



PANACHE

Protected Area Network Across
the Channel Ecosystem

THE ENGLISH CHANNEL
one
ecosystem two
projects

FINAL CONFERENCE - MARCH 17th-18th 2015 - TORQUAY

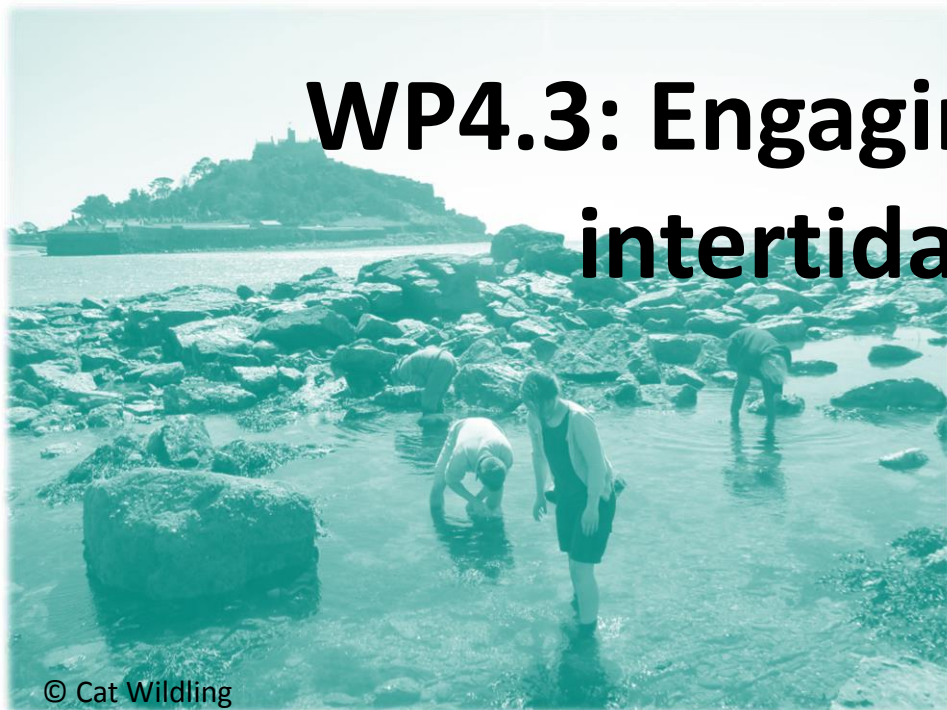
Intertidal Surveying by Citizen Scientists

