Code: UKCAL-CWF-CON-EIA-RPT-00008-1033

Volume 8 Additional Information

Appendix 33: Marine Protected Area Assessment Update for Burrowed Mud

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OCEAN WINDS

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Revision	Issued
Date	30 September 2025

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Acronyms and Abbreviations

EIAR	Environmental Impact Assessment Report
GeMS	Geodatabase of Marine features adjacent to Scotland
GIS	Geographic Information System
IHLS	International Herring Larvae Survey
MD-LOT	Marine Directorate – Licensing Operations Team
MPA	Marine Protected Area
NCMPA	Nature Conservation Marine Protected Area
OECC	Offshore Export Cable Corridor
O&M	Operation and Maintenance
OWF	Offshore Wind Farm
pMPA	Proposed Marine Protected Area
SNH	Scottish Natural Heritage
WTG	Wind Turbine Generator

1 Introduction

1.1 Project Overview

1.1.1.1 In November 2024, Caledonia Offshore Wind Farm Limited (hereafter referred to as the 'Applicant') submitted consent applications to the Marine Directorate – Licensing Operations Team (MD-LOT) to develop the Caledonia Offshore Wind Farm (OWF) (hereafter referred to as the 'Proposed Development (Offshore)') within the Outer Moray Firth, off the north-east coast of Scotland.

1.1.1.2 The Proposed Development (Offshore) includes the Array Area (hereafter referred to as 'Caledonia OWF') and the Caledonia Offshore Export Cable Corridor (OECC). To support with the deliverability of these phases, the Applicant has submitted two offshore consent applications (Section 36 and associated Marine Licences) for the Proposed Development (Offshore), referred to as Caledonia North and Caledonia South.

1.1.1.3 Further details on the Proposed Development (Offshore) Design Envelope and amendments to the design since submission of the Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) are presented in Section 4 of the Caledonia Offshore Wind Farm EIAR and HRA Addendum.

1.1.1.4 The relevant documents submitted as part of the EIAR that should be read in conjunction with this report are:

- Volume 1, Chapter 3: Proposed Development Description (Offshore);
- Volume 2, Chapter 4: Benthic Subtidal and Intertidal Ecology; and
- Application Document 9: Marine Protected Area Assessment.

1.2 Purpose of the Document

1.2.1.1 The potential impacts of the Proposed Development (Offshore) on the Southern Trench Nature Conservation Marine Protected Area (NCMPA), including project alone and cumulative with other plans and projects, are detailed within the submitted MPA Assessment Report (Application Document 9: Marine Protected Area Assessment), which was submitted to MD-LOT as part of the consent applications submitted in November 2024. Following submission of the applications, a formal consultation period was held, during which statutory consultees and the public were invited to provide feedback.

1.2.1.2 During this period, NatureScot (letter dated 27 March 2025) requested that an assessment was undertaken for the potential impacts of permanent habitat loss of the burrowed mud feature of the Southern

Trench NCMPA. Subsequently, this appendix has been produced to address this.

1.2.1.3 The main objective of this appendix is to assess the potential impacts arising from the Proposed Development (Offshore), with the aim of identifying potential project alone or cumulative impacts on the burrowed mud feature of the Southern Trench NCMPA due to long-term habitat loss/alteration due to the addition of infrastructure to the area during the Operation and Maintenance (O&M) phase.

1.3 Consultation

1.3.1.1 A summary of the relevant consultation responses received during the consent determination phase, and how these concerns have been addressed within this appendix, are outlined in Table 1-1.

1.3.1.2 Further details on the overall consent applications consultation process for the Proposed Development (Offshore) are presented in Volume 1, Chapter 8: Stakeholder Engagement and Consultation of the EIAR. Topic-specific consultation details and feedback can be found in the relevant chapters of the EIAR.

Table 1-1: Consultation relevant to MPA Assessment and burrowed mud.

