Natural England

Ornithological and Marine Mammal Baseline Characterisation Surveys for the POSEIDON project

April-June (Seasonal) Report – Central North Sea

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Project reference:	**P000010669**
Date of issue:	**October 2023**

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Report should be cited as:

"APEM (2024). Ornithological and Marine Mammal Baseline Characterisation Surveys for the POSEIDON project. APEM April-June (Seasonal) Report, Central North Sea, P000010669. Natural England, 24/05/24, v1.8, 37 pp."

Revision and Amendment Register

Version Number	Date	Section(s)	Page(s)	Summary of Changes	Approved by
1.0	04/09/2023	All	All	Creation	MP
1.1	13/09/2023	All	All	Internal Review	JT
1.2	15/09/2023	All	All	Amendments	KS
1.3	13/10/2023	All	All	Amendments	SY
1.4	29/11/2023	3.1	5	Amendments	SY
1.5	31/01/2023	3.1	5	Amendments	SY
1.6	06/02/2024	Table 2	7	Client Comments	SY
1.7	26/04/2024	All	All	Remove watermarks, add UTC to table 3	SY
1.8	25/04/2024	3.1	8	Add UTC to table 3	SY
1.9	25/10/2024	3.1	5	Update coverage	SY

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1. Executive Summary

This report constitutes the third seasonal (April to June 2023) report outlining results from digital aerial surveys conducted in May 2023 within the Central North Sea under the POSEIDON project and commissioned by Natural England. Surveys were undertaken using APEM's high-resolution camera system to capture digital still imagery of birds and marine megafauna within the Survey Area.

The survey was successfully carried out across two days in May 2023, the final 2 nm of line 4 were aborted due to safety concerns over low clouds. A total of 6,995 observations were recorded during the survey in May 2023, of which 6,105 were observations of birds and 890 observations of marine megafauna. APEM will continue to monitor the site for these species and others during the remaining seasonal surveys.

2. Introduction

2.1 Background

APEM has been contracted by Natural England for the supply of four seasonal digital aerial surveys within the Central North Sea, commencing from December 2022. The surveys form part of the POSEIDON project which is led by Natural England and funded through the Crown Estates Offshore Wind Evidence and Change (OWEC) programme. Analysis of existing seabird and marine mammal data for English and Welsh waters identified gaps in the evidence base for the Survey Area. The main purpose of the survey programme is to address these evidence gaps through providing baseline information on the abundance, distribution and behaviour of birds and marine mammals within the Survey Area.

The Survey Area is located within the North Sea to the east of Fraserburgh in the North and Bridlington in the South, bounded to the south-east by the Dogger Bank, (**Figure 1**) and covers an area of 42,050 square kilometres (km^2). The survey method has been designed to optimise the data collection for all bird, marine mammal, and other marine megafauna species using a transect-based survey design at 1.5 centimetre (cm) resolution to achieve a minimum of 3% captured and 3% analysed coverage using a twin-engine aircraft. These surveys have been carried out to meet the aims and objectives of the work by Natural England and the POSEIDON project.

This report describes the seasonal (April to June 2023) survey, undertaken in May 2023, as part of the survey programme.

2.2 Aim of Report

The report presents information on marine birds, mammals, and other megafauna, which includes the following:

- Description of, and rationale for, survey methods and design.
- Map of survey route and coverage.
- Survey details as actually flown (including dates/times, weather and other relevant conditions).
- Raw count observations for behaviours of all avian and marine mammal species, as well as any other marine megafauna recorded per month within the Survey Area.
- Bird flight heights and direction.
- Spatial distribution maps of avian, marine mammal, and other marine megafauna species.

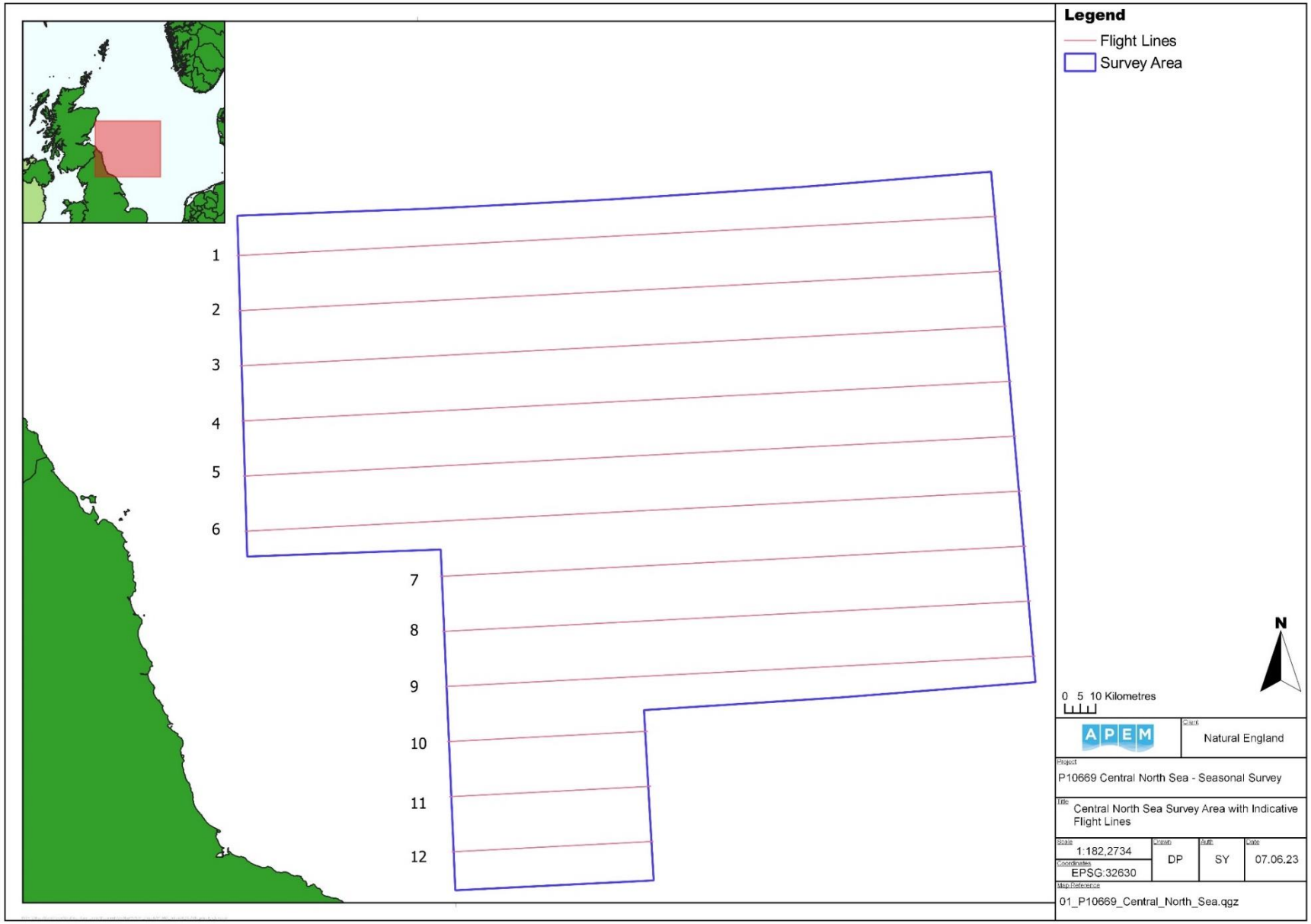

Figure 1 Location of Central North Sea survey area

3. Survey and Analysis Methodologies

3.1 Digital Aerial Survey Methods

The survey was conducted using APEM's bespoke camera system, termed "Shearwater V", customised by in-house specialists for surveying the offshore environment. The camera system is integrated with custom flight planning software that allows each survey flight line to be accurately mapped before the aircraft leaves the ground. Each image capture node is precisely defined, allowing the system to fire the camera exposures at exactly the right location. This ensures that each survey is flown with the same orientation and the camera is triggered at the same position within set tolerances (**Table 1**). APEM's flight planning software enables tolerances along survey lines to be set, meaning the camera system would automatically abort data capture should the aircraft drift away from the planned flight line. The process of automatically aborting data capture is called a 'cutout'. Should this occur, the plane is required to revisit and resurvey the affected section of the survey line.

APEM's on-board camera technician continually monitored the imagery as it was collected to ensure data collected was fit for purpose. The camera technician would make the decision to cease data collection should conditions become unsuitable for surveying or data collection. Subsequently, the survey would then be resumed at the next earliest opportunity. All completed surveys therefore maintained conditions conducive to successful surveying.

Favourable conditions for surveying were defined as: a cloud base (lowest altitude of the visible portion of the cloud) of at least 1,300 ft, according to a geoidal model, to ensure there is no cloud below the planned altitude of the aircraft, visibility of greater than 5 km, wind speed of less than 30 knots, and sea state of 4 (moderate) or less. Naturally, the cloud base may vary in altitude, but aircraft will always fly lower than the lowest cloud level, if cloud base is lower than the planned aircraft altitude the survey would not take place. Whilst the image footprint and GSD both increase with altitude, the flight plan tolerances and focus of the camera lenses ensures no discernible differences occur within the range of altitudes potentially flown. Wind speed was recorded at the same altitude as the aircraft, whereas sea state was determined from the appearance of the sea surface recorded by the onboard aerial survey technician. The two measures therefore do not necessarily correlate. For safety reasons, no surveying can take place in icing conditions.

Data capture comprised digital still images of an average 1.5 cm GSD. Images at each camera are processed at each node, resulting in slight variation in GSD across the swath width. GSD is smaller than 1.5 cm GSD at the nadir and increases with distance from the nadir, resulting in an average GSD of 1.5 cm. Image resolution is therefore clearest at the nadir, although the variation is small. Images were collected in a continuous transect-based design along a single line covered by three overlapping cameras, using a Global Positioning System (GPS) linked, bespoke flight management system to ensure the tracks were flown with a high degree of accuracy. The aircraft's internal GPS and Inertial Motion Unit (IMU) systems record to an accuracy of +/- 3 to 5 m as standard.

Flights occurred on the 25th and 26th of May. On 25th May, one plane was used to survey lines 8 to 12 (take off at 12:15, landing at 17:18). On 26th May, two planes were used to survey lines 1 to 7. The first plane undertook lines 5 to 7, including a fuel stop (take off at 07:21, landing at 11:35, then take off at 12:58, landing at 16:15). The second plane surveyed lines 1 to 4 in two flights (take off at 07:51, landing at 11:25 and then take off at 13:36, landing at 17:22).

The camera system captured abutting imagery along 12 survey flight lines spaced approximately 18 km apart within the Survey Area (**Figure 1**). The total Survey Area was 42,050 km^2. The aircraft collected the data at an altitude of approximately 1,450 ft (440 m) according to the ellipsoid model as recorded by GPS, equivalent to 1,300 ft (395 m) above geoidal mean sea level, and at a speed of approximately 120 knots. Images were collected continuously along the survey flight lines with slight overlap between image nodes. To avoid double-counting due to image overlap, all image footprints

are merged into a single file, for which total area is calculated. For analysis purposes each transect should be treated as a single sample, therefore for the current survey design, n=12. A total of 15,908 nodes were initially captured. Of these, 15,827 were used for analysis. The difference reflects nodes removed during clipping to the boundary area, and unusable images removed during processing, for example due to camera misfires. Total coverage was calculated to be 3.63% analysed, generated from 15,908 image nodes (**Table 2**). The final 2 nm of line 4 were aborted due to safety concerns over low cloud, resulting in 1,731 image nodes being captured instead of the planned total of 1,759. However, the target coverage of 3% was achieved including a redundancy of an additional 0.63%, which is over 10% contingency with respect to the target coverage.

Effort data is calculated as the area (km^2) per image footprint using trigonometric methods and the pinhole camera model (the mathematical relationship between the coordinates of a point in three-dimensional space, and its projection onto the image plane of an ideal pinhole camera). Effort is dependent on altitude, camera angle and aircraft position (pitch, roll and yaw), accounting for variation both between image nodes and individual cameras at each node. Effort data is only calculated for analysed images. It is therefore possible that some images have an effort value of zero. Summing analysed footprints and comparing against entire survey area gives the percentage analysed Effort values provided in the GPS log reflect the total footprint of each image and do not account for overlap. Therefore, summing these values for a survey would result in an overestimate of effort. The true effort for a given survey is calculated geospatially by creating polygons for each image and removing the overlapping areas.

Imagery was captured in raw format and post-processed to ensure optimal quality for the subsequent stage of image analysis, to extract information on marine fauna or other notable occurrences. When a survey was completed, data were checked to ensure the number of lines and the number of images collected was correct, and that the quality of the imagery was acceptable. Once image analysis was completed, further quality assurance (QA) processes took place (see **Section 3.3**).

Survey conditions are summarised in **Table 3**. Weather conditions are defined in **Table 4**. Weather conditions during the survey were conducive to collecting and analysing imagery for the purposes of providing data on the identification, distribution, and abundance of bird species and marine fauna within the Survey Area.

Weather conditions during all surveys were conducive to collecting and analysing imagery for the purpose of providing data on the identification, distribution, and abundance of bird species and marine fauna within the Survey Area.

