

## **Fish and seabed studies start**

### **February 2026**

Iberdrola Australia's environmental team has been busy preparing for this month's fish and benthic surveys for our Aurora Green Offshore Wind Project. The surveys will be done in summer and winter in our feasibility licence and export cable corridor investigation areas. Locally based vessels and crews will take our marine scientists out to the site from Port Welshpool, Port Albert and Lakes Entrance.

Our benthic surveys look at the types of habitats on the ocean floor. We'll observe the water column and take some water and sediment samples to get a better idea of what's on the seabed. Our fish surveys involve cameras placed close to the surface and seabed, so that we can observe the types and numbers of the many fish species that inhabit this part of the Gippsland coast.

We're now several months into some of our other marine environment investigations, such as visual surveys of marine mammals and birdlife, as well as monitoring of the ocean conditions (wind, waves, currents and atmosphere).

Our passive acoustic monitoring equipment has been out in Bass Strait for over six months now and had its first service visit in January (pictured), an exciting milestone for our project. The equipment is collecting data on the sounds occurring in the ocean so that we can understand its current state and plan to avoid and minimise potential noise impacts on marine life during our construction or operational activities.

All this activity comes as the Victorian Government announced it will commence Australia's first offshore wind auction in August 2026. This confirmation of the government's support for the offshore wind industry is encouraging, and Iberdrola Australia now looks forward to continuing to work closely with the government to understand further details about the auction.

For more details about Aurora Green email [offshorewind@iberdrola.com.au](mailto:offshorewind@iberdrola.com.au).