

Minutes, Presentation Summaries & Partner Updates

Hamble Estuary Partnership Meeting - 7 July 2026 at Warsash Sailing Club

Attended:

Simon Bray – HEP Chairman
Alison Fowler – HEP Officer
Bird Aware Solent – Eloise Mott
Botley Parish Council - Cllr Tom Gurd
Blue Marine Foundation/Solent Seascape Project - Louise MacCallum
Burridge & Swanick Residents' Assoc. – Viv Holt
Burlson Parish Council/Eastleigh Borough Council - Cllr Steve Holes
Carter Jonas, agent for The Crown Estate - Rachel Wylde
Eastleigh Borough Council - Paul Howe (Ecology)
Fareham Borough Council – Peter Drake (Planning)
Hamble Parish Council – Ian Underdown
Hampshire & IOW Wildlife Trust - Tim Ferrero
Hampshire County Council - Jim Hobson (Countryside Sites)
Lymington Technical Services – Paul Tosswell
Natural England - Marina Rees
Premier Marinas /Hamble Boatyard & Marina Operators' Assoc. - Ben Lippiett
River Hamble Harbour Authority – Jason Scott & Nicola James
River Hamble Mooring Holders' Assoc. - Tony Blewett
Royal Yachting Association/Warsash Sailing Club - Stuart Henderson
Royal Yachting Association/The Green Blue - Kate Fortnum & Alice Lucy
Solent Forum – Kate Ansell
Southern Inshore Fisheries & Conservation Authority – Hester Churchouse
Southern Water - Joff Edevane & Nick Davis
Warsash Residents Assoc. - Paul Hobbs

Apologies:

Environment Agency – Peter Taylor
Marine Management Organisation – Eva Turley
(HCC) River Hamble Country Park - Joe Bassett
Anthony Gallagher
Portsmouth University (Gordon Watson)
Coastal Partners – Lauren Burt
Hampshire County Council Countryside Access – Andy Aitken & Jake Fairman Fry
Cruising Association - Richard Richie
Hedge End Parish Council
Maritime Archaeological Trust – Julie Satchell
Association of Hamble River Yacht Clubs

1. Welcome

Introductions given by all. Chairman welcomed today's presentations by HEP members, highlighting local efforts being made by residents and river users on matters of interest. Presentation contents and view are those of the authors and are aimed to generate discussion and collaboration.

2. “Warsash Sailing Club's Environment Action Group” Presentation by Stuart Henderson (Royal Yachting Association & Warsash Sailing Club).

See HEP website for presentation slides. Stuart Henderson presented an overview of Warsash Sailing Club's Environmental Action Group, outlining its mission to promote sustainable sailing practices, reduce environmental impacts and protect local marine ecosystems. The presentation highlighted current initiatives including energy and water reduction measures, recycling, supporting biodiversity projects and promoting environmentally friendly boating practices.

The presentation then focussed on the club's water quality monitoring project which is undertaking citizen science water quality testing from its jetty to understand water quality risks within this area of the Hamble Estuary and to manage risk through raising awareness of health precautions for its sailors. Collaboration is underway with various organisations (Final Straw Foundation, the RYA). SH highlighted data, hypothetical modelling and information obtained through Environmental Information Regulation requests, as well as online sources including <https://riversandseaswatch.southernwater.co.uk/>. National effort is being undertaken by The Clean Water Sports Alliance, a group of national bodies which is seeking national policy, regulatory and industry changes that will deliver cleaner waterways, better water quality information, and greater recognition of recreational water users.

Members discussed complexities of factors influencing water quality, and heard that WSC's testing results may, in future, be publicly available via the Final Straw Foundation website but this was not yet confirmed. Open data is available at [SOUTHAMPTON WATER | Catchment Data Explorer](#) | [Catchment Data Explorer](#), [Main River Hamble | Catchment Data Explorer](#) | [Catchment Data Explorer](#) but may require interpretation

3. “Addressing Sewage Pollution & Innovating Solutions” Presentation by Tom Gurd (Botley Parish Council).

