

Marine Planning Committee Meeting

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TRANSCRIPT

 Kerry Griffin

0:00

Executive Director Merrick Burden is with us this morning, so he is going to give a few opening remarks and a welcome and then I will basically turn it over to the committee co chairs Mike Conroy and Susan Chambers, who will run the rest of the agenda and we often tag team. So just give a shout if you need me to step in otherwise I can turn it over to you guys at that point. The after our opening, you know, front matter, I will give a little bit of an overview of the Pacific Fisher Management Council process and structure just, you know, to sort of make sure people have a basic understanding of who we are and how we function and how many meetings a year we have and that sort of thing. And then we will ask the California Liz to give a brief introduction of themselves and their projects and and you know, the point of this meeting is really to talk mostly about fishery communications plans.

 Kerry Griffin

1:03

And so I have asked the the offshore wind companies to give a little bit of you know, description about their approach towards fishery communications plans and then we will discuss those some more and then we will move on to public comment. And then we also have John Hanson giving an update from West Coast Oceans Alliance. So I jumped a little ahead of myself getting into the agenda, but Back to some of the ground rules, first note is recording, Sandra, you probably started the recording. Thank you very much. So this is a recorded meeting and it is publicly available. So just you know, I want to make sure everyone is aware of that. And the recordings also include the video that we showed just so you know, as you can see most or all of us here do not turn on our cameras.

 Kerry Griffin

1:52

That is just kind of how we operate. If you would like to turn on your camera, maybe when you are speaking, you are welcome to, but you do not have to. And you know, with all this attention to AI these days, I am personally a little bit more paranoid or cautious about, you know, push my video up there for the world to see anytime. So anyway, it is totally up to you, but you are welcome to if you would like to. The recording will be posted to our meeting web page. Um, after this usually that happens pretty soon within a day or 2, uh, And if you if you can not find or have access to that just, you know, give me a shout or speak up if you do not have my email, just, you know, throw something in the chat, speaking of the chat, we do utilize it but we use it for sort of logistics or information people will post links in the chat, we do not want the chat to turn into a side conversation with sensitive stuff.

 Kerry Griffin

2:51

Please do not put questions in there for any of the presenters. It is just it is too distracting. And then we have 2 separate avenues of communication going on. So we do not want to use that. But feel free if you are having issues or questions to use the chat for those purposes. This is a publicly announced meeting of the Marine Planning Committee, which is an ad hoc committee of the Pacific Fishery Management Council. We have several of these a year, at least 1 in front of each of the main Pacific Council meetings, of which there are 5. And then we usually Throw a few extras in throughout the year, the the committees. The MPC s responsibility is to write up a supplemental report after this meeting based on what we hear and see and discuss and then that report, we will go into the supplemental briefing book materials for the upcoming Pacific Council meeting, which is in late June the 22nd Through the 28th or thereabouts, 27th, I guess.

 Kerry Griffin

3:58

And and so then our chair, our co chair, Susan and Mike, will read that report to the Folk Council and with any recommendations that they may have for how to respond that kind of thing. So that is the purpose here. 1 other thing that I want to mention is that we usually have the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management on the agenda to give an update or, you know, other some sort of information, but they are not actually on the agenda, but we do have at least 1 perhaps more bone representative ins and they have said that they are here to answer any questions or provide information as needed. But we do not have any sort of hardwired agenda for boom, but they have joined us today. So thank you. So I think Susan, Mike and am I missing any logistics here before we turn to Merrick?

 Susan Chambers

4:52

I do not think so. I did put a link to the Council's Youtube channel where the recording will be uploaded. I put a link in the chat and we need to start the transcript to right.

 Kerry Griffin

5:06

Ah, yes, thank you for reminding me. Oh, it is being just transcribed, I see it.

 Susan Chambers

5:11

Okay. Is it okay. I was looking up links and not looking at that, so.

 Kerry Griffin

5:15

No, no problem. Sandra started that, I am sure. Thank you very much, Sandra. Okay, well, with that, let me take 1 more look at the participants list here. If we do have more people joining, that is great. And I have not I am going to I am going to stop sharing my screen and I am going to check my email to make sure there is no cries for help getting on the meeting. I think it looks pretty good. So I guess at this point, I would like to turn it over to our Executive Director, mar Eric burden to give some opening remarks and a welcome and then then we will move on to the rest of the agenda and we will make assignments and things like that. So, Merrick, why do not you take it away?





Merrick Burden

6:07

All right. Thanks, Carrie. Good morning, everybody. I am Eric Burdon, I am the Executive Director of the Pacific Fishery Management Council and I would like to welcome you all to this meeting of the Marine Planning Committee. The Marine Planning Committee does quite a bit for the Council on the the connection of Fisheries and Wind Energy Development among Some other matters and that is provided in my opinion and the opinion of many council members a very important forum to discuss fisheries issues and wind energy development on the West Coast for the purposes of some of the new folks that have joined us. First, thank you all for joining these These discussions are like I said, a very important Part of the Council process and an important forum for fishery stakeholders, I think you will find that the discussions are not always easy, but they are important.



Merrick Burden

7:04

So again, thank you for joining. The meat of the discussion here today is on the communications plans concerning wind energy development on the on the West Coast and this is a new This is a new thing for the Council is not something that we have dealt with before. So as you all are having your discussions, I believe the the purpose of the committee in regards to these discussions is to help the Council understand its role and understand any feedback that may be warranted or justified from the Council back to the wind energy companies as it concerns the development of these plans, but those details are 1 of the purposes for the meeting making recommendations on those details to the council. So I would be happy to take any questions, Carrie, either you or I I think could take questions about the purpose of the meeting and the agenda.



Merrick Burden

8:04

I will pause here for a minute to see if there are any questions of me from the the new participants here or for from any of the M. P. C. Members or anyone else. Other than that, I do not have too many other remarks unless you think there is something else I should speak to, Kerry.



Kerry Griffin

8:24

No, I think that that is fine. We did not have any, you know, specific sort of information we asked you to to present. I really just wanted to give our guests who have not joined 1 of our council meetings before our MPC meetings a chance to hear from the director. And so if there is there is questions, yeah. We have some time we can take them.



Kerry Griffin

8:55

All right, no questions. I guess you did your job, Merrick.



Merrick Burden

8:59

All right. Yeah. Well, not seeing any questions that I will leave you all to your good work and thank you once again for joining. And this is an important piece of work and an important aspect of the future of the West Coast. So thank you all for joining today.



Kerry Griffin

9:15

Thank you, Mark. Appreciate it. All righty then. So let us move on with the rest of the, um, front matter to the MPC administrative matters. Mike and Susan, I think that you have some thoughts on the supplemental report that we will be putting together. There will be at least 2 or 3 different sections of it that we have talked about and we will we will need to make sure that we are let us do pretty soon. So I think you want to think about who is going to be responsible for those. So I will turn it over to you guys to cover that part.



Kerry Griffin

10:00

Although I cannot hear anyone. So I wonder if Mike, Mike Kelly there.



Mike Conroy

10:05

No, I was waiting for Susan to.



Kerry Griffin

10:08

She was waiting for you, I am sure.



