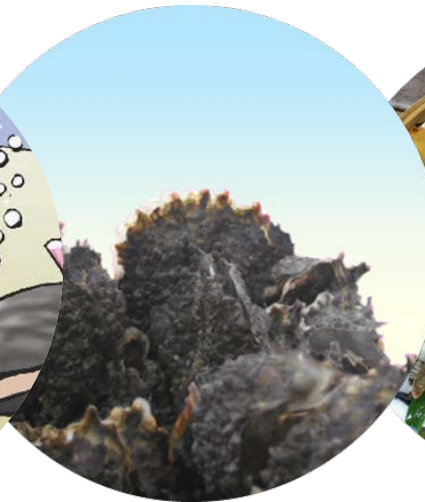


# SHELLFISH PRODUCTION - DELIVERING BENEFITS

## “MORE WITH MOLLUSCS”

Aad Smaal, Henrice Jansen\*  
Wageningen University &  
Wageningen Marine Research



# OUTLINE

---

Review Goods & Services of Molluscs

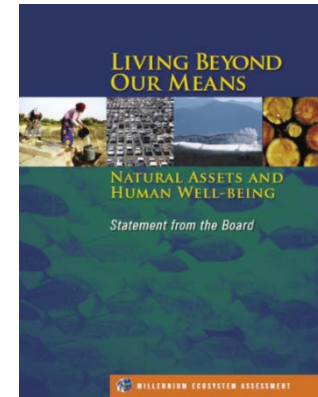
Bivalves as a framework for sustainable management by integration of functions

<b>Goods &amp; Services</b>		Beaumont et al, 2007
<b>Provisioning</b>	<b>Products obtained from the Ecosystem</b>	
<b>Supportive</b>	<b>Necessary for the production of all other ecosystem services, but do not yield direct benefits to humans.</b>	
<b>Cultural</b>	<b>Non-material benefits people obtain from ecosystems</b>	
<b>Regulating</b>	<b>Benefits obtained from the regulation of ecosystem processes</b>	

# BACKGROUND : ECOSYSTEM G&S CONCEPT

How to include environmental impacts in decision making ?

- 1920+ : environmental economics: external effects need to be internalised as cost factor. How to valorize?
  - 1970+ : valorize nature: what is the price of nature?
  - 1992: Convention on Biodiversity, Rio de Janeiro,  
= ecosystem approach, holistic  
= **paradigm shift**: from *impacts* to *ecosystem functions*
- 
- 2003: Millennium Ecosystem Assessment: quantification
  - 2009: TEEB project: The Economics of Ecosystem functions and Biodiversity: case studies
  - 2019: Goods and Services of Marine Bivalves  
23 review papers + introductions





# GOODS AND SERVICES OF Marine Bivalves

Regulating



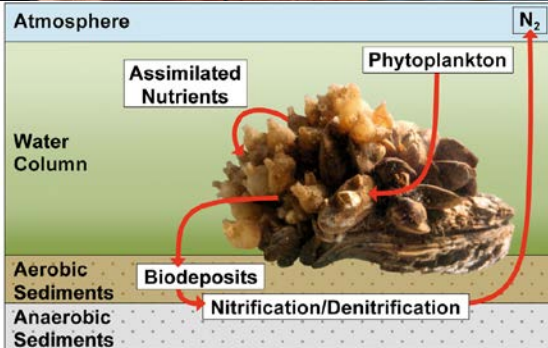
Provisioning



Supportive



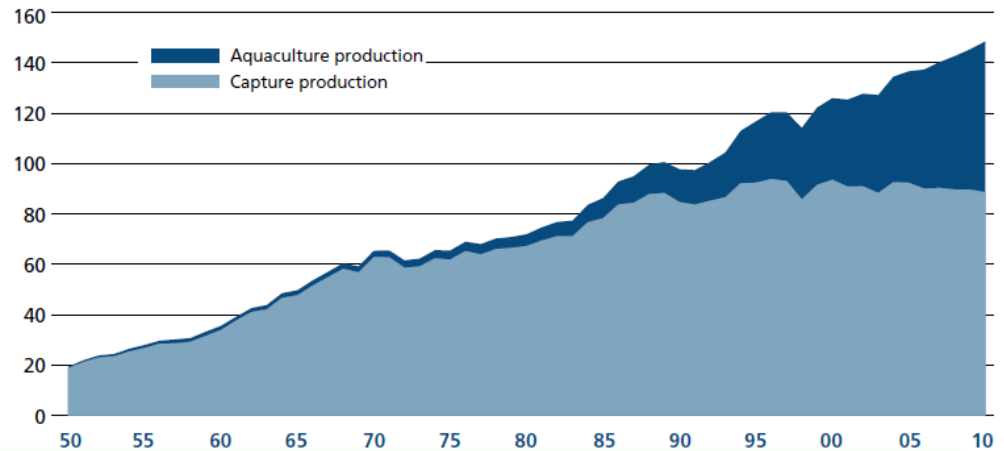
Cultural



# I - PROVISIONING:

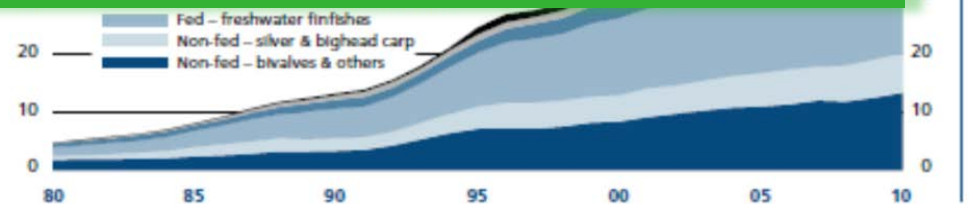
products obtained from the bivalves

- Food
- Pearls
- Shells

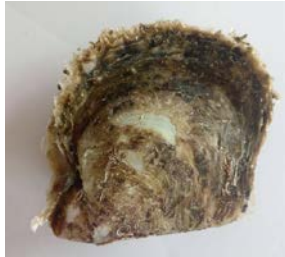


If  $10^9$  people eat bivalves once a week,  
500.000 mln tons/year is needed: 30 \* actual production

SAPEA  
SCIENCE ADVICE FOR POLICY BY EUROPEAN ACADEMIES



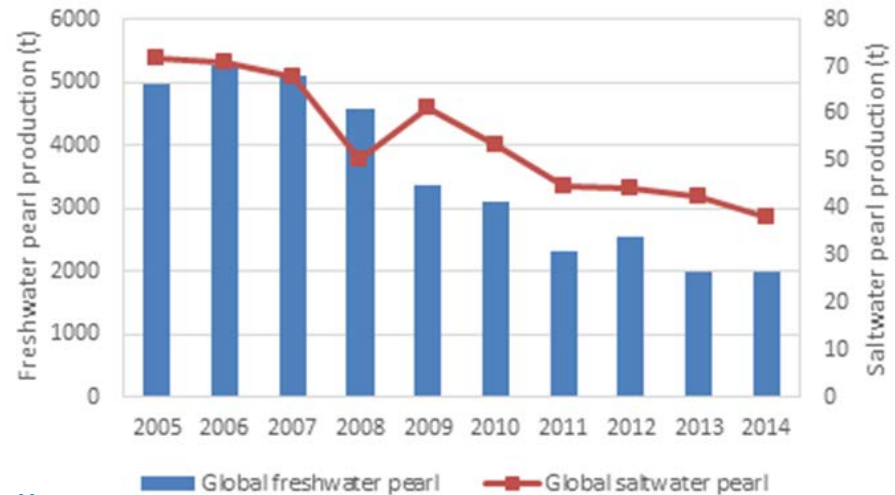
# PROVISIONING: PEARLS



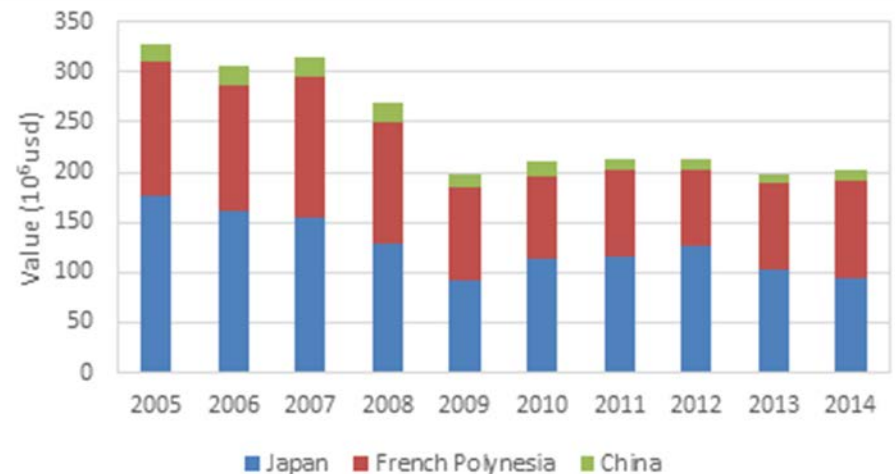
Pearl oyster  
*Pinctada martensii*

Akoya pearls

Triangle sail mussel  
*Hyriopsis cumingii*



Pearl production and yield decreased due to overproduction of fresh water pearls from China. Marine pearls have much higher value.





