



Thomson
environmental
consultants

**Marine Environmental Consulting
and Laboratory Services**

What we offer



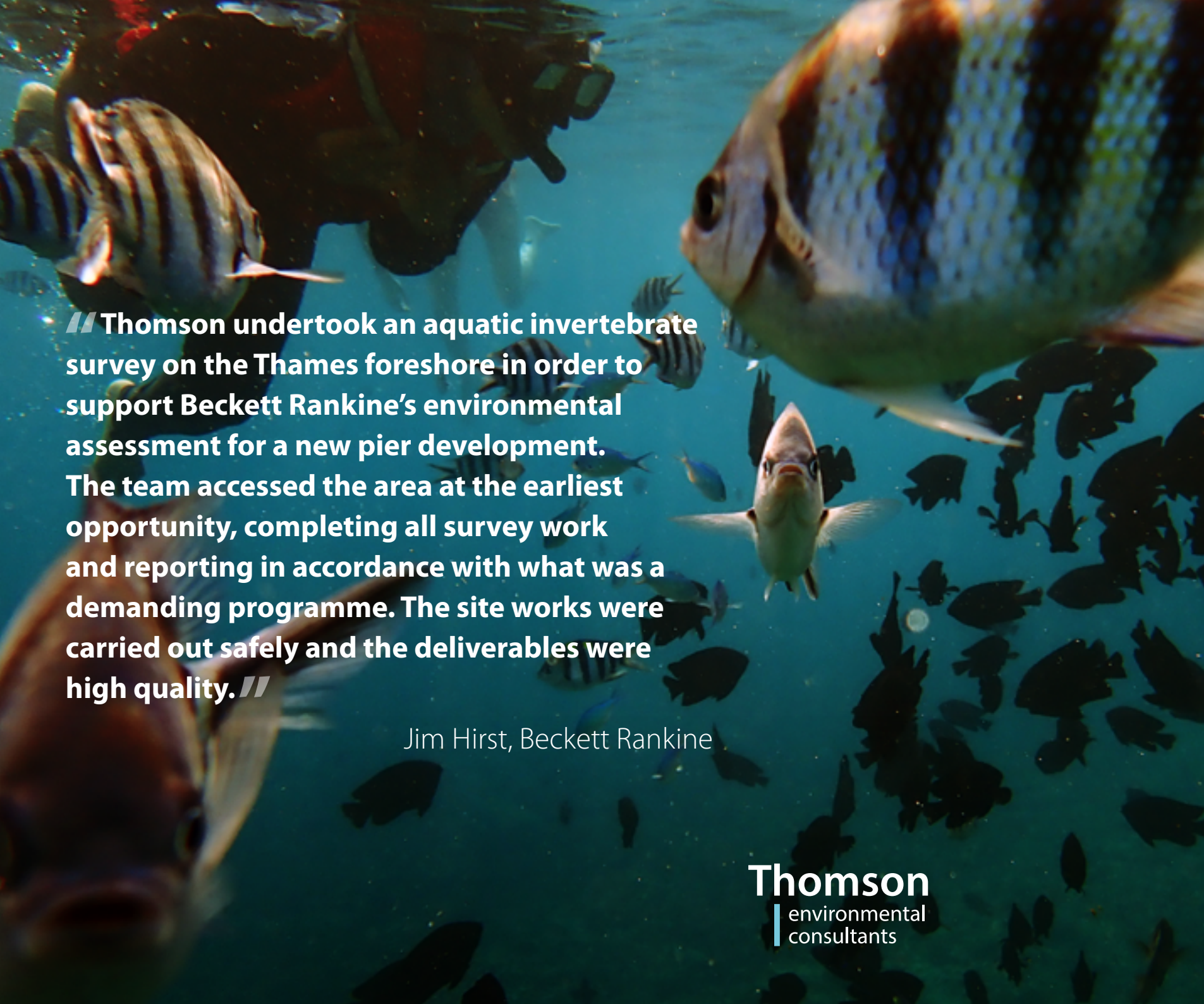
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We are the UK's leading experts in marine environmental survey, laboratory analysis and consultancy services.

Our marine division, founded over 30 years ago as Unicomarine, is made up of experienced marine consultants who are experts in various scientific disciplines, focussed on providing pragmatic solutions.

We offer a fully integrated marine environmental survey service, from survey design to providing final technical reports. We support our clients in obtaining environmental data to determine baseline, operational and post construction conditions and gaining consents for their projects. We work relentlessly and collaboratively to deliver excellent project outcomes with positive environmental impacts.

[Thomsonec.com](https://www.thomsonec.com)



// Thomson undertook an aquatic invertebrate survey on the Thames foreshore in order to support Beckett Rankine's environmental assessment for a new pier development. The team accessed the area at the earliest opportunity, completing all survey work and reporting in accordance with what was a demanding programme. The site works were carried out safely and the deliverables were high quality. //

Jim Hirst, Beckett Rankine

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Our team of scientists support clients through provision of environmental surveys to collect data and samples, subsequent specialist species level identification of fauna and assessment of seabed habitats.

