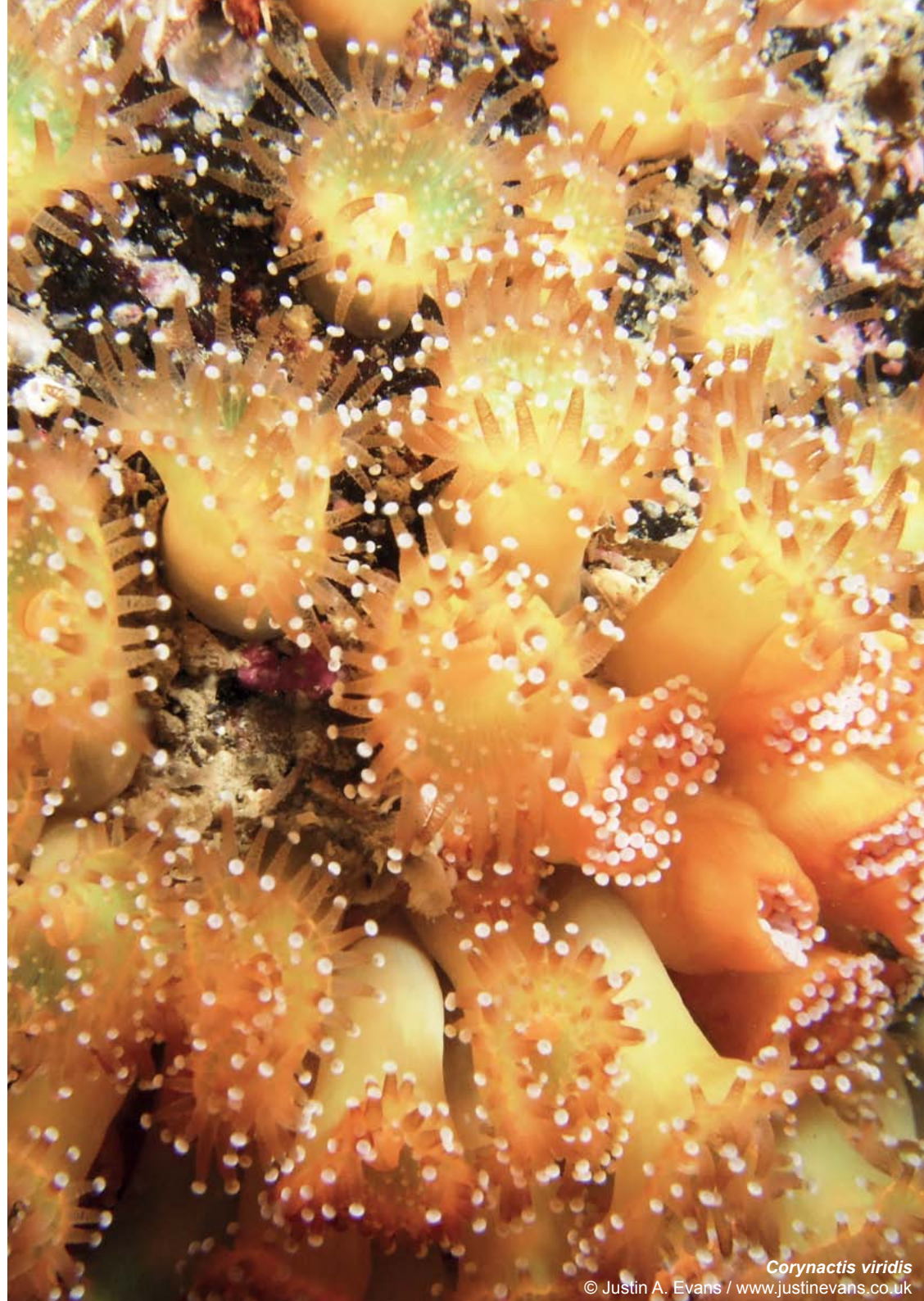


GUIDE TO MARINE PROTECTED AREAS IN THE ENGLISH CHANNEL



PANACHE

Protected Area Network Across
the Channel Ecosystem



Corynactis viridis



PANACHE

Protected Area Network Across the Channel Ecosystem

PANACHE is a Franco-British project funded by European programme INTERREG IV. The project aims for better protection of the Channel marine environment by establishing a network among existing marine protected areas.

