Gaps and next steps

Pathways projects and links to Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD)

Jo Higgs
MSFD Implementation Team
Defra
Contribute to the delivery of MSFD Descriptor 2:

Non-indigenous species introduced by human activities are at levels that do not adversely alter the ecosystem.
Where are we in the MSFD process?

Published Marine Strategy Part One: Initial assessment, characteristics of Good Environmental Status, and targets and indicators

- Lack of information on abundance, distribution and impacts
- **UK characteristics:** The risk from pathways and vectors which facilitate the introduction and spread of NIS as a result of human activities is significantly reduced, leading to a reduction in the risk of introducing new species some of which may have adverse impacts.
- **UK target 1:** Reduction in the risk of introduction and spread of non native species through improved management of high risk pathways and vectors.
- **UK target 2:** Action plans are developed for key high risk marine non indigenous species by 2020.
- Has not been possible to set quantitative targets covering all MSFD indicators.
Where are we in the MSFD process?

- **2012**
  - Published Marine Strategy Part One: Initial assessment, characteristics of Good Environmental Status, and targets and indicators

- **2014**
  - Published Marine Strategy Part Two: Marine Monitoring Programmes

- No targeted statutory monitoring programmes, however:
  - Several have potential to contribute
  - Some already record NIS
  - Work conducted to develop monitoring programme
    - MPP – identification of introduction hotspots
    - MPP – potential use of existing monitoring
  - Options for developing monitoring programmes are currently being considered.
Where are we in the MSFD process?

2012
Published Marine Strategy Part One: Initial assessment, characteristics of Good Environmental Status, and targets and indicators

2014
Published Marine Strategy Part Two: Marine Monitoring Programmes

2015
Publish Marine Strategy Part Three: Programme of Measures (Dec 2015)

- Some existing measures in place.
- More data is needed before we can say whether additional measures are required.
Where are we in the MSFD process?

2012
Published Marine Strategy Part One: Initial assessment, characteristics of Good Environmental Status, and targets and indicators

2014
Published Marine Strategy Part Two: Marine Monitoring Programmes

2015
Publish Marine Strategy Part Three: Programme of Measures (Dec 2015)

2016
Implementation of Programme of Measures (Dec 2016)
Gaps and next steps: Monitoring

- Develop a target species list
  - Work currently being carried out
- Establish a baseline data point
  - Looking to start work April 2015
- Monitoring for NIS already present in UK waters
  - Looking at options to adapt remit of existing statutory monitoring programmes
- Surveillance for NIS not currently present in UK waters
  - Looking at options to develop a risk based surveillance programme targeting hotspot locations
Gaps and next steps: Measures

- UK currently consulting on MSFD programme of measures.
  - Please provide comments on proposals and information on other relevant measures not included.
Any questions?