

Marine Directorate & Offshore Wind Directorate

How evidence can support planning and
consenting.



Key Scottish Government Teams

- Offshore Wind Directorate
 - Sectoral Marine Planning and Evidence
 - Sectoral Marine Plan (SMP) and Iterative Plan Review (IPR)
 - Scottish Marine Energy Research (ScotMer) programme
- Marine Directorate
 - National Marine Plan 2 Team
 - Licensing Operations Team (MD-LOT)
 - Science, Evidence, Data and Digital
 - Marine Nature Enhancement Programme



National Marine Plan 2

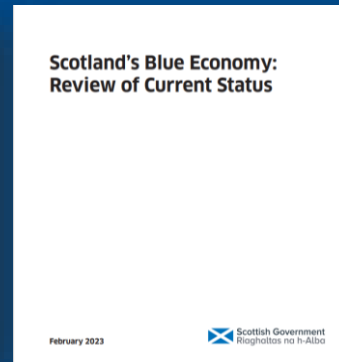
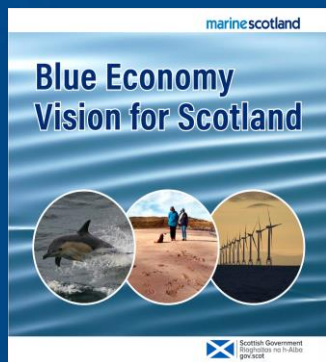
Zoe Crutchfield on behalf of
Louise O'Hara Murray



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Blue Economy Vision & Outcomes

By 2045 Scotland's shared stewardship of our marine environment supports ecosystem health, improved livelihoods, economic prosperity, social inclusion & wellbeing



Scotland's marine ecosystems are healthy and functioning, with nature protected and activities managed using an ecosystem-based approach to ensure negative impacts on marine ecosystems are minimised and, where possible, reversed.



Scotland's blue economy is resilient to climate change, contributing to climate change mitigation and adaptation, with marine sectors decarbonised, resource efficient and supporting Scotland's Net Zero and Nature Positive commitments



Established and emerging marine sectors are innovative, entrepreneurial, productive and internationally competitive



Scotland is a global leader in healthy, quality, sustainably harvested and farmed Blue Foods, for our own population and beyond



Thriving, resilient, regenerated, healthy communities have more equal access to the benefits ocean resources provide



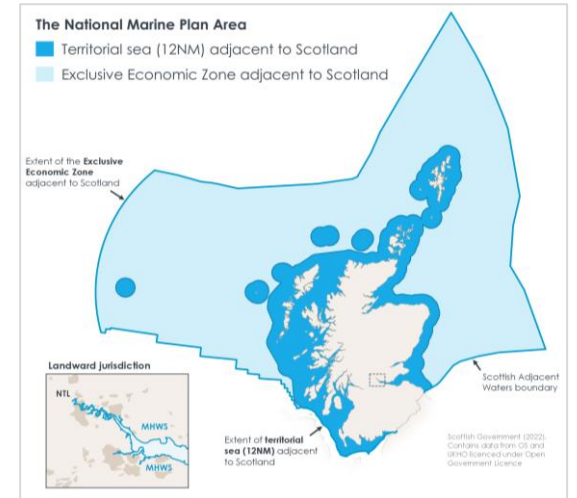
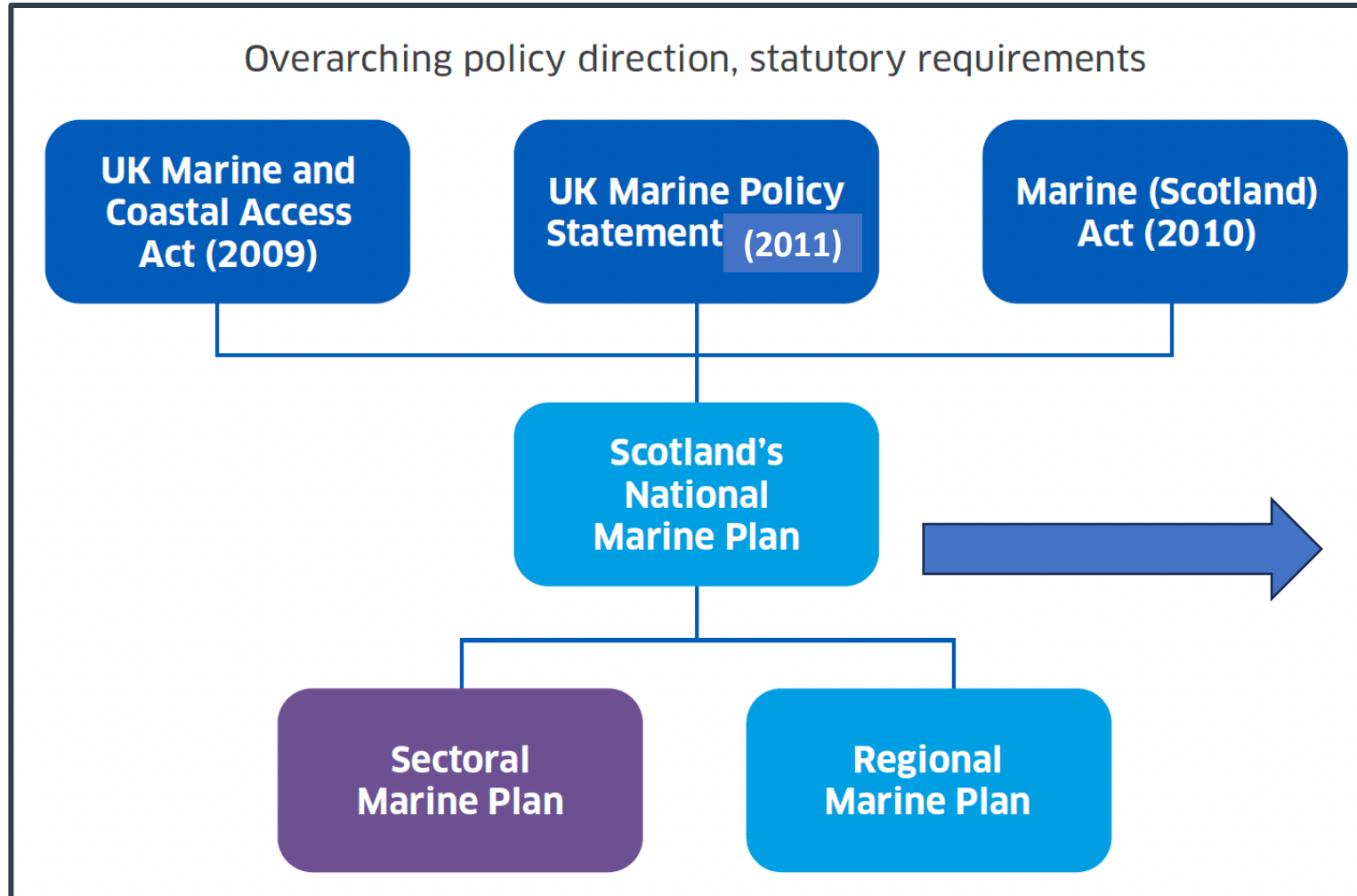
Scotland is an ocean literate and aware nation



