

Seabed Survey Licence (SSL) Activities Information Table

*What requires an SSL from The Crown Estate? **

Type of Surveys	Description	Survey Techniques	SSL required?
Geophysical <input type="checkbox"/> <i>water column</i> <input type="checkbox"/> <i>remotely sensing</i>	The collection of spatial data about the seabed from remote sensing systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Singlebeam bathymetry <input type="checkbox"/> Multibeam bathymetry • Sidescan sonar • Magnetometer • RoxAnn • Seismic profiling 	No
Ecological		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marine mammal/bird observations from ship • Video/camera surveys in water column only • Trawls out of the public right of fishing o e.g. benthic/bottom/demersal/pelagic 	No
Archaeological/ Wreck investigation <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Non-intrusive survey predominantly water column or access activities</i>	Small scale in-situ survey or retrieval of archaeological artefacts from the seabed** by hand, access to dive site and non-intrusive seabed activities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Divers • RoV • Hand fanning of sediment • Diver trails • Diving shot line • Marker buoys placed or recovered by hand 	No
Geophysical <input type="checkbox"/> <i>deployed on seabed</i>	Seismic data acquisition	<input type="checkbox"/> Ocean bottom nodes	Yes
Geotechnical/ Geological	The collection of engineering data to understand the behaviour and properties of the seabed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cone penetration tests • Vibrocore and dropcore • Bore hole • Grab sampling 	Yes
Ecological/ Habitat Mapping	The sampling of flora and fauna of the seabed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grab sampling (hamon, day etc) • Core sampling • CPODs/TPODs • Passive acoustic monitoring • Video deployment (on seabed) and camera • Drop-down camera surveys (interacting with seabed) 	Yes
Met-Ocean	The sampling of the meteorological and oceanographic climate of the sea	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wave Buoy • Acoustic Doppler current profiler • Tide gauge • Floating LiDAR 	Yes
Archaeological/ Wreck further exploration and study <input type="checkbox"/> <i>More large scale movement that interferes with seabed</i>	Larger scale artefact retrieval where equipment is used to redistribute sediment or the activities are intrusive to the seabed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Airlifts and/or hydrolifts and, prop or water jet washing • Mooring***on the seabed for a period over 72 hours • Seabed stabilization o e.g. <i>Sandbagging</i> 	Yes

**For carbon capture & storage exploration and appraisal activities taking place as per an NSTA Carbon Storage Licence separate permissions are required, consistent with the Energy Act (2008). This applies to projects outside of the Track 1 and Track 2 cluster programmes. Please contact ccus@thecrownestate.co.uk for further information.*

***Excluding the recovery of items for salvage, for sale or personal use*

**** Mooring defined by TCE as a permanent set of mooring tackle which is not taken on board a vessel except when the mooring is laid or taken up (cables or other tackle used to attach a vessel to the shore are also called moorings so please see our coastal department for details on shoreline mooring rights)*

Please contact us via consents@thecrownestate.co.uk with a scope of your works if you are not sure if consent is required

20240816_SSL Information Table V3.0