

APPENDICES

APPENDIX I - Marine Strategy Framework Directive

Qualitative descriptors for determining good environmental status

(referred to in Articles 3(5), 9(1), 9(3) and 24)

(1) Biological diversity is maintained. The quality and occurrence of habitats and the distribution and abundance of species are in line with prevailing physiographic, geographic and climatic conditions.

(2) Non-indigenous species introduced by human activities are at levels that do not adversely alter the ecosystems.

(3) Populations of all commercially exploited fish and shellfish are within safe biological limits, exhibiting a population age and size distribution that is indicative of a healthy stock.

(4) All elements of the marine food webs, to the extent that they are known, occur at normal abundance and diversity and levels capable of ensuring the long-term abundance of the species and the retention of their full reproductive capacity.

(5) Human-induced eutrophication is minimised, especially adverse effects thereof, such as losses in biodiversity, ecosystem degradation, harmful algae blooms and oxygen deficiency in bottom waters.

(6) Sea-floor integrity is at a level that ensures that the structure and functions of the ecosystems are safeguarded and benthic ecosystems, in particular, are not adversely affected.

(7) Permanent alteration of hydrographical conditions does not adversely affect marine ecosystems.

(8) Concentrations of contaminants are at levels not giving rise to pollution effects.

(9) Contaminants in fish and other seafood for human consumption do not exceed levels established by Community legislation or other relevant standards.

(10) Properties and quantities of marine litter do not cause harm to the coastal and marine environment.

(11) Introduction of energy, including underwater noise, is at levels that do not adversely affect the marine environment

To determine the characteristics of good environmental status in a marine region or subregion as provided for in Article 9(1), Member States shall consider each of the qualitative descriptors listed in this Annex in order to identify those descriptors which are to be used to determine good environmental status for that marine region or subregion.

When a Member State considers that it is not appropriate to use one or more of those descriptors, it shall provide the Commission with a justification in the framework of the notification made pursuant to Article 9(2).

APPENDIX II All relevant legislation

Local and National Legislation

- Fisheries Act (Northern Ireland) 1966
- Harbours Act (Northern Ireland) 1970
- The Drainage (Northern Ireland) Order 1973
- UK Protection of Wrecks Act 1973
- Food and Environment Protection Act (1985)
- Wildlife (Northern Ireland) Order 1985
- Litter (Northern Ireland) Order 1994
- UK Biodiversity Action Plan 1994
- Historic Monuments and Archaeological Objects (NI) Order 1995
- Water (Northern Ireland) Order 1999
- Environment (Northern Ireland) Order 2002
- Harbours (Northern Ireland) Order 2002
- Harbour Works (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2003
- The Water Environment (WFD) Regulations (NI) 2003
- Environmental Impact Assessment and Natural Habitats (Extraction of Minerals by Marine Dredging) (England and Northern Ireland) Regulations 2007
- Foyle and Carlingford Fisheries Act 2007
- Aquatic Animal Health Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2009
- Clean Neighbourhoods (Northern Ireland) Bill 2009

More detailed information about the local and national marine legislation listed above can be found here:

- <http://www.netregs.gov.uk/netregs/legislation/default.aspx>

European Legislation

- Dangerous Substances Directive and daughter directives (76/464/EC)
- Bathing Water Directive (76/1160/EC)
- Birds Directive - Council Directive 79/409/EC and 2009/147/EC on the conservation of wild birds)

- Environmental Impact Assessment Directive (85/337/EC)
- Urban Wastewater Treatment Directive (91/271/EC)
- Nitrates Directive (91/676/EC)/
- Habitats Directive (92/43/EC)
- Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC)
- EC Food Hygiene Regulations (EC) No 854/2004
- Shellfish Waters Directive (2006/113/EC)
- Commission Regulation (EC) No 1881/2006 setting maximum levels for certain contaminants in foodstuffs
- EC Regulation on the use of alien and locally absent species in aquaculture (708/2007/EC)
- EU Council Regulation 1100/2007 establishing measures for the recovery of the stock of European eel
- Marine Strategy Framework Directive (2008/56/EC)
- Waste Framework Directive (2008/98/EC)
- Environmental Quality Standards in the field of water policy (2008/105/EC)
- EU Council Regulation 1342/2008 - Cod recovery plan

More detailed information about European marine legislation can be found here:

- http://ec.europa.eu/environment/water/index_en.htm

International Agreements

- OSPAR Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic (1992)
- ASCOBANS Agreement on the Conservation of Small Cetaceans of the Baltic and North Seas (1991)
- MARPOL International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (1973 and 1978)
- Valletta Convention on the Protection of Archaeological Heritage (1992)
- UNESCO Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage (2001)

- The IUCN (World Conservation Union) Red List (2006-2008)
- Convention on Biological Diversity (1993)
- The International Convention for the Control and Management of Ships Ballast Water and Sediments (2004)

Further more detailed information about the International Agreements listed above can be found here:

- <http://www.ospar.org/>
- <http://www.ascobans.org/index0401.html>
- [www.imo.org/About/Conventions/ListOfConventions/Pages/International-Convention-for-the-Prevention-of-Pollution-from-Ships-\(MARPOL\).aspx](http://www.imo.org/About/Conventions/ListOfConventions/Pages/International-Convention-for-the-Prevention-of-Pollution-from-Ships-(MARPOL).aspx)
- <http://www.conventions.coe.int/treaty/en/treaties/html/143.htm>
- <http://unesdoc.unesco.org/images/0012/001260/126065e.pdf>
- <http://www.iucnredlist.org/>
- <http://www.cbd.int/secretariat/>
- [http://www.imo.org/About/Conventions/ListOfConventions/Pages/International-Convention-for-the-Control-and-Management-of-Ships%27-Ballast-Water-and-Sediments-\(BWM\).as](http://www.imo.org/About/Conventions/ListOfConventions/Pages/International-Convention-for-the-Control-and-Management-of-Ships%27-Ballast-Water-and-Sediments-(BWM).as)

**AFBI and NIEA would like to thank the following
photographers for their contribution to the
State of the Seas Report:**

Arthur Ward,
Robert Thompson,
National Museums of Northern Ireland,
Northern Ireland Tourist Board,
Jeremy Gault
Tom McCann

