



codling
wind park



EIAR Addendum

Appendix 12-A Evidence of
fishing within OWF array
areas

1 Introduction

Antec were commissioned by NiMa to prepare a technical note which identifies fishing presence within operational United Kingdom (UK) offshore wind farms (OWFs). The outputs of this work are provided as figures of the included OWFs against vessel traffic data to show fishing vessel behaviour within the arrays.

2 Methodology

2.1 AIS

Automatic Identification System (AIS) vessel traffic data has been extracted for the entire 12 month period of 2023 for the following OWFs included in the assessment:

- Moray East;
- Westermost Rough;
- Walney and Walney Extension;
- Rampion;
- Gywnt y Mor; and
- Hornsea One.

In addition to the 12-months AIS for these six OWFs, analysis of shorter 28-day period of AIS data from 2025 for Seagreen and Moray West has been included. These are more recently operational projects than the six above, with the construction buoyage being removed in May 2025 for Seagreen and November 2025 for Moray West. It is noted that construction buoyage does not prohibit entry for vessels, however activity may be less than during operation. The data period for these 28-day assessments includes the following periods which have been chosen to capture periods when fishing vessels were observed to be present:

- Seagreen: 1st – 14th February 2025 (pre removal of buoyage) and 1st –14th July 2025 (post removal of buoyage); and
- Moray West: 22nd February – 7th March 2025 and 17th –30th August 2025 (both periods pre removal of buoyage).

The data has been extracted within the relevant project boundaries, and has been analysed to include only those vessels classed as fishing vessels, with all other vessel types excluded from the following analysis. Where possible, fishing vessels that did not indicate their type as being fishing via AIS broadcasts have still been identified and included via additional research. Identification of vessel type was achieved via information broadcast on AIS such as Maritime Mobile Service Identity (MMSI), type, navigational status, and destination. This was then aligned with publicly available national fishing fleet databases to confirm vessel type as well as to aid in the determination of fishing gear. Any fishing vessel that could be confirmed as being engaged in works not associated with fishing (e.g., guard vessels, survey vessels) have been removed.

2.2 AIS Data and Limitations

Regulation 19 of the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS) Chapter V (International Maritime Organization (IMO), 1974) - Carriage requirements for vessel borne navigational systems and equipment - sets out navigational equipment to be carried on board vessels, according to vessel type. In 2000, the IMO adopted a new requirement (as part of a revised new Chapter V) for vessels to carry AIS. AIS is a system by which vessels transmit data concerning their position, MMSI etc. on two individual Very High Frequency (VHF) channels to the shore and other vessels, at very frequent intervals. The data is transmitted automatically via VHF to other vessels and coastal stations/authorities.

Fishing vessels of 15 metres (m) length and over are required to carry Class A AIS. Smaller vessels without AIS installed (including fishing vessels under 15m length) may also carry AIS voluntarily, typically utilising a Class B AIS device, however, those which do not may be underrepresented in the analysis.

Vessels fitted with AIS shall always maintain AIS in operation, except where international agreements, rules or standards provide for the protection of navigational information.

The regulation requires that AIS shall:

- Provide information – including the vessel’s identity, type, position, course, speed, navigational status, and other safety-related information – automatically to appropriately equipped shore stations, other vessels, and aircraft;
- Automatically receive such information from similarly fitted vessels; exchange data with shore-based facilities.

For the purposes of the analysis, it has been assumed that vessels under an obligation to broadcast information via AIS have done so. It has also been assumed that the details broadcast via AIS (notably vessel type) are accurate unless clear evidence to the contrary was identified during Anatec’s thorough quality assurance of the data.

2.3 OWF Parameters

A summary of relevant parameters of the OWFs assessed is provided in Table 1. This includes peak tidal speed based on the nearest charted tidal diamond on Admiralty Charts. These provide indication of local tides only and are not necessarily representative of site specific patterns.

It should be considered that the decision to fish or transit within an OWF will be down to individual vessel masters and will depend on various factors including weather and sea conditions. This note therefore does not seek to directly confirm whether fishing is possible for any future projects, but rather is designed to provide evidence that fishing has been observed to occur within UK OWFs.

Table 1 OWF Details

Project	Number Structures of		Approximate Minimum Spacing Between WTGs (m)	Nearest Charted Tidal Diamond		
	WTGs	OSPs		Diamond and Chart	Distance (nm)	Peak Speed (kt)
Moray East	100	3	1,100	N, 115-0	1.4	0.7
Westermost Rough	35	1	900	B, 121-0	3.7	1.4
Walney plus Ext.	189	4	700	J, 1320-0	1.9	1.1
Rampion	116	1	700	H, 1652-0	2.6	1.6
Gywnt y Môr	160	2	700	K, 1978-0	1.4	1.4
Hornsea One	174	3	900	D, 1187-0	0	1.2
Seagreen	114	1	1,000	E, 1407-0	3.5	1.2
Moray West	60	2	1,100	G, 115-0	2	0.4

3 AIS Analysis

The AIS plots for the OWFs assessed are provided in Figure 1 to Figure 8.