# PROVISIONING: SHELLS AS RAW MATERIAL



ISOLATION



BUILDING



SEED

COLLECTORS;  
SUBSTRATE

ANNUAL PRODUCTION:

14 MTON =

4 MTON MEAT

**10 MTON SHELL**

Tremendous resource :

FURTHER APPLICATIONS ?

Opportunities for:

- Circular economy
- Climate robust economy

# Goods & Services

## Provisioning

**Food production: aquaculture** ✓  
**Pearl production** ✓  
**Raw material: shells** ✓

## Supportive

**Biologically mediated habitat: shellfish reefs**  
**nutrient cycling**  
*Do not yield direct benefits to humans*

## Cultural

**Cultural heritage and identity: scallop shells**  
**Cognitive benefits: sclerotology**  
**Leisure and recreation: shell collection**  
**Feel good or warm glow: decoration**

## Regulating

**Bioremediation of waste**  
**Gas and climate regulation: C sequestration**  
**Disturbance prevention: eco-engineering**



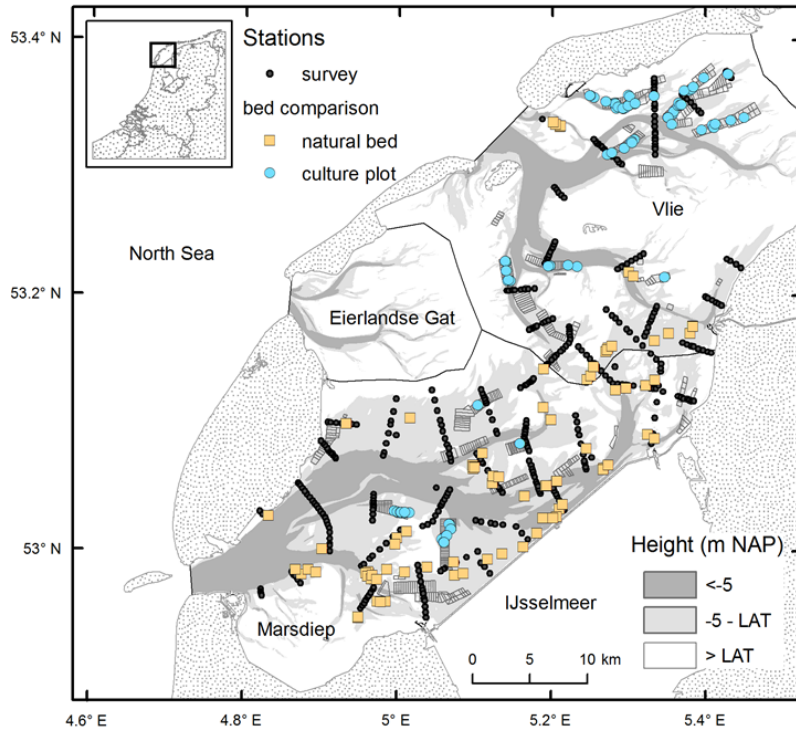
## II SUPPORTIVE: HABITATS

Shellfish assemblages are biodiversity hotspots for sessile and mobile fauna (Creaymeersch & Jansen 2019)

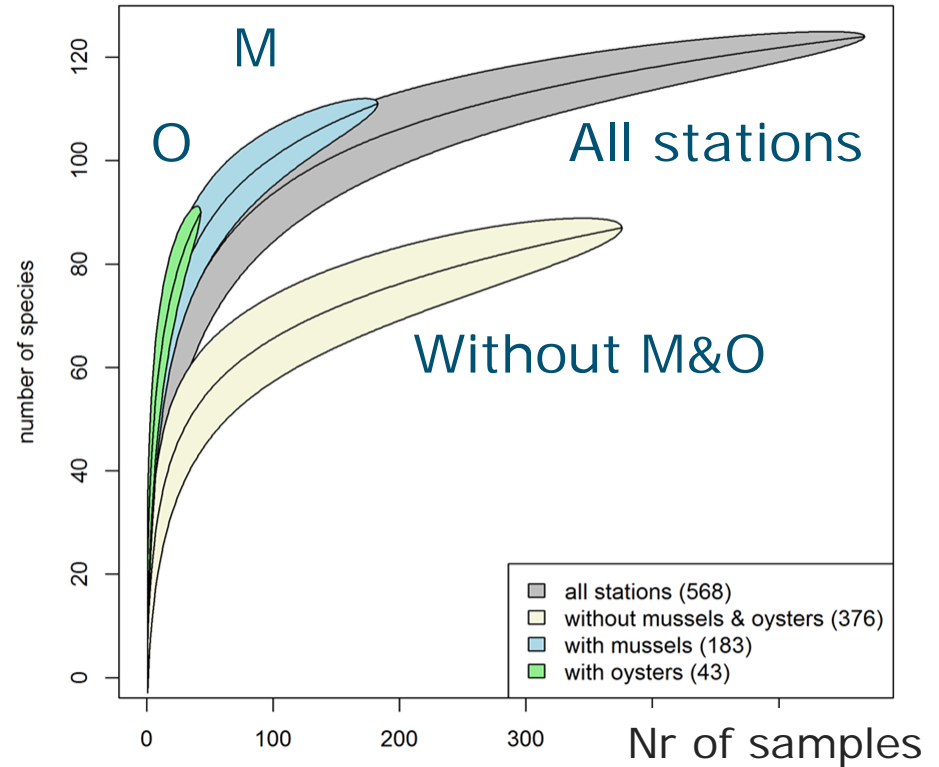


Fig. 7. Diagrammatic representation of cross-sectional view of a small *Mytilus* island. Many associated animals use several micro-habitats (shell surface of *M. edulis*, space in the patch, algae, sediments, etc.). Several inhabitants, *Typosyllis adamanteus kurilensis*, *Perinereis cultrifera*, *Notoplana humilis*, *Collisella heroldi*, *Littorina brevicula*, *Acanthochiton rubrolineatus*, *Hyale grandicornis*, *Jassa falcata* and *Hemigrapsis sanguineus*, and 2 kinds of algae, *Sargassum* and *Laurencia* are shown. *Chthamalus challengerii* are seen around the island

# BIODIVERSITY WILD BEDS / CULTURE PLOTS



Nr of species



Survey on wild mussel beds, oyster beds, and mussel culture plots;  
 2008 – 2010: 568 stations in 3 yrs



shellfish beds = biodiversity hot spots

# SPECIES NR WILD BEDS / CULTURE PLOTS



- **84** species on wild beds (5 unique)
  - > barnacles, sea anemone
- **102** species on mussel culture plots (23 unique)
  - > ragworm, crab, starfish
- Salinity, spatial issues important

