

Dorset Seasearch: Annual summary report 2014



From an MCZ point of view, 2014 was a relatively quiet year for Seasearch in Dorset, having had three sites designated in November 2013 in what has become known as 'the first tranche'. The conservation advice for management of these protected areas relies on knowing where the features of conservation interest exist, so there is a real need to 'fill in the gaps on the map' with good solid Seasearch data. At the time of writing we are waiting to see if Studland Bay rMCZ makes it onto the list of 37 sites (the 'tranche two sites') to undergo the public consultation stage of the process prior to designation in 2016 (according to the current timetable). Please visit www.wildlifetrusts.org/MCZfriends, sign up as a friend of Studland Bay and make your views known as part of the consultation process.

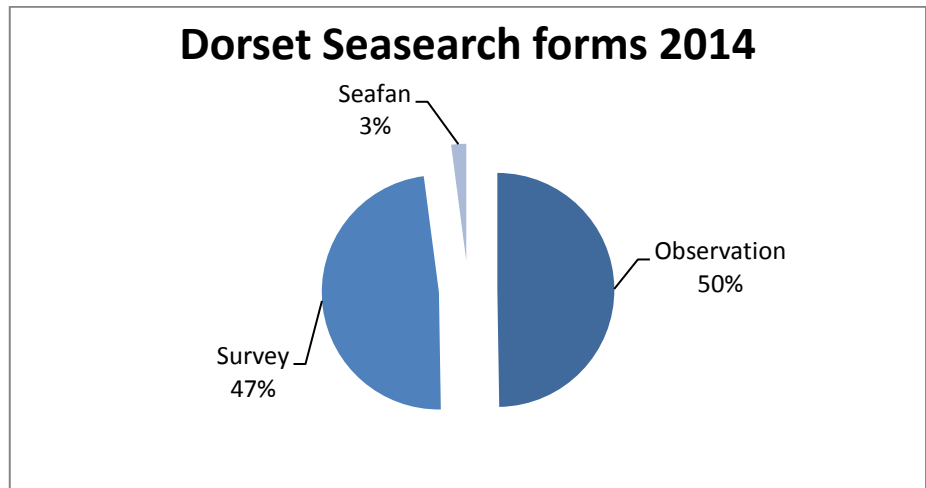
The weather in 2014 was all about the winter storms and their aftermath. The plankton bloom (and associated giant barrel jellyfish) arrived early and seemed to last much of the summer, while the very fine flocculated silt layer churned up from the seabed and delivered from the rivers never really seemed to settle down. The slightest disturbance of this heavy silting reduced the viz again, to the extent that 5-6m seemed like a really good day underwater. Early in the year we concentrated our efforts on recording the effects of the storms on the sessile fauna (particularly in Lyme Bay). Pink sea fans (*Eunicella verrucosa*) frequently showed damage to their soft tissue at the base of the fan, presumably from the scouring action of sediment; it was encouraging to see tissue re-growth on subsequent visits. The most easterly sea fans in the UK, on the Poole Bay patch reefs, were also re-surveyed in 2014.

As in previous years we planned our dives with the help of the bathymetric map available online at www.dorsetwildlifetrust.org.uk/dorset_seasearch.html. This is an absolutely fantastic dive-planning resource for divers, allowing us to pinpoint our surveying efforts and identify new and potentially interesting sites and habitats. From the bathymetry we identified and dived two new reef sites in Lyme Bay, within the Chesil Beach and Stennis Ledges MCZ (designated in November 2013). One of these was revealed to be a 3m-high wall of Oxford clay with numerous overhangs and ledges – a perfect habitat for the large crustaceans we found there but also very soft and friable so extremely susceptible to damage from mobile gear. Another survey site targeted was in the Studland to Portland cSAC but omitted from the area covered by the SIFCA bottom towed fishing gear byelaw (www.southern-ifca.gov.uk/sitedata/files/PDFbyelaw_bottomtowedfishi.pdf) because of uncertainties about the existence of rocky reef. At first glance the seabed did appear to be mostly waves of clean coarse sand, but with typical reef species such as sponges, bryozoans and hydroids all trying to avoid being buried. The sand was wafted away very easily and is clearly very mobile here. Seven *Polymastia* sponge species were recorded on this dive, including three collected for subsequent examination by experts. Favourable tides enabled us to survey another 'sponge-tastic' high energy reef site on the south-eastern side of Portland between Church Ope Cove and the Shambles Bank. Both of these sites are on the priority list for a return visit.

