



Solent European Marine Sites Annual Monitoring Responses 2018



Solent Forum
May, 2018

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1 Background

This document presents the findings from the SEMS annual online monitoring survey that took place during March – April 2018. The purpose of this survey is to monitor changes in activities that take place within SEMS sites that may impact on the features of the sites.

The responses recorded in this document were made by the Solent's Relevant Authorities (RAs) and have been set out verbatim. Analysis of the data takes place in the SEMS Annual Management Report; this report also sets out subsequent management measures and actions for discussion at the SEMS Annual Management Group meeting.

The activities surveyed match the activity categories found in Natural England's Conservation Advice packages for Marine Protected Areas. This means we can directly cross refer the survey results to the impacts of activities as published in this Advice. The Conservation Advice packages can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/conservation-advice-packages-for-marine-protected-areas>.

Locations of the Solent European Marine Sites can be found on Natural England's Designated Sites System at <https://designatedsites.naturalengland.org.uk/>.

2 Survey Respondents

Of the 31 RAs who were invited to respond to the 2018 SEMS monitoring survey, 23 responded and they are listed in Table 1. Those who did and did not respond are listed in Table 2. Table 3 identifies the types of RAs which responded. None of the 23 RAs which responded had experienced any change to their coastal and marine management responsibilities since the last survey in 2017.

Table 1 Relevant Authorities who responded to the 2018 monitoring survey

Response Organisations
Associated British Ports
Beaulieu River Management
Chichester District Council
Cowes Harbour Commissioners
Environment Agency
Fareham Borough Council
Havant Borough Council
Isle of Wight Council
Langstone Harbour Board
Lymington Harbour Commissioners
Natural England
New Forest National Park Authority
Portsmouth City Council
Queen's Harbour Master (Portsmouth)
River Hamble Harbour Authority
Southampton City Council
Southern IFCA
Southern Water
Sussex IFCA
Test Valley Borough Council
West Sussex County Council
Wightlink
Yarmouth Harbour Commissioners

Table 2 Relevant Authorities who did not respond to the 2018 monitoring survey

Organisations Who Did Not Respond
Chichester Harbour Conservancy
Eastleigh Borough Council
Gosport Borough Council
Hampshire County Council
New Forest District Council
Portsmouth International Port
Trinity House Lighthouse Service
Winchester City Council

Table 3 The types of Relevant Authority who responded to the 2018 monitoring survey

(some authorities are of more than one type)

Authority Type	Count
Government Authority	4
Harbour Authority	7
IFCA	2
Local Authority	8
Private Company	2
National Park (Defra funded, local member led)	1
DOCKYARD PORT	1

3 Activity Summary

This section summarises the responses from the 2018 monitoring survey. Respondents were questioned on seventeen different types of activity.

Table 4 The number of RAs who reported that an activity was within their jurisdiction

Activity	Number of relevant authorities with activity within their jurisdiction
Land recreation - Walking (other than dog walking)	12
Land recreation - Dog walking	11
Land recreation - Other	12
Recreation - non-motorised water sports	12
Recreation - Powerboating or sailing with an engine	9
Recreation Light Aircraft	7
Mooring and/or anchoring	8
Fishing (including shellfisheries)	8
Fishing (shore-based activities)	9
Navigation (maintenance of infrastructure) and operation of ports and harbours	11
Operation of coastal flood and erosion risk management schemes, barrages and sluices	9
Accidental vessel discharges / emissions including oil spill and clean-up	11
Boat repair / maintenance	9
Grazing	0
Littering and removal of litter	11
Slipway and jetty cleaning and maintenance	11
Wildfowling	2

Reported Change in Activities from 2017 to 2018

Table 5 shows if there has been a change in occurrence since last year for each activity. The numbers within the columns indicate the number of organisations which reported that an activity had occurred within their area of jurisdiction. Activities which have increased, remained elevated or decreased are highlighted in red, orange and green respectively. Only activities where change has been reported are included in Section 4.

For 2018, the option to record 'unknown' as the level of activity was removed, and the 'Remains Elevated' and 'No Change' levels were more clearly defined (see Table 5). A change in the level of activity compared to 2017 was recorded for thirteen of the seventeen activities monitored. For almost every activity, the greatest number of those who responded reported 'no change' for the level of activity.

Table 5 Reported changes in activity levels 2017-18

Activity	Increase	Remains Elevated since last year (this shows you have a concern that the current level of activity may be causing an impact)	No change (this means that current activity levels are not having an impact. If an impact is suspected then 'Remains elevated' should have been used)	Decrease	Total Responses
Accidental vessel discharges / emissions including oil spill and clean-up	0	0	11	0	11
Boat repair / maintenance	0	0	9	0	9
Fishing (including shellfisheries)	0	0	6	3	9
Fishing (shore-based activities)	1	4	5	0	10
Land recreation - Other	3	0	11	1	15
Land recreation - Dog walking	0	6	6	0	12
Land recreation - Walking (other than dog walking)	1	4	8	0	13
Littering and removal of litter	0	4	7	0	11
Mooring and/or anchoring	0	0	8	1	9
Navigation (maintenance of infrastructure) and operation of ports and harbours	1	0	10	0	11
Operation of coastal flood and erosion risk management schemes, barrages and sluices	1	0	8	0	9
Recreation - non-motorised water sports	3	3	8	0	14
Recreation - Powerboating or sailing with an engine	1	2	8	0	11
Recreation Light Aircraft	2	0	5	0	7
Slipway and jetty cleaning and maintenance	0	0	11	0	11
Wildfowling	0	0	0	2	2

4 Response by Activity

Section 4 presents in greater detail the responses for individual activities where changes were reported in the 2018 monitoring survey. This data is presented verbatim; analysis of the data is set out in the SEMS Annual Management Report.

For each activity below, respondents were asked to record any changes in activity over past 12 months and, for each answer, to state whether the evidence of changes in activities being reported was based upon

- data collection
- anecdotal or
- perceived changes.

In each case they were asked to state their level of confidence in the data submitted: H / M / L

Land recreation - Dog walking

Definition: Activities that involve dogs, including when dogs are used for wildfowling

Change in activity since last year

Increase	Remains Elevated since last year	No change	Decrease	Total Responses
0	6	6	0	12

Land recreation - Dog walking

Activities Remain Elevated

How, Where, When, Why: Please include the nature and intensity of the changes and give details, for example is disturbance caused by noise or visual impact?

Respondent	How	Where	When	Why
LHB	LHB do not actively monitor this activity, but dogs and their walkers are frequently seen on the intertidal areas visible from the harbour office and elsewhere. Perceived change. Confidence: M	Harbour-wide	Regular sightings	Increasing human population in the region
CDC	Recreational disturbance from existing and historic visitor numbers remains elevated to a level that is probably impacting on over wintering bird populations	All sections of Chichester Harbour	Daylight hours between October and March	No change as such historical development has led to continuing elevated level of visitors at the coast
NE	Some private/no public access areas of the reserve have a continuing issue with dog walking. In our permitted areas, we continue to have issues with off-lead/uncontrolled dog walking causing disturbance.	North Solent National Nature Reserve	All year	Continuing issue
FBC	As SRMP (M)	Entire SPA (M)	All year, but impact in over-wintering period.	See SRMP (M)
IOWC	See above	See above	See above	See above
SCC	Reports from local bird watchers indicate that walkers allow and/or encourage their dogs to chase the birds.	Weston Shore	All year round	This activity has been occurring for a long time.

What Management Measures, if any, have you introduced to influence this activity?

Respondent	What Management Measures have you introduced to influence these activities?
LHB	Bird Aware project
CDC	Bird Aware Solent is only funded to mitigate the additional impact of new development since 2014. However some of the on site access improvements planned for the future, combined with the educational work and behavioural messages may have the side benefit of addressing the impacts of pre-existing development. In addition in Chichester we have the Graylingwell and Roussillon mitigation project, but this only mitigates the additional impacts of certain new developments built since 2010. We have also introduced a 'dogs on lead by direction' order for Fishbourne Creek
NE	We do not have the resource to police or carry out active management. We try to address through signage/interpretation, local and permit holder information letters and updates.
FBC	FBC member of SRMP, collecting contributions as per the interim and now final SRMP strategy. Bird Aware Solent ranger team has been expanded.
IOWC	See above
SCC	None. Would require wardening or enforcement officers and the council doesn't have any.

