Clarifications to Bidder’s Questions:

Maerl habitat mapping Project 2025-26: Fal and Helford SAC

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| 1 | Regarding statement in RFQ section 2.1 “As part of this project, the newly collected data will be combined with data from previous surveys carried out by Envision Ltd (2023 & 2024) and CIFCA (2023) to enable the distribution, extent and condition of subtidal maerl communities of the Falmouth Bay to St Austell Bay SPA, which overlaps the Fal and Helford SAC, and Manacles MCZ, to be reported on.”. Could you explain what you mean by the ‘data from previous surveys carried out by Envision Ltd (2023 & 2024) and CIFCA (2023)’. We do not believe that the areas in the RfQ overlap with the work Envision Marine Ltd did previously, and later in the RfQ it only mentions combining previous data from the CIFCA side scan surveys from 2021, which we think sounds more appropriate. | To confirm, the survey area is only within the SPA which overlaps the SAC boundary plus additional small areas shown in the RFQ map e.g. further past St Mawes and The Manacles. It does not include areas where Envision Marine Ltd previously surveyed (Old Wall, Bizzies and further East). The resulting dataset (from surveys carried out in 2025) will be combined by Natural England to provide ‘the picture’ of maerl in the SPA as a whole. It is correct that the SSS dataset which was carried out by the CIFCA in 2021/2 will be required to be utilised. |
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