

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

Marine Conservation Zones: Consultation on proposals for designation in 2013

Annex A1 – Part 3. – Finding Sanctuary - Sites proposed for designation in 2013

Defra is proposing that up to 31 sites are good candidates for designation in 2013. Site specific information for each site is set out below. An explanatory note for the site summaries is included in Annex B.

Further Information

SNCB Advice

The SNCB advice can be found at: <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/category/1723382>

For specific site information please go to the page stated in the site summary.

For information on data certainty see section 5 of the SNCB advice and for advice on certainty of conservation objectives please see SNCB – supplementary advice and information at: <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/category/1725455>

Impact Assessment

For additional information on the Consultation Impact Assessment please use the following link:

www.defra.gov.uk/environment/marine/protect/mpa/mcz/

Within this link there are a series of documents including the Consultation Impact Assessment and supporting Annexes. For site specific information please open the section state in the individual site summary (Example: Chesil Beach and Stennis Ledges – Annex I2 Option 2 Page 3)

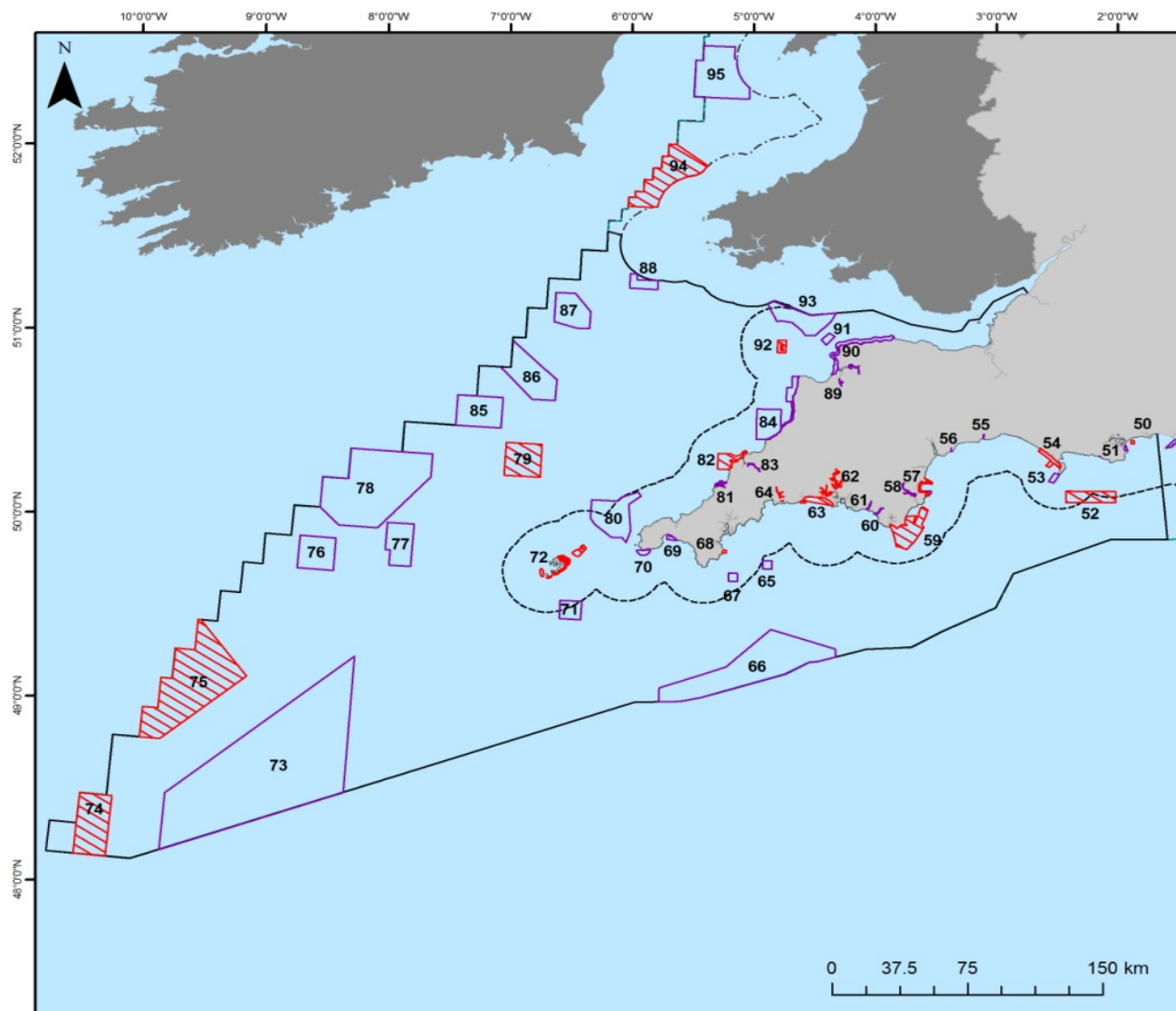
Finding Sanctuary

For additional information on the proposed first tranche sites in Finding Sanctuary please use the following link -

<http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/1561560>

Within this link there are a series of documents providing additional information on Finding Sanctuary recommended site. For site specific information please open the section stated in the individual site summary (Example - Canyons see FS - 3 Page 194).

Regional MCZ Map – South West (Finding Sanctuary)



Sites overview

- rMCZs put forward for designation in 2013
- Recommended MCZ
- Finding Sanctuary regional project area
- ISCZ regional project area
- 12nM Territorial Seas Limit
- UK Continental Shelf designated area

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 (www.ukho.gov.uk). Map produced by
 Natural England/JNCC 2012. The exact limits of
 the UK Continental Shelf designated area (UKCS)
 are set out in orders under section 1(7) of the
 Continental Shelf Act 1964. The regional MCZ
 project area follows the UKCS in English waters.
 Map Projection: BNG

Map Label	Site Name	Regional Project Number	Map Label	Site Name	Regional Project Number
49	Poole Rocks	N/A	72	Isles of Scilly	N/A
50	Studland Bay	N/A	73	South-West Deepes (East)	N/A
51	Broad Bench to Kimmeridge Bay	N/A	74	Canyons	N/A
52	South Dorset	N/A	75	South-West Deepes (West)	N/A
53	South of Portland	N/A	76	North-West of Jones Bank	N/A
54	Chesil Beach and Stennis Ledges	N/A	77	East of Jones Bank	N/A
55	Axe Estuary	N/A	78	Greater Haig Fras	N/A
56	Otter Estuary	N/A	79	East of Haig Fras	N/A
57	Torbay	N/A	80	Cape Bank	N/A
58	Dart Estuary	N/A	81	Newquay and The Gannel	N/A
59	Skerries Bank and surrounds	N/A	82	Padstow Bay and surrounds	N/A
60	Devon Avon	N/A	83	Camel Estuary	N/A
61	Erme Estuary	N/A	84	Hartland Point to Tintagel	N/A
62	Tamar Estuary sites	N/A	85	North-East of Haig Fras	N/A
63	Whitsand and Looe Bay	N/A	86	South of Celtic Deep	N/A
64	Upper Fowey and Pont Pill	N/A	87	Celtic Deep	N/A
65	South-east of Falmouth	N/A	88	East of Celtic Deep	N/A
66	Western Channel	N/A	89	Taw Torridge Estuary	N/A
67	South of Falmouth	N/A	90	Bideford to Foreland Point	N/A
68	The Manacles	N/A	91	Morte Platform	N/A
69	Mounts Bay	N/A	92	Lundy	N/A
70	Lands End	N/A	93	North of Lundy (Atlantic Array area)	N/A
71	South of the Isles of Scilly	N/A			

Consultation Site Summary: Upper Fowey and Pont Pill

Additional information for this site can be found in the SNCB Advice (page 936), Impact Assessment (Annex I2 Option 2, Page 214) and Regional Project recommendations (FS – 4, page 633).

Table 1. General Information on site and all features recommended by Regional Projects

Regional Project: Finding Sanctuary		Site surface area: 2km ²	Biogeographic Region: JNCC : Western Channel and Celtic Sea OSPAR region: Region II: Greater North Sea
Site Location: ETRS89 Decimal Degrees- Lat: 50.3699 Long: -4.6393 Degrees Minutes Seconds – Lat: 50°22'11"N Long: 4°38'21"W Inshore/Offshore: Inshore			
Feature type	Feature name	Area/no. of records	Conservation Objective
Broad Scale Habitat	Low energy intertidal rock	0.02km ²	Maintain
Broad Scale Habitat	Intertidal coarse sediment	<0.01 km ²	Maintain
Broad Scale Habitat	Intertidal sand and muddy sand	<0.01 km ²	Maintain
Broad Scale Habitat	Intertidal mud	2 km ²	Maintain
Broad Scale Habitat	Coastal saltmarshes and saline	0.01 km ²	Maintain

	reedbeds		
FOCI Habitat	Estuarine rocky habitats	13 points of record	Maintain
FOCI Habitat	Sheltered muddy gravels	0.01 km ²	Maintain
FOCI Habitat	Seagrass beds	<0.01 km ²	None
FOCI Specie	European eel (<i>Anguilla anguilla</i>)	N/A	Recover ¹

Table 2. Sector Impacts and Associated Best Estimate Costs

Sectors Impacted	Best Estimate Costs (£ per year)
Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk	Unquantified
Ports, Harbours and Commercial Shipping	£3,000
	Best Estimate Total Cost = £3,000

Table 3. Designation Status of Site and Rationale

Decision	Designation in 2013 Tranche
Rationale for Decision: Site Advantages The Upper Fowey and Pont Pill recommended Marine Conservation Zone is an inshore site measuring 2km ² . This rMCZ consists of two parts and within it there are a variety of features including five Broad Scale Habitats, three Habitat FOCI and one Species	

¹ Following advice from SNCBs, the Conservation Objective for this feature has changed from the original Regional Project recommendation.

FOCI. Of particular interest within this site are the Coastal salt marshes and reed beds which are important for connectivity along the South West Peninsula. Salt marshes are considered to be one of the most productive ecosystems in the world contributing to economic and ecological productivity. This site also has a range of Intertidal sand, Muddy sand and Mixed sediment habitats that have an important role in fundamental ecosystem process, including nutrient cycling, Intertidal sediments in particular provide spawning and nursery grounds and habitats for various fish. Intertidal mud within this site provides a highly productive ecosystem that is an important feeding ground for wading and migratory birds all year round. The European eel (*Anguilla anguilla*) is also found in this site, this species is currently not protected within any MPAs in the South West Region but is a UK BAP priority species and included in the IUCN Red Book.

Socio-Economics

The Upper Fowey and Pont Pill recommended MCZ is supported by a range of stakeholders including the Fowey Harbourmaster who supports this site as a way of reinforcing the existing Voluntary Marine Conservation Area. The main sector impacted by this site is Ports, Harbours and Commercial Shipping, for which there is a best estimate cost of £3,000 associated with an increase of cost of assessing environmental impacts for future license applications.

Data Certainty

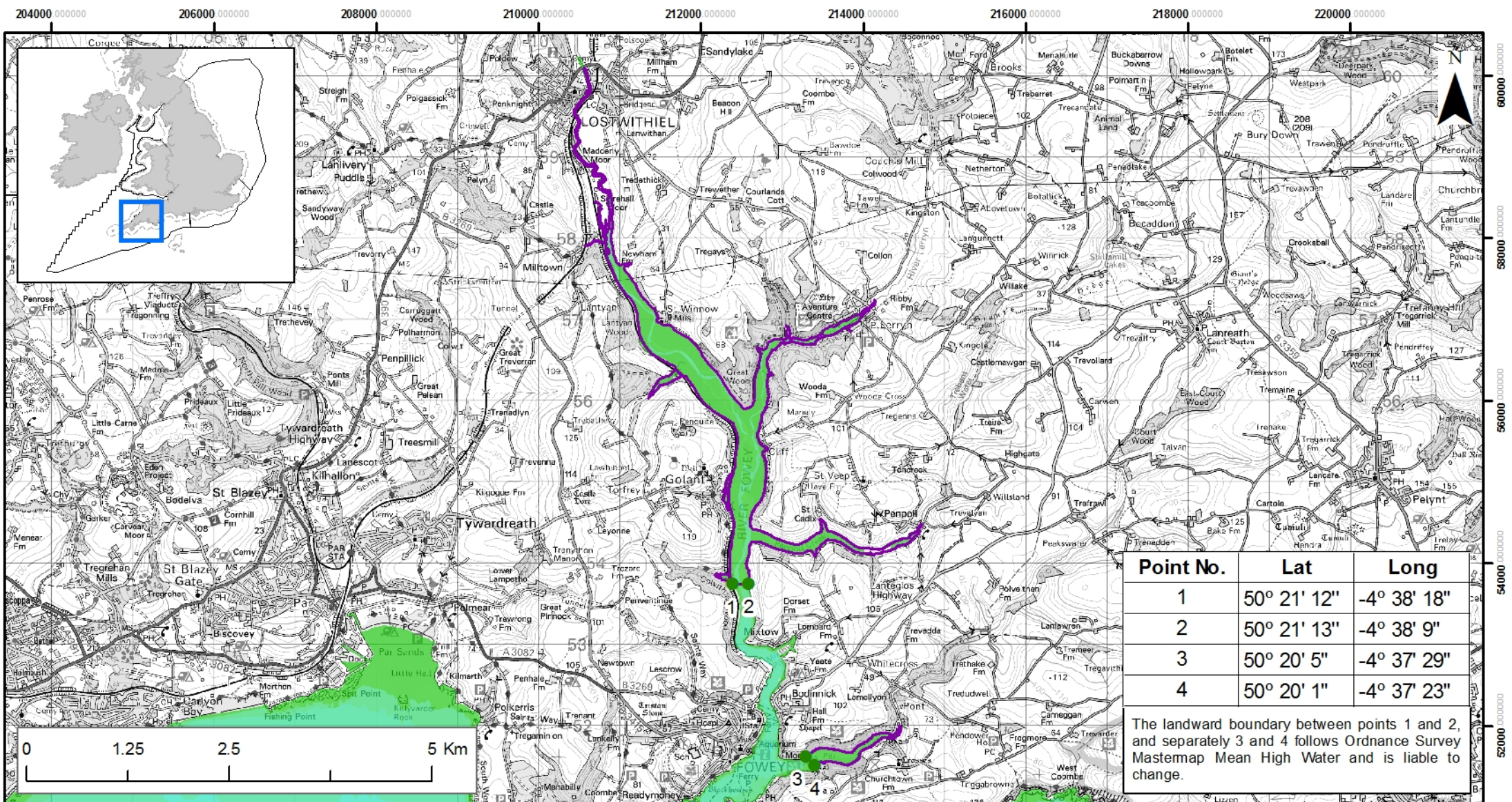
The Upper Fowey and Pont Pill recommended MCZ has acceptable data certainty for five features. Within this site three features have unacceptable data certainty; these include Intertidal coarse sediment, Coastal saltmarshes and saline reedbeds and Sheltered muddy gravels and will require further work prior to their designation.

