



Newsletter - Spring 2021

With Spring well and truly in the air, it seems appropriate to report on all that is fresh and new with the SWEEP project.

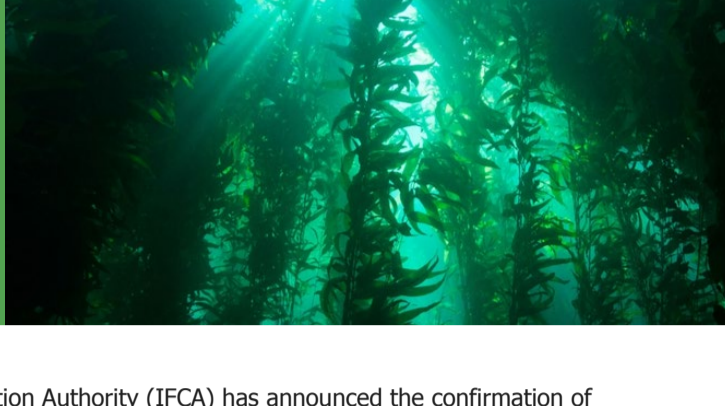
Over the past few months, several exciting new outputs and resources have launched - including new resources to support funding for green spaces, and for assessing the impacts of land use on water quality.

We've also launched a new project on biodiversity and environmental net gain, and our work supporting the Marine Pioneer Partnership is really starting to deliver positive impact and benefits.

Read on to find out more.

Best wishes,
The SWEEP Team

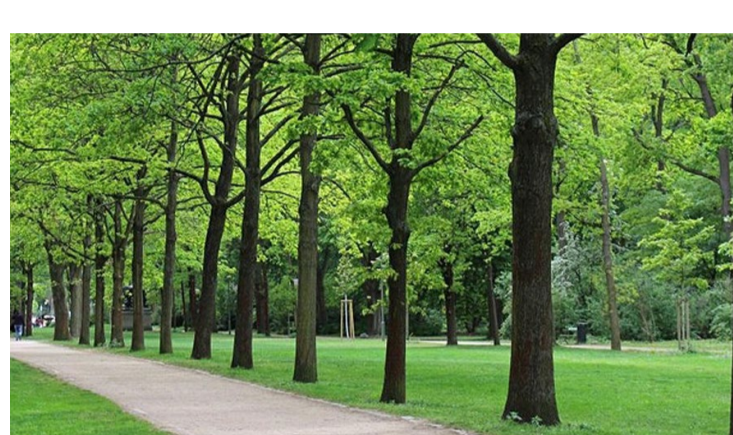
SWEEP research supports byelaw to protect inshore waters in Sussex



Sussex Inshore Fisheries & Conservation Authority (IFCA) has announced the confirmation of its [Nearshore Trawling Byelaw](#), which drew on SWEEP research to inform its development.

The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) has recently approved the byelaw to protect 117 square miles (304 square kilometres) of coastal seabed to allow for the regeneration of underwater seaweed forests. The ban is the first fisheries byelaw to be based on an impact assessment of the natural capital, an approach adapted by Sussex IFCA from SWEEP research.

[Read the full story >](#)



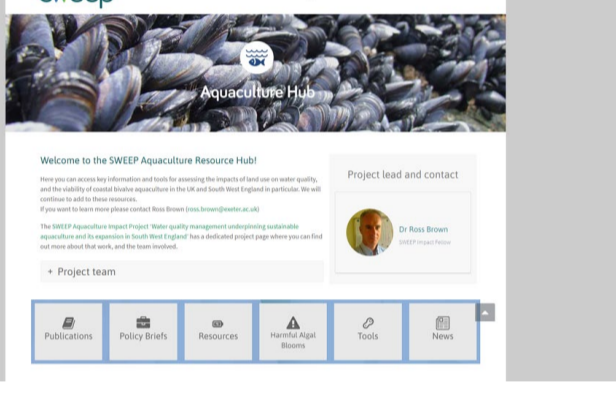
New resources to support funding for green spaces go live

The [SWEEP Investing in Nature for Health](#) project has developed a new report highlighting the range of alternative sources of finance that could be used to support the development and maintenance of green infrastructure.

The [Alternative funding mechanisms for green space report](#) was produced in direct response to the needs of project partners, and provides a concise summary of the breadth of funding mechanisms available for green infrastructure, and the activities provided in these spaces. A webinar sharing partner insights on the same topic proved so popular that registration exceeded capacity in under 48hrs. Fortunately, a recording of the event is available on the [Investing in Nature of Health Hub](#).

