

Scottish Hydro Electric Power Distribution

Fishing Liaison Mitigation Action Plan

(covering all sea users)

Argyll



	Fishing Liaison Mitigation Action Plan for Argyll		Applies to	
			Distribution ✓	Transmission ✗
Revision: 1.00	Internal Use	Issue Date:	Review Date:	

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1 Introduction

1.1 Scottish Hydro Electric Power Distribution (SHEPD) would like to make it easy for all stakeholders who have interests in the submarine electricity cable planning process to have a strong voice in helping us determine our installation and protection practices but also inform our inspection and maintenance works. We are committed to open, honest and transparent communication and engagement.

1.2 This Fishing Liaison Mitigation Action Plan (FLMAP) outlines how SHEPD will interact with all sea users, prior to and during any works relating to 19 submarine cables at the following locations:

- Bridgend Islay
- Coll-Tiree
- Eilean Loain
- Eilean Righ
- Islay-Colonsay
- Islay-Orsay
- Jura-Islay
- Kerrera-Mull 2
- Kerrera-Mull replacement
- Kintyre-Gigha
- Mainland-Jura
- Mainland-Kerrera 1
- Mainland-Kerrera 2
- Mainland-Lismore
- Mull-Calve Island
- Mull-Coll
- Mull-Iona
- Mull-Ulva
- Seil Easdale

1.3 The purpose of this FLMAP is to:

- Illustrate the associated risks to the commercial fisheries industry and other sea users and address the potential effects (highlighted in the marine licensed evidence).
- Identify how to minimise and mitigate potential impacts on local communities.

1.4 SHEPD aim to facilitate co-existence between all parties as recommended in the FLOWW¹ and ESCA² (previously SCUK) guidelines. SHEPD has also developed the policy document *How*

¹ Fishing Liaison with Offshore Wind and Wet Renewables Group (FLOWW) Best Practice Guidance for Offshore Renewables Developments: Recommendations for Fishing Liaison, 2014

² European Subsea Cables Association

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Scottish Hydro Electric Power Distribution co-exists with other marine users³ which should be used in conjunction with this FLMAP.

- 1.5 To help us understand the impacts that our cable installation decisions have, we work proactively with our regulators, customers and stakeholders. This helps our collaborators to better understand the impacts our engineering decisions can have on the safety of mariners, energy costs for communities we serve, on local and national economic activity and on the natural environment⁴.
- 1.6 Cable works that will be covered by this FLMAP include cable inspections, surveys and cable installations. This FLMAP operates in conjunction with the Argyll FLMAP Delivery Programme, which outlines the programme of communication for the identified stakeholders during the cable works activities and sets out the register of commitments for disseminating this information. The FLMAP Delivery Programme also forms an audit trail, documenting communication and agreed mitigation between SHEPD and sea users during specific cable works. This will advise SHEPD's approach to continuous improvement on mitigating cable activities throughout the region and will be developed and updated accordingly.
- 1.7 A summary table of potential interactions for each cable outlines key potential interactions with the fisheries industry and other sea users. These are given in *Appendix E Cable-Specific Interactions*.
- 1.8 This FLMAP identifies the respective responsibilities of the Company Fishing Liaison Officer (CFLO), and the Fishing Industry Representative (FIR), and how the FIR and CFLO will operate. The FLMAP has been constructed to facilitate co-existence between SHEPD and other sea users.
- 1.9 The potential marine activities relevant to the area of cable works are listed below. A more detailed summary of activities is provided in Chapters 6 and 7 and visual representations of relevant activities are provided in Appendix C and Appendix D:
 - The Argyll Coast is a popular area for marine recreation.
 - The main marine recreational activities in the vicinity of the cables; bird and wildlife watching, visits to historic sites and attractions, power boating, canoeing and kayaking, long distance swimming, coastering, yacht racing, dinghy racing, motor cruising, rowing and sculling, jet skiing, wild fowling, sailing and cruising, scuba diving and sea angling.
 - There are a number of shellfish aquaculture sites and one finfish aquaculture site in the vicinity of the cables.
 - There are currently no wave, tidal or wind developments in the vicinity of the cables, though there is a tidal energy farm consented for development off the south west coast of Islay.

³ Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks: *How we co-exist with other marine users*, available: <https://www.ssen.co.uk/SubmarineCables/AboutUs/>

⁴ For further details see Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks: *Submarine Electricity Cable Cost Benefit Analysis Method Statement*: <https://www.ssen.co.uk/CBAFULL/> and *Method Statement Executive Summary*: <http://news.ssen.co.uk/media/266234/CBA-Model-Statement-Executive-Summary.pdf>

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- There are a number of conservation designations in the vicinity of the cable locations. These include:
 - National Scenic Areas (NSAs): Jura; Lynn of Lorn; Knapdale; Loch na Keal, Isle of Mull.
 - Nature Conservation Marine Protected Areas (MPAs): Loch Sunart to the Sound of Jura; Sea of the Hebrides; Loch Creran.
 - Special Protection Areas (SPAs) with marine components: Sound of Gigha; Coll and Tiree.
 - Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) with marine components: Inner Hebrides and the Minches; Eileanan agus Sgeiran Lios Mor and Loch Creran.
- There are a number of wreck sites in the vicinity of the cable locations.
- A number of cables fall within the following Harbour Authority boundaries:
 - Scalasaig, Colonsay⁵ – adjacent to Islay-Colonsay cable
 - Bowmore, Islay – covers eastern landfall of Bridgend Islay cable
 - Bruichladdich, Islay⁶ – covers western landfall of Bridgend Islay cable
- The cables Mainland-Kerrera, Mainland-Lismore, Eilean Loain, Mainland-Jura, Seil Easdale, Eilean Rìgh, Kerrera-Mull, Kintyre-Gigha, Coll-Tiree, Islay-Orsay, Jura-Islay, Mull-Calve Island, Mull-Coll, Mull-Ulva do not fall within any harbour authority boundaries.

1.10 The predominant fishing activities in areas relevant to the identified Argyll cables are potting (creeling), followed by bottom otter trawling and dredging. This is reflective of the greatest effort and value, targeting Nephrops, crabs and scallops. Potting vessels represent the primary fishery that may interact with the cable locations, particularly within 6 nautical miles (nm) of the coast.

⁵ <https://www.cmassets.co.uk/location/colonsay-scalasaig/>

⁶ <https://www.argyll-bute.gov.uk/bruichladdich-pier>

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2 Communications

- 2.1 Information regarding any cable survey or construction works (referred to as works hereafter) will be issued to all fishing and other relevant statutory and non-statutory stakeholders to ensure effective co-existence during the works (this includes inspection surveys and any subsequent requirement for cable installation).
- 2.2 Some activities such as cable installation works require additional information which will inform the potential interactions with sea users. When required SHEPD will provide the Project Description and other necessary documents.
- 2.3 Survey contractors shall provide details of all vessel movements, works and co-ordinates to the CFLO and the FIR who will disseminate this information.
- 2.4 Relevant stakeholders will be contacted before planned works which have the potential to impact them and, depending on the progress of this activity; it would also be common practice for there to be regular contact throughout the works.
- 2.5 In addition to statutory stakeholder engagement, SHEPD also has a number of obligations where it is necessary to engage with non-statutory stakeholders prior to, during and/or upon completion of certain work activities.
- 2.6 In the event that the date or duration of works deviates from the notification timings (e.g. Notice to Mariners - NtM) outlined in the *Argyll FLMAP Delivery Programme*⁷, an update will be issued to the relevant stakeholders. Similarly, if the scope or methodology of the planned works activity changes, then any stakeholder likely to be affected, including any relevant licensing authority, would be consulted. Any change to associated timelines would be agreed prior to the works commencing.

⁷ The Delivery Programme is to cover the entire period to April 2023.

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3 Scheduling of liaison and information distribution

3.1 Dissemination of information to the fishing industry and other sea users will be issued as described in Table 1.

Table 1 Schedule for dissemination of information

Activity	Timescale for distribution
Inspection Programme	▪ Notice and information to be distributed at the earliest opportunity once information is available. ▪ Regular liaison and updates by Fishing Industry Representative (FIR) with local fishermen of proposed timings with confirmations of when works are finalised. ▪ Regular liaison and updates by the Company Fishing Liaison Officer (CFLO) with other sea users of proposed timings with confirmations when operations are finalised.
Surveys (including any requirement for Pre-construction surveys) that have the potential to require gear relocation	▪ Regular liaison and updates by FIR with local fishermen, well in advance of disruption, defining who might be affected, where and when. Liaison to take into account weather, number of creels to be moved, bait ordering etc. ▪ Notice to Mariners and information distribution not less than 20 days prior to survey mobilisation, if possible, to allow inclusion in the Kingfisher Fortnightly Bulletin.
Specific construction activities i.e. installation works	▪ Notice and information distribution not less than 20 days, if possible, for individual construction vessels mobilisations. ▪ Regular liaison and updates by FIR with local fishermen of proposed timings with confirmations when operations are finalised. ▪ Regular liaison and updates by CFLO with other sea users of proposed timings with confirmations provided when planned works are finalised.
Meetings with fishery stakeholders	▪ Meetings as required during all works i.e. the inspection surveys and any subsequent requirements for pre-construction and construction phases.
Meetings with other sea users	▪ Meetings as required during all works i.e. the inspection surveys and any subsequent requirements for pre-construction and construction phases.
Ongoing Liaison	▪ Additional unscheduled liaison and consultation will be undertaken by either the CFLO or the FIR as required to address issues or fishermen's concerns as they arise.

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4 Formal Notifications

4.1 Details of the cable works will be distributed to appropriate sea users. The proposed formal communications are provided in Table 2.

Table 2 Formal notifications

Type	Function	Distribution
Submarine electricity cable flyer	- Flyers may be issued for specific cable works. - This is not a requirement set out in the marine licences but are a proactive initiative taken by SHEPD to provide as much advance warning of the forthcoming works as possible.	- Flyers⁸ will be published through Kingfisher Information Service Offshore Renewables and Cable Awareness (KIS-ORCA) and Fishing News. - Flyers will be issued nominally at least 4 weeks, if possible, prior to commencing the works to which they relate.
Notices to Mariners (NtM)	- NtM and/or radio navigational warnings and publication in appropriate bulletins to comply with the conditions in the marine licences. - Each NtM will contain full details of the vessel, location, activities, contact details etc. - In the case of incidents or emergencies requiring notification, the NtM will be issued as soon as reasonably possible. Any actions required to notify an incident or emergency will go ahead even if there is not sufficient time for it to appear in the Kingfisher Fortnightly Bulletin.	- All NtMs⁹ will be issued by the CFLO - NtMs will be published through KIS-ORCA - Details of the works will be promulgated to all appropriate sea users - NtMs will be issued at least 20 days prior to works' start date, if possible, to allow inclusion in the Kingfisher Fortnightly Bulletin. - NtMs will be issued using the example NtM document at relevant stages of cable surveys and works.
NtM updates	It is intended that the issued NtMs will comprehensively describe the planned activities. However, in the unlikely event that a significant change to these activities becomes apparent, an update will be issued.	If required, to be issued by email to the Source Data Receipt at the UK Hydrographic Office and copied to the distribution list set out in the NtMs.

⁸ The flyer will contain the following information: submarine electricity cable specific information; useful contacts; working area; national and regional charts; site specific charts.

⁹For details see Appendix A: *Notice to Mariners* example template.

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Type	Function	Distribution
Notices to static gear fishermen	Further specific liaison will take place between SHEPD's FIR and the fishermen who have static fishing gear in the works areas to agree the detailed arrangements for removal of static gear. This will include details of dates and numbers of creels.	The static gear fishermen will receive the NtMs.
Notices to mobile gear fishermen	Specific liaison between SHEPD's FIR and the fishermen who will be affected by the survey and installation operations will take place to ensure that they are given a minimum of 24 hours' notice that vessels of restricted mobility will be in the area.	The mobile gear fishermen will receive the NtMs.
Notices to other sea users	Specific liaison between SHEPD's CFLO and the sea users who will be affected by operations will take place to ensure that they are given a minimum of 24 hours' notice that vessels of restricted mobility will be in the area.	Other sea users identified through consultation will receive the NtM (the distribution lists are given in Table 3, and Table 4).

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5 Communication Distribution List

- 5.1 A key aim is to co-exist with sea users in the marine environment. Coexistence is assisted by actively engaging with sea users and stakeholders and those with consented development rights. The way we approach engagement is specific to each cable although there is a generic set of *Standard Operating Procedures*¹⁰ to ensure our approach is consistent and fair to all sea users in the area.
- 5.2 The Argyll submarine electricity cables have a discrete footprint in a small regional area. For simplicity, the communication distribution list has been separated into regional stakeholders, given in Table 3, and cable specific stakeholders in Table 4.
- 5.3 The communication distribution list provides the following information on each stakeholder:
- Stakeholder name
 - SHEPD point of contact
 - Role of the stakeholder in the consent procedure
 - Details of specific contact to be made by SHEPD with a given stakeholder.

¹⁰ Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks: *Standard Operating Procedures*, available: <https://www.ssen.co.uk/SubmarineCables/AboutUs/>

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Table 3 Regional stakeholders' roles and duties

Regional Stakeholder	SHEPD point of contact	Role	Details
Marine Scotland (MS)	Subsea Project Liaison Manager Lead Marine Consents Manager	MS is the licensing authority for all works and as such all consent conditions that require to be met must be demonstrated to them either upon request or as agreed in the licence.	Specific contact with MS will be made ▪ Prior to commencement of the works: · Marine Scotland is responsible for the integrated management of Scotland's seas. This includes consultation on the proposed FLMAP and delivery plan; and inclusion of compliance with it as a licence condition. ▪ During the works: · to allow access for an authorised Enforcement Officer to inspect the works · to notify any changes to the works that may affect the validity of the licence · to submit and seek approval of plans to mitigate navigational dangers or risks, where required ▪ On completion of the works: · to notify the completion of the works · to submit an assessment of any risks posed by the installed cable
NatureScot	Subsea Project Liaison Manager Lead Marine Consents Manager	NatureScot is the Scottish public body responsible for natural heritage. They advise the Scottish Government regarding nature conservation requirements when deciding whether to consent activities. NatureScot is a consultee to Marine Scotland and as such they can influence licence conditions.	SHEPD will engage on matters related to the project as required.

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Regional Stakeholder	SHEPD point of contact	Role	Details
Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA)	Up to work starting: Subsea Project Liaison Manager Lead Marine Consents Manager During Works: Project Manager	The MCA is an executive agency of the United Kingdom and is responsible for implementing British and international maritime law and safety policy. The MCA are a consultee to Marine Scotland and as such they can influence licence conditions.	SHEPD will engage on matters related to the project as required.
Northern Lighthouse Board (NLB)	Up to work starting: Subsea Project Liaison Manager During Works: Project Manager	The NLB are a consultee to Marine Scotland and as such they can influence licence conditions.	SHEPD will engage on matters related to the project as required.
Scottish Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA)	Up to work starting: Subsea Project Liaison Manager During Works: Project Manager	SEPA is Scotland's environmental regulator. SEPA is a consultee to Marine Scotland and as such they can influence licence conditions.	SHEPD will engage on matters related to the project as required.
Clyde Marine Planning Partnership	Subsea Project Liaison Manager Company Fishing Liaison Officer (CFLO)	Responsible for regional marine planning in the Clyde.	CFLO and SHEPD will engage on matters related to the project as required.

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Regional Stakeholder	SHEPD point of contact	Role	Details
Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB)	Subsea Project Liaison Manager Subsea Project Environmental Manager	RSPB is a consultee to Marine Scotland and as such they can influence licence conditions	SHEPD will engage on matters related to the project as required.
Scottish Fishermen's Federation (SFF)	Subsea Project Liaison Manager Lead Marine Consents Manager Company Fishing Liaison Officer (CFLO)	The SFF represents predominantly the mobile commercial fishing fleet that operate in deeper waters outside of where the cables will be replaced.	Specific contact will be made with the SFF and the associations that are represented by the SFF. Regular liaison and updates by CFLO will be undertaken with meetings as required. As part of ongoing regular liaison with the SFF, SHEPD will keep the SFF apprised of the installation as it proceeds, specifically in relation to the presence of support vessels.
West Coast Regional Inshore Fisheries Group (WCRIFG)	Subsea Project Liaison Manager Lead Marine Consents Manager Company Fishing Liaison Officer (CFLO)	The organisation is legally authorised to impose restrictions and regulations, to issue licences and the right to set tolls.	Specific contact will be made with the WCRIFG. Regular dialogue between the CFLO and the WCRIFG will be maintained prior to and during the survey work (and any subsequent requirement for cable installation), noting that both mobile and static gear commercial fishing operations are present in the area.
Scottish Creel Fishermen's Federation (SCFF)	Subsea Project Liaison Manager Lead Marine Consents Manager Company Fishing Liaison Officer (CFLO)	SCFF is the national trade association for the creel fishing industry. It is comprised of ten fishermen's associations including the Scottish Scallop Divers Association and Scottish Creelers and Divers.	Specific contact will be made with the SCFF. Regular dialogue between the CFLO and the SCFF will be maintained prior to and during any installation work.

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Regional Stakeholder	SHEPD point of contact	Role	Details
Unaffiliated commercial fishermen	Company Fishing Liaison Officer (CFLO)	There are independent commercial fishing operators who are not affiliated with the RIFG.	Specific contact will be made with relevant unaffiliated commercial fishermen. The CFLO and FIR will identify these individuals and maintain liaison with them, particularly in relation to the requirement to remove creels to allow the works to be carried out.
Crown Estate Scotland (CES)	Subsea Project Liaison Manager Wayleaves Project Manager	CES manage property belonging to the Sovereign. Part of the HDD installation (seaward of MHWS) is located within Sovereign territory and, as such, SHEPD is required to obtain permission via survey licences and wayleave consent in terms of the Master Wayleave Agreement from CES.	SHEPD will engage on matters related to the project as required.
United Kingdom Hydrographic Office (UKHO)	Project Manager and Company Fishing Liaison Officer (CFLO)	The UKHO is the UK's agency providing hydrographic and geospatial data to mariners and maritime organisations across the world.	SHEPD will maintain contact with the UKHO to provide regular updates on progress of the works provide a copy of the marine licence and provide as-built details upon completion. The CFLO will maintain contact with the UKHO via NtMs or Hydrographic notes.
Kingfisher Information Service Offshore Renewables and Cable Awareness (KIS-ORCA)	Company Fishing Liaison Officer (CFLO)	Kingfisher works with all the offshore industries, including oil & gas, subsea cable, renewable energy and marine aggregates to provide the latest news and most accurate information to the fishing industry. Information is in relation to the latest hazards, planned developments, new structures being installed and zones created.	SHEPD will maintain contact with KIS-ORCA to provide regular updates on progress of the works and provide as-built details upon completion. The CFLO will maintain contact with KIS-ORCA via NtMs for the Kingfisher bulletin.

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Regional Stakeholder	SHEPD point of contact	Role	Details
Ministry of Defence (MoD)	Subsea Project Liaison Manager Company Fishing Liaison Officer (CFLO)	The MoD is the British government department responsible for implementing the defence policy set by Her Majesty's Government and is the headquarters of the British Armed Forces. The MoD has access to training areas and ranges in marine areas.	SHEPD and CFLO will engage on matters related to the project as required.
Royal Yacht Association (RYA)	Subsea Project Liaison Manager Company Fishing Liaison Officer (CFLO)	The RYA is the national governing body for certain water sports in the United Kingdom. Activities it covers include Sailing, Windsurfing, Motor cruising, Powerboating and Personal watercraft.	Specific contact will be made with the RYA. Regular dialogue between the CFLO and the RYA will be maintained prior to and during the installation work that may affect recreational activities in the area.
Community Councils	Subsea Project Liaison Manager Company Fishing Liaison Officer (CFLO)	The CC will keep the local community up to date on proposals.	CFLO will engage on matters related to the project as required.
Argyll and Bute Council	Subsea Project Liaison Manager Company Fishing Liaison Officer (CFLO)	Argyll and Bute Council is the local authority for Jura/Islay.	SHEPD will engage on matters related to the project as required.
NAFC Marine Centre	Company Fishing Liaison Officer (CFLO)	The NAFC marine centre is an educational and scientific institute. Research and development in subjects relevant to the fishing and aquaculture industries and marine spatial planning.	SHEPD will engage on matters related to the project as required.

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Regional Stakeholder	SHEPD point of contact	Role	Details
Scottish Federation of Sea Anglers	Company Fishing Liaison Officer (CFLO)	The internationally recognised governing body for fishing in Scotland.	CFLO will engage on matters related to the project as required.
Scottish Coastal Forum	Subsea Project Liaison Manager Company Fishing Liaison Officer (CFLO)	The Scottish Coastal Forum was formed in 1996 to encourage debate at a national level on coastal issues. Its members advise Marine Scotland, from an operational perspective, on the development of policy relating to marine planning and licensing within a sustainable marine environment.	CFLO will engage on matters related to the project as required.
Scottish Environment LINK	Subsea Project Liaison Manager Subsea Project Environmental Manager Company Fishing Liaison Officer (CFLO)	Forum for Scotland's voluntary environment community, with 39 member bodies representing a broad spectrum of environmental interests with the common goal of contributing to a more environmentally sustainable society.	CFLO will engage on matters related to the project as required.

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Table 4 Cable specific stakeholders

Cable specific stakeholder	SHEPD point of contact	Role	Details
Campbeltown Fishery Office	Company Fishing Liaison Officer (CFLO)	Local branch of the Scottish Government's fishery offices.	CFLO will engage on matters related to the project as required.
Mallaig Fishery Office	Company Fishing Liaison Officer (CFLO)	Local branch of the Scottish Government's fishery offices.	CFLO will engage on matters related to the project as required.
Clyde Fishermen's Association	Subsea Project Liaison Manager Lead Marine Consents Manager Company Fishing Liaison Officer (CFLO)	The CFA have 65 members with vessels around the Clyde coast. The area covered by the association includes Islay.	Specific contact will be made with the CFA. Regular dialogue between the CFLO, Offshore Fisheries Liaison Officer (OFLO) will be maintained prior to and during the cable works, noting that both mobile and static gear commercial fishing operations are present in the area.
Northern Ireland Fish Producers (NIFPO)	Company Fishing Liaison Officer (CFLO)	There are nomadic vessels operating from Ulster ports which operate in the vicinity of the cables	CFLO will engage on matters related to the project as required.

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Cable specific stakeholder	SHEPD point of contact	Role	Details
Clyde Cruising Club	Company Fisheries Liaison Officer (CFLO)	A sailing club which operates across Scotland, including the Argyll coast.	CFLO will engage on matters related to the project as required.
Caledonian MacBrayne	Subsea Project Liaison Manager Company Fisheries Liaison Officer (CFLO)	The main ferry provider between mainland Scotland and the Scottish Islands.	CFLO will engage on matters related to the project as required.
Peel Ports	Company Fisheries Liaison Officer (CFLO)	Peel Ports manage all commercial/container traffic in and out of Ocean Terminal Greenock.	CFLO will engage on matters related to the project as required and will notify with the NtM as cables may be in locations where vessels transit on route to the port
HM Naval Base Clyde	Company Fisheries Liaison Officer (CFLO)	Naval base Clyde covers Fasland and Coulport	CFLO will engage on matters related to the project as required.
Kildalloig Farm (Shellfish aquaculture development)	Company Fisheries Liaison Officer (CFLO)	Oyster commercial aquaculture development	CFLO will ensure that they are informed of matters related to the project as required.
Scottish Canoe Association	Company Fisheries Liaison Officer (CFLO)	Canoe club association with interest in canoeing activity across Scotland. The association keeps records of NtM relevant to canoeing activity in the Argyll area.	CFLO will engage on matters related to the project as required.

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Cable specific stakeholder	SHEPD point of contact	Role	Details
Helensburgh Canoe Club	Company Fisheries Liaison Officer (CFLO)	A club of 40 members who undertake a range of activities including sea canoeing and undertake trips at least once a month and weekend expeditions.	CFLO will engage on matters related to the project as required.
Royal West of Scotland Amateur Boat Club	Company Fisheries Liaison Officer (CFLO)	The club caters for a range of water sports including sea kayaking, canoeing, sailing, rowing and open water swimming. The club is located in Greenoch on the River Clyde Estuary.	CFLO will engage on matters related to the project as required.
Western Isles Fishermen Association	Subsea Project Liaison Manager Company Fishing Liaison Officer (CFLO)	Representation of fishermen from the Scottish western isles. Chairman: Duncan MacInnes	Specific contact will be made with the WIFA. Regular dialogue between the CFLO and the WIFA will be maintained prior to and during the installation.
West of Scotland Fish Producer Organisation Ltd	Company Fishing Liaison Officer (CFLO)	The organisation is a group of fishermen (Producers Organisation) set up under the legislation of the EU common fisheries policy.	Specific contact will be made with the WSFPO. Regular dialogue between the CFLO and the WSFPO will be maintained prior to and during the installation.
Isle of Mull Scallops	Company Fishing Liaison Officer (CFLO)	Fishing and processing company.	CFLO will engage on matters related to the project as required.
The Ethical Shellfish Company	Company Fishing Liaison Officer (CFLO)	The Ethical Shellfish Company is a hand dived scallop business based on the Isle of Mull.	CFLO will engage on matters related to the project as required.

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Cable specific stakeholder	SHEPD point of contact	Role	Details
Tobermory Mussel Farm	Company Fisheries Liaison Officer (CFLO)	Operator of the Tobermory Bay site (Mull)	CFLO will engage on matters related to the project as required.
R.B & S.L Barlow	Company Fisheries Liaison Officer (CFLO)	Operator of the Acairseid Mhor site (Mull)	CFLO will engage on matters related to the project as required.
Isle of Mull Oysters	Company Fisheries Liaison Officer (CFLO)	Operator of the Poll Athach site (Mull)	CFLO will engage on matters related to the project as required.
Craignure pier - Harbour office	Company Fisheries Liaison Officer (CFLO)	Management of the pier under the authority of the Argyll and Bute Council	CFLO will engage on matters related to the project as required.
Oban North Pier - Harbour office	Company Fisheries Liaison Officer (CFLO)	Management of the pier under the authority of the Argyll and Bute Council	CFLO will engage on matters related to the project as required.
Oban Marina	Company Fisheries Liaison Officer (CFLO)	Oban Marina is situated opposite Oban on the island of Kerrera and is conveniently located for vessels on passage or cruising the West Coast.	CFLO will engage on matters related to the project as required.
Puffin Dive Centre	Company Fisheries Liaison Officer (CFLO)	Puffin Dive Centre provides both Recreational and Commercial Diver Training throughout the year - Oban	CFLO will engage on matters related to the project as required.

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Cable specific stakeholder	SHEPD point of contact	Role	Details
Saint Hilda Sea Adventures	Company Fisheries Liaison Officer (CFLO)	Motor cruising provider	CFLO will engage on matters related to the project as required.
Turus Mara	Company Fisheries Liaison Officer (CFLO)	Wildlife and seabird cruise tours from Ulva Ferry, Mull and from Oban.	CFLO will engage on matters related to the project as required.
Blackhouse Watersport	Company Fisheries Liaison Officer (CFLO)	Marine leisure activities provider on Tiree	CFLO will engage on matters related to the project as required.
Kerrera Development Trust	Company Fisheries Liaison Officer (CFLO)	The Isle of Kerrera Development Trust aims to represent the views of the residents, and to initiate and develop projects that will benefit the island, both for the community and for its visitors.	CFLO will engage on matters related to the project as required.
Mull and Iona Community Trust	Company Fisheries Liaison Officer (CFLO)	Mull and Iona Community Trust is a locally based organisation focused on improving the quality of life for the residents of Mull and Iona.	CFLO will engage on matters related to the project as required.
Oban Sailing Club	Company Fisheries Liaison Officer (CFLO)	Sailing club	CFLO will engage on matters related to the project as required.

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Cable specific stakeholder	SHEPD point of contact	Role	Details
Kayak Wild Islay	Company Fisheries Liaison Officer (CFLO)	Sea kayaking trips around Islay, based in Port Ellen	CFLO will engage on matters related to the project as required.
Islay Sea Adventures	Company Fisheries Liaison Officer (CFLO)	Wildlife and fishing boat trips on a 38ft revenge charter	CFLO will engage on matters related to the project as required.
Fyne Pioneer	Company Fisheries Liaison Officer (CFLO)	Dive charters operating around Jura and Islay and the Clyde	CFLO will engage on matters related to the project as required.
The Majestic Line – West Coast Cruises	Company Fisheries Liaison Officer (CFLO)	A luxury cruise liner which operates a 10-night cruise from Islay, Jura and the Southern Hebrides and a 6-day cruise for the isles of Clyde and Southern Hebrides	CFLO will engage on matters related to the project as required.
Hebridean Island Cruises	Company Fisheries Liaison Officer (CFLO)	Offers luxury cruises across the Hebrides including visiting Jura and Islay	CFLO will engage on matters related to the project as required.
Linnhe Marina	Company Fisheries Liaison Officer (CFLO)	Linnhe Marine is a marina situated in Dallens Bay which is sheltered by Shuna Island, just north of Lismore Island in Loch Linnhe on the West Coast of Scotland.	CFLO will engage on matters related to the project as required.

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Cable specific stakeholder	SHEPD point of contact	Role	Details
SeaXplorer	Company Fisheries Liaison Officer (CFLO)	Coastal wildlife boat tour operator based in Glencoe offering trips along the West Coast of Scotland.	CFLO will engage on matters related to the project as required.
Lochaber Yacht Club	Company Fisheries Liaison Officer (CFLO)	Sailing club based in Fort William, operating around Loch Linnhe.	CFLO will engage on matters related to the project as required.
Ferguson Transport and Shipping	Company Fisheries Liaison Officer (CFLO)	Logistics and shipping company based in Lochaber.	CFLO will engage on matters related to the project as required.
Lochaline Dive Centre	Company Fisheries Liaison Officer (CFLO)	Dive club based in Lochaline.	CFLO will engage on matters related to the project as required.
Dive Oban and Argyll	Company Fisheries Liaison Officer (CFLO)	Dive club based in Dunbeg.	CFLO will engage on matters related to the project as required.
Isle of Man Fishermen	Company Fisheries Liaison Officer (CFLO)	Association of fishermen based on the Isle of Man, some of which regularly fish off the West Coast of Scotland.	CFLO will engage on matters related to the project as required.
Toward Sailing club	Company Fisheries Liaison Officer (CFLO)	Sailing club based at the southern-most point of the Cowal Peninsula in Argyll.	CFLO will engage on matters related to the project as required.

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Cable specific stakeholder	SHEPD point of contact	Role	Details
Mallaig and North West Fishermen's Association	Company Fisheries Liaison Officer (CFLO)	Association of fishermen based in Mallaig. One of the founding members of the Scottish Fishermen's Federation.	CFLO will engage on matters related to the project as required.
Isle of Mull Fishermen's Association	Company Fisheries Liaison Officer (CFLO)	Association representing the fishermen of Mull.	CFLO will engage on matters related to the project as required.

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6 Commercial Fishing

- 6.1 This section summarises the existing commercial fishing activity in relation to the subsea submarine electricity cable assets. For the purposes of these interaction tables, named cables with multiple components (e.g. Mainland-Kerrera and Mainland-Kerrera 2) are treated as one. Commercial fishing activity is defined as the activity undertaken by licensed fishing vessels for the capture and sale of finfish and shellfish. The commercial fishing overview will focus specifically on those fleets which are active in areas relevant to the identified cables. The commercial fisheries charts are given in Appendix C (Figure 2 to Figure 16).
- 6.2 Commercial fishing in European Union (EU) waters was subject to numerous controls and regulations at European, national and local levels under the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP). In 2021, the UK left the EU and the CFP, with fisheries in the UK now governed by the Fisheries Act (2020). Relations with the EU, including TACs and quotas are governed under the EU – UK Trade and Cooperation Agreement (24/12/2020). Controls and regulations remain in place under the Fisheries Act, with direct impacts on fishing effort, landings weights and values. The main bodies regulating fishing in sea areas in which the cable is located is Marine Scotland (MS) and the Inshore Fisheries Management and Conservation (IFMAC) through national and regional regulations, and regional Inshore Fisheries Groups (rIFGs).
- 6.3 The 19 cables are located within International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES) rectangles 42E3, 42E4, 41E3, 41E4, 40E3 and 40E4 (Figure 1). Pressure stocks are managed by ICES Division and quota is also allocated at this scale. Fishing data are recorded, collated and analysed by ICES rectangles within each division. ICES rectangles are the smallest spatial unit available for the collation of fishing data and have therefore been used to define the analysis areas for the proposed cable replacements.
- 6.4 The Argyll submarine electricity cables are sited within the 6nm limit, within which the UK has exclusive fishing rights. The territorial fishing limits of the UK extend out to 12nm, within which only the vessels of the UK or vessels from other states with historical rights are entitled to legally fish.
- 6.5 There is no single data source or recognised model for establishing a baseline of commercial fishing activity within discrete sea areas such as those encompassed by the footprint of submarine electricity cables. The overview has therefore been derived using data and information from a number of sources. In addition to analysis of fisheries statistical datasets, emphasis has been placed on undertaking direct consultation with the relevant national fishermen's federations, local associations and skippers whose fishing grounds are located within the vicinity of the cable corridor.
- 6.6 The key data sources used to characterise the baseline of the commercial fishing receptors are summarised in Table 5. It should be noted that Vessel Monitoring Systems (VMS) datasets show activity for the over-15m fleet only and will therefore underrepresent total fishing activity. It is considered that the surveillance sightings and effort data will be more representative as vessels working in the vicinity of the cable corridors will often be under 10m vessels.

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Table 5 Commercial fishing key data sources

Data	Year	Coverage	Confidence	Notes
UK Marine Management Organisation (MMO) Fishing Statistics (landings values data)	2015 to 2019	UK vessels landing into UK and European ports. Non-UK vessels landing into UK ports.	High	Landings data provided by value (£).
UK MMO Surveillance Sightings	2016 to 2020	Sightings of vessels by gear type (all nationalities) recorded in UK waters on weekly surveillance fly overs during daylight hours.	Medium to high	May underestimate total extent of fishing activity due to flyover frequency and timing. Data for 2016-2017 is provided by the MMO, whilst data for 2018-2020 is from Marine Scotland.
UK MMO Satellite Tracking (VMS) Data	2015 to 2019	Aggregated VMS pings recorded in 0.05° by 0.05° grids from UK vessels only in European waters. Only vessels over 15m.	High	VMS provided by value (£). As dataset limited to vessels over 15m this will not be indicative of the inshore fleet.
European Marine Observation and Data Network (EMODnet)	2019	The maps are based on AIS data purchased by CLS and show shipping density in 1km*1km cells of a grid covering all EU waters (and some neighbouring areas). Density is expressed as hours per square kilometre per month. The following ship types have been covered in this dataset: other, fishing, service, dredging or underwater ops, sailing, pleasure craft, high speed craft, tug and towing, passenger, cargo, tanker, military and law enforcement, unknown and all ship types.	Low - High	EMODnet Vessel Density Maps were created by COGEA in 2020 in the framework of EMODnet Human Activities, an initiative funded by the EU Commission.
The Loch Sunart to the Sound of Jura Marine Conservation Order 2016, legislation.gov.uk	2016	Indicates areas in which the use of certain types of fishing gear are prohibited within Loch Sunart and the Sound of Jura, some of which are closed year-round and others on a seasonal basis.	High	Coordinates of the restriction boundaries detailed in the order have been digitised and represented graphically as shapefiles in the appropriate interaction chart.

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- 6.7 The potential fishing activity methods in the vicinity of the Argyll cables are reviewed in order to assess possible interaction scenarios. A brief characterisation of the fishing methods identified in the area around the Argyll cable corridors, with a description of the gear and photographic examples of the types of vessels is given in Table 11.
- 6.8 Surveillance sightings by method have recorded predominately potters (creelers)/whelkers, scallop dredgers and demersal stern trawling activity in the vicinity of the cables. Almost all of these are UK-registered vessels (Figure 2 and Figure 3). This is summarised in Table 6.

Table 6 MMO Surveillance Sightings, 2016 -2020

Cable Name	Interaction on chart	Notes
Mainland – Kerrera (1 and 2)	Yes	There is a single sighting of a trawler adjacent to the cables, with moderate levels of potters/whelkers and low levels of demersal stern trawlers and scallop dredgers (French-Newhaven type) within a 10km radius.
Mainland - Lismore	Yes	There is a single potter/whelker sighting within 300m of the cable. Within a 10km radius, there are low levels of activity from potters/whelkers, demersal stern trawlers and trawlers.
Eilean Loain	No	Within 10km radius there are low levels of activity from potters/whelkers.
Mainland - Jura	No	Moderate levels of scallop dredgers (French/Newhaven type) in the vicinity of the cable, with lower levels of potter/whelker, demersal stern trawler and trawler (all) sightings within a 10km radius.
Seil Easdale	No	Within 10km radius there are moderate levels of activity from potters/whelkers, and low levels of activity from scallop dredgers (French/Newhaven type) and demersal stern trawlers. There is a single Irish pelagic stern trawler sighting recorded.
Eilean Righ	Yes	Overlaps with low potting activity.
Kerrera - Mull (2 and replacement)	Yes	Moderate levels of potter/whelker activity, and two scallop dredgers (French/Newhaven type) over the cable route, with lower levels of demersal stern trawler and trawler (all) activity within 10km.
Kintyre - Gigha	Yes	Moderate levels of potter/whelker activity in the vicinity of the cable, with trawler (all), demersal stern trawler and scallop dredger (French/Newhaven type) sightings within a 10km radius.
Coll - Tiree	No	Within 10km radius there are low levels of activity from scallop dredgers (French/Newhaven type), trawlers (all), demersal stern trawlers and a single hand gathering/hand lining sighting.
Islay - Colonsay	No	Low levels of scallop dredger (French/Newhaven type), potter/whelker and hand gathering/hand lining activity in the vicinity of the cable, with additional sightings of unknown vessel type nearby. A single sighting of an Irish potter/whelker is within 10km of the cable.
Islay - Orsay	No	Within 10km radius there is a single scallop dredger (French/Newhaven type) sighting.
Jura - Islay	No	Within 10km radius there are low levels of activity from scallop dredgers (French/Newhaven type), demersal stern trawlers and a potter/whelker.

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Mull - Calve Island	No	Low levels of scallop dredger (French/Newhaven type), potter/whelker and trawler activity in the vicinity of the cable. Two Irish trawlers were sighted within 10km of the cable.
Mull - Coll	Yes	Moderate levels of scallop dredger (French/Newhaven type) activity over the cable route, with lower levels of trawler and potter/whelker activity. A single Irish pelagic stern trawler has been sighted within 10km of the cable.
Mull - Ulva	No	
Mull - Iona	No	Within 10km radius there are potters/whelkers, trawlers (all) and demersal stern trawlers sighted.
Bridgend Islay	No	

- 6.9 MMO landings values data (£) shows that across all ICES rectangles in which the cables are located (42E3, 42E4, 41E3, 41E4, 40E3 and 40E4), the main gears are pots (creels) and traps, demersal trawls/seines and dredges (Figure 4).
- 6.10 Figure 5 indicates that over half of the landing values are derived from Nephrops in the Argyll region, with approximately 20% derived from scallops. Note that in ICES 40E3 and 41E3, there is a significant proportion of landings from edible crabs (49% and 37% of the total landings for their respective ICES rectangles).
- 6.11 Over 60% of the overall landings values from the area are from the over 10m fleet, with 36% from the 10m and under fleet (Figure 6). Amongst individual ICES rectangles in the region this proportion varies, however, with the majority of vessels in both ICES 42E4 and 41E4 in the under 10m category.
- 6.12 Table 7 summarises this data by ICES rectangle.

Table 7 MMO landings value (£) 2015 - 2019 by species, gear type and vessel length

ICES rectangle	Cable Name	Interaction on chart	Notes
42E3	Coll - Tiree	Yes	Average of £4,741,123 landings value per year. Demersal trawls/seines constitute the majority of landings, with pots and traps and dredges also returning substantial landings. The main species landed is Nephrops, followed by scallops. The vessels returning these landings are primarily above 10m in length.
	Mull - Calve Island	Yes	
	Mull - Coll	Yes	
42E4	Mainland - Lismore	Yes	Average of £1,491,457 landings value per year. Pots and traps make up the majority of landings, with smaller landings from demersal trawls/seines and dredges. The primary species landed is Nephrops, followed by scallops and other demersal fish. The largest proportion of vessels returning these catches are 10m and under.
41E3	Mull - Ulva	Yes	Average of £ 3,475,686 landings value per year. Pots and traps is the primary method used, followed by demersal trawls. Crabs and Nephrops make up the highest landings, with scallops and
	Mull - Iona	Yes	

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			lobster following. The vessels returning these landings are primarily above 10m in length.
41E4	Mainland – Kerrera (1 and 2)	Yes	Average of £4,351,216 landings value per year. The majority of landings are landed by pots and traps, with smaller landings by demersal trawls/seines and dredges. The main catch is Nephrops, scallops and crab. The largest proportion of vessels returning these catches are 10m and under.
	Eilean Loain	Yes	
	Seil Easdale	Yes	
	Mainland - Jura	Yes	
	Kerrera - Mull (2 and replacement)	Yes	
	Eilean Righ	Yes	
40E3	Bridgend Islay	Yes	Average of £2,483,729 landings value per year. Pots and traps are the primary method used, catching crab and lobster. The vessels returning these landings are primarily above 10m in length. <i>*Overlaps substantially with ICES 41E3.</i>
	Islay – Colonsay*	Yes	
	Islay - Orsay	Yes	
	Jura - Islay	Yes	
40E4	Kintyre - Gigha	Yes	Average of £8,536,599 landings value per year. Mostly demersal, some potting and smaller landings by dredges. Nephrops constitutes the majority of landings value, followed by scallops. The vessels returning these landings are primarily above 10m in length.

- 6.13 There are location specific restrictions in the vicinity of the Argyll cables, chiefly the Loch Sunart to the Sound of Jura Marine Conservation Order (MCO) 2016, which overlaps the Kerrera-Mull, Mainland-Kerrera, Seil Easdale and Mainland-Jura cables. This prohibits dredging, demersal trawling, set nets and lines activity in the area surrounding the Mainland-Jura cable, with four smaller areas in which this is allowed between 1st January-31st March and 1st October-31st December only¹¹. Two of these seasonal ‘open’ areas overlap with the landfalls of the Mainland-Jura cable, so there is a possibility that dredgers and demersal trawlers will be in operation in the vicinity of the cable during autumn and winter (Figure 7).
- 6.14 VMS by all fishing gears indicates that the Argyll Coast is an intensively fished area, with the areas surrounding the Isle of Gigha, and the areas over Mull-Coll, Islay-Colonsay, and Kerrera-Mull recording over 100 hours of fishing effort (Figure 8). No effort was recorded over Bridgend Islay. A summary of fishing effort is given in Table 8.
- 6.15 The VMS of dredging effort (Figure 9) indicates high levels of effort (over 100 hours per year) around the Isle of Gigha, over the Kintyre-Gigha cable, over the Mull-Calve Island cable and between the Isle of Mull and the Isle of Coll. Dredging effort ranges from 5-100 hours over Coll-Tiree, Islay-Colonsay, Mainland-Jura, Kerrera Mull, Eilean Loain and Seil Easdale. There are low levels (<5 hours) over Mull-Iona, Mull-Ulva, Mainland-Kerrera, Mainland-Lismore, Islay-Orsay, Eilean Righ, Jura-Islay and Bridgend Islay.

¹¹ Scottish Statutory Instruments 2016 No. 90, Environmental Protection - Marine Management: *The Loch Sunart to the Sound of Jura Marine Conservation Order 2016*, available: <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ssi/2016/90/made>

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- 6.16 High levels of mobile gear fishing effort (Figure 10), of an average of over 100 hours per year, were recorded over Mull-Coll, Mull-Calve Island, Islay-Colonsay, Kintyre-Gigha and Kerrera Mull. A range of effort levels (5-100 hours) was recorded over Mainland-Jura, Eilean Loain, Coll-Tiree, Seil Easdale, and Mainland-Lismore. There are low levels (<5 hours) over Mull-Iona, Mull-Ulva, Islay-Orsay, Mainland-Kerrera and Jura-Islay. There was no activity recorded over Eilean-Righ and Bridgend Islay.
- 6.17 As indicated earlier in this report, VMS only represents vessels over 15m in length. As a result of this the potting and creeling activity is under represented (Figure 11) as this activity is predominately undertaken by the small vessels in the fleet.

