

2020 Review



**BLUE MARINE
FOUNDATION**





BLUE'S MISSION

Our ocean is in crisis. Marine life is under threat from climate change, acidification, many kinds of pollution, invasive species and overfishing. Overfishing is a particular threat, because it is the complex web of marine life in the ocean that enables it to absorb nearly half the world's carbon dioxide and produce half our oxygen. Stripping the ocean of life therefore has devastating consequences for the planet's biodiversity and climate.

BLUE aims to restore the ocean to health by establishing marine protected areas and by tackling overfishing.

BLUE's mission is to see at least 30 per cent of the world's ocean under effective protection by 2030 and the other 70 per cent managed in a responsible way.

20.

The High Seas



Reflections on 2020	02
BLUE's key achievements	04
BLUE's Strategy	08
Project map	10
London to Monaco	66
Blue Marine Yacht Club	68
BLUE Collaborations	69
BLUE team	70
Supporters	72
Thank you	72
Financial review	73



BLUE'S MISSION

BLUE'S VISION IS A
HEALTHY OCEAN
FOREVER, FOR
EVERYONE.








Front cover: Striped marlin hunt mackerel in the Pacific Ocean. Credit: Henley Spiers.

Inside cover: Shoals of fish swim in St Helena's protected waters. Credit: Danny Copeland.

Back cover: An Atlantic bobtail, Sepiola atlantica. Credit: Alexander Semenov.

CONTENTS

06.	12.	20.
2020 in brief	The UK Overseas Territories	The High Seas
		
26.	46.	
The British Isles	Overseas Projects	
		
		Reflections on 2020 02
		BLUE's key achievements 04
		BLUE's Strategy 08
		Project map 10
		London to Monaco 66
		Blue Marine Yacht Club 68
		BLUE Collaborations 69
		BLUE team 70
		Supporters 72
		Thank you 72
		Financial review 73
58.		
BLUE Units	BLUE Education 60	
	BLUE Media 61	
	BLUE Investigations 62	
	BLUE Legal 63	
	BLUE Carbon 64	
	BLUE Economics 65	

REFLECTIONS ON 2020

Ten years of BLUE...

Against all the odds, 2020 - our tenth year - has turned out to be one of our finest.

For that reason, on behalf of the Board, I would like to take this opportunity to thank our extraordinary team, our committed funders and our ambassadors. Their tenacity, dedication and 'out of the box' thinking has truly moved the dial on ocean conservation this year. I am proud to serve as Chairman, and can't wait to see what we can achieve together in the Decade of Action before us.



Arlo Brady, Chairman,
Blue Marine Foundation

...and going strong

Ten years ago, we founded BLUE to focus on protecting the ocean and solving overfishing – arguably the greatest threat the ocean faces. We set a hugely ambitious goal of helping to protect ten per cent of the ocean by 2020, a massive leap from the 0.2 per cent protected at the time.

We have built an extraordinary organisation with an outstanding team, led by our co-founder Charles Clover and our CEO Clare Brook, whose energy, expertise and innovative approach have had the measurable impact on the ocean that we dreamed of, while inspiring many others to take action. In 2020 we approached our first goal, with nearly eight per cent of the global ocean protected from rampant overfishing.

Looking to the next BLUE decade, we are more confident than ever that, with amazing individuals around us, supportive donors who understand the issues, increasingly conscious business, citizens and consumers and new political leadership in the States, we will accelerate our impact. Now that we can clearly see the link between climate and ocean, we must reach our next goal to protect 30 per cent of the world's ocean by 2030.

We are incredibly proud of what BLUE has achieved. Here's to the next ten years!



Chris Gorell Barnes,
Trustee and co-founder,
Blue Marine Foundation



George Duffield,
Trustee and co-founder, Blue
Marine Foundation

Why protection must mean protection

This year many of us came to love an animal we previously didn't know existed. The flapper skate is one of the north-east Atlantic's few remaining megafauna. Adults are the size of a dining table. Fishing pressure has made its former name, the common skate, cruelly ironic. The skate's name has changed because we have discovered that it is in fact two species – the flapper and the blue skate. Both are now rarer than the giant panda or the mountain gorilla.

BLUE heard that a flapper skate nursery had been discovered in an unprotected area off the west of Scotland. The Scottish government had still to protect it, though it had known about it for a year. So we organised an expedition. This time divers found more than 100 huge egg sacs or 'mermaid's purses' – which take 18 months to hatch. This site is one of the largest ever discovered. It is fragile: a single pass of a dredger could sweep it away.

This perfectly illustrates why more of Scottish and UK waters need to be protected from trawling and dredging. We want more so-called 'marine protected areas' to be protected too: it may sound obvious, but they are not. That is why we are mounting a legal challenge to the use of trawls and dredges in areas supposedly protected by law, principally in one of the former homes of the common skate, the Dogger Bank.



Charles Clover, Executive Director,
Blue Marine Foundation

Thriving in uncertain times

In this challenging year, BLUE has not only survived but thrived, ending the year with 45 active projects and a workforce of over 30. With our Somerset House office temporarily closed, the team quickly adapted, becoming – if anything – more productive than ever. We found new ways of working, including delivering an online conference in June that was seen by thousands. Meanwhile, in the field, our project officers bravely and brilliantly adapted to difficult circumstances.

While the 'anthropause' brought many people closer to nature, distant oceans suffered more than ever from being overlooked. Long-awaited policy advances in what was meant to be the Year of the Ocean were eclipsed by the pandemic, and exploitative fishing escalated, unchecked by regulators or observers. BLUE's newly-formed units, BLUE Investigations and BLUE Legal, will delve deeper into overfishing and check it with use of the law.

As scientists quantify the ocean's role in absorbing and storing carbon, we have set up BLUE Carbon to deliver practical solutions to mitigate climate change. And BLUE Economics was established to bridge the gap between conservation and finance – a gap estimated at over \$700 billion a year.

Necessity is said to be the mother of invention, and BLUE's tenth year has been our most inventive and productive yet.



Clare Brook, CEO,
Blue Marine Foundation



Credit: Danny Copeland

BLUE’S KEY ACHIEVEMENTS 2010-2020

2010

BLUE, with support from the Bertarelli Foundation, brokered a deal to enable the creation of what was then the largest marine protected area (MPA) in the world around Chagos in the Indian Ocean.

2012

BLUE partnered with the government of Belize and the Bertarelli Foundation to protect the Turneffe Atoll in Belize, an area rich in biodiversity and CO₂-absorbing mangroves.

2015

BLUE and the Great British Oceans coalition secured a government manifesto commitment to create a “Blue Belt” around all 14 UK overseas territories, hailed as “the greatest conservation commitment by any government ever”.

The Great British Oceans coalition, of which BLUE is an active part, secured a UK government commitment to create the world’s largest marine reserve around Pitcairn in the Pacific.

BLUE launched Reserve Seafood – an innovative label to celebrate the success of sustainable fishing in Lyme Bay and help fishers earn more from their catch.

BLUE’s research on bass resulted in EU-wide measures to protect the stock.

2016

BLUE secured the creation of a no-take zone in 52.6 per cent of Ascension Island’s waters.

2017

BLUE, as part of the Great British Oceans coalition, secured an even stronger manifesto commitment from the UK Government ahead of the June 2017 election to protect over four million square kilometres of ocean around the UK overseas territories.

Broodstock oysters in BLUE’s Solent Oyster Restoration Project spawned, releasing millions of larvae into the Solent.

BLUE spearheaded a social media campaign to encourage the public to tweet and email their MPs, resulting in 285 MPs from eight political parties signing up to the Blue Belt Charter by the end of 2018.

2018

The UK Government announced a target of 30 per cent of ocean protected by 2030, aligning with BLUE’s long-term strategy.

Azerbaijan declared the first MPA in the Caspian Sea, the largest inland body of water on the planet. The new MPA will seek to protect six significant marine species on the brink of extinction.

2019

BLUE published its ground-breaking four-year Potting Study, commissioned by Defra, which evidences sustainable potting levels in Lyme Bay as a model for crab and lobster management UK-wide.

Following BLUE’s #StopElectricFishing campaign, undertaken in collaboration with Bloom Association, the European Parliament’s Committee on Fisheries voted to ban electric pulse fishing in EU waters.

With support from BLUE, 100 per cent of the waters around Ascension Island were designated a marine reserve, creating what was at the time the largest fully protected marine reserve in the Atlantic, an area nearly the size of France.

2020

Following a threat of legal action from BLUE, the UK Government brought forward a consultation on the future of fishing in offshore marine protected areas, starting with the Dogger Bank, with the option of closing protected areas to fishing.

BLUE secured a £2m donation from long-term supporter Peter Lürssen to establish an endowment fund for the Ascension Island community in support of their vision to establish an MPA.

The Tristan da Cunha community designated 687,000 sq km of their territorial waters as a no-take zone. Led by RSPB and National Geographic Pristine seas, BLUE supported the project in partnership with Becht Family Charitable Trust.

Following pressure from BLUE, on 1 January 2021, the UK government announced an immediate ban of all electric pulse trawling and fishing in UK waters.

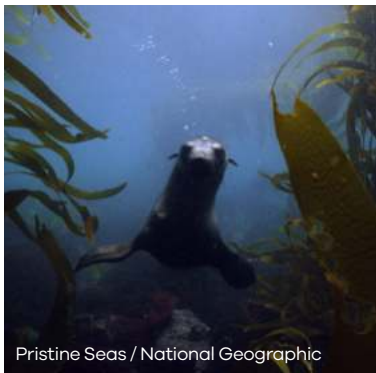
2020 IN BRIEF



← BLUE holds the Rewilding the Sea conference virtually, allowing over 3,000 people to 'attend'

BLUE research shows that sturgeon once thrived on the Dogger Bank, which increases pressure to protect this 'paper park' from damaging fishing methods

→ Following legal threats from BLUE, the UK Government brings forward a consultation which includes the potential closure of Dogger Bank to fishing



Pristine Seas / National Geographic

← Tristan da Cunha announces the largest marine protected area in the Atlantic, supported by BLUE in partnership with Becht Family Charitable Trust

Byelaw agreed in major step made to remove mobile fishing along the Sussex coast to save kelp forests

BLUE reveals that Spanish and French fleets are 'going dark' by turning off AIS transmission for weeks at a time



Alex Hoffard / Greenpeace

→ Emergency meeting called to save Indian Ocean yellowfin tuna at risk of stock collapse, following BLUE report



↑ Parrotfish are added to the list of protected species in the Maldives just months after BLUE's #FishforTomorrow campaign



David Ainsley

← Egg-laying site of nearly-extinct flapper skate found in Northern Scotland during diving expedition supported by BLUE

BLUE Investigations releases a deep-sea mining report and calls for a 'precautionary pause' to deep-sea mining progress

Following pressure from BLUE, on 1 January 2021, the UK government announced an immediate ban of all electric pulse trawling and fishing in UK waters

↓ BLUE's documentary film 'Lyme Bay: The Road to Recovery' premieres, telling the success story of fishermen-led conservation in the Lyme Bay reserve



BLUE launches #LocalFishForDinner campaign to assist small-scale fishermen affected by the lockdown restrictions

First-ever reef fishing code of conduct signed in the Maldives



BLUE'S STRATEGY

BLUE works using a combination of top-down intervention to improve governance of our seas and bottom-up project delivery to help local communities who are at the front line of ocean conservation.

BLUE's five key strategic interventions are designed to achieve maximum impact. BLUE secures marine protected areas, develops models of sustainable fishing, restores marine habitats, tackles unsustainable fishing and connects people to the sea.

BLUE works in any area of the world where its intervention can deliver tangible and rapid results. We work in partnership with international NGOs on policy and with local communities and NGOs in our project locations. We use innovative media to raise awareness and to galvanise change. We understand that financial solutions are often needed, and use our networks to raise funding which we deploy where it will have the greatest impact.

BLUE'S KEY STRATEGIC INTERVENTIONS:



SECURING MARINE PROTECTED AREAS

Ensuring the protection of at least 30 per cent of the ocean by 2030.



DEVELOPING MODELS OF SUSTAINABLE FISHING

Proving that low-impact fishing benefits marine life, local fishers and communities.



RESTORING MARINE HABITATS

Reviving and protecting threatened species to restore biodiversity and help sequester carbon.



TACKLING UNSUSTAINABLE PRACTICES

Highlighting poor practice and developing solutions.



CONNECTING PEOPLE WITH SEA

Enhancing ocean understanding across generations.



THE UK OVERSEAS TERRITORIES

The UK is the custodian of 6.8 million square kilometres of ocean, in many of the most important eco-regions in the world and covering the Atlantic, Mediterranean, Pacific, Caribbean, Indian and Southern oceans.

BLUE has been working with the UK Government and NGO partners to protect some of the last great wild places left in the world's oceans.

2020 saw the completion of the first stage of the UK Government's Blue Belt Programme, of which BLUE has been a partner since the outset, leading to the commitment to protect more than four million square kilometres of ocean across the Overseas Territories.

OUR PROJECTS

Ascension Island

The central Atlantic is heavily fished, using longlines that trail for over a hundred kilometres, each line carrying approximately 3,000 baited hooks. These longlines catch far more than their target species of tuna, routinely catching and killing many thousands of sharks, swordfish, marlin and other beautiful predators. Until 2019, these longliners were able to buy licences to fish in Ascension's waters (although only in the northern half, following closure of 50 per cent of waters to fishing in 2016).



①



ASCENSION ISLAND'S ECONOMIC EXCLUSIVE ZONE (EEZ) IS NEARLY THE SIZE OF SPAIN.



