



Spring 2013

Dogger Bank Fisheries Liaison Plan Issue 2

Document no. : F-STN-PR-002	Contract no. (if applicable):	Project: Dogger Bank Zone
Classification:		Distribution:
Expiry date (if applicable):		Status: Draft
Date: 03 April 2013		Version no.: 0.2
Overview:		
Dogger Bank Fisheries Liaison Plan		
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Gareth Lewis	03/04/2013	

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Introduction

About this document

The Forewind Fisheries Liaison Plan (FLP) document has been developed to present Forewind's approach to liaison and consultation with the fishing industry in association with the development of offshore wind farm projects, including cable corridors and landfall sites, in the Dogger Bank Offshore Wind Farm Zone.

It has been drafted in conjunction with the Fisheries Liaison Coordinators (FLCs) who have been appointed to support Forewind's consultation process.

The FLP has been produced for stakeholders from the fishing industry and is intended to provide clarity on Forewind's delivery objectives as well as the Forewind approach to liaison. The document further describes the different roles in Forewind's fisheries liaison.

This is the second version of the Forewind FLP and feedback on its content is welcomed. The Forewind approach to fisheries liaison includes updates of the FLP as projects move from planning to construction and operation.

Forewind has also produced a Stakeholder Engagement Plan (StEP) that sets out how it will engage with all stakeholders during the zonal and project development process. The StEP is available on the Forewind website www.forewind.co.uk

Background

In the UK Renewable Energy Strategy the UK Government describes its commitment to provide 15% of the UK's electricity needs from renewable energy sources by 2020. The creation of offshore wind farms, amongst other renewable energy sources, is expected to make a significant contribution towards achieving this objective.

To help facilitate this The Crown Estate announced proposals for the third round (Round 3) of offshore wind farm leasing in June 2008, following on from the 8 gigawatts (GW) planned from earlier UK offshore wind leasing programmes (namely, Rounds 1 and 2). Following the outcome of a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) and considerations of a range of factors, such as wind resource, water depth, geology, bathymetry and other users, 9 development 'zones' were identified by The Crown Estate, with a combined target energy generation capacity of 32GW. On Following a competitive tender process, The Crown Estate announced the successful bidders for each of the zones in January 2010. Forewind, a consortium of RWE, SSE, Statkraft and Statoil, was awarded the development rights for the Dogger Bank Zone.

Forewind has the objective to achieve consent for an agreed target installed capacity of 9GW of offshore wind farm projects, which would equate to around 10% of the total projected electricity requirements for the UK.

The Dogger Bank Zone – development strategy

The Dogger Bank Zone is in the North Sea, located between 125 and 290 kilometres off the east coast of Yorkshire. It extends over approximately 8660 km² with its outer limit aligned to the UK continental shelf limits as defined by the UK Hydrographic Office as shown in Figure 1. Dogger Bank is the largest of the Round 3 zones, but with water depths ranging from 18 to 63 metres, it is also one of the shallowest.

The key zone characteristics are described in Table 1.

Table 1. Key project characteristics

Project information	Detail
Zone size	8,660 km ² / 3,343 sq.miles
Distance from shore	125 to 290km
Water depth	18 to 63 m below chart datum
Estimated capacity	Agreed target of 9 GW

The Dogger Bank Zone has many favourable attributes, which make it an attractive site for offshore wind farm development. It has a good wind resource, with higher annual mean wind speeds than the other Round 3 offshore wind farm zones (>10 m/s). It also has relatively shallow water depths and it is believed that the ground conditions are good, which make it appropriate for implementing a broad range of foundation options.

