

MARINE DIRECTORATE - LICENSING OPERATIONS TEAM'S
ASSESSMENT OF THE PROJECT'S IMPLICATIONS FOR
DESIGNATED SPECIAL AREAS OF CONSERVATION, SPECIAL
PROTECTION AREAS AND PROPOSED SPECIAL PROTECTION
AREAS IN VIEW OF THE SITES' CONSERVATION OBJECTIVES.

APPLICATION FOR A MARINE LICENCE UNDER THE MARINE (SCOTLAND) ACT
2010 FOR CONSTRUCT, ALTER OR IMPROVE, CARRY OUT ANY FORM OF
DREDGING AND DEPOSIT ANY SUBSTANCE OR OBJECT AND FOR A
EUROPEAN PROTECTED SPECIES LICENCE UNDER THE CONSERVATION
(NATURAL HABITATS &C.) REGULATIONS 1994 FOR CONSTRUCTION

SITE DETAILS: PORT OF DUNDEE, FIRTH OF TAY

Name	Assessor or Approver	Date
[Redacted]	Assessor	01/12/2025
[Redacted]	Approver	19/12/2025

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SECTION 1: BACKGROUND

1. Appropriate assessment conclusion

- 1.1 This appropriate assessment (“AA”) concludes that there will be no adverse effect on the site integrity of the Firth of Tay and Eden Estuary Special Area of Conservation (“SAC”), Firth of Tay and Eden Estuary Special Protection Area (“SPA”), Outer Firth of Forth and St Andrews Bay Complex SPA, River Tay SAC and Moray Firth SAC from the Port of Dundee proposal either in isolation or in combination with other plans or projects, providing that the conditions set out in Section 4 are complied with.
- 1.2 Marine Directorate – Licensing Operations Team (“MD-LOT”) considers that the most up to date and best scientific advice available has been used in reaching the conclusion that the Port of Dundee proposal will not adversely affect the integrity of the Firth of Tay and Eden Estuary SAC, Firth of Tay and Eden Estuary SPA, Outer Firth of Forth and St Andrews Bay Complex SPA, River Tay SAC and Moray Firth SAC and is satisfied that no reasonable scientific doubt remains.

2. Introduction

- 2.1 This is a record of the AA undertaken by MD-LOT in regards to the Port of Dundee proposal for marine construction, dredging and the deposit of dredge material activities as required under Regulation 48 of the Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 1994 (“the 1994 Habitats Regulations”). MD-LOT, as the 'competent authority' under the 1994 Habitats Regulations, has to be satisfied that the project will not adversely affect the integrity of any European site (special areas of conservation and special protection areas), either alone or in combination with other plans or projects, before it can grant consent for the project.
- 2.2 NatureScot, operating name of Scottish Natural Heritage, has been consulted in accordance with Regulation 48(3) of the Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 1994.

3. Details of proposed project

- 3.1 The proposed works will take place at the Port of Dundee on the River Tay and comprises of two main components below Mean High Water Spring (“MHWS”). This includes capital dredging with a maximum total volume of 490,000 cubic

metres (“m³”), incorporating an over-dredge allowance of 0.5 metres (“m”). Dredging will be carried out using a backhoe dredger, and dredged material will be transported by barge for deposit at the Middle Bank (FO028) sea disposal site. The dredging and deposit are expected to take approximately seven weeks. The breakdown of dredging volumes, areas, and depths are as follows:

- 45,750 m³ from DunEco Quay to -6 m Chart Datum (“CD”)
- 35,700 m³ from the approach to Prince Charles Wharf (“PCW”) to -6.5 m CD
- 1,800 m³ to widen the PCW berth pocket to 70 m width and -9 m CD
- 21,750 m³ from the berth pocket 200 m east along the PCW extension to -10 m CD
- 385,000 m³ from Lady Shoal Approach Channel to -6.5 m CD

3.2 The proposal includes construction of a new piled quay wall immediately in front of the existing PCW to reinforce the quay structure. The wall will consist of 48 primary piles, infilled with sheet piles, and will extend approximately 106 metres along the quay. Piling will be undertaken using a combination of impact and vibro-piling techniques. Localised excavation at the base of the existing quay wall may be required to remove obstructions, using either land-based long-reach excavators or dredging equipment. A new beam will be installed at the pile head to integrate with the existing PCW deck. Existing fenders will be removed, retained, and reinstalled by welding after wall construction. Existing ladders will also be replaced as part of the proposal. The quay wall construction is expected to take approximately two months, with piling activities requiring around 35 days within this period.

4. Consultation

- 4.1 NatureScot were consulted on 7 October 2025 and responded on 20 November 2025. Further clarification was sought on 26 November 2025 and received on 26 November 2025. Further consultation was undertaken on 11 December 2025 with a final response received on 12 December 2025. Advice was also sought from Marine Directorate – Science, Evidence, Data and Digital (“MD-SEDD”) on 15 December 2025 with a response being provided on 17 December 2025. The comments from the Applicant were passed onto NatureScot for comment on 16 December 2025 and a response was received on 17 December 2025.
- 4.2 Consultation regarding the European Protected Species (“EPS”) licence application was undertaken on 12 November 2025 with NatureScot providing a response on 09 December 2025. Further clarification was sought on 10 December 2025 and provided the same day.

5. Main points raised during consultation

- 5.1 NatureScot advised that the Works would have a likely significant effect on the estuaries, subtidal sandbanks and seals qualifying interests of the Firth of Tay and Eden Estuary SAC, eider, common scoter, velvet scoter and long-tailed duck qualifying interests of the Firth of Tay and Eden Estuary SPA and Outer Firth of Forth and St Andrews Bay Complex SPA, Atlantic salmon, sea lamprey, river lamprey and otters qualifying interests of the River Tay SAC and bottlenose dolphins qualifying interests of the Moray Firth SAC and advised an AA was required.

SECTION 2: INFORMATION ON EUROPEAN SITES

6. Background information and qualifying interests for the relevant European sites

- 6.1 This section provides links to the NatureScot SiteLink website ("SiteLink") where the background information on the sites being considered in this assessment is available. The qualifying interests for the sites are listed as are the conservation objectives.

Table 1: Name of European sites affected and relevant links to SiteLink

<p><u>Firth of Tay and Eden Estuary SAC</u> https://sitelink.nature.scot/site/8257</p>
<p><u>Firth of Tay and Eden Estuary SPA</u> https://sitelink.nature.scot/site/8501</p>
<p><u>Outer Firth of Forth and St Andrews Bay Complex SPA</u> https://sitelink.nature.scot/site/10478</p>
<p><u>River Tay SAC</u> https://sitelink.nature.scot/site/8366</p>
<p><u>Moray Firth SAC</u> https://sitelink.nature.scot/site/8327</p>

Table 2: Qualifying interests

Firth of Tay and Eden Estuary SAC

- Estuaries
- Intertidal mudflats and sandflats
- Common seal (*Phoca vitulina*)
- Subtidal sandbanks

Firth of Tay and Eden Estuary SPA

- Bar-tailed godwit (*Limosa lapponica*)
- Black-tailed godwit (*Limosa limosa islandica*)*
- Common scoter (*Melanitta nigra*)*
- Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax carbo*)*
- Dunlin (*Calidris alpina alpina*)*
- Eider (*Somateria mollissima*)*
- Goldeneye (*Bucephala clangula*)*
- Goosander (*Mergus merganser*)*
- Grey plover (*Pluvialis squatarola*)*
- Greylag goose (*Anser anser*)
- Little tern (*Sternula albifrons*)
- Long-tailed duck (*Clangula hyemalis*)*
- Marsh harrier (*Circus aeruginosus*)
- Oystercatcher (*Haematopus ostralegus*)*
- Pink-footed goose (*Anser brachyrhynchus*)*
- Red-breasted merganser (*Mergus serrator*)*
- Redshank (*Tringa totanus*)
- Sanderling (*Calidris alba*)*
- Shelduck (*Tadorna tadorna*)*
- Velvet scoter (*Melanitta fusca*)*
- Waterfowl assemblage

