

Report of the Resurvey Working Group (RWG) to the 36th North Sea Hydrographic Commission

Members

BE, DE, DK, FR, NL, SE, UK (UKHO and MCGA)

IE expressed interest to become a new member during NSHC35.

NL is represented by the Hydrographic Service of the Royal Netherlands Navy (RNLN). Rijkswaterstaat (RWS), responsible for coastal and inland surveying, has joined RWG12 and may be interested to become part of the future NL delegation.

Meetings held

Full meeting:

12th Meeting in Amsterdam (NL), December 1st, 2022

Attended by BE, DE, DK, FR, NL (RNLN and RWS), UK (UKHO and MCGA)

Chair and secretary: Leendert Dorst (NL), Noortje ten Broeke (NL)

Guests: University of Twente, North Sea Shipping Group

Online sessions:

8 June 2022

1 March 2023

National Developments including Alternative Survey Techniques

The Group openly shared the details of their national developments, and actively commented on each other's contributions. A remarkable achievement was shared by Belgium, the first North Sea country that reached full MBES coverage of its waters. CSB, LIDAR, MBES, MM, MSVP, photogrammetry, SDB and SSS were discussed. Dynamic behaviour of the sea floor was discussed from a modelling and an observation point of view, especially in relation to tidal sand waves. Different contracting options as well as in-house solutions were discussed. Different platform solutions like AUV, UAV and USV were discussed.

Overview Maps

The group has produced a new CATZOC map, and a new resurvey frequency map. FR does not work with resurvey frequencies, but shared a survey status map. UK only works with resurvey frequencies for very specific areas, and shared a survey status map as well. All maps are reproduced in Annex A (CATZOC map); Annex B (resurvey map); Annex C (FR survey status map); and Annex D (UK survey status map).

It is currently not possible to publish our results online at www.nshc.pro.

MCA/EGS Routine Resurvey Questionnaire

UK (MCA) requested EGS to organize a questionnaire on the routine resurvey policies of several other governments around the world. Several NSHC MS participated. The results will be shared during RWG13.

North Sea Shipping Group

The North Sea Shipping Group (NSSG) is an informal platform to discuss and share information on nautical issues of the North Sea with a relation to offshore wind. Government representation as specified in Annex E. Start in 2018 with 3-4 meetings (online) a year. NSSG encourage its members to link up with national NSHC-RWG representatives.

An area of work is mitigating measures for nautical safety near wind farms. Discussions included: emergency response towing, nautical sensors, vessel traffic monitoring, vessel traffic assistance, surveillance, search and rescue, innovations (barriers).

Another area of work is how to do site investigations before commissioning potential wind farm areas. Data exchange between the HO and the institute responsible for commissioning could be very beneficial for both, but this mutual relation still needs strengthening in most MS.

Ocean Observation – Sharing Responsibility initiative of DG Mare of the EC

The Ocean Observation – Sharing Responsibility initiative of DG Mare of the EC was released in 2020, based on the outcome of the Coastal Mapping project that was led by Shom. There was a public consultation in 2021, in which some of us participated. The document calls for better national and international coordination, also across the maritime fields. This may provide opportunities for funding. The IHO/EU Network Working Group (IENWG) is monitoring the initiative. The NSHC-RWG is a great example of what the EC is trying to achieve. We should continue with our international coordination work, especially the overview maps, in order to be ready to fulfil the EC requirements when they are announced. This may happen during the European Maritime Days in Brest, 24 and 25 May 2023.

Other follow up from NSHC35

NSHC35 requested our input for the coordinated implementation of S-102 products for the North Sea, ref. Action NSHC35-3/4. This is a difficult Action as the S-102 specialist in an HO is usually not in the same department as the resurvey specialist. RWG members were requested to check in with their colleagues on S-102 and provide input for NSHC-RWG13. NSHC36 may wish to reconsider our involvement with these Action items.

NSHC35 requested our feedback for the IHO Strategic Performance Indicator (SPI) 2.2.1 on percentage of adequately surveyed area per Coastal State, ref. Action item NSHC35-14. However, during IHO C-6, this action was given to the IHO Secretariat, which will provide a value per MS. NSHC36 may wish to consider closing this item in order to prevent double work.

