

### 3<sup>rd</sup> European Maritime Day Stakeholder Conference 20<sup>th</sup> May 2010



# Climate change a threat for marine biodiversity

# communicating the impacts

Dan Laffoley

Marine Vice Chair

IUCN's World Commission on Protected Areas











# In 2030.....

## A child born today will be an adult when:

- Total human demand for natural resources will increase by at least a third, due to population growth
- Sea levels may rise by 10-15 cm, whilst ocean pH will continue to fall and over 10% of the Arctic Ocean will be acidified
- A loss of ~30% in coverage of Arctic sea-ice is predicted, radically changing ecosystems whilst accelerating high latitude climate change
- Mass bleaching of corals is expected to occur worldwide on an annual basis
- Over 20% of EU electricity generation is expected from renewable resources and up to 25% of transport fuel in the EU may come in the form of biofuels





# International experience

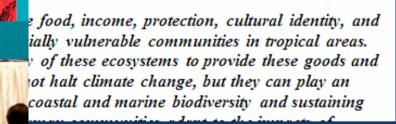


### Impacts of Climate Change on Marine Biodiversity and the Role of Networks of Marine Protected Areas

By Scott E. Smith, Imèn Meliane, and Alan White, The Nature Conservancy; Caitlin Snyder and Biliana Cicin-Sain, University of Delaware and Global Forum on Oceans, Coasts, and Islands; and Roberto Danovaro, Polytechnic University of Marche and Census of Marine Life

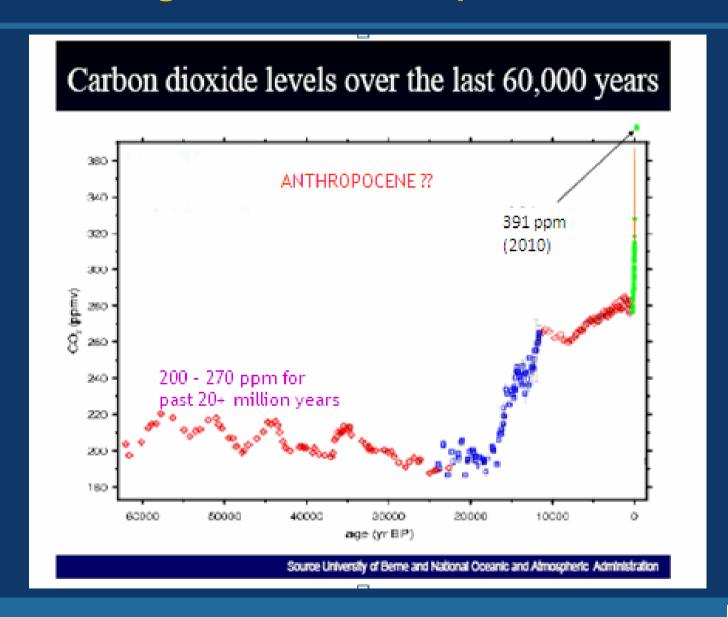
[The authors would like to acknowledge and express our appreciation for the useful and very

n this paper from many people, including Dan Laffoley Gjerde and Dorothée Herr, IUCN Marine Program; ected Areas Agency; Salvatore Arico, UNESCO; Jihyun BD Secretariat; Patrick Halpin, Duke Univeristy, Jeff andwith, Mark Spalding, Elizabeth McLeod, and Sarah



