



North West Coastal Forum News Update - Spring 2014

Dear Subscriber

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

Kind regards,

Caroline, NWCF

NWCF News

Announcing the 3rd biennial North West Awards for Coastal Excellence (NW ACE 2014)

Posted on May 14th, 2014

The North West Coastal Forum is pleased to announce the opening of nominations for the 3rd biennial NW ACE – an award scheme to recognise outstanding achievement in and contribution to the long-term management of our coast and near-shore marine environments. NW ACE winners and highly commended entrants will have an opportunity to showcase their

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Coastal Partnerships Network Newsletter Spring 2014

Posted on May 9th, 2014

The Spring 2014 Coastal Partnerships Network newsletter is available to download below. It contains a round up of Coastal Partnerships Network activity including the meeting with the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for the Environment, George Eustice, MP in March which Caroline Salthouse of the North West Coastal Forum took part in, together with work on development of

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Report on Funding Coastal Access Event in Blackpool

Posted on April 15th, 2014

Our recent Funding Coastal Access event was a great success. A report is now available, see below. Attended by 35 delegates the event aimed to: Provide an update on funding opportunities for coastal access Explore possibilities for collaborative bids to progress coastal access across administrative boundaries Provide an opportunity to network and exchange information on

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Coastal Management in North West England – a case study of changing stakeholder dynamics

Posted on February 10th, 2014

A big thank you from the North West Coastal Forum to all who took the time to take part in this research! We had a great response and this should really help to move the work of the North West Coastal Forum forward. The research is being conducted by Pamela Buchan, who is doing a Masters degree

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Regional News

North West Seaside Award Winners – 2014

Posted on May 20th, 2014

Keep Britain Tidy has today (20th May) announced national winners of the Seaside Awards, with thirteen beaches in North West England achieving the standards required. These are (from north to south): St Bees, Silecroft and Haverigg, Cumbria (managed by Copeland Borough Council) Morecambe North and Morecambe South (managed by Lancaster City Council) Ferry Beach and Rossall Beaches,

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Coastal Access Update

Posted on May 20th, 2014

Cumbria Coastal Access Monthly Update: May 2014 This update provides local and regional representatives and other interested stakeholders with a brief summary on progress for each of the coastal stretches Natural England is working on in Cumbria including the recently 'commenced' coastal access rights from Allonby to Whitehaven and developments on the next stretch from

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Consultation Outcome: Proposal to remove Roanhead and Askam in Furness beaches from the list of designated bathing waters

Posted on May 20th, 2014

Defra has published the summary of responses and the outcome of their consultation on the de-designation of the Roanhead and Askam in Furness bathing waters. Outcome: both Askam in Furness and Roanhead will be removed from the list of bathing waters with effect from the 2014 bathing season on the grounds of concerns about public

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National Infrastructure Projects – North West Update

Posted on May 14th, 2014

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:

[Read more](#)

Welcome to Morecambe Bay course – training to boost the visitor economy

Posted on May 12th, 2014

'Welcome to Morecambe Bay', a new, bespoke customer-service training course, is taking place for the first time in Cumbria on Tuesday 13 May at the Forum in Barrow with further courses taking place over the next 12 months. The one-day training course combines customer care with product knowledge so that visitors get the best possible

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Morecambe Bay Plays Host to Spectacular Outdoor Photography Exhibition

Posted on May 12th, 2014

100 panels of stunning images of the UK's wildlife and nature will be unveiled by Morecambe Bay Partnership in three locations around Morecambe Bay this summer. Part of the 2020VISION roadshow, this spectacular Street Gallery exhibition tells the story of why nature and wild places matter to each and every one of us. The images,

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NW IFCA News Issue 5 April 2014

Posted on May 6th, 2014

The North West Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority has issued their latest newsletter which, among other news includes details of Fishing Community Stakeholder Meetings which will be held on a range of dates from 16th May in Wallasey, Preston, Milnthorpe and Whitehaven. The meetings are being held to explain changes to fisheries management in European

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Latest Coastal Access News – April 2014

Posted on April 23rd, 2014

On the 11th April coastal access rights formally commenced on the first stretch of the North West's coast to be opened up as part of the English Coastal Path. This stretches 36 km from Allonby to Whitehaven. For the latest details on progress on rolling out the English Coastal Path in Cumbria including information on the

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2 NW Offshore Renewables Projects get Green Light

Posted on April 23rd, 2014

Government announce today that 8 major renewable energy projects will be built, boosting jobs and contributing to a reduction of carbon emissions by around 10 Mt CO2 per year in comparison to power generation from fossil fuels. By 2020, the projects should provide up to £12 billion of private sector investment, supporting 8,500 jobs and adding a further

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Are you a LOVEmyBEACH Business?

