



Natura Impact Statement

MUL application - Tonn Nua

ESB

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Glossary

Term	Definition
Adverse Effect on Site Integrity (AEOSI)	A conclusion under Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive that determines whether a plan or project would adversely affect the integrity of a European site (SAC or SPA).
Appropriate Assessment (AA)	The statutory process under the Habitats Directive to assess the implications of a plan or project for European sites in view of their conservation objectives.
Application area	As shown on Figure 1.1
Project	Tonn Nua
Proposed site investigation work	Suite of survey work including geophysical surveys, geotechnical surveys, metocean surveys and environmental/ecological surveys
South Coast DMAP (SC-DMAP)	The designated maritime area plan adopted in 2024 for the South Coast of Ireland, which identifies areas suitable for offshore renewable energy development.

Abbreviations and Acronyms

Abbreviation or Acronym	Meaning
AA	Appropriate Assessment
ADCP	Acoustic Doppler Current Profiler
AEOSI	Adverse Effect on Site Integrity
CPT	Cone Penetration Testing
EIAR	Environmental Impact Assessment Report
ESB	Electricity Supply Board
IMO	International Maritime Organization
LSE	Likely Significant Effect
MARA	Maritime Area Regulatory Authority
MBES	Multi Beam Echosounder
MUL	Maritime Usage Licence
NIS	Natura Impact Statement
ODAS	Ocean Data Acquisition Systems
OWF	Offshore Windfarm
PAM	Passive Acoustic Monitoring
PCPT	Piezocone Penetration Test
ROI	Republic of Ireland
ROV	Remotely Operated Vehicle
SBP	Sub-Bottom Profiler
SC-DMAP	South Coast Designated Maritime Area Plan
SCI	Special Conservation Interest
SFPA	Sea Fisheries Protection Agency
SI	Site Investigation
SOLAS	Safety of Life at Sea
SPA	Special Protection Area
SPL	Sound Pressure Level
UHRS	Ultra-High Resolution Seismic
USBL	Ultra-Short Baseline
USV	Uncrewed Surface Vessel
WTG	Wind Turbine Generator
ZSC	Zones Speciales de Conservation

1. Introduction

1.1. The Project

Tonn Nua is located off the coast of County Waterford, Republic of Ireland (ROI) and lies wholly within Maritime Area A – Tonn Nua, as designated in the South Coast Designated Maritime Area Plan (SC-DMAP, 2024). Maritime Area A has been identified by Government as suitable for the plan-led development of fixed-foundation offshore wind, with an indicative potential capacity of approximately 900 MW (see Figure 1.1)

This application seeks a Maritime Usage Licence (MUL) to undertake a programme of site investigation (SI) works at the Tonn Nua site. The SI works are enabling activities designed to gather the geophysical, geotechnical, environmental, and metocean data required to inform project design, environmental assessment, and future consenting.

The SI works are surveys that will be temporary, small in scale, and fully reversible, undertaken on a phased basis over the five-year licence period (subject to MUL approval and contractor availability). They will provide the robust technical and environmental baseline necessary to support the sustainable delivery of offshore renewable energy within the DMAP framework, in line with Ireland's legally binding climate and energy commitments.

1.2. The Developer

The applicant, Helvick Head Offshore Wind Designated Activity Company (Helvick Head OSW DAC), is a 50:50 joint venture between Electricity Supply Board (ESB) and Ørsted A/S (Ørsted). In June 2023, ESB and Ørsted formed a partnership to jointly develop a pipeline of offshore renewable energy projects off the Irish coast.

ESB is Ireland's leading energy utility and is majority state-owned. Established in 1927, ESB has a long history of delivering large-scale infrastructure projects and providing secure, reliable, and affordable electricity to Ireland. ESB has been involved in offshore wind generation since 2007 with projects spread across Ireland and the United Kingdom.

Ørsted is a global leader in developing, constructing, and operating offshore wind farms, with a core focus on Europe. With more than 30 years of experience in offshore wind, Ørsted has 10.2 GW of installed offshore capacity and 8.1 GW under construction.

By developing projects such as Tonn Nua, ESB and Ørsted in partnership will contribute directly to Ireland's energy security, decarbonisation goals, and sustainable economic growth, while supporting the wider European transition to clean energy.

1.3. Purpose and Status

This Natura Impact Statement (NIS) has been prepared by Natural Power Consultants on behalf of the applicant in support of an application for a MUL for SI works at the Tonn Nua site.

The NIS has been prepared to inform Appropriate Assessment (AA) under Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive (Council Directive 92/43/EEC), following on from the conclusions of the SISAA (Attachment 4.3.1). It provides a full assessment of the potential effects of the SI works on European sites, considering the project alone and in combination with other plans or projects. Specifically, it:

- assesses potential impacts on Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and Special Protection Areas (SPAs), including their qualifying interests;
- evaluates pathways for disturbance, noise, water quality effects, and habitat interactions;

- applies embedded mitigation measures to avoid or reduce effects; and
- concludes whether the SI works will result in any adverse effects on the integrity (AEoSI) of European sites.

This NIS should be read alongside the SISAA (Attachment 4.3.1), Annex IV Risk Assessment (Attachment 4.4), and other supporting environmental assessments prepared for this application.

7°42.0'W

7°6.0'W

6°30.0'W

52°12.0'N

51°54.0'N

51°36.0'N

Project:

Tonn Nua MUL

Title:

Figure 1.1: MUL Application Area

Key

MUL Application Area

12 nautical mile (NM) Irish limit

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Not to be used for Navigation.

Scale @ A3: 1:400,000

Coordinate System: IRENET95 Irish Transverse Mercator
Graticules: WGS 84

0 5 10 15 20 km



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2. Findings of the Supporting Information: Screening for Appropriate Assessment

2.1. Marine Ornithology (species protected by the Birds Directive)

For the project alone or in-combination with other plans or projects, Likely Significant Effect (LSE) as a result of the proposed site investigation works and baseline surveys (without the use of mitigation measures) could not be ruled out for the Natura 2000 site/effect/Special Conservation Interest (SCI) combinations shown in Table 2.1. These are therefore progressed to Stage 2 and considered further in Section 4.

Table 2.1: Special Protection Area (SPA), Effect and SCI combinations progressed to Stage 2

Site	Effect	Special Conservation Interest
Seas off Wexford SPA [IE0004237]	Disturbance and displacement (by above-water noise and visual impacts)	[A009] Fulmar (breeding) [A013] Manx shearwater (breeding) [A016] Gannet (breeding) [A176] Mediterranean gull (breeding) [A179] Black-headed gull (breeding) [A183] Lesser black-backed gull (breeding) [A184] Herring gull (breeding) [A188] Kittiwake (breeding) [A191] Sandwich tern (breeding) [A192] Roseate tern (breeding) [A193] Common tern (breeding) [A194] Arctic tern (breeding) [A195] Little tern (breeding)
	Disturbance and displacement (by above-water noise, underwater noise and visual impacts)	[A001] Red-throated diver (non-breeding) [A017] Cormorant (resident) [A018] Shag (breeding) [A065] Common scoter (non-breeding) [A199] Guillemot (breeding) [A200] Razorbill (breeding) [A204] Puffin (breeding)
Mid-Waterford Coast SPA [IE0004193]	Disturbance and displacement (by above-water noise and visual impacts)	[A103] Peregrine falcon (resident) [A346] Chough (resident) [A184] Herring gull (breeding)
	Disturbance and displacement (by above-water noise, underwater noise and visual impacts)	[A017] Cormorant (breeding)
Helvick Head to Ballyquin SPA [IE0004192]	Disturbance and displacement (by above-water noise and visual impacts)	[A103] Peregrine falcon (resident) [A346] Chough (resident) [A188] Kittiwake (breeding)

Site	Effect	Special Conservation Interest
		[A184] Herring gull (breeding)
	Disturbance and displacement (by above-water noise, underwater noise and visual impacts)	[A017] Cormorant (breeding)

2.2. Marine Mammals (species on Annex II of the Habitats Directive)

LSE as a result of the proposed work could not be ruled out, without mitigation, for the site, potential effect, QI combinations shown in Table 2.2. These sites have therefore been progressed to the NIS (Section 4) for auditory injury onset, TTS onset, and disturbance.

