Islandmagee Gas Storage Facility

Marine Conservation Zone (MCZ) Screening



MCZ Screening
D02
September 2025

[redacted]

Approval for issue

[redacted] [redacted] 6th October 2025

© Copyright Tetra Tech Limited. All rights reserved.

The report has been prepared for the exclusive use and benefit of our client, and for the sole and specific purpose for which it is provided. Tetra Tech Ltd., any of its subsidiaries, or a related entity (collectively 'TTRPS') does not accept any liability if this report is used for an alternative purpose from which it is intended. The report does not account for any changes relating the subject matter of the report, or any legislative or regulatory changes that have occurred since the report was produced and that may affect the report.

TTRPS does not accept any responsibility for any documents or information supplied to TTRPS by others. It is expressly stated that no independent verification of any documents or information supplied by others has been made.

Unless otherwise agreed in writing by TTRPS no other party may use, make use of, or rely on the contents of this report. TTRPS does not accept any responsibility or liability for loss whatsoever to any third party caused by, related to, or arising out of any use or reliance on the report.

Prepared by:

Tetra Tech RPS

[redacted]

T [redacted]

E [redacted]

Prepared for:

Islandmagee Energy Limited

[redacted]

T [redacted]

E [redacted]

Contents

1 Introduction 1
1.1 Background 1
1.2 Project Description 2
2 Methodology 5
2.1 Preliminary Screening 5
2.2 Stage 1 Assessment 6
2.3 Stage 2 Assessment 7
3 Results: Preliminary MCZ Screening 8
3.1 Clyde Sea Sill NCMPA 9
3.1.1 NCMPA Site Description 9
3.1.2 Potential Effect of Project Activities on the Clyde Sea Sill NCMPA 9
3.1.3 Screening Conclusion 10
3.2 Rathlin MCZ 10
3.2.1 MCZ Site Description 10
3.2.2 Potential Effect of Project Activities on the Rathlin MCZ 10
3.2.3 Strangford Lough MCZ 10
3.2.4 Potential Effect of Project Activities on the Strangford Lough MCZ 11
3.2.5 Screening Conclusion 11
4 Summary 12
5 References 13

Tables

Table 3-1: Designated sites and their relevant protected features potentially affected by the Project 9
Table 4-1: Summary of screening outcomes 12

Figures

Figure 1-1: Project Overview (including terrestrial elements permitted under F/2010/0092/F labelled in white and proposed marine elements labelled in yellow) 3
Figure 1-2: Location of the Marine Application Areas associated with the Project 4
Figure 3-1: Location of Designated Sites relevant to the MCZ Screening of the Project 8

List of Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Definition
AONB	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
ASSI	Area of Special Scientific Interest
DAERA	Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (NI)
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
ES	Environmental Statement
MCZs	Marine Conservation Zones
MNCR	Marine Nature Conservation Reserve
NCMPAs	Nature Conservation Marine Protected Areas
SAC	Special Area of Conservation
SPA	Special Protection Area
ZoI	Zone of Influence

1 Introduction

1.1 Background

Islandmagee Energy Limited (IMEL, previously called Islandmagee Storage Limited (IMSL)) is proposing to develop a gas storage facility, namely the Islandmagee Gas Storage Facility (IGSF), at Islandmagee in County Antrim, Northern Ireland (NI). This facility is proposed to comprise up to seven caverns within Permian salt beds approximately 1,500 metres (m) below Larne Lough, capable of storing up to a total of up to 500 million standard cubic metres (m^3) of gas. The facility and associated above-ground operating facilities will be located near Ballylumford, in County Antrim. IGSF is comprised of both terrestrial and marine components (Figure 1-1), including:

- Wellpad – to support the drilling rig;
- Sea Water and Brine Pumping Facilities (Leaching Plant);
- Gas Plant Facility – to support the heating, cooling, compression and metering equipment;
- Sea Water Intake Pumping Station;
- Creation of up to seven salt caverns by solution mining, with a combined capacity of up to 500 million standard m^3 of gas,
- Seawater Intake Pipe; and
- Brine Outfall Pipe.

The Department of Environment (NI) granted planning permission for the terrestrial elements of the IGSF in October 2012 (Application No: F/2010/0092/F) which consented the construction of the terrestrial elements of the IGSF, subject to certain conditions. The planning approval does not consent any works beyond the mean low water spring tide mark (MLWS), as these are subject to a separate consenting regime under the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009.

