

Securing clean, healthy, productive and biologically diverse seas and oceans

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Dorset's Spectacular Coastal Seas

- The submarine landscapes of Dorset, its habitats and wildlife are spectacular and incredibly diverse.
- The marine area, out to 12 nautical miles at the territorial limit covers a similar area to the land of Dorset, consequently a significant component of the biodiversity of Dorset is in the sea.
- For generations the sea has shaped Dorset and has long played a vital role in transport, defence and fishing. There is a direct relationship between a healthy marine environment and the enjoyment and prosperity of the region.

Strategy components

- Understanding the Seas
- Sustainable Fisheries
- Marine Protected Areas
- Marine Planning
- Bridging Boundaries



Understanding the Sea



- We will work to promote, in the wider community, an increased understanding and appreciation of the marine environment and the diversity of the habitats and species in our waters.
- Natural Capital: we will collaborate to demonstrate the importance of our coasts and seas through ecosystem valuation and in so doing develop important aids to decisions-making.

Sustainable Fisheries

A background image of a fishing boat on the ocean, overlaid with a blue tint. The boat is a large vessel with a complex rigging system, likely used for commercial fishing. The ocean is visible in the foreground and background, with a clear horizon line. The overall image has a soft, ethereal quality due to the blue tint.

- Work with and alongside the fishing industry to support and promote sustainable fisheries and promote an ecosystems-based approach to fisheries.
- By 2025 for local fisheries we will seek to ensure that the majority of Dorset's fisheries meet agreed internationally agreed sustainability criteria.
- Dorset is already the largest production area for the aquaculture of oysters in England. We will promote the further sustainable development of aquaculture in Dorset, support the identification of suitable sites for aquaculture and engage widely to ensure suitable placement of aquaculture.
- Dorset is a premiere destination for sea angling in England. We will support the sustainable development of recreational angling and promote the social and economic benefits of recreational angling.
- We will seek to ensure that fishing practice is both sensitive and sustainable so that the species which comprise the commercial stocks, the wider biodiversity of the oceans, and the fabric of the habitats, all of which comprise the marine ecosystem, are protected and restored to be diverse, healthy and productive.

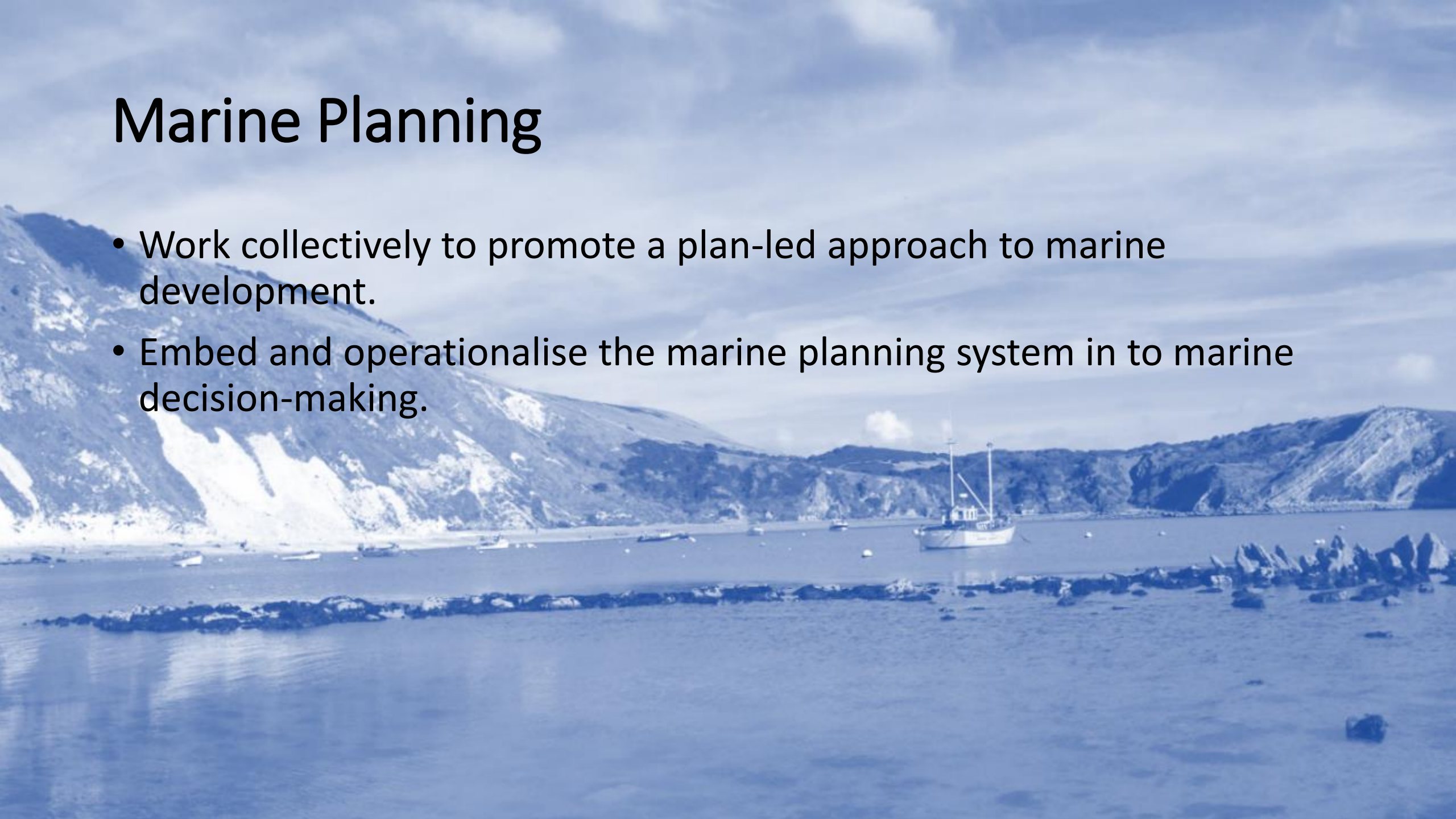
Marine Protected Areas



- By 2021 all fisheries in Marine Protected Areas will be managed in accordance with the conservation objectives of the sites.
- We will support a move from a features-based approach to management of marine protected areas to a 'whole site approach'.
- We will promote the value and benefits of well managed marine protected areas to the wider public by using innovative and engaging materials.
- We will support the use of natural capital valuation in demonstrating the benefits of well managed marine protected areas.

Marine Planning

- Work collectively to promote a plan-led approach to marine development.
- Embed and operationalise the marine planning system in to marine decision-making.



Bridging Boundaries

The background of the slide is a photograph of a rugged coastline. On the left, a steep cliffside descends towards the sea. The cliff face shows distinct horizontal geological layers. The ocean is on the right, with white-capped waves crashing against dark, jagged rocks. The entire image is filtered with a uniform orange color, creating a warm, monochromatic aesthetic.

- Working beyond organisational boundaries to deliver shared goals.
- Applying the catchment-based approach to deliver benefits to our rivers and estuaries. We will promote the catchment approach and strengthen the partnerships to include the management of our coasts and estuaries.