See HEP website for presentation slides. Tom Gurd's presentation focussed on sewage pollution and associated issues affecting Botley area and the Upper Hamble Estuary SSSI, alongside local collaborative efforts to seek improvements. TG reported that significant housing growth (>3,000 new homes & 100% population increase since 2018) and increased wastewater flows are increasing the impact of pollution incidents during rainfall events. The presentation highlighted the environmental and public health impacts of sewage pollution, including habitat degradation, algal blooms, impacts on fish populations. Southern Water's planned £5 million investment programmes for Botley were outlined, including sewer network improvements, flow diversion works and additional attenuation capacity, however, concerns that were raised that further action will be required to address increased pollution. TG emphasised the importance of appropriate planning controls, including the need for Grampian conditions where development could increase pollution, to ensure infrastructure capacity keeps pace with growth. TG advocated collaboration to deliver a more integrated, catchment-based approach to rainfall and wastewater management, bringing together local authorities, regulators, water companies and environmental organisations to reduce rainfall entering the sewer network, deliver nature-based solutions, improve river health and create more sustainable long-term solutions. A current, local aim is to install signage near outfalls to enable the public to report in pollution, and TG encouraged the sending of pollution-related photos to the EA via its online reporting. TG would welcome future contact from all member organisations via tom.gurd@botley-pc.gov.uk

Members discussed historic/legacy issues, as well as future pressures, and Eastleigh and Fareham Borough council representatives highlighted the challenges of housing targets (and the penalty of missing these with additional targets) and offered to facilitate linking contacts. FBC offered to give a future presentation. The Solent Mitigation Partnership has funding for nature-based solutions. Southern Water representatives explained every new development must have separate surface and foul water, but explained houses have the right to connect and SW cannot decline this even if the network is overwhelmed. Further discussion was held around contamination beyond sewage including heavy metals and microplastics.

Tony Blewett raised the background legal position of the Water Industry, the biggest pollution causing problem the private water industry suffers is that they cannot refuse to accept new connections to the foul sewerage network even when it is already overloaded. This was enshrined in the 1989 Water Act (privatisation). Until 1989 the 1936 Public Health Act (PHA) applied which gave the drainage authority power to refuse any connection, including area wide bans as happened to western side of Fareham. Prior to 1936 multiple Acts of Parliament applied. TB stated that lot of current sewer overflowing, when it rains, results from unwise central government policy giving grant aid mainly to rural districts for first time FOUL sewerage in the 1950-60s. TB explained that HMG Treasury refused to give grant aid for SURFACE WATER sewerage as it argued that the areas being sewered already had the means to dispose of surface water, however under the 1936 PHA any house could then connect its surface water to the new Foul Sewer. Hence why the flow rate ratio between dry and wet weather can often exceed 40 times! This happens in the clay parts of the Upper Hamble River Catchment. Tony, a Chartered Civil Engineer for 53 years, spent the whole of his career involved with drainage, flood and water issues (15 years with Southern Water Authority and subsequently with National Rivers Authority/Environment Agency).

4. "Update on the Hamble's seagrass restoration site". Short presentation by Tim Fererro (Hants & IOW Wildlife Trust).

Tim Fererro explained the importance of seagrass, along with its historic decline in the Hamble and wider Solent from a disease a century ago. Adding to previous updates given at the HEP, TF explained that the 2000 seeds planted by innovative "dispenser injection seeding" technique directly into the foreshore at a site in the estuary in April 2025 have seen some growth and flowered, fantastic news for a pioneering project. 4000 more seed were planted in April 2026.

Members discussed details on methodology, as well as policy challenges of similar projects viewed as replacing one habitat with another. LM advised members that the Blue Marine Foundation has today published "[Coastal Comeback: Overcoming Policy Challenges to Marine Restoration at Scale](#)" a report which outlines the regulatory and policy barriers that are preventing large-scale marine habitat restoration in the UK and provides practical recommendations to reform licensing and governance systems so that restoration can be delivered at the scale needed to meet biodiversity and climate targets.

5. Update on key HEP topics – HEP Officer

Minutes of meeting and Partners Updates are circulated and made available online for members to share within their own organisations to increase knowledge and interest. [Hamble Estuary Partnership](#)

HEP distribution list will become closed (i.e. BCC emails) so where multiple representatives are under one organisation, **please share HEP communications internally as appropriate, and please inform the HEP officer of any change to the nominated representative.**

ACTION: **ALL MEMBERS to continue or improve circulation of HEP minutes and relevant information, including provision of the HEP website link in their own communications, and to inform HEP Officer of any changes to their organisation's representative.*

Recognition for Coastal Partnerships:

HEP Officer continues to represent the HEP on the national Coastal Partnership Network. A recent report published by Natural England, "[Partnerships for Marine Nature Recovery](#)", provides the first comprehensive evidence showing how Coastal, Estuary and Marine Partnerships (CEMPs) (whether small like the HEP or larger like the Solent Forum) contribute to marine nature recovery across England. It demonstrates that CEMPs play a vital role in coordinating local action, supporting restoration projects, engaging stakeholders and delivering environmental outcomes. Overall, the findings strengthen the case for continued investment in coastal partnership working and their importance as a mechanism for achieving long-term marine nature recovery. The HEP Officer thanked all HEP members for continued support, attendance and engagement.

