

STRATEGIC REGIONAL COASTAL MONITORING PROGRAMME FOR THE SOUTH WEST

JANUARY 2007 UPDATE

1. Due to the current lack of any type of cohesive and integrated coastal monitoring activity within the South West, a 5-year Monitoring Programme received approval in early 2006 for 100% Government grant funding by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra), in the total of £7.212 million (proportioned, £4.093m: £3.119m between the operating maritime local authorities and the Environment Agency (EA) respectively). The Programme will provide the opportunity to support both regional coast protection activities and regional flood risk management activities, through a strategic regional partnership, with survey and monitoring activities focused through a detailed risk analysis of the coastline. The approved funding is being managed separately by Teignbridge District Council (TDC), as Lead Authority, and the EA. All the activities of the Programme are being monitored by both a Project Board and a Project Team.
2. The Regional Partners for the Programme are made up of the regional operating maritime local authorities of the South West who, together with the EA, English Nature (EN) and the Department for the Environment Food and Rural Affairs (Defra), are regulatory bodies with responsibilities for the coast. These currently act strategically, e.g. to draw up their Shoreline Management Plans (SMPs), through membership of their respective South West Coastal Group. i.e. The South Devon & Dorset Coastal Authorities Group (SDADCAG); the Cornwall & Isles of Scilly Coastal Group (CISCAG); and the North Devon & Somerset Coastal Authorities Group (NDSCAG). A Memorandum of Understanding will establish the relationship between each of the Regional Partners and TDC – the Lead Authority.
3. The principal objectives of the programme are to:
 - Promote and implement a standard, repeatable and cost effective method of monitoring of the coastal environment.
 - Promote, inform and integrate the operational monitoring requirements of high level plans. (Specifically, it will assist the operating authorities in the completion of Defra's High Level Targets 2, 3 & 4, relating to the National Flood and Coastal Defence Database (NFCDD), Shoreline Management Plans (SMPs) and Biodiversity Action Plans (BAPS) respectively.)
 - Promote a regionally integrated approach to coastal management, including coastal strategies and individual schemes, between the limits of the boundaries of regional coastal littoral cells 6 and 7.
3. The principal monitoring and analytical tasks being undertaken in the initial Phase I programme include the following:
 - Topographic beach surveys using a combination of remote sensing and ground survey techniques
 - Bathymetric survey
 - Complete Aerial survey of the coast in years 1, 3 & 5
 - Nearshore/offshore wave/tide monitoring (incl analytical observations & annual reporting)
 - Ecological monitoring (habitat₁ mapping)

4. A detailed *Scoping Study has been undertaken by the Channel Coastal Observatory (CCO), on behalf of the 3 South West Coastal Groups, in order to produce a business case and project plan, and this established the need for grant aid funding. CCO were considered to be ideally experienced to undertake these studies, given their involvement and experience with the South East monitoring programme, which is also a partnership driven programme, encompassing all the South East operating maritime local authorities, the EA and other stakeholders. CCO is principally funded through Defra grant via New Forest District Council (NFDC), which acts as Lead Partner (and Lead Authority) for the South East programme.
5. A Service Level Agreement (SLA) has, therefore, been drawn up between TDC, the Lead Partner (and Lead Authority) for the South West operating maritime local authorities, and NFDC, as they are ideally placed to undertake the type of detailed breakdown necessary when considering the options, costs and associated benefits, of strategic monitoring proposals for this 5-year programme for the South West.
6. A Project Board has been set up, as the Executive Body to steer the project and audit its performance. The Project Board meets at least three times a year to review performance on the project. The Project Board consist of a senior officer representative from each of the South West Coastal Groups; the EA SW Region; and Defra (the funding body).
7. The Project Board is made up as follows:

Executive

- Project Board Chair - Principal Representative of Lead Partner (TDC) and Chair of South Devon and Dorset Coastal Authorities Group (SDADCAG)
- Chair of Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Coastal Authorities Group (CISCAG)
- Chair of North Devon and Somerset Coastal Authorities Group (NDSCAG)
- Principal Representative of EA SW Region
- Principal Representative of Defra

