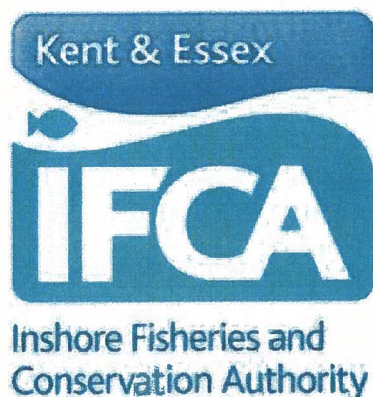




## **Kent and Essex Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority**

### **MARINE AND COASTAL ACCESS ACT 2009**

### **BOTTOM TOWED FISHING GEAR (PROHIBITED AREAS) BYELAW 2024**

The Authority for the Kent and Essex Inshore Fisheries and Conservation District, in exercise of the power conferred by section 155(1) of the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009<sup>1</sup> hereby makes the following byelaw for that District.

#### **COMMENCEMENT**

- (1) This byelaw comes into force the day after it is confirmed by the Secretary of State.

#### **INTERPRETATIONS**

- (2) In this byelaw:

"the Authority" means the Kent and Essex Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority as defined in Article 2 of the Kent and Essex Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Order 2010<sup>2</sup>;

"bottom towed fishing gear" means any trawls, seines, dredges, or similar gear, including trawls towed on or very close to the seabed, which are actively moved in the water by one or more fishing vessels or by any other mechanised system and in which any part of the gear is designed or rigged to operate on, and be in contact with, the seabed in order to take, or disturb, any sea fisheries resources;

"the District" means the Kent and Essex Inshore Fisheries and Conservation District as defined in Articles 2 and 3 of the Kent and Essex Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Order 2010<sup>3</sup>;

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<sup>1</sup> 2009 c.23

<sup>2</sup> SI 2010 No 2190

<sup>3</sup> SI 2010 No. 2190

"the prohibited areas" means the areas more particularly described in Schedule 1, which relate to the following locations:

- i. Prohibited Area 1 – Thanet Coast Special Area of Conservation;
- ii. Prohibited Area 2 – Essex Estuaries Special Area of Conservation;
- iii. Prohibited Area 3 – Folkestone Pomerania Marine Conservation Zone;
- iv. Prohibited Area 4 – Pan Sand Hole;
- v. Prohibited Area 5 – Knob Channel;
- vi. Prohibited Area 6 – East Margate Sand;
- vii. Prohibited Area 7 – Dover to Deal Marine Conservation Zone;
- viii. Prohibited Area 8 – Goodwin Sands (inshore) Marine Conservation Zone; and
- ix. Prohibited Area 9 – Swanscombe Marine Conservation Zone and surrounds;

"use" in the context of bottom towed fishing gear means moving, towing or dragging gear, with or without the intention to take sea fisheries resources;

- i. on the seabed and or above the seabed;
- ii. on the surface of the sea; or
- iii. anchoring and or leaving it on the seabed;

"WGS84 datum" means the World Geodetic System as revised in 1984 and 2004.

#### **GENERAL NOTES**

- (3) Co-ordinates used in this byelaw are measured from WGS84 datum.

#### **PROHIBITIONS**

- (4) A person must not use bottom towed fishing gear within the prohibited areas.

#### **SCIENTIFIC EXEMPTION**

- (5) Paragraph (5) does not apply to a person performing an act which would otherwise constitute an offence against this byelaw, if that act was carried out in accordance with a written permission issued by the Authority permitting that act for scientific, stocking or breeding purposes.

#### **OFFENCES**

- (6) A person who contravenes this byelaw is guilty of an offence under section 163(1) of the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009.

#### **REVOCATION**

- (7) The following byelaws are revoked:
- a) The byelaw with the title "Bottom Towed Fishing Gear (Prohibited Areas) Byelaw 2017" made by the Authority on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of January 2017; and

- a) "Byelaw 10" of the group of byelaws titled "Thames Region Sea Fishery Byelaws" made by the Environment Agency on 7<sup>th</sup> January 2009 with enforcement transferred to the Kent and Essex Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2011.

I certify that the above byelaw was made by the Authority at their meeting on the 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2024.



Joel Cook  
Clerk to the Kent and Essex Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority

Paragon House  
Albert Street  
Ramsgate  
Kent.  
CT11 9HD

The Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs in exercise of the power conferred by section 155(4) of the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 confirms the Bottom Towed Fishing Gear (Prohibited Areas) Byelaw 2024 made by Kent and Essex Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority.



