The MPA Network in Wales

Maggie Hatton-Ellis

Marine Management Team Leader

Natural Resources Wales
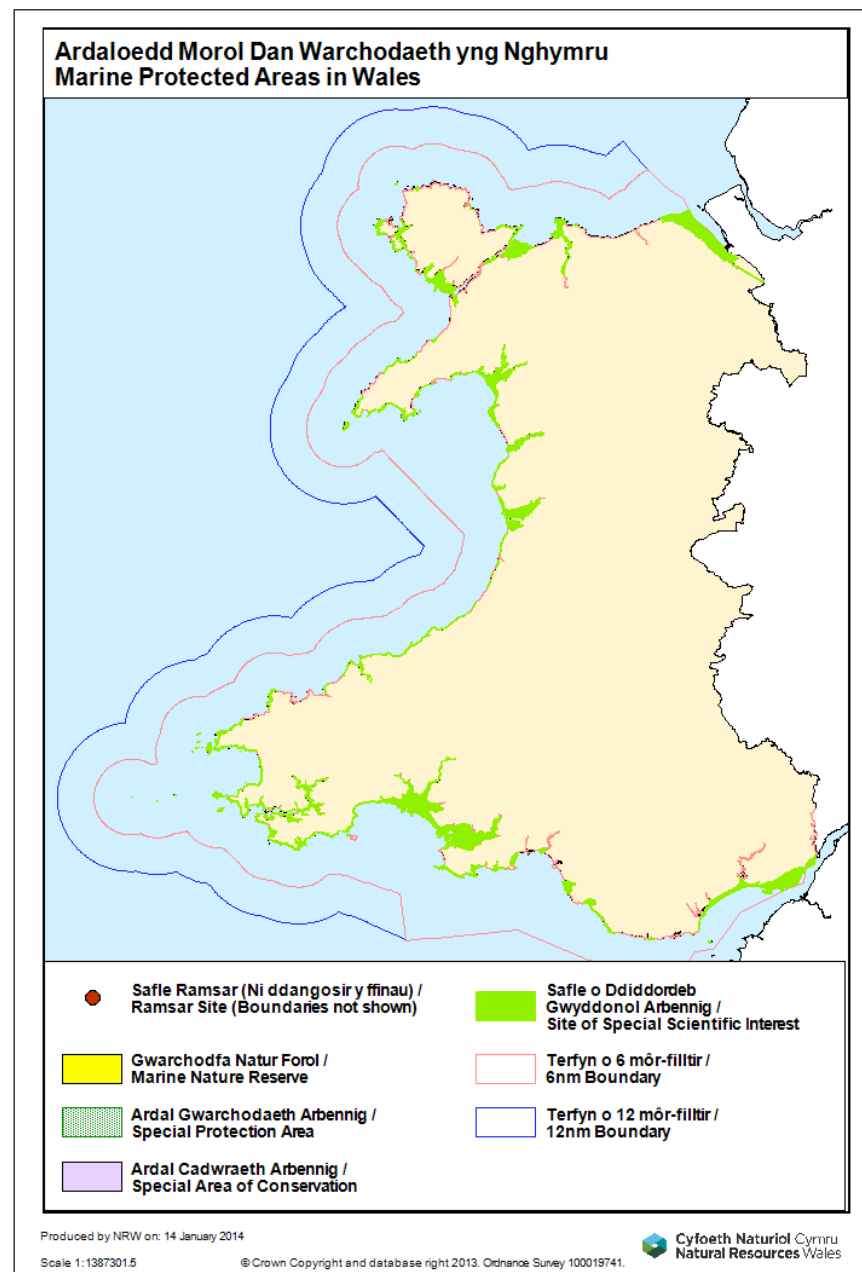
What this talk covers