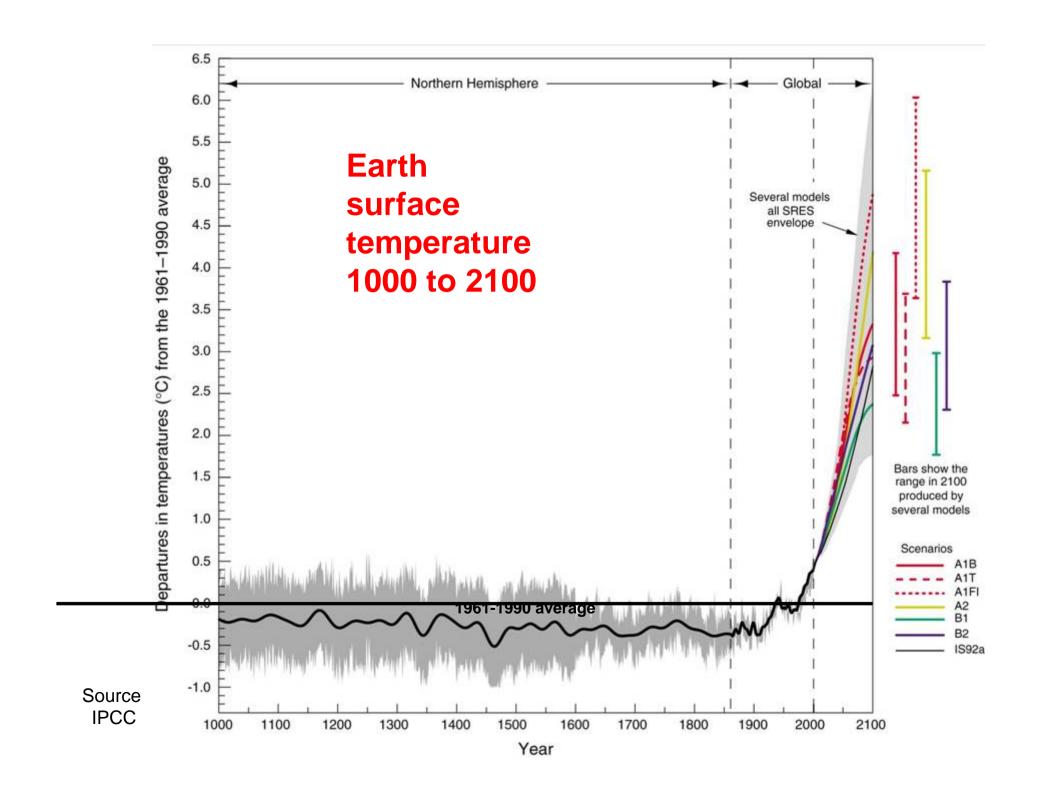


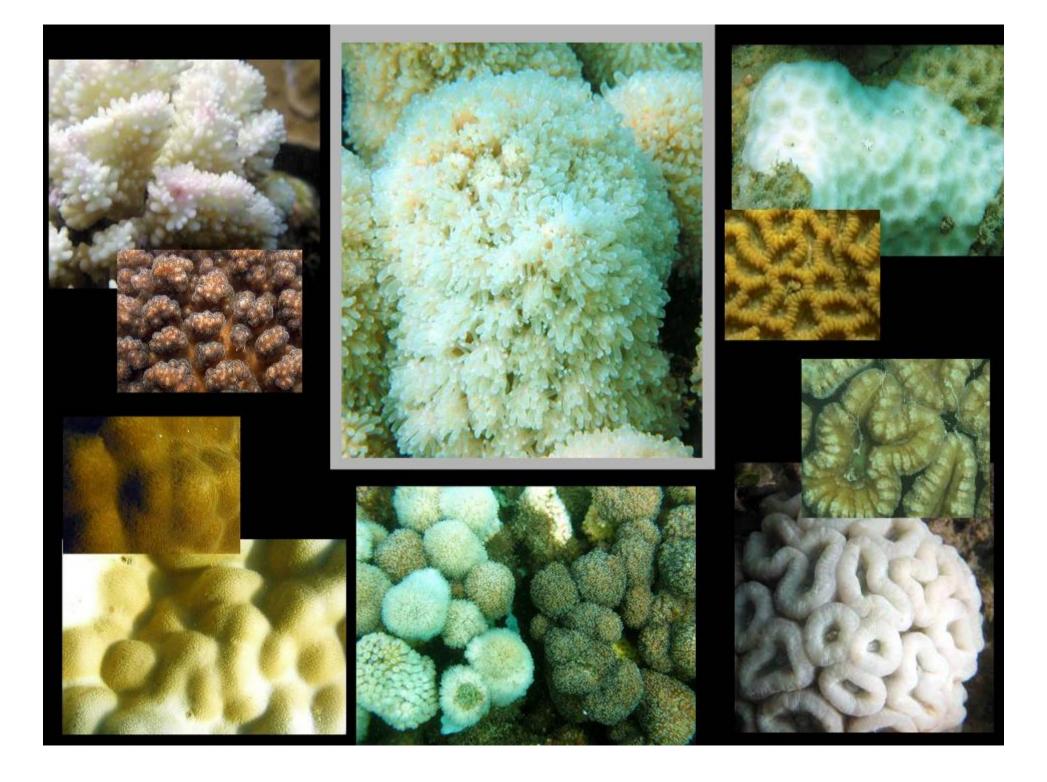
# Rising levels of atmospheric CO2

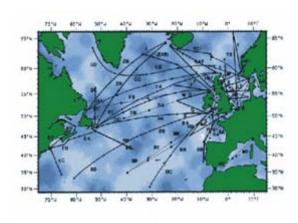


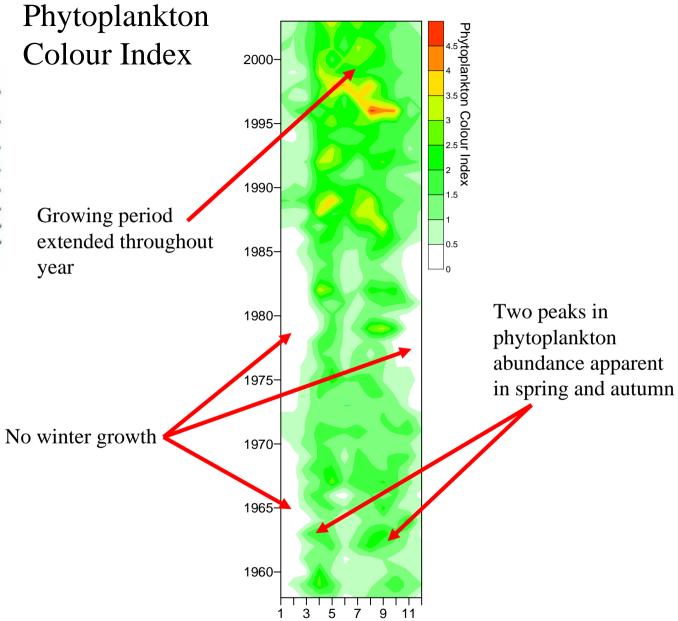






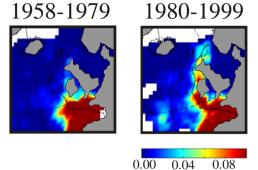








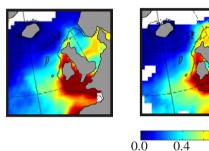
Warm-temperate pseudo-oceanic species



