



**Solent European Marine Sites
Annual Monitoring Report 2014**
Final 31st October 2014

**Prepared by the Solent Forum on behalf of
the SEMS Management Scheme**

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Solent European Marine Sites Annual Monitoring Report 2014

BACKGROUND

The Solent European Marine Sites (SEMS) Management Scheme was established under what is now Regulation 36 of the Habitats Regulations¹. The SEMS Management Group (MG) of Relevant Authorities (RAs) runs the Management Scheme and the Solent Forum provides the secretariat. RAs are responsible for monitoring activities across the site annually, and for addressing any issues that are shown to be damaging the site. Further details on the SEMS Management Scheme can be found on the SEMS website at www.solentems.org.uk/.

INTRODUCTION

The SEMS Management Scheme for 2014 comprises three documents which can be found at www.solentems.org.uk/publications:

- 1 SEMS Monitoring Response Report 2014
- 2 SEMS Annual Monitoring Report 2014 (this report)
- 3 SEMS Delivery Plan 2014

The RAs each complete an online questionnaire every Spring. This survey forms the basis of the annual monitoring, and gathers details of all activities within the SEMS and of any effect that these activities are having on the condition of the SEMS. Activities are classified according to Defra's EMS Risk Review as high, medium or low risk. 26 out of the 33 RAs who were invited to answer the questionnaire in 2014 responded. Further telephone interviews were conducted with RAs who had indicated activities that may have a detrimental effect on the SEMS, and with those who noted a possible residual impact. Full details of the on-line questionnaire results are given in the SEMS Monitoring Response Report 2014, which is available at www.solentems.org.uk/publications/.

The SEMS Annual Monitoring Report (this report) summarises and assesses the SEMS monitoring responses for 2014 (from both the on-line questionnaires and any subsequent follow-up interviews and comments) and suggests actions that can be used as the basis for the SEMS 2014 Delivery Plan. It will help the MG determine what actions to take forward in the Delivery Plan, and forms a link between the other two documents. Acronyms used for the RAs are given at the end of this report.

¹ [The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010](#)

SITE CONDITION

The condition of component SSSIs of the SEMS is assessed every six years on a rolling programme. The most recent site condition can be found on Natural England's [Nature on the Map](#) website. Annual monitoring of activities by the MG aims to identify threats to site condition or, at worst, early signs of any deterioration, so that timely management action can be taken to avoid damage or further evidence can be collected. In this report, therefore, site condition is only referenced where further action is needed.

RISK CATEGORIES

Risk is often defined as the combination of the probability of an event and its consequences. Risk can be either positive or negative.

Where there is a sensitive receptor, the likelihood and severity (intensity level, duration etc) of each impact is analysed and evaluated. Thus risk is not only associated with the *level* of activity, but also with its *likelihood* and the *severity* of its impact. Paramotors are an example of where a low level of activity can nevertheless pose a serious risk at certain times and places.

Standard risk assessment aims to identify those risks with the greatest impact and the greatest probability of occurring – these are normally addressed first, and risks with lower probability of occurrence and lower impact or threat are handled in descending order.

In this report three activities have been highlighted for discussion to assess whether they should be recommended to Defra as requiring a change in their Risk Category (as defined by Defra):

- **Fishing (commercial including shellfisheries) – from high to medium risk ↓**
- **Airborne Sport – from medium to high risk ↑**
- **Littering – from low to medium risk ↑**

Blue font has been used in the relevant sections to highlight where risk level is an issue.

ACTIVITIES AND ACTIONS FOR DELIVERY PLAN

Activities taking place across the SEMS were recorded in the 2014 SEMS Monitoring Response Report which is available at <http://www.solentems.org.uk/publications/>. Reports of elevated or increased activity, with residual impact believed to be affecting the SEMS, were followed by one to one phone calls between the SEMS secretariat and RAs.

The findings for each activity, under the risk category (high, medium or low) classified by Defra, are summarised in this report. For each activity of concern, the following are identified:

- issue/s
- evidence
- management and monitoring
- action to be taken forward to the Delivery Plan.

