



**Technical assistance programme for effective coastal-marine management in the
Turks and Caicos Islands (DPLUS119)**

**Work Package 1: Developing an Asset Register for the Turks and Caicos Coastal-
Marine Area – Guidance Document**

JNCC

December 2023

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This resource was produced by JNCC as part of the Darwin Plus funded project 'Technical assistance programme for effective coastal-marine management in the Turks and Caicos Islands' (DPLUS119).

This document should be cited as:

JNCC. 2023. *Technical assistance programme for effective coastal-marine management in the Turks and Caicos Islands (DPLUS119). WP1: Developing an Asset Register for the Turks and Caicos Coastal-Marine Area – Guidance Document.*

<https://hub.jncc.gov.uk/assets/afd3dc03-9235-41d3-ada8-9f51aa50ed88#dplus119-wp1-guidance-document.pdf>.

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Summary

Work Package 1 (WP1) of the [DPLUS119 project](#) aimed to contribute to developing practical tools and supporting decision-makers and local communities in implementing natural capital approaches in the Turks and Caicos Islands (TCI). Natural capital approaches recognise the contribution of nature to human welfare and help ensure that this contribution is properly considered in how the natural environment is traded-off against other societal priorities (e.g. economic goals). The objective is to prevent nature from being undervalued and overexploited. Values include monetary as well as social and cultural values. Specifically, WP1 evaluated the evidence and developed tools to support the integration of natural capital approaches into decision-making for TCI's coastal-marine area.

Key Outputs

- **Benthic habitat map** and natural capital **asset register** for the TCI marine and coastal environment.
- Literature review on links between marine and coastal assets and the ecosystem services they provide. Summarised in an **asset-service matrix (ASM)**.
- Four **maps of estimated ecosystem service provision**. These are Provisioning (habitat provision for adult and juvenile grouper), Regulation and Maintenance (carbon storage and flood protection) and Cultural (snorkelling activity) services.
- **Project report** ([JNCC Report 692](#)) – *Developing an Asset Register for the Turks and Caicos Coastal-Marine Area*.

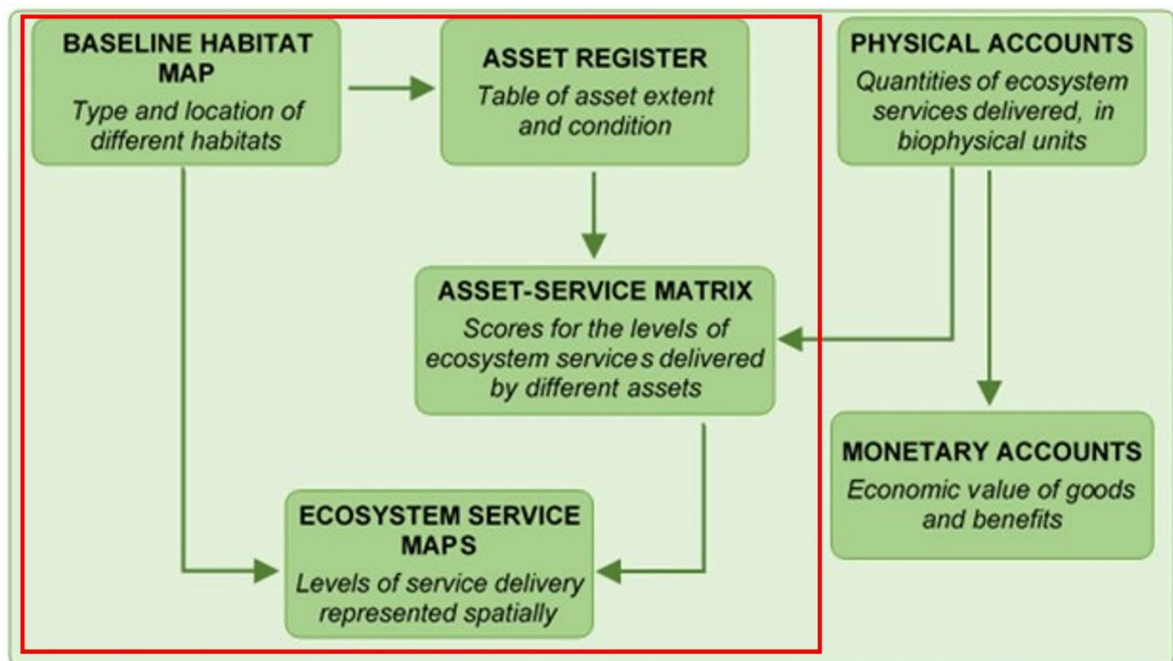


Figure 1. Schematic of tools for organising and reporting natural capital information. Outputs of this project are highlighted by the red box.

Key findings

- Sand, seagrass, and coral/algae were the three most dominant habitats by extent (area covered).
- The literature review identified 310 individual pieces of evidence from 65 sources on the links between habitat and species assets and the ecosystems services they provide.
- An updated habitat map is needed to improve the accuracy of estimates of ecosystem service provision and for integration into wider natural capital approaches (e.g. valuation).

How to use these resources

- **ASM:** This can be used to identify key ecosystem services associated with habitat and species assets included in this study. The format is flexible, and can be updated with new assets and services, as well as adding to existing relationships as evidence emerges.
- This project developed **estimated service provision maps** based on combining the **benthic habitat map** and **asset register** with information contained in the **ASM**. Additional maps for other habitats and services can be made using the methods detailed in the report.
- Recommendations for future work are discussed in the report.

Where to find more information

- All outputs, including reports, knowledge exchange presentations and guidance documents, can be accessed from the DPLUS119 WP1 webpage: <https://jncc.gov.uk/our-work/work-package-1/>.
- All data products, including the benthic habitat maps and ASM, can be accessed from the Turks and Caicos Data Portal: <https://dataportal.gov.tc/>.

Glossary of terms

Term	Definition
Natural Capital	A broad concept to assess of the quantity, quality, function and value of the environment and the goods and services that flow from it, aiming to ensure the sustainable use of natural resources. Natural capital collectively refers to world's stock of natural assets
Assets	Natural assets are the different components that make up the environment. They include geology, soil, air water and all living things.

Term	Definition
Ecosystem Services	These are the goods and services that we (humans) derive from natural assets.
Asset register	A table that catalogues the extent or abundance of an asset, and what condition it is in for a given area.
Asset service matrix	An evidence matrix that links the catalogue of natural assets with the ecosystem services those assets provide, via scoring the level of ecosystem service provided and the confidence in the underlying evidence.