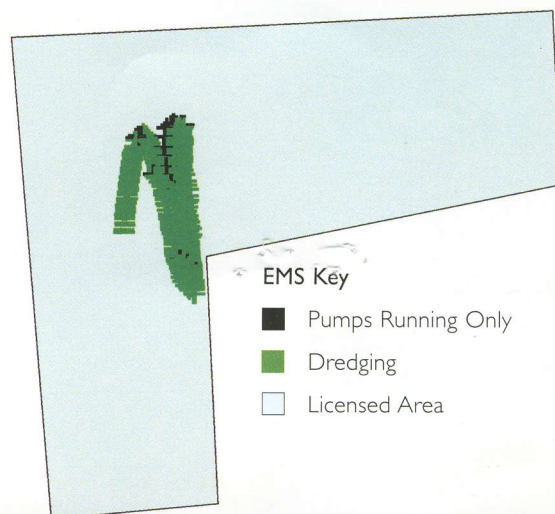
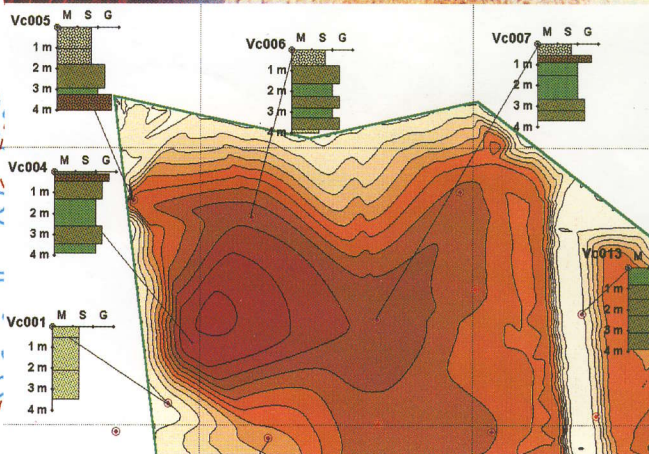
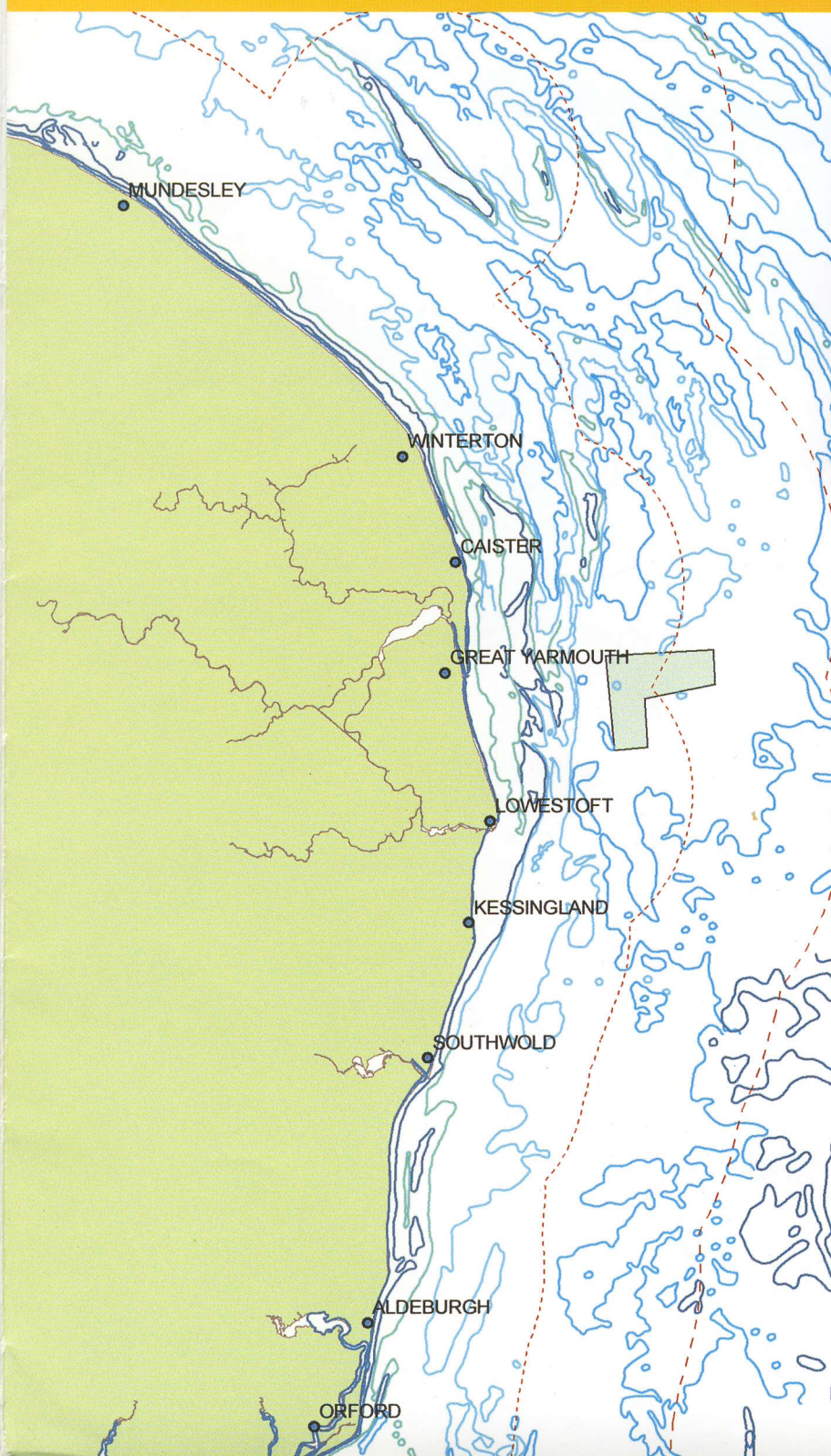


