

**Queen's Harbour Master Plymouth**

Longroom House  
RM Barracks  
Stonehouse  
Plymouth PL1 3RT

QHM/532/3

4 December 2017

**NOTES OF THE TAMAR ESTUARIES CONSULTATIVE FORUM MEETING**  
**HELD AT 1015 ON THU 9 NOVEMBER 2017 IN**  
**COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNCIL HOUSE, PLYMOUTH**

<b><u>Present</u></b>	<b><u>Representing</u></b>
Mr C Necker	Chairman and Queens Harbour Master
Mr N Trathen	Deputy Queens Harbour Master
Mrs K Curry	Natural Infrastructure Officer
Mr A Jones	Port Conservancy Officer (QHM)
Ms B Siddons	Natural Infrastructure Officer (EMS)
Mr N Gray	MMO
Ms S Davies	D&S IFCA
Mr R Price	Environment Agency
Mr E Crowe	Natural England
Jan MacLennan	Natural England
Capt T Charlesworth	Cattewater Harbour Commission
Mr R Allan	Cattewater Harbour Commission
Mr M Reynolds	ABP
Ms R Baker	Cornwall Council
Ms L Garlick	Devon County Council
Ms C Woodall	Tamar Valley AONB
Mr R English	South Devon AONB
Mr R Swinfen	Wembury MCA
Mr P Dudley	Cornwall Archaeological Unit

<u>Item</u>	<u>Discussion and Decisions</u>	<u>Action</u>
Welcome and Introductions	Chairman welcomed everyone to the TECF Meeting and gave all present an opportunity to introduce themselves.	
1. Apologies for Absence	Apologies for absence had been received from: T Cason (PCC), S Otway (DIO), S Cadman (Cornwall IFCA), R Sekula (WDBC), N Collings-Costello (Cornwall CC), A Gall (Natural England), C Matthews (Duchy of Cornwall), C Johns (CAU)	
2. Agree Notes of the last meeting.	The notes of the last meeting held on 13 July 2017 were accepted as a true record of the meeting.	
3. Matters Arising.	3. <u>Baseline Dredging Document</u> – Awaiting endorsement letter from NE prior to publication.  UPDATE July 2017: Additional comments received from NE will be incorporated ready for final endorsement <u>Complete</u>	
	7i. <u>Water users leaflet</u> . 2017 leaflet published and distributed.  Action on all to provide any required updates to the Water Users Leaflet by End Feb 2018 <u>Action</u>	All
	7iii. <u>PCC Sports Study</u> . Thank you to all TECF members who contributed to consultation process.  July 2017: Draft report complete, final report to be forwarded to TECF and PPMLC once complete.  UPDATE Nov 2017: Distributed Late September <u>Complete</u>	
	8i. <u>NE Conservation advice</u> . Action on all to view and comment on updated conservation advice available from NE website.  July 2017: Presentation will be included on Agenda for next TECF.  UPDATE Nov 2017: included in NE update. <u>Complete</u>	
	6. <u>Biosecurity Plan</u> . A final plan is to be published with a follow up meeting required with TECF members: The chairman notes that TECF fully support this work and will look to continue to assist with its progress; a further meeting should be held before the next TECF.  UPDATE Nov 2017: See Agenda Item. 6 <u>Ongoing</u>	NE
	5. <u>Marine Park</u> : NIO questioned the recent proposal of a Marine Park designation for Plymouth. Mr Crowe felt this may have some headway but should be seen more as an accolade rather than additional designation.  QHM suggested inviting the Luke Pollard (MP) to a future TECF meeting to provide an oversight of the current legislative	

