

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

The Needles MCZ

Feature Maps

17 January 2016

The following maps show where the features protected by this Marine Conservation Zone (MCZ) are located.

There are two separate maps, to make it easier to see the locations of features. One map shows the broad-scale habitats, and the second shows features of conservation importance. Broad scale habitats represents habitats, and associated species that live on and in the habitat. Features of conservation importance are specific habitats and species that are known to be rare, threatened or declining in our seas.

A range of different types of surveys have been used to create these maps. The symbols on the map show where a sample has been taken, or where a feature has been recorded in a specific location. For many features, there is also shading to show the extent of the area in which the feature is found. For the broad scale habitat maps, this is created from survey data and using mathematical models. On the FOCI maps, the extent is only shown where a survey has confirmed that the feature exists in this whole area. More detailed information on the techniques used and the features themselves can be found here:

<http://nepubprod.appspot.com/publication/4594304593952768>

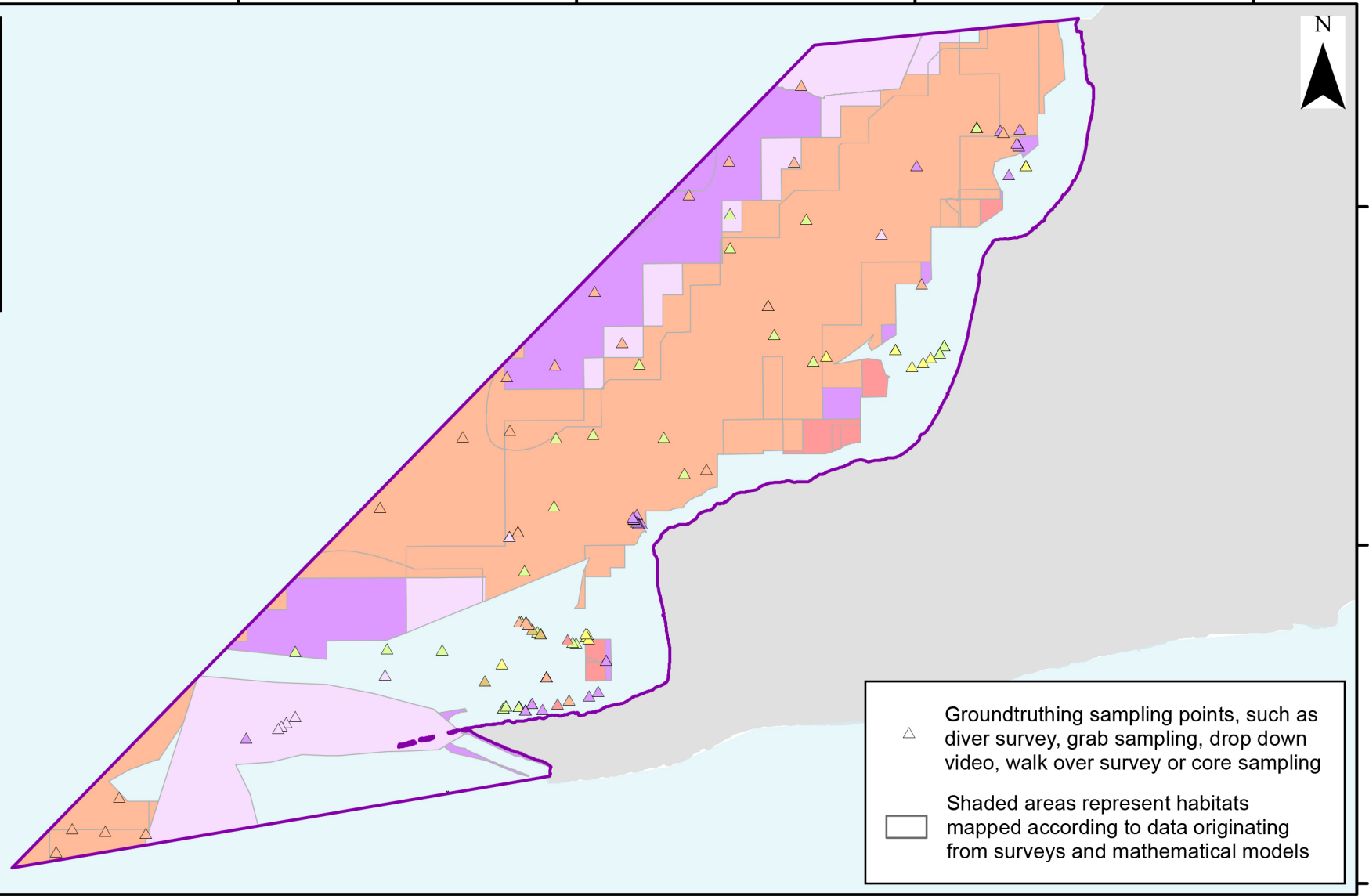
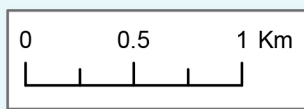
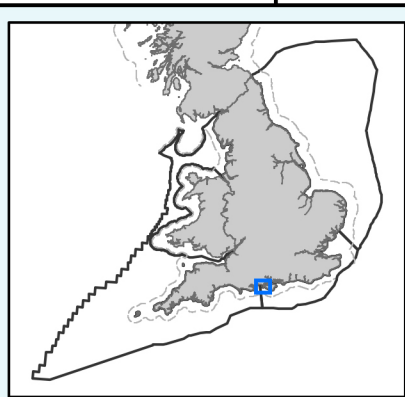
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△ Groundtruthing sampling points, such as diver survey, grab sampling, drop down video, walk over survey or core sampling

