



Falkland Islands Marine Spatial planning Project

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Background

- No form of marine spatial planning (outside of fisheries) or formalised MPAs exist in the Falkland Islands
- FI EEZ is rich in marine biodiversity, including globally threatened seabirds and marine mammals
- Risk to the FI marine environment from resource extraction
- Pressures are likely to intensify and include new developments and related changes to coastal land-use
- Existing practice and legislation need to be improved to manage current and potential future threats to protect threatened species, sites and habitats
- The lack of integrated land/sea zoning and management was identified as one of the top priorities that need addressing in the 2012 workshop report from the FCO/JNCC funded project “Environmental Mainstreaming”.

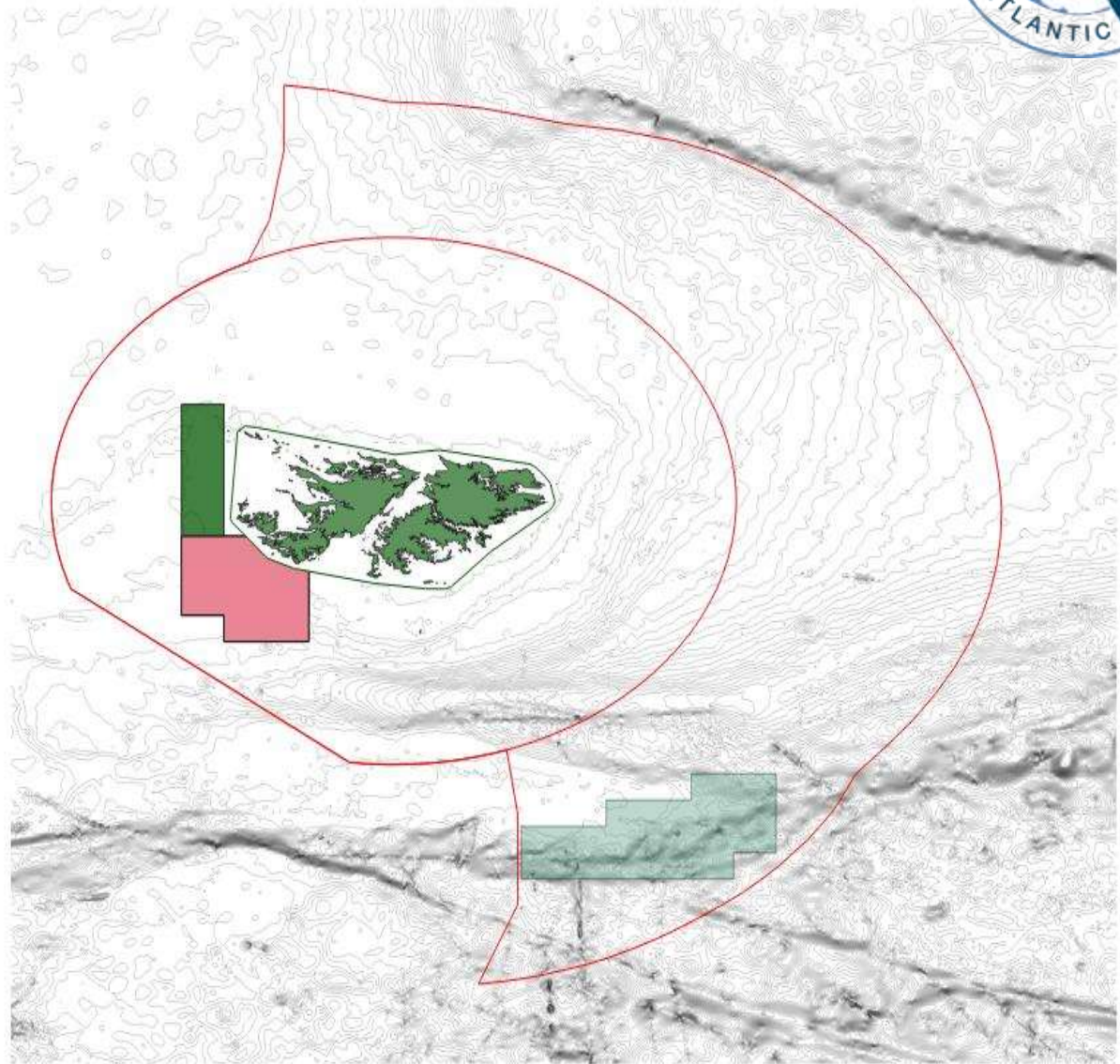


Background

- IUCN report scores Falkland Islands poorly, however;
- Falkland Islands have a well regarded, well managed and well regulated fishery. Hailed as one of the best in the world (Mora et al 2009; PoLS One)
- Some spatial planning in relation to fisheries, such as temporal closure areas and no commercial fishing within the 3 mile baseline

Background

3 mile base line
represents 4.2%
of the Falkland
Islands Fishing
zones





Threats

- Minerals extraction
- Natural Resource extraction in spatial terms
- Changes to coastal land-use
- Commercial shipping
- Existing practice and legislation need to be improved to manage current and potential future threats, to protect threatened species, sites and habitats.

