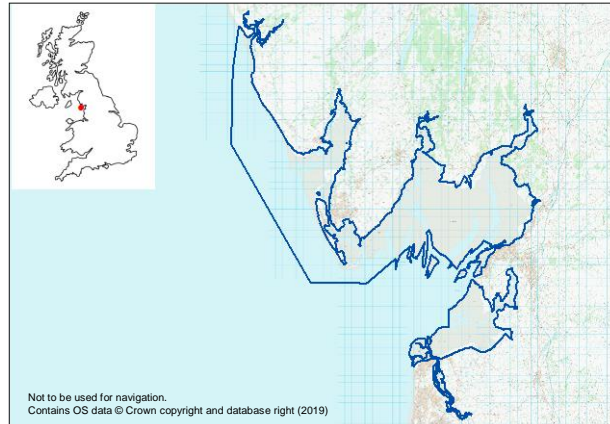


Morecambe Bay & Duddon Estuary SPA

Description:

Spanning almost 669 km², the special protection area (SPA) extends between Rossall Point in Lancashire and Drigg Dunes in Cumbria. The site includes the former Morecambe Bay SPA and Duddon Estuary SPA, as well as an extension to include the Ravenglass Estuary, the intervening coast, and the shallow offshore area off south west Cumbria coast.



Qualifying features:

The site supports non-breeding whooper swan (*Cygnus Cygnus*), little egret (*Egretta garzetta*), European golden plover (*Pluvialis apricaria*), bar-tailed godwit (*Limosa lapponica*), ruff (*Calidris pugnax*), Mediterranean gull (*Larus melancephalus*), pink-footed goose (*Anser brachyrhynchus*), common shelduck (*Tadorna tadorna*), northern pintail (*Anas acuta*), Eurasian oystercatcher (*Haematopus ostralegus*), grey plover (*Pluvialis squatarola*), common ringed plover (*Charadrius hiaticula*), Eurasian curlew (*Numenius arquata*), black-tailed godwit (*Limosa limosa*), ruddy turnstone (*Arenaria interpres*), red knot (*Calidris canutus*), Sanderling (*Calidris alba*), dunlin (*Calidris alpina alpina*), common redshank (*Tringa tetanus*), and lesser black-backed gull (*Larus fuscus*). The site also supports breeding little tern (*Sternula albifrons*), sandwich tern (*Sterna sandvicensis*), common tern (*Sterna hirundo*), lesser black-backed gull (*Larus fuscus*), and European herring gull (*Larus argentatus argenteus*), as well as supporting an internationally important waterbird assemblage and seabird assemblage.

Management:

- None listed

Stakeholder Concerns:

Morecambe Bay has hotspots of activity close to local urban areas, but with significantly less activity noted when moving away from these areas. Even though recreational activities are less intense than other areas in the UK, there are still significant impacts on important high tide roosts within this MPA with disturbance from activities on both the water and land.

Vehicles and land boarding tends to be concentrated along the waters edge, where the birds are feeding, causing disturbance. Therefore some protection of high tide roosts and restricting activities occurring along the water edge is needed.

There has been reports of disturbance to birds from drones and model aircrafts being flown along the beach and saltmarsh. People are parking vehicles on the foreshore to carry out this activity.

MPA: Morecambe Bay & Duddon Estuary SPA				No. Stakeholders: 1 online & 4 workshop			
Activity	Frequency	Duration	Participation	Intensity	Confidence	MPA Extent	Trend
Board sports	3	2	2	12	M	1	↑
Geophysical surveys	?	?	?	?	L	?	?
Motor boating	3	2	3	18	M	1	→
Jetskis	3	2	1	6	M	1	↑
Paddle sports	2	2	2	8	M	1	?
Parascending	0	0	0	0	M	0	?
Sailing (non-motorised)	2	2	2	8	M	2	→
SCUBA diving	0	0	0	0	L	0	?
Swimming / Snorkelling	1	1	1	1	M	1	↓
Towed water sports	3	1	1	3	M	1	↓
Wildlife watching from the sea	0	0	0	0	L	0	?
Bait collection	4	2	2	16	M	1	→
Beach recreation	4	2	4	32	M	1	→
Coasteering	0	0	0	0	?	0	?
Land boarding	2	1	1	2	M	1	→
Motorsports (quad bikes, motorbikes)	3	1	1	3	M	1	↑
Vehicle access (cars on foreshore)	1	1	1	3	M	1	→
Wildlife watching from the land	4	2	4	32	L	1	→
Drone use	1	1	1	1	L	1	↑
Gliding (unpowered)	1	1	1	1	M	1	→
Aircraft (powered)	4	1	1	4	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 Morecambe Bay & Duddon Estuary SPA