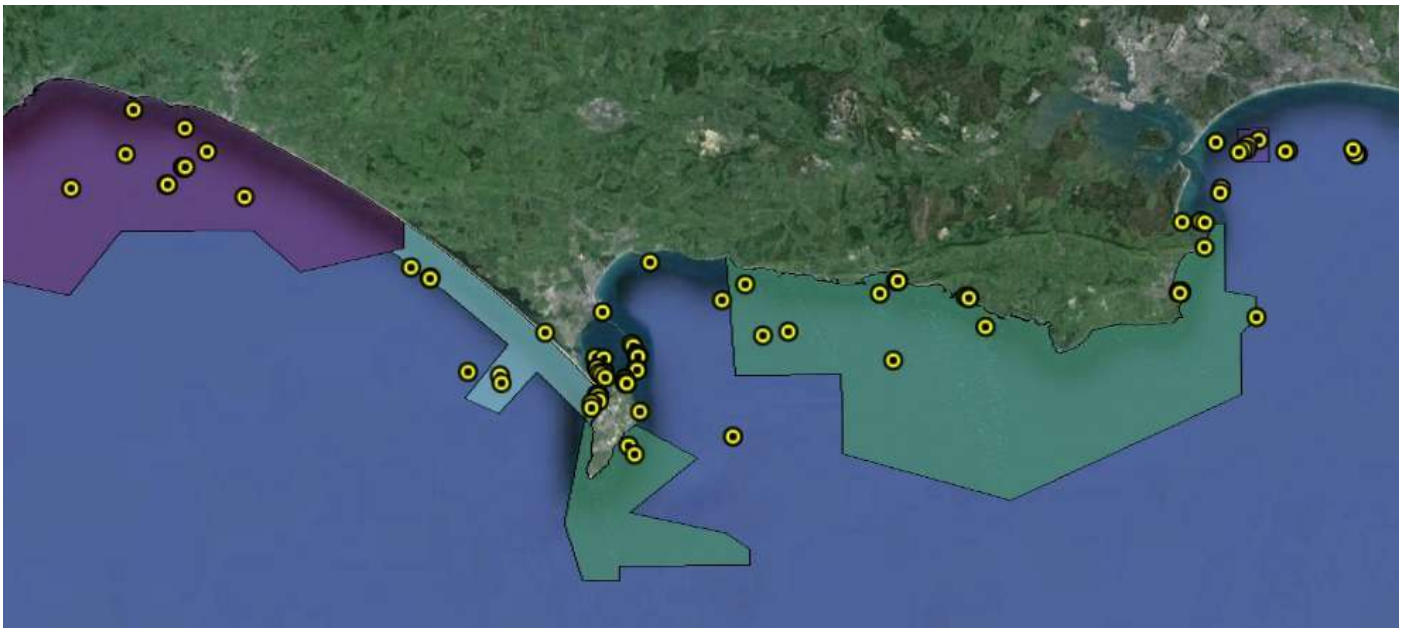
For the last two years Dorset Wildlife Trust have been involved in a Interreg IVa/European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)-supported project known as PANACHE – *Protected Area Network Across the Channel Ecosystem* - taking a leading role in the areas of citizen science and public engagement, which encompasses Seasearch activities. Unfortunately this project comes to an end in March 2015 and further funding is required to support the Seasearch project and the role of Marine Survey and Data Officer.

Recording

A total of 193 forms (96 Observation and 93 Survey) were sent in to DWT by more than 60 divers during 2014. The overall total (including forms sent in to other co-ordinators and forwarded on to DWT) was 202 forms. This led to 89 survey events (created by combining forms when pairs or groups of divers carry out their surveys in essentially the same place).



The dive locations are plotted on the maps below which also show the boundaries of the marine protected areas.



