

Dart Estuary

Recommended Marine Conservation Zone (MCZ)



Status: Under Consideration



Dart Estuary near Dittisham, Paul Prestige

Fact file

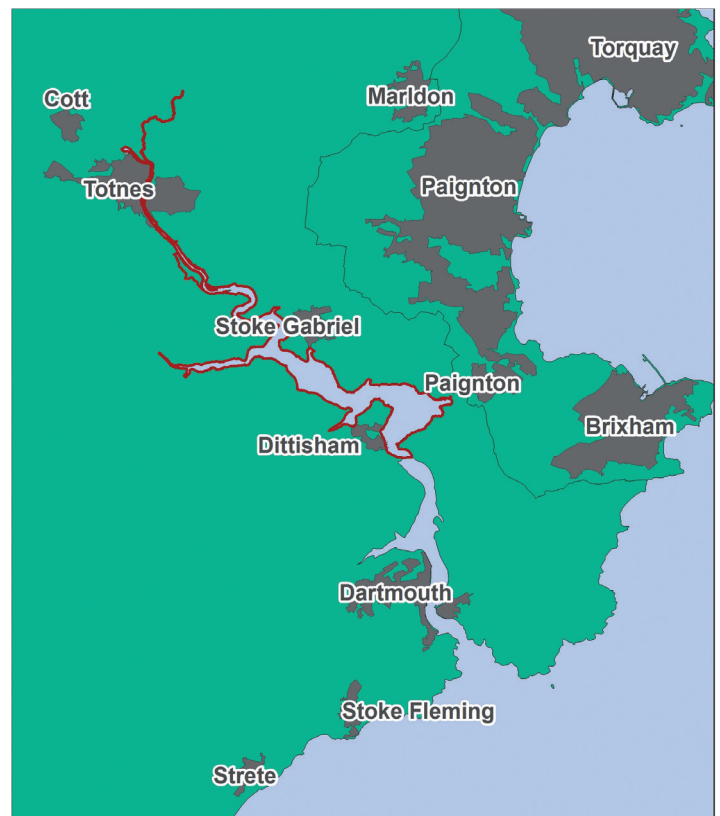
The Dart Estuary is valuable for both wildlife and people. This estuary is an important habitat for the tentacled lagoon worm, which is only found at a handful of locations across the UK. Tentacled lagoon worms are particularly vulnerable to changes to their habitat therefore designation of this site would provide the worms with much needed protection.

Coastal saltmarshes, saline reedbeds and intertidal mudflats provide shelter and food for many species here, including large number of wading and migratory birds which feed on ragworms buried in the sediments. Young fish also take refuge in the estuary which acts as a nursery ground and both native species of seahorses have been spotted in this estuary.

If designated, this site would fill an important role in the network, protecting rare estuarine rocky habitats, productive mud flats and saltmarshes, along with the charismatic species found here.

Support this MCZ today!

Location



0 0.75 1.5 3 Miles

 Recommended MCZ

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wildlifetrusts.org/MCZ/dart-estuary

Recommended Marine Conservation Zones



Dart Estuary

4.7km²

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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
- Find out more about Marine Conservation Zones. wildlifetrusts.org/MCZs
- You can also send us any information or sightings you may have of this MCZ to marine@wildlifetrusts.org



The Wildlife Trusts

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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