Harnessing the wind and the sea

Coexistence between commercial fisheries and offshore wind

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AQUATIC RESOURCE MANAGEMENT



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Environmental

Electromagnetic fields (EMF) Change in species ecology Noise and vibration Fish aggregation device effect Benthic recovery





Regulation and Policy

Restricts fishing activities within an offshore wind farm









Managing interactions

- Offshore wind farm site selection and boundary refinement
- Considering fishing activity as a constraint to development
- Generate heat mapping of key fisheries areas for Norway and EU fisheries across all active gear types
- Categorise fisheries constraints areas based on:
 - Knock out
 - Major
 - Moderate
 - Minor
 - Negligible



- Utilise different data sources to establish baseline
- Automatic Identification System (AIS)
- Route density mapping for fishing vessels
- Number of routes per km² per year





- Vessel Monitoring System (VMS)
 - o Demersal Otter Trawl
- Surface Swept Area Ratio
- Proxy for fishing intensity
- EU vessels including Norway and UK
- Vessels 12m and over



Wind Farm Design



Foundation types



Array layout

















Navigational safety considerations

- Vessel transit routes
 - Routes for wind farm traffic
 - Routes for other marine traffic
- Lighting and marking standards
- Safety Zones
- Charting of infrastructure





Fisheries liaison – when and why?



- Early engagement is key
- Long-term relationships to be formed
- Importance of an objective approach and tone

Fisheries liaison – who and how?



Offshore wind developers

At sea interactions

Dropped objects protocol

Gear damage and loss protocol

- Representative bodies (national organisations, producer organisations)
- Regional fisheries working groups
- Local ports
- Individual fishermen

- Developer
- Company Fisheries Liaison Officer
- Fishing Industry Representatives
- Offshore Fisheries Liaison Officers / Guard Vessels
 - Commercial fisheries EIA lead

Fisheries liaison – who and how?

- Regional Commercial Fisheries Working Groups (CFWGs)
- Forth and Tay / Moray Firth developers,
 company Fisheries Liaison Officers, CFWG
 Fishing Industry Representatives, national
 and regional Associations, Marine
 Scotland, Marine Scotland Science, Crown
 Estate Scotland
- Strategic approach, efficient use of resource, transfer of lessons learnt
- Project ethos can differ, not all fisheries
 stakeholder interests represented



Mitigation mechanisms

How to encourage co-existence?

Embedded design measures and liaison

Additional mitigation

Cooperation agreements and payments

Other considerations

Overtrawl studies Gear/vessel/fishing method modification support Use of fishing vessels by projects Community funds Fisheries and commercial stock monitoring programmes



equinor 👯

Equinor and Marine Scotland collaborate to trial safe fishing within floating wind farms



Good practice

- Offshore Norge Recommended practice for fisheries and offshore wind coexistence.
- UK-wide FLOWW guidelines: •
 - FLOWW Best Practice Guidance for Offshore Renewables Developments:

Recommendations for Fisheries Disruption Settlements and Community Funds

(2015)

FLOWW Best Practice Guidance for Offshore Renewables Developments: ٠

Recommendations for Fisheries Liaison (2014)





- - Guidelines for Mitigating Impacts to Commercial and Recreational Fisheries (2022)
- Japanese Renewable Energy Institute guidance:
 - Proposals for the Coexistence of Offshore Wind with Local Communities and the

Fishing Industry

Monitoring, marine squeeze & co-existence

Monitoring effects

- Neart na Gaoithe Offshore Wind Farm Preliminary Environmental Monitoring Report
 - Commercial fisheries monitoring existing data sources
- Time intervals that compliment key project milestones
 - Pre- construction
 - During construction (every 6 months)
 - Post construction



Neart na Gaoithe Offshore Wind Farm

Project Environmental Monitoring Programme Revision 3.0 June 2020 DOCUMENT REFERENCE: NNG-NNG-ECF-PLN-0013





Monitoring effects



Monitoring effects - lobster





Figure 3.6. Time series, trendlines and inter-annual variation of landed weight (tonnes) of lobster from the local study area (ICES rectangles 40E7 and 41E7) (data source: MMO, 2021)

Monitoring effects - lobster



Figure 3.8. Time series, trendlines and inter-annual variation of landed weight (tonnes) of lobster from the regional study area (ICES rectangles 42E7-E8, 41E6-E8 and 40E6-E8) (data source: MMO, 2021)

Marine spatial squeeze





Marine spatial squeeze



Co-existence

- Fishing trials within floating offshore wind farm Hywind
 - o 3 gear types
- Co-location with other projects where feasible
 - \circ Aquaculture
 - Protected areas
- Communication, liaison and collaboration.
- Safeguarding key fishing areas.



Thank you

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