

# Celebrating your impact for nature

Cornwall Wildlife Trust 2025 AGM and Wildlife Walk



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Wildlife Trust **Creating a Cornwall**  
where **nature** thrives



# Dan Barrios-O'Neill

## Head of Marine Conservation



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# Marine protection in Cornwall



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A vibrant underwater photograph showing a dense forest of brown sea fan coral. A small, translucent green sea slug is visible on a branch. A blue starfish rests on a rock in the foreground. The water is a clear, translucent blue.

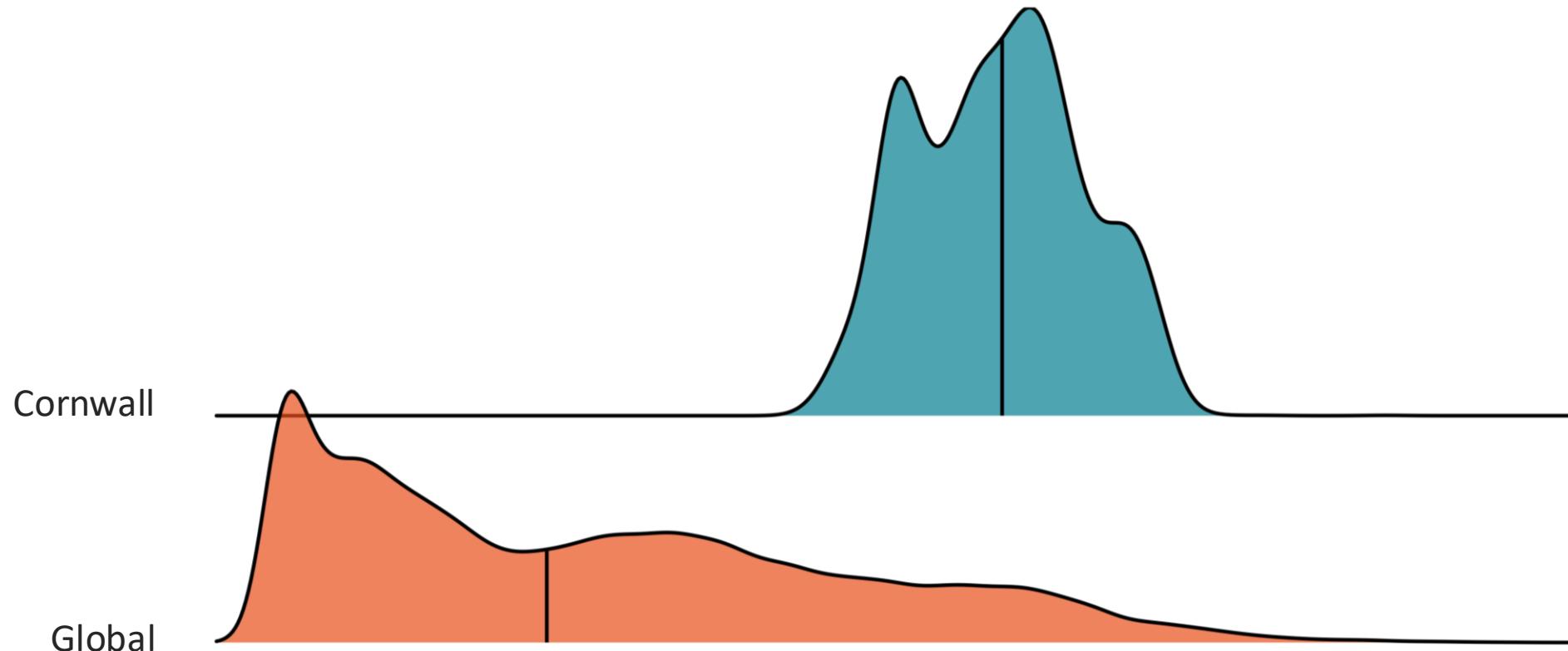
Cornwall's seas  
are wildly productive

Cornwall's waters are  
more productive than  
91% of the  
ocean

Photo: Heather Hamilton

Cornwall's waters are  
productive than 91% of the Ocean

more



Ocean productivity available to fish index 2003 –  
2020 mean



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# 94% decline in UK fisheries productivity since 1989

“ The cod fishery ... and probably all the great sea fisheries, are inexhaustible: that is to say that nothing we do seriously affects the number of fish. ”

Thomas Henry Huxley, Fisheries Exhibition, London 1883



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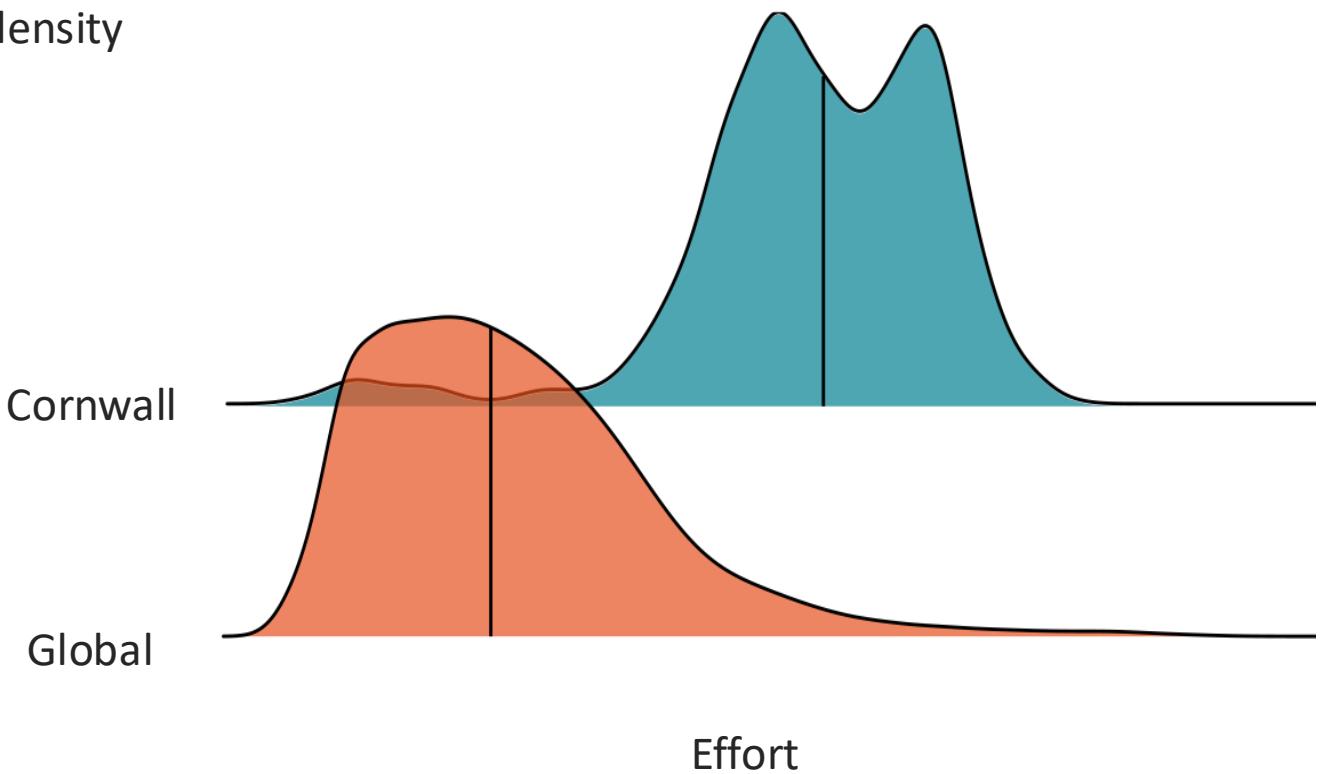