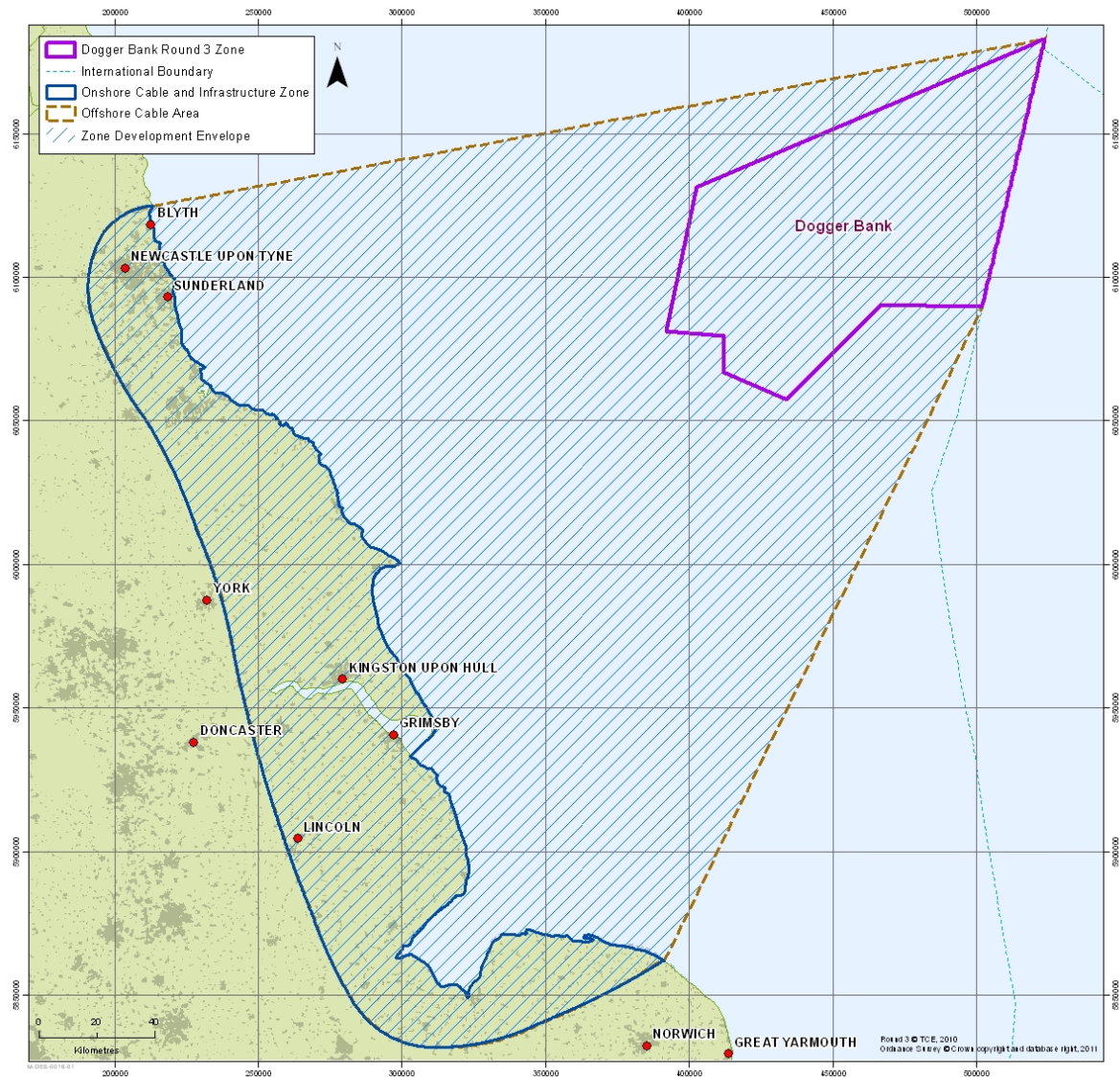


Figure 1. Dogger Bank Zone development envelope

An installed capacity of 9GW would equate to some 1800 turbines to be installed, assuming 5 megawatts (MW) turbines or 1500 turbines assuming 6 MW turbines. If larger turbines are commercially available at the time of construction then the developer would most likely consider this option to reduce the number of turbines and still reach the same capacity.

The Dogger Bank Zone is too large to be developed at once so Forewind selected a phased approach. The development of the zone will be staged where the individual wind farm projects are identified from within larger tranches. In total there will be four tranches (Tranche A – D), identified through the Zonal Appraisal and Planning process (ZAP). Using the environmental data collected through fish ecology, bird, marine mammal, geotechnical, geophysical and other offshore surveys, Tranche A

and B were the first to be identified with the third and fourth tranches (C and D) to be announced in 2013.

With the use of sophisticated modelling techniques, Forewind has to date subdivided the first two tranches into four projects. Engineering, technical and environmental data used as the main considerations for this stage. Health and safety implications, both during construction and in the longer-term operation of the wind farms, were also incorporated.

Each of the four identified projects has a secured grid connection of 1 GW, however to maximise their efficiency, Forewind has allowed for the capacity of each project to be up to 1.2 GW. The boundaries are therefore large enough to cater for all the potential infrastructure requirements.

