

# Manx Marine Environmental Assessment

## **Glossary of Terms**

### **MMEA Appendix B – ‘Live’ Glossary of Terms**

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## Introduction & Acknowledgements

Marine science, technology and industry is filled with jargon and acronyms and there are numerous nautical terms. It is intended that this glossary will help to assist in the dissemination of the information presented in the Manx Marine Environmental Assessment (MMEA) in a way that is easily understood and facilitate discussions between all persons with an interest in the Manx marine environment.

This glossary is a compilation of terms and explanations derived from edited contributions and numerous other sources. Not all items are relevant to Manx waters but are listed as the most commonly used in discussions regarding the marine environment. We wish to acknowledge and thank persons whom have assisted in the preparation of this initial glossary including colleagues within Isle of Man Government, non-governmental organisations, local marine experts and industry. Several people have given their time generously to read and comment on the draft definitions.

We also wish to acknowledge the use of definitions drafted from the following publication:

Anon. (2001) A glossary of Marine Nature Conservation and Fisheries. Countryside Council for Wales, Bangor.

Other references and resources used to compile the lists are listed in the reference section.

It is envisaged that the MMEA Glossary will be revised over time and suggestions for improvements or additions are welcomed.

Please contact [fisheries@gov.im](mailto:fisheries@gov.im) with any suggested revisions.

## Abbreviations and Acronyms

*NB: \* Further information is given in the main text of the glossary.*

AG ('s Office)	Attorney General ('s Office)
ASCOBANS	Agreement on Small Cetaceans of the Baltic and North Sea; an Annex to the Bonn Convention*
ASP*	Amnesic Shellfish Poisoning (usually caused by toxins from Diatom <i>Pseudo-nitzschia</i> spp.)
ASSI*	Area of Special Scientific Interest (Isle of Man & Northern Ireland)
BAP*	Biodiversity Action Plan
BMF	British Marine Federation
BODC	British Oceanographic Data Centre, Proudman Oceanographic Laboratory (NERC)
BSI	British Standards Institute
BWEA	Former British Wind Energy Association (now RWE)
CBA	Coast Benefit Analysis
CBD*	(United Nations) Convention on Biodiversity
CCW	Countryside Council for Wales (since 2013 Natural Resources Wales)
CEFAS	Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science
CDM*	Construction Design and Management Regulations
CFP*	Common Fisheries Policy
CITES	Convention on the International Trade in Endangered Species
CPUE*	Catch Per Unit Effort
CSO	Chief Secretary's Office
CZM*	Coastal Zone Management
DECC	Department of Energy and Climate Change (UK)
DED	Department of Economic Development (IoM)
DEFA	Department of the Environment, Food and Agriculture (IoM)
DEFRA	Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (UK)
DOE	Department of Education (IoM)
DOI	Department of Infrastructure (IoM)
DARD (NI)	Department of Agriculture (Northern Ireland)(now Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA))
DGPS*	Differential Global Positioning System
DSC	Dangerous Goods, Solid Cargoes and Containers Sub-Committee of the IMO.
DSP*	Diarrhoeic Shellfish Poisoning (also Diarrhetic)(usually caused by toxins from Dinoflagellate <i>Dinophysis</i> spp.)
EA	Environment Agency (UK)
EEA	European Environment Agency
EC*	European Commission
EC UK	Engineering Council (UK)
EEZ	Exclusive Economic Zone
EHWST	Extreme High Water of Spring Tides

EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
ELWST	Extreme Low Water Spring Tide
EP	European Parliament
ES	Environmental Statement
EU*	European Union
<i>F</i> *	Fishing Mortality Rate
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations
FoE	Friends of the Earth
FMA	Fisheries Management Agreement (between IoM and UK)
GB	Great Britain – England, Scotland & Wales
GIS	Geographic Information System (mapping)
GPS	Global Positioning System
HAB*	Harmful Algal Bloom
HAP*	Habitats Action Plan (part of UKBAP)
HAT	Highest Astronomic Tide
hp	Horse Power (1 hp =0.7355 kW)
HSE	Health and Safety Executive (UK)
HWST	High Water Spring Tides
IACMST	Inter-Agency Committee on Marine Science and Technology
ICES*	International Council for the Exploration of the Sea
ICZM*	Integrated Coastal Zone Management
IMarEST	Institute of Marine Science & Technology
IMO	International Maritime Organisation
IOM/IoM	Isle of Man
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
IRIS	Integration and Recycling of the Island's Sewage (IoM)
ISCZ	Irish Sea Conservation Zone (UK)
ISF	Irish Sea Forum
ISO	International Organisation for Standardisation
IUCN	International Union for the Conservation of Nature & Natural Resources – also known as the World Conservation Union.
JAMP	Joint Assessment and Monitoring Programme (OSPAR)
JNCC	Joint Nature Conservation Committee (UK)
kW	Kilowatts
LAT	Lowest Astronomical Tide
LPUE*	Landings Per Unit Effort
LR*	Lloyd's Register
LWST	Low Water of Spring Tides
<i>M</i> *	Natural mortality rate of fish
MAIB*	Marine Accident Investigation Branch
MarLIN*	Marine Life Information Network
MarPol	International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution of the Sea from Shipping (1973 & 1978)
MBA	Marine Biological Association (UK)
MBL	Manx BirdLife
MBSW	Manx Basking Shark Watch
MCA	Maritime & Coastguard Agency
MCCIP*	Marine Climate Change Impacts Partnership
MCS	Marine Conservation Society (UK)
MDIP	Marine Data and Information Partnership (now MEDIN: Marine Environmental Data and Information Network)
MEA	Manx Electricity Authority

MEDIN	Marine Environmental Data and Information Network
MEP	Member of European Parliament
MHK	Member of the House of Keys (IoM)
MEY*	Maximum Economic Yield* (see also Maximum Sustainable Yield)
MFPO*	Manx Fish Producers' Organisation
MHW	Mean High Water
MHWNT	Mean High Water of Neap Tides
MHWOT	Mean High Water of Ordinary Tides
MHWST	Mean High Water of Spring Tides
MLS*	Minimum Landing Size
MLW	Minimum Low Water
MMEA*	Manx Marine Environmental Assessment
MMS*	Minimum Mesh Size
MNH	Manx National Heritage
MNR*	Marine Nature Reserve
MoD	Ministry of Defence (UK)
MOS	Manx Ornithological Society
MPA*	Marine Protected Area
MSC*	Marine Stewardship Council
MSP*	Marine Spatial Planning
MSPOG	Marine Spatial Planning Officer Group
MSY*	Maximum Sustainable Yield
MWDW	Manx Whale & Dolphin Watch
MWT	Manx Wildlife Trust
NAO	North Atlantic Oscillation
NE	Natural England (formally English Nature) (UK)
NERC	Natural Environment Research Council (UK)
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
NI	Northern Ireland
NNR	National Nature Reserve
NRW	Natural Resources Wales
NTZ*	No Take Zone
OSPAR*	Oslo and Paris Commission/Convention or the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North East Atlantic.
PDA	Potentially Damaging Activity (in MPA)
PDO	Potentially Damaging Operation (ASSI)
PEML	Port Erin Marine Laboratory, University of Liverpool (Now Closed).
PO*	Producer Organisation (fisheries)
POL	Proudman Oceanographic Laboratory, Bridston (NERC)
PSP*	Paralytic Shellfish Poisoning (mostly caused by Dinoflagellate <i>Alexandrium</i> spp. in temperate waters)
PSS*	Practical Salinity Scale (a ratio)
psu	Practical Salinity Units
QMB	Queenie Management Board (now Scallop Management Board, SMB)
QSR	Quality Status Report (UK & NI)
RAF	Royal Air Force
Ramsar*	Town in Iran after which the Ramsar Convention is named.
REA*	Regional Environmental Assessment
RINA	Royal Institute of Naval Architects
RNLI	Royal National Lifeboat Institution
RN	Royal Navy (UK)
RSPB	Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (UK)