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# Fishing in Cornwall today

Distribution of fishing effort  
density



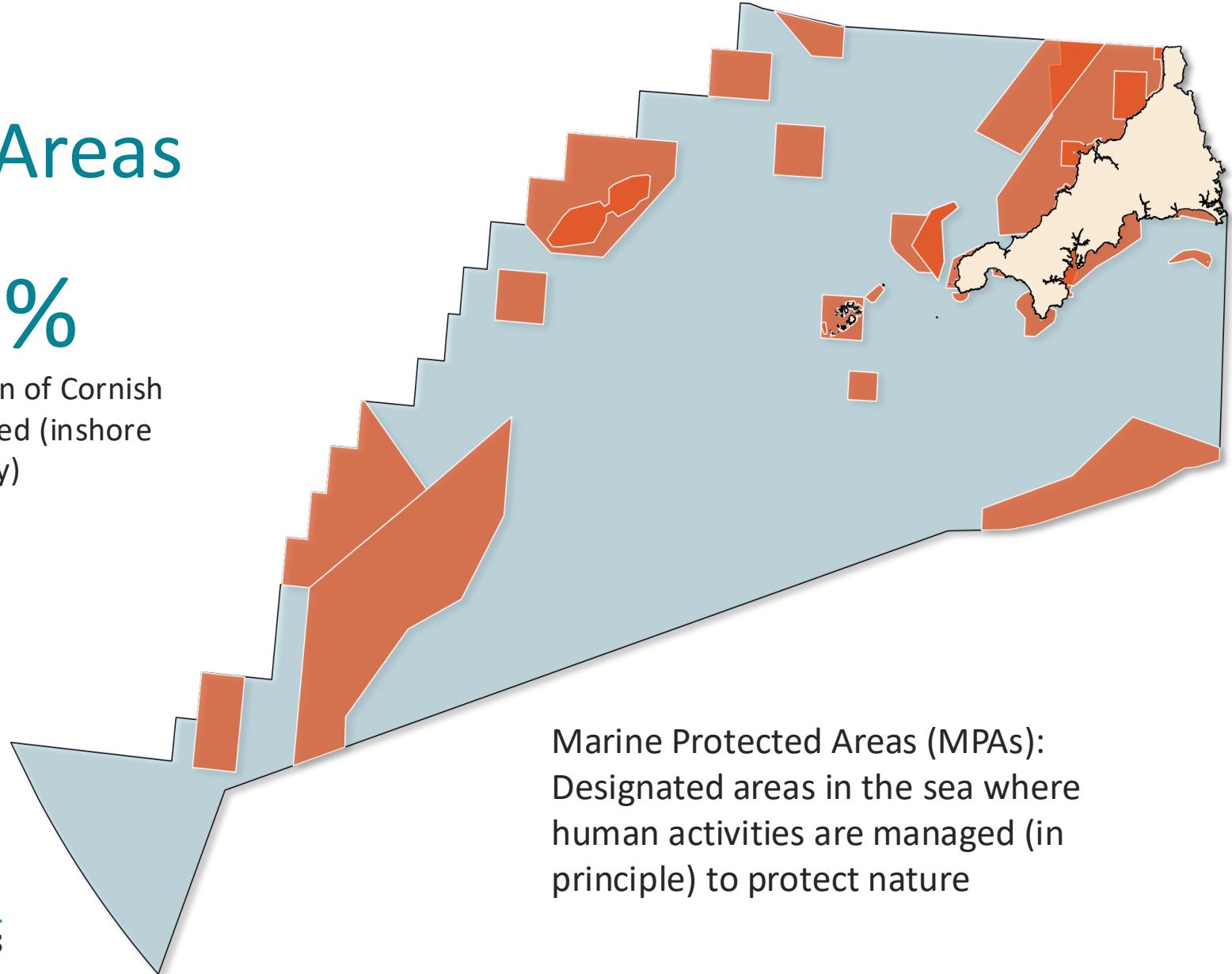
# Cornwall's Marine Protected Areas

24%

The proportion of Cornish  
waters covered (inshore  
and offshore)

46%

The proportion of Cornish  
waters covered (inshore  
only)



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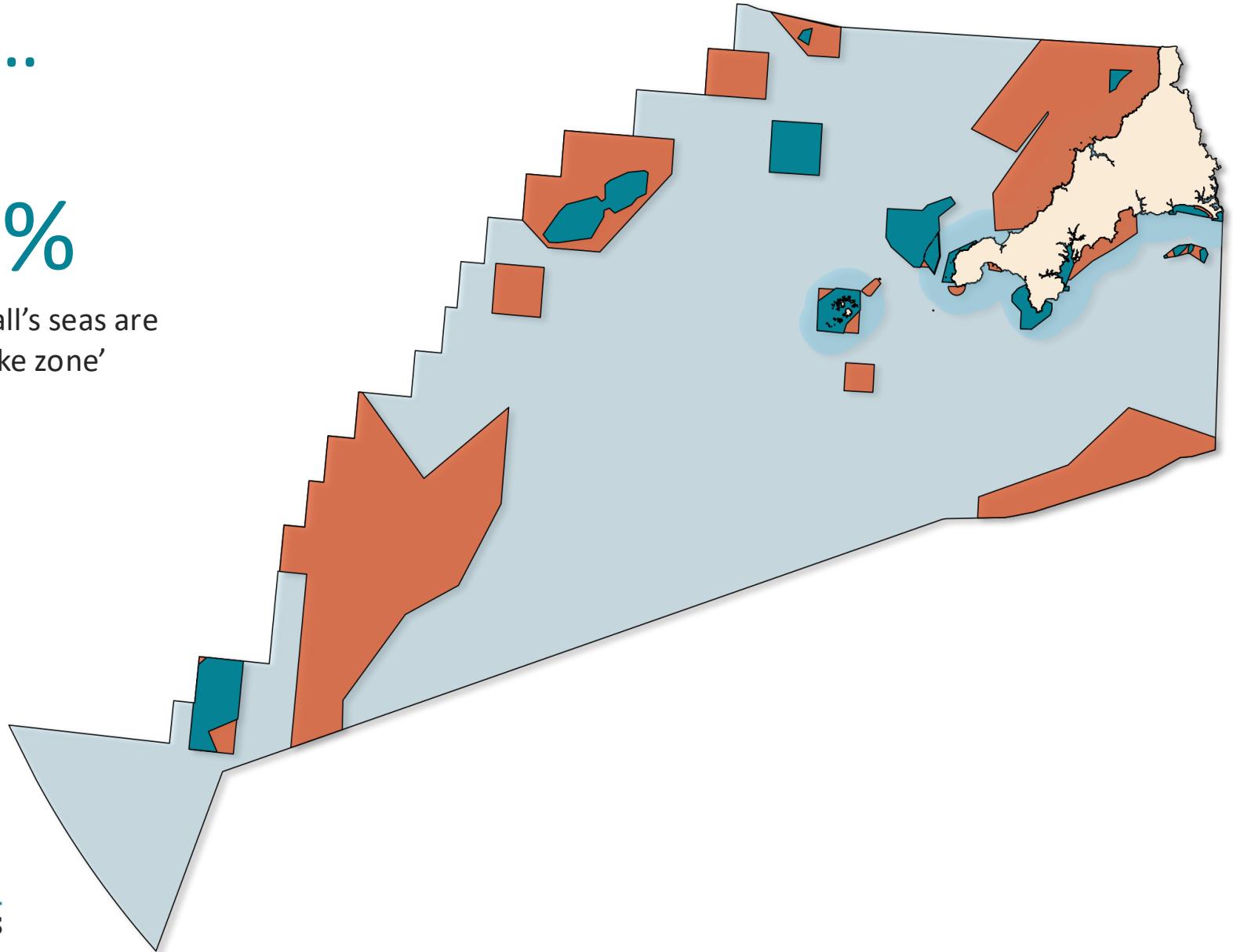
# Actual protection ...

**3%**

of Cornwall's seas are currently protected from bottom trawling

**0%**

of Cornwall's seas are 'no take zone'



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# Why?

