

UK NEA Stakeholder Group

Natural England, York
2 October 2012



bess biodiversity &
ecosystem
service
sustainability

[http:// www.nerc-bess.net/](http://www.nerc-bess.net/)



We use and manage landscapes under uncertainty



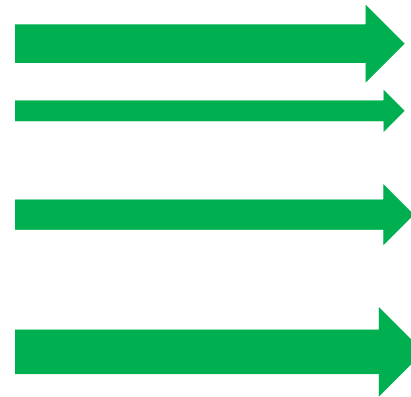
- Every day, and across all scales, we make decisions about ecosystem service delivery from these landscapes
- These decisions have long-term implications
- And we do all this with lots of uncertainty

Core questions of the BESS Programme

1. What are the **relationships between natural capital stocks and flows of services?**

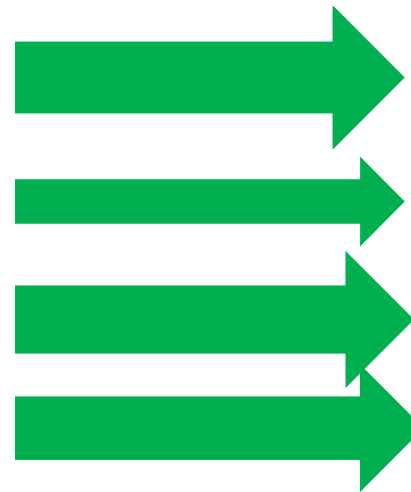


natural capital stock



flows of
ecosystem
services

Core questions of the BESS Programme



flows of
ecosystem
services

Are increased flows sustainable?

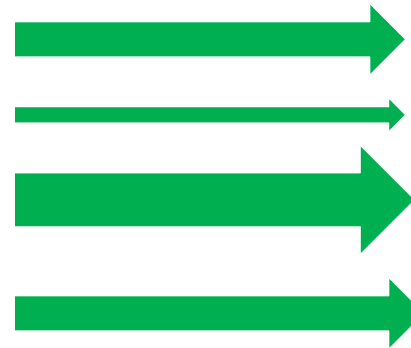
Core questions of the BESS Programme



Or will we eat into capital stock?

Core questions of the BESS Programme

2. What are the **important future drivers** and how will these affect stocks and flows?



flows of
ecosystem
services

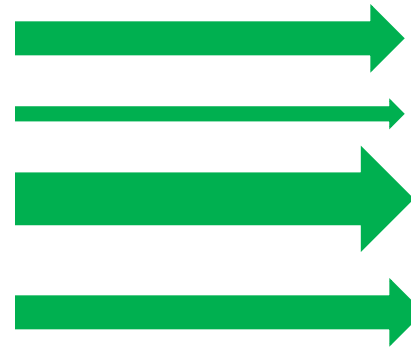
Foresight Land Use Futures

Core questions of the BESS Programme

food security ?

climate change?

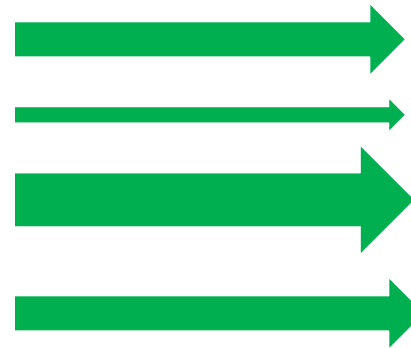
demographic change?