UN sustainable development goal

National performance framework outcome

Marine Planning in Scotland



Licensing and
consenting decisions
Policy development

What have we done so far ...



- ✓ Appraisal of existing plan and Scottish and UK Government commitments
- ✓ Drafting of high-level objectives
- ✓ Develop structure for NMP2

- ✓ Strategic Environmental Assessment Scoping and Public Consultation
- ✓ Initiate the Sustainability Appraisal
- ✓ Publish Statement of Public Participation
- ✓ Build partnerships and delivery of key stakeholder events e.g. National Planning Forum

The National Marine Plan 2 will

- Further the achievement of [Sustainable Development](#)
 - Help tackle twin crisis of biodiversity loss and global climate emergency
 - Support transition to net zero
 - Adopt blue economy approach and support delivery of blue economy outcomes
 - Reduce likelihood for conflict for marine space
 - Safeguard sustainable marine sectors
- Develop [planning](#) policy
- Support licensing and consenting
- Continue to provide the context for sectoral and regional planning
- Consider implementation of the plan
- Deliver Statutory Assessments
- Design Monitoring and Evaluation Framework

Stakeholder Engagement

"Everyone who uses, relies on or has an interest in Scotland's seas has the opportunity to inform decision-making in the marine space, and they embrace the National Marine Plan as a key resource to guide decision-making"

Building partnerships

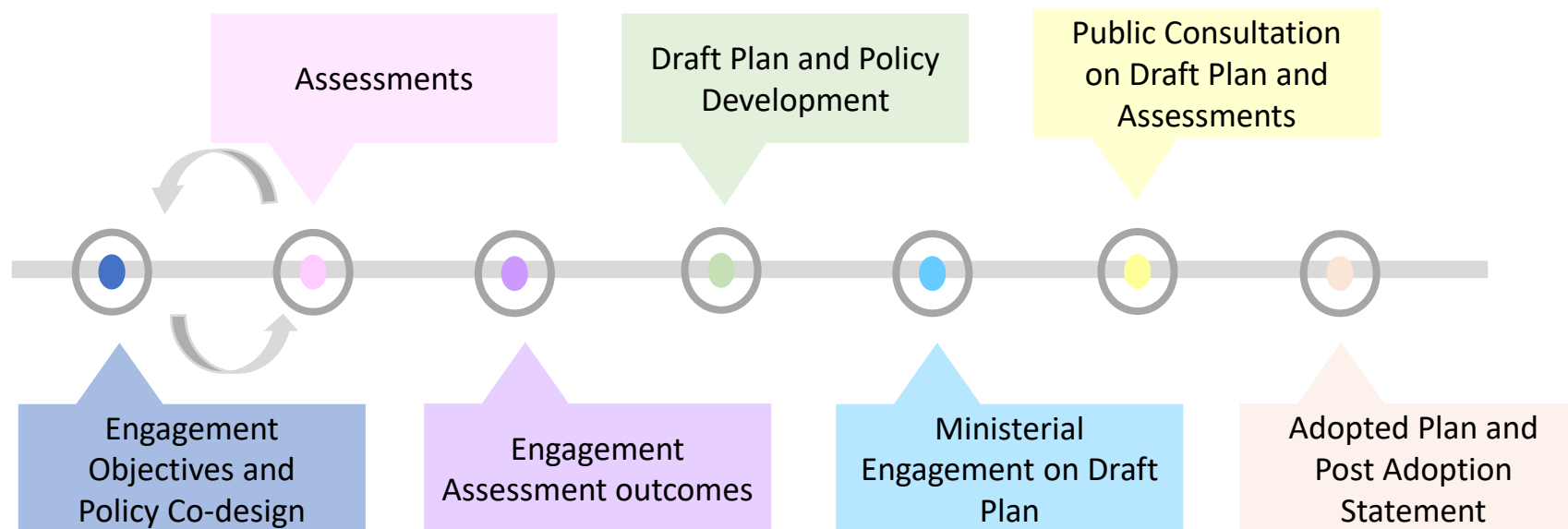
- Policy Network Group (internal)
- NMP2 Steering Group (key stakeholders)
- National Planning Forum (public)
- Targeted events
- Utilisation of existing fora
- Strategic Partnerships and engaging with underrepresented groups

Staged Approach:

- Sharing outputs as they become available
- Focusing on co-development
- Building capacity
- Iterative development
- Exploring impacts and mitigations

What's next?

