



**PORT OF
CROMARTY
FIRTH**

Appendix A: The EIA Team





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Appendix A.1: The EIA Team



Appendix A.1 – The Environmental Impact Assessment Team

1 Introduction

Affric Limited have led the EIAR production, however it has been a team effort. Affric have worked with a variety of consultants to ensure that appropriate experts have contributed relevant technical input to the assessment. Table A.1 details the lead authors for each of the chapters. Further information with regard to the experience and expertise of the various companies and personnel involved in the production of the EIAR is then provided.

Table A.1: Lead Authors

Chapter	Lead Author(s)
1: Introduction	Fiona Henderson – Affric Limited
2: Background	Fiona Henderson – Affric Limited
3: Project Description	Fiona Henderson – Affric Limited
4: Statutory Content	Fiona Henderson – Affric Limited
5: Methodology	Fiona Henderson – Affric Limited
6: In-Air Acoustics	Jim Singleton - TNEI Services Ltd
7: Underwater Acoustics	Sam East – Subacoustech Ltd
8: Air Quality	Fiona Henderson – Affric Limited
9: Coastal Processes, Ground Conditions and Contamination	Fiona Henderson – Affric Limited
10: Ecology: General	Dr Lucy Quinn – Affric Limited
11: Ecology: Ornithology	Dr Lucy Quinn – Affric Limited Peter Stronach – The Wildlife Survey Unit Ltd
12: Ecology: Marine Mammals	Jonathan Ashburner – Affric Limited
13: Ecology: Otters	Innes Beaton – Affric Limited
14: Ecology: Diadromous Fish	Cornelius Pelka & Jonathan Ashburner – Affric Limited
15: Ecology: Benthic	Cornelius Pelka & Jonathan Ashburner – Affric Limited
16: Landscape and Visual	Nigel Buchan – Buchan Landscape Architecture Tom Hartley – Atmos Consulting Limited
17: Local Community and Economics	Euan MacKay – Grangeston Economics
18: Materials and Waste	Fiona Henderson – Affric Limited
19: Traffic and Transport	Rory Murtagh – Atkins Global
20: Navigation	Fiona Henderson – Affric Limited
21: Water Quality	Fiona Henderson – Affric Limited
22: Conclusion	Fiona Henderson & Dr Lucy Quinn – Affric Limited

2 The Companies

2.1 Affric Limited

Established in 2012, Affric are a growing and highly responsive environmental consultancy business providing a comprehensive range of environmental advice, surveys, planning support, stakeholder and project management services. With a broad and expanding portfolio of clients, they work on a diverse range of projects in the public and private sector from SME's to multi-national energy companies. Affric work with their clients to provide high quality tailored services, to ensure that any given project has the most appropriate expertise, irrespective of the sectors or regions in which they operate.

Affric have been working with the Port of Cromarty Firth (PoCF) for the last 6 years, and as such have a strong working knowledge of their operations, as well as the Cromarty Firth's environmental sensitivities.

Chartered Environmentalist Fiona Henderson leads the Affric team. Her qualifications include a MSc in EIA, Auditing and Management Systems and BSc (Hons) in Environmental Chemistry. She previously led the Environmental Statement production for the Invergordon Service Base Phase 3 Development and provided support through licensing, construction and into operations. Hence, she is ideally positioned to produce chapters such as water and air quality while managing the full production of the EIAR. Senior Consultant Jonathan Ashburner is a Marine Biologist with specific expertise in Marine Mammals and underwater acoustics, holding an MRes in Marine Mammal Science. Having acted as the Environmental Clerk of Works (ECoW) on Phase 3 he is familiar with the construction process and the effectiveness of mitigation in practice. In addition to authoring EIAR Chapters, he has also had a key role in the Construction Environmental Management Document production.

Dr Lucy Quinn is an ornithological expert, specialising in seabirds, she undertook wintering bird surveys and authored the ornithology chapter. Having recently completed a Habitats Regulation Assessment (HRA) course, Lucy also produced the HRA Pre-screening Report to support the assessment. Cornelius Pelka has a first-class BSc (Hons) in Environmental Science; as a Junior Consultant, Cornelius supported the Affric team on a variety of Chapters and Appendices. He was co-author on the Benthic and Diadromous Fish Chapters which drew upon knowledge gained during a university research project on Atlantic Salmon. Innes Beaton is Affric's Otter expert, he carried out the otter survey work and led the chapter production.