Measures were taken to minimise glint and glare, such as avoiding surveying when the sun angle had the greatest potential to impact image quality. Furthermore, data collected provided coverage of 3.63%, thus exceeding the 3% coverage required, enabling sufficient coverage to be collected should images be affected by glint or glare.

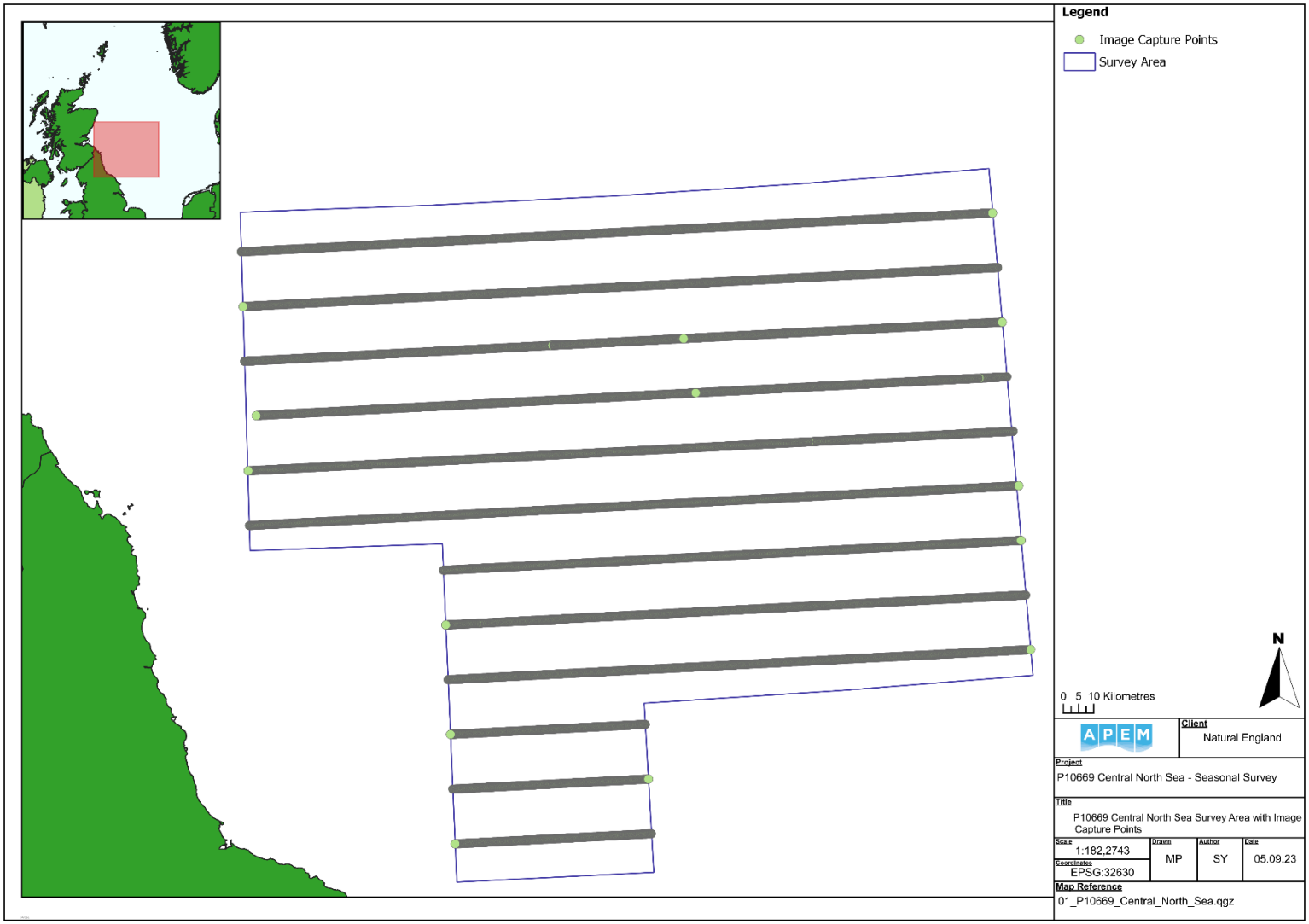

Figure 2 Individual image capture points during the April to June 2023 (May 2023) survey

Table 1 Lateral and vertical camera tolerances (m). A 'cutout' is the process of automatically aborting data capture. Should this occur, the plane is required to revisit and resurvey the affected section of the survey line.

Survey Tolerances	Warning	Cutout	
Lateral Tolerance	30	60	m
Vertical tolerance	15	30 (No auto cutout)	m

Table 2 Image capture and other observations during the April to June 2023 seasonal survey (May 2023).

Survey line	Transect length (km)	N cameras capturing image	N image nodes (captured)	N images nodes (analysed)	Camera issues*	Shipping observations	Anecdotal observations	Health and Safety
1	247.64	3	1,736	1,729	-	-	-	-
2	248.02	3	1,744	1,737	-	-	-	-
3	248.85	3	1,756	1,744	-	-	-	-
4	246.81	3	1,731	1,726	-	-	Low cloud	Last 2 nm aborted due to safety concerns over low cloud
5	251.28	3	1,763	1,760	Two missing images when camera froze	-	-	-
6	252.72	3	1,774	1,771	-	One fishing vessel	Diving birds	-
7	189.87	3	1,338	1,333	-	-	Two boats off camera	-
8	191.27	3	1,343	1,334	-	Cruise ship 4 nm to left of line	-	-
9	191.34	3	1,348	1,341	-	-	-	-
10	64.07	3	457	449	-	-	-	-
11	64.08	3	459	451	-	-	-	-

12	64.47	3	459	452	-	Small cargo vessel	-	-

*Due to the vast number of capture points collected during the survey it is not uncommon for camera systems to sometimes miss capture points. Typically, the number of missed capture points is low and random across the site. APEM collected additional data to ensure the required coverage was captured. Additionally, APEM's onboard camera technician monitored data as it was being captured. Surveys are aborted or lines re-surveyed if camera issues impact data collection.

Table 3 Survey conditions during the April to June 2023 seasonal survey (May 2023)

Survey line	Date	Time on line (UTC) (Start / End)	Ground speed (knots)	Cloud cover (%)	Visibility (km)	Outside temperature (°C)	Wind speed (knots)	Wind direction	Sea state (Douglas)	Turbidity
1	26/05/2023	08:33 / 09:38	119	10-30	10	8	5-11	90-360°	1-2	0-1
2	26/05/2023	09:44 / 10:48	122	30	10	8-9	8-14	40-350°	1	1
3	26/05/2023	14:48 / 15:27	120	30-60	10	9	10-11	140-160°	1-2	1
4	26/05/2023	15:33 / 16:39	120	30-60	10	9-11	2-5	40-160°	1-2	1-2
5	26/05/2023	10:07 / 11:06	130	95-100	10	8-11	1-9	0-350°	0-1	1-2
6	26/05/2023	08:58 / 10:00	128	90-95	10	8-11	7-8	80-110°	0-1	0-1
7	26/05/2023	13:29 / 14:20	126	90-100	10	8-11	5-7	85-130°	0-1	0-1
8	25/05/2023	15:58 / 16:48	123	30-50	10	7-8	2-9	10-180°	1-2	1-2
9	25/05/2023	15:03 / 15:53	120	20-40	10	9-10	1-12	170-180°	1-2	2
10	25/05/2023	14:34 / 14:51	124	20	10	9	9	170°	2	1
11	25/05/2023	14:11 / 14:28	121	20	10	9	9	170°	1	1
12	25/05/2023	13:47 / 14:06	121	20	10	9	8	120°	1	1

Table 4 Explanation of weather conditions

Wind (Beaufort Scale)			Douglas Sea State			Cloud cover (%)		Turbidity	
Scale	**Description**	**Mean wind speed (knots)**	**Scale**	**Description**	**Wave height**	**% Cover**	**Description**	**Scale**	**Description**
0	Calm	0	0	Calm (glass)	No wave	0	Clear	0	Clear
1	Light air	2	1	Calm (rippled)	0 – 0.10 m	1-10	Few	1	Slightly Turbid
2	Light breeze	5	2	Smooth	0.10 – 0.50 m	11-50	Scattered	2	Moderately Turbid
3	Gentle breeze	9	3	Slightly Moderate	0.50 – 1.25 m	51-95	Broken	3	Highly Turbid
4	Moderate breeze	13	*Surveys not typically flown at sea states > 3.*			Overcast	96-100		
5	Fresh breeze	19	4	Moderate	1.25 – 2.50 m				
6	Strong breeze	24							
7	Near gale	30							
8	Gale	37							

3.2 Species Identification

The images were analysed to enumerate birds and marine mammals to species level where possible. Targets identified from the images were 'snagged' (i.e., located within the images) and categorised.

There were occasions when it was not possible to identify an individual in the digital aerial survey imagery to the species level and the individual was therefore identified as belonging to a higher-level taxonomic group (e.g., 'small gull species' or 'dolphin / porpoise species'). The possible groups and the individual species attributed to them are listed in **Table 5** for birds and **Table 6** for marine mammals.

Table 5 Avian species included higher-level taxonomic groups for the April to June 2023 seasonal survey period (May 2023)

<table>
<tr><th>Species</th><th>Group Level 1</th><th>Group Level 2</th><th>Group Level 3</th><th>Group Level 4</th></tr>
<tr><td>Kittiwake</td><td colspan="2" rowspan="2">Small Gull species</td><td rowspan="4">Gull species</td><td rowspan="11">Unidentified Bird species</td></tr>
<tr><td>Common Gull</td></tr>
<tr><td>Lesser Black-backed Gull</td><td>Black-backed Gull species</td><td rowspan="2">Large Gull species</td></tr>
<tr><td>Herring Gull</td><td colspan="2"></td></tr>
<tr><td>Common Tern</td><td colspan="2" rowspan="2">'Commic' Tern</td><td rowspan="2">Tern species</td></tr>
<tr><td>Arctic Tern</td></tr>
<tr><td>Arctic Skua</td><td colspan="3">Skua species</td></tr>
<tr><td>Guillemot</td><td rowspan="2">Guillemot and / or Razorbill</td><td colspan="2" rowspan="2">Auk species</td></tr>
<tr><td>Razorbill</td></tr>
<tr><td>Puffin</td><td colspan="3"></td></tr>
<tr><td>Fulmar</td><td colspan="3">Fulmar / Gull species</td></tr>
<tr><td>Gannet</td><td colspan="3"></td></tr>
</table>

Table 6 Marine mammal species included within higher-level taxonomic groups for the April to June 2023 seasonal survey period (May 2023)

<table>
<tr><th>Species</th><th>Group Level 1</th><th>Group Level 2</th><th>Group Level 3</th><th>Group Level 4</th></tr>
<tr><td>Grey Seal</td><td colspan="3">Seal species</td><td rowspan="8">Unidentified Marine Mammal species</td></tr>
<tr><td>Common Minke Whale</td><td colspan="3">Whale species</td></tr>
<tr><td>Common Dolphin</td><td colspan="2" rowspan="4">Dolphin species</td><td rowspan="5">Dolphin / Porpoise species</td></tr>
<tr><td>Risso’s Dolphin</td></tr>
<tr><td>White-beaked Dolphin</td></tr>
<tr><td>Common Bottlenose Dolphin</td></tr>
<tr><td>Harbour Porpoise</td><td colspan="3"></td></tr>
<tr><td>Basking Shark</td><td colspan="4">Shark species</td></tr>
</table>

3.3 Summary of Quality Assurance

Internal QA was carried out on the data collected during the survey. This consists of two steps:

The first step in the QA process, referred to as Blank QA, reviewed percentage agreement between images identified as positive (containing at least one target of interest) and those identified as blank (not containing any targets of interest). A random sample of 20% of survey imagery were subjected to a QA audit review, in which agreement in positive images should reach 90% agreement versus the main analysis of the whole survey. Where 90% agreement was not reached, a complete re-analysis of the survey data was undertaken. This consisted of analysing each image from the survey again, and extra positives from the re-analysis and QA audit are included in the data. For the current survey, the initial agreement was 95%. No re-analysis was necessary on this occasion.

The second step of the QA process, referred to as Species ID QA, reviewed species identifications. Target (snag) identifications made by image analysts were reviewed by our dedicated QA team and an agreement rate determined. If the original identification made by the image analyst matched that made by the QA analyst, this was considered agreement. Agreement was also made if the original and the QA identifications were both within the same taxonomic grouping, for example an initial identification of guillemot / razorbill, and a QA identification as guillemot. This method was adopted by BTO's method of species identification QA. A minimum of 10% of snags are checked with the proportion increasing depending on survey difficulty and accuracy of identifications. For this survey 100% of identifications were checked due to the relatively small number of targets overall.

3.4 Species Distribution Maps

Each animal recorded during the surveys was geo-referenced, enabling locations to be related to the boundary of the Survey Area. Corresponding coordinates for each observation were accurate to ±/- 3 to 5 m. Spatial distribution maps for birds and other marine megafauna within the Survey Area have been produced using QGIS by separating individual species records during the surveys and representing these as symbols on a map. Symbols are determined by the species group, with a relevant icon and a unique colour assigned on a per species basis, the latter of which allows for a differentiation across the board between species that use the same icon. Icons in the distribution map will appear to overlap when individuals recorded during the surveys are in close proximity to each other.