Table 8 MMO VMS effort (hours) 2015 - 2019

Cable Name	Interaction on chart	Notes
Mainland – Kerrera (1 and 2)	Yes	Average fishing effort for mobile gears 1-5 hours.
Mainland - Lismore	Yes	Average fishing effort of between 5-10 hours by mobile gear.
Eilean Loain	Yes	Average fishing effort of between 20 - 50 hours by mobile gear and dredges.
Mainland - Jura	Yes	Average fishing effort for mobile gears and dredges between 1 to 100 hours, with higher effort concentrated towards the mainland.
Seil Easdale	Yes	Average fishing effort for mobile gears and dredges between 1- 50 hours.
Eilean Righ	No	
Kerrera - Mull (2 and replacement)	Yes	Average fishing effort of between 1-20 hours by dredges, with up to 100+ hours for mobile gears.
Kintyre - Gigha	Yes	Fishing effort for mobile gear and dredges on average from 20 to over 100 hours.
Coll - Tiree	Yes	The majority of the cable route does not record fishing effort. The landfall at Tiree records an average fishing effort between 50 and 100 hours for dredging and mobile gears.
Islay - Colonsay	Yes	Average fishing effort of up to 100+ hours for mobile gear, and 1-20 hours for dredging. Effort increases closer to Colonsay.
Islay - Orsay	Yes	Average fishing effort for mobile gears and dredges 1-5 hours.
Jura - Islay		Average fishing effort for mobile gears and dredges 1-5 hours.
Mull - Calve Island	Yes	High levels of fishing activity (over 100 hours on average) by dredges and mobile gears.
Mull - Coll	Yes	High levels of fishing activity (over 100 hours on average) by dredges and mobile gears.
Mull - Ulva	Yes	Average fishing effort between 1 – 5 hours for mobile gears.
Mull - Iona	Yes	Average fishing effort for mobile gears 1-5 hours.
Bridgend Islay	No	

- 6.18 VMS dredging values (Figure 13) show the highest levels of value (more than £35,000 average per year) over Mull-Coll and Mainland-Jura, with lower values elsewhere over the cables. There are no landings values recorded over Bridgend Islay.
- 6.19 VMS value by mobile gear (Figure 14) indicates the highest values (over £35,000) are similarly over Mull-Coll and Mainland-Jura, with moderate-high values (£20,000-£35,000) recorded over

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Islay-Colonsay, Kintyre-Gigha and Kerrera-Mull and lower values elsewhere over the cables. There are no landings values recorded over Bridgend Islay.

- 6.20 As has been previously indicated, VMS value by pots and traps will underestimate the contribution of potting/trapping to landings values as it is largely undertaken by vessels under 15m in length, though there is a small patch of value (<£1,000) to the immediate west of Islay-Colonsay (Figure 15).

Table 9 MMO VMS landings value (£) 2015 - 2019

Cable Name	Interaction on chart	Notes
Mainland – Kerrera (1 and 2)	Yes	Average landings value between £1,000 and £3,000 per year for mobile gear, and <£1,000 for dredges.
Mainland - Lismore	Yes	Average landings value of <£1,000 per year for mobile gear.
Eilean Loain	Yes	Average landings value of £10,000 - £20,000 per year for dredging and mobile gears.
Mainland - Jura	Yes	Average landings value between £1,000 and £35,000 per year along the cable by dredges and mobile gears, with higher values concentrated toward the mainland.
Seil Easdale	Yes	Average landings value between £1,000 and £6,000 per year for dredges and mobile gears.
Eilean Righ	No	
Kerrera - Mull (2 and replacement)	Yes	Average landings value between £1,000 and £35,000 per year for mobile gears, and <£1,000-£3,000 for dredging.
Kintyre - Gigha	Yes	Average landings value between £6,000 and £20,000 for dredges.
Coll - Tiree	Yes	Average landings value of between <£1,000 and £20,000 per year for dredging and mobile gears, with lower values (<£1,000 at Coll landfall).
Islay - Colonsay	Yes	Average landings value of between <£1,000 and £35,000 per year along the cable for mobile gears, with higher concentration in the northern half of the cable route.
Islay - Orsay	Yes	Average landings value <£1,000 per year for dredging and mobile gear.
Jura - Islay	Yes	Average landings value of <£1,000 per year for dredging and mobile gear.
Mull - Calve Island	Yes	Average landings value of between £20,000 to £35,000 per year for dredges over the cable.
Mull - Coll	Yes	High average landings value of £20,000 to +£35,000 per year for dredges and mobile gear over the cable.
Mull - Ulva	Yes	Average landings value between £1,000 and £3,000 per year for mobile gears.
Mull - Iona	Yes	Average landings value of <£1,000 per year for mobile gear.
Bridgend Islay	No	

EMODnet fishing vessel AIS density (Figure 16) shows generally very low to medium levels of activity (< 5 hours per km² per month).

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Table 10 EMODnet AIS vessel density (fishing) 2019

Cable Name	Interaction on chart	Notes
Mainland – Kerrera (1 and 2)	Yes	Average of <1-2 hours of AIS activity per square km per month along the whole cable.
Mainland - Lismore	Yes	Very low density over the cable (<0.5 hours per square km per month).
Eilean Loain	No	
Mainland - Jura	Yes	Average of 0 – 0.5 hours of AIS activity per square km per month along the whole cable.
Seil Easdale	Yes	Very low density over the cable (<0.5 hours per square km per month).
Eilean Rìgh	No	
Kerrera - Mull (2 and replacement)	Yes	Average of 0 to 5 hours of AIS activity per square km per month along the whole cable.
Kintyre - Gigha	Yes	Average of 0.5 hours of AIS activity per square km per month along the whole cable.
Coll - Tiree	Yes	Average of 2 hours of AIS activity per square km per month along the whole cable.
Islay - Colonsay	Yes	No activity recorded along the majority of the cable, except average of 5 hours of AIS activity per square km per month close to landfall on Colonsay.
Islay - Orsay	Yes	Average of 2 hours of AIS activity per square km per month over and around the cable.
Jura - Islay	Yes	Average of 0.5 hours of AIS activity per square km per month.
Mull - Calve Island	Yes	Very low levels over the cable (<0.5 hours per square km per month). Adjacent to area of higher activity.
Mull - Coll	Yes	Average of 0 to 2 hours of AIS activity per square km per month, concentrated in the centre of the cable.
Mull - Ulva	No	
Mull - Iona	Yes	Very low levels over the cable (≤0.5 hours per square km per month). Adjacent to an area of moderate activity (5 hours) at the Mull landfall.
Bridgend Islay	Yes	Most of the cable records no activity, but the eastern section of the cable averages 18 hours per square km per month.

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Table 11 Characterisation of the fishing methods in the area

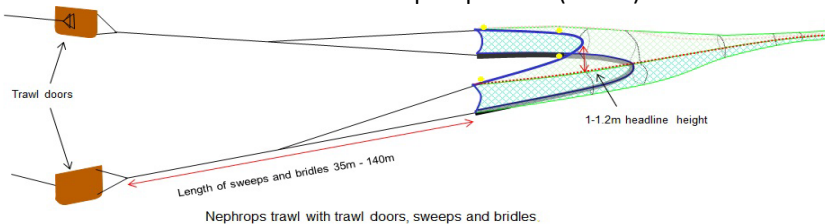
Fishing gear	Description	Pictorial representation
Creeling (potting)	Creels (pots) are static traps commonly baited with low value fish such as mackerel, herring, and dogfish. Creels are the principal method used to target active scavenging crustaceans such as brown crab, velvet crab, lobster, Nephrops, green crab and whelks. A number of pots are set on a main line anchored to the seabed and marked with a buoy or a 'dhan' (flag and buff) at either end. The number of pots per string can vary from 5-50. Vessels generally work between 200-500 pots at sea, which are fished on a continuous cycle to maintain cover of the ground. Fishing effort follows a seasonal pattern with activity varying to shelter from adverse weather conditions, react to seasonal changes and exploit target species. Nephrops, crab and lobster are targeted by creelers in the Argyll area. Creel boats in the area are predominately small under 10m such as the vessel indicated in the pictorial representation (right).	 © A. MacLennan MarineTraffic.com Source: MarineTraffic (A MacLennan) - Creeler off Tayvallich.

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Fishing gear	Description	Pictorial representation
Scallop Dredging	A small local fleet and nomadic vessels (vessels that fish all around the UK, whose movements are influenced by season, management restrictions and spawning times) dredge along the Argyll Coast and associated islands targeting scallops, with boats operating from small ports in this area including Mallaig, Tobermory and Oban.¹² Each dredge consists of a ruggedly constructed triangular steel frame and a tooth bar, behind which a mat of linked steel rings is secured. Heavy netting is laced into the frame to form a bag into which the catch is retained. As scallops usually lie recessed in sand and fine gravel, they are raked out by the teeth and swept into the bag. A number of dredges are attached to a bar fitted with bridles and is towed using a single warp. The dredges are usually deployed from outrigger booms. The number of dredges deployed varies with the size of the vessel, with the maximum number permitted being eight aside (16 in total).	 Source: Trawler pics - Scalloper

¹² <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/vessel-lists-over-10-metres> (accessed 13th January 2021)

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Fishing gear	Description	Pictorial representation
Demersal otter trawlers and Nephrops trawls	Otter trawls are a basic funnel shaped net tapering towards the cod-end, with the sides of the net extended to form wings which herd the fish into the net. The net is held open by trawl doors which are designed to flow through the water at an angle causing them to spread away from each other and therefore opening the net horizontally. The net is held open vertically by the ballooning effect of the net and by a series of floats attached to the headline. The ground lines of nets are weighted to maintain contact with the seabed and can vary in design depending on the type of ground fished. Nephrops are the most common species targeted by demersal trawlers in Argyll. Specifically designed Nephrops trawls are also used to target this species. A long winged low net, with light weight gear is towed over predominantly soft muddy grounds. This net is designed so that the relatively fragile bottom of the net (known as the fishing line) skims a few inches off the seabed with the leaded bights of grass rope trailing on the seabed encouraging Nephrops into the net. These nets differ little from white fish gear apart from being lighter rigged with a smaller mesh size.	 Source: Finlay Oman, Clyde Fishermen's Association – Clyde trawler (above)  Source: Seafish – Demersal trawl – Nephrops trawl (below)

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7 Other Sea Users

- 7.1 This section of the report provides a brief overview of other sea users in relation to the submarine electricity cable assets. For the purposes of these interaction tables, named cables with multiple components (e.g. Mainland-Kerrera and Mainland-Kerrera 2) are treated as one. Other sea users that may be affected by cable replacement works include:
- Aquaculture
 - Marine Archaeology
 - Wave and Tidal developments
 - Ferries
 - Shipping
 - Sailing
 - Recreational: sailing, diving, boating, angling, canoeing/kayaking, bird and wildlife watching, visits to historic sites or to attractions, swimming
 - MoD
 - Conservation sites/areas
 - Telecommunications
 - Subsea cables
- 7.2 There is no single data source or recognised model for determining the activity of all other sea users within discrete sea areas such as those encompassed by the footprint of sub-sea cables. It is beyond the scope of this report to produce a complete baseline overview for all other sea users therefore data and information are derived from assessments utilised by regional marine spatial plans and the PAC report.
- 7.3 AIS vessel density data for all vessels in 2019 has been published by EMODnet, showing hours of activity per km² per month (Figure 17). The highest activity (average of 100+ hours of AIS activity per km² per month) can be seen over Mull-Calve Island, followed by Mainland-Lismore, Mainland-Kerrera, Mull-Ulva, the mainland landfall section of Mainland-Jura, and adjacent to Mull-Iona (20-100 hours). There is an area of high AIS vessel density at the Colonsay landfall of the Islay-Colonsay cable, though there are lower levels (<30 hours per km² per month) elsewhere over the cable. Lower levels (<20 hours) can be seen along all of the other cables. This data has been further separated into the categories of fishing vessels (as detailed in the previous chapter), cargo vessels, high speed vessels, passenger vessels, sailing vessels, tankers and tugs, shown in Figure 16, and Figure 18-Figure 23.
- 7.4 The Scottish Marine Recreation and Tourism Survey (SMRTS) 2015¹³ and the Marine Scotland interactive Marine Plan¹⁴ have been the main sources of reference for sea users listed in Table 12. Additional data on conservation sites has been sourced from the Scottish Government SpatialData.gov.scot website, Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) Reserves web map

¹³ Scottish Marine Recreation and Tourism Survey (SMRTS) 2015; <http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0049/00497904.pdf>

¹⁴ Marine Scotland National Marine Plan Interactive; <https://marinescotland.atkinsgeospatial.com/nmpi/>

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service, European Marine Observation and Data Network (EMODnet) and the website Ports and Harbours of the UK¹⁵. Where information is available, charts of spatial activity are provided for each of the sea users defined above.

Table 12 Other sea users data sources

Data	Year	Coverage	Confidence	Notes
Marine Scotland National Marine Plan Interactive	Varied	Overall Assessment Physical Characteristics Clean and Safe Healthy and Biologically Diverse Productive Climate Change Administrative Regions National Marine Plan Aerial Photography Base Layers	Low - High	National Marine Plan interactive (NMPi) allows you to view different types of information and, where appropriate, links have been provided to the related parts of Scotland's Marine Atlas and will also be provided to the National Marine Plan in due course.
Scottish Marine Recreation and Tourism Survey (SMRTS) 2015	2015	The SMRTS survey was carried out between August and October 2015. The survey provides baseline information to inform marine planning in Scotland. More than 2100 individuals, 137 clubs and 279 businesses completed the survey, indicating areas where people conducted different activities.	Low-High	Commissioned by the Scottish Government, the Firth of Clyde Forum, Crown Estate Scotland and Scottish Coastal Forum. Aim to gather robust information on marine recreation and tourism activity around Scotland.
Scottish Government SpatialData.gov.scot	2018	National Scenic Areas (NSAs) are Scotland's only national landscape designation, and defined as areas "of outstanding scenic value in a national context" for which special protection measures are required. NSAs are broadly equivalent to the Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty found in England, Wales and Northern Ireland. There are 40 NSAs in total covering roughly 1 million hectares (13% of Scotland).	High	The designation's purpose is both to identify our finest scenery and to ensure its protection from inappropriate development.
Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC) Marine Protected Area (MPA) mapper	2021	The JNCC Marine Protected Area (MPA) mapper is an interactive resource containing information on the MPAs designated in UK and Crown Dependency waters.	High	This includes certain Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) for habitats and non-avian species and Special Protection Areas (SPAs) for birds. The JNCC MPA mapper only displays SACs and SPAs that protect the marine

¹⁵ Ports and Harbours of the UK; <http://ports.org.uk/>

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Data	Year	Coverage	Confidence	Notes
				environment - so called SACs and SPAs with 'marine components'.
Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB)	2021	All RSPB reserve boundaries.	High	The dataset contains the boundaries of all land managed, leased or owned as part of publicly accessible RSPB reserves.
European Marine Observation and Data Network (EMODnet)	2019	The maps are based on AIS data purchased by CLS and show shipping density in 1km*1km cells of a grid covering all EU waters (and some neighbouring areas). Density is expressed as hours per square kilometre per month. The following ship types have been covered in this dataset: other, fishing, service, dredging or underwater ops, sailing, pleasure craft, high speed craft, tug and towing, passenger, cargo, tanker, military and law enforcement, unknown and all ship types.	Low - High	EMODnet Vessel Density Maps were created by COGEA in 2019 in the framework of EMODnet Human Activities, an initiative funded by the EU Commission.
Ports and Harbours of the UK	2019	Online resource containing information on over 950 ports, harbours, jetties and piers around the coastline of the UK.	Low-High	The site has been compiled by a volunteer and is not an official list.
UK Marine Energy Database (UKMED)	2021	UKMED is a growing map and database of wave and tidal sites around the UK.		Compiled by RenewableUK, and includes sites that have been consented for development, and disused sites, as well as those currently operational.

7.5 The main water sports undertaken in the location of the cables are motor cruising, power boating, sailing and cruising, surfing, diving, private charter fishing, scuba diving and canoeing and kayaking. A heat map using the data collated from the Scottish Marine Recreation and Tourism Survey (SMRTS) is used to summarise all recreational activity around the Argyll cables. The recreational activities recorded in the vicinity of the submarine electricity cable assets are:

- Bird and wildlife watching
- Canoeing and kayaking
- Chartered angling
- Coasteering
- Dinghy racing
- Long distance swimming
- Motor cruising

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- Power boating
- Rowing and sculling
- Sailing and cruising
- Scuba diving
- Sea angling
- Surfing and paddle boarding
- Visits to historic sites or to attractions
- Wild fowling
- Yacht racing

7.6 Recreational activity has been assessed using regional datasets as there is little information on discrete sea areas such as those encompassed by the footprint of the Argyll submarine electricity cables.

7.7 The charts showing recreational activity are given in Appendix D (Figure 24-Figure 39). The charts showing other users (non-recreational and non-fishing) are given in Figure 40 to Figure 49.

7.8 The SMRTS 2015 survey results for bird and wildlife watching show activity levels ranging from low to high across all cable locations, with a higher concentration of activity observed around the Isle of Mull (944 people provided spatial information). This activity and possible interaction is summarised in Table 13 below and shown in Figure 24.

Table 13 Bird and wildlife watching

Cable Name	Interaction on chart	Notes
Mainland – Kerrera (1 and 2)	Yes	High levels of activity over the cables.
Mainland - Lismore	Yes	High levels of activity over the cable.
Eilean Loain	Yes	Moderate levels of activity over the cable.
Mainland - Jura	Yes	Moderate to high levels of activity over the cable.
Seil Easdale	Yes	High levels of activity over the cable.
Eilean Rìgh	Yes	Moderate levels of activity over the cable.
Kerrera - Mull (2 and replacement)	Yes	High levels of activity over the cables.
Kintyre - Gigha	Yes	Moderate levels of activity over the cable.
Coll - Tiree	Yes	Moderate to high levels of activity over the cable.
Islay - Colonsay	Yes	Moderate levels of activity over the cable.
Islay - Orsay	Yes	Low levels of activity over the cable.
Jura - Islay	Yes	Moderate levels of activity over the cable.
Mull - Calve Island	Yes	High levels of activity over the cable.
Mull - Coll	Yes	High levels of activity over the cable.
Mull - Ulva	Yes	High levels of activity over the cable.
Mull - Iona	Yes	High levels of activity over the cable.
Bridgend Islay	Yes	Moderate levels of activity over the cable.

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- 7.9 The SMRTS 2015 survey results for visits to historic sites or to attractions show activity levels ranging from very low to high in the immediate vicinity of the cables, depending on cable location (924 people provided spatial information). This activity and possible interaction is summarised in Table 14 below and shown in Figure 25.

Table 14 Visits to historic sites or to attractions

Cable Name	Interaction on chart	Notes
Mainland – Kerrera (1 and 2)	Yes	Low levels of activity over the landfall sections of the cables.
Mainland - Lismore	Yes	High levels of activity over the cable.
Eilean Loain	Yes	High levels of activity over the cable.
Mainland - Jura	Yes	Low levels of activity at the eastern landfall of the cable.
Seil Easdale	Yes	High levels of activity over the cable.
Eilean Rìgh	Yes	Low levels of activity over the cable.
Kerrera - Mull (2 and replacement)	Yes	Very low activity seen at both landfall sections of the cables.
Kintyre - Gigha	Yes	High levels of activity at the western landfall section of the cable, with very low activity elsewhere.
Coll - Tiree	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Islay - Colonsay	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Islay - Orsay	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Jura - Islay	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Mull - Calve Island	Yes	High levels of activity at each landfall section of the cable.
Mull - Coll	Yes	Very low levels of activity at the Mull landfall of the cable.
Mull - Ulva	Yes	Low levels of activity at both landfall sections of the cable.
Mull - Iona	Yes	High levels of activity at the Mull landfall section of the cable, with low activity at the Iona landfall.
Bridgend Islay	Yes	Low levels of activity at the Islay landfall of the cable.

- 7.10 The SMRTS 2015 survey results for power boating show activity levels ranging from moderate to high around the Isle of Mull and Loch Linnhe, with low to moderate levels of activity elsewhere along the cables depending on cable location (204 people provided spatial information). This activity and possible interaction is summarised in Table 15 below and shown in Figure 26.

Table 15 Power boating

Cable Name	Interaction on chart	Notes
Mainland – Kerrera (1 and 2)	Yes	High levels of activity over the cables.
Mainland - Lismore	Yes	High levels of activity over the cables, especially at the Lismore landfall.
Eilean Loain	Yes	Low levels of activity over the cable.

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Mainland - Jura	Yes	Low levels of activity at the mainland landfall of the cable, with moderate levels of activity elsewhere.
Seil Easdale	Yes	High levels of activity over the cable.
Eilean Rìgh	Yes	Low levels of activity over the cable.
Kerrera - Mull (2 and replacement)	Yes	Moderate levels of activity at the Mull landfall, graduating to high levels at the Kerrera landfall of the cables.
Kintyre - Gigha	Yes	Low levels of activity at the Gigha landfall of the cable, with no activity elsewhere.
Coll - Tiree	Yes	Low levels of activity at the Tiree landfall, with moderate levels of activity at the Coll landfall.
Islay - Colonsay	Yes	Low levels of activity at the Colonsay landfall, with moderate activity further south, including the Islay landfall.
Islay - Orsay	Yes	Low levels of activity over the cable.
Jura - Islay	Yes	Low levels of activity over the cable itself.
Mull - Calve Island	Yes	High levels of activity over the cable.
Mull - Coll	Yes	Low levels of activity ranging to high levels at the landfall on Mull.
Mull - Ulva	Yes	Moderate levels of activity over the cable.
Mull - Iona	Yes	High levels of activity seen at the Mull landfall of the cable, with moderate-high levels at the Iona landfall.
Bridgend Islay	Yes	Low levels of activity over the cable.

7.11 The SMRTS 2015 survey results for canoeing and kayaking show activity levels ranging from very low to high over all cables (418 people provided spatial information). This activity and possible interaction is summarised in Table 16 below and shown in Figure 27.

Table 16 Canoeing and kayaking

Cable Name	Interaction on chart	Notes
Mainland – Kerrera (1 and 2)	Yes	High levels of activity over the cables.
Mainland - Lismore	Yes	High levels of activity over the cable.
Eilean Loain	Yes	High levels of activity over the cable.
Mainland - Jura	Yes	Low levels of activity at the Jura landfall, with moderate to high levels to the east of the cable and at the mainland landfall.
Seil Easdale	Yes	High levels of activity over the cable.
Eilean Rìgh	Yes	High levels of activity over the cable.
Kerrera - Mull (2 and replacement)	Yes	Moderate levels of activity at the Mull landfall, with high levels of activity at the Kerrera landfall of the cables.
Kintyre - Gigha	Yes	Moderate levels of activity at the Gigha landfall, with lower activity at Kintyre landfall of the cable.
Coll - Tiree	Yes	Low to moderate levels of activity over the cable.
Islay - Colonsay	Yes	Very low to low activity at both landfall sections.
Islay - Orsay	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Jura - Islay	Yes	Lower moderate levels of activity over the cable.
Mull - Calve Island	Yes	Moderate levels of activity over the cable.

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Mull - Coll	Yes	Low levels of activity at the Coll landfall, with low to moderate levels of activity at the Mull landfall. Moderate levels of activity seen to the North of the Mull landfall.
Mull - Ulva	Yes	High levels of activity over the cable.
Mull - Iona	Yes	High levels of activity over the cable.
Bridgend Islay	Yes	Low levels of activity over the cable.

7.12 The SMRTS 2015 survey results for long distance sea swimming show activity levels ranging from very low to low in the immediate vicinity of several cable locations, depending on cable location (79 people provided spatial information). This activity and possible interaction is summarised in Table 17 below and shown in Figure 28.

Table 17 Long distance swimming

Cable Name	Interaction on chart	Notes
Mainland – Kerrera (1 and 2)	Yes	Low levels of activity over the cable.
Mainland - Lismore	Yes	Low levels of activity over the cable.
Eilean Loain	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Mainland - Jura	Yes	Low levels of activity over the cable.
Seil Easdale	Yes	Low levels of activity over the cable.
Eilean Righ	Yes	Low levels of activity over the cable.
Kerrera - Mull (2 and replacement)	Yes	Low levels of activity over the cable.
Kintyre - Gigha	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Coll - Tiree	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Islay - Colonsay	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Islay - Orsay	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Jura - Islay	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Mull - Calve Island	Yes	Low levels of activity over the cable.
Mull - Coll	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Mull - Ulva	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Mull - Iona	Yes	Low levels of activity over the cable.
Bridgend Islay	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.

7.13 The SMRTS 2015 survey results for motor cruising show activity levels ranging from very low to high levels in the immediate vicinity of the cables, depending on cable location (163 people provided spatial information). This activity and possible interaction is summarised in Table 18 below and shown in Figure 29.

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Table 18 Motor cruising

Cable Name	Interaction on chart	Notes
Mainland – Kerrera (1 and 2)	Yes	High levels of activity over the cables.
Mainland - Lismore	Yes	High levels of activity over the cable.
Eilean Loain	Yes	Low levels of activity over the cable.
Mainland - Jura	Yes	Low levels of activity at the Jura landfall, with moderate to high activity along the eastern half of the cable.
Seil Easdale	Yes	High levels of activity over the cable.
Eilean Rìgh	Yes	High levels of activity over the cable.
Kerrera - Mull (2 and replacement)	Yes	High levels of activity over the cables.
Kintyre - Gigha	Yes	High activity over the cable.
Coll - Tiree	Yes	Low to moderate levels of activity over the cable.
Islay - Colonsay	Yes	Moderate levels of activity at the Islay landfall of the cable, with very low activity elsewhere over the cable.
Islay - Orsay	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Jura - Islay	Yes	Low levels of activity over the cable.
Mull - Calve Island	Yes	High levels of activity over the cable.
Mull - Coll	Yes	Low to moderate levels of activity directly over the cable.
Mull - Ulva	Yes	Low to moderate levels of activity over the cable.
Mull - Iona	Yes	High levels of activity over the cable.
Bridgend Islay	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.

- 7.14 The SMRTS 2015 survey results for sailing and cruising show activity levels ranging from low to high in the immediate vicinity of the cables, depending on cable location (542 people provided spatial information). This activity and possible interactions is summarised in Table 19 below and shown in Figure 30.

Table 19 Sailing and cruising

Cable Name	Interaction on chart	Notes
Mainland – Kerrera (1 and 2)	Yes	High levels of activity over the cables.
Mainland - Lismore	Yes	High levels of activity over the cable.
Eilean Loain	Yes	High levels of activity over the cable.
Mainland - Jura	Yes	High levels of activity over the cable.
Seil Easdale	Yes	High levels of activity over the cable.
Eilean Rìgh	Yes	High levels of activity over the cable.
Kerrera - Mull (2 and replacement)	Yes	High levels of activity over the cables.
Kintyre - Gigha	Yes	High levels of activity over the majority of the cable, with moderate levels over the Kintyre landfall of the cable.

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Coll - Tiree	Yes	Low levels of activity over the cable.
Islay - Colonsay	Yes	Low to moderate levels of activity over the cable.
Islay - Orsay	Yes	Low to moderate levels of activity over the cable.
Jura - Islay	Yes	Moderate to high levels of activity over the cable.
Mull - Calve Island	Yes	High levels of activity over the cable.
Mull - Coll	Yes	Moderate to high levels of activity over the cable.
Mull - Ulva	Yes	Low levels of activity over the cable.
Mull - Iona	Yes	High levels of activity over the cable.
Bridgend Islay	Yes	Low levels of activity over the cable.

7.15 The SMRTS 2015 survey results for chartered angling show activity levels ranging from very low to high in the immediate vicinity of the cables, with higher activity observed closer to the mainland of Scotland (353 people provided spatial information). This activity and possible interactions is summarised in Table 20 below and shown in Figure 31.

Table 20 Chartered angling

Cable Name	Interaction on chart	Notes
Mainland – Kerrera (1 and 2)	Yes	High levels of activity over the cables.
Mainland - Lismore	Yes	Moderate to high levels of activity over the cable.
Eilean Loain	Yes	Low levels of activity over the cable.
Mainland - Jura	Yes	Moderate levels of activity over the cable, though there is a small area of high activity near the nearshore mainland section of the cable.
Seil Easdale	Yes	High levels of activity over the cables.
Eilean Righ	Yes	Low to moderate levels of activity over the cable.
Kerrera - Mull (2 and replacement)	Yes	Moderate to high levels of activity over the cable, with high activity towards Mull.
Kintyre - Gigha	Yes	Low levels of activity over the cable.
Coll - Tiree	Yes	Very low to low levels of activity over the cable.
Islay - Colonsay	Yes	Low levels of activity over the cable.
Islay - Orsay	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Jura - Islay	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Mull - Calve Island	Yes	High levels of activity over the cable.
Mull - Coll	Yes	Low levels of activity over the cable.
Mull - Ulva	Yes	Moderate to high levels of activity over the cable.
Mull - Iona	Yes	Low levels of activity over the cable.
Bridgend Islay	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.

7.16 The SMRTS 2015 survey results for sea angling from shore show mostly very low to low levels of activity in the immediate vicinity of the cables depending on cable location, with high levels of activity observed around Kerrera (368 people provided spatial information). This activity and possible interactions is summarised in Table 21 below and shown in Figure 32.

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Table 21 Sea angling from shore

Cable Name	Interaction on chart	Notes
Mainland – Kerrera (1 and 2)	Yes	High levels of activity over the cables.
Mainland - Lismore	Yes	Low levels of activity over the cable. Pockets of moderate and high activity south of the cable.
Eilean Loain	Yes	Low to moderate levels of activity over the cable.
Mainland - Jura	Yes	Very low levels of activity, with pocket of low activity towards the mainland end of the cable.
Seil Easdale	Yes	Very low levels of activity directly over the cable, though there is a hotspot of moderate activity immediately north of the cable.
Eilean Righ	Yes	Very low to low levels of activity over the cable.
Kerrera - Mull (2 and replacement)	Yes	Moderate to high activity at the Kerrera landfall section of the cables, with very low levels of activity elsewhere along the cable.
Kintyre - Gigha	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Coll - Tiree	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Islay - Colonsay	Yes	Small pocket of low activity towards the centre of the cable route, with very low activity elsewhere along the route.
Islay - Orsay	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Jura - Islay	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Mull - Calve Island	Yes	Low to moderate levels of activity directly over the cable, though there is an area of high activity approximately 800m north of the cable.
Mull - Coll	Yes	Very low to low levels of activity over the cable. There is a hotspot of low to moderate activity adjacent to the Mull landfall of the cable.
Mull - Ulva	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Mull - Iona	Yes	Very low levels of activity directly over the cable, with an area of low activity adjacent to the south of the cable.
Bridgend Islay	Yes	Very low to low levels of activity over the cable.

- 7.17 The SMRTS 2015 survey results for surfing/paddle boarding show moderate to high levels of activity in Loch Linnhe and around Kerrera and between the mainland and Jura, with very low to no activity elsewhere along the cables (201 people provided spatial information). This activity and possible interactions is summarised in Table 22 below and shown in Figure 33.

Table 22 Surfing and paddle boarding

Cable Name	Interaction on chart	Notes
Mainland – Kerrera (1 and 2)	Yes	High levels of activity over the cables.
Mainland - Lismore	Yes	Moderate to high levels of activity over the cable.
Eilean Loain	Yes	Low to moderate levels of activity over the cable.
Mainland - Jura	Yes	Moderate to high levels of activity over the cable, with high activity concentrated towards the mainland landfall of the cable.

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Seil Easdale	Yes	High levels of activity over the cable.
Eilean Rìgh	Yes	High levels of activity over the cable.
Kerrera - Mull (2 and replacement)	Yes	Moderate to high levels of activity over the cable, with high activity at the Kerrera landfall of the cables.
Kintyre - Gigha	Yes	Low levels of activity over the cable.
Coll - Tiree	No	
Islay - Colonsay	Yes	No activity over the majority over the cable, though there is a small area of low activity at the Islay landfall of the cable.
Islay - Orsay	No	
Jura - Islay	Yes	Low levels of activity over the cable.
Mull - Calve Island	Yes	Low levels of activity over the cable.
Mull - Coll	Yes	Low levels of activity over the cable.
Mull - Ulva	Yes	Low levels of activity over the cable.
Mull - Iona	No	
Bridgend Islay	No	

7.18 The SMRTS 2015 survey results for yacht racing show activity levels ranging from low to high in the immediate vicinity of all cables (depending on cable location) except Islay-Orsay and Bridgend Islay. The highest concentration of activity in the area appears to be around the Isle of Mull and associated cables. 26 people provided spatial information on yacht racing. This activity and possible interactions is summarised in Table 23 below and shown in Figure 34.

Table 23 Yacht racing

Cable Name	Interaction on chart	Notes
Mainland – Kerrera (1 and 2)	Yes	High levels of activity over the cables.
Mainland - Lismore	Yes	Low to moderate levels of activity over the cable, though there is a patch of moderate to high activity approximately 2.2km south of the cable.
Eilean Loain	Yes	Low levels of activity over the cable.
Mainland - Jura	Yes	Low levels of activity over the cable.
Seil Easdale	Yes	High levels of activity over the cable.
Eilean Rìgh	Yes	Low to moderate levels of activity over the cable.
Kerrera - Mull (2 and replacement)	Yes	High levels of activity over the cables.
Kintyre - Gigha	Yes	Low to moderate levels of activity over the cables.
Coll - Tiree	Yes	Very low to low levels of activity over the cable.
Islay - Colonsay	Yes	Very low to low levels of activity over the cable.
Islay - Orsay	No	
Jura - Islay	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Mull - Calve Island	Yes	High levels of activity over the cable.
Mull - Coll	Yes	High levels of activity at the Mull nearshore and landfall section of the cable, with very low to low activity towards the Coll landfall of the cable.
Mull - Ulva	Yes	High levels of activity over the cable.

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Mull - Iona	Yes	High levels of activity over the cable.
Bridgend Islay	No	

7.19 The SMRTS 2015 survey results for dinghy racing show almost no dinghy racing activity over the cables, though there are areas of very low activity over the Coll-Tiree and Mainland-Kerrera (88 people provided spatial information). This activity and possible interactions is summarised in Table 24 below and shown in Figure 35.

Table 24 Dinghy racing

Cable Name	Interaction on chart	Notes
Mainland – Kerrera (1 and 2)	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable, though there is a small pocket of high activity approximately 2km north of the cable.
Mainland - Lismore	No	
Eilean Loain	No	
Mainland - Jura	No	
Seil Easdale	No	
Eilean Righ	Possible	No activity directly over the cable, though there is an area of very low activity adjacent to the north of the cable.
Kerrera - Mull (2 and replacement)	No	There is an area of very low activity approximately 1.1km east of the cable.
Kintyre - Gigha	No	
Coll - Tiree	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the Tiree landfall of the cable.
Islay - Colonsay	No	
Islay - Orsay	No	
Jura - Islay	No	
Mull - Calve Island	No	
Mull - Coll	No	
Mull - Ulva	No	
Mull - Iona	No	
Bridgend Islay	No	

7.20 The SMRTS 2015 survey results for coasteering show high activity over Mull-Coll, Mull-Iona, Mainland-Kerrera, Eilean Loain, Seil Easdale, Mainland-Lismore and Kerrera-Mull with very low levels of activity over all other cables (238 people provided spatial information). This activity and possible interactions is summarised in Table 25 below and shown in Figure 36.

Table 25 Coasteering

Cable Name	Interaction on chart	Notes
Mainland – Kerrera (1 and 2)	Yes	High levels of activity over the cables.
Mainland - Lismore	Yes	There is a hotspot of moderate-high activity over the cable, around Lismore landfall.

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Eilean Loain	Yes	Moderate to high levels of activity over the cable.
Mainland - Jura	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Seil Easdale	Yes	High levels of activity over the cable.
Eilean Righ	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Kerrera - Mull (2 and replacement)	Yes	High levels of activity over the nearshore Kerrera section of the cable, with very low levels of activity towards the Mull end of the cable.
Kintyre - Gigha	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Coll - Tiree	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Islay - Colonsay	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Islay - Orsay	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Jura - Islay	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Mull - Calve Island	Yes	Very low levels of activity directly over the cable, though there is a hotspot of moderate-high activity approximately 1.7km north of the cable.
Mull - Coll	Yes	High activity over the Mull landfall of the cable, with very low activity elsewhere along the route.
Mull - Ulva	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Mull - Iona	Yes	High levels of activity over the cable.
Bridgend Islay	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.

7.21 The SMRTS 2015 survey results for wild fowling very low levels of activity over all cables (59 people provided spatial information). This activity and possible interactions is summarised in Table 26 below and shown in Figure 37.

Table 26 Wild fowling

Cable Name	Interaction on chart	Notes
Mainland – Kerrera (1 and 2)	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cables.
Mainland - Lismore	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Eilean Loain	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Mainland - Jura	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Seil Easdale	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Eilean Righ	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Kerrera - Mull (2 and replacement)	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cables.
Kintyre - Gigha	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Coll - Tiree	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Islay - Colonsay	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Islay - Orsay	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Jura - Islay	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Mull - Calve Island	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Mull - Coll	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Mull - Ulva	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Mull - Iona	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.

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Bridgend Islay	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
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7.22 There are high levels of diving activity in the Argyll area, especially within the Sound of Mull (the body of water separating the Isle of Mull from mainland Scotland) and the adjacent Firth of Lorn. A number of dive centres are within this region, including Lochaline Dive Centre, Dive Oban and Argyll, Puffin Dive Centre, and the dive charter company Fyne Pioneer. A total of 168 people provided spatial information on scuba diving and in the SMRTS 2015 survey around Scotland. This activity and possible interactions is summarised in Table 27 below and shown in Figure 38.

Table 27 Scuba Diving

Cable Name	Interaction on chart	Notes
Mainland – Kerrera (1 and 2)	Yes	High levels of activity over the cables
Mainland - Lismore	Yes	Moderate to high levels of activity over the cable.
Eilean Loain	Yes	High levels of activity over the cable.
Mainland - Jura	Yes	Moderate levels of activity over the cable.
Seil Easdale	Yes	High levels of activity over the cable.
Eilean Righ	Yes	Low to moderate levels of activity over the cable, though there is an area of high activity approximately 1.7km south of the cable.
Kerrera - Mull (2 and replacement)	Yes	High activity can be seen immediately to the north and south of the cables, with low to moderate activity over the Kerrera landfall of the cables, and very low activity towards the Mull landfall.
Kintyre - Gigha	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Coll - Tiree	Yes	Moderate levels of activity directly over the cable, with an area of high activity north of the cable.
Islay - Colonsay	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Islay - Orsay	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Jura - Islay	Yes	Very low levels of activity directly over the cable, though there is an area of high activity approximately 2.7km north of the cable.
Mull - Calve Island	Yes	High levels of activity over the cable.
Mull - Coll	Yes	There is a hotspot of moderate to high activity at the Mull landfall of the cable, with very low levels of activity elsewhere along the cable. There is also an area of high activity adjacent to the south of the Coll landfall of the cable.
Mull - Ulva	Yes	Moderate levels of activity over the cable.
Mull - Iona	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Bridgend Islay	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.

7.23 The SMRTS 2015 survey results for rowing and sculling show at most very low levels of activity over a number of the cables, with no activity elsewhere over the cables (237 people provided spatial information). This activity and possible interactions is summarised in Table 28 below and shown in Figure 39.

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Table 28 Rowing and sculling

Cable Name	Interaction on chart	Notes
Mainland – Kerrera (1 and 2)	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cables.
Mainland - Lismore	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cables.
Eilean Loain	No	No activity directly over the cable, though there is a small patch of very low activity approximately 290m north of the cable.
Mainland - Jura	No	
Seil Easdale	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cables.
Eilean Righ	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cables.
Kerrera - Mull (2 and replacement)	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cables.
Kintyre - Gigha	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cables.
Coll - Tiree	No	
Islay - Colonsay	No	
Islay - Orsay	No	
Jura - Islay	No	
Mull - Calve Island	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cables.
Mull - Coll	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cables.
Mull - Ulva	No	
Mull - Iona	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cables.
Bridgend Islay	No	

- 7.24 There are potential wreck sites within the cable corridors as indicated in Figure 40 and summarised in Table 29. An online database of historical wreck sites, Canmore, has been used to assess the potential for interaction between wreck sites and submarine electricity cables. It includes a record of Scotland’s maritime heritage and any current or scheduled archaeological sites of national importance, legally protected under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979. This database has been compiled and managed by Historic Environment Scotland, and is available as part of Marine Scotland’s NMPI.

Table 29 Marine archaeology

Cable Name	Interaction on chart	Notes
Mainland – Kerrera (1 and 2)	Yes	Possible interaction with wreck sites.
Mainland - Lismore	No	
Eilean Loain	No	
Mainland - Jura	No	
Seil Easdale	Possible	None directly over the cable, though there is a wreck site approximately 1.1km south of the cable.
Eilean Righ	Possible	None directly over the cable, though there is a wreck site approximately 3.4km south of the cable off Island Mackasin.
Kerrera - Mull (2 and replacement)	Yes	Possible interaction with wreck sites.

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Kintyre - Gigha	Possible	None directly over the cable, though there is a wreck site approximately 1.8km south of the cable.
Coll - Tiree	Yes	Possible interaction with wreck sites.
Islay - Colonsay	No	
Islay - Orsay	Yes	Possible interaction with wreck sites.
Jura - Islay	Possible	None directly over the cable, though there is a wreck site approximately 2.1km north of the cable. Additionally, there are a cluster of wreck sites approximately 2.5km south of the cable.
Mull - Calve Island	Yes	Possible interaction with wreck sites.
Mull - Coll	Possible	None directly over the cable, though there are wreck sites approximately 1.4km east, and 1.5km west of the cable.
Mull - Ulva	Yes	Possible interaction with wreck sites.
Mull - Iona	No	
Bridgend Islay	Possible	None directly over the cable, though there is a wreck site approximately 1.3km east of the cable.

7.25 The Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) Loch Sunart to the Sound of Jura and Sea of the Hebrides intersect a number of the cables, as does the Special Area of Conservation (SAC) with marine components Inner Hebrides and the Minches. SACs Eileanan agus Sgeiran Lios mor and Loch Creran lie within 3km of Mainland-Lismore. The Special Protection Areas (SPAs) with marine components, Sound of Gigha and Coll and Tiree, cover the Kintyre-Gigha and Coll-Tiree cables respectively. The National Scenic Areas (NSAs) Jura, Lynn of Lorn, Knapdale and Loch na Keal, Isle of Mull interact with several cables as well. There are RSBC reserves on Islay (Loch Gruinart, Ardnave, Smaull Farm and the Oa), Colonsay (Oronsay and Colonsay), Tiree (the Reef) and Coll (Coll). These do not interact with any of the cable routes. The nature conservation designations in the vicinity of the cable corridors are shown in Figure 41, Figure 42 and Figure 43 and summarised in Table 30.

Table 30 Conservation designations

Cable Name	Interaction on chart	Notes
Mainland – Kerrera (1 and 2)	Yes	Loch Sunart to the Sound of Jura MPA and Inner Hebrides and the Minches SAC both cover the cables.
Mainland - Lismore	Possible	Eileanan agus Sgeiran Lios mor, Loch Creran and Inner Hebrides and the Minches SACs, as well as Loch Sunart to the Sound of Jura and Loch Creran MPAs are all located within 3km of the cable. Lynn of Lorn NSA also covers the cable.
Eilean Loain	Yes	Loch Sween MPA covers the cable. Knapdale NSA also covers the cable.
Mainland - Jura	Yes	Loch Sunart to the Sound of Jura MPA and Inner Hebrides and the Minches SAC both cover the cable. Knapdale NSA also partially covers the cable.
Seil Easdale	Yes	Loch Sunart to the Sound of Jura MPA and Firth of Lorn and Inner Hebrides and the Minches SACs cover the cable.
Eilean Righ	No	
Kerrera - Mull (2 and replacement)	Yes	Loch Sunart to the Sound of Jura MPA and Inner Hebrides and the Minches SAC both cover the cable.

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Kintyre - Gigha	Yes	Sound of Gigha SPA covers the cable.
Coll - Tiree	Possible	Sea of the Hebrides MPA covers the cable, along with Coll and Tiree SPA. Inner Hebrides and the Minches SAC is adjacent to the Coll landfall of the cable. There is an RSPB reserve on Coll (Coll), approximately 4.4km east of the cable, and another located on Tiree (the Reef) though this does not interact with the cable route.
Islay - Colonsay	Yes	Inner Hebrides and the Minches SAC covers the cable. The NSA Jura lies adjacent to the cable. There are a number of RSPB reserves elsewhere on Islay (Loch Gruinart, Ardnave, Smaull Farm and the Oa), and the RSPB reserves Oronsay and Colonsay on the Isle of Colonsay.
Islay - Orsay	No	None directly over the cable, though there are a number of RSPB reserves elsewhere on Islay (Loch Gruinart, Ardnave, Smaull Farm and the Oa).
Jura - Islay	Yes	The Jura NSA partially covers the cable. There are a number of RSPB reserves elsewhere on Islay (Loch Gruinart, Ardnave, Smaull Farm and the Oa).
Mull - Calve Island	Possible	Loch Sunart to the Sound of Jura MPA and Inner Hebrides and the Minches SAC are located approximately 900m east of the cable.
Mull - Coll	Yes	Inner Hebrides and the Minches SAC and Sea of the Hebrides MPA cover the cable. There is an RSPB reserve on Coll (Coll), though this does not interact with the cable.
Mull - Ulva	Yes	The Loch na Keal, Isle of Mull NSA covers the cable.
Mull - Iona	Yes	Inner Hebrides and the Minches SAC and Sea of the Hebrides MPA cover the cable.
Bridgend Islay	No	None directly over the cable, though there are a number of RSPB reserves elsewhere on Islay (Loch Gruinart, Ardnave, Smaull Farm and the Oa).

7.26 There are currently no operational wave or tidal energy farms in the vicinity of the cables, although the West Islay Tidal Energy Farm has been consented for development approximately 6km off the Rinns of Islay. This will be located west of the Islay-Orsay cable.

7.27 There are a number of recorded aquaculture farms within the vicinity of the cables, operated by Douglas Wilson, Lismore Seafoods, Mowi Scotland Limited, Gigha Oysters, R.B. and S.L. Barlow, Tobermory Mussel Farm, Kerrera Oysters, Isle of Mull Oysters, Tobermory Oysters, Loch Craignish Native Oyster Restoration and Rangequest Oysters. These are, for the most part shellfish farms, though there is one finfish farm within the vicinity of Eilean Rìgh (North Moine). The jetty at Port Appin is used by 2 salmon farming companies: Mowi, to access their site in Kingairloch, and Scottish Sea Farms, to access sites at Lismore N and W. The potential interaction is summarised in Table 31 and shown in Figure 44.

