

Notice to Mariners No 1 / 2016

Blyth Offshore Demonstrator Project



19th February 2015

BOD-101-04-SMC-NTM-00005-A-01

Important Notice to Mariners

Natural Power will be conducting Pre-Construction Marine Ecology Surveys at the site of the Blyth Offshore Demonstration Project between 23rd February and 31st March 2016.

The survey work will be carried out by Natural Power Consultants aboard the Newcastle University research vessel the *RV Princess Royal*. The survey work will entail otter trawling, static netting, and lobster pot surveys across the site and surrounding area. In total survey work will take 6 days at sea.

The area of the survey work will be bounded by the following coordinates this area is shown in Chart 1.

Coordinate point	Coordinate (WGS84) Degrees, Decimal Minutes
1	55° 04.316'N 1° 26.960'W
2	55° 15.111'N 1° 33.280'W
3	55° 15.111'N 1° 13.463'W
4	55° 04.316'N 1° 13.463'W

Survey Details

Otter trawling will take place over a single day with trawl data collected at 8 sampling stations. Each trawl will be approx. 30 minutes in duration. During trawling, other fishing activity and all marked static gear will be avoided to a safe distance.

Five fleets of gill nets will be deployed across the survey area. Each fleet will measure 600m in length and be constructed of monofilament mesh. The foot rope of each fleet will be adequately weighted and the head rope will have enough positive floatation to allow the net to fish vertically in the water. At either end of the net a dhan will be secured to allow the net to be clearly visible.

Eight fleets of 20 pots will be set over the survey area. At either end of the fleet a dhan will be secured so that the individual strings can be clearly seen. A weight will be attached at each end of the foot ropes so that the strings remain in the desired position.

Contact Details (Natural Power Consultants):

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Vessel name – Princess Royal

Vessel details - <http://www.ncl.ac.uk/marine/facilities/princessroyal/>

Call sign- 2EYM2

Mobile- 07730979784

Email- neil.armstrong@ncl.ac.uk



Specialist Marine Consultants is the appointed Fisheries Liaison Coordinator and can be contacted as follows:

Simon Prince – Fisheries Liaison Co-ordinator

Specialist Marine Consultants Ltd

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Further updates will be provided as required.

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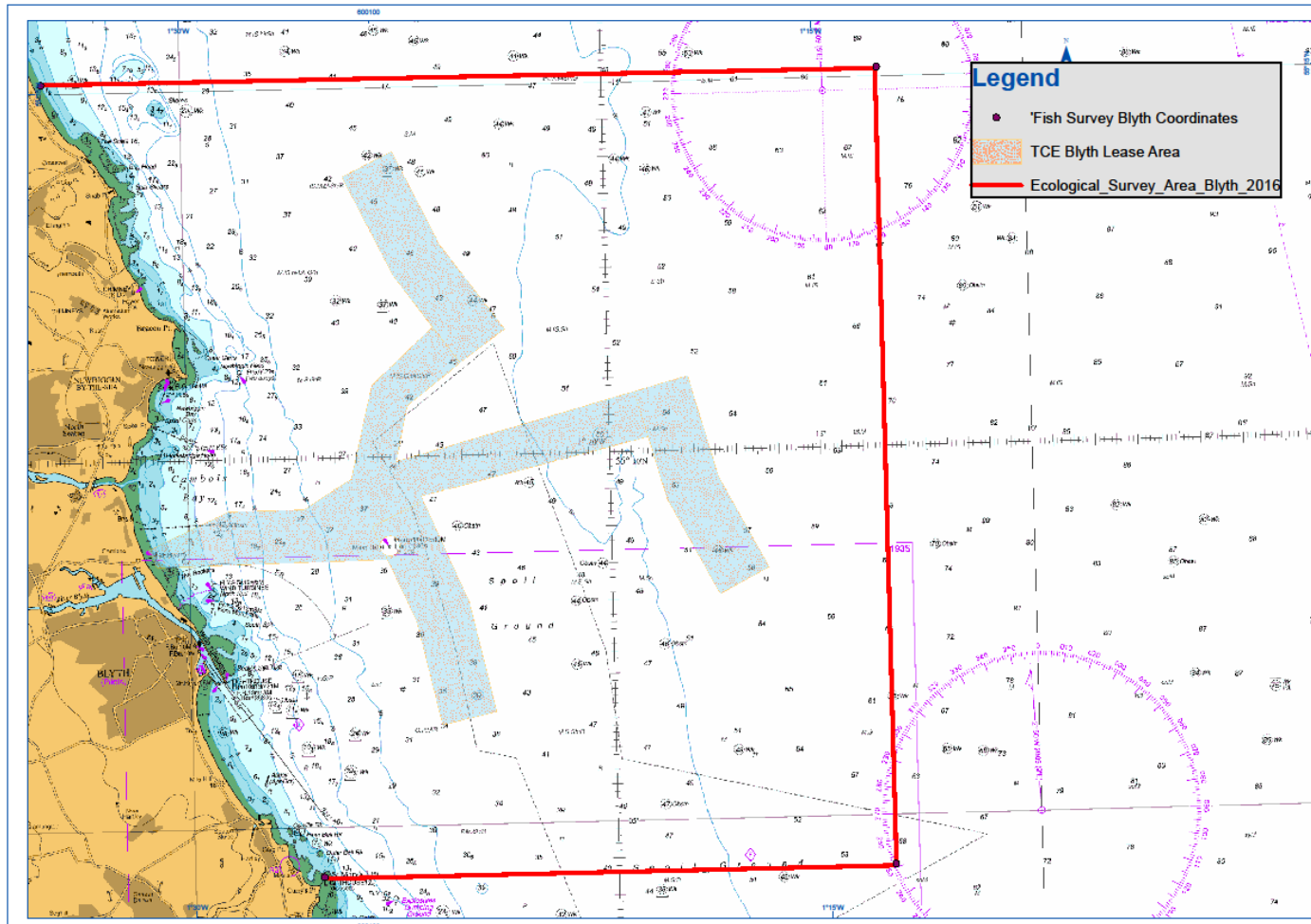
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Chart 1: Marine Ecology Survey Area



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