

Commercial fishing activity within the Harbour includes netting & dredging. The majority of vessels from Portsmouth Harbour access the wider Solent to trawl, dredge, long-line and pot/trap. **Key species** harvested include King scallop, clams, cockles, whelks, bass and pacific oysters.

✚

Trawl

★

Trap/Pot

▲

Dredge

■

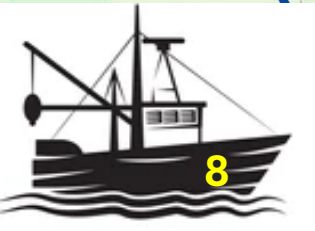
Net

●

Line

Main Ports & Harbours

No. of IFCA registered vessels

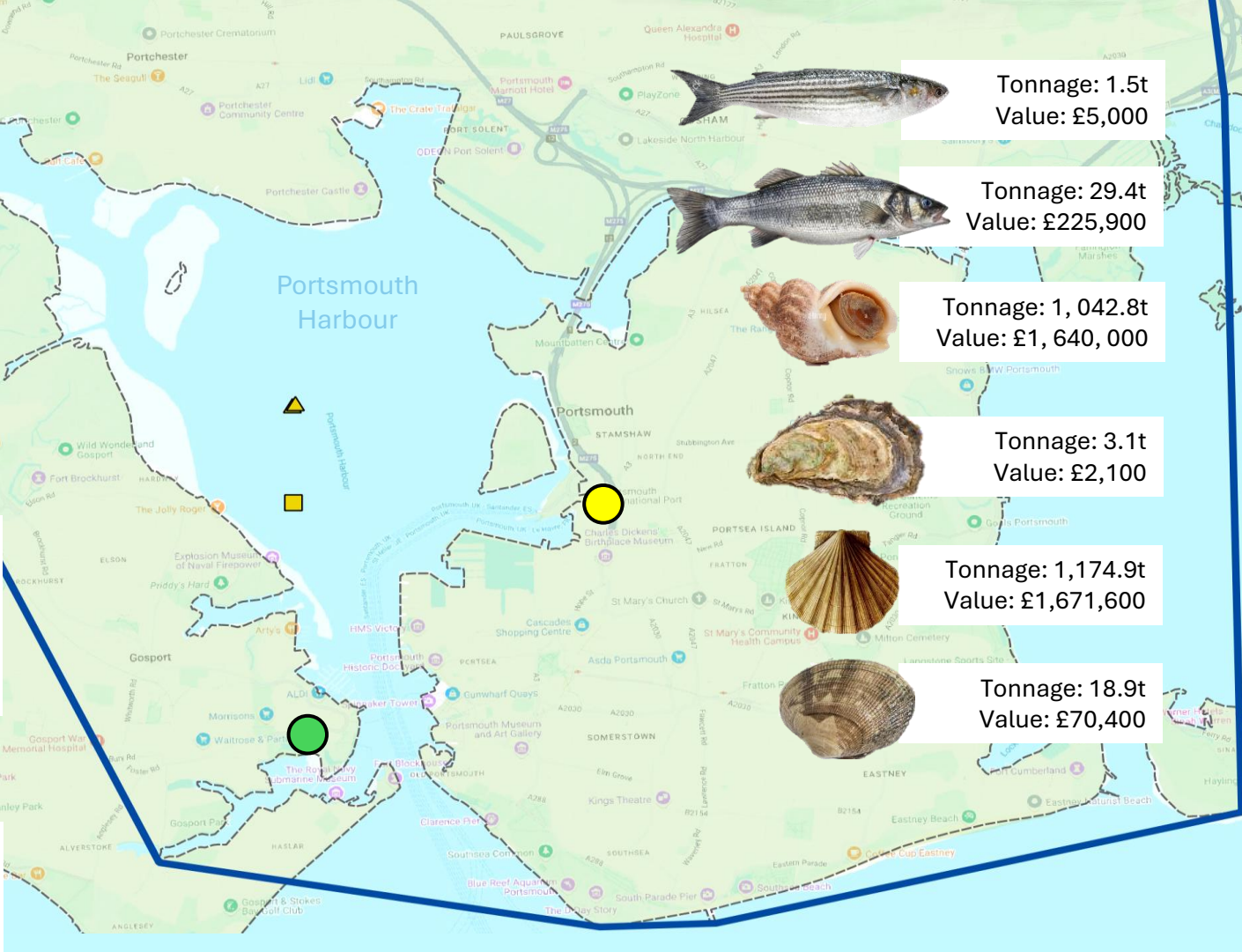


Gosport



Portsmouth

There are **41 registered vessels** (36 x $\leq 10m$, 5 x $\geq 10m - \leq 12m$) permitted by Southern IFCA to commercially fish inside 6nm. A Southern IFCA Byelaw requires that all vessels operating inside 6nm are $\leq 12m$ in length.



Species landed into Portsmouth City Council Ports taken from MMO landings data (incl. $<10m$ and $>10m$ vessels) & Solent Dredge Permit data.

Fisheries in Portsmouth

Southern

IFCA

All data for FY 2024-2025

There is a **recreational rod & line community**, with the area providing access to nationally important angling hotspots in the Solent, with species of interest including bass.