Table 31 Aquaculture sites

Cable Name	Interaction on chart	Notes
Mainland – Kerrera (1 and 2)	Yes	One shellfish aquaculture farm, Cutter Rock (run by Douglas Wilson), approximately 830m south of the cables.

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Mainland - Lismore	Possible	One shellfish aquaculture farm, Lynn of Lorn (run by Lismore Seafoods), is approximately 3.3km south of the cable.
Eilean Loain	No	
Mainland - Jura	No	
Seil Easdale	No	
Eilean Righ	Possible	One finfish aquaculture farm, North Moine (run by Mowi Scotland Ltd), approximately 1.1km south of the cable. One shellfish aquaculture farm, Loch Craignish (AYC) (run by Loch Craignish Native Oyster Restoration) 1.7km to the northwest of the cable.
Kerrera - Mull (2 and replacement)	Possible	None directly over the cable, though there is a shellfish aquaculture farm Oitir Mhor Bay (run by Kerrera Oysters) 3.6km to the northeast of the cables.
Kintyre - Gigha	Possible	One shellfish aquaculture farm, Drumyeonmore Bay (run by Gigha Oysters) is approximately 1.32km north of the cable.
Coll - Tiree	No	
Islay - Colonsay	Possible	None directly over the cable, but there may be transiting traffic from the finfish aquaculture site Colonsay (run by Mowi Scotland Ltd) to Scalasaig intersecting the route. The site itself is approximately 4.2km north east of the cable.
Islay - Orsay	No	
Jura - Islay	No	
Mull - Calve Island	Yes	There are shellfish aquaculture sites Acairseid Mhor (run by R.B. & S.L. Barlow) and Tobermory Bay (run by Tobermory Mussel Farm) within 700m of the cable, and a further shellfish site, Port Na Coite (run by Tobermory Oysters) approximately 1.5km north of the cable.
Mull - Coll	Possible	None directly over the cable, though there are shellfish aquaculture farms Poll Athach and Loch A Chumhainn (run by Isle of Mull Oysters) approximately 3km and 3.8km east of the Mull landfall respectively.
Mull - Ulva	Possible	One shellfish aquaculture site, "Location 1" (run by Rangequest Oysters), is approximately 1.6km south east of the cable.
Mull - Iona	No	
Bridgend Islay	No	

7.28 There are a number of ferry routes that overlap with the cables. The proximity of these ferry routes to the cables are summarised in Table 32. There is an average of 100+ passenger vessel transits over Kintyre-Gigha, and an average of 20-50 transits undertaken in the immediate vicinity of Jura-Islay, Kerrera-Mull, Mull-Calve Island and Mainland-Lismore. There are 20 or fewer transits over all other cables, shown in AIS density data for passenger vessels, Figure 45.

Table 32 Ferry routes

Cable Name	Interaction on chart	Notes
Mainland – Kerrera (1 and 2)	Yes	The cable route intersects the Oban-Colonsay ferry route (run by CalMac Ferries).
Mainland - Lismore	Yes	The Lismore-Port Appin ferry service (run by Argyll and Bute Council) runs adjacent to the cable at the mainland landfall.
Eilean Loain	Possible	None directly over the cable, though there is a service between Tayvallich and Jura (run by Jura Development Trust) which runs through the narrow

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		Loch Sween, so there may be the possibility for interaction between vessels accessing the cable itself. The ferry route is approximately 700m west of the cable at its nearest point.
Mainland - Jura	No	
Seil Easdale	Yes	There is a ferry route from Ellenabeich-Easdale (operated by Argyll and Bute Council) that runs parallel to the cable route approximately 160m north.
Eilean Rìgh	No	
Kerrera - Mull (2 and replacement)	No	
Kintyre - Gigha	Yes	There is a ferry route from Tayinloan-Gigha (operated by CalMac Ferries) that runs parallel to the cable route approximately 880m south.
Coll - Tiree	Yes	The cable route intersects the Barra (Castlebay)-Tiree ferry route (run by CalMac Ferries).
Islay - Colonsay	Yes	The cable route intersects the Colonsay-Islay (Port Askaig) ferry route (run by CalMac Ferries) at both nearshore ends of the cable, and runs closely parallel to the ferry route elsewhere along the central portion of the cable.
Islay - Orsay	No	
Jura - Islay	Yes	The cable route intersects the Kennacraig-Islay (Port Askaig) ferry route (run by CalMac Ferries).
Mull - Calve Island	Possible	There are ferry routes from Mull (Tobermory)-Drumnin, Mull (Tobermory)-Laga Bay and Tobermory-Kilchoan, which run at their closest point approximately 1.3km north of the cable.
Mull - Coll	Yes	The cable route intersects the Oban-Coll and Tiree-Oban ferry routes (operated by CalMac Ferries).
Mull - Ulva	Yes	There is a ferry route from Mull (Sound of Ulva)-Ulva (operated by Ulva Ferry) that runs parallel to the cable route, and is at its closest point approximately 63m south.
Mull - Iona	Possible	There is a ferry route from Fionnphort-Iona (Baile Mor) (operated by CalMac Ferries) that runs parallel to the cable route, and is at its closest point approximately 1.3km south.
Bridgend Islay	No	

7.29 The main ports on the Isle of Mull are Craignure, Tobermory, Lochaline and Fishnish. The ports of Islay are Port Ellen and Port Askaig. The ports on Jura are Feolin and Craighouse. The Isles of Coll, Colonsay, Iona and Ulva have single ports/ferry terminals which serve their entire respective islands, and there are a number of smaller piers and harbours in close proximity to the cables detailed in Table 33 below. Information on these ports is gathered from the website, Ports and Harbours of the UK.¹⁶ A summary of vessel movements (by AIS) is shown in Figure 46 (all vessels), broken down into the categories of cargo vessels (Figure 47), port service craft (Figure 48), tankers (Figure 49) and passenger vessels (previously shown in Figure 45).

Table 33 Local ports

Cable Name	Interaction on chart	Notes
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¹⁶ <http://ports.org.uk/> (accessed 10th January 2020).

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Mainland – Kerrera (1 and 2)	Yes	Nearest port is Gallanach (120m north), which is used as a private marina for the Puffin Dive Centre. Other nearby ports are Kerrera slip and Kerrera (mainland) slip, used for the Oban-Kerrera ferry service. These are both within 900m of the cables.
Mainland - Lismore	Yes	Port Appin is directly adjacent to the mainland landfall of the cable. This is used by a number of fishing boats, and as a ferry terminal for the Lismore-Port Appin service. It is also used by two salmon farming companies; Mowi, to access their site in Kingairloch, and Scottish Sea Farms, to access sites at Lismore North and West.
Eilean Loain	Yes	There is an unnamed slipway adjacent to the cable, and the nearest port is Tayvallich, approximately 2.3km north west of the cable. This is used by fishing and leisure vessels, and as a ferry terminal for the Tayvallich-Jura (Craighouse) service.
Mainland - Jura	Yes	Adjacent to the mainland landfall of the cable is Carsaig, which mainly hosts leisure and fishing vessels, and is sometimes used as a landing point for dinghies from visiting yachts anchored nearby. The private jetty Ardlussa is approximately 1.8km south of the Jura cable landfall, from which private boat trips can be arranged.
Seil Easdale	Yes	Easdale harbour is approximately 240m west of the cable at the Easdale landfall. This is used by leisure and fishing vessels, and as a ferry terminal for the Ellenabeich-Easdale service. On the Isle of Seil, Ellenabeich ferry terminal is approximately 300m north of the cable.
Eilean Rìgh	Possible	There is an unnamed slipway approximately 1.2km south of the cable. Ardfarn Marina, 1.7km north of the cable, is a private marina owned by Ardfarn Yacht Centre.
Kerrera - Mull (2 and replacement)	Yes	Nearest port is Grass Point (500m north), which is used by leisure craft and a few fishing boats.
Kintyre - Gigha	Yes	Nearest port is Ardmish on Gigha (890m north at the Gigha landfall of the cable), which is used as a ferry terminal for the Tayinloan-Gigha service. Nearby (1.1km south of the cable) is Gallochoille, a small pier used by local fishermen.
Coll - Tiree	No	Nearest port is Milton (3km south, on the Isle of Tiree), which is used by local fishing boats targeting velvet crab, brown crab and lobster.
Islay - Colonsay	Yes	Nearest port is Scalasaig (840m north of the cable on the Isle of Colonsay), used as a ferry terminal for the Colonsay-Islay (Port Askaig) and Oban-Colonsay services.
Islay - Orsay	Yes	Portnahaven is located approximately 330m north of the cable on Islay. There are a small number of fishing boats using the harbour.
Jura - Islay	Possible	Nearest port is Feolin Ferry Terminal on the Isle of Jura. This is located approximately 3.4km north of the cable, though since this is a narrow body of water, it is possible that transiting traffic to and from this port could intersect the cable.
Mull - Calve Island	Possible	There is an unnamed slipway approximately 460m west of the cable. Tobermory harbour, 1.6km north of the cable, is used by fishing boats, yachts and as the ferry terminal for the services to and from Kilchoan, Laga Bay and Drimnin.
Mull - Coll	No	Nearest pier is Croig on the Isle of Mull, approximately 2.7km east of the cable. Used as a base for whale watching trips and a number of fishing boats.
Mull - Ulva	Yes	Nearest port is Ulva Ferry Terminal, approximately 63m south of the Mull cable landfall, from which the Mull (Sound of Ulva)-Ulva service operates.

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		The ferry terminal on the Isle of Ulva itself is approximately 130m south of the cable.
Mull - Iona	Possible	The ferry terminal Baile Mor on the Isle of Iona, from which the Fionnphort-Iona service operates, is located approximately 1.3km south of the cable. Fionnphort ferry terminal is approximately 1.7km south of the cable.
Bridgend Islay	Yes	Bowmore Harbour is adjacent to the southern landfall of the cable, and is used mainly by leisure vessels, and fishing boats.

- 7.30 There has been no activity recorded for water skiing and wakeboarding, personal water craft (jet skis), or kite surfing in the vicinity of the cables.
- 7.31 A summary of the potential interactions between the Argyll submarine electricity cables and other sea users is given in Table 34.
- 7.32 The key points of contact for these sea users are identified in Appendix B: *Communication Strategy*.

Table 34 Summary of other sea users' interactions

Activity		Interaction on chart	Notes
Recreational	Bird and wildlife watching	Yes	Low to high levels of activity over the cables.
	Visits to historic sites or to attractions	Yes	Very low to high levels of activity over a number of the cables.
	Power boating	Yes	Moderate to high levels of activity around the Isle of Mull and Loch Linnhe, with low to moderate levels of activity elsewhere along the cables.
	Canoeing/kayaking	Yes	Very low to high levels of activity over all cables.
	Long distance swimming	Yes	Very low to low levels of activity in the immediate vicinity of several cable locations.
	Motor cruising	Yes	Very low to high levels of activity over the cables.
	Sailing and cruising	Yes	Low to high levels of activity over the cables.
	Chartered angling	Yes	Very low to high levels of activity over the cables.
	Sea angling from shore	Yes	High levels of activity around Kerrera. Very low to low levels elsewhere over the cables.
	Surfing and paddle boarding	Yes	Moderate to high levels of activity in Loch Linnhe and around Kerrera and between the mainland and Jura, with very low to no activity elsewhere along the cables.
	Yacht racing	Yes	Low to high levels of activity over all cables except for Islay-Orsay and Bridgend Islay.
	Dinghy racing	Yes	Very low activity over Coll-Tiree and Mainland-Kerrera.

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Activity		Interaction on chart	Notes
	Coasteering	Yes	Very low to high levels of activity over the cables.
	Personal water craft (jet skis)	No	
	Wild fowling	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cables.
	Scuba diving	Yes	Very low to high levels of activity over the cables.
	Rowing and sculling	Yes	Very low levels of activity in the immediate vicinity of several cable locations.
Conservation sites		Yes	The Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) Loch Sunart to the Sound of Jura, Sea of the Hebrides and Loch Creran intersect a number of the cables, as does the Special Area of Conservation (SAC) with marine components Inner Hebrides and the Minches. SACs Eileanan agus Sgeiran Lios mor and Loch Creran lie within 3km of Mainland-Lismore. The Special Protection Areas (SPAs) with marine components, Sound of Gigha and Coll and Tiree, cover the Kintyre-Gigha and Coll-Tiree cables respectively. The National Scenic Areas (NSAs) Jura, Lynn of Lorn, Knapdale and Loch na Keal, Isle of Mull interact with several cables as well. There are RSBC reserves on Islay (Loch Gruinart, Ardnave, Smaull Farm and the Oa), Colonsay (Oronsay and Colonsay), Tiree (the Reef) and Coll (Coll). These do not interact with any of the cable routes.
Wave/Tidal		No	
Aquaculture (finfish and shellfish)		Yes	Some local finfish and shellfish sites in the vicinity of the cable locations.
Marine Archaeology		Yes	Possible interaction with wreck sites, including protected wrecks.
Shipping		Yes	AIS indicates that there are moderate-high levels of cargo vessel transits (20 to 50 hours) over Mainland-Lismore, and low to moderate levels (10-20 transits) over Mull-Calve Island, Mainland-Kerrera, Kerrera-Mull, Jura-Islay, Islay-Colonsay and Mull-Coll cables. There are lower levels of activity (<10 transits) over the Coll-Tiree, Mull-Ulva, Mull-Iona, Seil Easdale, Eilean Righ, Eilean Loain, Kintyre-Gigha, Bridgend Islay and Islay-Orsay cable routes.
Ferries		Yes	There are ferry routes in close proximity to all cables except Mainland-Jura, Eilean Righ, Kerrera-Mull, Islay-Orsay, Mull-Calve Island and Bridgend Islay.

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8 Cable Asset Interactions: Commercial Fishing and Other Sea Users

- 8.1 The potential interactions to fishing stakeholders and other sea users, based on the site specific proposed construction methods, are specified in the Cefas and MCEU (2004)¹⁷ guidelines and summarised in the Cost Benefit Analysis Model¹⁸. It should be noted that stakeholders will vary in their sensitivity to socio-economic pressures depending on:
- Spatial adaptability based on operational range and
 - Spatial tolerance based on dependency on fishing grounds and specific sea areas
- 8.2 The main gear types used in the Argyll area are potting (creeling), demersal twin trawling targeting Nephrops and scallop dredging. However, potting (creeling) vessels represent the primary fishery that may interact with the cable locations, due to their nearshore location.
- 8.3 While fishermen will be kept up to date with construction areas by Notices to Mariners (NTMs), Weekly Notices of Operations (WNO) and update emails from the developer and their subcontractors, there is scope for conflicting demands on the same area of sea. Construction schedules are fluid and dependent upon many factors and fishermen may not regularly read emails, if they have access to the internet at all, and therefore may not be aware of recent updates.
- 8.4 In most cases the presence of a FIR onboard the survey boats should prevent fishing gear interactions by survey/construction vessels. However, it may not be feasible for all vessels to have an offshore FIR on board therefore a standard operating procedure (SOP) has been created for the FIR and crew of the survey and construction vessels to follow (Fishing Gear Interaction SOP)¹⁹.
- 8.5 The potential interactions between fishing stakeholders and other sea users with survey vessels (and construction vessels if cable installation is required following inspection surveys) are dependent on the survey and installation methods to be used.
- 8.6 Inspections will be carried out on SHEPD's submarine electricity cables to identify the behaviour and integrity of the cable. This will inform the ongoing maintenance plan and influence cable replacement decisions. Survey information obtained along the cable route will include ROV mountable magnetometer, MBES and SSS, and a gradiometer array for a minimum corridor

¹⁷ Cefas, Marine Consents and Environment Unit (MCEU), Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) and Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) (2004) Offshore Wind Farms - Guidance note for Environmental Impact Assessment In respect of FEPA and CPA requirements, Version 2

¹⁸ Please refer to Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks: *Submarine Electricity Cable Cost Benefit Analysis Method Statement*: <https://www.ssen.co.uk/CBAFULL/> and *Method Statement Executive Summary*: <http://news.ssen.co.uk/media/266234/CBA-Model-Statement-Executive-Summary.pdf>

¹⁹ Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks: *Standard Operating Procedures*, available: <https://www.ssen.co.uk/SubmarineCables/AboutUs/>

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width of +/-7.5m, centred on the existing cable route. Please refer to the *Construction Method Statement* for full details where cable installation is identified, following the inspection surveys.

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9 Safety

9.1 Safety management is a key aspect of the FLMAP. SHEPD's approach to safety and to ensuring co-existence has been outlined in the document *How Scottish Hydro Electric Power Distribution co-exists with other marine users*²⁰. With regards to commercial fishing, Safety Management Plans produced by SHEPD for submarine cable works will include reference to the following elements:

- Code of Good Practice for all Vessels
- Procedures in Relation to Gear Fastening or Loss
- Safety Zones (500m) around Active Construction Areas
- *Appendix B: Communication Strategy*

9.2 When we employ contractors for the surveys and construction required for the Argyll cables, we will outline certain obligations to which the contractors must follow in order to ensure external communication is accurate and to aid coexistence with sea users. These may include ensuring:

- Any debris accidentally dropped during any construction and maintenance activities (if required following inspection surveys) is removed if practicably feasible and safe to do so
- All vessels under contract with us adhere to COLREGS and SOLAS requirements
- All vessels under contract with us do not engage in any commercial or recreational fishing activities whatsoever
- All vessels under contract with us will maintain polite, proactive and professional communications with fishing vessels and other sea users during offshore operations
- All vessels under contract with us will monitor the required VHF channels at all times so as to receive communications directly from fishing vessels and other sea users
- All vessels contracted to undertake project specific work will have undertaken appropriate risk assessments in respect of potential interactions with commercial fishing vessels and their gears
- Where appropriate, for vessels using anchored positioning, contractors will be obliged wherever possible to adopt anchor release procedures to minimise the size of anchor mounds and where necessary undertake remedial actions to level any significant anchor mounds
- All vessels contracted with us will have on board approved fishing liaison/interaction manuals
- Where appropriate, suitably qualified and certified offshore FIRs will be on board certain project vessels
- Standard transit routes for vessels engaged by us will be discussed with fishing stakeholders prior to operations commencing and vessels transiting to the site shall follow these where possible.

9.3 In the event of fishing gear becoming fastened on or in the vicinity of a submarine electricity cable fishermen should follow the emergency procedures outlined in the Safety section of the

²⁰ Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks: *How we co-exist with other marine users*, available: <https://www.ssen.co.uk/SubmarineCables/AboutUs/>

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Kingfisher Information Services-Offshore Renewable and Cable Awareness (KIS-ORCA) webpage²¹.

- 9.4 The purpose of a safety zone is to ensure the safety of other sea users by communicating a safe distance between other users and any construction, operation and maintenance activities related to the submarine electricity cables.
- 9.5 Whilst 500m is the maximum permissible size for a safety zone, it could be that during any required construction phases, the safety of other users is better served through an additional precautionary area communicated by NtM in which it is recommended other sea users do not enter. If entry is unavoidable, then navigation with extreme caution is advised.
- 9.6 We will aim to organise any required construction schedules as far as is practicably possible with the aim of reducing potential combined loss of fishing area during this phase.
- 9.7 Fishing stakeholders will be informed of all the cable works throughout the inspection surveys (and any subsequent pre-construction or construction phases).
- 9.8 SHEPD will, in consultation with commercial fishing stakeholders, work towards identifying acceptable and feasible mitigation options with the aim of minimising any potential effects on commercial fishing associated with submarine electricity cable works. There are various options available to mitigate the risks describe previously, including:
- Continuing effective positive liaison with commercial fishing stakeholders through the pre-construction, construction and operational phases of any cable replacement
 - Continued employment of CFLO/FIR services until the completion of the replacement works
 - Ensuring contractors comply with the contractor's obligations outlined above so as to minimise any interference to commercial fishing activities
 - Managing the cable replacement works so as to minimise any potential effects on the marine environment, habitats and commercial fishing
 - Raising awareness of the danger of fishing in the vicinity of submarine cables
 - Adopting a hierarchical approach to submarine cable protection, taking account of sea users concerns
 - Organising a construction phasing workshop (if new cable is required) to inform commercial fishermen of planned activities
 - Organising construction schedules (if new cable is required) as far as is practicably possible in order to reduce the combined loss of fishing area associated with safety zones
 - Distributing weekly notice of operations
 - Providing information in plotter format to enable fishermen to easily interpret the information
 - Scouting surveys to identify potting areas and any other relevant static gear areas.

²¹ <https://kis-orca.org/safety/emergency-procedures/>

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10 UK Legislation, References and Guidance

- 10.1 Damage to submarine cables is expensive to repair and can cause disruption to power distribution to often sparsely populated islands. There is applicable legislation in respect to safety zones (Energy Act 2004), navigation (International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea 1972; COLREGS) and submarine cable protection (United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) Article 113, 1982, and UK 1964 Continental Shelf Act). It is an offence to wilfully damage submarine cables (UNCLOS, 1982; UK 1964 Continental Shelf Act).
- 10.2 In regards to navigation, in normal circumstances, the provisions laid down by COLREGs are sufficient to ensure that actions taken by fishing vessels and those restricted in their ability to manoeuvre when two vessels are approaching allow both to continue operating with minimum disruption.
- 10.3 Further information on UK and international legislation for subsea cables, safety zones and navigation is provided in the document *How Scottish Hydro Electric Power Distribution co-exists with other marine users*²².

²² Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks: *How we co-exist with other marine users*, available: <https://www.ssen.co.uk/SubmarineCables/AboutUs/>

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Appendix A Notice to Mariners Example Template

Notice to Mariners

Scottish Hydro Electric Power Distribution (SHEPD) – Notice to Mariners [Month Year].

Issued [Date].

Please be advised that [Contractor] (on behalf of SHEPD) will be undertaking a [description of works, e.g.: survey across the CABLE ROUTE submarine electricity cable corridor]. The survey will utilise four different vessels to complete survey operations:

- Vessel 1
- Vessel 2
- Vessel 3
- Vessel 4

The survey operations will commence during an appropriate weather window following [date] and will continue over a planned minimum period of [16 weeks], weather permitting.

The survey operations will be concentrated across the cable corridor within the boundary defined by the following coordinates.

[Chart of survey area]

[Coordinates of survey area boundary]

The survey operations will be undertaken by the [vessel 1, vessel 2, vessel 3.....] pictured below. The vessels may not commence their activities at the same time but may operate simultaneously at times over the survey duration. The vessels may operate primarily from [port 1] but may use other ports along the coastlines, such as [port 2] or [port 3].

Vessel Photo	Vessel Description
[Photo of vessel 1]	[Description, contact details and call sign of vessel 1, e.g.: The M.V. [vessel name] is a multi-purpose survey vessel, 65.2 m in length with a beam of 14m and a draft of 5.3 m; transit speed of 12 kts and a survey speed of ~5 kts (geophysical survey). Operating on a 24-hour basis]
[Photo of vessel 2]	[Description, contact details and call sign of vessel 2]
[Photo of vessel 3]	[Description, contact details and call sign of vessel 3]
[Photo of vessel 4]	[Description, contact details and call sign of vessel 4]

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Survey Description

The [survey/installation] will involve [the coverage of dedicated survey lines by the vessel(s) with a full suite of geophysical survey systems (Multi beam Echo Sounder, Side Scan Sonar and Magnetometer)] mounted on the vessel or towed from the stern of the vessel.

Other vessels should maintain an appropriate and safe distance of 500 m when passing the [survey] vessel(s) whilst undertaking survey operations and should pass at the lowest possible speed to avoid vessel wash effects. The vessel(s) will be working [24-hour operations] and will display appropriate day shapes and lights during reduced visibility and night operations. The vessel(s) will also monitor VHF Channels 16 and 12.

Primary Survey Equipment

Primary equipment	Towed / Hull mounted / Sampling	Approximate tow length (if applicable)	Vessel
Multibeam Echosounder	Hull mounted	N/A	Vessel 1, Vessel 2
Sidescan Sonar	Towed	50-350m	Vessel 1, Vessel 2
Magnetometer Array	Towed	50-350m	Vessel 1, Vessel 2
Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV)	Tether Management System	N/A	Vessel 1
Subsea Crane Operations	Crane	WD 140 max	Vessel 1

Contact Details

The vessel contact details are given in the tables below

VESSEL 1	
Call sign	
Bridge	
Offshore manager / Party Chief	
Email	
Onshore Site Manager	

VESSEL 2	
Call sign	
Bridge	
Offshore manager / Party Chief	
Email	
Onshore Site Manager	

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Fishing Liaison Officers

Fishing liaison for the [survey] will be co-ordinated by Brown and May Marine (BMM). For any commercial fishery queries please contact the Company Fishing Liaison Officer (CLFO) Alex Winrow-Giffin on 07760 160039 / 01379 872144, alex@brownmay.com. A local Fishing Industries Representative (FIR) George White georgewhite0@gmail.com, 07761 873965 will also be in place to liaise with the vessel and fishing operations in the area. The vessel master will issue regular broadcasts whilst the survey vessel is operating to ensure minimal disruption and that vessels maintain an appropriate and safe distance.

Further Details

Further enquiries should be addressed to the following people in the following order:

Name	Contact Number	Email

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Appendix B Communication Strategy

An example standardised high level cable replacement communication plan is given in Table 35 (this is in the event that cable replacement is identified following inspection surveys). A programme of actions to be undertaken in the event of an unplanned outage is given in Table 36. Please note that the communication plan will need to be applied for each cable.

Table 35 Example of a communication programme for cable replacement

Stage	What's happening	What we want to communicate	Who we are speaking to and frequency
1	<u>Cable inspection list created for [year]</u> We have developed a list based on a number of factors and previous cable history. This allows us to forecast future health, where the most vulnerable cables will be and their importance on the network. This includes roughly 150% of the cable projects we intend to deliver, so we make sure we capture the right projects.	Advance warning of high level plans to inspect cables.	- Primarily stakeholders with shipping and navigation interests. - Engagement carried out as part of scheduled regular meetings
2	<u>Mobilisation of inspection vessels for [year] programme of cable replacement</u> Sending out inspection vessel, divers and/or ROV to closely follow cables to inspect cable condition and record video footage. This is then used to inform our health assessment of the cable.	Notice to Mariners issued. Essentially a safety message to let mariners know that we will have vessels in the area.	Mariners: the number of vessels, routes they are taking and activities they will be completing (daily)

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Stage	What's happening	What we want to communicate	Who we are speaking to and frequency
3	<u>Review inspections from 2 years ahead to create 1 year ahead survey list</u> From Inspection data we refine our project list to 125% of projects to make sure we survey as much as possible without wasting these works on cables which are healthy.	No communications at this stage, unless there has been engagement with stakeholders who have experienced wet outages.	Domestic and generation SHEPD customers to advise them that we will be replacing the cable (one off).
4	<u>Survey [year] Cable routes</u> With our 125% list we then issue instruction to survey the cable routes. This uses a vessel towing a sonar device across a wide area multiple times to build up an image of the sea bed. It may also include carrying out intrusive geotechnical investigations.	- Notice to Mariners issued. Essentially a safety message to let mariners know that we will have vessels in the area. - Messaging to highlight any environmental mitigation measures we have implemented to safeguard marine life (e.g. checking for cetaceans before beginning certain geophysical survey operations)	- Mariners: the number of vessels, routes they are taking and activities they will be completing (daily). - Environmental groups: to highlight any mitigation measures (one off).
5	<u>Select [year] cable routes and advise Marine Scotland (licensing)</u> From our survey we will then define the project which is to be delivered. Reducing our project list to 100% of what we are able to deliver.	Regular stakeholder meetings to provide updates on project development activities.	Regulators and wider stakeholder groups.
6	<u>PAC events and licence application</u> Pre-application consultation events are advertised and held. Comments received are noted and addressed as part of the licence application.	The proposed project including location and route along with possible protections methods.	Statutory and non-statutory stakeholders as well as communities and mariners (one off).

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Stage	What's happening	What we want to communicate	Who we are speaking to and frequency
7	<u>Mobilisation of vessels for cable installation</u> With all cable projects now consented and licences approved, cable laying vessels are in the water. The boats(s) will collect all cables and fittings from our storage depot.	Notice to Mariners issued. Essentially a safety message to let mariners know that we will have vessels in the area.	Mariners: the number of vessels, routes they are taking and activities they will be completing (daily).
8	<u>Start to completion of installation works</u> - From there the vessel will transit to the cable installation location and begin works. Dependant on the projects the vessel(s) might do one of more than one cable installation during one voyage. - Dependent on physical protection levels of cables there may be a number of extra vessels dispatched to complete the works. - In parallel there will be onshore works which will be connecting the cable from the sea/shore end into the existing electrical network. - All vessel(s) return to port(s)	- Notice to Mariners updates as required. - Community Council meetings in advance to advise of forthcoming works - Stakeholder updates to advise of forthcoming works - Press release to be issued to advise community of forthcoming works - Additional communication channels to advise community & stakeholders of forthcoming works	- Mariners: the number of vessels, routes they are taking and activities they will be completing (daily). - Community to be advised of any potential disruption (roads & noise) - Domestic and business customers to be advised of any planned outages to allow us to carry out works (as required).
18 months after installation	<u>Post installation cable inspections</u> - Sending out inspection vessel, divers and/or ROV to inspect the cables most recently installed. This will allow us to decide if any remedial works are required. - The cable is inspected by closely following cable to inspect cable condition and record	- Notice to Mariners to let mariners know that we will have vessels in the area - Update community to advise of works and reason for presence	- Mariners: the number of vessels, routes they are taking and activities they will be completing (daily) - Communities, local stakeholders and customers

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Stage	What's happening	What we want to communicate	Who we are speaking to and frequency
	it on film. This is then used to inform our assessment.		
Remedial works following cable inspection (if required)	<u>Remedial works</u> If required, we will send more vessels to complete any works which are required (from protection to complete cable replacement).	- Notice to Mariners to let mariners know that we will have vessels in the area - Update community to advise of works and reason for presence	- Mariners: the number of vessels, routes they are taking and activities they will be completing (daily). - Communities, local stakeholders and customers

Table 36 Example of unplanned outage due to wet fault in a cable

Stage	What's happening	What we want to communicate	Who we are speaking to
1	- Declared a wet fault following testing at termination poles at both shore ends. This will give the estimated distance to the fault location within the sea. - Depending on the severity of the fault and the demand of the network we may be able to restore power whilst still investigating the fault. - Embedded generation team will be deployed to operate the generators on . - We formally notify Marine Scotland, Northern Lighthouse Board and Fishing Liaison Officer at this point.	- We are aware of a submarine electricity cable fault. - Our engineers are on site and are connecting generators to restore your power. - Open and consistent communication with local stakeholders and community to inform them of issue and actions being carried out to address the issue and restore normal service	- Domestic and business demand and generation customers. - Work with Corporate Communications team to keep local stakeholders and community informed through press release, website and social media channels
2	We are mobilising our marine contractors (divers, vessels and crew).	Power will have been restored from the customers' perspective.	Domestic and business demand customers

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Stage	What's happening	What we want to communicate	Who we are speaking to
		- Generation customers may be assisting islands in maintaining supply stability. - Open and consistent communication with local stakeholders and community to update them on actions being carried out to address the issue and restore normal service	Work with Corporate Communications team to keep local stakeholders and community informed through press release, website and social media channels
3	<u>Locating the fault</u> - If the cable is less than 30m deep then divers may visually inspect the cable fault location. - If it is deeper than this Remote Operated Vehicles are deployed to do the same job. - Visibility can be very poor so this will impact on how long this takes.	- We need to be sharing safety message with the marine community to be aware that we have vessels operating in the area. - This should highlight how many there are in the water and what they are doing.	- Mariners: We will have vessels operating in and around the cables. - This should advise of specific movements.
4	<u>Fault zone found</u> Fault zone may be found. There is still work to be done in actually pin pointing the fault.	- We need to be sharing safety message with the marine community to beware that we have vessels operating in the area. - This should highlight how many there are in the water and what they are doing.	Mariners: We will have vessels operating in and around the cables.
5	<u>Fault finding</u> Cable recovered onto the cable vessel and cut. Joints strip the cable ready for testing. Cable is cut until the tests show that the remaining cable is healthy. Once it is known the cable is healthy it is made waterproof and returned to seabed.	We need to be sharing safety message(s) with the marine community to beware that we have vessels operating in the area. This should highlight how many there are in the water and what they are doing. Especially since there may be a number of anchors temporarily in the	- Mariners: We will have vessels operating in and around the cables. - This should tell mariners where the buoys are and that the cable is at this location - Work with Corporate Communications team to keep

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Stage	What's happening	What we want to communicate	Who we are speaking to
	Options for repair or replacement have to be considered.	area whilst we are looking for the fault and fixing it. Open and consistent communication with local stakeholders and community to update them on actions being carried out to address the issue and restore normal service	local stakeholders and community informed through press release, website and social media channels
6	<u>Option A</u> We call this a piece-in where we are able to re-joint the cable with a new section of cable. <u>Option B</u> Depending on the distance from shore, we may take at new section of cable from the shore end to the existing cable (only needing one joint). <u>Option C</u> If the cable is too deep (greater than 50 metres) we may not be able to repair the cable So entire end to end replacement may be necessary. <u>Option D</u> If cable has faulted and is planned for replacement due to health of cable we will replace entire cable end to end.	- We need to be sharing safety message(s) with the marine community to beware that we still have vessels operating in the area. - This should highlight how many there are in the water and what they are doing. <u>Option A and B</u> Estimate how long we will be in the area mending the cable for and advise of vessel movements. <u>Option C and D</u> We need to apply for a marine licence. Please refer to other communication plan from here on.	<u>Option A and B</u> Mariners: We will have vessels operating in and around the cables and estimate when we will be away. <u>Option C and D</u> Mariners and statutory consultees: We need to do a full cable replacement and so need to apply for a marine licence which gives us consent to carry out the work When appropriate, work with Corporate Communications team to keep local stakeholders and community informed through press release, website and social media channels
7	<u>Option A</u>	We need to be sharing safety message with the marine community	Domestic and business demand and generation customers: The

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Stage	What's happening	What we want to communicate	Who we are speaking to
	Take cable vessel to fault location and joint new piece in between the two ends. The cable is tested to make sure it is healthy and then lowered back onto the sea bed. We will then re-energise cable when safe to restore power. <u>Option B</u> Position the cable vessel close to the shore in line with the point of termination in land. We float the cable from the cable vessel to connection point on shore. The floats are removed when cable is in position and install the cable to the jointing location where it meets the cable which we left in the sea attached to a buoy (the original fault location) and joint the cable. We test the cable to make sure it is clear of all faults. We will then re-energise cable when safe to restore power.	to beware that we still have vessels operating in the area. ▪ This should highlight how many there are in the water and what they are doing ▪ Keep stakeholders informed throughout ▪ Update local stakeholders, media and community with open, clear and consistent communication	submarine electricity cable has been repaired and mobile generators have been removed from the island. ▪ Mariners: We will have vessels operating in and around the cables and estimate when we will be away ▪ Work with Corporate Communications team to keep local stakeholders and community informed through press release, website and social media channels

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Appendix C
Commercial Fishing Charts

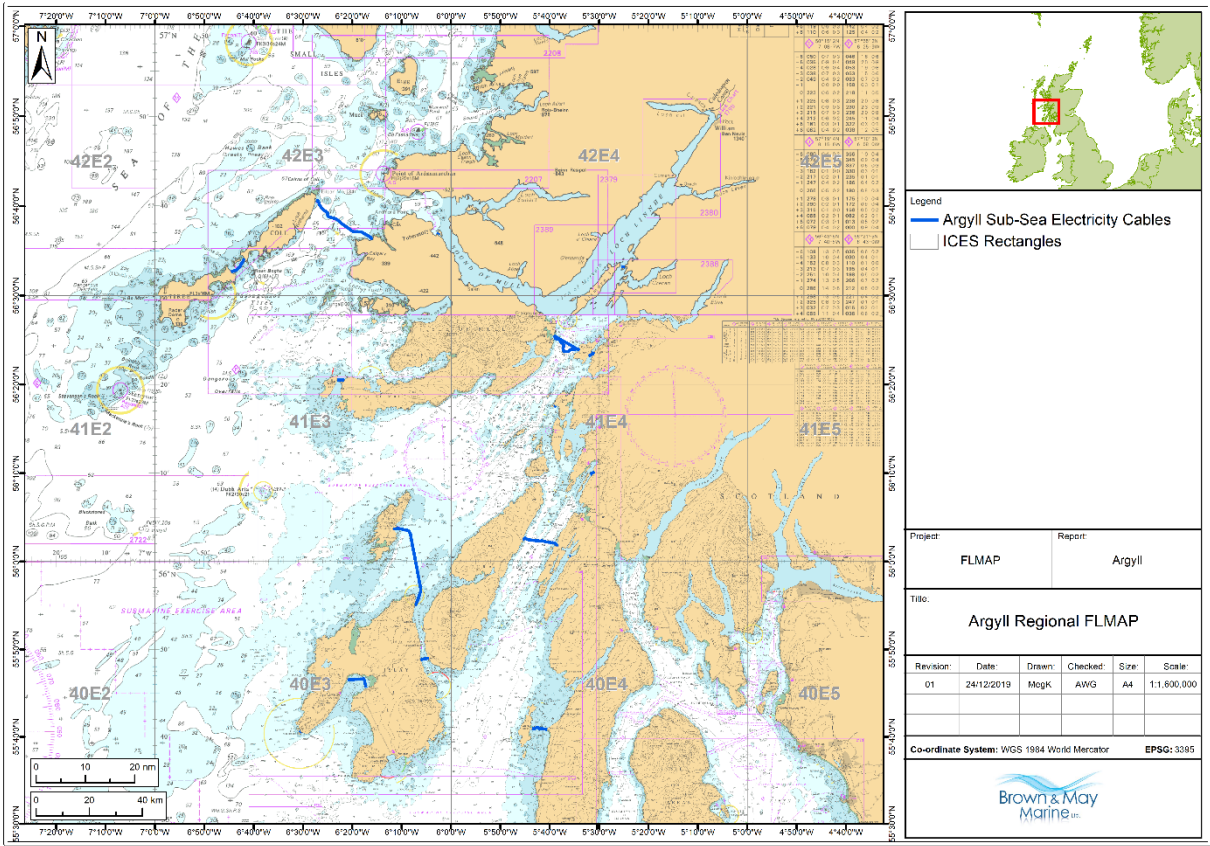


Figure 1 Argyll study area

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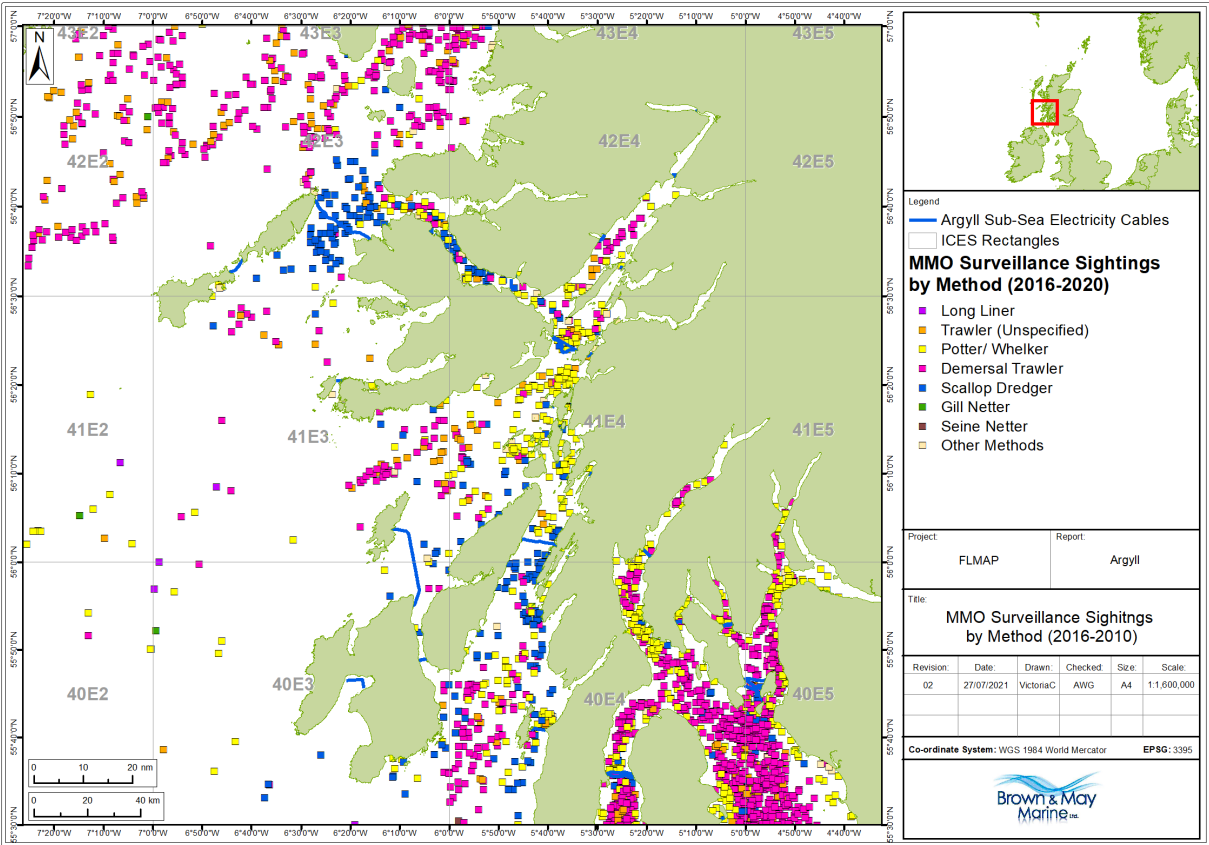


Figure 2 MMO surveillance sightings by method (2016-2020)

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			Distribution ✓	Transmission ✗
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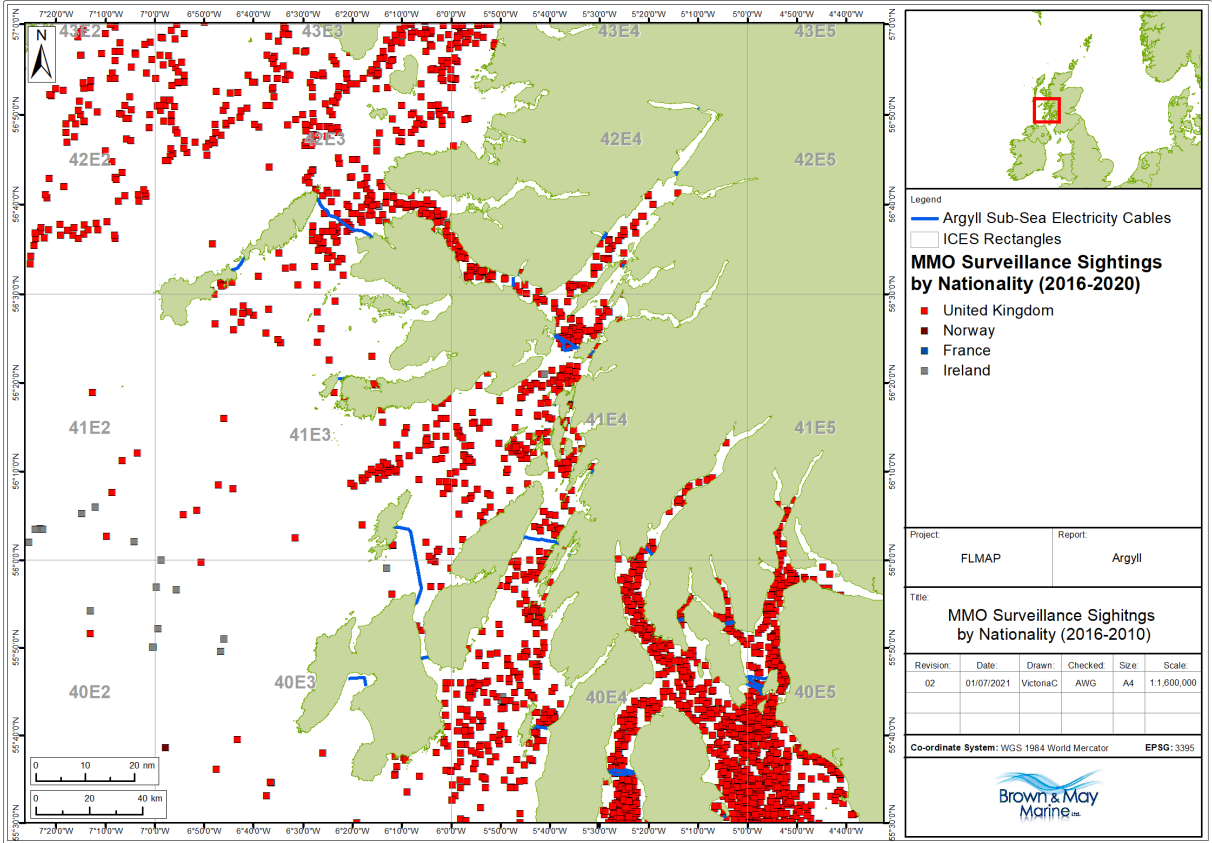


Figure 3 MMO surveillance sightings by nationality (2016-2020)

