

**NORTH EAST KENT MARINE PROTECTED AREA**  
**Incorporating the North East Kent European Marine Sites (NEKEMS) and Marine Conservation Zone (MCZ)**  
**MANAGEMENT SCHEME 2013-2018 ACTION PLAN**

SECTOR	ACTION	TYPE OF ACTION	TIMESCALE / DEADLINE FOR ACTION	RESPONSIBILITY
<b>General Activity Management (including both Shore, Water and Air Based Recreation)</b>	<p><b>Coastal Codes:</b> Review, re-brand and promote revised Thanet Coastal Codes for across the NEKMPA. Issues may be site specific but all codes will be rebranded under the NEKMPA logo and brand, incorporating the protection of MCZ features.</p>	Planning	2015/2016	CCC – Matthew Young/ Tom Hawkins TDC/ NEKMPA – Tony Child DDC – Nick Delaney/ Keith Watson
	<p><b>Information Signs:</b> Phased, gradual update and introduction of bay information signs with information including: maps, water quality, safety and links to NEKMPA and Coastal Codes.</p>	On ground	Ongoing from 2013 to 2018	TDC CCC - Matthew Young DDC – Nick Delaney/ Keith Watson
	<p><b>Access Management:</b> Agree an approach to strategic access management along the NEKMPA coastline, to address increased recreational pressures and opportunities in the area.</p>	Planning	2014	TDC –DDC – Nick Delaney/ Keith Watson
	<p><b>England Coast Path:</b> Natural England will work towards opening the proposed stretch of England Coast Path south of Ramsgate.  Assist with developing any confirmed coastal access restriction and management measures around Sandwich and Pegwell Bay – in particular with working with local walkers and dog walkers (as informed by Natural England/Kennel Club report, 2014)</p>	On ground	2014-15  2014-2015	TDC TDC/NEKMPA – Tony Child DDC – Nick Delaney/ Keith Watson NE – Jenny Bowen/ Giulietta Holly KCC – Colin Finch

	The proposals for the England Coast Path stretch between Ramsgate and Whitstable will be developed and submitted to the Secretary of State.		2014-15	
<b>Shoreline Management</b>	Local authorities to provide an update for MG on the progress and implementation of new schemes at MG meetings	On ground	Ongoing	TDC - Mike Humber (to include CCC update) DDC – Nick Delaney/ Keith Watson
<b>Fishing and Harvesting</b>	NEKMPA MG and NEKSCAG to work with K&E IFCA to formulate appropriate management measures required for the MCZ features and incorporate management synergies of the EMS where possible.	Planning and Management	2013-2015	MG – All NEKSCAG – All
	K&E IFCA review of the management of fisheries within the NEKMPA (as part of Article 6 of the Habitats Regulations) in consultation with the NEKMPA MG (particularly where important milestones are met, decisions made or to obtain comments regarding any potential issues).	Planning and Management	2013-2016	K&E IFCA - Will Wright/ Dom Bailey
	<b>Shore based Harvesting:</b> - Coastal wardens to keep a watching brief and collect data on shellfish harvesting (to be submitted to the K&E IFCA) for long term monitoring and data analysis. - Sightings data to be put onto GIS, analysed and reviewed for long term monitoring by K&E IFCA - K&E IFCA to provide update to NEKSCAG and MG on progress and discuss project proposal regarding further data collection and management of these shore based activities	Monitoring	Ongoing	NEKMPA– Tony Child K&E IFCA – Will Wright/ Dom Bailey
	Finalise shellfish harvesting guide for the NEKMPA, following the consultation of a draft version with the shellfish harvesting		2015	NEKMPA/TDC – Tony Child

	group/MG.			NE – Giulietta Holly K&E IFCA – Will Wright/ Dom Bailey MG – All CCC – Tom Hawkins
	Identify and implement management measures as a result of shellfish harvesting activity within the NEKMPA.		2016	K&E IFCA – Will Wright/ Dom Bailey
<b>Ports Harbours and Navigation</b>	Produce protocol for dredging at Ramsgate and Herne Bay harbours (to include and reflect monitoring of water injection dredging impacts on shellfish beds).	Planning	2014/15 (monitoring ongoing)	TDC – Tony Child / Mike Humber EA – Colin Bowley NE – Giulietta Holly
<b>Research and Education</b>	<b>North East Kent Scientific Coastal Advisory Group (NEKSCAG):-</b> NEKSCAG to hold regular meetings (2 to 4 times a year) to discuss issues related to the NEKMPA and provide advice on issues affecting the MPA to the MG to help inform management.	Research	Ongoing	NEKSCAG
	- NEKSCAG will identify priority areas of research within the MPA and help promote these through student and volunteer research projects, preferably at the start of the academic year. This research will aim to inform the management and threats to the MPA e.g. invasive species.	Research	2013-2018 on an annual basis	NEKSCAG
	- Maintain a log of current research within the NEKMPA to review and update on an annual basis.	Research	Ongoing	NEKSCAG
	<b>NEKMPA data and GIS:</b> - Warden survey data will help inform management issues and link to associated coastal codes. This data will be reported to NEKSCAG/NEKMPA on an annual basis (to be reviewed as considered necessary). - NEKSCAG will review and inform the data collected as appropriate.	Monitoring	Ongoing	NEKMPA – Tony Child K&E IFCA – Will Wright/ Dom Bailey NEKSCAG

