

Drigg Coast SAC

Description:

The 11 km Drigg Coast special area of conservation (SAC) is composed of extensive sand dunes, saltmarsh, intertidal mudflats and sandflats, and estuaries. It is centered on Ravenglass where there is a small bar built estuary fed by the rivers Irt, Mite and Esk. The estuary complex is one of the most natural and least developed in the UK, with little industry and few artificial coastal defence structures.



Qualifying features:

The Drigg Coast SAC hosts Atlantic decalcified fixed dunes (*Calluno-Ulicetea*), Atlantic salt meadows (*Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae*), dunes with *Salix repens* ssp. *argentea* (*Salicion arenariae*), embryonic shifting dunes, estuaries, fixed dunes with herbaceous vegetation (grey dunes), humid dune slacks, mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide, *Salicornia* and other annuals colonising mud and sand, and shifting dunes along the shoreline with *Ammophila arenaria* (white dunes).

Management:

- None reported

Stakeholder Concerns:

Bait collection is a key issue along the north west coast. The collection of cockles and mussels occurs around the Drigg Coast, with a large group of collectors from outside the area being observed on the site.

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





Marine
Management
Organisation



Non-licensable activities which occur in and around the Drigg Coast SAC

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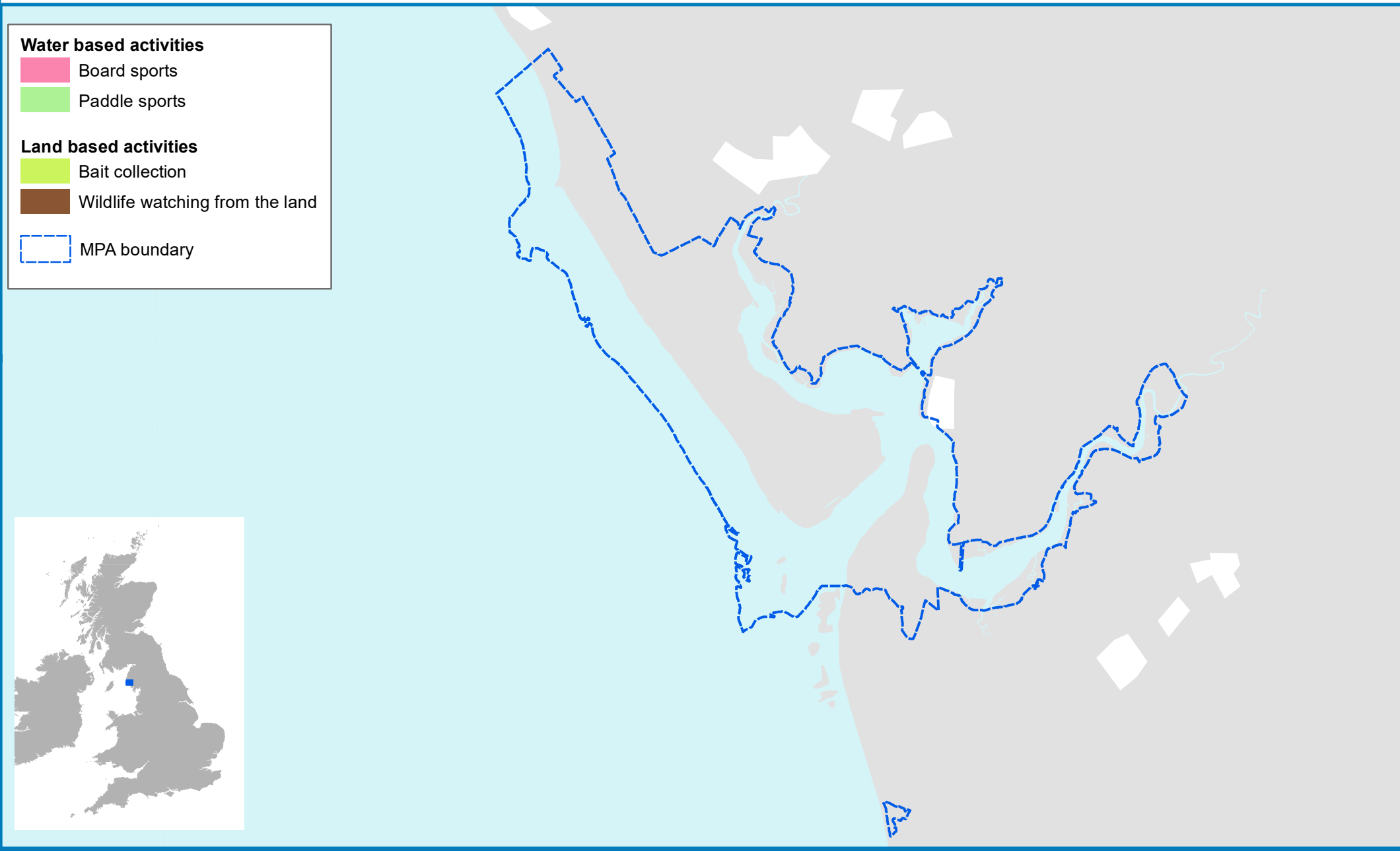
Water based activities

-  Board sports
-  Paddle sports

Land based activities

-  Bait collection
-  Wildlife watching from the land



 MPA boundary



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)