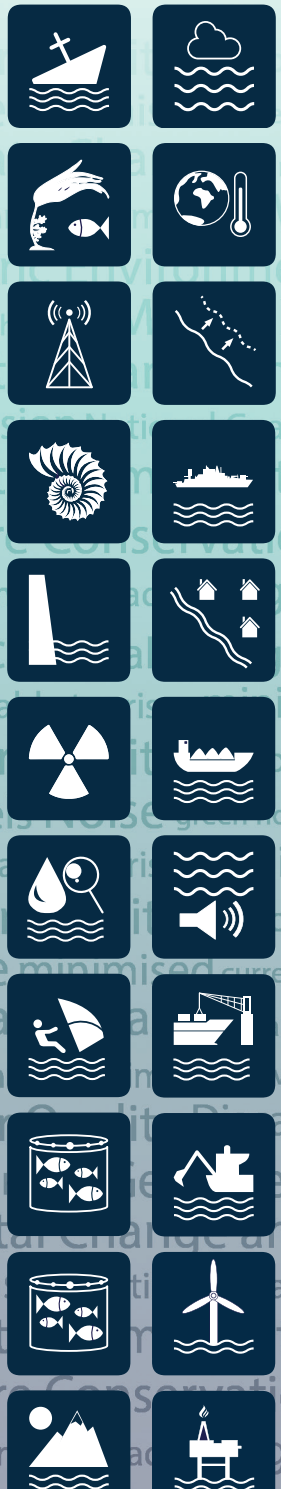
Wales' Marine Evidence Report (WMER)

Summary Report

October 2015

Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

www.gov.wales



Marine Planning for Wales: Wales' Marine Evidence Report

Strategic Scoping Exercise (SSE)

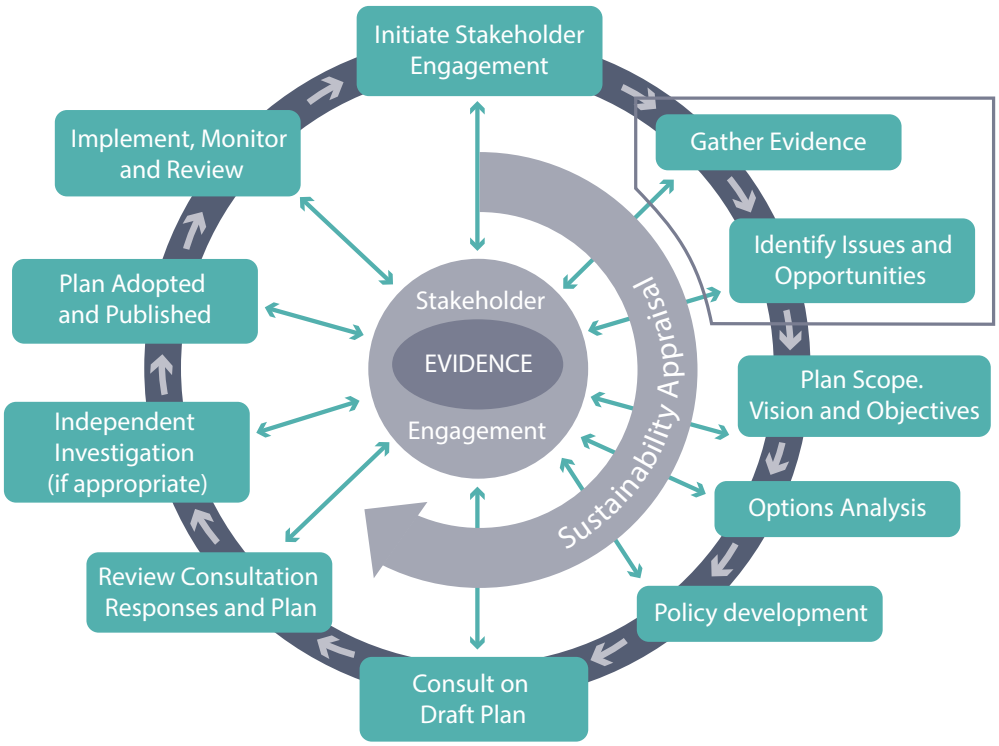
This exercise was undertaken in 2014 to identify the best currently available evidence on Welsh seas. It collates available evidence and highlights marine issues.

The Strategic Scoping Exercise (SSE) was informed by two main sources:

- The Charting Progress 2 (2010) report, which is a comprehensive report of UK marine research and monitoring by the UK Marine Monitoring and Assessment community
- The 2012 initial assessment of UK seas that forms part of the Marine Strategy Part One.

The evidence that the SSE collated, has resulted in the production of Wales' Marine Evidence Report (WMER) and will inform the Welsh National Marine Plan (WNMP).

The Welsh National Marine Plan



Summary of Wales' Marine Evidence Report (WMER)

This document provides a summary overview of the topics covered by the WMER and presents some of the key findings alongside maps showing our current understanding and use of our marine natural resources.

In addition to the WMER, the Welsh Government marine planning portal provides access to a wide range of data layers showing the distribution and use of marine natural resources in Wales. This online tool can be accessed at: http://gov.wales/topics/environmentcountryside/marineandfisheries/marine-planning/other-supporting-evidence/evidence-portal/?lang=en

For further information on marine planning in Wales, see: http://gov.wales/topics/environmentcountryside/marineandfisheries/marine-planning/?lang=en

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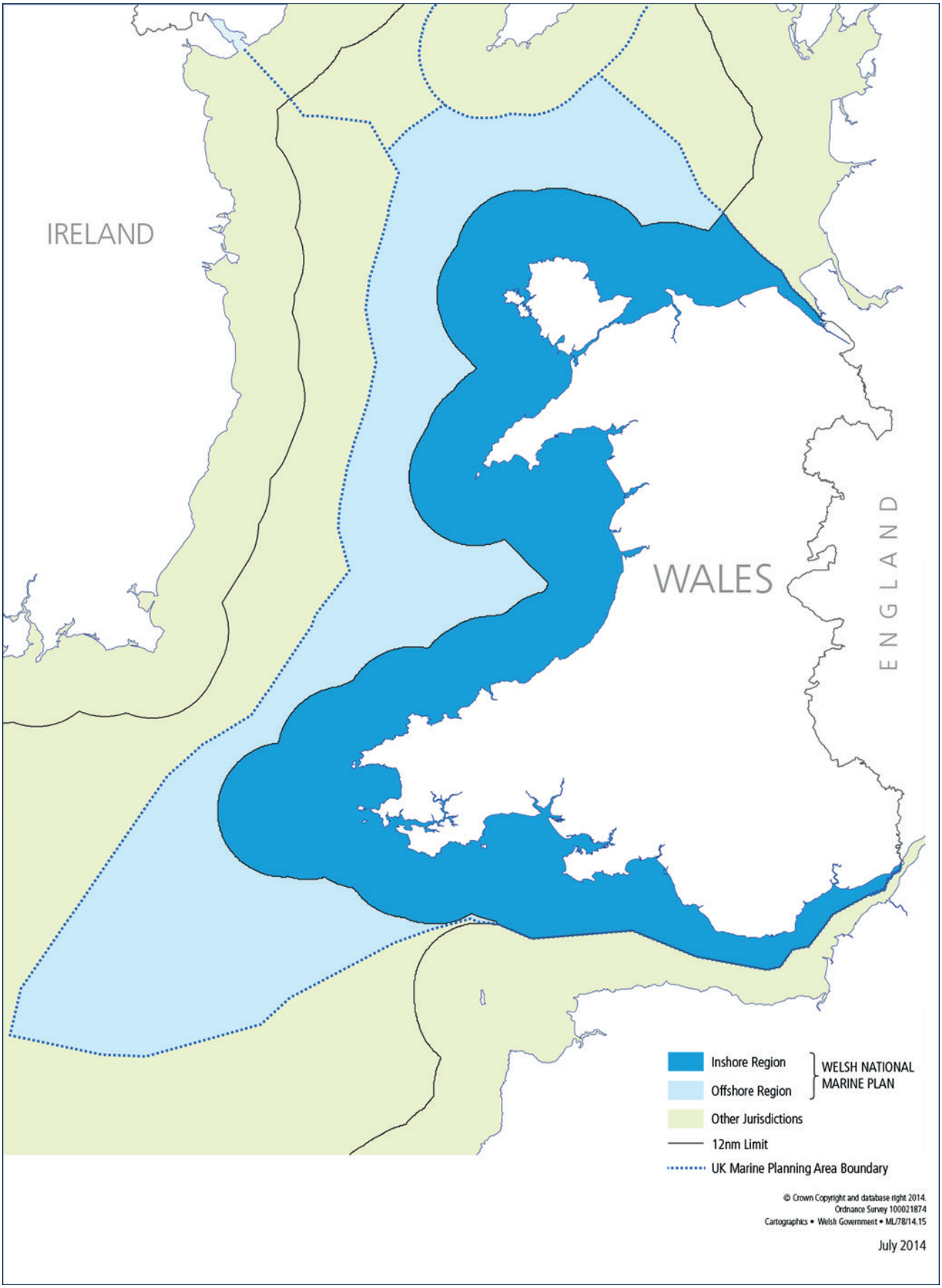
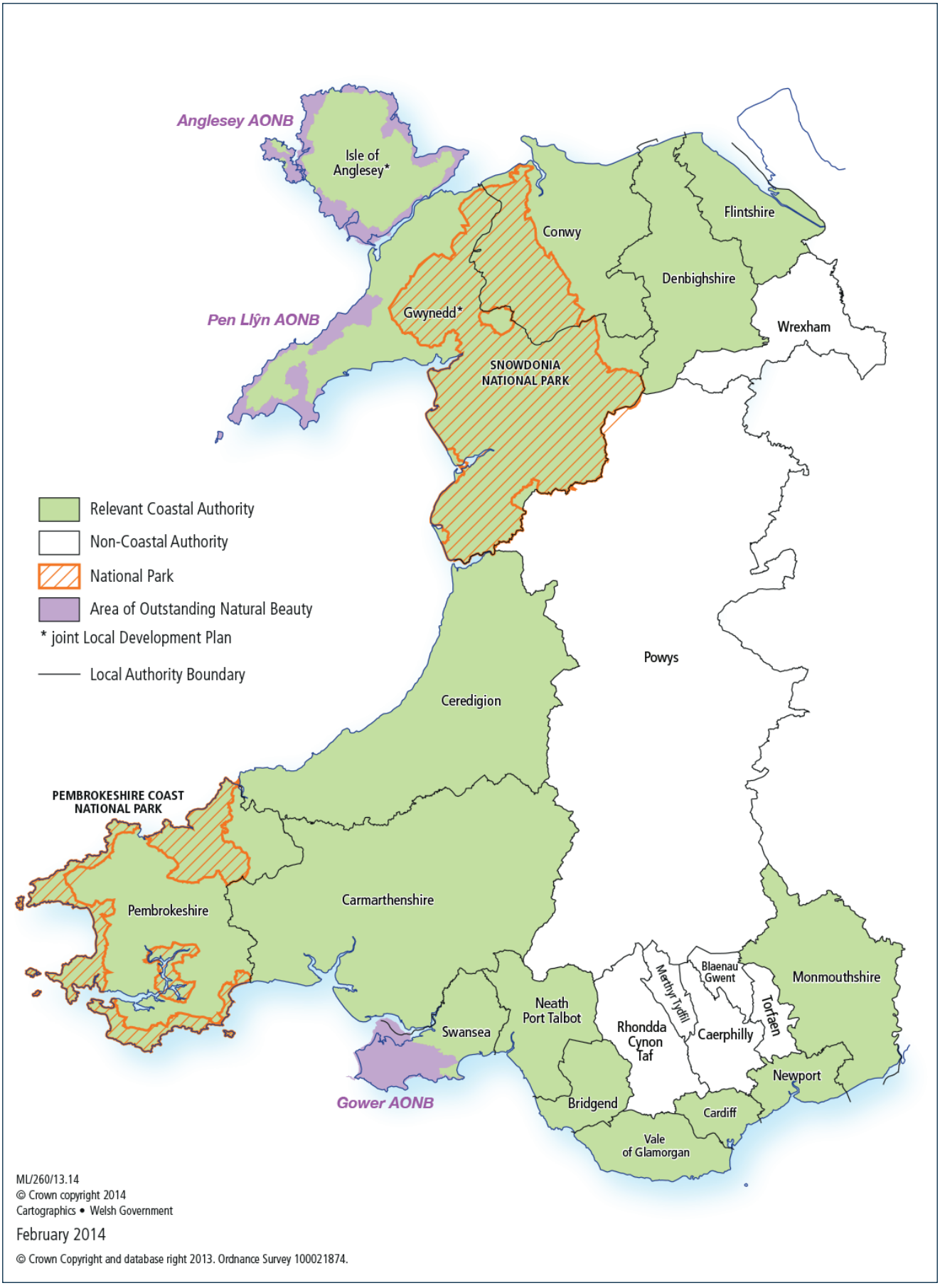


Figure 2: Relevant Development Plans Assessed for the Welsh National Marine Plan



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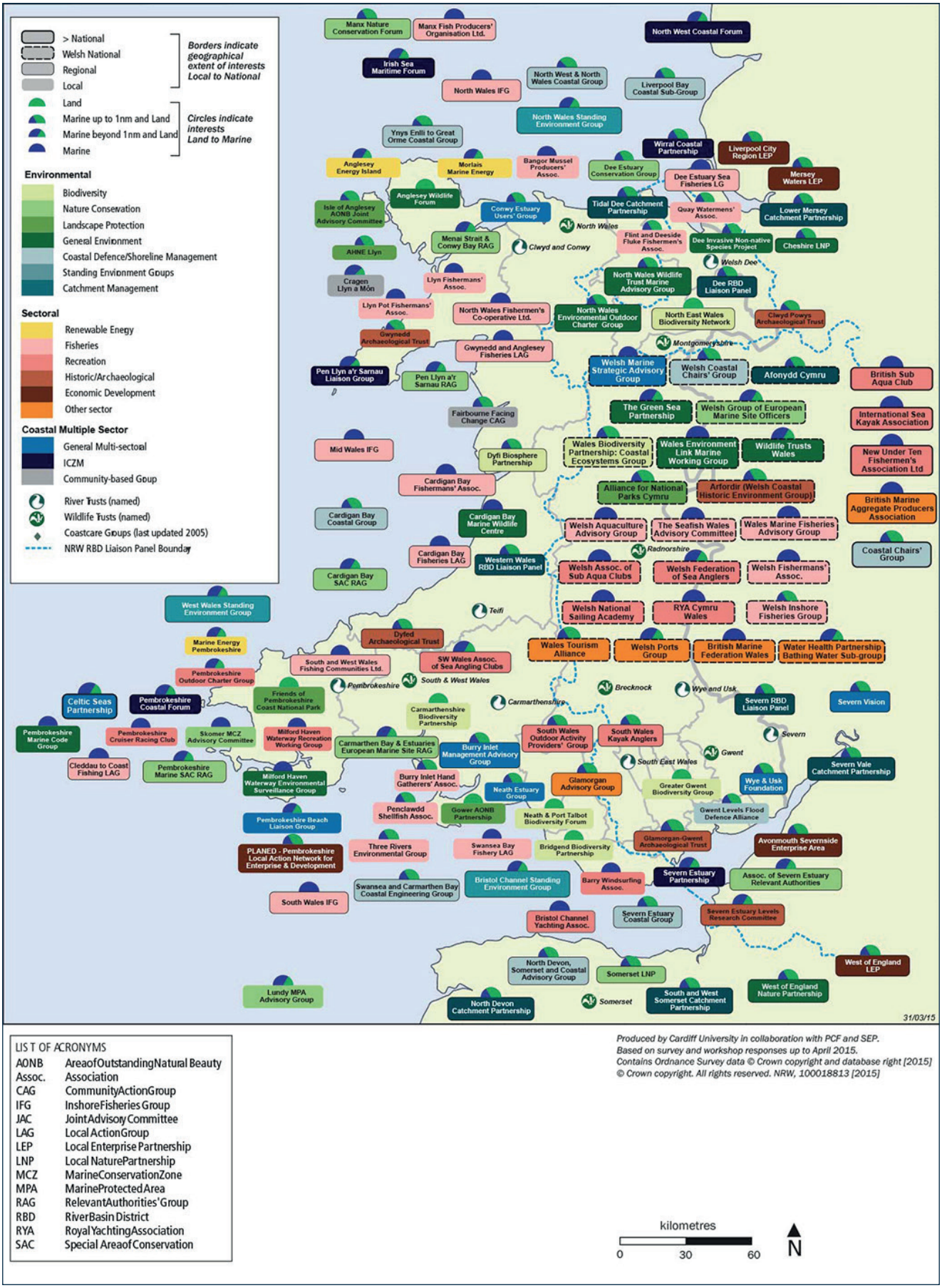

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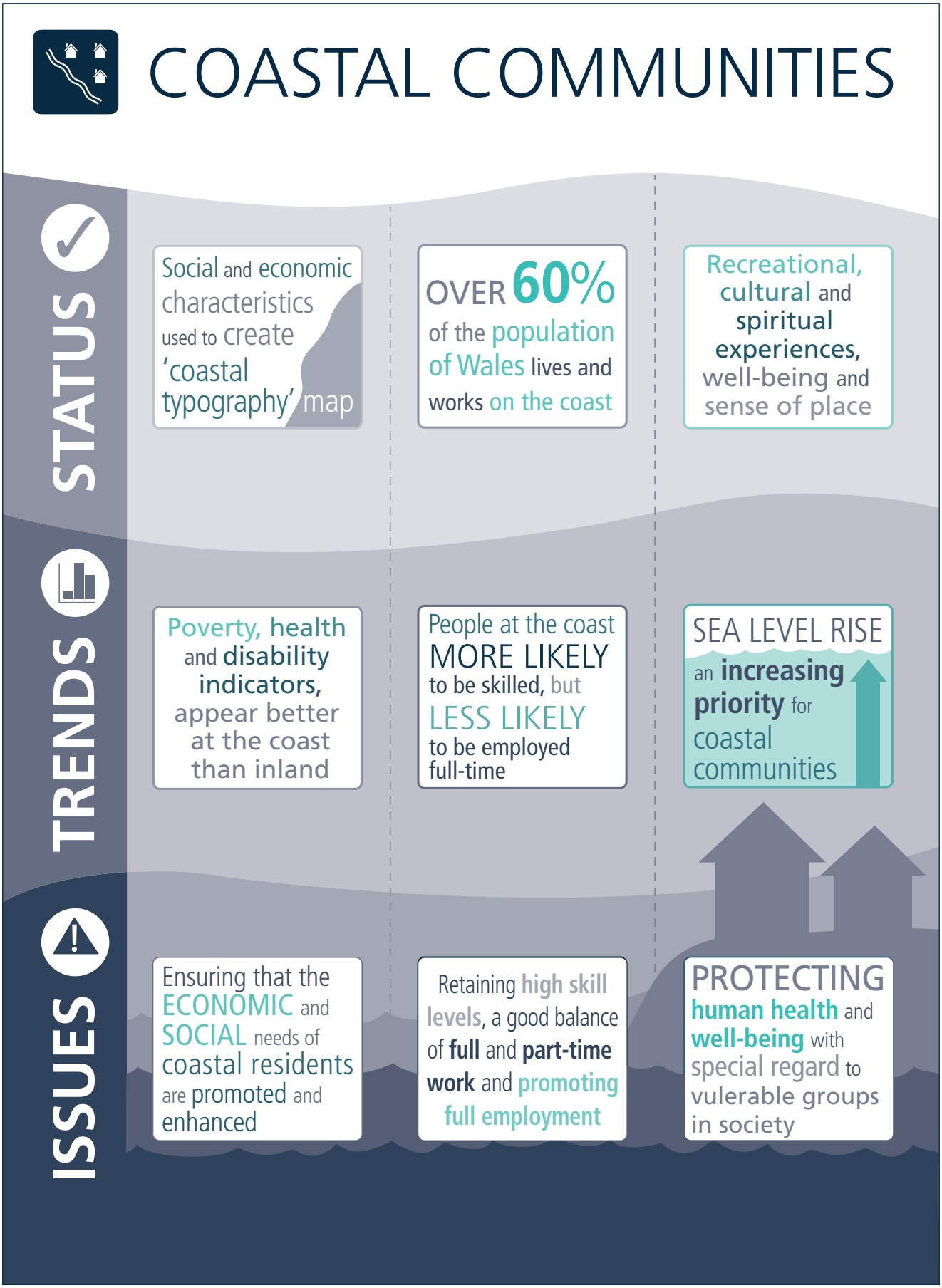

