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Award

## **CEFAS25-91 ITT for provision of mudflat monitoring surveys at Hinkley Point C**

CENTRE FOR ENVIRONMENT, FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE SCIENCE

UK6: Contract award notice - Procurement Act 2023 - [view information about notice types](#)

Notice identifier: 2026/S 000-004799

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-05e78e ([view related notices](#))

Published 20 January 2026, 12:45pm

### **Scope**

### **Reference**

C31980

### **Description**

The BEEMS (British EDF Estuarine and Marine Studies) programme is funded by NNB Generation Company (HPC) Limited. Through this programme, Cefas provide authoritative scientific information on the marine and transitional waters in the vicinity of potential new build nuclear power stations and require a competent Supplier to deliver the element described below.

Cefas require services to conduct intertidal mudflat monitoring surveys for the Hinkley Point C (HPC) Nuclear New Build project to meet regulatory environmental monitoring requirements. The ongoing mudflat monitoring programme focuses on a bivalve species, the Baltic tellin, *Macoma balthica*. This species is a key component of the Hinkley Point mudflat community and was identified, during the HPC environmental impact assessment process, as potentially sensitive to localised seawater temperature increases brought about by the cooling water discharges from HPC. As such, biological samples and

physical measurements are collected every year. The monitoring programme is focussed on mudflat intertidal areas around Bridgwater Bay and at a reference site in Wick St. Lawrence, located to the north of the bay.

The Contract implementation is expected to start mid-February 2026 and the initial Contract period will end 31 December 2028, with the option to extend by 2 further periods of 12 months each to maximum end date of 31 December 2030.

#### Scope of Requirements:

Biological samples are collected at all the sampling stations in high shore and low shore and require the following:

- a) Six replicate macrofauna samples are collected using a 0.01 m<sup>2</sup> corer to a depth of 15 cm. Each sample is placed in a sealed plastic bag and transported via private courier to a third-party laboratory for macrofauna analysis. The courier service, arranged by the Supplier, ensures delivery to the Cefas appointed UK based laboratory within 24 hours of collection. Alternative approaches to this analysis method are welcomed and should be outlined within your proposal. (Figure 2)
- b) Some mud is then shovelled into a 1 mm mesh sieve and sieved on site to collect up to 75 *Macoma balthica* individuals by hand using tweezers for population dynamic analysis. Samples are stored in a plastic ziplock bags (Figure 3). If only small individuals are found, an additional 10 - 15 larger individual (>1 cm width) must be collected for the condition index measurements and placed in a separate ziplock bag for a condition assessment. Samples are stored in a fridge or in cool box to keep individuals alive for processing at the end of the sampling day. These are then sent to the Lowestoft Cefas Laboratory.
- c) Sediment samples are collected using a 50 ml plastic syringe with a truncated tip to sample the first 2 cm of sediment as a core (five replicate). Four of the five samples (for pigment and nutrient analysis) are pooled together in a plastic ziplock bag to account for small scale variability and one sample is stored in a pot for Particle Size Analysis. Samples are stored in dry ice for the duration of the survey. These are then sent to the Lowestoft Cefas Laboratory.

Physical measurements are carried out at the low shore stations only and require the following:

- a) Temperature and pressure sensors (Star-Oddi's Data Storage Tag DST centi-TD) are deployed on metal stakes (Figure 4) at the five low shore stations on stakes (see Figure 1). The sensors, which remain in situ, record temperature continuously and data need to be uploaded on a quarterly basis.

Biological samples must be collected twice a year during spring tide windows in February

and in August. Physical measurement surveys must be carried out four times a year, in February, May, August and November. Note that the biological and physical measurements in February and August are completed during the same survey.

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## **Contract 1. CEFAS25-91 Contract for the provision of mudflat monitoring surveys at Hinkley Point C**

### **Supplier**

- Marine Science Support Ltd

### **Contract value**

- £250,000 excluding VAT
- £300,000 including VAT

Above the relevant threshold

### **Award decision date**

20 January 2026

### **Date assessment summaries were sent to tenderers**

20 January 2026

### **Standstill period**

- End: 29 January 2026
- 8 working days

### **Earliest date the contract will be signed**

2 February 2026

### **Contract dates (estimated)**

- 2 February 2026 to 31 December 2028
- Possible extension to 31 December 2030
- 4 years, 10 months, 27 days

Description of possible extension:

2 x 12 month options

### **Main procurement category**

Services

### **CPV classifications**

- 79311000 - Survey services

### **Contract locations**

- UK - United Kingdom

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## Information about tenders

- 2 tenders received
- 2 tenders assessed in the final stage:
  - 2 submitted by small and medium-sized enterprises (SME)
  - 0 submitted by voluntary, community and social enterprises (VCSE)
- 1 supplier awarded contracts
- 1 supplier unsuccessful (details included for contracts over £5 million)

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## Procedure

### Procedure type

Open procedure

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## Supplier

### Marine Science Support Ltd

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PQYB-7172-CPBR

Evolution House, Delft Way

Norwich

NR6 6BB

United Kingdom

Email: [roger.phillips@marinesciencesupport.co.uk](mailto:roger.phillips@marinesciencesupport.co.uk)

Region: UKH15 - Norwich and East Norfolk

Small or medium-sized enterprise (SME): Yes

Voluntary, community or social enterprise (VCSE): No

Supported employment provider: No

Public service mutual: No

Connected people/organisations:

Roger Phillips

The Convent House, Heathfieldlake Hill, Chudleigh, Newton Abbot TQ13 0DR

Josie Phillips

The Convent House, Heathfieldlake Hill, Chudleigh, Newton Abbot TQ13 0DR

Associated people/organisations:

Ocean Ecology Ltd

Goodridge Court, Goodridge Avenue, Gloucester, Gloucestershire, GL2 5EN

Contract 1. CEFAS25-91 Contract for the provision of mudflat monitoring surveys at Hinkley Point C

## Contracting authority

### **CENTRE FOR ENVIRONMENT, FISHERIES AND AQUACULTURE SCIENCE**

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PPGW-5299-JGTN

Pakefield Road

Lowestoft

NR33 0HT

United Kingdom

Email: [procure@cefas.gov.uk](mailto:procure@cefas.gov.uk)

Website: <https://defra-family.force.com/s/Welcome>

Region: UKH14 - Suffolk

Organisation type: Public authority - sub-central government