

<b>Colne Point draft Reference Area no. 1</b>
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<b>1. Site name</b>  Colne Point (draft Reference Area no. 1)	<b>3. Site surface area</b>  95 ha                      0.95 km <sup>2</sup>
<b>2. Site centre location</b>  1° 2' 5.581" E                      51° 46.133' N	<b>4. Biogeographic region</b>  Southern North Sea

**5. Features identified for specific protection within the Colne Point dRA**

Feature type	Feature name	Area
Broad-scale habitats	A2.2 Intertidal sand and muddy sand	0.0009 km <sup>2</sup>
	A2.3 Intertidal mud	0.1902 km <sup>2</sup>
	A2.4 Intertidal mixed sediments	0.0532 km <sup>2</sup>
Habitat FOCI	Blue mussel beds	71106.31721 m <sup>2</sup>
Species FOCI Low	Native Oyster ( <i>O.edulis</i> )	1 point record

**6. Other features occurring within the Colne Point dRA (to be protected)**

Feature type	Feature name	Reason not specifically identified for reference area protection
Broad Scale Habitats	A5.2 Subtidal sand	Not viable for broad scale habitat RA
	A5.3 Subtidal mud	Not viable for broad scale habitat RA
	A5.4 Subtidal mixed sediments	Not viable for broad scale habitat RA

**7. Map of site**
**8. Site summary**

This area lies with dMCZ3, the Blackwater, Crouch, Roach and Colne. An area just slightly to the north of this proposed site was originally suggested by the Kent and Essex IFCA as a potential Reference Area for Blue Mussel beds, as it includes both subtidal and intertidal examples of this feature.

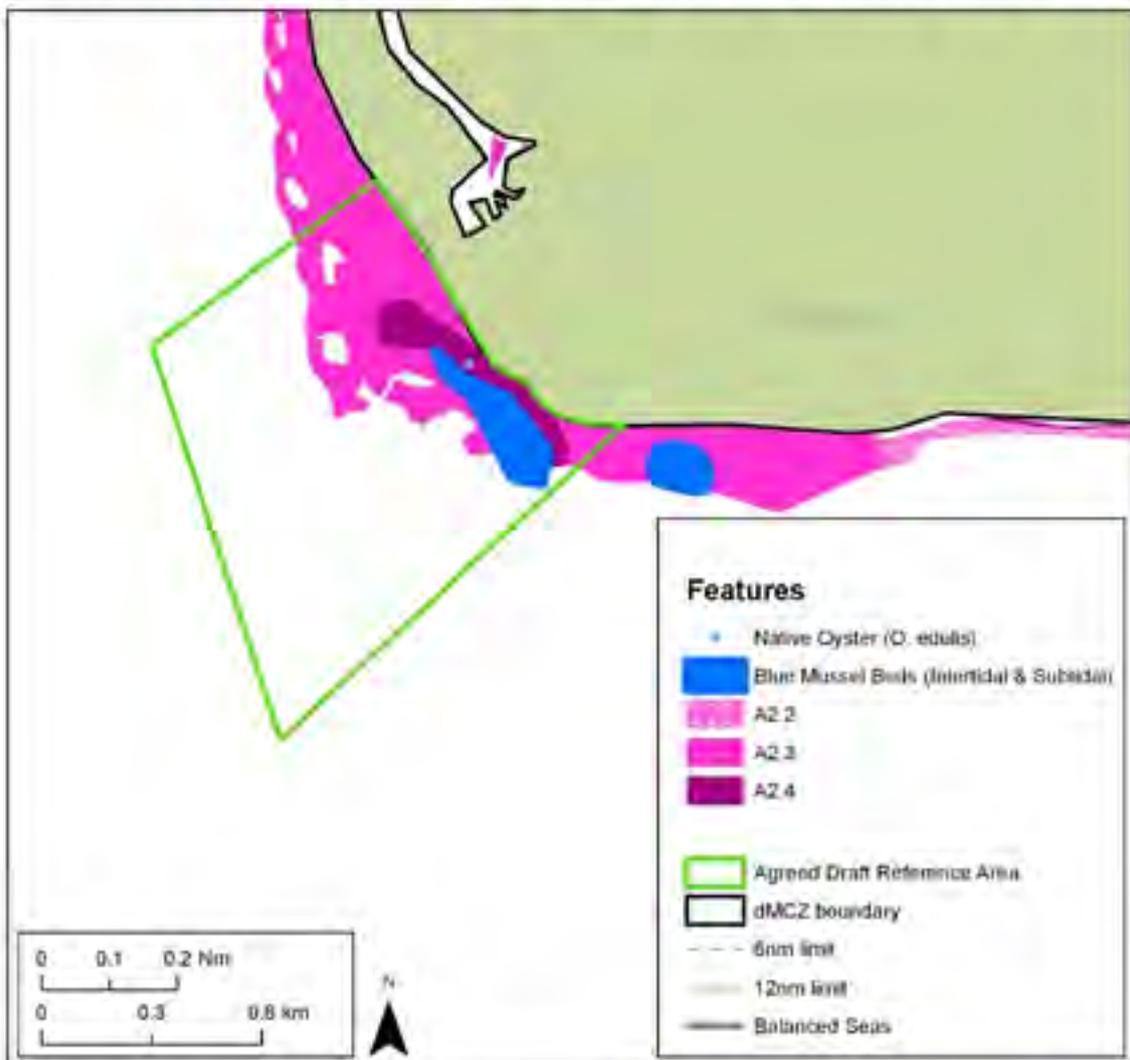
The boundary was subsequently redefined by the Project Team to incorporate the project's data records for the Lagoon Sea Slug (*Tenellia adpersa*), which has a highly restricted distribution and is only found within the Blackwater, Crouch, Roach and Colne Estuaries dMCZ. The new boundaries were discussed with the RSG and accepted as a draft RA. However later communications with Essex Wildlife Trust revealed that the *Tenellia* records had been inaccurately mapped. The actual locations of this species include Howlands Marsh and Abbots Hall Farm which would be appropriate locations for RAs for this species and the RSG will be consider these areas later. However, this site at Colne Point is being retained as a draft Reference Area for Blue Mussel beds for the time being, having been discussed as such by the RSG. The RSG will need to reconsider the data to determine if this site is the best for Blue Mussels, and also to identify a suitable RA for the Lagoon Sea Slug.

**9. Detailed site description**

To be completed.

Colne Point draft Reference Area no. 1

Colne Point  
Draft Reference Area no 1 (for FOCI and Intertidal Broad-scale Habitats)



Features to be protected within reference area:

A2.2 Intertidal sand and muddy sand  
A2.3 Intertidal mud  
A2.4 Intertidal mixed sediments  
Blue mussel beds  
Native Oyster (*O.edulis*)



 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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**Colne Point draft Reference Area no. 1****10. Site boundary**

The site boundary was originally drawn to include the Lagoon Sea Slug (*Tenellia adspersa*) records as well as the Blue Mussel bed and be 500m in its minimum dimension. However, it is now known that the Lagoon Sea Slug does not occur here and so it is not shown on the map. Boundaries may well change as a result.

**11. Conservation objectives**

All ENG features falling within the site will have a conservation objective set to 'Recover to reference condition', including those broad-scale habitats not shown on the map.

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

This site falls within the Blackwater, Crouch, Roach and Colne Estuaries dMCZ no 3.

**13. Supporting documentation**

To be completed.

**References**

To be completed.

**Implications for Stakeholders**

- Given their stricter restrictions, draft Reference Areas will have higher levels of contention than dMCZs and need to have further discussion, including with local stakeholders, before they are finalised.

<b>Oyster Mid Channel draft Reference Area no. 2</b>
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<b>1. Site name</b>  Oyster Mid Channel draft Reference Area no. 2	<b>3. Site surface area</b>  94 ha                      0.94 km <sup>2</sup>
<b>2. Site centre location</b>  0° 50' 55.814" E                      51° 44.080' N	<b>4. Biogeographic region</b>  Southern North Sea

**5. Features identified for specific protection within the Oyster Mid Channel dRA**

Feature type	Feature name	Area
Habitat FOCI	Native Oyster beds	No data available
Species FOCI Low	Native Oyster ( <i>O.edulis</i> )	No data available

**6. Other features occurring within the Oyster Mid Channel dRA (to be protected)**

Feature type	Feature name	Reason not specifically identified for reference area protection
Broad Scale Habitats	A2.3 Intertidal mud	Not viable for Broad Scale Habitat RA
	A5.1 Subtidal coarse sediment	Not viable for Broad Scale Habitat RA
	A5.4 Subtidal mixed sediments	Not viable for Broad Scale Habitat RA

**7. Map of site**

**8. Site summary**

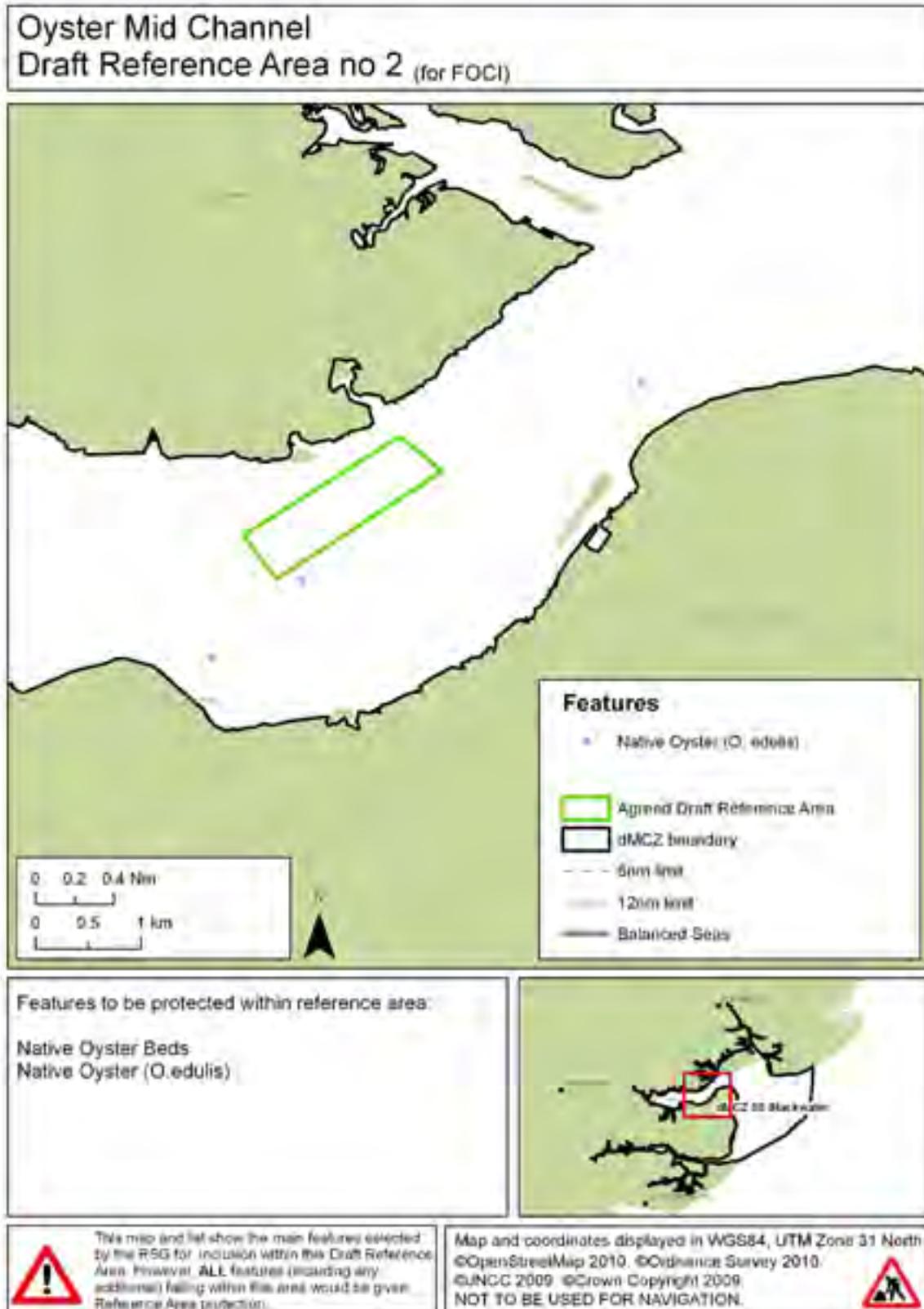
This site, within dMCZ 3 (Blackwater, Crouch, Roach and Colne), was suggested by the shellfisheries sector as a suitable area for protection of Native Oyster (*Ostrea edulis*) and Oyster beds. Both of these features are found in substantial numbers in this dMCZ and are thought to be some of the best examples in the region. This dRA area has been suggested as an area that would not be in conflict with the extensive considerable shellfish harvesting (oysters in particular) that takes place in this dMCZ.

However, the Project has no records for either Native Oysters (*Ostrea edulis*) or Native Oyster beds and these will have to be sourced before this site can progress.

**9. Detailed site description**

To be completed.

Oyster Mid Channel draft Reference Area no. 2



**Oyster Mid Channel draft Reference Area no. 2****10. Site boundary**

The boundary has been suggested by the shellfisheries sector as an area that contains both features, but would be voluntarily avoid by the shellfisheries.

**11. Conservation objectives**

All ENG features falling within the site will have a conservation objective set to 'Recover to reference condition', including those broad-scale habitats not shown on the map.

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

This site is contained within the Blackwater, Crouch, Roach and Colne Estuaries dMCZ 3.

**13. Supporting documentation**

To be completed.

**References**

To be completed.

**Implications for stakeholders**

- Given their stricter restrictions, draft Reference Areas will have higher levels of contention than dMCZs and need to have additional discussions, including local stakeholders, before they are finalised.

<b>Holehaven Creek draft Reference Area no. 3</b>
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<b>1. Site name</b> Holehaven Creek draft Reference Area no. 3	<b>3. Site surface area</b> 210 ha          2.1km <sup>2</sup>
<b>2. Site centre location</b>  0° 31' 28.948" E          51° 31.466' N	<b>4. Biogeographic region</b>  Southern North Sea

**5. Features identified for specific protection within the Holehaven Creek dRA**

Feature type	Feature name	Point records within dRA
Habitat FOCI	Sheltered muddy gravels	1

**6. Other features occurring within the Colne Point dRA (to be protected)**

Feature type	Feature name	Area
Broad-scale habitats	A2.2 Intertidal sand and muddy sand	Not viable for broad-scale habitat RA
	A2.3 Intertidal mud	Not viable for broad-scale habitat RA
	A5.3 Subtidal mud	Not viable for broad-scale habitat RA

**7. Map of site (see below)**
**8. Site summary**

Holehaven Creek is an existing SSSI abutting the west side of Canvey Island, Essex and protecting littoral sediments. The area falls within the Thames Estuary dMCZ 5. This site is suggested by the Project Team as a contingency Reference Area for A5.3 subtidal mud, despite it being less than the viable minimum dimension for broad-scale habitats. Please see Section 2.3.g in the main report for more details.

**9. Detailed site description**

To be completed.

**10. Site boundary**

The site boundary would follow the existing Holehaven Creek SSSI boundary.

**11. Conservation objectives**

All ENG features falling within the site will have a conservation objective set to 'Recover to reference condition', including those broad-scale habitats not shown on the map.

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

This site is concurrent with Holehaven Creek SSSI and within the Thames Estuary dMCZ.

**13. Supporting documentation**

To be completed.