Given the increase in activity and any management measures you have introduced, do you believe that there has been any residual impact on the Solent European Marine Site?

Yes	No
5	1

Please give details of the residual impact and what is causing it. Please state if the evidence that you are reporting based is upon

- data collection
- anecdotal or
- perceived changes.

Please state your level of confidence in the data submitted: H / M / L

Respondent	Please elaborate on the residual impact
LHB	
CDC	c) perceived. There is also evidence from the SDMP phase 3 report that the pre-existing level of impact is significant for Southampton Water and the potential for impact in Chichester Harbour can be inferred from this
NE	
FBC	b) Until SRMP strategy is fully implemented likely to be a residual impact.
IOWC	See above
SCC	No management measures have been introduced so there is likely to be a residual impact.

Do you believe that this may cause the condition of the Solent European Marine site to change?

Yes	No
2	2

Please elaborate on how this may cause the condition of the Solent European Marine site to change

Respondent	Please elaborate on how this may cause the condition of the Solent European Marine site to change
LHB	
CDC	Long term declines in over-wintering bird populations
NE	
FBC	
IOWC	
SCC	On its own no, but in combination with disturbance occurring at other sites there could be an impact on birds' fitness levels.

Please suggest actions that could address each issue you have recorded

Respondent	Please suggest actions that could address each issue you have recorded
LHB	The definitive strategy for the SRMP (Bird Aware) is still to be implemented. Ranger numbers are currently low considering the length of coastline which requires their presence. No "on the ground" capital projects have been brought forward by the partnership as yet. The realisation of these work streams is important to ensure residual impacts upon the SEMs do not occur.
CDC	An extension of Bird Aware programmes to address pre-2014 development - however it is difficult to see how this could be funded at present. Increased dog control measures, however these would be unpopular so further evidence to justify the need for these would be needed.
NE	
FBC	Full implementation of SRMP strategy and appropriate monitoring should address impacts
IOWC	Unknown
SCC	The Bird Aware work will hopefully influence the behaviour of existing dog walkers as well as those who have started to use Weston Shore since moving into nearby new housing.

Land recreation - Walking (other than dog walking)

Increase	Remains Elevated since last year	No change	Decrease	Total Responses
1	4	8	0	13

Land recreation - Walking (other than dog walking)

Increase in Activities

How, Where, When, Why: Please include the nature and intensity of the changes and give details, for example is disturbance caused by noise or visual impact?

Respondent	How	Where	When	Why
NFNPA	Only way to make comment is via flagging an issue - confidence in increase is very low as there is little or no data and monitoring, however the modest increase in dwellings during the period is likely to have increase the demand for recreation. The Authority has not legal jurisdiction over recreation - it has statutory responsibilities for access and enjoyment, This does not translate necessarily into the ability to have legal controls over the activity, more common would be a role in promoting and managing access in partnership with others e.g. 'Access Authority' under relevant legislation.	not known	not known	Increase in households locally.

What Management Measures, if any, have you introduced to influence this activity?

Respondent	What Management Measures have you introduced to influence these activities?
NFNPA	Recreation Management Strategy for the National Park - existing document undergoing review and public consultation. Authority is not the sole implementer of the Strategy - partner such as HCC, Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust..

Given the increase in activity and any management measures you have introduced, do you believe that there has been any residual impact on the Solent European Marine Site?

Yes	No
0	1

Do you believe that this may cause the condition of the Solent European Marine site to change?

Yes	No
0	0

Please suggest actions that could address each issue you have recorded

Respondent	Please suggest actions that could address each issue you have recorded
NFNPA	Improved monitoring of visitor levels and behaviour - likely that due to operational priorities and resources we would struggle to carry this out ourselves but programmes of work such as Bird Aware seem to be developing good systems in this regard.

Land recreation - Walking (other than dog walking)

Activities Remain Elevated

How, Where, When, Why: Please include the nature and intensity of the changes and give details, for example is disturbance caused by noise or visual impact?

Respondent	How	Where	When	Why
LHB	LHB do not actively monitor this activity, but it walkers are frequently seen on the intertidal areas visible from the harbour office and elsewhere. Perceived change. Confidence: M	Harbour-wide	Regular sightings	Increasing human population in the region
CDC	Recreational disturbance from existing and historic visitor numbers remains elevated to a level that is probably impacting on over wintering bird populations	All sections of Chichester Harbour	Daylight hours between October and March	No change as such historical development has led to continuing elevated level of visitors at the coast
FBC	As SRMP (M)	Entire SPA (M)	All year, but impact in over-wintering period.	See SRMP (M)
IOWC	Evidence through the SRMP work showed that recreational pressure on the SPA is causing disturbance to birds. The Isle of Wight Council, in collaboration with Solent Bird Aware (formerly known as the SRMP), is working to mitigate increased pressure through new housing development. This does not address existing pressures.	All development within 5.6km of the Solent SPA is likely to cause an impact through in-combination recreational disturbances.	Winter	Increasing need for residential development.

What Management Measures, if any, have you introduced to influence this activity?

Respondent	What Management Measures have you introduced to influence these activities?
LHB	Bird Aware Project.
CDC	Bird Aware Solent is only funded to mitigate the additional impact of new development since 2014. However some of the on site access improvements planned for the future, combined with the educational work and behavioural messages may have the side benefit of addressing the impacts of pre-existing development. In addition in Chichester we have the Graylingwell and Roussillon mitigation project, but this only mitigates the additional impacts of certain new developments built since 2010.
FBC	FBC member of SRMP, collecting contributions as per the interim and now final SRMP strategy. Bird Aware Solent ranger team has been expanded.
IOWC	The Isle of Wight Council, in collaboration with Solent Bird Aware, is working to mitigate increased pressure through new housing development. An interim strategy was in place during 2017 to mitigate impacts, this included the presence of rangers on the coast. A long term strategy was in preparation and approved in December 2017 (this was implemented in April 2018).

Given the increase in activity and any management measures you have introduced, do you believe that there has been any residual impact on the Solent European Marine Site?

Yes	No
3	1

Please give details of the residual impact and what is causing it. Please state if the evidence that you are reporting based is upon

- a) data collection
- b) anecdotal or
- c) perceived changes.

Please state your level of confidence in the data submitted: H / M / L

Respondent	Please elaborate on the residual impact
LHB	
CDC	c) perceived. There is also evidence from the SDMP phase 3 report that the pre-existing level of impact is significant for Southampton Water and the potential for impact in Chichester Harbour can be inferred from this
FBC	b) Until SRMP strategy is fully implemented likely to be a residual impact.
IOWC	Mitigation provided through new development does not mitigate existing pressures. The strategy aims to educate and influence behaviours of users and thus residual impacts are expected. This is anecdotal evidence as acknowledged by the SRMP steering group. Level of confidence is low but in time planned monitoring should provide clarity.

Do you believe that this may cause the condition of the Solent European Marine site to change?

Yes	No
1	2

Please elaborate on how this may cause the condition of the Solent European Marine site to change

Respondent	Please elaborate on how this may cause the condition of the Solent European Marine site to change
LHB	
CDC	Long term declines in over-wintering bird populations
FBC	
IOWC	

Please suggest actions that could address each issue you have recorded

Respondent	Please suggest actions that could address each issue you have recorded
LHB	The definitive strategy for the SRMP (Bird Aware) is still to be implemented. Ranger numbers are currently low considering the length of coastline which requires their presence. No "on the ground" capital projects have been brought forward by the partnership as yet. The realisation of these work streams is important to ensure residual impacts upon the SEMS do not occur.
CDC	An extension of Bird Aware programmes to address pre-2014 development - however it is difficult to see how this could be funded at present.
FBC	Full implementation of SRMP strategy and appropriate monitoring should address impacts
IOWC	Unknown

Land recreation - Other

Increase	Remains Elevated since last year	No change	Decrease	Total Responses
3	0	11	1	15

Land recreation - Other

Increase in Activities

How, Where, When, Why: Please include the nature and intensity of the changes and give details, for example is disturbance caused by noise or visual impact?