The activities where it was indicated that levels have increased or remained elevated during 2014 are:

- **Access/Land Recreation**
- **Fishing (Commercial including Shellfisheries)**
- **Bait Digging**
- **Water Sports (e.g. hovercraft, kayaking and kite surfing)**
- **Agricultural Run-off**
- **Airborne Sports**
- Recreational Boating
- **Littering**
- Boat Repair/Maintenance

For seven of these activities, shown in **bold red font**, there was considered to be a **residual impact that may cause the condition of the SEMS to change**. This red font is used in the relevant sections throughout this report.

The changes for each of these activities are summarised and the need for actions to reduce the impact on the SEMS is highlighted for each activity.

High Risk Activities that have increased or remained elevated

Access / Land Recreation

Demand for access to the coast remains high and focused on areas where there is public access to the foreshore. Disturbance from access and recreation activities has the potential to affect the condition of the SPA bird populations.

Levels of this activity generally remain elevated in Eastleigh (EBC) and Chichester Harbour (CDC and CHC), although periods of poor weather may have caused a reduction in activity levels in 2013-14. In both areas (Eastleigh and Chichester) and in Langstone, dog walking creates high recreational pressure.

All four of the RAs who indicated that this activity level remains elevated (CDC, CHC, EBC and NE) believe there is a **residual impact on the SEMS** resulting from this; LHB also commented that this activity was impacting the SEMS as dog walking is disturbing SPA birds. Three RAs (CDC, CHC and NE) believe the elevated levels of 'Access/Land Recreation' activities **may cause the condition of the SEMS to change**.

This issue is being addressed through management in some areas, with localised monitoring and education and community awareness. RAs have been working through the 'Solent Disturbance and Mitigation Project' (SDMP) group to implement the strategy which was recommended and agreed. This will mitigate for new pressures on the SPA and allow for the implementation of access control measures, wardening and zoning. The full SDMP mitigation scheme will not come into effect until 2017 and only mitigates for future housing increases, so there remains a residual effect from existing levels of access.

Action: Decide whether further action is needed in addition to SDMP implementation and monitoring

One or more RAs believe there is a residual impact resulting from access / land recreation that may cause the condition of the SEMs to change

Fishing (commercial including shellfisheries)

A range of activity levels was reported across the SEMS from a decrease to an increase in fishing. GBC received reports of activity that it believes could have a **residual impact** and may **cause the condition of the SEMS to change**, subject to expert verification. SoIFCA and RHHA reported a decrease in fishing activity, however they do not consider that fishing has returned to a level that is unlikely to cause damage to the SEMS. NE remain concerned regarding levels of commercial fishing within MPAs, particularly with respect to sensitive habitats.

A number of fishing boats were seen dragging the bottom of Fareham Creek for shellfish. Number of boats, intensity, frequency and duration of operations in the creek appear to have increased, as reported to GBC and by them to SoIFCA and NE.

The collapse of the wider Solent oyster fishery led SoIFCA to not open the Solent oyster fishery for the 2013-14 season. This collapse, and the partial recovery in Chichester Harbour, caused a change in fishing pattern. Short-lived increased fishing effort was observed in Chichester Harbour in 2012 and again in 2013 at a slightly lower level. This assertion is borne out by the test of likely significant effect undertaken by SoIFCA as part of the decision undertaken when the fishery was closed. CHC report that fishing activity remains high in the harbour. Few vessels were seen oystering in Langstone Harbour. There was no dredging for oysters in the River Hamble during the winter of 2013-2014. Southampton oyster beds were closed over winter 2013-14. SoIFCA observed fishing on unclassified shellfish beds in Southampton Water.

There is potential for increased clam collection by hand in Chichester Harbour if the clam fishery is closed (for health reasons), as the dredging byelaw does not preclude collection by hand.