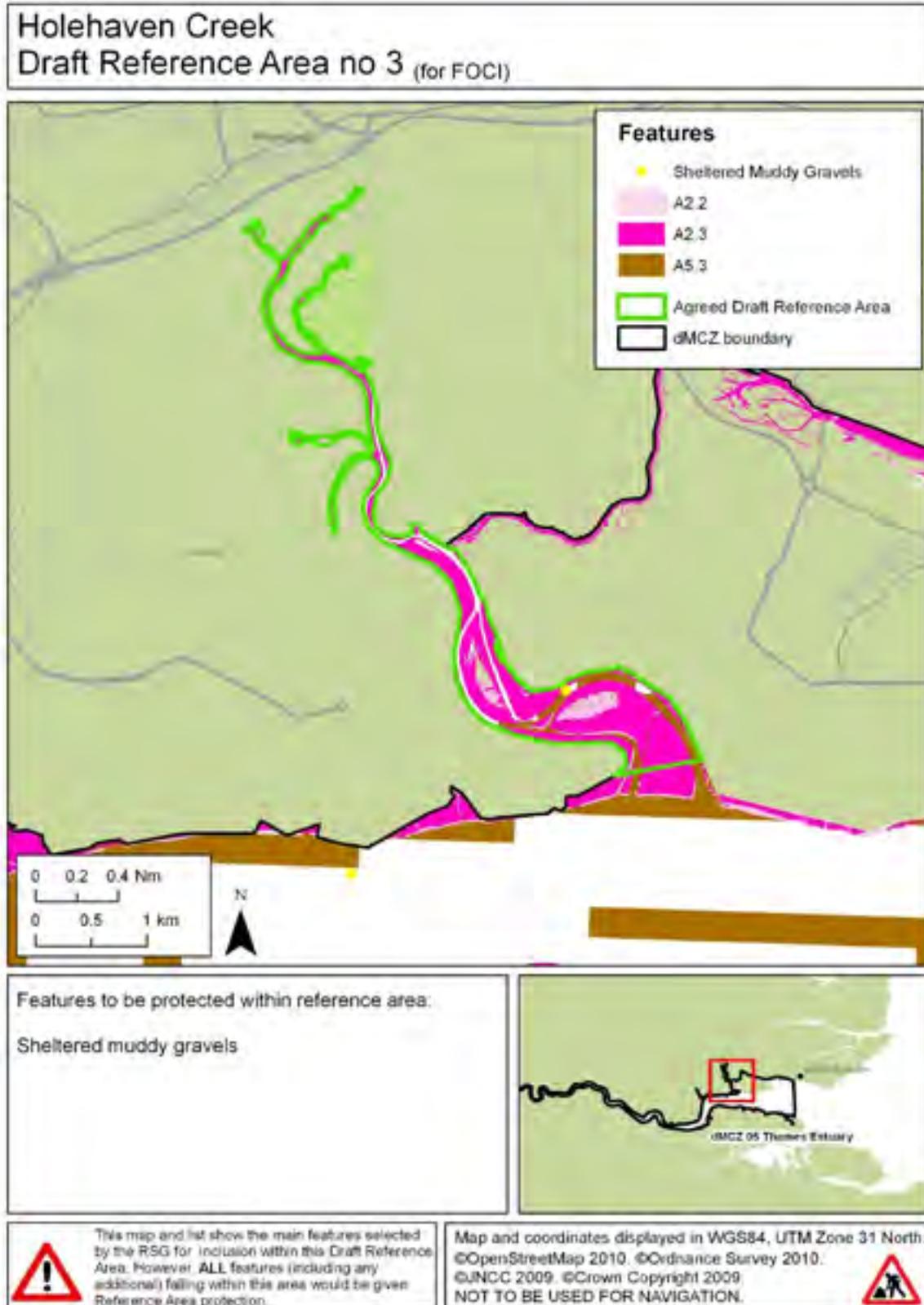
**References**

To be completed.

**Implications for Stakeholders**

- Given their stricter restrictions, draft Reference Areas will have higher levels of contention than dMCZs and need to have additional discussions, including local stakeholders, before they are finalised

Holehaven Creek draft Reference Area no. 3



**Westgate Promontory draft Reference Area no. 4**

<b>1. Site name</b>  Westgate Promontory (draft Reference Area no. 4)	<b>3. Site surface area</b>  27 ha                      0.27 km <sup>2</sup>
<b>2. Site centre location</b>  1° 19' 47.474" E                      51° 23.097' N	<b>4. Biogeographic region</b>  Southern North Sea

**5. Features identified for specific protection within the Westgate Promontory dRA**

Feature type	Feature name	Area
Broad Scale Habitats	A1.2 Moderate energy intertidal rock	0.04 km <sup>2</sup>
	A2.3 Intertidal mud	0.12 km <sup>2</sup>
Habitat FOCI	Littoral chalk communities	43305 m <sup>2</sup>
	Subtidal sands and gravels	28027 m <sup>2</sup>
Species FOCI Low	Stalked Jellyfish ( <i>H. auricula</i> )	1 point record

**6. Other features occurring within the Westgate Promontory dRA (to be protected)**

Feature type	Feature name	Reason not specifically identified for reference area protection
Broad Scale Habitats	A3.2 Moderate energy infralittoral rock	Not viable for Broad Scale Habitat RA
	A4.2 Moderate energy circalittoral rock	Not viable for Broad Scale Habitat RA
	A5.2 Subtidal sand	Not viable for Broad Scale Habitat RA
	A5.4 Subtidal mixed sediments	Not viable for Broad Scale Habitat RA

**7. Map of site (see below)**
**8. Site summary**

This site falls within the Thanet Coast dMCZ and was identified as one of only two locations containing survey records for the Stalked Jellyfish (*Haliclystus auricula*). The site also contains several intertidal habitats such as littoral chalk communities, mud and moderate energy rock. Subtidal sands and gravels need to be verified to establish the specific substratum type and therefore the minimum viable patch size necessary, as outlined in the ENG.

**9. Detailed site description**

To be completed.

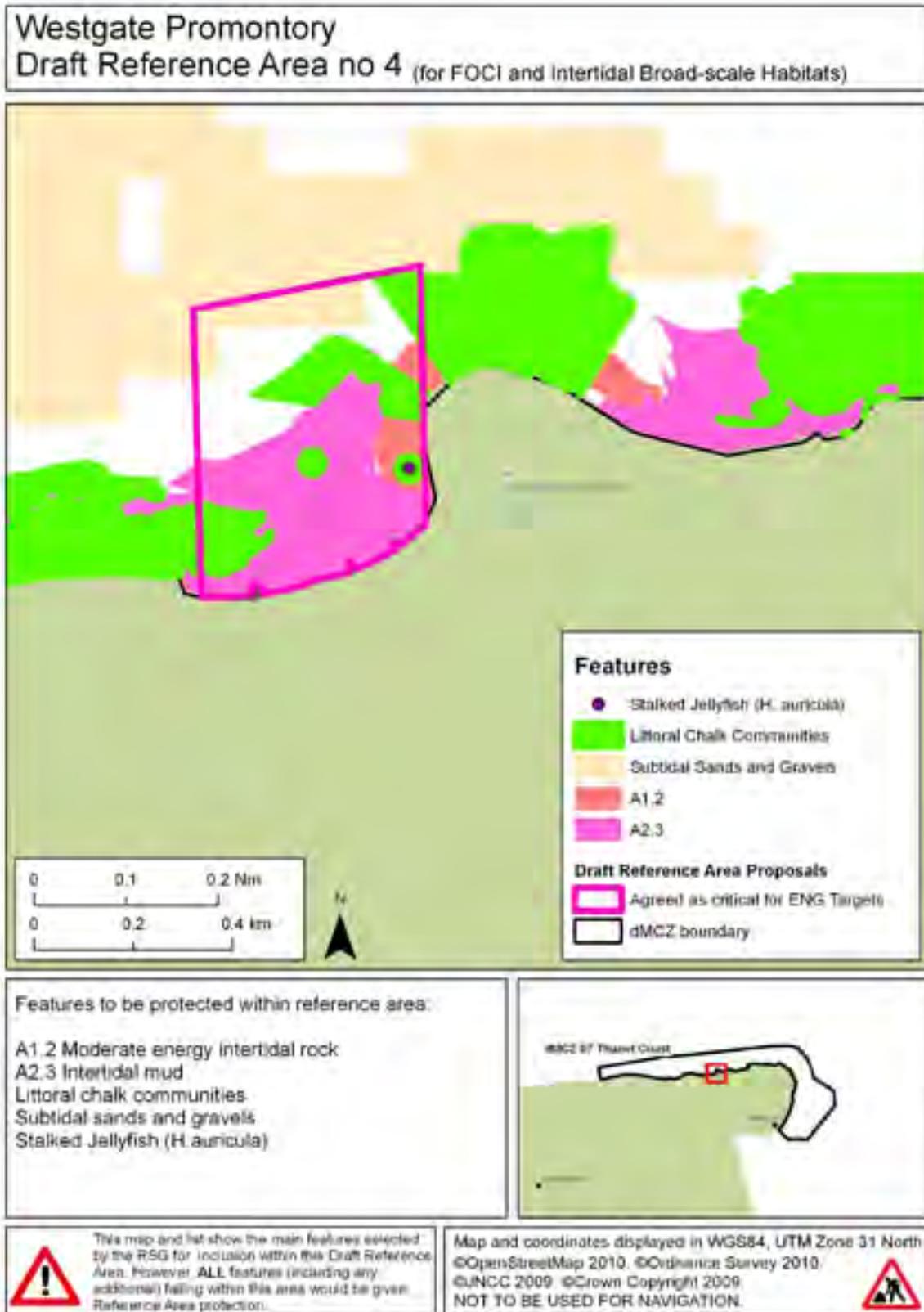
**10. Site boundary**

The site boundary is located to contain the Stalked Jellyfish (*Haliclystus auricula*) and is drawn to be 500m in its minimum dimension.

**11. Conservation objectives**

All ENG features falling within the site will have a conservation objective set to 'Recover to reference condition', including those broad-scale habitats not shown on the map.

Westgate Promontory draft Reference Area no. 4



**Westgate Promontory draft Reference Area no. 4****12. Sites to which this site is related**

This site is contained with the Thanet Coast dMCZ no 7, the SSSI and SAC, and is close to draft Reference Area no 5 (Turner Contemporary).

**13. Supporting documentation**

To be completed.

**References**

To be completed.

**Implications for stakeholders**

- Given their stricter restrictions, draft Reference Areas will have higher levels of contention than dMCZs and need to have additional discussions, including local stakeholders, before they are finalised.
- This dRA was identified as critical to meeting the ENG criteria (only one example, or very few examples, found in the region). It has therefore been included into the network by the RSG with the understanding that it would be necessary to meet the ENG criteria, but may not have particularly strong support for its location or suitability and will need further discussion with stakeholders.
- Given that this location is very busy with number of sectors undertaking activities here, this may prove to be a difficult location for a Reference Area but further discussions are needed first.

**Turner Contemporary draft Reference Area no. 5**

<b>3. Site name</b>  Turner Contemporary (draft Reference Area no. 5)	<b>3. Site surface area</b>  25 ha                  0.25 km <sup>2</sup>
<b>1. Site centre location</b>  1° 22' 51.455" E                  51° 23.625' N	<b>4. Biogeographic region</b>  Southern North Sea

**5. Features identified for specific protection within the Turner Contemporary dRA**

Feature type	Feature name	Area
Broad-scale habitats	A1.2 Moderate energy intertidal rock	0.03 km <sup>2</sup>
	A2.2 Intertidal sand and muddy sand	0.000004 km <sup>2</sup>
	A2.3 Intertidal mud	0.02 km <sup>2</sup>
Habitat FOCI	Littoral chalk communities	30223 m <sup>2</sup>
	Subtidal sands and gravels	36726 m <sup>2</sup>
	Subtidal chalk	5032 m <sup>2</sup>
Species FOCI Low	Stalked Jellyfish ( <i>Lucernariopsis cruxmelitensis</i> )	1 point record

**6. Other features occurring within the Turner Contemporary dRA (to be protected)**

Feature type	Feature name	Reason not specifically identified for reference area protection
Broad-scale habitats	A3.2 Moderate energy infralittoral rock	Not viable for Broad Scale Habitat RA
	A5.2 Subtidal sand	Not viable for Broad Scale Habitat RA

**7. Map of site (see below)**
**8. Site summary**

This site falls within the Thanet Coast dMCZ 7 and captures the only regional record of the Stalked Jellyfish (*Lucernariopsis cruxmelitensis*). Additional features have been included in the reference area, such as the intertidal habitats (rock, sediment, mud and littoral chalk communities). The wildlife sector considers this is not a suitable location for a Reference Area for intertidal chalk reef as it lies under defended cliff and is progressively disappearing. Subtidal sands and gravels need to be verified to establish the specific substratum type and therefore the minimum viable patch size necessary, as outlined in the ENG.

**9. Detailed site description**

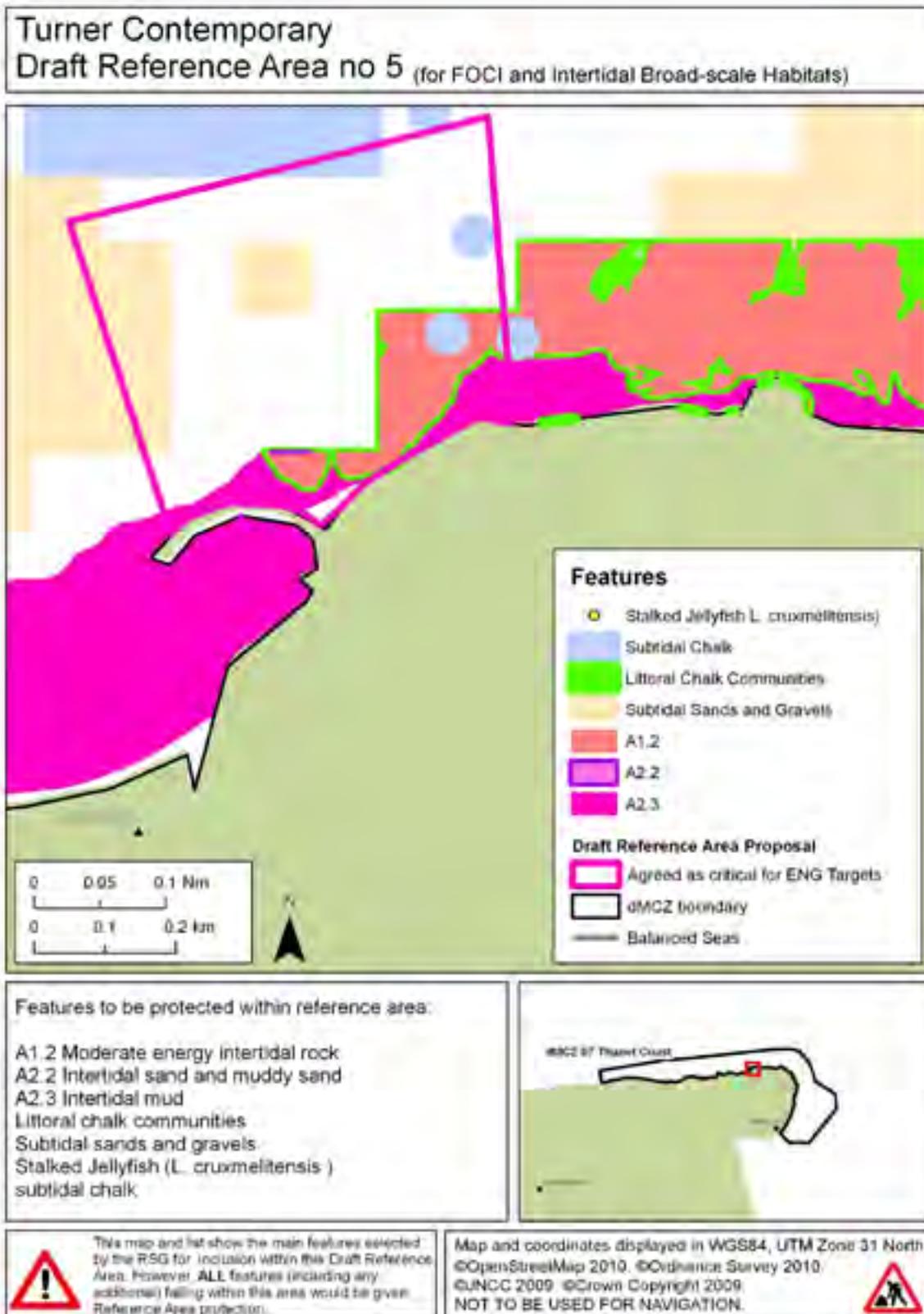
To be completed.

**10. Site boundary**

The boundary of the site has been outlined to include the Stalked Jellyfish (*Lucernariopsis cruxmelitensis*) and has been drawn to ensure the site has a minimum dimension of 500m.

**11. Conservation objectives**

All ENG features falling within the site will have a conservation objective set to 'Recover to reference condition', including those broad-scale habitats not shown on the map.

**Turner Contemporary draft Reference Area no. 5**


**Turner Contemporary draft Reference Area no. 5****12. Sites to which this site is related**

This site falls within the Thanet Coast dMCZ 7, SSSI and SAC. It is close to the Westgate Promontory draft Reference Area (no 4).

**13. Supporting documentation**

To be completed.

**References**

To be completed.

**Implications for stakeholders**

- Given their stricter restrictions, draft Reference Areas will have higher levels of contention than dMCZs and need to have additional discussions, including local stakeholders, before they are finalised
- This dRA was identified as critical to meeting the ENG criteria (only one example, or very few examples, found in the region). It has therefore been included into the network by the RSG with the understanding that it would be necessary to meet the ENG criteria, but may not have particularly strong support for its location or suitability.
- The area was discussed at a Local Group meeting and there are a number of factors in its favour:
  - It is well defined by the lido and the Winter Gardens which means its location would be easy to mark and identify.
  - The beach here is completely covered at high tide, and the site lies at the end of the rocks so is less used by people than other beaches around here.
  - The seabed is seaweed covered so there is also less shellfish collection here.
- Some crab and bait collection occurs and discussions would be needed with these sectors.
- Further information needed on fixed netting and potting, both of which may occur infrequently here.