* Indicates assemblage qualifier only

Outer Firth of Forth and St Andrews Bay Complex SPA

Breeding season:

- Arctic tern (*Sterna paradisaea*)
- Atlantic puffin (*Fratercula arctica*)

- Common guillemot (*Uria aalge*)
- Common tern (*Sterna hirundo*)
- European shag (*Gulosus aristotelis*)
- Black-legged kittiwake (*Rissa tridactyla*)
- Herring gull (*Larus argentatus*)
- Manx shearwater (*Puffinus puffinus*)
- Northern gannet (*Morus bassanus*)

Non-breeding season:

- Black-headed gull (*Chroicocephalus ridibundus*)
- Common eider (*Somateria mollissima mollissima*)
- Common goldeneye (*Bucephala clangula*)
- Common guillemot (*Uria aalge*)
- Common gull (*Larus canus*)
- Common scoter (*Melanitta nigra*)
- European shag (*Gulosus aristotelis*)
- Herring gull (*Larus argentatus*)
- Black-legged kittiwake (*Rissa tridactyla*)
- Little gull (*Hydrocoloeus minutus*)
- Long-tailed duck (*Clangula hyemalis*)
- Razorbill (*Alca torda*)
- Red-breasted merganser (*Mergus serrator*)
- Red-throated diver (*Gavia stellate*)
- Slavonian grebe (*Podiceps auritus*)
- Velvet scoter (*Melanitta fusca*)

Breeding season seabird assemblage

Non-breeding season seabird assemblage

Non-breeding season waterfowl assemblage

River Tay SAC

- River lamprey (*Lampetra fluviatilis*)
- Brook lamprey (*Lampetra planeri*)
- Otter (*Lutra lutra*)
- Clear-water lakes or lochs with aquatic vegetation
- Sea lamprey (*Petromyzon marinus*)
- Atlantic salmon (*Salmo salar*)

Moray Firth SAC

- Subtidal sandbanks
- Bottlenose dolphin (*Tursiops truncatus*)

Table 3: Conservation objectives

Firth of Tay and Eden Estuary SAC

1. To ensure that the qualifying features of Firth of Tay and Eden Estuary SAC are in favourable condition and make an appropriate contribution to achieving Favourable Conservation Status.
2. To ensure that the integrity of Firth of Tay and Eden Estuary SAC is maintained in them context of environmental changes by meeting objectives 2a, 2b and 2c for each qualifying feature:

Estuaries, intertidal mudflat and sandflats, subtidal sandbanks:

- 2a. Extent and distribution of the habitat within the site.
- 2b. Structure and function of the habitat and the supporting environment on which it relies.
- 2c. Distribution and viability of typical species of the habitat.

Harbour seal:

- 2a. Harbour seal within the Firth of Tay and Eden Estuary SAC are not at significant risk from injury or mortality.
- 2b. The distribution of harbour seal throughout the site is maintained by avoiding significant disturbance.
- 2c. The supporting habitats and processes relevant to harbour seal are maintained.

Firth of Tay and Eden Estuary SPA

To avoid deterioration of the habitats of the qualifying species (listed above) or significant disturbance to the qualifying species, thus ensuring that the integrity of the site is maintained; and

To ensure for the qualifying species that the following are maintained in the long term:

- Population of the species as a viable component of the site
- Distribution of the species within site
- Distribution and extent of habitats supporting the species
- Structure, function and supporting processes of habitats supporting the species
- No significant disturbance of the species

Outer Firth of Forth and St Andrews Bay Complex SPA

1. To ensure that the qualifying features of the Outer Firth of Forth and St Andrews Bay Complex SPA are in favourable condition and make an appropriate contribution to achieving Favourable Conservation Status.

2. To ensure that the integrity of the Outer Firth of Forth and St Andrews Bay Complex SPA is restored in the context of environmental changes by meeting objectives 2a, 2b and 2c for each qualifying feature:

2a The populations of the qualifying features are viable components of the Outer Firth of Forth and St Andrews Bay Complex SPA.

2b. The distribution of the qualifying features is maintained throughout the site by avoiding significant disturbance of the species.

2c. The supporting habitats and processes relevant to qualifying features and their prey resources are maintained, or where appropriate restored, at the Outer Firth of Forth and St Andrews Bay Complex SPA.

River Tay SAC

1. To ensure that the qualifying features of River Tay SAC are in favourable condition and make an appropriate contribution to achieving favourable conservation status.

Favourable Conservation Status (FCS) is considered at a European biogeographic level. When determining whether management measures may be required to ensure that the conservation objectives for this site are achieved, the focus should be on maintaining or restoring the contribution that this site makes to FCS.

When carrying out appraisals of plans and projects against these conservation objectives, it is not necessary to understand the status of the feature in other SACs in this biogeographic region. The purpose of the appraisal should be to understand whether the integrity of the site (see objective 2) would be maintained. If this is the case then its contribution to FCS across the Atlantic Biogeographic Region will continue to be met. Further details on how these appraisals should be carried out in relation to maintaining site integrity is provided by objective 2 (including parts a, b and c). If broader information on the feature is available then it should be used to provide context to the site-based appraisal.

Note that “appropriate” within this part of the conservation objectives is included to indicate that the contribution to FCS varies from site to site and feature to feature.

2. To ensure that the integrity of the River Tay is maintained by meeting objectives 2a, 2b and 2c for each qualifying feature.

The aim at this SAC is to maintain the qualifying species in a favourable condition as a contribution to their wider conservation status. Therefore any impacts to the objectives shown in 2a, 2b or 2c below must not persist so that they prevent the achievement of this overall aim. When carrying out appraisals of plans or projects the focus should be on maintaining site integrity, specifically by meeting the objectives outlined in 2a, 2b and 2c. If these are met then site integrity will continue to be maintained. Note that not all of these will be relevant for every activity being considered. Any impacts on the objectives shown in 2a, 2b or 2c below must not persist so that they prevent the maintenance of site integrity. Temporary impacts on these objectives resulting from plans or projects can only be permitted where they do not prevent the ability of a feature to recover and there is certainty that the features will be able to quickly recover.

This objective recognises that the qualifying species are exposed to a wide range of drivers of change. Some of these are natural (e.g. population fluctuations/ shifts or habitat changes resulting from natural processes) and are not a direct result of human influences. Such changes in the qualifying species’ distribution and use of the site, which are brought about by natural processes, directly or indirectly, are normally considered compatible with

the site's conservation objectives. An assessment of whether a change is natural or anthropogenic, or a combination of both, will need to be looked at on a case by case basis.

Moray Firth SAC

1. To ensure that the qualifying features of Moray Firth SAC are in favourable condition and make an appropriate contribution to achieving Favourable Conservation Status.
2. To ensure that the integrity of Moray Firth SAC is maintained or restored in the context of environmental changes by meeting objectives 2a, 2b and 2c for each qualifying feature:

For subtidal sandbanks

- 2a. Extent and distribution of the habitat within the site.
- 2b. Structure and function of the habitat and the supporting environment on which it relies.
- 2c. Distribution and viability of typical species of the habitat.

For bottlenose dolphin

- 2a. The population of bottlenose dolphin is a viable component of the site.
- 2b. The distribution of bottlenose dolphin throughout the site is maintained by avoiding significant disturbance.
- 2c. The supporting habitats and processes relevant to bottlenose dolphin and the availability of prey for bottlenose dolphin are maintained.