As the Environmental Impact Assessment process continues for each project there may be revisions to accommodate any specific environmental, or other, constraints not yet identified.

The four projects identified so far in Tranche A and B are:

- **Dogger Bank Creyke Beck A**, in the southern part of Tranche A, with a size of 515km² and 131km from shore at its closest point;
- **Dogger Bank Creyke Beck B**, in the western part of Tranche A, the largest in area with a size of 599km² and also 131 km from shore;
- **Dogger Bank Teesside A**, located within the eastern part of Tranche B, with a size of 560km² and with closest point from shore at 196km, and
- **Dogger Bank Teesside B**, which straddles Tranche A and Tranche B, with its majority located in Tranche B. It is 593km² and is 165km from shore.

The project locations, as well as planned export cable routes can be seen in Figure 2.

The Dogger Bank Creyke Beck projects will connect into an existing National Grid substation at Creyke Beck near Cottingham in the East Riding of Yorkshire. The Dogger Bank Teesside projects are expected to connect to the national grid in Teesside, near Lackenby just south of the Tees Estuary. **Table 2** presents the grid connections confirmed to date.

Table 2. Confirmed grid connections to date (April 2013)

Project	Tranche	Connection point	Size
Dogger Bank Creyke Beck A	Tranche A	Creyke Beck substation, East Riding of Yorkshire	1 GW
Dogger Bank Creyke Beck B	Tranche A	Creyke Beck substation, East Riding of Yorkshire	1 GW
Dogger Bank Teesside A	Tranche B	Lackenby substation, Redcar & Cleveland	1 GW
Dogger Bank Teesside B	Tranche A/B	Lackenby substation, Redcar & Cleveland	1 GW
Dogger Bank Teesside C	Tranche C	Todd Point substation, Redcar & Cleveland	1 GW
Dogger Bank Teesside D	Tranche C	Todd Point substation, Redcar & Cleveland	1 GW

Individual projects will comprise the offshore wind farm and inter-array cables, the offshore converter stations, the proposed offshore and onshore cable corridors required for the export cables, the onshore converter station(s) and any further cabling to enable connection into a National Grid substation and the national electricity network.

Forewind has published the Scoping Reports for the first four projects. The organisation is consulting stakeholders on the draft Environmental Statement for Dogger Bank Creyke Beck in Spring 2013 and has begun the environmental impact assessments for Dogger Bank Teesside A and Dogger Bank Teesside B. Forewind is keen to ensure that the information relating to selection of tranches and scoping of projects is readily available and has published the reports and all other consultation documents on its website – www.forewind.co.uk.

In order to achieve its delivery target of 9GW, Forewind anticipates submission of its first application for development consent order to the Planning Inspectorate, by late summer 2013. Meaningful and effective stakeholder engagement is key to ensuring that this can be achieved and Forewind has been engaging with all relevant stakeholders, including the fishing industry.