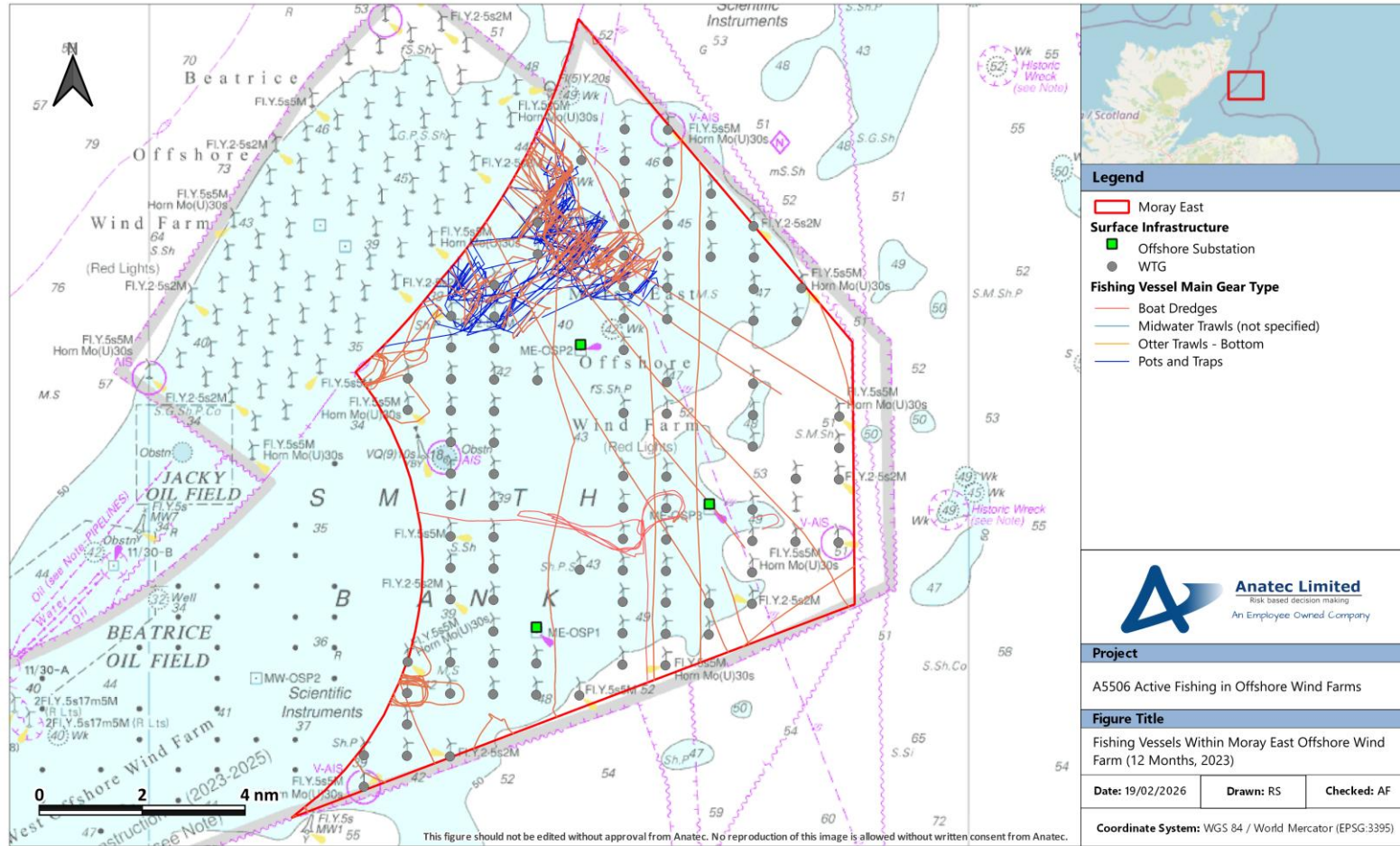


Figure 1 Fishing Vessels Within Moray East Offshore Wind Farm (12 Months, 2023)