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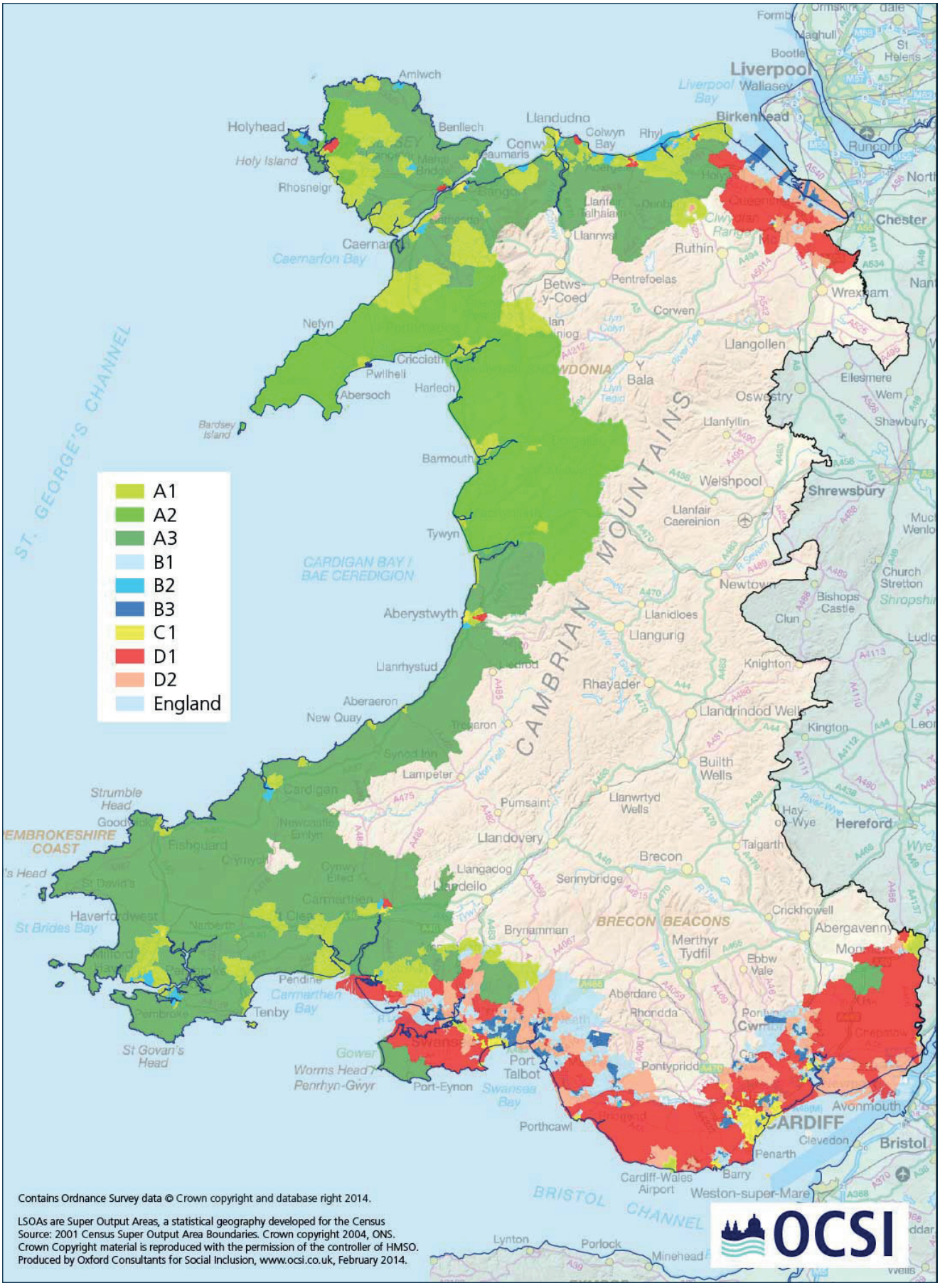

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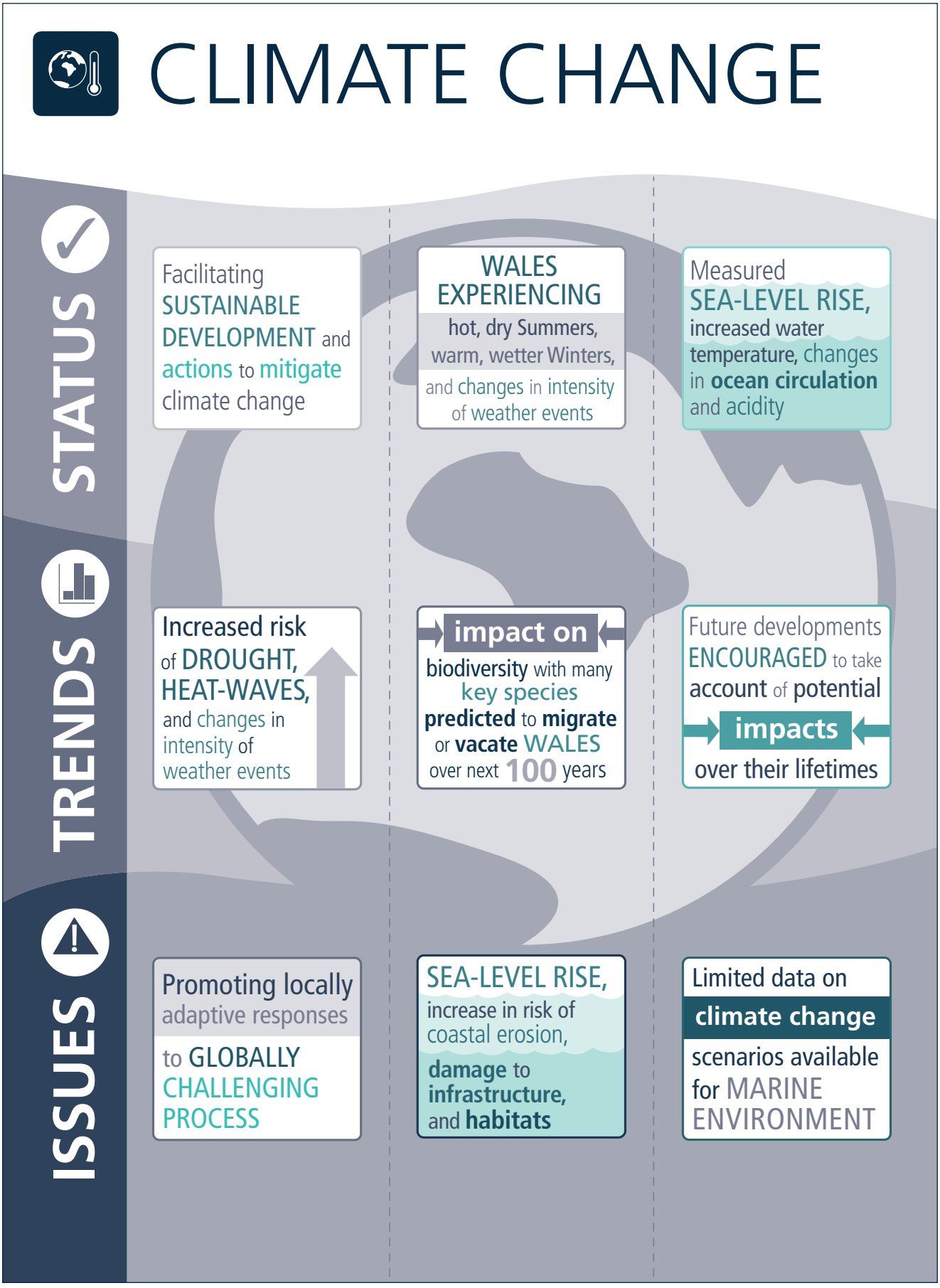

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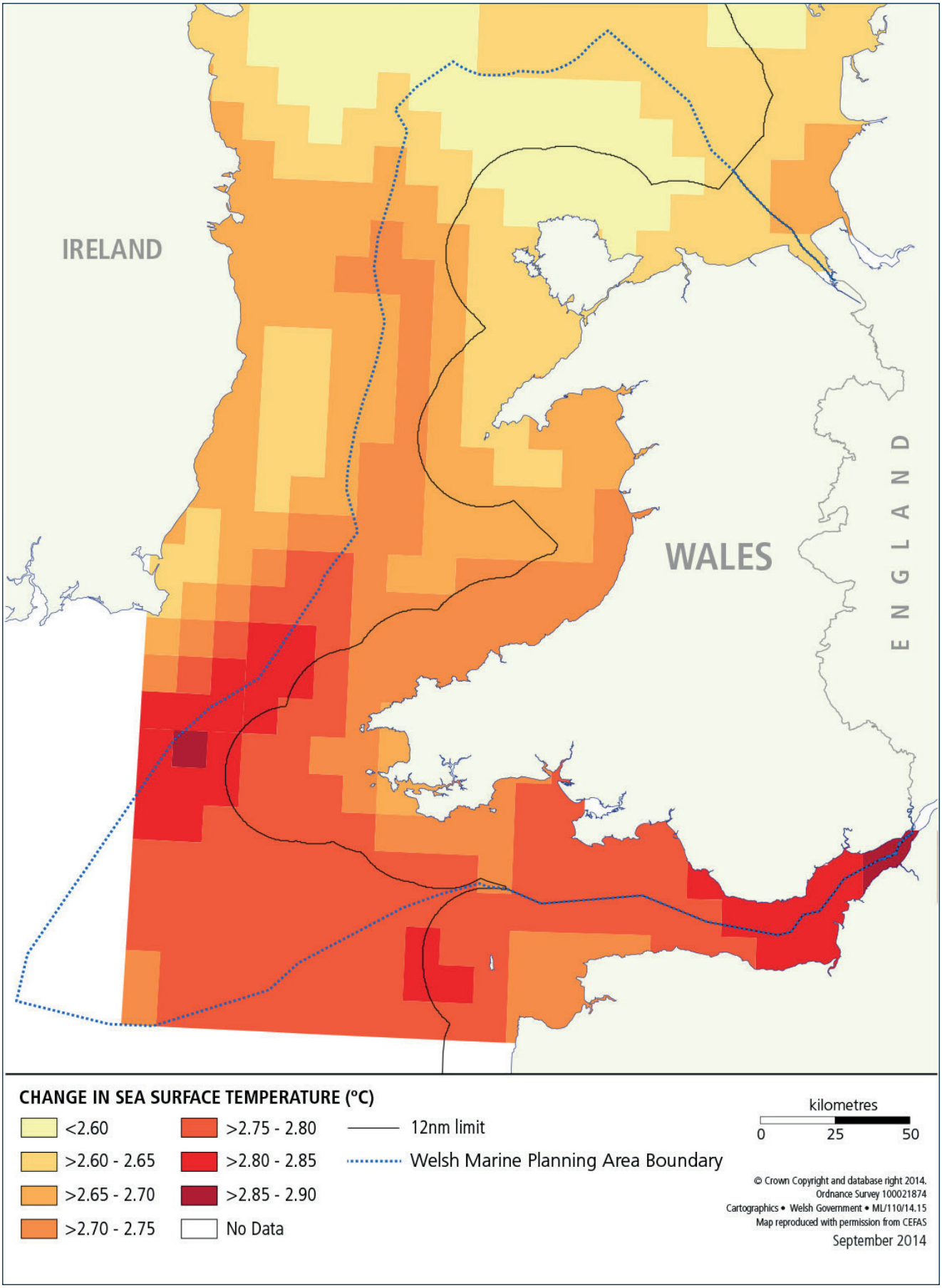

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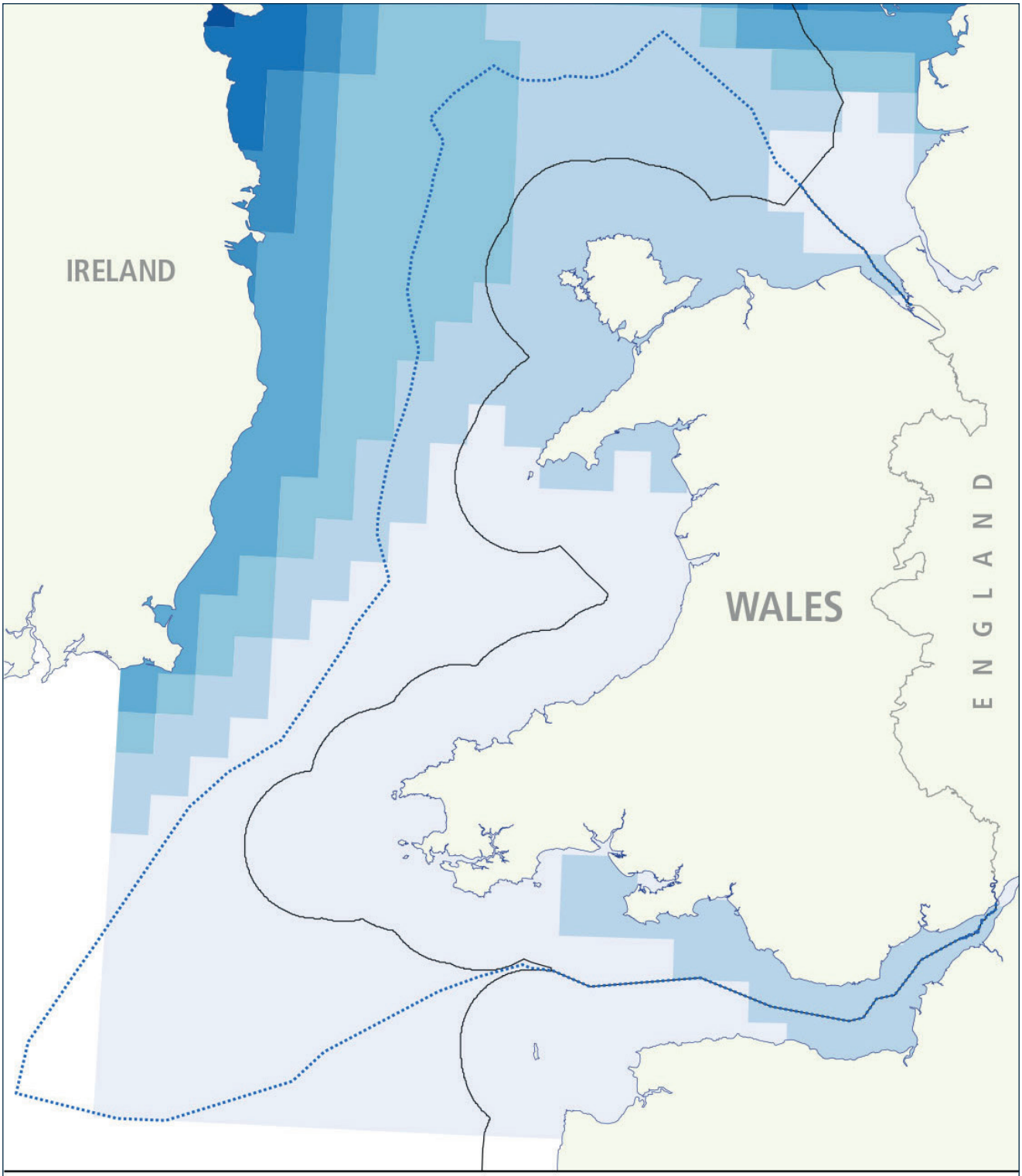

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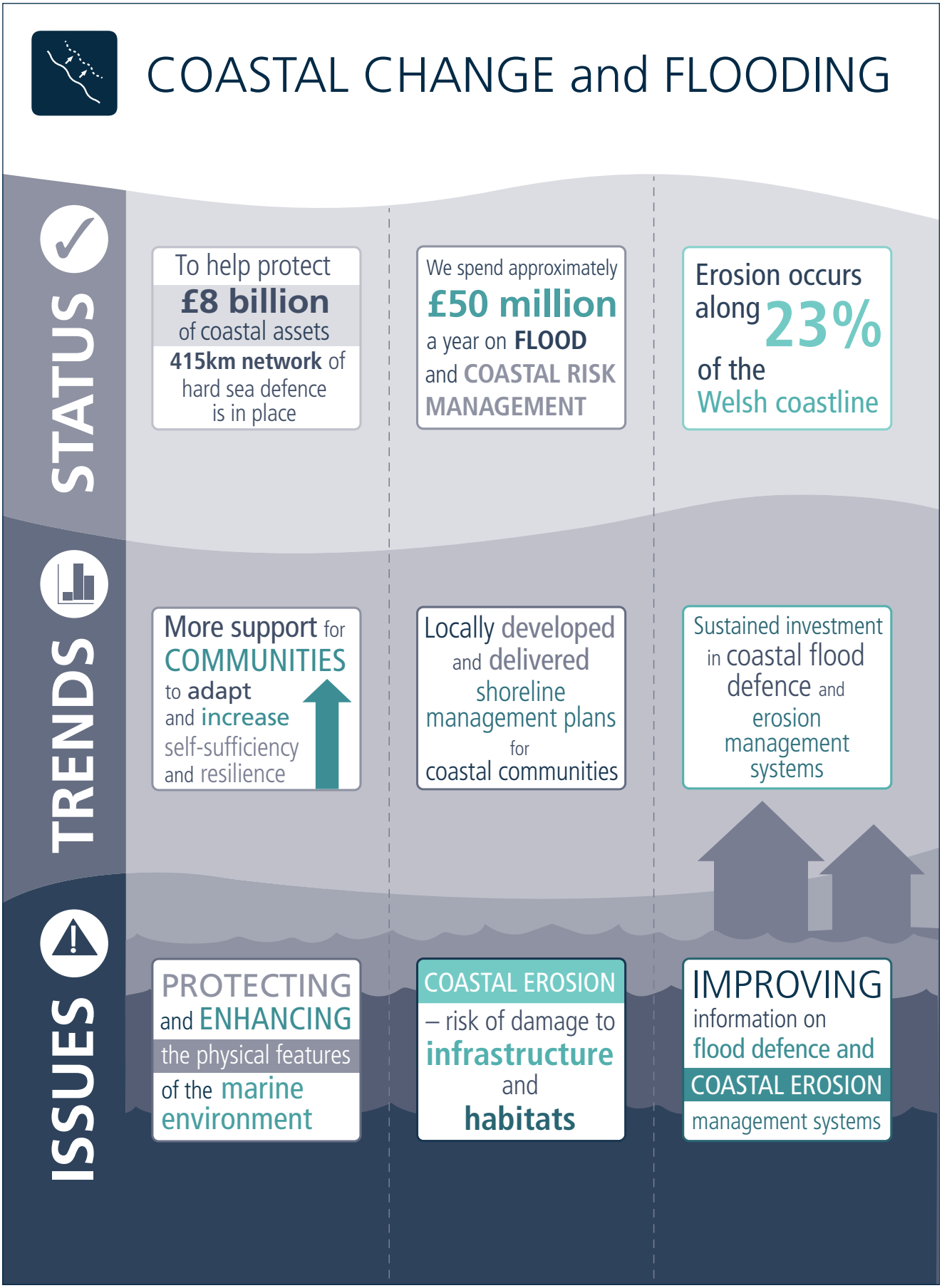

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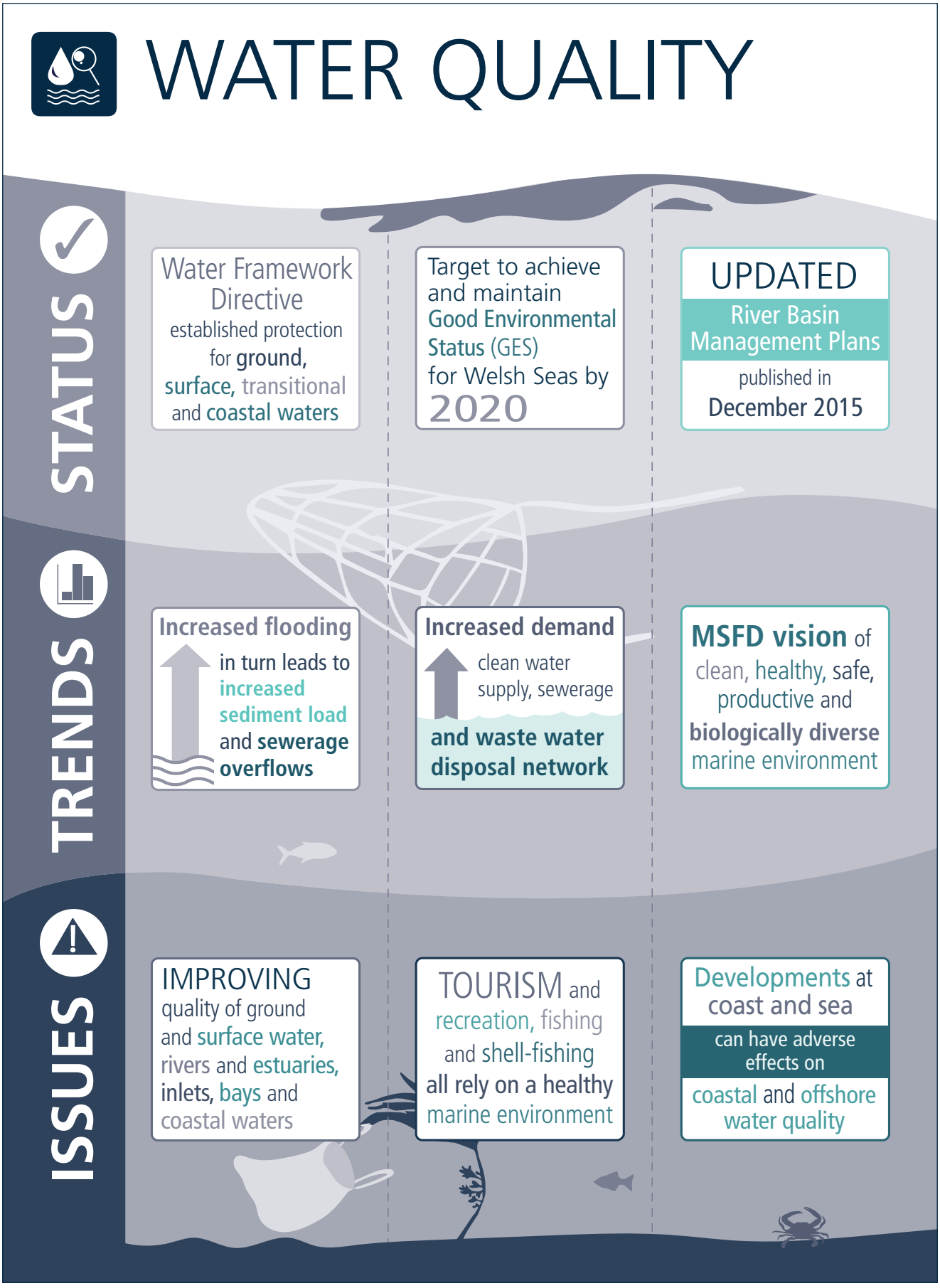

