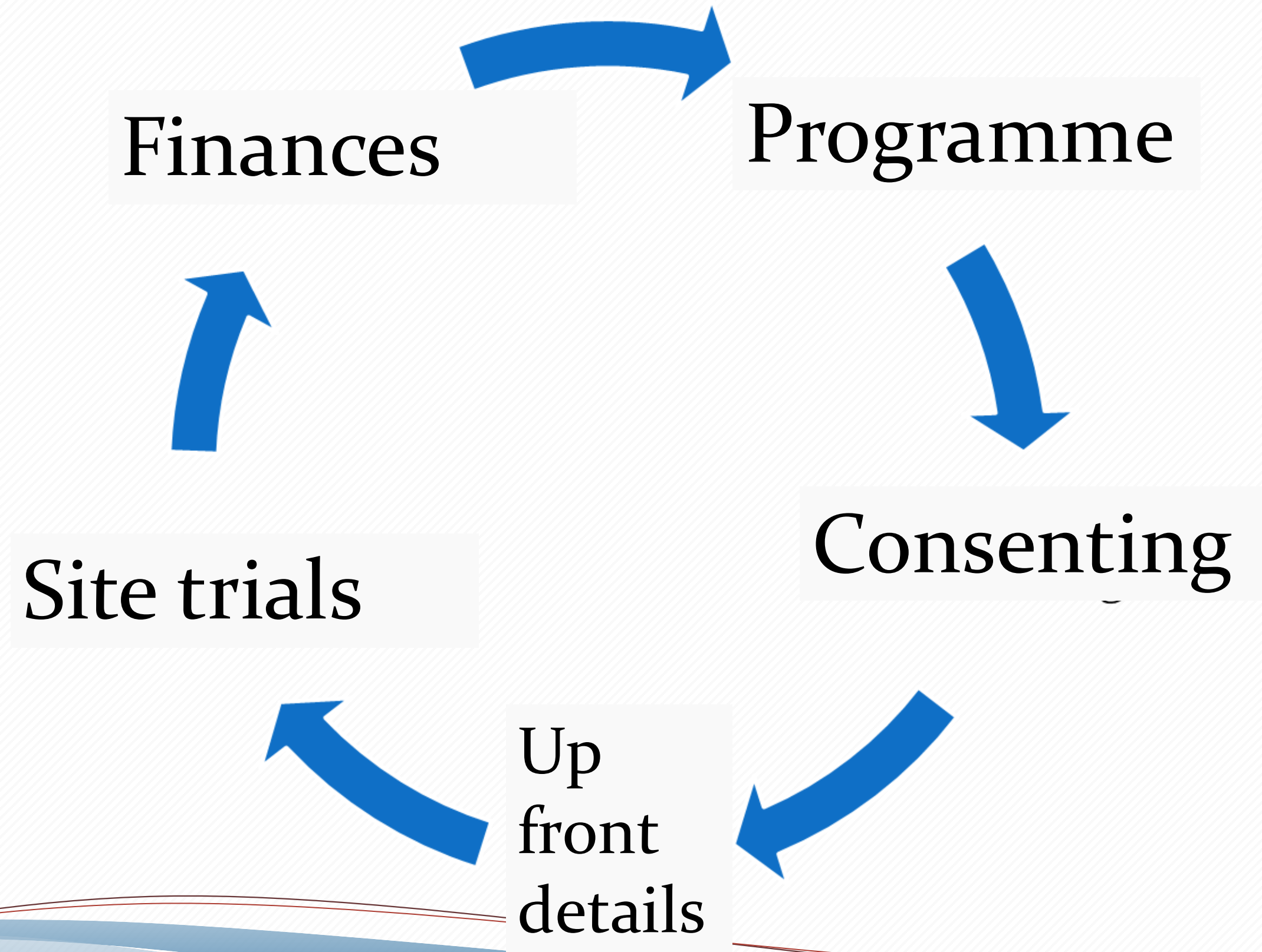


Predicted costs

- Bunds - £200,000.
 - £45,000 weekend working
 - £35,000 timber materials
- Dredging - £920,000
 - £180,000 doing the work
 - £580,000 mobilise and demobilise (inc 24hr working)
 - £100,000 contractor's office staff
- Work without pipeline - £135,000

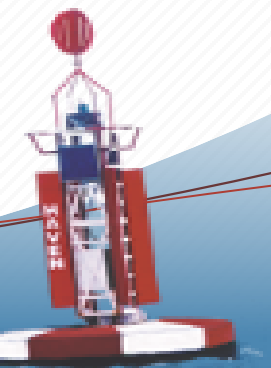


The problem

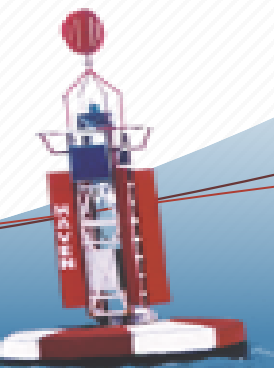
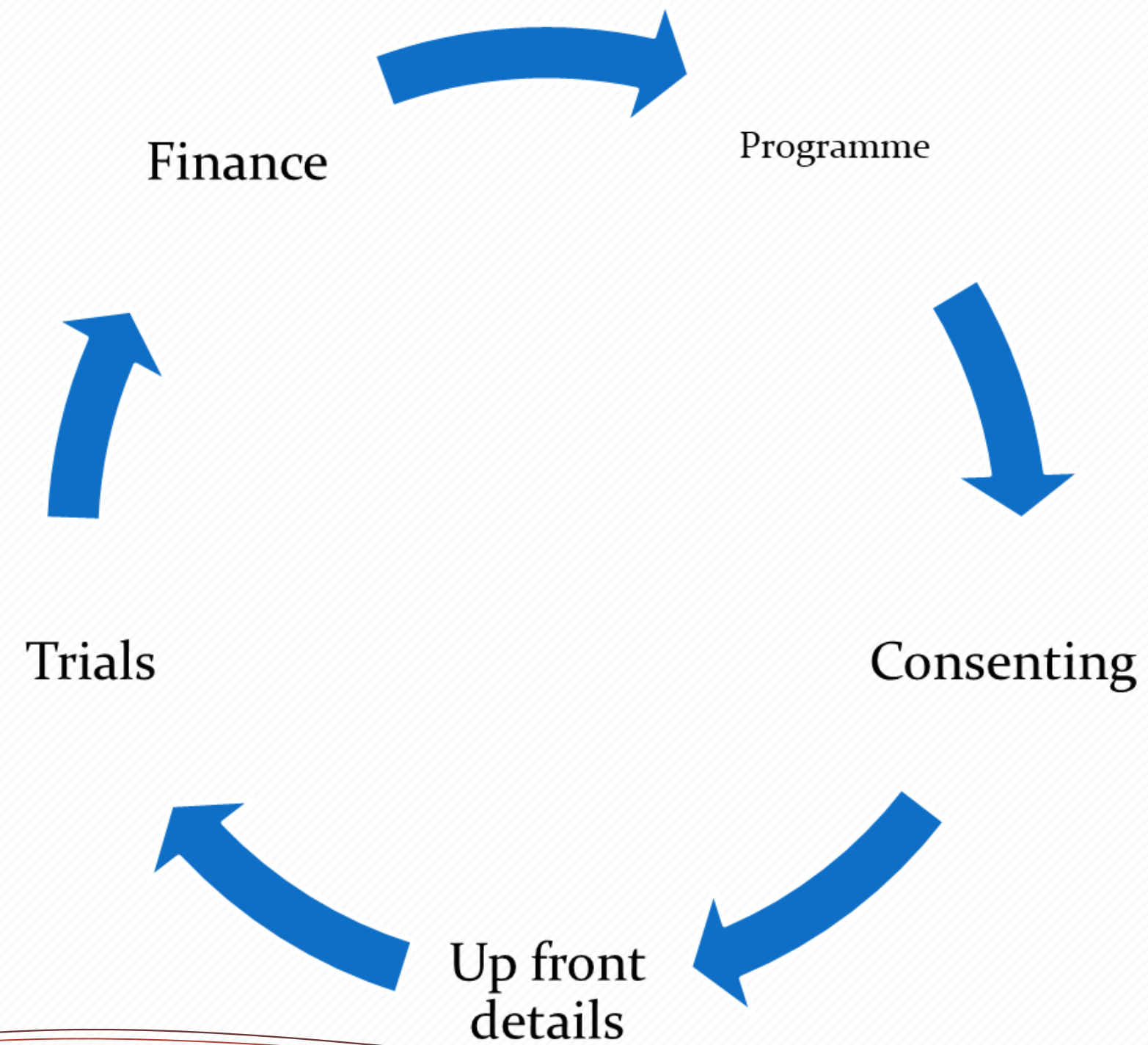