flows of ecosystem services

Core questions of the BESS Programme

3. What **novel tools and metrics** can be developed to measure trends in stocks and flows?



flows of
ecosystem
services

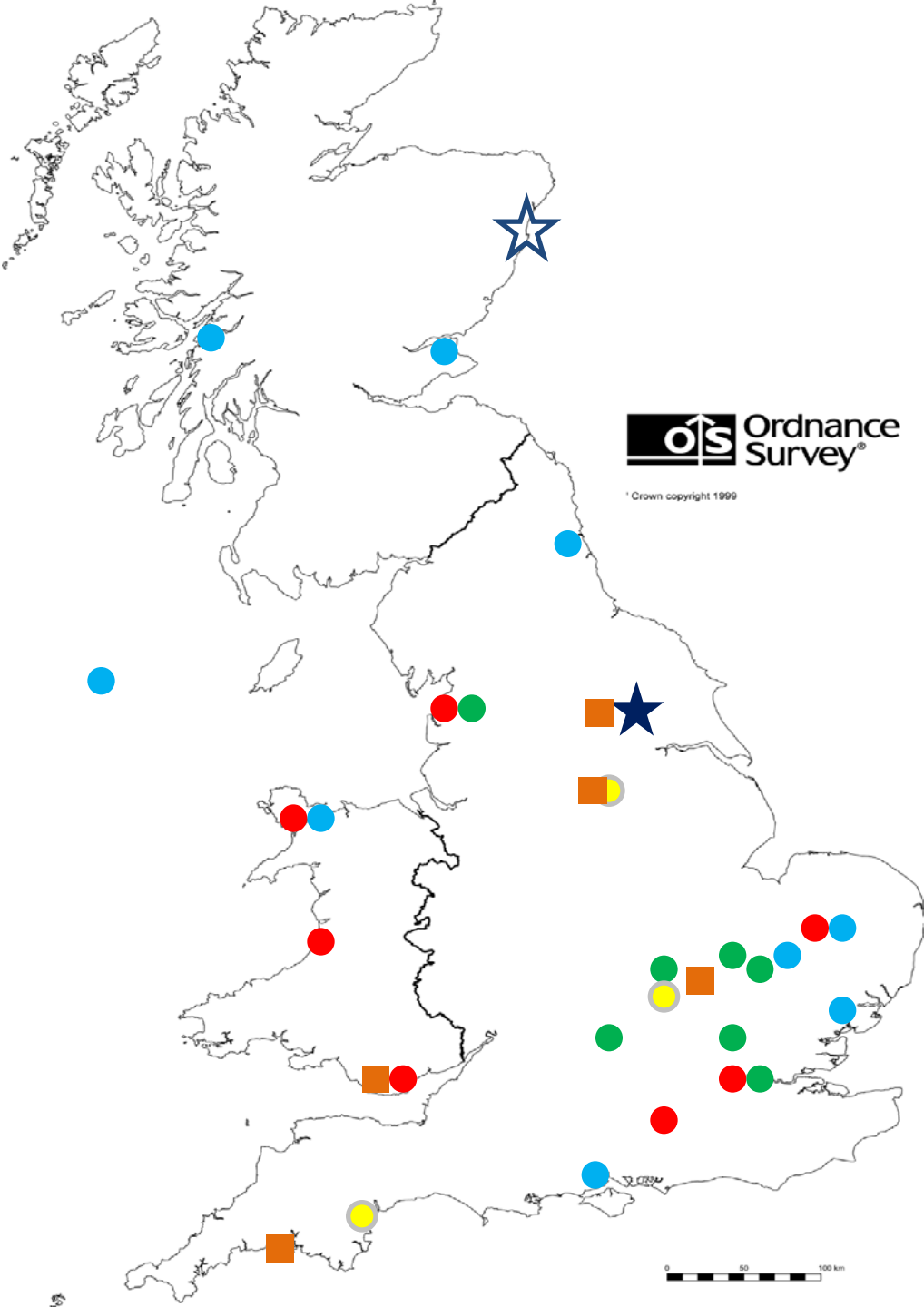


novel tools for measuring stocks and flows

The BESS programme

- **£14M, 6-year programme** from Feb 2011 to Jan 2017, co-ordinated from York
- **4 consortia** awarded Spring 2012 , working across focal landscapes
- **5 inter-disciplinary studentships** aligned to BESS science awarded Summer 2012
- **2 BESS Fellowships** AO 1st October 2012
- **Gap-filling Research Grants** (c. £1M) AO 1st October 2012
- **The Tansley Centre:** NCEAS-style programme, £250K for first two years

BESS is a national network

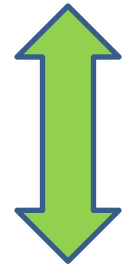
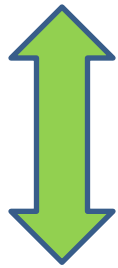


- DURESS
- CBESS
- Wessex BESS
- Urban BESS
- ★ Directorate
- Studentship

Urban BESS
Jim Harris
Cranfield

**Fellowships, Studentships and
Research Grants provide glue**

Wessex BESS
James Bullock
CEH



**Directorate
York**



DURESS
Isabelle Durance
Cardiff

CBESS
Dave Paterson
St Andrews