SAC*	Special Area of Conservation
SAHFOS	Sir Alister Hardy Foundation for Oceanographic Science
SAMS	Scottish Association for Marine Science, Dunstaffnage, Oban
SAP*	Species Action Plan (part of UKBAP)
SBL*	Safe Biological Limits
SCUBA	Self-contained Underwater Breathing Apparatus
SEA*	Strategic Environmental Assessment
SEPA	Scottish Environment Protection Agency
SFPA	Scottish Fisheries Protection Agency (now part of Marine Scotland)
SMRU	Sea Mammal Research Unit, University of St Andrews
SMB	Scallop Management Board (IoM)
SNH	Scottish National Heritage
SOC	Southampton Oceanographic Centre, University of Southampton
sp.; spp.	Species; singular and plural
SPA*	Special Protection Area (UK)
SSB*	Spawning Stock Biomass
SSSI*	Site of Special Scientific Interest (UK)
SST*	Sea Surface Temperature
TAC*	Total Allowable Catch
TBT	Tri-Butyl Tin – antifouling component in marine paint
TSC*	Territorial Seas Committee (IoM)
TT*	Tourist Trophy – Motorbike Race (IoM)
UK	United Kingdom
UKBAP*	UK Biodiversity Action Plan
UN	United Nations
UNCLOS	United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea
UNEP	United Nations Environmental Programme
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Cultural & Scientific Organisation.
VCU*	Vessel capacity Units [length (m) x breadth (m)] + 0.45 engine power (kW)
VMNR	Voluntary Marine Nature Reserve
VNR	Voluntary Nature Reserve
WDCS	Whale & Dolphin Conservation Society (UK)
WGS84	World Geodetic System (WGS) 84 is the reference coordinate system used by GIS systems.
WWF	World-Wide Fund for Nature (UK)
WWT	Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust
YPR or Y/R	Yield Per Recruit
Z*	Total Mortality rate (fish populations)
ZAP	Zonal Appraisal Process (e.g. UK Offshore Renewables)

# Glossary

## A

<b>Abiotic</b>	Anything that is non-living.
<b>Access rights</b>	Authorisation granted by the coastal state for others to fish within the coastal states' <b>fishery limits</b> .
<b>Accessibility</b>	The condition where fish or shellfish occupy a position that enables fishermen to approach and capture them with appropriate gear.
<b>Accuracy</b>	The degree to which a measured value (either spatial resolution/precision or attribute) conforms to a true or accepted value. Accuracy is a measure of correctness. It is distinguished from <b>precision</b> , which measures exactness. In a habitat mapping context, accuracy describes how closely a map predicts the actual habitat observed on the seabed at a given location.
<b>Age group or class</b>	All the fish in a species' population that are of the same age; eg. 0-group, I-group, II-group etc. The ICES convention is to allocate all marine fish a notional birth date of 1 January.
<b>Agenda 21</b>	An environmental management programme for the 21 <sup>st</sup> century developed at the UN Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED), the 'Earth Summit', in Rio de Janeiro, 1992. Since 2015 updated to 'Agenda 2030'.
<b>Algae</b>	Marine photosynthetic organisms that include the macro-algae, commonly known as seaweed, and the microscopic algae known as <b>phytoplankton</b> and <b>phytobenthos</b> .
<b>Algal blooms</b>	Phytoplankton go through an annual cycle of abundance. The spring bloom is the normal increase in abundance associated with increasing day length. Abnormal increases in abundance may be associated with nutrient enrichment (eutrophication), and their subsequent collapse, can result in significant depletion of oxygen content in the water and suffocation of many species. Some algal species are also associated with 'harmful algal blooms' (HAB).
<b>Alien species</b>	Introduced species usually due to human interference. (See also <b>introduced species</b> and <b>non-native species</b> ).

<b>Amnesic shellfish poisoning - ASP</b>	Amnesic shellfish poisoning, the loss of short-term memory resulting from eating bivalve molluscan shellfish that have accumulated toxins (domoic acid) from certain diatoms in the phytoplankton, eg <i>Pseudo-nitzschia</i> sp. When toxins are detected above 20mg/100g shellfish flesh, commercial harvesting and sale is prohibited.
<b>Anadromous</b>	Fish that spawn in freshwater but spend a part of their life at sea, eg. salmon, eels and shads. See also <b>catadromous</b> and <b>diadromous</b> .
<b>Anoxia/Anoxic</b>	The lack of oxygen in the environment. It is caused when the rate of oxidation of organic matter by bacteria exceeds the oxygen supply (where continued hypoxia leads to anoxia), eg. algal blooms; where high concentrations of decaying biological material results in high biochemical oxygen demand. Anoxia occurs most frequently in static/stratified water bodies or ones with very low circulation rates.
<b>Aquaculture</b>	The artificial rearing and husbandry of aquatic organisms; fish, shellfish and algae.
<b>Artificial reef</b>	Any man-made structure that is submerged, or partially submerged, at any stage of the tidal cycle.
<b>ASCOBANS</b>	The International <i>Agreement on Small Cetaceans of the Baltic and North Sea</i> ; an annex of the <b>Bonn Convention</b> focussing on the conservation of small <b>cetacea</b> . Manx waters are included.
<b>Assemblage</b>	A mixed grouping of animals and/or plants that are associated with a particular environment and can be used as an identifying characteristic of that environment.
<b>Assessment</b>	1).The evaluation of importance through the orderly gathering of information eg. about <b>biotopes</b> and <b>species</b> in an area and comparing their attributes by standardised procedures.  2) The evaluation of the likely impact of a development on the environment (as in <b>Environmental Impact Assessment</b> . See also <b>stock assessment</b> .
<b>ASSI</b>	Areas of Special Scientific Interest. The Isle of Man equivalent to a UK SSSI.