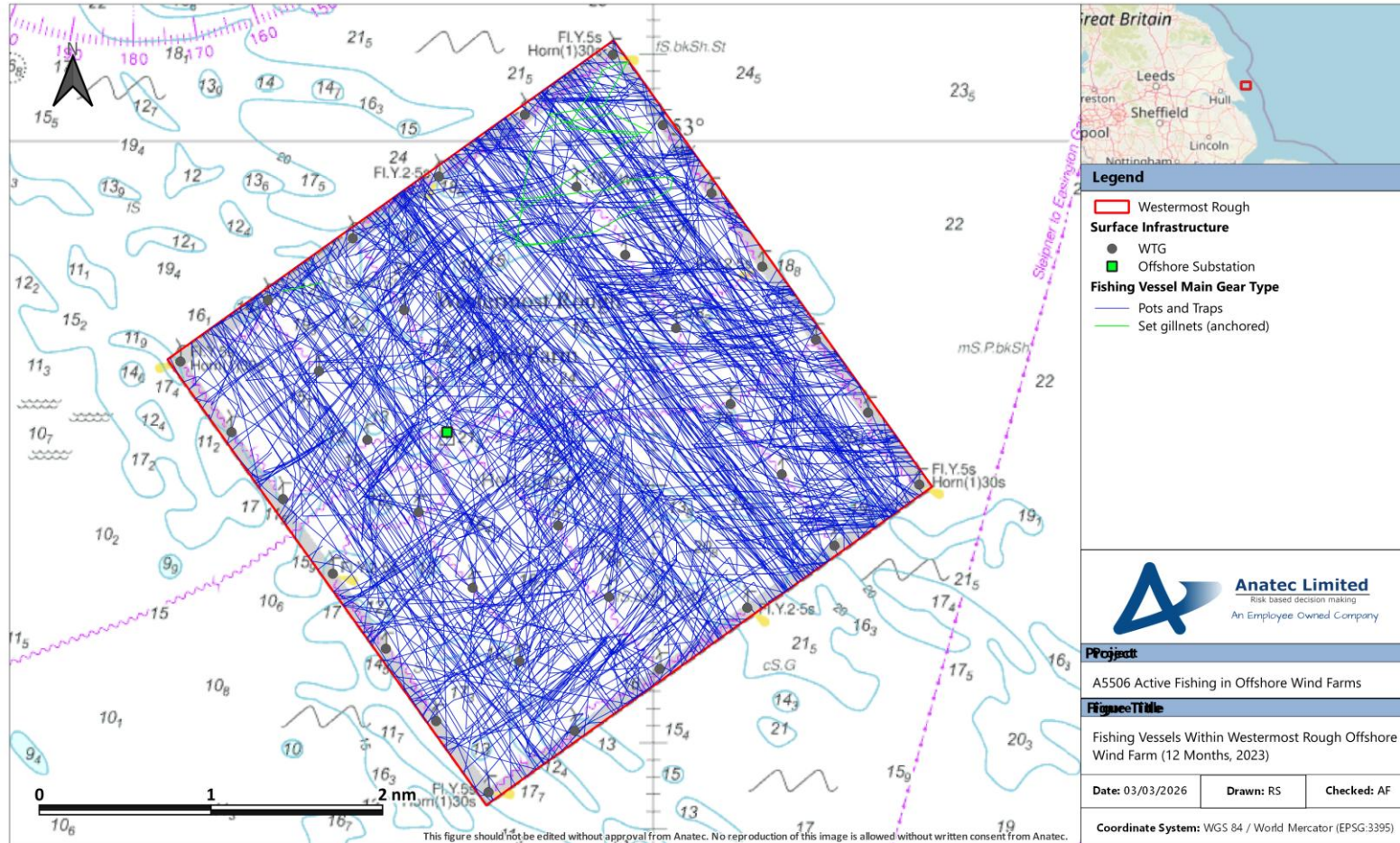


Figure 2 Fishing Vessels Within Westermost Rough Offshore Wind Farm (12 Months, 2023)