Conclusion

Therefore, as the advantages for this site justify the socio-economic costs and the data certainty is acceptable for sufficient features this site has been proposed for designation in 2013 for the features as demonstrated in the table below. Further work will be required to improve the data certainty for features not proposed for designation in 2013 prior to inclusion in future designations.

Table 4. Features Proposed for Designation in 2013

Features for designation in 2013	Features requiring improvement in data certainty prior to designation
Low energy intertidal rock	Intertidal coarse sediment
Intertidal sand and muddy sand	Coastal saltmarshes and saline reedbeds
Intertidal mud	Sheltered muddy mravels
Estuarine rocky habitats	
European eel (<i>Anguilla anguilla</i>)	



Upper Fowey and Pont Pill

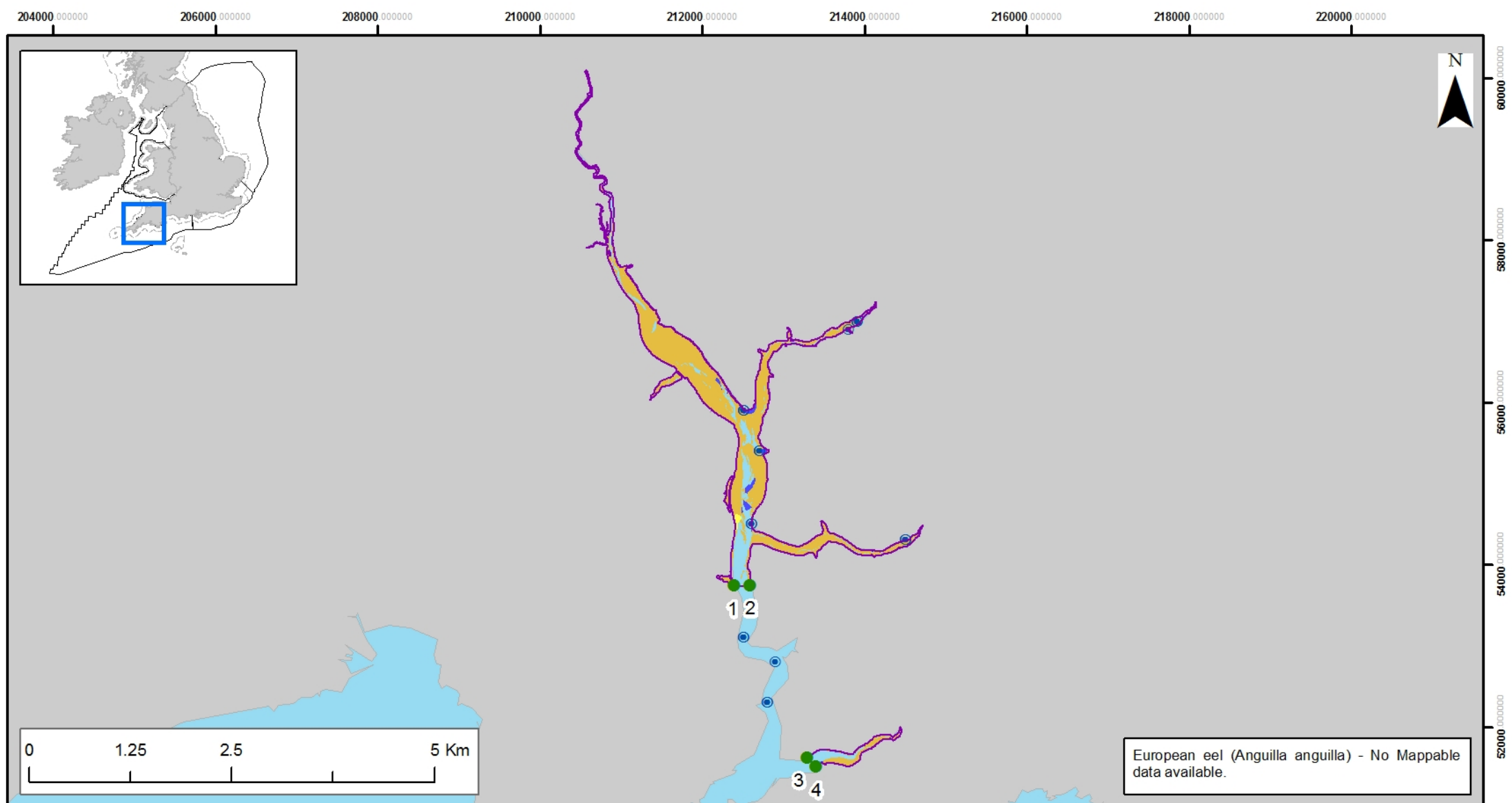
Recommended MCZ

- Recommended MCZ
- rMCZ boundary co-ordinates
- MCZ Regional Projects boundaries
- England 12nM Territorial Seas Limit

Depth Areas (m)

- 20.0 - -10.0
- 9.9 - -5.0
- 4.9 - 0.0
- 0.1 - 5.0
- 5.1 - 10.0
- 10.1 - 25.0
- 25.1 - 50.0
- 50.1 - 100.0
- 100.1 - 250.0
- 250.1 - 500.0
- 500.1 - 1000.0

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Upper Fowey and Pont Pill

Recommended MCZ

- Recommended MCZ
- rMCZ boundary co-ordinates
- MCZ Regional Projects boundaries
- England 12nM Territorial Seas Limit
- Land

Features proposed for 2013 designation

- Estuarine rocky habitats
- Low energy intertidal rock (A1.3)
- Intertidal sand and muddy sand (A2.2)
- Intertidal mud (A2.3)

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Consultation Site Summary: Whitsand and Looe Bay

Additional information for this site can be found in the SNCB Advice (page 931), Impact Assessment (Annex I2 Option 2, Page 227) and Regional Project recommendations (FS – 4, page 613).

Table 1. General Information on site and all features recommended by Regional Projects

Regional Project: Finding Sanctuary		Site surface area: 52 km ²	Biogeographic Region: JNCC: Western Channel and Celtic Sea OSPAR Region: Region II Greater North Sea
Site Location: ETRS89 Decimal Degree – Lat: 50.3434 Long: -4.3459 Degree Minutes Seconds – Lat:50°20'36"N Long 4°20'45"W			
Inshore/Offshore: Inshore			
Feature type	Feature name	Area/no. of records	Conservation Objective
Broad Scale Habitat	Subtidal coarse sediment	26 km ²	Maintain
Broad Scale Habitat	Subtidal sand	22 km ²	Maintain
Broad Scale Habitat	Moderate energy circalittoral rock	N/A	Maintain
Broad Scale Habitat	High energy infralittoral rock	1 km ²	Maintain
Broad Scale Habitat	High energy intertidal rock	0.03 km ²	Maintain
Broad Scale Habitat	Intertidal coarse sediment	0.5 km ²	Maintain

Broad Scale Habitat	Intertidal mixed sediment	<0.45 km ²	Maintain
Broad Scale Habitat	Intertidal sand and muddy sand	0.12 km ²	Maintain
Broad Scale Habitat	Low energy intertidal rock	0.06 km ²	Maintain
Broad Scale Habitat	Moderate energy intertidal rock	0.07 km ²	Maintain
Habitat FOCI	Seagrass beds	0.02 km ²	Maintain
Species FOCI	Sea fan anemone (<i>Amphianthus dohrnii</i>)	4 points recorded	Recover ²
Species FOCI	Ocean quahog (<i>Arctica islandica</i>)	3 Points recorded	Maintain
Species FOCI	Pink sea fan (<i>Eunicella verrucosa</i>)	26 Points recorded	Recover ¹
Species FOCI	Giant goby (<i>Gobius cobitis</i>)	3 Points recorded	Maintain
Species FOCI	Stalked jellyfish (<i>Haliclystus auricular</i>)	2 Points recorded	Maintain
Species FOCI	Long snouted seahorse (<i>Hippocampus Guttulatus</i>)	1 Point recorded	Maintain

² Following advice from SNCBs, the Conservation Objective for this feature has changed from the original Regional Project recommendation.

Table 2. Sector Impacts and Associated Best Estimate Costs

Sectors Impacted	Best Estimate Costs (£ per year)
Archaeology	Unquantified
Commercial Fishing	2,000
Ports, Harbours and Commercial Shipping	12,000
National Defence	Non-Site Specific
Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management	Unquantified
	Best Estimate Total Cost = £14,000

Table 3. Designation Status of Site and Rationale

Decision	Designation in 2013 Tranche
Rationale for Decision:	
Site Advantages	
<p>The Whitsand and Looe Bay recommended Marine Conservation Zone is an inshore site measuring 52 km². Within this site there are ten Broad Scale Habitats, one FOCI Habitat and six Species FOCI. Of particular interest within this site is the Subtidal coarse sediment which is currently only reaching the minimum adequacy targets. It provides important nursery grounds for many ecologically and commercially important fish and supports seabirds. Within this site the Giant goby (<i>Gobius Cobitis</i>) is found which is only recorded in the South West with this site being one of only four sites for this species. This site is also important for connectivity for this species around the South-West Peninsula. This site is also home to the Sea fan anemone (<i>Amphianthus dohrnii</i>) which is a species FOCI that is currently only just meeting the minimum replication target, and the Long-snouted seahorse (<i>Hippocampus guttulatus</i>) which is only located in two sites within the Finding Sanctuary region. This site has been recognised for its importance in maintaining connectivity within the Finding Sanctuary region, and its diverse range of habitats and species, from Intertidal sediment to Circalittoral rock offering a high number of features. For this reason this site includes an existing voluntary Marine Conservation Zone, with associated management in place. If this site was not taken forward then an important site for</p>	

connectivity for Giant goby (*Gobius Cobitis*) and Pink sea fan (*Eunicella verrucosa*) would be lost and the number of sites for the Long-snouted seahorse (*Hippocampus guttulatus*) would be halved. This site has also been highlighted by the SNCBs as a site at high risk with the Sea fan anemone (*Amphianthus dohrnii*) and Pink sea fan (*Eunicella verrucosa*) at risk.

Socio-Economics

The Whitsand and Looe Bay recommended MCZ has strong support from the conservation sector, with a Voluntary Marine Conservation Area already in place. The main sector impacted by this site is Ports, Harbour and Commercial shipping, for which there is a best estimate cost of £12,000 associated with an increase in the cost of assessing environmental impact for future license applications for dredging and disposal.

Data Certainty

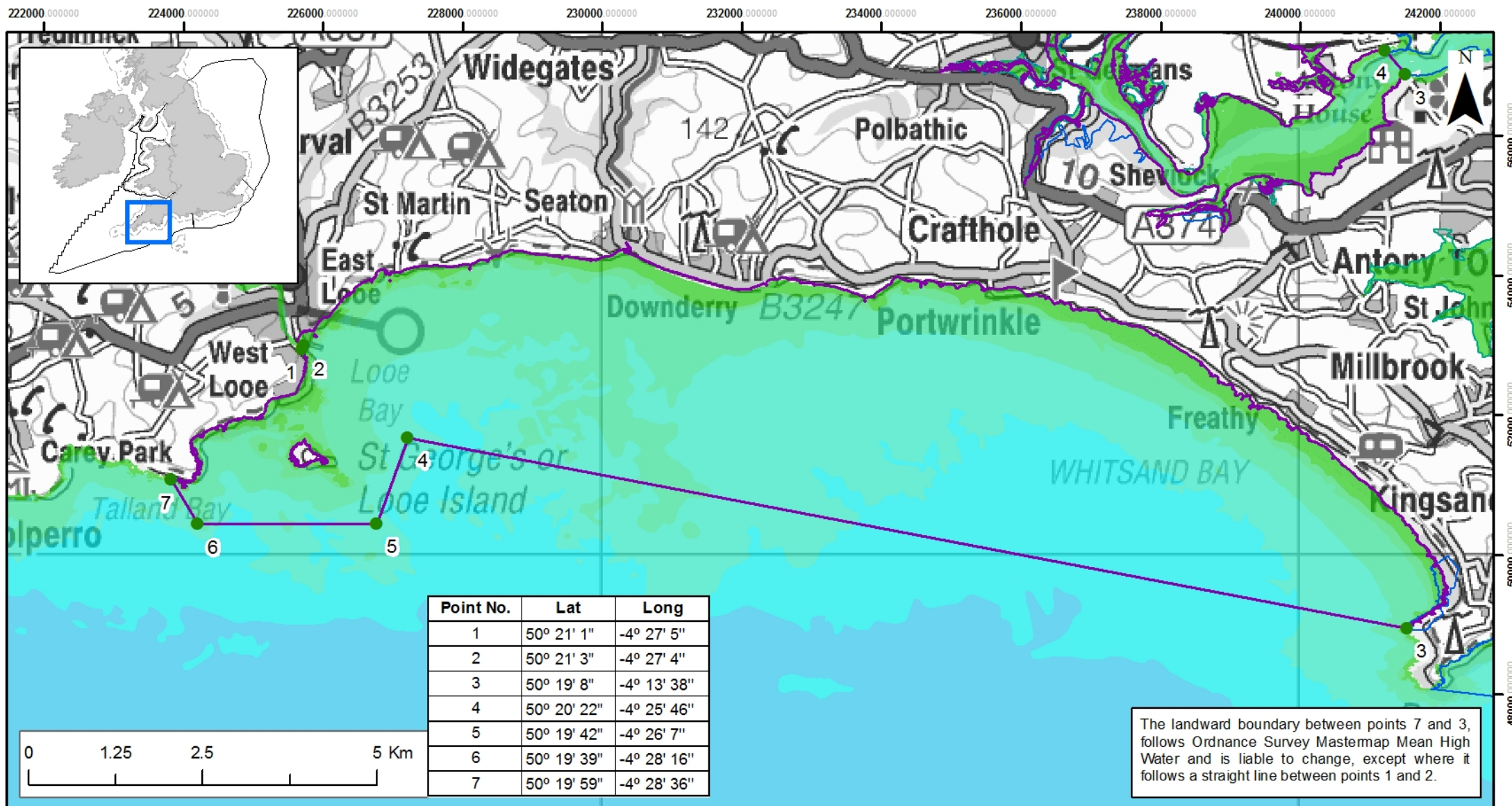
The Whitsand and Looe Bay recommended MCZ has acceptable data certainty for three features, of these features the Sea fan anemone (*Amphianthus dohrnii*) and the Pink sea fan (*Eunicella verrucosa*) have been identified as being at higher risk. Within this site there are fourteen features with unacceptable data certainty, these include Subtidal coarse sediment, Subtidal sand, Moderate energy circalittoral rock, High energy infralittoral rock, Intertidal coarse sediment, Intertidal mixed sediment, Intertidal sand and Muddy sand, Low energy intertidal rock, Moderate energy intertidal rock, Seagrass beds, Ocean quahog (*Arctica islandica*), Giant goby (*Gobius cobitis*), Stalked jellyfish (*Haliclystus auricular*) and the Long snouted seahorse (*Hippocampus guttulatus*) and these features will require further work prior to their designation.