Sharing the high-level objectives and opportunities for co-design of planning policy ideas



Thank you

NationalMarinePlanning@gov.scot

Offshore Wind - Sectoral Marine Plan

Lucy Law

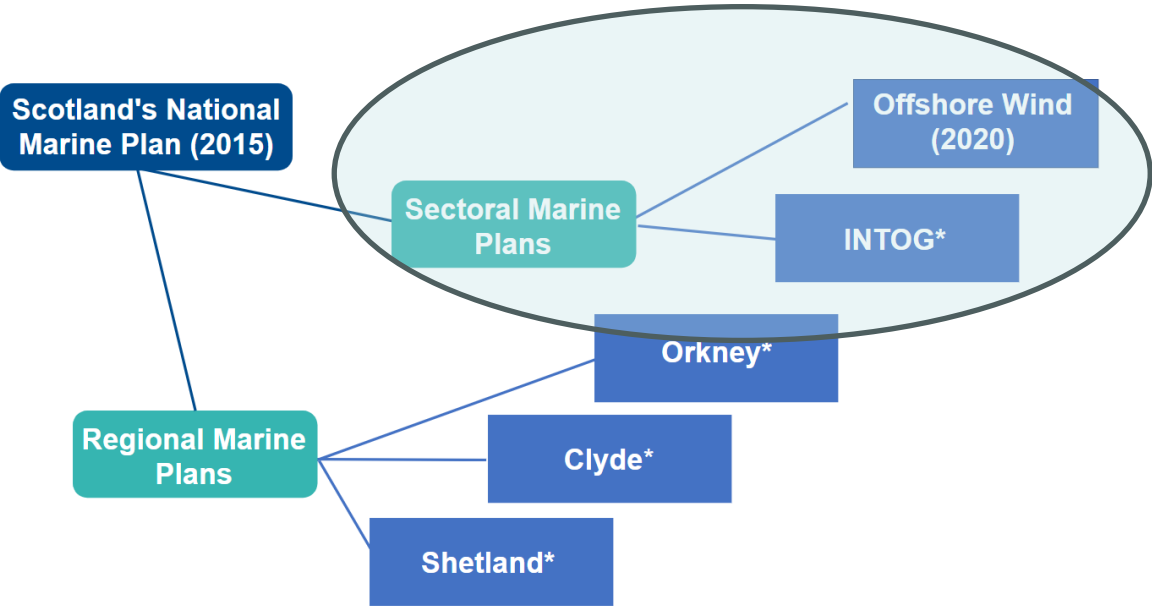
Deputy Director

Offshore Wind Directorate

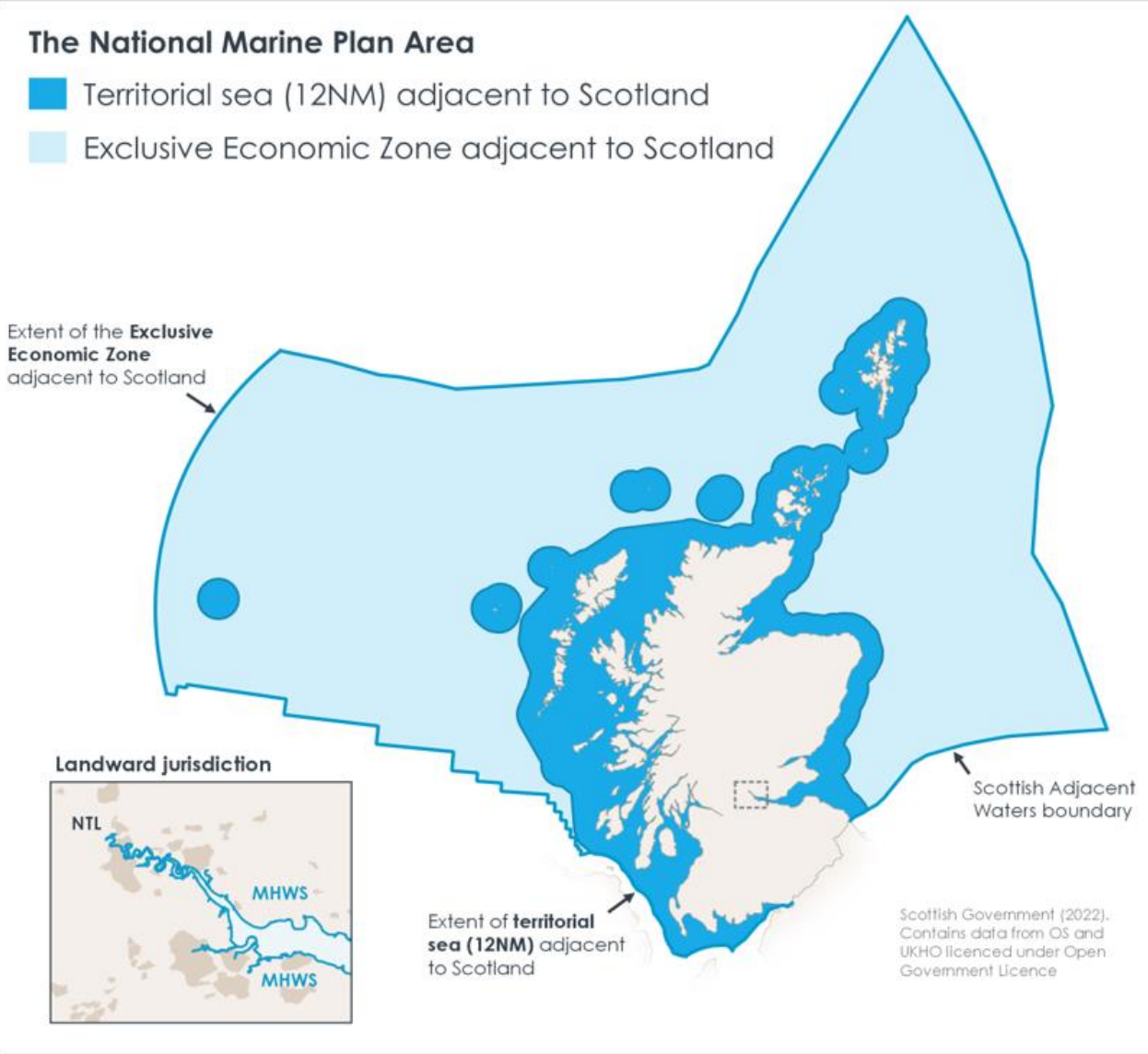


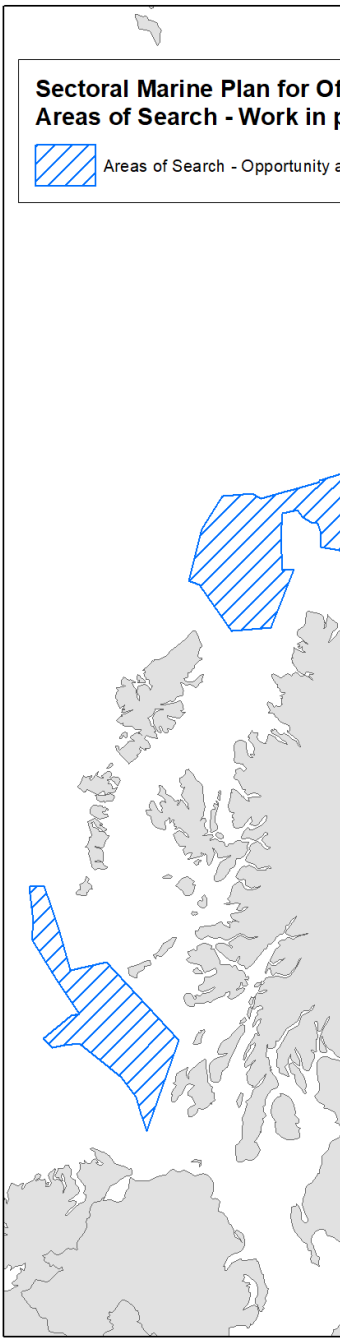
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Marine Planning in Scotland