We also voluntarily discussed SPI 1.2.2, on Percentage of navigationally significant areas for which the adequacy of the hydrographic knowledge is assessed through the use of appropriate quality indicators. We think that our CATZOC overview maps could make a useful contribution here. NSHC36 may wish to consider submitting our maps to IRCC in order to contribute to SPI 1.2.2.

NSHC35 made Action items NSHC2010-3 and NSHC2014-6 green, meaning “closed”, although it contains a remaining action in red font: “RWG12 will continue to build on initial picture, although see request for further guidance.” This is a request from the RWG11 report to NSHC35, invitation c: “Provide guidance on the expected goals and outputs of the harmonised risk map.” The RWG12 thinking on this is presented below. NSHC36 may wish to consider taking out the red text of Action item NSHC2014-6.

Future leadership of the NSHC Resurvey Working Group

It has become clear that, in spite of various attempts to find a new “permanent” chair, there are no volunteers. However, it is crucial to continue with this group, and especially the harmonised risk maps, for several reasons:

- The internal information exchange is very beneficial for all of us;
- The useful relation with the NSSG is maturing and should continue;
- Returning governance questions on the efficiency and effectiveness of survey efforts can only be answered in reference to the efforts of our neighbouring HOs;

- in the light of the upcoming implementation of the “Ocean Observation – Sharing Responsibility” initiative of DG Mare of the EC. I call upon all MSHC MS to reconsider providing the next chair.

RWG chair has consulted with the previous RWG chairs (DE, UK) and the current NSHC chair (SE). Feedback on his idea to follow the example of the combined North Sea/Baltic Sea MSDIWG was negative, meaning NSHC is not advised to consider inviting the BSHC to merge our two survey groups. Chair RWG7-RWG11 commented: RWG “has done a lot of good work in the past and will undoubtedly have a role to play in the future of many hydrographic initiatives in the future. It is also a great forum for sharing ideas, which I suspect have created numerous efficiencies and advances by individual offices.”

Leadership contributions for RWG so far were:

RWG1:	host: DE;	chair/secretary: DE;
RWG2:	host: DE;	chair/secretary: DE;
RWG3:	host: NL;	chair/secretary: DE;
RWG4:	host: UK;	chair/secretary: NL;
RWG5:	host: UK;	chair/secretary: NL;
RWG6:	host: DE;	chair/secretary: NL;
RWG7:	host: UK;	chair/secretary: UK;
RWG8:	host: FR;	chair/secretary: UK;
RWG9:	host: DK;	chair/secretary: UK;
RWG10:	host: none;	chair/secretary: UK;
RWG11:	host: none;	chair/secretary: UK;
RWG12:	host: NL;	chair/secretary: NL.

It will be the decision of the future chair to decide when and where RWG13 will take place. RWG12 has already agreed action items to be finished during RWG13 (Annex F).

