

# Purbeck Coast

## Marine Conservation Zone (MCZ)



Aerial view, Dorset Wildlife Trust

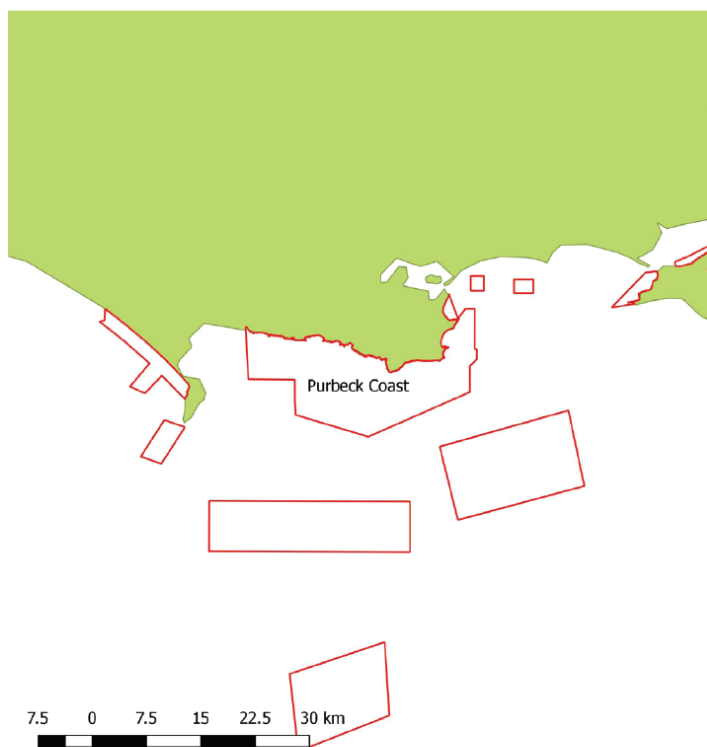
### Fact file

Purbeck Coast MCZ is an inshore site located in the Eastern Channel that covers an area of 282 km<sup>2</sup>. Stretching from Ringstead Bay in the west to Swanage Bay along the Jurassic Coast World Heritage Site, the site overlaps with the Studland to Portland Special Area of Conservation (SAC).

This site protects critical black sea bream nesting ground, and long-lived, rare maerl beds, and vital habitats for Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) species such as the stalked jellyfish and peacock's tail seaweed. Rocky features (intertidal coarse sediment and high energy intertidal rock) like rockpools and boulders support colonial animals like sponges and bryozoans ("moss animals"). Rockpools are also important foraging ground for wading birds such as oystercatcher, and are home to numerous fish, like the shanny.

Subtidally, sediments ranging in size from coarse sand to cobbles support a range of species such as barnacles, algae, sea cucumber, tube worms, and anemones.

### Location



 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/purbeck-coast](http://wildlifetrusts.org/MCZ/purbeck-coast)

Protecting Wildlife for the Future

# Marine Conservation Zones



## Purbeck Coast

282km<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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"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**