



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

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Marine Planning in Wales

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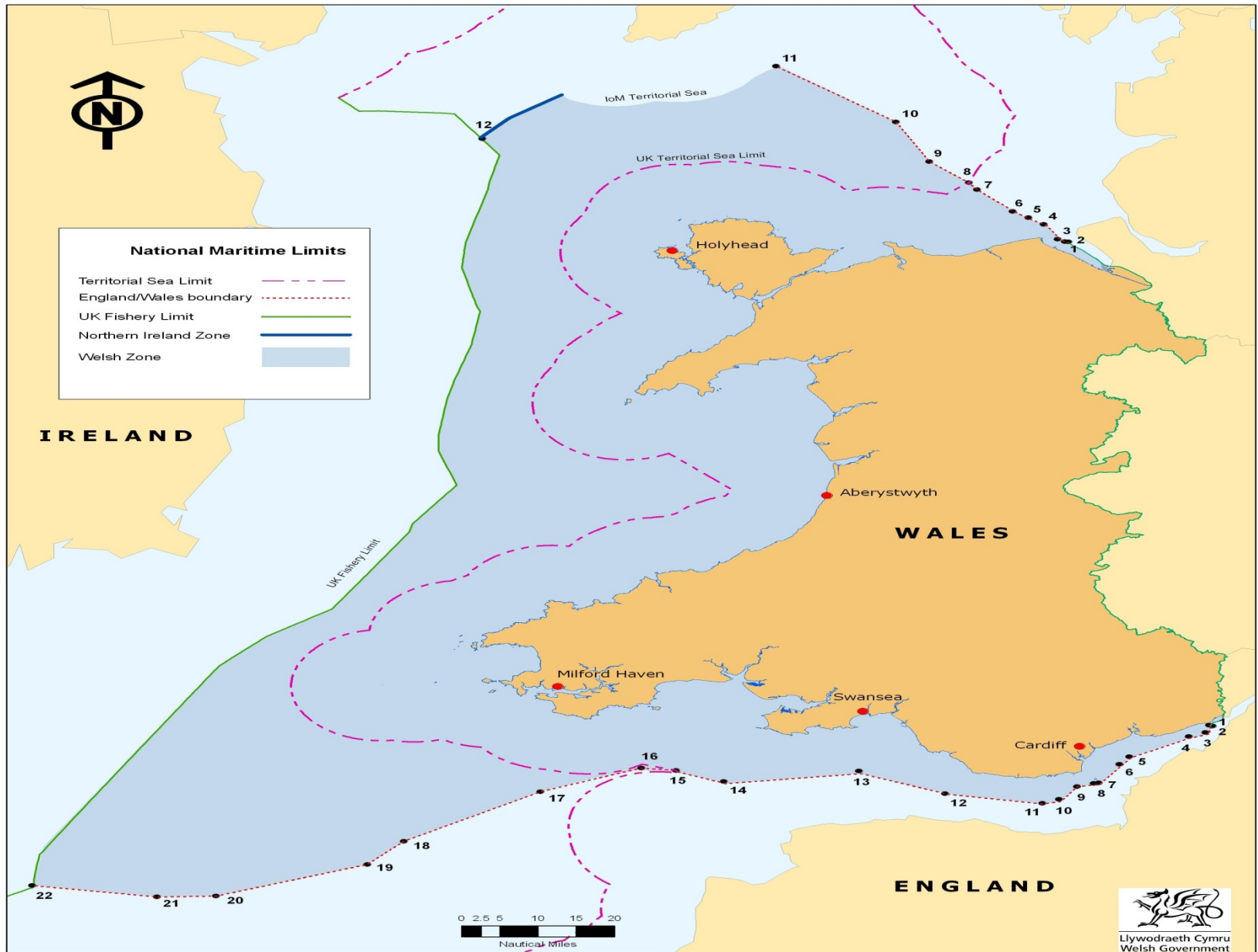
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Background

Background

- The Welsh Ministers are the marine planning authority for the Welsh inshore and the Welsh offshore areas (i.e. out to the median line) but need all plans for the offshore (12 nautical miles to the median line) agreed by the **Secretary of State**
- Also plans for the inshore (out to 12 nautical miles) if they cover reserved matters e.g. energy, need to be agreed by the **Secretary of State**
- All four administrations committed to planning jointly in cross-border areas where practicable.

Welsh Zone



WG Consultation

- The previous administration went out to consultation on our approach to marine planning in Feb 2011.
- Key commitments and questions were:
 - commitment to national planning with spatial priorities.
 - Relatively open questions on an approach to sub-national planning
 - Open question on land/sea integration.
 - Open questions on evidence and data.
 - A proposed governance structure.
 - Commitment to openness, engagement and transparency.

