

Date: 05 February 2016
Our ref: 177715
Your ref: -



Alison Fowler
River Hamble Harbour Authority

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Cromwell House,
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Winchester,
SO23 7BT

BY EMAIL ONLY, NO HARD COPY TO FOLLOW

T 07827256046

Dear Alison

**Lee-on-the Solent to Itchen Estuary SSSI
Solent Maritime Special Area of Conservation (SAC)
Solent and Southampton Water Special Protection Area (SPA)
Solent and Southampton Water Wetland of International Importance under the Ramsar
Convention (Ramsar site)**

**Proposal: Warsash Link Pontoon- Proposed Extension to harbour Master's Jetty, Warsash
Location: Harbour Master's Office Shore Road, Warsash, Fareham, SO31 9FR**

Thank you for your email dated 07 January 2016 consulting Natural England on the above application for a Harbour Works Consent. The following constitutes Natural England's formal statutory response.

The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 (as amended)

We can confirm that the proposed works are located within the Solent Maritime SAC. Natural England advises that providing the works are carried out in strict accordance with the details of the application which have been submitted, it can be excluded that the application will have a significant effect on any SAC, SPA or Ramsar site, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects. Therefore it is our view that an Appropriate Assessment of the implications of this proposal on the site's conservation objectives should not be required. We recommend that the following condition is attached to the Harbour Works Consent to ensure that the activity is undertaken in accordance with the details of the application which have been submitted and therefore compliant with the above legislation:

Condition

Vibro-piling should be used as standard, percussive piling should only be used if needed to drive a pile to its design depth. A soft-start procedure should be used if percussive piling is required.

Reason

To minimise noise disturbance to birds and migratory fish that use the area.

Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended)

We can confirm that the proposed works are located adjacent to Lee-on-the-Solent to Itchen Estuary SSSI. Natural England advises that the proposal, if undertaken in strict accordance with the details submitted, is not likely to damage the interest features for which the site has been notified. However we recommend that the condition (outlined above) is attached to the Harbour Works Consent to ensure that the activity is undertaken as per the application and therefore compliant with the above legislation.

Other Relevant Matters

The proposed piling works have the potential to affect migratory fish communities which may be present within the estuary. Natural England recommends that you consult with the Environment Agency for further information about the requirement for possible timing restrictions.

For any queries relating to the content of this letter please contact me using the details provided below.

Yours sincerely



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