



Berwickshire & Northumberland  
Marine Nature Partnership

# Delivery Plan for Management Scheme

## *Inshore Marine Protected Areas Tyne to Fast Castle Head*



July 2021

# 1. Introduction and purpose

The Management Scheme for the Berwickshire and Northumberland Coast sets out the framework for how organisation will work together to meet their responsibilities for the management of inshore marine protected areas and to achieve a well-managed network of designated sites.

This Delivery Plan is an annex to that document and describes in greater detail the actions that are being taken to achieve these aims. It particularly looks at the management of 29 human activities which have the potential to affect the condition of marine protected areas, and at 4 management themes which influence the whole network of sites and how we work together to manage them.

The Delivery Plan is intended to be a living document which will be reviewed annual at the meeting of the full Management Group of the partnership and revised accordingly.

# 2. Management Themes

This section discusses four overarching management themes and identifies proposes measures to address these. The four management themes are listed in Table 1.

**Table 1: Management themes covered in this Delivery Plan**

Delivering a well-managed network of marine protected areas	Communications and outreach
Coastal Change and Natural Capital	Data, Monitoring and Research

## 2.1 Delivering a well-managed network of marine protected areas

Good management and good governance are important if marine protected areas are to achieve their conservation objectives. The UK is committed to delivering a well-managed network of MPAs through the Government's 25-year Environment Plan and as a signatory to international agreements such as the OSPAR Convention and the UN Convention on Biological Diversity. No official description of a well-managed network of marine protected areas has been produced by Government. In the absence of this, the Marine Nature Partnership has developed a framework for reporting on this. Progress against this Framework is assessed annually and provides an insight into any issues around marine management which may need to be addressed. Since our framework was produced in 2015 other methods for reporting on governance of protected areas have been produced by other organisations, for example The Compass developed by WWF.

### Proposed Measures

Management Measure	Lead Organisation(s)	Timeframe
Report annually on progress towards delivering a well-managed network of marine protected areas along the Berwickshire and Northumberland coast	Marine Nature Partnership	Ongoing
Investigate possible use of alternative methodology for reporting on marine governance, such as the Compass tool	Marine Nature Partnership	2021/22

## 2.2 Coastal Change and Natural Capital

Our coastlines are naturally dynamic with erosion and deposition playing an important role in maintaining the features that we seek to protect. Such natural change needs to be considered when making long-term management decisions about the coast. This change is being exacerbated by the effects of climate change with sea-level rises and increasing frequency and severity of storm events likely to lead to significant environmental, social and economic impacts. Changes in sea temperature and acidity will also change the distribution of the marine organisms that we see. Initiatives such as the Scottish Government's Dynamic Coasts Project and the Marine Climate Change Impacts Partnership (MCCIP) have looked nationally at likely coastal change and climate change impacts but more work is needed to understand the implications of this Berwickshire and Northumberland and to assess the need for adaptive management.

The last decade has seen an increased awareness of the benefits to people derived from the natural world, for example by providing places for recreation or through the natural flood defence function provided by habitats such as saltmarsh. Protection of this natural capital and enhancement the services which they provide (ecosystem services) is of increasing concern in coastal management.

### Proposed Measures

Management Measure	Lead Organisation(s)	Timeframe
Collate published information on predicted future coastal change and climate change and undertake a horizon scanning exercise for the Berwickshire and Northumberland coast to identify likely impacts	Marine Nature Partnership, Data, Monitoring and Research Group	2021/22 2022/23
Use results of horizon scanning exercise to identify any likely management measures (including habitat creation) which will be required as a result of coastal and climate change	Marine Nature Partnership, Data, Monitoring and Research Group	2021/22
Collate available information about habitat creation/restoration opportunities along the Berwickshire and Northumberland coast and work with partners to identify new opportunities	Marine Nature Partnership	2021/22 2022/23

Management Measure	Lead Organisation(s)	Timeframe
Include marine and coastal habitats with Local Nature Recovery Strategies	Northumberland County Council, North Tyneside Council	2020/21 2021/22
Identify what work has been done to identify and map the main ecosystem services being provided by our network of inshore marine protected areas and scope additional work needed to fill any knowledge gaps	Marine Nature Partnership, Data, Monitoring and Research Group	2021/22
Develop a CoastSnap project to monitor coastal erosion and deposition and to engage the public in discussions around coastal change	Marine Nature Partnership	2021/22

## 2.3 Communications and outreach

Outreach and engagement are important tools in marine conservation and is a mechanism by which organisations can build support for action and change behaviours which may be impacting on habitats and species. Many of the members of the Marine Nature Partnership carry out public engagement and education activity as part of their core remit. Examples of this can be seen in the marine interpretation work being undertaken by the Berwickshire Marine Reserve, and by the engagement undertaken to raise awareness of recreational bird disturbance by Space for Shorebirds (Northumberland County Council). Codes of Conduct are one widely used method of communicating with sea users and have been created for the voluntary regulation of a number of different activities.

### Proposed Measures

Please note that these proposed measures focus on actions for the Berwickshire and Northumberland Marine Nature Partnership. Outreach and communications activity is also undertaken by a wide range of our partners but is not captured here.

Management Measure	Lead Organisation(s)	Timeframe
Continue to use social media (Twitter, Facebook, Instagram) and partnership website to promote the value of the Berwickshire and Northumberland coast and the work of our partners	Marine Nature Partnership	Ongoing
Develop a good practice guide and associated communications activity to communicate key messages about the pressures on the coast and to sign-post and promote relevant Codes of Conduct	Marine Nature Partnership	2021/22
Seek additional opportunities with partners to promote the importance of the Berwickshire and Northumberland coast and to improve virtual access to marine areas	Marine Nature Partnership	Ongoing

## 2.4 Data, Monitoring and Research

Robust information about the current condition of marine protected areas is needed to assess whether sites are meeting their conservation objectives and to inform management decisions.

Monitoring and data gathering is a vital component of marine management as without up-to-date information about the condition of sites we cannot know if management is working. Monitoring and research is also needed to identify new threats and to assess the most appropriate management approaches to some activities. A Data, Monitoring and Research working group exists to maintain an overview of these issues and develop proposals to fill any gap in knowledge or activity.

### Proposed Measures

Management Measure	Lead Organisation(s)	Timeframe
Continue to monitor and report on the condition of marine protected areas	NatureScot, Natural England	Ongoing
Maintain overview about current data on site condition	MNP Data, Monitoring and Research Group	Ongoing
Maintain overview on current data collection and research along the Berwickshire and Northumberland coast	MNP Data, Monitoring and Research Group	Ongoing
Identify actions needed to fill any data or research gaps	MNP Data, Monitoring and Research Group	Ongoing

### 3. Management of Human Activities

This section sets out details of how 29 separate human activities are managed. The activities included are shown in Table 2.

**Table 2: Human activities covered by this Delivery Plan**

Anchoring and mooring	Pollution control: Beach cleaning, plastic pollution and litter
Biosecurity and management of invasive non-native species	Pollution control: Diffuse pollution
Fisheries: Aquaculture	Pollution control: Discharges at sea
Fisheries: Commercial fishing (Mobile Gear)	Pollution control: Discharges from land
Fisheries: Commercial fishing (Netting)	Pollution control: Harbour Waste Management
Fisheries: Creel/Pot fisheries	Pollution control: Pollution incident response
Infrastructure: Coastal Development and Infrastructure	Private aircraft and UAVs
Infrastructure: Dredging and Dredge Disposal	Recreation: Angling
Infrastructure: Flood and coastal defence management	Recreation: Recreational boating and watercraft
Infrastructure: Harbour Development	Recreation: Charter boating
Infrastructure: Navigational aids	Recreation: Diving
Intertidal hand gathering and bait collection	Recreation: General beach recreation
Marine mammal stranding response	Recreation: Wildfowling and punt gunning
Military: Low flying aircraft	Recreational and commercial dog walking
Military: Ordnance disposal	Seal management

The following information is provided for each activity:

**Summary of current management measures:** A brief summary of the current management measures in place for this activity is provided. These measures usually reflect the current legislative and policy framework under which marine management is undertaken, and the core work of individual organization. Full descriptions of the current measures in place are provided in the toolkit section of our website. Links to the toolkit are provided for each individual activity.

**Organisations with relevant management powers or responsibilities:** A summary is provided for each activity of the powers or responsibilities that are potentially available to organisations to manage impacts

**Proposed and Highlighted Actions:** The management of each activity relies upon a wide range of ongoing activity by organisations (Box 1). This section highlights some key actions that have been identified. These are a mixture of new actions which are proposed to address gaps in management and ongoing activity by organisations which go beyond their normal statutory



measures. Actions will be reviewed annually by the partnership's Management Group and will be amended, deleted, or added to as necessary.

**Box 1: Note about core management responsibilities**

Previous versions of the Management Scheme incorporated an Action Plan which identified measures for each individual activity. Many of those measures reflected core statutory responsibilities or the day-to-day work of organisations. This Delivery Plan replaces the Action Plan of earlier iterations and the approach taken is to remove generic actions which are a restatement of core organisational responsibilities or compliance with the law. Although these are no longer included as specific actions they still make up the foundation of marine management and it is assumed that they will continue. These core actions include

- Obtaining all relevant permissions, licences or consents before commencing with management activities
- Undertaking Habitats Regulations Assessment/Habitats Regulations Appraisal and/or MCZ appraisals before issuing consents or permissions
- Enforcement of legislation
- Collaboration and information sharing between regulators
- Consideration of the requirements of marine protected areas in plans and strategies

What the Management Measures aim to address: This section provides a high-level summary of what the ongoing and proposed management measures for this activity are intended to achieve.

Remaining issues and knowledge gaps: For some activities the current and proposed management measures do not cover all of the potential actions needed to address the impacts caused. In other situations, knowledge gaps may exist which make it difficult to fully establish whether the measures proposed are sufficient.