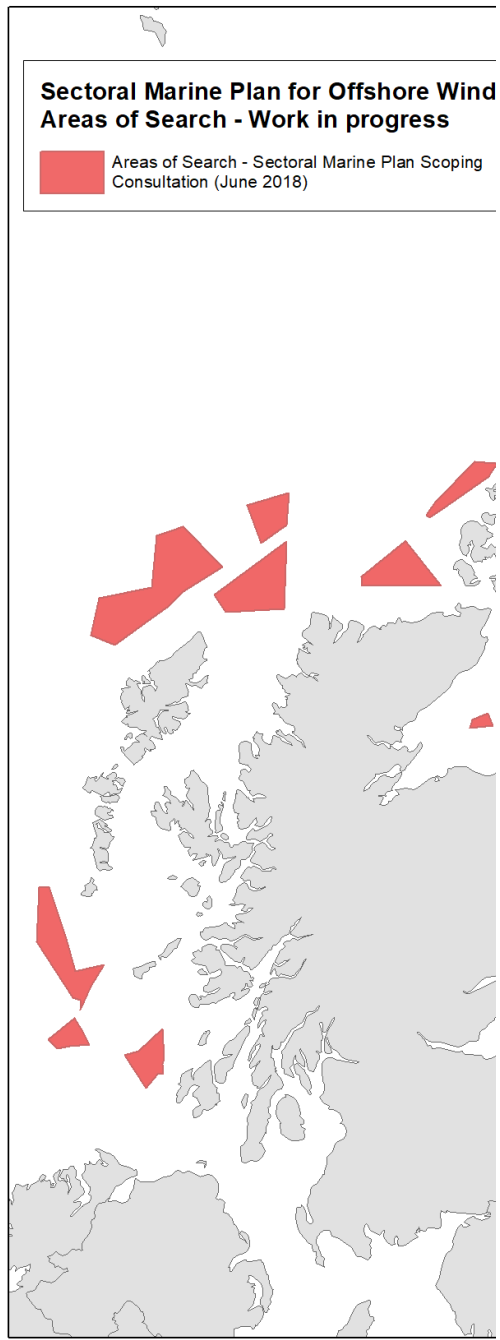


*denotes "in progress"