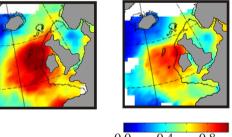
**Biogeographical shifts** 

Warm water taxa advancing northwards

Temperate pseudo-oceanic species

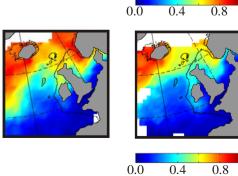


Cold-temperate mixed water species



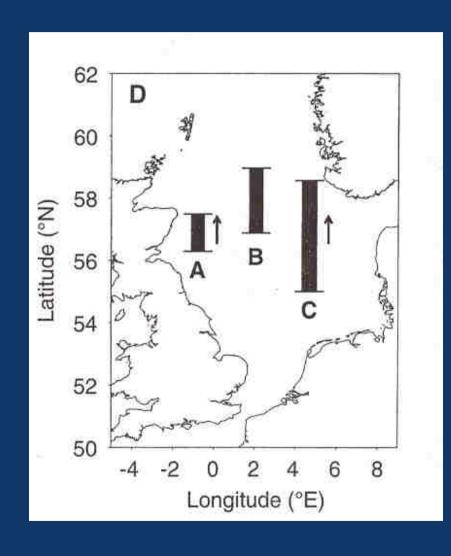
Subarctic species

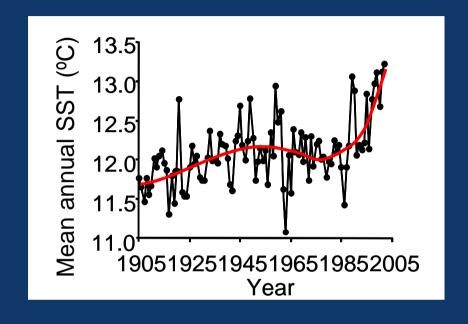




Cold water taxa retreating northwards

