

Benchmark statement to assess quality of evidence

SAP benchmarks for assessing the quality of evidence used to designate rMCZs and rRAs. The scale is graded from 1-5 (poor - excellent) against a set of benchmarks to encompass the different types of evidence used, the amount of evidence used and the extent of the linkages made between the evidence offered and the specific site.

5. Use of literature published in journals, and use of relevant alternative sources of evidence from grey literature or website databases with high confidence of robust provenance, that is directly relevant to the site with strong linkages between the paper contents and site. Complete list of cited references given in the report. SAP member has personal knowledge that these are the key sources of evidence for the site and is unaware of obvious evidence gaps.
4. Use of literature published in journals, and/or use of relevant alternative sources of evidence from grey literature or website databases with high confidence of robust provenance, that is generically relevant at BSH level to the site with moderate linkages between the paper contents and site. Complete list of cited references given in the report. SAP member has personal knowledge that these are relevant sources of evidence but some uncertainty regarding direct link between evidence and specific site.
3. Use of a limited range of literature, published in journals, and/or use of relevant alternative sources of evidence from grey literature or website databases with uncertain provenance, that is generically relevant at BSH level to the site with weak linkages between the paper contents and site. Possible omissions in list of cited references given in the report. SAP member has knowledge that some relevant sources of evidence may be missing, and uncertainty regarding direct link between evidence and specific site.
2. No use of literature published in journals, and limited use of relevant alternative sources of evidence from grey literature or website databases with uncertain provenance, that is either only generically relevant at BSH level or not relevant to the site with weak or no linkages between the evidence and site. Omissions in list of cited references given in the report. SAP member has knowledge that relevant sources of evidence are missing, with heavy reliance on inferential evidence.
1. No use of literature published in journals, and very limited or no use of relevant alternative sources of evidence from grey literature or website databases with uncertain provenance, that has unclear or no relevance to the site with weak or no linkages between the evidence and site. Omissions in or absence of list of cited references given in the report. SAP member has knowledge that relevant sources of evidence are missing, with heavy reliance on inferential evidence.