Marine Sandwave and River Dune Dynamics 2023 conference

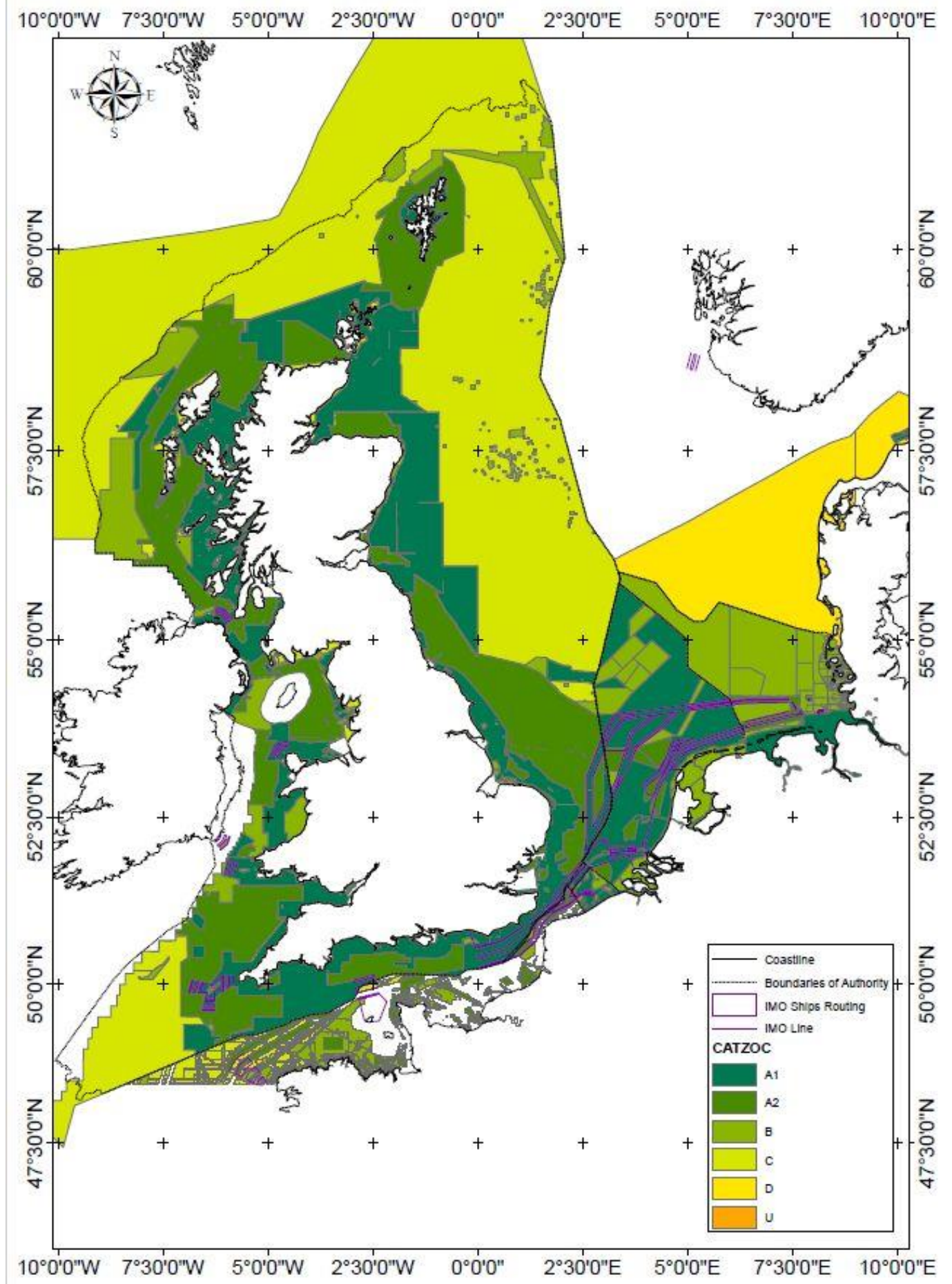
The Marine Sandwave and River Dune Dynamics 2023 conference (MARID23) will be organized in Rennes, 3-5 April 2023. It is recommended to attend, in order to improve relations between academia and government, and to apply the results of research projects into our resurvey planning.

