

**THE AREA INVOLVED – 8th ANNUAL REPORT**



## An industry committed to responsible management through continual development

*In March 1999 The Crown Estate and the British Marine Aggregate Producers Association (BMAPA) issued a statement of intent committing themselves to reviewing all licences over a rolling five year period, surrendering areas no longer containing useful resources of sand and gravel and publishing an annual report detailing the extent of dredging within the licensed areas.*

*This year's report is the eighth in an ongoing series, and its content reflects the continued commitment to this initiative by both The Crown Estate and the members of BMAPA.*

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This report contains summary information on the area of seabed licensed, dredged and surrendered during 2005, based on data from The Crown Estate Offshore Marine GIS and from analysis of dredger Electronic Monitoring System records.

Information on dredged area and intensity has been derived from the variable grid analysis.

A set of regional charts have been prepared to show the extent and intensity of dredging operations. Additional facts and figures on marine aggregate dredging activity by region are also presented.

The figures for the active dredge area – the area actually available to be dredged at any one time – have been updated for 2005. While the limits of these areas are not presented on the charts associated with this report, detailed regional zoning plans (updated on a bi-annual basis) are available from either The Crown Estate or BMAPA websites, or by contacting the addresses on the reverse of this report.

### Summary information

- a total of 21.09 million tonnes of sand and gravel were dredged from Crown Estate licences in England and Wales during 2005 (21.45 million tonnes in 2004)
- the total area of seabed licensed in 2005 decreased to 1179 km<sup>2</sup> (1257 km<sup>2</sup> in 2004)
- dredging took place within 137.6 km<sup>2</sup>, 11.7% of the licensed area, compared to 134.5 km<sup>2</sup> (10.7%) in 2004
- the area of seabed dredged for more than 1 hr 15 minutes per year (high intensity – red on charts) decreased to 9.50 km<sup>2</sup> (10.18 km<sup>2</sup> in 2004)
- 90% of dredging from Crown Estate licences took place from an area of 45.42 km<sup>2</sup> (42.67 km<sup>2</sup> in 2004)

## Summary statistics for 2005

Region	Total area licensed (km <sup>2</sup> ) during 2005	Total active dredge area <sup>1</sup> for 2005 (km <sup>2</sup> )	Total area dredged (km <sup>2</sup> ) during 2005
Humber	483.68	146.70	31.17
East Coast	268.00	182.96	52.48
Thames	102.87	96.36	12.30
South Coast	215.45	100.37	29.35
South West	54.41	49.55	10.24
North West	54.95	19.96	2.01
<b>Total (km<sup>2</sup>)</b>	<b>1179.36</b>	<b>595.90</b>	<b>137.55</b>

<sup>1</sup> Total area actually available to be dredged during 2005, calculated on a cumulative basis

### Area of seabed licensed decreased by 78 km<sup>2</sup> during 2005

Area of seabed licensed (km<sup>2</sup>), 2001–2005

Year <sup>1</sup>	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
0–6 nm <sup>2</sup>	470	439	450	443	385
6–12 nm <sup>2</sup>	535	517	469	469	449
>12 nm	403	403	345	345	345
<b>Total area licensed (km<sup>2</sup>)</b>	<b>1408</b>	<b>1359</b>	<b>1264</b>	<b>1257</b>	<b>1179</b>
<b>Total active dredge area (km<sup>2</sup>)</b>	<b>972</b>	<b>896</b>	<b>890</b>	<b>780</b>	<b>596</b>

<sup>1</sup> Annual figures are calculated as of the 31st December, and therefore incorporate any changes that may have occurred through the year

