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Marine Licence Application for Dredging and Sea Disposal

Version 1.0

Marine (Scotland) Act 2010







Acronyms

Please note the following acronyms referred to in this application form:

BPEO Best Practicable Environmental Option

MHWS Mean High Water Springs
MMO Marine Mammal Observer
MPA Marine Protected Area

MS-LOT Marine Scotland – Licensing Operations Team

PAM Passive Acoustic Monitoring
SAC Special Area of Conservation
SNH Scottish Natural Heritage
SPA Special Protection Area

SSSI Site of Special Scientific Interest WGS84 World Geodetic System 1984

Explanatory Notes

The following numbered paragraphs correspond to the questions on the application form and are intended to assist in completing the form. These explanatory notes are specific to this application and so you are advised to read these in conjunction with the Marine Scotland Guidance for Marine Licence Applicants document.

1. Applicant Details

The person making the application who will be named as the licensee.

2. Dredging Contractor Details

The person whose activities produce the substance(s) or object(s) to be dredged and/or intended for sea disposal (e.g the dredging contractor).

3. Agent Details

Any person acting under contract (or other agreement) on behalf of any party listed as the applicant and having responsibility for the control, management or physical deposit or removal of any substance(s) or object(s).

4. Payment

Indicate payment method. Cheques must be made payable to: The Scottish Government.

Marine licence applications will not be accepted unless accompanied by a cheque for the correct application fee, or if an invoice is requested, until that invoice is settled. Target timelines for determining applications do not begin until the application fee is paid.

5. Application Type

Indicate if the application is for a new dredging site or a site that has previously been dredged. Provide the existing or previous consent/licence number, expiry date and quantity (in wet tonnes) dredged under the consent/licence up to a stated date if applicable.

6. Dredging and Sea Disposal Details

- (a) Give a brief description of the dredging and sea disposal operation.
- (b) Provide the proposed start date of the project. The start date will not be backdated, since to commence a project for which a licence has not been obtained will constitute an offence, which may result in appropriate legal action. A licence is normally valid for the duration of the project but not exceeding 3 years. If a project will not be completed before a marine licence lapses, it will be necessary for licence holders to re-apply for a further licence to continue any ongoing work at least 14 weeks prior to the expiry date of the licence. Target duration for determination of a marine licence application is 14 weeks.
- (c) Provide the proposed completion date of the project.



(d) Describe the location of the proposed works. Include a list of the latitude and longitude co-ordinates (WGS84) of the boundary points for each dredge site area. WGS84 is the World Geodetic System 1984 and the reference co-ordinate system used for marine licence applications. Co-ordinates taken from GPS equipment should be set to WGS84. Coordinates taken from recent admiralty charts will be on a WGS84 compatible datum. Ordnance survey maps do not use WGS84.

Example: For positions read from charts the format should be as in the example: 55°55.555'N 002°22.222'W (WGS84). The decimal point specifies that decimals of minutes are used and the datum is stated explicitly. If seconds are used then the format should be as in the example: 55°55'44"N 2°22'11"W (WGS84).

It is important that the correct positions, in the correct format, are included with this application, as any errors will result in the application being refused or delayed.

To supplement your application, please provide a suitably scaled extract of an Ordnance Survey Map (1:2,500 scale but not more than 1:10,000) or Admiralty Chart which must be marked to indicate:

- o the full extent of the works in relation to the surrounding area;
- o latitude and longitude co-ordinates defining the location of the works;
- the level of MHWS;
- any adjacent SAC, SPA, SSSI, MPA, Ramsar or similar conservation area boundary.

Drawings and plans will be consulted upon. If they are subject to copyright, it is the responsibility of the applicant to obtain necessary approvals to reproduce the documents and to submit suitably annotated copies with the application.

- (e) Provide details of the proposed disposal site for the dredged substance(s) or object(s) and, if necessary, any alternative disposal site(s) considered. In determining whether to grant a marine licence, MS-LOT will take into account any site nominated by the applicant. However, should this site be unsuitable, the nearest suitable disposal site for the dredged substance(s) or object(s) will be identified. Should you wish to establish a new site, please provide details in a covering letter with your application and MS-LOT will contact you to discuss your proposal before your application is determined. The cost of any site investigations to identify any new disposal site will normally be the responsibility of the applicant.
- (f) Indicate if any part of the works (dredging or sea disposal site) are located within the jurisdiction of a statutory harbour authority and provide details of the statutory harbour authority where relevant.
- (g) Provide a full method statement. The method statement must include details such as the rate of dredging, timing of the operation and order of the areas to be dredged.
- (h) Provide assessment of the potential impacts the works may have, including interference with other uses of the sea. Please include details of areas of concern e.g designated conservation areas, such as a SAC, SPA, SSSI, MPA or Ramsar site and shellfish harvesting areas. Further guidance on designated conservation areas can be obtained from SNH at this website: http://gateway.snh.gov.uk/sitelink/index.jsp and guidance on shellfish harvesting areas can be obtained from http://www.foodstandards.gov.scot/ with regards to the Shellfish Waters Directive (2006/113/EC) which has parameters set to protect the water quality in which edible shellfish are grown.

Applicants should also be aware of the need to pay due regard to coastal and marine archaeological matters and attention is drawn to Historic Scotland's Operational Policy Paper HP6, "Conserving the Underwater Heritage".

Any application for beach replenishment works must be cross checked as to whether the proposed site is a designated bathing water site. If so, all physical works should ideally be done outwith the Bathing Water Season (1st June to 15th September). Further guidance on the Bathing Waters Directive (2006/7/EC) can be obtained from http://apps.sepa.org.uk/bathingwaters/.



Where there are potential impacts from the works, please provide details of proposed mitigation, such as use of MMOs or PAM, in response to potential impacts.

7. Details of Substance(s) or Object(s) to be Dredged

Information is required for each dredge site area listed in section 6 (d). please provide the following information:

Name of Dredge Area: For example Approach Channel or West of South Quay.

Type (Maintenance or Capital): Maintenance dredge applies to an area that has been dredged more than once and either annually or on a regular basis and was last dredged with the past 7 years; and a Capital dredge applies where an area/depth is being dredged either for the first time, or which has not been dredged within the past 7 years.

