

Mounts Bay MCZ

Description:

Mounts Bay Marine Conservation Zone (MCZ) is an inshore site located on the south-west Cornwall coast in the south-west of England. The site covers an area of almost 12 km² and includes the area surrounding the iconic tidal island of St. Michael's Mount.



Qualifying Features:

Mounts Bay MCZ hosts the following habitats: subtidal sand; seagrass beds, high energy intertidal rock, moderate energy intertidal rock, intertidal sand and muddy sand, intertidal coarse sediment, high energy infralittoral rock, and moderate energy infralittoral rock. The site also supports giant goby (*Gobius cobitis*), Stalked jellyfish (*Haliclystus* spp.), *Calvadosia campanulata*, and *Calvadosia cruxmelitensis*.

Management:

[Cornwall Marine and Coastal Code](#) (voluntary and unfunded).

Stakeholder Concerns:

None reported.

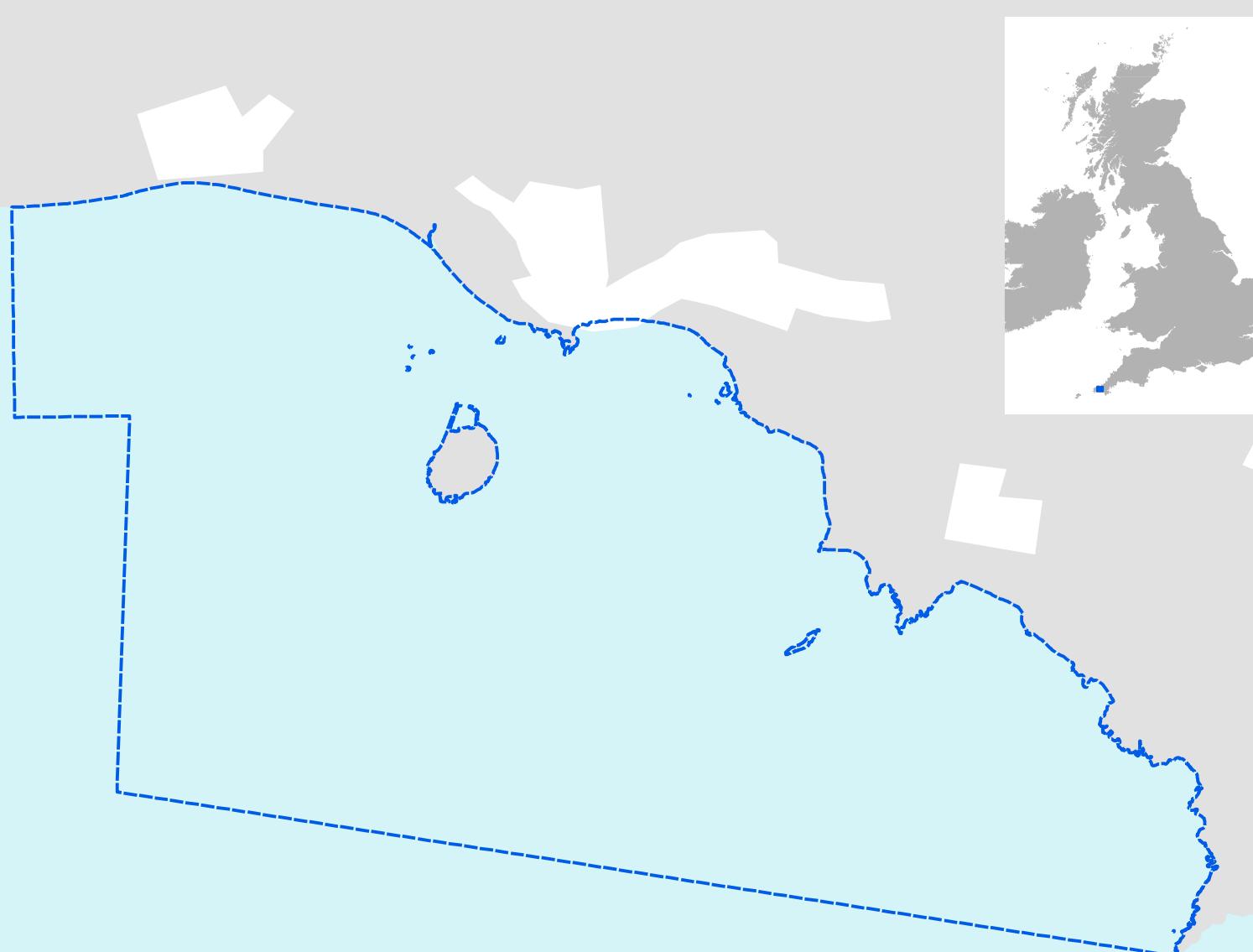


Marine
Management
Organisation

Non-licensable activities which occur in and around the Mounts Bay MCZ

Not to be used for navigation.

