



DEFA

Rheynn Chymmlytaght, Bee as Eirinys
The Department of Environment, Food
And Agriculture

Fisheries Division, Thie Slieau Whallian, Foxdale Road, St. Johns, Isle of Man, IM4 3AS
T: (01624) 685857 | E: fisheries@gov.im

Notice – Western HVDC Link: Offshore survey work

10/05/2024

DEFA Fisheries was updated on the Western HVDC Link: Offshore survey work by AWJ Marine, and this update is provided below.

Mariners are advised that survey work is due to be carried out along the Western HVDC Link cable route by the vessel *MV Ivero*. The work is due to start in **April 2024** and to be completed in May. A Notice to Mariners detailing these operations is summarised below and can be downloaded [here](#).

Survey Work

The survey will extend along the full 390km length of the WHVDC cable route, from Hunterston in the Firth of Clyde, through the North Channel, to the west and south of the Isle of Man and then towards the Wirral coast. The location of the survey work is illustrated in a map in the Notice to Mariners that can be downloaded [here](#).

During the survey the vessel *MV Ivero* will carry out a detailed geophysical inspection survey using a multi aperture sonar data acquisition. The vessel will be mapping a series of parallel lines along sections of the route using this equipment. Marine mammal observations and passive acoustic monitoring will be recorded during these operations.

Survey Route & Timing

The survey will begin at a depth of approximately 20m below CD at each end of the cable, abutting the shallow water surveys that were completed in August 2023. The survey will take place within a working area of +/-100m from the published route. Details of the route can be viewed in more detail and downloaded from the **Kingfisher website** [here](#).

The operations are due to begin as early as the **15th of April 2024** and could extend until the **15th of May 2024**. These dates are subject to weather and sea conditions over this period.

Vessel details

The *MV Ivero* is a 34m survey vessel. It has a blue hull and a white superstructure. Information about the vessel, including its current location, can be found at the Marine Traffic website using the link below:-

- [MV Ivero](#): Survey vessel | Call sign MCJO3

The survey vessel will operate on a 24 hour basis. Possible ports of call include Troon, Campbeltown and Liverpool.

The *MV Ivero* will be towing equipment approximately 1000m from its stern. Fishing vessels operating in the area are asked to deploy static fishing gear in a manner that will minimise the risk of entanglement during the survey period.

The vessel involved in this work may be restricted in its ability to manoeuvre and other vessels are reminded to pass at a safe speed and maintain a wide berth of at least 0.5 nautical miles distance.

Vessels operating in the area are asked to contact *MV Ivero* on VHF Channel 16 to obtain information on planned activity and to allow coactivity and cooperation.