

Table 12: Other Water Sports

	Relevant Authorities for this activity	Other Competent Authorities	Other associated organisations
Authorities associated with activity	Isle of Wight Council (IWC) Ventnor Haven; English Nature (EN); Harbour Authorities (HA); Dockyard Port of Portsmouth (QHM), Royal Yachting Association (RYA)		
Location	Other water sports of at least one form occur at most localities throughout the SWMEMS area. Some activities will concentrate around the major access points in the harbours and estuaries (waterskiing is within a prescribed area to the North West of Wootton Creek.		
Frequency	Water sports (personal water craft, windsurfing, kayaking, kite surfing, dingy sailing, waterskiing and swimming) takes place all year round with a definite increase in concentration during the Summer-Autumn period.		
Potential effects with regards to Reg. 33 advice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Noise • Abrasion • Siltation • Turbidity • Changes in nutrient content of the water • Visual • Introduction of synthetic and non-synthetic compounds. 		
Research undertaken	None		
Research required	The effects of disturbance of each of these activities.		
Ongoing management	<p>Some activities occur in or from the harbours at Ventnor Haven and Bembridge Harbour and so as these areas are owned or are owned and managed by the Isle of Wight Council the council reserves the right to prevent any the activities occurring in particular areas. The council also promotes a series of regattas, sailing weeks and water sports events the majority of which are based in the SWMEMS. All plans recognise the economic importance of boating and water sports to the island and to each individual area. Thus there is a general concensus regarding the importance of retaining open areas within the main harbours for dingy sailing and training, so these areas will often be available for "other water sports".</p> <p>Permission is required from EN for any operation likely to damage a SSSI. EN may consent, assist or advise on any operations listed as 'an operation requiring EN's consent (formerly Operations Likely to Damage, OLD). EN is able to prosecute anyone for damage to a SSSI under the CRoW Act 2000. EN is also able to make byelaws for the protection of a European marine site under Regulation 36 of the Conservation Regulations 1994 but this is considered a last resort in the management of this site. These activities constitute two operations on the OLD list 'use of vehicles or craft likely to damage or disturb vegetation or fauna' and 'recreational or other activities likely to damage vegetation or fauna' in SSSIs that are sensitive to these operations.</p> <p>HA have control over speed limits for navigation and in some cases conservation. The RYA teaches people how to windsurf and provide information on best practice. Local clubs often affiliated to national organisations have rules for diving, kayaking and rowing and are relatively self regulating. Swimming is unregulated as is kite surfing.</p> <p>QHM can create regulations preventing certain activities that might interfere with safe navigation. All vessels are affected by a 10kt speed limits within 1000 yards of the shore. In addition a 5kt speed limit exists in part of Wootton Creek. All organised activities/events are required to provide a Risk Assessment to the satisfaction of the QHM prior to the event taking place. Some activities have voluntary codes of conduct.</p>		
Gaps in management			
New actions required	Relevant Authority to implement new actions	Timescale	
1. To obtain data from diving operation e.g fish data, evidence of damage.	Secretariat	Annual	
2. Coordinate local dive groups/Possibly have plans to promote this. Investigate the situation and report back.		One-off initially	
3. Collect sea search forms.		Annual	