

## South-West Marine Ecosystems

# The State of South-West Seas Conference 2025

May 2<sup>nd</sup> Plymouth Marine Laboratory

Version 6/4/25

### Programme

#### Aim

To report on the state of south-west seas and build the relationships between the leading stakeholders who are engaged in understanding and managing these.

#### [Book here at this link](https://swmecosystems.co.uk/)

Details of the conference venue, location etc are on the SWME Website

<https://swmecosystems.co.uk/>

#### Programme

8.30 Doors open, refreshment and registration

9.30 Welcome to Plymouth Marine Laboratory Steve Widdicombe,  
Director of Science Plymouth Marine Laboratory

Session 1 Chair: Matt Frost PML

9.35 Oceanography Tim Smyth PML

9.55 Plankton Angus Atkinson PML & Jeanette Sanders, Seadream Environment

10.15 Seabed and seashore Keith Hiscock MBA

10.35 Fish & Turtles Douglas Herdson & Simon Thomas

10.55 Marine & coastal birds Jay Cowen Isle of Scilly, Wildlife Trust

11.15 Discussion of the relationships and interactions between thematic topics

11.45 – 12.30 First break (45 mins) Sandwiches and refreshments

**Session 2** Chair: Emma Sheehan Plymouth University

12.30 Seals Sue Sayer Seal Research Trust

12.50 Cetaceans Duncan Jones Marine Discovery & Dan Jarvis BDMLR

13.10 Marine Licencing & Planning in the South-West Karrie Schnetler & Mae Van Loef MMO

13.30 Developments in the South-West Dan Barrios-ONeill Cornwall Wildlife Trust

13.50 – 14.10 Discussion of the relationships between topics

14.10 – 14.50 Second Break (40 mins) Cakes and refreshments

**Session 3** Chair: Bryce Stewart Marine Biological Association

14.50 Floating offshore wind in the Celtic Seas Alex Banks Natural England

15.10 Marine protected Areas Carli Cocciardi Devon Wildlife Trust

15.30 Fisheries Libby West Natural England

15.50 Water Quality Eleanor Ward Devon Maritime Forum

16.10 Plastic Pollution & Marine Litter Rachel Yates (Surfers Against Sewage)  
& Lizzie Price (Marine Conservation Society)

16.30 Discussion of relationships between topics

16.45 Wine Reception