

## THE DEVELOPMENT OF MEASURES TO MITIGATE IMPACT ON THE UNDERWATER CULTURAL HERITAGE: SETTING NATIONAL RESEARCH AGENDAS AS A GUIDE TO MITIGATION

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Research frameworks may be seen as vital research tools for guiding, facilitating and integrating research by individuals and groups that can collectively contribute to a deeper understanding of marine and coastal archaeology. The fundamental relationship of archaeological activity to its research base is strongly endorsed by English Heritage; the development of frameworks is advised to give researchers a yardstick against which to formulate ideas, collate their data, and measure results.

The Maritime, Marine and Coastal Historic Environment Research Framework of England, coordinated by the University of Southampton, has developed a Resource Assessment and Research Agenda through thematic working groups.

This paper will show how gaps in knowledge identified through the Research Agenda are driving Research Strategies that will be delivered through English Heritage's National Heritage Protection Plan (NHPP). Implemented from April 2011, the NHPP is a statement that sets out priorities to deliver heritage protection over the next four years by making the best use of resources so that England's vulnerable historic environment is safeguarded in the most cost-effective way at a time of massive social, environmental, economic and technological change.