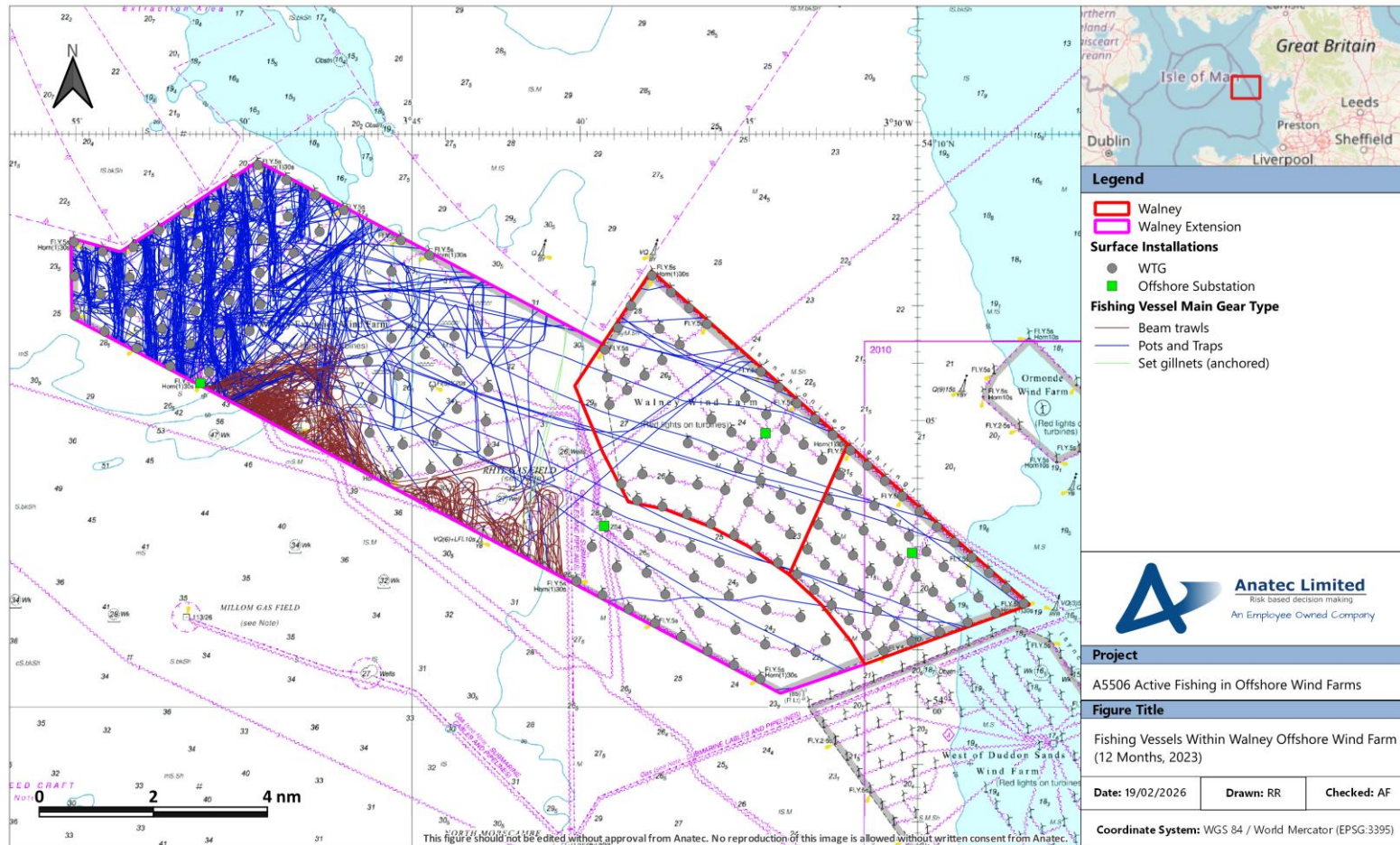


Figure 3 Fishing Vessels Within Walney Offshore Wind Farm (12 Months, 2023)