There are five main project goals :

- Assess ecological coherence across the marine protected area network ;
- Pool and share experience in monitoring these areas ;
- Strengthen coherence and foster interaction for improved marine protected area management ;
- Heighten awareness of marine protected areas: create a sense of ownership and shared expectations through citizen science programmes ;
- Establish a public GIS database.

France and Great Britain are facing similar challenges to protect the marine biodiversity in their shared marine territory : PANACHE aims at providing a common, coherent and efficient reaction.

PANACHE est un projet franco-britannique, visant à une meilleure protection de l'environnement marin de la Manche par la mise en réseau des aires marines protégées existantes.

Les cinq objectifs du projet :

- Étudier la cohérence écologique du réseau des aires marines protégées ;
- Mutualiser les acquis en matière de suivi de ces espaces, partager les expériences positives ;
- Consolider la cohérence et encourager la concertation pour une meilleure gestion des aires marines protégées ;
- Accroître la sensibilisation générale aux aires marines protégées : instaurer un sentiment d'appartenance et des attentes communes en développant des programmes de sciences participatives ;
- Instaurer une base de données SIG publique.

France et Royaume-Uni sont confrontés à des défis analogues pour protéger la biodiversité marine de l'espace marin qu'ils partagent : PANACHE vise à apporter une réponse commune, cohérente et efficace.

- www.panache.eu.com -



PANACHE Project partners / Partenaires du projet PANACHE



GUIDE TO MARINE PROTECTED AREAS IN THE ENGLISH CHANNEL

Protected area designations, whether marine or land-based, are defined by **nature conservation legislation** (laws, decrees, codes, acts, etc.). A designation may be «**national**» or «**international**» under international classification standards.

Marine Protected Areas (MPA) are mainly financed by public funds.



In the UK, several organisations are in charge of marine protected areas. There is no single organisation covering both the territorial sea and the zone beyond 12 nautical miles (NM). In the PANACHE area, national agencies are responsible for identifying and proposing marine protected areas to the Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (DEFRA):

- Natural England for English territorial waters (up to 12 NM);
- Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC) for UK offshore waters (beyond 12 NM). In addition, the Marine Management Organisation (MMO) is responsible for managing activities impacting designated marine sites in British waters.

Other authorities provide their support and may put forward suggestions: Association of Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authorities (IFCA), Environment Agency, etc.

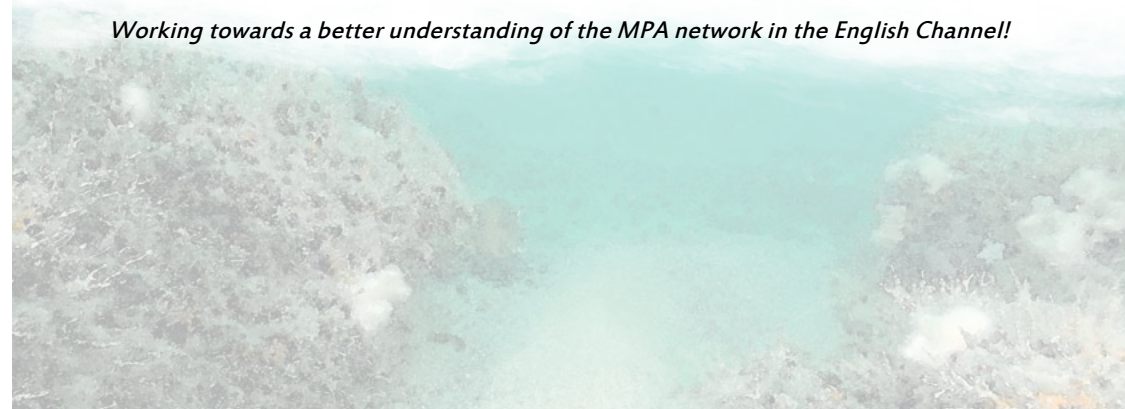


In France, the Ministry of the Environment is responsible for the marine protected areas policy for which it relies on its regional services: inter-regional sea directorates (DIRM), regional directorates for the environment, urban planning and housing (DREAL) and on technical organisations that are mainly:

- *Agence des aires marines protégées*, the French MPA Agency, the lead technical adviser;
- The *Muséum national d'Histoire naturelle*, the lead scientific adviser;
- The *Conservatoire des espaces littoraux et des rivages lacustres* («*Conservatoire du littoral*»);
- Local authorities and not-for-profit organisations, which may be MPA managers.