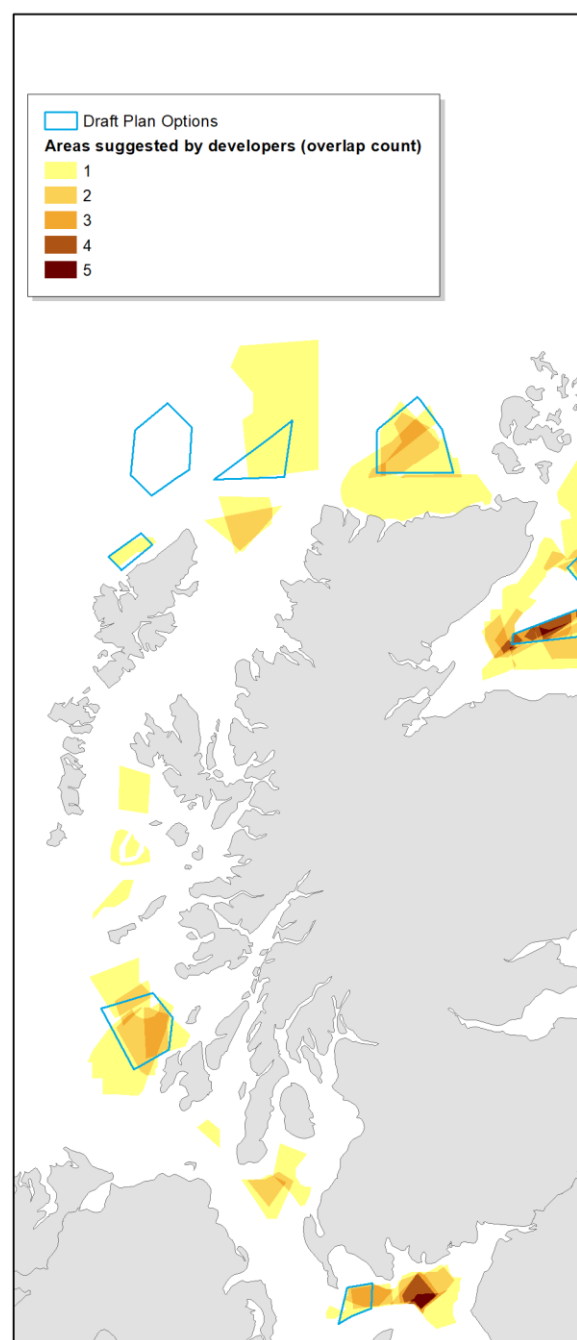




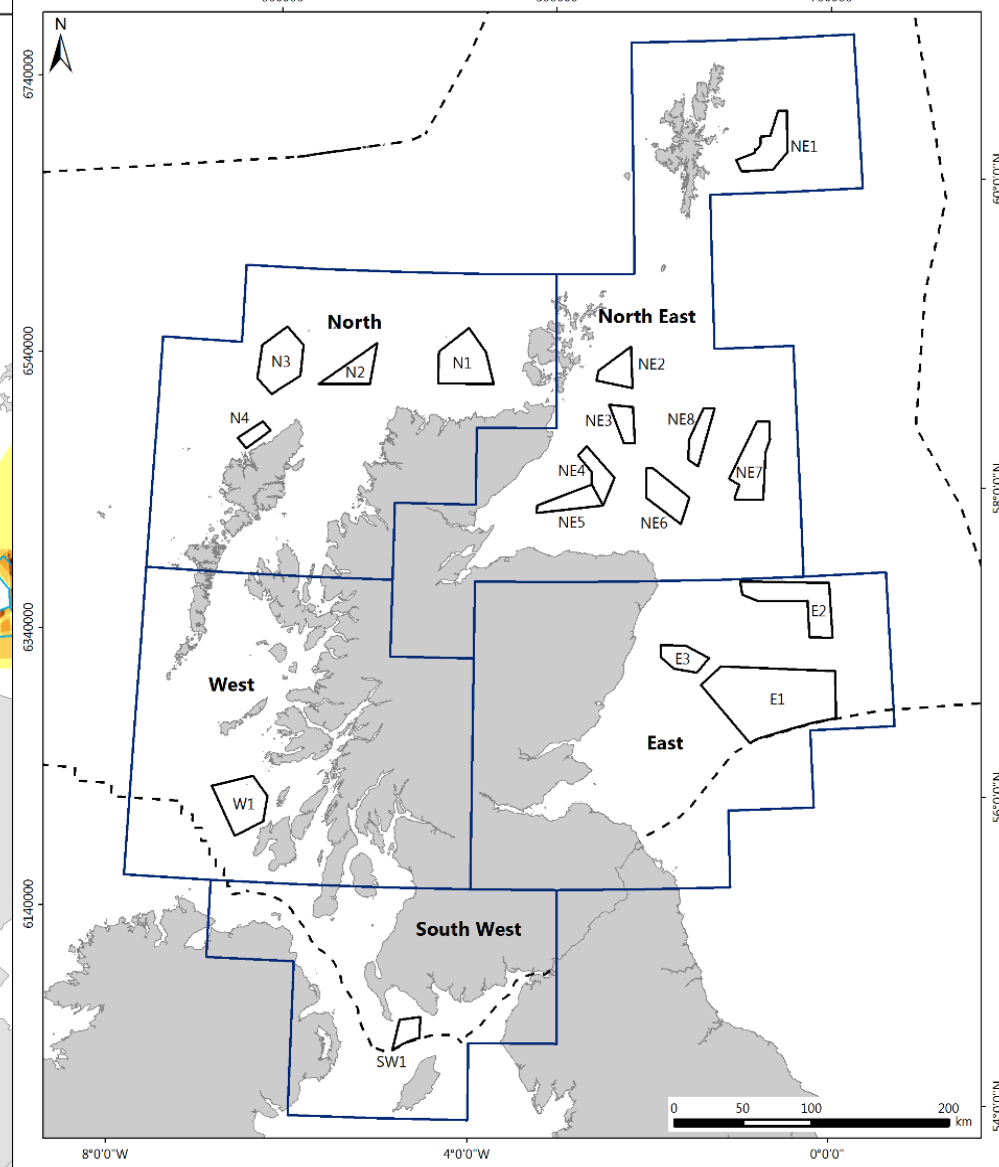
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	Date	By	QA		Draft Plan Option
	Jul 19	CRB	NKD		
	Coordinate System				Region Boundary
	WGS 1984 UTM Zone 30N				
Projection				Scottish Zone	
Transverse Mercator					
Project no. 4659					
Fig_WindRegionDPOs.mxd					

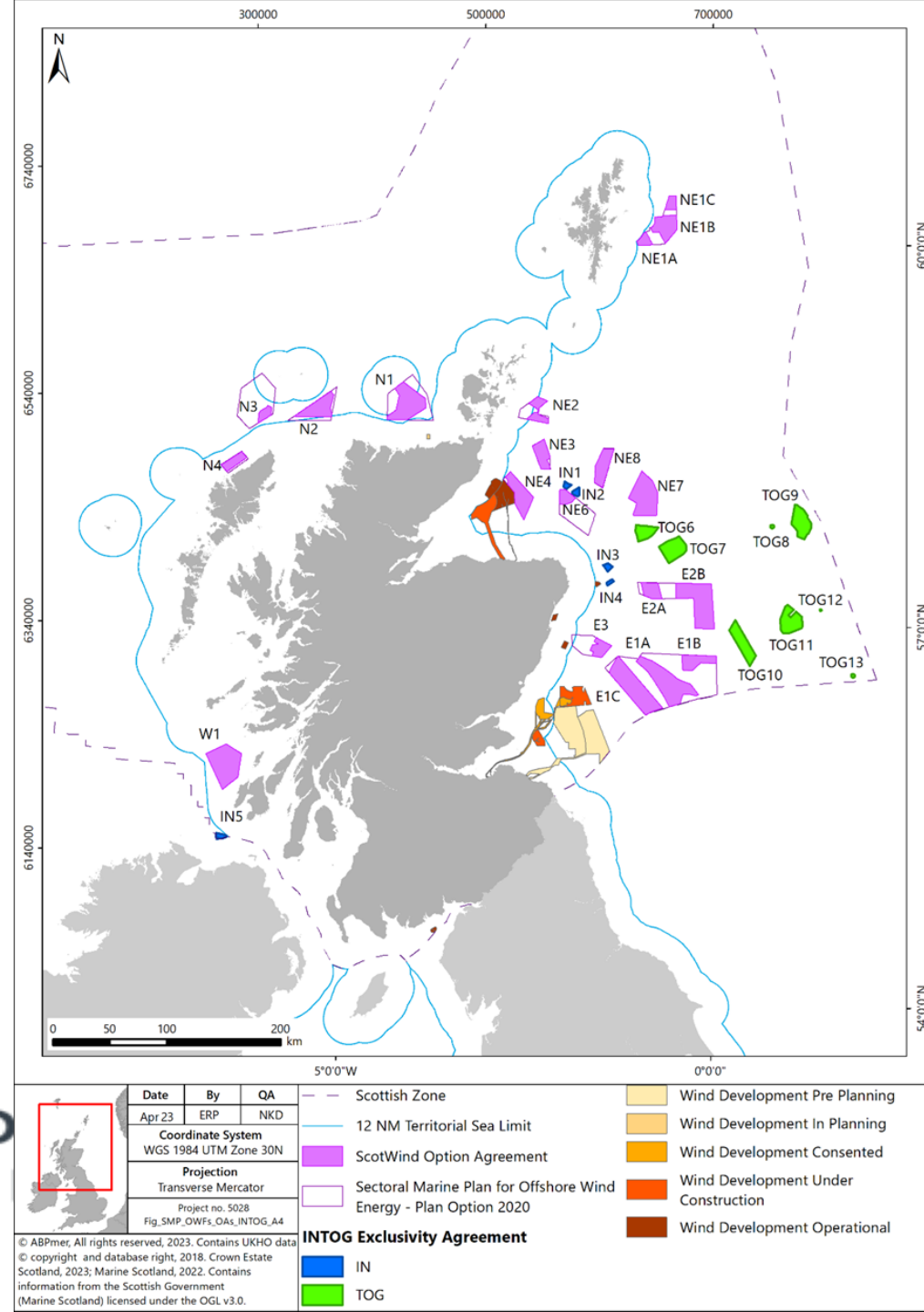
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Iterative Plan Review

