

# Marine Management Organisation

## Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 (c.23)

### The Inner Dowsing, Race Bank and North Ridge Special Area of Conservation (Specified Areas) Prohibited Fishing Gears Byelaw 2021

The Marine Management Organisation<sup>1</sup>, in exercise of the powers conferred section 129A and section 129B of the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009, and having:

- placed copies of the draft byelaw in convenient places for the purpose of inspection in accordance with section 130(3) of that Act;
- provided a copy of the draft byelaw to any person upon request in accordance with section 130(4) of that Act; and
- published notice of its proposal to make the byelaw in accordance with sections 130(6) and 130(7) of that Act;

makes the following byelaw to conserve the following marine habitats: sandbanks and *Sabellaria spinulosa* reefs.

#### Interpretation

1. In this byelaw:
  - a. “bottom towed fishing gear” means any trawls, seines, dredges and similar gear which are actively moved in the water by one or more fishing vessels or by any other mechanised system and which are designed and rigged to operate on or near the seabed;
  - b. “inboard, lashed and stowed” means stored in such a way that it cannot readily be used for fishing;
  - c. “specified area of reef” means any or all of the areas defined in Schedule 1;
  - d. “specified area of sandbank” means any or all of the areas defined in Schedule 2; and
  - e. “static fishing gear” means any gear which is left on, or in contact with, the seabed for the purposes of fishing, this includes fixed nets, drift nets and pots.
2. Co-ordinates used in this byelaw are measured from WGS 84 datum. The WGS 84 means the World Geodetic System revised in 1984 and 2004.

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<sup>1</sup> The Marine Management Organisation was established by the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009, section 1.

## **Prohibition**

3. A person must not use bottom towed fishing gear in a specified area of reef or a specified area of sandbank.
4. A person must not use static fishing gear in a specified area of reef.
5. A vessel transiting through a specified area of reef must have all bottom towed fishing gear and static fishing gear inboard, lashed and stowed.
6. A vessel transiting through a specified area of sandbank must have all bottom towed fishing gear inboard, lashed and stowed.

## **Exemptions**

7. Paragraphs 3 to 6 do not apply to a person performing an act which would otherwise constitute an offence against this byelaw, if:
  - a. the act was carried out in accordance with written permission issued by the Marine Management Organisation permitting that act for scientific, stocking or breeding purposes; or,
  - b. the act was carried out in accordance with a marine licence issued by the Secretary of State under Part 4 of the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009, in connection with a decommissioning programme required under Part IV of the Petroleum Act 1998 (c.17).

## **Citation**

8. This byelaw may be cited as the Inner Dowsing, Race Bank and North Ridge Special Area of Conservation (Specified Areas) Prohibited Fishing Gears Byelaw 2021.

## **Revocation**

9. The byelaw with the title “The Inner Dowsing, Race Bank and North Ridge European Marine Site (Specified Areas) Bottom Towed Fishing Gear Byelaw” made by the Marine Management Organisation in exercise of its powers under section 129 of the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009, confirmed on 11 December 2013, and in force immediately before the making of this byelaw is revoked.

Made under the Common Seal of the Marine Management Organisation on

The Common Seal of the Marine Management Organisation was affixed to this byelaw in the presence of:

Philip Haslam  
Director of Operations  
Marine Management Organisation

The Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs in exercise of the power conferred by section 130(8) of the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 confirms this byelaw.

A Senior Civil Servant for, and on behalf of, the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.

Date:

This byelaw comes into force on

## Schedule 1

A "specified area of reef" means:

Area 1 as is enclosed by a series of geodesic lines drawn from:

Point 1	53°22.92'N	00°39.30'E; to
Point 2	53°22.74'N	00°38.76'E; to
Point 3	53°22.50'N	00°37.20'E; to
Point 4	53°21.90'N	00°36.84'E; to
Point 5	53°21.78'N	00°36.42'E; to
Point 6	53°22.98'N	00°36.36'E; to
Point 7	53°23.88'N	00°37.26'E; to
Point 8	53°24.72'N	00°38.52'E; to
Point 9	53°24.72'N	00°39.36'E; to
Point 10	53°23.88'N	00°39.78'E; and returning to point 1,

Area 2 as is enclosed by a series of geodesic lines drawn from:

Point 1	53°15.36'N	00°38.94'E; to
Point 2	53°15.30'N	00°39.36'E; to
Point 3	53°15.06'N	00°39.48'E; to
Point 4	53°14.82'N	00°39.36'E; to
Point 5	53°14.64'N	00°38.94'E; to
Point 6	53°14.82'N	00°38.46'E; to
Point 7	53°15.06'N	00°38.34'E; to
Point 8	53°15.30'N	00°38.52'E; and returning to point 1,

Area 3 as is enclosed by a series of geodesic lines drawn from:

