



LOCAL NOTICE TO MARINERS No. 31(T) of 2026

Subsea Xplorer – USV survey Trials

Notice is hereby given that Subsea Xplorer will be undertaking hydrographic survey trials with their uncrewed surface vessel within the Cowes Triangle on **Thursday 29 October 2026**. The trials will take place during daylight hours only.

The 8.4m uncrewed surface vessel – Xplorer 1 – will be operating in the Triangle and supported by a 7m manned catamaran – Top Cat.



Figure 1: Xplorer 1



Figure 2: Top Cat

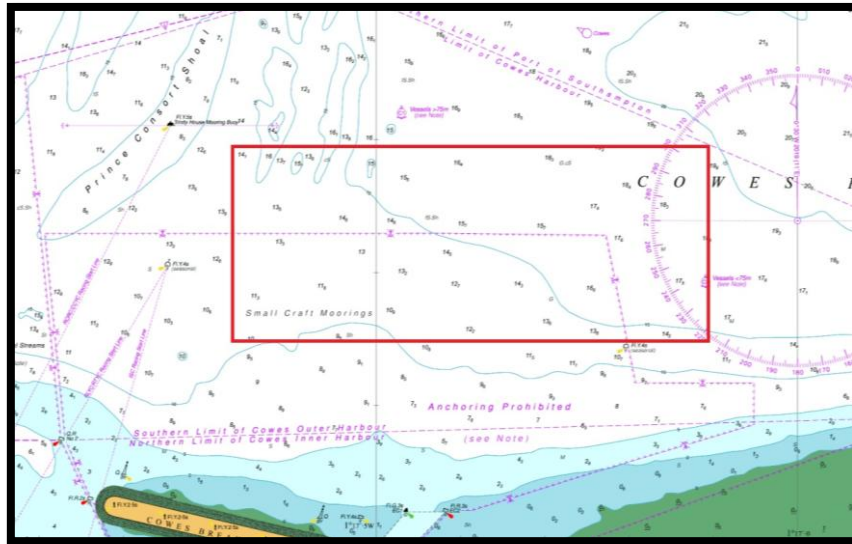


Figure 3: Survey Trial Location within the Cowes Triangle

The aim of the trial is to gain better understanding of uncrewed surface vessel capabilities and controls in hydrographic surveying modes within tidal waters.

Vessels will display lights and shapes as required by the COLREGS and support vessel, call sign “Top Cat”, will maintain a listening watch on VHF Channels 69, 12 and 16. Mariners are advised to keep clear as safe navigation permits, passing with slow speed and minimum wash.

This local notice to mariners will self-cancel at 2359 on 31 October 2026.

Jon Kidd

Harbour Master, Harbour Office, Town Quay, Cowes, Isle of Wight, PO31 7AS

Email: chc@cowes.co.uk Website: www.cowes.co.uk

28 October 2026

Owners, Agents, Charterers, Marinas, Yacht Clubs and Recreational Sailing Organisations should ensure that the contents of this Notice are made known to the masters or persons in charge of their vessels or craft.