

## INFOMAR Notice of Operations, 2026



The INFOMAR Programme (Integrated Mapping for the Sustainable Development of Ireland's Marine Resource), is a jointly managed seabed mapping initiative between the Geological Survey Ireland and the Marine Institute, funded by Department of the Climate, Energy and the Environment. Expanding upon its operational predecessor the Irish National Seabed Survey, it has a focus on three sub-programme areas, namely;

- Data Acquisition, Management and Interpretation
- Data Exchange and Integration
- Value Added Exploitation

Covering some 125,000 km<sup>2</sup> of underwater territory, INFOMAR will produce integrated mapping products covering the physical, chemical and biological features of the seabed.

During the current year of the second phase of INFOMAR (2016-2026), operations are planned to take place within the following bays, harbours and offshore areas (see Figures attached):

### **RV's Keary, Geo, Lir, Galtee and Mallet Areas**

- Atlantic Ocean and Celtic Sea Coasts: Potentially any unmapped areas of the Atlantic and Celtic Sea coasts.
- Irish Sea: Areas of the Irish Sea along the Ireland /UK border stretching from East of County Dublin to east of County Wexford. Coastal areas of the Irish Sea.

### **RV Tom Crean Areas**

- Celtic Sea & Atlantic Ocean: Extending coverage south of Ireland.
- Atlantic Ocean: Extending coverage west of the Clare, Galway and Mayo coasts.

Data acquisition methods will include hydrographic and geophysical survey, and geological groundtruthing using grab samplers and/or drop cameras.

As part of the ongoing planning process, INFOMAR are interested in identifying previous, current, and planned operations or environmental constraints within the above priority survey areas, (e.g. seismic survey, environmental and/or physical monitoring, dredging, commercial activities, wreck investigations). Enquiries or supporting information in relation to the above programme should be directed by email to [info@infomar.ie](mailto:info@infomar.ie), or by phone to Marine Institute +353 91 387200 or Geological Survey Ireland +353 1 6782896.



An Roinn Aeráide,  
Fuinnimh agus Comhshaoil  
Department of Climate,  
Energy and the Environment

[www.gsi.ie](http://www.gsi.ie)



[www.INFOMAR.ie](http://www.INFOMAR.ie)



[www.marine.ie](http://www.marine.ie)

## INFOMAR 2026 - ALL SURVEY AREAS

Image below summarises the broad survey priorities for 2026.  
 Areas where RV *Tom Crean* survey effort will be focused are hatched in orange.  
 Areas where inshore survey vessels survey effort will be focused are hatched in Red.

