

Eco-COBS – the North West Coast's Flood and Coastal Resilience Innovation Programme

Supported by DEFRA

Project Champion – Carl Green

Interim Project Manager – Susannah Bleakley



What is Eco-COBS? (i)

Eco-COBS is one of 25 pioneering projects awarded by DEFRA under the Flood and Coastal Resilience Innovation Programme (FCRIP) to test new approaches to tackle the threat of flooding and improve coastal resilience.

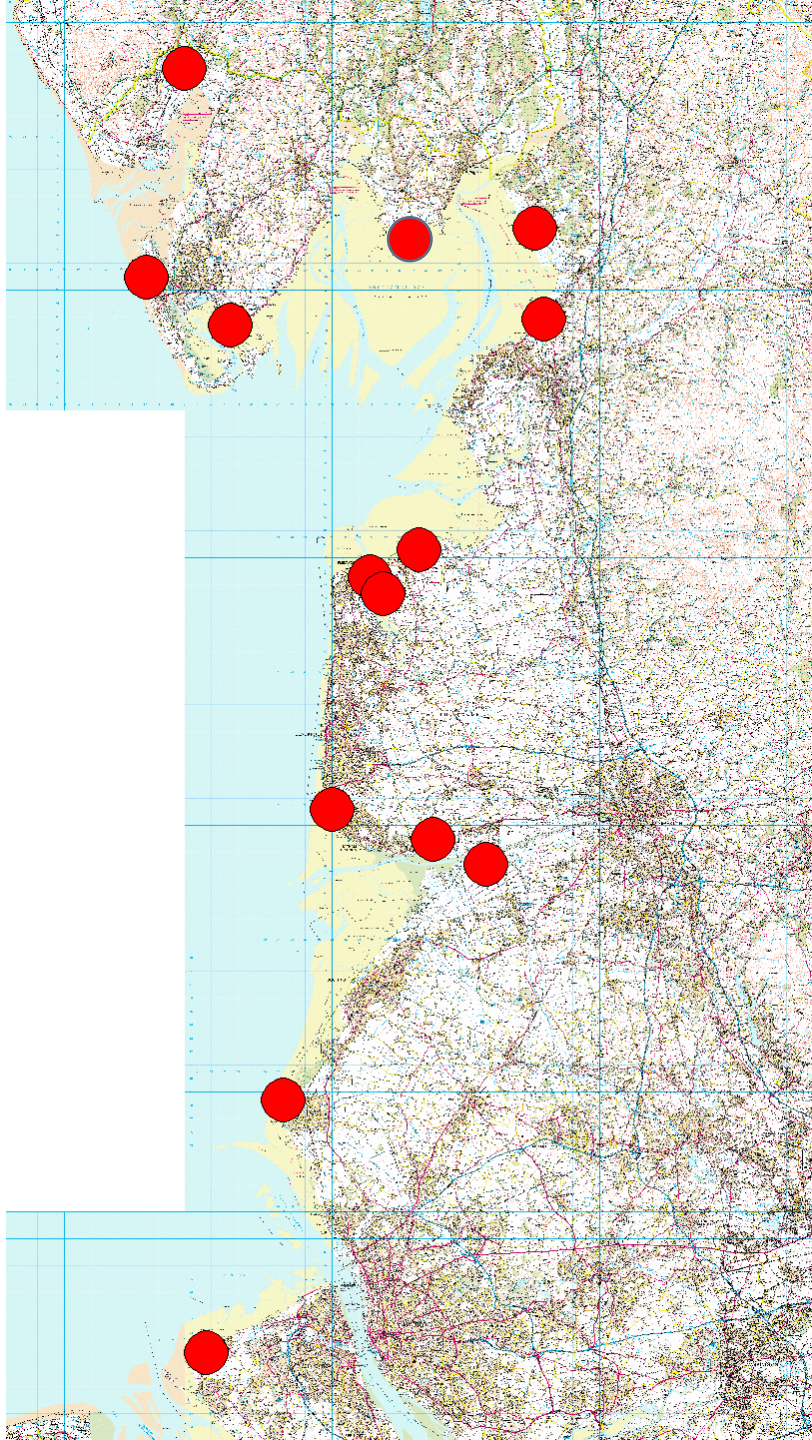


What is Eco-COBS? (ii)

Eco-CoBS has been awarded £6M over the next 5 years for work along the NW coast to

- Improve the effectiveness of natural coastal habitats such as sand dunes and saltmarshes to bolster coastal and flood resilience and
- Test innovative approaches and share the lessons learnt.





