

Planning marine and coastal restoration projects

1. Restoration project checklist

This checklist helps you to work through what you need to think about when planning your project and working with us. You can find more detailed information in the corresponding section in our guidance GN033: Planning marine and coastal restoration projects.

2. Getting advice

You can contact our advisors for help. Before you do, you will need to do some scoping and background research for your project.

You should read our guidance: GN033 Planning marine and coastal restoration project and be able to provide us with a brief overview of your project:

- What is the aim of your project and its benefits?
- What habitat or species will you be restoring?
- Where is the site?
- How will you restore your habitat or species?
- When will the project happen?
- Who will do the project?
- Is your site in or near any protected sites?
- What other activities and pressures are there on the site?
- What baseline data do you have?
- Have you checked what permissions or assessments you may need?

3. Developing your project

As the project develops you will need to have more detailed information around the **'what'**, **'where'**, **'how'**, **'when'** and **'why'** of your project.

This information will help you develop a robust project plan and will support applications for any permissions you may need.

4. Site assessment

You will need to make a more detailed assessment of your site to ensure it is suitable for your restoration project. You will need to:

- Assess the wider environment in more detail to determine if the site is suitable.
- Determine what activities and/or pressures are happening in the area.
- Ensure a relevant evidence base has informed this assessment.

5. Do you need any permissions or assessments?

You will need to check what permissions or assessments your project may need.

Activities that may require permissions

- Check if you need a marine licence.
- Check if you need other permissions, licences or consents.
- Check if you need landowner permission to access your project site.

Protected areas assessments

If you are working in or near a protected area you may need to prepare information for:

- Habitat Regulation Assessment (HRA)
- Water Framework Directive Regulations (WFDR) compliance assessment

6. Project delivery

You will need to develop management and monitoring plans for your project to ensure effective delivery.

- You will need a project implementation plan.
- You will need to think about your data collection and monitoring approaches.

You will also need to consider the risks that could impact your project and how you will manage or mitigate them. You should consider:

- Biosecurity risks.
- Translocation of species.
- Maintaining genetic diversity.
- Pressures from other activities.
- Wider ecosystem.
- Future impacts from climate change.
- Achieving community support.
- Social and economic issues.
- Funding issues.