



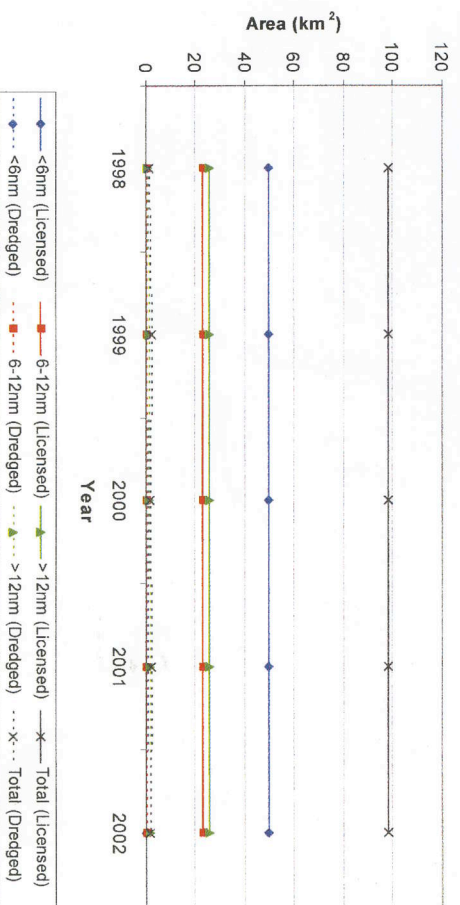
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N.B.

- Dredging intensity is based on variable grid cells of 50m by 50m.
- Licence boundaries are depicted as of 01/01/03.
- Not to be used for navigation.

Background

- The North West region has 7 licence areas, operated by Norwest Sand and Ballast Co. Ltd, RMC Aggregates (North West) Ltd, RMC Marine Ltd and United Marine Dredging Ltd for sand and gravel, principally for use in the construction industry.
- During 2002, 0.48 million tonnes of aggregate was dredged from a permitted licensed tonnage of 1.38 million. A further 0.47 million tonnes was used for contract fill resulting from the beneficial use of navigational dredging.
- All of the aggregate was landed at wharves in the North West of England and Wales.



Area licensed and dredged, 1998-2002

Regional statistics

- The licensed area in the North West region was 97.91 km².
- The total area actually available to be dredged within the North West region was 19.96 km².
- Dredging took place within 1.74 km², 1.8% of the licensed area.
- > 1 hr 15 mins of dredging intensity per year is equal to 0.17 km², representing 57% of regional dredging activity.
- 90% of regional dredging effort took place from 0.73 km².
- During 2002, the area licensed for marine aggregate extraction within the North West region remained unchanged.

New area licensed v Existing area surrendered, 1998-2002

The area of seabed licensed has remained unchanged since 1998

Background

- The Thames region has 11 licence areas, operated by Britannia Aggregates Ltd, British Dredging Ltd, Hanson Aggregates Marine Ltd, RMC Marine Ltd and United Marine Dredging Ltd for both sand and gravel, principally for use in the construction industry.
- During 2002, 1.65 million tonnes of aggregate was dredged from a permitted licensed tonnage of 3.7 million.
- Of the total marine aggregate dredged from the Thames region, 1.03 million tonnes was landed at wharves along the Thames and Medway rivers. A further 0.25 million tonnes was landed at wharves in Holland, Belgium and France. The balance of landings comprised smaller tonnages delivered to ports on the South coast and 0.36 million tonnes was specifically dredged for beach nourishment schemes.