RWG requests

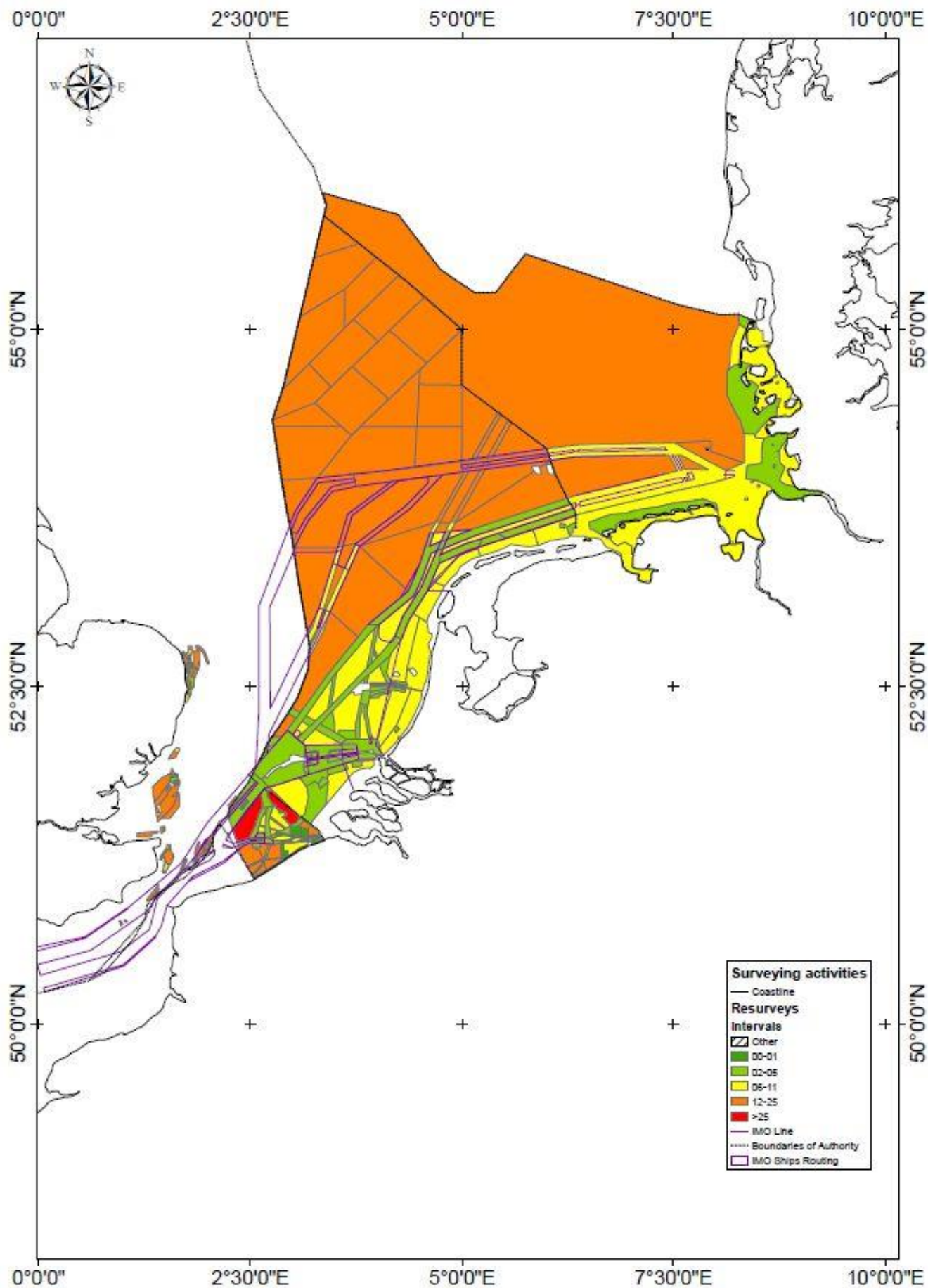
The RWG requests NSHC36 to:

1. Note the report;
2. Reconsider RWG involvement with Action items NSHC35-3/4;
3. Consider closing Action item NSHC35-14 in order to prevent double work;
4. Consider submitting our maps to IRCC in order to contribute to SPI 1.2.2;
5. Consider taking out the red text of Action item NSHC2014-6;
6. Decide on the future leadership of the RWG;
7. Promote the MARID23 conference;
8. Specify any other action it wishes the RWG to take.