	Fishing Liaison Mitigation Action Plan for Argyll		Applies to	
			Distribution ✓	Transmission ✗
Revision: 1.00	Internal Use	Issue Date:	Review Date:	

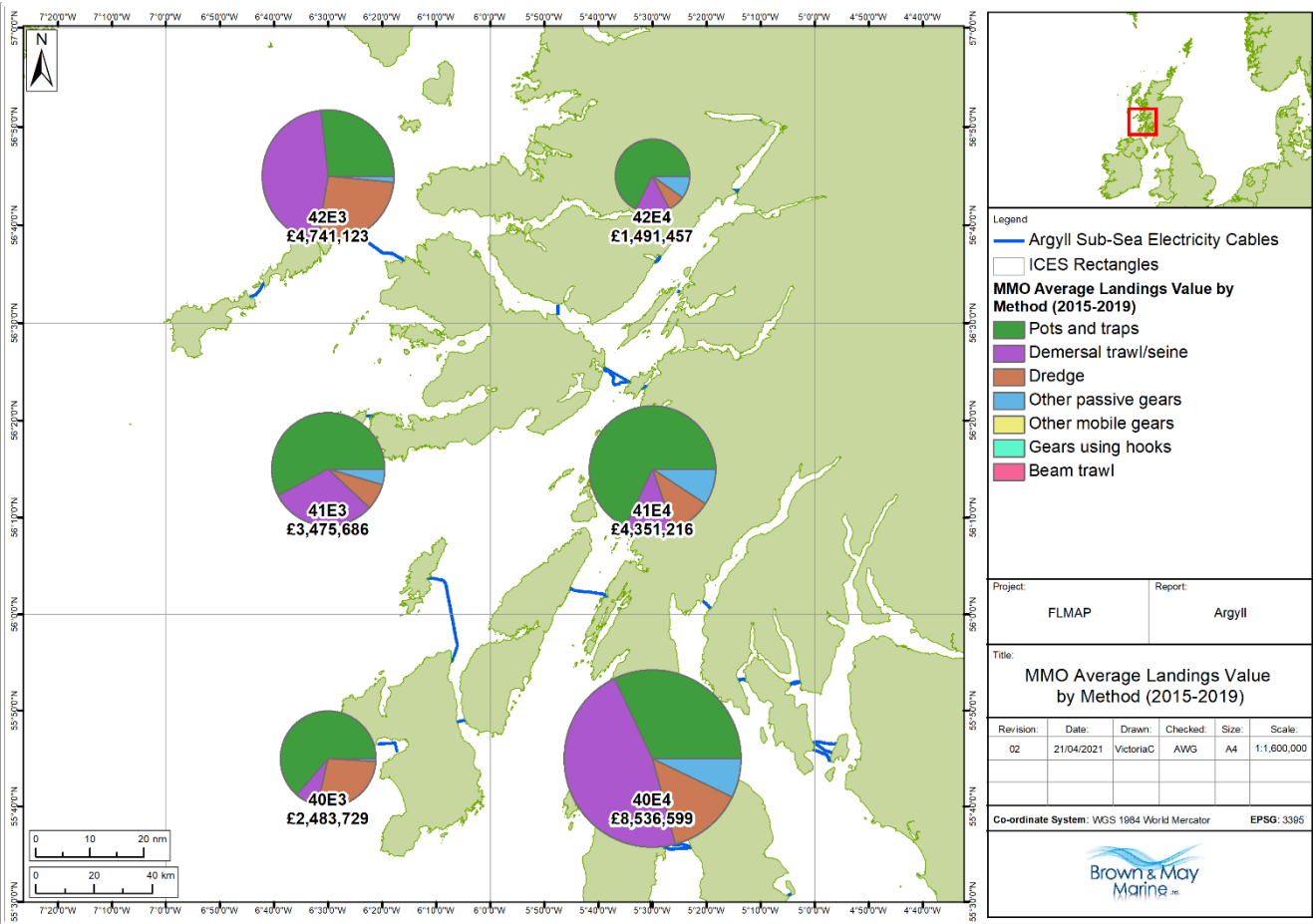


Figure 4 Average MMO landings by method (2015-2019)

	Fishing Liaison Mitigation Action Plan for Argyll		Applies to	
			Distribution ✓	Transmission ✗
Revision: 1.00	Internal Use	Issue Date:	Review Date:	

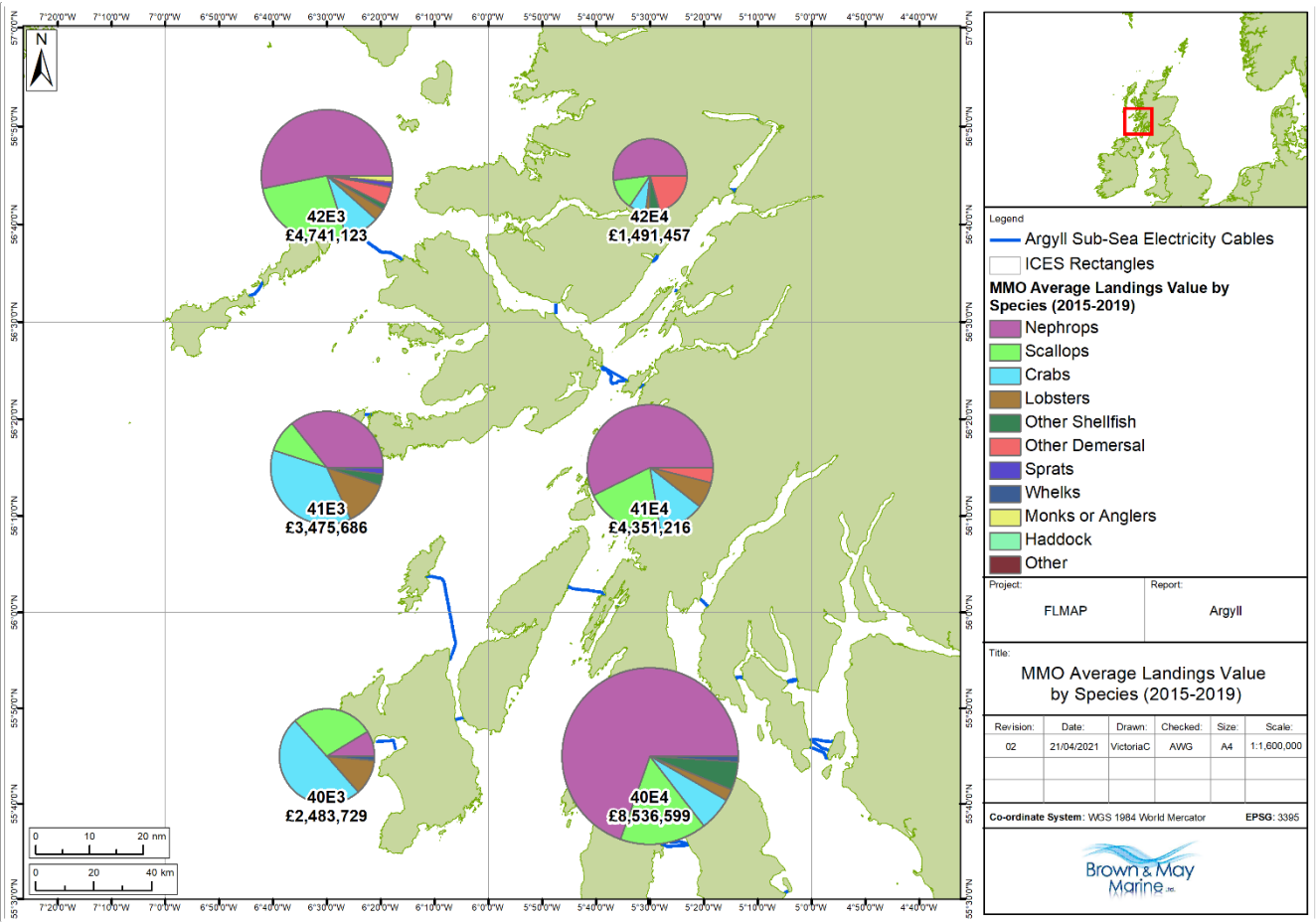


Figure 5 Average MMO landings value by species (2015-2019)

	Fishing Liaison Mitigation Action Plan for Argyll		Applies to	
			Distribution ✓	Transmission ✗
Revision: 1.00	Internal Use	Issue Date:	Review Date:	

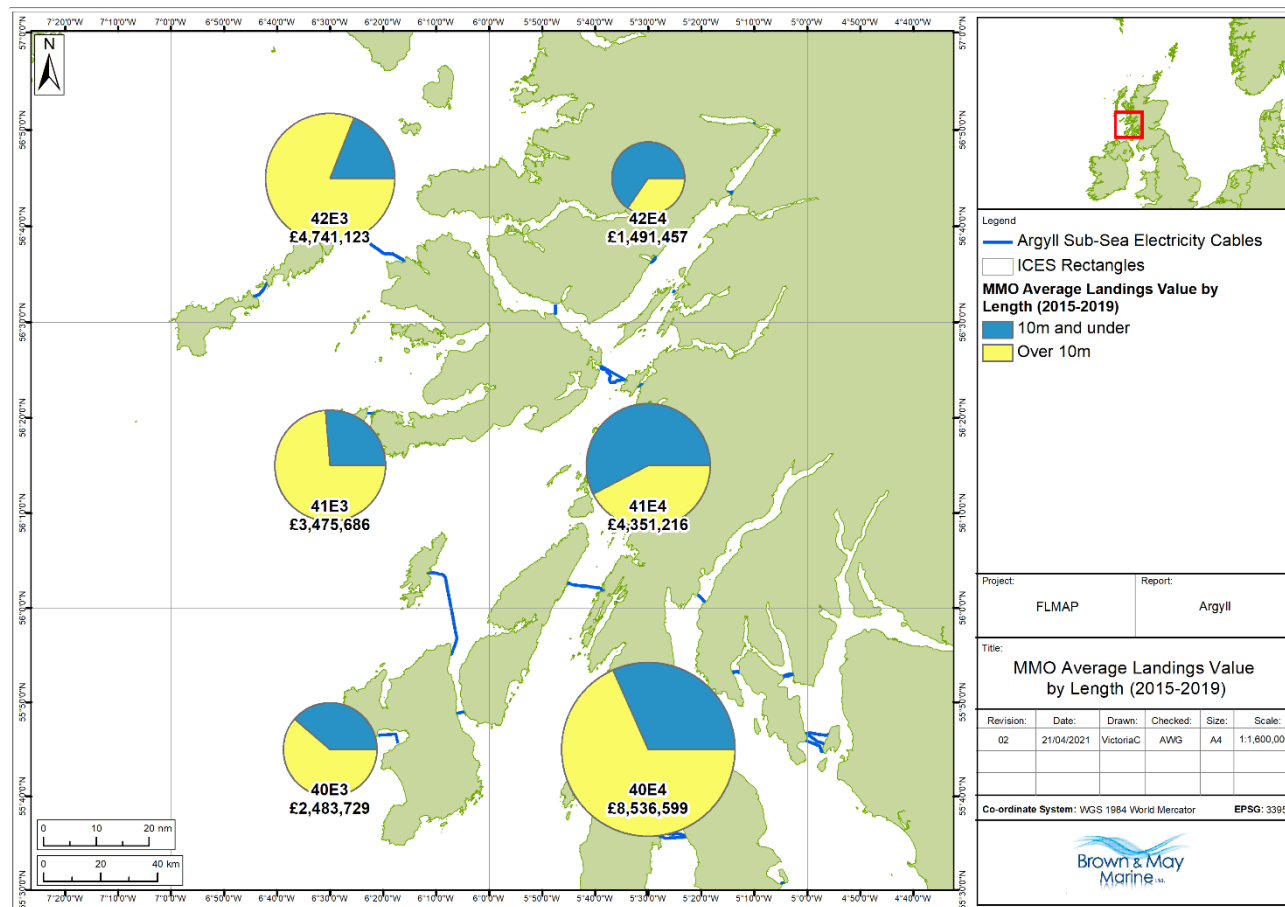


Figure 6 Average MMO landings value by vessel length (2015-2019)

	Fishing Liaison Mitigation Action Plan for Argyll		Applies to	
			Distribution ✓	Transmission ✗
Revision: 1.00	Internal Use	Issue Date:	Review Date:	

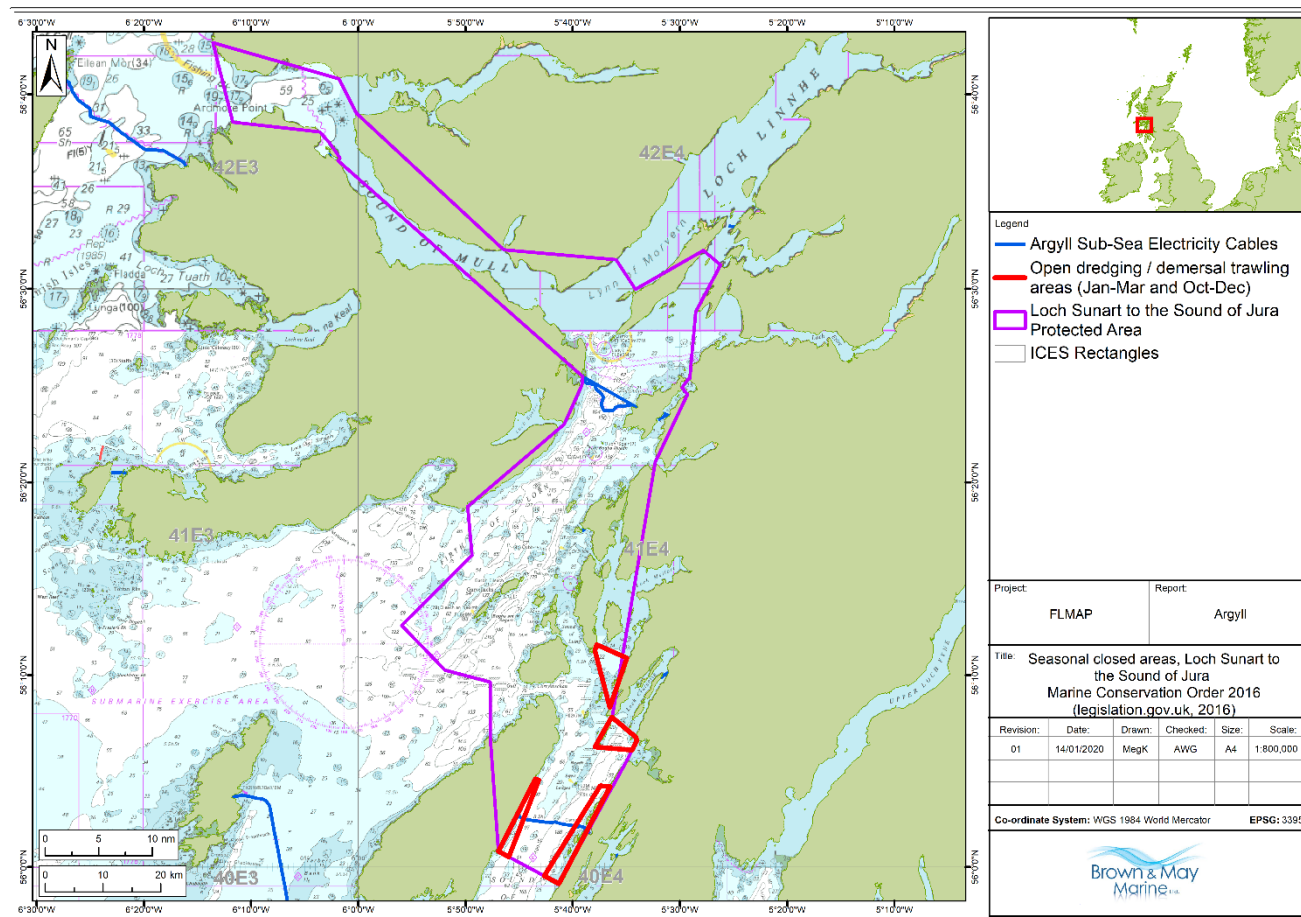


Figure 7 The Loch Sunart to the Sound of Jura Marine Conservation Order 2016 restricted areas (legislation.gov.uk, 2016)

	Fishing Liaison Mitigation Action Plan for Argyll		Applies to	
			Distribution ✓	Transmission ✗
Revision: 1.00	Internal Use	Issue Date:	Review Date:	

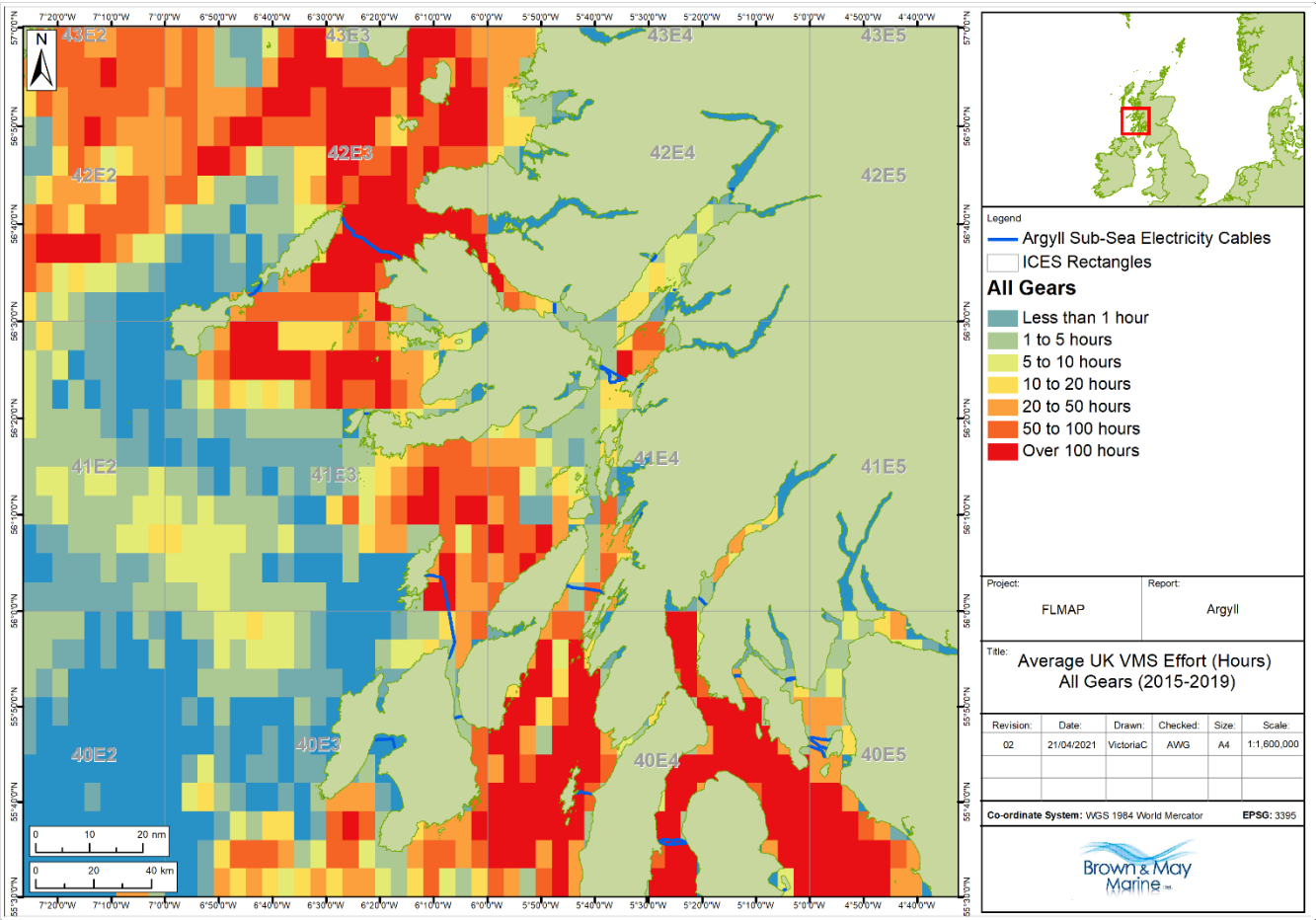


Figure 8 Average UK MMO VMS effort (hours) all gears (2015-2019)

	Fishing Liaison Mitigation Action Plan for Argyll		Applies to	
			Distribution ✓	Transmission ✗
Revision: 1.00	Internal Use	Issue Date:	Review Date:	

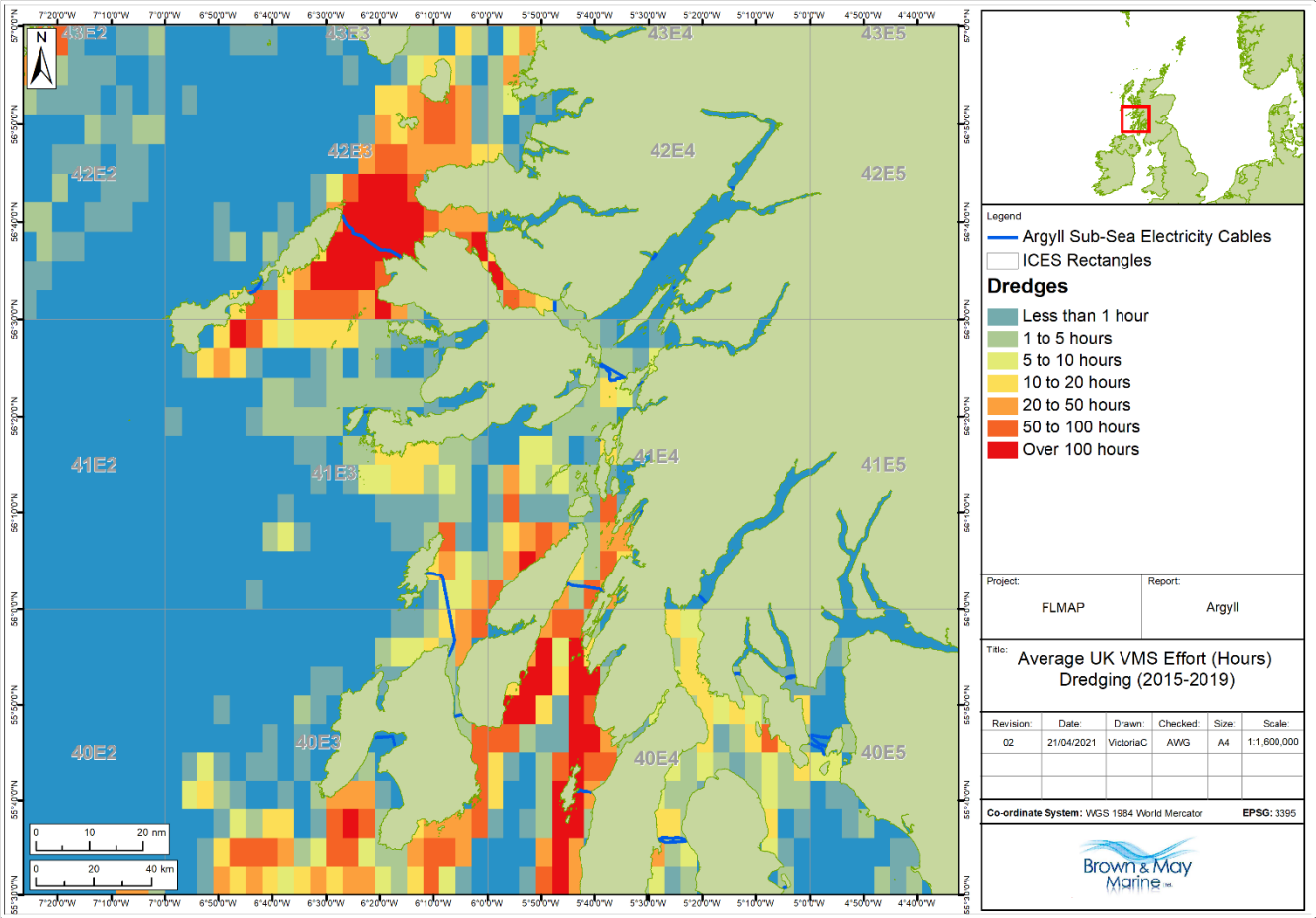


Figure 9 Average UK MMO VMS effort (hours) for dredges (2015-2019)

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			Distribution ✓	Transmission ✗
Revision: 1.00	Internal Use	Issue Date:	Review Date:	

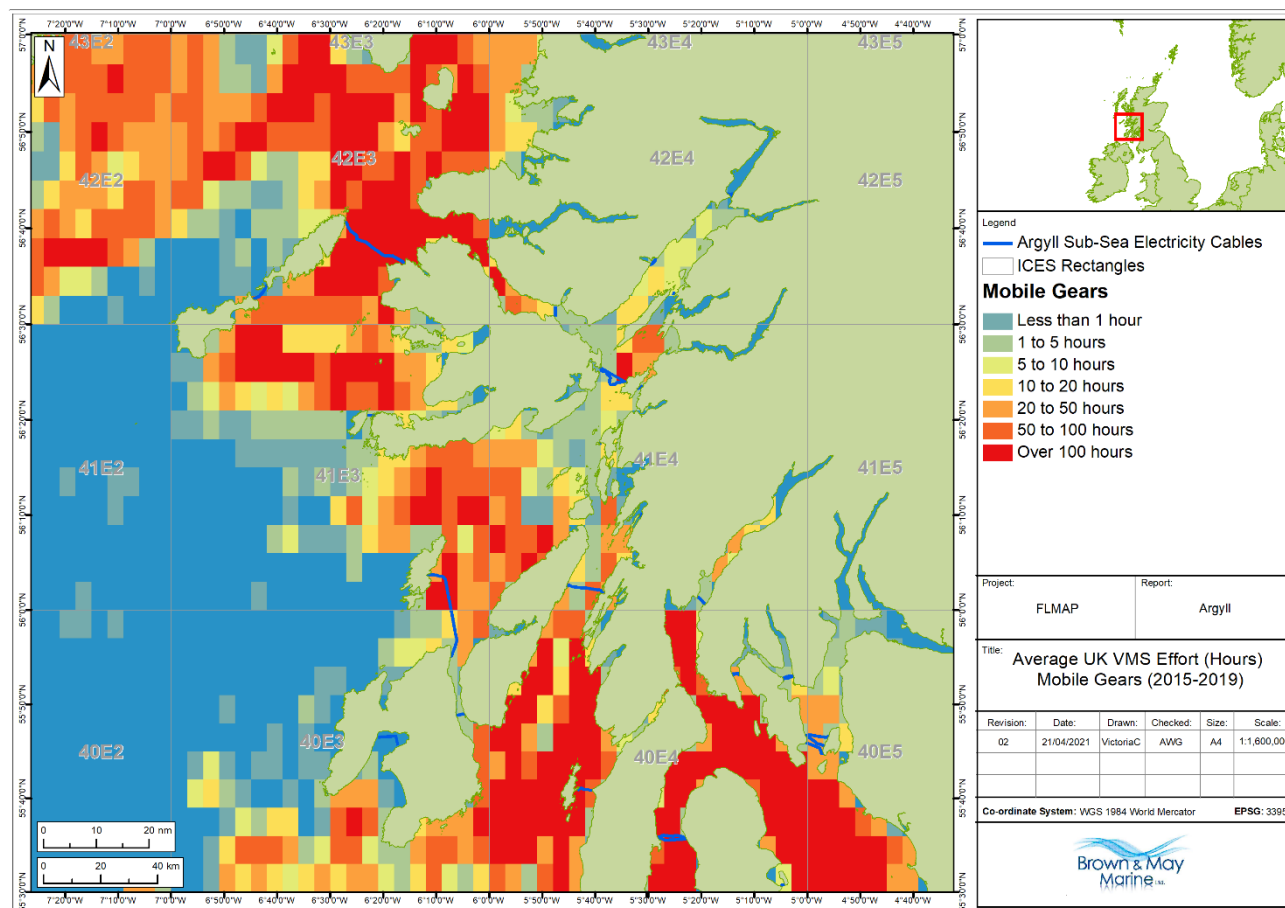


Figure 10 Average UK MMO VMS effort (hours) for mobile gear (2015-2019)

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			Distribution ✓	Transmission ✗
Revision: 1.00	Internal Use	Issue Date:	Review Date:	

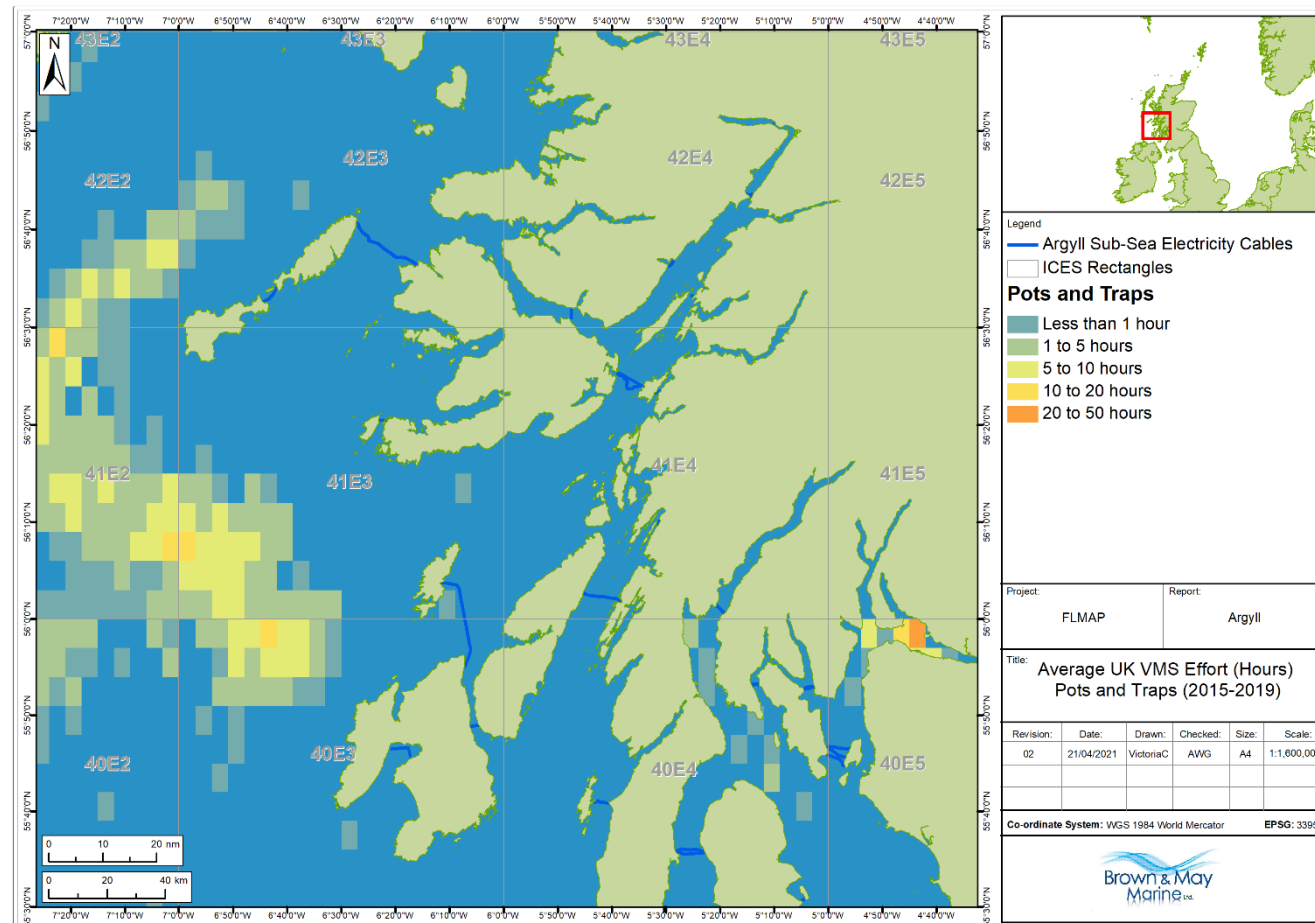


Figure 11 Average UK MMO VMS effort (hours) for pots & traps (2015-2019)

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			Distribution ✓	Transmission ✗
Revision: 1.00	Internal Use	Issue Date:	Review Date:	

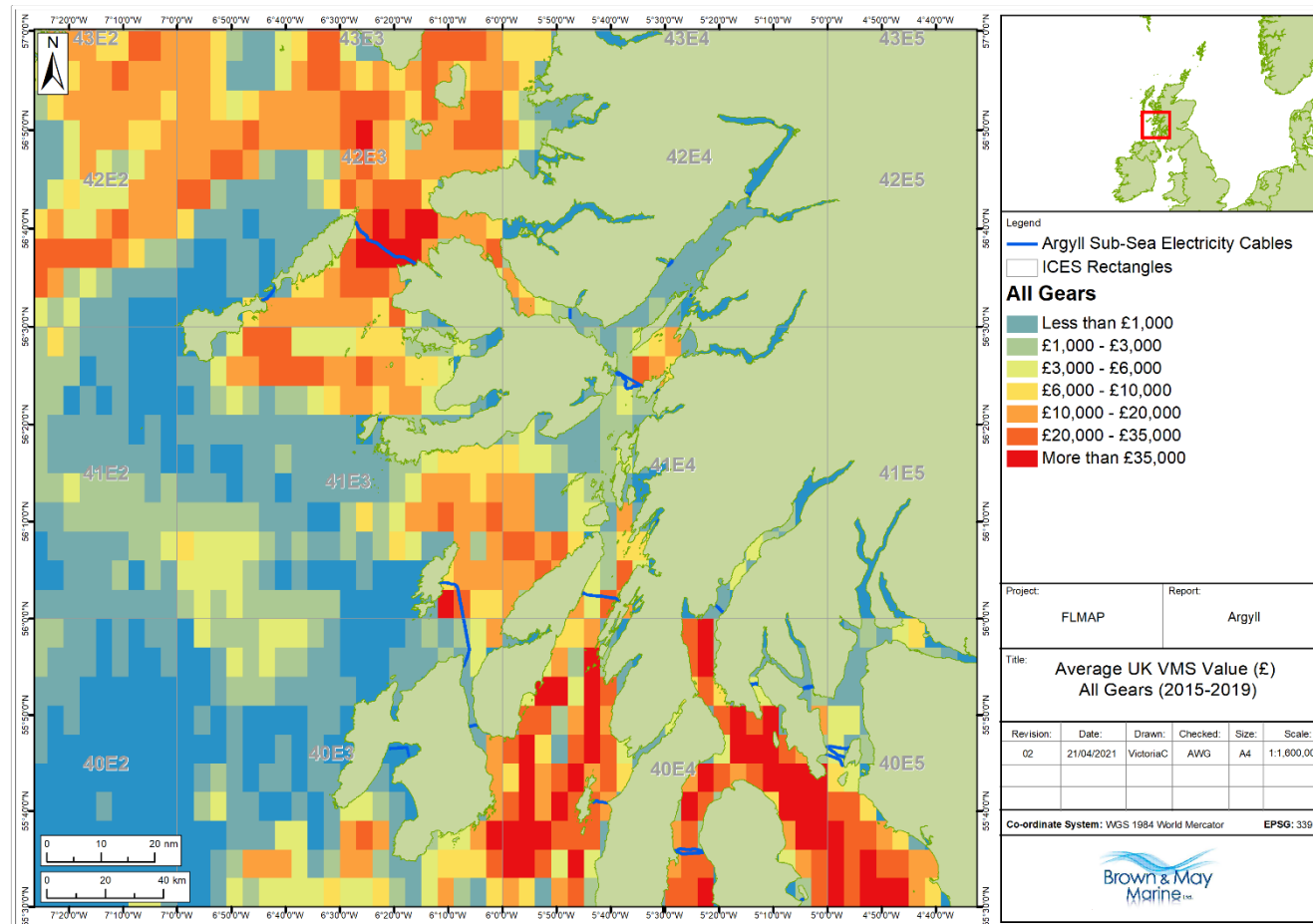


Figure 12 Average UK MMO VMS value (£) for all gears (2015-2019)

	Fishing Liaison Mitigation Action Plan for Argyll		Applies to	
			Distribution ✓	Transmission ✗
Revision: 1.00	Internal Use	Issue Date:	Review Date:	

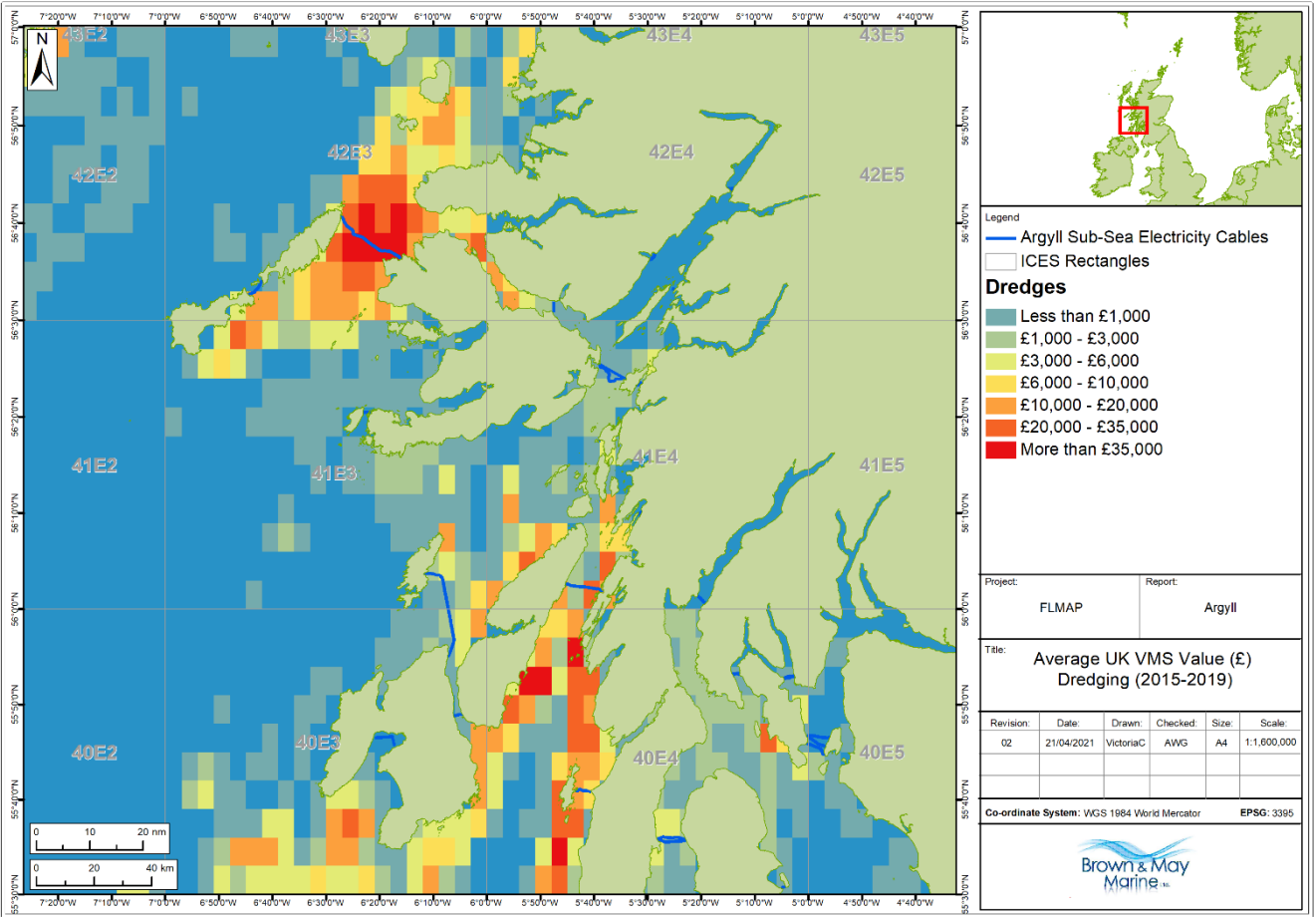


Figure 13 Average UK MMO VMS value (£) for dredging (2015-2019)

	Fishing Liaison Mitigation Action Plan for Argyll		Applies to	
			Distribution ✓	Transmission ✗
Revision: 1.00	Internal Use	Issue Date:	Review Date:	

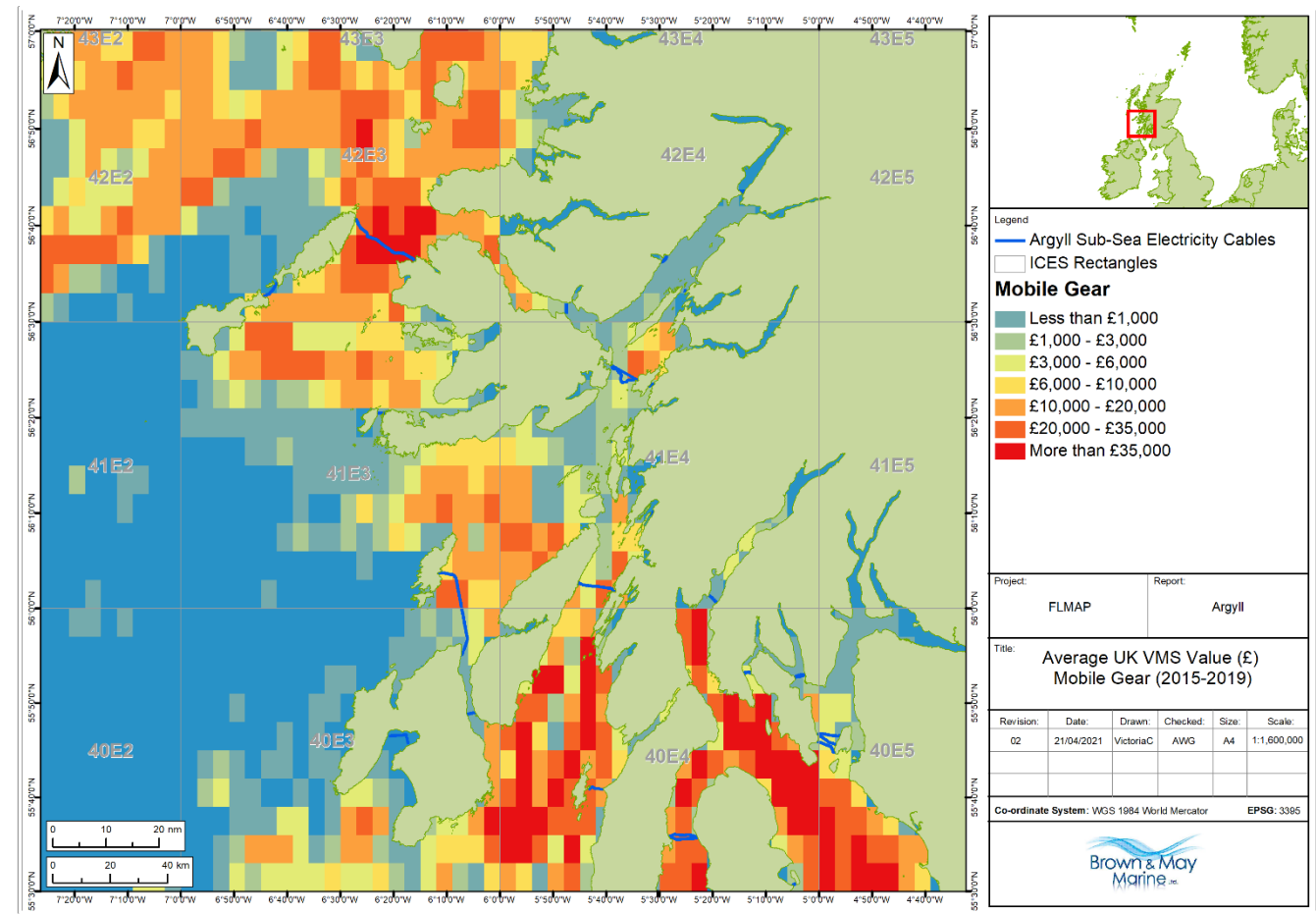


Figure 14 Average UK MMO VMS value (£) for mobile gears (2015-2019)

	Fishing Liaison Mitigation Action Plan for Argyll		Applies to	
			Distribution ✓	Transmission ✗
Revision: 1.00	Internal Use	Issue Date:	Review Date:	