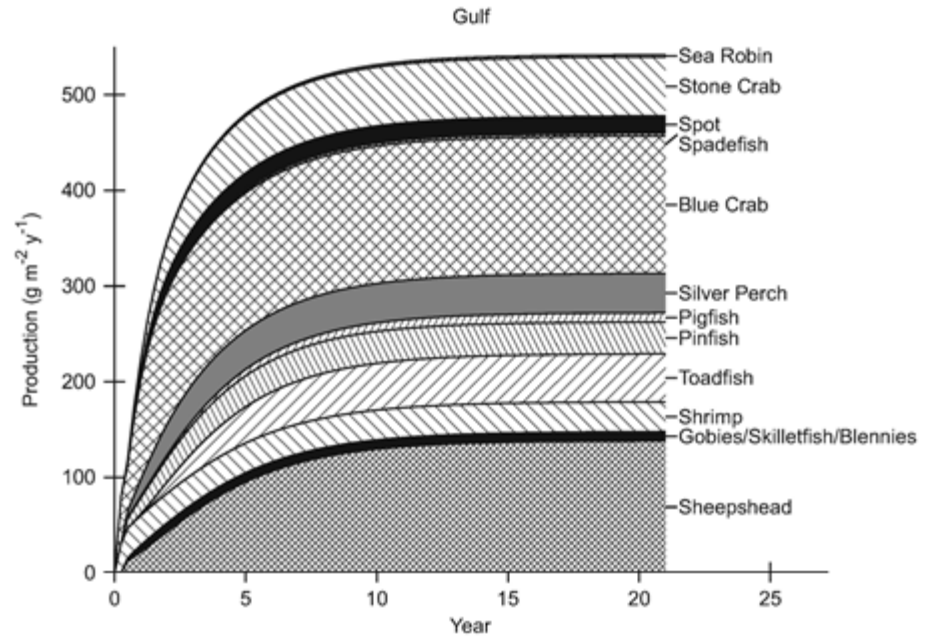
➤ Combine exploitation and nature conservation?  
Profit & Planet





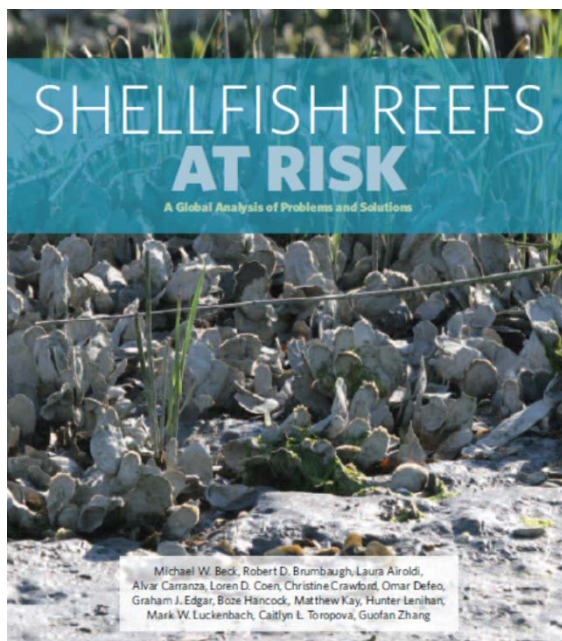
# Enhanced Production of Finfish and Large Crustaceans by Bivalve Reefs

Hancock & Ermgassen (2019)





# Status Flat Oysters in Europe: *Threatened*



TNC REPORT 2009

Ecoregion	Bay	Condition				Species	References
		3	2	1	0		
Adriatic Sea				■		<i>O. edulis</i>	(1-8)
	Grado lagoon			■		<i>O. edulis</i>	(5, 7)
	Gulf of Trieste			■		<i>O. edulis</i>	(7, 9)
	Po Delta lagoons			■		<i>O. edulis</i>	(1, 8)
	Venezia (lagoon)			■		<i>O. edulis</i>	(2, 3)
	Limski Kanal			■		<i>O. edulis</i>	(4)
	Mali Ston Bay			■		<i>O. edulis</i>	(10)
Aegean Sea				■		<i>O. edulis</i>	(11, 12)
	Thessaloniki Bay			■		<i>O. edulis</i>	(11, 12)
Baltic Sea				■		<i>O. edulis</i>	(14-16)
Black Sea				■		<i>O. edulis</i>	(33, 34)
Celtic Seas				■		<i>O. edulis</i>	(50-64)
	Belfast Lough			■		<i>O. edulis</i>	(50-52, 65, 66)
	Bertraghboy Bay			■		<i>O. edulis</i>	(52, 67)
	Cardigan Bay			■		<i>O. edulis</i>	(50, 62, 66)
	Carlingford Lough			■		<i>O. edulis</i>	(50-52, 65, 66)
	Galway Bay		■			<i>O. edulis</i>	(51, 52, 68-70)
	Kilkieran Bay		■			<i>O. edulis</i>	(51, 52, 67, 69)
	Lough Foyle		■			<i>O. edulis</i>	(50-52, 65, 66, 68, 71)
	Menai Strait			■		<i>O. edulis</i>	(50, 54, 62)
	Milford Haven			■		<i>O. edulis</i>	(50, 53, 54, 62)
	Strangford Lough			■		<i>O. edulis</i>	(51, 72, 73)
Swansea			■		<i>O. edulis</i>	(50, 53, 62)	
North Sea				■		<i>O. edulis</i>	(107, 108)
	Dogger Bank English Channel			■		<i>O. edulis</i>	(50)
	Firth of Forth			■		<i>O. edulis</i>	(50, 54, 59)
	Rivers Crouch and Roach		■			<i>O. edulis</i>	(50, 53, 57, 58)
	The Wash			■		<i>O. edulis</i>	(50)
	Wadden Sea			■		<i>O. edulis</i>	(14, 15, 109-119)

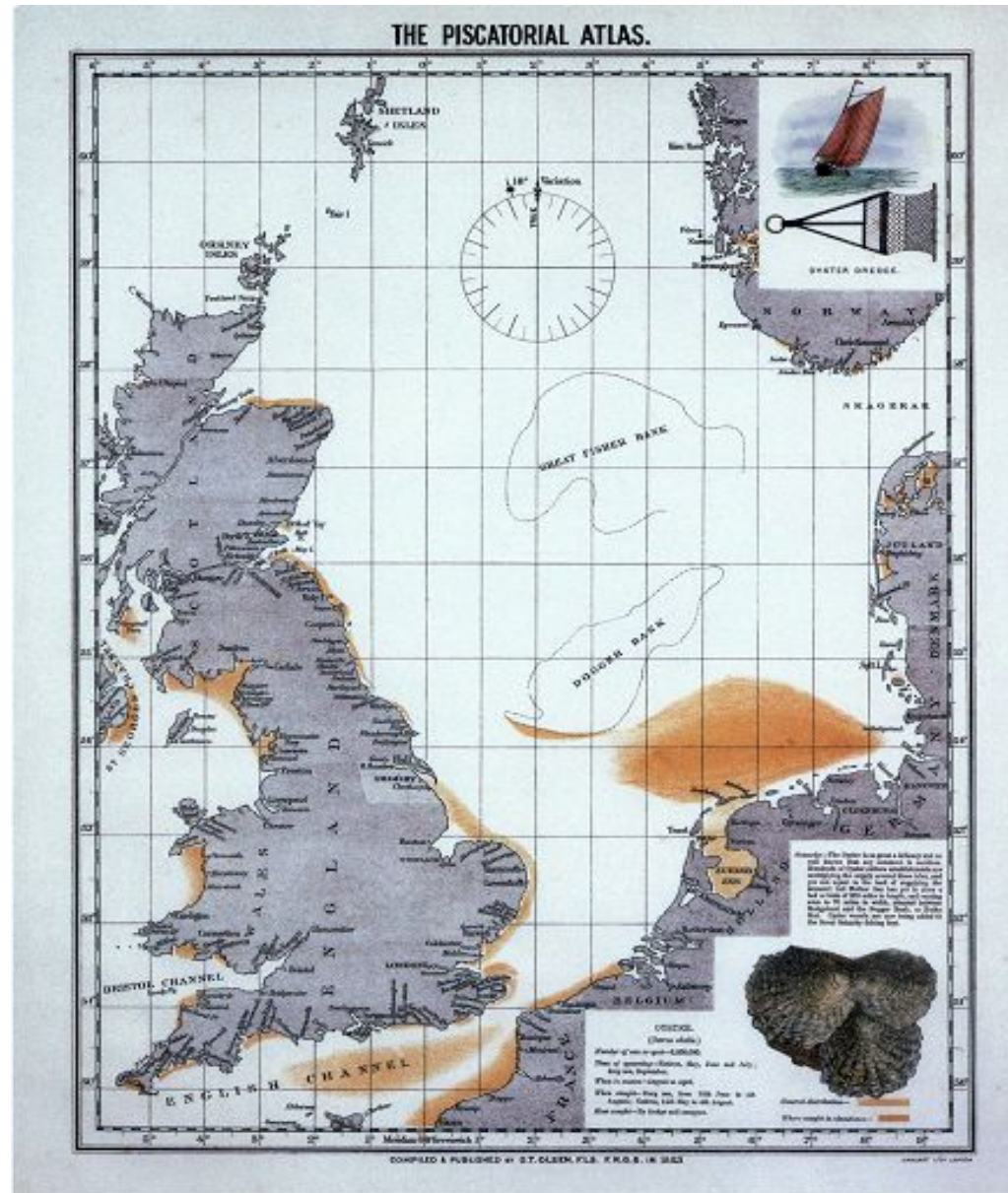
(Airoidi & Beck, 2007)