Training

Dorset Seasearch was involved in three Observer courses in 2014 – one for local dive club Scuba Troopers (Yeovil), one for the Ariel Divers club (mostly London but with a RIB based at Portland), and one 'public' one. Charlotte Bolton travelled all the way up to Eyemouth to become a Surveyor tutor (only to have the diving blown out on the Sunday morning!), so the list of Dorset tutors is now as follows: Charlotte Bolton, Kathryn Dawson and Peter Tinsley (Surveyor and Observer tutors), Josie Pegg and Nick Reed (Observer tutors), Nick Owen (Observer tutor-in-training).

We also ran two specialist courses/workshops in the summer: ascidians and sponges. For both of these the emphasis was on identifying tricky species (and indeed phyla) with the opportunity to get hands-on with microscopes and marvel at the intricacies of ascidian anatomy and sponge spicules. Many thanks to our expert tutors David Kipling and Sarah Bowen (ascidians) and Jen Jones and Lin Baldock (sponges) for their time and patience. One participant described the ascidian workshop as the best Seasearch course he's ever attended!

2014 Highlights (in pictures)

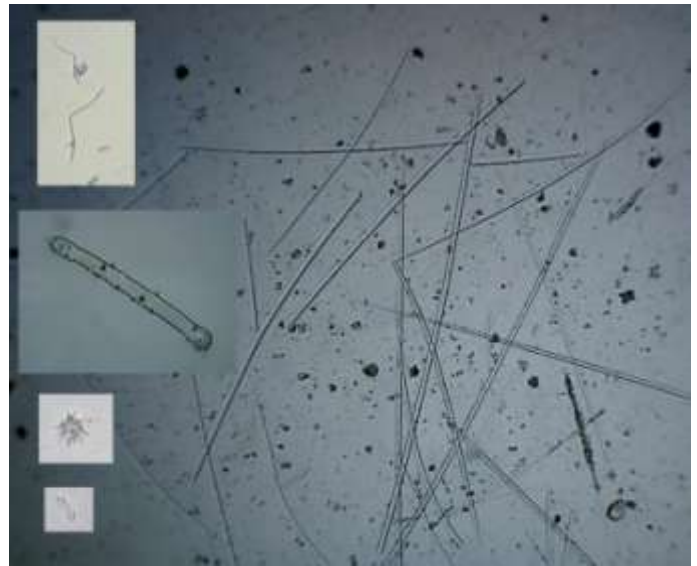
Below: Early season efforts concentrated on surveying the effects of the winter storms in **Lyme Bay** – the *Eunicella* showed signs of damaged tissue from sediment scour, but this was seen to be re-growing on subsequent surveys:



Pink sea fans also provided a focus in **Poole Bay**, where one of the most easterly fans in the UK was re-visited to monitor progress since it was found squashed under a rock in 2006 and subsequently christened 'Lazarus' (right); eight years' on Lazarus is clearly thriving and displaying very dense growth in three overlapping branches (below):



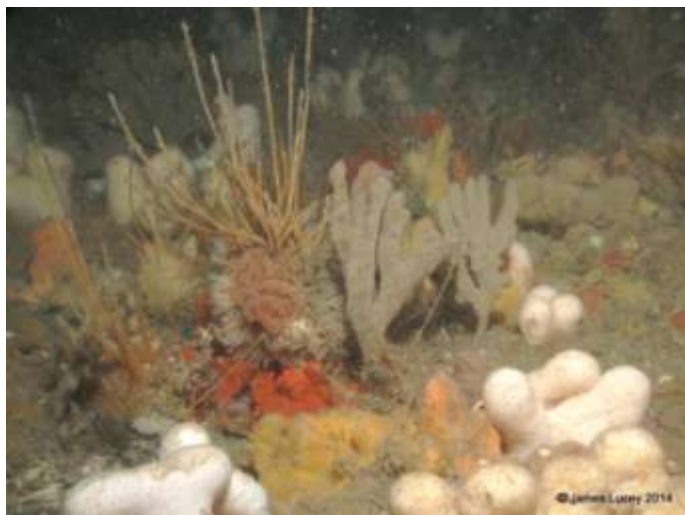
Two technical/specialist ID workshops were held in the summer, with an emphasis on hands-on identification of those tricky phyla sponges and ascidians. Below left: two colour variations of the non-native *Botrylloides diegensis* from **Portland Marina**. Below right: A selection of spicules from Dorset sponge specimens.