- Our Welsh MPA network

- MPA Management Review

- MPA Network Management Steering group

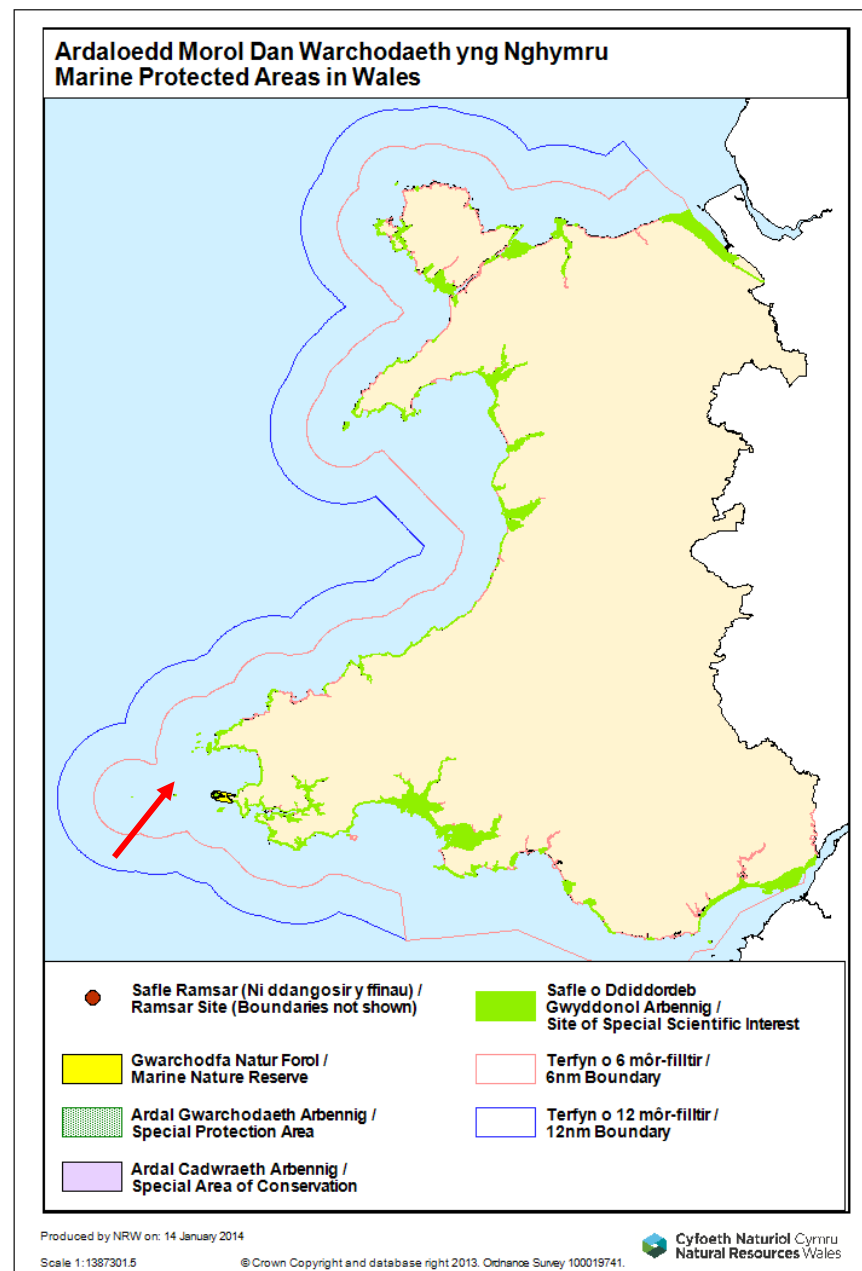- MPA Network Management Improvement Plan