Posted on January 20th, 2014

The LOVEmyBEACH campaign has been set up by the Turning Tides Partnership to work with local communities, businesses and visitors to improve the quality of bathing waters in the North West. They have recently developed a business pack so that organisations both large and small can take action to help tackle the huge challenge we face:

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National News

Consultation on River Basin Management Planning Ministerial Guidance and Standards

Posted on May 20th, 2014

This consultation closes on 30th May 2014 Defra and the Welsh Government are seeking views on their draft updated guidance to the Environment Agency and Natural Resources Wales on river basin planning. The guidance includes a description of how the two Government Agencies will be expected to use the new and updated standards in classifying

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Marine Climate Change Impacts Partnership (MCCIP) produces Report Card “Climate change and the UK marine leisure industry”

Posted on May 6th, 2014

The Marine Climate Change Impacts Partnership (MCCIP) has produced a Report Card called “Climate change and UK marine leisure industry” as part of the Marine Climate Smart Working initiative. The production of the Report Card was assisted by the British Marine Federation (BMF) and the Environment Agency’s Climate Ready support services. The report documents the

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Marine Planning Newsletter 18 – March 2014

Posted on April 22nd, 2014

The Marine Management Organisation’s latest newsletter is now available. It covers updates on progress in the East Plan Area, an implementation and monitoring update, news about and a link to the South Plans Evidence and Issues Workshops Summary and information on a series of evidence gathering projects, reports for which will be published during 2014.

[Read more](#)

Art as a tool to understand coastal change in Wales and Scotland: new report from The Crown Estate

Posted on April 22nd, 2014

The Crown Estate has produced a mini series of reports investigating how Art can be used as a visual tool to understand long-term coastal change in the UK. The purpose of the reports was to identify changes in past and present coastlines, which can then help to predict potential future coastline changes. The reports were

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Blue Marine Foundation report on maximum sustainable yield in fisheries

Posted on April 22nd, 2014

The Blue Marine Foundation has produced a report examining fishing activity beyond the maximum sustainable yield (MSY) and its legal obligations. The report was initiated by the University of the West of England (Bristol) as a UK case study, discussing that historical and current legal framework, and consequences for fishing beyond maximum sustainable yield. For

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Marine Conservation Society release water quality results for Bathing beaches in Britain 2014

Posted on April 15th, 2014

The Marine Conservation Society (MCS) has released results of water quality for Bathing Beaches across Britain (2014). A record 70% of Britain's beaches are graded as "excellent". Beaches of North West England including Formby, Meols, Moreton, Silecroft, ST Bees and West Kirby Main are classified as "MCS Recommended" For more information on bathing beach water and water quality

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27 newly designated Marine Conservation Zones in the UK

Posted on April 15th, 2014

Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for farming, food and marine environment, George Eustice, MP, has recently declared the designation of 27 new Marine Protected Zones, adding to the 500 already existing in UK seas. Plans are being developed to designate two more tranches of Marine Conservation Zones over the next three years to enhance the

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Collation and analysis of offshore wind farm piling records 2007 – 2012

Posted on April 15th, 2014

A report was conducted on the collation and analysis of offshore wind farm piling records during a five period from 2007 to 2014. Mike Elmes, Elena San Martin and Stephen Hull of ABP Marine Environmental Research Limited initiated the study which was funded by The Crown Estate. The report provides an evaluation of off shore

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Study of economic valuation for marine and coastal recreation in West Wales

Posted on April 15th, 2014

Study of economic valuation for marine and coastal recreation in West Wales Together, the Marine Planning Consultants (MPC), Atkins and Pembrokeshire Coastal Forum (PCF) have produced a report determining the economic value of marine and coastal recreation in West Wales. The purpose of the pilot study was to examine individual expenditure per day for each

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Foraging ranges of northern gannets *Morus bassanus* in relation to proposed offshore wind farms in the UK: 2010-2012

Posted on April 15th, 2014

A report has been produced by the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) for the Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC), presenting the results of a three year study on the foraging ranges of adult northern gannets (*Morus bassanus*) in relation to offshore wind farms and wind farm zones. The study was

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Sabellaria spinulosa Reef Ecology and Ecosystem Services

