

Renewing the Past



Launch of the New Protocol



After three successful years providing a safety-net for archaeological materials found during work on offshore wind farm schemes, the Offshore Renewables Protocol for Archaeological Discoveries (ORPAD) has been updated, revised and reprinted.

The Crown Estate, which funds the scheme on behalf of all wind farm developers in the UK, hosted the launch of the new Protocol at their New Burlington Place office in London. Members of RenewableUK, the leading renewable energy trade association, met on 29th September 2014 to hear Wessex Archaeology present the revised document, and to handle examples of archaeological finds reported through Protocols.

These included handaxes knapped by Neanderthals 250,000 years ago and a first aid kit from a German *Luftwaffe* bomber, complete with tourniquet and hacksaw.

The relaunch of the Protocol brings with it a new drive for raising awareness amongst people working at all levels on wind farm schemes. Wessex Archaeology and The Crown Estate would like to invite anyone who would like to know more about the scheme to book an awareness visit from the Protocol's Implementation Service. Visits are free, informal and flexibly structured to fit your timetable. Alternatively, we can give advice over the phone or via email, or can send out a pack of awareness materials.

To book an awareness visit or find out more about the Protocol, contact the Implementation Service on 01722 326867 or email protocol@wessexarch.co.uk

The Protocol – The Facts

The Offshore Renewables Protocol for Archaeological Discoveries sets out a framework through which archaeological materials should be reported if encountered during work on offshore wind farm schemes.

- It is funded by The Crown Estate on behalf of all wind farm developers in the UK and it is free at the point of use.
- The Protocol does not replace statutory mechanisms for dealing with archaeology, but comes into effect in situations where an archaeologist is not present.
- Reporting material through the Protocol will often be the fastest way to receive archaeological advice when a discovery is made.
- Currently, less than half of the wind farm schemes under development in the UK have reported material through the Protocol.
- The vast majority of archaeological reports raised through the Protocol have no scheme impacts. The finds that have are those that are archaeologically significant or legally protected. Failure to report these types of finds may have far greater scheme impacts than timely reporting followed by the early receipt of archaeological advice.



How can I implement the Protocol for my development?

- Familiarise yourself with the Protocol – it is available online at the website address found below.
- Raise awareness amongst your staff and amongst contractors working on your behalf.
- Book awareness training (which is funded by The Crown Estate) to inform everyone who may come into contact with archaeology of their next steps to report a find.
- Circulate this newsletter amongst everyone involved in your development to raise awareness.
- Include awareness packs (available from Wessex Archaeology) in the documentation given to staff and crew working offshore. Include a copy of the Protocol document, a reporting form and the contact details of the Implementation Service.
- All of the materials discussed here are available online at the website address below, or by contacting the Implementation Service.
- The Implementation Service will be happy to assist you with all of the above tasks. Email protocol@wessexarch.co.uk or telephone 01722 326 867

www.wessexarch.co.uk/projects/marine/tcerenewables/documents

Mapping our Heritage

These maps show the physical distribution of finds reported during the first three years of Protocol operation. They also reflect, through the increasing number of finds reports year-on-year, the growing importance of the scheme.



Mapping where reported finds are discovered allows us to better understand the submerged heritage of development areas and builds a resource for future reference.

Currently less than half of the offshore wind farm developments in the UK have reported through ORPAD. There may be a reason for this: the development stage or operational circumstances may inhibit the discovery and recovery of archaeological material, schemes may be operating their own protocols, or they may not be aware of The Crown Estate Protocol and how to report material through it.

The Protocol is designed to be used pre- and post-consent. If your scheme is not reporting because you are not familiar with the Protocol and how to use it, invite Wessex Archaeology to deliver free awareness training. We can get you up to speed.



Recent Offshore Finds



These two pots were found during benthic trawls and reported through the Protocol.

The larger vessel is over four hundred years old. It has a distinctive bulbous appearance and four clear holes drilled through at the shoulder which would have allowed it to be suspended. Having a hanging or suspended pot could be beneficial on board a ship when rough seas could lead to spillage or breakage, or it may have been hung over a fire to cook food, though there was no blackening on the pot.

