

Apply for a band 1 marine licence

Is the estimated cost of your marine works project over £1 million?

Select
No

Will the work last longer than 12 months?

Select
No

Who should we contact about this application?

This form must be completed by someone who has authority to act on behalf of the applicant.	
We will contact you if we have any questions about this application.	
First name	Samuel
Last name	Holmes
Address line 1	Ocean Ecology Limited, River Office
Address line 2 (optional)	Sevenside Park, Epney
Town or city	Gloucester
County (optional)	-
Postcode	GL2 7LN
Email	samuel.holmes@ocean-ecology.com
Phone number	01452 740 697
Your relationship to the applicant, for example 'consultant'	Employee

Tell us about the applicant

Is the applicant:
a company

Is the company registered with Companies House?

Select
Yes

Tell us the registered company details

The address must be the one recorded with Companies House (opens in a new tab)	
Company name	Ocean Ecology Limited
Company registration number	08961638
Date of registration	27/03/2014
Address line 1	Goodridge Court
Address line 2 (optional)	Goodridge Avenue
Town or city	Gloucester
County (optional)	-
Postcode	GL2 5EN
Email	info@ocean-ecology.com
Phone number	01452 740 697

Have you had pre-application advice from us about this work?

Select
Yes

What is your pre-application advice reference?

You can find this on emails we have sent you.
It will begin with Q or PA
RML2539 (previous licence application)

Tell us about the work

What is the project title?
SEAABEDD Initiative

Briefly describe what you want to do

Ocean Ecology Limited are seeking to proactively survey key strategic offshore development areas with a view to developing a robust environmental baseline dataset which offshore wind developers will have to hand almost immediately following leasing a development area. With this we are looking to significantly accelerate the development of offshore wind in the Celtic Sea, working to support Net Zero targets but also accelerating direct industry benefits particularly in South Wales (e.g. ports, transmission partners, engineering, etc.).

This offshore survey will entail the collection of seabed imagery (via a drop-down camera system), collection of sediment grab samples, and collection of water samples for eDNA analysis. Up to 89 grab samples will be collected with an average retention of 10-15L per sample, equating to a removal of up to 1.335m³ of sediment.

All proposed sampling stations will be cross-checked against all available data for infrastructure (cables, pipelines, etc), wrecks and navigational restrictions, as well as in consideration of the relevant admiralty charts. These locations have additionally been approved and cleared of any concern by the Maritime and Coastguard Agency, Trinity House, and the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales.

Prior to the collection of any grab samples, the seabed will be visually screened using a drop-down camera to ensure the absence of any sensitive environmental or cultural (archaeological) features, infrastructure, or potential UXOs.

When do you want the licence to start?

Band 1 licences are typically issued for one year, subject to consultation.

Make sure the date you provide is on or before the day you want to start carrying out the work.

Licence start date 02/07/2025

Tell us about your coordinates

We need to understand exactly where the work will happen through the coordinates you give us.

If you need to give us more than 10 coordinates, you must upload them in an Excel spreadsheet.

You can also upload a Shapefile if you have one.

Check how to give us coordinates (opens in a new tab).

Do you want to tell us about more than 10 coordinates?

Yes

Upload your coordinates

You can upload up to ten documents of 50MB each.

Select 'Choose file' each time

- File: OEL_MarineSurvey_Areas_1.xlsx - [Download](#)

Upload your map

Your map must be scaled so we can see a detailed view of the area where you will be carrying out your activity.

Include a north arrow so that we can correctly identify the orientation of the map.

Check how to create a map (opens in a new tab)

- File: OEL_MarineSurvey_CelticSea1.jpg - [Download](#)
- File: OEL_MarineSurvey_CelticSea2.jpg - [Download](#)

Tell us if you need to upload a method statement

You will need to upload a method statement if you are doing any of these things:

Working in or near a sensitive site Drilling boreholes or vibrocores Replacing piles Beach management Are you doing one or more of these things?

No

What materials will you deposit as part of your work?

Select all that apply

None

How will you deliver materials to the site?