A site south of Worbarrow Bay (named "**Railway Line Wreck Reef**") proved to be an interesting area of pitted bedrock reef with a coarse mobile sand veneer and many almost-buried sponge species including the nationally-rare *Adreus fascicularis* (bottom, in sand and with *Inachus* sp.) and three unknown species of *Polymastia* (below):



Sponges (and the soft coral *Alcyonium digitatum*) were also thriving in the high-energy site of **The Ledge** south-east of Portland (below).



The nationally-rare *Tethyspira spinosa* (below left) and under-recorded *Stryphnus ponderosus* (below right) were found on **The Ledge**, as well as some more familiar species in odd shapes/forms.



Ground-truthing the bathymetric map proved particularly exciting at the end of September when we discovered a 3m-high rugged cliff of Oxford clay (named “**Charlotte’s Clay**”, but not by me!) off Abbotsbury, just within the Chesil Beach and Stennis Ledges MCZ:



And just to prove that the surface intervals weren’t all about filling in survey forms and eating cake, the answer to the question ‘how many divers does it take to untangle an SMB reel?’ appears to be 5 (below left), while we had a particularly calm and sunny trip rounding the Bill at the end of September, which made the 7.30am ropes-off just about bearable (below right):



2014 Summary (in numbers)

Using the MNCR 04.05 key (available on the JNCC website at jncc.defra.gov.uk/marinehabitatclassification) the total number of biotopes assigned was 207 (49 unique), of which 84 (40.58%) were identified as circalittoral rock (CR), 52 (25.12%) as infralittoral rock (IR) and 71 (34.3%) as sublittoral sediment (SS). Overall, 199 biotopes (96.1%) were keyed out to Level 3 or greater, of which the most commonly occurring were CR.HCR.XFa (Mixed faunal turf communities; 26 occurrences), CR.FCR.FouFa (Circalittoral fouling faunal communities; 24), SS.SMx.IMx (Infralittoral mixed sediment; 17), IR.FIR.IFou (Infralittoral fouling seaweed communities; 16), SS.SMx.CMx (Circalittoral mixed sediment; 12), SS.SCS.ICs.SSh (Sparse fauna on highly mobile sublittoral shingle (cobbles and pebbles); 9), IR.HIR.KFaR.FoR (Foliose red seaweeds on exposed lower infralittoral rock; 7), CR.HCR.XFa.ByErSp.Eun (*Eunicella verrucosa* and *Pentapora foliacea* on wave-exposed circalittoral rock; 7), CR.HCR.XFa.ByErSp (Bryozoan turf and erect sponges on tide-swept circalittoral rock; 7) and IR.MIR.KR.XFoR (Dense foliose red seaweeds on silty moderately

exposed infralittoral rock; 7). It was only possible to key out 9 biotopes to the highest level (Level 5 or 6) and these were mostly (7 occurrences) in the CR complex, indicating how complicated a process biotope assignment can be.