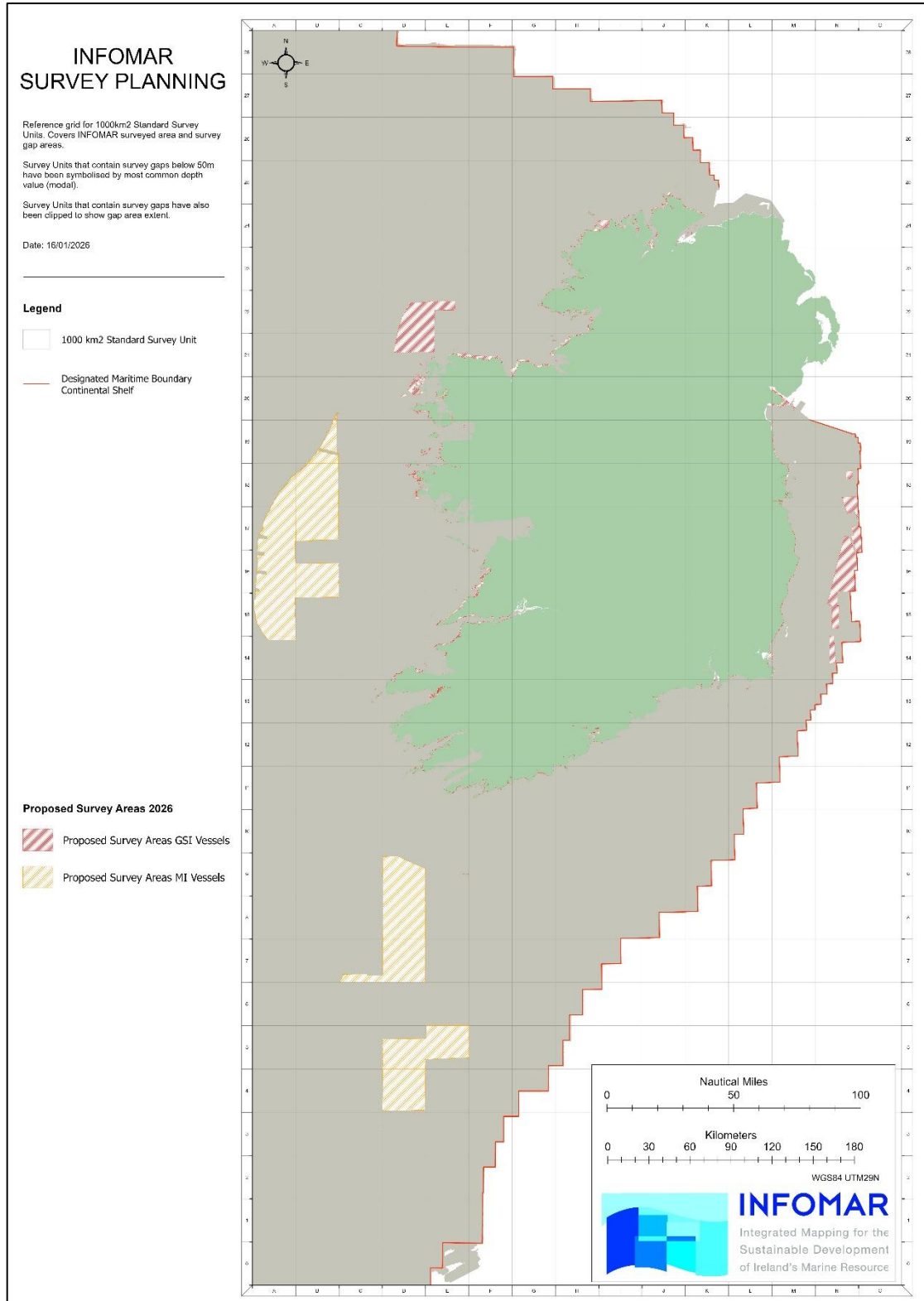


Figure 1 – Proposed INFOMAR survey areas for 2026

**2026 Operations Summary**

Survey Vessel	Current Schedule	Location
RV's Keary, Geo, Lir, Mallet and Galtee (Geological Survey Ireland)	March - November	Potentially any unmapped coastal areas & Irish Sea

RV Tom Crean (Marine Institute)	03/03/2026 - 31/03/2026, 28 days	Celtic Sea & Atlantic Ocean
	08/04/2026 - 23/04/2026, 16 days	Celtic Sea & Atlantic Ocean
	11/05/2026 - 03/06/2026, 24 days	Celtic Sea & Atlantic Ocean
	25/11/2026 - 04/12/2026, 10 days	Celtic Sea & Atlantic Ocean

