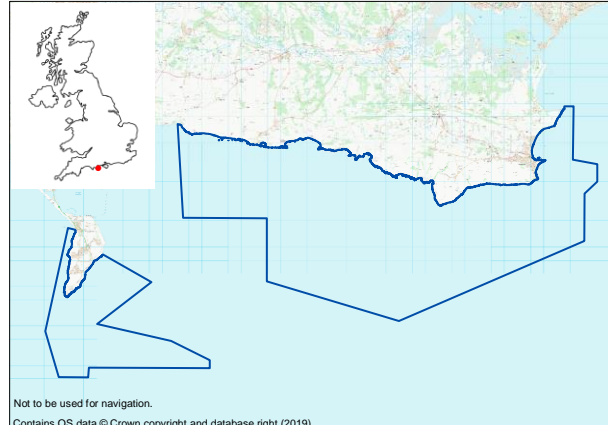


Studland to Portland SAC

Description:

The Studland to Portland Special Area of Conservation (SAC) is a 332 km² site off the south coast of Dorset. It contains numerous areas of reef in many forms, which exhibit a large amount of geological variety and biological diversity. Features of particular interest within the Studland Bay to Ringstead Bay area include a series of limestone ledges (up to 15 m across) protruding from shelly gravel

at Worbarrow Bay, which support a rich sponge and sea fan community and dense brittlestar beds (*Ophiothrix fragilis*) on shale reefs. The Portland Reefs are characterised by flat bedrock, limestone ledges (Portland stone), large boulders and cobbles. Mussel beds (*Mytilus edulis*) are found to occur in very high densities on bedrock associated with strong currents to the southeast of Portland Bill.



Qualifying Features:

Studland to Portland SAC hosts reefs as its qualifying feature.

Management:

- [Information for Mariners](#) 2019
- [Snorkelling trail guide](#).

Stakeholder Concerns:

Two activities identified by online stakeholders as having the greatest impact on the designated feature were coasteering and jetskis. Climbing over rocks, hanging onto seaweed has more of an impact than any other activity. The Lulworth Cove area has coasteering activities which run most of the year.

MPA: Studland to Portland SAC				No. Stakeholders: 1 online & 1 workshop			
Activity	Frequency	Duration	Participation	Intensity	Confidence	MPA Extent	Trend
Board sports	4	2	2	16	H	1	➔
Geophysical surveys	?	?	?	?	H	?	➔
Motor boating	4	3	3	36	H	2	➔
Jetskis	4	3	2	24	H	2	➔
Paddle sports	4	2	3	24	H	2	➔
Parascending	?	?	?	?	H		➔
Sailing (non-motorised)	4	3	3	36	H	2	➔
SCUBA diving	3	2	?	?	H	1	➔
Swimming / Snorkelling	1	1	3	3	H	1	➔
Towed water sports	?	?	?	?	H	?	➔
Wildlife watching from the sea	4	1	5	20	H	2	➔
Bait collection	?	?	?	?	?	?	?
Beach recreation	?	?	?	?	?	?	?
Coasteering	4	2	6	48	H	1	➔
Land boarding	?	?	?	?	?	?	?
Motorsports (quad bikes, motorbikes)	?	?	?	?	?	?	?
Vehicle access (cars on foreshore)	?	?	?	?	?	?	?
Wildlife watching from the land	?	?	?	?	?	?	?
Drone use	2	1	1	2	M	1	⬆
Gliding (unpowered)	?	?	?	?	?	?	?
Aircraft (powered)	?	?	?	?	?	?	?