M27 bridge drainage:

Substantial refurbishment of the M27 bridge, which includes removal of existing drainage downpipes that currently discharge directly into the Hamble estuary, is still planned and funded prior to 2030 by National Highways. Runoff will instead be redirected to existing shoreline outfalls, and so RHHA, Transport Action Network and others are now engaging with National Highways to ensure the Hamble outfalls are now prioritised for treatment within NH's targeted programme for higher risk sites.

Water quality:

APEM Ltd, contracted on behalf of Southern Water Services, is undertaking a water quality monitoring investigation as part of the Water Industry National Environment Programme (WINEP). The investigation involves sampling nutrient and chemical water quality, including sediment grabs and tidal profiling, across various locations around Southampton and the Solent, including the Hamble estuary at Swanwick.

UK Centre Ecology & Hydrology has a free app "[Bloomin' Algae](#)" where photo and reports can be uploaded, and algae types identified. Also sightings of suspected blue green algae should be reported to the EA on 0800 807060 or via <https://www.gov.uk/report-water-pollution>

"Wreckognising Pollution" – a Nautical Archaeology Society (NAS) project funded by Lloyds Register, is to promote awareness of potentially polluting shipwrecks, and gather feedback on the best and most effective way to create a reporting / monitoring system that people can use. Info and a link to the survey at <https://www.nauticalarchaeologysociety.org/polluting-wrecks> . The RYA's Green Blue also has a webpage to [Report an abandoned End-of-Life Boat](#)

6. Planning & Development: No items raised in advance for agenda item.

7. Partner updates from each member organisation:

A wide and interesting range of updates were given – see Appendix 1 below.

8. Date and items for next meeting:

Date TBC likely Summer 2027. The following were discussed as options for future meeting presentations: Planning policy in relation to the estuary/water quality, Oil Spill Planning and Response, Beneficial reuse of dredged material, Update from Blue Marine Foundation on its restoration projects for native oysters and saltmarsh. Other suggestions always welcome as they may arise..

9. AOB: KA highlighted that, although outside the Hamble, proposals for Fawley Waterside (redevelopment of the former power station) are now online [Consultation information – Fawley Waterside](#)

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Appendix 1: Partner Updates for Hamble Estuary Partnership meeting: 7 July 2026

Bird Aware Solent: Eloise Mott, Ranger

Bird Aware has recently welcomed a new Watersports Industry Outreach Ranger, Sophie. She will be working with local stakeholders and watersports users to raise awareness of local wildlife, and the impact recreational disturbance has on it, supporting clubs and businesses to promote responsible wildlife aware activities.

This initiative aims to protect wildlife while enhancing users' understanding and enjoyment of the shared environment. If you operate along the Hamble and would like to get involved, please get in contact.

Blue Marine Foundation (Solent Seascape Project) – Louise MacCallum

- On the Hamble oyster reef area, a turf of bryozoan (including *Securiflustra securifrons*/square-end hornwrack), ascidia (including *Ascidia conchilega* sea squirts) and upright sponges (mixed encrusting, upright, lobose and digitate orange/yellow/white/brown sponges, likely species *Hymenacidaon perlevis*, *Suberites massa* and *Amphilectus focurum*) have developed. Mobile species observed include Bass, Bream, Spider crab, and Goby. Overall, biodiversity on the reef site has dramatically increased since construction, and a decrease in INNS has also been recorded.
- During May the Solent Seascape Project began construction of our second native oyster restoration reef in Chichester Harbour, building the network of reef sites after successful completion of the oyster reef at the Swanwick Bend, River Hamble. The Chichester reef currently spans an area of 1ha and is included in the SSP trial site for nature positive biodiversity credits which we hope will help to finance our restoration activities into the future.
- Blue Marine Foundation, lead partners for the Solent Seascape Project, have recently secured additional funding which we hope to use to employ specialist SCUBA divers to help us understand more about oyster survival and recruitment on the reef sites, and will be liaising with RHHA and CHC to ensure this can be undertaken without disruption to normal activities on the water.
- The project's artist in residence, grammy nominated singer-songwriter Richard Walters' has released an 8-track album titled Songs from the Solent, inspired by the Blue Marine Foundation's work in restoring seagrass meadows, saltmarshes, and native oyster reefs. Listen and support the foundation's restoration work via various streaming platforms. [Songs from the Solent](#)
- The Solent Seascape Project's GIS data explorer map ([Solent Seascape - State of Nature Data Explorer](#)) with hundreds of map layers of information. The video guide demonstrates the Hamble. ([State of Nature Data Explorer Tutorial](#))