For capital dredging operations, a pre-dredge survey and sediment chemical analysis report will be required by MS-LOT prior to the issue of a sea disposal licence. Please contact MS-LOT for details in relation to specific projects. For maintenance dredging operations sites that have not been chemically analysed for more than 3 years, pre-dredge chemical analysis will be required to be undertaken. In addition to those samples analysed by the applicant, sediment sub-sample(s) must be submitted to MS-LOT as check monitoring may be required.

Estimated Specific Gravity: Indicate the specific gravity of the substance(s) or object(s) to be dredged from each dredge area.

Depth: Indicate the maximum depth (in metres) below the current seabed level, to which it is expected dredging is to be carried out, for each dredge area.

Quantity to be Dredged per Year (wet tonnes): Indicate the quantity of substance(s) or object(s) to be dredged (per year) from each dredge area. The quantity must be provided in wet tonnes.

8. Physical Composition

Indicate the approximate proportions as a percentage for each size range against each of the dredge site areas listed in section 6 (d) which are expected to be removed.

9. Details of Substance(s) or Object(s) Quality

Please indicate whether the substance(s) or object(s) from any of the areas to be dredged have been chemically analysed within the past 3 years. If yes, please provide details (locations, dates, results) on a separate sheet. If no, please provide justification. For capital projects, you are required to have representative sediment samples analysed at a laboratory of choice (see MS-LOT Pre-dredge Sampling Guidance document at http://www.gov.scot/Topics/marine/Licensing/marine/Applications/predredge for analytical requirements. This is liable to extend the time required to consider your application as marine licence applications will not be determined without provision of this chemistry data.

As part of the application determination process, you are required to carry out an assessment of the chemical and physical characteristics of the substance(s) or object(s) to be deposited at sea and potential effects upon the marine environment. It is your responsibility to show that the substance(s) or object(s) are suitable to be considered for sea disposal. This assessment should form part of your BPEO.

Under section 27(2) of the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010, the licensing authority has an obligation to consider the availability of practical alternatives when considering applications involving disposal of substance(s) or object(s) at sea. All applications for sea disposal must be supported by a detailed assessment of the alternative options -BPEO assessment. This must include a statement setting out the reasons why deposit of the substance(s) or object(s) at sea is the preferred option and applications will not be considered unless they are accompanied by such an assessment. All options in the BPEO must be explored fully (as per the guidance documents) otherwise your form and BPEO are liable to be returned to you, thereby delaying processing of the application.

As part of the licence conditions, you are likely to be required to take representative samples of the dredged substance(s) or object(s) during the dredging/sea disposal operations for analysis by MS-LOT. In such cases, samples must be taken at specified locations and depths and placed in containers which will be provided. The







samples must then be returned to MS-LOT at the Marine Laboratory Aberdeen. This process enables MS-LOT to fulfil its obligations under international conventions.

10. Details of Vessel(s) Undertaking Dredging and Sea Disposal

Provide the vessel name, vessel type (e.g cutter-suction) and name and address of all vessel operators to be used for dredging and sea disposal operations. If vessel details are not available at the time of application, please indicate this on the form as these details will be required prior to licence issue.

11. Noise Monitoring

Under the Marine Strategy Regulations (2010), there is now a requirement to monitor loud, low to mid frequency (10Hz to 10kHz) impulsive noise. Activities where this type of noise is produced include seismic airguns, other geophysical surveys (<10kHz), pile driving, explosives and certain acoustic deterrent devices. Where noisy activity is being undertaken, you must complete an initial registration form for the noise registry which allows you to provide details on the proposed work. Completion of a 'close-out' form, which allows licensees to provide details of the actual dates and locations where the activities occurred, is also required within 12 weeks of the completion of the 'noisy' activity or, in the case of prolonged activities such as piling for harbour construction or wind farms, at quarterly intervals or after each phase of foundation installation.

These forms can be downloaded from:

http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/marine/science/MSInteractive/Themes/noise-reduction

Marine licence applications will not be accepted until this form has been completed and submitted.

12. Statutory Consenting Powers

Please describe in the answer to this question what (if any) statutory responsibilities you (or your client) have to consent any aspect of the project.

13. Scotland's National Marine Plan

Scotland's National Marine Plan has been prepared in accordance with the EU Directive 2014/89/EU, which came into force in July 2014. The Directive introduces a framework for maritime spatial planning and aims to promote the sustainable development of marine areas and the sustainable use of marine resources. It also sets out a number of minimum requirements all of which have been addressed in this plan. In doing so, and in accordance with article 5(3) of the Directive, Marine Scotland have considered a wide range of sectoral uses and activities and have determined how these different objectives are reflected and weighted in the marine plan. Land-sea interactions have also been taken into account as part of the marine planning process. Any applicant for a marine licence should consider their proposals with reference to Scotland's National Marine can Plan. of Scotland's National Marine Plan found copy be http://www.gov.scot/Publications/2015/03/6517/0

Indicate whether you have considered the project with reference to Scotland's National Marine Plan and provide details of considerations made including reference to the policies that have been considered. If you have not considered the project with reference to Scotland's National Marine Plan please provide an explanation.

14. Consultation

Provide details of all bodies consulted and give details of any consents issued including date of issue.

15. Associated Works

Indicate whether the application is associated with any other marine projects (e.g. land reclamation, or marine/harbour construction works etc). If this is the case, provide reference/licence number for the related marine projects.



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It is the responsibility of the applicant to obtain any other consents or authorisations that may be required.

Under Section 54 of the Marine (Scotland) Act 2010, all information contained within and provided in support of this application will be placed on a Public Register. There are no national security grounds for application information not going on the Register under the 2010 Act.

Publ	ic Register	
-	ou consider that any of the information contained within or provided in ld not be disclosed:	n support of this application
(a)	for reasons of national security;	YES NO
(b) provi	for reasons of confidentiality of commercial or industrial information who ded by law to protect a legitimate commercial interest?	ere such confidentiality is YES NO
	S , to either (a) or (b), please provide full justification as to why all or part ded should be withheld.	t of the information you have





WARNING

It is an offence under the Act under which this application is made to fail to disclose information or to provide false or misleading information.

Target duration for determination is 14 weeks. Please note that missing or erroneous information in your application and complications resulting from consultation may result in the application being refused or delayed.

Marine licence applications will not be accepted unless accompanied by a cheque for the correct application fee, or if an invoice is requested, until that invoice is settled. Target timelines for determining applications do not begin until the application fee is paid.

