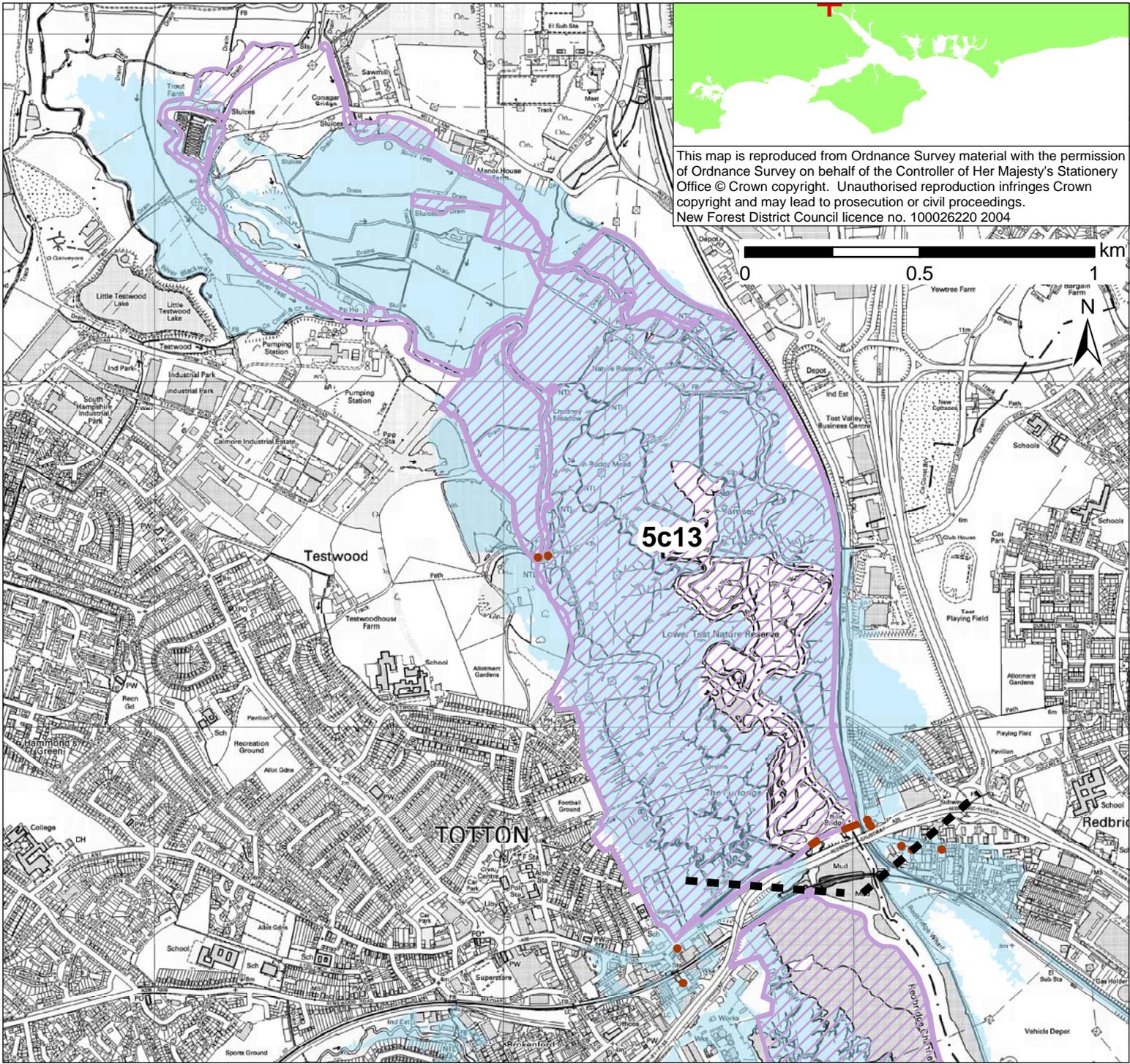


Policy Unit 5C13 Lower Test Valley		
Summary description of Policy Unit		
<p>The Lower Test Valley is the upstream limit of the tidal River Test that feeds into Southampton Water. It is a privately owned but undefended frontage, with a few heritage assets and properties within the naturally confined tidal floodplain. The upper estuary area represents the transition zone between tidal and fluvial, with inter-tidal and transitional freshwater of International, European and national nature conservation importance. These habitats support the adjacent and nearby SPA/Ramsar sites; this area is also a Wildlife Trust Reserve. The tidal floodplain will extend and migrate inland over time, in response to predicted sea level rise and may provide opportunities for managed and natural intertidal and freshwater habitats to establish.</p>		
Final policy options		SMP1 Ref n/a
Epoch 1 From Present Day (up to 2025)	Epoch 2 Medium Term (2025 to 2055)	Epoch 3 Long Term (2055 to 2105)
No Active Intervention	No Active Intervention	No Active Intervention
Summary of rationale behind final policy options		
<p>The key policy driver for no active intervention at this site is that the undefended and naturally confined tidal floodplain presents a suitable opportunity to allow the estuary to evolve and migrate upstream naturally over the next 100 years in response to rising sea levels. This permits inter-tidal, coastal grazing marsh and other freshwater habitats to establish and function naturally.</p> <p>It is the intention that undefended shoreline frontages continue to be undefended. Property level flood defences may be appropriate where flood risk will increase in the longer-term.</p> <p>Losses of European and national nature conservation designated habitats will need to be mitigated within the same designated area or compensated for elsewhere and delivered through the Regional Habitat Creation Programme. Opportunities for habitat mitigation and compensation have been detailed within the Appropriate Assessment of the final policies.</p>		
Policy changes through Public Consultation		
None.		
Funding		
No defence works are identified.		
Further Studies (identified in Action Plan)		
<p>Woodmill to Redbridge Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Strategy Redbridge to Calshot Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Strategy Solent-wide network of high tide roost site study</p>		



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POLICY

From Present Day (up to 2025):	Medium-Term (2025 to 2055):	Long-Term (2055 to 2105):
No Active Intervention	No Active Intervention	No Active Intervention

- Indicative erosion zone up to 2025
- Indicative erosion zone up to 2055
- Indicative erosion zone up to 2105
- Policy Unit Boundary
- International / National Designations
- Important Heritage Sites
- 2115 Indicative Floodplain (1 in 200 year) provided from PUSH