**B**

<b>Bait</b>	Any organism, but usually an animal, that is attached to fishing gear to attract a commercial fisheries species; crab <b>pots</b> are baited with fish, <b>long lines</b> are baited with fish or molluscs, anglers also use worms.
<b>ballast water</b>	Water carried in bilges, tanks or holds of cargo vessels to enhance stability when they are not fully laden with normal cargos.
<b>baselines</b>	The point from which the <b>Territorial Sea</b> , and <b>fishery limits</b> are measured.
<b>bathymetry</b>	The study of underwater depth, leading to topographic maps of the ocean floor. A bathymetric map or chart usually shows seabed relief or terrain as contour lines or false colour composite images, using a colour ramp (shades of different colours) to indicate different depths.
<b>beach seine</b>	A light weight encircling net deployed parallel to the shore and then drawn onto the beach by long ropes attached to the wing-ends of the net.
<b>beam trawl</b>	A <b>bottom trawl</b> that is kept open laterally by a rigid beam.
<b>bed-form (features)</b>	Any deviation from a flat bed, generated by the flow of a transporting agent (water, ice, air). Bedforms range in size from ripples in the sand, a few centimetres apart and a few millimetres high, to 'dunes' with wavelengths of hundreds of meters, kilometres in length and a few to tens of meters high.
<b>belly</b>	The under-part of a <b>bottom trawl</b> or other towed fishing gear that is in contact with the seabed while fishing.
<b>benthic</b>	Referring to the seabed. A descriptor for animals, plants and habitats associated with the seabed – the <b>benthos</b> .
<b>benthos</b>	Plants and invertebrate animals that live in or on seabed habitats, including the <b>intertidal zone</b> .
<b>biodiversity</b>	The variability among living organisms, genetics and ecosystems from all sources including, among others, terrestrial, marine and other aquatic <b>ecosystems</b> and their ecological complexes of which they are a part; this includes diversity within species and ecosystems. See Biodiversity Convention.

<b>Biodiversity Convention (or Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD))</b>	The UN Convention on Biological Diversity signed at the UNCED 'Earth Summit' in Rio de Janeiro 1992 to safeguard the total variety of animals, plants and all other living matter on Earth, ie. the biodiversity, and their habitats. The IOM became a signatory to the CBD in 2012.
<b>Biogenic reef</b>	Any reef structure that has been formed from living material. In Manx waters it is used to describe living structures such as those created by colonial worms such as <b>Sabellaria</b> spp., and <b>molluscs</b> , including the <b>horse mussel</b> , <i>Modiolus modiolus</i> .
<b>Biological conservation measures</b>	Fishery management measures that are aimed at particular species or stock or fish, eg <b>minimum landing sizes (MLS)</b> , <b>closed areas</b> , <b>quotas</b> , rather than to the method of fishing. (See also <b>technical conservation measures</b> ).
<b>Biomass</b>	The total weight of living matter, either by species or all species combined. Also referred to as the standing stock.
<b>Biome</b>	A term generally applied to large-scale, terrestrial botanic communities. At one level the marine environment might be viewed as a single biome, but Manx sub-tidal kelp forests, for example, could also be described as a biome.
<b>Biosphere</b>	That part of the Earth's environment that is occupied by living organisms.
<b>Biota</b>	Any living organisms, both animals and plants.
<b>Biotope</b>	The physical environment with its associated, distinctive biological communities. The smallest unit of a habitat that can be delineated conveniently and is characterised by the community of plants and animals living there.
<b>Birds Directive (EU)</b>	A conservation directive of the EU with binding obligations for signatories.
<b>Bivalves</b>	<b>Molluscs</b> with two hinged shells that encase the soft parts of the animal, eg. scallops, mussels, oysters.
<b>'Black' fish</b>	Fish that are landed in commercial quantities without being recorded in vessels' fishing <b>log books</b> or without being declared to the competent authority as required by fishery regulations.
<b>Bottom fishing gear</b>	Any fishing gear that is operation when in contact with the seabed but usually applied to <b>trawls</b> , <b>dredges</b> and some <b>seine nets</b> .

<b>Bottom trawl</b>	A trawl net that is towed across the seabed rather than through mid-water. They are also referred to as <b>demersal trawls</b> and include both <b>beam</b> and <b>otter trawls</b> .
<b>Broad-scale</b>	Generally used to describe a map that shows the distribution of broadly defined habitat areas over a relatively large geographic area. It is often used instead of the more technically correct mapping expression small scale (e.g. 1:250,000). Broad-scale also implies that the primary purpose of a map is to present an overview of a large area. As opposed to fine scale.
<b>Broodstock</b>	The mature animals in a population that will breed and generate future year classes; a term more commonly applied to aquaculture than to wild populations where the term spawning stock biomass (SSB) is more generally applied.
<b>Buddy line</b>	A safety line employed to prevent dive buddies from becoming separated.
<b>Buffer zone</b>	A transition zone around a protected (or closed) area in which some activities may be restricted but not prohibited, to enhance the benefits to be gained from the protected area.
<b>By-catch</b>	The catch of non-target species and undersized fish of target species.
<b>Byelaw</b>	Legislation introduced at a local level to meet a specific need.
<b>C</b>	
<b>Carapace</b>	The hard shell forming the back of a crab or turtle; the front half (thorax) of lobsters, prawns and shrimps.
<b>Carnivore</b>	A meat eater
<b>Carrying capacity</b>	The maximum number or <b>biomass</b> of a given species that a given <b>ecosystem, environment</b> or <b>habitat</b> can sustain without a deterioration in the quality of the environment or abundance of the resource.
<b>cartography</b>	The process of making an informative, clear and concise map from data layers at a certain scale that is fit for purpose.

<b>Catadromous</b>	Species of fish that spawn at sea but spend a large part of their life in freshwaters, eg. the European eel and flounder. (See also <b>anadromous</b> and <b>diadromous</b> ).
<b>Catch</b>	The total quantity of fish that is retained by fishing gear and brought onto the deck or fishing station, i.e. <b>landings</b> plus <b>discards</b> .
<b>Catch per unit effort - CPUE</b>	The quantity of a given species, or all species combined, that is taken from the sea (or landed) for each unit of effort (e.g. days at sea, hours trawling etc) that is expended in its capture. It provides a simple index of species abundance in the area of a fishery.
<b>Cephalopoda</b>	Molluscs that bear eight or ten sucker-bearing tentacle around the mouth, including squid, cuttlefish and octopus.
<b>Cetacea</b>	Marine mammals that give birth at sea, eg. dolphins, porpoises and whales.
<b>CFP – Common Fisheries Policy</b>	The CFP provides a framework for the management of the EU fishery sector.
<b>Charismatic species</b>	A species that is readily recognised with widespread popular appeal. They are sometime used to focus attention on a (conservation) campaign or used as a logo.
<b>Closed area</b>	An area within which fishing by one or more methods of fishing, or fishing for one or more species of fish, is prohibited. Such areas may be permanently closed or be subject to <b>closed seasons</b> .
<b>Closed seasons</b>	A period during which fishing for a particular species, often within a specified area, is prohibited.
<b>Coastal zone</b>	The space in which land-based activities and terrestrial environments influence the marine environment and vice versa. There is no recognised definition and the coastal zone is usually set by legislation; eg the <b>territorial sea</b> .
<b>Coastal zone management (UK)</b>	Not applicable to Isle of Man.
<b>Cod box(es)</b>	Areas of the Irish Sea within which fishing for cod is prohibited, and other fishing restricted, during the spawning season (part of the Cod Recovery Plan).
<b>Cohort</b>	All the fish, or animals in a population that are of the same age or year class.