Point 1	53°23.16'N	00°42.18'E; to
Point 2	53°23.28'N	00°42.60'E; to
Point 3	53°23.16'N	00°43.02'E; to
Point 4	53°22.92'N	00°43.14'E; to
Point 5	53°22.62'N	00°42.96'E; to
Point 6	53°22.56'N	00°42.60'E; to
Point 7	53°22.62'N	00°42.18'E; to
Point 8	53°22.86'N	00°42.00'E; and returning to point 1, and

Area 4 as is enclosed by a series of geodesic lines drawn from:

Point 1	53°21.78'N	00°46.80'E; to
Point 2	53°22.02'N	00°46.98'E; to

Point 3	53°22.14'N	00°47.58'E; to
Point 4	53°21.90'N	00°47.88'E; to
Point 5	53°21.72'N	00°48.06'E; to
Point 6	53°21.42'N	00°47.94'E; to
Point 7	53°21.30'N	00°47.34'E; to
Point 8	53°21.54'N	00°46.98'E; and returning to point 1.

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## Schedule 2

A "specified area of sandbank" means:

Area 1 as is enclosed by a series of geodesic lines drawn from:

Point 1	53°19.26'N	00°34.68'E; to
Point 2	53°17.46'N	00°34.98'E; to
Point 3	53°11.88'N	00°34.92'E; to
Point 4	53°10.92'N	00°31.44'E; to
Point 5	53°13.50'N	00°30.78'E; to
Point 6	53°18.96'N	00°32.28'E; to
Point 7	53°19.56'N	00°33.42'E; and returning to point 1, and

Area 2 as is enclosed by a series of geodesic lines drawn from:

Point 1	53°19.68'N	00°55.32'E; to
Point 2	53°18.24'N	00°56.10'E; to
Point 3	53°17.52'N	00°56.88'E; to
Point 4	53°17.40'N	00°58.20'E; to
Point 5	53°18.84'N	00°56.58'E; to
Point 6	53°19.32'N	00°56.34'E; to
Point 7	53°20.64'N	00°56.34'E; to
Point 8	53°20.88'N	00°56.94'E; to
Point 9	53°19.86'N	00°59.70'E; to
Point 10	53°18.60'N	01°01.38'E; to
Point 11	53°13.68'N	01°00.66'E; to
Point 12	53°13.92'N	00°58.80'E; to
Point 13	53°15.96'N	00°52.62'E; to
Point 14	53°17.10'N	00°49.86'E; to
Point 15	53°16.26'N	00°49.92'E; to
Point 16	53°15.66'N	00°50.46'E; to
Point 17	53°14.88'N	00°52.86'E; to
Point 18	53°13.98'N	00°52.38'E; to
Point 19	53°13.44'N	00°53.46'E; to
Point 20	53°07.26'N	00°59.34'E; to
Point 21	53°06.30'N	00°59.16'E; to
Point 22	53°08.28'N	00°55.14'E; to
Point 23	53°12.30'N	00°50.04'E; to
Point 24	53°12.78'N	00°48.48'E; to
Point 25	53°14.40'N	00°43.62'E; to
Point 26	53°14.94'N	00°42.54'E; to
Point 27	53°15.30'N	00°42.66'E; to
Point 28	53°15.54'N	00°43.08'E; to

Point 29	53°15.72'N	00°43.86'E; to
Point 30	53°16.92'N	00°43.56'E; to
Point 31	53°18.84'N	00°43.56'E; to
Point 32	53°19.56'N	00°44.34'E; to
Point 33	53°19.80'N	00°45.78'E; to
Point 34	53°19.62'N	00°48.78'E; to
Point 35	53°19.20'N	00°50.76'E; to
Point 36	53°18.72'N	00°51.84'E; to
Point 37	53°23.52'N	00°47.10'E; to
Point 38	53°24.12'N	00°47.46'E; to
Point 39	53°23.94'N	00°49.26'E; to
Point 40	53°23.64'N	00°49.92'E; and returning to point 1.

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## Explanatory Note

*(This note is not part of the byelaw)*

The Marine Management Organisation has made this byelaw to conserve the following marine habitats, which are designated features of the Inner Dowsing, Race Bank and North Ridge Special Area of Conservation: sandbanks and *Sabellaria spinulosa* reefs.

The byelaw prohibits the use of bottom towed fishing gear within specified areas of sandbank and specified areas of reef, and the use of static fishing gear within specified areas of reef. The specified areas include buffer zones to ensure that fishing activities taking place adjacent to the marine habitats do not negatively impact them.

The specified areas are defined in the Schedule to this byelaw.

