



# **Development of Novel Inshore Fish Monitoring Method**

## **ECM:61898 Conditions of Contract Short Form Services**

**October 2019**

THIS CONTRACT is dated 13 July 2021

BETWEEN

**NATURAL ENGLAND** of Foss House, Kings Pool, 1-2 Peasholme Green, York YO1 7PX (the “Authority”); and

**Applied Genomics** of Brixham Environmental Laboratory, Freshwater Quarry, Brixham, Devon TQ5 8BA (the “Supplier”)

(each a “Party” and together the “Parties”).

## BACKGROUND

- a) The Authority requires the services set out in Schedule 1 (the “Services”).
- b) The Authority has awarded this contract for the Services to the Supplier and the Supplier agrees to provide the Services in accordance with the terms of the contract.

## AGREED TERMS

### 1. Definitions and Interpretation

1.1 In the Contract, unless the context requires otherwise, the following terms shall have the meanings given to them below:

‘Approval’: the prior written consent of the Authority.

‘Authority Website’: [www.naturalengland.org.uk](http://www.naturalengland.org.uk)

‘Contract Term’: the period from the Commencement Date to the Expiry Date.

‘Contracting Authority’: an organisation defined as a contracting authority in Regulation 2 of the Public Contracts Regulations 2015.

‘Controller’: has the meaning given in the GDPR.

‘Data Loss Event’: any event that results, or may result, in unauthorised access to Personal Data held by the Supplier under this Contract, and/or actual or potential loss and/or destruction of Personal Data in breach of this Contract, including any Personal Data Breach.

‘Data Protection Impact Assessment’: an assessment by the Controller of the impact of the envisaged processing on the protection of Personal Data.

‘Data Protection Legislation’: (i) the GDPR, the LED and any applicable national implementing Laws as amended from time to time (ii) the DPA 2018 to the extent that it relates to processing of personal data and privacy; and (iii) all applicable Law about the processing of personal data and privacy.

‘Data Protection Officer’: has the meaning given in the GDPR.

‘Data Subject’: has the meaning given in the GDPR.

‘Data Subject Request’: a request made by, or on behalf of, a Data Subject in accordance with rights granted pursuant to the Data Protection Legislation to access their Personal Data.

‘Default’: a breach by the Supplier or Staff of its obligations under the Contract or any other default, negligence or negligent statement in connection with the Contract.

‘Dispute Resolution Procedure’: the dispute resolution procedure set out in Clause 20.

‘DPA 2018’: the Data Protection Act 2018.

‘Force Majeure’: any cause affecting the performance by a Party of its obligations under the Contract arising from acts, events, omissions or non-events beyond its reasonable control, including acts of God, riots, war, acts of terrorism, fire, flood, storm or earthquake and any disaster, but excluding any industrial dispute relating to the Supplier, its Staff or any other failure in the Supplier’s supply chain.

‘Fraud’: any offence under laws creating offences in respect of fraudulent acts or at common law in respect of fraudulent acts in relation to the Contract or defrauding or attempting to defraud or conspiring to defraud the Authority or any other Contracting Authority.

‘GDPR’: the General Data Protection Regulation (Regulation (EU) 2016/679).

‘Good Industry Practice’: standards, practices, methods and procedures conforming to the law and the degree of skill and care, diligence, prudence and foresight which would reasonably and ordinarily be expected from a skilled and experienced person or body engaged in a similar type of undertaking under similar circumstances.

‘Goods’: all products, documents, and materials developed by the Supplier or its agents, Sub-contractors, consultants, suppliers and Staff in relation to the Services in any form, including computer programs, data, reports and specifications (including drafts).

‘Intellectual Property Rights’: any and all intellectual property rights of any nature anywhere in the world whether registered, registerable or otherwise, including patents, utility models, trademarks, registered designs and domain names, applications for any of the foregoing, trade or business names, goodwill, copyright and rights in the nature of copyright, design rights, rights in databases, moral rights, know-how and any other intellectual property rights which subsist in computer software, computer programs, websites, documents, information, techniques, business methods, drawings, logos, instruction manuals, lists and procedures and particulars of customers, marketing methods and procedures and advertising literature, including the “look and feel” of any websites.

‘IP Materials’: all Intellectual Property Rights which are:

- a) furnished to or made available to the Supplier by or on behalf of the Authority;  
or
- b) created by the Supplier or Staff in the course of providing the Services or exclusively for the purpose of providing the Services.

‘Law’: any law, statute, subordinate legislation within the meaning of section 21(1) of the Interpretation Act 1978, bye-law, enforceable right within the meaning of section 2 of the European Communities Act 1972, regulation, order, regulatory policy, mandatory guidance or code of practice, judgment of a relevant court of law, or directives or requirements of any regulatory body with which the relevant Party is bound to comply.

‘LED’: Law Enforcement Directive (Directive (EU) 2016/680).

‘Personal Data’: has the meaning given in the GDPR.

‘Personal Data Breach’: has the meaning given in the GDPR.

‘Price’: the price for the Services set out in Schedule 2.

‘Processor’: has the meaning given in the GDPR.

‘Protective Measures’: appropriate technical and organisational measures which may include: pseudonymising and encrypting Personal Data, ensuring confidentiality, integrity, availability and resilience of systems and services, ensuring that availability of and access to Personal Data can be restored in a timely manner after an incident, and regularly assessing and evaluating the effectiveness of the such measures adopted by it.

‘Replacement Supplier’: any third party supplier of services appointed by the Authority to replace the Supplier.

‘Staff’: all employees, staff, other workers, agents and consultants of the Supplier and of any Sub-contractors who are engaged in providing the Services from time to time.

‘Sub-contract’: any contract between the Supplier and a third party pursuant to which the Supplier agrees to source the provision of any of the Services from that third party.

‘Sub-contractor’: third parties which enter into a Sub-contract with the Supplier.

‘Sub-processor’: any third party appointed to process Personal Data on behalf of the Supplier related to this Contract.

‘Valid Invoice’: an invoice containing the information set out in Clause 3.3.

‘VAT’: Value Added Tax.

‘Working Day’: Monday to Friday excluding any public holidays in England and Wales.

1.2 The interpretation and construction of the Contract is subject to the following provisions:

- a) words importing the singular meaning include where the context so admits the plural meaning and vice versa;
- b) words importing the masculine include the feminine and the neuter;
- c) reference to any statutory provision, enactment, order, regulation or other similar instrument are construed as a reference to the statutory provision enactment, order regulation or instrument (including any instrument of the European Union) as amended, replaced, consolidated or re-enacted from time to time, and include any orders, regulations, codes of practice, instruments or other subordinate legislation made under it;
- d) reference to any person includes natural persons and partnerships, firms and other incorporated bodies and all other legal persons of whatever kind and however constituted and their successors and permitted assigns or transferees;
- e) the headings are inserted for ease of reference only and do not affect the interpretation or construction of the Contract;
- f) references to the Services include references to the Goods;
- g) references to Clauses and Schedules are to clauses and schedules of the Contract; and
- h) the Schedules form part of the Contract and have affect as if set out in full in the body of the Contract and any reference to the Contract includes the Schedules.

## **2. Contract and Contract Term**

2.1 The Supplier shall provide the Authority with the services set out in Schedule 1 (the “Services”) in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Contract.

