

the role of the Coastal Engineer – offsetting within a changing environment

Different thinking: Working with nature
Understanding the opportunity

Thinking with others: Identify the opportunities
The ecological point of view

Different scales: Landscape
Local features



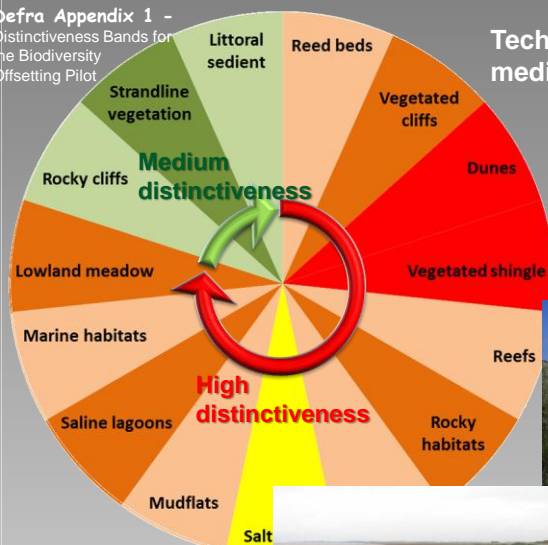
Making a difference
Actual difference, not just letting it happen!
Influencing change, creating change, incorporating benefit.



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Defra Appendix 1 - Distinctiveness Bands for the Biodiversity Offsetting Pilot



Technical difficulty - medium

Defra (2012). Biodiversity Offsetting Pilots Technical paper



Technical difficulty - high/impossible?



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The nature of a dynamic environment

It is perhaps not that coastal habitats are difficult to create, rather that they will take time to develop.

creating or restoring the physical processes necessary to enable an ecosystem to 'stand on its own two feet'



- interacting and continually changing geomorphological features
- timescale for change
- change continues over time



Managing -

- sediment
- energy
- space

Skills



- understanding coastal processes
not just what is, but what could be.
- understanding wider environmental issues
not just that it is there, but why.....
- understanding social and economic factors
not just the impact, but also the benefit

Closer working with ecologists

The Developer – the need and the delivery

The Landowner – the potential

The Planners – the context and the risk

The Ecosystem – maximising the benefit

Creating biodiversity through ecosystem function.

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How and where?

- Deciding to stop doing something



offsetting land, creating space



Creating conditions



Restoring function

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How and where?

Influencing processes

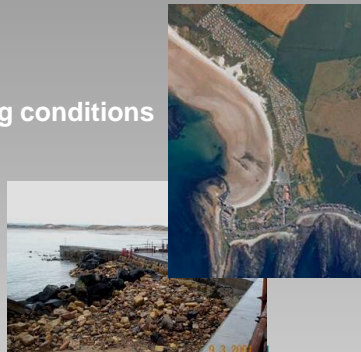
Creating conditions



Maintaining the balance



Maintaining conditions



BUT always adding value!

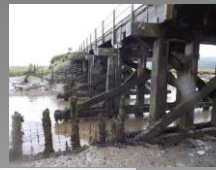
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How and where?
offering biodiversity opportunities

Different construction forms



or restorat



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Imagination

Different thinking

Thinking with others

At different scales

A different environment

Dynamic diversity

but good opportunity

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