

Master List of Definitions for MSP Zoning Design Allowable Activities Tables

Date approved: 20 May 2024

Allowable Activities Table (AAT) Definitions for the Zone areas identified through the SMSP Initiative (2014-2020).

The ‘Master List of Definitions’ is a list of uses, activities and terms with their definitions and/or descriptions in support of the Seychelles Marine Spatial Plan as it pertains to Allowable Activities Tables, General and Area-based Management Considerations, Codes, and other outputs of the SMSP. The list and definitions began in 2014 with the launch of the SMSP and have been updated on an on-going basis as other SMSP outputs were developed and revised. The list of definitions is developed with all stakeholders including SMSP committees, technical working groups and topic experts. The descriptions are not intended to define thresholds or acceptable intensity of use because this varies from place to place and is, or may be, determined by management plans and/or regulations. Wherever possible, a published or authoritative description or definition is used; those without a source are a local or general description of the use or activity. The Master List of Definitions will be finalised for the Seychelles Marine Spatial Plan document. Terms in bold are used on the Allowable Activities Tables in the Marine Activity column. Terms in italics are provided to support the terms in bold, where needed.

As per the General Management Considerations, all activities and uses will be conducted in accordance with applicable national laws, regulations, and policies, as well as applicable international laws, treaties, and agreements in force as of [Date].

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Marine Activity	Description of the Marine Activity Associated terms are provided if needed for clarity (not bold)
Part A. Fisheries	
Aquaculture Operational	An aquaculture license for any activity related to aquaculture production (“operational license”).
Aquaculture Restorative	An aquaculture licence for the purposes of undertaking environmental restoration activities involving aquaculture (“restorative licence”).
Artisanal Fishing (Small-scale Fisheries)	These fisheries use small, motorised boats. Targets fish on the sea floor (demersal), semi-pelagic species and numerous invertebrates at different times of the year using a variety of gear and vessel types: handline, trap, harpoon and net for lobster, mackerel, octopus, shark, demersal fish, and semi-demersal fish. Draft Fisheries Act 2023 defines artisanal as ‘small-scale fisheries’ classes I-III.
Fly fishing, blue water	Fly fishing that occurs in blue water or open sea, also called offshore fly fishing. Fishers generally target big game or pelagic species using special teasing technics to land fish like the conventional fishermen’s landing while ‘Big Game Fishing’ (M. Cosson).

Marine Activity	Description of the Marine Activity Associated terms are provided if needed for clarity (not bold)
Fly Fishing, lagoon	Fly fishing in a shallow body of water separated from the ocean by sandbars, barrier island, or coral reefs (National Geographic). Fly fishing on the beach, lagoon, and ocean flats, reef flats, inner flats, pancake, finger flats. It is done on foot or from a boat with or without the use of an engine or a push pole. This method is highly dependent on the depth of the water and species being targeted (M. Cosson).
Industrial Pelagic Longline	Industrial pelagic longline is the use of fishing gear in which short lines (branch lines or droppers) carrying hooks are attached to a longer main line at regular intervals. Pelagic longlines are suspended horizontally at a predetermined depth with the help of surface floats. The main lines can be as long as 100 km and have several thousand hooks. Droppers on demersal longlines (set at the seabed with weights) are usually more closely spaced (Indian Ocean Tuna Commission; IOTC). Pelagic longline refers to a drifting longline consisting of a mainline kept near the surface or at a certain depth by means of regularly spaced floats with relatively long snoods with baited hooks evenly spaced on it (SFA common fisheries terms 2015).
Industrial Purse Seine, free schools	Purse seine fishing on a free-swimming school of tuna, or unassociated fishing.
Industrial Purse Seine, associated schools	Purse seine fishing on associated schools refers to all sets that involve natural floating objects, FAD (Fish Aggregating Device), dead or live animals floating at or near the surface. Purse seine fishing on associated schools includes drifting, floating, swimming, or submerged objects or group of objects, of any size, that has or has not been deployed, that is living or non-living, including but not limited to buoys, floats, netting, webbing, plastics, bamboo, logs, that fish may associate with (IOTC). See also the Seychelles FAD Management Plan and related IOTC definitions for the parameters to define and differentiate associated school fishing versus free school.
Industrial Purse Seine, supply vessels	Support vessels or auxiliary vessels for purse seine that are not equipped with fishing gear. They assist one or several purse seiners in the detection of tuna schools and the management Fish Aggregating Devices (FADs) as well as buoys used to locate natural floating objects (LOGs) and FADs. Activities of supply vessels include the building, deployment and repair of FADs, the visit of LOGs and FADs, the transfer of buoys, the retrieval of FADs and buoys. Supply vessels play an important role to repair FADs that may otherwise break apart, and to minimise and mitigate FAD loss. Support vessels contribute to purse seine fishing effort.
Recreational Fishing	Fishing of aquatic animals that does not constitute an individual's primary resource to meet basic nutritional needs and are not generally sold or otherwise traded on export, domestic or black markets (FAO 2012 Technical Guidelines for Responsible Fisheries No. 13). Catching fish as a sport (UK sports fishing definitions). In the Seychelles, the recreational fishery sub-sector is active mostly on weekends and in the evenings. These recreational fishers utilize mostly handline fishing techniques, targeting demersal species such as groupers, snappers and lethrinids, and semi-demersal species such as carangids and sphyraenids (FAO fishery Country Profile).

