

ASERA

ASSOCIATION OF SEVERN ESTUARY RELEVANT AUTHORITIES

Severn Estuary European Marine Site



**Management Scheme
Executive Summary**

September 2004

Severn Estuary European Marine Site
Management Scheme

Compiled by Steve Knowles
on behalf of The Association of Severn Estuary Relevant Authorities (ASERA)
September 2004

Tel: 029 20 879111
e-mail: KnowlesS@Cardiff.ac.uk
web: <http://www.severnestuary.net/asera>

Printed by Infographics – Vale of Glamorgan

Cover and photo credits:

Cover photograph © Dunlin on the Taff, Chris Gomersall RSPB Images
Widgeon at Bridgwater Bay © English Nature
Birds on the shore © English Nature
Bewick's Swans © WWT Slimbridge
Shore angling at Weston-Super-Mare © Don Metcalfe, Bristol Channel Federation of Sea Anglers
Yacht moorings on the River Axe © Severn Estuary Partnership
Yacht racing on the Severn © Don Sutherland, Royal Yachting Association
Birdwatching on upper estuary © WWT Slimbridge

Acknowledgements

The production of this management scheme has involved extensive consultation with relevant and competent authorities, members of the Advisory Group and other interests. The support received and time given by particular officers and members of these organisations was fundamental to the production of this document and is gratefully appreciated.

Severn Estuary European Marine Site

Management Scheme Executive Summary

The Severn Estuary has been designated as a European marine site (EMS) under the Habitats and Birds Directives. The Association of Severn Estuary Relevant Authorities (ASERA) has recognised that a co-ordinated inter-agency approach is the most efficient and economic method of producing a management scheme for the Severn Estuary EMS.

ASERA membership

ASERA full contributing members (at time of print)

Associated British Ports	Monmouthshire County Council
Bridgwater Port Authority	Newport City Council
Bristol City Council	Newport Harbour Commissioners
British Waterways, Sharpness	North Somerset Council
Caldicot & Wentlooge Internal Drainage Board	Sedgemoor District Council
Cardiff Council	Severn Trent Water
Cardiff Harbour Authority	Somerset County Council
Countryside Council for Wales	South Gloucestershire Council
Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water	South Wales Sea Fisheries Committee
English Nature	Stockland District Drainage Board
Environment Agency	Stroud District Council
Forest of Dean District Council	The Bristol Port Company
Gloucestershire County Council	Trinity House Lighthouse Service
Gloucester Harbour Trustees	Vale of Glamorgan Council
Lower Axe Internal Drainage Board	Wessex Water
Lower Brue Internal Drainage Board	West Mendip Internal Drainage Board
Lower Severn Internal Drainage Board	

Past members not currently contributing

North Somerset Internal Drainage Board
 Cannington & Wembdon District Drainage Board
 West Somerset District Council

Non-contributing relevant authorities

Bristol Water

Non-contributing relevant authorities that have provided input to the management scheme

Bridgwater & Pawlett District Drainage Board
 Gordano Valley Internal Drainage Board

Contents

1.	Severn Estuary designations	1
2.	Management schemes and ASERA	1
2.1	Activities, plans and projects	1
2.2	Management scheme and individual relevant authorities	1
3	Purpose of this management scheme	2
4.	The management scheme process	2
4.1	Activities identified as likely to cause deterioration or significant disturbance.....	2
4.2	Activities having an unknown effect.....	3
4.3	Activities identified as not having the potential to cause deterioration or significant disturbance.....	4
4.4	Plans and projects	4
4.5	Action Plan	4
5	Implementation of management scheme	4
5.1	Relevant Authorities.....	4
5.2	ASERA.....	4
5.3	Reporting on the management scheme	5
5.4	Actions for an ASERA officer.....	5
6.	Action Plans.....	6

Acronyms

AGM	Annual General Meeting	IDB	Internal Drainage Board
ASERA	Association of Severn Estuary Relevant Authorities	LA	Local authority
CCW	Countryside Council for Wales	PROW	Public Rights of Way
cSAC	candidate Special Area of Conservation	pSAC	possible Special Area of Conservation
EA	Environment Agency	SAC	Special Area of Conservation
EMS	European marine site	SEP	Severn Estuary Partnership
EN	English Nature	SPA	Special Protection Area
GHT	Gloucester Harbour Trustees	TBPC	The Bristol Port Company
GIS	Geographic Information Systems		

1. Severn Estuary designations

The Severn Estuary supports populations of wild birds that are of European importance, and in recognition of this the Estuary was classified as a Special Protection Area (SPA) in 1995. The Severn Estuary is also a Ramsar site and a possible Special Area of Conservation (pSAC).