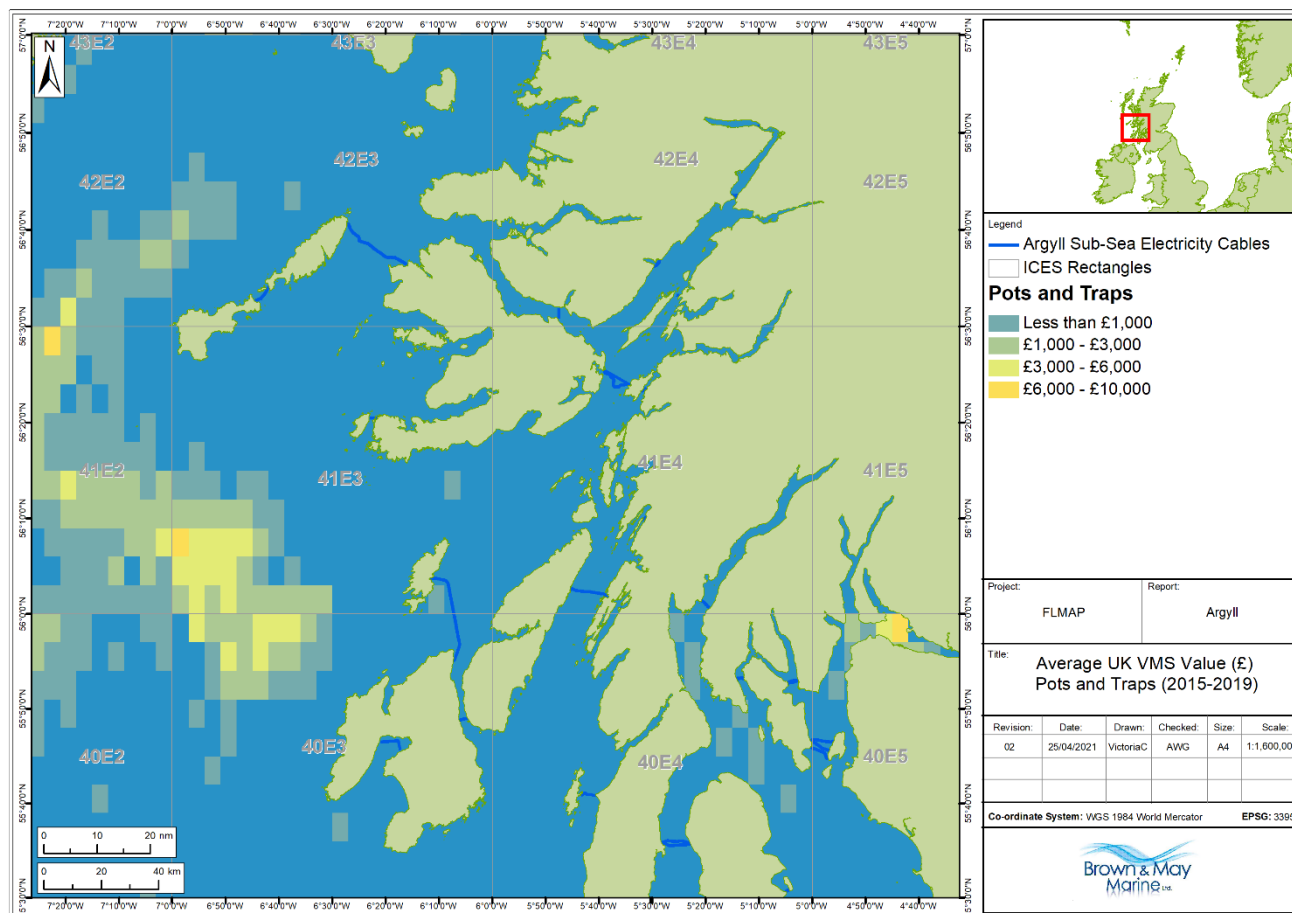


Figure 15 Average UK MMO VMS value (£) for pots and traps (2015-2019)

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			Distribution ✓	Transmission ✗
Revision: 1.00	Internal Use	Issue Date:	Review Date:	

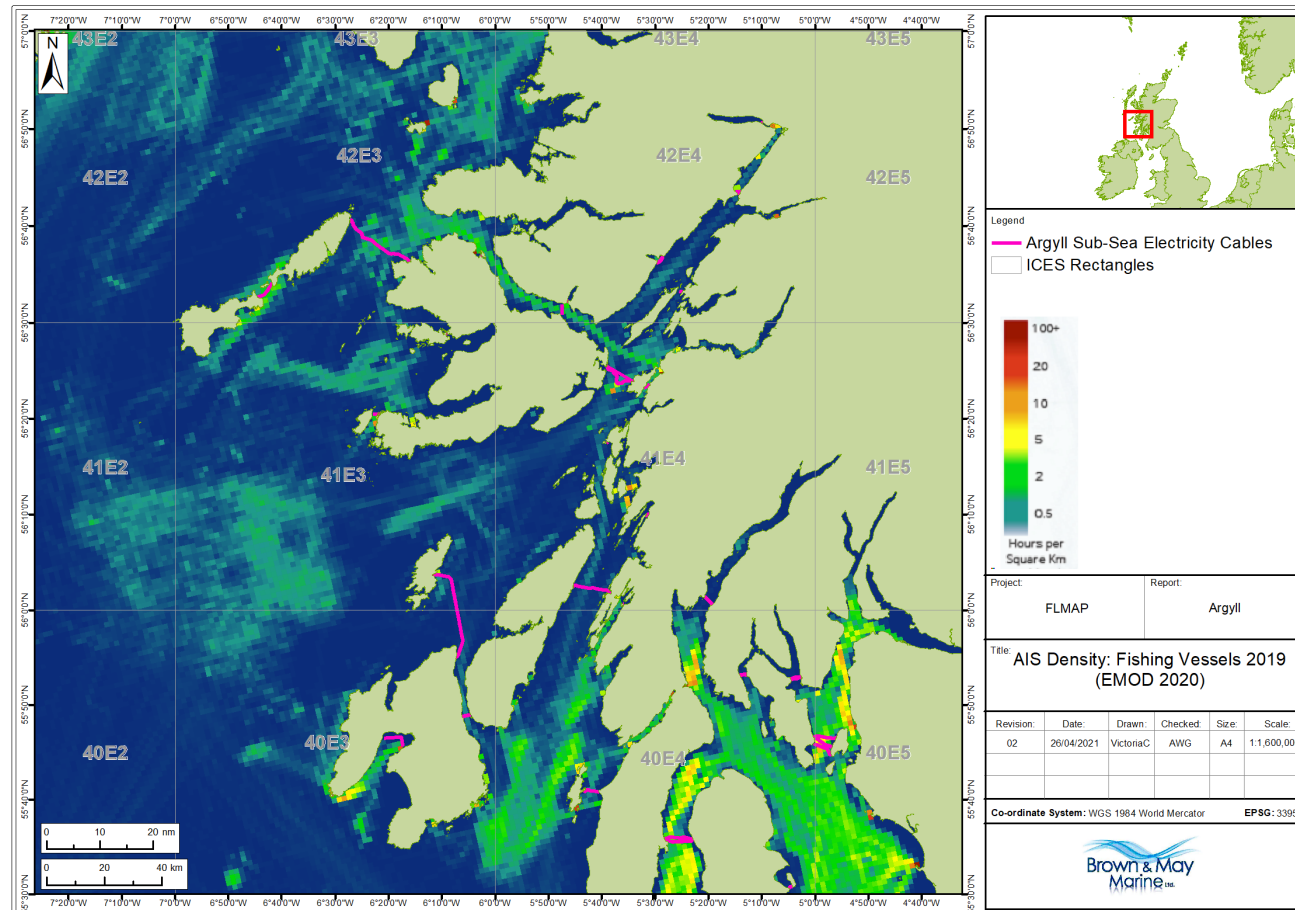


Figure 16 AIS density for fishing vessels in 2017 (EMODnet, 2020)

	Fishing Liaison Mitigation Action Plan for Argyll		Applies to	
			Distribution ✓	Transmission ✗
Revision: 1.00	Internal Use	Issue Date:	Review Date:	

Appendix D
Other Sea Users Charts

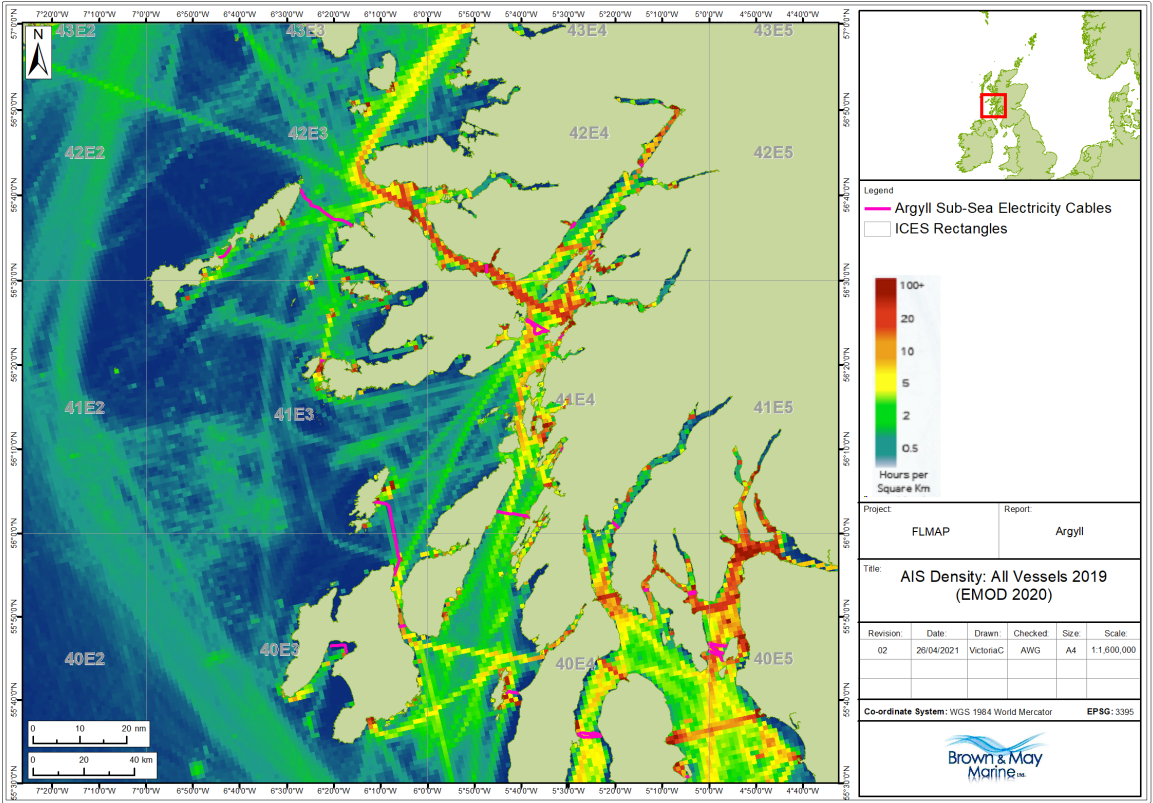


Figure 17 AIS density for all vessels (EMODnet, 2020)

	Fishing Liaison Mitigation Action Plan for Argyll		Applies to	
			Distribution ✓	Transmission ✗
Revision: 1.00	Internal Use	Issue Date:	Review Date:	

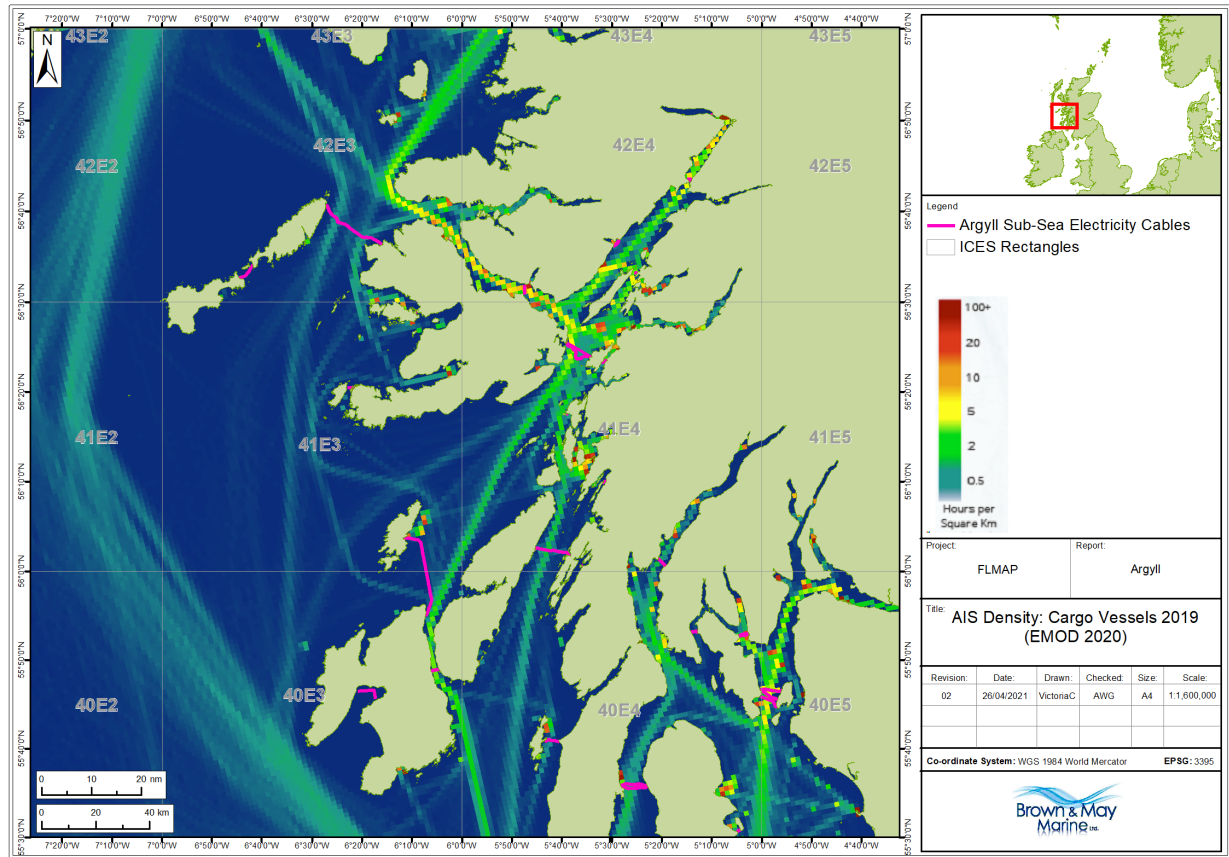


Figure 18 AIS density for cargo vessels (EMODnet, 2020)

	Fishing Liaison Mitigation Action Plan for Argyll		Applies to	
			Distribution ✓	Transmission ✗
Revision: 1.00	Internal Use	Issue Date:	Review Date:	

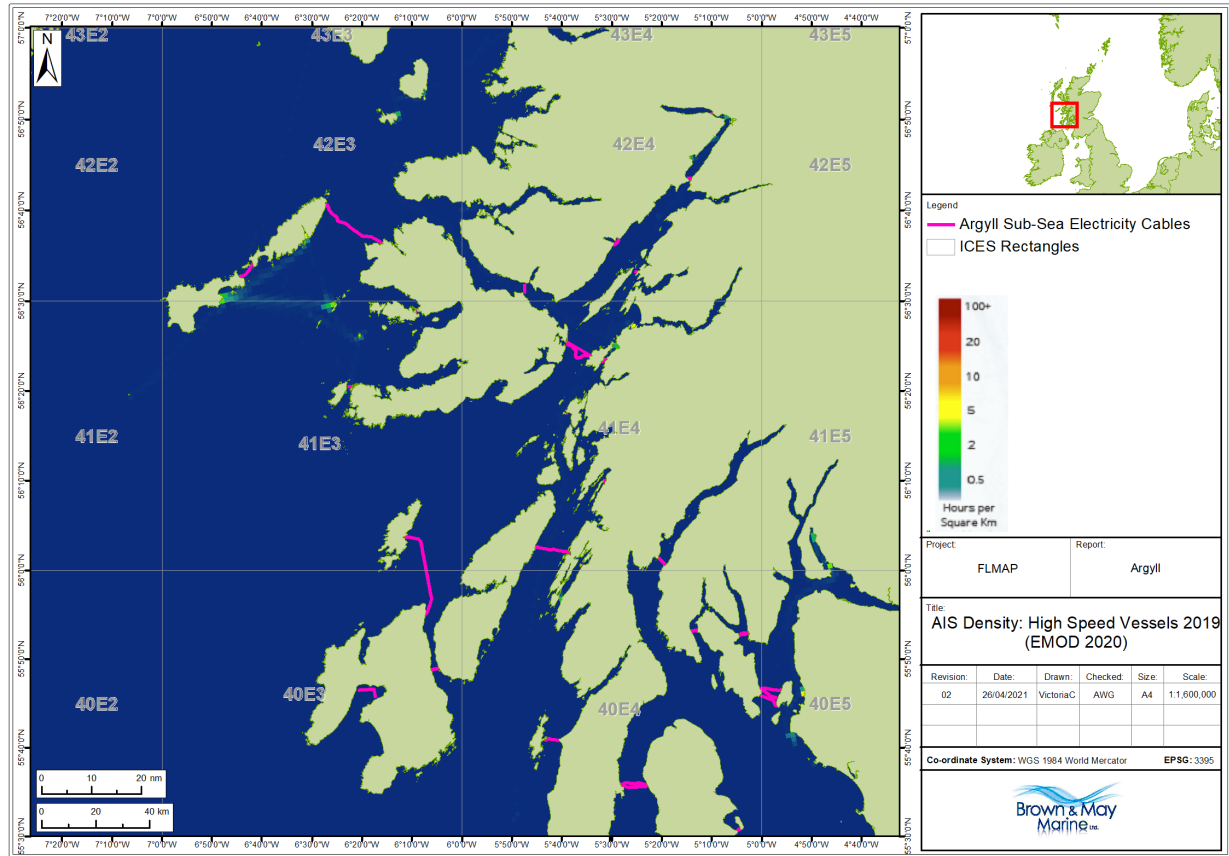


Figure 19 AIS density for high speed vessels (EMODnet, 2020)

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			Distribution ✓	Transmission ✗
Revision: 1.00	Internal Use	Issue Date:	Review Date:	

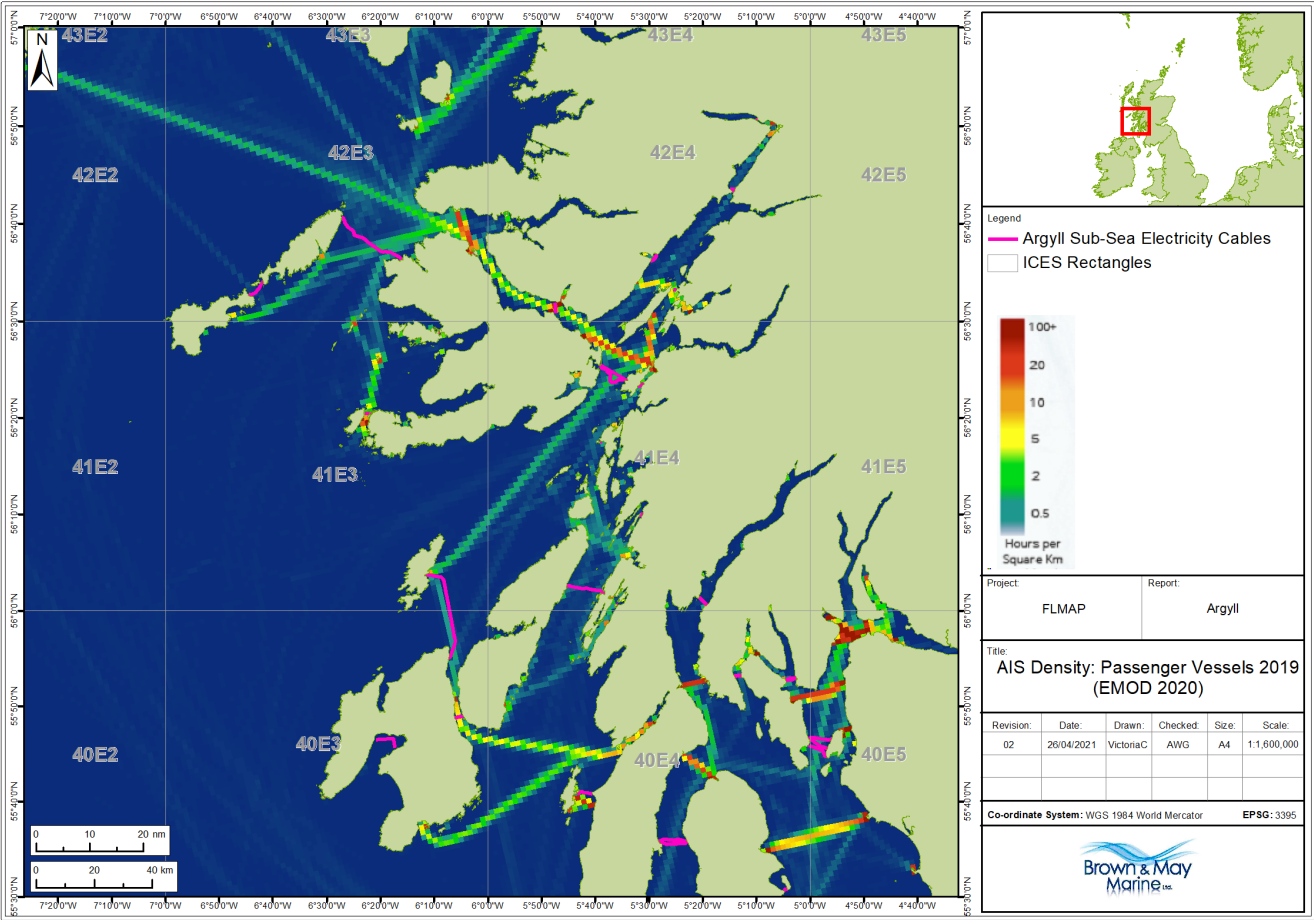


Figure 20 AIS density for passenger vessels (EMODnet, 2020)

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Revision: 1.00	Internal Use	Issue Date:	Review Date:	

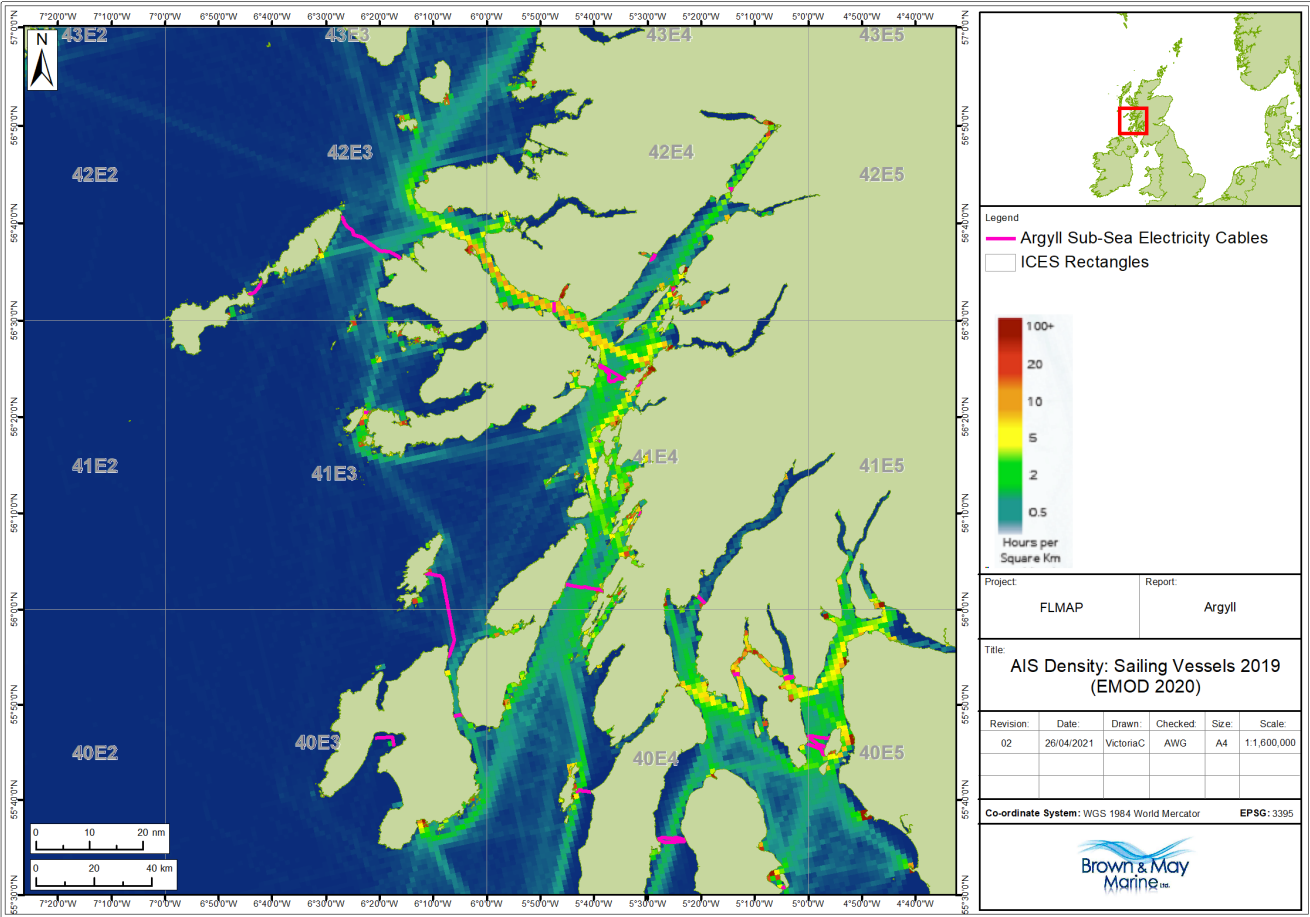


Figure 21 AIS density for sailing vessels (EMODnet, 2020)

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Revision: 1.00	Internal Use	Issue Date:	Review Date:	

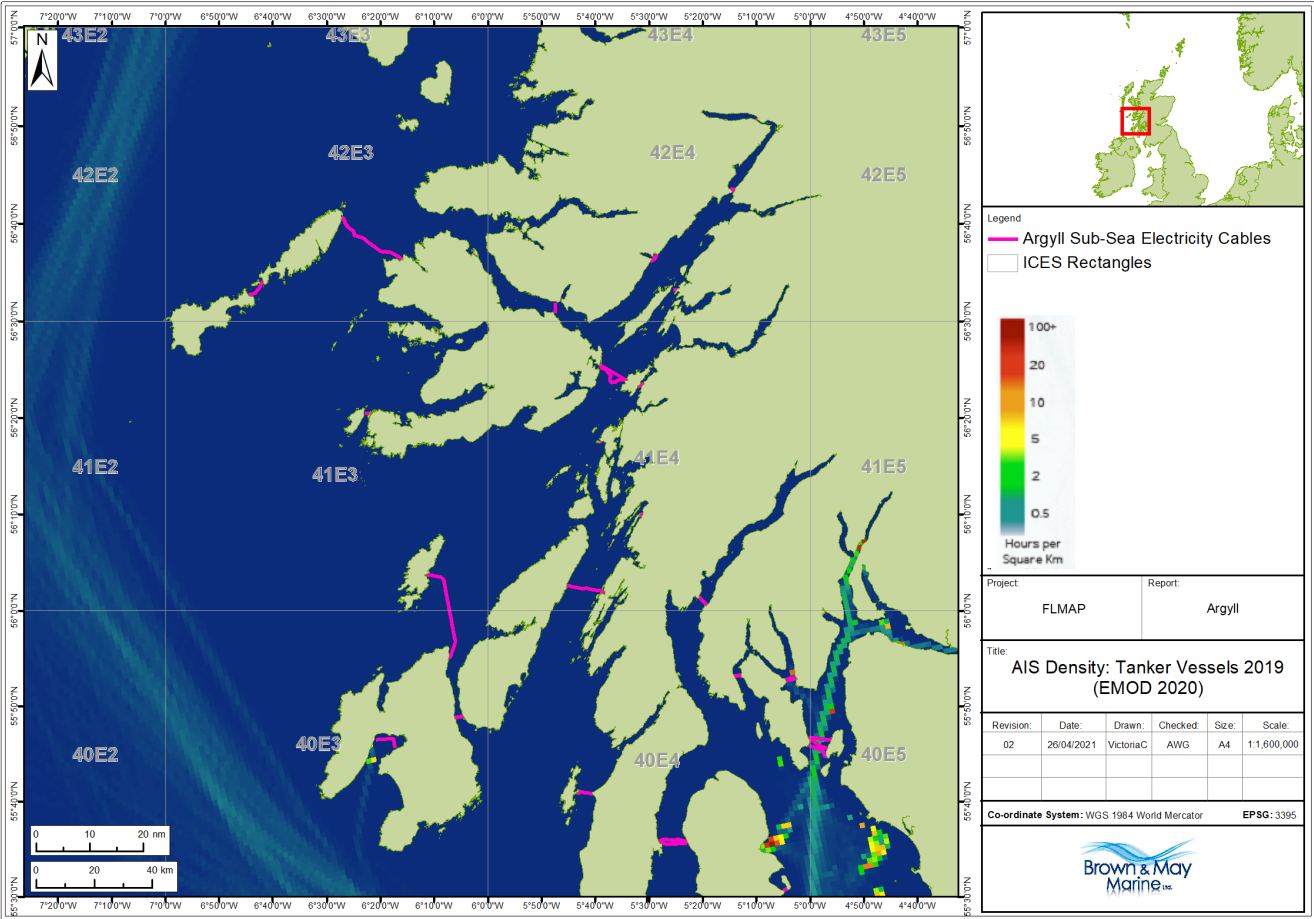


Figure 22 AIS density for tankers (EMODnet, 2020)

	Fishing Liaison Mitigation Action Plan for Argyll		Applies to	
			Distribution ✓	Transmission ✗
Revision: 1.00	Internal Use	Issue Date:	Review Date:	

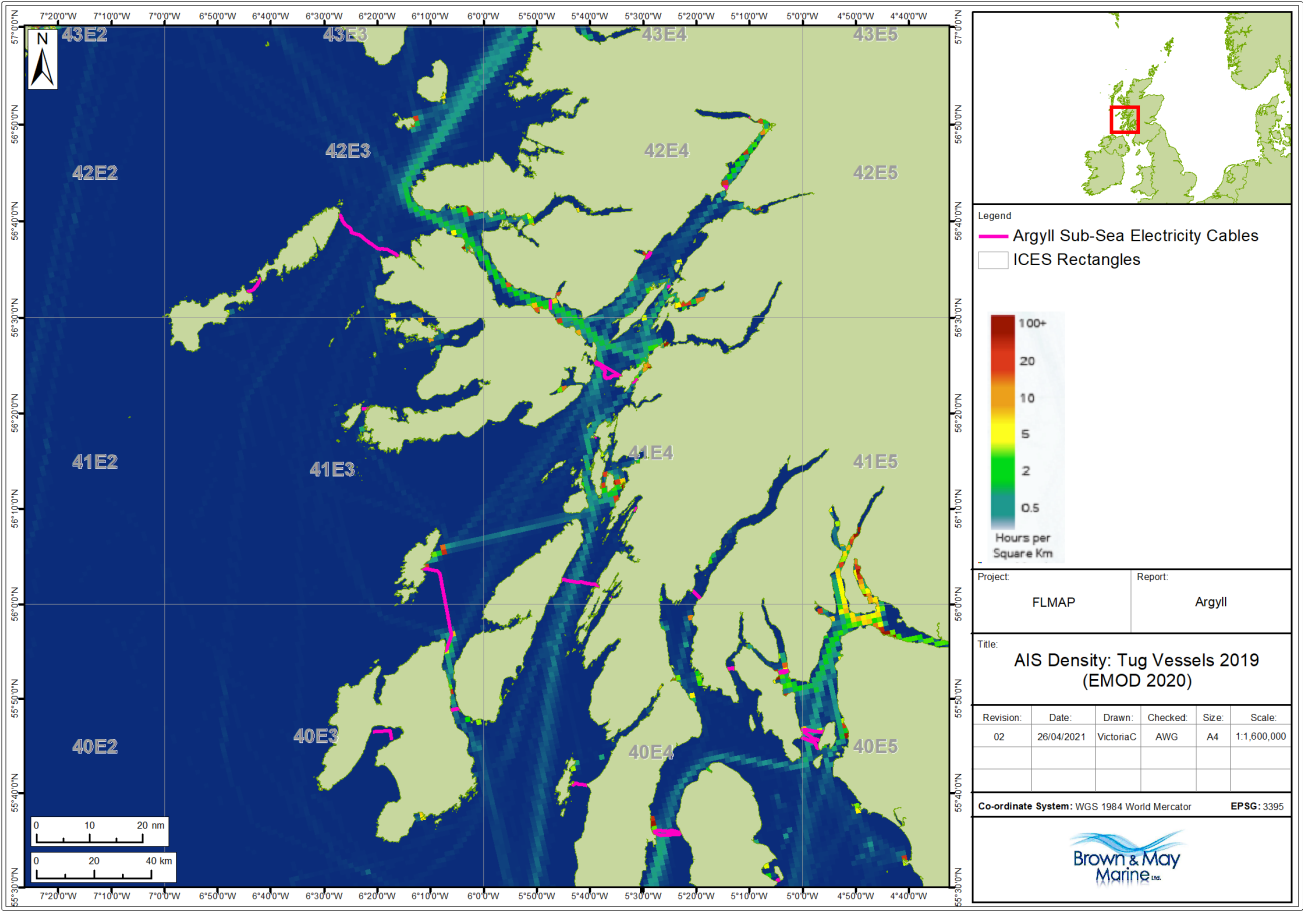


Figure 23 AIS density for tugs (EMODnet, 2020)

	Fishing Liaison Mitigation Action Plan for Argyll		Applies to	
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Revision: 1.00	Internal Use	Issue Date:	Review Date:	

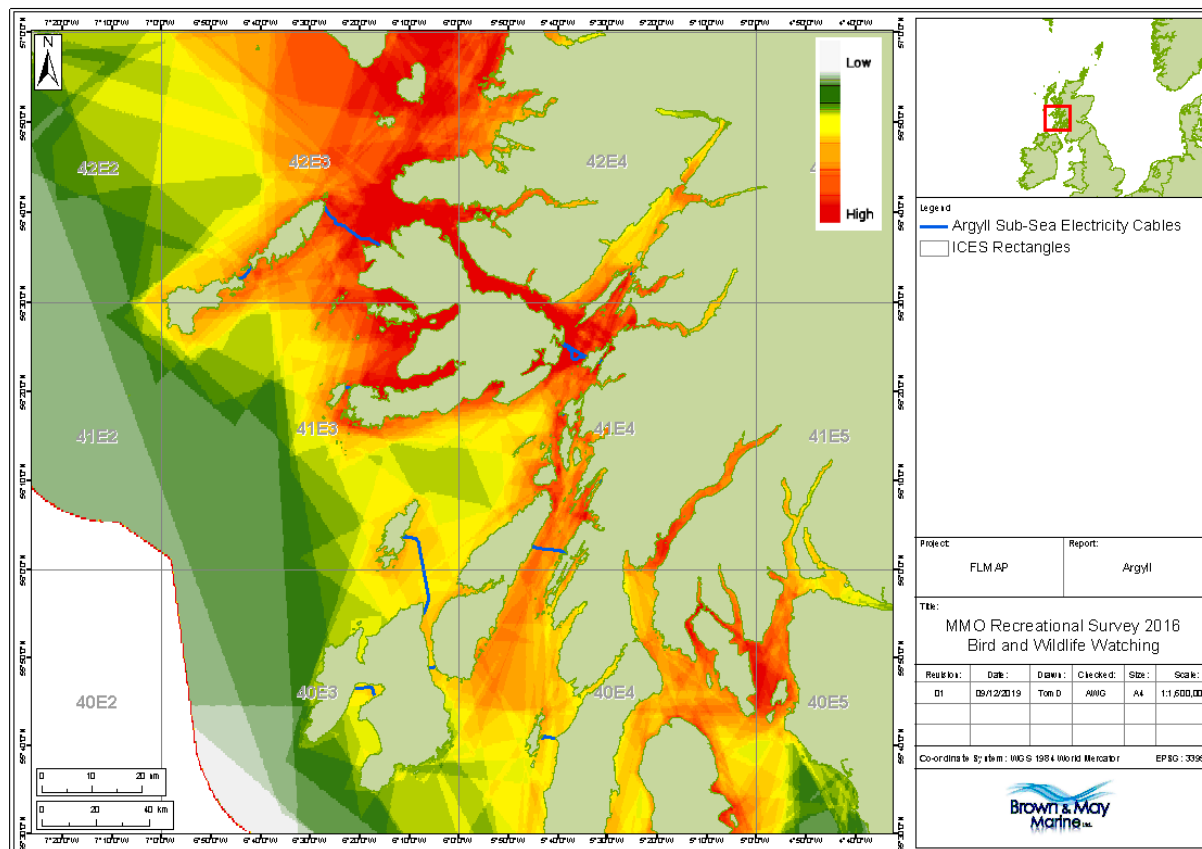


Figure 24 Bird and wildlife watching (Marine Scotland 2018)

	Fishing Liaison Mitigation Action Plan for Argyll		Applies to	
			Distribution ✓	Transmission ✗
Revision: 1.00	Internal Use	Issue Date:	Review Date:	

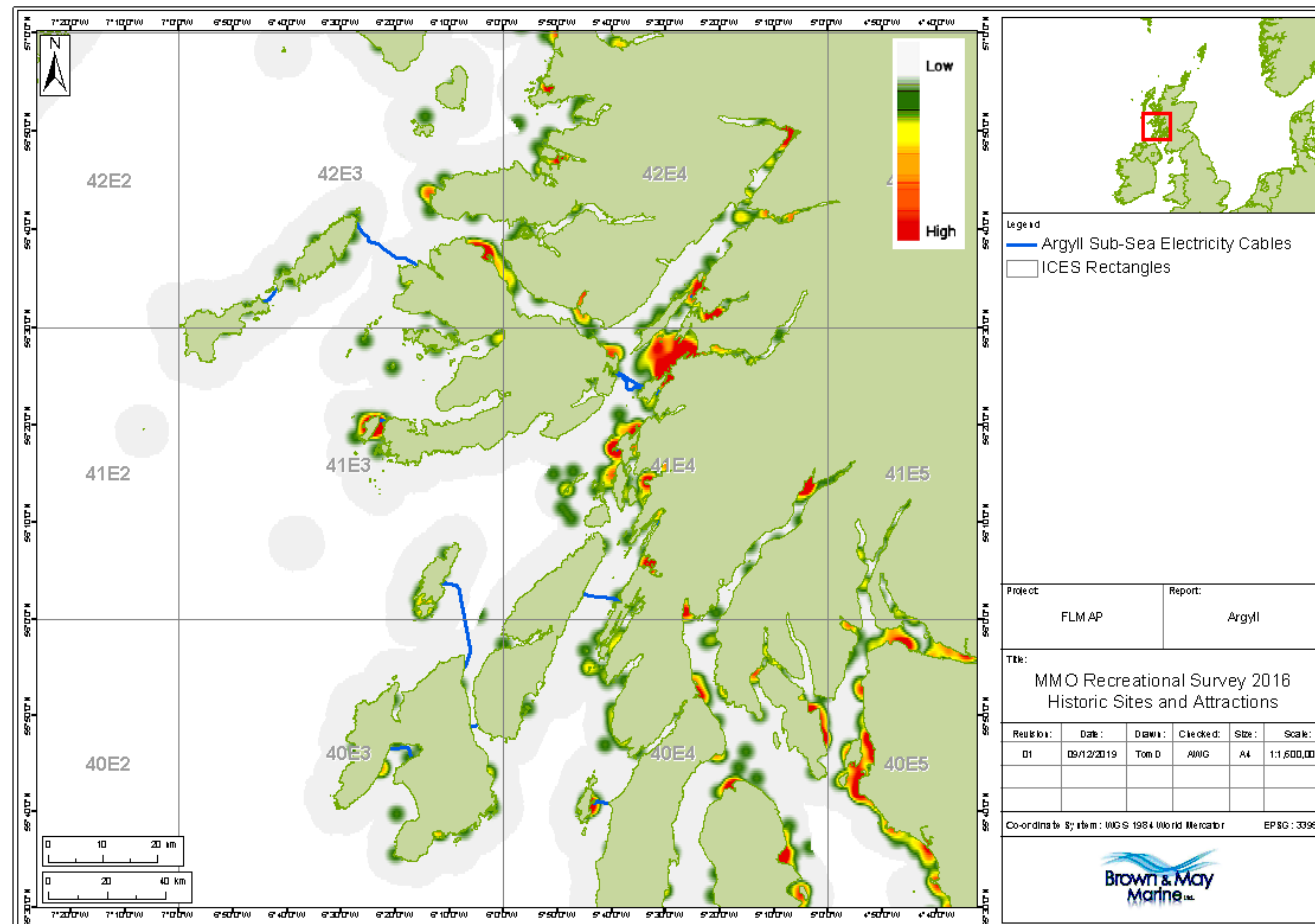


Figure 25 Historic sites and attractions (Marine Scotland 2018)

	Fishing Liaison Mitigation Action Plan for Argyll		Applies to	
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Revision: 1.00	Internal Use	Issue Date:	Review Date:	

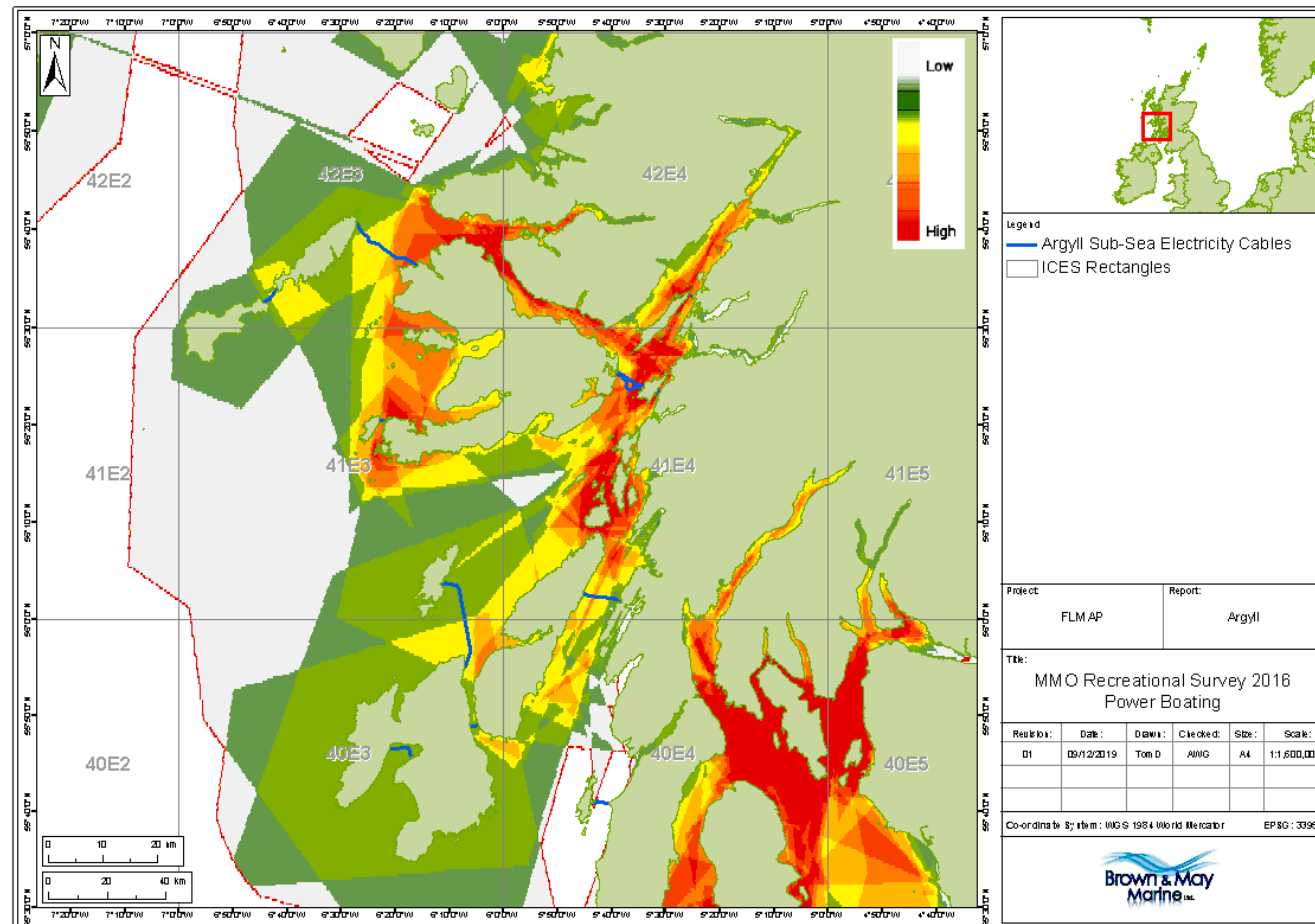


Figure 26 Power boating (Marine Scotland 2018)

	Fishing Liaison Mitigation Action Plan for Argyll		Applies to	
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Revision: 1.00	Internal Use	Issue Date:	Review Date:	