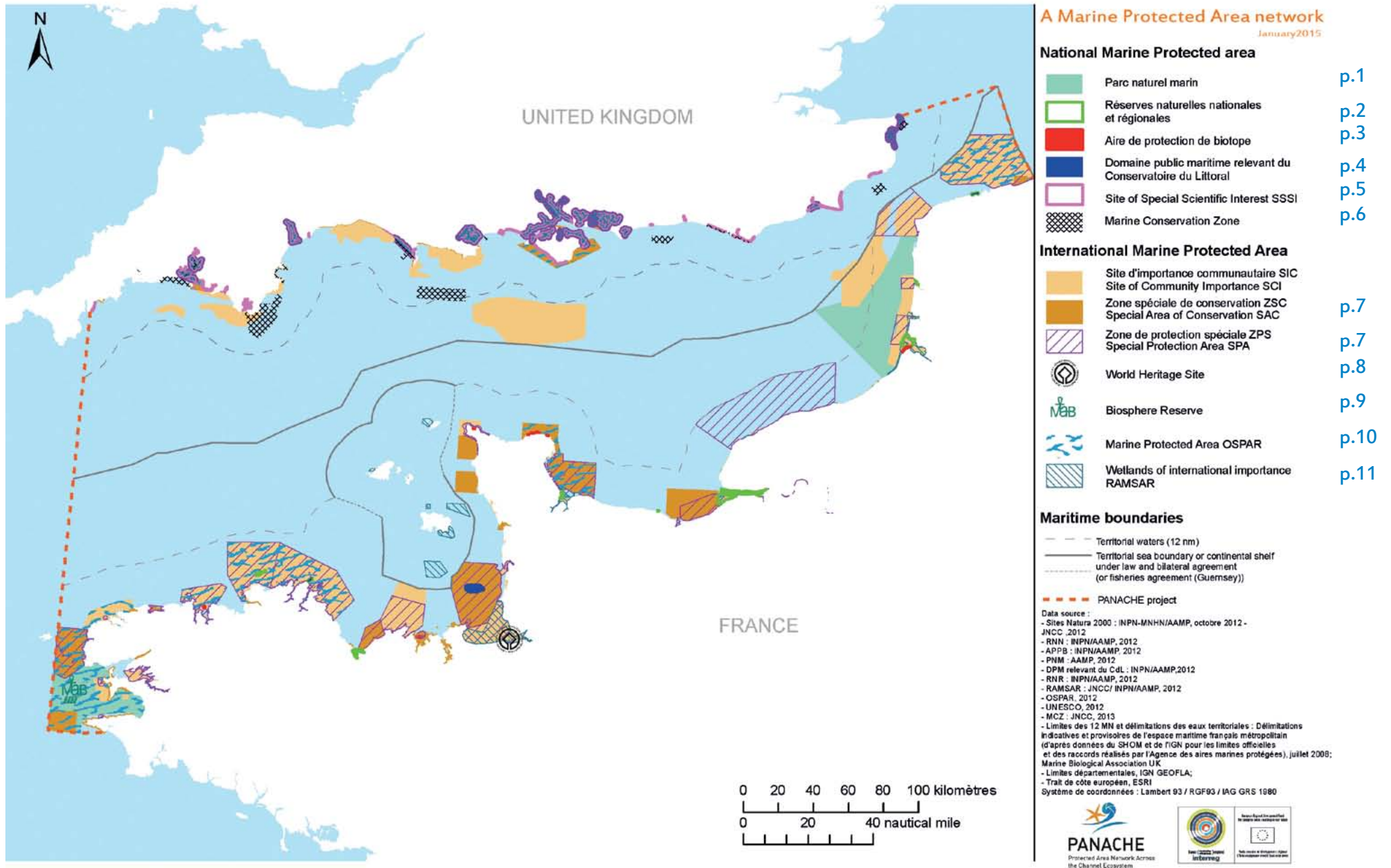
The information provided in this document is taken from **reference texts** produced by the two States. Only designations found within the boundaries of the PANACHE project are considered.

