



# **Buchan Offshore Wind**

PMP 7 Proposed Fisheries Mitigation, Monitoring and Communication Plan (FMMCP)

## **QMS** Review

Name	Company	Date	Reviewed	Approved
AK	Natural Power	14/05/2025	LJ	SM
RML	BOW	23/06/2025	RML	ISS

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#### 1 INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Purpose

- 1. This proposed Fisheries Mitigation, Monitoring and Communication Plan (FMMCP) for the Proposed Offshore Development has been prepared on behalf of and for Buchan Offshore Wind Limited, which is a joint venture between BayWa r.e., Elicio and BW Ideol (hereafter referred to as 'the Applicant').
- 2. This plan will be developed and updated post-consent, taking into account the conditions set out in the Marine Licence(s) (under the Marine and Coastal Access Act 2009) and the Section 36 Consent in relation to commercial fisheries.
- 3. Management of commercial fisheries mitigation, monitoring and communication during decommissioning of the Proposed Offshore Development will be covered by the Decommissioning Programme in accordance with Section 105(2) of the Energy Act 2004 and the 'Decommissioning of Offshore Renewable Energy Installations in Scottish waters or in the Scottish part of the Renewable Energy Zone under The Energy Act 2004: Guidance notes for Industry (in Scotland)' (Scottish Government, 2022) or any successor guidance in place at the relevant time. Decommissioning will be subject to separate licensing and approval processes and is not within the scope of this proposed FMMCP.

#### 1.2 Objectives

4. This pFMMCP describes the Applicant's approach to fisheries liaison and mitigation for the Proposed Offshore Development in order to reduce potential impacts and disruption on commercial fishing receptors, and effectively implement the opportunities for co-existence, including consideration of commitments made in the commercial fisheries chapter of the Proposed Offshore Development Environmental Impact Assessment Report (EIAR) (Volume 2, Chapter 11: Commercial Fisheries). All Applicant personnel, Contractors and Subcontractors will be expected to comply with the FMMCP.

#### 1.3 Project Background

- 5. The Proposed Offshore Development is located approximately 75 km at its closest point off the Aberdeenshire coast, north-east of Fraserburgh. The Proposed Offshore Development is located within the south-west portion of the International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES) Division 4a (northern North Sea) statistical area within Scottish territorial waters and the United Kingdom (UK) Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ). It will comprise Wind Turbine Generators (WTGs) and all infrastructure required to transmit the power generated to shore. The key components of relevance to commercial fisheries are:
  - up to 70 WTGs (each comprising a tower section, nacelle and three rotor blades);
  - associated supporting structures, including floating foundations;
  - mooring systems and anchors;
  - a network of Inter-Array Cables (IACs) connecting an array of WTGs to an Offshore Substation Platform (OSP);
  - up to three OSPs and associated support structures and foundations;

- up to three offshore export cables, forming the Export Cable Corridor (ECC) and connecting the OSPs to landfall;
- one Intermediate Reactive Compensation (IRC) platform located within the ECC; and
- cable protection and/or utility crossings where required.
- 6. As per the Marine licensing and consenting offshore renewable energy projects guidance (Scottish Government, 2025), a description of the Proposed Offshore Development will be included in the FMMCP, including aspects related to cable burial and protection. Full details of cable installation, burial and protection will be detailed in a Cable Plan (CaP) which will be written post consent in accordance with Embedded Mitigation Measure (EM) 9 for the Proposed Offshore Development (refer to **Table 2-1** for further detailed of the proposed EM measures for the proposed Offshore Development).

#### 1.4 Guidance

- 7. The following key guidance documents informed this FMMCP:
  - Marine licensing and consenting: offshore renewable energy projects (Scottish Government, 2025);
  - Fishing Liaison with Offshore Wind and Wet Renewables Group (FLOWW) Best Practice Guidance for Offshore Renewables Developments: Recommendations for Fisheries Liaison (FLOWW, 2014);
  - FLOWW Best Practice Guidance for Offshore Renewables Developments: Recommendations for Fisheries Disruption Settlements and Community Funds (FLOWW, 2015);
  - Good Practice Guidance for assessing fisheries displacement by other licensed marine activities (Marine Scotland Science (MSS), 2022); and
  - Options and Opportunities for Marine Fisheries Mitigation Associated with Windfarms (Blyth-Skyrme, 2010).
- 8. This pFMMCP is in accordance with Scotland's National Marine Plan objectives and policies, according to the Scotlish Government (2025) Guidance.

