



WWF perspectives on the role of data in influencing policy

Dr Lyndsey Dodds
Head of Marine Policy WWF-UK

EMODnet Conference
20 October 2015



Outline



- What we do
- Examples of influencing policy in the UK
 - Marine Protected Areas
 - Harbour porpoise
 - Celtic Seas Partnership
- Key messages



Panda facts



+100

WWF is in over
100 countries, on
5 continents

1961

WWF was founded
In 1961



+5,000

WWF has over
5,000 staff worldwide

+5M

WWF has over
5 million supporters

27 October 2015

3

WWF's marine work




- Deliver benefits for people and nature
- Influence policy development and implementation
- Communicate marine issues
- Work in partnership





4



Marine Protected Areas



- UK Commitment to an 'ecologically coherent network' of Marine Protected Areas under national legislation
- European requirement to protect key habitats and species and to develop spatial protection measures to help deliver 'Good Environmental Status'



6

English Marine Conservation Zone Project



- Stakeholders in four regional projects recommended potential MCZs using Ecological Network Guidance
- 127 sites proposed, including reference areas
- Recommendations reviewed by independent Science Advisory Panel, JNCC and Natural England

English Marine Conservation Zone Project



27 sites designated in November 2013, consultation on further 23 sites in second tranche April 2015. Reference areas dropped.



Supporting science



National
Oceanography Centre
NATURAL ENVIRONMENT RESEARCH COUNCIL

NATURAL
ENVIRONMENT
RESEARCH COUNCIL

Harbour porpoise conservation



- Harbour porpoise listed as priority species in the EU Habitats Directive
- UK – largest population in Europe.
- Lack of site-based protection to date.
- WWF report to identify sites
- Raised with European Commission
- UK Government consulting on new sites for harbour porpoise late 2015.

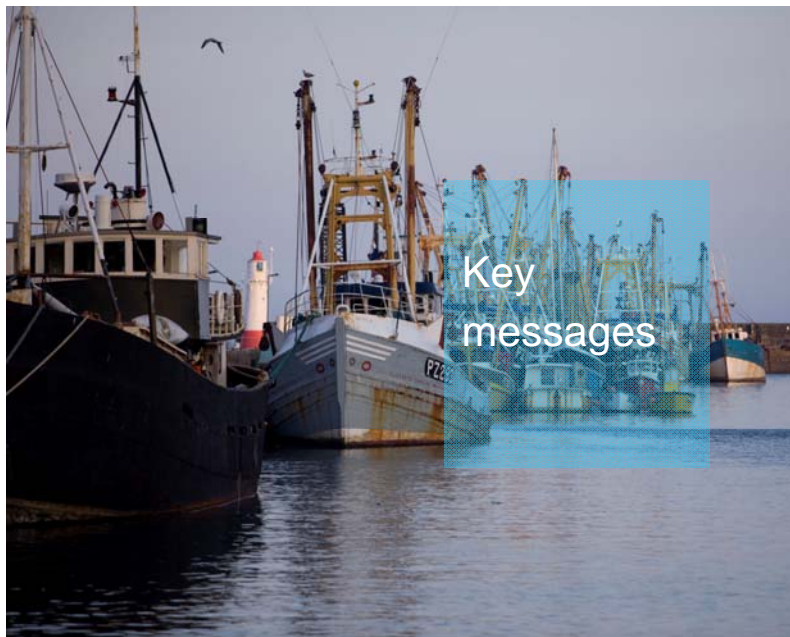


Harbour Porpoise © NATUREPL.COM / FLORIAN GRÄNER / WWF

Celtic Seas Partnership



- EC LIFE+ funded project. Supporting transboundary implementation of EU Marine Strategy Framework Directive in the Celtic Seas.
- Strategic guide and data portal for the Celtic Seas
- Role of stakeholders in monitoring



Copyright: Source Text

Key messages



- Matching scale to management
- Dealing with data-poor environment
- Communicating uncertainty
- Maximising data input from all sources
- Recognising the role of stakeholders



Thank you



ldodds@wwf.org.uk
www.wwf.org.uk



All photographs used in this presentation are copyright protected and courtesy of the WWF-Canon Global Photo Network and the respective photographers.