MARINE AGGREGATE DREDGING

THE AREA INVOLVED - REPORT 2000



An Industry Committed to Responsible Management

In March 1999 the Crown Estate and BMAPA issued a statement of intent committing themselves to reviewing all licences over a rolling five year period, surrendering areas no longer containing useful resources of sand and gravel and publishing an annual report detailing the extent of dredging on licensed areas.

This year in addition to the regional statistics we have also provided figures for the area licensed and dredged from the coast to the six mile fishing limit; between six miles and the twelve mile territorial limit; and beyond the territorial limit.



The area of seabed dredged is derived from the Crown Estate's EMS records. This is calculated by dividing licensed areas into 100 x 100m blocks and any block which is dredged, however marginally, is included in the total. This will inevitably overestimate the area affected because most blocks will not be completely dredged.

The area licensed within the 12 mile limit has significantly reduced

The results show that dredging is concentrated in relatively small areas within a licence, for example the Hastings area produces about 2 million tonnes per annum from 2 km² of seabed. In 1999 in excess of 90% of dredging took place from 21.5 km² or 9% of the total area dredged or about 1.5% of the area licensed. To look at it another way, over the 21.5 km², the removal of 21.4M tonnes (90% of total dredged) will have lowered the seabed by an average of 60 centimetres.

In summary, the amount of seabed licensed has reduced in all three zones by a total of 97 km², and the dredged area has reduced overall and moved further offshore.

Further statistics can be found on the Crown Estate web site (see back cover).

Area of seabed licensed in 1999 (km²)

Year	1/1/1998	1/1/1999	1/1/2000	Change 99/00	% Change
0-6 mile	875	704	695	-9	-1%
6-12 mile	514	504	420	-85	-17%
Beyond 12 mile	273	259	256	-3	-1%
Total	1663	1467	1370	-97	-7%

Area of seabed dredged in 1999 (km²)

Year	1998	1999	Change	% Change
0-6 mile	136	112	-24	-17%
6-12 mile	96	94	-2	-2%
Beyond 12 mile	26	32	+6	+23%
Total	258	238	-20	-8%

Sound Management

Wherever possible the licensing of new areas has been linked with the surrender of worked out areas in the same region.

