

# Axe Estuary

Recommended Marine Conservation Zone (MCZ)

Status: Under Consideration



Redshank, Tom Marshall

## Fact file

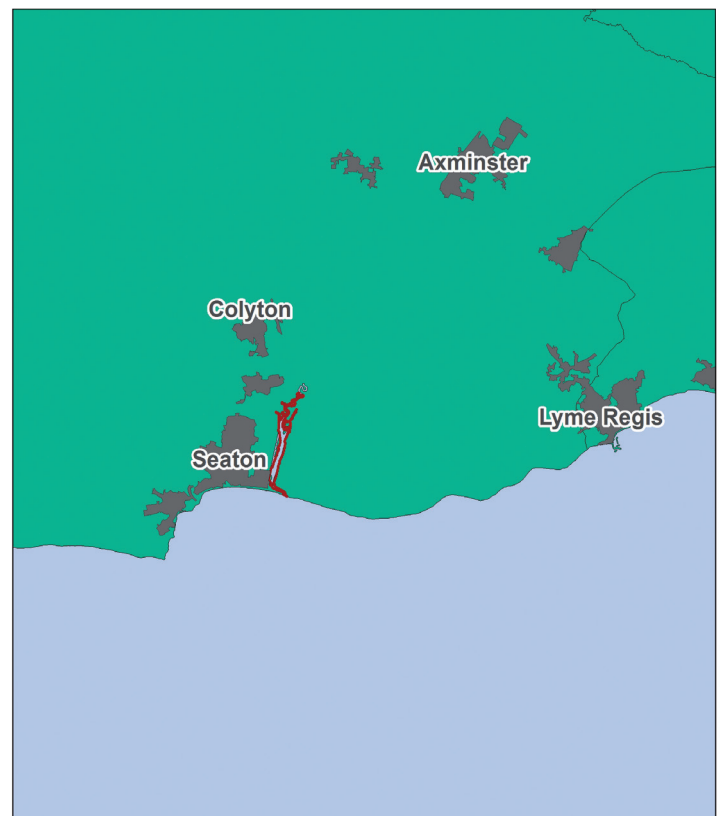
The Axe Estuary extends from its mouth, at the seaward edge of the shingle bar east of Seaton, inland as far as the mouth of the River Coly, near Colyford.

The estuary is of ecological importance because of the areas of saltmarsh, reedbeds and mudflats that it contains. Mudflats provide an important source of food for a wide range of species and as a result, the Axe Estuary is an important nursery area for fish, including bass. This estuary is also home to the critically endangered European eel and the dynamic mix of sediments here provide habitat for burrowing mudshrimp and commercially important cockles.

Inland of the recommended MCZ, the River Axe itself is designated as a Special Area of Conservation, and there are several Sites of Special Scientific Interest recognising the value of the river's distinctive communities of floating vegetation.

**Support this MCZ today!**

## Location



0 1 2 4 Miles

 Recommended MCZ

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[wildlifetrusts.org/MCZ/axe-estuary](http://wildlifetrusts.org/MCZ/axe-estuary)

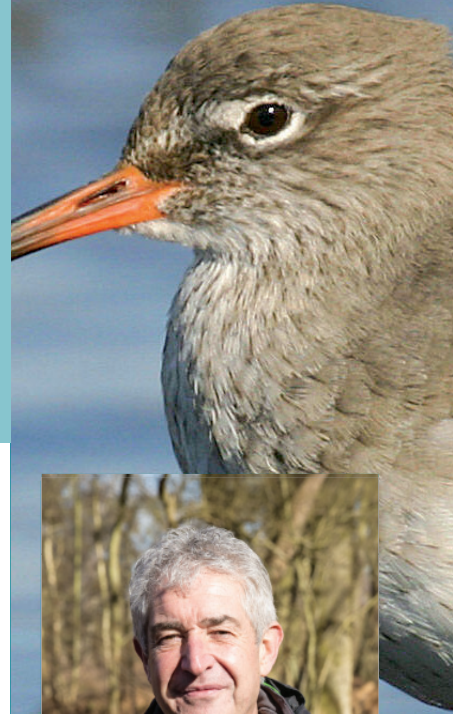
# Recommended Marine Conservation Zones



## Axe Estuary

0.33km<sup>2</sup>

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## Help us secure more Marine Conservation Zones

UK seas have the potential to be some of the most wildlife rich on Earth, but ambitious protection is needed to reverse the decades of decline.

Great progress has been made in securing protected areas at sea but there's still work to be done.

With your help we can make sure that our seas are given the protection they need to thrive once again!

- Join our supporters and become a Friend of MCZs today (it's free!) [wildlifetrusts.org/MCZFriends](http://wildlifetrusts.org/MCZFriends)
- Find out more about Marine Conservation Zones. [wildlifetrusts.org/MCZs](http://wildlifetrusts.org/MCZs)
- You can also send us any information or sightings you may have of this MCZ to [marine@wildlifetrusts.org](mailto:marine@wildlifetrusts.org)



"With proper protection, UK seas have the potential to be teeming with incredible life and colour, supporting thriving livelihoods and wildlife for generations to come. The return to Living Seas will, however, only be possible with an ambitious third tranche of Marine Conservation Zones."

Tony Juniper  
President  
The Wildlife Trusts



The Wildlife Trusts

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[wildlifetrusts.org](http://wildlifetrusts.org)