Annex B2 Recommended Marine Conservation Zones (rMCZs) features (Finding Sanctuary)

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1 Broad-scale habitats¹

| Broad-scale habitat type | Total area of habitat in the Finding Sanctuary Project Area | Area of habitat in the rMCZ network | |
|---|--|--|------------|
| | km ² | km ² | % of total |
| High-energy intertidal rock | 7 | 4 | 57.1 |
| Moderate-energy intertidal rock | 5 | 0.9 | 18.0 |
| Low-energy intertidal rock | 3 | 0.4 | 13.3 |
| Intertidal coarse sediments | 19 | 4 | 21.0 |
| Intertidal sand and muddy sand | 12 | 1 | 8.3 |
| Intertidal mud | 170 | 20 | 11.8 |
| Intertidal mixed sediments | 5 | 2 | 40.0 |
| Coastal saltmarshes and saline reedbeds ¹ | 3 | <1 | 13.3 |
| Intertidal sediments dominated by aquatic angiosperms | <1 | <1 | 50.0 |
| Intertidal biogenic reefs | <1 | <1 | 20.0 |
| High-energy infralittoral rock | 727 | 61 | 8.4 |
| Moderate-energy infralittoral rock | 314 | 13 | 4.2 |
| Low-energy infralittoral rock | 8 | 0.5 | 6.3 |
| High-energy circalittoral rock | 1,293 | 48 | 3.7 |
| Moderate-energy circalittoral rock | 18,788 | 1,931 | 10.3 |
| Low-energy circalittoral rock ² | 4 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Sub-tidal coarse sediment | 28,638 | 4,871 | 17.0 |
| Sub-tidal sand | 33,622 | 6,762 | 20.1 |
| Sub-tidal mud | 6,303 | 1,210 | 19.2 |
| Sub-tidal mixed sediments | 3,568 | 505 | 14.2 |
| Sub-tidal macrophyte-dominated sediment | 20 | 1 | 5.0 |
| Sub-tidal biogenic reefs ³ | 0 | 0 | 0.0 |

¹ This overlaps with the habitat 'coastal saltmarsh', which is not listed in the Ecological Network Guidance (ENG) (JNCC & Natural England, 2011) as a habitat of conservation importance but has been included in the figures provided in the national gap analysis.

² Low-energy circalittoral rock has a very limited distribution in the south-west region.

³ There is no mapped data showing sub-tidal biogenic reefs mapped as broad-scale habitats; however, areas of *Sabellaria* reef and blue mussel (*Mytilus edulis*) bed have been captured as habitat features of conservation importance (FOCI).

¹ Please note that this is a summary document. Please refer to the Finding Sanctuary *Final Report and Recommendations* document for full details (Lieberknecht and others, 2011).

2 Features of conservation importance – habitats

| Habitat | Coverage of the feature in the rMCZ network | | |
|--|---|------------|--|
| Παριτατ | Number of occurrences | Area (km²) | |
| Blue mussel (Mytilus edulis) beds | 1 | _ | |
| Cold-water coral reefs | _ | _ | |
| Coral gardens | - | - | |
| Deep-sea sponge aggregations | - | - | |
| Estuarine rocky habitats | 23 | <0.01 | |
| File shell (<i>Limaria hians</i>) beds | - | - | |
| Fragile sponge and anthozoan communities on sub-tidal rocky habitats | 1 | - | |
| Intertidal underboulder communities | 8 | - | |
| Littoral chalk communities | - | - | |
| Maerl beds | - | 1 | |
| Horse mussel (Modiolus modiolus) beds | - | - | |
| Mud habitats in deep water | 29 | 101 | |
| Sea pens and burrowing megafauna communities | - | - | |
| Native oyster (Ostrea edulis) beds | _ | _ | |
| Peat and clay exposures | 1 | - | |
| Honeycomb worm (Sabellaria alveolata) reefs | 3 | - | |
| Ross worm (Sabellaria spinulosa) reefs | _ | - | |
| Seagrass beds | 9 | 2 | |
| Sheltered muddy gravels | - | 0.07 | |
| Sub-tidal chalk | 4 | - | |
| Sub-tidal sands and gravels | _ | 10,665 | |
| Tide-swept channels | 7 | - | |

Note: - indicates that there are no records of the feature within the rMCZ network.

3 Features of conservation importance – species

| Alkmaria romijni (tentacled lagoon-worm) 1 Amphianthus dohmii (sea-fan anemone) 17 Arctica islandica (ocean quahog) 9 Artrina pectinala (fan mussel) - Caecum armoricum (DeFolin's lagoon snail) - Cruoria cruoriaeformis (burgundy maerl paint weed) 3 Eunicella verucosa (pink sea-fan) 119 Gammarus insensibilis (lagoon sand shrimp) - Gitanopsis bispinosa (amphipod shrimp) - Gobius cobrits (giant goby) 14 Gobius couchi (Couch's goby) 2 Grateloupia montagmei (Grateloup's little-lobed weed) 3 Hippocampus guttulatus (long-snouted seahorse) 2 Hippocampus sp. ¹ (seahorse) 2 Leptopsammia pruvoti (sunset cup coral) 2 Lucernariopsis campanulata (stalked jellyfish) 7 Lucernariopsis cruxmelitensis (St John's jellyfish) 3 Nematostella vecteonis (starlet sea anemone) - Ostrae edulis (native oyster) 22 Padina pavonica (peacock's tail) 8 Palinurus elephas (siny lobster) 25 Palinu se elphas (siny lobster) 25 Palinurus elephas (sa sanail) | Species | Number of records |
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| | Pollicipes pollicipes (gooseneck barnacle) | - |
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| | Victorella pavida ² (trembling sea mat) | 102 |

¹ Polygon data for the distribution of seahorses in the south-west as provided by the Seahorse Trust (local knowledge).

² Records of *Victorella pavida* (trembling sea mat) technically fall outside the study area. As Swanpool is the only location in the UK where this species is found, it has been considered as a suitable location for a potential rMCZ Reference Area.

Note: '- ' indicates that there are no records of the feature within the rMCZ network.

4 References

JNCC & Natural England 2010. *The Ecological Network Guidance*. Peterborough: Natural England

Lieberknecht, L., Hooper, T., Mullier, T., Murphy, A., Neilly, M., Carr, H., Haines, R., Lewin, S., Hughs, E. 2011. *Finding Sanctuary Final Report and Recommendations.* A report submitted by the Finding Sanctuary stakeholder project to Defra, the Joint Nature Conservation Committee, and Natural England. Available at <u>www.finding-santuary.org</u> / The UK National Archives http://tna.europarchive/*/http://www.finding-sanctuary.org/