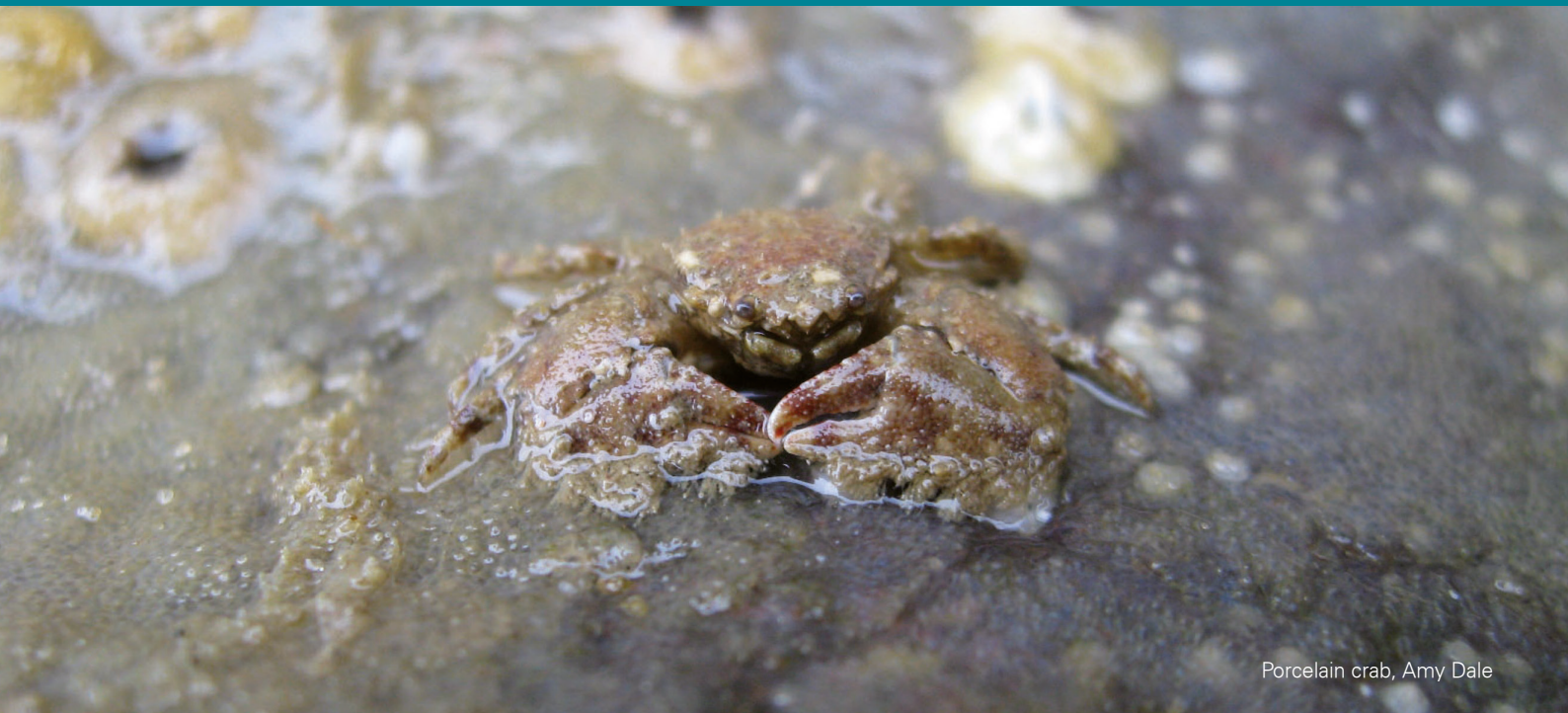


# Yarmouth to Cowes

Marine Conservation Zone (MCZ)



Porcelain crab, Amy Dale

## Fact file

This area has some of the best peat exposures in the region, notably at Bouldnor where an underwater peat cliff rises up to 9 metres from the seabed. This cliff is thought to be 8,000 years old. Before it was submerged by sea level rise, it was inhabited and is rich in archaeology.

In Thorness Bay, clay exposures form ledges at low water and expose the holes of piddocks: molluscs which use their serrated shells to excavate protective holes in soft rock. Sheltering under the many limestone boulders at Thorness are thriving wildlife communities, which include porcelain crabs, sea squirts and sponges.

This is an important site for native oysters and Newtown Harbour is one of the few locations for estuarine rock in the region.

## Location



0 0.5 1 2 3 Miles

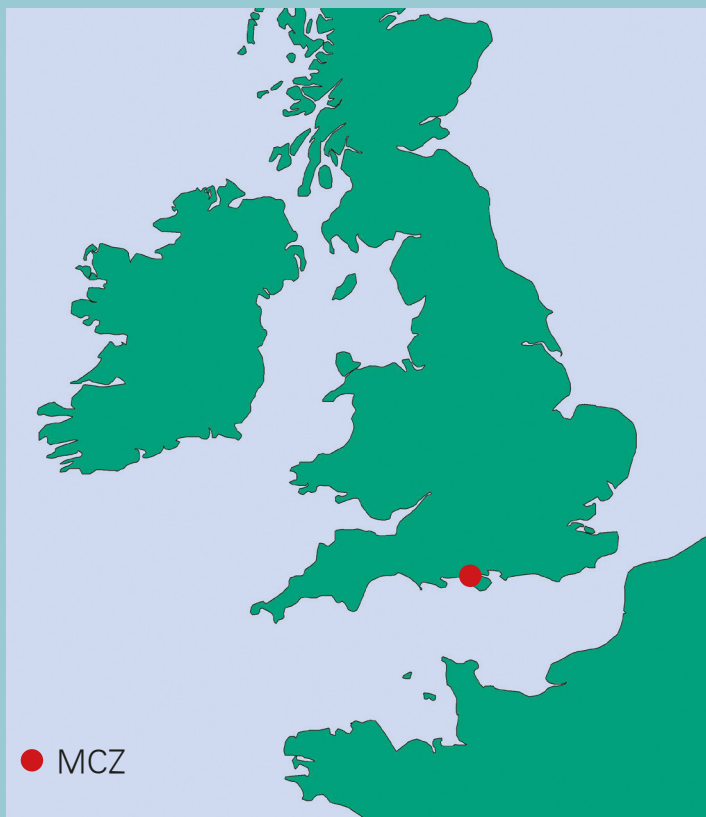
MCZ

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

[wildlifetrusts.org/MCZ/yarmouth-to-cowes](http://wildlifetrusts.org/MCZ/yarmouth-to-cowes)

Protecting Wildlife for the Future

# Marine Conservation Zones



## Yarmouth to Cowes

16.75km<sup>2</sup>

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](http://wildlifetrusts.org/MCZFriends)
- Find out more about other MCZs  
[wildlifetrusts.org/MCZs](http://wildlifetrusts.org/MCZs)
- You can also send us any information or sightings from this MCZ to  
[marine@wildlifetrusts.org](mailto:marine@wildlifetrusts.org)



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[wildlifetrusts.org](http://wildlifetrusts.org)

Factsheet prepared by Hampshire and Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust



"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**