UK 2019 seepage study

As a world-leading satellite remote sensing service provider, NPA Satellite Mapping (NPA) detects, interprets, classifies and monitors natural seepage and pollution slicks occurring in offshore environments.

**UK seepage study**

NPA’s satellite seepage detection project offers extensive coverage across offshore UK. Seepage detection by SAR [Synthetic Aperture Radar] is a proven technique for mapping surface oil seeps which could provide the first indication of petroleum systems in these basins:

- Nearly 1000 interpreted SAR scenes covering all of the 32nd Licensing Round blocks
- Availability of new, high-quality SAR imagery
- New data is being sourced over areas of interest

**Background**

In July 2019, the Oil and Gas Authority (OGA) launched an offshore licensing round consisting of 768 blocks across the UKCS. NPA’s offshore seepage database provides comprehensive data coverage over all the UK blocks on offer. This data set represents a vital source of information for assessing the potential for oil within the UK’s offshore acreage.

In light of the UK licensing round, NPA is currently increasing coverage levels of satellite data offshore UK, which could potentially reveal temporal repetition over existing slicks or discover new sites of possible seepage. This key information for offshore UK is now available from NPA.

**Coverage of UK 32nd offshore license round 2019**

![Coverage map of UK 32nd offshore license round 2019](image)

Distribution of SAR images over offshore UK (ocean basemap courtesy of ESRI, GEBCO, NOAA, National Geographic, DeLorme, HERE, Geonames.org, and other contributors).

**Possible seepage slicks on SAR image**

![Possible seepage slick offshore UK within bid round license block](image)

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