②



SECURING MARINE PROTECTED AREAS



TACKLING UNSUSTAINABLE PRACTICES

③



④

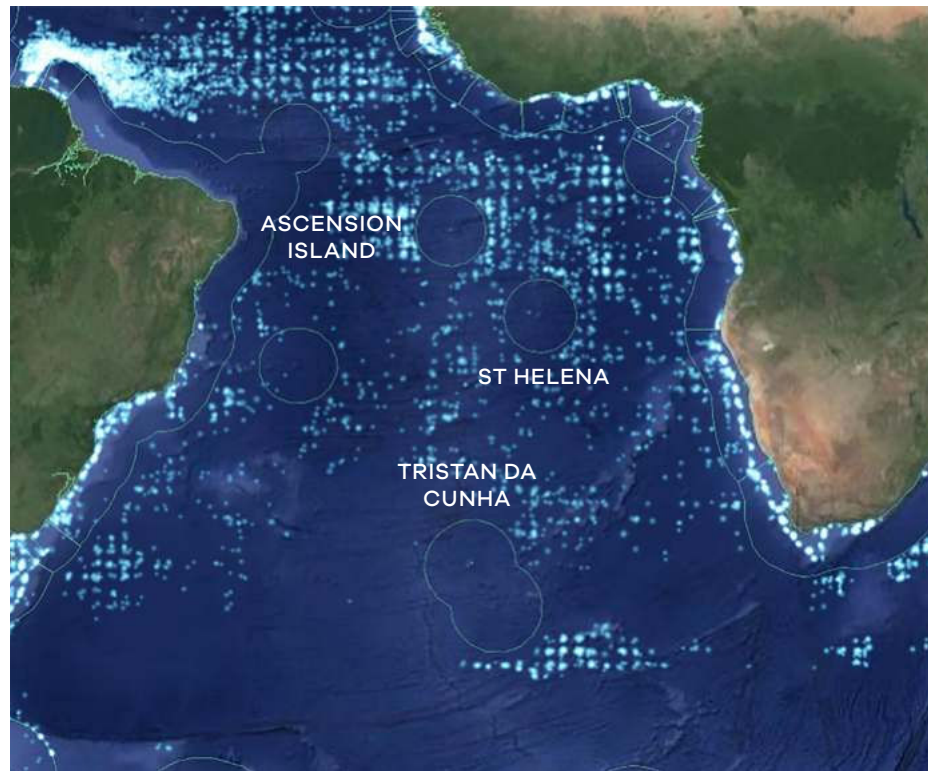
£2m

Secured for an endowment fund.

Ascension is one of the last places in the Atlantic where magnificent big fish still exist in abundance. In order to safeguard them from the longliners, a protected area of 443,000 square kilometres - one of the largest fully protected marine protected areas (MPAs) in the Atlantic - was announced in August 2019 by the Ascension community in collaboration with the UK Government's Blue Belt Programme.

BLUE is keen to ensure that the Ascension Island community are rewarded for their vision and commitment to the world's ocean. To this end, in 2020, BLUE established the Ascension Island MPA Community Trust (AIMPACT), a £2 million endowment fund donated by long-term BLUE supporter Peter Lürssen, for the benefit of on-island projects that support the Ascension community, education, environment and heritage.

This is the culmination of six years' work for BLUE, engaging with the UK government and the people of Ascension. BLUE will be establishing the endowment fund with the International Eco Fund, which was set up by the RSPB. BLUE hopes that this financial model can be replicated elsewhere around the world in places where very remote communities, due to their geography or particular circumstances, are unable to avail themselves of the new income streams that MPAs create (for example from tourism). It is important that these communities can also be provided with ways to benefit from their rich marine resources without having to remove them from the water.



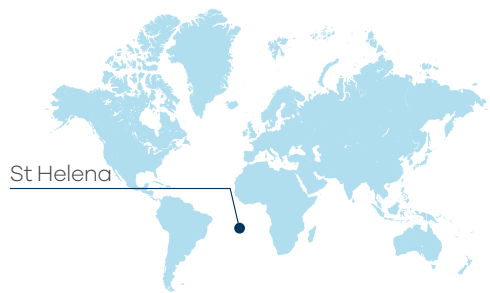
GLOBAL FISHING WATCH SATELLITE IMAGES SHOW HOW FISHING IN THE ATLANTIC STAYS OUT OF THE MPAS AROUND ASCENSION AND ST HELENA.

- ① An octopus in the shallows at English Bay. Credit: Judith Brown.
- ② A venomous spotted scorpionfish rests on the seabed.
- ③ Triggerfish shoal in Ascension's waters.
- ④ A Galapagos shark off Boatswainbird Island. Credit: Judith Brown.



OUR PROJECTS

Saint Helena



Saint Helena, a UK Overseas Territory in the tropical South Atlantic, hosts a magnificent array of marine life, including whale sharks, humpback whales and species seen nowhere else on Earth. It is also home to a 445,000 square kilometre marine protected area (MPA), designated in 2016, which allows for sustainable pole-and-line tuna fishing but bans destructive forms of fishing such as longlining.

BLUE has been partnering with the Saint Helena National Trust since 2017 to help build and maintain support for the MPA within the 4,500-strong 'Saint' community and its pole-and-line tuna fishermen. Throughout 2020, BLUE has been working with the the Saint Helena Commercial

Fishermen's Association (SHCFA) and the Saint Helena Government to ensure that the regulations and policies supporting the MPA are up to date and effective, and that the highest standards of sustainability will apply to all fishing within Saint Helena's waters. Our marine team has had a busy year putting on events and promoting ocean education in the island's schools, to engage the community in ocean conservation and inspire the next generation of ocean heroes.

Through these measures BLUE will help ensure that the MPA maintains the support of the local community and fishermen, while also protecting Saint Helena's exceptional marine environment.



SECURING MARINE PROTECTED AREAS



TACKLING UNSUSTAINABLE PRACTICES



CONNECTING PEOPLE WITH SEA



①

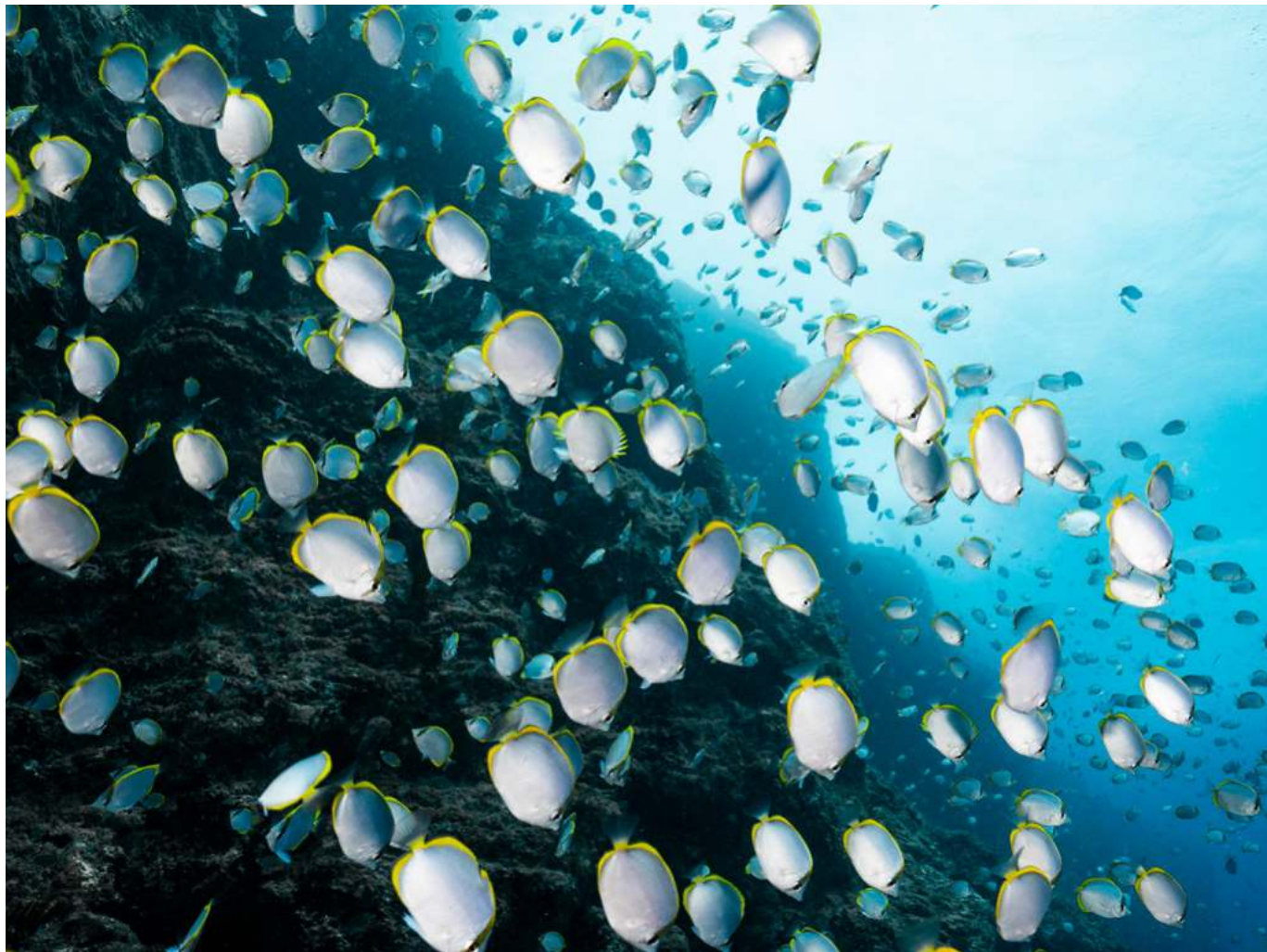


SAINT HELENA'S ECONOMIC EXCLUSIVE ZONE (EEZ) IS NEARLY THE SIZE OF FRANCE.



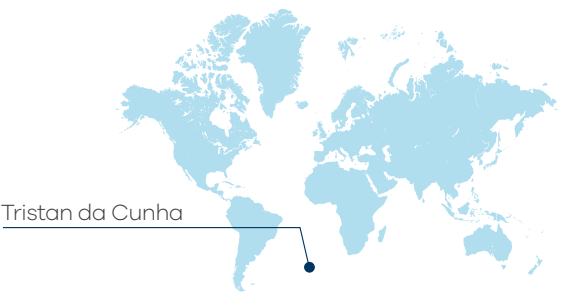
②

- ① Saint Helena's famously rugged terrain.
② The Saint Helena marine team, who are based on the Island.
All photos on this spread are credited to Danny Copeland.



OUR PROJECTS

Tristan da Cunha



Tristan da Cunha is a UK Overseas Territory in the South Atlantic. Located between South Africa and South America, it is the most remote inhabited island in the world. This year the small, 250-strong community of Tristan da Cunha committed to fully protecting 687,000 square kilometres of their territorial waters from fishing and all extractive activities. At nearly three times the size of the UK, this is the largest zone of marine protection in the Atlantic Ocean.

This remarkable commitment will protect some of the world's most important seabird breeding sites, including the endemic Tristan Albatross. It will also safeguard populations of seals, penguin colonies, bluefin tuna and blue sharks.

BLUE is delighted to work with the Becht Family Charitable Trust to provide key long-term support for the community of Tristan da Cunha. This innovative approach, led by the RSPB and the National Geographic Society, will support this extremely remote community that does not have the opportunity to create the revenue streams from tourism that would usually flow from hosting a marine protected area.



TOTALLING 687,000 SQ. KM, THE MPA IS NEARLY THREE TIMES THE SIZE OF THE UK.



①



②



③

- ① Tristan da Cunha's waters teem with life.
- ② Dense kelp forests are free to grow in these protected waters.
- ③ Edinburgh of the Seven Seas, the main settlement of the island of Tristan da Cunha.

All photos on this spread provided by Pristine Seas / National Geographic.



THE HIGH SEAS



OUR PROJECTS

High seas and BBNJ

From the incredible biodiversity of the Sargasso Sea and the thermal vents of the Lost City which might hold the key to the origin of life on Earth, to the megafauna aggregation known as the white shark café, the high seas cover 43 per cent of the Earth's surface. In places they are teeming with life, but huge pressure threatens the stability of these areas.

The fourth and final Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction negotiations at the United Nations in April 2020, which should have produced a global ocean treaty, were postponed due to the pandemic, and the UN General Assembly has yet to agree a new date in 2021.

In the interim, BLUE is building the case for high seas marine protected areas, aligning stakeholders in support and seeking to build political consensus going into the final round of negotiations. We have chosen sites based on existing ecologically or biologically significant marine area data, all existing scientific evidence and the places where BLUE has some sort of footprint or heritage which could help to influence proceedings. Prospective sites will be investigated during 2021 and a targeted report issued ahead of the final negotiations, building on BLUE's campaign to increase ambition for high seas biodiversity conservation.



① A superpod of spinner dolphins in the Pacific Ocean. Credit: Henley Spiers.

Deep-sea mining

The deep ocean is the largest ecosystem on the planet, making up 95 per cent of all habitable space. With less than one per cent of it explored, it is estimated that two thirds of its species have yet to be discovered.