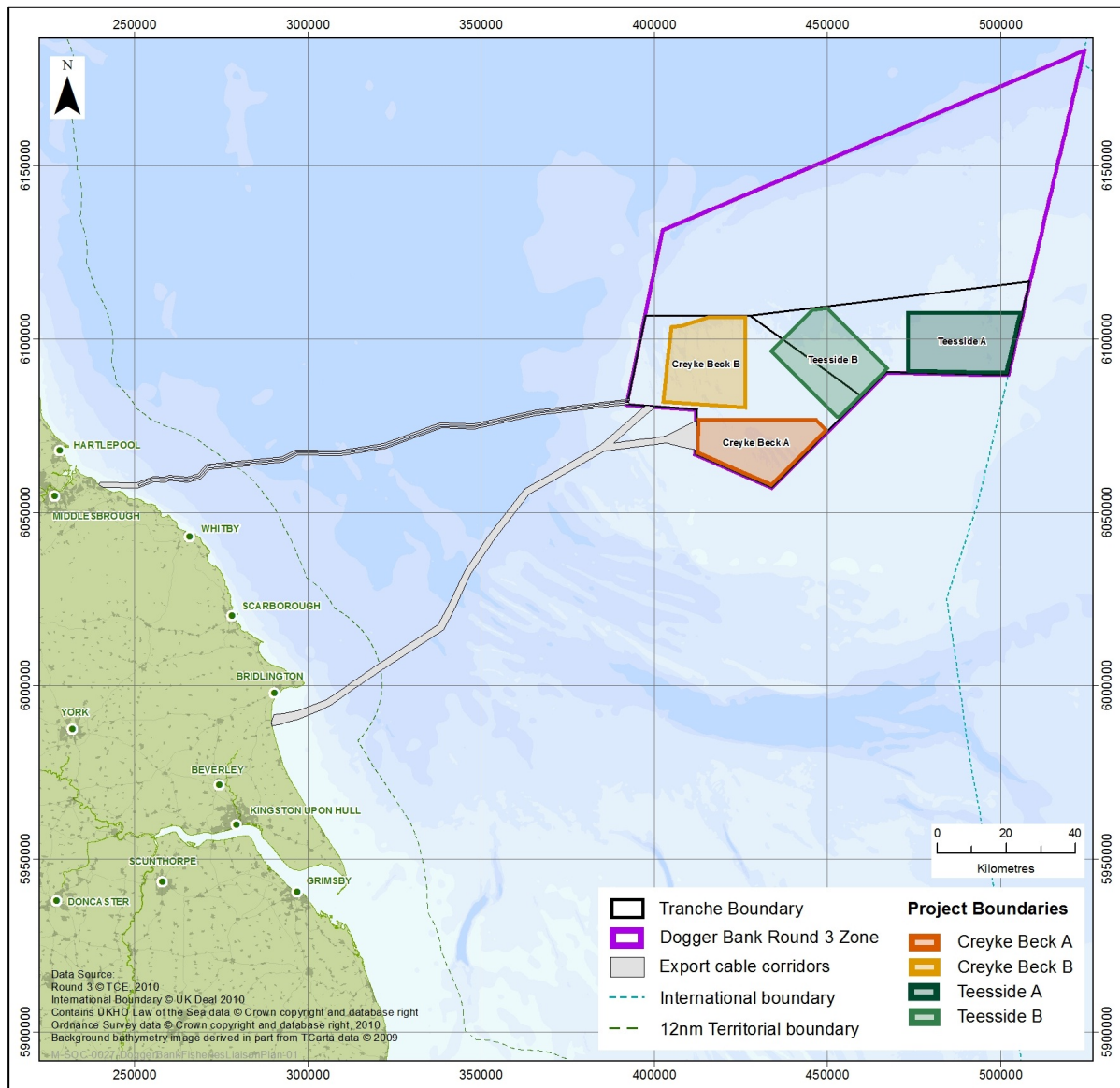


Figure 2. Tranches A (south-west) and B (south-east) with first four project areas, planned export cable routes and landfalls

Coexistence at Dogger Bank

Forewind believes that the fishing industry and offshore wind farm development can co-exist at Dogger Bank. Forewind does not intend to apply for restrictions on fishing activity within the wind farm areas post construction, with restrictions being limited to the construction phase only. The most sustainable approach to coexistence is to avoid and reduce impacts. However in some cases mitigation, including methods of mitigating disruption, will be the most appropriate. A successful mitigation strategy will require open and continuous communication between Forewind and the fishing industry. Mitigation will be addressed appropriately when needed and on a case-by-case basis.

Fisheries liaison

Forewind recognises that effective and meaningful consultation is an integral part of our development activities and is committed to ensuring that a transparent approach to consultation and engagement is maintained.

Forewind's stakeholder engagement objectives are as follows:

- To identify and pro-actively engage with those statutory bodies, non-governmental organisations, other national and international organisations, the local community and landowners that have the potential to be affected by Forewind's activities;
- To develop a transparent consultation and engagement strategy which fulfils the pre-application consultation requirements of the Planning Act;
- To prioritise consultation with stakeholders who are directly affected or who have a greater cause for concern as a result of our development proposals;
- To be open and honest in all communications with our stakeholders;
- To recognise the interests and points of view of our stakeholders and wherever appropriate to use these to inform our development activities; and
- To undertake a comprehensive Zone Appraisal and Planning (ZAP) Process and appropriate consultation with stakeholders to enable robust site selection and identification of individual projects for development.

RenewableUK (formerly the British Wind Energy Association) produced a document entitled 'Recommendations for Fisheries Liaison' in 2004. These guidelines were written in close co-operation with UK fishing associations - National Federation of Fishermen's Organisations (NFFO) and Scottish Fishermen's Federation (SFF). Whilst this document and the recommendations contained within it offer generic guidance on liaison with the fishing industry, dialogue at a local and regional level is of the utmost importance. The guidance document is currently being updated. With this in mind, Forewind has developed this FLP that builds on the 2004/2011 guidelines, to publish its proposed approach to consultation with the local, regional and international fishing industry. All work undertaken will also be in accordance with the Fisheries Liaison with Offshore Wind and Wet Renewables Group (FLOWW) "Recommendations for Fisheries Liaison - Best Practice guidance for offshore renewables developers" (BERR, 2008).