<b>Coliform bacteria</b>	Rod shaped bacteria, eg. <i>Escherichia coli</i> and <i>Salmonella</i> , whose presence in coastal waters are indicative of faecal pollution. Consumption of contaminated bivalve molluscs, eg. oysters and mussels, can cause diarrhoea but in shellfish are purified of bacteria by depuration.
<b>Collapsed stock</b>	The decline in spawning stock biomass, through sustained fishing pressure, <b>anthropogenic impacts</b> or natural causes, to the point where it no longer generates sufficient recruits to support a fishery.
<b>Commercial fisheries</b>	Any fishery that is undertaken for financial gain but particularly one that generates sufficient revenue to contribute a significant proportion of the total income of those engaged in the fishery.
<b>Community</b>	The grouping of animals and plants that is found living together in a particular place, <b>habitat</b> or <b>environment</b> .
<b>Competent authority</b>	An authority that has the statutory powers to introduce byelaws or other regulations that may be necessary to meet national and international obligations, eg. Isle of Man Harbours, DEFA Fisheries.
<b>Contaminant</b>	The increased presence of a substance in the environment as a result of human activities but with no significant adverse effect.
<b>CPUE</b>	see catch per unit effort
<b>Crabber</b>	A fishing vessel that engages primarily in fishing with <b>pots/creels</b> for crabs and lobsters.
<b>Creel</b>	An alternative name for a crab or lobster pot.
<b>Crustacean</b>	Invertebrates with a shell and multiple legs that are used for walking, swimming or feeding. Commercial species include: shrimps, prawns (eg. <i>Nephrops</i> ), crabs, lobsters, crayfish and barnacles. A high proportion of plankton.

**D**

<b>Days at sea</b>	A means of measuring fishing effort. A potential management measure to limit fishing effort by restricting the number of days per month or year each vessel may fish.
<b>decommissioning</b>	Government-supported/funded scheme aimed at reducing

	fishing effort via the removal of fishing vessels.
<b>decompression</b>	The release from body tissues of excess gasses accumulated whilst under pressure during a dive (e.g. SCUBA).
<b>Demersal</b>	Species of fish that live on, or in close proximity to the seabed, eg. flatfish, cod, haddock. The term also applied to fishing <b>gear</b> that is worked on the seabed.
<b>Demersal trawl</b>	A net that is towed on the seabed rather than through mid water.
<b>Depleted stock</b>	The decline in spawning stock biomass to a level that is approaching, or is below, the lowest historic record but has not necessarily reached the point of collapse.
<b>Derogation</b>	A variation to, or temporary exemption from, EU legislation which enables an activity to be undertaken that would otherwise be prohibited. For example, the use of beam trawls might be prohibited in an area but there are derogations for shrimp trawlers which use a particularly light-weight beam. Conversely, a derogation might be granted for a temporary or local prohibition to be imposed in an otherwise 'open' area.
<b>Detritovore</b>	A consumer of detritus
<b>Detritus</b>	Dead organic remains
<b>Diadromous</b>	Fish that spend part of the life in freshwater and part in saltwater; eg. anadromous salmon and catadromous eels.
<b>Diarrhetic shellfish poisoning - DSP</b>	DSP; a temporary illness caused by eating bivalve molluscan shellfish that have accumulated toxins from dinoflagellates ( <i>Dinophysis</i> spp.) in the phytoplankton. Shellfish containing DSP are not permitted for sale.
<b>Directed fishery</b>	A fishery with a clearly defined target species.
<b>Discards</b>	Any fish, or other living matter caught when fishing, that is not retained but returned to the sea – alive or dead.
<b>Discovery metadata</b>	Basic information that should provide a sufficient description of a data set to enable the user to establish whether the data meet their requirements. Typically discovery metadata will answer 'who'? Where? What? And when? Questions for a dataset.
<b>Dorsal fin</b>	Central fin on the back of a fish, shark or cetacean.

<b>Dredging</b>	Method for catching molluscs including king scallops that live on the seabed. Boats tow groups – ‘gangs’ of dredges. See also <b>Newhaven dredge</b> .
<b>Drift Dive</b>	A dive during which one deliberately moves along with the prevailing current.
<b>Dumping (fisheries)</b>	A colloquial term for the deliberate disposal of catch. It implies a scale of fish greater than discarding and usually refers to fish that would normally be landed for sale. Cause of dumping can be market saturation, closure of quotas and high grading. This should not be confused with disposal (dumping) (below).
<b>Dumping (disposal)</b>	Refers to the disposal of dredged spoil at sea e.g. licenced harbour dredging activities.

## E

<b>Ebb tide</b>	A falling tide
<b>EC</b>	The European Commission
<b>Echo-sounder</b>	An instrument mounted in a vessels hull that generates a pressure wave and records the energy reflected back from the seabed or any object in the water column. It records depth or indicates the presence of particles in the water column, including fish.
<b>Ecologically significant habitat</b>	A habitat of importance for the wider ecological processes, functions and species it supports.
<b>Ecologically significant species</b>	A species that has a controlling/regulating influence on a community, ie. a keystone species.
<b>Ecology</b>	The study of the inter-relationships between animals, plants and the non-living components of their environment, in their natural surroundings.
<b>Ecosystem</b>	A discrete unit comprising both living and non living parts; it can range in size from something as small and ephemeral as an <b>intertidal</b> pool, or rather larger, as the Irish Sea.
<b>Eddies</b>	Localised cyclical currents which often develop in the lee of stationary objects.
<b>Effort (f)</b>	The total quantity of fishing <b>gear</b> in use for a specific period of time.

<b>Effort control</b>	A system of fishery management that focuses on limiting the quantity of fishing gear or the duration of its deployment rather than on limiting the quantity of catch that can be taken.
<b>Egg survey</b>	A means of estimating spawning stock biomass by taking plankton at regular intervals of space and time across the target species' spawning ground and season.
<b>Elasmobranch</b>	Fish with a skeleton of cartilage eg. sharks, skates and rays. See also <b>teleost</b> .
<b>Endangered</b>	A species, stock or population is 'endangered' if it is facing a high risk of extinction in the wild or near future.
<b>Endemic</b>	A natural or naturalised population that is normally found in a particular area.
<b>Engine capacity or power</b>	Vessels power expressed in terms of 'tonnes bollard pull' or horse power (hp), or engine power in kilowatts (kW).
<b>Environment</b>	The physical surroundings and climatic conditions that influence the behaviours, growth, abundance and overall performance of a population or species.
<b>Environmental Impact Assessment - EIA</b>	The means of assessing the impacts (positive and negative) of a proposed development on the environment, prepared by, or on behalf of, the developer/applicant. An EIA should aim to ensure that a planning decision is made in the knowledge of all the likely environmental effects of the development, and of the proposals for mitigating adverse effects and enhancing positive effects.
<b>Environmental sustainability</b>	The control of current and future activities to prevent irreversible or other significant, long-term changes to the <b>environment</b> or its dependent living resources. See also sustainable development.
<b>Environmentally sustainable fisheries</b>	Fisheries that safeguard the requirements of all animals and plants within an ecosystem or habitat and do not cause irreversible or other significant, long term change to the <b>environment</b> or the <b>communities</b> of species that live within that environment.
<b>Epifauna</b>	Animals (fauna) that live on, or are attached to the surface of the seabed or substrate.
<b>Escape gap</b>	A gap between the base and netting of a pot/creel to allow smaller animals and juveniles to escape.



