Atlas Wind Project

Fisheries Communication Plan

Prepared for:

equinor

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Prepared by:

TETRA TECH

CONTAINS CONFIDENTIAL AND PROPRIETARY INFORMATION

Company Number 15058

Revision Summary

Rev	Date	Prepared by	Approved by
0	9/2023	Tetra Tech and Atlas Offshore Wind LLC	Atlas Offshore Wind LLC
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Description of Revisions

Rev	Page	Section	Description
0	All	All	Initial draft of FCP
1	All	All	Updates to address BOEM's Review of the FCP

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ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

Acronym	Definition
AIS	Automatic Identification System
Atlas Wind	Atlas Offshore Wind LLC
BOEM	Bureau of Ocean Energy Management
CCC	California Coastal Commission
CFRA	California Fishermen's Resiliency Association
COP	Construction and Operations Plan
Equinor	Equinor Wind US LLC
FCP	Fisheries Communications Plan
FL	Fisheries Liaison
FMP	Fisheries Management Plan
FR	Fishing Representative
F-TWG	Fisheries Technical Working Groups
MAM	Marine Affairs Manager
MBCFO	Morro Bay Commercial Fishermen's Organization
NEPA	National Environmental Protection Act
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
OCS	Outer Continental Shelf
OFLR	Offshore Fishing Liaison Representative
PPE	Personal Protective Equipment
Project	Atlas Wind Project
PSLCFA	Port San Luis Commercial Fishermen's Organization
SAP	Site Assessment Plan

1.0 INTRODUCTION

Atlas Offshore Wind LLC (Atlas Wind), a subsidiary of Equinor Wind US LLC (Equinor) (Company Number 15058) was assigned Renewable Energy Lease Area OCS-P 0563 provisionally in December 2022 by the U.S. Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) through a competitive lease auction process. Equinor is an international energy company, headquartered in Stavanger, Norway. Equinor is developing projects and has operations in over 30 countries—including four in the United States—and approximately 22,000 employees worldwide. With an extensive portfolio of offshore wind, oil, and gas facilities developed over its 50-year history, Equinor has a proven track record of successfully developing large-scale energy projects in some of the most challenging marine environments around the word.

The online lease auction—the first ever on the Pacific Coast—was held in a series of rounds and allowed qualified offshore wind developers to bid five lease areas (**Figure 1**). The Lease was finalized on May 17, 2023, and went into effect as of June 1, 2023. The Lease Area is in the Central Coast region off the coast of Morro Bay. The Lease Area covers 80,062 acres (324 km²) and is located approximately 60 statute miles (52 nautical miles, 96.5 kilometers) from Morro Bay Harbor Entrance, and approximately 26 statute miles (23 nautical miles, 42 kilometers) off the California coast (see **Figure 2**). The Lease Area has water depths that range from approximately 1,970 feet to 3,937 feet (600 meters to 1,200 meters) and is estimated to have the capacity to generate over 2 gigawatts of electricity.

Atlas Wind proposes to construct, own, and operate the Atlas Wind Project (the Project). When developed, the Project will contribute to the Biden Administration's goal of deploying 30 gigawatts of offshore wind by 2030 and California's goal of producing 100 percent of electricity from clean energy sources by 2045.[1]

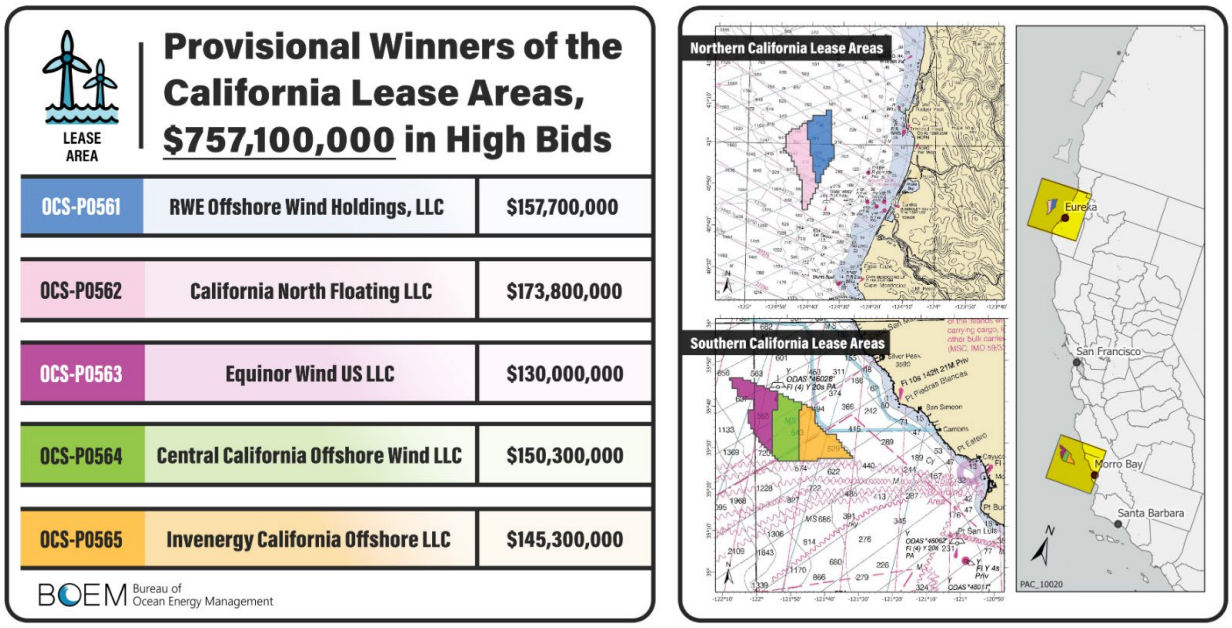

Figure 1 California Lease Area Information

[1] https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2022/09/15/fact-sheet-biden-harris-administration-announces-new-actions-to-expand-u-s-offshore-wind-energy/ and https://www.energy.ca.gov/programs-and-topics/topics/renewable-energy/offshore-renewable-energy