SECTION 3: ASSESSMENT IN RELATION TO REGULATION 48 OF THE CONSERVATION (NATURAL HABITATS, &C.) REGULATIONS 1994

7. Requirement for appropriate assessment

7.1 Is the project directly connected with or necessary to the conservation management of the site(s)?

7.1.1 The project is not directly connected with or necessary to the conservation management of the site.

7.2 Is the project likely to have a significant effect on the qualifying interest(s)?

7.2.1 In its response dated 20 November 2025, NatureScot advised that the proposal is likely to have a significant effect on the estuaries and subtidal sandbanks of the Firth of Tay and Eden Estuary SAC due to direct loss of benthic habitat from dredging, increases in suspended sediment concentrations ("SSCs") and smothering effects from dredging and the deposit of dredged material, release of contaminants from dredging and deposit, and underwater noise from piling.

7.2.2 NatureScot further advised that the proposal is likely to have a significant effect on eider, common scoter, velvet scoter and long-tailed duck of the Firth of Tay and Eden Estuary SPA and the eider feature of the Outer Firth of Forth and St Andrews Bay Complex SPA due to noise and visual disturbance from vessels and piling, changes in prey availability due to changes in water quality and displacement of prey species due to underwater noise.

7.2.3 NatureScot advised that the proposal is likely to have a significant effect on Atlantic salmon, sea lamprey and river lamprey of the River Tay SAC due to underwater noise from piling and dredging activity, changes in water quality and changes in habitat quality and also to otters due to disturbance to resting places, holts and foraging habitat from dredging and pilling activities.

7.2.4 NatureScot further advised that the proposal is likely to have a significant effect on seals of the Firth of Tay and Eden Estuary SAC and bottlenose dolphins of the Moray Firth SAC due to increased collision risk with vessels during construction and indirect effects due to changes in water quality and prey availability.

7.2.5 MD-LOT agrees with NatureScot's advice and has undertaken an AA for the Firth of Tay and Eden Estuary SAC, Firth of Tay and Eden Estuary SPA, Outer Firth of Forth and St Andrews Bay Complex SPA, River Tay SAC and Moray Firth SAC.

8. Appropriate assessment of the implications for the site in view of the site's conservation objectives.

Firth of Tay and Eden Estuary SAC

- 8.1 NatureScot advised that the Blue Mussels aspect of the estuary feature is vulnerable to the dredging, deposit and the piling activities.
- 8.2 NatureScot stated that the Blue Mussels could be impacted by the percussive piling due to underwater noise negatively affecting the juvenile settlement, though it recognised that the piling activity is of short duration (35 days) and not continuous.
- 8.3 NatureScot also said that the dredging and deposit of the dredged material will impact the Blue Mussels through potential smothering and loss of habitat.

- 8.4 NatureScot proposed mitigation to lessen the impacts on the feature, however MD-LOT does not consider the proposed mitigation to be necessary to ensure no adverse effects on site integrity as NatureScot agreed with the Applicant's assessment that as the impacts would be minor for all aspects there would be no adverse effect on site integrity from the works.
- 8.5 NatureScot advised that the harbour seal qualifying interest of the SAC is sensitive to underwater noise. NatureScot advised that they agreed with the conclusions of the shadow HRA document providing that the assumptions in the underwater noise model are upheld.
- 8.6 NatureScot advised that it could conclude there would be no adverse impact on site integrity.

Firth of Tay and Eden Estuary SPA

- 8.7 NatureScot stated noise and visual disturbance from vessels and piling works, changes in prey availability due to changes in water quality; and displacement of prey species due to underwater noise would have a significant effect on the eider qualifying feature of the SPA.
- 8.8 NatureScot stated that Blue Mussel is an important prey item for eider but as the beds at the Lady Shoal dredge site are not dense and it is an existing shipping lane with ongoing levels of disturbance that would limit foraging activity here.
- 8.9 NatureScot advised that due to no changes to the number or types of vessels at the port, operational activities remaining the same and that there is no requirement for any additional maintenance dredging these impacts were not assessed further. However, if there are any changes to these in the future further assessments will need to be undertaken.
- 8.10 NatureScot advised that the implementation of JNCC soft start protocol in relation to piling will help to mitigate against noise disturbance for mobile wintering species.
- 8.11 NatureScot concluded there would be no adverse impact on site integrity provided mitigation outlined above is adhered to and as such, this will be secured through a condition in the marine licence.

Outer Firth of Forth and St Andrews Bay Complex SPA

- 8.12 NatureScot advised that Blue Mussel is an important prey item for the eider feature of the Outer Firth of Forth and St Andrews Bay Complex SPA and that there would therefore be likely significant effects on the feature from the dredge.
- 8.13 However, as the Blue Mussel beds at the Lady Shoal dredge site are not dense, and it is an existing shipping lane with ongoing levels of disturbance that would limit foraging activity here.
- 8.14 NatureScot concluded there will be no adverse effect on site integrity.

River Tay SAC

- 8.15 NatureScot advised that the Atlantic Salmon, river lamprey and sea lamprey features of the SAC could be impacted by underwater noise due to piling operations and dredging activity, changes in water quality and changes in habitat quality.
- 8.16 Due to the risk of piling and dredging works coinciding with Atlantic Salmon migratory periods, NatureScot advised a restriction on piling during those months to minimise disturbance to migratory fish. The most sensitive period for Atlantic salmon in this area is during smolt migration between April to May. Further impacts should be mitigated using soft starts to allow fish to move away from the operation and piling activity. In its advice, MD-SEDD stated that the sensitive period was 11 April to 23 May 2026 and, based on the modelled underwater noise values, disagreed with NatureScot's advice that piling activities require to be restricted during this period. However, in their advice MD-SEDD indicated that the dredge and deposit activities should not take place at the same time as the piling as this would significantly constrain the amount of unimpacted channel available to smolt migration between the potential impacts of dredging and disposal and predicted impact of pile driving.
- 8.17 NatureScot agrees with the proposed mitigation measures outlined in the Applicant's documentation which includes the use of soft start procedures as per the JNCC protocol to remove the risk of injury to any fish within close proximity to the piling activities.
- 8.18 NatureScot also advised that there would be likely significant effects on the otter feature from disturbance due to the piling and dredging. Piling in particular can generate airborne noise and vibration which may disturb otters using nearby areas especially if undertaken close to potential resting or foraging habitat. The otter survey recorded holts 250m to 230m from the piling works. However, NatureScot concluded that the embedded mitigation measures, contained within Section 9.7 of EIA Report, that will be in place during the works will ensure there are no adverse impacts.

- 8.19 Taking into account both NatureScot and MD-SEDD's advice, MD-LOT are of the view that providing the mitigation outlined in the Applicant's documentation is adhered to and piling and dredging doesn't occur simultaneously during the sensitive period outlined above, there would be no adverse effect on site integrity.

Moray Firth SAC

- 8.20 NatureScot advised that the bottlenose dolphin feature of the Moray Firth SAC will be increased collision risk, disturbance from underwater noise from piling and dredging and indirect effects due to water quality and prey availability.
- 8.21 NatureScot advised that it agrees with the conclusion of the underwater noise modelling report but that if the impact piling were to exceed the parameters set in the Subacoustech underwater noise modeling report, then remodelling would have to be undertaken. Therefore, it will be conditioned that the hammer energy will not be permitted to exceed 83kNm, the maximum piling time per pile will be 40 minutes, there will be a maximum of 42 blows per pile per minute and the maximum size of piles will be 700mm.
- 8.22 NatureScot advised that, while soft start is proposed as mitigation by the Applicant, there is limited information on what that will entail. NatureScot advised that as well as a soft start and ramp up, the use of Marine Mammal Observers (MMOs) and Passive Acoustic Monitoring (PAM) will further reduce the risks. PAM would only be needed in times of poor visibility or darkness, when MMOs cannot operate.
- 8.23 NatureScot concluded that with the mitigation there will be no adverse effects on site integrity.
- 8.24 MD-LOT concludes that there will be no adverse effect on the site integrity of the Firth of Tay and Eden Estuary SAC, Firth of Tay and Eden Estuary SPA, Outer Firth of Forth and St Andrews Bay Complex SPA, River Tay SAC and Moray Firth SAC, in isolation, from the Port of Dundee proposal if the required mitigation is adhered to.