- Future Plans

The Welsh MPA Network
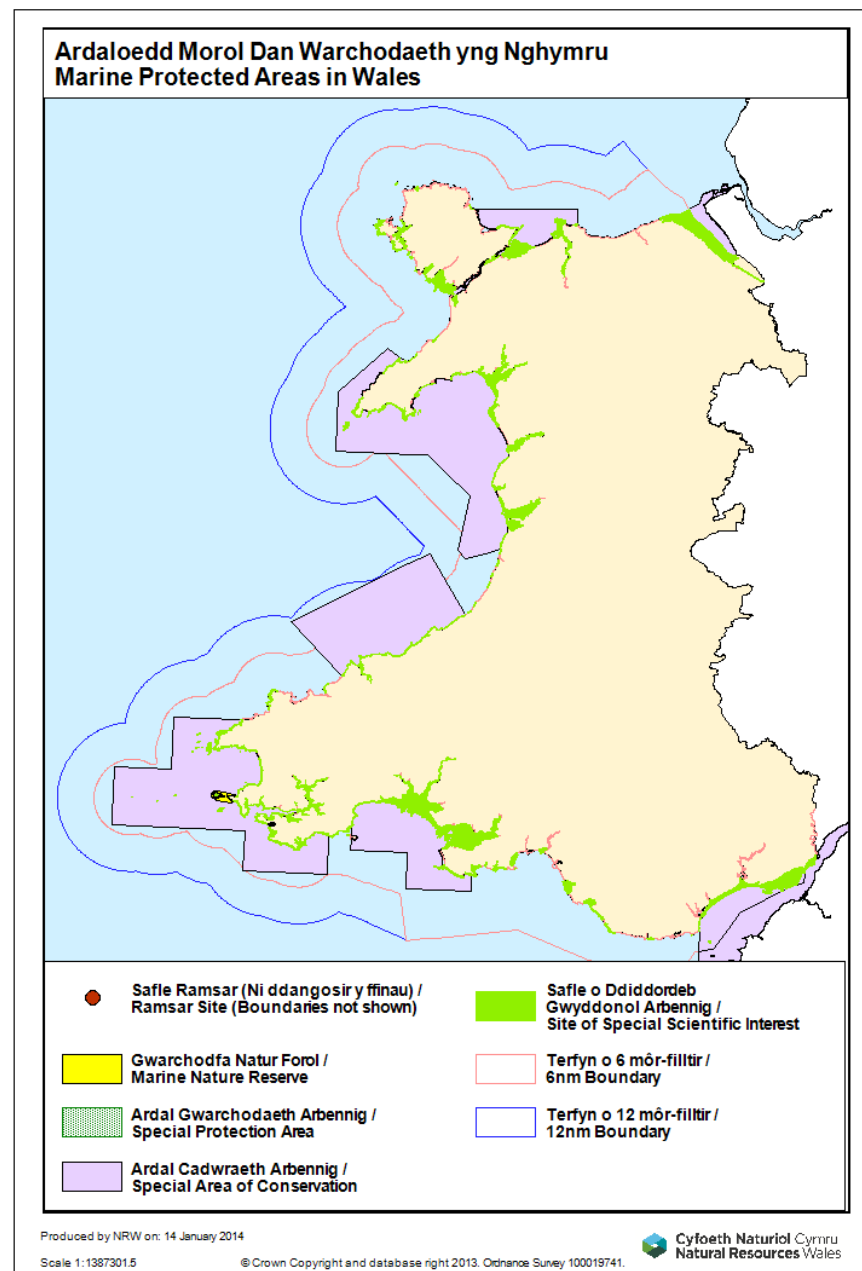
- 128 MPAs in Welsh waters