Susan Chambers

10:11

You got it, it is.



Mike Conroy

10:12

Virtual, not it. There she was, there she is.



Susan Chambers

10:16

Go ahead, Mike. You know more about the structure of the report. So and you have some thoughts on that since you kind of already got some background going. So go ahead, Mike.



Mike Conroy

10:27

Okay. Well, so Carrie, I can not see the screen right now, but if the agenda were up on the screen, you would see that we have 505 primary items on our on our agenda. Kerry is going to give an overview of the council how it operates primarily for the benefit of new folks on this call who may not be familiar with the council process. And then as Carrie noted, we have got representatives from each of the 5 leaseholders of California, I think. Really 2 functions here, 2 purposes for their being here. 1 is just kind of give introductions we can put names to faces and whatnot. And then secondly, to hear as big as Merrick outlined, kind of their thoughts, initial thoughts on the required communications plans that were included in the in the final leases and then we will be breaking for lunch.

 Mike Conroy 11:26

And then after lunch, I think John Hanson from the Oceans Alliance is going to show up. So it looks like from a report planning purpose for our efforts, we are probably going to want to hit on the the items covered by the lies that are in the room today and then maybe a brief update from what we hear from the Oceans Alliance and if I am not mistaken, the supplemental briefing book deadline is Friday, which would give us a little bit of a time crunch. And I think internally we had discussed having something available to circulate around to marine planning committee members no later than Thursday, so we can all bless it, get it done, get it off to Carrie. Kerry can work his magic on it. And then it can be uploaded to the briefing book, I assume early next week.

 Mike Conroy 12:24

Did I miss anything Kerry, Susan or did I did I did I did I hit the nail on the head.

 Kerry Griffin 12:28

I think you got it. There is 1 other thing that I would like to put in the supplemental report, which we neglected to put in the first 1. And that is we usually have a section that is upcoming meetings or conference s or comment periods, that kind of thing. So I think it would be helpful to sort of collectively put those things together. So all the MPC members you have access to the notes in our Google Drive or you can email, you know, events or upcoming sort of deadlines or that sort of thing to us. But that is the only other thing that I can think of. It should not be a terribly long report. So hopefully we can pull it together within a couple few days here.

 Mike Conroy 13:13

Yeah. And just a follow up net, since you just reminded me we did get the slides from the California Energy Commission that they presented to us on may 18th. We were not allowed to share those until after their june 1st public workshop on C space identification and impact mitigation. But we do have those slides available and I think we were going to add those on as an attachment to our supplemental report and then include I do not know a little bit of verbage within that report. That sort of explains what folks are looking at and the like. So we have that going for us as well.

 Kerry Griffin 13:53

Yeah, good reminder. Thank you.

 Mike Conroy 13:57

And then for the benefit of folks primarily, you know, new folks to this meeting in this venue, we thought it would be a good idea for the members of the Marine Planning Committee to introduce themselves, you know, really quickly name what a B or agency you are with, and I do not know if you have something funny you want To say all the more better, I do not have anything funny to say. So I will just start off saying I am my Conroy in 1 of the I co chairs of the Marine Planning Committee. I am the H. M. The highly migratory Species Advisory Sub panel rep to the Marine Planning Committee. And I will pass it off to Susan.

 Susan Chambers 14:39

Thank you, Mike. Susan Chambers, I am co chair of the money planning committee and chair of the Ground Fish Advisory Panel. And let us say Dan Waldeck is my alternate to the marine planning committee. Um, I see he is on here today as well. So the gap is here. We have several gap members here, uh, attending as Well, I so as far as the Marine Planning Committee goes, I will turn it over to see where is Jessica Watson?

 Jessica Watson (ODFW/MPC) 15:13

Hi, this is Jessica Watson. I am with Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife and I am organs representative here on the Marine Planning Committee as well as the Ecosystem Work Group and the highly Migratory Species management team. And my role with the agency is the Marine Resources Policy Project Leader and I will pass it on to Lilah.

 J. Lilah Ise - NMFS WCR 15:34

Hi. Thanks, Jessica. I am Lilah. You say I am with the National Marine Fisheries Service. I am the West Coast Offshore Wind Energy Coordinator and I am located in California and I will pass it off to Steve Jona.

 Steve Joner, Tribal Fisheries 15:55

Good morning. My name is Steve Jon. I am with the Mccaw Indian tribe in Washington State. The MACA are 1 of 24 treaty tribes, actually, there are 26 tribes total that have fisheries that involve the Pacific Fisher Management Council process, 2 in California and 4 on the Columbia River and then 20 in northwest Washington of Those 20 Northwest Washington tribes, 4 of them have treaty rights to fish in the ocean and are very dependent on resources that are produced and reside and and migrate throughout the California current ecosystem. And so we are therefore very concerned about development of offshore wind and the cumulative impacts that that would have on the ecosystem. So we will have A lot of questions as this goes along. I rarely joke around, so I will not say anything funny today.

 Steve Joner, Tribal Fisheries 17:02

I am not sure who to pass it on to because I I do not have the list in front of me, so.

 Mike Conroy 17:08

How about Michael?

 Susan Chambers 17:08

Why do we go to Scott Mcmillan?

 Steve Joner, Tribal Fisheries 17:10

I will pass it yeah.

 Mike Conroy 17:10

Or Scott Mcmillan?

 Steve Joner, Tribal Fisheries 17:11

Then I will pass it on to Mike.

 Mike Okoniewski 17:14

Good morning, Michael.

 Susan Chambers 17:15

That works too.

 Mike Okoniewski 17:17

Ken on in the Council on the MPC, obviously also co chair of the Coastal Pelagic Species Advisory Sub Panel. And I sit on the gap, I am a recovering processor. Doing my best. You know, come through that phase and I have been was in that game for 50 years primarily running processing plants or multiple processing plants. And I in the last 3 or 4 or 5 years, I guess now I have been following offshore wind and I have gotten fairly involved in time. So, yeah, I am interested to see what develops here today.

 Mike Conroy 18:15

Thanks, Mike. Scott?

 Scott McMullen 18:17

Yeah. Scott Mcmillan, I am with the EAAS ecosystem advisor sub panel, which I have been on for quite a few years. And my day job is with the Oregon Fishermen's Cable Committee, which has a very significant marine spatial role off the West Coast, particularly Oregon. So and I guess to Mike, I guess I would Say, I am a recovering commercial fisherman.

 Mike Conroy 18:49

Steve, shy blower, are you? I see you're here, are you here?

 steve scheiblauer 18:54


I am here and since everybody seems to be recovering from something, I am a recovering harbor master now serving as a consultant to several California commercial fishing organizations, I have been on the the Council's Habitat Committee for about 14 years and I am the Habitat committee's representative to the Marine Planning Committee, and I live in Santa Cruz, California area.

 Mike Conroy 19:22

Thanks, Steve. I see Crystal, Liz, Ann, Crystal. Can you can you you have speaking capabilities.

 Mike Conroy 19:44

We can not hear. Crystal Crystal is the new California Department and Fish and Wildlife rep to the Marine Planning Committee. We thank her for that and I will be quiet for a hoping that she figured out how to get off mute. All right, Carrie, who am I missing? I do not see Corey Niles, I do not see Megan or Des. Um, and I feel like I am missing somebody, but I forgive me if I do not remember who I am missing.

