Identifying and assessing vectors for the dispersal of invasive species in the Shetland Islands

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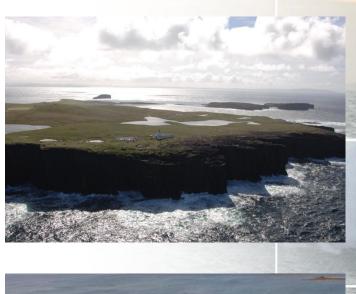




Shetland

- 160km from mainland Scotland and 360km from Norway
- Archipelago More than 100 islands, 15 inhabited
- 2,702km of coastline
- 120km in length
- Population of approximately 22,500







Locational Context

- Economically reliant on the sea
- More fish landings than England, Wales and N Ireland combined
- Europe's largest oil terminal
- 30% of UK farmed salmon
- 65% UK farmed mussels







Biosecurity Planning

- Developing a bio-security plan as part of the Shetland Islands Marine Spatial Plan
- Identify risks
- Vectors / pathways
- Develop best practice guidance
- Address 'local' issues







Strategy

- Identify potential vectors
- Identify potential natural dispersal
- Identify areas of high risk



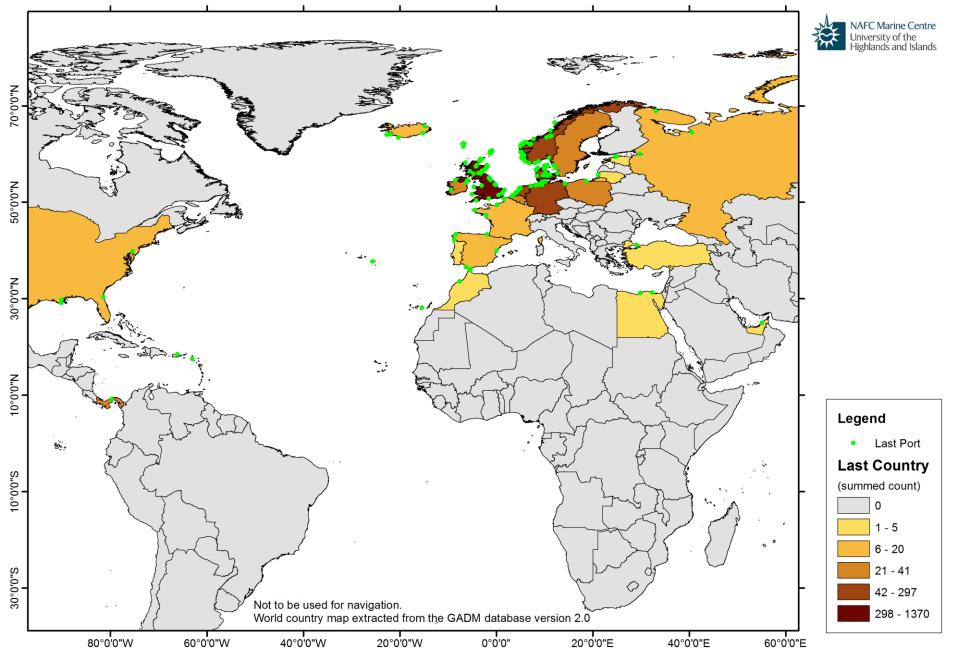


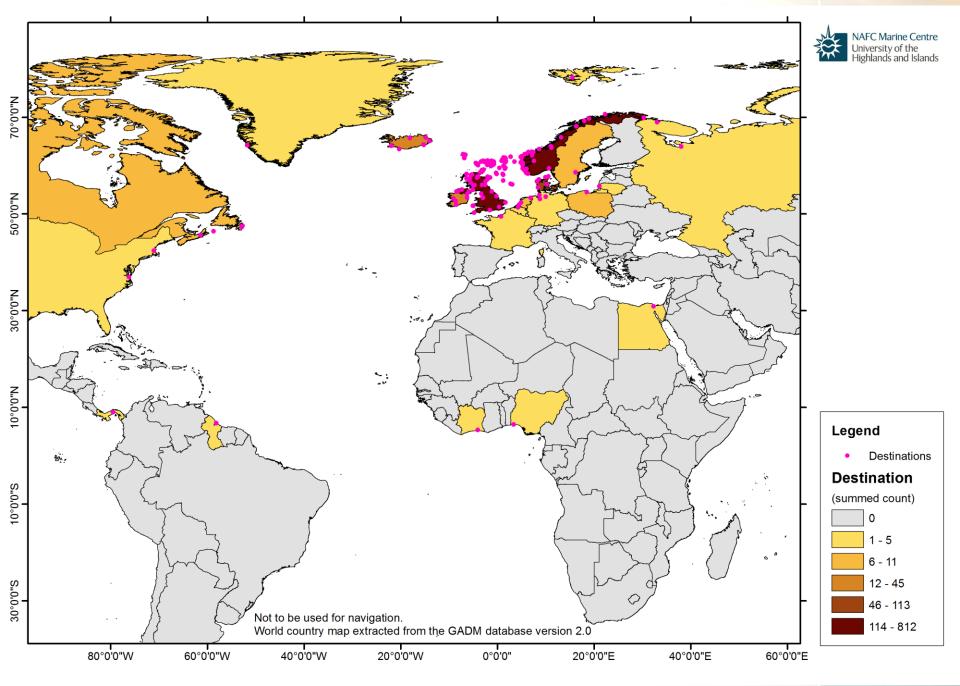


Shipping

- Biofouling
- Ballast water exchange
- AIS data
- Oil vessels/ cruise ships/ cargo/fishing/ ferries





