

Blackwater Estuary Marine Concerns (from Ian Clarke)

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/918935/port-marine-safety-code.pdf

I confirm the **DoT and MCA Port Marine Safety Code (link above) would require the regulation of navigation on the River Blackwater** here as the wharves proposed for Bradwell B would be an “Other Marine Facility” under those regulations.

This would restrict commercial fishing and yachting ie racing and leisure sailing both when those facilities were being constructed and when Bradwell B was being constructed and detrimentally affect economic and recreational activity

The approach as adopted for the Gunfleet Wind-farm of offering compensation to fishermen for loss of fishing grounds appears inappropriate due to the area being of sheltered inshore fishing grounds that cannot otherwise be substituted.

The use of the estuary for yacht racing and sailing and related activities is significant to both local residents and others both as a leisure facility and for providing direct employment eg in boatyards, sailing clubs and other indirect employment

There is also concern of ships bringing in invasive species into the Marine Conservation Zone on hull fouling eg weed growth and in the discharge of grey, ballast or hold cleaning water eg non-native fish or shellfish and risk of other pollution