

## Marine Conservation Zone: Selection Assessment Document

Version and Issue date	Amendments made
V1.007.09.11	Draft final recommendations refined by the RSG and Local Groups in July 2011 and finalised by the RSG 2/3 August 2011.

<b>1. Site name</b> Wootton Old Mill Pond recommended Reference Area no. 16	<b>3. Site surface area</b> 16 ha                      0.16 km <sup>2</sup>
<b>2. Site centre location</b> ETRS89 N50 43' 8.430" W1 13' 23.574" N50 43.140' W1 13.393' (N.B. WGS 84 UTM 31N coordinates are provided in the map vertices)	<b>4. Biogeographic region</b> Eastern English Channel

### 5. Features identified for specific protection within Wootton Old Mill Pond rRA <sup>1</sup>

Feature type	Feature name	Point records within rRA <sup>2</sup>
Species FOCI Low	Tentacled Lagoon Worm ( <i>A.romijni</i> )	14 records

### 6. Other features occurring within Wootton Old Mill Pond rRA (to be protected)

No other features are recorded from this site.

### 7. Map of site (see below)

### 8. Site summary

This rRA, lying within Norris to Ryde rMCZ no 19, is a saline lagoon above Mean High Water and contains the best regional example of the Tentacled Lagoon Worm (*Alkmaria romijni*). Historically, water levels have been controlled and are currently managed through a series of structures at Wootton Bridge to prevent flood risk. Natural England, Isle of Wight Council and the Environment Agency plan to return the Mill Pond to estuarine conditions in the long-term with intertidal mud flats through managed realignment.

### 9. Detailed site description

For further details please see detailed site description for rMCZ 19.

### 10. Site boundary

The site boundary follows the boundary of Wootton Old Mill Pond.