Marine Activity	Description of the Marine Activity Associated terms are provided if needed for clarity (not bold)
Semi-industrial, hand gathering (Small-scale Fisheries)	A fishing vessel measuring between 12- and 24-meters length overall (draft Fisheries Act, Nov 2022) engaged in a fishing using hand gathering techniques. Semi-industrial vessels are classified as small-scale fisheries class IV-V (Fisheries and Aquaculture Bill 2023). In Seychelles this activity currently includes a sea cucumber fishery.
Semi-industrial, hook & line (Small-scale Fisheries)	A fishing vessel measuring between 12- and 24-meters length overall engaged in a fishing using hook & line gear. Semi-industrial vessels are classified as small-scale fisheries class IV-V (Fisheries and Aquaculture Bill 2023).
Semi-industrial, longline (Small-scale Fisheries)	A fishing vessel measuring between 12- and 24-meters length overall (Fisheries and Aquaculture Bill 2023). The semi-industrial longline is a local fishery targeting tunas, swordfish and other pelagic species using monofilament longline (SFA). Semi-industrial longline vessels in Seychelles voluntarily fish off the Mahé Plateau. The fishery extends to the Outer Islands as far as the Aldabra Group. Semi-industrial vessels are classified as small-scale fisheries class IV-V (Fisheries and Aquaculture Bill 2023).
Sport Fishing	<p>Sport fishing means a fishing activity undertaken for sports or recreation which involves the hiring, chartering, or leasing of a vessel, but which does not result in the trading, offering for sale or selling of fish taken during the fishing activity. (Fisheries and Aquaculture Bill 2023)</p> <p>Sport fishing includes sport fishing tournaments, with may or may not involve the hiring, chartering, or leasing of a vessel not exceeding 40 m in length overall. The Seychelles Sport Fishing Club (SSFC), founded in 2009, is a member of the International Game Fishing Association (IGFA). Sport fishing tournaments may engage in tagging programs to support conservation and education activities.</p> <p>Sport fishing is practiced inshore, offshore, and onshore. This fishing activity may be practiced as either part of a tournament for prizes or for recreational purposes. When part of a competition, the fishery might have an array of rules such as catch and release stipulations or type of bait (source: M. Cosson).</p>
Subsistence Fishing	Subsistence fishing means a fishing activity other than recreational or sports fishing, conducted exclusively for personal or family consumption. (Fisheries and Aquaculture Bill 2023).
<i>Additional Terms related to Part A. Fisheries</i>	
<i>Aquaculture</i>	Means the cultivation, propagation, or farming of “fish”, and includes cultivation, propagation or farming from eggs, spawn, spat or seed, or by rearing fish taken from the wild or imported into Seychelles, or by similar process, and the collecting and holding of live fish, and includes both inland aquaculture and mariculture in the marine environment (Fisheries and Aquaculture Bill 2023). Aquaculture license means as referred to in the Fisheries Act (2014) and includes an operational license, a research or restorative license, pursuant to the relevant regulations.