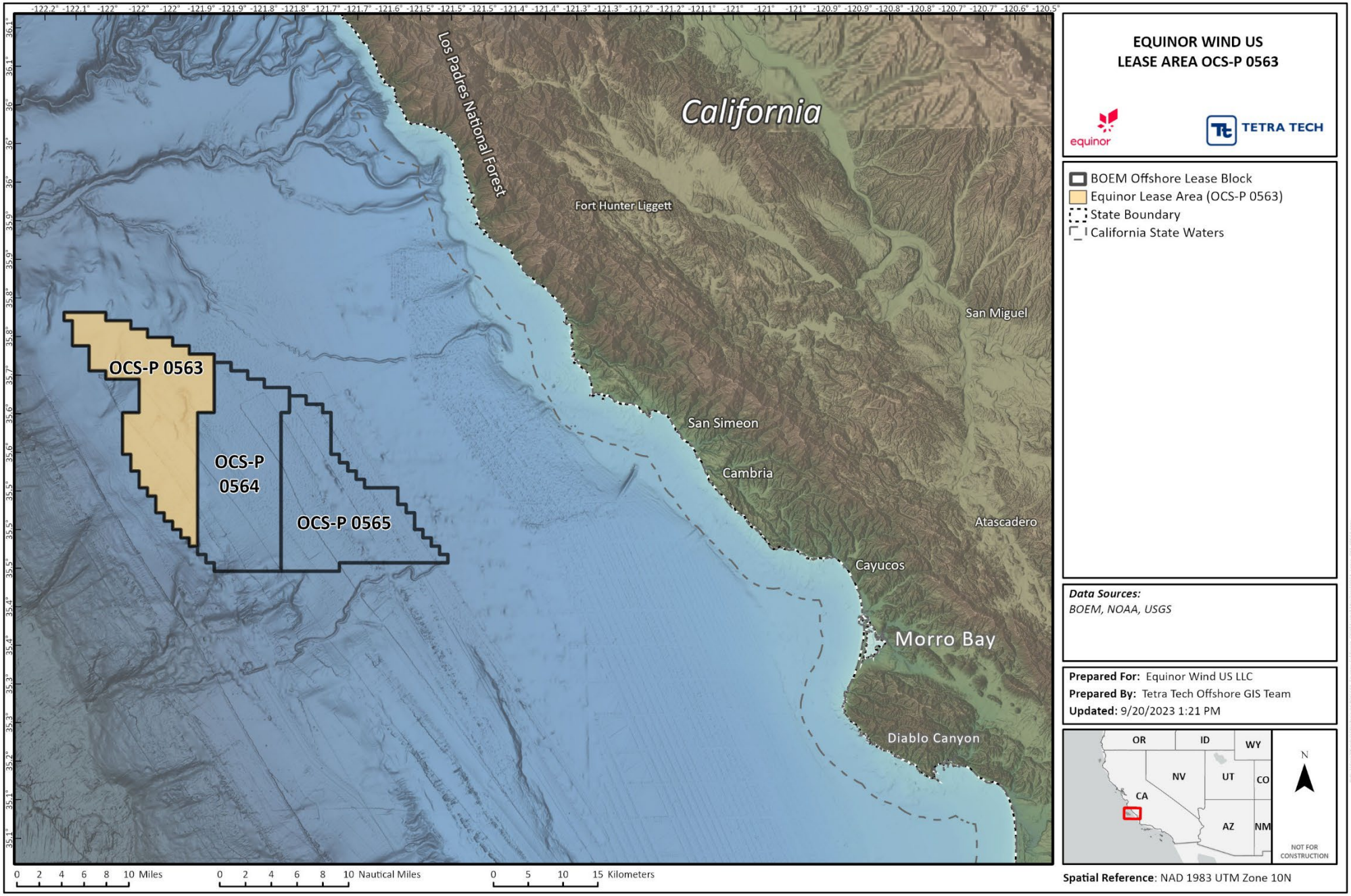

Figure 2 Atlas Wind Project Wind Lease Area (OCS-P 0563)

1.1 Background

This Fisheries Communications Plan (FCP) has been developed to present the proposed approach for Atlas Wind to liaise and consult with the California-based fishing industry in relation to the development of offshore wind energy areas and their associated cable routes and landfall sites. This FCP provides overviews of California Lease OCS-P 0563 (Lease Area) and the regulatory framework, principles of offshore development, and protocols for communication with the fishing industry. Early, often, and ongoing outreach with potentially affected fisheries stakeholders is essential to address fishing industry concerns such as gear, fishing ground impacts, and/or potential litigation. As such, this FCP is considered to be a "living document" that will be updated as feedback and guidance is received from the fishing community, individual fishermen, regulatory agencies, and other applicable stakeholder groups.

Once constructed, the Project will consist of floating wind turbines that are moored or anchored to the seabed, inter-array cables that connect the wind turbines, floating offshore substation(s) or converter station(s), export cables, cable landfall(s) and interconnection(s) to onshore substation(s), and onshore electrical transmission lines to connect to the electric grid.

Beginning in early 2022, Atlas Wind began meeting with fisheries stakeholder groups to initiate and begin consultations for Project planning. A meeting log is included in **Appendix A**, the identities of stakeholders participating in meetings to maintain confidentiality.

1.2 Regulatory Framework

California Lease OCS-P 0563 is in the early-stage of development, which includes site characterization surveys, stakeholder engagement, and securing the necessary permits and licenses required to construct and operate a utility-scale offshore wind farm.

The first step in the development process is to develop and submit to BOEM a Site Assessment Plan (SAP). BOEM requires the SAP to describe the initial activities necessary to characterize a lease site. This includes for example, wind resource measurements using meteorological masts or buoys, and/or meteorological and oceanographic (metocean) data collection, as well as any requirements for testing new technology that makes contact with the seabed.

The next phase is the development of the Construction and Operations Plan (COP). The COP describes all the activities necessary for the construction, operation, and decommissioning of a proposed offshore wind farm and transmission cables within and from the lease area. As part of the COP approval process, amongst other items, BOEM must ensure that any activities approved are safe, minimize impacts to natural resources on the OCS, are undertaken in coordination with relevant federal agencies and are compliant with all applicable laws and regulations (30 Code of Federal Regulations § 585.102). The National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA) requires the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement for any major federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment. The COP, and associated regulatory filings, provide the environmental, social, and technical information needed for BOEM to undertake its NEPA review.

While the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act is the law that provides BOEM the jurisdictional authority for the regulation of the development of a renewable energy facility within the lease areas on the OCS, several other federal, state, and local agencies will also have regulatory authority over aspects of a wind farm project. The primary state approvals will be required for the portion of the facilities located within the state boundaries (i.e., within 3 nautical miles offshore, as well as onshore), which are associated with the relevant points of interconnection (e.g., export cables, onshore substation(s), and interconnection cables). Additional state or local jurisdictional authorities may be relevant based on the proposed activities.

2.0 PRINCIPLES OF OFFSHORE DEVELOPMENT

The offshore components of the Project will consist of floating wind turbines, anchor arrays and associated catenary from the turbine tower ballast to the sea floor, inter-array cables, offshore export cables, and an offshore substation or converter station in the offshore environment, all facilities of relevance to the fishing stakeholders. Siting of these facilities are being assessed during the design phase and in consultation with relevant stakeholder and interested parties, including, but not limited to commercial and recreational fishing interests. Atlas Wind's approach and philosophy to project development is premised on the belief that the fishing industry and offshore wind energy development can coexist. Atlas Wind believes that offshore wind development can be achieved by carefully evaluating and understanding existing uses of the project area, avoiding, or minimizing impacts where feasible, or reducing impacts through effective mitigation.

Atlas Wind has developed a Fisheries Mitigation Plan (FMP) and continues to update it, which outlines Atlas Wind's underlying approach and philosophy towards fisheries mitigation. Atlas Wind believes that wind farm projects can be developed in a manner that minimizes disruption to the natural environment, natural resources, and existing uses of the project areas, and can provide habitat for numerous species of fish and invertebrates.

Atlas Wind's primary objective is to work with the fishing industry that will operate in and around the wind farms and their associated facilities. Successful impact avoidance, minimization, and mitigation for fisheries will require open and regular communication between Atlas Wind and the fishing industry, starting prior to the survey phase, leading up to permitting and construction, through construction, operation, and decommissioning of the projects, and includes the following principles:

- A commitment to continuing consultation and liaison with the aim of assisting the fishing community to safely continue and resume their fishing activities within the operational site and along the export cable corridor including, but not limited to: Commercial/recreational fisheries groups, technical interest groups, state Fisheries Technical Working Groups (F-TWGs) and State, Inter-State and Federal regulatory agencies;
- Fisheries outreach will be as inclusive as possible, to include engagement with fisheries stakeholders through Fishing Representatives (FR), a designated F-TWG, regional Fishermen's Marketing Associations and related fishermen's organizations, as well as seeking out and engaging with organizations or individual fishermen not represented in these groups. Atlas Wind notes that this approach has proven effective and well-received toward projects throughout development; and
- Atlas Wind's approach to fisheries mitigation is founded upon a mitigation hierarchy. Specifically, this approach seeks to 1) anticipate impacts on fisheries resources and fishermen; 2) avoid impacts where feasible; 3) minimize impacts where avoidance is not possible; and 4) take steps to offset any significant residual adverse impacts that are predicted to remain.

