WHITE CROSS


Manx Shearwater

Understanding our environment

Marine Mammal / Seabird Surveys

Between July 2020 and September 2022, monthly aerial surveys are being undertaken. Key seabird species identified during the surveys include Kittiwake, Guillemot, Manx Shearwater, Razorbill and Gannets. Marine mammals observed during surveys include common dolphins and porpoise.

Geotechnical and Benthic Ecology Surveys

Geotechnical and benthic ecology surveys are being undertaken to understand the structure of the seabed and the habitats and species that are present in search areas. Information gathered around seabed geology and sediments, species and habitat on the seabed will inform the impact assessment and detailed design process.

Marine and Road Traffic Surveys

Offshore, Winter and Summer surveys of vessel activity across the White Cross Offshore Windfarm have been undertaken in 2022. These will help us to understand vessel movements; and if our windfarm will affect them.

Road traffic surveys were undertaken in Summer 2022. This will inform our thinking around the development of the construction traffic management plan.


Dolphins


Kittiwake

Onshore Ecology Surveys

Surveys of important fauna and flora are ongoing across the onshore cable route and around East Yelland substation in order to identify the key species present; their distribution and abundance; and their seasonal use of the onshore cable corridor. The survey results will be utilised to inform the impact assessment; potential mitigation; and project design. Depending on the cable route chosen, there is also an opportunity to support Dynamic Dunescapes in dune restorative work.

Fisheries Liaison

White Cross Offshore Windfarm has employed a Fisheries Liaison Officer to provide information regarding the project to the fishing industry and to provide a contact point for fishing interests within the project area.

Working with a specialist cable installation contractor appropriate mitigation measures will be worked up that sit alongside our selected construction methodology.