



2021 United Nations Decade
of Ocean Science
2030 for Sustainable Development





Oyster Restoration

River Hamble

Reef Laying 2023/25

- 2 phases
- 0.5 ha
- > 30,000 oysters





Royal Navy



0.0000390



1945 -0.0006008
[4.0m]

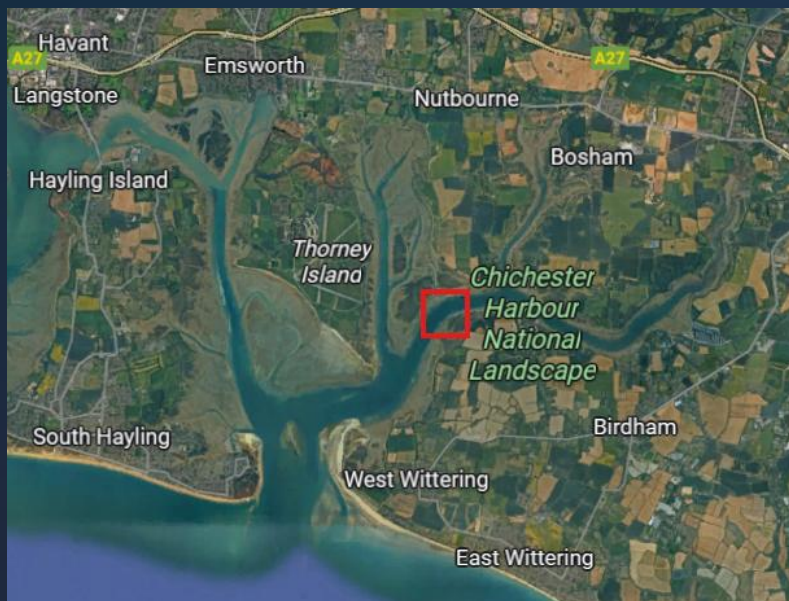
Hdg: 333.4° [331°]
P: 2.0° [0°]
R: 3.0° [0°]