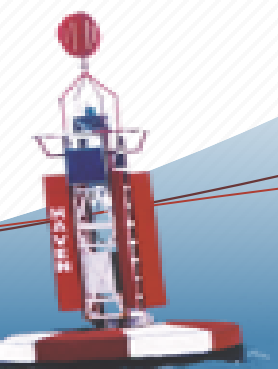
What's needed for BUDS

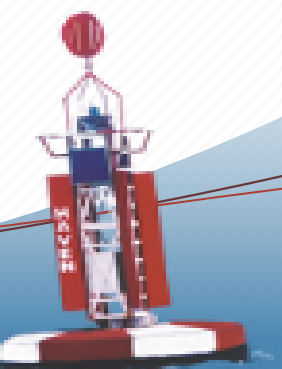
- Strategic overview by someone!
- Long term vision.
- Single long term works programme for all.
- Genuine collaboration.
- Risk taking.

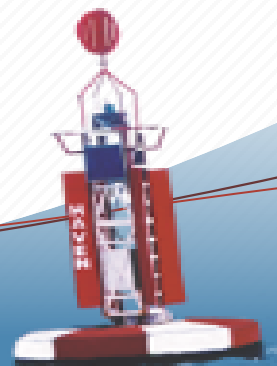


Current situation



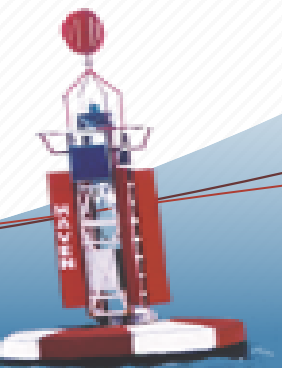






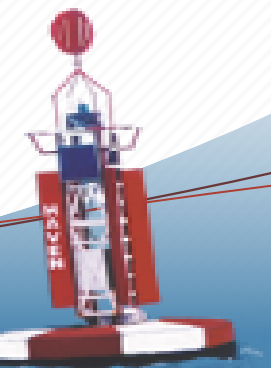
Challenge to regulators

- A 10-year offshore disposal licence is simple.
- I want a 10-year BUDS licence in the same way.



Regulators!

Over to
you!





ReMeMaRe Scarborough

Accelerating Restoration through industry

Langstone Harbour Saltmarsh Restoration, the Next Step

08-09 July 2026 Frits van den Boogaard

Content

01. The value of saltmarshes
02. 'Building with Nature' examples NL
03. Royal Smals' approach in 5 steps
04. Langstone Harbour Saltmarsh Restoration



The value of healthy saltmarshes

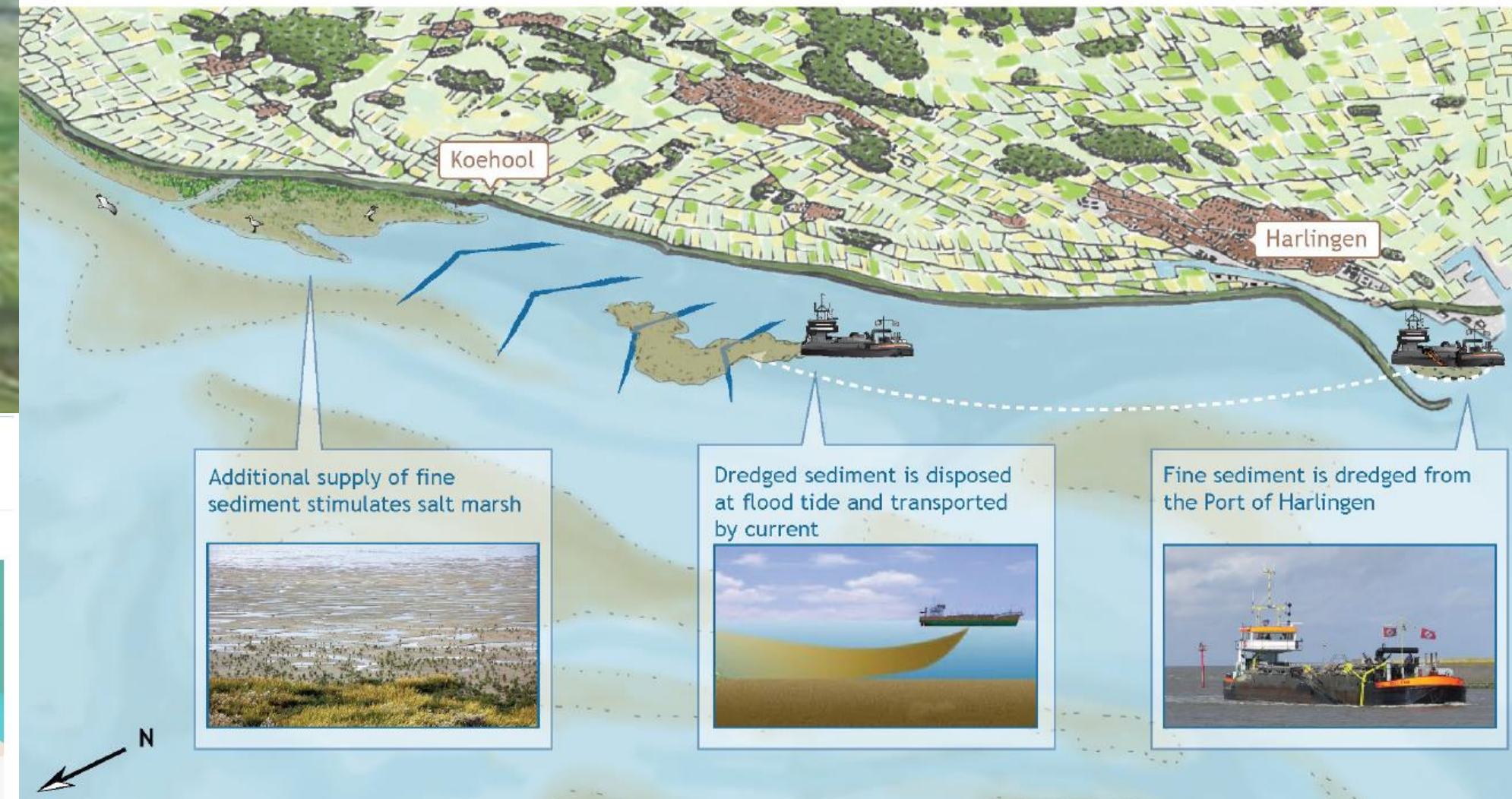


Why do saltmarshes disappear?

