26. MARINE ENVIRONMENTAL HIGH RISK AREAS

Source: Maritime and Coastguard Agency.

Former Notice 26/19 is cancelled. This is a repetition of the former Notice.

1. In 1994 Lord Donaldson recommended in his report ‘Safer Ships, Cleaner Seas’ that a comparatively limited number of areas of high environmental sensitivity, which are also at risk from shipping, should be identified and established around the UK coast.

   Lord Donaldson referred to these areas as Marine Environmental High Risk Areas (MEHRAs) and said that their primary purpose was to inform ships’ masters of areas where there is a real prospect of a problem arising.

   In 2001 the areas eventually identified as MEHRAs were those which combined both high sensitivity and a high level of shipping pollution risk. They represent approximately 9% of the UK coastline, which is consistent with Lord Donaldson’s view that not more than 10% of the UK coastline should qualify as MEHRAs.

2. Location of MEHRAs.

   The UK Government has identified 32 MEHRAs:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Area</th>
<th>Approximate location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bass Rock</td>
<td>56° 05N., 2° 38W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Berry Head</td>
<td>50° 24N., 3° 29W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Berwick</td>
<td>55° 46N., 2° 00W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dunbar</td>
<td>56° 00N., 2° 31W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dungeness</td>
<td>50° 55N., 0° 58E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farne Islands</td>
<td>55° 38N., 1° 37W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fethaland, Mainland Shetland</td>
<td>60° 38N., 1° 20W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flamborough Head</td>
<td>54° 07N., 0° 05W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gallan Head, Isle of Lewis</td>
<td>58° 18N., 6° 48W: 58° 15N., 6° 54W and 58° 14N., 7° 00W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harwich &amp; Felixstowe (2 MEHRAs)</td>
<td>51° 55N., 1° 16E and 51° 56N., 1° 19E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hastings</td>
<td>50° 51N., 0° 35E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holy Island</td>
<td>55° 41N., 1° 48W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Islandmagee, County Antrim</td>
<td>54° 50N., 5° 42W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Isle of May</td>
<td>56° 11N., 2° 33W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kinnaird Head</td>
<td>57° 38N., 1° 53W and 57° 42N., 2° 05W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Muckle Flugga</td>
<td>60° 51N., 0° 55W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newburgh</td>
<td>57° 19N., 2° 00W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North St Kilda</td>
<td>57° 49N., 8° 35W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pembrokeshire Islands</td>
<td>51° 44N., 5° 29W: 51° 44N., 5° 17W and 51° 42N., 5° 16W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plymouth</td>
<td>50° 19N., 4° 12W and 50° 19N., 4° 05W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portland</td>
<td>50° 35N., 2° 27W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St Abb’s Head &amp; Eyemouth</td>
<td>55° 54N., 2° 08W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Foreland to Ramsgate (2 MEHRAs)</td>
<td>51° 09N., 1° 23E and 51° 20N., 1° 25E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South St Kilda</td>
<td>57° 49N., 8° 35W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spurn Bight Hastings</td>
<td>53° 36N., 0° 08E</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tees Holy Island</td>
<td>54° 40N., 1° 10W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tor Ness, Hoy</td>
<td>58° 51N., 3° 23W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western Solent</td>
<td>50° 42N., 1° 34W</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>West Islay, Argyll and Bute (2 MEHRAs)</td>
<td>55° 47N., 6° 29W</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3. The UK Government expects mariners to take note of MEHRAs and either to keep well clear or, where this is not practicable, to exercise an even higher degree of care than usual when passing in close proximity to MEHRAs.

4. The complete MEHRA report showing details of the areas can be accessed from the national archives at: http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/+/http://www.dft.gov.uk/pgr/shippingports/shipping/elc/secmehras/pdfmehras