

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Term	Definition
AONB	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty: A statutory designation by the Countryside Commission. The purpose of the AONB designation is to identify areas of national importance and to promote the conservation and enhancement of natural beauty. This includes protecting its flora, fauna, geological and landscape features.
Adaptation	Implies that there may be some actual change in the way a feature, such as a habitat or a community functions. In supporting adaptation, management has to recognise certain principles: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That adaptation may take time and may evolve slowly so that change to the overall community does not happen immediately. • That management should not encourage a progressively more vulnerable situation to develop, where there is a sudden change from one condition to another. • That specific aspects of a feature, such as individual properties or elements of habitat may change or be lost, but without substantial loss to the value of the community or the overall ecological function of the feature.
Anthropogenic	Impacts that originate from humans.
AA	Appropriate Assessment
ATL	Advance the Line. Policy decision to build new defences seaward of the existing defence line where significant land reclamation is considered.
Beach nourishment	Artificial process of replenishing a beach with material from another source.
Benefits (related to issue)	The service that a feature provides. In other words, why people value or use a feature. For example, a nature reserve, as well as helping to preserve biodiversity and meet national legislation, may also provide a recreation outlet much like a sports centre provides a recreation function.
Berm crest	Ridge of sand or gravel deposited by wave action on the shore just above the normal high water mark.
BAP	Biodiversity Action Plan
Brackish water	Freshwater mixed with seawater.
Breaker zone	Area in the sea where the waves break.
CSG	Client Steering Group.
Coastal squeeze	The reduction in habitat area that can arise if the natural landward migration of a habitat under sea level rise is prevented by the fixing of the high water mark, e.g. a vertical sea wall will prevent a mudflat naturally migrating inland if sea levels rise.
Defra	Department for Food, Environment and Rural Affairs
Defra Procedural Guidance	The Shoreline Management Plan (SMP) Procedural Guidance produced by Defra to provide a nationally consistent structure for the production of future generation Shoreline Management Plans.
Downdrift	Direction of longshore movement of beach materials.
Ebb-tide	The falling tide, part of the tidal cycle between high water and the next low water.
Ecosystem	Organisation of the biological community and the physical environment in a specific geographical area.
Enhance (improve)	The value of a feature increases.

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EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment. Detailed studies that predict the effects of a development project on the environment. They also provide plans for mitigation of any significant adverse impacts.
EMF	Elected Members Forum.
Epoch	The three periods of time in which the Shoreline Management Plan is reviewed in. The first epoch is 0-20 years, the second epoch is 20-50 years and the third epoch is 50-100 years.
ESA	Environmentally Sensitive Area. A non-statutory designation for an area where special land management payments are available through agreement with Defra to provide farming practices which are beneficial to the environment.
Feature	Something tangible that provides a service to society in one form or another or, more simply, benefits certain aspects of society by its very existence. Usually this will be of a specific geographical location and specific to the SMP.
Fetch	Area or length of water where waves are generated by the wind.
Flood-tide	Rising tide, part of the tidal cycle between low water and the next high water.
Flood Zone	A geographical area officially designated to be subject to potential flood inundation. The Environment Agency uses Flood Zone 2 and Flood Zone 3.
Foreshore	Zone between the high water and low water marks.
Geomorphology/ Morphology	The branch of physical geography/geology which deals with the form of the Earth, the general configuration of its surface, the distribution of the land, water, etc. In relation to this SMP it can relate to the movement (through erosion and deposition) of material at the water's edge.
Groyne	Shore protection structure built perpendicular to the shore; designed to trap sediment.
HTL	Hold the Line. Policy decision to maintain or upgrade the level of protection provided by defences or natural coastline.
Heritage Coast	A non-statutory designation by the Countryside Commission for coasts of scenic quality, their largely undeveloped nature and their special wildlife and historic interest. Local authorities assist with the management of Heritage Coasts often with Heritage Coast officers.
Integrated	An approach that tries to take all issues and interests into account. In taking this approach, managing one issue adds value to the way another is dealt with.
LNR	Local Nature Reserves. A statutory designation for sites established by local authorities in consultation with Natural England. These sites are generally of local significance and also provide important opportunities for public enjoyment, recreation and interpretation.
Maintain	That the value of a feature is not allowed to deteriorate.
MA	Management Area. A collection of Policy Units that are interdependent and should therefore be managed collectively.
MDSF	Modelling and Decision Support Framework. Mapping linked computer tool used in the evaluation of assets at risk from flooding or erosion.
Mean sea level	Average height of the sea surface.
MHW	Mean High Water. The average of all high waters observed over a sufficiently long period.
MLW	Mean Low Water. The average of all low waters observed over a

