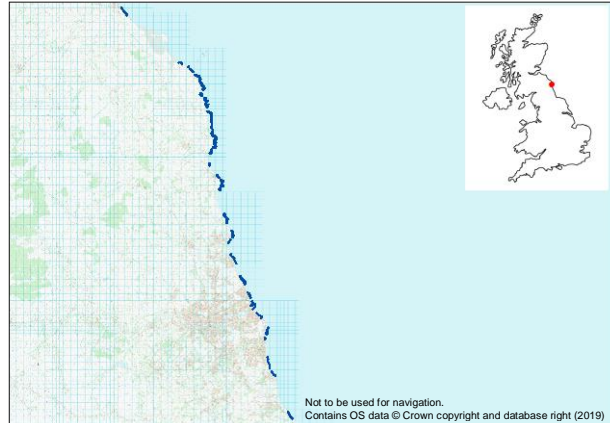


# Northumbria Coast SPA

## Description:

The Northumbria Coast Special Protection Area (SPA) includes much of the coastline between the Tweed and Tees Estuaries in north-east England. The site consists of mainly discrete sections of rocky shore with associated boulder and cobble beaches. The SPA also includes parts of three artificial pier structures and a small section of sandy beach.



## Qualifying features:

This site supports important numbers of breeding little tern (*Sterna albifrons*), as well as populations of overwintering migratory purple sandpiper (*Calidris maritima*) and turnstone (*Arenaria interpres*).

## Management:

- [Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty codes of conduct](#) for various activities including coasteering, diving and powered craft.
- The Berwickshire and Northumberland Marine Nature Partnership have a [Wildlife Watching Boating Code of Conduct](#).
- Northumberland Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority [byelaw](#) control.

## Stakeholder Concerns:

There is an ongoing issue with illegal motorcycle access across the SPA. Beach recreation activities can impact and cause continuous disturbance to sensitive breeding areas.

In the summer months, low flying powered microlights over St Mary's island cause the flushing of wildlife, particularly when they sweep low or pass in groups.

The increase in drone use across the SPA is causing concern with their presence disturbing designated species.

MPA: Northumbria Coast SPA				No. Stakeholders: 2 online & 10 workshop			
Activity	Frequency	Duration	Participation	Intensity	Confidence	MPA Extent	Trend
Board sports	1	1	3	3	H	1	↑
Geophysical surveys	1	4	1	4	H	1	→
Motor boating	2	1	1	2	H	1	→
Jetskis	3	2	2	12	H	1	→
Paddle sports	4	2	2	16	H	1	↑
Parascending	1	1	1	1	M	1	→
Sailing (non-motorised)	3	1	2	6	H	1	→
SCUBA diving	3	3	4	36	H	1	↑
Swimming / Snorkelling	4	1	4	16	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	1	3	12	H	1	↑
Beach recreation	4	2	6	48	H	1	↑
Coasteering	2	1	2	4	H	1	↑
Land boarding	0	0	0	0	H	0	→
Motorsports (quad bikes, motorbikes)	1	1	1	1	H	0	→
Vehicle access (cars on foreshore)	1	1	1	1	H	0	→
Wildlife watching from the land	4	4	5	80	H	2	↑
Drone use	3	1	1	3	M	1	↑
Gliding (unpowered)	0	0	0	0	M	0	→
Aircraft (powered)	2	1	1	2	M	1	→