Temp: 15.28
AC trng

Pos: 0.0001392 -0.0006120
Depth: 4.5m [4.5m]
Alt: 0.2m

Hdg: 333.4°

Temp: 20.7° C
Date: 7/02/25 10:13:41
Dive #: NDAE trng



Chichester Reef

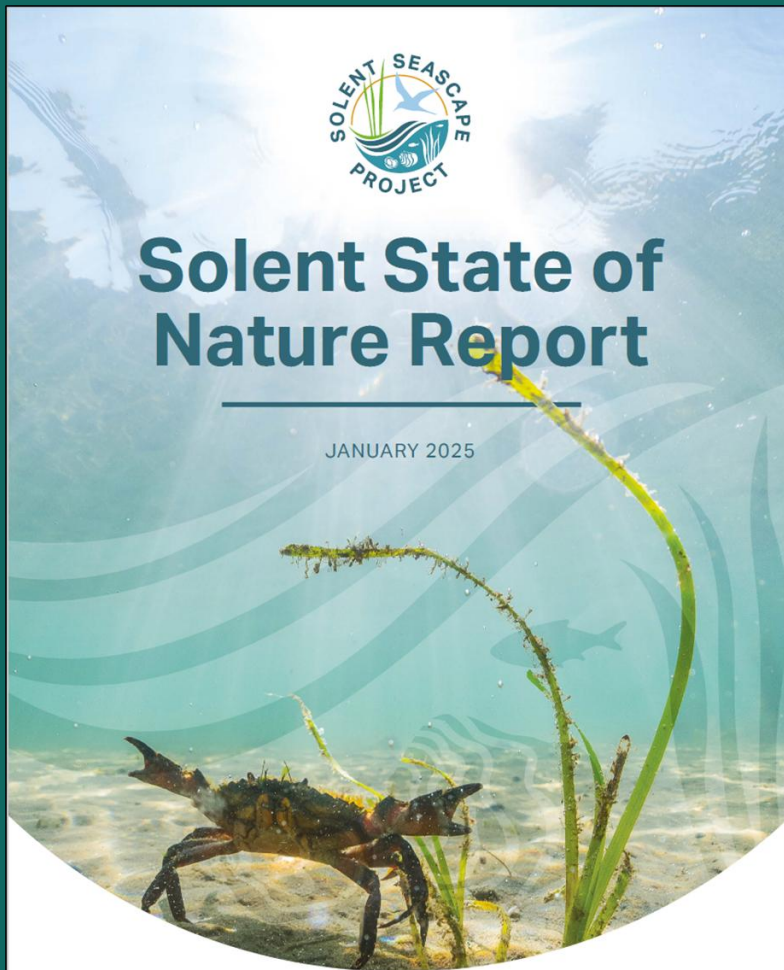


Seascape Recovery Plan



Solent State of Nature Report

JANUARY 2025



