Flamborough Head SAC and Flamborough Head and Bempton Cliffs SPA

Description:

Flamborough Head European Marine Site encompasses the Flamborough Head Special Area of Conservation (SAC), Flamborough Head and Bempton Cliffs Special Protection Area (SPA), and the Flamborough Head and Filey Coast SPA. This 63 km² site encompasses a large area of hard and soft chalk cliffs which extend seaward as bedrock, boulder and cobble reefs, further than any other site in the UK. The reefs at Flamborough are important due to



their substrate type, biogeographic position and the influences of hydrodynamic processes on reef topography and community structure. Hundreds of sea caves, stacks, arches, and ledges provide habitat for over quarter of a million breeding seabirds.

Qualifying Features:

Flamborough Head SAC hosts the following habitats listed in Annex I: reefs; submerged or partially submerged sea caves; and vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts.

The Flamborough Head and Bempton Cliffs SPA supports populations of migratory black-legged kittiwake (*Rissa tridactyla*), northern gannet (*Morus bassanus*), common guillemot (*Uria aalge*) the razorbill (*Alca torda*), and also a breeding seabird assemblage of European importance.

Management:

- Flamborough Head <u>Codes of Conduct</u> (2008) including codes for wildlife watching, diving, leisure craft, sea-shore walks, bait digging and collection.
- <u>Personal Watercraft Voluntary Code of Conduct</u> at launch sites (2-16) and registration fees
- Angling Best Practice guidance (2015)
- Designated launch sites. Byelaws to prevent launching at certain sites.
- Legislated No Take Zone
- Disturbance data collated by the Flamborough project officer

Stakeholder Concerns:

Motorboats and jetskis driven above the recommended speed of 5 knots can cause adult seabirds at the colony to fly from the nest, leaving eggs and chicks vulnerable or knocking them from the cliffs. Although jetski use occurs less frequently than motorised boats, there have been reports of significant incidents in the past.

Kayaking and other paddle sports in close proximity to the cliffs (or which go through archways and caves) can alarm the birds, leading to mass evacuation off the cliffs.

Low flying aeroplanes, helicopters and more increasingly drones are creating disturbance at the seabird colonies.

Beach users collecting chalk from the beaches is a rising occurrence and a cause for concern.

MPA: Flamborough He Bempton Cliffs SPA	No. Stakeholders: 4 online & 6 workshop						
Activity	Frequency	Duration	Participation	Intensity	Confidence	MPA Extent	Trend
Board sports	3	2	1	6	М	1	^
Geophysical surveys	1	3	1	3	?	2	→
Motor boating	4	3	2	24	М	2	→
Jetskis	3	2	2	12	М	2	→
Paddle sports	2	2	2	8	М	2	^
Parascending	0	0	0	0	L	0	→
Sailing (non- motorised)	3	3	2	18	М	2	→
SCUBA diving	2	2	2	8	M	1	→
Swimming / Snorkelling	2	1	4	8	М	1	^
Towed water sports	0	0	0	0	M	0	?
Wildlife watching from the sea	2	3	1	6	М	1	→
Bait collection	1	1	1	1	М	1	→
Beach recreation	3	3	6	54	М	1	^
Coasteering	2	2	3	12	М	1	^
Land boarding	0	0	0	0	М	0	→
Motorsports (quad bikes, motorbikes)	0	0	0	0	М	0	→
Vehicle access (cars on foreshore)	1	1	1	1	М	1	→
Wildlife watching from the land	4	3	6	72	Н	2	^
Drone use	1	1	1	1	М	1	^
Gliding (unpowered)	2	2	2	8	М	2	→
Aircraft (powered)	3	1	1	3	М	2	→

KEY

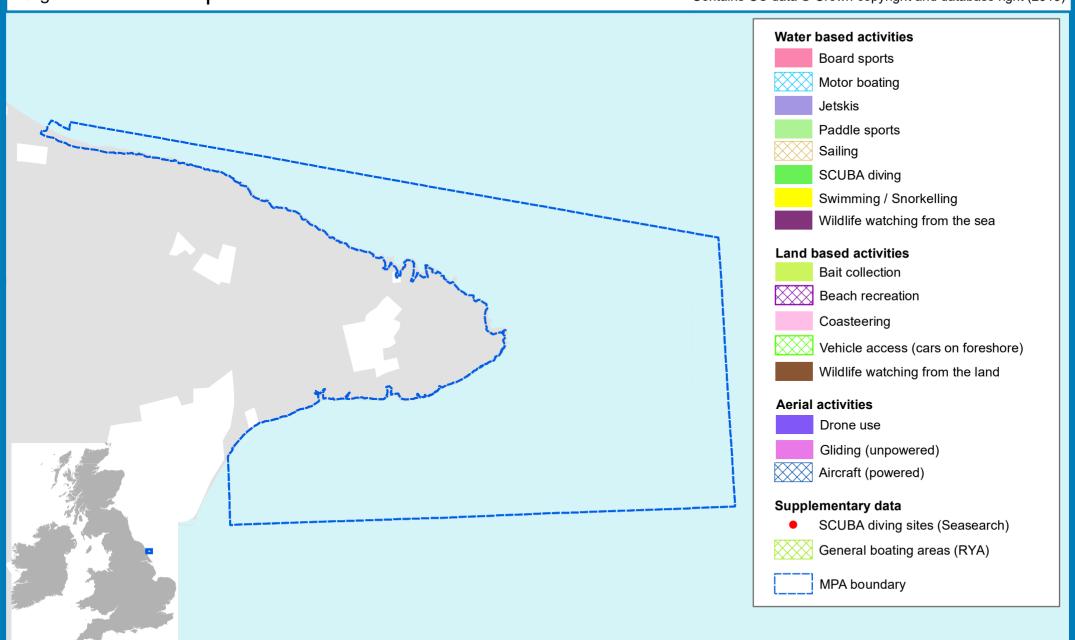
FREQUENCY	DURATION	PARTICIPATION	INTENSITY	CONFIDENCE	EXTENT	TREND
4 Regular/daily	4 >8 hours	6 >100	45-96 High	H High	2 Whole MPA (solid)	↑ Increase
3 Regular/weekends	3 4-8 hours	5 51-100	24-40 Med-high	M Medium	1 Part of MPA (shaded)	→ Stay the same
2 Seasonally	2 2-4 hours	4 21-50	9-20 Low-med	L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

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SAC Complex features (Polygons) SAC_SFCODE Estuaries (H1130) Large shallow inlets and bays (H1160) Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide (H1140) polygons SAC_SFCODE Intertidal coarse sediment (A2.1) Intertida 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 SAC_SFCODE Subtidal coarse sediment (A5.1) Subtidal sand (A5.2) Subtidal mud (A5.3) Subtidal mixed sediment (A5.4) Maerl beds (A5.51) Subtidal seagrass beds (A5.53) Reefs (H1170) points SAC_SFCODE 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 SAC_SFCODE 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) SAC_SFCODE Sea Caves (H8330) SAC_SFCODE

Marine Protected Area Designated Features - Marine SAC and Subfeatures and

SPA Supporting Habitats

Saltmarsh (A2.5)