Declaration

I declare to the best of my knowledge and belief that the information given in this form and related papers is true.

Signature

Date

15 May 2018

Name in BLOCK LETTERS

GARY McCANN

Application Check List

Please check that you provide all relevant information in support of your application, including but not limited to the following:

•	Completed and signed application form	\checkmark
•	Maps/Charts	✓
•	Co-ordinates of the boundary points of the area of harbour jurisdiction (if you are a statutory harbour authority)	✓
•	Method Statement	V
•	BPEO Assessment	1
•	Analytical chemistry data (for capital projects)	✓
•	Transportation plan (dredger route to and from disposal site – if required)	✓
•	Additional information e.g. photographs, consultation correspondence	✓
•	Noise Registry – Initial Registration Form (if applicable)	
	Payment (if paying by cheque)	





	Title:	Initials:	Surname:	
	Trading Title (if appropriate):		
	Address:			
	Name of conta	act (if different):		
	Telephone No	. (inc. dialing code):		
	Email:			
	If YES , please	provide a list of the latitu	de and longitude co-ordinates (WGS84) of the Appendix 01 Additional Co-ordinates form if n	boundary points
2.	Dredging Contr	actor Details (if any)		
	Title:	Initials:	Surname:	
	If the Dredging	g Contractor is the Applica	ant shown in section 1 please tick the box	
	Trading Title (if appropriate):		
	Address:			
	Name of conta	act (if different):		
	Telephone No	. (inc. dialing code):		
	Email:			
3.	Agent Details (i	f any)		
	Title:	Initials:	Surname:	
	Trading Title (if appropriate):		
	Address:			
	Name of conta	act (if different):		
	Telephone No	. (inc. dialing code):		
	Email:			



1. Applicant Details

+.	Payment		
	Enclosed Cheque	Invoice	
	Contact and address to s	end invoice to:	
	Applicant	Agent	Other 🗌
	If OTHER, please provide	e contact details:	
	Title:	Initials:	Surname:
	Address:		
	Email:		

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С	Consent/Licence Number	Expiry Date	Quantity (wet tonne consent/licence as a		under		
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Dredge Area B

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Dredge Area C

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Dredge Area E

itude			Lon	gitu	de									
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	0				' N	•				0				' W
	0				' N	•				0				' W

(e) Name of Disposal Site and Oslo Code:		

Latitude and Longitude co-ordinates (WGS84) defining the extent of disposal site (continue on Appendix 01 Additional Co-ordinates form if necessary):

Lat	itude	!					Lor	gitu	de					
		0				'N				0				' W
		0				'N				0				' W
		0				' N				0				' W
		0		-		'N				0				' W



(f) Is any part of the works (dredging or sea disposal site) located within the jurisdiction of a statutory harbour authority? YES □ NO □												
If VES pla	aso specify statut	ory harbour auth	ority:									
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Details of	Substance(s) or	Object(s) to be	Dredged (Pleas	se provide deta	ails for each o	of the Dredge						
Areas liste	d in Section 5 (d)	above. Continue	e on a separate	sheet if necess	sary):							
Dredge Area	Name of Dredge Area	Type (Maintenance or Capital)	Harbour bed, Seabed or Estuary bed?	Estimated Specific Gravity	Depth (metres)	Quantity to be Dredged per Year (wet tonnes)						
Α												
В												
С												
D												

7.

Ε

proportions as a percentage for each size range against each of the dredge site areas listed in Section 6 (d) above. Continue on a separate sheet if necessary): Dredge Clay and Silt Sand Pebbles, Cobbles &

Physical Composition of Substance(s) or Object(s) to be Dredged (Please provide the approximate

Area	(< 0.063 mm)	(0.063 ≤ Sand < 2.0 mm)	Boulders (≤ 2.0 mm)	
Α				
В				
С				
D				
E				
Details of	Substance(s) or Object(s) Q	uality		
Have the dredged substance(s) or object(s) been chemically analysed in the last 3 years? YES NO				
Details of Vessel(s) Undertaking Dredging and Sea Disposal (please note that a marine licence cannot				

10. be issued until the vessel details have been confirmed. Continue on a separate sheet if necessary):

Vessel Name	Type of Vessel	Name and Address of Operator
I		1

9.

11.	Noise Monitoring				
	Will loud, low to mid frequency (10Hz to 10kHz) impulsive noise be produced $$\rm YES \ \square\ NO\ \square$$ by the project?				
	If YES, which please indicate the noise generating activities and sound	frequencies	S :		
	Noise Generating Activity	Sound	Frequency (Hertz)		
	Use of Explosives				
	Other (please describe below):				
	If you have ticked YES , please complete the Noise Registry – Initial Registry/www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/marine/science/MSInteractive/Theme				
	A marine licence application will not be accepted until this form has submitted.	is been cor	mpleted and		
12.	Statutory Consenting Powers				
	Do you, or (if appropriate) your client, have statutory powers to consent	any aspect	of this project?		
13.	Scotland's National Marine Plan				
	Have you considered the application with reference to Scotland's National Marine Plan?		YES NO		
	If YES , provide details of considerations made including reference to the considered:	e policies th	nat have been		
	If NO , please provide an explanation of why you haven't considered the	· National M	larine Plan?		
	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,				



I	List all bodies you have consulted and provide copies of correspondence:
	· · · · · ·
15. /	Associated Works
	Provide details of other related marine projects, including reference/licence numbers (if applicable):

14. Consultation

APPENDIX 01 – PROPOSED DREDGE PLAN AREA CO-ORDINATES

To be read in conjunction with Section 6(d) of the Marine License Application for Dredging and Sea Disposal, and Atkins Drawing Number 5121683-ATK-PH4-ZZ-DR-C-0015, rev P02.