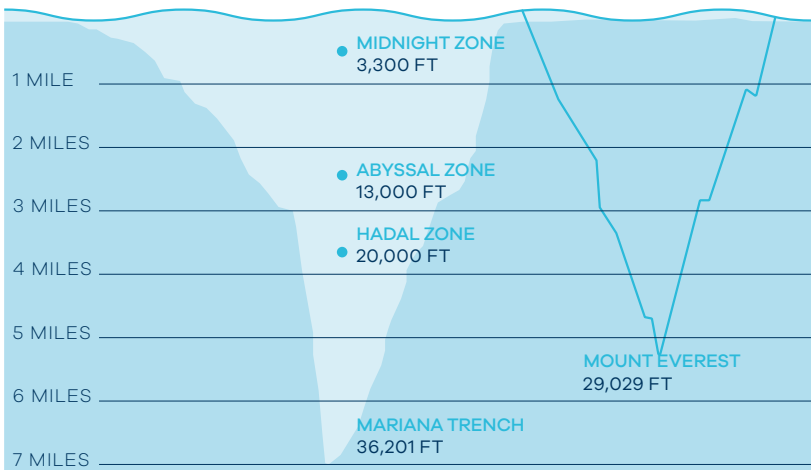
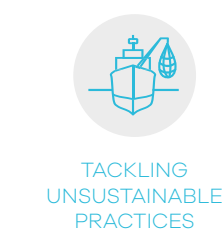
In addition to being home to uniquely-evolved creatures (ranging from ghostly white octopuses to giant single-cell organisms), the deep sea also helps to regulate our climate, and it fuels fisheries that feed billions. There is no place on Earth that we know less about, yet this reservoir of biodiversity is at risk of being irreparably damaged by deep-sea mining.

Growing global demand for minerals to power our smartphones and laptops has led the International Seabed Authority (ISA) to grant 18 exploration contracts to countries, including the UK, as a precursor to the mining of these deep-sea resources. BLUE Investigations undertook an in-depth study into the UK's sponsorship of UK Seabed Resources Ltd, a wholly-owned subsidiary of US corporate giant Lockheed Martin, and its role in pushing for deep-sea mining to begin. In December 2020, BLUE published a report featuring the work of several experts in the field, which examined the need for deep-sea mining, highlighted its dangers, and posed questions to the UK Government and the ISA regarding its management.

"There is far more at stake here than national pride or corporate profits. That is why this report calls for deep-sea mining to be paused."

Professor Callum Roberts, University of Exeter

- ① A mauve stinger, *Pelagia noctiluca*. Credit: Alexander Semenov.
- ② The Mediterranean dealfish, *Trachipterus trachipterus*. Credit: Alexander Semenov.



THE DEEPEST PART OF THE OCEAN IS MORE DEEP THAN MOUNT EVEREST IS TALL.

Yellowfin tuna overfishing and human rights abuses on the high seas

One and a half million metric tons of yellowfin tuna were caught worldwide in 2018, with a dock value of US\$4.4 billion and an end value of almost US\$16 billion.

These valuable, highly migratory fish that swim across the jurisdiction of many countries, as well as the high seas, require international co-operation for their conservation. However, many of the regional fisheries management organisations (RFMOs) responsible for these stocks are ineffective and toothless, and this has led to widespread mismanagement and unlawful overfishing.

BLUE Investigations has worked for over a year to expose and combat the continued overfishing of yellowfin tuna in the Indian Ocean. A report published by BLUE in October 2020 exposed the failure of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) to effectively manage the stock which,

could collapse as soon as 2026. In addition to discovering that 94 per cent of the yellowfin caught by purse seine vessels – the dominant fishing method in the Indian Ocean – are juveniles, it also exposed misreporting of catches by the EU – the largest player in the Indian Ocean – and showed that the yellowfin tuna recovery plan put in place by the IOTC in 2016 has failed, for the third year in a row, to curb catches. As a result, BLUE called for an emergency IOTC meeting in the first quarter of 2021 to put in place a recovery plan for this globally important stock.

As part of this investigation, BLUE also published a report highlighting the misuse of the Automatic Identification System (AIS) – the tracking system, mandatory for all large EU fishing vessels, that transmits a ship's position – by Spanish and French-flagged tuna purse seine vessels operating in the Indian Ocean. The report found that



TACKLING
UNSUSTAINABLE
PRACTICES

①



②



③

the French and Spanish fleets failed to transmit AIS for 68 per cent and 80 per cent of the analysis days respectively, with one vessel failing to transmit AIS for a continuous period of 519 days. Vessels “going dark” can be associated with illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing as well as illegal transshipment of fish and bycatch, and BLUE Investigations will continue to pursue the matter in 2021.

While most of our attention has been focused on the Indian Ocean, BLUE also teamed up with WWF, Bloom Association and Sharkproject to call for a full and independent investigation into deaths and human rights abuses in the convention

94%
of yellowfin tuna caught by purse seine vessels in the Indian Ocean are juveniles

2026
The year that the Indian Ocean yellowfin tuna stocks could collapse

- ① Tuna being scooped on board an industrial purse seine vessel Credit: Alex Hoffard / Greenpeace.
- ② An industrial tuna purse seine vessel. Credit: Alex Hoffard / Greenpeace.
- ③ Eight known fisheries observers have died or gone missing in the Western and Central Pacific region since 2009.

area of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC). This followed the death and suspected murder of Kiribati fisheries observer Eritara Aatii in March 2020 – the eighth-known fisheries observer to die or go missing in the region since 2009. BLUE will continue to push for transparency in the investigation and reporting of these shocking cases of human rights violations and observer deaths at sea.

THE BRITISH ISLES

2020 was a seismic year for fisheries and marine conservation. There were open debates in the UK Parliament over how fisheries will be managed after Brexit, and less-than-transparent discussions over how an EU/UK trade deal would affect fishing in UK and Channel Island waters over the next five years. BLUE did its best to inform legislators about the opportunities, while at the same time trying to support the inshore fishing communities it works with whose businesses were badly hit by the Covid-19 pandemic.

Tackling unsustainable fishing

FISHERIES BILL

BLUE tried hard, along with many coalition partners, to influence the course of the Fisheries Bill, which establishes the UK powers as an independent coastal state. But a government with an 80-seat majority was not in a mood to take all of the advice it was offered. We won some things, such as the inclusion in the Bill of fisheries management plans which we advocated in our 2018 conference 'Best Practice in World Fisheries' as the best way of managing stocks sustainably over time.

A welcome statement, which BLUE believes it prompted, was made in the House of Lords: that fisheries are a public asset owned by the Crown on behalf of

the British public. This admission begs important questions, such as why 55 per cent of English opportunities to fish are foreign-owned, and why so few are allocated to the inshore fleet – whose fishermen are more numerous and who generally fish with more environmentally-friendly gear. That gives us something to work on in future.

Despite the best efforts of the Opposition and environmental NGOs, the Government threw out an amendment which would have made sustainability the Bill's prime objective. The Government's steadfast refusal to include it – for none-too-convincing reasons – undermines its claim to have 'world-class' fisheries legislation.



TACKLING
UNSUSTAINABLE
PRACTICES



①

① Baskets of freshly caught hand-dived scallops. Credit: James Bowden.



②

80% of the UK's fishing fleet are boats under ten metres in length yet, quota allocation means they only make 12% of landings.

② An inshore fisherman from Lyme Bay. Credit: James Bowden.

DOGGER BANK

Where BLUE and its coalition partners were able to influence the government was over the management of offshore marine protected areas (MPAs), the biggest marine conservation prize in Europe. These areas, across Europe as a whole, are an underwater realm the size of Germany. But they are currently "paper parks" with almost no management, because of an unresolved conflict between European fisheries policy and conservation law.

The UK Government was proposing to tighten the management of the offshore MPAs in UK waters – themselves the size of England and Wales – after Brexit, breaking a log-jam that has lasted many years. But the long-winded way it was proposing to do it could have taken decades and set a poor example to the EU.

That was until campaigns by Greenpeace and BLUE this autumn. Greenpeace dropped rocks on the Dogger Bank to stop trawling and dredging. Simultaneously, BLUE threatened the government with legal action for failing to comply with the Habitats Regulations which say fishing should be either limited or excluded in protected areas.

BLUE research has shown that critically endangered sturgeon once lived on the Dogger Bank.

① The Dogger Bank is a feeding ground for a range of species, including minke whale, pictured.

The result was a concession from the UK Government which began consulting on measures to limit damaging fishing methods in four out of 73 offshore protected areas in UK waters after 1 Jan 2021. Four is not enough, but it is a start.

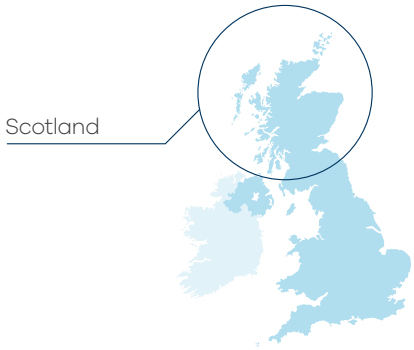
Meanwhile, on the other side of the North Sea, BLUE is pursuing a complaint to the European Commission about other European fleets fishing illegally in protected areas. A report supplied by BLUE and its coalition partners said that the Dogger Bank is degrading fast under an onslaught of technological fishing techniques, including electric pulse trawling, though it is an important habitat for many fish species, birds and dolphins. The complaint proceeds.



TACKLING
UNSUSTAINABLE
PRACTICES

①

Restoring Scotland's seas



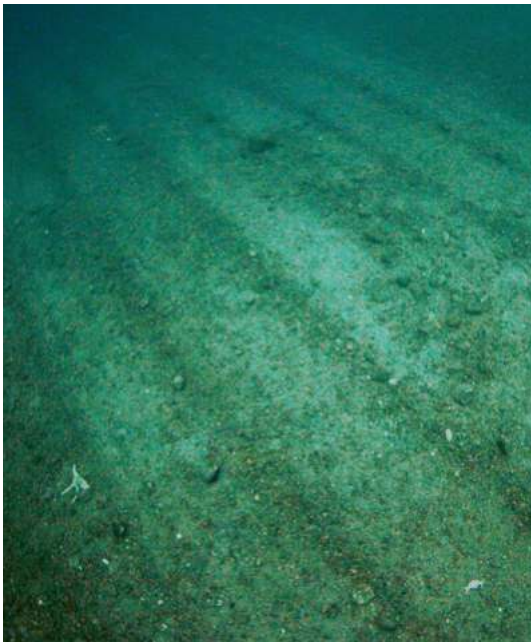
Scotland's seas have suffered decades of decline. A recent leaked report from Marine Scotland revealed that Argyll, on the west coast of Scotland, has lost 53 per cent of its flame shell reefs in the last ten years alone. In the Moray Firth, 99.5 per cent of blue mussel beds were destroyed in the same timeframe. Both habitats are globally recognised for their ability to store carbon.

Less than five per cent of Scotland's inshore seabed is protected from bottom trawls and scallop dredges. These destructive fisheries operate close to shore, slowing the recovery of vital habitats and fish populations. Many of Scotland's inshore fish stocks have collapsed, hitting coastal communities and businesses – including fishermen – hard.

<5%

Of Scotland's inshore seabed is protected from bottom trawls and scallop dredges

①



BLUE is a member of Our Seas, a growing coalition of 88 marine businesses, Scottish NGOs, fishing associations and community groups calling for the recovery of Scotland's seas. The campaign has three aims: vessel monitoring on all boats, preference of low-impact fishing practices when deciding who fishes where, and the reinstatement of an inshore limit.

Until 1984 a three-mile limit protected Scotland's inshore waters from trawling and dredging. Its removal sparked the collapse of many fish stocks and the decline of small-scale, sustainable fishermen. Our Seas has launched a petition calling for an inshore limit.

- ① A dredged seabed devoid of life. Credit: Howard Wood.
- ② A two spot goby swims in a biodiverse kelp forest. Credit: Henley Spiers.

②



SECURING MARINE PROTECTED AREAS



TACKLING UNSUSTAINABLE PRACTICES



RESTORING MARINE HABITATS



Flapper skate eggs at risk

Capable of reaching over two and a half metres in length, the flapper skate, previously known as the common skate, is one of the largest skate species in the world. It is also one of the UK's most endangered fish. Listed as critically endangered on the IUCN red list in 2006, these magnificent creatures have declined due to overfishing. Once common in British waters, including areas like the North Sea's Dogger Bank, the flapper skate now extinct in most of its former range.

Scotland contains the last remnant populations and in October BLUE supported an expedition by divers and fishermen to explore a potential egg-laying site near the Isle of Skye. On an area of rocky seabed, divers discovered over a hundred eggs of different sizes and ages belonging to the endangered fish. Scientists believe it could be one of the largest egg-laying sites or 'nurseries' for flapper skate found to date. Flapper skate eggs can grow to 29cm and take over 530 days (18 months) to hatch, making them extremely vulnerable to capture or damage by fishing gears.

The skate is one of 81 Priority Marine Features the Scottish Government is committed to protecting. Currently the site lies within an area that is closed to bottom-towed fishing gears for only six months of the year.

18 months

The time it takes for flapper skate eggs to hatch

- ① The critically endangered flapper skate. Credit: Chris Rickard.
- ② A diver films the discovery of flapper skate eggs. Credit: David Ainsley.



DEVELOPING MODELS OF SUSTAINABLE FISHING



CONNECTING PEOPLE WITH SEA

①



②

BLUE is calling for the area to be designated as a marine protected area for the species and emergency measures to be brought in to protect the site from bottom-towed fishing gear all year.

OUR PROJECTS

Evidence for highly protected marine areas



THE ISLE OF ARRAN

In the UK just four small segments of coast are fully 'no-take' - left alone to become underwater wildernesses. Lamlash Bay, a sheltered bay on the east coast of the Isle of Arran, is Scotland's contribution to this tiny network.

Lamlash Bay was designated a no-take zone in 2008 following campaigning by the Community of Arran Seabed Trust and local communities. It is now one of the UK's best-studied marine protected areas, thanks in part to two years of monitoring funded by BLUE. Led by the University of York in partnership with COAST, science has shown the potential no-take zones

have to rewild our seas. Research published in 2020 shows that the king scallop density is four times higher than in 2013, and that lobsters are now over four times more abundant than in adjacent areas.