Consultee	Description	How this has been Considered
NatureScot	Benthic habitats – Burrowed mud. We agree with the majority of the conclusions of the Southern Trench NCMPA Assessment with regards to benthic habitats. However, we are concerned that there is a missing impact on the burrowed mud feature that has not been considered. Only temporary habitat loss/disturbance is considered (see section 5.1.1.2), and not long-term/permanent habitat loss.	The assessment of permanent loss for the burrowed mud feature of the Southern Trench NCMPA during the O&M phase, is provided in Section 4.1.
NatureScot	Table 3-13 in Volume 1, Chapter 3 describes the use of rock placement, grout bags, iron cast, engineered CPS, or concrete mattresses for cable protection along the export cable. Table 3-13 also states that up to 50% of the OECC may require cable protection. The cable protection will introduce hard substrate over burrowed mud habitat and will effectively cause permanent or long-term loss of this habitat for epifaunal, demersal and some infaunal species. There is therefore the potential for a considerable impact to the burrowed mud feature of the MPA, which should be assessed. Section 4.7.2.6 of Application Document 9 states that cable protection will cover an area less than 0.01% of the whole MPA. But for the MPA assessment, the extent of the burrowed mud feature affected (rather than of the whole MPA) needs to be considered.	The assessment of permanent loss for the burrowed mud feature of the Southern Trench NCMPA, which considers the potential for placement of cable protection within areas of burrowed mud, is provided in Section 4.1.
NatureScot	The text in section 5.1.1.2 in Application Document 9 indicates that long-term habitat loss is considered elsewhere in the document ("Any potential permanent habitat loss is discussed in the O&M section.") but there does not seem to be an O&M section in this document. We request a clarification as to why long-term habitat loss has not been included. If this impact has been omitted, we will require an assessment of the potential impacts of long-term permanent habitat loss. Noting this will need to be based on a worst-case scenario, given the final cable route(s) and design will only be available if consented.	The assessment of permanent loss for the burrowed mud feature of the Southern Trench NCMPA, which considers the worst-case scenario for the potential for placement of cable protection within areas of burrowed mud, is provided in Section 4.1.

Consultee	Description	How this has been Considered
NatureScot	In addition, other cables within the MPA are also likely to use cable protection, and so this impact should be considered cumulatively. Even in cases where cables do not directly overlap, there is the potential for cumulative impact if the additive extent of cable protection is such that significant areas of burrowed mud within the MPA are lost. We therefore advise that an assessment of the potential cumulative effects of long-term/permanent habitat loss is required.	The assessment of permanent loss for the burrowed mud feature of the Southern Trench NCMPA, cumulatively with other projects within areas of burrowed mud, is provided in Section 4.2.
NatureScot	We also recommend the inclusion of additional mitigation measures which could further reduce the impact of permanent habitat loss within the MPA, such as type of protection or use of nature inclusive designs. These could be implemented as a best practice measure, even if the final impact assessment is not deemed significant.	Consideration of additional mitigation is provided in Section 5.

2 Ecosystem Baseline

2.1.1.1 The ecological baseline for the burrowed mud feature of the Southern Trench NCMPA is as described within the original application (Application Document 9: Marine Protected Area Assessment, Section 3.3.1).

2.1.1.2 For the purpose of this assessment, the extent of the burrowed mud feature has been mapped within a geographic information system (GIS) to facilitate calculation of the approximate area of potential burrowed mud habitat that may be impacted by the placement of cable protection, as shown in Figure 2-1.