Widgeon at Bridgwater Bay

Designated SPA Features

Species (features)

- Internationally important populations of regularly occurring Annex 1 Species: Bewick's swan
- Internationally important populations of 5 regularly occurring migratory bird species: shelduck, dunlin, redshank, European white fronted goose, gadwall.
- Internationally important assemblage of wintering wildfowl.

Habitats (sub-features)

- Intertidal mudflats and sandflats
- Shingle and rocky shore
- Saltmarsh

2. Management schemes and ASERA

The relevant authorities, those organisations with powers or functions which have, or could have, an impact on marine SPAs and SACs, have a statutory duty to ensure that they carry out their functions to comply with the Habitats Directive. The UK Government considers that, particularly in the marine environment, a management scheme is the most appropriate mechanism for relevant authorities to deliver the requirements of the Habitats Directive to conserve the species and habitats of the designated areas. Due to the large size and complexity of the Severn Estuary site, the relevant authorities recognised that a co-ordinated inter-agency approach would be the most practicable and economic method to produce a management scheme for the Severn Estuary. In 1998 they formed the Association of Severn Estuary Relevant Authorities (ASERA) to achieve this objective. In line with Government recommendations, ASERA helped to establish an Advisory Group of users and interest groups from around the Estuary.

2.1 Activities, plans and projects

The management scheme has been produced to set the framework within which 'activities' (managed by competent or relevant authorities on an ongoing basis) will be managed in ways compatible with the nature conservation objectives of the site. Plans and projects (generally any action which requires an application to be made for specific statutory consent, authorisation, license or other permission) are dealt with separately under the Conservation (Natural Habitats &c.) Regulations 1994, more commonly known as the Habitats Regulations, and therefore in general, are not part of this management scheme.

2.2 Management scheme and individual relevant authorities

It is Government policy that relevant authorities are responsible for monitoring enforcement of those measures under the management scheme which fall under their functions. It is therefore the responsibility of each relevant authority to implement this management scheme.

It should be noted that, conserving the species and habitats of the Special Protection Area (SPA) and possible Special Area of Conservation (pSAC) forms only one of the many functions of each of the relevant authorities, all of which exist primarily for other purposes, and who act under other legislation. However, all the ASERA member relevant authorities are committed to the conservation of the designated species and habitats and to the successful implementation of the management scheme.

3. Purpose of this management scheme

To be a management scheme for the Severn Estuary European marine site, under which the functions of the relevant authorities shall be exercised so as to secure in relation to the site, compliance with the requirements of the Habitats and Birds Directives.

Based on Regulation 34 (1) of the Conservation (Natural Habitats & c.) Regulations 1994 and ASERA constitution.



Severn Estuary Special Protection Area (SPA)

The SPA includes that land within local authority jurisdiction which is above Mean Low Water (due to the dynamic nature of the estuarine environment in which sediments and sandbanks are constantly moving, mean low water will move.).

This management scheme for the Severn Estuary European marine site is a management scheme for the SPA in the context of the ongoing pSAC and Ramsar issues. Should the pSAC be submitted to the European Commission as a cSAC at some point in the future, or should there be a need to include the Ramsar designation within the scheme, ASERA will decide on how best to address the management of the additional nature conservation features and sub-features.

This management scheme sets the framework within which activities will be managed, either voluntarily or through regulation, in ways compatible with the achievement of the nature conservation interests. The management scheme does not set out to be a static document, but an ongoing process that aids decision-making and continually evolves to take account of changing information on activities, issues, management practices and legal obligations.

4. The management scheme process

The development of the management scheme was based around a series of three sector group workshops. Firstly, relevant authorities identified what activities they were responsible for around the Estuary. They then provided information on where the activities occurred and how they were managed. The countryside agencies reviewed all the completed activity forms and assessed, from their perspective, the potential of an activity to cause deterioration or significant disturbance to the site. This assessment was based upon the sensitivity and exposure of the designated features and sub-features to the different activities in the relevant authority areas of jurisdiction. It should be noted however, that this assessment was based on information provided by relevant authorities at the time. In some instances this information was incomplete and in others there was no information provided at all. In these circumstances the assessment was based on the countryside agencies' best knowledge only. It may be that in the light of further information, certain activities in certain locations may be assessed differently. Finally, management actions were agreed to address the impacts of the specific activities that have the potential to cause deterioration or significant disturbance to the site.

