

Arklow Bank Wind Park - Geotechnical Survey

MMO Daily Observation Log Compilation

Geoquip Saentis Campaign 2020

Since operations began on the 14th October 2020, no mitigation for marine mammals was required.

14th / 15th October 2020

MMO/PAMO monitoring times amounted to 23hrs 31mins as of midnight on the 15th October. On the 15th of October at 11:20UTC common dolphins (n=8) were observed travelling at speed northwards. Animals were observed while operations were underway and no mitigation was required.

16th / 17th October 2020

MMO/PAMO monitoring times has amounted to 12hrs 40mins. On the 16th October at 15:40UTC one harbour porpoise was observed 700m from the vessel travelling south, while works were non-operational, no mitigation was required. On the 17th October at 07:48 UTC one harbour porpoise was observed 500m from the vessel travelling south, while works were non-operational, no mitigation was required.

18th October 2020

No dedicated monitoring has been conducted since 17th October. Today 18th October at 06:59UTC a grey seal was observed bottling 200m from the vessel. At 15:03UTC harbour porpoise (n=2) were observed 350m from the vessel travelling south. Additional weights were added to the PAM cable. The hydrophone was deployed for testing, and recovered and secured to the deck while operations are stopped.

26th October 2020

6hrs 31mins of dedicated monitoring effort has been carried out by the MMO/PAMO from 00:00 25th October until 12:00 today. No mitigation was required, and no marine mammals have been observed.

27th October 2020

8hrs 20mins of dedicated effort has been carried out by the MMO/PAMO since 12:00 yesterday 26th October until 03:30 this morning. No mitigation was required, and no marine mammals have been observed.

8th November 2020

Since 00:00 on the 7th November to 12:00 on the 8th the MMO/PAMO carried out 19hr 30mins of monitoring effort. No mitigation was required. At 09:55 on the 8th Nov harbour porpoise (n=1) was observed travelling west ahead of the vessel at 100m. Operations were underway, and no mitigation was required.

9th November 2020

Since midday yesterday 8th November until today 12:00 the MMO/PAMO carried out 13hrs 06mins of monitoring effort, no marine mammals were observed and thus no mitigation was required.

10th November 2020

Since midday yesterday 9th November until 12:00 today the MMO/PAM carried out 11hrs 06mins of monitoring effort. Grey seal (n=1) was observed today at 08:16, 50m from the vessel, bottling while observing the vessel. Sighting was observed while operations were underway, thus no mitigation was required.

20th November 2020

Since yesterday 19th November until 12:00 today the MMO/PAMO carried out 12hrs 16mins of monitoring effort. No marine mammal observations or detections have been made and thus no mitigation has been required.

21st November 2020

Since noon yesterday 20th November until 12:00 today the MMO/PAMO conducted 11hrs 06 mins of monitoring effort. No marine mammal observations or detections have been made and thus no mitigation has been required.

22nd November 2020

Since midday yesterday 21st November until 12:00 today the MMO/PAMO conducted 11hrs 41mins of monitoring effort. At 15:12 on the 21st November a group of harbour porpoise (n=4) were observed 700m from the vessel fast swimming and porpoising (leaping out of the water) in various directions, which indicates a high probability of foraging. Observation was made while operations were underway, no mitigation was required.

23rd November 2020

Since midday yesterday 22nd November until this morning the MMO/PAMO carried out 9hrs 28mins of monitoring effort. No marine mammal observations or detections have been made and thus no mitigation has been required.

25th November 2020

A further 1hr 33mins of MMO monitoring effort was conducted from midday today until operations finished.