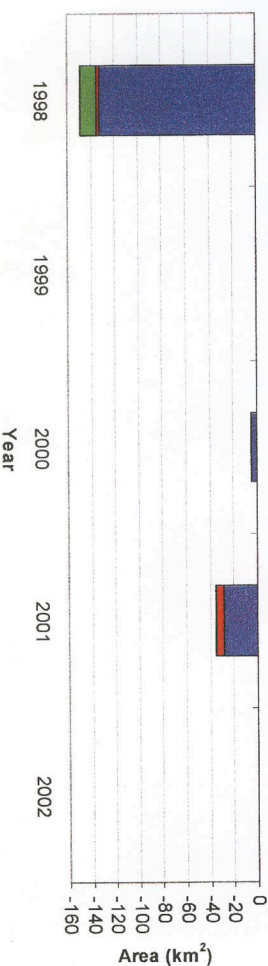
Area licensed and dredged, 1998-2002

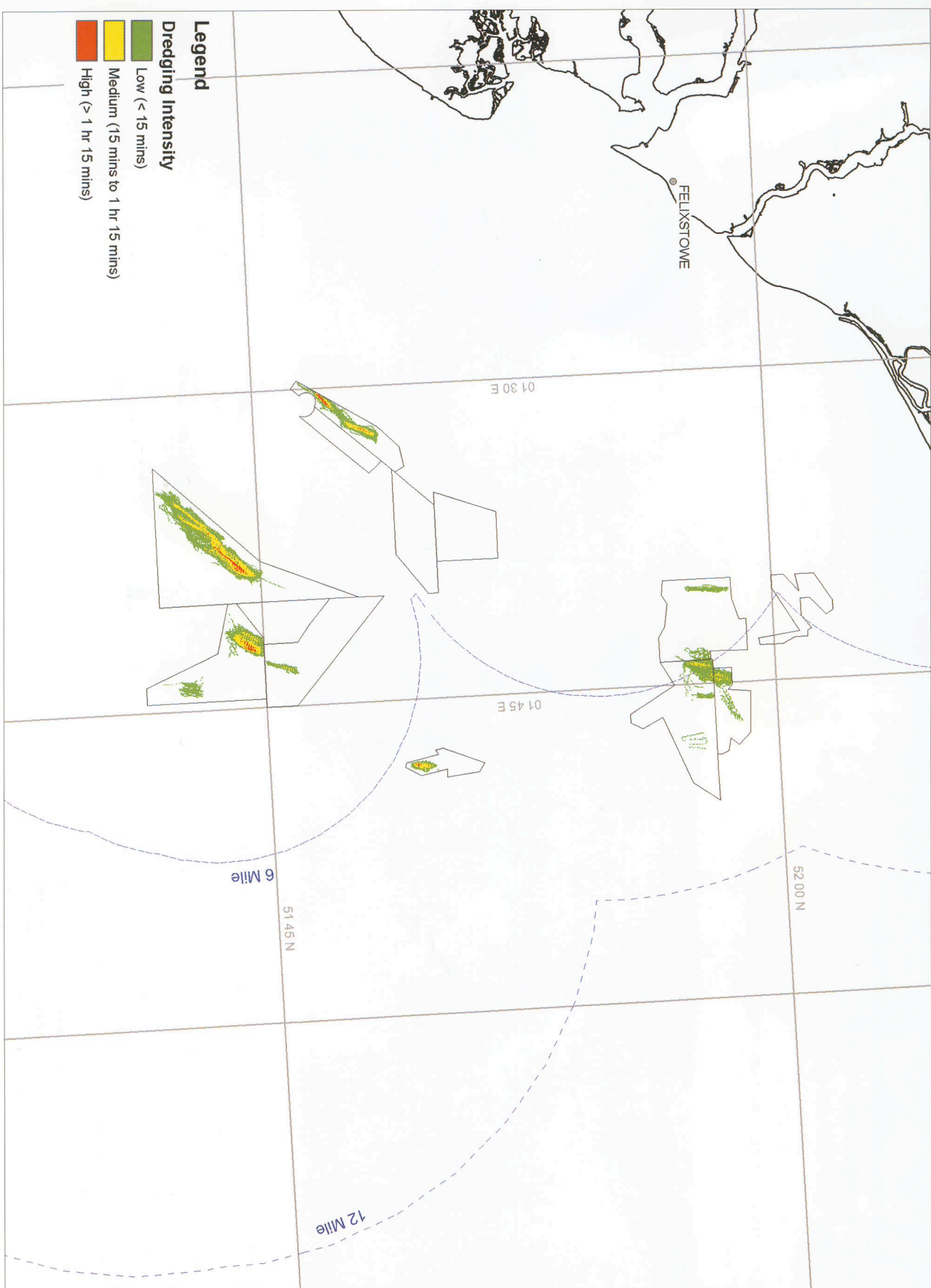


Regional statistics

- The licensed area in the Thames region was 155.69 km².
- The total area actually available to be dredged within the Thames region during 2002 was 150.91 km².
- Dredging took place within 17.82 km², 11.4% of the licensed area.
- > 1 hr 15 mins dredging intensity per year is equal to 0.55 km², representing 28% of regional dredging activity.
- 90% of regional dredging effort took place from 5.15 km².
- During 2002, the area licensed for marine aggregate extraction within the Thames region remained unchanged.

