

ERT providing Environmental Services to Lundin Britain Ltd

ERT (Scotland) Ltd was successful in tendering to Lundin Britain Ltd for the provision of environmental services to support Lundin's drilling campaign in the UKCS in 2007. The services provided to Lundin include:

- Baseline environmental survey scoping.
- Provision of client environmental representative during surveys.
- Laboratory analyses.
- QA of third party data.
- Provision of fisheries liaison officer during surveys.
- Environmental permitting including PON 14 and 15.
- Undertaking environmental impact assessment and preparing Environmental Statements.
- Preparation of Oil Spill Contingency Plans.
- Stakeholder consultation.
- Liaison with appropriate authorities and other contractors.
- General guidance and support on regulatory and environmental issues including the Environmental Management System.

We feel our skilled staff, our flexible approach to Lundin's needs and our desire to meet the client's expectations match Lundin's drive to deliver strong environmental performance, and our consultants are enjoying the positive working relationship that has developed with Lundin.

ERT Takes on Student for Work Experience

Peter Ellis, a fourth year student from James Young High School, Dedridge, Livingston, who has aspirations of becoming a marine biologist, has undertaken a week's work experience with ERT. His interests at school are biology and chemistry and it is hoped his week at ERT will enable him to see how his classroom knowledge is put to practical use. We wish him well in whatever career he decides to pursue.



MESH Conference

Simon Tresadern from ERT Scotland attended the MESH (Mapping the European Seabed Habitat) final conference held at Dublin Castle 14th to 15th March, Dublin.

The principal aim of MESH was to produce seabed habitat maps for northwest Europe and the conference provided an overview of the programme, beginning with the drivers and motives through to the output and results of the project. Presentation topics ranged from understanding the tangible benefits of the project, the data collection and interpretation "tools of the trade" through to the lessons learned from the international partner collaboration. Given ERT's in-house experience in mapping and habitat mapping the conference afforded a valuable opportunity to review the MESH project as a whole.



More New Staff at ERT

We are delighted to announce the arrival of three new staff at ERT (Scotland) Ltd.

Richie Halliday joins us as a Chemist in our busy hydrocarbon chemistry laboratories and initially will be primarily focused on assisting with the processing and quantification of hydrocarbons in marine sediment, tissue and water samples on our chromatographic instruments (Agilent 6890 GC and ThermoFinnigan Trace DSQ GC-MS).

Esther Hernandez has taken up a position as Assistant Environmental Consultant to join our team of seven consultants. Esther, originally from Spain, is already involved in our South American work where her Spanish language skills have proved very useful.

Dave King has taken on the role of part-time Quality Manager to ensure we meet our expectations and targets for ISO 9001:2000, ISO 14001:2004 and ISO 17025. This specific role is part of our commitment to our quality and implementation of these standards.

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ERT Wins SNH Research Contract to Map Luce Bay and Sands Marine Special Area of Conservation

In order that a comprehensive management plan can be developed for the marine Luce Bay and Sands SAC, SNH has let the contract to provide an estimation of the geographic distribution and extent of the qualifying biological resources within the site to ERT. This work is a continuation of an SNH programme of surveys already completed for the other Scottish marine SACs and will inform the development of a site-specific monitoring programme.



The SAC has been designated for qualifying Annex 1 habitats "large shallow inlets and bays", "sandbanks which are slightly covered by seawater at all times", "intertidal mudflats and sandflats" and "reefs". The large shallow inlets and bay category is a complex feature considered to comprise a mosaic of the other three habitats that qualify as Annex I features.

To successfully map the wide range of habitats over such a large area ERT has put together a specialist team of experts covering biological, acoustic and satellite imaging disciplines. Survey work will take place in the early summer with reporting completed by the end of the year.

This is the second major Annex 1 habitat mapping contract won by ERT in the last twelve months, and adds to an extensive track record of providing advice to both regulators and industry on sensitive marine habitats.

For further information on Annex 1 habitat mapping please contact Matt Dalkin.

Maritime and Coastguard Agency Counter Pollution Branch Contract

ERT has been awarded a three year call off contract for scientific and technical support services to the Maritime and Coastguard Agency Counter Pollution Branch (MCA) and this is a continuation of previous ongoing support. ERT are also currently providing oil spill fingerprinting services to the MCA and have done so since 1993. This means we may receive samples comprising oiled feathers (sometimes whole birds!), sand, seawater, bilge water, rocks and cloths (swabs) etc in order to characterise where the spilled oil may have come from.

ERT with the MCA are working in collaboration with Cedre (Centre of Documentation, Research and Experimentation on accidental water pollution) in France on fingerprinting oil spill samples from Guernsey suspected to be linked to the stricken containership MSC Napoli. Without having the Napoli reference oils ERT, working with Cedre who did have Napoli reference oils, was able to confirm on behalf of MCA whether or not the samples did originate from the Napoli.

For further information on our oil spill fingerprinting services contact Jim McDougall on enquiries@ert.co.uk.

ERT's Website has had a Makeover

Have a look at our website at www.ert.co.uk which has been given a fresh makeover in time for spring and let us know what you think about it. Use the new contact form to tell us if there is anything you would like to see appear on the website or in future newsletters and case studies.