Due to our 'features'  
approach



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Photo: Matt Slater

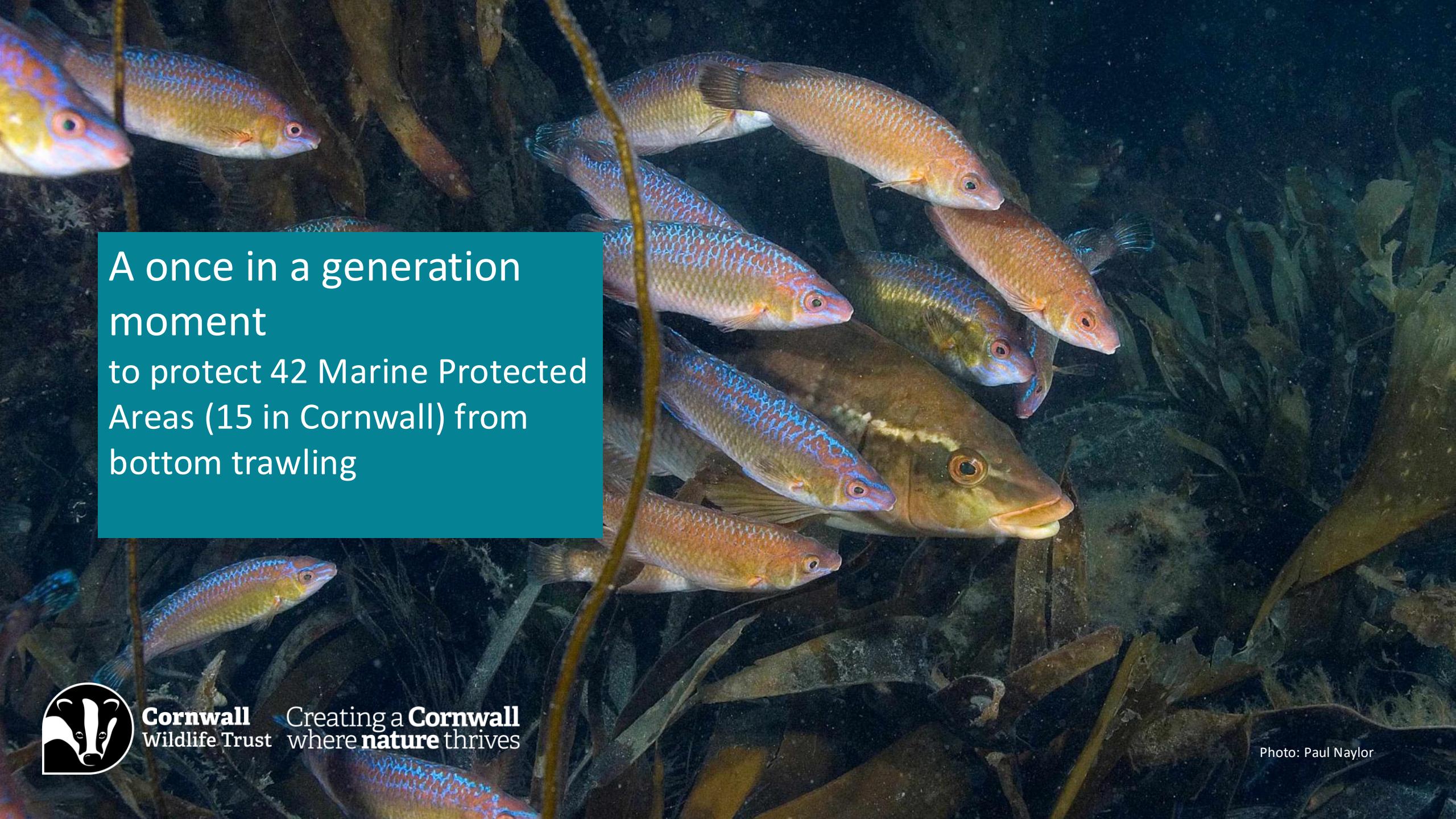
A vibrant underwater photograph showing a dense field of seagrass in the foreground. Sunlight filters down from the surface in bright rays, creating a dappled light effect on the plants and the sandy ocean floor. The water is a clear turquoise color.

# Largest known subtidal seagrass bed in England



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Photo: Lewis Jefferies



A once in a generation  
moment  
to protect 42 Marine Protected  
Areas (15 in Cornwall) from  
bottom trawling



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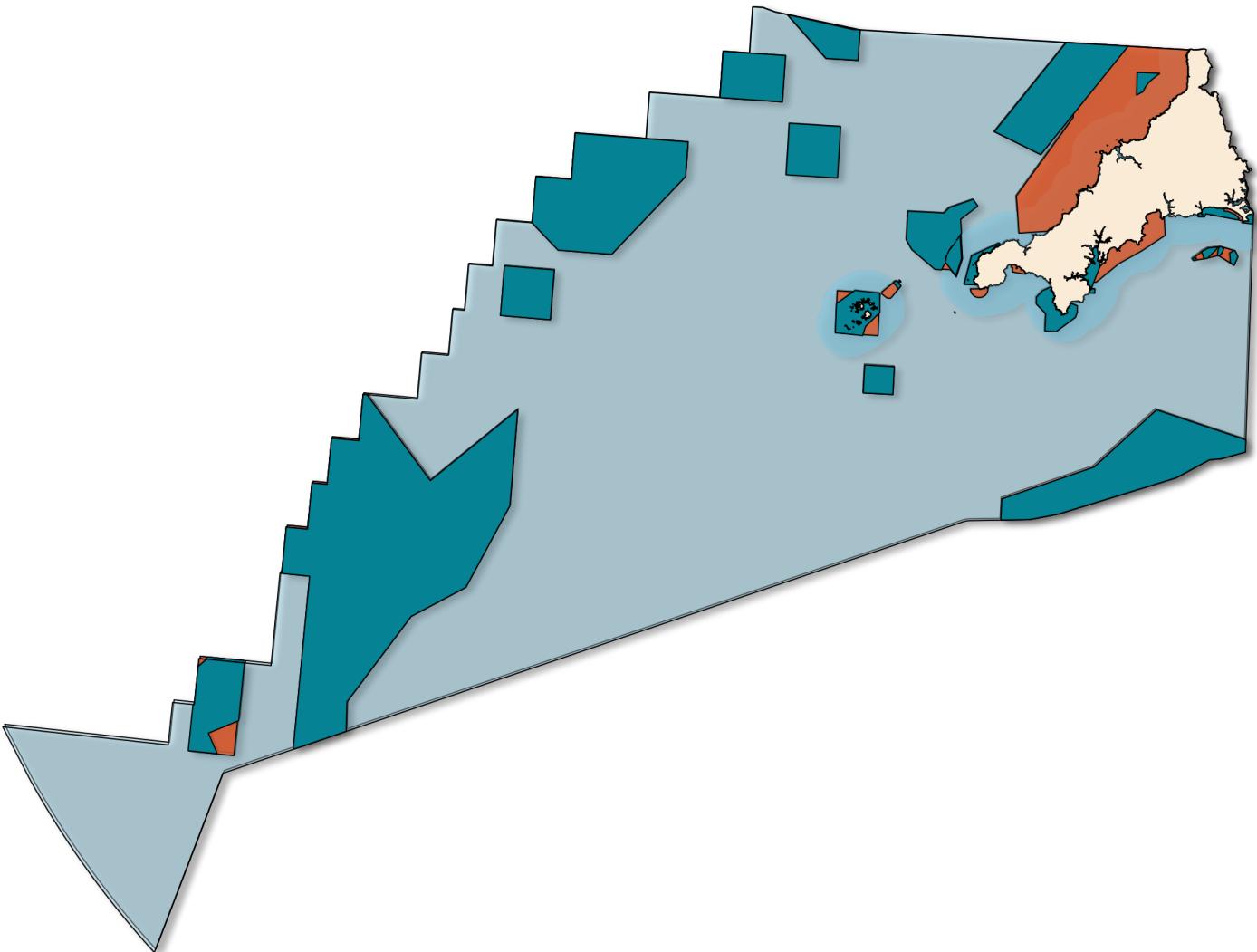
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Photo: Paul Naylor

