

CS/23/94686 Mercury Yacht Harbour, maintenance of existing sheet piling

Ecology comments 7.3.23

I have no particular concerns regarding the application although I have a few comments to make:

Please note, in addition to the internally designated sites present, Mercury Marina Salt Marsh SINC, designated for coastal and estuarine habitats and notable species, is located at the southern end of the application area. Additionally, Badnam Copse SINC is located 30-50m from the northern end of the application area, which designated for ancient woodland and coastal and estuarine habitats. All measures put in place to protect the internationally protected sites and water environment must also apply to the SINCS.

The works will take place over a maximum period of 6-8 weeks annually for the next 5 years. Measures to minimise disturbance to wildlife, particularly birds over the winter period, must be implemented.

The existing rust and fouling will be removed with high pressure water jets or garnet medium blasting. Barrier sheeting will be used to catch as much dislodged rust/ debris as possible. This should reduce WQ impacts.

The coating Interzone 954 is a water polluting material which is toxic to aquatic life, therefore measures during application to avoid dispersal of spilt material and runoff and contact with soil, waterways, drains and sewers must be implemented.

Presumably the cathodic protection system proposed (Zn anode) will be passive and therefore no external source of electric power will be required.

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