



## Marine Notice No. 71 of 2022

*Notice to all Shipowners, Fishing Vessel Owners, Agents, Shipmasters, Skippers, Fishers, Yachtsmen and Seafarers*

**Oriel Wind Farm - Unmanned Surface Vessel Survey  
- Trial operations in the Irish Sea Approximately  
22km off the coast of Dundalk, Co Louth**

### 1. Notice of Activity

The Department of Transport has been advised that trial operations of remotely piloted Uncrewed Surface Vessels (USVs) are planned to take place in the Dundalk Bay area during October and November 2022. Operations are planned to take place from **20th October for approximately 4 weeks**, subject to weather and operational constraints.

The vessels will be engaged in survey activities associated with the investigation of a site for development of the Oriel Wind Farm in the Irish Sea approximately 22km off the coast of Dundalk, Co Louth.

This is a non-invasive survey, and no contact with the seabed or any other infrastructure is planned during survey operations.

### 2. Location of Activity

The USVs will transit from/to Carlingford Lough to the area of operation, bounded by the coordinates given in the table below. Further location information is available in Appendix 1.

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1	53°53.21 N	006°02.90 W
2	53°53.28 N	006°05.41 W
3	53°55.33 N	006°06.50 W
4	53°56.86 N	006°05.53 W
5	53°56.80 N	006°02.46 W
6	53°55.21 N	006°01.65 W
7	53°53.21 N	006°02.90 W

### 3. Details of Vessels

Two of the below-listed vessels will be used for the operations. These are XO-450 type USVs with the characteristics as shown below in Appendix 2.

- **X06** Uncrewed (call sign **MGMK5**);
- **X17** Uncrewed (call sign **MKMB4**);
- **X18** Uncrewed (call sign **MKMB6**);
- **X20** Uncrewed (callsign **MLUK4**);
- **X21** Uncrewed (call sign **MLUL2**);
- **X22** uncrewed (call sign **MMIM7**).

The USV sends real time images and situational awareness data over satellite to a team of operators keeping watch and controlling the vessel remotely 24/7.

#### 4. Safety Precautions

Although the vessel is uncrewed, it is monitored and controlled throughout the 24-hour operations, piloted remotely using 360-degree cameras and other navigational aids.

The USV is equipped with the following to make it conspicuous to other marine traffic:

- AIS,
- Navigation Lights & Sound Signal,
- Active Radar Reflector, and
- Superstructure Painted Yellow.

All vessels operating within this area are requested to avoid contact with the vessel and be aware of the operational area during this period.

A Radio Navigation Warning will be in place during operations.

#### 5. Contact Details

Any enquiries about these operations should be directed to the following:

##### **XOcean - Emergency Contact Details:**

Rhiannon Evans (Project Manager)

Tel: +44 (0) 7817 485935

Email: [rhiannon.evans@xocean.com](mailto:rhiannon.evans@xocean.com)

Clodagh Cunningham (Senior Operations Manager)

Tel: +353 (0) 87 6768806

Email: [clodagh.cunningham@xocean.com](mailto:clodagh.cunningham@xocean.com)

JP Kearns (Marine Superintendent)

Tel: +353 (0) 87 2076804

Email: [jp.kearns@xocean.com](mailto:jp.kearns@xocean.com)

Oliver Harris (Head of Projects)

Tel: +44 (0) 7549 555961

Email: [oliver.harris@xocean.com](mailto:oliver.harris@xocean.com)

All mariners are reminded of their responsibilities under the **International Collision Regulations** and are reminded of [Marine Notice No. 17 of 2007](#), which gives general advice in relation to the activities of vessels engaged in survey work for hydrographic, seismic, fishing research and underwater operations.

The International Regulations for Prevention of Collisions at Sea (COLREGS) are implemented in Irish law by the *Merchant Shipping (Collision Regulations) (Ships and Water Craft on the Water) Order 2012* [S.I. No. 507 of 2012], and the *Signals of Distress (Ships) Rules 2012* [S.I. No.170 of 2012]. [See Marine Notice No. 06 of 2013.](#) These Statutory Instruments may be purchased by mail order from Government Publications, Office of Public Works, 52 St. Stephen's Green, Dublin 2. Tel: (01) 6476834/1890-213434. They are also available online at: [www.irishstatutebook.ie](http://www.irishstatutebook.ie).

Note: Marine Notices are issued purely for maritime safety and navigation reasons and should not be construed as conferring rights or granting permissions.

