

Solway Firth

Partnership

working **together** towards a
sustainable Solway Firth

Solway Firth Partnership Vision



Solway Firth Partnership works to support a vibrant and sustainable local economy while respecting, protecting and celebrating the distinctive character, heritage and natural features of our marine and coastal area

The Area We Cover



Solway Firth Partnership



Core Activities

- **Partnership**
- **Planning**
- **Environment**
- **Fisheries**
- **Energy**
- **Awareness**

Funding for 2021/22

- **Marine Scotland**
- **RWE – Tidelines**
- **Cumbria County Council**
- **Allerdale Borough Council**
- **Carlisle City Council**
- **Project Fees / Other income**

Solway Firth Partnership Projects 2021/22



Partnership

- Webinar Series with Solway Coast AONB
- Working on cross-border community archaeology project application

Planning

- SMILE Project / Solway Review Storymap
- SEASS and SEAES Project
- Bringing in the Rhins Stakeholder Engagement

Environment

- Marine Litter – Solway Marine Litter Project / Rotary Club Education Project / Wild Goose Festival
- Rhins Coastal Footpath Activity Programme - Rhins Revealed Online / Explore and Record the Rhins
- Marine INNS Monitoring
- Marine Natural Capital Development Project (D&G) and 3Cs Cumbria

Fisheries

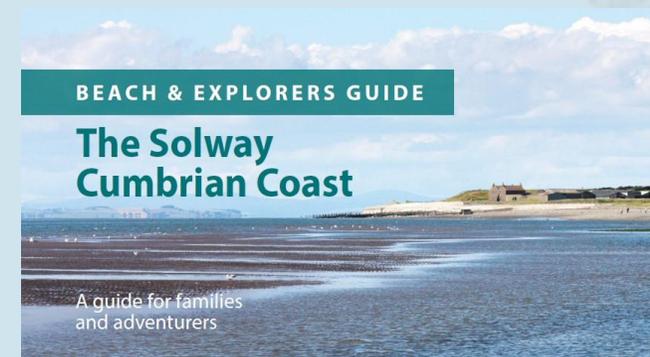
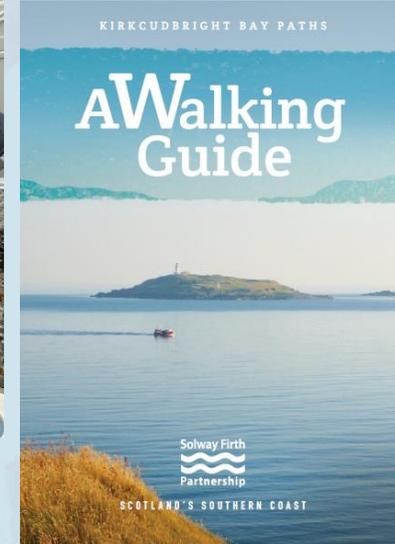
- Fishing Faces Allerdale
- Fishing for Litter

Energy

- Robin Rigg Community Fund

Awareness

- Tidelines / E-newsletters / Website / Social Media
- Galloway Glens – Kirkcudbright Bay Interpretation
- Geology Events





Borderlands
Inclusive
Growth Deal

Natural capital



- **Natural capital is the stocks of natural assets**
- **UK marine natural capital estimate asset value of £211 billion
(Marine Accounts, natural capital, UK 2021)**
- **Marine Natural capital assets include;**
 - Seagrass, Saltmarsh, Shellfish beds, Fish, Seafloor sediments – all
living things and habitats**

Solway Coast and Marine Pilot Project SCAMPP (Scotland)

**Will undertake a number of key strategic
interventions to help restore and expand
coastal and intertidal habitat in support of;**

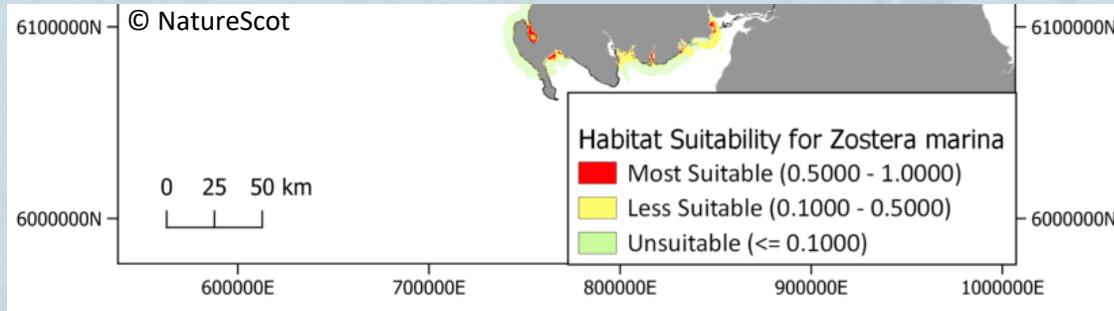
- **Climate mitigation, adaptation**
- **Biodiversity**
- **Fish stocks**
- **Water quality**
- **Tourism & Communities**
- **And more!**