Non-Executive

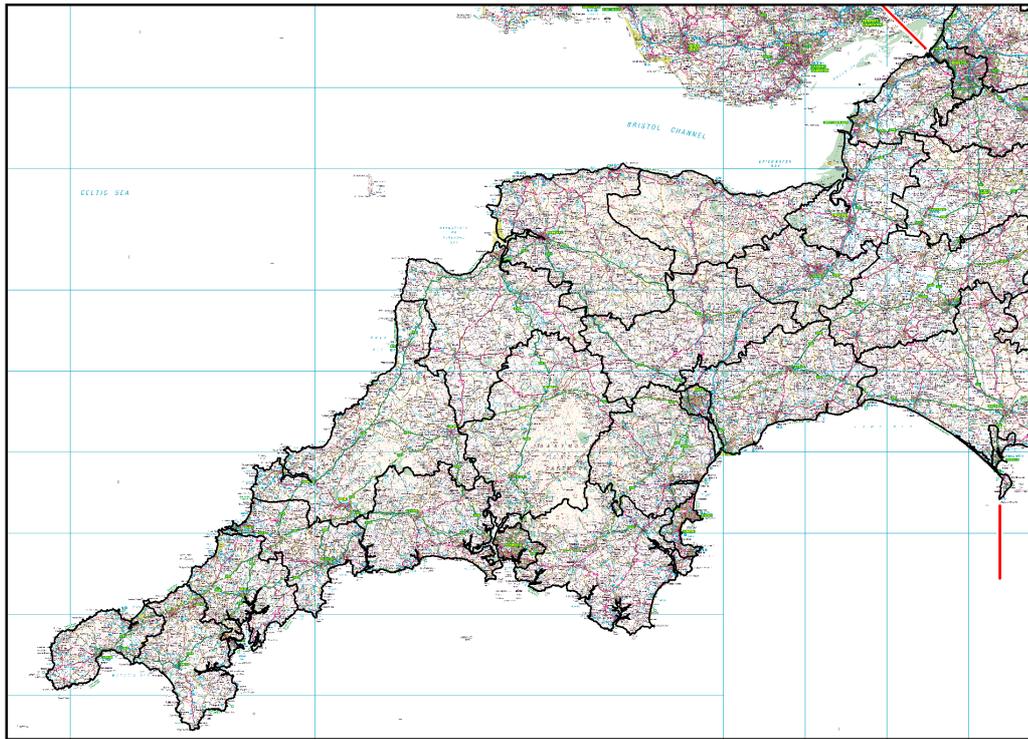
- Client Project Manager (Representative of Lead Partner – TDC)
- Client Project Manager (Representative of EA SW Region)
- Regional Co-ordinator (Representative of NFDC/CCO)
- Project Technical Secretary (Appointed by TDC)

8. The Project Board has established a Project Team to draw up the Project Plan, manage the running of the Project and oversee its day-to-day operations. The Project Team meets at least every 3 months or as any party reasonably requires.

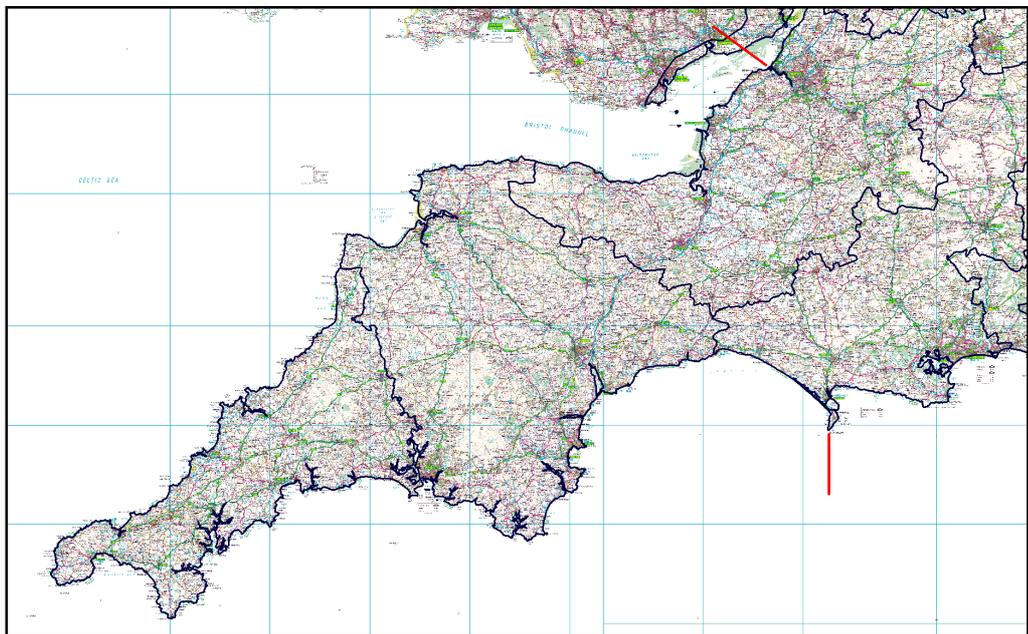
9. The Project Team is made up as follows:

- Project Team Chair-Client Project Manager (Representative of Lead Partner TDC)
- Client Project Manager (Representative of EA SW Region)
- Regional Co-ordinator (Representative of NFDC/CCO)
- Ecology Co-ordinator (Representative of EA SW Region)
- Accountant (Representative of TDC)
- Contracts Manager (Representative of TDC)

- Project Officer (Representative of EA)
 - Delivery Team Manager (Representative of NFDC)
 - Project Technical Secretary (Appointed by TDC)
10. The principal tasks of the Project Team representatives are to ensure that:
- Their party's elements of the Project are performed in a manner consistent with the objectives and in accordance with the milestones
 - All meetings are attended
 - The necessary background information is made available
 - All reports required are produced and presented to the Project Board
11. The Service Level Agreement is intended to support the commitment of partnership working of TDC and NFDC within the Strategic Regional Coastal Monitoring Programme for the South West, by ensuring that both parties work together to achieve the aims of the project, as set out in this Agreement and the Project Plan.
12. Separate agreements/orders establish the partnership working between Teignbridge District Council (the Lead Partner) and the Environment Agency SW Region; and Teignbridge District Council and Coast and Country Projects Limited (who provide the Project Technical Secretary). These parties each provide funding and/or services to the Programme.
13. To ensure that no time was lost on the Programme, the following actions were put in train, some being carried out in advance of the official April 2006 start date:
- European advert placed requesting "Expressions of Interest" for contracts on:
 - Topographic Beach Surveys
 - Bathymetric (sea bed) Surveys
 - Hydrographic (waves, tides) Monitoring
 - Aerial Photography
 - Documentation sent out to qualifying candidates for the above contracts, such that short lists can soon be drawn up for those activities required to start this summer.
 - Enquiries made to the EA, who confirmed that the Ecological monitoring will go out to tender.
 - Enquiries made to the EA LiDAR team, who confirmed that they were able to programme the first flight within their works schedule for the first year.
 - Discussions with 3 No possible locations to house the Regional Data Centre (Project Office), resulting in a firm offer at Plymouth University.
 - SLA Document drafted between TDC and NFDC.
 - MoA Document drafted between EA and TDC.
 - MoU Document between TDC and Regional Partners drafted to First Draft stage.
 - An Update Meeting for the Regional Partners, held in Exminster, end of May.
 - A Risk Workshop for the Programme held, in Exeter, early June.
 - An update meeting on the Programme, for the Partners, held in May.
14. The location maps below (not to scale), indicate the approximate extent of the Monitoring Programme. They also show the South West Local Authorities' areas and the 4 Environment Agency areas, included in the Programme.



[Location Map 1 \(NTS\) - indicating approximate extent of the Monitoring Programme and showing the South West Local Authorities' areas.](#)



[Location Map 2 \(NTS\) - indicating Environment Agency South West Region and approximate extent of the programme \(showing the 4 EA Areas of Cornwall, Devon, N. Wessex & S. Wessex\).](#)

* N.B. To view the Scoping Study Report for the South West on the CCO Website type this link into your browser: http://www.channelcoast.org/links/sw_scoping_study/ Then type into Username: southwest and Password: monitoring.