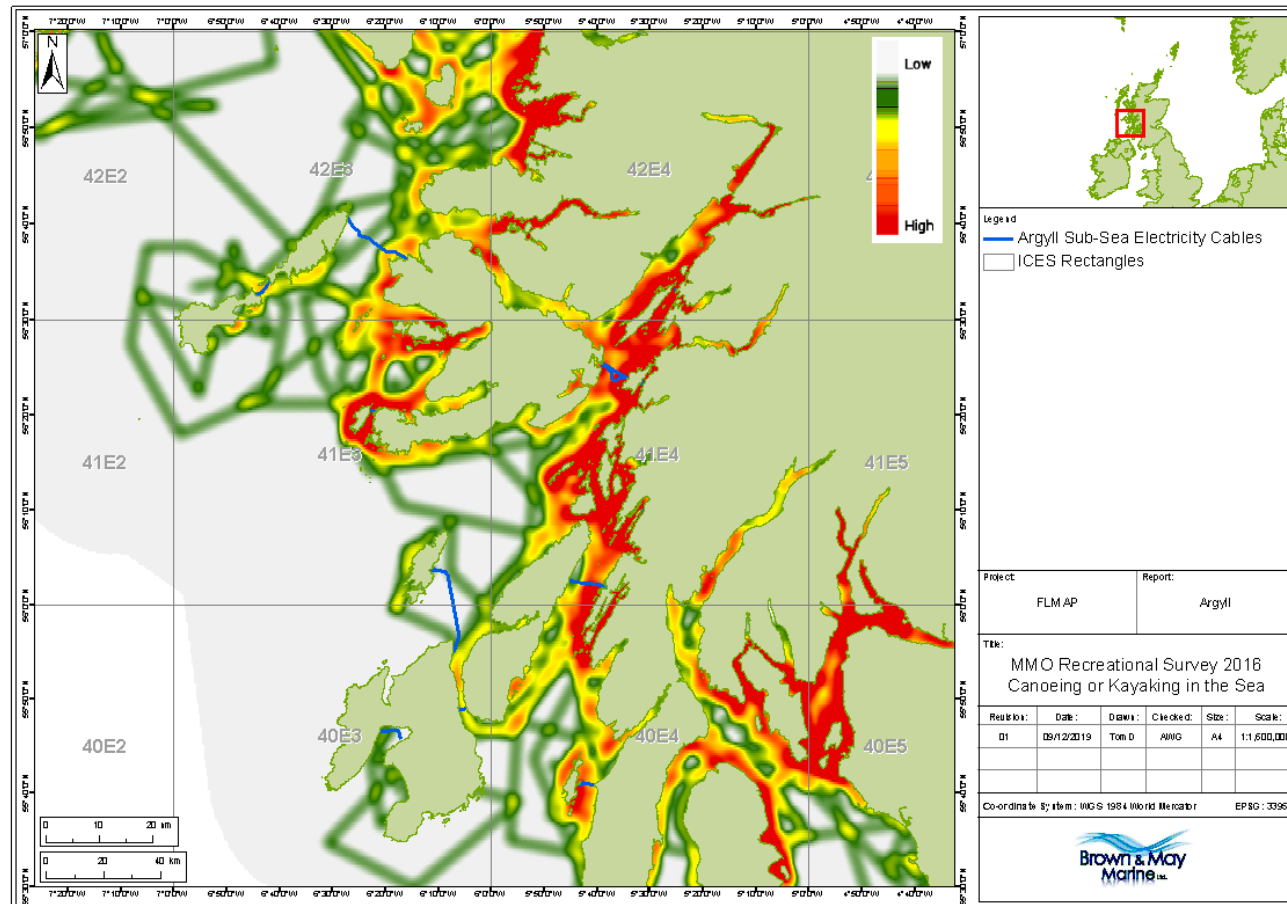


Figure 27 Canoeing and kayaking (Marine Scotland 2018)

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Revision: 1.00	Internal Use	Issue Date:	Review Date:	

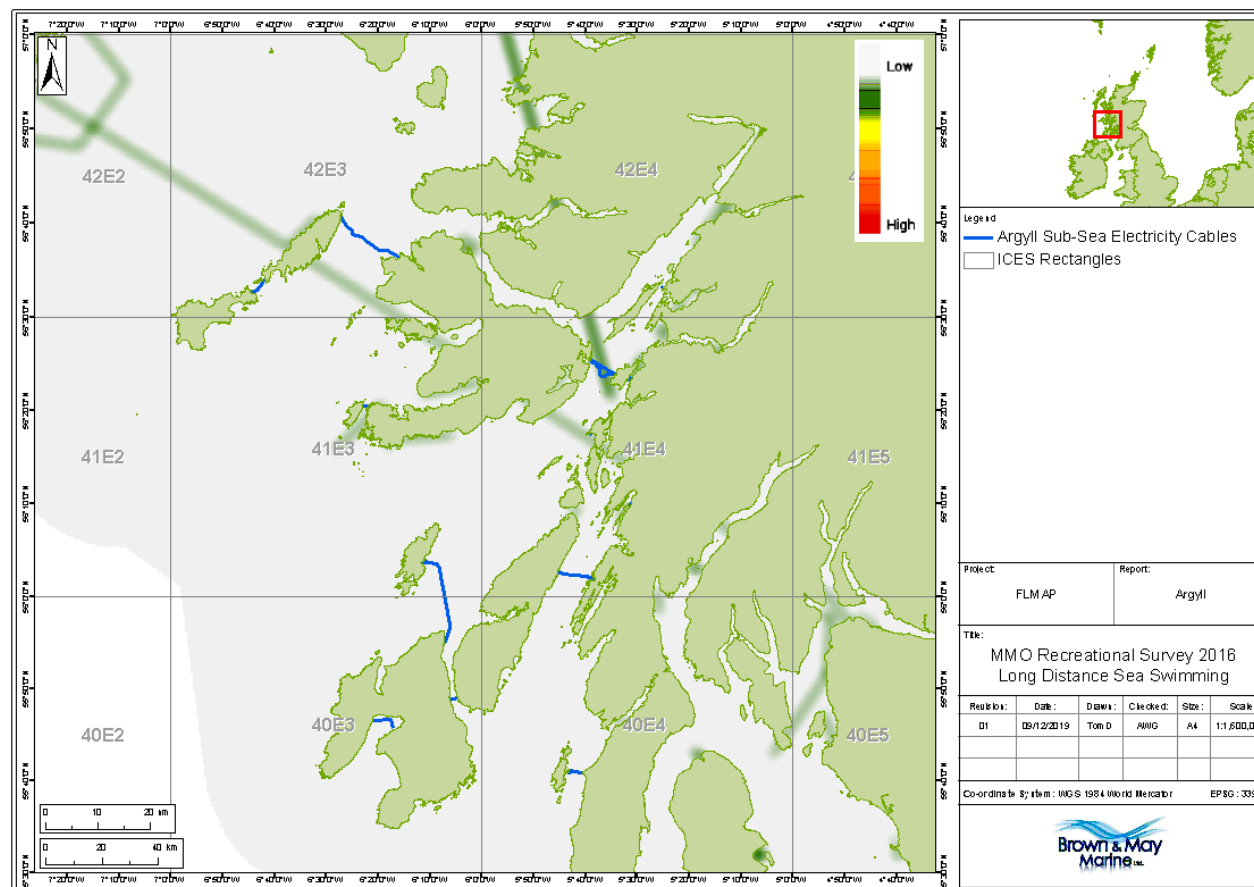


Figure 28 Long distance swimming (Marine Scotland 2018)

	Fishing Liaison Mitigation Action Plan for Argyll		Applies to	
			Distribution ✓	Transmission ✗
Revision: 1.00	Internal Use	Issue Date:	Review Date:	

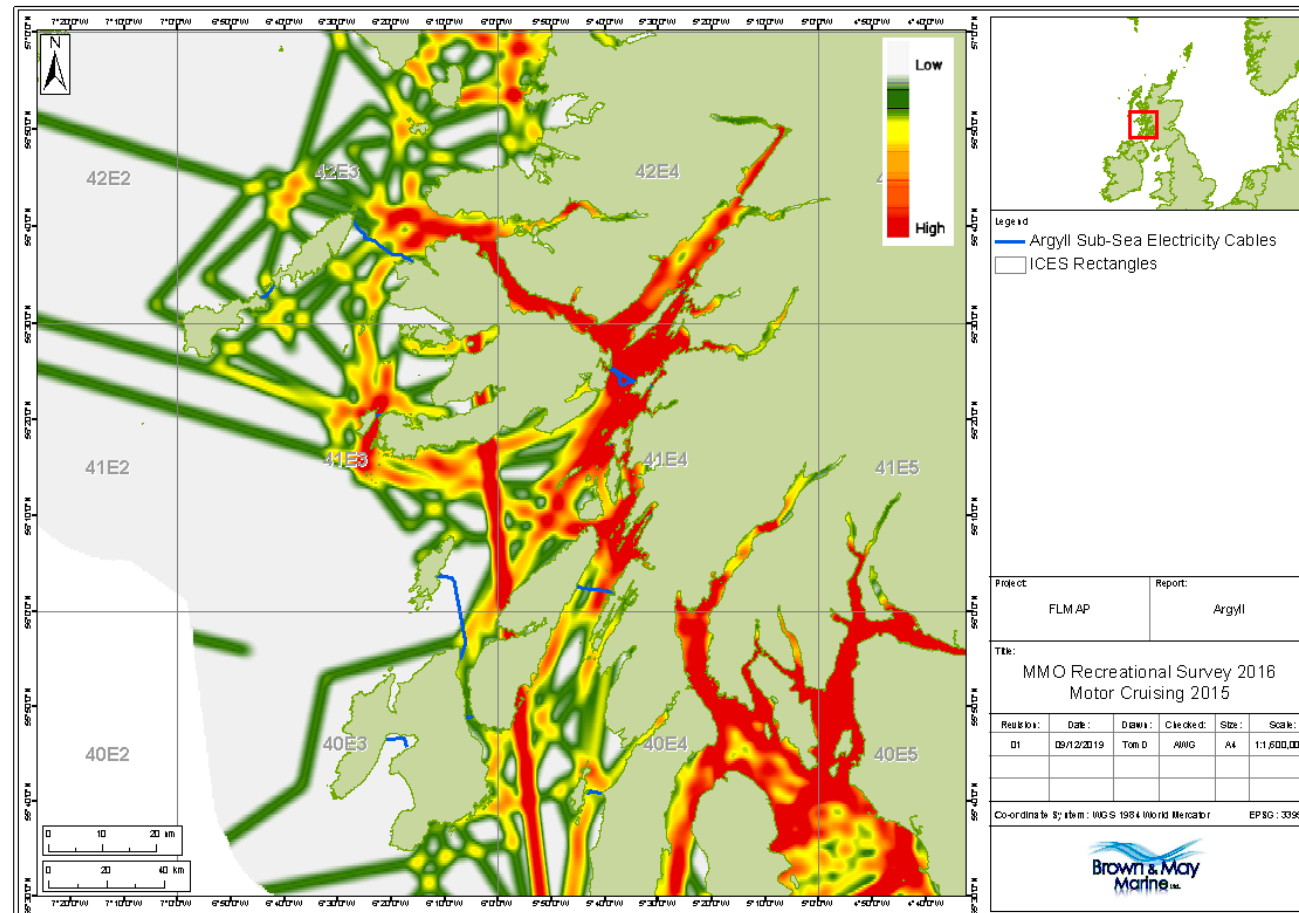


Figure 29 Motor cruising (Marine Scotland 2018)

	Fishing Liaison Mitigation Action Plan for Argyll		Applies to	
			Distribution ✓	Transmission ✗
Revision: 1.00	Internal Use	Issue Date:	Review Date:	

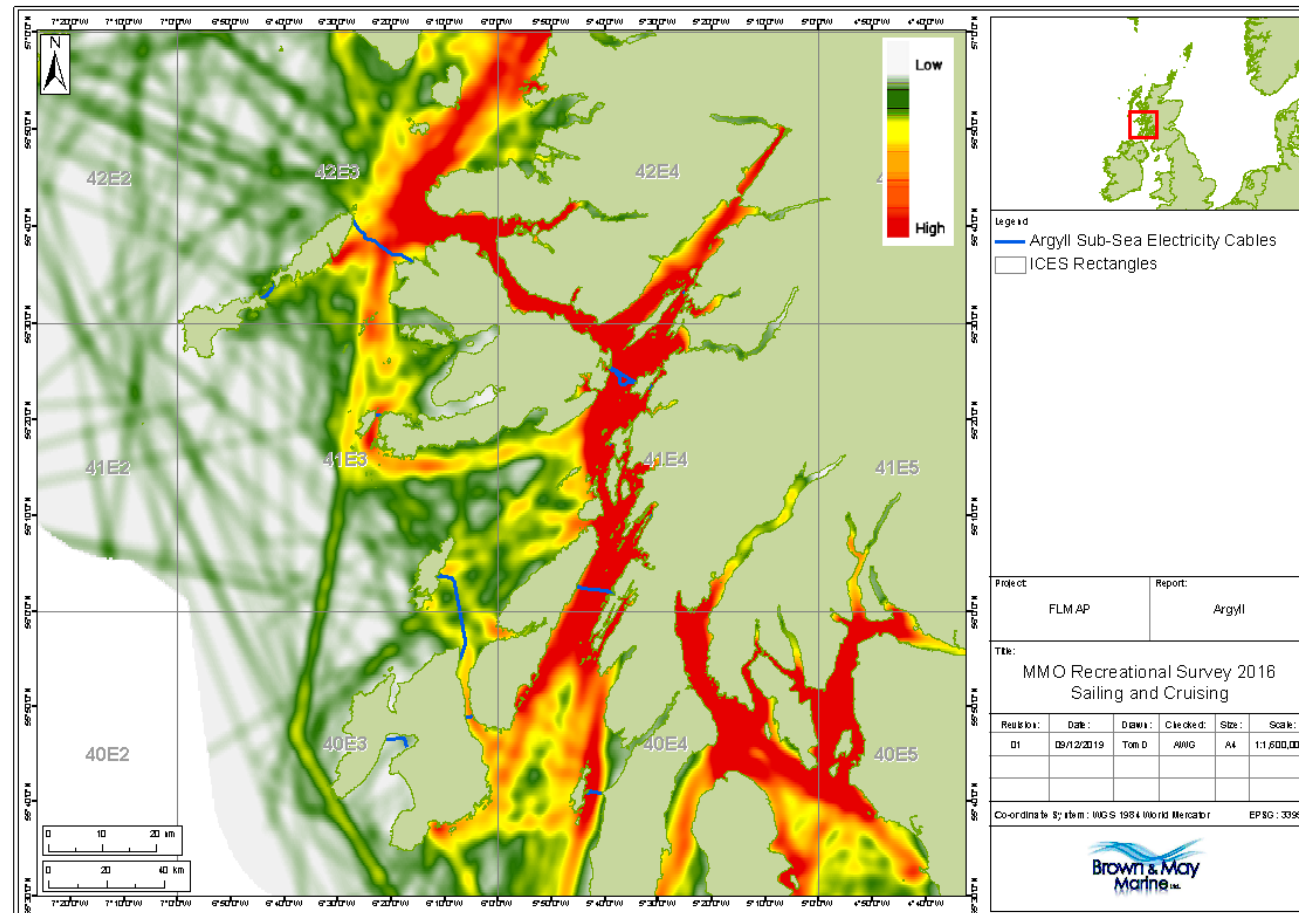


Figure 30 Sailing and cruising (Marine Scotland 2018)

	Fishing Liaison Mitigation Action Plan for Argyll		Applies to	
			Distribution ✓	Transmission ✗
Revision: 1.00	Internal Use	Issue Date:	Review Date:	

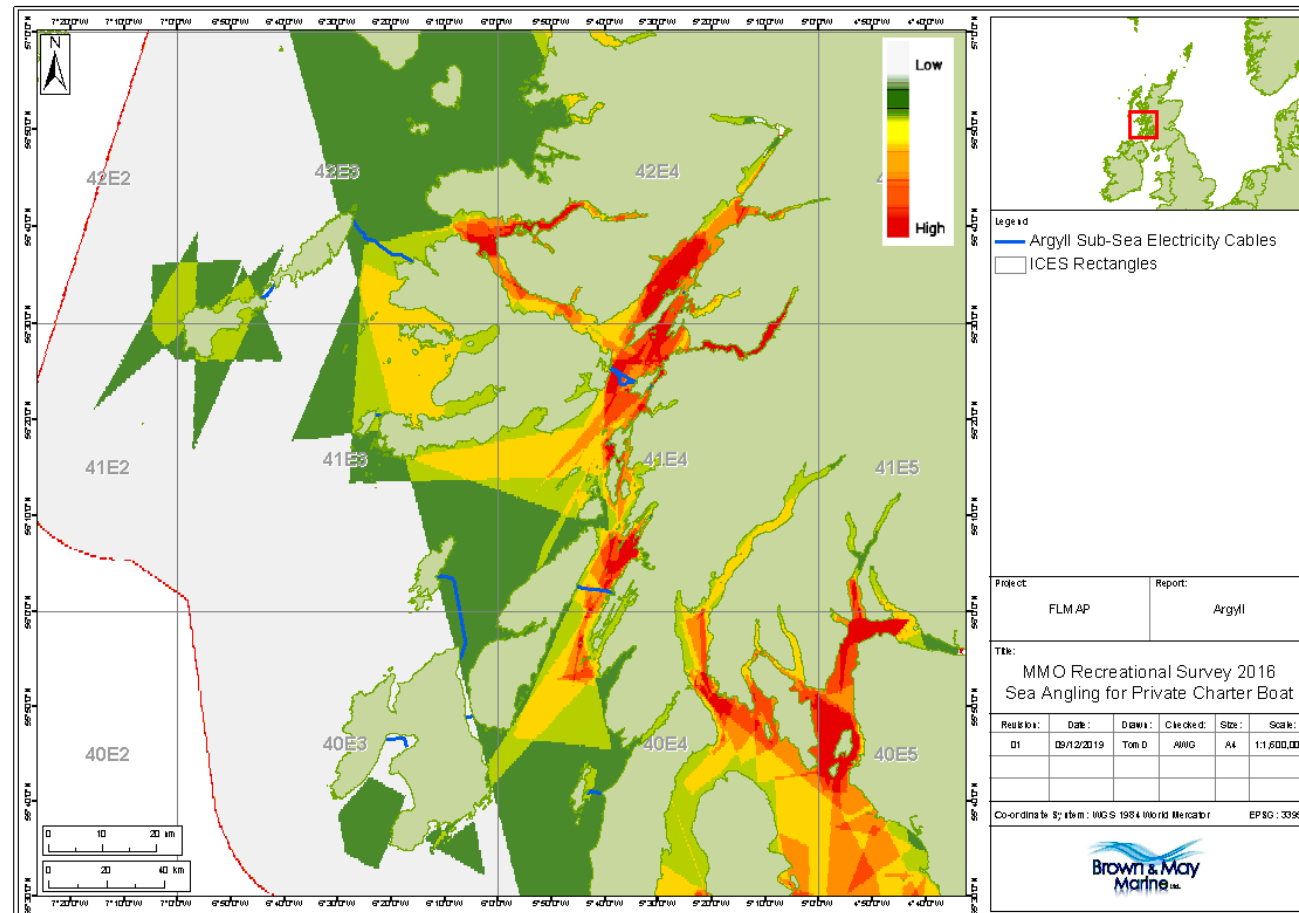


Figure 31 Chartered angling (Marine Scotland 2018)

	Fishing Liaison Mitigation Action Plan for Argyll		Applies to	
			Distribution ✓	Transmission ✗
Revision: 1.00	Internal Use	Issue Date:	Review Date:	

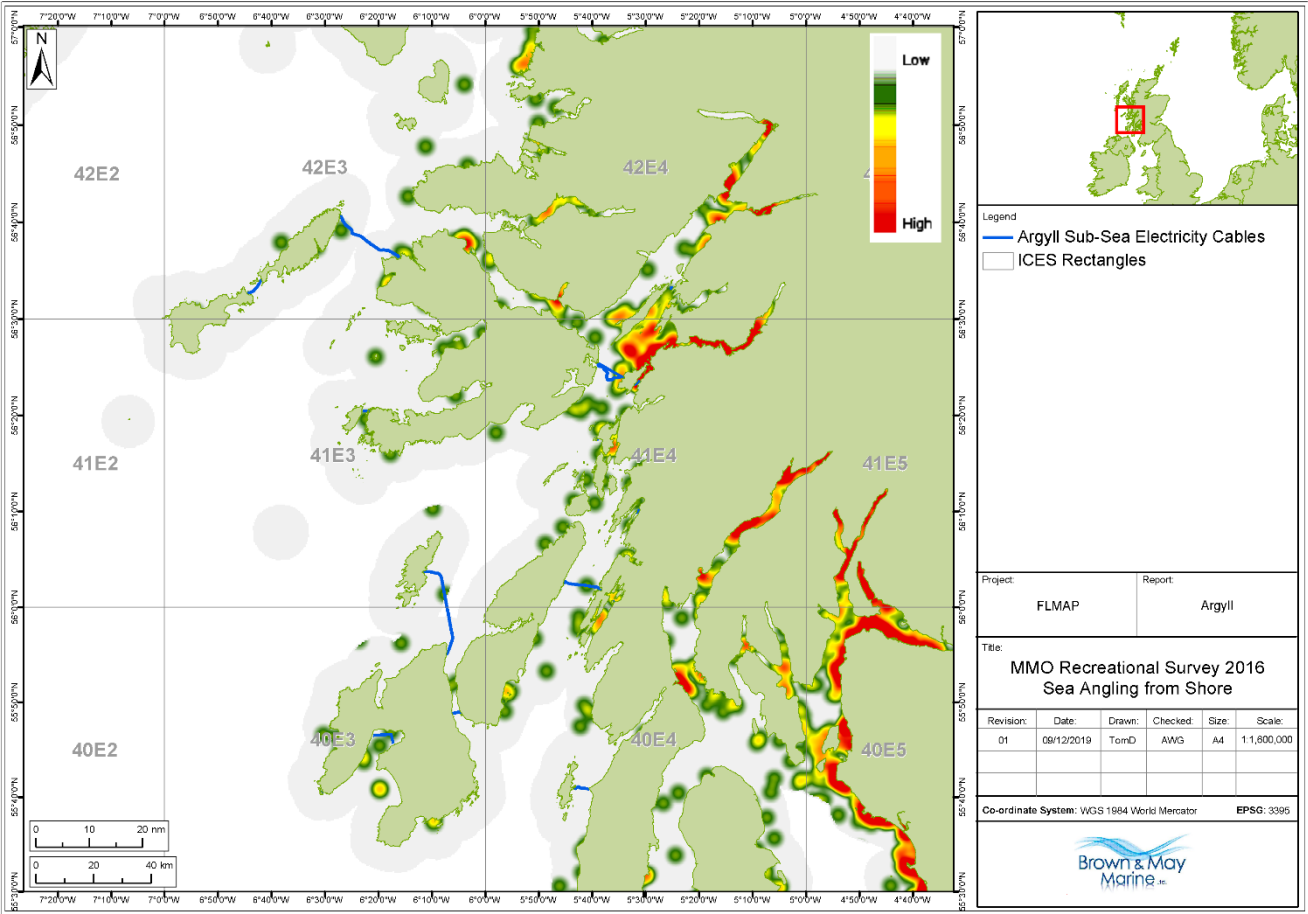


Figure 32 Sea angling from shore (Marine Scotland 2018)

	Fishing Liaison Mitigation Action Plan for Argyll		Applies to	
			Distribution ✓	Transmission ✗
Revision: 1.00	Internal Use	Issue Date:	Review Date:	

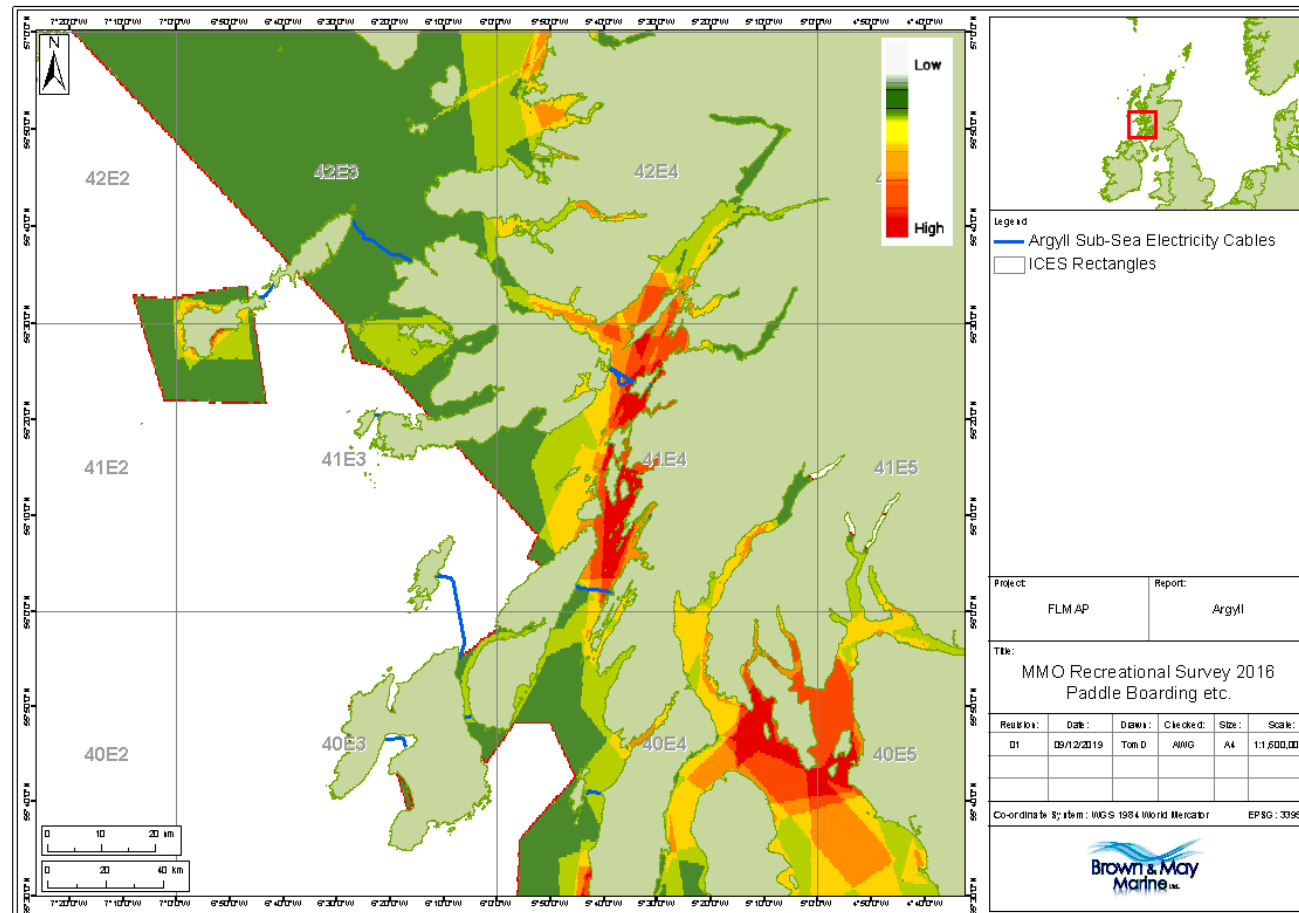


Figure 33 Surfing and paddle boarding (Marine Scotland 2018)

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			Distribution ✓	Transmission ✗
Revision: 1.00	Internal Use	Issue Date:	Review Date:	

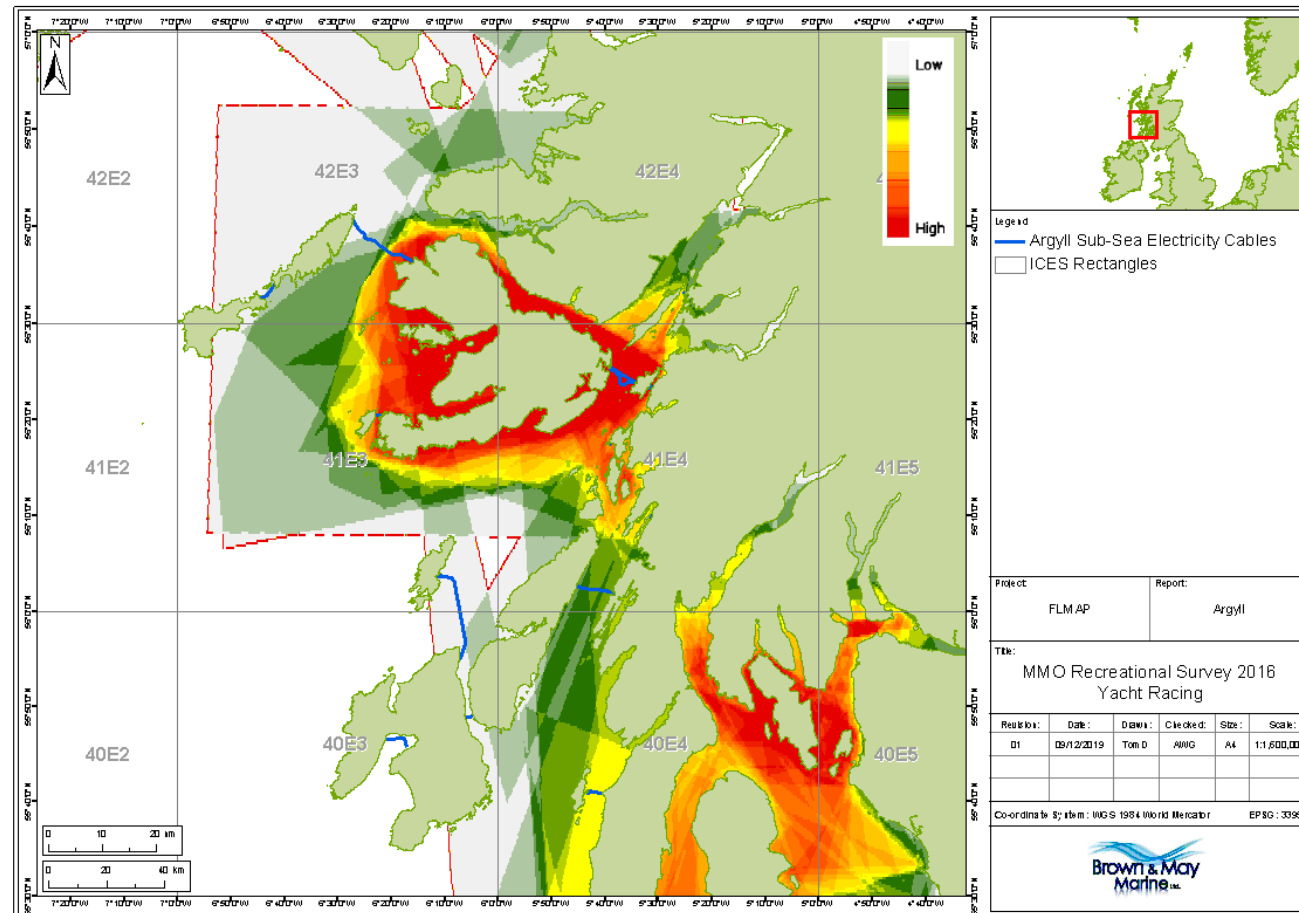


Figure 34 Yacht racing (Marine Scotland 2018)

	Fishing Liaison Mitigation Action Plan for Argyll		Applies to	
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Revision: 1.00	Internal Use	Issue Date:	Review Date:	

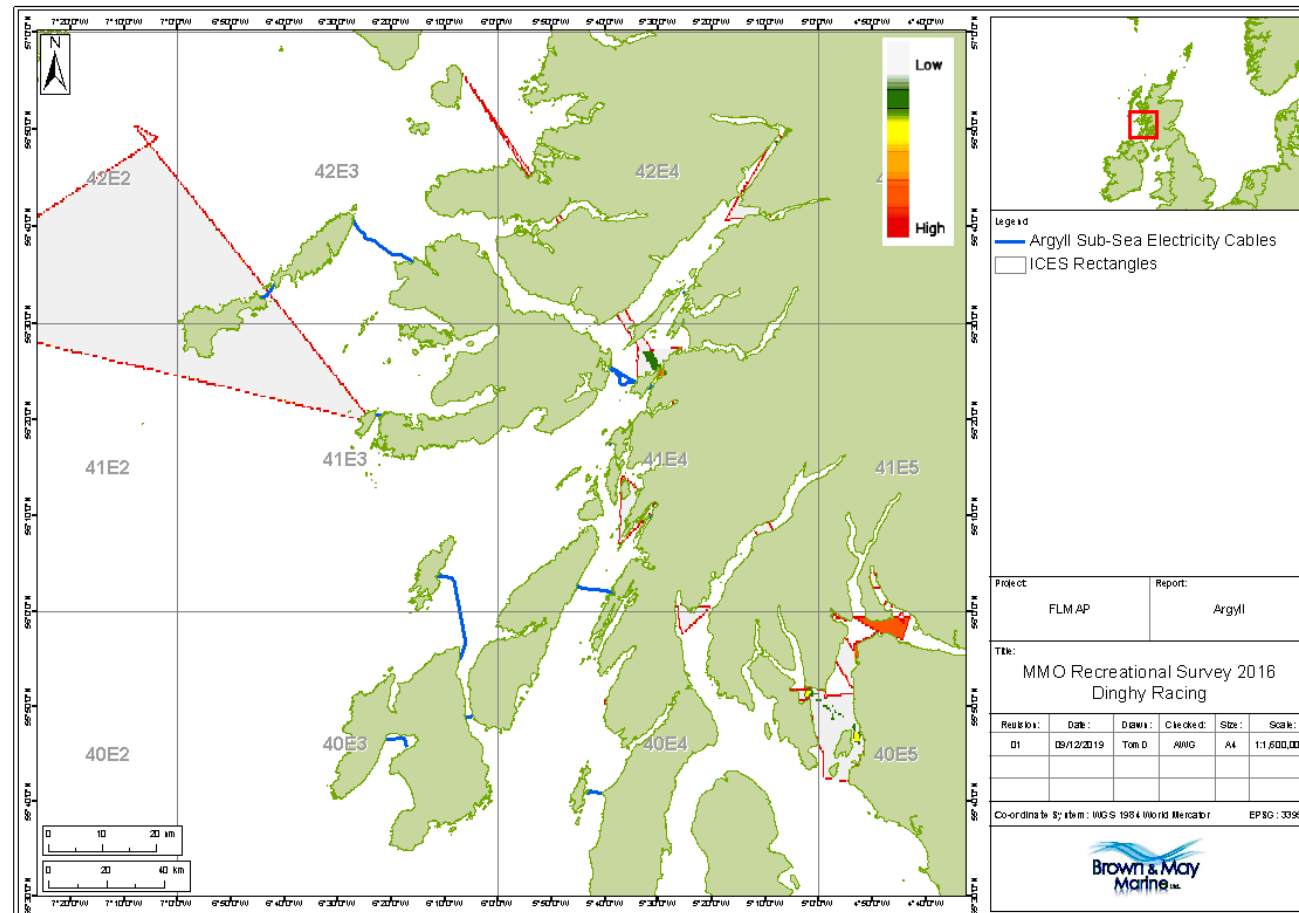


Figure 35 Dinghy racing (Marine Scotland 2018)

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			Distribution ✓	Transmission ✗
Revision: 1.00	Internal Use	Issue Date:	Review Date:	

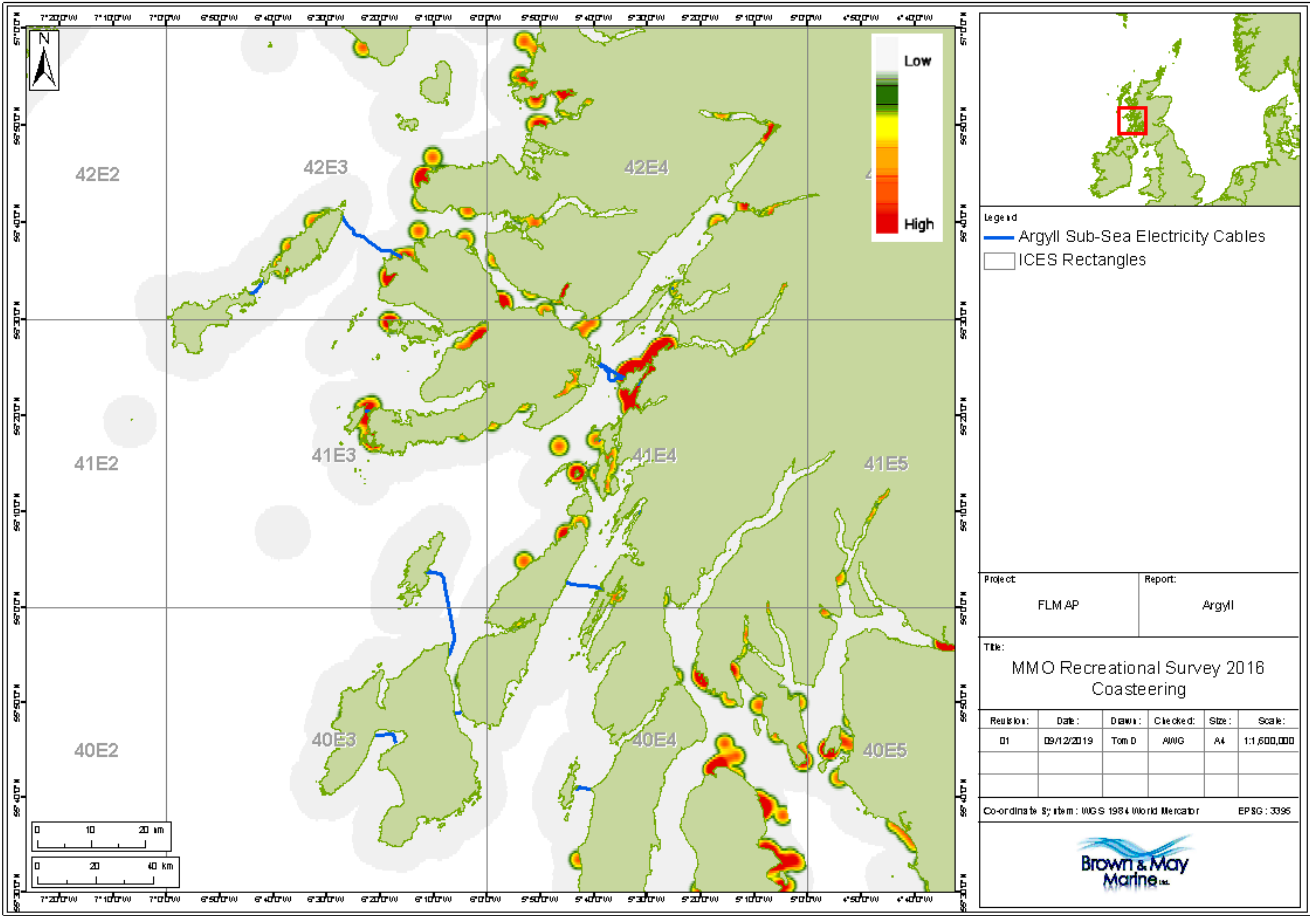


Figure 36 Coasteering (Marine Scotland 2018)

	Fishing Liaison Mitigation Action Plan for Argyll		Applies to	
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Revision: 1.00	Internal Use	Issue Date:	Review Date:	

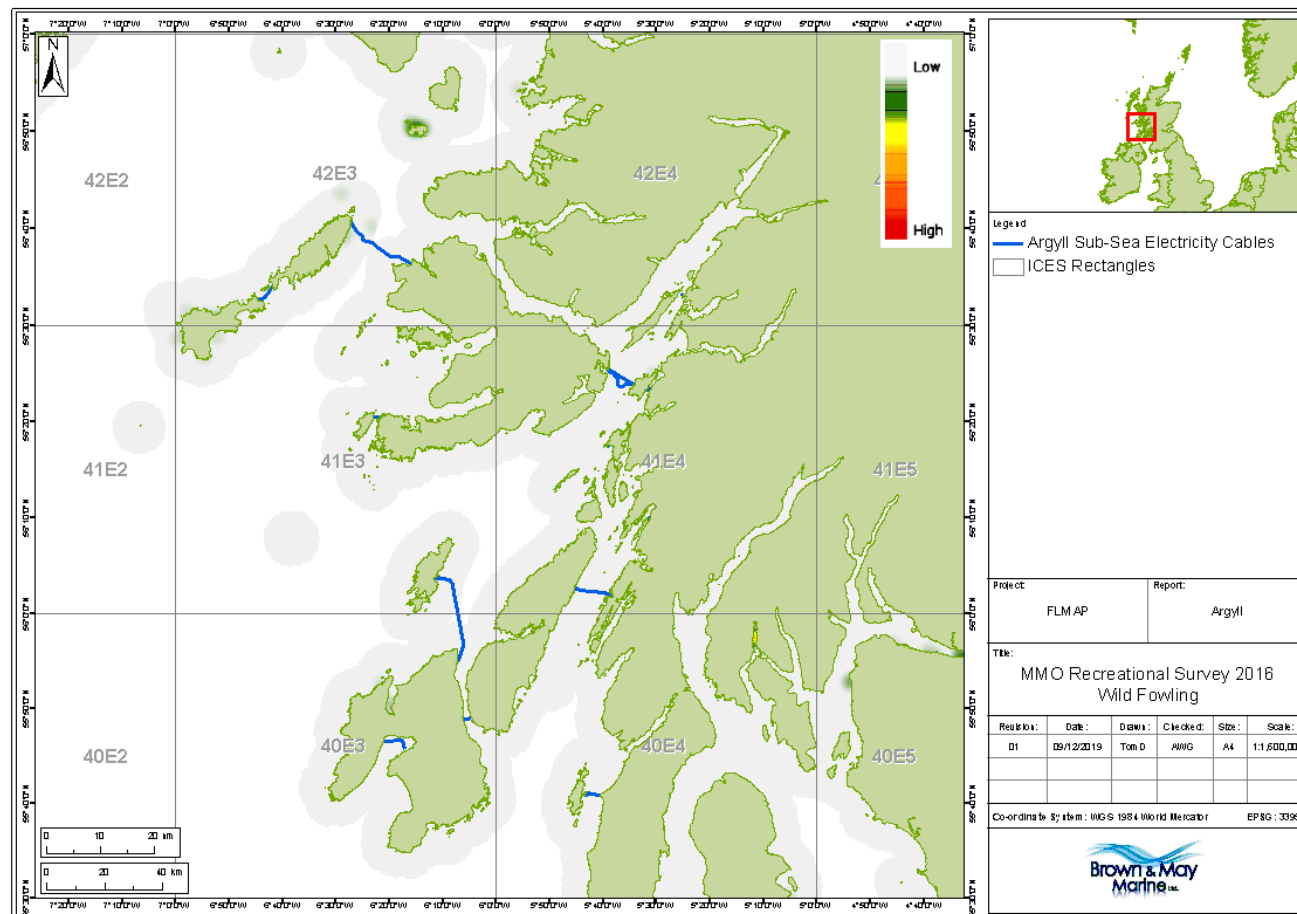


Figure 37 Wild fowling (Marine Scotland 2018)

	Fishing Liaison Mitigation Action Plan for Argyll		Applies to	
			Distribution ✓	Transmission ✗
Revision: 1.00	Internal Use	Issue Date:	Review Date:	

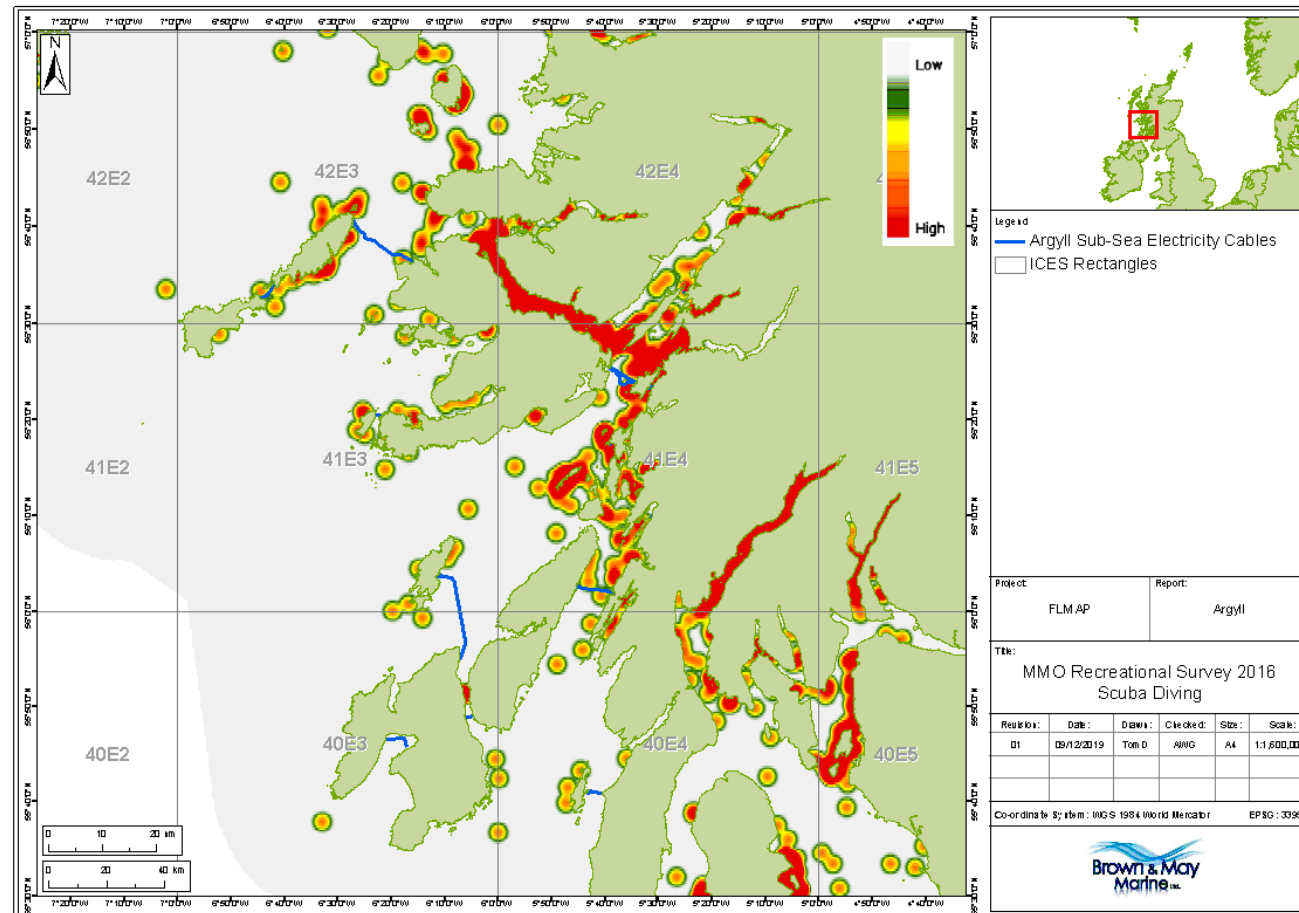


Figure 38 Scuba diving (Marine Scotland 2018)