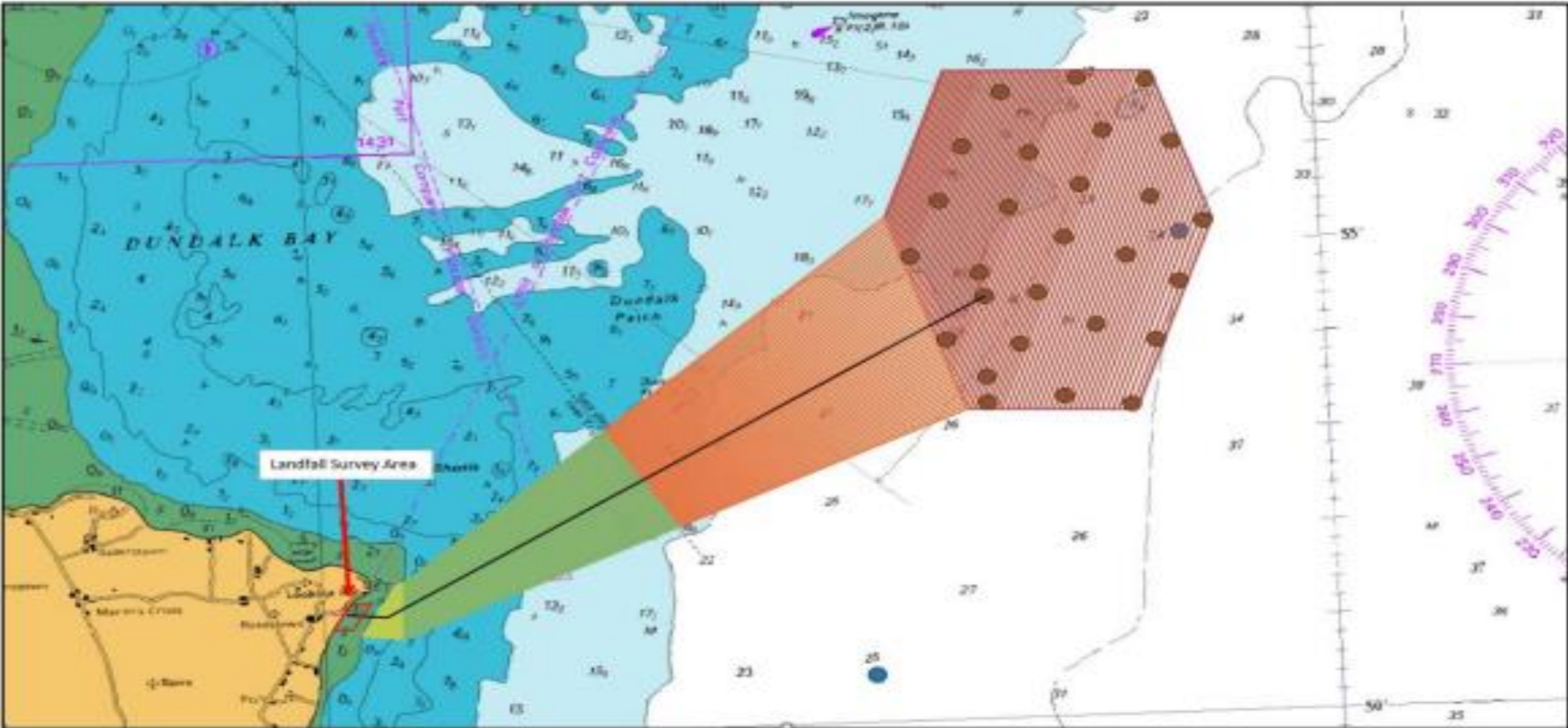
Irish Maritime Administration,  
Department of Transport,  
Leeson Lane, Dublin 2, D02 TR60, Ireland.

19/10/2022

Encl: Appendix 1 The Operational Area  
Appendix 2 Vessels Details

For any technical assistance in relation to this Marine Notice, please contact:  
The Marine Survey Office, email: [MSO@transport.gov.ie](mailto:MSO@transport.gov.ie)  
For general enquiries, please contact the Maritime Safety Policy Division, email:  
[MaritimeSafetyPolicyDivision@transport.gov.ie](mailto:MaritimeSafetyPolicyDivision@transport.gov.ie)  
Written enquiries concerning Marine Notices should be addressed to:  
Dept. of Transport, Maritime Safety Policy Division, Leeson Lane, Dublin 2, D02 TR60, Ireland.  
email: [MarineNotices@transport.gov.ie](mailto:MarineNotices@transport.gov.ie) or visit us at: [www.gov.ie/transport](http://www.gov.ie/transport)

Appendix 1: The Operational Area



**Appendix 2: Vessels Details**

Name	X 06 Uncrewed	X 18 Uncrewed	X 20 Uncrewed	X 21 Uncrewed	X 22 Uncrewed
MMSI:	232025477	232039415	232042736	232042738	232044014
Call Sign:	MGMK5	MKMB6	MLUK4	MLUL2	MMIM7
Length:	4.5m	4.5m	4.5m	4.5m	4.5m
Beam:	2.2m	2.2m	2.2m	2.2m	2.2m
Speed:	3.5kts	3.5kts	3.5kts	3.5kts	3.5kts
Draught:	1.5m	1.5m	1.5m	1.5m	1.5m
Tonnage:	750kg	750kg	750kg	750kg	750kg