# Background: History of North Sea Flat Oysters

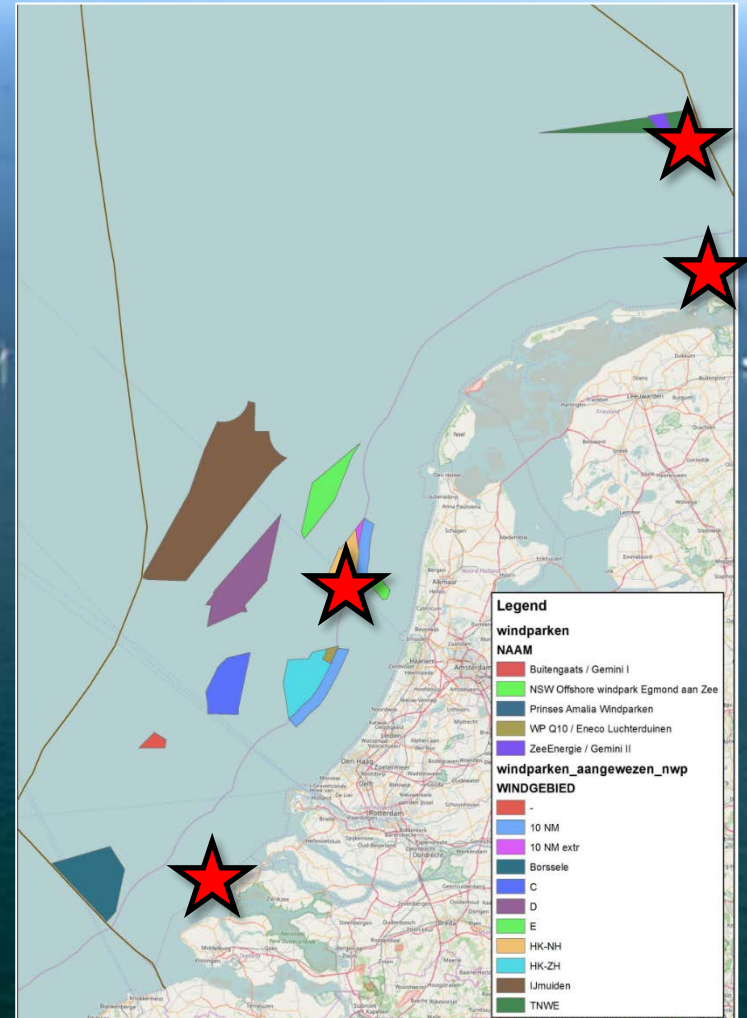
Olsen map 1883:

- = North Sea oyster grounds
- = Wadden Sea
- = Belgian coast
- = English channel

**Extensive Flat Oyster stocks  
have occurred**



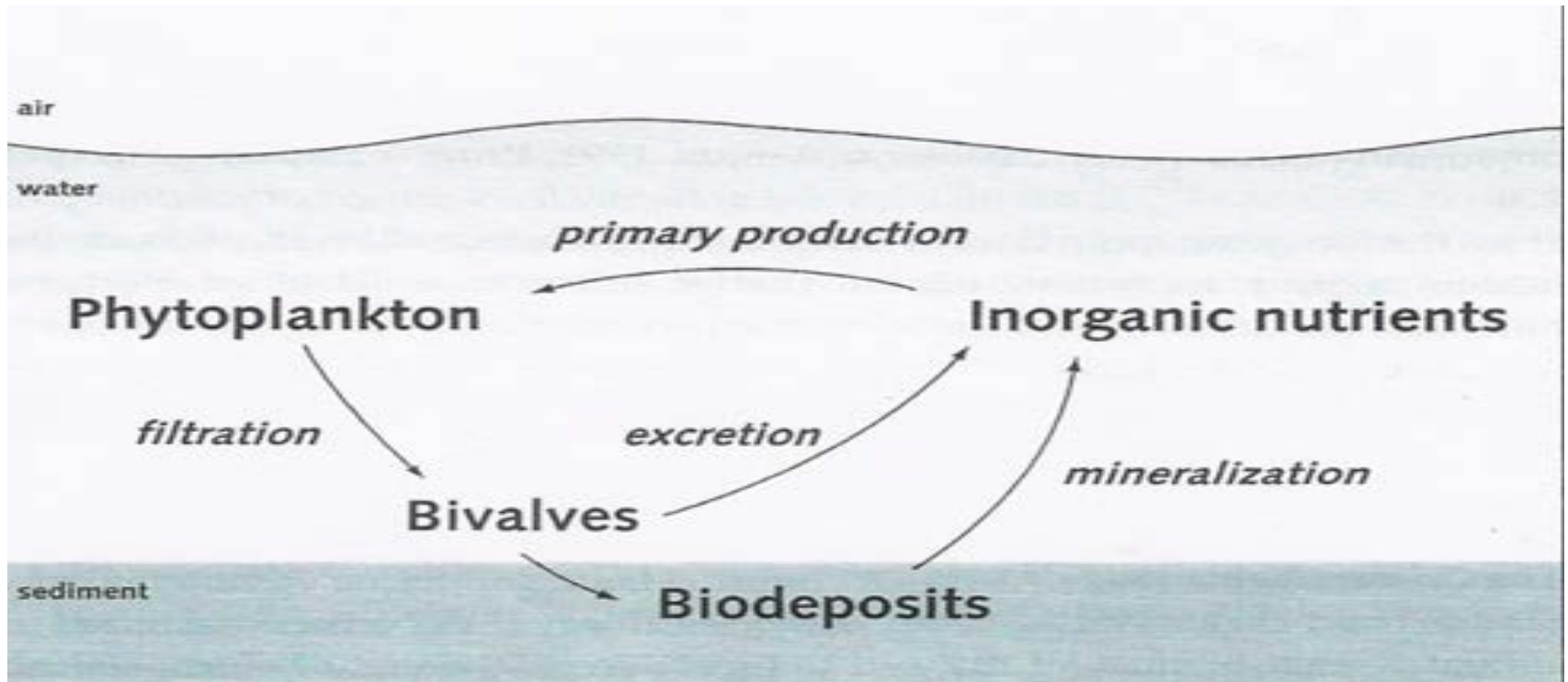
New offshore area's  
Multi-use of space  
**Potential for restoration**  
Enhance biodiversity  
If successful: harvest potential?





