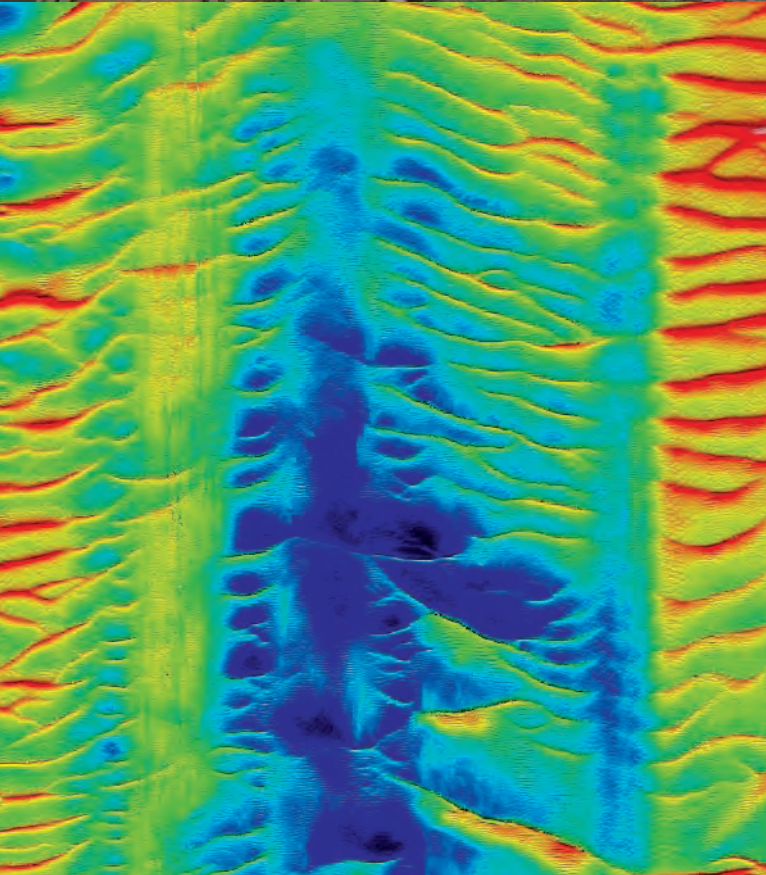




MARINE AGGREGATE DREDGING

2006

THE AREA INVOLVED – 9th ANNUAL REPORT



Summary statistics for 2006

Region	Total area licensed (km ²) during 2006	Total active dredge area ¹ for 2006 (km ²)	Total area dredged (km ²) during 2006
Humber	483.68	144.64	28.26
East Coast	268.00	177.24	51.31
Thames	102.87	67.84	15.92
East English Channel ²	53.83	15.63	3.60
South Coast ²	211.89	95.34	31.93
South West	141.11	55.45	8.34
North West	54.95	19.96	1.24
Total (km²)	1316.33	576.10	140.60

¹ Total area actually available to be dredged during 2006, calculated on a cumulative basis

² East English Channel region has been defined to reflect new Government Views awarded during 2006. The Hastings Bank was previously considered in the wider South Coast region, but now also falls within the new region

Area of seabed licensed increased by 137 km² during 2006

Area of seabed licensed (km²), 2002–2006

Year ¹	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
0–6 nm ²	439	450	443	385	428
6–12 nm ²	517	469	469	449	493
>12 nm	403	345	345	345	395
Total area licensed (km²)	1359	1264	1257	1179	1316
Total active dredge area (km²)	896	890	780	596	576