Zoning

As new licences are introduced management plans are being developed which often include zoning of production areas in existing licences.

Early Consultation

These plans, which are agreed with MAFF, Sea Fisheries Committees and fishing organisations as appropriate, are designed to allow the transition to new licences as existing licences are worked out.

Ongoing Licence Review

The review of licences is continuing and the surrender of areas will be implemented as they arise during the year.

Enhancing EMS Analysis







We are aiming to extend the analysis of the EMS results e.g. recording dredging density in smaller blocks to get a more accurate picture of dredging and to use the results to improve the management of the licences and the design of research into the effects of extraction.

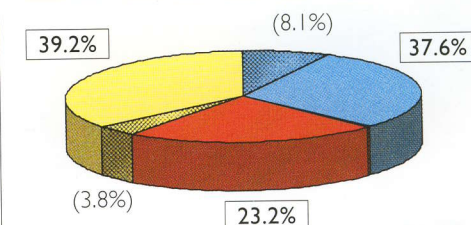
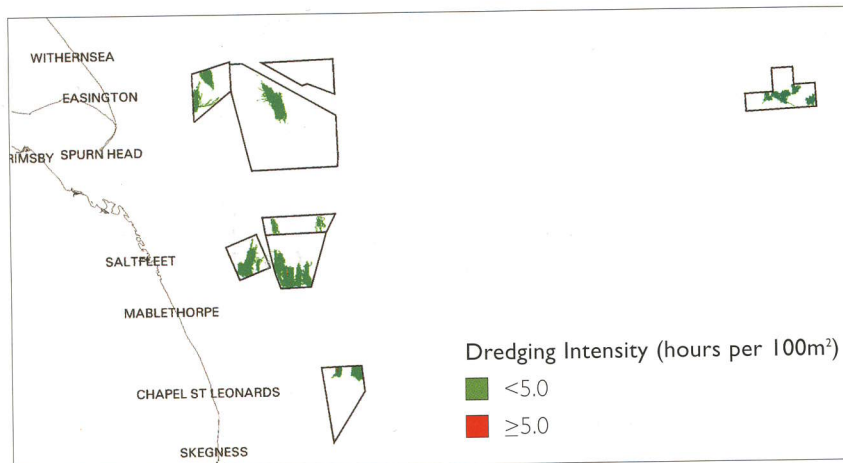
Reporting

We will report on progress in our 2000 review which will be available at the same time next year.

The pie charts display the proportion of licensed seabed and dredged area within each geographical region.

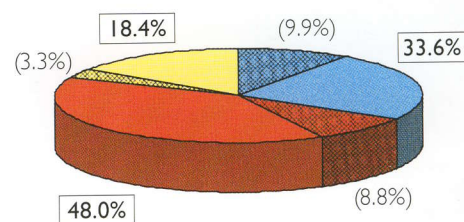
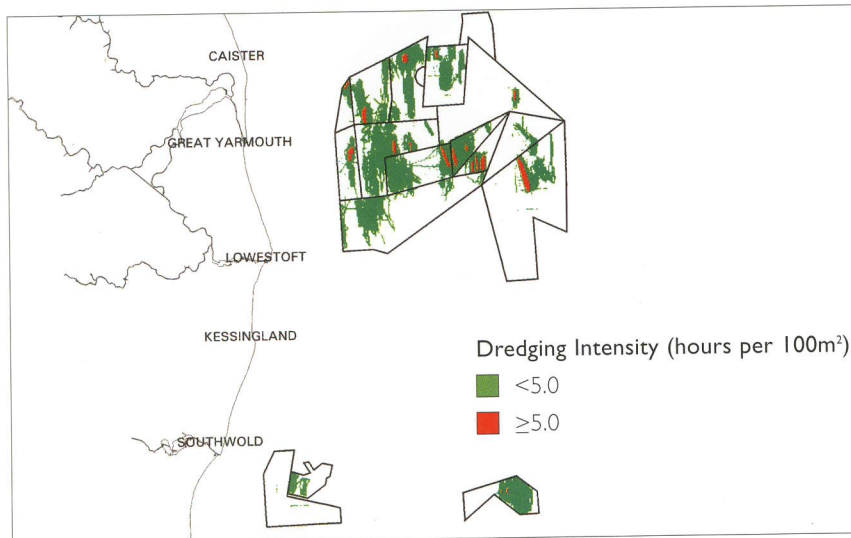
The boxed numbers **39.0%** show the percentage of licences in each seabed limit, the bracketed numbers (3.8%) show the percentage of licence area actually dredged.