On World Oceans Day, England's independent review of the potential for, and value of, a network of Highly Protected Marine Areas (HPMAs) was released. Led by BLUE trustee Richard Benyon, the review calls for a network of HPMAs, or no-take zones, to be designated. Results from Lamlash are strengthening BLUE's calls for an effective network of significant scale around the UK.



SECURING MARINE PROTECTED AREAS

4X

higher density of king scallops than in 2013

①



① King scallop populations benefited substantially from protection. Credit: Howard Wood/COAST.

② Lobsters also benefited. Credit: Howard Wood/COAST.

②



Empowering a community to manage its coast



BERWICKSHIRE

The Berwickshire and North Northumberland Special Area of Conservation is one of the largest marine protected areas (MPAs) in Europe. Cold and warm water currents converge to provide a diversity of marine life rarely found elsewhere in the UK. The elusive arctic wolffish shares these rich waters with bottlenose dolphins, minke whales and one of the largest breeding populations of grey seals in Northern Europe.

Since 2018, BLUE has worked with fishermen, divers and a wide group of stakeholders to encourage a community-led approach to managing the MPA. BLUE has supported the Berwickshire Marine Reserve (BMR), which engages with these users and creates codes of conduct.

BLUE is working with fishermen to assess the health of their fisheries. In 2020, a brown crab maturity project was launched in response to workshops with fishermen. The fishermen-led study, in collaboration with St Abbs Marine Station and the Northumberland Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority (NIFCA), is being carried out on the Scottish and English sides of the MPA and aims to understand what size crabs should be landed in the area. This work is feeding into a BLUE-led shellfish working group that aims to create a co-managed fisheries regime.

BLUE hopes to deliver long-term benefits for Berwickshire and provide a model for best practice in Scotland.



①



②

① St Abbs Harbour, a small fishing village in the heart of the BMR. Credit: Lawson Wood/Ocean Eye Films.

② BLUE's Berwickshire Project Manager measures the size of a brown crab while doing research.

③ Plumose anemones and brittle stars cover the seafloor of the BMR. Credit: Jim Greenfield.



③



TACKLING UNSUSTAINABLE PRACTICES



DEVELOPING MODELS OF SUSTAINABLE FISHING



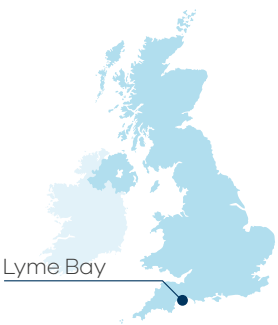
SECURING MARINE PROTECTED AREAS



CONNECTING PEOPLE WITH SEA

OUR PROJECTS

Lyme Bay: The Road to Recovery



The pioneering Lyme Bay project is proving that marine protected areas can benefit both fishermen and the marine environment.

After almost 10 years' work in Lyme Bay, BLUE released a new documentary film 'Lyme Bay: The Road to Recovery' by award-winning director Rupert Murray. The film was premiered in an exclusive event attended by a select audience of fishermen, members of parliament, community leaders and conservationists.

The documentary showcases the miraculous recovery of marine life in the Lyme Bay Fisheries and Conservation Reserve in Dorset, following the creation

of a marine protected area that banned trawling and dredging. The film also tells of the benefits to small-scale fishermen of the community-led, collaborative model of sustainable fishing that has since been developed.

Fishermen explain how they came together to solve the new challenges that arose after the marine protected area was created – and how a proliferation of static pots and nets was regulated through a voluntary code. Once trawling and dredging stopped, Lyme Bay's fragile seabed and coral gardens were given a chance to recover and more fish were attracted to the area.

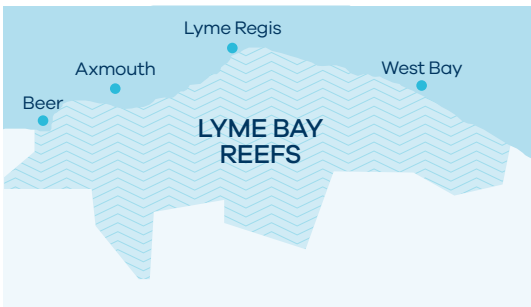
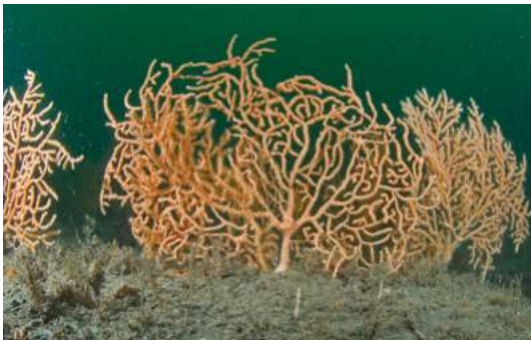


DEVELOPING MODELS OF SUSTAINABLE FISHING



SECURING MARINE PROTECTED AREAS

1



THE LYME BAY RESERVE IS A 90 SQ. MILE AREA.

- 1 A fragile pink sea fan. Credit: Colin Munro.
- 2 Fishermen were hit hard by the pandemic. Credit: James Bowden.
- 3 A small-scale fishing boat. Credit: James Bowden.

2



3

The 40 fishermen in the four ports of BLUE's Lyme Bay project have faced a challenging year as winter storms, followed closely by Covid-19, closed fishing opportunities and markets. BLUE and the Reserve Seafood brand worked on new initiatives to support the fishermen, such as the #LocalFishForDinner campaign and Call4Fish, both encouraging the purchase of local, sustainably-caught fish. These initiatives helped our fishermen stay in business and continue to lead the best-practice management of the Lyme Bay Reserve.

Early discussions have started between members of the Lyme Reserve committee on the possibility of harmonising IFCA regulations across the Reserve. Currently, two inshore fisheries conservation authorities (IFCAs) manage the area with different and conflicting rules. There is now an opportunity to adopt the same rules for the whole reserve within the existing voluntary code, which we believe would lead to better, more consistent whole-ecosystem management.

22%

Increase in pink sea fans

3X

The abundance of all marine species

52%

Increase in species diversity

BLUE has built on its successes by helping fishermen keep their catch fresh, winning planning permission to build a new, larger Lyme Regis chiller within a planned port development. An ice plant is on the cards for West Bay as more boats join the Reserve Seafood scheme and the port works to improve the quality of their catch. These two important projects are essential to help fishermen land top-quality seafood and receive the premium prices they deserve for fishing responsibly, thereby leaving a lasting legacy.

"The great value to us has been in the collaboration between fishermen, BLUE, scientists and the powers-that-be, all meeting together in one room and getting to the root of the problems we've had."

Jim Newton, fisherman and Chairman of the East Devon Fisherman's Association

Empowering local fishermen



NORTH DEVON

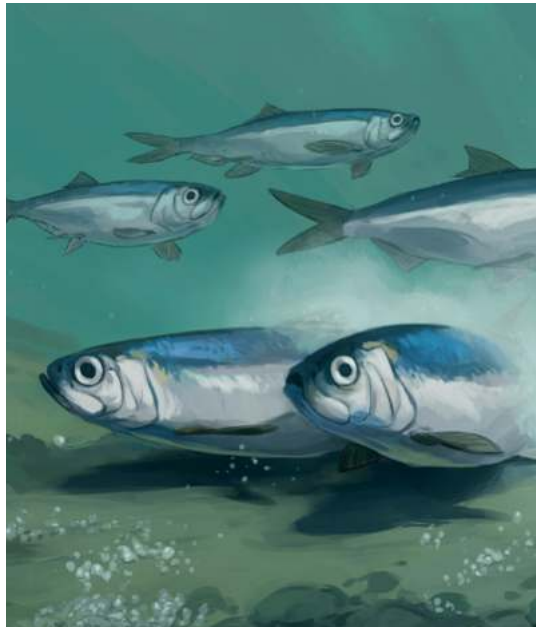
Fisheries for herring have existed in the inner Bristol Channel for hundreds of years. In fishing villages like Clovelly in North Devon, fishing records go back over 400 years, with 100 herring boats recorded in the harbour in 1749. Today, just two herring fishermen remain in Clovelly.

Guided by fishermen from Minehead and Clovelly, BLUE, the North Devon Biosphere Reserve, Devon and Severn IFCA and Swansea University have been working through Defra's Marine Pioneer project to learn about one of the UK's most iconic fish – the herring.

Fishermen-led research, conducted between 2018 and 2020, is the first to provide evidence for the presence of spawning herring in the Bristol Channel. The ground-breaking results highlight the importance of the breeding area for the wider herring population. The results and lessons learned here have far-reaching implications, and call for national protection of herring spawning grounds.

Above all, this research provides a powerful case study of the value of involving fishermen in science and marine management. With a commitment to a new regime post-Brexit for inshore fisheries, we have an opportunity to put fishermen at the centre of decision-making and reward those who safeguard our seas and contribute to our communities.

This research provides a powerful case study for involving fishermen in science and marine management.

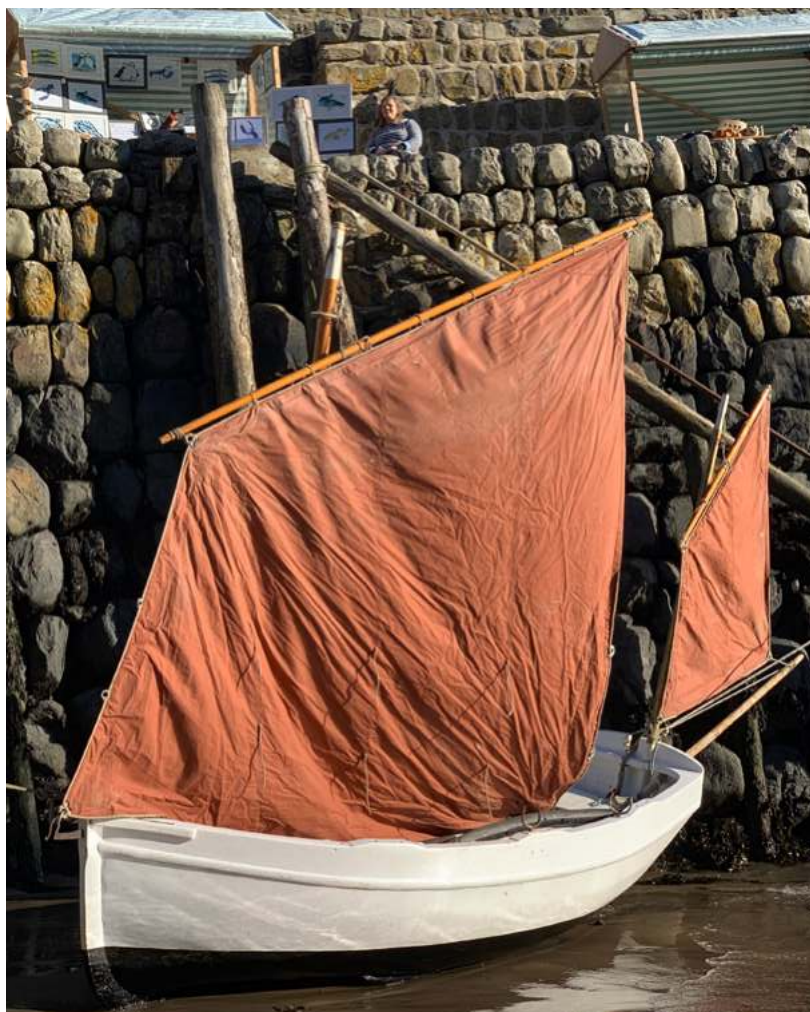


①



DEVELOPING MODELS
OF SUSTAINABLE
FISHING

②



① Herring spawning on gravel seabed. Artwork by Dominique Vassie.

② A traditional herring fishing boat in Clovelly Harbour.



OUR PROJECTS

Native oyster restoration

Native oyster restoration across Europe continues to grow in scale and momentum with BLUE at the forefront of this pioneering work. The model of restoration developed by BLUE has attracted attention from both national and international audiences.

Solent

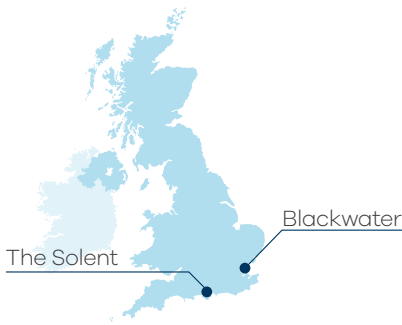
On the south coast of England, the Solent was once home to Europe's largest self-sustaining oyster fishery, with 15 million oysters landed as recently as 1978. At present the species is severely degraded and there is no commercial fishing permitted due to the incredibly low stocks.

BLUE has been working to increase the larval input into the Solent with broodstock nursery systems. These cages full of adult oysters also act as artificial reefs and provide a home for a host of marine creatures – over a hundred different species have been identified living among and around the oysters in their cages. In collaboration with the University of Portsmouth, BLUE has begun construction of the UK's first restoration-focused hatchery to begin producing larvae in 2021. As part of the large-scale recovery of oyster reefs in the area, BLUE will deploy these reef structures across several locations prior to the 2021 reproductive season.

124

Species found living in the oyster nurseries

1 A large native oyster.



Blackwater

The Blackwater in Essex is home to one of the oldest and most important oyster fisheries in Europe, where cultivation of native oysters has occurred since pre-Roman times. However, the Blackwater has suffered a severe loss of wild native oysters through historic overfishing, pollution and disease.

BLUE is working with the Essex Native Oyster Restoration Initiative (ENORI) to restore vital native oyster populations and the habitat they provide.

Throughout 2020, BLUE and our partners have undertaken monitoring of 2019 pilot studies, have begun pioneering cleaning trials which remove excess sediment from the seabed to increase oyster settlement, and have seen huge success in our innovative use of spat-collectors to monitor juvenile oysters. We have procured hundreds of metric tons of 'cultch', hard material such as shells and grit on which an oyster bed is formed, to deploy next year and we plan to significantly scale up restoration and outreach efforts.