2.2 The Contract is effective on 13 July 2021 (the “Commencement Date”) and ends on 11 February 2022 (the “Expiry Date”) unless terminated early or extended in accordance with the Contract.

## **3. Price and Payment**

3.1 In consideration of the Supplier providing the Services in accordance with the Contract, the Authority shall pay the Price to the Supplier.

3.2 The Authority shall:

- a) provide the Supplier with a purchase order number ("PO Number"); and
- b) pay all undisputed sums due to the Supplier within 30 days of receipt of a Valid Invoice.

3.3 A Valid Invoice shall:

- a) contain the correct PO Number;
- b) express the sum invoiced in sterling; and
- c) include VAT at the prevailing rate as a separate sum or a statement that the Supplier is not registered for VAT.

3.4 The Supplier shall submit invoices following completion of water sample analysis and again at the completion of the contract to the Authority at the following addresses: Accounts-Payable.neg@sscl.gse.gov.uk or SSCL AP, Natural England, PO Box 790, Newport Gwent, NP10 8FZ.

3.5 The Supplier acknowledges that:

- a) if the Supplier does not include VAT on an invoice or does not include VAT at the correct rate, the Authority will not be liable to pay the Supplier any additional VAT;
- b) invoices which do not include the information set out in Clause 3.3 will be rejected.

3.6 Any late payment of an undisputed amount is not made by the Authority by the due date, then the Authority shall pay the Supplier interest at the interest rate specified in the Late Payment of Commercial Debts (Interest) Act 1998.

3.7 The Supplier shall not suspend provision of the Services if any payment is overdue.

3.8 The Supplier indemnifies the Authority on a continuing basis against any liability, including any interest, penalties or costs incurred, which is levied, demanded or assessed on the Authority at any time in respect of the Supplier's failure to account for or to pay any VAT relating to payments made to the Supplier under the Contract.

#### **4. Extension of the Contract**

4.1 The Authority may, by written notice to the Supplier, extend the Contract for a further period up to 0 months.

## **5. Warranties and Representations**

5.1 The Supplier warrants and represents for the Contract Term that:

- a) it has full capacity and authority and all necessary consents and regulatory approvals to enter into the Contract and to provide the Services;
- b) the Contract is executed by a duly authorised representative of the Supplier;
- c) in entering the Contract it has not committed any Fraud;
- d) as at the Commencement Date, all information contained in its tender or other offer made by the Supplier to the Authority remains true, accurate and not misleading, save as may have been specifically disclosed in writing to the Authority prior to execution of the Contract and that it will advise the Authority of any fact, matter or circumstance of which it may become aware which would render such information false or misleading;
- e) no claim is being asserted and no litigation, arbitration or administrative proceeding is presently in progress or, to the best of its knowledge and belief, pending or threatened against it or any of its assets which will or might have a material adverse effect on its ability to perform its obligations under the Contract;
- f) it is not subject to any contractual obligation, compliance with which is likely to have a material adverse effect on its ability to provide the Services;
- g) no proceedings or other steps have been taken and not discharged (or, to the best of its knowledge, are threatened) for the winding up of the Supplier or for its dissolution or for the appointment of a receiver, administrative receiver, liquidator, manager, administrator or similar in relation to any of the Supplier's assets or revenue;
- h) it owns, or has obtained or is able to obtain valid licences for, all Intellectual Property Rights that are necessary to provide the Services; and
- i) Staff shall be engaged on terms which do not entitle them to any Intellectual Property Right in any IP Materials;
- j) it will comply with its obligations under the Immigration, Asylum and Nationality Act 2006.

5.2 The Supplier warrants and represents that in the 3 years prior to the date of the Contract:

- a) it has conducted all financial accounting and reporting activities in compliance with generally accepted accounting principles and has complied with relevant securities;

b) it has not done or omitted to do anything which could have a material adverse effect on its assets, financial condition or position as a going concern or its ability to provide the Services; and

c) it has complied with all relevant tax laws and regulations and no tax return submitted to a relevant tax authority has been found to be incorrect under any anti-abuse rules.

## **6. Service Standards**

6.1 The Supplier shall provide the Services or procure that they are provided with reasonable skill and care, in accordance with Good Industry Practice prevailing from time to time and with Staff who are appropriately trained and qualified.

6.2 If the Services do not meet the Specification, the Supplier shall at its own expense re-schedule and carry out the Services in accordance with the Specification within such reasonable time as may be specified by the Authority.

6.3 The Authority may by written notice to the Supplier reject any of the Goods which fail to conform to the approved sample or fail to meet the Specification. Such notice shall be given within a reasonable time after delivery to the Authority of the Goods. If the Authority rejects any of the Goods it may (without prejudice to its other rights and remedies) either:

a) have the Goods promptly either repaired by the Supplier or replaced by the Supplier with Goods which conform in all respects with the approved sample or with the Specification and due delivery shall not be deemed to have taken place until the repair or replacement has occurred;  
or

b) treat the Contract as discharged by the Supplier's breach and obtain a refund (if the Goods have already been paid for) from the Supplier in respect of the Goods concerned together with payment of any additional expenditure reasonably incurred by the Authority in obtaining replacements.

6.4 The Authority will be deemed to have accepted the Goods if it expressly states the same in writing or fails to reject the Goods in accordance with Clause 6.3.

6.5 If the Authority issues a receipt note for delivery of the Goods it shall not constitute any acknowledgement of the condition, quantity or nature of those Goods or the Authority's acceptance of them.



6.6 The Supplier hereby guarantees the Goods against faulty materials or workmanship for such period as may be specified in the Specification or, if no period is so specified, for 3 years from the date of acceptance. If the Authority shall within such guarantee period or within 30 Working Days thereafter give notice in writing to the Supplier of any defect in any of the Goods as may have arisen during such guarantee period under proper and normal use, the Supplier shall (without prejudice to any other rights and remedies which the Authority may have) promptly remedy such defects (whether by repair or replacement as the Authority shall choose) free of charge.

6.7 Any Goods rejected or returned by the Authority pursuant to this Clause 6 shall be returned to the Supplier at the Supplier's risk and expense.

## **7. Termination**

7.1 The Authority may terminate the Contract at any time by giving 30 days written notice to the Supplier.

7.2 The Authority may terminate the Contract in whole or in part by notice to the Supplier with immediate effect and without compensation to the Supplier if:

- a) being an individual, the Supplier is the subject of a bankruptcy order; has made a composition or arrangement with his creditors; dies or is adjudged incapable of managing his affairs within the meaning of Part VII of the Mental Health Act 1983;
- b) being a company, the Supplier goes into compulsory winding up, or passes a resolution for voluntary winding up, or suffers an administrator, administrative receiver or receiver and manager to be appointed or to take possession over the whole or any part of its assets, is dissolved; or has entered into a voluntary arrangement with its creditors under the Insolvency Act 1986, or has proposed or entered into any scheme of arrangement or composition with its creditors under section 425 of the Companies Act 1985; or has been dissolved;
- c) being a partnership, limited liability partnership or unregistered company, the Supplier or an individual member of it goes into compulsory winding up; is dissolved; suffers an administrator or receiver or manager to be appointed over the whole or any part of its assets; or has entered into a composition or voluntary arrangement with its creditors;
- d) the Supplier is in any case affected by any similar occurrence to any of the above in any jurisdiction;
- e) subject to Clause 7.3, the Supplier commits a Default;
- f) there is a change of control of the Supplier; or
- g) the Supplier or Staff commits Fraud in relation to the Contract or any other contract with the Crown (including the Authority).