Forewind recognises that the FLP should be an evolving plan to allow it to accommodate geographical and temporal changes in development activity. Impacts on the fishing industry will change with the various phases of development (surveys, construction, operation and decommissioning), and to capture this properly Forewind will produce newsletters on a regular basis which will provide updates to the fishing industry as the wind farm projects move from the planning phase and into the

construction and operation phases. Extended engagement and dialogue with the fishing industry will take place continuously.

The FLP therefore sets out the initial framework within which Forewind will undertake to liaise with the fishing industry.

Forewind will endeavour to ensure that all sectors of the fishing industry, operating within both the offshore development zone and the cable corridor, are informed of the activities proposed. Forewind will further seek to engage with the key stakeholder representatives at the earliest opportunity to develop and implement the following objectives;

- Understand the potential concerns and objections
- Provide necessary information to fisheries stakeholders to allow them to work safely
- Maintain a productive working relationship with all fisheries stakeholders
- Identify sources of fisheries information that will contribute to the Environmental Impact Assessments
- Maintain an iterative consultation process
- Compliance with existing guidelines in respect to fisheries liaison

Regulatory requirements

Section 5 of the Planning Act 2008 (the Planning Act) provides the system of development consent for nationally significant infrastructure projects (NSIPs), including large offshore wind farms, in the UK. The Dogger Bank developments are classified as NSIPs and Forewind will therefore submit applications for development consent orders to the Planning Inspectorate.

Thorough pre-application consultation on the proposals will be undertaken in accordance with the Planning Act. This requires Forewind to consult a range of prescribed consultees and the local community, to publicise the application by placing notices in a number of trade publications and newspapers, to take account of responses to consultation and publicity and to produce a Consultation Report.

Forewind objectives for fisheries liaison

Forewind recognises that consultation is a vital part of its development activities. Maintaining dialogue with the commercial fisheries sector is of major importance to ensure that it is kept up to date on relevant aspects of the developing projects; e.g. location of the sites, development phases and marine activities. Forewind understands that the development of a successful relationship with the fishing industry will involve:

- Identification and engagement with all relevant stakeholders

- Being open and honest in all communication with the stakeholders
- Evaluation of factors likely to impact or effect fishing activity
- Fulfilling regulatory requirements
- To develop a Statement of Community Consultation as part of the consenting process which clarifies Forewind's approach to community engagement, to publish this at an early stage of development and to update it as informed by those engagement activities throughout the development process
- Early and continued dialogue and consultation
- Prioritising consultation with those fishermen with the potential to be most affected
- Recognising the interests and points of view of fishermen
- Agreeing appropriate communication channels
- Adequate advanced warning of offshore operations to account for the practicalities of displacing gear/clearing access to the site
- Local sea fisheries committees and the Marine Management Organisation (MMO) should be kept up to date in the same manner as the fishermen's organisations

The following representatives from the Forewind team have been identified in order to facilitate achievement of these objectives with respect of fisheries:

	Telephone	E-mail
Martin Goff Offshore Project Developer	+44 7867 355 935	martin.goff@forewind.co.uk
Melissa Read Consent and Stakeholder Manager	+44 7818 597 851	melissa.read@forewind.co.uk
Andrew Guyton Consent and Stakeholder Manager	+44 7818 597 849	andrew.guyton@forewind.co.uk
Nigel Proctor Fisheries Liaison Coordinator Cable corridor	+44 7702 730 891	n.proctor@precisionmarine.co.uk
Stephen Appleby Fisheries Liaison Coordinator Wind farm zone	+44 7887 777 001	sja@brownmay.com

Fisheries liaison roles

It is important to Forewind to be able to communicate directly with all stakeholders, including the fishing industry and the regulatory stakeholders. The Fisheries Liaison Coordinators (FLC), Fisheries Industry Representatives (FIR) and Fisheries Liaison Representatives (FLR) have been/will be appointed to assist Forewind in facilitating this communication. The different Forewind fisheries liaison roles are described further in this chapter.

