

## Isles of Scilly: Plympton to Spanish Ledge (FS rMCZ35k) Evidence Review

Region	Finding Sanctuary	
Site Name/number	Isles of Scilly: Plympton to Spanish Ledge (FS rMCZ35k)	
ENG Features present and proposed for inclusion within MCZ designation	BSH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High energy intertidal rock</li> <li>• Moderate energy intertidal rock</li> <li>• Intertidal sand and muddy sand</li> <li>• High energy infralittoral rock</li> <li>• Moderate energy infralittoral rock</li> <li>• High energy circalittoral rock</li> <li>• Moderate energy circalittoral rock</li> <li>• Subtidal sand</li> </ul>
	Habitat FOCI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fragile sponge &amp; anthozoan communities on subtidal rocky habitats</li> <li>• Intertidal under boulder communities</li> </ul>
	Species FOCI	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Amphianthus dohrnii</i></li> <li>• <i>Eunicella verrucosa</i></li> <li>• <i>Leptopsammia pruvoti</i></li> <li>• <i>Palinurus elephas</i></li> </ul>
ENG Features present but not proposed for inclusion within MCZ designation	BSH	-
	Habitat FOCI	-
	Species FOCI	-
Non-ENG Features (Geological/geomorphological)		-

### Evidence Summary – data provided by Regional MCZ Projects

Feature	Evidence Summary	Key Sources
High energy intertidal rock	The presence and extent of this broad-scale habitat was supported by polygon data derived from 4 Combined MESH/UKSeaMap GB001070 polygons and 38 MB0102 GB001070 polygons. Point data were available from 3 MESH points. Aerial imagery from CCO.	Combined MESH/UKSeaMap MB0102 MESH CCO
Moderate energy intertidal rock	The presence and extent of this broad-scale habitat was supported by polygon data derived from 4 Combined MESH/UKSeaMap polygons and 12 MB0102 GB001070 polygons. Point data were available from 2 MESH points	Combined MESH/UKSeaMap MB0102 MESH CCO

	Aerial imagery from CCO	
Intertidal sand and muddy sand	The presence and extent of this broad-scale habitat was supported by polygon data derived from 2 Combined MESH/UKSeaMap GB001070 polygons and 8 MB0102 GB001070 polygons. No point data were available. Aerial imagery from CCO	Combined MESH/UKSeaMap MB0102 CCO
High energy infralittoral rock	The presence and extent of this broad-scale habitat was supported by polygon data derived from 7 Combined MESH/UKSeaMap GB001055 polygons. Point data were available from 14 MESH points.	Combined MESH/UKSeaMap MESH
Moderate energy infralittoral rock	The presence and extent of this broad-scale habitat was supported by polygon data derived from 2 Combined MESH/UKSeaMap GB001055. Point data were available from 5 MESH points.	Combined MESH/UKSeaMap MESH
High energy circalittoral rock	Point data derived from 12 MESH points.	MESH
Moderate energy circalittoral rock	The presence and extent of this broad-scale habitat was supported by polygon data derived from 2 Combined MESH/UKSeaMap GB001055 polygons. Point data were available from 2 MESH points.	Combined MESH/UKSeaMap MESH
Subtidal sand	The presence and extent of this broad-scale habitat was supported by polygon data derived from 1 Combined MESH/UKSeaMap GB000498 polygon. No point data were available.	Combined MESH/UKSeaMap
Fragile sponge & anthozoan communities on subtidal rocky habitats	The presence and extent of this habitat FOCI was supported by polygon data derived from 14 loS_LG_habitat_poly_NewIntersect polygons and 1 Cornwall Wildlife Trust polygon. Point data were available from 5 Isles of Scilly Wildlife Trust, Seasearch points, 1 MB0102 point, 4 MESH points and 8 Seasearch points.	MB0102 MESH Regional Project - FS

