

Developing a participatory approach to the management of fishing activity in UK offshore Marine Protected Areas

Workshop 1

Thursday 15th November

Nobel House, 17 Smith Square, Westminster, London, SW1P 3JR

9:00am - 4:30pm

AIM: set the scene and seek to achieve a shared understanding of the project aims, objectives and outputs and provide all attendees with an understanding the proposed regional activities and their contribution to the project.

The workshop will enable collective discussion, as well as breakout sessions into the regional groups to focus the discussion on regional specific options for adaptive MPA management, and enable participants to build some shared understanding of each other's issues and concerns.

Tea, Coffee & lunch will be provided. Upon arrival, please give your name at Defra reception.

Schedule:

Time	Item	Element
09:00-09:30	1	Tea & Coffee
09:30-09:35	2	Introduction to the day, housekeeping & guidelines
09:35-09:55	3	Project introduction
09:55-10:20	4	Making the project work for everyone
10.20-11:05	5	Scoping the context of participatory fisheries management in MPAs
11:05-11:20		Tea & Coffee break
11.20-12:10	6	Key concepts of environmental decision making: Risk, Proportionality and Precaution
12:10-12:50	7	Setting the scene – case study sites
12:50-13:35		Lunch
13:35-14:20	8	Taking a participatory approach to fisheries management in MPAs
14:20-15:15	9	Ecological model
15:15-15:30		Tea & Coffee break
15:30-16:00	10	Management toolkit
16:00-16:30	11	Round up

The Project [webpage](#) will be updated throughout the project. Any questions, please contact Alice Cornthwaite: alice.cornthwaite@jncc.gov.uk

Case study sites

South-East Regional Group

MPA: North Norfolk Sandbanks & Saturn Reef SAC

The North Norfolk Sandbanks and Saturn Reef SAC is located in the Southern North Sea. The MPA includes a series of ten main sandbanks and associated fragmented smaller banks formed as a result of tidal processes; as well as areas of *Sabellaria spinulosa* biogenic reef.

