

GLOSSARY

A

abyssal zone benthic environment that extends from beneath the bathyal zone to a depth of 6,000 m (416)

aquaculture farming of the ocean (420)

B

bathyal zone benthic environment that begins at the end of the continental shelf and extends to a depth of 4,000 m (415)

benthic environment major division of ocean environment that includes the five bottom zones: intertidal, sublittoral, bathyal, abyssal, and hadal (415)

benthos organisms that live on the ocean floor (415)

D

distillation process in which ocean water is heated until it evaporates in order to separate fresh water from dissolved salts (417)

H

hadal zone benthic environment of the ocean deeper than 6,000 m (416)

I

intertidal zone benthic environment that lies between the low-tide and high-tide lines (415)

N

nekton forms of ocean life that swim, such as fish, dolphins, and squid (415)

neritic zone pelagic environment above the sublittoral zone filled with marine life (415)

O

oceanic zone pelagic environment that extends seaward beyond the continental shelf (416)

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● P

pack ice floating layer of sea ice that completely covers an area of the ocean surface (410)

pelagic environment major division of ocean environment that includes the two water zones: neritic and oceanic (415)

phytoplankton microscopic ocean plants (414)

plankton free-floating, microscopic ocean plants and animals (414)

● S

salinity number of grams of dissolved salt in 1 kg of ocean water (408)

sublittoral zone shallow benthic environment that is continuously submerged and that contains the largest number of benthos (415)

● T

thermocline zone of rapid temperature change that begins just below the surface of the ocean (410)

● U

upwelling process in which surface water moves farther out into the ocean and deep water moves upward to replace the surface water (414)

● Z

zooplankton microscopic ocean animals (414)