

## What you can do

There are ways that you can be involved in the Living Seas work at Essex Wildlife Trust:

**Join as a member of Essex Wildlife Trust** and help us achieve our work to provide Living Seas and Living Landscapes for wildlife and local people.

**Get involved and volunteer** with Essex Wildlife Trust. Why not join your local group, help run a visitor centre or take part in a work party.

**Join the Shore Search team** at Essex Wildlife Trust. Through the spring and summer we have regular shore search events to find out what is on our shoreline, please join us and help record the wildlife that we currently have on our Essex shores.

**Enjoy your local beach.** Write and tell us about the beach you enjoy and why.

**Please sign up for our email newsletters** which will keep you informed of campaigns and events. Email: [e-news@essexwt.org.uk](mailto:e-news@essexwt.org.uk)

**Take part in an event.** Essex Wildlife Trust has many events taking place all year, please come and take part.

**Are you a business, school or organisation?** You can support Living Landscapes or Living Seas and receive our Living Landscapes/Seas Award. Please contact us for more details.

**Find out more.** Visit [www.essexwt.org.uk](http://www.essexwt.org.uk)



**ESSEX**  
Wildlife Trust

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**ESSEX**  
Wildlife Trust

# Living Seas

**Good for Wildlife**  
**Good for People**



“Bringing  
wildlife conservation  
into the 21st century”

## Help us restore seas in Essex so that they are healthy and rich in wildlife for all to enjoy



Living Seas is The Wildlife Trusts' vision to bring a new and exciting initiative to conservation. Living Seas is a simple idea, to ensure areas within our sea are protected in the same way as nature reserves are on land. Essex Wildlife Trust is working towards enabling our seas to recover and flourish.

Living Seas will enable wildlife to thrive from the depths of the ocean to the coastal shallows. Sea and beach habitats will recover from past decline and people can continue to enjoy the fantastic beaches, estuaries and sea across Essex.

Our seas used to flourish with wildlife. In the North Sea, Bluefin Tuna has declined by 98% due to over-fishing of the species. Harbour Porpoises were often seen in their hundreds chasing shoals of fish into harbours and estuaries; the numbers have dropped dramatically.

In 2008 Short-snouted Sea Horses were found in the Thames at Tilbury and Southend. This was a fantastic find and it would be wonderful if our Essex seas could allow species like the Sea Horse to flourish.

Essex Wildlife Trust is already working in partnership with supporters, fishermen, other conservation organisations, Inshore Fisheries & Conservation Authority, MPs, councillors and universities to help restore Living Seas.





## Living Seas – Good for wildlife, good for people



*Nick Crane, opening the Crag Walk at the Naze in 2011*

Until the Marine Act of 2009 our seas were afforded no protection. We are now at the stage where we can influence the designation of Marine Protected Areas. This is a major step forward and means that within the next 20 years, Living Seas could be achieved. This would be a remarkable achievement in a short space of time.

“We are in the midst of the most crucial period in history for the UK’s marine life. We have the opportunity to turn an environment filled with ravaged habitats, depleted fish stocks and struggling species into Living Seas – pulsating with life, supporting livelihoods, and continuing to be a source of joy and wonder to us all.”

Simon King, OBE  
President, The Wildlife Trusts



# What makes a Living Sea



Marine protected areas where sea life can flourish under protected designated areas

PLUS



Sustainable fishing and purchasing of seafood, without damage to marine wildlife

PLUS



Sustainable development by ensuring our seas are well managed, planned and licenced

PLUS



Legalisation and policies for the sea so that the Living Seas vision can be implemented

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Living Seas

*please share our vision*