



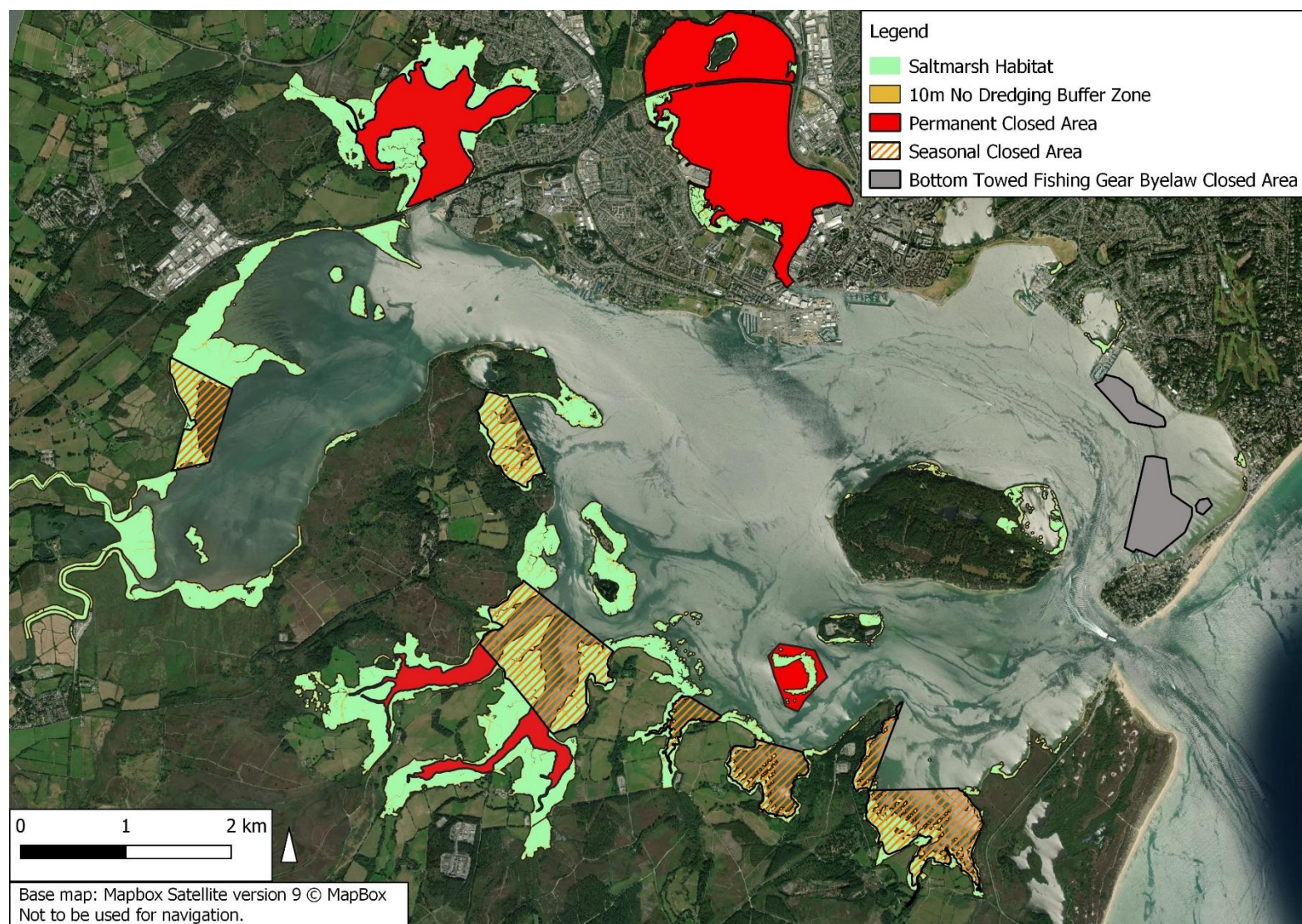
# **Poole Harbour Saltmarsh Protection**

## **Code of Practice**

Within Poole Harbour, to prevent disturbance to breeding and roosting birds and to protect their supporting habitat, **no person should fish using a dredge within 10 metres of saltmarsh**, as mapped in figures 1 and 2.