# Some species of fish are shifting distribution northwards





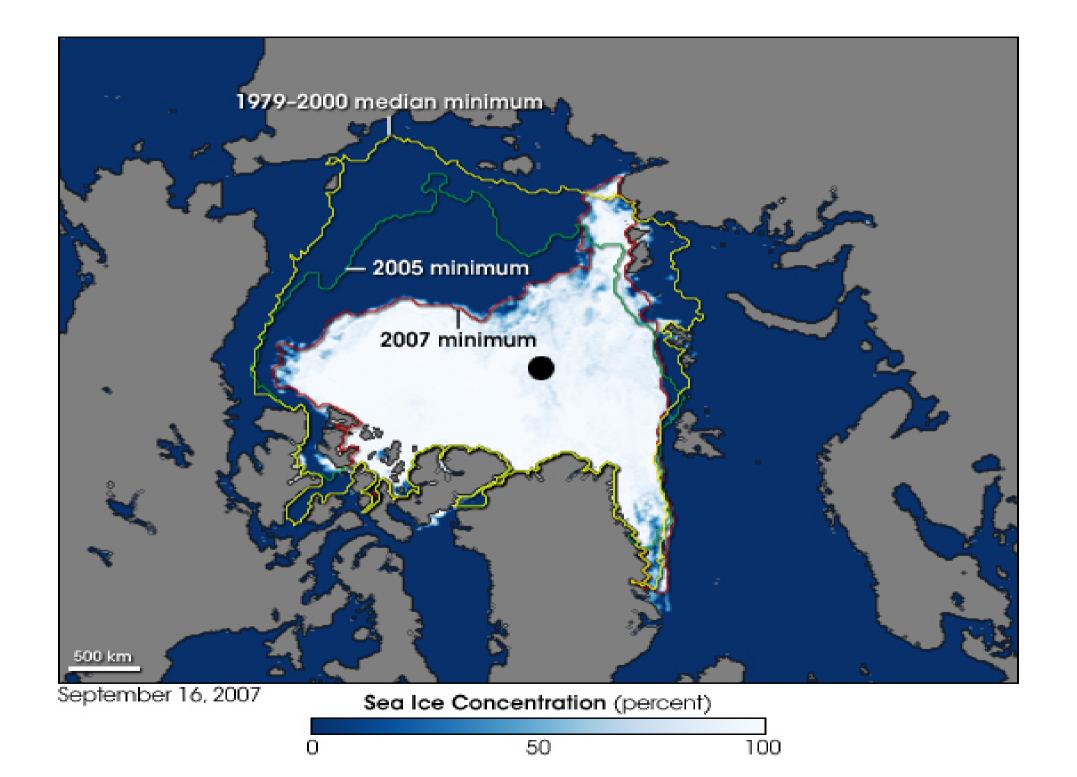
### Legend

A: Cod

B: Angler Fish

C: Snake Blenny



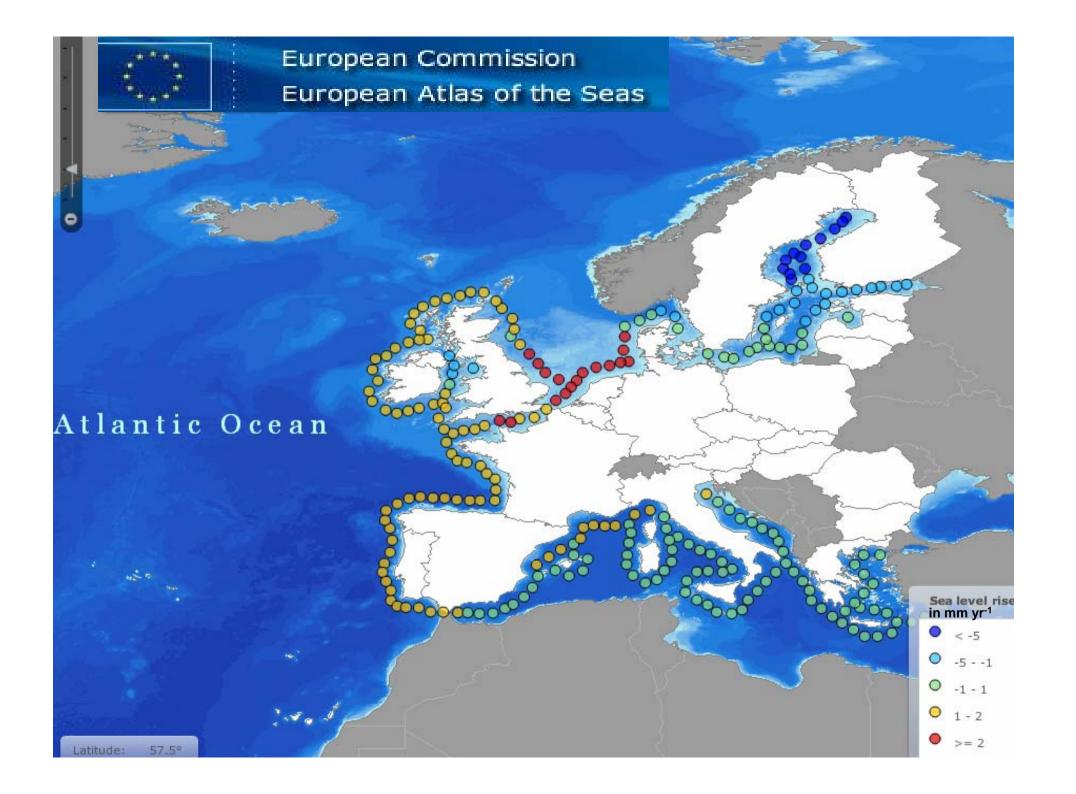


# Extent of ice melt in Greenland, 1992 and 2002

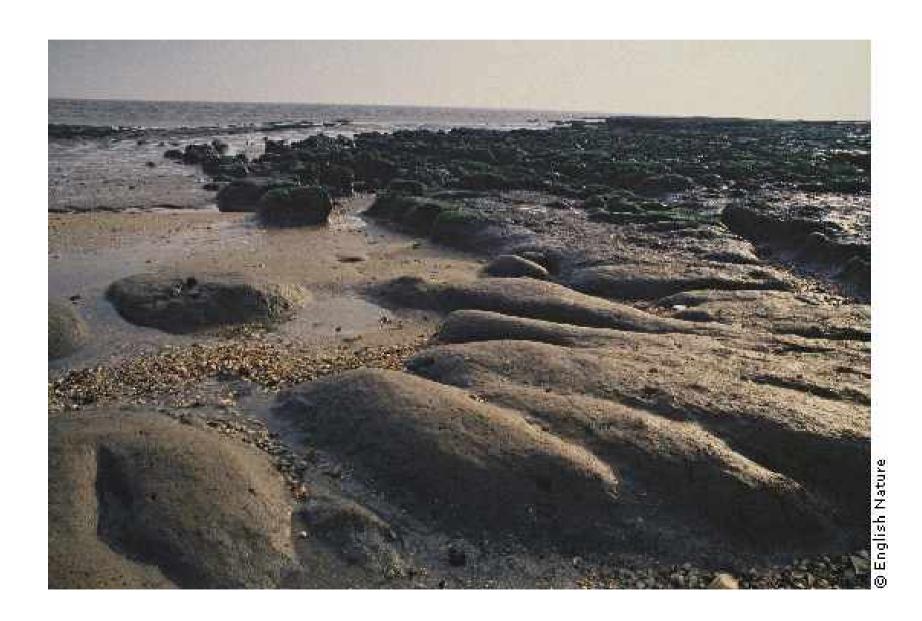




6.5m SLE rise if all Greenland ice cap melts



# Saltmarsh





# Understanding and communicating the impacts



# Marine climate change impacts

**Annual Report Card 2006** 

We are observing large changes in our marine environment that are driven in part by climate change. This report card represents our first step in bringing together evidence from across the UK science community to help YOU understand and act upon the issues.