<b>Essential fish habitat</b>	Any habitat that is fundamental to the well being of populations or communities of fish. It may also be applied to the habitat that a species utilises throughout its life, or at a particular time, eg. spawning, nursery or feeding areas.
<b>EU</b>	The European Union.
<b>Eutrophication</b>	The enrichment of water by nutrients causing an accelerated growth of algae and higher forms of plant life to produce an undesirable disturbance to the balance of organisms present in the water and to the quality of the water concerned.
<b>Exclusion zone</b>	An area within which fishing, anchoring, and passage, is not permitted eg. exclusion zone around shipwreck.
<b>Exclusive</b>	Belonging to a particular group and no other.
<b>Exotic species</b>	see: non-native species.
<b>Exploited stock</b>	Any stock of fish that is subject to commercial fishing activity.

## F

<b>Fauna</b>	All animal life from microscopic benthos and zooplankton through Crustacea and fish to mankind.
<b>Fecundity</b>	The number of eggs that a female (fish) produces annually.
<b>Fetch</b>	The distance across water, over which wind acts to create waves.
<b>Fish stock</b>	Scientifically, a population of a species of fish that is isolated from other stocks of the same species and does not interbreed with them and can, therefore be managed independently of other stocks. However EU differs and the term 'stock' is used to mean a species of fish living in a defined sea area, the two are not always synonymous.
<b>Fishery conservation</b>	The <b>conservation</b> and <b>sustainable</b> use of exploited fish stocks.
<b>Fishery management</b>	The integrated process of information gathering, analysis, planning, decision making, allocation of resources, formulation and enforcement of fishery regulations which govern the present and future fishing activities to ensure the continued productivity of the resources.

<b>Fishery protection vessel</b>	Patrol boat with crews to inspect fishing vessels' gear and catch at sea and enforcement of legislation.
<b>Fishing intensity</b>	Fishing effort per unit area; eg. hours trawling per <b>ICES rectangle</b> .
<b>Fixed gear</b>	Any fishing gear that is anchored or attached in some or other way to the seabed so that it does not drift or move while it is in fishing mode, eg. crab pots, long-lines and bottom set gill nets.
<b>Flatfish</b>	Bony fish (ie. not skates and rays) that live on the seabed and have a pigmented upper surface and a pale or white underside, eg. dover sole, megrim, plaice.
<b>Flood Risk Assessment</b>	A document which assesses the likelihood of flooding in a particular area, so that judgements can be made about the feasibility of flood mitigation measures and whether development should be allowed or not.
<b>Flood tide</b>	A rising tide
<b>Flora</b>	Flora is the plant life occurring in a particular region or time, generally the naturally occurring or indigenous-native plant life. It does not technically include photosynthetic algae (phytoplankton and seaweed).
<b>front</b>	The boundary or boundary zone between two water masses with different physical properties, typically where a thermocline (a steep temperature gradient) or halocline (salinity gradient) reaches the surface. There is often above-average biological activity in the vicinity of a front including concentrations of plankton, plankton feeders, migratory species – and consequently, fishing.

**G**

<b>Gadoid</b>	Fish of the family Gadidae, eg. cod, haddock, pouting, pollack, saithe (coley), whiting, pout whiting and others.
<b>Gastropods</b>	Snail-like molluscs such as whelks, winkles and limpets.
<b>Gear (fishing)</b>	An all-embracing term for fishing equipment in total or in part.

<b>Gear restriction</b>	A fishery management measure that prohibits or otherwise restricts the use of particular fishing methods in a specified area or season.
<b>Generation time</b>	The average time taken for an organism to develop from fertilisation through to sexual maturity. This can be as little as a few days for small organisms such as <b>phytoplankton</b> or 5-10 years for large, late maturing fish such as sharks and <b>rays</b> .
<b>Geographic Information Systems (GIS)</b>	An integrated collection of computer software and data used to view and manage information about geographic places, analyse spatial relationships, and model spatial processes. A GIS provides a framework of gathering and organising spatial data and related information so that it can be displayed and analysed. GIS are generally much more powerful than computer assisted drafting (CAD), although the distinction between them is not well defined.
<b>Ghost fishing</b>	The continued capture of animals by fishing gear that has been lost or abandoned. Such gear can continue to fish until retrieved, destroyed (by weather or tide) or otherwise ceases to fish, eg. weighed down by weed or debris.
<b>Gill nets</b>	Curtains of netting that hang vertically in the water, either in a fixed position (eg. surface or seabed) or drifting, that trap fish by their gill covers – operculum – when they try to swim through the nets mesh.
<b>Graham's Great Law of Fishing</b>	'All fisheries that are unregulated become unprofitable'. (See also Tragedy of the Commons).
<b>Ground truth (ing)</b>	Confirmation of inferred data or information via direct observation or measurement.

## H

<b>HAB</b>	Harmful algal blooms, blooms of phytoplankton that are inherently toxic, eg. – species associated with red tides (including <i>Gonyaulax</i> spp) and, or shellfish poisoning (eg <i>Pseudonitzschia</i> sp., <i>Dinophysis</i> spp. and <i>Alexandrium</i> spp.). Blooms of otherwise harmless algae that have increased to a point where they are causing problems of de-oxygenation are also 'harmful' but may more generally be referred to as 'nuisance algal blooms'. Significant de-oxygenation can happen at night when the algae are consuming oxygen, or when the bloom collapses and the dead organisms create an
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	abnormal increase in biochemical oxygen.
<b>Habitat</b>	The place where an organism lives, as characterised by the physical features. For example, rocky reefs, sandbanks, mud holes all provide particular habitats that are occupied by animals adapted to live in or on one of them but probably cannot thrive or survive in the others.
<b>Habitat degradation</b>	Adverse alterations to a particular habitat type through physical disturbance or pollution. For example, trenching a pipeline through a mud patch could make the mud fluidised and unsuitable for Nephrops to burrow.
<b>Habitat map</b>	A habitat map is a visualisation of our best estimate of habitat distribution at a point in time, making best use of the knowledge available at that time.
<b>Habitat restoration and rehabilitation</b>	Programmes to halt activities causing adverse effects and improve the condition of a <b>habitat</b> by active intervention and return to its previous condition.
<b>Handline</b>	A hook-and-line method of fishing, eg. for mackerel.
<b>Harmful algal bloom</b>	see HAB
<b>Haul</b>	The act of drawing-in a net to recover the <b>catch</b> . Also, a general term for effort, eg. <i>X</i> hauls per day.
<b>Haul Out Site</b>	A place where seals regularly come out of the sea.
<b>Herbivore</b>	A plant eater
<b>High energy environment</b>	An area that receives much water movement, be it in the form of wave action or exposure to current.
<b>Holdfast</b>	The attachment part of an algae (seaweed), securing it to whatever it grows on.
<b>hypothesis</b>	a supposition or proposed explanation made on the basis of limited evidence as a starting point for further investigation.

