

## **Severn Estuary European Marine Site Good Practice Guidelines**

The <u>Association of Severn Estuary Relevant Authorities</u> (ASERA) is the group responsible for the Severn European Marine Site (EMS) Management Scheme. Recreational disturbance has been identified by ASERA as one of the key issues affecting the conservation status of the Severn Estuary EMS.

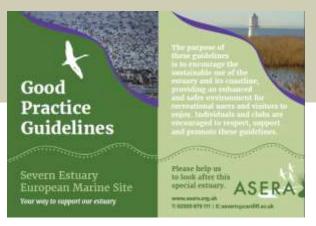
Disturbance is any activity or noise that could change behaviour of an animal (feeding, resting or breeding) or habitat structure. Repeated disturbance can threaten the survival of some of the highly protected species and habitats that are protected under the Severn Estuary EMS.

Good Practice Guidelines have been produced by ASERA to act as a voluntary management action supported by the Management Scheme to help reduce disturbance to our most valuable habitats and species. It has been developed in partnership with representatives from various sectors and has followed best practice from other European Marine Sites across the UK.

## Who are the Guidelines aimed at?

- Recreational estuary users
- Clubs and associations

Individuals and clubs are encouraged to respect, support and promote these Good Practice Guidelines.



## The aims of the Good Practice Guidelines are:

- To raise awareness of the Severn Estuary EMS and the designated features that are protected
- To avoid and minimise potential environmental risk to the protected features of the site
- To encourage the sustainable use of the estuary and its coastline, providing an enhanced and safer environment for recreational users
- To improve understanding of the protected features of the site and the reasons why it is important to protect and manage them



## www.asera.org.uk

	ASERA Members (2017/18)
	Associated British Ports
	Bridgwater Port Authority
	Cardiff County Council
	Cardiff Harbour Authority
	Devon & Severn IFCA
	Environment Agency
	Forest of Dean District Council
	Gloucester Harbour Trustees
	Gloucestershire County Council
	Monmouthshire County Council
	Natural England
	Natural Resources Wales
	Newport City Council
	Newport Harbour Commissioners
	North Somerset Council
	Sedgemoor District Council
	Somerset County Council
	Stroud District Council
	The Bristol Port Company
1	Trinity House Lighthouse Service
	Vale of Glamorgan Council
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Would you like to find out more or request some hard copies for your organisation or for recreational user groups in your area? Please contact the ASERA Officer, Lucy Taylor on TaylorL14@cardiff.ac.uk or on 02920 874713.