



Q&A Webinar Archaeology HKN

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Questions: from the audience

Answers given by: Seger van den Brenk (Periplus), Robert van Lil (Periplus), Cynthia Mors (RVO.nl)

Question: When are objects considered as Cultural Heritage?

Answer: In the past all objects older than 50 years could be assigned as cultural heritage, but at present it also depends on the public awareness, for example objects from Second World War are in the spotlight of the public and therefore are considered to be of cultural heritage.

Question: Is it required that archaeologist review newly acquired data, e.g. from site investigations prior to construction?

Answer: No, this is not required as long as you are outside the buffer zones of the archaeological targets.

Question: What was the magnetometer runline separation in this 2017 survey?

Answer: The line spacing was 100 meters. Therefore, the magnetic anomalies may appear smaller than they are in reality.

Question: Does this mean that all 35 anomalies located within Wind Farm Site will have a 100m exclusion zone?

Answer: That is indeed the case that all these objects will have this 100 m exclusion zone.

Question: Are all these objects checked?

Answer: No, most of the objects have been found by means of geophysical surveys by the Hydrographic Service in the past, but have not been identified yet. A few of the objects have been investigated by ROV or divers, but only a small amount. Therefore most of the objects have been classified as 'unknown' objects.

Question: Am I correct that in the end only 12 objects of 244 have archaeological potential and should be taken into account with a 100 m buffer. No buffer around the unknown objects?

Answer: Correct. The majority of the objects are not considered to be of archaeological value because they are too small or can be interpreted as recent objects (for example lost chains or anchors) or natural objects (like boulders or lumps of clay).

Question: Was there a cross check between SSS and magneto?

Answer: Yes, there was a cross check, but due to the linespacing (100m) the locations of the magnetometer anomalies may not be accurate.

Question: Can you elaborate on the 'watching brief'?

Answer: A watching brief is an archaeological guidance by an archaeological company; this does not mean that an archaeologist has to be present on board during the installation activities. When an unexpected archaeological artefact is found you will consult the archaeological party to report the find to the Competent Authority and deal with the further actions to be taken, thus limiting the down time of the offshore activities.