Intertidal under boulder communities	The presence and extent of this habitat FOCI was supported by point data were available from 1 Isles of Scilly Wildlife Trust, Shoresearch point.	Regional Project - FS
<i>Amphianthus dohrnii</i>	The presence and extent of this species FOCI was supported by point data derived from 2 Cornwall_FOCI_Species_NewIn tersect points, 1 Non_mobile_Species_NewInter sect. No polygon data were available.	MB0102 Regional Project - FS
<i>Eunicella verrucosa</i>	The presence and extent of this species FOCI was supported by point data derived from 7 Cornwall_FOCI_Species_NewIn tersect points, 7 Non_mobile_Species_NewInter sect points,. No polygon data were available.	MB0102 Regional Project - FS
<i>Leptopsammia pruvoti</i>	The presence and extent of this species FOCI was supported by point data derived from 1 Cornwall_FOCI_Species_NewIn tersect point, 2 Non_mobile_Species_NewInter sect points. No polygon data were available.	MB0102 Regional Project - FS
<i>Palinurus elephas</i>	The presence and extent of this species FOCI was supported by point data derived from 1 Cornwall_FOCI_Species_NewIn tersect point, 2 Non_mobile_Species_. No polygon data were available.	MB0102 Regional Project - FS

### Description of New Evidence Identified by MB0116 project

#### Anecdotal evidence provide by NE to MB0116 project

Evidence Description	Source	Feature
Polygon data	Cornwall Wildlife Trust	High energy infralittoral rock High energy circalittoral rock Fragile sponge & anthozoan communities on subtidal rocky habitats
Irving, R.A. and Northern, K.O. (2012) Isles of Scilly SAC Diving	Natural England Commissioned Reports,	High energy infralittoral rock High energy circalittoral rock

Monitoring Studies, 2011.	Number 104	Moderate energy circalittoral rock Moderate energy infralittoral rock
Isles of Scilly Intertidal Biotope Mapping Dataset (2010)	ERCCIS	<i>Amphianthus dohrnii</i> <i>Eunicella verrucosa</i> <i>Leptopsammia pruvoti</i> <i>Palinurus elephas</i>
Marine BAP Habitats and Species of the Isles of Scilly - an update to the Isles of Scilly Environmental Audit 2008.	Gall, A. (2011)	High energy circalittoral rock Moderate energy circalittoral rock
Data points	SW Habitat Mapping	Intertidal under boulder communities
Data points	SeaSearch survey	Fragile sponge & anthozoan communities on subtidal rocky habitats Intertidal under boulder communities <i>Eunicella verrucosa</i> <i>Leptopsammia pruvoti</i> <i>Palinurus elephas</i>
Data points	Marine Recorder - MBA	<i>Amphianthus dohrnii</i> <i>Eunicella verrucosa</i>

#### Evidence That Could Not Be Acquired by MB0116 project

Evidence Description	Source	Feature
Isles of Scilly Intertidal Biotope Mapping Dataset (2010)	ERCCIS	Intertidal sand and muddy sand

#### Confidence Assessment

Feature	Presence	Extent	Condition	Boundaries (site)
High energy intertidal rock	Moderate	Moderate	Low	Low
Moderate energy intertidal rock	High	High	Low	
Intertidal sand and muddy sand	Moderate	Moderate	Low	
High energy infralittoral rock	Low	Low	Low	
Moderate energy infralittoral rock	Low	Low	Low	
High energy circalittoral rock	Low	Low	Low	
Moderate energy circalittoral rock	Low	Low	Low	

Subtidal sand	Low	Low	Low
Fragile sponge & anthozoan communities on subtidal rocky habitats	High	High	Low
Intertidal under boulder communities	Moderate	Low	Low
<i>Amphianthus dohrnii</i>	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate
<i>Eunicella verrucosa</i>	High	High	Moderate
<i>Leptopsammia pruvoti</i>	High	High	Moderate
<i>Palinurus elephas</i>	High	High	Moderate

The broad-scale habitat features 'High energy intertidal rock' and 'Intertidal sand and muddy sand' were supported by polygon data with a MESH confidence score of 1 (derived from Combined MESH/UKSeaMap and MB0102 polygons). There were also 3 data points available for the feature 'high energy intertidal rock', which were not within the feature polygons. The aerial photography confirms the presence of the feature within the feature polygons however it covers between 50 and 90% of the feature polygons. Therefore, confidence in both presence and extent were categorised as 'moderate'.