Reports of the capture and collection of undersized or illegal fish and shellfish by recreational fishers in Langstone Harbour have increased. During the summer of 2013 numerous individuals were seen hand gathering shellfish around the Oyster beds and Binniss Islands (both important nesting colonies for terns), causing great disturbance. LHB worked with SoIFCA and RSPB to inform individuals of the repercussions of these actions.

Many measures are being implemented by RAs to manage fishing pressures on the SEMS. The IFCA's continue to use Defra's revised approach to fisheries to assess the extent to which fishing activities represent a risk to the site. The initial stage of this process has addressed the high risks and regulation has been introduced. SoIFCA have begun a programme of work to manage further risks on a site by site, feature by feature basis. A byelaw to manage future oyster dredging within Chichester Harbour is being compiled. SoIFCA has also identified Chichester Harbour as sensitive to demersal fishing, dredges, intertidal handwork and bait collection. A byelaw prohibiting certain fishing methods within the harbour was introduced in November 2013. Management methods for the protection of the native oyster population are also being worked on by CHC with the CHOPI group.

New byelaws are in place to protect seagrass and rocky reef habitats from red risk commercial fishing activities; these are specific to the marine protected areas. The measures introduced to protect seagrass are a consequence of the compliance management process and there is also good enforcement by the IFCA's. A significant increase in protection has been afforded and achieved in the Solent as a consequence of this work. Following the SoIFCA byelaw prohibiting towed gear over seagrass in Langstone Harbour, this activity has not been observed.

NE suggest that Defra's revised approach to managing fisheries in EMS may cause shifts in pressurised fishing areas within the SEMS.

SoIFCA and RHHA consider that **fishing has not returned to a level that is unlikely to cause damage to the SEMS**, despite noting a decrease in this activity. GBC and NE believe there is a residual impact on the SEMS. NE remain concerned regarding levels of commercial fishing within MPAs, particularly with respect to sensitive habitats. They continue to work with SoIFCA on the revised approach to assess 'amber risk' activity / feature combinations in the Solent.

In accordance with the revised approach to the management of commercial fisheries, high risk activities which are not compatible with the conservation objectives of the EMS features and sub features have been restricted by means of IFCA byelaws. In the Solent SoIFCA has introduced byelaws to restrict bottom towed fishing gear on seagrass and has introduced regulation to prohibit the hand gathering of sea fisheries resources from these same beds so as to ensure that the features, sub features and supporting features are adequately protected in accordance with the IFCA's Habitats Directives Article 6(2) duties. SoIFCA believe the **risk category for commercial fishing should be changed from high to medium**.

Action: Investigate whether fishing is causing damage in Fareham Creek and take appropriate action

Action: Continue to report displaced and illegal fishing activity that could damage SEMS to IFCA's

Action: Discuss whether to recommend reducing the risk category for fishing from high to medium risk

One or more RAs believe there is a residual impact resulting from fishing (commercial including shellfisheries) that may cause the condition of the SEMs to change

Bait digging

Bait digging activities remain widespread across the Solent and elevated, particularly in Portsmouth Harbour, Eling foreshore, Chichester Harbour and the Ryde foreshore. Within Chichester harbour, activity is fairly scattered but with a major concentration at Dell Quay.

The impact of bait digging activity is being assessed through Defra's revised approach to managing fishing in EMS; NE and SoIFCA are assessing 'amber risk' activity/feature combinations in the Solent. CHC has been working with SoIFCA to jointly enforce byelaws and challenge possible commercial bait digging activity.

Both NE and CHC believe there is a **residual impact** on the SEMS, and NE believe this may **cause the condition of the SEMS to change**. This is being assessed by IFCA's. NE continues to work with IFCA's and SoIFCA's bait digging working group to assess 'amber risk' activity/feature

combinations in the Solent. These include shellfish dredging and bait collection in soft sediment habitats.

The action from 2013 was to await the report from Portsmouth University and the results of bait digging working group actions.