### 3.1 Anchoring and mooring

#### Summary of current management measures

The right to anchor is part of the public right of navigation in tidal waters but may be restricted by statute or byelaws. No statutory regulatory mechanisms for anchoring are in place within the Management Scheme area. Management is largely restricted to the identification of specific mooring areas in harbours. The National Trust also limit the number of vessels which can land, around the Farne Islands. A full summary of the current management tools and current management action for this activity can be found on the [anchoring and mooring section](#) of our website.

#### Organisations with relevant management powers or responsibilities

Organisation	Description of powers or responsibilities
Harbour and Port Authorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Designation of anchoring areas within harbours and ports</li></ul>
The National Trust	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Limits to number of boats allowed to land on the Farne Islands</li></ul>
Marine Scotland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Byelaw making powers for marine sites</li></ul>
Marine Management Organisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Byelaw making powers for marine sites</li></ul>
Natural England	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Byelaw making powers for National Nature Reserves</li><li>• Consenting of activities on SSSIs</li></ul>
NatureScot	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Consenting of activities on SSSIs</li></ul>

#### Proposed and Highlighted Actions

Management Measure	Lead Organisation(s)	Timeframe
As part of review of the Farne Islands National Nature Reserve Management Plan, continue to include measures to restrict landing numbers on the Farne Islands at a sustainable level	National Trust	2020/21
Carry out an assessment to identify areas of inshore marine protected areas that are likely to be most sensitive to impacts from anchoring and mooring	Marine Nature Partnership	2022/23

<b>Management Measure</b>	<b>Lead Organisation(s)</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>
Identify a strategy for monitoring any impacts from anchoring on the Berwickshire, Northumberland and North Tyneside coast.	MNP Data, Monitoring and Research sub-group	2022/23
Incorporate anchoring and mooring into proposed good practice guide and associated communications activity	Marine Nature Partnership	2021/22

## What the Management Measures aim to address

The existing and proposed activities seek to:

- Maintain limits on anchoring around the Farne Islands
- Identify additional locations which may be sensitive to impacts from anchoring
- Develop proposals for how monitoring of any impacts can be developed
- Promote some simple messages about the potential environmental impacts of anchoring and mooring to boat owners and operators

## Remaining issues and knowledge gaps

No monitoring is currently undertaken to assess any impacts from anchoring and mooring on our inshore marine protected areas.

## 3.2 Biosecurity and Non-Native Species

### Summary of current management measures

A range of legislation exists dealing with the introduction and control of non-native species. Awareness raising campaigns such as Check Clean Dry have an important role in helping to reduce the introduction and spread of invasive species. The development of biosecurity plans is a means of managing the risk of non-native species being introduced into an area. A full summary of current management action for this activity can be on the [non-native species and biosecurity section](#) of our website

### Organisations with relevant management powers or responsibilities

Organisation	Description of powers or responsibilities
NatureScot	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enforcement of legislation dealing with non-native species</li> </ul>
Natural England	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enforcement of legislation dealing with non-native species</li> </ul>
River Tweed Commission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Licencing of the introduction of live fish and live fish spawn into inland waters (Scotland)</li> </ul>
Environment Agency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Licencing of the introduction of live fish and live fish spawn into inland waters (England)</li> </ul>

### Proposed and Highlighted Actions

Management Measure	Lead Organisation(s)	Timeframe
Develop a Biosecurity Plan for the Berwickshire and Northumberland Coast, to include a monitoring strategy for non-native species and response measures if non-native species are found	Marine Nature Partnership	2021/22
Promote biosecurity plan to stakeholders and develop additional training and support around this issue if required	Marine Nature Partnership	2022/23
Continue to maintain an up to date <a href="#">checklist of Marine INNS</a> along the Berwickshire and Northumberland coast	Marine Nature Partnership	Ongoing
Continue to maintain details of how to report non-native species sightings on the Marine Nature Partnership website	Marine Nature Partnership	Ongoing
Continue to report all records of non-native species to appropriate national and local portals	All organisations	Ongoing

<b>Management Measure</b>	<b>Lead Organisation(s)</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>
Promote student projects that involve the gathering and analysis of data related to marine nonnative species within and adjacent to the BNNC	NE, EA, NIFCA, Marine Nature Partnership	Ongoing
Promote Clean, Check, Dry campaign amongst boat owners/users	Harbour and Port Authorities, Marine Nature Partnership	Ongoing
Incorporate biosecurity and INNS into proposed good practice recreation guide and associated communications activities	Marine Nature Partnership	2021/22

### What the Management Measures aim to address

The measures proposed aim to:

- Reduce the risks of additional non-native species becoming established in our inshore and transitional waters through the development of a Biosecurity Plan
- Develop a shared approach to dealing with appearance of new non-native species
- Improve surveillance and monitoring for invasive species
- Promote biosecurity awareness and the potential environmental and economic threats from invasive marine species

### Remaining issues and knowledge gaps

Production of a biosecurity plan for the Berwickshire and Northumberland inshore and estuarine waters will help to address many of the outstanding issues around marine non-native species. There will remain a need for the biosecurity plan to be implemented and organisations to be supported in their biosecurity efforts. More work is needed to understand what management interventions are appropriate for certain species.

### 3.3 Fisheries: Aquaculture

#### Summary of current management measures

Aquaculture is largely managed through the land-use and marine planning systems, marine licencing, and by the requirement for authorisation for an aquaculture production business from the Fish Health Inspectorate (FHI). Currently the only aquaculture operation active within the Management Scheme area is at Fenham Flats in Northumberland. A full summary of the current management action for this activity can be found on [the aquaculture section](#) of our website.

#### Organisations with relevant management powers or responsibilities

Organisation	Description of powers or responsibilities
Marine Scotland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Issuing of marine licences</li> <li>• Marine Planning</li> </ul>
Marine Management Organisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Issuing of marine licences</li> <li>• Marine Planning</li> </ul>
Local Authorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Act as Local Planning Authority</li> <li>• Consultee in marine licencing process</li> <li>• Granting of planning permission (down to low mean low water)</li> <li>• Planning enforcement</li> </ul>
Natural England	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Statutory consultee in the planning process</li> <li>• Consultee in marine licencing process</li> <li>• SSSI consents and assents</li> <li>• Issuing of advice of impacts of development on SSSIs</li> </ul>
NatureScot	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Statutory consultee in the planning process</li> <li>• Consultee in marine licencing process</li> <li>• SSSI consents and assents</li> <li>• Issuing of advice of impacts of development on SSSIs</li> </ul>
SEPA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Statutory consultee in the planning process</li> <li>• Issue Environmental Permits to discharge liquid effluent or wastewater</li> </ul>
Environment Agency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Statutory consultee in the planning process</li> </ul>

Organisation	Description of powers or responsibilities
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="873 247 1421 310">• Issue Environmental Permits to discharge liquid effluent or wastewater</li> </ul>
Centre for Environment, Fisheries & Aquaculture Science (CEFAS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="873 331 1421 396">• Issuing of Aquaculture Production Business Licences</li> </ul>

### Proposed and Highlighted Actions

No additional actions are proposed for this activity beyond the currently regulatory framework.

### What these Management Measures address

The existing management measures in place seek to:

- Ensure that aquaculture operations are carried out within the existing regulatory framework, and that potential impacts on designated sites are assessed and addressed
- Avoid the development of aquaculture development in sensitive locations

### Remaining issues and knowledge gaps

More information is needed on the environmental impacts of current aquaculture activity on the coast and on the designated features of marine protected areas. It is possible that the number aquaculture operation on the Berwickshire and Northumberland coast will increase. These might include a wider range of aquaculture businesses including commercial seaweed gathering.

### 3.4 Fisheries: Commercial fishing (mobile gear)

#### Summary of current available management activity

Commercial fishing with mobile gear is largely regulated through national fisheries policy and through local byelaws or restrictions, such as the static gear reserve of St Abbs. Commercial fishing is classed as a ‘plan or project’ under the Habitat Regulations and new activities will be subject to Habitat Regulations Assessment/Appraisal. A full summary of the current management tools and current management action for this activity is available on [the commercial fishing section](#) of our website.

#### Organisations with relevant management powers or responsibilities

Organisation	Description of powers or responsibilities
Marine Scotland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fisheries enforcement</li> <li>• Fishing vessel licencing</li> <li>• Byelaw making powers</li> </ul>
Marine Management Organisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fisheries enforcement</li> <li>• Fishing vessel licencing</li> <li>• Byelaw making powers</li> </ul>
Northumberland Inshore Fisheries & Conservation Authority	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fisheries enforcement</li> <li>• Byelaw making powers</li> </ul>

#### Proposed and Highlighted Actions

Management Measure	Lead Organisation(s)	Timeframe
Maintain and enforce fixed gear reserve in the Scottish section of the Berwickshire and North Northumberland Coast SAC and ensure that any derogations to the order undergo Habitats Regulations Appraisal	Marine Scotland	Ongoing
Assess impacts of dredge fishing on rocky reef features of the Berwickshire and North Northumberland Coast SAC in the area outside of the fixed gear reserve	Marine Scotland, NatureScot	2021/22 2022/23
Maintain and enforce byelaws restricting the use of mobile gear on the English sections of the Berwickshire and North Northumberland Coast SAC and ensure that any modifications to the byelaws undergo Habitats Regulations Assessment	NIFCA	Ongoing

#### What the Management Measures aim to address

These measures aim to ensure that:



- Any potential impacts on the marine protected areas from commercial fisheries are managed through local measures and enforcement of national fisheries policies
- Local byelaws or restrictions are reviewed regularly and updated as necessary

### Remaining issues and knowledge gaps

Some stakeholders have queried whether the boundary of the St Abbs Fixed Gear Reserve is sufficient to protect SAC reef features from dredge fishing. Incidents of dredge fishing within the Fixed Gear Reserve have been reported to regulators. Proposals for a squid fishery within the Fixed Gear Reserve are thought to be in development but have not as yet been raised formally with the Regional Inshore Fisheries Group.