Mitigation measures will be identified and developed with relevant fisheries stakeholders through an iterative process of project design, including site selection, cable routing, timing of works, and consideration of construction and operations methods. Steps that Equinor has already taken to minimize and mitigate potential impacts for its East Coast projects, Empire Wind and Beacon Wind, respectively, can be found at the following links: (https://www.empirewind.com/) and (https://www.beaconwind.com/). Some of these measures consist of:

- Modifying in advance the survey schedules and locations in survey planning, and in real-time by adaptive management of survey locations to avoid areas with active and/or seasonal fishing;

- Incorporating early spatial planning data and feedback and real-time adaptive management during survey data acquisition to avoid high use, high value, and high-sensitivity fisheries areas in planning the export cable routes;
- Establishing fishermen as Offshore Fishing Liaison Representatives (OFLR) on survey vessels whenever safe and advisable, to communicate with survey staff and fishermen and avoid conflict;
- Chartering local fishing vessels as scout boats during surveys to identify fishing gear and activity, and communicate with survey staff and fishermen in order to avoid conflict;
- Sending regular updates to fishermen regarding survey activities, opportunities for engagement working on the projects, and the location of installations such as our research buoys, which have attracted and benefitted recreational fishermen;
- Establishing a fisheries communications and outreach strategy to effectively engage with and solicit input from a wide range of regional fishermen and stakeholders;
- Applying available data and consultative fisheries feedback in early spatial planning for the project area, including setting "Layout Rules" for the wind farm layouts that aim to minimize impacts on fishing and facilitate continued safe access to traditional fishing grounds to the extent feasible, and establishing preferred layouts for the project through engagement with fishermen's organizations and individual fishermen;
- Sharing the location of proposed wind turbine and cable locations in a format appropriate to the fishing industry to use in chart plotters, and/or the provision of charts with key facility locations appropriately called out; and
- Providing locations of all submarine export cables, inter-array cables, wind turbines, anchor arrays, and offshore substations or converter stations to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and facilitate appropriate updates to NOAA nautical charts.

To ensure close coordination, prior to surveying the Lease Area and cable routes, Fisheries Liaisons (FLs) will gather information from fishing contacts through dock visits, phone calls, meetings, and other means in the home ports of vessels that fish in the Project Area, including mobile and fixed gear fishermen. FLs will seek to obtain operational area and gear locations and provide these to survey vessels. As an example, during survey of a previous, unrelated project in 2018, survey operations confirmed, as was expected, concentrations of lobster gear in the survey area for the East Coast Empire Wind project. To avoid disruption of fishing activity and potential gear snags by survey equipment, Equinor postponed the survey of that area until 2019. In other cases, Equinor has charted a commercial fishing vessel as a scout boat, identified gear locations, and worked closely with fishermen who agreed to move gear temporarily. Between 2018 and 2020 Equinor conducted over 350 survey-days on the East Coast Beacon Wind project without impacting active fishing gear and received no claims from fishermen. Equinor continues to work with fishermen through FLs and scout boats to avoid conflicts.

As stated, the FMPs will be updated based on feedback from stakeholder consultation according to project phase throughout development of the Project. It is Atlas Wind's goal to implement consistent approaches for fisheries communication and fisheries mitigation, while considering local and regional differences and requirements, across its offshore wind assets.

3.0 FISHERIES COMMUNICATIONS

3.1 Fisheries Liaison Strategy

Transparency forms the basis of Atlas Wind's fisheries liaison philosophy. Regular, open consultation is key to keeping all interested parties well informed, contributes to the discussions and work towards a joint objective of coexistence. The FCP will be an evolving plan throughout the project development process. The identification of potential impacts on the fishing industry may change as project design and installation methodology changes or becomes more detailed during the various phases of development and design maturation. The FCP is designed to describe the liaison and coordination of activities appropriate to the life cycle of the project, through the permitting phase, survey, construction, operation, and decommissioning phases, as requirements and potential impacts may vary in each of these phases.

Liaison activities will be primarily based on BOEM best practice guidance and feedback from the fishing industry through consultation as identified below:

- Guidelines for Providing Information on Fisheries for Renewable Development on the Atlantic Outer Continental Shelf (BOEM 2023).
- Development of Mitigation Measures to Address Potential Use Conflicts between Commercial Wind Energy Lessees/Grantees and Commercial Fishermen on the Atlantic Outer Continental Shelf (BOEM 2014).
- Best Practice Guidance for Offshore Renewables Developments: Recommendations for Fisheries Liaison - Fishing Liaison with Offshore Wind and Wet Renewables Group (FLOWW 2014).
- Fishing and Submarine Cables Working Together – published by the International Cable Protection Committee (ICPC 2009).
- Offshore Wind Best Management Practices Workshop (MAFC 2014).
- Collaborative Fisheries Planning for Virginia's Offshore Wind Energy Area (VCZMP 2016).
- Addressing Interactions between Fisheries and Offshore Wind Development: The Block Island Wind Farm (Lipsky et al. 2016).
- Options for Cooperation between Commercial Fishing and Offshore Wind Energy Industries: A Review of Relevant Tools and Best Practices (Moura et al. 2015).

Activities will also draw on consultation from fisheries bodies, regulators, ports and harbor officials, and legislation, as well as previous experiences of the Equinor team with fisheries liaison work in the offshore wind and oil and gas industry. The best practice guidance will include but not be limited to adoption of key principles that have proven effective, with updates specific to Pacific Coast fisheries, Pacific Fisheries Management Council determinations, advice from the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission and other relevant agencies in California and the Pacific coastal regions:

Atlas Wind is committed to communication with fisheries stakeholders on all relevant aspects of the Project, including but not limited to the following:

- Communication with vessels actively fishing in areas in or adjacent to the Project Area during site assessment activities.

- Implementation of this communications protocol during construction and decommissioning activities to ensure proper notification to vessels and resource managers through periodic project status updates to a dedicated Project website, updates and presentation and fisheries councils and commissions and other meetings as scheduled, telephone calls and emails directly to fishermen who provide contact information, contact through OFLR-to-fishing vessels by radio, and issuance of Local Notices to Mariners.
- The FCP is publicly available on the dedicated Project website at this link: https://atlasoffshorewind.com/environmental-protection/mariners-fisheries/

3.2 Fishing Industry Contacts and Affected Parties

Effective dialogue and consultation have been initiated and will continue to be further developed with the establishment and maintenance of a comprehensive contact database for local and regional fisheries associations, societies, groups, individual fishermen and the various industry organizations that serve as one of the most effective bases for distributing communication materials to the fisheries communities. Members of the commercial and recreational fishing communities are identified through various channels and include, but are not limited to:

- Contacting fishing industry leaders, organizations, and associations;
- Establishing an electronic mailing list-serve to include fisheries stakeholders such as federal and state agencies, academia, fishing organizations, independent fishermen and concerned citizens;
- Providing project presentations by the FL to fishing organizations;
- Establishing Project-specific social media pages;
- Attending Fishery Management Council and Commission meetings;
- Attending meetings related to offshore wind and fisheries interactions;
- Manning information booths at commercial and recreational fishing forums, tradeshows, and expos;
- Acting on recommendations from state and federal fisheries staff;
- Utilizing online Fisheries Management Council Advisory Panel lists;
- Accessing and incorporating online public comments and associated documents;
- Facilitating "word of mouth" sharing and contact with and from the fishing community;
- Utilizing Automatic Identification System (AIS) monitoring including ship identification;
- Identification of fishing vessels offshore by the OFLR during surveys;
- Establishing available online National Marine Fisheries Service and California Division of Fish and Wildlife permit holder lists;
- Implementing port/dock visits; and
- Coordinating with stakeholders and other fishing organizations.

