



Maritime Policy

Current issues and challenges.

An FCO perspective.

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Two Current Issues

1. Extended continental shelf submissions to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf
2. Rationalisation of the UK's maritime zones



Extended Continental Shelf Submissions

- As provided for in Article 76 of UNCLOS
- Deadline for submissions: May 2009 (for UK)
- Decisions made by Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf
- Currently **11** submissions made (Russia, Brazil, Australia, Ireland, New Zealand, UK-France-Ireland-Spain, Norway, France, Mexico, Barbados, UK)



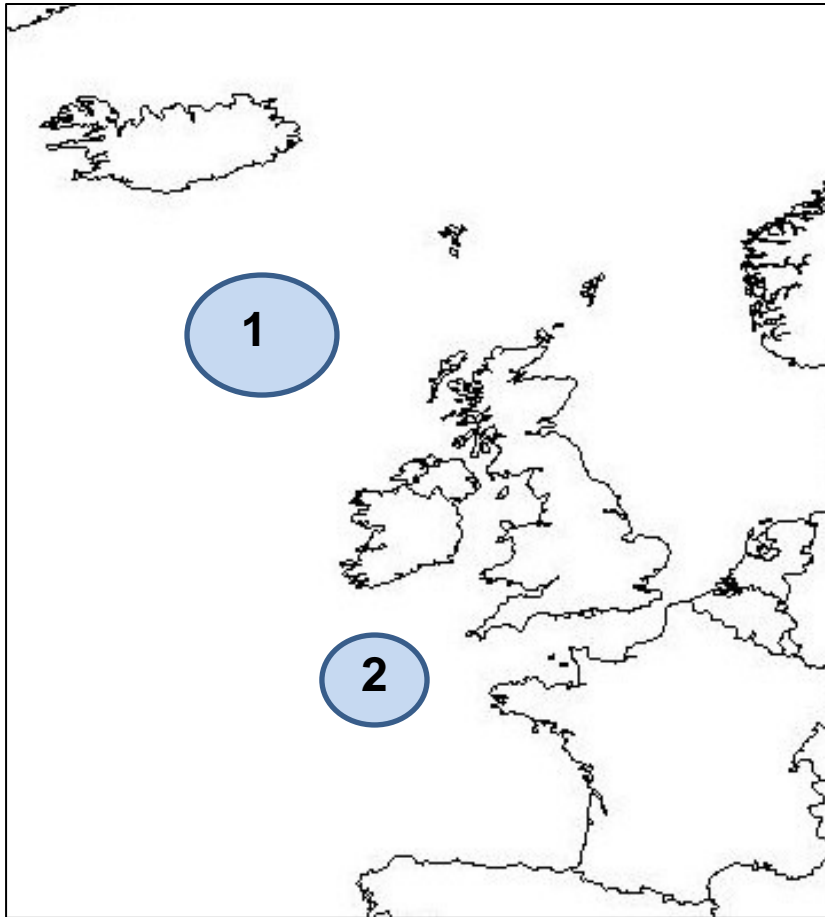
Extended Continental Shelf Submissions - UK

Five submissions:

1. Celtic Shelf (SW Approaches)
2. Hatton-Rockall Basin (NE Atlantic)
3. Ascension Island
4. Falkland Islands & South Georgia
5. British Antarctic Territory