**Goodwin Knoll draft Reference Area no. 6**

<b>1. Site name</b>  Goodwin Knoll draft Reference Area no. 6	<b>3. Site surface area</b>  2495 ha 24.95 km <sup>2</sup>
<b>2. Site centre location</b>  1° 32' 54.243" E                      51° 16.787' N	<b>4. Biogeographic region</b>  Southern North Sea

**5. Features identified for specific protection within the Goodwin Knoll dRA**

Feature type	Feature name	Area
Broad Scale Habitats	A5.1 Subtidal coarse sediment	0.6626 km <sup>2</sup>
	A5.2 Subtidal sand	24.2908 km <sup>2</sup>

**6. Other features occurring within the Goodwin Knoll dRA (to be protected)**

All features have been identified for protection.

**7. Map of site (see below)**
**8. Site summary**

This site falls within the Goodwin Sands dMCZ 8 and has been identified to capture areas of subtidal sand and subtidal coarse sediment that occur in the drying area where there is thought to be lower levels of human activities occurring. Environment Agency data indicate that this is a good area for biodiversity. The site overlaps with, or is extremely close to many of the shipwrecks on the sands themselves.

**9. Detailed site description**

To be completed.

**10. Site boundary**

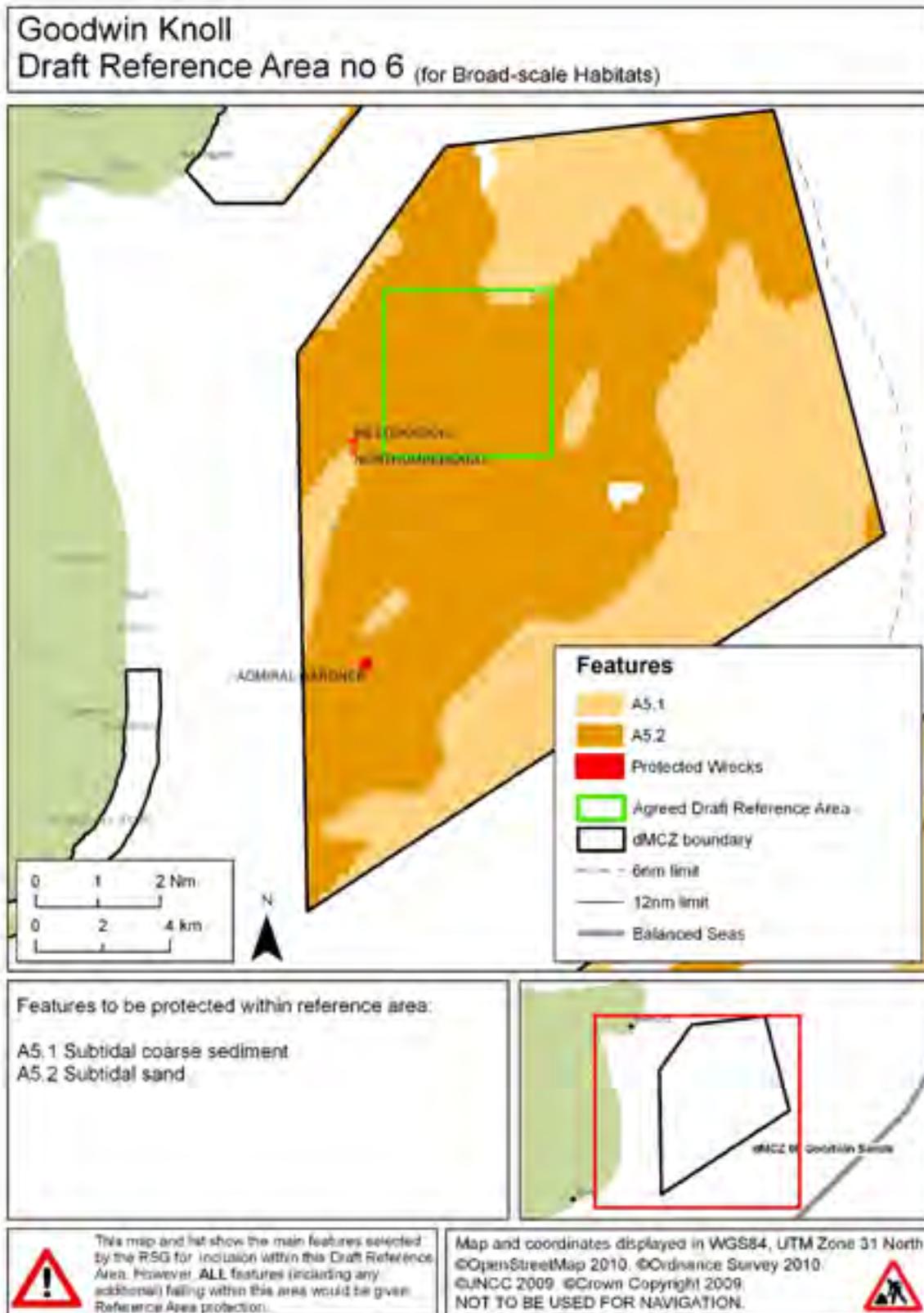
The site boundary was drawn as a 5km by 5km square and located to avoid the protected wrecks where archaeological excavation and monitoring takes place, which involves extractive activities.

**11. Conservation objectives**

All ENG features falling within the site will have a conservation objective set to 'Recover to reference condition', including those broad-scale habitats not shown on the map.

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

This site is contained within the Goodwin Sands dMCZ 8.

**Goodwin Knoll draft Reference Area no. 6**


**Goodwin Knoll draft Reference Area no. 6****13. Supporting documentation**

To be completed.

**References**

To be completed.

**Implications for stakeholders**

- Given their stricter restrictions, draft Reference Areas will have higher levels of contention than dMCZs and need to have additional discussions, including local stakeholders, before they are finalised. The RSG considers this the “least worst” option for a Reference Area on the Goodwin Sands
- A small number of vessels use this area on a regular basis for various activities
- Fewer fishing activities take place on the drying area of the Sands, but nevertheless further consultation is needed with the fishing sector to assess fully the implications of a Reference Area here;
- The requirements for anchoring in the area (whether in emergencies or for other reasons) needs to be assessed; the dynamic nature of the habitat is likely to preclude the use of moorings as a mitigation measure
- Although an attempt to avoid protected wrecks has been made in the location of this area, protected and unprotected wrecks may occur within the boundaries and the implications of a Reference Area on wrecks need to be assessed in the light of any extractive activities that might need to occur on them.

**South Foreland Lighthouse draft Reference Area no. 7**

<b>4. Site name</b>  South Foreland Lighthouse draft Reference Area no. 7	<b>3. Site surface area</b>  64 ha                      0.64 km <sup>2</sup>
<b>1. Site centre location</b>  1° 22' 41.505" E                      51° 8.365' N	<b>4. Biogeographic region</b>  Eastern English Channel

**5. Features identified for specific protection within the South Foreland Lighthouse dRA**

Feature type	Feature name	Area
Broad Scale Habitats	A1.2 Moderate energy intertidal rock	0.16 km <sup>2</sup>
Habitat FOCI	Intertidal underboulder communities	1 point record
	Subtidal chalk	18342 m <sup>2</sup>
	Littoral chalk communities	197593 m <sup>2</sup>

**6. Other features occurring within the South Foreland Lighthouse dRA (to be protected)**

Feature type	Feature name	Reason not specifically identified for reference area protection
Broad Scale Habitats	A3.1 High energy infralittoral rock	Not viable for Broad Scale Habitat RA
	A5.4 Subtidal mixed sediments	Not viable for Broad Scale Habitat RA

**7. Map of site (see below)**
**8. Site summary**

This site, lying within the Dover to Deal dMCZ 11.1, contains very good examples of intertidal underboulder communities and some of the best subtidal chalk and littoral chalk communities in the region.

**9. Detailed site description**

To be completed.

**10. Site boundary**

The boundary has been drawn to include 500m along the coastline to include the features of interest, which do not extend out significantly.

**11. Conservation objectives**

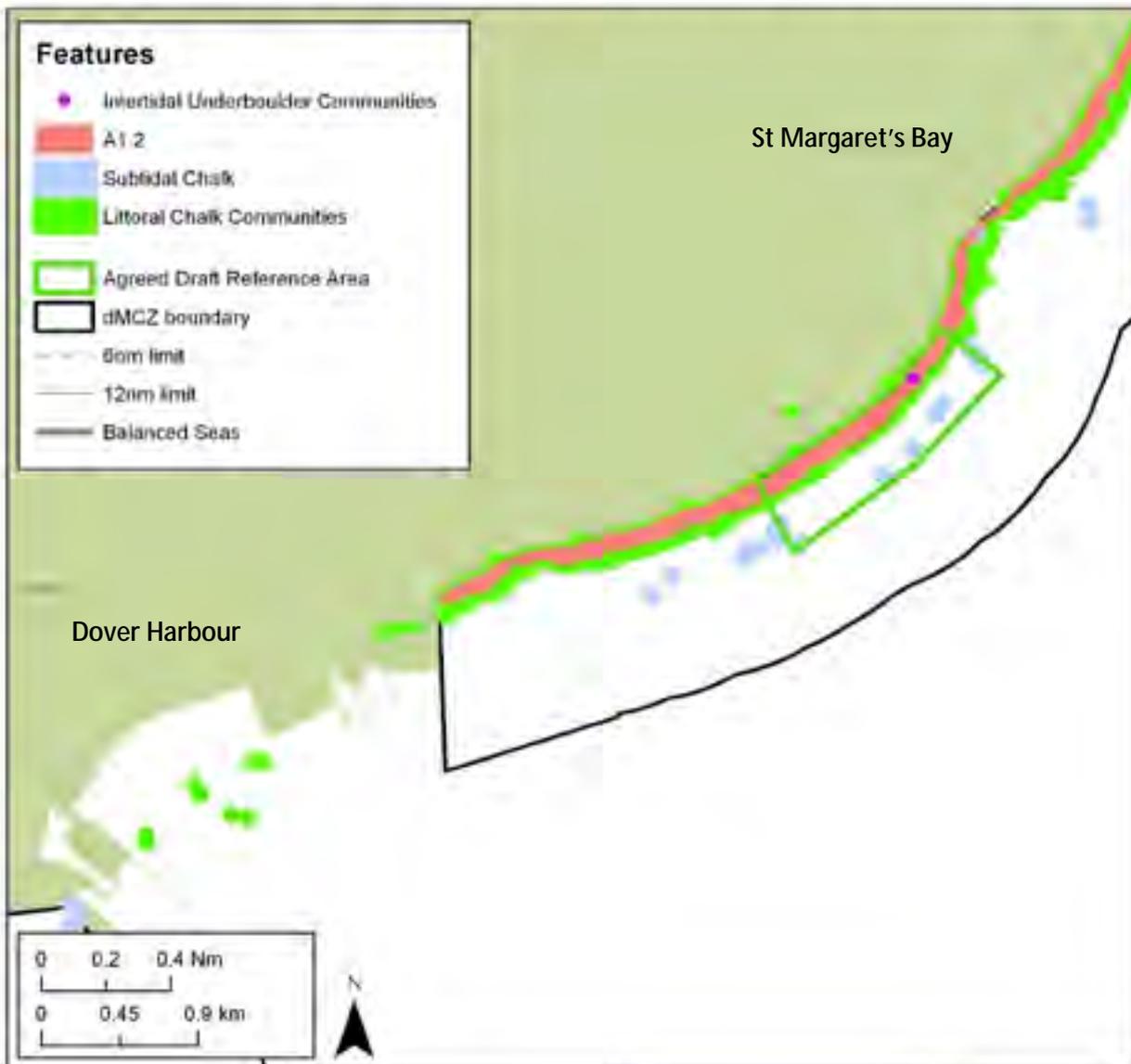
All ENG features falling within the site will have a conservation objective set to 'Recover to reference condition', including those broad-scale habitats not shown on the map.

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

This site falls within Dover to Deal dMCZ 11.1

South Foreland Lighthouse draft Reference Area no. 7

South Foreland Lighthouse  
Draft Reference Area no 7 (for FOCI and Intertidal Broad-scale Habitats)



Features to be protected within reference area:

A1.2 Moderate energy intertidal rock  
Intertidal underboulder communities  
Littoral chalk communities  
subtidal chalk



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.

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**South Foreland Lighthouse draft Reference Area no. 7****13. Supporting documentation**

To be completed.

**References**

To be completed.

**Implications for stakeholders**

- Given their stricter restrictions, draft Reference Areas will have higher levels of contention than dMCZs and need to have additional discussions, including local stakeholders, before they are finalised. The RSG agreed however that this represents a potentially suitable site.
- The undefended cliffs preclude a lot of activities, but further discussions will be needed, particularly with the fisheries sector.

**Hythe Flats draft Reference Area no. 8**

<b>1. Site name</b>  Hythe Flats draft Reference Area no. 8	<b>3. Site surface area</b>  56 ha                      0.56 km <sup>2</sup>
<b>2. Site centre location</b>  1° 5' 56.071" E                      51° 1.784' N	<b>4. Biogeographic region</b>  Eastern English Channel

**5. Features identified for specific protection within the Hythe Flats dRA**

Feature type	Feature name	Area
Habitat FOCI	Mud habitats in deep water	No data available
	Sea-pens & burrowing megafauna	No data available

**6. Other features occurring within the Hythe Flats dRA (to be protected)**

Feature type	Feature name	Reason not specifically identified for reference area protection
Broad Scale Habitats	A5.3 Subtidal mud	Not viable for Broad Scale Habitat RA

**7. Map of site (See below)**
**8. Site summary**

Within the Hythe Bay dMCZ (no 26), extensive survey data shows the presence of sea-pens and burrowing megafauna, one of only two locations in the region where this habitat occurs. The available data suggests this has the greatest diversity of species and habitats. This draft Reference Area was suggested by the RSG as there are distinct areas within the site where the otherwise extremely heavy trawling, netting and potting do not occur due to the presence of wrecks. However, the survey data points for the sea-pens and for mud habitats in deep water do not fall within this draft Reference Area, though they are assumed to occur, given their extensive presence throughout the dMCZ.

There are no actual survey data points for the relevant features within the site boundaries, but it has been assumed from data points throughout the site, that the features do occur. This will need to be verified before finalisation. The area may contain wrecks, which have not been specifically selected but the RSG, but may affect the ecological quality of the site

**9. Detailed site description**

To be completed.

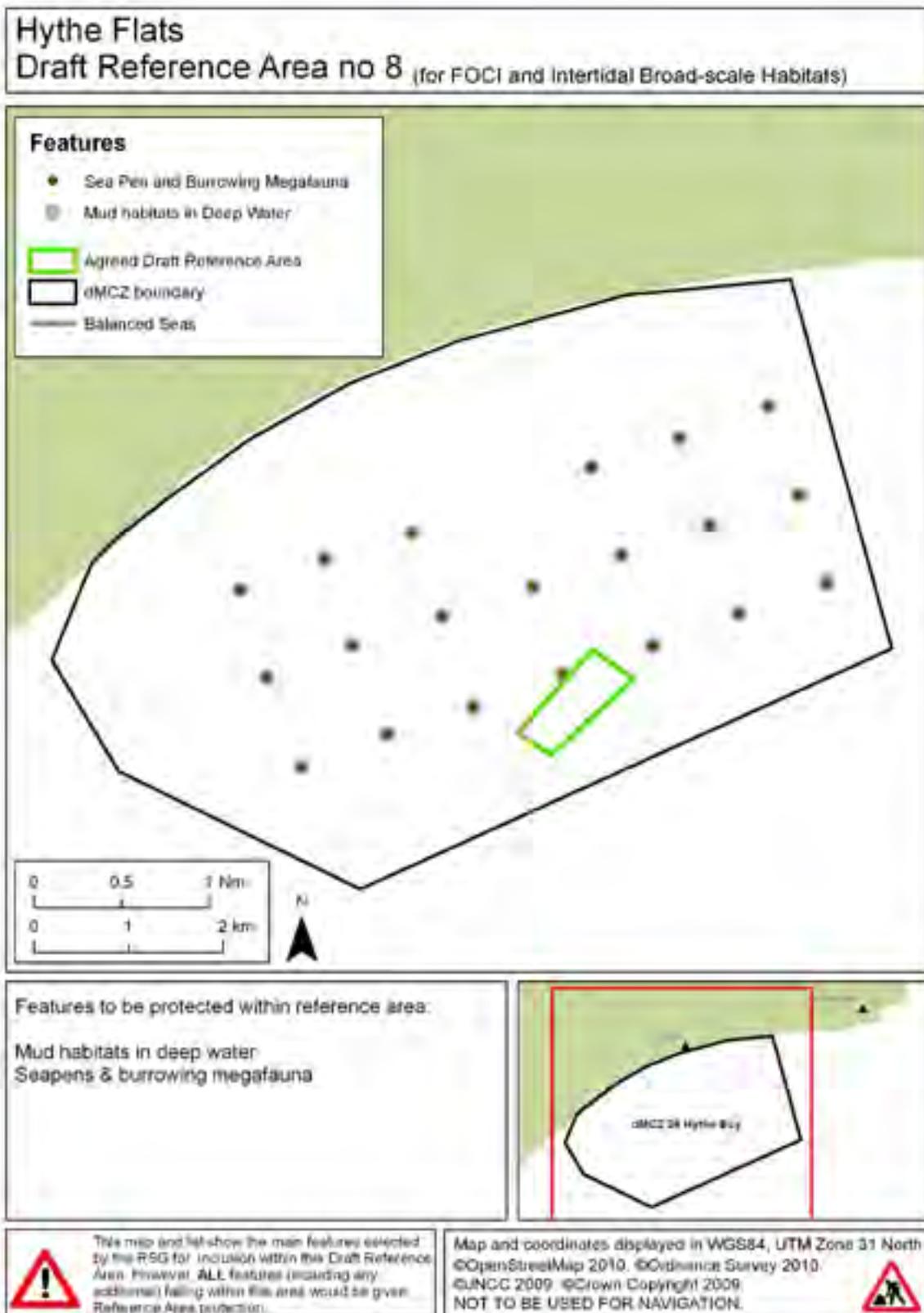
**10. Site boundary**

The boundary has been defined by the area avoided by netting, trawling and potting within the dMCZ and has been drawn to match the 'management areas' suggested by the inshore trawling fleet representative.