3.5 Species Flight Heights

Bird flight heights were estimated from the digital still images. using a size-based methodology developed by APEM from techniques described by Johnston and Cook (2016)[1]. They were determined using bespoke APEM software that applies a set of rules developed in-house and trigonometry to provide an estimate of flight height above mean sea level (MSL). The accuracy of the application of the trigonometric rules varies depending on the size and position of the bird. The trigonometric calculation is based on species-specific bird measurements (based on reference lengths taken from the literature), image GSD (the distance between pixel centres), the known height of the aircraft as the image was taken, and the pitch, roll, and yaw of the aircraft. These parameters are entered into APEM's flight height calculator to estimate the height of each individual bird captured in survey

[1] Johnston, A. and Cook, A.S.C.P., 2016. *How High Do Birds Fly?: Development of Methods and Analysis of Digital Aerial Data of Seabird Flight Heights*. British Trust for Ornithology.

images. Flight height estimates are less reliable for birds that are diving or turning sharply (this affects the measurement of body length and wingspan from the image) or other aspects that may affect the body length measurement. Such birds are removed from the sample used to calculate flight heights. Flight height data is included within the separate raw data files.

4. Abundance and distribution

4.1 Abundance

A total of 6,105 birds were recorded in the Survey Area during the April – June 2023 seasonal (May 2023) survey. Of those, 4,103 were sitting on the water, 2,000 were in flight and 2 were deceased (**Table 7).** A total of 890 marine megafauna were recorded in the Survey Area (**Table 8**). Scientific names and taxonomy of species recorded are provided in **Appendix I Scientific Names and Taxonomy**.

Table 7 Total number of individuals of birds by species or species group recorded during the April to June 2023 seasonal survey period (May 2023)

Species Group	Species	Flying	Sitting	Deceased	Total
Gulls	Kittiwake	1,460	1,089	-	2,549
	Common Gull	6	2	-	8
	Herring Gull	21	19	-	40
	Lesser Black-backed Gull	44	30	-	74
	Small Gull species	1	3	-	4
Tern	Arctic Tern	10	-	-	10
	'Commic' Tern	1	-	-	1
	Tern species	-	1	-	1
Skua	Arctic Skua	3	-	-	3
Auk	Guillemot	39	1,910	-	1,949
	Guillemot / Razorbill	-	22	-	22
	Razorbill	1	36	-	37
	Puffin	1	68	-	69
	Auk species	-	16	-	16
Fulmar	Fulmar	231	621	-	852
Fulmar / Gull	Fulmar / Gull species	-	1	-	1
Gannet	Gannet	179	284	1	464
Unidentified Bird species	Unidentified Bird species	3	1	1	5
Total		**2,000**	**4,103**	**2**	**6,105**

Table 8 Total number of individuals of marine megafauna by species or species group recorded during the April to June 2023 seasonal survey period (May 2023)

Species Group	Species	Submerged	Surfacing	Deceased	Total
Seal	Grey Seal	25	24	-	49
	Seal species	10	22	-	32
Whale	Common Minke Whale	5	-	-	5
Dolphin	White-beaked Dolphin	126	17	-	143
Porpoise	Harbour Porpoise	585	72	-	657
Dolphin / Porpoise	Dolphin / Porpoise species	1	-	-	1
Marine Mammal species	Marine Mammal species	1	-	-	1
Shark	Basking Shark	1	-	-	1
	Shark species	1	-	-	1
Total		**755**	**135**	**0**	**890**

4.2 Spatial Distribution

Figure 3 and **Figure 4** show the location of birds and marine megafauna, respectively, recorded in the Survey Area. Birds were recorded across the Survey Area and were evenly distributed throughout. Marine megafauna species were also recorded throughout the Survey Area, but with higher concentrations in the south-east. **Figure 5** to **Figure 13** show distributions of more abundant birds by species, whilst **Figure 14** shows the distribution of less frequently recorded bird species**. Figure 15** to **Figure 18** shows the distributions of more abundant marine megafauna species within the Survey Area and Figure 19 shows distributions of less frequently recorded marine megafauna by species. **Figure 22** shows distribution of vessels in the Survey Area.

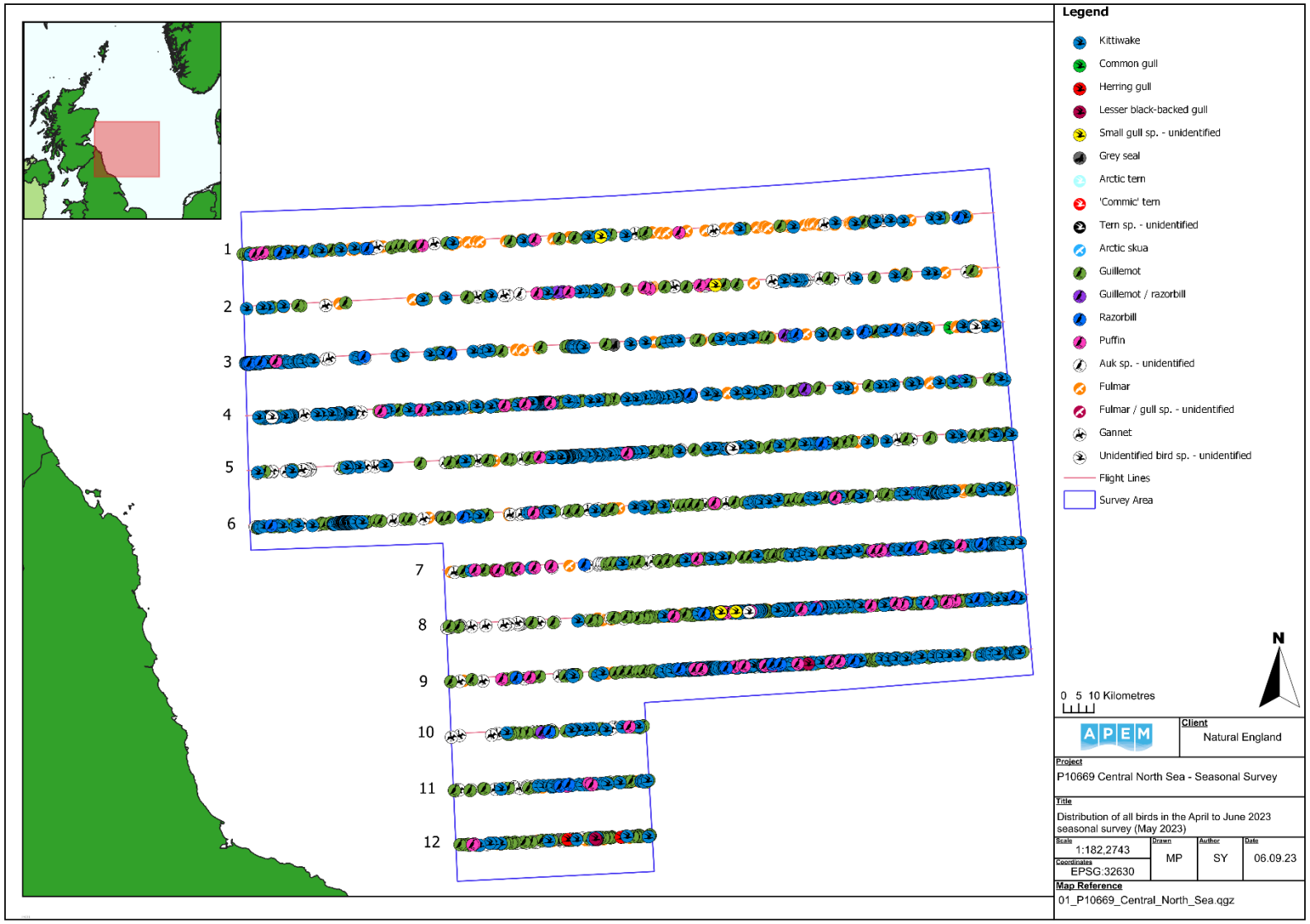

Figure 3 Distribution of all birds recorded in the April to June 2023 seasonal survey (May 2023).

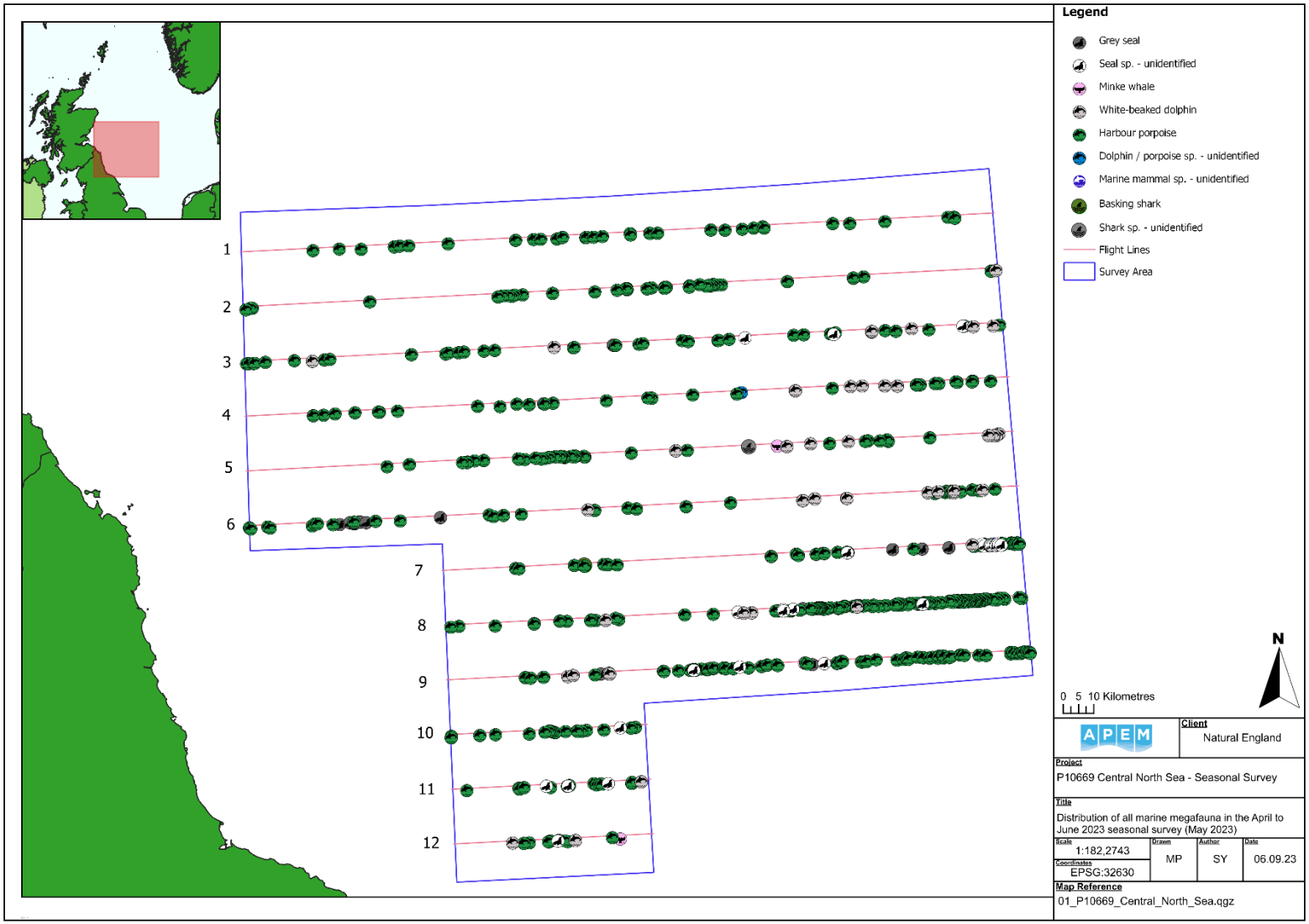

Figure 4 Distribution of all marine megafauna recorded in the April to June 2023 seasonal survey (May 2023).