Respondent	How	Where	When	Why
BRM	Firework displays	Buckler's Hard Maritime Village, The Master Builders Hotel	Weekends , Christmas & New Year	Increase in the number of weddings being held and the demand for firework displays
NFNPA	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
SCC	The City Council has started running Beach School events	Weston Shore	Occasional - Spring and Summer	Meeting a need to provide children with environmental activities during school holidays

What Management Measures, if any, have you introduced to influence this activity?

Respondent	What Management Measures have you introduced to influence these activities?
BRM	At this time we do not allow but receiving commercial pressure to allow for weddings
NFNPA	n/a
SCC	None needed - the activities do not currently occur during the winter.

Given the increase in activity and any management measures you have introduced, do you believe that there has been any residual impact on the Solent European Marine Site?

Yes	No
0	3

Do you believe that this may cause the condition of the Solent European Marine site to change?

Yes	No
0	0

Please suggest actions that could address each issue you have recorded

Respondent	Please suggest actions that could address each issue you have recorded
BRM	
NFNPA	
SCC	None

Land recreation - Other

Decrease in Activities

How, Where, When, Why: Please include the nature and intensity of the changes and give details, for example is disturbance caused by noise or visual impact?

Respondent	How	Where	When	Why
ABP				

What Management Measures, if any, have you introduced to influence this activity?

Respondent	What Management Measures have you introduced to influence these activities?
ABP	

In your view, have the activity levels now returned to an acceptable level that will not be causing damage to SEMS? If you have any concerns or would like to discuss this please answer NO

Yes	No
0	0

Please suggest any further management measures that may be needed to address these activities

Respondent	Please suggest actions that could address each issue you have recorded
ABP	

Recreation - non-motorised water sports

Increase	Remains Elevated since last year	No change	Decrease	Total Responses
3	3	8	0	14

Recreation - non-motorised water sports

Increase in Activities

How, Where, When, Why: Please include the nature and intensity of the changes and give details, for example is disturbance caused by noise or visual impact?

Respondent	How	Where	When	Why
BRM	Increase in the use of paddleboards and kayaks. paddling within the creeks. Increase in school groups which creates a greater noise disturbance	Throughout the river	April to October	Increase in popularity
CoHC	Increased numbers of paddle-boarders - anecdotal - M	Medina Estuary, south of Cowes Chain Ferry	Daylight hours, fair weather - majority on weekends	Increase of awareness / popularity of the sport
YHC	Perceived change from observations of Harbour staff - medium level of confidence - that there was a slight increase in the number of kayaks and paddle boards used in the Western Yar estuary over the summer. No impacts were identified and no specific incidents were logged.	Western Yar estuary	Mainly in the summer months and early autumn when the weather was good.	Assume it reflects a general increase in popularity and participation in the sport which may be due to the equipment becoming more accessible for more people.

What Management Measures, if any, have you introduced to influence this activity?

Respondent	What Management Measures have you introduced to influence these activities?
BRM	Educational Material
CoHC	General Directions provide limits of areas where sport is permitted for safety reasons. Signage to raise awareness is being investigated.
YHC	No further measures other than existing information about the sensitivity of certain areas in the estuary and limited launch points etc.

Given the increase in activity and any management measures you have introduced, do you believe that there has been any residual impact on the Solent European Marine Site?

Yes	No
0	3

Do you believe that this may cause the condition of the Solent European Marine site to change?

Yes	No
0	0

Please suggest actions that could address each issue you have recorded

Respondent	Please suggest actions that could address each issue you have recorded
BRM	
CoHC	Monitor, as still relatively small numbers of participants.
YHC	We may increase the amount and visibility of information in future if the activity continues to increase or is perceived to be a problem in this area.

Recreation - non-motorised water sports

Activities Remain Elevated

How, Where, When, Why: Please include the nature and intensity of the changes and give details, for example is disturbance caused by noise or visual impact?

Respondent	How	Where	When	Why
NE	We continue to experience and have concern of impacts on our site with a regular presence of kite surfers and kayak/canoe around the coastal and intertidal area of the NNR.	North Solent NNR	Do not have capacity to measure frequency	Remains elevated
FBC	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
IOWC	Use of paddle boards has increased and causes disturbance to breeding and feeding waterfowl. Perceived change M	Paddle boards throughout navigable waterways and creeks	All year.	Increased popularity of sit/stand on boarding

What Management Measures, if any, have you introduced to influence this activity?

Respondent	What Management Measures have you introduced to influence these activities?
NE	None currently
FBC	n/a
IOWC	The National Trust warden nature reserves in summer season and encourage users to avoid sensitive areas through production and dissemination of canoe guide.

Given the increase in activity and any management measures you have introduced, do you believe that there has been any residual impact on the Solent European Marine Site?

Yes	No
1	2

Please give details of the residual impact and what is causing it. Please state if the evidence that you are reporting based is upon, and state your level of confidence in the data submitted: H / M / L

- a) data collection
- b) anecdotal or
- c) perceived changes

Respondent	Please elaborate on the residual impact
NE	Disturbance to birds b) H NE NNR site manager
FBC	b) Until SRMP strategy is fully implemented likely to be a residual impact. (M)
IOWC	

Do you believe that this may cause the condition of the Solent European Marine site to change?

Yes	No
1	1

Please elaborate on how this may cause the condition of the Solent European Marine site to change

Respondent	Please elaborate on how this may cause the condition of SEMS to change
NE	Could be significant together with other disturbing activities b) H NE NNR site manager
FBC	
IOWC	

Please suggest actions that could address each issue you have recorded

Respondent	Please suggest actions that could address each issue you have recorded
NE	
FBC	
IOWC	None

Recreation - Powerboating or sailing with an engine

Increase	Remains Elevated since last year	No change	Decrease	Total Responses
1	2	8	0	11

Recreation - Powerboating or sailing with an engine

Increase in Activities

How, Where, When, Why: Please include the nature and intensity of the changes and give details, for example is disturbance caused by noise or visual impact?

Respondent	How	Where	When	Why
LHB	Last year LHB sold 33% more jetski permits than during the previous season. Both annual and daily harbour dues also saw measurable increases (all vessels using the harbour must pay dues). Information based on data collected. Confidence: H	Jet ski activity is contained almost exclusively in the harbour entrance (the permit requires participants to launch then transit out into the wider Solent). Other motorised vessels are seen throughout the harbour but are restricted by the 10 knot speed limit as well as the shallow water throughout much of Langstone Harbour.	Sunny weekends, bank holidays and school holidays were times of peak activity.	Unknown

What Management Measures, if any, have you introduced to influence this activity?

Respondent	What Management Measures have you introduced to influence these activities?
LHB	In addition to jetski permit byelaw, water ski licence requirement and 10 knot speed limit harbour wide, LHB employs a team of seasonal patrol officers between Easter and October to manage activity and ensure compliance with byelaws. LHB enforces byelaws vigorously (last season LHB prosecuted 4 people for byelaw offences).

Given the increase in activity and any management measures you have introduced, do you believe that there has been any residual impact on the Solent European Marine Site?

Yes	No
0	1

Do you believe that this may cause the condition of the Solent European Marine site to change?

Yes	No
0	0

Please suggest actions that could address each issue you have recorded

Respondent	Please suggest actions that could address each issue you have recorded
LHB	N/A

Recreation - Powerboating or sailing with an engine

Activities Remain Elevated

How, Where, When, Why: Please include the nature and intensity of the changes and give details, for example is disturbance caused by noise or visual impact?

Respondent	How	Where	When	Why
FBC	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
IOWC	Planning consent for 1 replacement jetty (reference P/00239/17) and 1 new pontoon (reference P/00568/17) in Wootton Creek granted in April 2017. Planning consent for a new slipway (reference P/00576/17) in Wootton Creek granted in April 2017. Planning consent (reference P/00446/17) for improved access for recreational sailing at Seaview granted in June 2017. Planning consent for a new pontoon in East Cowes granted in June 2017.	Medina Estuary, Wootton Creek, Seaview and Bembridge Harbour.	All year round.	Consenting improved access within the designated sites is likely to increase the amount of recreational marine use.

What Management Measures, if any, have you introduced to influence this activity?

Respondent	What Management Measures have you introduced to influence these activities?
FBC	n/a
IOWC	For each planning application impacts to the designated sites were ruled out. Each was determined on its own merits and mitigation will have been secured.