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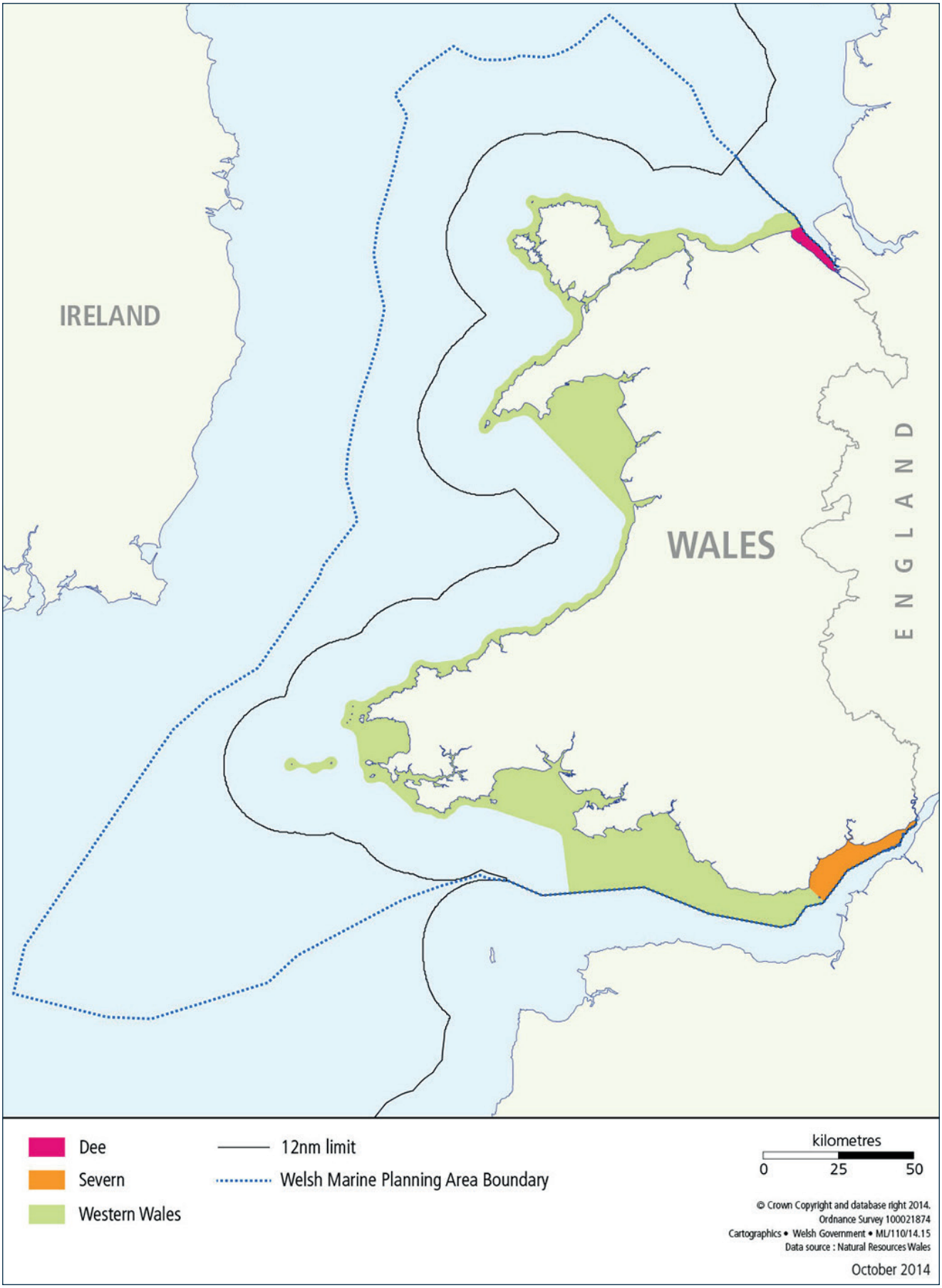

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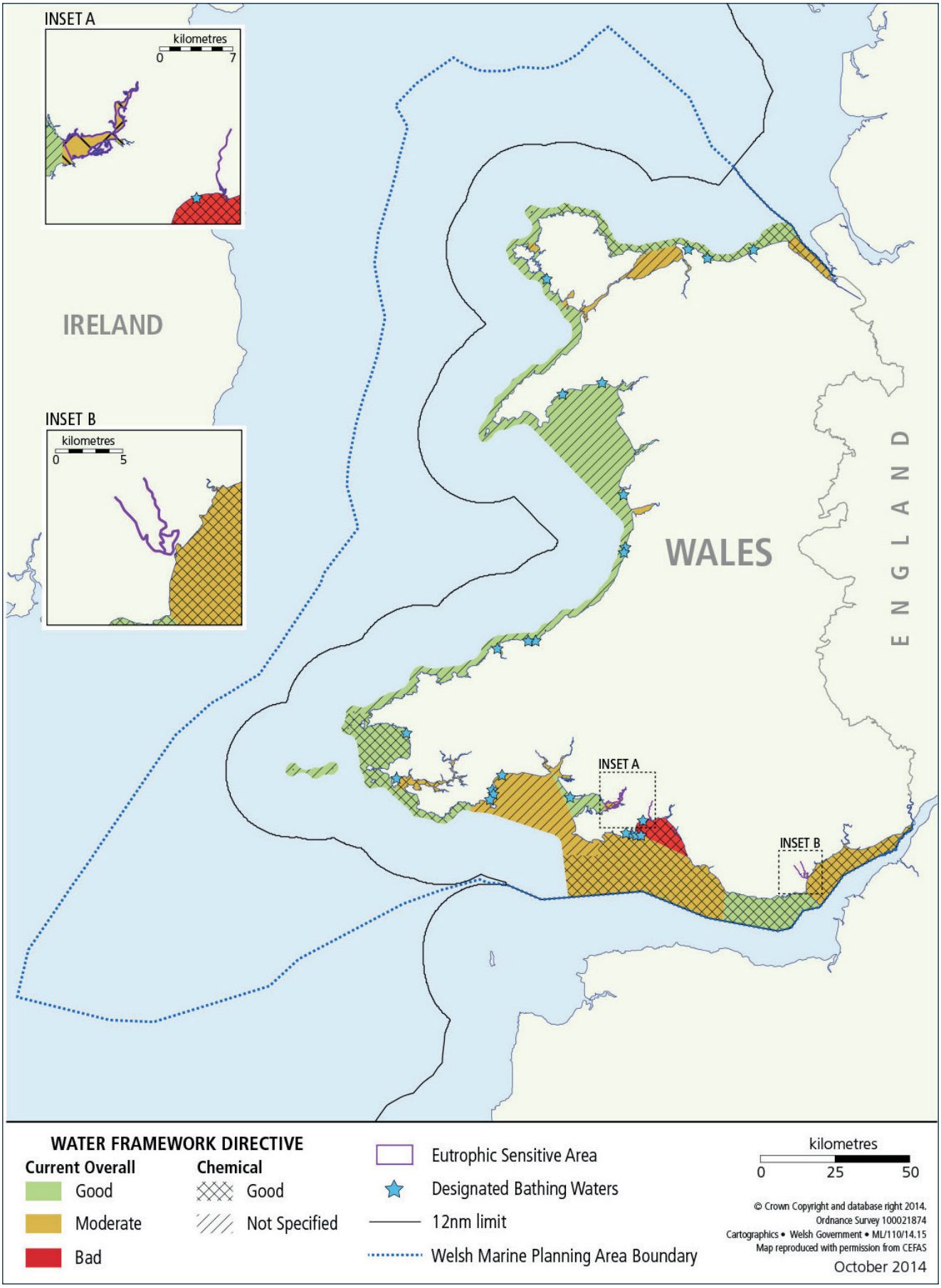

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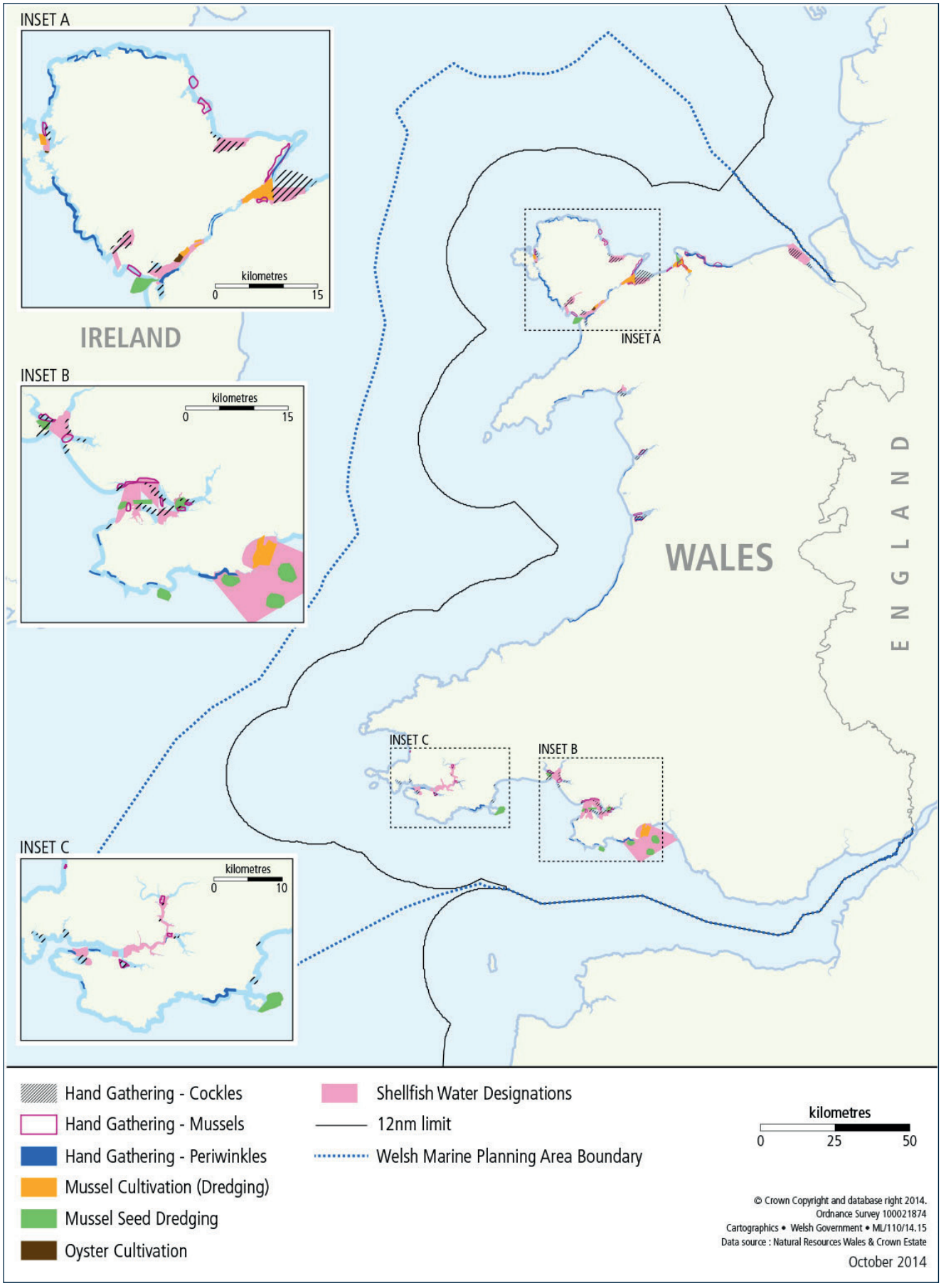

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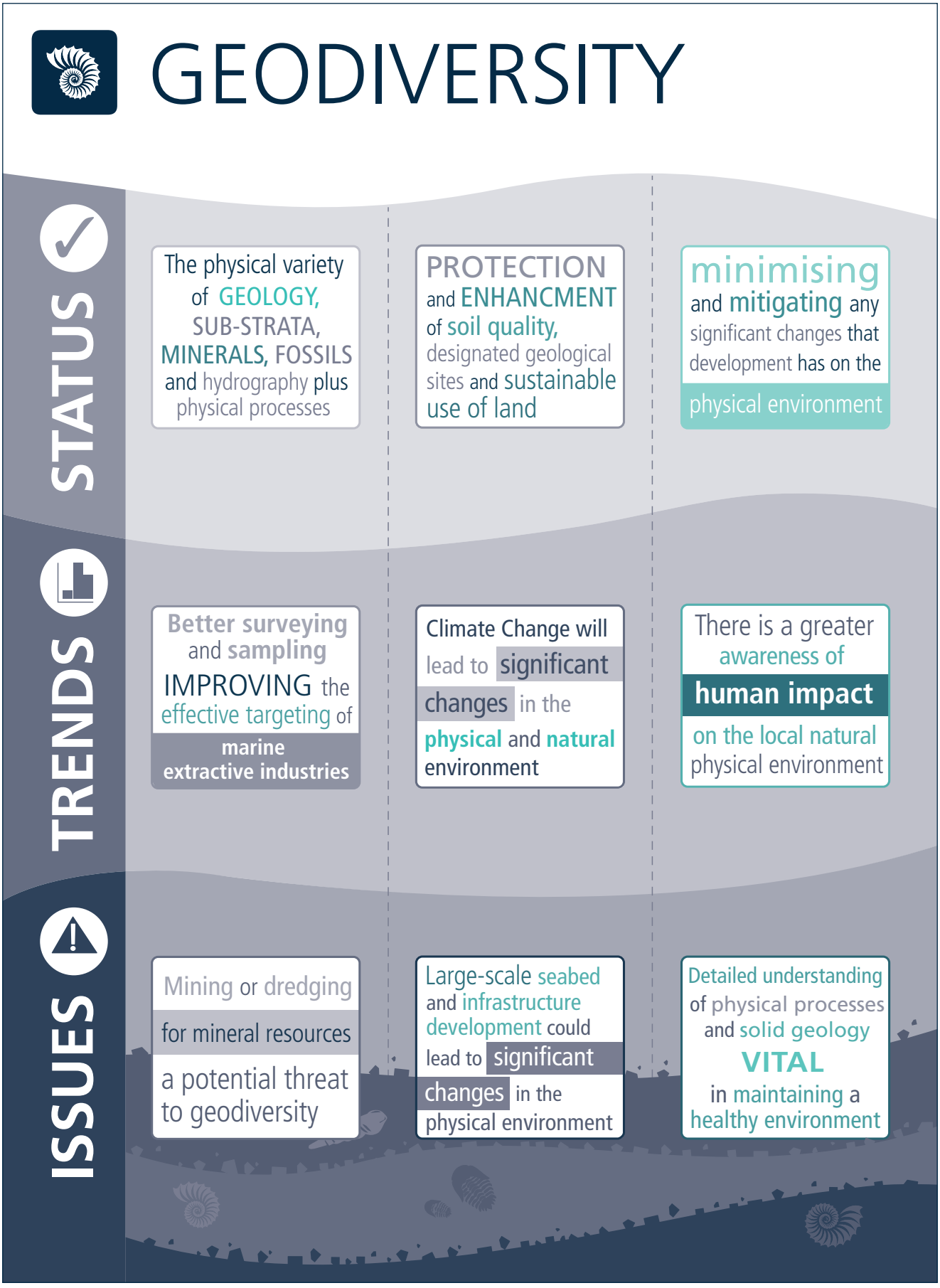

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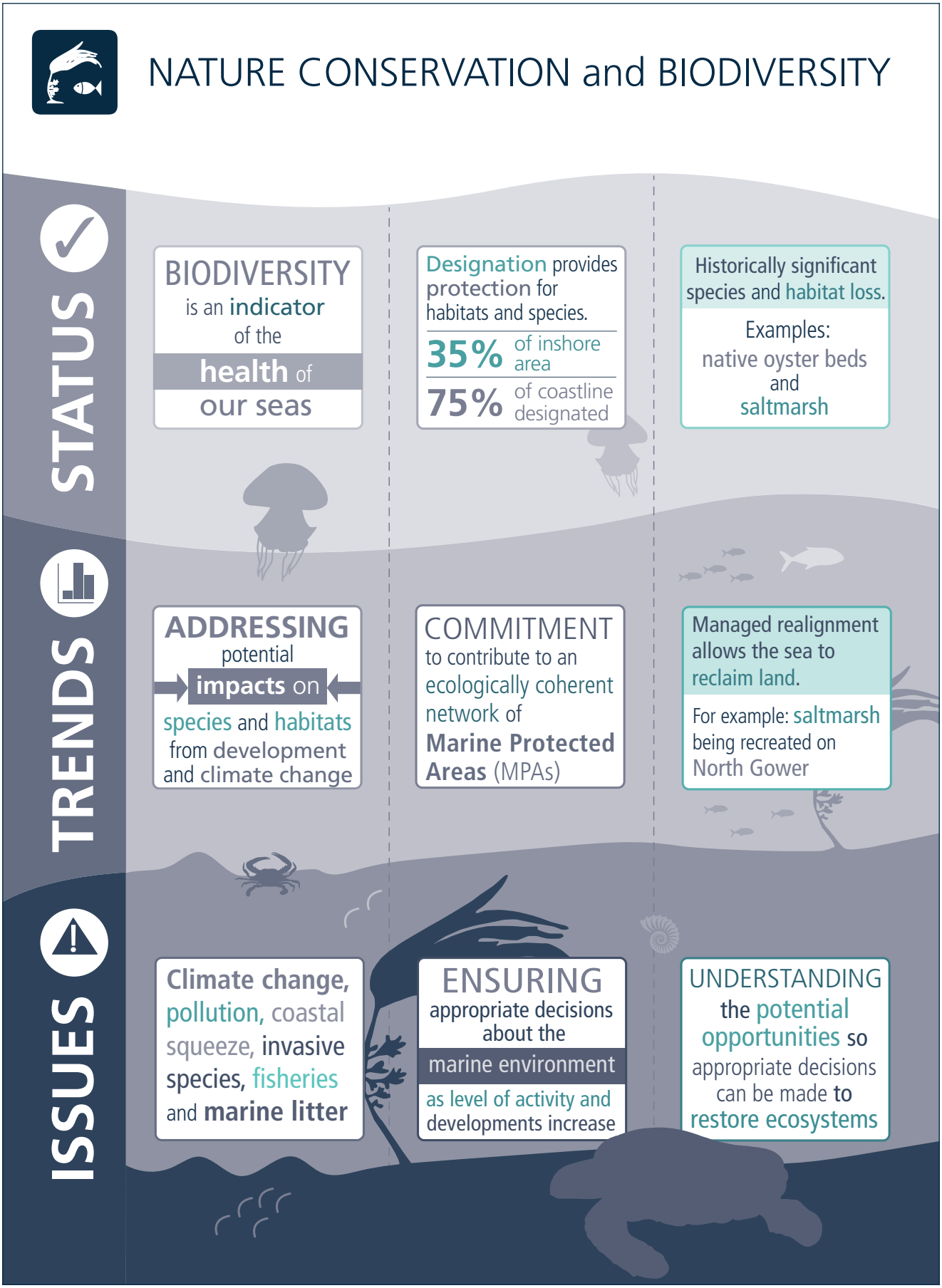

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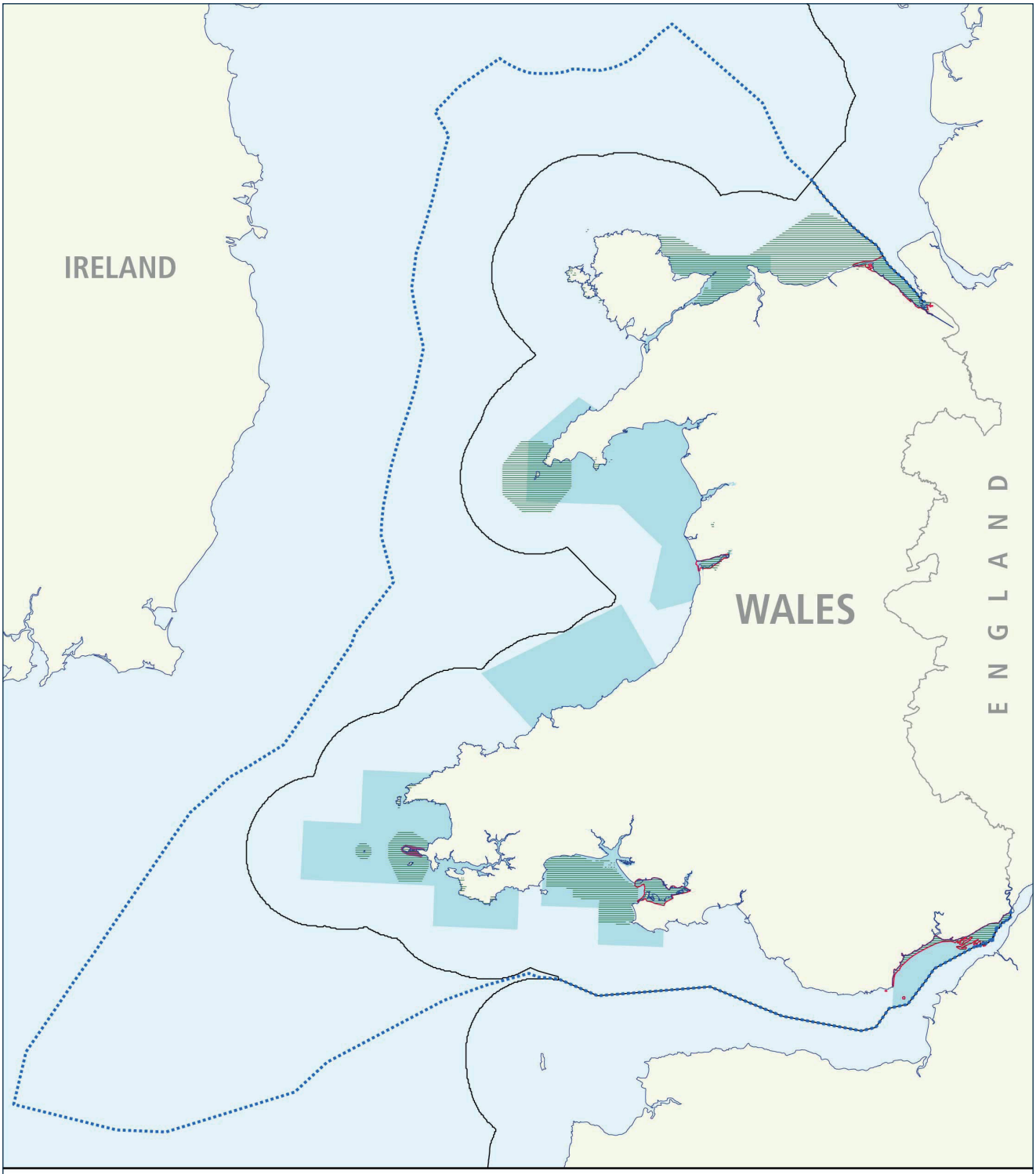