Table 2.2: Marine mammal site, potential effect and QI combinations progressed to the NIS

Site	Effect	Special Conservation Interest
Hook Head SAC [IE0000764]	Auditory Injury	[1349] Bottlenose dolphin (<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>)
	TTS	[1351] Harbour porpoise (<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>)
	Disturbance	
Cardigan Bay SAC [UK0012712]	Auditory Injury	[1349] Bottlenose dolphin (<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>)
	TTS	[1364] Grey seal (<i>Halichoerus grypus</i>)
	Disturbance	
Lleyn Peninsula and the Sarnau [UK0013117]	Auditory Injury	[1349] Bottlenose dolphin (<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>)
	TTS	[1364] Grey seal (<i>Halichoerus grypus</i>)
	Disturbance	
Mers Celtiques - Talus du golfe de Gascogne [FR5302015]	Auditory Injury	[1349] Bottlenose dolphin (<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>)
	TTS	[1351] Harbour porpoise (<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>)
	Disturbance	
Nord Bretagne DH [FR2502022]	Auditory Injury	[1349] Bottlenose dolphin (<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>)
	TTS	[1351] Harbour porpoise (<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>)
	Disturbance	
Abers - Cote des legends [FR5300017]	Auditory Injury	[1349] Bottlenose dolphin (<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>)
	TTS	[1351] Harbour porpoise (<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>)
	Disturbance	[1364] Grey seal (<i>Halichoerus grypus</i>)
Ouessant-Molene [FR5300018]	Auditory Injury	[1349] Bottlenose dolphin (<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>)
	TTS	[1351] Harbour porpoise (<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>)
	Disturbance	[1364] Grey seal (<i>Halichoerus grypus</i>)
Cote de Granit Rose-Sept Iles [FR5300009]	Auditory Injury	[1349] Bottlenose dolphin (<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>)
	TTS	[1351] Harbour porpoise (<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>)
	Disturbance	

Site	Effect	Special Conservation Interest
		[1364] Grey seal (<i>Halichoerus grypus</i>)
Recifs du talus du golfe de Gascogne [FR5302016]	Auditory Injury	[1349] Bottlenose dolphin (<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>)
	TTS	[1351] Harbour porpoise (<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>)
	Disturbance	
Tregor Goelo [FR5300010]	Auditory Injury	[1349] Bottlenose dolphin (<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>)
	TTS	[1351] Harbour porpoise (<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>)
	Disturbance	
Cotes de Crozon [FR5302006]	Auditory Injury	[1349] Bottlenose dolphin (<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>)
	TTS	
	Disturbance	
Chaussee de Sein [FR5302007]	Auditory Injury	[1349] Bottlenose dolphin (<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>)
	TTS	[1351] Harbour porpoise (<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>)
	Disturbance	
Recifs et landes de la Hague [FR2500084]	Auditory Injury	[1349] Bottlenose dolphin (<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>)
	TTS	
	Disturbance	
Anse de Vauville [FR2502019]	Auditory Injury	[1349] Bottlenose dolphin (<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>)
	TTS	
	Disturbance	
Cap d'Erquy-Cap Frehel [FR5300011]	Auditory Injury	[1349] Bottlenose dolphin (<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>)
	TTS	[1351] Harbour porpoise (<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>)
	Disturbance	
Banc et recifs de Surtainville [FR2502018]	Auditory Injury	[1349] Bottlenose dolphin (<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>)
	TTS	
	Disturbance	
Chausey [FR2500079]	Auditory Injury	[1349] Bottlenose dolphin (<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>)
	TTS	
	Disturbance	
Recifs et marais arriere-littoraux du Cap Levi a la Pointe de Saire [FR2500085]	Auditory Injury	[1349] Bottlenose dolphin (<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>)
	TTS	
	Disturbance	
Cote de Cancale a Parame [FR5300052]	Auditory Injury	[1349] Bottlenose dolphin (<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>)
	TTS	
	Disturbance	
Baie du Mont Saint-Michel [FR2500077]	Auditory Injury	[1349] Bottlenose dolphin (<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>)
	TTS	
	Disturbance	

Site	Effect	Special Conservation Interest
Baie de Seine occidentale [FR2502020]	Auditory Injury	[1349] Bottlenose dolphin (<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>)
	TTS	
	Disturbance	
Baie de Seine orientale [FR2502021]	Auditory Injury	[1349] Bottlenose dolphin (<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>)
	TTS	
	Disturbance	
Blackwater Bank [IE002953]	Auditory Injury	[1351] Harbour porpoise (<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>)
	TTS	
	Disturbance	
West Wales Marine / Gorllewin Cymru Forol [UK0030397]	Auditory Injury	[1351] Harbour porpoise (<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>)
	TTS	
	Disturbance	
Bristol Channel Approaches / Dynesfeydd Môr Hafren [UK0030396]	Auditory Injury	[1351] Harbour porpoise (<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>)
	TTS	
	Disturbance	
Roaringwater Bay and Islands [IE0000101]	Auditory Injury	[1351] Harbour porpoise (<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>)
	TTS	[1364] Grey seal (<i>Halichoerus grypus</i>)
	Disturbance	
Rockabill to Dalkey Island [IE0003000]	Auditory Injury	[1351] Harbour porpoise (<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>)
	TTS	
	Disturbance	
North Anglesey Marine / Gogledd Môn Forol [UK0030398]	Auditory Injury	[1351] Harbour porpoise (<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>)
	TTS	
	Disturbance	
Blasket Islands [IE0002172]	Auditory Injury	[1351] Harbour porpoise (<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>)
	TTS	[1364] Grey seal (<i>Halichoerus grypus</i>)
	Disturbance	
North Channel [UK0030399]	Auditory Injury	[1351] Harbour porpoise (<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>)
	TTS	
	Disturbance	
Belgica Mound Province [IE002327]	Auditory Injury	[1351] Harbour porpoise (<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>)
	TTS	
	Disturbance	
Baie de Morlaix [FR5300015]	Auditory Injury	[1364] Grey seal (<i>Halichoerus grypus</i>)
	TTS	

Site	Effect	Special Conservation Interest
	Disturbance	
West Connacht Coast [IE002998]	Auditory Injury	[1351] Harbour porpoise (<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>)
	TTS	
	Disturbance	
Bunduff Lough and Machair/Trawalua/Mullaghmore [IE000625]	Auditory Injury	[1351] Harbour porpoise (<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>)
	TTS	
	Disturbance	
Carnsore Point [IE002269]	Auditory Injury	[1351] Harbour porpoise (<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>)
	TTS	
	Disturbance	
Saltee Islands [IE0000707]	Auditory Injury	[1364] Grey seal (<i>Halichoerus grypus</i>)
	TTS	
	Disturbance	
Pembrokeshire Marine/ Sir Benfro Forol [UK0013116]	Auditory Injury	[1364] Grey seal (<i>Halichoerus grypus</i>)
	TTS	
	Disturbance	
Lundy [UK0013114]	Auditory Injury	[1364] Grey seal (<i>Halichoerus grypus</i>)
	TTS	
	Disturbance	
Lambay Island [IE0000204]	Auditory Injury	[1364] Grey seal (<i>Halichoerus grypus</i>) [1365] Harbour seal (<i>Phoca vitulina</i>)
	TTS	
	Disturbance	
Isles of Scilly Complex [UK0013694]	Auditory Injury	[1364] Grey seal (<i>Halichoerus grypus</i>)
	TTS	
	Disturbance	
Slyne Head Islands [IE0000328]	Auditory Injury	[1364] Grey seal (<i>Halichoerus grypus</i>)
	TTS	
	Disturbance	
Inishbofin and Inishshark [IE0000278]	Auditory Injury	[1364] Grey seal (<i>Halichoerus grypus</i>)
	TTS	
	Disturbance	
Slaney River Valley [IE0000781]	Auditory Injury	[1365] Harbour seal (<i>Phoca vitulina</i>)
	TTS	
	Disturbance	
Kenmare River [IE0002158]	Auditory Injury	[1365] Harbour seal (<i>Phoca vitulina</i>)
	TTS	
	Disturbance	

Site	Effect	Special Conservation Interest
Glengarriff Harbour and Woodland [IE0000090]	Auditory Injury	[1365] Harbour seal (<i>Phoca vitulina</i>)
	TTS	
	Disturbance	
Murlough [UK0016612]	Auditory Injury	[1365] Harbour seal (<i>Phoca vitulina</i>)
	TTS	
	Disturbance	

3. Proposed Survey Work

The proposed SI works at Tonn Nua are enabling activities required to characterise the physical, biological, and environmental conditions of the site. The data collected will underpin project design, environmental assessment, and consenting, ensuring that any future offshore wind development within Maritime Area A proceeds on a robust, evidence-based foundation.

The SI works will be phased over the five-year MUL period (subject to licence grant), with campaigns scheduled according to seasonal windows, contractor availability, and environmental constraints. The surveys are designed to be temporary, small in scale, and fully reversible, with all equipment removed upon completion. This section provides a summary of the proposed survey programme; full technical detail is contained in the Schedule of Works (SoW) submitted with the application (Attachment 3.1).

3.1. Geophysical Survey

Geophysical surveys will provide detailed mapping of the seabed and shallow sub-seabed to inform design and consenting. Techniques include:

- Multibeam echosounder (MBES);
- Side scan sonar (SSS);
- Sub-bottom profiler (SBP) / Ultra-high resolution seismic (UHRS); and
- Magnetometer surveys.

This equipment will either be hull- or pole-mounted or towed behind the vessel. These are predominantly non-intrusive acoustic methods, supplemented by occasional ground-truthing through grab sampling or drop-down video. Subsurface navigation systems (ultra short baseline (USBL)) will also be used.

The surveys will identify:

- Bathymetry and seabed morphology;
- Sediment distribution and shallow geology;
- Potential hazards (e.g. obstructions, Unexploded Ordnance (UXO), shallow gas hazards);
- Archaeological and cultural heritage features; and
- Habitat features relevant to ecological assessment.

3.2. Geotechnical Survey

Geotechnical investigations will provide data on the engineering properties of seabed sediments and underlying strata. These are intrusive surveys carried out from specialist vessels and may include:

- Cone Penetration Tests (CPTs), including seabed and downhole testing (10–40 locations);
- Sampling/ coring boreholes (5–15 locations, to depths of up to 70 m);
- Vibrocores (or piston cores) (30–60 samples, up to 6 m depth);
- In situ thermal conductivity testing; and
- Laboratory testing of recovered samples.

