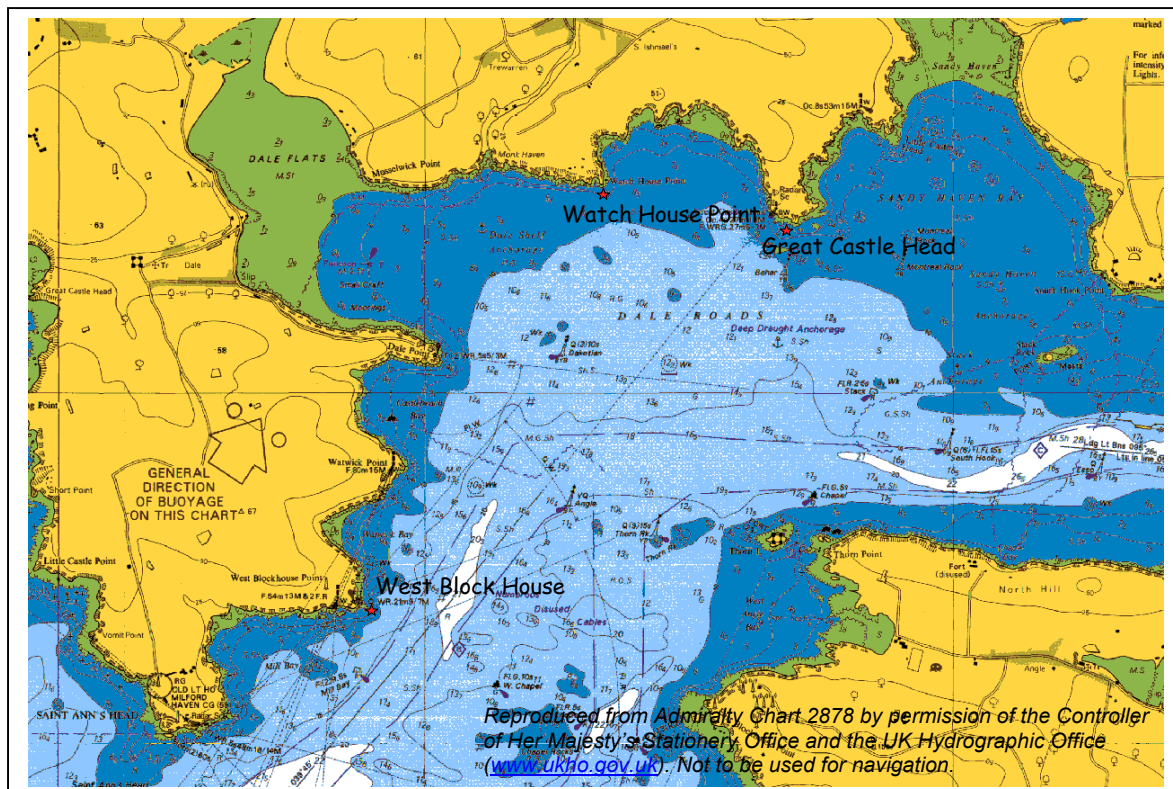


Entrance to Milford Haven 17th October 2004

Seasearch surveys and training were carried out at the Entrance of Milford Haven, Pembrokeshire, following a Seasearch Observers course run at Aberystwyth University on the 16th October 2004. The weekend was organised by Joanne Porter with the support of dive boats from Aberystwyth and Swansea Universities. Seasearch recording was completed for three sites despite choppy conditions and underwater visibility being restricted to around 3m.

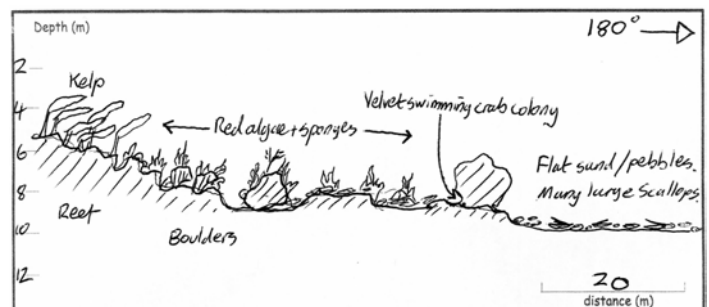


Great Castle Head

Old red sandstone bedrock reef extending south from the end of the Head, ridges and gullies gradually flattening out and becoming cobbles and pebbles at 10m below chart datum (bcd).