## I

<b>ICES</b>	The International Council for the Exploration of the Sea, an independent scientific body founded in 1902. It is funded by 19 member states' governments from around the North Atlantic. It encourages research into commercial fish stocks, their biology and all factors (natural and man-made) that may affect their abundance. It does not undertake research
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	in its own right but has a secretariat (in Copenhagen) to facilitate and co-ordinate collaboration, including fishery stock assessments, between member states. Work is carried out through working groups convened under the remit of a standing committee.
<b>ICES (sub-) Area and Division</b>	Statistical division of the Northeast Atlantic based on biogeographic zones and comprising a variable number of ICES (fishery or statistical) Rectangles. Manx waters, for example, is within the Irish Sea ICES sub-Area and Divisions VIa and VIIa.
<b>Incidental catch</b>	Sometimes used as an alternative to by-catch and discards but also used to differentiate the individual capture of ( <b>charismatic</b> ) species that are not a normal part of a fishery catch. Thus, an incidental catch could be species such as porbeagle or basking shark, birds, turtles or marine mammals.
<b>Indicator species</b>	A species that can be monitored as a representative of a broader <b>community</b> of species or one whose abundance gives an indication of the status ('health') of a particular <b>habitat, ecosystem or environment</b> .
<b>Indigenous</b>	Naturally occurring to a region or environment
<b>Infauna</b>	Animals that live buried in the seabed, eg. lugworm, cockles. 'Infaunal communities' normally consist of animals burrowing into sediment. See also <b>epifauna</b> .
<b>Infrastructure</b>	the basic physical and organizational structures and facilities (e.g. buildings, roads, power supplies) needed for the operation of a society or enterprise.
<b>Inshore fisheries</b>	Occur in coastal waters, mostly within the Territorial sea.
<b>Intertidal</b>	The foreshore or area of seabed between high water mark and low water mark which is exposed each day as the tide rises and falls. Also called the littoral zone.
<b>Introduced species</b>	Any species that occurs outside its normal geographic range as a direct or indirect result of human activity and one that has not been found to occur naturally in the area within historic time. The term applied equally to <b>alien</b> populations and established <b>non-native species</b> .
<b>Invertebrate</b>	An animal without a backbone.

**J**

<b>jigging</b>	A term most frequently associated with fishing for squid with handlines that are 'jigged' up-and-down.
<b>juvenile</b>	An immature fish, ie. one that has not reached sexual maturity (but could still be larger than the <b>minimum landing size – MLS</b> ).

**K**

<b>Keep pot/box</b>	A pot or cage in which live Crustacea are kept until collected for market.
<b>Keystone species</b>	A species that forms an essential part of a community or assemblage of species without which the rest of the <b>community</b> cannot exist. For example, reef building species such as the colonial worm <i>Sabellaria</i> spp or the horse mussel <i>Modiolus modiolus</i> are keystone species that provide specific habitats within which many other species live.
<b>knot</b>	A measure of speed: one nautical mile per hour.
<b>k-selected species</b>	Species that tend to be large, long-lived, with low fecundity and are best adapted for stable environmental conditions, eg. <b>elasmobranchs</b> and marine mammals. (See also <b>r-selected species</b> ).

**L**

<b>Landings</b>	The part of a fishing catch which is put ashore.
<b>Larva(e)</b>	The developing animal after it has hatched from its egg but before it has reached the adult or even juvenile stage. Many marine larvae drift in the plankton.
<b>Larval stage</b>	The free-living stage of an organism's life, between the egg hatching and the adult form.
<b>Licensing (fishing)</b>	A widespread method of fishery management that limits entry to a fishery.
<b>Littoral</b>	The edge of the sea, but not specifically the intertidal zone.
<b>Live bearers</b>	Animals that incubate their young internally and produce live, free-living offspring, eg. many sharks including spur

	dogs, <i>Squalus acanthias</i> .
<b>Live weight</b>	The weight of a fish before it is gutted, ie. the whole (or live) weight.
<b>Log book</b>	A set of forms issued by DEFA that skippers of vessels must complete after each haul recording; date, time, place, duration of fishing, species composition and estimated weight of retained catch (ie total catch less discards). Completed forms must be handed in on return to harbour or produced at sea at the request of a fishery inspector.
<b>Long-line</b>	A method of fishing using baited hooks.

**M**

<b>Macro-fauna</b>	Any animal that is readily visible to the naked eye.
<b>Maerl</b>	Twig-like, calcified red algae that act as keystone species and forma particular habitat (maerl bed).
<b>Manx Marine Environmental Assessment (MMEA)</b>	Technical report to bring together marine evidence for future marine management and decision making in Manx waters.
<b>Mariculture</b>	Marine aquaculture.
<b>Marine landscape</b>	The concept is a broad-scale classification of the marine environment based on geophysical parameters such as sediment characteristics, morphology and hydrodynamics, recognising that these are important in determining the nature of biological communities.
<b>Marine Nature Reserve (MNR)</b>	<b>Marine nature reserve</b> (MNR) is a conservation designation officially awarded by a government to a marine reserve of national significance. A type of Marine Protected area.
<b>Marine Protected Area (MPA)</b>	A protected area of sea, ocean, estuary or loch/fjord
<b>Marine Stewardship Council MSC</b>	The Marine Stewardship Council (MSC) is an independent non-profit organization which sets a standard for sustainable fishing.
<b>Metadata</b>	Data about data. For example, giving information about the characteristics and provenance of data.
<b>Meteorology</b>	Meteorology is a branch of the atmospheric sciences which includes atmospheric chemistry and atmospheric physics,

	with a major focus on weather forecasting.
<b>Mid-water trawl</b>	A trawl that is designed specifically for the capture of pelagic species, eg. herring and mackerel, and is towed in mid water rather than across the seabed.
<b>Minimum landing size</b> <b>MLS</b>	The smallest length at which it is legal to retain a fish or offer it for sale.
<b>Minimum mesh size</b> <b>MMS</b>	The smallest size of mesh that can be used legally in any given type of fishing net.
<b>Miscellaneous species</b>	Are fishery stocks not subject to quota management.
<b>Mixed fishery</b>	A fishery that takes multi-species catches.
<b>Mobile fishing gear</b>	Any gear that is towed or otherwise moved through the water, eg. <b>trawls, seines, dredges</b> . (See also <b>fixed/static</b> gear).
<b>Molluscs</b>	All animals in the Phylum Mollusca including <b>gastropods</b> , eg whelks and winkles; <b>bivalves</b> , eg. cockles and mussels; <b>cephalopods</b> , eg. squid and cuttlefish.
<b>Monitoring</b>	The regular and systematic collection of environmental and biological data by agreed methods and to agreed standards. Monitoring provides information on current status, trends and compliance with respect to declared standards and objectives.
<b>Mortality</b>	The death of organisms

