MAYFLOWER WIND

Appendix W. Fisheries Communication Plan

Document Revision	B
Issue Date	August 2021

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Glossary

Term	Definition
ACC	Anderson Cabot Center for Ocean Life
BOEM	Bureau of Ocean Energy Management
CFCRI	Commercial Fisheries Center of Rhode Island
F-TWG	Fisheries – Technical Working Group
FCP	Fisheries Communication Plan
FSET	Fisheries Science and Emerging Technologies
LNM	Local Notice to Mariners
MLA	Massachusetts Lobstermen's Association
NBPA	New Bedford Port Authority
NEAq	New England Aquarium
NERACOOS	Northeastern Regional Association of Coastal Ocean Observing Systems
NYSERDA	New York State Energy Research and Development Authority
ROSA	Responsible Offshore Science Alliance
SMAST	School for Marine Science and Technology of the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth

1 Fisheries Communication Plan

1.1 Mayflower Wind and Fishermen

Mayflower Wind Energy LLC (Mayflower Wind) is committed to mitigating potential negative environmental impacts of the Mayflower Wind Project (the Project) to avoiding unreasonable interference with existing offshore activities and to setting the bar for the industry as shown by our Core Values:

Safety First, Safety Always. We are committed to treating our people, community, and environment with care.

Innovation and Industry Development. We expect innovation will continue to drive the rapid decline in the cost of wind energy and aim to be a leader in this space.

Investing in Communities. We are committed to building responsible partnerships with local communities by supporting jobs, economic development, and innovation that will flourish for decades to come.

These Core Values guide our actions and decisions and have led us to a development principle to engage early and often with all communities. In the fishing community, we work with the commercial and recreational fishing industries, private anglers, and onshore businesses in the seafood supply chain.

Co-existence with this fishing community, characterized by early, continuous, and productive engagement, is central to how we operate. The Project's success depends on our ability to reasonably co-exist alongside those in the fishing community who fish in areas including the Project Area (consisting of the OCS-A 0521 Lease Area and the Project's export cable corridor) for their livelihood, enjoy the area for recreation, and share in and enjoy it as a collective resource.

Accomplishing these goals requires effective, valuable two-way communication. Mayflower Wind will continue to share knowledge, experience, and expertise with the fishing, offshore wind, and academic communities because the ability of offshore wind developments to co-exist with fisheries relies on our ability to build trust within the environment in which we will operate. Mayflower Wind has and will continue to listen to the fishing industry – to hear concerns and to gather information – in order to conduct operations in a manner that is practical and achieves this co-existence. We strive to communicate with the fishermen working on the water and the shoreside communities they support in the most efficient ways possible and to build and operate our Project in a way that allows fishermen to continue to fish the Project Area and co-exist with the Project.

Mayflower Wind is privileged to operate in an area with such a strong fishing history. Lobster, crab, tuna, surf clams, squid, scup, scallops, and more are fished in and around the Lease Area. Mayflower Wind has carefully gathered information on these fisheries and continues to engage in research and communication with these fishermen both from the commercial and recreational industries. This FCP is a continually evolving document that is adapted based on feedback from fishermen. The communication and outreach elements described in this FCP will provide the current state of our efforts and methods of communication with the fishing industry. A key part of our communication strategy is to provide fishermen with current information in a way that is easy for them to access. To do that, in addition to

this document, our FCP will also exist on the Mayflower Wind website and have relevant, updated material easily accessible to fishermen.

Mayflower Wind believes and will demonstrate that offshore wind power can be sited and operated successfully, safely, and responsibly and without unreasonable interference with existing uses. We will show this using science and data-driven approaches and strive to do this cooperatively and collaboratively with the fishing industry. By working with research and industry organizations to support and produce credible science, fill data gaps, and build collaborative and cooperative science efforts, Mayflower Wind is able to leverage the efforts of our partners and bridge connections that make this science actionable.

Mayflower Wind is keenly aware of ongoing offshore wind development activities by other developers in U.S. waters and is committed to leading, not following, the industry. Mayflower Wind is focused on applying lessons learned and unique and innovative approaches to working with the local fishing industry. These efforts have been, and will continue to be, completed using input from stakeholders in the fishing industry to build this Project in a way that allows it to reasonably co-exist with fishermen that have been fishing in this area for hundreds of years.

1.2 Listening to Fishermen

Mayflower Wind's Fisheries Liaison Officer (Joel Southall, Joel.Southall@mayflowerwind.com), and other members of our Fisheries Communication Team talk directly with fishermen, sit on boards and working groups of organizations with fishermen, and engage directly with fishermen in scientific research and other efforts.