SCAMPP Development work

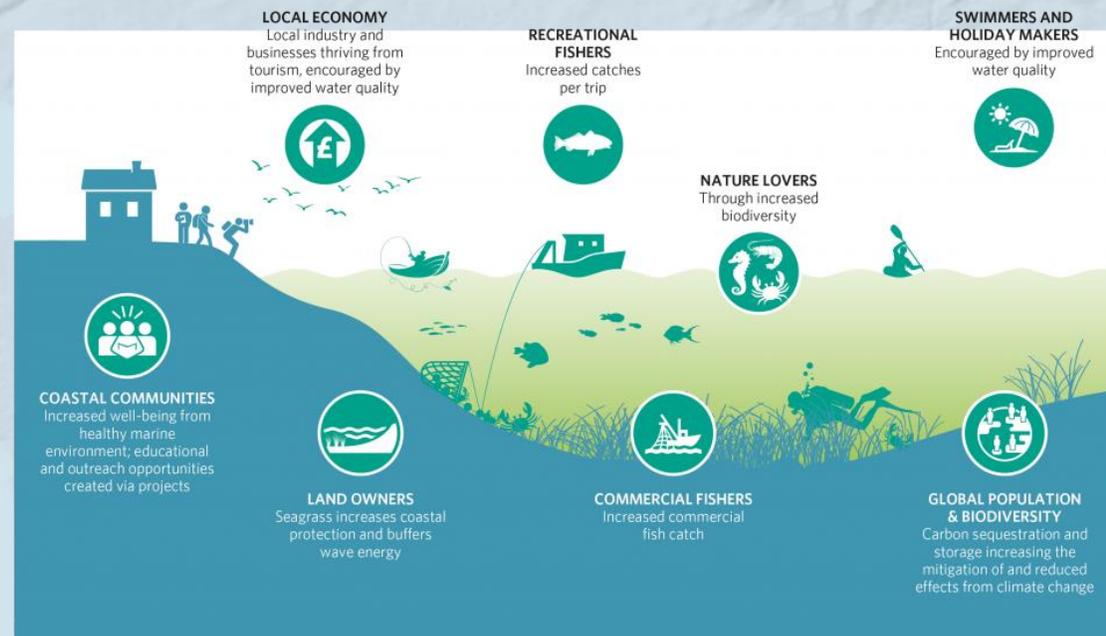
- Gather information
- Learn lessons
- Form connections
- Feed into the business case to release
Borderlands funding