Given the increase in activity and any management measures you have introduced, do you believe that there has been any residual impact on the Solent European Marine Site?

Yes	No
1	1

Please give details of the residual impact and what is causing it. Please state if the evidence that you are reporting based is upon

- data collection
- anecdotal or
- perceived changes. Please state your level of confidence in the data submitted: H / M / L

Respondent	Please elaborate on the residual impact
FBC	b) Until SRMP strategy is fully implemented likely to be a residual impact. (M)
IOWC	Consenting improved access within the designated sites is likely to increase the amount of recreational marine use. This is only a perception and so the confidence in this assessment is low.

Do you believe that this may cause the condition of the Solent European Marine site to change?

Yes	No
0	2

Please suggest actions that could address each issue you have recorded

Respondent	Please suggest actions that could address each issue you have recorded
FBC	
IOWC	

Recreation Light Aircraft

Increase	Remains Elevated since last year	No change	Decrease	Total Responses
2	0	5	0	7

Recreation Light Aircraft

Increase in Activities

How, Where, When, Why: Please include the nature and intensity of the changes and give details, for example is disturbance caused by noise or visual impact?

Respondent	How	Where	When	Why
BRM	Increase in the use of drones	Around the Marina and Buckler's Hard Village area	All Year	Popularity
LHC	More requests to use drones to fly over harbour from film/TV companies and Environment Agency for sea defence surveys. Approximately 20 requests in 2017 compared with less than half that in 2016.	Lymington Harbour	Approximately 20 requests in 2017 - daytime only	Drones are increasingly used as a tool in film/TV production and for scientific survey

What Management Measures, if any, have you introduced to influence this activity?

Respondent	What Management Measures have you introduced to influence these activities?
BRM	Must be authorised by HA, Agreement to be signed with Terms & Conditions
LHC	Where the drone is being operated from LHC premises we have a consent based system. We only give consent to commercial operators who can demonstrate their activity is risk assessed and they have been licenced to operate under CAA regulations.

Given the increase in activity and any management measures you have introduced, do you believe that there has been any residual impact on the Solent European Marine Site?

Yes	No
0	2

Do you believe that this may cause the condition of the Solent European Marine site to change?

Yes	No
0	0

Please suggest actions that could address each issue you have recorded

Respondent	Please suggest actions that could address each issue you have recorded
BRM	
LHC	

Mooring and/or anchoring

Increase	Remains Elevated since last year	No change	Decrease	Total Responses
0	0	8	1	9

Mooring and/or anchoring

Decrease in Activities

How, Where, When, Why: Please include the nature and intensity of the changes and give details, for example is disturbance caused by noise or visual impact?

Respondent	How	Where	When	Why
LHB	There were 515 occupied moorings in Langstone Harbour this season, compared with 526 the previous season. Mooring occupancy has been in decline in Langstone Harbour for over a decade. Information based on data collected. Confidence: H We do not collect data on anchoring, but anecdotally this activity seems to have stayed the same.	Harbour wide	Mooring occupancy is greatest during the summer season - many owners choose to store boats ashore during winter. Anchoring is likely to be most regular during the summer months when we have more visitors to Langstone Harbour.	We believe moorings are in decline as modern boat owners increasingly prefer walk-ashore facilities such as those found in marinas.

What Management Measures, if any, have you introduced to influence this activity?

Respondent	What Management Measures have you introduced to influence these activities?
LHB	LHB makes every attempt to rationalise mooring areas in the harbour to ensure boats are moored together in zones and large areas of intertidal zone are left mooring-free.

In your view, have the activity levels now returned to an acceptable level that will not be causing damage to SEMs? If you have any concerns or would like to discuss this please answer NO

Yes	No
1	0

State if activity levels had previously been very high

Please suggest any further management measures that may be needed to address these activities

Respondent	Please suggest actions that could address each issue you have recorded
LHB	N/A

Fishing (including shellfisheries)

Increase	Remains Elevated since last year	No change	Decrease	Total Responses
0	0	6	3	9

Fishing (including shellfisheries)

Decrease in Activities

How, Where, When, Why: Please include the nature and intensity of the changes and give details, for example is disturbance caused by noise or visual impact?

Respondent	How	Where	When	Why
LHB	Commercial fishing vessel activity has declined during the past year with 18 individual vessels sighted working in the harbour for a combined total of 178 fishing days (compared to 34 vessels fishing a total of 269 days last year). Many of these vessels were using dredges, however trawling and potting were also commonly recorded activities. Information is based upon data collected. Confidence: H LHB do not collect data on recreational fisheries, however have received no anecdotal evidence to indicate this has changed.	Commercial fishing is concentrated at the northern end of Langstone Channel, with some activity also recorded in Sinah Lake (during November, and Sword Sands.	All year	sIFCA introduced 2 new byelaws in late 2017 which permanently close large areas of the harbour to towed gear. Additional seasonal restrictions are placed on towed gear within the remainder of the harbour. These byelaws allow the sIFCA to fulfil its obligation under DEFRA's revised approach to fisheries management within MPAs. Prior to the introduction of these byelaws fishing within the harbour was recorded at a lower intensity than during the previous season as the oyster beds in Sinah Lake, largely responsible for last year's peak in fishing activity, were highly depleted.
SxIFCA	Oyster dredging occurs on the subtidal sediments of Chichester Harbour; these sediments are features of the Solent Maritime Special Area of Conservation (SAC), as well as supporting features for the Chichester and Langstone Harbour Special Protection Area (SPA). Disturbance is caused by the dredging cages being towed across the ground, resulting in a ploughing effect on the ground. As well as the removal of the target species, there is also an impact to non-target species, such as sessile and slow growing species. Over time, the ecology of the substrate can be altered	Oyster dredging activity takes place in two channels within the Chichester Harbour, Emsworth and Thorney Channels. Although the Food Standards Agency declassified	The oyster season opens on November 1st each year, between the hours of 8am and 4pm, Monday to Friday. This is regulated by IFCA officers aboard the Fisheries Patrol Vessel Watchful. The oyster beds	The implementation of the Oyster Permit Byelaw has undoubtedly had an impact in the use of the fishery. The relatively small window of opportunity to exploit the oyster beds, and the close regulation of activity mean that year round fishing cannot occur. The management methods have been put in place to maintain the fishery

Respondent	How	Where	When	Why
	<p>by this relatively destructive method of fishing. Sussex IFCA has conducted an Appropriate Assessment and it was concluded that the current extent of activity is not damaging to the designated features. The 2016 oyster season saw a total of 18 fishing vessels land approximately 28.5 tonnes of oyster. The season lasted for a total of 9 days in November and was split between Emsworth channel (6 days) and Thorney channel (3 days). The level of activity in 2017 was much lower than previous years. The season lasted only 3 days at the beginning of November, and a maximum of 10 vessels were present with a total of 5.8 tonnes of oyster landed by the fleet. Only Emsworth channel was open as Thorney channel had been declassified in the weeks leading up to the season. The data on the fishing activity levels is collected by Sussex IFCA by direct observation, therefore there is a high level of confidence in this information.</p>	<p>Thorney channel before the 2017 season began, so no fishing took place there.</p>	<p>are open each day until a threshold catch per unit of effort (CPUE) is reached. Calculations are made at the end of each day based on how many boats are fishing, how much they are catching and how long they are spending fishing. Once this value has been reached, the beds are closed.</p>	<p>to enable its continued use, however in recent years, as well as fewer fishers applying for permits and actively fishing the ground, there have been reports from the fleet that tingle, a snail that drills through oyster shell, has caused a depletion to the stock.</p>
SoIFCA	<p>Relating to Shellfish dredge fisheries: - Clam dredging remains lower than the 2009-2016 values for landings in the Solent (peaking in 2010 with 458.9 tonnes) . Activity in Portsmouth, Langstone and Southampton Water now managed through the Southern IFCA Solent Dredge Fishing byelaw which includes a 8 month closed season. Attached document 1 included the clam and cockle landings for the past 12 years. Highlights a decline in landings indicating a decline in effort. Further closures within the EMS have been brought in to protect sensitive areas through Southern IFCA's bottom Towed Fishing Gear byelaw 2016. (high confidence - based on sightings data, inspections and MMO landings data) - Oyster Dredging - The oyster fishery in the Wider Solent was closed again for the 2017/18 season due to the Southern IFCA committee determining that the fishery was severely depleted. Fishing activity again restricted to Portsmouth and Langstone Harbour but less activity than in 2017. Landings data indicates a reduction with IFCA estimates of 7.82 tonnes landed in</p>	<p>Fishing activities take place across the entire site. Certain activities have been spatially managed, particularly bottom towed fishing gear (BTFG) and Shellfish dredging through Southern IFCA's BTFG byelaw 2016 and the Solent Dredge Fishing byelaw.</p>	<p>New Temporal measures have been placed on Shellfish Dredging prohibiting use within Southampton Water, Portsmouth Harbour and Langstone Harbour between the 1st of March and the 31st of October and between 17:00 and 07:00 each day within the season.</p>	<p>Policy drivers have influenced management in the Solent, with DEFRA's revised approach to fishing activity requiring measures in place to ensure fishing is compatible with the conservation objectives of EMS. A reduction of fishing opportunities in the inshore due to poor stock levels, greater protection of MPAs or other emergency measures (bass) may have led to a reduction in fishing effort.</p>