Marine Activity	Description of the Marine Activity Associated terms are provided if needed for clarity (not bold)
<i>Fly fishing</i>	A sport fishing method in which an artificial fly is cast by use of a fly rod, a reel, and a relatively heavy oiled or treated line. (SFA common fisheries terms 2015). The weight of the line is used to cast a very lightweight fly that would not be heavy enough to be cast with a conventional spinning or casting rod. Fly fishing activities can occur from shore or from a vessel. Fly fishing is considered sport fishing, but the SFA sport fishing definition does not include fly fishing (draft Fisheries Act 2023).
<i>Industrial Purse Seine</i>	Industrial purse seine is a method of fishing targeting tuna schools using purse seine nets. Purse seine nets are a long wall of netting framed with a lead line and a float line. A purse line threaded through purse rings spaced along the bottom of the net is drawn tight (pursed) to stop the school of fish escaping downwards under the net. (SFA common fisheries terms 2015). On the same fishing trip, purse seiners usually catch tunas using free swimming or unassociated schools and associated schools (e.g., FADS, floating objects, or any other kind of association).
<i>Recreational Fishery</i>	Any fishery undertaken by a vessel or person for recreational purposes which does not involve any commercial activity and result in the trading, offering for sale or selling of fish (SFA).
<i>Small-scale fishery or fisheries</i>	Means any fishery where small-scale vessels of less than 24 metres in length overall require licenses to carry out fishing activities within maritime zones under national jurisdiction described in the Maritime Zones Act, 1999 and to a lesser extent on the high seas (Fisheries and Aquaculture Bill 2023)
<i>Test Fishing</i>	Means fishing for scientific purposes excluding commercial fishing and is normally carried out to explore and identify new stocks of fish or those that were previously unexploited to assess the potential for management and development of commercial fisheries (Fisheries and Aquaculture Bill 2023). Test fishing is also referred to as exploratory fishing or harvesting.
Part B. Maritime Infrastructure	
Ballast Water and Bilge Dumping	Ballast water is used to improve ship's stability, and the sea water is exchanged while at sea, and sometimes at port. Ballast water transports micro-organisms, including viruses and bacteria, and may contain invasive and non-native species such as tunicates and sponges. Bilge dumping or discharge occurs when the contents of a ship's bilge are emptied or flushed into the sea. Bilge water may contain oil and other toxins, as well as invasive species depending on the origins of the bilge's contents. In Seychelles, ballast water exchange areas have been demarcated for both the northern and southern approaches to the Port. The distance is 80 miles from port. To the north, this is NE of Bird Island. These are administrative directions from the Port of Victoria.

