

SEMS Actions for NEG 2022/23

Progress Updates for April 23 NEG

Paper 1

The following table shows only NEG actions included in the SEMS Annual Management Report 2022 and these actions were set in Autumn 2022 to be worked on until Autumn 2023. They entirely supersede the actions from the previous year. The AMR includes many more actions allocated to others. It incorporates actions allocated to NEG in previous years.

NEG Progress throughout the year is shown in green below

Land recreation - Dog walking

1. **Action (ongoing to 2023):** In 2023, when the 5 year review of the effectiveness of the [Solent Recreation Mitigation Strategy](#) is complete, an assessment should be made as to how successful it has been in reducing the impact of recreation from new housing development on the birds in the Solent.

Lead and partners: NEG

Action Progress: NEG have brought a discussion paper to the April NEG meeting to discuss the outcome of the 5 year review

Land recreation - Walking (other than dog walking)

Please also see actions in dog walking above as these equally apply.

Littering and removal of litter

1. **Action (Ongoing):** NEG to continue to develop the [Cleans Solent Shores and Seas \(CSSS\)](#) resource hub, with a focus for 2022/23 on collating, supporting and sharing information on the impacts of microplastics and GRP fibres on designated sites. SEMS MG members to use the hub to find information to support or coordinate any appropriate research, policy making, communications, events etc.

Lead/partners: NEG (development) and SEMS MG (to use)

Action progress: Ongoing. See website hub [Solent Forum - Clean Solent Shores and Seas](#).

Mooring and anchoring

1. **Action (ongoing):** All to support, promote and share information from the four year LIFE ReMEDIES project. See: [Recreational boating - Save Our Seabed](#).

Lead and partners: SEMS Management Group and NEG

Action Progress: Ongoing. All updates on Solent Forum website [Solent Forum - LIFE ReMEDIES](#).

Recreation - light aircraft

1. **Action (ongoing):** NEG to request data annually from Bird Aware Solent on winter drone use and disturbance. Updates will be added to the SEMS website section on [aerial recreation](#). The Bird Aware data is also summarised in the evaluation and discussion section above (4.13.2).

Partners/lead: NEG.

Action Progress: On-going

Data for 2022 showed no concerns. Data for the winter 22/23 has just been requested (17/4/23).

Recreation - non-motorised watercraft

1. **Action (2020/ongoing):** NEG to research the evidence base for potential impacts on designated sites from the increased use of paddlesports.

Lead and partners: NEG.

Action progress: An Impacts and Management of Paddlesports in the Solent (IMP Solent) project was established in November 2020. Chichester Harbour is providing the pilot site. Please visit [Solentems - Paddlesports in the Solent \(IMP Solent\)](#) for details.

The current focus of work is understanding the incidence of Paddlesports and a methodology has been designed by Chichester Harbour Conservancy for survey work. Surveys began in October 2021 and will continue for at least two years. Next report on results is expected in Spring 2023. Peter Hughes to update the group at April 2023 meeting.

Generic Actions

1. The Natural Environment Group will be leading on a [Solent Bird Sensitivity and Activity Mapping](#) project (commencing 2022). Its aim is to map the most sensitive areas in the Solent to bird disturbance from a range of non-licensable activities, to inform strategic management options. It will devise the criteria for bird sensitive areas and the evidence needed for activity layers to build an evidence based digital management tool.
A Solent Bird Sensitivity and Activity Mapping project brief has been produced and a number of meetings held with Project Group to discuss how the project can be taken forward. Blue Marine Foundation are bringing the work within the Solent Seascapes Project, and Solent Forum have funded the Solent Seascapes Project £30k to help them achieve this. The work will take place within the Seascapes Recovery Plan Working Group, and the Solent Forum will chair this. The next update will provide a more detailed time frame.