	Fishing Liaison Mitigation Action Plan for Argyll		Applies to	
			Distribution ✓	Transmission ✗
Revision: 1.00	Internal Use	Issue Date:	Review Date:	

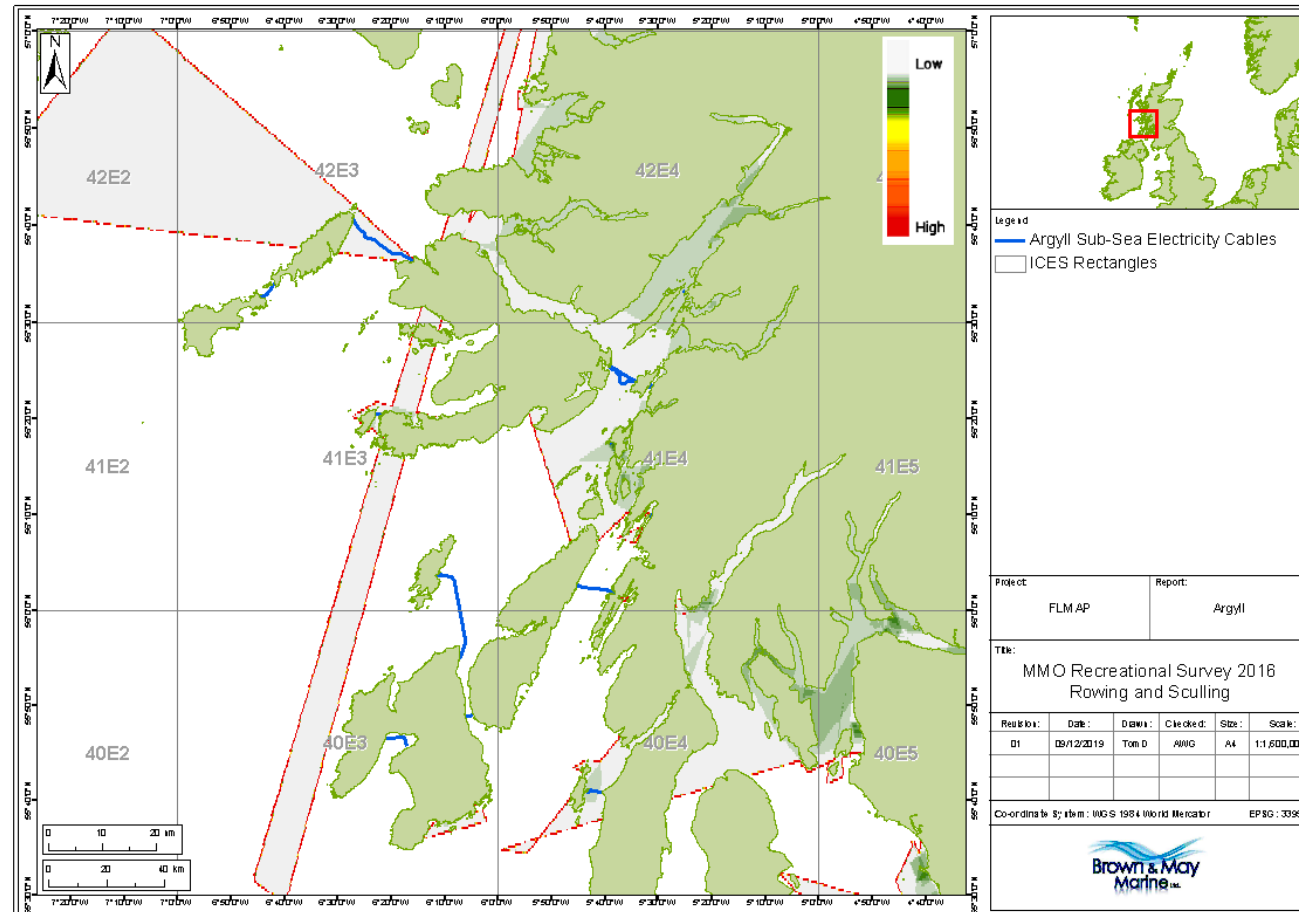


Figure 39 Rowing and sculling (Marine Scotland 2018)

	Fishing Liaison Mitigation Action Plan for Argyll		Applies to	
			Distribution ✓	Transmission ✗
Revision: 1.00	Internal Use	Issue Date:	Review Date:	

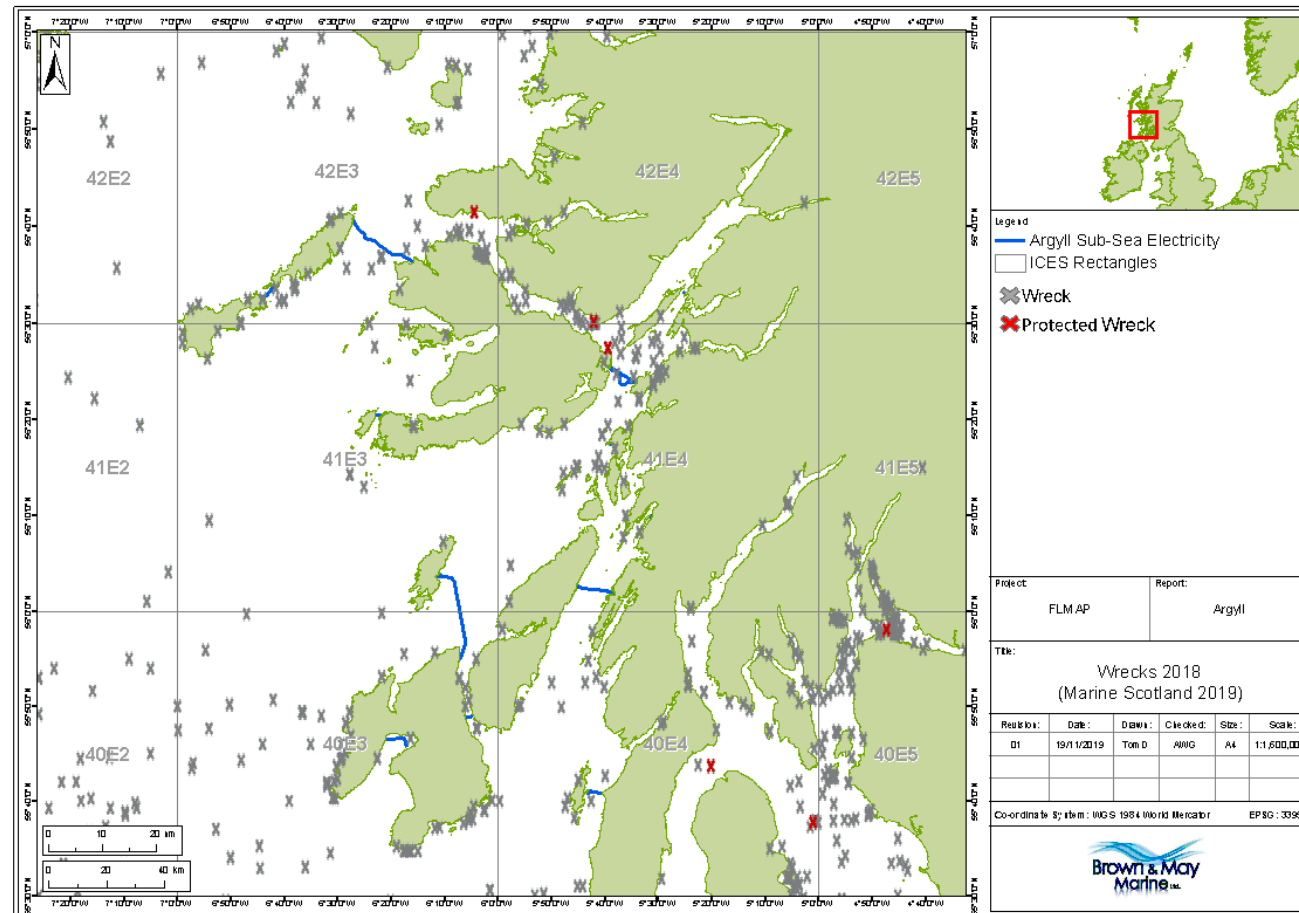


Figure 40 Known wreck sites (Marine Scotland 2019)

	Fishing Liaison Mitigation Action Plan for Argyll		Applies to	
			Distribution ✓	Transmission ✗
Revision: 1.00	Internal Use	Issue Date:	Review Date:	

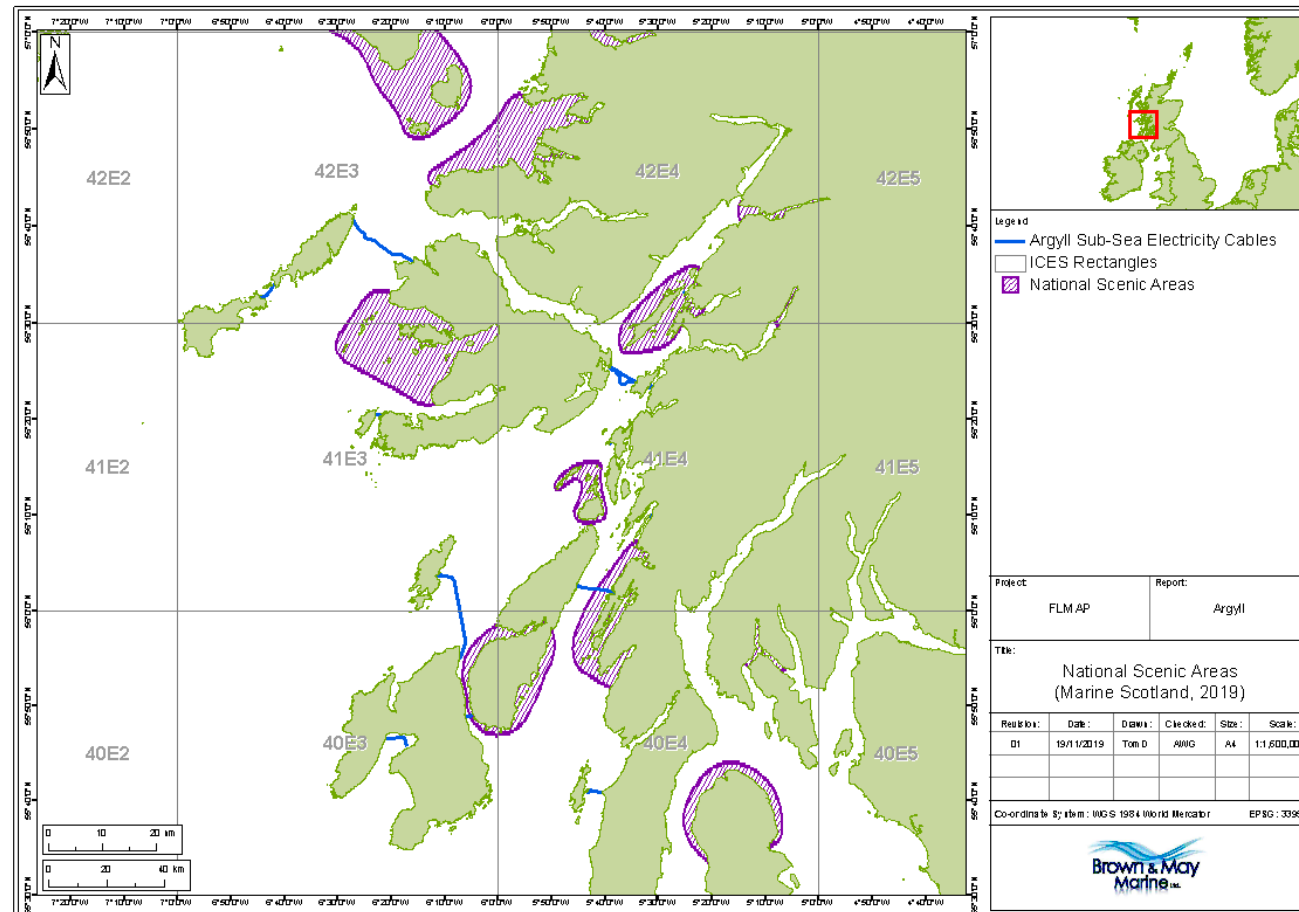


Figure 41 National Scenic Area coastal sites (Marine Scotland 2019)

	Fishing Liaison Mitigation Action Plan for Argyll		Applies to	
			Distribution ✓	Transmission ✗
Revision: 1.00	Internal Use	Issue Date:	Review Date:	

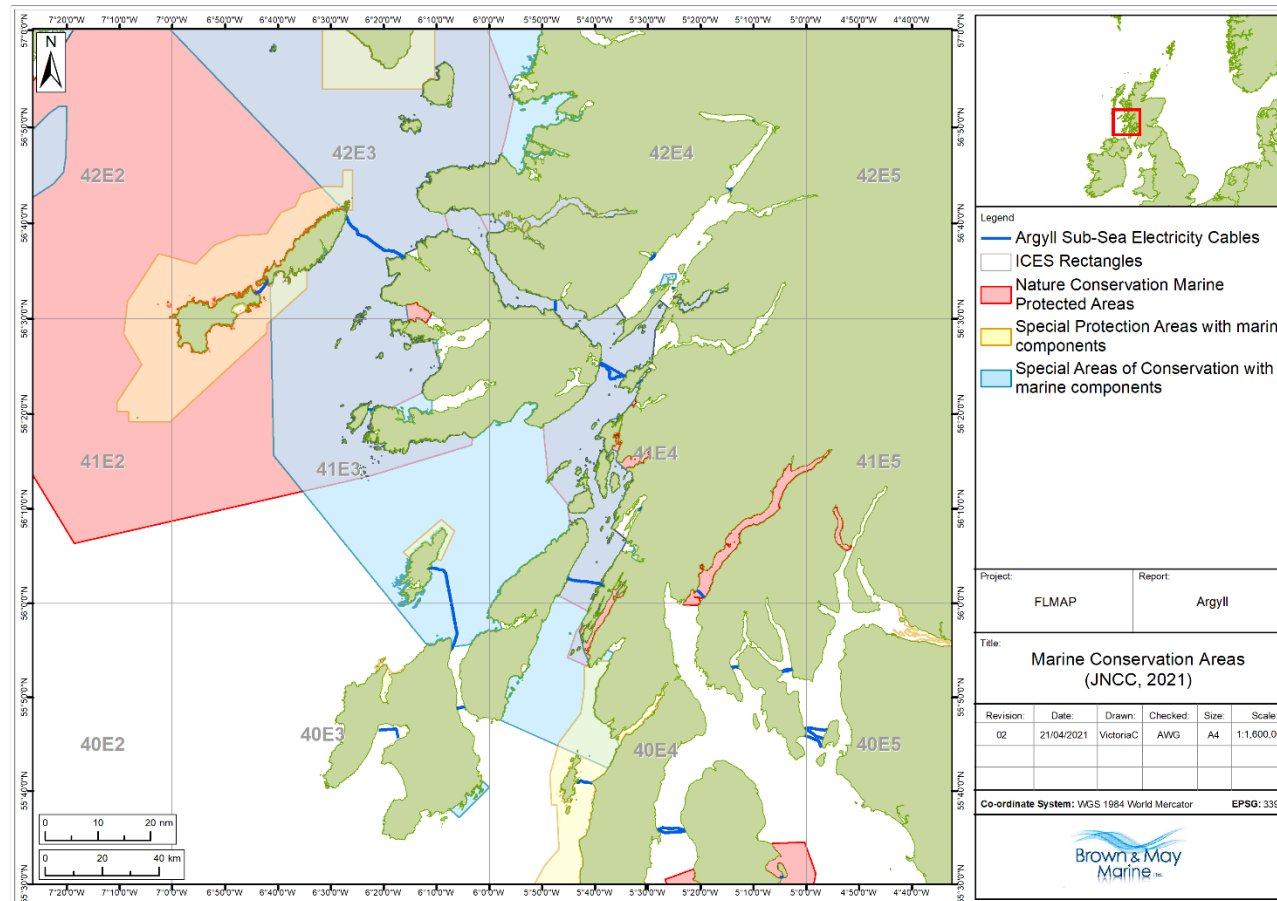


Figure 42 Marine Protected Areas, Special Protected Areas with Marine Components and Special Areas of Conservation with marine components (JNCC 2021)

	Fishing Liaison Mitigation Action Plan for Argyll		Applies to	
			Distribution ✓	Transmission ✗
Revision: 1.00	Internal Use	Issue Date:	Review Date:	

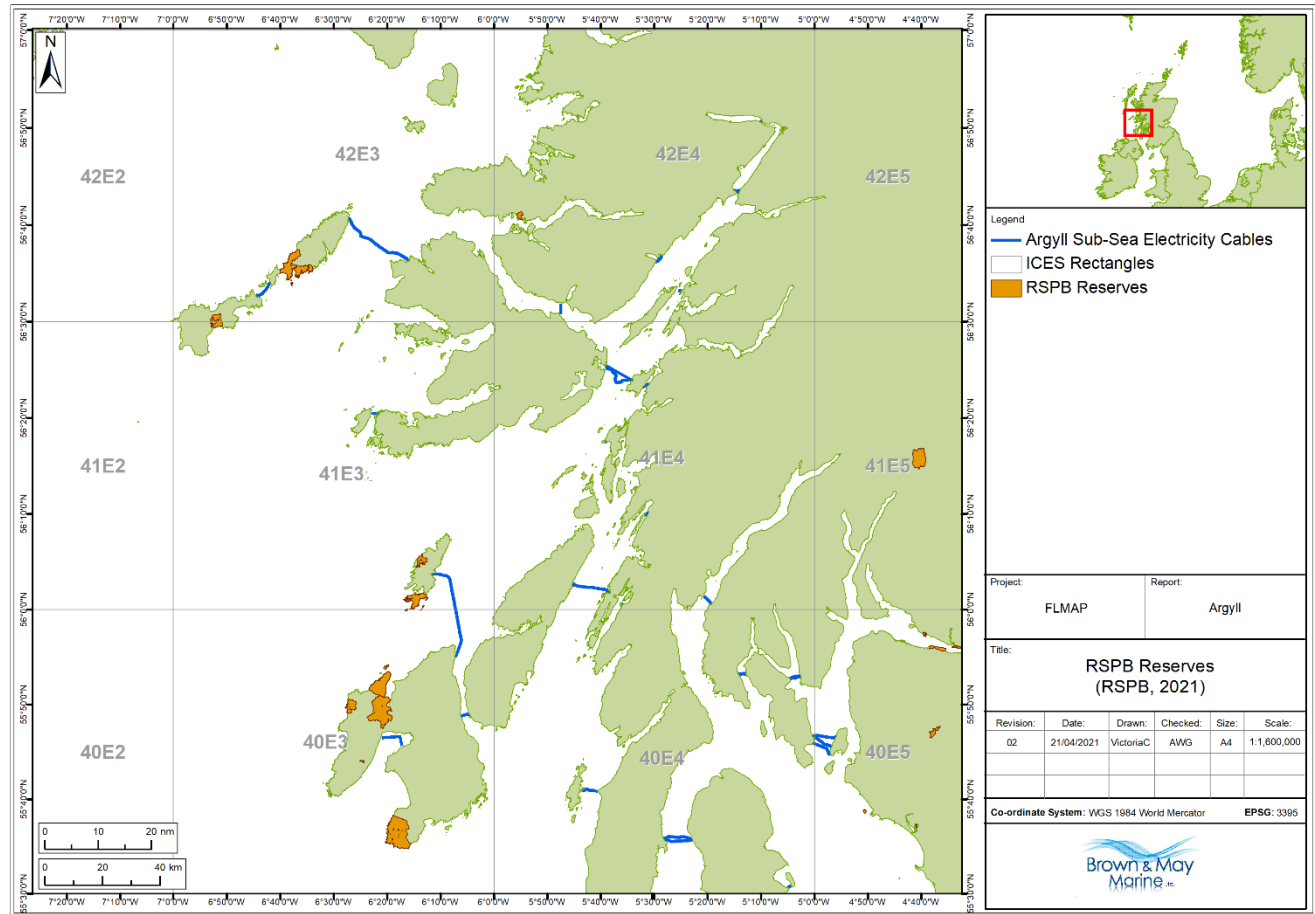


Figure 43 RSPB reserves (Royal Society for the Protection of Birds 2021)

	Fishing Liaison Mitigation Action Plan for Argyll		Applies to	
			Distribution ✓	Transmission ✗
Revision: 1.00	Internal Use	Issue Date:	Review Date:	

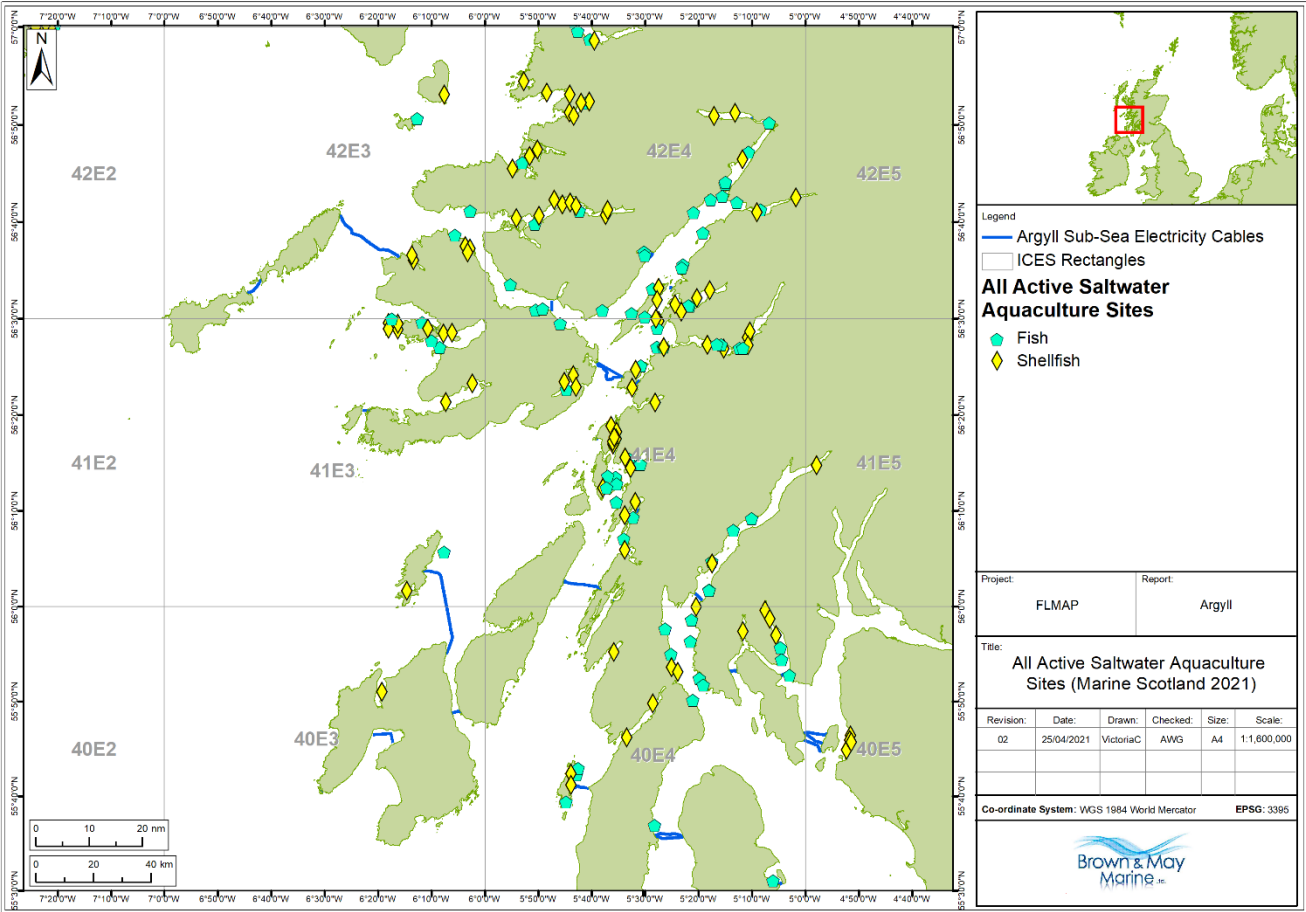


Figure 44 Active saltwater aquaculture sites (Marine Scotland 2021)

	Fishing Liaison Mitigation Action Plan for Argyll		Applies to	
			Distribution ✓	Transmission ✗
Revision: 1.00	Internal Use	Issue Date:	Review Date:	

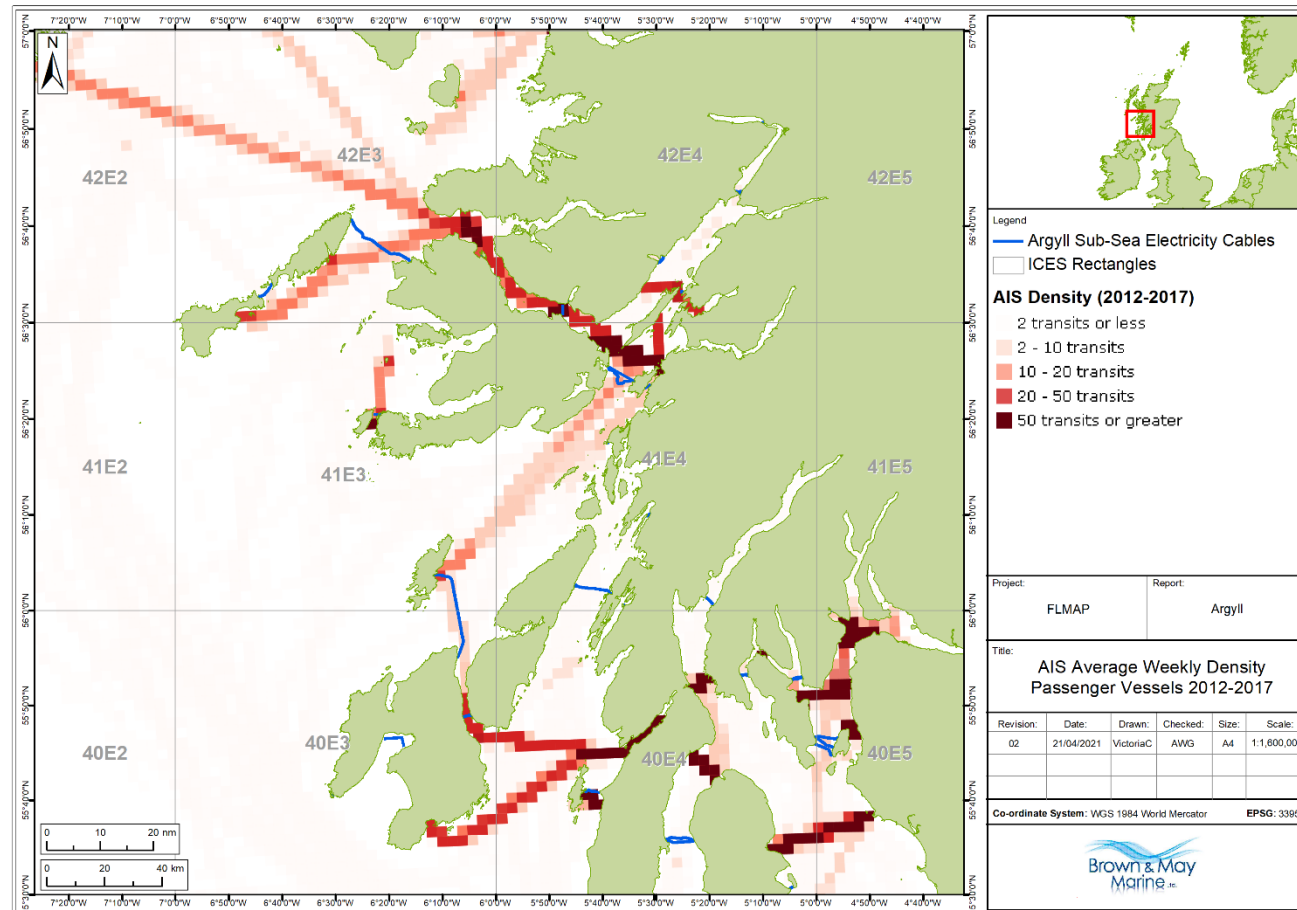


Figure 45 AIS passenger vessels – ferries 2012-2017 (Marine Scotland 2021)

	Fishing Liaison Mitigation Action Plan for Argyll		Applies to	
			Distribution ✓	Transmission ✗
Revision: 1.00	Internal Use	Issue Date:	Review Date:	

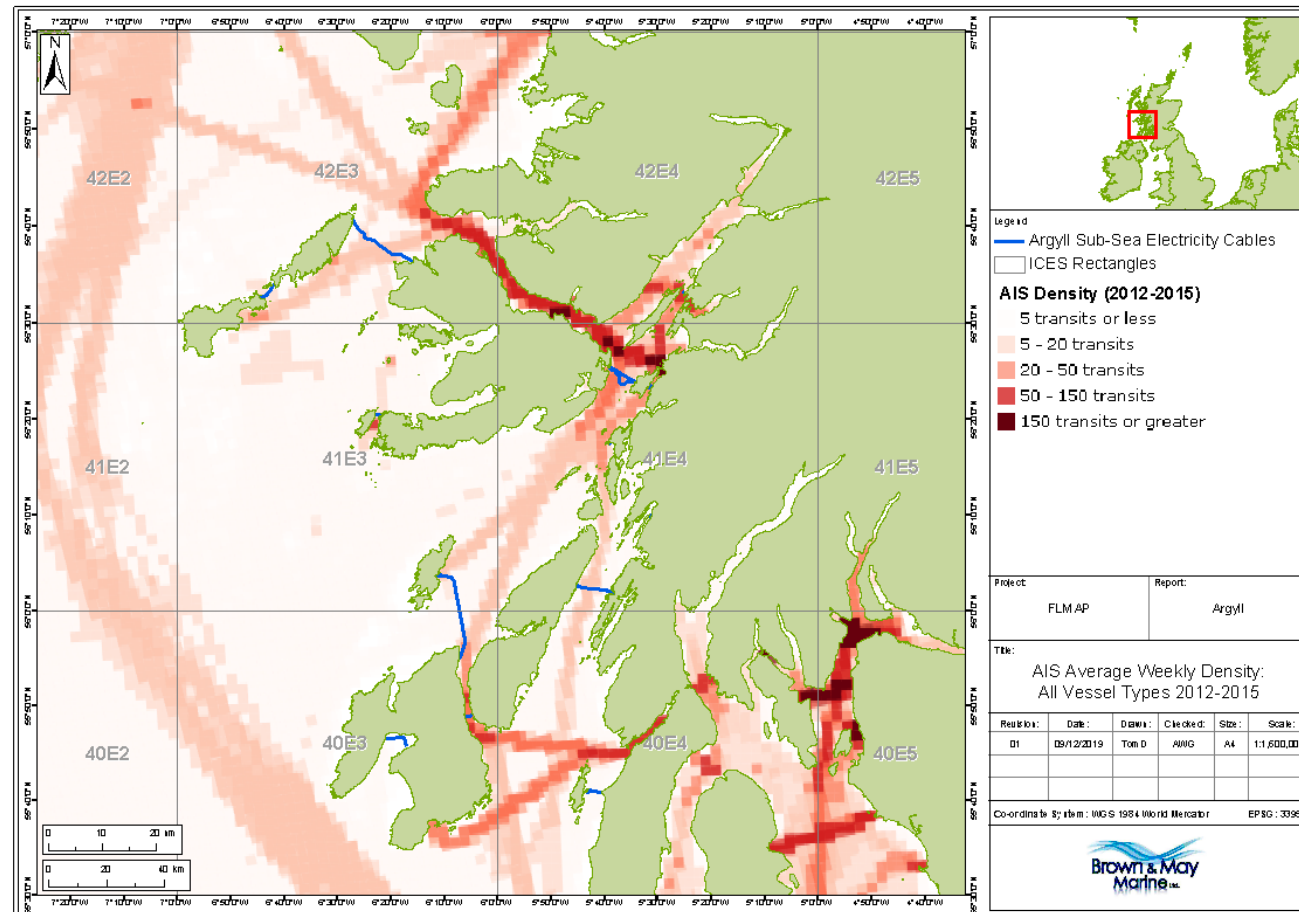


Figure 46 AIS all vessel types 2012-2017 (Marine Scotland 2021)

	Fishing Liaison Mitigation Action Plan for Argyll		Applies to	
			Distribution ✓	Transmission ✗
Revision: 1.00	Internal Use	Issue Date:	Review Date:	

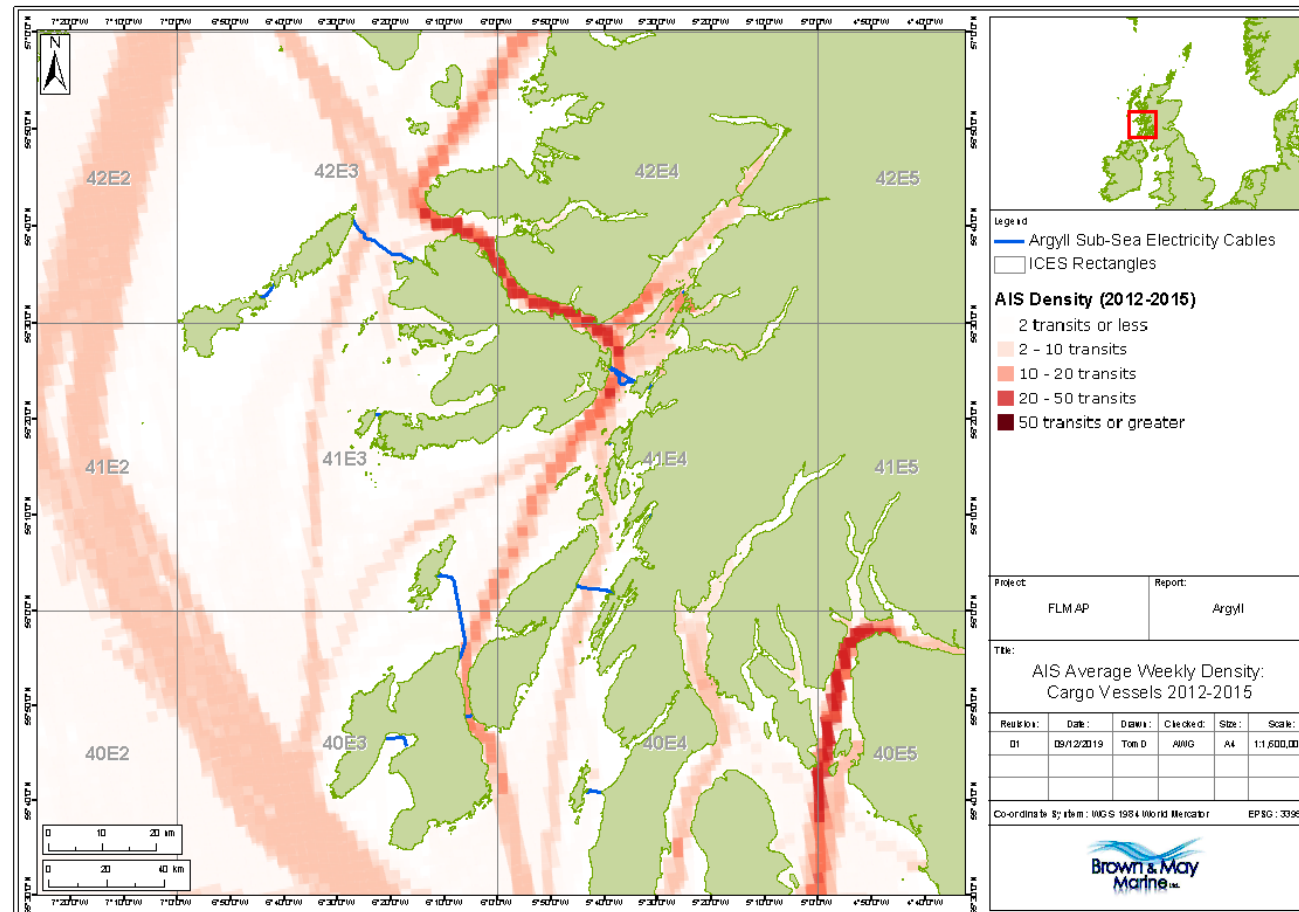


Figure 47 AIS cargo vessels 2012-2017 (Marine Scotland 2021)

	Fishing Liaison Mitigation Action Plan for Argyll		Applies to	
			Distribution ✓	Transmission ✗
Revision: 1.00	Internal Use	Issue Date:	Review Date:	

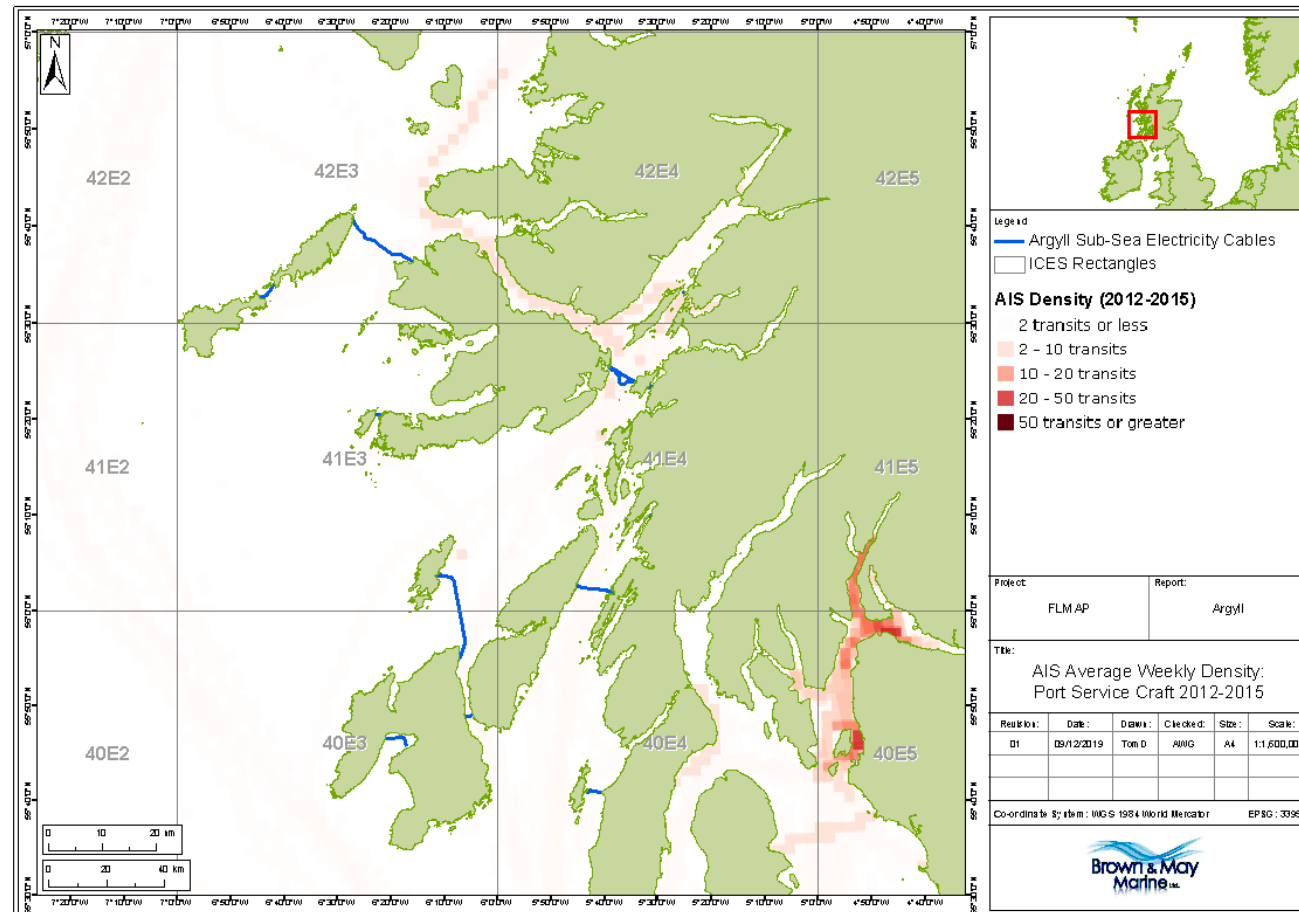


Figure 48 AIS port service craft 2012-2017 (Marine Scotland 2021)

	Fishing Liaison Mitigation Action Plan for Argyll		Applies to	
			Distribution ✓	Transmission ✗
Revision: 1.00	Internal Use	Issue Date:	Review Date:	

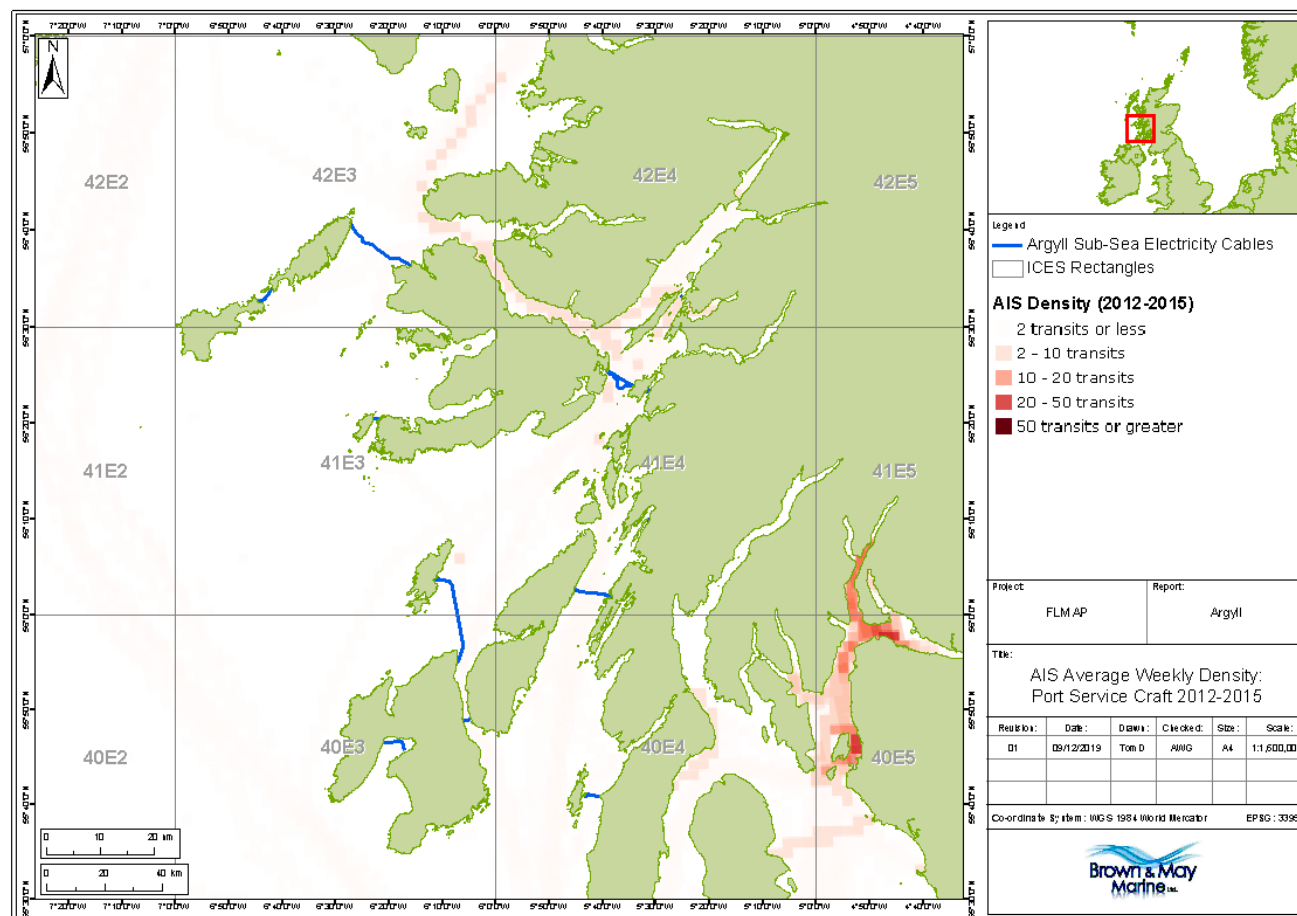


Figure 49 AIS tankers 2012-2017 (Marine Scotland 2021)

	Fishing Liaison Mitigation Action Plan for Argyll		Applies to	
			Distribution ✓	Transmission ✗
Revision: 1.00	Internal Use	Issue Date:	Review Date:	

Appendix E Cable-Specific Interactions

Table 37 Interactions for Cables Mainland - Kerrera 1 and 2

Activity	Interaction	Notes
MMO Surveillance sightings, 2016-2020	Yes	There is a single sighting of a trawler (all) adjacent to the cables, with moderate levels of potters/whelkers and low levels of demersal stern trawlers and scallop dredgers (French-Newhaven type) within a 10km radius.
MMO landings value (£) 2015-2019 by species, gear type and gear length	Yes	Average of £4,351,216 landings value per year, with pots and traps making up almost three quarters of these landings, followed by demersal trawls/seines and dredges. The largest proportion of vessels returning these landings are 10m and under. The largest proportion of landings value comes from Nephrops, followed by scallops, then crabs and lobsters.
MMO VMS effort (hours) 2015-2019	Yes	Average fishing effort of 1-5 hours for mobile gear, less than 1 hour for dredging.
MMO VMS landings value (£) 2015-2019	Yes	Average landings value of £1,000-£3,000 per year for mobile gear, and <£1,000 for dredging.
EMODnet AIS vessel density (fishing) 2019	Yes	Low density over the cables (c. 1 hours per square km per month).
Bird and wildlife watching	Yes	High levels of activity over the cables.
Visits to historic sites or to attractions	Yes	Low levels of activity over the landfall sections of the cables.
Power boating	Yes	High levels of activity over the cables.
Canoeing and kayaking	Yes	High levels of activity over the cables.
Long distance swimming	Yes	Low levels of activity over the cable.
Motor cruising	Yes	High levels of activity over the cables.
Sailing and cruising	Yes	High levels of activity over the cables.
Chartered angling	Yes	High levels of activity over the cables.
Sea angling from shore	Yes	High levels of activity over the cables.
Surfing and paddle boarding	Yes	High levels of activity over the cables.