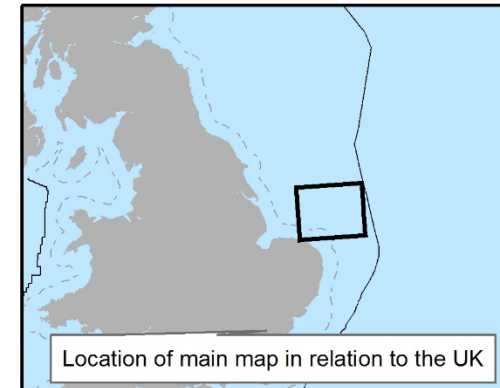
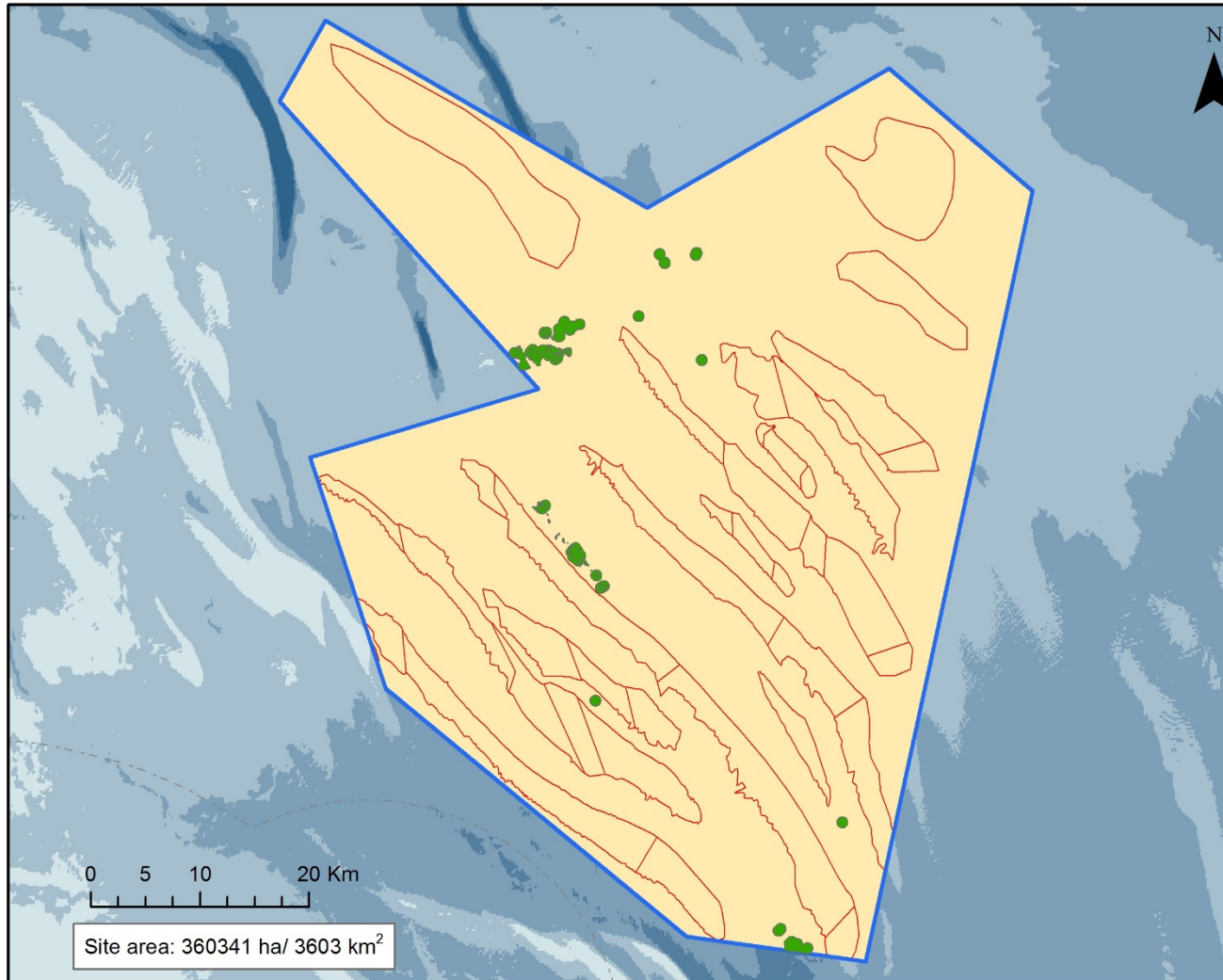
The North Norfolk sandbanks are the most extensive example of the offshore linear ridge sandbank type in UK waters and are subject to a range of current strengths which are strongest on the banks closest to shore and which reduce offshore. The sandbank structures are maintained through offshore sediment transport, with each bank acting as a stepping stone, and the development of new sandbanks between existing banks. Biological communities associated with the bank structures occur across the MPA, including in deeper areas between banks. As such the entire MPA (3,603 km²) is considered a representative functioning example of the Annex I feature *Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time*.

Sabellaria spinulosa biogenic reef consists of thousands of fragile sand-tubes made by ross worms, which have consolidated together to create a solid structure rising above the seabed and qualify as the Annex I feature *Reefs*. Reefs formed by ross worms allow the settlement of other species not found in adjacent habitats. The reef structures may be naturally ephemeral in nature but formation of substantial reefs within the MPA indicate favourable conditions for formation.

Updated formal conservation advice is now available for the MPA is available on the [North Norfolk and Saturn Reef Site Information Centre](#) under the 'conservation advice' tab. This includes the '[Supplementary Advice on Conservation Objectives](#)' which sets out the conservation objectives set out the broad ecological aims for the site.