[More info, report and webinar >](#)

Aquaculture project to launch Future Scenarios through new resource hub



The SWEEP [Water Quality and Aquaculture](#) team have been expanding on work with local stakeholders, government and policy-makers to create a new [SWEEP Aquaculture Resource Hub](#).

Openly available, the hub contains links to policy briefs, publications, key information, and tools for assessing the impacts of land use on water quality, and the viability of shellfish aquaculture in the UK - and South West in particular.

[Visit the new hub >](#)

The team have also developed a series of **Future Scenarios** to explore the potential impact of changing land use and climate on the South West's aquaculture sector. Potential changes will be explored using the 'Freshwater catchment to sea' modelling system which is nearing completion. The work will be available on the hub in the near future. If you'd like to know more about the project and receive the Future Scenarios when released, please email ross.brown@exeter.ac.uk



Marine Pioneer: Final summary and recommendations published by MMO

The North Devon Marine Pioneer was one of four pioneer programmes designed to test innovative ideas for the governance of the environment and inform the Government's [25 Year Environment Plan](#). Over the past three years, SWEEP has been a key partner in the programme, providing knowledge on using natural capital approaches to enhance the marine environment.

Now that the programme has wrapped-up, the Marine Management Organisation has published the much-anticipated summary and recommendations in an [interactive pdf](#). It reviews all the work carried out by the Marine Pioneer in Suffolk and North Devon between 2017 and 2020.

The document also details the recommendations for applying a natural capital approach, integrating planning and delivery, using innovative finance, managing fisheries, managing marine protected areas, empowering communities and applying a net gain principle. To find out more about some of the ways SWEEP was involved in the North Devon Marine Pioneer - please take a look at our [Impact Summary](#). You may also have seen from our lead story, this work is beginning to have a wider impact across the other parts of the UK too.

[Read the summary and recommendations >](#)

Biodiversity and Environmental Net Gain project gets underway

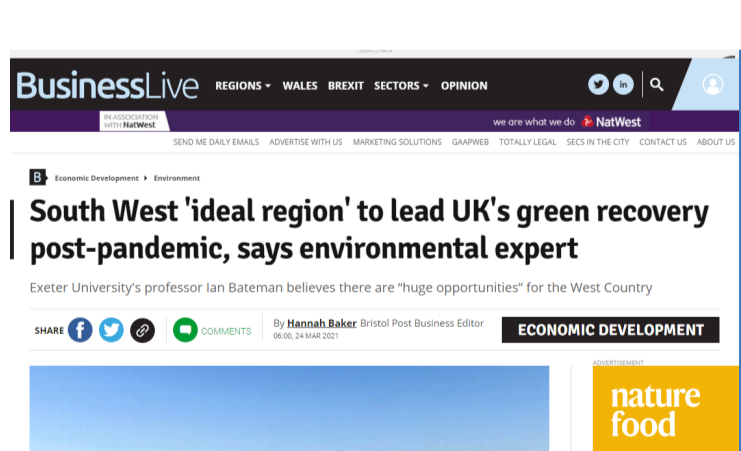


SWEEP's newest project aims to help **deliver the principles of Biodiversity and Environmental Net Gain**, in the context of both terrestrial and marine planning developments. These commitments were adopted into the UK Governments' 25 Year Environment Plan and forthcoming Environment Bill (for BNG).

Following the [project's kick-off workshop](#) at the SWEEP Expo 2020, the social preference survey is now being designed and will explore and inform Net Gain implementation trade-offs.

The project team are keen to link with organisations currently developing Net Gain Guidance, and developers working proactively in this area, to help shape the project's outcomes. If you'd like to get in touch with us, please email d.m.tingley@exeter.ac.uk

[Get in touch >](#)



Prof. Ian Bateman shares views on green recovery with South West business sector

Business Live approached SWEEP Director, Professor Ian Bateman to share his views on the green recovery agenda in the South West.

In the interview, Prof. Bateman was able to showcase SWEEP as an exemplar of how business, policy and academia can work together to overcome the challenges involved in managing, utilising and improving the natural environment.

Prof. Bateman said: *'The South West is rich in natural capital, and is particularly reliant on its abundant natural assets to support its economic growth. There are huge opportunities for the South West to adopt new strategies for not only recovering its economy, but also to Ólevel it up' with other parts of the UK.'*

[Read the full article >](#)

For regular news and progress updates, please visit the SWEEP website at www.sweep.ac.uk.

We very much hope you enjoyed our round-up, and welcome your feedback. Do feel free to share this newsletter with anyone you think would be interested.

[Forward this newsletter to a friend or colleague](#)



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