

Swanscombe

Recommended Marine Conservation Zone (MCZ)

Status: Under Consideration



The Thames at Erith, Kent Wildlife Trust

Fact file

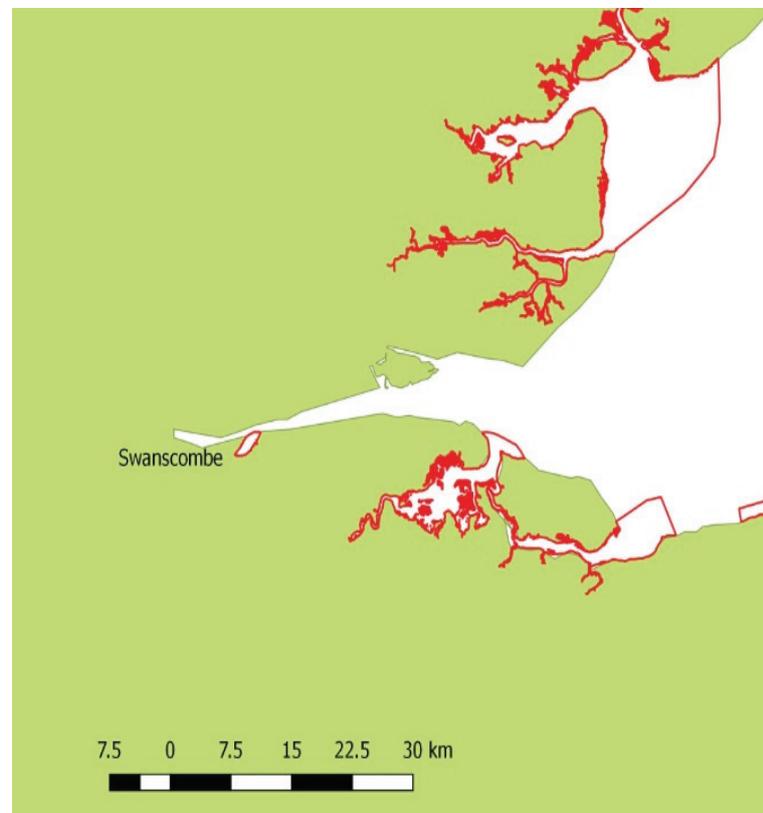
Originally included as part of the Thames Estuary recommended MCZ, the Swanscombe recommended MCZ represents a small inshore site with important features.

The seabed of the Swanscombe site consists of shells, pebbles, sands and mud. The features of conservation importance that would be protected by designation of this site include intertidal mud and the tentacled lagoon worm. The intertidal mud is an important feeding ground for wading and migratory birds and contributes to a highly productive ecosystem.

Tentacled lagoon worms live in the intertidal soft sediments of this site and are highly vulnerable to changes in their habitat.

As well as protecting these feature, designation of this zone is likely to have wider-reaching positive impacts along the Thames estuary as a whole, which provides critical spawning and nursery grounds for fish.

Location



 Recommended MCZ

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Recommended Marine Conservation Zones



Swanscombe

3km²

Recommended Marine Conservation Zone (MCZ)

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



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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