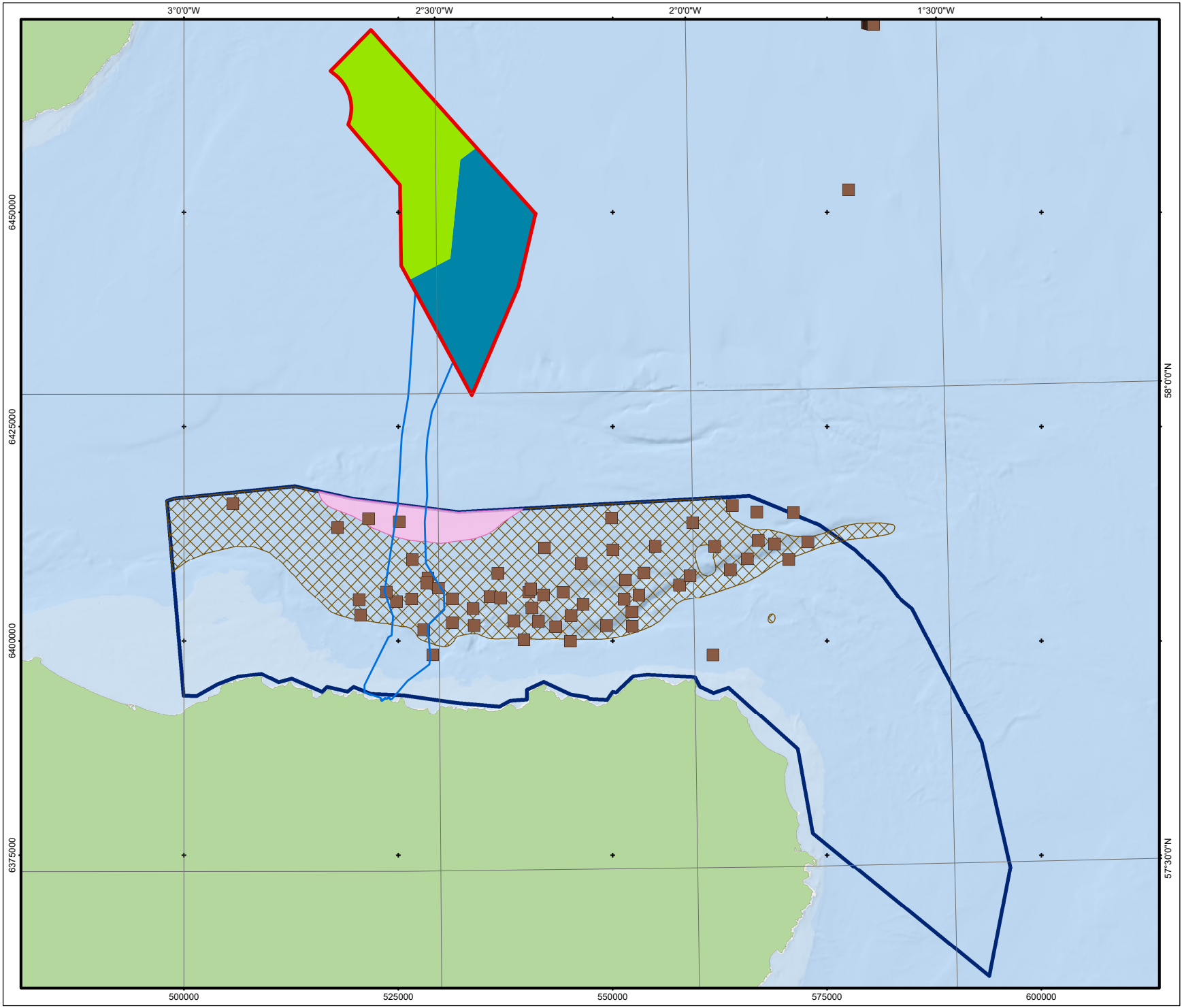
2.1.1.3 The extent of the burrowed mud feature within the Southern Trench NCMPA, for the purpose of this assessment is informed by:

- 'Suitable habitats for *Nephrops*' polygon (Geodatabase of Marine features adjacent to Scotland (GeMS), 2025[1]);
- 'Burrowed Mud' point data from (GeMS, 2025[1]); and
- A precautionary area of seabed which includes Burrowed Mud points (see Figure 2-1, 'Additional Burrowed Mud Habitat' polygons).

