

New Forest Biodiversity Forum

Hurst Spit to Lymington Strategy

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The Hurst Spit to Lymington - Flood and Coastal Risk Management Strategy is exploring a sustainable future for the 15 km coastline between Hurst Spit and Lymington in relation to all sources of flooding and coastal erosion.

This is being developed by the Environment Agency, in partnership with New Forest District Council, Hampshire County Council and Natural England.

The aim of the Strategy is to recommend options to manage flood and erosion risk that are sustainable and adaptive in the long term. It will focus on the next 100 years, with the aim of having a completed and approved Strategy by summer 2026.

The development of the Strategy is extremely complex, as it must take into consideration internationally designated habitats including low-lying sections of environmentally designated saltmarsh, mudflats and vegetated shingle which characterise the area and are of international importance. The area is also rich in cultural and historical heritage including Hurst Castle.

For these reasons, the area attracts numerous visitors and recreational users for activities such as walking and sailing. These factors along with the beautiful landscape and natural processes will be a key consideration of the Strategy.

The Strategy is a chance to help manage the change for the better and an opportunity to protect, strengthen and enhance the environment in this area for future generations.

For more information, please visit www.hurstspit2lymington.co.uk