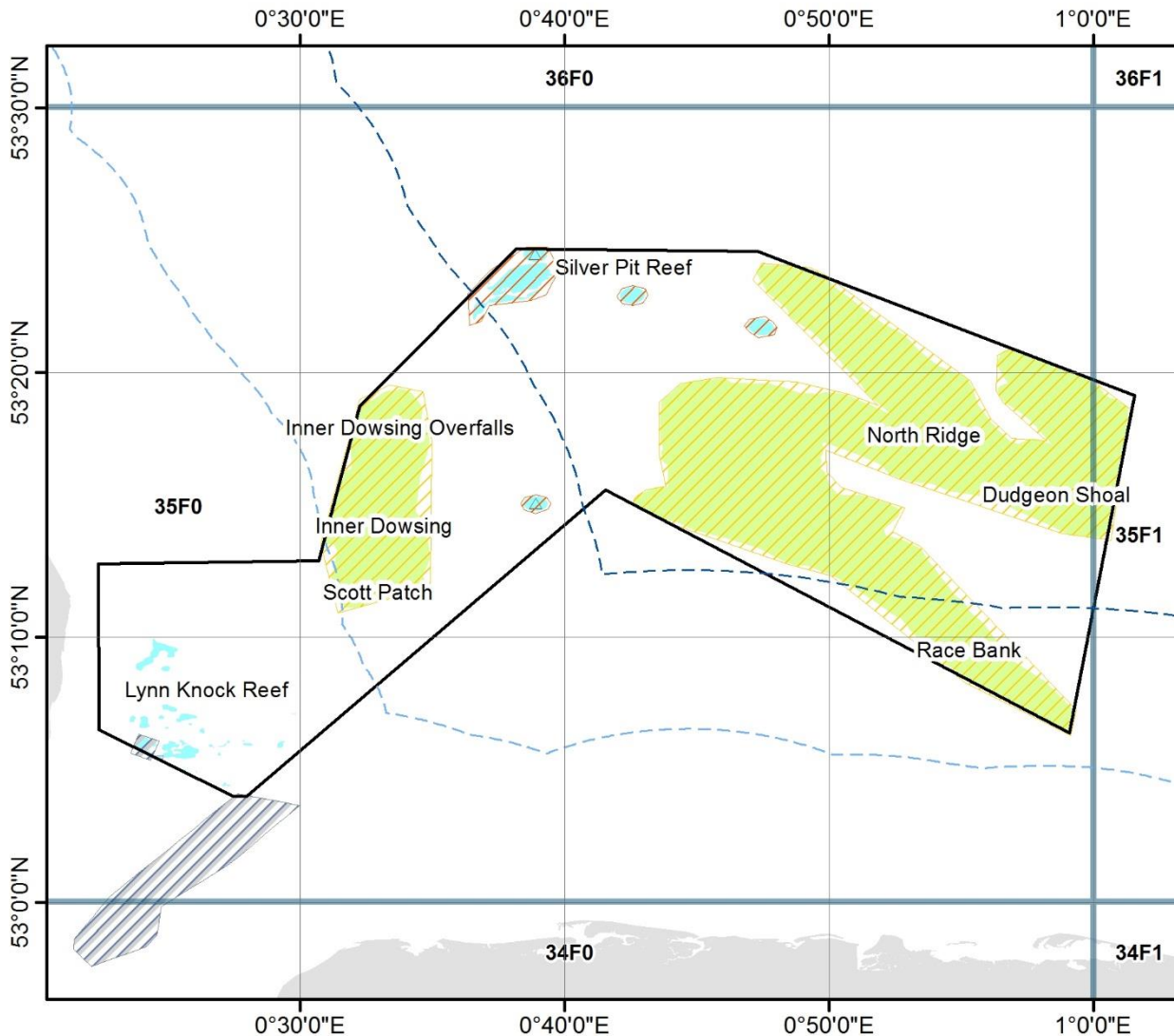
The specified areas are identified, for illustrative purposes only, on the map overleaf.





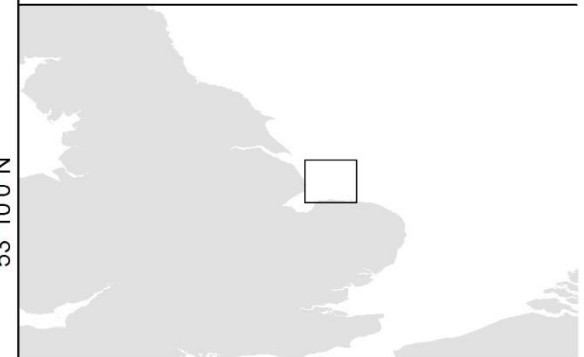
Marine  
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# Inner Dowsing, Race Bank and North Ridge Special Area of Conservation (Specified Areas) Prohibited Fishing Gears Byelaw 2021



- 12 Nautical Mile Limit (1983) (UKHO)
- 6 Nautical Mile Limit (1983) (UKHO)
- ICES Statistical Rectangles
- Inner Dowsing Race Bank and North Ridge SAC
- Designated Features
  - Annex 1 Sabellaria Reef
- Area to be managed as Annex 1 Sabellaria Reef
- Annex 1 Sandbank
- Eastern IFCA MPA Byelaw 2018
- Proposed closure to bottom towed gear
- Proposed closure to bottom towed gear and static gear

Date: 22/01/2021  
Coordinate System: GCS WGS 1984  
Datum: WGS 1984  
Units: Degree



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