

South Rigg

Marine Conservation Zone (MCZ)



Ocean quahog, Bernard Picton/Ulster Museum

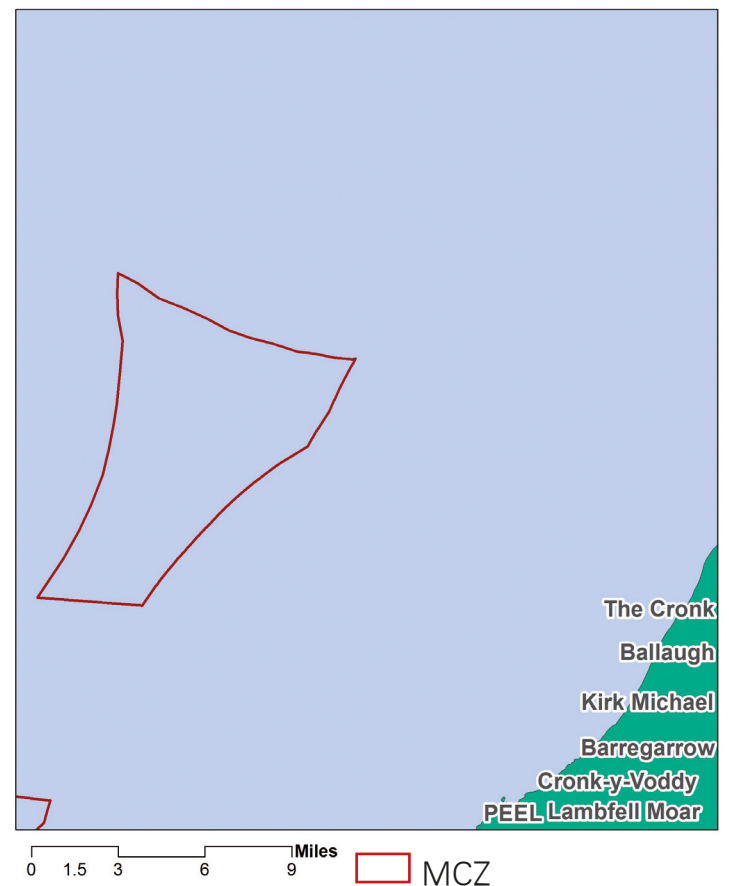
Fact file

Located between the Isle of Mann and Northern Ireland, South Rigg is extremely important due to the presence of the Irish Sea Mounds. These rocky outcrops on the sea floor provide a solid base for creatures to settle. It is also an important site for mud habitat. There is a myriad of species that call this area home including anemones, brittlestars, sea firs and sea mats, tube worms, slender sea pens, heart urchins, mud shrimps and Dublin Bay prawns.

South Rigg also contains the only known breeding population of ocean quahog clams in the Irish Sea.

Ocean quahogs live for up to 500 years and are used in scientific studies on climate change, and are also an important food source for cod. This MCZ helps to allow these ancient creatures to survive and thrive!

Location



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Marine Conservation Zones



South Rigg

143km²

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!

- Join our supporters and become a Friend of MCZs today (it's free!)
wildlifetrusts.org/MCZFriends
- Find out more about other MCZs
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- You can also send us any information or sightings from this MCZ to
marine@wildlifetrusts.org



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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