Location of Celtic Shelf and Hatton-Rockall Basin



1 Hatton-Rockall

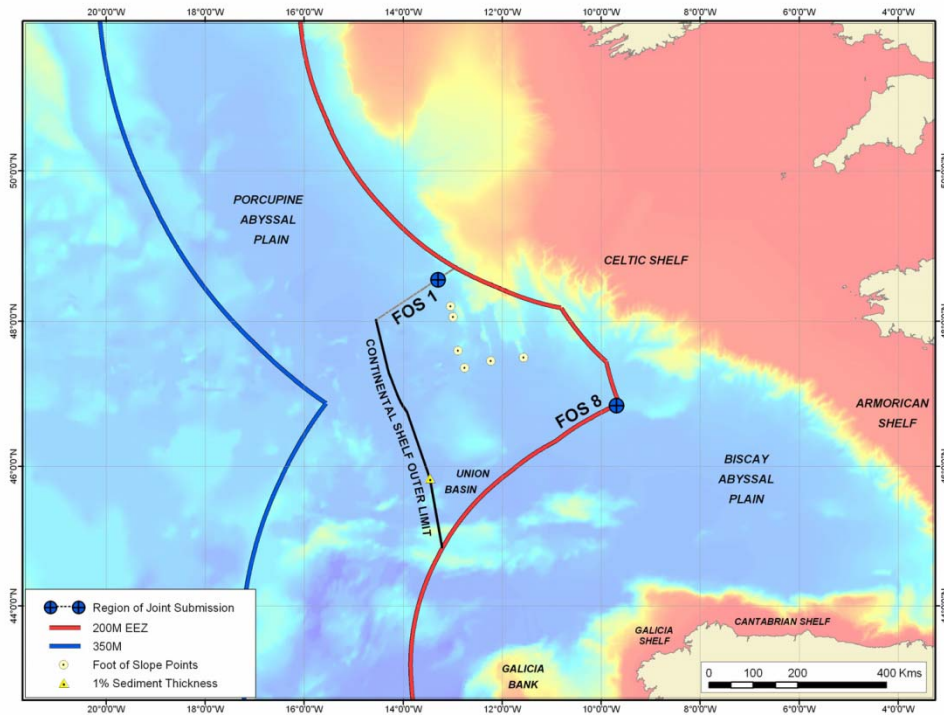
States involved:
(Iceland, Faeroes, Ireland, UK)

2. Celtic Shelf

States involved:
(Ireland, France, Spain, UK)



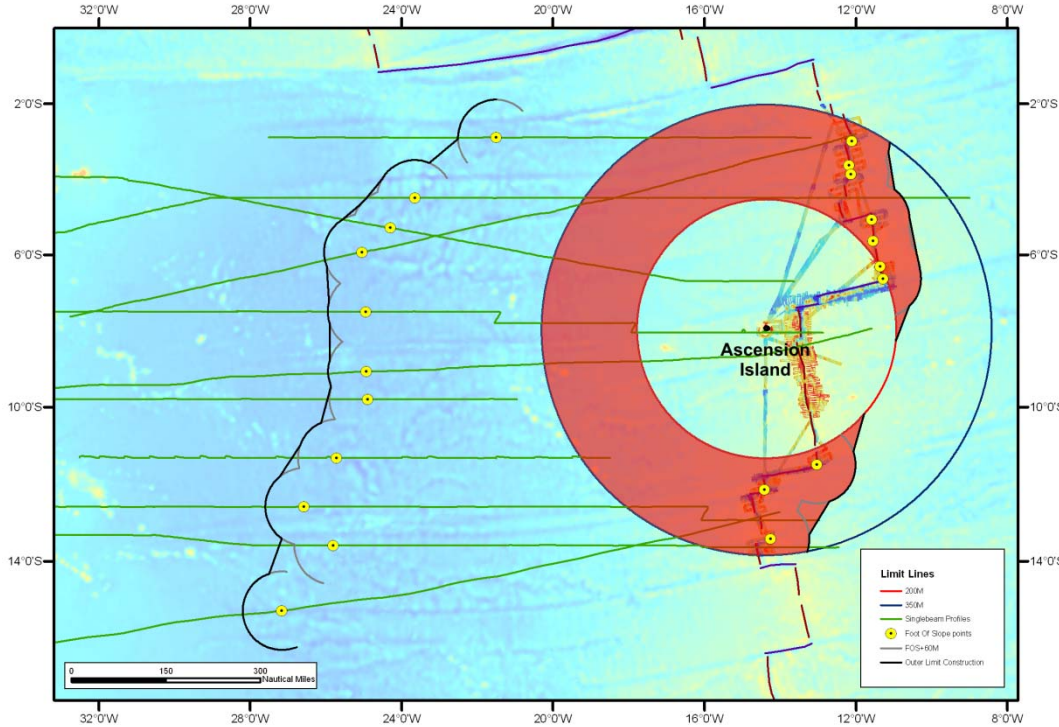
Celtic Shelf



- Submitted May 2006
- First 'joint' submission
- Decision pending



Ascension Island



- Submitted May 2008
- Decision pending



Hatton-Rockall Basin

Have yet to come to an agreement with Iceland, Faeroes and Ireland with a view to making a joint submission by the May 2009 deadline.

Falkland Islands & South Georgia

All necessary data collected, and is currently being analysed with a view to making a submission by the May 2009 deadline.

British Antarctic Territory

Special case as covered by Antarctic Treaty. UK has reserved the right to make a submission at a later date.



Initiative to Declare an Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ)

Current situation:

1. Fishery Limits
2. Renewable Energy Zone
3. Pollution Zone
4. Plans for a Gas Storage Zone

In addition to Continental Shelf limits...