The marine components of the Project (caverns, seawater intake and brine outfall) are yet to receive consent and will require a Marine Construction Licence, Water Order Consent (WOC) and Abstractions Licence. An Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for the marine elements of the IGSF is required to support the new applications for a WOC, an Abstraction Licence and a Marine Construction Licence. Terrestrial elements of the IGSF are excluded from the scope of the proposed EIA on the grounds that they have previously been subject to EIA and are fully consented under the 2012 Planning consent. Thus, where the Project is referred to in this report, this term relates only to the marine elements of the overall facility, i.e. the seawater intake, brine outfall and gas storage caverns beneath Larne Lough. (see Section 1.2).

Consideration of Marine Conservation Zones (MCZs) is required for any Marine Licence application. The Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 and section 23 of the Marine Act (Northern Ireland) 2013 include requirements to consider provisions to support the management of MCZs in NI. In this context, the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) is the regulating authority responsible for the designation and protection of MCZs within the Northern Ireland inshore region. This MCZ Screening has been prepared in support of the licence and consent applications for the marine elements of the IGSF.

In line with the DAERA MCZ assessment template (DAERA, 2022), this MCZ Screening outlines the proposed approach to the MCZ assessment for the Project (Section 2). This report also presents the preliminary screening for MCZs with protected features that may be affected by the Project (Section 3). In addition to MCZs, Scottish Nature Conservation Marine Protected Areas (NCMPAs) have also been considered, where there is potential for their designated features to be affected by the Project.

1.2 Project Description

The Project is a proposed underground high-pressure gas storage development located beneath Larne Lough, County Antrim and associated marine infrastructure located off the east coast of Islandmagee (RPS, 2019). The Project will comprise up to seven salt caverns, each formed at approximately 1,350m below sea level within the Permian Salt Layer, using a process known as solution mining. This involves the abstraction of seawater via an intake on the eastern shore of Islandmagee, which is pumped into the salt formation to dissolve the salt and create storage cavities. The resulting brine is then discharged back into the Irish Sea through a dedicated outfall system located off the east coast of Islandmagee.

The components of the Project include:

- A seawater intake installed via a tunnel and shaft;
- A brine outfall diffuser; and
- Up to seven storage caverns within the Permian salt layer beneath Larne Lough.

The Project, as defined above, is subject to new applications for Water Order Consent, Abstraction Licence, and Marine Construction Licence. As mentioned in Section 1.1, the terrestrial elements of the IGSF are consented under planning permission F/2010/0092/F and are not included within the scope of this MCZ Screening. An overview of the IGSF is shown below in Figure 1-1, whilst the Marine Application Areas associated with the Project are illustrated in Figure 1-2.

