



North West Coastal Forum News Update Summer 2013

Dear Subscriber

Welcome to the summer edition of the North West Coastal Forum's News and Events Update. Click on the headings or 'read more' to read the articles in full.

Kind regards,

Caroline, NWCF

NWCF News

Irish Sea Maritime Forum Update – Chair and Vice Chair Nominations Sought

Posted on August 9th, 2013

Following a very successful 2nd annual conference in Glasgow in May there is a lot of activity to report. New Website: The Irish Sea Maritime Forum (ISMF) now has its own website and twitter feed (Twitter: @IrishSeaForum). The website will be developed to share ISMF activity and as a portal to a wide range

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Marine Strategy Framework Directive and the Celtic Seas

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The Celtic Seas Partnership is a pioneering €4m European Community LIFE+ project that brings together sea-users, scientists and governments to help achieve healthy and sustainable seas in the Celtic Seas Marine Region which includes the western seaboard of the UK and Republic of Ireland, the coasts and territorial waters to the north of Scotland and

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Delivering the Shoreline Management Plan – North West and North Wales Coastal Management 2013

Posted on July 26th, 2013

The North West & North Wales Coastal Group, working with the Northern and Liverpool Bay Coastal Sub-groups and the North West Coastal Forum, held their first annual conference in Fleetwood on 15th and 16th July. The event was attended by over 70 people and very well received. The event, based around implementation and delivery of the

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Regional News

National Infrastructure Projects – North West Update

Posted on August 9th, 2013

The National Infrastructure Planning website has details of the following major infrastructure projects in the coastal or marine area of North West England. Click on the project names below to go to the National Infrastructure Planning website page for each project. Projects go through a range of stages and these are explained in brief below:

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Predicting Short Term Pollution at our Bathing Beaches – New Trial Starts

Posted on August 9th, 2013

The Environment Agency is working with local authority partners across the North West as part of a national trial on the prediction of short term pollution (STP). This trial is taking place at 28 bathing waters across England and 3 in Wales (on behalf of Natural Resources Wales). The aim is to keep the public

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Cumbria Coastal Access Monthly Update: August 2013

Posted on August 6th, 2013

Natural England has issued the latest monthly update on progress on implementing the English Coastal Path in Cumbria. The update provides local and regional representatives and other interested stakeholders with a brief update on progress for each of the two coastal stretches currently being worked on in Cumbria, which are the initial stretch – Allonby

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National Marine Week 27th July to 11th August

Posted on July 26th, 2013

...or National Marine fortnight? Either way this annual marine week organised by the Wildlife Trusts is a wonderful opportunity to get out there and experience the wealth and diversity of your local marine and coastal environments. Events across the North West include shore searches, beach events days, sand sculpture, rock pooling and mud dipping, nature reserve

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Wind Farm fund helps progress of Rhyl harbour redevelopment

Posted on July 25th, 2013

The redevelopment of Rhyl harbour has received a boost of £155,000 and practical help, via a specialist vessel, from the RWE npower renewables' Gwynt y Môr Offshore Wind Farm Tourism Fund. The redevelopment project, which began in 2009, is part of the regeneration of the coastal facilities in Rhyl and to date has been funded

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North West Regional Monitoring Programme Newsletter

Posted on July 23rd, 2013

The North West Regional Monitoring Programme has recently issued its first newsletter. This contains an introduction to the Regional Monitoring Programme and explains the role of partners and the kinds of monitoring undertaken. It also includes an article on the new Liverpool 2 Deep Water River Terminal; as this is a long term project for the

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Proposed Burbo Bank Extension offshore wind farm development consent order accepted

Posted on May 23rd, 2013

The Planning Inspectorate has accepted an application from DONG Energy for development consent to construct and operate the proposed Burbo Bank Extension offshore wind farm (application reference: EN010026). The project would cover an area of 40km² and be located west of the operational Burbo Bank offshore wind farm in Liverpool Bay. As a requirement of

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Western Link subsea and underground cables

Posted on April 26th, 2013

The Western Link is a £1 billion project which will help to bring renewable energy from Scotland to homes and businesses in Wales and England. The subsea marine cable from Scotland will have a landfall point at Leasowe on the Wirral. To avoid the Dee estuary, an underground high voltage cable will then be constructed

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Wind Farm community fund pays for improved beach access