These works will refine a 3D ground model of the site to support foundation and cable design.

3.3. Metocean Survey

Metocean campaigns will capture long-term datasets on wind, wave, current, and water properties (all mooring systems will be temporary and fully removed at the end of deployment). This will include deployment of:

- Acoustic Doppler Current Profilers (ADCPs) for current profiling;
- Wave buoys for directional wave and surface current data;
- Floating LiDAR buoys for wind resource assessment (12–36 months); and
- Autonomous Floating Platform (uncrewed surface vessels (USVs)) to operate as moored Ocean Data Acquisition Systems (ODAS; metocean) buoy.

Vessels will be used to deploy the metocean monitoring equipment.

3.4. Environmental and Ecological Baseline Surveys

Environmental baseline surveys will inform assessment of benthic habitats, marine mammals, birds, and fisheries. These will include:

- Benthic sampling (grab samples, box corer, sediment analysis, seabed photography); and
- Static acoustic monitoring (deployment of C-POD/F-POD recorders for cetaceans);

Other environmental and ecological baseline surveys that will be carried out for the project include but are not limited to the following:

- Ornithological and Marine Mammal surveys (aerial/vessel-based and vantage point observations);
- Shipping and Navigation surveys; and
- Consultation-led fisheries surveys (methods to be agreed with Sea Fisheries Protection Agency (SFPA) if required).

3.5. Archaeological Survey

Archaeological investigations will primarily utilise data collected through geophysical methods (e.g. side-scan sonar, magnetometer) to identify potential cultural heritage features. Where required, these will be followed up with targeted diver or Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV) inspections.

3.6. Duration and Phasing

The indicative programme is as follows:

- Geophysical surveys: 2–5 months (commencement estimated Q2/Q3 2026–2027);
- Geotechnical surveys: 2–5 months (commencement estimated Q2/Q3 2026–2027);
- Environmental/ecological and archaeological surveys: periodic, over 12–24 months (commencement estimated 2026 or 2027);
- Metocean surveys: 12–36 months continuous deployment (commencement estimated 2026, 2027 or 2028).

These durations represent active survey time only and will not be continuous across the five-year MUL period. The schedule is subject to change depending on weather, seabed conditions, and stakeholder consultation.

3.7. General Requirements

All survey campaigns will be delivered in accordance with recognised industry standards and applicable regulations. Key requirements include:

- All contractors to operate under ISO 9001-certified quality systems with project-specific Health, Safety and Environmental (HSE) / Environmental Management Plans;
- Vessels to be fully certified in line with International Maritime Organization (IMO), Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS), and Irish maritime regulations;
- Standard embedded measures applied across all campaigns, including:
 - Marine Mammal mitigation as set out in Section 4.2.1 (applied to all marine mammals);
 - Fisheries liaison and Notices to Mariners;
 - Pollution prevention and MARPOL-compliant waste management;
 - Navigation safety in compliance with COLREGS and Irish Coast Guard guidance.

4. Stage 2 – Natura Impact Statement (NIS)

Preparation of a Natura Impact Statement (NIS) is required as part of Stage 2 of the Appropriate Assessment (AA) process. A NIS is required where it cannot be excluded, on the basis of objective information (without the use of mitigation measures), that proposed works, individually or in-combination with other plans or projects, will have an LSE. The purpose of the NIS is to assess the implications of the Project, either alone or in-combination with other projects or plans, on the integrity of Natura 2000 sites where LSE could not be ruled out at screening stage in view of the site's conservation objectives.

4.1. Marine Ornithology (species on Annex I of the Birds Directive)

Each Natura 2000 Site/Impact/SCI combination for which LSE could not be ruled out in the Supporting Information for Screening for AA document has been assessed further in Table 4.1 to Table 4.3.

Plans and projects considered in relation to in-combination effects were considered in the SISAA. The only reasonably foreseeable plan or project which has the potential to impact the screened-in SPAs in-combination with the proposed project is the proposed suite of site investigation works in relation to EirGrid (application reference number MUL240036).

A table of the conservation status for each SCI within the SPAs listed in the in-combination assessment is provided in Appendix B.

Table 4.1: Assessment of the potential for an adverse effect on site integrity for the Seas off Wexford SPA both alone and in-combination with other plans and projects

Special Conservation Interest	Conservation Objectives	Effect	Attribute	Relevant Target	Assessment
[A009] Fulmar (breeding) [A013] Manx shearwater (breeding) [A016] Gannet (breeding) [A188] Kittiwake (breeding) [A176] Mediterranean gull (breeding) [A179] Black-headed gull (breeding) [A183] Lesser black-backed gull (breeding) [A184] Herring gull (breeding) [A191] Sandwich tern (breeding) [A192] Roseate tern (breeding) [A193] Common tern (breeding) [A194] Arctic tern (breeding) [A195] Little tern (breeding)	To maintain/restore (as apt.) the favourable conservation condition of the SCIs at Seas off Wexford SPA	Disturbance displacement: Visual Above-water noise	and	Breeding population size	Breeding fulmar, Manx shearwater, gannet, kittiwake, Mediterranean gull, black-headed gull, lesser black-backed gull, herring gull, Sandwich tern, roseate tern, common tern, Arctic tern and little tern: Seas off Wexford SPA is designated as a foraging site for these breeding SCIs. These breeding SCIs which utilise Seas off Wexford SPA are considered to do so on the basis of travelling to the site from surrounding connected colonies. These SCIs demonstrate low sensitivities to vessel disturbance (Fleissbach <i>et al.</i>, 2019; Deakin <i>et al.</i>, 2022) and are therefore considered relatively insensitive to above water noise and visual disturbance associated with proposed investigation activities. Conclusion: Given the low sensitivities of these SCIs to these effects and the highly localised and temporary nature of the proposed surveys and the reversible nature of potential effects, there is no potential for those activities by the project alone to result in AEOSI to the Seas of Wexford SPA by compromising the achievement of the conservation objective attribute targets of these SCIs. Similarly, there is no potential for those activities to result in AEOSI to the Seas off Wexford SPA by compromising the achievement of the conservation objective attribute targets of these SCIs when considered in-combination with impacts from other relevant plans or projects (namely EirGrid MUL240036).
				Spatial distribution	
				Forage spatial distribution, extent, abundance and availability	
				Disturbance across the site	
				Barriers to connectivity	
[A199] Guillemot (breeding) [A200] Razorbill (breeding) [A204] Puffin (breeding)	To maintain/restore (as apt.) the favourable conservation condition of the SCIs at Seas off Wexford SPA	Disturbance displacement: Visual Above water noise Underwater noise	and	Breeding population size	Breeding guillemot, razorbill and puffin: Seas off Wexford SPA is designated as a marine area which is utilised by these breeding SCIs. These breeding SCIs which utilise Seas off Wexford SPA are considered to do so on the basis of travelling to the site from surrounding connected colonies. These SCIs demonstrate moderate sensitivities to vessel disturbance (Fleissbach <i>et al.</i>, 2019; Bradbury <i>et al.</i>, 2014) and are therefore considered moderately sensitive to above water noise, underwater noise [as these species forage underwater] and visual disturbance associated with proposed investigation activities. Despite this, these SCIs, when utilising areas within and surrounding the SPA, will already be subject to a degree of anthropogenic disturbance associated with existing levels of vessel traffic within
				Spatial distribution	

Special Conservation Interest	Conservation Objectives	Effect	Attribute	Relevant Target	Assessment
			Forage spatial distribution, extent, abundance and availability	Sufficient number of locations, area of suitable habitat and available forage biomass to support the population target	the area. Although it is acknowledged that low frequency noise can travel further underwater than in air, the levels of above and below water noise and visual impacts expected from survey activities are not considered to be much greater than those resulting from existing vessel noise from vessels transiting through the area. As such, baseline conditions in relation to potential disturbance and displacement inducing activities, will not be materially altered by the undertaking of the proposed site investigations outlined within Section 3, during which the minimum distance between the SPA and the area of proposed works will be 50.12 m Conclusion: With consideration of the above information, and, given the highly localised and temporary nature of the proposed surveys and the reversible nature of potential effects, there is no potential for the proposed activities by the project alone to result in AEOSI to the Seas of Wexford SPA by compromising the achievement of the conservation objective attribute targets of these SCIs. Similarly, there is no potential for those activities to result in AEOSI to the Seas of Wexford SPA by compromising the achievement of the conservation objective attribute targets of these SCIs when considered in-combination with impacts from other relevant plans or projects (namely EirGrid MUL240036).
			Disturbance across the site	The intensity, frequency, timing and duration of disturbance occurs at levels that do not significantly impact the achievement of targets for population size and spatial distribution	
			Barriers to connectivity	The number, location, shape and area of barriers do not significantly impact the site population's access to the SPA or other ecologically important sites outside the SPA	
[A001] Red-throated diver (non-breeding) [A065] Common scoter (non-breeding)	To restore the favourable conservation condition of the SCIs at Seas off Wexford SPA	Disturbance and displacement: Visual, above-water noise and underwater noise	Non-breeding population size	Long term SPA population trend is stable or increasing	Wintering red-throated diver and common scoter: Seas off Wexford SPA is designated as a marine area which is utilised by these non-breeding SCIs. These SCIs demonstrate high sensitivities to vessel disturbance (Fleissbach <i>et al.</i>, 2019) and are therefore considered highly sensitive to above water noise, underwater noise [as these species forage underwater] and visual disturbance associated with proposed investigation activities. Despite this, these SCIs, when utilising areas within and surrounding the SPA, will already be subject to a degree of anthropogenic disturbance associated with existing levels of vessel traffic within the area. Although it is acknowledged that low frequency noise can travel further underwater than in air, the levels of above and below water noise and visual impacts expected from survey activities are not considered to be much greater than those resulting from existing vessel noise from vessels transiting through the area. As such, baseline conditions in relation to potential disturbance and displacement inducing activities, will not be materially altered by the undertaking of the proposed site investigations outlined within Section 3, during which the minimum distance between the SPA and the area of proposed works will be 50.12 m. Furthermore, the core non-breeding season distribution of red-throated diver and common scoter is largely restricted to shallow, nearshore waters (Jessopp <i>et al.</i>, 2018; Furness, 2015); whereas the region in which the SPA boundary and MUL application area are closest to one another is located approximately 12.6 km offshore and in comparatively deeper waters. Conclusion:
			Spatial distribution	Sufficient number of locations, area, and availability (in terms of timing and intensity of use) of suitable habitat to support the population	
			Forage spatial distribution, extent, abundance and availability	Sufficient number of locations, area of suitable habitat and available forage biomass to support the population target	
			Disturbance across the site	The intensity, frequency, timing and duration of disturbance occurs at levels that do not significantly impact the achievement of targets for population size and spatial distribution	
			Barriers to connectivity	The number, location, shape and area of barriers do not significantly impact the site population's access to the SPA	