Marine Activity	Description of the Marine Activity Associated terms are provided if needed for clarity (not bold)
Beach Replenishment	Beach replenishment is a type of dumping with the artificial placement of sand on an eroded shore to maintain the amount of sand present in the foundation of the coast, and this way to compensate for natural erosion and to a greater or lesser extent protect the area against storm surge. Nourishment may also use gravel and small pebbles, in particular for the shoreface (the nearshore area within the low water mark and the limit where fair weather waves interact with the seabed). Beach nourishment also often aims at maintaining beach width for tourism and recreational purposes. The process involves dredging material (sand, gravel, small pebbles) from a source area (offshore, near-land or inland) to feed the beach where erosion is occurring. Beach nourishment does not halt erosion, it addresses sediment deficit by providing additional sediment from external sources, often requiring repeated interventions (EU Climate Adapt). For creation of new islands or reclaiming land, see Reclamation .
Bunkering at Sea	Supplying fuel to ships for their own use. Involves the transfer of fuel from one vessel to another. Bunkering may apply to fishing vessels, petroleum activities and Scientific Geophysical surveys. Bunkering at sea is allowable in Seychelles and would be done with local vessels and companies.
Coastal Dredging and Dredge Spoils	<p>The removal of mud, sand, or other natural materials from the seabed, often to increase the depth of water or to restore to a previous depth such as near a wharf, jetty or beach landing site. Dredging is used in the Outer Islands near the coastline to improve access to atolls through lagoons and may be necessary for essential access to marine protected areas for management, monitoring, research, and enforcement. Dredging may also be allowable to support an activity in consideration of when the impacts to the marine environment from that activity would be less than the impacts to the terrestrial environment from that same activity. The disposal of dredge spoils is not allowable in Zone 1 and Zone 2 areas so this will need to be included in the EIA and other environmental review process to address the location for dredge spoils during coastal dredging activity.</p> <p>Desilting is when waters become too shallow or polluted with mud, silt, and organic detritus (such as leaf litter), and mechanical silt removal may be required.</p>
Commercial Shipping	The use of maritime vessels to carry goods (The Mary Conlin Company). The International Maritime Organisation (IMO) specifies traffic regulations for commercial shipping. In the Seychelles, there are no traffic separation schemes for the Port of Victoria but there are dedicated North and South Approaches as laid down by the IMO and clearly marked on British Admiralty charts No. 740 and 742. Also, there are North and South Reporting Points, Areas to Be Avoided, and Designated Anchorages both inside and outside the Port Limit that have been adopted by the IMO (Seychelles Port Authority). Includes transportation of petroleum during extraction in Seychelles. Commercial shipping would need to abide by any Particularly Sensitive Sea Areas (PSSA) established in Seychelles' waters.

Marine Activity	Description of the Marine Activity Associated terms are provided if needed for clarity (not bold)
Desalination, boat-based	A water purification process that removes salt and other minerals from sea water. Desalination is a common solution to overcome water scarcity that uses different technologies including membrane technology, distillation process (thermal technologies) and chemical approaches. Membrane technologies are the most common and use either pressure driven or electrical driven technology. Pressure driven membrane technologies include reverse osmosis, nanofiltration, ultrafiltration and microfiltration. Reverse osmosis is considered most effective in salt removal. Desalination requires energy and for seawater, pumps may need to generate up to 1200 psi and is a substantial energy use (Source: Journal of Contemporary Water Research and Education 2005). Desalination systems for boats include portable and built in units. Sometimes branded as ‘watermakers’, desalination systems are used for drinking water, showers, and vessel maintenance like deck washing. The seawater is run through a series of pre-filters and then a high-pressure pump moves the water through one or more membrane housing. The brine or wastewater is discharged overboard, and the desalinated water is pumped into holding tanks (Cruising World 2019).
Desalination, land-based	Desalination on land using a water purification process, see Desalination, boat based .
Disposal, Dumping	The disposal or dumping of approved materials at designated sites or with an authorised permit or license. As per International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL), dumping of oil, hydrocarbons or noxious substances into the marine environment is not allowed. For dumping of dredge spoils from coastal dredging, see Coastal Dredging and Dredge Spoils . For dumping related to beach replenishment, see Beach Replenishment .
Ferries and Transportation	Passenger carrying vessels that operate between two points of land. In the Seychelles, there are ferries between Mahe, Praslin and La Digue islands. Private ferries also operate within the Inner Islands.
Ports, Marinas, Wharves, Jetties	Ports and marinas are facilities designed to attract and accommodate commercial vessels or ships, industrial vessels, community, public or private vessels and uses. Includes docks, wharves, piers, ramps, breakwaters, and related structures in harbours, marinas, and ferry terminals, and associated marine services (e.g., ways, repairs, food services, pump-out sites, fuel). Structures may be affixed to the foreshore and seabed by pilings or floats or involve foreshore fill. Includes commercial ports. Includes the marine area that defines a port boundary and marine transportation areas. Wharves are places that boats tie up to unload and load cargo or people. The wharf typically has front and rear loading docks (aprons) (Global Marina Institute). Jetty is a structure projecting out from the shore; a jetty may protect a harbour entrance (Global Marina Institute). In Seychelles, harbour is the Port of Victoria and any bay, roadstead, or place within three nautical miles from any coast within the Republic of Seychelles (Seychelles Harbour Act and Seychelles Fisheries Bill).
Reclamation	The process of creating new land from oceans and other aquatic habitats. In the Seychelles, the first reclamation projects began in the 1960s on the east coast of Mahe for the port and airport expansion. Between 1973-1999, four more reclamation projects brought reclaimed land area to 750 ha. A reclamation project completed in 1999 created another 350 ha (East Coast III).