KEY Licensed Area	Seabed Limits (miles offshore)	Dredged Area
	0-6	
	6-12	
	>12	



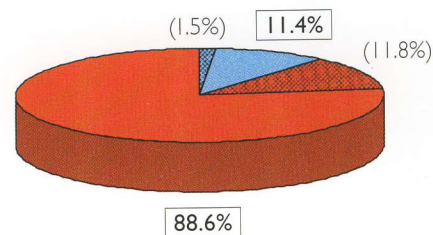
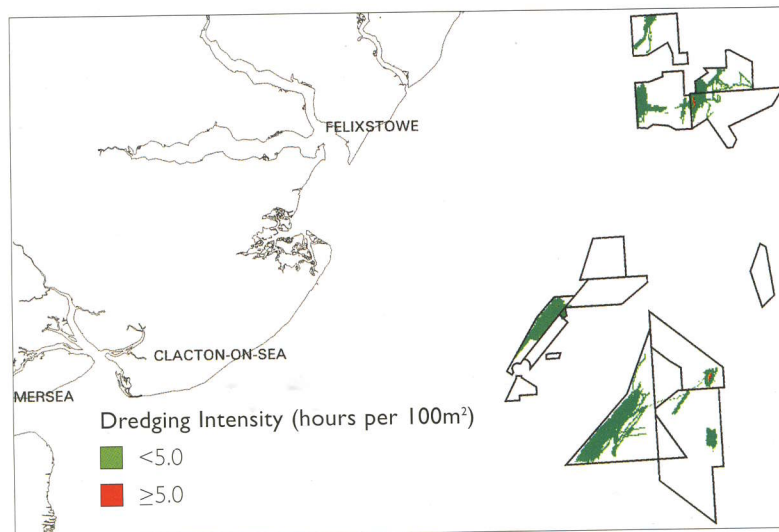
Total Area Licensed	478.4 km ²
Total Area Dredged	57.5 km ²
>90% of Material Dredged from	1.36 km ²
Total Extraction	2.840m tonnes