Respondent	How	Where	When	Why
	<p>2017 in Portsmouth and Langstone Harbours compared to an estimate of 27 tonnes landed in 2016. Landings figures for all ports in solent (including Chichester) have been provided as supplementary document (figures for 2017 provisional). (high confidence - based on sightings data, inspections and MMO landings data) - Other fishing activity - The same level of scrutiny has not been applied to other activities, but through DEFRA's revised approach process, Southern IFCA have assessed all fishing activities within the Solent. Bottom Towed Fishing gear and Shellfish Dredge Fishing were flagged as having the potential for adverse effect and were managed through the Bottom Towed Fishing Gear Byelaw 2016 and Solent Dredge Fishing Byelaw. Other fishing activities were deemed to have no adverse effect at their current levels. Anecdotally a number of fishing vessels that traditionally targeted the Solent have left the local fishing fleet. Other fishing activities have remained at a similar level (medium confidence - anecdotal).</p>			

What Management Measures, if any, have you introduced to influence this activity?

Respondent	What Management Measures have you introduced to influence these activities?
LHB	N/A
SxIFCA	<p>The Oyster Permit Byelaw, introduced in 2015 by Sussex IFCA, provides responsive adaptive management for oyster fisheries and supports the development of sustainable fisheries through catch restrictions, gear configuration through permit conditions. The Oyster season starts on November 1st and is closely monitored with catch per unit effort calculations made at the end of each day during the season. This allows the authority to close the oyster beds once a threshold has been reached to prevent stocks being fished out. As well as limiting the amount of time the beds are open for fishing, the oyster permit byelaw also includes restrictions on the fishing gear itself. The size, weight and type of dredge are specified within the byelaw and the gear is checked by IFCOs before the start of the season. Fishers are not allowed to use their gear if these specifications are not met. This is done to reduce the impact on the fishery and the footprint left by the fishing gear itself.</p>
SoIFCA	<p>Solent Dredge Fishing Byelaw, Southern IFCA Bottom Towed Fishing Gear Byelaw 2016. https://secure.toolkitfiles.co.uk/clients/25364/sitedata/files/Solent-Dredge-Fishing-byelaw.pdf https://secure.toolkitfiles.co.uk/clients/25364/sitedata/files/Bottom-Towed-Fishing-Gear-byelaw-2016.pdf</p>

In your view, have the activity levels now returned to an acceptable level that will not be causing damage to SEMS? If you have any concerns or would like to discuss this please answer NO

Yes	No
3	0

State if activity levels had previously been very high

Please suggest any further management measures that may be needed to address these activities

Respondent	Please suggest actions that could address each issue you have recorded
LHB	N/A
SxIFCA	
SoIFCA	None for the purpose of protection to the site. Southern IFCA will continue to monitor fishing activity and may review measures as appropriate. Currently the IFCA is developing a permit byelaw for the shellfish dredge fisheries in the Solent that may allow for greater flexibility in adapting management as required but, at the current level, detailed habitats regulation assessments indicate that the fishing activities (with the new management) will not adversely impact the fishing conservation objectives of the site.

Fishing (shore-based activities)

Increase	Remains Elevated since last year	No change	Decrease	Total Responses
1	4	5	0	10

Fishing (shore-based activities)

Increase in Activities

How, Where, When, Why: Please include the nature and intensity of the changes and give details, for example is disturbance caused by noise or visual impact?

Respondent	How	Where	When	Why
SCC	Report of potential commercial shellfish collection	Weston Shore	Two reports but may have occurred on other occasions	Commercial gain

What Management Measures, if any, have you introduced to influence this activity?

Respondent	What Management Measures have you introduced to influence these activities?
SCC	The shell fishery in Southampton Water is currently closed to commercial collection so the Incidents were reported to Port Health and the Police.

Given the increase in activity and any management measures you have introduced, do you believe that there has been any residual impact on the Solent European Marine Site?

Yes	No
0	1

Do you believe that this may cause the condition of the Solent European Marine site to change?

Yes	No
0	0

Please suggest actions that could address each issue you have recorded

Respondent	Please suggest actions that could address each issue you have recorded
SCC	

Fishing (shore-based activities)

Activities Remain Elevated

How, Where, When, Why: Please include the nature and intensity of the changes and give details, for example is disturbance caused by noise or visual impact?

Respondent	How	Where	When	Why
LHB	Large numbers of bait diggers, seemingly collecting bait in commercial amounts, are a regular presence in Langstone Harbour. LHB makes intermittent, ad hoc records of this activity, however can only report this activity anecdotally.	Bait digging is concentrated close to Southmoor.	Year round during low tide.	High levels of bait digging have occurred in this area for several years. The area has easy access to the foreshore close to a free car park, just off the major road network.
SxIFCA	Bait collection and hand gathering: When digging for clams, tools are used to physically rake through the sediment. The impact of this on a small scale is negligible, although	Bait collection and hand gathering: Can occur on any intertidal area within the	Bait collection and Hand gathering: Any time.	Bait collection and Hand gathering: In 2015/16 sites within the harbour were designated by

Respondent	How	Where	When	Why
	diggers can leave scars on the mudflats that are visible for several tidal cycles. Hand gathering for worms is similar in that tools are used to turn the sediment over and dig down in to the mud leaving holes/scars in the sediment, although it is common practise for bait diggers to fill the holes they make to minimise the visual impact they have. As well as a visual impact, bait digging/hand gathering can release toxins in to the water column. This happens when anoxic sediment is unsettled. However, the levels at which these activities currently take place within the harbour, the disturbance to sediment composition is minimal/negligible. The main concerns around hand gathering/bait collection is the potential impact to the seagrass beds within the harbour, there are four known beds that are protected under the SAC. The digging/hand gathering might cause an impact on internationally important populations of regularly occurring Annex 1 species, and migratory bird species, which are qualifying features of the Chichester and Langstone Harbour Special Protection Area.	harbour, the main areas where bait collection/hand gathering are reported to occur are; Nutbourne channel, Prinstead, Thorney island, Bosham, Dell quay and Chidham. Diggers can work an area for several hours depending on the tides, so the total extent of the activity at any one time is hard to accurately determine. The areas of concern would be any hand gathering/bait digging activity that is taking place near or within the protected seagrass beds in East head, Oar Rythe in Emsworth channel, and Crake bed in Thorney channel.	Gatherers will generally follow the tide out and back in whilst working the shore.	the Food Standards Agency and CEFAS for harvesting of clams and cockles.
RHHA	Bait digging intensity consistent with last year, when an increase was reported. Disturbance to the foreshore is physical. Impact on food source for SPA birds is unknown.	Mudflats (those which are accessible from the land) throughout the Hamble estuary.	Low water, primarily from Spring to Autumn	Not known, although possibly due to displacement from elsewhere.
FBC	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

What Management Measures, if any, have you introduced to influence this activity?