### EXPLANATORY NOTE

*This Code of Practice (CoP) aims to avoid disturbance to breeding and roosting bird species and promote protection of supporting habitat within specific areas of Poole Harbour. Saltmarsh is a supporting habitat of the Poole Harbour Special Protection Area and is identified as being at risk. Dredge fishing over saltmarsh will likely lead to the erosion of this habitat. The Authority has a duty under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2019, to ensure that fishing activity does not disturb or have an adverse effect on the wildlife for which a site in the National Site Network is legally protected. This CoP was developed as a first alternative to statutory measures. Where there is evidence of immediate risk to the habitat, statutory measures, in the form of Poole Harbour Dredge Permit Conditions, have been developed to protect areas of saltmarsh around Green Island and Seagull Island. This CoP will be reviewed at least annually and, should the CoP prove ineffective, Southern IFCA will consider the introduction of statutory measures. To further reduce the risk of disturbance to bird species, fishers are advised to avoid these areas of saltmarsh between fishing activities and to avoid the use of excessive noise when close by*

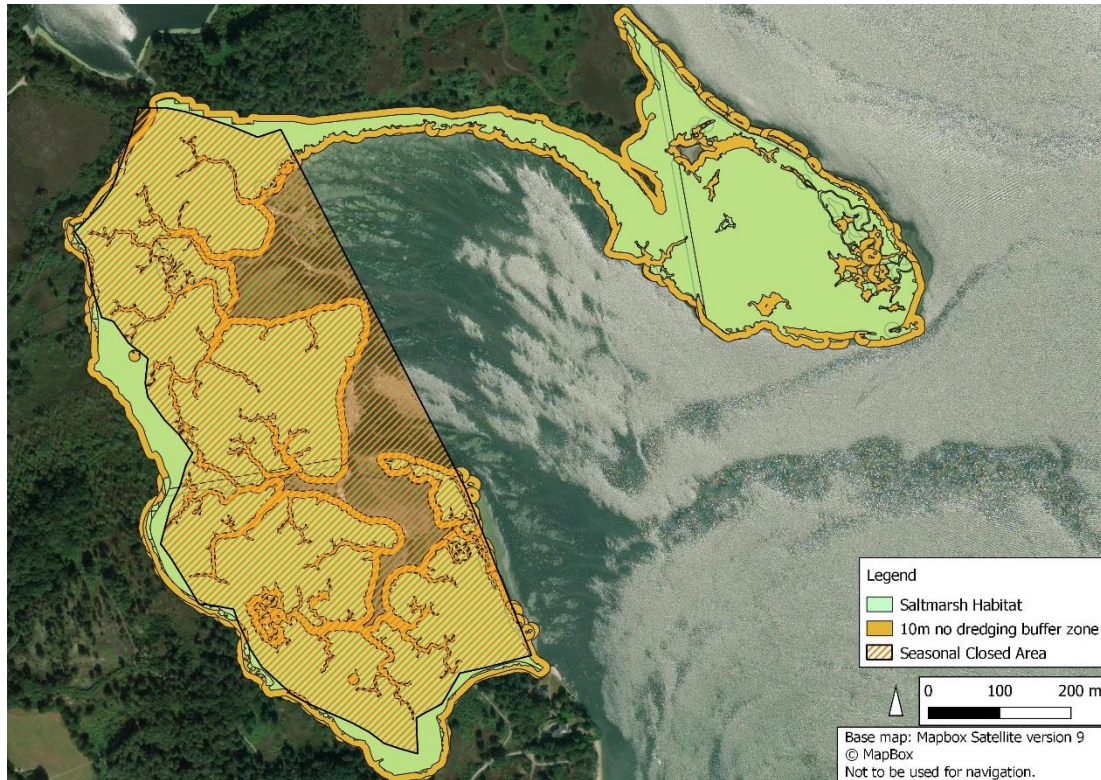


**Figure 1:** Saltmarsh in Poole Harbour with a 10m buffer zone, also shown are regulations under the Poole Harbour Dredge Permit and the Bottom Towed Fishing Gear Byelaw 2016.