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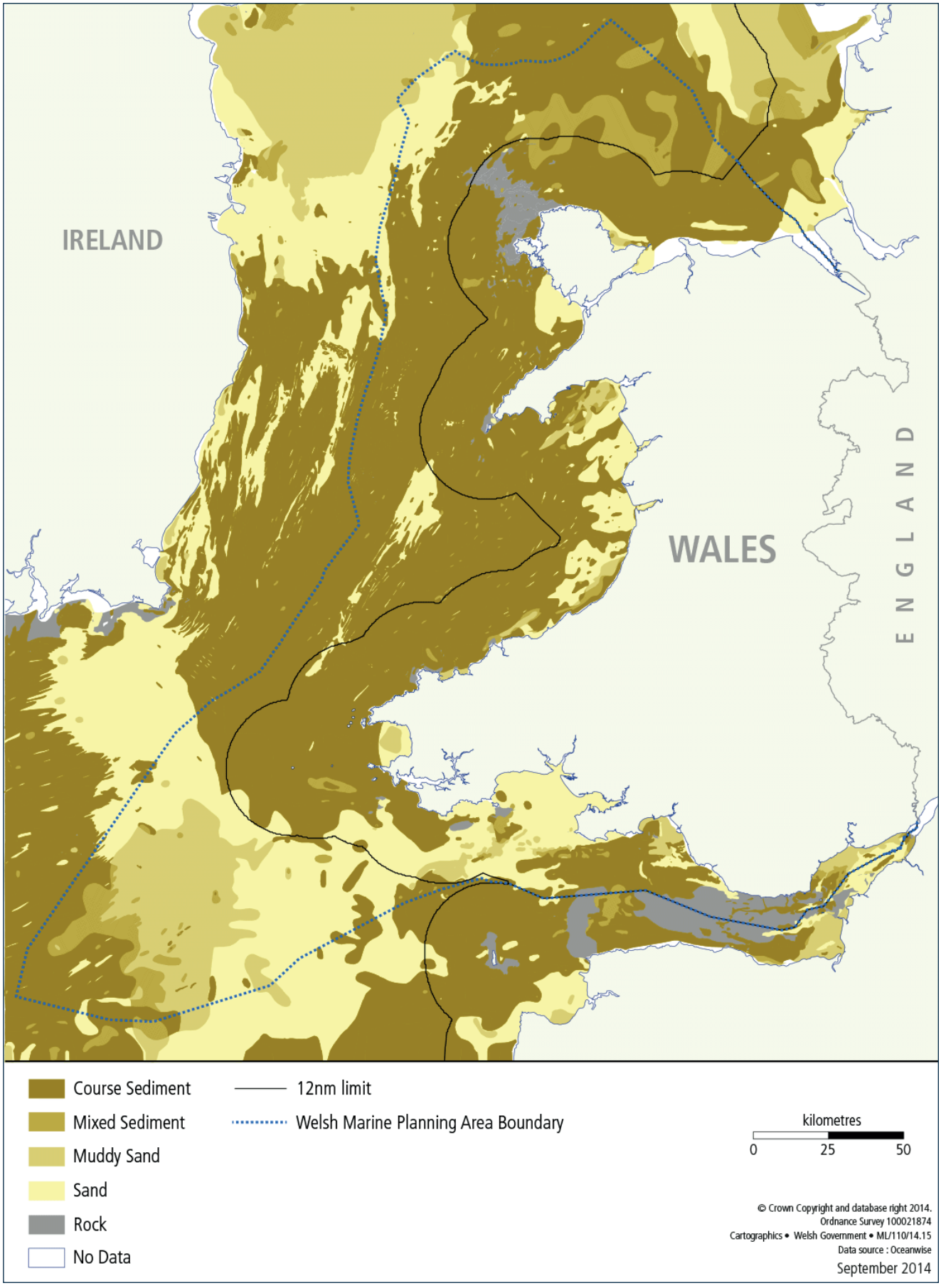

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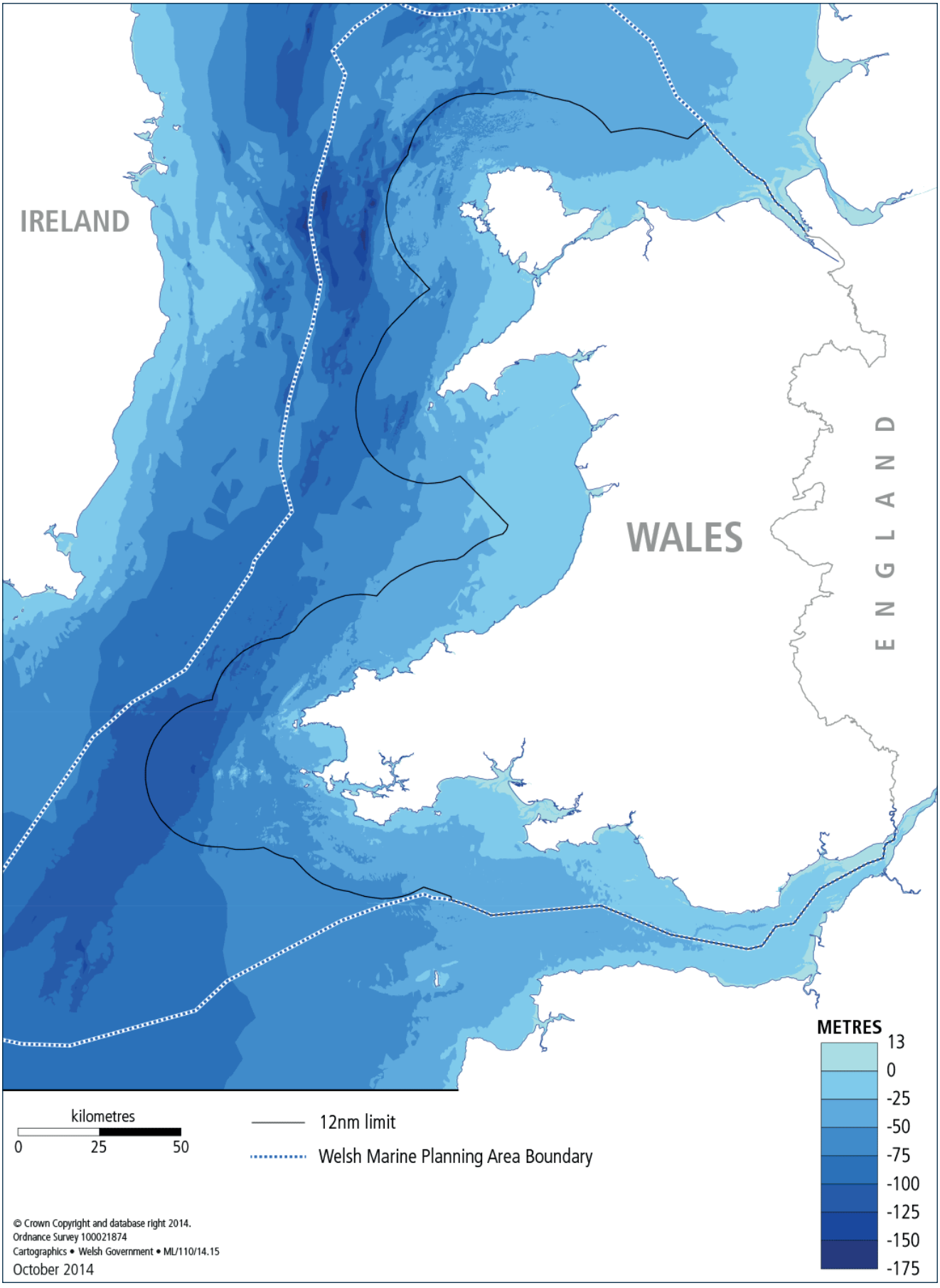

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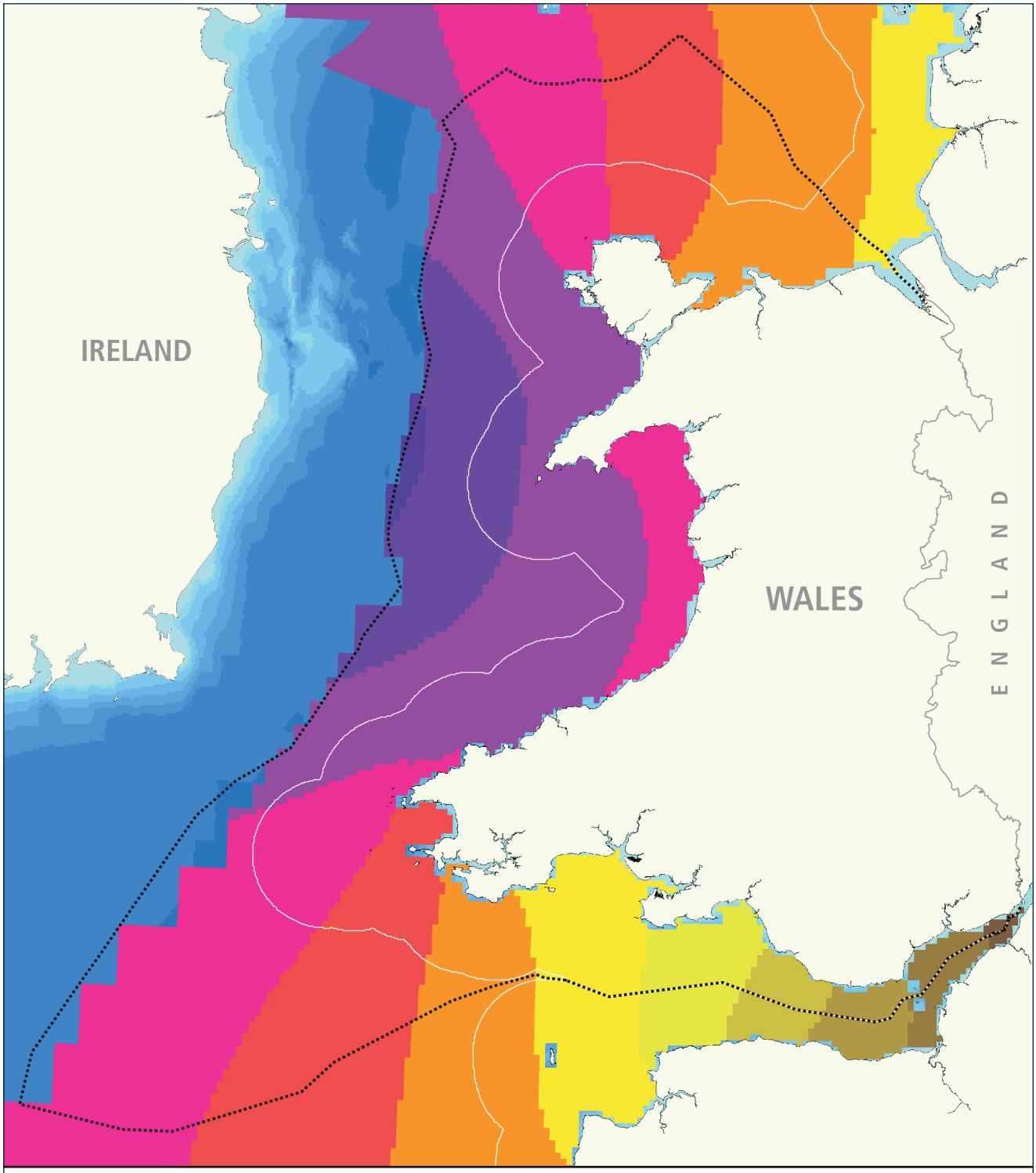

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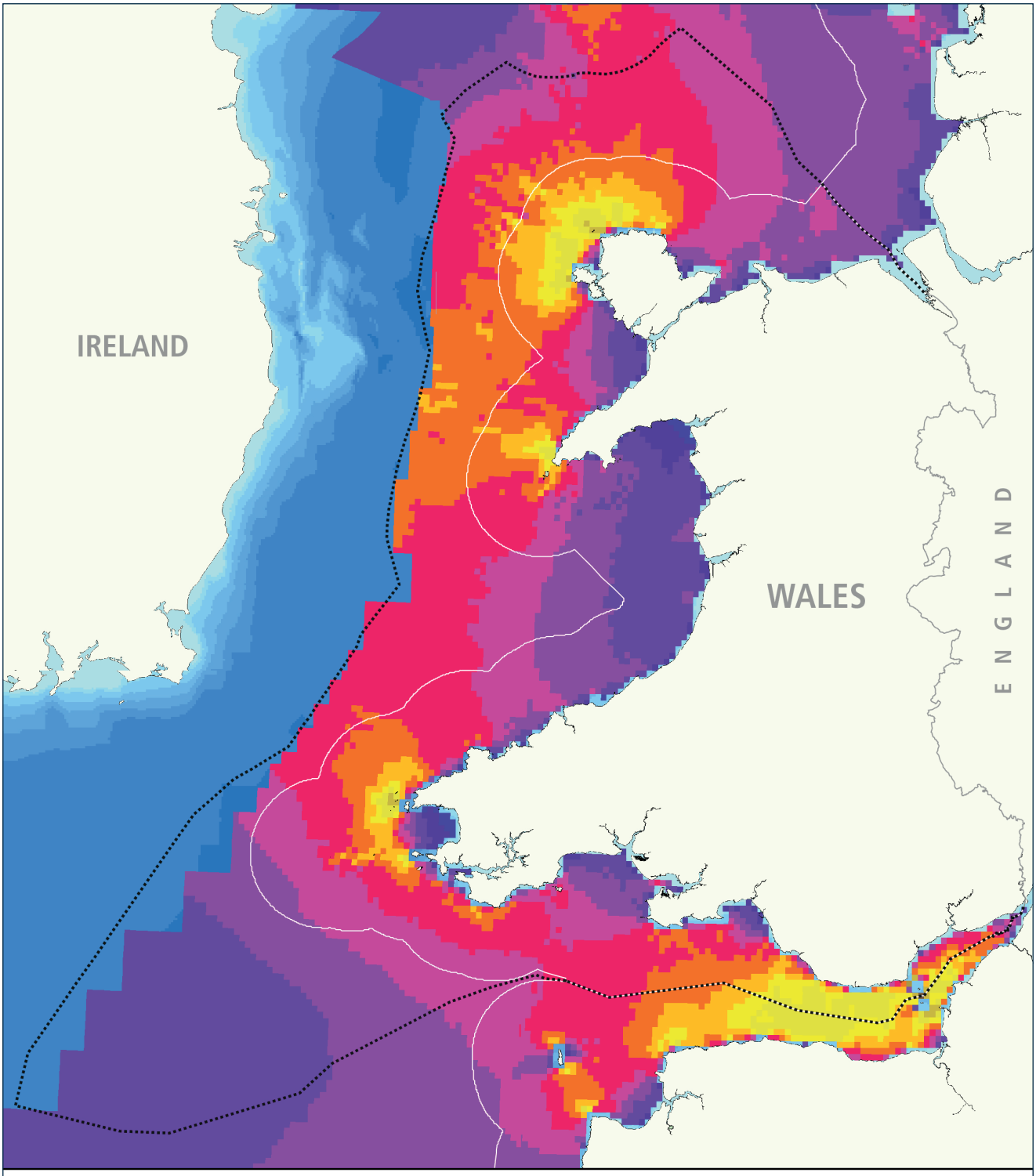

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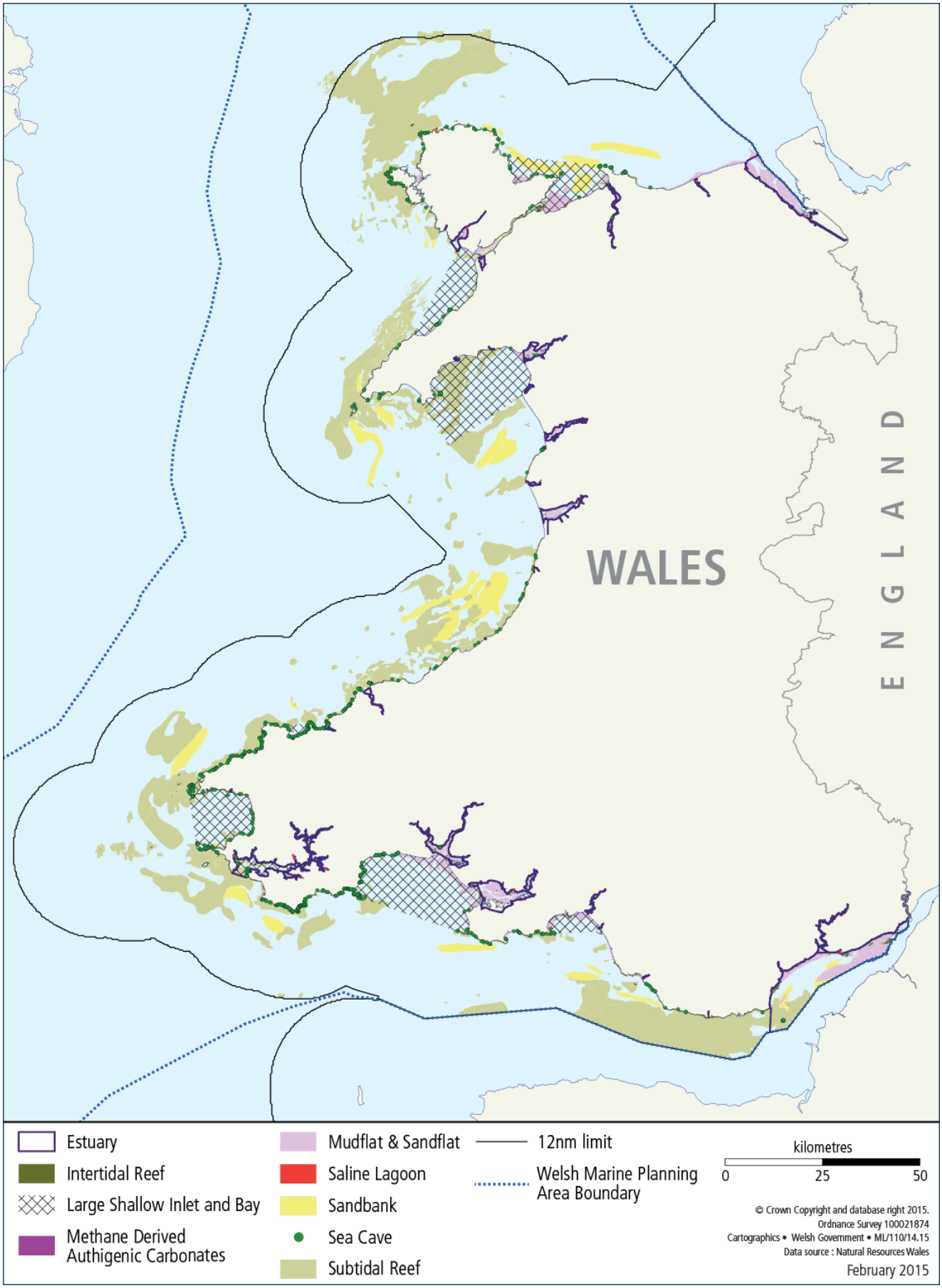

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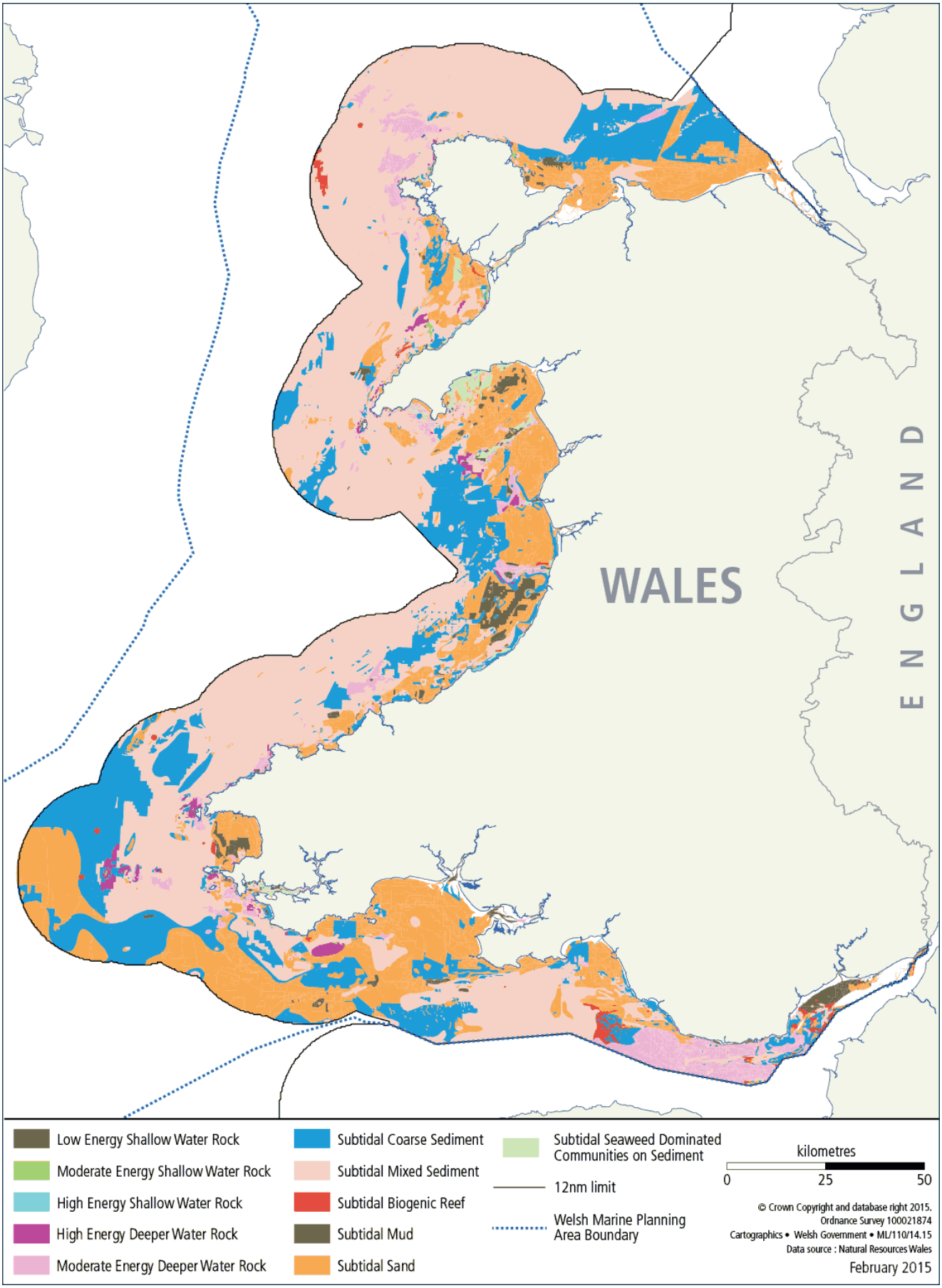