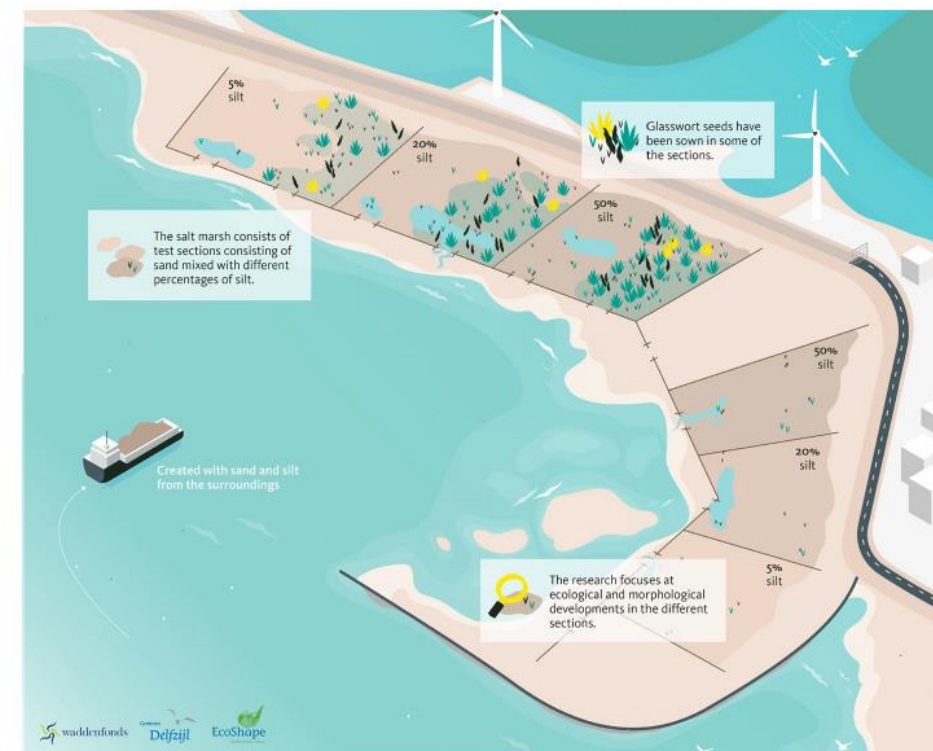


Building with Nature - NL

The Mud motor

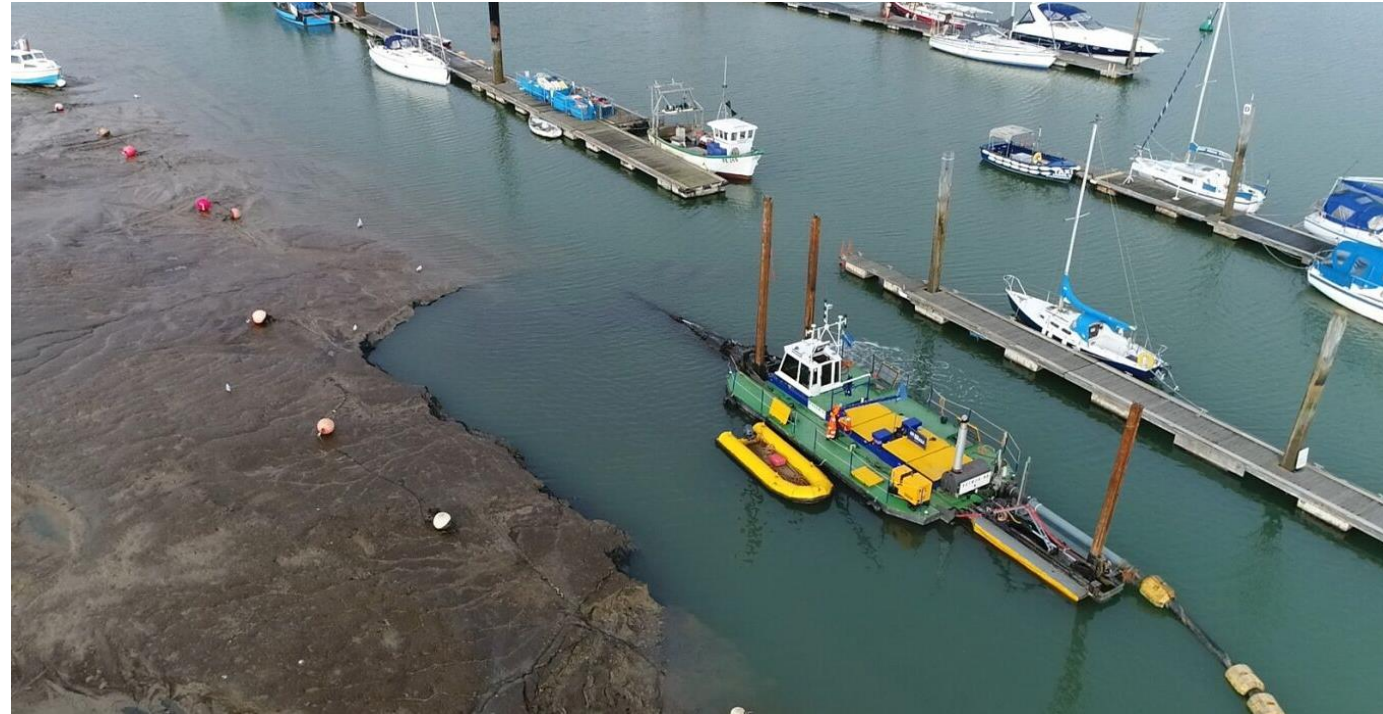


Marconi salt marsh development



- A rockfill dam was built to provide wave shelter.
- 15 ha of seafloor was raised with sand obtained from capital dredging.
- The new bed height for the projected salt marshes was set to MHW 1.35 ± 0.30 m in a gradient of 1:140.

