# MarineSpace



Making Sense of the Marine Environment ™

## **Capability Statement**

### **Nature Conservation**







MarineSpace provides specialist marine consenting, assessment and monitoring advice for a wide range of strategic and project-related nature conservation issues

#### **Our Vision**

To work collaboratively with our clients, and with due consideration for the sensitivity of the marine environment, to provide consistently high quality, reliable advice regarding the planning, consenting, development, operation and monitoring of their projects.

MarineSpace is able to provide specialist environmental and consenting advice to projects with Marine Protected Area and nature conservation elements. Typical services include: technical input on Habitats Regulations Assessments (HRAs) and Marine Conservation Zone (MCZ) Risk Assessments; Annex I and MCZ habitat survey design, feature identification and assessment; management of feature monitoring programme and review reporting; review and advice on existing consents/permits; review of CROW Act Section 28g and NERC Act Section 40 responsibilities; provision of Habitats Directive / Regulations; and, NERC Act 2006 expert witness services.



Specific recent experience of the MarineSpace team with respect to nature conservation include:

- Review of demersal fishing gear impacts in MPAs for Defra;
- Critical review of evidence for, and impact assessments of, proposed Natura 2000 sites for marine aggregate sector and Pembrokeshire (wave energy) Demonstration Zone;
- Annex I habitat survey design, data analysis and reporting of Race Bank OWF cable corridor;
- Provision of consenting and technical advice to OFTO in relation to cable repairs and Natura 2000 features at Gwynt y Môr OWF;
- Plan-level HRA of all marine aggregate assets in English and Welsh waters for The Crown Estate;
- Regional Biodiversity Action Plan / NERC Act Section 40 strategy for marine aggregate sector;
- Review of evidence base for habitat enhancement proposals at Swansea Bay Tidal Lagoon for NRW;
- Regional-scale review of geomorphology processes and Annex I subtidal sandbanks for marine aggregate sector;
- Outer Thames Estuary SPA HRA of marine aggregate and OWF in-combination effects to MMO; and
- HRA expert witness at Public Examination of Dogger Bank Creyke Beck A and B OWF project.

**Nature Conservation Consultancy, Assessment and Mitigation Services** 

For more information contact Ian Reach Email: ian.reach2@marinespace.co.uk Telephone: 07867 432 444







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### **Key Benefits of Using MarineSpace**

- Extremely experienced staff, including individuals coming from notable careers in statutory nature conservation bodies
- Strong work ethic and project delivery history
- Extensive knowledge of UK marine consenting and environmental issues
- Excellent knowledge of the UK regulatory process for all marine developments
- Expertise across a range of industries
- Ability to deliver both high-level strategic and targeted technical advice





MarineSpace is registered with the Achilles Utilities Vendors Database (UVDB) Supplier Number: 094974

### **Project Case Study**

MarineSpace has been providing strategic nature conservation advice to British Marine Aggregate Producers Association, and member companies, since 2011.

MarineSpace prepared and submitted the first Planlevel HRA of a Marine Minerals Licencing Round in English and Welsh territorial waters for The Crown Estate.

MarineSpace developed innovative in-combination HRA methodology and conducted the first formal MCZ Risk Assessment in English territorial waters (at Kingmere MCZ).

MarineSpace designed the Annex I habitat survey for Race Bank OWF and assessed data for qualifying features. The process was expedited through close liaison with Natural England and MMO.

MarineSpace is recognised for its expertise regarding Ross worm *Sabellaria spinulosa* reef habitat survey design, evaluation, and mitigation advice for multiple sectors.

MarineSpace has been working with Defra and the statutory nature conservation bodies on a project reviewing the effects of demersal fishing gears in Marine Protected Areas, and set in the context of natural variability.

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