Special Conservation Interest	Conservation Objectives	Effect	Attribute	Relevant Target	Assessment
				or other ecologically important sites outside the SPA	With consideration of the above information and, given the highly localised and temporary nature of the proposed surveys and the reversible nature of potential effects, there is no potential for the proposed activities by the project alone to result in AEOSI to the Seas of Wexford SPA by compromising the achievement of the conservation objective attribute targets of these SCIs. Similarly, there is no potential for those activities to result in AEOSI to the Seas of Wexford SPA by compromising the achievement of the conservation objective attribute targets of these SCIs when considered in-combination with impacts from other relevant plans or projects (namely EirGrid MUL240036).
[A017] Cormorant (resident) [A018] Shag (breeding)	To restore the favourable conservation condition of the SCIs at Seas off Wexford SPA	Disturbance and displacement: Visual, above-water noise and underwater noise	Breeding population size	Long term SPA population trend is stable or increasing	Resident cormorant and breeding shag: Seas off Wexford SPA is designated as a marine area which is utilised by cormorant throughout the year and breeding shag. During the breeding season these SCIs which utilise Seas off Wexford SPA are considered to do so on the basis of travelling to the site from surrounding connected colonies. These SCIs demonstrate moderate sensitivities to vessel disturbance (Garthe & Hüppop, 2004; Bradbury <i>et al.</i> , 2014) and are therefore considered moderately sensitive to above water noise, underwater noise [as these species forage underwater] and visual disturbance associated with proposed investigation activities. Despite this, these SCIs, when utilising areas within and surrounding the SPA, will already be subject to a degree of anthropogenic disturbance associated with existing levels of vessel traffic within the area. Although it is acknowledged that low frequency noise can travel further underwater than in air, the levels of above and below water noise and visual impacts expected from survey activities are not considered to be much greater than those resulting from existing vessel noise from vessels transiting through the area. As such, baseline conditions in relation to potential disturbance and displacement inducing activities, will not be materially altered by the undertaking of the proposed site investigations outlined within Section 2, during which the minimum distance between the SPA and the area of proposed works will be 50.12 m. Furthermore, the foraging ranges of these SCIs does not typically extend beyond shallow, inshore waters (Woodward <i>et al.</i> , 2019; Jessopp <i>et al.</i> , 2018). Conclusion: With consideration of the above information and, given the highly localised and temporary nature of the proposed surveys and the reversible nature of potential effects, there is no potential for the proposed activities by the project alone to result in AEOSI to the Seas of Wexford SPA by compromising the achievement of the conservation objective attribute targets of these SCIs. Similarly, there is no potential for those activities to result in AEOSI to the Seas of Wexford SPA by compromising the achievement of the conservation objective attribute targets of these SCIs when considered in-combination with impacts from other relevant plans or projects (namely EirGrid MUL240036).
			Spatial distribution	Sufficient number of locations, area, and availability (in terms of timing and intensity of use) of suitable habitat to support the population	
			Forage spatial distribution, extent, abundance and availability	Sufficient number of locations, area of suitable habitat and available forage biomass to support the population target	
			Disturbance across the site	The intensity, frequency, timing and duration of disturbance occurs at levels that do not significantly impact the achievement of targets for population size and spatial distribution	
			Barriers to connectivity	The number, location, shape and area of barriers do not significantly impact the site population's access to the SPA or other ecologically important sites outside the SPA	

Table 4.2: Assessment of the potential for an adverse effect on site integrity for the Mid-Waterford Coast SPA both alone and in-combination with other plans and projects

Special Conservation Interest	Conservation Objectives	Effect	Attribute	Relevant Target	Assessment
[A184] Herring gull (breeding)	To restore the favourable conservation condition of designated bird species in the Mid-Waterford Coast SPA	Disturbance and displacement: Visual Above-water noise	Breeding population size	Long term SPA population trend is stable or increasing	Breeding herring gull: This SCI demonstrates low sensitivity to vessel disturbance (Fleissbach <i>et al.</i>, 2019; Garthe & Hüppop, 2004; Bradbury <i>et al.</i>, 2014) and is therefore considered relatively insensitive to above water noise and visual disturbance in the marine environment (i.e. away from breeding colonies). Conclusion: With consideration of the low sensitivity of herring gull to anthropogenic activities at-sea, given the highly localised and temporary nature of the proposed surveys and the reversible nature of potential effects, there is no potential for the proposed activities by the project alone to result in AEOSI to Mid-Waterford Coast SPA by compromising the achievement of the conservation objective attribute targets of this SCI. Similarly, there is no potential for those activities to result in AEOSI to Mid-Waterford Coast SPA by compromising the achievement of the conservation objective attribute targets of these SCIs when considered in-combination with impacts from other relevant plans or projects (namely EirGrid MUL240036).
			Productivity rate	Sufficient to maintain a stable or increasing population	
			Distribution: extent of available nesting options within SPA	Sufficient availability of suitable nesting sites throughout the SPA to maintain a stable or increasing population	
			Forage spatial distribution, abundance and availability	Sufficient number of locations, area of suitable habitat and available forage biomass to support the population target	
			Disturbance at the breeding site	Disturbance occurs at levels that do not significantly impact on birds at the breeding site	
			Disturbance at areas ecologically connected to the colony	Disturbance occurs at levels that do not significantly impact on breeding population	
[A017] Cormorant	To restore the favourable conservation condition of designated bird species in the Mid-Waterford Coast SPA	Disturbance and displacement: Visual Above-water noise Underwater noise	Barriers to connectivity	No significant increase	Breeding cormorant: This SCI demonstrates moderate sensitivity to vessel disturbance (Fleissbach <i>et al.</i>, 2019; Garthe & Hüppop, 2004; Bradbury <i>et al.</i>, 2014) and is therefore considered moderately sensitive to above water noise, underwater noise [as this species forages underwater] and visual disturbance in the marine environment (i.e. away from breeding colonies). Despite this, this SCI, when utilising areas within and surrounding the SPA, will already be subject to a degree of anthropogenic disturbance associated with existing levels of vessel traffic within the area. Although it is acknowledged that low frequency noise can travel further underwater than in air, the levels of above and below water noise and visual impacts expected from survey activities are not considered to be much greater than those resulting from existing vessel noise from vessels transiting through the area. As such, baseline conditions in relation to potential disturbance and displacement inducing activities, will not be materially altered by the undertaking of the proposed site investigations outlined within Section 3. Conclusion: With consideration of the above information, given the highly localised and temporary nature of the proposed surveys and the reversible nature of potential effects, there is no potential for the proposed
			Breeding population size	Long term SPA population trend is stable or increasing	
			Productivity rate	Sufficient to maintain a stable or increasing population	
			Distribution: extent of available nesting options within SPA	Sufficient availability of suitable nesting sites throughout the SPA to maintain a stable or increasing population	
			Forage spatial distribution,	Sufficient number of locations, area of suitable habitat and	

Special Conservation Interest	Conservation Objectives	Effect	Attribute	Relevant Target	Assessment
			abundance and availability	available forage biomass to support the population target	activities by the project alone to result in AEOSI to Mid-Waterford Coast SPA by compromising the achievement of the conservation objective attribute targets of this SCI. Similarly, there is no potential for those activities to result in AEOSI to Mid-Waterford Coast SPA by compromising the achievement of the conservation objective attribute targets of these SCIs when considered in-combination with impacts from other relevant plans or projects (namely EirGrid MUL240036).
			Disturbance at the breeding site	Disturbance occurs at levels that do not significantly impact on birds at the breeding site	
			Disturbance at areas ecologically connected to the colony	Disturbance occurs at levels that do not significantly impact on breeding population	
			Barriers to connectivity	No significant increase	

Table 4.3: Assessment of the potential for an adverse effect on site integrity for the Helvick Head to Ballyquin SPA both alone and in-combination with other plans and projects