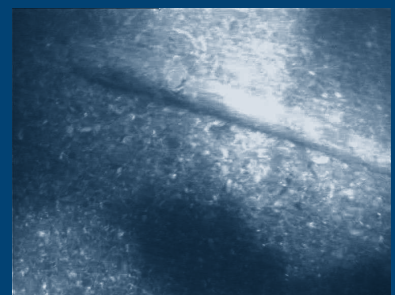
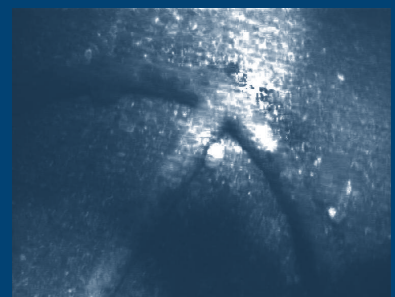
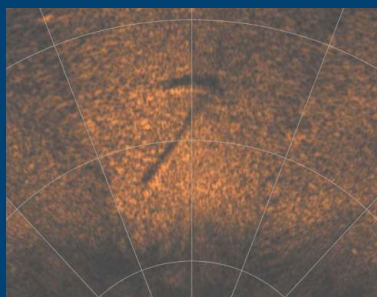
It dates to the later medieval period – between the 14th and 16th centuries – and it is probably Continental, rather than British. This vessel hints at foreign trade and travel, and visitors coming to Britain from distant shores.

The smaller of the two pots has marine growth across it, but this does not mask the distinctive glazed coating and an impressed mark on the shoulder – which reads '5'.

This stoneware vessel dates from the late 19th or early 20th century. Vessels like this one were used to hold small quantities of liquid and it is likely to have reached the seabed as a result of maritime activity in the area.



An Admiralty Pattern anchor was also recently found and still remains on the seabed. This anchor measures around 3 m from crown to the ring and around 2.5 m across the arms to the flukes. This is a large example. An anchor of this size is comparable to those used to hold vessels ranging in size from something akin to a cutter of around 100 tons, to a three-masted schooner of 190 tons displacement. The Admiralty Pattern anchor was patented in 1841 by Admiral Sir William Parker, but was superseded and gradually replaced in popular use by the stockless anchors patented in the late 19th century. This example is likely to be around 100–150 years old.



Archaeology Offshore

Marine archaeological finds are the evidence of our human past – tangible remains that can tell the story of how our predecessors lived. They can be encountered at any point during wind farm construction, both offshore and where cables cross the inter-tidal zone.

In Britain, the earliest evidence of human activity has been dated to c. 900,000 years ago, from the Palaeolithic. The offshore context has great potential to tell us more about this remote time as successive glaciations caused the lowering of sea levels and the exposure of what we know as seabed. The evidence that can tell us about this time period is preserved in the faunal remains, plant remains and flint tools crafted by our predecessors. Both animal bone and palaeoenvironmental materials have been reported through ORPAD.

Around 11,000 years ago the climate ameliorated and sea levels rose to their current levels. People began using sea-going craft and our seabed is rich in evidence of our maritime heritage – from discrete

finds lost from vessels to the wrecks of boats, ships and submarines lying far below the waves. ORPAD finds bear testament to this and around 50% of the material reported in the last reporting year is the result of maritime activity.

Over the last 100 years the invention and accelerated use of aircraft, especially in relation to both World Wars, has further added to the archaeology that can be found on our seabed.

The seabed is rich in potential, and The Crown Estate and the offshore renewables industry have recognised this with the implementation of ORPAD. Reporting through this Protocol means that our valuable, fragile and above all finite heritage is investigated and recorded.



Palaeolithic worked flint



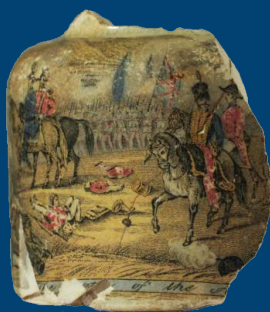
Roman samian ware



17th century cannonball



18th century tableware



19th century relish pot



WWII propeller




London

The Crown Estate
16 New Burlington Place
London W1S 2HX
020 7851 5000

Edinburgh

The Crown Estate
6 Bell's Brae
Edinburgh EH4 3BJ
0131 260 6070

www.thecrownestate.co.uk

 **@TheCrown Estate**

**Registered Head Office**

Wessex Archaeology Limited
Portway House
Old Sarum Park
Salisbury SP4 6EB
01722 326867

www.wessexarch.co.uk