

APPROACHES TO FISHERIES COMPENSATION IN NOVA SCOTIA

Nova Scotia Offshore Wind R&D Forum, November 2024

OBJECTIVES

NZA is

- looking to understand the different **strategies available to minimize conflict** between OSW development and fishers (e.g., mitigation)

AND

- wants to understand **approaches** that can be used **to create and administer an FCP**

INDUSTRY SIMILARITIES / DIFFERENCES

NS fishing industry is most like New England's rather than Europe's:

Similar: biophysical environment, species diversity, economic & cultural importance, export markets, and commitment to sustainability AND similarly changing environmental conditions

Different: regulatory frameworks, rightsholders and species focus.

England, Wales, Ireland and northern Europe have different OSW development histories, biophysical environments, focal species, regulatory environments, and market dynamics.

Result: there is considerable variation in Fisheries Compensation Programs – but broad lessons can be drawn.

ARRIVING AT A FISHERIES COMPENSATION PROGRAM – THE PROCESS

The FCP is the outcome of a process - a series of decisions and created structures – from which the final program is derived.

- 1. Mitigation During Project Planning**
2. Application of Regulatory Tools
3. Stakeholder Involvement
4. Mitigation and Coexistence Strategies
- 5. Fund Administration**
6. Compensation Mechanisms
7. Eligibility and Valuation
8. Capacity Building and Support Services
- 9. Monitoring and Adaptive Management**

THE PROCESS

1. Mitigation During Project Planning

Mitigation: **minimizes or eliminates** the need for compensation

- IA Commitments are made to offset economic impacts
- IA commitments are reviewed by regulators who can modify these commitments before the EA is finalized, impose new conditions at the EA approval stage, and/or manage certain effects during the subsequent permitting stage.
- These regulatory tools are used at critical moments in the **project planning phase** when mitigation is most effective.

Thus: provide proponents with early comprehensive regulatory guidance

THE PROCESS

5. Fund Administration

- **Third party:** local/provincial agencies, NGOs, or fishing industry partnerships for direct and indirect payments.
- **Developer-led:** thru a fisheries liaison officer to administer a direct claims program.
- **Set-aside programs:** Industry funded resources to generate funds which supports the sustainable management of the fishery (e.g., Taiwan's Power Development Foundation, West of Morecambe Fisheries Ltd.).
- **Combination** of any / all of the above

The core of an FCP is a **transparent governance structure** for managing the fund and assessing claims.

Governance should include representatives from fishing communities, gov't, and the wind industry.

THE PROCESS

9. Monitoring and Adaptive Management

- Establish monitoring programs to track the impacts on marine ecosystems and fishing over time. Use the data to adapt and improve compensation and mitigation measures.
- Monitor the implementation of the compensation plan and its effectiveness in addressing the needs of affected stakeholders.
- Evaluate evolving socio-economic impacts of OSW on commercial fisheries and the ability of compensation to mitigate these impacts.
- Adjust the compensation plan as needed based on feedback from stakeholders and changes in the regulatory environment or economic conditions.

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Background image: Kongsberg.com

THANKS EVERYONE

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