	<p>and environmental designations and management structures already in place.</p> <p>UPDATE Nov 2017: Proposal to invite Martin Atrill to future TECF for and update <u>Action</u></p> <p>Plymouth University's Marine and Coastal Policy (MarCoPol) research group will represent and advise from an academic stance. It is stressed that a National Marine Park should be seen as a "branding" exercise rather than any new designation; however wording will have to be carefully crafted.</p> <p>NE observed that the proposal needed to be refined and once more information was available NE may be able to present on the initiative later next year. <u>Action</u></p>	<p>NIO</p> <p>NIO/NE</p>
	<p>2. <u>CIL TORs</u>: NE unable to agree as they still have comments to be made. NE have agreed to forward their comments by 20 Jul 17 and, once incorporated the revised TORs will be forwarded to members for approval out of committee.</p> <p>UPDATE Nov 17: NE comments now received; discussed at Agenda Item.7 <u>Complete</u></p>	
	<p>1. <u>TECF information Boards</u>: It was highlighted that NE would be involved in the new iterations providing updated environmental information.</p> <p>UPDATE Nov 2017: 5 Pilot sites have been selected, NE in discussion with NIO concerning environmental information. <u>Action</u></p> <p>Action to provide examples of boards at next TECF. <u>Action</u></p> <p>2. <u>TECF information Boards</u>: Action to look into refurbishment of Plymouth waterfront information panels.</p> <p>UPDATE Nov 2017: Contract for refurbishment of granite panels should be placed by Dec 17.</p>	<p>NE/NIO(EMS)</p> <p>NIO(EMS)</p>
	<p>12 <u>Netting Bye Law</u>: Focus on unmarked static gear, DQHM to brief VTS and MDP staff.</p> <p>UPDATE Nov 2017: VTS and MDP monitoring and moving when necessary and reporting to IFCA as per usual business. <u>Complete</u></p>	

Presentations		
4. Rapid Coastal Assessment – Cornwall Archaeological Unit (CAU)	<p>Mr Peter Dudley gave a presentation on the work of Cornwall Archaeological Unit (CAU).</p> <p>A breakdown of sites will be available for the Tamar at a later date with a presentation at a future TECF.</p> <p>Data is being created as GIS layers, this data will be made publically available and once published will be heavily publicised.</p> <p>QHM questioned whether any additional data is being collected?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Currently no, however this study is likely lead to possible recommendations; it is expected that Historic England will update their guidance.</li> </ul> <p>NIO asked whether local SME's are being utilised?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Yes, Peter Holt and Mike Reed</li> </ul> <p>The study is expected to be completed Sept 2018.</p>	
5. Tamar Estuaries Biosecurity Plan	<p>Ms Jan Maclennan (NE) gave an update on the current state of the Estuary biosecurity Plan.</p> <p>The Tamar is being used as a “test case” for estuary wide plans and various workshops have established the aims and future actions.</p> <p>QHM highlighted the good work and need for such a plan however it is felt that further development is needed, specifically on the “actions and aspirations” and “roles and responsibilities”.</p> <p>QHM PCO highlighted a number of comments have been received from DIO with regard to the statements made in the draft report.</p> <p>Action placed on all members to provide comments on the Draft by 2 Jan (direct to Ms Maclennan – <a href="mailto:Jan.maclennan@naturalengland.org.uk">Jan.maclennan@naturalengland.org.uk</a>)</p> <p>Once comments have been received TECF officers will convene to discuss further.</p> <p><u>Action</u></p>	All
Matters for Decision		
6. Agree Tamar Estuaries Biosecurity Plan	<p>Following the discussion in Agenda Item.5, this action will be held out of committee.</p> <p><u>Action</u></p>	NIO
7. Agree EMS CIL Terms of Reference	<p>The CIL TOR's were distributed as updated from last TECF with NE comments included.</p> <p><u>Agreed</u></p>	
8. Agree Plymouth Sound and Tamar Estuaries EMS	<p>Information was issued late so agreement postponed.</p> <p>Key Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The list of Activities is to be updated</li> <li>- Relevant authorities to agree cost for next 20 years</li> </ul>	