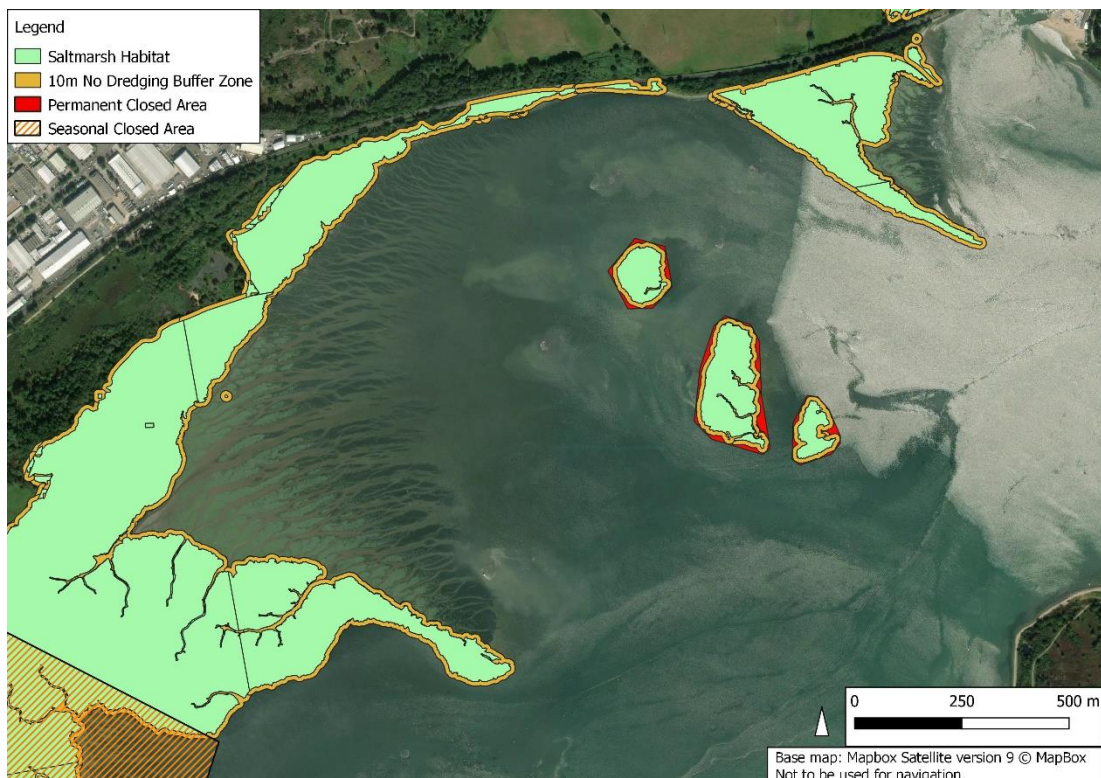


**Figure 2:** Key areas where saltmarsh habitat is found in Poole Harbour and the 10m no dredging zone. Note that this 10m no dredging zone applies to all saltmarsh in Poole Harbour, the following maps are provided to aid fishermen in areas where fishing activity occurs in proximity to saltmarsh areas