**APPENDICES LISTING**

Appendix 1 RV's Tom Crean, Keary, Geo, Galtee, Lir and Mallet survey areas

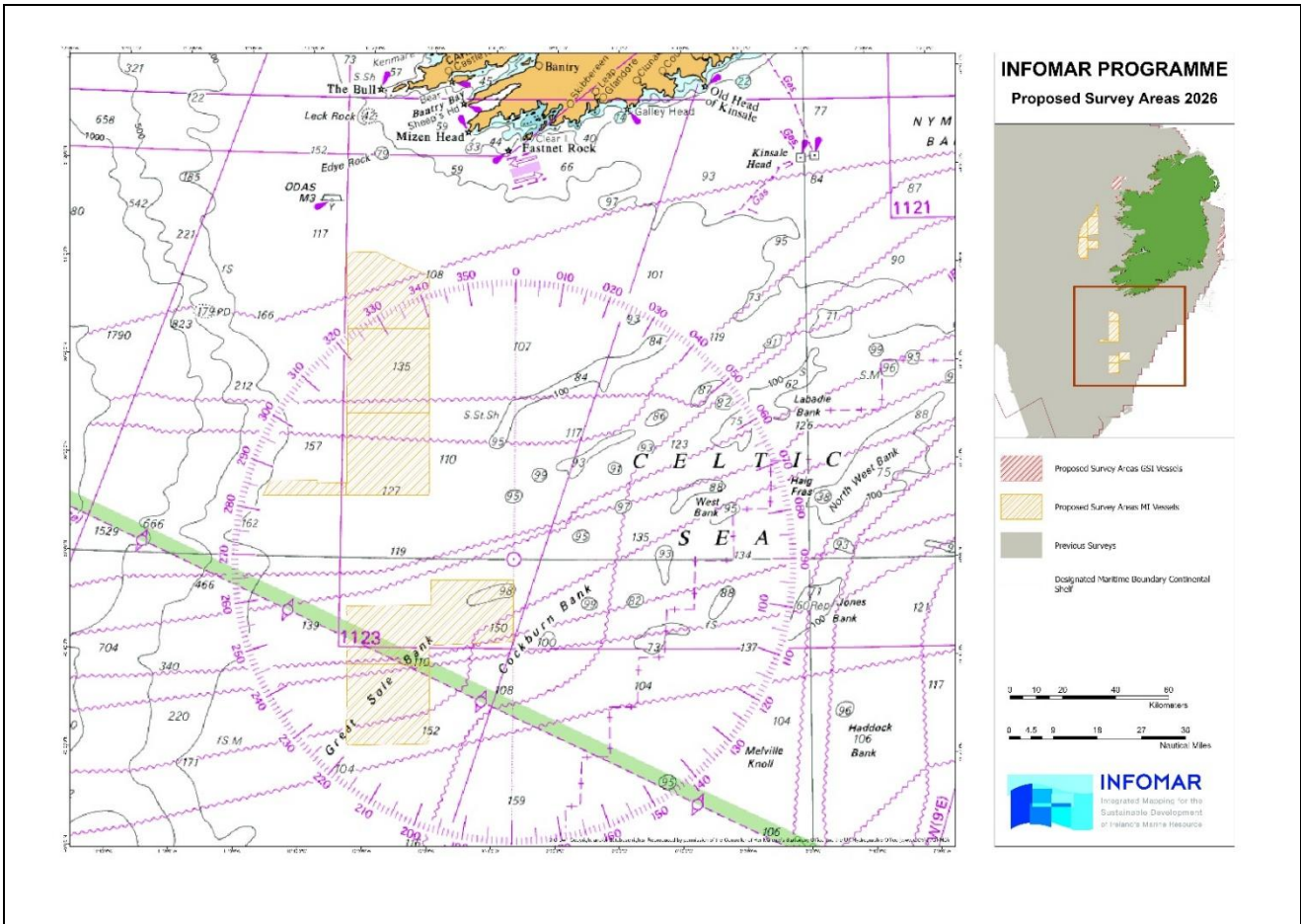
Appendix 2 Vessel & Equipment Frequencies