Fisheries management measures for the MPA are being developed under the Common Fisheries Policy; the UK as initiating Member State is seeking to develop a joint recommendation with other Member States with a direct management interest which then will be submitted to the European Commission for adoption. This process has also involved stakeholders from the UK and wider EU fishing industry, and environmental NGOs. The proposed measures will protect all mapped areas of Annex I Reef from demersal trawls, dredges and seines; and a proportion of the Annex I Sandbank from demersal trawls and dredges.

Special Area of Conservation Site Map: North Norfolk Sandbanks & Saturn Reef



Legend

- SAC boundary
 - UK Territorial seas
 - Area to be managed as Annex I reef
 - Area to be managed as Annex I Sandbanks
 - Individual sandbanks
- Depth (m)**
- < 20
 - 30 - 20
 - 40 - 30
 - 50 - 40
 - > 50
 - Land

Site map projected in UTM (Zone 31N, WGS84 datum) © JNCC 2017. Site boundary © JNCC, licensed under the Open Government Licence v3.0. World Vector Shoreline © US Defense Mapping Agency. Continental Shelf boundaries - The exact limits of the UK Continental shelf are set out in orders made under section 1 (7) of the Continental Shelf Act 1964 and Continental Shelf (Designation of Areas) Order 2013. Combining source layers from UKHO. © Crown copyright © JNCC. Territorial waters - UK Territorial Sea Limit. Contains UKHO data © Crown copyright. All rights reserved. Sabellaria spinulosa reef point data © Cefas. Annex I Reef © JNCC 2017, contains data under copyright from 3rd parties, for full information, please see individual metadata. Biogenic reef point data © Natural England, 2017. Sandbanks data © JNCC/DAERA/NE/NRW/SNH, licensed under the Open Government Licence v3.0. Bathymetry © British Crown Copyright. All rights reserved. Permission Number Defra 012012.002. This product has been derived in part from material obtained from the UK Hydrographic Office with the permission of the Controller of Her Majesty's Stationery Office and UK Hydrographic Office. NOT TO BE USED FOR NAVIGATION.