7.3 If the Supplier commits a Default which is capable of being remedied, the Authority may terminate the Contract pursuant to Clause 7.2(e) only if the Supplier has failed to remedy the Default within 20 Working Days of being notified of the Default by the Authority.

## **8. Consequences of Expiry or Termination**

8.1 If the Authority terminates the Contract under Clause 7.2:

- a) and then makes other arrangements for the supply of the Services, the Authority may recover from the Supplier the cost reasonably incurred of making those other arrangements and any additional expenditure incurred by the Authority throughout the remainder of the Contract Term; and
- b) no further payments shall be payable by the Authority to the Supplier (for the Services supplied by the Supplier prior to termination and in accordance with the Contract but where the payment has yet to be made by the Authority), until the Authority has established the final cost of making the other arrangements envisaged under Clause 8.1(a).

8.2 On expiry or termination of the Contract the Supplier shall:

- a) co-operate fully with the Authority to ensure an orderly migration of the Services to the Authority or, at the Authority's request, a Replacement Supplier; and
- b) procure that all data and other material belonging to the Authority (and all media of any nature containing information and data belonging to the Authority or relating to the Services) shall be delivered promptly to the Authority.

8.3 Save as otherwise expressly provided in the Contract:

- a) termination or expiry of the Contract shall be without prejudice to any rights, remedies or obligations accrued under the Contract prior to termination or expiration and nothing in the Contract shall prejudice the right of either Party to recover any amount outstanding at such termination or expiry; and
- b) termination of the Contract shall not affect the continuing rights, remedies or obligations of the Authority or the Supplier under Clauses 3, 8 to 13, 17, 26 and 28.

## **9. Liability, Indemnity and Insurance**

9.1 Notwithstanding any other provision in the Contract, neither Party excludes or limits liability to the other Party for:

- a) death or personal injury caused by its negligence;
- b) Fraud or fraudulent misrepresentation; or
- c) any breach of any obligations implied by section 12 of the Sale of Goods Act 1979 or Parts I and II of the Supply of Goods and Services Act 1982.

9.2 The Supplier shall indemnify and keep indemnified the Authority against all claims, proceedings, demands, actions, damages, costs, breach of statutory duty, expenses and any other liabilities which arise in tort (including negligence) default or breach of the Contract to the extent that any such loss or claim is due to the breach of contract, negligence, wilful default or Fraud of itself or of Staff or Sub-contractors save to the extent that the same is directly caused by the negligence, breach of the Contract or applicable law by the Authority.

9.3 The Supplier shall not exclude liability for additional operational, administrative costs and/or expenses or wasted expenditure resulting from the direct Default of the Supplier.

9.4 Subject to Clause 9.1:

a) neither Party is liable to the other for any:

- (i) loss of profits, business, revenue or goodwill;
- (ii) loss of savings (whether anticipated or otherwise); and/or
- (iii) indirect or consequential loss or damage

b) each Party's total aggregate liability in respect of all claims, losses damages, whether arising from tort (including negligence), breach of contract or otherwise under or in connection with the Contract, shall not exceed £1,000,000 (one million pounds) or 2x the value of the Contract whichever is the lower amount.

9.5 The Supplier shall, with effect from the Commencement Date and for such period as necessary to enable the Supplier to comply with its obligations under the Contract, take out and maintain with a reputable insurance company a policy or policies of insurance providing an adequate level of cover in respect of all risks which may be incurred by the Supplier, arising out of the Supplier's performance of its obligations under the Contract, including employer's liability, death or personal injury, loss of or damage to property or any other loss, including financial loss arising from any advice given or omitted to be given by the Supplier. Such insurance shall be maintained for the Contract Term and for a minimum of 6 years following the end of the Contract.

9.6 The Supplier shall give the Authority, on request, copies of all insurance policies referred to in this Clause or a broker's verification of insurance to demonstrate that the appropriate cover is in place, together with receipts or other evidence of payment of the latest premiums due under those policies.

9.7 If the Supplier fails to comply with Clauses 9.5 and 9.6 the Authority may make alternative arrangements to protect its interests and may recover the costs of such arrangements from the Supplier.

9.8 The provisions of any insurance or the amount of cover shall not relieve the Supplier of any liabilities under the Contract.

9.9 The Supplier shall not take any action or fail to take any reasonable action, or (to the extent that it is reasonably within its power) permit anything to occur in relation to the Supplier, which would entitle any insurer to refuse to pay any claim under any insurance policy in which the Supplier is an insured, a co-insured or additional insured person.

## **10. Confidentiality and Data Protection**

10.1. Subject to Clause 10.2, unless agreed otherwise in writing, the Supplier shall, and shall procure that Staff shall, keep confidential all matters relating to the Contract.

10.2. Clause 10.1 shall not apply to any disclosure of information:

- a) required by any applicable law;
- b) that is reasonably required by persons engaged by the Supplier in performing the Supplier's obligations under the Contract;
- c) where the Supplier can demonstrate that such information is already generally available and in the public domain other than as a result of a breach of Clause 10.1; or
- d) which is already lawfully in the Supplier's possession prior to its disclosure by the Authority.

10.3. The Parties acknowledge that for the purposes of the Data Protection Legislation, the Authority is the Controller and the Supplier is the Processor unless otherwise specified in Schedule 3. The only processing that the Supplier is authorised to do is listed in Schedule 3 by the Authority and may not be determined by the Supplier.

10.4. The Supplier shall notify the Authority immediately if it considers that any of the Authority's instructions infringe the Data Protection Legislation.

10.5. The Supplier shall provide all reasonable assistance to the Authority in the preparation of any Data Protection Impact Assessment prior to commencing any processing. Such assistance may, at the discretion of the Authority, include:

- a. a systematic description of the envisaged processing operations and the purpose of the processing;
- b. an assessment of the necessity and proportionality of the processing operations in relation to the Services;
- c. an assessment of the risks to the rights and freedoms of Data Subjects; and
- d. the measures envisaged to address the risks, including safeguards, security measures and mechanisms to ensure the protection of Personal Data.

10.6. The Supplier shall, in relation to any Personal Data processed in connection with its obligations under this Contract:

a. process that Personal Data only in accordance with Schedule 3 unless the Supplier is required to do otherwise by Law. If it is so required the Supplier shall promptly notify the Authority before processing the Personal Data unless prohibited by Law;

b. ensure that it has in place Protective Measures which are appropriate to protect against a Data Loss Event, which the Authority may reasonably reject (but failure to reject shall not amount to approval by the Authority of the adequacy of the Protective Measures), having taken account of the:

- (i) nature of the data to be protected;
- (ii) harm that might result from a Data Loss Event;
- (iii) state of technological development; and
- (iv) cost of implementing any measures;

c. ensure that:

(i) the Staff do not process Personal Data except in accordance with this Contract (and in particular Schedule 3);

(ii) it takes all reasonable steps to ensure the reliability and integrity of any Staff who have access to the Personal Data and ensure that they:

A. are aware of and comply with the Supplier's duties under this clause;

B. are subject to appropriate confidentiality undertakings with the Supplier or any Sub-processor;

C. are informed of the confidential nature of the Personal Data and do not publish, disclose or divulge any of the Personal Data to any third party unless directed in writing to do so by the Authority or as otherwise permitted by this Contract; and

D. have undergone adequate training in the use, care, protection and handling of Personal Data; and

d. not transfer Personal Data outside of the European Union unless the prior written consent of the Authority has been obtained and the following conditions are fulfilled:

(i) the Authority or the Supplier has provided appropriate safeguards in relation to the transfer (whether in accordance with the GDPR Article 46 or LED Article 37) as determined by the Authority;

- (ii) the Data Subject has enforceable rights and effective legal remedies;
  - (iii) the Supplier complies with its obligations under the Data Protection Legislation by providing an adequate level of protection to any Personal Data that is transferred (or, if it is not so bound, uses its best endeavours to assist the Authority in meeting its obligations); and
  - (iv) the Supplier complies with any reasonable instructions notified to it in advance by the Authority with respect to the processing of the Personal Data;
- e. at the written direction of the Authority, delete or return Personal Data (and any copies of it) to the Authority on termination of the Contract unless the Supplier is required by Law to retain the Personal Data.

