

Fisheries Communications Plan

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Table of Contents >

1.0	Introduction.....	3
2.0	EnBW East Wind’s Commitment to Fisheries	3
3.0	Description of the EnBW East Wind Project	5
4.0	Potentially Affected Fisheries.....	6
5.0	Strategy and Objectives of the Plan	6
6.0	EnBW East Wind’s Fisheries Outreach Team.....	7
7.0	Data and Information Collection	12
8.0	Outreach and Communication Resources	14

1.0 Introduction >

This Fisheries Communications Plan (“Plan”) outlines EnBW East Wind’s commitment and approach to providing early, open, and transparent two-way communication with the commercial and recreational fishing industries to ensure the two industries can safely coexist throughout the duration of EnBW East Wind’s offshore wind project. EnBW East Wind is committed to building trustworthy, longstanding, and collaborative relationships in a methodical way with the fishing industry so that we can properly develop the necessary data to establish environmental and economic baselines, incorporate navigational safety markings, radio communications, lighting concerns, and incorporate recommended safety procedures. EnBW East Wind is dedicated to early and regular communication to avoid conflicts with the commercial and recreational fishing industries wherever possible by utilizing multiple outlets to communicate our daily activities, navigational information, and the activities of our contractors.

East Wind LLC is the project company of EnBW North America, Inc., a U.S. offshore wind developer that intends to develop offshore wind projects on the East and West Coasts. EnBW East Wind’s project focus is on the New York and New Jersey region.

As of the release of Version 2 of this Plan in December 2020, EnBW East Wind does not have an offshore wind lease area; however, we are committed to securing a lease area and developing a project in the federal waters off New York and New Jersey. Ahead of obtaining a lease area, EnBW East Wind has appointed a dedicated Fisheries Liaison (“FL”) for the New York Bight area and begun outreach and communications with the commercial and recreational fishing industries. Led by our FL, we have released this Plan as a launching point for communications and learning, and we intend to devote significant time to meeting with and hearing the concerns and suggestions of fishermen.

The Plan is a living document that will expand and be updated as EnBW East Wind continues to learn and moves through different phases of the project, and we expect to expand our plan once we secure an offshore wind lease area. Our intention in developing and sharing this initial Plan is to begin the conversation with the fishing industry as early as possible, in order to collect comprehensive information and create lines of communication from the very beginning of our project. If you would like to receive updated versions of this Plan when it becomes available or would like to sign up for updates, please send an email to fisheries@enbw.com.

2.0 EnBW East Wind’s Commitment to Fisheries >

EnBW East Wind has committed to a number of offshore wind sector-wide principles to maximize cooperation and to minimize impacts between the offshore wind and fishing industries.

- EnBW East Wind commits to consulting with the fishing community at the earliest practical juncture, and especially before a project’s design features such as turbine layout, cable routes, and project vessel traffic are determined and before a Construction & Operations Plan (“COP”) is submitted to the U.S. Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (“BOEM”).
- EnBW East Wind will aim to orient project turbine rows, and to space turbines, in a way that both allows safe navigation and minimizes impacts to fishing in the project area to the extent achievable, and balance multiple stakeholder priorities. EnBW East Wind recognizes that the spacing and orientation of turbines may be determined by regulatory agencies.
- EnBW East Wind will take measures to ensure that all vessels supporting project development and construction will avoid fishing gear.
- EnBW East Wind will strive to minimize the amount of unburied cables whenever possible given seabed conditions and minimize the use of cable protection methods as far as reasonably practicable.
- EnBW East Wind is committed to working with commercial and recreational fisheries, RODA, and other industry associations and agencies to develop a mitigation plan for any project-related impacts to fisheries. EnBW East Wind will establish this mitigation plan, and update this Plan, once EnBW East Wind has secured an offshore wind lease area, and before EnBW East Wind begins any offshore activities.
- EnBW East Wind has implemented a Fisheries Communications Plan to facilitate communication between EnBW East Wind and fishermen; this is to be a “living document” that is updated regularly.
- The Fisheries Communications Plan will identify an individual named by EnBW East Wind to act as Fisheries Liaison, as well as one or more Fisheries Representatives.
 - The Fisheries Liaison will be responsible for communication between EnBW East Wind and the fishing community. The Fisheries Liaison serves as a knowledgeable point of contact to which the fishing community can efficiently and effectively communicate (generally, through the Fisheries Representatives, once they are selected). Fisheries Liaisons represent EnBW East Wind to the fishing community.
 - Fisheries Representatives will be knowledgeable about fishing practices used in the region of the EnBW East Wind project and trusted by members of the

community that fish in the project area. Fisheries Representatives will be engaged early in the planning and construction phases of the project.