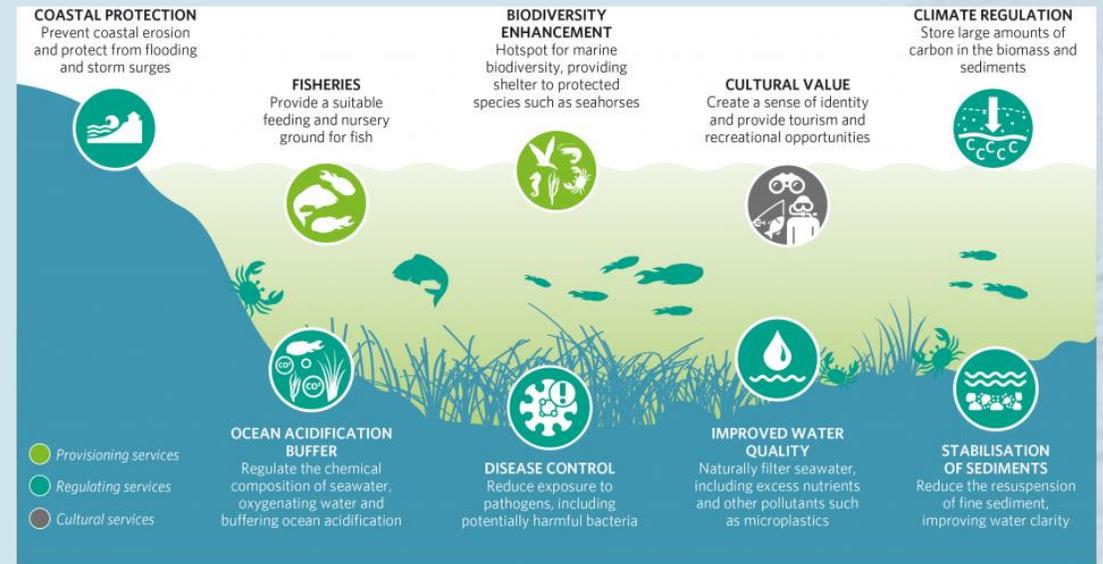
Solway Seagrass



BENEFICIARIES OF SEAGRASS BED RESTORATION

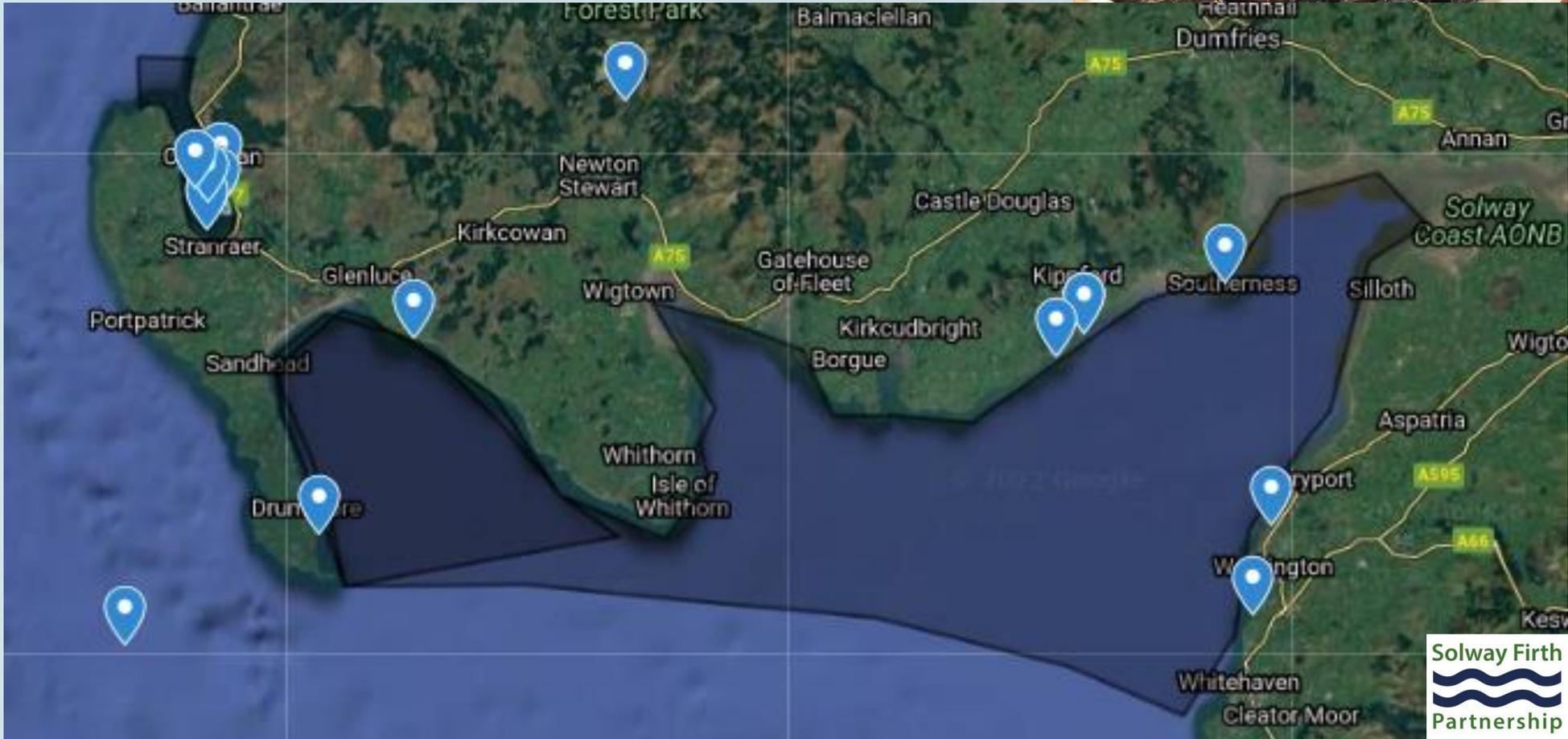


ECOSYSTEM SERVICES PROVIDED BY SEAGRASS BEDS

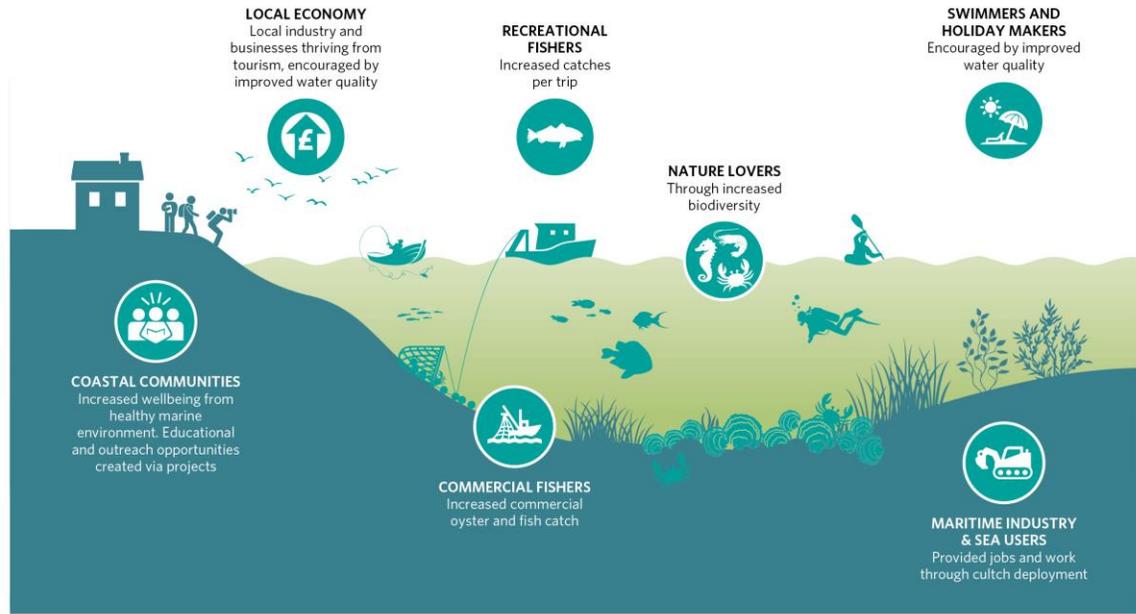


Modified from UNEP (2020) and Potouroglou, M., Westerveld, L. and Fylakis, G. (2020).