- **Since the 2020 plan:**
 - ScotWind Leasing Round - 20 projects with potential of 28GW capacity
 - INTOG leasing round - 13 projects dedicated to innovation and targeted oil and gas decarbonisation with potential of 5.7GW
- **Currently updating the Sectoral Marine Plan**
 - Will support leasing of:
 - INTOG
 - ScotWind
 - Examining different planning scenarios for sustainable development.
 - Inform the consenting process of the risks that should be considered.



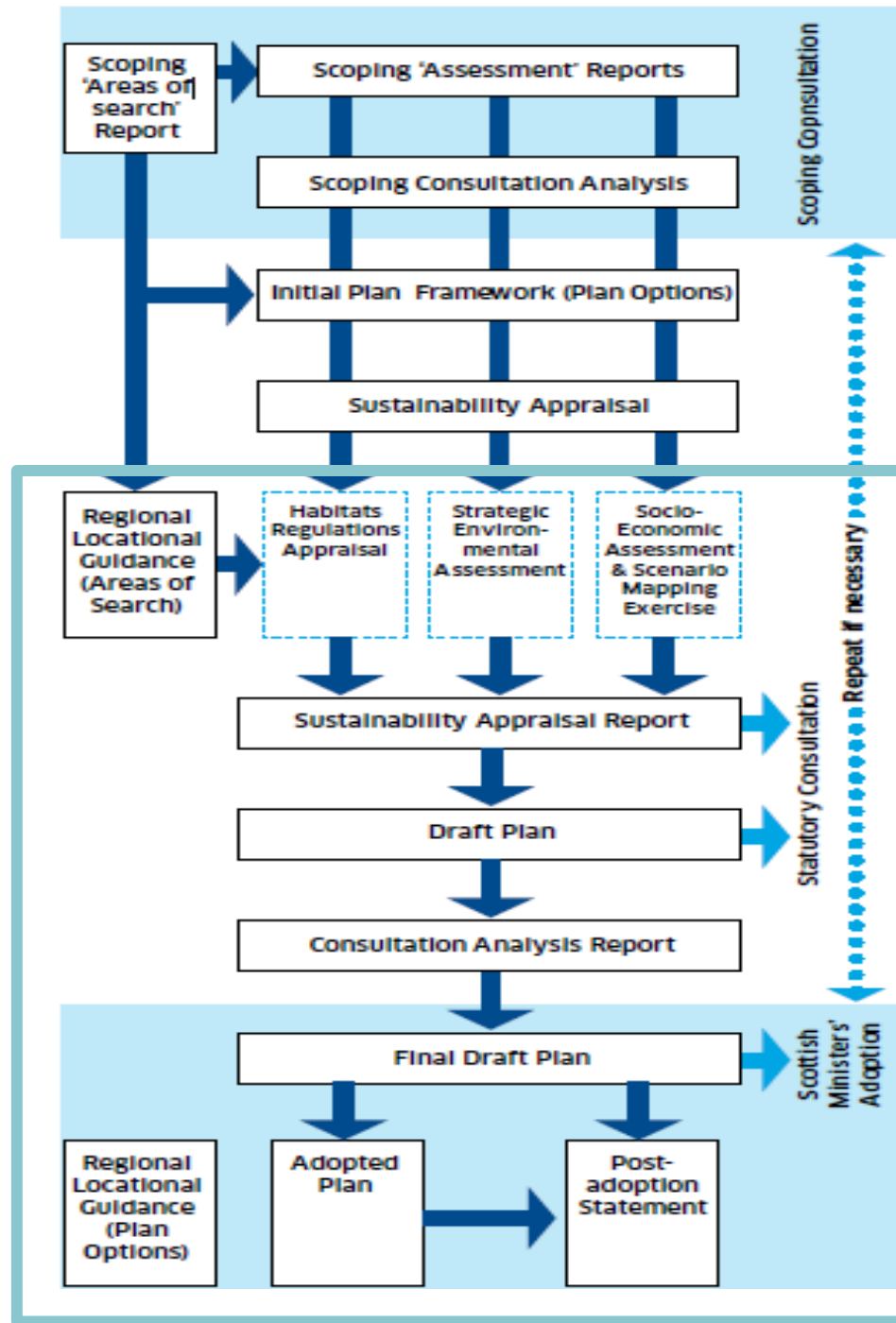
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Sectoral Marine Planning Process