The contact database will be maintained and regularly updated by the FL in conjunction with the Project's team members. A preliminary contact and stakeholders list has been prepared and is included in **Appendix B**. Outreach has begun to several of these stakeholders as identified in **Appendix A**, and additional outreach will continue to these and other stakeholders through the various phases of Project development. This list will

continue to evolve as the Project continues and as other stakeholders are identified, or as stakeholders express that they are not interested in remaining informed about the Project.

It should be noted that the fishing industry contact "database" will be used solely for the purposes of the Project's FL activities and will not be made available to any individual or group, outside of the Project's specific requirements. It is acknowledged and appreciated that some fisheries information can be commercially sensitive and considered confidential. In these circumstances Atlas Wind will work with the individual fishing organization/fisherman to establish confidentiality agreements for the purpose of sharing information to meet the objective of compatible use of the offshore environment.

3.3 Fisheries Liaison

Atlas Wind has a full-time FL with the appropriate level of knowledge and first-hand experience in the fishing industry to aid in communication with, and the gathering and dissemination of information between, the fishing industry and the Project.

The FL supports the Project in the identification of potential impacts, potential mitigation measures, and with data gathering to inform the environmental and social impact assessments related to commercial and recreational fishing. The FL will act on the Project's behalf throughout all development stages, including during surveys as well as the operational and decommissioning phases. The primary roles and responsibilities of the FL are:

- To serve as the primary point of contact between the Project and the commercial and recreational fishing fleets and community;
- To log all interactions between the Project team and fisheries representatives accurately and in a way that can be shared by the Project team;
- To maintain a fisheries stakeholder database and contacts list for all identified fisheries operating within the vicinity of the Lease Area and export cable route throughout all stages of the Project, covering the following details:
    - Vessel names, owners, registrations, and base ports;
    - Vessel radio call sign;
    - Dominant method(s) of fishing and any new technology developing within the fisheries;
    - Static gear surface marker details where applicable;
    - Target species as well as key by-catch species;
    - Fishing grounds relevant to the Project;
    - Fishing periods and operating practices of each key fishery; and
    - Feedback, comments, and concerns voiced within consultations.
- To arrange meetings with the fishing industry throughout all stages of Project development, with frequency, timings, and method of communication appropriate to the level of activity at the time;
- To consult the relevant FRs;
- To maintain regular liaison with relevant fishermen's associations, individual captains and vessel owners, and any relevant fisheries regulatory bodies as appropriate;

- To disseminate information about Project-related activities that could potentially interact with fisheries stakeholders. This will include:
  - A description of the survey activity or other works to be undertaken;
  - The location and timing of survey activities;
  - The coordinates of partially and/or fully installed infrastructure;
  - A forecast of the schedule of works where available;
  - Details of the vessels involved in the works including the vessels contact information;
  - Survey and installation vessels transit routes to and from site;
  - The locations and timings of safety exclusion zones that may be required during survey, installation, or maintenance activities; and,
  - Conflict avoidance response procedures and reporting procedures.
- Be available to receive and relay back to the project all relevant concerns from the fisheries stakeholders in respect of the various activities associated with the Project;
- To keep fisheries stakeholders updated of any relevant changes in Project design or scheduling;
- To assess and advise the Project on the need for, and subsequently support the Project in organizing guard vessels and OFLR;
- Forecast, anticipate, and monitor fishing activity within the Lease Area and export cable route during all phases of the Project, including during survey activities, to minimize disruption to fishing activities;
- Support the Project in making wind farm survey, installation and operations and maintenance contractors aware of relevant fishing activities, including any relevant fishermen's sensitivities, and procedures for communicating with fishing vessels at sea; and
- Advise and support the Project on the procurement of OFLRs and scout vessels to be present offshore during survey activity.

A separate Project FL will be hired or contracted with at a later date. The Project FL will provide local support to the Marine Affairs Manager (MAM) and the FL as needed. The Project FL will be located near the Project Area to provide a more rapid response when in-person support is needed.

3.3.1 Fisheries Liaison, Elizabeth Marchetti

Email: emarc@equinor.com

Elizabeth Marchetti joined Equinor in 2019 with extensive fisheries experience along the Atlantic seaboard. She is a former Rhode Island commercial lobster fisherman, Point Judith, R.I. NOAA Port Agent and field scientist, and active in major northeast commercial fisheries from ports of New York, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, and Maine. Elizabeth was the fisheries liaison for the Block Island Wind Farm from 2015-2019. Elizabeth has also supported the Empire Wind project by serving as an OFLR during geophysical, geotechnical, and benthic survey activities in the Empire Wind lease area during summer 2018. She holds a B.Sci. in Marine Biology from the University of Rhode Island. Elizabeth is Equinor's Fisheries Liaison and serves as the primary contact with the projects' management teams on fisheries matters. Elizabeth is always happy to share her seafood recipes.

3.3.2 West Coast Fisheries Liaison

Email: wrain@searisksolutions.com

Wolfgang Rain is Chief of Operations for Sea Risk Solutions, having joined as Partner after eight years managing the Marine Liaison program for a major cable supplier and ship operator. He first worked in offshore wind liaison in the UK in 2013 to deconflict subsea cable and offshore wind activity impacts to fisheries. In addition to extensive, in-depth offshore wind fisheries liaison work in the USA since 2017, he has expertise in subsea cable permitting and regulatory issues; AIS monitoring and notification, fault investigation; cable awareness, and liaison with maritime authorities, shipping interests, fishermen and others in more than 30 countries in Asia, Europe, Middle East, Africa, India, and the Americas. He speaks Spanish, Japanese, Vietnamese, Russian and German. Additional fisheries experience includes extensive work as a commercial fisherman in Norway, the Russian Far East and Alaska, as well as international scientific fisheries observer research on high seas vessels in the Southern Ocean, Western and North Pacific, and the Bering Sea. He has worked with cable/fishermen's committees as fisheries liaison officer in southern, central, and northern California and in Oregon since 2008 in support of cable-fisheries agreements, survey and installation operations, guard vessel procurement, and gear- and fishing-loss compensation agreements.

Atlas Wind is also actively working to identify a Local Fisheries Liaison that is located in central California.

3.4 Marine Affairs Manager

The MAM supports the Project with fisheries management, maritime law, waterway management, search and rescue and port state control issues and will serve as a primary point of contact between the Project and the maritime transportation sector. The MAM also supports FL with fisheries issues and engagements.

3.4.1 Marine Affairs Manager, Edward "E.J." Marohn

Email: ejma@equinor.com

E.J. Marohn is a retired United States Coast Guard Captain with 27 years of service on the Atlantic Coast, Pacific Coast, and the Great Lakes. Over the course of eleven at-sea and shore assignments, he gained extensive experience in domestic and international fisheries management, maritime law enforcement, waterways management, search and rescue, and port state control. He has served as the Coast Guard representative on the New England Fishery Management Council and the Stellwagen Banks National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council, the Coast Guard liaison to NOAA Fisheries, and a member of the U.S. delegation to the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization. He is a graduate of the U.S. Coast Guard Academy and has a Master of Marine Affairs from the University of Washington.