Select

Vehicle and vessel

Tell us about the routes you will use to deliver materials to the site

Upload a chart of the proposed vessel delivery route from the originating port

- File: OEL_MarineSurvey_CelticSea1_VesselRoutePlan.jpg - [Download](#)

We need to know how you will transport material from the site car park or compound to the location of the work.

Describe the vehicle delivery route

Note that no material will be transported to the site. When travelling via road we will use conventional public road systems for travel to / from our head office in Gloucester to the vessel when in port. Port may vary and may not be in Wales, but if in Wales is anticipated to be Pembroke Dock / Milford Haven and as such would utilise the M4, A48, A40 and A477 as primary routes.

Which materials will you remove as part of your work?

Tick all that apply

Sand

Silt

Stone/rock

Upload your correspondence with the Maritime and Coastguard Agency

We need confirmation from the Maritime and Coastguard Agency that your work will not pose a risk to others

- File: MCA_Advice_Response.jpg - [Download](#)

Upload your correspondence with Trinity House

We need confirmation from Trinity House that your work will not pose a risk to others

- File: TH_Advice_Response.jpg - [Download](#)

Did you consult with archaeological consultees?

If you are doing any kind of removal (such as boreholes or sediment sampling) or beach management, you must consult with the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales (RCAHMW) and your local archaeological trust (opens in a new tab).

Yes

Upload your correspondence with the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales

We need to see that the RCAHMW are satisfied that your work will not have a negative impact on any archaeological features

- File: RCAHMW_Advice_Response.jpg - [Download](#)

Upload your correspondence with your local archaeological trust

We need to see that the local archaeological trust is satisfied that your work will not have a negative impact on any archaeological features

- File: Local archaeology response.txt - [Download](#)

Do you want to upload correspondence with other consultees?

Check the list of possible consultees (opens in a new tab)

Select

No

Does the applicant have statutory powers to consent any aspect of the work?

Such as coast protection authority, dredging powers, statutory undertakers

No

Do you want to claim public register confidentiality?

We normally put all the information in your application on a public register, unless we approve of your reasons for withholding all or part of it

Yes

Why do you want to make a confidentiality claim?

Explain why in under 1000 words

Ocean Ecology are seeking to complete this work pro-actively and therefore without any current client providing financial backing. We are therefore at significant risk of this work being devalued and potentially undermined to the point that we would not be able to carry out the survey. Given the aims of this work, to significantly accelerate the development of offshore wind in the Celtic Sea, working to support Net Zero targets but also accelerating direct industry benefits particularly in South Wales (e.g. ports, transmission partners, engineering, etc.), we feel it a valid approach to, at this stage, render the works and application confidential. Additionally, this survey approach and initiative is the sole intellectual property of Ocean Ecology Limited and is within our rights to protect at this stage. Data and survey findings will, by the nature of the targeted approach, become public at the appropriate time through the standard development consenting processes.

As stipulated within the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009 Section 101(5b) and the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 Section 12(5c & e) we feel it is within our rights to request confidentiality of this application due to commercial sensitivities and the protection of intellectual property.

Paying for your application

Your licence application for a band 1 activity costs £600.

You need to pay as soon as you have submitted your application. We will return any applications we receive without payment.

How will you pay for your application?

Bank transfer

Create a payment reference

Make a note of your reference as you will need to use it when you pay.

Your reference must:

begin with 'PRCAPP' be followed by the first five letters of the applicant name end with any three digits

PRCAPPOECOL121

How we collect your personal data

We will process the information provided by you in line with the data protection legislation.

For more information on how we manage, store and use your data, check our privacy notice (opens in a new tab).

I have read and understood this information

Declaration

The person who completes this form should be the one who signs it.

This person must have the authority to sign the form on behalf of the holder. They could be a director or a company secretary.

It is an offence under the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009, under which this application is made, to fail to disclose information or to provide false or misleading information. This could invalidate any licence granted.

I declare that to the best of my knowledge and belief that the information given in this application form and supporting documentation is true.

Full name Samuel Holmes

Position in company Head of Projects

Date

01/07/2025

Get a copy of your application and submit

Enter your email address to get a copy of your application

samuel.holmes@ocean-ecology.com