Marine Activity	Description of the Marine Activity Associated terms are provided if needed for clarity (not bold)
Renewal Energy, deep water thermal	A set of technologies that use the temperature differential between warm seawater at the surface of the ocean and cold seawater at between 800 – 1000-meter depths to produce electricity (IRENA). Ocean Thermal Energy Coupling, or OTEC, development could be located along edge of a plateau or shelf drop (needs a vertical drop of ~1,000 m) and may be suitable for atolls with steep drop-offs. OTEC is expensive to develop and uses a floating platform with transmission lines (up to 200 MW). Another technology is the DOWA – Deep Ocean Water Application. DOWA uses a system to pipe cold deep water located at depth to a shore-based facility. The water passes through a series of heat exchangers to cool down a closed freshwater circuit network that is connected to infrastructure such as air conditioning for target buildings. The DOWA technology is aimed to achieve a net energy savings as compared to creating energy for cooling from electricity.
Renewable Energy, solar marine	The harnessing of solar energy and subsequent conversion into electricity (IEA-ETSAP/IRENA). In the marine context, this includes floating or anchored solar panel farms or arrays. This activity is in shallow water; deep water solar panel arrays were not considered a future activity.
Renewable Energy, tidal	The harvesting of energy created by tidal flows due to flood and ebb currents (IRENA). In Seychelles, tidal energy generation is a potential for larger atolls where water passes in/out of lagoons through deep channels.
Renewable Energy, wave	Wave energy converters capture the energy contained in ocean waves and use it to generate electricity (IRENA). The marine context includes floating or anchored wave energy farms or arrays.
Renewable Energy, wind offshore	The use of ocean-based turbines to harness wind energy and turn it into electricity (IRENA). There is an 8-turbine wind farm on two artificial islands off the east coast of Mahe, installed in [DATE]. The marine context includes anchored offshore wind and projects involving reclamation of land or development of artificial islands.
Structures, marine other	Means any structure or infrastructure that is floating on the surface of the water or fully or partially submerged. Could include, but is not limited to, accommodation, restaurants, visitor centres, decommissioned vessels, structures with pontoons, facilities for research, aquaculture, renewable energy, or other uses. Structures do not have a working engine or any propulsion mechanism, system, or device, and does not include active vessels of any kind, FADs (anchored or floating), or natural floating objects.
Underwater Cables	Underwater lines and structures including, but not limited to, those used for flow, transit, distribution or broadcast of water, electricity, and telecommunication services for public and/or private purposes. Generally, on or under the seabed or anchored to the seabed but may also be suspended in the water column. Includes associated infrastructure and rights of way and/or dredging restriction areas or zones; underwater cables are mapped with exclusion buffers. Underwater cables may require dredging and disturbance of the seabed for installation and maintenance. The first underwater fibre optic cable connects from Tanzania to Beau Vallon and a second undersea fibre optic cable from Pakistan and East Africa Connecting Europe (PEACE) to Perserverance Island, both on Mahe.
Part C. Non-renewable Resources & Bioprospecting	