Non-technical summary



Solent State of Nature Report

FEBRUARY 2025

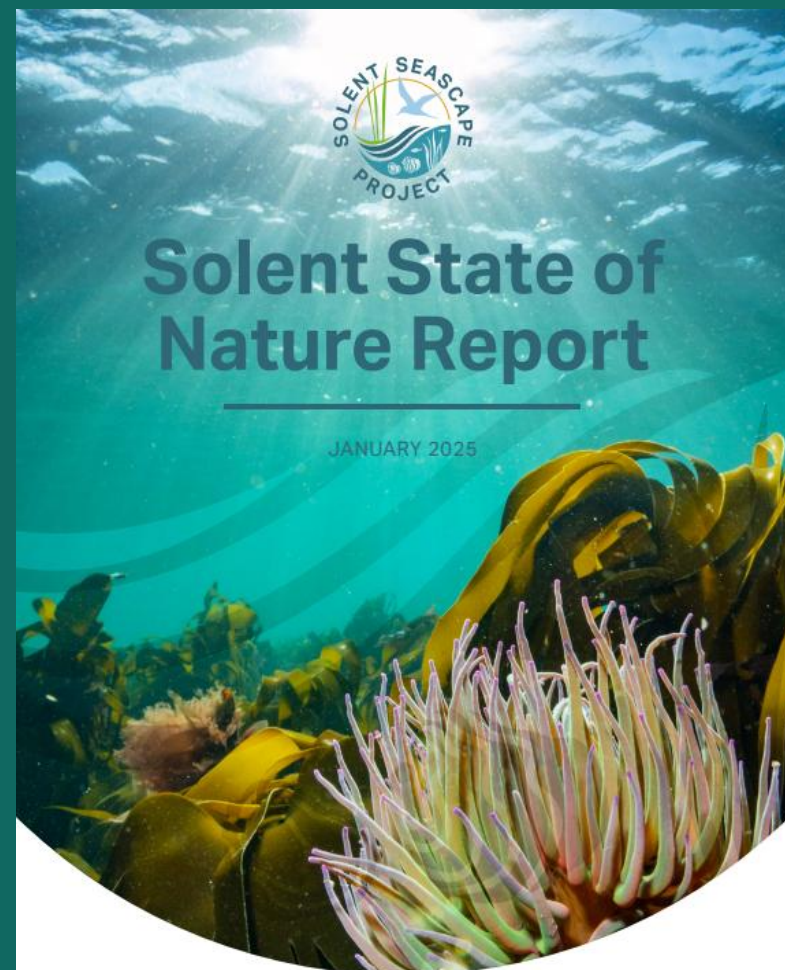


Volume 1 – Main report



Solent State of Nature Report

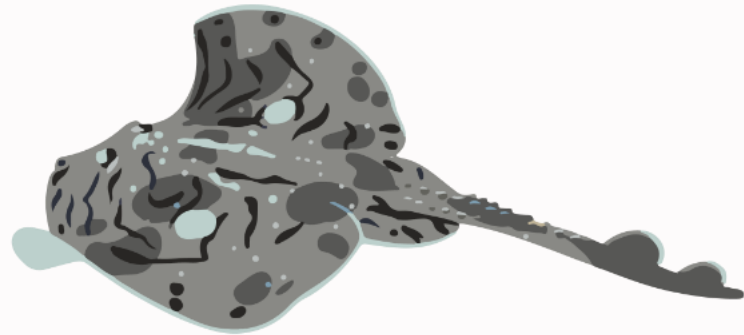
JANUARY 2025

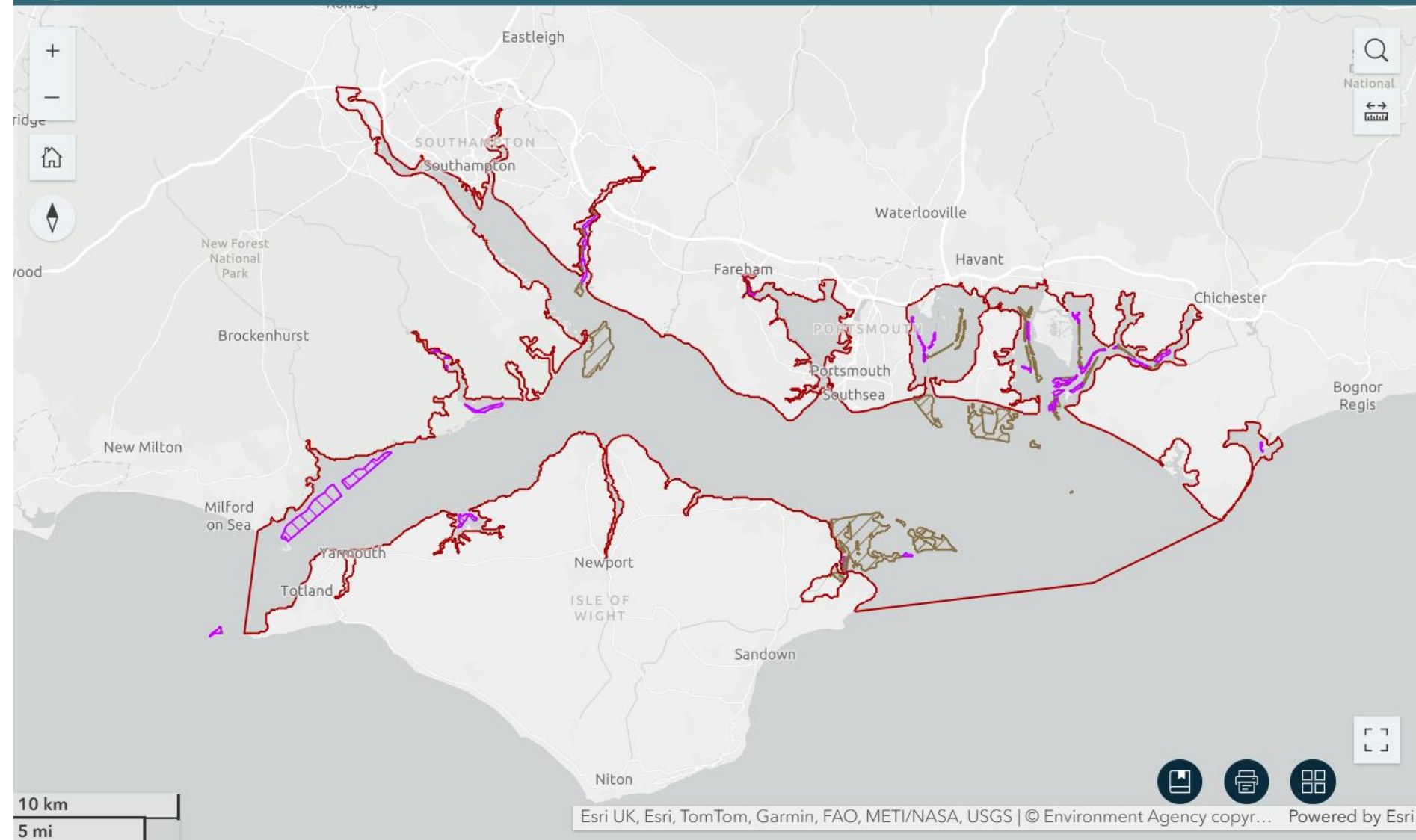


Volume 2 – Appendices

Headline:

Most of the Solent's habitats and species are struggling, with many having suffered dramatic declines





Layers Legend

- > Waterbody Condition (© EA) ...
- > Activities and Pressures ...
- > Restoration & Recovery ...
- ▼ Restoration Opportunity Mapping ...
 - Native Oyster Potential (© EA) ...
 - Seagrass Potential (© NE, EA) ...
 - Seagrass Suitability (Over 80%, © LIFE Recreation ReMEDIES) ...
 - Potential Intertidal Habitat Creation within the Current Floodplain (© MMO) ...
- > Monitoring & Management ...
- > Protection/Designated Areas ...



SOLENT SEASCAPE PROJECT



Phase 1 – Vision and Outcomes

- 5 workshops
- 100 stakeholders
- 8 outcomes & a vision



Phase 2 – Action and Interventions

- 3 workshops
- 59 stakeholders
- Long list of actions (160)

In 50 years' time the protection and restoration of the seascape will have created a Solent that is thriving with marine life, healthy coastal habitats and clean waters where people and nature live in harmony. Ecosystems are resilient to climate change, sustainably managed, and connected across land, sea and rivers. Everyone benefits from and contributes to the seascape through education, access, livelihoods and stewardship. The Solent is a place of pride and inspiration, recognised across the UK as a leading example of nature recovery in action.

Prioritisation Criteria – Stage 1



Prioritisation Criteria – Stage 2



Priority Tier	Colour	Number of Actions
High (scored 4 and above)	Green	42
Medium (scored 3.5-3.9)	Yellow	62
Low (scored 3-3.4)	Amber	25
Very low / out of scope (scored 2 and below)	Red	10

OUTCOME 2: PRESSURE ON VULNERABLE MARINE ENVIRONMENTS HAS BEEN REDUCED BY CREATING AND MANAGING ALTERNATIVE SEA SPACES

GOALS	ACTIONS	PRIORITY TIER	KEY ACTORS
A) Zoning and spatial planning	A1 Identify and where necessary apply targeted zonal management , including restoration zones, buffer zones and spatial zoning to reduce impacts from specific activities (e.g. boating, anchoring, fishing, water sports) in sensitive areas while maintaining appropriate access. Measures will be activity-specific, proportionate, and explored in collaboration with relevant authorities, taking account of existing management (including Statutory Harbour Authorities, MHQ, IFCA, landowners etc) and may use appropriate legislation as well as voluntary approaches.	HIGH	Statutory Harbour Authorities, MHQ, IFCA, landowners
	A2 Identify and, where necessary, apply targeted temporal restrictions to specific activities that place pressure on the Solent environment.	HIGH	Statutory Harbour Authorities, MHQ, IFCA, landowners
	A3 Align restoration and recovery activities with local and regional marine spatial plans (e.g. South Downs Plan)	HIGH	MHQ
B) Identify and address key activities that are causing damage to Solent habitats and species	B1 Develop and support an eco-friendly boating plan for the Solent in collaboration between Harbours, national and regional boating associations and voluntary organisations. Incorporating identification of suitable sites for Advanced Mooring Systems (AMS) and voluntary no-anchor zones, clearly marked launch points, and better guidance, apps and incentives.	HIGH	MHQ, Fried Seagrass, RYA, H&A
	B2 Develop an adaptive management plan for sediment (natural inputs, co-ordinated dredging schedule and disposal) focused on natural processes to retain sediment and Beneficial Use of Dredged Sediments across the Solent, with industry collaboration.	HIGH	Lymington Harbour Commissioners, Industry e.g. Marina Projects (they do much of the license applications for Solent marinas)
	B3 Support and promote initiatives to detect and respond to invasive and non-native species that impact native habitats and biodiversity in the Solent.	MEDIUM	MHQ, licensees, voluntary organisations, Harbours Authorities, Natural England, MHQ
	B4 Identify and address key activities that are causing recreational disturbance to protected birds (consider use of Strategic mitigation schemes)	HIGH	Harbour Authorities, Marinas, RSPB
C) Data and monitoring	C1 Publish and maintain long-term monitoring programmes for key identified pressures, incorporating standardised protocols and data sharing between government agencies, academic and citizen science partners	HIGH	
	C2 Bring together data from commercial vessels (including fishing boats and smaller craft where available) into shared platforms, ensuring commercially sensitive or private information is protected.	MEDIUM	Harbour Authorities, IFCA, MHQ
	C3 For T/Feb: Need to understand what data is needed		

