

Appendix C: AODA MAREA: Nature Conservation Designations

International Designations

Starting from the north of the Anglian MAREA Region and moving south

Designation	Name	Status	Qualifying Features	Area (km ²)
SAC's with marine features	Alde-Ore & Butley Estuaries	SAC	Annex I Habitat Primary qualifying feature: Estuaries. Annex I habitats present as a qualifying feature, but not a primary reason for selection of this site: Mudflats and sandflats not covered by seawater at low tide, Atlantic salt meadows <i>Glauco-Puccinellietalia maritima</i> .	15.6153
	Minsmere to Walberswick Heaths and Marshes	SAC	Annex I Habitat Primary qualifying feature: Annual vegetation of drift lines European dry heaths Annex I habitats present as a qualifying feature, but not a primary reason for selection of this site: Perennial vegetation of stony banks	12.6552
SAC's with coastal features	Benacre to Easton Barents Lagoons	SAC	Annex I Habitat Primary qualifying feature: Coastal lagoons * Priority feature	3.6693
	Orfordness – Shingle Street	SAC	Annex I Habitat Primary qualifying feature: Coastal lagoons (<i>considered a priority feature but not considered a marine feature as occur landward of Highest Astronomical Tide</i>). Annual vegetation of drift lines Perennial vegetation of stony banks	9.0119
	Winterton-Horsey Dunes	SAC	Annex I habitats that are a primary reason for selection of this site: Atlantic decalcified fixed dunes (Calluno-Ulicetea) * Priority feature Humid dune slacks Annex I habitats present as a qualifying feature, but not a primary reason for selection of this site: Embryonic shifting dunes Shifting dunes along the shoreline with <i>Ammophila arenaria</i> ('white dunes')	4.2594
Offshore cSAC	Haisborough,	Candidate	The Haisborough, Hammond and Winterton dSAC is joint inshore/offshore sites sitting	

	Hammond and Winterton		partly in English inshore waters. Interest features under the EU Habitats Directive: Annex I Sandbank slightly covered by seawater all the time (http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/Images/HHW-sad_tcm6-15218.pdf)	
SPA with marine and coastal components	Alde-Ore Estuary	Classified	Salt marshes. Salt pastures. Salt steppes; Tidal rivers. Estuaries. Mud flats. Sand flats. Lagoons (including saltwork basins); Eurasian marsh harrier <i>Circus aeruginosus</i> - breeding; Lesser black-backed gull <i>Larus fuscus</i> (Western Europe/Mediterranean/Western Africa) - breeding; Ruff <i>Philomachus pugnax</i> (Western Africa - wintering); Pied avocet <i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i> (Western Europe/Western Mediterranean - breeding); Pied avocet <i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i> (Western Europe/Western Mediterranean - breeding); Little tern <i>Sterna albifrons</i> (Eastern Atlantic - breeding); Sandwich tern <i>Sterna sandvicensis</i> (Western Europe/Western Africa) - breeding; Common redshank <i>Tringa totanus</i> (Eastern Atlantic - wintering).	24.1687
	Benacre to Easton Barents	Classified	Eurasian marsh harrier <i>Circus aeruginosus</i> - breeding; Little tern <i>Sterna albifrons</i> (Eastern Atlantic - breeding).	5.1683
	Breydon Water	Classified	Salt marshes. Salt pastures. Salt steppes; Tidal rivers. Estuaries. Mud flats. Sand flats. Lagoons (including saltwork basins); Ruff <i>Philomachus pugnax</i> (Western Africa - wintering); Pied avocet <i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i> (Western Europe/Western Mediterranean - breeding); Common tern <i>Sterna hirundo</i> (Northern/Eastern Europe - breeding); Northern lapwing <i>Vanellus vanellus</i> (Europe - breeding).	12.0294
	Minsmere-Walberswick	Classified	Salt marshes. Salt pastures. Salt steppes; Tidal rivers. Estuaries. Mud flats. Sand flats. Lagoons (including saltwork basins); Northern shoveler <i>Anas clypeata</i> (North-western/Central Europe) - breeding; Northern shoveler <i>Anas clypeata</i> (North-western/Central Europe) - breeding; Eurasian teal <i>Anas crecca</i> (North-western Europe) - breeding;	20.1892