Date: 16.04.26

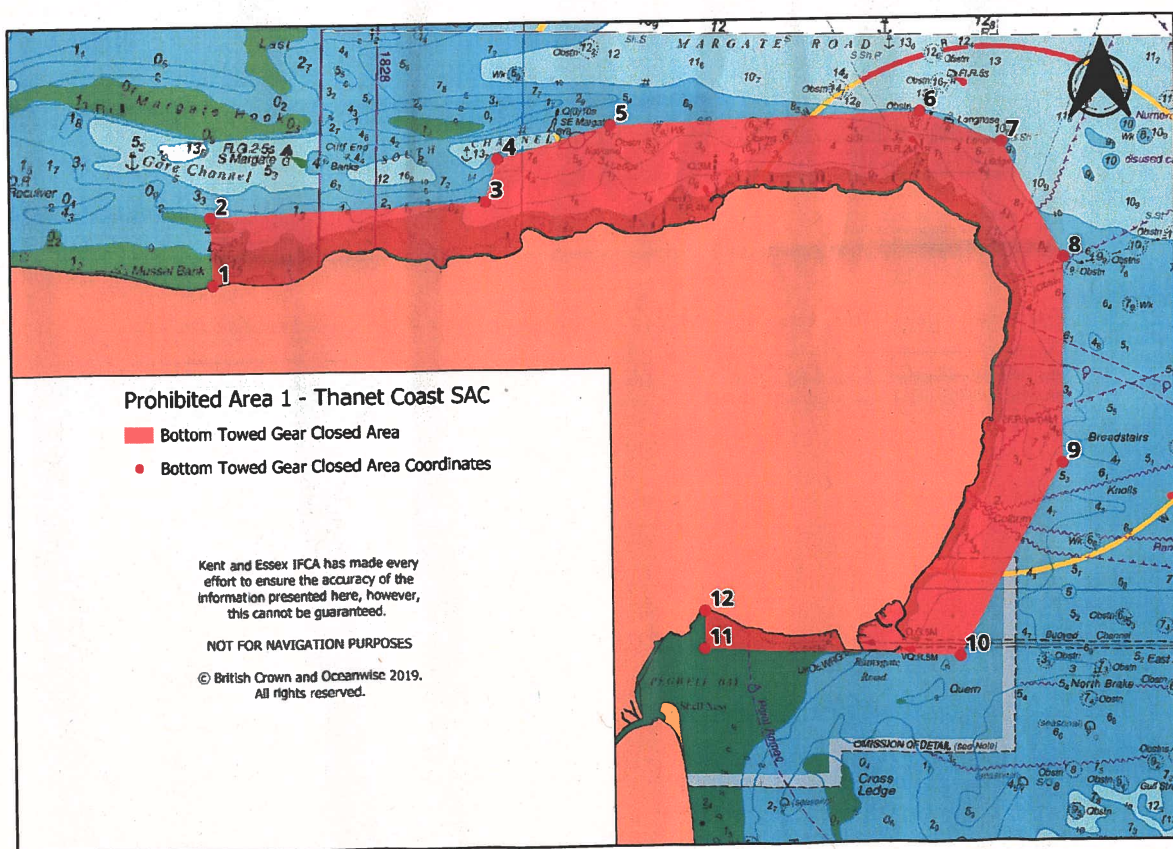
A Senior Civil Servant for, and on behalf of, the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

## SCHEDULE 1

### Definition of "Prohibited Areas"

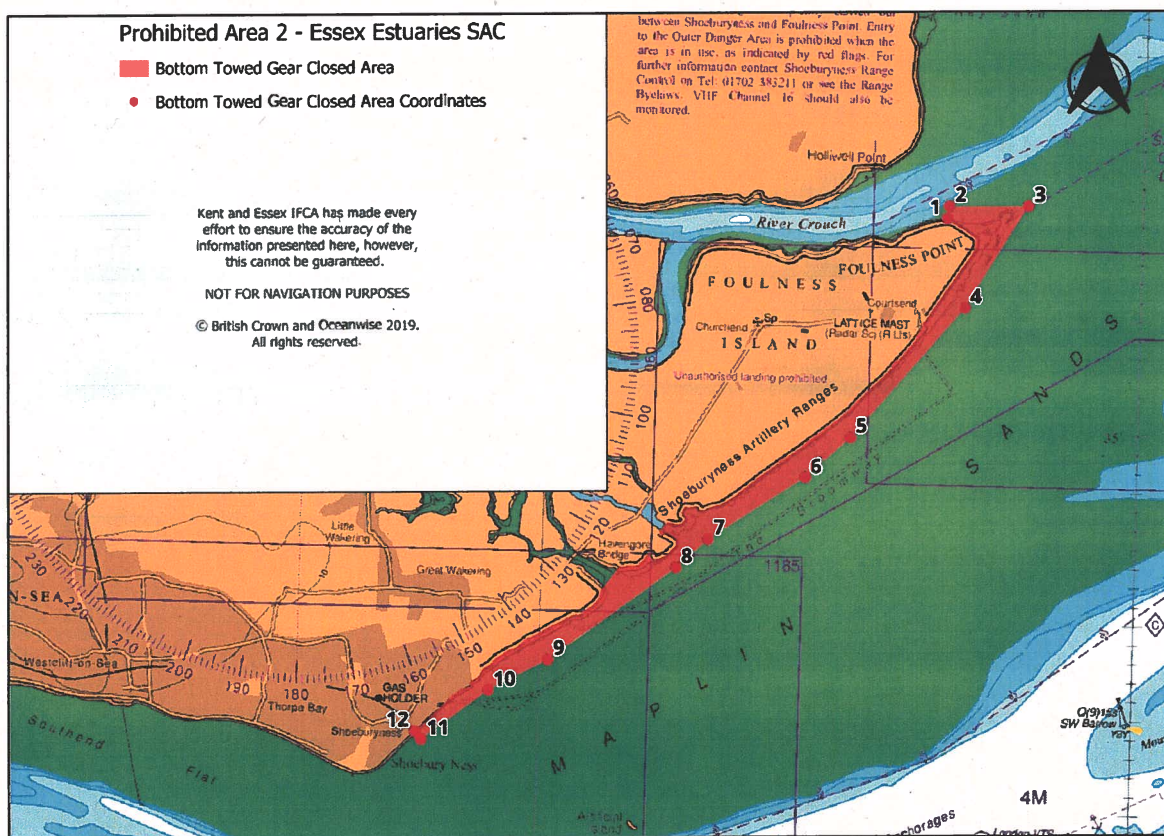
"Prohibited Area 1 - Thanet Coast Special Area of Conservation" means the area enclosed by a series of straight lines drawn sequentially from:

Point 1 (51 degrees 22.646 minutes North, 001 degrees 15.598 minutes East) to  
Point 2 (51 degrees 23.250 minutes North, 001 degrees 15.545 minutes East) to  
Point 3 (51 degrees 23.420 minutes North, 001 degrees 19.482 minutes East) to  
Point 4 (51 degrees 23.802 minutes North, 001 degrees 19.651 minutes East) to  
Point 5 (51 degrees 24.113 minutes North, 001 degrees 21.248 minutes East) to  
Point 6 (51 degrees 24.258 minutes North, 001 degrees 25.645 minutes East) to  
Point 7 (51 degrees 23.995 minutes North, 001 degrees 26.836 minutes East) to  
Point 8 (51 degrees 22.968 minutes North, 001 degrees 27.729 minutes East) to  
Point 9 (51 degrees 21.128 minutes North, 001 degrees 27.748 minutes East) to  
Point 10 (51 degrees 19.400 minutes North, 001 degrees 26.322 minutes East) to  
Point 11 (51 degrees 19.444 minutes North, 001 degrees 22.656 minutes East) to  
Point 12 (51 degrees 19.780 minutes North, 001 degrees 22.655 minutes East) and then a line drawn along the coast at the level of mean high water spring tide back to Point 1.



"Prohibited Area 2 - Essex Estuaries Special Area of Conservation" means the area enclosed by a series of straight lines drawn sequentially from:

Point 1 (51 degrees 37.248 minutes North, 000 degrees 56.692 minutes East) to  
 Point 2 (51 degrees 37.376 minutes North, 000 degrees 56.724 minutes East) to  
 Point 3 (51 degrees 37.400 minutes North, 000 degrees 58.065 minutes East) to  
 Point 4 (51 degrees 36.312 minutes North, 000 degrees 57.038 minutes East) to  
 Point 5 (51 degrees 34.916 minutes North, 000 degrees 55.137 minutes East) to  
 Point 6 (51 degrees 34.487 minutes North, 000 degrees 54.403 minutes East) to  
 Point 7 (51 degrees 33.811 minutes North, 000 degrees 52.788 minutes East) to  
 Point 8 (51 degrees 33.506 minutes North, 000 degrees 52.250 minutes East) to  
 Point 9 (51 degrees 32.503 minutes North, 000 degrees 50.138 minutes East) to  
 Point 10 (51 degrees 32.169 minutes North, 000 degrees 49.143 minutes East) to  
 Point 11 (51 degrees 31.635 minutes North, 000 degrees 48.020 minutes East) to  
 Point 12 (51 degrees 31.716 minutes North, 000 degrees 47.917 minutes East) and then a line drawn along the coast at the level of mean high water spring tide back to Point 1.



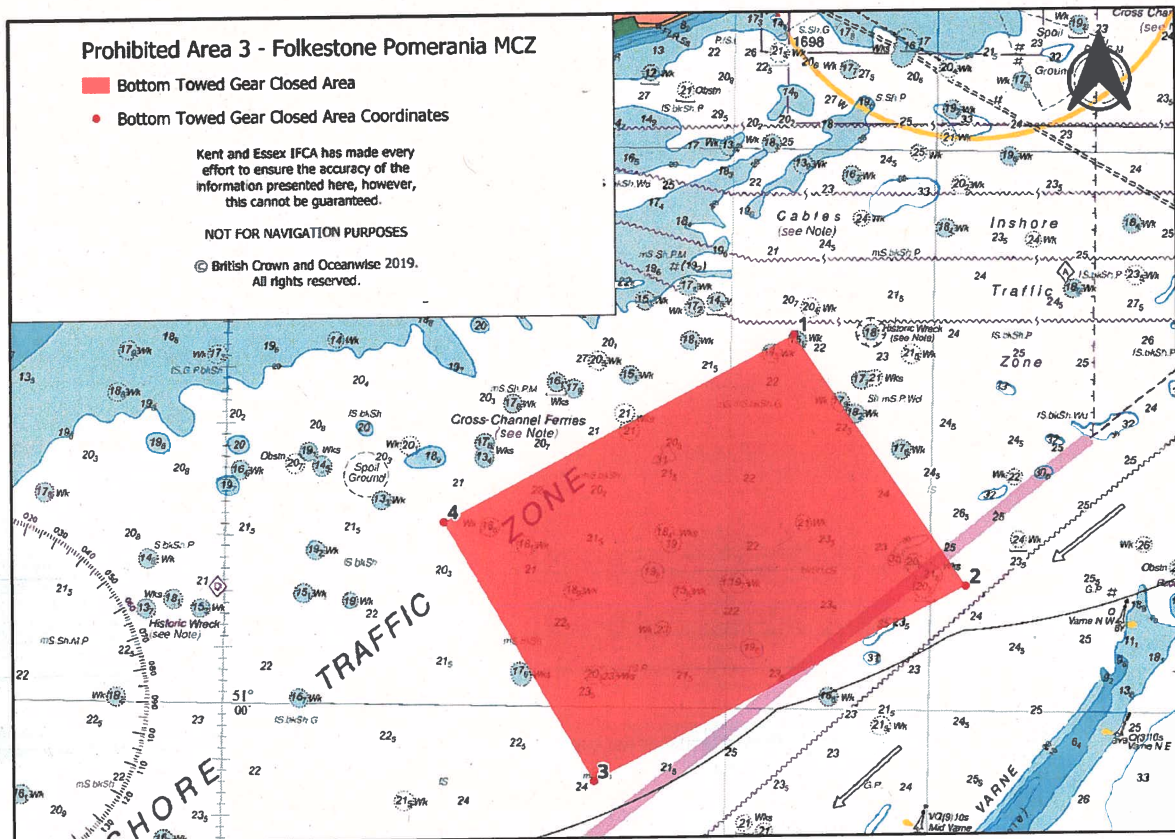
"Prohibited Area 3 – Folkestone Pomerania Marine Conservation Zone" means the area enclosed by a series of straight lines drawn sequentially from:

Point 1 (51 degrees 03.337 minutes North, 001 degrees 18.030 minutes East) to

Point 2 (51 degrees 01.110 minutes North, 001 degrees 20.498 minutes East) to

Point 3 (50 degrees 59.328 minutes North, 001 degrees 15.288 minutes East) to

Point 4 (51 degrees 01.624 minutes North, 001 degrees 13.093 minutes East) and then a straight line back to Point 1.



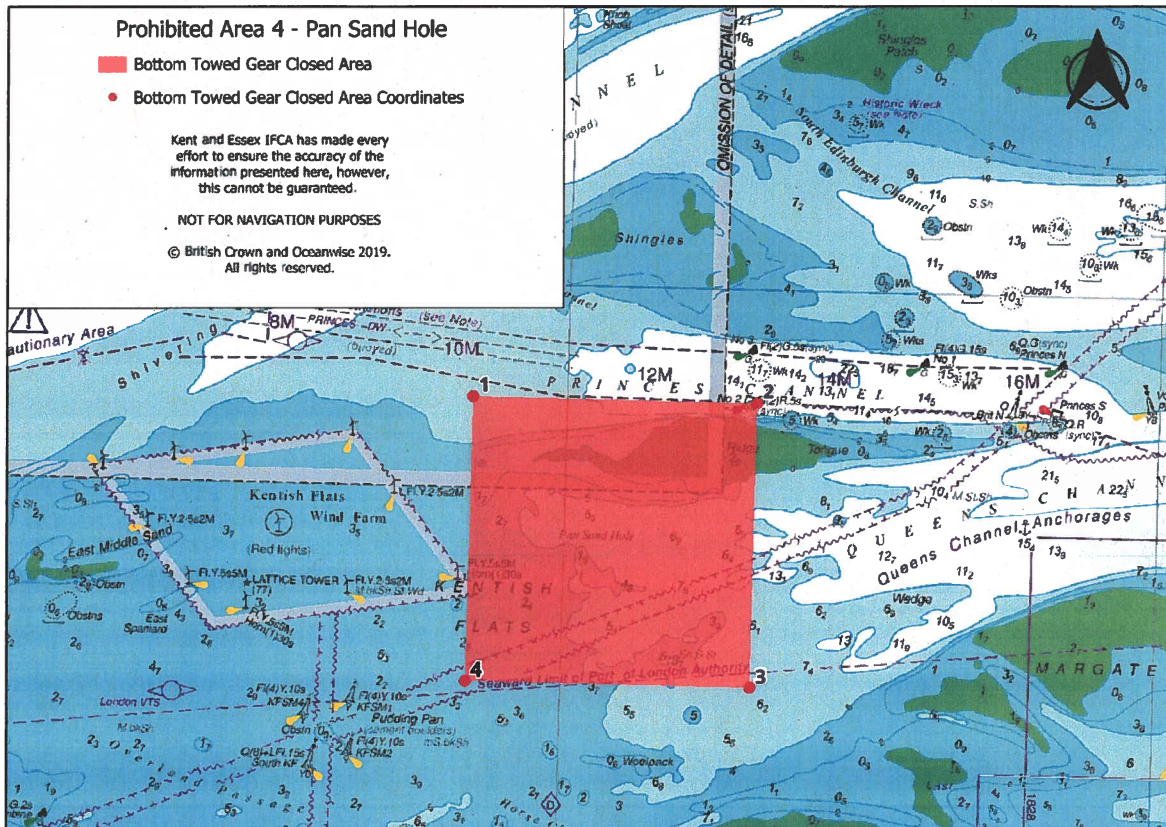
"Prohibited Area 4 – Pan Sand Hole" means the area enclosed by a series of straight lines drawn sequentially from:

Point 1 (51 degrees 28.800 minutes North, 001 degrees 08.400 minutes East) to

Point 2 (51 degrees 28.800 minutes North, 001 degrees 13.200 minutes East) to

Point 3 (51 degrees 25.800 minutes North, 001 degrees 13.200 minutes East) to

Point 4 (51 degrees 25.800 minutes North, 001 degrees 08.400 minutes East) and then a straight line back to Point 1.