#### 1.5 Consultation

- Details of relevant pre-submission consultation undertaken by the Applicant with commercial fisheries stakeholders are presented in the EIAR (Volume 2, Chapter 11: Commercial Fisheries).
- 10. Details of the consultations held to inform this pFMMCP are described in the table below (**Table 1-1**).

**Table 1-1 Consultation Relevant to Commercial Fisheries** 

Consultee	Date/Document	Summary	Relevance to this PMP		
Scoping Opinion (MD-L	Scoping Opinion (MD-LOT, 2023)				
Marine Directorate - Licensing Operations Team (MD-LOT)	December 2023, Marine Directorate - Licensing Operations Team: Scoping Opinion for Buchan Offshore Wind Farm 5.8 Commercial Fisheries	In regard to mitigation outlined in the Scoping Report the Scottish Ministers highlight the Scottish Fishermen's Federation (SFF) representation regarding further mitigation measures for consideration by the Developer. The Scottish Ministers advise that in identifying appropriate mitigation measures, the Developer must consider the different types of fishing that take place within the Proposed Development and engage with the wider fishing industry to seek broad agreement on measures proposed. The Scottish Ministers advise that when detailing the mitigation measures the Developer must clearly state commitments and explain any caveats to these commitments, such as EIA significance, so that stakeholders can easily understand the actual commitment(s) made.	Consultations with fisheries groups took place in August and November 2024, specifically addressing co-existence. The August meeting was held in person followed by helpful feedback during the November consultation, both further contributing to the understanding and development process of potential mitigation options. Consultations were further used to inform the content of this pFMMCP.		
		The Scottish Ministers advise that the Developer must adopt a clear position on whether it will be content for fishing to continue over the Proposed Development after construction is complete and whether overtrawl trials (for the offshore export cable route) will be included as a mitigation measure. This position must be adopted prior to the fisheries displacement assessment so the implications from this can be included in the assessment.	Clear assumptions on continuation of fishing (or otherwise) are presented in the commercial fisheries chapter (Volume 2, Chapter 11: Commercial Fisheries) for consideration of the worst case scenario. The Applicant will maintain engagement with the fishing community throughout the lifetime of the Proposed Offshore Development. The position on the continued interaction of fishing activities within the area of the Proposed Offshore Development is presented within the impact assessment of the commercial		

Consultee	Date/Document	Summary	Relevance to this PMP
			fisheries chapter (Volume 2, Chapter 11: Commercial Fisheries).  The detail of fisheries mitigation is set out in this pFMMCP which includes provision of overtrawl surveys of the export cables.
Scottish Fishermen's Federation (SFF)	October 2023, SFF Response on Buchan Offshore Windfarm Project (Scotwind NE8 Site) Scoping Consultation Inter-Array Cables (IACs)	Being concerned of fishermen's safety, SFF would like to see that maximum efforts are made by the Developer to ensure 100% cables burial (IACs, interconnector and export cables) is achieved.	The Applicant acknowledges this feedback and would highlight that details regarding design are available within Volume 1, Chapter 4: Project Description. As is common within UK consent application, a design envelope approach has been applied which allows for adjustments as necessary to accommodate evolving detailed design whilst ensuring that the worst case has been assessed within the EIAR.
		In the event that cable burial is not achievable due to technical difficulties, we would recommend using industry standard size (1"-5") rock dump than concrete mattress and followed by an overtrawl sweep alongside a long-term monitoring programme. The fishing industry are opposed in the use of concrete mattresses in open water.	Target burial of all cables is 1.5 m.  The Applicant acknowledges this feedback and would highlight that details regarding design are available within Volume 1,  Chapter 4: Project Description. As is common within UK consent application, a design envelope approach has been applied which allows for adjustments as necessary to accommodate evolving detailed design whilst ensuring that the worst case has been assessed within the EIAR.  Proposed mitigations are detailed in this p FMMCP including overtrawl surveys.