Point	Latitude Longitude (DDM)
A1	N57°41.198" W04°10.954"'
A2	N57°41.193" W04°10.954"
A3	N57°41.186″ W04°11.124″
A4	N57°41.191" W04°11.124"
B1	N57°41.188″ W04°11.162″
B2	N57°41.170″ W04°11.147″
В3	N57°41.083" W04°11.138"
B4	N57°41.055" W04°11.126"
B5	N57°41.044" W04°11.124"
В6	N57°41.046" W04°11.147"
В7	N57°41.064" W04°11.168"
B8	N57°41.083" W04°11.158"
C1	N57°41.069" W04°11.028"
C2	N57°41.045" W04°11.024"
C3	N57°41.041" W04°11.124"
C4	N57°41.064" W04°11.127"
D1	N57°41.076" W04°10.966"
D2	N57°41.047" W04°10.961"
E1	N57°41.057" W04°10.899"
E2	N57°41.017" W04°10.936"
E3	N57°40.983" W04°11.264"
E4	N57°41.046″ W04°11.152″

APPENDIX 02a – BOUNDARY POINTS FOR HARBOUR JURISDICTION

Outer port limit:

57 43.7N	003 55.8W
57 42.5N	003 52.2W
57 38.0N	003 57.0W
57 39.4N	004 01.7W

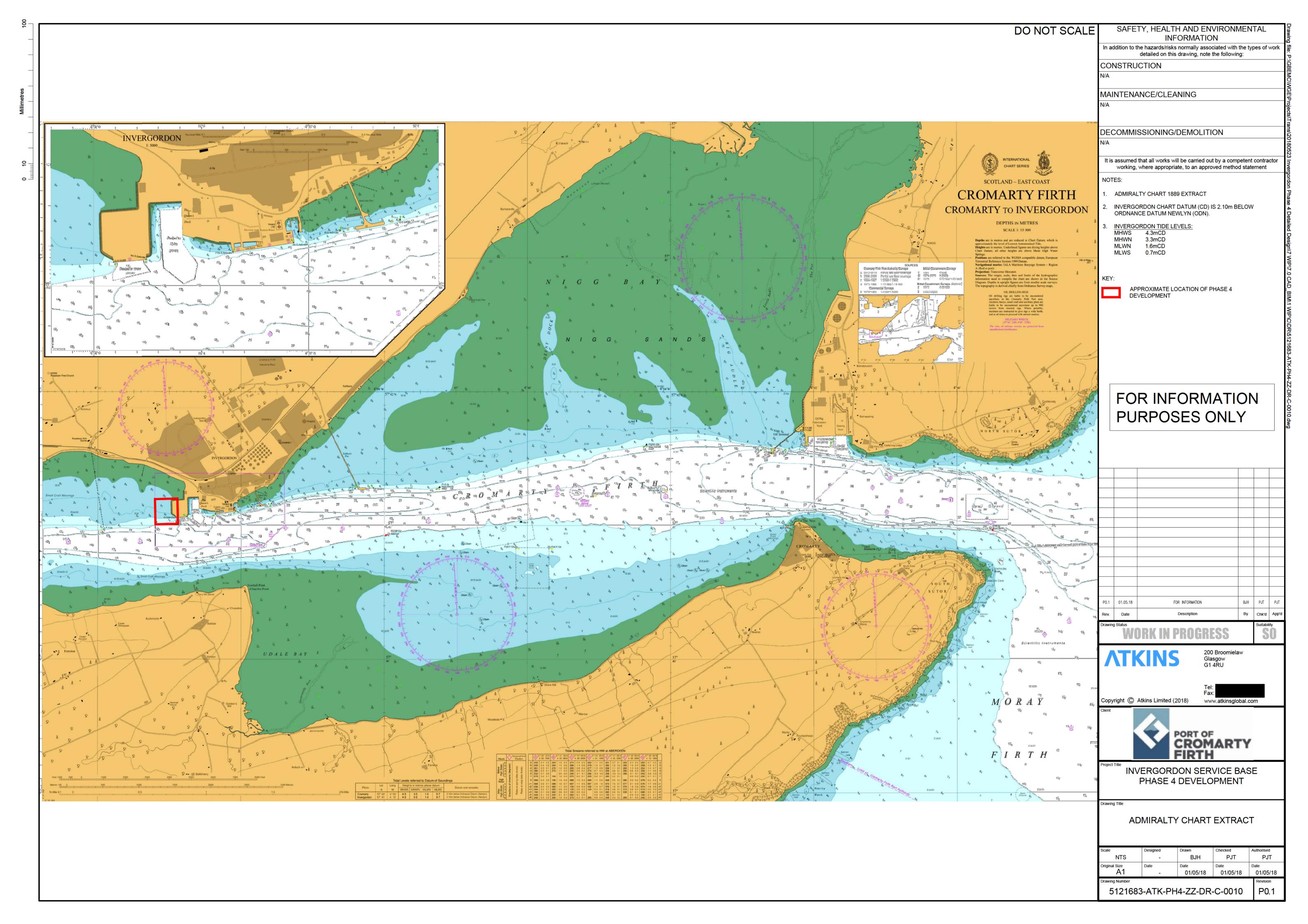
Inner limit 100m East of Cromarty Bridge