The UK Government committed to identify and designate pilot Highly Protected Marine Areas (HPMAs) in English waters by the end of 2022. The process of identifying pilot HPMAs is ongoing but consultation on proposed sites is anticipated to commence in Spring of 2022.

### 3.5 Fisheries: Commercial Fishing (Netting)

#### Summary of current management measures

Commercial fishing with nets is largely regulated through national fisheries policy and through local byelaws or restrictions. Commercial fishing is classed as a 'plan or project' under the Habitat Regulations and new activities will be subject to Habitat Regulations Assessment/Appraisal. A full summary of the current management tools and current management action for this activity is available on [the commercial fishing \(netting\) section](#) of our website.

#### Organisations with relevant management powers or responsibilities

Organisation	Description of powers or responsibilities
Marine Scotland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Fisheries enforcement</li><li>• Fishing vessel licencing</li><li>• Byelaw making powers</li></ul>
Marine Management Organisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Fisheries enforcement</li><li>• Fishing vessel licencing</li><li>• Byelaw making powers</li></ul>
Northumberland Inshore Fisheries & Conservation Authority	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Fisheries enforcement</li><li>• Byelaw making powers</li></ul>
River Tweed Commission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Regulation of capture of migratory freshwater fish (salmon and trout)</li></ul>
Environment Agency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Regulation of capture of migratory freshwater fish (salmon and trout)</li></ul>
NatureScot	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Consenting of activities within SSSIs</li></ul>
Natural England	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Consenting of activities within SSSIs</li></ul>

#### Proposed and Highlighted Actions

No additional management measures for this activity are proposed here beyond the existing policy and legislative framework.

#### What the Management Measures aim to address

The management measures currently in place aim to ensure:

- Any potential impacts on the marine protected areas from commercial fisheries are managed through local measures and enforcement national fisheries policies.

- Local byelaws or restrictions are reviewed regularly and updated as necessary

### Remaining issues and knowledge gaps

The UK Government committed to identify and designate pilot Highly Protected Marine Areas (HPMAs) in English waters by the end of 2022. The process of identifying pilot HPMAs is ongoing but consultation on proposed sites is anticipated to commence in Spring of 2022.

### 3.6 Fisheries: Creel and Pot Fisheries

#### Summary of current management measures

Creel and pot fisheries are regulated through landing restrictions for crustaceans and by local byelaws. There is an upper limit on the number of pots/creels that can be used by commercial or recreational fishers in Northumberland but not in Scotland. A full summary of the current management tools and current management action for this activity is available on [the creel and pot fisheries section](#) of our website.

#### Organisations with relevant management powers or responsibilities

Organisation	Description of power or responsibility
Marine Scotland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Fisheries enforcement</li><li>• Byelaw making powers</li></ul>
Marine Management Organisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Enforcement</li><li>• Byelaw making powers</li></ul>
Northumberland Inshore Fisheries & Conservation Authority	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Fisheries enforcement</li><li>• Licencing of potting activity</li><li>• Byelaw making powers</li></ul>

#### Planned and Highlighted Actions

Management Measures	Lead Organisation(s)	Timeframe
Continue to assess lobster and brown crab stock status and exploitation levels based on size distribution and sex ratio of lobster catch	NIFCA	Ongoing
Assess and estimate the current size of maturity for edible crab in Berwickshire and Northumberland to inform stock assessments and minimum landing size	NIFCA, St Abbs Marine Station, Blue Marine Foundation	2020-2023
Liaise with stakeholders to gather evidence and explore opportunities for sustainable regional management of the crab and lobster fishery on the Berwickshire coast	Regional Inshore Fisheries Group, Blue Marine Foundation	Ongoing

#### What the Management Measures aim to address

The existing and proposed management measures aim to ensure that:

- The existing regulatory framework for creel and pot fisheries is applied and that any potential impacts on the marine protected areas are managed
- Up-to-date stock assessments are available
- Opportunities for sustainable local shellfish fisheries are identified in collaboration with local fishing communities and stakeholder

### Remaining issues and knowledge gaps

There is currently no pot limitation scheme running in the Scottish section of the Management Scheme area. Legislation covering the landing of berried lobsters varies between England and Scotland. It is unclear what impact, if any, the use of bait balls in pots is having on the local marine environment.

### 3.7 Infrastructure: Coastal infrastructure and development

#### Summary of current management measures

Coastal infrastructure includes slipways, offshore renewables, undersea cables and outfall pipes. The creation of this infrastructure is largely regulated through the land-use planning system, marine licencing, and by other forms of consenting and permitting. Published Conservation Advice from Natural England and NatureScot provides further guidance to help assess the possible impacts of management activities on protected marine features. Marine Plans and Local Development Plans set out the wider policy context for where development should be located. Authorities with a role in issuing permissions are required to assess the potential impacts of these on marine protected areas under duties contained in the Habitats Regulations and the Marine and Coastal Access Act. Opportunities for modifying existing coastal infrastructure to increase its benefit for wildlife are being investigated by a number of projects. A full summary of the current management of this activity is available on [the coastal infrastructure and development section](#) of our website.

#### Organisations with relevant management powers or responsibilities

Organisation	Description of powers or responsibilities
Local Authorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Act as Local Planning Authority</li> <li>● Granting of planning permission (down to low mean low water)</li> <li>● Planning enforcement</li> <li>● Consultee in marine licencing process</li> </ul>
Marine Scotland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Marine licencing</li> <li>● National lead on Scottish Marine Plan</li> </ul>
Marine Management Organisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Marine licencing</li> <li>● Production of Marine Plans in England</li> </ul>
Environment Agency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Statutory consultee in the planning process</li> <li>● Consultee in marine licencing process</li> <li>● Issuing of environmental permits for flood risk activities or discharges</li> </ul>
NatureScot	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Statutory consultee in the planning process</li> <li>● Consultee in marine licencing process</li> <li>● Issuing of advice of impacts of developments on SSSIs</li> <li>● Production of Conservation Advice for designated marine areas in Scotland</li> </ul>
Natural England	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Statutory consultee in the planning process</li> </ul>

Organisation	Description of powers or responsibilities
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consultee in marine licencing process</li> <li>• Issuing of advice of impacts of developments on SSSIs</li> <li>• Production of Conservation Advice packages for marine protected areas in England</li> </ul>
Northumberland IFCA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consultee in marine licencing process</li> </ul>
Crown Estate Crown Estate Scotland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leasing of seabed for offshore renewables</li> </ul>

### Planned and Highlighted Actions

Management Measure	Lead Organisation(s)	Timeframe
Publish conservation advice for the Berwick to St Mary's MCZ to inform assessment of any impacts from development proposals	Natural England	2022/23
Publish conservation advice for the St Abbs Head to Fast Castle SPA to inform assessment of any impacts from development proposals	NatureScot	2022/23
Complete study to look at options for modification of the River Wansbeck Barrage to improve tidal flow	Environment Agency	2020-2021
Identify options for ecological enhancement of hard structures in the Blyth estuary as part of ongoing Blyth Estuary Project	Environment Agency	2020-2021
Plan a training event for coastal engineers to promote opportunities for the ecological enhancement of coastal structures	Marine Nature Partnership	2022/23

### What the Management Measures aim to address

The current and proposed management measures in place are intended to:

- Ensure that potential impacts marine protected areas are fully considered in any new coastal developments
- The need to conserve marine protected areas is reflected in local plans and strategies
- That responsible authorities have access to the best available evidence on which to base their decision making
- That marine protected areas are not adversely affected by maintenance of coastal infrastructure

- Opportunities to enhance the potential wildlife value of new and existing infrastructure are identified and promoted.

### Remaining issues and knowledge gaps

More work is needed to identify potential opportunities for ecological enhancements of new and existing structures on our coast and estuaries and to promote these to coastal engineers.



### 3.8 Infrastructure Dredging and Dredge Disposal

#### Summary of current management measures

Regulation of capital dredges and dredge disposal is largely undertaken through the marine licencing system. Some routine maintenance dredging is undertaken by harbours and ports under their own local legislation. A full summary of the current management action for this activity is summarised on the [Dredging and Dredge Disposal](#) section of our website.

#### Organisations with relevant management powers or responsibilities

Organisation	Description of powers or responsibilities
Marine Scotland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Granting of marine licences</li></ul>
Marine Management Organisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Granting of marine licences</li></ul>
Harbour or Port Authorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Maintenance of harbours in a fit condition for vessels</li><li>• Power to dredge for the maintenance and improvement of channel*</li></ul>
NatureScot	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Consultee in marine licencing process</li></ul>
Natural England	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Consultee in marine licencing process</li></ul>
SEPA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Consultee in marine licencing process</li></ul>
Environment Agency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Consultee in marine licencing process</li></ul>
Historic England	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Consultee in marine licencing process</li></ul>
Local Authorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Consultee in marine licencing process</li></ul>
Northumberland IFCA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Consultee in marine licencing process</li></ul>
Centre for Environment, Fisheries & Aquaculture Science (CEFAS)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Produce guidelines for limits on levels of contaminants in dredge spoil for licencing of disposal at sea</li></ul>

\* Powers may vary depending on the local legislation under which the harbour or port was set up

## Planned and Highlighted Actions

The current regulation of this activity is thought to be sufficient and no additional management measures are proposed here. Development of actions around the beneficial use of dredge materials may be appropriate in later iterations of this Plan (see Remaining issues and knowledge gaps section).

