

Conservation Objectives for Norwegian Boundary Sediment Plain Nature Conservation MPA

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What the conservation advice package includes

The detail provided in this document offers background information on JNCC's conservation advice package for this offshore Nature Conservation Marine Protected Area (hereafter referred to as the site). This forms part of JNCC's conservation advice package for the site and must be read in conjunction with all parts of the package as listed below:

- [Background document](#) explaining where to find the advice package, JNCC's role in the provision of conservation advice, how the advice has been prepared, when to refer to it and how to apply it;
- Conservation Objectives setting out the broad ecological aims for the site (this document);
- [Statements](#) on:
 - the site's protected feature condition and General Management Approach;
 - conservation benefits that the site can provide; and
 - conservation measures needed to further the conservation objectives stated for the site.
- [Supplementary Advice on Conservation Objectives \(SACO\)](#) providing more detailed and site-specific information on the conservation objectives; and
- [Advice on Operations](#) providing information on those human activities that, if taking place within or near the site, can impact it and hinder the achievement of the conservation objectives stated for the site.

The most up-to-date conservation advice for this site can be downloaded from the conservation advice tab in the [Site Information Centre](#) (SIC) accessible on JNCC's website.

JNCC provide supplementary advice on the conservation objectives in the SACO document (see link in the box above). The SACO is essential reading to support interpretation of the conservation objectives set out below. It provides further detail and site-specific information for each feature within the site, including which of the attributes need to be conserved and which ones recovered.

The conservation objectives for the Norwegian Boundary Sediment Plain Nature Conservation Marine Protected Area (NCMPA) are that the protected features:

- so far as already in favourable condition, remain in such condition; and
- so far as not already in favourable condition, be brought into such condition, and remain in such condition.

With respect to the **Ocean quahog aggregations** (including **supporting sedimentary habitats**) within the NCMPA, this means that the quality and quantity of its habitat and the composition of its population in terms of number, age and sex ratio are such as to ensure that the population is maintained in numbers which enable it to thrive.

Any temporary reduction of numbers is to be disregarded if the population is sufficiently thriving and resilient to enable its recovery. Any alteration to that feature brought about entirely by natural processes is to be disregarded.