



# Do you know? More about The Knolls



The moving islands of shingle at the mouth of the Estuary, the high points of the Deben Bar, are known as **The Knolls**. They are covered by the sea at High-Water Spring tides and are recurrently formed and washed away.

The route for sailors is indicated by way-markers or buoys.

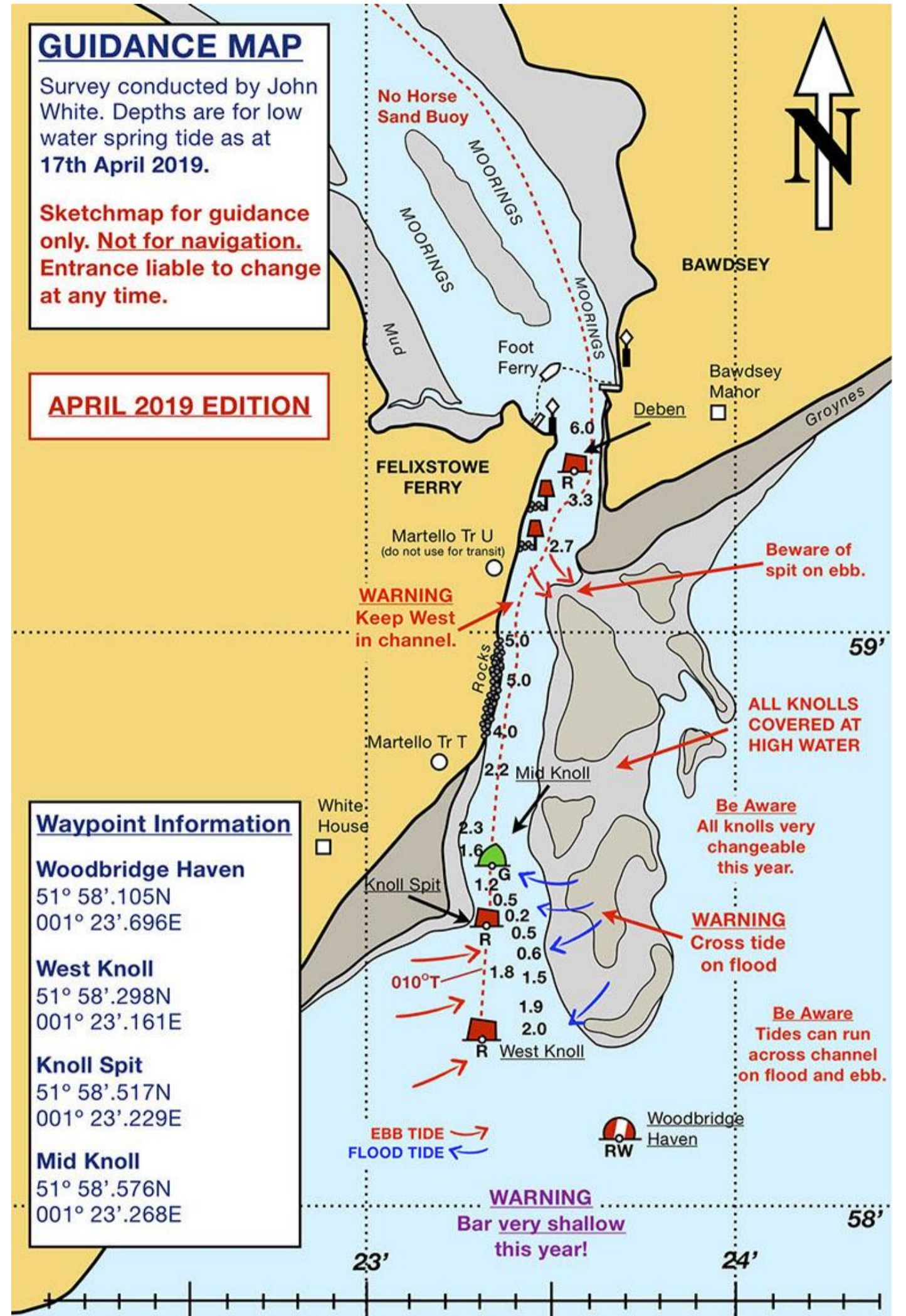
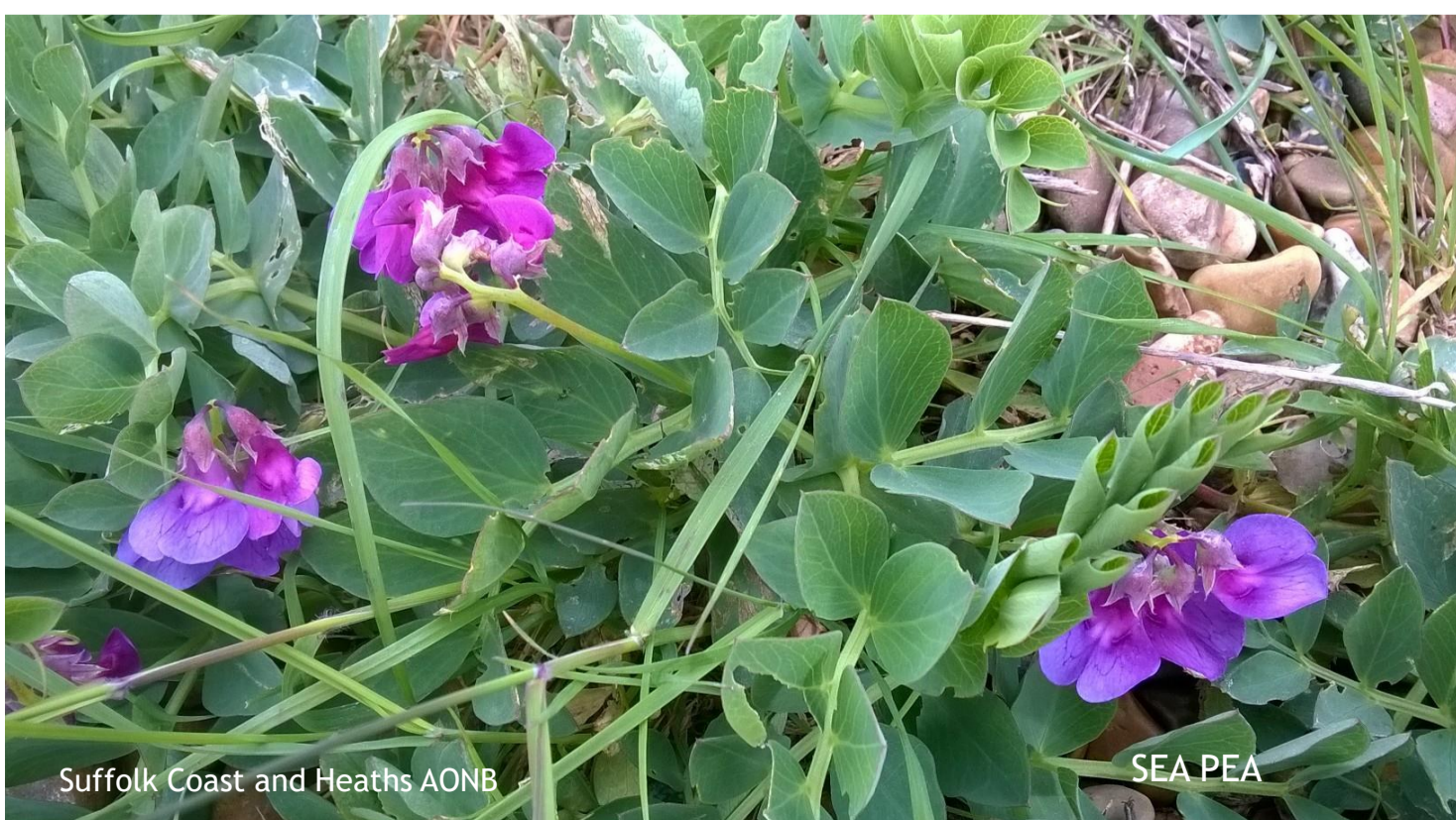
There are 3 buoys at the entrance. West Knoll and Knoll Spit are port-hand marks, on the left coming in - they are both on the Felixstowe side.

The next mark is a starboard-hand marker, on the right of the channel - the Bawdsey side.

BUT it is not called East Knoll as might be expected. It is called Mid Knoll and regarded as lying between the knolls on either side of the channel. The Knoll Spit is closely attached to the Felixstowe shore. All the other knolls are on the Bawdsey side.

## Vegetated Shingle

Where a lot of shingle accumulates and is not regularly exposed to waves, it becomes stable enough to allow plant growth. The plants tend to grow on the top of the shingle ridges, where storm waves throw the finer sand. It's the sand that holds a little water and just enough nutrients. It is a unique and fragile habitat, full of rare species.



Downloaded from [www.debenestuary-pilot.co.uk/](http://www.debenestuary-pilot.co.uk/)

England has a high proportion of the world's shingle. Suffolk has a large proportion of the UK's shingle.

Vegetated shingle both at Bawdsey and Felixstowe beach is very vulnerable to accidental trampling, so we have a special responsibility to limit the damage.