

Marine Survey Capabilities

As an independent environmental consultancy, our specialist teams provide pragmatic advice on all ecosystems, ensuring you meet environmental compliance on your next project.

Our marine division, founded over 30 years ago as Unicomarine, comprises experienced marine consultants with a range of applied scientific backgrounds. We offer a fully integrated marine environmental survey service to support our clients in obtaining environmental data to determine baseline conditions within a study area. Data are collected to characterise biological communities for informing environmental impact assessments, ongoing monitoring as part of construction and operation activities (renewable energy development, dredging, aggregates, ports, coastal infrastructure) or informing identification and management of Marine Protected Areas.

Our services include:

- Survey design for statistically robust data collection
- Subtidal and intertidal quantitative benthic faunal and sediment sampling
- Scientific trawls
- Water quality and sediment sampling
- Underwater video and photographic surveys and analysis of footage
- Biotope and habitat mapping
- Fish surveys, including impingement and entrainment monitoring.

Project experience

North Sea, gas platform: Environmental baseline survey and monitoring of the platform area, taking grab samples for faunal, Particle Size Analysis (PSA) and chemical analyses, in addition to still image and video surveys and reporting and liaison with DECC (now BEIS).

Thames Survey for New Port Terminal: Survey to characterise the benthic environment via Extended Phase 1 Habitat Survey Report, collection of intertidal core and subtidal grab samples for macrobenthic analysis and PSA. Interpretive reporting including commentary on potential impacts of the development.

Harwich Intertidal Survey for New Pontoon: Collection and analysis of intertidal core samples, including species level identification, biomass and PSA. Our report included statistical analysis of data, biotope classification and mapping of community types. All data delivered within 2 weeks of sampling.

Stour and Orwell: We have undertaken all surveys carried out for monitoring of these estuaries by Harwich Haven Authority since 1997. This has included benthic survey, species identification, PSA and biotope mapping. We also presented results to the regulators group.

Dundee Port: Benthic survey, sample analysis and PSA to inform EIA for expansion of the port.

Dredging Disposal Site Monitoring: We carried out an initial characterisation survey in 2012 to provide background data for the future monitoring of a proposed

disposal ground. Three monitoring surveys were conducted by us during 2016 to gather data on the potential changes to the sediment particle size, benthic community and overall ecological condition following two trial disposal events. Since then, monitoring has been conducted annually to meet licence consent requirements.

Nobel Sandbanks: Sample collection and analysis of benthic invertebrates, fish and particle size to inform an assessment for a mineral extraction and dredging licence.

Differentiators

- Substantial experience and understanding of potential impacts associated with coastal and offshore development. This allows us to design surveys that ensures the data collected are both relevant and achieve the objectives set for the survey.
- In-house survey equipment and partnerships with several vessel contractors around the UK that allows for rapid mobilisation to site on award of contract.
- Our staff are experienced in environmental surveys and can be resourced to your project to allow rapid deployment and project delivery.
- Privileged access to leading research institutions, which enables us to tackle novel and difficult ecological challenges in the field, drawing upon world-leading expertise.

Why Thomson?

Thomson are experts in environmental compliance. Our teams advise you on best practice, helping you deliver your project on time, on budget and compliant with environmental legislation.

Our award winning in-house geospatial team provide high quality mapping

services and interactive mapping allowing clients to have live access to survey data.

With offices across the UK, our teams deliver our clients exceptional outcomes across a range of environmental services and contracting in ecologically sensitive areas. Our services include:

- Ecological advice, surveys, and assessments
- Habitat design and creation, ecological contracting, and invasive species management
- Freshwater and marine consultancy
- Arboriculture
- Data management and mapping
- Laboratory analysis including marine benthic taxonomy.

Whether you are in the early planning stages for a project, require guidance on meeting environmental compliance on site, or have some mitigation work that needs completing, talk to us.

Accreditations

- ISO 9001 and ISO 14001 accreditations
- Personal Sea Survival and ENG-1 Seafarers medical certifications
- Member of the NMBAQC Scheme benthic invertebrates and PSA components
- Marine Biological Association (MBA) members
- Chartered Environmentalists and CIEEM members
- Institute of Marine Engineering Science and Technology (IMarEST) members

Contact us:

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