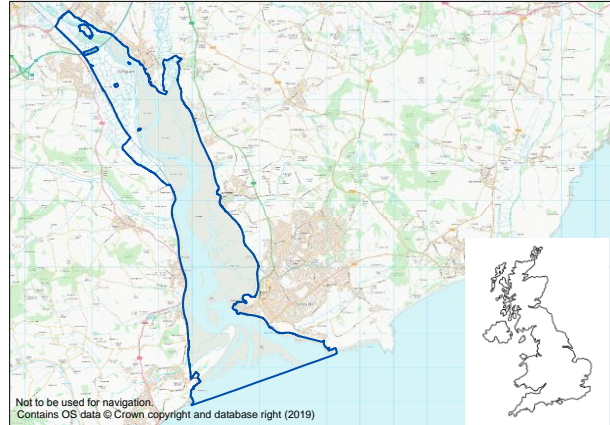


Exe Estuary SPA

Description:

The Exe Estuary Special Protection Area (SPA) is located in Devon on the English south coast. The site extends 10 km south from Exeter to the open sea at Dawlish Warren, protecting 23.5 km². It comprises the waters, foreshore, low-lying land, three saltmarshes and an unusual double spit across the mouth of the estuary, and the sand dunes of Dawlish Warren. The mudflats and sandflats support eelgrass (*Zostera* spp.) and



Enteromorpha spp. beds and contain an abundance of invertebrates, including extensive mussel (*Mytilus edulis*) beds, which together provide rich feeding habitats for wintering waders and wildfowl. This complex of coastal habitats supports internationally important numbers of wintering and passage waterbirds.

Qualifying Features:

Exe Estuary SPA supports populations of European importance of the following species: overwintering avocet (*Recurvirostra avosetta*) and slavic grebe (*Podiceps auritus*). The area also regularly supports at least 20,000 waterfowl.

Management:

- [Codes of conduct, byelaws and guidance](#) covering shore and water based activities, kitesurfing, bait collection, jetskis, canoes and angling.
- [Voluntary Exclusion Zones](#) for canoes.
- [Exe Estuary Management Partnership](#).

Stakeholder Concerns:

None raised.

MPA: Exe Estuary SPA				No. Stakeholders: 1 online & 1 workshop			
Activity	Frequency	Duration	Participation	Intensity	Confidence	MPA Extent	Trend
Board sports	4	1	2	8	M	1	↑
Geophysical surveys	1	?	?	?	?	2	?
Motor boating	3	1	1	3	M	1	→
Jetskis	3	1	1	3	M	2	↑
Paddle sports	4	2	3	24	M	1	↑
Parascending	0	0	0	0	M	0	?
Sailing (non-motorised)	4	2	3	24	M	1	→
SCUBA diving	?	?	?	?	?	?	?
Swimming / Snorkelling	4	1	6	24	M	1	↑
Towed water sports	3	1	1	3	M	1	↑
Wildlife watching from the sea	4	1	1	4	M	1	→
Bait collection	4	1	2	4	M	1	→
Beach recreation	4	2	6	48	M	1	↑
Coasteering	0	0	0	0	M	0	?
Land boarding	1	1	1	1	M	1	→
Motorsports (quad bikes, motorbikes)	1	1	1	1	M	1	→
Vehicle access (cars on foreshore)	4	1	2	8	M	1	↑
Wildlife watching from the land	4	1	4	16	M	2	→
Drone use	1	1	1	1	L	1	↑
Gliding (unpowered)	0	0	0	0	L	2	?
Aircraft (powered)	1	1	1	1	M	1	→

