

Section 11

Glossary of Terms and Abbreviations

Annex I Habitats

A natural habitat listed on Annex I of the Habitats Directive for which Special Areas of Conservation can be selected.

Annex II species

A species listed on Annex II of the Habitats Directive for which Special Areas of Conservation can be selected.

Attribute

A characteristic of a habitat, biotope, community or population of a species or habitat that most economically provides an indication of the interest feature to which it applies. For species this may include measures of population size, structure, habitat requirements and distribution. For habitats, attributes may include measures of area covered, composition, typical species and structure of supporting processes.

Appropriate Assessment

An appropriate assessment must consider the implications of the proposal in relation to the site's conservation objectives and should enable the competent authority to ascertain if the proposal will adversely affect the integrity of the site.

Aquaculture

Commercial farming of fish and watercress.

Competent Authorities

Authorities entitled to give an authorisation or consent to a plan or project. Includes any public or statutory body, including ministers, government departments, public or statutory undertakers, public bodies of any description, any person holding public office and any person exercising a function of a competent authority.

Conservation Objectives

A statement of nature conservation aspirations for the features of interest of a site, expressed in terms of the favourable condition that the species/habitats for which the site has been selected should attain.

Endocrine disruptors

Chemicals that mimic or inhibit the effects of hormones.

Eutrophication

Eutrophication is the process of nutrient enrichment.

Favourable conservation status

Favourable conservation status is the condition of a natural habitat or species in which the sum of influences on that habitat or species does not adversely affect its distribution, abundance, structure or function throughout the EU in the long term (the condition at which the habitat or species is capable of sustaining itself in the long term).

Favourable condition

A range of conditions for a natural habitat or species in which the sum of the influences upon that habitat or species does not adversely affect its distribution, abundance, structure or function throughout the individual cSAC in the long term.

Habitats Directive

The abbreviated term for the Council Directive 92/43/EEC of 21 May 1992 on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora.

Habitats Regulations

The abbreviated terms for the Conservation (Natural Habitats, & c.) Regulations 1994, which translate the Birds Directive and Habitats Directive into UK law.

Interest feature

A natural or semi-natural feature for which a site has been selected. This includes any Annex I habitat and Annex II species, and any population of bird species for which an SPA has been designated.

Minimum Biologically Acceptable Limit

The Minimum Biologically Acceptable Limit (MBAL) or Conservation Limit is the river-specific threshold for fish egg production. It is calculated from an assessment of the capacity of the river network to generate smolts from spawning and juvenile rearing habitat, representing the minimum egg production necessary to maximise smolt output from the system.

Natura 2000 network

The European network of protected sites established under the Birds Directive and Habitats Directive.

Plans and projects

Any proposed development within a relevant authority's function to control, or over which a competent authority has a statutory function to decide on applications for consents, authorisations, licences or permissions.

Precautionary principle

The assumption that where there are real threats of serious damage to the environment, lack of full scientific information should not be used as a justification for postponing measures to prevent such damage occurring.

Relevant authority

Statutory bodies having powers and functions that have or could have an impact on the area within or adjacent to a European site.

Special Area of Conservation (SAC)

A site of European Community importance designated by the member states, where necessary conservation measures are applied for the maintenance or restoration, at favourable conservation status, of the habitats and/or species for which the site is designated.

Special Protection Area (SPA)

A site designated under the Birds Directive by the member states where appropriate steps are taken to protect the bird species for which the site is designated.

Abbreviations

AMP	Asset Management Planning Programme
BAP	Biodiversity Action Plan
CAMS	Catchment Abstraction Management Strategy
CFMP	Catchment Flood Management Plan
CSS	Countryside Stewardship
CROW	Countryside and Rights of Way Act
ECAP	Eutrophication Control Action Plan
ESA	Environmentally Sensitive Area
LEAP	Local Environment Agency Plan
NT&GS	National Trout and Grayling Strategy
O&M	Operational and maintenance plan
RoC	Review of Consents
SAC	Special area of Conservation
SAP	Salmon Action Plan
SPA	Special Protection Area
SSSI	Site of Special Scientific Interest
WCA	Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, as amended by the Countryside and Rights of Way Act
WLMP	Water Level Management Plan

Abbreviations for Organisations

A&SRA	The Avon and Stour Rivers Association
CERC	County Environmental Records Centre
DEFRA	Department of the Environment, Fisheries and Rural Affairs
EA	Environment Agency
EN	English Nature
GCT	Game Conservancy Trust
HA	Highways Authority
LAs	Local Authorities
LA 21	Local Agenda 21
LRC	Local Record Centre
RRC	River Restoration Centre
RSPB	Royal Society for the Protection of birds
WFA	Wiltshire Fishery Association
WSRT	Wessex Salmon and Rivers Trust
WTs	Wildlife Trusts
WTT	Wild Trout Trust
W COs	Water companies