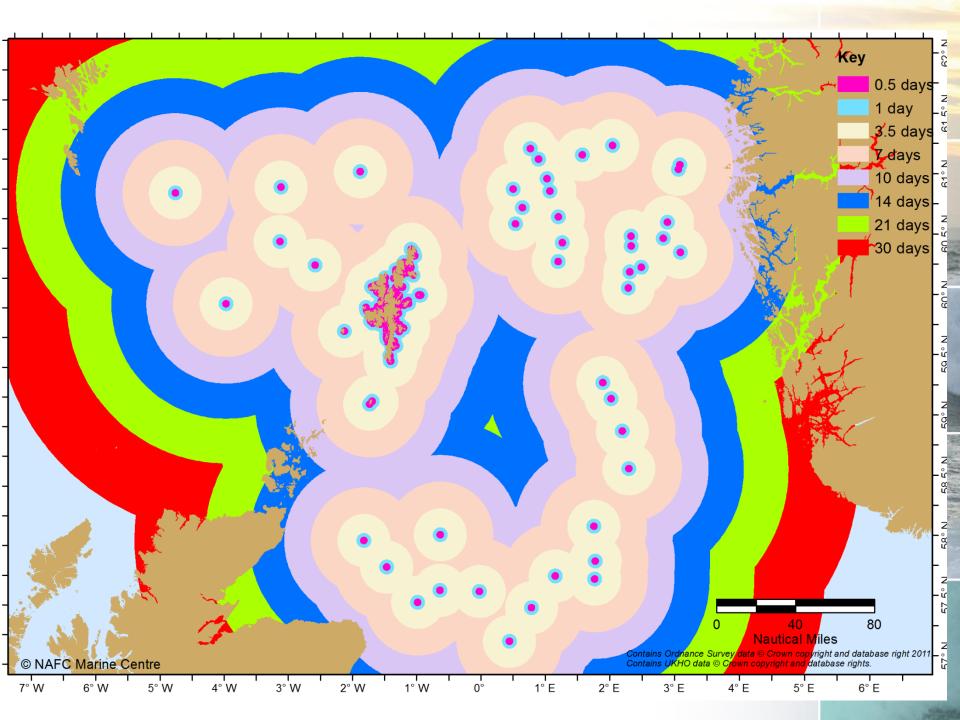


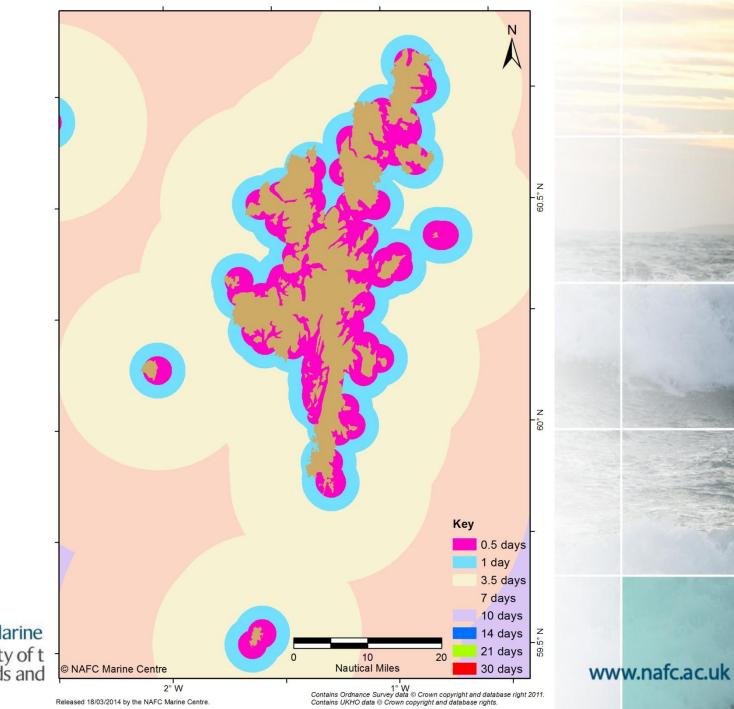
Stepping stones

- Aquaculture
- Marine renewables
- Oil platforms
- Shore access points
- Standard tidal excursion
- Compared with larval stages







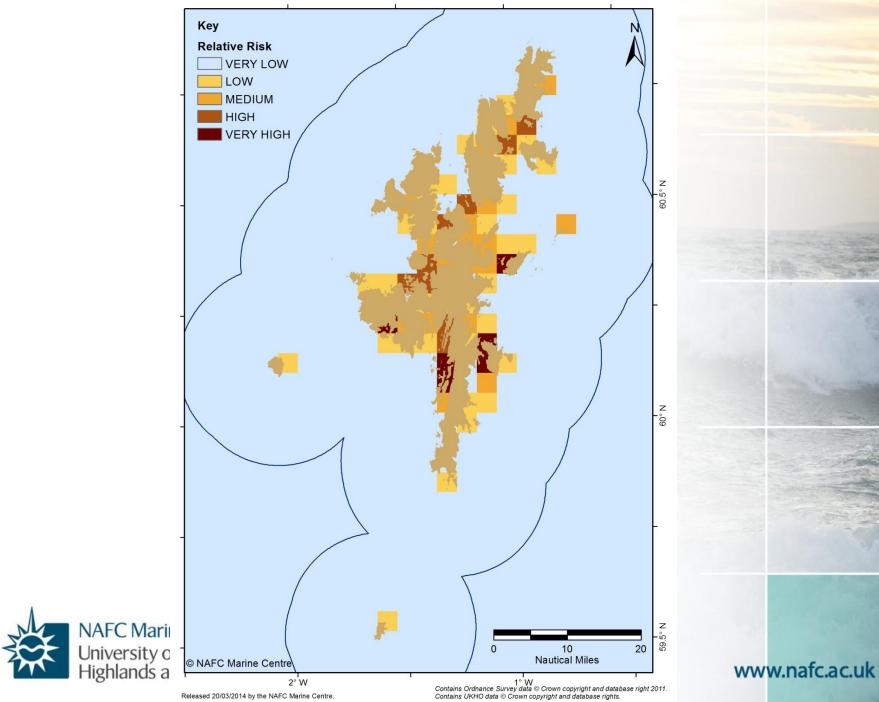




Risk

- Identified areas of relative risk within Shetland
- Based on aquaculture, shipping intensity, shore access points, renewables
- Target monitoring





Local Management

- Internal risks and monitoring can be tackled locally
- Raise awareness
- Stepping stones outside 12 NM no control
- Natural dispersal means easy to spread
- Shipping little local control
- Need local, national and international management



Thank you, Rachel.shucksmith@uhi.ac.uk www.nafc.ac.uk