KEY

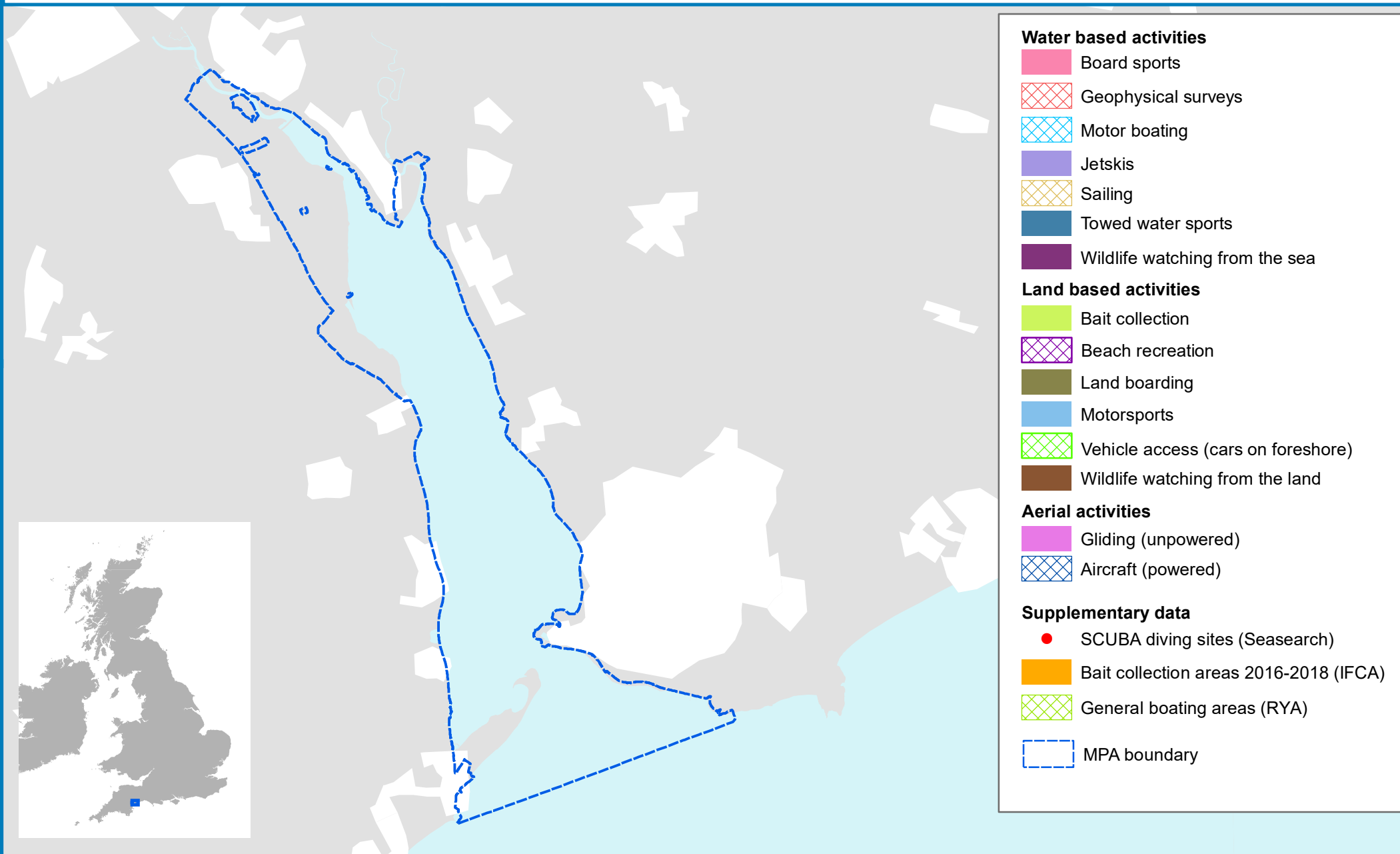
FREQUENCY	DURATION	PARTICIPATION	INTENSITY	CONFIDENCE	EXTENT	TREND
4 Regular/daily	4 >8 hours	6 >100	45-96 High	H High	2 Whole MPA (solid)	↑ Increase
3 Regular/weekends	3 4-8 hours	5 51-100	24-40 Med-high	M Medium	1 Part of MPA (shaded)	→ Stay the same
2 Seasonally	2 2-4 hours	4 21-50	9-20 Low-med	L 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				



Marine
Management
Organisation

Non-licensable activities which occur in and around the Exe Estuary SPA






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Marine Protected Area Designated Features - SPA Supporting Habitats






Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide (H1140) polygons

SPA_SF CODE

-  Intertidal coarse sediment (A2.1)
-  Intertidal sand and muddy sand (A2.2)
-  Intertidal mud (A2.3)
-  Intertidal mixed sediments (A2.4)
-  Intertidal seagrass beds (A2.61)








Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time (H1110) polygons

SPA_SF CODE

-  Subtidal coarse sediment (A5.1)
-  Subtidal sand (A5.2)
-  Subtidal mud (A5.3)
-  Subtidal mixed sediment (A5.4)
-  Subtidal seagrass beds (A5.53)








Reefs (H1170) points

SPA_SF CODE

-  Intertidal rock (A1)
-  Intertidal biogenic reefs: (*Sabellaria alveolata*) (A2.71)
-  Intertidal biogenic reefs: mussel beds (SF_SH_5)
-  Infralittoral rock (A3)
-  Circalittoral rock (A4)
-  Subtidal biogenic reefs: (*Sabellaria spp.*) (A5.61)
-  Subtidal biogenic reefs: mussel beds (SF_SH_6)

Reefs (H1170) polygons

SPA_SF CODE

-  Intertidal rock (A1)
-  Intertidal biogenic reefs: (*Sabellaria alveolata*) (A2.71)
-  Intertidal biogenic reefs: mussel beds (SF_SH_5)
-  Infralittoral rock (A3)
-  Circalittoral rock (A4)
-  Subtidal biogenic reefs: (*Sabellaria spp.*) (A5.61)
-  Subtidal biogenic reefs: mussel beds (SF_SH_6)

SPA_SF CODE

-  Saltmarsh (A2.5)