Irish Sea Conservation Zones		Finding Sanctuary		Balanced Seas		Net Gain	
rM CZ number/name/BSH	scores	rM CZ report number/name/BSH	site scores	rM CZ number/name	scores	rM CZ number/name/BSH	scores
1 Mud Hole	5 5	11.3.1 The Canyons	4 4	2 Stour and Orwell Estuaries	5 3 (4) 3	NG 1b Orford Inshore	2 2 2 or 3 1
2 West of Walney	5 4	11.3.2 South West Deeps (West)	3 3	3 Blackwater, Crouch, Roach & Colne Estuaries	3 3 2	NG 1c Alde Ore Estuary	2 2 2
2 West of Walney	1	11.3.3 South West Deeps (East)	3 4	5 Thames Estuary	5 2 2	NG 2 Cromer Shoal Chalk Beds	2 or 3 3 3
3 North St Georges Channel	5 3	11.3.4 North-West of Jones Bank	3 3	6 Medway Estuary	2 2 2	NG 4 Wash Approach	3 3 3 2
4 Mid St Georges Channel	4 4	11.3.5 Greater Haig Fras	4 4	7 Thanet Coast	3 3 3	NG 5 Lincs Belt	4 3 4
5 North of Celtic Deep	4 4	11.3.6 East of Jones Bank	3 2	8 Goodwin Sands	2	NG 6 Silver Pit	3 3 2
6 South Rigg	4 5	11.3.7 East of Haig Fras	3 2	9 Offshore Foreland	2	NG 7 Markham's Triangle	3 3 4
7 Slieve Na Griddle	3 5	11.3.8 North East of Haig Fras	3 2	10 Swale Estuary	2 2 to 3 3	NG 8 Holderness Inshore	3 or 4 3 3
8 Flyde Offshore	5 5	11.3.9 South of Celtic Deep	3 3	11.1 Dover to Deal	3 3 4	NG 9 Holderness Offshore	3 3 3
10 Allonby Bay	4 3	11.3.10 Celtic Deep	4 5	11.2 Dover to Folkestone	2 3 4	NG 10 Castle Ground	3 3 3
11 Cumbrian Coast	4 4	11.3.11 East of Celtic Deep	3 3	11.4 Folkestone Pomerania	3 4	NG 11 Runswick Bay	3 2 3
13 Sefton Coast	3 3 (4)	11.3.12 Western Channel	3 4	13.1 Beachy Head East	2 3 4	NG 12 Compass Rose	4 3 3 2
14 Hilbre Island Group	3 3	11.3.13 South of Isles of Scilly	1 3	13.2 Beachy Head West	4 3	NG 13 Coquet to St Mary's	3 3 3
15 Solway Firth	4 2	11.3.14 Poole Rocks	2 5 3	14 Offshore Brighton	2 3 3	NG 13a Aln Estuary	2 or 3 1 2
16 Wyre Lune	3 2	11.3.15 Studland Bay	4 5 4	16 Kingmere	4	NG 14 Farnes East	3 3 2
17 Ribble	2 2	11.3.16 South Dorset	3 3	17 Offshore Overfalls	4 4 5	NG 15 Rock Unique	2 2 1
		11.3.17 Broad Bench to Kimmeridge Bay	2 4	19 Norris to Ryde	3 2 3	NG 16 Swallow Sand	2 2 2
rRA number/name/BSH		11.3.18 South of Portland Bill	4 4	20 The Needles	2 2 3	NG 17 Fulmar	3 3 3 or 4 3
A Mud Hole	5 5	11.3.19 Chesil Beach and Stennis Ledges	3 5 4(2)	21 Wight-Barfleur extension	2 3 4		
Subtidal Mud						rRA number/name/BSH	
B North St Georges Channel	4 3	11.3.20 Axe Estuary	3 4 3	22 Bembridge	3 3 4	RA 1 North Norfolk Blue Mussel Beds	3 4 3
C Mid St Georges Channel	4 4	11.3.21 Otter Estuary	1 5?	23 Yarmouth to Cowes	4 3 (4?) 3		
F South Rigg	4 5	11.3.22 Torbay	5 5 5	24.2 Fareham Creek	1 2 2	RA 2a Seahorse Lagoon	3 4 3
G Slieve Na Griddle	3 4	11.3.23 Dart Estuary	3 5 4	25.1 Pagham Harbour	3 3 4	RA 2b Arnold's Marsh	3 4 3
H Allonby Bay	3 3	11.3.24 Skerries Bank and surrounds	3 or 2	25.2 Selsey Bill and the Hounds	3 3 3	RA 3 Glaven Reedbed	3 3 2
I Cumbrian Coast (1)	3 2	11.3.25 Devon Avon Estuary	4 5 5	26 Hythe Bay	2 2 3	RA 4 Blakeney Marsh	3 3 1
J Cumbrian Coast (2)	3 (4)	11.3.26 Erme Estuary	4 4 4	28 Utopia	3 1	RA 5 Blakeney Seagrass	3 3 1 (2)
K Tarn Point	3 3	11.3.27 Tamar Estuary Sites	4 5 3	29 East Meridian	3 3 4	RA 6 Dogs Head Sandbanks	2 3
S North St Georges Channel (2)	3	11.3.28 Whitsand and Looe Bay	4 4	29.2 East Meridian (Eastern side)	3	RA 7 Seahenge	3 3 2
T Cuning Point	2 4	11.3.29 Upper Fowey and Pont Pill	3 5 3	30 Kentish Knock East	1 2	RA 8 Wash Approach RA	2 2 4 3
W Barrow South	4 5	11.3.30 South-East of Falmouth	2	31 Inner Bank	2 3 3	RA 9 Flamborough Head No Take Zone	3 3 1 (2)
Y Barrow North	2 5	11.3.31 South of Falmouth	2			RA 10 Compass Rose RA	3 3 3 2
Z Sefton Coast	2 5	11.3.32 The Manacles	4 5	rRA number/name		RA 11 Berwick Coast	2 or 3 2 1
		11.3.33 Mounts Bay	3 4?	1 Colne Point	2 2	RA 12 Farnes Clay	2 2 3 1
		11.3.34 Land's End	3 4	2 South Mersea	1 1	RA 13 Rock Unique RA	2 2 2 or 3 1
			(5)			Subtidal sand	
		11.3.35 Isles of Scilly Sites	5 5	3 Holehaven Creek	1 1		
		<i>Bishop to Crim</i>		4 Westgate Promontory	3 2		
		<i>Men a Vaur to White Island</i>		5 Turner Contemporary	2 2		
		<i>Bristows to the Stones</i>		6 Goodwin Knoll	2		
		<i>Peninnis to Dry Ledge</i>		7 South Foreland Lighthouse	3 3		
		<i>Gilstone to Goregan</i>		8 Hythe Flats	2 1		
		<i>Plympton to Spanish Ledge</i>		9 Belle Tout to Beachy Head Light	4 4		
		<i>Honjaque to Deep Ledge</i>		10 Dolphin Head	2		
		<i>Smith Sound Tide Swept Channel</i>		11 Church Norton Spit	3		
		<i>Higher Town</i>		12 Mixon Hole (Northern Slope)	3 3		
		<i>Teon</i>		13 North Utopia	3		
		<i>Lower Ridge to Inisvours</i>		14 Wight-Barfleur	3		
		11.3.36 Cape Bank	3	15 Tyne Ledges	3 3		
		11.3.37 Newquay and the Gannel	4 5 3	16 Wootton Old Mill Pond	3		
		11.3.38 Padstow Bay	5 5 4	17 King's Quay	4 3		
		11.3.39 Camel Estuary	4 5 4	18. St Catherine Point West	4 2 2		
		11.3.40 Hartland Point to Tintagel	5 5	19 Newtown Harbour	2 2		
		11.3.41 Lundy	4 5	20 Stalked Jellyfish (within Alum Bay)	1 1		
		11.3.42 Taw Torridge Estuary	3 5 2	21 Culver Spit	3 2 3		
		11.3.43 Bideford to Foreland Point	4 5?	22 North Mistle	3 3		
		11.3.44 Morte Platform	3	23 Abbots Hall Farm	1 1		
		11.3.45 North of Lundy	5	24 Harwich Haven	3 3 (4)		
				25 Flying Fortress	3		
		rRA site report number/name/BSH					
		11.4.1 The Canyons	4 4				
		11.4.2 Greater Haig Fras	4 4				
		11.4.3 Celtic Deep	4 5				
		11.4.4 South Dorset	3 3				
		11.4.5 South-East of Portland Bill	3				
		BSH viable size not met	5 5				
		11.4.7 Lyme Bay	1 4				
		11.4.8 Erme Estuary	2 4				
		11.4.9 Mouth of the Yealm	1 5				
		11.4.10 The Fal	4 3 5				
		11.4.11 Swanpool	5 5				
		11.4.12 Cape Bank	3				
		11.4.13 Lundy	3 5				