Working towards a better understanding of the MPA network in the English Channel!




The PANACHE project aims for better protection of the Channel marine environment by establishing a network among existing marine protected areas.

They have a variety of statuses, approaches and goals that it is useful to understand in order to strengthen their importance and make them more effective tools for managing a shared marine environment.





PARC NATUREL MARIN

Designation: national / French 

Physical area: sea bed, subsoil, water column and surface



Legal area at sea (Channel): territorial waters – Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ)

Applicable legislation: French Environment Code (*Code de l'environnement*) - L334-3 to L334-8

Possible goals:

- Good conservation status of species and habitats which have or should have specific status or are of national importance (rare and threatened species);
- Good conservation status of species and habitats with no specific status, targeted by the MPA management (harvested fish species, locally abundant species placing biogeographical responsibility on the site);
- Performance of key ecological functions (spawning, nurseries, breeding, resting, feeding, migration, etc.);
- Good status of marine waters;
- Sustainable harvesting of resources;
- Sustainable development of uses;
- Maintaining maritime cultural heritage;
- Added value (social, economic, scientific, educative).

Governing body: Management Group

Site management: Management Plan

Degree of protection: On authority from the French MPA Agency (*Agence des aires marines protégées*), the management group develops the park's management scheme;

It makes decisions on all matters relating to the park's marine environment. In particular, it must give its assent to any authorisation of an activity liable to have a notable impact on the park;

The State, the public authorities and the organisations involved in managing the marine nature park ensure that their actions and resources are coherent with the focuses and measures of the management scheme;

It may propose to the State services any measure that is necessary to protect and sustainably develop the marine nature park.

RESERVE NATURELLE NATIONALE

Designation: national / French



Physical area: sea bed, subsoil, water column and surface



Legal area at sea (Channel): territorial waters

Applicable legislation: French Environment Code (*Code de l'environnement*) - L332-1 to L332-8

Goals:

- Good conservation status of species and habitats which have or should have specific status or are of national importance (rare and threatened species);
- Good conservation status of species and habitats with no specific status, targeted by the MPA management (harvested fish species, locally abundant species placing biogeographical responsibility on the site);
- Performance of key ecological functions (spawning, nurseries, breeding, resting, feeding, migration, etc.);
- Added value (social, economic, scientific, educative).

Governing body: Advisory committee chaired by the Prefect, scientific council

Site management: Management scheme; a manager is appointed by the Prefect for three years to implement the management.

Degree of protection: By the establishing decree or complementary by-laws, activities may be prohibited or regulated to achieve the conservation objectives. The Advisory Committee gives its opinion of the running of the reserve, plans the necessary facilities and proposes regulatory measures to the Prefect for implementation in the reserve.



Hippocampus guttulatus
Julie Hatcher, Dorset Wildlife Trust



AIRE DE PROTECTION DE BIOTOPE*

Designation: national / French



Physical area: sea bed, subsoil, water column and surface



Legal area at sea (Channel): territorial waters

Applicable legislation: French Environment Code (*Code de l'environnement*) - L411-1 and L411-2

Goal:

Good conservation status of species and habitats which have or should have specific status or are of national importance (rare and threatened species).

Governing body: monitored by committees placed under the authority of the Prefect or within the framework of initiatives such as Natura 2000 as well as by local players, by adoption.

Site management: *Arrêté* (French by-law, no obligation to manage the site)

Degree of protection: The *arrêté* regulates or prohibits certain activities that may be detrimental to the protection of biotopes needed by protected species. Environmental enforcement authorities are responsible for enforcing the *arrêté*.