Not to be used for navigation.
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Water based activities

- Board sports
- Geophysical surveys
- Motor boating
- Jetskis
- Paddle sports
- Sailing
- Towed water sports

Land based activities

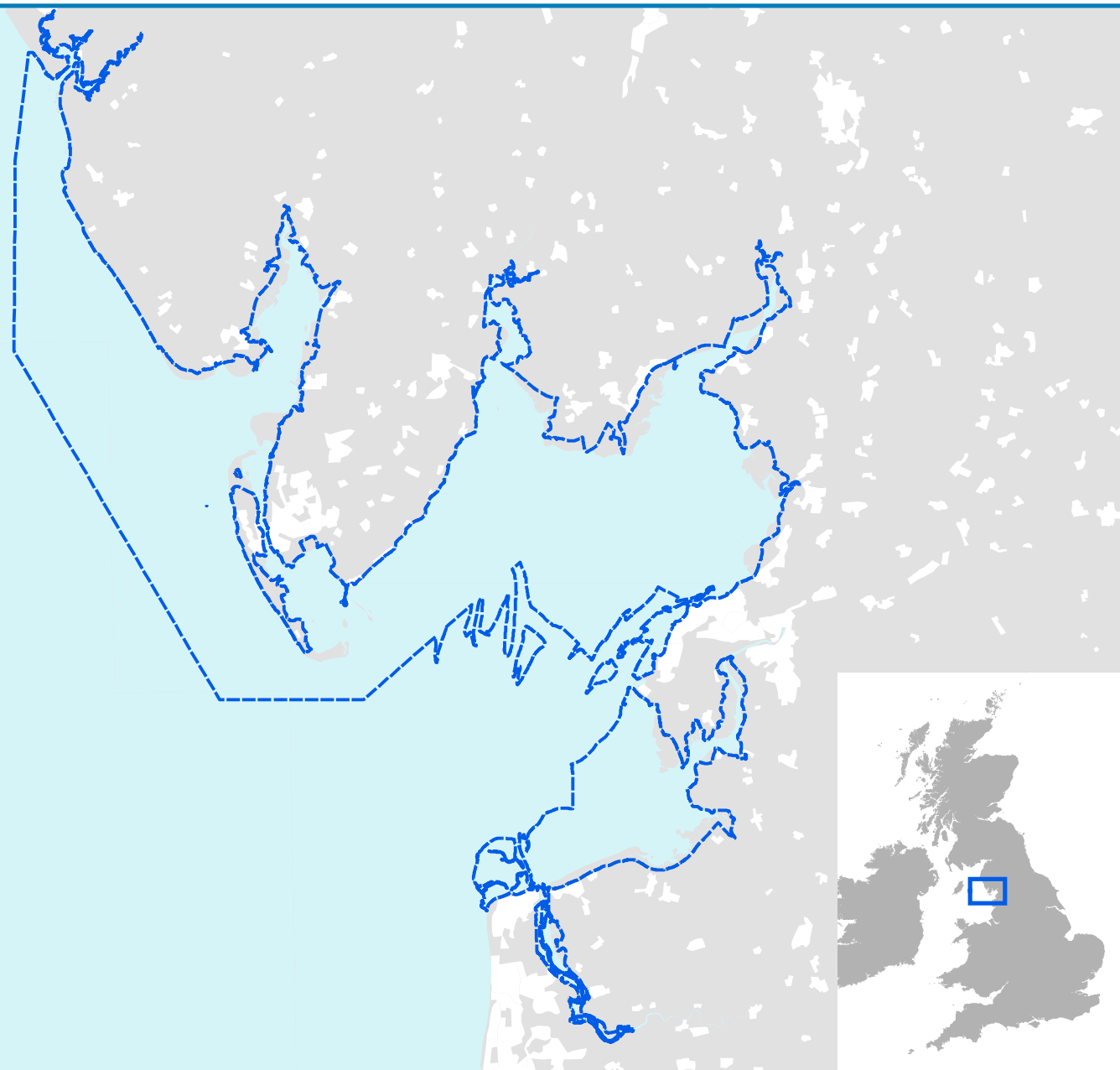
- Bait collection
- Beach recreation
- Land boarding
- Motorsports
- Vehicle access (cars on foreshore)
- Wildlife watching from the land

Aerial activities

- Drone use
- Aircraft (powered)

Supplementary data






- SCUBA diving sites (Seasearch)
- 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)