



## **Marine Environment Monitoring and Assessment National Database (MERMAN)**

### **Public Data Supply Agreement**

#### **Background**

The British Oceanographic Data Centre (BODC) act on behalf of relevant Government Departments and Competent Monitoring Authorities to provide data collected under the Clean Seas Environment Monitoring Programme (CSEMP).

The Government Departments are: The Department of Environment, Fisheries, and Rural Affairs (Defra); Scottish Executive Environment and Rural Affairs Department (SEERAD), Department for Agriculture and Rural Affairs for Northern Ireland (DARDNI), Department of the Environment for Northern Ireland (DOENI).

The Competent Monitoring Authorities are: The Environment Agency (EA); Fisheries Research Services (FRS); The Centre for Environment Fisheries & Aquaculture Sciences (Cefas); The Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA); The Agriculture, Food and Biology Institute (AFBI); and The Environment and Heritage Service (EHS).

#### **Charges**

The Government Departments, Competent Monitoring Authorities and BODC are committed to providing these data free of charge. However, it is important that users of the data co-operate in making known their intended use of the data and in reporting back on the outcome of that use. Such information is required as evidence to:

- a) justify the continued maintenance of the programme
- b) justify the continued maintenance of the data.
- c) demonstrate the scientific and economic value of making the data available.

#### **Conditions of Use**

1. Users should not pass on the data to third parties but instead direct interested parties to MERMAN data managers at BODC.
2. The Monitoring Agencies and BODC give no warranty as to the accuracy of the data or as to the suitability of the data for their intended use by the recipient and shall not be responsible for any errors or omissions, or for the use of, or results obtained from the use of this information.

3. Publications resulting from the use of the data must include acknowledgement to the Monitoring Authorities and BODC. Suggested text "The data were supplied by the British Oceanographic Data Centre on behalf of the Clean Safe Seas Evidence Group".
4. The recipient shall:
  - a) Inform BODC of the outputs to which data have contributed e.g. references to scientific publications or reports.
  - b) Offer to BODC and CSSEG, if requested and without charge, a copy of any value added data set or product derived from the data.
  - c) Inform BODC of any inaccuracies or errors detected in the data.
5. BODC and or CSEMP are entitled to terminate the data supply agreement at any time if the conditions of use are not observed
6. All intellectual property rights in the data and information supplied to you whether owned by NERC, relevant Government Departments and Competent Monitoring Authorities will continue to be owned by the respective parties.
7. The data in whole or in part may not be used to provide a product for a consultancy contract or to prepare a tradeable commodity for open sale without a licence agreement with BODC explicitly permitting such use. A royalty payment will normally be payable for the use of the data in a tradeable commodity for open sale.

## **Disclaimer**

While BODC, relevant Government Departments and Competent Monitoring Authorities believe the information to be reliable, human or mechanical error remains a possibility. Therefore, BODC and the Competent Monitoring Authorities do not guarantee the accuracy, completeness, timeliness, or correct sequencing of the information. Neither BODC, or the Competent Monitoring Authorities shall be responsible for any errors or omissions, or for the use of or results obtained from the use of this information.

I agree to abide by the conditions of this agreement and I have authority for entering into this agreement on behalf of the above mentioned organisation and will ensure that all individuals having access to the data are aware of the conditions under which the data are supplied. I give permission for the information below to be stored on a database and used by BODC.

Name: ..... Signed: .....

Position: ..... Date: .....

Organisation: .....

Address: .....

Please state the proposed use of the data: .....

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Please state where you found out about the MERMAN database (highlight as appropriate):

- Defra web pages ([www.defra.gov.uk](http://www.defra.gov.uk))
- BODC web pages ([www.bodc.ac.uk](http://www.bodc.ac.uk))
- UKDMOS ([www.ukdmos.org](http://www.ukdmos.org))
- MEDIN ([www.oceannet.org](http://www.oceannet.org))
- Other, please specify:.....