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

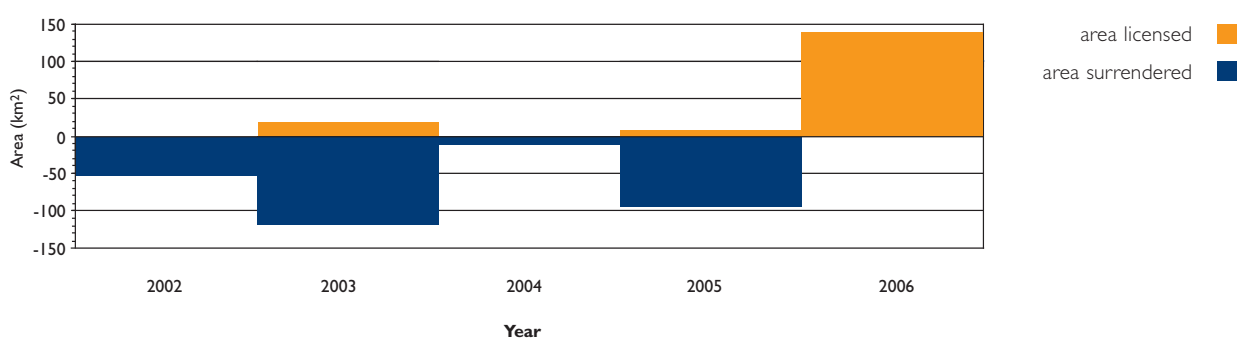
² 6 and 12 nm as issued by UKHO on 1st January 2005

Area of seabed dredged increased by 3.1 km² during 2006

Area of seabed dredged (km²), 2002–2006 (from EMS variable grid analysis)

Year	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
0–6 nm	70	72	71	67	73
6–12 nm	58	45	43	43	44
>12 nm	21	27	20	28	24
Total (km²)	149	144	134	138	141
Area dredged >1 hr 15 mins (km²)	11.88	11.81	10.18	9.50	8.66
90% of dredging (area in km²)	51.57	45.68	42.67	45.42	49.19

New area licensed v. existing area surrendered 2002–2006



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 ninth in an ongoing series, and its content reflects the continued commitment to this initiative by both The Crown Estate and the members of BMAPA.

This report contains summary information on the area of seabed licensed, dredged and surrendered during 2006, 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 2006. 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 24.18 million tonnes of sand and gravel were dredged from Crown Estate licences in England and Wales during 2006 (21.09 million tonnes in 2005)
- the total area of seabed licensed in 2006 increased to 1316 km² (1179 km² in 2005)
- dredging took place within 140.6 km², 10.7 % of the licensed area, compared to 137.6 km² (11.7 %) in 2005
- the area of seabed dredged for more than 1 hr 15 minutes per year (high intensity – red on charts) decreased to 8.66 km² (9.50 km² in 2005)
- 90 % of dredging from Crown Estate licences took place from an area of 49.19 km² (45.42 km² in 2005)

© Crown copyright (2007)

ISBN 978-1-906410-00-1

Published by The Crown Estate and the British Marine Aggregates Producers Association.

This publication (excluding the logos) may be re-used free of charge in any format or medium. It may only be re-used accurately and not in a misleading context. The material must be acknowledged as Crown copyright and use of it must give the title of the source publication. Where third party copyright has been identified, further use of that material requires permission from the copyright holders concerned.

Background

Dredging offshore for aggregates began in the early Twentieth Century but it did not reach a significant scale until the 1970s, 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. Dredging companies follow a strict tender and application process in order to exploit offshore areas of resource. An application for a Dredging Permission is made to either the Marine and Fisheries Agency [Environmental Impact Assessment and Natural Habitats – Extraction of Minerals by Marine Dredging (England and Northern Ireland) Regulations 2007], the Scottish Executive or the Welsh Assembly Government (once the regulations are enacted in Scotland and Wales). If the application is successful then the Permission is first issued to The Crown Estate, who then issue a production licence to the applicant.

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 almost 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 75 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.



The Crown Estate
16 New Burlington Place
London W1S 2HX

Telephone 020 7851 5000
Web site www.thecrownestate.co.uk



British Marine Aggregate Producers Association
Gillingham House, 38–44 Gillingham Street
London SW1V 1HU

Telephone 020 7963 8000
Email bmapa@qpa.org
Web site www.bmapa.org

ISBN 978-1-906410-00-1