Biotope Code	Biotope Description	Location (see below)[#]
CR.FCR.Cv	Circalittoral caves and overhangs	2,3
CR.FCR.Cv.SpCup	Sponges, cup corals and anthozoans on shaded or overhanging circalittoral rock	1,2,3
CR.FCR.FouFa	Circalittoral fouling faunal communities	2,3,5
CR.FCR.FouFa.AdigMsen	<i>Alcyonium digitatum</i> and <i>Metridium senile</i> on moderately wave-exposed circalittoral steel wrecks	1
CR.HCR.XFa	Mixed faunal turf communities	1,2,3,5,6
CR.HCR.XFa.ByErSp	Bryozoan turf and erect sponges on tide-swept circalittoral rock	1,3,5
CR.HCR.XFa.ByErSp.Eun	<i>Eunicella verrucosa</i> and <i>Pentapora foliacea</i> on wave-exposed circalittoral rock	1
CR.HCR.XFa.CvirCri	<i>Corynactis viridis</i> and a mixed turf of crisiids, <i>Bugula</i> , <i>Scrupocellaria</i> , and <i>Cellaria</i> on moderately tide-swept exposed circalittoral rock	1
CR.HCR.XFa.FluCoAs	<i>Flustra foliacea</i> and colonial ascidians on tide-swept moderately wave-exposed circalittoral rock	5,6
CR.HCR.XFa.SpAnVt	Sponges and anemones on vertical circalittoral bedrock	1
CR.MCR	Moderate energy circalittoral rock	6
CR.MCR.CSab	Circalittoral <i>Sabellaria</i> reefs (on rock)	1
CR.MCR.CSab.Sspi	<i>Sabellaria spinulosa</i> encrusted circalittoral rock	1
CR.MCR.CSab.Sspi.ByB	<i>Sabellaria spinulosa</i> with a bryozoan turf and barnacles on silty turbid circalittoral rock	1
CR.MCR.EcCr.FaAlCr.Flu	<i>Flustra foliacea</i> on slightly scoured silty circalittoral rock	6
CR.MCR.SfR	Soft rock communities	1
CR.MCR.SfR.Pid	Piddocks with a sparse associated fauna in sublittoral very soft chalk or clay	1
IR.FIR.IFou	Infralittoral fouling seaweed communities	2,3,5,6
IR.HIR	High energy infralittoral rock	1
IR.HIR.KFaR.FoR	Foliose red seaweeds on exposed lower infralittoral rock	1,3
IR.HIR.KFaR.FoR.Dic	Foliose red seaweeds with dense <i>Dictyota dichotoma</i> and/or <i>Dictyopteris membranacea</i> on exposed lower infralittoral rock	1

Biotope Code	Biotope Description	Location (see below) [#]
IR.HIR.KSed.XKHal	<i>Halidrys siliquosa</i> and mixed kelps on tide-swept infralittoral rock with coarse sediment	1
IR.LIR	Low energy infralittoral rock	2,6
IR.LIR.K.Lsac.Ldig	<i>Laminaria saccharina</i> and <i>Laminaria digitata</i> on sheltered sublittoral fringe rock	4
IR.LIR.K.Sar	<i>Sargassum muticum</i> on shallow slightly tide-swept infralittoral mixed substrata	4
IR.LIR.KVS.Cod	<i>Codium</i> spp. with red seaweeds and sparse <i>Laminaria saccharina</i> on shallow, heavily-silted, very sheltered infralittoral rock	2
IR.MIR	Moderate energy infralittoral rock	2,6
IR.MIR.KR	Kelp and red seaweeds (moderate energy infralittoral rock)	2,3,4
IR.MIR.KR.Lhyp.Ft	<i>Laminaria hyperborea</i> forest and foliose red seaweeds on moderately exposed upper infralittoral rock	1
IR.MIR.KR.XFoR	Dense foliose red seaweeds on silty moderately exposed infralittoral rock	1,3,6
IR.MIR.KT.XKTX	Mixed kelp and red seaweeds on infralittoral boulders, cobbles and gravel in tidal rapids	1
SS.SCS	Sublittoral coarse sediment (unstable cobbles and pebbles, gravels and coarse sands)	3
SS.SCS.CCS	Circalittoral coarse sediment	1,3
SS.SCS.CCS.PomB	<i>Pomatoceros triqueter</i> with barnacles and bryozoan crusts on unstable circalittoral cobbles and pebbles	3
SS.SCS.ICS	Infralittoral coarse sediment	1,3,5
SS.SCS.ICS.SLan	Dense <i>Lanice conchilega</i> and other polychaetes in tide-swept infralittoral sand and mixed gravelly sand	1,6
SS.SCS.ICS.SSh	Sparse fauna on highly mobile sublittoral shingle (cobbles and pebbles)	1
SS.SMp.KSwSS	Kelp and seaweed communities on sublittoral sediment	2
SS.SMp.SSgr	Sublittoral seagrass beds	5
SS.SMp.SSgr.Zmar	<i>Zostera marina/angustifolia</i> beds on lower shore or infralittoral clean or muddy sand	6
SS.SMu.IFiMu	Infralittoral fine mud	2
SS.SMu.IFiMu.PhiVir	<i>Philine aperta</i> and <i>Virgularia mirabilis</i> in soft stable infralittoral mud	2