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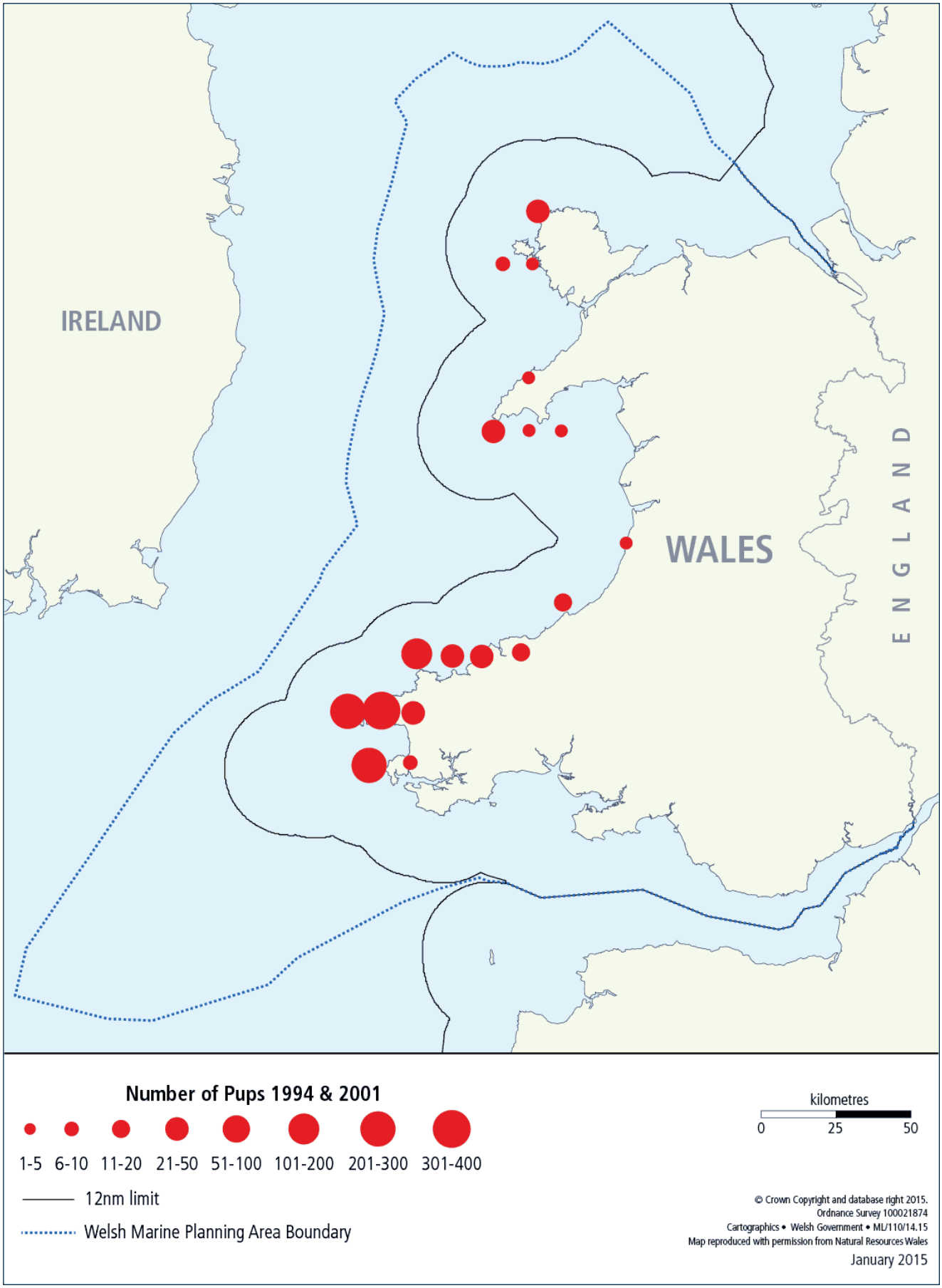

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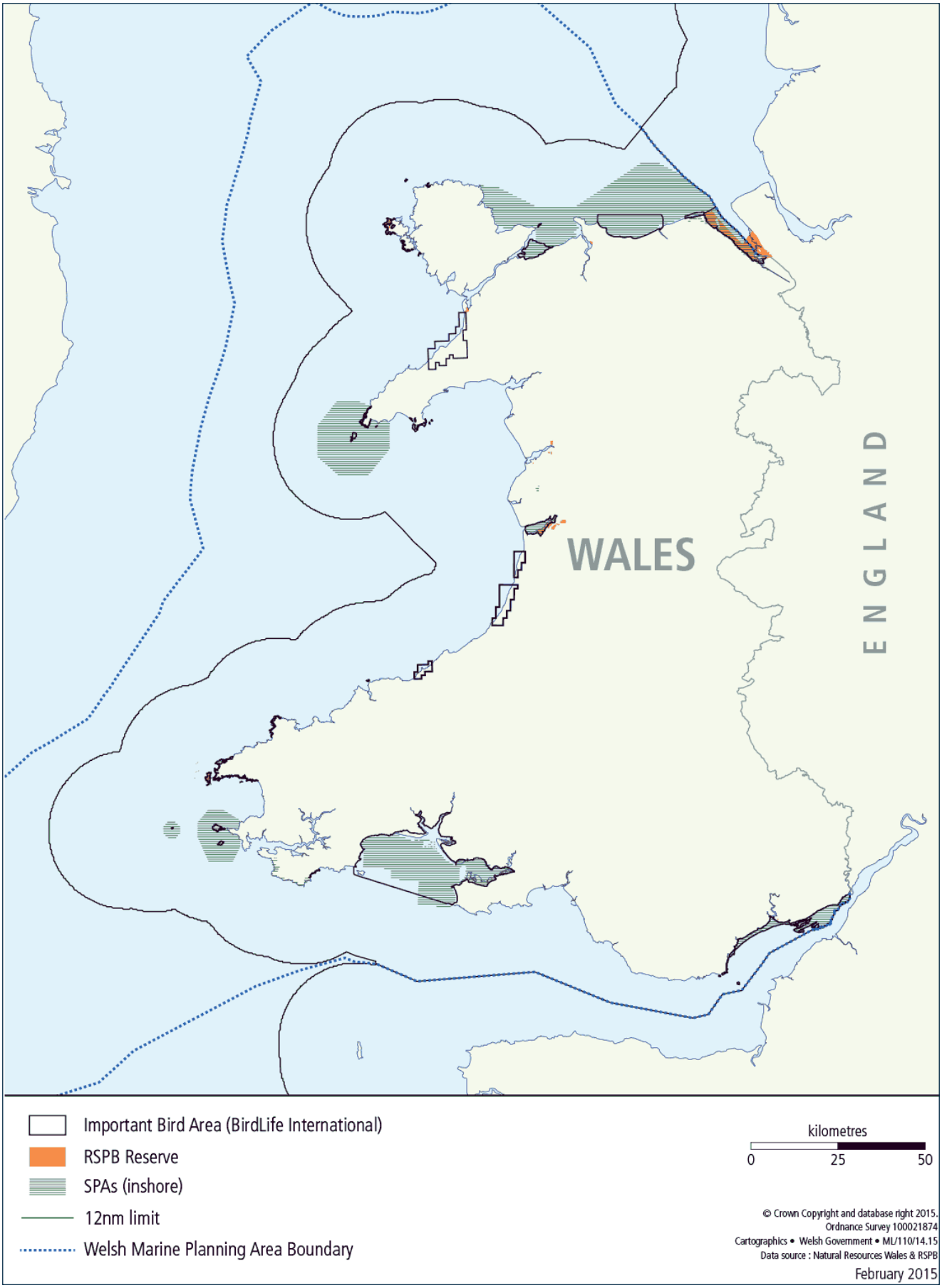

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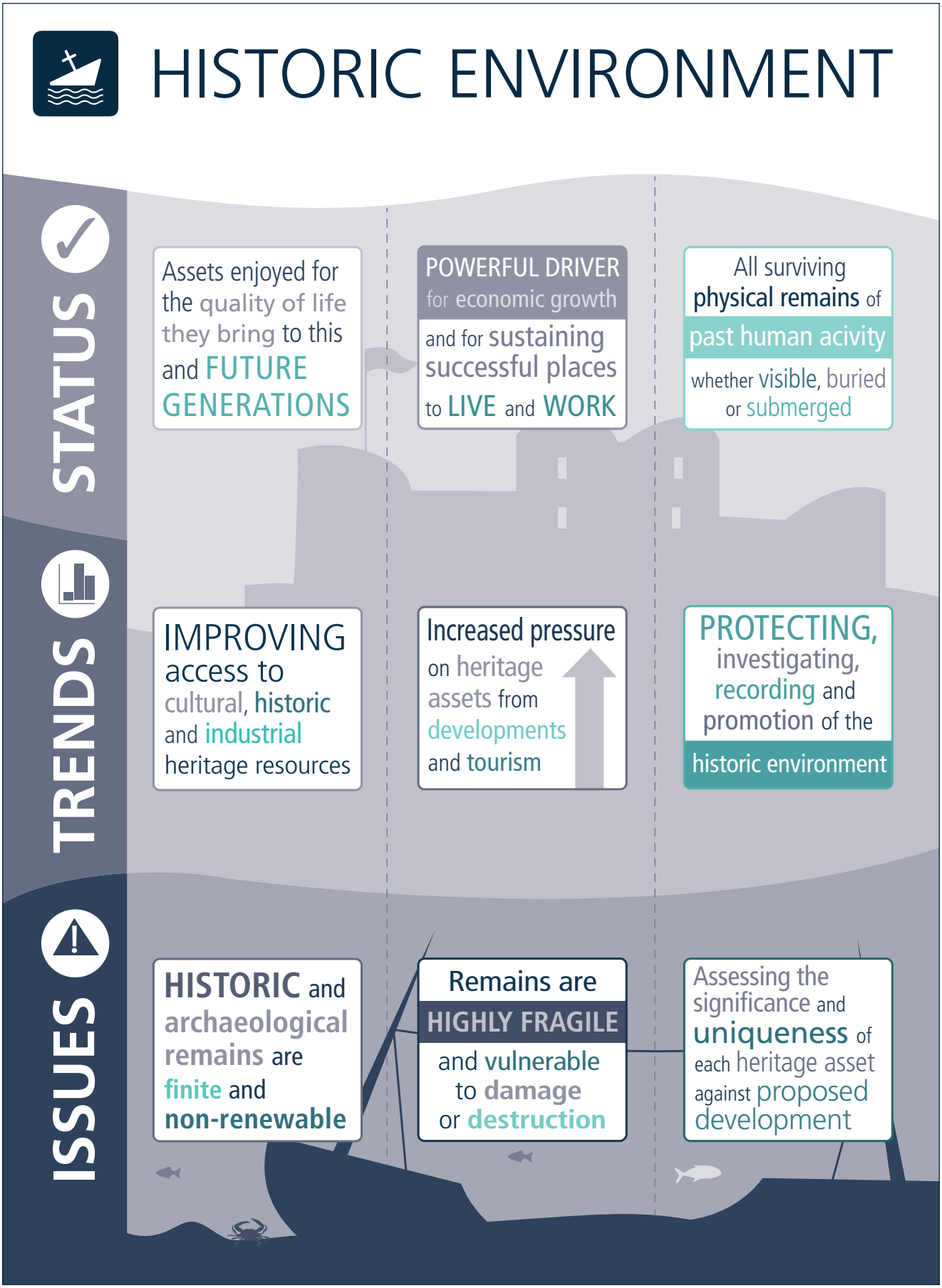

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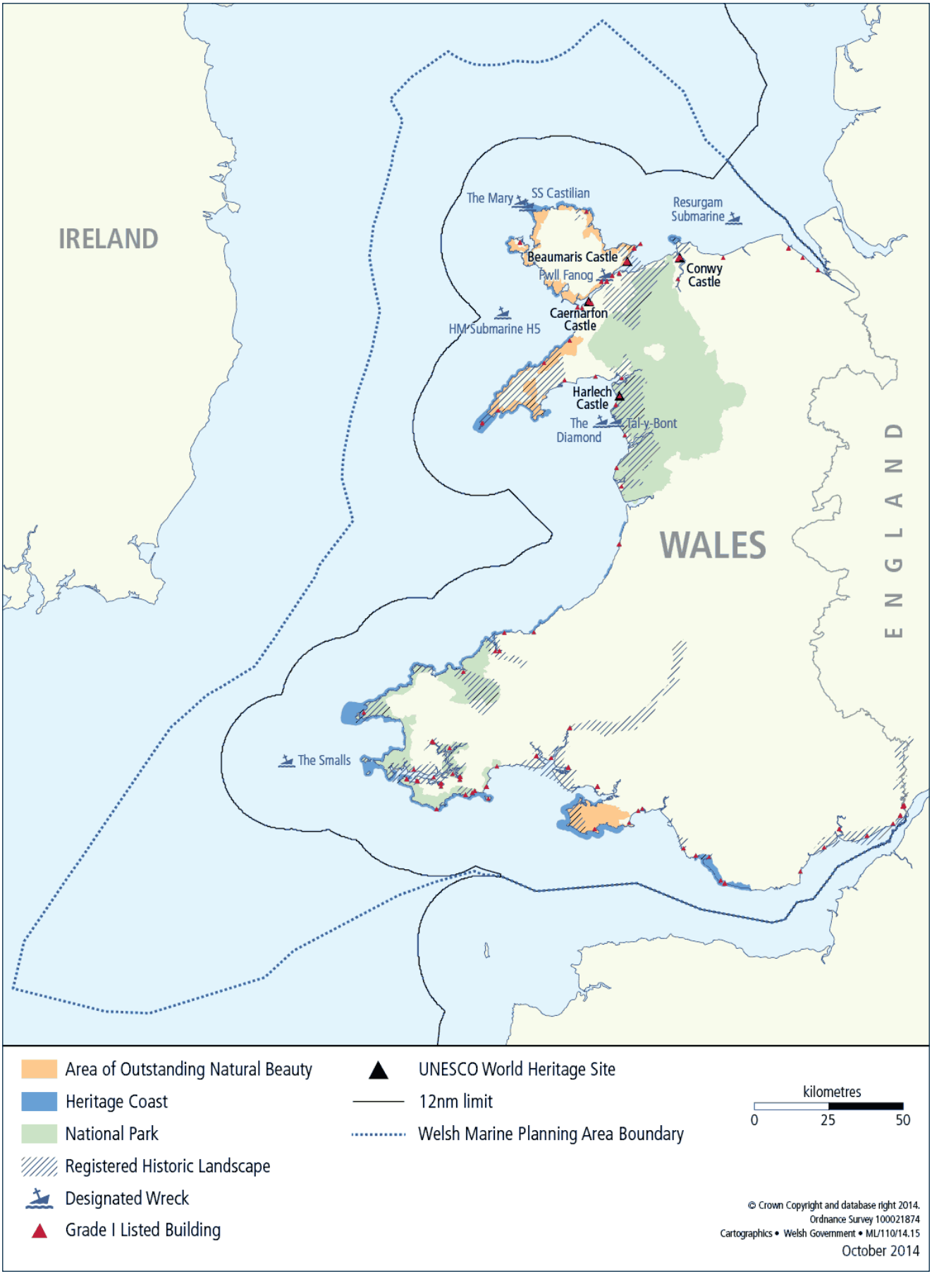


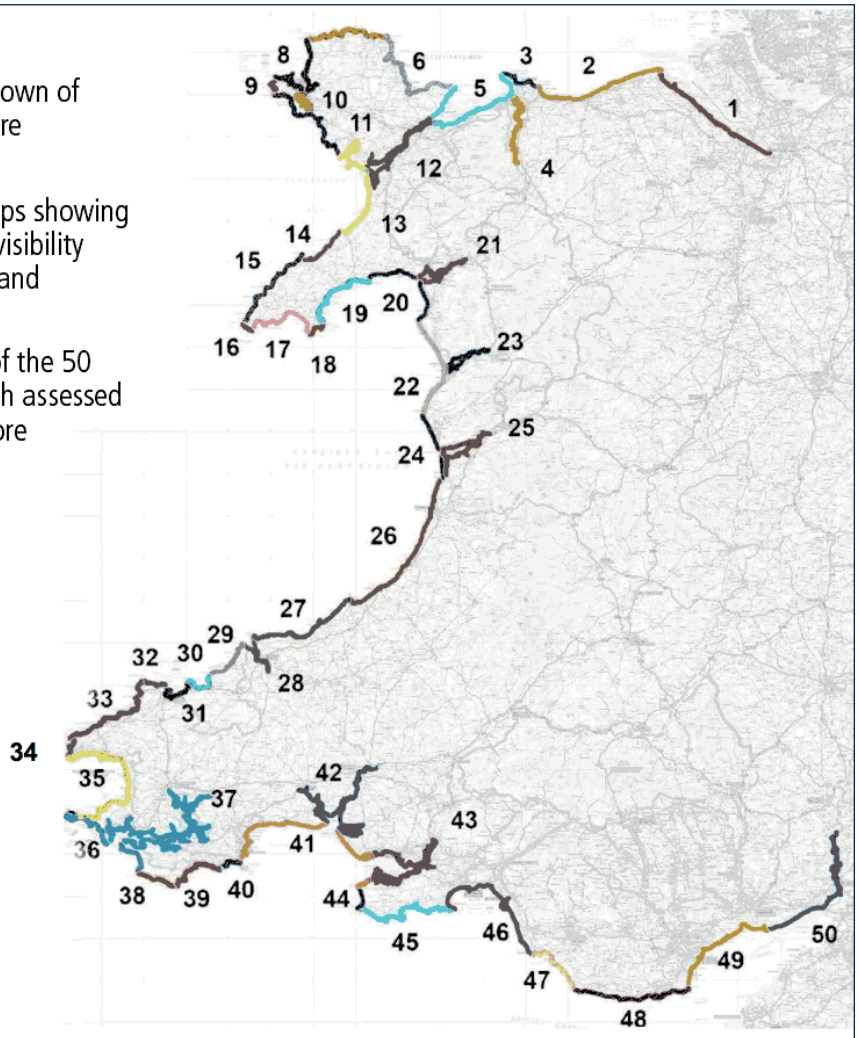
Figure 27: SEASCAPE

Figure 28: Welsh National Seascape Units

The assessment consists of a national overview, and a regional scale breakdown of Wales into 50 seascape units. These are separate documents.

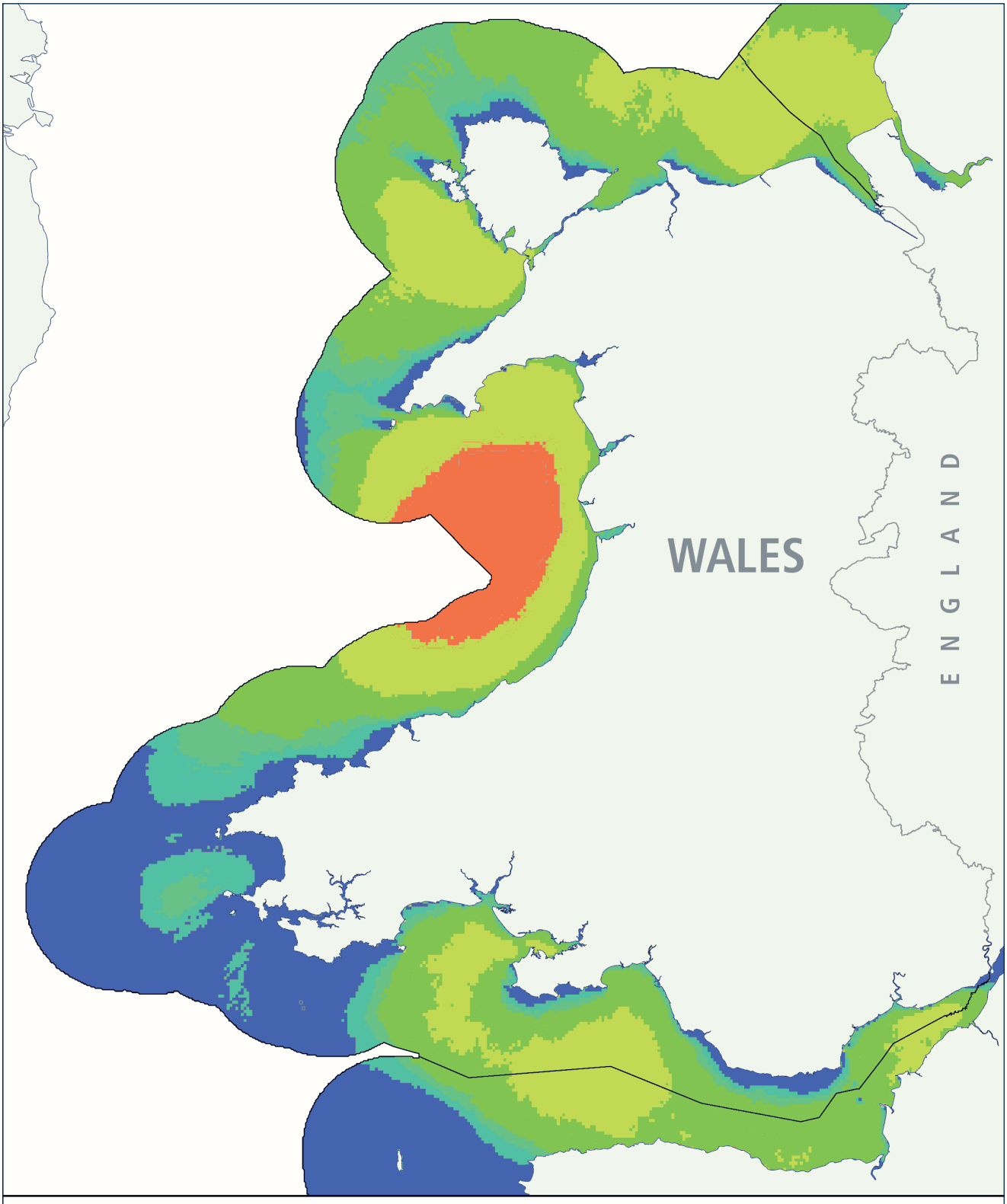
The **national overview** includes maps showing all Wales according to land-sea inter-visibility and factors such as coastal elevation and tranquility

In the **regional assessment**, each of the 50 seascape units are described, and each assessed in relation to their sensitivity to offshore developments