			<p>Gadwall <i>Anas strepera</i> (North-western Europe) - breeding; Gadwall <i>Anas strepera</i> (North-western Europe) - wintering; Great white fronted goose <i>Anser albifrons albifrons</i> (North-western Siberia/North-eastern & North-western Europe) - wintering; Eurasian marsh harrier <i>Circus aeruginosus</i> - breeding; Hen harrier <i>Circus cyaneus</i> - wintering; Pied avocet <i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i> (Western Europe/Western Mediterranean - breeding); Little tern <i>Sterna albifrons</i> (Eastern Atlantic - breeding).</p>	
	Great Yarmouth North Denes	Classified	Little Tern <i>Sterna albifrons</i> - breeding	1.4919
Marine SPA	Outer Thames Estuary	Classified	Joint inshore/offshore site sitting mainly in English inshore waters - Outer Thames	379268.14
RAMSAR	Alde-Ore Estuary	Classified	<p>The site comprises the estuary complex of the rivers Alde, Butley and Ore, including Havergate Island and Orfordness. There are a variety of habitats including, intertidal mudflats, saltmarsh, vegetated shingle (including the second-largest and best-preserved area in Britain at Orfordness), saline lagoons and grazing marsh. The Orfordness/Shingle Street landform is unique within Britain in combining a shingle spit with a cusped foreland.</p> <p>RAMSAR criterion qualification: Ramsar criterion 2; The site supports a number of nationally-scarce plant species and British Red Data Book invertebrates. Ramsar criterion 3; The site supports a notable assemblage of breeding and wintering wetland birds. Ramsar criterion 6 – species/populations occurring at levels of international importance. Qualifying Species/populations (as identified at designation): Species regularly supported during the breeding season: Lesser black-backed gull <i>Larus fuscus graellsii</i> Species with peak counts in winter: Pied avocet <i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i> Common redshank <i>Tringa totanus totanus</i></p>	25.4699

	Breydon Water	Classified	<p>This site is an inland tidal estuary at the mouth of the River Yare and its confluence with the Rivers Bure and Waveney. It has extensive areas of mud flats that are exposed at low tide and these form the only tidal flats on the east coast of Norfolk. Breydon Water is internationally important for wintering waterfowl.</p> <p>RAMSAR criterion qualification:</p> <p>Ramsar criterion 5; Internationally important waterfowl assemblage (greater than 20,000 birds) Ramsar criterion 6;</p> <p>Over winter the site regularly supports internationally important numbers of Bewick's Swan <i>Cygnus columbianus bewickii</i> and Lapwing <i>Vanellus vanellus</i>.</p>	12.0294
	Minsmere-Walberswick	Classified	<p>This composite, Suffolk coastal site contains a complex mosaic of habitats, notably, areas of marsh with dykes, extensive reedbeds, mudflats, lagoons, shingle and driftline, woodland and areas of lowland heath. The site supports the largest continuous stand of reed in England and Wales and demonstrates the nationally rare transition in grazing marsh ditch plants from brackish to fresh water.</p> <p>The combination of habitats create an exceptional area of scientific interest supporting nationally scarce plants, British Red Data Book invertebrates and nationally important numbers of breeding and wintering birds.</p> <p>RAMSAR criterion qualification:</p> <p>Ramsar criterion 1;</p> <p>The site contains a mosaic of marine, freshwater, marshland and associated habitats, complete with transition areas in between. Contains the largest continuous stand of reedbeds in England and Wales and rare transition in grazing marsh ditch plants from brackish to fresh water.</p> <p>Ramsar criterion 2;</p> <p>This site supports nine nationally scarce plants and at least 26 red data book invertebrates. Supports a population of the mollusc <i>Vertigo angustior</i> (Habitats Directive Annex II; British Red Data Book Endangered), recently discovered on the Blyth estuary river walls.</p> <p>An important assemblage of rare breeding birds associated with marshland and reedbeds including:</p> <p><i>Botaurus stellaris</i>, <i>Anas strepera</i>, <i>Anas crecca</i>, <i>Anas clypeata</i>, <i>Circus aeruginosus</i>, <i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>, <i>Panurus biarmicus</i></p>	20.1892