Fisheries Liaison Co-ordinators

Forewind has contracted experienced and skilled individuals with considerable understanding of the fishing industry within the North Sea to undertake the role of 'Fisheries Liaison Coordinator' (FLC) for Dogger Bank. The FLC function has been split into two roles:

- Cable corridor and nearshore FLC to be undertaken by Precision Marine Survey Limited (PMSL)
- Wind farm zone FLC to be undertaken by Brown & May Marine Limited (BMM)

Both FLCs have the responsibility to undertake the commercial fisheries environmental impact assessment for their respective areas in addition to supporting Forewind with its liaison with the fishing industry as well as with national and international regulatory bodies.

Forewind recognises that there are a significant number of stakeholders within the fishing industry which have led Forewind to split the responsibility of liaison for the FLCs according to the following:

FLC	Stakeholders
PMSL	Near shore local and regional fishermen – cable corridors UK fishermen/National Federation of Fishermen's Organisations (NFFO) Danish, Norwegian, German, Swedish and Dutch stakeholders
BMM	Scottish Fishermen's Federation (SFF) Belgian, French, Spanish and Dutch stakeholders

The FLCs will be responsible for the planning and coordination of all activities relating to fisheries within the zone and cable corridors that are needed to facilitate the successful development of the zone. This will include recommendations and assistance to Forewind regarding the appointment of the necessary UK and international FIRs that the FLC considers necessary for the successful development of the zone.

The FLCs will be responsible for the engagement and negotiations with key UK and relevant foreign national and international organisations, such as the North Sea Regional Advisory Council (NSRAC), the NFFO and SFF in the UK, and other equivalent bodies in other relevant countries around the North Sea. They will further assist Forewind in its fisheries related interactions with the MMO and similar agencies in other European member states.

FLC tasks	Activities
Direct liaison	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • form the principal link between the fishing industry and the developer and ensure that fishing industry's concerns and specific issues are adequately and accurately relayed back to the developer

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • identify all relevant fishing industry stakeholders • engage with the key national and international fishing organisations around the North Sea • identify and engage with all relevant national and international regulatory stakeholders • ensure that all stakeholders are kept up to date with Forewind's plan for surveys, assessments, construction and operation • advise fishing vessels of works activities to avoid confusion and lost fishing gears/time
Advice and support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • design consultation approach to meet the needs of the different stakeholders • present Forewind development strategy in high level discussions with fishing industry • oversee and coordinate the collation of commercial fisheries data to ensure high standard data to feed into the Forewind ZAP and EIA processes • ensure Forewind EIA meets regulatory requirements and expectations • provide Forewind with guidance on fishing activity in the area and draw attention to specific fishing activities and especially those of a particular sensitivity
Data management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • maintain and update the fisheries section of the Forewind stakeholder database keeping track of all communication with industry • be responsible for the collation of fisheries data • be responsible for quality assurance for work packages undertaken by FLOs
Adherence to guidelines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ensure that all activities are in complete adherence to regulations and the available guidance (BWEA, FLOWW etc.)

Fisheries Liaison Representatives (FLRs)

Fisheries Liaison Representatives (FLRs) are present on the Forewind survey vessels and are responsible for liaising with fishing vessels encountered while surveying. It is essential to maintain a sound working relationship between the developer and fishing industry where appropriate, and it is the duty of the FLR to maintain this.

FLR tasks	Activities
Offshore works	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provide information as to the intentions of the survey vessel within the area of operations • provide advanced and adequate warning to fishing vessels in the

	<p>area of operations when encountered</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • offer advice to the survey vessels officers as to appropriate action to take in the event of noncompliance by fishing vessel(s) • maintain a log of all vessels encountered
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Fishing Industry Representatives (FIRs)

Forewind will have Fishing Industry Representatives (FIRs) as a point of contact within the fishing industry. These representatives should represent the views of all fishing sectors within their remit. The FIRs must have the backing and support of the regional fisheries sector to enable a trusting relationship to be established, but should also be able and willing to disseminate information from the developer to the fishing community on a timely and all-inclusive basis. The FIR may be sourced through any number of avenues, including national federations, regional and local fishermen's societies and or groups, or may be an individual who has worked extensively within the industry.

FIR tasks	Activities
Direct liaison	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • voice the interests of the fishing industry to Forewind • disseminate information from the developer to the fishing community on a timely and all-inclusive basis

Industry contacts

Effective dialogue and consultation will be facilitated with the establishment of a comprehensive contact database for all international, national and local (UK) fisheries associations, societies, groups, individual fishermen and the different industry organisations. This database will be maintained and regularly updated by the FLCs in conjunction with Forewind's key project team members.