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Water based activities

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

Land based activities

- Bait collection
- Beach recreation
- Coasteering
- Land boarding
- Wildlife watching from the land

Aerial activities

- Drone use

Supplementary data

- SCUBA diving sites (Seasearch)
- General boating areas (RYA)
- MPA boundary

Marine Protected Area Designated Features - MCZs

MCZ Species Features of Conservation Importance (Points)

MCZ Feature code

- ★ Tentacled lagoon-worm (*Alkmaria romijni*, SOCI 1)
- ✳ Sea-fan anemone (*Amphianthus dohrnii*, SOCI 2)
- ◆ Ocean quahog (*Arctica islandica*, SOCI 3)
- ★ Lagoon sandworm (*Armandia cirsiosa*, SOCI 4)
- ◆ Fan mussel (*Atrina pectinata*, SOCI 5)
- ◆ Defolin's lagoon snail (*Caecum armoricum*, SOCI 6)
- ♥ Burgundy maerl paint weed (*Cruoria cruariaeformis*, SOCI 7)
- ✳ Pink sea-fan (*Eunicella verrucosa*, SOCI 8)
- ✚ Lagoon sand shrimp (*Gammarus insensibilis*, SOCI 9)
- ✳ Amphipod shrimp (*Gitanopsis bispinosa*, SOCI 10)
- Giant goby (*Gobius cobitis*, SOCI 11)
- Couch's goby (*Gobius couchi*, SOCI 12)
- ✳ Stalked jellyfish (*Haliclystus* sp., SOCI 14)
- Long snouted seahorse (*Hippocampus guttulatus*, SOCI 15)
- Short snouted seahorse (*Hippocampus hippocampus*, SOCI 16)
- ✳ Sunset cup coral (*Leptopsammia pruvoti*, SOCI 17)
- ◆ Coral maerl (*Lithothamnion coralliooides*, SOCI 18)
- ✳ Stalked jellyfish (*Lucernariopsis cruxmelitensis*, SOCI 19)
- ✳ Stalked jellyfish (*Lucernariopsis campanulata*, SOCI 20)
- ✳ Starlet sea anemone (*Nematostella vectensis*, SOCI 21)
- ✳ Peacock's tail (*Padina pavonica*, SOCI 23)
- ✳ Spiny lobster (*Palinurus elephas*, SOCI 24)
- ◆ Sea snail (*Paludinella littorina*, SOCI 25)
- ◆ Common maerl (*Phymatolithon calcareum*, SOCI 26)
- ✚ Gooseneck barnacle (*Policipes pollicipes*, SOCI 27)
- ◆ Lagoon sea slug (*Tenellia adspersa*, SOCI 28)
- ⚡ Trembling sea mat (*Victorella pavida*, SOCI 29)
- ◆ Grateleur's little-lobed weed (*Grateloupia montagnei*, SOCI 30)
- European eel (*Anguilla anguilla*, SOCI 31)
- Smelt (*Osmorus eperlanusi*, SOCI 32)
- Undulate ray (*Raja undulata*, SOCI 33)
- ✳ Black seabream (*Spondylisoma cantharus*, non ENG 1)

MCZ Habitat Features of Conservation Importance (Points)

MCZ Feature code

- ⊕ Blue Mussel Beds (HOCl 1)
- ⊖ Cold-water coral reefs (HOCl 2)
- ⊗ Estuarine rocky habitats (HOCl 5)
- ✳ Fragile sponge and anthozoan communities on subtidal rocky habitats (HOCl 7)
- ✳ Honeycomb worm (*Sabellaria alveolata*) reefs (HOCl 8)
- ⊕ Horse mussel (*Modiolus modiolus*) reefs (HOCl 9)
- Intertidal under boulder communities (HOCl 10)
- ⊗ Littoral chalk communities (HOCl 11)
- ⊖ Maeri beds (HOCl 12)
- ⊕ Mud habitats in deep water (HOCl 13)
- ✳ Native oyster beds (*Ostrea edulis*) (HOCl 14) DO NOT PUBLISH EXTERNALLY
- ⊖ Peat and clay exposures (HOCl 15)
- ⊕ Ross worm (*Sabellaria spinulosa*) reefs (HOCl 16)
- ⊖ Seagrass beds (HOCl 17)
- ⊖ Sea pens and burrowing megafauna (HOCl 18)
- ✳ Sheltered muddy gravels (HOCl 19)
- ⊖ Subtidal chalk (HOCl 20)
- ⊖ Subtidal sands and gravels (HOCl 21)
- ⊖ Tide-swept channels (HOCl 22)
- ✳ Black seabream (*Spondylisoma cantharus*) nesting areas (non_ENG_1)