Humber Region



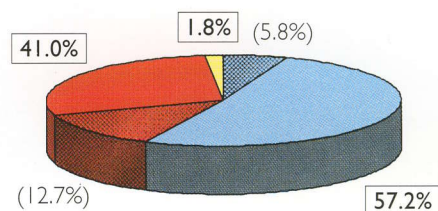
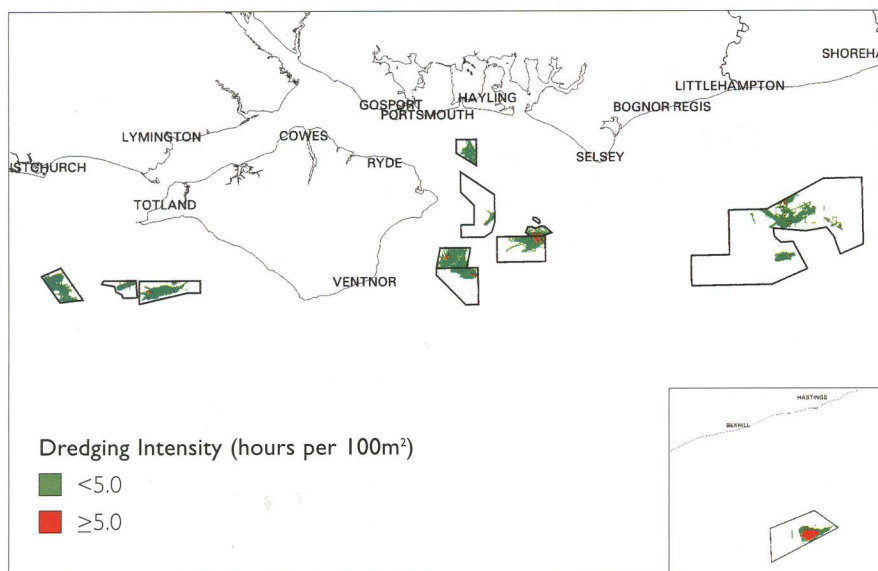
Total Area Licensed	361.7 km ²
Total Area Dredged	80.00 km ²
>90% of Material Dredged from	9.78 km ²
Total Extraction	9.132m tonnes

East Coast Region



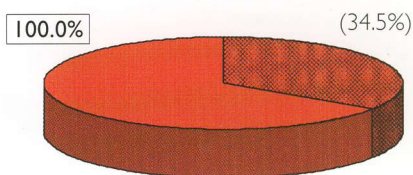
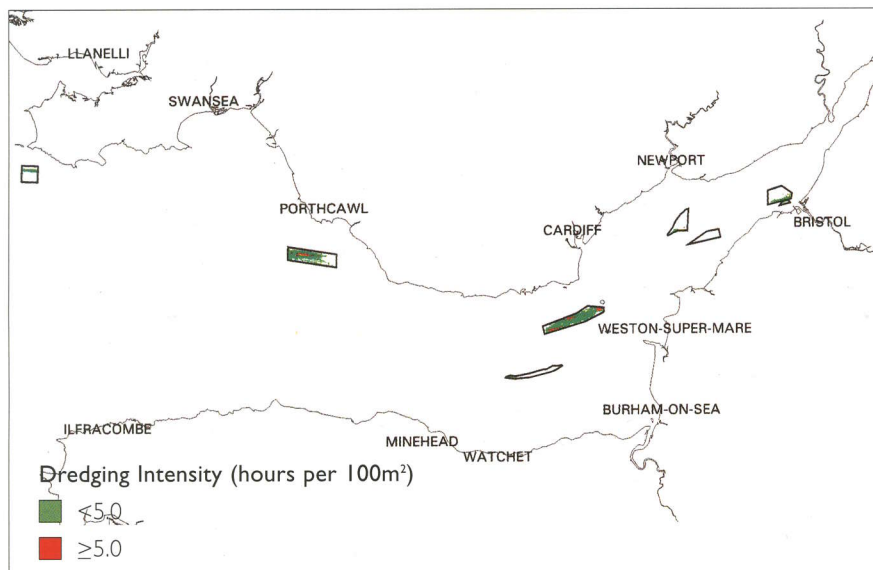
Total Area Licensed	194.4 km ²
Total Area Dredged	26.00 km ²
>90% of Material Dredged from	1.26 km ²
Total Extraction	0.972m tonnes

