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COURSE BROCHURE

Marine Biodiversity Monitoring and Habitat Protection Training Course

14 – 18 November 2027
Online

Marine Biodiversity Monitoring and Habitat Protection Training Course

Ref: 1082_40749 **Date:** 14 – 18 November 2027 **Location:** Online **Fees:** 2900 GBP

Marine Biodiversity Monitoring and Habitat Protection is a 1-week training course for port environmental officers, marine scientists and coastal planners, built around a habitat baseline and species mitigation register for one port or offshore project. Dredging, reclamation, cable laying and rising vessel traffic now put seagrass, coral and marine mammals under daily pressure. Jupiter Prime Training links field survey evidence to the decisions that protect sensitive habitats.

Why Marine Biodiversity Monitoring and Habitat Protection Matters Now

Three forces shape this subject today: port expansion and offshore energy projects that disturb seabed and shoreline habitats, lenders and insurers asking for evidence of no net loss of biodiversity, and coastal communities that depend on fisheries and tourism. A project that maps its habitats early can route channels, time piling and design offsets with confidence; one that ignores them faces stop-work orders, costly redesign and lasting reputational harm. The course rests on the mitigation hierarchy, marine spatial planning MSP, environmental impact assessment EIA and the international guidance on ballast water and biofouling management.

Who Gains Most from Marine Biodiversity Monitoring and Habitat Protection

- Staff who run environmental permits and dredging controls at ports
- Scientists who design benthic, fish, seabird and marine mammal surveys
- Planners who zone coastal waters, protected areas and shipping lanes
- Specialists who screen vessels for ballast water and hull fouling risks
- Consultants who prepare impact assessments and offset proposals

Port authorities and offshore developers gain most when their environmental, engineering and planning staff attend together.

Marine Biodiversity Monitoring and Habitat Protection Capabilities

Participants move from habitat maps and survey records to defensible mitigation choices.

- Map sensitive habitats such as seagrass, mangroves and coral reefs — channel alignment and reclamation footprints
- Design a survey plan with transects, grabs, video and acoustic recorders — monitoring contracts and budgets
- Assess invasive species pathways from ballast water and hull fouling — vessel screening at port entry
- Specify underwater noise limits and soft-start piling — offshore construction schedules
- Apply the mitigation hierarchy to residual impacts — offset proposals for lenders
- Communicate monitoring trends to permit holders and coastal communities — adaptive management decisions

Key Marine Biodiversity Monitoring and Habitat Protection Terms

- Benthic Habitat — the seabed community of plants, animals and sediment that dredging, anchoring and reclamation disturb first.
- Marine Protected Area MPA — a defined sea area managed to conserve species, habitats or ecosystem functions over the long term.
- Mitigation Hierarchy — the sequence avoid, minimise, restore and offset used to reduce a project's harm to biodiversity.
- Non-Indigenous Species — an organism carried outside its natural range, often in ballast water or on hulls, that may become invasive.
- Passive Acoustic Monitoring — the use of fixed hydrophones to record marine mammal calls and underwater noise from vessels and piling.
- Biodiversity Baseline — the documented state of habitats and species before a project starts, against which later change is measured.

Marine Biodiversity Monitoring and Habitat Protection Day by Day

Day 1: Marine Habitats and Pressures

- Coastal Ecosystem Types and Functions — Which Habitats a Project Touches
- Seagrass, Mangrove and Coral Sensitivity — Ranking Receptors for Protection
- Port and Offshore Pressure Pathways — Linking Works to Ecological Change
- Marine Protected Area Zoning — Constraints on Channels and Anchorages
- Marine Spatial Planning MSP Layers — Siting Berths and Cable Routes

Day 2: Survey Design and Baselines

- Benthic Grab, Transect and Drop-Down Video — Choosing Survey Methods
- Fish, Seabird and Marine Mammal Counts — Seasonal Survey Timing
- Environmental DNA Sampling — Detecting Rare and Cryptic Species
- Habitat Mapping with GIS and Side-Scan Sonar — Baseline Extent
- Survey Quality Control and Data Archiving — Evidence for Permit Holders

Day 3: Invasive Species, Noise and Ship Strikes

- Ballast Water Exchange and Treatment Records — Vessel Screening at Entry
- Hull Biofouling Inspection and Cleaning — Limiting Species Transfer
- Underwater Noise Modelling for Piling and Dredging — Exclusion Zones
- Passive Acoustic Monitoring and Observers — Stop-Work Triggers
- Vessel Speed Zones and Routeing Measures — Reducing Ship Strike Risk

Day 4: Impact Mitigation and Offsets

- Environmental Impact Assessment EIA Scoping — Significance of Effects
- Mitigation Hierarchy Application — Avoid, Minimise, Restore or Offset
- Dredge Plume Turbidity Limits — Protecting Coral and Seagrass Beds
- Habitat Restoration and Artificial Reef Options — Restoring Lost Function
- No Net Loss Accounting — Sizing Offsets for Residual Impacts

Day 5: Practising the Habitat Baseline and Species Mitigation Register

- Habitat Map Review for a Container Terminal Case — Day 1 Receptors
- Survey Plan for an Offshore Wind Cable — Day 2 Methods
- Noise and Strike Controls for a Piling Campaign — Day 3 Measures
- Monitoring Indicators and Adaptive Triggers — Reporting to Stakeholders
- Habitat Baseline and Species Mitigation Register — Final Project Record

Applying Marine Biodiversity Monitoring and Habitat Protection After the Course

- Lead a gap check of the current habitat maps and survey records for one live port or offshore project.
- Draft noise, turbidity and vessel speed triggers for the next construction season.

Marine Biodiversity Monitoring and Habitat Protection Questions FAQ

What is marine biodiversity monitoring and habitat protection, and why does it matter now?

It is the practice of surveying seabed and coastal species and steering projects away from harm. It matters now because port and offshore works are expanding while lenders expect evidence of habitat protection.

Which roles gain most from marine biodiversity monitoring and habitat protection?

Port environmental officers, marine scientists and coastal planners gain most. Vessel inspection staff and impact assessment consultants also benefit on the same projects.

How does marine biodiversity monitoring and habitat protection differ from a marine pollution course?

It focuses on living habitats and species rather than oil spills, waste reception or discharge controls. Its tools are survey design, habitat mapping, noise limits and offsets.

What do you bring back from marine biodiversity monitoring and habitat protection?

You bring back a habitat baseline and mitigation record for one real project. It holds receptor maps, a survey plan, species and noise controls, and monitoring triggers.

Marine Biodiversity Monitoring and Habitat Protection: The Way Forward

The habitat baseline and species mitigation register gives a project one record of what lives on its site and how each impact is controlled. Its first use is the decision on channel alignment or piling timing, taken by environmental and engineering leads together. Revisit it after the first monitoring season, when survey results show whether the triggers protect seagrass, coral and marine mammals.