Aims of Eco-COBS

- Improve the effectiveness of coastal habitats for natural coastal resilience
- Test innovative approaches and practical resilience actions
- Work with communities building shared ownership of the approaches
- Gather evidence on costs and benefits and
- Share the learning widely.



What is the Flood and Coastal Resilience Innovation Programme (FCRIP)?

FCRIP fulfils a key commitment of the government's policy statement on flood and coastal erosion and the Environment Agency's National Flood & Coastal Erosion Risk Management Strategy to develop and test new approaches to tackle the threat of flooding and coastal change.

The programme will

- Help communities to become more resilient to the effects of climate change
- Develop innovative solutions
- Learn from doing with lessons shared widely, and the evidence used to help inform future approaches for investment in flood and coastal risk management.

Eco-COBS update

- Putting team in place
 - Programme Manager
 - 2 x 0.5 Engagement Officers
- Grant agreements with partners
- NE Discretionary Advice contract
- Governance structures
- Initial Marlan monitoring
- Scoping future monitoring requirements



Hest Bank



2006



2019





Coir roll structures - Essex Wildlife Trust



Falkenham Saltmarsh Tidal Management Scheme - Simon Read



Falkenham Saltmarsh Tidal Management Scheme - Simon Read

2005

Blackpool, Starr Hills

North Beach Car Park

Todmorden Rd

Bentley Rd

N Promenade

2020

North Beach Car Park

Todmorden Rd

Bentley Rd

N Promenade



An aerial photograph of a coastal landscape. On the left, a wide, sandy beach meets the ocean. To the right of the beach is a large, green, forested area. The text "Formby Point" is overlaid in white, bold font in the upper right corner. Below it, the text "Adaption to mobile dune system" is overlaid in a smaller, white font.

Formby Point

Adaption to mobile dune system

- National Trust Site
- Tourist Destination
- Erosion Rates 5m PA
- Storm Erosion over 10m
- Look at ways to adapt to a eroding mobile dune system
- Community input





An aerial photograph of a coastal wetland landscape. In the foreground and middle ground, there are extensive areas of water and mudflats, with intricate patterns of water channels and sandbars. The water is a greyish-brown color, while the mudflats are a mix of light tan and dark green. In the background, a small town or village is visible on a slight rise, surrounded by green fields and some trees. The overall scene is a mix of natural and human-made elements.