9. In-combination assessment

- 9.1 MD-LOT has considered whether the Port of Dundee proposal will have a cumulative effect with other plans or projects which, in combination, would have the potential to affect the qualifying interests of the the Firth of Tay and Eden Estuary SAC, Firth of Tay and Eden Estuary SPA, Outer Firth of Forth and St Andrews Bay Complex SPA, River Tay SAC and Moray Firth SAC.

9.2 The following projects currently have an active marine licence, section 36 consent or European protected species licence and could potentially have a cumulative effect with the Port of Dundee proposal. They all have an associated AA which identified a likely significant effect on the same qualifying interests of the the Firth of Tay and Eden Estuary SAC, Firth of Tay and Eden Estuary SPA, Outer Firth of Forth and St Andrews Bay Complex SPA, River Tay SAC and Moray Firth SAC.

Table 4: Projects considered in the in-combination assessment

Project	Description
Neart na Gaoithe Offshore Wind Farm	Neart na Gaoithe Offshore Windfarm Limited development ("NnGOWL"), is approximately 15.5km to the east of Fife Ness in the outer Firth of Forth. Further information regarding the development can be found here. It was collectively assessed as part of the Forth and Tay Windfarm Developments which also includes Inch Cape and Seagreen Alpha and Bravo. These projects all received marine licences and consents in October 2014. All three projects have submitted applications for new consents and licences during 2018. NNGOWL has now received a new consent and licences. Although these this project now has permission for two different proposals, only one of these will be built out. 00006836 & 00006837.
Meygen Tidal Turbines	Tidal array in the Inner Sound of the Pentland Firth. Four turbines have been installed. Consent for phase 1b consisting of an additional four turbines has been granted but plans for the remaining 53 turbines have not yet been confirmed.
Bridge Maintenance - M90 Friarton Bridge	Bridge maintenance works on M90 Friarton Bridge
Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm	A floating offshore windfarm with an installed capacity of around 100 megawatts ("MW") within the Pentland Firth, approximately 7.5 kilometres ("km") seaward of mean high water springs ("MHWS") at Dounreay, Caithness. The windfarm will consist of up to 6 floating offshore wind turbine structures and associated floating substructures. Offshore construction activities are anticipated to commence in 2027. Project will take 14 months to complete and will be operational for a period of 25 years. 00010577 & 00010578

Levenmouth Demonstration Turbine	Site for the testing of new designs of offshore WTGs with a capacity of up to 7MW at the Fife Energy Park, Methil. One turbine operational.
Neart na Gaoithe Offshore Wind Farm (revised design)	An operational offshore wind farm comprised 54 Wind Turbine Generators, located 15-22 kilometres from the Angus coastline.
Moorings - Dalgety Bay	Dalgety Bay Sailing Club are increasing the number of moorings in Dalgety Bay from 50 mooring to 80 moorings for private pleasure boating activities. The moorings will be in use from April to September each year.
Forthwind Demonstration Project	A single test and demonstration offshore wind turbine with an installed capacity of 20MW, as well as a metmast, located approximately 1.5km sea ward of MHWS level of the northern shore of the Firth of Forth at Methil, Scotland. Construction is yet to commence.
SEGL 1 HVDC Cable and Cable Protection	HVDC cable between Torness in East Lothian and Hawthorn Pit in County Durham. Works are proposed to start in January 2025 and complete by December 2027.
Inch Cape Offshore Wind Farm (revised design)	A maximum of 72 wind turbines will be installed 15-22km from the Angus coastline. Construction on the Inch Cape project has commenced as of June 2025.
Berwick Bank Offshore Wind Farm	The Works is for the construction and operation of an offshore energy generating station, with an anticipated generating capacity of 4.1 gigawatts. The offshore generating station is proposed to have an operational lifetime of up to 35 years.
Berwick Bank Offshore Wind Farm - Offshore Transmission Infrastructure (Part 1)	Offshore transmission infrastructure for the Berwick Bank Offshore Wind Farm (Part 1) comprising up to eight offshore substation platforms, interconnector cables, up to eight offshore export cables and associated scour and rock protection https://marine.gov.scot/ml/berwick-bank-offshore-wind-farm
Berwick Bank Offshore Wind Farm - Offshore Transmission Infrastructure (Part 2)	Offshore transmission infrastructure for the Berwick Bank Offshore Wind Farm (Part 2) comprising two offshore substation platforms and an interconnector cable. https://marine.gov.scot/ml/berwick-bank-offshore-wind-farm
Cambois Cable Connection	Construction and operation of up to four HVDC export cables from up to two offshore converter station platforms within Berwick Bank Wind Farm to landfall at Cambois, Northumberland. A range of trenching tools may be used,

	and cable protection will be used where target burial cannot be achieved. Proposed to begin in Q4 2026 with completion expected in Q4 2029.
West of Orkney	West of Orkney Windfarm Generating Station located approximately 28 km from the west coast of Hoy, Orkney and 23 km from the north coast of Scotland within the N1 Plan Option. Construction due to commence in Q2 2027.
Native Oyster restoration trial project	Reintroduction of native oysters in the Firth of Forth. Restoration Forth propose to reintroduce native oysters, a Priority Marine Feature at 2 locations (Inchkeith and Inchmickery) over the summer and autumn of 2024 with monitoring ongoing into 2026.
Native Oyster restoration trial project	Reintroduction of native oysters in the Firth of Forth
Leith Outer Berth - Additional Works	Extension and expansion at the Port of Leith Outer Berth including construction of a retaining wall, capital dredging and deposit of dredged material at the Narrow Deep B designated sea deposit site. 3,807,000 wet tonnes of material to be dredged and deposited between 15 March 2024 and 31 December 2026.
Forth Rail Bridge	Bridge Maintenance
Marine Construction - Anstruther Harbour	Construction of new lifeboat station and associated ramp
Construction and maintenance of slipway and sea wall - North West Slipway, St Andrews Harbour	Engineering operations to repair and reinstate a section of the North West Slipway at St Andrews Harbour.
Tay Road Bridge Maintenance - Tay Road Bridge Dundee	Bridge Maintenance, various maintenance works for the Tay Road Bridge over 5 years
Inch Cape Offshore Windfarm - Boulder Clearance and UXO ID	Pre-construction boulder clearance and UXO ID of the array array and ECC for Inch Cape Offshore Windfarm between Q3 2025 and Q4 2027. It is anticipated that 20,000 boulders will be moved. UXO ID will be carried out using Multi-beam Echo Sounder and Ultra-Short Baseline. 00011224 & 00011225
Outfall Repairs - Westhaven	Investigation then repairs of existing outfall in Westhaven, Tay Estuary