Consultee	Date/Document	Summary	Relevance to this PMP
	October 2023, SFF	SFF also note from section '3.6.2.4 Offshore Export Cables', page 81 of the Report that the cable and pipeline crossing will occur while laying the IAC or inter-connector cables. As crossing points create obstacles and snagging hazard to the fishing industry, we would suggest that the cable crossing should be avoided as much as possible otherwise the design of cables and pipelines crossing points should be consulted with fishing industry to ensure their impacts are mitigated.  SFF appreciate the Applicant's efforts on the following	The Applicant acknowledges this feedback and would highlight that details regarding design are available within <b>Volume 1</b> , <b>Chapter 4: Project Description</b> . As is common within UK consent application, a design envelope approach has been applied which allows for adjustments as necessary to accommodate evolving detailed design whilst ensuring that the worst case has been assessed within the EIAR.  This pFMMCP has been drafted in support
	Response on Buchan Offshore Windfarm Project (Scotwind NE8 Site) Scoping Consultation Designed In Measures and Mitigation	commitments and share observations accordingly: EM25 - Development of and adherence to a Fisheries Management and Mitigation Strategy (FMMS) by the developer. However, we would propose the FMMS to be developed and adopted pre-consent/development in consultation with fishing industry.	of the commercial fisheries chapter (Volume 2, Chapter 11: Commercial Fisheries).
		EM22 – "Timely and efficient distribution of Notice to Mariners (NtM), Kingfisher Bulletin publications and other navigational warnings of the position and nature of works associated with the Proposed Development." We request that any such information be shared with the fishing industry well in advance to ensure that no disruption is caused to their activities. This proactive approach will help maintain smooth operations and foster positive relations.	Safe navigation for fishing vessels is assessed in Volume 2, Chapter 13: Shipping and Navigation. In addition, a Proposed Lighting and Marking Plan (LMP) (PMP 5) (Buchan Offshore Wind Ltd, 2025d), a Proposed Navigational Safety and Vessel Management Plan (NSVMP) (PMP 3) (Buchan Offshore Wind Ltd, 2025b) and an Aids to Navigation (AtoN) Management Plan (PMP 4) (Buchan Offshore Wind Ltd, 2025c) have been produced for the Project. Timely and efficient distribution of NtM and Kingfisher Bulletin

Consultee	Date/Document	Summary	Relevance to this PMP
			publications are committed to as part of the embedded mitigation measures (EM22) ( <b>Table 2-1</b> ).
		As part of the measures, there is no measure for disruption payments for the fishing vessels.  "Consideration of the principle of cooperation agreements in instances where static gears may be required to be temporarily relocated." SFF suggest that the cooperation agreement should be considered for the static and mobile gears where they are required to be relocated.	This pFMMCP document describes the measures in place to address and mitigate any potential impacts on the fishing industry. The Applicant has made clear through further consultation that long-term operational compensation payments for mobile fishing gears will not be paid.
Other Relevant Consult	tation to Date		
SFF, Scottish White Fish Producers Association (SWFPA), Scottish Pelagic Fisheries Association (SPFA)	August 2024, fisheries meeting in person in Aberdeen	Meeting held to update on the Project progress, to present the identified impacts and to discuss potential opportunities for long term co-existence. The Applicant clarified that operational compensation payments were not proposed. However, it was open to discussing the possibility of a fisheries enhancement fund that could be used in operation.	Feedback was welcomed and accounted for by the project team. The concept of a fisheries enhancement fund was welcomed, and a suggestion from stakeholders that this would be better deployed as a sector wide or Crown Estate Scotland (CES) administered initiative was proposed. The Applicant has raised this with both MD-LOT and CES for consideration.
CES	November 2024, commercial fisheries co- existence	Discussion of potential for regional or collaborative commercial fisheries co-existence opportunities.	Impacts which relate to the fishing community surrounding the Proposed Offshore Development. Whilst still at the concept stage, CES is exploring the implementation of collaborative/coexistence approaches as requested by stakeholders following the Applicant's suggestion of a fisheries enhancement fund.