Respondent	What Management Measures have you introduced to influence these activities?
LHB	None
SxIFCA	For clam digging, the IFCA can only enforce a minimum size limit for commercial diggers. Recreationally there are no restrictions. IFCAs nationally are now starting to consider management measures for bait collection and hand gathering as these activities are currently unregulated and there is a poor level of understanding in to level of activity that is deemed sustainable.
RHHA	RHHA continues to enforce its byelaw regarding minimum digging distance from structures and moorings. It is harder to influence activity when diggers are away from structures but still digging within SEMS areas. This is due to lack of other management measures and lack of proof

Respondent	What Management Measures have you introduced to influence these activities?
	that activity is having an impact. Joint operations took place with police during 2017 when groups of more than 6 bait diggers were present (is a separate police interest in gang/modern-day slavery related activity). RHHA staff have presented at local fora on the topic to encourage residents to report sightings, thereby helping to build an evidence base along with that collected by RHHA.
FBC	n/a

Given the increase in activity and any management measures you have introduced, do you believe that there has been any residual impact on the Solent European Marine Site?

Yes	No
2	2

Please give details of the residual impact and what is causing it. Please state if the evidence that you are reporting based is upon

- data collection
- anecdotal or
- perceived changes.

Please state your level of confidence in the data submitted: H / M / L

Respondent	Please elaborate on the residual impact
LHB	Visual inspection to the mudflats at Southmoor show large amounts of very obvious damage to the intertidal zone caused by the digging and trampling resulting from this activity. The presence of multiple diggers on the mud also inevitably causes disturbance to wildlife such as wildfowl and waders.
SxIFCA	
RHHA	Potential residual impact, but this is perceived (albeit widely perceived) so confidence is low without hard evidence relating to the extent of impact bait digging has on the Hamble foreshore areas, both in terms of physical disturbance and on any reduction in food source for SPA birds.
FBC	

Do you believe that this may cause the condition of the Solent European Marine site to change?

Yes	No
0	2

Please suggest actions that could address each issue you have recorded

Respondent	Please suggest actions that could address each issue you have recorded
LHB	Any management measures put into place need to be VERY CAREFULLY considered. While this activity is clearly causing damage and disturbance south of Southmoor, prohibition may cause the participants to be displaced to other areas of the harbour (or wider Solent) where greater disturbance to wintering birds assemblages as well as disturbance to breeding seabirds might occur. Displacing participants at greater environmental cost to the SEMS should be avoided at all costs. Nonetheless, intensively gathering bait in commercial quantities on a daily basis from a highly designated MPA is an undeniably damaging activity which needs to be addressed.
SxIFCA	
RHHA	Clearer guidance on: - the impacts on SEMS - actions open to landowners (private and public authority) - actions open to SEMS authorities with activity within jurisdiction.
FBC	

Littering and removal of litter

Increase	Remains Elevated since last year	No change	Decrease	Total Responses
0	4	7	0	11

Littering and removal of litter

Activities Remain Elevated

How, Where, When, Why: Please include the nature and intensity of the changes and give details, for example is disturbance caused by noise or visual impact?

Respondent	How	Where	When	Why
LHB	"Storm water" was discharged into Langstone Harbour for a combined total of more than 350 hours during 2017. These discharges contain large quantities of micro plastics (such as cotton bud sticks and nurdles). These can be found on every strandline. Fishing litter, food wrappings and plastic bottles are also encountered throughout the harbour in large amounts. Discharge times are derived from data supplied by Southern Water. confidence: H Periodical beach clean events in Langstone Harbour indicate litter is increasing. Confidence: H	Harbour wide	Storm water discharging occurs mainly during times of heavy rainfall. Litter from other sources is perpetual.	Increasing single use plastic consumption and poor recycling / disposal culture.
FBC	The litter and particularly plastic issue is well documented, it is not believed that litter picking activity is having an impact.	Entire SPA	Greater in summer months? (L)	Unclear
IOWC	Nationally it is recognised that marine litter, and particularly plastics entering the system, is a huge issue. Therefore this response is based on the assumption that littering within SEMS remains elevated. Without data and monitoring the confidence level is low.	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
SCC	Increase in level of litter on the shore, particularly large items such as floats from pontoons.	Chessel Bay, River Itchen	All year round	Don't know.

What Management Measures, if any, have you introduced to influence this activity?

Respondent	What Management Measures have you introduced to influence these activities?
LHB	Garbage and recycling facilities for harbour users are provided at the harbour office, as well as the sailing clubs/mainas in Langstone. LHB promotes Southern Water's campaigns relating what should not be flushed.
FBC	Normal litter collection
IOWC	Unknown
SCC	Continue twice yearly litter pick but don't have the resources to remove the large items.

Given the increase in activity and any management measures you have introduced, do you believe that there has been any residual impact on the Solent European Marine Site?

Yes	No
2	2

Please give details of the residual impact and what is causing it. Please state if the evidence that you are reporting based is upon

- data collection
- anecdotal or
- perceived changes.

Please state your level of confidence in the data submitted: H / M / L

Respondent	Please elaborate on the residual impact
LHB	
FBC	It is unclear what effect littering may be having, but considerable current research (not by FBC) is ongoing
IOWC	
SCC	Plastic items that can't be removed will break down and enter the food chain.

Do you believe that this may cause the condition of the Solent European Marine site to change?

Yes	No
1	1

Please elaborate on how this may cause the condition of the Solent European Marine site to change

Respondent	Please elaborate on how this may cause the condition of the Solent European Marine site to change
LHB	
FBC	
IOWC	
SCC	Research is needed to establish whether plastic in the food chain is likely to be a particular problem for the interest features of the Solent and Southampton Water SPA/Ramsar site.

Please suggest actions that could address each issue you have recorded

Respondent	Please suggest actions that could address each issue you have recorded
LHB	Solent Forum are beginning a litter project which includes many RAs from the SEMS, and hopes to reduce the prevalence of litter in the Solent. RAs should fully support this project to address an ugly and growing problem with the potential to damage the site.
FBC	
IOWC	
SCC	Difficult to see how the plastic could be removed as it is integrated into the substrate on the beach

See also comments from the Environment Agency on Littering and removal of litter in Section 7 – Other Issues

Wildfowling

Increase	Remains Elevated since last year	No change	Decrease	Total Responses
0	0	0	2	2

Wildfowling

Decrease in Activities

How, Where, When, Why: Please include the nature and intensity of the changes and give details, for example is disturbance caused by noise or visual impact?

Respondent	How	Where	When	Why
LHB	The local wildfowling club are yet to provide data upon the number of birds shot last season, but anecdotal evidence from participants indicates the activity decreased. Confidence level: M	Northern sector of Langstone Harbour	Winter	Unknown
BRM	Pheasant shooting has now stopped within the Beaulieu Estate	Beaulieu Estate	N/A	Lack of popularity

What Management Measures, if any, have you introduced to influence this activity?

Respondent	What Management Measures have you introduced to influence these activities?
LHB	None
BRM	Cease of arranged shoots

In your view, have the activity levels now returned to an acceptable level that will not be causing damage to SEMS? If you have any concerns or would like to discuss this please answer NO

Yes	No
2	0

State if activity levels had previously been very high

Please suggest any further management measures that may be needed to address these activities

Respondent	Please suggest actions that could address each issue you have recorded
LHB	N/A
BRM	

Operation of coastal flood and erosion risk management schemes, barrages and sluices

Increase	Remains Elevated since last year	No change	Decrease	Total Responses
1	0	8	0	9

Operation of coastal flood and erosion risk management schemes, barrages and sluices

Increase in Activities

How, Where, When, Why: Please include the nature and intensity of the changes and give details, for example is disturbance caused by noise or visual impact?

Respondent	How	Where	When	Why
IOWC	The council are responsible for ongoing coastal maintenance works where no change would be reported. However the following planning approvals have increased the amount of erosion risk management schemes within SEMS: Planning consent (reference P/00967/17) for the replacement of derelict timber groynes in Bembridge was granted in October 2017. Planning consent (reference P/01049/17) for the repair and improvement of a private seawall was granted in November 2017. The National Trust are installing pine pilings on the inside bank of Salt Ponds (Saline Lagoon) at Newtown Quay which is Solent SAC Priority Habitat. There was noise disturbance from digger working on bank of lagoon and from driving in larger piles.	Bembridge, Cowes and Newton Harbour	All year maintenance of structures. Drive piling operations at Newtown carried out during two days in mid-September 2017 between hours of 9am-5pm	Erosion and risk to property.

What Management Measures, if any, have you introduced to influence this activity?

