

East Anglia THREE
Offshore Windfarm

East Anglia THREE

Southern North Sea pSAC

Screening and Integrity Matrices

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and Rule 17 Response / Screening & Integrity
Matrices

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1 Screening Matrix

1.1.1 Key to effects

1. Evidence for likely significant effects on their qualifying features is detailed within the footnotes to the screening matrices below.

- Y - Likely significant effect **cannot** be excluded
 - N - Likely significant effect **can** be excluded
 - C = construction
 - O = *operation*
 - D = *decommissioning*
 - *Where effects are not applicable to a particular feature they are greyed out.*
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Stage 1 Screening

Site 001

Name of European Site: Southern North Sea pSAC

Distance to East Anglia THREE Site 0km

Site Features	Likely effect(s) of proposed East Anglia THREE project											
	Physical damage / loss			Contamination			Disturbance			Cumulative/In-combination		
	C	O	D	C	O	D	C	O	D	C	O	D
Harbour Porpoise	Y	Y	Y	N ^a	N ^a	N ^a	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y

(a) It was agreed that potential impacts on marine mammals from release of contaminants and remobilisation or re-suspension of contaminated sediments were scoped out of the assessment subject to full justification within the ES. With regard to both spills or release of existing contaminants Chapter 8 Marine Water and Sediment Quality considers that the significance of both of these impacts is negligible (see sections 8.6.1.4 and 8.6.1.5). Given the highly mobile nature of marine mammals and the negligible impacts of changes in water quality it is considered that there would be **no impact** upon marine mammals from these sources and therefore there is no consideration of them within the HRA.

2 Integrity Matrices

2.1 Stage 2 Integrity Matrices

2. Following screening of potential impacts on European designated sites the following features of European Sites were assessed to determine if there was a risk of Adverse Effects on the Integrity (AEOI) of their qualifying features in the Information for Habitats Regulations Report.
3. A summary of the evidence presented in the determination of the risk of AEOI on their qualifying features is detailed within the footnotes to the integrity matrices below.
 - Y – AEOI **cannot** be excluded
 - N - AEOI **can** be excluded
 - C = construction
 - O = operation
 - D = decommissioning
4. Where effects are not applicable to a particular feature they are greyed out.

Stage 2

Site 001

Name of European Site: Southern North Sea pSAC

Distance to East Anglia THREE Site 0km

Site Features	Likely effect(s) of proposed East Anglia THREE project											
	Physical damage / loss			Contamination			Disturbance			Cumulative/In-combination		
	C	O	D	C	O	D	C	O	D	C	O	D
Harbour Porpoise	N ^{a,b}	N ^{a, b, c}	N ^{a,b,d}				N ^e	N ^{c,e}	N ^e	N ^{a, b, e}	N ^{a,b,c,e}	N ^{a,b,d,e}
<p>(a) It has been estimated from post mortem examinations within the Agreement on the Conservation of Small Cetaceans in the Baltic, North East Atlantic (ASCOBANS) area that approximately 4% of deaths recorded could be as a result of vessel strikes, based on evidence of physical trauma (blunt trauma or propeller cuts)¹. Therefore the risk of collision is likely to be low.</p> <p>(b) Harbour porpoise distribution is considered to reflect prey distribution; therefore if prey are disturbed by the piling porpoise would be expected to follow prey availability away from the area of disturbance. The displacement of porpoise from the area of piling would increase the density of individuals outside of the affected area by a negligible and undetectable amount</p> <p>(c) Operational and maintenance impacts are likely to be highly localised around the project infrastructure, and any maintenance impacts would be intermittent and temporary therefore no LSE would occur.</p> <p>(d) During decommissioning, potential effects on fish species include physical disturbance, loss or changes of habitat, increased suspended sediment concentrations, and underwater noise. It is anticipated that this will be on a similar scale (or less) to construction effects.</p> <p>(e) It is anticipated that through the Site Integrity Plan (SIP) impacts of underwater noise from construction and decommissioning will be mitigated to an extent whereby no AEOI is expected. The Plan will set out the approach for EATL to deliver any project mitigation or management measures in relation to the pSAC and therefore allow the conclusion of 'no adverse effect beyond reasonable scientific doubt' on the pSAC in this HRA.</p>												

¹ Evans, P. G., Mick E. Baines, and Pia Anderwald. (2011). Risk Assessment of Potential Conflicts between Shipping and Cetaceans in the ASCOBANS Region. 18th ASCOBANS Advisory Committee Meeting AC18/Doc.6-04 (S) rev.1 UN Campus, Bonn, Germany, 4-6 May 2011 Dist. 2 May 2011.

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