 Kerry Griffin 20:19

Yeah. No, I actually do not have the roster right in front of me either, but yeah, those are missing.

 Kerry Griffin 20:31

And no, we have Steve Jon anyway. Yeah, we are missing a couple of MPC members. I think you introduced everyone who is here on the call. So, um, if we see others trickle in, we can put them on the spot to introduce themselves as they join. But I think that yep.

 Susan Chambers 20:50

Carrie, maybe just so that Liz who are here, we could at least tell them who who they are so so they know Corey Niles is with the Washington Department of Official Wildlife. He is the deputy F. W. Rep to the MPC MEGAN Wires is the conservation rep on the in on the Marine Planning Committee, and she also serves On the Salmon Advisory sub panel of the Council and Dris Peak is the Salmon advisory sub panel member on the MPC. So and I think that is everyone, but they may be joining later, but just so our audience knows who they are.

 Kerry Griffin 21:36

Yeah. Thank you, Susan. I think you did cover everyone. So there are 12 members on the M P C and I am Carrie and I work for the council and I staff the MPC, so I am not actually on the MPC. And there is my phone ring.

 Mike Conroy

21:53

Carrie, real quick, before you venture off into your presentation for for those members of the MPC that are on as we are hearing the presentations and whatnot, think about if you want to help writing the report, as I said, I think we are going to have it is going to be not as detailed as our first report that That is in the briefing book, but we can always use help and assistance in in drafting the supplemental and given the short timeline, short turnaround basically within 48 h, any and all assistance and or help is very much appreciated. And if we do not get volunteers at the end of the meeting, we will do what Kerry loves to do and volunteer people.

 Kerry Griffin

22:38

That is right. We are not afraid to do that real quick, just in case. All right, so someone just called me from a916 area code, I might I do not know who that is, but I am going to put my email in the chat just in case. And 1 does not have it and it is looking to try to get on the meeting and is not able to. So, um, all right, should we move on to the next item then?

 Mike Conroy

23:16

I believe that item is you.

 Kerry Griffin

23:19

I think you are right, okay? Then I am going to show a few slides that sort of gives a picture of the Pacific Fishery Management Council process and the and the committee. Yo see if I can walk and chew. I am at the same time here. So, okay. No, I cannot walk and chew at the same time. There we go, okay. So that is showing the weird let me swap presenter and display. Okay, you should see a full screen Powerpoint now.

 Mike Conroy

24:02

Proud for that.

 Kerry Griffin

24:03

Okay, good, I can do it, yeah. So the Pacific Fishery Management Council is 1 of 8 regional fishery management councils and around the country. And they were formed by the the 1976 Magnus and Stevens, fisheries conservation and management and everyone. If you are not speaking, please meet yourself just so there is no background noise. Thank you. You know, in short, our mission is sustainable seafood conservation of resources, which includes natural resource as well as you know, community human resources that we have an obligation to consider, you know, the economics and The economic well being of coastal communities among lots of other responsibilities, but at the core of the mission, it is producing, you know, healthy, sustainable seafood production for the benefit of the nation, and as I mentioned, it was the 1976 Magnis and Act that, you know, brought some a needed order to fisheries management prior to that.

 Kerry Griffin

25:15

Around the world fisheries were it was a less well regulated and if you look back in the earlier part of that previous century in the 40 s, 50 s and 60 s, you know, you have probably heard of the cod wars and, you know, there were there there there was some rationality needed to be brought to the fisheries management process. And so you know, the countries around the world basically did that established 200 mi exclusive economic zones, established joint venture fisheries and the Magnizon Act itself has been renewed a few times over the years with added protections of resources and ensuring not overfishing our fish resources, that sort of thing, the the Council itself Is is an agency or not an agency, an agent and entity of the federal government there there is a item in the federal budget, but on paper, the councils make recommendations to the Secretary of Commerce represented by the National ME Fishery Service, and those recommendations are pretty much obligatory unless there is some issue, there is some, you know, legality that or, you know, or process was not followed, right?

 Kerry Griffin

26:41

But basically the recommendations by the regional Fisher management councils are are forwarded to the national beneficiary service and adopted as law ruler or not, not law rule or policy as appropriate. It really starts here at the bottom with a public input. We have a whole Bunch of committees also we call them advisory bodies with in the Fishery Management Council, then we have a scientific and statistical committee whose job it is to ensure the best available science is being employed and utilized, and then, you know, we use things like stock assessments, another scientific input, there is the advisory panels that they consider this information And altogether, these different committees panels, the S. S. C. And the public provide made advice and recommendations to the council itself, and then the Council formulates fishery management plans, recom recommendation, seasonal limits on, you know, harvest harvest policy, you know, gear, all those things involved in fisheries management and that also includes habitat protection to support sustainable healthy fisheries.

 Kerry Griffin

27:54

And then those are implemented, as I said, by the National Manu Fisheries Service representing the Secretary of Commerce, so there is the short cartoon of the process. Oh, and then yeah, there are state conforming regulations, right, so zero to 3 mi on the Pacific coast are state waters and and there are state representatives on the Council, and so we work collaboratively and cooperatively and and in pretty much all cases of fisheries management, the states adopt the the the federal regulations to apply to their state waters as well. The Council is made up of 14 voting members, they are made up of appointments from the governors of the states, the 3 Pacific states, + Idaho because San Ann go into Idaho and it is 3 of the species are federally managed.

 Kerry Griffin

28:46

Each of the states has Department of Fish and Wildlife appointee. There is a tribal representative and a National Marine Fishery Service representative on the councils. The Marine Planning Committee itself was established 2 years ago and it was designed to give information Advice to the Council specifically on offshore wind and aquaculture, and there is the makeup of the Council, I am not going to read each 1 of them, but all the all the sorry makeup of the MPC, each of these MPC members are pulled from other existing Council advisory bodies and then and then they act as a liaison back to their their advisory body as well as other constituents that are maybe not on 1 of the council's advisory body. So so so the the members of the MPC really are sort of our our ears and eyes and our communication, you know, or an ambassadors to their constituents and their advisory bodies.

 Kerry Griffin

29:53

The the Pacific Council meets 5 times per year they meet in March and April, June, September and November and the MPC meets about 5 or 6 weeks in advance if each of those Council meetings considers important issues that are on the, you know, on the radar screen at that point, and then writes a report for the Council to consider at the actual council meeting this time, the MPC has actually had 2 meetings. We have 1 on the on may 18th that covered several other items and then we had this 1 scheduled. And I

think as most of you know, we were anticipating having the the Oregon draft wind energy areas available for review and consideration, but turns out that that B, they were not available, they are not available. So that is why we are focusing on the communications plans and then the update from the West Coast Oceans Alliance a little later.

 Kerry Griffin

30:58

And while I am at it, the meeting is noticed till 4PM I do not think we are going to go that long, but We will reconvene after lunch for a couple of items and I do not think we will need to go all the way until 4 today. Oh, yeah, there is our 5 council meetings per year. All the meetings are open to the public, there is, uh, you can be in person and they are all broadcast online as well. So you are welcome to listen in. I just wanted to do a real quick sort of primer on our website. For those of you who have not been there before, can I find our website?

