

Lundy Marine Conservation Zone

Where is this site?

Lundy MCZ is an inshore site that covers a rectangular area of 31 km² around Lundy Island. Situated 19 km off the North Devon coast, Lundy is the largest island in the Bristol Channel. The marine area around Lundy has long been recognised for its ecological importance and as such was established as England's first Marine Nature Reserve (NMR) in 1986. When the Marine and Coastal Access Act came into force in 2009 the site was converted from an NMR to a MCZ in January 2010. The MCZ boundary is identical to the boundary of Lundy Special Area of Conservation (SAC) and contains an existing no-take zone.



Rocky cliffs on Lundy © Ruth Porter

Why is this site important?

Lundy's unique situation in the mouth of the Bristol Channel means it is subject to a range of environmental conditions. Both sheltered and exposed areas can be found with some being subject to strong tidal currents and waves. The seabed landscape varies considerably with steeply sloping, vertical and overhanging underwater cliffs all present within the site. The combination of these physical conditions supports a range of complex biological communities, making the area a biodiversity hotspot. Reefs, sandbanks, seacaves and grey seals are already protected as features within the area under the SAC; the MCZ offers additional protection for Spiny lobster that was not previously protected.

What does this Marine Conservation Zone protect?

The Spiny lobster (*Palinurus elephas*) is a large, brightly coloured crustacean that can grow up to 60cm long. It has small front claws, but is heavily armoured with strong spines to protect it from predators. Spiny lobsters are found on the south and west coasts of the British Isles, as well as the warmer waters of the Canary Islands and Mediterranean. The species is being protected because the number of spiny lobsters has been falling, particularly in areas of South-west England.



Feature	General management approach
Spiny lobster (<i>Palinurus elephas</i>)	Recover to favourable condition

Who will manage Marine Conservation Zones?

Many activities within the marine environment are regulated through marine licences. More information regarding the marine licensing process in relation to MCZs can be found on the MMO website www.marinemanagement.org.uk/licensing/marine.htm

Other activities are regulated through different mechanisms. For example fishing activities are managed through European legislation, national statutory instruments, byelaws and self-imposed voluntary agreements. Similar arrangements are in place to manage the range of activities that may impact MCZs including pollution, coastal development and recreation.

Management of sites is currently being prioritised nationally according to the potential or actual adverse impacts of activities on the features designated in relation to fishing activities. This prioritisation will be further refined at a local level taking into account relevant information and will guide regulators to those sites which may need protection before others.

Any management measures that are required for MCZs will be applied on a case-by-case basis. Management measures will be implemented at sites most at risk of damage first, regulating only those activities which have a detrimental impact on the features. In cases where there is a high risk to designated features being damaged emergency measures may be put in place to ensure the protection of vulnerable habitats and species.

What happens now this site has been designated?

The site specific information below provides an overview of which activities may be affected by the designation of the MCZ and the current management measures. As with all management measures, they may, of course, be subject to change in the light of new evidence becoming available.

Lundy Island has a long history of marine protection and became the first MCZ in English waters. A number of activities take place around the area and are managed through a zonal scheme.

This site is within the jurisdiction of the Devon & Severn IFCA, therefore all Devon & Severn IFCA District-wide byelaws will apply to this site, in addition to all relevant national and EU fisheries legislation. Further information is available at

www.marinemanagement.org.uk/fisheries/monitoring/regulations_bluebook.htm

Relevant restrictions relating to this site include the proposed Potting and Shellfish Permit Byelaw and the proposed Mobile Fishing Permit Byelaw. Through these permit byelaws Devon & Severn IFCA will have a regulatory mechanism through which additional management can be introduced to specifically meet the conservation objectives for the designated features.

For further information visit the Lundy MCZ website at www.lundymcz.org.uk or the IFCA website at www.devonandsevernifca.gov.uk/

Where can I find out further information?

An interactive map showing this MCZs and other marine protected areas is available at <http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-5201>

Additional information about this site and other MCZs is available at <https://www.gov.uk/government/policies/protecting-and-sustainably-using-the-marine-environment>

and within Natural England's advice available at <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/category/1499649>



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Annex: Management

Lead organisation	Activities
Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authorities (IFCAs)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fisheries (0-6nm) including commercial fisheries and recreational fishing activities such as sea angling For further information visit www.association-ifca.org.uk
Marine Management Organisation (MMO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fisheries (management) (6-12nm) Fisheries (enforcement) national and EU legislation Licensable activities such as deposit and removal activities below mean high water springs, including subsea cables (up to 12nm), construction (including renewables <100MW, ports and costal protection), dredging and disposal Harbour Orders and Harbour Empowerment Orders Section 36 and safety zone consents Enforcement of licensable activity and other consents (including deemed marine licences) Development of marine plans integrating the social requirements, economic potential and environmental priorities of marine plan areas Activities requiring a wildlife licence For further information visit www.marinemangement.org.uk/fisheries or www.marinemangement.org.uk/licensing/marine.htm
Environment Agency (EA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fisheries management for migratory and fresh water fish Coastal protection and flood management Water quality Permitted discharges from terrestrial sources For further information visit www.environment-agency.gov.uk/default.aspx
Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Oil and Gas related activities Renewable energy related activities For further information visit www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-of-energy-climate-change
Harbour Authorities and local planning authorities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Harbour authorities have management responsibilities for the port and coastal waters within their jurisdiction Local authorities have role to manage, regulate and facilitate activities at the coast. These include management of coastal recreation, tourism, economic regeneration, flood protection, spatial planning and coastal zone and estuary management, For further information contact your local authority or IFCA
Department for Transport (DfT)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Responsible for shipping, harbours, ship pollution and offshore safety For further information visit www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-transport
Natural England (NE)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public access For further information visit www.naturalengland.org.uk/