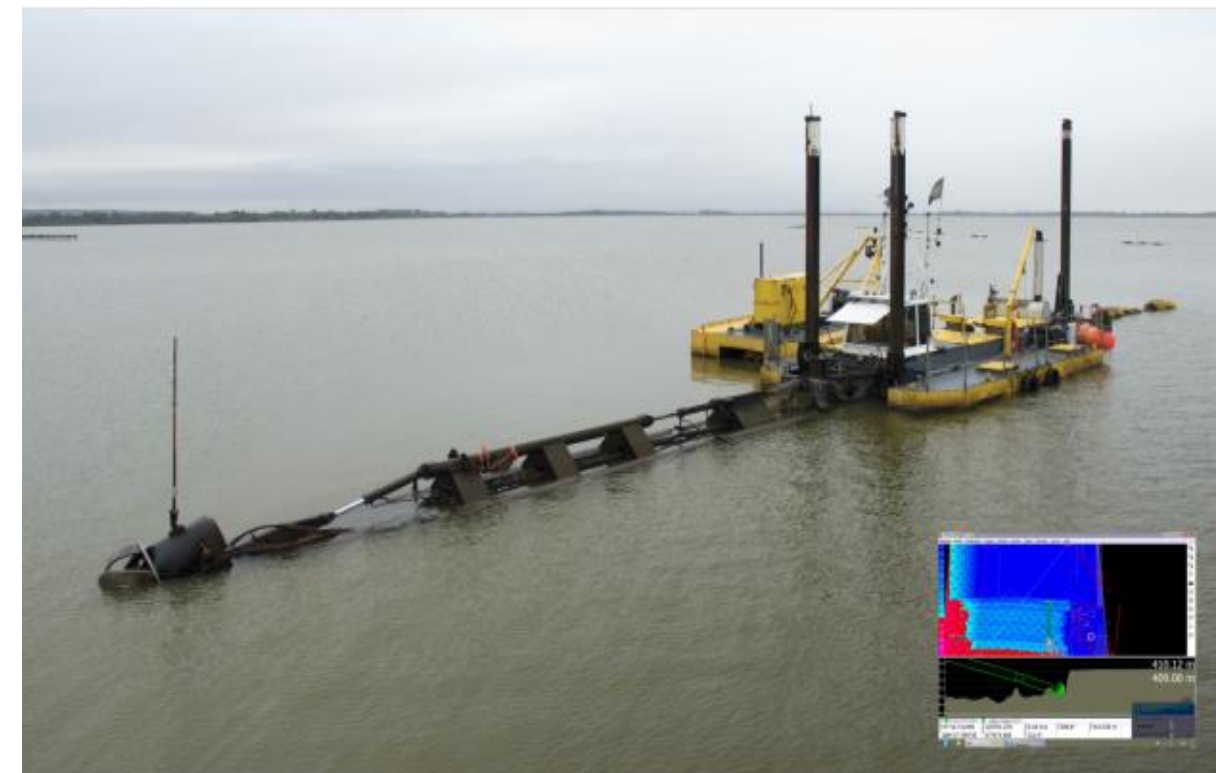
Brightlingsea saltmarsh restoration



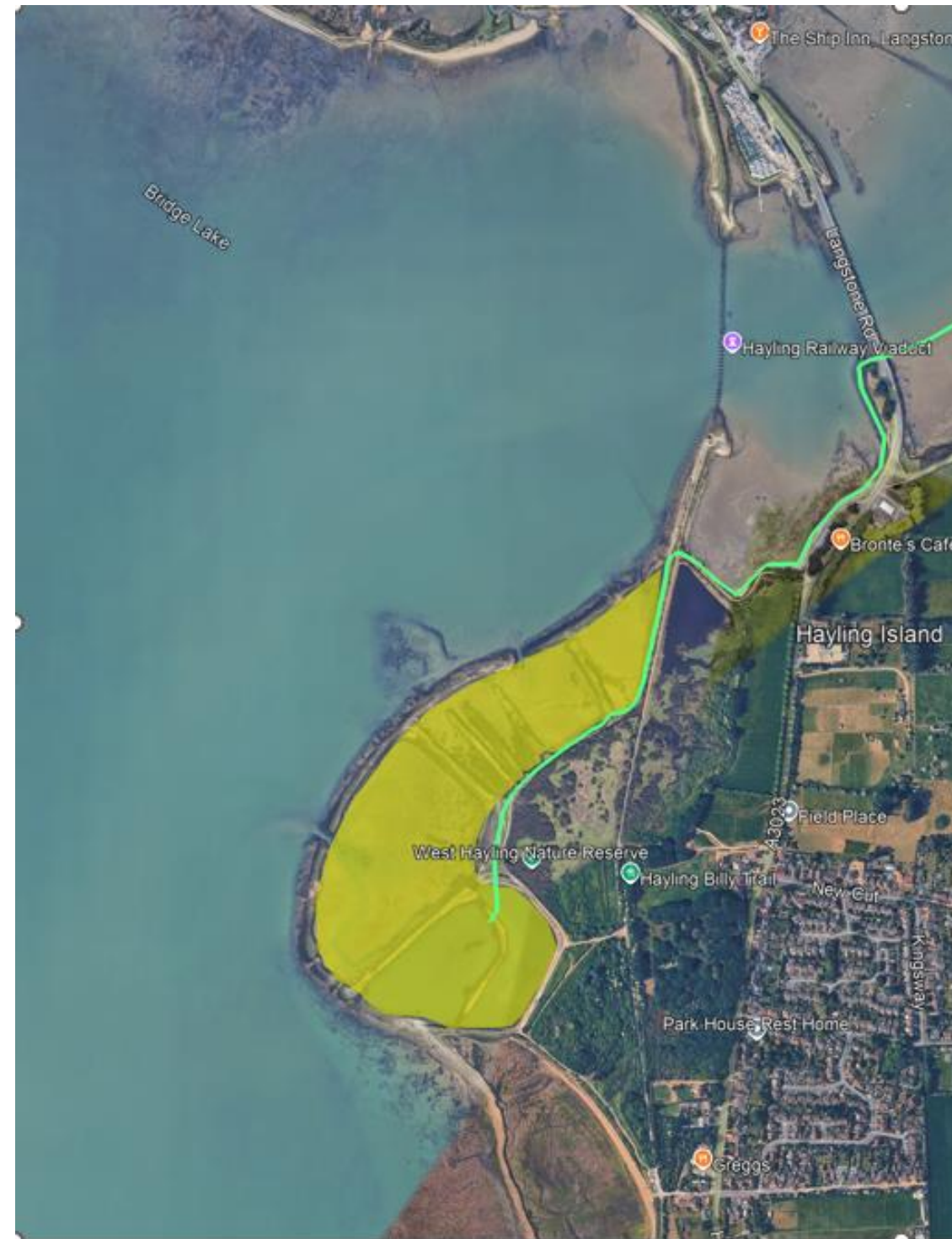
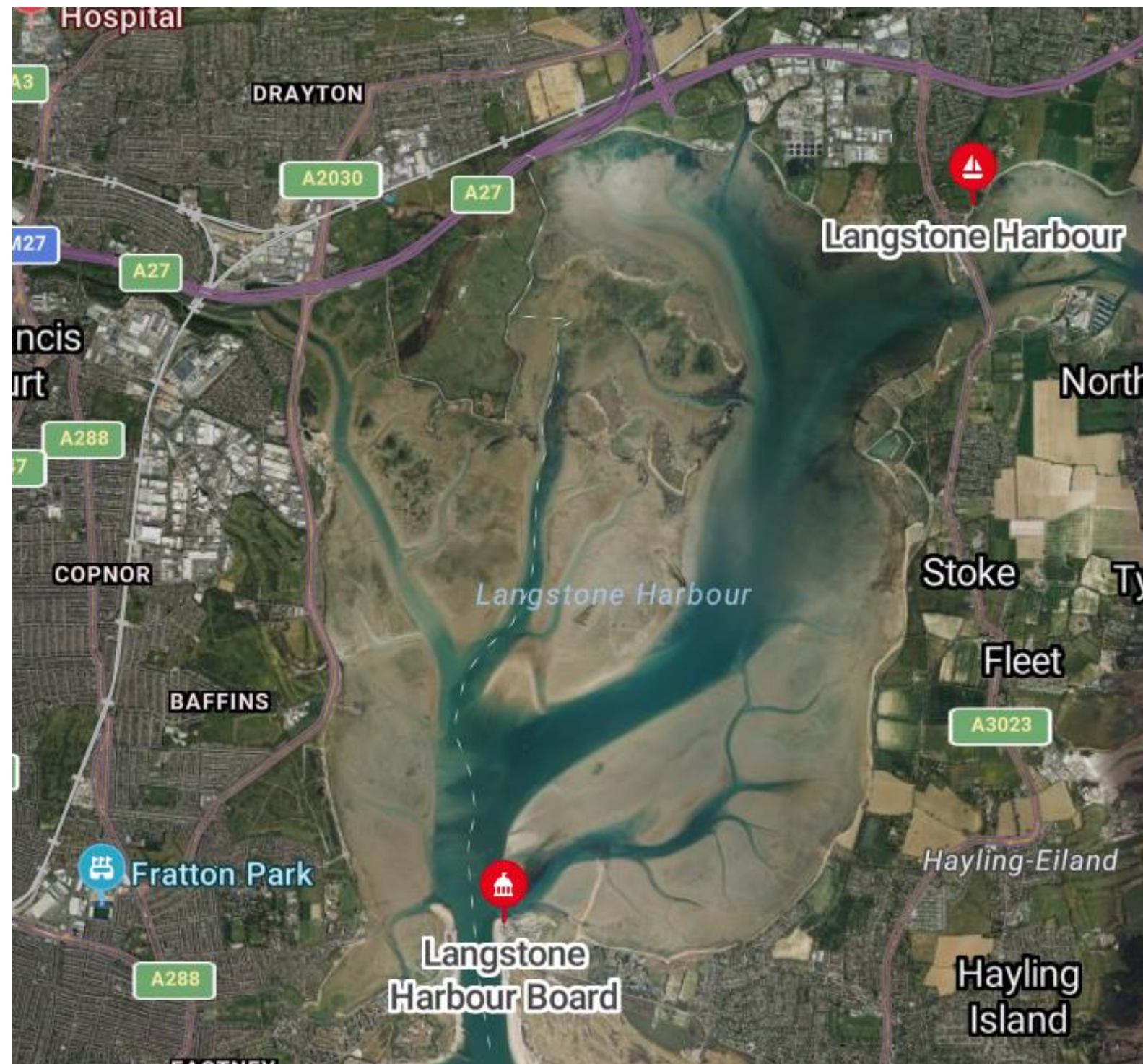
The Royal Smals approach – 5 steps



