

Natural Environment Group

Summer Newsletter 2022



The Forum have been progressing NEG project work throughout 2022, and we look forward to updating you at the next on-line NEG meeting scheduled for 2nd November 2022.

NEG Funded Projects

Each year NEG provides up to £4,000 in awards to projects that seek to improve environmental outcomes in the Solent.

Projects on-going include:

- Saltmarsh passive regrowth promotion – Old Bursledon
- Tackling the microplastic pollution – testing a new biocomposite material as artificial filtration device, in Chichester Harbour
- Intertidal Seagrass Restoration in the Solent
- Recoding Snipe on coastal sites using a thermal imager
- Equipment to capture Snipe at Lymington/Keyhaven

Updates will be provided at the next NEG meeting.

NEG Meeting

The next NEG meeting will be held on **2nd November**, an agenda and paper will be sent out in October.

The agenda this year which will include an update on Solent Marine Sites actions to NEG; an update on NEG funded projects; an update on the Solent Bird Sensitivity and Activity Mapping project and presentations on a number of subjects.

Please let Karen know of any projects you would like to present.

SEMS Actions to NEG

We have been working on the SEMS actions set for NEG in 2021; a full report will be presented at the NEG November meeting; updates can be found on the NEG projects webpage at: [Solentems - NEG Projects](#). Ongoing work is as follows:

- Shore based bait digging and hand-gathering - Solent Mudflat Disturbance Project. Project paused and outputs to be used within the Solent Bird Sensitivity and Mapping Project (SBS Project).
- Littering and especially plastics - Clean Solent Shores and Seas (CSSS) continues to signpost initiatives for littering and many other water quality impacts. The Solent Forum has started a new hub, [Solent Plastics Pollution Hub](#).

- The impacts of mooring and anchoring by supporting the Remedies Project.
- The impacts and management options for paddlesports in the Solent (IMP). Chichester Harbour Conservancy are piloting a 2-year survey methodology. Report on results due spring 2023.
- Solent Bird Sensitivity and Activity Mapping Project (SBS) - project brief has been produced. A meeting was held with Blue Marine Foundation to discuss bringing the project within their Solent Seascapes Project. A funding request is being made to the Solent Forum Steering Group. KEY project for 2022/23.

Solent Forum Hubs and Webpages

The Solent Forum have several hubs and webpages on our websites to signpost information of relevance to the Solent's Natural Environment:

[Clean Solent Shores and Seas](#) (CSSS)

[Building Biodiversity in the Solent](#) (BBS)

[Habitat Restoration](#). Webpages which include progress on Solent Seagrass restoration and the work of REMEDIES

[Solent Forum - Solent Plastics Pollution Hub](#).

Please contact Karen McHugh for any further information on the work of NEG.