4.1 Activities identified as likely to cause deterioration or significant disturbance

The assessment identified two broad categories of activity, which at their current levels are thought likely to be causing deterioration or significant disturbance to features or sub-features on some areas of the site, namely;

- a. Land-based recreation, and**
- b. Water-based recreation.**



Birds on the shore



Bewick's Swans

The effects of these activities are not occurring throughout the Estuary, but are thought to be in certain localised areas. Elsewhere in the Estuary, the effects of these activities, if any, may be unknown at present; i.e. generally land and water based recreation is assessed as F3 (unknown effects) and sometimes F4 (no known effect) across most of the Estuary, rather than F5 (known effect).

The potential impacts from land and water based recreation are disturbance to feeding, roosting and nesting birds, the potential impact of associated litter and pollution and the potential loss of habitat from recreational facilities. Access and related disturbance is the main concern and there is the need to identify more specifically where the main areas of recreational activity are around the Estuary in relation to the features and sub-features of interest. Currently, the area under the jurisdiction of North Somerset Council, Somerset Council, Sedgemoor District Council and West Somerset District Council is considered to be a popular area for land and water based recreation and further investigation into the extent and impact of recreational activities will be concentrated in these areas. It is possible that the collection of further information and better understanding of these activities in the future may demonstrate that they are not causing deterioration or significant disturbance to the site.

4.2 Activities having an unknown effect

The assessment identified the following activities as having a known mechanism to cause deterioration or significant disturbance to the features of the SPA. However, there is insufficient current information at present to determine whether they are actually

causing deterioration or significant disturbance or not i.e. they are having an unknown effect.

- c. Angling (recreational),**
- d. Boat repairs (recreational),**
- e. Collection of scientific data,**
- f. Contamination through historic industry (Lower Axe and Lower Brue IDBs only),**
- g. Grazing,**
- h. Highways discharge, and**
- i. Managing unauthorised waste.**

These activities are not necessarily affecting the whole site. The timing, intensity and nature of these activities varies across the site and consequently any possible deterioration or disturbance caused by them will also vary across the site. Gathering of further information relating to these activities will help inform judgements as to their likely effects. In addition, guidance on best practice for carrying out and managing some of these activities may help to mitigate any effects they may be having.



Shore angling at Weston-Super-Mare

The above activities with a known mechanism to cause deterioration or significant disturbance, but where lack of information means their effects are unknown, together with activities that have been judged as likely to be having a significant effect on the site (a – i), are jointly referred to in the management scheme as activities having the 'potential' to cause deterioration or disturbance to the features and sub-features of the site.

4.3 Activities identified as not having the potential to cause deterioration or significant disturbance

Based on current best available information, all other activities are currently considered not to be causing deterioration or significant disturbance as there is no known mechanism for them to do so. These activities will require no further action subject to the continuation of current management. Where there is a change in management, or in light of further information, the impact of activities should be re-assessed.

4.4 Plans and projects

Certain plans and projects have been identified as being of an ongoing and repetitive nature. ASERA will facilitate the production of guidance notes for such plans and projects where it is felt that this will be helpful to assist relevant authorities. Currently, it is proposed to produce guidance for the following:

- Archaeology (studies and protection)
- Events and festivals
- Repetitive maintenance activities
- Managing unauthorised waste, and
- Collection of scientific data.

All plans and projects identified during the management scheme process will require relevant authorities to ensure that they apply Regulations 48-53 of the Habitats Regulations.

4.5 Action Plan

An Action Plan was produced following further sector group workshops to address those activities identified with the potential to cause deterioration or significant disturbance to the features of the SPA. The Action Plan details specific actions for relevant authorities and an ASERA officer. It provides a consistent approach for addressing the activities identified above. It takes into account that different management actions may be adopted by different relevant authorities at some locations. The production of guidance notes for some ongoing activities and plans and projects will be an aid to achieving this consistent approach.