# SUPPORTIVE: NUTRIENT CYCLING

- biofiltration and biodeposition by bivalves
- stimulates nutrient regeneration and phytoplankton turnover
- **motor in nutrient cycle**
- *feedbacks* by the filter feeders





# Goods & Services

## Provisioning

**Food production: aquaculture** ✓  
**Pearl production** ✓  
**Raw material: shells** ✓

## Supportive

**Biologically mediated habitat: shellfish reefs** ✓  
**nutrient cycling** ✓

## Cultural

**Cultural heritage and identity: scallop shells**  
**Cognitive benefits: sclerotology**  
**Leisure and recreation: shell collection**  
**Feel good or warm glow: decoration**  
*Non-material benefits*

## Regulating

**Bioremediation of waste**  
**Gas and climate regulation: C sequestration**  
**Disturbance prevention: eco-engineering**

# CULTURAL SERVICES

**Mythical:** Venus  
Goddess of love



**Religious**  
La Toja San Sebastian church  
Pilgrims carry Scallop Shells

**Golden ages**  
“Eat oysters  
Love longer”



# SCIENCE and EDUCATION

## Shells as Archives

**Archeology:** record of human food habits and resources management

**Sclerochronology:** history traits and reconstruction of environmental and climatic changes through space and time



## Education

Shellfish restoration: Many projects in the US

Involves schools, local communities

In Europe flat oyster restoration initiated by WWF (NGO)





# RECREATION & LEISURE

- Collecting shells
- Sea gardening
  - Community issue
  - Experience in Denmark



# DECORATION





# Goods & Services

## Provisioning

Food production: aquaculture  
Pearl production  
Raw material: shells

## Supportive

Biologically mediated habitat: shellfish reefs  
nutrient cycling

## Cultural

Cultural heritage and identity: scallop shells  
Cognitive benefits: sclerotology  
Leisure and recreation: shell collection  
Feel good or warm glow: decoration

## Regulating

Bioremediation of waste  
Gas and climate regulation: C sequestration  
Disturbance prevention: eco-engineering

*Climate robust management, Blue-green solutions,  
circular economy*



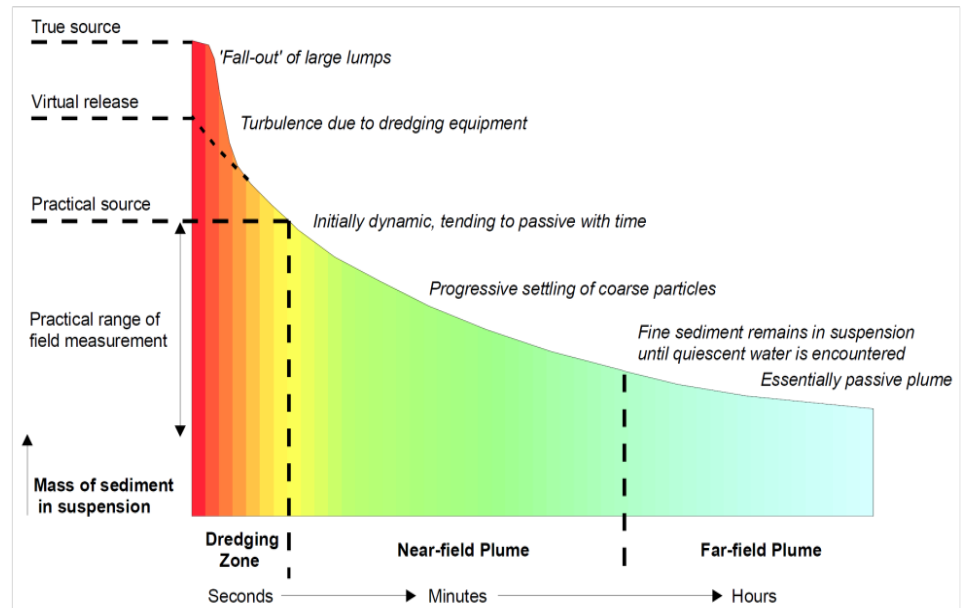
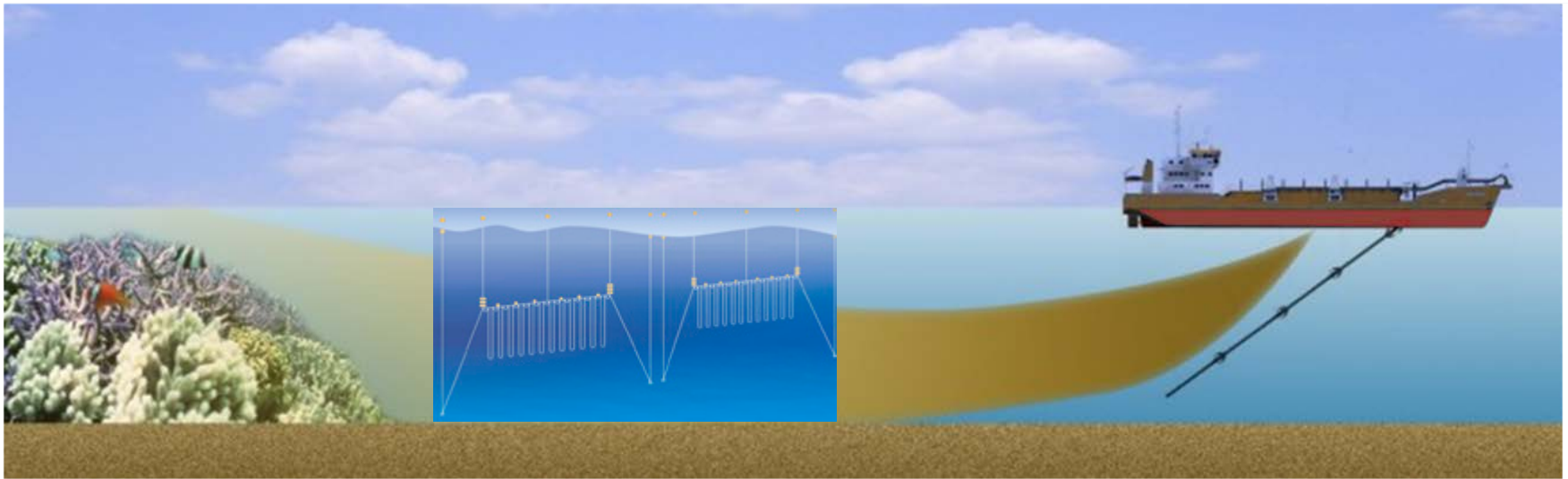
# REGULATING: BIOFILTRATION



Mitigate turbidity;  
Mitigate eutrophication



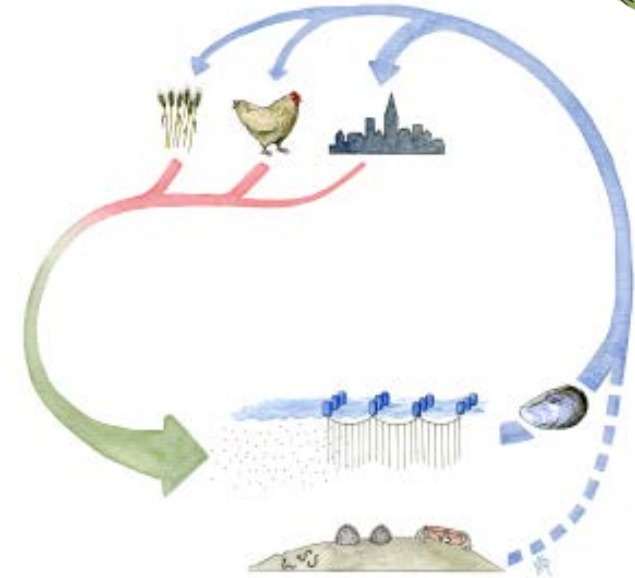
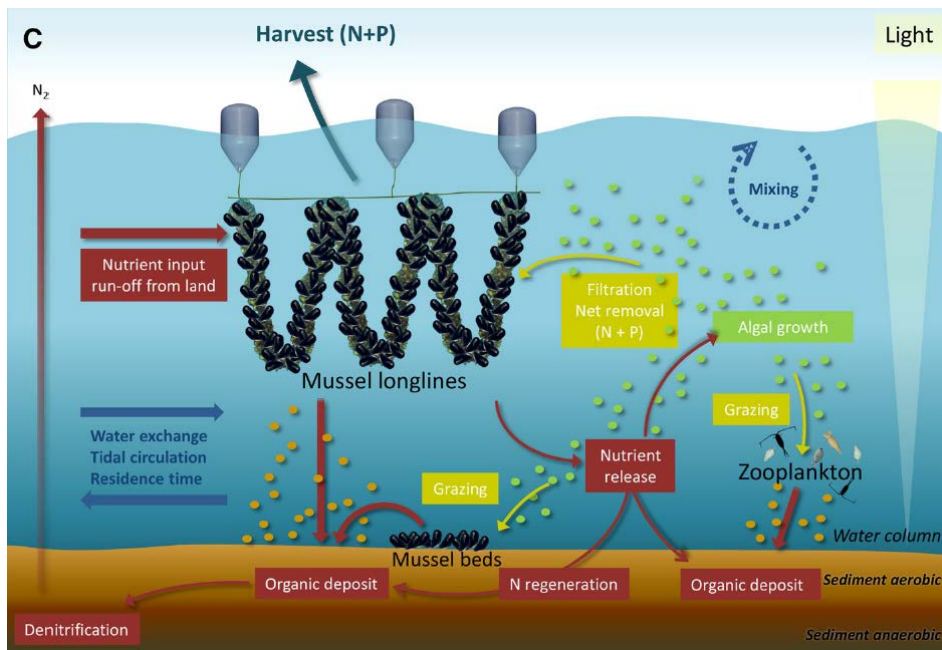
# Biofiltration: reduction of turbidity due to dredging