	Fishing Liaison Mitigation Action Plan for Argyll		Applies to	
			Distribution ✓	Transmission ✗
Revision: 1.00	Internal Use	Issue Date:	Review Date:	

Activity	Interaction	Notes
Yacht racing	Yes	High levels of activity over the cables.
Dinghy racing	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable, though there is a small pocket of high activity approximately 2km north of the cable.
Coasteering	Yes	High levels of activity over the cables.
Wild fowling	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cables.
Scuba Diving	Yes	High levels of activity over the cables
Rowing and sculling	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cables.
Marine archaeology	Yes	Possible interaction with wreck sites.
Conservation designations	Yes	Loch Sunart to the Sound of Jura MPA and Inner Hebrides and the Minches SAC both cover the cables.
Aquaculture sites	Yes	One shellfish aquaculture farm, Cutter Rock (run by Douglas Wilson), approximately 830m south of the cables.
Ferry routes	Yes	The cable route intersects the Oban-Colonsay ferry route (run by CalMac Ferries).
Local ports	Yes	Nearest port is Gallanach (120m north), which is used as a private marina for the Puffin Dive Centre. Other nearby ports are Kerrera slip and Kerrera (mainland) slip, used for the Oban-Kerrera ferry service. These are both within 900m of the cables.

Table 38 Interactions for Cable Mainland - Lismore

Activity	Interaction	Notes
MMO Surveillance sightings, 2016-2020	Yes	There is a single potter/whelker sighting within 300m of the cable. Within a 10km radius, there are low levels of activity from potters/whelkers, demersal stern trawlers and trawlers (all).
MMO landings value (£) 2015-2019 by species, gear type and gear length	Yes	Average of £1,491,457 landings value per year, with pots and traps making up almost three quarters of these landings, followed by demersal trawls/seines and other passive gears. The largest proportion of vessels returning these landings are 10m and under. The largest proportion of landings value comes from Nephrops, followed by other demersal species, scallops and crabs.
MMO VMS effort (hours) 2015-2019	Yes	Average fishing effort of 5-10 hours for mobile gear.

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Activity	Interaction	Notes
MMO VMS landings value (£) 2015-2019	Yes	Average landings value of <£1,000 for mobile gear.
EMODnet AIS vessel density (fishing) 2019	Yes	Very low density over the cable (<0.5 hours per square km per month).
Bird and wildlife watching	Yes	High levels of activity over the cable.
Visits to historic sites or to attractions	Yes	High levels of activity over the cable.
Power boating	Yes	High levels of activity over the cables, especially at the Lismore landfall.
Canoeing and kayaking	Yes	High levels of activity over the cable.
Long distance swimming	Yes	Low levels of activity over the cable.
Motor cruising	Yes	High levels of activity over the cable.
Sailing and cruising	Yes	High levels of activity over the cable.
Chartered angling	Yes	Moderate to high levels of activity over the cable.
Sea angling from shore	Yes	Low levels of activity over the cable. Pockets of moderate and high activity south of the cable.
Surfing and paddle boarding	Yes	Moderate to high levels of activity over the cable.
Yacht racing	Yes	Low to moderate levels of activity over the cable, though there is a patch of moderate to high activity approximately 2.2km south of the cable.
Dinghy racing	No	
Coasteering	Yes	There is a hotpot of moderate-high activity over the cable, around Lismore landfall.
Wild fowling	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Scuba Diving	Yes	Moderate to high levels of activity over the cable.
Rowing and sculling	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cables.
Marine archaeology	No	
Conservation designations	Possible	Eileanan agus Sgeiran Lios mor, Loch Creran and Inner Hebrides and the Minches SACs, as well as Loch Sunart to the Sound of Jura and Loch Creran MPAs are all located within 3km of the cable. Lynn of Lorn NSA also covers the cable.

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Activity	Interaction	Notes
Aquaculture sites	Possible	One shellfish aquaculture farm, Lynn of Lorn (run by Lismore Seafoods), is approximately 3.3km south of the cable.
Ferry routes	Yes	The Lismore-Port Appin ferry service (run by Argyll and Bute Council) runs adjacent to the cable at the mainland landfall.
Local ports	Yes	Port Appin is directly adjacent to the mainland landfall of the cable. This is used by a number of fishing boats, and as a ferry terminal for the Lismore-Port Appin service. It is also used by two salmon farming companies; Mowi, to access their site in Kingairloch, and Scottish Sea Farms, to access sites at Lismore North and West.

Table 39 Interactions for Cable Eilean Loain

Activity	Interaction	Notes
MMO Surveillance sightings, 2016-2020	No	Within 10km radius there are low levels of activity from potters/whelkers.
MMO landings value (£) 2015-2019 by species, gear type and gear length	Yes	Average of £4,351,216 landings value per year, with pots and traps making up almost three quarters of these landings, followed by demersal trawls/seines and dredges. The largest proportion of vessels returning these landings are 10m and under. The largest proportion of landings value comes from Nephrops, followed by scallops, then crabs and lobsters.
MMO VMS effort (hours) 2015-2019	Yes	Average fishing effort of 20-50 hours for dredging and mobile gear.
MMO VMS landings value (£) 2015-2019	Yes	Average landings value of £10,000-£20,000 per year for dredging and mobile gear.
EMODnet AIS vessel density (fishing) 2019	No	
Bird and wildlife watching	Yes	Moderate levels of activity over the cable.
Visits to historic sites or to attractions	Yes	Low levels of activity over the cable.
Power boating	Yes	Low levels of activity over the cable.
Canoeing and kayaking	Yes	High levels of activity over the cable.

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Activity	Interaction	Notes
Long distance swimming	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Motor cruising	Yes	Low levels of activity over the cable.
Sailing and cruising	Yes	High levels of activity over the cable.
Chartered angling	Yes	Low levels of activity over the cable.
Sea angling from shore	Yes	Low to moderate levels of activity over the cable.
Surfing and paddle boarding	Yes	Low to moderate levels of activity over the cable.
Yacht racing	Yes	Low levels of activity over the cable.
Dinghy racing	No	
Coasteering	Yes	Moderate to high levels of activity over the cable.
Wild fowling	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Scuba Diving	Yes	High levels of activity over the cable.
Rowing and sculling	No	No activity directly over the cable, though there is a small patch of very low activity approximately 290m north of the cable.
Marine archaeology	No	
Conservation designations	Yes	Loch Sween MPA covers the cable. Knapdale NSA also covers the cable.
Aquaculture sites	No	
Ferry routes	Possible	None directly over the cable, though there is a service between Tayvallich and Jura (run by Jura Development Trust) which runs through the narrow Loch Sween, so there may be the possibility for interaction between vessels accessing the cable itself. The ferry route is approximately 700m west of the cable at its nearest point.
Local ports	Yes	There is an unnamed slipway adjacent to the cable, and the nearest port is Tayvallich, approximately 2.3km north west of the cable. This is used by fishing and leisure vessels, and as a ferry terminal for the Tayvallich-Jura (Craighouse) service.

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Table 40 Interactions for Cable Mainland - Jura

Activity	Interaction	Notes
MMO Surveillance sightings, 2016-2020	Possible	Moderate levels of scallop dredgers (French/Newhaven type) in the vicinity of the cable, with lower levels of potter/whelker, demersal stern trawler and trawler (all) sightings within a 10km radius.
MMO landings value (£) 2015-2019 by species, gear type and gear length	Yes	Average of £4,351,216 landings value per year, with pots and traps making up almost three quarters of these landings, followed by demersal trawls/seines and dredges. The largest proportion of vessels returning these landings are 10m and under. The largest proportion of landings value comes from Nephrops, followed by scallops, then crabs and lobsters.
MMO VMS effort (hours) 2015-2019	Yes	Average fishing effort of 1-100 hours for dredging and mobile gear, with high levels (50-100 hours) concentrated at the Mainland landfall.
MMO VMS landings value (£) 2015-2019	Yes	Average landings value of £3,000-£35,000 per year for mobile gear, and £1,000-£35,000 for dredging.
EMODnet AIS vessel density (fishing) 2019	Yes	Very low levels over the cable (≤ 0.5 hours per square km per month).
Bird and wildlife watching	Yes	Moderate to high levels of activity over the cable.
Visits to historic sites or to attractions	Yes	Low levels of activity at the eastern landfall of the cable.
Power boating	Yes	Low levels of activity at the mainland landfall of the cable, with moderate levels of activity elsewhere.
Canoeing and kayaking	Yes	Low levels of activity at the Jura landfall, with moderate to high levels to the east of the cable and at the mainland landfall.
Long distance swimming	Yes	Low levels of activity over the cable.
Motor cruising	Yes	Low levels of activity at the Jura landfall, with moderate to high activity along the eastern half of the cable.
Sailing and cruising	Yes	High levels of activity over the cable.
Chartered angling	Yes	Moderate levels of activity over the cable, though there is a small area of high activity near the nearshore mainland section of the cable.
Sea angling from shore	Yes	Very low levels of activity, with pocket of low activity towards the mainland end of the cable.
Surfing and paddle boarding	Yes	Moderate to high levels of activity over the cable, with high activity concentrated towards the mainland landfall of the cable.

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Activity	Interaction	Notes
Yacht racing	Yes	Low levels of activity over the cable.
Dinghy racing	No	
Coasteering	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Wild fowling	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Scuba Diving	Yes	Moderate levels of activity over the cable.
Rowing and sculling	No	
Marine archaeology	No	
Conservation designations	Yes	Loch Sunart to the Sound of Jura MPA and Inner Hebrides and the Minches SAC both cover the cable. Knapdale NSA also partially covers the cable.
Aquaculture sites	No	
Ferry routes	No	
Local ports	Yes	Adjacent to the mainland landfall of the cable is Carsaig, which mainly hosts leisure and fishing vessels, and is sometimes used as a landing point for dinghies from visiting yachts anchored nearby. The private jetty Ardlussa is approximately 1.8km south of the Jura cable landfall, from which private boat trips can be arranged.

Table 41 Interactions for Cable Seil Easdale

Activity	Interaction	Notes
MMO Surveillance sightings, 2016-2020	No	Within 10km radius there are moderate levels of activity from potters/whelkers, and low levels of activity from scallop dredgers (French/Newhaven type) and demersal stern trawlers. There is a single Irish pelagic stern trawler sighting recorded.
MMO landings value (£) 2015-2019 by species, gear type and gear length	Yes	Average of £4,351,216 landings value per year, with pots and traps making up almost three quarters of these landings, followed by demersal trawls/seines and dredges. The largest proportion of vessels returning these landings are 10m and under. The largest proportion of landings value comes from Nephrops, followed by scallops, then crabs and lobsters.
MMO VMS effort (hours) 2015-2019	Yes	Average fishing effort of <1-50 hours for dredging and mobile gear.

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Activity	Interaction	Notes
MMO VMS landings value (£) 2015-2019	Yes	Average landings value of £1,000-£6,000 per year for mobile gear, and up to £6,000 for dredging.
EMODnet AIS vessel density (fishing) 2019	Yes	Very low density over the cable (<0.5 hours per square km per month).
Bird and wildlife watching	Yes	High levels of activity over the cable.
Visits to historic sites or to attractions	Yes	High levels of activity over the cable.
Power boating	Yes	High levels of activity over the cable.
Canoeing and kayaking	Yes	High levels of activity over the cable.
Long distance swimming	Yes	Low levels of activity over the cable.
Motor cruising	Yes	High levels of activity over the cable.
Sailing and cruising	Yes	High levels of activity over the cable.
Chartered angling	Yes	High levels of activity over the cables.
Sea angling from shore	Yes	Very low levels of activity directly over the cable, though there is a hotspot of moderate activity immediately north of the cable.
Surfing and paddle boarding	Yes	High levels of activity over the cable.
Yacht racing	Yes	High levels of activity over the cable.
Dinghy racing	No	
Coasteering	Yes	High levels of activity over the cable.
Wild fowling	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Scuba Diving	Yes	High levels of activity over the cable.
Rowing and sculling	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cables.
Marine archaeology	Possible	None directly over the cable, though there is a wreck site approximately 1.1km south of the cable.
Conservation designations	Yes	Loch Sunart to the Sound of Jura MPA and Firth of Lorn and Inner Hebrides and the Minches SACs cover the cable.

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Activity	Interaction	Notes
Aquaculture sites	No	
Ferry routes	Yes	There is a ferry route from Ellenabeich-Easdale (operated by Argyll and Bute Council) that runs parallel to the cable route approximately 160m north.
Local ports	Yes	Easdale harbour is approximately 240m west of the cable at the Easdale landfall. This is used by leisure and fishing vessels, and as a ferry terminal for the Ellenabeich-Easdale service. On the Isle of Seil, Ellenabeich ferry terminal is approximately 300m north of the cable.

Table 42 Interactions for Cable Eilean Rìgh

Activity	Interaction	Notes
MMO Surveillance sightings, 2016-2020	Yes	Overlaps with low potting activity.
MMO landings value (£) 2015-2019 by species, gear type and gear length	Yes	Average of £4,351,216 landings value per year, with pots and traps making up almost three quarters of these landings, followed by demersal trawls/seines and dredges. The largest proportion of vessels returning these landings are 10m and under. The largest proportion of landings value comes from Nephrops, followed by scallops, then crabs and lobsters.
MMO VMS effort (hours) 2015-2019	No	
MMO VMS landings value (£) 2015-2019	No	
EMODnet AIS vessel density (fishing) 2019	No	
Bird and wildlife watching	Yes	Moderate levels of activity over the cable.
Visits to historic sites or to attractions	Yes	Low levels of activity over the cable.
Power boating	Yes	Low levels of activity over the cable.
Canoeing and kayaking	Yes	High levels of activity over the cable.
Long distance swimming	Yes	Low levels of activity over the cable.

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Activity	Interaction	Notes
Motor cruising	Yes	High levels of activity over the cable.
Sailing and cruising	Yes	High levels of activity over the cable.
Chartered angling	Yes	Low to moderate levels of activity over the cable.
Sea angling from shore	Yes	Very low to low levels of activity over the cable.
Surfing and paddle boarding	Yes	High levels of activity over the cable.
Yacht racing	Yes	Low to moderate levels of activity over the cable.
Dinghy racing	Possible	No activity directly over the cable, though there is an area of very low activity adjacent to the north of the cable.
Coasteering	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Wild fowling	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Scuba Diving	Yes	Low to moderate levels of activity over the cable, though there is an area of high activity approximately 1.7km south of the cable.
Rowing and sculling	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cables.
Marine archaeology	Possible	None directly over the cable, though there is a wreck site approximately 3.4km south of the cable off Island Mackasin.
Conservation designations	No	
Aquaculture sites	Possible	One finfish aquaculture farm, North Moine (run by Mowi Scotland Ltd), approximately 1.1km south of the cable. One shellfish aquaculture farm, Loch Craignish (AYC) (run by Loch Craignish Native Oyster Restoration) 1.7km to the northwest of the cable.
Ferry routes	No	
Local ports	Possible	There is an unnamed slipway approximately 1.2km south of the cable. Ardfarn Marina, 1.7km north of the cable, is a private marina owned by Ardfarn Yacht Centre.

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Table 43 Interactions for Cables Kerrera - Mull 2 and replacement

Activity	Interaction	Notes
MMO Surveillance sightings, 2016-2020	Yes	Moderate levels of potter/whelker activity, and two scallop dredgers (French/Newhaven type) over the cable route, with lower levels of demersal stern trawler and trawler (all) activity within 10km.
MMO landings value (£) 2015-2019 by species, gear type and gear length	Yes	Average of £4,351,216 landings value per year, with pots and traps making up almost three quarters of these landings, followed by demersal trawls/seines and dredges. The largest proportion of vessels returning these landings are 10m and under. The largest proportion of landings value comes from Nephrops, followed by scallops, then crabs and lobsters.
MMO VMS effort (hours) 2015-2019	Yes	Average fishing effort of 1-20 hours for dredging, and up to 100+ hours for mobile gear.
MMO VMS landings value (£) 2015-2019	Yes	Average landings value of £1,000-£35,000 per year for mobile gear, and <£1,000-£3,000 for dredging.
EMODnet AIS vessel density (fishing) 2019	Yes	Very low to moderate levels over the cable (up to 5 hours per square km per month).
Bird and wildlife watching	Yes	High levels of activity over the cables.
Visits to historic sites or to attractions	Yes	Very low activity seen at both landfall sections of the cables.
Power boating	Yes	Moderate levels of activity at the Mull landfall, graduating to high levels at the Kerrera landfall of the cables.
Canoeing and kayaking	Yes	Moderate levels of activity at the Mull landfall, with high levels of activity at the Kerrera landfall of the cables.
Long distance swimming	Yes	Low levels of activity over the cable.
Motor cruising	Yes	High levels of activity over the cables.
Sailing and cruising	Yes	High levels of activity over the cables.
Chartered angling	Yes	Moderate to high levels of activity over the cable, with high activity towards Mull.
Sea angling from shore	Yes	Moderate to high activity at the Kerrera landfall section of the cables, with very low levels of activity elsewhere along the cable.
Surfing and paddle boarding	Yes	Moderate to high levels of activity over the cable, with high activity at the Kerrera landfall of the cables.
Yacht racing	Yes	High levels of activity over the cables.
Dinghy racing	No	There is an area of very low activity approximately 1.1km east of the cable.

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Activity	Interaction	Notes
Coasteering	Yes	High levels of activity over the nearshore Kerrera section of the cable, with very low levels of activity towards the Mull end of the cable.
Wild fowling	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cables.
Scuba Diving	Yes	High activity can be seen immediately to the north and south of the cables, with low to moderate activity over the Kerrera landfall of the cables, and very low activity towards the Mull landfall.
Rowing and sculling	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cables.
Marine archaeology	Yes	Possible interaction with wreck sites.
Conservation designations	Yes	Loch Sunart to the Sound of Jura MPA and Inner Hebrides and the Minches SAC both cover the cable.
Aquaculture sites	Possible	None directly over the cable, though there is a shellfish aquaculture farm Oitir Mhor Bay (run by Kerrera Oysters) 3.6km to the northeast of the cables.
Ferry routes	No	
Local ports	Yes	Nearest port is Grass Point (500m north), which is used by leisure craft and a few fishing boats.

Table 44 Interactions for Cable Kintyre - Gigha

Activity	Interaction	Notes
MMO Surveillance sightings, 2016-2020	Possible	Moderate levels of potter/whelker activity in the vicinity of the cable, with trawler (all), demersal stern trawler and scallop dredger (French/Newhaven type) sightings within a 10km radius.
MMO landings value (£) 2015-2019 by species, gear type and gear length	Yes	Average of £8,536,599 landings value per year, with demersal trawls/seines making up the largest proportion of these landings, followed by pots and traps and dredges. The majority of vessels returning these landings are over 10m in length. The largest proportion of landings value comes from Nephrops, followed by scallops, then other shellfish.
MMO VMS effort (hours) 2015-2019	Yes	Average fishing effort of 20-100+ hours for dredging and mobile gear.
MMO VMS landings value (£) 2015-2019	Yes	Average landings value of £6,000-£20,000 per year for dredging, and £10,000-£35,000 for mobile gear.
EMODnet AIS vessel density (fishing) 2019	Yes	Very low levels over the cable (≤0.5 hours per square km per month).

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Activity	Interaction	Notes
Bird and wildlife watching	Yes	Moderate levels of activity over the cable.
Visits to historic sites or to attractions	Yes	High levels of activity at the western landfall section of the cable, with very low activity elsewhere.
Power boating	Yes	Low levels of activity at the Gigha landfall of the cable, with no activity elsewhere.
Canoeing and kayaking	Yes	Moderate levels of activity at the Gigha landfall, with low activity at Kintyre landfall of the cable.
Long distance swimming	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Motor cruising	Yes	High activity over the cable.
Sailing and cruising	Yes	High levels of activity over the majority of the cable, with moderate levels over the Kintyre landfall of the cable.
Chartered angling	Yes	Low levels of activity over the cable.
Sea angling from shore	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Surfing and paddle boarding	Yes	Low levels of activity over the cable.
Yacht racing	Yes	Low to moderate levels of activity over the cables.
Dinghy racing	No	
Coasteering	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Wild fowling	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Scuba Diving	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Rowing and sculling	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cables.
Marine archaeology	Possible	None directly over the cable, though there is a wreck site approximately 1.8km south of the cable.
Conservation designations	Yes	Sound of Gigha SPA covers the cable.
Aquaculture sites	Possible	One shellfish aquaculture farm, Drumyeonmore Bay (run by Gigha Oysters) is approximately 1.32km north of the cable.
Ferry routes	Yes	There is a ferry route from Tayinloan-Gigha (operated by CalMac Ferries) that runs parallel to the cable route approximately 880m south.
Local ports	Yes	Nearest port is Ardminish on Gigha (890m north at the Gigha landfall of the cable), which is used as a ferry terminal for the Tayinloan-Gigha service. Nearby (1.1km south of the cable) is Gallochoille, a small pier used by local fishermen.

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Table 45 Interactions for Cable Coll - Tiree

Activity	Interaction	Notes
MMO Surveillance sightings, 2016-2020	No	Within 10km radius there are low levels of activity from scallop dredgers (French/Newhaven type), trawlers (all), demersal stern trawlers and a single hand gathering/hand lining sighting.
MMO landings value (£) 2015-2019 by species, gear type and gear length	Yes	Average of £4,741,123 landings value per year, with demersal trawls/seines making up the largest proportion of these landings, followed by pots and traps and dredges. The majority of vessels returning these landings are over 10m in length. The largest proportion of landings value comes from Nephrops, followed by scallops.
MMO VMS effort (hours) 2015-2019	Yes	Average fishing effort of 50-100 hours for dredging and mobile gear at the Tiree landfall of the cable. Less than 1 hour at the Coll landfall.
MMO VMS landings value (£) 2015-2019	Yes	Average landings value of £10,000-£20,000 per year for dredging and mobile gear at the Tiree cable landfall. Less than £1,000 at the Coll landfall.
EMODnet AIS vessel density (fishing) 2019	Yes	The majority of the cable route does not record fishing effort. The landfall at Tiree records an average fishing effort between 50 and 100 hours for dredging and mobile gears.
Bird and wildlife watching	Yes	Moderate to high levels of activity over the cable.
Visits to historic sites or to attractions	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Power boating	Yes	Low levels of activity at the Tiree landfall, with moderate levels of activity at the Coll landfall.
Canoeing and kayaking	Yes	Low to moderate levels of activity over the cable.
Long distance swimming	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Motor cruising	Yes	Low to moderate levels of activity over the cable.

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Activity	Interaction	Notes
Sailing and cruising	Yes	Low levels of activity over the cable.
Chartered angling	Yes	Very low to low levels of activity over the cable.
Sea angling from shore	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Surfing and paddle boarding	No	
Yacht racing	Yes	Very low to low levels of activity over the cable.
Dinghy racing	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the Tiree landfall of the cable.
Coasteering	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Wild fowling	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Scuba Diving	Yes	Moderate levels of activity directly over the cable, with an area of high activity north of the cable.
Rowing and sculling	No	
Marine archaeology	Yes	Possible interaction with wreck sites.
Conservation designations	Possible	Sea of the Hebrides MPA covers the cable, along with Coll and Tiree SPA. Inner Hebrides and the Minches SAC is adjacent to the Coll landfall of the cable. There is an RSPB reserve on Coll (Coll), approximately 4.4km east of the cable, and another located on Tiree (the Reef) though this does not interact with the cable route.
Aquaculture sites	No	
Ferry routes	Yes	The cable route intersects the Barra (Castlebay)-Tiree ferry route (run by CalMac Ferries).
Local ports	No	Nearest port is Milton (3km south, on the Isle of Tiree), which is used by local fishing boats targeting velvet crab, brown crab and lobster.

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Table 46 Interactions for Cable Islay - Colonsay

Activity	Interaction	Notes
MMO Surveillance sightings, 2016-2020	Possible	Low levels of scallop dredger (French/Newhaven type), potter/whelker and hand gathering/hand lining activity in the vicinity of the cable, with additional sightings of unknown vessel type nearby. A single sighting of an Irish potter/whelker is within 10km of the cable.
MMO landings value (£) 2015-2019 by species, gear type and gear length	Yes	(straddles ICES rectangles 40E3 and 41E3) Average of £3,475,686 landings value per year for 41E3, with pots and traps making up over half of these landings, followed by demersal trawls/seines. Just under three quarters of the vessels returning these landings are over 10m in length. The largest proportion of landings value comes from crabs, followed by Nephrops. Average of £2,483,729 landings value per year for 40E3, with over half of this from pots and traps, followed by dredges and demersal trawls/seines. The largest proportion of vessels returning these landings are over 10m in length. The largest proportion of landings value comes from crabs, followed by scallops.
MMO VMS effort (hours) 2015-2019	Yes	Average fishing effort of up to 100+ hours for mobile gear, and 1-20 hours for dredging.
MMO VMS landings value (£) 2015-2019	Yes	Average landings value of up to £35,000 per year for mobile gear, and up to £6,000 for dredging.
EMODnet AIS vessel density (fishing) 2019	Yes	No activity recorded along the majority of the cable, except average of 5 hours of AIS activity per square km per month close to landfall on Colonsay.
Bird and wildlife watching	Yes	Moderate levels of activity over the cable.
Visits to historic sites or to attractions	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Power boating	Yes	Low levels of activity at the Colonsay landfall, with moderate activity further south, including the Islay landfall.
Canoeing and kayaking	Yes	Very low activity at both landfall sections.
Long distance swimming	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Motor cruising	Yes	Moderate levels of activity at the Islay landfall of the cable, with very low activity elsewhere over the cable.
Sailing and cruising	Yes	Low to moderate levels of activity over the cable.
Chartered angling	Yes	Low levels of activity over the cable.
Sea angling from shore	Yes	Small pocket of low activity towards the centre of the cable route, with very low activity elsewhere along the route.

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Activity	Interaction	Notes
Surfing and paddle boarding	Yes	No activity over the majority over the cable, though there is a small area of low activity at the Islay landfall of the cable.
Yacht racing	Yes	Very low to low levels of activity over the cable.
Dinghy racing	No	
Coasteering	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Wild fowling	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Scuba Diving	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Rowing and sculling	No	
Marine archaeology	No	
Conservation designations	Yes	Inner Hebrides and the Minches SAC covers the cable. The NSA Jura lies adjacent to the cable. There are a number of RSPB reserves elsewhere on Islay (Loch Gruinart, Ardnave, Smaull Farm and the Oa), and the RSPB reserves Oronsay and Colonsay on the Isle of Colonsay.
Aquaculture sites	Possible	None directly over the cable, but there may be transiting traffic from the finfish aquaculture site Colonsay (run by Mowi Scotland Ltd) to Scalasaig intersecting the route. The site itself is approximately 4.2km north east of the cable.
Ferry routes	Yes	The cable route intersects the Colonsay-Islay (Port Askaig) ferry route (run by CalMac Ferries) at both nearshore ends of the cable, and runs closely parallel to the ferry route elsewhere along the central portion of the cable.
Local ports	Yes	Nearest port is Scalasaig (840m north of the cable on the Isle of Colonsay), used as a ferry terminal for the Colonsay-Islay (Port Askaig) and Oban-Colonsay services.

Table 47 Interactions for Cable Islay - Orsay

Activity	Interaction	Notes
MMO Surveillance sightings, 2014-2018	No	Within 10km radius there is a single scallop dredger (French/Newhaven type) sighting.

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Activity	Interaction	Notes
MMO landings value (£) 2015-2019 by species, gear type and gear length	Yes	Average of £2,483,729 landings value per year with over half of this from pots and traps, followed by dredges and demersal trawls/seines. The largest proportion of vessels returning these landings are over 10m in length. The largest proportion of landings value comes from crabs, followed by scallops.
MMO VMS effort (hours) 2015-2019	Yes	Average fishing effort of 1-5 hours for dredging and mobile gear.
MMO VMS landings value (£) 2015-2019	Yes	Average landings value of <£1,000 per year for dredging and mobile gear.
EMODnet AIS vessel density (fishing) 2019	Yes	Low levels over the cable (≤2 hours per square km per month).
Bird and wildlife watching	Yes	Low levels of activity over the cable.
Visits to historic sites or to attractions	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Power boating	Yes	Low levels of activity over the cable.
Canoeing and kayaking	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Long distance swimming	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Motor cruising	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Sailing and cruising	Yes	Low to moderate levels of activity over the cable.
Chartered angling	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Sea angling from shore	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Surfing and paddle boarding	No	
Yacht racing	No	
Dinghy racing	No	
Coasteering	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Wild fowling	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Scuba Diving	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Rowing and sculling	No	

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Activity	Interaction	Notes
Marine archaeology	Yes	Possible interaction with wreck sites.
Conservation designations	No	None directly over the cable, though there are a number of RSPB reserves elsewhere on Islay (Loch Gruinart, Ardnave, Smaull Farm and the Oa).
Aquaculture sites	No	
Ferry routes	No	
Local ports	Yes	Portnahaven is located approximately 330m north of the cable on Islay. There are a small number of fishing boats using the harbour.

Table 48 Interactions for Cable Jura - Islay

Activity	Interaction	Notes
MMO Surveillance sightings, 2016-2020	No	Within 10km radius there are low levels of activity from scallop dredgers (French/Newhaven type), demersal stern trawlers and a potter/whelker.
MMO landings value (£) 2015-2019 by species, gear type and gear length	Yes	Average of £2,483,729 landings value per year with over half of this from pots and traps, followed by dredges and demersal trawls/seines. The largest proportion of vessels returning these landings are over 10m in length. The largest proportion of landings value comes from crabs, followed by scallops.
MMO VMS effort (hours) 2015-2019	Yes	Average fishing effort of 1-5 hours for dredging and mobile gear.
MMO VMS landings value (£) 2015-2019	Yes	Average landings value of <£1,000 per year for dredging and mobile gear.
EMODnet AIS vessel density (fishing) 2019	Yes	Very low levels over the cable (≤0.5 hours per square km per month).
Bird and wildlife watching	Yes	Moderate levels of activity over the cable.
Visits to historic sites or to attractions	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Power boating	Yes	Low levels of activity over the cable.
Canoeing and kayaking	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.

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Activity	Interaction	Notes
Long distance swimming	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Motor cruising	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Sailing and cruising	Yes	Moderate to high levels of activity over the cable.
Chartered angling	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Sea angling from shore	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Surfing and paddle boarding	Yes	Low levels of activity over the cable.
Yacht racing	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Dinghy racing	No	
Coasteering	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Wild fowling	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Scuba Diving	Yes	Very low levels of activity directly over the cable, though there is an area of high activity approximately 2.7km north of the cable.
Rowing and sculling	No	
Marine archaeology	Possible	None directly over the cable, though there is a wreck site approximately 2.1km north of the cable. Additionally, there are a cluster of wreck sites approximately 2.5km south of the cable.
Conservation designations	Yes	The Jura NSA partially covers the cable. There are a number of RSPB reserves elsewhere on Islay (Loch Gruinart, Ardnave, Smaull Farm and the Oa).
Aquaculture sites	No	
Ferry routes	Yes	The cable route intersects the Kennacraig-Islay (Port Askaig) ferry route (run by CalMac Ferries).
Local ports	Possible	Nearest port is Feolin Ferry Terminal on the Isle of Jura. This is located approximately 3.4km north of the cable, though since this is a narrow body of water, it is possible that transiting traffic to and from this port could intersect the cable.

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Table 49 Interactions for Cable Mull - Calve Island

Activity	Interaction	Notes
MMO Surveillance sightings, 2016-2020	Possible	Low levels of scallop dredger (French/Newhaven type), potter/whelker and trawler activity in the vicinity of the cable. Two Irish trawlers were sighted within 10km of the cable.
MMO landings value (£) 2015-2019 by species, gear type and gear length	Yes	Average of £4,741,123 landings value per year, with demersal trawls/seines making up the largest proportion of these landings, followed by pots and traps and dredges. The majority of vessels returning these landings are over 10m in length. The largest proportion of landings value comes from Nephrops, followed by scallops.
MMO VMS effort (hours) 2015-2019	Yes	Average fishing effort of 100+ hours for dredging and mobile gear.
MMO VMS landings value (£) 2015-2019	Yes	Average landings value of £20,000-£35,000 per year for dredging and mobile gear.
EMODnet AIS vessel density (fishing) 2019	Yes	Very low levels over the cable (<0.5 hours per square km per month).
Bird and wildlife watching	Yes	High levels of activity over the cable.
Visits to historic sites or to attractions	Yes	High levels of activity at each landfall section of the cable.
Power boating	Yes	High levels of activity over the cable.
Canoeing and kayaking	Yes	Moderate levels of activity over the cable.
Long distance swimming	Yes	Low levels of activity over the cable.
Motor cruising	Yes	High levels of activity over the cable.
Sailing and cruising	Yes	High levels of activity over the cable.
Chartered angling	Yes	High levels of activity over the cable.
Sea angling from shore	Yes	Low to moderate levels of activity directly over the cable, though there is an area of high activity approximately 800m north of the cable.
Surfing and paddle boarding	Yes	Low levels of activity over the cable.
Yacht racing	Yes	High levels of activity over the cable.
Dinghy racing	No	

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Activity	Interaction	Notes
Coasteering	Yes	Very low levels of activity directly over the cable, though there is a hotspot of moderate-high activity approximately 1.7km north of the cable.
Wild fowling	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Scuba Diving	Yes	High levels of activity over the cable.
Rowing and sculling	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cables.
Marine archaeology	Yes	Possible interaction with wreck sites.
Conservation designations	Possible	Loch Sunart to the Sound of Jura MPA and Inner Hebrides and the Minches SAC are located approximately 900m east of the cable.
Aquaculture sites	Yes	There are shellfish aquaculture sites Acairseid Mhor (run by R.B. & S.L. Barlow) and Tobermory Bay (run by Tobermory Mussel Farm) within 700m of the cable, and a further shellfish site, Port Na Coite (run by Tobermory Oysters) approximately 1.5km north of the cable.
Ferry routes	Possible	There are ferry routes from Mull (Tobermory)-Drimnin, Mull (Tobermory)-Laga Bay and Tobermory-Kilchoan, which run at their closest point approximately 1.3km north of the cable.
Local ports	Possible	There is an unnamed slipway approximately 460m west of the cable. Tobermory harbour, 1.6km north of the cable, is used by fishing boats, yachts and as the ferry terminal for the services to and from Kilchoan, Laga Bay and Drimnin.

Table 50 Interactions for Cable Mull - Coll

Activity	Interaction	Notes
MMO Surveillance sightings, 2016-2020	Yes	Moderate levels of scallop dredger (French/Newhaven type) activity over the cable route, with lower levels of trawler and potter/whelker activity. A single Irish pelagic stern trawler has been sighted within 10km of the cable.
MMO landings value (£) 2015-2019 by species, gear type and gear length	Yes	Average of £4,741,123 landings value per year, with demersal trawls/seines making up the largest proportion of these landings, followed by pots and traps and dredges. The majority of vessels returning these landings are over 10m in length. The largest proportion of landings value comes from Nephrops, followed by scallops.
MMO VMS effort (hours) 2015-2019	Yes	Average fishing effort of 100+ hours for dredging and mobile gear.

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Activity	Interaction	Notes
MMO VMS landings value (£) 2015-2019	Yes	Average landings value of £20,000-£35,000+ per year for dredging and mobile gear.
EMODnet AIS vessel density (fishing) 2019	Yes	Low levels over the cable (≤2 hours per square km per month).
Bird and wildlife watching	Yes	High levels of activity over the cable.
Visits to historic sites or to attractions	Yes	Very low levels of activity at the Mull landfall of the cable.
Power boating	Yes	Low levels of activity ranging to high levels at the landfall on Mull.
Canoeing and kayaking	Yes	Low levels of activity at the Coll landfall, with low to moderate levels of activity at the Mull landfall. Moderate levels of activity seen to the North of the Mull landfall.
Long distance swimming	Yes	Low levels of activity ranging to high levels at the landfall on Mull.
Motor cruising	Yes	Low to moderate levels of activity directly over the cable.
Sailing and cruising	Yes	Moderate to high levels of activity over the cable.
Chartered angling	Yes	Low levels of activity over the cable.
Sea angling from shore	Yes	Very low to low levels of activity over the cable. There is a hotspot of low to moderate activity adjacent to the Mull landfall of the cable.
Surfing and paddle boarding	Yes	Low levels of activity over the cable.
Yacht racing	Yes	High levels of activity at the Mull nearshore and landfall section of the cable, with very low to low activity towards the Coll landfall of the cable.
Dinghy racing	No	
Coasteering	Yes	High activity over the Mull landfall of the cable, with very low activity elsewhere along the route.
Wild fowling	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Scuba Diving	Yes	There is a hotspot of moderate to high activity at the Mull landfall of the cable, with very low levels of activity elsewhere along the cable. There is also an area of high activity adjacent to the south of the Coll landfall of the cable.
Rowing and sculling	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cables.

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Activity	Interaction	Notes
Marine archaeology	Possible	None directly over the cable, though there are wreck sites approximately 1.4km east, and 1.5km west of the cable.
Conservation designations	Yes	Inner Hebrides and the Minches SAC and Sea of the Hebrides MPA cover the cable. There is an RSPB reserve on Coll (Coll), though this does not interact with the cable.
Aquaculture sites	Possible	None directly over the cable, though there are shellfish aquaculture farms Poll Athach and Loch A Chumhainn (run by Isle of Mull Oysters) approximately 3km and 3.8km east of the Mull landfall respectively.
Ferry routes	Yes	The cable route intersects the Oban-Coll and Tiree-Oban ferry routes (operated by CalMac Ferries).
Local ports	No	Nearest pier is Croig on the Isle of Mull, approximately 2.7km east of the cable. Used as a base for whale watching trips and a number of fishing boats.

Table 51 Interactions for Cable Mull - Ulva

Activity	Interaction	Notes
MMO Surveillance sightings, 2016-2020	No	
MMO landings value (£) 2015-2019 by species, gear type and gear length	Yes	Average of £3,475,686 landings value per year with pots and traps making up over half of these landings, followed by demersal trawls/seines. Just under three quarters of the vessels returning these landings are over 10m in length. The largest proportion of landings value comes from crabs, followed by Nephrops.
MMO VMS effort (hours) 2015-2019	Yes	Average fishing effort of 1-5 hours for mobile gear.
MMO VMS landings value (£) 2015-2019	Yes	Average landings value of £1,000-£3,000 per year for mobile gear.
EMODnet AIS vessel density (fishing) 2019	No	
Bird and wildlife watching	Yes	High levels of activity over the cable.

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Activity	Interaction	Notes
Visits to historic sites or to attractions	Yes	Low levels of activity at both landfall sections of the cable.
Power boating	Yes	Moderate levels of activity over the cable.
Canoeing and kayaking	Yes	High levels of activity over the cable.
Long distance swimming	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Motor cruising	Yes	Low to moderate levels of activity over the cable.
Sailing and cruising	Yes	Low levels of activity over the cable.
Chartered angling	Yes	Moderate to high levels of activity over the cable.
Sea angling from shore	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Surfing and paddle boarding	Yes	Low levels of activity over the cable.
Yacht racing	Yes	High levels of activity over the cable.
Dinghy racing	No	
Coasteering	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Wild fowling	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Scuba Diving	Yes	Moderate levels of activity over the cable.
Rowing and sculling	No	
Marine archaeology	Yes	Possible interaction with wreck sites.
Conservation designations	Yes	The Loch na Keal, Isle of Mull NSA covers the cable.
Aquaculture sites	Possible	One shellfish aquaculture site, "Location 1" (run by Rangequest Oysters), is approximately 1.6km south east of the cable.
Ferry routes	Yes	There is a ferry route from Mull (Sound of Ulva)-Ulva (operated by Ulva Ferry) that runs parallel to the cable route, and is at its closest point approximately 63m south.
Local ports	Yes	Nearest port is Ulva Ferry Terminal, approximately 63m south of the Mull cable landfall, from which the Mull (Sound of Ulva)-Ulva service operates. The ferry terminal on the Isle of Ulva itself is approximately 130m south of the cable.

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Table 52 Interactions for Cable Mull - Iona

Activity	Interaction	Notes
MMO Surveillance sightings, 2016-2020	No	Within 10km radius there are potters/whelkers, trawlers (all) and demersal stern trawlers sighted.
MMO landings value (£) 2015-2019 by species, gear type and gear length	Yes	Average of £3,475,686 landings value per year with pots and traps making up over half of these landings, followed by demersal trawls/seines. Just under three quarters of the vessels returning these landings are over 10m in length. The largest proportion of landings value comes from crabs, followed by Nephrops.
MMO VMS effort (hours) 2015-2019	Yes	Average fishing effort of 1-5 hours for mobile gear.
MMO VMS landings value (£) 2015-2019	Yes	Average landings value of <£1,000 per year for mobile gear.
EMODnet AIS vessel density (fishing) 2019	Yes	Very low levels over the cable (≤ 0.5 hours per square km per month). Adjacent to an area of moderate activity (c. 5 hours) at the Mull landfall.
Bird and wildlife watching	Yes	High levels of activity over the cable.
Visits to historic sites or to attractions	Yes	High levels of activity at the Mull landfall section of the cable, with low activity at the Iona landfall.
Power boating	Yes	High levels of activity seen at the Mull landfall of the cable, with moderate-high levels at the Iona landfall.
Canoeing and kayaking	Yes	High levels of activity over the cable.
Long distance swimming	Yes	Low levels of activity over the cable.
Motor cruising	Yes	High levels of activity over the cable.
Sailing and cruising	Yes	High levels of activity over the cable.
Chartered angling	Yes	Low levels of activity over the cable.
Sea angling from shore	Yes	Very low levels of activity directly over the cable, with an area of low activity adjacent to the south of the cable.
Surfing and paddle boarding	No	
Yacht racing	Yes	High levels of activity over the cable.
Dinghy racing	No	

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Activity	Interaction	Notes
Coasteering	Yes	High levels of activity over the cable.
Wild fowling	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Scuba Diving	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Rowing and sculling	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cables.
Marine archaeology	No	
Conservation designations	Yes	Inner Hebrides and the Minches SAC and Sea of the Hebrides MPA cover the cable.
Aquaculture sites	No	
Ferry routes	Possible	There is a ferry route from Fionnphort-Iona (Baile Mor) (operated by CalMac Ferries) that runs parallel to the cable route, and is at its closest point approximately 1.3km south.
Local ports	Possible	The ferry terminal Baile Mor on the Isle of Iona, from which the Fionnphort-Iona service operates, is located approximately 1.3km south of the cable. Fionnphort ferry terminal is approximately 1.7km south of the cable.

Table 53 Interactions for Cable Bridgend Islay

Activity	Interaction	Notes
MMO Surveillance sightings, 2016-2020	No	
MMO landings value (£) 2015-2019 by species, gear type and gear length	Yes	Average of £2,483,729 landings value per year with over half of this from pots and traps, followed by dredges and demersal trawls/seines. The largest proportion of vessels returning these landings are over 10m in length. The largest proportion of landings value comes from crabs, followed by scallops.
MMO VMS effort (hours) 2015-2019	No	
MMO VMS landings value (£) 2015-2019	No	

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Activity	Interaction	Notes
EMODnet AIS vessel density (fishing) 2019	Yes	High levels (up to 18 hours) at the Bridgend cable landfall, but low to no activity over the rest of the cable.
Bird and wildlife watching	Yes	Moderate levels of activity over the cable.
Visits to historic sites or to attractions	Yes	Low levels of activity at the Islay landfall of the cable.
Power boating	Yes	Low levels of activity over the cable.
Canoeing and kayaking	Yes	Low levels of activity over the cable.
Long distance swimming	Yes	Low levels of activity ranging to high levels at the landfall on Mull.
Motor cruising	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Sailing and cruising	Yes	Low levels of activity over the cable.
Chartered angling	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Sea angling from shore	Yes	Very low to low levels of activity over the cable.
Surfing and paddle boarding	No	
Yacht racing	No	
Dinghy racing	No	
Coasteering	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Wild fowling	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Scuba Diving	Yes	Very low levels of activity over the cable.
Rowing and sculling	No	
Marine archaeology	Possible	None directly over the cable, though there is a wreck site approximately 1.3km east of the cable.
Conservation designations	No	None directly over the cable, though there are a number of RSPB reserves elsewhere on Islay (Loch Gruinart, Ardnave, Smaull Farm and the Oa).
Aquaculture sites	No	
Ferry routes	No	
Local ports	Yes	Bowmore Harbour is adjacent to the southern landfall of the cable, and is used mainly by leisure vessels, and fishing boats.

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			Distribution ✓	Transmission ✗
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