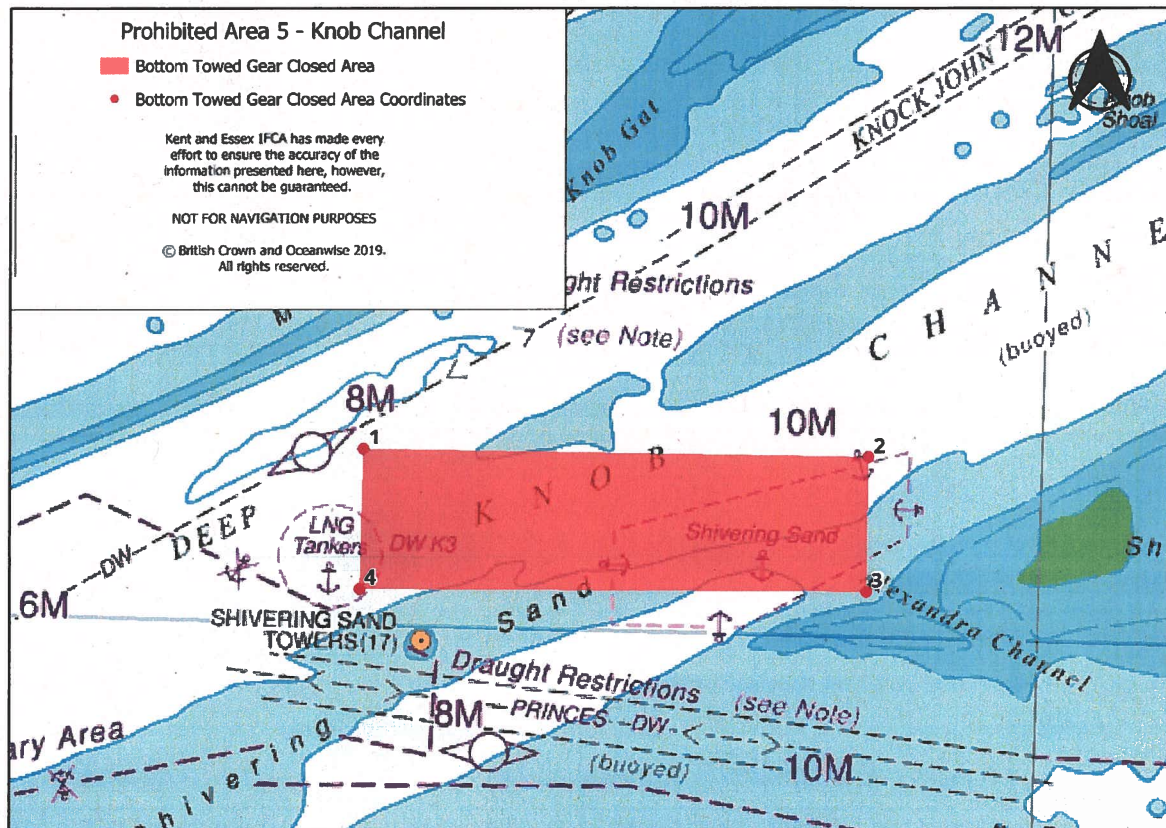
"Prohibited Area 5 – Knob Channel" means the area enclosed by a series of straight lines drawn sequentially from:

Point 1 (51 degrees 30.920 minutes North, 001 degrees 04.259 minutes East) to

Point 2 (51 degrees 30.920 minutes North, 001 degrees 08.534 minutes East) to

Point 3 (51 degrees 30.232 minutes North, 001 degrees 08.534 minutes East) to

Point 4 (51 degrees 30.232 minutes North, 001 degrees 04.259 minutes East) and then a straight line back to Point 1.