## What these current and proposed activities aim to address

Current management of this activity aims to ensure that dredging is undertaken within the current statutory framework and does not damage the designated features of marine protected areas.

## Remaining issues and knowledge gaps

Identification of beneficial uses of dredge materials (e.g., for use in local habitat creation schemes) is an increasingly important topic but is not dealt with in these current actions.



Organisation	Description of powers or responsibilities
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Consultee in marine licencing process</li> </ul>
Environment Agency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Strategic overview of all sources of flooding and coastal erosion in England</li> <li>● Development of a National Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Strategy for England</li> <li>● Flood and coastal erosion risk management activities on main rivers and the coast</li> <li>● Consultee in marine licencing process</li> </ul>
Northumbrian Water Scottish Water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Manage the risk of flooding to water supply and sewerage facilities and flood risks from the failure of their infrastructure</li> </ul>
NatureScot	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Statutory consultee in the planning process</li> <li>● Consultee in marine licencing process</li> <li>● SSSI consents and assents</li> <li>● Issuing of advice of impacts of development on SSSIs</li> </ul>
Natural England	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Statutory consultee in the planning process</li> <li>● Consultee in marine licencing process</li> <li>● SSSI consents and assents</li> <li>● Issuing of advice of impacts of development on SSSIs</li> </ul>
Historic England	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Statutory consultee in the planning process</li> <li>● Consultee in marine licencing process</li> <li>● Advice on implications of flood and coast erosion management for the historic environment</li> </ul>

## Planned and Highlighted Actions

Management Measure	Lead Organisation(s)	Timeframe
Promote and encourage flood and coastal defence schemes that work with natural processes at the coast rather than implementing hard defence measures for protection	Local Authorities, SEPA, Environment Agency, NatureScot, Natural England	Ongoing
Identify opportunities for the creation and restoration of coastal habitats with potential coastal and flood defence functions	Local Authorities, Environment Agency, NatureScot, Natural England, Marine Nature Partnership	2021/22 2022/23 2023/24
Finalise Shoreline Management Plan for the Berwickshire coast	Scottish Borders Council	2021/22
Review the Shoreline Management Plan covering the Northumberland and North Tyneside coast	North East Coastal Authorities Group	2024/25
Maintain liaison with the North East Coastal Authorities Group over coastal defence matters	Marine Nature Partnership	Ongoing
Develop a CoastSnap Scheme to help monitor coastal change in Berwickshire and Northumberland	Marine Nature Partnership	2021/22
Plan a training event for coastal engineers to promote opportunities for the ecological enhancement of coastal structures	Marine Nature Partnership	2022/23

## What the Management Measures aim to address

The current and proposed management measures in place for this activity are intended to:

- Ensure that potential impacts marine protected areas are fully considered in the creation and maintenance of coastal and flood defences
- The need to conserve marine protected areas is reflected in Shoreline Management Plans and other local flood and coastal defence strategies
- That opportunities for 'nature-based solutions' to coast and flood defence are identified
- Opportunities to enhance the potential wildlife value of new and existing coastal and flood defences are identified and promoted.

## Remaining issues and knowledge gaps

None

### 3.10 Infrastructure: Harbour Development

#### Summary of current management measures

Harbour and port related development are largely managed and regulated through the planning process and through the issuing of licences and consents. A full summary of the current management action for this activity is summarised on the [Harbour Development section](#) of our website.

#### Organisations with relevant management powers or responsibilities

Organisation	Description of powers or responsibilities
Harbour Commissions/Trusts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Duties to conserve the harbour so that it is in a fit condition for a vessel to be able to use it safely</li> <li>• Duty to consider the environment in its management of a port or harbour</li> </ul>
Local Authorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Act as Local Planning Authority</li> <li>• Granting of planning permission (down to low mean low water)</li> <li>• Planning enforcement</li> <li>• Consultee in marine licencing process</li> </ul>
Marine Scotland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Marine licencing</li> </ul>
Marine Management Organisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Marine licencing</li> </ul>
Environment Agency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Statutory consultee in the planning process</li> <li>• Consultee in marine licencing process</li> <li>• Issuing of environmental permits for flood risk activities or discharges</li> </ul>
NatureScot	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Statutory consultee in the planning process</li> <li>• Consultee in marine licencing process</li> <li>• Issuing of advice of impacts of developments on SSSIs</li> <li>• Production of Conservation Advice for designated marine areas in Scotland</li> </ul>
Natural England	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Statutory consultee in the planning process</li> <li>• Consultee in marine licencing process</li> <li>• Issuing of advice of impacts of developments on SSSIs</li> </ul>

Organisation	Description of powers or responsibilities
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="873 245 1386 342">• Production of Conservation Advice packages for marine protected areas in England</li> </ul>

### Proposed and Highlighted Actions

No additional management measures are proposed beyond the current statutory regulation of this activity.

### What the Management Measures aim to address

The current management of this activity aims to ensure that:

- Harbour development is undertaken with the necessary environmental permissions and licences in place
- The features of marine protected areas are protected or enhanced.

### Remaining issues and knowledge gaps

None

### 3.11 Infrastructure: Navigational Aids

#### Summary of current management measures

The General Lighthouse Authority (the Northern Lighthouse Board in Scotland and Trinity House in England) has primary responsibility under the Merchant Shipping Act 1995 for maintenance of General Aids to Navigation. Local Lighthouse Authorities (generally ports or harbours) have responsibility for installing and maintaining Local Aids to Navigation. Marine aids to navigation are exempt from marine licensing requirements. A full summary of the current management tools and current management action for this activity is summarised on the [Navigational Aids section](#) of our website.

#### Organisations with relevant management powers or responsibilities

Organisation	Description of powers and responsibilities
Northern Lighthouse Board	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Role of General Lighthouse Authority (Scotland)</li><li>• Superintendence of all lighthouses, buoys and beacons (Scotland)</li><li>• Maintenance of General Aids to Navigation</li></ul>
Trinity House	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Role of General Lighthouse Authority (England)</li><li>• Superintendence of all lighthouses, buoys and beacons (England)</li><li>• Maintenance of General Aids to Navigation</li></ul>
Harbour and Port Authorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Act as Local Lighthouse Authority</li><li>• Maintenance of Local Aids to Navigation</li></ul>
Natural England	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Consenting or assenting of activities on SSSIs</li></ul>
NatureScot	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Consenting of activities on SSSIs</li></ul>

#### Proposed and Highlighted Actions

No additional management measures are proposed for this activity beyond the current regulation.



### What the Management Measures aim to address

That management of navigational aids takes place in a manner which is sympathetic to the features of marine protected areas.

### Remaining issues and knowledge gaps

None

### 3.12 Intertidal hand gathering and bait collection

#### Summary of current management measures

The law covering the regulation of intertidal hand-gathering is complex. There is a general Common Law right to collect 'sea fish' from intertidal areas but local byelaws can be used to restrict activity. In practice much hand-gathering goes unregulated. Local Codes of Conduct exist for some species and/or some locations. A full summary of the current management action for this activity is available on [the intertidal hand-gathering section](#) of our website.

#### Organisations with relevant management powers or responsibilities

Organisation	Description of powers or responsibilities
Northumberland Inshore Fisheries & Conservation Authority	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Byelaw making powers</li> </ul>
Marine Scotland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Byelaw making powers</li> </ul>
Marine Management Organisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Byelaw making powers</li> </ul>
Natural England	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Byelaw making powers for National Nature Reserves</li> <li>Consenting of activity on SSSIs</li> </ul>
NatureScot	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consenting of activity on SSSIs</li> </ul>
Local Authorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Byelaw making powers</li> </ul>
National Trust	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Byelaw making powers</li> </ul>

#### Proposed and Highlighted Actions

Management Measure	Lead Organisation(s)	Timeframe
Carry out surveys to understand the impacts of periwinkle collection on both in situ populations and communities	NIFCA	Ongoing
Continue to collate evidence through a Call for Information on hand-gathering activities within Northumberland and North Tyneside	NIFCA	Ongoing
Carry out annual surveys at Holy Island and Blyth estuary to assess size distribution, density and spatial extent of mussels	NIFCA	Ongoing
Continue to record locations of bait digging and hand gathering activity when observed as part of regular NIFCA shore patrols	NIFCA	Ongoing
Review current collection activity on intertidal hand-gathering and bait digging and identify any knowledge gaps or research needs	MNP Data, Monitoring and	2021/22

Management Measure	Lead Organisation(s)	Timeframe
	Research sub-group	
Review current measures for intertidal hand-collection and bait digging on the Lindisfarne NNR as part of the current NNR byelaw review	Natural England	2020/21
Use the evidence of periwinkle surveys and call for information on intertidal hand gathering to assess whether additional byelaws are required	NIFCA	2022/23
Continue to exchange intelligence about extent of bait aggregation devices on estuaries, mud and saltmarsh and identify joint action to deal with any unconsented devices in sensitive areas	Northumberland Coast AONB, Natural England, Environment Agency, NIFCA, Port and Harbour Authorities, Northumberland Rivers Trust, Marine Nature Partnership	Ongoing
Incorporate intertidal hand-gathering and bait digging into proposed good practice guide and associated communications activity and use these to promote the NIFCA Periwinkle Gathering Code of Conduct	Marine Nature Partnership	2021/22

## What the Management Measures aim to address

The existing and proposed Management Measures seek to:

- Gather evidence on the extent and impacts of this activity and to identify any impacts on marine protected areas
- Address any impacts which may be found
- Seek to increase public understanding of the potential impacts of hand-gathering and to offer guidelines on how impacts can be reduced, e.g., through Codes of Conduct.

## Remaining issues and knowledge gaps

There is a need to understand the extent of use of tyres for crab tiling and impacts of tyres on the local environment, and to understand the extent of commercial collection of periwinkles. At present it is unclear what level of compliance there is with existing Codes of Conduct.