EMS	Minsmere–Walberswick	Classified	Component Natura 2000 sites: Minsmere to Walberswick Heaths and Marshes SAC; Minsmere to Walberswick Heaths and Marshes SPA.	32.8444
	Great Yarmouth North Denes	Classified	Component Natura 2000 sites: Great Yarmouth North Denes SPA.	1.4919
	Breydon Water	Classified	Component Natura 2000 sites: Breydon Water SPA.	12.0294
	Benacre to Easton Barents	Classified	Component Natura 2000 sites: Benacre to Easton Barents SPA.	5.1683
	Alde-Ore Estuary	Classified	Component Natura 2000 sites: Alde, Ore and Butley Estuaries SAC; Orfordness – Shingle Street SAC; Alde–Ore Estuary SPA.	48.7959
OSPAR	Alde, Ore and Butley Estuaries	Submitted to the OSPAR Commission in 2005 for Representativity	Tidal rivers. Estuaries. Mud flats. Sand flats. Lagoons (including saltwork basins) (70%)	11.08
World Heritage Sites	NONE			

National Designations

Starting from the north of the Anglian MAREA Region and moving south

Designation	Name	Status	Qualifying Features	Area
SSSI	Overstrand Cliffs			
	Sidestrand & Trimmingham Cliffs			
	Mundesley Cliffs			
	Happisburgh Cliffs			
	Winterton-Horsey			

	Dunes			
	Great Yarmouth North Denes			
	Corton Cliffs			
	Pakefield to Easton Bavents			
	Minsmere- Walberswick Heaths & Marshes		Extensive reedbeds, consisting largely of pure stands of reed <i>Phragmites australis</i> , occur at Minsmere and Walberswick.	
	Sizewell Marshes			
	Leiston-Aldeburgh		The site is also attractive to wintering waterfowl including Bewicks swan and bittern and regularly supports important populations of white-fronted goose, gadwall and teal.	
Alde-Ore Estuary		The site is of national importance for its birdlife. Havergate Island holds the largest breeding colony of avocets in Britain, and they also feed in large numbers of Hazelwood Marshes and the Alde mudflats. Other breeding birds on the Island and elsewhere on the site include gadwall, shoveler, oystercatcher, ringed plover, common tern, Arctic tern, sandwich tern and little tern, common gull, short-eared owl, wheatear and marsh harrier. There are also very large breeding colonies of black-headed gull, lesser-black-backed gull and herring gull on Orfordness. In winter and during migration the site is visited by nationally important numbers of wildfowl and shore-birds, including Bewick's swan, shelduck, teal, wigeon, redshank and avocet.		
NNR	Winterton Dunes			
	Benacre			
	Suffolk Coast <i>(encompassing Lowestoft ness LNR as referenced in the Ornithology Chapter)</i>			
	Orfordness-			