3.5 Fishing Representatives

Fishing Representatives may serve as the main point of contact within a fishing industry organization. These representatives should represent the views of the fishermen within his or her remit. The FRs should have the backing and support of the fisheries stakeholders they represent. FRs should be able and willing to disseminate information from the FL or Project FL to the fishing community and vice versa on a timely and all-inclusive basis. FRs are normally individuals who have worked extensively within or currently represent the industry in their particular sector, port, or region. The primary responsibilities of the FR are:

- To be the main focal point for liaison with fisheries stakeholders under their representation;

- To liaise and cooperate with the FL to ensure the objectives of the FCP and FMP and underlying principles are achievable;
- To feed back to the FL any fishermen's concerns, data, or requests for meetings; and
- To assist in the distribution of notices and relevant project information to fisheries stakeholders and to follow up that all relevant parties received such notices.

We are currently working with the stakeholders to identify the appropriate representatives. As fishing industry representation evolves, the Project and industry representatives will continue to work through groups such as fishing organizations, stakeholders, and established, formal or informal fisheries working groups.

3.6 Offshore Fisheries Liaison Representatives

Where required and appropriate, OFLRs will be present on vessels that are working on behalf of the Project for wind farm related activities, for example, on board survey vessels and installation vessels. The main role of the OFLR is to ensure clear, real-time communications with fishing vessels operating in or near the Project Area. This may be for the purpose of disseminating information, responding to queries from fishing vessels, acting as a conduit for information offshore between the FL, FR, and fisheries stakeholders within or near the site. OFLRs also observe and record set fishing gear locations such as traps, pots, or longline gear and instruct survey vessels to avoid it and prevent fishing interactions or conflicts.

3.7 Scout/Safety Vessels

At times, Atlas Wind may implement the use of scout/safety vessels (such as when accommodating an onboard FL is not feasible, or in an abundance of precaution due to anticipated presence of fishing activity) to avoid contact and/or conflict with active mobile fishing and static fishing gear. The scout vessel operates in advance of and/or during the planned Project activities, with the goal of avoiding or mitigating fishing gear interactions or conflicts. General instructions for scout/safety vessel services may be modified by mutual agreement according to the specific offshore operations.

3.8 Communication Channels

Notices and information for fishermen may be distributed via the following mechanisms:

- Via the FL and FR both verbally and over emails and other electronic communication methods;
- Fishermen's associations;
- Directly from the FL to individual fishermen not represented by an FR, but identified on the FL's database;
- U.S. Coast Guard Local Notice to Mariners;
- Electronic email distribution to commercial fishing permit holders (NOAA or state agencies);
- Atlas Wind's project website page (https://atlasoffshorewind.com), including AIS details on active Project vessels;
- Through fisheries-specific websites such as fisheries working groups, stakeholders, and organizations;
- Local harbor masters;
- Survey flyers;
- Presentations and networking at fishing conferences and exhibitions; and

- Fishing news publications.

Topics included in fisheries communications include, but are not limited to the following:

- Information on the proposed nature of activities, including scope, timing and vessels being utilized;
- Details of the main Project contacts, including the FL as the primary point of contact;
- Codes of conduct for vessels undertaking Project-related activities within the wind farm area and ports;
- Safe operations procedures;
- Emergency response procedures;
- Fishing gear interaction and conflict procedures; and
- Gear claims procedures.

3.9 Communication with Federal and State Agencies and Working Groups

Atlas Wind will communicate regularly with federal, state, and local agencies with jurisdiction during Project development and the permitting process, as outlined in Atlas Wind's Agency Communications Plan. For example, specific to fisheries related interests, the California Coastal Commission (CCC) has assembled the California Offshore Wind and Fisheries Working Group, as described in Condition 7c of the CCC's concurrence with BOEM's lease sales. As contemplated by CCC, the Group comprises of fisheries representatives, representatives from the five lessees, Native American Tribes, and fisheries coalitions, organizations, and alliances. Atlas Wind has been selected to serve as a member on the CCC 7c working group and participate in the Group and represent our lease area.

4.0 OFFSHORE SURVEY COMMUNICATION PROTOCOLS

Atlas Wind is following steps to avoid, minimize and/or mitigate impacts on the fishing community at all stages of project development, including during offshore survey activities. As such, a survey coexistence and communications strategy is in place, currently valid for the Project's planned surveys. Personnel associated with vessels contracted to perform project work will be trained on these protocols prior to mobilization and will be observed and advised throughout contract activities to demobilization.

4.1 Engagement Strategies

Atlas Wind will utilize a variety of approaches to engage with the fishing community, notify about upcoming Project activities, and receive feedback from the community in an effort to reduce potential conflicts with Project activities. These methods will include but aren't limited to the following:

- Providing regular updates on the Project at Atlas Wind's website page (https://atlasoffshorewind.com);
- Posting the most up to date version of this FCP on the Project's website at (https://atlasoffshorewind.com/environmental-protection/mariners-fisheries/);
- Schedule and hold meetings, webinars, and similar with fishermen and other fisheries stakeholders to solicit their feedback on the FCP and the Project, and incorporate as applicable and appropriate;
- Attendance at Pacific Fisheries Council meetings, as invited/appropriate, these are held five times per year (see **Appendix A**);

- Attendance at 7c Offshore Wind Fisheries Working Group meetings. The first meeting was completed December 6, 2023, and there will be quarterly meetings going forward through the end of 2025 (see **Appendix A**);
- Attendance at relevant conferences, tradeshows, and local fisheries management meetings, as appropriate (See **Appendix A**);
- Develop, maintain, and regularly update a fisheries email distribution list for quick distribution of Project information to stakeholders (see preliminary stakeholders list in **Appendix B**);
- Daily communications during survey efforts, and other marine activities with fishermen and other ocean users to notify about activities. This will be on the water in real time, VHF radio, over cell phones, or similar;
- Communications with fishermen over the duration in the Project with a focus on discussing where fishermen are actively fishing, gear type used, and similar to minimize potential conflicts;
- Work with fishermen to develop a process for identification of and potential temporary relocation of fishing gear if encountered during Project activities, and develop a claims process for fishing gear loss or damage associated with the Project (see **Appendix C**);
- Continued outreach from the Fisheries Liaison to commercial and recreational fishermen (see **Appendix B**);
- Submit Local Notices to Mariners to the Coast Guard which will inform about planned survey activities and other relevant Project activities; and,
- Post relevant information on port bulletins as feasible.

During placement of devices that may rest on the seafloor, such as Universal Transponder Positioning (UTP) devices, or anchors, information regarding their locations will be disseminated through several avenues to inform fishermen of their presence. This may include but isn't limited to regular updates on Atlas Wind's website, emails to fishermen through a fisheries distribution list, Local Notices to Mariners, phone calls to leaders of local commercial fishermen's organizations, and updates via the CCC 7c Offshore Wind and Fisheries Working Group, or similar.

To track engagement with fisheries stakeholders, outreach efforts, and to assess efficacy of the FCP, Atlas Wind has prepared **Appendix A** which documents outreach efforts and meeting attendance. Focused notes regarding these meetings have been included, and a summary of feedback and comments received will be reported in the Semi-Annual Report which will be submitted to BOEM under Lease Stipulation 3.1. The names of stakeholders have not been included to maintain confidentiality.

4.1.1 Data Sharing with the Fishing Community

Atlas Wind is dedicated to sharing important and valuable data sets captured through the project life cycle to further enhance our understanding of the project area and any impacts OSW development may contribute to. Data availability is essential for the environmentally responsible development of offshore wind. Equinor's east coast examples of data sharing include, the Empire Wind and Beacon Wind projects placed buoys in each of their respective lease areas off the New York and Massachusetts coasts. The data has been made publicly available as part of the Mid-Atlantic Regional Association Coastal Ocean Observing System (MARACOOS) OceanMap, a framework developed jointly by the firm RPS and MARACOOS. In September 2022, the Empire Wind project announced a continuing partnership with the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) and Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution (WHOI) to track whales in the Empire Wind lease area, and to provide that

data to the public in near real time through the WCS website and at a kiosk located a the New England Aquarium in Coney Island, New York.

