Realising the potential: The Northern Ireland Marine Bill

June 2009

Background

- UK – Shared vision across UK seas

  = UK-wide Marine Bill and UK MMO

- Northern Ireland and the UK Marine Bill – devolved responsibilities

  – **(Scotland Bill and Wales priorities)**

- Need for joined-up marine management –

  – **Planning**

  – **Licensing**

  – **Conservation**

  – **Marine delivery?**
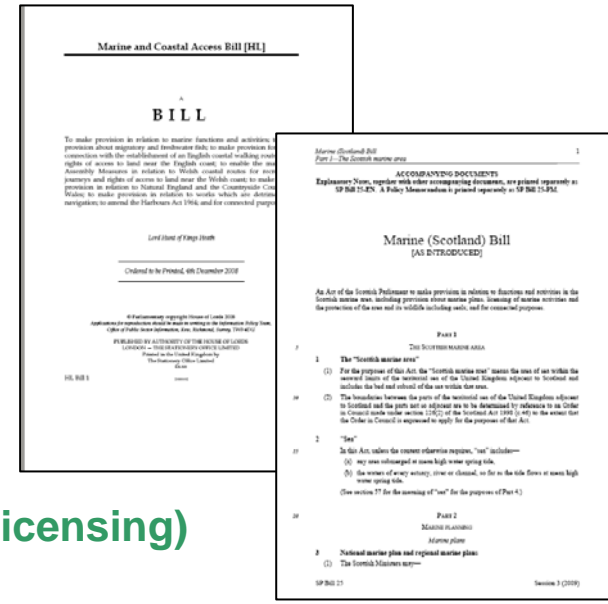
  – **Fisheries management……..**

Northern Ireland Seas – small?

Drivers

- Europe:
  - **Marine Strategy Directive/GES**
  - **Water Framework Directive**

- International (OSPAR, CBD)

- UK:
  - **UK Marine & Coastal Access Bill (MPS/Licensing)**
  - **Scottish Marine Bill**

- Practical need!
  - **A real need in Northern Ireland for streamlined management – across sectors and across government**

Current Situation

- UK Marine & Coastal Access Bill - 2009

- Scottish Marine Bill – 2009

  - UK–wide Marine Policy Statement

- Northern Ireland: Policy process leads us to 2012

  - So…….

What do we need?

- UK context –
  - Up to 2009 and after (Scotland, England & Wales): projects
  - Implementation of marine planning, MCZ networks, regional projects, MMOs

- NI implementation –
  - Legislative timetables not changeable?
  - So development of projects *vital*
  - *Thinking needed* – to get the policy right

What do we have?

- Resources/ongoing processes –

  - **NIEA Natural Heritage – JIBS, N2K etc**

  - **UK-wide marine data & policy projects (eg Finding Sanctuary model)**

  - **DARD fisheries management reform?**

  - **SEA – (marine planning)**

Conclusion

- Opportunity for change

- NI-specific challenges

- Let's be ambitious

- The process starts <u>here</u>

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