# What do the proposals mean?

20%

of Cornwall's seas  
could be protected  
from bottom trawling



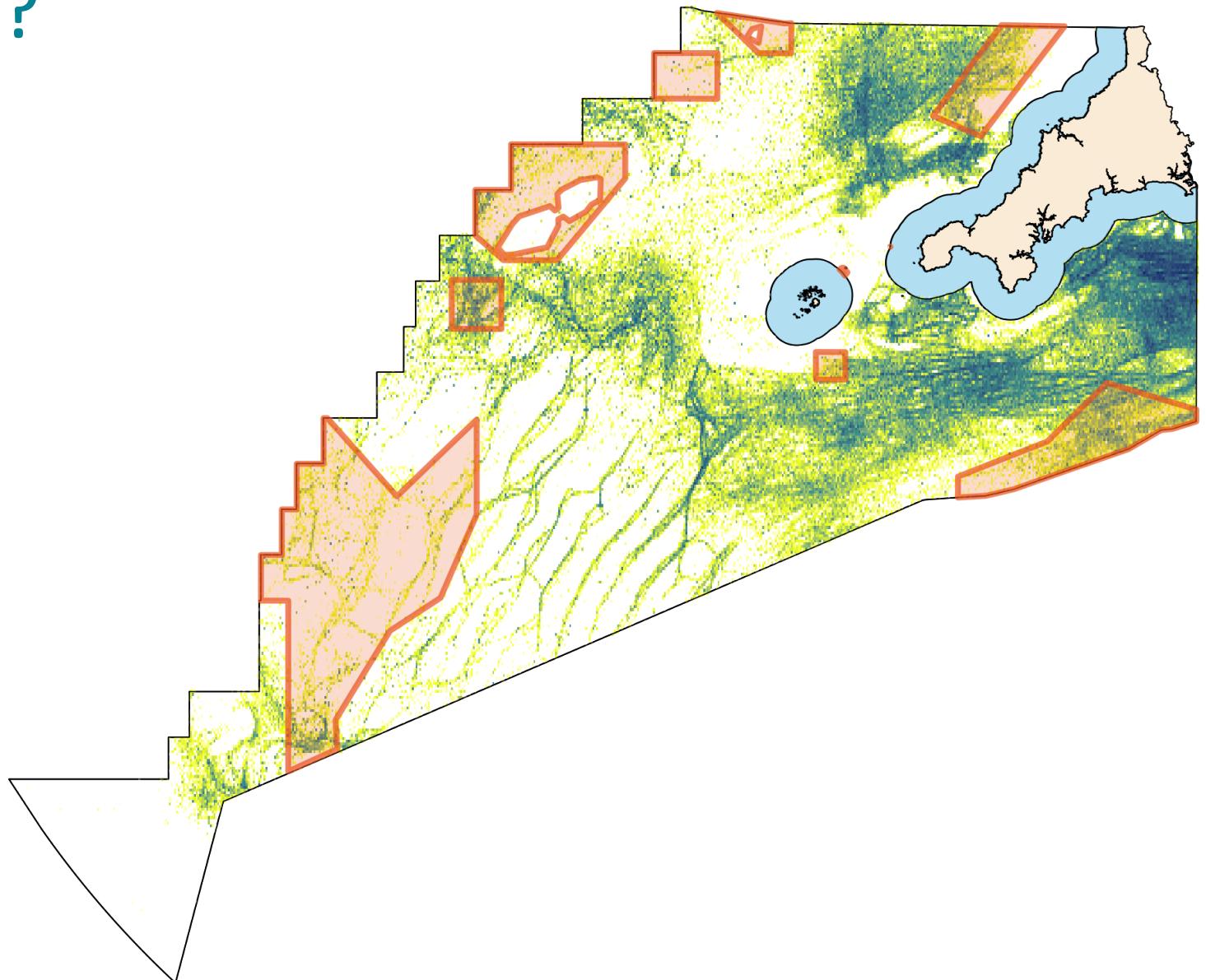
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# What about fishing?

3%

of Cornish trawling will  
be displaced



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# Support our seas

29<sup>th</sup> September deadline



[action.wildlifetrusts.org/page/171084](https://action.wildlifetrusts.org/page/171084)



Photo: Martin Stevens

# Beyond campaigning and advocacy



A catchment approach to  
marine recovery  
(Tor to Shore)

Collaborating with fishers  
(Supporting sustainable  
practices)

Citizen science  
(some of the UK's most robust  
programmes to understand  
our seas and inform our work)

Engaging and mobilising  
communities  
(including under-represented  
groups)



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Cornwall



Devon



Dorset



Hampshire



West Sussex

Support our seas!

Give your voice by 29<sup>th</sup> September





# Questions?



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Support our seas!

Give your voice by 29<sup>th</sup> September



A vibrant underwater photograph showing a sunburst effect with rays of light filtering down through the clear, teal-colored water. In the foreground, a large, dense cluster of red and orange sea fan corals is anchored to a rocky seabed. To the right, a large, translucent anemone with many long, white tentacles is partially visible. The background is filled with more of the deep blue-green water and some distant, silhouetted kelp fronds.

# Thank you



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Give your voice by 29<sup>th</sup> September





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# Oliver Blount

## Chair of Trustees



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# Matt Walpole

## Chief Executive



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# 2030 strategy

More people taking action for nature by ...

**1** Demonstrating & Inspiring

100% of reserves made better for wildlife

**2** Supporting & Advising

50,000 acres managed for nature

**3** Engage & Mobilising

100,000 people engaging with & acting for nature

**4** Campaign & Advocating

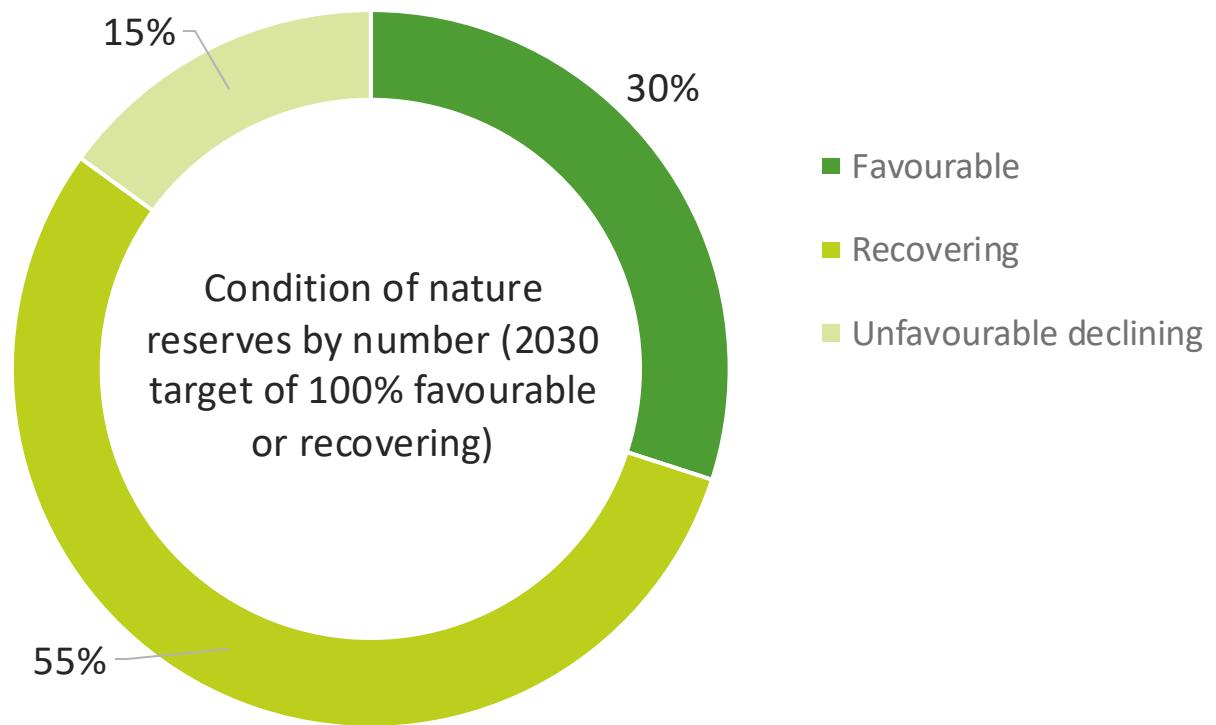
Better decisions for nature



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# Objective one: Demonstrate and Inspire



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85% of nature reserves in favourable or recovering condition

An aerial photograph of a wetland complex in a rural, hilly area. The wetland features several large, irregularly shaped pools of water, some with dark, rocky areas in the center. These pools are surrounded by green grass and some brown, dry vegetation. In the background, there are more fields and hills, with a small cluster of buildings visible. The sky is blue with some white clouds.