4.2 Coordination of Engagement Across Leases

Atlas Wind welcomes the opportunity to coordinate with other Morro Bay offshore wind lessees. Morro Bay lessees have been engaging with one another and are committed to continually seek opportunities for collaboration to avoid duplicative outreach and engagement with fisheries stakeholders. **Appendix A** includes a summary of coordination meetings that have taken place with the various Morro Bay lessees. Atlas Wind will work together with other lessees to identify innovative avoidance, minimization, mitigation, and monitoring measures based on lessons learned in the industry both domestically and globally. Atlas Wind will seek opportunities to collaborate on select topics to reduce the need for individual meetings with fisheries stakeholders.

Atlas Wind will seek to meet jointly in other forums and/or request joint Morro Bay presentations/agenda items at various working group and fisheries stakeholder meetings to reduce the need for individual presentations. Atlas Wind will work together with other lessees to coordinate port hours so that fishers have consolidated, rather than dispersed, times to discuss issues with the leaseholders.

4.3 Scheduling Outreach

Prior to the onset of site surveys, installation, and operation and maintenance activities, meetings will be organized to discuss Project activities and solicit feedback. This may be accomplished through direct outreach, webinars, open houses, or small group meetings. In addition, prior to surveys a survey specific fisheries communications and emergency response plan identifying points of contact in emergency situations and incident reporting procedures will be drafted for use in communicating with the identified fisheries stakeholders.

Survey flyers developed for the Project will be distributed to the appropriate stakeholders in advance of survey activities and updates will also be available online which will include primary points of contact and a description of the activities to be conducted. In addition, Local Notices to Mariners will be submitted to the Coast Guard informing about planned survey activities and other relevant Project activities.

4.4 Guidelines for Survey Interaction with Fishing Activity – Avoidance and Contact

A survey vessel may sometimes be the first direct point of contact between Project representatives and fishermen in the offshore environment. The Project is committed to avoiding and minimizing impacts, and to coexist with the fishing industry at all stages of project development, including during offshore survey activities. Early engagement, effective channels of information and communication and positive working relations with fishermen are considered crucial for successful Project implementation.

Guidelines to reduce the risks of negative interactions with the fishing industry during the Project's survey activities may include the following:

- Where accommodations allow, the survey vessel may carry an onboard OFLR to support communication between the survey vessel master and fishermen. In cooperation with vessel officers, the OFLR will use available information including area fishing knowledge and experience, active watch, reasonable access to vessel communications, radar, AIS, and other available resources to seek out fishing vessels, gear and activities in survey areas and advise survey personnel about them.

- Survey personnel as well as the OFLR will maintain an active AIS, visual and radar watch for fishing gear and fishing activities in the area and keep vessel officers informed if fishing is detected nearby, or in areas that could impact the survey.
- The OFLR will be available to communicate with local fishermen over the radio, advise on customary radio frequencies used, etc.
- If fishing gear and/or active fishing is detected in areas or positions where contact with survey gear, hindrance of fishing, or hindrance of planned survey activities appears likely, the survey vessel will take reasonable measures to avoid interference with fishing. If it is feasible to move to a different part of the survey area without substantial negative impacts, that course of action is preferred.
- Record and report all sightings and coordinates of fishing gear and vessels to the precision available, as well as relevant radio contacts for future reference.
- The Project will issue brief survey flyers with details of survey activity, schedules, and key contacts in advance of surveys to provide advanced warning to fishermen, but to also encourage feedback on areas the survey vessel should avoid at specific times, or to be aware of particular fishing activity.
- The FL will provide updates via email on the survey schedules as these necessarily develop or are altered over time.

4.5 Fishing Gear Loss Prevention and Claim Procedure

Atlas Wind recognizes that the Project and the fishing community will share a common space within the Lease Area, export cable routes, and other associated offshore Project facilities. This shared space may result in interactions between Project activities and facilities and fishing gear, potentially including damage and loss of this gear. Atlas Wind believes that with proper communication, gear interactions in connection with the Project activities and facilities can be limited or avoided. To manage this potential issue, Atlas Wind has developed a claims process, which will be implemented for the Project. The FL and Project FL will serve as the primary point of contact for issues related to potential Project-related fishing gear damage or loss. The Fishing Gear Loss Prevention and Claim Procedure can be found in **Appendix C**.

4.6 Fishing Gear Entanglement

This procedure is designed as a base action plan for the Project's survey vessels and survey crew to safely untangle a snagged tow during survey operations, should an unforeseen incident occur. As every situation and survey setup is different, this procedure will be modified to best suit the vessel setup and site conditions. The Project has a developed gear claim form devised in collaboration with fishing industry representatives and developers to support consistency in reporting but does not dictate that the claim review procedure will be consistent or identical among developers or across fisheries. The Project continues to consult with the regulatory authorities and fisheries stakeholders for the further development and use of the Gear Loss Prevention and Claim Procedure.

Typical equipment at risk of entanglement associated with the Projects' activities include:

- Side scan sonar and/or piggyback array;
- Magnetometer and/or magnetometer array;
- Sparker sled or boomer catamaran;
- Passive Acoustic Monitor array;

- Moonpool-deployed equipment;
- Ship's propulsion system;
- Autonomous Underwater Vehicles and Remotely Operated Vehicles;
- Pole or hull mounted sub-bottom profiler;
- Ultra Short Baseline Positioning transponders;
- Underwater Transponder Positioning arrays;
- Seafloor drill, Vibracore, Cone Penetrometer Testing equipment, or grab sampler; and
- Hydrophone streamer.

4.6.1 Roles and Responsibilities of Vessel Operators

Table 1 Roles and Responsibilities of Vessel Operators

Role	Responsibility
Vessel Captain	Maintain safe navigation
Vessel 2nd Captain	Assist Captain
Vessel Deckhand	Assist on Deck
Winch Operator	Report signs of entanglement
Navigator	Assist as required
Surveyor	Inform bridge

4.6.2 Personal Protective Equipment

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) requirements are the same for each stage of the operations. Each person must be wearing appropriate PPE as per the vessel specific risk assessment before going onto the work deck areas. This may include, but are not limited to the following PPE and equipment:

- Safety boots
- Coveralls
- Auto inflate lifejacket or personal survivor suits
- Safety glasses
- Gloves
- Safety harness with fall prevention lanyard
- Standard boat hook
- Boat hook outfitted with attached blunt edge knife
- Large bolt cutter
- Marker buoy

4.6.3 Toolbox Talk

After the crew is made aware of an entanglement and action has been taken to make the vessel and equipment safe, a toolbox talk will be required to discuss how to untangle the equipment and how the identified hazards will be controlled. At this point everyone involved in the task shall be reminded of the "Stop for Safety":

- Everybody has the obligation to stop any task or operation if they feel that it is unsafe to continue.
- Personal safety is more important than the equipment.
- The Survey Party Chief is in control of the operation.
- The Captain has the ultimate responsibility for personnel and vessel safety.

4.6.4 Entanglement Procedure

The following steps outline actions to be taken in order, and the personnel designated to perform each task. This may be modified in real-time by an onboard competent person if necessary due to the particular circumstances of the entanglement, site conditions, or any other unforeseen reason. All personnel will wear appropriate PPE.