Conclusion

Therefore, as the advantages for this site justify the socio-economic costs, and the SNCBs have highlighted this site as at higher risk, this site has been proposed for designation in 2013 for the features as demonstrated in the table below. Further work will be required to improve the data certainty for features not proposed for designation in 2013 prior to inclusion in future designations.

Table 4. Features Proposed for Designation in 2013

Features for designation in 2013	Features requiring improvement in data certainty prior to designation
High energy intertidal rock	Subtidal coarse sediment
Sea fan anemone (<i>Amphianthus dohrnii</i>)	Subtidal sand
Pink sea fan (<i>Eunicella verrucosa</i>)	Moderate energy circalittoral rock
	High energy infralittoral rock
	Intertidal coarse sediment
	Intertidal mixed sediment
	Intertidal sand and muddy sand
	Low energy intertidal rock
	Moderate energy intertidal rock
	Seagrass beds
	Ocean quahog (<i>Arctica islandica</i>)
	Giant goby (<i>Gobius cobitis</i>)
	Stalked jellyfish (<i>Haliclystus auricular</i>)
	Long snouted seahorse (<i>Hippocampus guttulatus</i>)



Whitsand and Looe Bay

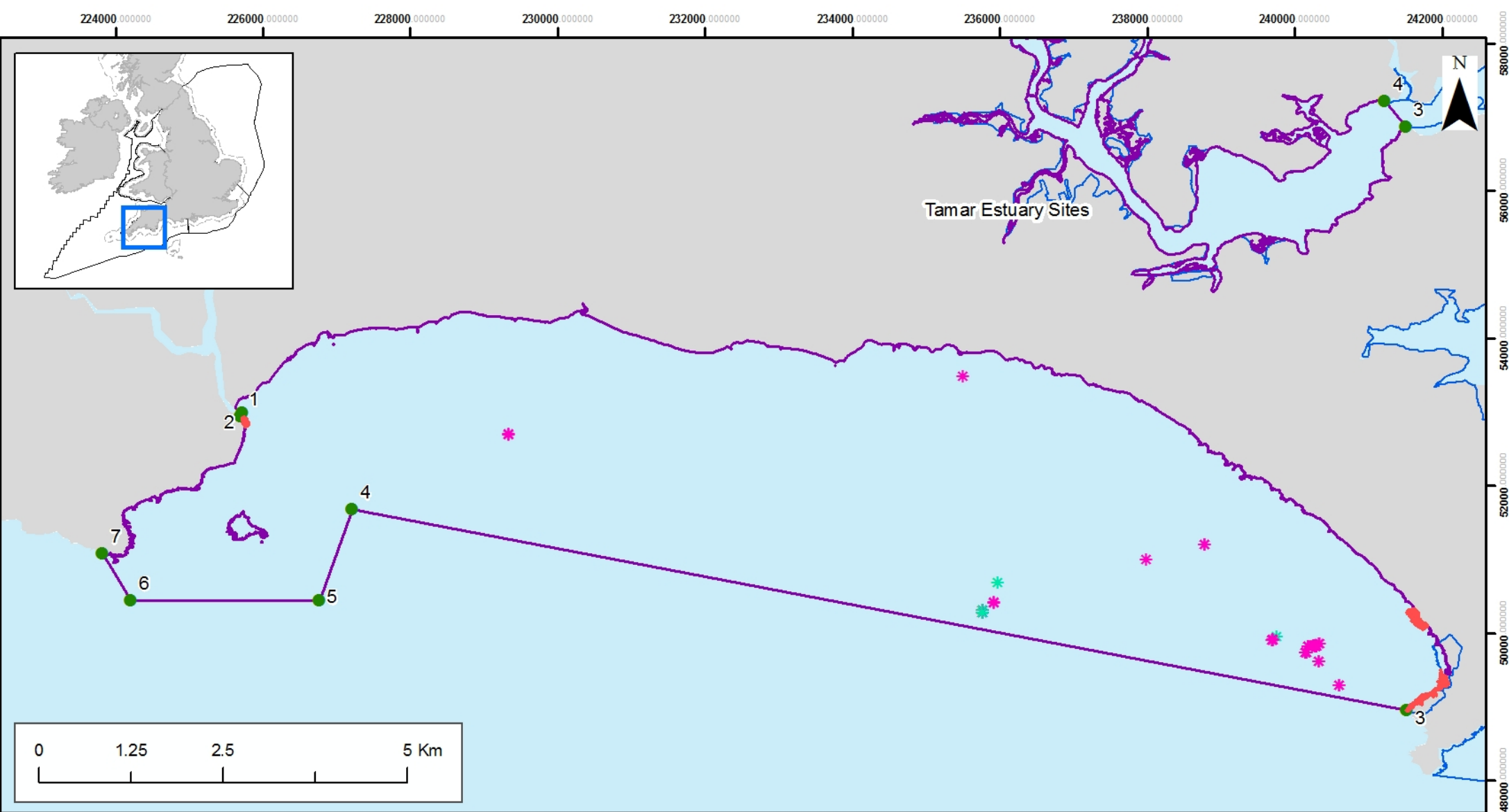
Recommended MCZ

- Recommended MCZ
- rMCZ boundary co-ordinates
- SAC with Marine Components
- SPA with Marine Components
- MCZ Regional Projects boundaries
- England 12nM Territorial Seas Limit

Depth Areas (m)

-20.0 - -10.0	25.1 - 50.0
-9.9 - -5.0	50.1 - 100.0
-4.9 - 0.0	100.1 - 250.0
0.1 - 5.0	250.1 - 500.0
5.1 - 10.0	500.1 - 1000.0
10.1 - 25.0	

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Whitsand and Looe Bay

Recommended MCZ

- Recommended MCZ
- rMCZ boundary co-ordinates
- MCZ Regional Projects boundaries
- England 12nM Territorial Seas Limit
- Land
- SAC with Marine Components

Features proposed for 2013 designation

- ✱ Sea-fan anemone (*Amphianthus dohrnii*)
- ✱ Pink sea-fan (*Eunicella verrucosa*)
- High energy intertidal rock (A1.1)

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Consultation Site Summary: Tamar Estuary

Additional information for this site can be found in the SNCB Advice (page 927), Impact Assessment (Annex I2 Option 2, Page 139) and Regional Project recommendations (FS – 4, page 593).

Table 1. General Information on site and all features recommended by Regional Projects

Regional Project: Finding Sanctuary		Site surface area: 15 km ²	Biogeographic Region: JNCC Regional Sea – Western Channel and Celtic Sea OPSAR Region: Region II – Greater North Sea
Site Location: Decimal Degrees – Lat: 50.4241 Long: - 4.2214 Degrees Minutes Seconds – Lat: 50°25'26"N Long: 4°13'17"W Inshore/Offshore: Inshore			
Feature type	Feature name	Area/no. of records	Conservation Objective
Broad Scale Habitat	Intertidal biogenic reefs	0.02 km ²	Recover ³
Broad Scale Habitat	Intertidal coarse sediment	0.04 km ²	Recover ¹
Habitat FOCI	Blue mussel beds (including intertidal beds on mixed and sandy sediment)	1 point recorded	Recover ¹
Species FOCI	Native oyster (<i>Ostrea edulis</i>)	4 points recorded	Recover ¹

³ Following advice from SNCBs, the Conservation Objective for this feature has changed from the original Regional Project recommendation.

Species FOCI	Smelt (<i>Osmerus eperlanus</i>)	N/A	Recover ¹
Species FOCI	European eel (<i>Anguilla anguilla</i>)	N/A	Recover ¹

Table 2. Sector Impacts and Associated Best Estimate Costs

Sectors Impacted	Best Estimate Costs (£ per year)
Ports, Harbours and Commercial Shipping	< 1000
	Best Estimate Total Cost =£<1000

Table 3. Designation Status of Site and Rationale

Decision	Designation in 2013 Tranche
<p>Rationale for Decision:</p> <p>Site Advantages</p> <p>The Tamar Estuary recommended MCZ measures 15 km² in size and contains two Broad Scale Habitats, one Habitat FOCI and three Species FOCI. This site is the only MCZ where the FOCI of the mobile species Smelt (<i>Osmerus eperlanus</i>) is listed, and expert opinion is that this site is a spawning ground, and the only known one in the South West Region. This species is also a UK BAP priority species and if this site was not taken forward it would mean that there would be no marine protected areas in the South-West for Smelt (<i>Osmerus eperlanus</i>). This is also home to the European eel (<i>Anguilla anguilla</i>) and Native oyster (<i>Ostrea edulis</i>) and a variety of habitats including Intertidal biogenic reef and Blue mussel beds. This is the only site in the Finding Sanctuary region for Intertidal biogenic reef, which plays an important role in primary biomass production, and provides a hard substrate and a range of microhabitats for colonisation by other organisms. Mussel reefs are an important source of food for birds</p>	

and have a strong stabilising effect on the sediment, thereby countering erosive wave action, if this site was not designated then Blue mussel beds would not be represented in the South West. This site has been highlighted by the SNCBs as a site at higher risk, with the Native Oyster (*Ostrea edulis*) highlighted as being at risk.

Socio-Economics

Within the Tamar Estuary the Duchy of Cornwall has raised concerns over potential restrictions on moorings and other licensed commercial activities, and the Tamar Estuaries Consultative Forum has raised concerns over resources for implementation. The main sector impacted by this site is the Ports, Harbour and Commercial Shipping sector, with a best estimate cost of <£1000 associated with an increase in cost of assessing environmental impacts for future license applications.

Data Certainty

The Tamar Estuary recommended MCZ has acceptable data certainty for two features. Of these features the Native oyster (*Ostrea edulis*) has been identified as being at higher risk. Within this site there are four features with unacceptable data certainty, these include Blue mussel beds, Intertidal coarse sediment, Intertidal biogenic reef and Smelt (*Osmerus eperlanus*).

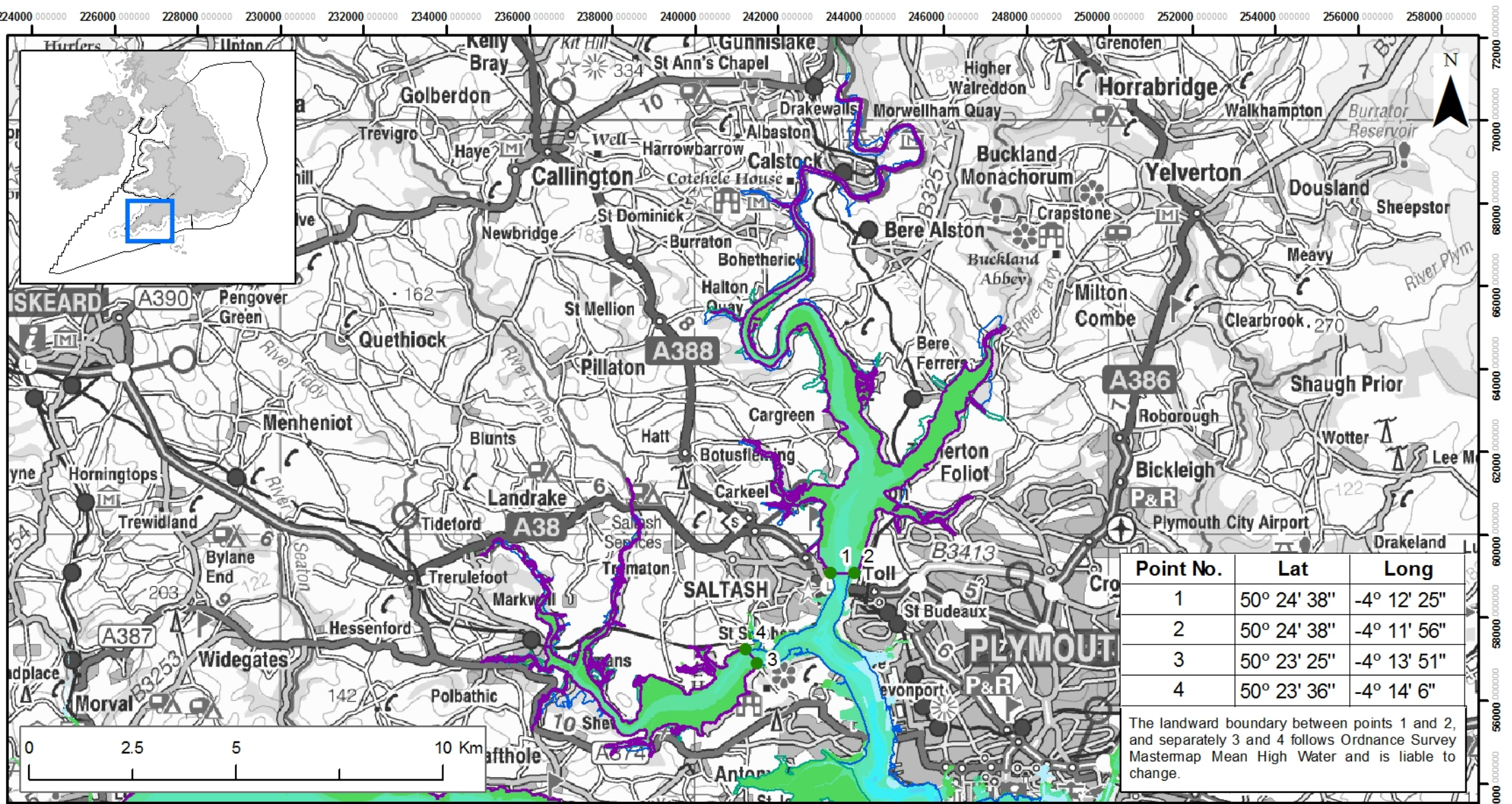
Conclusion

Therefore as the advantages for this site justify the socio-economic costs, and the SNCBs have highlighted this site as a site at higher risk, this site has been proposed for designation in 2013 for the features as demonstrated in the table below. Further work will be required to improve the data certainty for features not proposed for designation in 2013 prior to inclusion in future designations.

