

**ASSESSMENT UNDER THE CONSERVATION OF HABITATS AND
SPECIES (AMENDMENT) (EU EXIT)
REGULATIONS 2019**

in respect of:

**JURASSIC COAST PARTNERSHIP PLAN
2020-2025
MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK
FOR THE
DORSET AND EAST DEVON COAST WORLD HERITAGE SITE
DRAFT #3**

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compiled by

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on behalf of

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1. Introduction

This report assesses the Jurassic Coast Partnership Plan 2020-2025 under the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations (amendment) (EU Exit) 2019. These Regulations (known as the Habs Regs) transpose into UK law the EU Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora, which aims to 'maintain or restore, at favourable conservation status, natural habitats and species of wild fauna and flora of Community interest' (Article 2(2))

Article 3 of the Habitats Directive establishes the need to set up a 'coherent European ecological network of special areas of conservation (SAC's), under the title of Natura 2000'. These include European Marine Sites (where part of the site is below the highwater mark) and European Offshore Marine Sites (where the whole of the site is offshore). Article 3 also states that this network should include Special Protection Areas designated under Article 4 of Directive 79/409/EEC, the Birds Directive. National planning policy (National Planning Policy Framework 2019, para 176) states that listed or proposed Ramsar sites (those established under the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance, in Ramsar, Iran, 1971) should also receive the same protection as Natura 2000 sites, as should possible SACs and potential SPAs. Regulation 8 of the Habitats Regulations also stipulates that pSACs and pSPAs should receive the same protection as Natura 2000 sites. Although NPPF now refers to European sites as 'Habitats sites', for the purposes of assessments under the Habs Regs, the sites are still referred to collectively as European sites.

Article 6, paragraph 3 of the Habitats Directive establishes the need to assess plans and projects individually or in combination for Likely significant effect on Natura 2000 sites and goes on to state that if this is the case the plan or project 'must be subject to Appropriate Assessment of its implications for the site in view of the site's conservation objectives'.

In other words, the assessment of plans or projects is divided into two stages: an initial 'screening assessment' of whether the plan or project will result in likely significant effect on the relevant European sites, and, if needed, a second 'Appropriate Assessment' of whether the plan or project will have an adverse effect on the integrity of the relevant European sites. Article 6, paragraph 4 deals with those rare situations where there are imperative reasons of overriding public interest (IROPI cases) which result in the conclusion that a plan or project should be carried out despite identification of adverse effect on the integrity of the European sites. It stipulates that if this is the case then compensatory measures must be taken to ensure that the overall coherence of the Natura 2000 network is protected.

Paragraphs 3 and 4 of Article 6 are transposed into UK law via Regulations 63 and 64 (or 105 and 107 for Land Use plans) of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations, 2019. Regulation 63 states:

- (1) A competent authority, before deciding to undertake, or give any consent, permission or other authorisation for, a plan or project which—
 - (a) is likely to have a significant effect on a European site or a European offshore marine site (either alone or in combination with other plans or projects), and
 - (b) is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of that site,must make an appropriate assessment of the implications of the plan or project for that site in view of that site's conservation objectives.
- (2) A person applying for any such consent, permission or other authorisation must provide such information as the competent authority may reasonably require for the purposes of the assessment or to enable it to determine whether an appropriate assessment is required.
- (3) The competent authority must for the purposes of the assessment consult the appropriate nature conservation body and have regard to any representations made by that body within such reasonable time as the authority specifies.
- (4) It must also, if it considers it appropriate, take the opinion of the general public, and if it does so, it must take such steps for that purpose as it considers appropriate.
- (5) In the light of the conclusions of the assessment, and subject to regulation 64, the competent authority may agree to the plan or project only after having ascertained that it will not adversely affect the integrity of the European site or the European offshore marine site (as the case may be)

It can be seen that Regulation 63 imposes several stages of tests and duties on the competent authority as part of the assessment process (including the concluding 'integrity test' as part of Reg 63(5)). Further sections of this assessment consider the initial screening of the proposals and, if necessary, the Appropriate Assessment (Reg 63(1)). However, for the purposes of this assessment:

- It is concluded that the proposed development is neither directly connected with or necessary to the management of any European sites (Reg 63(1)(b)).
- The applicant has supplied sufficient information to the competent authority (as required under Reg 63(2)) to enable a determination of whether an appropriate assessment is required, and to enable an Appropriate Assessment if required.
- The competent authority (Dorset Council) has consulted Natural England about the proposals and the content of this assessment (as required under Reg 63(3)).

Regulation 63(1) stipulates that screening should consider the likely effects of the plan or project in combination with other relevant plans or projects. This will be addressed in a later section of this report.

Regulation 63(5), known as the 'integrity test' will be considered in the conclusion to this report.

Previous case law (Hart District Council v Sect of State for Communities and Local Government: CO/7623/2007) concluded that proposed mitigation could be considered at the initial screening stage of a Habitats Regs Assessment, while screening for likely significant effects. However, subsequent case law (People Over Wind, Peter Sweetman v Coillte Teoranta: C-323/17) has now established that mitigation should only be included as part of an Appropriate Assessment.

The Habs Regs Assessment process is iterative. This means that as the plan or project subject to assessment is updated or changed, the HRA report will also need to be updated to reflect those changes.

2.0 The Relevant European Sites

European sites within the World Heritage Site (WHS) designation and within a 5km terrestrial buffer are considered relevant to this report, in line with previous HRA Screening reports. European heathland sites are not included as none are directly adjacent to the WHS designation and they are functionally distinct from the habitats contained within the WHS, making it highly unlikely that they will be influenced by the Partnership Plan.

In addition, since the previous Management Plan was produced and assessed under the Habs Regs, two European marine sites have been designated: the Studland to Portland marine SAC and the Lyme Bay to Torbay SAC. These sites are directly adjacent to the Mean Low Water boundary of the WHS designation and are designated for features which are given more recognition and weight in the proposed Partnership Plan than in previous Management Plans (see Section 3.3 below). They also form part of the functional setting (as defined in UNESCO Guidance) of the Jurassic Coast and have therefore also been screened in.

The sites, qualifying features (species and/or habitats) and conservation objectives are set out in the Appendix.

3.0 Background to the Assessment

The Dorset and East Devon Coast World Heritage Site, more commonly known as the Jurassic Coast, became a World Heritage Site in 2001, designated under the World Heritage Convention of 1972, which was ratified by the UK in 1984. The site is designated for its Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) under UNESCO criteria viii: Earths history and geological features. The site is 155 miles long, covers 185 million years of history from the Triassic, Jurassic and Cretaceous periods, generates around £100 million per year of economic activity and is now managed by an independent charity, the Jurassic Coast Trust, and a stakeholder body, the Partnership Advisory Committee.

Production of a Management Framework is a formal requirement of UNESCO and the UK Government. Previous Management Plans cover five year periods and have all been screened for likely significant effect on the relevant European sites, as required by the Habs Regs in their various iterations.

3.1 Screening of the 2009-2014 Management Plan

The conclusion of the 2009 HRA Screening Report was that there were no policies which would give rise to a likely significant effect on a European site. There were 26 policies where it was considered there was

potential for a negative effect and as drafted at the time, the consultant's view was that these policies did not ensure sufficient protection of European site interests. There were 5 ways that policies could be improved:

1. Rewording of Policy essential
2. Revising delivery actions essential
3. Rewording Policy would improve protection
4. Revising delivery actions would improve protection
5. Delivery actions require HRA at the project or scheme level

The Screening Report concluded that the Management Plan taken as a whole would have no likely significant effect on any European sites providing all the recommendations were acted upon. However, the report did not suggest specific changes to wording and it is not clear if any changes were made.

