

## Glossary

**Benthic flora/fauna** – A description for animals, plants and habitats associated with the seabed. All plants and animals that live in, on or near the seabed are benthos, such as sponges, crabs, seagrass beds. (Defra 2007)

**Biodiversity** – The variety of life forms including plants, animals and microorganisms, the genes that they contain and the biotopes and ecosystems that they form. (Finding Sanctuary 2009)

**Bylaws** – Legislation introduced at a local level to meet a specified need. Local authorities, Sea Fisheries Committees, ports and harbour authorities, for example, all have the power to introduce and enforce by– laws that can have a bearing on the marine environment and its resources. (Defra 2007)

**Capital dredging** – Can take the form of deepening or widening an existing channel. Or it may take the form of enabling an entirely new channel to facilitate access to a new facility. Capital dredging involves improvement of access for example to allow bigger and deeper vessels, longer optimum tidal windows and the provision of passing places. This area will not previously have been dredge during the preceding 10 years. (MMO 2011)

**Cetaceans** – All whales, dolphins and porpoises. (ORCA)

**Chart datum** – By international agreement Chart Datum is defined as a level so low that the tide will not frequently fall below it. In the United Kingdom, this level is normally approximately the level of lowest astronomical tide. (UK Hydrographic Office)

**Coastal communities** – There is no official definition of this, but the Marine Planning Team defines this as people residing in a coastal area (or within 10 kilometres of a tidal watercourse connected to the East Inshore plan area), irrespective of the size of the settlement they inhabit. This definition was used for the socio-economic study. (MMO)

**Coastal squeeze** – Due to the influence of climate change and the creation of extensive hard coastal defences to manage low lying coastal regions, coastal habitats become squeezed between rigid structures and rising sea level. (MMO – Strategic Scoping Report)

**Co–location** – Co-location is where multiple users or activities share the same footprint or area in the marine environment. (MMO)

**Competent authority** – The competent official organisation empowered to execute various functions.

**Concrete mattress** –Typically used to provide protection from damage. (Subsea protection systems)

**Core strategy** – A terrestrial planning document produced by local planning authorities, setting out the spatial vision and objectives of the planning framework for an area. (PINS)

**Cultural heritage** – Cultural heritage includes scheduled monuments, groups of buildings that are of outstanding universal value from the point of view of history, art or science, and archaeological sites which are of outstanding universal value. (UNESCO)

**Demersal fish** – Fish occurring or living near or on the bottom of the ocean, such as cod. (IUCN)

**Diffuse pollution** – Pollution arising from many sources. (MMO)

**Downdrift** – The transport of sediment in the net direction of longshore drift. (Encora)

**Ecologically coherent** – applies to a network of marine protected areas and will be achieved through "network design" principles including representative of biodiversity in region, replication, adequate coverage, , viability, connectivity, and level of protection. (NE)

**Ecosystem approach** – In a marine and UK context, an ecosystem-based approach to the management of human activities means an approach which ensures that the collective pressure of human activities is kept within the levels compatible with the achievement of good environmental status; that does not compromise the capacity of marine ecosystems to respond to human-induced changes; and that enables the sustainable use of marine goods and services. (Defra)

**Ecosystem goods and services** – Indirect or direct benefits to human society that derive from (marine) ecosystems. Examples would include food provision, recreation, nutrient cycling, gas and climate regulation. (Defra)

**Effluent** – The outflow from a sewer or sewerage system, liquid waste discharged from a factory or radioactive waste released from a nuclear power plant. (MMO)

**Environmental liability** –The Environmental Liability Directive seeks to achieve the prevention and remedying of environmental damage reinforcing the "polluter pays" principle – making operators financially liable for threats of or actual damage. (Defra)

**Environmental receptor** – Ecosystems and physical features such as water and sediment. (EUGRIS)

**Estuary management plans** – Non-statutory plans produced by a group of organisations all of whom have an interest in an estuary. (EA)

**Eutrophication** – The enrichment of water by nutrients, especially compounds of nitrogen and phosphorus, causing an accelerated growth of algae and higher forms of plant life. This in turn can produce an undesirable disturbance to the balance of organisms and the quality of the water concerned. (Marine Scotland)

**Finfish** – Round bodied or flat fish (cod, haddock or sole) as opposed to shellfish. (MMO)

**Fixed quota** – Fixed or variable allocation of fish quota that can be landed by a fishing vessel within a specified period. (MMO)

**Good ecological status** – requirement set out in Water Framework Directive (WFD) to be met by inland and coastal water bodies (by 2015) through river basin management planning within which environmental objectives will be set, including ecological targets for surface waters. (Marine Scotland)

**Good environmental status** – set out in the Marine Strategy Framework Directive (MSFD), it means that the status of marine waters where these provide ecologically diverse, and dynamic oceans and seas which are clean, healthy and productive within

their intrinsic conditions, and the use of the marine environment is at a level that is sustainable. (europa.eu)

**Habitat sensitivity** – A measure of tolerance (or intolerance) of a habitat or ecosystem to changes in environmental conditions. (MMO)

**Habitats Regulations assessment** – An assessment, which must be appropriate to its purpose under the Habitats Directive and Regulations, according to The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010, Regulation 61.(NE)

