



ENGLISH HERITAGE

IMPORTANT INFORMATION: Protection of Wrecks Act 1973

There are currently **9** wrecks designated under the Protection of Wrecks Act 1973 within the Southern Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Area. They are:

Site	Location	Latitude	Longitude
West Bay	West of the Outer Pollock Reef, off West Bay, Dorset	50.70406664	-2.77846669
Studland Bay Wreck	Studland Bay, off Dorset	50.66141474	-1.91453882
Swash Channel	Approaches to Poole Harbour	50.66432924	-1.92526579
The Needles	The Needles, Isle of Wight	50.66225259	-1.59190847
Yarmouth Roads	Yarmouth Roads, off Yarmouth, Isle of Wight	50.70924850	-1.49470438
Unknown wreck off Thorness Bay	South-west of Gurnard Ledge, Thorness Bay, Isle of Wight	50.74820000	-1.35620000
<i>Grace Dieu</i>	River Hamble, nr. Lower Swanwick	50.89250817	-1.28867317
<i>Mary Rose</i>	Spithead, off Portsmouth	50.76391460	-1.10424481
<i>Invincible</i>	Horse and Dean Sand, Eastern Solent	50.73958504	-1.03864017

More details on all these sites, and any new sites, are available on the National Heritage List for England:

www.english-heritage.org.uk/professional/protection/process/national-heritage-list-for-england

Designated sites are identified as being likely to contain the remains of a vessel, or its contents, which are of historical, artistic or archaeological importance. A 'Statutory Instrument' identifies the location of the site and also the extent of the restricted area used to ensure the protection of the site. In some cases the site is indicated by a buoy, usually yellow and inscribed Protected Wreck. Suitably placed notices sometimes indicate sites close to the shore. Some are warning signs; and others are public information notices giving a brief explanation of why the wreck is important and a description of the site. All protected wrecks are listed in the annual Admiralty Notices to Mariners and are marked on appropriate UK Hydrographic Office charts.

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The National Heritage Act (2002) enabled English Heritage to assume responsibilities for maritime archaeological sites of all types from low water out to the 12nm territorial limit around England. English Heritage works in partnership with central government departments, local authorities, voluntary bodies and the private sector to conserve and enhance the historic environment, broaden public access to heritage and increase people's understanding of the past. Our approach to the management of designated wrecks is informed in five principal ways; national and corporate policy, facilitating authorised public access and activities, strategic research and intervention, proactive interpretation / presentation and ongoing dialogue with stakeholders.

Although you may not realise it, it is an offence to deposit anything, including anchors and fishing gear, on a Protected Wreck without a licence granted by the appropriate Secretary of State. We would like to take this opportunity to remind you that the placing of any pots on a designated site is an offence under the Protection of Wrecks Act.

It is a criminal offence do any of the following in a designated area without a licence granted by the appropriate Secretary of State:

- Tamper with, damage or remove any part of a vessel lying wrecked on or in the seabed or any object formerly contained in such a vessel.
- Carry out diving or salvage operations directed to the exploration of any wreck or to removing objects from it or from the seabed, or uses equipment constructed or adapted for any purpose of diving or salvage operations. This is likely to include deployment of remotely operated vehicles.
- Deposit anything including anchors and fishing gear which, if it were to fall on the site, would obliterate, obstruct access to, or damage any part of the site. This includes placing pots on a site.

More information is available on our website www.english-heritage.org.uk/maritime.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require any further information or would like to discuss this further.

Yours sincerely

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