Strategic Access, Management and Monitoring (SAMMs) List	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Details need to be addressed.</li> </ul> <p>Members were requested to support NIO in developing list.</p> <p><u>Action</u></p>	All
9. TECF officers report	<p>NIO presented her report which is given in Annex A.</p> <p>1. <u>Marine Planning:</u> Workshop planned for March 2018 (Plymouth event 7 March)</p> <p>2a. <u>TECF Income:</u> Action on NIO to send Invoices by end Nov 2017</p> <p><u>Action</u></p> <p>2b. <u>TECF Management Plan:</u> Decision made to extend the current plan (for 2 years) whilst BREXIT negotiations are underway with unknown outcomes.</p> <p>Action on NIO to look into this option by next TECF.</p> <p><u>Action</u></p> <p>Action on all to review Management Plan by next TECF</p> <p><u>Action</u></p> <p>4. <u>EMS CIL:</u> NIO(EMS) showed potential designs for new logo to identify MPA designation</p>	<p>NIO</p> <p>NIO</p> <p>All</p>
10. Nature conservation	<p>Mr Crowe presented Natural England's update which is given in Annex B.</p> <p>Question regarding the planned conservation package videos.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- There are 2 videos planned with reference to the Sound, the data has not yet been completed, it is understood that this should be finished by end Dec '17, production will occur early 2018.</li> </ul>	
11. MMO Update	<p>i. Marine planning was discussed at Agenda Item. 9</p> <p>ii. Marine Licences: Mr Gray gave an update</p> <p><u>November 2017</u></p> <p><b>Kings Point Marina</b>, midway through the project, both old wave gates have been successfully lifted and the new piling and pontoon work will continue. There was good discussion regarding the methodology of the project between the MMO and the construction company 'Land and Sea'. This has involved a slight change to the methodology that both fulfils the marine licence whilst allowing for the project to proceed in a timely and safe method.</p> <p><b>New Landing Stage at Mount Batten Works</b> had been delayed. The works involve the replacement of the existing pontoon with a new build. Apart from disruption to the local marine traffic the project should be uncomplicated and complete swiftly.</p> <p><b>Bovisand Fort</b> reinstating and repointing the piers in preparation for the change of use to residential. The work is all labour intensive and much needed!!</p> <p><u>Coming Up</u></p>	

	<p><b>Dredging at the Yacht Haven</b> is due, using the new disposal site. MMO will carry out inspections.</p> <p><b>Gas pipe that runs across the Lynher</b> has become exposed and work is proposed to in fill and place scour mats over the pipeline to prevent further scour in the future.</p> <p><b>Maintenance work on the Degaussing Range at Penlee</b> is scheduled, MMO do not predict that this will adversely affect the environment, there may be a temporary change for navigation/restriction of use in the area, however it should be short term.</p>	
12. IFCA Update	<p>Ms Davis gave an update on IFCA activities.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Evening Patrols have been taking place, request to all to report any activities that are not permitted.</li> </ol> <p><u>Action</u></p> <p>A successful prosecution of £17,249 was achieved following an inspection where undersized catch was found.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. New netting byelaw is ready to pass to the Secretary of State</li> <li>3. Live wrasse fishery permit conditions are being reviewed – survey data and report due.</li> <li>4. Cornwall IFCA Wrasse guidance was implemented in July 17 in-line with D&amp;S IFCA byelaws, a review of its success is due Nov '17 and will be published shortly thereafter.</li> <li>5. Current consultation on Potting, mobile gear and diving gear byelaws now available online.</li> <li>6. There are plans for a possible future byelaw regarding hand gathering i.e. bait digging and crab tiling.</li> </ol>	All
13. Matter brought forward from PPMLC	<p>Calstock Project, residents concern over proposal – raised by Calstock Parish Council: Dr Latham discussed at PPMLC the EA plans to breach the bund north of Calstock.</p> <p>EA response: EA have been engaged with the public from the outset but the flood risk team will be made aware of the on-going concern raised. An open meeting was held on 8<sup>th</sup> Nov as a 1<sup>st</sup> consultation, approximately 100 people attended.</p>	
14. Water Events	<p>The 2017 Water Events Diary (WED) can be found on the QHM website (<a href="http://www.royalnavy.mod.uk/qhm/plymouth/leisure-users/events-diary">www.royalnavy.mod.uk/qhm/plymouth/leisure-users/events-diary</a>)</p> <p>None remaining this year</p> <p>Call for any planned events for 2018 WED.</p> <p><u>Action</u></p>	All
15. Items for future meetings	NIL	
16. Any other business	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Capt. Charlesworth raised the recent incident regarding an outbound fishing hitting Mount Batten breakwater. The MCA were prosecuting the Captain of the vessel for contravention of the ColRegs, he will appear in court on 22 Nov.</li> <li>2. Mr Price (EA) introduced himself to the group and gave an overview of recent EA projects.</li> </ol>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- EA are working with PML on a carbon transfer project (5yrs) looking at Dissolved Organic Carbon (DOC) throughout the estuary. The IPCC model missed DOC in the carbon budget; the Tamar will be used as a reference river. Possible future presentation.</li> <li>- The strategic monitoring review regarding how to collaborate and share data is available for consultation from Dec '17</li> <li>- EA are launching a Water and Environment fund (applications by end Jan'18), projects must have an environmental outcome.</li> </ul> <p>3. Ms Woodall (Tamar Valley AONB)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Advised that the recent application for lottery funding has been unsuccessful however they had been encouraged to reapply (May).</li> <li>- Revision of the AONB statutory management plan is underway (expected 29 Nov '17), a partnership meeting will be held to consult on the planned 5yr document, primarily the updates will be factual changes.</li> </ul> <p>4. Mr English (South Devon AONB) advised that they were also producing a new management plan which would include the regions heritage coast as a feature.</p> <p>5. Ms MacLennan (NE) highlighted that her area of specialism includes facilitating resources and environmental recreation within Natural England, she will look to discuss eco-friendly mooring at a future meeting.</p>									
17. Dates of Next Meetings	<p>Dates of the forthcoming PPMLC and TECF meetings were published as follows:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="405 1285 1241 1487"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="405 1285 868 1330"><u>PPMLC</u></th> <th data-bbox="868 1285 1241 1330"><u>TECF</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="405 1330 868 1375">1400 on 8 Feb 2018</td> <td data-bbox="868 1330 1241 1375"><b>1015 on 8 Mar 2018</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="405 1375 868 1420">1400 on 14 June 2018</td> <td data-bbox="868 1375 1241 1420"><b>1015 on 12 July 2018</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="405 1420 868 1487">1400 on 11 Oct 2018</td> <td data-bbox="868 1420 1241 1487"><b>1015 on 8 Nov 2018</b></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<u>PPMLC</u>	<u>TECF</u>	1400 on 8 Feb 2018	<b>1015 on 8 Mar 2018</b>	1400 on 14 June 2018	<b>1015 on 12 July 2018</b>	1400 on 11 Oct 2018	<b>1015 on 8 Nov 2018</b>	
<u>PPMLC</u>	<u>TECF</u>									
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1400 on 11 Oct 2018	<b>1015 on 8 Nov 2018</b>									