Table 4. Features Proposed for Designation in 2013

Features for designation in 2013	Features requiring improvement in data certainty prior to designation

Native oyster (<i>Ostrea edulis</i>)	Blue mussel beds
European eel (<i>Anguilla anguilla</i>)	Smelt (<i>Osmerus eperlanus</i>)
	Intertidal coarse sediment
	Intertidal biogenic reef



Tamar Estuary Sites

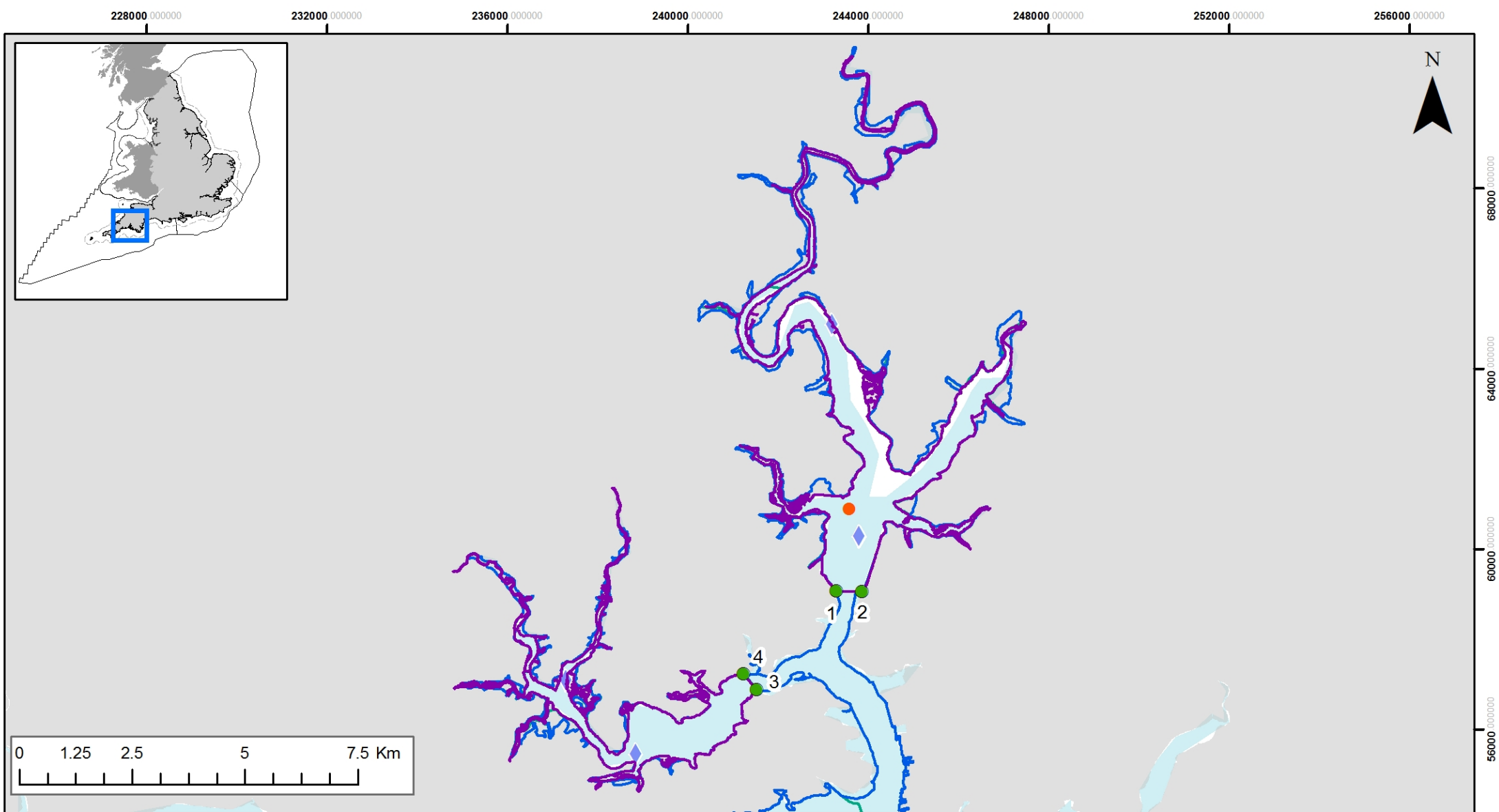
Recommended MCZ

- Recommended MCZ
- rMCZ boundary co-ordinates
- MCZ Regional Projects boundaries
- SAC with Marine Components
- SPA with Marine Components
- England 12nM Territorial Seas Limit

Depth Areas (m)

- 20.0 - -10.0
- 9.9 - -5.0
- 4.9 - 0.0
- 0.1 - 5.0
- 5.1 - 10.0
- 10.1 - 25.0
- 25.1 - 50.0
- 50.1 - 100.0
- 100.1 - 250.0
- 250.1 - 500.0
- 500.1 - 1000.0

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Reference: Theme ID 1477649,
Map Projection: British National Grid



Tamar Estuary Sites rMCZ

- Recommended MCZ
- rMCZ boundary co-ordinates
- Regional MCZ project area
- 12nM Territorial Seas Limit
- SAC with Marine Components
- SPAs with Marine Components
- Land

Features proposed for 2013 designation

- European eel (*Anguilla anguilla*)
- ◆ Native oyster (*Ostrea edulis*)

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 Reference: Theme ID: 1477649
 Map Projection: British National Grid

Consultation Site Summary: Skerries Bank and Surround

Additional information for this site can be found in the SNCB Advice (page 914), Impact Assessment (Annex I2 Option 2, Page 91) and Regional Project recommendations (FS – 4, page 537).

Table 1. General Information on site and all features recommended by Regional Projects

Regional Project: Finding Sanctuary		Site surface area: 250 km ²	Biogeographic Region: JNCC: Western Channel and Celtic Sea OPSAR Region: Greater North Sea
Site Location: Decimal Degrees – Lat: 50.1945 Long: -1.8859 Degrees Minutes Seconds – Lat: 50°11'40"N Long: 3°37'15"W			
Inshore/Offshore: Inshore (overlapping 6nm boundary)			
Feature type	Feature name	Area/no. of records	Conservation Objective
Broad Scale Habitat	Subtidal coarse sediment	13 km ²	Maintain
Broad Scale Habitat	Subtidal mud	4 km ²	Maintain
Broad Scale Habitat	Subtidal sand	42 km ²	Maintain
Broad Scale Habitat	Moderate energy circalittoral rock	102 km ²	Recover ⁴

⁴ Following advice from SNCBs, the Conservation Objective for this feature has changed from the original Regional Project recommendation.

Broad Scale Habitat	Moderate energy infralittoral rock	8 km ²	Maintain
Broad Scale Habitat	High energy infralittoral rock	15 km ²	Maintain
Broad Scale Habitat	Moderate energy intertidal rock	0.03 km ²	Maintain
Broad Scale Habitat	High energy intertidal rock	0.3 km ²	Maintain
Broad Scale Habitat	Intertidal coarse sediment	0.1 km ²	Maintain
Broad Scale Habitat	Intertidal mixed sediments	0.2 km ²	Maintain
Broad Scale Habitat	Intertidal mud	0.04 km ²	Maintain
Broad Scale Habitat	Intertidal sand and muddy sand	0.1 km ²	Maintain
Habitat FOCI	Intertidal under boulder communities	1 Point Recorded	Maintain
Species FOCI	Pink Sea Fan (<i>Eunicella verrucosa</i>)	10 Points Recorded	Maintain
Species FOCI	Short Snouted Seahorse (<i>Hippocampus hippocampus</i>)	1 Point Recorded	Maintain
Species FOCI	Spiny Lobster (<i>Palinurus elephas</i>)	2 Points Recorded	Recover

Table 2. Sector Impacts and Associated Best Estimate Costs

Sectors Impacted	Best Estimate Costs (£ per year)
Ports, Harbours and Commercial Shipping	1000

Non UK Fisheries	Unquantified
Archaeology	Unquantified
Commercial Fishing	38,000
	Best Estimate Total Cost = £39,000

Table 3. Designation Status of Site and Rationale

Decision	Designation in 2013 tranche
<p>Rationale for Decision:</p> <p>Site Advantages</p> <p>The Skerries Bank and Surround recommended MCZ is a predominately inshore site that partially overlaps the 6nm boundary and measures 250 km². Within this rMCZ there are a variety of features including 12 Broad Scale Habitats, one Habitat FOCI and three Species FOCI. This site is acknowledged as containing a higher than average benthic species diversity, and is located within an area of higher than average pelagic interest. Out of all the recommended MCZs, this site contributes the largest area of Moderate energy infralittoral rock, which is a habitat rich in floral and faunal species providing a suitable habitat for lobster and crab. This site also contains Subtidal sediment which provides important nursery grounds for ecologically important fish, and Intertidal rock which provides a rich source of secondary biomass. This site also has a high concentration of Species FOCI including Pink sea fan (<i>Eunicella verrucosa</i>), which is a BAP and OSPAR species and the Short snouted seahorse (<i>Hippocampus hippocampus</i>) which is not protected within any existing MPAs in the Finding Sanctuary region. There is also evidence that the Spiny lobster (<i>Palinurus Elephas</i>) is in an unfavourable condition in all South-West waters. For this reason this feature has been highlighted by the SNCBs as being at higher risk within this site. If this site was not taken forward for designation the replication target for the Short snouted seahorse (<i>Hippocampus hippocampus</i>) and the targets for the Spiny lobster (<i>Palinurus elephas</i>) will not be met.</p> <p>Socio-Economics</p> <p>The main sector impacted by this site is the commercial fishing sector, for which there is a best estimate cost of £38,000</p>	

predominately associated with Pots and Traps. However, the Skerries Bank and Surround recommended MCZ is supported by a cross section of stakeholders and an Inshore Potting Agreement is already in place, so the suggested best estimate cost is likely to be an overestimate and should mean that there are no significant impacts to the UK fishing sector. There are unquantified costs associated with Non-UK Fisheries as this site overlaps with 1% of core non-UK fishing grounds

Data Certainty

The Skerries Bank and Surround recommended MCZ has acceptable data certainty for four features. Of these, the Spiny lobster (*Palinurus elephas*) has been identified as being a higher risk feature within this site. Eleven features have unacceptable data certainty within this site, including Subtidal coarse sediment, Subtidal mud, Subtidal sand, Moderate energy infralittoral rock, Moderate energy intertidal rock, High energy intertidal rock, Intertidal coarse sediment, Intertidal mixed sediment, Intertidal mud, Intertidal sand and muddy sand, Intertidal under boulder communities and Short snouted seahorse (*Hippocampus hippocampus*) and will require further work prior to their designation.

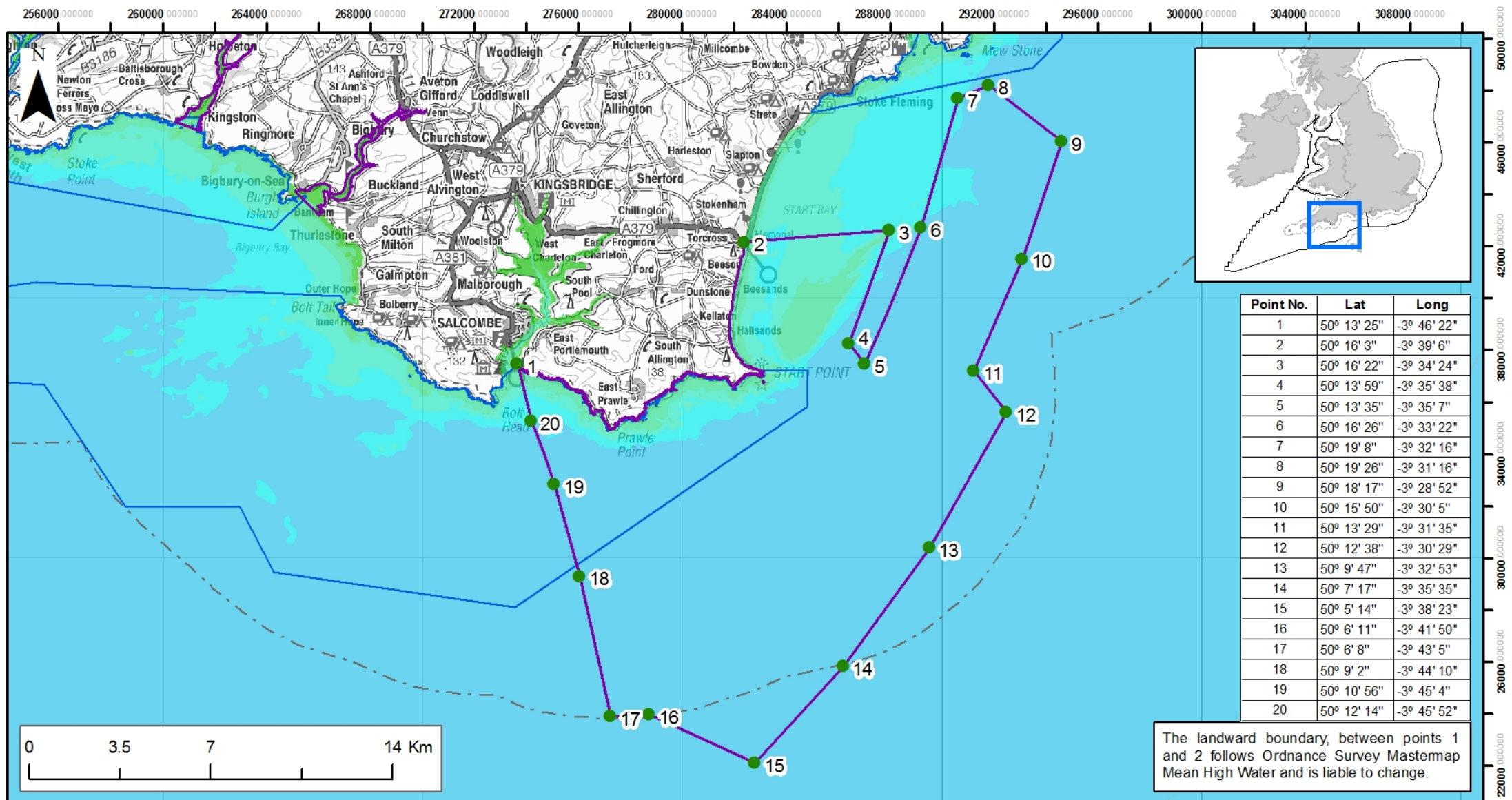
Conclusion

Therefore, as the advantages for this site justify the socio-economic costs, and the SNCBs have highlighted this site as a higher risk, this site has been proposed for designation in 2013 for the features as demonstrated in the table above. Further work will be required to improve the data certainty for features not proposed for designation in 2013 prior to inclusion in future designations.