Posted on April 26th, 2013

A project to improve access to the Welsh beach of Rhyl has been funded by the RWE npower renewables' Gwynt y Môr Offshore Wind Farm Tourism Fund, the Green Seas Beach Improvement programme and Denbighshire County Council. The project includes a new ramp to make it easier for disabled visitors to get down to the beach,

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Revocation of the Regional Strategy for the North West

Posted on April 25th, 2013

On April 24th the Secretary of State laid in Parliament the statutory instrument revoking the Regional Strategy for the North West. The Regional Strategy for the North West (Revocation) Order 2013 (S.I. 2013/934) will come into force on 20th May 2013. The Regional Strategy for the North West comprises both the North West of England Plan

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National News

The Bathing Water Regulations 2013, Statutory Instrument No. 1675

Posted on August 9th, 2013

The Government has published the new Bathing Water Regulations 2013 for England and Wales which came into force on 31 July 2013. These Regulations replace the Bathing Water Regulations 2008. They take into account the changes in Wales with the formation of Natural Resources Wales and make some important changes with regard to the management

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Responses to consultation on designation of Marine Conservation Zones published

Posted on August 5th, 2013

A consultation on proposals for the designation of Marine Conservation Zones was run by Defra between December 2012 and March 2013. Defra received an exceptional number of responses, over 40,000. A summary of these responses has now been published. Only 4 of the 15 MCZs (19 including the recommended reference areas) put forward by the

[Read more](#)

Consultation on Marine Plans for East of England

Posted on August 5th, 2013

The Marine Management Organisation (MMO) has published draft marine plans for the East Inshore and East Offshore areas of England. The East Inshore area includes a coastline that stretches from Flamborough Head to Felixstowe. The consultation on the draft plans is now open until 8th October 2013 and you are invited to respond. Alongside the

[Read more](#)

Planning Scotland's Seas consultation

Posted on August 4th, 2013

On 25th July 2013, the 'Planning Scotland's Seas' consultation was launched. It will consider integrated marine planning for Scotland's seas, including Scotland's National Marine Plan. Consultation documents on this and the other two areas of the consultation, Marine Protected Areas and Offshore Marine Energy, supporting documents

and details about the public information events being held

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New report highlights the financial and emotional value of protecting our seas

Posted on August 4th, 2013

A study of divers and anglers has put a value in £ billions on the economic benefits and public well-being that the creation of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) in UK seas will bring, in addition to the benefits to habitats and wildlife. The UK National Ecosystem Assessment final report 'The value of potential marine protected

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Consultation on the Draft Scottish Marine Litter Strategy

Posted on July 29th, 2013

Marine Scotland has issued a high level draft Marine Litter Strategy which aims to address the levels of marine litter present in the marine and coastal environment. The Strategy, which sits alongside Scotland's draft National Litter Strategy which is also the subject of consultation, seeks to maximise opportunities and minimise threats to addressing the levels

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Challenges and Choices: River Basin Management Consultation

Posted on June 28th, 2013

The Environment Agency has launched a consultation on how the water environment should be protected and improved for the benefit of communities, businesses and wildlife. The information gathered will be used to inform the second cycle of River Basin Management Plans which cover the period 2015 to 2021 and describe what businesses, water users and

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Bathing Water season length consultation

Posted on June 28th, 2013

Defra has launched a consultation on the length of the bathing water season in England. The Bathing Water Directive (76/160/EEC, revised by 2006/7/EC) sets standards for bathing water quality on designated bathing beaches (freshwater or marine) across Europe. Bathing waters are monitored during the bathing season for compliance with these standards but the Directive does not

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New Baseline Report on Developing Partnership Working at the

Coast

Posted on June 26th, 2013

A new report commissioned by the Marine Management Organisation looking at coastal partnerships around England has been published. The report was compiled by the Coastal Partnerships Network and published by the MMO. A total of 40 of the existing partnerships around the English coast contributed to the report, which sets out their spatial coverage in relation to

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Marine Planning Newsletter Issue 14

Posted on June 19th, 2013

The Marine Management Organisation has issued its latest Marine Planning newsletter (June 2013). This issue includes information on progress on the draft East Inshore and East Offshore marine plans together with articles on gathering evidence for the South marine plan areas, partnership working, evidence gathering projects and the Planning Team's out and about diary and team changes.

