



South West Partnership for Environmental and Economic Prosperity

newsletter

Winter 2020

Despite the challenging times, 2020 has been another productive year for SWEEP. We recently held our last team meeting of the year, where we reflected on our major successes and achievements.

Perhaps the most significant and rewarding undertaking of 2020 was the Natural Capital In the South West Expo. After making the switch to an online event, we were overwhelmed with the level of engagement it received - and the feedback showed attendees found it very informative and useful. Thanks again to everyone involved. There's a short post-event report you can read for more information (see below).

There has been a new wave of activity from the Project teams too & many impactful outputs and achievements are now coming to fruition - the most recent of which we have shared below.

Finally, we just wanted to say thank you to everyone for their support over the past year. Wishing everyone a safe and restful break. We'll be back again with more news and events early in 2021.

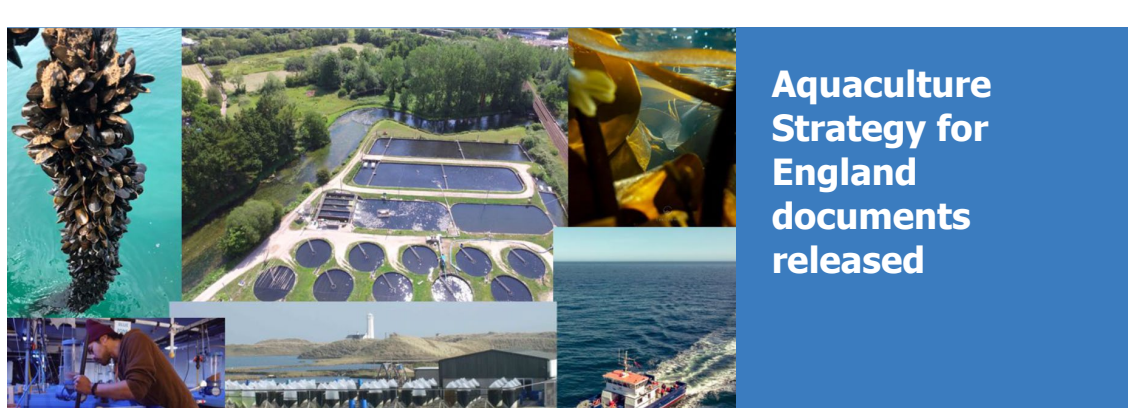
Best wishes,  
The SWEEP Team

### New guidance published: Applying the natural capital approach to Sustainability Appraisal



New guidance to help those interested in applying natural capital principles to Sustainability Appraisal is now available on the SWEEP website. Published as part of a wider project that is exploring ways to improve and extend the use of natural capital approaches in decision-making for the marine environment, the guidance has been distilled from a report (Application of the natural capital approach to Sustainability Appraisal) produced by Mel Austen and Tara Hooper earlier this year.

[Download the guidance >](#)



### Aquaculture Strategy for England documents released

Researchers from SWEEP, the Centre for Sustainable Aquaculture Futures (SAF) and the Renewable Energies Department (Penryn) at the University of Exeter have contributed to the recently released [English Aquaculture Strategy](#).

Published on 26 November 2020, the Strategy sets out a vision and plan for the sustainable development of English aquaculture over the next 20 years. A full report on the strategy, a summary document highlighting growth opportunities and plans for delivery, and a brief overview of key strategic principles and objectives are now available.

[More info, and link to the report >](#)

### Following up on the Natural Capital in the South West Expo



We held our first large-scale online event in October - the [SWEEP Natural Capital in the South West Expo](#). The 3-day, multi-themed event showcased the results and successes achieved by the SWEEP team and our partners to date. All the presentations, along with recordings of the webinars, links to useful resources, responses to unanswered questions and more can be found at: <https://sweep.ac.uk/natcapexpo/>

We were extremely pleased with the level of engagement at the Expo, there is clearly a great need for natural capital work and approaches across a vast array of contexts and environments at this time. We've produced a short report with more details that you can read by following the link below.

[Read the evaluation report >](#)

### Councillors consider SWEEP research on coastal change in East Devon



A report by SWEEP/University of Plymouth estimating future rates of coastal erosion in East Devon over the next 100 years has been considered by East Devon council's Strategic Planning Committee.

This report to councillors will form part of the evidence for East Devon's new Local Plan and in the future will be used as a planning 'tool' to assist planners in assessing development in coastal areas. This piece of work was produced as part of the [SWEEP Coastal Change Management Areas project](#), which supports local planning authorities to understand and prepare for changes to the coastline.

[Read more >](#)



### SWEEP project engages businesses to address pollinator decline

The Policy for Pollinators project has been forging ahead with a strand of work to engage businesses with the issue of pollinator decline. Firstly, the team have been supporting TEVI with their 'Challenge Network' on local seed for plants, pollinators and people by providing the scientific basis for the project - which will go on to form guidelines for the businesses involved. A [report](#) has been produced to explain more about the initiative.

In addition, an article has recently been published in the journal People and Nature, titled ['Socio-psychological factors, beyond knowledge, predict people's engagement in pollinator conservation'](#). The article discusses the socio-psychological approach to providing information into the potential drivers of, and limitations to, pollinator conservation behaviour by the UK public. It includes a questionnaire created by the team to survey the public's personal views, knowledge and actions relating to pollinators, nature and the environment.

[Find out more about the work with TEVI >](#)

[Read the People and Nature article >](#)

For regular news and progress updates, please visit the SWEEP website at [www.sweep.ac.uk](http://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.

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