

A Standard List of Human Activities in the Marine Environment

| Category | Name | Description |
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| 1: Coastal management activities | Coastal defence & land claim protection (incl. beach replenishment) | The alteration of the state of the coastline and/or seabed for the purpose of land use or defence. |
| | Coastal docks, ports & marinas | The construction of facilities to harbour vessels |
| 2: Waste management activities | Waste gas emissions | The release of unwanted gaseous by-products of human activities |
| | Industrial and agricultural liquid discharges | The release of unwanted liquid pollutants from industrial and agricultural sources |
| | Sewerage disposal | The release of waste matter such as faeces or dirty water from sewage treatment facilities |
| | Power station thermal and nuclear discharges | Thermal or nuclear effluent from power stations |
| | Municipal waste | The release of solid waste consisting of everyday items discarded by the public |
| 3: Extraction of living resources | Fishing – Demersal trawling | The targeted removal of fish species (usually for commercial purposes) using towed trawls in contact with or close to the sea floor. Example gear types: otter trawls (OT, OTB, OTT), pair trawls (PTB), beam trawls (TBB) and nephrop trawls (TBN) |
| | Fishing – Dredging | The targeted removal of fish species (usually for commercial purposes) through the process of dredging. Example gear types: boat dredges (DRB) and mechanised dredges (HMD). |
| | Fishing – Pelagic Trawling | The targeted removal of fish species (usually for commercial purposes) using mobile mid-water gears deployed in the water column. Example gear types: mid-water otter trawls (OTM) and mid-water pair trawls (PTM). |
| | Fishing – Traps (Potting/creeling) | The targeted removal of fish species using portable traps that are left in place for a period of time before being recovered to retrieve the caught fish. Example gear types: traps (not specified) (FIX) and pots (FPO). |
| | Fishing – Recreational | The targeted removal of fish species for recreational purposes only. |
| | Fishing – Nets (static) | The targeted removal of fish species using static nets that are left in place for a period of time before being recovered to retrieve the caught fish. Example gear types: gillnets (GEN, GN, |

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| | | GNC, GND, GNS, GTR) and boat operated lift nets (LNB). |
| | Fishing – Lines | The targeted removal of fish species using static hooks and lines that are left in place for a period of time before being recovered to retrieve the caught fish. Example gear types: hand and pole lines (LHP) and long lines (LL, LLD, LLS). |
| | Fishing – Seines | The targeted removal of fish species (usually for commercial purposes) using seines (a large fishing net that hangs vertically in the water by means of floats at the top and weights at the bottom). Example gear types: purse seines (PS), beach seines (SB), Danish seines (SDN), pair seines (SPR), Scottish seines (SSC) and seines (not specified) (SX). |
| | Harvesting - Seaweed and other sea-based food | The gathering and removal of wild seaweed and other sea based foods. |
| | Extraction of genetic resources e.g. bioprospecting & maerl (<i>blue technology</i>) | The commercialization of new products based on the exploitation of useful organic compounds from biological resources. |
| 4: Production of living resources | Aquaculture - Fin-fish | The farming (enhanced production) of fin-fish under controlled conditions. |
| | Aquaculture - Shellfish | The farming (enhanced production) of shellfish under controlled conditions. |
| | Aquaculture – Macro-algae | The farming (enhanced production) of macro-algae under controlled conditions. |
| 5: Extraction (and disposal) of non-living resources | Extraction – Sand and gravel (aggregates) | The extraction of aggregate materials (sand, gravel and crushed rock) from the seabed for economic profit i.e. use in the construction industry. |
| | Extraction – Rock/ Mineral (coastal quarrying) | The extraction of stone or other materials from quarries (typically large, deep pits) situated directly on the coast. |
| | Extraction – Navigational dredging (capital & maintenance) | The extraction of materials from the seabed expressly for the purpose of aiding navigation. This includes both capital and maintenance dredging. |
| | Extraction – Water (abstraction) | The temporary or permanent removal of water from the marine environment |
| | Dredge and spoil disposal | The disposal of dredge materials originating from the seabed |

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| 6: Energy generation | Renewable energy – Wind (excluding cables) | The construction and operation of offshore wind farms |
| | Renewable energy – Wave (excluding cables) | The construction and operation of devices designed to harness wave energy |
| | Renewable energy – Tidal (excluding cables) | The construction and operation of devices designed to harness tidal power |
| | Marine hydrocarbon extraction (excluding pipelines) | Activities associated with the extraction of marine hydrocarbons including: exploration, construction, operation and decommissioning |
| 7: Transport | Shipping – Port operations | The operation of vessels within port e.g. mooring, beaching, launching, anchoring etc. |
| | Shipping – General | The passage or transport of vessels at sea. |
| 8: Recreation and leisure | Coastal tourist sites | Activities associated with designated tourist sites such as public beaches and holiday resorts. |
| | Recreational activities | Any maritime activity expressly undertaken for the purpose of enjoyment, amusement or pleasure. Examples include: boating, yachting, diving etc. |
| 9: Marine research | Marine research (incl. physical sampling and remote sensing techniques) | Research activities carried out for the purpose of furthering our understanding of the marine environment |
| 10: Defence and national security | Military activities | Defence activities undertaken for the purpose of national security. |
| 11: Other man-made structures | Submarine cable and pipeline operations | The construction and operation of cables (telecommunications & power) and pipelines laid on the sea floor |
| | Gas storage operations (carbon capture & natural gas storage) | The deposition/ injection of natural gases or carbon into identified submarine storage sites. |
| | Conservation & environmental protection (artificial reefs etc.) | The modification of the marine environment for the purpose of nature conservation |
| | Cultural and heritage sites (e.g. wrecks, sculptures, foundations etc.) | Historic anthropogenic structures such as wrecks, sculptures and foundations |