 Kerry Griffin

31:46

I lost it. Okay, we should there we go. So this is our home page. It is P council org and it can be a little bit confusing, but there is a lot of good information on here. The sort of first and foremost, you will see our upcoming council meeting information there. Is this menu over here on the the left. That will show you where to access fishery management plan information. There is our 4 Fishery management plans and you know there is a page for offshore wind that I need to update. And then over here on the right, you will see information on the upcoming meeting. I am going to click on that in just a minute, but Here are quick links to the briefing book and to the agenda. There is a e portal for public comment. We take public comment on every agenda item at every meeting, and you can do that in writing or or verbally, and you can also do that, yeah, you can do it right in verbally and if you scroll down If you if you want to attend 1 of our, you know, advisory body meetings, scroll down here to our upcoming events and and you will you will see where those are here is the here is today's meeting, the ad hoc MPC meeting, it has a link to the agenda, the purpose of the meeting and then how to join.

 Kerry Griffin

33:05

And I know a lot of you are already there, but if you are ever looking for upcoming meetings or past meetings, this is where you want to go and if you want to find a recording from, let us say our may 18th meeting that it does not show up here anymore, click on that calendar and then You can go to our May calendar and on may 18th, there is where you will find that web page for that particular meeting and there is the recording right there. So I think I will just stop there as far as the overview of the of the website, I did want to familiarize people with that a little bit and Then there is just a couple more slides that just that I asked Mike to speak to that. Just give a little bit of an overview of the of the fisheries and the gears and the things that are going on out here in the fisheries world.

 Kerry Griffin

33:59

So Mike, there is your next slide I will go back to the full screen view. If I can figure it out and why do not you go ahead, Mike cannot hear you.

 Mike Conroy

34:14

I know because I was talking with a muted microphone, which I tend to do do not go too quick, I am going to I am going to blaze through this, but you know, this was a slide that we provided up at a conference in Portland, it seemed like 3 years ago, it was probably a month or a month and a half ago and just some, you know, just to an acknowledgment that, you know, there are a number of different types of fisheries that operate up the West Coast using different types of gears and different types of vessels. You know, the limited entry nature of most of our fisheries sort of informs what fisheries that folks participate in. And typically, the vessels that they use are outfitted to fish a specific type of gear, so it is a deepwater trawler can not just convert themselves to fish, salmon or whatnot at the drop of a hat.

 Mike Conroy

35:06

As noted, most fisheries are seasonal depending upon ocean or weather conditions. You know, the the Alba cort fishery is gearing up and getting ready to start. That fishery will typically run from around the beginning of July through whenever the weather turns bad in October or never or November, I am sorry, I And then as you can see, you know, the economics are variable and unpredictable. We have seen some years e.g., the Albacore fishery Last year had had a very good year prior to that, not so much but this you know, this this the intent of this slide is just to kind of highlight that when we speak of fisheries, we are not just talking about, you know, as a whole right, you need to drill down and understand that each fishery that operates Off the west coast has its particularities and peculiarities that impact how it operates or could operate in and around offshore developments.

 Mike Conroy

35:59

Is there another slide, Carrie? You cannot remember, yeah. And this just kind of goes and highlights what I was just talking about different types of fisheries that we have. We have commercial, recreational and tribal fisheries, you know, the scientific surveys that that all of us know how critical and how crucial the alt they are to our fisheries management process, but also to informing mitigation tactics techniques for E s a listed marine life habitats, ecosystems and whatnot, you know, but for those scientific surveys we would be swinging and blind a lot of the times and then just some, you know, a couple of cute little graphics showing the different types of gears that are utilized off of the west coast, except I see that saying nets are missing But that is okay.

 Mike Conroy

36:50

We all know what to say. Net looks like. I think that covers it right, Kerry.

 Kerry Griffin

36:55

Yeah, thank you. I just wanted to give have you give a little bit of an overview there? So thank you for that. Okay. So we are about 10 min behind. And so I think we should move on to the next item if that is okay with the chairs. So which is the remarks from the California offshore wind last season, it is my understanding that the leases were executed fairly recently after the auction that happened in early December and these are the 5 Lee winners with us today. So we are going to go and order from north to south and and I asked each of the lies to speak for 5, maybe 607 minutes. And I think my all most are all have slides ready and I I can show those. I think I have all of them here or if you prefer to run it yourself, you can do that. I can just there is a way for me to allow other people to share their screen.

 Kerry Griffin

38:05

I am going to stop sharing right now. So anyway, we will start off with Rick Robbins from R we and then after that will be Travis Larry from California, North floating. So, Rick, did you want me to run your slides or do you want to do it?

 Rick Robins - RWE

38:24

Carrie, if you are able to, uh, why do not we proceed that way, if they will come up for you, okay?

 Kerry Griffin

38:29

I think so. Let me see if I can. Mmm, yeah, here we are.

 Rick Robins - RWE

38:37

Carrie, why you while you are we are in process of queuing that, I just would like to thank you and Merrick and the staff and the co chairs and members of this committee to provide us as developers and leaseholders with the opportunity to have these introductions and engage with the committee and dialogue.

 Kerry Griffin

38:37

This.

 Rick Robins - RWE

38:56

I appreciate the importance of the committee to the council process, I have a council background myself on the East Coast and have a background in commercial fishery development, seafood processing and state and federal fisheries management. So really appreciate the the Council process itself and the opportunity for us to have this conversation with you all today and get your insights and inputs on fisheries, communication planning. And just have a have an initial discussion around that next slide. Please care. And I serve as marine affairs manager for RW and Fisheries is within my portfolio, but before I introduce A to B, I just wanted to run through a quick, quick presentation of a few high level slides that describe fisheries communications planning, talk about what they do, what their purpose is, what they typically include, and then how they are, how They are developed and, you know, just to set the stage for some of this discussion, but in terms of of what fisheries communication plans do, they guide and describe the fisheries engagement and communication principle strategies and methods that are used in the development process, they create a framework to facilitate 2 way communication and coordination with fisheries with the primary purpose being to facilitate the avoidance minimization and mitigation of impacts and to promote successful long term outcomes important element.

 Rick Robins - RWE

40:19

They are also an important element in facilitating communication between developers and fisheries and a required lease condition. They are intended to be adaptive and to evolve and adjust over time and as is appropriate given the conditions within a regional area where development is occurring. Next slide, please, as far as what they typically include. They would typically include a description of the fisheries team and an introduction to the fisheries team and then a description of the roles and responsibilities, thank you of the note worth, yeah, that and so it include a description of the roles and responsibilities and, you know, 1 of the primary points is to provide clear points of contact for the public and for the fisheries to the Fisheries Liz on and other members of the team is appropriate.

 Kerry Griffin

40:53

Yeah, sorry about that. It was not responding kicked on.