Threats



Seen low in the water 5 nm from the Jasons – Fishops
asked them to change course

Threats



Stx
Frontier

Roxen Star

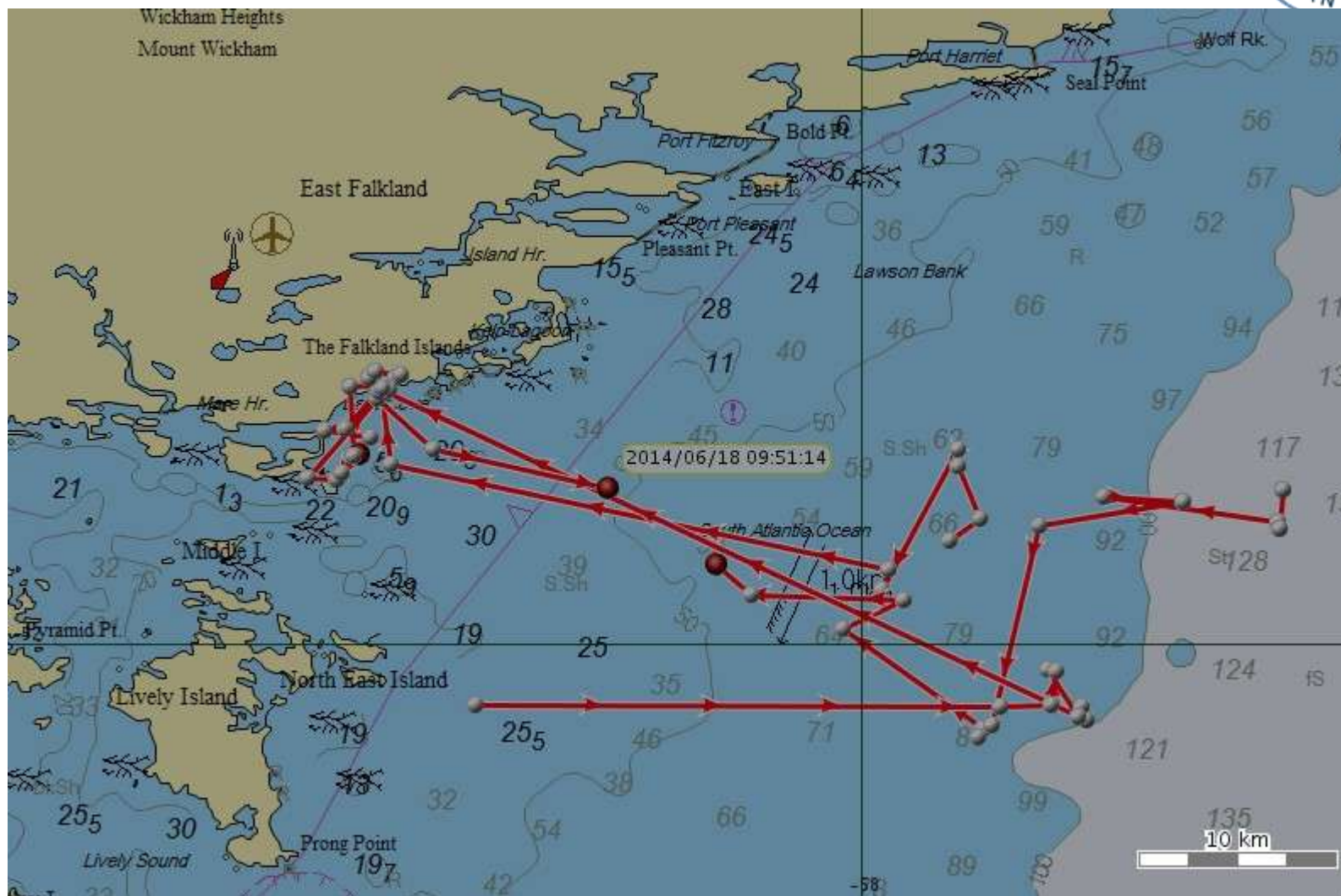




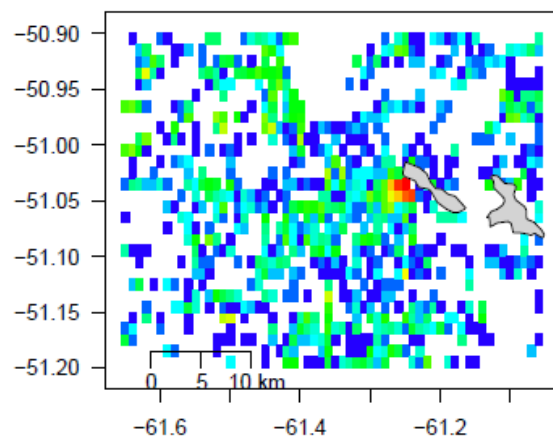
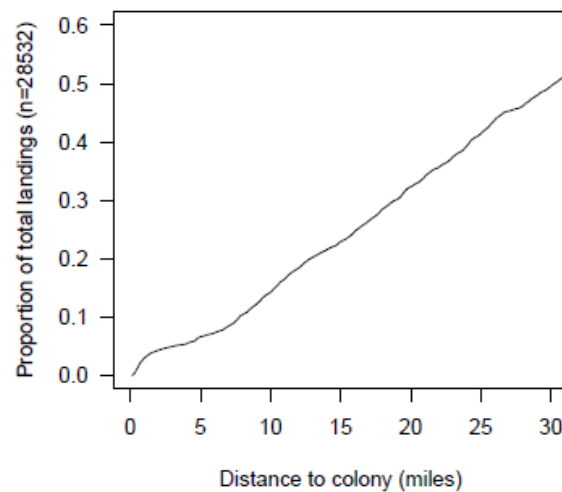
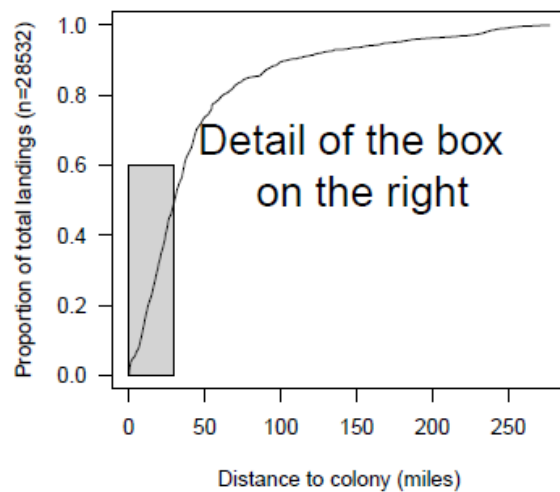
Delivery

- **1) development** (and extensive analysis where appropriate and feasible) of GIS baseline maps of the distributions of coastal, inshore and offshore habitats, together with their biota and resources, including areas/sites of current and prospective hydrocarbon extraction and exploration.
- **Collation** (with a metadata catalogue) of the considerable volume of data on marine species and environments available from published and unpublished governmental, industrial/commercial and other non-governmental sources.
- This will enable **mapping examples of specific data** that would directly contribute to the aims i.e. coastlines, habitats, resource extraction (fisheries/minerals), tracking data, seabird, mammal data, and physical data etc.
- This will be followed by a **re-examination of satellite track and logging data** collected from seabird species and satellite tagged southern sea lions and South American fur seals to gain new data on ecologically important areas coastally and at sea.

Delivery



Delivery





Delivery

2) a series of workshop and stakeholder meetings, initially to help create and populate the GIS data and map layers, subsequently to review and discuss the potential approaches to MSP in the FI and the application of these data.

