

32. Celtic Sea frontal systems

Sensitivity Assessment

Table A11.32. Sensitivity assessment for Celtic Sea frontal systems. NR = not relevant, NA = not assessed, NEv = no evidence, H = high, M = medium, L = low, NS = not sensitive. Associated sectors include activities related to offshore renewable energy (O), Fishing (F), or shipping (S).

Pressures		Associated sector(s)	Resistance				Resilience				Sensitivity				References
Classification	Pressure type		Score	QoE	AoE	DoC	Score	QoE	AoE	DoC	Score	QoE	AoE	DoC	
Physical	Physical loss (to land or freshwater habitat)	O	None	L	NR	NR	H	L	NR	NR	H	L	NR	NR	-
	Physical change (to another seabed type)	O, F	M	L	M	M	M	L	M	M	M	L	M	M	-
	Physical change (to another sediment type)	O, F	M	L	M	M	M	L	M	M	M	L	M	M	-
	Habitat structure change-removal of substratum (extraction)	O	M	L	NR	NR	M	L	NR	NR	M	L	NR	NR	-
	Abrasion/disturbance of substratum surface or seabed	O, F	M	L	M	M	M	L	M	M	M	L	M	M	-

Pressures		Associated sector(s)	Resistance				Resilience				Sensitivity				References
Classification	Pressure type		Score	QoE	AoE	DoC	Score	QoE	AoE	DoC	Score	QoE	AoE	DoC	
	Penetration or disturbance of substratum subsurface	O, F	M	L	M	M	M	L	M	M	M	L	M	M	-
	Changes in suspended solids (water clarity)	O, F	H	H	H	M	H	H	H	M	NS	H	H	M	-
Physical	Smothering and siltation changes (light)	O	NEv	L	NR	NR	NEv	L	NR	NR	NEv	L	NR	NR	-
	Smothering and siltation changes (heavy)	O	L	L	H	L	M	L	H	L	M	L	H	L	-
	Underwater noise	O, F, S	M	M	M	H	H	M	H	H	L	M	M	H	-
	Electromagnetic energy	O	NEv	L	L	NR	NEv	L	LNR	NR	L	L	L	NR	-
	Barrier to species movement	O, F	M	L	L	NR	H	L	L	L	L	L	L	NRL	-

Pressures		Associated sector(s)	Resistance				Resilience				Sensitivity				References
Classification	Pressure type		Score	QoE	AoE	DoC	Score	QoE	AoE	DoC	Score	QoE	AoE	DoC	
	Death or injury by collision	O, F, S	M	L	NR	NR	M	L	NR	NR	M	L	L	L	-
Hydrological	Water flow changes	O	H	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	-
Chemical	Transition elements & organo-metal contamination	O, F, S	M	M	M	H	H	M	L	M	L	M	L	M	-
	Hydrocarbon & PAH contamination	O, F, S	L	H	M	H	H	H	M	H	L	M	L	M	-
	Synthetic compound contamination	O, F, S	NA	NR	NR	NR	NA	NR	NR	NR	Sensitive	NR	NR	NR	-
	Introduction of other substances	O, F, S	NEv	NR	NR	NR	NEv	NR	NR	NR	NEv	NR	NR	NR	-
	Deoxygenation	O	H	H	H	M	H	H	H	M	NS	H	H	M	-
Biological	Introduction or spread of invasive non-indigenous species	O, F, S	NA	NR	NR	NR	NA	NR	NR	NR	NA	NR	NR	NR	-

Pressures		Associated sector(s)	Resistance				Resilience				Sensitivity				References
Classification	Pressure type		Score	QoE	AoE	DoC	Score	QoE	AoE	DoC	Score	QoE	AoE	DoC	
	Removal of target species	F	L	H	H	H	L	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	-
	Removal of non-target species	F	L	H	H	H	L	H	H	H	H	H	H	H	-

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Literature search

The sensitivity analysis of the Celtic Sea frontal systems treats the fronts as a habitat type and is an aggregated sensitivity table based on the sensitivity analysis of features (individual species or a grouping of closely related species) which are closely associated with fronts and therefore classed as 'characterising species'. In total, 7 sensitivity tables were aggregated. A precautionary approach was used whereby the feature with the highest sensitivity to a specific pressure was used to provide the sensitivity scores for the final aggregated sensitivity table.