Biotope Code	Biotope Description	Location (see below) [#]
SS.SMx.CMx	Circalittoral mixed sediment	1,3,6
SS.SMx.IMx	Infralittoral mixed sediment	1,2,4,5,6
SS.SMx.IMx.CreAsAn	Crepidula fornicata with ascidians and anemones on infralittoral coarse mixed sediment	1,6
SS.SSa	Sublittoral sands and muddy sands	5
SS.SSa.CFiSa	Circalittoral fine sand	6
SS.SSa.IFiSa	Infralittoral fine sand	3,6
SS.SSa.IMuSa	Infralittoral muddy sand	3

[#] **Location (as defined in Marine Recorder):** 1 = Lyme Bay; 2 = Portland Harbour; 3 = Mupe Rocks to Portland Bill; 4 = Purbeck Marine Wildlife Reserve; 5 = Durlston Marine Research Area; 6 = Poole Bay

Non-native and climate change indicator species

Many of the species listed as non-native (NNS; not necessarily invasive) have become so common in Dorset that we hardly think of them as such (*e.g.* *Crepidula fornicata*). Other species are labelled as climate change indicators (CCI) since they may signify range expansions (usually southerly/south-western species heading north and/or east, in Dorset).

Species name	Phylum	No. of records	Classification (CCI, NNS)	Where recorded (2014 Seasearch only)
<i>Actinia fragacea</i>	Cnidaria	4	CCI	Lyme Bay
<i>Anemonia viridis</i>	Cnidaria	43	CCI	Durlston Marine Research Area, Lyme Bay, Mupe Rocks to Portland Bill, Poole Bay, Portland Harbour, Purbeck Marine Wildlife Reserve
<i>Antithamnionella ternifolia</i>	Algae	3	NNS	Lyme Bay, Portland Harbour
<i>Asparagopsis armata</i>	Algae	5	CCI, NNS	Lyme Bay, Mupe Rocks to Portland Bill, Poole Bay, Purbeck Marine Wildlife Reserve
<i>Asterina gibbosa</i>	Echinodermata	2	CCI	Lyme Bay
<i>Bonnemaisonia hamifera</i>	Algae	1	NNS	Purbeck Marine Wildlife Reserve
<i>Botrylloides diegensis</i>	Tunicata	3	NNS	Poole Bay, Portland Harbour
<i>Botrylloides violaceus</i>	Algae	2	NNS	Portland Harbour
<i>Calliostoma zizyphinum</i>	Mollusca	50	CCI	Durlston Marine Research Area, Lyme

Species name	Phylum	No. of records	Classification (CCI, NNS)	Where recorded (2014 Seasearch only)
				Bay, Mupe Rocks to Portland Bill, Poole Bay, Purbeck Marine Wildlife Reserve
<i>Corella eumyota</i>	Tunicata	3	NNS	Lyme Bay, Poole Bay, Portland Harbour
<i>Crepidula fornicata</i>	Mollusca	31	CCI, NNS	Durlston Marine Research Area, Lyme Bay, Mupe Rocks to Portland Bill, Poole Bay, Portland Harbour
<i>Gibbula umbilicalis</i>	Mollusca	2	CCI	Lyme Bay
<i>Halidrys siliquosa</i>	Algae	15	CCI	Lyme Bay, Mupe Rocks to Portland Bill, Purbeck Marine Wildlife Reserve
<i>Heterosiphonia japonica</i>	Algae	3	NNS	Durlston Marine Research Area, Poole Bay
<i>Mesophyllum lichenoides</i>	Algae	1	CCI	Purbeck Marine Wildlife Reserve
<i>Sargassum muticum</i>	Algae	14	CCI, NNS	Poole Bay, Durlston Marine Research Area, Mupe Rocks to Portland Bill, Purbeck Marine Wildlife Reserve, Portland Harbour, Lyme Bay
<i>Solieria chordalis</i>	Algae	4	NNS	Lyme Bay, Mupe Rocks to Portland Bill, Portland Harbour
<i>Styela clava</i>	Tunicata	21	NNS	Durlston Marine Research Area, Lyme Bay, Mupe Rocks to Portland Bill, Poole Bay, Portland Harbour
<i>Undaria pinnatifada</i>	Algae	1	NNS	Portland Harbour

Not unexpectedly, the majority of the non-native species (NNS) are found in the vicinity of commercial or recreational hotspots for water-based activities; however, records show that these species are spreading throughout Dorset so volunteer records are important in monitoring the increased distribution.

