

HMSAS Statement on Marine Planning

Agenda Item C2

- Initial Comments
- Recommendations

BOEM Oregon Task Force Meeting, 2/25/22

Recommendation

The Council acknowledge and communicate its position that the proposed Call Areas will impact West Coast HMS fisheries and there are considerable scientific uncertainties regarding impacts that necessitates additional scientific data collection, analysis, monitoring and stakeholder engagement.



Council communicate its position that BOEM conduct a full PEIS evaluating potential impacts, individually and cumulatively, associated with development of OSW facilities in federal waters off the U.S. West Coast.



When the Draft EA for the Morro Bay WEA is available, we strongly recommend the Council comment the EA is not sufficient and an EIS should be prepared.



In the MPC Guidance document:

- For siting in waters deeper than 1300 m, there be a 15-mile buffer around seamounts, ridges and canyons to minimize impacts to HMS fisheries.
- Remove the word "can" from the sentence discussing marine radar impacts.
- Include a discussion about decommissioning and turbine failure, destruction or collapse and what expectations will be for project developers.



Future Council comments to BOEM suggest the lack of data quality demonstrates the need for further analyses.



Encourage BOEM to follow through with promised stakeholder engagement, in particular the albacore fleet(s) – including participants based outside of the immediate area(s) being considered for offshore wind development.

An Assessment of the Cumulative Impacts of Floating Offshore Wind Farms

Agreement Number C0210404

Prepared for

Ocean Protection Council
715 P St., 20th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

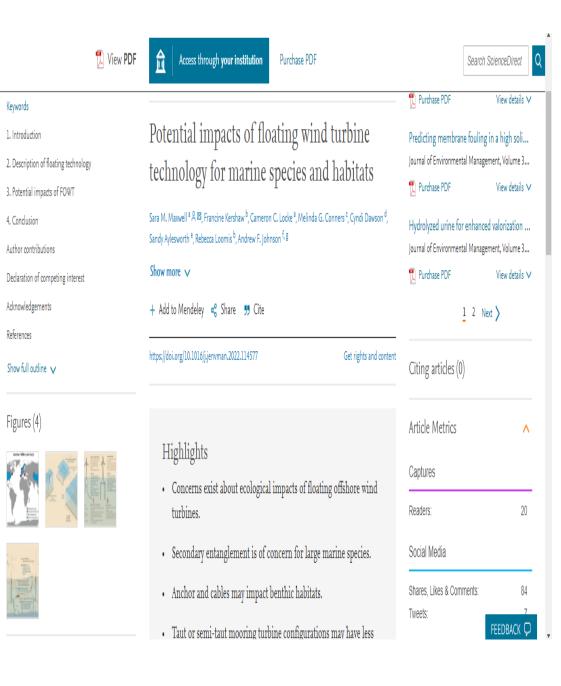


Recommendation

Incorporate the following study within the appropriate Guidance/Policy document.

An Assessment of the Cumulative Impacts of Floating Offshore Wind Farms

Evaluates potential upwelling effects resulting from the installation of wind turbines offshore of California



Incorporate the following study within the appropriate Guidance/Policy document.

Potential impacts of floating wind turbine technology for marine species and habitats – ScienceDirect

Identifies that HMS impacts/ interactions are more difficult to predict because of distribution patterns that vary over time.



Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Science of the Total Environment



journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/scitotenv

Short communication

Unravelling the ecological impacts of large-scale offshore wind farms in the Mediterranean Sea



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HIGHLIGHTS

- Offshore wind farms (OWF) pose serious environmental risks to the Mediterranean Sea.
- OWF models cannot be simply imported from the northern European seas to other seas.
- OWF should be excluded from areas of high biodiversity and/or high valuable seascape.
- OWF development should be forbidden in or in the vicinity of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs).
- Biodiversity loss and climate change are interconnected and must be tackled simul-

GRAPHICAL ABSTRACT

The potential impacts of Offshore Wind Farms in the Mediterranean Sea





Recommendation

Incorporate the following studies within the appropriate Guidance/Policy document.

https://docs.wind-watch.org/ecoimpacts-offshore-wind-farms-Mediterranean.pdf

Highlights environmental risks to the seabed and biodiversity from offshore wind farms in the Mediterranean sea.

ORIGINAL RESEARCH article

Front. Mar. Sci., 03 February 2022 | https://doi.org/10.3389/fmars.2022.818501



Emergence of Large-Scale Hydrodynamic Structures Due to Atmospheric Offshore Wind Farm Wakes



¹Institute of Coastal Systems, Helmholtz-Zentrum Hereon, Geesthacht, Germany

²Center for Earth System Research and Sustainability, Institute of Oceanography, Universität Hamburg, Hamburg, Germany

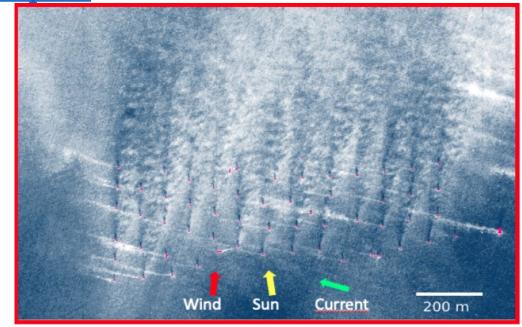
The potential impact of offshore wind farms through decreasing sea surface wind speed on the shear forcing and its consequences for the ocean dynamics are investigated. Based on the unstructured-grid model SCHISM, we present a new cross-scale hydrodynamic model setup for the southern North Sea, which enables high-resolution analysis of offshore wind farms in

the marine environment. We introduce an observational based empirical environce to

Recommendation

Incorporate the following studies within the appropriate Guidance/Policy document.

https://www.hereon.de/innovation_transfer/communication_media/news/104924/index.php.en



Effects of noise on marine life

Study finds that turtles are among animals vulnerable to hearing loss

Date: March 2, 2022

Source: Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution

Summary: New research shows turtles can experience temporary hearing loss from an excess of

underwater noise. This phenomenon, previously noted in other marine animals such as dolphins and fish, was not widely understood for reptiles and underscores another potential risk for aquatic turtles. This high volume of sound, referred to as underwater

noise pollution, can be caused by passing ships and offshore construction.

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FULL STORY

New research shows turtles can experience temporary hearing loss from an excess of underwater noise. This phenomenon, previously noted in other marine animals such as dolphins and fish, was not widely understood for reptiles and underscores another potential risk for aquatic turtles. This high vol-

Recommendation

Incorporate the following studies within the appropriate Guidance/Policy document.

Effects of noise on marine life:
Study finds that turtles are among animals vulnerable to hearing loss

— ScienceDaily

Sea turtles can experience temporary hearing loss from an excess of underwater noise, including construction activities.



Thank you

Questions