

The Manacles MCZ

Description:

The Manacles Marine Conservation Zone (MCZ) is a 3.5 km² inshore site located on the southern coast of Cornwall. It extends 2 km from the coastline to encompass a series of large underwater rocky outcrops, known as The Manacles. The depth of the site ranges from 14 to 57 metres which creates a diverse seafloor landscape. This site has been extensively studied and is known to cover an area that is rich in marine



biodiversity. The rocky outcrops have been the site of many shipwrecks, which over time have been colonised by some of the species found in this area. The seabed varies extensively throughout the site and includes sedimentary habitats, vertical rock faces and rocky reefs that support a number of highly sensitive features.

Qualifying Features:

The Manacles MCZ hosts the following habitats: intertidal coarse sediment, subtidal sand, subtidal macrophyte dominated sediment, moderate energy intertidal rock, moderate energy infralittoral rock, moderate energy circalittoral rock, maerl beds, subtidal coarse sediment and subtidal mixed sediments. The site also supports sea-fan anemone (*Amphianthus dohrnii*), spiny lobster (*Palinurus elephas*), stalked jellyfish (*Haliclystus auricula*), and pink sea-fans (*Eunicella verrucosa*).

Management:

- [WISE](#) Operations.
- [Coastal codes](#) for wildlife and drones.

Stakeholder Concerns:

The main activity raised by the stakeholders at the workshop was recreational diving and its impacts on sessile species such as crawfish. However there are no codes of conduct. Dive operators are asked voluntarily not to take crawfish onto their boats.

MPA: The Manacles MCZ				No. Stakeholders: 0 online 6 workshop			
Activity	Frequency	Duration	Participation	Intensity	Confidence	MPA Extent	Trend
Board sports	2	1	2	4	H	1	➔
Geophysical surveys	1	4	1	4	H	2	➔
Motor-boating	3	2	3	12	H	2	➔
Jetskis	0	0	0	0	H	0	➔
Paddle sports	2	2	2	8	H	1	⬆
Parascending	0	0	0	0	H	0	➔
Sailing (non-motorised)	3	2	3	12	H	2	⬆
SCUBA diving	3	1	3	9	H	1	⬆
Snorkelling & swimming	2	1	3	6	H	1	⬆
Towed Water Sports	0	0	0	0	H	0	?
Wildlife watching on vessel at sea	4	2	1	8	H	1	⬆
Bait collection	1	1	1	1	H	1	⬆
Beach recreation	2	1	2	4	H	1	⬆
Coasteering	0	0	0	0	H	0	➔
Land boarding	0	0	0	0	H	0	➔
Motorsports (quad bikes, motorbikes)	0	0	0	0	H	0	➔
Vehicle access (cars on foreshore)	0	0	0	0	H	0	➔
Wildlife watching on land	3	2	3	18	H	1	⬆
Drone use at coast	1	1	1	1	H	1	⬆
Gliding (unpowered)	1	1	1	1	H	1	➔
Aircraft (powered by engine)	1	1	1	1	H	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 Manacles MCZ

