JNCC – who we are

JNCC provide evidence and advice to the UK Government and devolved administrations on nature conservation and are sponsored by the Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs.

JNCC collaboratively carry out surveys in UK offshore waters (>12nm from shore) with partners including Cefas and Marine Scotland Science.

Data – building an evidence base

JNCC gather evidence on seabed species and habitats. We collect a wide range of benthic data including acoustics, grabs and, of course, video and still imagery.

Imagery – how we use it

The imagery data we collect support our work in a variety of areas including:

- Mapping
- Habitat classification
- MPA designation & management
- Species analysis
- Monitoring

Case study – analysis of Sabellaria spinulosa reef

Project aimed to improve video analysis techniques used by JNCC for Sabellaria spinulosa reef mapping.

Video transects were split into 5 second segments using VirtualDub.

Analysed for Presence/absence, percentage cover, estimation of average tube elevation of Sabellaria spinulosa reef.

Improved resolution of reef feature heterogeneity for future monitoring and assessment purposes.

Work is ongoing to further refine and improve this process.

Availability – ‘collect once, use many times’

All the data we collect are available free of charge under the Open Government License. These data are (or will be) available from a number of outlets including:

Case study – accessing MPA imagery data

Please use our data!

We’re really keen to make the most of our evidence base and would like to encourage people to use our data. Please let us know if you have any ideas!

Acknowledgements

JNCC works closely with partners including Cefas, Marine Scotland Science and Defra to deliver its marine evidence. Icons designed by Madebyoliver & Freepik from Flaticon.