



Marine Notice No. 05 of 2022

*Notice to all Shipowners, Fishing Vessel Owners, Agents, Shipmasters, Skippers, Fishers,
Yachtsmen and Seafarers*

Unmanned Surface Vessel engaged in survey operations in Dundalk Bay

1. Notice of Activity

The Department of Transport has been advised that operations of a remotely piloted Uncrewed Surface Vessel (USV) are planned to take place in Dundalk Bay, off the east coast of Ireland, from **25th January 2022** for up to one week, subject to weather and operational constraints. A Radio Navigation Warning will be in place during operations.

2. Location of Activity

The USV will launch from Clogherhead from where it will transit to the area of operation, bounded by the coordinates given in the table below. Further location information is available in Appendix 1.

Point	Latitude	Longitude
1	N 53° 54.454	W 006° 9.210
2	N 53° 54.923	W 006° 8.981
3	N 53° 54.150	W 006° 3.876
4	N 53° 53.565	W 006° 4.147

3. Details of Vessel

The vessel to be used for the operation is X-09. This is an XO-450 type USV. See Appendix 2 below for vessel details. The USV sends real time images and situational awareness data over satellite to a team of operators keeping watch and controlling the vessel remotely 24/7.

The vessel will be engaged in survey activities supporting environmental research in the area. The survey will utilise Multibeam Echosounder (MBES) to characterise the seabed across the site. Although the vessel is uncrewed, it is monitored and controlled throughout the 24-hour operations, piloted remotely using 360-degree cameras and other navigational aids.

4. Safety Precautions

The USV is equipped with the following to make it conspicuous to other marine traffic:

- AIS
- Navigation Lights & Sound Signal
- Active Radar Reflector
- Superstructure Painted Yellow

All vessels operating within this area are requested to avoid contact with the vessel and be aware of the operational area during this period.

5. Contact Details

Any enquiries about these operations should be directed to the following:

- Michael Lewis (Project Manager) +353 87 7964958 michael.lewis@xocean.com
- JP Kearns (Marine Superintendent): +353 87 0518601 jp.kearns@xocean.com
- Kevin Harnett (COO) +353 87 9753797 kevin.harnett@xocean.com
- James Ives (CEO) +353 87 1235175 james.ives@xocean.com

All mariners are reminded of their responsibilities under the International Collision Regulations and are reminded of [Marine Notice No. 17 of 2007](#), which gives general advice in relation to the activities of vessels engaged in survey work for hydrographic, seismic, fishing research and underwater operations.

The International Regulations for Prevention of Collisions at Sea (COLREGS) are implemented in Irish law by the *Merchant Shipping (Collision Regulations) (Ships and Water Craft on the Water) Order 2012* [S.I. No. 507 of 2012], and the *Signals of Distress (Ships) Rules 2012* [S.I. No.170 of 2012]. [See Marine Notice No. 06 of 2013.](#) These Statutory Instruments may be purchased by mail order from Government Publications, Office of Public Works, 52 St. Stephen's Green, Dublin 2. Tel: (01) 6476834/1890-213434. They are also available online at: www.irishstatutebook.ie.

Note: Marine Notices are issued purely for maritime safety and navigation reasons and should not be construed as conferring rights or granting permissions.

Irish Maritime Administration,
Department of Transport,
Leeson Lane, Dublin 2, D02 TR60, Ireland.

24/01/2022

Encl: Appendix 1 – Map indicating the operational area
Appendix 2 – Vessel details

For any technical assistance in relation to this Marine Notice, please contact:
The Marine Survey Office, email: MSO@transport.gov.ie
For general enquiries, please contact the Maritime Safety Policy Division, email:
MaritimeSafetyPolicyDivision@transport.gov.ie
Written enquiries concerning Marine Notices should be addressed to:
Dept. of Transport, Maritime Safety Policy Division, Leeson Lane, Dublin 2, D02 TR60, Ireland.
email: MarineNotices@transport.gov.ie or visit us at: www.gov.ie/transport

Appendix 2: Vessel details XO-450 type USV

Name:	X-09 Uncrewed
Maritime Mobile Service Identity (MMSI):	250006267
Length:	4.5m
Beam:	2.2m
Speed:	3.5kts
Draught:	1.5m
Tonnage:	750kg

