

# SEMS Actions NEG 2021/22

## Progress Updates

The following table shows only NEG actions included in the SEMS Annual Management Report 2021 and these actions were set in Autumn 2021 to be worked on until Autumn 2022. They entirely supersede the actions from the previous year. The AMR includes many more actions allocated to others. It incorporates actions allocated to NEG in previous years.

Progress since November shown in green below

NEG to do - shown in red below

### Fishing (shore-based activities)

#### 1. Action (2020/ongoing): Progress the Solent Mudflat Strategy

Lead/Partners: NEG

**Action progress:** In 2020, NEG established a working group which is developing a strategy to address the impacts on mudflats from recreational activities in designated sites. Please see the information page on the SEMS website for the latest information: [Solentems - Solent Mudflat Disturbance Group](#).

### Progress since November 2021

Whilst The University of Portsmouth (UoP) continues to model bait collection and hand gathering in Chichester Harbour, which may lead to by-laws. UoP currently have no resources to roll this out Solent wide. There is a bid to DEIMOS for understanding sediment disturbance Solent wide which will be determined in the summer.

**Recommend that NEG looks for an alternative way to deliver this work, combining the Solent Bird Sensitivity Mapping project. Please discuss different routes (such as using a commercial consultant) and budgets**

### Land recreation - Dog walking

1. **Action (ongoing):** In 2021, when the 5 year monitoring of the effectiveness of the SRMP is complete, an assessment should be made as to how successful the mitigation strategy has been in reducing the impact of new housing development in the Solent, and whether baseline disturbance from existing housing has sufficiently reduced harm to birds through the promotion of the Bird Aware messaging by third parties (SRMP monitoring 2021). Due to COVID-19, the Bird Aware monitoring for winter season 2020/21 will be different from normal, so this data set will not form part of the overall initial monitoring period. Therefore the 'complete' data set is now not expected to be available until 2022.

**Lead and partners:** NEG

**Action Progress:** NEG will keep track of Solent Recreation Mitigation Partnership (SRMP) monitoring and continue with their liaising and support.

**Future Action:** Post 2022, evaluate whether the SRMS has achieved its objectives and assess whether it has mitigated bird disturbance impacts arising prior to 2010.

### Land recreation - Walking (other than dog walking)

Please also see actions in dog walking above as these equally apply.

### **Littering and removal of litter**

- 1. Action (Ongoing):** NEG to continue to develop the Cleans Solent Shores and Seas (CSSS) resource hub. SEMS MG members to use the hub to find information to support or coordinate any appropriate existing campaigns, policy making, communications, events etc. See: [http://www.solentforum.org/services/Member\\_Services/css/](http://www.solentforum.org/services/Member_Services/css/).

**Lead/partners:** NEG (development) and SEMS MG (to use)

**Action progress:** Ongoing. Solent Plastics Pollution Hub has now been set-up; this provides a community hub for plastics and litter initiatives.

### **Mooring and anchoring**

- 1. Action (ongoing):** All to support, promote and share information from the four year LIFE ReMEDIES project. See: [Recreational boating - Save Our Seabed](#).

**Lead and partners:** SEMS Management Group and NEG

**Action Progress:** Ongoing. All updates on Solent Forum website [Solent Forum - LIFE ReMEDIES](#)

### **Recreation - light aircraft**

- 1. Action (ongoing):** NEG to request data annually from Bird Aware Solent on winter drone use and monitor trends. The use of drones in summer months will be revisited if flagged by Relevant Authorities in the SEMS Annual Survey or concerns are raised by NE. The Bird Aware data is summarised in the evaluation and discussion section above (4.13.2).

**Partners/lead:** NEG.

**Action Progress:** Data for 2022 shows no concerns. Next data request will be made March 23.

- 2. Action (2021):** NEG to evaluate whether summer drone disturbance of birds is an issue and ask for RSPB input on recording summer disturbance.

**Partners/lead:** NEG.

**Action Progress:** As there is no significant concern about summer disturbance by drones this action is now complete. If future SEMS monitoring raises it as an issue it can be reinstated.

### **Recreation - non-motorised watercraft**

- 1. Action (2020/ongoing):** NEG to research the evidence base for potential impacts on designated sites from the increased use of paddleboarding.

**Lead and partners:** NEG.

**Action progress:** This is a priority action for NEG in 2021/22; an [Impacts and Management of Paddleboards in the Solent \(IMP Solent\)](#) project was established after the NEG meeting on 4/11/20. Chichester Harbour will provide the pilot. Please visit [Solentems - Paddleboards in the Solent \(IMP Solent\)](#) for details.

### **Progress since September**

The current focus of work is understanding the incidence of Paddlesports and a methodology has been designed by Chichester Harbour Conservancy for survey work. Surveys began in October 2021 and will continue for at least two years. Interim results are expected in Spring 2022.

### **Generic Actions**

In the 2021 Survey, the data and comments identified generic actions that are cross cutting for all activities.

1. NEG is exploring the use of mapping to identify bird sensitive hotspot areas at risk from recreational activities.

### **Update since November**

Solent Intertidal Bird Sensitivity Mapping discussion paper was produced and a meeting held with Project Group to discuss how mapping could be taken forward. There has been no offer of help to progress this work, although valuable datasets from Bird Aware on disturbance has been sent through. A Consultant/Student brief is being developed and it is proposed a meeting with ABPmer takes place, **KM to request advice from NEG on any further actions and consider combining with Solent Mudflat Disturbance work**