Botley Parish Council – Cllr Tom Gurd

See meeting presentation

Eastleigh Borough Council – Paul Howe

1). Hamble Common carpark Bird Aware funded fencing is going in which will also have relevant interpretation. The project aims to highlight the issues of disturbance to wintering birds by formalising access and providing information and advice to the public.

2). Work to secure a "habitat bank" at Botley continues and is in the last phases of negotiations. A responsible body has just been appointed, and work can now be fast-tracked. Planting will commence in autumn 2026, where 20 hectares of land adjacent to the upper Hamble estuary will be taken out of farming and used instead to create habitats including meadows, woodland and scrub.

Environment Agency – Peter Taylor

See Appendix 1b.

Fareham Borough Council – Peter Drake

Fareham Borough Council has begun the process of preparing a new Local Plan covering the borough up to 2044. Information at [Fareham Local Plan 2044](#). There will be an increased focus on biodiversity and how the Local Plan can help delivery of Hampshire's 'Local Nature Recovery Strategy'.

PD offered to give a presentation at a future HEP meeting following discussion in today's HEP meeting around development, planning, policy and water quality impacts.

Hamble Parish Council – Cllr Ian Underdown

Antisocial behaviour issues continue in the current hot weather on the river. HPC has installed CCTV overlooking the Hamble Jetty waterfront area. The Ray Sedgwick Friendship Bench has been installed on Hamble Foreshore in honour of the late Ray Sedgwick, the much-loved river ferryman. The Yak Shack company has been well-supported since starting business in Hamble and has expanded its paddle sport hire operations elsewhere. The Hamble Valley Regatta will take place over the bank holiday weekend of 29/30th August.

Hampshire & IOW Wildlife Trust – Tim Ferrero

Seagrass update – see meeting notes and presentation slides.

[Advance Mooring Systems Toolkit for the Solent](#) is a toolkit for harbour authorities, sailing clubs and private mooring owners providing bespoke information on the options available for specific mooring locations and environmental conditions in the Solent, including information on design options (anchors and risers), potential manufacturers and suppliers, installation and maintenance.

The Trust will be relaunching the Solent Boat Users survey again this year, after valuable insights gained from last year's survey to understanding boaters' values, experience, and how to work together to keep boating enjoyable while supporting thriving marine habitats.

The Trust has been involved with a variety of inland-based land management initiatives linking to how water quality impacts the wider river catchment.

Marina Operators – Ben Lippiett, Premier Marinas

Deacons Marina is being host to native oyster cages under its pontoons to help with restoration efforts for this species as associated wider benefits to water quality and biodiversity.

Members are welcome to contact BL for any advice on installing Advanced Mooring Systems.

Marine Management Organisation – Eva Turley

The MMO aims to make the Marine Licensing Service a great government digital service and is carrying out user research to learn about your needs and how you use it. Complete a short survey at [Marine Licensing Service User Survey](#). The Marine Planning Team continue to update the East Marine Plan, you can learn more here : [East Marine Plans - GOV.UK](#)

Maritime Archaeological Trust – Julie Satchell

A standing reminder that if there are any planned works or activities that might mean physical changes to any of the hulks, hards, landing places, shoreside structures etc, then their historic value should be considered. Also, the river holds an important submerged prehistoric landscape and peat deposit archive, so again anything that might disturb these sub surface deposits should have heritage consideration beforehand.

