

**Table 6: Shellfish Collection**

	Relevant Authorities for this activity	Other Competent Authorities	Other associated organisations
<b>Authorities associated with activity</b>	Isle of Wight Council and Ventnor Haven (IWC) Centre for Environment Fisheries and Aquaculture Science (CEFAS) Food Standard Agency (FSA) Department of Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) Environment Agency Southern Sea Fisheries Committee (SSF) English Nature (EN)		
<b>Location</b>	Commercial Oyster fisheries are present in the Ventnor Haven and Freshwater Bay. Small scale collection for personal consumption takes place on beaches and mudflats within the South Wight SAC.		
<b>Frequency</b>	Crustacea and whelk potting takes place all year round according to activity of target species		
<b>Potential effects with regards to Reg. 33 advice</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Visual</li> <li>• Noise</li> <li>• Abrasion</li> <li>• Biological disturbance - selective extraction</li> </ul>		
<b>Research undertaken</b>	Commercial oyster collection is monitored (mostly for <i>e-coli</i> ) by the council, The FSA and CEFAS. The monitoring confirms the classification of the fishery.		
<b>Research required</b>			
<b>Ongoing management</b>	<p>Ventnor Haven is managed by the IWC. The main role of the IWC in shellfish collection is the monitoring of the quality of the oyster fishery and the communication of the subsequent classification (confirmed via CEFAS and the FSA) to the fisherman. DEFRA Fisheries Inspectorate, FSA, CEFAS, SSF and the Environment Agency are all involved in fisheries regulation.</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 shellfish activity is the Sea Fisheries (Shellfish) Act 1967 and Southern SFC byelaws, e.g. 'vessel length' Byelaw.</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. EN is a consulttee on the SSF committee.</p> <p>CEFAS regulates shellfish collection through the Environmental Health Food Safety (Fishery Products and Live Shellfish) (Hygiene) Regulations. In addition there are local byelaws for health and safety and restriction of access.</p>		
<b>Gaps in management</b>			
<b>New actions required</b>	<b>Relevant Authority to implement new actions</b>	<b>Timescale</b>	
Baseline information needs to be provided.	SSF/Secretariat	Annual	