 Rick Robins - RWE

41:09

They describe the strategies and methods to share information and engage in dialogue and have effective input to a communication. And I typically they include some contextual description of the fisheries in the project area region so you can have a sense of of context and identification of constituencies within those fisheries that a project would be interacting with in and with respect to the California leases. As you know, there are a number of additional required elements. Those include a process for filing complaints and seeking replacement of lost fishing gear developers typically have a gear loss claims process. It also requires that we have a strategy and timing of discussions with fishing communities to reduce conflicts. And finally, an opportunity to meet review comment and discuss the fishery communication plan within a 120 days of the least effective date.

 Rick Robins - RWE

42:00

Next slide, please. In terms of how fisheries communication plans are developed, the primary driver for this is going to be direct engagement with local and regional fisheries. So the input and feedback from fishery participants and fishing communities informs both the design of the plan and the communication and engagement methods, timing and preferences. We also draw in the development of plans we Also draw on best practices and these may include guidance from boom. They frequently also include best practice recommendations coming out of state agencies or fisheries working groups. And we may draw on some of the guidance in in the flow documents, which are an international organization in the YOU. K. Which has a lot of history in managing fisheries communications.

 Rick Robins - RWE

42:46

101 common theme that cuts across all of these documents is that early and direct engagement with fisheries is essential to building strong working relationships that can promote successful outcomes. And finally, we use our experience in working with us fisheries to develop the plans. All that all the developers in the California leases have us experience with with fisheries. Next Slide Please, I so I will shift gears and appreciate the opportunity to introduce R W E R W E is 1 of the world's leading renewable energy companies. We have over 20 years of experience in the offshore wind industry globally. We have extensive projects in US. Solar, US solar and wind, also in Europe on wind and solar. We are on The leading edge of deepwater floating technology.

 Rick Robins - RWE

43:37

We have 2 demonstrator projects that 1 in the bottom right hand picture is offshore. Norway is 1 of 1 of our demonstrator projects and we look forward to using that global experience to develop local solutions as we move forward in California next slide. The humble least that that we are excited to be the leaseholder of is approximately 18 and 19, not a miles offshore, Erika. It is in an area where the wind speeds are very strong. They average about 18 and a half to not I am sorry, 18 kt and the the site is expected to generate enough renewable electricity to serve 640,000 homes. These are long lead time projects. I think that is well understood, but it is also good I think to see it on paper. So for the period from now through 2020 9, we would expect to be in the communications planning site assessment survey, project design planning and permitting phase with construction anticipated after 2030.

 Rick Robins - RWE

44:38

We appreciate the opportunity to be here today with the committee so we can discuss communication planning. And then after construction, of course, the lifecycle of the project would be in operations next slide. I wanted to touch on a few of Ab's approaches in terms of the pillars that we use to approach development. We have a strong commitment to sustainability and social responsibility. We would like to generate benefits in the local communities where we are developing. We have a goal of net positive impacts on biodiversity by 2030a stakeholder engagement philosophy that is based on respect and equity.

 steve scheiblauser

45:13

To.

 Rick Robins - RWE 45:15

We look forward to exercising that in our engagement with fisheries and collaboration and coordination are 1 of the central pillars for that.

 steve scheiblauer 45:21

Collaboration, coordination, 1 of the central pillar for that, I think.

 Rick Robins - RWE 45:24

I think just following these discussions on offshore development in California, I think coordination with the fisheries is going to be really critical to success and that engagement will be very deliberate to avoid minimize and mitigate impacts to fisheries. We also have extensive experience globally. And so we use knowledge sharing to drive innovation across the enterprise. 1 of our sustainability examples right now is that we are testing the world's first recyclable when turbine blade on a project in the North City next slide, please. The fishery communication plan development process for us includes a commitment to equitable and inclusive communications. We want to make make sure we do not miss any constituencies. That is why we appreciate the opportunity to be engaged with you all today and get your insights.

 Rick Robins - RWE 46:15

We will identify the best tools and pathways for communicating with each group based on Fisheries input and feedback throughout the planning process and develop efficient and effective communication strategies need to be effective, but they also need to be respectful of the and mindful I think of the burden of participation. I know a lot of people in the fisheries have been to a lot of meetings to talk about when we are cognizant of that and we want to be sensitive to that and develop efficient modalities for communications. We also want to develop and a very deep understanding of the fisheries to inform the project design process itself and coordination with fisheries. I think that is just a critical aspect of what we are going to do as we move forward.

 Rick Robins - RWE 46:55

With with our communications. So since last year to the present, we have been engaged in initial conversations with fishing communities. We are focused this month on continued engagement in drafting an initial F. C. P. Then through the period in September, we would review and comment and engage in stakeholder meetings around the final FC P and then on an ongoing basis thereafter, we would be refining and updating the F. C. P at appropriate intervals. Next slide, please.

 Kerry Griffin 47:22

Okay. Next slide and I think you are going to wrap up here soon, right? We are at 7.

 Rick Robins - RWE 47:28

Susan, Carrie.

 Kerry Griffin 47:29


Okay.

 Rick Robins - RWE 47:29

So so we have worked to develop an understanding of a handful of fisheries or a number of fisheries off offshore California, including ground fish tw ground fish steer, albacore salmon, halibut, Longland dungeons, crap bot and Chevy lab, a hagfish trap, and that is just a picture of us with our engineering team is 1 e.g.

 Kerry Griffin 47:30

Thank you.

 Rick Robins - RWE 47:49

of how we work with fisheries on other projects. Next slide, please. Final slide. So our our first our first offshore work in terms of initial survey work would include a reconnaissance survey of the lease area and approximately 3 to 4 slope transacts in the inshore A area. This would include maybe 30 to 60 days of work, including weather delays with an earliest start in the late Q3. Of this year, the timing and technology selection for this work would consider fisheries and would require a preliminary fishery communication plan by the end of June that would be refined through the summer. The AUV is the technology that would be proposed and it would operate 40 m off the bottom. It would have forward looking sonar and it would not be towed.

 Rick Robins - RWE 48:39

So this this is an ideal technology we think for reconnaissance type surveying in terms of not disrupting fisheries and the equipment would be outside the hearing range of marine mammals or travel very short distances. And that is my final slide. And again, we look forward to the discussion today. Thanks a lot.

 Kerry Griffin 48:59

Thank you, Rick. Appreciate it. That is a lot of good information the I will ask you and the other presenters. Can we share those slides and can we post them to our meeting web page?

 Rick Robins - RWE 49:14

Yeah, Carrie, we will share this.





Kerry Griffin

49:16

Okay, thank you. I mean, they are they are all in the public record, whatever you are showing here, but we just want to, you know, make sure everyone is comfortable with that. All right, yeah, you bet. Let us now turn to Travis, Larry.



Susan Chambers

49:30

Kerry.



Kerry Griffin

49:31

Oh, yeah.



Susan Chambers

49:32

Sorry to interrupt, but Steve Jon does have his hand up. Would it be okay if we took a couple of questions, just clarifying questions between I know we are a little bit crunched for time, but that might.



Kerry Griffin

49:43

I know I would like to. Okay, well, maybe we can do 1 or 2. I think 1 of our offshore wind companies will not be able to join us today. So that buys us a little bit of time. So let us do a quick a quick question or 2, but we do want to keep moving along.