▭ Shaded areas represent habitats mapped according to data originating from surveys and mathematical models

**The Needles MCZ
Broad Scale Habitats**

- Marine Conservation Zone
- Regional MCZ Project Area
- 12nM Territorial Seas Limit
- Sea
- Land

Features designated in 2016

- High energy infralittoral rock (A3.1)
- Moderate energy infralittoral rock (A3.2)
- Moderate energy circalittoral rock (A4.2)
- Subtidal coarse sediment (A5.1)
- Subtidal sand (A5.2)
- Subtidal mud (A5.3)
- Subtidal mixed sediments (A5.4)

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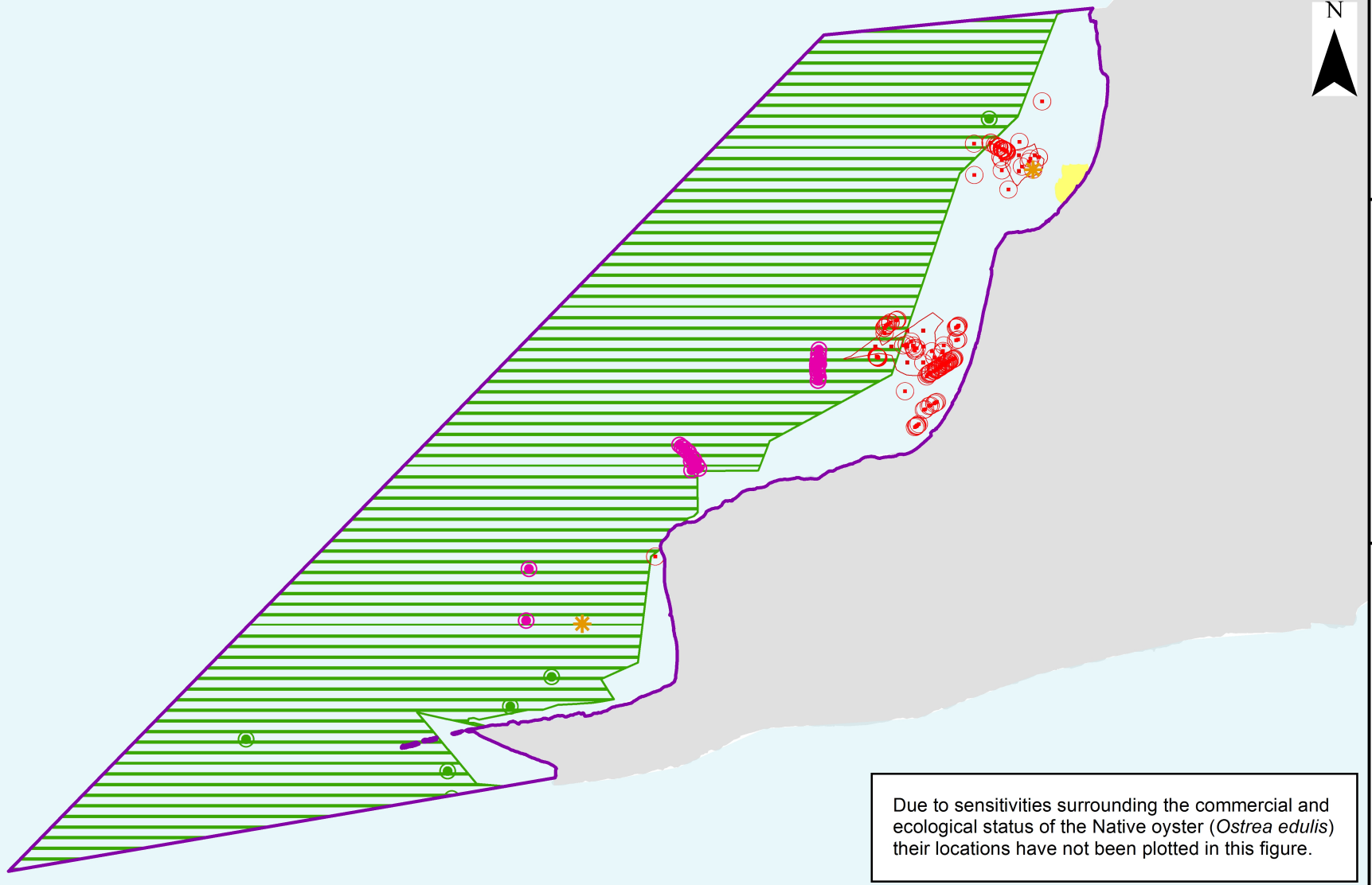
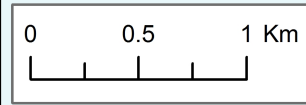
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Due to sensitivities surrounding the commercial and ecological status of the Native oyster (*Ostrea edulis*) their locations have not been plotted in this figure.

The Needles MCZ
Features of Conservation Importance

- Marine Conservation Zone
- Regional MCZ Project Area
- 12nM Territorial Seas Limit
- Sea
- Land

Features designated in 2016

- Seagrass beds
- Subtidal chalk
- Stalked jellyfish (*Lucernariopsis campanulata*)
- Peacock's tail (*Padina pavonica*)
- Seagrass beds
- Sheltered muddy gravels
- Subtidal chalk

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