Table 4. Features Proposed for Designation in 2013

Features for designation in 2013	Features requiring improvement in data certainty prior to designation
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High Energy infralittoral rock	Subtidal coarse sediment
Moderate energy circalittoral rock	Subtidal mud
Pink sea fan (<i>Eunicella verrucosa</i>)	Subtidal sand
Spiny lobster (<i>Palinurus Elephas</i>)	Moderate energy infralittoral rock
	Moderate energy intertidal rock
	High energy intertidal rock
	Intertidal coarse sediment
	Intertidal mixed sediments
	Intertidal mud
	Intertidal sand and muddy sand
	Intertidal under boulder communities
	Short snouted seahorse (<i>Hippocampus hippocampus</i>)



Skerries Bank and Surrounds

Recommended MCZ

Recommended MCZ

● rMCZ boundary co-ordinates

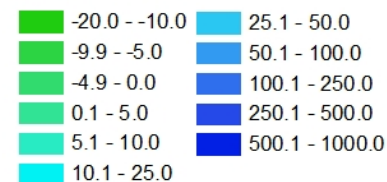
MCZ Regional Projects boundaries

--- England 6nM Limit

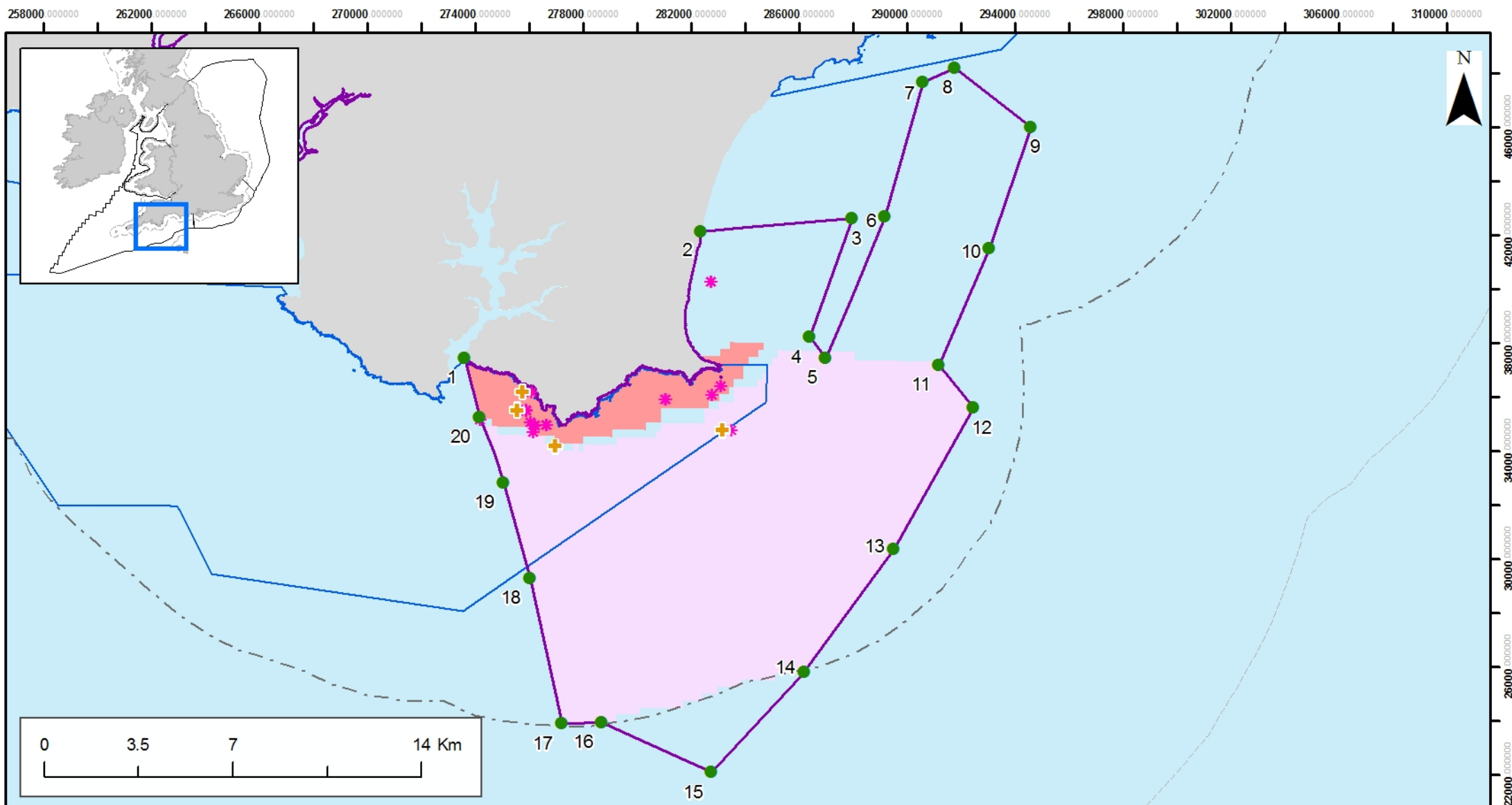
----- England 12nM Territorial Seas Limit

□ SAC with Marine Components

Depth Areas (m)



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Map Projection: British National Grid



Skerries Bank and Surrounds

Recommended MCZ

- Recommended MCZ
- rMCZ boundary co-ordinates
- MCZ Regional Projects boundaries
- England 6nm Limit
- England 12nm Territorial Seas Limit
- Land
- SAC with Marine Components

Features proposed for 2013 designation

- + Spiny lobster (*Palinurus elephas*)
- ✱ Pink sea-fan (*Eunicella verrucosa*)
- High energy infralittoral rock (A3.1)
- Moderate energy circalittoral rock (A4.2)

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Consultation Site Summary: Torbay

Additional information for this site can be found in the SNCB Advice (page 834), Impact Assessment (Annex I2 Option 2, Page 189) and Regional Project recommendations (FS – 4, page 494).

Table 1. General Information on site and all features recommended by Regional Projects

Regional Project: Finding Sanctuary		Site surface area: 20 km ²	Biogeographic Region: JNCC: Western Channel and Celtic Sea OPSAR Region: Region II: Greater North Sea
Site Location: Decimal Degrees – Lat: 50.4335 Long: -3.5117 Degrees Minutes Seconds – Lat: 50°26'0"N Long: 3°30'41"W			
Inshore/Offshore: Inshore			
Feature type	Feature name	Area/no. of records	Conservation Objective
Broad Scale Habitat	Subtidal mud	9 km ²	Recover
Broad Scale Habitat	Intertidal coarse sediment	0.1 km ²	Maintain
Broad Scale Habitat	Intertidal mixed sediment	0.1 km ²	Maintain
Broad Scale Habitat	Intertidal mud	1 km ²	Maintain
Broad Scale Habitat	Intertidal sand and muddy sand	0.03 km ²	Maintain
Broad Scale Habitat	Low energy intertidal rock	0.1 km ²	Maintain

Broad Scale Habitat	Moderate energy intertidal rock	0.1 km ²	Maintain
Habitat FOCI	Intertidal under boulder communities	6 Points Recorded	Maintain
Habitat FOCI	Honeycomb worm (<i>Sabellaria alveolata</i>) reefs	1 Point Recorded	Maintain
Habitat FOCI	Seagrass beds	1 km ² 3 Points Recorded	Recover
Species FOCI	Long snouted seahorse (<i>Hippocampus guttulatus</i>)	1 Point Recorded	Recover ⁵
Species FOCI	Native oyster (<i>Ostrea edulis</i>)	4 Points Recorded	Maintain
Species FOCI	Peacock's tail seaweed (<i>Padina pavonica</i>)	4 Points Recorded	Maintain
Species FOCI	Sea snail ⁶ (<i>Paludinella littorina</i>)	1 Point Recorded	Maintain
Mobile Species not listed in ENG	Black throated diver (<i>Gavia arctica</i>)	N/A	Maintain

⁵ Following advice from SNCBs, the Conservation Objective for this feature has changed from the original Regional Project recommendation.

⁶ The sea snail (*Paludinella littorina*) has been removed from Schedule 5 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act. This means that it is no longer a Feature of Conservation Importance (FOCI) so has been removed as a feature for designation.

Mobile Species not listed in ENG	Great northern diver (<i>Gavia immer</i>)	N/A	Maintain
Mobile Species not listed in ENG	Great crested grebe (<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>)	N/A	Maintain
Mobile Species not listed in ENG	Black necked grebe (<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>)	N/A	Maintain
Mobile Species not listed in ENG	Red necked grebe (<i>Podiceps grisegena</i>)	N/A	Maintain
Mobile Species not listed in ENG	Slavonian grebe (<i>Podiceps auritus</i>)	N/A	Maintain
Mobile Species not listed in ENG	Guillemot (<i>Uria aalge</i>)	N/A	Maintain
Mobile Species not listed in ENG	Harbour porpoise (<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>)	N/A	Maintain

Table 2. Sector Impacts and Associated Best Estimate Costs

Sectors Impacted	Best Estimate Costs (£ per year)
Ports, Harbours and Commercial Shipping	1000
Commercial Fishing	2000
Archaeology	Unquantified
Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management	Unquantified
	Best Estimate Total Cost = £3000

Table 3. Designation Status of Site and Rationale

Decision	Designation in 2013 Tranche
<p>Rationale for Decision:</p> <p>Site Advantages</p> <p>The Torbay recommended MCZ is an inshore site measuring 20 km² in size with a wide range of features including seven Broad Scale Habitats, three Habitat FOCI, and three Species FOCI as well as eight Non-ENG features. Of particular interest within this site is the Low energy intertidal rock which contributes the joint second largest area of this feature. Intertidal rock provides a particularly rich source of secondary biomass in the UK. Intertidal boulder communities and Seagrass are BAP habitats. Both Intertidal seagrass and Subtidal seagrass beds are key habitats with high rates of primary production, and are a main source of food for overwintering wildfowl. They also act as nursery grounds for juvenile fish, and provide shelter for a wide range of species. There are currently a significant amount of scientific records for the Seagrass in this site which has very rich faunas associated with it. If this site was not designated there is an increased risk of damage to the seagrass, which plays an important role in stabilising sediment, thus protecting the shallow sublittoral from erosion. Due to the diversity of habitat Torbay has been identified as the second most important area in the South-West for wintering diver and grebe concentrations, an important breeding and nursery area for commercially important fish species, a hotspot for both species of seahorse and well known for visiting Megafauna. Within this site the Long snouted seahorse (<i>Hippocampus guttulatus</i>) is found, which is a WCA, OSPAR and BAP species, and there are too few sites to meet the replication targets for this feature. The Native oyster (<i>Ostrea edulis</i>) which is a BAP and OSPAR feature is located within this site. Peacock's tail seaweed (<i>Padina pavonica</i>) is also found within this site and this feature is currently only just reaching the minimum replication target. This site has also been identified as a site at high risk with the Seagrass beds and Long snouted seahorse (<i>Hippocampus guttulatus</i>) at particularly high risk.</p> <p>Socio-Economics</p>	

The Torbay recommended MCZ, has strong support from the conservation and recreation representatives and from Sea Torbay, however there have been concerns from the ports and harbour sector who would prefer an alternative to be found. The main sector impacted by this site is the commercial fishing sector, for which there is a best estimate cost of £2000, associated predominately with dredging and bottom trawl fisheries.

Data Certainty

The Torbay recommended MCZ has acceptable data certainty for four features, of these features Seagrass beds and Long snouted seahorse (*Hippocampus guttulatus*) have been identified as higher risk features within this site. Within this site nine features have unacceptable data certainty these include: Low energy intertidal rock, Intertidal coarse sediment, Intertidal sand and muddy sand, Intertidal mud, Intertidal mixed sediment, Honeycomb worm (*Sabellaria alveolata*) reefs, Native oyster (*Ostrea edulis*) and Peacock's tail seaweed (*Padina pavonica*)

Conclusion

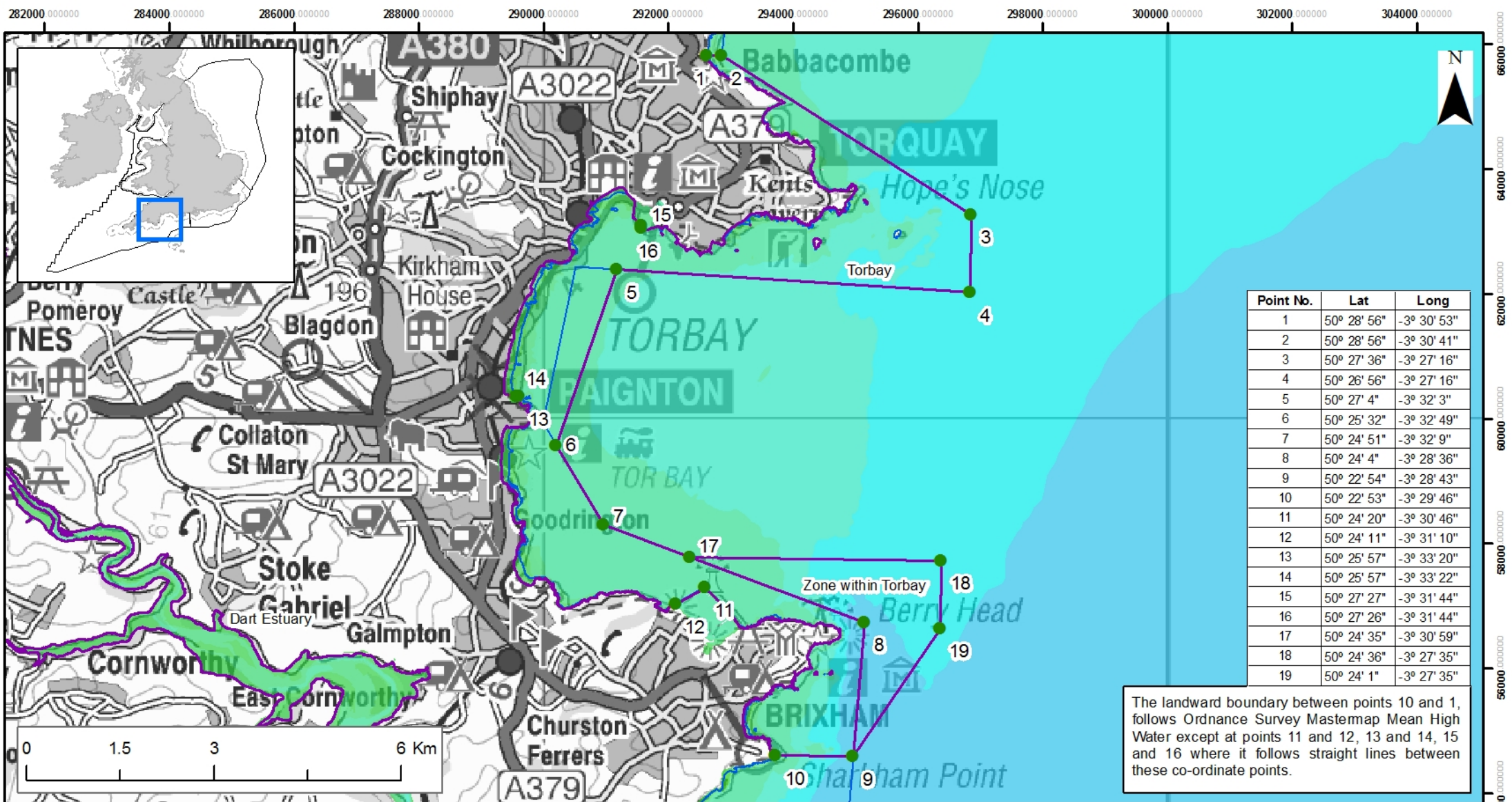
Therefore, as the advantages for this site justify the socio-economic costs, and the SNCBs have highlighted this site as at higher risk, this site has been proposed for designation in 2013 for the features as demonstrated in the table below. Further work will be required to improve the data certainty for features not proposed for designation in 2013 prior to inclusion in future designations.