Distribution:

NBC, All Committee members

## Agenda Item 9 Natural Infrastructure Officer's TECF Report Item for Information

### 1 National Coordination & Marine Planning

**MPA National Steering Group (NSG):** The NSG met in the first week of March to set the work plan for the coming year. No further meetings have taken place since then.

A recent review of the MPA creation process has recently been undertaken by the Environmental Audit Committee. In the Government's response to the findings, the Government committed to delivering its target of having a network of MPAs in place and will be consulting on the third tranche of Marine Conservation Areas next year. It is undertaking a programme of surveys to plug the gaps in its evidence base and work is being coordinated to deliver their single 'Designated Sites System' which holds information on each site on the features, threats and pressures as well as management measures, with the Tamar sites already loaded. Finally it highlighted the importance of improving communications to the public and other stakeholders. The full report is available here

<https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201719/cmselect/cmenvaud/314/314.pdf> )

The Government is committed to ensuring that the whole body of existing EU environmental law continues to have effect in UK law following Brexit using the Repeal Bill and subsequent Fisheries Bill.

On 30 November a consolidated version of "The Conservation of Species and Habitats Regulations 2017" will come into force. The new Regulations will cover England and Wales and their territorial waters out to 12nm. This is a consolidation exercise of existing Regulations and there are no new provisions or requirements that have been introduced. In practice, there are no changes to what is required other than changes to regulation numbers. The new Regulations can be found here: <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2017/1012/contents/made>

**Marine Planning:** Over the winter, the MMO will be drafting their Iteration 2 and will be consulting early next year with a view to adoption in 2019.

**Table 1: Marine Plan Delivery (MMO)**

Activity	Estimated timing
Plan development – iteration 2 released	April 2018
Plan development – iteration 3	April 2019
Final draft plan consultation	Summer 2019
Adoption	2019



## 2 Finance and Priorities

### a. TECF Income 2016/17 and 2017/18

The proposed budget for the coming year is set out below. It should be noted that this does not include the EMS CIL Project finances, which will run by PCC with reporting through TECF.