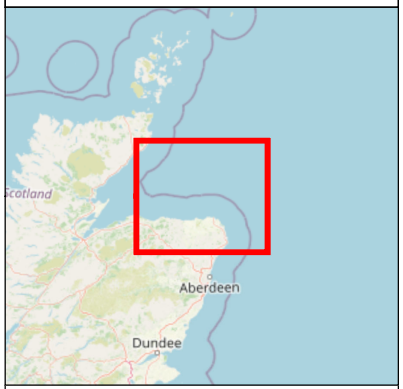
2.1.1.4 The section of the Caledonia OECC that enters the northern part of the Southern Trench NCMPA passes close to an area with two 'Burrowed Mud' data points, but which is not delineated as a 'Suitable habitats for *Nephrops*' polygon. As such, a precautionary area has been digitised to include this area as a potential area for burrowed mud ('Additional Burrowed Mud Habitat').

2.1.1.5 The combined areas of the 'Suitable habitats for *Nephrops*' polygon and the 'Additional Burrowed Mud Habitat' provide a suitable approximation of the area of available burrowed mud habitat within the Southern Trench NCMPA. The (total) available area is considered as follows:

- Area of 'Suitable habitats for *Nephrops*' polygon: 799.65km^2
- Area of 'Additional Burrowed Mud Habitat' polygon: 66.08km^2
- Total area of available burrowed mud habitat: 865.73km^2.



- Caledonia OWF
- Caledonia North Site
- Caledonia South Site
- Offshore Export Cable Corridor
- Southern Trench NC MPA
- Suitable Habitats for Nephrops
- Additional Burrowed Mud Habitat
- Burrowed Mud



0 5 10 15 20 km

REV	DATE	DOC STATUS	ORIGIN	REVIEW	APP
01	10/09/2025	Approved	EV	BB	DH

CALEDONIA Offshore Wind Farm

GoBe APEM Group

GEODETIC PARAMETERS
WGS 84 / UTM zone 30N (EPSG: 32630)

DRAWING TITLE
Figure 2-1: Location of the Burrowed Mud Feature of the Southern Trench NC MPA in relation to the Proposed Development

STATUS	SCALE	
Approved	1:600,000	
DRAWING NUMBER	SHEET NO	REV
N/A	01 of 01	N/A

3 Key Parameters for Assessment

3.1.1.1 The key parameters for assessment for the burrowed mud feature of the Southern Trench NCMPA are as described within the original application documentation (Volume 1, Chapter 3: Proposed Development (Offshore) Description of the EIAR).

3.1.1.2 For the purpose of this assessment, the key parameters for the assessment of the potential for long-term habitat loss/alteration due to the addition of infrastructure to the area, are reproduced below for the Proposed Development (Offshore):

- Number of export cables: Up to 4;
- Maximum length of export cables (total): 330km;
- Maximum length of export cable where cable protection may be required (up to 50% of the cable): 165km;
- Maximum offshore export cable protection footprint (total) (max 20m width of cable protection): 3,300,000m^2.

3.1.1.3 At this stage, it is not known where (if any) cable protection may be required either within or outside of the Southern Trench NCMPA. As such, for the purpose for this assessment, a worse-case is considered where the 50% of cable that may require cable protection, is located in the northern part of the Southern Trench NCMPA, which is the part of the site where the burrowed mud feature is present, as opposed to the southern part where burrowed mud is mainly absent (Figure 2-1).

4 Assessment of Risk to Achievement of Conservation Objectives

4.1 Proposed Development (Offshore) Alone Assessment – O&M Phase

Burrowed Mud of the Southern Trench NCMPA

Long-term Habitat Loss/Alteration Due to the Addition of Infrastructure to the Area

4.1.1.1 Burrowed mud habitats are highly sensitive to physical changes to another seabed type, caused by a range of activities as noted within the Feature Activity Sensitivity Tool (FeAST)[i]. A permanent change from fine sediment to another type of seabed habitat will result in the loss of the characterising community. Burrowing species require access to sediments and, therefore, will be displaced within the footprint of the new substrate. Tolerance to this impact is therefore assessed as low.