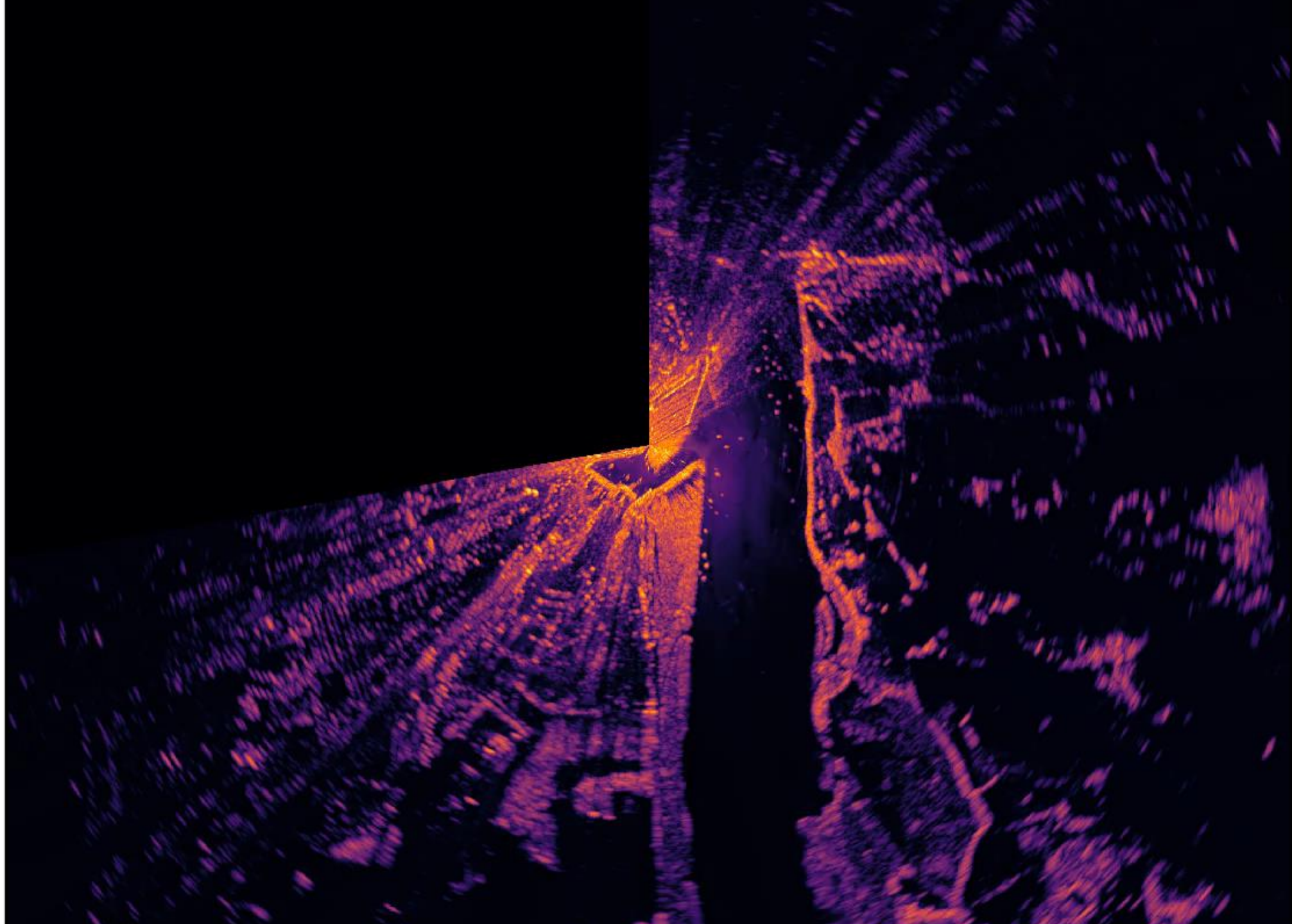
Armhill

2020

An aerial photograph of a coastal wetland area. A large, winding river or estuary flows through the landscape, surrounded by marshes and fields. The water is a light greyish-blue, and the surrounding land is a mix of green and yellowish-brown. The river has several meanders and smaller tributaries. In the bottom left corner, there is a dark blue rectangular box with the word "Armhill" in white. In the bottom right corner, the year "2020" is written in white.