3.2 Screening of the 2014-2019 Management Plan

The conclusion of the 2014 HRA Screening Report was that although there were some changes to policies, actions and approaches, the revised Management Plan would not give rise to likely significant effect on a European site, and therefore no changes to wording were recommended to any of the objectives, policies and actions.

3.3 Screening of the 2020-2025 Jurassic Coast Partnership Plan

The 2020-2025 WHS Partnership Plan is similar to previous Management Plans in intent and structure. The aims and policies have been updated and consolidated and a set of three principles now guides how the aims and policies should be applied at every level of delivery.

The Partnership Plan also discusses and incorporates recent bathymetric surveys adjacent to the Jurassic Coast which have revealed a spectacular seabedscape that contains a wealth of information supporting understanding of the Site's OUV. Work such as this is becoming increasingly straightforward and is helping identify submarine features which may contribute to the setting of the WHS. The inclusion of the corresponding marine European sites in the screening assessment is in recognition of this, to ensure that any likely significant effect on these sites is identified at the earliest stage.

4.0 Screening Assessment to Determine Likely Significant Effect

Regulation 63(1)(a) requires the competent authority to consider whether the development would have a Likely Significant Effect on the features for which the site was designated, either alone or in combination with other projects.

The following table summarises the potential impacts of the Dorset and East Devon Coast WHS Management Plan Principles, Aims and Policies on European sites, taking into consideration the conservation objectives of the relevant sites

Principle	Description	Likely significant effect?
Working from Evidence	One of UNESCO's strategic aims is that World Heritage Sites should be credible. Therefore, Site management will be based on evidence, sound science and our best knowledge and understanding of the coastline.	No – the principle itself would not lead to development.
Aspiring to World Heritage Values	The 'Jurassic Coast' is the name of an authentic and unique heritage asset. It brings many benefits to the area, binds our community together and connects us to wider, global values. As the custodians of this World Heritage Site we are challenged to create an inclusive and sustainable way of life that celebrates Outstanding Universal Value and helps our community to thrive.	No – the principle itself would not lead to development.
Collaboration and cooperation	The protection and presentation of this World Heritage Site requires people to come together in support of a common cause. In order to safeguard the quality of this landscape and create inspiring experiences for visitors and residents that embody the Site's OUV, collaboration and cooperation are essential.	No – the principle itself would not lead to development.

Strategic Aim	Description	Critical Success Factors	Likely significant effect?
1 - Protect the Site's Outstanding Universal Value and World Heritage Status	Policies within this section set out the parameters for clear, unambiguous long-term protection for the World Heritage Site and setting through integration in the planning system and based on rigorous scientific evidence. The emphasis is on the prevention of activities that might negatively affect the OUV of the Site, or on the mitigation of the negative impact of activities that are unavoidable. There is a focus on allowing the natural processes of erosion to continue; thus maintaining the coastal processes, landforms and exposures that underpin the Site's OUV. This aim relates not just to the Site itself, but to activities in the setting that might have an impact on the Site's OUV, or might damage the setting itself.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Developments do not cause negative impact on Site's OUV ◦ Responsible fossil collecting continues to be widely adopted as a management approach across the World Heritage Site ◦ The community of the Jurassic coast WHS acts in a sustainable way that maintains and enhances the Site's OUV 	No – the aim itself would not lead to development.

Ref.	Policy	Priority objectives 2020-2025.	Likely significant effect?
Regulation			
R1	The OUV of the WHS is protected by preventing developments that might impede natural processes, or obscure the exposed geology, as set out in the GCR / SSSI details, now and in the future.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Strengthen the available Landscape Character Assessment evidence base by developing a more detailed coastal character assessment that emphasises the attributes of the WHS. 	No – the policy and its priority objectives would not lead to development.
R2	Any development resulting in a negative impact to the OUV of the WHS will only be acceptable if it is both essential and unavoidable. In these circumstances mitigation measures will be undertaken.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Support the development and adoption of Supplementary Planning Guidance that improves the shared understanding of how impacts on OUV should be assessed. 	No – the policy and its priority objectives would not lead to development.

Ref.	Policy	Priority objectives 2020-2025.	Likely significant effect?
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seek to ensure OUV and Site protection policies are accurately reflected and taken into account in Local Plans, Shoreline Management Plans, Marine Plans, the Management Plans for the Dorset AONB and East Devon AONB as well as any revisions to relevant Landscape or Seascape Character assessments. 	No – the policy and its priority objectives would not lead to development.
R3	New developments in the WHS's setting that may warrant a future need for coastal defences are opposed		
R4	Those elements of landscape character, seascape, seabedscape, natural beauty, biodiversity and cultural heritage that constitute the WHS's functional or experiential setting, are protected from inappropriate development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create a comprehensive, standardised and publicly accessible data package for WHS boundaries and regulatory information to assist impact assessments and in understanding Site sensitivities. 	No – the policy and its priority objectives would not lead to development.
R5	Emergency plans will be maintained in order to respond effectively to major incidents* that might have significant consequences for the condition and presentation of the Site. Emergency plans will also ensure that the response actions themselves do not cause further damage. <i>* Such as landslide or rockfalls, disease or oil spills</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake an audit of and develop an action plan for parts of the Site that would benefit from increased protection, including areas no longer within the SSSI boundaries due to natural erosion, areas of GCRs that are not included within SSSIs and areas that are not within an AONB or Heritage Coast. Explore the potential for extending the geographical parameters of the Site offshore, to include geomorphological features that form part of the OUV story, but are not within the Site boundary. 	No – the policy and its priority objectives would not lead to development.
R6	The regulatory protection of the WHS will continue to be improved in places where there is vulnerability		No – the policy and its priority objectives would not lead to development.
Industry and Military			
IM1	Port or harbour managers minimise the risk of potential negative impacts on the WHS and setting from shipping activity through sensitive management.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agree a stand-alone policy to make provision for recycling of sediment within a sediment cell in relation to necessary flood and coastal risk management activities. 	No – the policy and its priority objectives would not lead to development.
IM2	Aggregate or mineral extraction, oil or gas exploration and exploitation, and renewable energy developments within the inscribed area of the WHS will be opposed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to support the implementation of the statutory Reviews of Old Mineral Permissions (ROMPs) on Portland and elsewhere in a manner that will avoid any adverse impacts on the interests of the Site and its setting. 	No – the policy and its priority objectives would not lead to development.
IM3	Proposals for aggregate or mineral extraction, oil or gas exploration and exploitation, and renewable energy developments outside of the inscribed area of the WHS, but which could have an impact on it, should consider potential harm to the OUV and/or setting of the Site during the	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue presumption in favour of replacing existing minerals permissions for surface quarrying on Portland with permissions for underground mining, 	No – the policy and its priority objectives would not lead to development.

Ref.	Policy	Priority objectives 2020-2025.	Likely significant effect?
	earliest stages of planning and take measures to ensure that harm is avoided.	where this would not result in any other unacceptable impacts on the Site.	
IM4	Military activity avoids adverse impacts on the WHS or setting.		No – the policy and its priority objectives would not lead to development.
Codes of conduct and site management provisions			
CC1	Fossil collecting within the WHS will follow, in general, the principle of Natural England's national approach based on the concept of responsible collecting (see appendix 3).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to support and seek to expand the Fossil Warden service for West Dorset. Charmouth Heritage Coast Centre and Natural England, with strategic support, successfully administer the West Dorset and Undercliffs fossil codes and fossil recording scheme. 	No – the policy and its priority objectives would not lead to development.
CC2	The West Dorset Fossil Collecting Code for Lyme Regis to Burton Bradstock and the Undercliffs Fossil Collecting Code for the Axmouth to Lyme Regis National Nature Reserve sets the collecting guidance for these two areas and will continue to be implemented by all involved parties. (see appendix 3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review the Undercliffs code within the lifetime of this plan and ensure that, as in the case of the West Dorset Fossil Collecting Code, any changes are made only with the agreement of all collaborating parties. Explore ways to invest in and otherwise improve the operation and delivery of the West Dorset and Undercliffs Fossil codes. 	No – the policy and its priority objectives would not lead to development.
CC3	Rock samples collected from anywhere within the Site will be taken in line with Geologists' Association Code of Conduct for Geological Fieldwork.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A campaign to promote responsible fossil collecting (and the two fossil codes) will be developed and delivered collaboratively by all relevant partners, using a variety of channels including online. 	No – the policy and its priority objectives would not lead to development.
CC4	Cliff climbing in sensitive areas will continue to be managed by landowners in order to avoid negative impacts on the quality of the Geological exposures of the WHS or its wildlife.		No – the policy and its priority objectives would not lead to development.

