

Acronym	Meaning
ACE	ICES - Advisory Committee Ecosystems
ACFM	ICES - Advisory Committee Fisheries Management
AFBI NI	Agri-Food and Biosciences Institute
AGMACs	Advisory Group on Marine & Coastal Strategy
AGMACs	Advisory Group Marine Coastal Strategy (of SE ministers) recently folded
AOMA	AOMA - Association of Operational Marine Agency
AQC	Analytical Quality Control
Argo floats (buoys)	free-drifting profiling floats that measure the temperature and salinity of the upper 2000m of the ocean
ASCOBANS	Agreement on the Conservation of Small Cetaceans of the Baltic and North
BAS	British Antarctic Survey
BDC	OSPAR Biodiversity Committee
BGS	British Geological Survey
BODC	British Oceanographic Data Centre
BRAG	Biodiversity Research Advisory Group
CAROS	Co-operative Arrangement for Research on Ocean Science
CBD	Convention on Biological Diversity
CBIRD	Circumpolar Seabird Working Group
CCW	Countryside Council for Wales
CEFAS	Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science
CEN	European Committee for Standardization (Comite Europeen de
CITES	Convention on Trade in Endangered Species
CoML	Census of Marine Life
COP	Council of Parties
COSH	Committee on Shipping Hydrography
CP2	Charting Progress 2
CPR	Continuous Plankton Recorder
CSEMP	Clean Seas Environment Monitoring Programme
CSL	Central Sciences Laboratory
CSL	Coastal Sea Levels
CSSEG	Clean Safe Seas Evidence Group
DBCP	Data Buoy Co-operation Panel
Defra	Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
DETR	Department of the Environment, Transport and Regions
DPA	Defence Procurement Agency
DPSIR	Driver, Pressure, State, Impact, Response model for indicators
DSTL	Defence Science and Technology Laboratory
DTI	Department for Trade and Industry
EA	Environment Agency
EAC	Ecotoxicological Assessment Criteria
EC	European Community
EcoQOs	Ecological Quality Objectives
EDIOS	European Directory of the Ocean-observing System
EEA	European Environment Agency
EH	English Heritage
EHS	Environment and Heritage Service

EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
EMMA	European Marine Monitoring & Assessment
ERFF	Environment Research Funders Forum
ERSEM	European Regional Seas Ecosystem Model
ERMS	European Register of Marine Species
ESA	European Space Agency
ESAS	European Seabirds at Sea group
ESF	European Science Foundation
ESSC	Environmental Systems Science Centre
EU	European Union
Euro GOOS	European Global Ocean Observing System
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organisation
FEPA	Food and Environment Protection Act
FRS	Fisheries Research Services
FSA	Food Standards Agency
GAC	GMES Advisory Council
GCOS	Global Climate Observing System
GEOS	Global Environmental & Ocean Sciences
GES	Good Environmental Status
GESAMP	Group of Experts for the Scientific Assessment of Marine Pollution
GHG	Greenhouse Gases
GISP	Global Invasive Species Project
GMES	Global Monitoring for Environment and Security
GMO	Genetically Modified Organism
GOOS	Global Ocean Observing System
GOOS AG	Global Ocean Observing System Action Group
GWCC	Global Warming and large-scale Climate Change
HAB	Harmful Algal Bloom
HadISST	Hadley Centre Global sea-Ice coverage and SST
HSE	Health and Safety Executive
IACMST	Inter-Agency Committee on Marine Science and Technology
IAGC	International Association of Geophysical Contractors
IAMMWG	Inter-agency Marine Mammal Working Group
ICES	International Council for the Exploration of the Sea
IDF	Indicator Description Form
IFAW	International Fund for Animal Welfare
IGOOS	International Global Ocean Observing System
IA-MMG	Inter-Agency Marine Monitoring Group
IMO	International Maritime Organisation
INSPIRE	Infrastructure for Spatial Information in the European Community
IOC	Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission
IPR	Intellectual Property Rights
IPT	Integrated Project Team for the DPA
IRFC	Industry Research Funders Coalition
ISSG	Invasive Species Specialist Group
IUCN	The World Conservation Union
IWC	International Whaling Commission