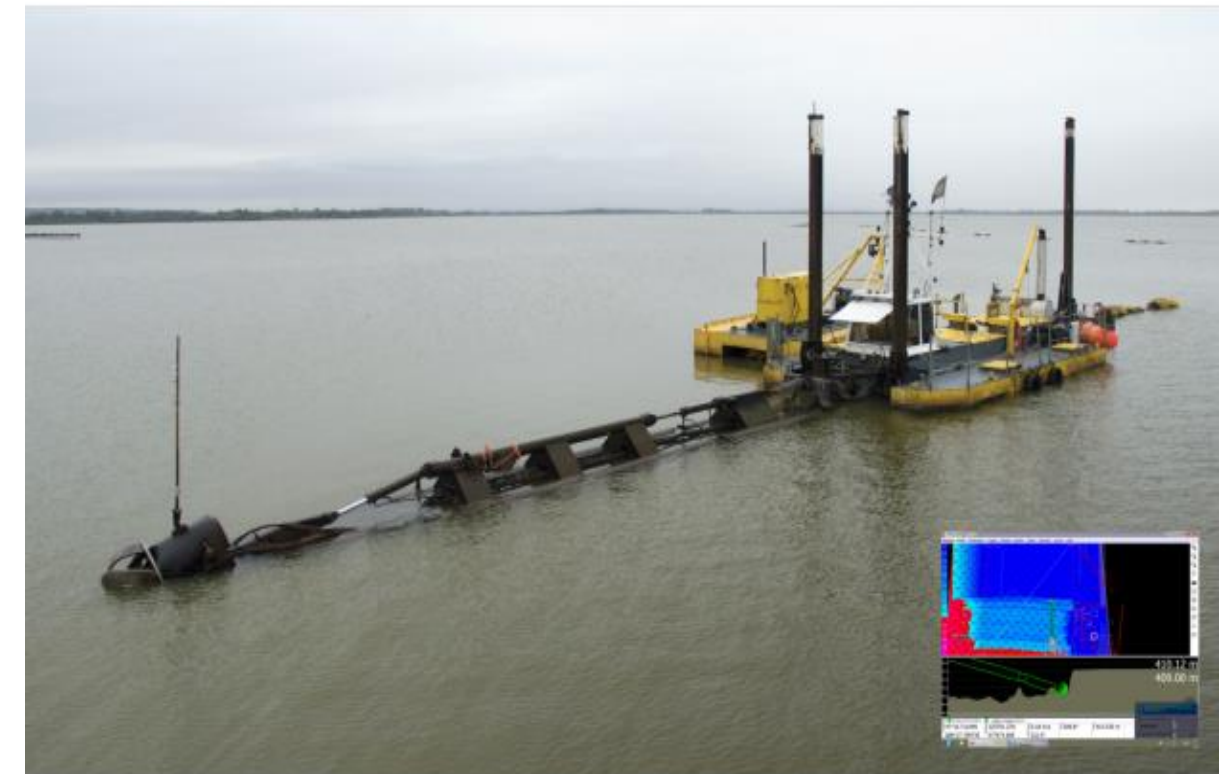
The Royal Smals approach - 5 steps



Langstone Harbour - Transforming dredged sediment into climate-resilient coastal landscape



Langstone Saltmarsh Ambition - 5 steps



Conclusion



- 01. Value: Coastal protection – Biodiversity – Carbon Storage
- 02. Nature Based solutions: brushwood dams – coir rolls – pioneer vegetation
- 03. 5 steps : Monitoring – Fencing the marsh – Elevating – Recovery - Optimisation
- 04. Royal Smals transforms dredged sediment into climate resilient coastal landscapes

Thank you for your attention!





MARINE REWILDING AND OFFSHORE WIND

How to harness this technology to support rewilding in practice

Jacques Villemot He/him
Jacques.Villemot@rewildingbritain.org.uk

**REWILDING
BRITAIN**

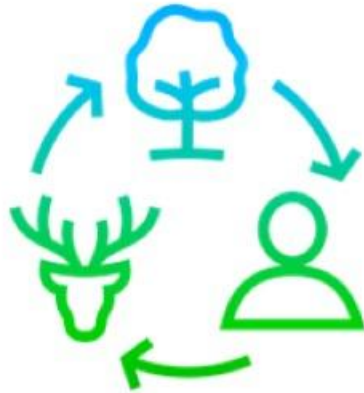




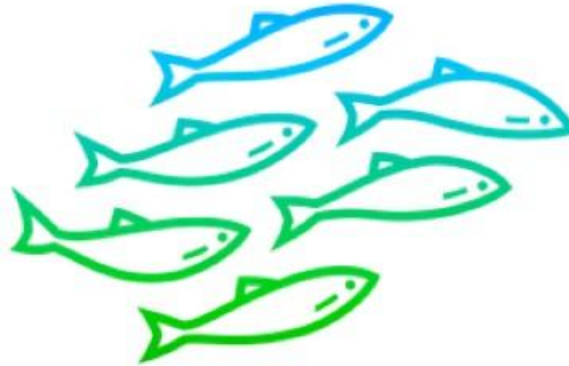
THE PRINCIPLES OF REWILDING



Support people and
nature together



Work at nature's
scale



Let nature lead



Create resilient
local economies



Secure benefits for
the long term

THE ECOLOGICAL IMPACTS OF OFFSHORE WIND



Like for like compensation is near impossible

Impacts run deep – from direct interaction with species and habitats to disturbance of natural processes

Impacts vary during the lifecycle of the development

- Construction
- Operation
- Decommission

THE ECONOMIC REALITY

Again, opportunities vary during the lifecycle of the development

- Construction
- Operation
- Decommission

Possible conflict can happen with existing industries

- Fisheries
- Tourism
- Recreation

Opportunities are created for new pathways to blue jobs



Credit: Colin Ward / Adobe Stock



Credit: Seawilding

WHAT DOES IT MEAN FOR OUR COASTAL SOCIETIES?



Wind farms reshape coastal economies, culture, and identity

Developments shine a bright light on our seas and can support increased literacy

Opportunities arise for community empowerment through:

- Community Benefit Funds
- In-kind offers such as habitat management programmes.
- Opportunities for community ownership

FUNDING MECHANISMS: THE CURRENT PICTURE

Lack of mandatory government framework to support nature enhancement (i.e. Marine Net Gain/Net Benefit)

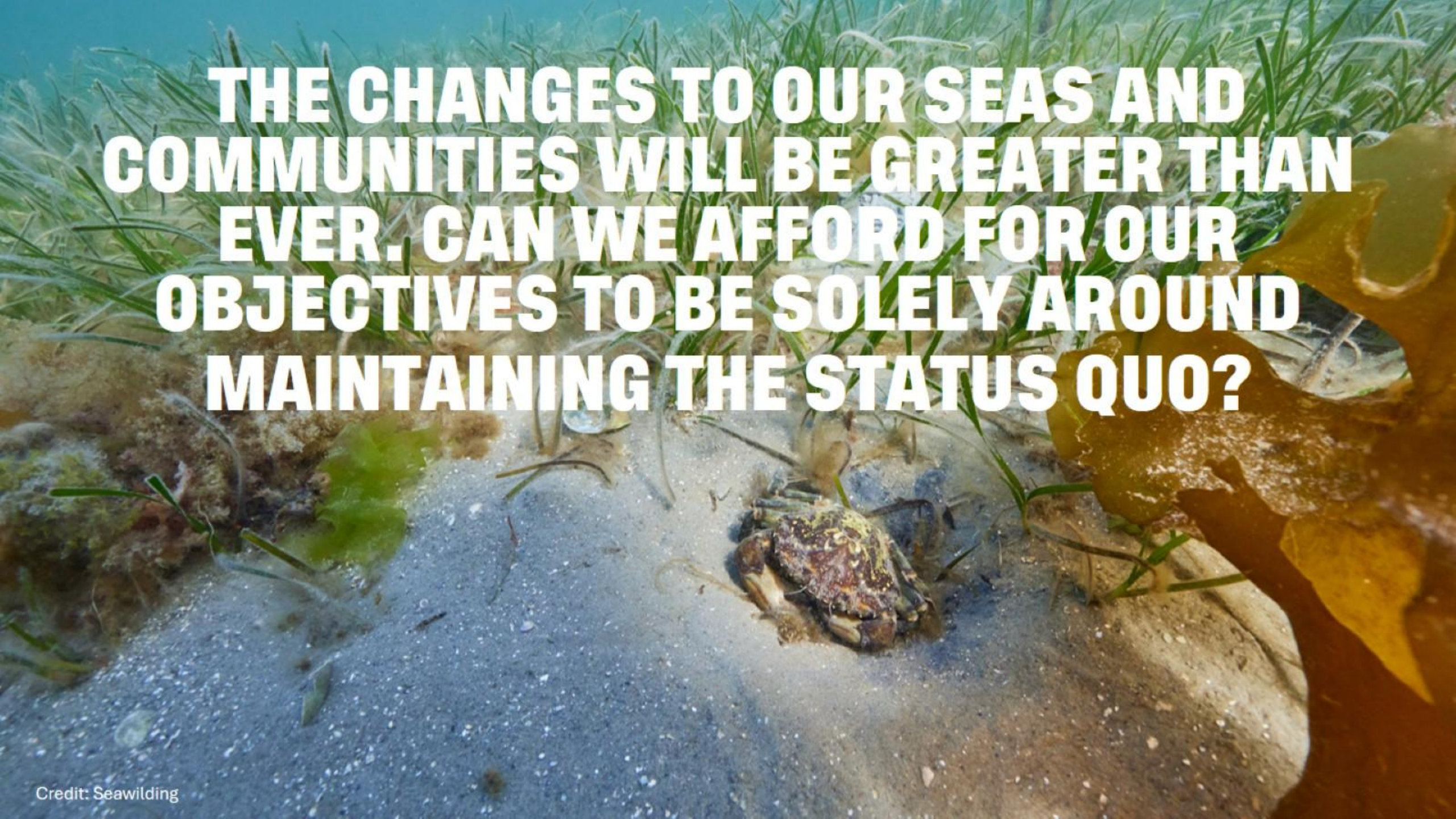
Rise of voluntary frameworks

- Scottish Marine Environmental Enhancement Fund (SMEEF)
- Marine Fund Cymru (MFC)

Lack of consistency means projects too often depend on private-sector partnerships



Credit: SCOTLAND: The Big Picture

An underwater photograph showing a sandy seabed with green seagrass and brown seaweed. A small crab is visible on the sand in the lower center. The text is overlaid in large, bold, white capital letters.