"I'm no longer sceptical. Now I do not have any doubt at all. I think climate change is the major challenge facing the world." David Affenbarough

www.mccip.org.uk/arc



### Marine climate change impacts

Annual Report Card 2007-2008

The 2007 report card builds upon the evidence base presented in 2006, highlighting key developments and exploring new subject areas (coastal erosion, coastal habitats and air-sea exchanges of heat and freshwater). This year's report card brings together scientific understanding from a wider range of research institutes, providing an even more comprehensive assessment of UK matine climate change impacts and highlighting regional variations where possible.

"Warming of the attracte system is unequivocal, as is now evident from observations of increases in global average air and ocean temperatures"



Here are just some of the new findings in the 2007-2008 card

2006 was the second warmed year in UK coastal water since records began in 1870; seven or the ten warmed years in the occurred in the less decrete.

Models pradict fewer storms, but there will be a greater samber of more severe storms.

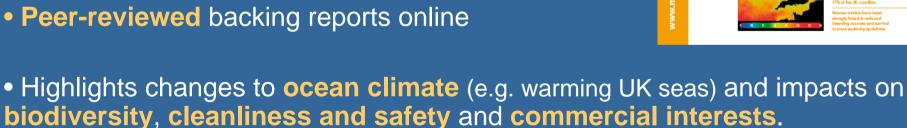
Coartel Broton In expected to increase. Currently, it affacts 10% of the UK a coalline.

Namer wisters have been size taked to reduced breeding records and survival in some reabilid populations.

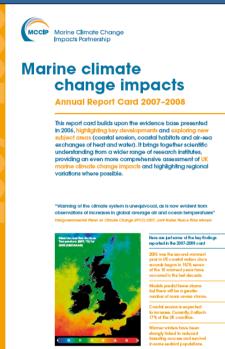


### The MCCIP annual report card

- Last published early 2008
- 60 scientists from 30 institutes contributed to 26 topics
- 8 page-summary card with headline messages
- Communicates uncertainty on each topic



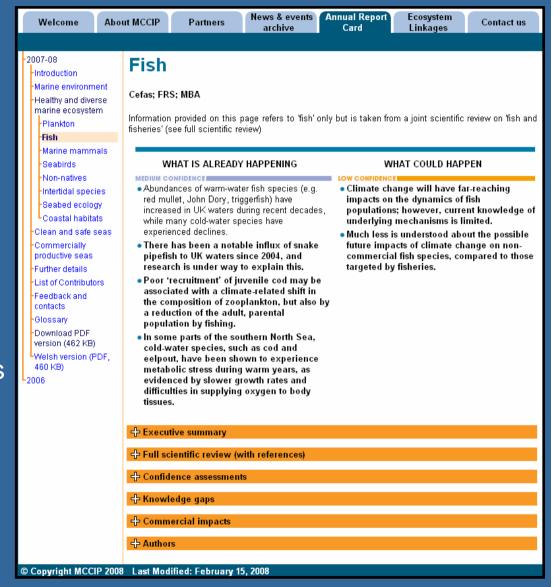
• 3<sup>rd</sup> full report card due in summer 2010



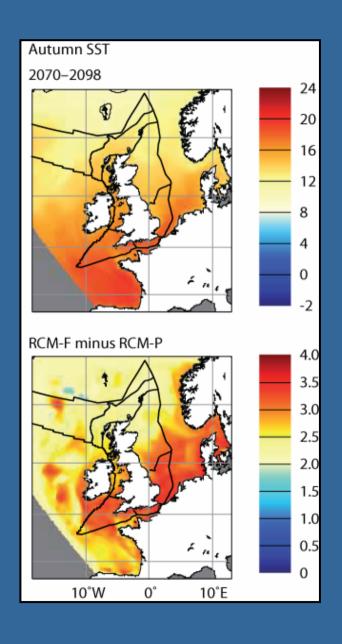
### The MCCIP annual report card

### Online version with full reviews

- Access to full reviews
   Collaborative reviews
   across institutes
- Individual topics with 'drop down' menus:
  - Executive summaries
  - PDFs of full reviews
  - Confidence rationale
  - Knowledge gaps
  - Socio-economic impacts
- Online questionnaire