## APPENDIX 1 Survey Areas

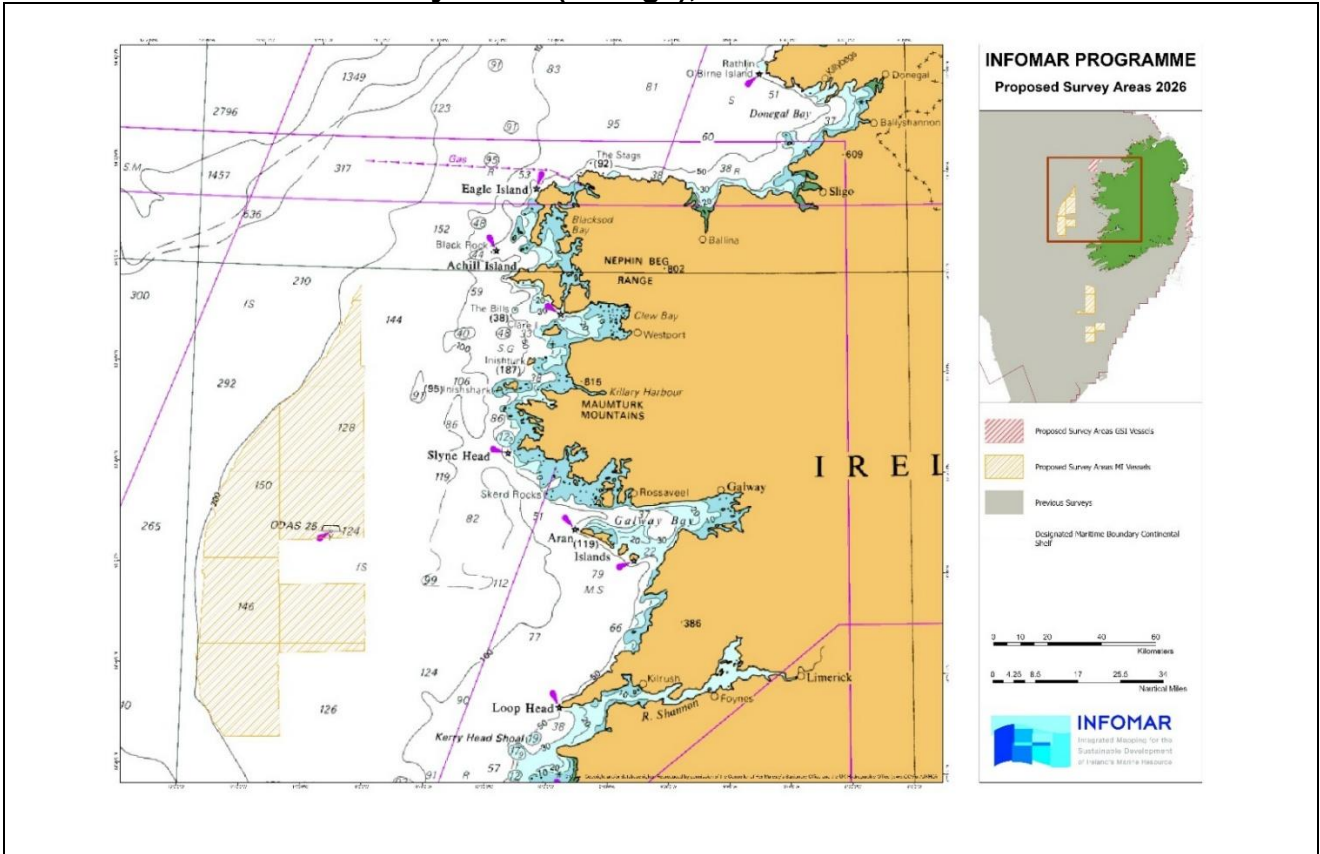
Survey extents are preliminary and set to allow for operational flexibility. While we will map within some of these areas in 2026, the reality is that it will take several survey years before all digitized areas in this document are completely mapped. Final annual coverage achievable is subject to weather, shoals and fishing gear constraining survey, technical issues, and other unforeseen factors. Assigned dates may change subject to operational constraints.

The RV *Tom Crean* plans to survey in the Celtic Sea and Atlantic Ocean, area A1.1, and off the west coast in area, A1.2. The inshore fleet will survey coastal areas of the Atlantic Ocean, west of Counties Clare, Galway, and Mayo (A1.3), coastal areas of north County Mayo, and coastal areas of Donegal (A1.4), and locations in the Irish Sea (A1.5), all subject to operational logistics. Coastal mapping along the south coast may occur.

