

Welcome to the latest Newsletter from the Flamborough Head Management Group.

“Ensuring that human activities are managed in ways that are compatible with the wildlife features of the area”

Marine Conservation Zones & Net Gain

The Marine Conservation Zone (MCZ) Project is being led by Natural England and the Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC) to recommend a network of MCZs around the UK to the Government. The Net Gain Project was set up to identify and recommend potential sites for MCZs in the English North Sea. The approach Net Gain have taken represents a benchmark shift in that, for the first time, stakeholders are actively involved in the development and identification of sites - the process aims to involve all those who have an interest in the North Sea and its future. MCZs do not just protect rare, threatened and endangered species, but will be representative of the range of marine wildlife in our regional seas.

Site recommendations will be accompanied by an assessment of the potential impacts of the management options for each site, and after recommendations have been made to Government there will be a formal consultation, giving stakeholders an additional opportunity to comment on sites. The Net Gain project has developed 16 draft MCZs, with a good level of support from the Regional Stakeholder Group. Five of these sites are within the Yorkshire and Humber region, including one along the Holderness coast based on the area of the existing no-trawl area. While no draft MCZs have been put forward in the Flamborough area, two reference sites have been proposed within the Flamborough Head Special Area of Conservation; one offshore site about 500m² where the main feature is horse mussel, and one using the area of the existing No Take Zone (NTZ), featuring littoral chalk.

Moving forward, the draft MCZs will be further refined and stakeholders will be determining the conservation objectives and recommending suitable management options for each site. Once the conservation objectives have been set there should be greater clarity on the implications of MCZs for sea users. All MCZs should be designated by June 2012.

For further information please contact Net Gain on 01482 382007, or visit www.netgainmcz.org

No Take Zone update

The Flamborough Head No Take Zone (NTZ), which runs from Sewerby Steps to Dane's Dyke and extends 700m seaward from the cliff base, was established in July last year and has so far been running smoothly. This year's monitoring strategy for the NTZ has now been finalised. Potting surveys will start in May and be carried out once a month until September to look at populations of lobster, edible crab, velvet crab and whelk. These potting surveys will be carried out with the help of the local fishing industry. Fish populations will be surveyed through the use of underwater cameras and a one-off scallop survey will be completed by divers from Hull University. Mussel bed mapping and habitat mapping are also being undertaken. The monitoring being undertaken in the NTZ compliments the wider survey work being conducted in the Flamborough Head European Marine Site, which consists of monthly sea trips to conduct lobster stock assessments. This is also carried out with the assistance of the fishing industry.



**FLAMBOROUGH
HEAD**

MANAGEMENT PLAN

Spring 2011

Newsletter



North Eastern Sea Fisheries Committee Becomes North Eastern Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority

By the time you are reading this the NESFC, who have been responsible for inshore fisheries enforcement and management for over 120 years will have ceased to exist. The replacement organisation, The North Eastern Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority (NEIFCA) will have been officially vested. NEIFCA is one of ten such authorities, and retains its historic functions as well as gaining broader conservation powers resulting from the Marine and Coastal Access Act. You will still see the same faces though, as the staff move into this new role well prepared for future challenges.

Trial Bus Service for Bridlington & Flamborough

An idea for a new People Mover Shuttle Bus to serve the main tourism attractions north of Bridlington is being considered for the coming season, to operate as a trial throughout August, if funding can be secured. It is hoped that the service can link with other similar services to avoid duplication, and improve access to Flamborough Head, particularly at the height of the summer.

The current idea is for a circular service to link between Bridlington and the main visitor attractions on Flamborough Head - RSPB Bempton; Flamborough (North Landing, Lighthouse, South Landing); Danes Dyke; and Sewerby Hall & Gardens.

Details of how the service might operate are yet to be developed, and the proposals will be discussed at the next Bridlington Town Team meeting to be held at 6.30pm on Wednesday 6th April at Bridlington Town Hall.

If you would like to be involved in the development of the service please contact Liz Philpot Tel: (01482) 395041 or e.mail : liz.philpot@eastriding.gov.uk.

Highlights

Storyboard Launch

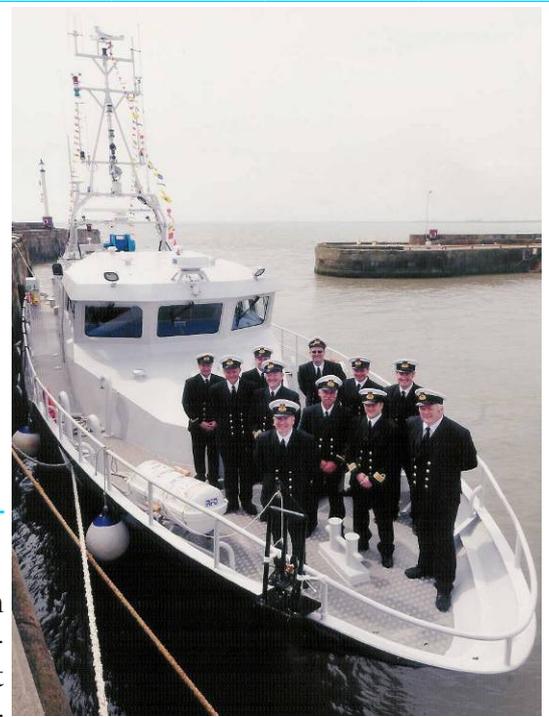
On April 20th the Flamborough Head Storyboard Project will officially be launched! The event will comprise of a walk from North Landing to Thornwick Bay to see some of the Storyboards in place, followed by refreshments at the WI Hall. If you would like to join us please meet at North Landing car park at 2pm. All are welcome!

Flamborough Forum

The Flamborough Head Maritime Forum, previously postponed from December due to bad weather, was held on February 22nd. There was a good turnout, with interesting presentations given by Leanne Stockdale (Natural England), Ian Kendall (RSPB) and Kat Sanders (Yorkshire Wildlife Trust). Thank you to the Flamborough WI for the use of their hall, and for providing such excellent refreshments!

Coastal Futures

On the 20th & 21st January Project Officer, Katherine Gray, attended the Coastal Futures conference in London. This conference offers strong perspectives from key stakeholders and industry leaders on current marine and coastal issues. Over the two days of the conference there were over 20 talks, on topics such as coastal policy & planning, the implementation of the Marine Act, Marine Conservation Zones, the reform of the Common Fisheries Policy and marine spatial planning.



Dates for your diary

1st April - North Eastern Sea Fisheries Committee becomes North Eastern Inshore Fisheries & Conservation Authority.

20th April - Storyboard Launch Event, North Landing.

Throughout May & June - RSPB Gannet & Puffin Cruises, and Yorkshire Wildlife Trust (YWT) Living Sea Safaris.

7th May - East Riding of Yorkshire Council (ERYC) Spring Migration countryside walk.

11th June - ERYC Step Back in Time at Dane's Dyke walk.

12th June - ERYC Heritage Coast Hike.

25th June - YWT Flamborough Head Beach Clean.

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