Inch Cape Offshore Windfarm - UXO Clearance	Pre-construction UXO clearance of the array array and export cable corridor for Inch Cape Offshore Windfarm between Q3 2025 and Q4 2027. It is anticipated that a maximum of 85 UXO targets will require clearance, with 75 using low order clearance methods and up to 10 requiring high order clearance. 00011249 & 00011250
Seagreen Wind Energy Limited, Dropped Anchor Removal, nearshore area of Seagreen export cable, Carnoustie.	The removal of four dropped anchors from the seabed within the area of the Seagreen Alpha and Bravo Offshore Wind Farms export cables. Works to be carried out over the space of a week between August 2025 and August 2026.
Granton Harbour Redevelopment	Reconstruction of the revetment, construction of a new quay wall, extension of the western breakwater and creation of a 340 berth marina. Dredging of 156564 wet tonnes, a small amount will be reused within the land reclamation and the remainder will be deposited between Oxcars Maine (FO041) and Narrow Deep B (FO038) deposit sites.
Beatrice Offshore Wind Farm	Operational offshore windfarm comprised 84 turbines located in the outer Moray Firth 13.5km from the Caithness Coast.
Moray East Offshore Wind Farm	The current design envelope is for a maximum generating capacity of up to 1,116MW and for a maximum of 186 wind turbines. The proposals are located on the Smith Bank in the outer Moray Firth (approximately 22km from the Caithness coastline). The operational lifespan of the wind farms is expected to be 25 years.
Beatrice Offshore Wind Farm	Installation and operation of the Beatrice Offshore Windfarm, which is located in the outer Moray Firth 13.5km from the Caithness coast. The total area of the development is 131.5km ² . The development will comprise of 84 turbines. The operational lifespan of the wind farm is expected to be 25 years. Construction started in April 2017 and the final turbine was installed in May 2019.
Bridge Maintenance Works - Kessock	Maintenance activities including but not limited to scour repairs, fender replacement and painting.

Bridge, Inverness-shire	
Moray West Offshore Wind Farm	A maximum of 60 WTGs will be installed off the Caithness coast. The project is currently under construction and due to be operational by June 2025.
Green Volt Offshore Wind Farm and Associated Transmission Infrastructure	This INTOG project consists of up to 35 WTGs 80 km off the Aberdeenshire coast with a cable to landfall near Peterhead and another export cable to the Buzzard platform. Construction to is due to commence in 2027 with the project becoming operational in the late 2020s.
Moray West Offshore Wind Farm	The wind farm is located 22.5km southeast off the Caithness coastline. The operational lifespan of the project is expected to be 25 years. The project covers a total area of approximately 225km ² and will be comprised of no more than 85 wind turbines with a maximum generating capacity of around 850 MW, along with associated offshore transmission infrastructure.
Seagreen Offshore Transmission Asset Final Construction and Operations and Maintenance Activities	Construction of the landfall duct burial for the offshore transmission assets ("OTA") and associated operation and maintenance activities including geophysical surveys and repairs of the OTA (including the export cable and offshore substation platform). Total duration anticipated to be up to five months in 2024, two months in 2025 and two months in 2026.
EPS Beatrice Offshore Wind Farm	Benthic and geophysical surveys for approximately 4 months per year from 1 January 2024 to 31 December 2027. Beatrice OWF became fully operational in June 2019.
BP North East Offshore Wind Limited Array Area and Export Cable Corridor Geophysical Surveys EPS Licence Application	Geophysical survey of Flora Offshore Wind Farm array area and export cable corridor. Surveys due to be complete by 31 May 2028.
Hywind Scotland Pilot Park	'Hywind Scotland Pilot Park Project' will involve the installation of five 6 MW floating wind turbine generator units and will be expected to produce up to 135 GWh per year of electricity.
Eastern Inner Dock Quay, Port of Nigg -	Creation of an Inner berth to existing dock to provide a quay suitable for ship berthing. New quay - 290 metres

Quayside Construction	long and 36 metres wide. The works will take approximately two years to complete, the anticipated start dates for work is Jan 2025.
Morven Offshore Wind Farm - Geophysical Surveys of Export Cable Site	Geophysical surveys using MBES, Side scan sonar, Sub bottom profiler and Ultra short baseline. Noise-generating activity will last for a maximum of 60 days.
Oyster translocation Dornoch Firth	Creation of cultch bed, and subsequent deposit of native oysters
Invergordon Service Base Phase 5	Construction to extend quay with piled wall, rock armour and infill to increase laydown area with additional construction of heavy load pad, RoRo area and widening of access. Sept 2025 - Sept 2030.
Bridge Maintenance - A9 Cromarty Bridge, Culbokie	10 year bridge maintenance works to carriageway and walkways
NnGOWL Windfarm and Export Cable Corridor construction EPS licence	Variation to extend the existing EPS licence which relates to construction activities at the NnG Wind Farm and Export Cable Corridor. These activities include: export and inter-array cable installation; rock placement for cable protection; use of USBL positioning devices and vessel activity during construction. Additionally, geophysical surveys will be undertaken utilising the following equipment: Multi-Beam Echosounder; Side-Scan Sonar; Sub-bottom profiler; and Very High Frequency Obstacle Sonar.
Survey - Miller Pipeline, St Fergus	Acoustic pipeline survey along the Miller Pipeline (PL720), which connects to the St Fergus Gas Terminal on the North Sea coast of Aberdeenshire, between Peterhead and Fraserburgh. The survey will cover approximately 12 km ² , extending from the shoreline to 3.5 km offshore, 7 days in duration completing end December 2025
Geophysical, Benthic and Geotechnical Surveys - Netherton Corridor, Aberdeenshire - Variation	Geophysical, benthic and geotechnical surveys of a cable corridor between Netherton, Aberdeenshire and the sea border with England
Seagreen Wind Energy Limited -	Seagreen proposes to remove several UXO across the Seagreen Alpha and Bravo Offshore Wind Farm area

<p>Unexploded Ordnance Clearance - Firth of Forth</p>	<p>which is located in the Firth of Forth. Seagreen are currently undertaking geophysical survey work to confirm and identify UXO and boulders within the area. As this survey has not yet been completed, Seagreen has applied for a marine licence and a European protected species licence based on a worst case assumption that the clearance of up to twenty UXO will each require to be detonated. UXO clearance is expected to occur over an estimated maximum of 20 days (1 UXO per day) with boulder and other debris removal taking place throughout this period also</p>
<p>Seagreen Alpha Offshore Wind Farm</p>	<p>Seagreen Alpha Wind Energy Limited development is approximately 27km off the Angus coastline. Further information regarding the development can be found here. It was collectively assessed as part of the Forth and Tay Windfarm Developments which also includes Neart na Gaoithe, Inch Cape and Seagreen Bravo.</p>
<p>Seagreen Bravo Offshore Wind Farm</p>	<p>Seagreen Bravo Wind Energy Limited development is approximately 38km off the Angus coastline. Further information regarding the development can be found here. It was collectively assessed as part of the Forth and Tay Windfarm Developments which also includes Neart na Gaoithe, Inch Cape and Seagreen Alpha.</p>
<p>Bridge Maintenance - Tay Rail Bridge</p>	<p>Bridge maintenance works</p>
<p>Sand Removal, West Sands Beach</p>	<p>Removal by excavator of 1700 tonnes of sand per year for use on the local golf courses and minor dune cordon repairs following storm damage. Removal activity is generally carried out between November and March, and is not expected to be carried out for more than 9 days over the course of any year.</p>
<p>Montrose Port Authority - Pontoon Construction</p>	<p>Montrose Port Authority are proposing to construct 70 metres of pontoons alongside berths 4 and 5 on the south bank of the River South Esk. 12 Guide piles will be attached to the quay wall. Electrics, lighting and safety equipment will then be installed on completion. A two month licence has been requested to undertake the works.</p>
<p>Capital Plough Dredge - Perth Harbour</p>	<p>Plough dredging 2400 wet tonnes at Perth Harbour over the course of one year.</p>