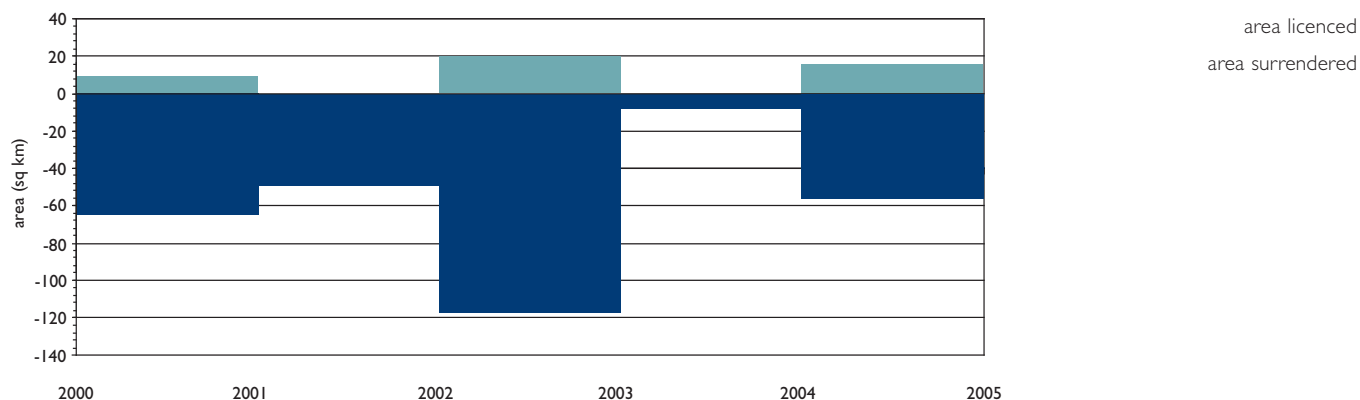
<sup>2</sup> 6 and 12 nm as issued by UKHO on 1st January 2005

### Area of seabed dredged increased by 3.1 km<sup>2</sup> during 2005

Area of seabed dredged (km<sup>2</sup>), 2001–2005 (from EMS variable grid analysis)

Year	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
0–6 nm	74	70	72	71	67
6–12 nm	55	58	45	43	43
>12 nm	21	21	27	20	28
<b>Total (km<sup>2</sup>)</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>149</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>138</b>
<b>Area dredged &gt;1 hr 15 mins (km<sup>2</sup>)</b>	<b>12.33</b>	<b>11.88</b>	<b>11.81</b>	<b>10.18</b>	<b>9.50</b>
<b>90% of dredging (area in km<sup>2</sup>)</b>	<b>48.55</b>	<b>51.57</b>	<b>45.68</b>	<b>42.67</b>	<b>45.42</b>

### New area licensed v existing area surrendered 2001–2005



## Background

Dredging offshore for aggregates began in the early Twentieth Century but it did not reach a significant scale until the 1970's, as markets for marine aggregates expanded and dredging technology improved. Almost all marine aggregate extraction takes place from licences on seabed owned by The Crown Estate. Planning permission is granted by the Department for Communities and Local Government (formerly the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister) or the Welsh Assembly Government/Scottish Executive under the Government View Procedure. The Crown Estate will only grant a licence following a favourable Government View.

## The Crown Estate

The Crown Estate is a landed estate including more than 120,000 hectares of agricultural land in England, Scotland and Wales, substantial blocks of commercial property (primarily in London) and an extensive marine estate covering 55% of the foreshore and all of the seabed out to the 12 mile territorial limit. Its origins date back to the reign of King Edward the Confessor. The Crown Estate is part of the hereditary possessions of the Sovereign 'in right of the Crown' managed under the provisions of The Crown Estate Act 1961 by The Crown Estate Commissioners who have a duty to maintain and enhance the value of the Estate and the income derived from it. The net revenue surplus is paid to the exchequer.

## BMAPA

The British Marine Aggregate Producers Association (BMAPA) was formed in 1992 and comprises members of the Quarry Products Association with a marine interest. Marine sand and gravel is supplied to home markets, as well as contributing to the balance of payments through exports to Continental Europe. In addition, marine aggregates are fulfilling an increasingly important role by supporting beach replenishment schemes. The marine aggregates industry operates over 25 vessels on 71 production licences around the UK. The vessels are almost entirely British registered.

BMAPA membership is comprised of: Britannia Aggregates Ltd, CEMEX UK Marine Ltd, DEME Building Materials Ltd, Hanson Aggregates Marine Ltd, Kendall Bros. (Portsmouth) Ltd, Lafarge Aggregates Ltd, Northwood (Fareham) Ltd, Norwest Sand and Ballast Company, United Marine Dredging Ltd and Volker Dredging Ltd.



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