10.7. Subject to clause 10.8 the Supplier shall notify the Authority immediately if, in relation to any Personal Data processed in connection with its obligations under this Contract, it:

- a. receives a Data Subject Request (or purported Data Subject Request);
- b. receives a request to rectify, block or erase any Personal Data;
- c. receives any other request, complaint or communication relating to either Party's obligations under the Data Protection Legislation;
- d. receives any communication from the Information Commissioner or any other regulatory authority;
- e. receives a request from any third party for disclosure of Personal Data where compliance with such request is required or purported to be required by Law; or
- f. becomes aware of a Data Loss Event.

10.8. The Supplier's obligation to notify under clause 10.7 shall include the provision of further information to the Authority in phases, as details become available.

10.9. Taking into account the nature of the processing, the Supplier shall provide the Authority with full assistance in relation to either Party's obligations under Data Protection Legislation in relation to any Personal Data processed in connection with its obligations under this Contract and any complaint, communication or request made under Clause 10.7 (and insofar as possible within the timescales reasonably required by the Authority) including by promptly providing:

- a. the Authority with full details and copies of the complaint, communication or request;
- b. such assistance as is reasonably requested by the Authority to enable the Authority to comply with a Data Subject Request within the relevant timescales set out in the Data Protection Legislation;

- c. the Authority, at its request, with any Personal Data it holds in relation to a Data Subject;
- d. assistance as requested by the Authority following any Data Loss Event;
- e. assistance as requested by the Authority with respect to any request from the Information Commissioner's Office, or any consultation by the Authority with the Information Commissioner's Office.

10.10. The Supplier shall maintain complete and accurate records and information to demonstrate its compliance with this clause 10. This requirement does not apply where the Supplier employs fewer than 250 staff, unless:

- a. the Authority determines that the processing is not occasional;
- b. the Authority determines the processing includes special categories of data as referred to in Article 9(1) of the GDPR or Personal Data relating to criminal convictions and offences referred to in Article 10 of the GDPR; or
- c. the Authority determines that the processing is likely to result in a risk to the rights and freedoms of Data Subjects.

10.11. The Supplier shall allow for audits of its Personal Data processing activity by the Authority or the Authority's designated auditor.

10.12. Each Party shall designate its own Data Protection Officer if required by the Data Protection Legislation.

10.13. Before allowing any Sub-processor to process any Personal Data related to this Contract, the Supplier must:

- a. notify the Authority in writing of the intended Sub-processor and processing;
- b. obtain the written consent of the Authority; and
- c. enter into a written agreement with the Sub-processor which give effect to the terms set out in this clause 10 such that they apply to the Sub-processor; and.
- d. provide the Authority with such information regarding the Sub-processor as the Authority may reasonably require.

10.14. The Supplier shall remain fully liable for all acts or omissions of any of its Sub-processors.

10.15. The Authority may, at any time on not less than 30 Working Days' notice, revise this clause by replacing it with any applicable controller to processor standard clauses or similar terms forming part of an applicable certification scheme (which shall apply when incorporated by attachment to this Contract).

10.16. The Parties agree to take account of any non-mandatory guidance issued by the Information Commissioner's Office. The Authority may on not less than 30 Working Days' notice to the Supplier amend this Contract to ensure that it complies with any guidance issued by the Information Commissioner's Officer.

10.17. This clause 10 shall apply during the Contract Term and indefinitely after its expiry.

## **11. Freedom of Information**

11.1. The Supplier acknowledges that the Authority is subject to the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 (the "Information Acts") and may be required to disclose certain information to third parties including information relating to this Contract pursuant to the Information Acts.

11.2. If the Authority receives a request for information relating to the Contract pursuant to either of the Information Acts, the Authority may disclose such information as necessary in order to comply with its duties under the Information Acts.

## **12. Intellectual Property Rights**

12.1 The IP Materials shall vest in the Authority and the Supplier shall not, and shall procure that Staff shall not, use or disclose any IP Materials without Approval save to the extent necessary for the Supplier to provide the Services.

12.2 The Supplier shall indemnify and keep indemnified the Authority and the Crown against all actions, claims, demands, losses, damages, costs and expenses and other liabilities which the Authority or the Crown may suffer or incur arising from any infringement or alleged infringement of any Intellectual Property Rights by the availability of the Services except to the extent that they have been caused by or contributed to by the Authority's acts or omissions.

## **13. Prevention of Corruption and Fraud**

13.1. The Supplier shall act within the provisions of the Bribery Act 2010.

13.2. The Supplier shall take all reasonable steps, in accordance with Good Industry Practice, to prevent Fraud by Staff and the Supplier (including its shareholders, members and directors) in connection with the receipt of money from the Authority.

13.3. The Supplier shall notify the Authority immediately if it has reason to suspect that Fraud has occurred, is occurring or is likely to occur.

## **14. Discrimination**

14.1 The Supplier shall not unlawfully discriminate within the meaning and scope of any law, enactment, order or regulation relating to discrimination in employment.



14.2 The Supplier shall notify the Authority immediately in writing as soon as it becomes aware of any legal proceedings threatened or issued against it by Staff on the grounds of discrimination arising in connection with the Services.

## **15. Environmental and Ethical Policies**

15.1 The Supplier shall provide the Services in accordance with the Authority's policies on the environment, sustainable and ethical procurement and timber and wood derived products, details of which are available on the Authority Website.

## **16. Health and Safety**

16.1 Each Party will promptly notify the other Party of any health and safety hazards which may arise in connection with the Services.

16.2 While on the Authority's premises, the Supplier shall comply with the Authority's health and safety policies.

16.3 The Supplier shall notify the Authority immediately if any incident occurs in providing the Services on the Authority's premises which causes or may cause personal injury.

16.4 The Supplier shall comply with the requirements of the Health and Safety at Work etc Act 1974, and with any other acts, orders, regulations and codes of practice relating to health and safety, which may apply to Staff and other persons working on the Authority's premises when providing the Services.

16.5 The Supplier's health and safety policy statement (as required by the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974) shall be made available to the Authority on request.

## **17. Monitoring and Audit**

17.1 The Authority may monitor the provision of the Services and the Supplier shall co-operate and shall procure that Staff and any Sub-contractors co-operate, with the Authority in carrying out the monitoring at no additional charge to the Authority.