1	Dee Estuary
2	Point of Ayr to Colwyn Bay
3	Rhos Point to Great Ormes Head
4	Conwy Estuary
5	Great Ormes Head to Puffin Island
6	Puffin Island to Point Lynas
7	Point Lynas to Carmel Head
8	Carmel Head to Holyhead Mountain North Stack
9	Holyhead Mountain North Stack to Penrhyn Mawr
10	Penrhyn Mawr to Pen-y-Parc/Maltraeth Bay
11	Holy Island Straits
12	Menai Straits
13	Maltraeth Bay to Trefor
14	Trefor to Porth Dinllaen
15	Trywn Porth Dinllaen to Braich y Pwll/Mynydd Mawr
16	Braich y Pwll and Bardsey Island
17	Bardsey Island to Trwyn Cilan
18	Trwyn Cilan to Penrhyn Du (Porth Ceiriad and St Tudwal's Island)
19	Penrhyn Du to Pen-ychain (Abersoch and Pwllheli)
20	Pen-ychain to Morfa Dyffryn (Tremadog Bay)
21	Porthmadog Estuary
22	Morfa Dyffryn to Pen Bwch Point (Barmouth Bay)
23	Mawddach Estuary
24	Pen Bwch Point to Upper Borth
25	Dyfi Estuary
26	Upper Borth to Newquay (central Cardigan Bay)
27	Newquay to Cardigan Island
28	Teifi Estuary
29	Cemaes Head to Trwyn y Bwa
30	Trwyn y Bwa to Dinas Head (Newport Bay)
31	Dinas Head to Crincoed Point (Fishguard Bay)
32	Crincoed Point to Strumble Head
33	Strumble Head to St David's Head
34	St David's Head to Ramsey Island
35	Ramsey Island to Skomer Island (St Brides Bay)
36	Skomer Island to Linney Head
37	Milford Haven
38	Linney Head to St Govan's Head
39	St Govan's Head to Old Castle Head
40	Old Castle Head to Giltar Point/Caldey Island
41	Giltar Point to Pembrey Burrows (Carmarthen Bay)
42	Taf, Tywi and Gwendraeth estuaries
43	Loughor Estuary
44	Whiteford Point to Worms Head - Rhossili Bay
45	Worms Head to Mumbles Head - South Gower
46	Mumbles Head to Porthcawl Point (Swansea Bay)
47	Porthcawl to Nash Point
48	Nash Point to Lavernock Point
49	Lavernock to Gold Cliff
50	Gold Cliff to Chepstow

Figure 29: Sea Surface Visibility



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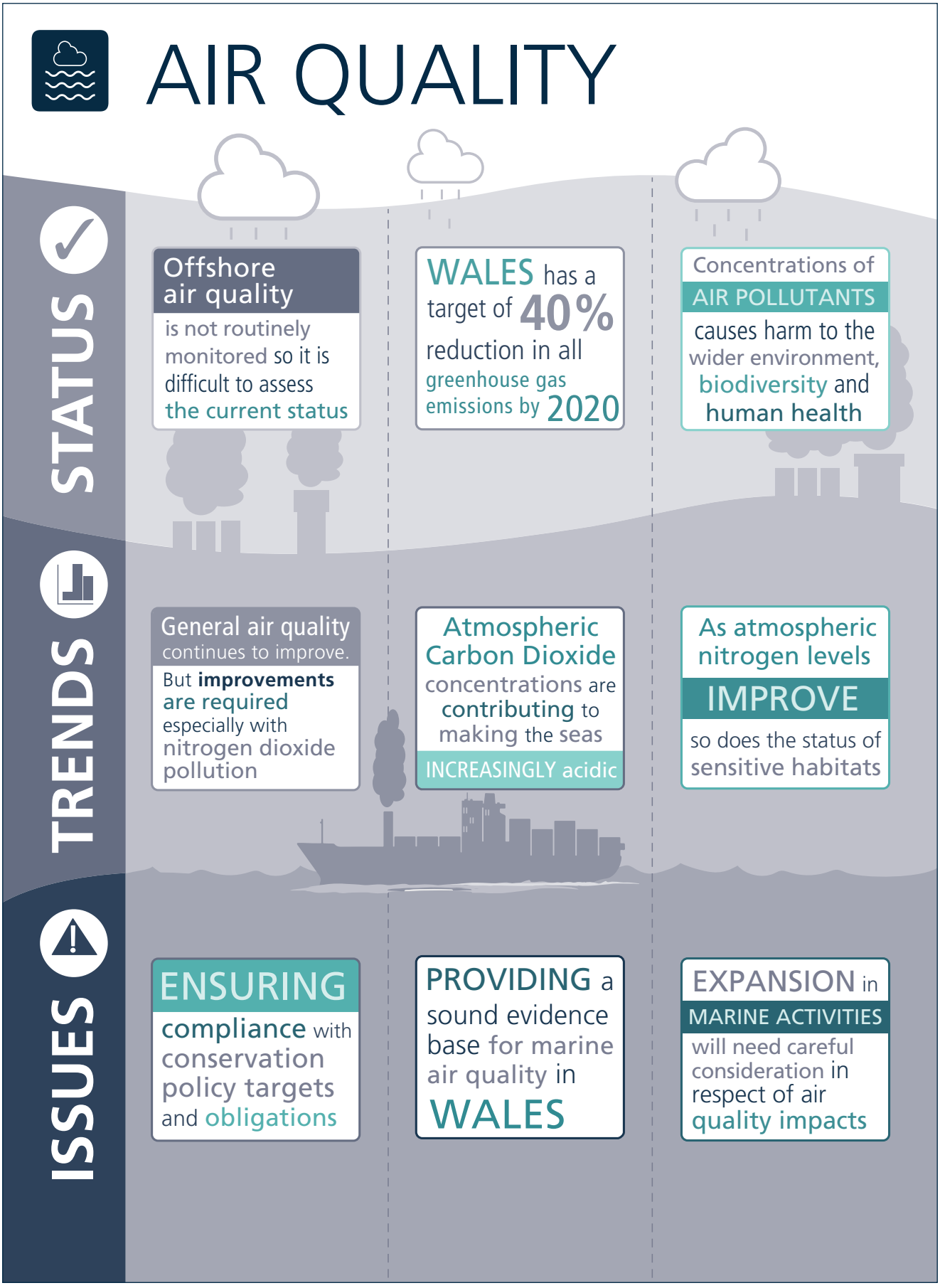

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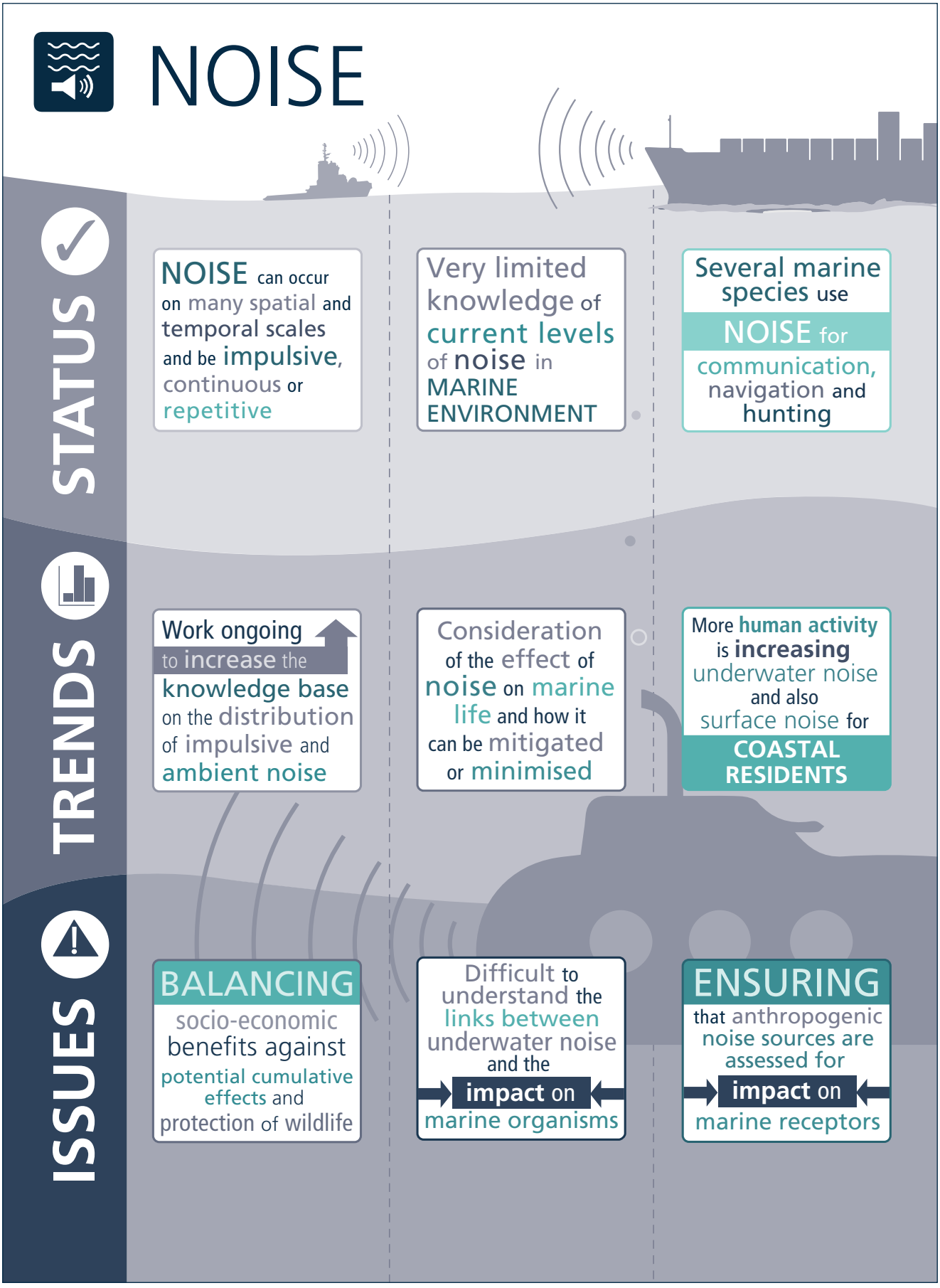

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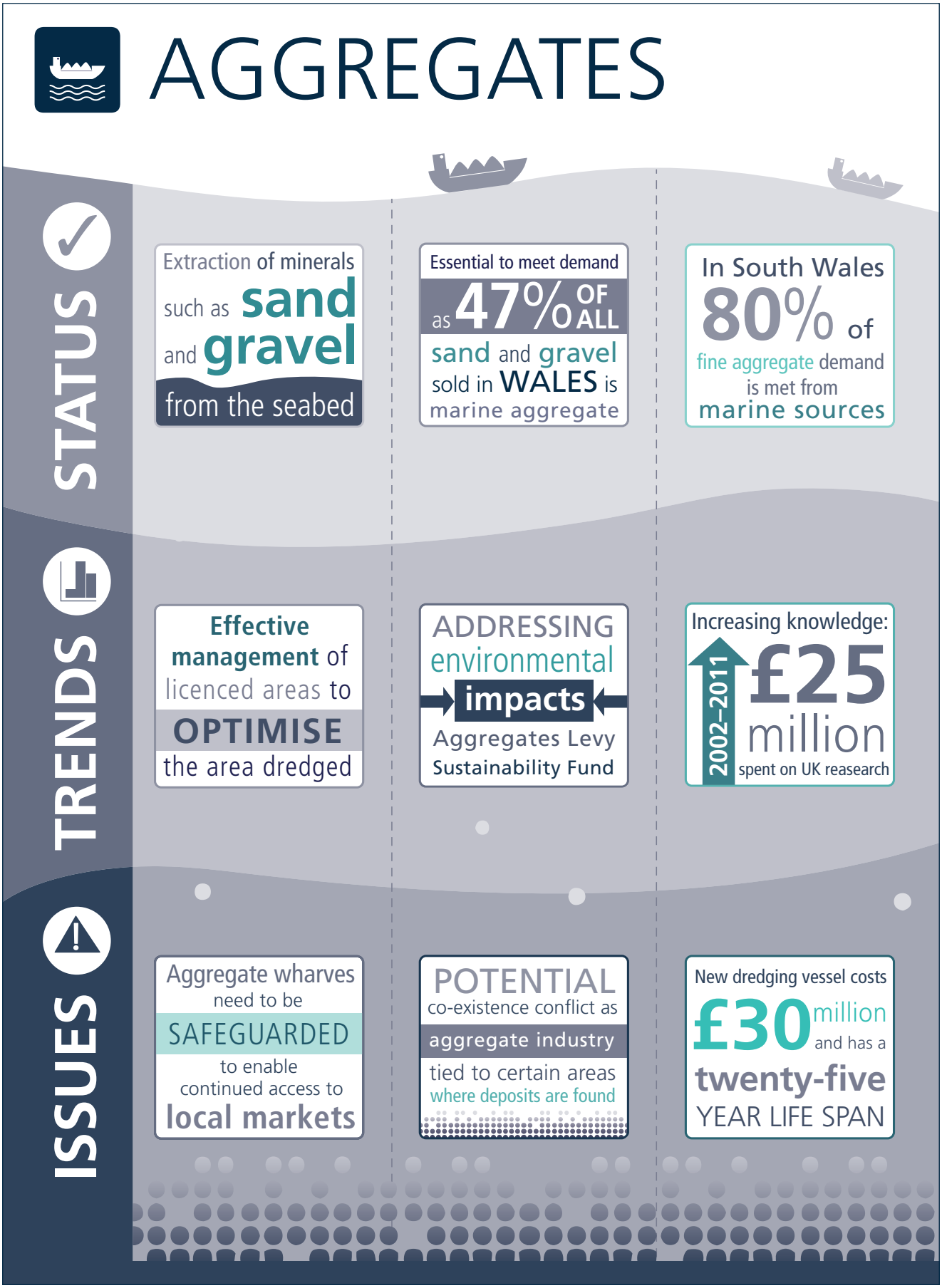

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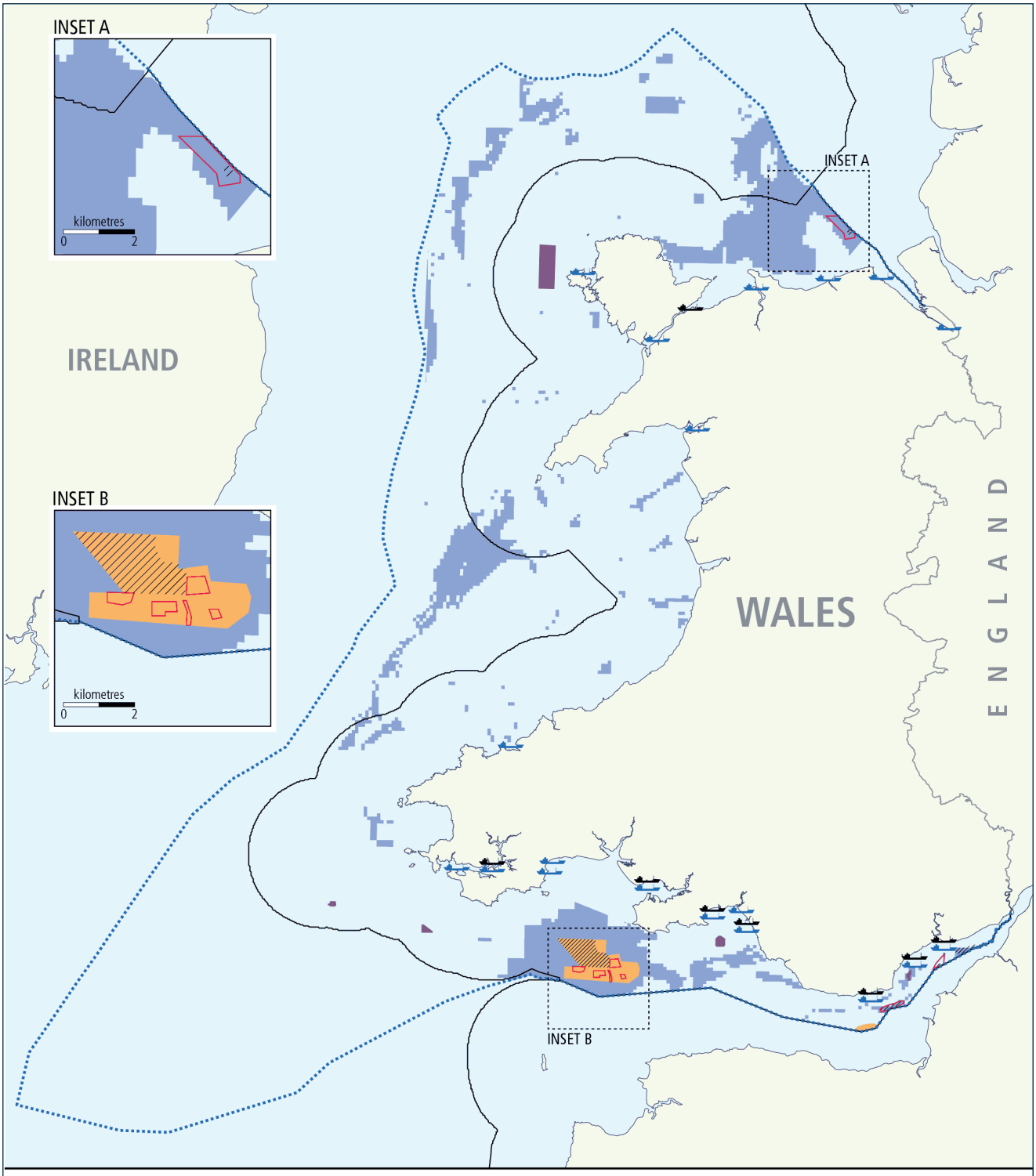