1. Winch operator or data monitor has identified a potential entanglement with fishing gear and alerted the entire survey crew.
2. Navigator immediately radios the bridge to alert the Officer on Watch of the entanglement, survey crew stops online recording, and designated Surveyor powers off the towed survey equipment power supply.
3. Officer on Watch brings the vessel to a stop immediately upon receiving knowledge of the entanglement, simultaneously, the winch operator begins hauling in on winches until both tow fish are a safe height from the seabed.
4. Designated Survey crew and Vessel Deckhand recovers survey equipment to a safe location alongside the vessel (not to deck).
5. Designated Survey crew recover towed survey equipment to deck. Vessel Deckhand acquires tools designated for entanglements.
6. Recover non-tangled towed survey equipment to deck.
7. Vessel 2nd Captain on deck for communications with Vessel Master, and designated Surveyor(s) remove the tangled gear.
8. Navigator documents position, fishing gear type, buoy colors, and any other pertinent information.
9. OFLR reports fishing gear type, buoy colors, and any other pertinent information to the Fisheries Liaison for follow up with the fishing industry to identify and alert the gear owner, arrange delivery, or assist in filing a gear loss claim form.

5.0 LITERATURE CITED

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Appendix A Stakeholder Meeting Log

Table A-1 Stakeholder Meeting and Interactions Tracker

Date	Stakeholder	Participants	Topic	Notes
12/12/2022	Morro Bay Commercial Fishermen's Organization (MBCFO)	Equinor and MBCFO Representatives	Virtual introduction	Email introduction from Equinor to MBCFO
3/8/2023	MBCFO	Equinor and MBCFO Representatives	MBCFO and Equinor Meet and Greet	In person Project introductions and initial outreach
3/11/2023	MBCFO	Equinor and MBCFO Representatives	Follow up thank you for 3/7/2023 meeting	Email communication
5/17/2023	MBCFO	Equinor, MBCFO, and California Fishermen's Resiliency Association (CFRA)	Informal discussions at CA Joint Committee on Fisheries & Aquaculture hearing regarding Fisheries Communication Plan (FCP), surveys, and similar.	-
5/19/2023	MBCFO	Equinor and MBCFO Representatives	FCP	Shared first draft of FCP for review and comment. MBCFO responded that plan would not be reviewed until mitigation is in place
6/2/2023	MBCFO	Equinor, Sea Risk Solutions, and MBCFO Representatives	Fisheries Liaison Discussion	Email introduction to Sea Risk Solutions, who will be supporting with fisheries outreach and support
6/6/2023	Pacific Fishery Management Council (PFMC)	PFMC and all California Wind Energy Lease Holders	PFMC's Marine Planning Committee Meeting	-
7/19/2023	MBCFO	Equinor and MBCFO Representatives	Continued coordination	Email to discuss an Equinor visit to Morro Bay to meet with MBCFO and other stakeholders to continue discussions regarding FCP, Gear Claims, and similar

Date	Stakeholder	Participants	Topic	Notes
7/20/2023	Unaffiliated representative of the fishing industry	Equinor and unaffiliated representative of the fishing industry	Discussions regarding Central California fisheries	Virtual meeting
7/25/2023	MBCFO	Equinor and MBCFO Representatives	Email to confirm fisheries meeting in Morro Bay	-
7/28/2023	PFMC	PFMC and all California Wind Energy Lease Holders	Outreach following June 6, 2023, PFMC meeting	pcouncil.org/documents/2023/08/july-2023-letter-to-california-wind-energy-lease-holders.pdf/
7/31/2023	MBCFO	Equinor and MBCFO Representatives	Coordination regarding legal representatives for MBCFO and Equinor	Email communication
8/2/2023	MBCFO	Equinor and MBCFO Representatives	Continued discussions between MBCFO and Equinor	In person in Morro Bay
8/7/2023	Port San Luis Commercial Fishermen's Organization (PSLCFA)	Equinor and PSLCFA Representatives	Virtual introduction	Email introduction from Equinor to PSLCFA
9/1/2023	MBCFO and PSLCFA	Equinor, Golden State Wind, Even Keel Wind, MBCFO, and PSLCFA Representatives	Email from MBCFO and PSLCFA indicating that they will not attend the scheduled 9/12/2023 FCP meeting in Morro Bay	-
9/1/2023	PFMC	Equinor, Golden State Wind, Invenergy, PFMC	Ongoing consultation to identify priorities and potential issues.	

Date	Stakeholder	Participants	Topic	Notes
9/12/2023	MBCFO, PSLCFA, Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM)	Equinor, Golden State Wind, BOEM, MBCFO, and PSLCFA Representatives	Open house to receive fisheries feedback on the FCP	No fishing stakeholders attended
9/12/2023	MBCFO	Equinor and MBCFO Representatives	Informal visit to the docks to interact with MBCFO members and discuss the Project	Discussed the FCP, planned surveys, and similar. MBCFO representative reiterated that the FCP would not be reviewed until mitigation had been agreed on. Discussed potential conflicts between survey activities and commercial fishing
9/12/2023	American Clean Power (ACP) Pacific Fisheries Working Group	Pacific Coast Lessees, ACP	Continued coordination	
9/13/2023	PSLCFA	Equinor and PSLCFA Representatives	Informal visit to the docks to interact with PSLCFA members and discuss the Project	Brief discussions with workers at Port San Luis
9/26/2023	ACP Pacific Fisheries Working Group	Pacific Coast Lessees, ACP	Continued coordination	
10/6/2023		Equinor, Golden State Wind, Invenergy, PFMC	Coordination and consistency discussions across leases	
10/9/2023	MBCFO and Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission	Equinor, MBCFO, Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission, GSW, Invenergy	Ongoing consultation to identify priorities and potential issues	
10/10/2023	ACP Pacific Fisheries Working Group	Pacific Coast Lessees, ACP	Continued coordination	

Date	Stakeholder	Participants	Topic	Notes
10/20/2023		Equinor, Golden State Wind, Invenergy, PFMC	Coordination and consistency discussions across leases	
10/24/2023	ACP Pacific Fisheries Working Group	Pacific Coast Lessees, ACP	Continued coordination	
11/2/2023		Equinor, Golden State Wind, Invenergy, PFMC	Coordination and consistency discussions across leases	
11/7/2023	ACP Pacific Fisheries Working Group	Pacific Coast Lessees, ACP	Continued coordination	
11/8-11/10/2023	Various	Pacific Marine Expo, Seattle WA	Hosted booth at Pacific Marine Expo	
11/14/2023	ACP Pacific Fisheries Working Group	Pacific Coast Lessees, ACP	Continued coordination	
12/6/2023	California Offshore Wind Energy (CA OSW) Fisheries Working Group	CA OSW Fisheries Working Group	Meeting #1 with group. Objectives were to get to know each other, review Working Group Charter, recommend draft content for best practices for surveys, and discuss fish hearing	All day meeting to discuss the Working Group, and included focused discussions on surveys, survey equipment, data collection, and potential impacts on fisheries.

Appendix B Preliminary Stakeholder List

5.1 Preliminary Stakeholder List

The table below identifies potential fishing community stakeholders that may be interested in being consulted with/kept informed about the Project. They have been identified primarily based on the fisheries that could be affected by the project, proximity to the lease area and export cable, and scope of the stakeholder organization. This list will continue to evolve as additional stakeholders are identified, or as stakeholders indicate that they are not interested in being kept informed about the Project. Outreach to stakeholders will occur throughout various phases of the Project. Outreach to Native American Tribes regarding fisheries concerns will occur through the Native American Tribe Communications Plan process.