### Arne Bay

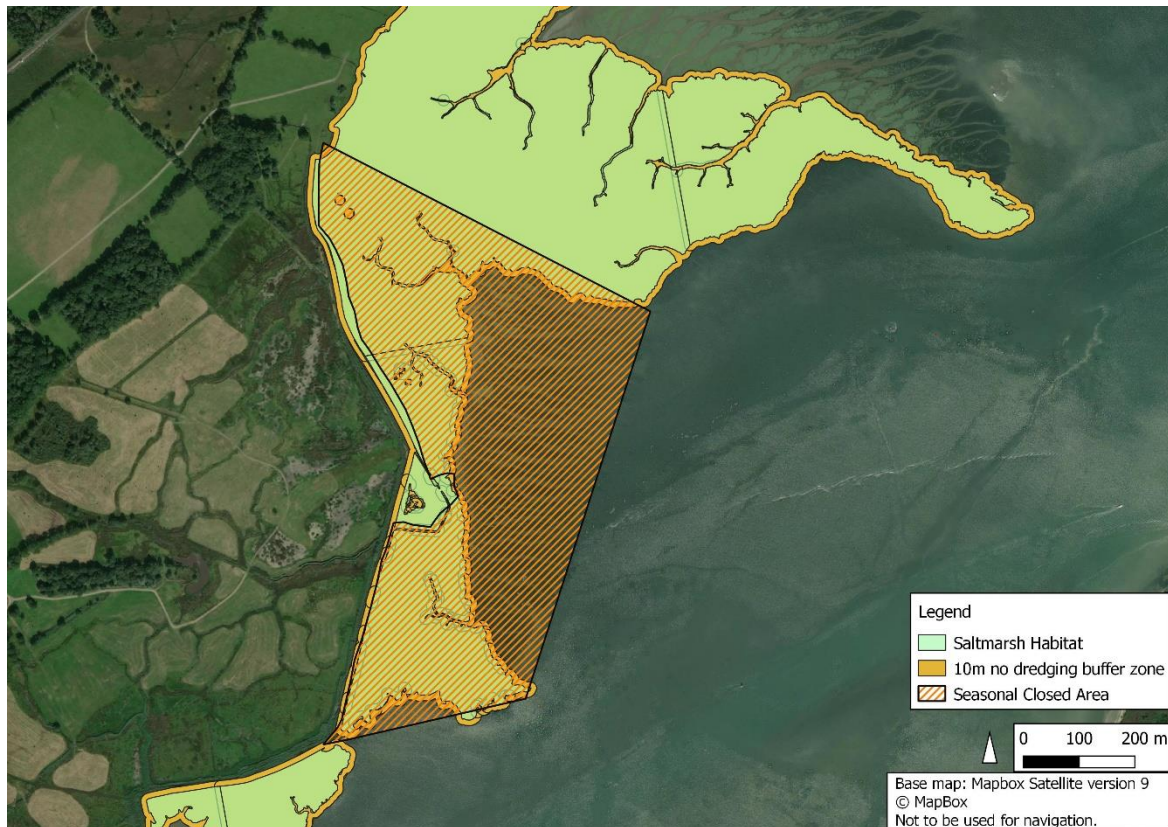


### Holton Mere

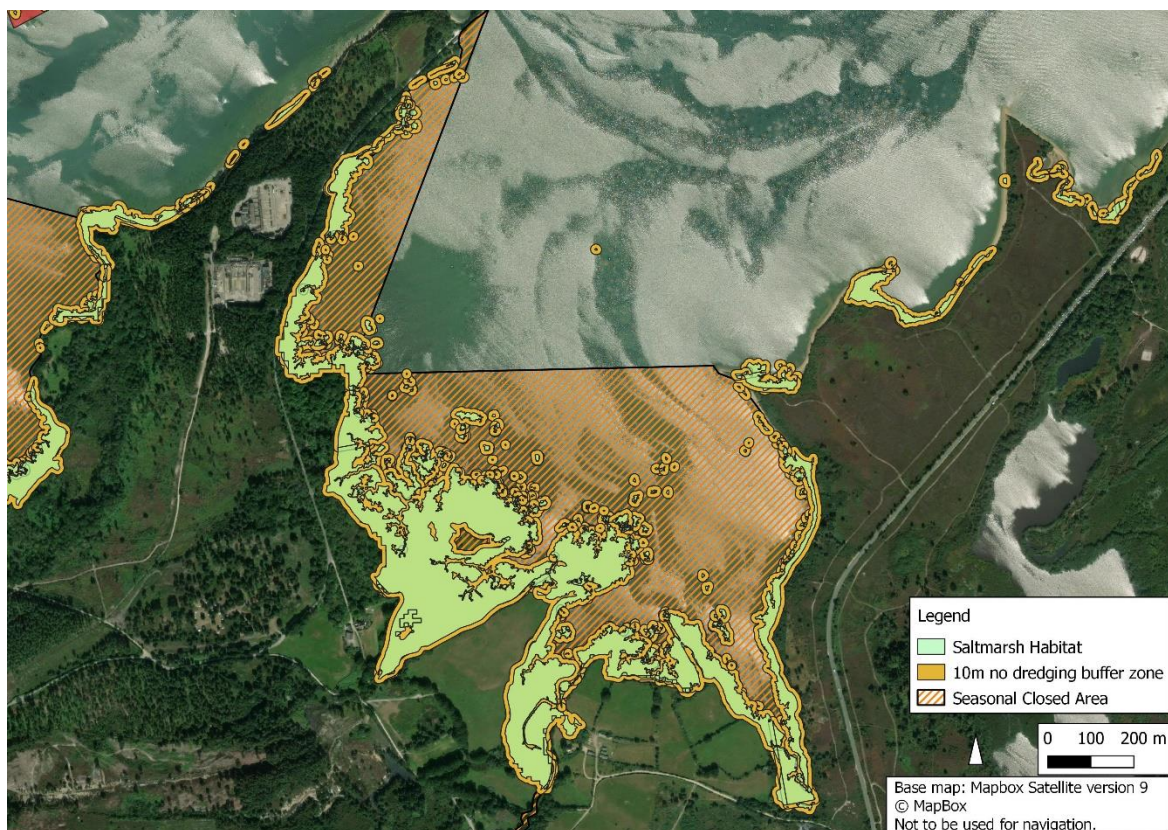