  - 104 SSSIs

The Welsh MPA Network

- 128 MPAs in Welsh waters
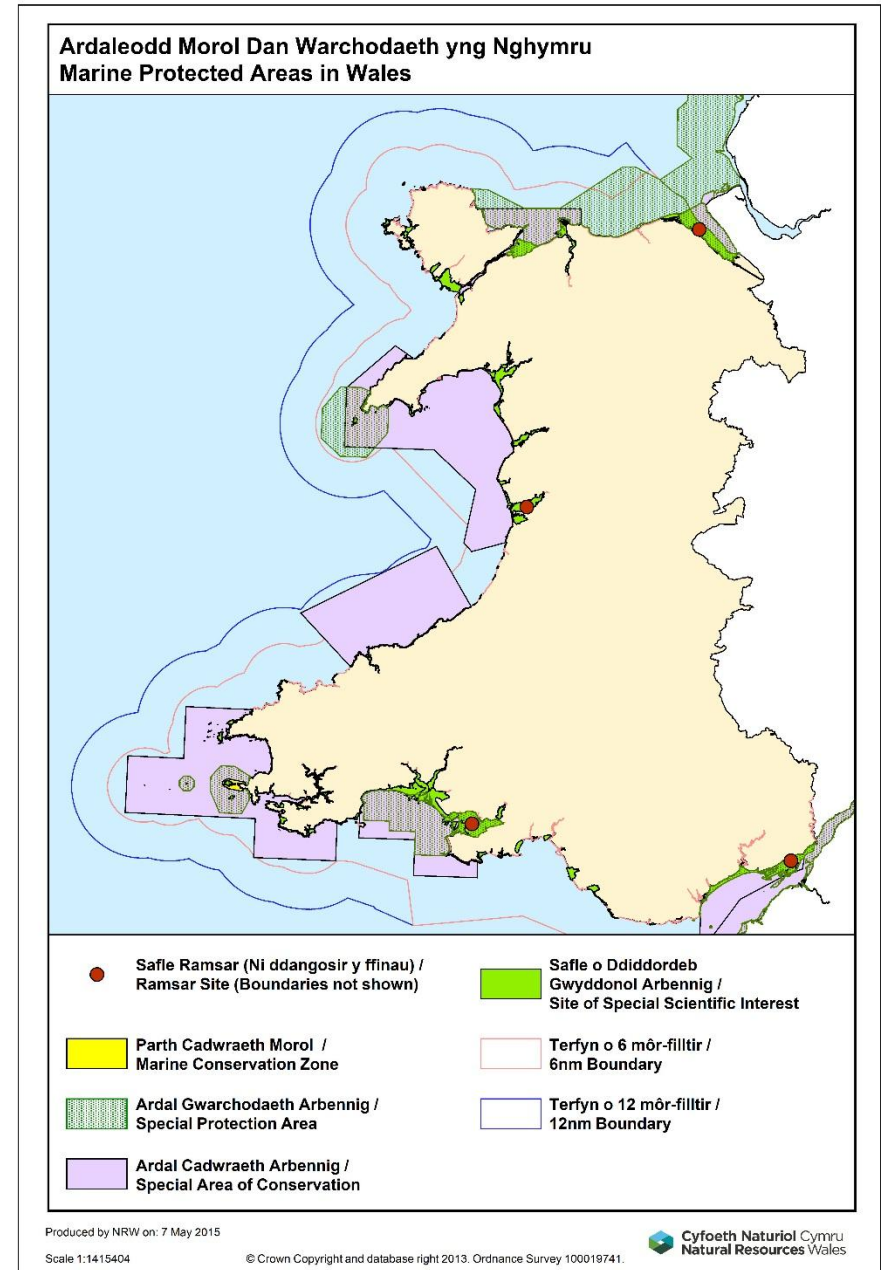
  - 104 SSSIs

  - 1 MCZ

**Ardaloedd Morol Dan Warchodaeth yng Nghymru
Marine Protected Areas in Wales**

Safle Ramsar (Ni ddangosir y ffinau) /
Ramsar Site (Boundaries not shown)

Safle o Ddiddordeb
Gwyddonol Arbennig /
Site of Special Scientific Interest

Gwarchodfa Natur Forol /
Marine Nature Reserve

Terfyn o 6 môr-filltir /
6nm Boundary

Ardal Gwarchodaeth Arbennig /
Special Protection Area

Terfyn o 12 môr-filltir /
12nm Boundary

Ardal Cadwraeth Arbennig /
Special Area of Conservation

Produced by NRW on: 14 January 2014

Scale 1:1387301.5   © Crown Copyright and database right 2013. Ordnance Survey 100019741.

Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru
Natural Resources Wales

The Welsh MPA Network

- 128 MPAs in Welsh waters

  - 104 SSSIs

  - 1 MCZ

  - 11 SACs

Ardaloedd Morol Dan Warchodaeth yng Nghymru
Marine Protected Areas in Wales

Legend:
- Safle Ramsar (Ni ddangosir y ffinau) / Ramsar Site (Boundaries not shown)
- Gwarchodfa Natur Forol / Marine Nature Reserve
- Ardal Gwarchodaeth Arbennig / Special Protection Area
- Ardal Cadwraeth Arbennig / Special Area of Conservation
- Safle o Ddiddordeb Gwyddonol Arbennig / Site of Special Scientific Interest
- Terfyn o 6 môr-filltir / 6nm Boundary
- Terfyn o 12 môr-filltir / 12nm Boundary

Produced by NRW on: 14 January 2014
Scale 1:1387301.5   © Crown Copyright and database right 2013. Ordnance Survey 100019741.

Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru
Natural Resources Wales

The Welsh MPA Network

- 128 MPAs in Welsh waters

  - 104 SSSIs

  - 1 MCZ

  - 11 SACs

  - 8 SPAs

  - 4 Ramsars

Ardaleodd Morol Dan Warchodaeth yng Nghymru
Marine Protected Areas in Wales

Safle Ramsar (Ni ddangosir y ffinau) /
Ramsar Site (Boundaries not shown)

Safle o Ddiddordeb
Gwyddonol Arbennig /
Site of Special Scientific Interest

Parth Cadwraeth Morol /
Marine Conservation Zone

Terfyn o 6 môr-filltir /
6nm Boundary

Ardal Gwarchodaeth Arbennig /
Special Protection Area

Terfyn o 12 môr-filltir /
12nm Boundary

Ardal Cadwraeth Arbennig /
Special Area of Conservation

Produced by NRW on: 7 May 2015

Scale 1:1415404

© Crown Copyright and database right 2013. Ordnance Survey 100019741.

Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru
Natural Resources Wales

The Welsh MPA Network

- 128 MPAs in Welsh waters

  - 104 SSSIs

  - 1 MCZ

  - 11 SACs

  - 8 SPAs

  - 4 Ramsars

- Area coverage of MPAs in Wales - 5592km^2
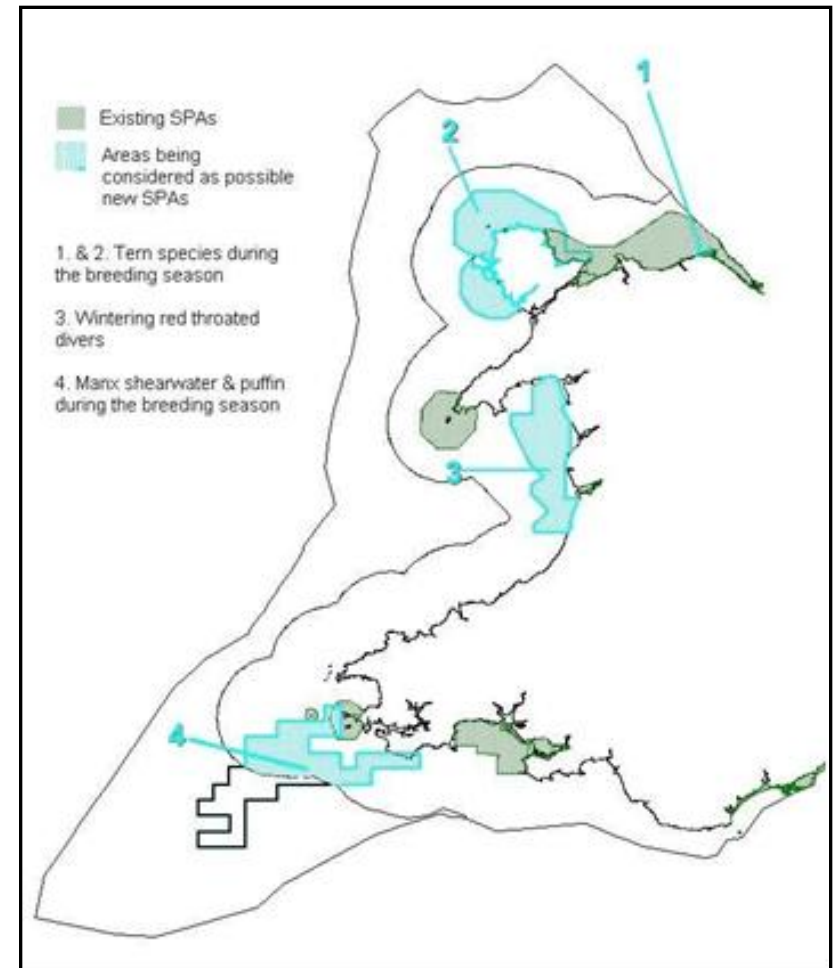
- % coverage of MPAs in Welsh waters - 35%

Ardaleodd Morol Dan Warchodaeth yng Nghymru
Marine Protected Areas in Wales

Safle Ramsar (Ni ddangosir y ffinau) /
Ramsar Site (Boundaries not shown)

Safle o Ddiddordeb
Gwyddonol Arbennig /
Site of Special Scientific Interest

Parth Cadwraeth Morol /
Marine Conservation Zone

Terfyn o 6 môr-filltir /
6nm Boundary

Ardal Gwarchodaeth Arbennig /
Special Protection Area

Terfyn o 12 môr-filltir /
12nm Boundary

Ardal Cadwraeth Arbennig /
Special Area of Conservation

Produced by NRW on: 7 May 2015

Scale 1:1415404

© Crown Copyright and database right 2013. Ordnance Survey 100019741.

Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru
Natural Resources Wales

Possible new SACs in Wales

- Informal discussions are currently being held with stakeholders on possible new SACs for harbour porpoise in Welsh waters.

- Site selection was underpinned by the Joint Cetacean Protocol (JCP) a collation of standardised survey data which included:

  Boat based & aerial surveys

  545 surveys

  18 years of data

Cyfoeth
Naturiol
Cymru
Natural
Resources
Wales
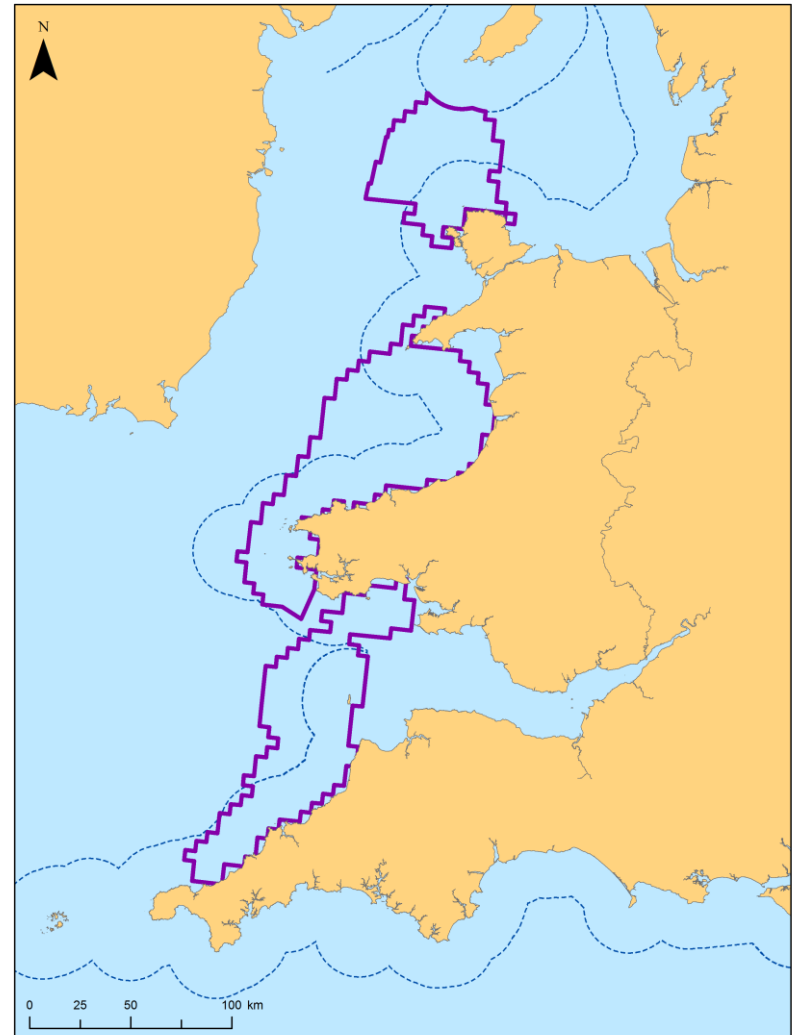
Possible new SPAs in Wales

- We are also in informal discussions with stakeholders about a range of possible new SPAs in Wales.

- Sites for Terns, Red-throated divers and Manx Shearwater and Puffin.

- Formal consultation currently planned for late July.

Existing SPAs

Areas being considered as possible new SPAs

1. & 2. Tern species during the breeding season

3. Wintering red throated divers

4. Manx shearwater & puffin during the breeding season

MPA management review.

The MPA Management review was published in 2012 with two main reports produced:

1. Overview of current MPA management in Wales and a summary of new MPA management tools.

2. Evaluation of current MPA management in Wales.

Main outcomes from the MPA management review.

There is a need for:

- **Consistency** in MPA management regimes.

- **Additional support and direction** from the Welsh Government.

- **Raising the priority of MPA management** in some management authorities.

Shared principles for MPA management

Improving the effectiveness of MPA management and site condition requires:

1. **Leadership**

2. **Co-ordination and Consistency**.

3. **Prioritisation**

4. **Collaboration**

5. **Communication**

Embedding these shared principles

Create a Welsh MPA Network Management Steering Group to provide strategic co-ordination of MPA management in Welsh seas.