#### KEY

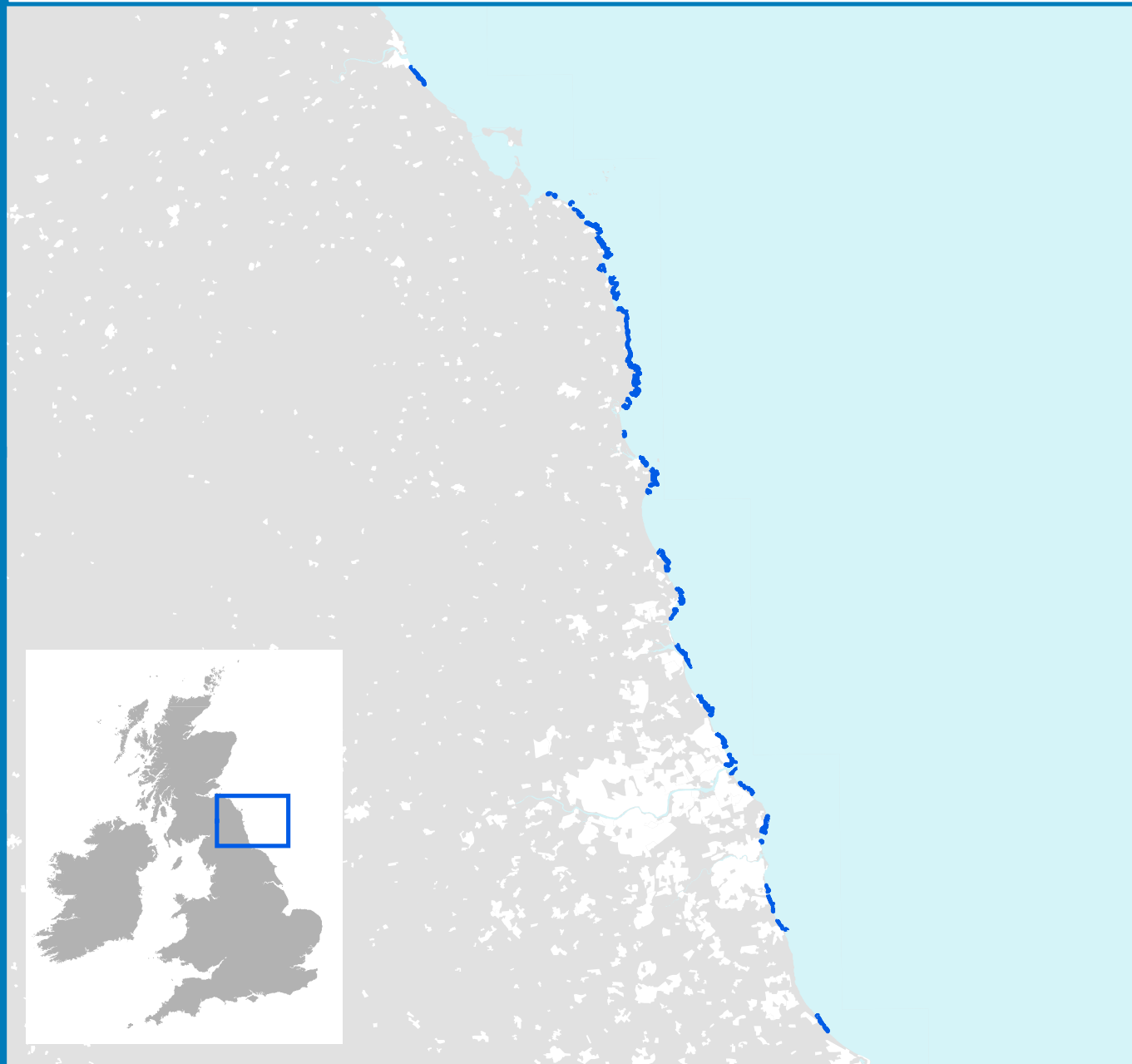
FREQUENCY	DURATION	PARTICIPATION	INTENSITY	CONFIDENCE	EXTENT	TREND
4 Regular/daily	4 >8 hours	6 >100	45-96 High	H High	2 Whole MPA (solid)	↑ Increase
3 Regular/weekends	3 4-8 hours	5 51-100	24-40 Med-high	M Medium	1 Part of MPA (shaded)	→ Stay the same
2 Seasonally	2 2-4 hours	4 21-50	9-20 Low-med	L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



# Non-licensable activities which occur within the Northumbria Coast SPA

Not to be used for navigation.

Contains OS data © Crown copyright and database right (2019)



## Water based activities

- Board sports
- Motor boating
- Jetskis
- Paddle sports
- Parascending
- Sailing
- SCUBA diving
- Swimming / Snorkelling
- Towed water sports
- Wildlife watching from the sea

## Aerial activities

- Drone use
- Gliding (unpowered)
- Aircraft (powered)

## Land based activities

- Bait collection
- Beach recreation
- Coasteering
- Land boarding
- Motorsports
- Vehicle access (cars on foreshore)
- Wildlife watching from the land






## Supplementary data

- SCUBA diving sites (Seasearch)
- Bait collection areas 2016-2018 (IFCA)
- General boating areas (RYA)
- MPA boundary

## Marine Protected Area Designated Features - SPA Supporting Habitats






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

#### SPA\_SF CODE

-  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

#### SPA\_SF CODE

-  Subtidal coarse sediment (A5.1)
-  Subtidal sand (A5.2)
-  Subtidal mud (A5.3)
-  Subtidal mixed sediment (A5.4)
-  Subtidal seagrass beds (A5.53)








### Reefs (H1170) points

#### SPA\_SF CODE

-  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

#### SPA\_SF CODE

-  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)

#### SPA\_SF CODE

-  Saltmarsh (A2.5)