3.7 acre  
wetland complex created



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Small red damselfly and blue-tailed damselfly recorded at wetland following its creation



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Photo: Laura Snell



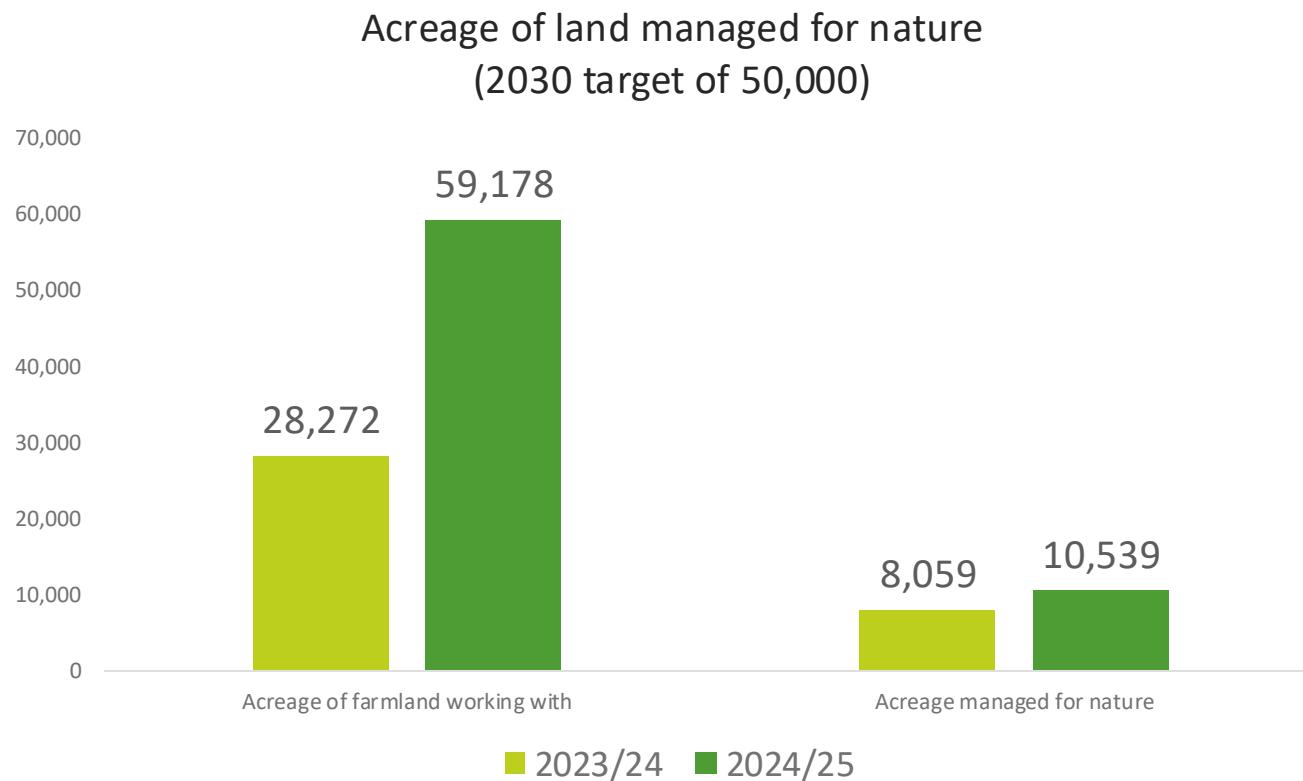
3,600 acres  
of reserves' land improved thanks  
to conservation grazing



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# Objective two: Support and Advise



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**10,539 acres**  
managed for nature  
(31% increase on  
2023/24)



“Cornwall Wildlife Trust expertly led us through every step of the process, and we now seeing the benefits – with unusual plants, animals and insects appearing daily. The grass strips are also reducing water runoff, protecting the community closer to the sea.”

Farmer, near Mousehole



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Photo: James Adler

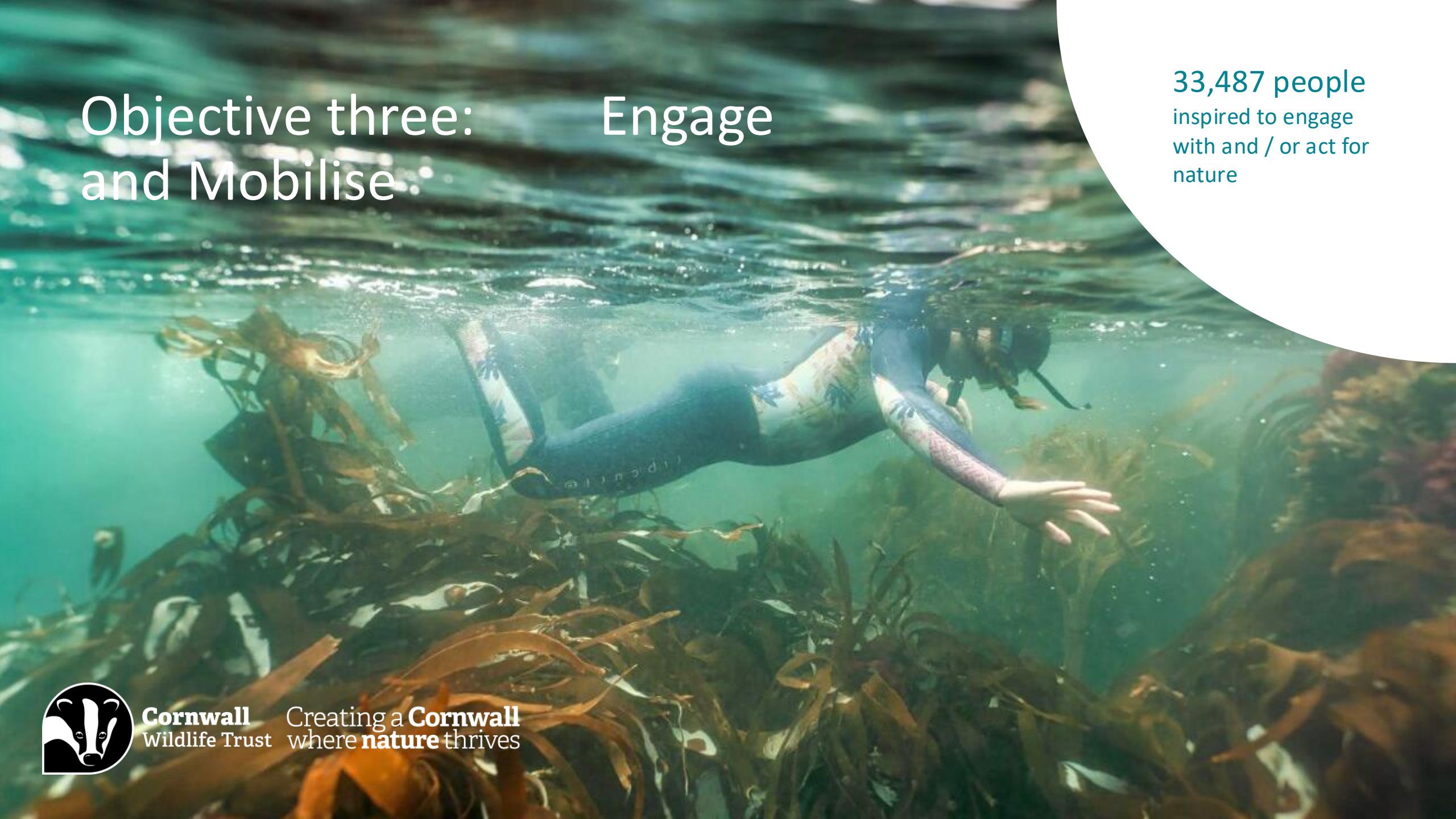
A close-up, underwater photograph of dense seagrass beds. The blades are long, thin, and light green, swaying gently in the current. The water is a clear, vibrant blue, and the surface is visible in the background, showing small ripples. The overall scene is lush and green.