**THE CHANGES TO OUR SEAS AND
COMMUNITIES WILL BE GREATER THAN
EVER. CAN WE AFFORD FOR OUR
OBJECTIVES TO BE SOLELY AROUND
MAINTAINING THE STATUS QUO?**

HOW TO HARNESS OFFSHORE WIND TO TRIGGER A SYSTEM CHANGE FOR ALL?



1 STRATEGIC SITING

2 STREAMLINED MARINE
LICENSING

3 NEW FUNDING
FRAMEWORKS

4 SEASCAPE-SCALE MARINE
REWILDING



HOW TO HARNESS OFFSHORE WIND TO TRIGGER A SYSTEM CHANGE FOR ALL?



**MEANINGFUL COMMUNITY
INVOLVEMENT**



**IMPROVED OCEAN
LITERACY**



**A COLLABORATIVE
EVIDENCE BASE**



THANK YOU!

**For more details about the report or
the Rewilding Network, come find us
at our stand!**



Jacques Villemot (he/him)
Jacques.villemot@rewildingbritain.org.uk

Rememare, 2026, Scarborough

**Strategic Marine Net Gain (SMNG): A
blueprint for marine industries and marine
restoration**

Peter Barham MBE, Chair, Seabed User and Developer Group

Biodiversity, climate and marine crises

Two things are clear:

1) additional measures are required to change a trajectory of nature decline to one of nature recovery, and:

2) existing measures need to be more effective.

Marine industries are critical to economies and climate change, but also have:

- Extensive experience of working with legislation and regulators to protect the environment
- Mitigation hierarchy/compensation/strategic compensation for offshore wind

Increasingly recognised internationally that we need Net Gain legislation to restore the environment

but it must not be confused with compensation and the complexity of protective legislation

The MNG Task & Finish Group

Partnership working:

- Natural England
- Defra
- The Wildlife Trusts
- RSPB
- Energy UK
- MMO
- RUK
- UKMPG
- SUDG
- ABPmer,
- HMC
- Haskoning



Offshore
Wind Evidence
+ Change
Programme

**Proactive on policy development
Strategic objectives for MNG**

The work of the T&F group

Three Phases - based on internal working and extensive consultation:



Phase One: Identified national strategic targets for Marine Net Gain.



Phase Two: Reviewed restoration projects and assessed feasibility, constraints, and lessons learned.



Phase Three: Applied the strategic targets at a regional scale and developed a practical implementation framework.

Key outcomes

Phase 1

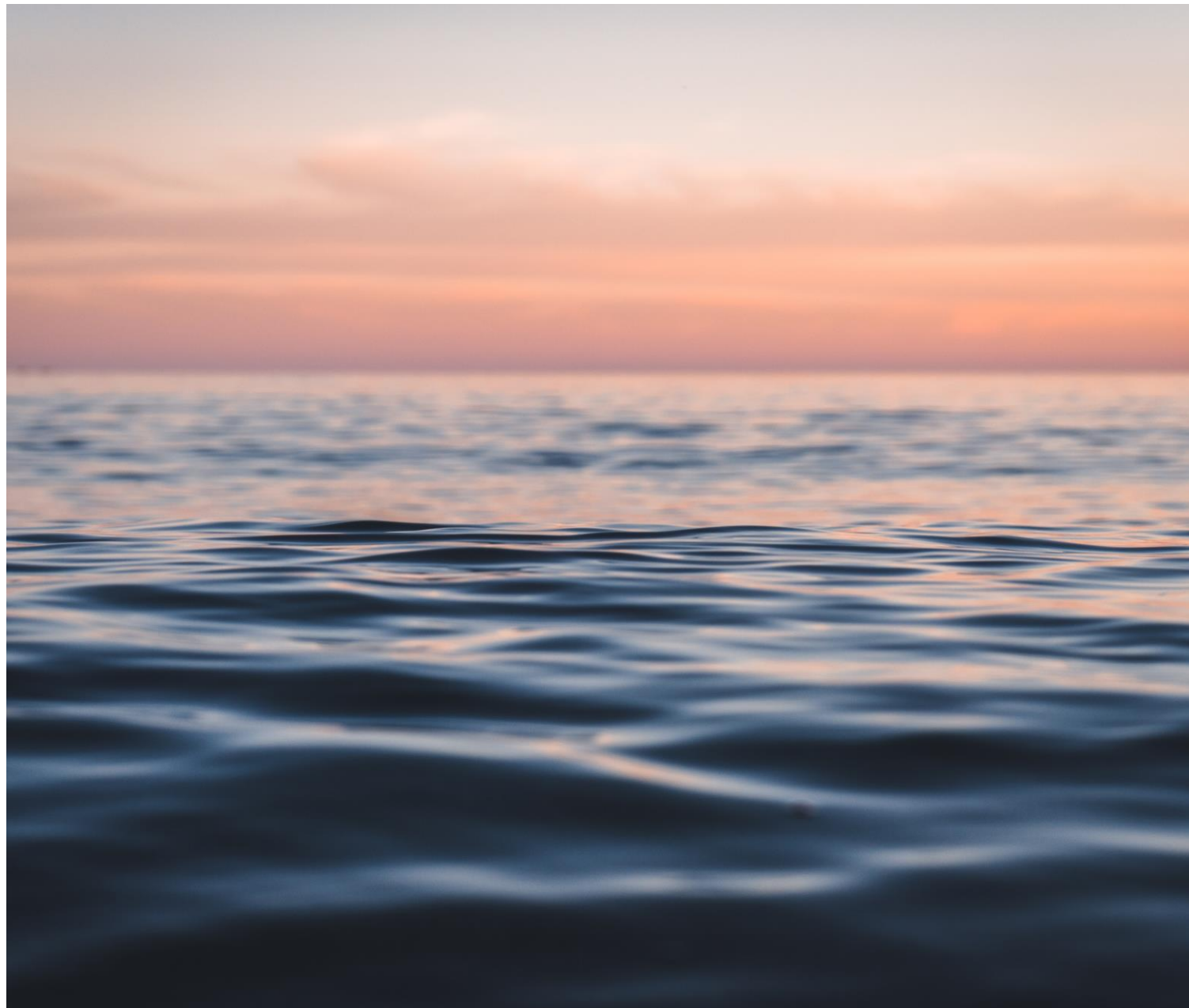
- Strategic targets
 - Need to align with MSFD* criteria
 - Must be widely agreed
- Need for innovation and research
- Wider considerations

Phase 2

- There is considerable potential for delivery of strategic targets
- Industry is very supportive of **mandatory** strategic MNG
- Regulation can be a considerable constraint to delivery

*(EU Marine Strategy Framework Directive)

Key Findings: phase 3



- Strategic targets can be translated into regional priorities.
- A consistent and comprehensive national framework is essential to avoid fragmentation.
- Regional delivery requires structured governance and clear processes.
- Many high value opportunities exist, but pressure reduction is often a prerequisite for successful restoration.
- Pre consented measures significantly reduce delivery barriers.

