

## Annex A: Glossary

**AI:** Artificial Intelligence

**Automatic Identification System (AIS):** AIS is an automated, autonomous tracking system which is extensively used in the maritime world for the exchange of navigational information between AIS-equipped terminals

**Bycatch:** Defined by section 52 of the Fisheries Act (2020) as (a) fish that are caught in the course of fishing for fish of a different description, or (b) animals other than fish that are caught in the course of fishing

**Bycatch mitigation initiative:** The [marine wildlife bycatch mitigation initiative](#) is an initiative that sets out measures for how the UK will achieve its ambitions to minimise and, where possible, eliminate the bycatch (accidental capture) and entanglement of sensitive marine species in UK fisheries

**Cefas:** Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science

**Crown Dependencies (CDs):** Self-governing jurisdictions of the Crown; Bailiwick of Guernsey, the Bailiwick of Jersey and the Isle of Man

**Devolved Administrations:** collective term for the executive bodies in Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales: the Northern Ireland Executive, the Scottish Government and the Welsh Government

**Discarding:** is the practice of returning unwanted catches to the sea, either dead or alive

**English waters:** The area of sea within the limits of territorial waters (12 nautical miles) adjacent to the English coastline (the 'inshore' area). This also includes any area of sea beyond the territorial limit (the 'offshore' area), that is within the exclusive economic zone (EEZ) and the UK sector of the continental shelf (up to 200 nautical miles)

**European Union (EU):** Union of 27 member states that are located primarily in Europe

**Fisher:** A person who catches fish for a living or for recreational activity

**Fisheries:** The capture of wild marine organisms (fish and shellfish); commercial fishing can use a variety of mobile and static gear, vessels and locations

**Fisheries Act 2020:** The Fisheries Act is the legislative framework developed after Act to make provision in relation to fisheries, fishing, aquaculture and marine

conservation; to make provision about the functions of the Marine Management Organisation; and for connected purposes

**Fisheries Management Plan (FMP):** A document, prepared and published under the Fisheries Act that sets out policies designed to restore one or more stocks of sea fish to, or maintain them at, sustainable levels

**Fisheries Policy Authorities:** As defined by section 52 of the Fisheries Act 2020, fisheries policy authorities are (a) the Secretary of State, (b) the Scottish Ministers, (c) the Welsh Ministers, and (d) the Northern Ireland department

**Fishing industry:** The economic activity concerned with catching fish for food or sport

**Fully documented fisheries:** Describes the use of monitoring approaches including technology to support better data on fishing activity, ensuring it is documented, audited and compliant

**Gear:** Refers to different types of equipment used for fishing

**GPS:** Global Positioning System

**Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authorities (IFCAs):** There are 10 IFCAs in England responsible for the management of fishing activities in English coastal waters out to six nautical miles from territorial sea baselines. The IFCAs have a shared vision to lead, champion and manage a sustainable marine environment and inshore fisheries

**International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES):** Coordinates and promotes marine research on oceanography, the marine environment, the marine ecosystem, and on living marine resources in the North Atlantic

**Inshore Vessel Monitoring System (i-VMS):** i-VMS devices are similar to the VMS tracking devices used by fishing vessels 12 metres and greater. i-VMS devices monitor inshore fishing activity to help improve the management and sustainability of our marine environment, ensure proper fishing practices and prevent illegal fishing to help protect and enhance the livelihoods of fishers

**Joint Fisheries Statement (JFS):** A document which sets out the policies of the fisheries policy authorities for achieving, or contributing to the achievement of, the fisheries objectives in the Fisheries Act 2020

**The landing obligation:** The landing obligation applies to all fishing vessels, including those under 10 metres in length. It does not apply to recreational fisheries. All quota species must be landed and counted against quota unless exemptions apply

**Marine Management Organisation (MMO):** An executive non-departmental public body in the United Kingdom established under the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009, with responsibility for planning and licensing of activities in English waters from 0-200nm, save fisheries activities within 0-6nm which are the responsibility of the IFCAs. The MMO also has some UK responsibilities.

**Marine Protected Areas (MPA):** Areas of the sea protected by law for nature conservation purposes

**Maximum Sustainable Yield (MSY):** Defined in the Fisheries Act 2020 as the highest theoretical equilibrium yield that can be continuously taken on average from a marine stock under existing environmental conditions without significantly affecting the reproduction process

**NGO:** Non-governmental organisation

**Non-Quota Stocks (NQS):** Species that are not managed through Total Allowable Catches (quota limits). They include some finfish, most commercial shellfish species, and various other species

**Remote electronic monitoring (REM):** Integrated on-board systems that may include cameras, gear sensors, video storage, and GPS units, which capture comprehensive videos and are used to monitor of fishing activity with associated sensor and positional information

**Seafood supply chain:** The seafood supply chain begins with a producer (the fisher) and terminates with an end buyer, who sells to a consumer. End buyers include retail outlets (from locally owned fish markets to national supermarket chains), restaurants, and foodservice establishments, such as hotels, hospitals, and schools

**Sensitive species:** As defined in section 52 of the Fisheries Act 2020, sensitive species means: (a) any species of animal or plant listed in Annex II or IV of Directive 92/43/EEC of the Council of the European Communities on the conservation of natural habitats and of wild flora and fauna (as amended from time to time), (b) any other species of animal or plant, other than a species of fish, whose habitat, distribution, population size or population condition is adversely affected by pressures arising from fishing or other human activities, or (c) any species of bird

**Spatial squeeze:** Is a term that describes the increasing competition for fishing space within English waters owing to the development of marine activity, including renewable energy and conservation

**Sustainable fishing:** In the JFS, sustainable fishing means environmental, economic and social considerations are appropriately balanced when managing our fisheries to benefit present and future generations. It means ensuring that fish stocks can be fished, commercially and recreationally, both now and in the future. In doing

so, the fisheries policy authorities will carefully consider both the short term and the long-term impacts of decisions on fish stocks and the fishing industry before acting; short term socio-economic decisions should not significantly compromise the long-term health of the marine environment. These decisions will need to recognise the cultural importance of fishing through maintaining and, where possible, strengthening coastal communities and livelihoods alongside the requirement for fish stocks to reach and maintain sustainable levels

**Total Allowable Catch (TAC):** The TAC is a catch limit set for a particular fishery or stock, generally for a year or a fishing season. TACs are usually expressed in tonnes of live weight equivalent but are sometimes set in terms of numbers of fish

**Traceability:** Seafood traceability is the ability to fully trace a product from the point of sale back to its point of origin

**Vessel Monitoring Systems (VMS):** VMS is a general term to describe systems that are used in commercial fishing to allow environmental and fisheries regulatory organizations to track and monitor the activities of fishing vessels