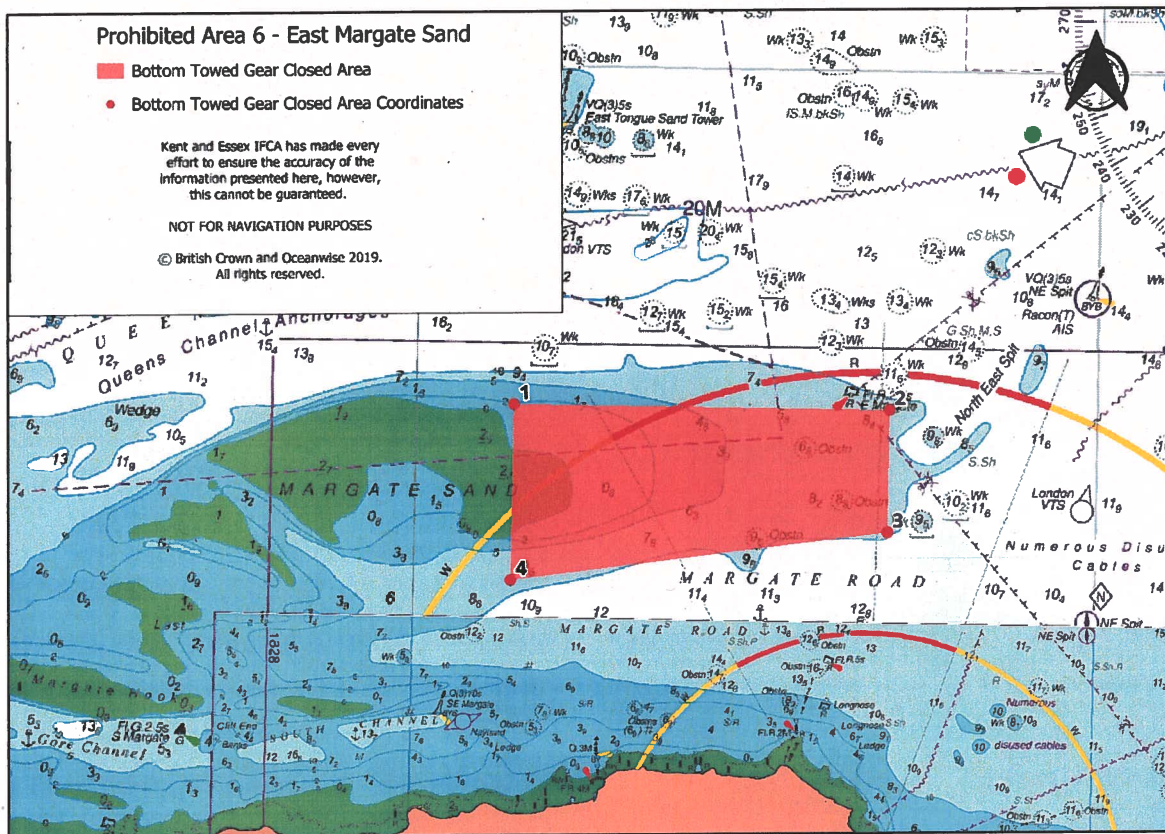
"Prohibited Area 6 – East Margate Sand" means the area enclosed by a series of straight lines drawn sequentially from:

Point 1 (51 degrees 26.892 minutes North, 001 degrees 21.447 minutes East) to

Point 2 (51 degrees 26.892 minutes North, 001 degrees 26.946 minutes East) to

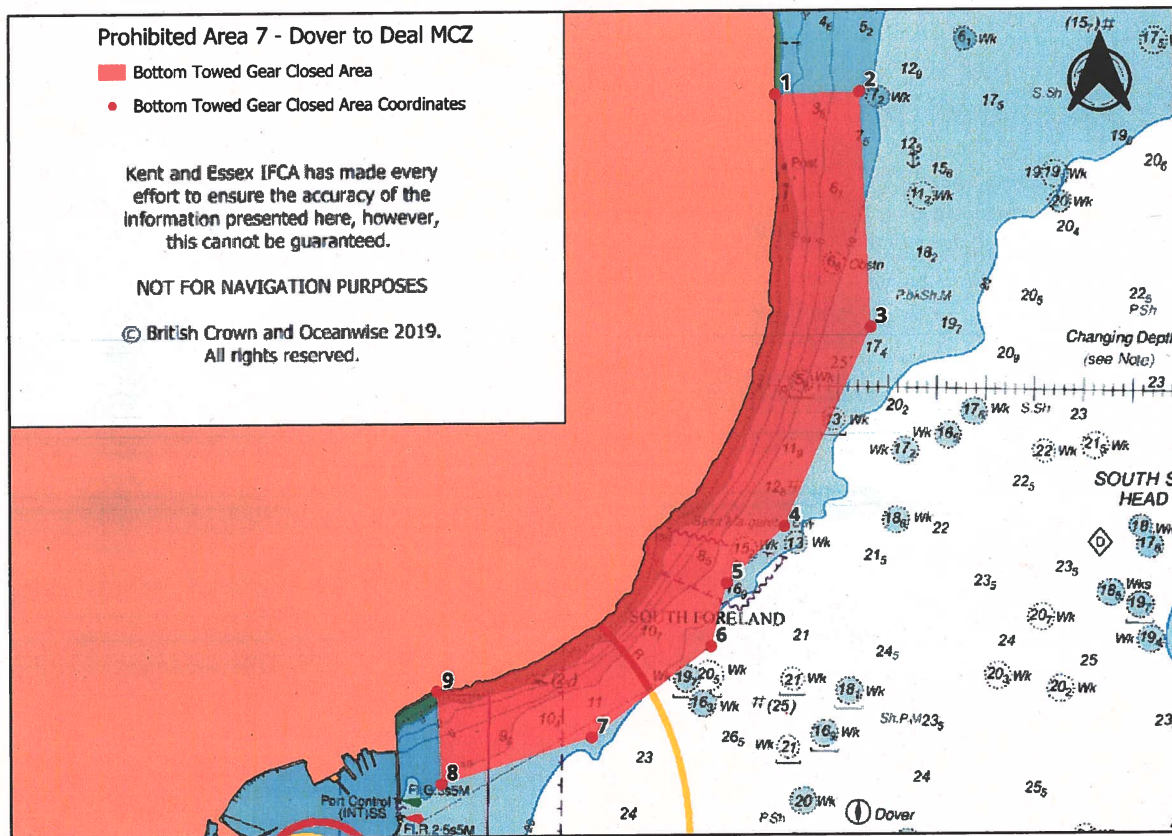
Point 3 (51 degrees 25.772 minutes North, 001 degrees 26.946 minutes East) to

Point 4 (51 degrees 25.280 minutes North, 001 degrees 21.447 minutes East) and then a straight line back to Point 1.