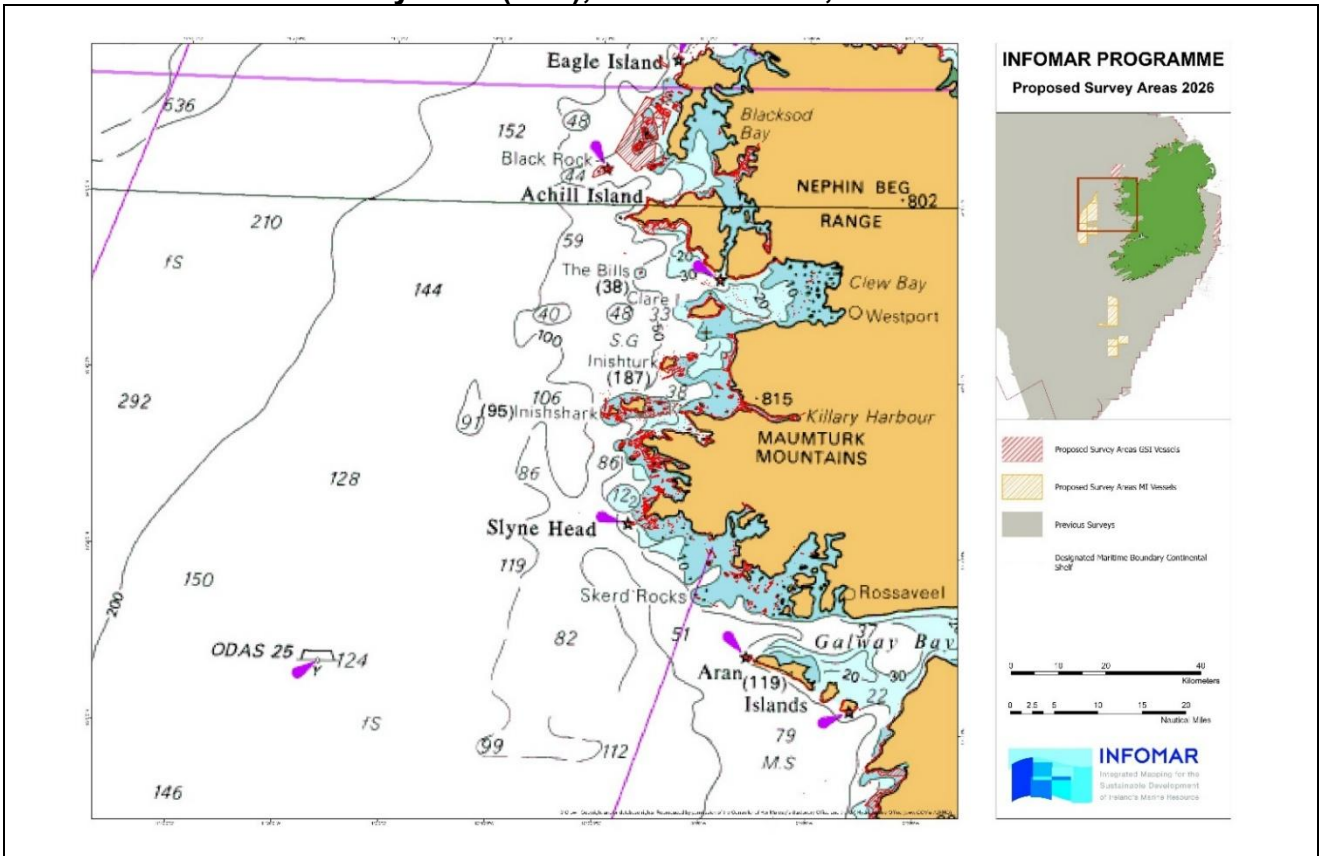
### A1.1 RV Tom Crean Survey Area (Orange), Celtic Sea & Atlantic Ocean



