

VALUATION OF DECOMMISSIONING ALTERNATIVES **IN THE NORTH SEA**



Client: Confidential

Location: Scotland

Date: 2023

PROJECT CONTEXT

A North Sea operator needed to compare decommissioning alternatives for an offshore platform to assess their impact on natural capital and support decision-making with the regulator.

The objective was to obtain robust metrics and data to complement the NEBA-CA (Net Environmental Benefit Analysis – Comparative Assessment) process and provide clear arguments for the final decision.

RESULTS/IMPACT

Reads translated complex analysis into comparable and monetary metrics. The evaluation included emissions, discharges, waste, noise, light impacts on migratory species, fishing exclusion zones, and alterations of sediments and marine ecosystems. This enabled a comprehensive comparison of full removal, partial removal, or “leave in place” options. Results showed that keeping certain infrastructures in place not only avoided decommissioning impacts but also generated ecological and commercial benefits by supporting biodiversity regeneration, offering refuge to threatened species, and enhancing recreational and scientific services. This integrated perspective provided solid arguments for regulatory and strategic decisions in the North Sea.