17.2 The Supplier shall keep and maintain until 6 years after the end of the Contract Term full and accurate records of the Contract including the Services supplied under it and all payments made by the Authority. The Supplier shall allow the Authority, the National Audit Office and the Comptroller and Auditor General reasonable access to those records and on such terms as they may request.

17.3 The Supplier agrees to provide, free of charge, whenever requested, copies of audit reports obtained by the Supplier in relation to the Services.

## **18. Transfer and Sub-Contracting**

18.1 The Supplier shall not transfer, charge, assign, sub-contract or in any other way dispose of the Contract or any part of it without Approval.

18.2 If the Supplier enters into any Sub-contract in connection with the Contract it shall:

- a) remain responsible to the Authority for the performance of its obligations under the Contract;
- b) be responsible for the acts and/or omissions of its Sub-contractors as though they are its own;
- c) impose obligations on its Sub-contractors in the same terms as those imposed on it pursuant to the Contract and shall procure that the Sub-Supplier complies with such terms;
- d) pay its Sub-contractors' undisputed invoices within 30 days of receipt.

18.3 The Authority may assign, novate or otherwise dispose of its rights and obligations under the Contract or any part thereof to:

- a) any Contracting Authority or any other body established by the Crown or under statute in order substantially to perform any of the functions that had previously been performed by the Authority; or
- b) any private sector body which performs substantially any of the functions of the Authority.

18.4 Any change in the legal status of the Authority such that it ceases to be a Contracting Authority shall not affect the validity of the Contract. In such circumstances the Contract shall bind and inure to the benefit of any successor body to the Authority.

## **19. Variation**

19.1 Subject to the provisions of this Clause 19, the Authority may change the Specification provided that such change is not a material change to the Specification (a "Variation").

19.2 The Authority may request a Variation by notifying the Supplier with sufficient information to assess the extent of the Variation and consider whether any change to the Price is required in order to implement it. Variations agreed by the Parties shall be made in writing.

19.3 If the Supplier is unable to accept the Variation or where the Parties are unable to agree a change to the Price, the Authority may:

- a) allow the Supplier to fulfil its obligations under the Contract without the Variation; or
- b) refer the request to be dealt with under the Dispute Resolution Procedure.

## **20. Dispute Resolution**

20.1 The Parties shall attempt in good faith to resolve any dispute between them arising out of the Contract within 10 Working Days of either Party notifying the other of the dispute and such efforts shall include the escalation of the dispute to the Supplier's representative and the Authority's commercial director or equivalent.

20.2 Nothing in this dispute resolution procedure shall prevent the Parties from seeking from any court of competent jurisdiction an interim order restraining the other Party from doing any act or compelling the other Party to do any act.

20.3 If the dispute cannot be resolved by the Parties pursuant to Clause 20.1 the Parties shall refer it to mediation pursuant to the procedure set out in Clauses 20.5 to 20.10.

20.4 The obligations of the Parties under the Contract shall not cease, or be suspended or delayed by the reference of a dispute to mediation and the Supplier and Staff shall comply fully with the requirements of the Contract at all times.

20.5 A neutral adviser or mediator (the "Mediator") shall be chosen by agreement between the Parties or, if they are unable to agree a Mediator within 10 Working Days after a request by one Party or if the chosen Mediator is unable to act, either Party shall within 10 Working Days from the date of the proposal to appoint a Mediator or within 10 Working Days of notice to either Party that he is unable or unwilling to act, apply to the Centre for Effective Dispute Resolution to appoint a Mediator.

20.6 The Parties shall, within 10 Working Days of the appointment of the Mediator, meet the Mediator to agree a programme for the disclosure of information and the structure to be adopted for negotiations. The Parties may at any stage seek assistance from the Centre for Effective Dispute Resolution to provide guidance on a suitable procedure.

20.7 Unless otherwise agreed, all negotiations connected with the dispute and any settlement agreement relating to it shall be conducted in confidence and without prejudice to the rights of the Parties in any future proceedings.

20.8 If the Parties reach agreement on the resolution of the dispute, the agreement shall be recorded in writing and shall be binding on the Parties once it is signed by their duly authorised representatives.

20.9 Failing agreement, either of the Parties may invite the Mediator to provide a non-binding but informative written opinion. Such opinion shall be provided on a without prejudice basis and shall not be used in evidence in any proceedings relating to the Contract without the prior written consent of both Parties.

20.10 If the Parties fail to reach agreement within 60 Working Days of the Mediator being appointed, or such longer period as may be agreed by the Parties, then the dispute may be referred to the Courts.

20.11 Subject to Clause 20.2, the Parties shall not institute court proceedings until the procedures set out in Clauses 20.1 and 20.5 to 20.10 have been completed.

## **21. Supplier's Status**

21.1 Nothing in the Contract shall be construed as constituting a partnership between the Parties or as constituting either Party as the agent for the other for any purposes except as specified by the terms of the Contract.

21.2 The Supplier shall not (and shall ensure that Staff shall not) say or do anything that might lead any person to believe that the Supplier is acting as the agent, partner or employee of the Authority.

## **22. Notices**

22.1 Notices shall be in writing and in English and shall be deemed given if signed by or on behalf of a duly authorised officer of the Party giving the notice and if left at, or sent by first class mail to the address of the receiving Party as specified in the Contract (or as amended from time to time by notice in writing to the other Party).

## **23. Entire Agreement**

23.1 The Contract constitutes the entire agreement between the Parties relating to the subject matter of the Contract. The Contract supersedes all prior negotiations, representations, arrangements and undertakings.

## **24. Third Party Rights**

24.1 No term of the Contract is intended to confer a benefit on, or be enforceable by, any person who is not a Party other than the Crown.

## **25. Waiver**

25.1 The failure of either Party to insist upon strict performance of any provision of the Contract, or the failure of either Party to exercise, or any delay in exercising, any right or remedy shall not constitute a waiver of that right or remedy and shall not cause a diminution of the obligations established by the Contract.

25.2 No waiver shall be effective unless it is expressly stated to be a waiver and communicated to the other Party in writing.

25.3 A waiver of any right or remedy arising from a breach of the Contract shall not constitute a waiver of any right or remedy arising from any other or subsequent breach of the Contract.

## **26. Publicity**

26.1 The Supplier shall not without Approval:

- a) make any press announcements or publicise the Contract or its contents in any way; or
- b) use the Authority's name or logo in any promotion or marketing or announcement.

26.2 The Authority may publish the Contract on the Authority Website or another website at its discretion.

## **27. Force Majeure**

27.1 Except to the extent that the Supplier has not complied with any business continuity plan agreed with the Authority, neither Party shall be liable for any failure to perform its obligations under the Contract if, and to the extent, that the failure is caused by act of God, war, riots, acts of terrorism, fire, flood, storm or earthquake and any disaster but excluding any industrial dispute relating to the Supplier, Staff or Sub-contractors.

27.2 If there is an event of Force Majeure, the affected Party shall use all reasonable endeavours to mitigate the effect of the event of Force Majeure on the performance of its obligations.

## **28. Governing Law and Jurisdiction**

28.1 The Contract shall be governed by and interpreted in accordance with English law and shall be subject to the jurisdiction of the Courts of England and Wales.

28.2 The submission to such jurisdiction shall not limit the right of the Authority to take proceedings against the Supplier in any other court of competent jurisdiction and the taking of proceedings in any other court of competent jurisdiction shall not preclude the taking of proceedings in any other jurisdiction whether concurrently or not.