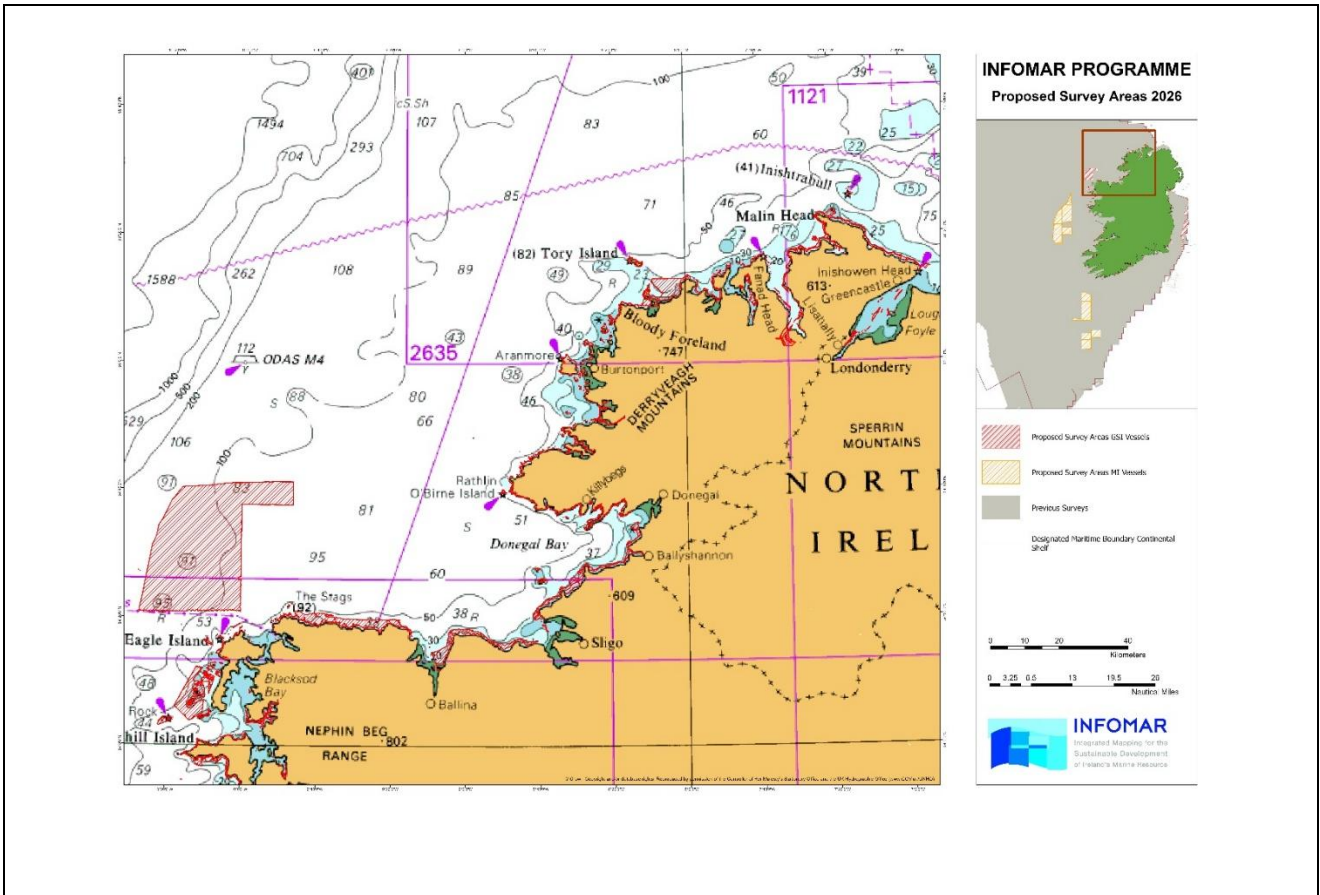
**A1.2 RV Tom Crean Survey Areas (Orange), Atlantic Ocean**