	- IFCA to input data onto GIS and provide to local authorities.			
	- Data collection on estimated numbers of people and activities – obtained from Life Guards/RNLI and Water Quality/EA, that already routinely collect this data (May-Sept) in order to monitor visitor levels and associated human pressures/disturbance. This will feed into the reports to NEKSCAG/NEKMPA.	Monitoring	Ongoing	CCC – Matthew Young/ Tom Hawkins TDC RNLI DDC – Nick Delaney/ Keith Watson EA – Colin Bowley
	<b>TDC</b> - -The educational remit of the TCP (commenced 2001) will still include running a limited number of events and activities to help raise awareness of the importance of the NEKMPA coastline and coastal codes, but this will be dependent upon funding and continued support from volunteer Coastal Wardens. - Thanet Coastal Wardens will be supported and realigned to become coastal wardens of the wider NEKMPA – see NEKMPA Section.	Education	2014-18	TDC – Tony Child
	<b>CCC</b> - reinstate educational foreshore work with volunteer group	Education	2014 onwards	CCC –Tom Hawkins
	<b>Climate Change</b> Raise awareness of the effects of climate change and adaptation on local coastal communities (CC2150) resulting from the pilot work that included Margate over the two year period 2011-13.	Education	2013/14	KCC – Chris Drake TDC –Tony Child
<b>Water Quality</b>	Joint investigation by EA and SW to assess water quality issues across the NEKMPA with key sites of concern at: Herne Bay Pier, Margate, Walpole Bay and Viking Bay.	On ground	2013-2015	EA – Colin Bowley SW – Sharon Hughes

	Surveys of all CSOs and pumping stations within and adjacent to the NEKMPA will be conducted and a map showing locations produced.	On ground	2013	Southern Water – Sharon Hughes/ EA – Colin Bowley
	Investigation and action to be taken on improving sites of water quality concern, as appropriate and required.	On ground	2013-2018 as required	TDC CCC – Matthew Young/ Tom Hawkins DDC – Nick Delaney/ Keith Watson EA – Colin Bowley
<b>Species Management and Control</b>	Natural England and Environment Agency to advise on queries regarding seaweed removal and importance of seaweed, as part of Thanet’s seaweed management and awareness campaign.	On ground, Awareness and Education	Ongoing as required	TDC EA – Ian Humpheryes NE – Giulietta Holly
	Use the non-native species baseline survey (of 5 species currently posing the greatest threat across the NEKMPA) results to target management measures to bring at least 50% of the site under active management for the following priority invasive species: Pacific Oysters <i>Crassostrea gigas</i> and seaweed <i>Sargassum</i> .	On ground	April 2013 onwards	NE- Giulietta Holly/ Ingrid Chudleigh TDC/NEKMPA – Tony Child
	Repetition of the baseline non-native species survey to be undertaken every three years.	Monitoring	2016	NE – Willie McKnight
	Monitor the spread of Carpet Sea squirt ( <i>Didemnum vexillum</i> ) across the NEKMPA and involve relevant organisations (Defra etc) if any management measures are required.	Monitoring	Ongoing	MG - All
	Continue to monitor and implement agreed management measures for Pacific Oysters within the NEKMPA with the help of NEKMPA coastal wardens.	Monitoring and On ground	April 2013 onwards	NE – Willie McKnight/ Giulietta Holly/ Ingrid Chudleigh TDC – Tony Child
	Identify and trial control management measures to remove Wireweed ( <i>Sargassum muticum</i> ) within identified sections of the NEKMPA with the help of NEKMPA coastal wardens.	Research and On ground	2013	NEKSCAG – All TDC/NEKMPA – Tony Child/Willie McKnight
	Study conducted to inform the current distribution and spread of	Research and	2014 (NE funding	NEKSCAG- All

	<i>Grateloupia turuturu</i> (red algae) within the NEKMPA	Monitoring	TBC)	NE – Giuletta Holly/ Ingrid Chudleigh
	Finalise a Marine Wildlife Watching code/guidelines for the NEKMPA and incorporate within coastal codes.	Planning	2015/16	NEKSCAG- All TDC/NEKMPA – Tony Child
	Non native species studies will be extended to assess the impacts on MCZ features	Planning	2014/15	NE – Ingrid Chudleigh/ Giuletta Holly
<b>Extraction of Materials</b>	Finalise a Fossil Collecting Code for the whole NEKMPA and incorporate within coastal codes.	Planning	2015/16	NEKSCAG - All TDC/NEKMPA – Tony Child
<b>Monitoring</b>	Annual winter Turnstone monitoring – Sandwich Bay Bird Observatory Trust with the help of NEKMPA coastal wardens – from winter 2012/13	Monitoring	2013/14 2015/16 2017/18	NE – Giuletta Holly NEKMPA – Tony Child
	Monitoring of EMS features on a six year cycle linked to monitoring of MCZ features where possible	Monitoring	2017	NE – Giuletta Holly
<b>New Designations</b>	Designation of Thanet Coast proposed Marine Conservation Zone(MCZ)	Planning	2013	NE to inform and advise
	MG to work closely with NE to produce a robust conservation advice package for the MCZ	Planning and Management	2013-2015	MG - All NE- Giuletta Holly
	MCZ verification survey work for peat and clay exposures	Planning	March 2013	NE – Giuletta Holly
	Management measures for MCZ features identified and implemented	Management	2014-2015	MMO K&E IFCA – Will Wright/ Dom Bailey NE – Giuletta Holly
	MCZ management to be included under the NEKMPA (encompassing EMS and MCZ feature management)	Management	Ongoing	MG - All
	<b>MCZ monitoring:</b> - An integrated monitoring programme is to be established, incorporating EMS and MCZ features	Monitoring and research	2014/15	NE – Giuletta Holly