Natural England – Marina Rees

- Natural England's new strategy - which has a strong emphasis on nature recovery - has recently been implemented: [Natural England's Strategy: Recovering Nature for Growth, Health and Security - GOV.UK](#)
- Natural England has published the condition assessment for Solent and Southampton Water SPA and will be working to update the conservation advice for this site with the ambition to have this published Autumn 2026. We will also be working on an update for the condition assessment for Solent Maritime SAC this coming financial year as it had to be postponed last year with the ambition to have it published by March 2027. If anyone has any new data that they consider would be useful to support this, please do e-mail it over.
- The Solent Advanced Monitoring Systems (AMS) toolkit is now published and available on the Solent Forum website here: [Solent Forum - Advanced Mooring Systems View the toolkit](#). A complimentary report mapping moorings in the Solent and where these interact with sensitive seabed habitats e.g. seagrass is due to be published later this year.

River Hamble Harbour Authority - Jason Scott & Alison Fowler

- Under Local Government Reform, the RHAH will continue in its function and obligations, including the HEP, from 2028.
- The RHHA confirmed to the Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) its compliance with the Port and Marine Facilities Safety Code (2025) in February 2026. The revised version of the Code has raised the responsibilities of those with marine facilities, such as marinas, boatyards and clubs.
- Planned replacement of the midstream Visitors' Pontoon complete. The RHHA operates nearly 400ft of pontoon space primarily aimed at accommodating visitors off Hamble Point. The entire length of this facility has been replaced with an updated and heavier structure which, it is expected, will last for around 40 years. The associated positive benefit on reserves of this long-term investment has been reported on in published Harbour Board papers.
- Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) has seen a resurgence at various locations in the recent warm weather and with schools closed. The epicentres are currently Hamble Quay and Lands End. Harbour Authority staff wear Body Worn Cameras to protect staff. Evidence from these is made available to the Police to help them bear down on criminal activity. RHHA Patrol Officers' powers are no more than those of any member of the public in managing criminal activity. Anyone witnessing such activity is advised to report ASB to the Police. Operation Aquatic remains in place.
- The 3-yearly review of The River Hamble Port Waste Management Plan (PWMP) is underway in line The Merchant Shipping and Fishing Vessels (Port Waste Reception Facilities) Regulations 2003, as amended. This is to ensure that waste facilities available continue to meet the needs of vessels normally using the harbour. Any comments from river users waste facilities provided for use by vessels that go to sea should be given to the facility provider and to RHHA.

- Associated British Ports, as Harbour Authority for Southampton Harbour, have applied to the MMO (ref [MLA/2026/00178](#)) for a marine licence for a capital dredge programme to deepen the approaches to the Port of Southampton and accommodate deeper draught vessels. The RHHA/ABP legal agreement from 2014 is being used as a basis to provide safeguards against any excess sedimentation which might occur in the Hamble.
- Ongoing work and consultation with fellow regulators continue in respect of 3rd party development and maintenance proposals, along with ongoing practical and advisory support to a variety of environmental improvement projects.
- The Hamble Valley Regatta will take place 29/30th August with a medieval theme.

River Hamble Mooring Holders Association - Tony Blewett

The RHMHA's members have noted that in the first half of 2026 the weather has been more than somewhat erratic from that of a typical one, from lots of rain in relatively heavy amounts to record breaking temperatures by day and night and no snow seen. This may well have encouraged the growth of seaweeds both on the below water areas of our boats but also there seem to be heavy mats of the green weeds both drifting around and accumulating along leeward shore lines. Our members have also noted at low tide where there has been bait digging, some quite large scale.

The RHMHA note that the River Hamble Harbour Authority have been unable to let some twenty directly-let Crown Estate moorings, mostly under 26foot, however this is also affecting some other mooring suppliers who have several mid river moorings vacant. This may well relate to the high cost of the necessary shoreside facility of dinghy storage and car parking.

I understand that ABP Southampton intend to carry out significant dredging at the end of 2026 and this will expose the River Hamble to the potential of additional mud deposition.

Royal Yachting Association / The Green Blue - Kate Fortnam

The RYA's "Better Blue Spaces" is about putting the environment at the centre of the RYA's strategy. The RYA has a number of initiatives with aims to improve, protect and make more accessible the UK's "blue spaces" (rivers, lakes, canals, estuaries and the sea) for recreation, sport and wildlife. These include a Future Environment Programme for sailing instructors to be ambassadors for the environment. Also, the Green Blue Pledge, which encourages watersports participants to adopt sustainable practices will be built up and further promoted – Warsash Sailing Club is good example to be showcased. The RYA is a founding member of the Clean Water Sports Alliance, which campaigns for healthier waters, better pollution monitoring, year-round water testing, and recognition of all recreational water users in policy decisions.