2.2 Atkins Limited

Atkins, a member of the SNC-Lavalin Group is a multinational engineering, design, planning, project management, and consulting services company with offices in 28 countries. The company has been a member of the Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment's (IEMA) EIA Quality Mark Scheme since 2011. The scheme independently verifies Atkins' EIA activities through on-going compliance monitoring of their work. It demonstrates Atkins' commitment to the production of high quality environmental assessments, that are fully

compliant with UK legislation, led by and produced by technically skilled and experienced staff.

Atkins completed the invertebrate intertidal surveys carried out primarily to inform the ornithology assessment. They undertook current and sediment modelling to inform the Coastal Process assessment. In addition, led by Transport Planner, Rory Murtagh they completed the Transport Assessment and produced the Traffic and Transport Chapter of the EIAR. Atkins are also the lead design engineers for the project and as such have provided technical input to Chapters such as Project Description and Materials and Waste.

2.3 Atmos Consulting Limited & Buchan Landscape Architecture Ltd

Atmos are a modern and dynamic environmental and planning consultancy, providing cost effective and robust solutions with unquestionable integrity. The company's multi-disciplinary team have an in-depth understanding of regulatory and environmental risks. In this project Atmos worked together with Buchan Landscaping to provide the landscape and visual impact assessment. Atmos's Tom Hartley produced the Zone of Theoretical Visibility (ZTV) maps and photomontages, while Nigel Buchan carried out the assessment works. Tom and Nigel previously inputted to the Phase 3 Development and as such had a knowledge of the Cromarty Firth area and its landscape sensitivities. Nigel, who gained his MSc in Landscape Architecture from Harvard, has a wealth of experience in his field and has supported Scottish Natural Heritage in their landscape character assessments throughout Scotland.

2.4 Subacoustech Limited

Subacoustech are specialists in underwater acoustic research and consultancy, providing support on behalf of government and commercial organisations. The Company possesses extensive experience of undertaking underwater noise modelling from activities relating to marine construction and assessing the impacts in accordance with the latest scientific publications. They have worked on both harbour and wind farm projects giving them a detailed understanding of piling noise levels and associated ecological receptors. The team was lead by Sam East who has over 15 years' experience in the sector.

2.5 TNEI Services Limited

TNEI's Planning & Environmental (P&E) Group provides a range of commercially focused consenting, technical and environmental services, critical to the delivery of new development projects in the energy and infrastructure sectors. Their noise team are competent in a range of acoustic disciplines with specialist knowledge of environmental noise assessments, having worked on a wide variety of schemes including transportation, residential and commercial developments, oil and gas facilities, renewable energy developments (wind farms, solar, hydro and biomass) and a number of other sectors. The led author for the In-air Noise Chapter was Jim Singleton, a Member of the Institute of Acoustics PG Dip Acoustics & Noise Control with over 15 years' experience.

2.6 The Wildlife Survey Unit Limited

The company was created in 2009 and is an ecological consultancy, providing ecological advice to public sector and private clients. Peter Stronach a member of the Chartered Institute of

Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM), provided technical review input to the ornithology chapter. Having previously collated much of the baseline data to support another project at the Invergordon Service Base, he has a detailed understanding of the ornithology in the area. Peter provided relief ECoW support during the Phase 3 construction works, and as such has an understanding of how ornithological receptors react to the type of works proposed for Phase 4.

2.7 Grangeston Economics

Euan Mackay of Grangeston Economics provided the economic input to the Local Community and Economics Chapter. An economist with over 30 years' experience, living and working in the Highlands, he has a unique understanding of the economic environment that PoCF are working in. Euan regularly supports the Highlands and Islands Enterprise to understand the benefit of various sectors. He has particular expertise in harbour developments and the cruise ship sector.

2.8 Leapmoor LLP

Leapmoor are providing engineering and project management support to the Phase 4 Development for PoCF. Chartered Engineer Gary McCann previously worked on the Phase 3 Development and as such has been key to providing design and construction information to the EIA team. In addition, he has provided a review function to the EIAR ensuring the engineering and construction plans have been appropriately incorporated.