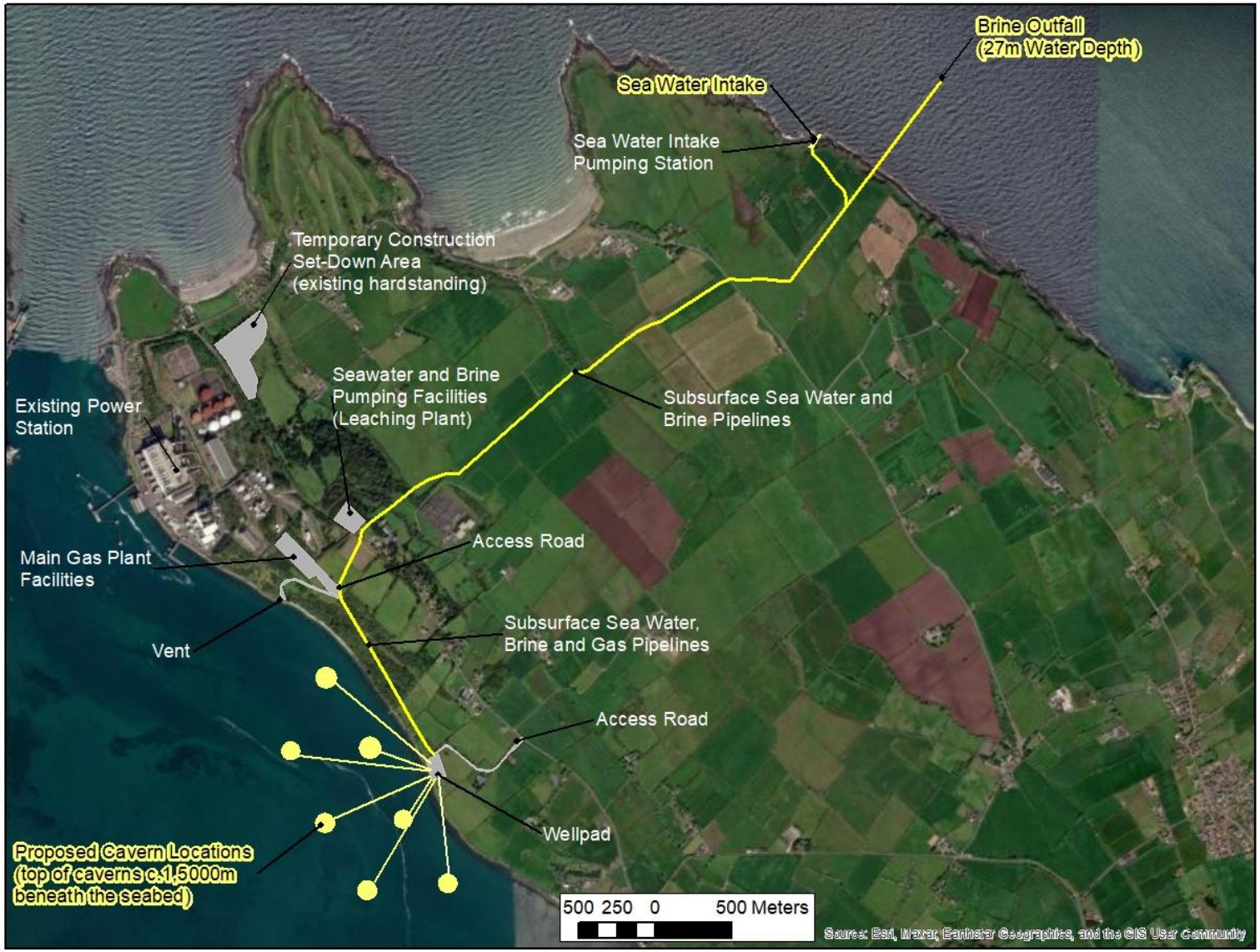


Figure 1-1: Project Overview (including terrestrial elements permitted under F/2010/0092/F labelled in white and proposed marine elements labelled in yellow)