Action: Continue to identify risks, vulnerability and what measures are needed in light of Portsmouth University Report, bait digging working group evidence and IFCA's assessments

One or more RAs believe there is a residual impact resulting from bait digging that may cause the condition of the SEMs to change

Water sports (eg hovercraft, kayaking and kite surfing)

Water sports are widespread across the Solent and, although weather and seasonally dependent, activity is taking place increasingly throughout the year. NE perceives that there has been an increase in water sport activities within the Solent but it is difficult to provide evidence of usage or numbers of users. Kayaking and stand up paddle boarding has increased across most of Chichester Harbour. It is most frequent in the summer months, but is increasingly becoming a year round activity. There also appears to be an increase in the popularity of kayaking within Portsmouth Harbour and its creeks, particularly on calm, bright days throughout the year. Stand up paddle boarding is seeing growth on the Hamble, particularly in the Upper Hamble where a new club has established. The club is very conscientious regarding minimising disturbance to wildlife and this single localised increase is not deemed sufficient to alter the overall level of activity which remains unchanged. NE continues to receive an elevated number of requests for SSSI consents for kite surfing, windsurfing and kayaking schools/operations, particularly within the Solent. Generally it is becoming easier and cheaper to purchase the equipment required for water sports, making them more accessible, and so usage is likely to increase further in future.

NE and CHC believe there may be a **residual impact that may cause the condition of the SEMs to change**, due to the widespread nature of water sports and their potential to have significant disturbance impacts on bird features of the SEMS, if they are not managed or if they act in combination with other forms of disturbance. CHC would like this issue to be escalated for further investigation, due to the increase over recent years and year round activity. LHB recorded a decrease in waterski and jetski permits issued in 2013 but noted an anecdotal increase in kayaking and paddle boarding; nevertheless they consider that water sport activity **has not returned to a level that is unlikely to cause damage to the SEMS**. GBC, however, does not believe there is a residual impact on the SEMS due to the increased levels of water sports activity within Portsmouth Harbour and its creeks.

The results from a student project by Sara Mendez focusing on water sports activities, mainly canoeing and kayaking within the SEMS, were circulated to the MG in September 2013. This

project included a desk study that highlighted the potential for a problem and suggested some management measures that could be introduced. NE has applied conditions to consents for water sports and works with Local Authorities to advise on codes of conducts for local clubs. However no other management methods were reported to have been implemented in the past year to minimise impacts on the SEMS, although LHB worked with RSPB to produce a waterproof chart of Langstone Harbour for kayakers, suggesting routes, pointing out sights and amenities, while also encouraging participants to keep their distance from sensitive wildlife. In 2013 the MG considered reconvening some members of the Solent Forum Recreation Group whose chair, David Evans of RHHA, agreed to lead on this if required. Also in 2013 the MG recognised the need for further evidence of potential impact and, in response to request from the SEMS MG, the Natural Environment Group (NEG) offered a contribution and support to students whose project would address the effects of hovercraft and paramotors on water birds. This was taken up by Aniko Gaal, working at the University of Southampton, and she will present her results to the SEMS MG at their annual meeting in September 2014. Her report will be circulated in Autumn 2014.

The Department for Transport (DfT) responded to a complaint from the Hovercraft Club of Great Britain (HCGB) against LHB. DfT decided that LHB had not been unreasonable or unfair in exercising its byelaw which states that hovercraft require permission from the Harbourmaster to operate in Langstone Harbour. DfT went on to say that requests to operate by recreational hovercraft should be considered on a case by case basis taking into account Natural England's advice. HCGB are unhappy with both the DfT decision and NE advice, and have indicated their intention to take the case to judicial review. Since the DfT decision, further requests for permission to undertake recreational hovercraft activity have been received by LHB. Meanwhile the EA are planning an intertidal survey using a hovercraft in Langstone Harbour for which permission has been granted. LHB, with assistance from CHC, monitored the response of wildlife to the EA hovercraft during this rare survey to help inform future management decisions; the report of this is available from LHB.