# BIOREMEDIATION: diffuse N&P sources



- Nutrient extraction through harvest
- Denitrification
- Enhance transparency
- Nutrient regeneration



**To be considered:**

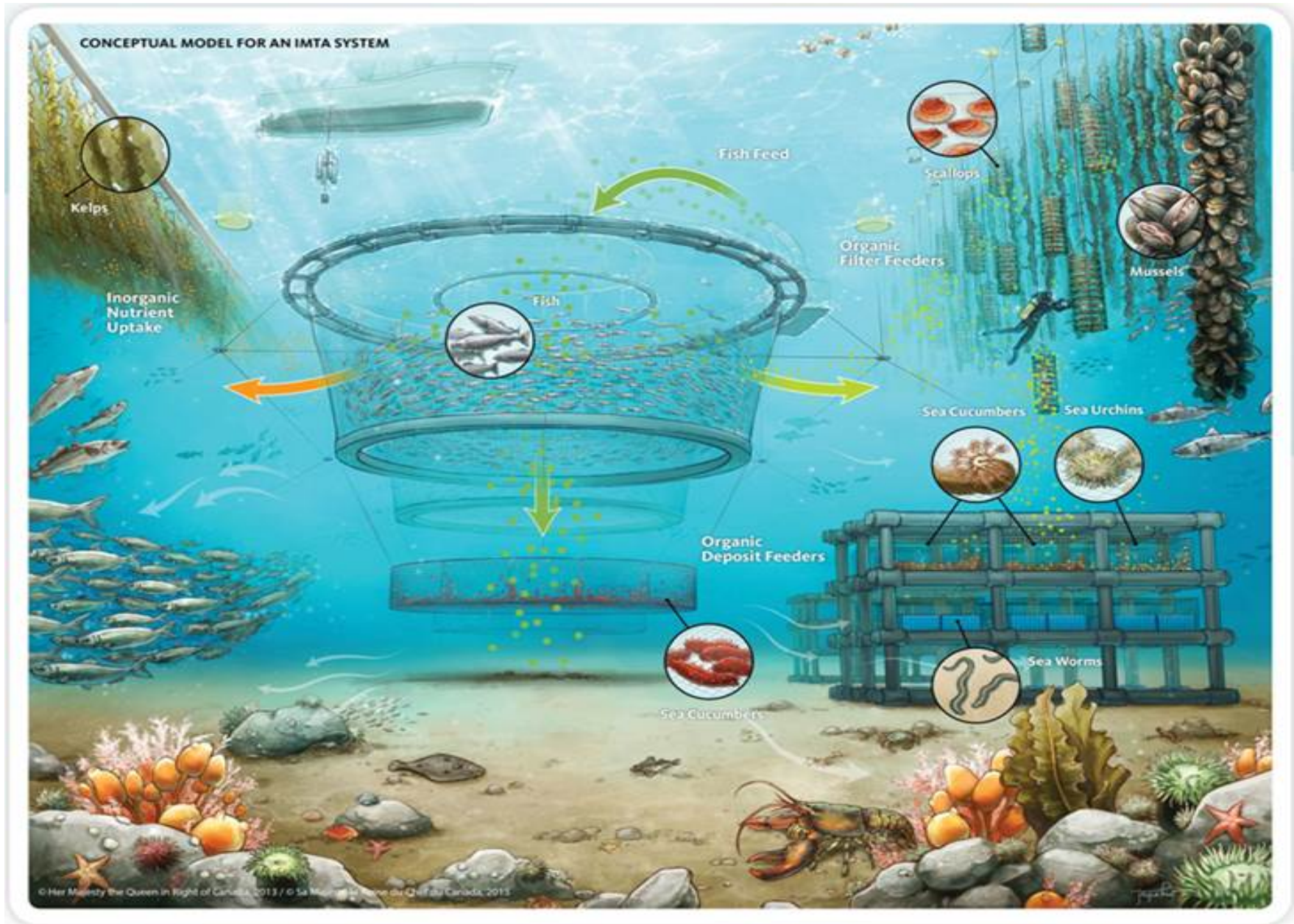
How effective is it

Where to locate

What to do with the product



# INTEGRATED MULTITROPHIC AQUACULTURE IMTA

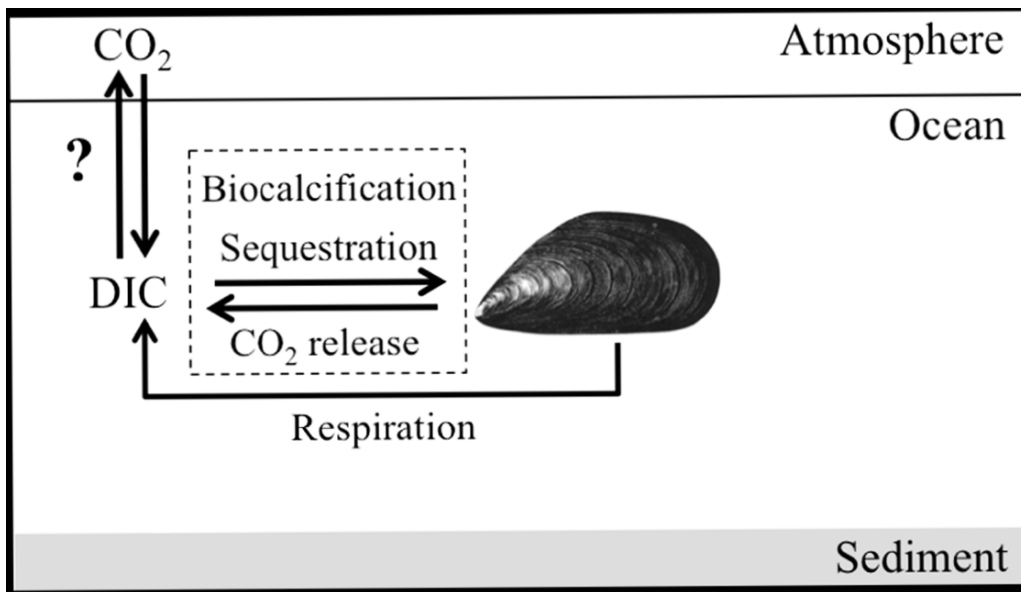


# BIVALVE CARBON SEQUESTRATION

Bivalve shell formation involves :



C Sequestration:  $\text{CaCO}_3$  formation 



DEBATE:

WHAT IS NET EFFECT  
ON C BUDGET ?

*Filgueira et al., 2015*

# CARBON SEQUESTRATION

**Table 1.** Carbon fluxes in different bivalve species: sequestration (carbon content in the shell), biocalcification (carbon released during biogenic calcification), respiration (carbon released through respiration of organic matter), balance (sequestration minus biocalcification and respiration), ratio balance/sequestration, and bibliographic references.