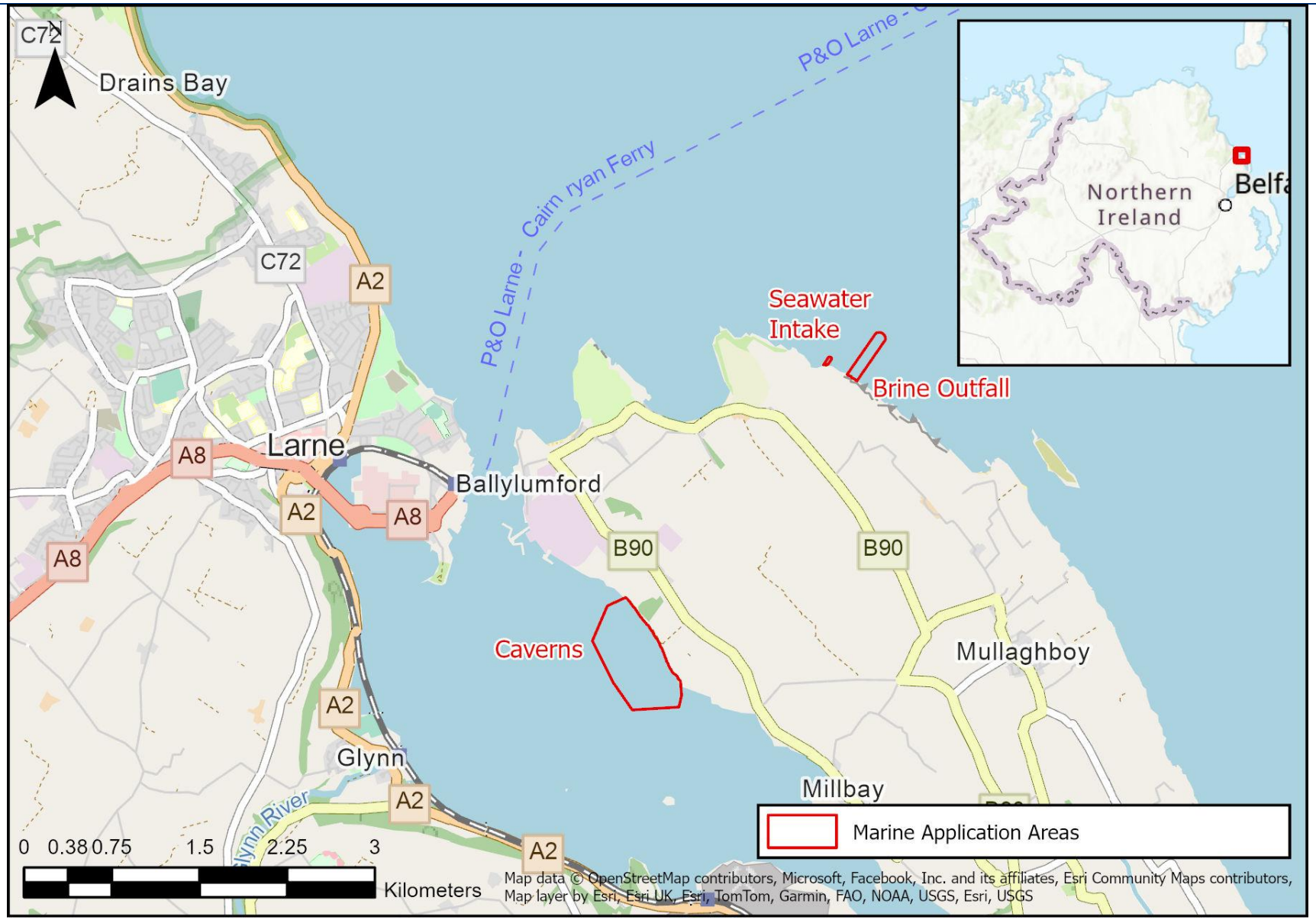


Figure 1-2: Location of the Marine Application Areas associated with the Project

2 Methodology

If one or more MCZs or NCMPAs are screened in through this preliminary MCZ Screening, a standalone MCZ assessment will be prepared and presented as an appendix to the Environmental Statement (ES). The following sections outline the proposed approach to the MCZ assessment.

2.1 Preliminary Screening

To determine whether an MCZ assessment is required under Section 23 of the Marine Act (Northern Ireland) 2013, a preliminary screening exercise has been undertaken. This screening follows the approach outlined in the DAERA MCZ Assessment template (DAERA, 2022).

An MCZ assessment is required if:

- the proposed activity is located within or near a designated or proposed MCZ; and
- the activity is capable of affecting (other than insignificantly) either
    (i) the protected features of an MCZ, or
    (ii) any ecological or geomorphological process on which the conservation of any protected feature of an MCZ is (wholly or in part) dependent.

A risk-based approach has been adopted to determine the ‘nearness’ of the Project to MCZs, incorporating feature-specific buffer zones to determine if any sites lie within the Zone of Influence (ZoI) for impacts associated with the Project, accounting for the spatial scale of potential direct and indirect effects and the mobility of different receptors. In addition to MCZs within NI, Scottish NCMPAs have also been considered where relevant and will be assessed using the same methodology. To determine the 'nearness' of the activities associated with the Project, the following screening boundaries are proposed:

- The ZoI for direct and indirect impacts to benthic and geological/geomorphological features of MCZs will be confined within the estimated 5km tidal excursion distance (RPS, 2010). This has been extended to a 10km screening boundary on a precautionary basis.
- For fish, marine mammals, and ornithological features, a 100km screening boundary has been applied to encompass the ZoI for all direct and indirect impacts associated with the Project and account for the highly mobile nature of these features.

The screening boundary distances have been determined from the intake and outfall locations, rather than the location of the caverns, as the caverns (and any associated activities) are located beneath the seabed and there is, therefore, no pathway for impact on marine features.

Where MCZs or NCMPAs fall within the screening boundary, consideration will be given as to whether there is potential for Project activities to affect (other than insignificantly) the protected features of an MCZ/NCMPA or any ecological or geomorphological process on which the conservation of any protected feature of an MCZ/NCMPA is (wholly or in part) dependent. If the answer is “no” to both considerations, no further assessment is required. If the answer to either of these considerations is “yes”, further assessment will be undertaken to determine whether the Project is likely to hinder the conservation objectives of those sites. This will follow a staged approach:

- Stage 1 Assessment: determines whether there is a risk of significant impact on MCZ/NCMPA features or the ecological or geomorphological processes that support them.
- Stage 2 Assessment: if a risk is identified, this stage evaluates whether mitigation measures can be implemented to avoid or reduce the impact to an acceptable level.

2.2 Stage 1 Assessment

The Stage 1 assessment, if required, will be presented in the ES and will consider the extent of the potential impact of the Project on the features of the MCZ/MCMPAs screened into the assessment. The main assessment stage focuses on determining whether there is, or may be, a significant risk of the Project activities hindering the achievement of the conservation objectives of relevant MCZ/NCMPAs. The decision maker would use the information supplied by the applicant with the licence application and advice from DAERA's Marine Conservation and Reporting team.

The conservation objectives for MCZ/NCMPA features are high-level criteria describing the desired condition of the MCZ/NCMPA features. There are two objectives for features within an MCZ/NCMPA:

- when features are in the desired favourable condition, to maintain this condition; and
- when features are not in the desired favourable condition, to recover into favourable condition and then be maintained in such condition.

