

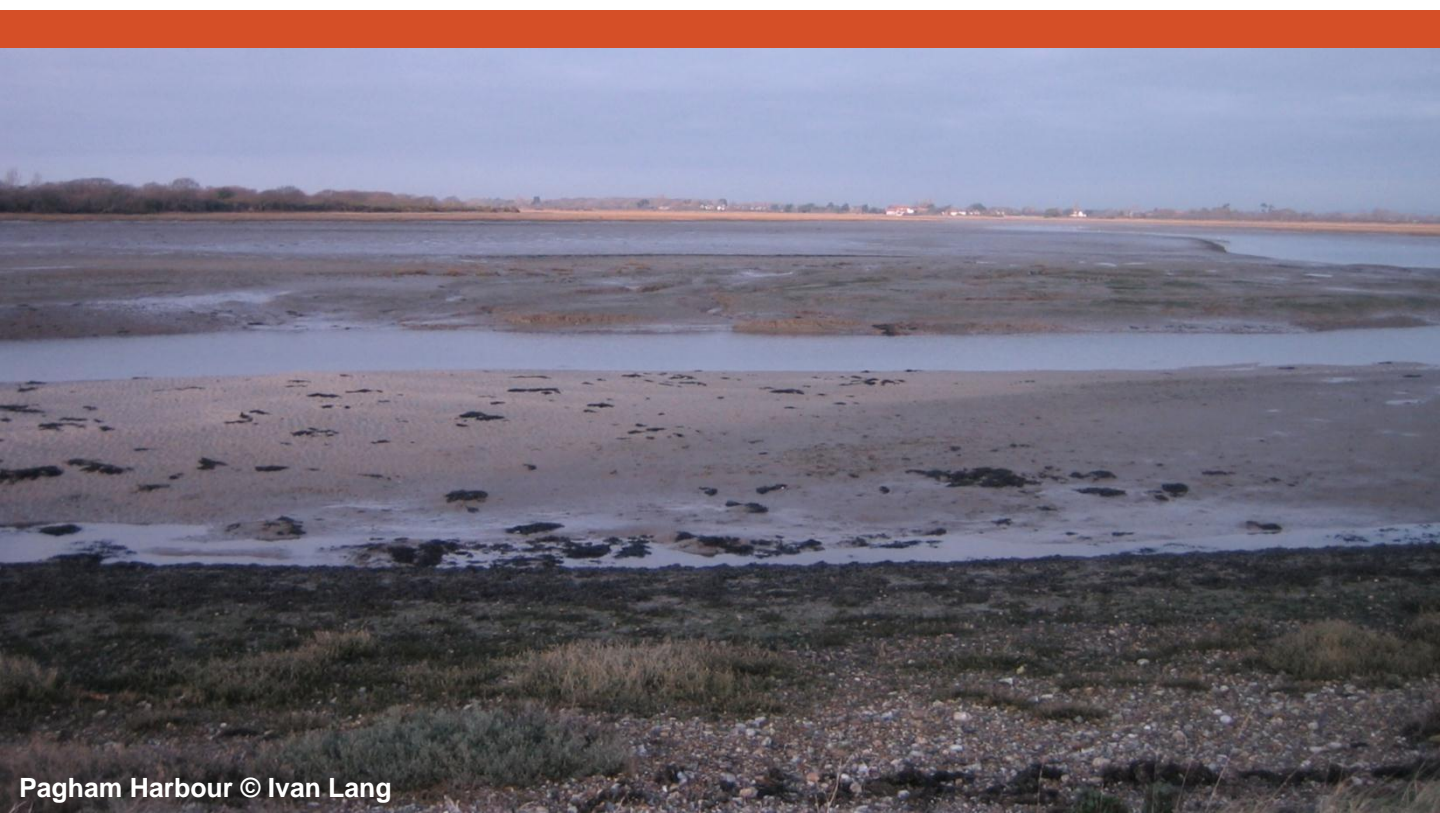
Pagham Harbour Marine Conservation Zone

Where is this site?

Pagham Harbour MCZ lies between Bognor Regis and Chichester in West Sussex. This naturally occurring harbour is a tidal inlet which is fronted by two dynamic shingle spits. The MCZ protects features within the harbour area, Ferry Pool lagoon and Church Norton spit covering a total area of nearly 3 km² – making it one of the smallest MCZs.

Why is this site important?

Pagham Harbour is renowned for its rich wildlife and as such the area is already protected by several designations including Pagham Harbour Site of Special Scientific Interest, Special Protection Area and Ramsar site. The MCZ builds upon this by offering protection to features not already covered by the existing designations. Church Norton spit runs parallel to the mouth of the harbour, creating a sheltered environment that is capable of supporting a different range of species than are found on the open coast.



What does this Marine Conservation Zone protect?