For this site the regional project also proposed eight Non-ENG features and these will also require further consideration

Table 4. Features Proposed for Designation in 2013

Features for designation in 2013	Features requiring improvement in data certainty prior to designation
Subtidal mud	Moderate energy intertidal rock

Intertidal underboulder communities	Low energy intertidal rock
Seagrass beds	Intertidal coarse sediment
Long snouted seahorse (<i>Hippocampus guttulatus</i>)	Intertidal sand and muddy sand
	Intertidal mud
	Intertidal mixed sediments
	Honeycomb worm (<i>Sabellaria alveolata</i>) reefs
	Native oyster (<i>Ostrea edulis</i>)
	Peacock's tail seaweed (<i>Padina pavonica</i>)



Torbay

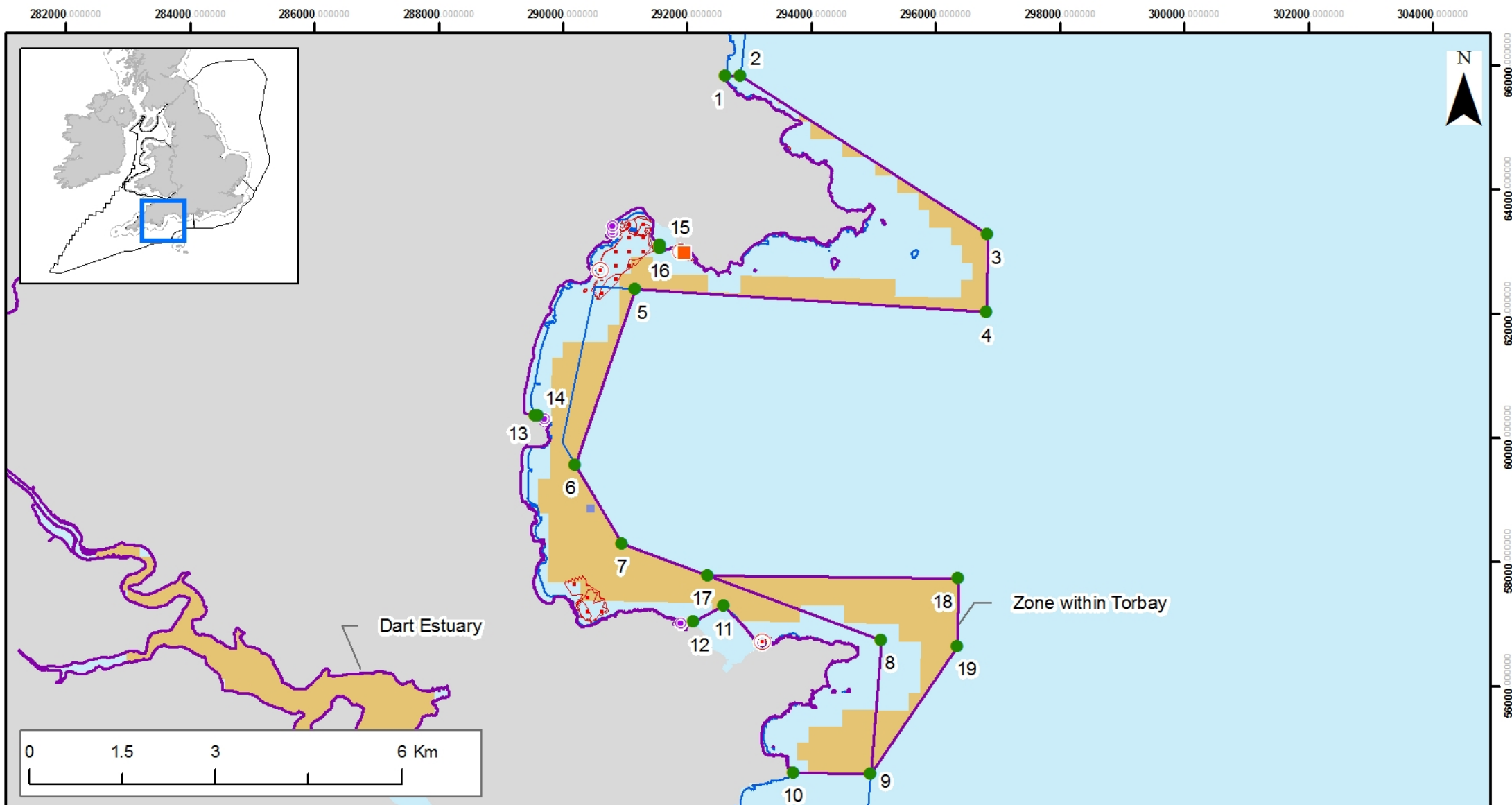
Recommended MCZ

- Recommended MCZ
- rMCZ boundary co-ordinates
- SAC with Marine Components
- England 12nM Territorial Seas Limit
- MCZ Regional Projects boundaries

Depth Areas (m)

- 20.0 - -10.0
- 9.9 - -5.0
- 4.9 - 0.0
- 0.1 - 5.0
- 5.1 - 10.0
- 10.1 - 25.0
- 25.1 - 50.0
- 50.1 - 100.0
- 100.1 - 250.0
- 250.1 - 500.0
- 500.1 - 1000.0

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Consultation Site Summary: Chesil Beach and Stennis Ledges

Additional information for this site can be found in the SNCB Advice (page 824), Impact Assessment (Annex I2 Option 2 Page 3) and Regional Project recommendations (FS – 4, page 444).

Table 1. General Information on site and all features recommended by Regional Projects

Regional Project: Finding Sanctuary		Site surface area: 38 km ²	Biogeographic Region: JNCC: Western Channel and Celtic Sea OPSAR Region: Region II: Greater North Sea
Site Location: Decimal Degrees Lat: 50.6345 Long: -3.3088 Degrees Minutes Seconds – Lat: 50°38'4"N Long: 3°18'31"W			
Inshore/Offshore: Inshore			
Feature type	Feature name	Area/no. of records	Conservation Objective
Broad Scale Habitat	Subtidal sand	4 km ²	Recover
Broad Scale Habitat	High energy infralittoral rock	0.1 km ²	Recover
Broad Scale Habitat	Intertidal coarse sediment	0.3 km ²	Maintain
Broad Scale Habitat	Subtidal coarse sediment	33 km ²	Recover
Broad Scale Habitat	High energy intertidal rock	0.04 km ²	Maintain
Species FOCI	Pink sea fan (<i>Eunicella verrucosa</i>)	2 Points	Recover

		Recorded	
Species FOCI	Native oyster (<i>Ostrea edulis</i>)	2 Points Recorded	Recover

Table 2. Sector Impacts and Associated Best Estimate Costs

Sectors Impacted	Best Estimate Costs (£ per year)
Commercial Fishing	5000
Ports, Harbours and Commercial Shipping	<1000
	Best Estimate Total Cost =£5000

Table 3. Designation Status of Site and Rationale

Decision	Designation in 2013 Tranche
<p>Rationale for Decision:</p> <p>Site Advantages</p> <p>The Chesil Beach and Stennis Ledges recommended Marine Conservation Zone site is an inshore site that measures 38 km² in size and hosts five Broad Scale Habitats and two Species FOCI. Of particular importance within this site is the Subtidal coarse sediment and Subtidal sand, which are both poorly protected in other marine protected areas within the Finding Sanctuary area. Subtidal coarse sediment in particular provides an important nursery ground for many ecologically and commercially important fish and supports seabirds. If this site was not taken forward the adequacy target for Subtidal coarse sediment would be hard to meet. Other important habitats within this site include: Infralittoral rock which is extremely rich in faunal and floral species and is a suitable habitat for inshore commercial fisheries; Intertidal rock which provides a particularly rich source of secondary biomass; and Intertidal coarse sediment which plays an important role in beach protection and feeding sites for wading birds. This site is particularly noted for the range of biotopes and associated species that are found within its boundaries which provide unique added</p>	

benefits to the network. At the west end of Chesil Beach there is an inshore narrow zone of sand and mud, and large boulders at Chesil Cove supporting a rich hydrozoa-ascidiacea-porifera community. This site is also home to two Species FOCI including the Pink sea-fan (*Eunicella verrucosa*) and the Native oyster (*Ostrea edulis*), both of which have been highlighted by the SNCBs as being at high risk within this site, with a particular vulnerability to scallop dredging activity. Moving the linear boundary seaward would incorporate further areas of subtidal coarse sediment and subtidal sand, and achieve minimum viability for all Broad Scale Habitats and Species FOCI.

Socio-Economics

The Chesil Beach and Stennis Ledges recommended Marine Conservation Zone has a broad acceptance from stakeholders as an area of rugose seabed and is therefore of conservation interest, and that because of the relatively soft rock it is at risk of damage from scalloping and dredging. The main sector impacted by this site is the Commercial Fishing sector, for which there is a best estimate cost of £5,000 predominately associated with dredging and potting.

Data Certainty

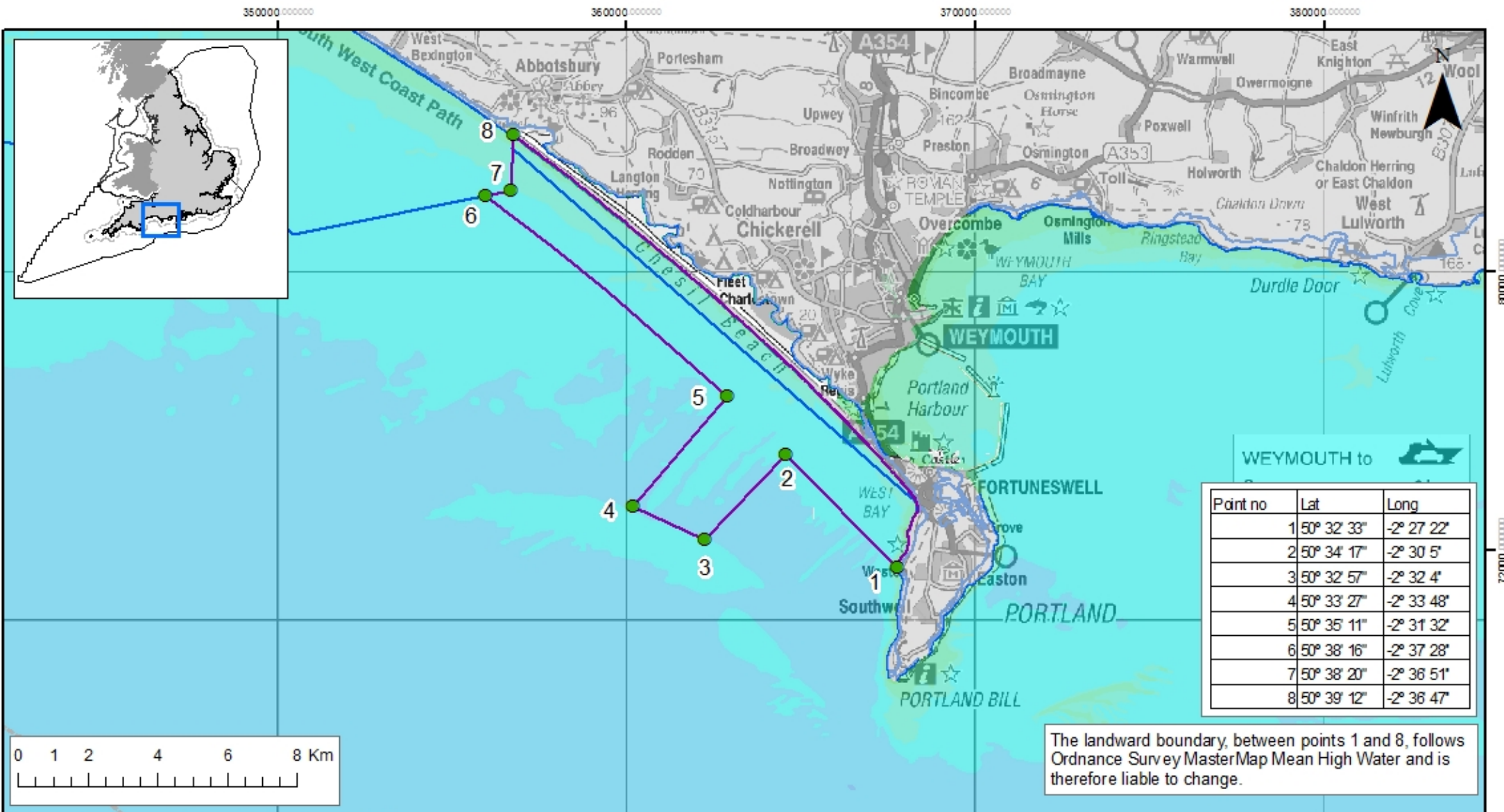
The Chesil Beach and Stennis Ledges recommended Marine Conservation Zone has acceptable data certainty for three features, of these features the Pink sea-fan (*Eunicella verrucosa*) and the Native oyster (*Ostrea edulis*) have been identified as higher risk features within this site. Four features have unacceptable data certainty within this site; these include Subtidal sand, High energy infralittoral rock, Intertidal coarse sediment and Subtidal coarse sediment and will require further work prior to their designation.

Conclusion

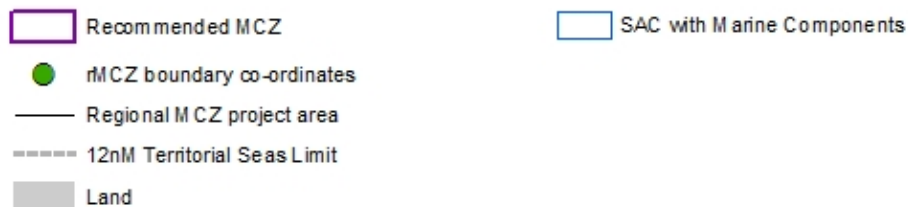
Therefore, as the advantages for this site justify the socio-economic costs, and the SNCBs have highlighted this site as at higher risk, this site has been proposed for designation in 2013 for the features as demonstrated in the table below. Further work will be required to improve data certainty for features not proposed for designation in 2013 prior to inclusion in future designations.