#### 2 FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AND MITIGATION MEASURES

- 11. This section provides a summary of the Applicant's approach to fisheries liaison, and of the measures proposed to be implemented to reduce potential impacts and disruption on commercial fishing receptors and facilitate co-existence. As identified in the commercial fisheries chapter (Volume 2, Chapter 11: Commercial Fisheries) of the EIAR, commercial fisheries of relevance to this FMMCP include the following:
  - pelagic trawlers and purse seiners targeting mackerel;
  - demersal trawlers and demersal seiners targeting Nephrops and other demersal species including haddock, monks/anglers, whiting, cod and squid;
  - pots and traps targeting crabs and lobsters; and
  - scallop dredgers.
- 12. The measures proposed in this FMMCP take account of the embedded mitigation measures identified in the commercial fisheries chapter (Volume 2, Chapter 11: Commercial Fisheries) which are listed below in Table 2-1.
- 13. It should be noted that unless otherwise specified, the measures proposed apply to all the above identified fisheries.

**Table 2-1 Embedded Mitigation Measures of Relevance to Commercial Fisheries** 

Reference	Embedded Mitigation Measure	Justification
EM9	Development of and adherence to a CaP (Cable	Reduces potential interactions
	Plan). The CaP will confirm planned cable routing,	between fishing gear and
	burial and any additional protection and will set	cables.
	out methods for post-installation cable	
	monitoring. The CaP will be informed by a Cable	
	Burial Risk Assessment (CBRA).	
EM16	Development of and adherence to a Lighting and	Increases awareness of the
	Marking Plan (LMP). The LMP will detail how the	Proposed Offshore
	final design complies with legal requirements	Development in both day and
	with regards to shipping, navigation and aviation	night conditions including in
	marking and lighting.	restricted visibility, and assists
		with search and rescue (SAR)
		operations.
EM17	Development of and adherence to a Navigational	Facilitates awareness, helps
	Safety Plan (NSP). The NSP will describe measures	reducing disturbance to fishing
	put in place by the Applicant related to	activities and improves safety
	navigational safety, including information on	for vessels and people involved
	Safety Zones, charting, construction buoyage,	in fishing and the project.
	temporary lighting and marking, and means of	Provides for timely and
	notification of Proposed Offshore Development	efficient distribution of NtM,
	activity to other sea users (e.g., via Notice to	Kingfisher notifications and
	Mariners).).	other navigational warnings of
		the position and nature of
		works associated with the
		Proposed Offshore
		Development.

Reference	Embedded Mitigation Measure	Justification
EM19	Application and use of safety zones during construction/major maintenance and decommissioning phases. Safety zones shall be of appropriate configuration, extent and application to specified vessels of identified primary risk.	Reduces the risk introduced due to the presence of project vessels.
EM22	Timely and efficient distribution of NtM, Kingfisher Bulletin publications and other navigational warnings of the position and nature of works associated with the Proposed Offshore Development.	Allows mariners to be advised of project activities within a timely manner and take appropriate action to avoid potential damage to and from fishing gear and associated safety risks.
EM23	Appointment of a Company Fisheries Liaison Officer (CFLO) who will support ongoing liaison and clear communication between the Applicant and the commercial fisheries sector.	Provides specific points of contact to liaise and engage with the fishing industry.
EM24	Adherence to good practice guidance with regards to fisheries liaison and procedures in the event of interactions between the Proposed Offshore Development and fishing activities (e.g., FLOWW, 2014; 2015).	Facilitates co-existence between vessels undertaking works for the Proposed Offshore Development and fishing vessels reducing likelihood and severity of potential adverse interactions.
EM25	Development of and adherence to Fisheries Mitigation, Monitoring and Communication Plan (pFMMCP). The pFMMCP will set out the means of ongoing fisheries liaison through construction and O&M phases of the Proposed Offshore Development and detail any mitigation measures to be put in place to limit effects on commercial fisheries activity. This will include the following project policies: Fisheries Liaison Policy and Engagement Schedule, Conflict Avoidance Policy, Incident Response Policy <sup>1</sup> .	Details the Applicant's proposed approach to fisheries liaison and to facilitating coexistence, including details on the measures which are proposed to be implemented to reduce impacts on commercial fishing.
EM26	Any objects dropped on the seabed during works associated with the Proposed Development will be reported and objects will be recovered where they pose a hazard to other marine users and where recovery is practicable with safe operation.	Ensures mariners and relevant authorities are notified of potential hazards. Information pertaining to the procedures for dropped objects is detailed in the proposed Environmental Management Plan (pEMP) (Buchan Offshore Wind Ltd, 2025).
EM27	Liaison with Fisheries Industry Representatives (FIRs), as appropriate.	Facilitates the establishment of productive relationships with