North-West Regional Group

MPA: West of Walney MCZ

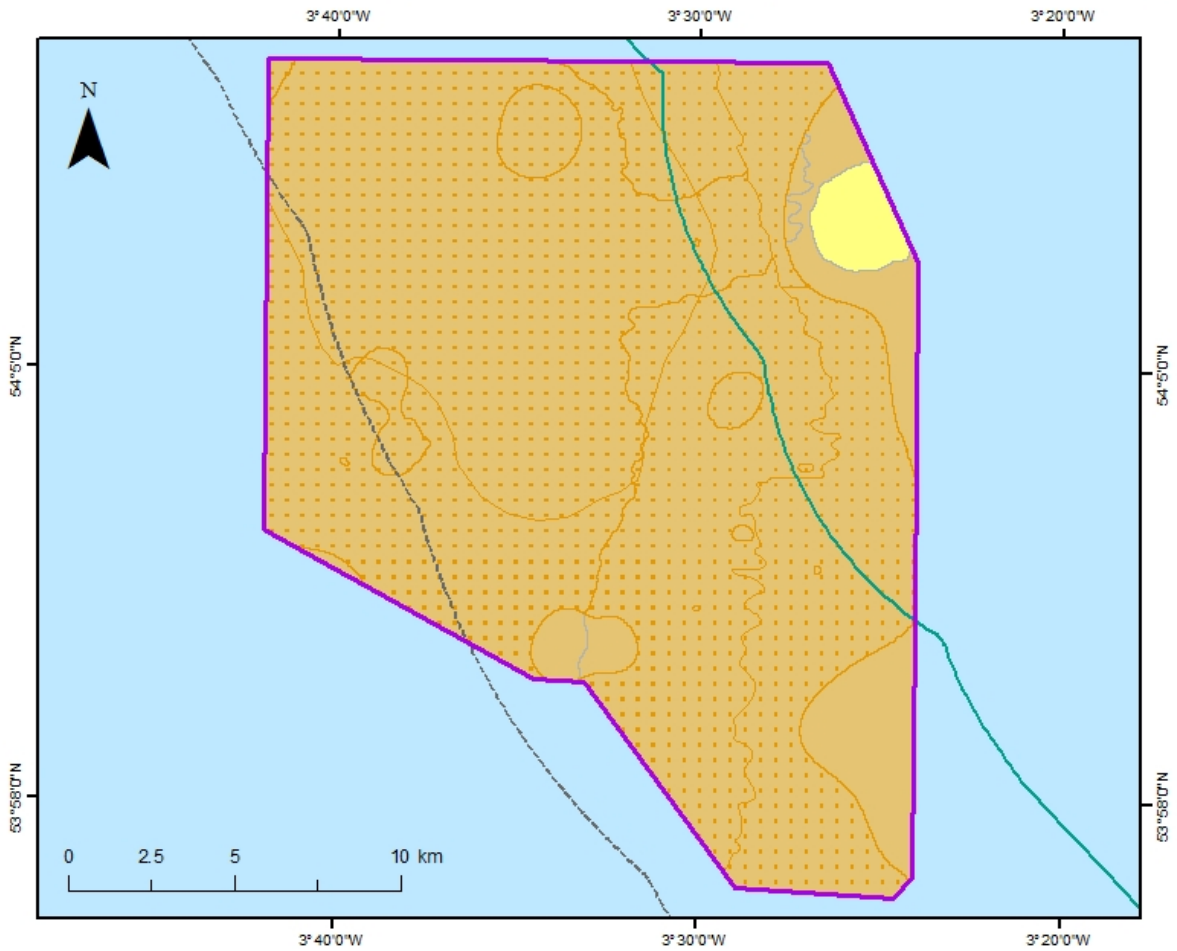
West of Walney MCZ is a joint inshore and offshore site situated west of Walney Island in the Irish Sea. The site protects approximately 388km² of seabed and includes two broad-scale habitats; subtidal sand and subtidal mud. The seabed habitat within site is predominantly subtidal mud, and is considered part of an area known as the eastern Irish Sea mud belt. A particular type of burrowed mud habitat which is considered a Threatened and or Declining habitat in the north east Atlantic and specifically in the Irish Sea – known as ‘Sea-pen and burrowing megafauna communities’ makes up a component part of the subtidal mud habitat occurring within the sites boundary.

There has recently been a public consultation on draft proposals for the potential management of commercial fishing in the part of West of Walney Marine Conservation Zone (MCZ) inshore of 12 nautical miles.

The site crosses two important jurisdictional boundaries, the 6 nm and 12 nm boundaries. The North Western Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority (NWIFCA) are the principal lead regulator with 6nm and the MMO within 6-12nm of the coast. To ensure a consistent approach to management of fishing within the West of Walney MCZ, the MMO and NWIFCA have agreed that MMO will lead on management of bottom towed fishing in the section of this site within 12nm of the coast (‘the inshore section’). There has recently been a public consultation on the prohibition of all bottom towed fishing gear in the inshore section of the site. This option would involve prohibiting bottom towed fishing in the whole of the site inshore of 12nm. Any management of fishing activity beyond 12nm will be assessed as part of a separate process under the Common Fisheries Policy.

Further information on the MPA is available on the [West of Walney Site Information Centre](#). JNCC and Natural England have prepared joint formal conservation advice for West of Walney MCZ. This advice is accessible through Natural England's Designated Sites System for [West of Walney MCZ](#).

West of Walney MCZ



Legend

- West of Walney MCZ
- Broadscale habitats**
- Subtidal sand (A5.2)
- Subtidal mud (A5.3)
- Habitat Feature of Conservation Importance**
- Sea pens and burrowing megafauna
- UK 6nm Fisheries Limit
- 12nm Territorial Seas Limit



Location of main map in relation to the UK

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 Map Projection: WGS84UTM30N, Ins et: BNG. Version: 1.0 Plotted: 16/10/2018 by JL