

Meeting Notes

Project Name	Fishing Liaison with Offshore Wind and Wet Renewables Group (FLOWW)
Meeting Venue	Held online via Microsoft Teams
Date & Time of Meeting	14:00 on Thursday 21 st January 2021

Chair of the Meeting	Colin Warwick (CW)	
Names of the Attendees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Sion Roberts (The Crown Estate) – Secretariat ▪ Tim Stiven (The Crown Estate) ▪ Natalie Smith (The Crown Estate) ▪ Merlin Jackson ▪ Courtney French (Ørsted) ▪ John Hartley (Hartley Anderson) ▪ Roger May (Marine Scotland) ▪ Bruce Buchanan (Marine Scotland) ▪ Malcolm Morrison (SFF) ▪ Alistair Byford-Bates (Wessex Archaeology) ▪ Andrew Hamilton (Ocean Winds) ▪ Carol Cooper (RWE) ▪ Aaron Mair (Porthill Marine) ▪ Amelia Chilcott (RWE) ▪ Darryl Hall (Vattenfall) ▪ Ian Rowe (NFFO) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Johnathan Walters (Seafish/Kingfisher) ▪ Kate Bellew (Crown Estate Scotland) ▪ Lara Leonard (Ørsted) ▪ Jake Laws (Vattenfall) ▪ Nick Salter (MCGA) ▪ Andrew Gill (CEFAS) ▪ Rhys Ambrose (Vodafone) ▪ Dale Rodmell (NFFO) ▪ Matthew Frow (Seafish / Kingfisher) ▪ Kirsty Wright (Marine Scotland) ▪ John Wrottesley (ESCA) ▪ Iain McMyn (SSE) ▪ Claire Gilchrist (NNG) ▪ Paul Carter (RWE) ▪ Steve Dawe (Vodafone) ▪ Harry Wick (NIFPO) ▪ Sol Judah (Scottish Power) ▪ Andrew Third (SFF) ▪ Elizabeth Thomas

Item	Notes	
1.0	<p>WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION</p> <p>The chair welcomed everyone and actions from the previous meeting (October) were reviewed and discussed.</p> <p>As per Action 2020/03, The Crown Estate agreed to update the FLOWW website and ensure that all relevant documents (e.g. meeting minutes, best practice guidelines) are clearly visible and accessible. Any further suggestions from attendees were welcomed.</p> <p>Several actions (see below) were agreed to be ongoing.</p>	
ACTION 2020/01	Table further discussion on SOV operations and safety zones for next FLOWW meeting; seek input from BEIS, MS, developer perspective (for context see meeting minutes from 02/06/2020).	The Crown Estate
ACTION 2020/08	<p>The Crown Estate to approach the MMO / BEIS to seek clarification on their decommissioning approach.</p> <p>The Crown Estate noted good discussions on decommissioning approaches, highlighting that the assumption is removal unless there</p>	The Crown Estate

Meeting Notes

Item	Notes	
	is a technical inability to do so. However, on-going projects assessing the feasibility of cable and cable protection removal were also highlighted, the outputs of which may inform future discussions. As a result, it was agreed to keep this action open.	
ACTION 2020/09	<p>The Crown Estate to approach ORE catapult to seek contributions on Floating Offshore Wind for the next meeting.</p> <p>It was noted that ORE catapult's collaboration with Marine Scotland may come to fruition by the next meeting, so it was agreed that they would be approached to contribute to the next meeting instead.</p>	
2.0	<p>BPG REVIEW UPDATE</p> <p>Roger May (Marine Scotland) provided an update on the progress made in reviewing the Best Practice Guidance, followed by a brief discussion. In summary:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It was noted that the review is not yet complete, and is pending further contributions from some FLOWW members. An action was raised (ACTION 2021/01) for Marine Scotland (RM) to circulate an email to FLOWW members outlining the remaining contributions required. The submission of references or glossary terms/abbreviations was also welcomed for inclusion in the Best Practice Guidance (ACTION 2021/02). It was noted that a subgroup meeting at the end of February will aim to go over the document in detail prior to sharing more widely. Attendees thanked Marine Scotland (RM) for its work on the guidance, and queried editing the document in the Marine Scotland Objective Connect document sharing tool. RM clarified that whilst work continues on the document offline, edits should be inserted into the shared document for incorporation into the final version. It was noted that there is a need for the guidance document to balance and recognise the differences between English and Scottish approaches. A question was raised over whether / when the group wished to consider best practice guidance for floating offshore wind. ORE catapult's production of several guidance documents (including one focused on offshore wind technologies) was noted, and it was questioned whether their offshore wind guidance could be incorporated into the Best Practice Guidance. The Chair (CW) cautioned that the implications of floating offshore wind remain uncertain, and that further consideration is required before considering best practice guidance. 	
ACTION 2021/01	Marine Scotland to circulate an email to FLOWW members outlining the remaining contributions required for the Best Practice Guidance.	Marine Scotland
ACTION 2021/02	Where applicable, FLOWW members to submit references and/or glossary terms/abbreviations for inclusion in the Best Practice Guidance to Marine Scotland (RM).	FLOWW Membership
3.0	<p>MARINE SCOTLAND – SCOTMER PROGRAMME UPDATE</p> <p>Kirsty Wright (Marine Scotland) provided an update on the ScotMER programme, followed by a brief discussion. In summary:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Marine Scotland held their ScotMER symposium in December, where fisheries and floating offshore wind were well represented. The event was well attended and received good feedback. 	