RESTORING MARINE HABITATS

1

The Wild Oysters Project

The Wild Oysters Project, funded by the Peoples Postcode Lottery Dream Fund, is a continuation and expansion of BLUE's successful work in the Solent. The project is a collaboration between BLUE, the Zoological Society of London and British Marine. The new projects in the Firth of Clyde, Conwy Bay and Tyne and Wear will be community-led and aim to build capacity for large-scale restoration by investing in the local area through volunteering, education outreach and citizen science.

Opportunities in offshore windfarms

By 2030, over a third of British electricity will be produced by offshore wind. As the turbines will occupy significant areas of the UK's coastal and offshore zones, BLUE is keen to increase the conservation role of the wind industry and explore fisheries management initiatives.

In 2018, BLUE began working with renewable energy company, Ørsted and the Essex Native Oyster Restoration Initiative (ENORI) to explore the possibility of placing oysters around the base of wind turbines in the hope that billions of larvae would settle on the seabed.

While results from a feasibility study unfortunately concluded that the Gunfleet Sands wind farm was not suitable, BLUE is using lessons learned from this project to assess the suitability of other wind farms around the UK. The plan is to develop a blueprint for the wind-farm industry to support marine rewilding with oysters and other critical species.



1

2



1/3

Of British power will be produced by offshore wind by 2030, generating opportunities for conservation

1 BLUE's Restoration Science Officer inspecting a native oyster.

2 A crab found living in the oyster nurseries.

Restoration of iconic species



EUROPEAN STURGEON

The European sturgeon, or common sea sturgeon, was once widespread in UK rivers. However, river dams, pollution and fishing have almost led to the extinction of the 'Dinosaur Fish' and sturgeon are now considered by the IUCN to be the most critically endangered group of species on the planet.

To reverse the decline of the UK's European sturgeon, BLUE is focusing on habitat restoration (starting in the greater Severn estuary system) and has ambitions to reform current legislation for increased protection. BLUE hopes to raise awareness of and increase pride in this great British fish.

In 2020, the UK Sturgeon Alliance was formed between BLUE, the Zoological Society of London (ZSL), the Institute of Fisheries Management (IFM), Nature at Work and the Severn Rivers Trust. A database of all native sturgeon captures in the UK since 1700 has been built, containing over 5,000 records, as has a project information booklet for UK distribution. An article in The Times linked the decline of the sturgeon to the need to protect the Dogger Bank.

According to the IUCN, sturgeon are the most critically endangered group of species on the planet.

- ① A canal running parallel to the River Severn estuary.
- ② The European sturgeon was once widespread in UK waters, now the species is critically endangered.
- ③ A 'Royal' sturgeon caught in Oxlode, Pymoor, 1906. Credit: Pymoor Cambridge Community Archive Network.
- ④ European sturgeon. Artwork by Dominique Vassie.



RESTORING MARINE HABITATS



SUSSEX'S KELP FORESTS

Kelp forests are one of the most productive and biodiverse habitats on the planet. They provide shelter, feeding and nursery grounds for a huge diversity of marine life. Worldwide they are recognised for their role in mitigating climate change: it is estimated that kelp forests can remove up to 20 times more CO₂ from the atmosphere than land-based forests can.

Historically, a vast kelp forest teeming with life stretched along more than 40 kilometres of the Sussex coast. However, since 1987, over 96 per cent of Sussex kelp has disappeared. Years of destructive trawling and other human pressures have decimated this underwater forest.

Determined to reverse this decline, BLUE joined the Marine Conservation Society, Big Wave Media and Sussex Wildlife Trust to form the Help Our Kelp campaign. The campaign is supporting a byelaw which would prohibit trawling from over 300 square kilometres of seabed. Sir David Attenborough lent his support to the campaign, narrating the Help Our Kelp short film. In early 2020, the byelaw was approved by the Sussex IFCA committee and is now awaiting final sign-off from the Minister of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs. If successful, it will be the first kelp restoration project in the UK and one of the largest inshore areas to be closed to bottom-towed fishing gear in England.



- ① Dense kelp forests, such as this, once covered large areas of Sussex's coastal waters. Credit: Andy Jackson.
- ② Kelp forests provide habitat for a vast range of species, such as this seal.



RESTORING MARINE HABITATS

Rolling out Marine Parks in the British Isles

The legislation for National Parks was prepared shortly after the Second World War in recognition of the need to conserve Britain's natural and cultural heritage and give people areas of outdoor space they could enjoy.

But all 15 of these National Parks are on land and only a few include the coast. The result is that the British public is disconnected from the sea, which is not protected and not seen as a national asset, other than to be fished.

BLUE aims to apply the tested concept of national parks to the sea. It continues to work with Plymouth City Council, which declared Plymouth Sound the first national marine park in 2019. Over the course of 2020, BLUE has explored the considerable appetite for national marine parks around the British Isles in research soon to be published. Following that, BLUE plans to host a national conference to develop the campaign for national marine parks.

- ① The Plymouth Sound National Marine Park is designed to bring people closer to nature.
- ② A cuckoo wrasse. Credit: Henley Spiers.





SECURING MARINE PROTECTED AREAS



CONNECTING PEOPLE WITH SEA



JERSEY
Jersey's waters showcase some of the best shallow marine habitats in northern Europe. Kelp forests, maerl (coralline red algae) and seagrass beds thrive alongside rare pink sea fans and sunset cup corals. Jersey also plays host to one of the largest pods of bottlenose dolphins in the world. Many of the habitats found here are important blue carbon stores and are capable of buffering the effects of climate change and sequestering carbon.

To protect this incredible ecosystem, BLUE is campaigning for a large marine park closed to mobile fishing. If successful, the marine park will afford high levels of protection to over 30 per cent of Jersey's waters, setting a precedent for the British




Isles. For Jersey's fisheries it provides an opportunity to become a 'low impact reserve' where fishermen can achieve higher values for their catch based on sustainable practices, while working alongside conservation.


Research from BLUE-funded PhD researcher Sam Blampied continues to show recovery within existing marine protected areas, adding to growing evidence in support of a marine park. The study has identified early signs of recovery and expansion of seagrass in the Minquiers, which became a protected area just three years ago. Sightings of marine life have included smooth-hound and vulnerable tope sharks, as well as increased scallop populations.

- ① Jersey's offshore reefs, such as Les Écréhous, are home to extensive areas of seagrass, maerl and kelp. Credit: James Bowden.
- ② A small-scale fishermen hauls in his catch. Credit: James Bowden.






SECURING MARINE PROTECTED AREAS



CONNECTING PEOPLE WITH SEA



DEVELOPING MODELS OF SUSTAINABLE FISHING

OUR PROJECTS

Rewilding the Sea

The [Rewilding the Sea conference](#) was going to be held in the historic Navy Board Rooms at Somerset House in June 2020. When the pandemic made it clear that this would be impossible, BLUE decided to host the conference virtually. The result was that many more people 'attended' the event, with a minimal carbon footprint.

Prince Albert II of Monaco opened the conference, followed by Ben Goldsmith, a non-executive board member of the Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs. Ben described how much he had been influenced by George Monbiot's book *Feral*, quoting Oliver Goldsmith in 1776 on the arrival of the herring shoals as seen from the British shore, painting a vivid image of the biodiversity now lost from our seas.

Secretary of State Rt Hon George Eustice MP delivered the opening keynote speech, concluding that: "We have a great opportunity to think differently and creatively about how we can deliver for our marine environment." The pioneering work of Knepp Estate was presented by Isabella Tree, discussing the transition from lack of acceptance to the celebration of letting nature take its course. Professor Callum Roberts spoke on the science behind why we need to protect our seas.

"We can turn around the state of our seas, we can rewild them, we can put nature back in charge."

Professor Callum Roberts,
University of Exeter



①

Richard Benyon, former Environment Minister, discussed the findings of his Highly Protected Marine Areas Review, which could have large implications for marine conservation in the UK. Richard concluded by saying "this is our opportunity" to be viewed as a global leader in marine conservation. Global progress of marine restoration initiatives was showcased by Dr Philine Zu Ermgassen of The Nature Conservancy, and an industry perspective on marine rewilding was given by Dr Gareth Johnson. Roger Proudfoot of the Environment Agency covered the regulatory opportunities. Eight marine restoration initiatives were showcased, including domestic seagrass, oyster and saltmarsh projects.



②

BLUE believes that rewilding our seas must be made a priority in the UK, and that existing regulatory challenges need to be tackled to make marine restoration more accessible. The conference demonstrated the huge potential rewilding the sea has for the future of marine conservation.

"The sense of possibility is immense. The sky is the limit."

Charles Clover, BLUE's Executive Director and co-founder

146k

Organic Twitter impressions

3,000

Conference views

150

Conference attendees

① A lobster takes shelter in a seabed full of life. Credit: Henley Spiers.

② A kelp forest off the coast of Lundy Island. Credit: Keith Hiscock.

Speakers include:



HSH Prince Albert II of Monaco



Isabella Tree, Author and co-owner of Knepp estate



Richard Benyon, Benyon Review into Highly Protected Marine Areas



Ben Goldsmith, Conservative Environment Network



Professor Callum Roberts University of Exeter



George Eustice Secretary of State, Defra

OVERSEAS PROJECTS

OUR PROJECTS

Marine protected areas in the Mediterranean



In the Mediterranean just 0.04 per cent of the sea is protected from fishing, and of the 1,200 or so designated marine protected areas (MPAs), few deliver the conservation gains that they were designed for. Fishing is monopolised by industrial interests; subsidised commercial vessels dominate fish catch, provide low employment and cause severe damage to marine habitats. Small-scale, sustainable artisanal fisheries are in decline.

As well as fish stocks, the Mediterranean is losing one of the most important marine habitats on the planet – seagrass. Seagrass protects coastlines from erosion, provides a nursery for juvenile fish and traps more carbon per square metre than rainforests.

BLUE is working throughout the Mediterranean to designate new and improve existing MPAs. BLUE's projects tackle illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing, and promote sustainable small-scale fishing. Projects are designed to protect and restore marine habitats such as Posidonia seagrass meadows and to develop community-driven conservation through widespread education programmes. BLUE's Legal Unit works to see the implementation of the Natura 2000 Habitats Directive protective measures and effective fisheries management plans. BLUE supports scientific research to assess the recovery of marine life and directly involves artisanal fishers with education, conservation and removal of discarded or lost 'ghost' (discarded) nets.

1 The colourful boats of small-scale fishermen in the Mediterranean.

DEVELOPING MODELS OF SUSTAINABLE FISHING

SECURING MARINE PROTECTED AREAS

RESTORING MARINE HABITATS



Credit: Mallorca Preservation Foundation

OUR PROJECTS

10.5k

Hectares of no-fishing zones in Turkey

The Aeolian Islands

BLUE is working towards a new MPA around Salina Island, which could pave the way for a broader Aeolian protection. Ninety per cent of local fishermen in Salina and Stromboli have signed up to Responsible Fishing Codes of Conduct supported by restaurants and hotels, which are promoting certified sustainable seafood. An archipelago-wide education programme is linking fishermen and researchers with school children, educating students about sustainable fishing and marine biology. The Ministry of Environment visited the Aeolian Islands in October 2020 to urge local mayors to protect their seas. The newly formed Salina MPA commission, backed by local stakeholders including fishermen, is the first of its kind in the Aeolians and is pushing for protection.

Torre Guaceto and Egadi

BLUE is working in these two existing Italian MPAs with staff and fishermen to improve marine protection. This is through the adoption of fishing codes of conduct and the expansion of no-take zones. BLUE has provided insulated fish boxes and mobile fish markets to allow participating fishermen to sell sustainable, traceable, high-quality fish at a fair price.

Menorca

BLUE is working with the Menorca Preservation Fund and has seen the designation of a new MPA and a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve. A BLUE patrol boat ensures effective protection and management of the areas. BLUE is developing fishing Codes of Conduct for local fishers and Menorca's fish markets have stopped using any plastic packaging.



2



3



4

Mallorca

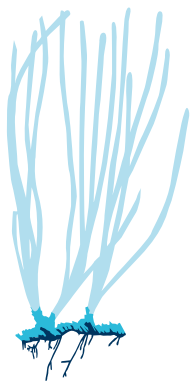
BLUE is working with the Mallorca Preservation Fund, Marilles Foundation and LIFE (Low Impact Fishers of Europe) to investigate and report illegal fishing around the Balearic Islands and to develop a seafood certification scheme that will support small-scale fishermen who fish sustainably within protected areas. The illegal-fishing report is ammunition to ensure effective protection of Mallorca's existing marine reserves.

Turkey

In Turkey, BLUE is working with the Mediterranean Conservation Society to provide enforcement and management for the largest highly-protected MPA network in the Mediterranean, supporting an ambitious designation banning trawling and purse seining and creating large no-fishing zones. This will see the effective protection from trawling of 55,000

hectares of sea and 10,500 hectares of no-fishing zones, and will support one of the few Mediterranean artisanal fishing communities dominated by women.

BLUE's Mediterranean projects not only protect endangered species such as Mediterranean monk seals, loggerhead turtles, dusky grouper, sharks, rays and cetaceans but also the 'lungs of the Mediterranean', Posidonia seagrass. The projects protect and engage artisanal fishing communities. These community-driven conservation programmes are a win-win for conservation and sustainable fisheries.



Seagrass traps more carbon per square metre than rainforests do

- 1 Small fishing boats line the Aeolian beaches. Credit: Rory Moore.
- 2 The Port of Alcudia in Mallorca.
- 3 Volcanic bubbles in the sea near Panarea, Aeolian Islands. Credit: Danny Copeland.
- 4 A local prepares fresh caught fish. Credit: Rory Moore.