Native Oysters



BENEFICIARIES OF NATIVE OYSTER RESTORATION

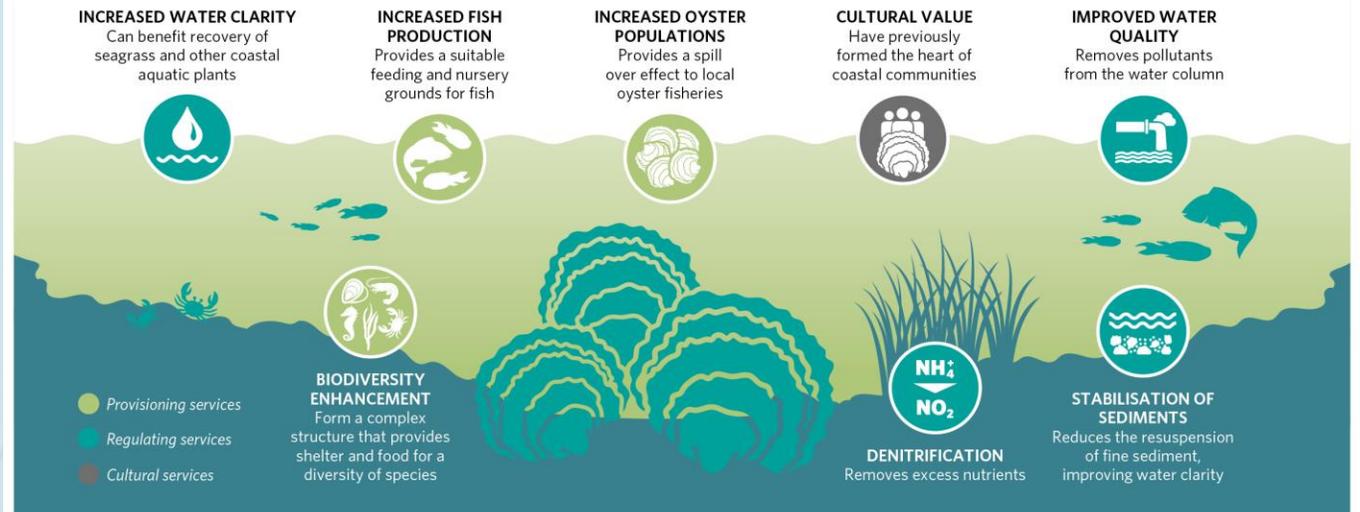


©2020, Native Oyster Network - UK & Ireland, Native Oyster Restoration Alliance.



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ECOSYSTEM SERVICES PROVIDED BY NATIVE OYSTERS *OSTREA EDULIS*



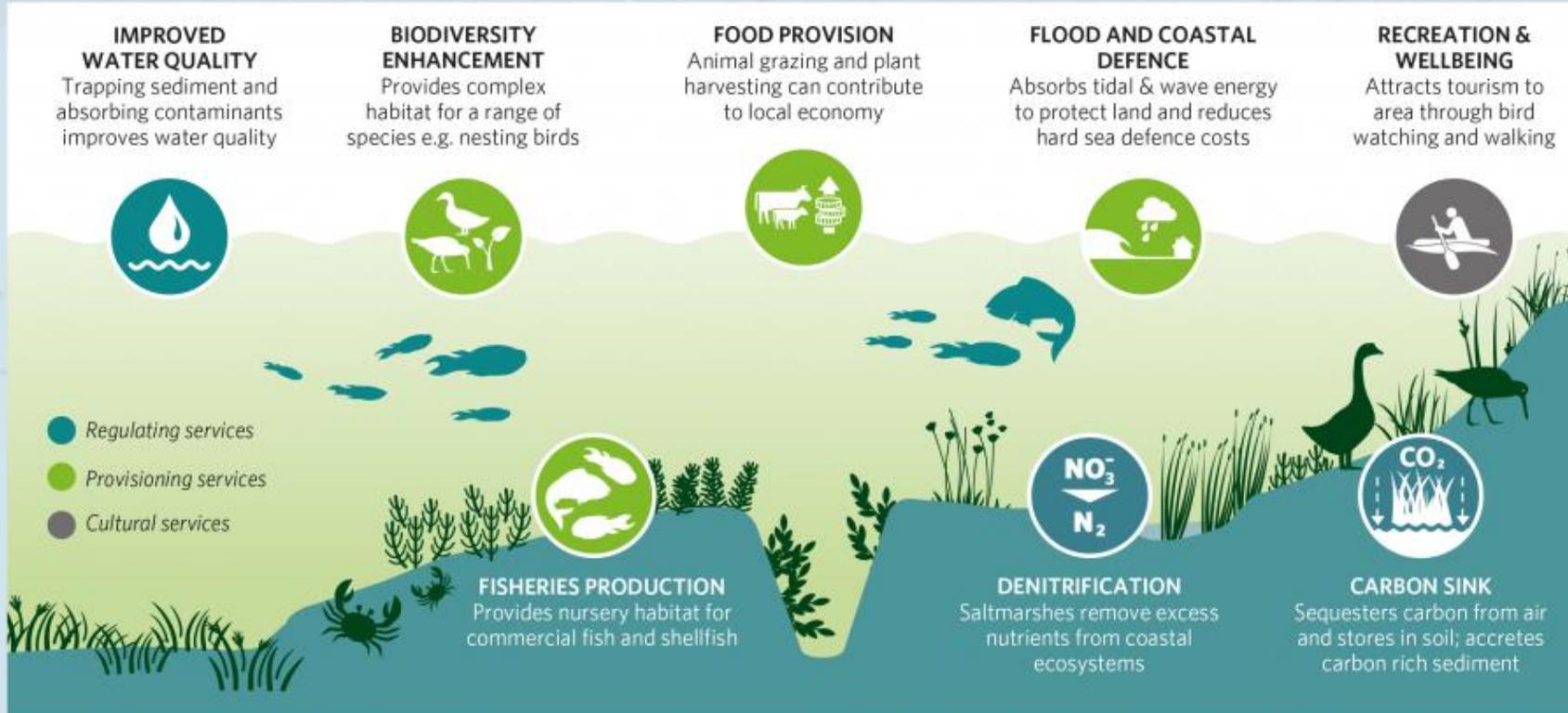
©2020, Native Oyster Network - UK & Ireland, Native Oyster Restoration Alliance.