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Figure 34: AQUACULTURE

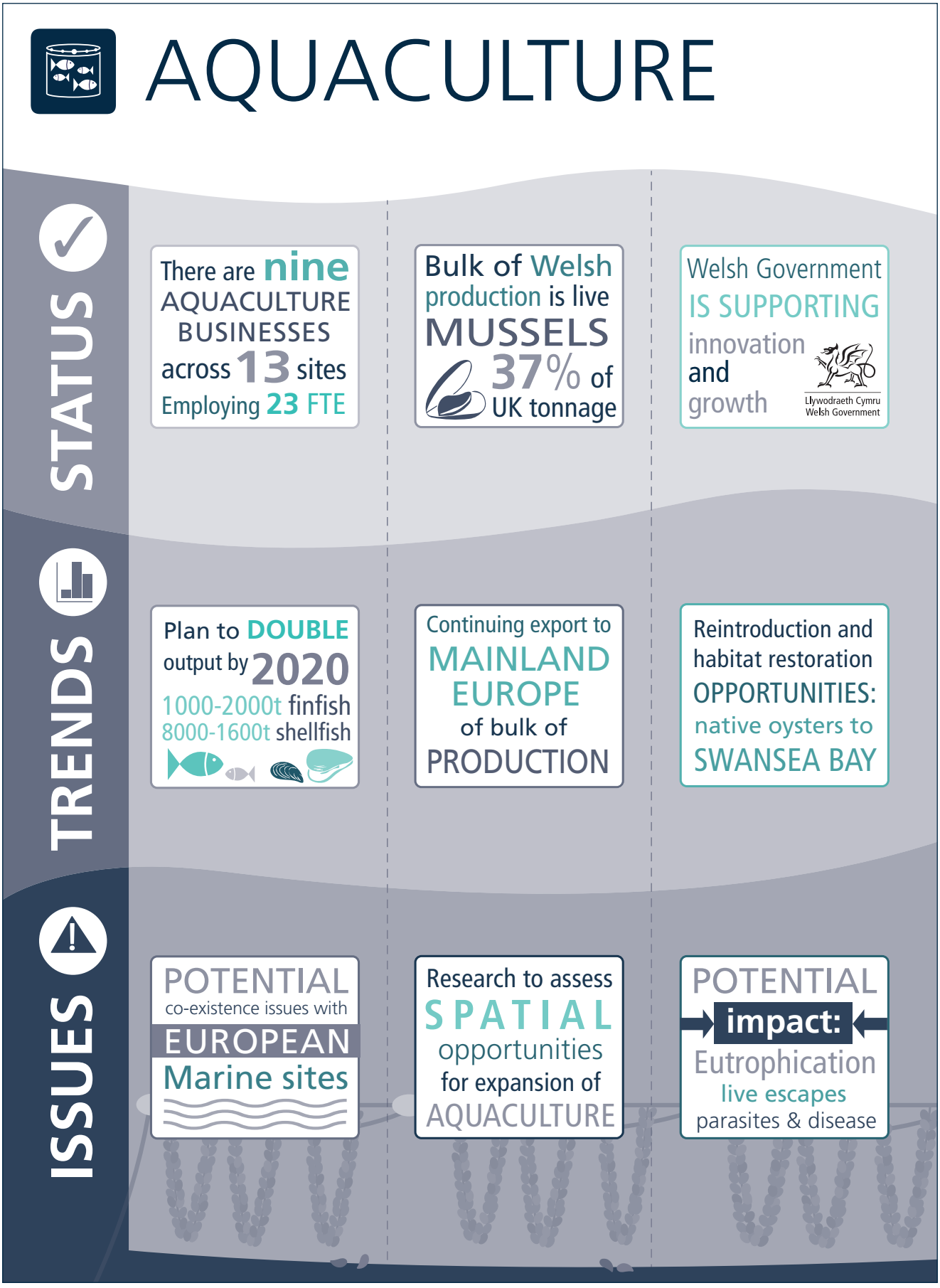


Figure 35: DEFENCE

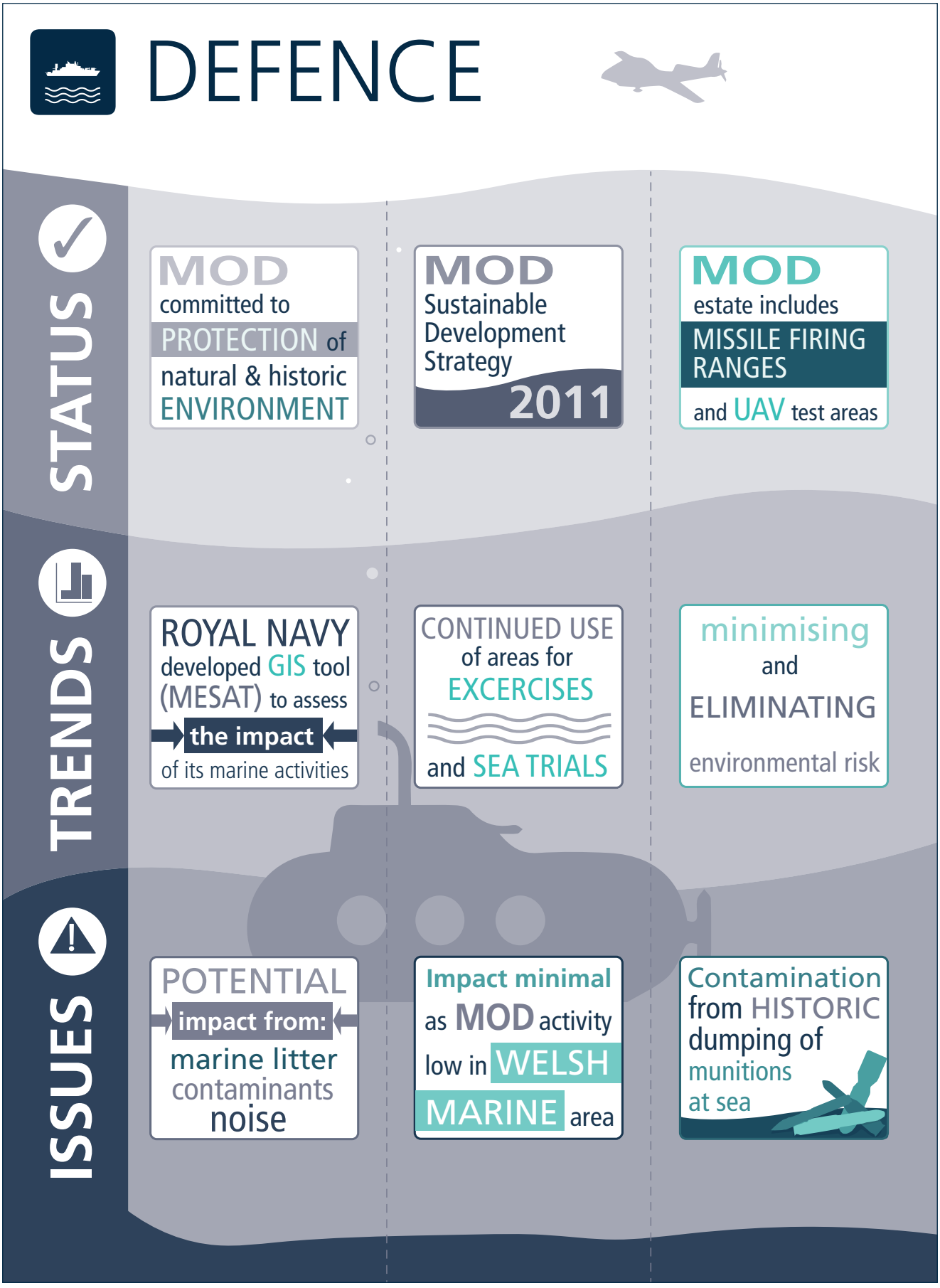


Figure 36: DREDGING

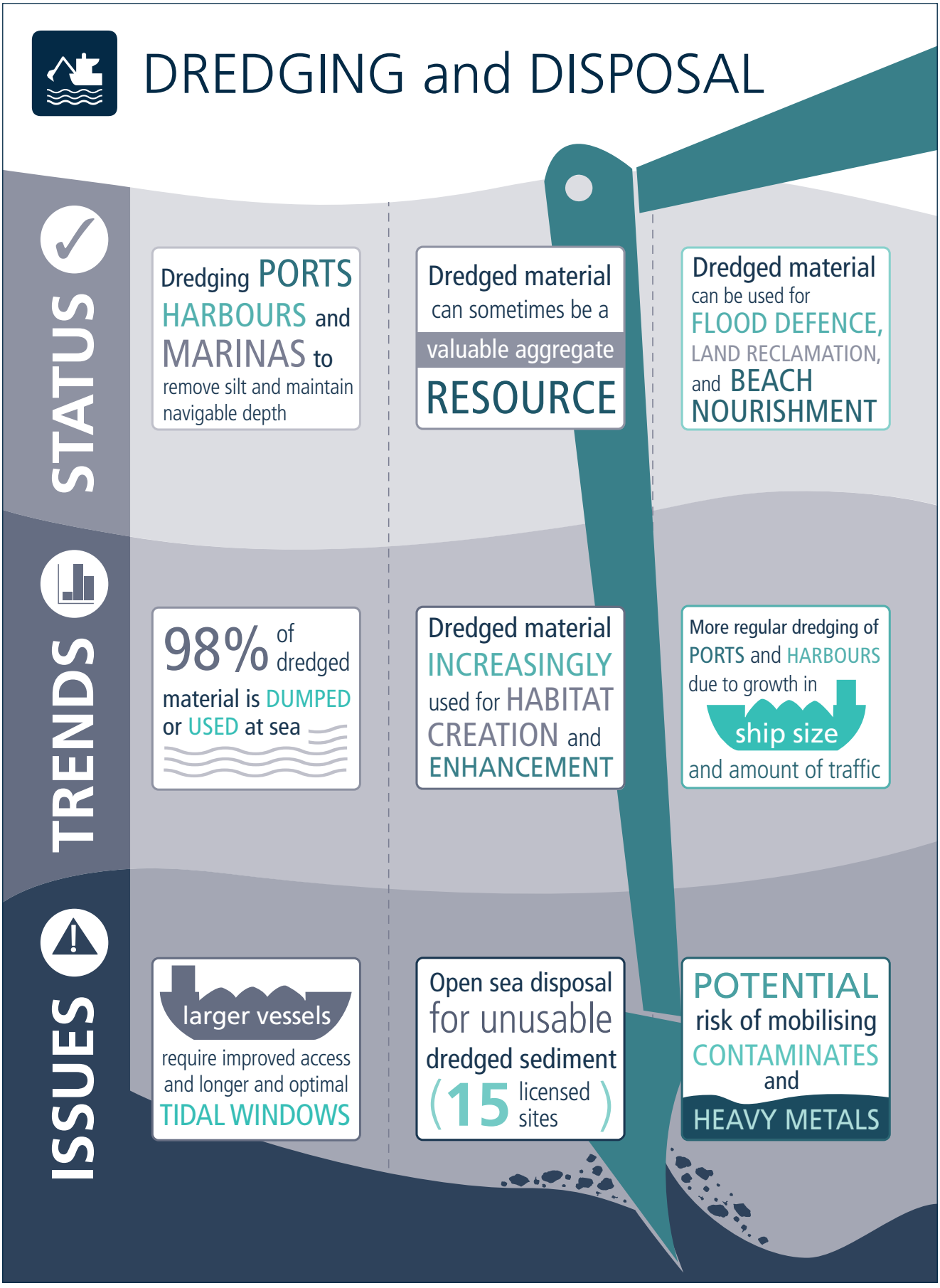
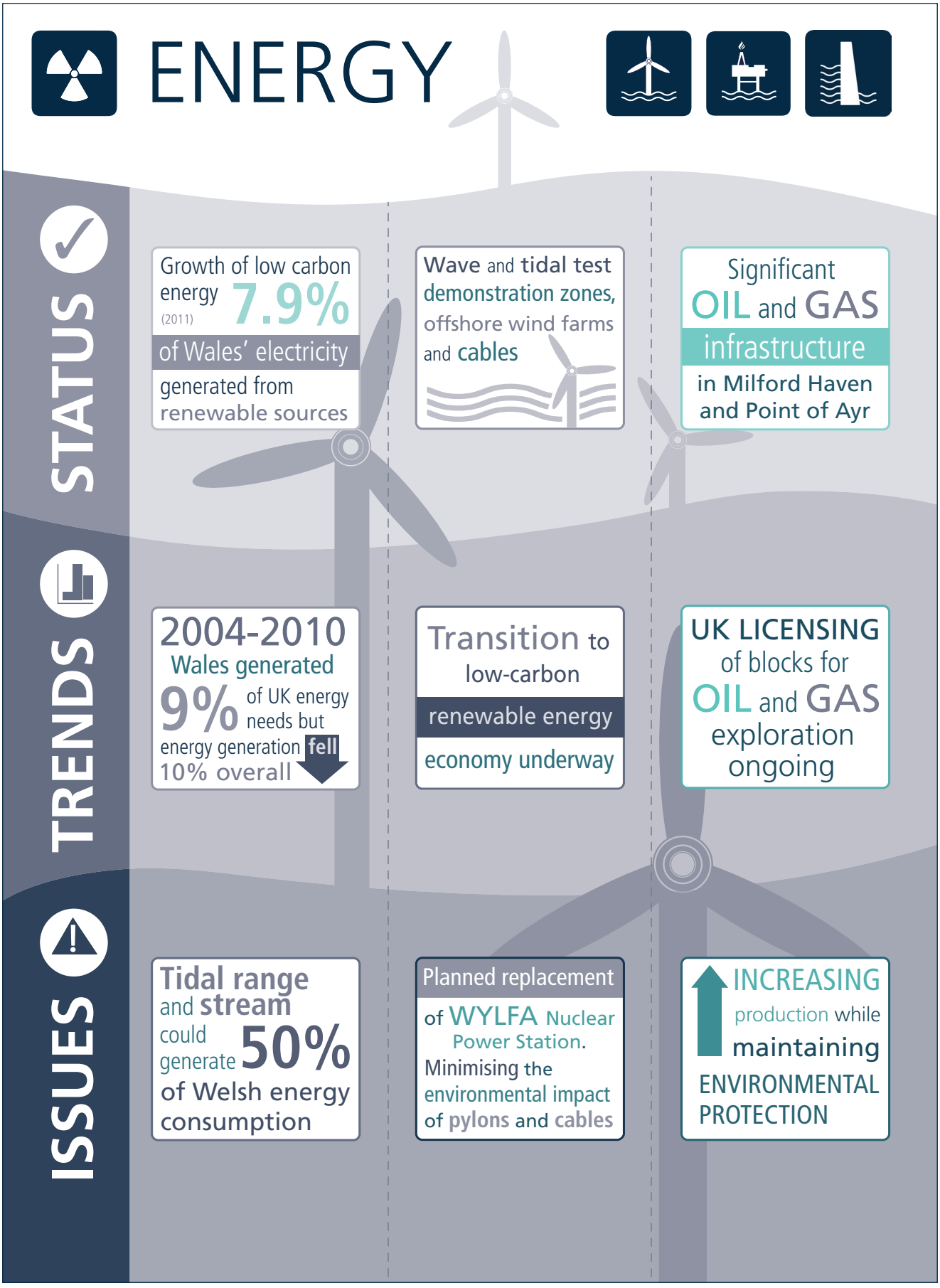


Figure 37: ENERGY



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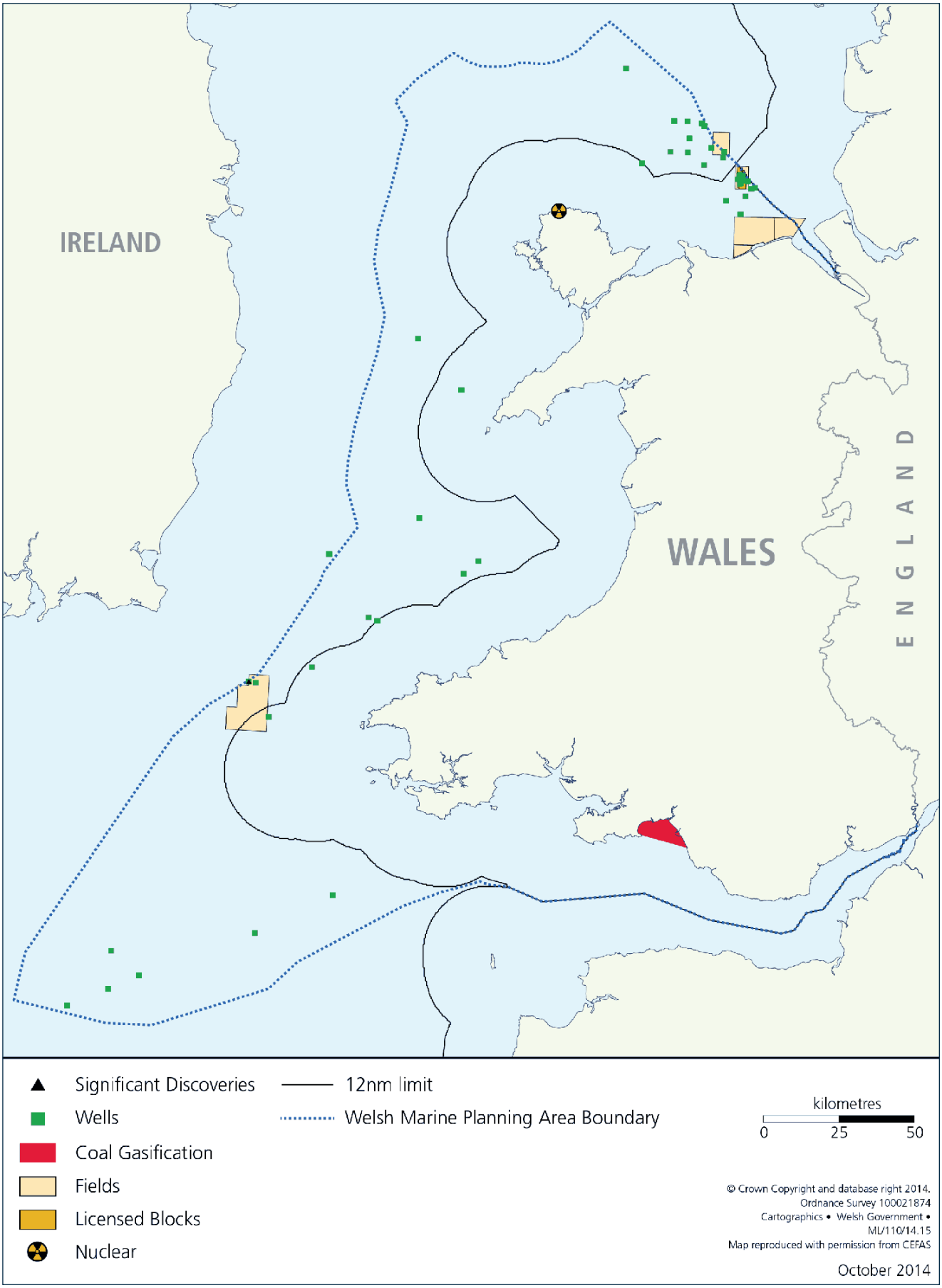
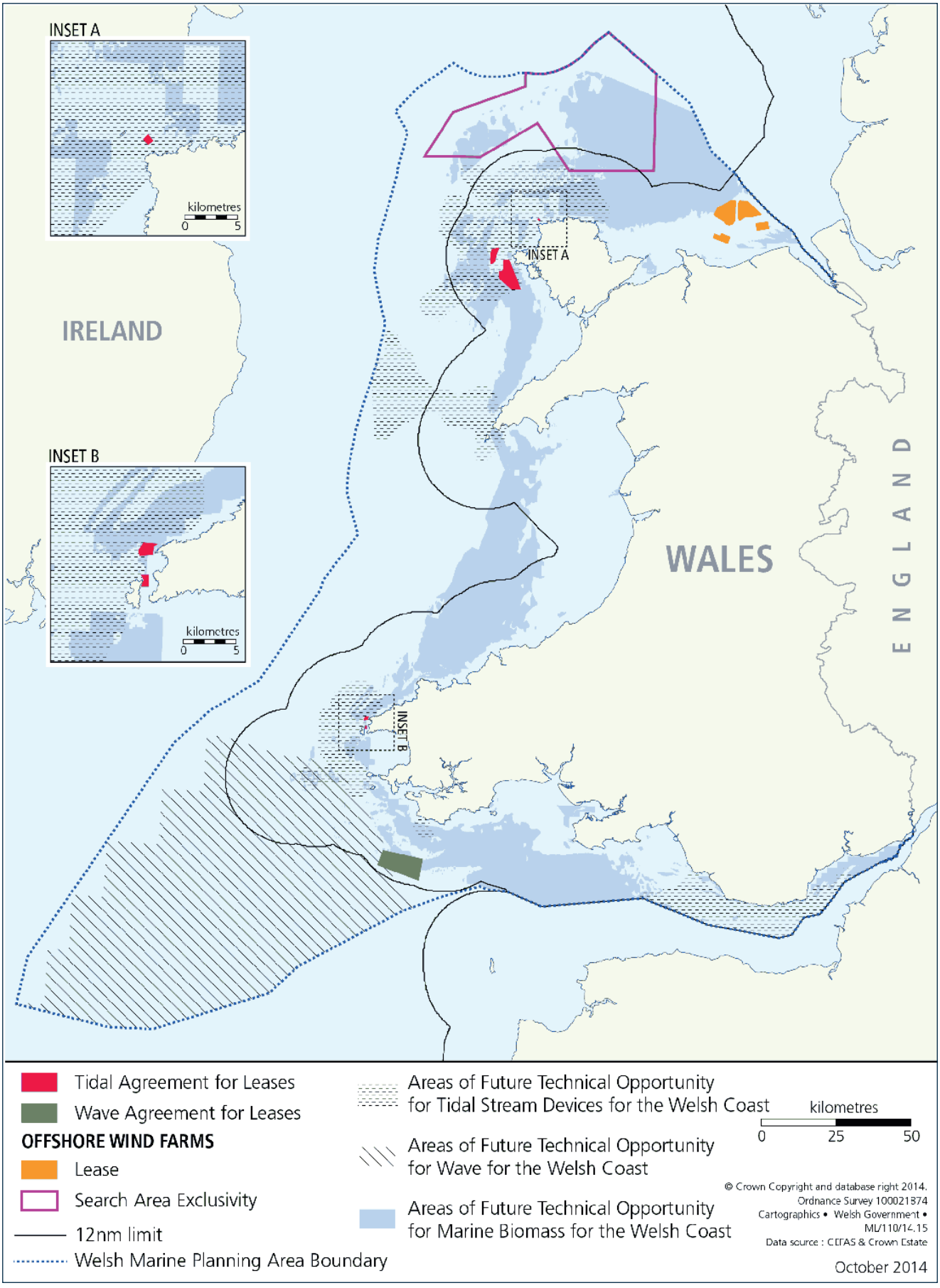


Figure 39: Renewable Energy



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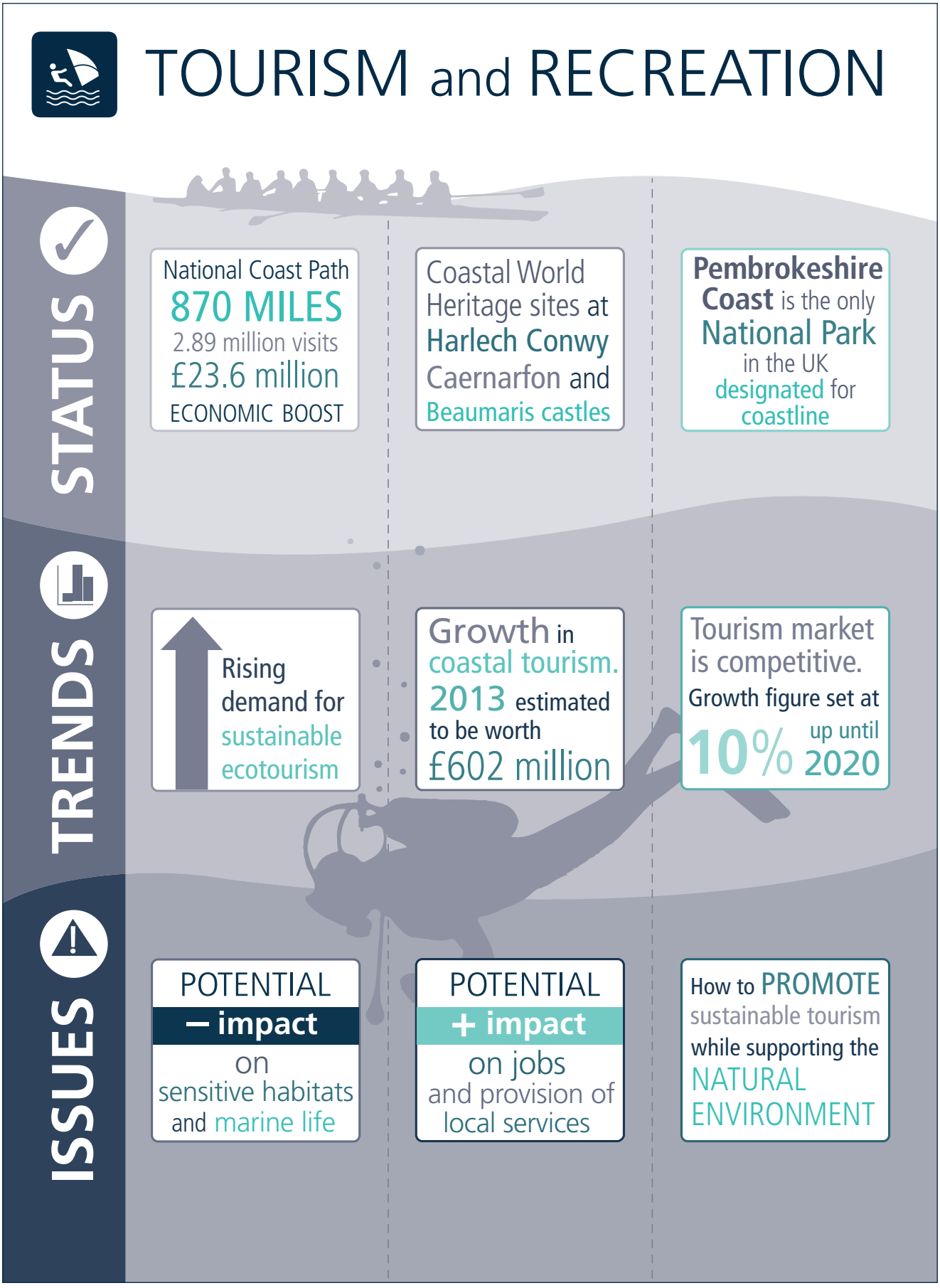