The assessment will therefore consider whether the Project could hinder the relevant conservation objectives (either alone or in combination with other activities) by:

- increasing the likelihood that a feature currently in favourable condition would deteriorate (i.e. move to an unfavourable condition); or
- reducing the likelihood that a feature currently in unfavourable condition could recover to a favourable state.

For the Project, it is proposed that this determination will be informed by the findings of the relevant offshore ecology assessments presented in the ES. These findings will be cross-referenced within the MCZ assessment.

The Stage 1 assessment will apply two formal tests, as required by DAERA (2022):

- Test 1: Based on the evidence received, is the public authority satisfied that there is no significant risk of the activity hindering the achievement of the conservation objectives stated for the MCZ? and Can the public authority exercise its functions in a manner that it considers best furthers, or least hinders, the achievement of the conservation objectives of the MCZ site?
- Test 2: If the answer to Test 1 is "no," although the person seeking an authorisation is unable to satisfy the public authority that the activity will not hinder the achievement of the conservation objectives stated for the MCZ, is there an alternative way of proceeding with the proposal which would create a substantially lower risk of hindering the achievement of the conservation objectives stated for the MCZ? This would include proceeding with it in another manner or at another location.

If mitigation to reduce the impacts to an acceptable level cannot be secured, and there are no other alternative locations, then a Stage 2 assessment will be required.

2.3 Stage 2 Assessment

The Stage 2 assessment, if required, will be presented in the ES and will consider whether the conditions in section 23(7)(b) and (c) of the Marine Act (Northern Ireland) 2013 can be met, and the socio-economic impact of the plan or project, together with the risk of environmental damage. There are two key tests in the Stage 2 assessment:

- Does the benefit to the public of proceeding with the act clearly outweigh the risk of damage to the environment that will be created by proceeding with it?
- If the above is true, can the applicant satisfy the public authority that they will undertake, or make arrangements for the undertaking of, measures of equivalent environmental benefit to the damage which the act will or is likely to have in or on the MCZ?

In determining ‘public benefit’, DAERA will consider benefits at a national, regional or local level. Guidance from the DAERA on what constitutes measures of equivalent environmental benefit states that measures can be based on those considered appropriate when securing compensatory habitat for projects deemed to have an adverse effect on internationally designated sites under the Habitats Directive. If both tests are satisfied, the authorisation process may proceed, and any agreed compensatory measures will be conditioned within the marine licence. If either test cannot be met, the application may be refused on the grounds of unacceptable risk to the MCZ.

3 Results: Preliminary MCZ Screening

The following Section presents the results of the preliminary MCZ Screening, following the methodology outlined above in Section 2.1. No MCZs or NCMPAs with benthic or geological/geomorphological features are located within the screening boundary of 10km defined for these features, and no MCZs or NCMPAs with fish or marine mammal features are located within the 100km screening boundary for these features.

The Rathlin MCZ and Clyde Sea Sill NCMPA are located within the 100km screening boundary for ornithological features. Additionally, the Strangford Lough MCZ is located approximately 31km from the Project. As this site does not have listed protected features, it is considered in Section 3.2.3. These sites are shown in Figure 3-1 and detailed in Table 3-1 below.