## **29. Electronic Signature**

29.1 Acceptance of the award of this contract will be made by electronic signature carried out in accordance with the 1999 EU Directive 99/93 (Community framework for electronic signatures) and the UK Electronic Communications Act 2000.

29.2 The Contract is formed on the date on which the Supplier communicates acceptance on the Authority's electronic contract management system.

29.3 No other form of acknowledgement will be accepted.

### **30. Precedence**

In the event of and only to the extent of any conflict between the terms and conditions or the special terms below, the conflict shall be resolved in accordance with the following order of precedence:

- a) the special terms below;
- b) the main terms of the Contract (pages 1 to 15);
- c) any other document referred to in the Agreement

Unless expressly agreed, a document varied pursuant to clause 19 shall not take higher precedence than specified here.

## SCHEDULE 1 - SPECIFICATION OF SERVICES

### Specification

The Authority is Natural England. Natural England is the government's adviser for the natural environment in England. We protect England's nature and landscapes for people to enjoy and for the services they provide. Within England, we are responsible for:

- promoting nature conservation and protecting biodiversity;
- conserving and enhancing the landscape;
- securing the provision and improvement of facilities for the study, understanding and enjoyment of the natural environment;
- promoting access to the countryside and open spaces; and
- contributing to social and economic well-being through the sustainable management of the natural environment.

Natural England's priorities are to secure a healthy natural environment; a sustainable, low-carbon economy; a thriving farming sector and a sustainable, healthy and secure food supply. Further information can be found at: [Natural England](#)

### Scope of requirement

#### Background

Natural England is currently exploring applications of DNA technology in survey and monitoring of terrestrial, freshwater and marine biodiversity, with a view to increasing efficiency in our monitoring programmes.

Over the past three years, Natural England has been developing a novel DNA-based method for monitoring inshore fish populations using a programmable large-volume marine eDNA sampler (InDepth sampler; give refs to Phase 1 and 2). The proof of concept study and the Phase 2 project have highlighted a promising new technique for assessing the population diversity and change in inshore fish communities at different spatial scales and over time. The previous studies have also highlighted the potential use of eDNA monitoring in the assessment of breeding fish population health through quantification of minimum number of haplotypes present for each species. Molecular monitoring using a large-volume marine eDNA sampler could provide a cost-effective alternative to traditional methods for monitoring inshore fish populations, however the technique needs further testing and validation to assess its use for fish population and community assessment before it can be operationalised and integrated in future monitoring programmes or other Natural England's key priorities such as marine Natural Capital Assessment.

This study will build on the Phase 1 and 2 studies, enabling further method testing and validation. Monthly (or seasonal) sampling within Plymouth Sound and Estuaries SAC, Solent Maritime SAC, and Lyme Bay and Torbay SAC will enable further quantification of spatial and temporal scales needed for eDNA monitoring of inshore fish assemblages. Phase 2 of the project demonstrated the operational practicality, efficiency and reliability of using the inDepth sampler for monitoring the composition of inshore fish communities across a range of habitat-specific deployments (Project\_27469; Mynott & Marsh 2020). It also clearly demonstrated that this technology could robustly and consistently assess inshore fish populations and

delivered analytical outputs accompanied by detailed data confidence analyses which are crucial for end-user interpretation.

This study will further test the use of this technique at a larger spatial and temporal scales while also comparing its efficiency with standard 1L water samples and traditional sampling.

At a management unit and MPA feature level, the study will test the use of the marine eDNA sampler for monitoring estuarine environments for the first time. It will provide new evidence in the estuarine use of designated migratory species over seasons, which is one of NE's evidence gaps within both Plymouth Sound and Estuaries and Solent Maritime SACs: Allis shad and smelt in the Tamar and Plymouth Sound, and Atlantic salmon and lamprey *spp.* in River Itchen SAC leading to Solent. The data can also be used to fill other important data gaps such as value of estuaries as nursery grounds for various fish species, and the use of eDNA sampling to provide evidence for marine Natural Capital assessment. Building this evidence will be important for NE's site leads' casework and site condition assessment.

This project will also focus on method comparison: the large-volume DNA sampling will be carried out alongside standard eDNA collection to enable objective assessment of importance of large-volume eDNA collection in the marine environment. Also, where possible, eDNA sampling will be aligned with other inshore fish surveys (by partners, such as EA and MBA), to enable comparison of datasets. The direct comparison of monitoring methods and the resulting datasets will enable the DNA method to be investigated as means to fill multiple other data needs, including inclusion in any future inshore fish monitoring strategy and NE's Marine Natural Capital assessment.

### **Project Aim:**

To further validate and operationalise the use of a large volume programmable marine eDNA sampler for use in routine monitoring of inshore fish communities, this project has the following **objectives**:

1. Quantification of spatial and temporal trends in inshore fish population assemblages within the study sites, including associated errors and confidence.
2. Generate a more robust eDNA dataset to determine if this methodology can detect trends in fish populations by adding to the time series dataset already collected in the Lyme Bay and Torbay SAC during the Phase 1&2 studies.
3. Fill in evidence gaps around the seasonal estuarine use of designated migratory fish species and the value of estuaries as nursery grounds for different commercial and non-commercial fish species.
4. Further testing and validation of the application of large volume sampler for monitoring inshore fish populations, including comparison with standard water sampling for eDNA.



5. Investigate the use of eDNA methods at the scale of essential fish habitat and/or management unit for development of inshore fish biodiversity tool for Natural Capital (NC) evaluation purposes.
6. Subsidiary aim: Comparison of DNA data with inshore fish data collected using traditional methods such as fish trawls to better understand how molecular monitoring could be incorporated in future marine monitoring programmes.

### **Main tasks:**

#### Field sampling

A large-volume marine eDNA sampler will be deployed at regular intervals to collect DNA from the marine environment across a range of protected sites. Intervals should be timed as such that robust statistical analysis can be carried out to answer the objectives above. Sampling sites should include Plymouth Sound and Estuaries SAC, Solent Maritime SAC, and Lyme Bay and Torbay SAC. The sample collection method must ensure minimal risk of contamination, sample loss or sample degradation.

This study will build on the previous projects, enabling further method testing and validation. Outputs from Phase 2 study (Project\_27469; Mynott & Marsh 2020) should be used to inform the sampling sites for this project. Where possible, samples should be collected within the same sampling areas as in the Phase 1 & 2 studies (based on the tidal excursion modelling on water movement), to build on the time series and enable identification of longer-term temporal trends in fish populations. Ideally, the study should focus on 3 designated sites: Plymouth Sound and Estuaries SAC, Solent Maritime SAC, and Lyme Bay and Torbay SAC.

At each station the eDNA sampler will be left on site to collect environmental DNA by filtering seawater from the demersal layer. The eDNA sampler will be programmed to filter a large volume of seawater (~50 litres / sample, depending on turbidity) over 25 to 50 hours continuously, to cover two to four tidal cycles on a monthly basis, to allow us to test how sample collection and species composition varies seasonally.

Small volume water samples using standard eDNA sampling procedures should also be taken using a sampling bottle to compare the large volume sampler with more traditional water sampling methods. The eDNA data collected using the programmable large-volume sampler will be compared to eDNA data collected using a standard marine eDNA sampling, to assess the importance of large-volume sampling for marine molecular monitoring. The small volume water samples should be collected at slack tide so that the use of molecular monitoring in the assessment of essential fish habitat for Natural Capital assessment and evaluation purposes can be explored. The protocols for extraction and analysis of standard (small) volume samples should be identical to those used for the eDNA collected using the large volume sampler to provide robust method validation.