Special Conservation Interest	Conservation Objectives	Effect	Attribute	Target	Assessment
[A188] Kittiwake [A184] Herring gull	To restore the favourable conservation condition of designated bird species in the Helvick Head to Ballyquin SPA.	Disturbance and displacement: Visual Above-water noise	Breeding population size	Long term SPA population trend is stable or increasing	Breeding kittiwake and herring gull: These SCIs demonstrate low sensitivity to vessel disturbance (Fleissbach <i>et al.</i>, 2019; Garthe & Hüppop, 2004; Bradbury <i>et al.</i>, 2014) and are therefore considered relatively insensitive to above water noise and visual disturbance in the marine environment (i.e. away from breeding colonies). This SPA lies adjacent to Dungarvan town, an active port with regular vessel traffic. The SPA is also subject to aquaculture activities, with an extensive oyster farm present within much of the south-central region of the SPA. As such, these SCIs are likely to be accustomed to a moderate to high levels of noise and visual disturbance associated with anthropogenic activities. Conclusion: With consideration of the above information, and, given the highly localised and temporary nature of the proposed surveys and the reversible nature of potential effects, there is no potential for the proposed activities by the project alone to result in AEOSI to Helvick Head to Ballyquin SPA by compromising the achievement of the conservation objective attribute targets of these SCIs. Similarly, there is no potential for those activities to result in AEOSI to Helvick Head to Ballyquin SPA by compromising the achievement of the conservation objective attribute targets of these SCIs when considered in-combination with impacts from other relevant plans or projects (namely EirGrid MUL240036).
			Productivity rate	Sufficient to maintain a stable or increasing population	
			Distribution: Extent of available nesting options within the SPA	Sufficient availability of suitable nesting sites throughout the SPA to maintain a stable or increasing population	
			Forage spatial distribution, extent, abundance and availability	Sufficient number of location, area of suitable habitat and available forage biomass to support the population target	
			Disturbance at the breeding site	Disturbance occurs at levels that do not significantly impact upon birds at the breeding site	

Special Conservation Interest	Conservation Objectives	Effect	Attribute	Target	Assessment
			Barriers to connectivity	Barriers do not significantly impact the population's access to the SPA or other ecologically important sites outside the SPA	
[A017] Cormorant	To maintain the favourable conservation condition of designated bird species in the Helvick Head to Ballyquin SPA.	Disturbance and displacement: Visual Above-water noise Below water noise	Breeding population size	Long term SPA population trend is stable or increasing	Breeding cormorant: This SCI demonstrates moderate sensitivity to vessel disturbance (Fleissbach <i>et al.</i>, 2019; Garthe & Hüppop, 2004; Bradbury <i>et al.</i>, 2014) and is therefore considered moderately sensitive to above water noise, underwater noise [as this species forages underwater] and visual disturbance in the marine environment (i.e. away from breeding colonies). This SPA lies adjacent to Dungarvan town, an active port with regular vessel traffic. The SPA is also subject to aquaculture activities, with an extensive oyster farm present within much of the south-central region of the SPA. As such, this SCI is likely to be accustomed to a moderate to high level of noise and visual disturbance associated with anthropogenic activities. Although it is acknowledged that low frequency noise can travel further underwater than in air, the levels of above and below water noise and visual impacts expected from survey activities are not considered to be much greater than those resulting from existing vessel noise from vessels transiting through the area. As such, baseline conditions in relation to potential disturbance and displacement inducing activities, will not be materially altered by the undertaking of the proposed site investigations outlined within Section 2. Breeding cormorant using marine foraging sites within the Application Area, but outside the SPA, are similarly considered not to be adversely impacted by any impacts associated with proposed site investigation works. Conclusion: With consideration of the above information, and, given the highly localised and temporary nature of the proposed surveys and the reversible nature of potential effects, there is no potential for the proposed activities by the project alone to result in AEOSI to Helvick Head to Ballyquin SPA by compromising the achievement of the conservation objective attribute targets of this SCI. Similarly, there is no potential for those activities to result in AEOSI to Helvick Head to Ballyquin SPA by compromising the achievement of the conservation objective attribute targets of these SCIs when considered in-combination with impacts from other relevant plans or projects (namely EirGrid MUL240036).
			Productivity rate	Sufficient to maintain a stable or increasing population	
			Distribution: Extent of available nesting options within the SPA	Sufficient availability of suitable nesting sites throughout the SPA to maintain a stable or increasing population	
			Forage spatial distribution, extent, abundance and availability	Sufficient number of location, area of suitable habitat and available forage biomass to support the population target	
			Disturbance at the breeding site	Disturbance occurs at levels that do not significantly impact upon birds at the breeding site	
			Barriers to connectivity	Barriers do not significantly impact the population's access to the SPA or other ecologically important sites outside the SPA	

4.2. Marine Mammals (species on Annex II of the Habitats Directive)

Each Natura 2000 Site/Impact/QI combination for which LSE could not be ruled out in the Supporting Information for Screening for AA document has been assessed further in Table 4.4. A table of projects and plans considered as part of the in-combination assessment is provided in Appendix A.

This assessment has been undertaken assuming application of the proposed mitigation measures for Annex II marine mammal species as detailed below (Section 4.2.1).

4.2.1. Proposed Mitigation for Annex II Marine Mammals

Mitigation will be applied to all marine mammal and megafauna species including the four Annex II marine mammal species (i.e. bottlenose dolphin, harbour porpoise, grey seal and harbour seal).

4.2.1.1. Geophysical surveys

Standard mitigation measures (for geophysical acoustic surveys; DAHG, 2014) will be implemented for the SBP, UHRS (sparker), and USBL.

Where possible the equipment will be operated such that the sound pressure level (SPL) of the sound emitted is less than 202 dB re. 1 μ Pa at 1 m (which is the lowest of the auditory injury onset thresholds for impulsive noise for Annex II marine mammal species (NMFS (2024))).

Where this cannot be achieved the following (as detailed in Section 4.3.4 (ii) of the DAHG (2014) guidance) will be undertaken prior to the commencement of the survey, and if there is a break in sound output for a period greater than 30 minutes:

- Pre-start monitoring (30 minutes) of a 500 m radius zone; and
- Ramp up procedure.

Where effective visual monitoring is not possible (e.g., poor conditions, during the hours of darkness), passive acoustic monitoring (PAM) will be undertaken to allow the survey to proceed in a timely manner.

4.2.1.2. Geotechnical surveys

Standard mitigation measures (for drilling; DAHG, 2014) will be implemented for boreholes.

The following (as detailed in Section 4.3.2 of the DAHG (2014) guidance) will be undertaken prior to the commencement of the survey and if there is a break in sound output for a period greater than 30 minutes:

- Pre-start monitoring (30 minutes) of a 500 m radius zone.

Where effective visual monitoring is not possible (e.g., poor conditions, during the hours of darkness), PAM will be undertaken to allow the survey to proceed in a timely manner.

4.2.1.3. Reporting

Full reporting on the mitigation undertaken as outlined in Appendix 6 and 7 of DAHG (2014) will be provided to the Regulatory Authority.

Table 4.4 Assessment of the potential for an adverse effect on all sites

Site	Qualifying Interest	Effect	Conservation Objectives, Attribute and Target	Assessment
Ireland SACs				
Hook Head [IE0000764]	[1349] Bottlenose dolphin (<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>) [1351] Harbour porpoise (<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>)	Auditory Injury TTS Disturbance	Range - Species range within the site should not be restricted by artificial barriers to site use Habitat - Critical areas, representing habitat used preferentially by bottlenose dolphin, should be conserved in a natural condition Population - Human activities should occur at levels that do not adversely affect the harbour porpoise population at the site	There is no potential for an AEoSI associated with auditory injury onset, TTS onset, or disturbance to the qualifying interest populations of this SAC due to underwater noise. This is because, with the mitigation as outlined in Section 4.2.1, there will be negligible potential for auditory injury onset and TTS onset. Disturbance, assuming the 5km EDR for geophysical surveys, is considered to only affect a very small proportion (<10% in a day i.e. not significant; JNCC, 2020) of the SAC considering the distance between the MUL Application Area and the SAC. Furthermore, there will be no impact to access to the SAC for animals which are highly mobile and able to easily avoid a mobile sound source in an offshore location. There is also considerable alternate habitat available for animals to utilise. Considering the negligible impacts after mitigation, and the very small area of potential disturbance and as other plans or projects will also adequately mitigate their potential impacts and have similarly small disturbance ranges with little or no overlap of the SAC, it is considered that there is no potential for AEoSI either alone or in combination with other plans and projects (as listed within Table A.1, Appendix A)
Blackwater Bank [IE002953]	[1351] Harbour porpoise (<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>)	Auditory Injury TTS Disturbance	Range - Species range within the site should not be restricted by artificial barriers to site use Population - Human activities should occur at levels that do not adversely affect the harbour porpoise population at the site	There is no potential for an AEoSI associated with auditory injury onset, TTS onset, or disturbance to the qualifying interest populations of these SACs due to underwater noise. This is because, with the mitigation as outlined in Section 4.2.1, there will be negligible potential for auditory injury onset and TTS onset. Due to the distance to the SACs from the MUL Application Area, no disturbance of any animal within the SACs is possible. Furthermore, there will be no impact to access to the SACs for animals which are highly mobile and able to easily avoid a mobile sound source in an offshore location. There is also considerable alternate habitat available for animals to utilise. Considering the negligible impacts after mitigation and lack of any disturbance within the SAC areas, and as other plans or projects will also adequately mitigate their potential impacts, it is considered that there is no
Belgica Mound Province [IE002327]				
Roaringwater Bay and Islands [IE0000101]	[1351] Harbour porpoise (<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>) [1364] Grey seal (<i>Halichoerus grypus</i>)			
Rockabill to Dalkey Island [IE0003000]	[1351] Harbour porpoise (<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>)			