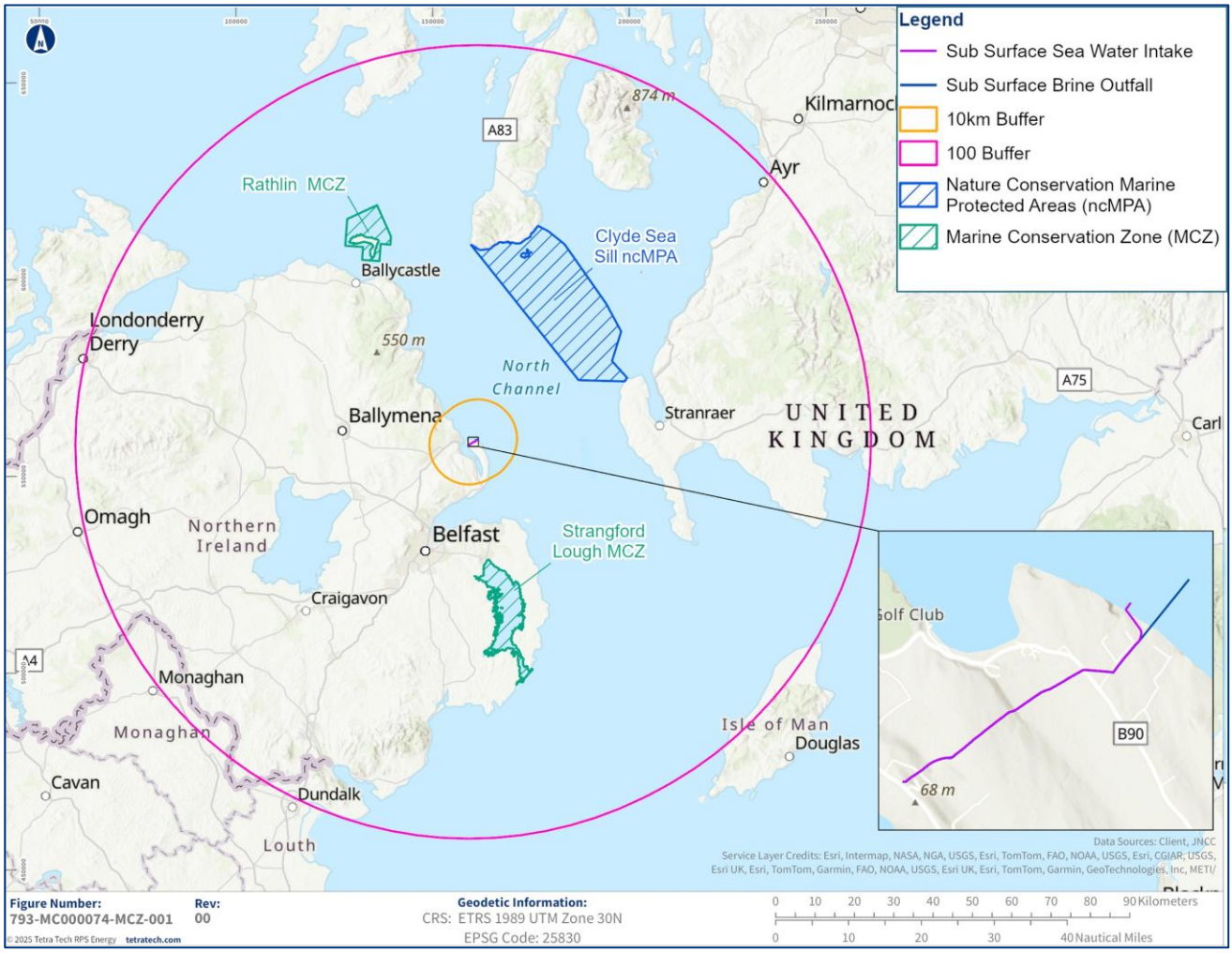


Figure 3-1: Location of Designated Sites relevant to the MCZ Screening of the Project

Table 3-1: Designated sites and their relevant protected features potentially affected by the Project

Designated site	Distance to the saltwater intake	Distance to the brine outfall	Type of protected feature	Relevant protected features
Clyde Sea Sill NCMPA	30.1km (straight line)	29.7km (straight line)	Ornithology	Black guillemot *(Cepphus grille)*
Rathlin MCZ	51.5km (straight line)	51.6km (straight line)	Ornithology	Black guillemot
Strangford Lough MCZ	30.7km (straight line)	30.9km (straight line)	n/a	n/a

3.1 Clyde Sea Sill NCMPA

3.1.1 NCMPA Site Description

The Clyde Sea Sill NCMPA covers an area of approximately 712km² and is located off the south-west coast of Scotland, where the shallow waters of the Firth of Clyde meet the deeper waters of the North Channel (NatureScot, 2014). The Clyde Sea Sill NCMPA lies 29.7km from the brine outfall and 30.1km from the seawater intake.

The site provides critical foraging habitat for black guillemots, particularly those breeding on nearby islands such as Sanda, Sheep Island, and Glunimore Island (NatureScot, 2014). Black guillemot is known for its strong site fidelity and inshore foraging behaviour, typically remaining close to breeding colonies throughout the year. Unlike other auk species that forage offshore, black guillemots feed predominantly within a narrow coastal band, diving to depths of 15–20m to capture benthic and kelp-associated prey (Shoji *et al.*, 2015). Foraging ranges are highly restricted, with NatureScot (2023) reporting a mean maximum foraging distance of 9.1km.

Circalittoral and offshore sand and coarse sediment communities are also a protected feature of this NCMPA; however, as the NCMPA is located outside of the screening boundary of 10km for benthic features, this feature is not considered further.

3.1.2 Potential Effect of Project Activities on the Clyde Sea Sill NCMPA

There is no spatial overlap between the Clyde Sea Sill NCMPA and the Project. The Project is located over 29km from the NCMPA, well beyond the maximum foraging range of black guillemot of 9.1km (NatureScot, 2023). Given this substantial separation, there is no potential for disturbance, displacement, or changes in prey availability from the Project activities that could affect the species. Furthermore, the Project activities are not expected to influence ecological processes within the NCMPA, including those supporting benthic species, which form a key component of the black guillemot's diet. As such, the Project is not considered capable of affecting black guillemot populations or their supporting ecological processes.