Table 4. Features Proposed for Designation in 2013

Features for designation in 2013	Features requiring improvement in data certainty prior to designation
High energy intertidal rock	Subtidal sand
Pink sea fan (<i>Eunicella verrucosa</i>)	High energy infralittoral rock
Native oyster (<i>Ostrea edulis</i>)	Intertidal coarse sediment
	Subtidal coarse sediment



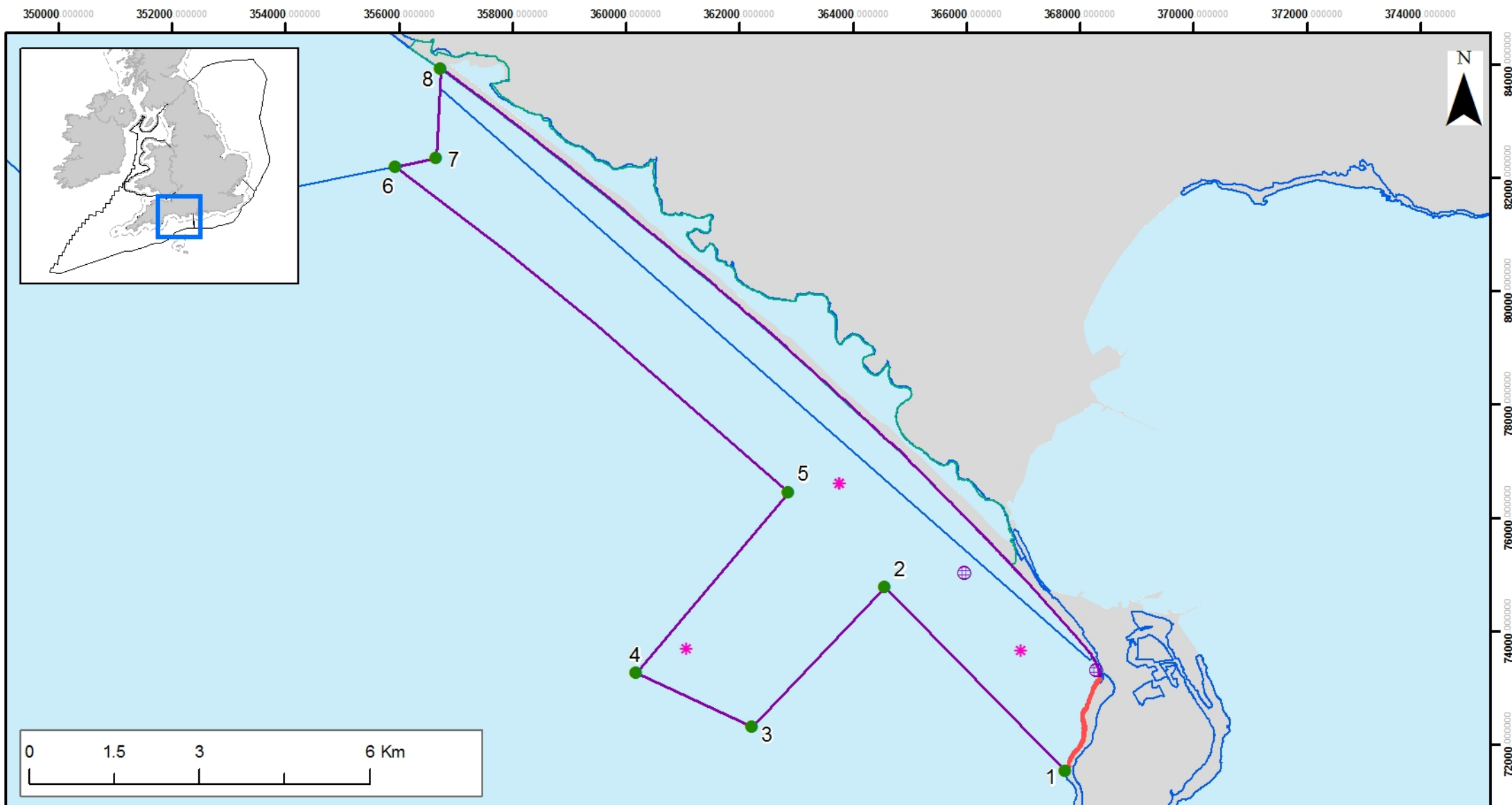
Chesil Beach and Stennis Ledges rMCZ



Depth Areas (metres)



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Chesil Beach and Stennis Ledges

Recommended MCZ

- Recommended MCZ
- rMCZ boundary co-ordinates
- MCZ Regional Projects boundaries
- England 12nM Territorial Seas Limit
- Land
- SAC with Marine Components
- SPA with Marine Components

Features proposed for 2013 designation

- * Pink sea-fan (*Eunicella verrucosa*)
- ⊕ Native oyster (*Ostrea edulis*)
- High energy intertidal rock (A1.1)

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Consultation Site Summary: South Dorset

Additional information for this site can be found in the SNCB Advice (page 814), Impact Assessment (Annex I2 Option 2, Page 113) and Regional Project recommendations (FS – 4, page 400).

Table 1. General Information on site and all features recommended by Regional Projects

Regional Project: Finding Sanctuary		Site surface area: 193 km ²	Biogeographic Region: JNCC: On the boundary between Eastern Channel and Western Channel and Celtic Sea OPSAR Region: Region II: Greater North Sea
Site Location: Decimal Degrees Lat: 50.3863 Long: -2.2138 Degrees Minutes Seconds – Lat: 50°23'10"N Long: 2°12'49"W			
Inshore/Offshore: Inshore and Offshore Site			
Feature type	Feature name	Area/no. of records	Conservation Objective
Broad Scale Habitat	High energy circalittoral rock	31 km ²	Recover
Broad Scale Habitat	Moderate energy circalittoral rock	7 km ²	Recover
Broad Scale Habitat	Subtidal coarse sediment	28 km ²	Maintain
Broad Scale Habitat	Subtidal mixed sediment	127 km ²	Maintain
Habitat FOCI	Subtidal chalk	4 Points	Recover

		Recorded	
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Table 2. Sector Impacts and Associated Best Estimate Costs

Sectors Impacted	Best Estimate Costs (£ per year)
Archaeology	Unquantified
Commercial Fishing	1000
Non-UK Commercial Fishing	Unquantified
National Defence	Non-Site Specific Costs
Renewable Energy	1000
	Best Estimate Total Cost = £2000

Table 3. Designation Status of Site and Rationale

Decision	Designation in 2013 tranche
<p>Rationale for Decision:</p> <p>Site Advantages</p> <p>The South Dorset recommended MCZ sits across the 12 nautical mile boundary and measures 193 km² in size. Within the site there are a variety of features including four Broad Scale Habitats and one Habitat FOCI. Of particular interest within this site is the Subtidal coarse sediment which is currently only just meeting the adequacy targets, with only a small proportion (<1%) of this Broad Scale Habitat currently being protected within existing marine protected areas in the Finding Sanctuary Area. This site is also important for Subtidal mixed sediment, and is needed to meet the minimum adequacy within Finding Sanctuary. Subtidal sediment provides important nursery grounds for many ecologically and commercially important fish such as flatfish, seabass, and sand eel. Within this site Subtidal chalk is also found of which this is the only example within Finding Sanctuary and it is on the UK list of priority Species and Habitats. Subtidal chalk is often bored by bivalve molluscs and empty bore holes provide habitat for a range of crevice dwelling animals. This site has been identified as an important area for crab and echinoderms (e.g. starfish and</p>	

brittlestars), and provides connectivity with the Balanced Seas Regional Project. Furthermore this site has been highlighted as being at risk as Subtidal chalk has been identified as being highly sensitive to abrasion by benthic trawling, and there is an incompatibility between this type of feature and fishing activity.

Socio-Economics

Within the South Dorset MCZ the main sector impacted by this site is the commercial fishing sector, for this sector there is a best estimate cost of £1,000 predominately associated with potting activity. The South Dorset recommended Marine Conservation Zone also overlaps with 6% of a core non-UK fishing ground, with costs currently unquantified

Data Certainty

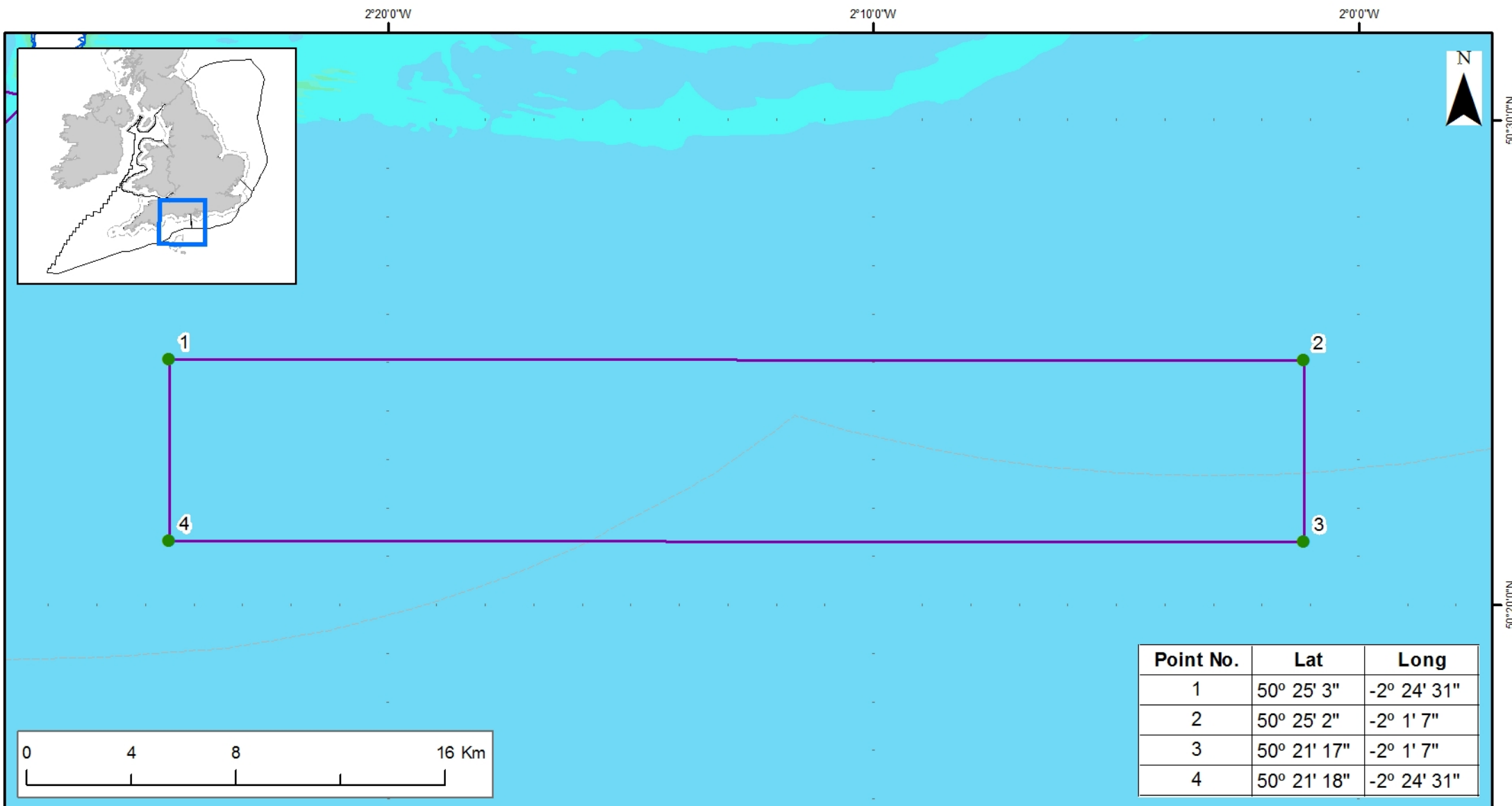
The South Dorset recommended Marine Conservation Zone has acceptable data certainty for one feature, Subtidal Chalk which has been identified as high risk within this site. Within this site four features have unacceptable data certainty; these include High energy circalittoral rock, moderate energy ciraclittoral rock, Subtidal coarse sediment and Subtidal mixed sediment, and will require further work prior to their designation.

Conclusion

Therefore, as the advantages for this site justify the socio-economic costs, and the SNCBs have highlighted this site as at high risk, this site has been proposed for designation in 2013 for the features as demonstrated in the table above. Further work will be required to improve data certainty for features not proposed for designation in 2013 prior to inclusion in future designations.

Table 4. Features Proposed for Designation in 2013

Features for designation in 2013	Features requiring improvement in data certainty prior to designation
Subtidal chalk	High energy circalittoral rock
	Moderate energy circalittoral rock
	Subtidal coarse sediment
	Subtidal mixed sediment



South Dorset

Recommended MCZ

 Recommended MCZ

● rMCZ boundary co-ordinates

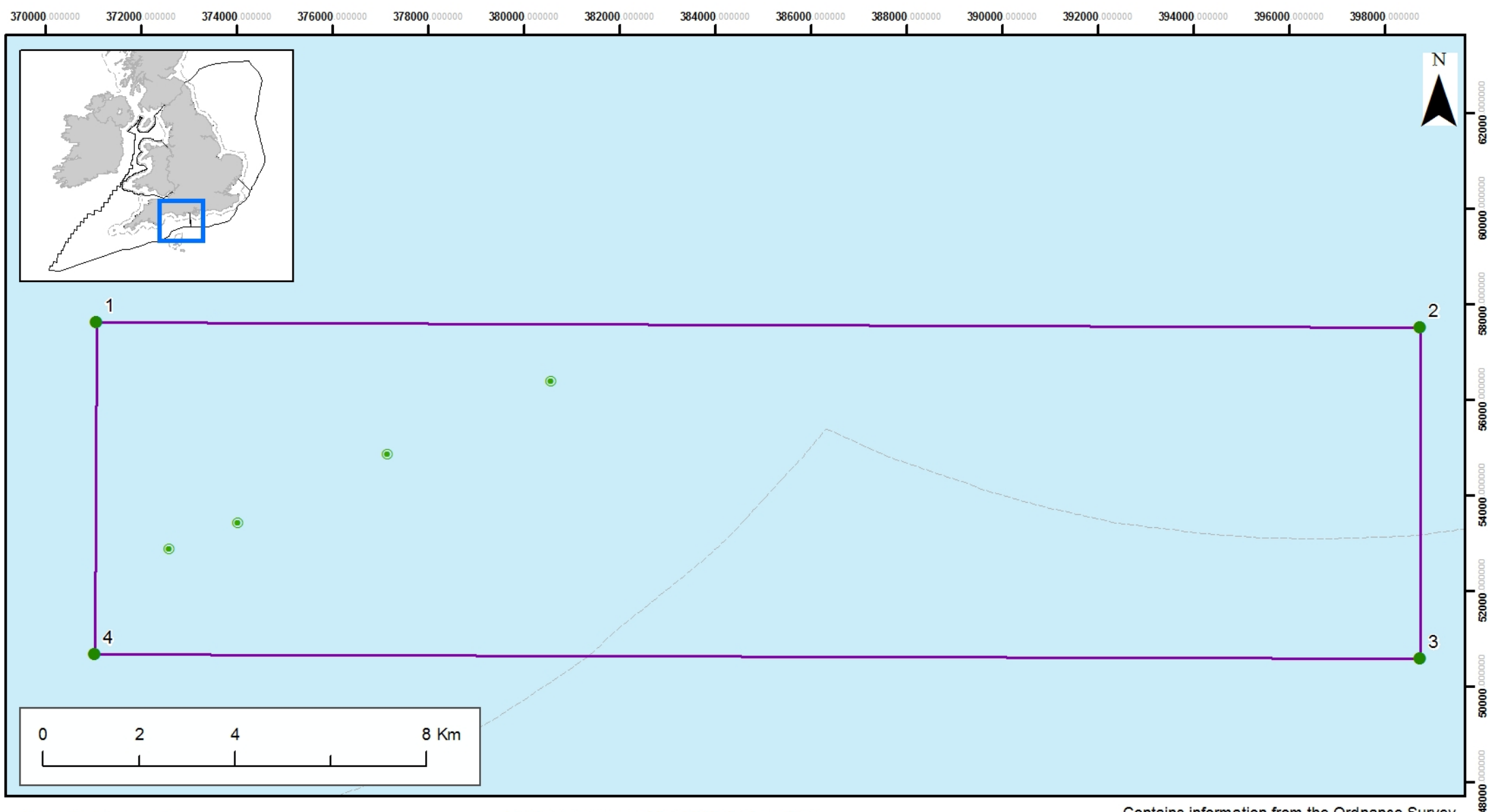
 MCZ Regional Projects boundaries

--- England 12nM Territorial Seas Limit

Depth Areas (m)

