

**Table 16: Angling**

	<b>Relevant Authorities for this activity</b>	<b>Other Competent Authorities</b>	<b>Other associated organisations</b>
<b>Authorities associated with activity</b>	Dockyard Port of Portsmouth (QHM); Southern Sea Fisheries Committee (SSF); Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA), Environment Agency	Isle of Wight Council (IWC), English Nature (EN)	
<b>Location</b>	Angling (from a boat or the shoreline) occurs throughout the SWMEMS, but concentrated around favoured areas, also dependent upon distances from harbours such as Lymington, Ventnor Haven and Bembridge Harbour and may be concentrated around easily accessible areas.		
<b>Frequency</b>	There is some seasonal intensity variation in response to fish life cycles. The Flounder ( <i>Platyichthes flesus</i> ) season being a period particularly intense activity in late autumn/early winter, with competitions from the shoreline greatly concentrating activity. The popularity according to NFSA is extremely high. Other target species include bass, mullet and plaice.		
<b>Potential effects with regards to Reg. 33 advice</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Noise</li> <li>• Visual presence</li> <li>• Abrasion</li> <li>• Biological disturbance - Selective extraction of species</li> </ul>		
<b>Research undertaken</b>	Angling clubs may hold records of catches. Fowler (2002) Investigation into bait digging and its impacts within the Solent and Poole Bay Natural Area Russell and Williams (1995) details the intensity of sea angling on the Isle of Wight. DEFRA, CEFAS and Sea Fish Industry Authority hold data on the impacts of fishing.		
<b>Research required</b>	Information on numbers of anglers, boats and numbers of fish landed, comparisons with commercial fisheries etc. Information on long term trends in catches could potentially provide indication of health of subtidal reef systems.		
<b>Ongoing management</b>	<p>The IWC carries out no direct regulation of sea angling, although it reserves the right to prevent angling from various parts of its property. The IWC also promotes sea fishing as part of the island's tourist attractions and it also promotes the British Cod Championships in waters adjacent to the SWMEMS. The IWC Unitary development Plan (UDP) recognises the value of encouraging public enjoyment of the countryside, fishing being included within this "public enjoyment". No specific policies exist within the UDP with regards to sea fishing.</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. This activity constitutes two operations no 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. Bait digging is identified on the OLD lists for all those SSSIs that are sensitive to this operation.</p> <p>The QHM directly regulates this activity by prohibiting fishing from a boat in prescribed areas and indirectly regulation exists from powers relating to anchoring and mooring. These often co-exist.</p> <p>The direct responsibilities of SSF are laid down in 1) the Environment Act 1995; 2) the Sea Fisheries (Wildlife Conservation) Act 1992; and 3) the Conservation (Natural Habitats) regulations 1994. The SSF Committee enforces EU, national and byelaw regulations. The principle legislation that defines fishing activity in the southern district is contained in EU Technical Conservation Regulations EC No. 850/98. The principle legislation that defines this activity is contained within the EU Technical Conservation Regulations EC No. 850/98. The Bass (<i>specified Areas</i>) (<i>Prohibition of Fishing</i>) (<i>variation</i>) order 1999; the Sea Fisheries (shellfish) Act 1967 and Southern Sea Fisheries Committee byelaws e.g. the 'vessel length' Byelaw.</p> <p>DEFRA Fisheries Inspectorate the Environment Agency are also involved in the regulation of this activity.</p>		
<b>Gaps in management</b>			
<b>New actions required</b>	<b>Relevant Authority to implement new actions</b>		<b>Timescale</b>
1. Liaise with sea anglers (Tony Williams) to obtain catch records. It may be possible to	Secretariat		Annual

<p>gain a broad-brush indication from British/Angling Club regarding the size of Plaice, Bass etc</p> <p>2. Possible weight records via Roger Herbert to be investigated.</p>	<p>Secretariat</p>	<p>One-off</p>
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