1.2.1 Port Hours

Mayflower Wind organizes and participates in Port Hours in Point Judith, RI and New Bedford, MA at least monthly in order to talk to commercial and recreational fishermen. In response to feedback from fishermen, we have partnered with other offshore wind developers to host a single event in ports near the offshore wind developments. We publicize Port Hours using our networks in the fishing industry and on our website to increase attendance at these events. Travel and gathering restrictions due to the COVID-19 pandemic have impacted these events beginning in March 2020 but Mayflower Wind made accommodations to allow modified versions of Port Hours to continue and developed alternative, virtual outreach efforts.

1.2.2 Fisheries Representatives

The Massachusetts Lobstermen's Association (MLA) is a Fisheries Representative of Mayflower Wind. MLA is a member-driven organization that accepts and supports the interdependence of species conservation and the members' collective economic interests. For the past 56 years, the MLA has

become a trustworthy voice for the industry on important issues and is looked to by both the fishing industry and the management community. Mayflower Wind and MLA will work together to identify potential impacts to the lobstering community in the Project Area and collaborate on science initiatives that can help to better understand natural impacts to lobster in the region and to investigate potential impacts or changes to lobster populations with the introduction of offshore wind project components.

The New Bedford Port Authority (NBPA), which is also a Fisheries Representative of Mayflower Wind, supports the Port of New Bedford through the implementation of best management practices over port resources and the development of economic growth strategies. The NBPA is also responsible for the maintenance of facilities and equipment, safety, security and emergency response, and management of parking on NBPA piers and wharves. New Bedford is the largest commercial fishing port in America by value of annual commercial fishery landings, and 85 percent of those landings come from scallops. The number of boats utilizing the port provides strong representation of the scallop industry, and Mayflower Wind's relationship with the Port and its vessels is critical to collaboratively minimizing potential impacts to scallopers.

The Commercial Fisheries Center of Rhode Island (CFCRI) was founded to preserve commercial fishing as a profession, culture, and way of life through promoting the sustainability of the resource. The CFCRI brings fishermen, scientists, managers, and elected officials together in a collaborative effort to improve fisheries and the understanding of the marine environment.

1.3 Outreach and Communication

As Mayflower Wind conducts studies, surveys, and other activities in our lease area and along our export cable corridor, we have and will continue to update and work with fishermen to manage how these activities interact with fishing activities and to avoid unreasonable interference. Mayflower Wind has put in place proactive strategies to decrease the likelihood of interactions between Project components and activities with fishing activity. Mayflower Wind recognizes the possibility of offshore wind activity and commercial fishing gear encounters and conflicts. The Mayflower Wind website provides links to Notice to Mariners (LNMs), charts, and other information for fishermen on our current and upcoming activities. There is also a link to a form and additional information for fishermen to submit claims on lost gear that may have come from interactions between fishing activities and offshore wind development activities.

Notice to Mariners – coordinated communications through the U.S. Coast Guard regarding daily operations.

Charts – navigational information regarding the area in and around the Rhode Island – Massachusetts Wind Energy Area.

Lost Gear Claim Form - in the event there is gear loss or damage caused by or resulting from Project activities, we have provided this claim/damage procedure.

1.4 Monitoring and Research

Mayflower Wind is supporting research on fisheries in and around our Lease Area. Work being conducted with the New England Aquarium (NEAq) Anderson Cabot Center of Ocean Life's (ACC) Fisheries Science and Emerging Technologies (FSET) program will monitor highly migratory fish species. By using acoustic tagging and monitoring, this work will allow for the management of these species to be founded in solid science.

Mayflower Wind is also partnering with a research organization to conduct fisheries monitoring and impact assessment surveys. By understanding a baseline of existing fisheries data near our lease area, this work will help us understand the short- and long-term impacts of offshore wind developments on fisheries.

Mayflower Wind was a founding Board member of the Responsible Offshore Science Alliance (ROSA). ROSA's vision is an improved understanding of ocean and coastal ecosystems that allows for informed compatibility of sustainable fisheries and offshore wind energy. ROSA will advance regional research and monitoring of fishery and offshore wind interactions in the waters from Maine to North Carolina, including representatives from both the commercial and recreational fishing industries.

Mayflower is displaying real-time wind and ocean current observations from our FLiDAR buoy in the Lease Area. We are working with NERACOOS to provide this data to their Mariners Dashboard showing ocean and wind information across the Northeast. Mayflower has also included an acoustic receiver on the buoy to identify tagged cod moving across the area to Cox's Ledge.

1.5 Other Efforts

Mayflower Wind staff serve on the boards and working groups of a wide variety of organizations working on the intersection of wind and fishing. As efforts focusing on this intersection expand and new partnerships are formed, Mayflower Wind will continue to support and partner with these efforts to ensure that the development of offshore wind is conducted in a way that protects fisheries.