



## Glossary

**Aerated:** (referring to a liquid) The changed state by the addition of gases, such as oxygen and carbon dioxide.

**Algae:** A group of mostly aquatic, simple plants which includes seaweeds.

**Baseline assessment:** The first survey of an area to base future comparisons against.

**Biosecurity:** Measures and practices designed to prevent the introduction and spread of harmful organisms, such as invasive species or diseases, in natural or managed environments.

**Bivalve:** A type of mollusc with a two-part shell (such as mussels, oysters, clams, and scallops) which filter-feed by drawing in water to extract nutrients.

**Blades:** (leaves) The tissues above ground which are responsible for photosynthesis.

**Canopy height:** The average height of a seagrass meadow, and the measurement of the distance between the sediment surface and the top of the seagrass blades.

**Citizen science:** The involvement of the public in scientific research, often through data collection, observation, or analysis, to contribute to scientific knowledge and conservation.

**Common eelgrass:** The larger of the two seagrass species found in UK waters, also known as *Zostera Marina*.

**Community hubs:** Local centres or focal points where people gather to share resources, knowledge, and engage in social, educational, or environmental activities.

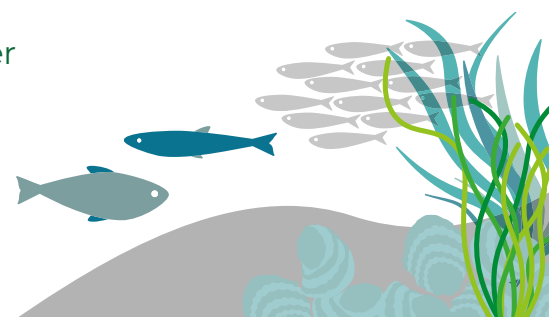
**Core:** A cylindrical device used to collect a sample of seagrass and its sediment.

**Dwarf eelgrass:** The smaller of the two seagrass species found in UK waters, also known as *Zostera Noltii*.

**Dispenser Injection Seeding (DIS):** A restoration technique that uses altered sealant guns to inject seagrass seeds into marine sediments.

**Donor meadow:** A healthy seagrass meadow that can provide seeds for restoration elsewhere.

**Ecosystem engineer:** A plant or animal that is able to alter the state of the environment it lives in, which impacts on other species and the wider ecosystem.



**Epiphyte:** A plant that grows on another plant.

**Exposure:** The lack of, or limited, protection against physical conditions.

**Geospatial:** Data that relates to a specific location.

**Germination:** The process by which a plant grows from a seed into a seedling.

**Global Positioning System (GPS) unit:** An electronic device that uses satellite information to determine the geographic location of the user.

**Habitat:** The environment a plant or animal lives in.

**Intertidal:** The area of the seashore which is covered at high tide and uncovered at low tide.

**Invasive species:** Species that have been introduced to a new environment, either intentionally or unintentionally, and pose a threat to ecosystems or biodiversity.

**Larvae:** The immature, free-swimming developmental stage of many marine organisms before they undergo metamorphosis into their adult form.

**NatureScot:** The lead public body responsible for advising Scottish Ministers on all matters relating to the natural heritage.

**Protected area:** A designated region, such as a marine reserve or national park, where conservation measures are in place to safeguard wildlife, habitats, and biodiversity from harmful human activities.

**Quadrat:** A square frame (usually 0.25m<sup>2</sup>, 0.5m<sup>2</sup> or 1m<sup>2</sup>) used to isolate a sample area of study from a larger area.

**Restoration:** The process of helping ecosystems recover from previous, and ongoing, damage.

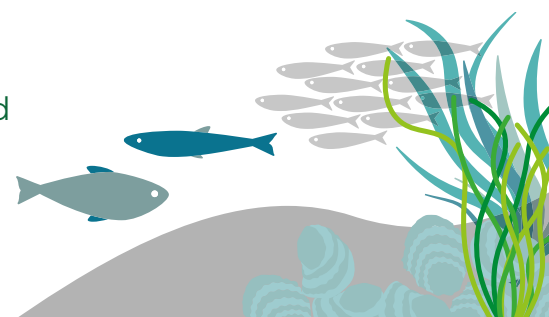
**Rhizome:** A plant stem which grows horizontally beneath the sediment surface and is the structure which roots and shoots grow from.

**Root:** The part of a plant which grows underground and anchors the plant in its environment. Its role is to source nutrients from the sediment and deliver them to the rest of the plant.

**Seagrass meadow:** A large area made up of seagrass plants.

**Settlement:** In marine biology, the process by which free-swimming larvae attach to a surface and transition into their next stage of life, often becoming fixed in place.

**Spat:** The juvenile stage of bivalves, such as mussels or oysters, after they have settled from their larval phase and begun to grow a shell.



**Spathes:** The seed pod of the seagrass plant found at the end of a reproductive shoot.

**Species:** A group of organisms that can reproduce with each other to produce fertile offspring.

**Stakeholder:** A person or organisation with an interest in something.

**Stewardship:** The act of looking after something to ensure proper care.

**Substrate:** Any surface on which an organism can attach, grow, or live, including rocks, sand, mud, or artificial structures in marine environments.

**Subtidal:** The area of the seashore, which is always underwater, below the low tide mark.

**Survey:** To closely examine an area and to record details related to features within that environment.

**Survival:** The ability of a plant to continue to live and remain in an environment from one time period to the next.

**Transect:** A straight line (e.g. rope or measuring tape) on the ground that is used in biological sampling and monitoring.

**Transplant:** To take a section of a plant and plant it in another area.

**Viability:** The ability to grow and develop.

