



Structures in the Marine Environment 2024

22 May (0900-1645) and 23 May (0900-1300)

In person at the Auditorium of the Museum of Scotland, Edinburgh

Academics, stakeholders, industry and government reps, stakeholders and interested parties are invited to come together for talks, e-posters, networking and discussion about marine artificial structures already within the marine ecosystem (such as oil and gas platforms and pipelines), and any new infrastructures being put in place over the coming decades (e.g. renewable energy structures).

Programme Wednesday 22 May: INSITE SCIENCE DAY

- 0900-0930 Registration
- 0930-0940 Conference opening by **Dickon Howell**, INSITE Programme Lead
- 0940-1000 Plenary talk by **Colin Moffat** (Visiting Professor Robert Gordon University; former Chief Scientist Marine Scotland)

1000-1100 Talk Session 1: Marine technology, data processes and AI. Session Chair: **TBC**

- **Daniel Jones** (National Oceanography Centre) – [AITSEA](#)
Autonomous exploration of the environment of the North-West Hutton Decommissioning site.
- **John Halpin** (Scottish Association of Marine Science) – [NS3D](#)
Analysis of imagery data – lessons learned from the INSITE NS3D project.

- **Joseph Marlow** (Scottish Association of Marine Science) – [NS3D](#)
Creating 3D virtual reality environments to promote understanding of structures in the marine environment.
- **Paul Fernandes** (Heriot Watt University) – [FISHSPAMMS](#)
Sampling challenges around artificial marine structures generate innovation in low risk, low cost and low carbon marine autonomous systems.
- Panel Q&A and discussion for Talk session 1
- 1100-1130 Coffee, posters and networking
- 1130-1230 Talk Session 2: Plastics, environmental impacts and microbial interactions.
Session Chair: **TBC**
 - **Sarah Gail/ Richard Thompson** (University of Plymouth) – [INSITE](#)
[Decommissioning and subsea plastics](#)
Legacy plastics associated with offshore oil and gas installations.
 - **Natalie Hicks** (University of Essex) – [FuECoMMS](#)
FuECoMMS Project overview: benthic impacts of man-made structures.
 - **Ben Gregson** (Anglia Ruskin University) – [FuECoMMS](#)
Assessing the impacts of decommissioned oil and gas platforms on benthic biodiversity.
 - Panel discussion for Talk session 2
- 1230-1330 Lunch and networking
- 1330-1500 Talk Session 3: Biodiversity effects, food webs and species interactions.
Session Chair: **TBC**
 - **Chris Lynam** (Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science)/
Debbie Russell (Sea Mammal Research Institute) – [EcoSTAR](#)
Modelling foodwebs and diversity in the North Sea under multiple pressures.
 - **Conor Gilmour** (Heriot Watt University) – [CHASANS](#)
CHASANS highlights: the story so far.
 - **Haleigh Jorgeson** (University of Essex) – [FuECoMMS](#)
Impact of Offshore Wind Farms on benthic communities.
 - **Joshua Lawrence** (Heriot Watt University) – [FISHSPAMMS](#)
Fish aggregation and behaviour around man-made structures.
 - **Anaëlle Lemasson** (University of Plymouth) – [DREAMS](#)
Turning DREAMS into reality: Overview of project findings.
 - Panel discussion for Talk session 3
- 1500-1530 Coffee, posters and networking
- 1530-1630 Talk Session 4: Value of Marine Artificial Structures for decommissioning.
Session Chair: **TBC**
 - **Stephen Watson** (Plymouth Marine Laboratory) – [DREAMS](#)
How man-made structures affect the delivery of ecosystem services: Lessons from the DREAMS project

- **Molly James** (Plymouth Marine Laboratory) – [DREAMS](#)

The ‘everything is everywhere’ framework: Using network analysis as a spatial management tool for the commissioning and decommissioning of man-made structures at sea.

- **Anthony Knights** (University College Cork) – [INSITE Synthesis Project](#)
Building consensus around decommissioning: an INSITE Synthesis.
- Panel discussion for Talk session 4

1630-1645 Wrap up and science day closing by Dickon Howell

Programme Wednesday 23 May: INSITE POLICY-IMPACT DAY

0900-0930 Arrival

0930-0940 Day 2 welcome by **Dickon Howell**, INSITE Programme Lead

0940-1000 Plenary talk from **John Paterson** (University of Aberdeen)
Policy, legal and regulatory issues in the management and decommissioning of Marine Artificial Structures.

1000-1100 Talk Session 5: Management and decommissioning challenges of Marine Artificial Structures. Session Chair: **John Paterson**

- Government speakers will present short overviews of relevant policies, roles and challenges in the management and decommissioning of Marine Artificial Structures, covering **regulation, environmental advice, environmental recovery, net gain, fisheries and net zero targets.**
- Panel Q&A and discussion for Talk session 1

1100-1130 Coffee, posters and networking

1130-1230 Talk Session 6: Science-policy impact opportunities. Session Chair: **TBC**

- **Henk van Rein** (Howell Marine Consulting) - [INSITE Programme Director team](#)
Insights from INSITEs second phase and looking beyond to the next phase.
- **Mixed Panel discussion** for Talk session 2

1230-1300 Conference close by **Dickon Howell**, INSITE Programme Lead

1300-1400 Lunch and final networking

1400 Onward travel

Posters

Posters will be available to view at any time during the day, but poster authors will be present at their posters during the two coffee breaks, so please take the time to speak with the authors.

- **Anaëlle Lemasson** (University of Plymouth) - Turning DREAMS into reality: Overview of project findings
- Other posters TBC

Virtual Reality demonstration

The research team behind NS3D, **Tom Wilding, Joe Marlow** and **John Halpin** (Scottish Association of Marine Science), are putting on a special display for SIME this year showcasing their modelling and visualisation work via Virtual Reality headsets to create a live, immersive experience of viewing underwater scenes around oil and gas infrastructure. Not to be missed!