

Natural Environment Group

Summer Newsletter 2023



The Forum have been progressing NEG project work throughout 2023, and we look forward to updating you at the next on-line NEG meeting scheduled for 1st November 2023.

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:

- Recoding Snipe on coastal sites using a thermal imager (HCC)
- Equipment to capture Snipe at Lymington/Keyhaven (HCC)
- It's the water quality, stupid! Identifying the risks to support successful restoration in the Solent (UoP)

Updates will be provided at the next NEG meeting.

NEG Meeting

The next NEG meeting will be held on **1st November 2023**, an agenda and paper will be sent out in October.

The agenda this year 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 several 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 2022; a full report will be presented at the NEG November 2023 meeting; updates can be found on the NEG projects webpage at: [Solentems - NEG Projects](#). Ongoing work is as follows:

- Land Recreation – with and without dogs – Bird Aware Solent have just completed a 5 year Strategy Review and this has been shared with the SRMP board. This can be found on the Bird Aware Solent website: [Our strategy - Bird Aware Solent](#). Bird Aware Solent have informed NEG that this is an internal review only. NE who sits on the SRMP board are satisfied that the Project is going well, and it is working as intended.
- 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 manages the [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, and provided year 1 results at NEG – see [presentation](#) on NEG website
- Solent Bird Sensitivity and Activity Mapping Project (SBS) - The Solent Seascapes Project - Seascapes Recovery Plan Working Group (chaired by the Solent Forum) will take this project work forward. ABPmer has been commissioned to produce bird sensitivity and pressure mapping. Updates will be forthcoming over the next year.

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 which can be found on our services and projects tab on our website.

Information Hubs:

- [Biodiversity and Marine Net Gain](#)
- [Blue Carbon](#)
- [Building Biodiversity into Infrastructure](#)
- Cleans Solent Shores and Seas
- [Habitat Restoration](#)
- [Natural Capital](#)
- [Solent Catchments](#)

Other important Hubs include:

- [Solent Nature Recovery](#)
- [Solent Plastics Pollution Hub](#)

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