## N

<b>Native species</b>	Self-sustaining populations that can be rare or common place but have not been introduced by man's intervention, either deliberately or accidentally.
<b>Neap tide</b>	Tides at half moon, with least height difference between high and low water.
<b>Nekton</b>	Animals that can swim against the current rather than drift like the <b>plankton</b> .
<b>Neuston</b>	Plants and animals that live in the surface few centimetres of the sea. Some of the animals are nektonic but most are



	planktonic.
<b>Newhaven dredge</b>	A scallop dredge in which a tooth bar across the lower edge of the dredge mouth is spring loaded to minimise snagging on the seabed.
<b>Non-technical summary</b>	A non-technical summary (NTS) is a concise document that provides a description of a report and its findings in a manner that is both appealing to read and easily understood by the general public.
<b>Non-native species</b>	Any organism that has been introduced deliberately or accidentally by human activity and has established a self-sustaining population in an area beyond its geographic range.
<b>Non-target species</b>	Any species that form part of the by-catch but are not (one of) the principle species that the fishery is exploiting.
<b>North Atlantic Oscillation</b>	The North Atlantic Oscillation (NAO) is a weather phenomenon in the North Atlantic Ocean of fluctuations in the difference of atmospheric pressure at sea level (SLP) between the Icelandic low and the Azores high.
<b>Nursery</b>	An area readily identified as one of particular importance, year-on-year, for juvenile fish. For example estuaries may serve as bass nursery areas, sandy bays as plaice nursery areas. Eelgrass provides a nursery habitat.
<b>Nutrient enrichment</b>	The addition of nutrients, mostly nitrogen and phosphorous, to the marine environment as a result of man's activities, eg sewage discharge, agri-chemical and slurry run-off from farm land. This can lead to enhanced algal growth including harmful algal blooms ( <b>HAB</b> ).

## O

<b>Offal</b>	The intestines and other parts of fish that are discarded when fish are gutted. Also shellfish.
<b>Organism</b>	an organism is any individual entity that exhibits the properties of life.
<b>OSPAR</b>	Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North East Atlantic.

<b>Otolith</b>	An unattached, bony structure in the middle ear of a fish that forms part of its balance sensory system. It grows annually by alternating winter-summer additions of opaque and translucent layers of material. In many fish, these appear as annual rings under a microscope and enable the fish to be aged.
<b>Otter trawl</b>	A demersal fishing trawl that is held open laterally by otter boards or doors.
<b>Overfalls</b>	Turbulence caused by the passage of flowing water over an irregularity on the sea bed. Often produces surface disturbances.
<b>Over-fishing</b>	Any fishery where the total fishing effort is greater than is required to meet or match a specific management objective, eg. maximum sustainable yield.
<b>Ovoviviparous</b>	See <b>live bearers</b> .

## P

<b>Paralytic Shellfish poisoning - PSP</b>	This can result from eating bivalve molluscan shellfish that have accumulated toxins from the <i>Alexandrium</i> spp. Dinoflagellates in the phytoplankton. When toxins are detected above 80µg/100g of shellfish, the shellfish may not be harvested commercially or offered for sale. The toxins are heat stable and can result in mild symptoms of numbness in tongue or lips or in very extreme cases lead to death through respiratory paralysis.
<b>Parlour pot</b>	A rectangular crab and lobster trap with two chambers of netting stretched over 4-4 hoops. The initial entrance is either a rigid plastic or loose, net funnel. A second (loose net) funnel leads the animal into the parlour from which there is no escape, except for <b>escape gaps</b> which allows juveniles and smaller other species to escape.
<b>Pectoral fin</b>	One of a pair of fins often located to the rear of the fish's gill openings.
<b>Peeler crab</b>	A crab that has gone soft in preparation to, or immediately following, the loss of its hard shell during <b>moulting</b> .
<b>Pelagic</b>	Relating to mid-water, eg. herring, sprat and mackerel are

	all pelagic species.
<b>Phytoplankton</b>	Microscopic plants floating in the water column that drift to-and-fro with the tides.
<b>Pinnipedia</b>	Marine mammals that come ashore to give birth, eg. seals.
<b>Plankton</b>	The animals and plants that float in mid-water and drift t-and-fro with the tides.
<b>Pots</b>	General term used to describe traps used to catch crabs, lobsters, larger species of prawns, eg. <i>Nephrops</i> , and some molluscs, eg. whelks.
<b>Potter</b>	A fishing vessel engaged in fishing for Crustacea by using pots rather than nets.
<b>Prawn</b>	Prawn is a common name for small aquatic crustaceans with an exoskeleton and ten legs (i.e. a member of the order <u>decapoda</u> ). Sometimes prawns are considered to show laterally-flattened body form, compared with the dorso-ventrally flattened form of shrimp.
<b>Precautionary approach</b>	A decision to take avoiding action based on the possibility of significant environmental damage, even before there is conclusive evidence that damage will occur (DOE 1992). This approach requires marine managers to pay due regard to uncertainties and they must implement the appropriate precautionary action if limit reference points are reached.
<b>Precautionary principle</b>	The principle of safeguarding the marine ecosystem by reducing emissions of hazardous substances at source and minimising physical disturbance of marine habitats caused by human activities using appropriate technologies and measures.
<b>Precision</b>	There is often confusion between this term and <b>Accuracy</b> . Precision can be defined as the variability between repeated measurements. However this has limited application in habitat mapping where its more general usage is to define the likely error of a boundary (eg. + or – 100m). It could also be applied to the level in a hierarchy that a record has been assigned to (ie. a Eunis level 4 class is less precise than a Eunis level 5 class).

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**Q**

<b>Quota</b>	A fixed proportion of the TAC allocated to each fishing nation.
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## R

<b>Rarity</b>	A rare habitat is one that is restricted to a number of locations or to a small, few and scattered locations. A rare species is one that is sessile or has limited mobility and occurs in a limited number of locations.
<b>Ray (s)</b>	Flat bottom-dwelling <b>elasmobranch</b> fish, eg. thornback ray.
<b>Razor fish</b>	A bivalve mollusc with long (ca. 10-25 cm), narrow shells reminiscent of a cut throat razor blade, eg. <i>Ensis</i> spp.
<b>Recompression</b>	Treatment for diving injuries including the bends, in a pressurised chamber.
<b>Recreational fisheries</b>	Any fishery that is undertaken for pleasure rather than commerce, eg., beach or boat angling, small scale potting. Recreational sea fishing is subject to minimum landing size (MLS) regulations.
<b>Recruit</b>	A young fish joining the exploited or spawning stock for the first time.
<b>Recruitment</b>	The number of young fish joining the stock each year.
<b>Red Data Book</b>	A worldwide list of 'vulnerable', 'threatened' and 'endangered' species maintained by the World Conservation Union (IUCN).
<b>Registered building</b>	A Registered building is one entered in the Protected Buildings Register in accordance with Section 14 of the 1999 Town and Country Planning Act.
<b>Relevant authority</b>	Any public body that has a function or duty in relation to a marine area.
<b>Representatively</b>	An area that contains examples of habitat or biotope types, habitat complexes, species, ecological processes, or other natural characteristics that are typical and representative.
<b>Resolution</b>	The smallest spacing between two display elements, expressed as dots per inch, pixels per line, or lines per millimetre.

