

Map of Activities within the SWMEMS Area

Habitats of the South Wight Maritime European marine site

-  Sub-tidal faunal turf communities
-  Kelp forest and subtidal red algae communities
-  Rocky Shore Communities
-  EMS boundary
-  Sea cave communities

The intertidal and subtidal area to the south of the Isle of Wight is very special in terms of the environment and has been designated as such by Europe for certain features of interest. The South of the Isle of Wight is used for a variety of activities and interests. There are a number of recreational, educational and commercial activities including Sailing, Power boating, Diving, Kite surfing, Surfing, Fossil collecting, Angling, Fishing and Paragliding. However, such usage is generally not intensive and even on a busy summer's day you can still feel relaxed and enjoy the seclusion and unique environment of the Island.

Much of the coastline is also designated as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) or Heritage Coast. Whilst this management scheme does not apply to areas outside of the intertidal and subtidal environment, links must obviously be maintained to ensure that the overall approach undertaken to manage the Isle of Wight's natural resources is cohesive.

Alum Bay

ISLE OF WIGHT

Bembridge

Sandown

Sandown Bay

Ventnor

South west coast

The Needles are popular with sightseers both on land and by boat.

Kite surfing & rockpooling are enjoyed by visitors and locals alike.



Paragliding, walking, fossil collecting, angling and surfing are all popular recreational pursuits along this stretch of coastline, which is protected by many important environmental designations.



Locally caught lobster is landed on the beach near Ventnor Haven which is the only harbour along the South of the Island.