Strategic Aim	Description	Critical Success Factors	Likely significant effect?
2 - Conserve and enhance the Site, its attributes, presentation and setting.	This aim relates to positive and forward-thinking actions for improvements to the Site's OUV and condition. Policies within this aim will cover a range of areas relating to conserving the geo-heritage assets, broader landscape and nature conservation and enhancements within the setting. Conservation actions need to be supported through appropriate scientific research, which is also highlighted here. Fossils and other geological specimens have a set of dedicated policies that indicate the resources needed to	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All SSSIs and GCR sites are in the same or better condition than at the start of this Plan period. Diverse research continues to be carried out along the WHS. An increase in the number of scientifically important fossils found along the Site that are acquired by, 	No – the aim itself would not lead to development.

	support their conservation, from being collected from the Site to becoming part of a public collection.	or loaned back to, local accredited museums.	
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Ref.	Policy	Priority objectives 2020-2025.	Likely significant effect?
Conservation of site and setting			
CSS1	The conditions of GCR sites and SSSIs will be maintained and / or improved, when appropriate and possible, in ways that are consistent with or build on natural processes, taking account of other conservation objectives.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ The GCR sites and SSSIs that make up the WHS will be monitored in line with NE methodology and timescales in terms of their defined geological and geomorphological value. ◦ Intensive monitoring of specific features under threat will be undertaken and substantive events that affect the site will also be recorded where possible and practicable. ◦ Collaborate to identify inland sites and seabed features that are priorities for incorporation into the story of the WHS, and plan for their conservation. ◦ Review needs and desirability for new bespoke fossil codes along the Site and, if any, prepare a prioritised development plan. ◦ Collaborate in order to thoroughly consider the implications to the WHS of the government's Landscapes Review, particularly in relation to the proposal for a National Park for Dorset and East Devon and any opportunities to make gains for geological conservation 	No – the policy and its priority objectives would not lead to development.
CSS2	The ongoing condition of the Jurassic Coast will be monitored with a particular focus on identifying the potential impacts of climate change on the attributes of the WHS.		No – the policy and its priority objectives would not lead to development.
CSS3	Initiatives that seek to address the causes and consequences of marine and land-sourced litter will be supported in order to reduce negative impacts on the WHS's condition and presentation.		No – the policy and its priority objectives would not lead to development.
CSS4	Features and sites inland and seawards from the coast that help to illustrate the OUV* will be highlighted or improved, especially aspects of the WHS story that are hard to access on the coast itself. <i>*E.g. submerged river channels near Portland and the Keates Quarry dinosaur tracks</i>		No – the policy and its priority objectives would not lead to development.
CSS5	The conservation and enhancement of biodiversity and landscape character in the WHS and setting will be supported in ways that are complementary with its OUV.		No – the policy and its priority objectives would not lead to development.
CSS6	Along parts of the WHS where a new, bespoke approach for managing fossil collecting is needed, collaborative arrangements will be made*. <i>* Partners will include Natural England, landowners, accredited museums, the academic</i>		No – the policy and its priority objectives would not lead to development.

Ref.	Policy	Priority objectives 2020-2025.	Likely significant effect?
	<i>community and collectors (amateur and professional)</i>		
CSS7	Opportunities to make gains for geological conservation should be responded to positively		No – the policy and its priority objectives would not lead to development.
Research			
Re1	Research under a wide range of disciplines will be encouraged in order to expand our understanding of the WHS and the benefits of World Heritage Status.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish a set of shared values and a set of guidelines that can encourage responsible research and guide science, arts, geography, economic and social researchers and practitioners to engage with the Jurassic Coast and its partnership of stakeholders. 	No – the policy and its priority objectives would not lead to development.
Re2	Research on the WHS will adhere to relevant codes of conduct, site management provisions, conservation designations and legal requirements.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish an information sharing platform for researchers and the Jurassic Coast partnership with the aim of facilitating access, fostering co-ordination, collaboration and new research opportunities. 	No – the policy and its priority objectives would not lead to development.
Re3	Geological material collected from the WHS for research, especially specimens described or figured in published research, should be deposited in a publicly accessible collection.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draw on UK Climate Projections 2.2km climate modelling in combination with other coastal monitoring and research data to help identify areas or features of the WHS that are most vulnerable to sea level rise and climate change. Highlight locations where new or expanded coastal defences may be needed. 	No – the policy and its priority objectives would not lead to development.
Re4	Partners will share data (e.g. scientific, economic demographic) relating to the Jurassic Coast and World Heritage Status wherever possible and work together to identify key research needs.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop research partnerships and programmes to help identify and deliver research in relation to parts of the Site that are vulnerable to sea level rise and climate change. Collaborate to create opportunities for 'citizen science' projects and the dissemination of research through public engagement programmes. 	No – the policy and its priority objectives would not lead to development.
Fossils and other geological specimens			
F1	The Partnership will continue to support the discovery, rescue and preparation of significant fossils by responsible collectors which it recognises as an essential contribution to Site management.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Through collaboration and partnership working, create a database of significant Jurassic Coast fossils, both publicly and privately held, in order to: 	No – the policy and its priority objectives would not lead to development

Ref.	Policy	Priority objectives 2020-2025.	Likely significant effect?
F2	Building and maintaining strong relationships between collectors, academics and museums is encouraged and supported in order to help facilitate palaeontological research and the acquisition of important specimens by public institutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o demonstrate the OUV of the WHS. o identify privately owned specimens and collections that are suitable for acquisition if/when available. o identify stored museum specimens that could be given a wider role for community benefit and public engagement. 	No – the policy and its priority objectives would not lead to development
F3	Where possible, important fossils and geological specimens from the Jurassic Coast are acquired and/or displayed by local accredited museums for the direct benefit of Jurassic Coast communities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o better understand the opportunities along the WHS in respect of acquisition, research, curation, storage and display of important fossils from the Site. o support the case for investment that improves the acquisition, curation, research, and exhibition of Jurassic Coast fossils. 	No – the policy and its priority objectives would not lead to development
F4	Museums will continue to support ethical collecting practices that are responsive to relevant codes of conduct, Site management provisions, conservation designations and legal requirements when acquiring geological specimens from the World Heritage Site.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Use the database of significant Jurassic Coast fossils to help address the needs and opportunities surrounding the development of a new facility dedicated to Jurassic Coast fossils and establish its true potential in consultation with all stakeholder groups. 	No – the policy and its priority objectives would not lead to development
F5	Support is given to developments that improve the acquisition, curation, research, and exhibition of Jurassic Coast fossils where there is a recognised gap in provision and evidence to demonstrate need.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Explore ways of helping museums improve their documentation practices, existing records and other skills development e.g. fossil curation. 	No – the policy and its priority objectives would not lead to development
F6	Information and record keeping regarding geological collections and specimens from the Jurassic Coast should be maintained to a high standard.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Continue to maintain and seek to expand the Fossil Finder Database. 	No – the policy and its priority objectives would not lead to development
F7	Accredited museums local to the Jurassic Coast are supported to enable them to maintain important geological collections and public engagement programmes.		No – the policy and its priority objectives would not lead to development

Strategic Aims	Description	Critical Success Factors	Likely significant effect?
3 - Inspire and engage people with the Site and deepen their understanding of its values	Welcome, access, understanding and enjoyment are intrinsically linked on the World Heritage Site. Policies within these aims are focused on making appropriate, realistic and sustainable improvements that enable people to enjoy the coast responsibly and encourage them to become invested in its ongoing protection. These emphasise the way that the destination is promoted, visitor safety and the maintenance or improvement of those facilities that	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Sustainable and appropriate access to the Site is maintained or enhanced in line with capacity. o Tranquillity and sense of place are maintained or enhanced. o Promotion and use of sustainable transport increases 	No – the aims themselves would not lead to development.

