

ISH10 Agenda Item 5, response by  
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This is a personal response as there was not time to liaise with other parties after ISH 10.

Response in relation to the "Monitoring and Mitigation Plan for Sandlings (Central) and Alde, Ore and Butley Estuaries European sites" Version 1 submitted at Deadline 5 [REP5-122].

Comments relate to all aspects of the above plan for the three Alde-Ore categories- SAC, SPA, Ramsar

<b>Applicant/IP current position regarding LSE</b>
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Given that at its peak the SZC workforce, excluding their families, will be about the same size as the existing population of Leiston and double that of the Aldeburgh census population, it seems more than likely that there could be significant recreational pressure on the Alde-Ore and Butley area.
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The proposal to monitor existing visitors to provide a baseline of footfall is sensible.
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But there are two other points to be taken account of
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>i. There is a new and growing recreational activity involving canoes and paddleboards in the estuary. If this activity continues, and could well be attractive to workers staying in the area, the increased access via water paddled propelled craft will need to be known in order to trigger, if necessary, measures taken to ensure participants avoid the breeding and winter migration seasons.</li><br/><li>ii. Workers who are not from the area may not be aware of the regulations protecting the various protection zones- SPAs, SAC, Ramsar and SSSIs - such as not collecting plants like samphire, limitations on hunting and fishing, (e.g., the wildfowlers work to strict quotas and seasons) and use of the areas including avoiding fires or not walking away from paths over environmentally sensitive areas such as the Orfordness spit. Measures will be needed to ensure people are fully briefed so as not to inadvertently damage these special habitats and the wildlife and plants that live in them.</li></ul> |
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Alison Andrews

3 September 2021