Saltmarsh



ECOSYSTEM SERVICES PROVIDED BY SALTMARSHES.





Marine Natural Capital on the Cumbrian Solway

Funded by:



Project Objectives

Research

- Highlight gaps and opportunities
- Prepare a baseline assessment using existing data
- Identify data gaps and deficiencies
- Prepare supporting information for future work

Consultation

- Engage all key stakeholders
- Liaise with relevant projects
- Consult gov agencies and key industry private sector, stakeholders



Report

- Report research and consultation results

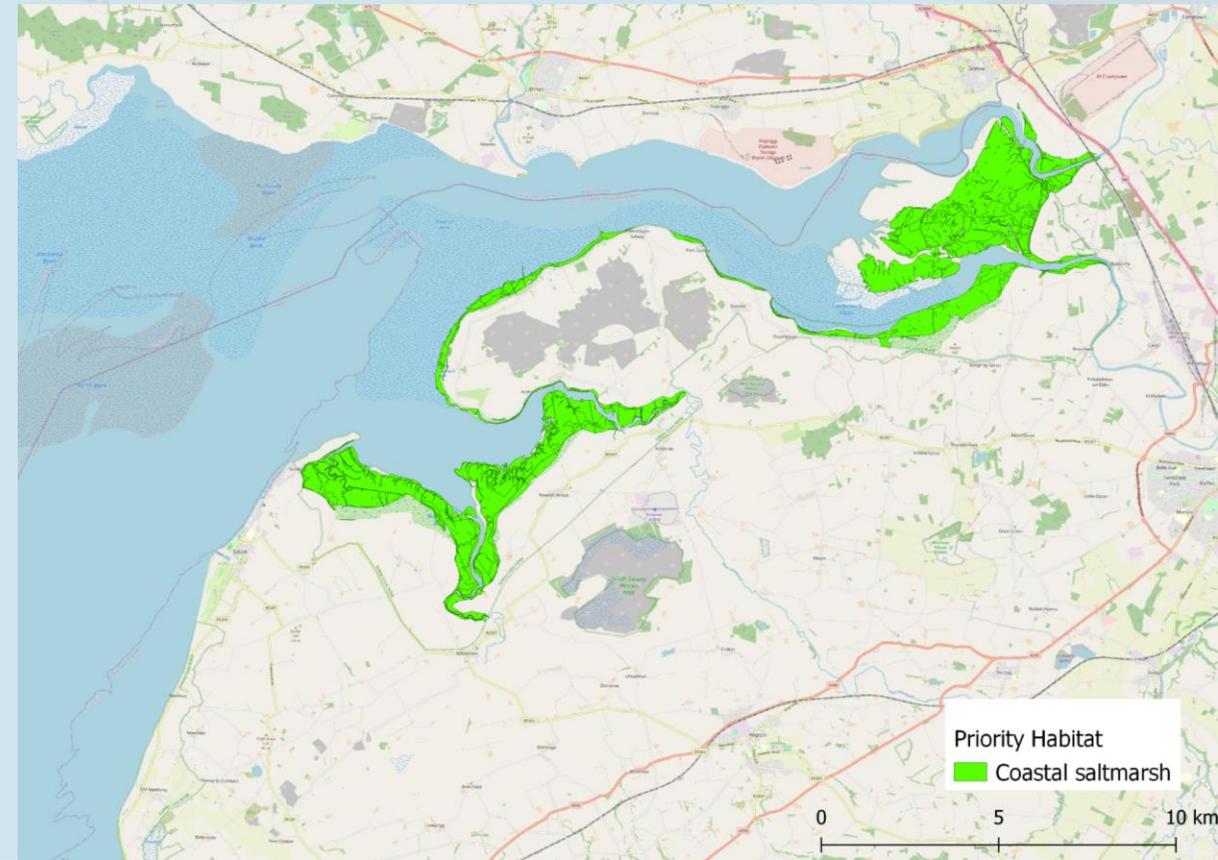


Project Objectives

- Produce a **baseline** using existing data to show the **current state** of the Solway's marine natural capital → what we have, its **location**, what **condition** it is in, and its **benefits** to people.