Species (Habitat)	Sequestration gC m <sup>-2</sup> y <sup>-1</sup>	Biocalcification gC m <sup>-2</sup> y <sup>-1</sup>	Respiration gC m <sup>-2</sup> y <sup>-1</sup>	Balance gC m <sup>-2</sup> y <sup>-1</sup>	Balance/ Sequestration	Reference
<i>Potamocorbula amurensis</i>	23.9 <sup>a</sup>	18.0	37.0	-31.1	-1.30	Chavaud et al. 2003
<i>Mytilus edulis</i> (sheltered)	3.8	2.3 <sup>a</sup>	1.9	-0.4	-0.09	Hily et al. 2013
<i>Mytilus edulis</i> (semiexposed)	129.2	77.4 <sup>a</sup>	44.3	7.6	0.06	Hily et al. 2013
<i>Mytilus edulis</i> (exposed)	45.0	27.0 <sup>a</sup>	19.6	-1.6	-0.03	Hily et al. 2013
<i>Crassostrea gigas</i> (sheltered)	286.8	172.0 <sup>a</sup>	11.9	103.0	0.36	Hily et al. 2013
<i>Crassostrea gigas</i>	15.5 <sup>a</sup>	11.1	32.7	-28.3	-1.83	Lejart et al. 2012
<i>Chlamys farreri</i>	78.1	54.0	71.7	-47.6	-0.61	Jiang et al. 2014
<i>Ruditapes philippinarum</i>	98.2	66.7	272.4	-241.0	-2.45	Mistri & Munari 2012
<i>Arculata senhousia</i>	46.0	11.7	50.4	-16.1	-0.35	Mistri & Munari 2013
<i>Mytilus galloprovincialis</i>	1639.2	1041.6	2253.6	-1656.0	-1.01	Munari et al. 2013

<sup>a</sup> shell dissolution is included in this term

Most studies: no net sequestration through bivalves



# CARBON SEQUESTRATION of bivalve culture

*Filgueira et al (2015) :*

- Bivalves are culture for consumption, not as C sink
- Meat and shell formation to be considered separate
- Respiration for shell formation 10 % of C intake

Results: effective net C sequestration

Species (Habitat)	Sequestration gC m <sup>-2</sup> y <sup>-1</sup>	Biocalcificati on gC m <sup>-2</sup> y <sup>-1</sup>	Respiration gC m <sup>-2</sup> y <sup>-1</sup>	Balance gC m <sup>-2</sup> y <sup>-1</sup>	Balance/ Sequestration	Reference
<i>Potamocorbula amurensis</i>	23.9	18.0	3.7	2.2	0.09	Chavaud et al. 2003
<i>Crassostrea gigas</i>	15.5	11.1	3.3	1.1	0.07	Lejart et al. 2012
<i>Chlamys farreri</i>	78.1	54.0	7.2	16.9	0.22	Jiang et al. 2014
<i>Ruditapes philippinarum</i>	98.2	66.7	27.2	4.2	0.04	Mistri & Munari 2012
<i>Arculata senhousia</i>	46.0	11.7	5.0	29.3	0.64	Mistri & Munari 2013
<i>Mytilus galloprovincialis</i>	1639.2	1041.6	225.4	372.2	0.23	Munari et al. 2013

# Significant biogenic carbonate masses

~ 2 mm year<sup>-1</sup>  
↑ sea level rise

Oyster reef

7-8 kg m<sup>-2</sup> year<sup>-1</sup>  
CaCO<sub>3</sub> production

15-28 kg m<sup>-2</sup> biomass

83-131 kg m<sup>-2</sup>  
CaCO<sub>3</sub> buried

40-75 cm

9-20 mm year<sup>-1</sup>  
reef accretion

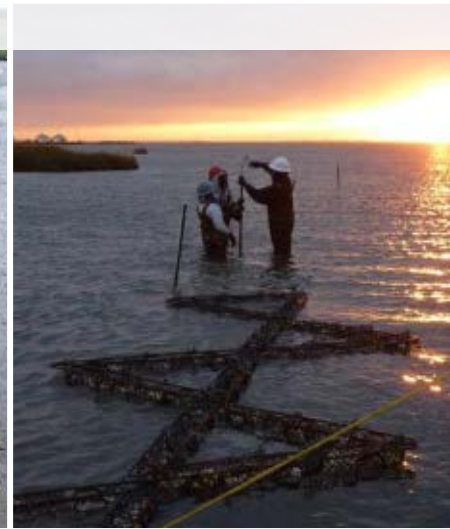
36 years of  
reef accretion



Tidal flat



## REGULATING : ECO-ENGINEERING



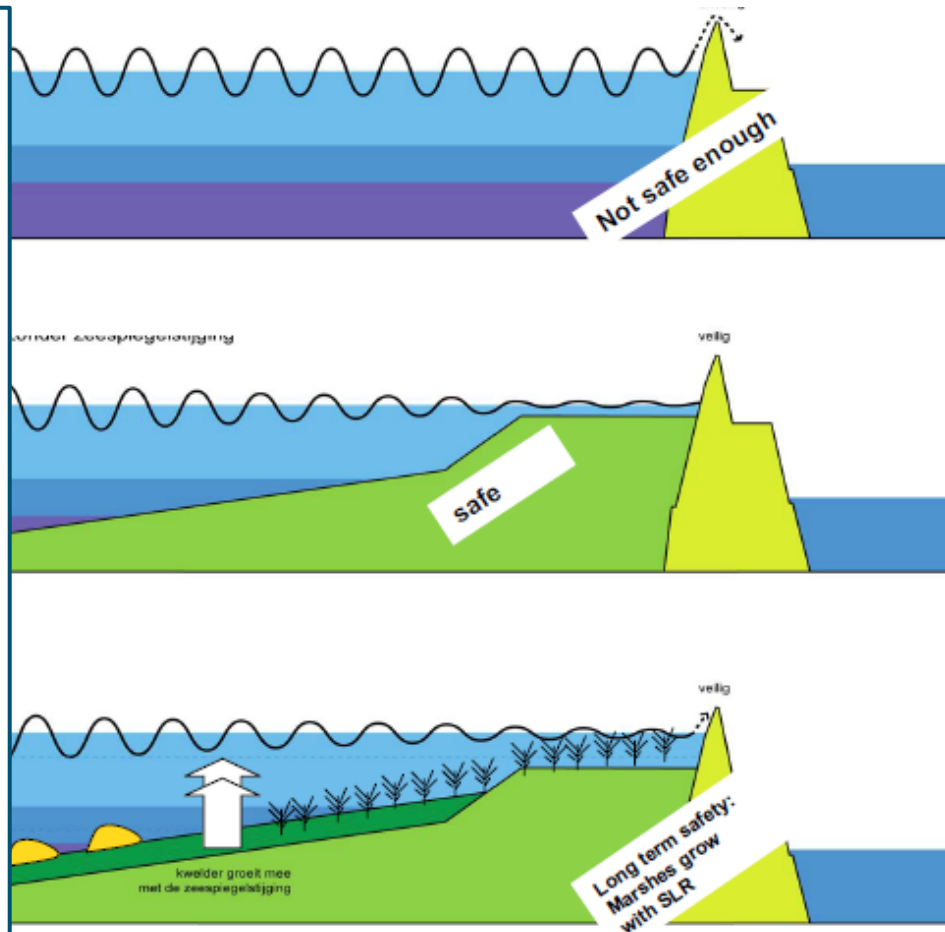


# BUILDING WITH NATURE

## Hard barriers => Soft transition zones

### RESILIENCE

- use the natural dynamics of the ecosystem
- to create flexible and sustainable infrastructure (cost efficient)
- while enhancing nature values

