

# BSAC Environment statement

Members of BSAC are uniquely placed to witness first-hand the impact of human activities on the underwater environment. Through our enjoyment of diving and snorkelling, we are linked to that underwater world and its complex and beautiful ecosystems. BSAC recognises that we are in a climate and biodiversity emergency, and life is under threat unless we act now. We will rise to that challenge.

Our environment statement is a commitment to minimise our impact and take reasonable measures to mitigate and reduce such impacts where possible. We will reduce the impact of BSAC's own scuba diving and snorkelling activities and champion the cause for better stewardship of our seas and the environment. This statement marks the beginning of our journey to place the environment purposefully at the core of BSAC's mission, values, and actions.

**BSAC is committed to marine stewardship, sustainability, and the environment. We will lead by example, educating and engaging with our members to create and environmentally focused ethos, providing opportunities to participate in underwater preservation and protection of that environment.**

**To reduce its own environmental impact, BSAC will:**

## Control its own impacts

- Establish a baseline of understanding of the current environmental impact of BSAC activity and take reasonable measure to mitigate and reduce such impacts.
- Make environmentally aware decisions throughout BSAC HQ-managed operations, events, and activities, mitigating impacts where possible.
- Provide guidance to members and the wider scuba diving community on best environmental practices relating to their scuba diving and snorkelling activities.
- Help BSAC members to champion the environmental aspects that are most important to them by facilitating discussion and collaboration and developing training courses and programmes that enable members to go 'diving with a purpose'.

## Influence and engage with others

- Work towards establishing a position of leadership in the scuba diving community and snorkelling community as responsible advocates for the environment. As the UK National Governing Body for our sport, we seek to influence marine policy development in the UK and worldwide.
- We will actively inform, empower, and engage with BSAC members and the wider community to keep the environment at the forefront of scuba diving and snorkelling activity.
- Proactively engage, collaborate, and partner with relevant agencies to provide a vehicle for informed action to support environmental understanding, causes and campaigns.
- Annually report progress to our stakeholders and the wider community.