**11. Conservation objectives**

All ENG features falling within the site will have a conservation objective set to 'Recover to reference condition', including those broad-scale habitats not shown on the map.

Hythe Flats draft Reference Area no. 8



**Hythe Flats draft Reference Area no. 8****12. Sites to which this site is related**

This site falls within Hythe Bay dMCZ 26.

**13. Supporting documentation**

To be completed.

**References**

To be completed.

**Implications for stakeholders**

- Given their stricter restrictions, draft Reference Areas will have higher levels of contention than dMCZs and need to have additional discussions, including local stakeholders, before they are finalised.
- The fisheries sector have discussed this reference area and were involved in its identification; however the recommendation will need further discussion with them given that they have certain views on the management of the dMCZ within which this reference area would occur.
- Angling is also an important activity in the Hythe dMCZ and the implications of a reference area here would need to be discussed with this sector.
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**Seaford Head draft Reference Area no. 9**

<b>1. Site name</b>  Seaford Head draft Reference Area no. 9	<b>3. Site surface area</b>  60 ha                      0.6 km <sup>2</sup>
<b>2. Site centre location</b>  0° 7' 39.513" E                      50° 45.455' N	<b>4. Biogeographic region</b>  Eastern English Channel

**Features identified for specific protection within the Seaford Head dRA**

Feature type	Feature name	Area
Broad Scale Habitats	A1.2 Moderate energy intertidal rock	
Habitat FOCI	Littoral chalk communities	

**5. Other features occurring within the Seaford Head dRA (to be protected)**

This site is not viable for broad-scale habitats. Those occurring will be investigated.

**6. Map of site (see below)**
**7. Site summary**

This site falls within Beachy Head East & West dMCZ 13, following the coast around Seaford Head, where littoral chalk communities are considered by the South East England Biodiversity Forum as one of the richest and most diverse examples in the region.

**8. Detailed site description**

To be completed.

**9. Site boundary**

The boundary has been drawn by the project team around Seaford Head and is tentative, but is considered large enough to protect the littoral features that are its focus.

**10. Conservation objectives**

All ENG features falling within the site will have a conservation objective set to 'Recover to reference condition', including those broad-scale habitats not shown on the map.

**11. Sites to which this site is related**

This site falls within Beachy Head East & West dMCZ 13.

**12. Supporting documentation**

To be completed.

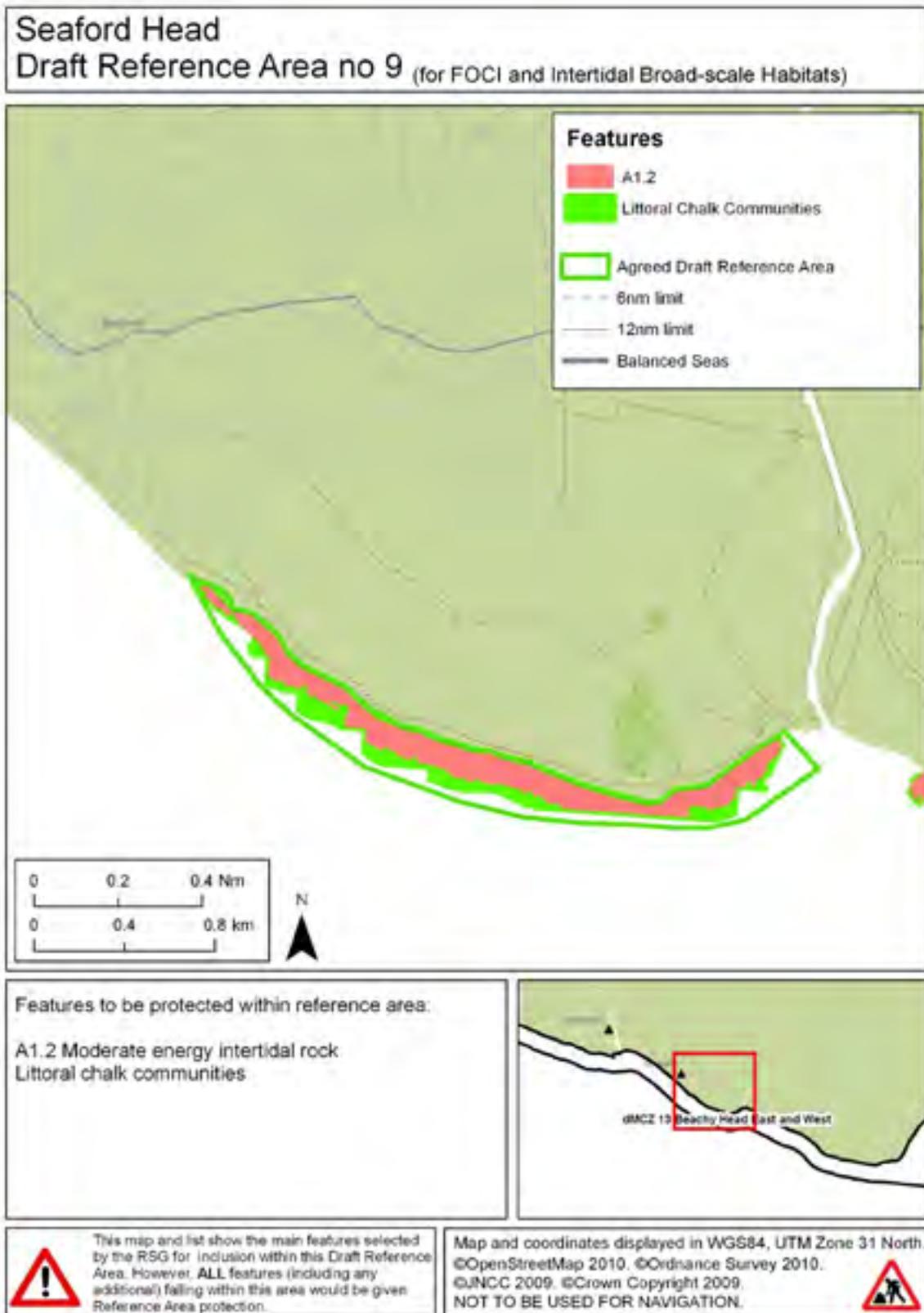
**References**

To be completed.

**Implications for stakeholders**

- Given their stricter restrictions, draft Reference Areas will have higher levels of contention than dMCZs and need to have additional discussions, including local stakeholders, before they are finalised.
- This location was suggested by the Sussex and South Kent Local Group as the exposed nature of Seaford Head means that potters and netters operate further offshore and might therefore be more amenable to a reference area here; further discussions will be required.

Seaford Head draft Reference Area no. 9



**Dolphin Head draft Reference Area no. 10**

<b>1. Site name</b>  Dolphin Head (draft Reference Area no. 10)	<b>3. Site surface area</b>  2452 ha 24.52 km <sup>2</sup>
<b>2. Site centre location</b>  0° 30' 6.293" W                      50° 15.141' N	<b>4. Biogeographic region</b>  Eastern English Channel

**5. Features identified for specific protection within the Dolphin Head dRA**

Feature type	Feature name	Area
Broad Scale Habitats	A4.1 High energy circalittoral rock	4.76 km <sup>2</sup>
	A4.2 Moderate energy circalittoral rock	9.40 km <sup>2</sup>
	A5.4 Subtidal mixed sediments	10.37 km <sup>2</sup>
Habitat FOCI	Subtidal sands and gravels	1870 m <sup>2</sup>

**6. Other features occurring within the Dolphin Head dRA (to be protected)**

All features identified for protection.

**7. Map of site (see below)**
**8. Site summary**

This site lies within the Offshore Brighton dMCZ no 14 and captures an area of high energy and moderate energy circalittoral rock where there is higher confidence in its occurrence than elsewhere in the region due to the Eastern English Channel Synthesis REC study.

**9. Detailed site description**

To be completed.

**10. Site boundary**

The boundary has been drawn as a 5km by 5km area within the dMCZ. Boundaries may well change to better reflect the distribution of the features.

**11. Conservation objectives**

All ENG features falling within the site will have a conservation objective set to 'Recover to reference condition', including those broad-scale habitats not shown on the map.

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

This site falls within Offshore Brighton dMCZ no 14.

**13. Supporting documentation**

To be completed.

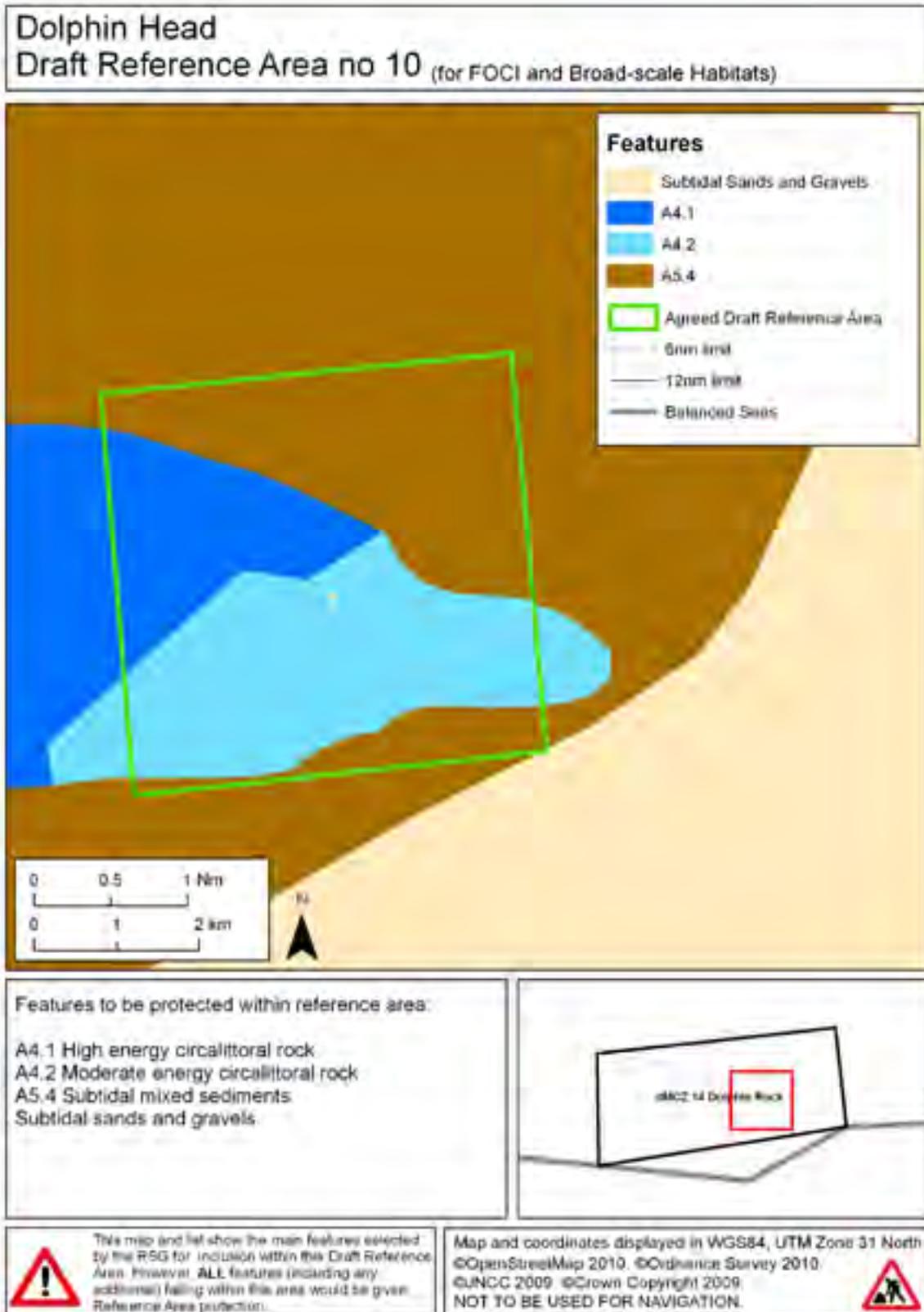
**References**

To be completed.

**Implications for stakeholders**

- Given their stricter restrictions, draft Reference Areas will have higher levels of contention than dMCZs and need to have additional discussions, including local stakeholders, before they are finalised.

**Dolphin Head draft Reference Area no. 10**



**Pagham Harbour draft Reference Area no. 11**

<b>1. Site name</b>  Pagham Harbour draft Reference Area no. 11	<b>3. Site surface area</b>  285 ha          2.85 km <sup>2</sup>
<b>2. Site centre location</b>  0° 45' 54.061" W          50° 45.784' N	<b>4. Biogeographic region</b>  Eastern English Channel

**5. Features identified for specific protection within the Pagham Harbour dRA**

Feature type	Feature name	Area
Broad Scale Habitats	A2.1 Intertidal coarse sediment	0.02 km <sup>2</sup>
	A2.2 Intertidal sand and muddy sand	0.0001 km <sup>2</sup>
	A2.3 Intertidal mud	1.33 km <sup>2</sup>
Species FOCI low	Starlet Sea Anemone ( <i>N. vectensis</i> )	1 point record
	Defolin's Lagoon Snail ( <i>C. armoricum</i> )	3 point records
	Lagoon Sand Shrimp ( <i>G. insensibilis</i> )	3 point records

**6. Other features occurring within the Pagham Harbour dRA (to be protected)**

Feature type	Feature name	Reason not specifically identified for reference area protection
Broad Scale Habitats	A3.1 High energy infralittoral rock	Not viable for Broad Scale Habitat RA
	A3.2 Moderate energy infralittoral rock	Not viable for Broad Scale Habitat RA
	A5.1 Subtidal coarse sediment	Not viable for Broad Scale Habitat RA
	A5.3 Subtidal mud	Not viable for Broad Scale Habitat RA

**7. Map of site (see below)**
**8. Site summary**

The site, concurrent with Pagham Harbour dMCZ, has within it, the largest population of Defolin's Lagoon Snail (*Caecum armoricum*) in the Balanced Seas project area. The population occurs on the landward side of the shingle spit that partially encloses the harbour. The Starlet Sea Anemone (*Nematostella vectensis*) occurs in Pagham Lagoon on the east side of the Harbour and is protected by the SSSI designation. The Lagoon Sand Shrimp (*Gammarus insensibilis*) occurs in Ferry Pool, a small water body above the Mean High Water mark on the west side of the Harbour, and in the Saline Pool (presumed to be in the same area), and is unprotected by the SSSI.