5. Implementation of management scheme

5.1 Relevant authorities

It is the responsibility of each relevant authority to ensure it implements the management scheme as a whole, and any actions identified in the Action Plan. The individual responsible relevant authority, or group of relevant authorities, have identified and will implement certain actions to address the potential effects of those activities indicated in the Action Plan.

In certain cases when more than one relevant authority is responsible for managing an activity with a known or unknown effect on the site, or where there are gaps in management, relevant authorities have agreed to work co-operatively to address the issues. A partnership approach will be achieved by setting up topic groups, and if appropriate, Advisory Group members or other relevant organisations may be invited to participate. Discussions will then take place to determine further possible management actions and solutions.



Yacht moorings on the River Axe

During the implementation of the management scheme more specific management actions may be identified by individual or groups of relevant authorities in order to address certain activities. These management actions may derive from existing procedures/initiatives or may be specifically written for the management scheme.

5.2 ASERA

The process undertaken by ASERA has helped considerably in raising relevant authority awareness of their responsibilities in relation to the Habitats Regulations. It is anticipated that ASERA will continue to enable relevant authorities to discharge their statutory duties in relation to the nature conservation designations on the site, in the most efficient and cost effective manner, by helping facilitate the implementation of the management scheme as it has done in its development.

5.3 Reporting on the management scheme

The ASERA Management Group will meet at the Joint Estuary Groups bi-annual meetings organised by the Severn Estuary Partnership, and relevant authorities with specific actions will report on the progress of these actions at these meetings. Relevant authorities will also be responsible for reporting on the following:

- Changes to management practices/location of activities,
- Changes to plans/initiatives used to construct the management scheme, and
- Additional/new activities or plans and projects.

5.4 Actions for an ASERA officer

The Action Plan includes actions to be undertaken by a management scheme implementation officer. These include co-ordinating the production of framework guidance for certain

