South-West approaches to Bristol Channel Marine Conservation Zone (MCZ)





Fact file

This Marine Conservation Zone (MCZ) is a large site covering and area of approximately 1,128km². It is primarily an offshore site, hence the large size, and is situated off the northern coast of Cornwall. The edge of the zone overlaps with the boundary into the inshore area, and the site's eastern half overlaps with the Bristol Channel Approaches Special Area of Conservation (SAC).

The subtidal sediments found here are comprised of fine sediments, coarser sediments, shell fragments, gravels, shingles and cobbles. These habitats provide a home for a variety of different species that bury into the seabed.

This zone protects the range of sediments and habitats that are home to species including sea urchins, worms, razor shells and sea cucumbers. Additionally, this site improves the connectivity between inshore and offshore MCZs protecting subtidal sediment habitats.

Location



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Protecting Wildlife for the Future

Marine Conservation Zones



South-West approaches to Bristol Channel 1128km²

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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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



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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