



# Cefas

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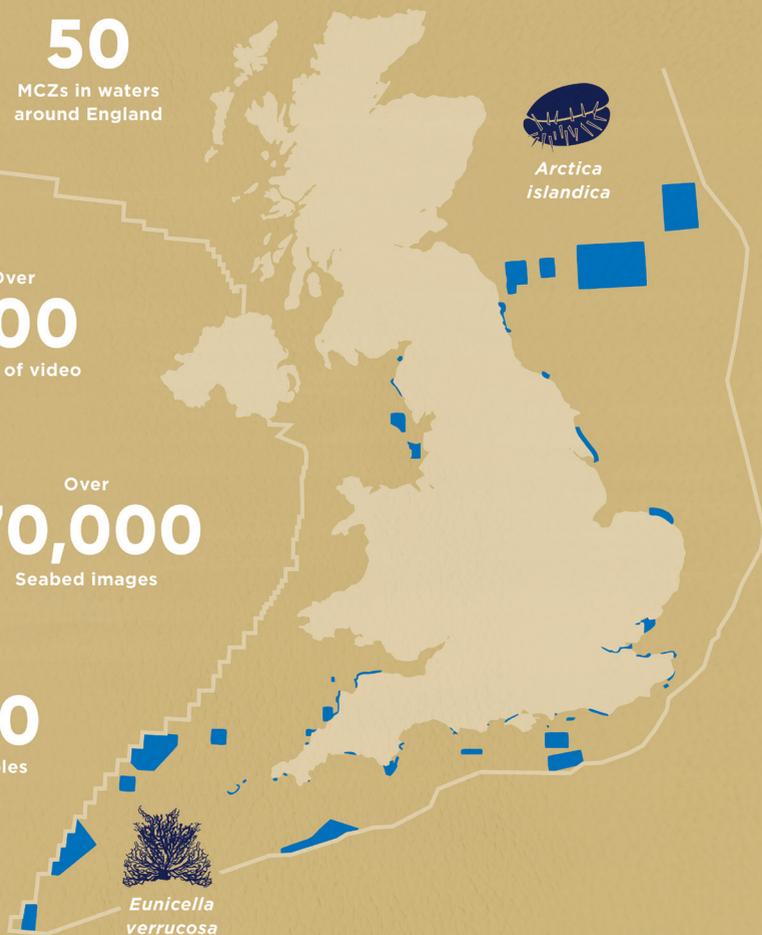
## 50

MCZs in waters  
around England

Over  
**900**  
Hours of video

Over  
**70,000**  
Seabed images

Over  
**4500**  
Seabed samples



## DESIGNATING MARINE CONSERVATION ZONES

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Centre for Environment  
Fisheries & Aquaculture  
Science

# DESIGNATING MARINE CONSERVATION ZONES

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The UK's MCZ programme has been designed to protect valuable biodiversity and complete a 'Blue Belt' of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) around the UK's coastline. Between 2011-2017 Cefas surveyed, sampled and mapped an area of seabed more than six times the area of Greater London in support of the MCZ programme.

The high quality habitat maps generated are fundamental to policy decisions on where to locate MCZs that optimise the effective protection of vulnerable marine habitat features and species of conservation importance.

Our work to support MPAs now extends beyond UK waters, with seabed habitat maps being produced for a number of Overseas Territories (OTs) and Small Island Developing States (SIDS). These maps, and other marine scientific work that supports the OTs and SIDS, will enable the fulfilment of the UK's commitment to 4 million square kilometres of protected maritime areas by 2020.

Looking ahead, Cefas will continue to work with conservation agencies and management organisations to assess the status of the MPAs and the features protected within the MCZ network as part of a comprehensive, integrated programme of marine monitoring. This will help track progress towards site specific conservation objectives and wider biodiversity assessment at the landscape or regional sea scale.

For more information please visit:  
[www.tinyurl.com/ydcmjjo2](http://www.tinyurl.com/ydcmjjo2)



**Cefas20**  
1902 ————— 1997–2017