The site offers specific protection to two different species and one habitat type. The environment within Ferry Pool lagoon supports the rare lagoon sand shrimp. These are small animals that only grow to about 2 cm in length, and are typically found within sheltered shallow environments that are made up of a mixture of silty sediments.

Defolin's lagoon snail is another rare species protected by this site, with colonies only known to occur in three locations in the UK. It is extremely small measuring only 2 mm long and tends to live within particular areas on shingle beaches that have suitable salinity levels. Both species are not only rare but also very vulnerable to disturbance and habitat loss.



Seagrass beds, made up of grass-like flowering plants, occur within the harbour itself. These provide an important food source for wildfowl and also contain nutrients which support a range of animal communities. The seagrass beds within the site are intertidal so they can offer protection to the juvenile fish and shellfish found amongst them at high tides. Seagrass beds are sensitive to physical disturbance caused by some activities.

Features	General management approach
Seagrass beds	Maintain in favourable condition
Defolin's lagoon snail (<i>Caecum armoricum</i>)	Maintain in favourable condition
Lagoon sand shrimp (<i>Gammarus insensibilis</i>)	Maintain in favourable condition

Who will manage Marine Conservation Zones?

Many activities within the marine environment are regulated through marine licences. More information regarding the marine licensing process in relation to MCZs can be found on the MMO website www.marinemangement.org.uk/licensing/marine.htm

Other activities are regulated through different mechanisms. For example fishing activities are managed through European legislation, national statutory instruments, byelaws and self-imposed voluntary agreements. Similar arrangements are in place to manage the range of activities that may impact MCZs including pollution, coastal development and recreation.

Management of sites is currently being prioritised nationally according to the potential or actual adverse impacts of activities on the features designated in relation to fishing activities. This prioritisation will be further refined at a local level taking into account relevant information and will guide regulators to those sites which may need protection before others.

Any management measures that are required for MCZs will be applied on a case-by-case basis. Management measures will be implemented at sites most at risk of damage first, regulating only those activities which have a detrimental impact on the features. In cases where there is a high risk to designated features being damaged emergency measures may be put in place to ensure the protection of vulnerable habitats and species.

What happens now this site has been designated?

The site specific information below provides an overview of which activities may be affected by the designation of the MCZ and the current management measures. As with all management measures, they may, of course, be subject to change in the light of new evidence becoming available.

No activities have been identified at this MCZ which could be affected as a result of site designation. The impact of any future activities on the MCZ and its features will be assessed and managed as appropriate.

With regards to fisheries management the site is within jurisdiction of the Sussex IFCA. All existing Sussex IFCA and local byelaws will apply to this site, in addition to all relevant national and EU fisheries legislation such as Cod and Hake recovery control measures.

For further information visit the Sussex IFCA website at www.sussex-ifca.gov.uk or the MMO website at www.marinemanagement.org.uk/protecting/conservation/mcz.htm

Where can I find out further information?

An interactive map showing this MCZs and other marine protected areas is available at <http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-5201>

Additional information about this site and other MCZs is available at <https://www.gov.uk/government/policies/protecting-and-sustainably-using-the-marine-environment>

and within Natural England's advice available at <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/category/1499649>



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Annex: Management

Lead organisation	Activities
Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authorities (IFCAs)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fisheries (0-6nm) including commercial fisheries and recreational fishing activities such as sea angling For further information visit www.association-ifca.org.uk
Marine Management Organisation (MMO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fisheries (management) (6-12nm)• Fisheries (enforcement) national and EU legislation• Licensable activities such as deposit and removal activities below mean high water springs, including subsea cables (up to 12nm), construction (including renewables <100MW, ports and coastal protection), dredging and disposal• Harbour Orders and Harbour Empowerment Orders• Section 36 and safety zone consents• Enforcement of licensable activity and other consents (including deemed marine licences)• Development of marine plans integrating the social requirements, economic potential and environmental priorities of marine plan areas• Activities requiring a wildlife licence For further information visit www.marinemangement.org.uk/fisheries or www.marinemangement.org.uk/licensing/marine.htm
Environment Agency (EA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fisheries management for migratory and fresh water fish• Coastal protection and flood management• Water quality• Permitted discharges from terrestrial sources For further information visit www.environment-agency.gov.uk/default.aspx
Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Oil and Gas related activities• Renewable energy related activities For further information visit www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-of-energy-climate-change
Harbour Authorities and local planning authorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Harbour authorities have management responsibilities for the port and coastal waters within their jurisdiction• Local authorities have role to manage, regulate and facilitate activities at the coast. These include management of coastal recreation, tourism, economic regeneration, flood protection, spatial planning and coastal zone and estuary management, For further information contact your local authority or IFCA
Department for Transport (DfT)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Responsible for shipping, harbours, ship pollution and offshore safety For further information visit www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-transport
Natural England (NE)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Public access For further information visit www.naturalengland.org.uk/