4 - Maintain and improve access to and experience of the Site	are crucial for visitors, including interpretation provision that celebrates the unique and global heritage value of the Site.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Walking and cycling routes accessing the Site continue to be improved and managed to a high standard. ◦ Visitors' enjoyment of the Jurassic Coast is maintained or enhanced. 	
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Ref.	Policy	Priority objectives 2020-2025.	Likely significant effect?
Destination Marketing			
DM1	Promotion of the Jurassic Coast is sensitive to the needs of, and issues faced by, local communities and the WHS.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Partners will be encouraged to collaborate to make appropriate information available to visitors in advance of arrival, through online or other means, to help manage congestion at popular sites and promote responsible tourism and behaviour. 	No – the policy and its priority objectives would not lead to development.
DM2	Information about events, promotions and campaigns relating to the Jurassic Coast is shared between Partners and destination marketing agencies.		No – the policy and its priority objectives would not lead to development.
Visitor Management			
VM1	Partners with a responsibility for Jurassic Coast visitor infrastructure* are encouraged to maintain and improve it taking account of demand, quality guidelines, and site sensitivity. *e.g. paths, interpretation and signage, toilets, car parks, viewpoints, piers, seafronts, amenity beaches, TICs and other visitor facilities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ The South West Coast Path National Trail (and England Coast Path, where applicable) is the most significant access route for the Jurassic Coast and partners with a remit will work collaboratively to monitor, maintain and improve its condition. ◦ Work collaboratively to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Review WHS access points to identify priorities for place-based projects that seek to make improvements and reduce clutter in the landscape. ◦ Work in partnership to improve signposting at railway stations and other key sustainable transport hubs ◦ Identify funding streams to support infrastructure and signage improvements. ◦ Review best practice of safety messaging development and delivery and seek to implement along the Jurassic Coast. ◦ Raise awareness of the Dorset Local Resilience Forum Rockfall and Landslide Response Plan and 	No – the policy and its priority objectives would not lead to development.
VM2	Public access to beaches within the WHS is maintained, but with sensitivity to wildlife, behaviour and safety considerations.		No – the policy and its priority objectives would not lead to development.
VM3	Signage at access points to the coast is coordinated, consistent and sensitive to the location and visitor needs. Permanent installations along undeveloped parts of the coast are kept to a minimum.		No – the policy and its priority objectives would not lead to development.
VM4	Collaborative working is actively encouraged in order to provide consistent messages and promote public behaviour change in the following areas: Safety and selfies; Littering and other fouling; Fossil collecting; Sporting or similar events; Marine behaviour (e.g. tranquillity or		No – the policy and its priority objectives would not lead to development.

Ref.	Policy	Priority objectives 2020-2025.	Likely significant effect?
	landing in sensitive areas) and preventing suicide in public places	<p>seek to replicate it in East Devon.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Consult with local communities in order to gather information about issues and opportunities surrounding recreation and tourism along the Jurassic Coast. 	
VM5	Safety messaging is effective, following best practice in both design and placement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Create clearer guidance on responsible fossil collecting for tourists on the WHS, emphasising those areas of the coast where fossil hunting is appropriate and permitted, and those where it is discouraged or restricted and why. This will be done in consultation with collectors and in response to actual visitor behaviours and pressures to avoid needlessly highlighting sensitive areas 	No – the policy and its priority objectives would not lead to development.
VM6	Sustainable travel, including rail, bus, walking, cycling or by sea, is encouraged and promoted		No – the policy and its priority objectives would not lead to development.
VM7	When implementing emergency plans, partners carefully manage any impacts on public access to and perception of the Jurassic Coast	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Develop guidance aimed at businesses and other organisations for promoting responsible recreation and tourism on the WHS, e.g. the nature of the coast as a natural site, safety, responsible fossil hunting, events planning, sensitive areas, access restrictions, visitor congestion, and year-round tourism. ◦ The Partnership, String of Pearls group and other key stakeholders are encouraged to work collaboratively to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Explore the role of the String of Pearls group ◦ Find co-ordinated and proactive ways to promote responsible tourism and behaviour ◦ help manage congestion at popular sites along the Jurassic Coast ◦ Find feasible ways to encourage visitors to explore the wider rural landscape inland ◦ explore joint branding and promotion ◦ explore how social media can be used as a tool to help deliver shared aims ◦ Explore the idea of a 'distributed museum' along the coast, including an inventory of assets and expertise, and the development of a Jurassic Coast 'Gallery Plan'. ◦ Explore the value of creating a single 'guide book' for the WHS. ◦ Consider / explore relevant links between the Site and its setting and associated cultural and historic heritage. 	No – the policy and its priority objectives would not lead to development.

Ref.	Policy	Priority objectives 2020-2025.	Likely significant effect?
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Develop coordinated promotion of connected sustainable travel in the area ○ Explore joint messaging relating to climate action ○ Collaborate in order to develop approaches that help improve access, diversity and social inclusion following the recommendations of the government's Landscapes Review. 	
Engagement and learning			
EL1	Development of Jurassic Coast interpretation, learning and outreach is embedded in existing engagement programmes whenever possible.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Dorset AONB team and Jurassic Coast Trust to work collaboratively with stakeholders and communities along the length of the Site in order to improve the consistency and quality of outdoor interpretation signage about the WHS. ○ Evaluate the use and impact of the Jurassic Coast Story Book. ○ The String of Pearls group and other key stakeholders will be encouraged to collaborate in order to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Share information with partners about upcoming interpretation projects ○ Share and discuss interpretation and engagement aspirations and opportunities for collaboration amongst partners and with the arts sector ○ Explore ways of highlighting the relationship between nature, culture and social history ○ Identify opportunities for improving digital/online interpretation and learning aimed at a global audience. ○ Explore ways of developing interpretation and learning best practice along the WHS (e.g. accessibility and inclusivity, joint training, sharing data and findings from the evaluation) 	No – the policy and its priority objectives would not lead to development.
EL2	Interpretation content about the Jurassic Coast is high quality, guided by the Jurassic Coast Story Book and emphasises locally distinctive stories that link to the Walk Through Time.		No – the policy and its priority objectives would not lead to development
EL3	Interpretation about the Jurassic Coast is developed in collaboration with local communities and other stakeholders whenever possible.		No – the policy and its priority objectives would not lead to development
EL4	Collaboration with artists and creative organisations is actively encouraged in order to support innovation and cultural links.		No – the policy and its priority objectives would not lead to development
EL5	Efforts to highlight the connections between local geodiversity, culture and social history are encouraged and supported.		No – the policy and its priority objectives would not lead to development
EL6	Jurassic Coast content aimed at primary or secondary schools should respond to relevant elements of the National Curriculum.		No – the policy and its priority objectives would not lead to development
EL7	Jurassic Coast content aimed at further or higher education should be accurate and aspire to be based on current research and technologies		No – the policy and its priority objectives would not lead to development

Ref.	Policy	Priority objectives 2020-2025.	Likely significant effect?
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Explore ways to disseminate current scientific research about the WHS amongst the String of Pearls group and other Partners ◦ Devise methods and resources that use the earth science stories of the Jurassic Coast to help people in local communities, schools and other educational settings to understand and engage with the climate variability and the potential impacts of climate change along the WHS. 	