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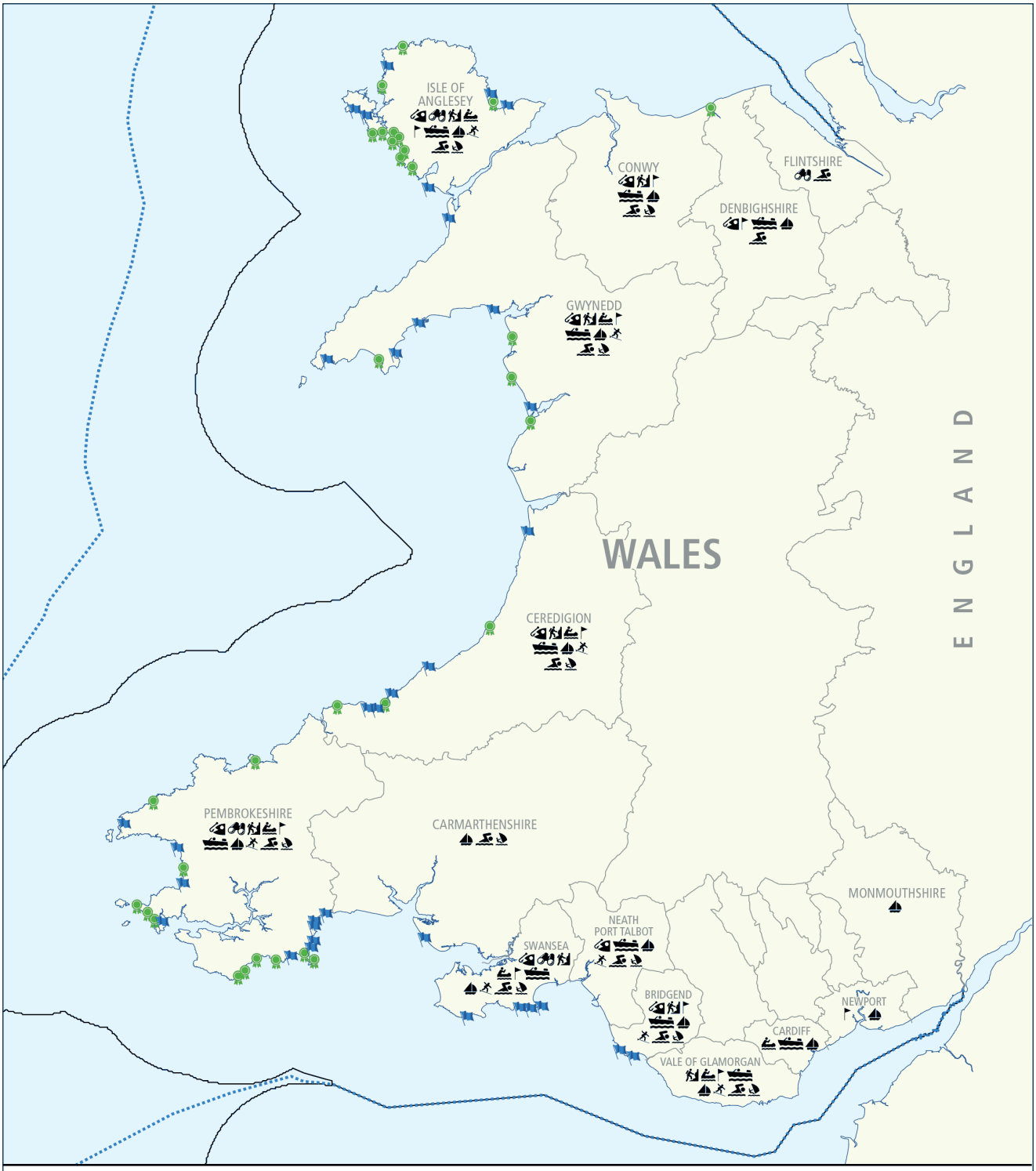

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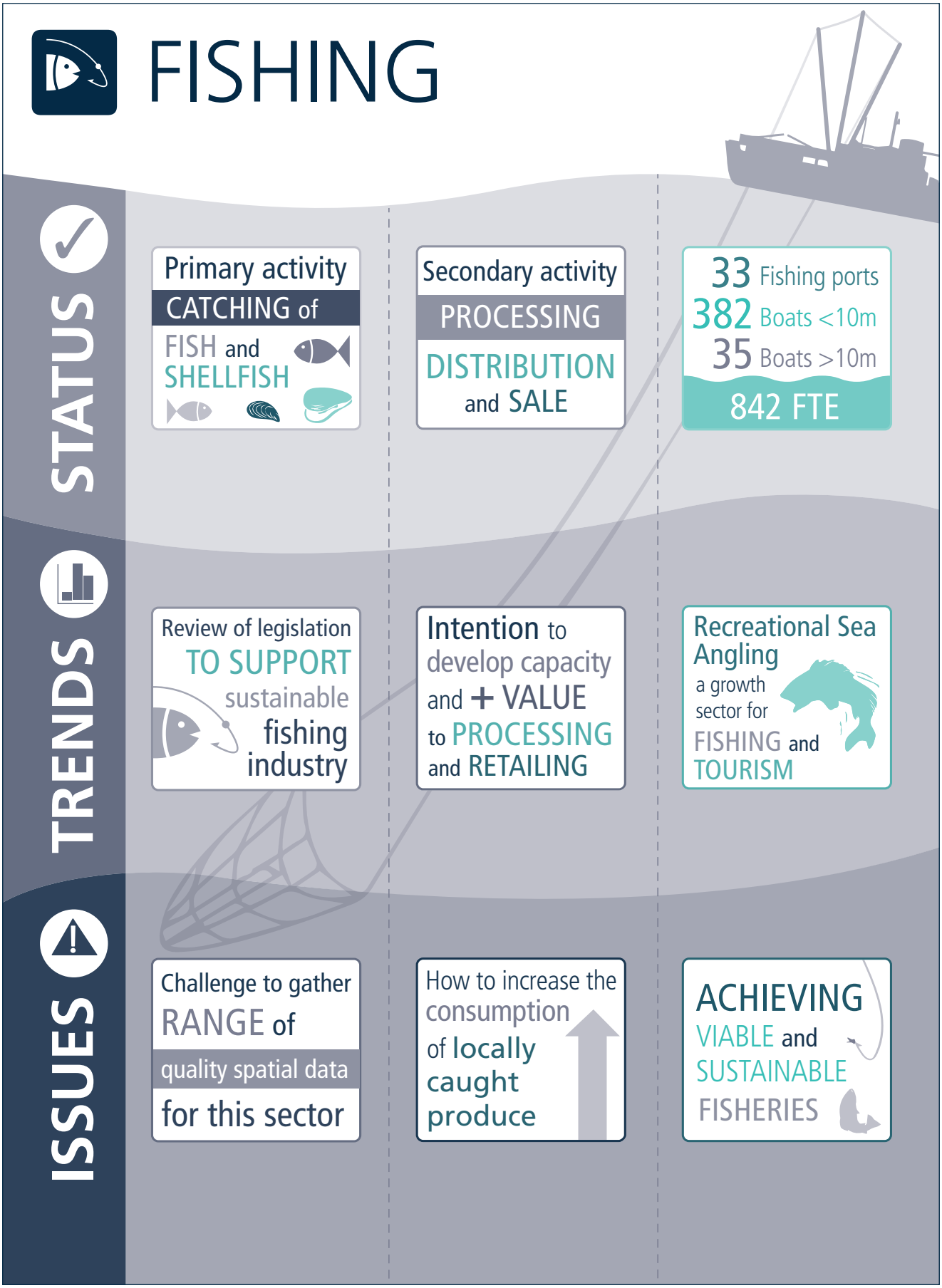

Figure 43: TELECOMMUNICATION CABLING

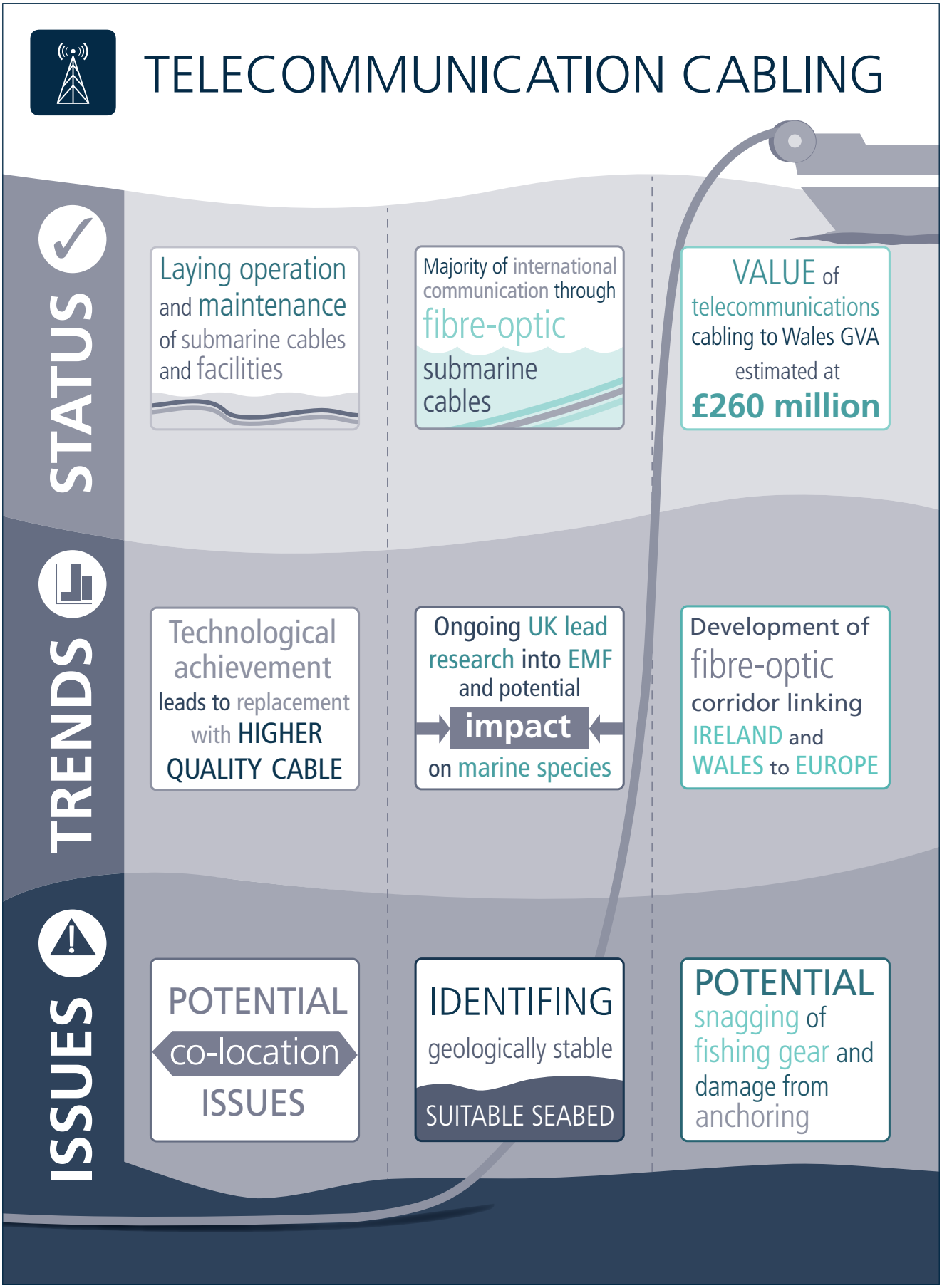

Figure 44: Telecommunication Cabling

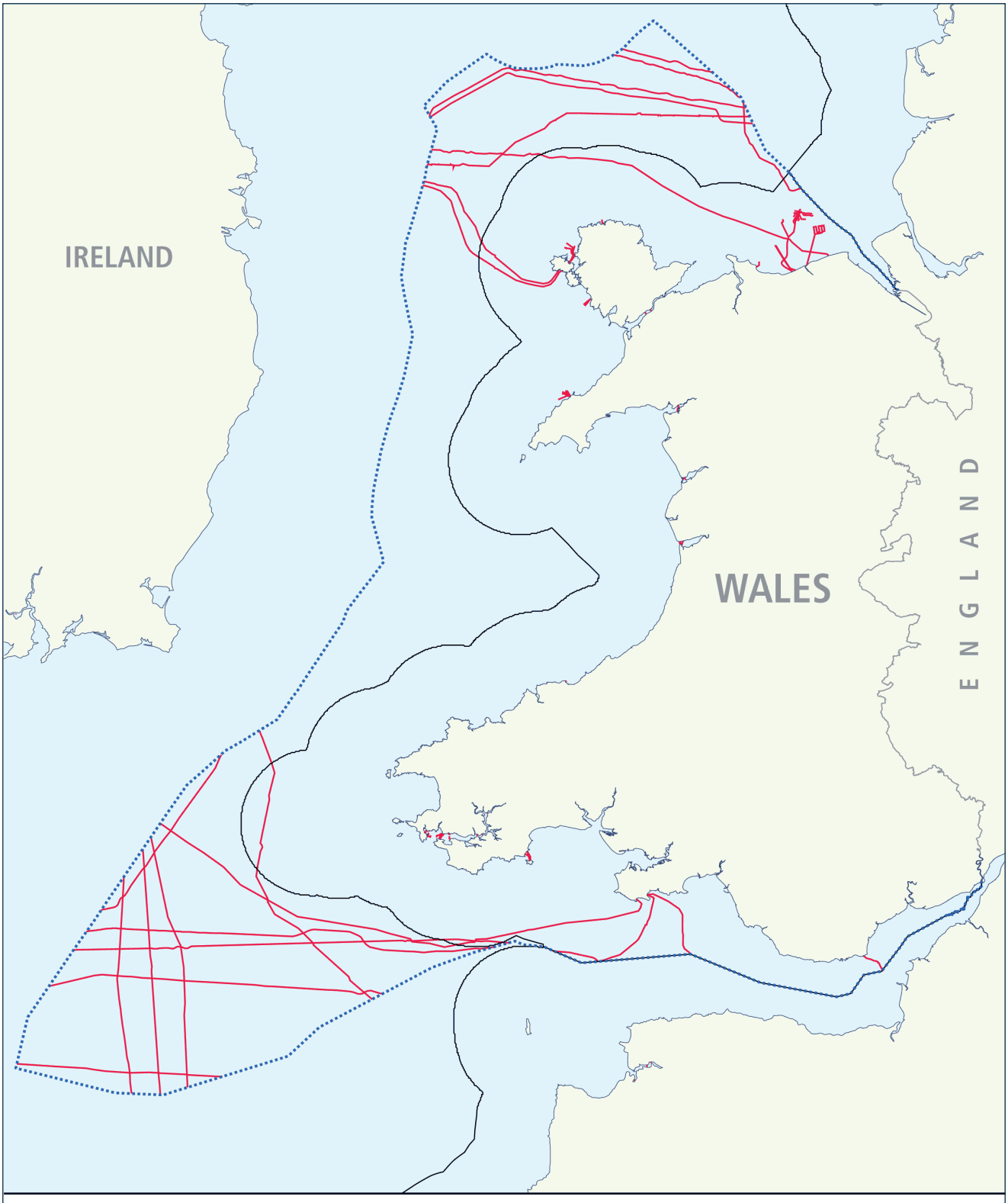

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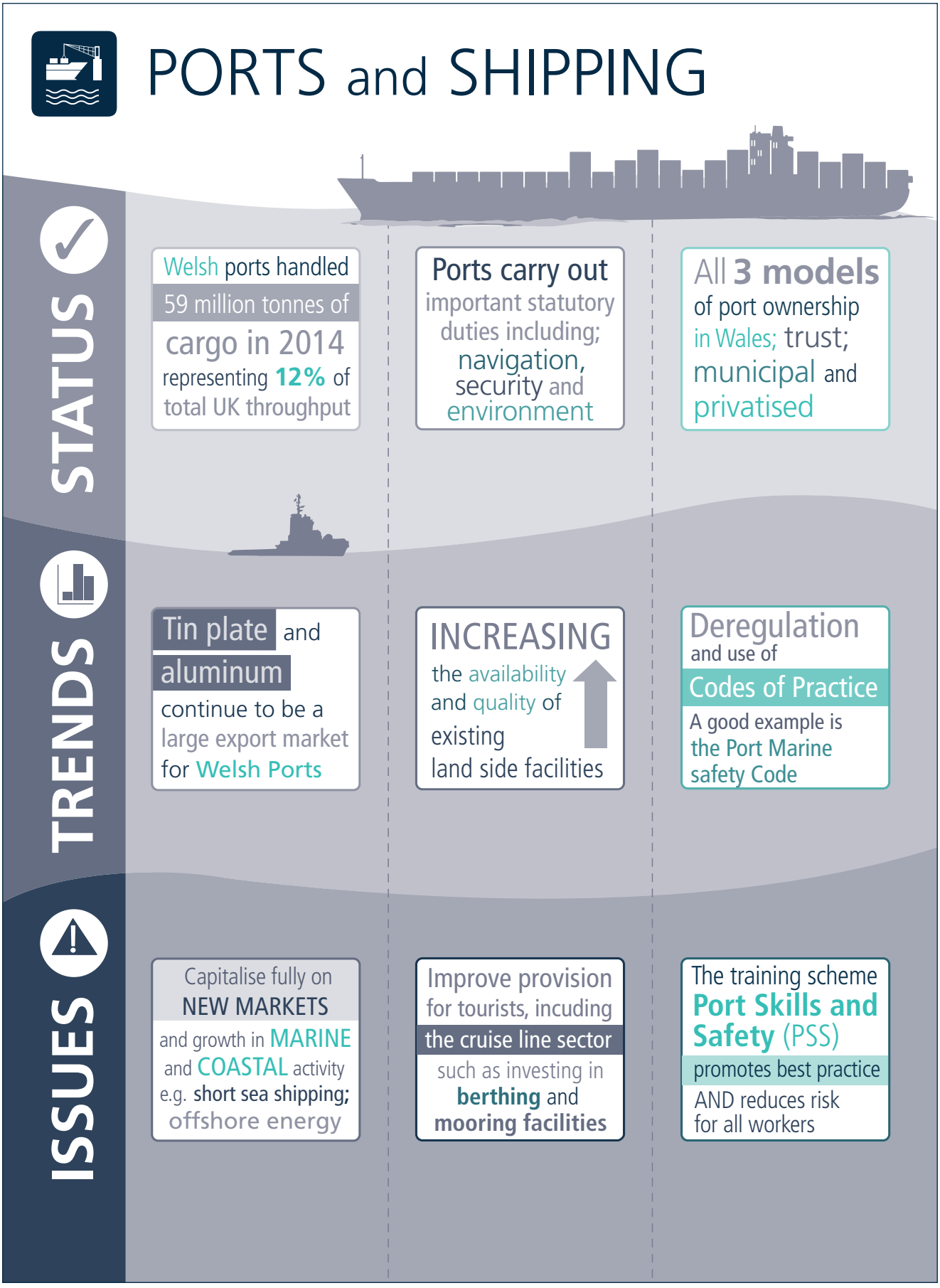
Figure 45: PORTS and SHIPPING



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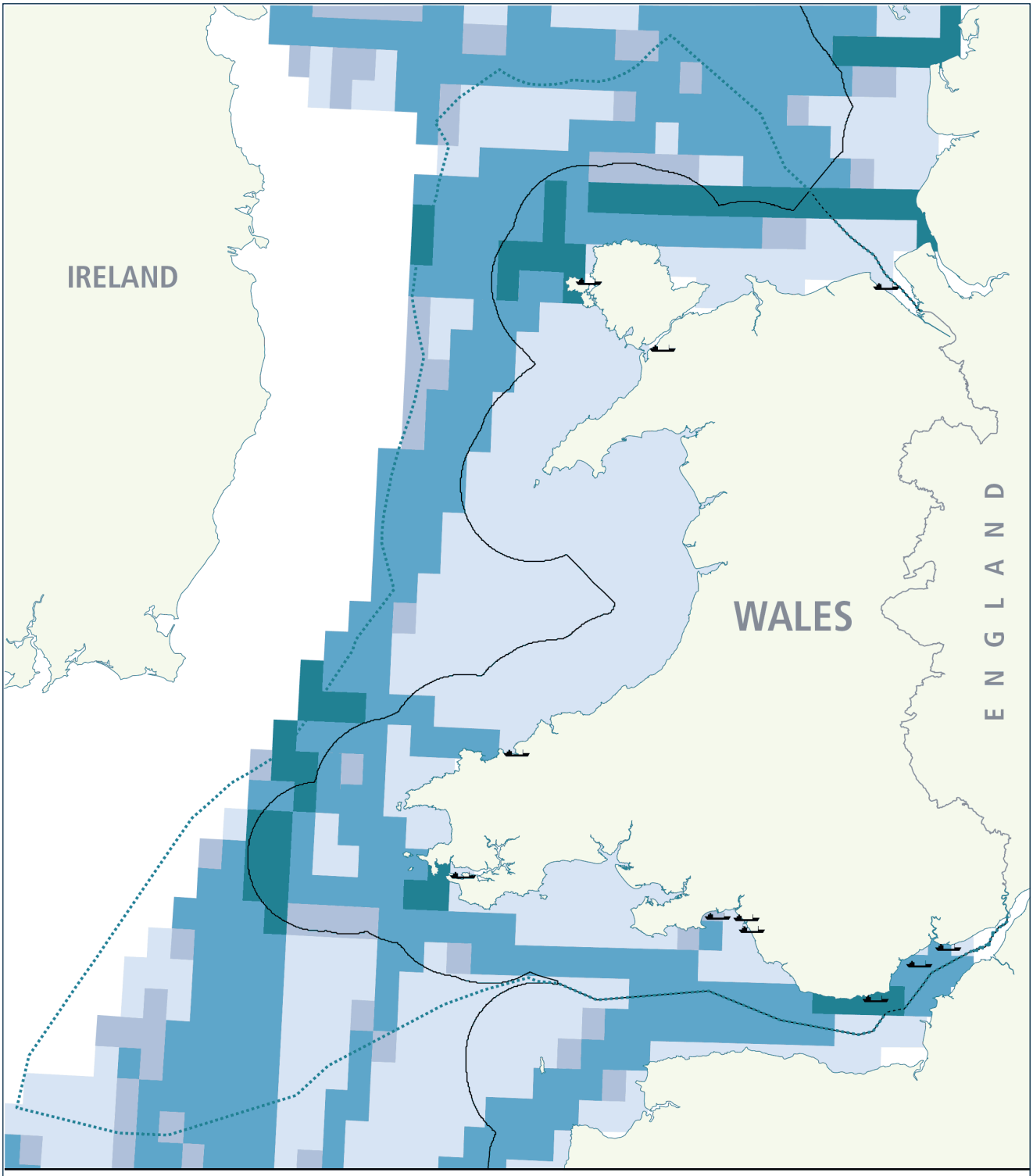

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Figure 47: SURFACE and WASTE WATER