ORGANISATION	2017/18	2018/19
<b>Harbour Authorities</b>		
Ministry of Defence, QHM	3,000	3,000
Associated British Ports	2,000	2,000
Cattewater Harbour Commission	9,000	9,000
Sutton Harbour Commission	2,000	2,000
<b>Harbour Authorities Subtotal</b>	<b>16,000</b>	<b>16,000</b>
<b>Local Authorities</b>		
Plymouth City Council	10,000	10,000
Devon County Council	2,000	2,000
Cornwall Council	2,000	2,000
West Devon Borough Council	4,500	4,500
South Hams District Council	4,500	4,500
<b>Subtotal</b>	<b>23,000</b>	<b>23,000</b>
<b>Other</b>		
Natural England	1,000	1,000
Duchy of Cornwall	4,375	4,375
Environment Agency		
Devon & Severn IFCA		
Cornwall IFCA		
Marine Management Organisation		
English Heritage		
<b>Other total</b>	<b>5,375</b>	<b>5,375</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>44,375</b>	<b>44,375</b>

### b. Delivery of Priorities 2017-18

The priorities were set and progress is given in the following table.

Action	Progress
1. Stabilise funding: – Whilst funding is stable at the moment, it has not been possible to secure long term funding to increase security. The EMS CIL funding will help, but there is no time for complacency in securing funding for the partnership.	The work on the Recreation Mitigation has helped to deliver project funding, but CIL / S106 funding should not be seen as a replacement for local authority funding.

2. Mid-term review of the management plan in light of Reg 35 Conservation Advice update and emerging issues relating to BREXIT: This will now take place in 2017/18 and will reflect the latest best practice emerging from the Marine Protected Areas National Steering Group.	Awaiting clarification on post-Brexit arrangements and will be undertaken as part of the revised management plan process in 2018/19.
3. Continue to host TECF, PPMLC and TOFF meetings.	Completed. Also updating the
4. Complete Strategic Access, Mitigation and Management Plan for the EMS in light of the Recreation Study and secure necessary funding through a Supplementary Planning Document.	Recreation Study completed. Findings incorporated into the Habitat Regulations Assessment of the JLP. Drafting the Recreation Mitigation plan and SAMS list to inform the actions. Devising the payment mechanism for authorities of the JLP and supporting Cornwall in theirs.
5. Oversee the delivery of the CIL EMS Project.	Project commenced in April 2017. Project Officer in place, work underway. Branding work commenced, panels being produced, mooring management taking place.
6. Contribute to the National EMS Group to support coordinated approach to management and to support coordination of South West marine plans.: NIO officer to act as EMS Rep on National Steering Group. Ongoing.	NIO Officer attending the national EMS meetings and representing the area at SW marine planning meetings.
7. Continue to provide marine planning advice to local planning authorities. Ongoing. Also see item 4 above.	Technical Input provided to developments. Advice given with regards to Coastal Concordat.
8. Oversee the implementation of the “non-native marine invasive species plan for the Tamar.	Draft plan published. Actions identified.
9. Delivery of Tamar Estuaries Management Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water Users Guide printed and circulated;</li> <li>• TECF website updated (new site being constructed);</li> <li>• Slipway Audit completed and published;</li> <li>• Annual Survey completed;</li> </ul>

### 3 Plymouth and South West Devon Joint Local Plan

The Draft Joint Local Plan has now been submitted to the Planning Inspectorate and the Examination in Public will take place in January – March 2018. The Supplementary Planning

Document will provide further information on the implementation of the policies and will be drafted in Spring / Summer 2018.

#### **4 EMS CIL Managing Recreational Impacts Programme**

Progress has been made with the following immediate deliverables;

- New website to be developed and 50% of pages by March 2018
- Marine GIS info secured.
- Quarterly newsletter in place by Dec 2017
- Information Panels: 5 panels to be installed by March 2018;
- Bait digging – update of monitoring by Aug 2018.
- Eco-moorings project – identifying preferred solution and trialling.
- Delivery identified for remainder of project

#### **5 Water Users Leaflet**

The Water Users Leaflet is now complete. 3,000 were printed and have been distributed harbour offices, marinas and chandlers.

Please forward any amendments to [coastal@plymouth.gov.uk](mailto:coastal@plymouth.gov.uk) for next year.

#### **6 Annual Survey**

The Annual Survey has now been uploaded to the TECF website.

We will shortly be sending it out for 2016/17.