- EnBW East Wind will maintain a “For Fishermen” webpage on EnBW North America’s website (www.enbw.us/for-fishermen) that will include the Fisheries Communications Plan, project-specific information as it becomes available, and details for on-water activities (once they are planned, after EnBW East Wind secures a lease area), including vessel names and contact information.
- EnBW East Wind will work collaboratively with the fishing community, scientific community, academia, and state and federal agencies to advance regional research and monitoring of fisheries and offshore wind interactions in federal waters in order to increase salient and credible data on fisheries and wind development and increase the understanding of the effects of wind energy development on fisheries and the ocean ecosystems on which they depend.
- EnBW East Wind will follow all recommendations of the U.S. Coast Guard with respect to ensuring human safety.
- EnBW East Wind will work with fishermen to develop safety protocols that address interactions with fishing vessels and fishermen.

3.0 Description of the EnBW East Wind Project >

EnBW East Wind is planning to develop an offshore wind project in the federal waters off New York and New Jersey and will develop this project under its project company East Wind LLC. While EnBW East Wind has not yet secured an offshore wind lease area from the federal government, we feel that it is important to begin engaging and understanding the fisheries and fishermen operating within the New York / New Jersey region.

Although EnBW East Wind’s project will continue to develop and become more precise in terms of size and location following EnBW East Wind securing a lease area, EnBW East Wind is planning an offshore wind farm of approximately 800-1,200 Megawatts (“MW”) that could deliver clean and affordable energy to residents in New York and New Jersey. EnBW East Wind commits to working with the fishing industries well in advance of turbine siting and layout decisions.

4.0 Potentially Affected Fisheries >

Based on our understanding and experience to date of the waters off of New York and New Jersey, EnBW East Wind believes the fisheries most likely to be potentially affected by the in-water activities associated with the planning, construction, and operations of the project may include trawl, mid-water trawl, sink gillnets, scallop dredges, trap/pot, bottom longline, hydraulic clam dredges, purse seine, and hook and line gear. EnBW East Wind will continue its study and outreach related to the project area to refine our understanding.

5.0 Strategy and Objectives of the Plan >

The establishment of this Plan has been developed using the *Final Report on Best Management Practices and Mitigation Measures* by BOEM, recommendations from the Mid-Atlantic and New England Fisheries Management Councils, Moray Offshore Renewable Ltd., Options for Cooperation between Commercial Fishing and Offshore Wind Energy Industries, communications with the commercial and recreational fishing industries, and our FL's years of experience in the fishing community. This Plan presents detailed procedures for putting these best practices and guidance into action.

EnBW East Wind has utilized these recommendations to create this initial Plan to ensure the continued success for both industries as we learn together how to avoid impacts and mutually coexist. EnBW East Wind's Plan encourages transparency during all phases of the development process to ensure the fishing industry becomes more fully engaged starting in the early design process and lasting throughout development, construction, operations, and until decommissioning.

A crucial component to ensure the success of our outreach is EnBW East Wind's commitment to build a network of FLs and FRs, beginning with EnBW East Wind's selection of our highly qualified FL, who is responsible for executing the Plan. Currently, EnBW East Wind does not have any FRs in place and will contract them accordingly once we have secured a lease area.

One of the initial priorities of our FL is to build an open and reciprocal communication process to provide timely, dependable information to the commercial and recreational fishing communities. EnBW East Wind plans to build upon its senior management's and FL's history and experience participating in the Massachusetts Fisheries Working Group, RODA, and other industry associations and working groups to continue to learn from and work with the fishing industry to solve the challenges of coexistence.

The key objectives of the Plan are:

- **Objective #1:** Identify safety concerns and improve safety for the commercial and recreational fishermen who transit through and fish within the wind farm area and along the cable route to shore.
- **Objective #2:** Enhance awareness of the EnBW East Wind project and the BOEM offshore wind permitting process to emphasize the opportunities for engagement that the recreational and commercial fishing industries will have throughout project planning, permitting, and development.
- **Objective #3:** Utilize the decades of experience of commercial and recreational fishermen to inform EnBW East Wind’s decision-making throughout project planning and development.
- **Objective #4:** Commit to utilize the best available science and data and that any conflicts with the fishing industries have been wholly considered and any identified impacts alleviated wherever feasible.
- **Objective #5:** Make available consistent and dependable communication throughout all phases of the project to the commercial and recreational fishing industries.
- **Objective #6:** Develop and present a strategy that minimizes conflicts and sets a process for resolving differences among the fishing communities and EnBW East Wind’s offshore wind development and operations.

