

The Somerset Coast

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Flood and Coastal Risk Management

Exeter

Different coastline



Soft defences

**Low standard of
protection**

Increasingly vulnerable

- **Lilstock**
- **Stear**
- **Berrow dunes**



Significant assets

- **South west coast path**
- **Tourist centres: Minehead, Weston super Mare, Burnham**
- **Golf courses**
- **Caravan parks**
- **West Somerset railway**

Current strategies

- **Stolford to Combwich Coastal Defence Strategy**
- **Minehead to Blue Anchor coastal defences
Technical review**
- **Parrett Tidal Defence Study**
- **Weston super Mare Flood Risk Assessment**
- **Severn Estuary Flood Risk Management strategy**

Severn Estuary FRM Strategy

100 year timeframe – looks at effects of climate change sea level rise on:

- **150 kms of flood banks**
- **key urban areas eg Weston super Mare**
- **internationally designated sites for nature conservation**



Challenge: coastal squeeze

Loss of habitats

- 2026 – approx 700ha of intertidal habitat lost
- 2056 – approx 1300ha of intertidal habitat lost
- 2106 – approx 2600ha – $\frac{3}{4}$ mudflat and sandflat (10% of resource), $\frac{1}{4}$ saltmarsh (40% of resource)

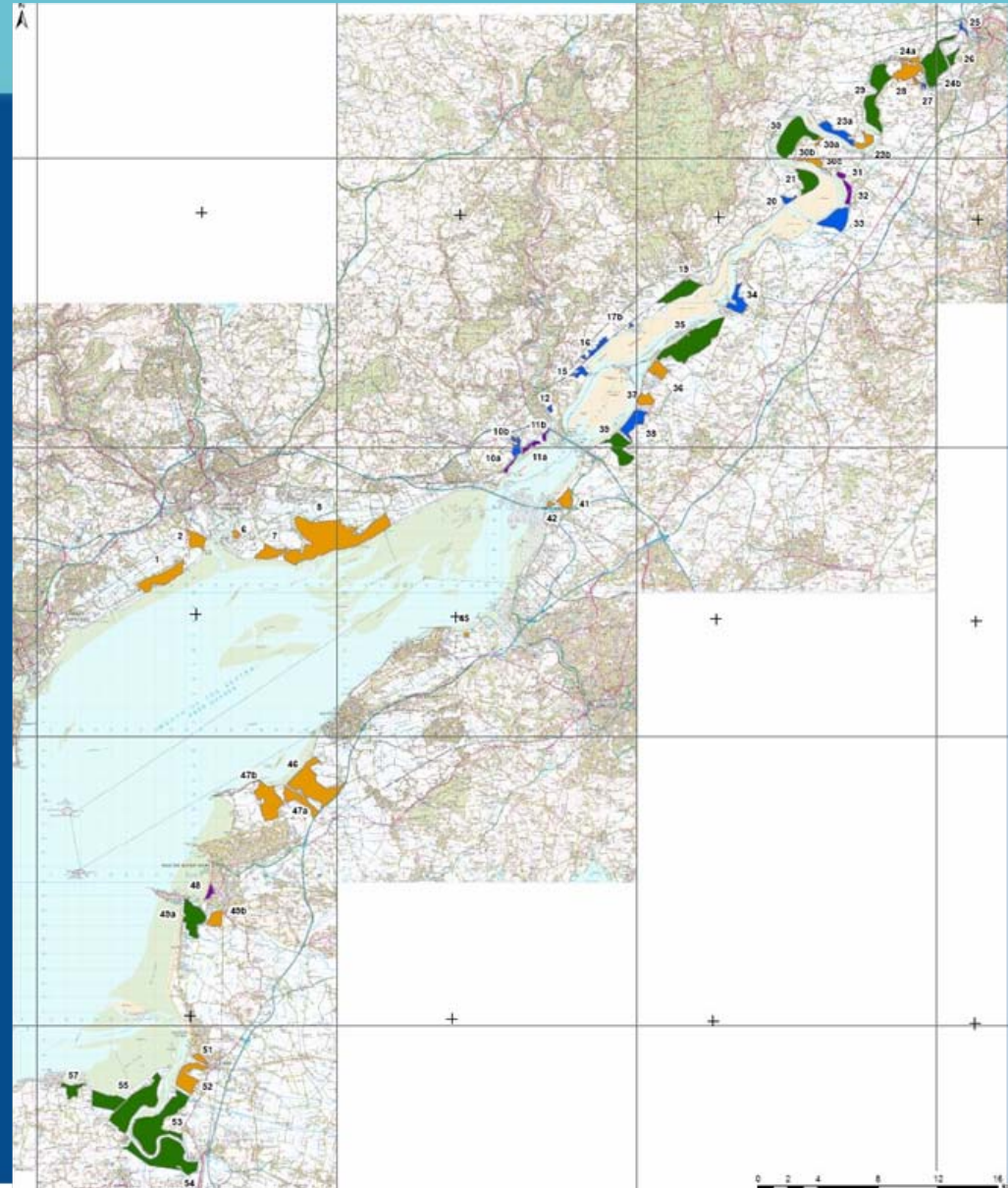
Legally required to safeguard the European sites and to replace these habitats as part of the strategy.

Challenge : Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA)

- Applies to all plans and projects
- SMPs
- Need to assess the impact of policies/proposals on the European site(s)
- Overall aim is to have no adverse effect
- May need to balance habitat gains and losses
- Where there are losses, need to show we have a programme in place to compensate for habitat loss.

Habitat Creation programme

- Integral part of strategy
- Identify scale of loss
- Identify potential sites for habitat creation
- Implement re-alignment schemes



Steart peninsula

Ensure relevant policies

- Managed re alignment
- Create 300 ha of intertidal habitat
- 5% of the total needed for the Severn estuary



Porlock Bay

No active intervention

- May have to manage consequences
- provides significant opportunities



Shoreline Management Plans

.....adapting to climate change

