

## Marine Notice No. 11 of 2017

*Notice to all Shipowners, Fishing Vessel Owners, Agents, Shipmasters, Skippers, Fishermen, Yachtsmen and Seafarers*

### Geophysical Research Survey (GESS\* Survey) off the South and East Coasts of Ireland

The Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport has been advised by the Marine Institute that a Geophysical Research survey will be undertaken off the South and East Coasts of Ireland.

The survey is a collaborative survey undertaken by researchers in iCRAG – The Irish Centre for Research in Applied Geosciences, University College Cork and the University of Bremen (Germany). The aim of the survey is to collect geophysical acoustic data in the Irish sector of the Irish Sea and the northern Celtic Sea (including the Dungarvan/Waterford area).

The data set will be primarily used to improve knowledge on the nature and formation of recent seabed sediments that were influenced by the Irish Ice Sheet during the last glaciation. The survey data will help create a 3D geological model and revise existing sub-seabed models of the seabed sediments in the Irish Sea and the northern Celtic Sea.

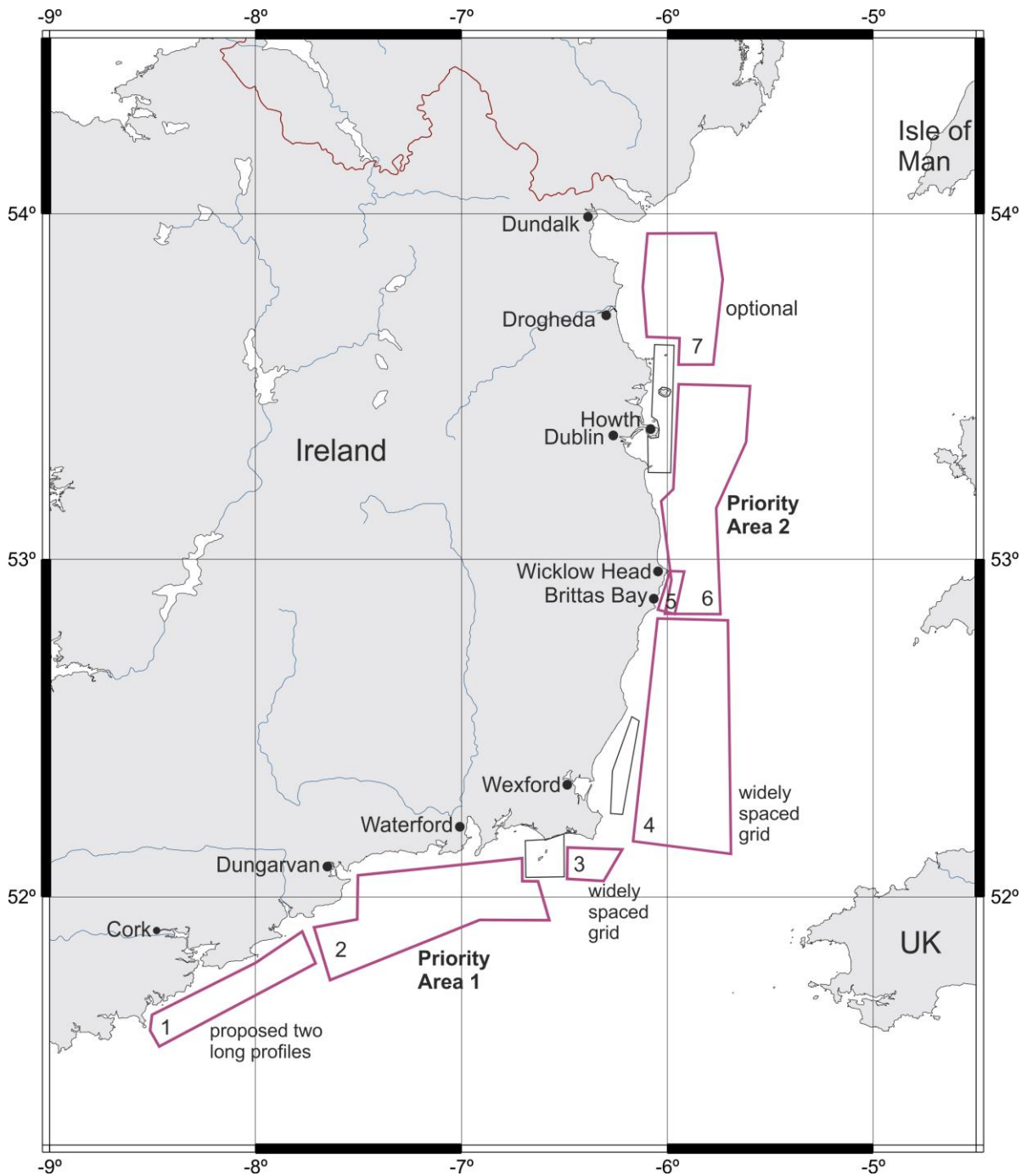
The survey is expected to commence on the 28<sup>th</sup> March 2017 and last for 16 days approximately.

