



Marine Notice No. 58 of 2024

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

Uncrewed Surface Vessels (USVs) Transit through Irish Waters from Kinsale, Co. Cork

1. Notice of Activity

The Department of Transport has been advised by XOCEAN of an operation in the Celtic Sea involving remotely piloted uncrewed surface vessels (USVs). The vessels will primarily be engaged in survey activities between 73 and 125 nautical miles south of Co. Cork, in UK waters, but will transit through Irish Waters to and from Kinsale, Co. Cork, which will be the designated port for launch and recovery. It is expected there will be up to 3 USVs operational at any one time. Survey operations will begin on **28 October 2024** and will be ongoing for approximately **5 months**, subject to operational and weather constraints.

2. Location of Activity

The approximate transit area boundary coordinates are indicated in the table below and a map of the USVs route to and from the survey operations area is available in Appendix 1 to this Marine Notice.

Table 1

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1	51° 42.54' N	008° 31.62' W
2	51° 42.90' N	008° 28.02' W
3	51° 23.28' N	008° 23.22' W
4	51° 22.92' N	008° 26.76' W

3. Details of Vessels

Although the USVs are uncrewed, they are managed throughout a 24-hour operation. They are piloted remotely using 360-degree cameras and other navigational aids. The USVs send real time images and situational awareness data over satellite to a team of operators keeping watch and controlling the vessel remotely 24/7.

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

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

Each USV measures 4.5m in length and its beam is 2.2m. An image of an USV that will be used in the operations is available in Appendix 2 of this Marine Notice. Seafarers are asked to avoid contact with the vessel and be aware of the operational area during this period.

4. Contact Details

Enquiries or supporting information in relation to this marine notice, and any other relevant matters, should be directed to:

- **USV Supervisor (24hr)**
Telephone: +353 (1) 233 9950
Email: usv.supervisor@xocean.com
- **Project Manager**
Fergus Bradford
Telephone: +44 2080982104
Email: fergus.bradford@xocean.com
- **Marine Superintendent**
Anthony O'Toole
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Email: anthony.otoole@xocean.com
- **Head of Projects**
Oliver Harris
Telephone: +44 2080982108
Email: oliver.harris@xocean.com

All mariners are reminded of their responsibilities under the International Collision Regulations and 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, Mountshannon Road, Dublin, D08 XA06 Tel: (046) 9423100. They are also available online at: 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.

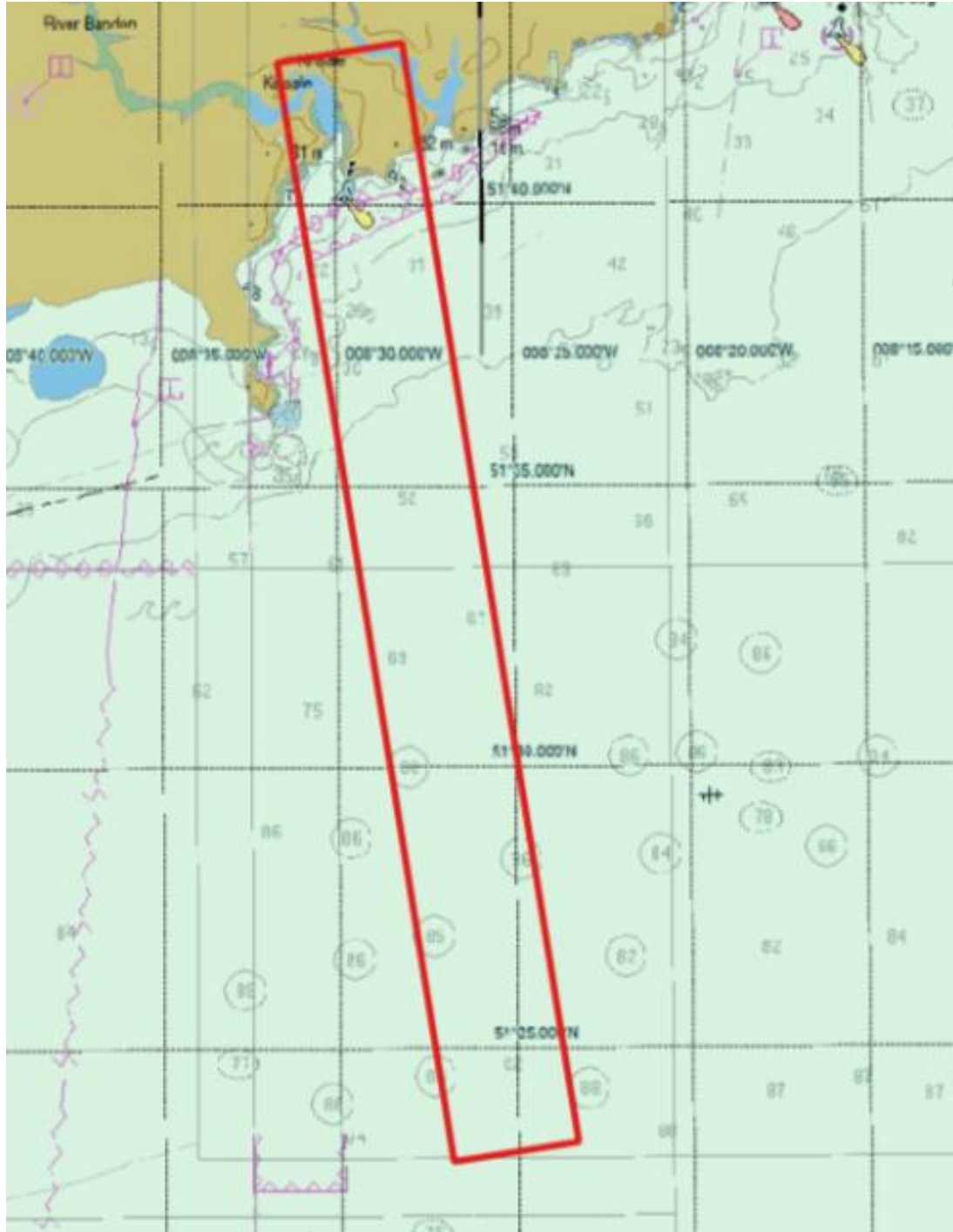
Irish Maritime Administration,
Department of Transport,
Leeson Lane, Dublin 2, D02 TR60, Ireland.

24/10/2024

Encl: Appendix 1: Transit route of USVs
Appendix 2: Image of USV

For any technical assistance in relation to this Marine Notice, please contact:
The Marine Survey Office, email: MSO@transport.gov.ie.
For general enquiries, please contact the Maritime Safety Policy Division, email:
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 or visit us at: www.gov.ie/transport.

Appendix 1: Transit route of USVs



Appendix 2: Image of USV