### 3.13 Marine Mammal Stranding Response

#### Summary of current management measures

Local authorities have well established response procedures for dealing with strandings of marine mammals stranding procedures and of reports of dead sea mammals. Statutory bodies may be involved in mammal stranding responses by providing the necessary consents or licences for dealing with incidents. All stranded Cetaceans must be reported to the Receiver of Wrecks (part of the Maritime and Coastguard Agency). The Cetacean Strandings Investigation Programme (CSIP) coordinate the investigation of all whales, dolphins and porpoises, marine turtles and basking sharks that strand around the UK coastline. British Divers Marine Life Rescue (BDMLR) operate a phone line which will provide advice and/or send out trained medics to deal with reports of stranded marine mammals. A full summary of the current management action for this activity is given on [the marine mammal stranding response section](#) of our website.

#### Organisations with relevant management powers or responsibilities

Organisation	Description of powers or responsibilities
Local Authorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Responsible for the removal and disposal of dead stranded marine animals where they are the landowner</li></ul>
NatureScot	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Consenting of activities on SSSIs</li><li>Wildlife Licencing</li></ul>
Natural England	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Consenting of activities on SSSIs</li><li>Wildlife Licencing</li></ul>
Marine Scotland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Marine Licencing</li><li>Wildlife Licencing</li></ul>
Marine Management Organisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Marine Licencing</li><li>Wildlife Licencing</li></ul>
Maritime and Coastguard Agency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Host the Receiver of Wrecks</li></ul>

## Proposed and Highlighted Actions

Management Measure	Lead Organisation(s)	Timeframe
Review marine mammal stranding protocols annually to ensure that contacts and procedures are kept up to date	Scottish Borders Council Northumberland County Council North Tyneside Council	Annually
Produce communications materials and public messaging about marine mammal strandings and seal hauling behaviour	Marine Nature Partnership	2021
Raise public awareness of marine life - especially the behaviour of pups hauling out along the coast to ensure pups are left alone and not mistaken as 'stranded'	National Trust for Scotland, National Trust, Berwickshire Marine Reserve, Northumberland Coast AONB, Northumberland Wildlife Trust, Natural England, NatureScot, Marine Nature Partnership	Ongoing

## What these Management Measures address

The existing and proposed measures address:

- The need to maintain up-to-date marine mammal stranding protocols and to provide information to the public about how they can report stranded or dead marine mammals.
- Raise public awareness about seal hauling behaviour as lone pups are often mistaken as stranded
- Raise awareness about the legal protection of seal haul-out sites in Scotland

## Remaining issues and knowledge gaps

None

### 3.14 Military: Low Flying Military Aircraft

#### Summary of current management measures

All UK SACs and SPAs feature in Naval Command HQ (NCHQ) guidance for naval activities, which is endorsed by UK statutory nature conservation bodies. Low flying exclusion zones are maintained around the Farne Islands and Lindisfarne. A full summary of the management action for this activity can be found on the [low flying military aircraft section](#) of our website.

#### Organisations with relevant management powers or responsibilities

Organisation	Description of powers or responsibilities
Ministry of Defence	Responsible for UK defence matters
NatureScot Natural England	Statutory nature conservation bodies advising on impacts on protected sites

#### Proposed and Highlighted Actions

No additional management measures are proposed for this activity.

#### What the Management Measures aim to address

The management measures currently in place maintain flight exclusion zones around the important bird colonies at the Farne Islands and Lindisfarne.

#### Remaining issues and knowledge gaps

None

### 3.15 Military: Ordnance disposal

#### Summary of current management measures

Ordnance disposal work is limited to Goswick Sands in north Northumberland. There is no specific legal framework for carrying out ordnance disposal and work is undertaken under the Ministry of Defence operating procedures and environmental guidelines. Communication is maintained with Natural England and other statutory nature conservation bodies to ensure guidance for ordnance disposal procedures cause minimal environmental damage to SAC and SPA features. A full summary of the current management action for this activity is available on [the ordnance disposal section](#) of our website.

#### Organisations with relevant management powers or responsibilities

Organisation	Description of powers or responsibilities
Ministry of Defence	Responsible for UK defence matters
Natural England	Statutory nature conservation body for England advising on impacts on protected sites

#### Proposed and Highlighted Actions

No additional measures are proposed for this activity.

#### What the Management Measures aim to address

These measures aim to ensure that ordnance disposal operations at Goswick Sands take place in a manner which minimises potential environmental impacts.

#### Remaining issues and knowledge gaps

None

### 3.15 Pollution Control: Beach cleaning, plastic pollution and marine litter

#### Summary of current management measures

Local Authorities undertake beach cleaning on land that is under their management. The frequency of cleaning is often seasonal. Beach cleaning operations may need consent from the Statutory Nature Conservation Body if carried out on a SSSI. A Marine Licence may be required to remove large debris from the intertidal zone. Regular beach cleans and beach litter surveys are undertaken by a range of individual and organisations. Disposal of plastics from ships is regulated under international agreement. A full summary of the current management action for this activity is available on [the beach cleaning, plastic pollution and marine litter](#) section of our website.

#### Organisations with management powers which may be relevant for this activity:

Organisation	Description of powers or responsibilities
Local Authorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Statutory duty to keep land clear of litter and refuse</li> </ul>
Marine Scotland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Issuing of marine licences</li> </ul>
Marine Management Organisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Issuing of marine licences</li> </ul>
Natural England	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consenting of activity on SSSIs</li> </ul>
NatureScot	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consenting of activity on SSSIs</li> </ul>
Maritime & Coastguard Agency (MCA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enforcement of The Merchant Shipping (Prevention of Pollution by Sewage and Garbage from Ships) Regulations 2008</li> </ul>

#### Proposed and Highlighted Actions:

Management Measure	Lead Organisation(s)	Timeframe
Avoid mechanical beach cleaning on beaches within the Berwickshire and North Northumberland Coast SAC	Scottish Borders Council, Northumberland County Council	Ongoing
Use social media and other communication tools to raise awareness about the impacts of plastic pollution and litter in the marine environment. This to include	Marine Nature Partnership, Northumberland Coast	Ongoing



<b>Management Measure</b>	<b>Lead Organisation(s)</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>
messaging about how plastics in river catchments and urban areas can find their way to the sea and details of Citizen Science projects that can help provide data on the extent of plastic pollution	AONB, Northumberland Wildlife Trust, Berwickshire Marine Reserve	
Raise awareness of the impacts of marine litter among anglers and other users of the Berwickshire Marine Reserve. Promoting good practice and carrying out beach cleans and underwater litter picks	Berwickshire Marine Reserve	Ongoing
Use the available results of beach litter litters to identify any localised littering issues	Marine Nature Partnership	Ongoing
Continue to promote the Anglers National Line Recycling Scheme within Northumberland	NIFCA	Ongoing
Maintain the Fishing for Litter initiative in Scotland and promote to local fishermen	Eyemouth Harbour Trust, Scottish Borders Council	Ongoing
Raise awareness of the impacts of placing inappropriate items into the sewerage system	Scottish Water, Northumbrian Water	Ongoing

What the Management Measures aim to address:

The current and proposed measures for this activity aim to ensure:

- That beach cleaning operations take place in a way that minimises impacts on wildlife
- That people are made aware of the issue of plastic pollution and littering and how their own behaviour can influence this
- That data on the extent of litter and plastic pollution on our coast and sea is used to identify and address any local issues

Remaining issues and knowledge gaps:

No equivalent of the Fishing for Litter scheme exists in the English section of the Bewickshire and Northumberland coast.

### 3.16 Pollution Control: Diffuse Pollution

#### Summary of current management measures

Diffuse pollution is managed largely through the River Basin Management Planning process, the work of catchment partnerships, and through agricultural regulations and advice to reduce nutrient run-off. Specific monitoring and investigations are carried out by the Environment Agency into the causes of nutrient enrichment of the mudflats at Budle Bay and Holy Island. A full summary of the current management action is given on [the diffuse pollution section](#) of our website.

#### Organisations with relevant management powers or responsibilities

Organisation	Description of power or responsibility
Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• River Basin Management planning</li> <li>• Enforcement of The Diffuse Pollution General Binding Rules</li> </ul>
Environment Agency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• River Basin Management planning</li> <li>• Enforcement of the Reduction and Prevention of Agricultural Diffuse Pollution (England) Regulations</li> </ul>

#### Proposed and Highlighted Actions

Management Measure	Lead Organisation(s)	Timeframe
As part of the ongoing review process for River Basin Management Plans, seek to ensure that water quality impacts of diffuse pollution on coastal and transitional waters are recognised and addressed	SEPA Environment Agency	Ongoing
Continue investigations and nutrient monitoring at Budle Bay and Holy Island and to convene the Lindisfarne Water quality Improvement Group	Environment Agency Natural England	Ongoing
Publish and implement a Water Quality Improvement Plan for Holy Island and Budle Bay	Environment Agency	2021/22
Investigate possibility of a facilitation fund application to work with farmers to address any issues of agricultural runoff effecting Holy Island and Budle Bay	Environment Agency Northumberland Catchment partnership	Ongoing
Develop WADER EU LIFE bid with partners for project to address water quality issues on coastal SPAs and SACs	Natural England	2020/21

Management Measure	Lead Organisation(s)	Timeframe
Ensure that water quality impacts on coastal waters from diffuse pollution are recognised in Catchment Management Plans	SEPA, EA, Catchment Partnerships	Ongoing
Review current data collection activity on nutrient enrichment of coastal and transitional waters and identify any gaps in activity or knowledge	MNP Data, Monitoring and Research Group	2021/22

### What the Management Measures aim to address

The current and proposed management measures for this activity aim to:

- Ensure that current regulations on control of agricultural runoff are adhered to and enforced
- That the issue of nutrient enrichment of coastal and transitional waters is recognised in strategic documents such as River Basin Management Plans and Catchment Management Plans
- Ensure that sources of nutrient enrichment affecting the waters of Holy Island and Budle Bay are investigated and actions are undertaken to address any issues identified.