Strategic Aim	Description	Critical Success Factors	Likely significant effect?
5 - Enable the World Heritage Status to be of benefit to people and communities	It has been shown that the Jurassic Coast's designation as a World Heritage Site has brought a strong sense of identity to the area. This has stimulated the local economy and been a catalyst for civic pride and social enterprise. Policies within this section will look to build on this progress in sustainable ways and emphasises how sense of place, local business, well-being, and access and inspiration are integrated aspects of this protected landscape.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ The Jurassic Coast continues to be seen as a positive asset for the local communities ◦ The Jurassic Coast is seen as an inclusive and accessible place for all ◦ Economic benefit of Status grows past level assessed in 2015 study ◦ Community assets along the coast are improved 	No – the aim itself would not lead to development.

Ref.	Policy	Priority objectives 2020-2025.	Likely significant effect?
Well-being			
W1	Initiatives to promote the Jurassic Coast as an area supportive to well-being and / or health are strongly encouraged, as long as they are within agreed environmental tolerances	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Undertake an accessibility audit of the Jurassic Coast and use the evidence to improve access to the coast for those with specific needs. ◦ Grow, and join-up appropriate volunteering programmes as a means of skills and confidence development, well-being and as a support to 	No – the policy and its priority objectives would not lead to development.
W2	Volunteering programmes contributing to management and sustainability of the WHS are encouraged and supported		No – the policy and its priority objectives would not lead to development.

Ref.	Policy	Priority objectives 2020-2025.	Likely significant effect?
W3	Accessibility and inclusivity are strongly supported as a means to build a cohesive community, locally and internationally, that is invested in the future of the WHS.	<p>management of the WHS.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Collaborate in order to grow the ways in which the WHS can contribute to health and wellbeing programmes. ◦ The Partnership will collaborate in order to develop approaches that will help increase access, diversity and social inclusion throughout their operations and outputs 	No – the policy and its priority objectives would not lead to development.
Economy			
E1	The economic value of the designation is evaluated, promoted and demonstrated, particularly to encourage sensitive business growth and encourage a greater year-round economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Demonstrate the continued and growing economic value of the World Heritage designation through a repeat of the 2015 study. If possible, include a focus on STEM opportunities and develop a case study of the combined economic value of the String of Pearls. 	No – the policy and its priority objectives would not lead to development.
E2	Visitor Centres and Museums are a key asset for tourism and the communities of the WHS and their long-term sustainability will continue to be supported	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Develop and roll out an agreed and joint responsible use policy or Code of Conduct for group or commercial users of the Coast Path (or linked paths) along the Jurassic Coast. 	No – the policy and its priority objectives would not lead to development.
E3	Growth in the sustainable use of the coast and wider inland landscape is encouraged and supported, in line with the environmental values of the WHS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Advocate for the continued support of Visitor Centres and Museums that provide social and economic benefits to their communities and the World Heritage Site. 	No – the policy and its priority objectives would not lead to development.
E4	Local producers and service providers are used and advocated for where possible in respect of activity relating to the management of the WHS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Develop joined up itineraries for visitors in partnership with local businesses, the String of pearls group and other attractions, prioritising those that use sustainable transport. 	No – the policy and its priority objectives would not lead to development.
E5	Employment and enterprise opportunities inspired by the STEM areas of science, geology, research, conservation and the marine environment, within the WHS and its adjoining areas are to be supported and encouraged.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Explore ways of raising awareness of local services and skills, such as fossil preparation, that are linked to the WHS and its economic impact. 	No – the policy and its priority objectives would not lead to development.
Civic Pride			
CP1	The profile of the Jurassic Coast, World Heritage Status and its significance is increased within towns and parishes close to the WHS.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Produce new guidelines for use of the name 'Jurassic Coast', WHS logos, and other branding tools amongst all stakeholders, particularly businesses and the String of Pearls group. 	No – the policy and its priority objectives would not lead to development.

Ref.	Policy	Priority objectives 2020-2025.	Likely significant effect?
CP2	Appropriate use of the Jurassic Coast and UNESCO brands is nurtured in order to strengthen the integrity of the designation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Establish an effective mechanism for the Partnership to communicate with towns and parishes along the World Heritage Site in order to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Facilitate their involvement with Site management ○ Help increase an understanding of the Site within their communities. 	No – the policy and its priority objectives would not lead to development.

5.0 Discussion

The screening assessment has identified that none of the principles, aims, policies and priority objectives would have a likely significant effect on any European site. The principles and aims are aspirational and provide general guidance on how management of the WHS should progress. Policies give more detailed guidance linked to priority objectives but are never linked to specific development.

Where policies refer to specific actions, such as VM1 which refers to maintaining and improving visitor infrastructure, these are supportive of development rather than enabling and will not lead directly to development. If development arose from the policy then this would require consent from the relevant Planning Authority, incorporating a specific assessment of the project under the Habs Regs. In many cases, the Partnership Plan policies are complementary to the conservation objectives for the European sites and any effects are either neutral or positive.

The overarching ethos of the Partnership Plan is to strengthen and protect biodiversity and the natural environment, thus supporting the conservation objectives of the European sites. A stated Partnership Value for the WHS is to 'protect and promote the unique....flora and fauna associated with the Jurassic Coast World Heritage Site, and do our best to ensure that any development or changes to the WHS support net environmental gain'.

Policies specifically state that the Partnership Plan will prevent inappropriate development (policy R2) or adverse impacts from aggregate, mineral, oil or gas extraction (policies IM2, IM3), as well as maintaining or improving the condition of the SSSIs which underpin the European sites (CSS1).

Fossil collecting is governed by three sets of guidance (see Appendix 3 of the Plan):

- Natural England Technical Information Note 112: Managing geological specimen collecting: responsible collecting
- The West Dorset Fossil Collecting Code of Conduct
- A Fossil Code and Recording Scheme for the Undercliffs National Nature Reserve,

all of which have either been produced, overseen or are administered by Natural England and are therefore supportive of the conservation objectives of the European sites. In addition, fossil collecting policies (specifically CSS6 and F4) make specific mention of the need to work in partnership with Natural England and take account of conservation designations and codes of conduct.

The Partnership Plan sits alongside other documents which guide management of the designated site and which underpin the conservation objectives of the European sites. The best examples of this are the two Areas of Outstanding Beauty which together cover over 80% of the WHS area: the East Devon AONB and the Dorset AONB. These designations are both guided by Management Plans which have been assessed under the Habs Regs. Aligning the Partnership Plan with these Management Plans helps provide further certainty that management of the WHS is supportive of the European sites.

5.1 In combination effects

The assessment requires that the effects of the plan are considered alongside other plans and projects which may, in combination with the Partnership Plan, lead to adverse effect in the integrity of the European sites. However, this HRA has concluded there are no likely significant effects of any principle, aim, policy or priority objective, therefore eliminating the possibility of any cumulative/in combination effects from other projects as there are no impacts to combine.