Susan Chambers

49:58

Okay. Steve, go ahead.



Steve Joner, Tribal Fisheries

50:00

Okay. I do not know if Kerry is putting a time limit on me 5 min, so I probably have more questions and Kerry wants me to ask, but I will just I will just run through them and then, you know, I guess they could be answered now or at the end of the all the different presentations. So first question was you mentioned.



Kerry Griffin

50:22

Hey, Steve. You Steve. I am sorry, I am I am sorry to interrupt just real quick. After we go through all the presentations, we do have another 45 min where we are that is intended for Q A discussion and things like that. So this will not be your only chance to ask questions of our presenters just to be clear.



Steve Joner, Tribal Fisheries

50:42

Okay. I will try to remember them all when when we get to that point. So if you want to, would you prefer that that we just go through all of them and then?



Kerry Griffin

50:53

Well, you can if you want to Tim up now, that is fine.



Steve Joner, Tribal Fisheries

50:56

Okay. So, Mike, my questions.



Kerry Griffin

50:57

But.



Steve Joner, Tribal Fisheries

50:58

First 1, you mentioned communicating with fisheries, Liz, on. So I am wondering who those who those folks are in your 1.65 gw project, how many turbans will there be in and what is the size of them? And then you talk about the surveys that you would be doing and I want to know if you are doing any surveys of the fisheries resources within the area, both adult and larval stages of fish, you know, before you start because you stated a goal of net positive impact on biodiversity by 2030. So I would like to hear a little bit more about that. So we can either go through this now or just wait and maybe some of those will apply to the rest of the presentation, so. I do not know, Susan. How do you want to work that?



Susan Chambers

51:58

Yeah. We could probably hold most of those until the end. I was hoping that we could just ask clarifying questions about the communications plans at this point before we, you know, moved on to the next Liz. Um, so Carrie, Mike, does that sound okay to you? I think we have made a note of those questions.



Kerry Griffin

52:19

Yeah. Thank you, Susan. That is that is what I am thinking and apologies for not making that more clear, but that was the idea is go through the presentations by the less maybe ask, you know, 1 or 2 just clarifying questions and then the next agenda item is the discussion, you know, and more Q A and that sort of thing before we go to public comment.



 Steve Joner, Tribal Fisheries 52:42

Okay.

 Kerry Griffin 52:42

So, yes.

 Steve Joner, Tribal Fisheries 52:43

Could could you just answer this 1 then, Rick, the the number of turbines and the size of them?

 Rick Robins - RWE 52:52

Yeah. And Steve, thank you very much for the question and an opportunity to respond to that. So and first of all to your first question, I will be in the role of fisheries, Liz, on for the time being. And in terms of the size of the project, the 1.6 gw is the estimated output the Actual size and selection of turbines would be an engineering decision made at a subsequent point in product development. So we are still very much at the front end of it that the 1.6 is a working estimate and I look forward to the additional questions in our discussion period. Thank you.

 Steve Joner, Tribal Fisheries 53:29

All right. Thank you.

 Mike Okoniewski 53:33

Hey, Kerry, Mike.

 Kerry Griffin 53:37

And Mike.

 Mike Okoniewski 53:39

Yeah. I do not seem to have a hand to rays. I have looked all over the thing, but I just I can ask the question. The answer can come later but like to get it on the table if that is okay.

 Kerry Griffin 53:51

Go ahead.

 Mike Okoniewski 53:53

Biodiversity like to get a definition of what Rick think that biodiversity is and also how to measure changes that would affect natural state of nature for the present biodiversity and other effects that might be felt on the ecosystem, that is it.

 Kerry Griffin 54:20


Okay. Let us tea those up for later discussion. I think we should move on with our next presenter, if that is all right with the chairs here. And so that is Travis, Larry from Vineyard Offshore Wind, Travis, sorry, California North Floating Wind, I think it is also Travis, maybe you can tell us what the relationship is there and I See you and you are unmuted. And I can run the slides for it, if that is what you would like.

 Travis Lowery 54:51

Yeah, that would be perfect. Thank you.

 Kerry Griffin 54:53

You. Oh, okay. There you go.

 Travis Lowery 55:01

All right. Well, yeah, thank you for letting me present today. So my name is Travis Louie. I am Fishery Liz on for Vineyard Offshore and for this presentation. I am just going to give a background of who we are and then kind of go into our fisheries communications plan and then kind of best practices learned from our other lease areas. Next slide, please. So who we are so we are C. IP. Copenhagen infrastructure partner and it is the world's largest renewable energy and investment fund. So they are their investor of the project. And then Vineyard Offshore is the developer. They have a global portfolio of over 500 mw of floating offshore wind, which will be used in California and We also have 2 other lease areas in the Northeast. So yeah, if you can go to the next slide, please.

 Travis Lowery 55:56

So to go off these lease areas, we it is a \$50.50 split for Vineyard Wind. So it is C IP and AV Grid Renewables. It is currently under construction right now and is projected to be an 800 mw project. And then C. IP also owns 2 other lease areas, which is 522 also known as Vineyard Northeast and 544, which is Vineyard Mid Atlantic, and all of these combined should power at least 2.4 million homes. Next slide. So to go off of it was explained in the auction, we want a lease off of Humble County, um, and it is 562 and we bought right next to R we, which Rick just presented on and we have been working with MEG and Wind, our local development partner to help advance the project locally and transitioning the project fully to the offshore Vineyard offshore team.

Travis Lowery

56:53

With this, we will be using floating wind due to the depths in the area and it is estimated to be 100 mw project capacity and then it is close access to the Port of Humble, which is large deep, has a water port well positioned for offshore wind and staging in in construction. So this is kind of just a brief introduction of the area off of California next slide. So Rick did a good job of kind of discussing, you know, and explaining the fisheries communication plan. So we are working on a Fisher communication plan right now and it is going to be based on the best practice guidance and input for fishermen and fishery stakeholders. We have fishery communication plans in place for our other lease areas. So we have over 10 years of experience kind of evolving these plans and they do evolve as we move forward, um, and then kind of just to go through some of the objectives of the fisheries communication plan, are engaged in proactive communication with fishery stakeholders, build and maintain relations with the fishing industry and surrounding communities, develop fisheries research Programs identify potential workforce opportunities for fishing, industry involvement and responsive to stakeholder feedback and incorporate lessons learned to ensure communication protocols and tools remain relevant and effective next slide.

Travis Lowery

58:18

So kind of kind of broke it up into 3 slides for best practices learned. So for outreach and communication, we have a network. So this is for the Vineyard 101 project. We have a network of fishing representatives that represent different communities. So they are on the commercial side, both mobile and fixed, but also on the recreational side, um, So we have about 10 Frs that are in Mass, Rhode Island, Connecticut and New York and we kind of meet with them biweekly just to communicate, you know, how the projects going and any issues that are faced by the fishing industry. And with that, you know, this definitely, you know, ways we work with these fishing Representatives, e.g., the commercial Fisheries Center of Rhode Island, they do a seafood donation program, so we have kind of, you know, donated towards that and then we also do hours.