WG Consultation

Main stakeholder responses

- Stakeholders were in broad agreement with the need for a national plan with spatial priorities.
- Stakeholders were split on the level of detailed sub-national planning
- Strong views on the need to join up the land-sea interface
- Several evidence gaps were suggested – Mobile species, sea bed mapping, socio-economic data.

Internal Marine Planning Group

WG Internal marine planning group

- Consists of the Heads of each relevant policy areas – tourism, energy, CADW, Conservation, Ports, Fishing etc.
- Key current responsibility is to help shape the paper on approach planned for marine planning for Cabinet
- Likely to form the basis of the overarching Marine Programme Board/Marine Planning Steering Group.
- Agreement to create a WG Marine Evidence Group.
- Assessment of the impact of marine planning in Wales – draft – to inform the process

WG Marine Programme

- Holistic approach to the various marine elements; Planning, MSFD, Licence policy, MPAs.
- Programme Board, Evidence Group, Stakeholder Group, ad hoc Task and Finish Groups.

Early Considerations

Early Considerations - Approaches to Marine Planning

Depth

- **Wales will have a National plan with spatial priorities – what level of sub-national planning is appropriate if any ?**
- **Same size as an English plan area.**
- **Hot spots ? A full tier of regional planning ? Both ?**

Detail

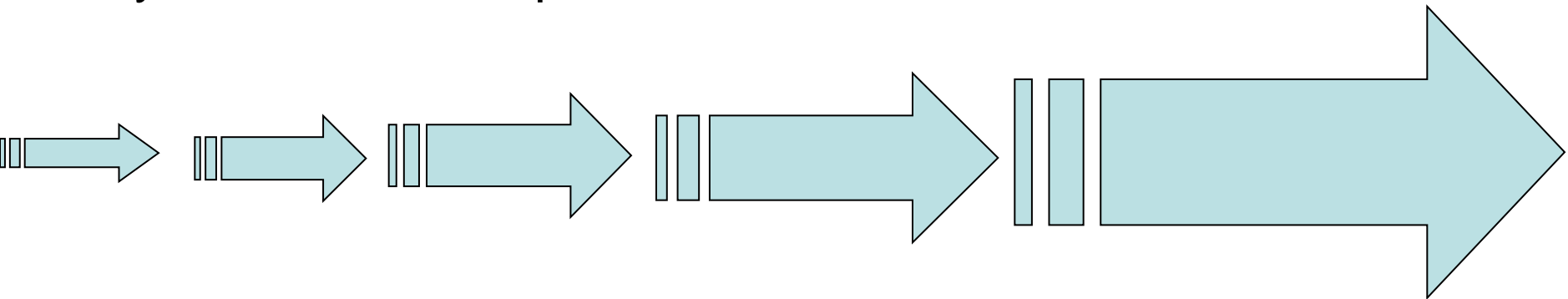
- **How much detail can/should a marine plan have ?**
- **How does this translate to the marine area which is 3 dimensional, less evidence rich and more fluid?**

Direction

- **What level of prescription should/can a marine plan have?**
- **WG is in regular contact with the other marine planning authorities and will seek to learn from their experiences to inform the debate**

Early Considerations - Approaches to Marine Planning

As you add more depth, detail and direction



Resource Intensity

Data/evidence needs

..... the more resources you need, the more evidence you need and just as importantly the quality/confidence levels in your data needs to be higher

High Level/Strategic

Detailed/Prescriptive

Uncertainty/Flexible ?