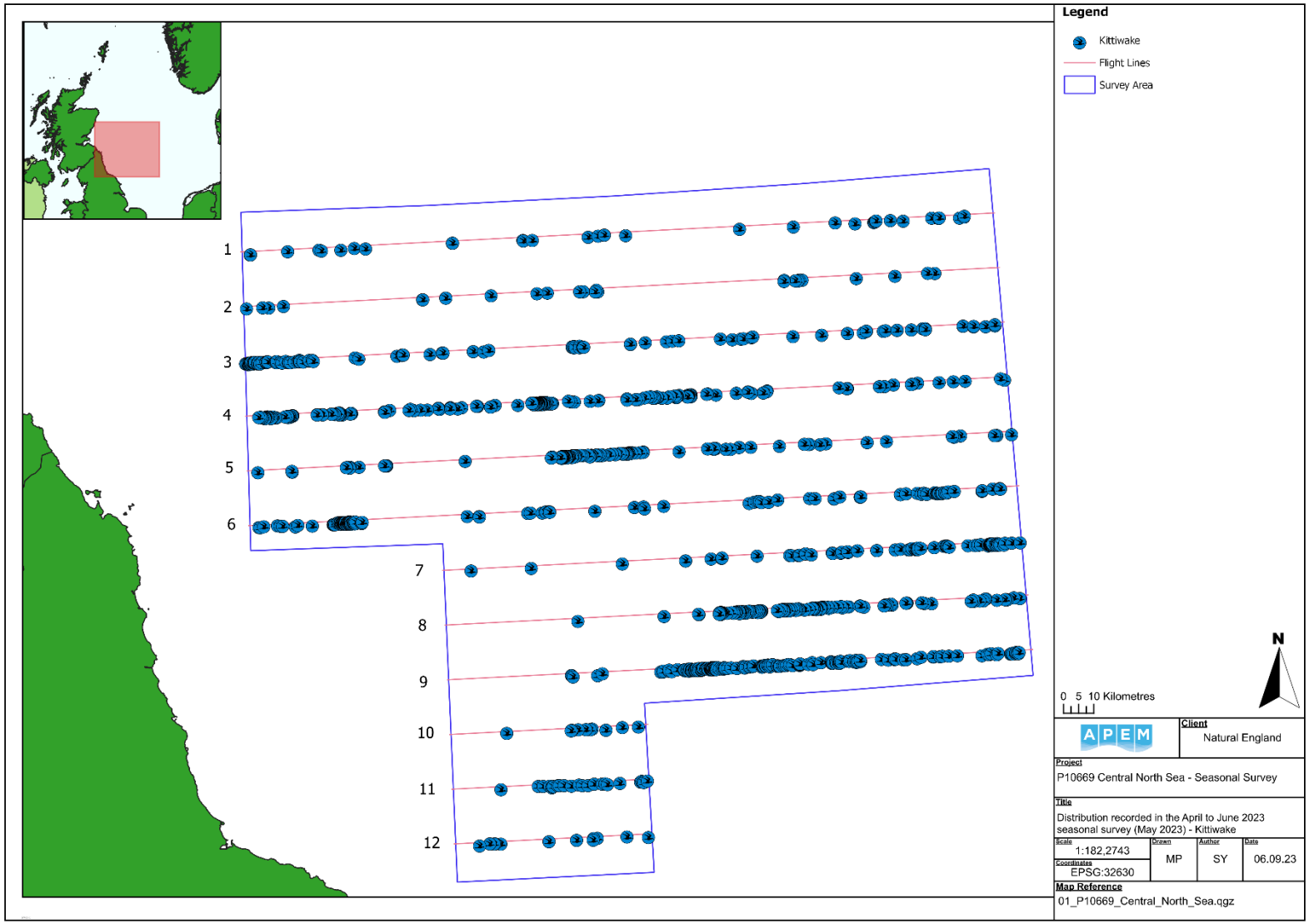

Figure 5 Kittiwake distribution recorded in the April to June 2023 seasonal survey (May 2023).

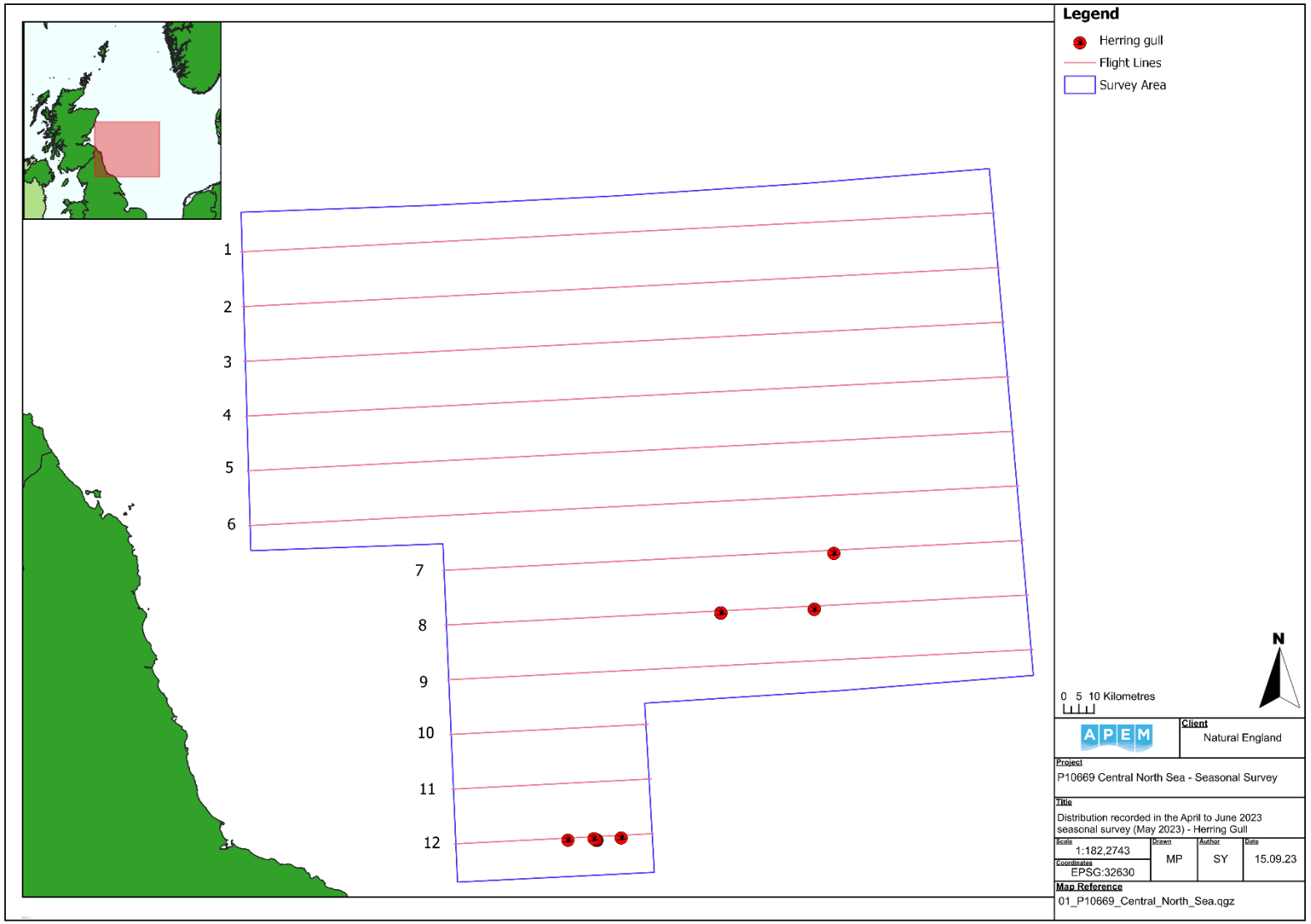

Figure 6 Herring gull distribution recorded in the April to June 2023 seasonal survey (May 2023).

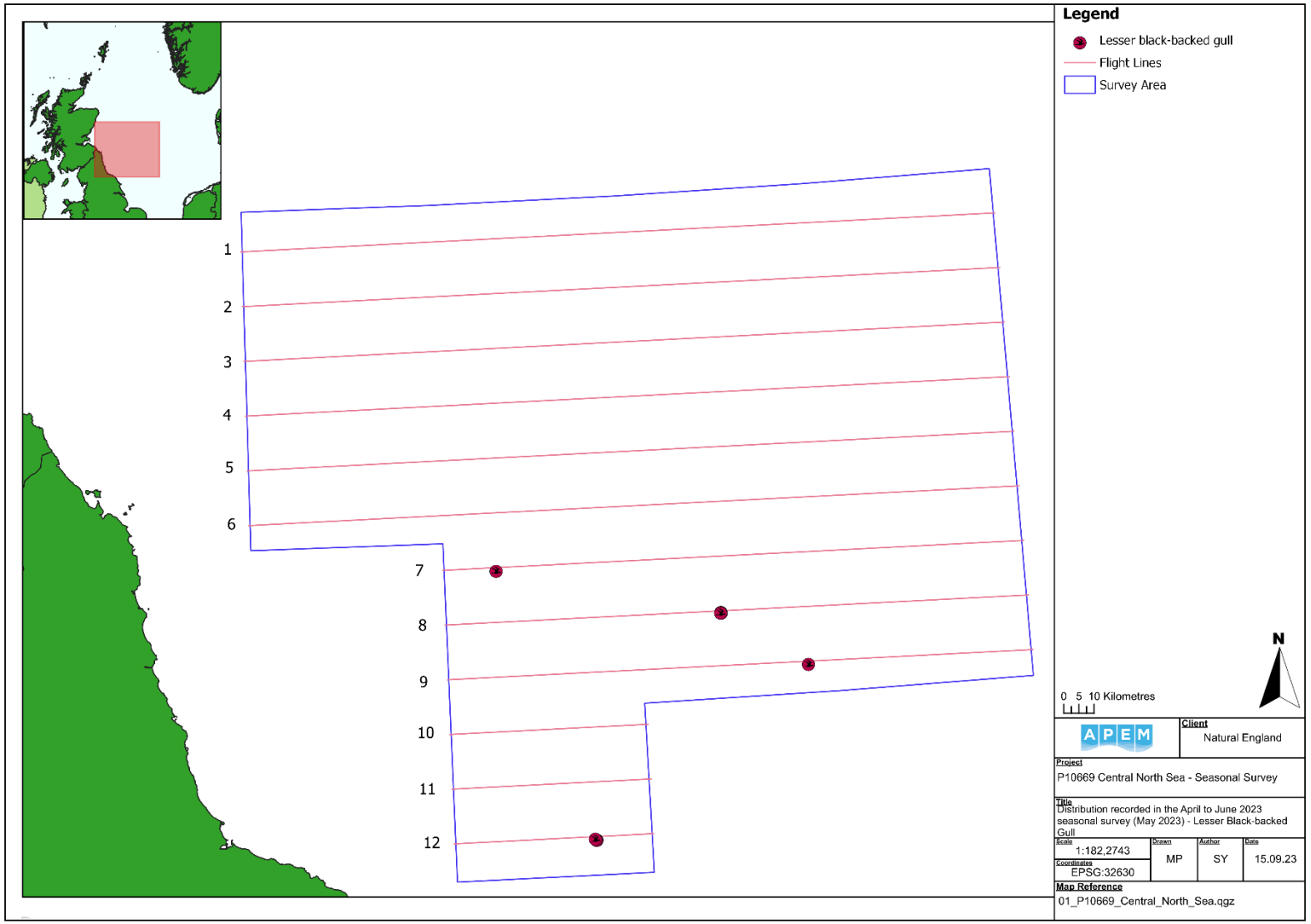

Figure 7 Lesser black-backed gull distribution recorded in the April to June 2023 seasonal survey (May 2023).

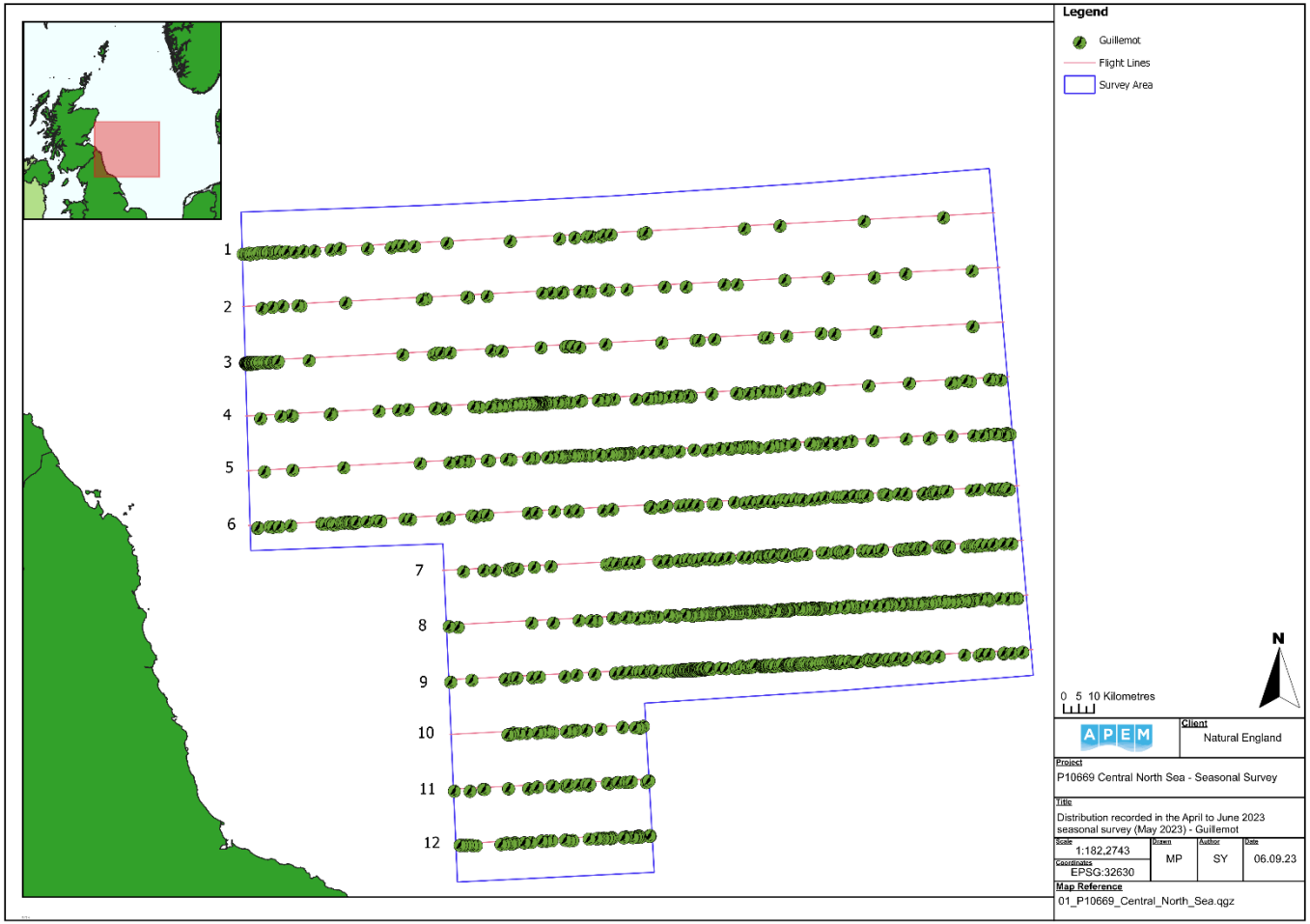

Figure 8 Guillemot distribution recorded in the April to June 2023 seasonal survey (May 2023).