### Remaining issues and knowledge gaps

More work is needed to identify sources of nutrient enrichment in the wider coastal waters outside of Holy Island/Budle Bay and the impacts these are having on marine protected areas.

### 3.17 Pollution Control: Discharges from Land

#### Summary of current management measures

Discharges from land are regulated by environmental permits, the land-use planning process, and through the River Basin Management Plan system. The Coal Authority has a remediation programme to address water quality issues from underground coal mines. A full summary of the current management tools and current management action for this activity is available on [the discharges from land section](#) of our website.

#### Organisations with relevant management powers or responsibilities

Organisation	Description of power or responsibility
Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Issuing of Environmental Permits for discharges</li> <li>• Enforcement of unconsented discharges</li> <li>• River Basin Management Plans</li> </ul>
Environment Agency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Issuing of Environmental Permits for discharges</li> <li>• Enforcement of unconsented discharges</li> <li>• River Basin Management Plans</li> </ul>
Northumbrian Water Scottish Water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Issuing of consent to release trade effluent into a sewer</li> </ul>
Local Authorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Act as Local Planning Authority</li> <li>• Granting of planning permission (down to low mean low water)</li> <li>• Planning enforcement</li> </ul>
The Coal Authority	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dealing with water pollution caused by historical coal mining</li> </ul>

#### Proposed and Highlighted Actions

Management Measure	Lead Organisation(s)	Timeframe
Continue to raise awareness about environmental impacts of misconnections to sewers and drains	Scottish Water Northumbrian Water	Ongoing
Ensure that issues affecting inshore and transitional waters are fully recognised in River Basin Management Plans	SEPA Environment Agency	Ongoing
Liaise with partners to identify any concerns or evidence about the impacts of mine water pollution on coastal and transitional waters	Marine Nature Partnership	2021/22 2022/23

Management Measure	Lead Organisation(s)	Timeframe
Liaise with the Coal Authority and Catchment Partnerships to discuss any issues or concerns about the impacts of mine water pollution on coastal and transitional waters	Marine Nature Partnership	2021/22 2022/23

### What the Management Measures aim to address

The existing and proposed measures deal with:

- The regulation of point-source discharges and awareness raising about the impacts of misconnections to sewers and drains
- They also begin to address concerns about potential impacts of mine water pollution through evidence gathering and liaison.

### Remaining issues and knowledge gaps

The cumulative impact of coastal developments that don't drain into the sewerage system, including individual septic tanks misconnections, is unknown.

### 3.18 Pollution Control: Discharges at Sea

#### Summary of current management measures

Discharges of sewage, garbage or ballast water by vessels at sea are regulated largely from international treaty obligations on the prevention of marine pollution. The MCA produce advice on this and monitor compliance by vessels. Depositing of large items on the seabed requires a Marine Licence. A full summary of the current management action for this activity is available on [the discharges at sea](#) section of our website.

#### Organisations with relevant management powers or responsibilities

Organisation	Description of power or responsibility
Maritime & Coastguard Agency (MCA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Enforcement of The Merchant Shipping (Prevention of Pollution by Sewage and Garbage from Ships) Regulations 2008</li><li>• Operation and enforcement of vessel certification system</li></ul>
Marine Scotland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Issuing of marine licenses for deposits at sea and dumping of waste</li></ul>
Marine Management Organisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Issuing of marine licenses for deposits at sea and dumping of waste</li></ul>

#### Proposed and Highlighted Actions

No additional management measures are proposed here beyond the current statutory regulation.

#### What the Management Measures aim to address

The current measures are intended to ensure compliance with regulatory requirements for discharges from vessels.

#### Remaining issues and knowledge gaps

It is unclear with how well vessels are complying with Regulations.

### 3.19 Pollution Control: Harbour Waste Management

#### Summary of current management measures

Every harbour authority is required by law to provide waste reception facilities adequate to meet the needs of ships normally using the harbour. Harbour Waste Management Plans are approved by the Maritime and Coastguard Agency. A full summary of the current management action for this activity is given on the [Harbour Waste management section](#) of our website.

#### Organisations with management powers for this activity

Organisation	Description of powers or responsibilities
Harbour and Port Authorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Provision of waste reception facilities</li><li>• Production of Harbour Waste Management Plans</li></ul>
Maritime & Coastguard Agency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Approval of Harbour Waste Management Plans</li></ul>

#### Proposed and Highlighted Actions

No additional management measures are proposed beyond the current statutory regulation.

#### What the Management Measures aim to address

The current management of this activity aims to ensure that harbours can provide appropriate waste disposal and recycling facilities for their users.

#### Remaining issues and knowledge gaps

Smaller harbours are not large enough to require waste management plans. Not all harbours are able to supply recycling facilities.

### 3.20 Pollution Control: Pollution Incident Response

#### Summary of current management measures

Well established procedures are in place in deal with pollution incidents. In an event of a pollution incident in the marine environment, joint action is taken by partners guided by the National Contingency Plan and local contingency plans. Regular pollution response exercises take place with responding authorities. Port and harbour authorities are required to produce individual oil spill contingency plans which are signed off by the MCA. A full description of how pollution incidents are managed can be found on the [pollution incident response section](#) of our website.

#### Organisations with relevant management powers or responsibilities

Organisation	Description of powers and responsibilities
Maritime & Coastguard Agency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lead on production of the UK National Contingency Plan (NCP)</li> <li>• National resource coordination for Tier 3 incidents</li> <li>• Category 1 responder (“Core Responder”) under the Civil Contingencies Act (2004)</li> <li>• Sign-off of harbour and port contingency plans</li> <li>• Training for responding authorities</li> </ul>
Local Authorities (England)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Production of pollution contingency plan for their area</li> <li>• Category 1 responder (“Core Responder”) under the Civil Contingencies Act (2004)</li> </ul>
Local Authorities (Scotland)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Duty to undertake risk assessments for potential emergencies</li> <li>• Category 1 responder (“Core Responder”) under the Civil Contingencies Act (2004)</li> </ul>
Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advice on risk of oil and chemical spillage from land</li> <li>• Enforcement of illegal disposal of oil or chemical pollutants</li> <li>• Category 1 responder (“Core Responder”) under the Civil Contingencies Act (2004)</li> </ul>
Environment Agency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advice on risk of oil and chemical spillage from land</li> <li>• Enforcement of illegal disposal of oil or chemical pollutants</li> </ul>



Organisation	Description of powers and responsibilities
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Category 1 responder (“Core Responder”) under the Civil Contingencies Act (2004)</li> </ul>
Marine Scotland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advice on the use of dispersal agents and chemicals</li> </ul>
Marine Management Organisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advice on the use of dispersal agents and chemicals</li> </ul>
Harbour and Port Authorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Production of pollution contingency plans</li> <li>Category 2 responder (“Cooperating Responder”) under the Civil Contingencies Act (2004)</li> </ul>

### Additional actions planned for the management of this activity

Management Measure	Lead Organisation(s)	Timeframe
Consider the inshore marine designated areas of Berwickshire and Northumberland in all relevant oil and chemical spill response plans and ensure the details of cross-border responding authorities are included	Maritime and Coastguard Agency, Northumberland County Council, North Tyneside Council, Scottish Borders Council, Eyemouth Harbour Trust, Berwick Harbour Commission, North Sunderland Harbour Commission, Warkworth Harbour Commissioners, Port of Blyth	Ongoing
Ensure that authors of local contingency plans are signposted to up to date information on the location of the interest features of inshore marine protected areas	Marine Nature Partnership	Ongoing

### What the Management Measures aim to address

Existing, well-established, procedures for pollution incident response and contingency planning are in place. The additional measures proposed here are intended to ensure that up-to-date information about the sensitivities of marine protected areas are incorporated into contingency plans and response actions.

### Remaining issues and knowledge gaps

Contingency plans do not always include information on the care and treatment of animals affected by spills, and how this will be coordinated.

### 3.21 Private Aircraft and UAVs

#### Summary of current management measures

Aviation in the UK is regulated by the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) who licence the use of aircraft and oversee the use of airspace. Aircraft should be 1000 feet over a built-up area or 500 feet from people or structures, except during take-off or landing. An informal system of disturbance incident reporting exists between bird colonies on the Northumberland coast. Aircraft which disregard the 500-foot limit, or otherwise causing problems to birds, are reported to local airfields who raise the issue with the pilots on their return. Use of UAVs (“Drones”) is an emerging issue. Commercial users of UAVs are licenced by the CAA. Anyone responsible for a drone or unmanned aircraft (including model aircraft) weighing between 250g and 20kg will need to register as an operator and complete an online education package. All UAVs are restricted from flying above 400 feet and within 1 kilometre of airport boundaries. The CAA maintains the Dronesafe website which holds advice for users of UAV and model aircraft and includes a Code of Conduct. Byelaws are also used in certain areas (such as National Trust Land) to restrict use of UAVs. A full summary of the current management action for this activity is given on the private aircraft and UAV section of our website.