Maintenance dredging and sea deposit - Port of Rosyth	Deposit of 520,000 tonnes of wet maintenance dredge sediment each year for three years at the Oxcars deposit sites.
Leith Outer Berth - Additional Works	Extension and expansion at the Port of Leith Outer Berth including construction of a retaining wall, capital dredging and deposit of dredged material at the Narrow Deep B designated sea deposit site. 3,807,000 wet tonnes of material to be dredged and deposited between 15 March 2024 and 31 December 2026.
Maintenance Dredging and Sea Disposal - Port of Kirkcaldy	Sea disposal of maintenance dredge spoil from Port of Kirkcaldy of 63,000 wet tonnes of material over 3 years. Dredging is usually undertaken over the high water period for a duration of an approximately 5 to 8 day period twice a year, or as required, and timed to coincide with dredging at Leith, Rosyth, Methil and Newhaven, as the same plant is used. Dredge disposal site Kirkcaldy FO045.
Arbroath Harbour - Maintenance Dredging and Sea Deposit	3 Year maintenance dredge exemption and sea deposit licence for Arbroath Harbour. 20640 wet tonnes to be deposited per year at Arbroath sea deposit site FO020.
Capital dredging of East Ness Berth, Inverkeithing and Sea Deposit at Oxcars B deposit site FO043	Capital dredge of 6,000 wet tonnes with deposit at Oxcars B deposit site between 12 February 2025 and 12 February 2026
Port of Leith - Maintenance Dredging and Sea Deposit	260,000 wet tonnes of maintenance dredgings to be taken from Port of Leith to Narrow Deep B Deposit Site per year for a period of 3 years
Maintenance Dredge and Sea Deposit, Port of Granton	Deposit of 21,000 wet tonnes between September 2024 and September 2027 at Oxcars Main, A & B. Dredging campaigns will take place over 4 or 5 days in Spring and Autumn as necessary. Variation of 00010652.
Tayport Dredge	Dredging - water injection. no deposit. 19500 tonnes. Over 33 ebb tides, due to complete by summer 2026.
Buckie Harbour - Capital Dredge & Sea Deposit	Capital dredge and deposit of 168,000 wet tonnes of harbour dredged material, 56,000 pa for 3 years. Deposit at BUCKIE deposit site, CR-040.

Findochty Harbour - Maintenance dredge and sea deposit	Dredge and disposal of a maximum 7000 wet tonnes per year for three years at the Buckie disposal site.
Aberdeen North and South Harbour Maintenance Dredging and Sea Deposit	Dredging of 428500 wet tonnes, deposit at Aberdeen designated sea deposit site, CR110.
Nigg Maintenance Dredge & Sea Deposit	Maintenance dredge at the port facility and approaches at Nigg on the Cromarty Firth with deposit at site CRO 019. 140,000 wet tonnes over three years.
Burghead Harbour - Maintenance dredge and sea deposit	Deposit of 60,000 wet tonnes of harbour dredged material, 20,000 pa for 3 years at BURGHEAD deposit site, CR-030.
Cullen Harbour Maintenance Dredging and Deposit of Dredged Material	Dredge and deposit of up to 7000 wet tonnes per year for 3 years.
Portknockie Harbour - Maintenance dredge and sea deposit	Maintenance dredge and deposit of 21,000 wet tonnes of harbour dredged material, 7,000 pa for 3 years. Deposit at BUCKIE deposit site, CR-040.
Maintenance Dredging and Sea Deposit, Banff Harbour	Maintenance dredge of Banff Harbour and sea deposit at Macduff (CR050) deposit site. 10,000 wet tonnes to be dredged annually between May 2025 and May 2027.
Capital Dredging & Sea Deposit - Ardersier Port	Dredging of up to 8,600,000 wet tonnes, with 400,000 for beneficial reuse and the remaining material being deposited at licensed deposit sites Burghead (CR030), Whiteness Sands B (CR023) & Whiteness Sands C (CR021). Works will take place between March 2025 and September 2026.
Montrose Port - Maintenance Dredging and Sea Deposit	246,000 wet tonnes of maintenance dredgings to be taken from Montrose Port to Montrose Bay Trial Deposit site or Lunan Bay Deposit Site per year for a period of 3 years
Plough dredging - Cromarty Firth	Dredging of three locations around the Invergordon Service Base within the Cromarty Firth to a total of 386,000T over three years.

Macduff Harbour - Maintenance Dredging and Sea Disposal	deposit of a maximum of 60,000 tonnes over three years.
Invergordon Service Base Phase 5 Development	Capital Dredging and Deposit of 1,854,150 wet tonnes at Sutors.
Port of Inverness - Maintenance Dredging and Sea Disposal	Dredge and deposit of a maximum of 60,000 tonnes over three years. Dredging will only take place between 01 July and 30 September each year
Marine Farm - Stulaigh South, South Uist	Deposit of a fishfarm consisting of 6 ring cages and a feed barge.
Eilean Flodigarry - Deposit of Marine Farm	Deposit of a marine farm at Eilean Flodigarry, Flodigarry, Isle of Skye, including 10 ring cages, 1 feed barge and 24 grid moorings

9.3 Assessment of in-combination effects on the Firth of Tay and Eden Estuary SAC, Firth of Tay and Eden Estuary SPA, Outer Firth of Forth and St Andrews Bay Complex SPA, River Tay SAC and Moray Firth SAC.

9.3.1 The following projects were identified as have a likely significant effect on:

9.3.2 The Firth of Tay and Eden Estuary SAC:

- Neart na Gaoithe Offshore Wind Farm
- Neart na Gaoithe Offshore Wind Farm (revised design)
- Seagreen Wind Energy Limited - Unexploded Ordnance Clearance - Firth of Forth
- Forthwind Demonstration Project
- Inch Cape Offshore Wind Farm (revised design)
- Berwick Bank Offshore Wind Farm
- Berwick Bank Offshore Wind Farm - Offshore Transmission Infrastructure (Part 1)
- Berwick Bank Offshore Wind Farm - Offshore Transmission Infrastructure (Part 2)
- Seagreen Alpha Offshore Wind Farm
- Seagreen Bravo Offshore Wind Farm

- Seagreen Offshore Transmission Asset Final Construction and Operations and Maintenance Activities
- Leith Outer Berth - Additional Works
- Bridge Maintenance - Tay Rail Bridge
- Sand Removal, West Sands Beach
- Tay Road Bridge Maintenance - Tay Road Bridge Dundee
- Inch Cape Offshore Windfarm - Boulder Clearance and UXO ID
- Outfall Repairs - Westhaven
- Inch Cape Offshore Windfarm - UXO Clearance
- Seagreen Wind Energy Limited, Dropped Anchor Removal, nearshore area of Seagreen export cable, Carnoustie.
- Montrose Port Authority - Pontoon Construction
- NnGOWL Windfarm and Export Cable Corridor construction EPS licence
- Leith Outer Berth - Additional Works
- Port of Leith - Maintenance Dredging and Sea Deposit
- Tayport Dredge

9.3.3 Neart na Gaoithe Offshore Wind Farm is operational, therefore there is unlikely to be in-combination effects with the Port of Dundee proposal as the pathway of effects were identified for the construction phase.

9.3.4 The Forthwind Demonstration project construction has yet to commence so it is unlikely there will be any in-combination effects between these and the Port of Dundee proposal on the Outer Firth of Forth and St Andrews Bay Complex SPA.

9.3.5 Berwick Bank Offshore Wind Farms and associated offshore transmission infrastructure the construction is unlikely to begin within the next three years, as the pathway of effects were identified for the construction phase, it is unlikely there will be any in-combination effects between these and the Port of Dundee proposal on the Outer Firth of Forth and St Andrews Bay Complex SPA.

9.3.6 The Inch Cape Offshore Wind Farm and Seagreen Offshore Transmission works are under construction and therefore there is the potential to cause in-combination effect. However, provided all projects are carried out in line with their respective AAs, there will be no adverse effect on site integrity.