"Prohibited Area 7 – Dover to Deal Marine Conservation Zone" means the area enclosed by a series of straight lines drawn sequentially from:

Point 1 (51 degrees 11.855 minutes North, 001 degrees 24.299 minutes East) to  
Point 2 (51 degrees 11.880 minutes North, 001 degrees 25.156 minutes East) to  
Point 3 (51 degrees 10.375 minutes North, 001 degrees 25.315 minutes East) to  
Point 4 (51 degrees 09.092 minutes North, 001 degrees 24.479 minutes East) to  
Point 5 (51 degrees 08.721 minutes North, 001 degrees 23.902 minutes East) to  
Point 6 (51 degrees 08.316 minutes North, 001 degrees 23.751 minutes East) to  
Point 7 (51 degrees 07.720 minutes North, 001 degrees 22.558 minutes East) to  
Point 8 (51 degrees 07.405 minutes North, 001 degrees 21.026 minutes East) to  
Point 9 (51 degrees 07.996 minutes North, 001 degrees 20.964 minutes East) and then a line drawn  
along the coast at the level of mean high water spring tide back to Point 1.



**"Prohibited Area 8 – Goodwin Sands (inshore) Marine Conservation Zone"** means the area enclosed by a series of straight lines drawn sequentially from:

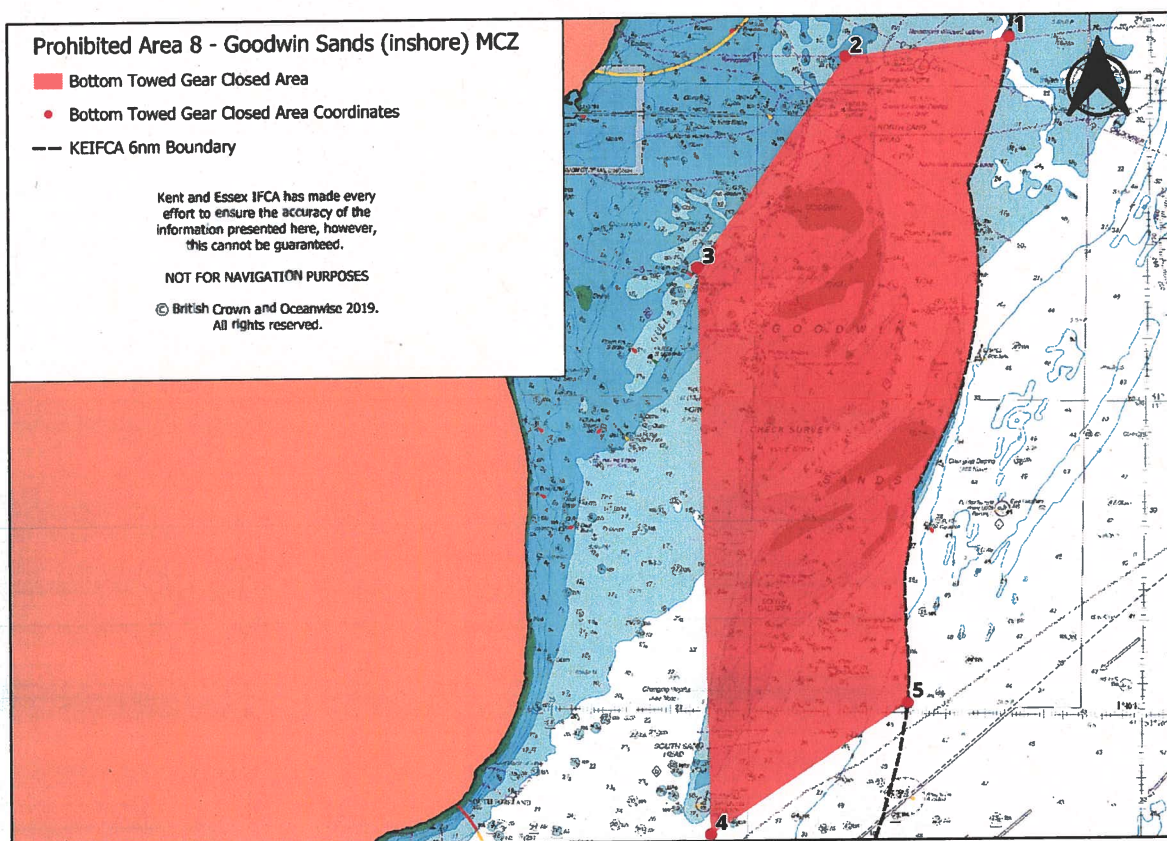
Point 1 (51 degrees 20.799 minutes North, 001 degrees 36.388 minutes East) to

Point 2 (51 degrees 20.454 minutes North, 001 degrees 32.222 minutes East) to

Point 3 (51 degrees 17.050 minutes North, 001 degrees 28.520 minutes East) to

Point 4 (51 degrees 08.011 minutes North, 001 degrees 29.074 minutes East) to

Point 5 (51 degrees 10.149 minutes North, 001 degrees 34.024 minutes East) and then a line drawn along the Kent and Essex IFCA District boundary, as defined in The Kent and Essex Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Order 2010<sup>4</sup> back to Point 1.