Posted on April 14th, 2014

The Crown Estate has produced a report presenting the results of their 2008 East Coast Regional Environmental Characterisation (REC) surveys. The study was conducted by a team from Marine Ecological Surveys (MES) on behalf of the Crown Estate, to enhance knowledge and understanding of *Sabellaria spinulosa* reefs, and to clarify previous misconceptions. *Sabellaria spinulosa* reefs

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England's first marine plans formally adopted

Posted on April 2nd, 2014

The marine plans for East inshore and offshore areas have been formally adopted by the Secretary of State for the Environment, Owen Paterson. Covering the area of English coast and marine waters from Flamborough Head in Yorkshire to Felixstowe in East Anglia, the marine plans are intended to inform and guide decisions on the sustainable

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Liverpool Bay a case study area for the iCOASST project

Posted on October 5th, 2013

The 4 year, iCOASST project aims to enhance erosion and flood risk management via improving our capability to predict erosion and accretion around the coast and estuaries of the UK. Liverpool Bay has been one of two demonstration regions used for the project's activity to provide more detailed mapping of coastal cells, incorporating the enormous

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International News

Irish Sea Maritime Forum 3rd Annual Conference – Booking and Programme Available!

Posted on May 20th, 2014

The ISMF Steering Group is pleased to announce that the third Irish Sea Maritime Forum Annual Conference will take place on Wednesday 2nd July 2014 at the Rum Warehouse, Stanley Dock, Liverpool. The theme of this year's conference is Blue Growth, a strategic initiative by the European Union to support sustainable growth in marine and

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Call for papers – ICE Coastal Management 2015

Posted on May 9th, 2014

The Institution of Civil Engineers' (ICE) 8th Coastal Management Conference will take place in September 2015, in the Netherlands. Coastal Management 2015 – Changing Coasts, Changing Climate, Changing Minds seeks papers on top international coastal projects that offer practical learning, innovative and integrated solutions, and encourage new ways of understanding and managing our coasts. Occurring every

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European Environment Agency produces report on current state of Europe's coastal environments

Posted on May 6th, 2014

The European Environment Agency has recently produced a report discussing the current state of Europe's coastal regions. Coastal regions are essential for Europe's economy, generating around 40% of its GDP. The natural assets that provide for the European economy continue to degrade as a result of increasing human activity. Such activities include resource extraction, shipping,

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A New Directive for Maritime Spatial Planning

Posted on April 24th, 2014

The European Parliament has today (24th April) endorsed a new Directive for Maritime Spatial Planning (MSP). MSP is a fundamental part of EU Integrated Maritime Policy and the Commission's Blue Growth Strategy. The text adopted can be found here. In an increasingly busy coastal and marine environment with many competing needs and finite resources the

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Commission review gives Member States a 'must do better' report for Marine Strategies

Posted on April 10th, 2014

A report has been released by the European Commission evaluating the current conditions of the European seas (2014). Current state of the seas was interpreted by Member States in relation to the Marine Strategy Framework Strategy (MSFD) to achieve Good Environmental Status. In July 2008, the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD) was introduced by the

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Open Consultations

Consultation on small sewage discharges: a new approach to regulation in England

Posted on May 20th, 2014

Closes 10th June Defra are consulting on reforms of the regulatory system to control small sewage discharges from septic tanks and small sewage treatment plants in England. The consultation proposes a new approach to regulating domestic wastewater systems where the discharges are small, for example systems serving individual or small groups of properties. The new

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Call for evidence: Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authorities: how they operate

Posted on May 20th, 2014

This call for evidence closes on 1 August 2014 12:00am Defra is calling for evidence on how each Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority (IFCA) has worked to meet its duties. This evidence will be used in drawing up a report on the conduct and operation of IFCAs which the Secretary of State must lay before

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This consultation closes on 30th May 2014 Defra and the Welsh Government are seeking views on their draft updated guidance to the Environment Agency and Natural Resources Wales on river basin planning. The guidance includes a description of how the two Government Agencies will be expected to use the new and updated standards in classifying

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Consultation on the Sulphur Content of Marine Fuel

Posted on May 20th, 2014

This consultation closes at 1 July 2014 4:00pm The Maritime and Coastguard Agency is consulting on the draft Merchant Shipping (Prevention of Air Pollution from Ships) and Motor Fuel (Composition and Content)(Amendment) Regulations 2014 implementing EU Directive 2012/33/EU on the sulphur content of marine fuel. They are seeking views from industry on the Government's proposals

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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/>