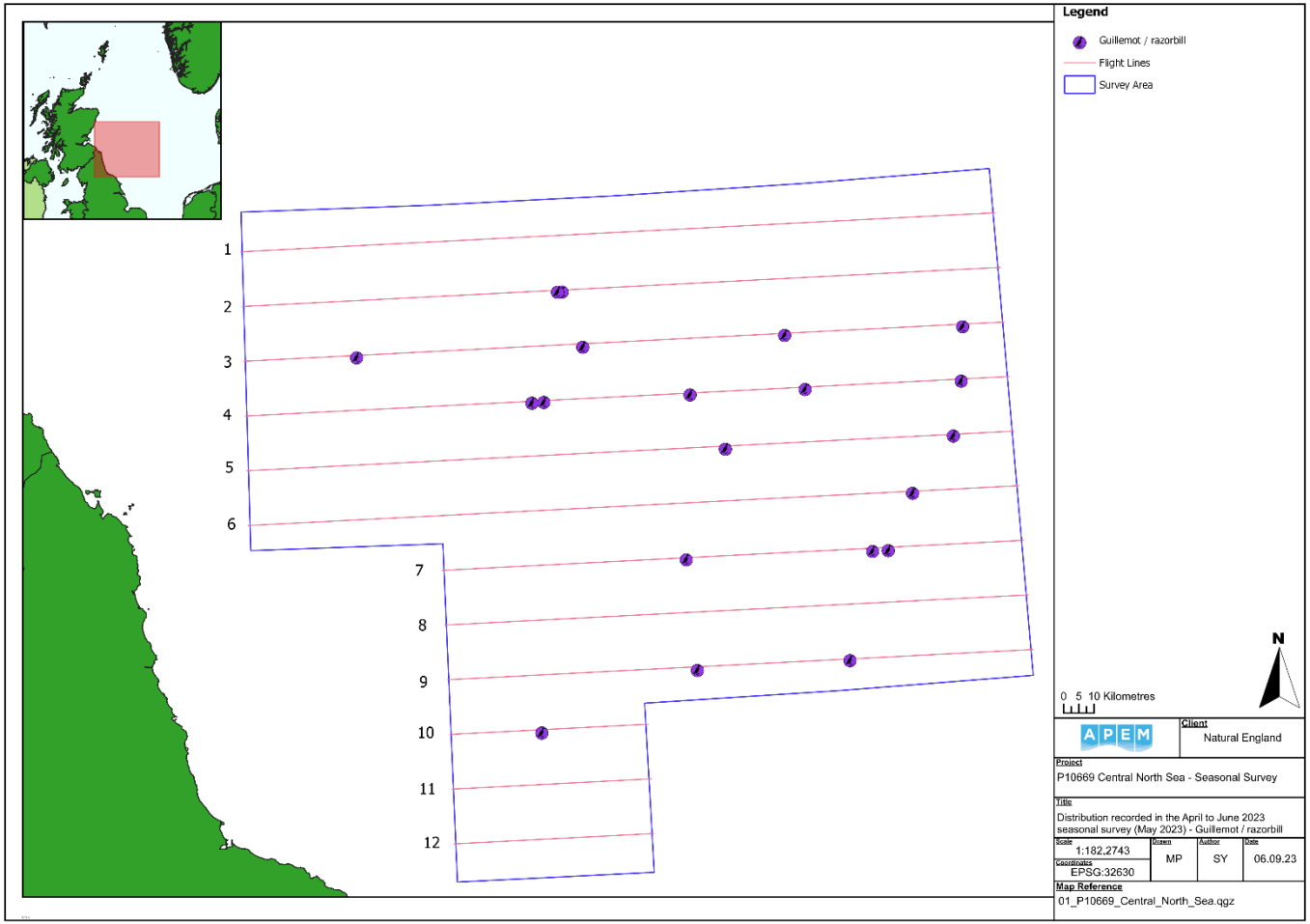

Figure 9 Guillemot / Razorbill distribution recorded in the April to June 2023 seasonal survey (May 2023).

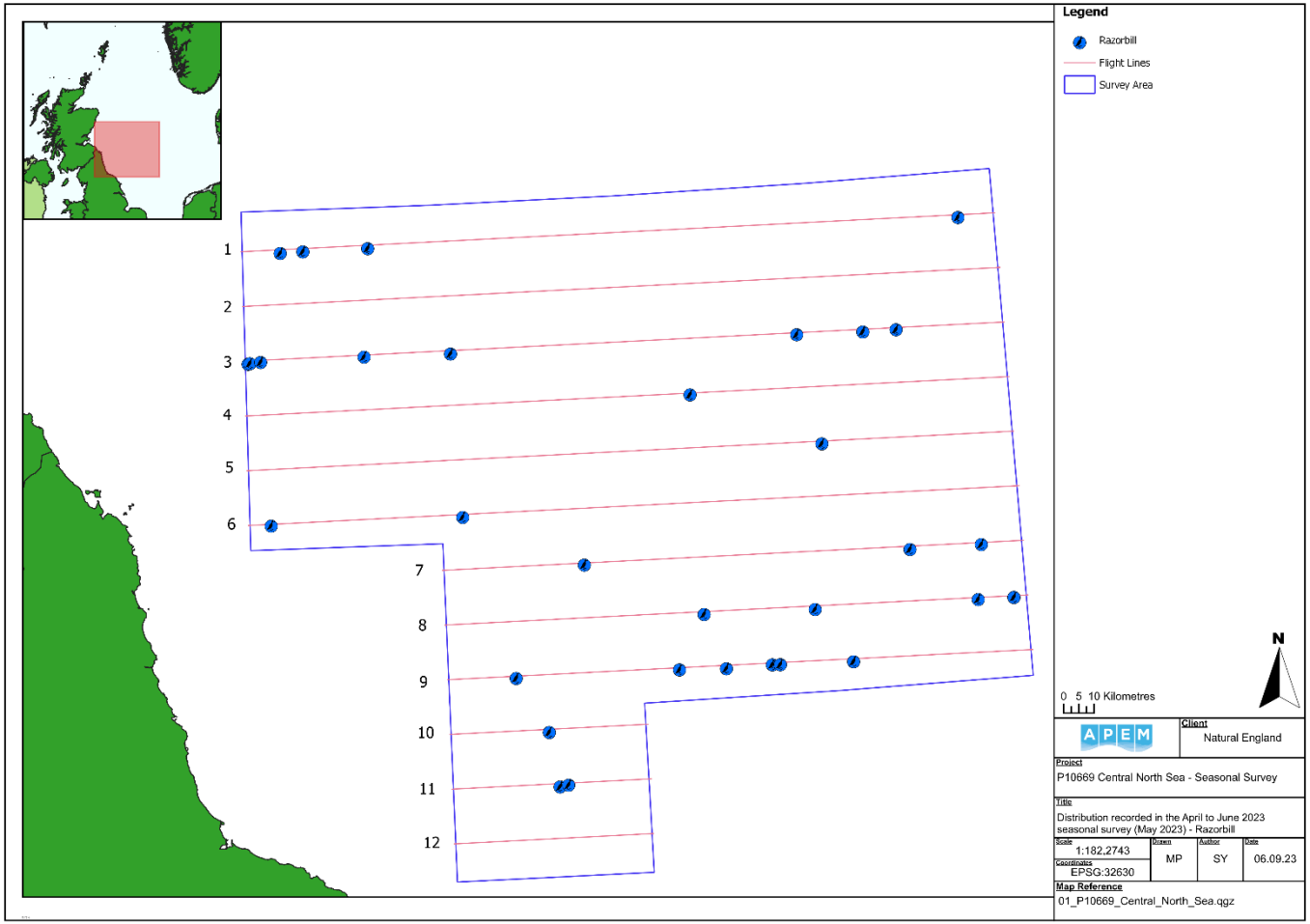

Figure 10 Razorbill distribution recorded in the April to June 2023 seasonal survey (May 2023).

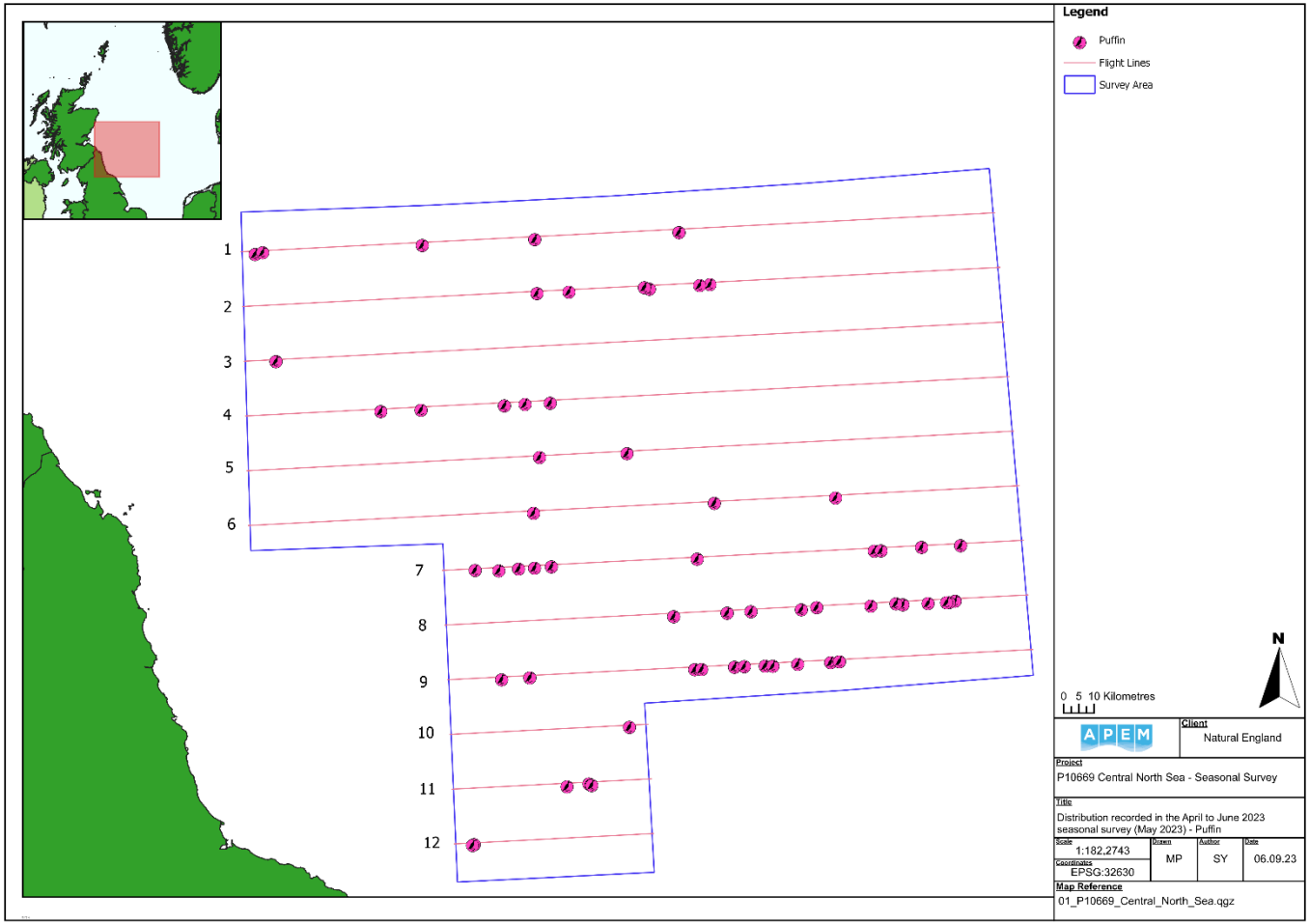

Figure 11 Puffin distribution recorded in the April to June 2023 seasonal survey (May 2023).