Engaging people when they are at the seaside

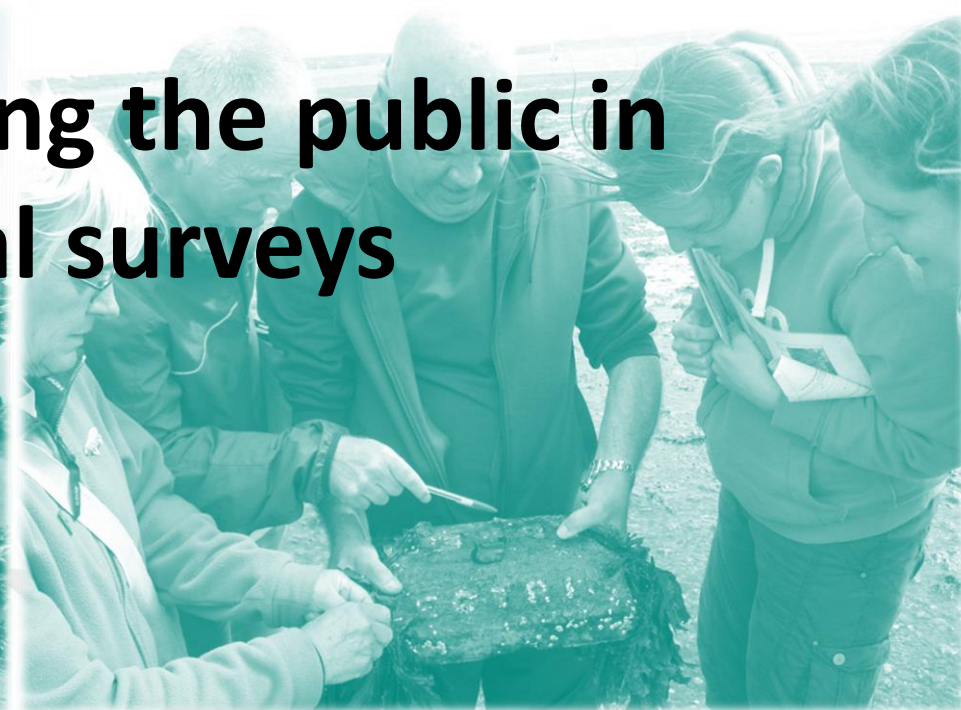


Fiona White
Marine Officer
Kent Wildlife Trust

WP4.3: Engaging the public in intertidal surveys



© Cat Wildling



© Sarah Hodgson



Programme development

PANACHE key species

- ★ Climate change indicator species
- 🌿 Invasive non natives
- ★ Species monitored under the Water Framework Directive
- 👣 Species that characterise the main biological shore zones
- 🐟 Features of Conservation Interest



Development of a standard Intertidal Survey Methodology

✧ Walkover survey



🌿 Timed species search



✧ Transect survey



👣 Quadrat survey

Development of standard training materials

Guidance notes and PowerPoint presentations developed covering:

- ✧ 4 standard survey methods
- 🌿 Recognition of intertidal zones and characterising species
- 👣 Identification of PANACHE key species
- 🐟 Use of the SACFORN scale

Engagement of volunteers as Intertidal Survey Citizen Scientists



BioLit
Les observations de littoral

Un programme national de science participative sur le littoral français

ACCUEIL ACTIONS ACTUALITES OBSERVATIONS RELAIS

INSCRIPTION

Twitter Facebook

Carte des observations



Toutes les observations

Toutes les observations Identifiées Non-identifiées

Participants

Thursday, 25 September 2014

Polzeath and the Pool of dreams

Well first we had the 'Cave of Dreams' (at Fibrail), then we had the 'Rock of Dreams' (Looe), and now we have the 'Pool of Dreams' found on our Cornwall Wildlife Trust Shoresearch survey at Polzeath on one of the lowest tides I have ever witnessed on this amazing shore. As you can see from this photo our transect went down onto rocky kelp covered reefs that would normally be well covered by the w

ater and dangerously close to the surf. However on the day of our survey, 9th September 2014, we were lucky to have bright sunshine, high air pressure holding the water down and absolutely zero surf!! In this seaweed smothered shallow but pebbly pool we found an incredible diversity of marine life! Once again highlighting how fascinating rockpools can be in Cornwall!