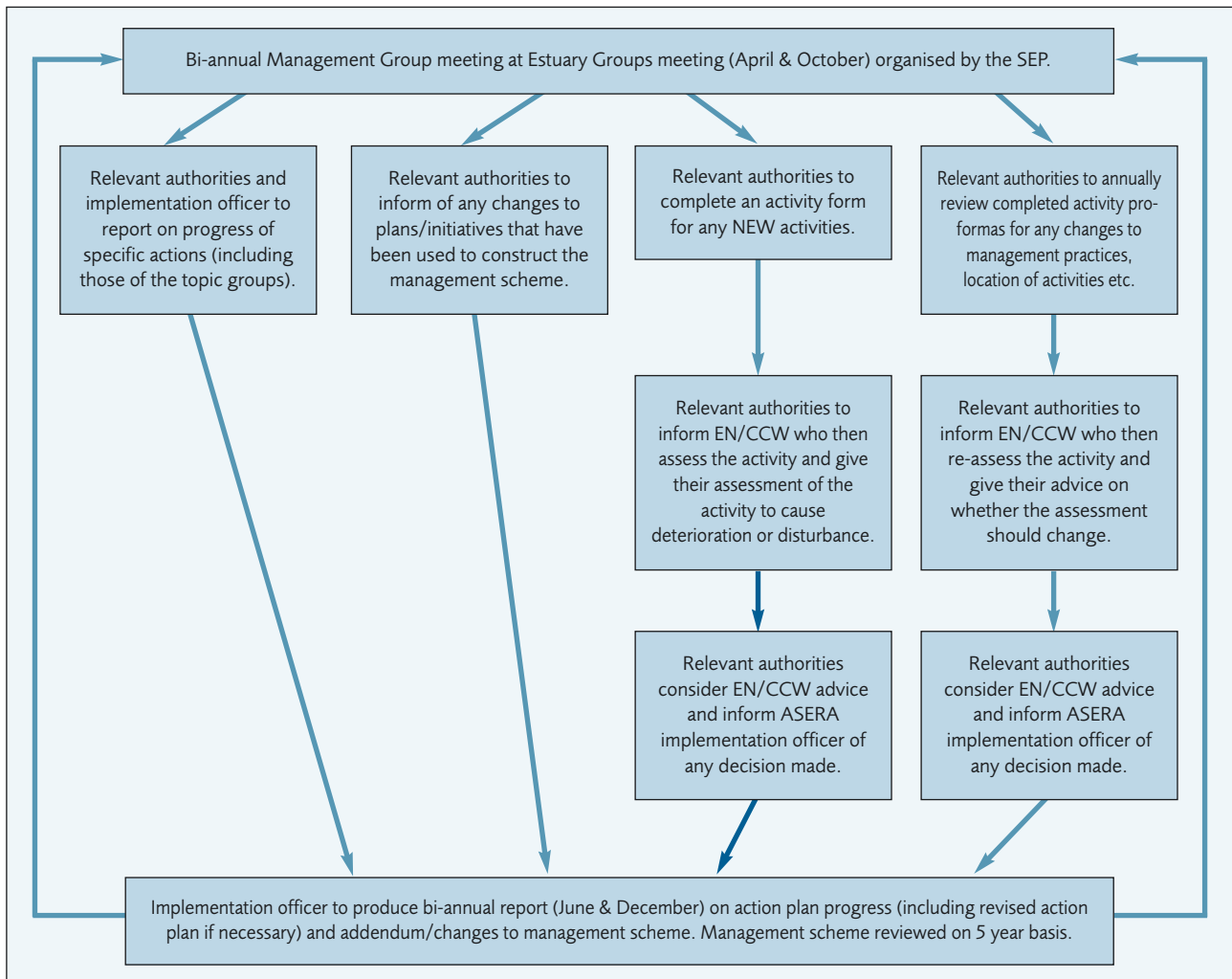


Yacht racing on the Severn

activities and plans and projects determined by the relevant authorities, servicing the ASERA Management Group, Advisory Group and topic groups, and generally raising awareness in users of the importance of the site and their possible impact on site features.

The following flowchart outlines the implementation process that ASERA has agreed to endeavour to adopt.

Implementation Process



6. Action Plans

The Action Plan provides the mechanism for relevant authorities to address the following:

- Activities identified as likely to be causing deterioration or significant disturbance to the site;
- Activities, the effects of which are unknown (i.e. there is insufficient information available at present to determine whether they are actually causing deterioration or significant disturbance to the site or not), and
- Certain plans and projects of an ongoing and repetitive nature for which ASERA will facilitate the production of guidance notes.

Wherever possible, the actions identified will be based on the voluntary approach in the first instance, involving widespread co-operation and consensus between organisations. In regard to Principle 6 of the Foundation Document, additional bye-laws will only be introduced into the management scheme when voluntary approaches are insufficient, all other options have been considered, and they are the only effective solution.



Birdwatching on upper estuary (Slimbridge)

Management Scheme Action Plan

Activity	Actions	Organisations involved	Priority (high, medium, low)	Timescale (1, 2 or 3 years)	Action in existing management plan, policy or document
Angling (shore & boat recreational)	1. Local authorities & CCW to determine the action from the below list based on their knowledge of this activity in their area of jurisdiction and information provided by the Advisory Group in the ASERA pilot GIS project: a) surveillance and extent of activities b) research to address cause and effect relationships and other gaps in information	Cardiff Council North Somerset Council South Gloucestershire Council Countryside Council for Wales	Medium	2 years	Gwent Levels Wetlands Reserve Management Plan; CCW Conservation Code for Sea Anglers; CCW Sea Fisheries Policy; CCW Sea Wise Code...for wildlife...for you.
Archaeology (studies & protection)	1. ASERA to facilitate the production of guidance notes on the study and protection of archaeology in a way sympathetic to the conservation objectives of the site.	ASERA English Nature Countryside Council for Wales Gloucestershire County Council Severn Estuary Levels Research Committee Glamorgan Gwent Archaeological Trust	Medium	2 years	No details of relevant plans/policies provided.
	2. Local authorities to follow ASERA's guidance on the study and protection of archaeology when available, as appropriate.	All Local Authorities	Medium	Ongoing	N/A