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	sufficiently long period.
MR	Managed Realignment. Policy decision to manage the coastal processes to realign the 'natural' coastline configuration, either seaward or landward, in order to create a future sustainable shoreline position.
NAI	No Active Intervention. Policy decision to not to invest in providing or maintaining defences or natural coastline.
NNR	National Nature Reserves. A statutory designation by Natural England. These represent some of the most important natural and semi-natural ecosystems in Great Britain and are managed to protect the conservation value of the habitats that occur on these sites.
Objective	A desired state to be achieved in the future. An objective is set, through consultation with key parties, to encourage the resolution of the issue or range of issues.
Offshore zone	Extends from the low water mark to a water depth of about 15 m (49 ft) and is permanently covered with water.
Policy	In this context, "policy" refers to the generic shoreline management options (No Active Intervention, Hold the Existing Line of Defence, Managed Realignment, Advance the Existing Line of Defence).
PDZ	Policy Development Zone. A length of coastline defined for the purpose of assessing all issues and interactions to examine and develop management scenarios. These zones are only used in the procedure of developing policy. Policy Units and Management Areas are then used for the Final definition of the policies and the management of the coast.
Policy Scenario	A combination of policies selected against the various feature/benefit objectives for the whole SMP frontage.
Policy Units	Sections of coastline for which a certain coastal defence management policy has been defined. These are then grouped into Management Areas for management purposes.
PV	Present Value. The value of a stream of benefits or costs when discounted back to the present day. For this SMP the discount factors used are the latest provided by Defra for assessment of schemes, i.e. 3.5% for years 0-30, 3.0% for years 31-75, and 2.5% thereafter.
Ramsar	Designated under the, "Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat" 1971. The objective of this designation is to prevent the progressive encroachment into, and the loss of wetlands.
RIGS	Regionally Important Geological/Geomorphological Sites. A non-statutory designation identified by locally developed criteria and are currently the most important places for geology and geomorphology outside statutorily protected land such as SSSI's.
SAC	Special Area of Conservation. This designation aims to protect habitats or species of European importance and can include Marine Areas. SACs are designated under the EC Habitats Directive (92/43EEC) and will form part of the Natura 2000 site network. All SACs sites are also protected as SSSI, except those in the marine environment below the Mean Low Water (MLW).
SM	Scheduled Ancient Monuments. A statutory designation under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979. This Act, building on legislation dating back to 1882, provides for nationally

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	important archaeological sites to be statutorily protected as Scheduled Ancient Monuments.
SEA	Strategic Environmental Assessment.
Setback	Prescribed distance landward of a coastal feature (e.g. the line of existing defences).
SLA	Special Landscape Area. A non-statutory designation for an area usually identified by local authorities as having a strategic landscape importance.
SMA	Sensitive Marine Area. A non-statutory designation for nationally important locations around the coast that require a cautious and detailed approach to management. They are identified by Natural England for their important benthic populations, spawning or nursery areas for fish, fragile intertidal communities, or breeding, feeding, and roosting areas for birds and sea mammals.
SMP	Shoreline Management Plan. A non-statutory plan, which provides a large-scale assessment of the risks associated with coastal processes and presents a policy framework to reduce these risks to people and the developed, historic and natural environment in a sustainable manner.
SNCI	Site of Nature Conservation Importance. A non-statutory designation defined by the Wildlife Trusts and Local Authorities as sites of local nature conservation interest. These form an integral part in the development of planning policies relating to nature conservations issues.
SPA	Special Protection Area. A statutory designation for internationally important sites, being set up to establish a network of protected areas of birds.
SSSI	Sites of Special Scientific Interest. A statutory designation notified by Natural England representing some of the best examples of Britain's natural features including flora, fauna, and geology.
Storm surge	A rise in the sea surface on an open coast, resulting from a storm.
Sustain	Refers to some function of a feature. A feature may change, but the function is not allowed to fail.
Swell	Waves that have travelled out of the area in which they were generated.
Tidal prism	The volume of water within an estuary between the level of high and low tide, typically taken for mean spring tides.
Tide	Periodic rising and falling of large bodies of water resulting from the gravitational attraction of the moon and sun acting on the rotating earth.
Topography	Configuration of a surface including its relief and the position of its natural and man-made features.
Transgression	The landward movement of the shoreline in response to a rise in relative sea level.
Updrift	Direction opposite to the predominant movement of longshore transport.
VMCA	Voluntary Marine Conservation Areas. A statutory designation to protect the marine conservation importance of a site and to provide a focus for liaison, co-operation and education for a sustainable marine environment.
Water table	The upper surface of groundwater; below this level, the soil is saturated with water.

Term	Definition
WFD	Water Framework Directive.
Wave direction	Direction from which a wave approaches.
Wave refraction	Process by which the direction of approach of a wave changes as it moves into shallow water.
WPM	With present management policy.

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