





SEG Venice 28-30 May 2012



Over 60 people from 15 countries





The European Regional Development Fund









The Rivers Trust

Silo thinking is preventing the realisation of a common vision!

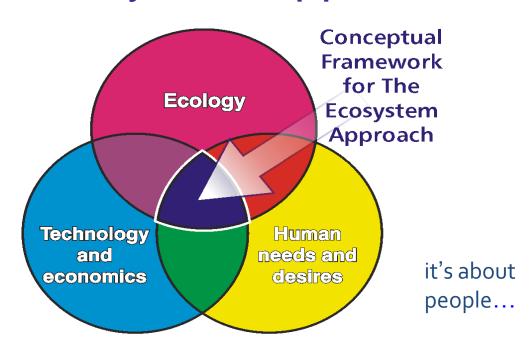
- Application of the ecosystem approach
- At the catchment (most appropriate) scale to conserve and improve UK rivers.
- Effectively engage with all stakeholders to achieve this and empowering community ownership







Ecosystem approach



RT applies The Ecosystem Approach which provides a guide to linking human/ social, ecological and economic drivers and is a delivery tool of the Convention on Biological Diversity

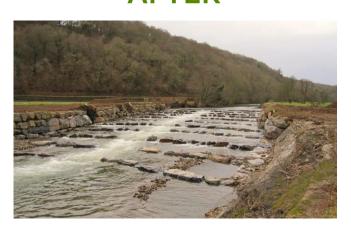






Appropriate scale - Catchment approach BEFORE AFTER

















Stakeholder engagement & community ownership



















SEG - ecosystem approach









SEG - Appropriate scale









Stakeholder engagement & community ownership



















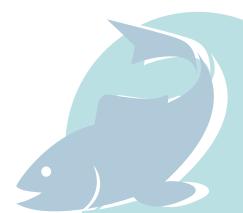






£1M (50%) - sustainable eel fishery project (yr1 of 3)

- 1. Stock assessment.
- 2. Maximising the available habitat area for the freshwater life cycle of the eel.
- Increase awareness & education









The project partners

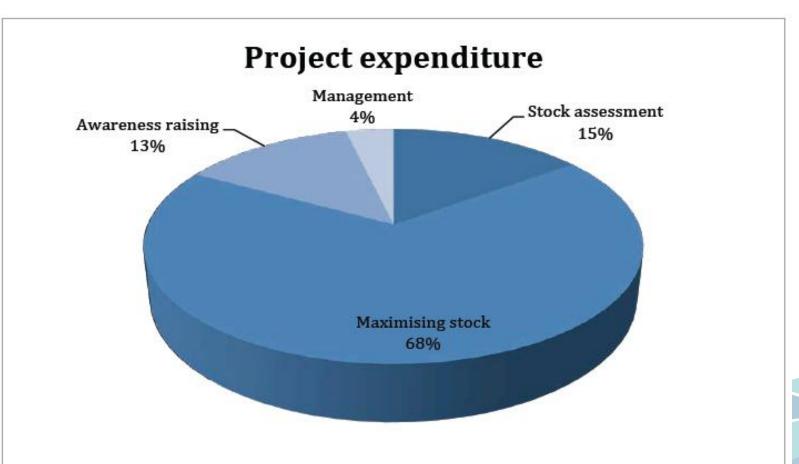
- The Rivers Trust (lead partner, NGO covering England, Wales & Northern Ireland & Scotland via sister organisation)
- Environment Agency for England & Wales (government agency responsible for management of freshwater fisheries)
- CEFAS (UK government advisor & research organisation for fisheries)
- Institute of Fisheries Management (UK organisation representing fishery professionals)
- UK Glass Eels
- Severn & Wye Smokery

All operating in partnership under the banner of the Sustainable Eel Group.





European Union The European Regional Development Fund









Stock Assessment

- Glass eel stock assessment via trawl (year one).
 Budget £150,000.
- Led by the Environment Agency for England & Wales
- Year two yellow eel stock assessment
- Year three silver eel escapement

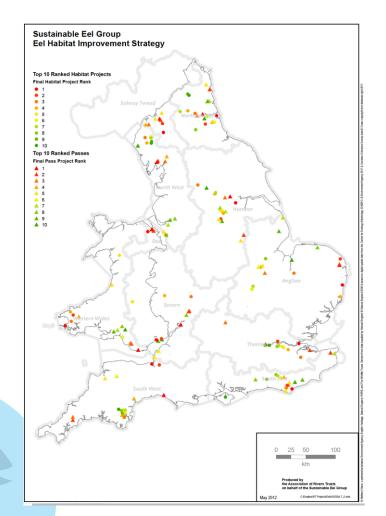
Purpose to inform future UK eel management plans







Maximising habitat





















Raising awareness & education





www.sustainableeelgroup.com









Challenges for us (the eel community)

- Develop truly co-ordinated EU programmes the most appropriate scale
- Even closer collaboration between SEG partners (old and new particularly conservation organisations)
- European eel is managed at the European scale
 - Change of regulation Play tunes with conservation measures to maximise spawner escapement
 - Are lagoons the vital key?

HOLY GRAIL – accelerated recovery and truly sustainable populations!





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