Standardised vs Adaptive approach to environmental monitoring for German and UK offshore wind farm projects

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Overview

1. Introduction to Ørsted projects
2. German approach to monitoring
3. UK approach to monitoring
4. Summary and conclusions
Germany
Framework conditions

“Bundesamt für Seeschifffahrt und hydrographie (BSH)” set the frame for environmental investigations.

StUK (Standard Untersuchungskonzept) - thematic and technical minimum requirements for monitoring

Based on experience gained with previous versions and surveys conducted in the research project StUKplus.
UMBO monitoring – overview

Cluster monitoring – 7 years
Big area – continuous monitoring

1.865 km²

4.116 km²
Post Construction Monitoring Requirements UK
Traditional Approach – Site Specific Monitoring

Goals
- Validate ES predictions
- Address uncertainty
- Efficacy of mitigation
- Inform future monitoring

Requirements
- Clear aims
- Testable Hypothesis
- Survey Strategy
- BACI / BAG
Strategic monitoring

Zonal Approach
• Flamborough and Filey Coast Seabird Monitoring Group (FFSMG)

Sector Approach
• Offshore Wind Strategic Monitoring Forum (OWSMRF)
Flamborough and Filey Coast Seabird Monitoring Group

**Tagging Studies**
- 2017 / 2018
  - Tagging breeding kittiwakes
  - Collision risk models
  - Foraging ranges

**Drone Surveys**
- 2017
  - Colony counts
  - Survey of access restricted areas
  - Species and abundance trends
Offshore Wind Strategic Monitoring Research Forum
A forum to facilitate strategic research & monitoring

**Purpose**
- Industry driven approach
- Cumulative impacts on birds in SNS

**Objectives**
- Coordinate strategic approach to monitoring
- Provide a forum for wider stakeholder involvement
- Prioritise finding answers to "key questions"
- Maximise information exchange and promote collaboration
- Facilitate joint funding initiatives
Case Study: Walney Extension heliport

Background

Daily access to windfarm required

Morecambe Bay and Duddon Estuary SPA immediately adjacent

Habitats Regulations Assessment undertaken.
Case Study: Walney Extension heliport

Issue

Risk of disturbance to birds in the SPA.

Natural England concerns around uncertainty in the HRA.
## Case Study: Walney Extension heliport

### Solution

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>More intensive monitoring at start</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Red and Amber Flags</td>
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<tr>
<td>Annual review of mitigation and monitoring plan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amendments to plan</td>
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| Monthly peak count recorded at less than 50% of baseline monthly peak count |
| Amber flags in three consecutive months, or five amber flags in one year |
Summary and Conclusions

Germany
- Certainty
- Ability to plan
- Consistency of data
- Efficiency through coordination

UK
- Flexible
- Adaptable
- Efficiency through streamlining

Hybrid
- Adaptable
- Consistent and comparable datasets
- Less focus on site specific survey
- More Strategic focus
Thankyou for listening

Questions?