887 acres

Size of St Austell Bay's  
seagrass beds



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A wide-angle, underwater photograph showing a scuba diver in a dense kelp forest. The diver, wearing a black wetsuit and a mask, is positioned in the center, facing towards the right. The water is a clear, teal-green color, and the kelp plants are a mix of dark green and brown. Sunlight filters down from the surface, creating bright highlights on the diver and the surrounding seaweed.

Objective three:  
and Mobilise

Engage

33,487 people  
inspired to engage  
with and / or act for  
nature



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5.3km  
of coastline habitats mapped  
thanks to volunteers



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Photo: Lewis Jeffries

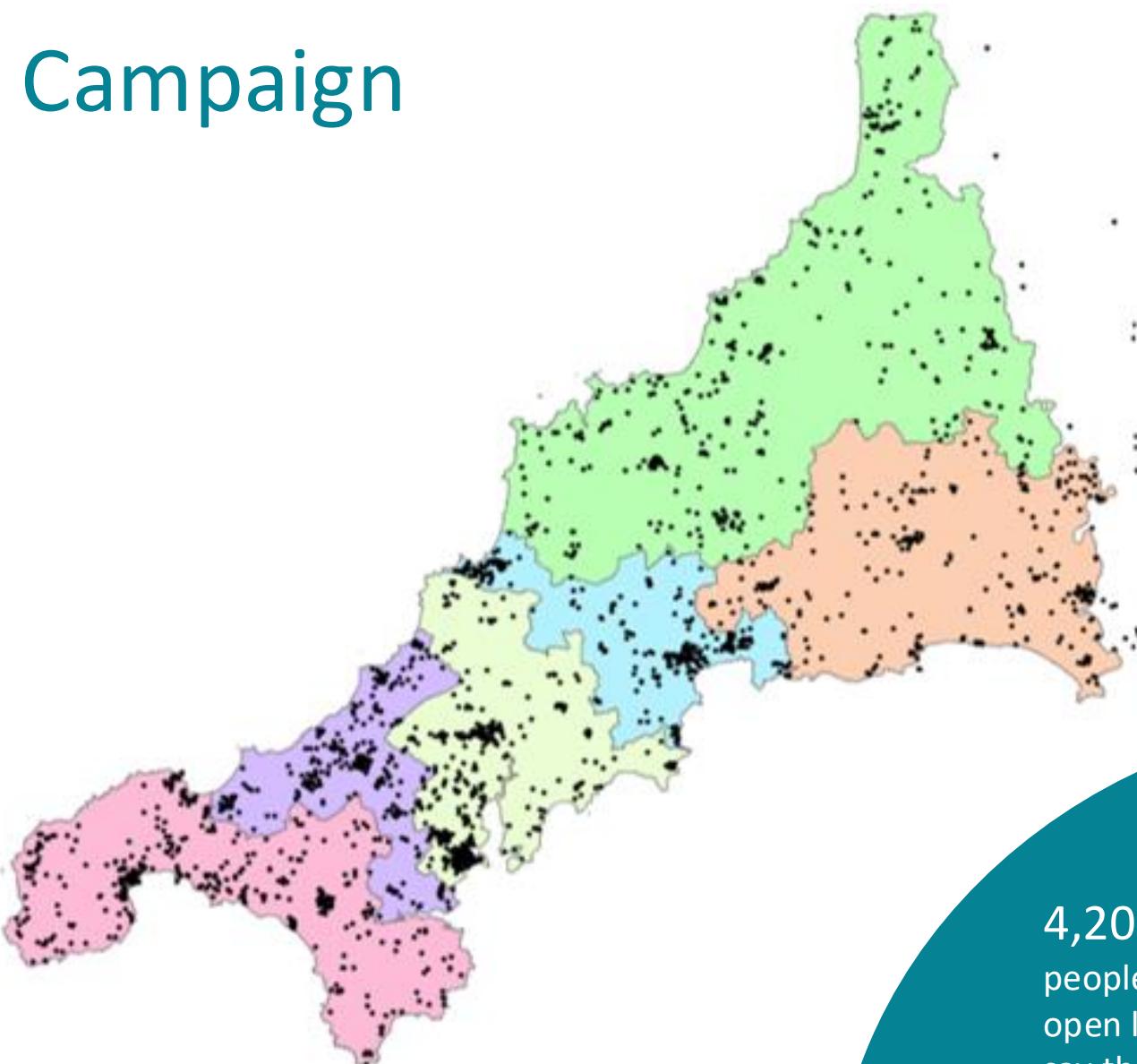


300 miles  
walked over 26 legs



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# Objective four: and Advocate



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4,200+  
people signed  
open letter to  
say that nature  
matters

# Ensuring an effective organisation

## Our values

- Passionate and Inspiring
- Knowledgeable and Authentic
- Inclusive and Enabling
- Focused and Impactful



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18,184 members  
creating a Cornwall  
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# The year ahead



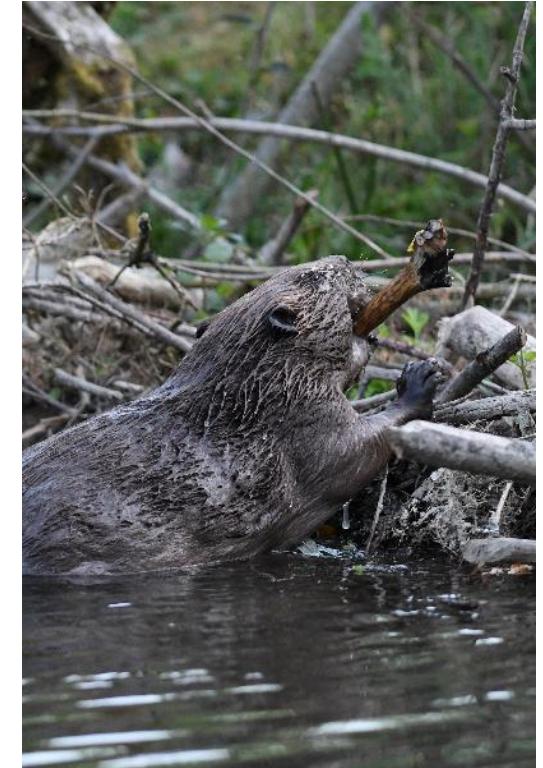
Ross Hoddinott



Lewis Jefferies



Ben Watkins



David Parkyn



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Thank you  
for being part of the movement  
for a wilder future for Cornwall



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Photo: Jon Hawkins

# Raoul Humphreys

## Treasurer

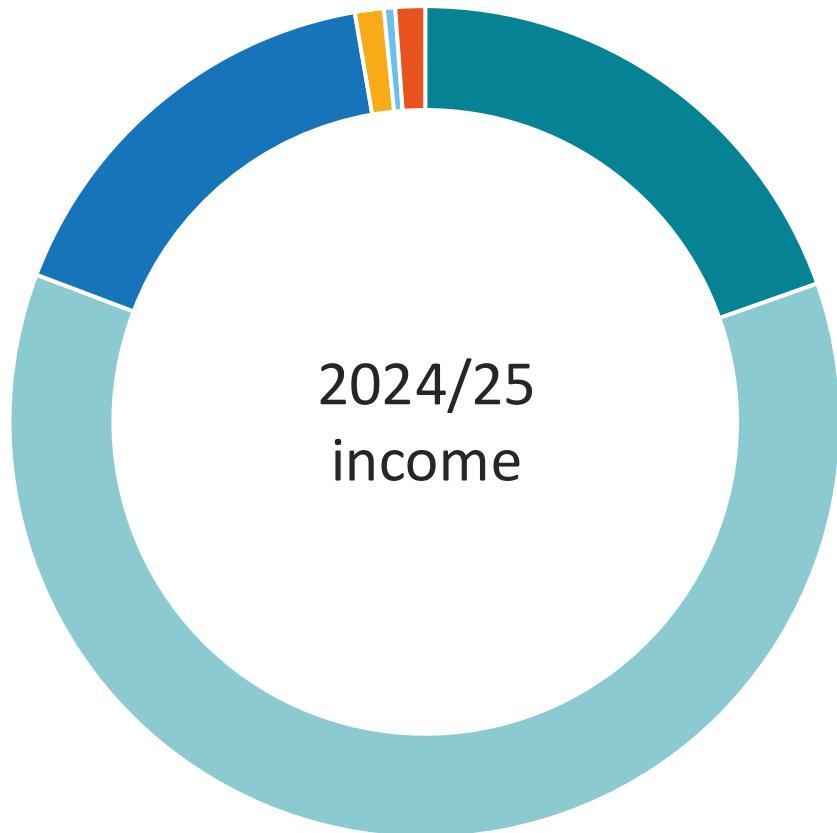


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# Income



## 2024/25 income

Donations, legacies and memberships	£1.50m
Programme grants and contracts	£4.68m
Other trading activities	£0.09m
Investments	£0.03m
Consultancy income	£1.26m
Other	£0.09m
<b>Total:</b>	<b>£7.65m</b>