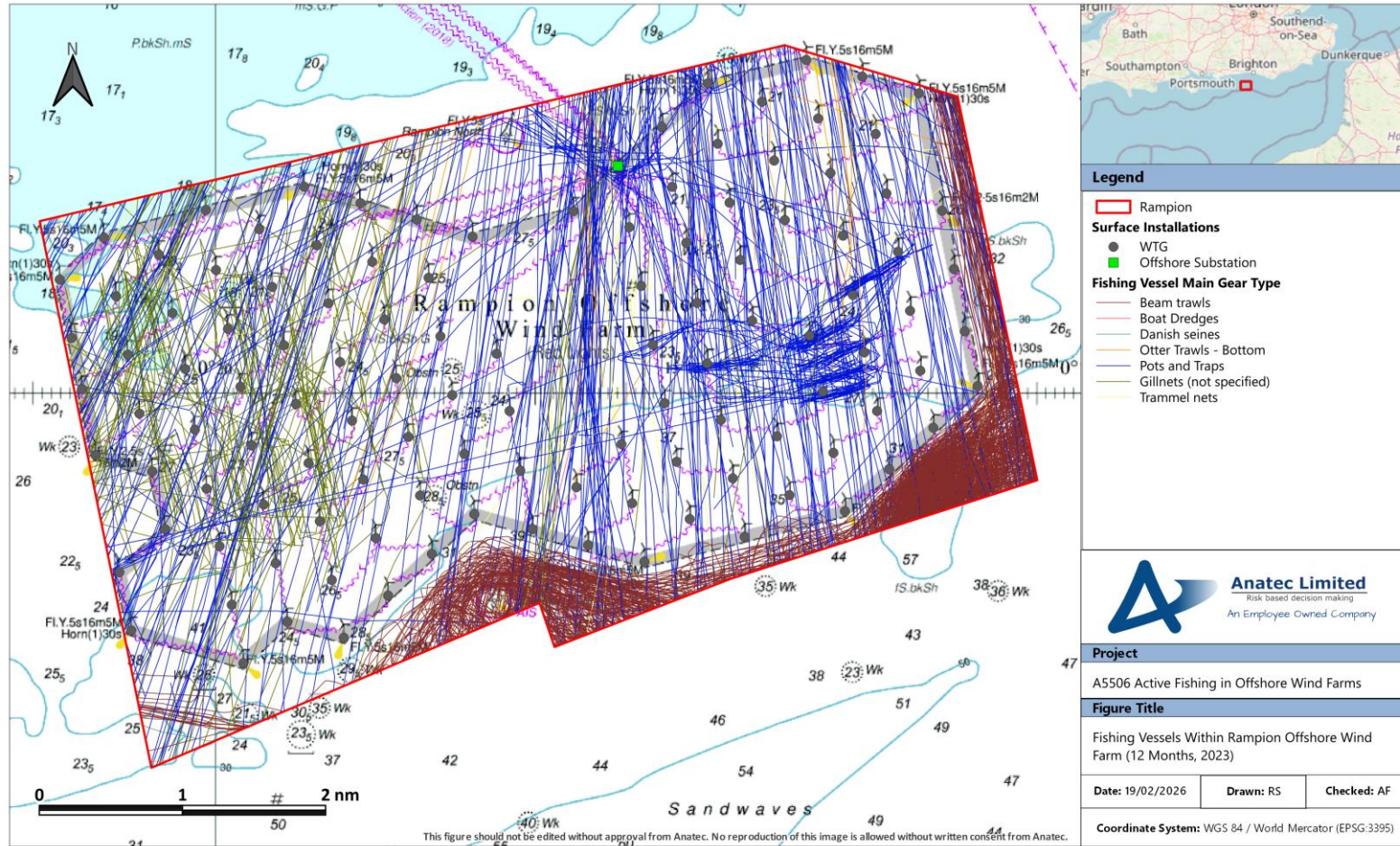


Figure 4 Fishing Vessels Within Rampion Offshore Wind Farm (12 Months, 2023)