The 7 features used for the final aggregated table were:

1. Phytoplankton
2. Mesozooplankton
3. Macrozooplankton (see barrel assessment, appendix)
4. Planktivorous forage fish (see forage fish assessment, appendix)
5. Large planktivorous fish (see basking shark assessment, appendix)
6. Benthic predatory fish (see flapper skate assessment, appendix)
7. Pelagic predatory fish (see porbeagle assessment, appendix)

The reference list in this appendix includes all literature used to assess sensitivity for phytoplankton, zooplankton and potential broadscale ecosystem impacts where pressures or cumulative pressures might affect multiple taxa, trophic groups and ecosystem services. Other trophic groups were assessed using additional literature referenced within the specific assessment cross referenced in the list above.

Web of Science search terms zooplankton sensitivity analysis

(TI = ("phytoplankton") AND TI=("ballast" OR "barrier*"OR "beach*" OR "moor*" OR "noise" OR "ship*" OR "steaming" OR "construction" OR "electro*" OR "turbine*"OR "renewable*" OR "wind farm*" OR "anoxia" OR "copper" OR "disease*" OR "disturbance" OR "heavy metals" OR "hydrocarbon" OR "hypoxia" OR "litter" OR "nitrate*" OR "nitrite*" OR "noise" OR "radionuclide" OR "nutrient*" OR "oil*" OR "PAH*" OR "pathogen*" OR "PCB*" OR "plastic*" OR "regime" OR "salinity" OR "sedimentation" OR "silt*" OR "translocation" OR "tributyltin" OR "turbid*") NOT AB=("forest*" OR "terrestrial" OR "fresh*" OR "Seagrass" OR "lake") NOT TI=("fresh*" OR "lake*" OR "forest*" OR "terrestrial" OR "freshwater" OR "Seagrass")) AND (PY==("2024" OR "2023" OR "2022" OR "2021" OR "2020" OR "2019" OR "2018" OR "2017" OR "2016" OR "2015" OR "2014"))

Database

ISI Web of Science

Search date

18th April 2024 - 561 results

Search output and screening process

Article titles screened for relevance by including the words 'phytoplankton' and one of the pressures under consideration, e.g. 'bottom trawl*. Workflow follows the Rapid Evidence Assessment approach. The title and all auxiliary information (including abstract) were downloaded from ISI Web of Science in a .ris and excel format. In Excel, abstracts were read and listed to either pass or fail the initial screening process with a reason provided.

Outcome from screening

59 (0.1%) abstracts passed initial screening. Of these 59, 34 (0.06%) were used to provide evidence for the sensitivity analysis, along with expert knowledge within the advisory group.

Web of Science search terms zooplankton sensitivity analysis

TI = ("zooplankton") AND TI=("angl*" OR "beam" OR "bottom trawl*" OR "dredge*" OR "fish*" OR "gear" OR "gillnet*" OR "hook*" OR "injury" OR "net*" OR "otter trawl*" OR "remov*" OR "aggregate*" OR "anchor*" OR "ballast" OR "barrier*"OR "beach*" OR "launch*" OR "moor*" OR "noise" OR "ship*" OR "steaming" OR "collision*" OR "construction" OR "electro*" OR "turbine*"OR "renewable*" OR "wave" OR "wind" OR "wind farm*" OR "anoxia" OR "copper" OR "current*" OR "disease*" OR "disturbance" OR "endocrine disru*" OR "eutrophication" OR "exposure" OR "heavy metals" OR "hydrocarbon" OR "hypoxia" OR "litter" OR "nitrate*" OR "nitrite*" OR "noise" OR "radionuclide" OR "nutrient*" OR "oil*" OR "PAH*" OR "pathogen*" OR "PCB*" OR "plastic*" OR

“regime” OR “salinity” OR "sedimentation" OR "silt*" OR “temperatur*” OR “translocation” OR "tributyltin" OR “turbid*” OR “visual” OR "warm*") NOT AB=("forest*" OR "terrestrial" OR "freshwater" OR "Seagrass" OR "benthic" or "lake") NOT TI=("forest*" OR "terrestrial" OR "freshwater" OR "Seagrass" OR "benthic" or "lake*" OR "stream*" OR "river*")

Database

ISI Web of Science

Search date

23rd April 2024 - 355 results

Search output and screening process

Article titles screened for relevance by including the words ‘zooplankton’ and one of the pressures under consideration, e.g. ‘bottom trawl*. Workflow follows the Rapid Evidence Assessment approach. The title and all auxiliary information (including abstract) were downloaded from ISI Web of Science in a .ris and excel format. In Excel, abstracts were read and listed to either pass or fail the initial screening process with a reason provided.

Outcome from screening

28 (0.08%) abstracts passed initial screening. Of these 28, 20 (0.06%) were used to provide evidence for the sensitivity analysis, along with expert knowledge within the advisory group. within the advisory group.

