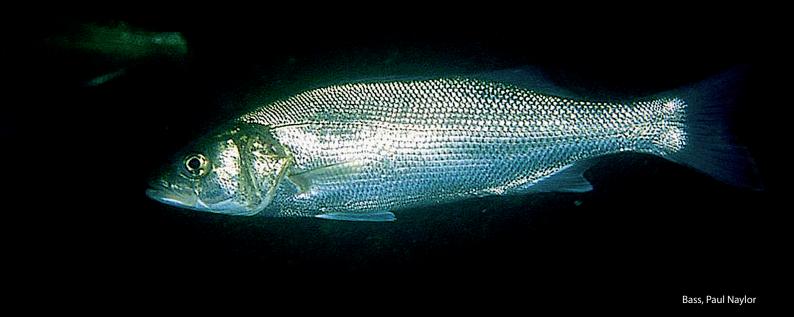
Solway Firth Recommended Marine Conservation Zone (MCZ)



Status: Under Consideration



Fact file

The Solway is a shallow, wide estuary that provides a corridor between England and Scotland. The sand banks provide resting places for seals and the fast flowing waters are home to many species of fish that are not only of importance to us, but also create a rich feeding ground for seabirds.

This site is being recommended to protect smelt, a fish species of conservation importance. It is also an important nursery ground for bass, pollock and some flatfish species.

The Solway Firth is an important area for conservation and is already a Special Area of Conservation and an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Each type of designation protects different features of the area. If desingated as an MCZ, these different designations would complement each other to provide maximum protection for the habitat and the species that live there.



Location



Contains UKHO Law of the Sea data. Crown copyright and database right and contains Ordnance Survey Data Crown copyright and database 2012

Protecting Wildlife for the Future

Recommended Marine Conservation Zones



Solway Firth 45.72km²

Recommended Marine Conservation Zone (MCZ)



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 The Kiln, Waterside, Mather Road, Newark, NG24 1WT Tel: 01636 677711 Fax: 01637 670001 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

Protecting Wildlife for the Future