3.1.3 Screening Conclusion

In conclusion, while the Clyde Sea Sill NCMPA lies within the 100km screening boundary for mobile species, the Project activities are not considered capable of affecting (other than insignificantly) the protected features or any ecological or geomorphological processes on which their conservation depends. Therefore, the site is screened out of further assessment, and a Stage 1 MCZ assessment is not required.

3.2 Rathlin MCZ

3.2.1 MCZ Site Description

The Rathlin MCZ encompasses an area of approximately 90.57km² surrounding Rathlin Island off the north coast of NI. The site is recognised for its unique combination of biological and geological features, including the only known occurrence of deep-sea bed habitat within Northern Ireland's inshore waters. The Rathlin MCZ lies 51.5km from the saltwater intake and 51.6km from the brine outfall.

The MCZ protects a significant population of black guillemot, which breed along the island's cliffs and rely on the surrounding waters for foraging. This is also designated for deep-sea bed and geological/geomorphological features indicating past change in relative sea level (DAERA, 2017).

The Rathlin MCZ is located outside of the screening boundary of 10km for benthic and geological/geomorphological features; therefore, these features are not considered further.

3.2.2 Potential Effect of Project Activities on the Rathlin MCZ

There is no spatial overlap between the Rathlin MCZ and the Project, with the site located approximately 51.5km from both the proposed brine outfall and seawater intake. This distance is well beyond the restricted foraging range of black guillemot, therefore, there is no potential for disturbance, displacement, or changes in prey availability. Furthermore, the Project activities are not expected to influence ecological processes within the NCMPA. As such, the Project is not considered capable of affecting black guillemot populations or their supporting ecological processes.

3.2.2.1 Screening Conclusion

In conclusion, while Rathlin MCZ lies within the 100km screening boundary for mobile species, the Project activities are not considered capable of affecting (other than insignificantly) the protected features or any ecological or geomorphological processes on which their conservation depends. Therefore, the site is screened out of further assessment, and a Stage 1 MCZ assessment is not required.

3.2.3 Strangford Lough MCZ

3.2.3.1 MCZ Site Description

Strangford Lough MCZ encompasses one of the largest sea loughs in the United Kingdom, located on the east coast of County Down. The immense tidal flow through the narrows at the southern end of the Lough contributes to the high diversity of marine flora and fauna, with habitats ranging from sheltered mudflats to

tide-swept rocky reefs, saltmarshes and seagrass *Zostera marina* beds (JNCC, 2015; Strangford and Lecale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), 2025a). The area also supports internationally important numbers of wintering and breeding birds and is a key breeding site for common seal *Phoca vitulina* (Strangford and Lecale AONB, 2025b; JNCC, 2025).

Originally the Strangford Lough Marine Nature Conservation Reserve (MNCR), it was re-designated as Northern Ireland's first MCZ. Strangford Lough is also designated as an Area of Special Scientific Interest (ASSI) Special Area of Conservation (SAC), Special Protection Area (SPA), and Ramsar site, reflecting its importance for both habitat and species conservation (Strangford and Lecale AONB, 2025b). No specific protected features for the MCZ are detailed on DAERA's website, and no MCZ conservation objectives are available; however, the original MNCR was designated for its habitats, and the MCZ features will likely include those broadscale habitats mentioned above (Marine Current Turbines, 2005; DAERA, 2020).

3.2.4 Potential Effect of Project Activities on the Strangford Lough MCZ

As outlined above, the Strangford Lough MCZ features are expected to be the broad-scale habitats that were the reason for the area's original designation as an MNCR. At approximately 31km from the Project, it lies well beyond the ZoI for impacts to benthic or geological/geomorphological features, which is estimated to be 5km and was extended to 10km on a precautionary basis for the screening boundary for these features, as outlined in Section 2.1. Therefore, the Project is not expected to influence the habitats or ecological processes within the MCZ.

3.2.5 Screening Conclusion

In conclusion, while the Strangford Lough MCZ lies within the 100km screening boundary for mobile species, mobile species are not the primary reason for the designation of the original MNCR, which was later re-designated as an MCZ. As the site lies beyond the 10km screening boundary for benthic and geological/geomorphological features, the Project activities are not considered capable of affecting (other than insignificantly) the important habitats or any ecological or geomorphological processes on which their conservation depends. Therefore, the site is screened out of further assessment, and a Stage 1 MCZ assessment is not required.