Travis Lowery

59:09

So this is kind of all the fishery las ons in the area meet up once a month and kind of go to different fishing ports and kind of Are there to answer any questions? Um, and then they these frs also, you know, review and give information to our fisheries communication plan and also informed and helped write our gear loss claim our gear loss claim for and then before we even started the construction, they kind of formed a pre and post construction survey for so we kind of got input from the FRS and also from the industry. And we also offered compensation to attend these meetings, which was kind of really well accepted and a good best practice moving forward next slide. So I know as discussed some of the questions where you know, what are you kind of doing before this construction happens, so you understand the biodiversity in the area.

Travis Lowery

1:00:04

So for us, this is for Vineyard Wind. We have conducted 3 years pre construction surveys and they have included a drop camera survey which looks at the Benthic community Eventless trap and larva survey looks at abundance of larval population in crustaceans, a tal survey which looks at the ground fish population and then acoustic monitoring of a highly migratory species. So these have been conducted 3 years before construction. We are in construction right now. So this is happening 1 year during construction and Then it will be 3 years after construction. So then it is kind of a before after control impact or backe design and they could really see the difference between, you know, a what is there before and then what is what is there after construction next slide?

Travis Lowery

1:00:52

Um, so this is my last slide, so another best practice was kind of workforce opportunities. So my background is fishery science. I have done a lot of work with, you know, working with the fishing industry and we are kind of seeing different workforce opportunities for the fishermen. So here in New Bedford, New Beckford, Massachusetts is 1 of The largest it is the largest in grossing port for seafood in the nation for the past 20 years, and the big reason for that is a scallop industry and the scallop industry kind of got cut for days for this year. So they do not have a lot of sea days. So a lot of vessels are trying to find out different scopes of work to work on the project. So these kind of include a scout vessel. So this boat is kind of goes out before any geophysical or geotechnical surveys and Just make sure there is no fixed gear and if they do, they kind of document where they are there is a guard vessel which is, you know, going on any any exposed cable before they are buried or spliced and kind of guarding that and hailing anyone on the radio.

Travis Lowery

1:02:02

And then we have a safety vessel during cons. Construction. So we are working with 4 owners right now. They rotate 8 days and they are basically around the construction area and hail anyone and let them know you know, any what is happening on the water. As I discussed, you know, a lot of the fishermen are involved in the research vessels, all the science that is going on all of our geotechnical and geophysical boats have a fisheries Liz on on board, so a fisherman that kind of, you know, communicates to the Fisher fishermen on the water. And then right now, since all of these are different scopes of work, the Coast Guard has different requirements. So we are kind of pushing Through a lot of fishermen, a lot of fishermen have the days at sea, but they have never needed their license, but for this type of scope of work, we have realized they do.

Travis Lowery

1:02:47

So we are really pushing a lot of guys through the courses and able to get their captains license. And the last thing is a fisherman's Safety and survival training, it is 1 of our requirements and we have, you know, hold those. We hold those in the area as well. And then with that, my last slide if there is any questions. And thank you for the time.

Kerry Griffin

1:03:13

Thank you, Travis. Mike, do you want to say something.

Mike Conroy

1:03:20

Well, let us let us get through all of the presentations before we get into MPC discussion. Does that make sense?

Kerry Griffin

1:03:28

Yes, that is what I thought you were going to say.

Mike Conroy

1:03:30

No.

Kerry Griffin

1:03:31

So yeah, then yeah, we are doing okay, but I think we do want to keep going. So the next speaker will be Patrick tent with Ecuador. And then I think that we do not have

Central California offshore wind with us today, but then we will have in veg Vinayak ear. So next, let us turn to Patrick and Patrick. I think you are going to run your own slides if I am.

 Patrick Tennant, Equinor 1:04:02


Yeah, I could.

 Kerry Griffin 1:04:04

Yeah, give me 2 s.

 Patrick Tennant, Equinor 1:04:04

I have got a photo in there that is embedded and made it a huge file, so.

 Kerry Griffin 1:04:09

No problem, okay? You should have moderator permission now and so you should be able to share.

 Patrick Tennant, Equinor 1:04:16

Okay, let us see.

 Patrick Tennant, Equinor 1:04:27

All right, let me make sure everybody can see this.

 Kerry Griffin 1:04:32

Yep, we see it.

 Patrick Tennant, Equinor 1:04:33

All right.

 Kerry Griffin 1:04:33

It is in the yeah, there you go now. Full screen mode.

 Patrick Tennant, Equinor 1:04:36

Okay. Well, thank you for the opportunity to introduce ourselves. We are Ecuador and we are going to talk a little bit about our Moral Bay lease that we won.

 Patrick Tennant, Equinor 1:04:57

It is not advancing.

 Kerry Griffin 1:05:03

Yet if you have 2 screens going you have to like first click on that screen and then maybe click again or hit Enter.

 Patrick Tennant, Equinor 1:05:22

and see if I can get this moving this way. Okay, well, now it is moving, but I switched the screens, right?

 Kerry Griffin 1:05:31

Yeah, exactly. Do that swap the swap, the yep, looks good.

 Patrick Tennant, Equinor 1:05:36

Okay, all right. So I just wanted to introduce myself as well as our fisheries liaison officer for those who do not know Elizabeth Marchi, she is on the call right now. She is spent a lot of time on boats working very closely with lobster looking at recovery, fishing, gear deployment controls. She spent 10 years as a federal contractor working for Noah and NIMS and has spent a lot of time on our East Coast projects where she was selected for the Block Island wind farm fisheries Liz on as well as our 2018 Empire Wind Survey researcher lead. So she is also on the call so she can help ask some answer some of the technical questions my name is Patrick Ken. I am relatively new to Ecuador. I have been here for for about a month, but I have spent most of my career working for a Southern California utility, managing and and permitting for our offshore facilities as well as our marine mitigation programs down here.

 Patrick Tennant, Equinor 1:06:55

Who is Ecuador. We have over 50 years of experience in the energy market. We have been driving towards a program of net zero in terms of emissions. And a big component of that is investing in offshore wind. And over the next you know, 20 to 30 years, we are looking at investing nearly \$20 billion in infrastructure build out For offshore wind, we have a lot of experience in in Europe and and we are working on projects back east and we are excited to bring a lot of those solutions here to the West Coast and implement them to find some creative solutions and you know notably like some of the others we have, we have we have got experience with floating wind and we have operated in some of these deepwater environments. Just very quickly, you know, I am not going to go through all these bullets, but, you know, e Ecuador's commitments to the communities, you know, it all starts with transparency, good communication and we want to really connect with the, you know, the local entities and shareholders, including, you know, the local labor forces as well as the fisheries and the scientific communities to make sure that our projects are founded on good science so that we can make very intelligent decisions on how to move forward

 Patrick Tennant, Equinor

1:08:38

always hangs up. When I get rolling there, we go again, throughout the world, we have got a number of projects that do not seem seem to be popping up, but wow. There we have got a number of projects throughout the world. We have been focusing a lot in as I mentioned in Europe where we have had some experience with floating wind, some North experience in those those rough deep seas. And on the East Coast, we have got 2 leases that I will look a little bit more in detail, but Again, we are we are now, you know, diving into working with the federal agencies back east. And as of last December, we won our our lease here in California, which we are super excited about. We are the westernmost lease in the more Bay area, which means we are in the deeper water.