* Corresponds to «Arrêté préfectoral de protection de Biotope» (APB) marine protected areas

DOMAINE PUBLIC MARITIME RELEVANT DU CONSERVATOIRE DU LITTORAL*

Designation: national / French



Physical area: sea bed, subsoil

Legal area at sea (Channel): French maritime public domain

Applicable legislation: French Environment Code (*Code de l'environnement*) - L. 322-1 to L. 322-14

Goals:

- Good conservation status of species and habitats which have or should have specific status or are of national importance (rare and threatened species);
- Good conservation status of species and habitats with no specific status, targeted by the MPA management (harvested fish species, locally abundant species placing biogeographical responsibility on the site);
- Performance of key ecological functions (spawning, nurseries, breeding, resting, feeding, migration, etc.);
- Sustainable development of uses;
- Maintaining maritime cultural heritage;
- Added value (social, economic, scientific, educative).

Governing body: management committee (or «site committee»)

Site management: Assigned by means of a management agreement to public authorities or groups of authorities, or to public institutions, foundations and approved specialised organisations.

Degree of protection: Land acquired by the *Conservatoire du Littoral* is freely accessible to the public but the *Conservatoire* has power to restrict activities that may be carried out when they are incompatible with the aims of protecting and safeguarding the sites.

The management committee takes part in developing the management scheme which contains proposals for site layout and management and possibly restrictions on public access.

Management scheme implementation partly relies on the local site manager, which is responsible for the wardens who particularly carry out scientific monitoring and site surveillance.

* «Maritime sections of maritime public domain being managed by Coastal Conservation»





SITE OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC INTEREST

Designation: national / British



Physical area: sea bed, subsoil and water column



Legal area at sea (Channel): territorial waters

Applicable legislation: Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981

Goals:

- Good conservation status of species and habitats which have or should have specific status or are of national importance (rare and threatened species);
- Added value (social, economic, scientific, educative).

Governing body: Byelaws

Site management: Management Plan

Degree of protection: Projects that may impact this marine protected area must be approved by Natural England, or be authorised by another public organisation, with notification to Natural England. Without prior justification, the destruction, damage or intentional or negligent disturbance of a Site of Special Scientific Interest are prohibited.

MARINE CONSERVATION ZONE

Designation: national / British



Physical area: sea bed, subsoil, water column and surface



Legal area at sea (Channel): territorial waters - offshore waters (Exclusive Economic Zone - EEZ)

Applicable legislation: Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009

Goals:

- Good conservation status of species and habitats which have or should have specific status or are of national importance (rare and threatened species);
- Good conservation status of species and habitats with no specific status, targeted by the MPA management (harvested fish species, locally abundant species placing biogeographical responsibility on the site);
- Performance of key ecological functions (spawning, nurseries, breeding, resting, feeding, migration, etc.);
- Added value (social, economic, scientific, educative).