Next steps

- SRP working group provided comments, concerns and suggested changes
- Working group also highlighted “game-changer” actions
- Technical working group, Community Engagement group, Blue Marine Economics Unit
- “Missing Voices”
- Draft recovery plan – workshop in summer 2026
- Publish finalised plan – winter 2026





Biodiversity Certificates

- Trial certificate creation with Plan Vivo
- UK first
- 60% - community, 40% - continued monitoring of biodiversity uplift
- Baseline monitoring end of March 2026
- Multimetric monitoring including species richness, diversity, taxonomic dissimilarity, habitat health, habitat structure
- 1 certificate = 1% increase in the multimetric per year per hectare
- Certificates hoped to go to market during 2028





Marilyn's Cakes Itchenor

500 m



Artist Residency



SOLENT SEASCAPE
**Artist
Residency**

CALL OUT

56
applicants

8
shortlisted

- Pottery
- Puppetry
- Ceramics
- Corsetry
- Painting
- Textiles



Five original songs inspired by and featuring the sounds of the Solent coastline, exploring themes of community, nature, history, industry and nostalgia. To be shared as a digital EP release via streaming/download sites, as well as an interactive 'music map' allowing listeners to experience the songs in situ.

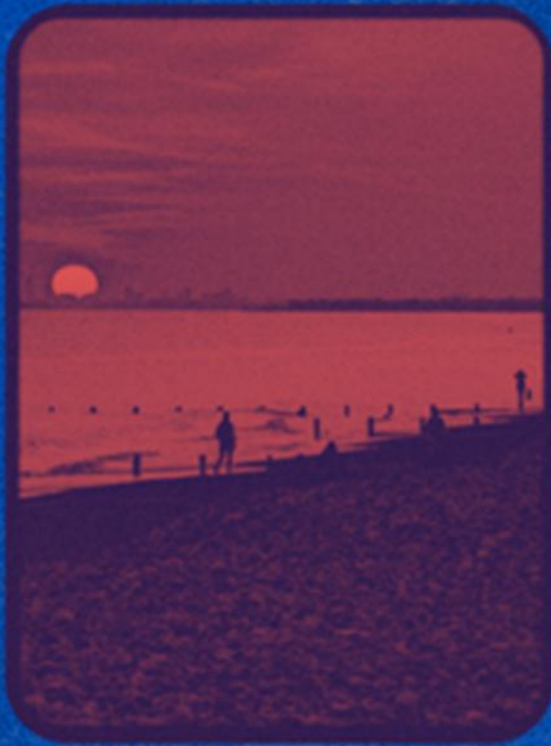
Richard Walters





Solent Community





RICHARD WALTERS SONGS FROM THE SOLENT

RICHARD WALTERS
SONGS FROM THE SOLENT

LANTERNS PT. 1 (FT. JEREMY IRONS)

LANTERNS PT. 2

WIGHT PAINT

LONG VIEW

SEA SISTERS (FT. MEGAN LINFORD)

SALT FORESTS

SELSEY DAWN



LONG VIEW
SPINNAKER
TOWER

HAYLING ISLAND NATURE RESERVE
RAFTS

SALT FLOES
CHICHESTER HARBOUR

HAYLING ISLAND

SEA SISTERS

SEISEY BILL
SEISEY DAWN

WIGHT PAINT

THE ISLE OF WIGHT

THE SOLENT

HURST CASTLE
LANTERNS

RW 2025





What's next?





THANK YOU

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🌐 www.solentseascape.com

📷 [@solentseascape](https://www.instagram.com/solentseascape)