9.3.7 The St Andrews Links Trust sand removal is of a very short duration of days within a year, so there will be little temporal overlap so

it is unlikely there will be any in-combination effects between these and the Port of Dundee proposal on the Outer Firth of Forth and St Andrews Bay Complex SPA.

9.3.8 The Tay Road Bridge and the Tay Rail Bridge maintenance work are relatively small scale and of a short duration and therefore it is unlikely there will be any in-combination effects between these and the Port of Dundee proposal on the Outer Firth of Forth and St Andrews Bay Complex SPA.

9.3.9 There are a number of dredge campaigns which overlap with the proposed activities, but provided they are carried out in accordance with any conditions set out in their respective AA's, MD-LOT concludes that there will be no adverse impact on the site integrity of the Outer Firth of Forth and St Andrews Bay Complex SPA from in-combination effects.

9.3.10 The remaining projects and developments may also have the potential for in-combination effects with the Port of Dundee proposal on the Outer Firth of Forth and St Andrews Bay Complex SPA; however, MD-LOT concludes there will be no adverse effect on the site integrity of the Outer Firth of Forth and St Andrews Bay Complex SPA provided the other developments and projects are carried out in line with the conditions of their respective AA's.

9.3.11 The Firth of Tay and Eden Estuary SPA:

- Berwick Bank Offshore Wind Farm
- Berwick Bank Offshore Wind Farm - Offshore Transmission Infrastructure (Part 1)
- Berwick Bank Offshore Wind Farm - Offshore Transmission Infrastructure (Part 2)
- West of Orkney
- Bridge Maintenance - Tay Rail Bridge
- Sand Removal, West Sands Beach
- Tay Road Bridge Maintenance - Tay Road Bridge Dundee
- Tayport Dredge
- Outfall Repairs - Westhaven
- Seagreen Wind Energy Limited, Dropped Anchor Removal, nearshore area of Seagreen export cable, Carnoustie

9.3.12 West of Orkney construction has yet to commence so it is unlikely there will be any in-combination effects between these and the Port of Dundee proposal on the Firth of Tay and Eden Estuary SPA.

9.3.13 Berwick Bank Offshore Wind Farms and associated offshore transmission infrastructure the construction is unlikely to begin within the next three years, as the pathway of effects were identified for the construction phase, it is unlikely there will be any in-combination effects between these and the Port of Dundee proposal on the Firth of Tay and Eden Estuary SPA.

9.3.14 The St Andrews Links Trust sand removal is of a very short duration of days within a year, so there will be little temporal overlap so it is unlikely there will be any in-combination effects between these and the Port of Dundee proposal on the Firth of Tay and Eden Estuary SPA.

9.3.15 The Tay Road Bridge and the Tay Rail Bridge maintenance works are relatively small scale and of a short duration and therefore it is unlikely there will be any in-combination effects between these and the Port of Dundee proposal on the Firth of Tay and Eden Estuary SPA.

9.3.16 There are a number of over dredge campaigns which overlap with the proposed activities, but provided they are carried out in accordance with any conditions set out in their respective AAs, MD-LOT concludes that there will be no adverse impact on the site integrity of the Firth of Tay and Eden Estuary SPA from in-combination effects.

9.3.17 The remaining projects and developments may also have the potential for in-combination effects with the Port of Dundee proposal on the Firth of Tay and Eden Estuary SPA; however, MD-LOT concludes there will be no adverse effect on the site integrity provided the other developments and projects are carried out in line with the conditions of their respective AAs.

9.3.18 Outer Firth of Forth and St Andrews Bay Complex SPA

- Levenmouth Demonstration Turbine
- Neart na Gaoithe Offshore Wind Farm (revised design)
- Moorings - Dalgety Bay
- Forthwind Demonstration Project
- SEGL 1 HVDC Cable and Cable Protection
- Inch Cape Offshore Wind Farm (revised design)

- Berwick Bank Offshore Wind Farm
- Berwick Bank Offshore Wind Farm - Offshore Transmission Infrastructure (Part 1)
- Berwick Bank Offshore Wind Farm - Offshore Transmission Infrastructure (Part 2)
- Cambois Cable Connection
- West of Orkney
- Native Oyster restoration trial project
- Leith Outer Berth - Additional Works
- Forth Rail Bridge
- Marine Construction - Anstruther Harbour
- Construction and maintenance of slipway and sea wall - North West Slipway, St Andrews Harbour
- Tay Road Bridge Maintenance - Tay Road Bridge Dundee
- Inch Cape Offshore Windfarm - Boulder Clearance and UXO ID
- Outfall Repairs - Westhaven
- Inch Cape Offshore Windfarm - UXO Clearance
- Seagreen Wind Energy Limited, Dropped Anchor Removal, nearshore area of Seagreen export cable, Carnoustie.
- Granton Harbour Redevelopment
- Maintenance dredging and sea deposit - Port of Rosyth
- Leith Outer Berth - Additional Works
- Maintenance Dredging and Sea Disposal - Port of Kirkcaldy
- Arbroath Harbour - Maintenance Dredging and Sea Deposit
- Capital dredging of East Ness Berth, Inverkeithing and Sea Deposit at Oxcars B deposit site FO043
- Port of Leith - Maintenance Dredging and Sea Deposit
- Maintenance Dredge and Sea Deposit, Port of Granton
- Tayport Dredge
- Marine Farm - Stulaigh South, South Uist
- Organic Sea Harvest - Eilean Flodigarry - Deposit of Marine Farm

9.3.19 Neart na Gaoithe Offshore Wind Farm is operational, therefore there is unlikely to be in-combination effects with the Port of Dundee proposal as the pathway of effects were identified for the construction phase.

9.3.20 West of Orkney and Forthwind Demonstration project construction has yet to commence so it is unlikely there will be any in-combination effects between these and the Port of Dundee proposal on the Outer Firth of Forth and St Andrews Bay Complex SPA.

9.3.21 Berwick Bank Offshore Wind Farms and associated offshore transmission infrastructure the construction is unlikely to begin within the next three years, as the pathway of effects were identified for the construction phase, it is unlikely there will be any in-combination effects between these and the Port of Dundee proposal on the Outer Firth of Forth and St Andrews Bay Complex SPA.

9.3.22 The Inch Cape Offshore Wind Farm and Seagreen Offshore Transmission works are under construction and therefore there is the potential to cause in-combination effect. However, provided all projects are carried out in line with their respective AAs, there will be no adverse effect on site integrity.

9.3.23 There are a number of other dredge campaigns which overlap with the proposed activities, but provided they are carried out in accordance with any conditions set out in their respective AAs, MD-LOT concludes that there will be no adverse impact on the site integrity of the Outer Firth of Forth and St Andrews Bay Complex SPA from in-combination effects.

9.3.13 The remaining projects and developments may also have the potential for in-combination effects with the Port of Dundee proposal on the Outer Firth of Forth and St Andrews Bay Complex SPA; however, MD-LOT concludes there will be no adverse effect on the site integrity of the Outer Firth of Forth and St Andrews Bay Complex SPA provided the other developments and projects are carried out in line with the conditions of their respective AAs.

9.3.24 River Tay SAC:

- Neart na Gaoithe Offshore Wind Farm
- Meygen Tidal Turbines
- Bridge Maintenance – M90 Friarton Bridge
- Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm
- Capital Plough Dredge – Perth Harbour

9.3.25 Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm construction due to begin in 2027 it is unlikely there will be any in-combination effects between this and the Port of Dundee proposal on the River Tay SAC.

9.3.26 The remaining projects and developments may also have the potential for in-combination effects with the Port of Dundee proposal on the River Tay SAC; however, MD-LOT concludes there will be no adverse effect on the site integrity of the Moray Firth SAC provided the other

developments and projects are carried out in line with the conditions of their respective AA's.