[Water quality: our position | Making a difference](#)

Solent Forum

1. The Forum has moved host and is now hosted by the Partnership for South Hampshire with Southampton City Council providing the accountable body.
2. The Forum has put in a Marine Licence application for a new beneficial use of dredging scheme disposal site at Cockleshell Bay, Lymington. This will initially be a two donor site with material from Cowes and Lymington. We are awaiting the MMO response. This is a partnership project with Lymington Harbour Commissioners being the licence holder.
3. We are hosting a new AMS toolkit for the Solent prepared by Natural England and ABC Subsea. See: [Solent Forum - Advanced Mooring Systems](#).
4. We are preparing the annual Solent Marine Sites Management report that looks at how 16 non-licensable activities are managed across the Solent, including recreation. As part of this work we are reviewing how this scheme can help to deliver the Local Nature Recovery Strategies that cover the Solent.
5. We continue to assist with the drafting of the Solent Seascape Project's nature recovery plan for the Solent.
6. If you want to subscribe to our free popular monthly news, please send your details to info@solentforum.org.

Southern Inshore Fisheries & Conservation Authority: Hester Churchouse

- On the 1st April 2026, Southern IFCA launched our Black Seabream Management Package, covering 6 Co-Developed principles applied across all fishing sectors for three MCZs within Dorset, during the Black Seabream breeding season (April to July). Officers are undertaking engagement with stakeholders both in Dorset and across the wider District to monitor the implementation of these Principles. Further details can be found here: [Black Seabream Fisheries : Southern IFCA](#).
- Southern IFCA's Shore Gathering byelaw remains with the Secretary of State for ratification. Our proposed byelaw covers the gathering of sea fisheries resources in the intertidal or shallow subtidal environment, and implements a number of seasonal or all-year closed areas across the district. Further information can be found here: [Ongoing Reviews : Southern IFCA](#).

- Southern IFCA undertook 5 Community Drop-In Surgeries between Poole and Portsmouth in early 2026, seeking to provide the opportunity for conversation with stakeholders on local fisheries and conservation matters across the district. A report on the major themes of these Surgeries will be released later in the year.
- Southern IFCA continues to undertake Juvenile Fish Surveys within the River Hamble, in the Spring and the Autumn, to monitor the health of the river as an Essential Fish Habitat.
- Southern IFCA's compliance team have been present within Southampton Water throughout the year, both by land and sea, especially during the Southampton Water bivalve dredge fishery season, which is based in waters around Ashlett Creek and Hythe.

Southern Water – Nick Davis & Joff Edevane

- From 00:01am Friday 10 July a 'Temporary Use Ban' (hosepipe ban) comes into force for customers in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight.
The prolonged period of hot, dry weather has already had a significant impact on the River Test – one of the world's rarest chalk streams and a key source of water for homes and businesses in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight. River levels are now critically low, around 25% below where we'd normally expect them to be at this time of year, with the river losing around a third of its water in just a month. To protect this precious environment and keep taps flowing, we need to act now.
- Our teams and partners across Water Operations have been working incredibly hard to manage the situation. Alongside that, we're reducing leakage to get the most from our network and continuing to invest in long-term solutions like the Southampton Link Main and Havant Thicket Reservoir. In fact, following our best-ever leakage performance last year, we have found and fixed 2,840 leaks in Hampshire and the Isle of Wight since January, saving approximately 27 million litres of water per day. The Temporary Use Ban is about reducing demand alongside all of that work.
- We'd appreciate support from partners in promoting our campaign website, where full details can be found: <https://www.southernwater.co.uk/help-and-support/temporary-use-ban-advice/>
- Private leisure boats cannot be washed down using a hose during the ban.
- Southern Water will be engaging with customers through roadshows, which will cover all aspects of the business, and more specific [Drainage and Wastewater Management Plan](#) (DWMP) events which concentrate on the waste water side of the business.

The Crown Estate (via Agent, Carter Jonas) – Rachel Wylde

The Crown Estate has released a short film about the partnership work creating Eco Moorings to protect habitat from anchor chains at Studland <https://youtu.be/6SdNfJYHvZg?si=a6AwPplt5wZnhKtN>

Warsash Resident Association – Paul Hobbs.