#### Organisations with relevant management powers or responsibilities

Organisation	Description of powers or responsibilities
Civil Aviation Authority (CAA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• UK's aviation regulator</li><li>• Issue Pilot's Licences</li><li>• Issue Certificates of Airworthiness and Certificates to Fly</li><li>• Permission for operators looking to use drones for commercial purposes</li></ul>
The National Trust	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Byelaw making powers for land which they own or manage</li></ul>
National Trust for Scotland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Byelaw making powers for land which they own or manage</li></ul>
Natural England	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Byelaw making powers for National Nature Reserves</li></ul>
The Police	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Lead on action against the misuse of drones</li></ul>

## Proposed and Highlighted Actions

Management Measure	Lead Organisation(s)	Timeframe
Maintain reporting mechanism for aircraft disturbance to bird colonies and review and update as necessary	Northumberland Coast AONB, National Trust, Natural England	Ongoing
Incorporate messages about use of UAVs into the proposed good practice guide and associated communications activity	Marine Nature Partnership	2021/22
Assess whether any measures to regulate the use of UAVs are required as part of the Lindisfarne NNR byelaw review	Natural England	2021/22

## What the Management Measures aim to address

- Current regulation by CAA is aimed at reducing risks to humans from the operation of aircraft and UAVs.
- Local measures at bird colonies aim to share intelligence about disturbance issues between organisations and to address issues directly with operators of airfields.
- The proposed measures are aimed at increasing awareness, particularly amongst owners of UAVs, about the potential for disturbance to wildlife.

## Remaining issues and knowledge gaps

No local avoidance zones for aircraft exist along the Berwickshire and Northumberland coast and maps on Dronesafe do not currently include details of marine protected areas. A better understanding is needed about intensity of UAV use and how this correlate with sensitive areas along the coast.

### 3.22 Recreation: Angling

#### Summary of current management measures

Sea fishing does not generally require a licence unless migratory freshwater species (salmon and trout) are caught and kept. Some other species (such as shad) are protected by law and the capture and retention of these is regulated. Local bylaws also control the minimum catch size of some species. Voluntary Codes of Conduct have been produced which are relevant to angling and which aim to minimise impacts from angling related litter and disturbance. A full summary of the current management action for this activity is available on [the angling section](#) of our website.

#### Organisations with relevant management powers or responsibilities

Organisation	Description of powers or responsibilities
River Tweed Commission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regulation of capture of migratory freshwater fish (salmon and trout)</li> </ul>
Environment Agency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regulation of capture for migratory freshwater fish (salmon and trout)</li> <li>Creation of fishery byelaws</li> </ul>
Northumberland Inshore Fisheries & Conservation Authority	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enforcement of minimum landing sizes</li> <li>Enforcement of legal protection of tope and of restrictions on bass fishing</li> <li>Creation of byelaws</li> </ul>
Marine Scotland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enforcement of legal protection of shad</li> <li>Enforcement of minimum landing sizes</li> </ul>
Marine Management Organisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enforcement of legal protection of shad</li> </ul>

#### Proposed and Highlighted Actions

Management Measure	Lead Organisation(s)	Timeframe
Continue to promote the Anglers National Line Recycling Scheme within Northumberland	NIFCA	Ongoing
Promote existing mechanisms for MNP members to report instances of bycatch of eider duck due to recreational fishing	Marine Nature Partnership	Ongoing
Extend current bycatch reporting mechanism for eider to include all seabirds and marine mammals	Marine Nature Partnership	2021/22
Incorporate messages about potential impacts from angling into the proposed good practice guide and associated communications activity	Marine Nature Partnership	2021/22

Management Measure	Lead Organisation(s)	Timeframe
Promote the BMR Codes of Practice amongst all users of the Berwickshire Marine Reserve (including divers, charter boat operators, walkers, anglers, etc)	Berwickshire Marine Reserve	Ongoing
Raise awareness of the impacts of marine litter among anglers and other users of the Berwickshire Marine Reserve. Promoting good practice and carrying out beach cleans and underwater litter picks	Berwickshire Marine Reserve	Ongoing

### What the current and proposed activities aim to address

The current and proposed management measures aim to:

- Maintain the current regulation of the capture of migratory freshwater fish species and of protected fish species
- Reduce angling related litter and disturbance through public engagement and awareness raising
- Seek to understand the extent of any bycatch issues from recreational fishing.

### Remaining issues and knowledge gaps

More information is needed about the location of angling activity and hotspots for angling-related litter and their overlap with sensitive areas within inshore MPAs.

The proposed communications actions are high level rather than targeted to specific locations or user-groups.

### 3.23 Recreation: Charter boating

#### Summary of current management measures

Charter boats on the Berwickshire and Northumberland coast operate a range of wildlife-watching, angling and diving activities. All charter boats have to be certified by the Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA). Boats must comply with MCA codes of practice which include operational controls to safeguard the environment. Restrictions are in place around the Farne Islands to limit the number of landings from charter boats. A number of voluntary Codes of Conduct have been produced which are relevant to charter boat operations aim to minimise impacts from recreational activities and raise awareness of specific issues. A full summary of the current management action for this activity is given on the [charter boating section](#) of our website.

#### Organisations with relevant management powers or responsibilities

Organisation	Description of powers or responsibilities
Maritime and Coastguard Agency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Operation and enforcement of vessel certification system</li> </ul>
Harbour and Port Authorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Powers to limit boat launching</li> </ul>
The National Trust	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Limits to number of boats allowed to land and anchor on the Farne Islands</li> </ul>
Marine Scotland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Byelaw making powers for marine sites</li> </ul>
Marine Management Organisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Byelaw making powers for marine sites</li> </ul>

#### Proposed and Highlighted Actions

Management Measure	Lead Organisation(s)	Timeframe
Continue to regulate boat landings around the Farne Islands through the Management Plan for the Farne Islands National Nature Reserve and to work with others to promote relevant Codes of Conduct to boat operators	National Trust Natural England	Ongoing
Refresh the Northumberland Wildlife Watching Boating Code of Conduct in consultation with charter boat operators	Marine Nature Partnership	2023/24
Promote the BMR Codes of Practice amongst all users of the Marine Reserve (including divers, charter boat operators, walkers, anglers,etc)	Berwickshire Marine Reserve	Ongoing
Incorporate charter boat operations into proposed good practice recreation guide and associated communications activities	Marine Nature Partnership	2021/22

## What the Management Measures aim to address

The current and proposed measures aim to:

- Manage the environmental impacts of charter boat operations through MCA certification
- Management of landing numbers at sensitive locations
- Promotions of voluntary Codes of Conduct aimed at reducing disturbance to wildlife

## Remaining issues and knowledge gaps

More information is needed about wildlife disturbance impacts on the coast, including any impacts from charter boats. There is also a need to better understand how best to promote Codes of Conduct so that they reach their intended audience.

### 3.24 Recreation: Diving

#### Summary of current management measures

There is limited management of diving activity and no formal regulatory mechanisms are in place. Local restrictions on numbers of boat launchings are in place in some locations, such as North Sunderland Harbour and Beadnell Bay. Removal of shellfish by divers is regulated by byelaws put in place by Northumberland IFCA. A number of organisations have mechanism (such as byelaw making powers) available to them that could be used to regulate activity if ever required. For further information please refer [to the diving section](#) of our website.

#### Organisations with relevant management powers or responsibilities

Organisation	Description of powers or responsibilities
Marine Scotland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Byelaw making powers for marine sites</li></ul>
Marine Management Organisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Byelaw making powers for marine sites</li></ul>
Harbour and Port Authorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Powers to limit boat launching</li></ul>
Local Authorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Powers to limit boat launching from Council run slipways</li></ul>
The National Trust	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Limits to number of boats allowed to land and anchor on the Farne Islands</li></ul>
Northumberland IFCA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Enforcement of fisheries byelaws</li></ul>

#### Proposed and Highlighted Actions

Management Measure	Lead Organisation(s)	Timeframe
Promote the BMR Codes of Practice amongst all users of the Marine Reserve (including divers, charter boat operators, walkers, anglers, etc)	Berwickshire Marine Reserve	Ongoing
Incorporate diving into proposed good practice recreation guide and associated communications activities	Marine Nature Partnership	2021/22
Refresh Northumberland Wildlife Watching Boating Code of Conduct in consultation with charter boat operators	Marine Nature Partnership	2023/24



## What the Management Measures aim to address

There are currently no regulatory activities put in place to specifically deal with diving on the Berwickshire and Northumberland coast. The additional proposed actions set out here aim to raise awareness of potential wildlife impacts of amongst divers and charter boat operators.

## Remaining issues and knowledge gaps

There is currently no coordination of the figures recording the numbers of dive boats launched annually along the coast. A study of diving impacts around the Farnes was commissioned by Natural England in 2006 but similar studies for other dive hotspots have not been undertaken. This study indicated no short-term impacts from diving but did not look at long-term impacts.

### 3.25 Recreation: General Coastal Recreation

#### Summary of current management measures

Coasts and beaches support a wide range of recreational activities including, for example, kite karting, coastering, wildlife watching, walking, horse riding. Impacts from these are mostly managed through voluntary measures, public engagement and wardening. Byelaw making powers are available to a range of organisations to regulate damaging activities but voluntary measures are the preferred means of dealing with these. Development of coastal recreation may sometimes require new infrastructure. Local plans and Marine Plans can play an important role in setting policies about the most appropriate locations for coastal recreation activities. Recent research by Newcastle University and by the Marine Management Organisations have helped to identify sensitive locations for recreational activities. A full summary of the current management action for this activity is given on the [general coastal recreation](#) section of our website.

