

Glossary

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| adequate | With reference to the CAR system, adequate means parks and other conservation reserves that have practical boundaries, are of a sufficient size to ensure that physical and biological values can be protected and the impact of adjacent activities minimised, and that more than one example of each environment is protected. |
| aquaculture | The commercial growing of animals and plants in water. |
| arthropod | Member of the phylum <i>Arthropoda</i> , consisting of animals with hard jointed exoskeleton. |
| ascidian | Sessile chordate animal of the class <i>Ascidacea</i> , may be solitary or colonial and there is usually a free-swimming larva. |
| ballast water | Water carried in a ship's tank for stability; normally discharged to the sea when the ship is loaded and can be contaminated with pollutants or exotic organisms. |
| benthos, benthic | The flora and fauna of the seabed. |
| biomass | As measured by ecologists, the dried weight of all organic matter in the ecosystem. |
| biodiversity, biological diversity | The variability among living organisms and the ecological complexes of which they are part; this includes the diversity within species, between species and of ecosystems. |
| bioregion, biogeographic region, biophysical region | An area defined by a combination of biological, social and geographic criteria, rather than by geopolitical considerations (Commonwealth of Australia 1966). |
| biota | Collectively, the plants, micro-organisms and animals of a region. |
| bommie | An outcrop sharply rising from the seabed. |
| broken reef | Patches of usually low profile reef interspersed with sand. Broken reef can be worn bed-rock or calcified sediments and/or hard coral growths. Non bed-rock reef may be vulnerable to impact by some fishing methods. |
| bryozoan | Sessile colonial animal of the invertebrate phylum Bryozoa, sometimes known as 'moss animal' which form tuft-like or moss-like aggregate masses. |
| by-catch | Species that are also caught when fishing for a particular species (or size). It may be retained or discarded. |
| CAMBA | China Australia Migratory Bird Agreement. An intergovernmental agreement for the protection of Migratory Birds (1986). |
| CAR | Comprehensive, adequate and representative in relation to a system of protected areas. |
| catchment | The area of land that drains to a watercourse. |
| cephalopod | Mollusc with a distinct tentacled head including octopus, squid, cuttle-fish. |
| chordata | Phylum of animals with a hollow dorsal nerve cord. |
| community | An assemblage of plant and animal species living together in a defined area or habitat. |
| comprehensive | With reference to the CAR system, comprehensive means a system which protects examples of the full range of habitats and biological communities within each of Victoria's marine biophysical regions. |



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| conservation | The management of human use of the biosphere so that it may yield the greatest sustainable benefit to present generations, while maintaining its potential to meet the needs and aspirations of future generations; the maintenance of conditions or features in a sound or unimpaired state. |
| cultural heritage | Knowledge, places and things, including those made or changed by humans, that have aesthetic, historic, scientific, social or spiritual significance or other special value for future generations as well as the present community. |
| diatom | Microscopic unicellular alga with silicified cell-walls, found as plankton and forming fossil deposits. |
| ecologically sustainable development (ESD) | Using, conserving and enhancing the community's resources so that ecological processes, on which life depends, are maintained, and the total quality of life, now and in the future, can be increased (National Strategy for Ecologically Sustainable Development 1992). |
| ecology | The study of living organisms and their relationships to one another and the environment. |
| ecosystem | A dynamic complex of plant, animal and micro-organism communities and their non-living environment interacting as a functional unit (Convention on Biological Diversity 1992). |
| endemic | Native to a particular area and found nowhere else in the world. |
| estuary | The tidal mouth of a river where salinity is usually less than that of the sea. |
| exotic organisms | Animal or plant species that are not native to an area. |
| filter-feeding | A feeding strategy sieving plankton from the water. It is used by many molluscs and a few species of finfish. |
| gorgonian or sea-fan | An animal belonging to the invertebrate phylum Cnidaria with sea-whips and soft corals. |
| extensive marine aquaculture | In sites with support structures floating in, or on, the water or submerged and resting on the seabed, usually shellfish. |
| fecundity | Of high fertility. |
| habitat | The place or type of site where an organism or population naturally occurs (UNEP 1994). |
| heavy reef | Continuous unbroken reef, usually of protruding bed-rock, often deeply dissected. |
| high energy coastline | Areas of coast subject to the effects of storms and large waves. |
| hydroid | Animal of the invertebrate phylum Cnidaria, possessing stinging cells, often occurring as sessile colonies of polyps. Cnidaria also include corals and sea anemones. |
| intensive marine aquaculture | In deeper sites with support structures floating in, or on, the water or submerged and resting on the seabed, usually finfish. |
| Interim Marine and Coastal Regionalisation for Australia (IMCRA) | An ecosystem-based classification for marine and coastal environments. It provides ecologically based regionalisations at the meso-scale (100-1000km) and at a provincial scale (greater than 1000km). IMCRA is the bioregional framework for the planning and management of the NRSMPA. |
| indigenous species | Species that occur naturally in a region. |
| intertidal | Area between low and high tide which is subject to daily changes in physical and biological conditions from tide movement. |



