



VALUING NATURE

Assessing and implementing
a natural capital approach
for Scottish estate
management

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MacRobert Trust

Background

Land management policy:

- Land reform (Scotland) Act 2016
- Land use strategy 2016- 2021 -Climate Change (Scotland) Act 2009
- CAP reform

Broad messages

- Sustainable land management
- Protection of multiple benefits from natural capital values
- Removal of subsidises incentives for natural capital degradation.

Placement objective

- Work with a land manager to implement a natural capital approach

Evaluate:

- Usefulness for decision making
- Practicalities involved
- Resources required

The MacRobert Trust

- Charitable work: education, forces, children, sciences, agriculture and local community
- Distributes £2-3 m annually in grants, prizes, scholarship across the UK
- Endowment + estate income



The Estate

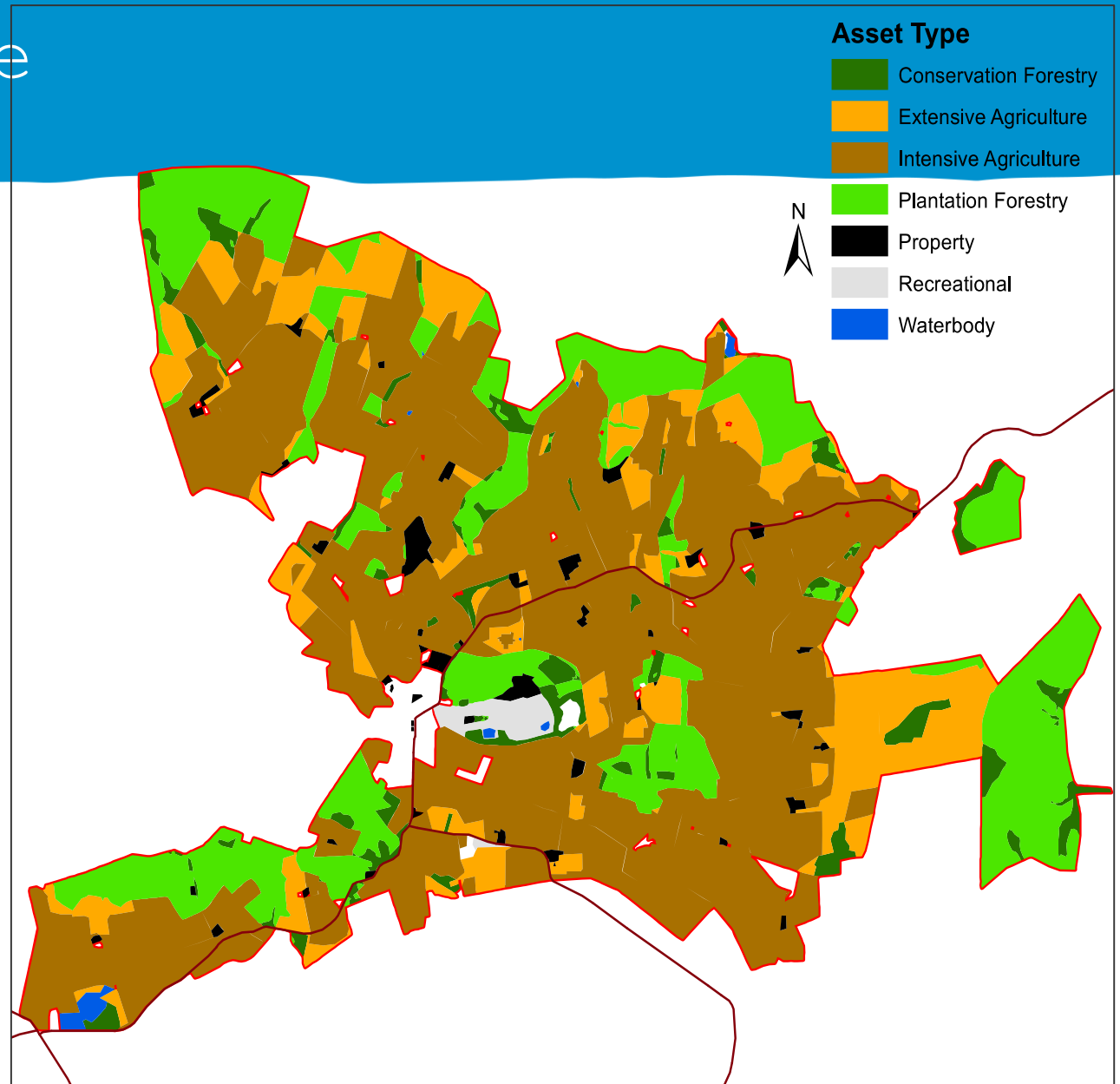
7,200 Ac (3000 ha)

9 tenant farmers

Let rights: shooting,
fishing

Forestry, sand
quarry, hotel,
residential
properties

Walking paths, bike
trail, golf course,
ancient monuments



Key activities

- Qualitative natural capital approach
Understanding what NC could do for land managers
 - addressing the so what question
- Quantitative natural capital approach
How to implement a NC approach:
 - Focus on establishing institutional adoption, and mechanisms rather than producing an account.