<sup>4</sup> SI 2010 No. 2190

"Prohibited Area 9 – Swanscombe Marine Conservation Zone and surrounds" means the area enclosed by a series of straight lines drawn sequentially from:

Point 1 (51 degrees 27.900 minutes North, 000 degrees 25.983 minutes East) to

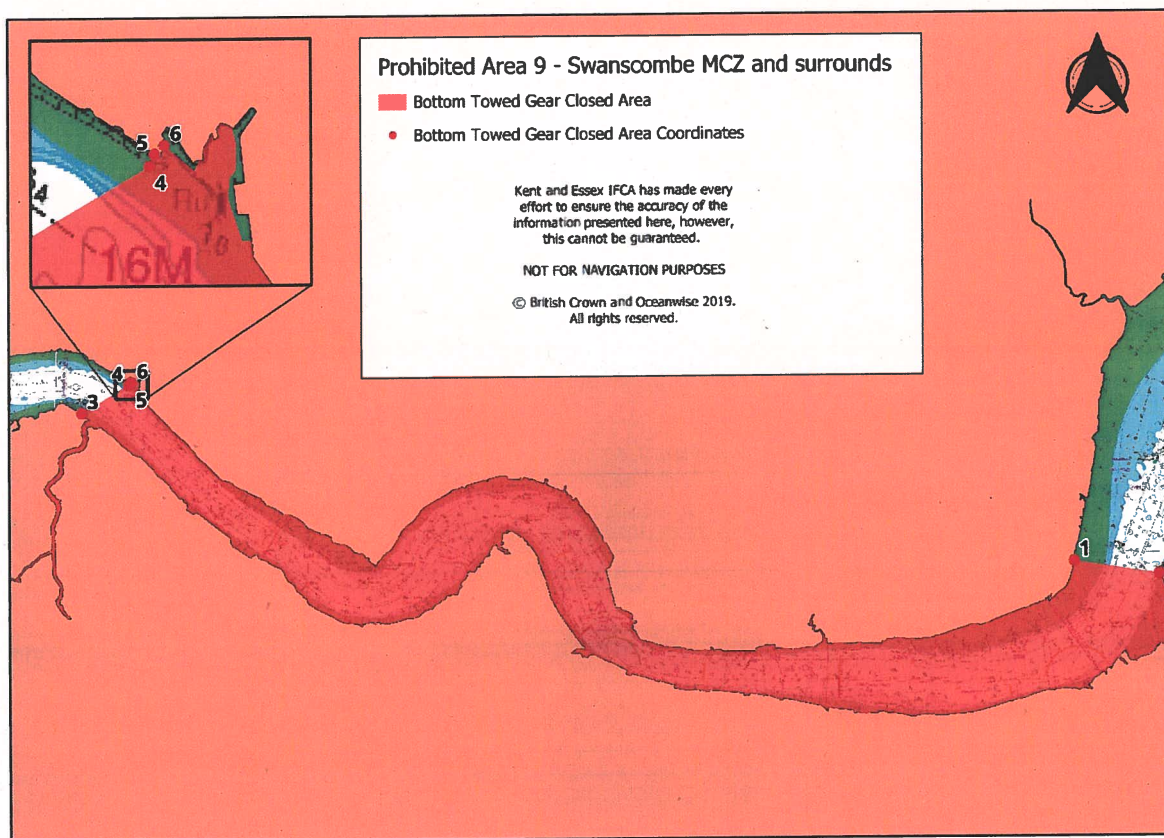
Point 2 (51 degrees 27.817 minutes North, 000 degrees 27.350 minutes East) and then by a line drawn along the coast at the level of mean high water spring tide back to

Point 3 (51 degrees 28.882 minutes North, 000 degrees 12.948 minutes East) to

Point 4 (51 degrees 29.125 minutes North, 000 degrees 13.555 minutes East) to

Point 5 (51 degrees 29.137 minutes North, 000 degrees 13.563 minutes East) to

Point 6 (51 degrees 29.145 minutes North, 000 degrees 13.577 minutes East) and then a line drawn along the coast at the level of mean high water spring tide back to Point 1.



## EXPLANATORY NOTE

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

This byelaw prohibits the use of bottom towed fishing gear in the following specified prohibited areas;

- a) Thanet Coast Special Area of Conservation
- b) Essex Estuaries Special Area of Conservation
- c) Folkestone Pomerania Marine Conservation Zone
- d) Pan Sand Hole
- e) Knob Channel
- f) East Margate Sand
- g) Dover to Deal Marine Conservation Zone
- h) Goodwin Sands (Inshore) Marine Conservation Zone
- i) Swanscombe Marine Conservation Zone and surrounds

Bottom towed fishing gear and the prohibited areas are defined in the byelaw.

A person who contravenes this byelaw is guilty of an offence under section 163(1) of the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009.

The byelaw with the title "Bottom Towed Fishing Gear (Prohibited Areas) Byelaw 2017" made by the Authority on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of January 2017 and "Byelaw 10" of the group of byelaws titled "Thames Region Sea Fishery Byelaws" made by the Environment Agency on 7<sup>th</sup> January 2009 are revoked.