	Havergate			
	Hickling Broad NNR			
	Holme Dunes NNR			
	Winterton Dunes NNR			
LNR	Gunton Warren and Corton Woods		<p>This site was declared a Local Nature Reserve in March 1993. Gunton Warren exhibits a wide range of plant communities including cliff top scrub, heath, woodland and dune grassland. It contains one of the few remaining areas of coastal heathland in the Lowestoft area. Coastal plants present include sea holly and sea sandwort and it is important for reptiles such as the common lizard and adder. Corton Woods contains a variety of mature trees including oak, ash, sycamore and beech. A variety of woodland flowers occur such as bluebell, lesser celandine and greater stitchwort.</p> <p>http://www.waveney.gov.uk/NR/rdonlyres/32528D42-09D6-4ED6-9ABE-097D8CC925AC/0/23appendix2countywildlifesites.pdf</p>	0.325
	The Haven, Aldeburgh		<p>The Haven is the only LNR within the ACES study area and covers an area of approximately 20ha to the north of Aldeburgh. It was designated in 1994 and falls within the boundary of Leiston-Aldeburgh SSSI.</p> <p>The Haven is situated between the town of Aldeburgh and village of Thorpeness in the heart of the Suffolk Coast and Heaths Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and is immediately adjacent to the RSPB nature reserve at North Warren. The Haven has important communities of wild flowers growing on both the shingle beach and the marsh edge. Yellow-horned Poppy, Sea Kale and Sea Pea all thrive here. Ground nesting birds such as Ringed Plovers are also found on the shingle beach and migrant Clouded Yellow butterflies may be seen in the summer months. Patches of goarse and scrub provide important cover for nesting Linnets and Whitethroats. The nature reserve also lies on the route of the Suffolk Coast and Heaths Path.</p> <p>http://www.suffolkcoastal.gov.uk/yourfreetime/countryside/reserves/default.htm</p>	
NPs	The Broads			
AONBs	Norfolk Coast		<p>The Norfolk Coast Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty covers inter-tidal, coastal and agricultural land with a total area of over 450 square kilometres. Stretching from the silt expanses of the Wash in the west through the coastal marshes, soft cliffs and hinterland of north Norfolk, to the dune system at Winterton in the east,</p>	

			<p>it is an area of remarkable beauty, diversity and scientific importance.</p> <p>The Norfolk Coast Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty is an area of great beauty, remarkable landscape and cultural diversity, and unique and special wildlife.</p> <p>It was designated as an AONB in 1968, with a total area of approximately 450 km², based mainly around areas of undeveloped coastal landscape. The boundary extends up to 6km inland in places and was determined by the National Parks Commission (later the Countryside Commission, then Countryside Agency, now Natural England) at the time of designation.</p> <p>http://www.norfolkcoastaonb.org.uk/pages/pspage.php?PageID=70</p> <p>The main section is a long coastal strip from Old Hunstanton in the west to Bacton in the east. The designated area excludes the settlements of Sheringham and Cromer and the coastline between them, and the settlements of Mundesley and Bacton, because of existing development at the time of designation. This main part of the AONB includes the wild and remote coastal marshes of the North Norfolk Heritage Coast – a changing mixture of sand and mud flats, dunes, shingle, saltmarsh, reedbeds and grazing marsh - with its internationally important and renowned birdlife. It also includes the soft, eroding cliffs of glacial sands and gravels east of Weybourne, which are important geologically as well as scenically, and the rolling farmland, estates and woodland of the coastal hinterland, with important areas of heathland.</p>	
	Suffolk Coast & Heaths		<p>Located on the coast of East Anglia, it covers 150 square miles and includes wildlife-rich wetlands, ancient heaths, windswept shingle beaches and historic towns and villages.</p> <p>The Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB extends from the northern side of the Stour estuary to the eastern fringe of Ipswich and as far north as Kessingland. It covers approximately 403 square kilometres, most of which is between the A12 trunk road and the sea. It was confirmed as an AONB in March 1970, a designation which gives it special protection and recognises its value as a landscape of outstanding quality. The AONB consists of a mosaic of different habitats: farmland; heathland; ancient woodland; commercial forestry; reed beds; estuaries; grazing marsh; small towns and villages; low, crumbling cliffs and shingle beaches - a rich mixture of unique and vulnerable lowland landscapes, many of which are under pressure of change.</p>	