Thames Region



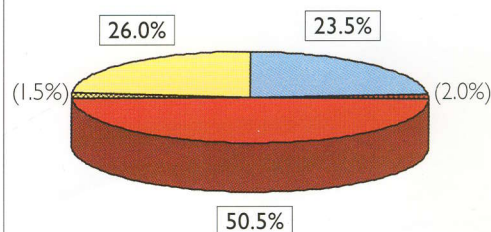
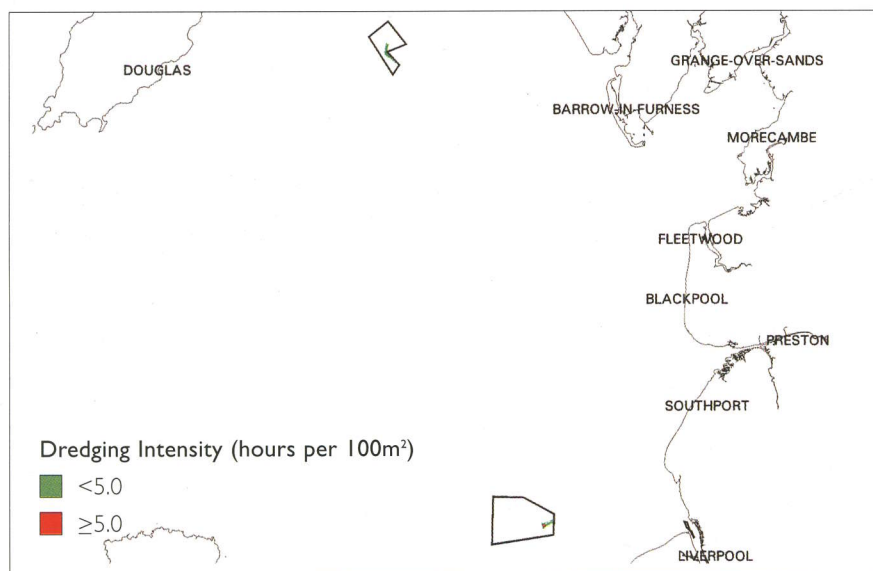
Total Area Licensed	275.6 km ²
Total Area Dredged	51.00 km ²
>90% of Material Dredged from	6.4 km ²
Total Extraction	5.885m tonnes

South Coast Region



Total Area Licensed	59.4 km ²
Total Area Dredged	20.5 km ²
>90% of Material Dredged from	2.08 km ²
Total Extraction	1.719m tonnes

South West Region



Total Area Licensed	97.9 km ²
Total Area Dredged	3.50 km ²
>90% of Material Dredged from	0.63 km ²
Total Extraction	0.355m tonnes

North West Region

Background

Dredging offshore for aggregates began in the early Twentieth Century but it did not reach a significant scale until the 1970s, as markets for marine aggregates expanded and dredging technology improved. Almost all marine aggregate extraction takes place from licences on seabed owned by the Crown Estate. Consent is granted by the Department of the Environment, Transport and the Regions or the National Assembly for Wales/Scottish Parliament under the Government View Procedure. The Crown Estate will only grant a licence following a favourable Government View.

The Crown Estate

The Crown Estate is a landed estate including more than 120,000 hectares of agricultural land in England, Scotland and Wales, substantial blocks of commercial property (primarily in London) and an extensive marine estate covering 55% of the foreshore and all of the seabed out to the 12 mile territorial Limit. Its origins date back to the reign of King Edward the Confessor. The Crown Estate is part of the hereditary possessions of the Sovereign 'in right of the Crown' managed under the provisions of the Crown Estate Act 1961 by the Crown Estate Commissioners who have a duty to maintain and enhance the value of the Estate and the income derived from it. The net revenue surplus is paid to the exchequer.

BMAPA

The British Marine Aggregate Producers Association (BMAPA) was formed in 1992 and comprises members of the Quarry Products Association with a marine interest. The UK operates around 31 vessels on 74 production licences around the UK. The vessels are almost entirely British registered and carry British crew. BMAPA represents the industry and its members are: *Hanson Aggregates Marine Ltd, Britannia Aggregates Ltd, British Dredging Ltd, Kendall Bros. (Portsmouth) Ltd, Northwood (Fareham) Ltd, Norwest Sand and Ballast Company Ltd, South Coast Shipping Company Ltd, United Marine Dredging Ltd.*



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