Marine Activity	Description of the Marine Activity Associated terms are provided if needed for clarity (not bold)
Bioprospecting Development	<p>The systematic search for and development of new sources of chemical compounds, genes, micro-organisms, macro-organisms, and other valuable products from fish and entails the search for economically valuable genetic and biochemical resources from fish. (Fisheries Act, draft revised November 2022). See also Bioprospecting Research.</p> <p>Generally, the systematic search for biochemical and genetic information in natural sources that can be developed into commercially valuable products for pharmaceutical, agricultural, and other applications (UNDP). It is carried out by pharmaceuticals, manufacturing, agriculture, aquaculture, bioremediation, biomining, biomimetic engineering and nanotechnology. The benefits include a variety of products such as chemicals, genes, metabolic pathways, structures, materials, and behaviours. These may provide physical blueprints or inspiration for new designs. Criticism aimed at bioprospecting has been addressed, in part, by international treaties and legal agreements aimed at stopping biopiracy. Activities funded by international agencies may require capacity-building and economic benefits in host countries.</p>
Mining, deep-sea	<p>Deep-sea mining is the process of retrieving mineral deposits from the deep seabed – the ocean below 200m. (IUCN). Marine operations associated with extracting minerals and aggregates (including sand and gravel) from offshore areas, as well as related facilities and infrastructure used during mining operations at-sea. Includes mining for polymetallic nodules (e.g., ferromanganese nodules) and rock concretions that lie on the seabed sediment (International Seabed Authority, ISA).</p>
Mining, sand	<p>The extraction of sand from the ocean floor, typically used to make building materials and for beach nourishment to protect coastlines (World Ocean Review). Sand mining has taken place off the north and west coasts of Mahe.</p>
Mining, shallow	<p>Marine operations associated with extracting minerals and aggregates in depths less than 200 meters.</p>
Petroleum Exploration, Drilling	<p>This activity includes the search for oil and gas resources using seismic, electrical, gravity, or magnetic data to evaluate the Earth’s subsurface. Drilling is the creation of wells in the ocean floor to locate subsurface oil and gas deposits (Schlumberger). In Seychelles, licensed concessions are located on and off the Mahé Plateau and Areas of Interest are identified by PetroSeychelles in the Petroleum Atlas. Includes exploration for methane gas.</p>
Petroleum Development, Production, Extraction	<p>Development refers to the phase of petroleum operations that occurs after exploration has proven successful, and before full-scale production. The newly discovered oil or gas field is assessed during an appraisal phase, a plan to exploit it fully and efficiently is created, and additional wells are usually drilled. Production refers to the volume of petroleum produced (Schlumberger). Includes Petroleum shipping, the movement of hydrocarbons on ships. Includes Methane.</p>
Part D. Tourism & Recreation	