Respondent	What Management Measures have you introduced to influence these activities?
IOWC	For each planning application impacts to the designated sites were ruled out. Each was determined on its own merits and mitigation will have been secured.

Given the increase in activity and any management measures you have introduced, do you believe that there has been any residual impact on the Solent European Marine Site?

Yes	No
0	1

Do you believe that this may cause the condition of the Solent European Marine site to change?

Yes	No
0	0

Please suggest actions that could address each issue you have recorded

Respondent	Please suggest actions that could address each issue you have recorded
IOWC	Further pile driving is planned in Summer 2018 to alleviate erosion along the edge of the old marsh wall that protects the access to the Saline lagoons and to the adjacent saltmarsh at Newtown. However activity levels have returned to an acceptable level as impacts only associated with construction.

Navigation (maintenance of infrastructure) and operation of ports and harbours

Increase	Remains Elevated since last year	No change	Decrease	Total Responses
1	0	10	0	11

Navigation (maintenance of infrastructure) and operation of ports and harbours

Increase in Activities

How, Where, When, Why: Please include the nature and intensity of the changes and give details, for example is disturbance caused by noise or visual impact?

Respondent	How	Where	When	Why
NE		North Solent NNR	Not yet occurred	Not yet occurred

What Management Measures, if any, have you introduced to influence this activity?

Respondent	What Management Measures have you introduced to influence these activities?
NE	None

Given the increase in activity and any management measures you have introduced, do you believe that there has been any residual impact on the Solent European Marine Site?

Yes	No
0	0

Do you believe that this may cause the condition of the Solent European Marine site to change?

Yes	No
0	0

Please suggest actions that could address each issue you have recorded

Respondent	Please suggest actions that could address each issue you have recorded
NE	

5 Activities resulting from Plans and Projects

Have you been involved in any plans or projects in the last year that may give rise to an increase in activities in the Solent European marine site?

Response	Count
No	14
Yes	8
TOTAL	22

Please give details of plans or projects you have been involved within the last year that may give rise to an increase in activities in the Solent European marine site

Respondent	Details
LHB	The "England Coastal Path" (a provision of the MCAA 2009, being led by NE) remains an uncertainty around Langstone Harbour and much of the SEMS. While most of the site already has in place a coastal path, the new proposals continue to include "spreading room" depicted on Ordnance Survey maps, which may encourage walkers onto the intertidal zone where wildlife disturbance and habitat trampling are likely to occur.
CDC	New Local Plan Review for Chichester (excluding South Downs National Park). This will increase development of new dwellings and employment floor-space above the current plan levels
NE	The NNR has been approached by the Beaulieu River Harbour Master and Beaulieu Estate about dredging the marina on the Beaulieu river with intention of beneficially using dredged material within the North Solent NNR/SSSI. An MMO licence application has been submitted/received
LHC	LHC are in the process of seeking the consents required to reconfigure some of our visitor moorings to provide more walk ashore moorings and reduce mid river moorings. Overall moorings will fall by 28 but when the scheme is completed (planned for Winter 2019/20), LHC anticipate it will grow the number of visiting boats to the town.
PCC	As part of the new Local Plan, Portsmouth City Council's Issues and Options consultation (August 2017) proposed the retention of the existing Core Strategy Strategic Allocations for Tipner, Port Solent and Horsea Island, in close proximity to the Portsmouth Harbour SPA, for new housing, employment and associated infrastructure. An initial HRA Screening was undertaken for the consultation document; it identified that a number of the plan Options and proposed strategic sites have the potential to have a likely significant effect on European designated sites, either directly or in-combination with other proposals. The HRA report proposes measures to address these impacts as well as further technical studies and further assessment through the HRA process. Further details are available from the PCC website: https://www.portsmouth.gov.uk/ext/development-and-planning/planning/the-local-plan Granting planning permission for housing. The Council has adopted the final Solent Recreation Mitigation Partnership Strategy (Dec 17) from 1st April 2018. This requires all net new homes within 5.6k of the SPA to have a mitigation package - largely expected to be in the form of developer contributions as per a set sliding scale according to the number of bedrooms in a dwelling.
NFNPA	Not our own projects - but England Coast Path is likely to increase in activities in the Site (only mitigation appears to be signage). Planning consent for new visitor centre at Lepe consented in 2016 and building work started in 2017. Statement produced by HCC indicated a significant uplift in visitor numbers to this location and its surroundings once it is complete.
YHC	The restoration of Yarmouth Pier is part of a large Heritage Lottery funded project that aims to increase awareness and understanding of the local coastal environment. Information about all aspects of the pier will be located in a small visitors' centre that will bring more visitors to the area. This will include information about marine life and the designated sites as well as the social history of the pier. It will not necessarily lead to an increase in activities (other than walking on the pier) but it should have a positive impact on understanding of the local environment and marine life.

SCC A number of sizeable housing schemes in the city centre and at the City Council's former Town depot have been approved during the last year. These schemes may give rise to additional recreational pressure however, the City Council is participating in the Solent Recreation Mitigation Project and appropriate contributions were secured. The Itchen Riverside Coast Defence scheme, which forms part of the measures set out in the North Solent Shoreline Management Plan, received outline planning consent. To date, only the section adjacent to the Chapel Riverside development has received full planning consent.

If you have any other comments on activities that have resulted from, or may result from, plans and projects please give details

Respondent	Details
LHB	N/A
CDC	The Plan will be subject to a full Habitats Regulations Assessment. Recreational Disturbance impacts should be covered by Bird Aware Solent, other impacts and potential mitigation will be identified through the emerging HRA
W	Wightlink installed an upper Linkspan at its Fishbourne Berth in readiness for the introduction of a Diesel Electric Hybrid Ferry. This is not going to increase activities, it does promise to reduce energy emissions. St Clare has also been converted to accept vehicles to its Upper Car Deck. Being able to load and unload vehicles straight to and from the Upper Car Deck reduces the need for ramping mezzanine decks and noise.
SWS	N/A
PCC	The impacts of the new Local Plan on the Solent SPAs will be considered throughout the development of the Local Plan and assessed by the accompanying HRA.
IOWC	A planning application for 904 residential units within 5.6km of the Solent SPA was granted in September 2017. The scheme contributed financially to Solent Bird Aware and onsite recreational greenspace (including circular walks) was secured. Therefore the scheme is not likely to have an impact on the SEMS but may require monitoring. A planning application for the rerouting of a culvert and outfall at Ryde Harbour was granted in October 2017. It was concluded that with appropriate mitigation impacts to the SEMS was unlikely.

6 Monitoring

Are you undertaking any monitoring in the SEMS? Please give a short summary including whether it is ongoing or when it will be completed.

Respondent	Details
LHB	LHB monitors numerous water and shore based activities in the SEMS. In addition LHB monitors a variety of wildlife interests. All this monitoring work is on-going and further details are available upon request.
SxIFCA	Sussex IFCA monitors all fishing activities within our district
EA	Ongoing Environmental Monitoring of chemical and biological elements in transitional and coastal waters for EU Water Framework Directive. Biological elements include saltmarsh, seagrass, opportunistic macroalgae, phytoplankton, benthic invertebrates and estuarine fish (excluding coastal fish). Monitoring includes recording for invasive non-native species.
NE	Various conservation management projects & ecological surveys across NNR (surveys: Webs counts, ground nesting bird surveys on grassland & shoreline, nesting gull & seabird counts, butterfly transects, specific species surveys We have people counters located on Solent Way between Beaulieu & Bucklers hard and at our permit access area at Needs Ore
RHHA	Ongoing log of bait digging activity seen during routine river patrols in the Hamble, combined with any reporting by members of public. Supplied to SIFCA every few months.
CoHC	Turbidity monitoring in Inner Harbour (ongoing) and Saltmarsh monitoring since 2010 - upper estuary (ongoing).
LHC	Bathymetric surveys to monitor effectiveness of beneficial use of dredged material adjacent to Boiler Marsh. Two surveys a year (before and after each beneficial use cycle) until 2024. Periodic reporting to MMO as part of licence conditions.
SoIFCA	Southern IFCA Annual Oyster Survey - 2014-17. Undertaken in July/August (ongoing). Seine net fish monitoring surveys (Yarmouth, Keyhaven and Newtown Harbour) undertaken since 2016 in June and October - ongoing. Southampton Water, Langstone and Portsmouth Harbour Bivalve survey (new for 2017/18) - undertaken in March and October ongoing. Activity monitoring of all fishing activities through the sightings collection whilst officers are on duty.
FBC	Work has been undertaken by the Solent Waders and Brent Goose Strategy to update the SWBGS strategy, which FBC have provided funding. The Eastern Solent Coastal Partnership (ESCP) (FBC are part of this shared service) have also been undertaking the Solent Bird Studies across the Solent.
PCC	Annual reporting on the number of planning permissions granted subject to a developer contribution to Solent recreation disturbance mitigation and the progress of sea defence works. See the Authority Monitoring Reports on the PCC website for details.
YHC	Ongoing annual photographic saltmarsh monitoring in the Western Yar estuary.