Action: Discuss the need for further action and progress in light of 2013 and 2014 literature reviews and evidence

One or more RAs believe there is a residual impact resulting from water sports (eg hovercraft, kayaking and kite surfing) that may cause the condition of the SEMs to change

Medium Risk Activities that have increased or remained elevated

Agricultural run-off

Diffuse pollution remains an issue particularly in the Harbours and estuaries. In Chichester Harbour levels of nitrogen inputs remain substantial and elevated and much of the harbour is in unfavourable condition due to weed cover. NFPNA, NE and CHC believe there is a **residual impact on the SEMS** from agricultural run-off. CHC and NE believe agricultural run-off may **cause the condition of the SEMS to change**. The high nutrient loading causes algal mat coverage in many harbours and estuaries; weed coverage, for example, can be seen in much of Chichester Harbour and YHC would like to understand the impacts of the high levels of algal growth in the Western Yar.

As part of New Forest Catchment hosting work, NFPNA and partners carried out water testing in winter 2013-14 in liaison with stakeholders. Due to heavy rainfall there were numerous flood discharges from sewage treatment works, for example at Beaulieu and Lymington which they believe would have resulted in elevated levels within estuaries, however this is not agricultural run-off and the majority of their work has been upstream. Further details on this issue are given later in this report under "Other Issues".

The EA have been undertaking extensive modelling of the nutrient inputs into the Solent harbours and estuaries. This modelling will identify the main sources of nutrient inputs including agricultural run-off. Initial evidence is indicating that agricultural diffuse pollution is a major source of nitrogen enrichment in coastal waters. The modelling will help identify where to target further land management measures and will be presented at the MG meeting in September 2014.

NFPNA are working with the EA and stakeholders including local communities and water companies to try and address issues voluntarily within the catchment; they plan to trial practical land management measures such as interception ponds within the New Forest catchment in 2014. NE is working with a range of authorities in order to implement management measures. Reviewing and implementing actions in the [Solent Diffuse Water Pollution Plan \(DWPP\)](#), for example, is being undertaken by NE and the EA. NE are also continuing work with the Downs and Harbours Clean Water Partnership, they support the Green-Blue joint environmental initiative of the RYA and the BMF, and they are continuing their work as a steering group member on the EA project to tackle faecal contamination from boats in Solent harbours. NE are also working with land owners in the Solent catchments to promote the uptake of Higher Level Stewardship resource protection options and Catchment Sensitive Farming capital grants to reduce agricultural run-off.

NE point out that the now completed South Downs National Park Authority (SDNPA) Source Apportionment study may help to inform and target appropriate actions to address some of the key diffuse pollution issues in the Solent. Additional management measures still need to be determined and implemented using the results of the EA investigations and SDNPA source apportionment project. Funding has also been obtained by NE for a Solent Nitrate Management

project in 2014/15 to address some of the actions in the Solent. Furthermore, there will be a time lag from the implementation of measures to the reduction of algal mat coverage within the harbours.

Action: Review success of last year's action to implement actions in the Solent DWPP

Action: Discuss in light of EA TraC study, results of South Downs Source Apportionment study and NFPNA catchment study results and agree further actions as required

One or more RAs believe there is a residual impact resulting from agricultural run-off that may cause the condition of the SEMs to change

Airborne sports

Airborne sports activity remains elevated in Chichester Harbour and includes inconsiderate flying, confirmed by logging of flights. Whilst CHC report that paramotoring has decreased from levels noted 2 years ago, microlights and other light aircraft have been more notable in 2013-14. Incidents have been reported by CHC to flying clubs and the Fleet Air Arm in an attempt to manage the activity.

Airborne sports have great potential to cause disturbance due to the large footprint of their effects, the irregular patterns and the area of the SPA that can be impacted. Because of this, CHC believe that this activity has a **residual impact** on the SEMS which **may cause the condition of the SEMS to change**. CHC also believes that, due to the huge potential for airborne sports to disturb wildlife, the **category for this activity should be raised from medium to high risk**.