There are **4 Marine Protected Areas (MPAs)** which are designated to protect important habitats, species and features. Each MPA may require bespoke feature-based management, relevant to the risk posed by fishing activity.

MPAs relevant to Portsmouth



All data for FY
2024-2025

Portsmouth Harbour SPA

Non-breeding species:
Black-tailed godwit, Dark-bellied brent goose, Dunlin, Red-breasted merganser

Chichester & Langstone Harbours SPA

Breeding species: Common tern, Little tern, Sandwich tern
Non-breeding species: Bar-tailed godwit, Curlew, Dark-bellied brent goose, Dunlin, Grey plover, Pintail, Red-breasted merganser, Redshank, Ringed plover, Sanderling, Shelduck, Shoveler, Teal, Turnstone, Wigeon

Solent Maritime SAC

Atlantic salt meadows, Coastal lagoons, Estuaries, Mud & sandflats (eelgrass, saltmarsh), Sandbanks, Shifting dunes, Spartina swards

Solent & Dorset Coast SPA

Breeding species: Common tern, Little tern, Sandwich tern

Special Areas of Conservation
 Special Protection Areas

The **Southern IFCA Data Collection, Survey & Monitoring Programme** seeks to further understandings of fisheries, working with industry to provide the best available evidence to inform relevant annual reviews, ensuring that any management interventions in place remain aligned to their overarching objectives.

Research relevant to
Portsmouth



All data for FY
2024-2025

Solent Bivalve Survey and Native Oyster Survey to assess the distribution and abundance of native oysters and bivalve species such as common cockle, manila clam and oysters.

SDPB Data collection via monthly catch returns which are used to analyse changes in stock health overtime. Spatial refinement of data over the most important area for the Scallop fishery was introduced in 2024 in collaboration with Permit Holders.



Solent Scallop Survey to assess the distribution and abundance of King Scallop within the Solent. Updates to survey design were introduced via collaboration with the fishers

The Southern IFCA monitoring programme also supports the following **Fisheries Management Plans** via provision of data to support FMP objectives; King Scallop, Crab and Lobster, Whelk, Queen Scallop, Cockle and more.

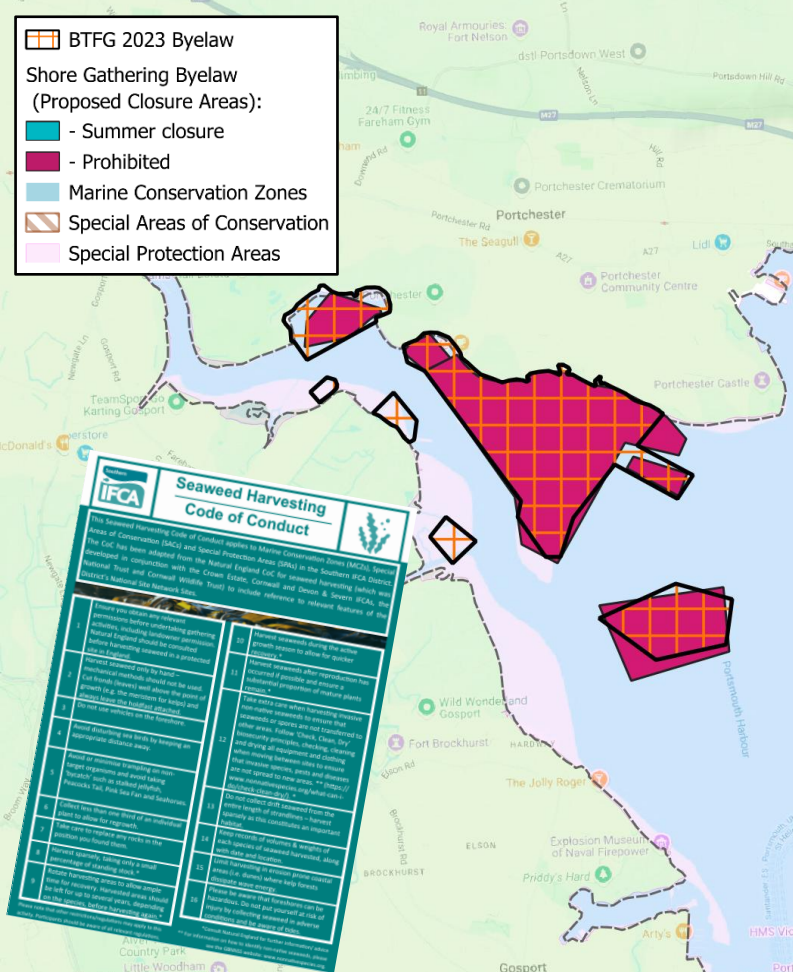
 Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

The **Whelk Population Survey** assesses the distribution and abundance of common whelk across the Solent, in collaboration with fishers.



Industry support the **whelk survey programme** via industry led data collection and chartered use of fishing vessels to collect data. Lab facilities are provided by Bournemouth University for sample analysis.