Output: Scoping report

Opportunities presented by a natural capital approach in the context of Scottish land management.

- Land managers = large provider on ES
- Multiple NC dependencies and impact = risks and opportunities
- Upland estates = upstream provider, min external influences
- ES beneficiaries = a resource to leverage investment and buy in
- NC =
 - monitor performance/enviro health
 - strategic planning
 - risk management
 - engagement
 - business diversification

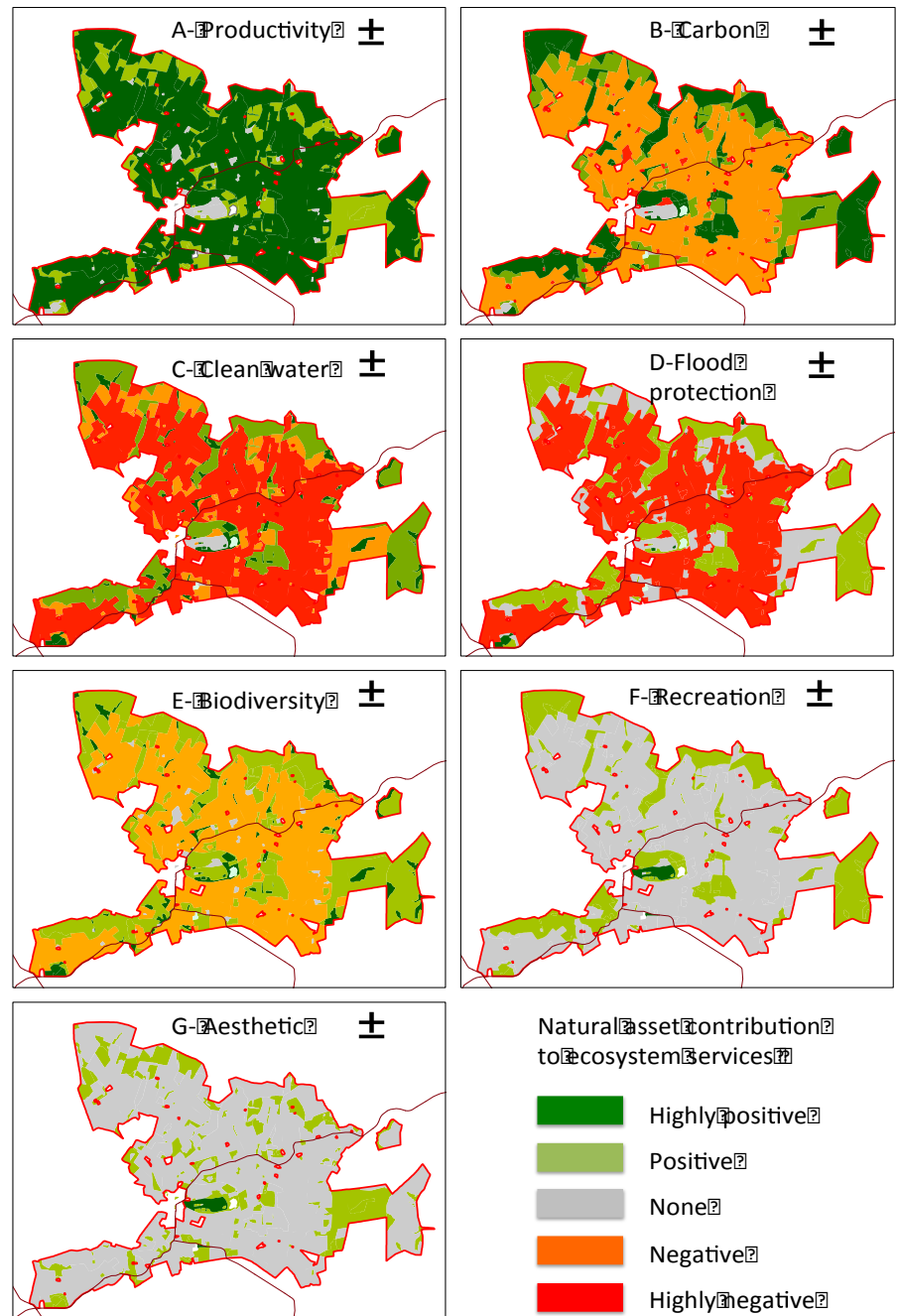
Output: Technical Report

Accounting for natural capital.

- Establishing an asset register is complex
- ES mapping and models not accessible
- National and local datasets not available

Can we get the science to useful level?

Task provided guidance on what data and information that be use to collect?



Placement experience

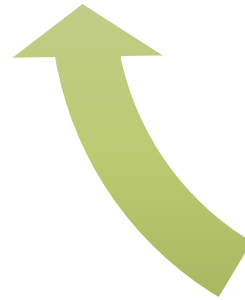
Science and the Placement

Interesting

Frustration

Uncertainty

Natural capital; a normative science?



Thank you

Valuing Nature Placement:

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