Marine Activity	Description of the Marine Activity Associated terms are provided if needed for clarity (not bold)
Anchorage and Mooring Buoys	Anchoring sites and mooring buoys for all vessels including recreational, sport fishing, private, fishing vessels, motor watercraft, watercraft, and commercial vessels. Includes temporary vessel anchorages at designated sites and permanent mooring buoys. Does not include docks, wharves, piers, or related facilities in marinas and harbours that are attached to the shore and/or the seabed. Commercial moorings are large, permanent moorings for large commercial vessels, typically associated with a commercial port. Commercial moorings and anchorages are used by commercial vessels or ships entering or leaving a port's shoreside facility. In Seychelles, commercial moorings and anchorages are used all year round and designated within the Port of Victoria boundary by the Port Authority.
Cruise Ship	A passenger ship that is carrying or capable of carrying more than twelve passengers (Merchant Shipping Act 1994). Passenger ship intended to provide passengers with a full tourist experience. All passengers have cabins. Facilities for entertainment aboard are included (OECD). In Seychelles, a cruise ship is defined by a vessel with 12 or more paying guests. A private yacht with 12 or more private guests is not a cruise ship. For activities involving fishing see Fishing activities.
Motorised Activities, commercial	Commercial activities using watercraft, small vessel, or other definitions of 'boat' for commercial tourism. Includes marine charters and licensed hire craft. Hire Craft license means a boat let out for hire for fishing as a sport or for pleasure purposes only and includes the hiring of any craft (Control of Hire craft Act). Includes renting or chartering a sailing vessel or motor yacht and travelling to island destinations. For activities involving fishing see the Fishing activities. See <i>Motorised Device</i> in Additional Terms for the definition of what is included for this activity.
Motorised Activities, non-commercial	Recreational, non-paying, activities aboard any watercraft, small vessel, or other definitions of 'boat'. Includes small vessels, watercraft, sailing vessels with an auxiliary engine, jet engines, hovercraft, and submersibles. Includes Watercraft, Hirecraft licenses. For activities involving fishing see Fishing activities. See <i>Motorised Device</i> in Additional Terms for the definition of what is included for this activity.
Non-Motorised Activities, commercial	Commercial activities aboard any vessel without an auxiliary engine or motor. If the commercial activity needs support from a motorised vessel for it to take place, example boat-based SCUBA diving at an offshore reef, it is a Motorised Activity . For activities involving fishing see Fishing activities.
Non-Motorised Activities, non-commercial	Recreational, non-paying, activities that don't use an engine or motor of any kind. Includes sailing vessels without an auxiliary motor (electric or fuel), and stand-up paddle boards, kayaks, snorkeling without <i>Motorised Devices</i> . If the recreational activity uses or needs support from a motorised vessel for it to take place, example boat-based SCUBA diving at an offshore reef, it is a motorised activity. If motorised, see the relevant Motorised Activities . For activities involving fishing see Fishing activities. For non-motorised activities involving commercial operations including paying guests, see Non-motorised Activities, commercial .

Marine Activity	Description of the Marine Activity Associated terms are provided if needed for clarity (not bold)
Tourism Accommodation, terrestrial	Resorts and hotels located on land for tourism activities are included here for any activity that may affect marine species, habitats, or ecosystems. May have a coastal or marine component for guest activities, and the marine component falls under the MSP. The law does not allow building below the high-water mark. Activities that need to be managed and monitored include sewage discharge, lighting, generator operations, moving fuel containers or fueling. For activities involving fishing see Fishing activities.
Additional Terms related to Part D. Tourism & Recreation	
<i>Bareboat Charter</i>	Means a Seychelles ship leased for a period without Master and crew (Merchant Shipping (Amendment) Act, 2019)
<i>Motor Watercraft</i>	Means a watercraft powered by an inboard engine with either standing or sitting arrangements such was, but not limited to, water scooters, jet skis and seadoos (SMSA 2024 draft definition).
<i>Motorised Device</i>	<p>Motorised device means Motor Watercraft and Watercraft including, but not limited to, underwater scooters, hovercraft (Air Cushion Vehicles, ACV), hover boards, motorised paddleboards, submersibles, underwater drones and ROVs (Remote Operated Vehicles), motorised self-contained underwater devices, and any other motorised device for leisure or commercial use. Motorised devices can be used at the surface or underwater and may be privately owned or rented. Motorised devices are allowable in Zone 3.</p> <p>For motorised devices used in the air, such as drones, see the relevant Seychelles regulations and policies.</p>
<i>Passenger Vessel</i>	Means a small vessel which on a commercial basis carries twelve passengers or more to and from a designated point (SMSA Regulations January 2023). A vessel carrying 12 passengers or more on international voyages (Merchant Shipping [Amendment] Act 2019).
<i>Ship</i>	Includes every description of vessel or artificial craft used or capable of being used as a means of transportation on or in water, whether it is afloat, and whether it has any means of propulsion but does not include a seaplane (Seychelles Maritime Safety Authority Act 2019 and Merchant Shipping [Amendment] Act 2019).
<i>Vessel</i>	<p>Includes every description of ship, watercraft, including non-displacement craft, wing-in-ground craft, and seaplanes, used or capable of being used as a means of transportation on water (SMSA Regulations January 2023).</p> <p>Means any boat, ship, hovercraft, or other water going craft, and refers to vessels used or intended to be used for fishing or related activities (Fisheries and Aquaculture Bill 2023).</p>