Please provide a response which outlines in sufficient detail the experimental design, survey methodologies and analytical processes you propose to fill the objectives. Please include detail of habitat stratification, number of sampling locations per representative habitat types within each SAC, spatial scales, and replication. **Please provide itemised pricing that details which objectives will be covered by the different elements of your proposal.** Some objectives may be closely linked, in which case costings can be priced together, however this should be made clear on the quotation. Please also itemise the costs based on sample collection per SAC if possible.

The exact locations for the deployment of the large-volume marine eDNA sampler, the sampling strategy and survey design will be finalised with Natural England at the project start up meeting, however costings for the number of samples and locations you consider appropriate to fulfil the requirements of this study per SAC should be clear in your response. **Please note that the deployment costs should be included in your commercial response.**

#### Sample Processing, Analysis and Taxonomic Assignment:

Please outline in the tender proposal (in sufficient detail) what methods will be used to extract DNA and amplify and sequence the DNA to identify the fish communities and specified marine species for each of the project objectives. A metabarcoding approach taken in the Phase 1 and 2 studies using Fish-specific primers for the 12S (Miya et al., 2015) and Cytochrome B (CytB; Evans et al., 2016) mitochondrial genes should be used. Please outline briefly the bioinformatic pipeline they intend to use to match sequences to species data for each of the four objectives. Ideally, the bioinformatics pipeline should allow for direct comparisons of eDNA sequences between samples and between studies over time. Raw eDNA sequence data should be made available to Defra/NE.

Taxonomic assignments should characterise eDNA sequences to species level. The resulting list of species should be used to identify the fish communities and specified marine protected species for each of the project objectives. Performance metrics for the taxonomic assignment should be included to assist end-user's decision-making based on the results presented. Analysis can then be done of the results to determine which spatial and temporal scale of sampling was necessary to observe changes to the fish communities at each station.

#### **Outputs and deliverables**

1. A final report ([in Natural England style](#)) describing the six objectives of the study, and the methods, results and conclusions of the work. Recommendations for future work to further develop this method should also be included.

The methods section should cover in sufficient detail:

- DNA extraction methods – including the names of kits if used. State how the DNA was quantified and discuss the quality of DNA extracted.
- PCR amplification- specify the primers, PCR cycle conditions and reagents used.
- Sequencing: detail how the DNA products were prepared for sequencing including reagents, primers and conditions. State how the DNA was quantified, and the model of the sequencing machine used. In addition, the methods should allow the reader to understand the confidence in the sequences obtained.
- Bio-informatic processing: State in detail how the bio-informatic processing was completed, by specifying the steps taken. State any programs that were used.

- State any reference libraries used, and if a custom database was created the rules used (e.g. sequences where full taxonomic assignment was not available were excluded).
- Where sequences are being used for taxonomic assignment, please explain the methods used to assign a species and why any reads may have been discarded.

The results and discussion sections should include the following in sufficient detail:

- the efficiency of DNA extraction and correct amplification of expected PCR products at each stage.
  - A discussion of any problems and how they were resolved, such as issues with PCR leading to a change of reagents or amplification conditions.
  - A detailed discussion explaining the results and confidence levels of the bioinformatic processing.
  - Detailed description of fish communities and haplotypes, and changes in assemblages at different spatial and temporal scales, incorporating the results of this study with the data from the phase 1 and 2 studies
  - Detailed results tables on fish species of interest, e.g. designated species, INNS and other species specifically mentioned by NE project lead
  - A discussion comparing the use of small water samples with the large volume sampler
  - A discussion on how this data can be used in Natural Capital assessments, showing the potential uses and highlighting opportunities and drawbacks of using this methodology.
  - Comparison to other data that could be used for ground truthing, e.g. MMO landings data, EA WFD fish monitoring data for transitional waters, etc.
  - The report will be published on the Natural England Access to Evidence Catalogue.
2. A Microsoft Excel spreadsheet listing the species identified (Latin and common names), the fragment of DNA extracted as part of the study identified as that species, and the reference library and sequence ID used to identify the species.
  3. All raw sequence data generated in the FASTA format
  4. In the methods section, please provide a clear field protocol detailing eDNA sampling using a large-volume programmable eDNA sampler and collection of small volume samples for method comparison and validation.

## References

Miya, M. et al. MiFish, a set of universal PCR primers for metabarcoding environmental DNA from fishes: detection of more than 230 subtropical marine species. *Roy. Soc. Open Sci.* 2, 150088 (2015).

Evans NT, Olds BP, Renshaw MA, Turner CR, Li Y, Jerde CL, Mahon AR, Pfrender ME, Lamberti GA, Lodge DM. 2016. Quantification of mesocosm fish and amphibian species diversity via environmental DNA metabarcoding. *Mol. Ecol. Resour.* 16: 29-41

Mynott, S., and Marsh, M., 2020. Development of a novel (DNAbased) method for monitoring inshore fish communities using a programmable large-volume marine eDNA sampler. Natural England Commissioned Reports, Number NECR330

**Key timescales for project delivery:**

Milestone	Date
Start-up meeting	19/07/2021
Submission of brief field report	30/10/2021
Any lab work/data analysis to be completed	31/01/2022
Draft final report and associated products	04/02/2022
Final report and deliverables	11/02/2022