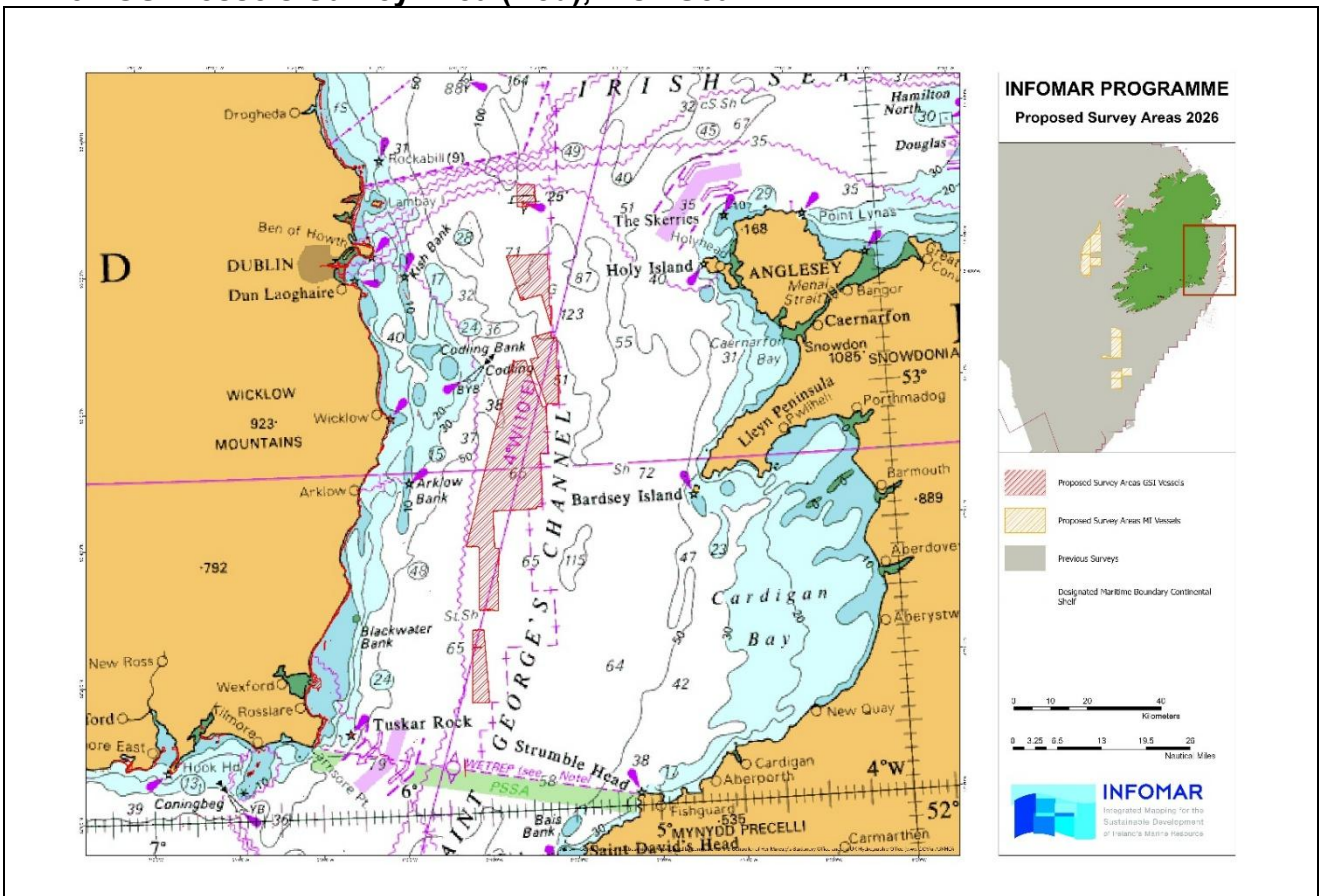
**A1.3 GSI Vessels Survey Area (Red), Atlantic Ocean, South**



**A1.4 GSI Vessels Survey Area (Red), Atlantic Ocean, North**



**A1.5 GSI Vessels Survey Area (Red), Irish Sea**



## Appendix 2 Vessels & Equipment Frequencies

P = Primary S = Secondary Y = To be deployed N = Not to be deployed	Multibeam				Single Beam	Side Scan Sonar			Sub Bottom Profiler				Seismic
	EM302	EM2040	ResonT20	R2Sonic2022	EA400	GeoAcoustics 159	Edgetech 4200	Edgetech 4200-FS	Knudsen Chirp 3260	Edgetech 3200XS Chirp	IxBlue Echo 3500	SES 2000 Compact	GeoSpark 200
<b>Equipment Transmission Frequency (kHz)</b>	30	200 300 400	200 to 400	200 to 400	38 200	114 410	100 400	300 600	3.5 - 12	2-16	1.7- 5.5	85 - 115	0.5-2
<b>Sound Pressure Level re 1 µPA in water @ 1 m distance from Source (dB)*</b>	214	210	207	191-221 (?)	206	223	210	210	Not Avail able	Not Avail able	Not Avail able	238	See Spec sheet
R.V. Celtic Explorer (MI Vessel)	Y	Y	N	N	Y	N	P	N	N	N	Y	N	Y
R.V. Tom Crean (MI Vessel)	N	Y	N	N	Y	S	P	N	Y	N	N	N	Y
R.V. Keary	N	Y	N	N	Y	N	S	P	N	Y	N	N	Y
R.V. Geo	N	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y(S)	N
R.V. Tonn	N	N	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
R.V. Lir	N	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
R.V. Mallet	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	Y	N
R.V. Galtee	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N