We use this data to assess the impacts of proposed developments and to offer strategic advice and creative mitigation solutions in complex and challenging environments. Our expertise ranges from intertidal and estuarine regions to offshore and deep-sea habitats.

We help clients obtain licences and consents for:

- ✓ Port and harbour expansions
- ✓ Reclamation
- ✓ Capital and maintenance
- ✓ Dredging activities
- ✓ Oil and gas development
- ✓ Renewable energy development
- ✓ Wastewater and cooling water outfalls
- ✓ Coastal protection and beach regeneration
- ✓ Aggregate extraction

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What makes us different?

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- We take the time to understand our clients' objectives and priorities and work to deliver innovative solutions.
- We have substantial experience of impacts associated with coastal and offshore developments and understanding of new and emerging legislation and policy for the marine environment. This means we can design surveys to ensure relevant data are collected that achieve the project objectives in the most efficient and cost-effective way possible.
- We are able to offer ecological advice, surveys, and mitigation where proposed developments cross boundaries between land and water, such as cable routes.
- Our large team means that we can provide surveyors anywhere in the UK, with rapid mobilisation and project delivery. Wherever and whenever you need us, we will be there.
- Our specialist environmental data management and digital services securely provide clients with project data from day one through to completion and beyond, with real time updates.
- We have a large specialist laboratory team, led by world-renowned taxonomic experts, and more than a 30-year history of excellence, consistently achieved from our Unicmarine origins to the present day. This enables us to provide accurate analytical results quickly for large volumes of samples.
- Our experts can accurately identify species from all over the world, from intertidal to deep sea regions.
- Our bespoke laboratory and survey database system, UNICORN, facilitates sample tracking and data management, eliminating data entry errors.



Our survey and consultancy services

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Marine Environmental Survey

- ✓ Survey design
- ✓ Offshore, ship-based sampling campaigns specialising in benthic macrofauna, sediment and imagery collection.
- ✓ Nearshore (including ports and harbours) and intertidal (rocky-shore, beach, estuary, and lagoon) marine invertebrate and sediment sampling.
- ✓ Water and sediment quality assessments used in identifying anthropogenic contamination e.g., nutrient, trace metal enrichment and hydrocarbon contamination.
- ✓ Underwater video and photographic surveys and analysis of footage.
- ✓ Fish surveys, including impingement and entrainment monitoring.
- ✓ Biomonitoring to assess anthropogenic pressures on marine organisms.

Marine Consultancy

- ✓ EIAs (Environmental Impact Assessments) for projects in coastal, estuarine, and marine environments.
- ✓ WFD (Water Framework Directive) assessments.
- ✓ HRAs (Habitat Regulations Assessments) for projects in coastal, estuarine and marine ecosystems.
- ✓ Inter- and sub-tidal survey design, fieldwork, analysis, and reporting.
- ✓ Support during the pre-application screening and scoping stages of EIAs.
- ✓ Specialist support and representation on applications for marine licences.
- ✓ Advice on compliance with marine licence conditions.
- ✓ Design, planning and delivery of licence compliance including development and implementation of management and monitoring plans.

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Some project examples

North Sea, Gas Pipeline

Environmental baseline survey and monitoring of the platform area, taking grab samples for faunal, PSA and chemical analysis, 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 samples for macrobenthic analysis and PSA. Interpretive reporting including commentary on potential impacts of the development.

Benthic assessment of Marine Protected Areas

Analysis of samples from two Scottish Nature Conservation MPAs. Enumeration, identification, and biomass carried out and sampling stations assessed for the presence of Priority Marine Features. One of our Principal Taxonomists, Dr Ruth Barnich, identified and described a new species found in the samples.

Benthic Invertebrate Monitoring Scheme

Our report covered the management and monitoring of the disposal of sediment for a large capital dredging operation. This involved a comprehensive review of existing data, to build a baseline of the distribution of biotopes and determine the optimal monitoring strategy for assessing impacts in terms of Water Framework Regulation status.

Accreditations

ISO 9001 and ISO 14001 accreditations

IOSH Managing Safely qualified

Member of the NMBAQC Scheme

Marine Biological Association (MBA) members

Institute of Marine Engineering Science and Technology (IMarEST) members

Chartered Environmentalists and CIEEM members

Personal Sea Survival and ENG-1 Seafarers medical certifications

An underwater photograph showing a shark swimming through a dense kelp forest. The water is clear and blue, with sunlight filtering through the kelp leaves, creating a shimmering effect. Several smaller fish are visible in the background.

A little more about us...

Thomson
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Thomson environmental consultants cover all aspects of environmental consultancy – from smaller surveys through to strategic projects across all ecosystems.

We offer multiple specialist services within five business units:

- Environmental Impact Assessment, Climate Change and Sustainability
- Terrestrial Ecology
- Habitat Management & Arboricultural Services
- GIS and Mapping
- Water and Aquatic Ecology

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