GBC reported that the level of use of remote controlled aircraft on sites used by Brent Geese remained the same since 2013 (but had increased since 2012). They do not know whether this is a particular issue at this stage but suggest it may be useful to know whether this is becoming an issue in other parts of the Solent.

Action: Consider evidence, including from Aniko Gaal's literature review, for change of risk category and decide whether to recommend to Defra

Action: Check whether use of remote controlled aircraft is an issue at sites other than Gosport

One or more RAs believe there is a residual impact resulting from airborne sports that may cause the condition of the SEMs to change

Recreational Boating

Recreational boating activities remain widespread and at a high level across the Solent. It is the view of NE that there is no residual impact of recreational boating activity on the SEMS.

Whilst NE and the EA continue to work with the Green-Blue joint environmental initiative of the RYA and the BMF on their campaign to tackle faecal contamination from recreational boats in Solent harbours, no additional management measures or byelaws have been introduced.

Recreational boating has decreased slightly in Langstone Harbour since 2012, possibly as a result of the recession, however LHB consider the level of this activity has not returned to a level that is unlikely to cause damage to the SEMS.

Action from previous years: Consider evidence, including from literature reviews, for change of risk category and decide whether to recommend to Defra.

Low Risk Activities that have increased or remained elevated

Littering

An increase in littering was reported, probably due to the increased number and intensity of storms during winter 2013 - 14. The two main categories of litter were plastic pieces and sanitary items, some of which included plastic items.

The density of litter being deposited on Gosport Borough's shoreline increased; the level of small plastic pieces deposited on the shoreline was particularly noticeable, especially at Stokes Bay and on the more exposed shores within Portsmouth Harbour. Plastic litter also increased significantly in Langstone Harbour as a result of unscreened sewage discharges from Southern Waters CSO at Fort Cumberland in Eastney. Renovation works at Fort Cumberland mean that the screening system at the CSO is currently not functional. Large quantities of items including female sanitary products, wet wipes and cotton bud sticks are thus released into Langstone Harbour whenever it rains heavily. Although Southern Water has employed contractors to collect this litter from the strandlines, collection has not always been timely or effective, and it is likely that a large proportion of this litter remains in the marine environment.

It is **unclear how much this is a risk to the features of the SEMS**. The persistent nature of plastic means it will remain in the marine environment for hundreds of years. Plastic can cause entanglement and ingestion problems for wildlife. Over time these plastics are likely to be broken down by the mechanical action of the sea into microplastics. It is also likely that significant quantities remain within the marine environment itself. Increased amounts of persistent synthetic waste are now present in the EMS and are unlikely to be completely removed. The problem is widespread and LHB make a case for further investigation as to whether it may be harmful to the designated site or species, both onshore and in the sea.

Litter levels remained elevated in Chichester Harbour, however CHC believe that there is no residual impact on the SEMS.

Councils operate awareness raising and litter picking and clearing operations, however it is difficult to clear a proportion of smaller plastic items. There may be a potential for increased levels of littering, perhaps in more rural coastal areas which are not subject to routine cleaning, to affect the quality of the habitats for over-wintering birds. Whilst larger pieces of litter can be cleared relatively easily from a beach, the 2013 winter storms highlighted the scale of small plastic pieces within the marine environment.

GBC and LHB both believe there is **a residual impact on the SEMS** because removal of synthetic waste is difficult. GBC believe this may **cause the condition of the SEMS to change**. The persistent nature of plastic, especially small pieces, and the potential for this litter to damage wildlife, is why both GBC and LHB believe that the **classification for this activity should be increased from low to medium risk**.

Action: Seek further evidence through SEMS protocol and consider evidence for recommendation of change of risk category to Defra

One or more RAs believe there is a residual impact resulting from littering that may cause the condition of the SEMs to change

Boat Repair and Maintenance

Boat repair and maintenance remains at an elevated level and is widespread across the Solent. This activity is usually undertaken within boatyards with the facilities to undertake works according to best practise for working in or near water.