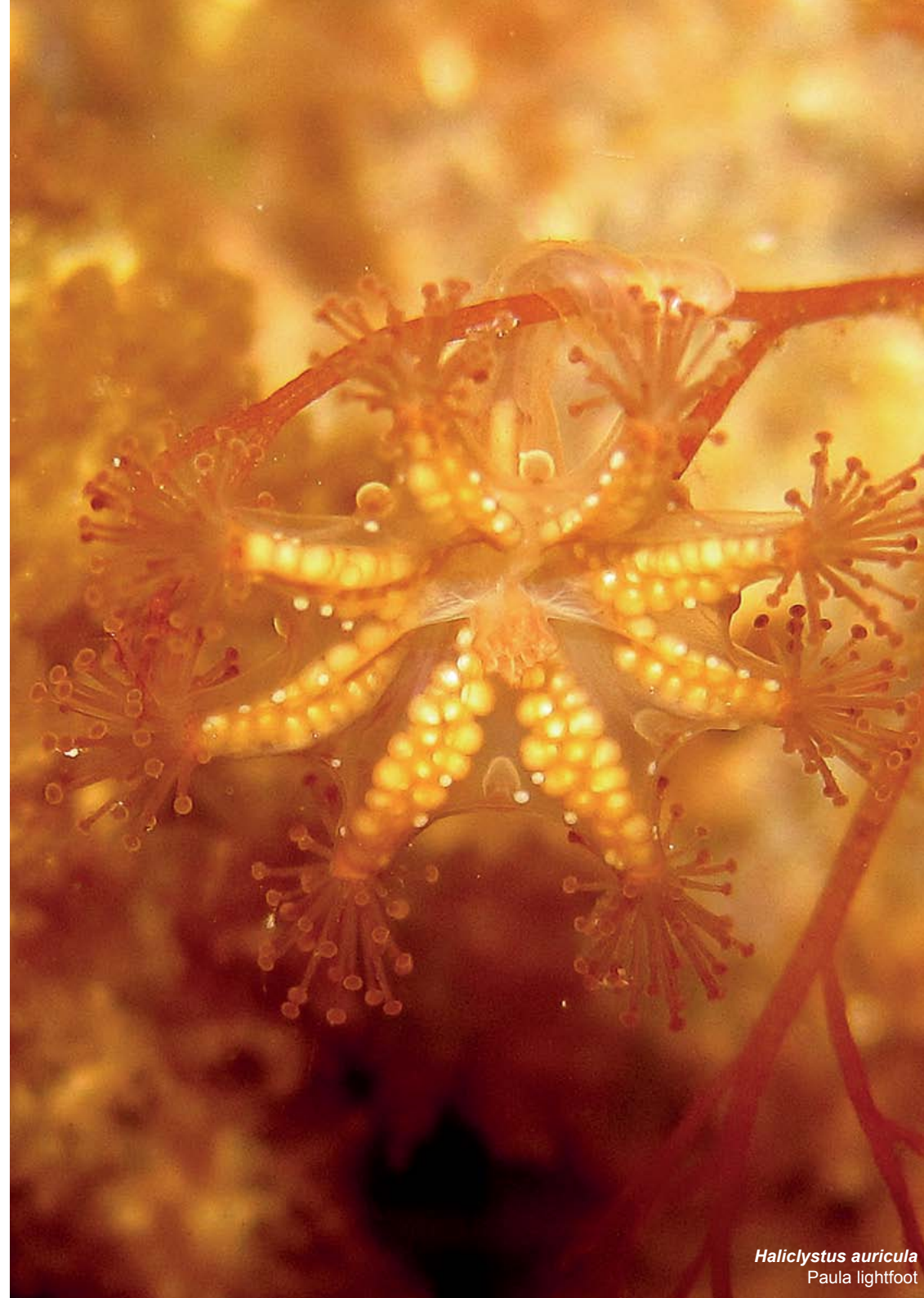
Governing body: possible creation of an Advisory Group

Site management: No specific management document - recommendations made during the establishment phase by Natural England and JNCC will:

- in territorial waters, provide the Marine Management Organisation with guidance to adopt the appropriate prohibiting by-laws;
- in offshore management, advise DEFRA on the recommendations to be submitted to the Commission to regulate under common fisheries policy.


Degree of protection: Any activity carried out by public authorities and other parties/users must take into account the conservation objectives defined for Marine Conservation Zones (serving the best interests or choosing the least harmful option).

Natural England and/or JNCC must be informed of any activity liable to affect achievement of a Marine Conservation Zone's conservation objectives. They may advise organisations on potentially harmful activities impacting progress in conservation.



Haliclystus auricula
Paula lightfoot

NATURA 2000 - HABITATS DIRECTIVE SPECIAL AREA OF CONSERVATION

Designation: international - in England  and in France 

Physical area: sea bed, subsoil, water column and surface



Legal area at sea (Channel): territorial waters – Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ)

Applicable legislation: England - Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 1994 and 2010, Offshore Marine Conservation (Natural Habitats, & c.) Regulations 2007; France - Environment Code (*Code de l'environnement*) - L414-1 to L414-7

Goal:

Favourable conservation status of species and habitats listed in the European Habitats Directive.

Governing body: Steering group / *comité de pilotage*

Site management: management scheme in the United Kingdom, *document d'objectifs* (DOCOB) in France

Degree of protection: Any activity «liable to significantly affect a Natura 2000 site» is subject to an impact assessment.