Meeting Notes

Item	Notes	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The streamlined ScotMER evidence map has been updated and published following stakeholder feedback. An action was raised for Marine Scotland to forward a link to all FLOWW members (ACTION 2021/03). The fish and fisheries literature review being conducted by Brown and May Marine (commissioned by Marine Scotland and The Crown Estate) is progressing well and due to end in March. It was noted that a consultation questionnaire was sent to stakeholders last year and a draft report is expected at the end of January. Marine Scotland offered to forward this draft report to the FLOWW group in February for comment (ACTION 2021/04). A presentation of this work is also expected, and Marine Scotland is currently deciding how best to proceed with this to ensure interested stakeholders are present. An action was raised for The Crown Estate (SR) to forward on this event to FLOWW members when details become available (ACTION 2021/05). The fisheries displacement contract has been delayed due to contract issues. 	
ACTION 2021/03	Marine Scotland to forward on a link to the ScotMER evidence map to all FLOWW members.	Marine Scotland
ACTION 2021/04	Marine Scotland to forward on a draft report from the fisheries literature review to all FLOWW members for comment when available.	Marine Scotland
ACTION 2021/05	The Crown Estate to forward on details of the fisheries review presentation to all FLOWW members when available.	The Crown Estate
4.0	<p>BREXIT IMPACTS ON UK FISHERIES</p> <p>Malcolm Morrison (SFF) and Dale Rodmell (NFFO) both provided presentations on the impacts of Brexit on the UK fishing industry. These were followed by a brief discussion.</p> <p>In summary, SFF highlighted that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The UK fishing industry saw no benefits arising from the Trade and Co-operation Agreement (TCA) and with it coming so late in the day, the negotiations for the 2021 TAC will be held now. Under the CFP, with relative stability, quota was often allocated to countries that did not habitually use it. This had created a system of international swaps, which can no longer happen post-Brexit. The industry had expected the UK to become a coastal state, which decided who was allowed access to our waters, but the TCA created a 5 year access plan then annual talks for at least the next five years, which obviously entails the possibility of deals. <p>NFFO highlighted that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Issues surrounding international swaps is a concern for the industry, noting that industry should be engaged to move this forward. Historic rights have been retained across much of UK waters until 2026. After this annual agreements will occur. There is little change in fishing vessels operating near offshore wind projects. Pressures on the industry are increasing from renewables and the extension of marine protected area management measures, which together are limiting fishing ground availability. 	