9.3.27 Moray Firth SAC:

- Beatrice Offshore Wind Farm
- Neart na Gaoithe Offshore Wind Farm
- Neart na Gaoithe Offshore Wind Farm (revised design)
- Moray East Offshore Wind Farm
- Beatrice Offshore Wind Farm
- Bridge Maintenance Works - Kessock Bridge, Inverness-shire
- Moray West Offshore Wind Farm
- Inch Cape Offshore Wind Farm (revised design)
- Berwick Bank Offshore Wind Farm
- Berwick Bank Offshore Wind Farm - Offshore Transmission Infrastructure (Part 1)
- Berwick Bank Offshore Wind Farm - Offshore Transmission Infrastructure (Part 2)
- Green Volt Offshore Wind Farm and Associated Transmission Infrastructure
- Pentland Floating Offshore Wind Farm
- Moray West Offshore Wind Farm
- Seagreen Offshore Transmission Asset Final Construction and Operations and Maintenance Activities
- EPS Beatrice Offshore Wind Farm
- Leith Outer Berth - Additional Works
- BP North East Offshore Wind Limited Array Area and Export Cable Corridor Geophysical Surveys EPS Licence Application
- Hywind Scotland Pilot Park
- Eastern Inner Dock Quay, Port of Nigg -Quayside Construction
- Morven Offshore Wind Farm - Geophysical Surveys of Export Cable Site
- Oyster translocation Dornoch Firth
- Invergordon Service Base Phase 5
- Bridge Maintenance - A9 Cromarty Bridge, Culbokie
- Inch Cape Offshore Windfarm - UXO Clearance
- NnGOWL Windfarm and Export Cable Corridor construction EPS licence
- Survey Miller Pipeline, St Fergus
- SHET - Geophysical, Benthic and Geotechnical Surveys - Netherton Corridor, Aberdeenshire - Variation
- Neart na Gaoithe Offshore Wind Farm

- Forthwind Demonstration Project
- Buckie Harbour - Capital Dredge & Sea Deposit
- Findochty Harbour - Maintenance dredge and sea deposit
- Aberdeen North and South Harbour Maintenance Dredging and Sea Deposit
- Global Energy Nigg Ltd Maintenance Dredge & Sea Deposit
- Burghead Harbour - Maintenance dredge and sea deposit
- Cullen Harbour Maintenance Dredging and Deposit of Dredged Material
- Hopeman Harbour - Maintenance dredge and sea deposit
- Portknockie Harbour - Maintenance dredge and sea deposit
- Leith Outer Berth - Additional Works
- Maintenance Dredging and Sea Deposit, Banff Harbour
- Maintenance Dredging and Sea Disposal - Port of Kirkcaldy
- Arbroath Harbour - Maintenance Dredging and Sea Deposit
- Port of Leith - Maintenance Dredging and Sea Deposit
- Capital Dredging & Sea Deposit - Ardersier Port
- Montrose Port - Maintenance Dredging and Sea Deposit
- Plough dredging - Cromarty Firth
- Macduff Harbour - Maintenance Dredging and Sea Disposal
- Invergordon Service Base Phase 5 Development
- Port of Inverness - Maintenance Dredging and Sea Disposal

9.3.28 The Beatrice Offshore Wind Farm, Moray East and West Offshore Windfarms, Neart na Gaoithe Offshore Wind Farm and Hywind Scotland Pilot Park are operational, therefore there is unlikely to be in-combination effects with the Port of Dundee proposal as the pathway of effects were identified for the construction phase.

9.3.29 Green Volt and Berwick Bank Offshore Wind Farms and associated offshore transmission infrastructure construction is unlikely to begin within the next three years, as the pathway of effects were identified for the construction phase, it is unlikely there will be any in-combination effects between these and the Port of Dundee proposal on the Moray Firth SAC.

9.3.30 The Inch Cape Offshore Wind Farm, Seagreen Offshore Transmission and works at Eastern Inner Dock Quay, Port of Nigg are under construction and therefore there is the potential to cause in-combination effect. However, provided all projects are carried out in line with their respective AAs, there will be no adverse effect on site integrity.

9.3.31 There are a number of dredge campaigns which overlap with the proposed activities, but provided they are carried out in accordance with any conditions set out in their respective AA's, MD-LOT concludes that there will be no adverse impact on the site integrity of the Moray Firth SAC from in-combination effects.

9.3.32 The remaining projects and developments may also have the potential for in-combination effects with the Port of Dundee proposal on the Moray Firth SAC; however, MD-LOT concludes there will be no adverse effect on the site integrity of the Moray Firth SAC provided the other developments and projects are carried out in line with the conditions of their respective AA's.

10. MD-LOT conclusion

- 10.1 MD-LOT concludes that providing the conditions listed in Section 4 are adhered to, there will be no adverse effect on the site integrity of the Firth of Tay and Eden Estuary SAC, Firth of Tay and Eden Estuary SPA, Outer Firth of Forth and St Andrews Bay Complex SPA, River Tay SAC and Moray Firth SAC from the Port of Dundee proposal either alone or in combination with other projects.

SECTION 4: CONDITIONS

11. Requirement for conditions

- 11.1 The following conditions are required to ensure the project will not adversely affect the site integrity of the Firth of Tay and Eden Estuary SAC, Firth of Tay and Eden Estuary SPA, Outer Firth of Forth and St Andrews Bay Complex SPA, River Tay SAC and Moray Firth SAC:

Construction Licence and EPS Licence:

11.1.1 The Licensee must ensure that during the Licensed Activity:

- a) piles to be used are 700mm or less in diameter;
- b) hammer energy does not exceed 83kNm;
- c) the piling time per pile does not exceed 40 minutes; and
- d) the number of blows per pile does not exceed 42 per minute and a maximum total of 1646 blows.

11.1.2 The Licensee must ensure that the Joint Nature Conservation Committee (“JNCC”) guidelines for minimising the risk of injury to marine mammals from piling noise dated August 2010 (“JNCC guidelines”) are followed at all times in connection with piling unless further written approval is given by the Licensing Authority. The guidelines are available from the JNCC website (<http://data.jncc.gov.uk/data/31662b6a-19ed-4918-9fab-8fbcff752046/JNCC-CNCB-Piling-protocol-August2010-Web.pdf>)

11.1.3 The Licensee must ensure the mitigation measures outlined in accordance with the Port of Dundee Capital Dredge and Quay Improvement Works Construction European Protected Species Risk Assessment (reference: PC6550-RHD-XX-XX-RP-EV-0078) are adhered to at all times. Where the sea state is ≥ 3 , or during the hours of darkness or where visibility is less than 200m, passive acoustic monitoring (PAM) must be conducted for 20 minutes prior to piling. If detections of any marine mammals are made, then the piling must not commence until there is a period of 20 minutes where no detections are made.

Construction licence only:

11.1.4 The Licensee must ensure that piling works carried on under authority of this marine licence are not undertaken at the same time as the works licensed under authority of marine licence MS-00011345 during the sensitive period for Atlantic Salmon smolt migration which is the period April to May annually. During 2026 the sensitive period during which the aforementioned activities are not to be undertaken simultaneously is 11 April 2026 to 23 May 2026 inclusive.

11.1.5 The Licensee must ensure that works are carried out in line with the mitigation specified in Port of Dundee Capital Dredge and Quay Improvement Works, EIA Report (Document number: PC6550-RHD-XX-XX-RP-EV-0067) and supporting documents

Dredge Licence:

11.1.6 The Licensee must ensure that works carried on under authority of this marine licence are not undertaken at the same time as the piling works licensed under authority of marine licence MS-00011344 during the sensitive period for Atlantic Salmon smolt migration which is the period April to May annually. During 2026 the sensitive period during which the aforementioned activities are not to be undertaken simultaneously is 11 April 2026 to 23 May 2026 inclusive.