6.0 Conclusion and Reg 63(5), the Integrity Test

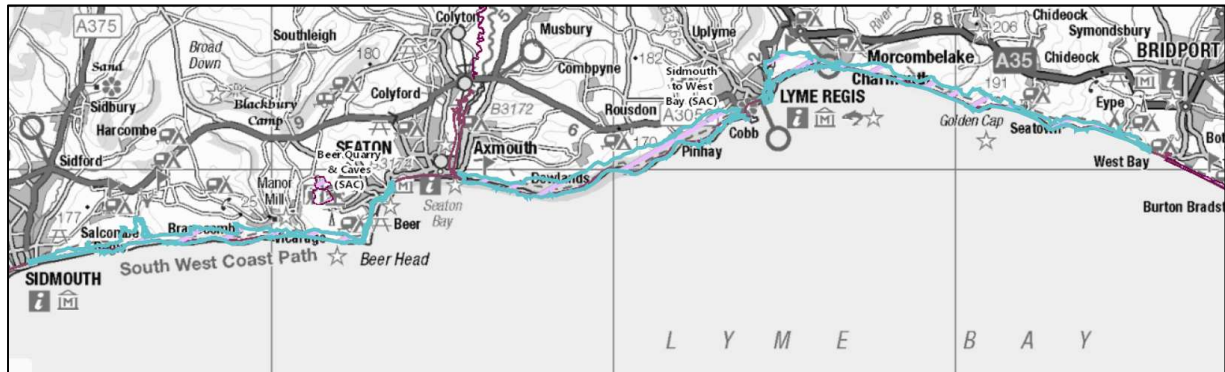
It is the conclusion of this assessment of the Jurassic Coast Partnership Plan 2020-25 Management Framework that no principle, aim, policy or priority objective will result in adverse effect on the integrity of the European sites, either alone or in combination, as described in Reg 63(5) of the Conservation of Habitats and Species (amended) (EU Exit) Regulations, 2019.

APPENDIX

TERRESTRIAL EUROPEAN SITES

Where appropriate, Natural England's supplementary advice about the European Site Conservation Objectives and the relevant Natural England Shoreline Management Plan should be referred to for additional information.

Sidmouth to West Bay SAC



Qualifying Features:

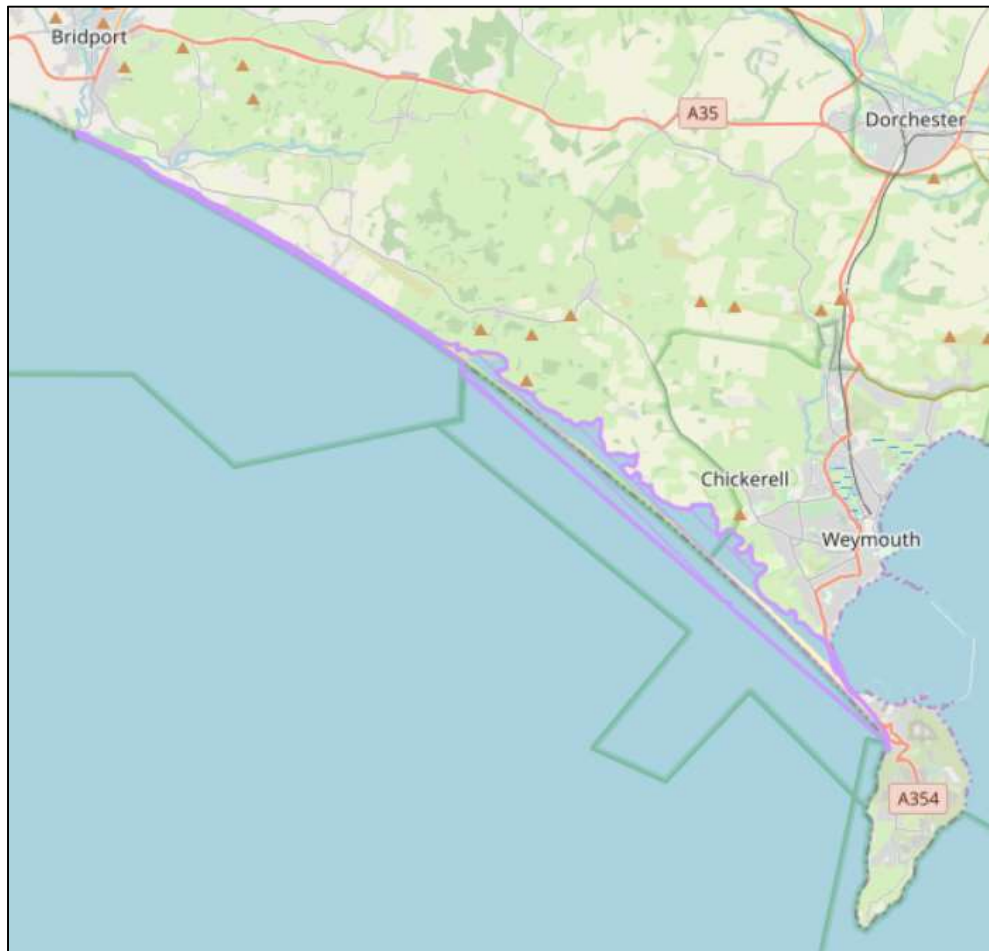
- Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts
- Tilio-Acerion forests of slopes, screes and raves
- Annual vegetation of drift lines

Conservation Objectives:

Ensure that the integrity of the site is maintained or restored as appropriate, and ensure that the site contributes to achieving the Favourable Conservation Status of its Qualifying Features, by maintaining or restoring;

- The extent and distribution of qualifying natural habitats
- The structure and function (including typical species) of qualifying natural habitats, and
- The supporting processes on which qualifying natural habitats rely

Chesil and the Fleet SAC



Qualifying Features:

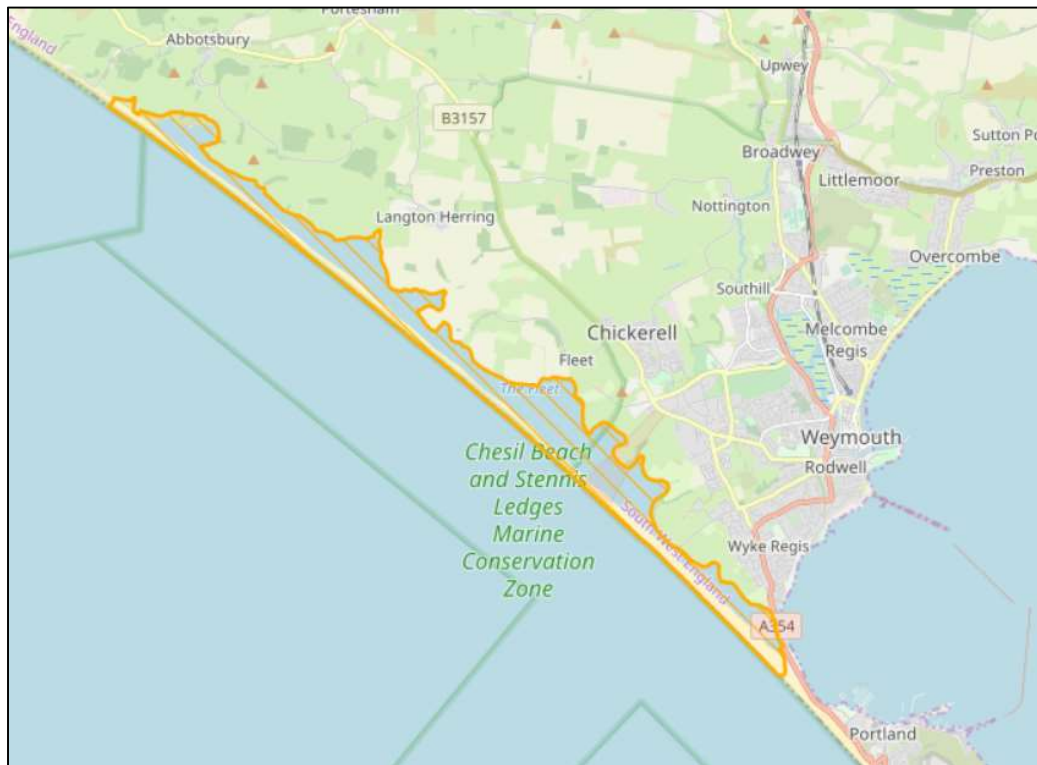
- Coastal lagoons
- Annual vegetation of drift lines
- Perennial vegetation of stony banks; Coastal shingle vegetation outside the reach of waves
- Atlantic salt meadows (*Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritimae*)
- Mediterranean and thermo-Atlantic halophilous scrubs (*Sarcocornetea fruticosi*); Mediterranean saltmarsh scrub

