



# VALUING NATURE

Ben Taylor  
PhD student

*The influence of saltmarsh  
restoration on carbon storage*  
*Assessing the potential for Blue Carbon  
subsidisation towards conservation initiatives*



Scottish Natural Heritage  
Dualchas Nàdair na h-Alba

All of nature for all of Scotland  
Nàdar air fad airson Alba air fad



University of  
St Andrews



# Research

- Quantify carbon sequestration rates and storage potential of different habitats within an estuary
  - Natural saltmarsh
  - Restored areas
  - Mudflat
- Measure sedimentary and vegetative carbon pools and dynamics
- Evaluate drivers of carbon storage
- Assess additional value afforded through restoration



# Motivation for attending

## Understand.....

how science can be made accessible and relevant to business

- *Improve the accessibility of my science*
- *Instil best practice approaches from business*
- *Drive impact to deliver enhancement strategies to nature*

the issues from a business perspective

- *Risks?*
- *Uncertainty?*
- *Capital cost?*
- *Motivation?*

# Opportunities and challenges

## Opportunity

- Business benefits from enhanced 'public image'
- Contribute to wider societal benefits....?

## Challenges

- Limited return on investment, issues of:
  - Scale
  - Perceived value
- Removed from the ecosystem