The “**RV Celtic Voyager**” (Callsign: **EIQN**) is scheduled to carry out the survey operations within the areas of the image below (figure 1). The survey will use relatively low amplitude sound sources to image into the seabed including an echosounder, a sparker and a micro air gun seismic system. The vessel will on occasion be towing a Hydrophone cable and other equipment up to a maximum of 250 metres behind the vessel. The vessel will be restricted in its movements when towing a cable astern.

	<b>Latitude</b>	<b>Longitude</b>
Area 1	51° 39' 26.68" N	8° 30' 14.83" W
	51° 36' 39.54" N	8° 30' 52.81" W
	51° 33' 52.40" N	8° 28' 09.47" W
	51° 48' 26.10" N	7° 42' 30.60" W
	51° 54' 15.58" N	7° 46' 26.12" W
Area 2	52° 03' 51.53" N	7° 30' 18.58" W
	51° 56' 18.75" N	7° 30' 32.73" W
	51° 54' 34.99" N	7° 42' 48.50" W
	51° 45' 23.16" N	7° 38' 10.23" W
	51° 55' 59.88" N	6° 34' 25.19" W
	52° 02' 31.35" N	6° 37' 24.42" W
	52° 02' 50.21" N	6° 42' 21.55" W

	52° 07' 00.18" N	6° 42' 21.55" W
Area 3	52° 08' 43.95" N	6° 29' 18.62" W
	52° 03' 13.80" N	6° 29' 04.47" W
	52° 02' 50.21" N	6° 18' 37.19" W
	52° 08' 20.36" N	6° 13' 11.75" W
Area 4	52° 48' 54.05" N	6° 02' 53.90" W
	52° 09' 54.69" N	6° 09' 53.66" W
	52° 07' 28.48" N	5° 41' 31.02" W
	52° 48' 44.62" N	5° 42' 18.19" W
Area 5	52° 57' 18.71" N	5° 59' 07.51" W
	52° 50' 37.81" N	6° 02' 39.75" W
	52° 49' 55.36" N	5° 57' 47.33" W
	52° 57' 13.99" N	5° 55' 02.25" W
Area 6	53° 29' 56.03" N	5° 56' 41.30" W
	53° 11' 41.82" N	5° 58' 15.63" W
	53° 09' 34.47" N	6° 01' 57.30" W
	52° 55' 34.35" N	5° 58' 29.78" W
	52° 49' 50.65" N	6° 00' 46.55" W
	52° 49' 50.65" N	5° 44' 16.10" W
	53° 08' 19.01" N	5° 45' 45.71" W
	53° 19' 52.33" N	5° 36' 57.47" W
	53° 29' 32.45" N	5° 35' 51.44" W
Area 7	53° 56' 25.47" N	6° 05' 53.12" W
	53° 38' 30.12" N	6° 06' 02.55" W
	53° 37' 57.11" N	5° 56' 27.15" W
	53° 33' 28.27" N	5° 56' 36.58" W
	53° 33' 28.27" N	5° 46' 42.31" W
	53° 56' 25.47" N	5° 45' 45.71" W

**Figure 1: \*Geophysical Exploration of the Shallow Sub-seabed (GESS) survey locations**



There will be a regular safety message broadcasting on VHF CH 16 throughout the project.

All vessels, particularly those engaged in fishing, are requested to give the “**RV Celtic Voyager**” (callsign: **EIQN**) and the towed equipment, a wide berth and keep a sharp lookout in the relevant areas.

**In case of any issues or queries please contact:**

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 Aodhan Fitzgerald, Marine Institute: 0872488765

**All mariners are reminded of their responsibilities under the International Collision Regulations and are reminded of [Marine Notice No. 17 of 2007](#), which gives general advice in relation to the activities of vessels engaged in survey work for hydrographic, seismic, fishing research and underwater operations.**

The International Regulations for Prevention of Collisions at Sea (COLREGS) are implemented in Irish law by the *Merchant Shipping (Collision Regulations) (Ships and Water Craft on the Water) Order 2012* [S.I. No. 507 of 2012], and the *Signals of Distress (Ships) Rules 2012* [S.I. No.170 of 2012]. These Statutory Instruments may be purchased by mail order from Government Publications, Office of Public Works, 52 St. Stephen's Green, Dublin 2. Tel: (01) 6476834/1890-213434 and are also available online at: [www.irishstatutebook.ie](http://www.irishstatutebook.ie)

Marine Notices are issued purely for maritime safety and navigation reasons and should not be construed as conferring rights or granting permissions.

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14/03/17

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