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Water based activities

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

Land based activities

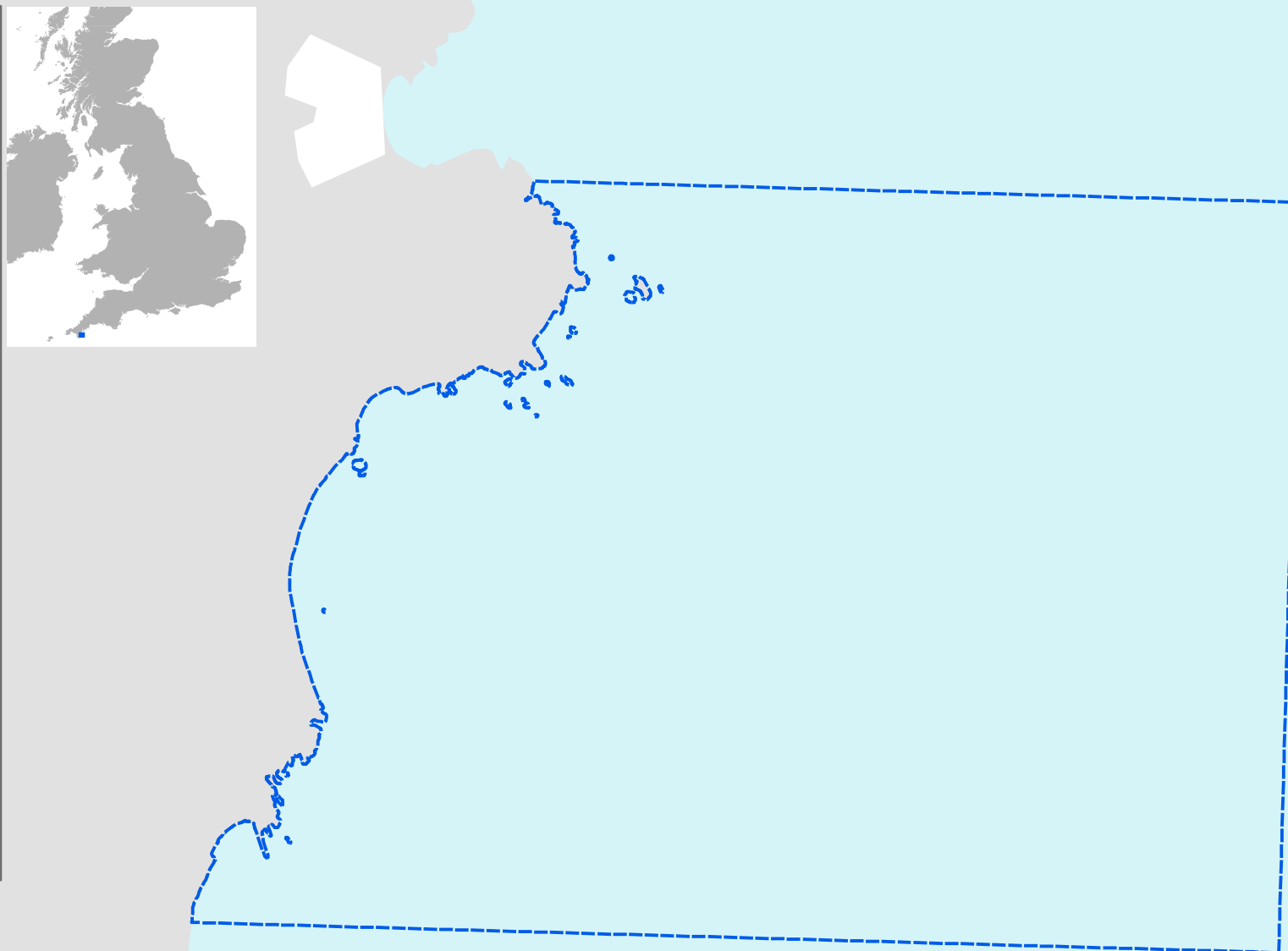
- Bait collection
- Wildlife watching from the land

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 cirrhosa*, SOCI 4)
- ◆ Fan mussel (*Atrina pectinata*, SOCI 5)
- ◆ Defolin's lagoon snail (*Caecum armoricum*, SOCI 6)
- ♥ Burgundy maerl paint weed (*Cruoria cruoriaeformis*, 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 (*Halicystus* 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 corallioides*, 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 (*Pollicipes pollicipes*, SOCI 27)
- ◆ Lagoon sea slug (*Tenellia adspersa*, SOCI 28)
- ✱ Trembling sea mat (*Victorella pavida*, SOCI 29)
- ♥ Grateloup's little-lobed weed (*Grateloupia montagnei*, SOCI 30)
- ♥ European eel (*Anguilla anguilla*, SOCI 31)
- ♥ Smelt (*Osmerus eperlanusi*, SOCI 32)
- ♥ Undulate ray (*Raja undulata*, SOCI 33)
- ✱ Black seabream (*Spondyllosoma cantharus*, non ENG 1)

MCZ Habitat Features of Conservation Importance (Points)

MCZ Feature code

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

MCZ Habitat Features of Conservation Importance (Polygons)

MCZ Feature code

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