## Keysworth

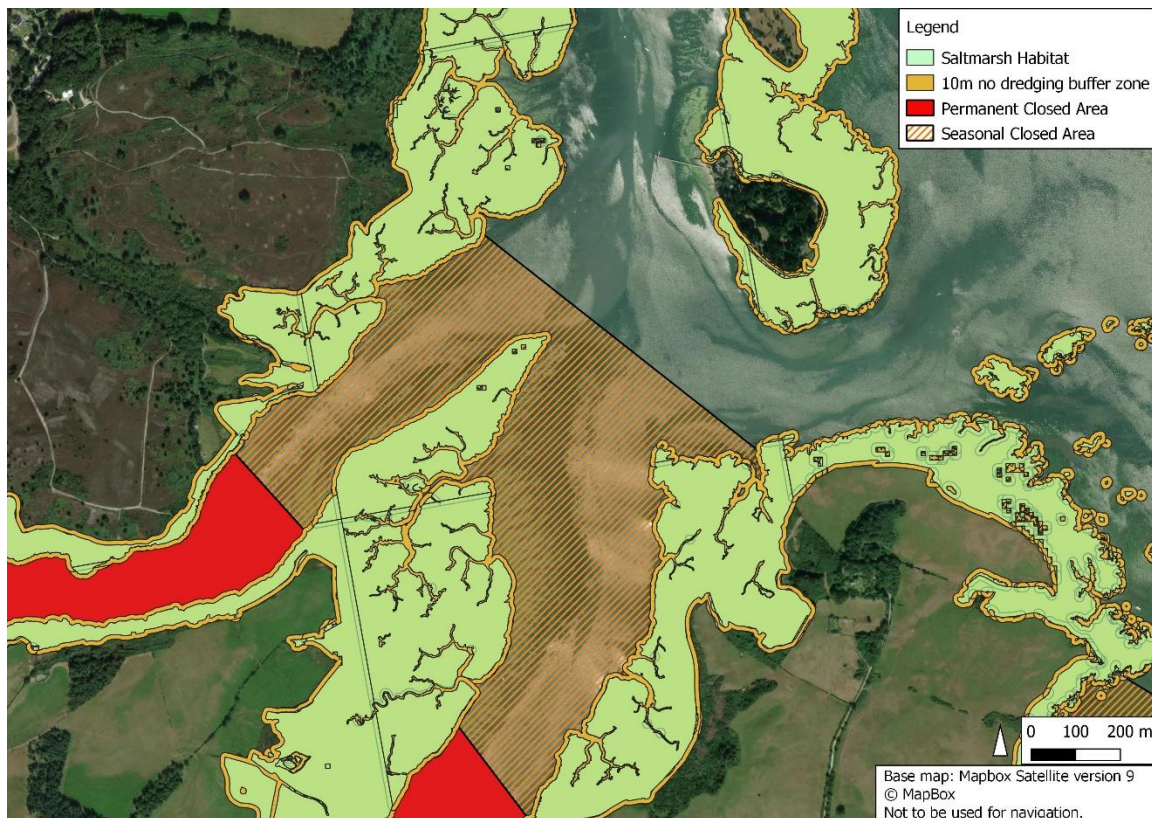


## Brands Bay





## Wych Lake and Middlebere Lake



## The Wards