6.0 EnBW East Wind’s Fisheries Outreach Team >

EnBW East Wind is committed to ensuring the success of our outreach by developing a network of highly qualified Fisheries Liaisons (“FLs”) and Fisheries Representatives (“FRs”) to supplement our fisheries outreach team. Even before obtaining an offshore wind lease area, EnBW East Wind has hired a FL to further improve our understanding of what the commercial and recreational fishing industries require to maximize coexistence of the two industries.

EnBW East Wind has been working with the FL to develop the components of the Plan and to identify the most suitable methods and frequency of communications, outreach meetings, and other responsibilities for engaging and notifying the local fishermen throughout all phases of the project.

To the greatest extent possible, the FL (and future FRs) will proactively engage with the various fishing constituencies within the New York / New Jersey region (including local ports where

major activity related to construction would take place and distant ports where fishermen who may fish in or near the project area may homeport), so that the fishing community has early and often opportunities to provide meaningful input throughout all phases of development.

ROLE OF FISHERIES LIAISON

The role of the FL is the principal outreach representative for EnBW to the commercial and recreational fishermen and works for EnBW East Wind.

EnBW East Wind's FL is Beth Casoni, who grew up in a small fishing village and has commercial fishermen in her family. She also brings with her over 12 years of experience working within the commercial fishing industry and fisheries management processes here in the northeast region. She is actively involved on several commissions and boards; New England Fisheries Management Council Herring and Habitat Advisory Committees, Atlantic Large Whale Take Reduction Team, MA Ocean Planning Commission, MA Ocean Acidification Commission and the MA Fisheries Working Group. Beth's extensive understanding of the management processes and ecological concerns as well as her ability to communicate with the commercial fishing industry make her an ideal person as EnBW East Wind's FL.

Fisheries Liaison: **Beth Casoni**
Phone: **508-738-1245**
Email: **fisheries@enbw.com**

FL responsibilities include but are not limited to:

1. Develop a well-thought-out Fisheries Communications Plan with EnBW East Wind project management with input from the commercial and recreational fishing industries, as well as BOEM, National Marine Fisheries Service ("NMFS"), state agencies, and the Mid-Atlantic and New England Fisheries Management Councils.
2. Create, expand, and sustain a single spreadsheet for commercial and recreational fishing industry contact list, industry-wide FL and FR contacts, fisheries management state agencies, councils, commissions, harbor masters, and industry associations.
3. Engage and collaborate with the commercial and recreational fishing industry regarding EnBW East Wind's ongoing activities and the efficacy of the Plan to make improvements wherever possible.
4. Propose to EnBW East Wind measures to alleviate any unforeseen adverse impacts of the project through early and often communications to the commercial and recreational fishing industry. Once EnBW East Wind has secured an offshore wind lease area, the FL will organize and distribute timely updates on vessel traffic in the project area while

utilizing a wide variety of outlets from future FRs, VHF channels, EnBW North America's website, social media outlets, and text message alerts.

5. Once EnBW East Wind has secured an offshore wind lease area, work with the future FRs and the commercial and recreational fishing industries on the planning and timing of project related surveys, construction, and operations begin and to design a plan to reduce the potential for damage to the fixed gear to the maximum extent possible.
6. Assemble and facilitate meetings with the commercial and recreational fishing industries to understand the potential impacts of the project to their industry.
7. Discuss with EnBW East Wind project management the concerns of the commercial and recreational fishing industries in a well-timed manner to allow for a swift response.
8. Directly work with the FRs who have an intimate working knowledge of the local commercial and recreational fishing industry they represent.
9. Develop relationships in all ports within the scope of the project to ensure two-way communication is established.
10. Present details to EnBW East Wind project on the key concerns that are brought forth by the commercial and recreational fishing industries.
11. Promptly respond to the commercial and recreational fishing industries key concerns.

ROLE OF FISHERIES REPRESENTATIVES

Because EnBW East Wind has not yet secured an offshore wind lease area, no FRs have been selected for EnBW East Wind's project. EnBW East Wind is committed to having FRs once it secures an offshore wind lease area, which is anticipated to be in late 2020. Until that time, communications with the fishing industry will be through EnBW East Wind's FL.

The rest of this section describes the function of the FRs, for the time when it is appropriate for EnBW East Wind to have FRs dedicated to its future offshore wind project.

The role of the FR will be to work for the commercial and recreational fishing industries to bring any and all concerns to the FL. FRs would not work directly for EnBW East Wind; rather, they would represent their respective fishing communities to collect information about their fishing industry activities and concerns from their communities and report this information to the FL.