If the activity adversely affects the conservation objectives, it must be regulated or prohibited.

The various players/organisations performing duties at the site must take any type of measure (voluntary, contractual, regulatory) to maintain or restore the conservation status of habitats and species.

NATURA 2000 - BIRDS DIRECTIVE SPECIAL PROTECTION AREA

Designation: international - in England  and in France 

Physical area: sea bed, subsoil, water column and surface



Legal area at sea (Channel): territorial waters – Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ)

Applicable legislation: England - Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981, Conservation (Natural Habitats, & c.) Regulations 2010, Offshore Marine Conservation (Natural Habitats & c.) Regulations 2007; France - Environment Code (*Code de l'environnement*) - L414-1 to L414-7

Goal:

Favourable conservation status of species and habitats listed in the European Birds Directive.

Governing body: Steering group / *comité de pilotage*

Site management: management scheme in the United Kingdom, *document d'objectifs* (DOCOB) in France

Degree of protection: Any activity «liable to significantly affect a Natura 2000 site» is subject to an impact assessment.

If the activity adversely affects the conservation objectives, it must be regulated or prohibited.

The various players/organisations performing duties at the site must take any type of measure (voluntary, contractual, regulatory) to maintain or restore the conservation status of habitats and species.

Species representative of protected habitats in the Channel: *Pleuronectes platessa*


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Sternula albifrons
Serge Deroo



WORLD HERITAGE SITE - UNESCO

Designation: international - in France  and in England* 

Physical area: sea bed, subsoil, water column and surface



Legal area at sea (Channel): territorial waters – Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ)

Applicable legislation: Convention for the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage, ratified by the United Kingdom in May 1984 and France in June 1975 ; France - *Code de l'environnement* - R. 334-2*

Goals:

- Good conservation status of species and habitats which have or should have specific status or are of national importance (rare and threatened species);
- Good conservation status of species and habitats with no specific status, targeted by the MPA management (harvested fish species, locally abundant species placing biogeographical responsibility on the site);
- Performance of key ecological functions (spawning, nurseries, breeding, resting, feeding, migration, etc.);
- Maintaining maritime cultural heritage;
- Added value (social, economic, scientific, educative).

Governing body: World Heritage Committee, possibly with support from other existing bodies

Site management: Possible support from other existing bodies

Degree of protection: Any modification of natural monuments and listed sites is subject to prior, special authorisation.

* designation not officially recognised as a marine protected area in the UK

BIOSPHERE RESERVE

Designation: international - in France  and in England* 

Physical area: sea bed, subsoil, water column and surface



Legal area at sea (Channel): territorial waters – Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ)

Applicable legislation: Statutory framework formally approved by the UNESCO Member States in 1995 ; France - *Code de l'environnement* - R. 334-2*

Goals:

- Good conservation status of species and habitats which have or should have specific status or are of national importance (rare and threatened species);
- Good conservation status of species and habitats with no specific status, targeted by the MPA management (harvested fish species, locally abundant species placing biogeographical responsibility on the site);
- Performance of key ecological functions (spawning, nurseries, breeding, resting, feeding, migration, etc.);
- Maintaining maritime cultural heritage.

Governing body: coordination conference

Site management: 10-year management document (nomination form), prepared by a local group of marine environment management stakeholders

Degree of protection: No associated regulation - Relies on existing organisations and tools

* designation not officially recognised as a marine protected area in the UK





OSPAR MARINE PROTECTED AREA

Designation: international - in France  and in England* 

Physical area: sea bed, subsoil, water column and surface



Legal area at sea (Channel): territorial waters – Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ)

Applicable legislation: Convention for the Protection of the marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic, ratified by the UK and France in 1998 ; France - *Code de l'environnement* - R. 334-2*

Goals:

- Good conservation status of species and habitats which have or should have specific status or are of national importance (rare and threatened species);
- Good conservation status of species and habitats with no specific status, targeted by the MPA management (harvested fish species, locally abundant species placing biogeographical responsibility on the site);
- Performance of key ecological functions (spawning, nurseries, breeding, resting, feeding, migration, etc.);
- Good status of marine waters.