MCZ Habitat Features of Conservation Importance (Polygons)

MCZ Feature code

- ⊕ Blue Mussel Beds (HOCl 1)
- ⊖ Cold-water coral reefs (HOCl 2)
- ⊗ Estuarine rocky habitats (HOCl 5)
- ⊖ File shell beds (HOCl 6)
- ✳ Fragile sponge and anthozoan communities on subtidal rocky habitats (HOCl 7)
- ✳ Honeycomb worm (*Sabellaria alveolata*) reefs (HOCl 8)
- ⊖ Horse mussel (*Modiolus modiolus*) reefs (HOCl 9)
- ✳ Intertidal under boulder communities (HOCl 10)
- ⊖ Littoral chalk communities (HOCl 11)
- ⊖ Maeri beds (HOCl 12)
- ⊕ Mud habitats in deep water (HOCl 13)
- ✳ Native oyster beds (*Ostrea edulis*) (HOCl 14) DO NOT PUBLISH EXTERNALLY
- ⊖ Peat and clay exposures (HOCl 15)
- ⊕ Ross worm (*Sabellaria spinulosa*) reefs (HOCl 16)
- ⊖ Seagrass beds (HOCl 17)
- ⊖ Sea pens and burrowing megafauna (HOCl 18)
- ✳ Sheltered muddy gravels (HOCl 19)
- ⊖ Subtidal chalk (HOCl 20)
- ⊖ Subtidal sands and gravels (HOCl 21)
- ⊖ Tide-swept channels (HOCl 22)
- ✳ Black seabream (*Spondylisoma cantharus*) nesting areas (non_ENG_1)

MCZ Broadscale Habitat (Polygons)

MCZ_Eunis_L3

- ✳ High energy intertidal rock (A1.1)
- ⊖ High/Moderate energy intertidal rock (A1.1/A1.2)
- ✳ Moderate energy intertidal rock (A1.2)
- ✳ Low energy intertidal rock (A1.3)
- ✳ Intertidal coarse sediment (A2.1)
- ✳ Intertidal sand and muddy sand (A2.2)
- ⊖ Intertidal sand and muddy sand/Intertidal mud (A2.2/A2.3)
- ✳ Intertidal mud (A2.3)
- ✳ Intertidal mixed sediments (A2.4)
- ✳ Coastal saltmarshes and saline reedbeds (A2.5)
- ✳ Intertidal sediments dominated by aquatic angiosperms (A2.6)
- ✳ Intertidal biogenic reefs (A2.7)
- ✳ High energy infralittoral rock (A3.1)
- ✳ Moderate energy infralittoral rock (A3.2)
- ⊖ Moderate energy infralittoral/circalittoral rock (A3.2/A4.2)
- ✳ Low energy infralittoral rock (A3.3)
- ✳ High energy circalittoral rock (A4.1)
- ⊖ High/moderate energy circalittoral rock (A4.1/A4.2)
- ✳ Moderate energy circalittoral rock (A4.2)
- ✳ Low energy circalittoral rock (A4.3)
- ✳ Subtidal coarse sediment (A5.1)
- ✳ Subtidal sand (A5.2)
- ✳ Subtidal mud (A5.3)
- ✳ Subtidal mixed sediments (A5.4)
- ✳ Subtidal macrophyte-dominated sediment (A5.5)
- ✳ Subtidal biogenic reefs (A5.6)
- ✳ Infralittoral rock and thin sandy sediment (A3.A2, non ENG 20)
- ✳ Infralittoral rock and thin mixed sediment (A3.94, non ENG 21)
- ✳ Infralittoral muddy sand (A5.24, non ENG 23)
- ✳ Infralittoral sandy mud (A5.33, non ENG 24)