A good variety of sponges were seen, including large colonies of *Esperiopsis fucorum*, branching *Raspalia ramosa* and *Stelligera stuposa*. The rocks were festooned with ascidians and bryozoans, particularly *Dendrodoa grossularia* and *Chartella papyracea*.

A small number of *Balanophyllia regia* the scarlet and gold cup-coral were recorded, a first record for the Entrances of Milford Haven.



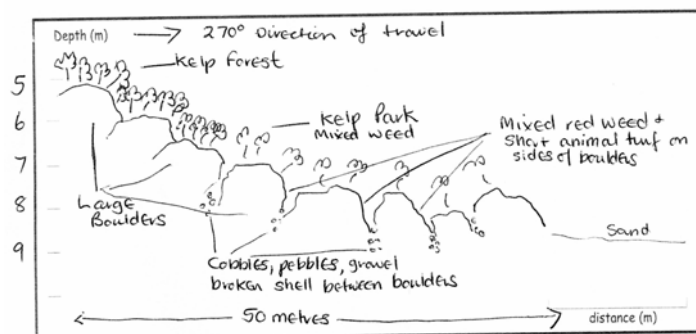
Scarlet gold cup coral *Balanophyllia regia*

Watch House Point

Closely packed large boulders with overhangs and fissures at 11m bcd. Kelp park and mixed red algae turf covered the rocks with large tufts of *Crisia* sp.

A variety of ascidians were recorded including *Ascidia mentula*, *Ascidiella aspersa* and *Dendrodoa grossularia*.

A large crawfish *Palinurus elephas* and lobster *Homarus gammarus* were both recorded.



West Block House

Old red sandstone rocky reef with gullies covered in Kelp forest leading to boulders at 12m bcd dominated by red seaweed turf. A good variety of sponges present (7 species) including *Axinella dissimilis* and *Polymastia boletiformis*. Fishing activity was recorded in the area with both lobster pots and angling litter observed.

Phylum	Common Name	Number of species	Common Species	
Porifera	Sponges	13	carrot sponge	<i>Esperiopsis fucorum</i>
			boring sponge	<i>Cliona celata</i>
Cnidaria	Anenomes, corals & hydroids	7	Devonshire cup coral	<i>Caryophyllia smithii</i>
Annelida	Segmented worms	4	fanworm	<i>Bispira volutacornis</i>
Crustacea	Crabs, lobster, barnacles	5	lobster	<i>Homarus gammarus</i>
Mollusca	Shells, sea slugs	5	painted top shell	<i>Calliostoma zizyphinium</i>
Bryozoa	Sea mats	4		<i>Chartella papyracea</i>
			white moss sea mat	<i>Crisia</i> spp
Echinodermata	Starfish, sea urchins	4	bloody Henry	<i>Henricia oculata</i>
	Sea cucumber			
Tunicata	Sea squirts	6	gooseberry seasquirt	<i>Dendrodoa grossularia</i>
			star seasquirt	<i>Botryllus schlosseri</i>
Pisces	Fishes	6	ballan wrasse	<i>Labrus bergylta</i>
Algae	Seaweeds	5	kelp	<i>Laminaria hyperborea</i>

Divers taking part in the training and recording were - Joanne Porter, Simon Ward, Linda Crawford, Rick Grundy, David Michael, Ben Rushbrook, Mark Weeks, Hayley Fletcher, Tim Ellis-Clark, Mike Woozley, Erin Smyth, Philip Harries, Pam Evans, Joan Garrard, Stephanie Morgan, John Craig, Chris Wood, Rhodri McDougall-Brown, Helen Dagless and Sarah Gardiner. Many thanks for the useful data collected! Thanks also to Scott Tompsett and Adrian Dowding for boat handling.

Text by Kate Lock.

Seasearch is a volunteer underwater survey project for recreational divers who wish to contribute to conserving the marine environment.

Financial support for the project during 2004 and for the production of this report has been given by:



Supported by the
Heritage Lottery Fund



Cyngor Cefn Gwlad Cymru
Countryside Council for Wales