Meeting Notes

Item	Notes	
	<p>Both presentations highlighted the industry's concern with the outcome of the Brexit negotiations. The Chair (CW) followed on from these presentations by reiterating that emphasis on renewables has increased pressure on an industry already under pressure from Brexit, and that collaboration between fisheries and renewables will be key moving forward.</p> <p>Discussions then surrounded the best way to involve fisheries in the planning process. Key points raised during this discussion noted that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early regional/focused consultation is needed to discuss draft development plans. • Fisheries engagement has begun to improve, particularly referencing the Scottish Sectoral Marine Plan, but more work is required to ensure active engagement is retained. • Fishing awareness courses are valuable tools to provide developers with greater insights into the fishing sector. • There is a need to include fisheries data in marine spatial planning to assess if co-location with marine protected areas is possible strategically. There is also a need to improve and refine impact assessments (e.g. by incorporating data on minimum operational space) and to distinguish critical fishing grounds. <p>It was suggested that the FLOWW website could be used to highlight FLOWW's availability for future project engagement.</p> <p>In recognising the value of fishing awareness courses, The Chair (CW) raised an action for SFF to provide a fishing awareness presentation to FLOWW members to provide greater insights into the sector. The Chair (CW) recognised that clarifying roles and understanding issues between sectors may aid collaboration and problem-solving moving forward. As a result, it was agreed that presentations on key technical constraints from developers and the roles of regulators would also be provided at the next meeting, and that The Crown Estate will ensure these are included in the meeting agenda and provide reminders to relevant attendees as appropriate (ACTION 2021/06).</p> <p>Attendees also expressed concern around the lack fisheries engagement as part of BEIS' Offshore Transmission Network Review. An action was raised for Crown Estate Scotland to facilitate the involvement of fisheries federations in this review (ACTION 2021/07).</p>	
ACTION 2021/06	SFF, regulators and developers (in coordination) to provide presentations on their roles and constraints at the next FLOWW meeting. The Crown Estate to include these presentations in the meeting's agenda and provide reminders to the relevant attendees as appropriate.	FLOWW Membership
ACTION 2021/07	Crown Estate Scotland to facilitate the involvement of fisheries federations in BEIS' Offshore Transmission Network Review.	Crown Estate Scotland
5.0	<p>THE CROWN ESTATE - INTRODUCTION TO FLOATING OFFSHORE WIND</p> <p>Tim Stiven (The Crown Estate) provided a presentation on floating offshore wind and early thinking from The Crown Estate's perspective. This was followed by a brief discussion. In summary:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The three leading archetypes likely to be deployed include spar-buoy, spar-submersible and tension leg platforms. • Choice of anchoring method is dependent on seabed characteristics. • Work has been undertaken by The Crown Estate to identify which seabed areas would prove technically feasible for a range of project types and technology sets based on 	

Meeting Notes

Item	Notes	
	<p>seabed characteristics. This report is available on the Marine Data Exchange and an action was raised for The Crown Estate to circulate a link to this report to all FLOWW members (ACTION 2021/08).</p> <p>Post Meeting Note: The summary report can be found at the link below with the full report available through the Marine Data Exchange:</p> <p>https://www.thecrownestate.co.uk/media/3642/broad-horizons-offshore-wind-key-resource-area-summary-report.pdf</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It was noted that areas 50-80 metres in depth with good sedimentary deposits in sheltered locations are likely to be favoured for early floating offshore wind development. Overall there are multiple areas where floating offshore wind is technically feasible. This is a starting point for dialogue to ensure all interests are considered when making seabed available for floating offshore wind development. <p>The following discussion noted that The Crown Estate's analysis does not consider other constraints such as wave climate and distance to grid connections.</p> <p>The Crown Estate highlighted there is strong appetite amongst the offshore wind sector for investment into floating wind, and that its technological components are ready. However, it was noted that issues surrounding port infrastructure, permitting and planning and technical difficulties are yet to be overcome.</p> <p>Attendees also queried the availability of floating wind capacity across UK nations. The Crown Estate highlighted that its recent market engagement aimed to understand the technology and capacity within the sector. Based on feedback from this engagement, The Crown Estate will begin to outline its approach (including what capacity will be made available) later in the year. The Crown Estate also welcomed feedback on what information would be useful to inform The Crown Estate-FLOWW dialogue on floating wind moving forward (ACTION 2021/09).</p> <p>ORE catapult's project assessing floating wind interactions with fisheries in Scotland was also highlighted.</p>	
ACTION 2021/08	<p>The Crown Estate to forward on a link to its floating offshore wind feasibility study to all FLOWW members.</p> <p>Action Complete - Link included within meeting minutes.</p>	The Crown Estate
ACTION 2021/09	Where applicable, FLOWW members to provide feedback to The Crown Estate on information that would prove useful in informing dialogue on floating wind moving forward.	FLOWW Membership
6.0	<p>THE CROWN ESTATE - OFFSHORE WIND EVIDENCE AND CHANGE PROGRAMME</p> <p>Sion Roberts (The Crown Estate) provided an update on the Offshore Wind Evidence and Change Programme's project proposal deadlines, and proposed a strategy for FLOWW's involvement in this programme. This was followed by a brief discussion. In summary:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Crown Estate is in the process of receiving early suggestions for projects. Deadlines for project proposals are as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> >£500,000 – hard deadline for detailed project proposals at the end of February. Soft deadline for low detail, high level proposals at the end of January. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The soft deadline aims to provide project scoping support and allow project coordination between programmes and organisations where applicable. £50,000 - £500,000 – June/July. 	

