

West of Walney MCZ



West of Walney MCZ was designated in January 2016. It covers an area of around 388km². The site is located in the Irish Sea, off the coast of Cumbria and to the west of Walney Island. Most of the site is in inshore waters, with a small section crossing the 12 nautical mile boundary into offshore waters.

Designated features: sea-pen and burrowing megafauna communities; subtidal mud; subtidal sand.

Management: West of Walney MCZ spans the 6nm limit and so is covered by byelaws introduced by the Marine management Organisation, which came into force on the 4th July 2019. The MMO introduced a prohibition on the use of bottom towed fishing gear in the MCZ. The MMO works in close liaison with NWIFCA to co-manage the area and NWIFCA has agreed to support the MMO with information on fishing activity to ensure a consistent approach to management of fishing within the West of Walney MCZ.

NE site view – [Designated Sites View \(naturalengland.org.uk\)](http://naturalengland.org.uk)

NEs advice – [Marine site detail \(naturalengland.org.uk\)](http://naturalengland.org.uk)

Defra factsheet – [West of Walney MCZ factsheet \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](http://publishing.service.gov.uk)

Magic map – [Magic Map Application \(defra.gov.uk\)](http://defra.gov.uk)