

Seabed Survey Licence (SSL) Activities Information Table			
What requires an SSL from The Crown Estate?			
Type of Surveys	Description	Survey Techniques	SSL required?
Geophysical – water column – remotely sensing	The collection of spatial data about the seabed from remote sensing systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Singlebeam bathymetry • 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 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ e.g. benthic/bottom/demersal/pelagic 	No
Archaeological/ Wreck investigation – Non-intrusive survey predominantly water column or access activities	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 – deployed on seabed	Seismic data acquisition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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 – More large scale movement that interferes with seabed	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 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ e.g. Sandbagging 	Yes

* 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