Annex A: CATZOC map

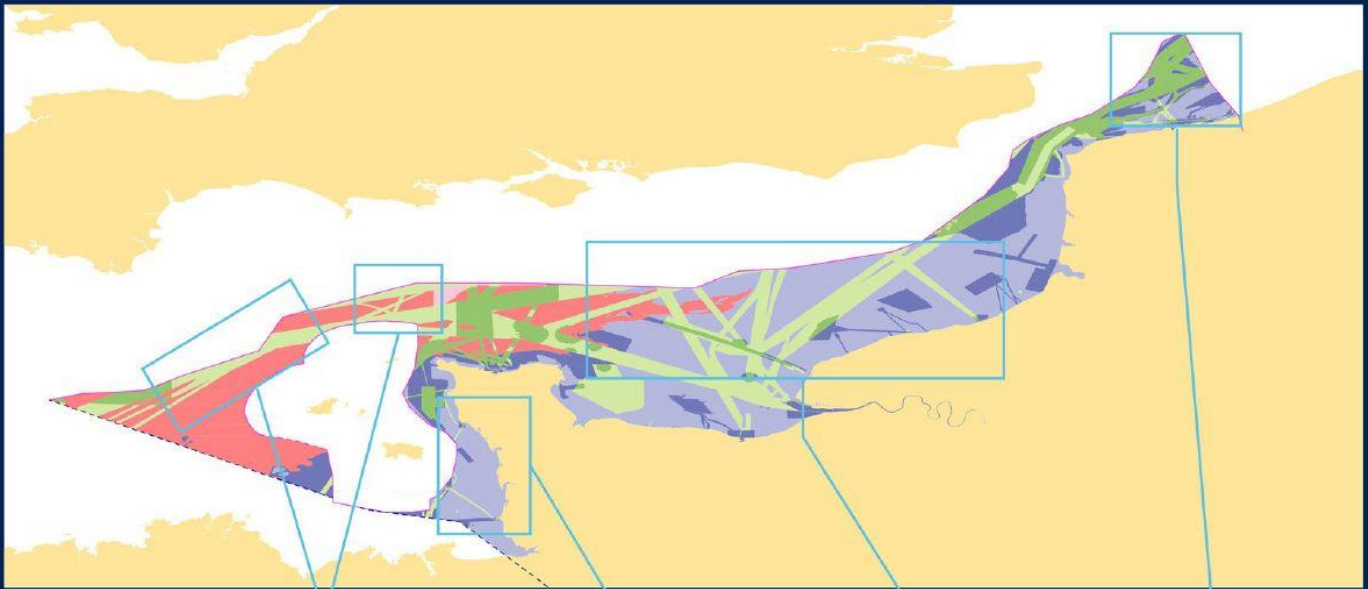


Annex B: Resurvey map



Eastern Channel - North Sea façade

Target CATZOC A1/A2		Target CATZOC B		Target CATZOC C	
not achieved	achieved	not achieved	achieved	not achieved	achieved