(£3.73m unrestricted income, £3.92m restricted)

£746k

Received for nature thanks to the subscriptions of our members and patrons

£359k

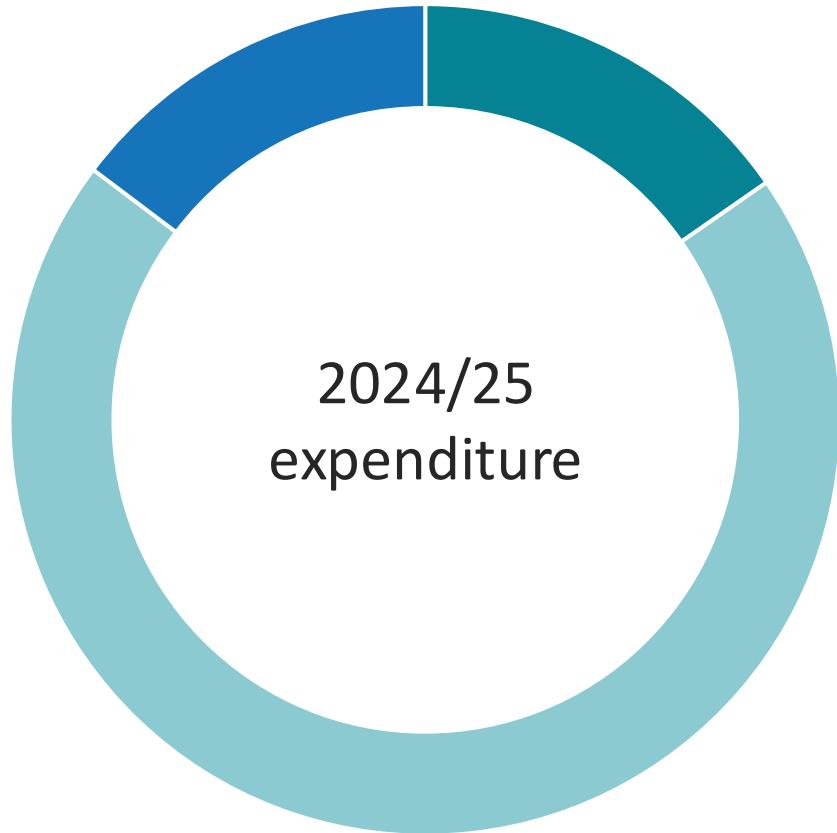
Gifted to wildlife by those who kindly remembered the Trust's work in their Wills



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# Expenditure



2024/25 expenditure	
Raising funds and increasing awareness	£1.00m
Charitable activities	£4.59m
Environmental consultancy	£0.97m
Total:	£6.56m

£1

For every £1 ...

15p

is spent on  
fundraising and  
awareness, with ...

85p

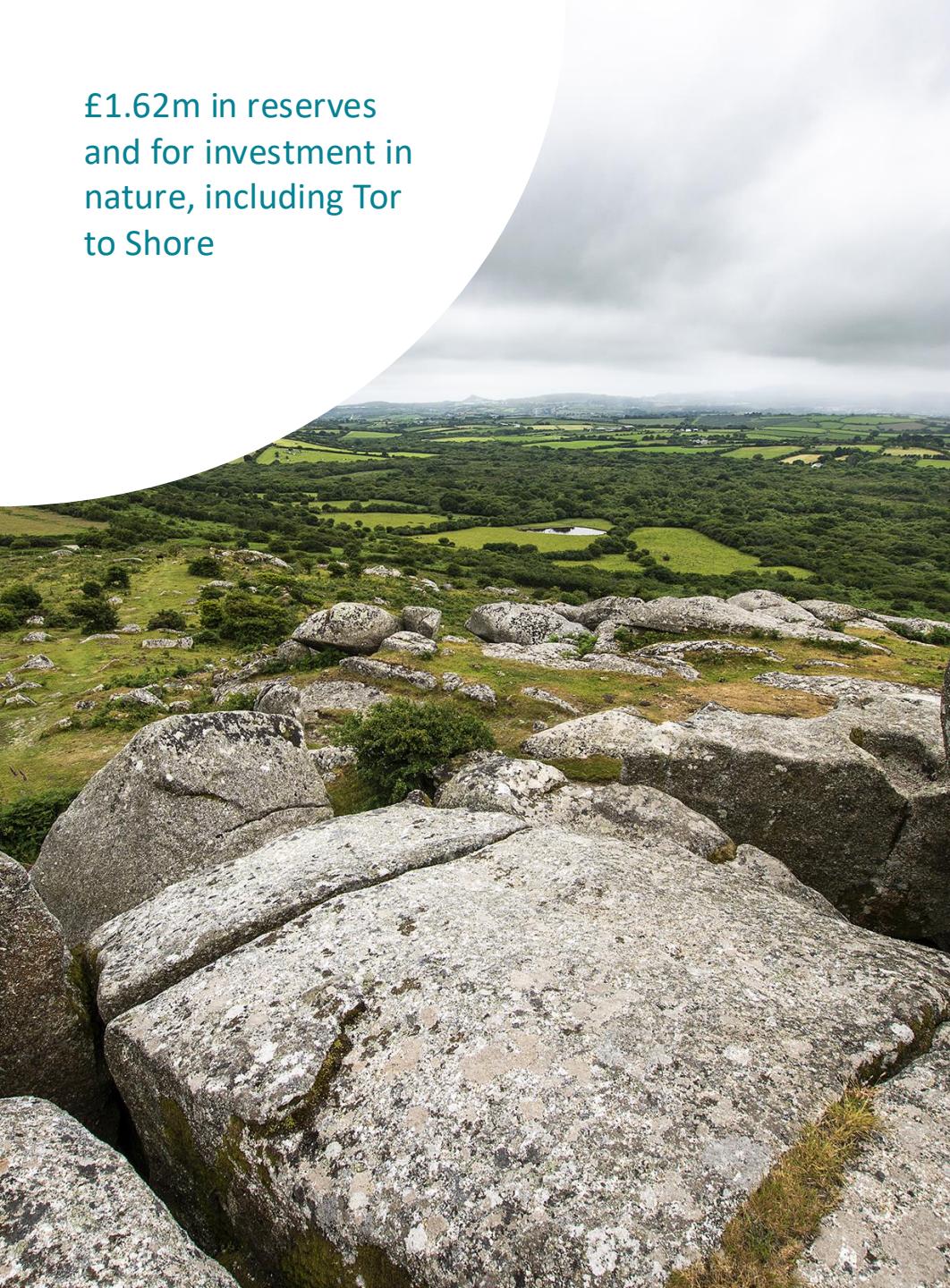
spent on delivering  
for nature.