IZCM	Integrated Coastal Zone Management
JNCC	Joint Nature Conservation Committee
JCOMM	Meteorology
LargeNet	Large scale and long term networking on the observation of Global Change and its impact on Marine Biodiversity (LargeNET) which is a Marine Biodiversity and Ecosystem Functioning EU Network of Excellence (MarBEF)
MAPC	Marine Assessment Policy Committee
MarBEF	Marine Biodiversity and Ecosystem Functioning
MARG	Marine Assessment and Reporting Group
MarinERA	Project funded by the EU FP6 ERA-NET Scheme (2004-2008), set up to improve collaboration and coordination between national and regional marine research programmes (responding to accidental marine pollution - modelling - long term monitoring of oil/chemical spills)
MBA	Marine Biological Association
MCA	Maritime and Coastguard Agency
MCCIP	Marine Climate Change Information Partnership
MCCIP ARC	MCCIP Annual Report Card
MCEU	Maritime Consents and Environment Unit
MCR	Marine and Coastal Resources
MCS	Marine Conservation Society
MCS	Marine Core Service
MDIP	Marine Data Information Partnership
MECN	Marine Environmental Change Network
MEDAG	Marine Environment Data Action Group
MEDIN	Marine Environmental Data & Information Network
MEO	Marine Ecosystem Objective
MEQ	Marine Environmental Quality
MERSEA	Marine Environment and Security for the European Area
MESH	Mapping European Seabed Habitats
MFF	Marine Fish and Fisheries
MHS	Marine Habitats and Species
MMAS	Marine Monitoring and Assessment
MMCG	Marine Monitoring Coordination Group
MMO	Marine Monitoring Organisation
MNR	Marine Nature Reserves
MoD	Ministry of Defence
MPA	Marine Protected Areas
MPC	Marine Processes and Climate
MSD	Marine Strategy Directive
MTT	Marine Task Team (WFD) for UK & Rol
NAO	North Atlantic Oscillation
NATO	North Atlantic Treaty Organisation
NAW	National Assembly for Wales
NAWAD	National Assembly for Wales Agriculture Department
NCOF	National Centre for Ocean Forecasting
NE	Natural England
NERC	Natural Environment Research Council

NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
NMMP	National Marine Monitoring Programme
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
NOCS	National Oceanography Centre Southampton
NRC	National Research Council
NWOOS	North West Ocean Observing System
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
OSPAR	Oslo Paris Commission
PML	Plymouth Marine Laboratory
POGO	Partnership for Observation of the Global Oceans
POL	Proudman Oceanographic Laboratory
POLCOMS	Proudman Oceanographic Laboratory Coastal Ocean Modelling System
PSEG	Productive Seas Evidence Group
QUASIMEME	Quality Assurance of Information for Marine Environmental Monitoring in
QSR	Quality status report
R&D	Research and Development
REGNS	ICES Study Group for Regional Integrated Assessment of the North Sea
Regional OOSs	Regional Ocean Observing Systems
RMNC	Review of Marine Nature Conservation
ROV	Remotely Operated Vehicle
SAC	Special Areas of Conservation
SAHFOS	Sir Alister Hardy Foundation for Ocean Science
SAMS	Scottish Association for Marine Science
SE	Scottish Executive
SEA	Strategic Environmental Assessment
SEIS	Shared Environmental Information System
SEPA	Scottish Environment Protection Agency
SFPA	Scottish Fisheries Protection Agency
SMBRCG	Scottish Marine Biodiversity Research Coordination Group
SMRU	Sea Mammal Research Unit
SNH	Scottish Natural Heritage
SPA	Special Protection Areas
SSB	Spawning Stock Biomass
SSSI	Sites of Special Scientific Interest
SSTF	Scottish Sustainable Seas Task Force
UK BRAG	UK Biodiversity Research Advisory Group
UK NRL	UK National Reference Laboratory for Marine biotoxins phytoplankton group (shellfish hygiene directive)
UKBAP	UK Biodiversity Action Plan
UKCS	UK Continental Shelf
UKDMOS	UK Directory of Marine Observing Systems
UKHO	UK Hydrographic Office
UKOOA	UK Oil and Gas Association
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNCLOS	United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea
WDCS	Whale and Dolphin Conservation Society
WFD	Water Framework Directive

WGABD	ICES - Working Group Harmful Algal Bloom Dynamics
WGICZM	ICES - Working Group on Integrated Coastal Zone Management
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WGMHM	ICES - Working Group on Marine Habitat mapping
WGMME	ICES - Working Group on Marine Mammal Ecology
WGSE	ICES - Working Group on Seabird Ecology
WISE	Water Information System for Europe
WMO	World Meteorological Organisation
WSSD	World Summit on Sustainable Development
WTO	World Trade Organisation