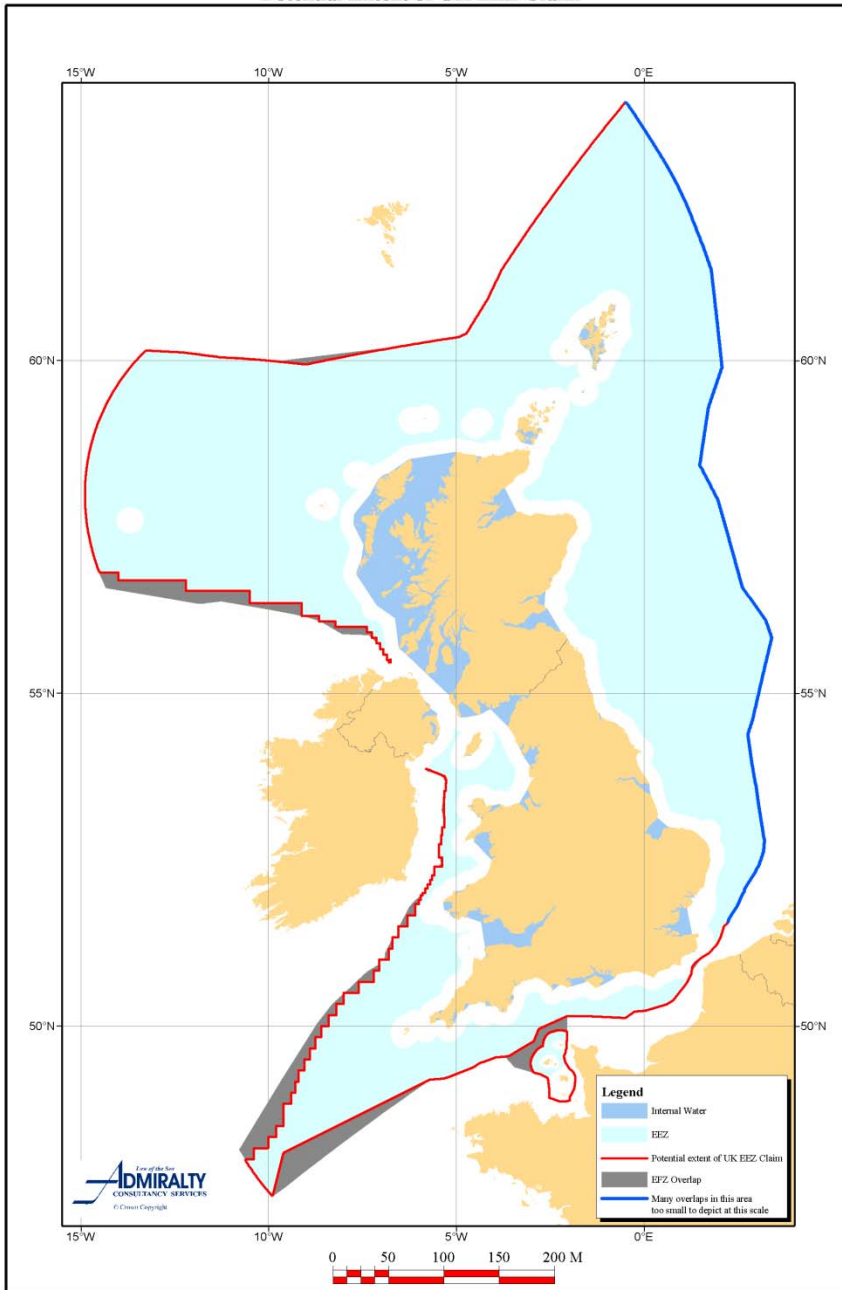


Having an EEZ would...

1. Bring UK provisions into accordance with UNCLOS
2. Remove inconsistencies in the current zones
3. Facilitate the application of overlapping jurisdictions with neighbouring states
4. Put all our zones on an agreed basis
5. Allow us to meet our UNCLOS obligations
6. Clarify the current fishery enforcement situation
7. Enable us to be clearer in regulating the use of our maritime space
8. Put our rights in UNCLOS under international law on a clearer basis
9. Bring us into line with all other Western European States



Potential Extent of UK EEZ Claim



- Need to agree limits with;

Norway, Denmark, Germany, Netherlands, Belgium, France, Ireland and the Faeroes.
- Negotiations currently underway
- Provisions to be included in DEFRA Marine Bill
- EEZ to be declared by Order in Council once coordinates agreed