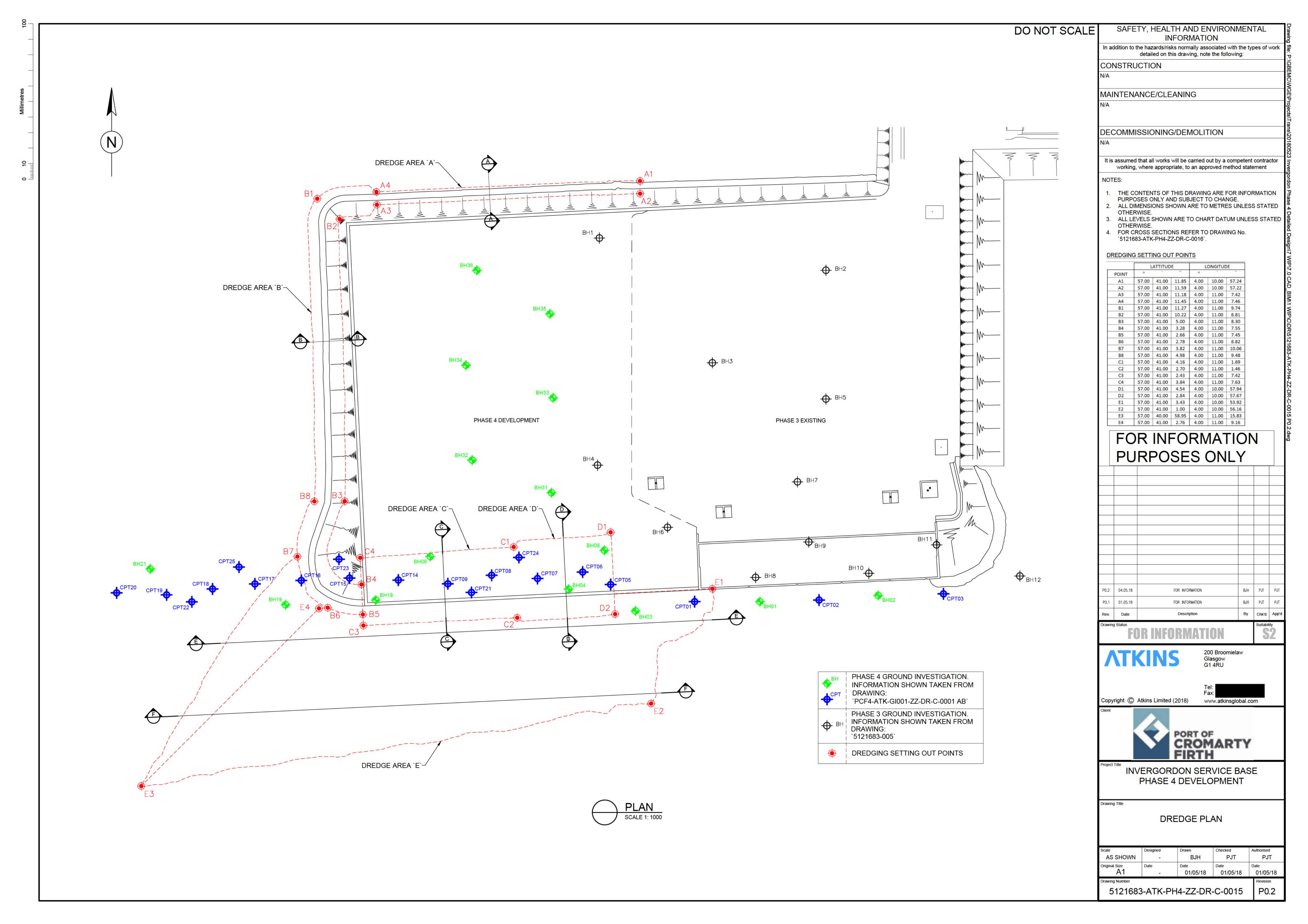
APPENDIX 02b – TRANSPORTATION PLAN

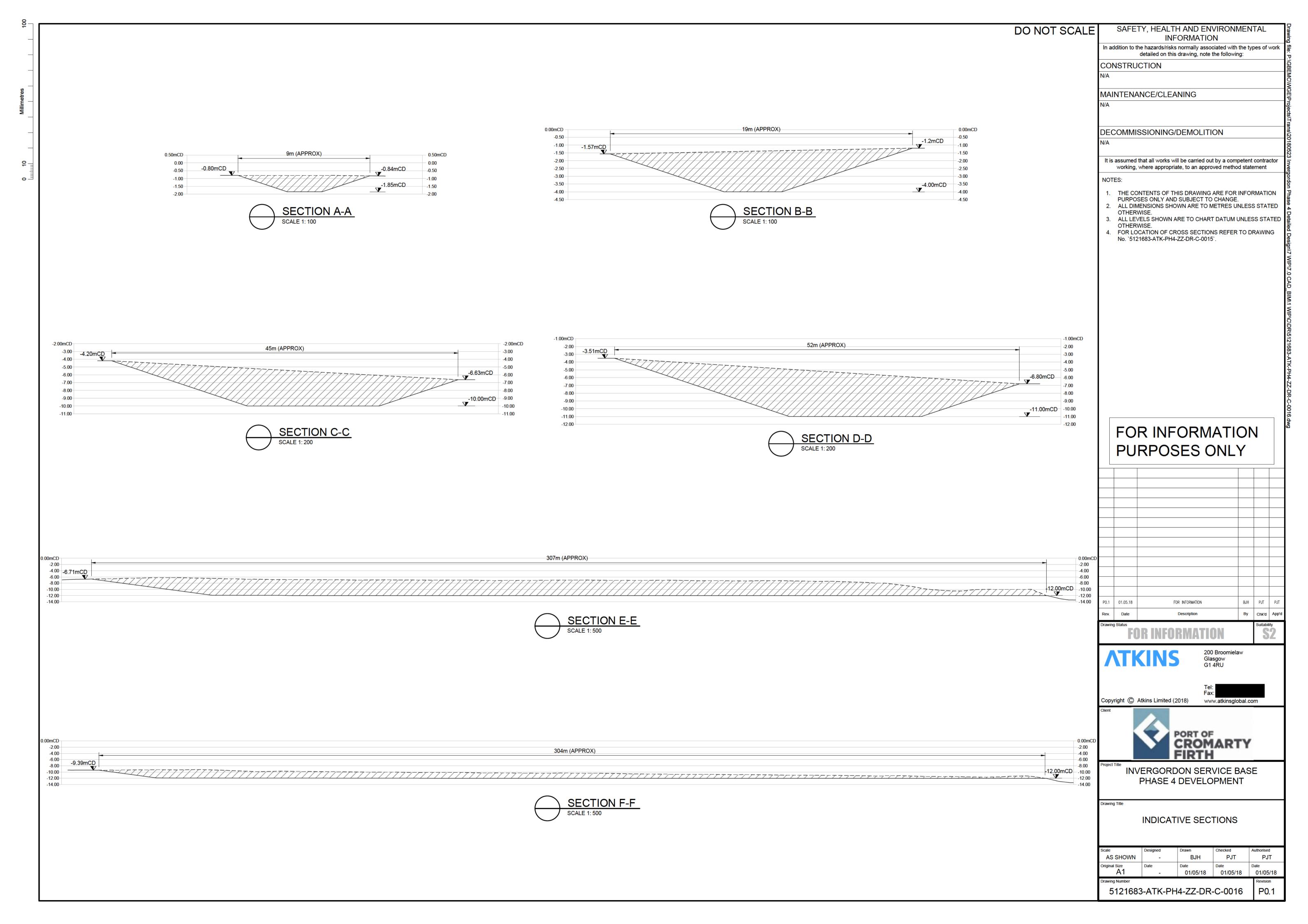
The passage plan to the dump site will be subject to vessel movements and agreed between PoCF's duty Marine Manager and the vessel Master.