OUR PROJECTS

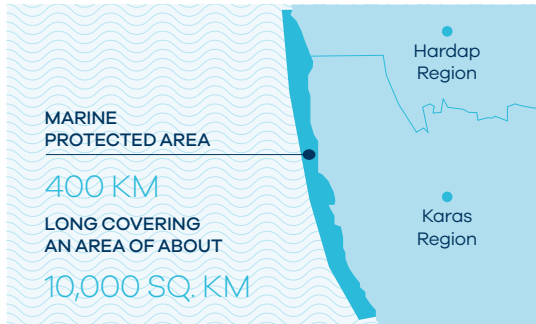
Namibia



Namibia's waters are among the most productive in world. They contain a spectacular array of endangered and endemic marine life. The Namibian Islands' Marine Protected Area (NIMPA) was created to protect this biodiverse region and is the second largest marine protected area in Africa. However, the NIMPA is poorly managed and ineffective, putting the biodiversity and the people who depend on it at risk.

In February, BLUE partnered with the Namibia Nature Foundation (NNF) to ensure that this wildlife haven receives effective protection. BLUE will be initiating and supporting the development of a management plan for the NIMPA, and ensuring its implementation.

- 1 The NIMPA contains almost all of Namibia's endangered African penguins.
- 2 A Heaviside's dolphin, which only live off the coasts of western South Africa, Namibia and southern Angola. Credit: Jean-Paul Roux.



Throughout 2020, the team on the ground has remained dedicated to monitoring the coastline and has been able to keep a close eye on concerning events. These include an outbreak of bird flu, which devastated local populations of endangered African penguin, as well as increased predation of Cape fur seals by brown hyenas – both threatening the balance of this magnificent ecosystem. The NFF has begun stakeholder consultations with the Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources, and discussions about the adequacy of the zoning, present regulations and levels of monitoring are progressing well.



SECURING MARINE PROTECTED AREAS



A young brown hyena scavenges the body of a Cape fur seal pup. Credit: Jean-Paul Roux.

OUR PROJECTS

The Maldives

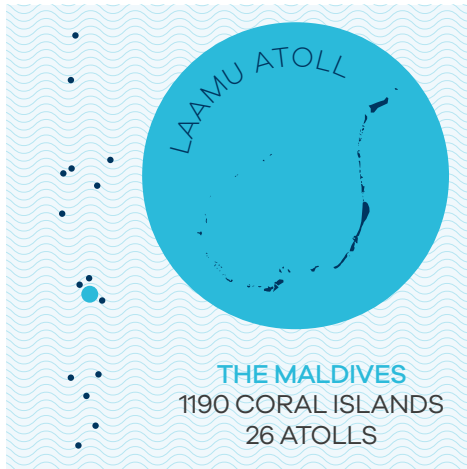
The Maldives is one of the most vulnerable countries in the world to climate change. Coral reefs, seagrasses and mangroves are all that protect the isolated coral islands and their inhabitants from the surrounding ocean. Left unprotected and open to exploitation, these habitats are losing their capacity to provide services to those who depend on them.

In July 2020, BLUE ran the social media campaign #FishForTomorrow in response to the illegal and excessive fishing of vulnerable species, such as parrotfish and giant clams, which began during Covid-19. The campaign aimed to familiarise Maldivians with fish species particularly susceptible to overfishing and to secure public support for their protection. The campaign used a combination of humorous memes and shocking facts to entice people to interact with its content. The popular 'higher or lower' game asked participants questions such as "Which one lives longer, a red snapper or rhino?" - to which the answer is red snapper - to encourage people to reconsider common perceptions of the vulnerability of smaller reef fish compared with larger megafauna.

"The campaign and its messages served as an eye-opener and tickled our conscience, certainly. I believe this probably is the first educational campaign about vulnerable reef fish in the Maldives."

Ahmed Saeed, key public figure in the Maldivian fisheries and education sectors

23
Species of parrotfish
legally protected from
fishing



- 1 Divers swim above a coral reef. Credit: Matt Porteous / Ocean Culture Life.
- 2 Shaha, centre, BLUE's Maldives Project Manager. Credit: Matt Porteous / Ocean Culture Life.
- 3 Naff Asim, BLUE's Resort Research and Fisheries Officer.
- 4 Shaha Hashim, BLUE's Maldives Project Manager, takes volunteers on seagrass surveys. Credit: Matt Porteous / Ocean Culture Life.



In September 2020, just two months after the campaign ended, the Maldivian Government introduced a new law preventing the catch, sale and export of all species of parrotfish, a group of fish that coral reef scientists recognise as key to ensuring that reefs recover after coral bleaching events.

The campaign was a huge success and was backed by several local celebrities. Over 27,000 people, representing more than five per cent of the population, responded to the campaign's online polls and 70 percent of respondents expressed support for legally protecting giant grouper and parrotfish. The campaign also inspired a viral trend of local fishermen posting Instagram stories of themselves releasing juvenile groupers and snappers.

In November, BLUE together with six interns from the Maldives National University visited all eleven islands of Laamu Atoll to conduct resource use surveys. The team spoke with a range of fishermen,

local women and businesses to identify how the people of Laamu are using their local habitats and what areas they are using. This data will be used to inform the design of protected areas.

BLUE is also supporting Shaha Hashim, to do a Master's degree at the University of Exeter, to establish historical baselines for conservation goals. This research will be used to support the Maldivian Government with its pledge to protect 20 per cent of its waters. BLUE is excited to support Shaha's career development and encourage female representation in the marine conservation field in the Maldives.

- 4
- SECURING MARINE PROTECTED AREAS
- TACKLING UNSUSTAINABLE PRACTICES
- CONNECTING PEOPLE WITH SEA
- DEVELOPING MODELS OF SUSTAINABLE FISHING

OUR PROJECTS

Patagonia



Patagonia is one of the last wildernesses on earth. Yet overfishing has led to the collapse of fish stocks, hunting has decimated marine mammal populations and intensive farming of non-native salmon has polluted ecosystems. When over 300 sei whale bodies were found stranded on Patagonia's shores in 2016, BLUE began conservation efforts in the region.

BLUE's research partners, Patagonia Projects, have been gathering data in the Gulf of Peñas for several years. The team documented the largest-ever recorded stranding of sei whales and the first blue whale in the Gulf. Using hydrophones, the team discovered several other species of cetacean, increasing our understanding

of the importance of the region to migrating leviathans. BLUE has published nine project summaries from Patagonia Projects' research in the Gulf of Peñas.

In 2020, BLUE partnered with Tompkins Conservation Chile to support an ambitious five-year programme to survey, map and designate new marine protected areas in Patagonia's fjords, to protect the fragile ecosystems from destructive salmon farming. The Tompkins Conservation research and discovery vessel left port in November 2020 to document some of the last untouched Patagonian fjord ecosystems, with the aim of presenting arguments for protection to the Chilean government.

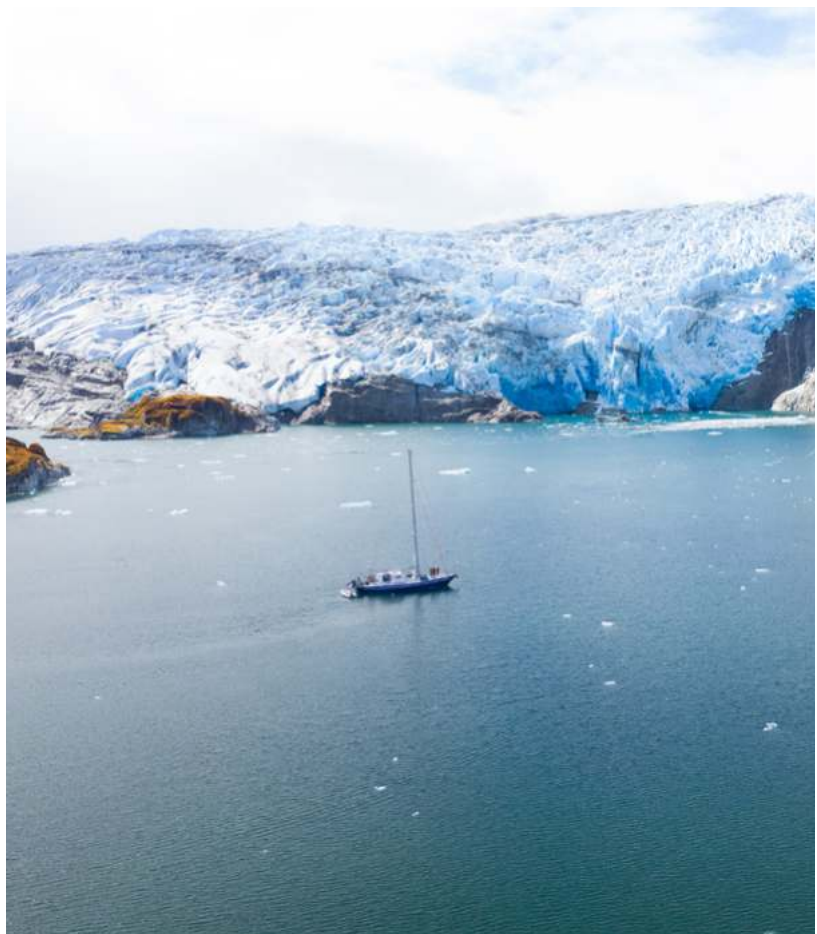


SECURING MARINE PROTECTED AREAS

1



- 1 The hydrophone is deployed by the team. Credit: Keri-Lee Pashuk.
- 2 The Saoirse research vessel. Credit: Will Darwin.



2

The Caspian Sea



The fragile Caspian Sea marine environment is home to endemic species of sturgeon, salmon, seal, anchovy kilka and lamprey. But dams prevent many rare, migratory species from reaching their spawning grounds, and as the northern Caspian sea-ice melts, endangered Caspian seals are losing their birthing ice-fields.

BLUE's project builds on a Caspian-wide ban on sturgeon fishing and protection of other endangered species. By opening the rivers for migration, protecting certain areas from fishing, restoring spawning habitats upstream and developing alternative livelihoods – specifically sustainable fish farming – we can give Caspian marine life a chance to recover.

2020 saw the one-year anniversary of the first marine protected area in the Caspian Sea, with millions of native fish released into the Gizilagac national park in the western Caspian. Patrol teams continue to remove illegal gill nets, and a state-of-the-art sturgeon-breeding facility is providing employment for local communities. A documentary film released on Amazon Prime, 'Saving the Dinosaur Fish' follows BLUE's Rory Moore from the Caspian to the USA on his quest to save sturgeon from extinction.



SECURING MARINE PROTECTED AREAS

1



2

- 1 A Beluga sturgeon.
- 2 An aerial view of the Caspian Sea. Credit: NASA.

By opening the rivers for migration, protecting certain areas from fishing, restoring spawning habitats upstream and developing alternative livelihoods – specifically sustainable fish farming – we can give Caspian marine life a chance to recover.

BLUE UNITS

BLUE EDUCATION

Marine conservation education rarely features within school curriculums, so it can be difficult for younger generations to fully grasp how critical maintaining a healthy ocean is or how they can help protect it. Climate-related threats such as ocean acidification and marine heatwaves are complex and difficult to visualise. BLUE is working to bridge these education gaps.

In response to an increase in home schooling in 2020, BLUE created an 'Oceans Education Pack' with activities for various age groups. BLUE provided excerpts from our An Ocean Adventure 'makerzine', including our fun Fishy Fact sheet and an ocean quiz. In partnership with Planetari, our animated 'Secrets of St Helena' app was launched in April and featured in the St Helena Government's newsletter. The app is designed to inspire and educate younger generations about the importance of marine protected areas.

In October, BLUE began a new project to communicate the link between the ocean and climate change. This solutions-focused digital platform will aim to convert concern into action, while raising awareness about the importance of marine conservation in the fight against climate change. The platform is due to launch in summer 2021.

Partner on illustrations and St Helena app:



① A 'Fishy Facts' sheet, freely available online.

② The Secrets of St Helena app.



①



②



BLUE MEDIA

BLUE Media has continued to inspire ocean conservation, using short films for direct lobbying and impactful social media campaigns. We responded to the Covid crisis using our digital expertise to keep campaigning through the lockdown. Campaigns from 2020 include:

Supporting small-scale fishermen in Covid-19

In response to lockdown restrictions closing routes to market for local fishermen, #LocalFishForDinner was launched in project areas Lyme Bay, North Devon, Jersey and Berwickshire, to connect coastal communities directly to their fishermen. The campaign reached a quarter of a million people and inspired a national Call4Fish initiative.

Ensuring fish for tomorrow in the Maldives

#FishForTomorrow was launched in response to excess fishing of vulnerable species during Covid-19 in the Maldives. The social media content was seen over 4.5 million times, and over ten per cent of the population accessed the deep-learning assets. Following the campaign, the Environment Ministry announced the legal protection of parrotfish.

The Ocean Awards go virtual

The international Ocean Awards 2020 was adapted into a virtual, social media-led 'Winners Week', with a short film on each inspiring story. Ocean Awards 2020 was seen by over 80,000 people, far exceeding the reach of the event had it not taken place virtually.

Rewilding the Sea conference

Inspirational speakers and practitioners were brought together from around the world for the Rewilding the Sea virtual conference. BLUE Media created films for the conference, and the conservation partners we featured now have the materials to use for themselves.

①



②



① #FishForTomorrow social media asset.

② #LocalFishForDinner social media asset.

Campaigning for the return of Scotland's inshore limit

#InshoreLimit, a petition launched by NGO coalition Our Seas, aims to ban trawling in the inshore waters of Scotland. BLUE Media produced a media pack for coalition members to support the campaign launch, and another reactive media pack for the Flapper Skate egg case discovery – a timely and important hook for the campaign.

