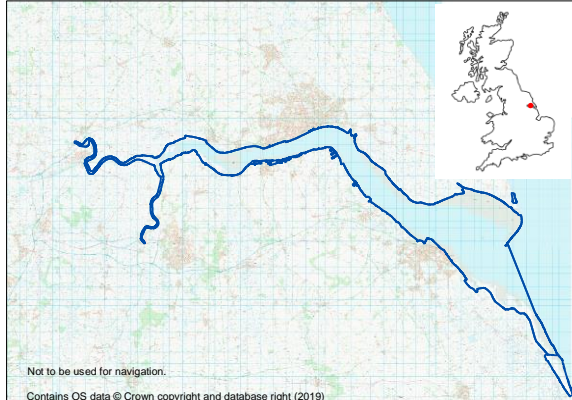


Humber Estuary SAC and SPA

Description:

The Humber is the second-largest coastal plain estuary in the UK, comprising of extensive wetland and coastal habitats and covers 370 km². The inner estuary supports extensive areas of reedbed, with areas of mature and developing saltmarsh backed by grazing marsh in the middle and outer estuary. It is designated as a Special Area of Conservation (SAC), Special Protection Area (SPA), Ramsar Site and has numerous Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). On the north Lincolnshire coast, the saltmarsh is backed by low sand dunes with marshy slacks and brackish pools.



Qualifying features:

The Humber Estuary SAC and SPA host the following habitats: Atlantic salt meadows (*Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae*); coastal lagoons; dunes with *Hippophae rhamnoides*; embryonic shifting dunes; estuaries; mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide; fixed dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes); *Salicornia* spp. and other annuals colonising mud and sand; sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time; shifting dunes along the shoreline with *Ammophila arenaria* (white dunes). The site also hosts the following species: grey seal (*Halichoerus grypus*); river lamprey (*Lampetra fluviatilis*) and sea lamprey (*Petromyzon marinus*).

The site supports the following species: avocet (*Recurvirostra avosetta*); bar-tailed godwit (*Limosa lapponica*); bittern (*Botaurus stellaris*); black-tailed godwit (*Limosa limosa*); dunlin (*Calidris alpina*); golden plover (*Pluvialis apricaria*); hen harrier (*Circus cyaneus*); knot (*Calidris canutus*); little tern (*Sternula albifrons*); marsh harrier (*Circus aeruginosus*); redshank (*Tringa totanus*); ruff (*Philomachus pugnax*); shelduck (*Tadorna tadorna*), as well as for its waterbird assemblage.

Management:

- The [Humber Estuary European Marine Site Codes of Conduct](#) is a form of voluntary management and is promoted through the Humber Nature Partnership. Discussions are ongoing on the management of drone use around the Humber Estuary. The Humber Nature Partnership have proposed to develop a Code of Practice for drones based on best available information.
- [A Protected Areas Byelaw Regulatory Notice](#) is in effect to protect eelgrass beds by managing bait collection activities at Horseshoe Point by Eastern Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority.
- [Launching permits](#) are required for jetskis at Cleethorpes and Hessle foreshore

Stakeholder Concerns:

Bait collection is an activity of concern within the Humber European Marine Site (EMS). Bait collection involves digging and trenching, with trenching in particular being damaging to mudflats for up to 6 weeks and reduces wader feeding. Waders are also disturbed by people walking to access the bait collection areas.

Although the use of drones along the EMS is mapped as low intensity, their use is increasing and can be very disturbing to SPA species that previously may not have been disturbed.

Wildlife watching from the shore causes disturbance to feeding, roosting and breeding birds.

MPA: Humber Estuary SAC and SPA				No. Stakeholders: 2 online & 8 workshop			
Activity	Frequency	Duration	Participation	Intensity	Confidence	MPA Extent	Trend
Board sports	3	2	3	18	H	1	↑
Geophysical surveys	4	4	1	16	M	2	→
Motor boating	4	3	4	48	M	2	→
Jetskis	4	2	3	24	M	1	↑
Paddle sports	4	2	3	24	H	1	↑
Parascending	3	2	1	6	M	1	→
Sailing (non-motorised)	4	3	4	48	M	2	→
SCUBA diving	0	0	0	0	H	0	→
Swimming / Snorkelling	2	1	6	12	H	1	→
Towed water sports	0	0	0	0	H	0	→
Wildlife watching from the sea	0	0	0	0	H	0	↑
Bait collection	4	3	4	48	H	1	→
Beach recreation	4	3	6	72	M	1	↑
Coasteering	0	0	0	0	H	0	→
Land boarding	1	2	1	2	M	1	↑
Motorsports (quad bikes, motorbikes)	4	2	4	32	M	1	→
Vehicle access (cars on foreshore)	4	1	1	4	M	1	→
Wildlife watching from the land	4	2	6	48	H	2	↑
Drone use	3	1	2	6	H	2	↑
Gliding (unpowered)	3	1	1	3	H	1	→
Aircraft (powered)	4	1	2	8	M	2	→