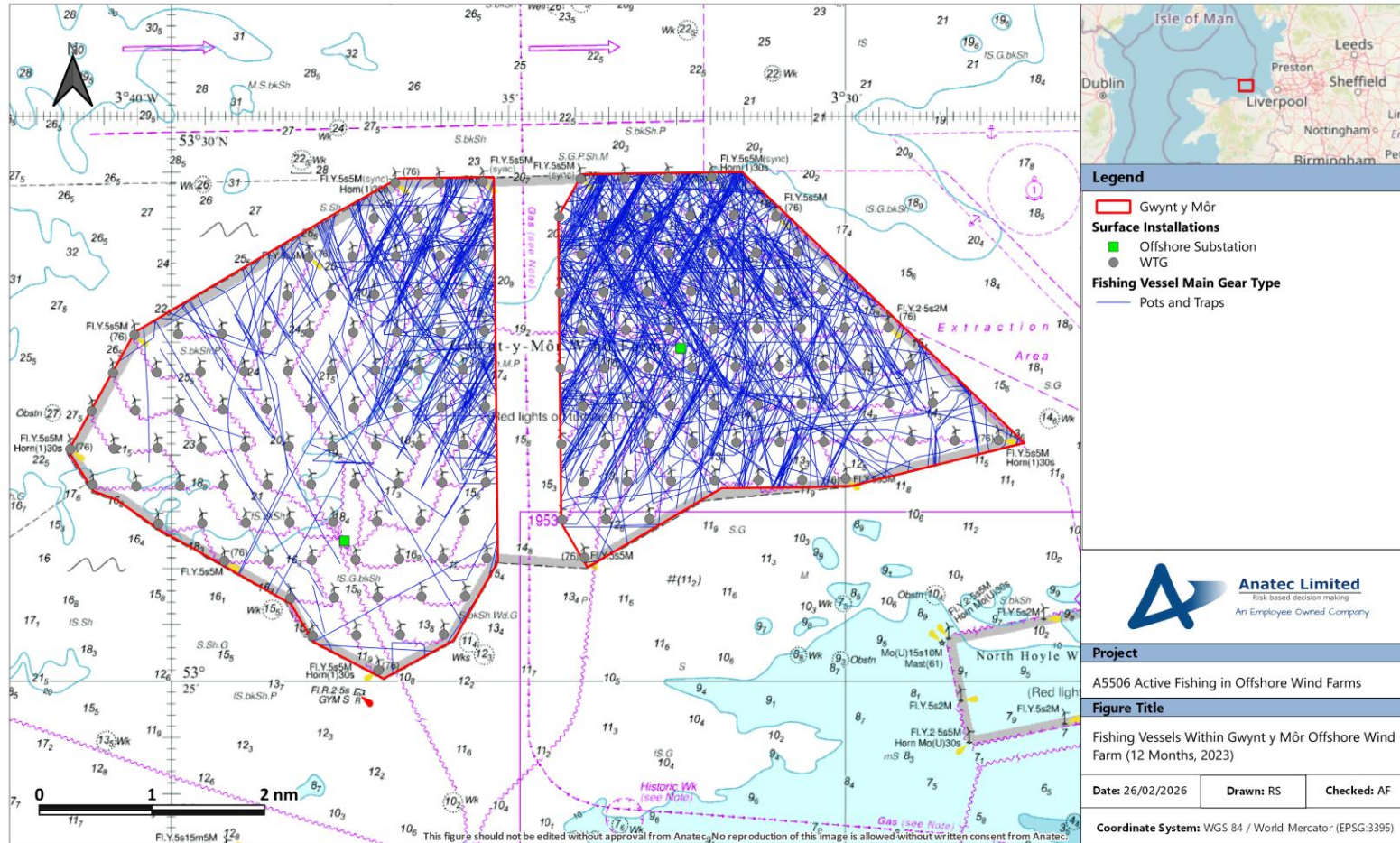


Figure 5 Fishing Vessels Within Gwynt y Môr Offshore Wind Farm (12 Months, 2023)

