Kentish Knock East Marine Conservation Zone (MCZ)





Fact file

The Kentish Knock is one of several impressive sandbanks lying relatively far offshore between Kent and Essex, out from the mouth of the River Thames.

The predominantly sand and gravel seabed contains a diversity of animals living within the sediment, while hermit crabs scuttle across the surface among small sand goby fish and foraging rays and catsharks.

There are deeply gouged channels in the coarse sediment, ancient remnants of when the glacial floodwaters broke through from the North Sea. This MCZ helps protect this feature and offer protection to ecologically and commercially important sandeel and flatfish populations.

The thermal water fronts here mean this is a productive area, with numerous species of fish living in mid water, witnessed by the many birds that come to forage for food around the sandbanks in both summer and winter.

Location



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Protecting Wildlife for the Future

Marine Conservation Zones



Kentish Knock East 96.3km²

Marine Conservation Zone (MCZ)

Help us to protect our seas

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 Marine Conservation Zones and seas are given the protection they need to thrive once again!

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• You can also send us any information or sightings from this MCZ to

marine@wildlifetrusts.org



The Wildlife Trusts

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"The designation of the third tranche of Marine Conservation Zones has given us an amazing opportunity to protect our marine wildlife and habitats for future generations. We now have 91 MCZs which is great news, but to help our seas recover we also need the Government to implement proper management and monitoring of these sites."

Joan Edwards Director of Living Seas & Public Affairs The Wildlife Trusts

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