**Historic environment** – The historic environment is all the physical evidence for past human activity, and its associations, that people can see, understand and feel in the present world. (EH)

**Hydrographical conditions** – the environmental and physical conditions within oceans, lakes and rivers within a specified region. (MMO)

**Impact assessment** – An impact assessment reports on the anticipated environmental, economic and social costs, benefits and impacts of a proposed policy or range of policies. These impacts are assessed against a baseline scenario in which the proposed policy interventions do not take place. It is a process for analysing and selecting policy options and a tool for communicating how preferred options have been chosen. (Defra 2007)

**Integrated coastal zone management (ICZM)** – This means adopting a joined-up approach towards the many different interests in coastal areas, both on the land and at sea. It is the process of harmonising the different policies and decision-making structures, and bringing together coastal stakeholders to take concerted action towards achieving common goals. (Defra 2008)

**Intertidal recharge** – Intertidal recharge aims to mitigate a sediment deficit by restoring the functioning of the intertidal/foreshore through the introduction of sediment. (EA)

**Local development framework** – A collection of documents produced by a local planning authority which collectively form the spatial planning strategy for its area. (idea.gov.uk)

**Maintenance dredging** – Undertaken to maintain existing access to the port and discharges the responsibility to ensure that all vessels using the port may do so safely. It is undertaken on a routine basis to maintain the level of water at the depth indicated on navigational charts. (MMO)

**Mineral safeguarding areas** – Areas of proven resources that are not to be sterilised by non– mineral development. (BGS)

**Mobile gear** – Trawls, beam trawls, and dredges that are attached to a vessel at all times and which manoeuvre with the vessel. (commercial-fishing.org)

**Monitoring plan** – Details how monitoring of the marine plan will be undertaken. (MMO)

**National Park** – National Parks are extensive tracts of country that are protected by law for future generations because of their natural beauty and for the opportunities they offer for open air recreation. (NE)

**Objectives** – High level aims of the marine plan underpinned by policies.(MMO)

**Pelagic fish** – Species which spend most of their time between the surface and mid–water depths, such as herring, sprat or mackerel. (MMO)

**Planning policy guidance** – Issued by central government setting out its national land use policies for England on different areas of planning. These are being replaced by the National Planning Framework. (PINS)

**Point source** – Activity or impact that is derived from a single point. (US Geological Survey)

**Pressure** – The mechanism through which an activity has an effect on any part of the ecosystem. The nature of the pressure is determined by activity type, intensity and distribution. (MMO)

**Proven hydrocarbon fields** – An estimated quantity of hydrocarbons (oil/gas) which geological and engineering data demonstrate with reasonable certainty to be recoverable in future years from known reservoirs under existing economic and operating conditions. (Opec)

**Reference areas (MCZ)** – Areas in which all extractive, depositional, or human– derived disturbing or damaging activities are removed or prevented in accordance with guidance from Natural England. (NE)

**Resilience** – The ability of an ecosystem to return to its original state after being disturbed. (NE)

**River basin management plan** –statutory documents, produced by the Environment Agency. They plan protecting and improving the water environment and have been developed in consultation with organisations and individuals. (EA)

**Rock armour** – A foundation of irregular boulders that protects marine developments such as subsea cables, wind turbine bases from damage. (MMO)

**Saline aquifer** – An underground rock formation that has permeable properties allowing saline fluids to be contained within its structure. Can be used for gas storage, such as carbon capture and storage. (National Energy Technology Lab)

**Seascape** – landscapes with views of the coast or seas, and coasts and the adjacent marine environment with cultural, historical and archaeological links with each other. (Defra 2007)

**Sensitivity** – A measure of tolerance (or intolerance) of a habitat or ecosystem to changes in environmental conditions. (MMO)

**Shoreline management plans** – SMPs provide a high level assessment of the physical risks associated with coastal processes and present a long term framework to manage these risks in a sustainable manner. (EA)

**Spatial footprint** – Geographic area over which a specific activity or habitat takes place or exists. (MMO)

**Static/Fixed gear** – Stationary equipment such as fish traps, lobster pots, anchored longlines. (commercial-fishing.org)

**Steaming** – A nautical term used to describe the movement of a vessel to or from its activity areas. (MMO)

**Strategic environmental assessment** – SEA is an iterative process of gathering data and evidence, assessing environmental effects, developing mitigation measures and making recommendations to refine plans or programmes in view of the predicted effects and the monitoring of significant effects of implementing the plan or programme. (MMO)

**Sustainability appraisal** – The purpose of sustainability appraisal (SA) is to promote more sustainable development by checking and testing a plan, policy or programme for the quality and robustness of its environmental, social and economic content. Sustainability appraisal is iterative and must be closely linked with the plan– making process. (Cabinet Office)

**Sustainable development** – Development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. (Defra)

**Territorial sea/waters** - The sea adjacent to the UK identified under the Territorial Sea Act 1987 as extending to a maximum of 12 nautical miles from the prescribed baselines or (if less) the median line between adjacent nautical states. (Defra)

**Transitional waters** – Bodies of surface water near the mouth of a river, which have a composition that is slightly saline due to the close proximity of coastal water, but which is also influenced by the flow of fresh water. (McLusky DS and Elliott M, 2007)