4.1.1.2 The installation of cables at the Proposed Development (Offshore) that do not ultimately require cable protection will not change the sediment type from one seabed habitat type. However, the potential requirement for the deployment of cable protection, where required, will introduce a hard substrate over the muddy sediment.

4.1.1.3 Due to the operational duration of the Proposed Development (Offshore), which is expected to be 35 years, the introduction of cable protection within the Southern Trench NCMPA is considered a permanent impact for the purpose of this assessment. However, burrowing species have the capacity to recover from long-term impacts, although recovery may be slow, as burrowing megafauna can take longer than five years to reach sexual maturity and recover (Hill *et al*., 2023[2]). Following decommissioning of the Proposed Development (Offshore), full recovery is possible if cable protection is removed and undisturbed neighbouring burrowed-mud communities are available to recolonise the area.

4.1.1.4 As the areas where cable protection may be required are not currently known, a worse case assessment assumes that cable protection is required within the northern part of the Southern Trench NCMPA site, which includes habitat that is likely to include burrowed muds. This is indicated by the 'Suitable habitats for *Nephrops*' polygon and 'Additional Burrowed Mud Habitat' polygon on Figure 2-1.

[i] https://feature-activity-sensitivity-tool.scot/search-feature/results (Accessed 15/09/2025).

4.1.1.5 If the maximum of four offshore export cables are required, the maximum amount of cable protection that may be present within the burrowed mud habitats area within the Southern Trench NCMPA is calculated as follows:

- Total distance of one export cable within the 'Suitable habitats for *Nephrops*' polygon and 'Additional Burrowed Mud Habitat' polygon: 16.44km.
- Total distance of four export cables within the 'Suitable habitats for *Nephrops*' polygon and 'Additional Burrowed Mud Habitat' polygon: 65.76km.
- Total area of cable protection within the 'Suitable habitats for *Nephrops*' polygon and 'Additional Burrowed Mud Habitat' polygon: (65,760m x 20m) 1,315,200m^2.

4.1.1.6 As a worst-case, considering the need for a full 50% of an export cable to require cable protection and the location of the required cable protection to be fully within the area of the Southern Trench NCMPA that contains suitable burrowed mud habitat, the Proposed Development (Offshore) alone could result in placement of hard substrate over a total of 1,315,200m^2 of the burrowed mud habitat, which is (1.3152km^2 of 865.73km^2) 0.15% of the burrowed mud habitat available within the Southern Trench NCMPA. This figure is likely to be highly conservative as it is unlikely that all the offshore export cables installed within the Southern Trench NCMPA will require cable protection.

4.1.1.7 The Southern Trench NCMPA and the burrowed mud feature within it is extensive, with burrowed mud widespread across the southern half of the Moray Firth and relatively prevalent within the waters surrounding Scotland. The area of habitat likely to be affected by the Proposed Development (Offshore) is comparatively small compared to the area of burrowed mud within the Southern Trench NCMPA. Additionally, although the impact is considered permanent over the lifetime of the Proposed Development (Offshore), the habitat should recover if the cable protection within the site is removed at decommissioning, albeit slowly (Hill *et al*., 2023[2]).

4.1.1.8 The assessment against relevant Conservation Objectives is provided in Table 4-1.

Table 4-1: Assessment against conservation objective "Species is conserved".

Site-specific Advice	Assessment Conclusion
Conserve the current extent and distribution of burrowed mud habitat within the site so that it is stable or increasing.	Given the extensive nature of the burrowed mud habitats within the Southern Trench NCMPA and in the wider area, that the sites conservation objectives in relation to conserving the current extent of the burrowed mud feature will be maintained in the long-term.
Overall conclusion: There is, therefore, **no potential for non-conformance**, having regard to the Conservation Objectives of the burrowed mud feature of the Southern Trench NCMPA in relation to long-term habitat loss/alteration due to the addition of infrastructure to the area from the Proposed Development (Offshore) alone and therefore, subject to natural change, the feature will be maintained in the long term.	