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Fisheries Liaison Policy and Engagement Schedule, Conflict Avoidance Policy and Incident Response Policy will be covered in full detail in the final FMMCP produced post-consent.

Reference	Embedded Mitigation Measure	Justification
		fisheries stakeholders and the
		implementation of an
		evidence-based approach to
		mitigation.

#### 2.1 Fisheries Liaison

14. The Applicant intends to adhere to the FLOWW Recommendations for Fisheries Liaison: Best Practice guidance for offshore renewable developers (FLOWW, 2014) and subsequent updates if applicable at the time of pre-construction and construction phases. In line with this guidance, the principal liaison will remain proactive and timely with key fisheries stakeholders through established communication channels. The Applicant remains committed to maintaining dialogue and effective communications with the fishing industry to promote co-existence.

### 2.1.1 Roles and Responsibilities

15. The anticipated key roles and responsibilities related to fisheries liaison during the construction and operation and maintenance of the Proposed Offshore Development are outlined in **Table 2-2**.

**Table 2-2 Key Roles and Responsibilities** 

Role	Responsibility	
The Applicant	<ul> <li>Key responsibilities include:</li> <li>pro-active and timely engagement with commercial fisheries stakeholders statutory and non-statutory bodies as well as organisations that have potential to be affected by the Proposed Offshore Development; and</li> <li>ensuring the effective implementation of the FMMCP, including timely provision of relevant information to the Fisheries Liaison Officer (FLO), Offshore FLO (OFLO), and FIRs, and onwards to fishers through established communication channels.</li> </ul>	
FLO (onshore based)	A FLO has already been appointed for the Proposed Offshore Development and will continue in post subject to any changes. The FLO will continue to develop a positive working relationship with the local fishing industry and further the Applicant's understanding of potential interactions between the Proposed Offshore Development and commercial fisheries operations.  The FLO is and remains the interface between the Applicant, Contractors, Subcontractors and commercial fisheries stakeholders. The FLO is and will remain a key point of contact for commercial fisheries stakeholders and will disseminate information to the fishing industry (potentially via the FIRs). The FLO will maintain a database of fisheries stakeholders and organisations to ensure Proposed Offshore Development related information is circulated in a timely and appropriate manner.  The FLO will assist and support the Applicant in resolving fisheries interfaces as they arise and facilitate the relocation of static fishing gear when necessary.	
OFLO	The main role of the OFLO is to reduce and manage any potential at-sea interfaces between the Proposed Offshore Development and fishing activities where required and appropriate.	

Role	Responsibility	
	The OFLO will be stationed on Project vessels, as required, and will act as an on-site point of communication for fishing vessels, the FLO and Applicant. The OFLO will also record details of any fishing activity in and around the Proposed Offshore Development (including fishing vessels, gear and communications with fishers) and of any events of infringement, movement or damage to static gear.	
FIRs	The FIRs will be the direct points of contact for the local fishing industry and will be the main counterpart to the FLO. The FIRs will likely assist in circulation of NtMs, Kingfisher bulletins and subsequent updates for activities and other information from the FLO, as required. The FIRs may attend fisheries stakeholder meetings and will liaise directly with local fishers.	
Marine	The Applicant will establish a Marine Operations Centre, which will be	
Operations	responsible for managing and monitoring vessel activity of the Proposed	
Centre	Offshore Development.	

