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However, there is some debate over whether New Zealand is the fifth-largest in the world, with some suggesting New Zealand is the fourth while others indicate a lower ranking. For example, Te Ara suggests New Zealand is the fourth-largest: Te Ara – the Encyclopedia of New Zealand. (n.d.). Exclusive economic zones. Retrieved 17 May 2023 from www.teara.govt.nz/en/map/33830/exclusive-economic-zones

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18. Relevant legislation and protections:

- Marine Mammals Protection Act 1978
- The Department of Conservation Marine Mammal Action Plan 2005–2010
- Marine Mammals Protection Regulations 1992
- Hector's and Māui dolphin Threat Management Plan (TMP)
- International Whaling Commission (IWC)
- Kaikōura (Te Tai o Marokura) Marine Management Act 2014
- Continental Shelf Act 1964
- Territorial Sea and Exclusive Economic Zone Act 1977
- United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), done at Montego Bay, Jamaica, on 10 December 1982
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VI: Maritime boundary definitions illustrated

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Abbreviations	Definitions
CZ	Contiguous Zone (24 nm limit) 'is a belt of water adjacent to the territorial sea, the outer limits of which do not exceed 24 nautical miles from the territorial sea baseline'.
CS	Continental Shelf comprises 'the seabed and subsoil of those submarine areas that extend beyond the territorial limits of New Zealand, throughout the natural prolongation of the land territory of New Zealand, to the outer edge of the continental margin, or to a distance of 200 nautical miles from the baselines from which the breadth of the territorial sea is measured where the outer edge of the continental margin does not extend to that distance'.
IW	Internal Waters (landward of the TSB) includes any areas of the sea that are on the landward side of the territorial sea baseline. For example the Tory Channel/Kura Te Au, Queen Charlotte Sound/Tōtaranui and Pelorus Sound/Te Hoiere are classified as 'internal waters' (personal communication with LINZ, 18 May 2023).
EEZ	Exclusive Economic Zone (200 nm limit) comprises 'those areas of the sea, seabed, and subsoil that is beyond and adjacent to the territorial sea, being 200 nautical miles from the nearest point of the baseline'.
nm	A nautical mile (nm) 'is a unit of distance equal to 1,852 metres'.
TS	Territorial Sea (12 nm limit) is an area of water not exceeding 12 nautical miles in width which is measured seaward from the territorial sea baseline – also called the territorial waters.
TSB	Territorial Sea Baseline 'may be of various types depending upon the shape of the coastline in any given locality'.

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