# MCCIP report card – Launch July 2010



- Almost 100 researchers from 40 institutes contributing to 31 topics.
- Over 30 specialist peer-reviewers.
- More regional level information and 'first look' at implications of latest UK marine scenarios
- New topics
  - human health impacts
  - air-sea CO2 fluxes
  - waterbirds
  - deep sea habitats
- Knowledge gaps and socio-economics



# Championing key impacts

FAC

Acidificatio

ea





















change impacts **Exploring ecosystem linkages** 

Inderstanding the links between climate change impacts on the oceans is a critical priority for our future wellbeing. By taking a new 'bigger picture' approach, we can start to show how the interconnected nature of the marine ecosystem magnifies the many discrete impacts of climate change, documented in the MCCIP Annual Report Cards.

To support this new approach, we asked five groups of leading scientific experts on issues such as ocean acidification, Arctic sea-ice loss, seabirds and food webs, non-native species, and coastal economies to give us their views.



### CO2 and ocean acidification

In the last 200 years, ocean acidity has increased by 30% and at a rate much faster than anytime in the last 66 million years. This has serious mplications for marine ecosystems and climate regulation.



In the last decade there has been a 35% decrease in summer sea ice extent and a 15% reduction in winter sea (ce, leading to changes in



### A view from above

Climate change has already caused changes in plankton, fish distribution and species composition in the seas around the UK. Declines in some seablird populations such as black-legged kittiwakes, terns and skuas may continue as a result.



Most introductions of non-native species have enrived via human intervention intentional or otherwise. The likelihood that they will establish and flourish in the UK marine environment could be greater due to climate change.



### Coastal economies and people

Many of our coastal communities will face both challenges (e.g. increase flood and erosion risks, declining traditional fisheries) and opportunities

- MCCIP launched a new product in mid-2009 looking at ecosystem connections:
  - Topics focus down from broad scale to local scale issues (acidification – arctic sea ice - food webs - non-natives - coastal economies and people)
  - Aimed to help politicians, policy makers, advisors and stakeholders understand how marine climate change impacts come together.

MCCIP Ecosystem linkages report card 2009





### Marine climate change impacts

**Exploring ecosystem linkages** 

Understanding the links between dimate change impacts on the occass is a critical priority for our future well being, 8 y taking a new 'bigger picture' as preach, we can start to show how the infercemented asture of the market coargins.

To support this new approach, we taked five groups of leading scientific exports on issues such as ocean additication, Section service less, scabints and food webs, non-native species, and cosatal economies to give us their siesse.



In the last 200 peace, come middly has been sent by 20% and also rain result faster than explore in the last 10 million years. This has entires

### Arctic nea les

is the had absence there has been a 18% does made in exercise and in which and a 11% reduction in winter som ins, I making to absence in which was a many doese.



Climate abunga han abunda asawat abangsa ta pikebian, ikabulabibat as and apunda sampadi an in the area anasad the UK. Destinas in asawa anakiri papabat asa madusa binde laggad biblioshim, terus and abusa anaj



ed introductions of reservative specime have serious rischerous interesting inclinated or otherwise. The likelihood that they sill substitute and flourish



Countal economies and people

### CO2 and ocean acidification: running into the buffers?

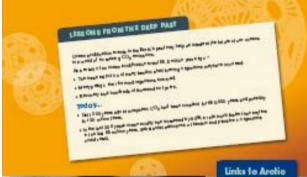


The occurs are an enormous store of carbon, substantially greater than on land or in the atmosphere, and play a key role in the global carbon cycle, especially in holping regulate the arrount of CO<sub>2</sub> in the atmosphere.