NE continues to support the Green-Blue joint environmental initiative of the RYA and the BMF, but have introduced no further management measures. NE believe that these is no residual impact on the SEMS.

Action: No further action identified

OTHER ISSUES

SWS reported 2 major pollution incidents within the last year: a pump failure at Fairlee Wastewater Pumping Station, Isle of Wight, in April 2013 and a leaking sewer in Seaview, Isle of Wight, in August 2013. Discharges of untreated sewage resulted – the public was informed but beaches were not closed.

Due to flood events NFPNA noted that there were numerous flood discharges from sewage treatment work, for example at Beaulieu and Lymington which they believe would have resulted in elevated levels within estuaries. This change could be due to the exceptionally wet conditions at the start of 2014, and the effects could be positive or negative; NFPNA do not have data but they are extrapolating from evidence collected upstream. They suggest the impact is temporary and cannot be addressed with measures currently available. The significance of the impact is likely to be cumulative and NFPNA do not have sufficient knowledge to understand the bigger picture through their own work, which is looking at diffuse sources that could act in combination with point sources. They suggest that further discussion by the Management Group could be useful, depending on EA evidence for nutrient levels in the Solent and evidence from other authorities. This observation may also be worth discussing in light of the EA's work on Water Framework Directive (WFD) Transitional and Coastal (TraC) waterbodies.

ACTIVITIES RESULTING FROM PLANS AND PROJECTS

Plans and projects are assessed under Part 6 of the Habitats Regulations 2010 and are not considered under the SEMS Management Scheme. The Solent Disturbance and Mitigation Strategy is being progressed and RAs are working on implementing appropriate avoidance strategies to reduce impacts of plans, including residential developments. Many of these are listed in the SEMS Monitoring Response Report 2014, together with other mitigation measures.

Several Flood Risk Maintenance and Coastal Defence schemes are mentioned. LHB mention a number of proposals pending consideration which may displace wader roosts.

Southern Water mention a large number of ongoing projects that have, or will result in water quality improvements to the Solent and associated water bodies to meet regulatory conditions.

MONITORING

The SEMS Monitoring Response Report 2014 contains a useful section on monitoring being done, and planned, in the SEMS. Seven RAs have templates for recording the results of monitoring and twelve RAs are co-ordinating with other organisations.

Subject to being granted a marine license, LHC are planning to undertake a further beneficial use of dredgings trial which will involve direct placement of sediment by barge on intertidal habitat close to the salt marsh in Lymington Harbour. This will involve further bathymetric surveys being undertaken in the location of the trial.

A summary of Monitoring being undertaken in the SEMS has been prepared and may assist future co-ordination and collaboration; it will be available on the SEMS website at <http://www.solentems.org.uk/publications/>.

APPENDIX 1**RELEVANT AUTHORITIES AND ABBREVIATIONS**

Authority	Code
Associated British Ports	ABP
Beaulieu River Management	BRM
Chichester District Council	CDC
Chichester Harbour Conservancy	CHC
Cowes Harbour Commissioners	CHCo
Eastleigh Borough Council	EBC
Environment Agency	EA
Fareham Borough Council	FBC
Gosport Borough Council	GBC
Hampshire County Council	HCC
Havant Borough Council	HBC
Isle of Wight Council	IoWC
Langstone Harbour Board	LHB
Lymington Harbour Commissioners	LHC
Marine Management Organisation	MMO
Natural England	NE
New Forest District Council	NFDC
New Forest National Park Authority	NFNPA
Portsmouth City Council	PCC
Portsmouth International Port	PIP
QHM Portsmouth	QHMP
River Hamble Harbour Authority (Hampshire County Council)	RHHA
Southampton City Council	SCC
Southern Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority	SoIFCA
Southern Water Services Ltd.	SWS
Sussex Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority	SuIFCA
Test Valley Borough Council	TVBC
Trinity House Lighthouse Service	THLS
West Sussex County Council	WSCC
Wightlink	WL
Winchester City Council	WCC
Yarmouth Harbour Commissioners	YHC

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