#### Organisations with relevant management powers or responsibilities

Organisation	Description of powers or responsibilities
Marine Scotland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Byelaw creation powers</li> <li>• Marine Planning in Scotland</li> </ul>
Marine Management Organisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Byelaw creation powers</li> <li>• Marine Planning in England</li> </ul>
Natural England	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Byelaw creation powers for NNRs</li> <li>• Consenting of activities on SSSIs</li> <li>• Statutory Consultee in the planning process</li> <li>• Production of Conservation Advice for designated marine areas in England</li> </ul>
NatureScot	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consenting of activities on SSSIs</li> <li>• Statutory Consultee in the planning process</li> <li>• Production of Conservation Advice for designated marine areas in Scotland</li> </ul>
National Trust	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Byelaw creation powers</li> </ul>
National Trust for Scotland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Byelaw creation powers</li> </ul>
Harbour and Port Authorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Powers to limit boat launching</li> </ul>
Local Authorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Act as Local Planning Authority</li> <li>• Granting of planning permission (down to low mean low water)</li> <li>• Planning enforcement</li> </ul>
Northumberland Coast AONB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Production of AONB Management Plan</li> </ul>

## Proposed and Highlighted Actions

Management Measure	Lead Organisation(s)	Timeframe
Set out clear policies for sustainable tourism in the Northumberland Coast AONB Management Plan	Northumberland Coast AONB	Ongoing
Review measures for management of recreational pressures as part of refresh of Lindisfarne NNR byelaws	Natural England	2021/22
Incorporate messages about potential impacts from recreational recreation use into the proposed good practice guide and associated communications activity	Marine Nature Partnership	2021/22
Promote the BMR Codes of Practice amongst all users of the Marine Reserve (including divers, charter boat operators, walkers, anglers, etc)	Berwickshire Marine Reserve	Ongoing
Gather data on the frequency and impact of disturbance to coastal waders through recreational activity	Space for Shorebird Natural England	Ongoing
Collect data on disturbance to eider duck through the Eider Aware project	Marine Nature Partnership	Ongoing

### What the Management Measures aim to address

These measures aim to:

- Engage with the public to raise awareness about the potential disturbance impacts from recreational activity and of the legal protection given to birds and mammals
- Promote wildlife-friendly behaviours to coastal users
- Collect data on recreational pressures on the coast
- Use the production of coastal strategies and action plans aims to address recreational pressures and to steer recreational activities, and associated infrastructure, to the most appropriate locations.

### Remaining issues and knowledge gaps

It is not clear how well current Codes of Conduct are known about, or adhered to, by their intended audience.

### 3.26 Recreational boating and watercraft

#### Summary of current management measures

There is little formal regulation of recreational boating or the use of watercraft such as paddle boards, canoes, or personal watercraft (“jetskis”). Impacts are mostly managed through voluntary approaches, engagement and education. A number of organisations have wider byelaw making powers that can be used to address issues but, with the exception of the Lindisfarne National Nature Reserve, these have not been used locally to manage boating activity. At Lindisfarne, byelaws which restrict boat use to a designated water sports area. Local restrictions on numbers of boat launchings are in place at a several locations which act to limit the number of boats or watercraft active each day. In practical terms, the restricted number of access points to water in Berwickshire and Northumberland tends to act as a limit on the number of watercraft using the coast. A full summary of the current management action for this activity is given on the [recreational boating and watercraft section](#) of our website.

#### Organisations with relevant management powers or responsibilities

Organisation	Description of powers or responsibilities
Marine Scotland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Byelaw creation powers</li></ul>
Marine Management Organisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Byelaw creation powers</li></ul>
Natural England	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Byelaw creation powers for NNRs</li><li>• Consenting of activities on SSSIs</li></ul>
NatureScot	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Consenting of activities on SSSIs</li></ul>
National Trust	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Byelaw creation powers</li></ul>
National Trust for Scotland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Byelaw creation powers</li></ul>
Harbour and Port Authorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Powers to limit boat launching</li></ul>
Local Authorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Powers to limit boat launching on any council owned slipways</li></ul>
The Police	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Enforcement of offences relating to protected sea mammals and birds</li></ul>

## Proposed and Highlighted Actions

Management Measure	Lead Organisation(s)	Timeframe
Local Authorities, Harbour Authorities and the police to liaise over the issue of disturbance to marine wildlife from motorised personal watercraft	Local Authorities, Harbour Authorities, the Police	2021/22 and onwards
Ensure that the public are aware of how to report incidents of disturbance or harm to marine mammals from users of recreational watercraft	Marine Nature Partnership	2021/22
Review measures for boating and watersports as part of refresh of Lindisfarne NNR byelaws	Natural England	2021/22
Incorporate messages about potential impacts from recreational boat and watercraft use into the proposed good practice guide and associated communications activity	Marine Nature Partnership	2021/22
Promote the BMR Codes of Practice amongst all users of the Marine Reserve (including divers, charter boat operators, walkers, anglers, etc)	Berwickshire Marine Reserve	Ongoing
Gather data on the frequency and impact of disturbance to coastal waders through recreational activity	Space for Shorebird Natural England	Ongoing
Collect data on disturbance to eider duck through the Eider Aware project	Marine Nature Partnership	Ongoing

### What the Management Measures aim to address

These existing and proposed management measures aim to:

- Engage with the public to raise awareness about the potential disturbance impacts from recreational sailing or use of watercraft and of the legal protection given to birds and mammals
- Promote wildlife-friendly behaviours to coastal users
- Collect data on recreational pressures on the coast.
- Improve liaison among authorities to address increasing concerns about localised incidents of disturbance to protected marine mammals from some users of personal watercraft (“jetskis”)

### Remaining issues and knowledge gaps

It is not clear how well current Codes of Conduct are known about, or adhered to, by their intended audience.

### 3.27 Recreation: Wildfowling and Punt Gunning

#### Summary of current management measures

Wildfowling only takes place in a limited area of the Northumberland coast, mostly on the Lindisfarne NNR. The activity is regulated on Lindisfarne through NNR byelaws and a permit system, and on the Tweed and Coquet estuaries by a permit system managed by the British Association for Shooting and Conservation (BASC). A full summary of the current management tools and current management action for this activity is given on [the Wildfowling section](#) of our website.

#### Organisations with relevant management powers or responsibilities

Organisation	Description of powers or responsibilities
Natural England	Operation of wildfowling permit system at Lindisfarne NNR

#### Proposed and Highlighted Actions

No additional management measures are proposed beyond the current regulation

#### What the Management Measures aim to address

The measures in place address the regulation of wildfowling through permit systems.

#### Remaining issues and knowledge gaps

There is limited knowledge about the wider impacts of punt gunning.

### 3.28 Recreational and Commercial Dog Walking

#### Summary of current management measures

Dog walking is a widespread activity on the coast and its impacts on wildlife are mostly regulated through outreach with the public and by voluntary approaches, such as those used by the Space for Shorebirds project in Northumberland. Some organisations also have wider byelaw making powers for land which they manage that could be used if a problem were thought to exist which could not be addressed through voluntary approaches. Legal measures to control dog walking are available to local authorities through the use of Dog Control Orders (DCOs) and Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPOs), although these are usually used to control public nuisance, such as dog fouling. All public beaches in Northumberland are covered by a PSPO which can require dogs to be put on a lead on request. A dog zoning scheme was trialed at the Lindisfarne National Nature Reserve in 2021. A full summary of the current management action for this activity is given on the dog walking of our website.

#### Organisations with relevant management powers or responsibilities

Organisation	Description of powers or responsibilities
Local Authorities	Enforcement of Dog Control Orders and Public Spaces Protection Orders
Natural England	Byelaw creation powers for NNRs
National Trust	Byelaw creation powers
National Trust for Scotland	Byelaw creation powers

#### Proposed and Highlighted Actions

Management Measure	Lead Organisation(s)	Timeframe
Engage with the public to promote good practice messages about dog walking and wildlife disturbance in Northumberland	Space for Shorebirds, Northumberland Coast AONB, Natural England, Berwickshire Marine Reserve, Marine Nature Partnership	Ongoing
Incorporate public engagement over recreational pressures on protected areas into the WADER LIFE bid (for submission in February 2021)	Natural England	2020/21
Incorporate messages about potential impacts from dog walking into the proposed good practice guide and associated communications activity	Marine Nature Partnership	2021/22



<b>Management Measure</b>	<b>Lead Organisation(s)</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>
Gather data on the frequency and impact of disturbance to coastal waders through recreational activity	Space for Shorebird Natural England	Ongoing
Collect data on disturbance to eider duck through the Eider Aware project	Marine Nature Partnership	Ongoing

### What the Management Measures aim to address

The existing and proposed management measures aim to:

- Engage with the people to raise awareness about the potential impacts of dog walking on marine and coastal wildlife and of the legal protection given to birds and mammals
- Promote wildlife-friendly behaviours to dog walkers
- Collect data on recreational pressures on the coast.

### Remaining issues and knowledge gaps

No similar scheme to Space for Shorebirds operates in North Tyneside or the Scottish section of the Management Scheme area.

A dog zonation scheme was trialed at the Lindisfarne National Nature Reserve in 2021. The results of this are being evaluated.

### 3.29 Seal Management

#### Summary of current management measures

Legislation in England and Scotland prohibits the intentional or reckless killing of seals without a licence. In Scotland, legal protection also exists to prevent the disturbance of seals at designated haul out sites. No similar provisions exist in English law. A full summary of the current management action for this activity is available on [the seal management section](#) of our website.

#### Organisations with relevant management powers or responsibilities

Organisation	Description of powers or responsibilities
Marine Scotland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Designation of protected seal haul out areas</li><li>• Licensing of seal management</li><li>• Enforcement of seal protection legislation</li></ul>
Marine Management Organisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Enforcement of seal protection legislation</li></ul>

#### Proposed and Highlighted Actions

Management Measure	Lead Organisation(s)	Timeframe
Work with partner organisations to tackle unlawful seal shooting	Marine Management Organisation	Ongoing
Act as a recipient of information on seal shootings in England and enforce where unlawful shooting is suspected	Marine Management Organisation	Ongoing

#### What the Management Measures aim to address

The existing and proposed measures in place for this activity are intended to address the need for compliance with legislation for protection or control of seals.

#### Remaining issues and knowledge gaps

There is no clear mechanism in place for collating reports of illegal persecution of seals.

**Version Control:**

**First published 1 September 2021**

<b>Date of subsequent amendment</b>	<b>Summary of Changes Made</b>