MPA Network Management Steering Group

Membership:
- Welsh Government
- Natural Resources Wales
- Welsh Local Government Association
- The Crown Estate
- Dŵr Cymru/Welsh Water
- National Park Authorities
- Port and Harbour Authorities

MPA Network Management Implementation Plan

Four phases of work:

Report A – Vision and objectives

Report B – Management structures & funding

Report C – Management plans

Report D – Network issues and priorities

MPA Network Management Objectives

- Sustainable management for the MPA network.

- Effective leadership

- Participative and engaged communities

- Clear Governance structures

- Adaptive management

Report B: New Spatial Options

A spatial based approach to managing the network has been proposed to stakeholders – four options were considered:

- Continue with the current system

- A regional approach – two areas north and south

- An area approach – four management areas

- A local approach – seven management areas
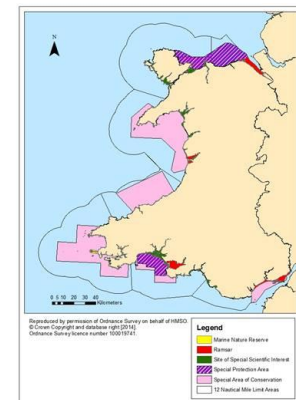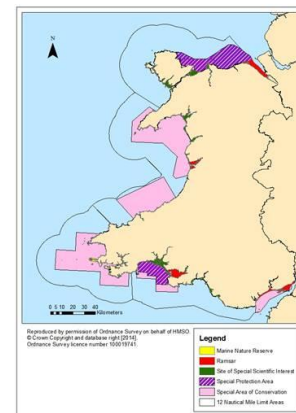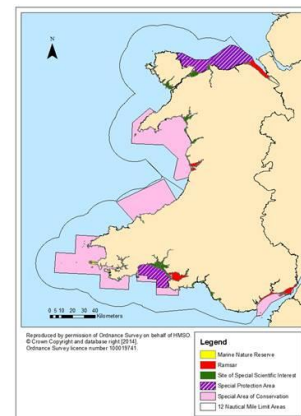
Consulting with Stakeholders

- Relevant Authority Groups (RAGs) and Advisory groups

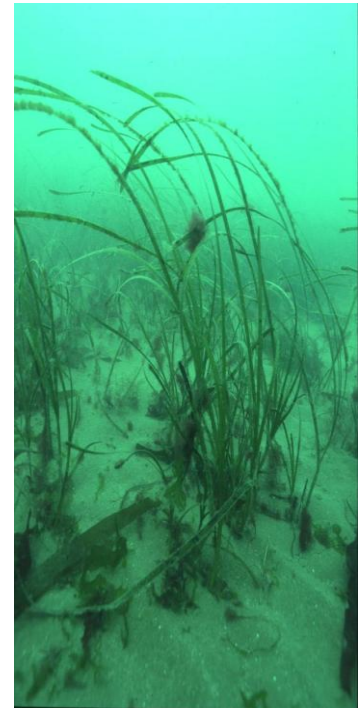- WMSAG – Welsh Marine Stakeholder Advisory Group

Information provided:

- Potential Boundaries

- Management structures

- Percentages of MPA within each area

- Estimated facilitation costs

- Assessment against the network objectives
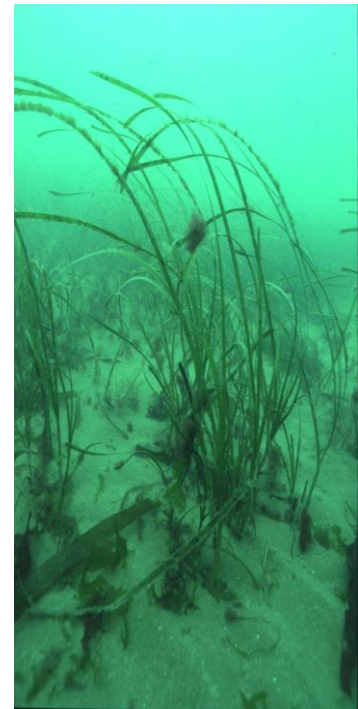
Next Steps

- Informal consultation on management areas has closed

- Summary report is being prepared for the next MPA Network Management Steering Group on the 09th of June

- Need to consider sustainable funding sources

- Further consideration needs to be given to boundaries and we are likely to consult with stakeholders again

Thank you for listening