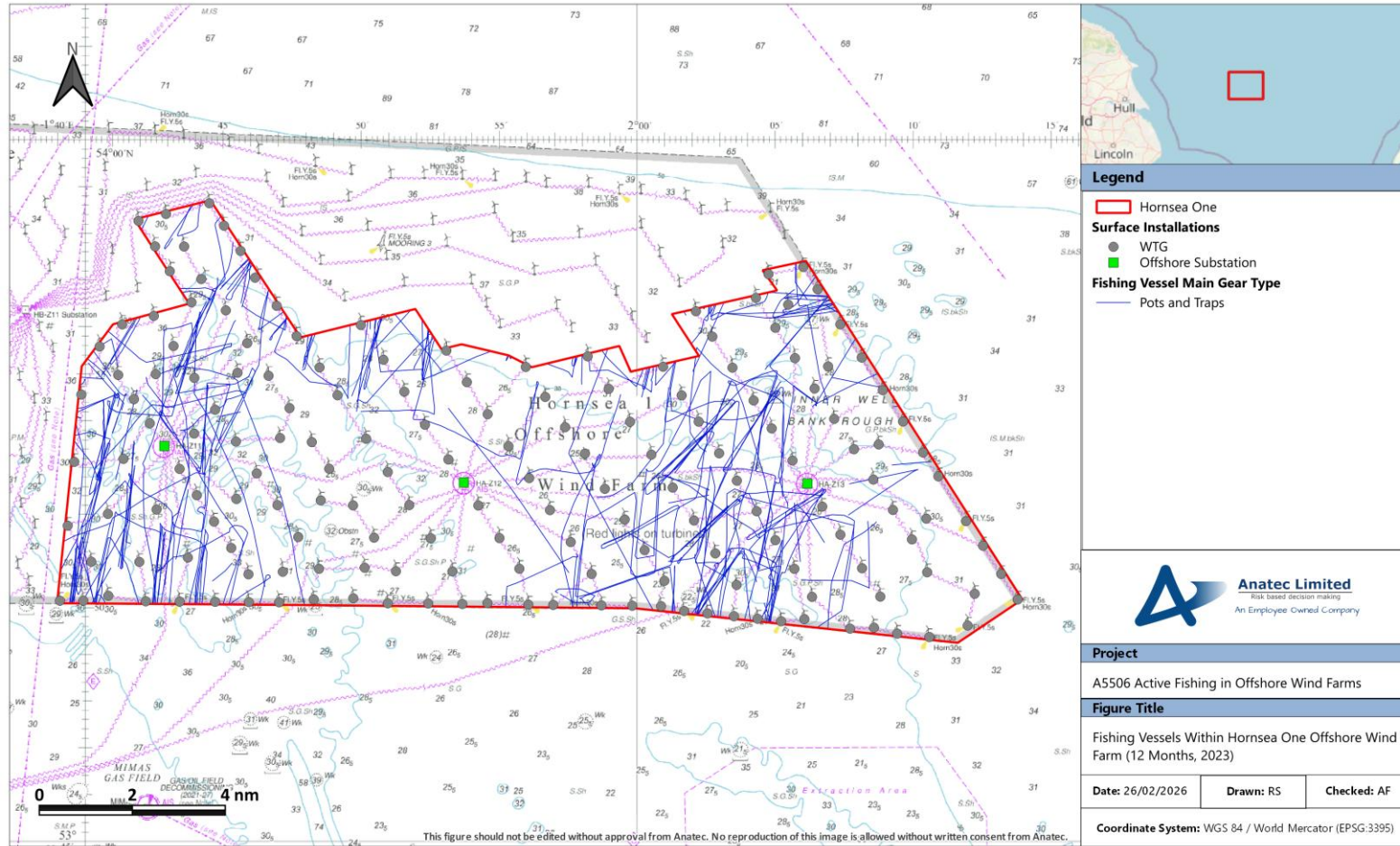


Figure 6 Fishing Vessels Within Hornsea One Offshore Wind Farm (12 Months, 2023)

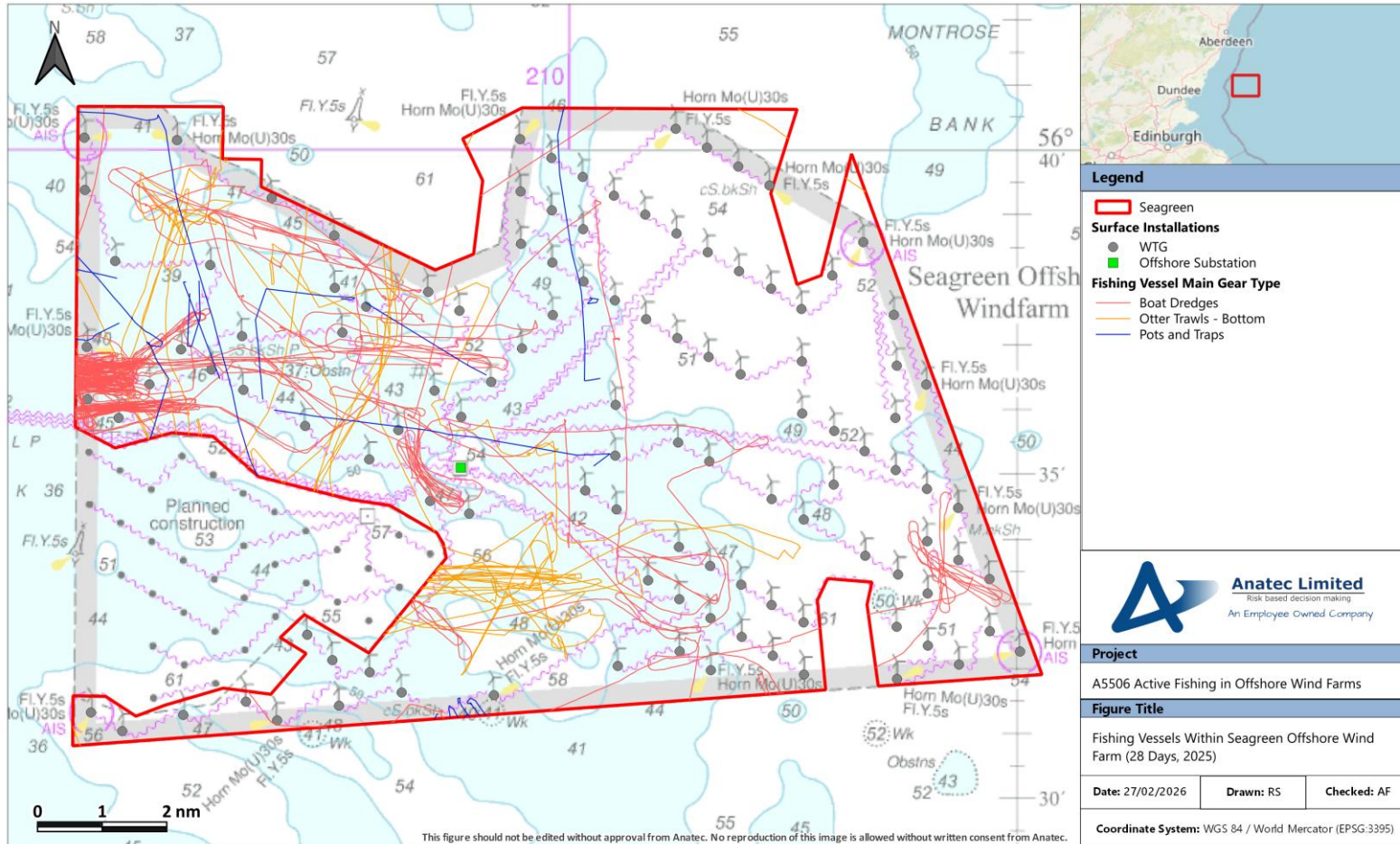


Figure 7 Fishing Vessels Within Seagreen Offshore Wind Farm (28 Days, 2025)

