



LITTLE BLUE RESEARCH CASE STUDY

Impact valuation of shellfish waters for the water industry

Client: UK based water company

Client size: mid-size

Little Blue Research updated a UK water company's economic model to determine the potential value of establishing new or improved coastal shellfisheries as an input into option appraisal for capex decision making. This project was undertaken in collaboration with an economic consultancy.

Service: Impact & dependency

Capital: NATURAL

Assessment location: UK

LITTLE BLUE RESEARCH LTD

+44 (0) 7887 633 345 | info@littleblueresearch.com | www.littleblueresearch.com



Case study details

Client need

Little Blue Research were approached by an economics consultancy to provide valuation support to understand the potential environmental and social impacts of pollution events in relation to the shellfish industry. An economic model was developed to value potential impact areas of coastal shellfisheries for a UK water company, in collaboration with the wider consultancy team. The approach included spatial data, catch estimates, ecological data and economic valuation.

The challenge

- Linking changes in the quality of marine habitats with changes in shellfish catch.
- Linking health issues resulting from shellfish consumption with water quality changes.
- Updating the economic model to include value of protected areas, ill health due to drinking water contamination and construction work disruption.
- Obtaining relevant data on shellfish catches.

Outputs and results

- ✓ An economic model to value the impact of waters designated as 'shellfish coastal waters'.
- ✓ A methodology detailing the development of the model, assumptions, caveats and how it could be used.

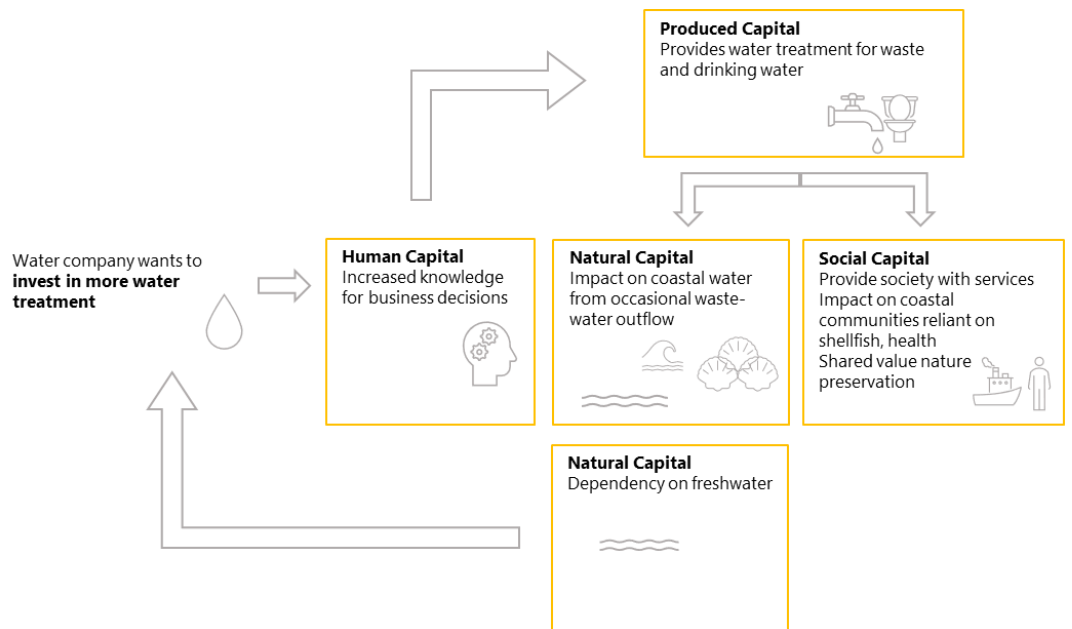


Figure 1: Links between valuation approach and integrated capitals

What happened next

Impact valuation was used to input into the water company's decision-making processes.

The anonymised summary (Figure 1) has been used as an illustration of how different capitals can be linked together as part of the development of the Capitals Coalition [Principles for Integrated Capitals Assessments](#).



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