

# Balanced Seas

Delivering Marine Conservation Zones in the South-east

Sub-regional meetings  
November 2009



## Why are we here?

- **To understand the aims and general approach of the Balanced Seas project**
- **To develop ideas about how to establish a Regional Stakeholder Group**
- **Decide whether we need, and how we could set up, subregional advisory groups**



## UK Government commitment

To establish, by 2012:

**A strong, ecologically coherent and well managed network of marine protected areas (MPAs), that is well understood and supported by all marine users**



## Existing MPA network



- European marine sites (SACs and SPAs)
- SSSIs
- Lundy Marine Reserve
- UK – c. 2% area protected





# Marine Conservation Zones

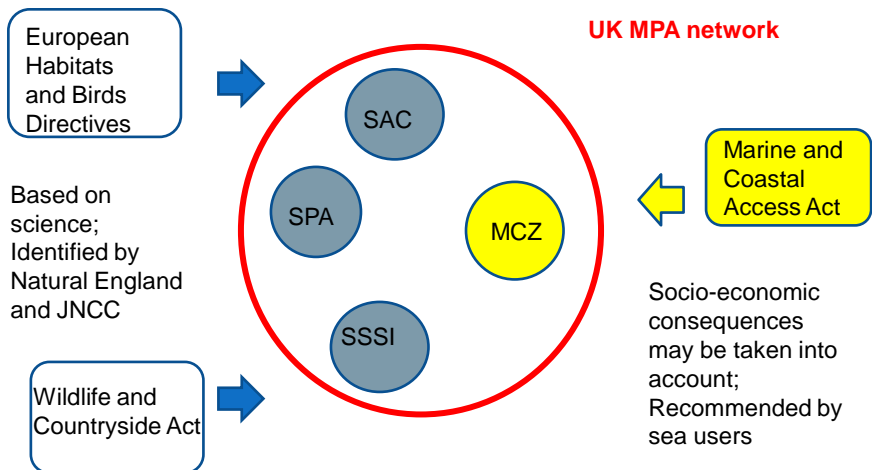


## How?

- Recommendations made by stakeholders
- Guidance from Defra/NE/JNCC
- May have regard to any economic or social consequences



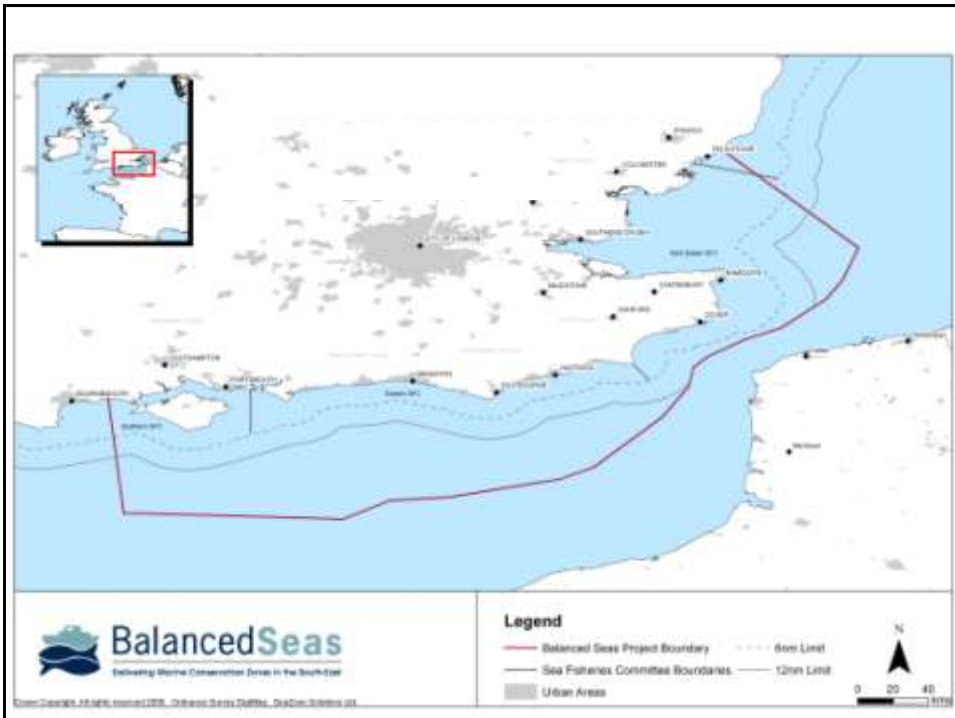
# A new type of MPA for England and Wales