FRs would also distribute information from the FLs to their fishing communities about the project.

The preferred FR selection process would be for the commercial and recreational industries to make recommendations based on their knowledge of the local industry and ability to represent them throughout all phases of the project. Should there be no recommendations, EnBW East Wind will select individuals based on the same criteria to represent the commercial and recreational industries. It is EnBW East Wind's goal to develop a network of FRs to maximize coverage of the fishing industry from both a geographical and gear type perspective. EnBW East Wind is committed to acquiring and compensating as many FRs as needed to have satisfactory representation throughout the scope of projects area. FRs will be paid directly by EnBW East Wind.

Once EnBW East Wind obtains an offshore wind lease area and appoints FRs for the EnBW East Wind project, FR responsibilities will include but not be limited to:

1. Provide information from the commercial and recreational fishing industries to the FL that may improve the continued Fisheries Communications Plan. Specifically, the FRs will outline how they plan to regularly engage the fishing industry to gather their concerns and how the information will be shared with the FLs.
2. Be well-versed on the regional commercial and recreational fishing gear types, targeted species, sectors, patterns and seasonal shifts.
3. Accumulate, evaluate, and maintain, in consultation with the FL, a single spreadsheet for commercial and recreational fishing industry contact list, FL and FR contacts, and fisheries management state agencies, councils, commissions, harbor masters, and industry associations.
4. Amass and maintain a spreadsheet with all the contact information for the commercial and recreational fishermen, targeted species and fishing vessels utilizing the EnBW East Wind project area.
5. Inform and maintain a calendar on upcoming commercial and recreational events and meetings that EnBW East Wind is present at.
6. Educate EnBW East Wind, through the FL, on current fishing effort in the EnBW East Wind project area.
7. Assist FL to distribute updated information on the projects progress to the commercial and recreational fishing industry in their region and to give honest feedback on the success and or failure of the Plans efficacy and where improvements can be made.

8. Stay current on all recreational and commercial fishing activities and concerns in their region and report to FL any conflicts promptly.
9. Enhance and promote their understanding of utilizing the safe fishing practices at sea within the scope of the project to the commercial and recreational fishing industry.
10. Remain impartial on any claims of liability or admission of responsibility for the commercial and recreational fishing vessels claims submitted to EnBW East Wind.
11. Report to the FL, via weekly FR reports, any and all concerns that have been brought to their attention by the commercial and recreational industry while preserving their confidentiality and integrity of the project. (*See Appendix A - Weekly FR Report template.*)

Collectively, the FLs and FRs will remain in close contact with the commercial and recreational fishing industries and each other to keep the information-sharing open and up-to-date throughout the project's progress, through a variety of methods, including but not limited to:

1. Post on EnBW North America's website and distribute information through email list serves.
2. Submit project updates and information requests to be shared and distributed via FMC websites, as well as through working group and industry association newsletters, and to be published in the local commercial and recreational fishing industry publications and their websites and social media outlets.
3. Develop and/or participate at local educational events planned around the commercial and recreational fishing industries.
4. Organize local meet-and-greets to update the commercial and recreational communities on the project's progress.
5. Create, maintain, and update a calendar for local meet-and-greets and other community outreach engagements.
6. Thorough dissemination of Notices to Mariners to the commercial and recreational fishing industry by utilizing; the appropriate VHF channels, a variety of email lists, cellular phone, and EnBW North America's website.

EnBW East Wind will also seek support from organizations and working groups to provide direct access to fishermen and to share information and feedback. EnBW North America has joined the Responsible Offshore Development Alliance (RODA) Joint Industry Task Force. RODA is a membership-based coalition of fishing industry associations and fishing companies with an interest in improving the compatibility of new offshore development with their businesses, and its Joint Industry Task Force provides a process for RODA members to communicate directly with offshore wind developers and work constructively to promote coexistence between the two industries by working collaboratively to explore improved approaches to project siting, design, and operations.

Other organizations or working groups that would like to be provided with direct information on EnBW East Wind and its project to disseminate to fishermen, please email us at fisheries@enbw.com.

The FL, along with EnBW East Wind project management and future FRs, are committed to continuous improvement of EnBW East Wind's outreach to the fishing industry.

7.0 Data and Information Collection >

EnBW East Wind agrees that effective dialogue and consultation is the key to maximizing understanding and minimizing conflicts. EnBW East Wind strives to connect with any affected or interested fishermen, and to ensure that these fishermen continued to be involved and updated as EnBW East Wind's project progresses. In order to keep track of such a vast industry, EnBW East Wind will establish a comprehensive contact database of commercial and recreational fishermen, local and regional fisheries associations, councils, commissions, harbor masters, and other industry organizations.