- Decide on a **vision** → what are the **priorities**, what does each stakeholder want to see?
- What methods are feasible for the Solway → what is happening elsewhere, **lessons learnt** from relevant projects, what can be replicated or adapted

Saltmarsh

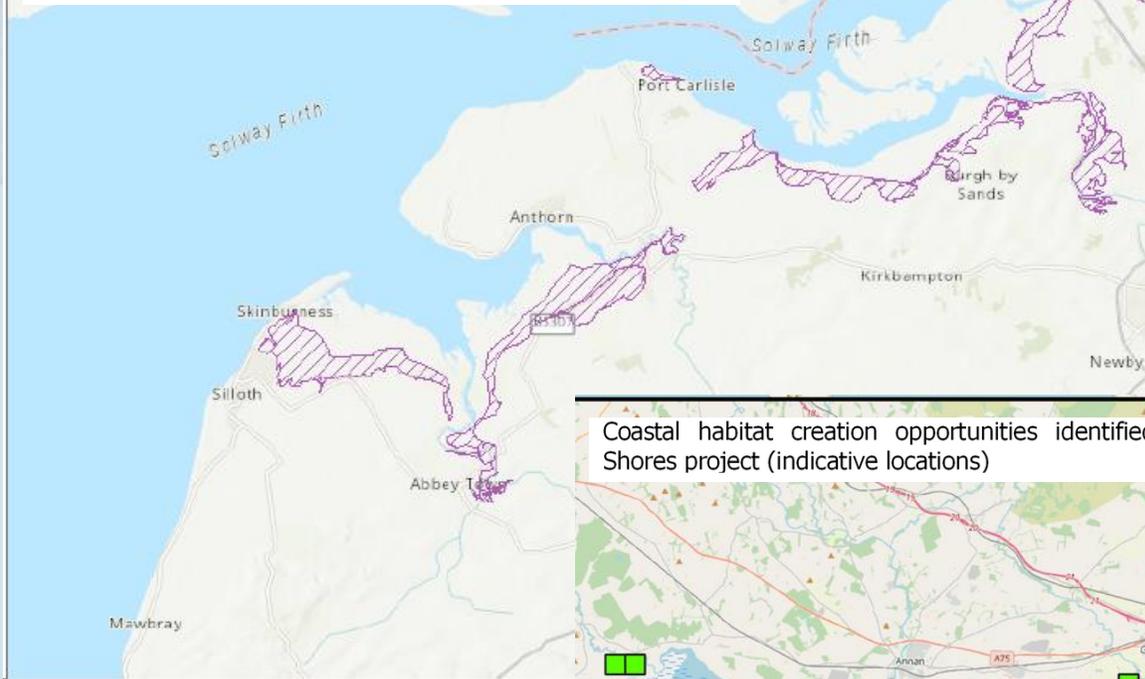
- Carbon sink
- Flood and coastal defence
- Biodiversity enhancement
- Improved water quality
- Fisheries and food production
- Recreation and wellbeing
- Denitrification



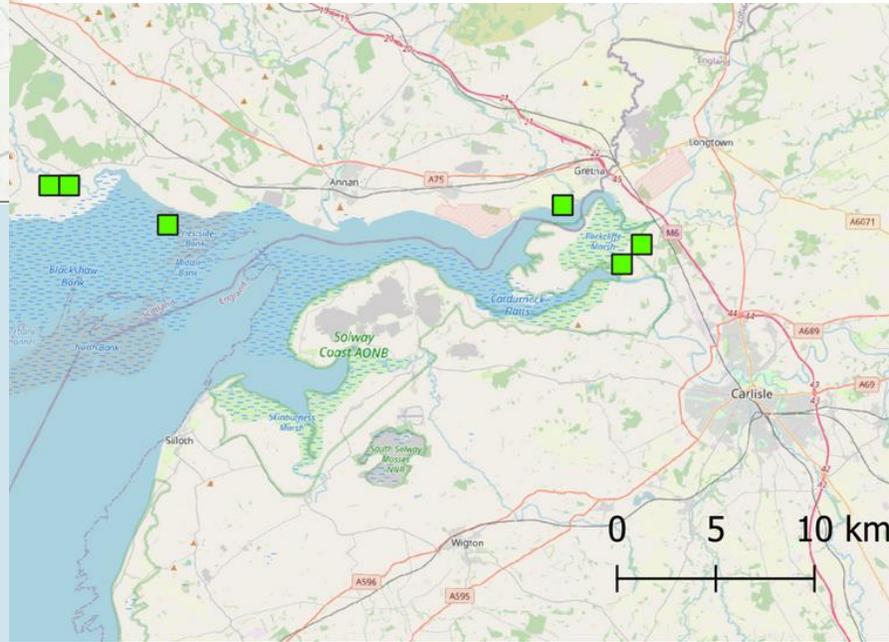
Saltmarsh Potential (MMO) - Potential habitat creation sites within floodplain