Site	Qualifying Interest	Effect	Conservation Objectives, Attribute and Target	Assessment
Blasket Islands [IE0002172]	[1351] Harbour porpoise (<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>)	Auditory Injury	Range Species range within the site should not be restricted by artificial barriers to site use	potential for AEoSI either alone or in combination with other plans and projects (as listed within Table A.1, Appendix A)
	[1364] Grey seal (<i>Halichoerus grypus</i>)	TTS Disturbance	Population Human activities should occur at levels that do not adversely affect the harbour porpoise population at the site Access to suitable habitat The species range within the site is not restricted by artificial barriers to site use restricted by artificial barriers to site use Breeding/moulting/resting behaviour Conserve the breeding/moult-haul out/ resting haul-out sites in a natural condition Population Composition The grey seal population occurring within this site should contain adult, juvenile and pup cohorts annually Disturbance Human activities should occur at levels that do not adversely affect the grey seal population at the site.	
West Connacht Coast [IE002998]	[1351] Harbour porpoise (<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>)	Auditory Injury TTS Disturbance	Range Species range within the site should not be restricted by artificial barriers to site use Population Human activities should occur at levels that do not adversely affect the harbour porpoise population at the site	
Slyne Head Islands [IE0000328]	[1364] Grey seal (<i>Halichoerus grypus</i>)	Auditory Injury TTS Disturbance	Access to suitable habitat The species range within the site is not restricted by artificial barriers to site use Breeding/moulting/resting behaviour Conserve the breeding/moult-haul out/ resting haul-out sites in a natural condition Population Composition The grey seal population occurring within this site should contain adult, juvenile and pup cohorts annually Disturbance Human activities should occur at levels that do not adversely affect the grey seal population at the site.	
Kenmare River [IE0002158]	[1365] Harbour seal (<i>Phoca vitulina</i>)	Auditory Injury TTS Disturbance	Access to suitable habitat The species range within the site is not restricted by artificial barriers to site use Breeding/moulting/resting behaviour Conserve the breeding/moult-haul out/ resting haul-out sites in a natural condition Population Composition The harbour seal population occurring within this site should contain adult, juvenile and pup cohorts annually Disturbance Human activities should occur at levels that do not adversely affect the grey seal population at the site	
	[1351] Harbour porpoise (<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>)		Range Species range within the site should not be restricted by artificial barriers to site use. Population Human activities should occur at levels that do not adversely affect the harbour porpoise population at the site	
Bunduff Lough and Machair/Trawalua/Mullaghmore [IE000625]	[1351] Harbour porpoise (<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>)	Auditory Injury TTS	Range Species range within the site should not be restricted by artificial barriers to site use.	

Site	Qualifying Interest	Effect	Conservation Objectives, Attribute and Target	Assessment
Carnsore Point [IE002269]		Disturbance	Population Human activities should occur at levels that do not adversely affect the harbour porpoise population at the site.	
Saltee Islands [IE0000707]	[1364] Grey seal (<i>Halichoerus grypus</i>)	Auditory Injury TTS Disturbance	Access to suitable habitat The species range within the site is not restricted by artificial barriers to site use Breeding/moulting/resting behaviour Conserve the breeding/moult-haul out/ resting haul-out sites in a natural condition Population Composition The grey seal population occurring within this site should contain adult, juvenile and pup cohorts annually Disturbance Human activities should occur at levels that do not adversely affect the grey seal population at the site	
Lambay Island [IE0000204]	[1364] Grey seal (<i>Halichoerus grypus</i>)	Auditory Injury TTS Disturbance	Access to suitable habitat The species range within the site is not restricted by artificial barriers to site use Breeding/moulting/resting behaviour Conserve the breeding/moult-haul out/ resting haul-out sites in a natural condition Population Composition The harbour seal population occurring within this site should contain adult, juvenile and pup cohorts annually Disturbance Human activities should occur at levels that do not adversely affect the harbour seal population at the site Range Species range within the site should not be restricted by artificial barriers to site use (HP) Population Human activities should occur at levels that do not adversely affect the harbour porpoise population at the site (HP)	
	[1365] Harbour seal (<i>Phoca vitulina</i>)			
	[1351] Harbour porpoise (<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>)			
Inishbofin and Inishshark [IE0000278]	[1364] Grey seal (<i>Halichoerus grypus</i>)	Auditory Injury TTS Disturbance	Access to suitable habitat The species range within the site is not restricted by artificial barriers to site use Breeding/moulting/resting behaviour Conserve the breeding/moult-haul out/ resting haul-out sites in a natural condition Population Composition The grey seal population occurring within this site should contain adult, juvenile and pup cohorts annually Disturbance Human activities should occur at levels that do not adversely affect the grey seal population at the site. (GS)	
Slaney River Valley [IE0000781]	[1365] Harbour seal (<i>Phoca vitulina</i>)	Auditory Injury TTS Disturbance	Access to suitable habitat The species range within the site is not restricted by artificial barriers to site use Breeding/moulting/resting behaviour Conserve the breeding/moult-haul out/ resting haul-out sites in a natural condition Population Composition The harbour seal population occurring within this site should contain adult, juvenile and pup cohorts annually Disturbance Human activities should occur at levels that do not adversely affect the grey seal population at the site.	
Glengarriff Harbour and Woodland [IE0000090]				

Site	Qualifying Interest	Effect	Conservation Objectives, Attribute and Target	Assessment
UK SACs				
Cardigan Bay SAC [UK0012712]	[1349] Bottlenose dolphin (<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>) [1364] Grey seal (<i>Halichoerus grypus</i>)	Auditory Injury TTS Disturbance	Range The species population within the site is such that the natural range of the population is not being reduced or likely to be reduced for the foreseeable future Supporting habitats and species The presence, abundance, condition and diversity of habitats and species required to support this species is such that the distribution, abundance and populations dynamics of the species within the site and population beyond the site is stable or increasing	There is no potential for an AEoSI associated with auditory injury onset, TTS onset, or disturbance to the qualifying interest populations of these SACs due to underwater noise. This is because, with the mitigation as outlined in Section 4.2.1, there will be negligible potential for auditory injury onset and TTS onset. Due to the distance to the SACs from the MUL Application Area, no disturbance of any animal within the SACs is possible. Furthermore, there will be no impact to access to the SACs for animals which are highly mobile and able to easily avoid a mobile sound source in an offshore location. There is also considerable alternate habitat available for animals to utilise. Considering the negligible impacts after mitigation and lack of any disturbance within the SACs, and as other plans or projects will also adequately mitigate their potential impacts, it is considered that there is no potential for AEoSI either alone or in combination with other plans and projects (as listed within Table A.1, Appendix A).
Lleyn Peninsula and the Sarnau [UK0013117]	[1349] Bottlenose dolphin (<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>) [1364] Grey seal (<i>Halichoerus grypus</i>)	Auditory Injury TTS Disturbance	Range The species population within the site is such that the natural range of the population is not being reduced or likely to be reduced for the foreseeable future Supporting habitats and species The presence, abundance, condition and diversity of habitats and species required to support this species is such that the distribution, abundance and populations dynamics of the species within the site and population beyond the site is stable or increasing Population The population is maintaining itself on a long-term basis as a viable component of its natural habitat	
West Wales Marine / Gorllewin Cymru Forol [UK0030397]	[1351] Harbour porpoise (<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>)	Auditory Injury TTS Disturbance	Range Harbour porpoise is (i.e. remains) a viable component of the site Population There is no significant disturbance of the species Habitat The condition of supporting habitats and processes, and the availability of prey is maintained.	
Bristol Channel Approaches / Dynesfeydd Môr Hafren [UK0030396]	[1351] Harbour porpoise (<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>)	Auditory Injury TTS Disturbance		
North Anglesey Marine / Gogledd Môn Forol [UK0030398]	[1351] Harbour porpoise (<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>)	Auditory Injury TTS Disturbance		
Murlough [UK0016612]	[1365] Harbour seal (<i>Phoca vitulina</i>)	Auditory Injury TTS Disturbance	Access to suitable habitat The species range within the site is not restricted by artificial barriers to site use Breeding/moulting/resting behaviour Conserve the breeding/moult-haul out/ resting haul-out sites in a natural condition Population Composition The grey seal population occurring within this site should contain adult, juvenile and pup cohorts annually Disturbance Human activities should occur at levels that do not adversely affect the grey seal population at the site	