Table B-1 Preliminary Stakeholder List

Stakeholder Organization	Location
Alioto-Lazio Fish Company	San Francisco, CA
Alliance of Communities for Sustainable Fisheries	Monterey, CA
American Sportfishing Association	-
Bolinas Community Fishing Association	Bolinas, CA
Bornstein Seafoods	-
Caito Fisheries	-
California Association of Harbormasters and Port Captains	Monterey, CA
California Coast Crab Association	-
California Fisheries and Seafood Institute	Sacramento, CA
California Fishermen's Resiliency Association	-
California Shellfish/Hallmark Fisheries	-
California Sportfishing Protection Alliance	-
Carmel River Steelhead Association	Monterey, CA
Catalina Offshore Products, Inc.	-
Central California Joint Cable Fisheries Liaison Committee	-
Central California Seafood Marketing Association	Morro Bay, CA
Central Coast Women for Fisheries, Inc.	Morro Bay, CA
Chumash Heritage National Marine Sanctuary	Los Osos, CA
City of Monterey Harbor	Monterey, CA
City of Morro Bay Harbor	Morro Bay, CA
Coastal Conservation Association of California	-
Coastal Troller's Association	-
Coastside Fishing Club	-
Commercial Fisherman of Santa Barbara	Santa Barbara, CA
Crescent City Commercial Fishermen's Association	Crescent City, CA
Del Norte Fishermen's Marketing Association	Del Norte County, CA

Stakeholder Organization	Location
Fishermen's Marketing Association of Bodega Bay	Bodega Bay, CA
Fishermen's Marketing Association	-
FishHawk Fisheries	Astoria, OR
Giovanni's Fish Market – Morro Bay	Morro Bay, CA
Golden Gate Fishermen's Association	-
Half Moon Bay Fishermen's Marketing Association	-
Humboldt Fishermen's Marketing Association	Humboldt, CA
Marine Fish Conservation Network	-
Midwater Trawler's Cooperative	-
Monterey Bay Fisheries Trust	Monterey, CA
Monterey Commercial Fishermen's Association	Monterey, CA
Monterey Fishermen's Marketing Association	Monterey, CA
Morro Bay Commercial Fishermen's Organization	Morro Bay, CA
Moss Landing Commercial Fishermen's Association	Monterey, CA
Moss Landing Harbor District	Monterey, CA
National Coalition for Fishing Communities	-
Ocean Gold Seafoods	Westport, WA
Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen's Associations	San Francisco, CA
Pacific Fishery Management Council	-
Pacific Seafood	Clackamas, OR
Pillar Point Commercial Fishermen	Half Moon Bay, CA
Pillar Point Harbor	Half Moon Bay, CA
Point Arena Joint Cable/Fisheries Liaison Committee, Inc.	-
Port San Luis Commercial Fishermen's Association	San Luis, CA
Port San Luis Fishermen's Marketing Association	San Luis, CA
Recreational Fishermen of America	-
Responsible Offshore Development Alliance	-
Safe Coast Seafoods	-
Salmon for All	-
SalmonAID	-
San Diego's Fishermen's Working Group	San Diego, CA
San Francisco Community Fishing Association	San Francisco, CA

Stakeholder Organization	Location
San Francisco Crab Boat Owners' Association	San Francisco, CA
San Luis Obispo Chamber of Commerce	San Luis Obispo County, CA
Santa Cruz Commercial Fishermen's Marketing Association	Santa Cruz, CA
Santa Cruz Port District	Santa Cruz, CA
Sea Q. Fish Ltd.	-
Shelter Cove Fishing Preservation Association, Inc.	Whitethorn, CA
Small Boat Commercial Salmon Fishermen's Association	-
South Bay Cable Fisheries Liaison Committee	-
Southern California Trawler's Association	Carpinteria, CA
Sportfishing Association of California	-
The California Fisheries & Seafood Institute (CFSI)	-
Trident Seafoods	-
Trinidad Bay Fishermen's Association	Humboldt, CA
United Catcher Boats	-
Ventura County Commercial Fishermen's Association	-
Washington Dungeness Crab Fishermen's Association	Westport, WA
West Coast Pelagic Conservation Group	Westport, WA
West Coast Seafood Processors Association	Astoria, OR
Western Fishboat Owners Association	-
Westport Seafoods	-
World Forum of Fish Harvesters and Fish Workers	-

Appendix C Fishing Gear Loss Prevention and Claim Procedure

5.2 Fishing Gear Conflict Claims Procedure

Equinor recognizes the possibility of offshore wind activity and commercial fishing gear encounters and conflicts. However, with proper communication and training, there will be limited gear interactions in connection with the installation and operation of our offshore wind farms. In the event there is gear loss or damage caused by, or resulting from developer activities, we have provided a claim/damage procedure below.

Prevention methods should be followed by all parties. Equinor reserves the right to request additional information to support review of a claim.

5.3 Filing a Claim

A fisherman who experiences gear loss/damage that they believe was a result of Equinor's activities (surveys, cable laying, construction vessels) should complete the attached gear loss application form and submit it to the appropriate Fisheries Liaison from the lease area where the loss/damage occurred (chart and contact information below).

To submit a claim, an applicant must contact Equinor's Fisheries Liaison(s) and notify him/her of the incident as soon as safe and practical via cell/text/email, as well as provide a complete, legible, executed application form within 30 days of the incident. Fisheries Liaisons are available to assist with the application form. Incomplete applications will not be accepted.

5.4 Claim Review

Claims will be reviewed and processed as quickly as possible by Equinor's Fisheries Liaison in consultation with the team of Fishing Representatives.

A written explanation of the decision will be provided to the Applicant within 30 days of receipt of a completed claims application form. If the claim is approved, a check will be provided to the Applicant.

5.5 Claim Information to be Provided by Fisherman

Date of incident:

Time of day, weather conditions (optional):

Location of gear loss/damage:

A. Lat/Long:

B. Photo of chart plotter/vessel tracks:

Gear description - Markings /polyballs, highflyers:

Offshore wind vessels in the area, other vessel activity:

When was the last time gear was set and hauled?

Was any of the gear retrieved?

How many longlines, traps, pots, trawls, highflyers, etc. are lost/damaged?

Invoice for replacement gear or gear repair (must be substantially similar to gear that was lost/damaged)

Remaining questions only need to be completed if claiming lost fishing time:

Description of normal fishing activity / fishing gear configuration

Date of loss:

Date of replacement:

Proof of fish landing history through VTR, sales slip, or similar type of documentation:

Tag replacement application/receipt, both state and federal if applicable:

By submitting this Application, Applicant authorizes Equinor to make whatever reasonable inquiries and investigations it deems necessary to verify my application and request for compensation.

Applicant understands that submitting this Application does not guarantee payment. Applicant further agrees that if this claim is accepted and paid in its entirety, that acceptance of such payment constitutes full, final and complete payment for this particular claim and that neither developer nor any of its affiliates shall have any

further outstanding or ongoing obligation with respect to this specific claim and Applicant shall not, directly or indirectly, assert any claim, or commence, join in, prosecute, participate in, or fund any part of, any suit or other proceeding of any kind against developer or any of its affiliates, based upon this specific claim. If a claim is denied in part, Applicant may accept payment for the undisputed part without waiving Applicant's right to appeal the disputed part of the claim. Applicant recognizes that submission of this Application does not affect Applicant's rights concerning matters other than those specifically identified in this specific Application.

I attest, under penalty of perjury, that to the best of my knowledge the information in this Application is true and correct.

Signature: Date:

Equinor Fisheries Liaison Contacts:

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