#### 2.1.2 Communication and Information Dissemination

- 16. A key aspect to promoting an ongoing positive relationship with commercial fisheries stakeholders is the dissemination of appropriate and accurate information to all parties in a timely manner and in line with established protocols. Communications channels are and will continue to be established with fisheries stakeholders. It is anticipated that various methods for communication will be used, including but not limited to:
  - distribution of Proposed Offshore Development information during construction (including pre-construction) and operation and maintenance via:
    - NtMs, Kingfisher Bulletins, and other navigational warnings;
    - Proposed Offshore Development updates;
  - consultation meetings and any relevant working group attended by the Applicant, FLO and/or FIR, as required; and
  - direct liaison to address any concerns or issues as they arise.
- 17. The Marine Operations Centre, FIRs, FLO, and OFLO will be direct points of contact for the local fishing industry.
- 18. The FMMCP will account for commitments made within the Proposed Offshore Development EIAR and conditions of the Section 36 consent and/or marine licence available secured.

#### 2.2 Safety Zones

19. Safety zones around renewable energy installations can be declared under s.95 of the Energy Act 2004 to secure the safety of other users of the marine environment during the construction and operation and maintenance periods. The standard safety zone is 500 metres for construction and 50 metres for operation, but this may be restricted or affected by constraints including navigable routes.

The Project expects to apply for safety zones during construction and major maintenance activities. Safety zones may also be applied for around certain offshore structures (i.e., floating WTGs or the IRC) during the operational phase, subject to engagement with consultees and agreement with relevant authorities. At the appropriate phase a detailed safety zone plan will be prepared to inform the size and location of any safety zones applied for, and how these will be communicated to the relevant stakeholders. The plan will seek to exclude rights of navigation in the proposed radius around each installation during the operational phase, and around a wider area in the construction and maintenance phases. The aim of any navigational restrictions will relate to the safety of users of the marine environment and the protection of both assets of the Proposed Offshore Development and of other users of the marine environment.

#### 2.3 Guard Vessels

20. Guard vessels will be used where required and will enable safe construction through on-site communication with users of the marine environment. Guard vessels will be used to ensure adherence with safety zones or advisory passing distances to mitigate impacts during construction and to reduce the risk introduced due to the presence of project infrastructure. The guard vessels will be in contact with the OFLO or FLO and will provide support on the monitoring and communication of fishing activity.

#### 2.4 Dropped Objects

21. Any objects dropped accidentally at sea or debris during works associated with the Proposed Offshore Development will be reported. Objects will be retrieved where they pose a hazard to other sea users and the marine environment and where retrieval is practicable with safe operation. An 'accidental deposit of an object at sea form' will be submitted electronically to the required organisations as soon as possible and no later than 24 hours after the event takes place, where feasibly practicable. In the event of an immediate risk of debris or an accidental deposit of an object at sea being a danger or hazard to navigation, immediate notification (as soon as reasonably possible, but no later than six hours after the event) will be made to the relevant HM Coastguard rescue coordination centre by telephone, and the UK Hydrographic Office by email (navwarnings@ukho.gov.uk). Information pertaining to the procedures for dropped objects is detailed in the proposed Environmental Management Plan (pEMP) (Buchan Offshore Wind Ltd, 2025a).

#### 2.5 Proposed Navigational Safety and Vessel Management Plan (PNSVMP)

22. The Applicant has produced a proposed NSVMP (PMP 3) (Buchan Offshore Wind Ltd, 2025b) which will be updated post- consent. The pNSVMP describes measures related to navigation safety and vessel operations to manage potential impacts from Proposed Offshore Development vessels on other marine users (including fishing vessels). Information is also provided within the plan regarding vessel specifications and indicative transit routes to and from ports and the Proposed Offshore Development.

#### 2.6 Gear Loss or Damage

- 23. Emergency procedures in relation to fishing gear loss or damage is set out by KIS-ORCA<sup>2</sup> (as may be subsequently updated and revised from time to time). The procedure below replicates what is in place for the UK offshore oil and gas industry and would be applicable in the event of gear loss or damage relating to the Proposed Offshore Development infrastructure during construction and operation and maintenance phases. This procedure will be finalised in the final FMMCP:
  - if a vessel suspects they are entangled with infrastructure, skippers should not endanger vessel and crew by attempting to recover the gear;
  - the vessel should advise HM Coastguard and the Marine Coordinator, providing an accurate position of both vessel and any lost gear;
  - if HM Coastguard or Marine Coordinator confirms that the vessel is in the immediate vicinity of a cable or wind farm related infrastructure, consideration will be given to slipping of the gear, buoying and recording its position;
  - after buoying off the gear, the position should then be re-confirmed with relevant parties;
     and
  - on return to port, skippers would be expected to register the incident in the normal manner then complete a gear loss record form and forward it to the FLO for processing.