Armhill

2020

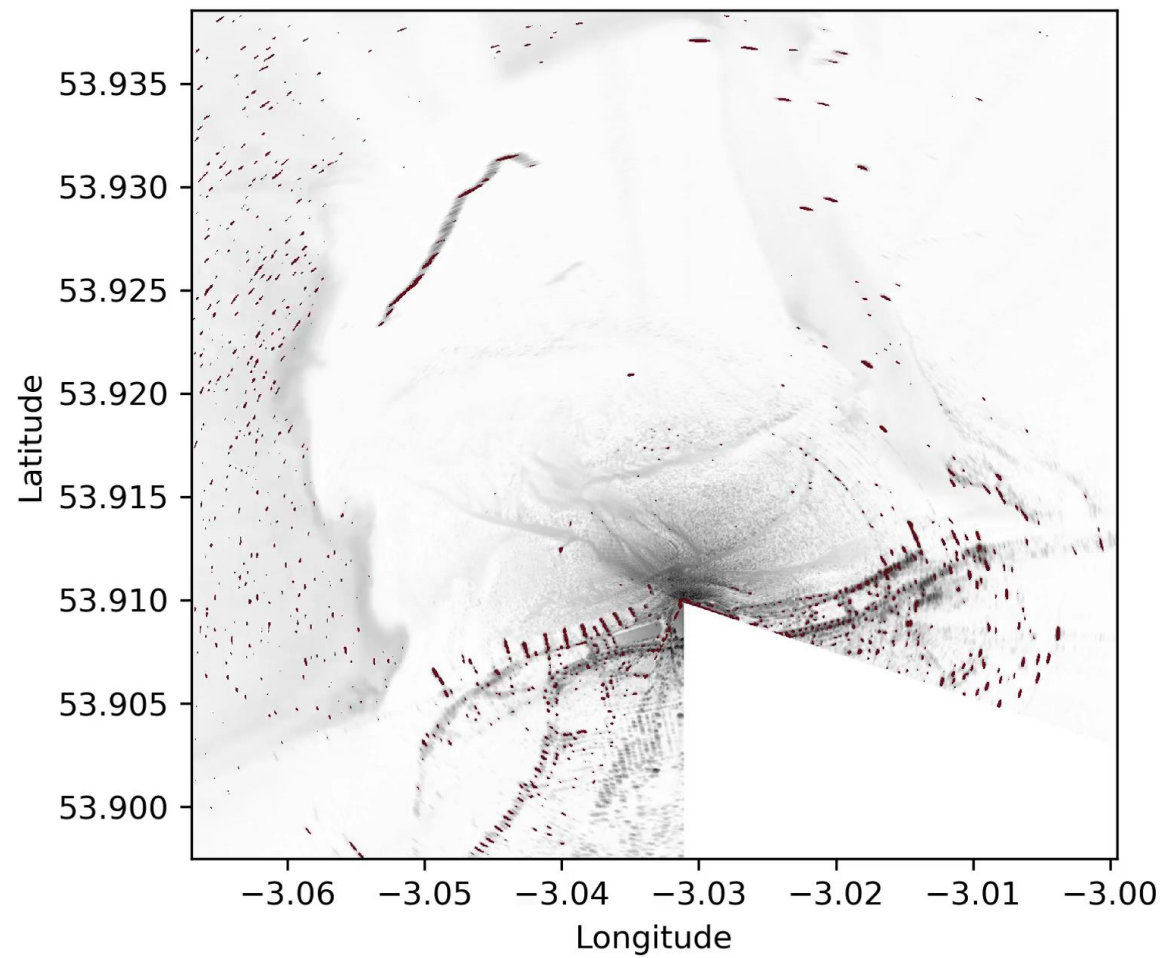




Fleetwood
RoRo

2020

Filtered Persistence Image Showing Tracks at:
2021-04-05 T00:00:00:000000 Z



What next?

- Team in place
- Governance – Board & MoU
- Grant Agreements
- Project development
 - Costed plans
 - Monitoring
 - Engagement



Partnerships

Wyre Council

Copeland

Barrow

Morecambe Bay
Partnership

South Lakeland

Lancaster

Lancashire Wildlife Trust

Blackpool

Wyre Rivers Trust

Fylde

West Lancashire

Environment Agency

Sefton

Natural England

Wirral

MMO

Cumbria County Council

Lancashire CCCouncil



Climate emergency?

Eco-CoBs directly addresses

- Climate adaptation
- Low carbon solution
- Traps carbon
- Sustainable solution
- Increase biodiversity



What next?

- Team in place
- Governance – Board & MoU
- Costed plans for sites
- Grant Agreements
- Identifying monitoring needs and support
- Identifying consultation support



Contacts

- Carl Green - Head of Engineering, Wyre
01253 887215
Carl.Green@wyre.gov.uk
- Susannah Bleakley, Freelance
07760 884585
Susannah.bleakley@icloud.com