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| invertebrates | Animals without an internal skeletal structure. Range from protozoans to sea squirts. |
| JAMBA | Japan Australia Migratory Bird Agreement. An intergovernmental agreement for the protection of Migratory Birds (1974). |
| kelp | Large brown seaweed. |
| land-based marine aquaculture | Where activities take place to the shoreward side of the high tide line, usually with the crop in artificial containers and with seawater pumped from nearby sea or estuarine areas. |
| low profile reef | Relatively flat reef which does not rise at a steep gradient. Low profile reef may be subject to sediment inundation. |
| macrophytes | Visible, relatively large, aquatic plants, especially marine plants, large enough to be visible to the naked eye. |
| marine aquaculture, mariculture | A form of aquaculture where the crop is grown in marine or estuarine waters. |
| molluscs | Group of soft bodied animals which usually have a hard shell (includes snails, bivalves, limpets, tooth shells as well as cephalopods). |
| NRSPMA | The National Representative System of Marine Protected Areas is a national system of marine protected areas which aims to contain comprehensive, adequate and representative samples of Australia's marine ecosystems. |
| OCS | Offshore Constitutional Settlement – an agreement between the States and the Commonwealth in relation to the territorial sea. |
| pelagic | Living in the water column as distinct from near the seabed or bottom. |
| phylum | High level taxonomic division, containing plants or animals of the same general form, ideally reflecting common ancestry. |
| phytoplankton | Planktonic plant organisms collectively. |
| planktonic | Mostly very small animals and plants of the sea which float or drift almost passively. |
| precautionary principle | Where there are threats of serious or irreversible environmental damage, lack of scientific certainty should not be used as a reason for postponing measures to prevent environmental degradation. |
| protected area/marine protected area (MPA) | An area of land and/or sea especially dedicated to the protection and maintenance of biological diversity, and of natural and associated cultural resources, and managed through legal or other effective means (IUCN 1994). |
| Ramsar site | A site listed under the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance (the 'Ramsar Convention'). The convention on Wetlands was signed in Ramsar, Iran, in 1971. |
| ranching | A form of aquaculture where juveniles are released into the wild, allowed to grow and harvested at a later date. |
| representative | With reference to the CAR system, representative means that parks and other conservation reserves reflect the diversity of the flora and fauna within each of the protected habitats and biological communities. |
| seagrass | Flowering plants adapted for life submerged in marine or estuarine environments. |
| seaweed | Any algae (red, brown or green) growing in or by the sea. |
| seine | A fishing net which hangs vertically in the water, the ends being brought together to enclose the fish. |



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| seining shot | One cast of a seine net. |
| sessile | Attached to the substrate, immobile. |
| shellfish | Animals living within biologically produced shells and exo-skeleton: molluscs and arthropods. |
| species | Populations of animals or plants that are able to interbreed and produce fertile offspring. |
| sponge | Aquatic animal of phylum Porifera with pores in the body-wall and a tough elastic skeleton. |
| subtidal | Below the low-water mark. |

ACRONYMS

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| AAV | Aboriginal Affairs Victoria |
| ANZECC | Australian New Zealand Environment and Conservation Council |
| CaLP | Catchment and Land (Protection) Management Board |
| CAMBA | China Australia Migratory Birds Agreement, 1986 |
| CBA | Cost benefit analysis |
| CMA | Catchment management authority |
| DNRE | Department of Natural Resources and Environment |
| ECC | Environment Conservation Council |
| EPA | Environment Protection Authority |
| ILO | International Labour Organisation |
| IUCN | World Conservation Union (formerly known as International Union for the Conservation of Nature) |
| IMCRA | Interim Marine and Coastal Regionalisation for Australia |
| JAMBA | Japan Australia Migratory Birds Agreement, 1974 |
| LCC | Land Conservation Council |
| MPA | Marine protected area |
| NRE | Department of Natural Resources and Environment |
| NRSMPA | National Representative System of Marine Protected Areas |
| OCS | Offshore Constitutional Settlement |
| SECV | State Electricity Commission of Victoria |
| SEPP | State Environment Protection Policy |
| TAC | Total allowable catch |
| UNEP | United Nations Environment Programme |
| UNESCO | United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation |
| VCA | Victorian Channels Authority |
| VCC | Victorian Coastal Council |
| VCS | Victorian Coastal Strategy |