# Four regional projects in England



English territorial waters and UK offshore waters, out to the median line



## Who are the project team?

- Project Manager Sue Wells
- MPA Planner Hannah Thomas
- Information/mapping officer Greg Vaughan
- Communications co-ordinator Sally Moore
- Three liaison officers Amy Pryor  
Jules Martin  
Kate Mills
- Socio-economist – to be hired
- Facilitator – to be hired
- Project partners: University of Kent Natural England, JNCC, Kent County Council



## What will the project do?

2009

- Identify stakeholders
- Explain process
- Gather information and make maps
- Start to set up Regional Stakeholder Group

2010

- Prepare regional profile
- Regional Stakeholder Group develops recommendations

2011

- Finalise recommendations
- Submit recommendations to Natural England and JNCC (June 2011)
- Balanced Seas project ends

### Next steps

- Natural England and JNCC submit recommendations to Minister (Oct 2011)
- National consultation
- Final decision



## MCZ recommendations

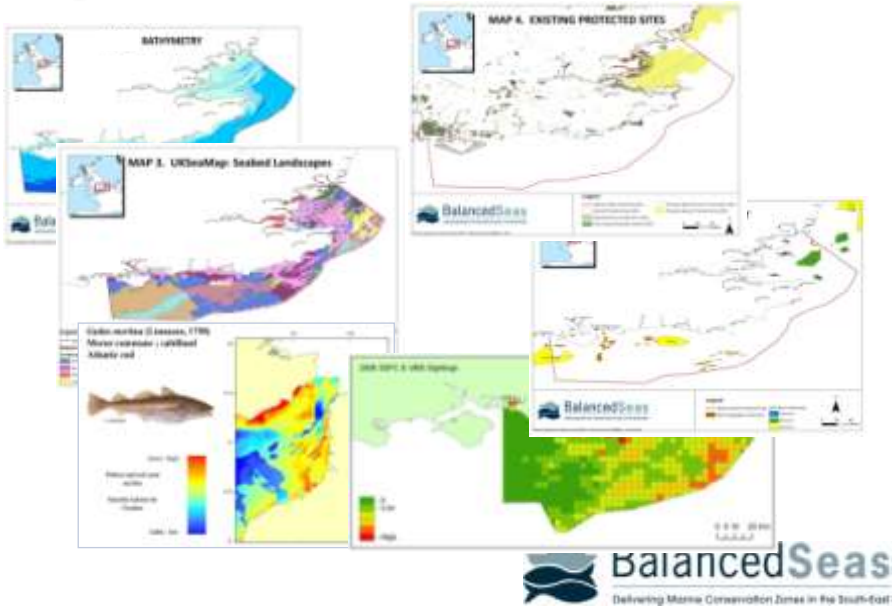
- Location and boundaries
- Conservation objectives
- Impact assessment



## Regional Profile



# Regional Profile



# Regional Stakeholder Group

Representation of all sectors

- Industry
- Fisheries
- Recreation and leisure
- Conservation organisations
- National and local Government
- Research and education



## How will the Regional Stakeholder Group make recommendations?

- Information and maps
- National guidance
- Series of meetings
- Professional facilitator
- Support and assistance from Project team
- Advice from national Scientific Advisory Panel



## Next steps

- Other county group meetings
- Prepare joint report for all meetings summarising recommendations and ideas
- Contact sectors not represented
- Prepare draft list of representatives to be on Regional Stakeholder Group
- Finalise membership through discussion
- First meeting of Group to draw up working arrangements, elect chair etc
- Establish mechanism for subregional groups or meetings (using recommendations)