<b>Rio Convention</b>	UN Convention on Biodiversity (UNCED 1992).
<b>r-selected species</b>	A species with a high reproductive rate, ie. short generation time, and is able to take advantage of sudden changes in environmental conditions. These species are usually small with a relatively high fecundity, eg. many invertebrates but also small fish such as sprats and sand eels.

## S

<b>Safe biological limits</b>	In essence, this equates to a stock being above the 'minimum biologically acceptable level'.
<b>sampling</b>	The systematic collection of environmental or biological data to measure specific features, eg temperature or salinity regime, average size or abundance.
<b>Sampling sites</b>	Area (large or small) sampled or designated for sampling.
<b>Satellite surveillance</b>	A system for monitoring the whereabouts of individual fishing vessels in real time, eg. VMS – vessel monitoring system
<b>Sediment type</b>	Sediment is a solid fragmental material which has been eroded, transported and deposited by wind, water or ice; chemically precipitated; or secreted by organisms. It forms in loose, unconsolidated layers. Sediment type varies according to various parameters, including lithology, particle size distribution, compaction/bulk density, cohesiveness, shell content, and moisture content. It reflects a history of erosion, transportation and accumulation in different sedimentary environments.
<b>Selectivity</b>	A measure of a fishing gears ability to target and capture a species of fish while allowing juveniles and non target species to escape.
<b>Sensitivity</b>	A very sensitive habitat or species is one that is adversely affected very easily by factors arising from human activities and is expected to recover over a very long time period, or not at all.
<b>Shellfish</b>	<b>Molluscs</b> and <b>Crustacea</b> ; fish with a hard outer case or shell.
<b>Shellfish poisoning</b>	Algal phycotoxin, see: ASP, DSP, PSP.

<b>Side-scan sonar</b>	A form of echo-sounder that views the seabed obliquely and has greater power to discriminate detail than a conventional, vertical echo-sounder.
<b>Soak time</b>	The period of time between the fishing gear, eg. pots, being set in its fishing position and being hauled to remove fish.
<b>Spat</b>	Juvenile bivalve molluscs.
<b>Spring tide</b>	Tides at full or new moon, with the greatest height range between high and low water.
<b>Static gear</b>	Any form of fishing gear that operates without being towed or moved through the water, eg. crustacean pots.
<b>Stock</b>	See fish stock
<b>stock assessment</b>	The investigation, analysis and numerical description of the recent history and current state of a fish stock and the fishery that exploits it, ie. distribution, abundance, size or age structure, fishing effort, catch rates etc.
<b>subtidal / sublittoral</b>	Depths greater than the intertidal zone.
<b>substratum</b>	The underlying surface for attachment
<b>Surface marker buoy</b>	A buoy on the surface that is attached to, and marks the position of divers.
<b>Suspension feeder</b>	An animal that feeds on particulate matter suspended in the water.
<b>Sustainability</b>	Meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs (WCED 1987 – the Brundtland Report).
<b>Sustainable development</b>	Development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs (WCED 1987 – the Brundtland Report).  Development that takes account of social and ecological factors, as well as economic ones; of the living and non-living resource base; and of the long-term as well as short-term advantages and disadvantages of alternative actions (IUCN 1980).
<b>Swim bladder</b>	Gas-filled bladder used for buoyancy control in fish.

**T**

<b>TAC</b>	Total allowable catch, the quantity of fish that can be taken from a stock each year.
<b>Target species</b>	The primary species of fish that a fishing vessel aims to catch during a given fishing operation.
<b>Technical conservation measures – fishery management</b>	Measures aimed primarily at the equipment used in fishing rather than the time and place they fish or what they catch, eg. <b>minimum mesh sizes</b> , engine power, width of individual (eg. scallop) dredges and the numbers towed by a boat.
<b>Teleost</b>	A fish with a bony skeleton, eg. herring, cod, plaice. (See also <b>elasmobranch</b> .)
<b>Terrestrial</b>	On land
<b>Territorial Sea</b>	Territorial sea, as defined by the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, is a belt of coastal waters extending at most 12 nautical miles (22.2 km; 13.8 mi) from the baseline (usually the mean low-water mark) of a coastal state.
<b>Tidal Stream</b>	refers to the currents associated with the tides, generally near a coastline or harbour
<b>Topography</b>	The physical relief of a surface
<b>Tragedy of the Commons</b>	The title of a seminal essay by Hardin (1968) which argued that any natural resource (fishery) that was open to all-comers was doomed to over exploitation and collapse.
<b>Trans- boundary</b>	Moving or having effect across a boundary or boundaries.
<b>Trawl</b>	A large, funnel shaped fishing net that is towed through the water by a single or pair of boats. The mouth of the net is held open by a beam (beam trawl) or floats along the headline, weights along the groundrope and is pulled open.
<b>Trawler</b>	A fishing boat that tows a trawl.

**U**

<b>UNCLOS</b>	The UN Convention on the Law of the Sea that provides for the regulation and management of all living resources and the establishment of exclusive economic zones.
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<b>Undersize fish</b>	Any fish that is less than the legal minimum landing size (MLS). It is an offence for anyone to retain or offer for sale undersize fish.
<b>User Pays Principle</b>	The principle that the user should pay for any damage done to the natural environment.

**V**

<b>Vagrant species</b>	Species that have strayed, by migration or drift with currents, beyond their natural range but have not established self-sustaining populations. Most vagrant species found in UK and Manx waters are from warmer waters to the south and west of the British Isles.
<b>V-notch</b>	A notch put in the tail fan (telson) of egg-bearing lobsters. In some areas there are voluntary agreements to return notched animals to the sea and byelaws making it an offence to land such animals. The notch is lost during a moulting.

**W**

<b>White fish</b>	Any of the demersal species, eg. cod, haddock, plaice, but not the pelagic, oil-rich species.
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**Y**

<b>Year class</b>	All the fish in a population that were spawned in the same year, eg. the '1998 year-class'.
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**Z**

<b>Zooplankton</b>	All the animals, mostly microscopic, that swim in the mid water but drift to-and-fro with the currents. (See also <b>phytoplankton</b> ).
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## References

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## Webpage links

- <http://www.imarest.org/Technical/InformationServices/GlossaryofCommonAcronyms.aspx>

IMarEST Glossary. Last Accessed 01.06.2012.

- <http://www.searchmesh.net/default.aspx?page=1604>. MESH Glossary. Marine European Seabed Habitats. Last Accessed 28.09.2012.