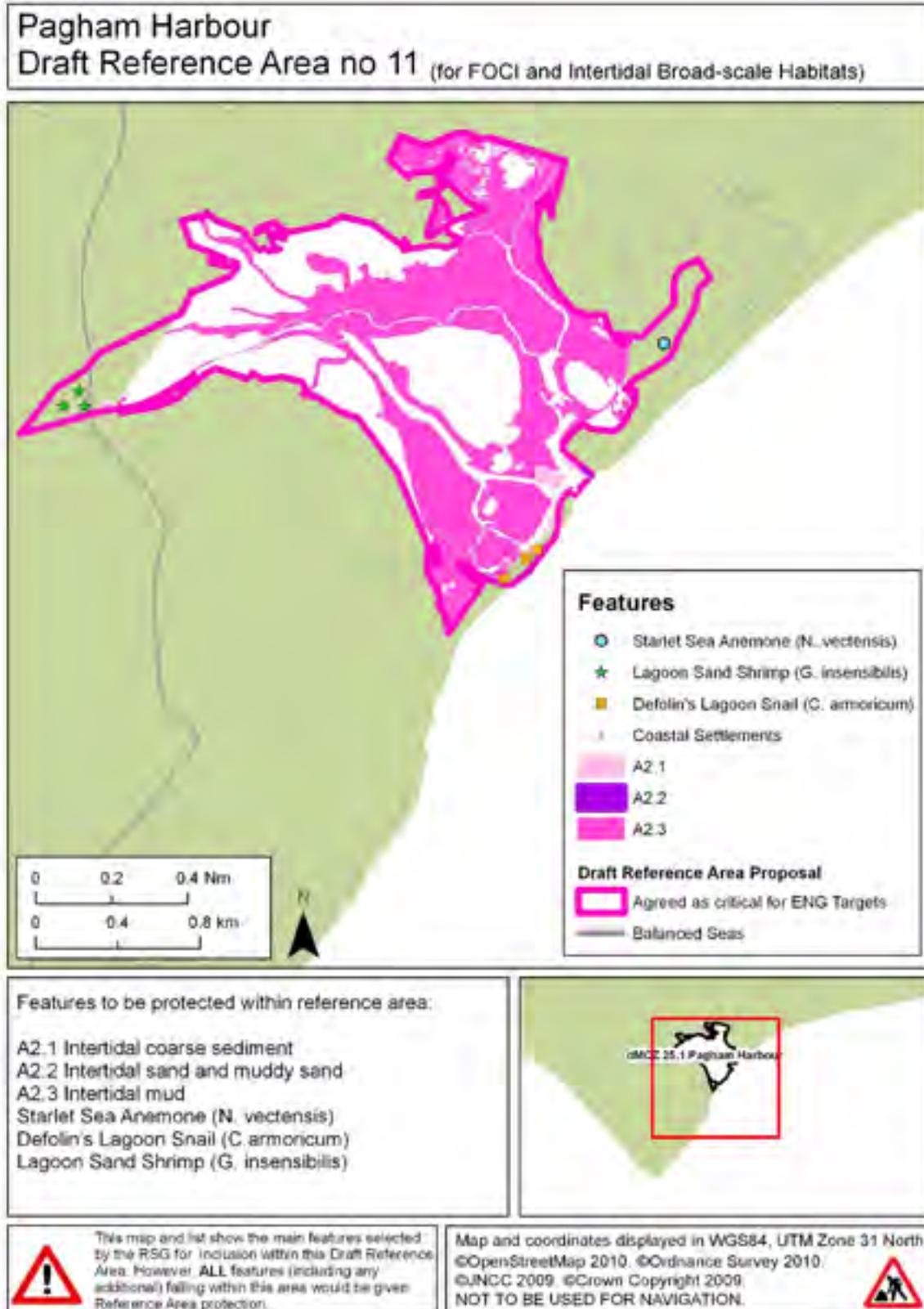
Pagham Harbour is thought to be a suitable place for a Reference Area as there are already many mitigation measures in place, reflecting the numerous designations, but further discussions will be essential as this site is strongly opposed by stakeholders (see below).

**9. Detailed site description**

To be completed.

**10. Site boundary**

The boundary is concurrent with that of the Pagham Harbour dMCZ, which is the Mean High Water limit of the harbour itself, including the Pagham Lagoon, Ferry Pool and Saline Pool.

**Pagham Harbour draft Reference Area no. 11**


**Pagham Harbour draft Reference Area no. 11****11. Conservation objectives**

All ENG features falling within the site will have a conservation objective set to 'Recover to reference condition', including those broad-scale habitats not shown on the map.

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

This site is concurrent with the boundaries of Pagham Harbour dMCZ 25.1 and overlaps with Pagham Harbour SSSI, SPA and Ramsar site.

**13. Supporting documentation**

To be completed.

**References**

To be completed.

**Key issues and implications**

- Given their stricter restrictions, draft Reference Areas will have higher levels of contention than dMCZs and need to have additional discussions, including local stakeholders, before they are finalised
- As a result of a rather difficult history of management of the existing protected areas, local residents have expressed major concerns about the idea of additional protected status and there are significant fears that this will restrict a range of activities; these concerns have resulted in extensive lobbying of the project team, the public authorities currently involved in the area, and Members of Parliament.
- Defolin's Lagoon Snail (one of only two records in the project area) occurs on the geological feature (shingle spit) which contributes to the rapid coastal erosion to the north of the harbour and which is also used as a source of material to provide coastal protection. Residents are hoping that approval will be granted for the spit to be breached, in line with the one of the original harbour openings. A study is underway to review the situation; the results are expected before the deadline for the MCZ final recommendations and will be used to develop the recommendation for this draft Reference Area.
- The Pagham Harbour area has heavy recreational use (an estimated 200,000 visitors a year) in the form of walkers, bird watchers, and some water sports (although use of the Harbour itself for sailing, kayaking and other water sports is limited). The recreation sector is very concerned that draft Reference Areas status would limit these activities.

**Mixon Hole draft Reference Area no. 12**

<b>5. Site name</b>  Mixon Hole draft Reference Area no. 12	<b>3. Site surface area</b>  9 ha                      0.09 km <sup>2</sup>
<b>1. Site centre location</b>  0° 46' 15.247" W                      50° 42.275' N	<b>4. Biogeographic region</b>  Eastern English Channel

**5. Features identified for specific protection within the Mixon Hole dRA**

Feature type	Feature name	Area
Habitat FOCI	Peat and clay exposures	2777.6 m <sup>2</sup>

**6. Other features occurring within the Mixon Hole dRA (to be protected)**

At present, the broad-scale habitats have not been identified.

**7. Map of site (see below)**
**8. Site summary**

Mixon Hole lies within dMCZ 25.2, Selsey Bill and the Hounds. The clay cliff forming the north face of the Hole is a significant size and is very unusual feature with many piddock holes, making it one of the best examples of the peat and clay exposures habitat FOCI in the region.

**9. Detailed site description**

To be completed.

**10. Site boundary**

At present, the site boundary has been defined as the north face of the Mixon Hole to capture the extent of the features.

**11. Conservation objectives**

All ENG features falling within the site will have a conservation objective set to 'Recover to reference condition', including those broad-scale habitats not shown on the map.

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

This site falls within the Selsey Bill & The Hounds dMCZ 25.2 and the Mixon Hole is a marine Site of Nature Conservation Importance (mSNCI).

**13. Supporting documentation**

To be completed.

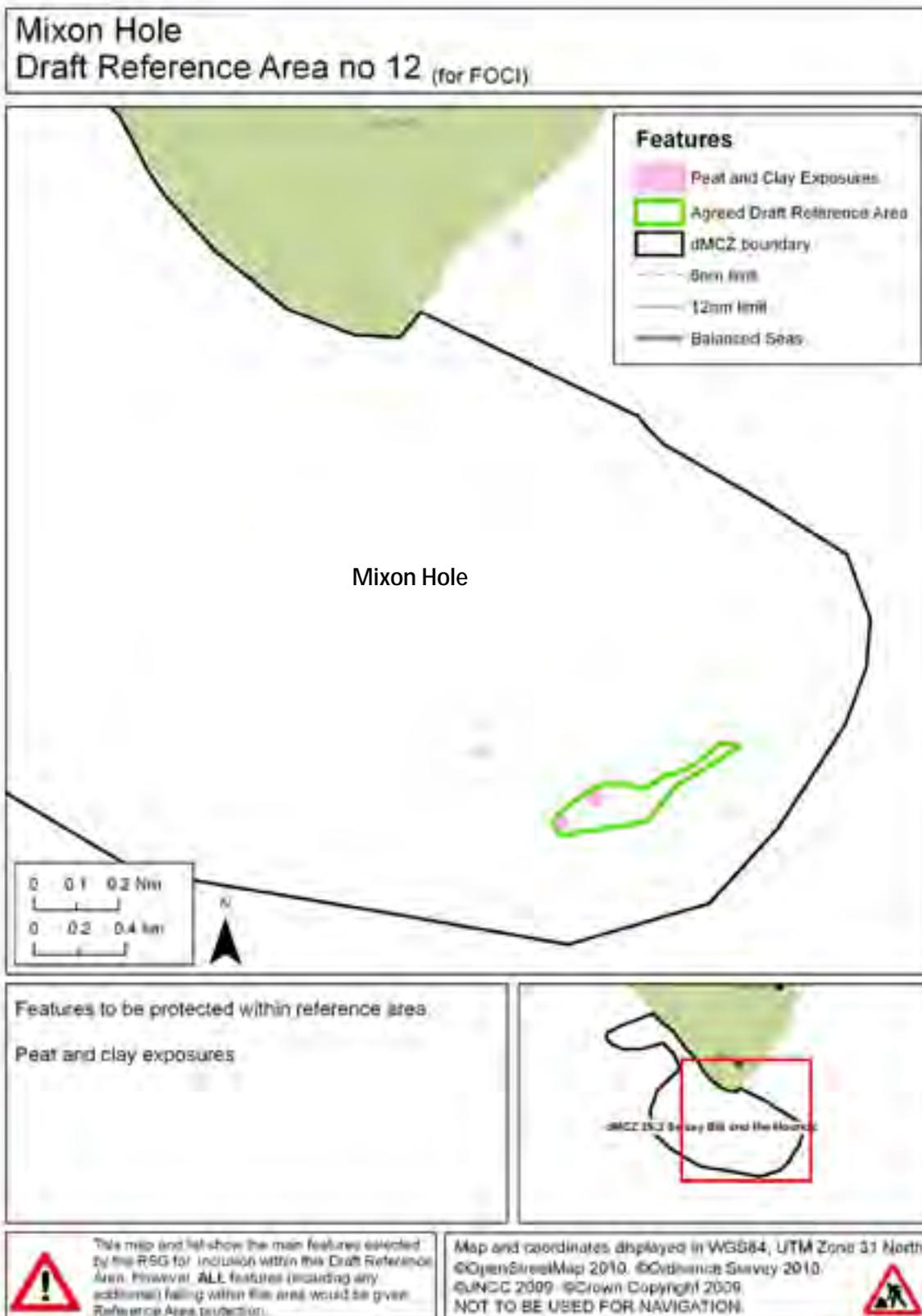
**References**

To be completed.

**Implications for stakeholders**

- Given their stricter restrictions, draft Reference Areas will have higher levels of contention than dMCZs and need to have additional discussions, including local stakeholders, before they are finalised.
- It should be possible for current levels of recreational diving, the main activity at this site, to be maintained provided no extractive or depositional activities are involved.

Mixon Hole draft Reference Area no. 12



**North Utopia draft Reference Area no. 13**

<b>1. Site name</b>  North Utopia draft Reference Area no. 13	<b>3. Site surface area</b>  28 ha                  0.28 km <sup>2</sup>
<b>2. Site centre location</b>  50° 39' 33.798" N                  0° 53' 5.222" W	<b>4. Biogeographic region</b>  Eastern English Channel

**5. Features identified for specific protection within the North Utopia dRA**

Feature type	Feature name	Area
Habitat FOCI	Fragile sponge & anthozoan communities	1 point record
	Subtidal sands and gravels	78758 m <sup>2</sup>

**6. Other features occurring within the North Utopia dRA (to be protected)**

Feature type	Feature name	Reason not specifically identified for reference area protection
Broad Scale Habitats	A5.4 Subtidal mixed sediments	Not viable for Broad Scale Habitat RA

**7. Map of site (see below)**
**8. Site summary**

This site, lying within dMCZ 28 Utopia, is the location for one of only two examples of fragile sponge and anthozoan communities in the region, found on a prominent area of bedrock reef and large boulders that stands out from the otherwise sediment-dominated seabed. A single point record denotes the features, but additional video footage and still images have been collected to demonstrate the extent of the habitat.

**9. Detailed site description**

To be completed.

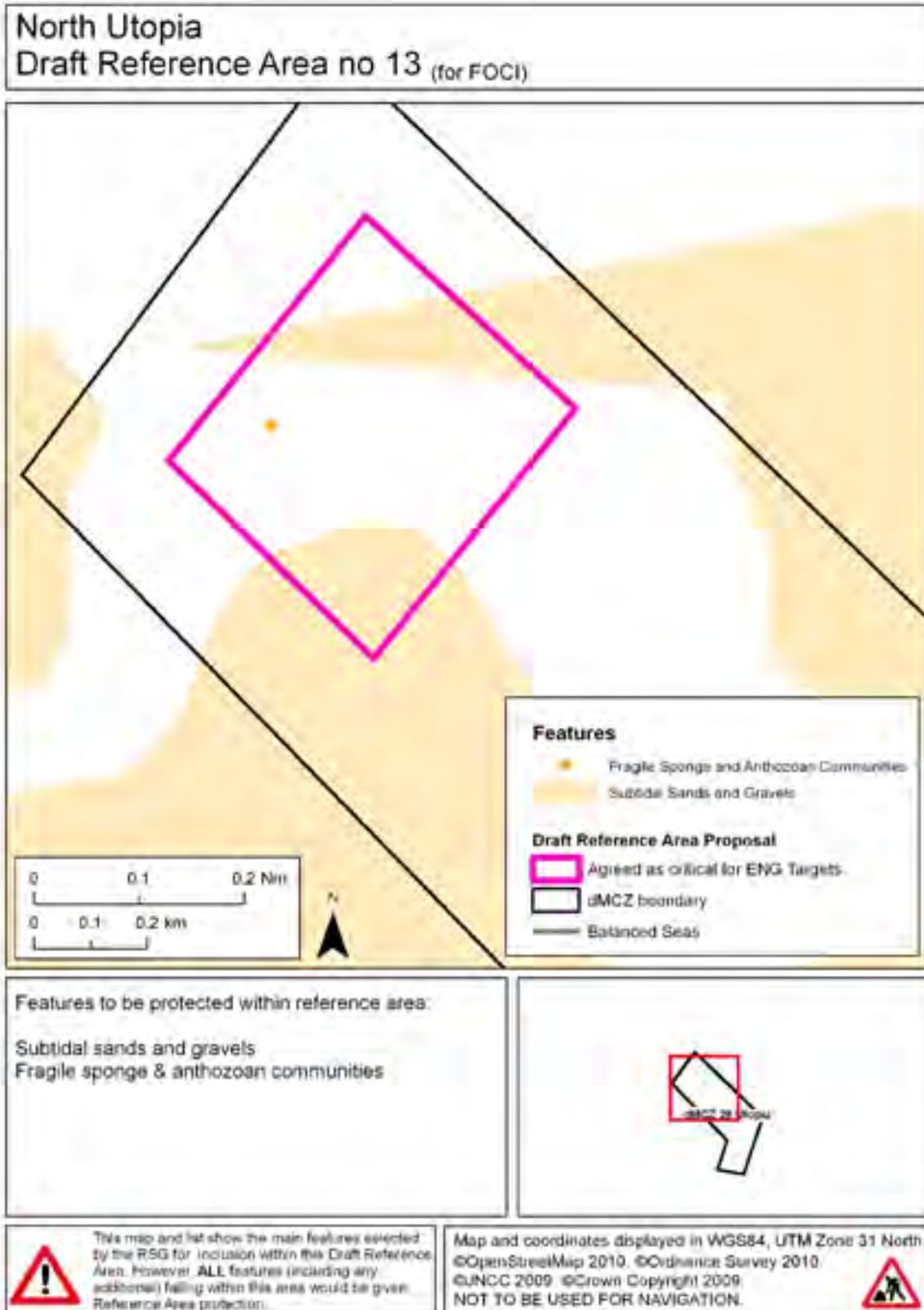
**10. Site boundary**

The boundary of the reference area has been defined by a 500 x 500m square to meet the minimum viable patch size for fragile sponge and anthozoan communities. Discussions with local stakeholder showed that the northern part of the reef outcrop was less heavily used than the southern part, leading the RSG to suggest the reference area was located to the north.

**11. Conservation objectives**

All ENG features falling within the site will have a conservation objective set to 'Recover to reference condition', including those broad-scale habitats not shown on the map.

North Utopia draft Reference Area no. 13



**North Utopia draft Reference Area no. 13****12. Sites to which this site is related**

This site falls within the Utopia dMCZ no 28

**13. Supporting documentation**

To be completed.

**References**

To be completed.

**Implications for Stakeholders**

- Given their stricter restrictions, draft Reference Areas will have higher levels of contention than dMCZs and need to have additional discussions, including local stakeholders, before they are finalised
- The dMCZ site (and therefore the dRA) is immediately adjacent to an active aggregates license area (Area 395 has been dredged since 1999, the licence to dredge is soon to expire and a renewal is being sought to continue dredging in the area for a further 15 years) and there is concern that indirect effects are not sufficiently well understood to know whether this activity would be compatible with the conservation objectives of the site
- This general area is very important for anglers and charter boats who will be concerned about the implications for anchoring; the site has been located in the north of the dMCZ as there are indications that this is used less by this sector but further discussions will be needed,

**Wight-Barfleur draft Reference Area no. 14**

<b>1. Site name</b>  Wight-Barfleur draft Reference Area no. 14	<b>3. Site surface area</b>  2505 ha 25.05 km <sup>2</sup>
<b>2. Site centre location</b>  50° 10' 55.383" N      1° 12' 1.549" W	<b>4. Biogeographic region</b>  Eastern English Channel

**5. Features identified for specific protection within the Wight-Barfleur dRA**

Feature type	Feature name	Area
Broad Scale Habitats	A4.1 High energy circalittoral rock	14.5845 km <sup>2</sup>
	A5.1 Subtidal coarse sediment	4.2908 km <sup>2</sup>
	A5.4 Subtidal mixed sediments	6.1718 km <sup>2</sup>

**6. Other features occurring within the Wight-Barfleur dRA (to be protected)**

All features are identified for protection.