Groups, species and records of conservation interest recorded in Dorset during 2014

N.B. Counts for species numbers includes groups of genera where sightings were not recorded to species level.

Total number of unique species (including records at a higher taxonomic level) = 601.

Total number of species records = 4471.

Phylum/subphylum	Total number of records (not all to species level)	Most frequently recorded species (count)	Rare/scarce, Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP), Wildlife and Countryside Act (WCA) and MCZ FOCI (feature of conservation interest) species
Porifera (sponges)	620	Porifera indet. crusts (77), <i>Dysidea fragilis</i> (66), <i>Cliona celata</i> (47), <i>Hemimycale columella</i>	Nationally rare species: <i>Suberites massa</i> (1)

Phylum/subphylum	Total number of records (not all to species level)	Most frequently recorded species (count)	Rare/scarce, Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP), Wildlife and Countryside Act (WCA) and MCZ FOCI (feature of conservation interest) species
		(45), <i>Amphilectus fucorum</i> (38)	Nationally scarce species: <i>Adreus fascicularis</i> (4), <i>Tethyspira spinosa</i> (2)
Cnidaria (corals, anemones, hydroids)	642	Hydrozoa (indet.) (44), <i>Anemonia viridis</i> (43), <i>Alcyonium digitatum</i> (36), <i>Nemertesia antennina</i> (33), <i>Caryophyllia smithii</i> (30)	BAP/WCA species: <i>Eunicella verrucosa</i> (22), <i>Lucernariopsis cruxmelitensis</i> (1), <i>Leptopsammia pruvoti</i> (1) Nationally rare species: <i>Hoplangia durotrix</i> (*), <i>Scolanthus callimorphus</i> (2) Nationally scarce species: <i>Aiptasia mutabilis</i> (25), <i>Aglaophenia kirchenpaueria</i> (1)
Platyhelminthes (flat worms)	17	<i>Prostheceraeus vittatus</i> (17)	
Annelida (segmented worms)	264	<i>Bispira volutacornis</i> (45), <i>Spirobranchus</i> (formerly <i>Pomatoceros</i>) sp. (41), <i>Lanice conchilega</i> (32), <i>Terebellidae</i> (21)	
Phoronida (horseshoe worms)	24	<i>Phoronis</i> sp. (17)	
Crustacea (crabs, shrimps etc.)	384	<i>Necora puber</i> (60), Cirripedia indet. (53), <i>Cancer pagurus</i> (47), <i>Maja squinado</i> (39)	
Mollusca (snails, bivalves, sea slugs)	496	<i>Calliostoma zizyphinum</i> (50), <i>Nassarius reticulatus</i> (formerly <i>Hinia reticulata</i>) (32), <i>Crepidula fornicata</i> (31), <i>Pecten maximus</i> (29), <i>Rocellaria</i> (formerly <i>Gastrochaena</i>) <i>dubia</i> (24)	BAP/MCZ FOCI species: <i>Ostrea edulis</i> (20) Nationally rare species: <i>Trapania maculata</i> (4) Nationally scarce species: <i>Tritonia nilsodhneri</i> (1)
Bryozoa (seamats)	397	Bryozoa indet. crusts (49), <i>Chartella papyracea</i> (47), <i>Flustra foliacea</i> (33), <i>Electra pilosa</i> (26), Crisiidae (27)	
Echinodermata (starfish, sea cucumbers)	57	<i>Asterias rubens</i> (18), <i>Thyone</i> sp. (9), <i>Ophiura albida</i> & <i>Henricia</i> sp. (6)	
Tunicata (sea squirts)	397	<i>Botryllus schlosseri</i> (34), <i>Phallusia mammillata</i> (33), <i>Clavelina lepadiformis</i> (32), <i>Ascidia mentula</i> (23)	Nationally scarce species: <i>Phallusia mammillata</i> (33), <i>Pycnoclavella aurilucens</i> (4)
Pisces (bony fish & elasmobranchs)	586	<i>Parablennius gattorugine</i> (58), <i>Ctenolabrus rupestris</i> (56), <i>Labrus bergylta</i> (35), <i>Callionymus</i> sp. (30)	BAP species: <i>Pleuronectes platessa</i> (1), <i>Raja undulata</i> (2) WCA9/MCZ FOCI species: <i>Gobius couchi</i> (5)
Algae (seaweed)	578 (136 brown) (53 green)	Corallinaceae (encrusting) (57), Rhodophyta (54), <i>Calliblepharis ciliata</i> (27), <i>Halidrys siliquosa</i> (15), <i>Ulva lactuca</i> , <i>Dictyota</i>	Nationally scarce species: <i>Gracilaria bursa-pastoris</i> (2), <i>G. multipartita</i> (2)