The broad-scale habitat feature, 'Moderate energy intertidal rock' was supported by polygon data with a MESH confidence score of 1 (derived from Combined MESH/UKSeaMap and MB0102 polygons). 2 validating data points were available for the feature, which were distributed over less than 50% of the polygons, the aerial photography confirmed the feature presence and overlapped with more than 90% of the feature polygons therefore confidence in presence and extent were considered to be 'high'

The broad-scale habitat feature 'High energy infralittoral rock' was supported by polygon data derived from 6 Combined MESH/UKSeaMap polygons, 1 UKSeaMap GB001055 polygon and 1 Cornwall Wildlife Trust polygon. 45% of point data were in agreement with the polygons including information from anecdotal evidence and were distributed over more than 50% of the polygons. Therefore, confidence in presence of the feature was categorised as 'low' and confidence in extent was categorised as 'high'. However, the confidence score assigned to extent was reduced to 'low' to reflect the low confidence score assigned to the presence of this feature.

The broad-scale habitat 'Moderate energy infralittoral rock' was supported by polygon data with no MESH confidence score (derived from 1 Combined MESH/UKSeaMap polygon and 1 UKSeaMap polygon). There were 5 MESH points available, resulting in a confidence score of 'low' for presence. As the validating points were distributed over less than 50% of the habitat polygons, confidence in extent was categorised as 'moderate'. However, the confidence score assigned to extent was reduced to 'low' to reflect the low confidence score assigned to the presence of this feature.

The broad-scale habitats 'High energy circalittoral rock' and 'Moderate energy circalittoral rock' were supported by Cornwall Wildlife Trust polygons, and Combined MESH/UKSeaMap

polygons respectively. Available point data did not validate these polygons and although anecdotal evidence confirms the presence of the feature there was only one point which did not overlap the feature polygons and therefore confidence in both presence and extent was scored 'low' for these features.

Polygon data with a MESH confidence score of 72 supported the broad-scale habitat feature 'Subtidal sand'. However, there was an absence of point data and insufficient modelled data to validate this, therefore confidence in both the presence and extent of this feature was categorised as 'low'.

Polygon data derived from IoS\_LG\_habitat\_poly\_NewIntersect and Cornwall Wildlife Trust polygons were available for the habitat FOCI 'Fragile sponge & anthozoan communities on subtidal rocky habitats'. All 14 available data points were in agreement with the habitat type and were distributed over more than 50% of the habitat polygons, therefore confidence in both presence and extent were categorised as 'high'.

Polygon data derived from SW\_Habitat\_Mapping\_BAP and SW\_Habitat\_Mapping were available for the habitat FOCI 'Intertidal under boulder communities and anecdotal evidence confirmed the presence of the feature at several locations. There were no data points available and therefore confidence in presence is considered to be 'moderate' and extent 'low'.

There were 6 data points available to support the species FOCI '*Amphianthus dohrnii*', of these, all were less than 6 years old and 4 were collected by specialists. Therefore, confidence in presence was categorised as 'moderate' and confidence in extent was categorised as 'high'. However, the confidence score assigned to extent was reduced to 'moderate' to reflect the moderate confidence score assigned to the presence of this feature.

There were 71 data points available to support the species FOCI '*Eunicella verrucosa*', of these, 44 were less than 6 years old and 46 were collected by specialists. Therefore, confidence in both presence and extent was categorised as 'high'.

There were 14 data points available to support the species FOCI '*Leptopsammia pruvoti*', of these, all were less than 6 years old and 10 were collected by specialists. Therefore, confidence in both presence and extent was categorised as 'high'.

There were 8 data points available to support the species FOCI '*Palinurus elephas*', of these, all were less than 6 years old and 6 were collected by specialists. Therefore, confidence in both presence and extent was categorised as 'high'.

The BSH and HOCI features are not considered highly sensitive to any pressures considered within the MB0102 sensitivity X pressures matrix and hence confidence in condition, based on this, they were assessed as 'low'. All SOCI features were considered to be sensitive (by project MB0102) to a number of pressures caused by human activities. These species are sensitive to fishing activities that disturb the seabed and these were indicated by evidence gathered through Charting Progress 2 to occur across the site. Confidence in condition is therefore assessed as 'moderate' although it is acknowledged the resolution of this data is fairly coarse.

The confidence assessment in the boundary of the site was classified as low primarily because the overall confidence in the extent of the respective BSH and Habitat FOCI was determined as 'low'.