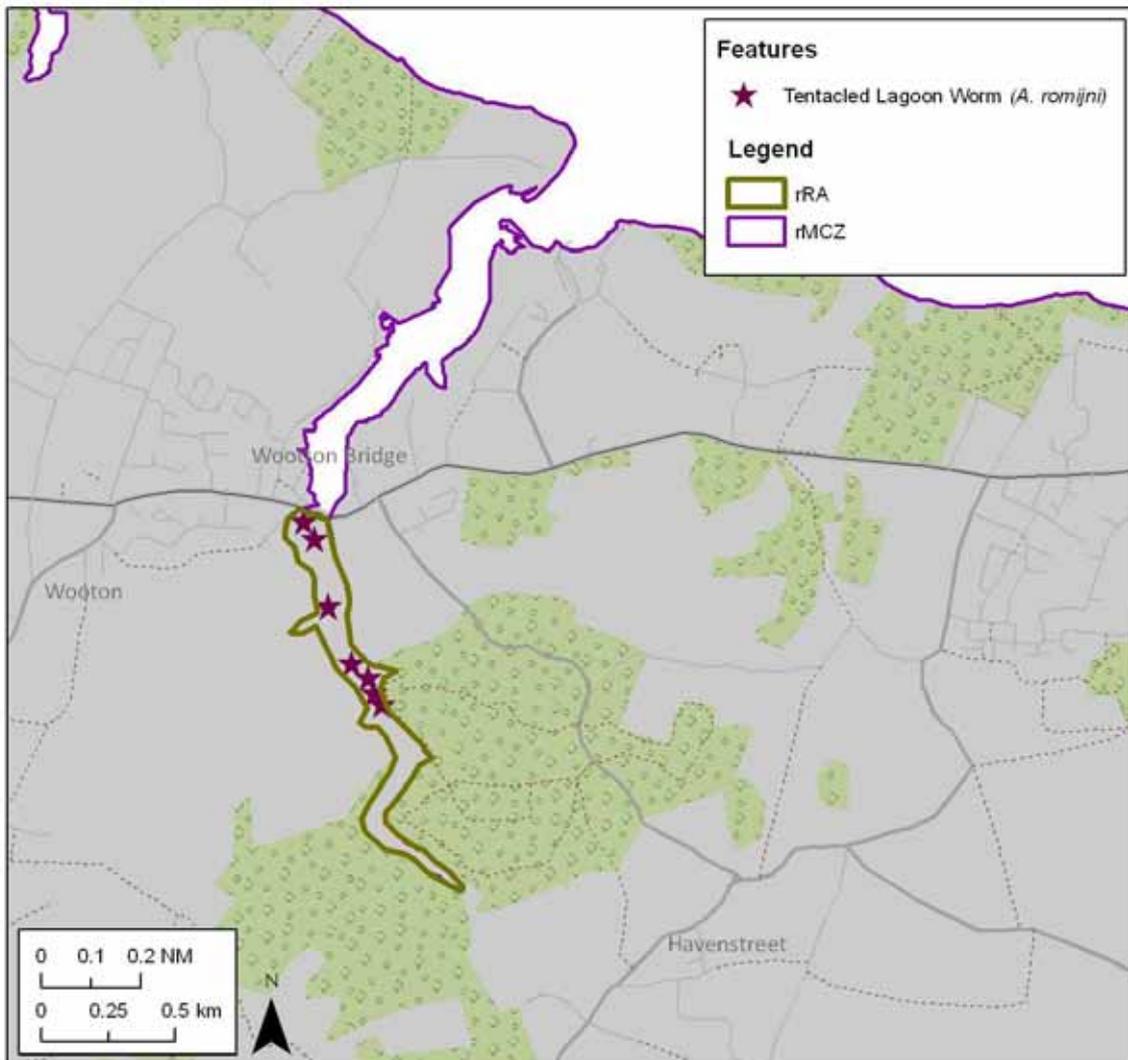
### 11. Conservation objectives

Individual conservation objective forms for each feature can be found in Appendix 1. In selecting the reference areas, stakeholders have identified specific features that merit reference area protection. ALL features in a reference area will, by default, have a Conservation Objective of "RECOVER to Reference Condition."

<sup>1</sup> Sources of information relating to these features are listed in Section 13.

<sup>2</sup> A "record" is a survey point where a single individual, population or habitat has been found

Wootton Old Mill Pond  
Recommended Reference Area no 16



Features to be protected within reference area:

Tentacled Lagoon Worm (*A.romijni*)



This map and list show the main features selected by the RSG for inclusion within this Draft Reference Area. However, **ALL** features (including any additional) falling within this area would be given Reference Area protection.

Map and coordinates displayed in WGS84, UTM Zone 31 North.  
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NOT TO BE USED FOR NAVIGATION.

## Wootton Old Mill Pond rRA no 16

### 12. Sites to which this site is related

This site is included within the Norris to Ryde rMCZ no 19.

### 13. Supporting documentation (information relating to ENG features only)

Information	Type of information	Source	Name of survey	No of points	Dates
All broad scale habitats	Modelled and survey data	UKSeaMap/MESH v7	Combined	n/a	2011
Tentacled Lagoon Worm (A. Romijni)	Survey	Data sourced from: Environment Agency database		14	1990-1998

### References

Please refer to the references in the site description of r MCZ 19.

### 14. Stakeholder Support for the site

Local Group gave the site strong support although some concerns were raised over it effectively being a man-made pond. The RSG as a group reached consensus that this site should be put forward in their final recommendations.

Individual sectors wishing to note their support or concerns about the site recorded the following at the final RSG meeting in August 2011; their comments have been transcribed verbatim from the form that they completed:

SECTOR	ORGANISATION	COMMENT for rRA 16
Yachting	RYA	Support.
Fishing - FPO, beam trawling		Good support.
Wildlife Trusts	Hampshire Wildlife Trust	I support this.
Marine Ecology	Seasearch	Strongly support this site as reference for tentacled lagoon worm.

### 15. Evolution of the site recommendations

The site was identified as a suitable place for an RA to protect the regionally best example of Tentacled Lagoon Worms. Due to the lack of activities in the area as the Old Mill Pond there has never been any contention over the site. Boundaries were only changed to better reflect the shape of the pond.

For greater detail on discussions relating to the site and the network, please refer to both RSG and Local Group stakeholder meeting reports at [www.balancedseas.org](http://www.balancedseas.org).

### 16. Implications for Stakeholders

The following issues are associated with this site:

- This location is already highly managed, with planning permission granted to fit small tidal turbines to the sluices for the benefit of the ecology of the marsh.
- Adjacent to private land and hotel complex; owner will need to be consulted
- EA has management plan for the SSSI that is compatible with lagoon worm

This list represents only the major issues associated with the site. To see all stakeholder discussions, please refer to the Balanced Seas RSG and Local Group meeting reports at [www.balancedseas.org](http://www.balancedseas.org).