Evidence Informed at all stages



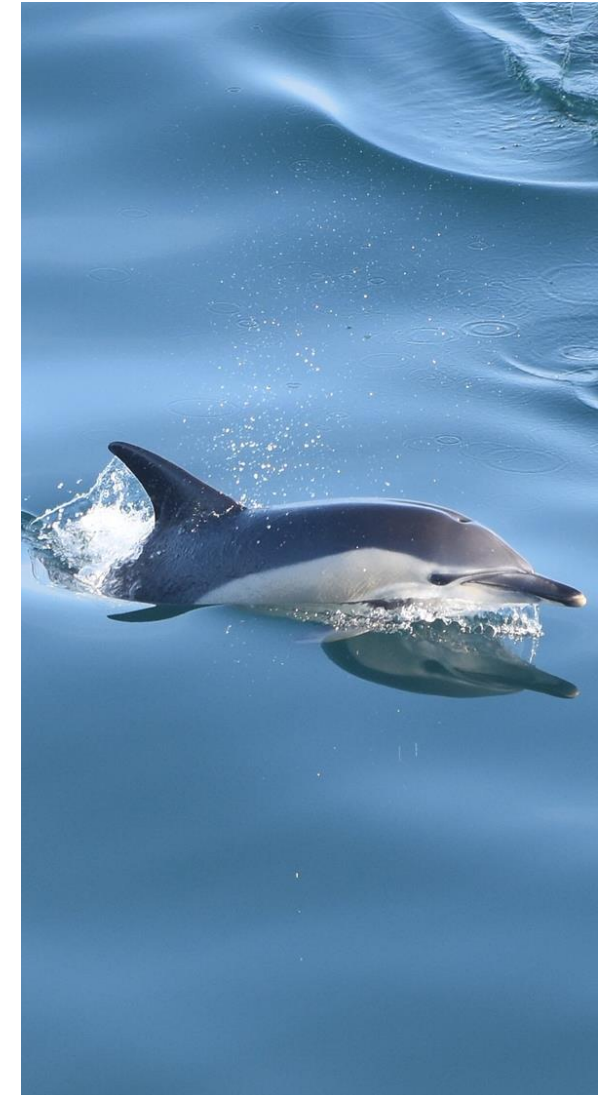
Iterative Plan Review in 24/25

- ← Call for Evidence
- ← New Scientific Research
- ← Updated information from Developers
- ← Stakeholder views



Evidence - ScotMER

- The Scottish Marine Energy Research Programme (ScotMER) is a Scottish Government initiative that improves the evidence base on the impacts of offshore energy on the marine environment.
- Decision making in the marine environment will be based on sound scientific and socio-economic evidence. (General Principal 19, Scotland's National Marine Plan)



Practical application of research



Research



Research Translation

To bridge the gap between research and application of the research



Impact Assessments



Sectoral Marine Plan for Offshore Wind Energy

October 2020



Focus on the right questions

Trust & Credibility and Confidence in the research

Not knowing about the research

Research Bias

Accessible and clearly communicated

Know when it moves the established position / understanding

Timely access to research

Accurate interpretation of analysis

Use available networks

Inform guidance and best practice

Good Quality data

Quality Assurance

Proficient analytical skills



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Licensing and Consenting

How does evidence support decision making?

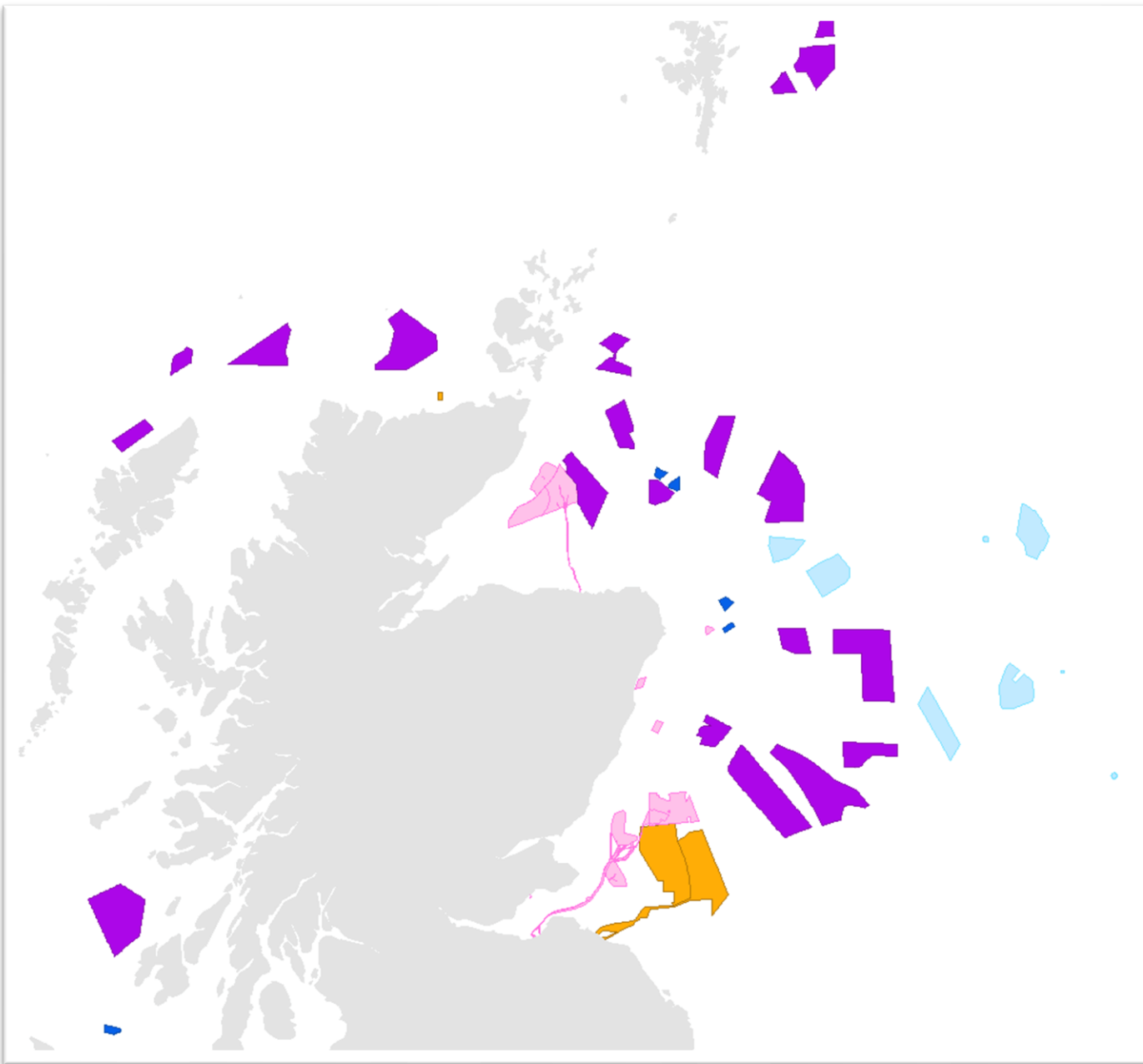
Zoe Crutchfield

Head of Marine Directorate Licensing Operations Team



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Offshore Wind Development in Scotland