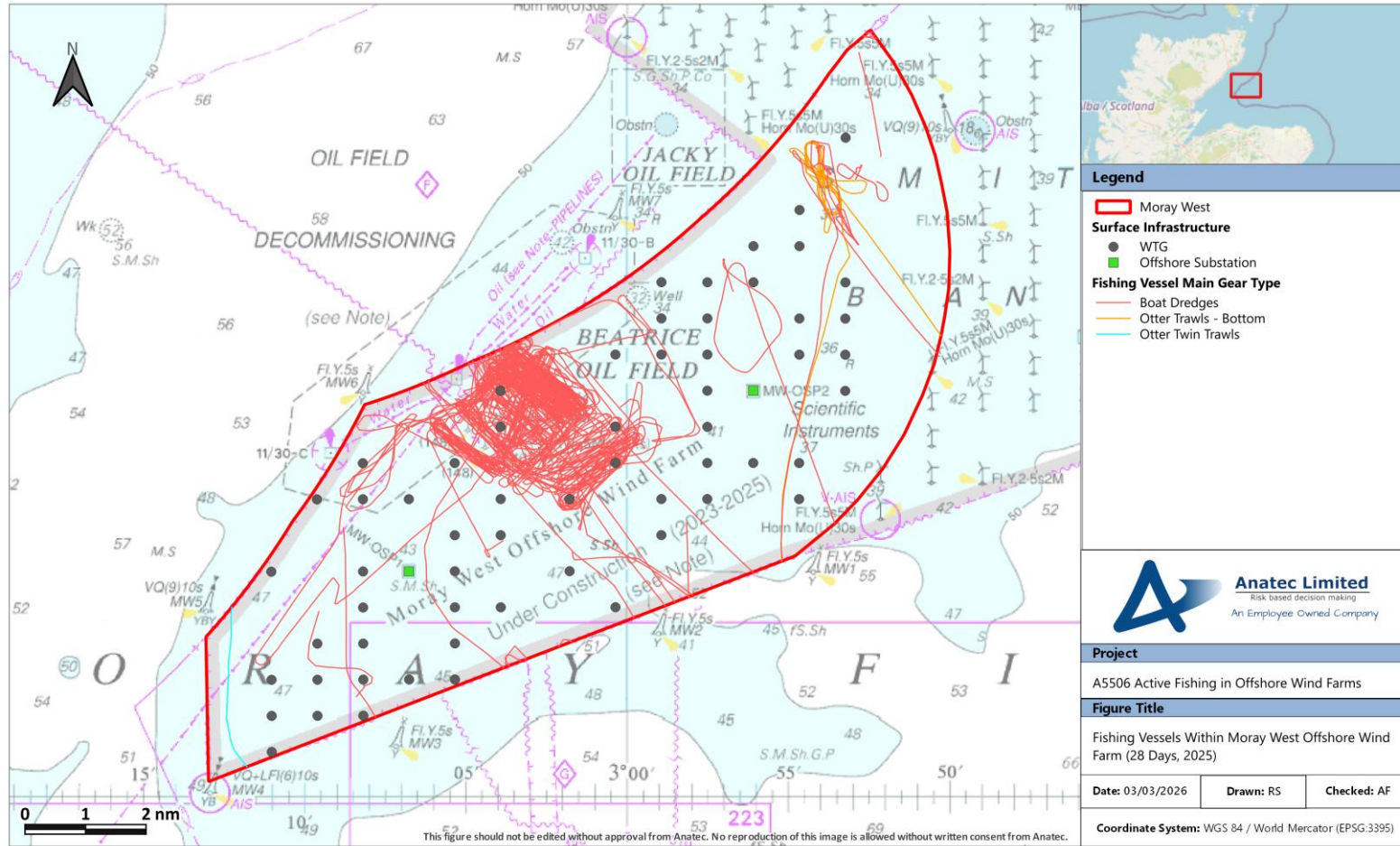


Figure 8 Fishing Vessels within Moray West Offshore Wind Farm (28 Days, 2025)

4 References

IMO (1974). *International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS)*. London: IMO.