



Marine and Coastal

Supporting sustainable marine
and coastal environments

Providing the scientific expertise, environmental evidence and practical support needed to understand complex marine environments, manage risk and deliver projects responsibly.





Cura Terrae is a leading environmental services group dedicated to helping organisations understand and manage their environmental responsibilities and deliver more sustainable outcomes. Bringing together five specialist environmental divisions, we provide a broad range of expertise, services and solutions to clients across a diverse range of sectors.



Experts in Marine & Coastal

Protecting and enhancing our marine and coastal environments

Marine, coastal and estuarine environments present complex environmental, technical and regulatory challenges. The successful delivery of projects depends on a thorough understanding of these environments, the early identification of constraints, and the development of robust evidence to support informed decision-making.

Our Marine & Coastal specialists work with developers, infrastructure providers, regulators, port and harbour operators, local authorities and conservation organisations, providing environmental expertise from early feasibility and baseline assessment through consenting, construction and long-term monitoring.

By bringing together specialists across coastal processes, ecology, environmental assessment, consenting, water, sediment and dredging, we help clients manage environmental risk, navigate regulatory requirements and deliver sustainable projects with confidence.

Areas of Expertise

- Coastal Processes & Climate Resilience
- Marine & Coastal Ecology
- Marine Development, Consenting & Compliance
- Marine Dredging

Assembling the right team

Our multidisciplinary approach enables us to consider the wider environmental picture, bringing together the right technical expertise around the needs of each project.

Coastal Processes & Climate Resilience

Understanding coastal change to
build resilience for the future

Coastal environments are dynamic, coastal change resulting from erosion, sediment transport and flooding can impact communities, infrastructure and development proposals. Climate change is resulting in rising sea levels and more intense storms, accelerating coastal change.

Understanding how a coastline behaves — and how it may change in the future — provides the evidence needed to manage risk, inform design and make more resilient long-term decisions.

Our specialists combine coastal science, engineering and environmental expertise to assess coastal processes, predict the impacts of climate change and identify practical, sustainable solutions. We help clients reduce environmental and infrastructure risks, meet regulatory requirements and improve the resilience of coastal assets and communities.

Areas of Expertise

- ▶ Coastal Geomorphology Survey and Assessment
- ▶ Hydrodynamic, Wave & Sediment Transport Modelling
- ▶ Coastal and Intertidal Monitoring
- ▶ Coastal Change Management and Adaptation
- ▶ Coastal Erosion Support / Coastal Protection Design
- ▶ Flood Risk Assessment



Marine & Coastal Ecology

Understanding marine ecosystems
to protect and enhance what matters

Marine and coastal habitats can support complex and sensitive ecological communities. Establishing a clear understanding of these environments is critical to environmental assessment, consenting and responsible project delivery.

Our marine ecologists provide support throughout the project lifecycle, from baseline studies and assessment through to licensing, construction support and ecological monitoring.

We help clients understand potential ecological constraints and impacts, develop appropriate responses and provide the evidence needed to support environmentally responsible decisions.

Areas of Expertise

- ▶ Marine Baseline Studies
- ▶ Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA)
- ▶ Ornithology
- ▶ Ecological Impact Assessment (EclA)
- ▶ European Protected Species (EPS) licensing
- ▶ Marine Mammal Observers (MMOs)
- ▶ Ecological Clerks of Works (ECoW)



Marine Development, Consenting & Compliance

Navigating environmental requirements
to keep projects moving

Marine and coastal projects can involve multiple environmental disciplines, regulatory requirements and stakeholder interests.

Understanding what is required from the outset — and having the right evidence in place — can help reduce uncertainty, manage environmental risk and keep projects moving.

Our specialists support clients through the assessment, consenting and compliance process, coordinating environmental inputs and providing practical advice tailored to the needs of each project.

Areas of Expertise

- ▶ Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)
- ▶ Dredge/Construction Environmental Management Plans (DEMP / CEMP)
- ▶ Decommissioning Waste Assessment & Mapping
- ▶ Carbon Assessment
- ▶ Air Quality
- ▶ Terrestrial Noise Assessment
- ▶ Geo-Environmental
- ▶ Marine and Terrestrial Archaeology
- ▶ Landscape and Seascape Visual Impact Assessment



Marine Dredging

Providing the evidence to make
informed decisions below the surface

Understanding marine water and sediment conditions is critical to many development, dredging and environmental management decisions.

Reliable sampling, monitoring, assessment and technical interpretation can help establish baseline conditions, understand potential impacts and provide the evidence required for regulatory and licensing processes.

Our specialists work with clients to understand marine water and sediment environments and manage the environmental considerations associated with dredging and disposal.



Areas of Expertise

- ▶ Sediment Sampling Field Services
- ▶ Sediment Quality Risk Assessment
- ▶ Best Practicable Environmental Option (BPEO) Reporting
- ▶ Dredge Sediment Plume Dispersal Modelling
- ▶ Dredge Design Modelling & Quantification
- ▶ Water Framework Directive Assessment
- ▶ Water Quality Monitoring
- ▶ Licensing Support Services



Navigating complex marine projects with confidence

From environmental assessment and technical evidence to licensing and consenting, we help clients understand requirements, manage environmental risk and keep complex marine and coastal projects moving.