PRINCIPLE PROGRAMME



Survey of traffic separation schemes in the Channel

30 days

Continuation of the survey from Lannion to Raz Blanchard

20 days

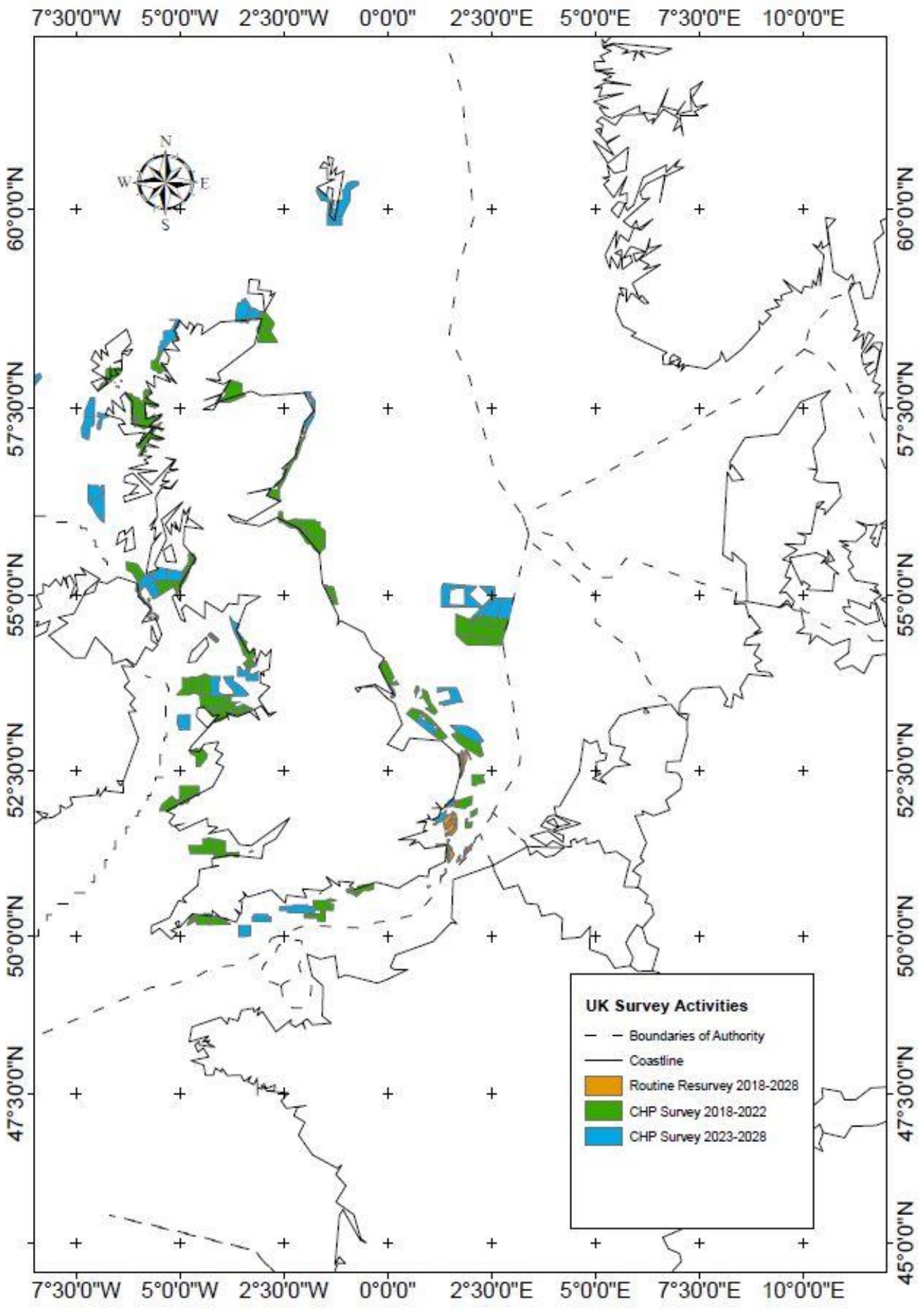
ORE survey in Normandy

70 days

Periodic surveys of evolving areas in the Pas de Calais traffic separation schemes

30 days

Annex D: UK survey status



Annex E: List of NSSG representatives

Belgium	Jeroen van Overloop	DG Shipping
Denmark	Peter Dam	DMA
France	Hervé METAYER	Deputy Head SEML/SDSNC/SNC1: SAR and maritime traffic monitoring Office/General directorate of maritime affairs, fishery and aquaculture (DGAMPA)
Germany	Kai Trumpler Dominc Plug Philip Giertz	BSH BSH GDWS
Norway	Andreas Kjol Knut Espen Solberg	Kystverket Coastguard Kystverket
Netherlands	Jeremy Stroo Kees Storm (Chair) Sylvia van Doorn Joris Brouwers Sjoerd Janen	RWS RWS RWS DG Maritime Affairs DG Water and Bottom Affairs
UK	Helen Croxson Nick Salter Vinu John	MCA MCA MCA

Annex E: Open Action Items

Number	Action item	Responsible	Comments	Due
RWG12-4	Report on the relevant outcomes of the MCA/EGS Routine Resurvey Questionnaire	UK		NSHC-RWG13
RWG12-5	Follow the developments for the Ocean Observation – Sharing Responsibility initiative, directly or through the national IENWG representative	All	Update expected during European Maritime Days 2023	NSHC-RWG13
RWG12-6	Check in with your S-102 specialist and provide feedback on national implementation	All	Chair will suggest to NSHC36 to reconsider our involvement.	NSHC-RWG13