Site	Qualifying Interest	Effect	Conservation Objectives, Attribute and Target	Assessment
North Channel [UK0030399]	[1351] Harbour porpoise (<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>)	Auditory Injury TTS Disturbance	Range Harbour porpoise is (i.e. remains) a viable component of the site Population There is no significant disturbance of the species Habitat The condition of supporting habitats and processes, and the availability of prey is maintained.	
Pembrokeshire Marine/ Sir Benfro Forol [UK0013116]	[1364] Grey seal (<i>Halichoerus grypus</i>)	Auditory Injury TTS Disturbance	Range The species population within the site is such that the natural range of the population is not being reduced or likely to be reduced for the foreseeable future Supporting habitats and species The presence, abundance, condition and diversity of habitats and species required to support this species is such that the distribution, abundance and populations dynamics of the species within the site and population bey Populations The population is maintaining itself on a long-term basis as a viable component of its natural habitat	
Lundy [UK0013114]	[1364] Grey seal (<i>Halichoerus grypus</i>)	Auditory Injury TTS Disturbance		
Isles of Scilly Complex [UK0013694]	[1364] Grey seal (<i>Halichoerus grypus</i>)	Auditory Injury TTS Disturbance		
Zones Speciales de Conservation (ZSCs) ¹				
Mers Celtiques Talus du golfe de Gascogne [FR5302015]	[1349] Bottlenose dolphin (<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>) [1351] Harbour porpoise (<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>)	Auditory Injury TTS Disturbance	To maintain (or restore where appropriate) the qualifying interests to favourable condition.	There is no potential for an AEoSI associated with auditory injury onset, TTS onset, or disturbance to the qualifying interest populations of these SACs due to underwater noise.
Nord Bretagne DH [FR2502022]	[1349] Bottlenose dolphin (<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>) [1351] Harbour porpoise (<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>)	Auditory Injury TTS Disturbance		This is because, with the mitigation as outlined in Section 4.2.1, there will be negligible potential for auditory injury onset and TTS onset.
Abers - Cote des legends [FR5300017]	[1349] Bottlenose dolphin (<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>) [1351] Harbour porpoise (<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>) [1364] Grey seal (<i>Halichoerus grypus</i>)	Auditory Injury TTS Disturbance		Due to the distance to the SACs from the MUL Application Area, no disturbance of any animal within the SAC is possible. Furthermore, there will be no impact to access to the SAC for animals which are highly mobile and able to easily avoid a mobile sound source in an offshore location. There is also considerable alternate habitat available for animals to utilise.
Ouessant-Molene [FR5300018]	[1349] Bottlenose dolphin (<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>) [1351] Harbour porpoise (<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>) [1364] Grey seal (<i>Halichoerus grypus</i>)	Auditory Injury TTS Disturbance		Considering the negligible impacts after mitigation and lack of any disturbance within the SACs, and as other plans or projects will also adequately mitigate their potential impacts, it is considered that there is no potential for AEoSI either alone or in combination with other plans and projects (as listed within Table A.1, Appendix A).
Cote de Granit Rose-Sept Iles [FR5300009]	[1349] Bottlenose dolphin (<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>) [1351] Harbour porpoise (<i>Phocoena</i>	Auditory Injury TTS		

¹ ZSCs are the equivalent of SACs in France.

Site	Qualifying Interest	Effect	Conservation Objectives, Attribute and Target	Assessment
	<i>phocoena</i> [1364] Grey seal (<i>Halichoerus grypus</i>)	Disturbance		
Recifs du talus du golfe de Gascogne [FR5302016]	[1349] Bottlenose dolphin (<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>) [1351] Harbour porpoise (<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>)	Auditory Injury TTS Disturbance		
Tregor Goelo [FR5300010]	[1349] Bottlenose dolphin (<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>) [1351] Harbour porpoise (<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>)	Auditory Injury TTS Disturbance		
Cotes de Crozon [FR5302006]	[1349] Bottlenose dolphin (<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>)	Auditory Injury TTS Disturbance		
Chaussee de Sein [FR5302007]	[1349] Bottlenose dolphin (<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>) [1351] Harbour porpoise (<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>)	Auditory Injury TTS Disturbance		
Recifs et landes de la Hague [FR2500084]	[1349] Bottlenose dolphin (<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>)	Auditory Injury TTS Disturbance		
Anse de Vauville [FR2502019]	[1349] Bottlenose dolphin (<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>)	Auditory Injury TTS Disturbance		
Cap d'Erquy-Cap Frehel [FR5300011]	[1349] Bottlenose dolphin (<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>) [1351] Harbour porpoise (<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>)	Auditory Injury TTS Disturbance		
Banc et recifs de Surtainville [FR2502018]	[1349] Bottlenose dolphin (<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>)	Auditory Injury TTS Disturbance		
Chausey [FR2500079]	[1349] Bottlenose dolphin (<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>)	Auditory Injury TTS Disturbance		
Recifs et marais arriere-littoraux du Cap Levi a la Pointe de Saire	[1349] Bottlenose dolphin (<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>)	Auditory Injury		

Site	Qualifying Interest	Effect	Conservation Objectives, Attribute and Target	Assessment
[FR2500085]		TTS Disturbance		
Cote de Cancale a Parame [FR5300052]	[1349] Bottlenose dolphin (<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>)	Auditory Injury TTS Disturbance		
Baie du Mont Saint-Michel [FR2500077]	[1349] Bottlenose dolphin (<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>)	Auditory Injury TTS Disturbance		
Baie de Seine occidentale [FR2502020]	[1349] Bottlenose dolphin (<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>)	Auditory Injury TTS Disturbance		
Baie de Seine orientale [FR2502021]	[1349] Bottlenose dolphin (<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>)	Auditory Injury TTS Disturbance		
Baie de Morlaix [FR5300015]	[1351] Harbour porpoise (<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>)	Auditory Injury TTS Disturbance		

5. Conclusion

The assessment presented in this NIS has concluded that following application of suitable mitigation measures, the proposed work, either alone or in-combination with other plans or projects, will not have an adverse effect on the integrity of any Natura 2000 site.

6. References

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Appendices

A. Plan/Project List for In-combination Assessment

Table A.1 Plan/project list for in-combination assessment. Application type is either Maritime Usage Licence (MUL) or Foreshore Licence (FL) shows plans and projects off the south-east coast of Ireland (Counties Wicklow, Wexford, Kilkenny, Waterford, Cork have been included) that may have similar activities occurring over a timescale similar to those considered as part of the project alone assessment. Information has been gathered from the following webpages and is correct as of 31/10/2025: MARA MUL applications received (<https://www.maritimeregulator.ie/our-work/maritime-usage-licences/mul-applications-received/>), MARA MUL applications determined (<https://www.maritimeregulator.ie/our-work/maritime-usage-licences/mul-applications-determined/>), Foreshore Notices (<https://www.gov.ie/en/foreshore-notices/>). Projects whose status is listed as withdrawn or closed have not been included.

Where additional plans and projects have been considered in topic-specific assessments, they have been detailed in the relevant sections.

Projects (within the five counties) not listed in Table A.1 Plan/project list for in-combination assessment. Application type is either Maritime Usage Licence (MUL) or Foreshore Licence (FL) are considered not to have the potential to contribute to in combination effects due to the type of work proposed e.g., seaweed harvesting, sewerage outfall improvements, floating pontoon installation.

Table A.1 Plan/project list for in-combination assessment. Application type is either Maritime Usage Licence (MUL) or Foreshore Licence (FL)

Reference number	Title of application	Application type	County	Description	Status of application (as of 31/10/2025)
MUL240005	Allod Energy Ltd - Celtic Sea	MUL	Cork	Geophysical site investigations	Applied
FS007361	Amazon MCS Ireland Ltd - Beaufort subsea fibre optic cable system	FL	Wexford	Cable installation including decommissioning of sections of obsolete cable	Determination
MUL230031	Amazon MCS Ireland Ltd - proposed transatlantic subsea fibre optic cable	MUL	Multiple	Geophysical survey and site investigations	Determined
FS007555	Arklow Bank Wind Park	FL	Wicklow	Ongoing site surveys to maintain up to date baseline information	Determined
FS007339	Arklow Bank Wind Park Phase 2	FL	Wicklow	Site investigations	Determination
FS007445	Blackwater Offshore Wind	FL	Wexford	Geophysical, geotechnical, environmental and metocean surveys	Applied
MUL230034	Codling Wind Park Ltd	MUL	Multiple	Surveys	Applied
FS006241	Codling Wind Park Ltd	FL	Wicklow	Site investigations	Consultation
FS007037	Cork County Council - Ballycotton Harbour	FL	Cork	Dredging	Determination
FS006969	Cork County Council - Courtmacsherry Pier area	FL	Cork	Dredging including off-site disposal	Determination
FS006970	Cork County Council - Glengarriff Pier area	FL	Cork	Dredging including off-site disposal	Determination

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Reference number	Title of application	Application type	County	Description	Status of application (as of 31/10/2025)
FS006971	Cork County Council - Reen Pier area	FL	Cork	Dredging including off-site disposal	Determination
MUL230029	Department of Defence	MUL	Cork	Maintenance dredging	Public consultation
FS007482	Department of Defence	FL	Cork	Dredging at Haulbowline Naval Base, Co. Cork	Applied
FS006564	Department of Defence - Haulbowline Naval Base	FL	Cork	Maintenance dredging and disposal at the Port of Cork Dump Site	Determination
LIC240006	Department of the Environment, Climate & Communications - South Coast DMAP	MUL	Multiple	Geophysical survey	Determined
FS005782	Eircom - submarine cable	FL	Cork	Cable laying, using and maintenance	Determination
MUL240036	EirGrid - Tonn Nua Area A	MUL	Multiple	Site investigations	Determined
FS006916	EirGrid Celtic Interconnector project	FL	Cork	Installation of a submarine HVDC cable	Determination
FS005793	Eirgrid plc - Aghada to Whitegate	FL	Cork	Installation of a submarine power cable	Consultation
FS006722	Eirgrid PLC - Ballinwilling Strand, Redbarn Beach and Claycastle Beach Co. Cork	FL	Cork	Geophysical survey	Determination
FS006811	Eirgrid Plc - Ballinwilling, Claycastle & Redbarn Beaches	FL	Cork	Geotechnical and environmental surveys	Determination
FS005788	Eirgrid plc - Glanagow to Raffeen	FL	Cork	Laying of a submarine power cable	Consultation