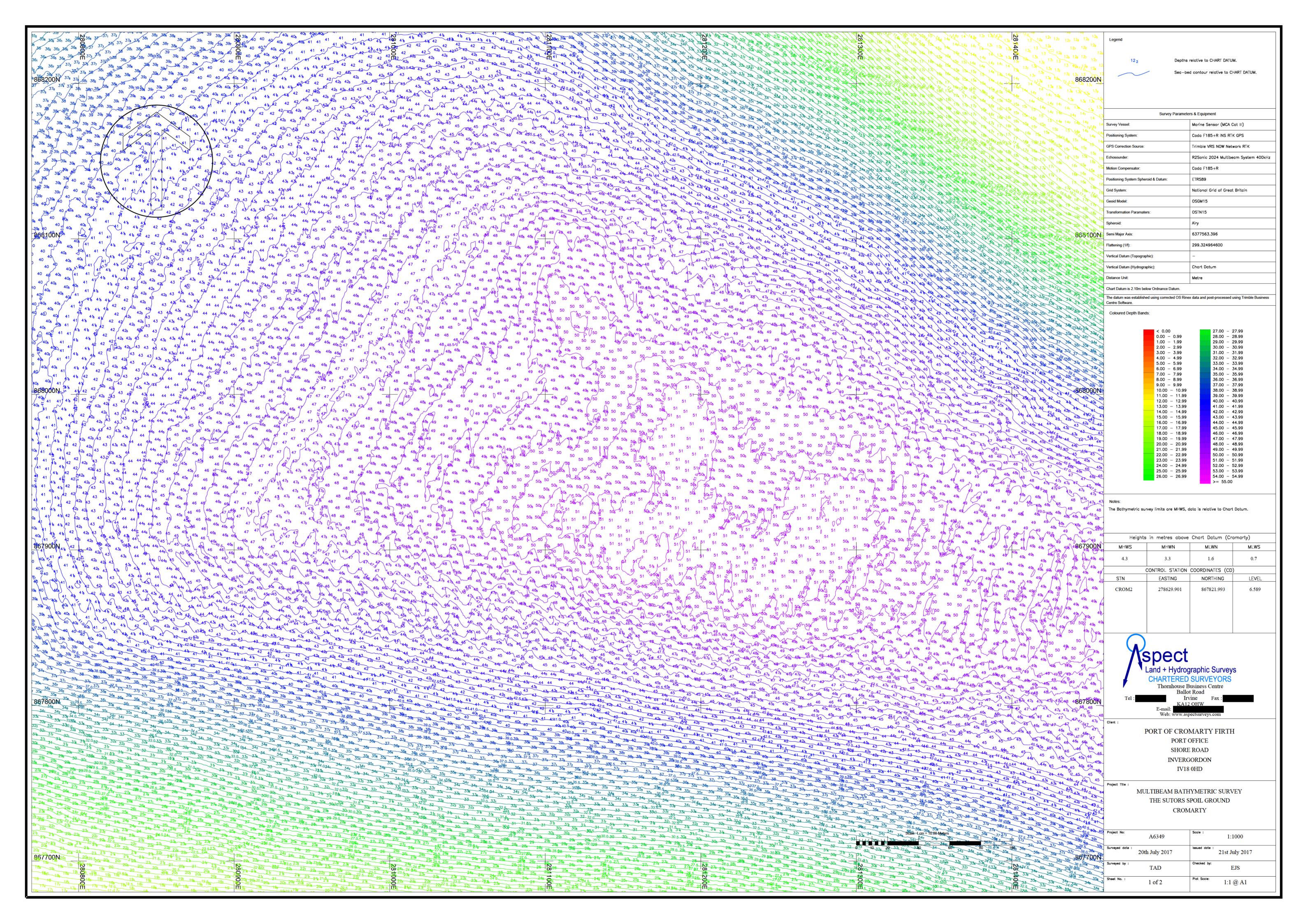
Under normal circumstances the following is indicative of routing to be taken:

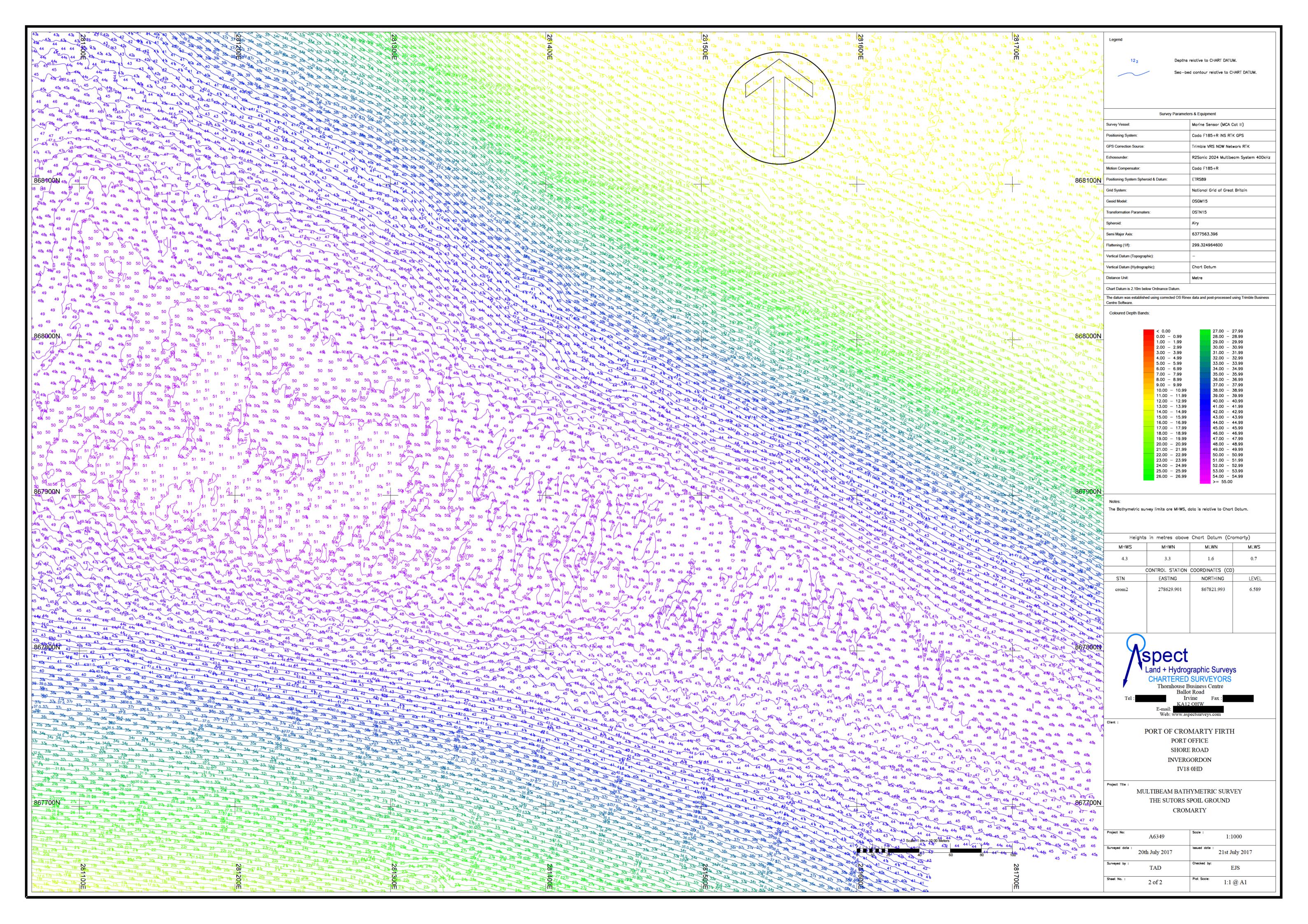
- 1. On completion of each dredging, proceed due south until clear of Phase 3 / Queen's Dock or Service Base.
- 2. Turn on to a course of 084° to pass south of Nigg's Sands west buoy, north of isolated danger buoy and approx. 200m north of the yellow semisubmersible platform legs, to position 57° 41.43′ N 004° 03.49′ W.
- 3. Turn onto course 097° and proceed directly to the dumping site.
- 4. The return journey will be the reverse of the above.