Recommendations

18 recommendations – fully supported by evidence

1. Scope and principles
2. Governance and consenting
3. Finance mechanisms

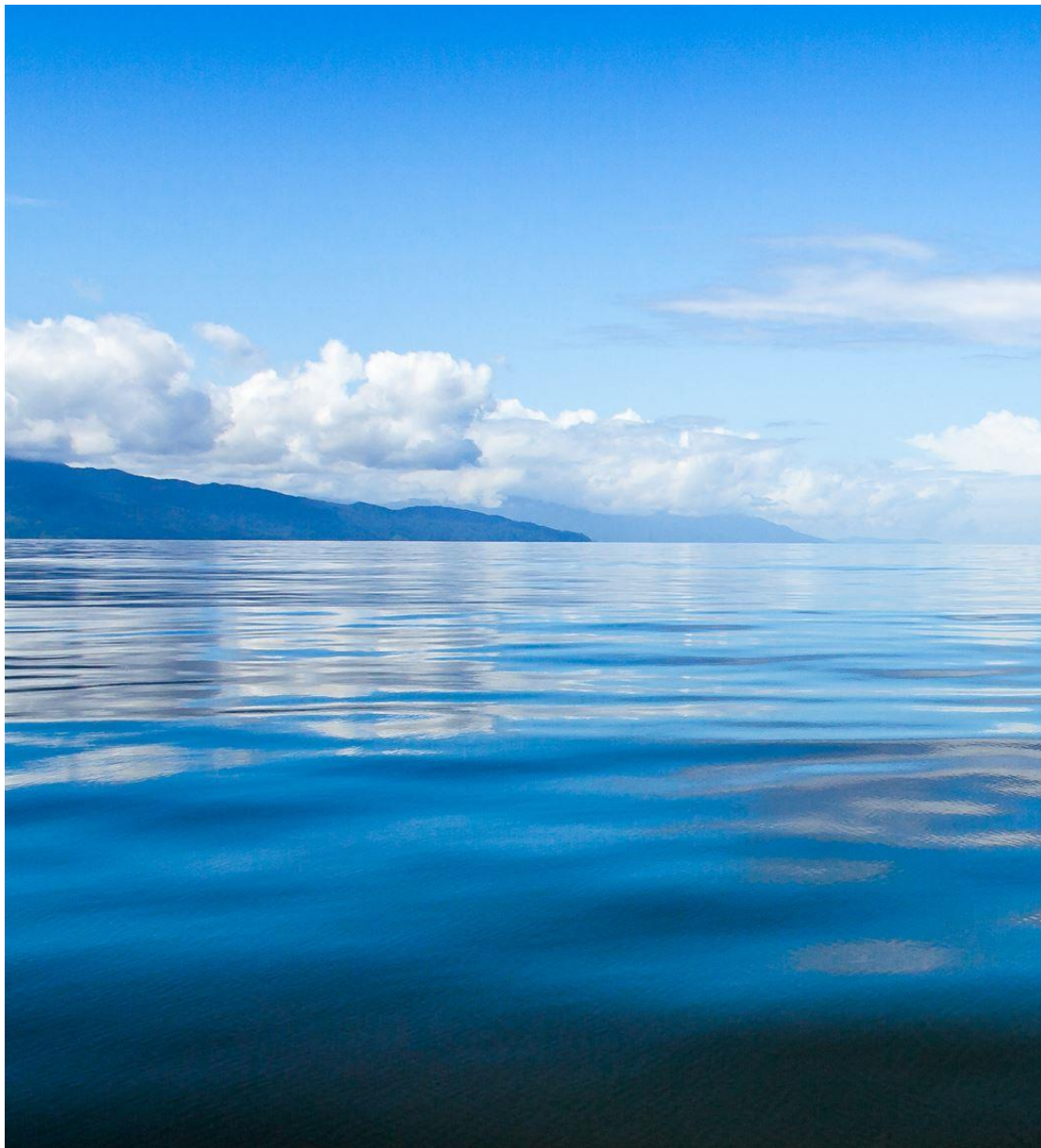
Developers may want to work with local stakeholders but delivery of the SMNG targets should be encouraged



Summary



What the Framework Achieves: widespread support from industry and conservation bodies



- Delivers meaningful biodiversity gains
- Provides clarity and predictability for developers
- Enable strategic, seascape scale recovery
- Reduces consenting barriers
- Supports innovation and long term monitoring
- Aligns national and regional priorities

Where next? Policy development

- Our work supports Government in shaping a statutory MNG policy that is deliverable, strategic and enduring
- A voluntary approach may assist the development of a mandatory approach

AND...

- Applying the recommendations comprehensively would help ensure that any future MNG policy is industry-backed, evidence-based, and
- Widely supported through collaboration

**We will continue to push for mandatory net gain and
marine restoration**

Thank You

[sudg.org.uk](https://www.sudg.org.uk)



Peter Barham, Chair and Jennifer Godwin, Chief Exec for the Seabed User and Developer Group

<https://www.sudg.org.uk/post/blueprint-for-an-effective-strategic-marine-net-gain-framework-in-the-uk>





Developing a fund to help fast track Marine Nature Recovery

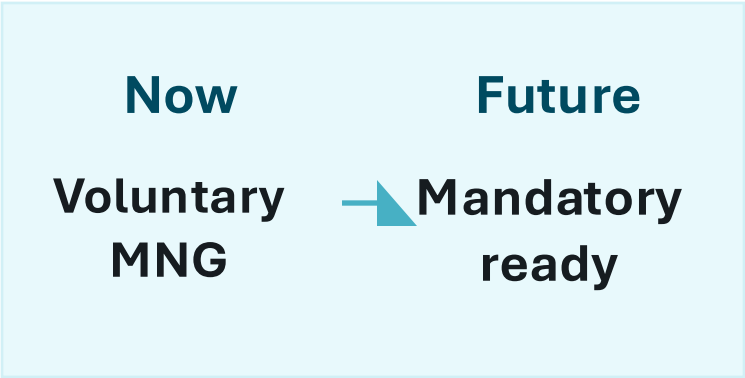
Audrey Jones, ReMeMaRe 2026

Project overview

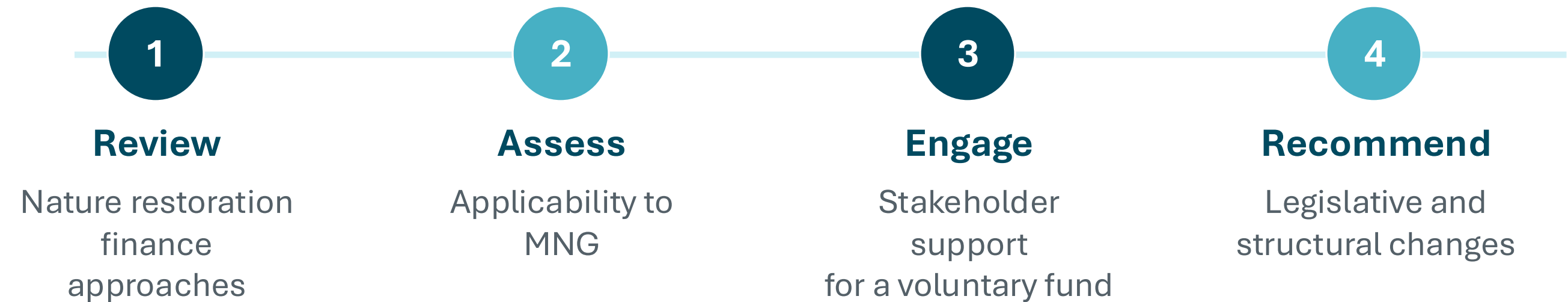
Purpose

Unlock scalable finance for marine recovery

- Enable voluntary Marine Net Gain (MNG) in English waters
- Build readiness for potential future mandatory MNG implementation



Approach



Outcome	A practical pathway to develop and govern a Marine Recovery / MNG fund
----------------	---

“Marine Net gain is an approach to development that aims to leave the natural environment in a measurably better state than beforehand”

(Defra, Marine Net Gain (MNG) consultation, 2022)



Funds reviewed

Developer-financed statutory funds Statutory requirements	• Marine Recovery Fund (MRF) • Nature Restoration Fund (Planning and Infrastructure Act) • Scottish Marine Recovery Fund (MRF)
Blended / private voluntary recovery Marine nature recovery	• Scottish Marine Environmental Enhancement Fund (SMEEF) • MARINE Fund Cymru
Government finance funds Public finance	• Scottish Nature Restoration Fund (NRF) • Facility for investment-ready nature in Scotland (FIRNS) • Nature Networks Fund (Wales)
Private market / investment funds Investment capital	• UK Nature Impact Fund • Irish Infrastructure, Climate and Nature Fund (ICNF)
Green and Blue Bonds Bond finance	• Ørsted – Blue Bonds • UK Green Gilts and Green Savings Bond • Seychelles Blue Bond (Global) • Belize Blue Bond (Global)

Review findings

- No existing fund that could be easily adapted to deliver voluntary marine recovery and MNG
- Existing funding usually short-term, making monitoring the longer-term outcomes of restoration projects challenging
- All stages of restoration projects need funding – project development, baseline monitoring, as well as the wider enabling actions, such as governance – as well as the project delivery
- Potential to consider mechanisms that generate investment beyond developer contributions, or that can generate their own investment



Stakeholder workshops

Marine Industry

‘What would motivate industry to contribute to a fund — are there any potential barriers?’