The occurs are important because they have taken up 37-38% of the  $00_{\pi}$ produced by humanitied through the burning of foreil fields, corneré manufacturing and land use changes since the industrial revolution.

Whilet this has somewhat limited the historical due of CO<sub>5</sub> in the atmosphere, thereby reducing the extent of greenhouse warming and climate change caused by human activities, this has come at the price of a dramatic change to ocean chemistry. In particular, and of great concern, is the measurable chance in occas oil and carbonate and bicarbonate ion concordation - occas additication). Our understanding of the impact of COs

on the curbonate chemistry is such that we know with yow high containty that occan acidification will continue.



### seg ice...

CO. BRIDE DIE



horsely some and feature for the priorial in home wite computers and also the accord of the priority. ar arran CO, has be enoughers larding his disarring on the low directs charge.

erietterieren affect tegrader Moreow, the quantitated services provided by the market and a real in the UK are important for excepts. extrettingued from the end and appropriate inflation reging termed frequently of people and it injuried by more and floring the and others a floring according from Widelle, med aufe bereitere relati the engineering of across of the US's









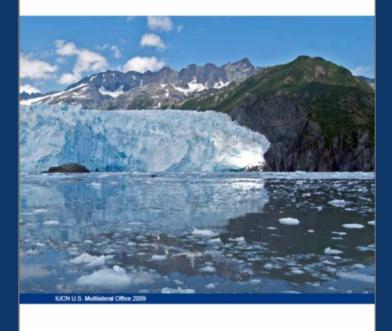
# Preparing for adaptation and mitigation



### The Ocean and Climate Change

Tools and Guidelines for Action

Dorothée Herr and Grantly R. Galland





EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### The Ocean and Climate Change

Tools and Guidelines for Action

Climate change is severely and rapidly impacting species, ecosystems and people around the globe. As both international and national mitigation and adaptation strategies are being discussed, the impacts of climate change and ocean acidification, as well as the ocean's role in mitigation and adaptation strategies, have largely been overlooked.

Over 70% of the planet is covered by the ocean. The ocean is the major regulating force in the earth's climate system and represents the largest carbon sink on the planet. Healthy marine and coastal ecosystems, and their services. are essential to maintain the earth's life support system. Climate change and ocean acidification are jeopardizing food security, shoreline protection, the provision of income, livelihood sources and sustainable economic developm

Rapid and significant action is needed now. This brochure highlights the most pressing climate change issues with respect to the ocean and presents a set of tools and guidelines for the implementation of marine climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies.

- Action Recommendations for Mitigation Strategies
- Action Recommendations for Ecosystem-based Adaptation
- . The Impacts of Climate Change and Ocean Acidification
- · A Changing Ocean -A Changing Land
- . The Need for Immediate Action







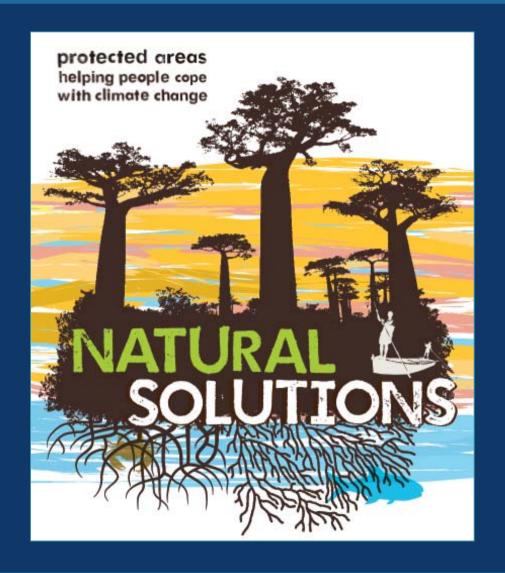






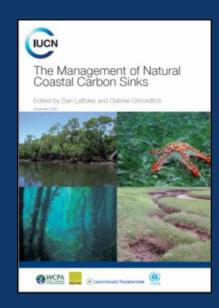


# Helping people cope with climate change



# Coastal carbon – vitalizing the debate









# **Creating new approaches**