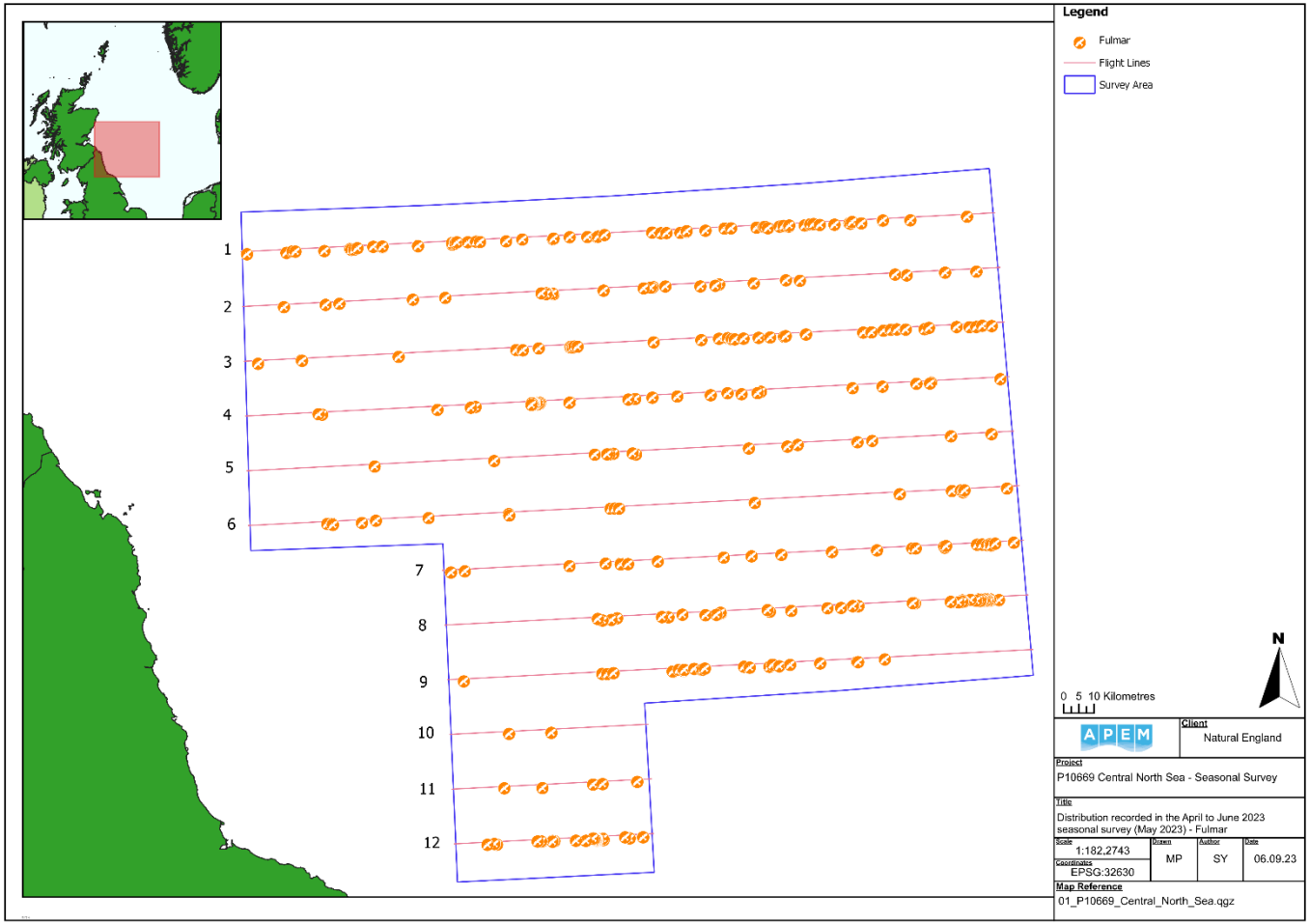

Figure 12 Fulmar distribution recorded in the April to June 2023 seasonal survey (May 2023).

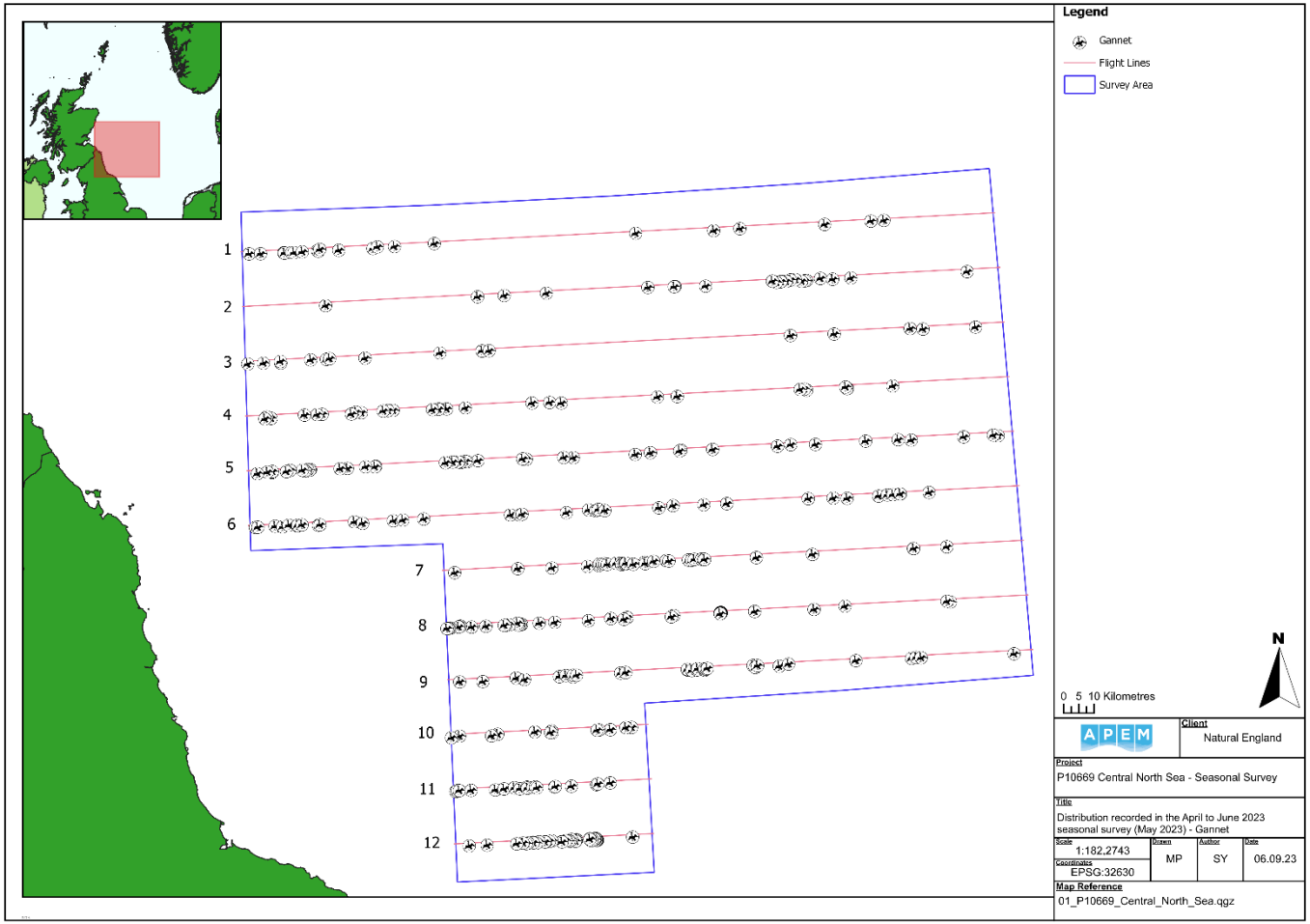

Figure 13 Gannet distribution recorded in the April to June 2023 seasonal survey (May 2023).

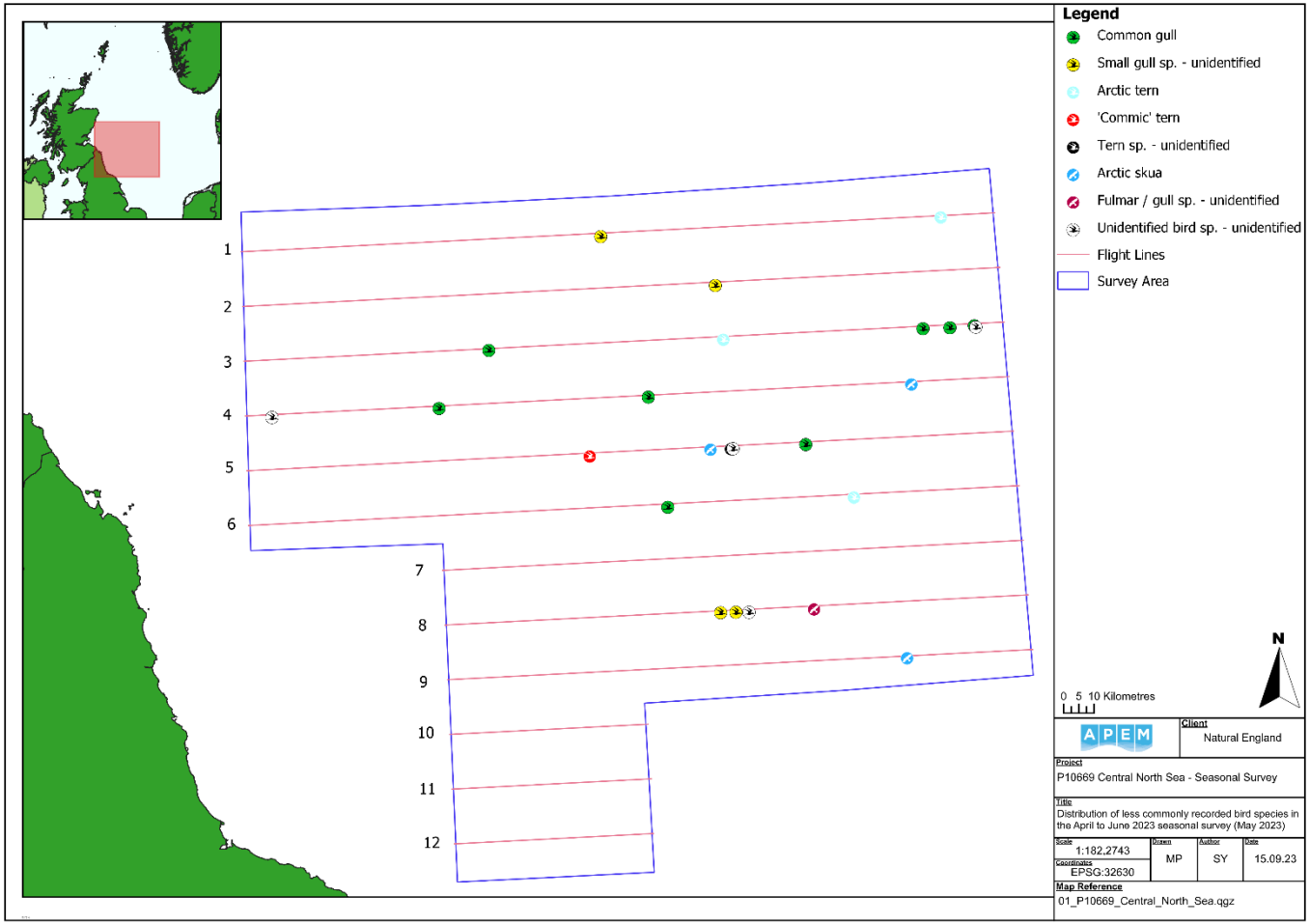

Figure 14 Distribution of less abundant bird species recorded in the April to June 2023 seasonal survey (May 2023).

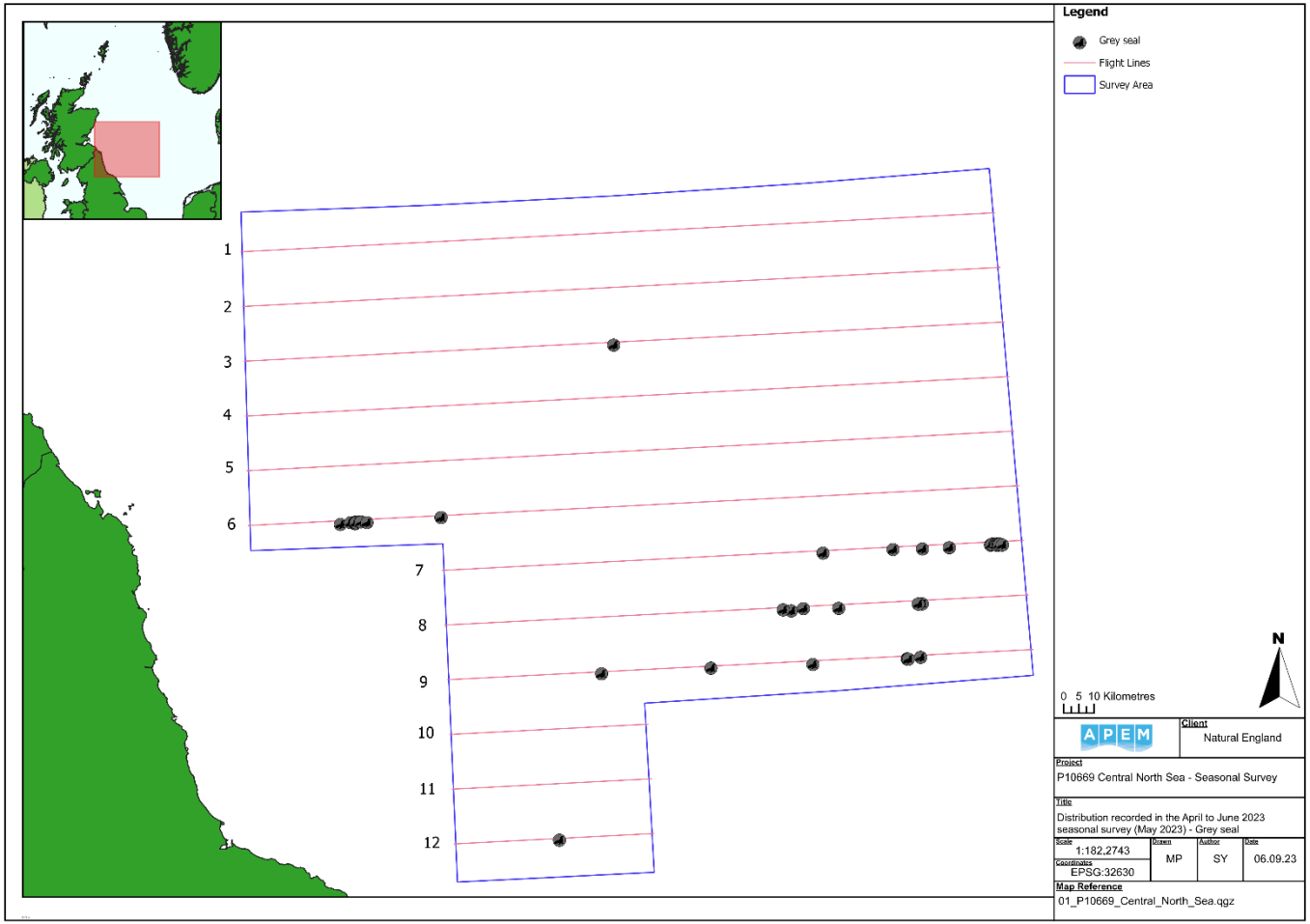

Figure 15 Grey seal distribution recorded in the April to June 2023 seasonal survey (May 2023).