Conservation Objectives:

Ensure that the integrity of the site is maintained or restored as appropriate, and ensure that the site contributes to achieving the Favourable Conservation Status of its Qualifying Features, by maintaining or restoring;

- The extent and distribution of qualifying natural habitats
- The structure and function (including typical species) of qualifying natural habitats, and
- The supporting processes on which qualifying natural habitats rely

Chesil and the Fleet SPA/Ramsar



Qualifying Features:

- Little tern (*Sternula albifrons*), Breeding
- Wigeon (*Mareca penelope*), Non-breeding
- Dark-bellied brent goose (*Branta bernicla*)

Ramsar criterion 1:

- Outstanding example of rare lagoon and saltmarsh habitats.

Ramsar criterion 2:

- Specialist lagoonal species, nationally scarce wetland plants and wetland animals. Shingle habitats and species.

Ramsar criterion 3:

- Largest barrier-built saline lagoon in the UK with greatest diversity of habitats and biota.

Ramsar criterion 4:

- Important for number of species at a critical stage in their life cycle

Ramsar criterion 8:

- Nursery for bass

Ramsar criterion 6:

- Over wintering Dark bellied brent goose.

Conservation Objectives:

Ensure that the integrity of the site is maintained or restored as appropriate, and ensure that the site contributes to achieving the aims of the Wild Birds Directive, by maintaining or restoring;

- The extent and distribution of the habitats of the qualifying features
- The structure and function of the habitats of the qualifying features
- The supporting processes on which the habitats of the qualifying features rely
- The population of each of the qualifying features, and,
- The distribution of the qualifying features within the site.

Isle of Portland to Studland Cliffs SAC



Qualifying Features:

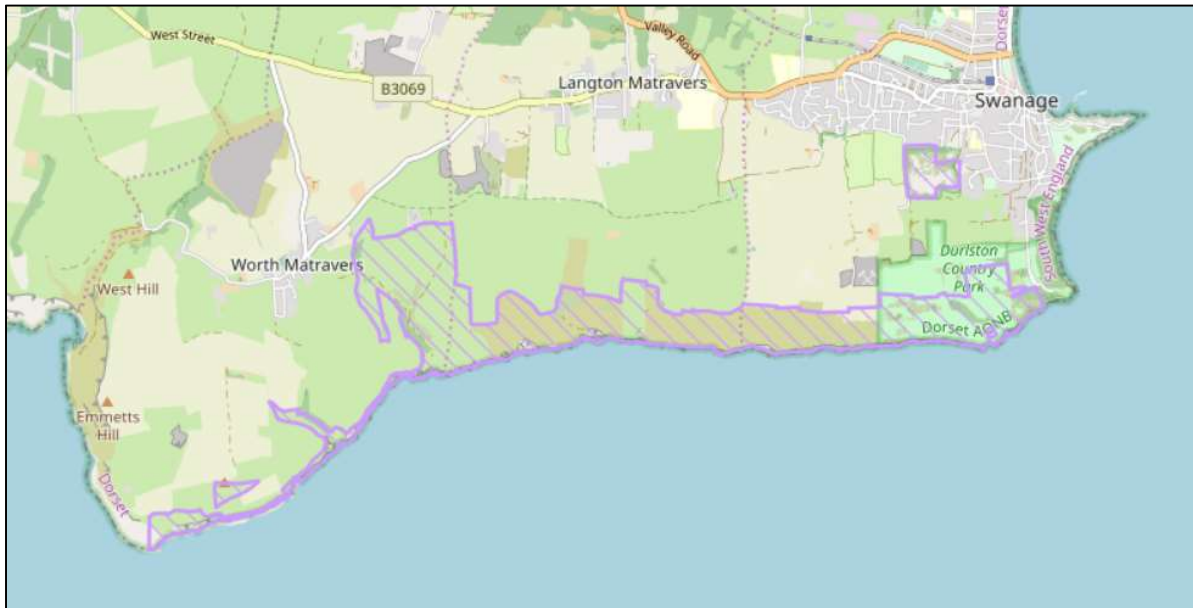
- Annual vegetation of drift lines
- Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts
- Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies: on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia); Dry grasslands and scrublands on chalk or limestone
- *Gentianella anglica*; Early gentian

Conservation Objectives:

Ensure that the integrity of the site is maintained or restored as appropriate, and ensure that the site contributes to achieving the Favourable Conservation Status of its Qualifying Features, by maintaining or restoring;

- The extent and distribution of qualifying natural habitats and habitats of qualifying species
- The structure and function (including typical species) of qualifying natural habitats
- The structure and function of the habitats of qualifying species
- The supporting processes on which qualifying natural habitats and the habitats of qualifying species rely
- The populations of qualifying species, and,
- The distribution of qualifying species within the site.

St Albans Head to Durlston Head SAC



Qualifying Features:

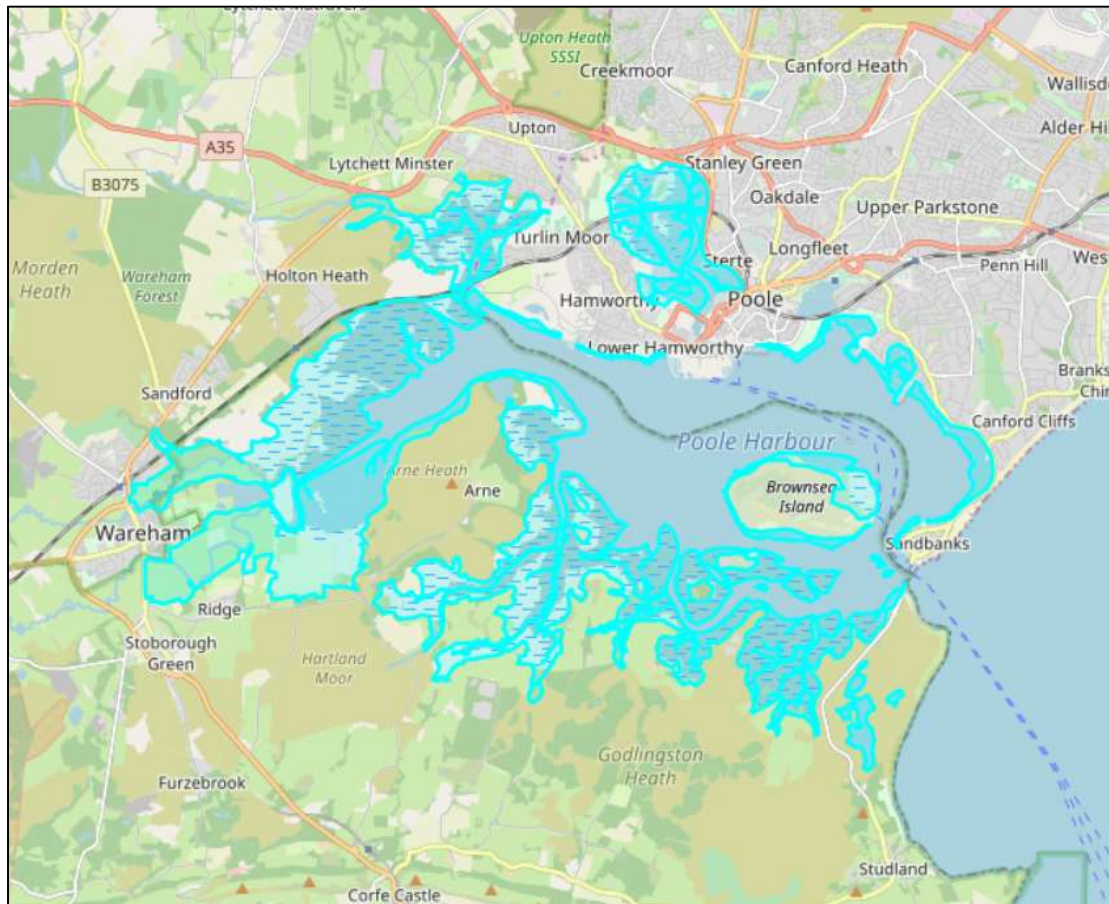
- Vegetated sea cliffs of the Atlantic and Baltic coasts
- Semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies: on calcareous substrates (Festuco-Brometalia) (important orchid sites); Dry grasslands and scrublands on chalk or limestone (important orchid sites)
- *Rhinolophus ferrumequinum*; Greater horseshoe bat
- *Gentianella anglica*; Early gentian