It should be noted that the fishing industry 'database' will be used solely for the purposes of Forewind fisheries liaison activities and will not be made available to any individual or group, outside of Forewind's specific requirements and the FLCs. The data contained within will be subject to the Data Protection Act, 1998.

All relevant fishing associations including the New Under Tens Fishermen's Association (NUTFA), the National Federation of Fishermen's Organisations (NFFO) and Scottish Fishermen's Federation (SFF), as well as independent fishermen who

are not affiliated to a regional, national or local representative organisation, but may still have a vested interest in the fishery, will be consulted.

Due to the size and nature of the wind farm zone and the cable corridors, there will be a presence of international vessels within this area at any given time. The information available in respect to these vessels is currently relatively limited. However, contact has been made with the relevant national representative organisations, and throughout the development of the projects at Dogger Bank the fisheries liaison team will continue to expand on the level of contact within the European fleet. Table 3 lists the relevant European fisheries organisations identified so far.

Table 3. European fishing industry associations contacted to date

European fishing industry associations	
National Federation of Fishermen's Organisations (NFFO)	Scottish Fishermen's Federation (SFF)
New Under Tens Fishermen's Association (NUTFA)	Danish Fishermen's Association (Danmarks Fiskeriforening)
Dutch Fishermen's Association (Nederlandse Visserbond)	Dutch Association of Producer Organisations in Dutch demersal fisheries (Federatie van Visserijverenigingen (VisNed))
Dutch Producer Organisation (Stichting van de Nederlandse Visserij)	Southern Norway Trawlers Association
Norwegian Fishermen's Association (Norges Fiskarlag)	French Producer Organisations (Cooperative Maritime Etaploise (CME))
French Fisheries Representatives (Comité National des Pêches Maritimes et des Elevages Marins)	French Fishermen's Association (Union des Armateurs à la Pêche de France (UAPF))
French Producer Organisation (FROM NORD)	Germany Fish Processors (Bundesverband der Deutschen Fischindustrie und des Fischgrosshandels (BDFF))
German Fishermen's Association (Deutscher Fischerei Verband)	Swedish Fishermen's Federation (Sveriges Fiskares Riksförbund)

European fishing industry associations	
Belgian Fisheries Representatives (Stichting voor Duurzame Visserijontwikkeling (SDVO))	Belgian Fishermen's Association (Rederscentrale)
Polish Producer Organisations (North Atlantic Producers Organisation (PAOP))	European Association of Fishing Ports and Auctions
Association of European Fish Producers (EU fish processors and traders associations (AIPCE-CEP))	

A point of contact in each fishermen's association will be determined, to enable a regular two-way interaction. Regular updates on the progress of surveys, geophysical and geotechnical assessments as well as construction, will be relayed to industry representatives. This will take the form of a directed newsletter – Fisheries Update, detailed documents for information or notices for information. Specifics on the type of communications tools and activities will continue to be evolve. However, Forewind will seek industry guidance on the preferred approach.

Other organisations that will be part of the continuous consultation are provided below. These should be appraised in the same manner as fishermen's organisations.

Other organisations identified for consultation	
North Eastern IFCA and district	Eastern IFCA and district
Northumberland IFCA and district	North Sea Regional Advisory Council (NSRAC)
Marine Management Organisation	Environmental Agency
Centre for Fisheries and Aquaculture Science	Seafish
DEFRA – Marine Consent & Environmental Unit	

Glossary of Abbreviations

BERR:	Business, Environment and Regulatory Reform
DEFRA:	Department for Food and Rural Affairs
EIA:	Environmental Impact Assessment
ES:	Environmental Statement
EU:	European Union
FIR:	Fishing Industry Representative
FLC:	Fisheries Liaison Co-ordinator
FLOWW:	Fishing Liaison with Offshore Wind and Wet Renewables Group
FLP:	Fisheries Liaison Plan
FLR:	Fisheries Liaison Representative
GW:	Giga Watt
IFCA:	Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority
MMO:	Marine Management Organisation
MW:	Mega Watt
NSRAC:	North Sea Regional Advisory Council
NSIP:	Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project
SEA:	Strategic Environmental Assessment
SOC:	Statement of Community Consultation
StEP:	Stakeholder Engagement Plan
UK:	United Kingdom

For more information

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