



Marine Notice No. 38 of 2018

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

Amended 26/10/2018

BARRYROE Geophysical Site Survey, South Coast of Ireland

The Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport has been advised that Gardline will carry out a seabed, shallow geophysical and environmental baseline site survey on behalf of Exola DAC Limited on licence SEL 1/11 called 'Barryroe' which is located in the North Celtic Sea, approximately 50 kilometres south of Cork port.

The project is scheduled to begin in late November 2018, with the survey vessel anticipated to be working on location for 25 days, excluding any weather delays. Coordinates and map of the working area are outlined below:

ETRS 1989 (WGS 1984)		
Survey Corner	Latitude	Longitude
Working Area		
A	51° 14' 01.066" N	08° 15' 15.683" W
B	51° 07' 26.161" N	08° 15' 22.046" W
C	51° 07' 31.961" N	08° 34' 47.464" W
D	51° 12' 42.724" N	08° 34' 44.637" W
E	51° 12' 41.847" N	08° 30' 57.871" W
F	51° 14' 06.011" N	08° 30' 56.989" W

The vessel that will undertake the project is the '**MV OCEAN OBSERVER**' (Callsign: **GHXX**).

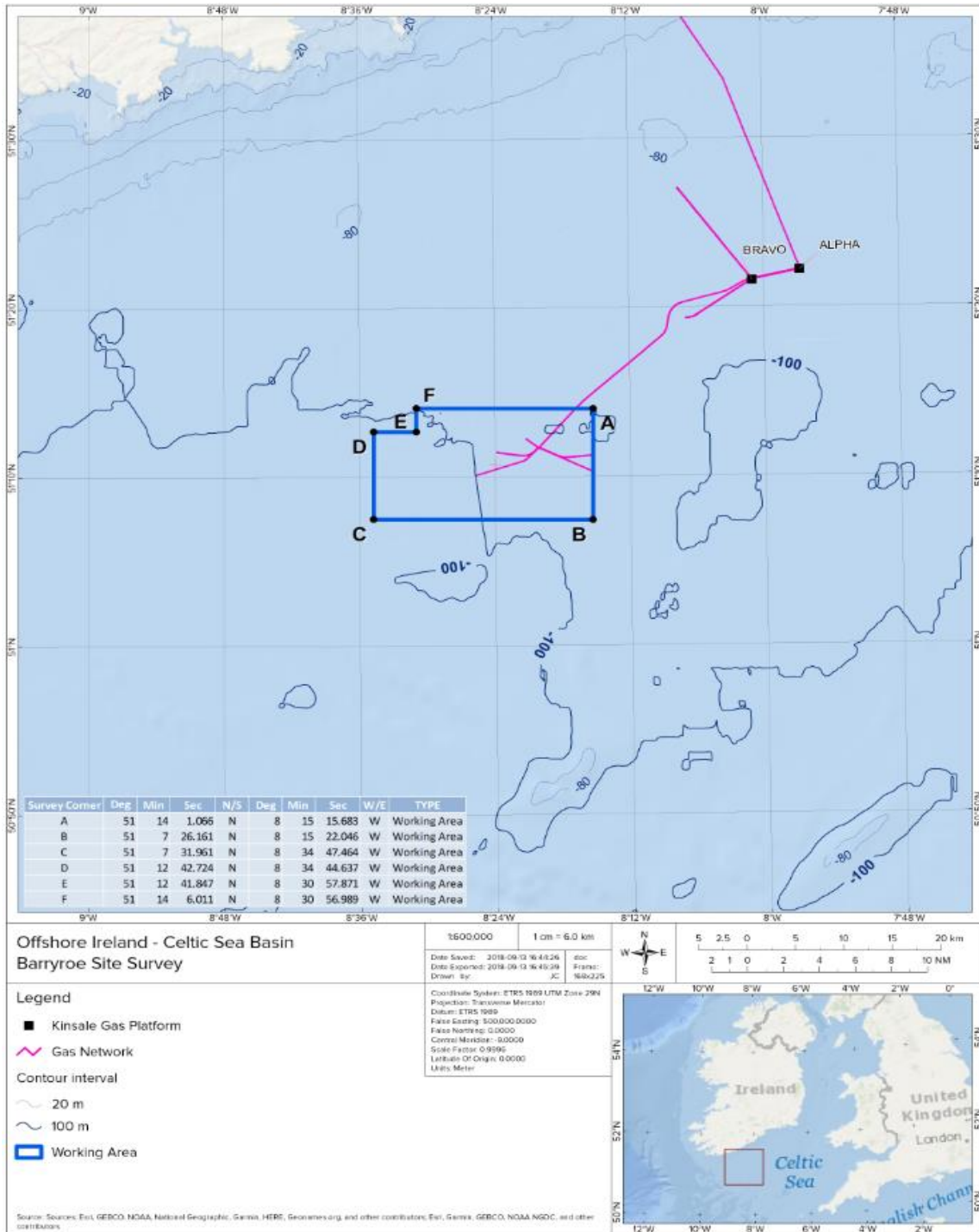
The geophysical acoustic survey will use the following primary energy sources: Side scan sonar, single-beam echosounder, multi-beam echosounder, chirp sub-bottom profiler, pinger sub-bottom profiler and magnetometer.

It is expected that the primary equipment will provide the required data for habitat assessment, an archaeological assessment of the site, and confirming the site does not have non-archaeological debris or hazards. It is however possible that secondary equipment may be required (due to failure or poor performance of primary equipment) which may consist of mini air-gun, boomer sub-bottom profiler and sparker sub-bottom profiler. The side scan sonar (and potential boomer or sparker) are expected to be towed

behind the survey vessel at a distance of 400 - 500 m. The echosounders, chirp and pinger are expected to be hull mounted.

An environmental baseline survey will also be conducted across the site survey area. Any potentially sensitive habitats identified from anomalies on the geophysical survey data will be investigated using high-resolution video or camera stills. Seabed samples will also be taken using a box corer or similar grab sampling device, as appropriate. These samples will be analysed to provide information on benthic faunal community composition and physio-chemical characteristics of the sediments.

Survey operations will be conducted on a 24-hour basis. Throughout survey operations the vessel will be displaying the shapes and lights prescribed in the International Rules for the Prevention of Collisions at Sea (COLREGS) Rule 27, to indicate that the survey vessel is restricted in its ability to manoeuvre. A listening watch will be maintained on **VHF Channel 16**, and the vessel will actively transmit an AIS signal.



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]. [See Marine Notice No. 06 of 2013](#). 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. They are also available online at: 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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18/10/2018

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