BAE SYSTEMS

Environmental Consenting for BAE Govan Shipyard

Environmental consenting for the infilling of the Govan Basin to create a development platform for a new BAE shipbuilding hall.

Client and challenge

BAE Systems required infilling of the Govan Basin at its Govan Shipyard to create a platform for a new ship building hall. The Cura Terrae Group was appointed by lead architect Arch Henderson (now Haskoning) to manage all environmental workstreams.

The project required simultaneous Marine Construction Licence and Terrestrial Planning consents. The preferred solution for infilling of the Govan Basin required regulatory negotiation to facilitate reuse of ~200,000m³ of River Clyde maintenance dredge arisings. This took place between May 2022 and January 2023.

Solution

The Cura Terrae Group produced the full EIA and all supporting technical reports and undertook in-house vibrocore sediment sampling to assess the geotechnical and chemical quality of the proposed maintenance dredge material to inform the project design. The Cura Terrae Group engaged directly with the Marine Directorate to confirm that maintenance dredge material from the Clyde could be licensed for basin infill under existing powers.

Key benefits

Planning and Marine Construction Licence secured in December 2022, on a tight programme

Around 200,000m³ of maintenance dredge arisings successfully beneficially reused for the basin infill



EIA and Marine Licence support for Ardrossan North Shore coastal revetment

Environmental Impact Assessment and Marine Licence Supporting for construction of a new coastal revetment.

Environmental Impact Assessment and Marine Licence Supporting for construction of a new coastal revetment to enable the regeneration of a derelict oil terminal into a mixed-use development incorporating school campus and residential development.

Client and challenge

North Ayrshire Council sought to transform an 11-hectare former oil bitumen terminal, derelict since the 1980s, into a mixed-use development incorporating a school campus and residential buildings.

To enable the redevelopment of the site a new coastal revetment was required to be constructed to protect the future development from wave predictions and flooding. The site itself had a contamination legacy associated with the former use resulting in impacted soils and groundwater. Remediating the land to an appropriate standard while securing both terrestrial planning and a Marine Construction Licence added layers of complexity to the regeneration programme.

Solution

The Cura Terrae Group produced an EIA to support the enabling work's Marine Construction Licence and Terrestrial Planning applications. The EIA considered impacts associated with the marine construction works and the terrestrial remedial works and detailed associated mitigation measures to be employed during the enabling activities. As part of this process The Cura Terrae Group also successfully applied for secondary consents including a Dredge Licence Application, Waste Management Licence Application, Car Construction Run-off Permit. The Cura Terrae Group provided further geo-environmental support including production of the Initial Remedial Strategy and ongoing technical support during the remediation works.

This project took place between June 2020 and August 2025.

Key benefits

Planning and Marine Construction Licence approval secured in 2021; enabling works completed in 2025

~30,000m³ of contaminated soils remediated and reused on site, reducing waste and project cost



Connected Expertise

Environmental challenges don't stop at the shoreline

Marine and coastal projects rarely sit within a single environmental discipline. They can involve terrestrial habitats, heritage, water, air quality, land contamination and wider environmental compliance alongside specialist marine expertise.

As part of Cura Terrae, our Marine & Coastal team can draw on specialists from across the Group, bringing together the right expertise around the needs of each project.

This gives clients access to specialist marine knowledge alongside complementary environmental services through one connected team — helping to reduce complexity, improve coordination and provide a more complete understanding of environmental risks and opportunities.

Land & Nature

Protecting and enhancing the natural and historic environment

- ▶ Nature Services
- ▶ Historic Environment
- ▶ Water & Engineering
- ▶ Environmental Contracting & Site Services
- ▶ Environmental Design & Assessment

Water

Delivering intelligent water and wastewater solutions

- ▶ Water Quality Monitoring
- ▶ Flow Surveys
- ▶ Flow & Load Surveys
- ▶ Water Environment Assessment & Design
- ▶ Discharge Monitoring & Compliance
- ▶ Artificial Intelligence for Wastewater Asset Optimisation
- ▶ Innovation

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Management & Compliance

Managing environmental responsibility with confidence

- ▶ Environmental Compliance
- ▶ Environmental Management
- ▶ Due Diligence & Risk
- ▶ Occupational Hygiene
- ▶ Training & Competence

Air

Understanding air pollution, managing emissions, and developing solutions

- ▶ MCERTS & UKAS Accredited Emissions Testing & Compliance
- ▶ Ambient & Indoor Air Quality Monitoring
- ▶ Air Quality Modelling and Impact Assessment
- ▶ MCERTS Continuous Emissions Monitoring Systems
- ▶ Service & Support
- ▶ Scientific & Research
- ▶ Workplace Air Monitoring





For more information

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Management & Compliance

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