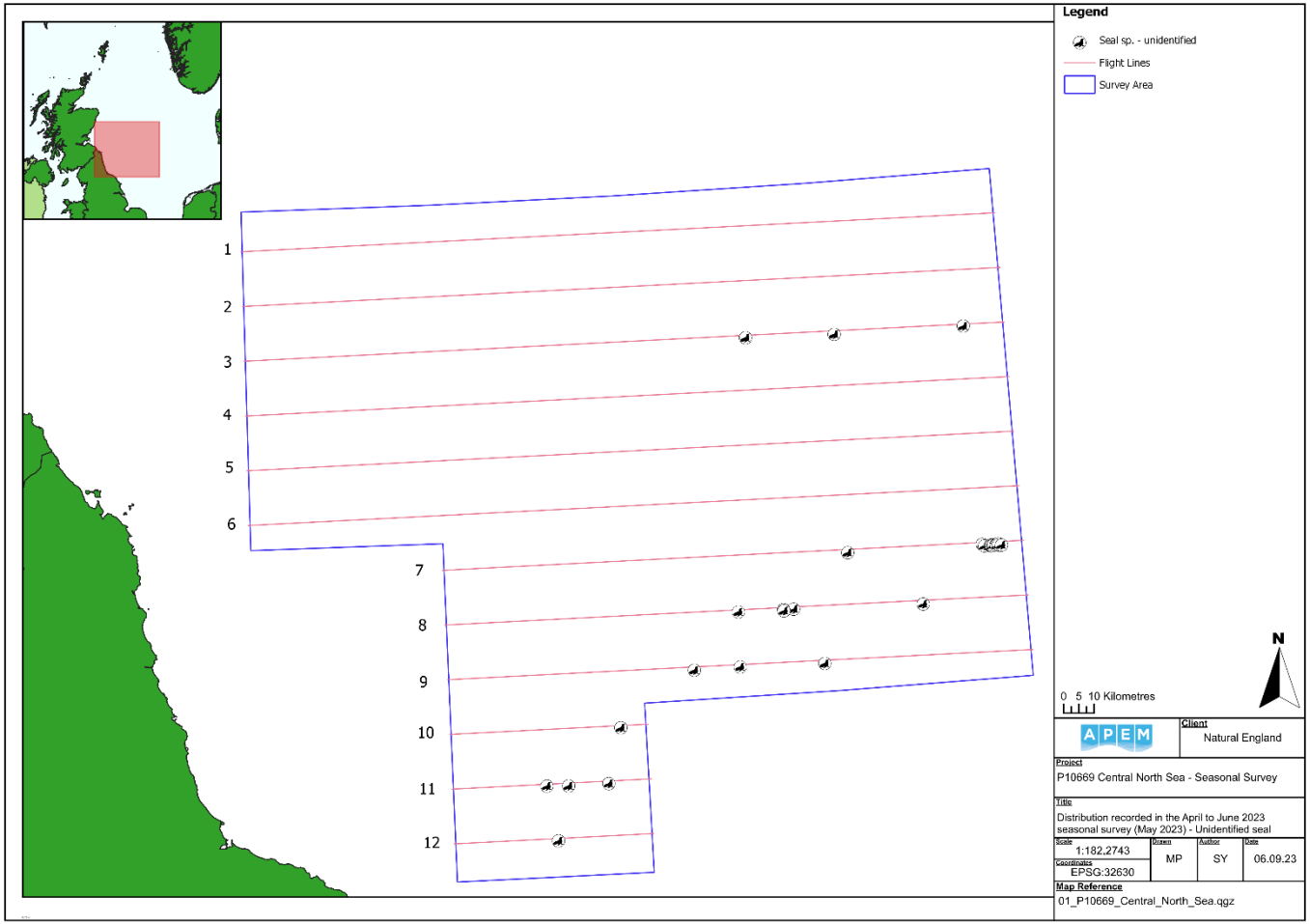

Figure 16 Unidentified seal species distribution recorded in the April to June 2023 seasonal survey (May 2023).

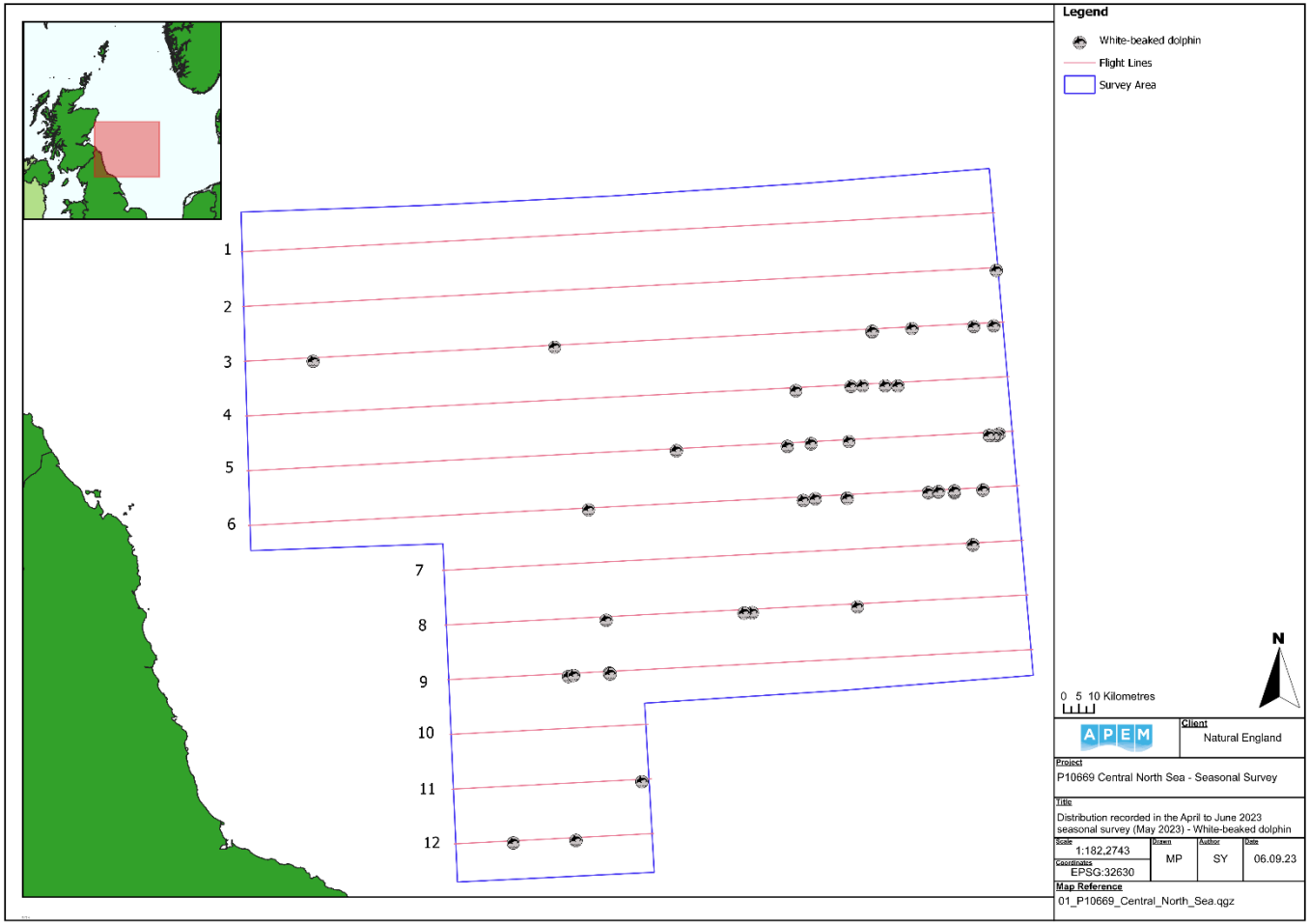

Figure 17 White-beaked dolphin distribution recorded in the April to June 2023 seasonal survey (May 2023).

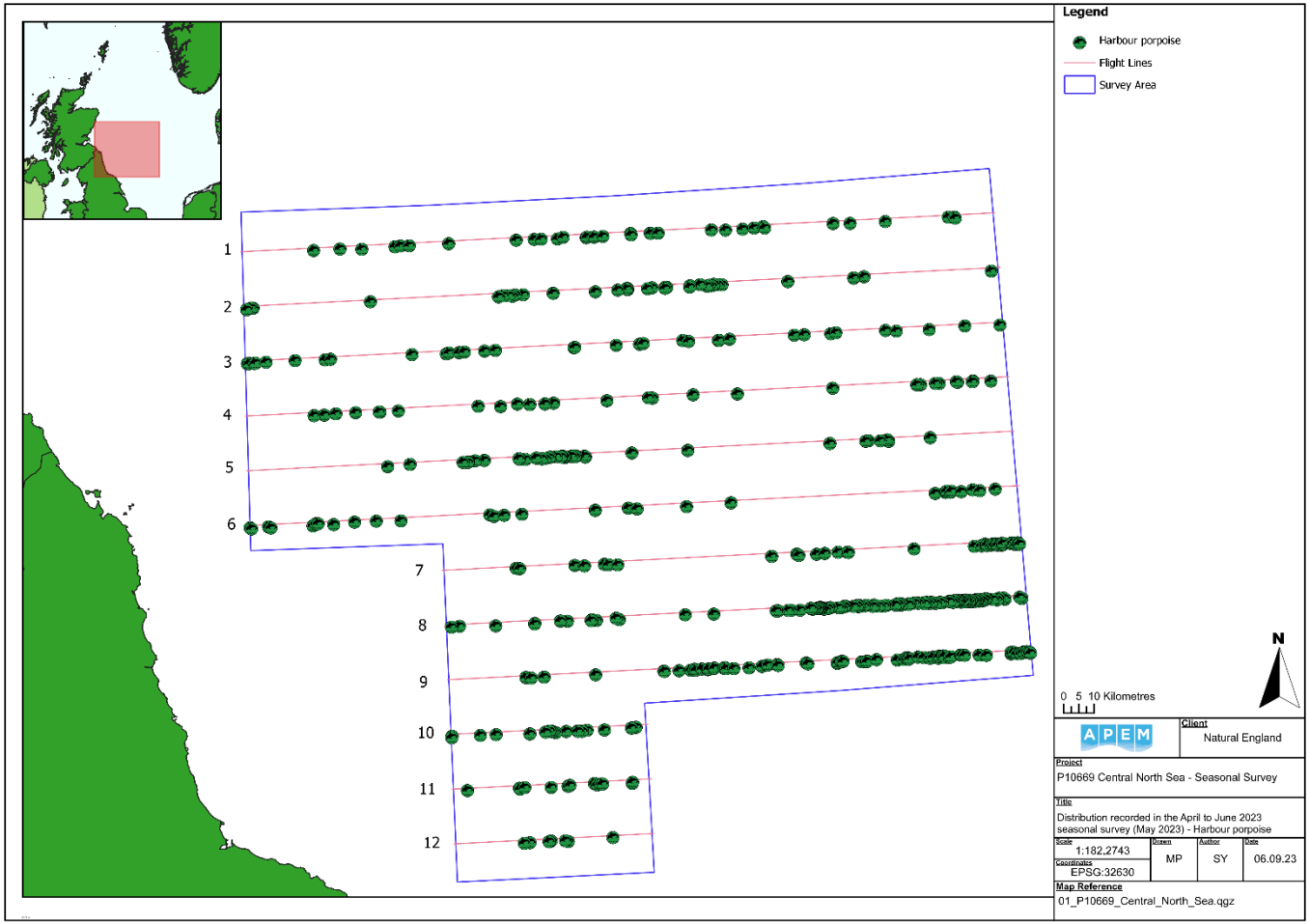

Figure 18 Harbour porpoise distribution recorded in the April to June 2023 seasonal survey (May 2023).