Spreading Lyme Bay's story

The Lyme Bay film was shown to representatives from DEFRA and local fishing communities. This story of hope has been translated into different languages, allowing our European partners to promote similar ideas in Europe and beyond.

4.5m

People saw the social media content for #FishForTomorrow

BLUE INVESTIGATIONS

BLUE Investigations works to research, expose and combat harmful and unsustainable practices affecting our oceans.

On 1 January 2021, BLUE's three-year campaign against electric pulse fishing came to fruition when the UK Government announced an immediate ban of all electric pulse trawling in UK waters. This followed an investigation by BLUE exposing the routine electrocution of the UK's fragile North Sea marine protected areas by harmful pulse-trawlers in 2019 and 2020.

2020 saw BLUE Investigations broaden its scope to include deep-sea mining, its potentially devastating impacts on yet-to-be-discovered marine ecosystems, and the UK Government's relationship with the American weapons manufacturer Lockheed Martin which is pushing for this destructive practice to begin. BLUE Investigations also provided new evidence of the overfishing of already at-risk yellowfin tuna in the Indian Ocean, as well as shocking human right abuses in the Western and Central Pacific tuna fishery.

- ① Tuna being hauled on board an industrial purse seine vessel. Credit: Alex Hoffard / Greenpeace.
- ② Skipjack tuna caught by a purse seine vessel. Credit: Alex Hoffard / Greenpeace.



①

50% less
marine species present in an area that had been fished with electric pulse trawls.

②



BLUE LEGAL



①

Over the past year, BLUE Legal has quietly ratcheted up the pressure for the proper creation and enforcement of law at sea.

BLUE Legal complaints about the environmental impact of the vast cooling system of the Hinkley Point nuclear power station on the Severn Estuary special area of conservation are now being investigated. BLUE Legal fronted legal challenges, both in London and Brussels, over the continued (and potentially unlawful) presence of destructive bottom-towed fishing gears on the Dogger Bank, an area protected by the powerful Habitats Directive. It called out the European Union's distant-water fleet for fishing for tuna beyond legal limits in the Indian Ocean. It also scored some real victories in the Fisheries Bill – the adoption of fisheries management planning and recognition that the UK fishery is held in a form of public trust.

In all these efforts BLUE Legal worked in collaboration with other environmental NGOs, and fishing and community groups. Looking forward to 2021 BLUE Legal has its first legal co-ordinator, Priyal Bunwaree, a UK trained, Mauritian qualified barrister. BLUE has exciting plans for 2021.

"We need to take the law and apply it offshore."

Dr Thomas Appleby, Chief of Legal Affairs and BLUE Trustee

① A minke whale is one of the species that would benefit from the closure of the Dogger Bank.

BLUE CARBON

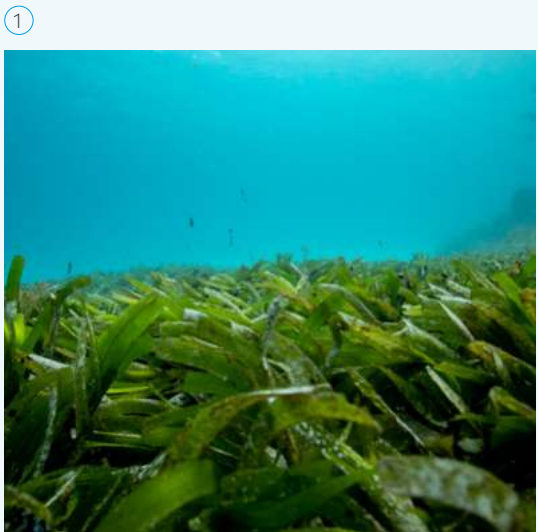
A newly formed unit, BLUE Carbon seeks to accelerate the recognition of the interplay between the ocean and the climate. The potential of marine habitats, including saltmarsh, seagrass, kelp and sediment, to sequester and store carbon is widely known to science. Furthermore, the potential to mitigate the effects of climate change by leaving the seafloor undisturbed is huge, although calculating just how much carbon is stored in the ocean is highly challenging.

BLUE Carbon is conducting a discovery phase to identify blue carbon conservation opportunities that are feasible, verifiable and achieve benefits for the marine environment and local communities. It is also working to calculate additionality in carbon uptake and sequestration and deliver blue carbon offsets through the protection of whole ecosystems from destructive fishing practices.

BLUE Carbon, working with the University of Exeter, will also produce a scientific case that marine conservation and restoration will deliver significant capture and sequestration of carbon. Through domestic prototypes such as integrated ecosystem restoration in the Solent, BLUE will assemble evidence to support the Government in developing policies that formally recognise the value of the ocean to climate change mitigation.

BLUE Carbon seeks to accelerate the recognition of the interplay between the ocean and the climate.

83%
of the global carbon cycle is circulated through the ocean



① Seagrass is an important blue carbon habitat. Credit: Matt Porteous / Ocean Culture Life.
② Saltmarsh is also a blue carbon habitat.

BLUE ECONOMICS

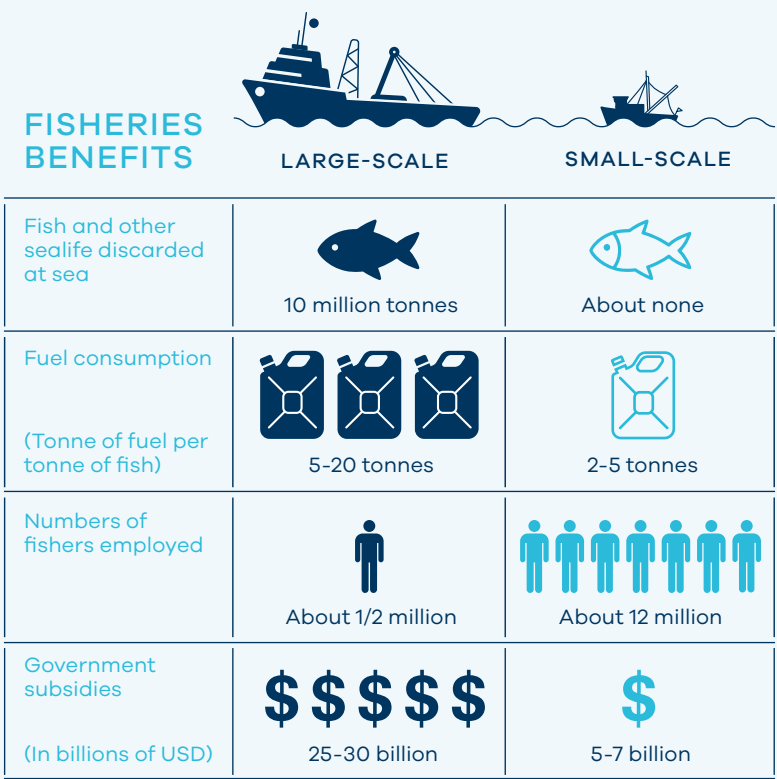


Part think-tank and part practitioner, BLUE Economics is a new division of BLUE whose aim is to bridge the gap between conservation and finance.

If we are to avert catastrophic climate change and loss of biodiversity, we need a step-change in the way nature is valued. A report by the Paulson Institute puts a price on this need: \$711 billion a year. It is this need for a quantum leap in funding for nature that BLUE Economics was set up to explore.

BLUE Economics examines the economics of ocean use and abuse. We quantify the poor economics of overfishing which is not only harming the ocean, but is inefficient, heavily subsidised and reliant on exploitation of human beings. We assess the economics of sustainable fishing and the value it can bring to local livelihoods. We examine how protection and restoration can be delivered at scale if we can calculate the value of carbon, methane and nitrogen stored in the marine life that we are protecting and restoring.

Above all, BLUE Economics will work with the financial sector to develop innovative financial mechanisms which we hope will mobilise the quantum of capital needed to protect the ocean and restore it to health.



① Skipjack tuna in a commercial fishing net. Credit: Alex Hoffard / Greenpeace.
② A graphic representing the inequalities between large-scale and small-scale fisheries. Modified graphic published by Professor Daniel Pauly and Dr Dirk Zeller at the University of British Columbia, in 'Back to the future for fisheries, where will we choose to go?' (2019).

BLUE's physical sporting events were put on hold for 2020. Instead, we spent the time running virtual events and planning even more for 2021.

Virtual London to Monaco

The 2020 London to Monaco (L2M) bike ride took place virtually. Fifty L2M riders took to their local roads in September to ride the 1,033-kilometre equivalent distance to Monaco. Riders' progress was tracked on a live leader-board using the Strava app, and BLUE's sponsors awarded prizes for achievement over the course of the month. Riders used Zwift, a virtual cycling platform, to ride a stage of the Tour de France from their living rooms and so the spirit of the ride lived on, thanks to the strength of the L2M community.

Motion for Ocean

Motion for Ocean was a new campaign born out of lockdown. The campaign encouraged people to venture outside for exercise while raising money and awareness for BLUE. Dozens of celebrities and social media influencers posted their challenge in support of BLUE, alongside BLUE followers from across the world.



2

1

3

① Some of the team from the 2019 L2M.

② A rider participates in BLUE's virtual L2M.

③ BLUE's Head of Partnerships doing her #Motion4Ocean challenge.

TO MONACO

zonzo



New South Coast Challenge for 2021

The South Coast Challenge will be a three-day bike ride from Hamble on the Solent to Plymouth, along the Jurassic Coast. Riding past three of BLUE's projects, riders can see first-hand the work they will be fundraising for. Taking place over a weekend in May 2021, the South Coast Challenge will be accessible to all.

*Exact details of the South Coast Challenge route are subject to change.



Special thanks to:



**CLIMPSON
& SONS**

WINCH DESIGN

**Steve Edge
Design Ltd.**

To ride or sponsor next year, please visit:
www.london-monaco.cc

BLUE MARINE YACHT CLUB

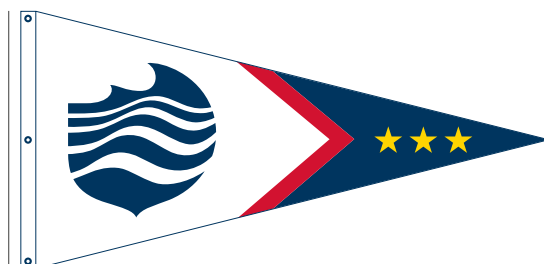
The ocean's
favourite club

The Blue Marine Yacht Club (BMYC) was founded to help the superyacht community come together to protect the world's ocean. Supporters are offered an exclusive BMYC burgee designed by Ralph Lauren and encouraged to adhere to the BMYC Charter.

BMYC member makes a major donation

Peter Lürssen, one of our 3-star BMYC members, donated £2 million in 2020 to establish an endowment fund to secure one of the largest marine protected areas in the world around Ascension Island. Peter's vision and dedication to the cause have made him a world leader in ocean conservation and we are thrilled to have his ongoing support.

Our BMYC members lend their support not just with financial donations, but with their influence, high-level connections and expertise. This combination of support enables BLUE to unlock new project areas and secure conservations wins quickly.



Now is the time to join.

Help us turn the tide

For further information about joining the BMYC please contact:

E info@bluemarinefoundation.com
T +44 (0) 207 845 5850

BMYC Supporters:



BLUE COLLABORATIONS



BLUE + Christopher Ward

In celebration of BLUE's tenth year, BLUE partnered with Christopher Ward London to release a limited-edition dive watch: the C60 BLUE. All profits from the sale of the C60 BLUE will be donated to BLUE.

BLUE is lucky to have a number of corporate donors who understand and support our work. We would like to thank each of the donors below for their commitment to conservation this year.



BLUE + Adnams Southwold

Adnams Southwold is supporting BLUE's projects through the sale of their new premium lager, Kobold.



BLUE + Shackleton

British expedition apparel brand Shackleton is supporting the designation of marine protected areas in Antarctica's waters, through the creation of the Antarctic Protector Parka.



BLUE + Brora Cashmere

Brora Cashmere launched an ocean-inspired knitwear collection in collaboration with Lady Amelia Windsor.