-20.0 - -10.0	25.1 - 50.0
-9.9 - -5.0	50.1 - 100.0
-4.9 - 0.0	100.1 - 250.0
0.1 - 5.0	250.1 - 500.0
5.1 - 10.0	500.1 - 1000.0
10.1 - 25.0	

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South Dorset

Recommended MCZ

Recommended MCZ

rMCZ boundary co-ordinates

MCZ Regional Projects boundaries

England 12nM Territorial Seas Limit

Land

Features proposed for 2013 designation

Subtidal chalk

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Consultation Site Summary: Poole Rocks

Additional information for this site can be found in the SNCB Advice (page 806), Impact Assessment (Annex I2 Option 2, Page 78) and Regional Project recommendations (FS – 4, page 363).

Table 1. General Information on site and all features recommended by Regional Projects

Regional Project: Finding Sanctuary		Site surface area: 4 km ²	Biogeographic Region: JNCC: Eastern Channel OPSAR Region: Region II: Greater North Sea
Site Location: Decimal Degrees Lat: 50.6865 Long: -1.8860 Degrees Minutes Seconds – Lat: 50°41'11"N Long: 1°53'9"W			
Inshore/Offshore: Inshore			
Feature type	Feature name	Area/no. of records	Conservation Objective
Broad Scale Habitat	Subtidal mixed sediments	1 km ²	Maintain
Broad Scale Habitat	Subtidal sand	3 km ²	Maintain
Broad Scale Habitat	Moderate energy circalittoral rock	N/A	Maintain
Species FOCI	Couch goby (<i>Gobius couchi</i>)	1 Point Recorded	Recover ⁷

⁷ Following advice from SNCBs, the Conservation Objective for this feature has changed from the original Regional Project recommendation.

Species FOCI	Native oyster (<i>Ostrea edulis</i>)	6 Points Recorded	Recover ⁸
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Table 2. Sector Impacts and Associated Best Estimate Costs

Sectors Impacted	Best Estimate Costs (£ per year)
Ports, Harbours and Commercial Shipping	19,000
National Defence	Non-Site Specific
Commercial Fishing	2,000
	Best Estimate Total Cost = £21,000

Table 3. Designation Status of Site and Rationale

Decision	Designation in 2013 tranche
Rationale for Decision: Site Advantages <p>The Poole Rocks recommended MCZ is an inshore site measuring 4 km², and is therefore smaller than the ENG guideline for viability; however the boundary has been deemed appropriate for the protection of the Poole Rocks feature and the protection of Couch's goby (<i>Gobius couchi</i>). Within this rMCZ there are a variety of features including three Broad Scale Habitats and two Species FOCI. Of particular importance within this site is the Couch goby (<i>Gobius couchi</i>) which is a nationally rare species occurring in only two sites within the network, both within Finding Sanctuary. Also the Circalittoral rock habitat within this site is an</p>	

⁸ Following advice from SNCBs, the Conservation Objective for this feature has changed from the original Regional Project recommendation.

important secondary producer and is characterised by high species diversity. Subtidal sediments also provide an important nursery ground. This site which is important for connectivity with the Balanced Seas area has also been highlighted by the SNCBs as a highly vulnerable site, with the Native oyster (*Ostrea edulis*) particularly threatened.

Socio-Economics

The Poole Rocks recommended MCZ has evolved from the original site that joined up with Studland Bay, and has been significantly reduced in order to lower the impact on conflicting fishing sectors; therefore there are currently no quantified costs to the fishing sector. The main sector impacted by this site is the Ports and Harbour Sector, for which there is a best estimate cost of £19,000 associated with the increased cost of assessing environmental impacts for future license applications.

Data Certainty

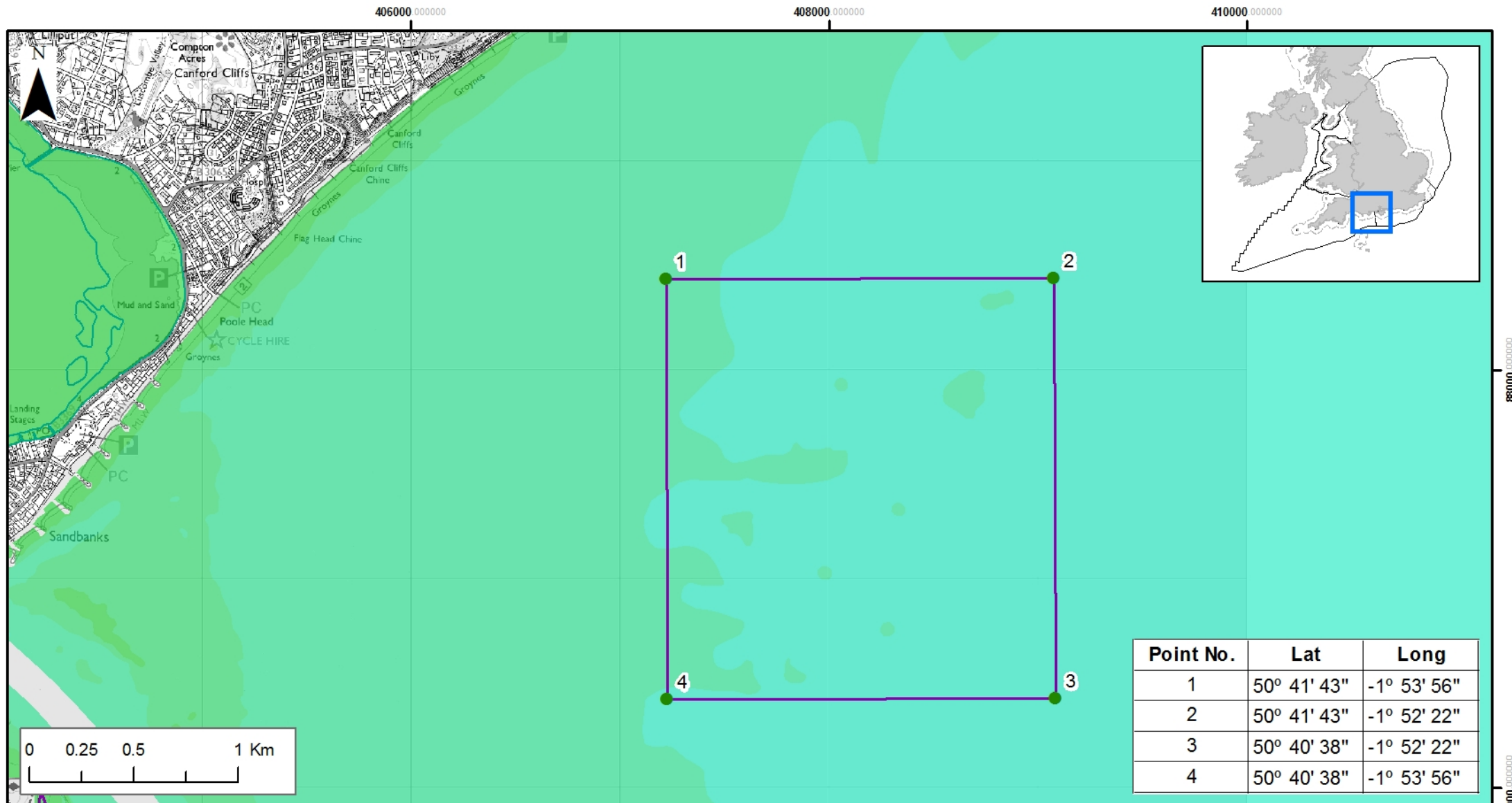
The Poole Rocks recommended MCZ has acceptable data certainty for three features, of these the Native Oyster (*Ostrea edulis*) has been identified as at higher risk. Within this site two features have unacceptable data certainty, these are Subtidal sand and Subtidal mixed sediment and will require further work prior to their designation.

Conclusion

Therefore, as the advantages for this site justify the socio-economic costs, and the SNCBs have highlighted this site as at higher risk, this site has been proposed for designation in 2013 for the features as demonstrated in the table below. Further work will be required to improve data certainty for features not proposed for designation in 2013 prior to inclusion in future designations.

Table 4. Features Proposed for Designation in 2013

Features for designation in 2013	Features requiring improvement in data certainty prior to designation
Couch goby (<i>Gobius couchi</i>)	Subtidal sand
Native oyster (<i>Ostrea edulis</i>)	Subtidal mixed sediments
Moderate energy circalittoral rock	



Poole Rocks

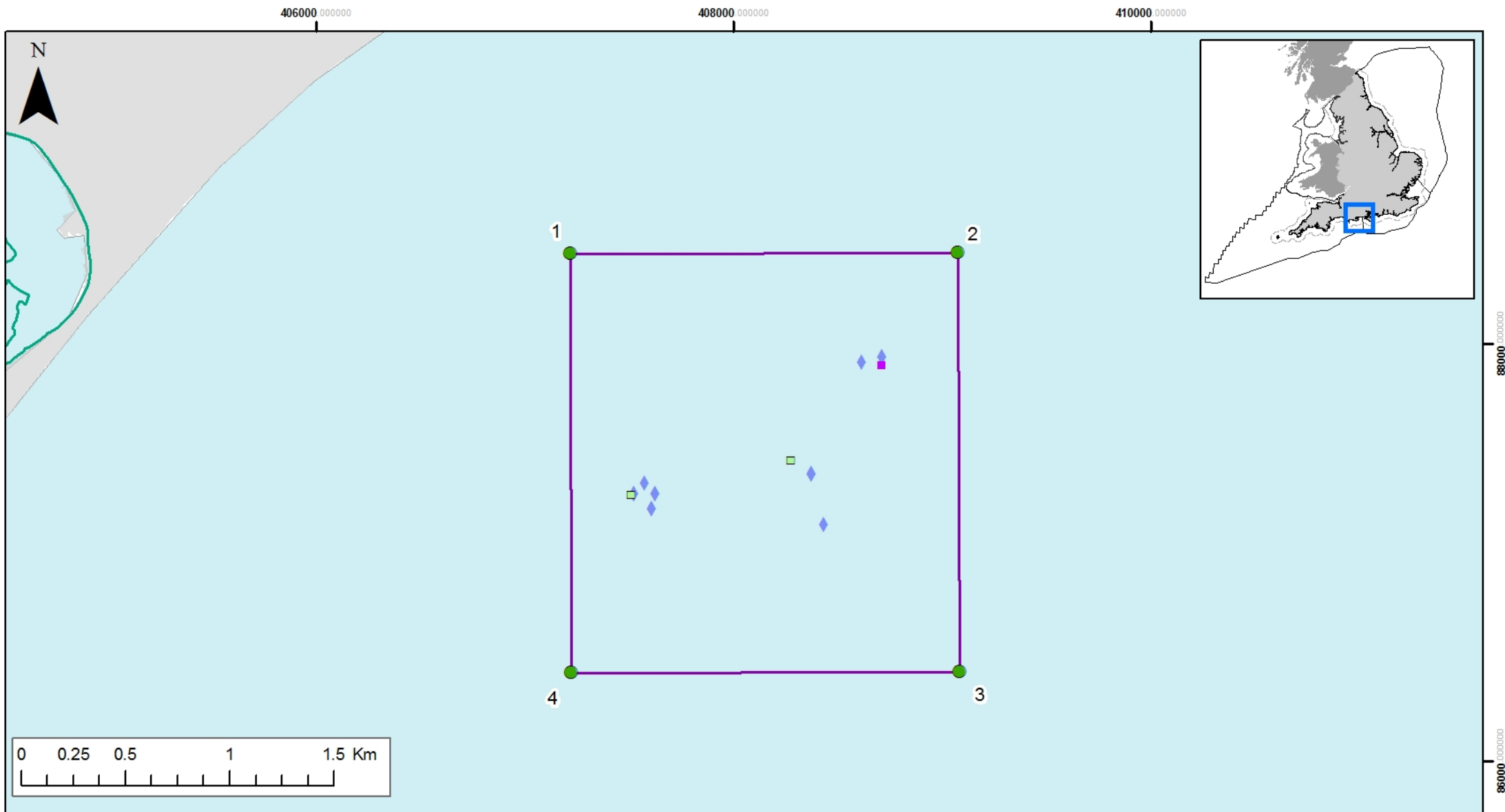
Recommended MCZ

- Recommended MCZ
- rMCZ boundary co-ordinates
- MCZ Regional Projects boundaries
- England 12nM Territorial Seas Limit
- SPA with Marine Components

Depth Areas (m)

- 20.0 - -10.0
- 9.9 - -5.0
- 4.9 - 0.0
- 0.1 - 5.0
- 5.1 - 10.0
- 10.1 - 25.0
- 25.1 - 50.0
- 50.1 - 100.0
- 100.1 - 250.0
- 250.1 - 500.0
- 500.1 - 1000.0

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Poole Rocks rMCZ

- Recommended MCZ
- rMCZ boundary co-ordinates
- Regional MCZ project area
- 12nM Territorial Seas Limit
- Land
- SPAs with Marine Components

Features proposed for 2013 designation

- Moderate energy circalittoral rock (A4.2)
- Couch's goby (*Gobius couchi*)
- ◆ Native oyster (*Ostrea edulis*)

Despite being shallow, the site is highly turbid with high siltation resulting in circalittoral biotopes. Underwater photographic evidence shows moderate energy circalittoral rock (A4.2) across multiple locations within the site

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