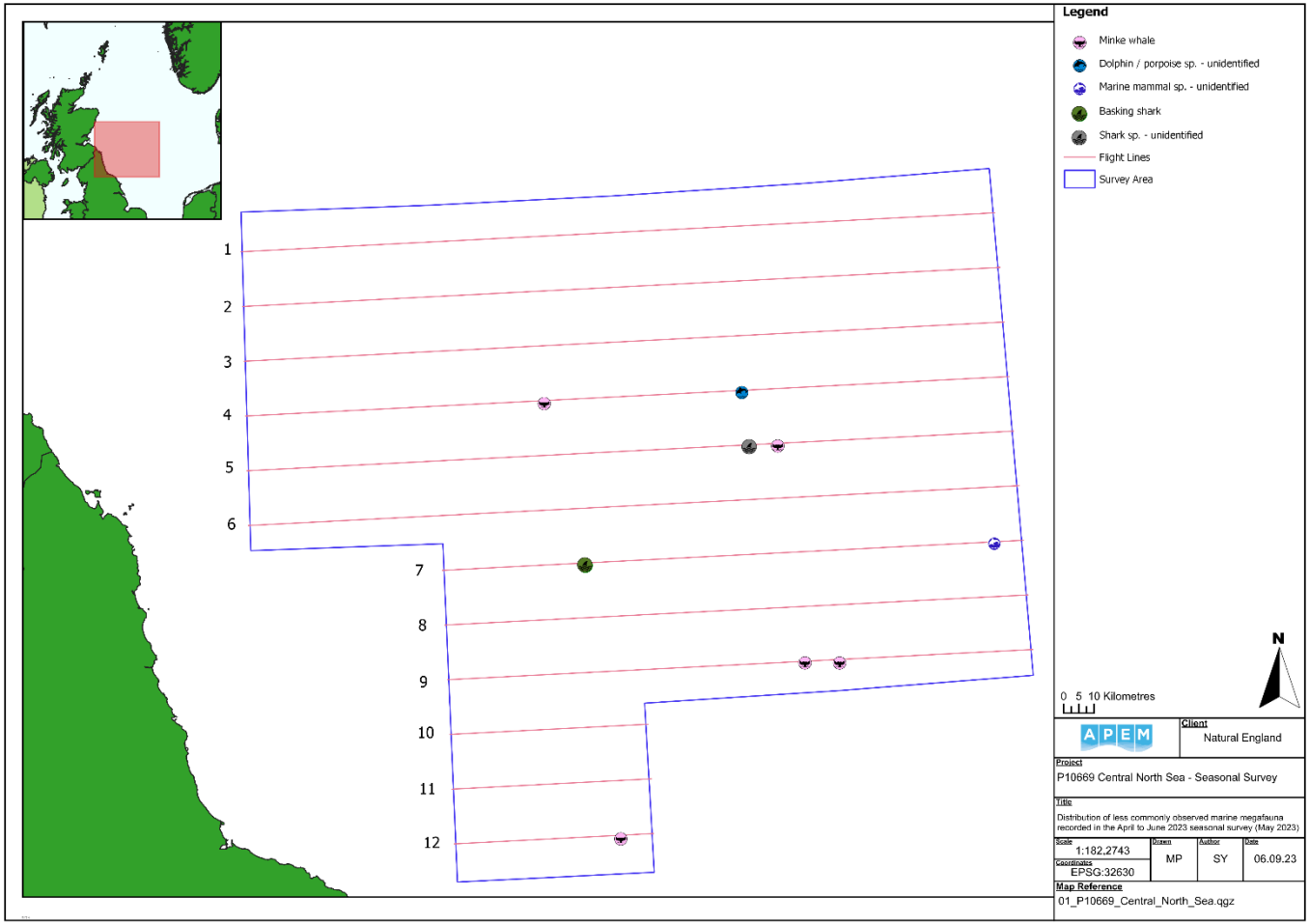

Figure 19 Distribution of less abundant marine megafauna in the April to June 2023 seasonal survey (May 2023).

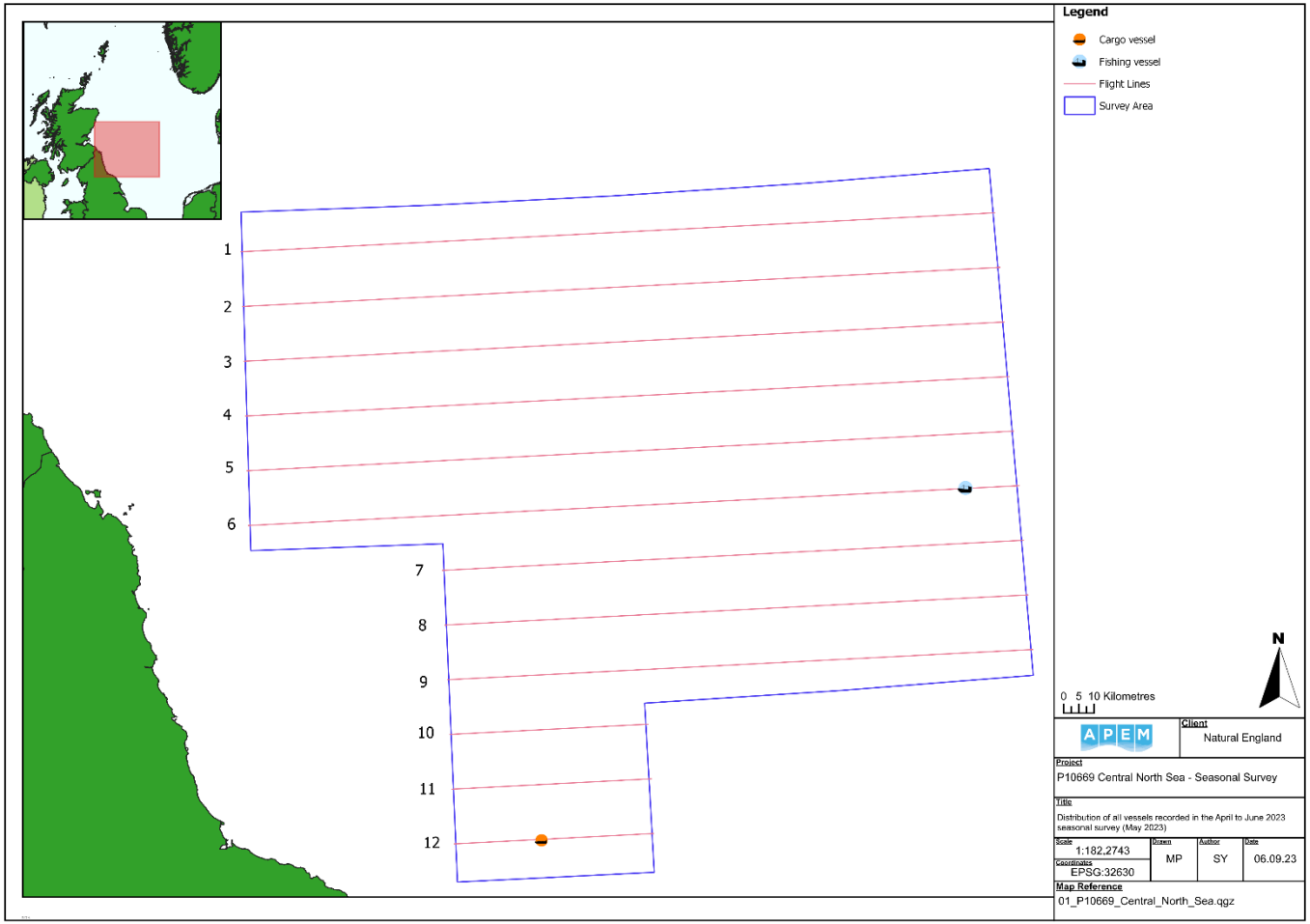

Figure 20 Distribution of vessels recorded in the April to June 2023 seasonal survey (May 2023).

5. Abiotic Structures and Observations

The following abiotic structures were observed during the survey period:

Five vessels were observed from the aircraft. On 25th May a cargo vessel was recorded on line 12 heading in a southerly direction and a cruise ship was seen 4nm to the left side of transect line 8. One fishing vessel was spotted on line 6 on 26th May, heading in an easterly direction. In addition, two unidentified vessels were recorded off line 7. The cargo vessel and the fishing vessel observed from the aircraft were also found within the imagery.

Appendix I Scientific Names and Taxonomy

Scientific names and taxonomy for all species can be found in the accompanying appendix document.

Species	Scientific.Name
Kittiwake	*Rissa tridactyla*
Common Gull	*Larus canus*
Herring Gull	*Larus argentatus*
Lesser Black-backed Gull	*Larus fuscus*
Arctic Tern	*Sterna paradisaea*
Arctic Skua	*Stercorarius parasiticus*
Guillemot	*Uria aalge*
Razorbill	*Alca torda*
Puffin	*Fratercula arctica*
Fulmar	*Fulmarus glacialis*
Gannet	*Morus bassanus*
Grey Seal	*Halichoerus grypus*
Common Minke Whale	*Balaenoptera acutorostrata*
White-beaked Dolphin	*Lagenorhynchus albirostris*
Harbour Porpoise	*Phocoena phocoena*
Basking Shark	*Cetorhinus maximus*

Appendix II Example images (snags) of birds and marine mammals.

Images are jpeg files of a lower resolution than those used by image analysts when performing identifications.

Figure 21 Grey seal

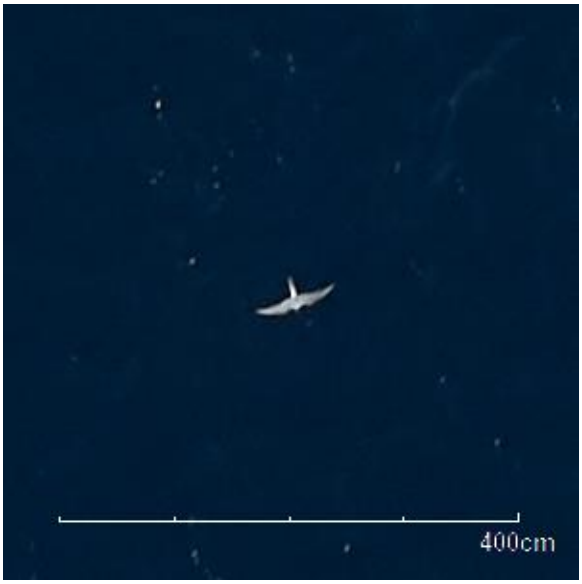

Figure 22 Arctic tern in flight

Figure 23 Fulmar in flight

Figure 24 Gannet in flight

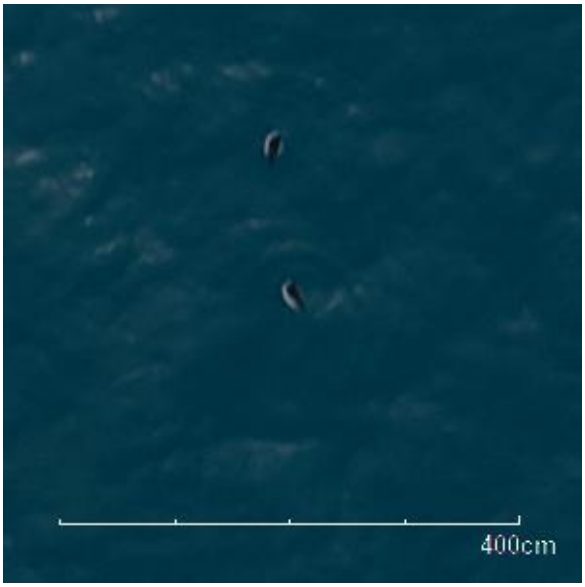

Figure 25 Razorbill

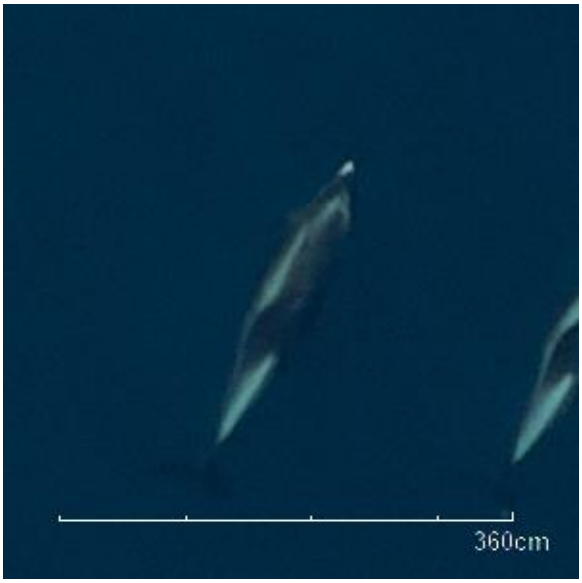

Figure 26 White-beaked dolphin