#### **7 Water Quality**

- The EA confirmed that last year Plym Hoe (W and E) bathing water standard was excellent.
- EA sampling for this season has revealed two instances of elevated counts of Intestinal Enterococci and three of Escherichia coli.
- A pollution incident due to sewage was reported at Plymouth Hoe West on 28 June and ended on 29 June.
- The Electronic Notification System, which enables a small number of elevated counts to be discounted, provided that users are notified, NS system in place at present consists of a cascade call from the EA to Public Protection Service and was activated just the once for the incident at the end of June.
- The formal results for 2017 have not yet been published.

#### **8 Interreg / EU Projects**

Work is still progressing on possible Interreg and other EU Projects to be submitted before Brexit. We are working with other partners on the enhancement of ecosystem services in coastal urban areas through good management of green and blue infrastructure.

#### **9 Developments**

Current planning and marine planning matters include the following.

##### **Plymouth**

## PLYMOUTH

**17/00336/FUL Drakes Island.** This has now been approved but work has yet to take place.

**Mount Batten Ferry Pontoon:** This is due to be replaced with a new brow and pontoon to cater for the Mount Batten ferry and will be completed by Christmas.

**Wave Pontoon at King Point Marina:** Work is currently underway to replace the lock gates with a wave protection structure.

**Devils Point:** there are proposals to repair the footpath following the landslip that took place a couple of years ago

## 10 National Marine Park

Luke Pollard MP has started a debate in Plymouth calling for the Sound to be designated as a National Marine Park. Currently there is no such legal designation, so this would require new legislation to be laid before Parliament and would have implications on governance of the waters.

However, it may be possible to look at 'branding' the water and making better use of this to raise the profile of the special marine environment. There is likely to be a wider debate across the city which we will input into.

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Beth Siddons  
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Tamar Estuaries Consultative Forum  
@TamarEstuaries  
Nov 2017

## Natural England Update

### TECF Meeting 9<sup>th</sup> November 2017

#### Priority issues in the SAC and Tamar/Plymouth Focus Area

We have identified priority work areas based on our Condition Assessment of the SAC and Plymouth and the Tamar has been identified as one of 12 'Focus Areas' across Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly in which Natural England will focus effort. With partners we have recently been working on some of these issues including:

- Engagement and training for volunteers to manage and monitor the spread of Pacific oysters in the Yealm estuary. We have applied for funding to continue this work with volunteers in a joint project with South Devon AONB and Cornwall Wildlife Trust.
- Discussions with key stakeholders around migratory fish passage and Gunnislake Weir.
- Tamar biosecurity plan: C2W consultants, working with the Marine Biological Association and Plymouth Marine Laboratory and with input from local stakeholders, have produced a draft biosecurity plan for the Tamar funded by Natural England. A workshop to prioritise actions from the draft plan has been held and the plan should be finalised ready for adoption by TECF in November.
- Natural England with other Statutory Nature Conservation Bodies has been holding an exhibition at the National Marine Aquarium about Marine Protected Areas, with a particular focus on Plymouth. Awareness raising about the marine environment is one of the key aims of our Tamar and Plymouth Focus Area.
- Working with the local authorities on the new local plans and in particular on developing mitigation lists for potential increases in disturbance from recreation within Plymouth Sound and Estuaries Special Area of Conservation and the Tamar complex Special Protection Area.

#### Plymouth EMS and Tamar Estuary Sites MCZ Monitoring

**Intertidal rocky shore monitoring 2016** – A draft report has been produced, the results will be shared when the report is published.

**Intertidal habitat mapping** – This 'biotope survey' of all the intertidal areas of the SAC was carried out by Ecospan Environmental Ltd. This will update our existing habitat maps and the data will be available through the MAGIC mapping website <http://www.magic.gov.uk/magicmap.aspx> . The report has not yet been produced.

**Subtidal reef survey** – This survey focused on the deeper (circalittoral) areas of reef within the SAC and was carried out by Natural England’s monitoring team in July. Initial results show that the reefs are in favourable condition but angling debris was prevalent at some sites and the non-native kelp Wakame was recorded on natural substrates showing that it has spread out of manmade environments.

**Allis shad and smelt surveys** – The Environment Agency carried out limited surveys of allis shad in the upper Tamar estuary this year but there have been difficulties with access to the sites. We hope to be able to do some smelt monitoring this winter.

Once published, reports can be accessed here <http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/> but they will be available on request prior to that.

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