THE BLUE TEAM

Clare Brook Chief Executive Officer
Charles Clover Executive Director
Daniel Crockett Development Director
Emma Eatough Marketing and Communications Manager
Viv Evans International Projects Manager
Samantha Fanshawe UK Marine Projects Manager

Poppy Greenall Head of Operations and Events
Raphael Hagenauer Events and Sponsorship Manager
Luke Helmer Restoration Scientific Officer
Jacob Kean-Hammerson Restoration Project Manager
Sophie Locke Science and Research Officer

Josh McCarty Marine Parks Coordinator
Rory Moore Head of International Projects
Michaela Moran Office Manager
Emily Norris Senior Development Manager
Ajay Patel Salesforce Database Administrator
Giancarlo Perrone Assistant Management Accountant

Jess Rattle Head of Communications
Joe Richards Berwickshire Project Manager
Morven Robertson Senior UK Projects Manager
SJ Skinner Head of Partnerships
Lynne Smith Finance Director
David Tudor Projects Director
Matt Uttley ENORI Project Manager
Mandy Wolfe South West Coordinator

CONSULTANTS

Nafha Asim Resort Research and Fisheries Officer
Giulia Bernardi Italy Projects Manager
Natasha Bradshaw Marine Parks Adviser
Jude Brown Ascension and Saint Helena Projects Consultant
Priyal Bunwaree Legal Coordinator
Federica Catonini Marine Legal Assistant, EU
Jo Coumbe Social Media Consultant
George Duncan Jones Investigations Consultant
Anna Gage HR Consultant
Adrian Gahan Head of Government Affairs
Tim Glover UK Projects Adviser
Shaha Hashim Maldives Project Manager
Ian Hendy Science Consultant
Alex Hubberstey UK Sturgeon Coordinator
Sriram Natarajan BLUE Economics Consultant
Enrico Navarra Aeolian Islands Project Consultant
Alison Raynsford Consultant
Adam Rees UK Projects Consultant
Tim Scoones BLUE Media
Beth Taylor Head of Marine Conservation (St Helena National Trust)
Rowena Taylor Design and Communication Consultant
Gail Thacker Fundraising Consultant
Jenny Williams Investigations Consultant
Andrew Woods Operations Consultant

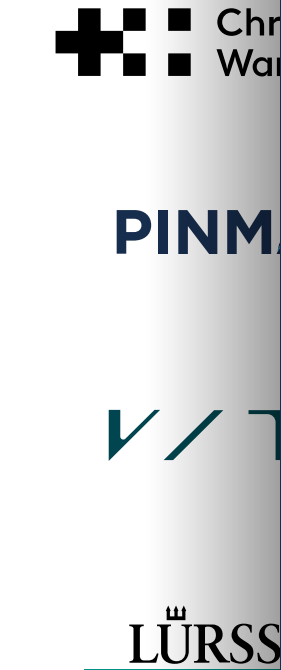
TRUSTEES

Tom Appleby Chief Legal Affairs Adviser
Richard Benyon
Sofia Blount
Arlo Brady Chairman
Craig Davies Treasurer
Lord Deben
George Duffield Co-founder
Chris Gorell Barnes Co-founder
Celine Herweijer
Lucy Lake
Callum Roberts Chief Scientific Adviser
Mark Rose

SUPP THANK YOU

BLUE would like to thank those whom our work would like to extend a special supporting us with a £100,000 donation. This donation will help of restoring the ocean a stable climate and b climate change. The projects focused on m sustainable managem with the sea. BLUE wou Barclays team for this their support througho

MAJOR PARTNERS
BLUE relies on donatio work. Major partners p in BLUE's progress and the world, and are rec significant contribution our oceans.



TRUSTS AND FOUNDATIONS

- Adessium Foundation
- Aeolian Islands Preservation Fund
- Artemis Foundation
- Becht Family Charitable Trust
- Brook Foundation
- Charities Trust
- Clore Duffield Foundation
- Disney Conservation Fund
- Don Quixote Foundation
- Dulverton Trust
- Eurofins Foundation
- European Maritime and Fisheries Fund
- Fishmongers' Company
- Flotilla Foundation
- Garfield Weston Foundation
- Golden Bottle Trust
- Heritage Lottery Fund
- Ian Fleming Estate
- National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
- Postcode Lottery Dream Trust
- Project Zero
- Ruth Smart Foundation
- Swarovski Foundation
- UBS Optimus Foundation
- Walk the Talk
- The Waterloo Foundation
- Whitley Animal Protection Trust

MAJOR DONORS

- Barclays
- Alex Beard
- CVC Capital Partners
- Turgay and Didem Ciner
- DP World
- James Hopkins, Hopkins Homes
- James Kalbassi
- Kaltroco Ltd
- Felix Kjellberg (aka PewDiePie)
- Peter Lürssen
- Mike Sharp
- Michael Spencer
- Cristina Stenbeck
- Sunseeker
- Paul Sykes
- Waitrose

DONORS

- Archery Pictures
- Brora
- Bucherer
- Andrew Budden
- Burgess
- Capital Group
- The Carroll Family
- Viscount James Grimston
- Itsu
- Nicholas A G Laing
- Milkywire
- Octopus Energy

- Pentire Drinks
- Quantum Botanika
- Shackleton
- Smith & Williamson
- Switzerland for the Ocean
- Mr John Vermilye
- Viaduct Furniture
- Richard Vogel
- Burkhard Von Schenk
- Camilla Windus
- Mark Windus
- Wrede Consulting GmbH
- Heesen Yachts

BMYC

- H.S.H. Prince Albert II of Monaco
- Ernesto and Kirsty Bertarelli
- Sir Charles Dunstone
- Peter Lürssen
- Andrew and Jane Winch
- Evgeniy Kochman
- Rolly van Rappard
- Cristina Stenbeck
- BOAT
- Benetti

JOIN BLUE MEMBERS

- Mr Roger Ames
- Aqualuce
- Bazar Ethical Marketplace
- Mr Rob Button
- The Carroll Family
- Mr Michael Hall
- Roaming Expert
- Mr Grant Rumbles
- Mrs Sheila Rumbles
- SF Marina
- Mr Mike Sharp
- Studio Delta
- Mr Peter Whale

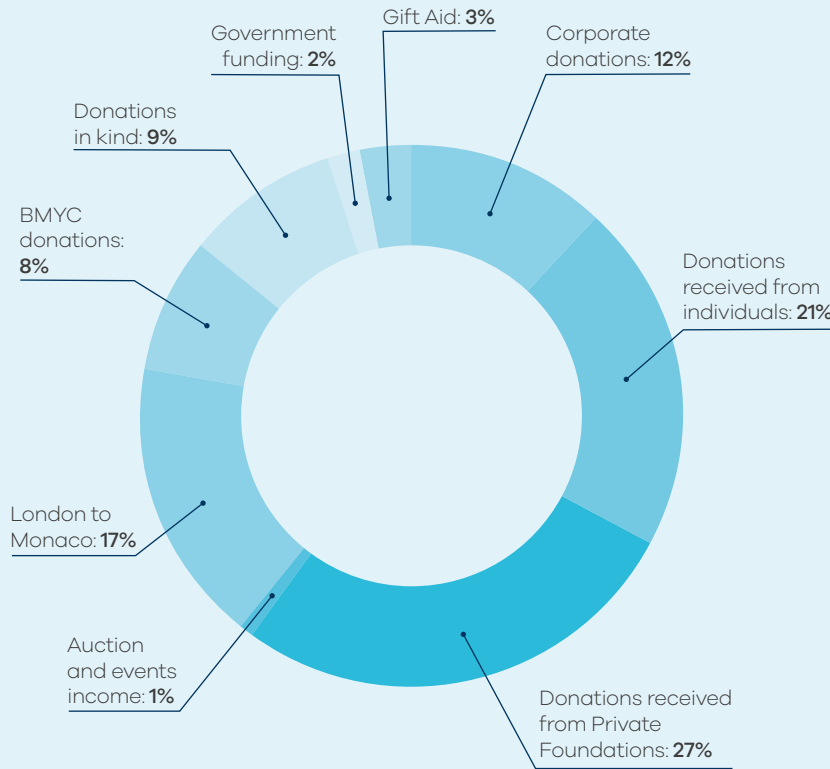
PRO BONO SUPPORTERS

- BOAT International
- David Churchill
- Paul Colley
- Freuds
- Latham & Watkins
- MDL Marinas
- Ocean Culture Life
- Tom Ponsonby
- Rawlinson & Hunter
- Steve Edge Design
- Yachting Pages

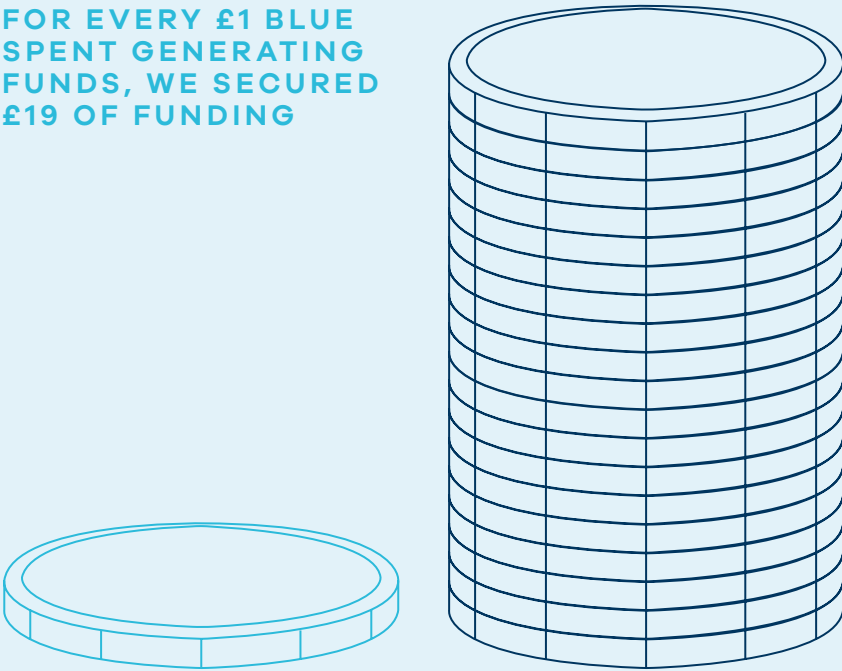


FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

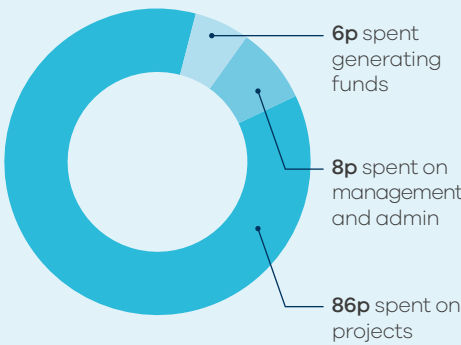
SOURCES OF INCOME



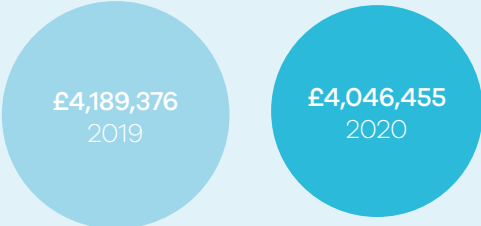
FOR EVERY £1 BLUE SPENT GENERATING FUNDS, WE SECURED £19 OF FUNDING



HOW IS EVERY POUND SPENT AT BLUE?



TOTAL INCOME



'FREE' RESERVES

£1,033,893
31 March 2020

£799,051

31 March 2019

FUNDS DISTRIBUTED



BLUE SIZE

982 Total square feet of office
25 Employees
24 Consultants

SUPPORTERS

BLUE would like to thank all our donors, without whom our work would not be possible. We would like to extend a special thank-you to Barclays for supporting us with a £5m donation over three years. This donation will help BLUE to achieve our mission of restoring the ocean to health, in order to preserve a stable climate and build resilience to the effects of climate change. The programme of work includes 20 projects focused on marine protection, restoration, sustainable management and connecting people with the sea. BLUE would like to thank the entire Barclays team for this generous donation and for their support throughout the year.

MAJOR PARTNERS

BLUE relies on donations to support our work. Major partners play an integral role in BLUE's progress and impact around the world, and are recognised for making significant contributions to the future of our oceans.



CORPORATE PARTNERS

Corporate partners provide BLUE with core support and a global platform on which to raise awareness of the cause.



THANK YOU

AMBASSADORS

- Sir Nigel Bogel
- Alex Caizergues
- Cara Delevingne
- Poppy Delevingne
- Fiona Drummond
- Sir Charles Dunstone
- Dr Sylvia Earle
- Ben Fogle
- Cindy Forde
- Stephen Fry
- Olivier de Givenchy
- Ben Goldsmith
- Andrea Hamilton
- John Hitchcox
- Nick Hounsfield
- Nico Kos
- Melanie Laurent
- Simon Le Bon
- Yasmin Le Bon
- Carl Gustaf Lundin
- Takuji Masuda
- Sienna Miller
- Arizona Muse
- Rupert Murray
- Amber Nuttall (Ambassador-in-Chief)
- Marie-Athena Papathanasiou
- Sir Jonathon Porritt
- Sir Stuart Rose
- Marina Vaughan Spitzzy
- Baroness Worthington of Cambridge

RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS

- University of Essex
- University of Exeter
- Heriot-Watt University
- Maldives National University
- University of Portsmouth
- University of Plymouth
- University of Southampton
- University of the West of England
- University of York

NGO PARTNERS

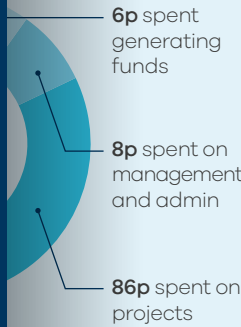
- 1851 Trust
- ASOC
- Berwickshire Marine Reserve
- BLOOM
- ClientEarth
- Clyde Porpoise CIC
- COAST
- Conservation Collective
- Dorset Coast Forum
- ENORI
- Fauna & Flora International
- Global Ghost Gear Initiative
- Great British Oceans Coalition
- Greenpeace
- Groundwork NE & Cumbria
- High Seas Alliance
- IDEA
- IUCN
- Institute of Fisheries Management
- IPNLF
- Manta Trust
- Marine Conservation Society
- Mediterranean Conservation Society
- Namibia Nature Foundation
- National Geographic
- National Trust for Jersey
- NGO Tuna Forum
- Oceana
- Olive Ridley Project
- On the Hook
- Open Seas
- Patagonia Projects
- PEW
- Pristine Seas
- St Abbs Marine Station
- St Helena National Trust
- Severn Rivers Trust
- SHARKPROJECT
- SIFT
- Société Jersiaise
- Solent Protection Society
- Sustainable Solent
- The Wildlife Trusts
- Tompkins Conservation
- World Wildlife Fund
- Zoological Society of London

Design by:
diggorygordon.design



Printed by Park Lane Press on FSC® certified paper, using fully sustainable, vegetable oil-based inks, power from 100% renewable resources and waterless printing technology. Print production systems registered to ISO 14001, ISO 9001 and over 98% of waste is recycled.

RY POUND
UE?



ME



RVES



RIBUTED



2

Total square feet of office

Employees

Consultants



BLUE MARINE
FOUNDATION

bluemarinefoundation.com
info@bluemarinefoundation.com

South Building, Somerset House,
Strand, London WC2R 1LA