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£1.62m in reserves  
and for investment in  
nature, including Tor  
to Shore



# Group balance sheet

	2024/25 (£)	2023/24 (£)
Fixed assets	8,000,421	7,776,676
Investments	57,631	55,949
Total fixed assets and investments	8,058,052	7,832,625
Current assets	5,185,987	4,024,349
Creditors due within one year	(745,912)	(421,651)
Net current assets	4,440,075	3,602,698
Creditors due after one year	(56,178)	(75,512)
Total net assets	12,441,949	11,359,811
Funds		
<i>Unrestricted funds:</i>		
General Funds	1,620,295	1,372,302
Designated Funds	1,912,540	1,793,857
Revaluation Reserve		
<i>Restricted funds:</i>		
Total Funds	12,441,949	11,359,811

# Gill Saunders

## Secretary



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# New Trustees



Amie Fulton  
House of Commons



Ian Greaves  
CEO, St Eval Candle Company



Meg Hayward Smith  
Marine Higher Officer, Natural England  
and Founder, Falmouth Marine  
Conservation Group



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# Returning Trustees



Jo Coumbe  
Director of  
Communications, Blue  
Marine Foundation



Karen Burrows  
Retired, former  
commercial manager



Louise Thomas  
Farmer, Trewidden Farm



Merlin Hanbury-  
Tenison  
Author and Founder,  
Thousand Year Trust



Paul Rice  
Retired, former solicitor



Rosie Woodroffe  
Professor at the Institute  
of Zoology, Zoological  
Society of London



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# Questions?



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# 2025 volunteering awards

Celebrating those who give their time, skills and passion to help nature



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# Young volunteer

## Nancy Nenning



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# Group award

## Friends of the Fal

Roberson and Fran Swanson



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# Conservation champion

## Yvonne Oates



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# Lifetime achievement

## Derek Spooner



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# Cheryl Marriott

## Director of Nature and People



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# Beavers

## 10 things to know



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Need to know one  
**Native species**



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Need to know two

Bought back in 2017



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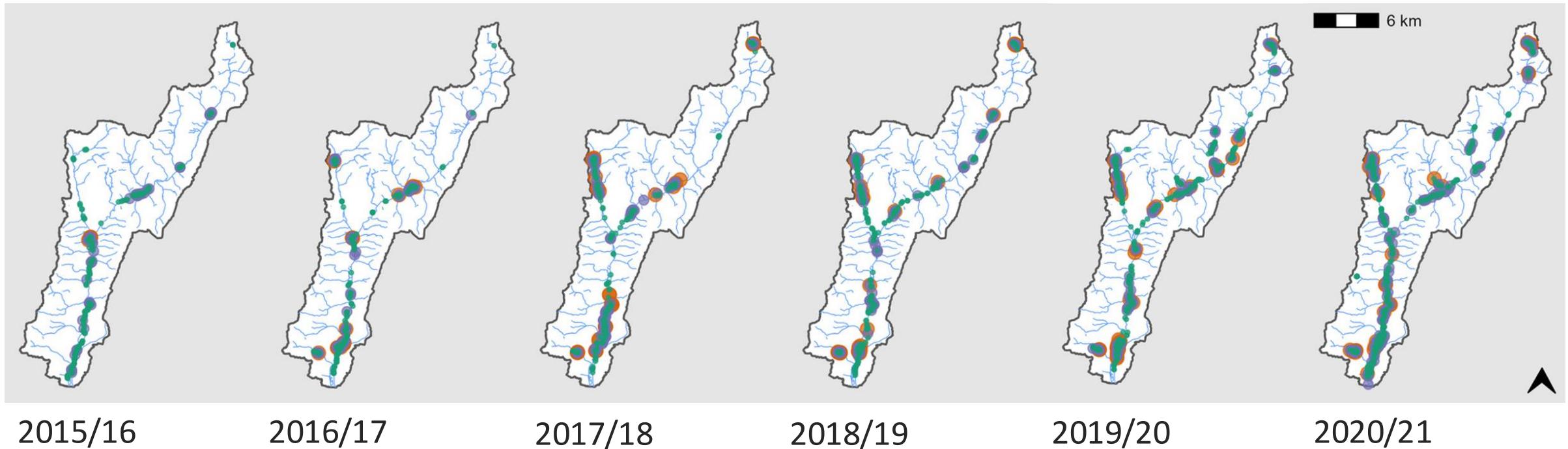
Need to know three  
**Herbivores**



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Need to know four

# Highly territorial



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Need to know five

# Build on smaller streams



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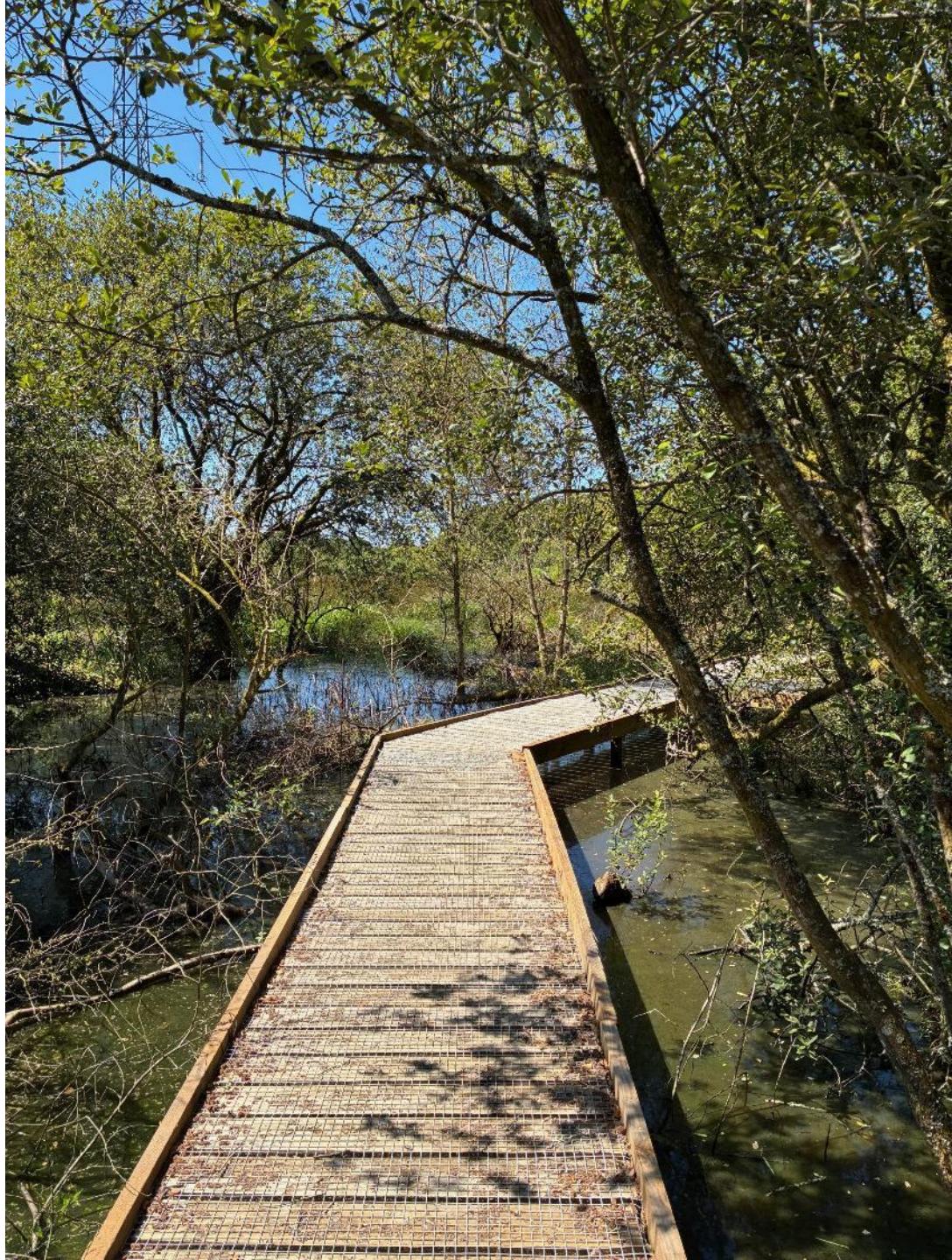
Need to know six

# Bring huge benefits



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Need to know seven

They attract visitors ...



40°F



02/27/2025

06:33PM

CAMERA1



Need to know seven  
They attract visitors ...



Need to know eight  
**Unexpected arrivals**  
in 2024



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Need to know nine

New arrivals in 2025



26 °C



78 °F

25/08/2025

18:48:04

0338

Need to know ten

We have big plans!



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# Thank you

Photo: Adrian Langdon