Paul Hobbs had a meeting with the ferry operator in December to discuss options for improving the access to the Hamble Warsash Ferry on the Warsash side. Rachel Wylde confirmed that some outline discussion had taken place with the ferry operator regarding potential for improvements.

Warsash Sailing Club – Stuart Henderson

See meeting presentation

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Appendix 1b –

Environment Agency – HEP Partner update

[River Basin Management Plan 'Programme of Measures'](#) pre-consultation until mid August 26. To 'sense check' the current reasons for failure to meet Water Framework Directive standards for 'Good' for each waterbody. Results will be assimilated and a formal public consultation starts in December 26.

Current status of Hamble estuary area below. Still using WFD for an overview of the water environment (Good, Moderate, Poor, Bad).

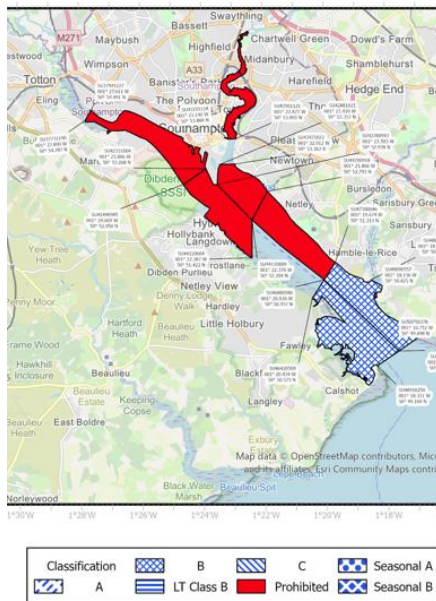
The monitoring results of this year 2025 will be used to form the basis for next year's classification and the 4th River Basin Management Plan.

In WFD Hamble Estuary is part of Southampton Water waterbody.

Elements of water environment that are not yet in good condition:

- [Dissolved Inorganic Nitrogen](#): Moderate fail
- [Macroalgae](#): classifications rated as "Good" for both 2019 and 2022. However, if the Hamble estuary were assessed separately from the rest of Southampton Water, the results might differ, as seen in historical assessments under the Urban Wastewater or Nitrate Directives. Modelling and the [Overview of Solent Eutrophication & Recovery](#) report indicate that we can expect a gradual improvement in macroalgae conditions. According to our monitoring tracker, our next visit to Southampton is scheduled for 2026. However, due to nationwide affordability issues, there are now strict constraints on macroalgae monitoring, making it uncertain whether it will be conducted for WER (WFD).

- Hazardous chemicals, eg mercury, fire-water retardants in the water column.
- Mitigation Measures not in place (not location specific) removal/ softening of hard engineering, restore degraded bankside habitats.
- Shellfish Waters, Approaches to Southampton Water has failed compliance since 2008. Neighbouring Shellfish Waters also fail or are now unmonitored due to continued fails.



Main issues for status of shellfish is water quality, overfishing, non natives.

Status of the Shellfish Waters and Beds depends on quality of water and shellfish flesh.

Food Standards Agency provide the analysis of shellfish flesh. The faecal pollution that affects shellfish has a short range so the Southern Water investment in UV disinfection at Milbrook and Slow Hill Copse back in 2023 should lead to an improvement.

- u/s Shellfish Waters are Unclassified (fishing stocks low)/ Prohibited high ecoli/ intestinal enterococci, while
- d/s is B (ie shellfish need heat treatment to be edible).
- Estuarine and river fish: hot weather has depleted water of oxygen as fish requirement for oxygen increases as water warms. How many oxyjet pumps are available in the HEP area?
- Bathing waters: Are in relatively good condition, as in the outer estuary. Also measure for ecoli and intestinal enterococci.

Technology – installed December 24

Fluidion pollution monitoring equipment installed by EA and Cefas at Ocean Village to track bacteria (e-coli), which is indicative of sewage. Also tracking forever chemicals. Fluidion used on the Seine during the Olympics.

Deployed with traditional real-time WQ instruments from the National Instrumentation Team to understand contamination and patterns.

Two Passive Sampler Devices deployed to monitor nonpolar organic compounds and metals,

Aim to provide data framework to monitor coastal marine organism health PFAS synthetic

Volunteers – Friends of the Itchen.

Taking samples from canoes etc to better understand. EA using the data.

chemicals.