BU Bournemouth
University



Shore Gathering restrictions will be introduced in **13.6% (3.6km sq.)** of the Portsmouth marine environment via the **Shore Gathering Byelaw** (following ratification), which is further supported by the **Seaweed Harvesting Code** which has 100% coverage.



Previous Year

Consideration of draft measures as output from the Shore Gathering Review.



Management Development

Draft measures formalised, presented with supporting documents to the Authority, Formal Advice sought from NE.



Byelaws Made

Shore Gathering Byelaw and Fishing for Cockles (Amendment) Byelaw Made by the Authority in Sept. 24. Supported by Seaweed Harvesting Code of Conduct.



Formal Consultation

On both Byelaws running until 14th November 2024.



MMO QA

Authority recommended that Byelaws are submitted to the MMO & Defra for quality assurance. Round 1 of MMO QA received.




Next stage

Await any further rounds of QA from MMO or Defra.

Shore Gathering Review

Policy Development & Review relevant to Portsmouth

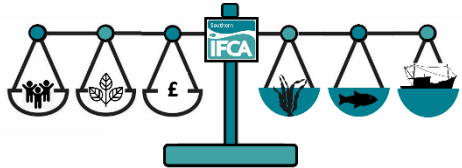
All data for FY 2024-2025



Bottom Towed Fishing Gear

100% (27.3km sq.) of the Portsmouth marine environment is managed for Bottom Towed Fishing Gear via the Southern IFCA Solent Dredge Permit Byelaw. **25.3% (6.9km²)** is prohibited to BTFG under the BTFG Byelaw 2016, to increase to **28.7% (7.8km²)** with the ratification of the BTFG Byelaw 2023.

Collectively this work is helping to meet the **UK Government target of 30% protections by 2030** in the inshore environment.



Developing Management

Reviewing Management

Port Visits: 21

Vehicle Inspections: 9

Premises Inspections: 4

Joint Land Patrols: 2

Southern

IFCA

Portsmouth
CITY COUNCIL

Compliance & Enforcement
relevant to Portsmouth

All data for FY
2024-2025



HAMPSHIRE
CONSTABULARY



Compliance
Focus Areas

- Minimum Conservation Reference Sizes
- Net Fishing Byelaw
- Prohibition of Gathering In Seagrass Beds
- Solent Dredge Permit Byelaw
- Bottom Towed Fishing Gear Byelaw 2016

CET Targeted Engagement

CET targeted engagement includes visiting a number of ports, harbours and tackle shops throughout the area to engage and provide information.

Verbal Warnings: 1 x Minimum Conservation Reference Size
Official Written Warnings: 2 x SDPB non submission of catch return

Enforcement Action Taken

- Port visits
- Premises
- Person
- Vehicle
- Port landings (vessel)
- Inspections (Land & Sea)
- BTFG 2016 Byelaw
- Prohibit gathering in seagrass beds
- Solent Dredge Permit Byelaw
- Net Fishing Byelaw:
 - Net Permit Area
 - Net Prohibition Area
 - Net Restriction Area
- Marine Conservation Zones
- Special Areas of Conservation
- Special Protection Areas

Marine
Management
Organisation



Sea Patrols: 21

Boarding inspections: 18

Joint Sea Patrols: 3





Engagement relevant to Portsmouth

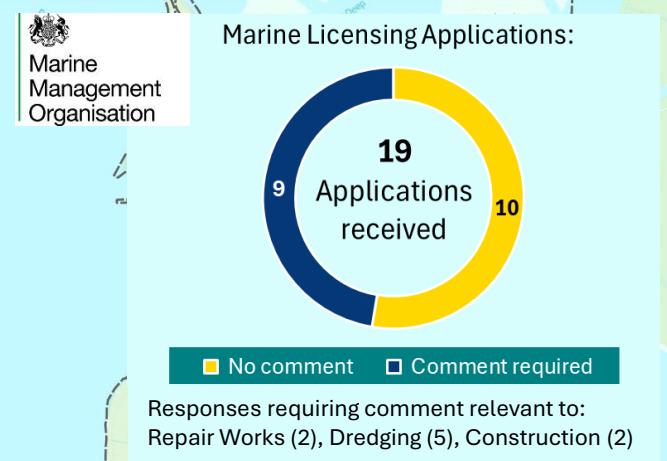
All data for FY 2024-2025

Fisheries Management Plans

Southern IFCA have continued to input to the FMP process through provision of information & engagement opportunities to the community and input to the drafting (T3 & T4) and implementation processes (T1 & T2).

Solent Scallop Survey Methods with CEFAS and Industry

SEMS Management Group



Solent Seagrass Network

NQS FMP Cuttlefish Roundtable Workshop

Solent Dredge Permit Community Forum

Regional Fisheries Group VIId

Solent Forum

Solent Seascapes Project

Angling for Sustainability Fisheries Industry Science Partnership Project

Southern IFCA joined the project team for 8 days tagging black seabream and elasmobranch and attended a number of workshops throughout the District.

Solent Seascapes State of Nature Launch

Consultations

Southern IFCA responded to the MMO consultation on proposed measures for scallop fisheries in 7d for 2025.

Solent Forum National Environment Group