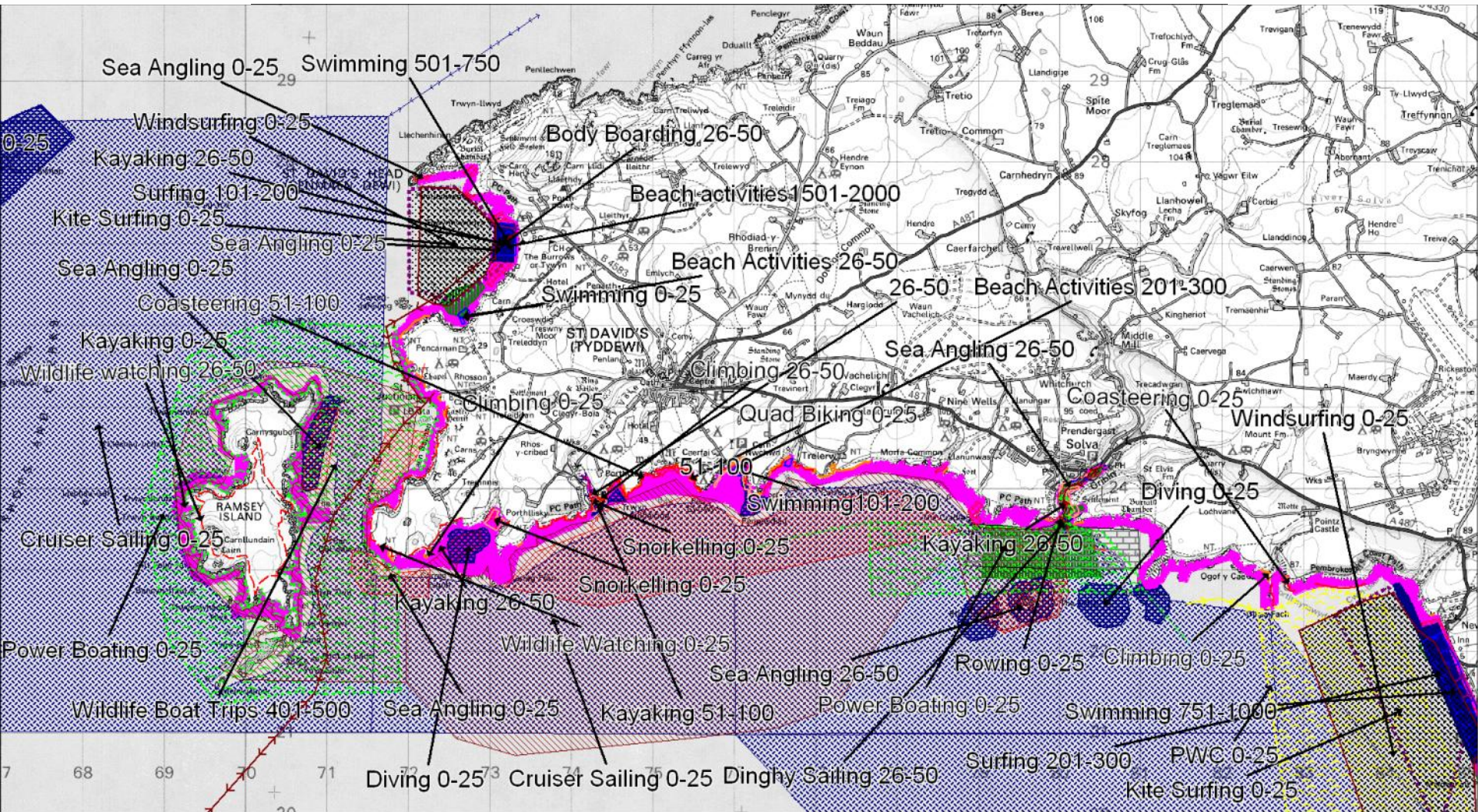
Certainty/Constraint ?



Preparatory Work

Wales Activity Mapping

- A study into the type, amount and distribution of recreation/tourism carried out on the South West Wales Coastline including infrastructure and management issues
- The data is stored in a web based GIS system primarily aimed at Recreation/Conservation/Tourism managers
- Activity tourism throughout Wales is currently growing and this trend is likely to continue. It is therefore crucial that we begin to take a proactive approach to managing these activities if we are to ensure the long term sustainability of the tourism and recreation industry
- Recognised as a gap
- Pilot project to look at an economic evaluation of tourism – Dale and St Davids Head



Produced by Cardiff University in collaboration with PCF and SEP on behalf of WCMP. Based on survey and workshop responses up to April 2013.
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Shellfish Culture in Welsh Offshore Wind Farms

Funding:

- Welsh European Fisheries Fund (EFF)

Project Partners: Includes renewable energy companies, renewable support organisations, conservation agencies, Welsh Government, aquaculture industry + support & trade organisations, NGOs, research organisations, landowners, UK Government organisations

Duration:

- 9-10 Month Project
- Start date: 01 Oct. 2012 / End date: June-July 2013

Deliverables: Two main reports -

- Aquaculture Opportunities Report - Past studies, policy drivers & permissions for shellfish cultivation in wind farms
- Report 2- Guidance Manual on how to cultivate shellfish within a wind farm site

Next Steps

Environment & SD Committee Inquiry

Commitments

- Welsh Government has accepted the need to afford a higher priority to marine policy in Wales.
- One of the first outputs of the new **integrated marine programme** will be to set out priorities for marine work and how and when we aim to achieve them. **Further detail in 2013**
- Currently considering resources to deliver the new integrated marine programme – creating a merged **Marine and Fisheries unit** (detailed work on going)
- Currently reviewing stakeholder engagement arrangements
- Welsh Government remains committed to developing a national marine plan (inshore & offshore) by 2015



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Thank you !

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