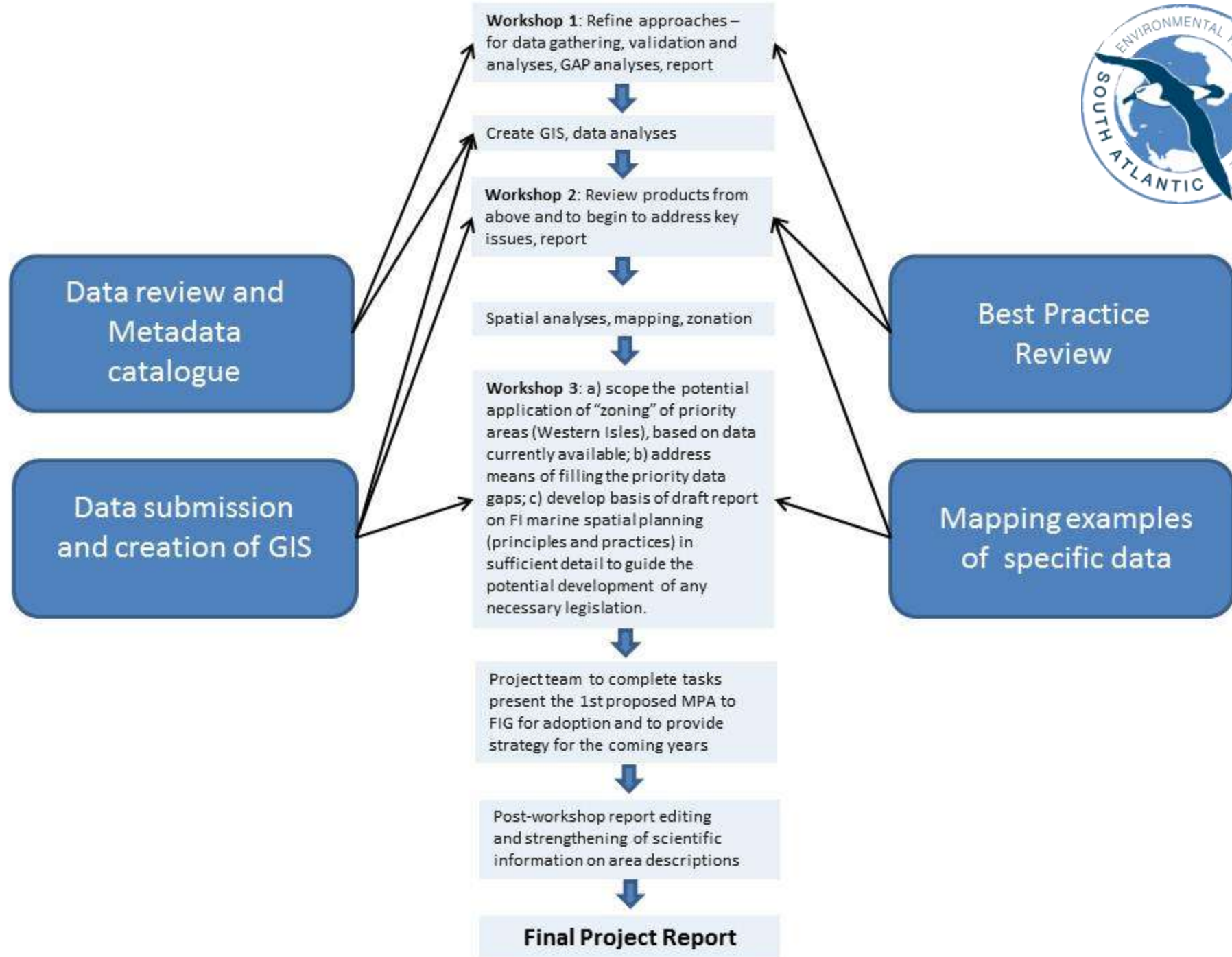
This element will include a review of relevant regional and international best practice, including, *inter alia*,

- Bio-regionalisation approach used by CCAMLR to delineate a network of MPAs in Antarctica,
- Patagonian Forum (<http://www.patagoniansea.org/>) regional GIS with data layers for key biota (species and habitats), existing protected/specially managed areas and resource use/extraction (mainly fishing effort),
- BirdLife International global atlas of marine Important Bird Areas (<http://www.birdlife.org/seabirds/seabird-marine-important-bird-areas.html>),
- Ecologically and Biologically Significant Areas (EBSAs) of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) [<http://www.cbd.int/marine/>].



Delivery

- The 2 approaches will be combined to provide advice on appropriate policies, practices and frameworks for marine spatial planning in the coastal, inshore and offshore waters of the Falkland Islands. This will include specific advice on the establishment of potential provisions for areas of environmental, ecological and biological sensitivity
- The methods primarily relate to use of existing data to create GIS data layers suitable for geospatial analysis and mapping (**Approach 1**). This will feed into **Approach 2** which will be used to identify:
 - Important gaps, allowing prioritisation of future data collection under relevant national and international strategies and plans.
 - A specific concluding product will be a policy paper for FIG (via its Environment Committee), suggesting appropriate MSP policies and procedures (including legislation), together with advice on implementation priorities.
- The project will be delivered by a postdoctoral Marine Ecologist based in the Falkland Islands. Project partners in the Falkland Islands and internationally will participate in the workshops, will provide training and work closely with the project officer throughout the programme.



Project Partners





Thank you



Discussion

- What is the minimum baseline data required to be able to designate an MPA?
- Evidence based approaches vs Precautionary approaches