4.2 Cumulative Assessment O&M Phase

Screening Projects

4.2.1.1 The projects, plans and activities considered to be relevant to the assessment of impacts on the burrowed mud feature of the Southern Trench NCMPA for the purpose of this assessment (O&M Phase) are presented in Table 4-2.

Table 4-2: Projects, plans and activities included in cumulative assessment for burrowed mud (O&M phase).

Development	Status	Potential for Significant Cumulative Effects
Caithness HVDC subsea cable	Operational	Yes
Shefa 2 subsea cable	Operational	Yes
Moray East OECC	Operational	Yes
Moray West OECC	Constructed	Yes
Stromar OECC	Concept/early planning	Yes

4.2.1.2 To note, a number of projects that also include infrastructure through the Southern Trench NCMPA have been excluded from this cumulative assessment, as they are located to the east of the Proposed Development (Offshore), and are able to avoid the areas identified as containing or being suitable for burrowed mud. This includes:

- Beatrice OWF OECC
- Buchan OWF OECC;
- Muir Mhòr OWF OECC;
- Green Volt OWF OECC;
- Salamander OWF OECC; and
- Marram OWF OECC.

Burrowed Mud of the Southern Trench NCMPA

Caithness HVDC Subsea Cable

4.2.1.3 The Caithness HVDC subsea cable is operational and as such any impacts, including the installation of any cable protection that was required during construction would be part of the baseline. However, any cable replacement works on the Caithness HVDC subsea cable would constitute a cumulative impact. Any future replacement/repair work is envisaged to be completed using a similar technique as required for the cable remediation and replacement works that have already taken place (Marine Space, 2018[3]). The Marine Space assessment included an assessment of cable replacement, jet trenching and rock protection within two areas that were within the Southern Tench NCMPA; however, there was no indication if rock protection was ultimately required.

4.2.1.4 As such whilst there is the potential that further O&M repairs and replacements for the Caithness HVDC subsea cable may require rock protection where burial is not successful, it is not possible to determine if this is likely within the Southern Trench NCMPA, or the extent of any placement over the burrowed mud habitat. However, if this were required it is envisaged that this would be subject to subsequent marine licencing and an associated environmental appraisal. Overall, given the extent of mud habitats within the site and the surrounding area, this is not expected to impact the conservation objectives for the site.

SHEFA-2 Subsea Cable

4.2.1.5 The SHEFA-2 subsea cable is operational and as such any impacts, including the installation of any cable protection that was required during construction would be part of the baseline. However, any replacement cable works on SHEFA-2 subsea cables would constitute a cumulative impact. It is envisaged that future replacement/repair will be completed using a cable laying vessel and the replacement cable section will be buried

by post lay jet trenching. Where burial is not successful, there is the potential that some form of additional protection may be required. Repairs have been required in a number of occasions due to damage by fishing vessels, however these were not within the site.

4.2.1.6 As such, whilst there is the potential for placement of cable protection following repairs or replacements within the Southern Trench NCMPA, it is envisaged that this would be subject to subsequent licencing and an associated environmental appraisal. Overall, given the extent of mud habitats within the site and the surrounding area, this is not expected to impact the conservation objectives for the site.

Moray West OECC

4.2.1.7 The Moray West OECC application included the ability to add cable protection, should the required cable burial not be achieved (Moray West Offshore Windfarm, 2018[4]).

4.2.1.8 At the time of consent application, the site was a Proposed MPA (pMPA). An MPA Assessment was conducted by Marine Scotland (2019[5]) which included the assessment of burrowed mud of the Southern Trench NCMPA. As part of the consultation, Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH; now NatureScot) commented that the Southern Trench pMPA and the burrowed mud feature within it, is extensive, with burrowed mud widespread across the southern half of the Moray Firth and relatively widespread across the waters surrounding Scotland. SNH advised, therefore, that the area of habitat likely to be affected by the Moray West OECC is comparatively small compared to the area of burrowed mud within the Southern Trench pMPA and the area should recover, although this may take some time. Marine Scotland concluded the effects were insignificant, so no further assessment was required.