	- MCZ transect/survey work/ regular monitoring through Shoresearch		2013 onwards	KWT – Bryony Chapman
NEKMPA	<p><b>NEKMPA communications:</b></p> <p>Undertake re-branding of NEKEMS to NEKMPA as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Refocus of former TCP Officer to joint NEKMPA Officer &amp; TDC/TCP roles.</li> <li>• To draw up new 2013-18 NEKMPA communications strategy and Memorandum of Understanding</li> <li>• Incorporate new Thanet Coast MCZ</li> <li>• Production of new NEKMPA logo</li> <li>• Review and amend TCP website to re-focus on new NEKMPA umbrella branding</li> <li>• Produce new updated summary leaflet to cover the new action plan 2013-18</li> </ul>	Planning	2013/15	CCC – Matthew Young/ Tom Hawkins TDC/NEKMPA - Tony Child DDC - Nick Delaney/ Keith Watson NE – Giulietta Holly
	<p><b>NEKMPA stakeholders:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review and update database of previous NEKEMS representatives to invite as NEKMPA ‘stakeholders’</li> <li>• Revise and update stakeholder information</li> <li>• Investigate new stakeholder communication options that may include E-News information mailing and/or an stakeholder annual event</li> </ul>	Planning	2013 Ongoing	CCC – Matthew Young/ Tom Hawkins TDC/NEKMPA - Tony Child DDC –Nick Delaney/ Keith Watson
	<p><b>NEKMPA Coastal Wardens: co-ordination/promotion</b></p> <p>- Re-brand former ‘Thanet Coastal Warden Scheme’ for wardens to be known as ‘NEKMPA Coastal Wardens’. The wardens will be the local ‘eyes and ears’ of NEKMPA on the coast, and trained as <i>local marine champions</i> to look after their local bays and help resolve local issues, voluntary action, observation and incident records</p> <p>- A part-time NEKMPA Support Assistant (<i>one day a week</i>;</p>	Planning	2014/15	NEKMPA - Tony Child NE – Giulietta Holly

	<p><i>renewable depending upon funding</i>) to assist the coordination and running of the scheme.</p> <p>- Produce a revised leaflet for volunteer opportunities within the NEKMPA</p>		2014-18	
			2015	
	<p><b>NEKMPA Coastal Warden Scheme:</b></p> <p><b>Training:</b> Plan and implement an annual training and events programme, including annual forum for feedback.</p> <p><b>Surveys:</b> Incorporate ways to help improve the monitoring and recording of human activities - and wildlife records - on the coast</p> <p><b>Reporting:</b> Incorporate mechanism for reporting of incidents (human and wildlife related) for the authorities to enable rapid response.</p>	On ground	2013-2018	<p>TDC/ NEKMPA – Tony Child</p> <p>NEKSCAG</p> <p>CCC – Tom Hawkins DDC – Nick Delaney/ Keith Watson</p>
<b>Management Group (MG) Responsibilities</b>	Members of the MG are to attend two meetings per year in which they will report on compliance monitoring, condition monitoring and also undertake yearly formal reviews of the Action Plan.	Planning and Review	2013 - 2018	MG - All
	Undertake and complete a review of the Management Scheme.	Planning and Review	2017	MG - All
	MG to feed into the Conservation Advice review and new Regs 35 document for NEKMPA.		2014/15	NE – Giulietta Holly NEKSCAG
	IPENS Site Improvement Plan for NEKMPA implemented, identifying priorities for management within the site. MG to feed in when necessary.	Planning and Review	2016-2018	NE- Giulietta Holly MG - All

**ACRONYM KEY:**

NEKMPA = North East Kent Marine Protected Areas

MG = NEKMPA Management Group

NEKSCAG – North East Kent Scientific Coastal Advisory Group

NEKEMS = North East Kent European Marine Site



NE = Natural England

TDC = Thanet District Council

CCC = Canterbury City Council

DDC = Dover District Council

EA = Environment Agency

SW = Southern Water

K&E IFCA = Kent and Essex Inshore Fisheries Conservation Authority

KWT = Kent Wildlife Trust

TCP = Thanet Coast Project

MCZ = Marine Conservation Zone

IPENS = Improvement Programme for England's Natura 2000 sites