In the Channel, OSPAR marine protected areas currently overlay existing marine protected areas, selected for their contribution to the goals of the OSPAR Convention. The conservation and management actions are carried out by the underlying marine protected area.



Governing body: Integrated into the underlying marine protected area

Site management: Integrated into the underlying marine protected area

Degree of protection: Integrated into the underlying marine protected area

* Designation not officially recognised as a marine protected area in the UK

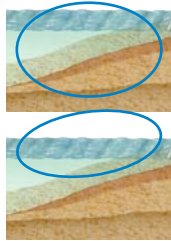
WETLANDS OF INTERNATIONAL IMPORTANCE (RAMSAR)

Designation: international - in England  and in France 

Physical area:

-in England: sea bed, subsoil, water column and surface

-in France: water column and surface



Legal area at sea (Channel): territorial waters

Applicable legislation: Convention on Wetlands of International Importance, ratified by the UK in 1976 and France in 1986 ; UK - Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 ; France - *Code de l'environnement* - R. 334-2

Goals:

- Good conservation status of species and habitats which have or should have specific status or are of national importance (rare and threatened species);
- Good conservation status of species and habitats with no specific status, targeted by the MPA management (harvested fish species, locally abundant species placing biogeographical responsibility on the site);
- Performance of key ecological functions (spawning, nurseries, breeding, resting, feeding, migration, etc.);
- Good status of marine waters.

Governing body: Relies on existing bodies

Site management: National action plans. The great majority of Ramsar sites in France and Britain have been established on areas already fully or partly protected by other statuses or having integrated management. Conservation and management actions developed in these protected areas serve to maintain the ecological features of the Ramsar sites.

Degree of protection: Integrated into the underlying marine protected area

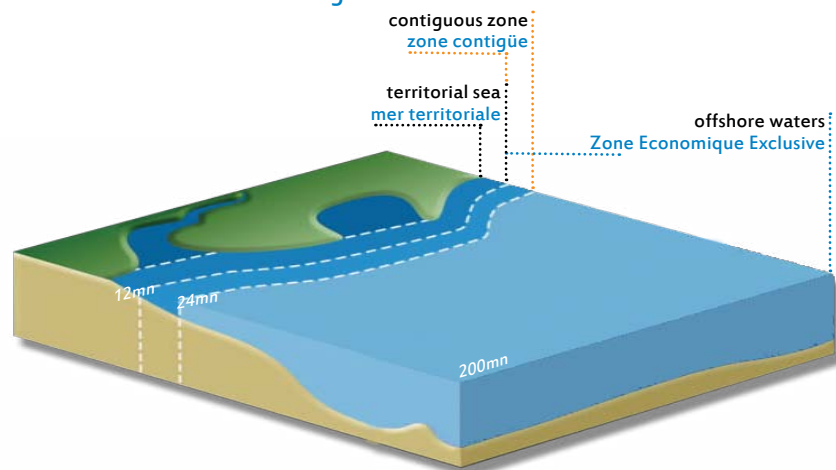


ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Frequently used acronyms

| | |
|-------|---|
| DEFRA | Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs |
| DIRM | Direction inter-régionale de la mer |
| DREAL | Direction Régionale de l'Environnement, de l'Aménagement et du Logement |
| EEZ | Exclusive Economic Zone |
| GIS | Geographic Information System |
| IFCA | Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authorities |
| JNCC | Joint Nature Conservation Committee |
| MCZ | Marine Conservation Zone |
| MMO | Marine Management Organisation |
| MPA | Marine Protected Area |
| NM | Nautical Mile |
| SAC | Special Area of Conservation |
| SCI | Site of Community Importance |
| SPA | Special Protection Area |
| SSSI | Site of Special Scientific Interest |

Maritime area delimitation diagram



> To learn more, view the full map of French maritime area delimitation on: <http://cartographie.aires-marines.fr/?q=node/48>

> To consult all the information about marine protected areas in the English Channel (site management, resources available to managers, applied regulations, species and habitats, etc.), consult the PANACHE project MPA database: www.panache.eu.com/mpa_datasheets



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