Project delivery

Delivery of training in PANACHE Intertidal Survey Methods

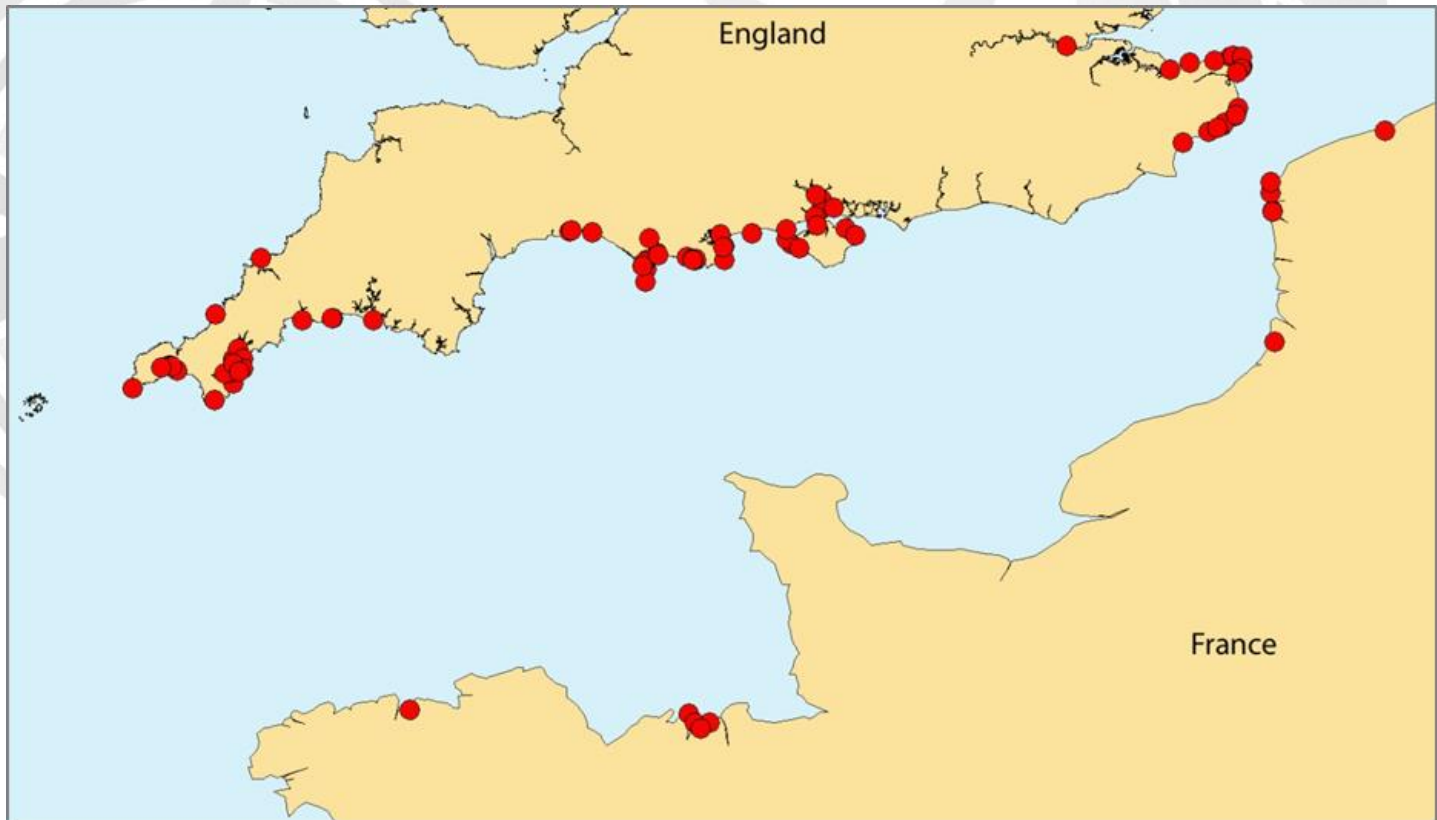
- ★ 39 Intertidal survey training events
- 🌿 550+ volunteers
- ★ Various formats – classroom, shore-based, mixture
- 👣 Specialist workshop in the identification of sponges, hydroids and bryozoans