New area licensed v Existing area surrendered, 1998-2002





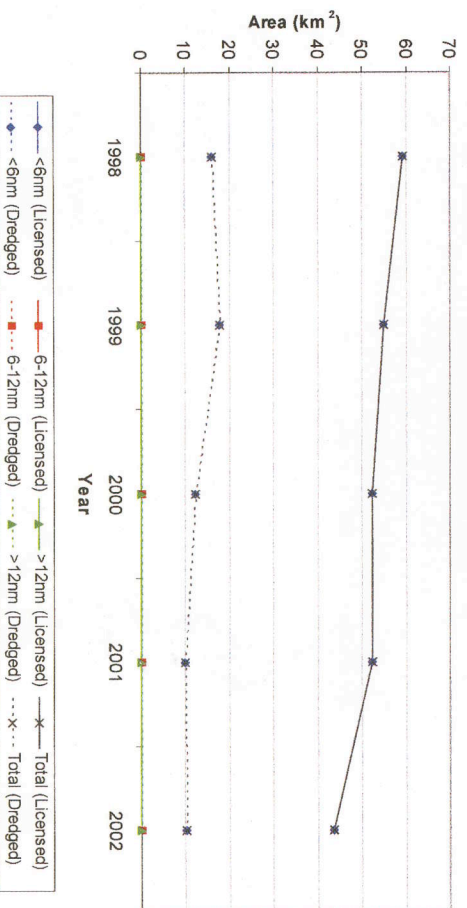
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Background

- The South West region has 11 licence areas, operated by British Dredging Ltd, Hanson Aggregates Marine Ltd, Llanelli Sand Dredging Ltd and United Marine Dredging Ltd for sand, principally for use in the construction industry.
- During 2002, 1.47 million tonnes of aggregate was dredged from a permitted licensed tonnage of 3.19 million.
- All of the sand dredged was landed within the South West region, with wharves located along both sides of the Bristol Channel.

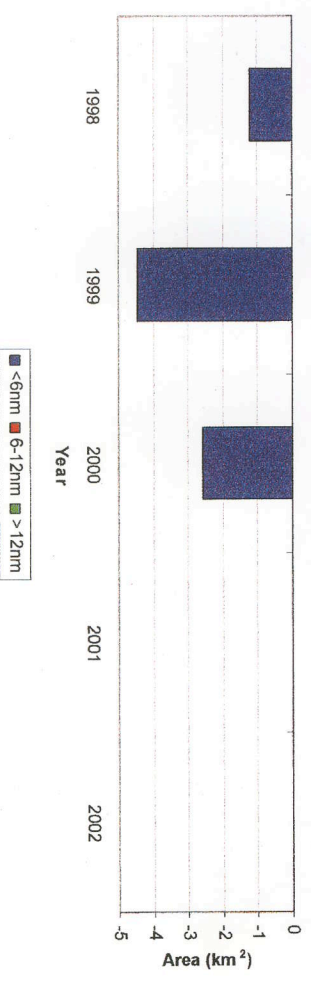


Area licensed and dredged, 1998-2002

Regional statistics

- The licensed area in the South West region was 55.81 km².
- The total area actually available to be dredged within the South West region was 55.81 km².
- Dredging took place within 10.18 km², 18.3% of the licensed area.
- > 1 hr 15 mins dredging intensity per year is equal to 1.13 km², representing 70% of regional dredging activity.
- 90% of regional dredging effort took place from 3.42 km².
- During 2002, the area licensed for marine aggregate extraction in the South West region remained unchanged.

New area licensed v Existing area surrendered, 1998-2002





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