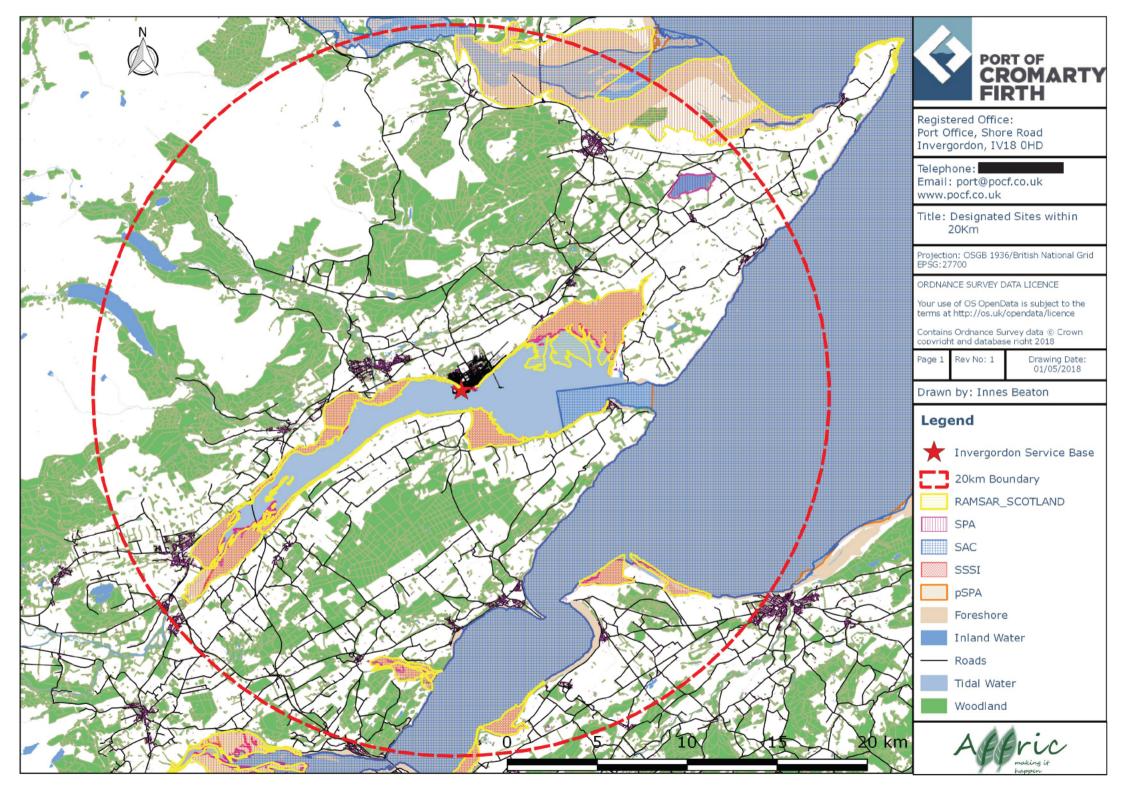












Summary of Designated Nature Conservation Sites

Site	Designation	Distance and Direction	Feature Category/Feature
Cromarty Firth	SSSI	Immediately adjacent	Designated for non-breeding birds (bar-tailed godwit, red-breasted merganser, redshank, whooper swan, and wigeon), littoral sediment (coast/saltmarsh), and littoral sediment (marine/mudflats and sandflats).
Cromarty Firth	SPA	Immediately adjacent	Designated for breeding osprey and common tern and non-breeding whooper swan, bar-tailed godwit and greylag goose. Also designated for its non-breeding waterfowl assemblage comprising wigeon, pintail, scaup, red breasted merganser, knot, curlew and redshank.
Morangie Forest	SPA	5km N	Designated for supporting breeding population of Capercaillie
Moray Firth	SAC	5km E	Designated for inshore sublittoral sediment (marine/subtidal sandbanks), and mammals (marine/bottlenose dolphin <i>Tursiops truncatus</i>).
Alness River Valley	SSSI	5km NW	Designated for broadleaves, mixed and yew woodland (upland mixed ash woodland).
Kinrive- Strathroy	SSSI	5km N	Designated for coniferous woodland (native pinewood) and fen, marsh and swamp (wetland/springs including flushes).
Loch Achnacloich	SSSI	6km NW	Designated for fen, marsh and swamp (wetland/open water transition fen), and standing open water and canals (eutrophic loch).
Loch Achnacloich	SAC	6km NW	Designated for standing open water and canals (naturally nutrient-rich lakes or lochs which are often dominated by pondweed).
Moray Firth	pSPA	10km E	Designated for breeding and non-breeding European shag, and non-breeding common eider, common goldeneye, common scoter, great northern diver, greater scaup, long-tailed duck, red-breasted merganser, red-throated diver, Slavonian grebe, and velvet scoter.
Pitmaduthy Moss	SAC	10km NE	Designated for coniferous woodland (bog woodland).
Rosemarkie to Shandwick Coast	SSSI	10km E	Designated for breeding birds (cormorant), broad-leaved, mixed and yew woodland (upland birch woodland), palaeontology (mesozoic palaeobotany), stratigraphy (Callovian), structural and metamorphic geology (moine), supralittoral rock (coast/maritime cliff), supralittoral sediment (coast/sand dunes), and vascular plants (purple oxytropis Oxytropis halleri).
Whiteness Head	SSSI	12km SE	Designated for non-breeding birds (bar-tailed godwit, and knot <i>Calidris canutus</i>), geomorphology (coastal geomorphology of Scotland), littoral sediment (coast/saltmarsh), and littoral sediment (marine/mudflats), supralittoral sediment (coast/sand dunes), and supralittoral sediment (coast/shingle).
The Dens	SSSI	12km S	Geomorphology (mass movement).
Dam Wood	SAC	14km SW	Designated for broad-leaved, mixed and yew woodland (upland/juniper on heaths or calcareous grasslands), fen, marsh, swamp (upland/base-rich fens).

Dam Wood	SSSI	14km SW	Designated for dwarf shrub heath (lowland wet heath).
Dam Wood	SAC	14km SW	Designated for broad-leaved, mixed and yew woodland (upland/juniper on heaths or calcareous grasslands), fen, marsh, swamp (upland/base-rich fens).
Ardersier Glacial Deposits	SSSI	14km SE	Quaternary geology and geomorphology (quaternary of Scotland).
Loch Eye	SSSI	15km NE	Designated for non-breeding birds (greylag goose, whooper swan and standing open water and canals (eutrophic loch).
Loch Eye	SPA	15km NE	Designated for non-breeding birds (greylag goose, whooper swan).
Lower River Conon	SSSI	15km SW	Designated for broad-leaved, mixed and yew woodland (wet woodland), fen, marsh, swamp (wetland/open water transition fen), and littoral sediment (coast/saltmarsh).