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MMO1135_Potential_Habitat_Creation_Sites_within_the_Current_Floodplain

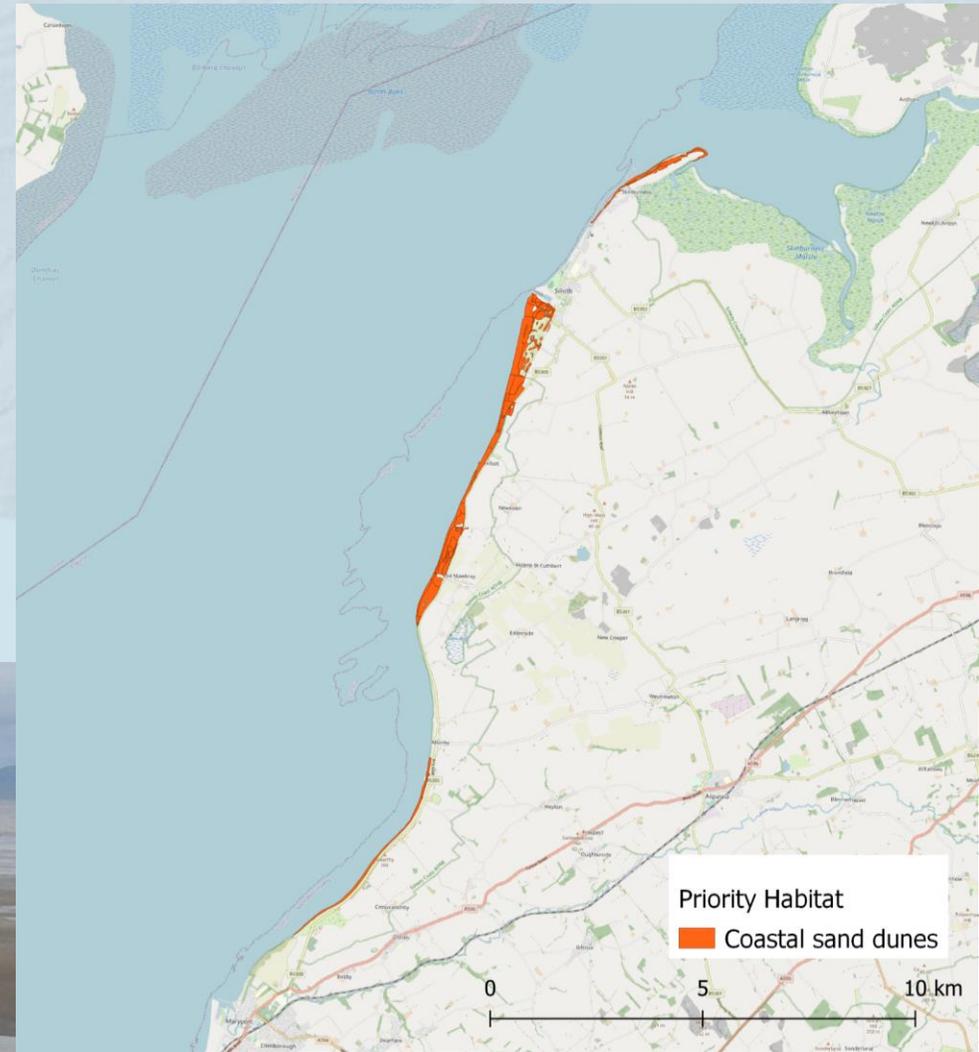


Coastal habitat creation opportunities identified in RSPB's Sustainable Shores project (indicative locations)



Sand Dunes

- Coastal protection -flooding and erosion
- Provide habitat for rare species such as natterjack toad
- Cultural value



Biogenic reefs- Honeycomb worms

(Sabellaria)

Benefits:

- Habitat creation
- Biodiversity enhancement
- Flood defense
- Blue carbon

-MCZ feature

-no known method for restoration



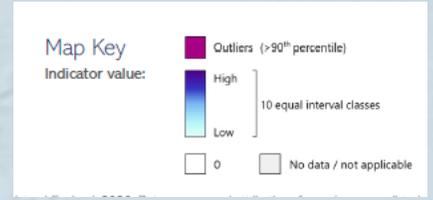


Other habitats and species considered

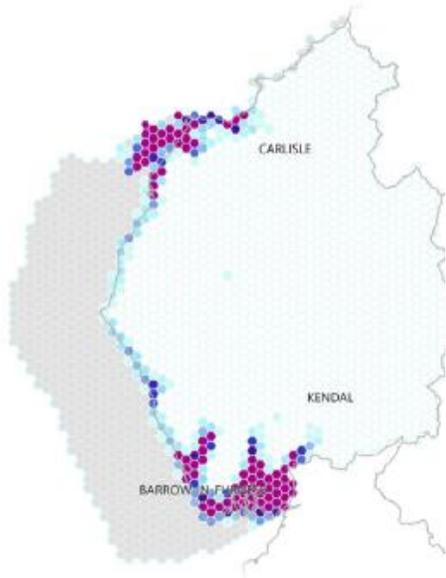
- Seagrass
 - no historical data
- Native oysters
 - 2 x historical point data near Workington (1978)
- Mudflats
 - important NC asset
 - Understanding mudflat dynamics will be important in understanding saltmarshes
 - Need protecting, no known restoration methods.
- Smelt
 - Once an important fishery
 - Designated in the Solway Firth Marine Conservation Zone
 - Use saltmarsh as habitat

Natural Capital Atlas – Natural England.

Coastal:

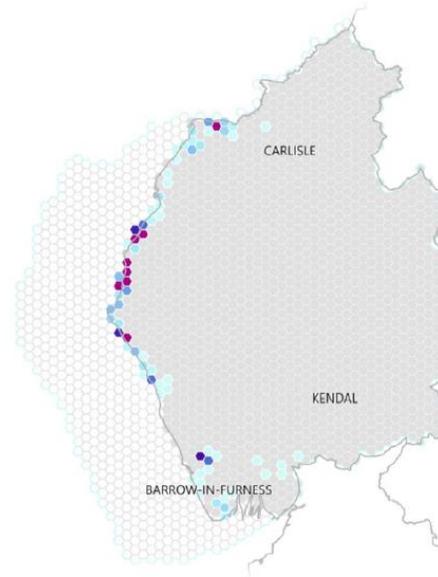


M F Beach (ID: 37)
H C Area of beach mapped using OS VectorMap District ('foreshore'). Note that this dataset includes areas of intertidal sediment as well as beaches.



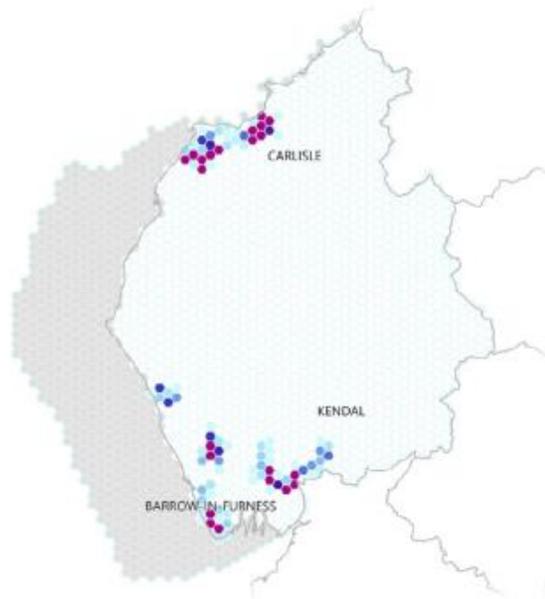
Hexagon values: 0 – 2.28 km²; Outliers: 2.28 – 5 km²

W H Intertidal Rock (ID: 44)
Area of intertidal rock mapped using Natural England's Open Marine Evidence Base (EUNIS code A1).



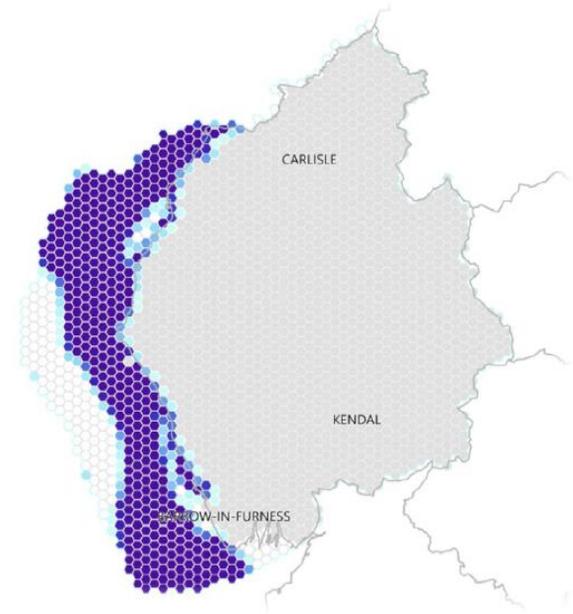
Hexagon values: 0 – 0.28 km²; Outliers: 0.28 – 3.5 km²

M F Salt Marsh (ID: 40)
H C Area of saltmarsh mapped using EA's Saltmarsh Extent dataset.



Hexagon values: 0 – 0.87 km²; Outliers: 0.87 – 4.54 km²

W H Shallow Subtidal Sediment (ID: 48)
C Area of shallow subtidal sediment mapped using JNCC's UKSea Map 2018 (biozone = shallow circalittoral or infralittoral and substrate = sediment, sand or mud).



Hexagon values: 0 – 5 km² (see note on data distribution)
N.b. There are no 'outliers' symbolised on this map because a large number of the data values are at the high end of the scale. Instead, 10 equal interval classes are used.