

Helford Estuary

Recommended Marine Conservation Zone (MCZ)



Status: Under Consideration



Native Oysert, Paul Naylor

Fact file

This inshore recommended Marine Conservation Zone (MCZ) on the southern coastline of west Cornwall would protect the intertidal habitat crucial for the key feature of this site: native oysters.

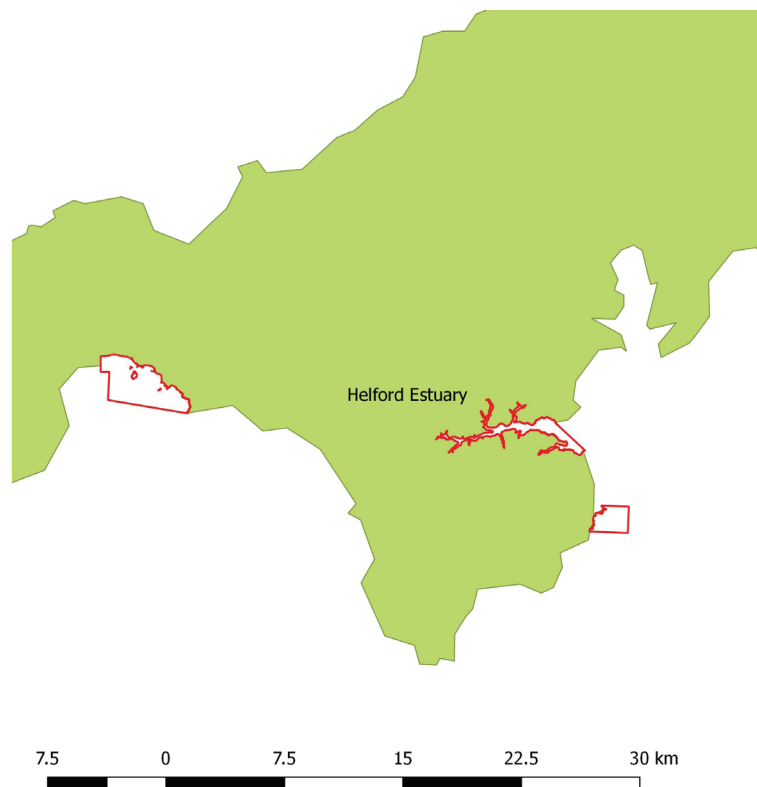
Native oysters are listed by the Oslo and Paris Convention for the Protection of the North East Atlantic (OSPAR) as a threatened and declining species and are a UK Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) species.

Found in shallow water on mixed sediments, oysters are ecologically important as they filter huge amounts of water, provide a solid surface for other species to settle on, and offer protection for other species including juvenile fish.

Intertidal sandflats and mudflats make up the majority of the Helford's shores and are known to support a wide range of invertebrate and bird communities.

Support this MCZ today!

Location



 Recommended MCZ

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Recommended Marine Conservation Zones



Helford Estuary

6km²

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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