EnBW East Wind's FL will maintain and update this database in conjunction with EnBW East Wind's fisheries outreach team. EnBW East Wind will only use this database for our fisheries outreach activities, and this database will not be made available to the public. EnBW East Wind understands that some fisheries information, such as fishing sites, can be commercially sensitive. As needed to best understand fishermen's specific concerns or potential impacts, EnBW East Wind may work with the individual fishing organization or fisherman to establish confidentiality agreements for the purpose of sharing information.

Action Item	Status
Hire a respected Fisheries Liaison before obtaining an offshore wind lease area	Completed.
Join Responsible Offshore Development Alliance Joint Industry Task Force	Completed.
Draft a comprehensive and detailed Fisheries Communications Plan	Completed.
Build EnBW East Wind’s fisheries outreach team, including FRs	FR to be hired upon BOEM lease acquisition – In process.
Establish a database of contact and fishing information for commercial and recreational fishing industry, FLs’ and FRs’ contacts, and fisheries management state agencies, councils, commissions, harbor masters, and industry associations	In process. In October 2020, EnBW launched its first direct mail and online fishing community survey to establish contact with local fishermen. The survey is still open and we encourage fishermen to share their information and feedback at https://www.enbw.us/for-fishermen/
Categorize contacts by fishery and gear type, home port, organization/agency, as well as other important areas.	In process.
Continually revise the contact list as fishing permits are transferred and personnel changes within fisheries management state agencies, councils, commissions, harbor masters, and industry associations.	In process.
Develop a reliable and user-friendly report to record and utilize data.	In process.
Evaluate and organize data collected from the ongoing outreach endeavors.	In process.

Evaluate the subject matter from consultations and meetings	In process.
Schedule regular calls and meetings with the fisheries outreach team and contractors to assess ongoing themes, proper response, and to make certain there is timely follow-up	In process.

8.0 Outreach and Communication Resources >

The outlets for outreach and communication with the commercial and recreational industries are being continually developed through wide-ranging outreach efforts by EnBW East Wind’s fisheries outreach team. EnBW East Wind welcomes suggestions from fishermen on the best ways to communicate under various circumstances as we expand our Plan to address the communication needs for future, development phases of our project. Communication and outreach suggestions should be sent to fisheries@enbw.com. All in-person events are subject to safety and proper authorization from local authorities. Should in-person events not be possible, EnBW East Wind will host virtual events.

EnBW East Wind’s current plans for outreach and communications during the initial phase of project planning are listed below:

1. Build and maintain an communications list of contacts comprised of commercial and recreational fishermen and other fisheries contacts. Regularly distribute project information and solicit fisheries information through email list serves.
2. Develop and/or participate at local educational events planned around the commercial and recreational fishing industries.
3. Organize local meet-and-greets to update the commercial and recreational communities on the project’s progress. Be mindful of the fishing season and make use of the fishing off-seasons to the extent possible when scheduling meet-and-greets.
4. Make available any non-propriety data publicly available. This could include data from future fisheries surveys, as well as metocean buoy data (e.g., winds, waves, currents, sea temperature, etc.).

5. Create, maintain, and update a calendar for local meet-and-greets and other community outreach engagements. This calendar will be made available on EnBW North America's For Fishermen webpage and in other locations.
6. Participate at commercial and recreational fishing industry events.
7. Consult with various gear type representatives to expand the guidance for safe fishing practices and navigation inside the project area.
8. Develop and distribute EnBW East Wind brochures with graphics, charts, and EnBW East Wind contact information.
9. Create a Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) sheet for EnBW East Wind's project. These FAQs will be posted on EnBW North America's "For Fishermen" webpage and will be distributed at local meet-and-greets and other events.
10. Submit project updates to be published in the local commercial and recreational fishing industry publications and their websites and social media outlets.

Note that EnBW East Wind will expand its communication efforts after it obtains an offshore wind lease area and begins any offshore activities that may impact fisheries operations. At such a time, EnBW East Wind will update this Plan accordingly.

About EnBW North America

EnBW North America is more than a clean energy company. We are a partner, committed to working together to solve unique energy challenges. We are focused on delivering lasting clean energy solutions that will help individuals, businesses, and governments achieve shared climate goals to improve public health and economic opportunity. We do this through collaboration and innovation, designing and building a better energy future for us all.

Learn more at www.enbw.us

Learn more about our commitment to fisheries at <https://www.enbw.us/for-fishermen/>