

# Marine Licence Applications

## Report No 57. 28 January 2022

This report covers applications submitted since 1 November 2021 for work in the Solent, not included in previous reports. It excludes applications for the burial of human remains at sea.

## 1. Applications open for consultation

Case Information	Project Type	Project Title	Locations	Applicant Name	Submitted	Latest Decision	Consultation Closing
<b>MLA/2021/00489</b>	Application - Other deposits	LIFE Recreation ReMEDIES Solent Seagrass Restoration	Beaulieu	National Marine Aquarium	18-Nov-21		22-Feb-22
<b>Submitted</b>							
<b>MLA/2021/00475</b>	Application - Maintenance of existing works	Redbridge Causeway Remediation Works, Southampton (Work Package 3)	River Test, Southampton	Hampshire County Council	05-Nov-21		04-Mar-22
<b>Submitted</b>							

## 2. Summary of Applications open for consultation

### 00489

LIFE Recreation ReMEDIES: Reducing and Mitigating Erosion and Disturbance Impacts affecting the Seabed. Led by Natural England and partnered by the Tamar Estuaries Consultative Forum, Royal Yachting Association, Marine Conservation Society and Ocean Conservation Trust is a 4-year E.U LIFE funded project. The project focuses on 5 Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) one site being the Solent Maritime SAC.

The Solent Maritime SAC is a complex site, designated for 10 European Annex 1 habitats, and encompassing a major estuarine system on the south coast of England. The Solent and its many significant inlets are unique in Europe for their unusual tidal regime, including double tides and long periods of tidal stand at high and low tide. As a result, the Solent Maritime SAC is a unique suite of functionally linked estuaries and dynamic marine and estuarine habitats. The site has the largest number of small estuaries in the tightest cluster anywhere in the UK. It is the only European marine site within the UK to contain more than one physiographic estuary type, comprising four bar-built estuaries (Newtown Harbour, Beaulieu, Langstone Harbour and Chichester Harbour) and four coastal plain estuaries (Yar, Medina, Kings Quay Shore and the Hamble). Together, the cluster of estuaries contain a wide range of both intertidal and subtidal habitats, with important examples of natural transitions from terrestrial to marine environments.

Seagrass beds are a subfeature of three of the Annex 1 features found in the Solent Maritime SAC (Estuaries, Sandbanks which are slightly covered by sea water all the time, and Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide). There are approximately 117 hectares of subtidal seagrass beds in the European Marine Site. Seagrass beds are nationally rare and a priority habitat of conservation importance in their own right and a UK habitat of principal importance as well as providing important spawning, nursery and refuge areas for fish.

#### Programme of works

The works aim to create 4 hectares of subtidal seagrass (*Zostera marina*) bed habitat as part of the LIFE Recreational ReMEDIES project. The aim is to contribute to restoring favourable condition of Solent Maritime Special Area of Conservation. This will be achieved through the introduction of seed and seedlings into areas of bare subtidal sediment, identified through modelling suitable supporting habitat for *Z. marina* beds. The site identified for habitat restoration is west of the mouth of the, Beaulieu River. The work requires 2 types of boat operations, firstly deployment of the planting units by hand over the side of motor vessel. Secondly once the deployment operation is complete within 24 hour the planting units will be pegged into the sediments. A further 2 hectares of seagrass habitat will be created in spring 2022 within the licence area spring 2023 .

### 00475

Redbridge Causeway Remediation Works, Southampton (Work Package 3)

#### Project background

The work to Redbridge Causeway is part of a wider remediation project to refurbish all four structures on the A35 Redbridge Causeway, which passes over the tidal River Test in Redbridge, Southampton. The current project is known as Work Package 3. The other land-based phases of the works are being undertaken in parallel. Hampshire County Council and associated parties are currently preparing designs for WP3, the next phase of repair works, anticipated to commence in February 2022 - in line with consenting timescales. The decision letter on Enquiry ENQ/2021/00050 confirmed that a new marine licence application would be required, but does not constitute and EIA development.

By means of a scheme overview, issues with the structure have shown that the bridge is in poor condition and unless significant repairs are carried out, traffic

restrictions would need to be implemented. Work Package 1 has been completed, and Work Package 2 (Phases 2 - 5) involving works to the piers supporting the southern bridges is currently in progress as per the L/2019/00398/3, and is due to complete soon. The next phase of repair works, referred to as Work Package 3 (Phases 6, 7a, 7b, 8, 9 and 10) will involve repairs to the northern bridge sections. There are six distinct works areas for WP3, which include:

1. Network Rail – eastbound structure span 1 and westbound structure pier 5
2. East bridge – span 2 and 3 and westbound structure pier 6
3. West bridge - abutments and piers 1 and 2
4. Service diversions
5. Eastbound carriageway resurfacing and waterproofing
6. South parapet and railing replacement

The Network rail, service diversion, and carriageway works do not interface with the marine environment, but have been included for reference. There will be no overlap of the works for WP2 and WP3. The contractor will also utilise the existing compound and access ramps and the repair works would follow a similar methodology to that approved under L/2019/00398/3.

#### Programme of works

Detailed programming of the activities is currently ongoing, however the works are anticipated to commence in February 2022 for a duration of approximately 21 months.

### 3. Applications not open for consultation and not yet decided

Case Information	Project Type	Project Title	Locations	Applicant Name	Submitted	Latest Decision	Consultation Closing
MLA/2021/00469  Submitted	Application - Construction of new works	Retention of Jetty, Highfield	Highfield, Lower Swanwick, Hamble	Clive & Victoria Nightingale	02-Nov-21		

### 4. Summary of Application not yet decided

#### 00469

Highfield is a private residential property, located in Lower Swanwick, Hampshire, with a private garden located to the rear of the property, fronting onto the River Hamble. The owner of the site has secured retrospective planning permission for the construction of a small jetty, installed in March 2020, providing independent, private access to the River Hamble from the property.

The jetty has been constructed manually from timber railway sleepers and runs from an area of private amenity grassland across a historic hardstanding adjacent to a saltmarsh, measuring 11.15m long by 2.64m wide, with a further 3.26m forming a ramp into the water.

Although ownership of the property extends to the High-Water Mark, including an area of reedbed and saltmarsh, affording the property a link to the river, approximately 3m of the jetty extends beyond Mean High Water and onto the intertidal.

Following statutory consultation advice from Natural England and Fareham Borough Council's Ecologist, an enhancement strategy involving an environmentally sensitive cleanup to remove debris and litter from the creek and the placement of wicker fencing and six coir rolls around the edges of the low and mid marsh saltmarsh on site has been agreed. These enhancements are intended to prevent further erosion of the existing saltmarsh at the site and enhance sediment accretion, encouraging pioneer saltmarsh vegetation and managing algal mats.

Paul King 28 January 2022