

Balanced Seas covers inshore and offshore UK waters of the Eastern Channel and adjacent areas. It extends from just north of the Suffolk/Essex border, to the Hampshire/Dorset border in the south-west, and includes the Thames Estuary and the Solent. Canoe England have expressed an interest in the project as a user group in the Balanced Seas project area.

The Balanced Seas project (formerly Eastern Channel MCZ Project) been set up to help sea users and interest groups in the south-east to recommend Marine Conservation Zones to Government. Balanced Seas covers inshore and offshore UK waters of the Eastern Channel and adjacent areas. It extends from just north of the Suffolk/Essex border, to the Hampshire/Dorset border in the south-west, and includes the Thames Estuary and the Solent. Canoe England have expressed an interest in the project as a user group in the Balanced Seas project area.

The Balanced Seas project is now fully established at the Durrell Institute of Conservation and Ecology (DICE), University of Kent, Canterbury. The next steps for the team are to raise awareness of the project and make sure that all those with an interest in the marine environment of the south-east are identified.

The project team are planning County level meetings with the purpose to:

- Introduce the project to new stakeholders and update others on progress
- Discuss plans for establishing the Regional Stakeholder Group (the body that will be responsible for making the Marine Conservation Zone recommendations) and identify how each sector could best be represented
- Discuss the potential and feasibility of establishing county level Advisory Groups which would have input into the Regional Stakeholder Group and provide a forum for some of the more detailed discussions to take place.

Preliminary information concerning dates and venues for each county meeting are as follows – please attend the meeting most relevant to your geographical area of interest, as this will help when we discuss the question of representation. The meetings will be held roughly between 6.00-9.00pm and light refreshments will be available.

More detailed information, with exact times and location details, will be provided directly to you once you confirm which group you will be attending

Meeting Dates

Monday 23 November	Hampshire. National Oceanographic Centre, Southampton
Tuesday 24 November	Sussex. Resource Centre, University of Brighton
Wednesday 25 November	Essex. Essex Records Office, Chelmsford.
Thursday 26 November	Kent. Canterbury
Monday 30 November	Isle of Wight. UK Sailing Academy (UKSA), Cowes

Please let us know which meeting you will be attending: balancedseas@kent.ac.uk
Please put the county in the subject line.

NB. Canoe England is keen for canoeing to be represented at these meetings and it would be helpful for the Access & Environment Department to be advised if you are attending. Please email : access@bcu.rg.uk

There is a website to keep in touch with progress at www.balancedseas.org
(This will continue to be developed over the coming months)

Working with all those with an interest in the project area is essential for success.
For further information please visit our website, email us at balancedseas@kent.ac.uk
or call us on 01227 827839.

We plan to send out a regular newsletter, so if you wish to receive updates from Balanced Seas and hear about future meetings please send a message to balancedseas@kent.ac.uk with “keep me informed” in the subject line.

Balanced Seas

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