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Increase in amount of plastic found on beaches

Posted on May 23rd, 2013

The results of the Marine Conservation Society's annual Beachwatch Big Weekend held in September 2012 have been published. Over the almost 240 beaches surveyed and 181,978 items of rubbish was collected which filled almost 1,800 rubbish bags. The results show a rise in the amount of plastic found, making up almost 65% of the litter.

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Natural Capital Committee first reports

Posted on May 23rd, 2013

The Natural Capital Committee (NCC) is designed to ensure that Government has a better informed understanding of the value of Natural Capital, and will help it to prioritise actions to support and improve the UK's natural assets. The Committee reports to the Economic Affairs Committee (chaired by the Chancellor of the Exchequer) and aims to provide

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Fishing Focus newsletter issue 29: Spring 2013

Posted on May 23rd, 2013

Defra and the Marine Management Organisation have published the Spring 2013, issue 29 of the Fishing Focus newsletter. Included in this issue are articles on the Marine Conservation Zones consultation, CFP reform, the catch quota scheme, protecting dolphins and porpoises, The Cod Recovery Plan, fisheries in European Marine Sites and news from the MMO. The

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Saltmarsh habitat replenishment report published by The Crown Estate

Posted on May 11th, 2013

The Crown Estate has published a report on phase II of the project to replenish the saltmarsh habitat behind the breakwaters at Lymington Harbour. The habitat replenishment scheme was designed to pump sediment dredged from the Yacht Haven during maintenance activities, up onto the existing saltmarsh, in an attempt to raise the mud

levels. After

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Marine biodiversity offsetting report published by The Crown Estate

Posted on May 11th, 2013

The Crown Estate has published a report investigating the possible use of marine biodiversity offsets in the UK. Biodiversity offsets are measures taken to compensate for the significant adverse impacts to wildlife that occur after all mitigation measures have been applied. The report was prepared in association with Marine Planning Consultants, Gardline and

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MMO Marine Planning Newsletter – April 2013

Posted on April 29th, 2013

The Marine Management Organisation have published their April 2013 newsletter, issue 13. The newsletter covers how to get involved with the South marine plan area, an update on the East Inshore and East Offshore marine plan areas, a call for evidence to refresh the national Strategic Scoping Report, an update to the Marine Planning Portal and

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Scotland's Marine Atlas now available as an ebook

Posted on April 26th, 2013

In March this year, Marine Scotland launched Scotland's Marine Atlas, Information for the National Marine Plan, as an ebook. It can be downloaded for free in an EPUB format, suitable for iPad platforms, or MOBI format, for Kindles. The Atlas, which was first published in March 2011, is an assessment of the condition of Scotland's seas, based

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International News

Irish Sea Maritime Forum Update – Chair and Vice Chair Nominations Sought

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Enhancing Europe's Natural Capital – an EU-wide Strategy on Green Infrastructure

Posted on May 8th, 2013

The European Commission adopted a new GI strategy on 6th May 2013, following a public consultation in 2011. The Strategy recognises that GI can bring multiple benefits to society and is intended to encourage the use of green infrastructure and to ensure that the enhancement of natural processes becomes a systematic part of spatial planning.

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Publication of ICES CRR317 on Marine and Coastal Ecosystem-based Risk Management

Posted on April 26th, 2013

The International Council for the Exploration of the Seas (ICES) has published a Cooperative Research Report on Marine and Coastal Ecosystem-based Risk Management, ICES CRR317. This report aims to connect the risk management framework of ISO (International Organization for Standardization) 31000 with concepts of environmental assessment, integrated coastal zone management and marine spatial planning. For

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MARLISCO Marine Litter in European Seas: Social Awareness and Co-Responsibility

Posted on April 20th, 2013

MARLISCO, Marine Litter in European Seas: Social Awareness and Co-Responsibility is a three year European Project to raise societal awareness of the problems and potential solutions relating to marine litter. Partners in this project include the Province of Teramo which was a partner in the recent SUSTAIN project. Everyone is invited to take part in a survey

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Open Consultations

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UK TAG consultation on river flow for good ecological potential

Posted on August 5th, 2013

UK TAG has reviewed its guidance on the classification of ecological potential, first published in 2008. This has resulted in proposals to better define a default flow regime for good ecological potential in rivers downstream of reservoirs and their intakes. UK TAG is now consulting on this revised guidance until 16th August 2013. The draft

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Conferences and Events

For information on upcoming relevant conferences and events, please visit the Events page on our webpage: <http://www.nwcoastalforum.org.uk/events/>