4.2.1.9 Data has been reviewed on the placement, to date, of rock protection by the Moray West OWF[ii] within the Southern Trench NCMPA. A calculation has then been conducted to determine if rock placement was within the areas identified as burrowed mud habitat, using the same burrowed mud areas as described in paragraph 2.1.1.5. A total of 0.00142km^2 (1,420m^2) has been deployed within burrowed mud habitat within the Southern Trench NCMPA in total, for the two OECCs. This represents 0.11% of the worst-case figure for the Proposed Development (Offshore) alone, and 0.0002% of the available burrowed mud habitat.

[ii] Data on location and area of rock placement within the Southern Trench NCMPA provided by the Moray West Project.

4.2.1.10 The data on actual placement of rock protection within the Southern Trench NCMPA of 1,420m^2 provides an indication that the worst-case assessment for the Proposed Development (Offshore) is highly precautionary. Overall, given the extent of mud habitats within the site and the surrounding area, this is not expected to impact the conservation objectives for the designated site.

Moray East OECC

4.2.1.11 The Moray East OECC Cable Plan[6] noted that, in the event of cable failure or exposure, cable sections will be replaced and/or reburied, or cable protection will be applied. There will be the requirement for a cable crossing between the export cables at the Proposed Development (Offshore) and those in place for Moray East OECC. As such cable protection is likely within this cable crossing area. However, the location of potential cable crossing is within the southern part of the Southern Trench NCMPA, and as such should avoid the burrowed mud, or habitat to support the burrowed mud feature.

4.2.1.12 Data has been reviewed on the placement, to date, of rock protection by the Moray East OWF[iii] within the Southern Trench NCMPA. A calculation has then been conducted to determine if rock placement was within the areas identified as burrowed mud habitat, using the same burrowed mud areas as described in paragraph 2.1.1.5. A total of 0.014974km^2 (14,974m^2) has been deployed within the burrowed mud habitat within the Southern Trench NCMPA in total, for the three OECCs. This represents 1.14% of the worst-case figure for the Proposed Development (Offshore) alone, and 0.0017% of the available burrowed mud habitat.

4.2.1.13 The data on actual placement of rock protection within the Southern Trench NCMPA of 14,974m^2 provides an indication that the worst-case assessment for the Proposed Development (Offshore) is highly precautionary. Overall, given the extent of mud habitats within the site and the surrounding area, this is not expected to impact the conservation objectives for the designated site.

[iii] Data on location and area of rock placement within the Southern Trench NCMPA provided by the Moray East Project.

Stromar OECC

4.2.1.14 Stromar OECC is a tier 2 development and there is limited information regarding the potential impacts associated with long term habitat loss as a result of operational activities. The Stromar Scoping Report (Stromar, 2024[7]) does note, in order to protect the cables from scour, materials may be placed on the seabed to protect them from currents and wave action. The Scoping Report also notes, following the construction of the proposed Stromar OWF, that there is potential for long-term habitat loss or alteration directly associated with the presence of, for example, Wind Turbine Generators and Offshore Substation Platform foundations, scour and cable protection. This project has been included in the scoping table, however there are no details in the public domain to the extent of this impact, or the potential interaction with the Southern Trench NCMPA.

4.2.1.15 The conclusions of the cumulative assessment against the relevant Conservation Objective is provided in Table 4-3.

Table 4-3: Assessment against conservation objectives "*Species is conserved*".

Site-specific Advice	Assessment Conclusion
Conserve the current extent and distribution of burrowed mud habitat within the site so that it is stable or increasing.	Given the extensive nature of the burrowed mud habitats within the Southern Trench NCMPA and in the wider area, that the sites conservation objectives in relation to conserving the current extent of the burrowed mud feature will be maintained in the long-term.
Overall conclusion: There is, therefore, **no potential for non-conformance** with Conservation Objectives, having regard to the conservation objectives of the Southern Trench NCMPA in relation to long-term habitat loss/alteration due to the addition of infrastructure to the area from cumulative effects in relation to O&M activities and therefore, subject to natural change, the designated features will be maintained in the long-term.	