## 2.7 Post-Installation Surveys

24. The Applicant intends to undertake post-installation surveys to confirm cable burial depths and potential changes to seabed conditions as a result of construction activities. These surveys include provision of overtrawl surveys of the export cables. The exact nature of these surveys is yet to be determined based on final design decisions and further consultation with key consultees. However, it is expected that following completion of these surveys, fisheries stakeholders will be provided with information such as laid cable data including locations and dimensions of any cable protection.

## 2.8 Cooperation Agreement

- 25. It is possible that instances may arise during construction, operation and maintenance, and decommissioning where relocation of static fishing gear may be requested by the Applicant. Where required, the Applicant will establish evidence-based cooperation agreements, in line with FLOWW guidance (2015) and best practice at the time.
- 26. The exact nature of these cooperation agreements is yet to be determined, and this will be further discussed during the post-consent stage as the Proposed Offshore Development detailed design is refined, and in consultation with the affected fishers.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> https://kis-orca.org/safety/emergency-procedures/

27. In relation to cooperation agreements, both parties can seek Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) in the event that cooperation agreements cannot be agreed. This will be in line with FLOWW (2015) guidance and be undertaken by a mutually agreed third party.

#### 2.9 Monitoring of Fishing Activity

- 28. The Applicant will monitor fishing activity in the Proposed Offshore Development by undertaking a review of fisheries data at appropriate times and where feasibly practicable. The aim of the commercial fisheries monitoring would be to provide an accurate representation of fishing activity in areas of relevance to the Proposed Offshore Development. The results of the monitoring will inform updates, as appropriate, to the FMMCP and would be considered alongside any additional consultation with the commercial fishing industry as required.
- 29. Any future monitoring requirements for commercial fisheries, inclusive of timescales, that are identified post-consent will be included via updates to the FMMCP.

## 2.10 Fisheries Community Funding

- 30. The fishing industry may consider funding initiatives at the community level as a broader strategy to address the residual impacts of the Proposed Offshore Development. Fisheries community funding can also be incorporated into wider community benefits schemes, and may help to support individual fishing businesses, while simultaneously addressing wider issues within the broader fishing community such as, impacts on supply chain, improving industry infrastructure, or providing shared assets and resources. Fisheries stakeholders have provided feedback through consultation (Refer to **Table 1-1**) that this type of initiative would be most effectively delivered through at strategic or government scale rather than by individual developers. The Applicant will continue to engage with Government, other developers and the fisheries sector to seek to bring forward something that can deliver the most beneficial outcomes for all involved.
- 31. Such examples of community projects could include:
  - research initiatives aimed at supporting fisheries e.g. stocks assessment surveys or better understanding marine renewable – fishery interactions e.g. gear trials;
  - projects for fishing community benefit such as ice plants, fuel storage facilities, processing facilities, safety equipment, Net Transporter Lorries, fisheries community minibus for airport transfer; and
  - resource enhancement or conservation initiatives e.g. lobster v-notching, reseeding.
- 32. Developments in the fisheries community fund, including the routes through which applications may be made, and projects supported, will be communicated directly to relevant parties via the FLO, or through other project updates made to the fishing community.
- 33. The applicant's position on the indicative fisheries community funding initiative is provided as complementary proposals for completeness. These proposals are not relevant and should not be relied upon for reaching a determination of the application.

#### 3 SUMMARY

34. This pFMMCP provides a description of the information that will be provided in the Final FMMCP. The Final FMMCP will contain information on the fisheries management and mitigation measures that will be implemented, like the fisheries liaison, the implementation of safety zones, the guard vessels, dropped objects, gear loss or damage, post-installation surveys, cooperation agreement, monitoring of fishing activity and information on the ports utilised, information on the role and responsibilities of the MCC and information on funding initiatives like the fisheries community funding.

#### 4 REFERENCES

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