Delivery of surveys

✧ 210 surveys

🌿 1,325 volunteers



Data

★ Surveys led by experienced staff with good marine biological knowledge

🌿 Data entered into national Marine Recorder database

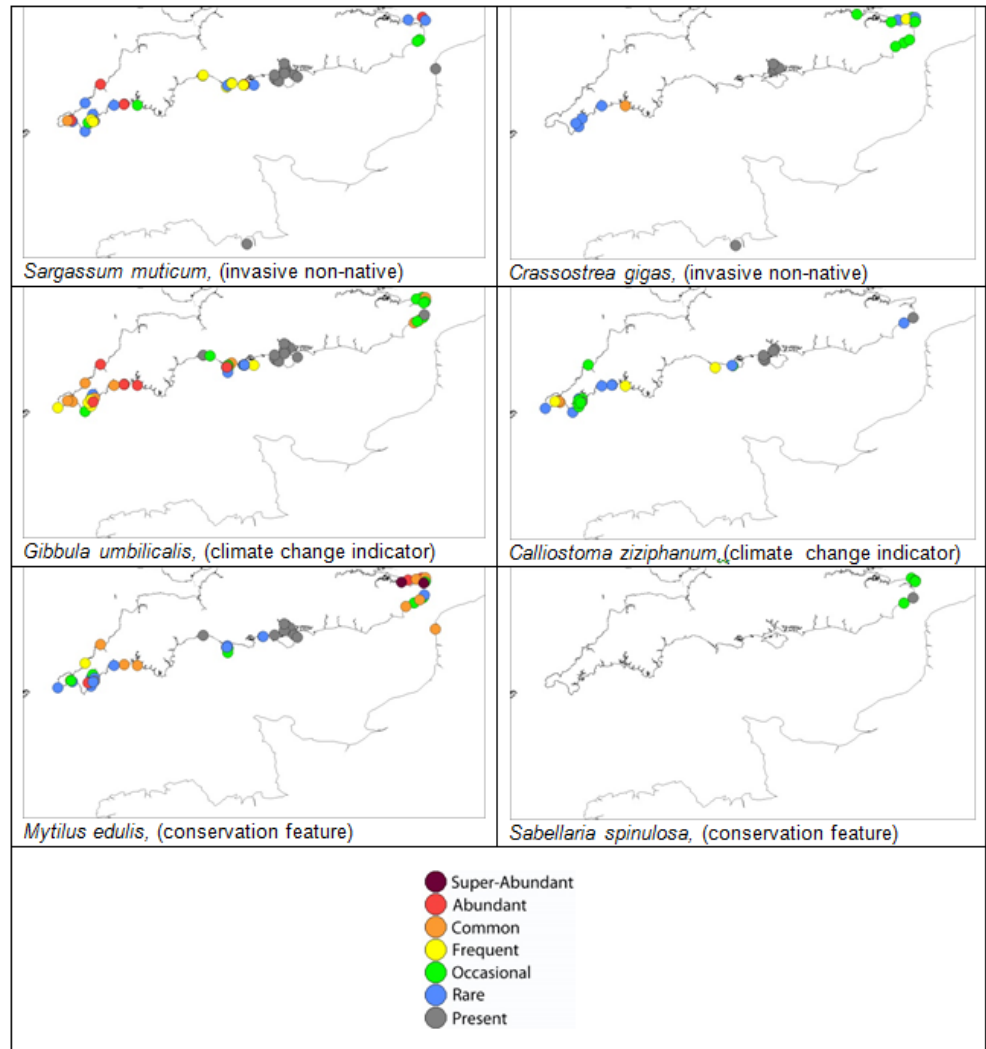


Figure 7: Abundance across the surveyed sites of a selection of the PANACHE key species

Analysis of methods used

Walkover survey



Popular with volunteers



Flexible – effective for volunteers keen to find new or unusual species




Good way to accurately capture presence or absence of PANACHE species

Timed species search

 Popular in some locations

 Effective way to introduce volunteers to key species

 Volunteers more likely to see and record key species in other survey methods

 Unpopular in some locations

 Can lead to frustrated volunteers and misidentification



Suggestion:
Smaller packages of species which include several likely to be found and recognised.

Transect survey



Popular among volunteers with an interest in science or a defined search area



Less popular with volunteers keen to explore further afield or for certain species



Works well with small groups and on shores with clearly defined zones



Shores with less defined zones can result in confusion



Suggestion: Use coloured buckets to mark out the zones

Quadrat survey



Popular among volunteers with an interest in science



Less popular with all other volunteers

SACFORN scale

- ★ Plenary session ensured accuracy of use
- 🌿 With experience, volunteer confidence and accuracy grew



Conclusions

- ★ Each method was found to be effective in engaging citizen scientists
- 🌿 Walkover and timed species search can be used by volunteers unsupervised
- ★ Transect and quadrat surveys are better with supervised groups
- 👣 Data quality is dependent upon experience of volunteers. Training provided ensured for a core of robust data
- 🐟 Important to select the correct survey method to suit the volunteers on the day
 - Volunteer engagement in marine surveys is more developed in the UK than in France, but activities throughout this work package have resulted in a suite of tools effective in engaging the public in MPAs and in producing useful data to support their management
 - The survey methods developed will continue to be used



PANACHE

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the Channel Ecosystem



Cornwall



Hampshire & Isle of Wight
Wildlife Trust
Protecting wildlife. Inspiring people.



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SUSTAINABLY
WITH
PLYMOUTH
UNIVERSITY
MARINE INSTITUTE



**MARINE &
COASTAL POLICY
WITH
PLYMOUTH
UNIVERSITY**

PML | Plymouth Marine
Laboratory



The VALMER and PANACHE projects were selected under the European cross-border cooperation programme INTERREG IV A France (Channel) - England, co-funded by the ERDF.