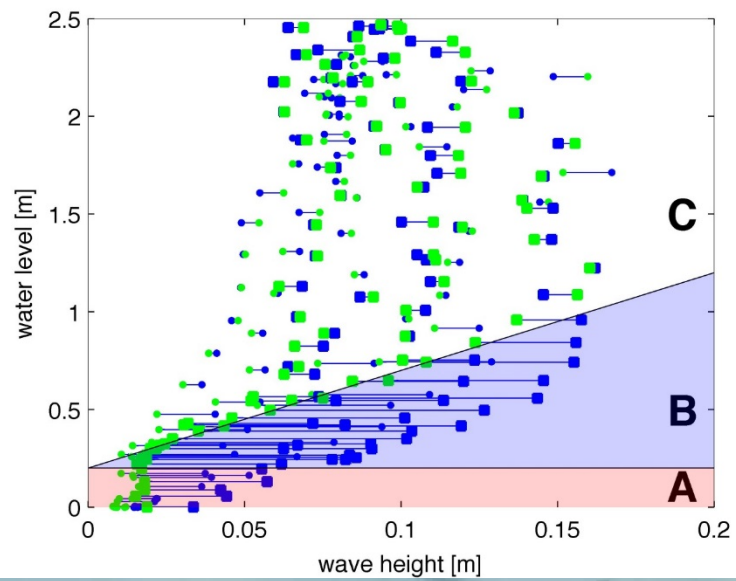


# Oyster reefs in the Eastern Scheldt:

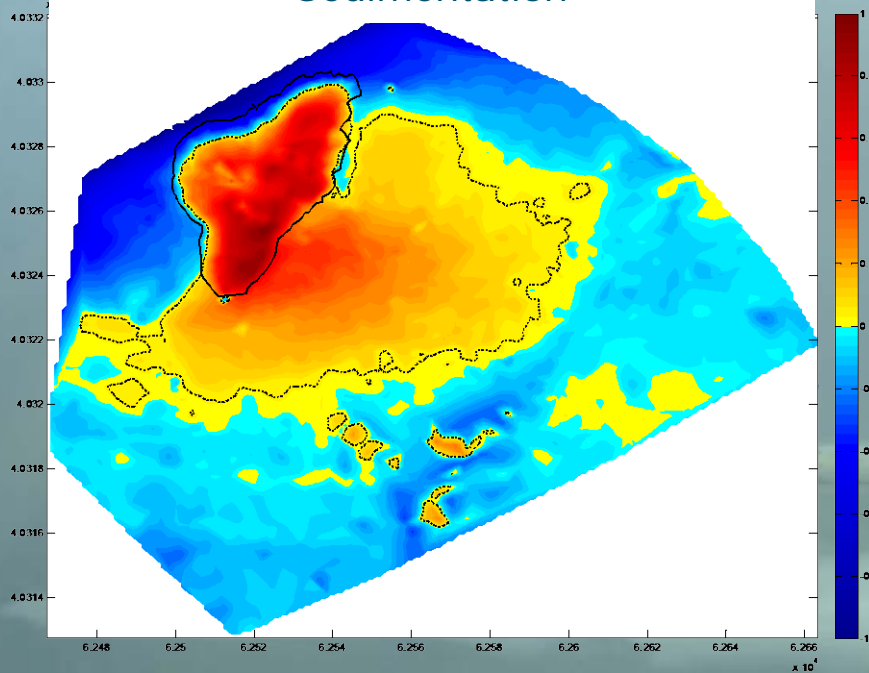
- Form structures
- Collect sediment
- Dampen waves
- Form habitat



## Wave attenuation

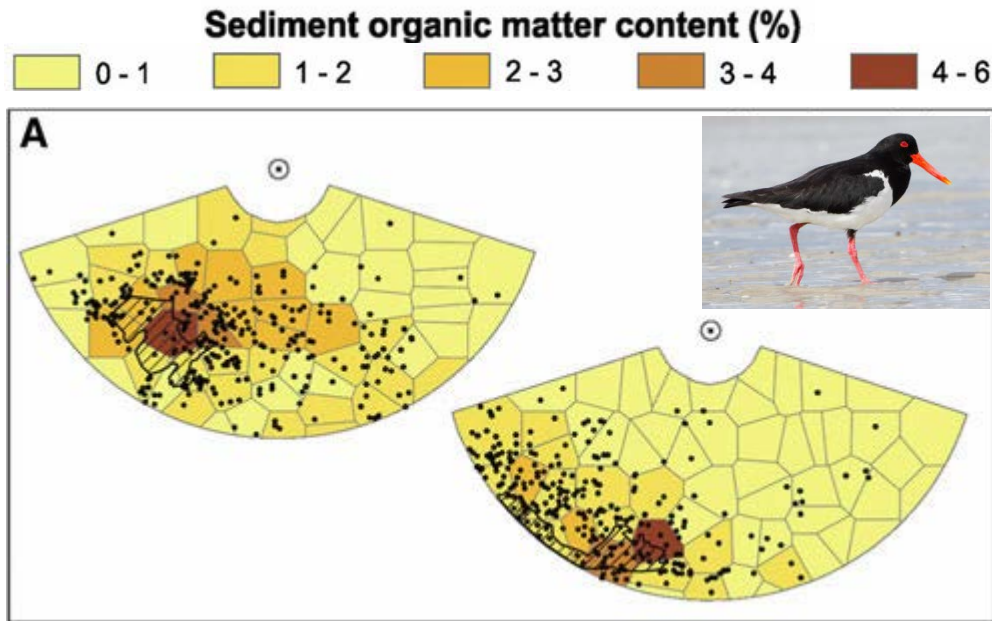


## Sedimentation





# Consumer-resource interactions are affected by reefs far beyond the boundaries of the reefs



**Distribution of sediment organic matter content in relation to the distribution of oystercatchers. Black dots represent the positions of the birds.**  
*Zee et al. 2012*

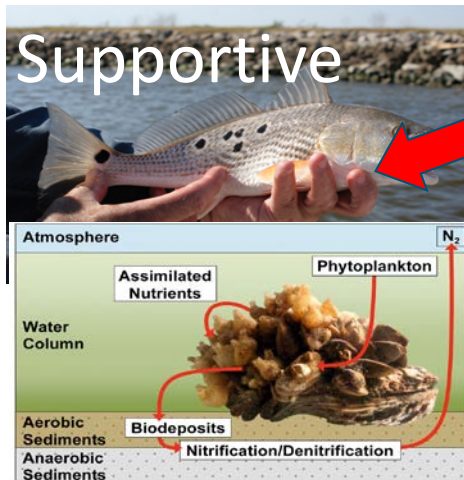


**High densities of cockles coastward of a mussel bed in the intertidal flats of Schiermonnikoog, The Netherlands.**  
*Donadi et al. 2013*

# IN CONCLUSION

THIS SETS AN AGENDA FOR

- AN INTEGRATED APPROACH
- BASED ON CASE STUDIES
- DEVELOPMENT OF TOOLS AND MODELS FOR QUANTIFICATION



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# PERSPECTIVES: find synergies

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Combination of services: **WHY?**

- To provide food for the growing world population, low food chain aquaculture is a **must**
- Given the worldwide loss of bivalve beds and reefs, shellfish restoration is a **must** as well
- Climate change and sea-level rise ask for eco-engineered solutions, shellfish reefs: **urgent**
- Bioremediation of nutrient input through bio-accumulation in bivalves is needed for diffuse nutrient sources control: **need**

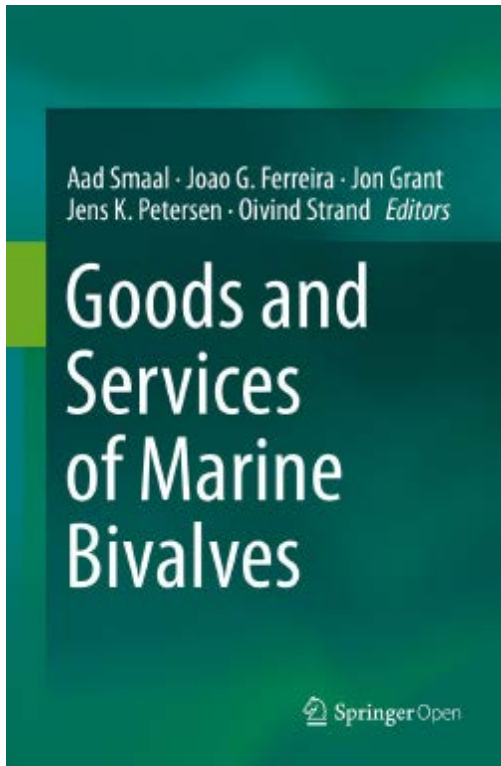
These applications will profit from an integrated approach, as they all require space, technology and social acceptance



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## FURTHER READING:

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Goods and Services of Marine Bivalves 595 p

Available online for Free / Hard copies:

[www.springer.com](http://www.springer.com)

### **A global review of the ecosystem services provided by bivalve aquaculture**

Andrew van der Schatte Olivier<sup>1</sup> , Laurence Jones<sup>2</sup>, Lewis Le Vay<sup>1</sup>, Michael Christie<sup>3</sup>, James Wilson<sup>4</sup> and Shelagh K. Malham<sup>1</sup>

1 School of Ocean Sciences, Bangor University, Menai Bridge, UK

2 Centre for Ecology and Hydrology, Bangor, UK

3 Aberystwyth Business School, Aberystwyth University, Aberystwyth, UK

4 Deepdock Ltd, Bangor, UK



**Schelpdier  
conferentie**



16 + 17 januari 2020



**6<sup>TH</sup> INTERNATIONAL SHELLFISH CONFERENCE**

**THE NETHERLANDS**

**JANUARY 16 AND 17, 2020**

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Thank you

