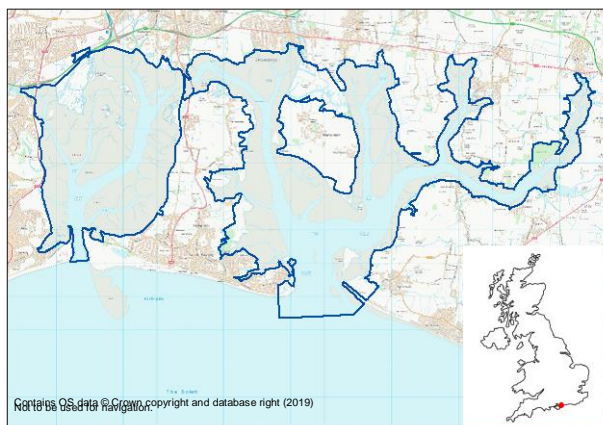


# Chichester and Langstone Harbours SPA

## Description:

Chichester and Langstone Harbours Special Protection Area (SPA) is located on the south coast of England in Hampshire and West Sussex. The large, sheltered estuarine basins comprise of extensive sandflats and mudflats exposed at low tide. The two harbours are joined by a stretch of water that separates Hayling Island from the mainland. Tidal channels drain the basin and penetrate far inland. The mudflats are rich in invertebrates and also support extensive beds of algae, especially, eelgrasses (*Zostera* spp.) and *Enteromorpha* species.



## Qualifying Features:

This site supports breeding little tern (*Sterna albifrons*) and sandwich tern (*Sterna sandvicensis*); on passage little egret (*Egretta garzetta*); overwintering bar-tailed godwit (*Limosa lapponica*) and little egret (*Egretta garzetta*). The site also supports the migratory species of ringed plover (*Charadrius hiaticula*), black-tailed godwit (*Limosa limosa islandica*), dark-bellied brent goose (*Branta bernicla bernicla*), dunlin (*Calidris alpina alpina*), grey plover (*Pluvialis squatarola*), redshank (*Tringa tetanus*) and ringed plover (*Charadrius hiaticula*). The area also regularly supports an assemblage of at least 20,000 waterfowl.

## Management:

Most of these initiatives aim to protect wintering bird feeding and roosting areas from recreational disturbance.

- [Bird aware](#) Solent.
- [Solent birds](#) (brent goose and wader strategy)
- Seal [code of conduct](#) relevant to Chichester and Langstone Harbour
- Paddle sports [code of conduct](#)
- Sussex Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority [byelaws](#) on bait collection

## Stakeholder Concerns:

Increasing housing within a 30-minute drive of Chichester Harbour is predicted to increase levels of recreation in the coming years, particularly paddle boarding, kayaking and beach recreation. High levels of bird disturbance have been associated with paddle boarding and kayaking, impacting on both wintering and breeding birds. Birds are frequently disturbed by recreational use of the harbour (on shore and on water). Many tern or wader breeding sites (e.g. East Head) are unusable due to human disturbance.

Bait collection removes significant biomass/species from certain areas of the SPA, causing disturbance to birdlife and releases sediments/nutrients.

Motorboating causes disturbance to birds (and seals) within the SPA and has many associated issues (e.g. fuel, litter, anti-fouling paint, moorings).

MPA: Chichester and Langstone Harbours SPA				No. Stakeholders: 1 online & 0 workshop			
Activity	Frequency	Duration	Participation	Intensity	Confidence	MPA Extent	Trend
Board sports	4	3	3	36	M	2	↑
Geophysical surveys	1	?	1	?	L	1	?
Motor boating	4	4	5	80	M	2	?
Jetskis	3	3	1	9	L	1	?
Paddle sports	4	3	3	36	M	2	↑
Parascending	0	0	0	0	?	0	→
Sailing (non-motorised)	4	4	5	80	M	2	→
SCUBA diving	0	0	0	0	?	0	→
Swimming / Snorkelling	2	3	?	?	M	1	→
Towed water sports	0	0	0	0	?	0	→
Wildlife watching from the sea	3	2	3	18	M	1	→
Bait collection	4	2	?	?	L	1	?
Beach recreation	4	4	?	?	L	1	?
Coasteering	?	?	?	?	H	?	?
Land boarding	0	0	0	0	H	0	?
Motorsports (quad bikes, motorbikes)	0	0	0	0	H	0	→
Vehicle access (cars on foreshore)	0	0	0	0	H	0	→
Wildlife watching from the land	4	3	3	36	H	2	→
Drone use	1	?	?	?	M	2	↑
Gliding (unpowered)	?	?	?	?	M	?	?
Aircraft (powered)	4	2	1	8	M	2	?

KEY

FREQUENCY	DURATION	PARTICIPATION	INTENSITY	CONFIDENCE	EXTENT	TREND
4 Regular/daily	4 >8 hours	6 >100	45-96 High	H High	2 Whole MPA (solid)	↑ Increase
3 Regular/weekends	3 4-8 hours	5 51-100	24-40 Med-high	M Medium	1 Part of MPA (shaded)	→ Stay the same
2 Seasonally	2 2-4 hours	4 21-50	9-20 Low-med	L Low	0 Does not occur	↓ Decrease
1 Sporadically	1 <2 hours	3 11-20	1-8 Low	? Data missing	? Data missing	? Data missing
0 Does not occur	0 Does not occur	2 6-10	0 Does not occur			
? Data missing	? Data missing	1 1-5	? Data missing			
		0 Does not occur				
		? Data missing				