**7. Map of site (see below)**
**8. Site summary**

This site has been identified for the complex of different broad-scale habitats it contains. The area is located at the edge of the Wight-Barfleur reef, which has been surveyed recently in the preparation of the draft SAC designation. The habitats to the south have been included within a draft MCZ (Wight-Barfleur Extension) no 21 and have been recently surveyed by the Eastern English Channel Synthesis REC study, providing much higher confidence and accuracy in the mapping.

**9. Detailed site description**

To be completed.

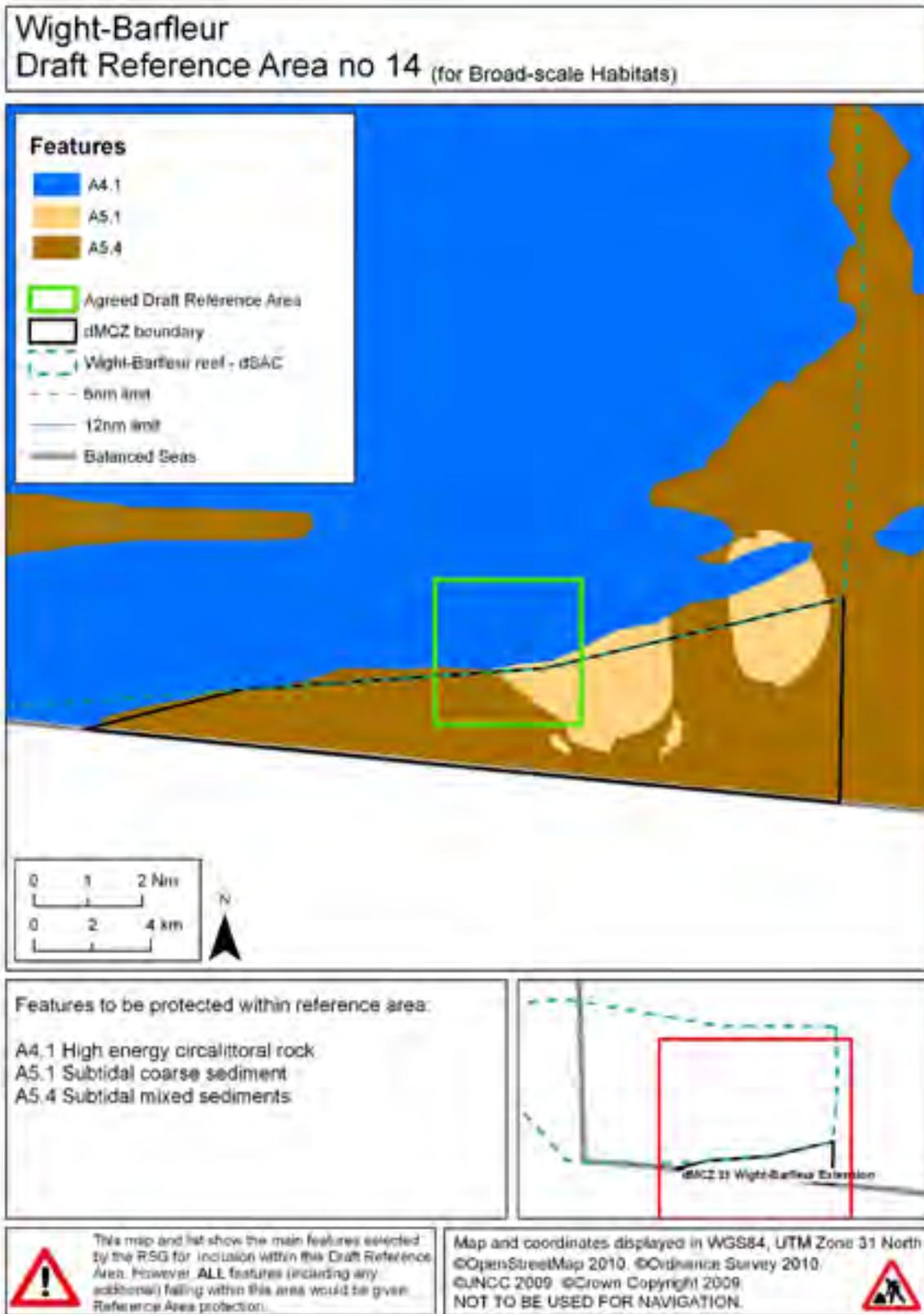
**10. Site boundary**

The boundary was identified as a simple 5km x 5km square, located at the meeting point of the broad-scale habitats of interest. The site has been located in an area of lower fishing activity for the UK fleet.

**11. Conservation objectives**

All ENG features falling within the site will have a conservation objective set to 'Recover to reference condition', including those broad-scale habitats not shown on the map.

Wight-Barfleur draft Reference Area no. 14



**Wight-Barfleur draft Reference Area no. 14****12. Sites to which this site is related**

This site overlaps both the Wight-Barfleur draft SAC and the Wight Barfleur Extension dMCZ no 21.

**13. Supporting documentation**

To be completed.

**References**

To be completed.

**Key issues and implications**

- Given their stricter restrictions, draft Reference Areas will have higher levels of contention than dMCZs and need to have additional discussions, including local stakeholders, before they are finalised.
- More detailed information on fishing activity (national and non-UK) is needed before full implications for this sector can be assessed and extent of any displacement of fishing vessels
- However, the UK fishing sector have largely accepted this site as they already recognise that there the Wight Barfleur SAC may have implications for them, and this is simply a small extension
- Important area for French, Belgian and Dutch fishing vessels
- Area occurs in the shipping channel where there may be reduced activity by other sectors

**Bembridge Ledges draft Reference Area no. 15**

<b>1. Site name</b>  Bembridge Ledges draft Reference Area no. 15)	<b>3. Site surface area</b>  27 ha                      0.27 km <sup>2</sup>
<b>2. Site centre location</b>  50° 41' 15.620" N                      1° 4' 1.826" W	<b>4. Biogeographic region</b>  Eastern English Channel

**5. Features identified for specific protection within the Bembridge Ledges dRA**

Feature type	Feature name	Area
Habitat FOCI	Seagrass beds	593 m <sup>2</sup>
Species FOCI Low	Long-snouted seahorse ( <i>H. guttulatus</i> )	No data available
	Peacock's Tail ( <i>P. pavonica</i> )	3432 m <sup>2</sup>
	Native Oyster ( <i>O. edulis</i> )	No data available

**6. Other features occurring within the Bembridge Ledges dRA (to be protected)**

Feature type	Feature name	Reason not specifically identified for reference area protection
Broad Scale Habitats	A5.2 Subtidal sand	Not viable for Broad Scale Habitats

**7. Map of site (see below)**
**8. Site summary**

This site, in dMCZ 22 Bembridge, contains the most important population of Peacock's Tail (*Padina pavonica*) in the Balanced Seas project area, seeding all the other populations around the Isle of Wight to which area it is restricted in this region. Seagrass beds extend into the site from the north but are not the principle feature of the site. Although there are no records to confirm the presence of the Long-snouted Seahorse (*Hippocampus guttulatus*), the habitat is thought to be suitable.

**9. Detailed site description**

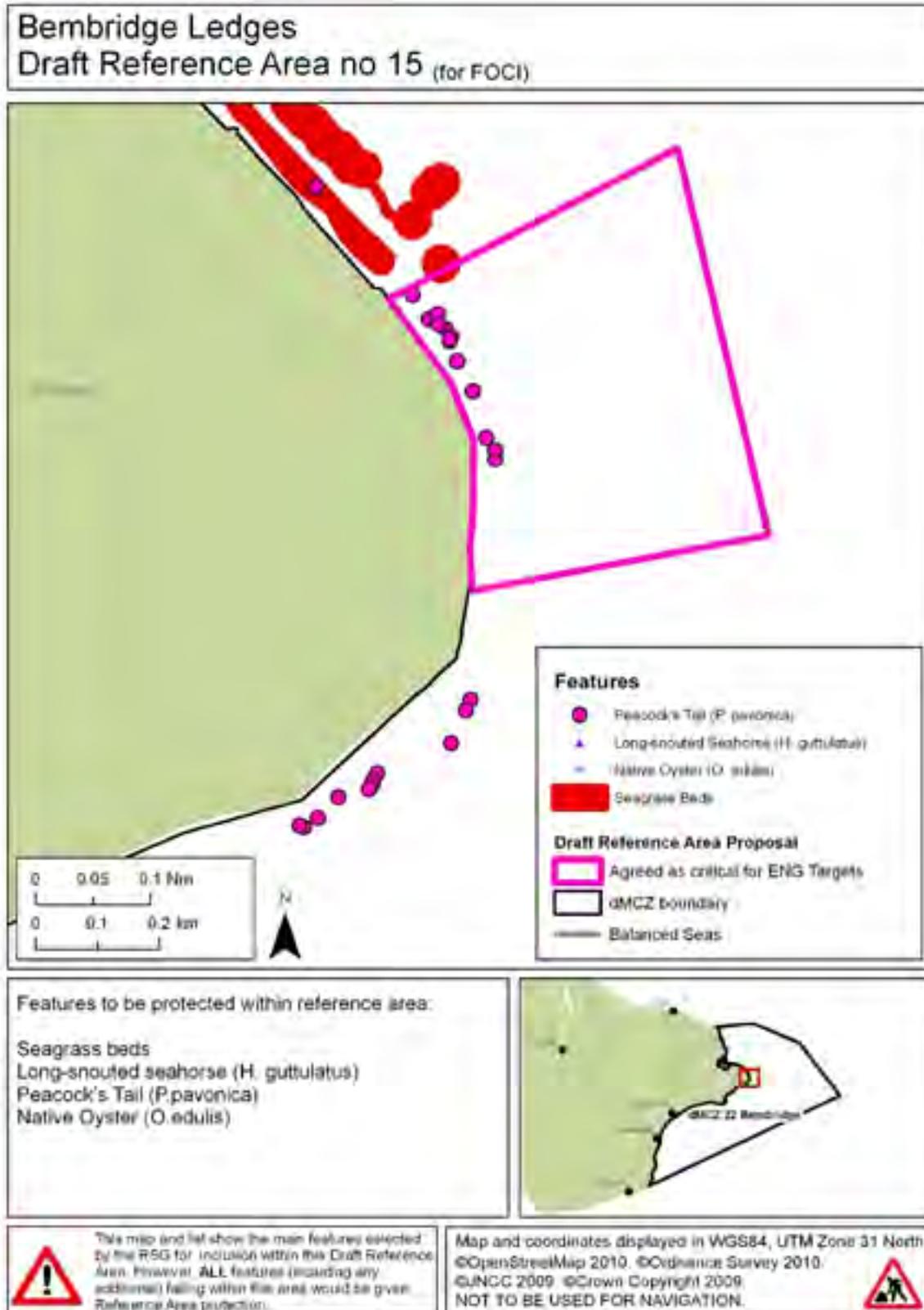
To be completed.

**10. Site boundary**

The boundary has been defined by a 500m minimum dimension to provide the minimum viable patch size for Peacock's Tail (*Padina pavonica*). The site is roughly square with the northern and southern boundaries sitting perpendicular to the shoreline, to aid navigation. The northern boundary has been delimited by the Bembridge Lifeboat launch jetty.

**11. Conservation objectives**

All ENG features falling within the site will have a conservation objective set to 'Recover to reference condition', including those broad-scale habitats not shown on the map.

**Bembridge Ledges draft Reference Area no. 15**


**Bembridge Ledges draft Reference Area no. 15****12. Sites to which this site is related**

This site falls within the Bembridge dMCZ no 22, the South Wight Maritime SAC and the Whitecliff Bay and Bembridge Ledges SSSI.

**13. Supporting documentation**

To be completed.

**References**

To be completed.

**Implications for Stakeholders**

- Given their stricter restrictions, draft Reference Areas will have higher levels of contention than dMCZs and need to have additional discussions, including local stakeholders, before they are finalised.
- The RSG recognises this location as being essential for a Reference Area if the ENG targets are to be met, and the Local Group are identified it as a potential option but a more detailed understanding of the activities currently undertaken at the site and that might be affected is needed.

**Wootton Old Mill Pond draft Reference Area no. 16**

<b>1. Site name</b>  Wootton Old Mill Pond (draft Reference Area no. 16)	<b>3. Site surface area</b>  25 ha                      0.25 km <sup>2</sup>
<b>2. Site centre location</b>  50° 43' 22.216" N              1° 13' 33.103" W	<b>4. Biogeographic region</b>  Eastern English Channel

**5. Features identified for specific protection within Wootton Old Mill Pond dRA**

Feature type	Feature name	Point records within dRA
Species FOCI Low	Tentacled Lagoon Worm ( <i>A.romijni</i> )	3

**6. Other features occurring within Wootton Old Mill Pond dRA (to be protected)**

No other features are recorded from this site.

**7. Map of site (see below)**
**8. Site summary**

This site, lying within Norris to Ryde dMCZ no 19, is a saline lagoon above Mean High Water, contains the best regional example of the Tentacled Lagoon Worm (*Alkmaria romijni*).

**9. Detailed site description**

To be completed.

**10. Site boundary**

The site boundary appearing on the map is a simple 500m x 500m square as the boundary data for the Wootton Old Mill Pond is not available and has been hand-drawn to give some idea of the lagoon's extent.

**11. Conservation objectives**

All ENG features falling within the site will have a conservation objective set to 'Recover to reference condition', including those broad-scale habitats not shown on the map.

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

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

**13. Supporting documentation**

To be completed.

**References**

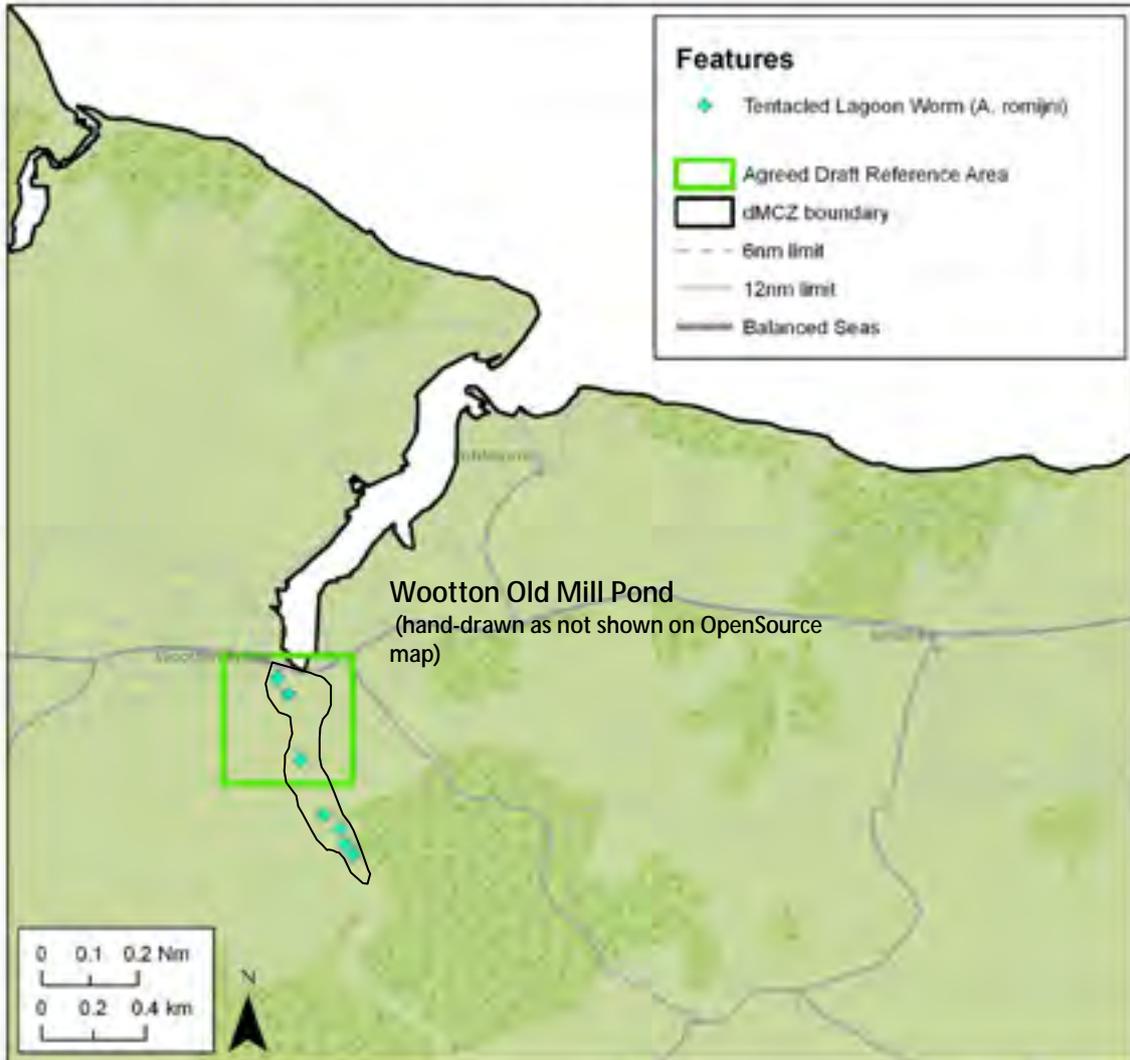
To be completed.