KEY

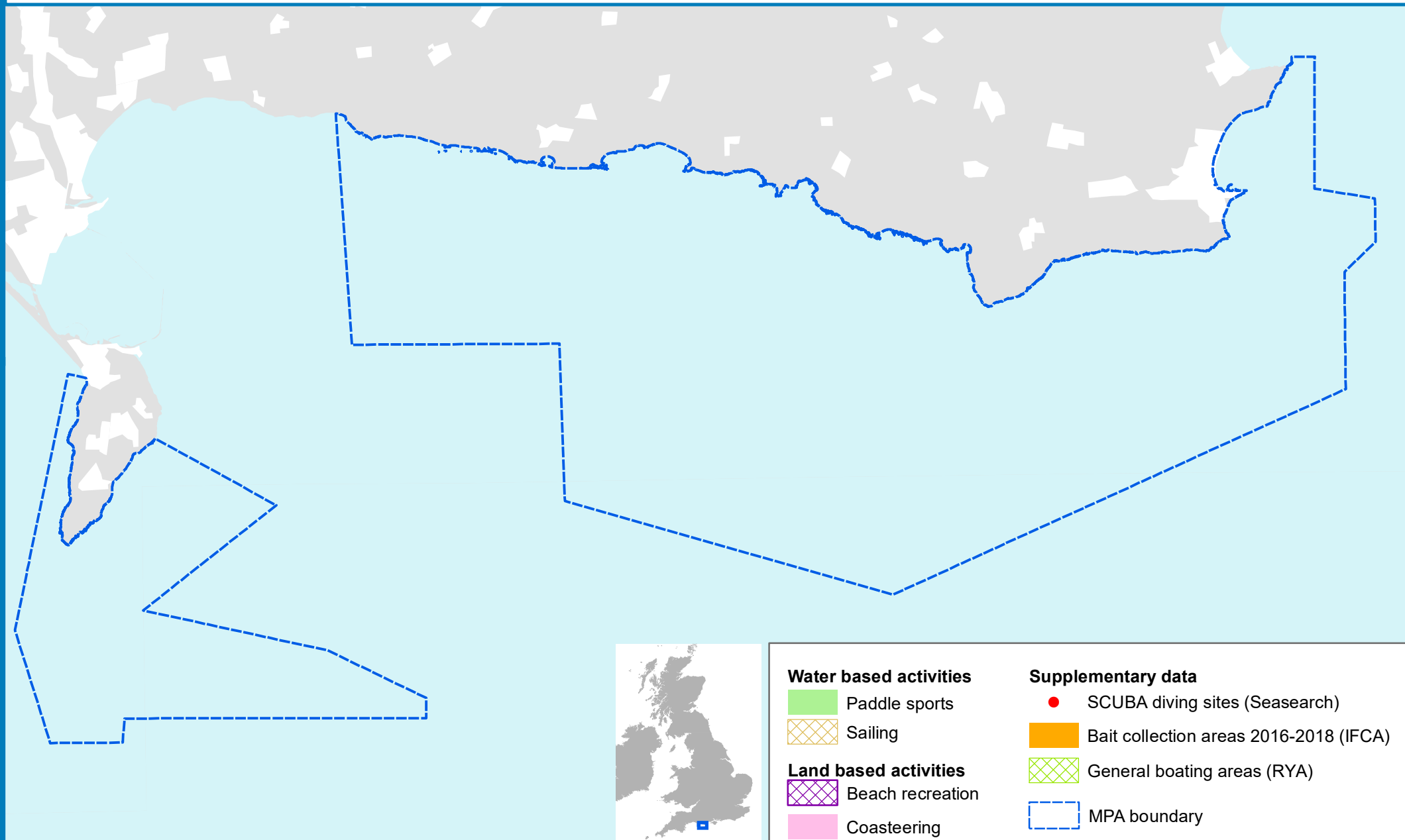
FREQUENCY	DURATION	PARTICIPATION	INTENSITY	CONFIDENCE	EXTENT	TREND
4 Regular/daily	4 >8 hours	6 >100	45-96 High	H High	2 Whole MPA (solid)	⬆ Increase
3 Regular/weekends	3 4-8 hours	5 51-100	24-40 Med-high	M Medium	1 Part of MPA (shaded)	➔ Stay the same
2 Seasonally	2 2-4 hours	4 21-50	9-20 Low-med	L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

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Marine Protected Area Designated Features - Marine SAC and Subfeatures

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)



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_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



Saltmarsh (A2.5)