4 Summary

A total of two MCZs and one NCMPA were identified for consideration in this MCZ Screening: the Rathlin MCZ, the Strangford Lough MCZ and the Clyde Sea Sill NCMPA. All sites were identified as falling within the 100km screening boundary for mobile features. No MCZs or NCMPAs with fish, marine mammal or benthic features were identified within the relevant screening boundaries for these features.

Following a review of potential direct and indirect impacts, both MCZs and the NCMPA were screened out on the basis that the Project activities are not considered capable of affecting (other than insignificantly) the protected features or any ecological or geomorphological processes on which their conservation depends. A summary of the screening outcomes is provided in Table 4-1. On this basis, there is no requirement for a Stage 1 or Stage 2 assessment.

Table 4-1: Summary of screening outcomes

Designated Site	Features	Screening Result	Justification
Clyde Sea Sill NCMPA	Black guillemot	Screened out	The Project is located over 29.7km from the MCZ, well beyond the average foraging range of 9.1km for black guillemot. No disturbance or impact on supporting processes is anticipated.
Rathlin MCZ	Black guillemot	Screened out	The Project is located over 51.5km from the MCZ, well beyond the average foraging range of 9.1km for black guillemot. No disturbance or impact on supporting processes is anticipated.
Strangford Lough MCZ	n/a	Screened out	The Project is located over 30.7km from the MCZ, which was originally designated as a MNCR for the habitats it supports. This site is beyond the ZoI for impacts from the Project on benthic habitats, therefore no disturbance or impact is anticipated.

5 References

DAERA. (2017). Rathlin MCZ Site Summary. ISBN 978-1-84807-690-7. Available at: https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/publications/rathlin-mcz. Accessed: July 2025.

DAERA. (2020). Marine Conservation Zone Assessment: Commercial fishing within Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) in the Northern Ireland inshore region. Available at: https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/sites/default/files/consultations/daera/Marine%20Conservation%20Zone%20Assessment_0.PDF. Accessed: August 2025.

DAERA. (2022). Marine Conservation Zone Assessment template. Available at: https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/sites/default/files/publications/daera/MCZ%20Assessment%20Template%20-%20January%202022.PDF. Accessed: July 2025.

JNCC. (2015). STANDARD DATA FORM for sites within the 'UK national site network of European sites' Strangford Lough SAC. Available at: https://jncc.gov.uk/jncc-assets/SAC-N2K/UK0016618.pdf. Accessed: August 2025.

JNCC. (2025). Strangford Lough - Special Areas of Conservation. Available at: https://sac.jncc.gov.uk/site/UK0016618. Accessed: August 2025.

Marine Current Turbines. (2005). Strangford Lough Marine Current Turbine Environmental Statement. Available at: https://tethys.pnnl.gov/sites/default/files/publications/Strangford_Lough_EIA_final.pdf. Accessed: August 2025.

NatureScot. (2014). Clyde Sea Sill MPA Site Summary. Available at: https://www.nature.scot/sites/default/files/nature-conservation-mpa/10414/mpa-site-summary-english.pdf. Accessed: August 2025.

NatureScot. (2023). Advice on marine renewables development - marine ornithology, Available at: https://www.nature.scot/doc/guidance-note-3-guidance-support-offshore-wind-applications-marine-birds-identifying-theoretical. Accessed July 2025. Accessed: August 2025.

RPS. (2010). Islandmagee Energy Ltd Environmental Impact Statement Chapter 9 – Coastal processes. Report No. IBE0096/EIS01/March. Available at: https://wp-islandmageeenergy-2020.s3.eu-west-2.amazonaws.com/media/2018/06/30100337/Chapter-09-Coastal-Processes.pdf. Accessed: August 2025.

RPS. (2019). Islandmagee Gas Storage Facility: Marine Environmental Conditions Update Report. Report No. IBE1600/Rpt/01, Rev F02. Available at: https://wp-islandmageeenergy-2020.s3.eu-west-2.amazonaws.com/media/2020/11/17162526/Marine-Environmental-Conditions-Update-Report.pdf. Accessed: July 2025.

Shoji, A., Elliott, K., Greenwood, J., McClean, L., Leonard, K., Perrins, C., Fayet, A. and Guilford, T. (2015). Diving behaviour of benthic feeding black guillemots. 62, pp.217–222.

Strangford and Lecale AONB. (2025a). Special Area of Conservation. Available at: https://strangfordlough.org/landscape-heritage/strangford-lough-marine-protected-area/special-area-of-conservation/. Accessed: August 2025.

Strangford and Lecale AONB. (2025b). Strangford Lough Marine Protected Area. Available at: https://strangfordlough.org/landscape-heritage/strangford-lough-marine-protected-area/. Accessed: August 2025.