**Key issues and implications**

- Given their stricter restrictions, draft Reference Areas will have higher levels of contention than dMCZs and need to have additional discussions, including local stakeholders, before they are finalised.
- This location is already highly managed, with planning permission granted to fit small tidal turbines to these for the benefit of the ecology of the marsh.

**Wootton Old Mill Pond draft Reference Area no. 16**

**Wootton Old Mill Pond  
Draft Reference Area no 16 (for FOCl)**



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.**

<b>Osborne House Beach draft Reference Area no. 17</b>
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<b>1. Site name</b>  Osborne House Beach (draft Reference Area no. 17)	<b>3. Site surface area</b>  29 ha                  0.29 km <sup>2</sup>
<b>2. Site centre location</b>  50° 45' 27.081" N                  1° 15' 15.208" W	<b>4. Biogeographic region</b>  Eastern English Channel

**5. Features identified for specific protection within Osborne House Beach dRA**

Feature type	Feature name	Area
Broad-scale habitats	A2.2 Intertidal sand and muddy sand	0.0003 km <sup>2</sup>
	A2.4 Intertidal mixed sediments	0.0271 km <sup>2</sup>
Habitat FOCI	Seagrass beds	119973 m <sup>2</sup>

**6. Other features occurring within Osborne House Beach dRA (to be protected)**

Feature type	Feature name	Reason not specifically identified for reference area protection
Broad Scale Habitats	A5.3 Subtidal mud	Not viable for Broad Scale Habitats

**7. Map of site (see below)**
**8. Site summary**

This site, lying within dMCZ 19 Norris to Ryde, contains some of the best seagrass beds (*Zostera marina*, *Z. noltii*) in the region, according to the Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trusts. Additional intertidal habitats occur here, which should also be in relatively good condition given that this section of the coastline is privately owned by Osborne House.

**9. Detailed site description**

To be completed.

**10. Site boundary**

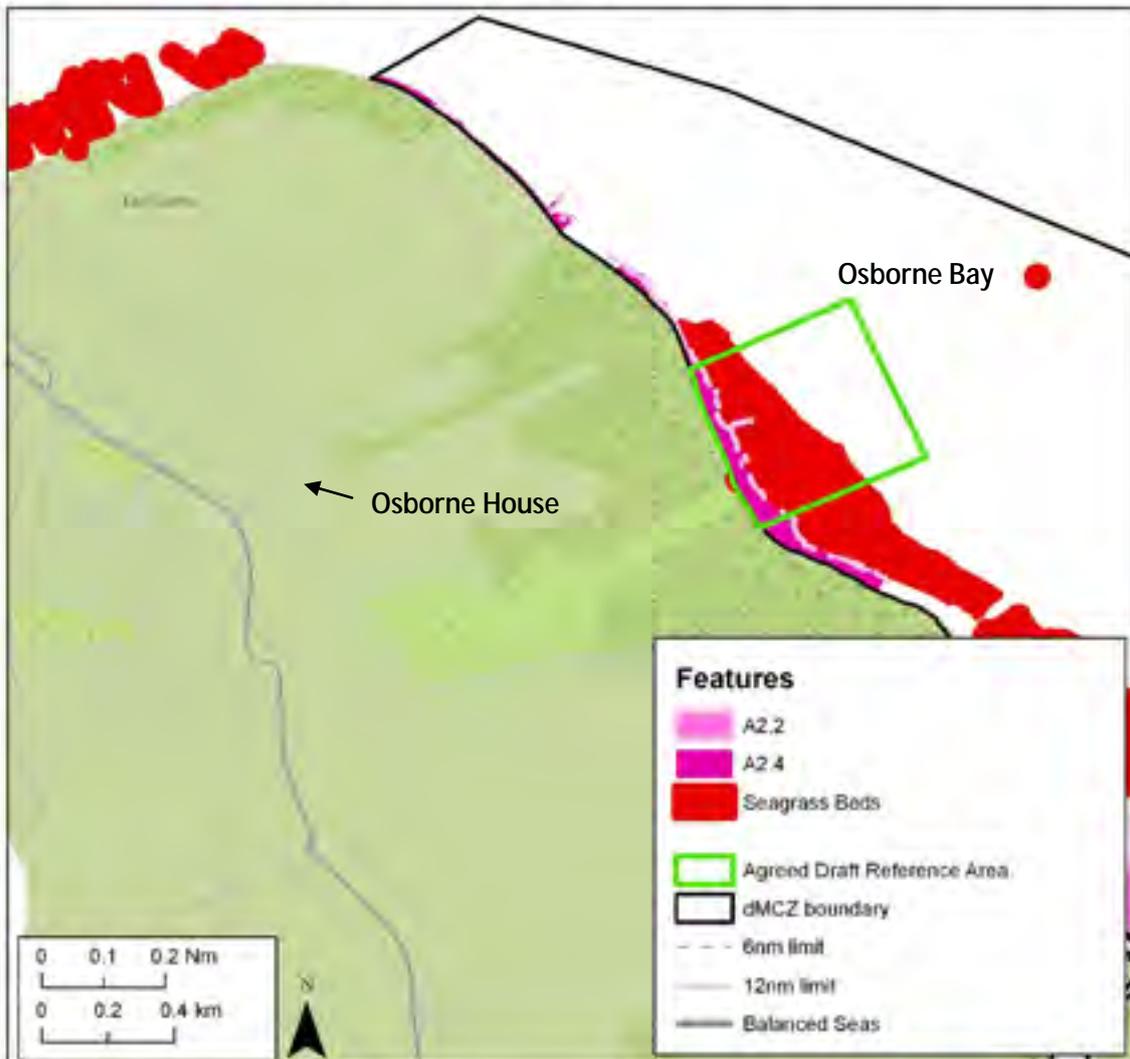
The boundary has been defined by a 500m x 500m square, perpendicular to the coastline, incorporating the features of interest.

**11. Conservation objectives**

All ENG features falling within the site will have a conservation objective set to 'Recover to reference condition', including those broad-scale habitats not shown on the map.

Osborne House Beach draft Reference Area no. 17

Osborne House Beach  
Draft Reference Area no 17 (for FOCI and Intertidal Broad-scale Habitats)



Features to be protected within reference area:

A2.2 Intertidal sand and muddy sand  
A2.4 Intertidal mixed sediments  
Seagrass beds



 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. 

**Osborne House Beach draft Reference Area no. 17****12. Sites to which this site is related**

This site falls within the Norris to Ryde dMCZ no 19 and overlaps with the Solent Maritime SAC and Kings Quay Shore SSSI.

**13. Supporting documentation**

To be completed.

**References**

To be completed.

**Implications for Stakeholders**

- Given their stricter restrictions, draft Reference Areas will have higher levels of contention than dMCZs and need to have additional discussions, including local stakeholders, before they are finalised
- High levels of recreational anchoring and angling occur in Osborne Bay, in which large numbers of yachts anchor throughout the summer and particularly during Cowes week.
- The proposal for a Reference Area is of great concern amongst the yachting sector although the RSG and Local Group representatives of this sector have acknowledged the need for a reference area in this general location and are willing to explore appropriate mitigation measures (e.g. fixed moorings) or other boundary options.

**St Catherine's Point West draft Reference Area no. 18**

<b>1. Site name</b>  St Catherine's Point West draft Reference Area no. 18	<b>3. Site surface area</b>  1545 ha 15.45 km <sup>2</sup>
<b>2. Site centre location</b>  50° 34' 47.952" N      1° 19' 51.284" W	<b>4. Biogeographic region</b>  Eastern English Channel

**5. Features identified for specific protection within St Catherine's Point West dRA**

Feature type	Feature name	Area
Broad-scale habitats	A3.1 High energy infralittoral rock	2.3468 km <sup>2</sup>
	A3.2 Moderate energy infralittoral rock	5.9816 km <sup>2</sup>
	A3.3 Low energy infralittoral rock	3.7864 km <sup>2</sup>
	A5.1 Subtidal coarse sediment	0.0337 km <sup>2</sup>
	A5.4 Subtidal mixed sediments	0.7662 km <sup>2</sup>
Habitat FOCI	Subtidal sands and gravels	2597516 m <sup>2</sup>

**6. Other features occurring within the Hythe Flats dRA (to be protected)**

Feature type	Feature name	Justification
Broad-scale habitats	A1.1 High energy intertidal rock	Intertidal features are heavily impacted by coastal activities, and not thought to be suitable for inclusion
	A1.2 Moderate energy intertidal rock	
	A4.1 High energy circalittoral rock	Circalittoral rock features occur here as small patches and are not suitable for inclusion. They are specifically included in dRAs 10 and 14.
	A4.2 Moderate energy circalittoral rock	

**7. Map of site (see below)**
**8. Site summary**

This site falls within the South Wight Maritime SAC, an area that has been recently surveyed by both the Eastern English Channel Synthesis REC study and the Natural England commissioned multibeam survey. The area contains a large number of rock and sediment broad-scale habitats, from the intertidal through the subtidal, covering the infralittoral and circalittoral zones and including the entire range of energy levels. Given the levels of human activity occurring in the intertidal areas, these habitats are not thought suitable for inclusion and the boundary may be changed to reflect this.

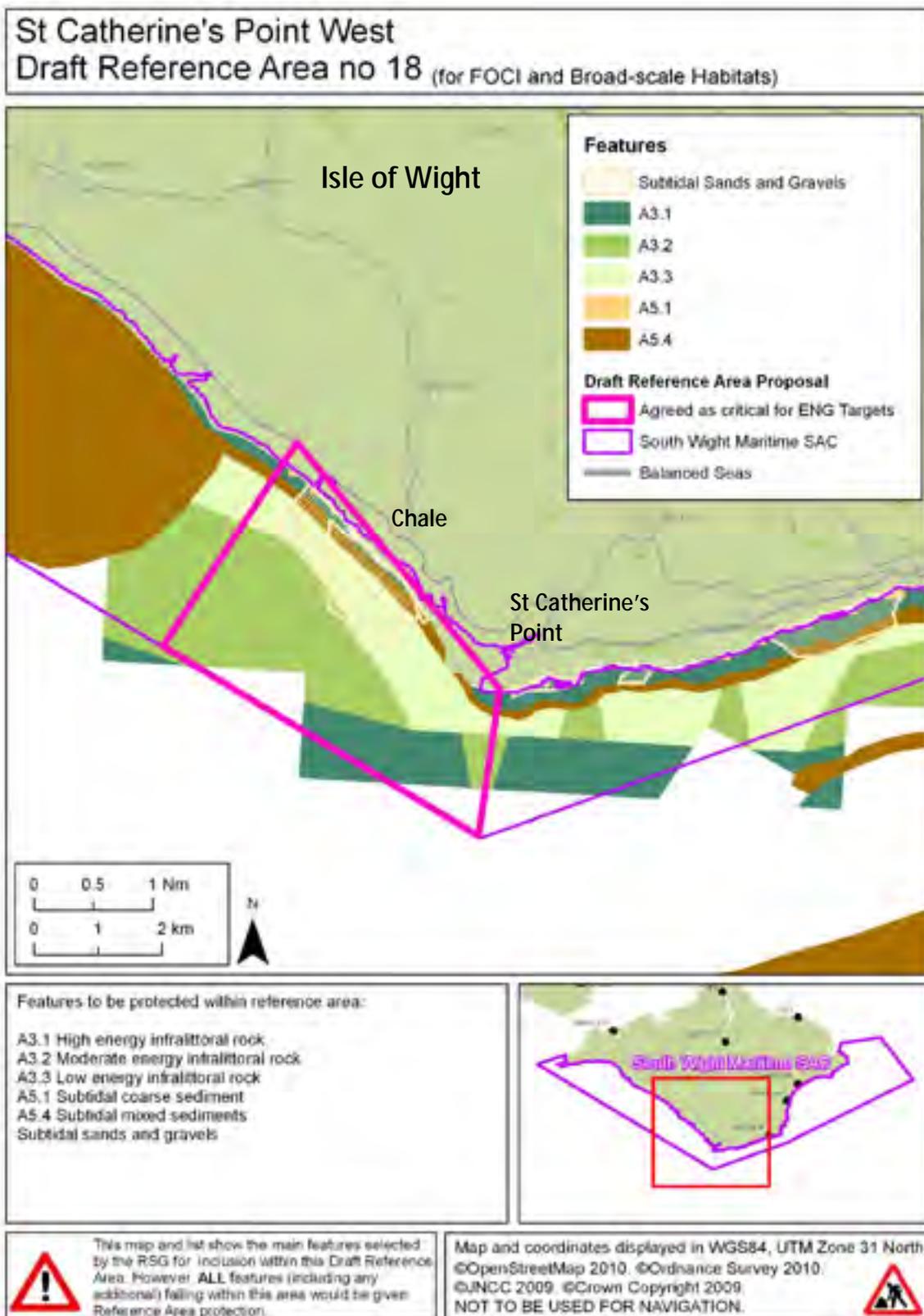
**9. Detailed site description**

To be completed.

**10. Site boundary**

The site boundary was drawn to include the range of infralittoral rock features that occur nowhere else in the area of the region that has been surveyed by the English Channel Synthesis REC study (and has the higher confidence associated with it). The sites outer boundaries are defined by the South Wight Maritime SAC.

St Catherine's Point West draft Reference Area no. 18



**St Catherine's Point West draft Reference Area no. 18****11. Conservation objectives**

All ENG features falling within the site will have a conservation objective set to 'Recover to reference condition', including those broad-scale habitats not shown on the map.

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

This site is contained within the South Wight Maritime SAC.

**13. Supporting documentation**

To be completed.

**References**

To be completed.

**Implications for stakeholders**

- Given their stricter restrictions, draft Reference Areas will have higher levels of contention than dMCZs and need to have additional discussions, including local stakeholders, before they are finalised
- Discussions with the RSG suggest that the area adjacent to the coastline is subject to very high levels of human activity, and therefore might not be suitable for inclusion within a Reference Area. Suggestions were made to alter the boundaries to account for this, although this has not been possible prior to the submission of this report. In addition, the circalittoral rock habitats were also thought to be unsuitable for the reference area and are the primary features for protection elsewhere
- The site is very important for the local fishing fleet.

**Newtown Harbour draft Reference Area no. 19**

<b>6. Site name</b>  Newtown Harbour draft Reference Area no. 19	<b>3. Site surface area</b>  185 ha          1.85 km <sup>2</sup>
<b>1. Site centre location</b>  50° 43' 9.166" N          1° 24' 19.822" W	<b>4. Biogeographic region</b>  Eastern English Channel

**5. Features identified for specific protection within Newtown Harbour dRA**

Feature type	Feature name	Area
Broad Scale Habitats	A2.1 Intertidal coarse sediment	0.0269 km <sup>2</sup>
	A2.3 Intertidal mud	1.3107 km <sup>2</sup>
Habitat FOCI	Estuarine rocky habitats	412 m <sup>2</sup>
	Peat and clay exposures	2062 m <sup>2</sup>
Species FOCI Low	Native Oyster ( <i>O. edulis</i> )	1 point record
	Lagoon Sand Shrimp ( <i>G. insensibilis</i> )	2 point records

**6. Other features occurring within the Newtown Harbour dRA (to be protected)**

Feature type	Feature name	Reason not specifically identified for reference area protection
Broad Scale Habitats	A5.4 Subtidal mixed sediments	Not viable for Broad Scale Habitat RA

**7. Map of site (see below)**
**8. Site summary**

This lies within dMCZ 23, Yarmouth to Cowes. While this site may not contain the very best examples of features in the region, it is nonetheless important because it contains a variety of different habitats, species and intertidal broad-scale habitats and is considered to be in very good ecological condition.

**9. Detailed site description**

To be completed.