Activity	Actions	Organisations involved	Priority (high, medium, low)	Timescale (1, 2 or 3 years)	Action in existing management plan, policy or document
Coastal protection & flood defence improvement and maintenance	1. ASERA to make local authorities aware of Environment Agency good practice.	ASERA	Medium	2 years	N/A
Collection of scientific data (including vehicles & equipment)	1. Relevant authorities to seek advice from EN/CCW if proposing to undertake potentially disturbing/damaging activities associated with the collection of scientific data and to follow guidance produced by ASERA when it is available, as appropriate.	Appropriate relevant authorities	Medium	Ongoing	Wessex Water EP 124 Environmental Liaison and ES 120 Environmental Standard. No details of any other specific plans/policies provided.
	2. ASERA to facilitate the production of guidance notes on collecting scientific data in a way that is sympathetic to the conservation objectives of the site.	ASERA English Nature Countryside Council for Wales Volunteer LA's Volunteer water companies Environment Agency	Medium	2 years	N/A
Contamination through historic industry	1. Research into the possible extent of severity of contamination of heavy metals in water channels. Liaise with EA to ascertain levels of contamination.	Lower Axe & Lower Brue IDBs	Medium	2 years	No
Events/ Festivals	1. ASERA to facilitate the production of guidance notes on managing events/festivals in a way sympathetic to the conservation objectives of the site. This will include for small unconsented events.	ASERA Cardiff Harbour Authority English Nature Countryside Council for Wales South Gloucestershire Council North Somerset Council Sedgemoor District Council	High	1 year	Cardiff Council Communication & Promotion Plan; CCW Sporting and Challenge Events in the Countryside; CCW Community Participation to Benefit the Environment; CCW Sites of Special Scientific Information - A guide for landowners and occupiers; Forest of Dean Tourism Strategy.
	2. Appropriate relevant authorities to apply Habitats Regulations 48-53, as appropriate, and to follow ASERA's guidance on managing events/festivals when it is available. (Smaller water or land based events that are not consented by a relevant authority will be considered by the water or land based recreation topic groups).	All Local Authorities	Medium	Ongoing	N/A
Grazing	1. EA will undertake an audit of where grazing occurs on EA owned land within the SPA.	Environment Agency	Medium	2 years	N/A

Executive Summary

Activity	Actions	Organisations involved	Priority (high, medium, low)	Timescale (1, 2 or 3 years)	Action in existing management plan, policy or document
Highways Discharge	1. Surveillance and extent of the activity.	Newport City Council Vale of Glamorgan Council	Medium	2 years	Vale of Glamorgan Council Highway Maintenance Operational Manual (Chapter 8 Environment). No details of other plans/policies provided.
	2. Increased monitoring of the condition of the site.	North Somerset Council	Medium	2 years	No details of plans/policies provided.
	3. Consult further with English Nature	Somerset Council	Medium	2 years	No details of plans/policies provided.
Land based recreation - including beach recreation, bird watching, cycling, dog walking, golf, horse riding, infrastructure (car parks etc), motor sports, motorised access to the foreshore, walking.	1. ASERA to set up topic group to identify the main activities and geographical areas where land-based recreation is likely to cause deterioration or significant disturbance to the features of the site, if any; and to develop guidance on managing and undertaking land-based recreation in a way sympathetic to the conservation objectives of the site.	ASERA English Nature Countryside Council for Wales SEP access officer North Somerset Council Environment Agency (watching brief) Appropriate Advisory Group members	High	1 year	CCW Community Participation to Benefit the Environment, Guidelines; CCW Sites of Special Scientific Interest, A guide for landowners and occupiers; CCW Gwent Levels Wetlands Reserve Management Plan; EN A review of the effects of recreational interactions within UK European marine sites; Gloucestershire Council Best Value Review of PROW & Countryside Sites, Performance Improvement Plan; Stroud District Council Draft Tourism Action Plan; Stroud District Council Green Spaces Strategy; Environment Agency Conservation, Access and Recreation Report 2001; Environment Agency's Navigation Restoration Policy 2000; No details of other plans/policies provided.
	2. Appropriate relevant authorities to follow ASERA's guidance on land-based recreation when it is available, as appropriate.	Appropriate relevant authorities	Medium	Ongoing	N/A
Maintenance dredging (Ports)	1. English ports will consider appropriate actions following the finalisation of a protocol for the assessment of maintenance dredging against the requirements of the Habitats Regulations. The draft protocol currently recommends that ports produce an initial 'Baseline Document' to assist competent authorities in identifying any 'likely significant effect' in respect of future maintenance dredging applications or proposals, taking account of any in-combination effects of dredging proposals. Pilot projects are currently being undertaken on three estuaries in England before the protocol will be finalised. The production of a baseline document will be non-statutory and voluntary. Welsh ports and CCW will be looking with interest at the results of the pilot studies and will bring forward their own arrangements in due course.	Port & Harbour Authorities	Medium	2 years	N/A