5 Consideration of Additional Mitigation

5.1.1.1 Although it is concluded that there is no potential for non-conformance, having regard to the Conservation Objectives of the burrowed mud feature of the Southern Trench NCMPA due to the project alone (Section 4.1) or cumulatively (Section 4.2), and as such no mitigation is required as a result of the assessment, NatureScot has requested that consideration be given to implementation of other best practice measures or a nature inclusive design to further reduce the impacts to the burrowed mud feature of the Southern Trench NCMPA.

5.1.1.2 Should cable protection ultimately be required within the Southern Trench NCMPA, there are no alternative cable protections currently available that would lower the potential impact on the burrowed mud feature. As all cable protection options require the placement of matting, or rock onto the seabed, all options would cover the mud habitat and prevent organisms from burrowing within the sediment. Most nature inclusive designs for cable protection would only further increase the ability for organisms to colonise the hard substrate. Within this habitat, enhanced colonisation is not something that would enhance the existing habitat.

5.1.1.3 Whilst the assessment considers the impacts of the placement of cable protection permanent, due to the duration of the Proposed Development (Offshore), the habitat is likely to recover, albeit slowly, following decommissioning, should the cable protection be removed. As such, cable protection technology will be investigated as part of the Cable Plan for deployed within the Southern Trench NCMPA.

6 Conclusion and Summary

6.1.1.1 An assessment of the risk of hinderance to the achievement of Conservation Objectives for the Southern Trench NCMPA has been completed due to long-term habitat loss/alteration due to the addition of infrastructure to the area during the O&M phase, as highlighted as part of the consultation, for the biodiversity protected features of burrowed mud.

6.1.1.2 This assessment has determined that there is no risk of hinderance in relation to burrowed muds of the Southern Trench NCMPA and, therefore, it is considered that there is no requirement for any conditions to be applied to the activities related to the Proposed Development (Offshore).

References

[1] GeMS (2025) 'Geodatabase of Marine features adjacent to Scotland. Distribution of Scottish Priority Marine Features (PMFs)'. Available at: https://opendata.nature.scot/maps/0e722e3e911e424f8dacac5a587c0dfb/about (Accessed 15/09/2025).

[2] Hill, J.M., Tyler-Walters, H, Garrard, S.L. and Watson, A. (2023) 'Seapens and burrowing megafauna in circalittoral fine mud'. In Tyler-Walters H. Marine Life Information Network: Biology and Sensitivity Key Information Reviews, Available at: https://www.marlin.ac.uk/habitat/detail/131 (Accessed 15/09/2025).

[3] Marine Space (2018) 'Caithness-Moray HVDC Link - Additional Cable Replacement and Remediation Works: Environmental Appraisal Report'. Available at: https://marine.gov.scot/sites/default/files/environmental_appraisal_-_redacted_0.pdf. (Accessed 15/09/2025).

[4] Moray West Offshore Windfarm (2018) 'EIA Report Volume 4 – Technical Appendices Combined'. Available at: https://marine.gov.scot/sites/default/files/00538036_3.pdf. (Accessed 15/09/2025).

[5] Marine Scotland (2019) 'Marine Protected Area Assessment for Offshore Transmission Infrastructure associated with Moray West Offshore Wind Farm'. Available at: https://marine.gov.scot/sites/default/files/mpa_assessment_-_moray_west.pdf (Accessed 15/09/2025).

[6] Moray East OWF (2021) Offshore Transmission Infrastructure Cable Plan. Available online at: https://marine.gov.scot/sites/default/files/210809_-_ofti_cap_-_july_2021.pdf. 9Accessed September 2025).

[7] Stromar (2024) 'Environmental Impact Assessment: Offshore Scoping Report Proposed Offshore Development'. Available at: https://marine.gov.scot/sites/default/files/240110_-_scotwind_ne3_-_stromar_-_scoping_-_scoping_opinion_-_scoping_report.pdf (Accessed 15/09/2025).

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