Marine Activity	Description of the Marine Activity Associated terms are provided if needed for clarity (not bold)
<i>Watercraft</i>	<p>Means a small vessel by whatever means propelled. Including a commercial motorised watercraft and commercial non-motorised watercraft, excluding a private non-motorised watercraft and any other vessel listed in Schedule IV of the SMSA regulations, operating commercially within the regulated area and excluding non-propelled inflatable crafts (SMSA Identification of Small Vessels Regulations, 2023, SMSA Act).</p> <p>Includes all vessels under Seychelles regulations from jet skis to superyacht, commercial or private. Superyachts may have other motorised vessels on board.</p>
<i>Yacht</i>	Is a vessel with built in accommodation used for leisure purposes allowing multidisciplinary recreational outlets such as fishing, sightseeing, and leisure sailing (Yacht Charter Policy 2020).
<i>Yacht Tourism</i>	A maritime leisure activity in which travellers use yachts for pleasure, and a yacht is a vessel with built in accommodation used for leisure purposes allowing multidisciplinary recreational outlets such as fishing, sightseeing, and leisure sailing. There are different types of yachts varying both in use and size, viz. motor yachts, sailing yachts, mega yachts, etc. (Yacht Charter Policy 2020)
Part E: Research	
Aquaculture Research	A licence for the purposes of carrying out studies, assessments or other research or development activities related to aquaculture or the aquaculture sector (“research licence”).
Bioprospecting Research	<p>Bioprospecting for research and non-commercial purposes. Is the search for products/compounds derived from plants, animals, and microorganisms that exhibit useful properties (e.g., plant-based pharmaceuticals, agriculturally important compounds from fungi, natural products such as latex). Bioprospecting Research includes surveying, collection of samples, sample processing and analysis, characterisation, inventories, taxonomic identification, bioassay, and genetic sequencing to identify genetic resources and information, sample processing/analysis via extraction of compounds or genetic information, and analysis of products for bioactivity or other applications.</p> <p>Bioprospecting Development includes gathering information on associated Traditional Knowledge for the purpose of discovering its commercial value.</p>
Hydrographic Surveys	A scientific research technique used to measure the depth and bottom configuration of the ocean. Hydrographic vessels primarily use side scan or multibeam echo sounder to conduct hydrographic surveys. Multibeam sonar measures the depth of the sea floor by analyzing the time it takes for sound waves to travel from a boat to the sea floor and back. Sonar, short for Sound Navigation and Ranging, is helpful for exploring and mapping the ocean because sound waves travel farther in the water than do radar and light waves. Hydrographic scientists primarily use sonar to develop nautical charts, locate underwater hazards to navigation, search for and map objects on the sea floor such as shipwrecks, and map the sea floor itself. Seychelles is supported by the UK Hydrographic Office for hydrographic surveys and nautical charts.

Marine Activity	Description of the Marine Activity Associated terms are provided if needed for clarity (not bold)
Scientific Geophysical Surveys, Research	Activities to evaluate the Earth’s subsurface and in support of determining the extent of Seychelles continental shelf. Scientific geophysical surveys use seismic, electrical, gravity, or magnetic techniques. Interest to conduct scientific geophysical surveys and research may include areas where petroleum exploration and development are not allowable to evaluate the spatial extent of geologic features in the Earth’s subsurface beyond the exploration site(s).
Scientific Research and Monitoring	Activities designed to establish or expand knowledge of the marine environment and undertaken by educational institutions, research institutions, surveyors, research companies or consultants. Also includes citizen science, non-profit activities and locally based research and monitoring activities. For any research involving seismic surveys, see Scientific Geophysical Surveys, Research .

Seychelles Marine Spatial Plan v.20241010