

Mitigation for Water Sports Risk Assessment
dated Apr 2026

SECTION 3

LSC TRAINING AREAS - LOCAL HAZARDS & CONSTRAINTS (ALL)

1. This document should be reviewed annually and consider any new guidance from the governing authority and any new lessons identified from recorded incidents. Paragraph numbers provided the legend for hazards on the displayed chart. (See Chart 2300.6 in the Clubroom).
2. Risk is implicit in all water sports (see Risk Assessment). LSC seeks to reduce the risks to all participants and has designated training areas each with alternative landing points that allow emergency evacuation at most stages of the tide.
3. There are two training areas, named Area North and Area South, demarked by an imaginary line between LSC & SYC. Topsham Sailing Club pontoon offers an alternative landing site and ready access to emergency services in Area North. Exmouth Marina offers the same in Area South.

Voluntary Exclusion Areas

4. All water users must be aware of and respect the ecological significance of the following **exclusion areas**:

- a) River Clyst (Area North)
 - b) The Duckpond (Area South)
 - c) Dawlish Warren (Area South)
- Keep clear of all three areas**

Local Hazards

5. Additional local hazards include but are not limited to:
 - a) The tidal constraints of the estuary with drying areas characterised by sand, mud and shellfish beds. **Use the tide tables and plan activities**
 - b) Transiting boat concentrations in the main channel that include timetabled commercial users working to a timetable. **Maintain good lookout and take early action to avoid collisions.**
 - c) Strong tidal streams particularly at the river entrance (Area South).
 - d) Mooring areas at:
 - i. Topsham approaches (Area North)
 - ii. Turf Locks (Area North)
 - iii. Starcross Yacht Club
 - iv. Lympstone
 - v. Starcross (Area South)
 - vi. Cockwood (Area South)
 - vii. Exmouth (Area South)

All are, "NO WAKE ZONES" so slow down

viii. North side of Dawlish Warren (Area South)

6. Also:

- a) Marked gas pipeline north of Nob port hand buoy No. 20 (Area North)
- b) Marked water skiing area east of main channel between starboard hand buoys 19 and 21 (Area South). Note the eastern edge of the water ski area dries out at low tide.

7. All users must maintain an effective lookout and follow IRPCS Regulations to avoid incidents. The helmsman or woman is responsible for safety of everyone on the vessel and should encourage their crew to assist in the identification of all hazards.

8. The estuary maximum speed limit is 10 knots. Dispensation applies in water ski area and when responding to life threatening incidents only.