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Reference number	Title of application	Application type	County	Description	Status of application (as of 31/10/2025)
FS007048	Energia Offshore Wind Ltd	FL	Wexford	Site investigations	Determination
FS006982	Energia Offshore Wind Ltd - Helvick Head	FL	Waterford	Geophysical, geotechnical, archaeological, ecological, oceanographic and meteorological surveys	Determination
FS007136	ESB Wind Development Ltd - Helvick Head	FL	Multiple	Site investigations	Consultation
MUL240035	Gas Networks Ireland - Cork Harbour	MUL	Cork	Survey using static acoustic monitoring devices and up to 2 ADCPs	Determined
FS007351	Gavin & Doherty Geosolutions Ltd	FL	Multiple	Survey using 4 ADCP trawl resistant bottom mount units (deployed for a duration of 35 days)	Determination
FS006582	Greenlink Interconnector Limited - Boyce's Bay and Baginbun Beach, Hook Head Peninsula, County Wexford	FL	Wexford	Surveys	Determination
FS007050	Greenlink Interconnector Ltd	FL	Wexford	Subsea and underground electricity interconnector cable between Irish and UK electricity grids; connection between Eirgrid's Great Island substation (Republic of Ireland) and National Grid's substation in Pembrokeshire (Wales)	Determination
FS006444	Hibernia Networks – Cork Cable Laying Works	FL	Cork	Laying of a fibre optic cable	Determination
FS006788	Hibernian Wind Power - Kilmichael Point	FL	Wicklow	Surveys and investigations	Determination

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Reference number	Title of application	Application type	County	Description	Status of application (as of 31/10/2025)
MUL240023	Iarnród Eireann - East Coast Rail Infrastructure Protection Projects	MUL	Multiple	Geotechnical, geophysical, ecological and archaeological surveys	Determined
FS006614	Irish Water - Arklow	FL	Wicklow	Site investigations	Applied
FS006833	Irish Water - Ballycotton	FL	Cork	Ground investigations and sampling	Determination
FS006834	Irish Water - Castletownshend	FL	Cork	Ground investigations and sampling	Determination
FS006835	Irish Water - Whitegate Waste Water Treatment Plant	FL	Cork	Site investigations	Determination
FS007046	Irish Water Site Investigation for Storm Water Outfall Extension, Kinsale	FL	Cork	Geotechnical investigation	Determination
FS007540	Keith Archer	FL	Cork	Installation of submarine electrical cable	Applied
FS007575	Kinsale Offshore Wind Ltd	FL	Cork	Surveys and site investigations	Consultation
FS007354	Kinsale Offshore Wind Ltd	FL	Cork	Surveys and site investigations	Consultation
LIC230017	Microsoft Ireland Operations Ltd - proposed subsea fibre optic cable	MUL	Wexford	Geophysical survey and site investigations	Determined
FS007459	ORCA Ireland	FL	Cork	Deployment of 1 static acoustic monitoring SmartBuoy off the south coast of Ireland to listen to cetaceans in real-time	Determination
FS007621	Péarla Offshore Wind Limited	FL	Waterford	Surveys and investigations	Applied
FS007126	Port of Cork	FL	Cork	Maintenance dredging	Determination

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Reference number	Title of application	Application type	County	Description	Status of application (as of 31/10/2025)
MUL240042	Port of Cork Company	MUL	Cork	Geophysical, geotechnical, environmental, intertidal benthic and marine mammal surveys	Public consultation closed
MUL250008	Port of Cork Company	MUL	Cork	Deposition of dredged marine sediments from Ringaskiddy Basin	Determined
FS006441	Port of Cork Company - Ringaskiddy Port	FL	Cork	Site investigations	Determination
FS006684	Port of Waterford	FL	Waterford	Maintenance dredging	Determination
LIC230025	Port of Waterford Company	MUL	NA	Maintenance dredging	Applied
FS005701	Port of Waterford Company	FL	Waterford	Maintenance dredging	Consultation
LIC230013	Port of Waterford Company - quay extension	MUL	Kilkenny	Geotechnical investigation	Applied
FS006745	Port of Waterford Company - Waterford Estuary	FL	Waterford	Deployment of five acoustic wave and current profilers	Determination
FS006691	Proposed Eir fibre optic cable	FL	Multiple	Site investigations	Determination
MUL240047	RNLI Ireland	MUL	Cork	Site investigations	Applied
FS007219	Rosslare Europort	FL	Wexford	Maintenance dredging	Determination
FS007222	Rosslare Europort	FL	Wexford	Site investigations	Determination
FS006506	Rosslare Europort	FL	Wexford	Maintenance dredging	Applied
FS007509	Rosslare Europort Offshore Wind Hub	FL	Wexford	Site investigations	Determination
FS007318	RWE Renewables Ireland East Celtic Ltd (Offshore Wind Park)	FL	Multiple	Site investigations	Applied

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Reference number	Title of application	Application type	County	Description	Status of application (as of 31/10/2025)
FS005947	Sea Fibre Networks Ltd	FL	Cork	Site investigations	Determination
FS007049	Sure Partners Site Investigations at Arklow Bank Wind Park	FL	Wicklow	Site investigations	Determination
FS006995	TechWorks Marine Ltd	FL	Waterford	Deployment of 4 trawl resistant ADCP frames for a period of 30 days	Determination
FS006949	TechWorks Marine Ltd	FL	Waterford	Deployment of 4 trawl resistant ADCP frames for a period of 30 days	Determination
MUL240048	Uisce Éireann	MUL	Cork	Deployment of up to 9 ADCPs	Applied
MUL240028	University College Cork	MUL	Cork	Co-deploy passive acoustic monitoring devices ("acoustic receivers") in the western Irish Sea and southern Celtic Sea on existing Commission of Irish Lights infrastructure to identify the broad scale movements of electronically tagged elasmobranchs (sharks, skates and rays)	Returned
MUL230039	University College Cork	MUL	Multiple	Deploy passive acoustic monitoring devices ("acoustic receivers") to identify the presence/absence of acoustically tagged elasmobranchs (sharks, skates and rays) in the Celtic Sea	Determined
LIC230006	University College Cork Cetacean study within the Irish and Celtic Seas	MUL	Multiple	Environmental survey including the deployment of hydrophones to carry out research into the seasonal and diurnal occurrence of cetaceans in the Irish and Celtic Seas	Determined

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Reference number	Title of application	Application type	County	Description	Status of application (as of 31/10/2025)
FS007436	Voyage Offshore Array Ltd	FL	Multiple	Surveys (geophysical, geotechnical, environmental) and site investigations	Applied
MUL240003	Wexford County Council	MUL	Wexford	Environmental surveys	Applied
FS005762	Wicklow County Council - Arklow Harbour	FL	Wicklow	Dredging	Applied
MUL230026	Wicklow County Council - Wicklow Port	MUL	Wicklow	Maintenance dredging	Applied
FS007583	Wicklow County Council - Wicklow Port	FL	Wicklow	Dredging	Determined
FS007588	Wicklow Sea Wind Ltd	FL	Wicklow	Site investigations including surveys	Consultation
FS007163	Wicklow Sea Wind Ltd	FL	Wicklow	Surveys and site investigations	Consultation

B. Conservation Status of all SCIs featured in the NIS

Table B.1: Conservation Status of All SCIs Featured in NIS

SCI	Conservation Status (BoCC)
[A009] Fulmar	Amber
[A013] Manx shearwater	Amber
[A016] Gannet	Amber
[A176] Mediterranean gull	Amber
[A179] Black-headed gull	Amber
[A183] Lesser black-backed gull	Amber
[A184] Herring gull	Red
[A188] Kittiwake	Red
[A191] Sandwich tern	Amber
[A192] Roseate tern	Red
[A193] Common tern	Amber
[A194] Arctic tern	Amber
[A195] Little tern	Amber
[A001] Red-throated diver	Green
[A017] Cormorant	Green
[A018] Shag	Red
[A065] Common scoter	Red
[A199] Guillemot	Amber
[A200] Razorbill	Amber
[A204] Puffin	Red
[A048] Shelduck	Amber
[A056] Shoveler	Amber
[A050] Wigeon	Amber
[A054] Pintail	Amber
[A052] Teal	Amber
[A028] Grey Heron	Green
[A130] Oystercatcher	Amber
[A142] Lapwing	Red
[A140] Golden plover	Green
[A141] Grey plover	Amber
[A160] Curlew	Red
[A157] Bar-tailed godwit	Amber
[A156] Black-tailed godwit	Red
[A149] Dunlin	Red
[A162] Redshank	Amber
[A069] Red-breasted merganser	Amber

SCI	Conservation Status (BoCC)
[A004] Little grebe	Green
[A005] Great crested grebe	Green
[A137] Ringed plover	Red
[A169] Turnstone	Amber
[A144] Sanderling	Amber

Source: BoCC.



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