KEY

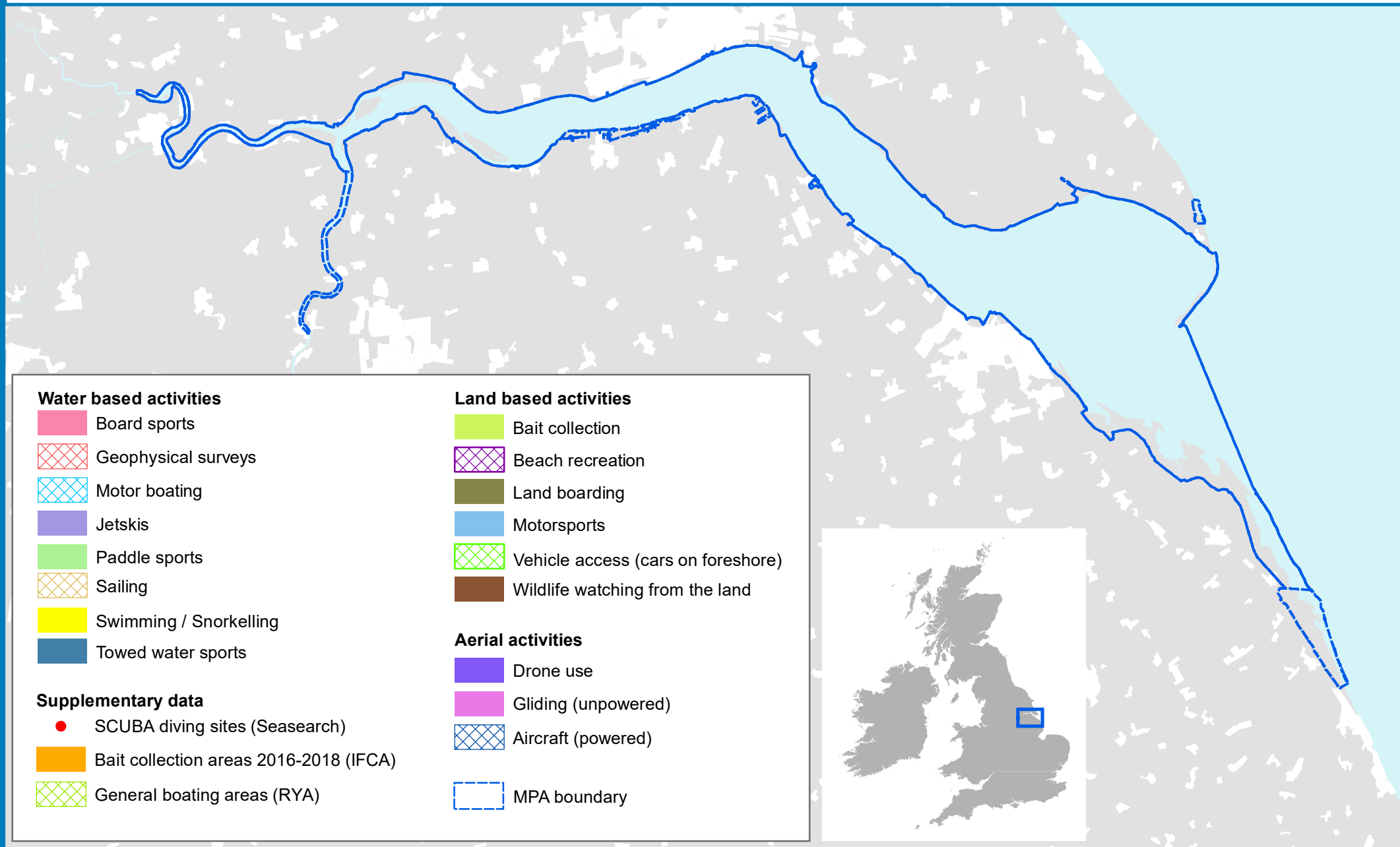
FREQUENCY	DURATION	PARTICIPATION	INTENSITY	CONFIDENCE	EXTENT	TREND
4 Regular/daily	4 >8 hours	6 >100	45-96 High	H High	2 Whole MPA (solid)	↑ Increase
3 Regular/weekends	3 4-8 hours	5 51-100	24-40 Med-high	M Medium	1 Part of MPA (shaded)	→ Stay the same
2 Seasonally	2 2-4 hours	4 21-50	9-20 Low-med	L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



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Marine Protected Area Designated Features - Marine SAC and Subfeatures and SPA Supporting Habitats






SAC Complex features (Polygons)

SAC_SFCD

-  Estuaries (H1130)
-  Large shallow inlets and bays (H1160)







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

SAC_SFCD

-  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

SAC_SFCD

-  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_SFCD

-  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_SFCD

-  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_SFCD

-  Sea Caves (H8330)

SAC_SFCD

-  Saltmarsh (A2.5)