Conon Islands	SAC	15km SW	Designated for broad-leaved, mixed and yew woodland (alder woodland on floodplains).
Monadh Mor	SSSI	15km SW	Designated for coniferous woodland (native pinewood).
Monadh Mor	SAC	15km SW	Designated for bogs (wetland/very wet mires often identified by an unstable "quaking" surface), and coniferous woodland (bog woodland).
Roskill	SSSI	15km SW	Fen, marsh, swamps (grassland/fen meadow).
Talich	SSSI	16km NE	Designated for broad-leaved mixed and yew woodland (wet woodland).
Munlochy Bay	SSSI	17km S	Designated for non-breeding birds (greylag goose <i>Anser anser</i> and Wigeon <i>Anas penelope</i>), littoral sediment (coast/saltmarsh), and littoral sediment (marine/mudflats).
Inner Moray Firth	SPA	17km S	Designated for breeding (osprey <i>Pandion haliaetus</i>) and non-breeding birds (common tern, goldeneye, goosander, greylag goose, red-breasted merganser, redshank, scaup, bar-tailed godwit, cormorant, curlew, waterfowl assemblage, oystercatcher, and teal.
Allt nan Caorach	SSSI	18km W	Designated for broad-leaved, mixed and yew woodland (upland birch woodland).
Ben Wyvis	SSSI	18km W	Designated for breeding birds (dotterel <i>Charadrius morinellus</i>), bogs (upland/blanket bog), mosaic (upland assemblage), quaternary geology and geomorphology (quaternary of Scotland), standing open water (dystrophic and oligotrophic lochs) and canals and vascular plants (vascular plant assemblage).
Ben Wyvis	SAC/SPA/SSSI	18km W	Designated for bogs (upland/blanket bog), dwarf shrub heath (upland / dry heaths), inland rock (tall herb communities), inland rock (plants in crevices on acid rocks), inland rock (acidic scree), montane habitats (alpine and subalpine heaths), montane habitats (montane acid grasslands), and standing open water and canals (clear water lakes or lochs with aquatic vegetation and poor to moderate nutrient levels).
Longman and Castle Stuart Bays	SSSI	20km S	Designated for breeding birds (cormorant, goldeneye, red-breasted merganser, redshank, wigeon, littoral sediment (coast/saltmarsh), littoral sediment (marine/eelgrass beds), littoral sediment (marine/mudflats).
Kildrummie Kames	SSSI	20km SW	Designated for broad-leaved, mixed and yew woodland (upland/juniper scrub), fen, marsh, swamp (wetland, open water transition fen), quaternary geology and

			geomorphology (quaternary of Scotland), and standing open water and canals (eutrophic loch).
Dornoch Firth and Morrich More	SAC	20km NE	Designated for inshore sublittoral rock (marine/reefs), inshore sublittoral sediment (marine/subtidal sandbanks), littoral sediment (coast/Atlantic salt meadows and glasswort/other annuals colonising mud and sand), littoral sediment (marine/estuaries), mammals (otter Lutra luta), mammals (marine/harbour seal Phoca vitulina), supralittoral sediment (coast / coastal dune heathland and dunes with juniper thickets).
Dornoch Firth and Loch Fleet	SPA	20km NE	Designated for breeding birds (osprey, and non-breeding birds (dunlin, greylag goose, wigeon, bar-tailed godwit, curlew, oystercatcher, and teal).
Craigroy Burn	SSSI	20km N	Designated for broad-leaved, mixed and yew woodland (upland birch woodland).
Loch Ussie	SSSI	20km SW	Designated for broad-leaved, mixed and yew woodland (upland oak woodland), and standing open water and canals (oligo-mestrophic loch).
Loch Ussie	SAC	20km SW	Designated for standing open water and canals (clear water lakes or lochs with aquatic vegetation and poor to moderate nutrient levels).