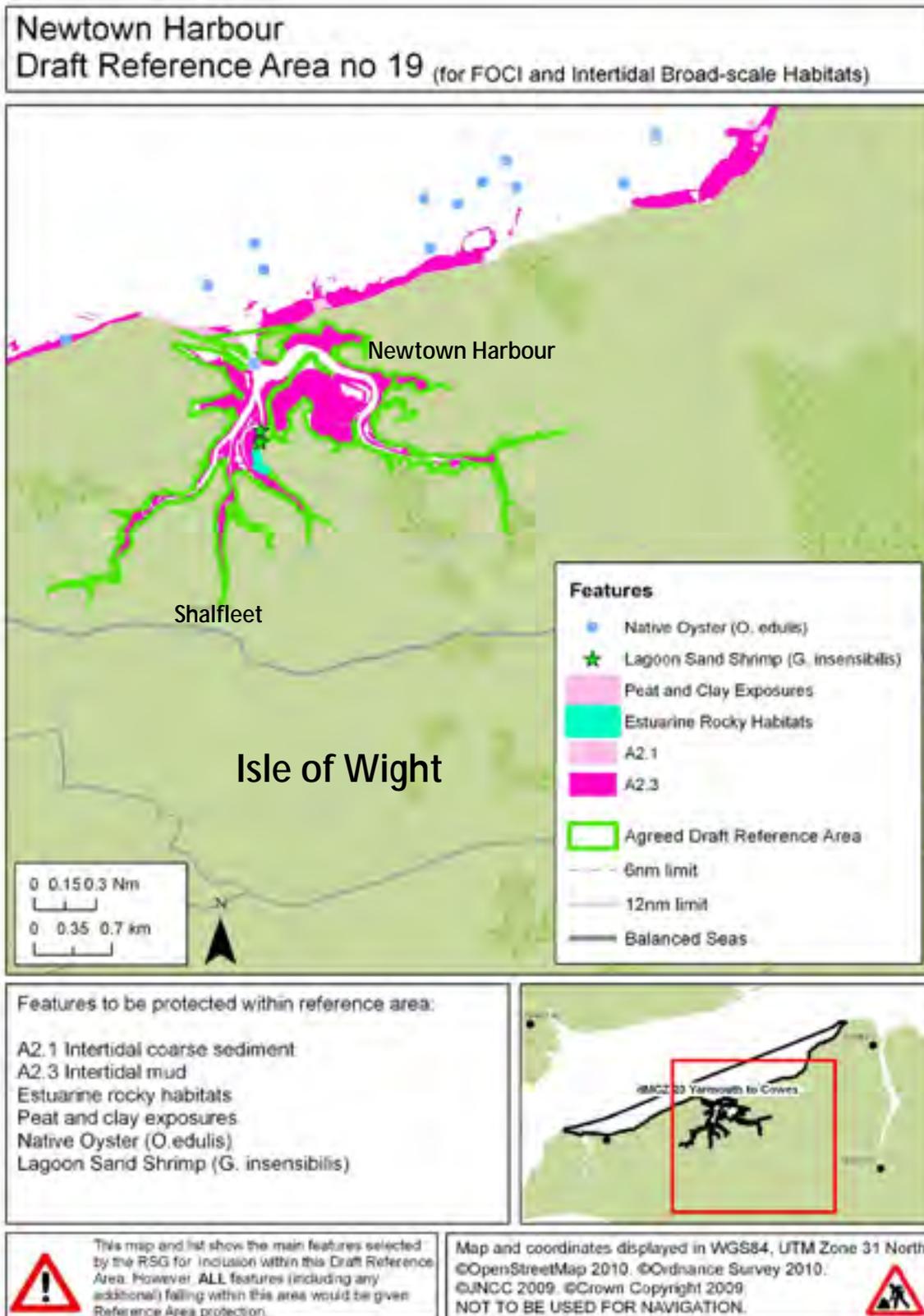
**10. Site boundary**

The boundary is concurrent with the harbour itself, on the maps as defined by Mean High Water limits.

**11. Conservation objectives**

All ENG features falling within the site will have a conservation objective set to 'Recover to reference condition', including those broad-scale habitats not shown on the map.

Newtown Harbour draft Reference Area no. 19



**Newtown Harbour draft Reference Area no. 19****12. Sites to which this site is related**

This site falls within the Yarmouth to Cowes dMCZ no 23 and the Solent Maritime SAC as well as being concurrent with the Newtown Harbour SSSI.

**13. Supporting documentation**

To be completed.

**References**

To be completed.

**Key issues and implications**

- Given their stricter restrictions, draft Reference Areas will have higher levels of contention than dMCZs and need to have additional discussions, including local stakeholders, before they are finalised
- The site is owned by the National Trust, has a firing range and MOD landings at the harbour mouth, which must be taken into consideration, but otherwise this is already well managed and protected.
- The Harbour is used extensively by the recreation sector but it is thought that appropriate mitigation measures could be introduced; permanent moorings have already been installed in some areas.

**Stalked Jellyfish (within Alum Bay) draft Reference Area no. 20**

<b>1. Site name</b>  Stalked Jellyfish within Alum Bay) (draft Reference Area no. 20	<b>3. Site surface area</b>  25 ha                      0.25 km <sup>2</sup>
<b>2. Site centre location</b>  50° 40' 1.620" N                      1° 34' 41.203" W	<b>4. Biogeographic region</b>  Eastern English Channel

**5. Features identified for specific protection within the Stalked Jellyfish (within Alum Bay) dRA**

Feature type	Feature name	Point records within dRA
Habitat FOCI	Native oyster beds	1
	Subtidal chalk	1
Species FOCI Low	Stalked Jellyfish ( <i>L. campanulata</i> )	1
	Native Oyster ( <i>O.edulis</i> )	1

**6. Other features occurring within the Stalked Jellyfish (within Alum Bay) dRA (to be protected)**

Feature type	Feature name	Reason not specifically identified for reference area protection
Broad-scale habitats	A5.4 Subtidal mixed sediments	Not viable for Broad Scale Habitat RA

**7. Map of site (see below)**
**8. Site summary**

This site is the only regional record for the Stalked Jellyfish (*Lucernariopsis campanulata*). Being adjacent to The Needles, the area is well known for its exceptional subtidal chalk cliffs and it also contains wild Native Oysters (*Ostrea edulis*) in beds that are not harvested.

**9. Detailed site description**

To be completed.

**10. Site boundary**

The boundary has been drawn as a simple 500m x 500m square around the Stalked Jellyfish record.

**11. Conservation objectives**

All ENG features falling within the site will have a conservation objective set to 'Recover to reference condition', including those broad-scale habitats not shown on the map.

**Stalked Jellyfish (within Alum Bay) draft Reference Area no. 20**
**Stalked Jellyfish (within Alum Bay)  
Draft Reference Area no 20 (for FOCI)**


Features to be protected within reference area:

Native Oyster beds  
Subtidal chalk  
Stalked Jellyfish (*L. campanulata*)  
Native Oyster (*O. edulis*)



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

Map and coordinates displayed in WGS84, UTM Zone 31 North  
©OpenStreetMap 2010. ©Ordnance Survey 2010.  
©UNCC 2009. ©Crown Copyright 2009.  
**NOT TO BE USED FOR NAVIGATION.**



**Stalked Jellyfish (within Alum Bay) draft Reference Area no. 20****12. Sites to which this site is related**

This site falls within The Needles dMCZ no 20.

**13. Supporting documentation**

To be completed.

**References**

To be completed.

**Implications for Stakeholders**

- Given their stricter restrictions, draft Reference Areas will have higher levels of contention than dMCZs and need to have additional discussions, including local stakeholders, before they are finalised
- Alum Bay in general is used heavily for recreational anchoring but it is possible that the proposed Reference Area may be outside the area of main use; the yachting sector will help to assess this.
- Further discussions are needed to assess any implications for the commercial fishing and angling sectors.

<b>Culver Spit draft Reference Area no. 21</b>
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<b>1. Site name</b>  Culver Spit (raft Reference Area no. 21)	<b>3. Site surface area</b>  25 ha                  0.25 km <sup>2</sup>
<b>2. Site centre location</b>  50° 39' 31.389" N                  1° 4' 46.664" W	<b>4. Biogeographic region</b>  Eastern English Channel

**5. Features identified for specific protection within the Culver Spit dRA**

Feature type	Feature name	Point records within dRA
Species FOCI Low	Long-snouted seahorse ( <i>H. guttulatus</i> )	
	Short-snouted seahorse ( <i>H. hippocampus</i> )	
	Common Maerl ( <i>P. calcareum</i> )	1

**6. Other features occurring within the Culver Spit dRA (to be protected)**

Feature type	Feature name	Reason not specifically identified for reference area protection
Broad-scale habitats	A5.4 Subtidal mixed sediments	Not viable for Broad Scale Habitat RA

**7. Map of site (see below)**
**8. Site summary**

The site, in dMCZ 22 Bembridge, contains the only recently confirmed record of Common Maerl (*Phymatolithon calcareum*) in the region, occurring on Culver Spit. Although there are no survey points to verify their presence, this site is considered to be suitable habitat for the Short-snouted Seahorse, and possible also the Long-snouted Seahorse. Records to verify the presence of either seahorse species would need to be obtained for the site to progress.

**9. Detailed site description**

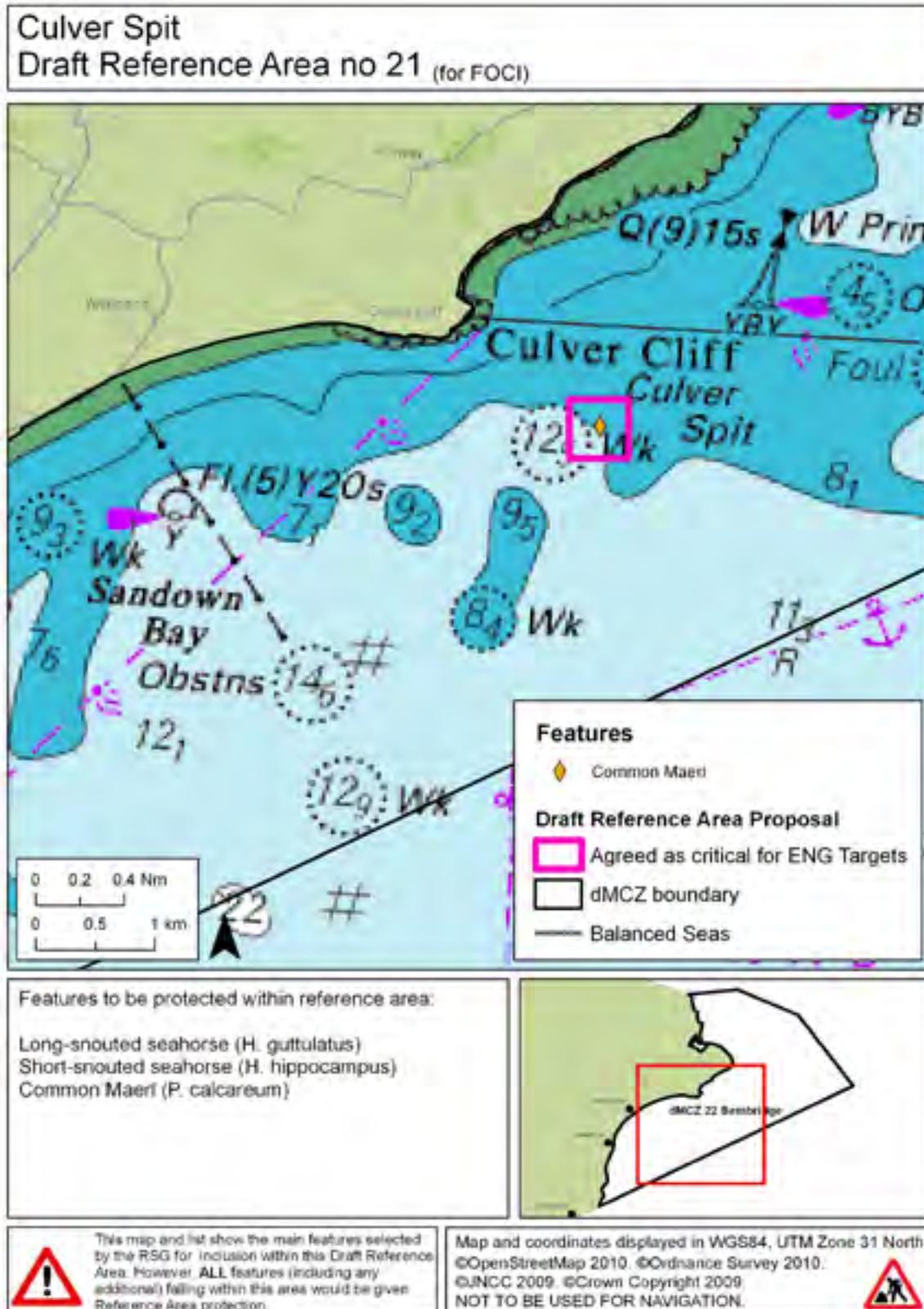
To be completed.

**10. Site boundary**

The boundary has been drawn as a simple 500m x 500m square to encompass the Common Maerl.

**11. Conservation objectives**

All ENG features falling within the site will have a conservation objective set to 'Recover to reference condition', including those broad-scale habitats not shown on the map.

**Culver Spit draft Reference Area no. 21**


**Culver Spit draft Reference Area no. 21****12. Sites to which this site is related**

This site falls within the Bembridge dMCZ no 22.

**13. Supporting documentation**

To be completed.

**References**

To be completed.

**Implications for stakeholders**

- Given their stricter restrictions, draft Reference Areas will have higher levels of contention than dMCZs and need to have additional discussions, including local stakeholders, before they are finalised
- There are numerous recreational activities in this area, but RSG representatives for the yachting and angling sectors felt that this particular location might be possible as a Reference Area.

## Section 4. Appendices

### 4.1. Balanced Seas Regional Stakeholder Group Members - January 2011

Sector	Organisation	First name	Second name
<b>Leisure</b>			
Diving	BSAC	Jane	Maddocks
Yachting	RYA	Paul	Rayner
Canoeing	Canoe England	Kevin	East
Kite Surfing	British Kite Surfing Association	Jude	Merchant
Sea Angling		Tony	Hills
<b>Livelihoods</b>			
Ports	Major Ports Group (UKMPG) and the British Local Fisheries Representatives	Iain	Johnston
Fishing - under 10s (static gear)	NUTFA	Paul	Joy
Fishing - Shellfish	Shellfish Association of Great Britain	Richard	Haward
Fishing - FPO, beam trawling	SWFPO, NFFO	Keith	Schofield
Fishing - Trawling - under and over 10 m	Independent	Alan	Griggs
Fishing - Over 10s, FPO, trawling sector	Gilson Co.	Paul	Gilson
Charter boats	Professional Boatman's Association	David	Hancock
Offshore renewables	EoN (on behalf of BWEA)	Rachel	Blackie
Aggregates	BMAPA	Mark	Russell
Shipping	Chamber of Shipping	Adrian	Lester
Marine recreation industry	British Marine Federation	Brian	Clark
<b>Local Government</b>			
	CSIG / East Sussex County Council	Roger	Thomas
<b>Marine Ecology</b>			
Birds	RSPB	Fay	Bouri
Wildlife Trusts	Hampshire Wildlife Trust	Jolyon	Chesworth
Marine ecology	Seasearch	Bryony	Chapman
Marine Wildlife	Marine Conservation Society	Jean-Luc	Solandt
<b>Public/Policy Makers</b>			
Statutory Nature Conservation	JNCC	Amy	Ridgeway
Statutory Nature Conservation	NE	Lisa	Jenner
<b>Regulatory</b>			
Statutory environmental	Environment Agency	Kate	Potter
IFCA	Kent and Essex IFCA	Joss	Wiggins
IFCA	Southern IFCA	Justine	Jury
IFCA	Sussex IFCA	Robert	Clark
IFCA	Eastern IFCA	Judith	Stoutt
Marine Management	MMO	Paul	Johnson
<b>Other</b>			
Owners	Crown Estates	David	Tudor
Geology	British Geological Survey	Ceri	James
Defence	MOD	Susie	Norbury
Heritage and Archaeology	English Heritage	Dominique	de Moulins
<b>International</b>			
French fishing interests	CRPMEM Nord - Pas de Calais / Picardie	Antony	Viera

## 4.2. Acronyms

BAI	– Broad Area of Interest
EMS	– European Marine Site
ENG	– Ecological Network Guidance
EUNIS	– European Nature Information System
FOCI	– Feature of Conservation Importance
GCR	– Geological Conservation Review
IFCA	–Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authorities
JNCC	– Joint Nature Conservation Committee
MALSF	– Marine Aggregates Levy Sustainability Fund
MCZ	– Marine Conservation Zone
MESH	– Mapping European Seabed Habitats project
MMO	– Marine Management Organisation
MPA	– Marine Protected Area
REC	–Regional Environmental Characterisation
RSG	– Regional Stakeholder Group
RSPB	– Royal Society for the Protection of Birds
SAC	– Special Area of Conservation (dSAC – draft SAC)
SAP	– Science Advisory Panel
SFC	–Sea Fisheries Committee
SPA	– Special Protection Area
SSSI	– Site of Special Scientific Importance
SNCB	–Statutory Nature Conservation Bodies