Phylum/subphylum	Total number of records (not all to species level)	Most frequently recorded species (count)	Rare/scarce, Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP), Wildlife and Countryside Act (WCA) and MCZ FOCI (feature of conservation interest) species
	(389 red)	<i>dichotoma</i> & <i>Sargassum muticum</i> (14)	
Marine plants (angiosperms)	6	<i>Zostera marina</i> (5)	BAP habitat: <i>Zostera marina</i>
Foraminifera	3	<i>Halyphysema tumanowiczii</i> (2)	

Cnidarian recording is particularly well represented this year, perhaps reflecting the availability of the recent Seasearch guides to Anemones & Corals and Bryozoans & Hydroids. Other phyla (tunicates, molluscs and particularly algae and sponges) have shown a significant decrease in the number of records compared to 2013 – is this a real effect after the storms of winter 2013/2014, are we recording things differently, or just looking at the habitats on a broader scale? Or perhaps this is a sign that we need a new Seasearch guide to Sponges and Squirts?!

Finally, a big thank you to all the divers and volunteers who contributed to Dorset Seasearch in 2014:

Abbi Scott, Adam Stevens, Alice Graham, Amy Marsden, Andy Florence, Andy Marsh, Andy Ward, Barbara King, Ben Robinson, Brian Davis, Bryan Knight, Carol Horne, Charles McGibney, Chris Webb, Chris Wood, Christine Lissoni, Claire Shotton, Clare Allen, Colin Garrett, David Kipling, Elspeth Berry, Fiona Ravenscroft, Gareth Morgan, Harvey Wilson, Jackie Howe, James Lucey, Jeff Lewis, Jen Ashworth, Jen Jones, Jess Mead, Jill Lewis, Jon Chamberlain, Josie Pegg, Julie Hatcher, Justin Evans, Keith Darvelle, Kerry Evans, Lin Baldock, ML Anderson, Mark Harrison, Mark Hodgson, Mary Restell, Matt Doggett, Meriel Morgan, Nick Kaayk, Nick Owen, Nigel Topham, Polly Whyte, Richard Dakin, Richard Yorke, Rik Girdler, Rob Spray, Ross Bullimore, Roy Restell, Sally Morgan, Sarah Bowen, Sarah Curtin, Steve Graham, Steve O'Callaghan, Suzie Ward, Tristan Hill, Trudy Russell.

And thanks also to the **skippers and crew** who took us there, waited patiently, provided hot drinks and cake/hotdogs and then brought us safely home again: Neil Birdsall and Keith Ferris ('Ruby J', West Bay Dive Charters), Mike Markey ('Peveril Myth', Poole Diving), Paul Pike ('Dive Time'), Nick Bentall and David Sellers ('Cutlass', Scimitar Diving) and Rob King ('Blue Turtle').

Apologies to anyone whose name has been inadvertently omitted from this list.

Dorset Wildlife Trust, Brooklands Farm, Forston, Dorchester, Dorset, DT2 7AA; Tel: 01305 264620; Fax: 01305 251120. Registered Charity No. 200222. For more information about DWT, our work and the Seasearch project, please visit www.dorsetwildlifetrust.org.uk or email seasearch@dorsetwildlifetrust.org.uk

Seasearch is a partnership between the Marine Conservation Society (MCS), The Wildlife Trusts, statutory nature conservation bodies and others, co-ordinated nationally by MCS and co-ordinated and delivered locally in England by Wildlife Trust and MCS local co-ordinators. For more information on Seasearch and to see all of the partners involved nationally, please visit www.seasearch.org.uk or email info@seasearch.org.uk

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