Meeting Notes

Item	Notes	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ ≤£50,000 - funded on a discretionary basis and can be brought forward at any point. • A subgroup of FLOWW was proposed to discuss project ideas which may support how engagement is driven, develop fisheries knowledge and improve understanding of fisheries interactions. Ideas for project proposals were welcomed. <p>Attendees supported this idea, and suggested collaboration with ScotMER's subgroup focused on fishing interactions. Attendees raised concerns with coordinating projects between this programme and ORJIP, and the short timeframes available for larger project submissions. However, The Crown Estate provided assurance that there will be several opportunities for project submissions over the programme's five year duration.</p> <p>Attendees also referenced advice produced by the North Sea Advisory Council on offshore wind development and fisheries interactions, which can be found here: https://www.nsrac.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/08-2021-NSAC-Advice-on-Offshore-Wind-Farms.pdf.</p> <p>Actions were raised for FLOWW members to inform The Crown Estate (SR) if they would like to be involved in the subgroup (or would like to suggest wider organisational involvement; ACTION 2021/10), and for The Crown Estate to set up a meeting of interested individuals at the beginning of February (ACTION 2021/11).</p> <p>A further action was also raised for The Crown Estate to provide a list of the programme's on-going pathfinder projects to all FLOWW members for interest (ACTION 2021/12).</p>	
ACTION 2021/10	FLOWW members to inform The Crown Estate if they (or other organisations more widely) would like to be involved in a subgroup to discuss project ideas for submission to the Offshore Wind Evidence and Change Programme.	FLOWW Membership
ACTION 2021/11	<p>The Crown Estate to set up a FLOWW subgroup meeting at the beginning of February.</p> <p>Action Complete – Meeting set for 12th February</p>	The Crown Estate
ACTION 2021/12	<p>The Crown Estate to provide a list of on-going pathfinder projects within the Offshore Wind Evidence and Change programme to all FLOWW members.</p> <p>Action Complete – Powerpoint forwarded alongside meeting minutes</p>	The Crown Estate
	<p>The Chair reflected on a productive meeting and highlighted that those presenting at the next meeting (ACTION 2021/06) should liaise with The Crown Estate (SR) as appropriate. With thanks to all that attended the meeting was closed.</p>	

Meeting Notes

Summary of Actions

Reference	Action	Responsible organisation	Due Date
ACTION 2020/01	Table further discussion on SOV operations and safety zones for next FLOWW meeting; seek input from BEIS, MS, developer perspective (for context see meeting minutes from 02/06/2020).	The Crown Estate	Next meeting
ACTION 2020/08	The Crown Estate to keep members informed on updates to ongoing projects reviewing decommissioning.	The Crown Estate	Update at next meeting
ACTION 2020/09	The Crown Estate to approach ORE catapult to present update on Floating OW project at the next meeting.	The Crown Estate	Next meeting
ACTION 2021/01	Marine Scotland to circulate an email to FLOWW members outlining the remaining contributions required for the Best Practice Guidance.	Marine Scotland	February 2021
ACTION 2021/02	Where applicable, FLOWW members to submit references and/or glossary terms/abbreviations for inclusion in the Best Practice Guidance to Marine Scotland (RM).	FLOWW Membership	February 2021
ACTION 2021/03	Marine Scotland to forward on a link to the ScotMER evidence map to all FLOWW members.	Marine Scotland	Next meeting
ACTION 2021/04	Marine Scotland to forward on a draft report from the fisheries literature review to all FLOWW members for comment when available.	Marine Scotland	February 2021
ACTION 2021/05	The Crown Estate to forward on details of the fisheries review presentation to all FLOWW members when available.	The Crown Estate	March 2021
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Meeting Notes

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