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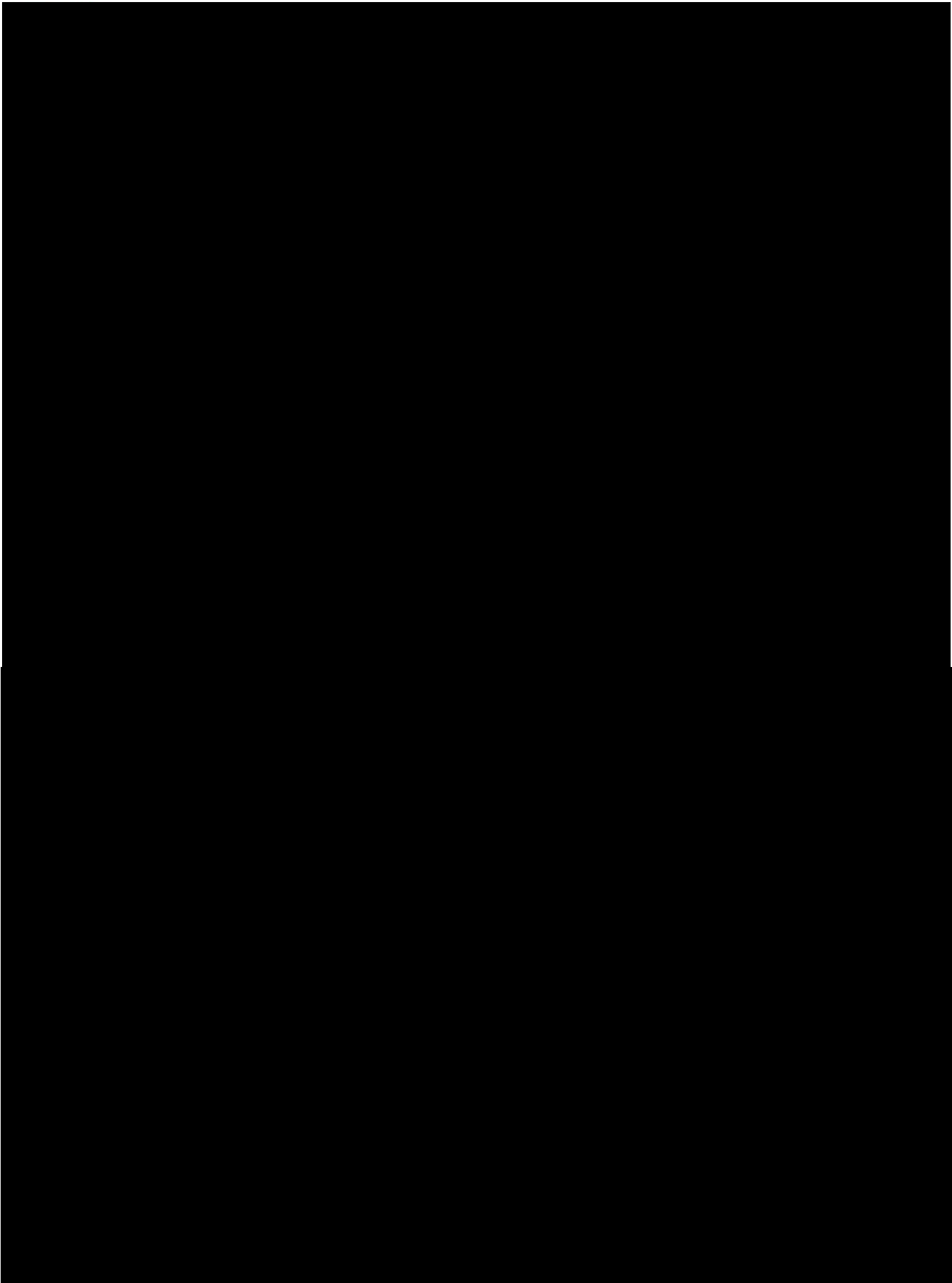
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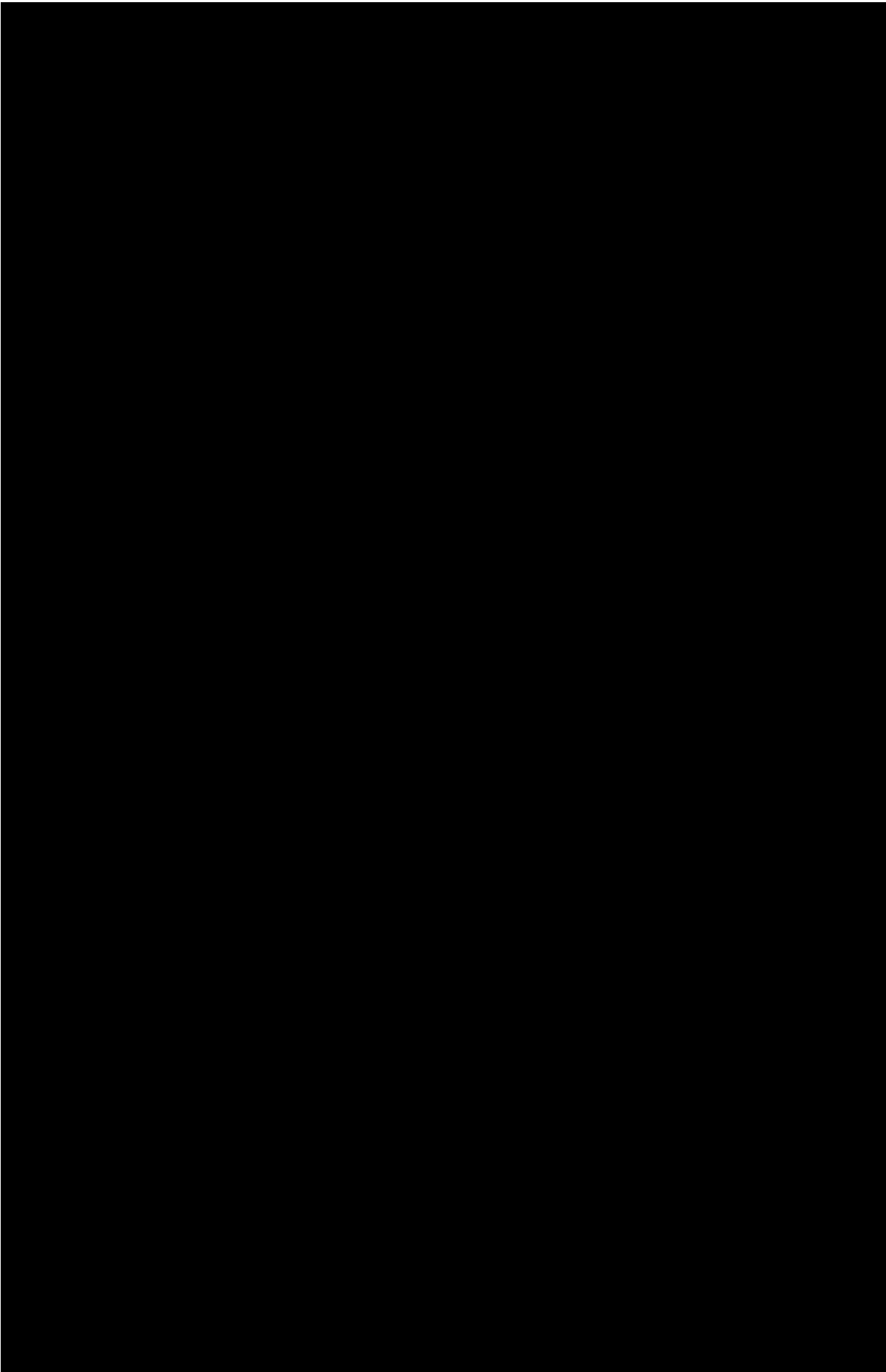
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### SCHEDULE 3 - PROCESSING, PERSONAL DATA AND DATA SUBJECTS

1. This Schedule shall be completed by the Authority, who may take account of the view of the Supplier, however the final decision as to the content of this Schedule shall be with the Authority at its absolute discretion.
2. The contact details of the Authority Data Protection Officer are:
3. The contact details of the Supplier Data Protection Officer are:
4. The Supplier shall comply with any further written instructions with respect to processing by the Authority.
5. Any such further instructions shall be incorporated into this Schedule.

Data Processing Descriptor	Narrative
Identity of the Controller and Processor	The Parties acknowledge that for the purposes of the Data Protection Legislation, the Authority is the Controller and the Supplier is the Processor in accordance with Clause 10.3.
Subject matter of the processing	The processing of data is needed to ensure the Supplier can fulfil its contractual duties and deliver the services to Natural England required.
Duration of the processing	For the duration of the contract.
Nature and purposes of the processing	The nature of the processing will be in accordance with and to facilitate the delivery of the contract.
Type of Personal Data	N/A
Categories of Data Subject	No personal data.
Plan for return and destruction of the data once the processing is complete <b>UNLESS requirement under union or member state law to preserve that type of data</b>	The Supplier will retain data for the minimum required time. The timing to return or destroy any data will depend on the contract or permitted reason for entering into the relationship and would be in accordance with the Supplier's project plan. This is likely to be a maximum of three or six months from the completion or termination of any contract or permitted reason. Data will be destroyed in line with the terms of the Contract.