Offshore Wind

- Existing
- Application
- INTOG IN
- INTOG TOG
- ScotWind



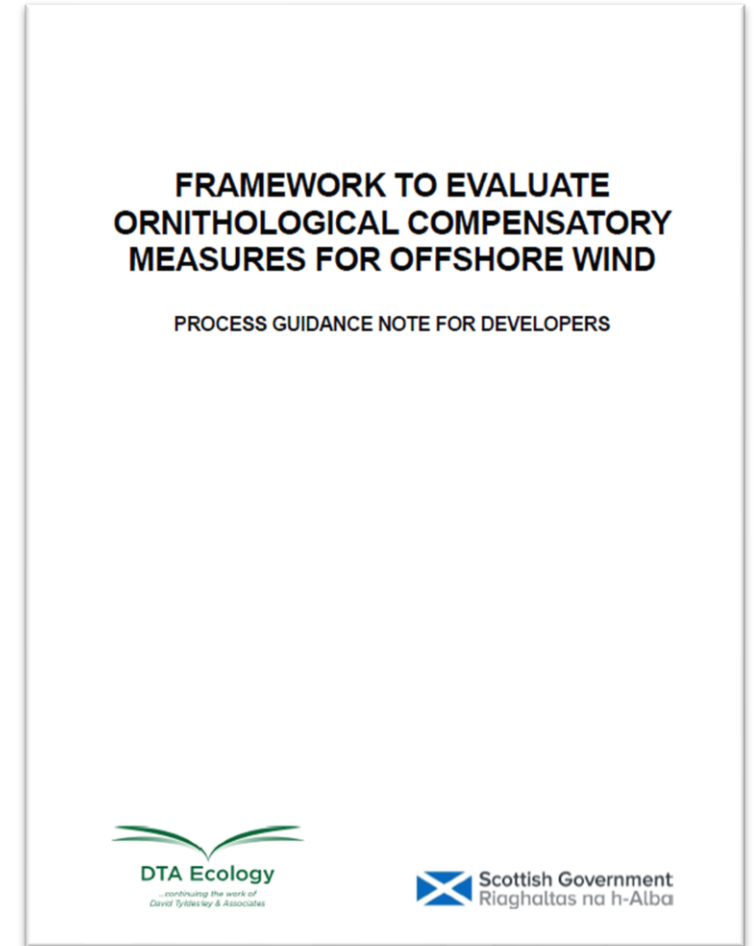
INTOG – Innovation & Targeted Oil and Gas



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How evidence is used - Now

- Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping
 - Guidance and case by case feedback, what tools should be used in EIA, what values used in models
- Environmental Impact Assessment
 - Guidance, EIA standard methodologies, model inputs/outputs
- Habitat Regulations Appraisal and Appropriate Assessment
 - Process guidance and case law, levels of precaution



How evidence is used – the future challenge

- Compensatory Measures

- Standard and marine enhancement

- suitability
- prediction of level of benefit available

- Monitoring

- How can we effectively monitor for:

- level of environmental impact (by receptor, wider environment etc.)
- beneficial impact (or not) of any compensatory measures

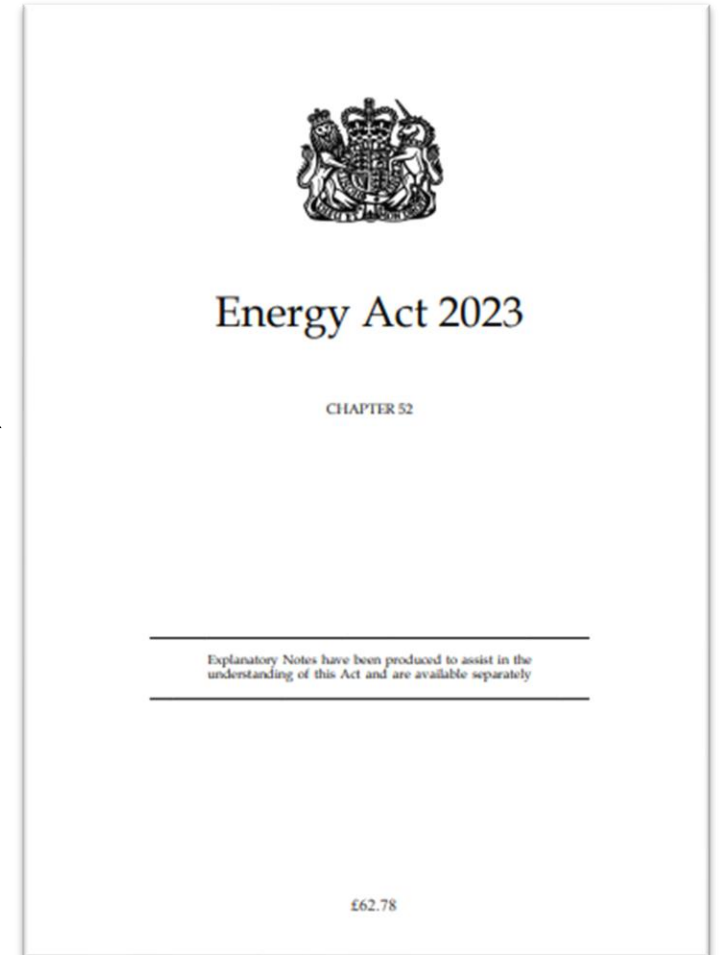
- Adaptive management options

- Precautionary approach



Current Work

- MD-LOT Streamlining Work
 - Improve guidance, clarity re pre/post consent work
- Nature Positive Approach
 - Marine Enhancement
 - Stakeholder input into policy and guidance
 - Focus on workable solutions
- Energy Act 2023
 - Statutory Instrument(s)
- How to incorporate above into the ongoing licensing and consenting processes



Research Outputs Challenges

Accessible &
Understandable

Usable by
applicants and
decision makers

Manage
uncertainty

Level of
Precaution

Accept our collective
understanding will CHANGE and
DEVELOP



Thanks to colleagues for their help with this presentation
and thank you all for your attention

Louise, Lucy and Zoe