Do you have a template for recording the results of monitoring undertaken in the Solent European marine site?

Response	Count
No	2
Yes	8

Who will hold the data and/or monitoring the report once the monitoring is complete?

Respondent	Details
LHB	LHB
SxIFCA	Sussex IFCA
EA	Marine Team, Analysis & Reporting teams, Fisheries and Biodiversity teams. Records for invasive non-native species are held on an external national website.
NE	NE
RHHA	RHHA & SIFCA
CoHC	CoHC
LHC	LHC & MMO
SoIFCA	Southern IFCA
FBC	HBIC
PCC	PCC
YHC	Yarmouth Harbour Commissioners and the Isle of Wight Estuaries Project.

Are you coordinating with any other organisation/s on monitoring in the SEMS?

Response	Count
No	2
Yes	8

Please give details of co-ordination with other organisations in the SEMS

Respondent	Details
LHB	sIFCA, RSPB, University of Portsmouth, CHC
SxIFCA	Chichester Harbour Conservancy
EA	Natural England, Harbour Authorities, Local Authorities, Cefas, IFCAs, Wildlife Trusts
RHHA	SIFCA
CoHC	Isle of Wight Estuaries Project
PCC	PCC are part of the Solent Recreation Mitigation Partnership
YHC	Southern IFCA fish surveys of the Western Yar estuary and around Yarmouth Pier

Are you considering monitoring in the SEMS?

Response	Count
No	14
Yes	3

Please give details of what monitoring you are considering

Respondent	Details
LHB	See previous answers
ABP	Potentially we are considering undertaking some water quality and sediment monitoring
PCC	Depending on the recommendations of the on-going HRA and SA work on the Local Plan.

Please give details of any new monitoring of impacts of activities that you are aware of?

Respondent	Details
LHB	None
CDC	Bird Aware will probably cover this themselves, but I am aware of contracts for automated visitor counters at various locations in the Solent and Visitors surveys, as CDC hold the contract on Bird Aware's behalf. Once the work is complete the monitoring reports will be published on the Bird Aware website
SWS	N/A
TVBC	Not directly by TVBC, but monitoring activities are being undertaken on behalf of the Solent Recreation Mitigation Partnership / Bird Aware Solent.

Respondent	Details
NE	North Solent NNR The main change in management this year will be regarding tern nesting 8 tern rafts are planned to be deployed at Needs Ore, with lures and decoys We also intend to install simple sand patch nest sites + decoys on shingle for Little Tern nesting on Warren Shore Also we are trialling use of Agri-laser a for deterring predatory behaviour on ground nesting and tern species
LHC	RSPB and Hampshire Wildlife Trust are monitoring the effectiveness of the Roseate Tern nesting habitats created on the salt marsh and harbour breakwaters
PCC	n/a
NFNPA	Bird Aware
IOWC	N/a

Other than mentioned above, are you aware of any new monitoring of impacts of activities?

Response	Count
No	18

7 Other Issues

Please describe any other points you would like to contribute and/or additional issues to report, or any potential research ideas/opportunities that are worth mentioning?

Respondent	Any other information?
LHB	N/A
EA	<p>Is Littering a medium risk - does the evidence support this? Littering due to Water Company assets - Combined sewage outfalls (CSOs), Storm outfalls and Emergency outfalls. Most of these outfalls have screens, but some litter still gets through due to the force of water and size of litter. Regulation of water company and private discharges falls to the EA. As you may be aware, water companies require a permit to legally discharge storm sewage from a CSO, Storm and Emergency outfalls. The majority of CSOs discharging to coastal waters in Solent & South Downs area have monitoring equipment on them (event/duration) and we regularly review this data. We may take enforcement action if a water company fails to report the operation of these assets accurately or if they cause a pollution incident by operating outside of a permit. The water company are required to clean up litter in areas impacted by their CSO/storm/emergency discharges. Private discharges are also regulated, but do not have storm or emergency outfalls. However, if they operate outside of their permit, the above would apply. The litter arising from these spills can be of concern to some, particularly as it is seen as an aesthetic issue. The amount of litter that is discharged from CSO's, Storm and Emergency outfalls to the marine environment is not monitored (even during storm conditions), so this is an unknown quantity, but is thought to be a small contribution compared to other marine litter. We do not have evidence to show that the litter is having an adverse impact on the designated conservation features (habitats or species), although we understand this is not desirable having good quality evidence is really important to direct appropriate intervention and management measures.</p>
W	Wightlink are employing an Environmental Officer to assist delivering an environmental plan and strategy.
SWS	Southern Water is carrying out site focussed investigations and a small amount of capital expenditure at Shanklin as part of its Bathing Water Enhancement Programme. This work is ongoing 2018/ 2019 and is intended to ensure that the Shanklin Bathing Water achieves the "Excellent" standard in the Bathing Water Directive based solely on the samples taken during the 2019 Bathing season (annual assessment). There is more information on this work at Shanklin on this webpage https://www.southernwater.co.uk/Media/Default/PDFs/BWEP-Shanklin.pdf
CoHC	Wider tidal regime / sediment tracking within the Solent to further inform baseline documents and management of dredging activities.
NFNPA	Happy to discuss with Solent Forum staff if above requires further clarification. Many thanks for all your work.
YHC	As part of the work to restore Yarmouth Pier we have carried out surveys and data collection in partnership with Bournemouth University. This will form part of a study into how the structure is used by marine life. We are also keen to facilitate the use of the pier by other researchers in the future and once the restoration work is complete we will investigate opportunities to set up a small research 'station'. This would allow access for researchers to attach their equipment to existing brackets etc. The location and general accessibility of Yarmouth Pier is ideal for monitoring in the Solent.
IOWC	Whilst a lot of these activities fall within the council's jurisdiction there is still no or low confidence in the reported evidence. This is because the activities are unregulated and monitoring does not take place. It would therefore be useful if a baseline condition and impact assessment of these activities are carried out for the Solent SEMS. This would ensure appropriate monitoring can be put in place and enable all authorities to effectively report on changes in activities.

Appendix 1 – Further comments from Authorities

To be completed

Appendix 2 – List of Abbreviations

Relevant Authority Abbreviations (those who provided online monitoring responses)

Authority	Abbreviation
Associated British Ports	ABP
Beaulieu River Management	BRM
Chichester District Council	CDC
Cowes Harbour Commissioners	CoHC
Environment Agency	EA
Fareham Borough Council	FBC
Havant Borough Council	HBC
Isle of Wight Council	IoWC
Langstone Harbour Board	LHB
Lymington Harbour Commissioners	LHC
Natural England	NE
New Forest National Park Authority	NFNPA
Portsmouth City Council	PCC
Queen's Harbour Master (Portsmouth)	QHM
River Hamble Harbour Authority (Hampshire County Council)	RHHA
Southern Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority	SoIFCA
Sussex Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority	SxIFCA
Southampton City Council	SCC
Southern Water Services Ltd	SWS
Test Valley Borough Council	TVBC
West Sussex County Council	WSCC
Wightlink	W
Yarmouth Harbour Commissioners	YHC

Other Abbreviations

Civil Aviation Authority	CAA
Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs	Defra
European Marine Site	EMS
Habitats Regulations Assessment	HRA
Hampshire County Council	HCC
Harbour Authority	HA
Marine Management Organisation	MMO
Marine Protected Area	MPA
National Nature Reserve	NNR
Solent European Marine Sites	SEMS
Solent Recreation Mitigation Project	SRMP
Special Area of Conservation	SAC
Special Protected Area	SPA

Solent European Marine Site Secretariat

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