Activity	Actions	Organisations involved	Priority (high, medium, low)	Timescale (1, 2 or 3 years)	Action in existing management plan, policy or document
Maintenance dredging (IDBs)	1. Internal Drainage Boards to consider incorporating this into future water level management plans if not already included.	All IDBs	Low	3 years	Lower Severn IDB Slimbridge Water Level Management Plan; West Mendip IDB Oldbridge River and Liddy Yeo Rhyne Catchment 1997;
Managing unauthorised waste	1. ASERA to facilitate the production of guidance notes on managing unauthorised waste in a way sympathetic to the conservation objectives of the site.	ASERA English Nature Countryside Council for Wales Environment Agency still need to identify LAs to be involved.	Medium	2 years	Environment Agency Protocol on Fly-Tipping between Local Government Association and the Environment Agency 1998; Cardiff Council Waste Management Plan; Gloucestershire Waste Local Plan; Monmouthshire Waste Strategy (draft 2004); No details of other plans/policies provided.
	2. Appropriate relevant authorities to follow ASERA's guidance on managing unauthorised waste when available, as appropriate.	Appropriate relevant authorities	Medium	Ongoing	N/A
Water based recreation (including recreational boating, canoeing, & infrastructure)	1. ASERA to set up topic group to identify the main activities and geographical areas where water-based recreation is likely to cause deterioration or significant disturbance to the features of the site, if any; and to develop guidance on managing and undertaking water-based recreation in a way sympathetic to the conservation objectives of the site. The Bristol Port Company will be the port sector representative for this topic group.	ASERA English Nature Countryside Council for Wales North Somerset Council Bristol Port Company Environment Agency Appropriate Advisory Group members	High	1 year	Cardiff Council Water Use Plan; CCW Community Participation to Benefit the Environment, Guidelines; CCW Sites of Special Scientific Interest, A guide for landowners and occupiers; CCW Gwent Levels Wetlands Reserve Management Plan; EN A review of the effects of recreational interactions within UK European marine sites; GHT Gloucester Harbour Byelaws; Gloucester Harbour Management Plan Policies; GHT Safety Guidance Notes for Small Craft navigating in the River Severn and Severn Estuary; TBPC Pilotage Advice to Small Craft; No details of other plans/policies provided.
	2. Appropriate relevant authorities to follow ASERA's guidance on water based recreation when it is available, as appropriate.	Appropriate relevant authorities	Medium	Ongoing	N/A

Activity	Actions	Organisations involved	Priority (high, medium, low)	Timescale (1, 2 or 3 years)	Action in existing management plan, policy or document
Water channel maintenance (weeding etc)	1. EN to confirm whether water level management plans are a plan/project. If yes, IDBs to consider incorporating this activity into future water level management plans.	EN All IDBs	Low	3 years	N/A
Implementing the management scheme	1. Relevant authorities to report on progress of specific actions.	All relevant authorities.	High	At bi-annual ASERA meeting	N/A
	2. Relevant authorities to inform of any changes to plans/initiatives that have been used to construct the management scheme.	All relevant authorities.	High	At bi-annual ASERA meeting	N/A
	3. Relevant authorities to complete an activity form for any new activities.	All relevant authorities.	High	Ongoing	N/A
	4. Relevant authorities to review completed activity forms for any changes to management practices, location of activities etc.	All relevant authorities.	High	Annually at ASERA meeting	N/A
	5. Relevant authorities to apply Habs Regs 48-53 for those activities considered during the management scheme process and now identified as plans/projects.	All relevant authorities.	High	Ongoing	N/A
Other ASERA actions	1. Maintain and service the existing ASERA Management Group, Advisory Group, Topic Groups & AGM.	ASERA officer	High	Ongoing	N/A
	2. Update the management scheme and web site.	ASERA officer	High	Bi-annually	Management Scheme for the Severn Estuary European marine site.
	3. Encourage all relevant authorities to review their activity forms on an annual basis and inform the countryside agencies of any changes.	ASERA officer	High	Annually	N/A
	4. Continue to raise awareness of the designation of the site and the implications for relevant authorities and users.	ASERA officer	High	Ongoing	N/A
	5. Develop guidance notes for repetitive maintenance activities.	ASERA officer	Medium	Ongoing	N/A

The full management scheme for the Severn Estuary European marine site can be found on the publications page of the ASERA web site (www.severnestuary.net/asera)