			<p>The AONB includes the Suffolk Heritage Coast, the nearest coast to London to have remained largely undeveloped. This eastern boundary with the North Sea is deeply indented by five estuaries - the Blyth, Alde, Deben, Orwell and Stour - and consists of crumbling cliffs, shingle beaches and coastal lagoons stretching along 60 miles of low-lying coast. This is one of the most important wildlife areas in Britain and includes three National Nature Reserves, many Sites of Special Scientific Interest and the RSPB's famous Minsmere reserve. The mud-flats and creeks of the AONB's salt marsh-fringed estuaries contain wildlife wetland sites of national and international importance, many of which are Ramsar sites and proposed Special Areas of Conservation and Special Protection Areas.</p> <p>The low-lying coastal hinterland contains some of England's few remaining areas of ancient open heathland, known locally as the Sandlings, whose wild sandy stretches are a vanishing refuge of the nightjar, woodlark, and rare butterflies such as the silver-studded blue. There are also small patches of ancient woodlands, three large commercial forests – now important for recreation – and areas of open, arable farmland, the largest land-type in the AONB.</p> <p>Characterised by its flowering lanes and colour-washed Suffolk pink cottages, the Suffolk Coast and Heaths has retained much of its unchanged character. It has a population of approximately 23,500, and has no large towns but includes medieval market towns such as Aldeburgh. There are increasing numbers of resident commuters working in Ipswich, Felixstowe and Lowestoft. The rural economy is based on agriculture and tourism.</p> <p>http://www.suffolkcoastandheaths.org/gallery.asp?PageId=62</p>	
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Non-statutory Designations

Starting from the north of the Anglian MAREA Region and moving south

Designation	Name	Status	Qualifying Features	Area
Heritage Coasts	Suffolk Heritage Coasts		http://www.suffolkcoastandheaths.org/uploads/SCH%20Management%20Plan_Summary%281%29.pdf	64.37 kms

RSPB Reserves	Dingle Marshes		<p>Dingle Marshes is a superb mixture of coastal and freshwater habitats bordered by forest and heathland.</p> <p>The freshwater reedbeds are home to important numbers of breeding bitterns, marsh harriers and bearded tits, and in summer are alive with singing warblers. These are protected from the sea by a vegetated shingle bank, which is important for plants such as sea kale and yellow horned-poppay. Little terns often nest along this bank.</p> <p>Between the shingle and the reeds are a series of brackish pools which attract wading birds and ducks, including avocets, redshanks, grey plovers and wigeons. In winter, flocks of twite search for seeds around these pool</p>	
	Minsmere		<p>Minsmere offers families and keen birdwatchers a great day out. Nature trails take you through a variety of habitats to excellent birdwatching hides. In spring, you can watch avocets and marsh harriers, or hear booming bitterns. On the beach, a special area is cordoned off to protect nesting little terns. In autumn and winter, many wading birds and swans, ducks and geese visit the reserve</p> <p>http://www.rspb.org.uk/reserves/guide/m/minsmere/about.aspx</p>	
	North Warren		<p>This delightful reserve contains grazing marshes, reedbeds, heathland and woodland. Thousands of ducks, swans and geese use the marshes in winter, while spring brings breeding bitterns, marsh harriers, woodlarks and nightingales. Look out for the many species of butterflies and dragonflies.</p>	
	Havergate Island & Boyton Marshes		<p>See http://www.rspb.org.uk/reserves</p>	
Important Bird Areas	Great Yarmouth North Denes	The IBA holds important numbers of <i>Sterna albifrons</i>		
	Benacre To Easton Barents	The IBA hold a diverse assemblage of breeding		

		and wintering species		
	Minsmere - Walberswick	The IBA supports a rich diversity of breeding, wintering and passage species		
	Alde/Ore Estuary	Orfordness and Havergate Island are important for breeding gulls (Laridae) and terns (Sternidae) The IBA holds 12200 pairs of breeding waterbirds and 23100 wintering waterbirds on a regular basis.		
Wildlife Trust	Suffolk Wildlife	No coastal sites in AOR		

Reserves	Trust Reserves			
	Norfolk Wildlife Trust Reserves	No coastal sites in AOR		See http://www.norfolkwildlifetrust.org.uk/Wildlife-in-Norfolk/Reserves.aspx
UK BAP Habitats	Coastal flood plain and grazing marsh			http://www.norfolkbiodiversity.org/actionplans/species/
	Coastal sand dunes			
	Coastal vegetated shingle			
	Lowland dry acid grassland			
	Maritime Cliffs and Slopes			
	Mudflats			
Annex I Features	Potential reefs	None overlap with licence areas		
	Sandy sediment in less than 20m of water	Patches partially overlap with Areas 254 and 240, Areas 212 and		

		296 and Area 328/1		
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References

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