Conservation Objectives:

Ensure that the integrity of the site is maintained or restored as appropriate, and ensure that the site contributes to achieving the Favourable Conservation Status of its Qualifying Features, by maintaining or restoring;

- The extent and distribution of qualifying natural habitats and habitats of qualifying species
- The structure and function (including typical species) of qualifying natural habitats
- The structure and function of the habitats of qualifying species
- The supporting processes on which qualifying natural habitats and the habitats of qualifying species rely
- The populations of qualifying species, and,
- The distribution of qualifying species within the site.

Poole Harbour SPA and Ramsar



Qualifying Features:

- Avocet (*Recurvirostra avosetta*), Non-breeding
- Black-tailed godwit (*Limosa limosa islandica*), Non-breeding
- Common tern (*Sterna hirundo*), Breeding
- Little egret (*Egretta garzetta*), Non-breeding
- Mediterranean gull (*Ichthyaeetus melanocephalus*), Breeding
- Sandwich tern (*Thalasseus sandvicensis*), Breeding
- Shelduck (*Tadorna tadorna*), Non-breeding
- Spoonbill (*Platalea leucorodia*), Non-breeding
- Waterbird assemblage, Non-breeding

Ramsar criterion 1

- Best example of a bar-built estuary with lagoonal characteristics in Britain.

Ramsar criterion 2

- Two species of nationally rare plant and one nationally rare alga. At least three British Red data book invertebrate species.

Ramsar criterion 3

- Examples of natural habitat types of community interest - Mediterranean and thermo Atlantic halophilous scrubs, as well as calcareous fens with *Cladium mariscus*. Transitions from saltmarsh through to peatland mires are of exceptional conservation importance. Nationally important populations of breeding waterfowl including Common tern, *Sterna hirundo* and Mediterranean gull *Larus melanocephalus*. Over winter the site also supports a nationally important population of Avocet *Recurvirostra avosetta*.

Ramsar criterion 5

- Species with peak counts in winter: 24709 waterfowl

Ramsar criterion 6

- Species with peak counts in winter: Common shelduck Black-tailed godwit

Conservation Objectives:

Ensure that the integrity of the site is maintained or restored as appropriate, and ensure that the site contributes to achieving the aims of the Wild Birds Directive, by maintaining or restoring;

- The extent and distribution of the habitats of the qualifying features
- The structure and function of the habitats of the qualifying features
- The supporting processes on which the habitats of the qualifying features rely
- The population of each of the qualifying features, and,
- The distribution of the qualifying features within the site.

MARINE EUROPEAN SITES

Lyme Bay and Torbay SAC



Qualifying Features:

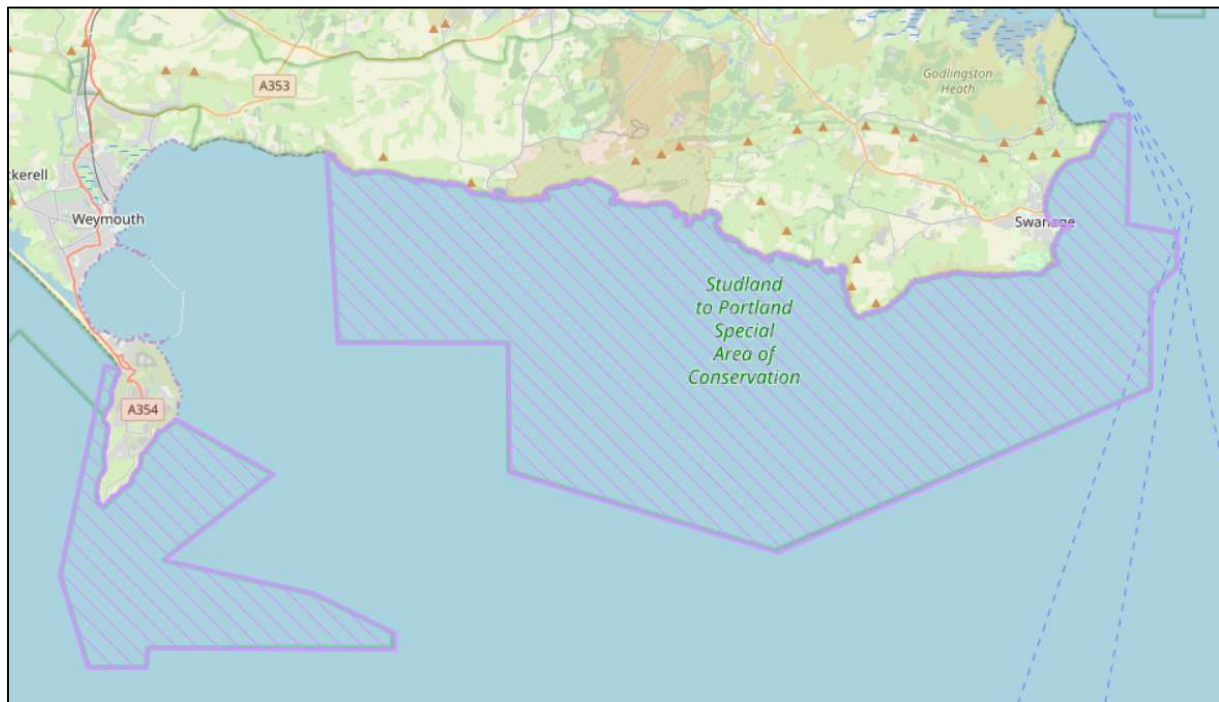
- Reefs
- Submerged or partially submerged sea caves

Conservation Objectives:

Ensure that the integrity of the site is maintained or restored as appropriate, and ensure that the site contributes to achieving the Favourable Conservation Status of its Qualifying Features, by maintaining or restoring;

- The extent and distribution of qualifying natural habitats
- The structure and function (including typical species) of qualifying natural habitats, and
- The supporting processes on which the qualifying natural habitats rely

Studland to Portland SAC



Qualifying Features:

- Reefs

Conservation Objectives:

Ensure that the integrity of the site is maintained or restored as appropriate, and ensure that the site contributes to achieving the Favourable Conservation Status of its Qualifying Features, by maintaining or restoring;

- The extent and distribution of qualifying natural habitats
- The structure and function (including typical species) of qualifying natural habitats, and
- The supporting processes on which the qualifying natural habitats rely