- Broad support to pay into a fund to meet ESG / corporate net-positive commitments and prepare for future mandatory MNG
- Limited availability of funds for voluntary delivery — more support if mandatory
- Support for strategic delivery, but a link back to projects is needed
- Concern that not enough restoration measures are available
- Avoid greenwashing perception through measurable outcomes
- Strategic fund should support innovative solutions, research and capacity building



Stakeholder workshops

Nature finance and economic experts

- Explore innovative options for a marine restoration fund
- Potential to use private capital to generate funding for marine restoration

Main issues:

- Lack of a robust and scalable pipeline of measures
- Need for robust monitoring, reporting and verification to avoid greenwashing
- Ensure outcomes through management of other activities and insurance against failure



Recommendations

- Establish a new pooled contributions and disbursement fund
- Draw on experience from SMEEF and Marine Fund Cymru
- Consider how it can link to existing funds e.g. Marine Recovery Fund
- Other mechanisms could help build more diverse nature finance system in future

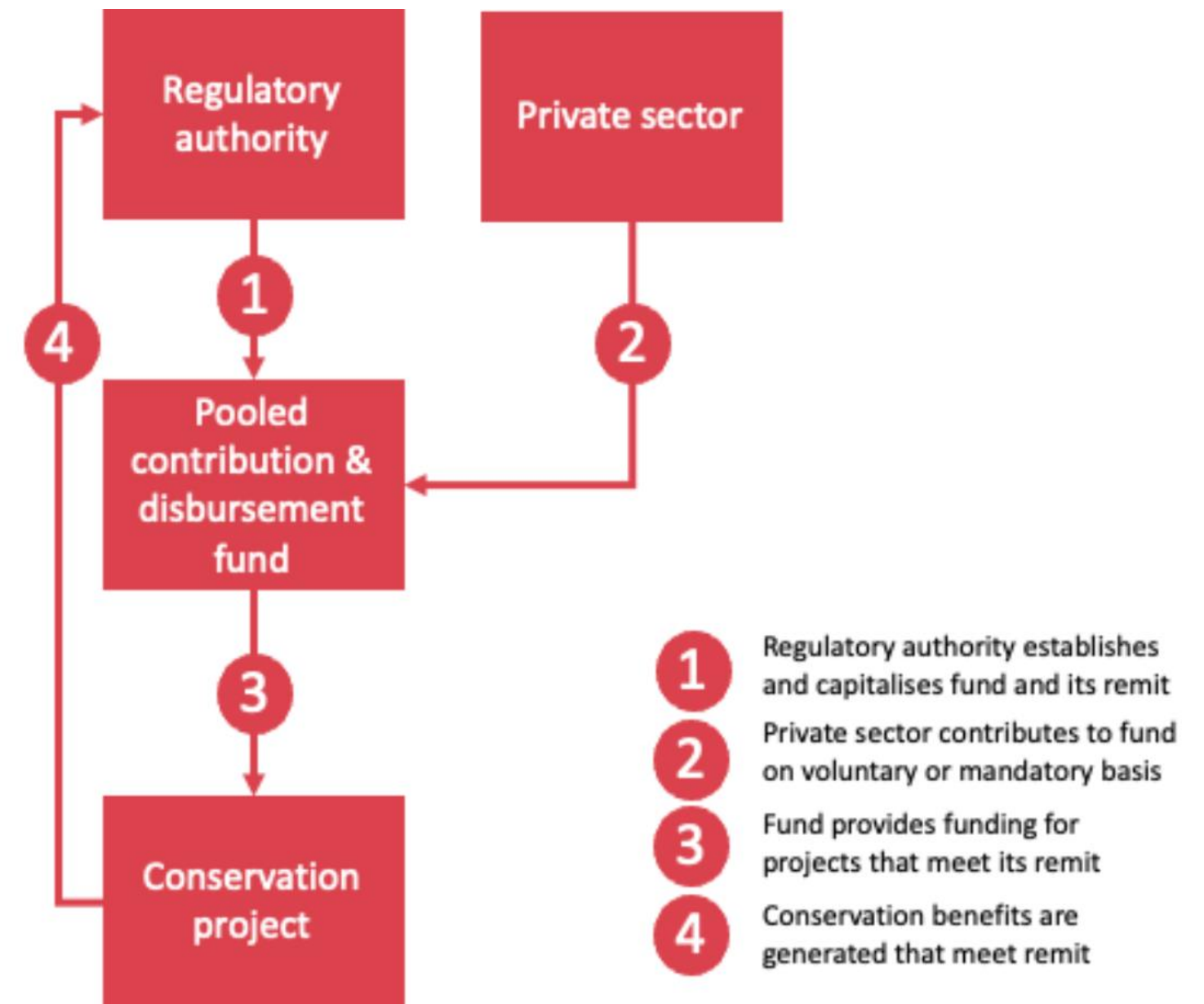


Image: Ocean Fox Consultancy

Development of a Voluntary Fund: decisions to move from concept to delivery





4: Accelerating Restoration Through Industry: Innovation and Investment

Chair – Jennifer Godwin,

- Jim Warner
- Audrey Jones
- Peter Barham
- Jacques Villemot
- Frits van den Boogaard
- Samir Whitaker

SLIDO



Environment
Agency



Ocean
and Coastal
Futures

Supported by:



Scottish & Southern
Electricity Networks

SSEN DISTRIBUTION ED3 BUSINESS PLAN SEAGRASS RESTORATION SURVEY

We need to demonstrate stakeholder support and gather evidence to support our ED3 Nature-Based Solutions investments. You can help by completing our questionnaire via the QR code below.

Help Shape Our ED3 Plans for
Seagrass Restoration



SCAN THE QR CODE TO LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR ED3 BUSINESS PLANS

Related Poster

7	Rachael Collins	Collaborative Environmental Advisers (CEA)	Enabling Oyster Reef Restoration as Offshore Wind Compensation by Overcoming Consenting Barriers
---	-----------------	--	--

Day 2 - Thursday 9th July 2026: Session 5	
10:40	Refreshment break
11:10	ECOSYSTEM SERVICES IN FOCUS: FROM EVIDENCE TO ACTION Understanding the benefits and services provided by our marine habitats is essential evidence to attract investment, reduce uncertainty, and communicate future change with local communities. This session will spotlight on the latest science and evidence documenting the key ecosystem services delivered by estuarine and coastal habitats, examining how to turn the latest evidence into a roadmap for recovery. Chair: Bill Sanderson, Professor of Marine Biodiversity, Heriot-Watt University • Charlotte Worrall, University of Essex; Seasonal variability in CO2 and CH4 fluxes for a restored saltmarsh chronosequence • Laura Robinson, Seagrown: Title TBC • Anita Franco, International Estuarine and Coastal Specialists Ltd, UK; Harnessing Inshore Fish Data for Natural Capital Valuation: Maintaining and Restoring Ecology • Louise Martin, Natural England; Wrecks, Reefs, and Nature Recovery: Exploring the Natural Capital Value of Marine Heritage • Nigel Pontee, Jacobs; Unlocking Managed Realignment: Practical Funding Pathways for SMP Policy Delivery
12:35	Lunch

ReMeMaRe Thanks to our Sponsors