 Patrick Tennant, Equinor

1:09:43

But we are we are Cognizant of the the the fisheries and and the the shareholder concerns in the area. So we are we are already starting to reach out and connect with the communities there and recognizing that there is some lines on a map, but there is also overlap in our activities. We are working very closely with our partners in that reach. We have got 2 projects back east and 2 components to each project, but we have the Beacon project and the Empire project. You know, in total, they will be bringing about 3.3 gw of capacity to the to the eastern shore. But what is nice about them is you know again we are we are already through a portion of the process. So we are going to be able to bring some of those things that we have found successful in terms of working with the fisheries and the local stakeholders on the East Coast and bringing them to the West Coast and of course, adding all the lessons learned and adapting to the the environment that is California that we all love so much and, you know, just to at a very high level, just talk about the overall process.

 Patrick Tennant, Equinor

1:10:59

Again, in terms of the fish fisheries communication plans and our other communication plans, they are in development right now. They are ready to be submitted. The idea is that we really want to be able to get into the water and, you know, start, you know, mapping the sea floor so that we know what our project is going to look like so that we can have much more intelligent conversations when when people are asking us questions about what the project is so very quickly, we are going to be engaging the key stakeholders to not only get engaged with our communication plans, but to have an awareness of our survey desires for this year because again, you know in some of these areas we have not even seen the sea floor yet. So we know there is a lot of questions on our side and so and we will be able to work with our engineers and our biologists Once we get some of that baseline data to really start driving a much more developed picture of what the project will be.

 Patrick Tennant, Equinor

1:12:03

And that is it. And again, as we get kind of into more conversations about the communication plans, we can talk a little bit more about the details, but if there is any general questions about who we are and what we are doing, just let me know.

 Kerry Griffin

1:12:21

Thanks, Patrick. Appreciate it. And I will ask you the same question. Is it okay if we post these slides to well, actually I do not have them yet, I guess, but if you are able to PDF them, can we put them on the web page for this meeting?

 Patrick Tennant, Equinor

1:12:35

Yeah, yeah, I already PDF them just just in case. So I will shoot that. Over to you, Kerry. And then yes, you are free to post those.

 Kerry Griffin

1:12:45

Super. Thank you very much. And then as we said, we are just going to keep going through. We have 1 more presenter and then we can get into the Q A and discussion we should have, you know, at least half an hour, maybe a little bit more for that. I think that the central California offshore wind ocean winds, they are not here today. Somebody jump in if I am if I am mistaken. And that means that we will go to the last presenter, which is in and that is Vinayak issuer. And I think I have the slides. I Vinayak, I see you.

 Vinayak Ishwar (Invenergy)

1:13:25

Yeah. Good morning.

 Kerry Griffin

1:13:30

Oops, and let us.

 Vinayak Ishwar (Invenergy)

1:13:31

Should do some current well, Kerry is pulling the slides up. I just want to let everyone know that I am pinch heading for a colleague today who was called into jury duty this morning. So certainly not the expert here, but happy to take questions from from participants on the call and definitely get you looked into the right team members. Who are focused on our environmental compliance and strategy as well as all of our stakeholder engagement.

 Kerry Griffin

1:13:58

Thank you. Okay, I hear some background noise and it might be from your office, which is fine. I do not see anyone else that is unmuted. No worries. Okay. Sorry about that. You should see your slides now.

 Vinayak Ishwar (Invenergy)

1:14:19

That is great.

 Kerry Griffin

1:14:21

Okay, there we go. If you see that, just give me a shot when you want me to advance.

 Vinayak Ishwar (Invenergy)

1:14:25

Sounds great. Please go ahead to the next slide. So we will start briefly with just a brief introduction about in energy. We are an American LE company that was in the US, based out of Chicago, Illinois. We have got over 200 projects in operation that represents a 30 gw portfolio of sustainable energy and about half of that portfolio is onshore wind. So you will see On the bottom right, we have got about 18 gw across 115 projects, a lot of them in North America and the US, a lot of them international as well. And we are really proud of our our 2 decade experience in working with our communities and our stakeholders in order to sustainably develop these projects. And to be good stewards of the environment as well as to be good neighbors to live with, our team recently started looking at offshore wind over the last 5 years and last year was actually kind of a bell weather moment for the company.

 Vinayak Ishwar (Invenergy)

1:15:26

We secured leases in both the New York Bite as well as in the Mara Bay and We are quickly learning and and going down this process of understanding what it takes to develop these projects and how to be great stakeholders and partners with with our communities. As a lot of the other leaseholders have said, there is a strong intention to take learnings that we are building in other projects on different coasts and making sure that we translate that and bring that over to the West Coast of California and we are really excited about what that looks like in the coming years. You go to the next slide, please? So I see that the slide is slightly outdated. We were named the a provisional leaseholder several months ago and last week were named official leaseholders in in California.

 Vinayak Ishwar (Invenergy)

1:16:17

The final agreement was executed just on 1st june and we are thinking this is going to be somewhere close to 2 gw of capacity and We are the closest shore of the 3 Mary lease areas. Again, still pretty deep waters, but not as as deep as some of the other developers in the region. And we are looking at about 20 mi close to shore. This looks fundamentally different in some ways, but fundamentally similar in other ways to our New York project where we are further from shore, but at the same time in far shallower waters. So design considerations as some of the other developers have stated are still in a very early stage and we are really just getting started on identifying what those parameters will be and what is the right way to manage that and how we we settle on those decisions.

 Vinayak Ishwar (Invenergy)

1:17:06

So that is something that we plan to be in constant communication with with all of the relevant stakeholders and make and we will make sure to communicate that at the right times. As I said, we are going to borrow a lot from our East Coast work. You know we are about a year ahead of schedule in compared to where we will be in California. So I think that there is a very natural way that we are going to be taking learnings from the East Coast taking that over to the West coast. And naturally, you know, not all of those learnings are going to be applicable. Not all of those strategies are going to be, you know, just copied and pasted over to the West Coast and we are going to be very careful about making sure that these are tailored and customized for each of our projects in each of our communities can go to the next slide, please?

 Vinayak Ishwar (Invenergy)

1:17:53

You will hear it here are a lot of themes that are very similar to some of the other developers and the core principles that we have for our communication plans as well as just our general approach to stakeholder engagement. We really think of this as a core competency of the company. This is something we have been doing for for over 20 years. And it is something that we plan on continuing to do. They are really you know, the foundations of these plans are you know, these 3 tenants below 1 is that we have to have transparency and accountability. This is something that is kind of what what what we need absolutely to develop and gender trust. Between all stakeholders and that is something that we are very careful and very proud of. The second piece of this is that we need to incorporate diverse experiences.

 Vinayak Ishwar (Invenergy)

1:18:40

It is not just commercial, it is not just recreational, it is not just, you know, local stakeholders, it is across the state, across the country and it is something that we need to, you know, get deep understanding of, you know, cultural impacts as well, and it is something that we care a lot about. And finally, all of this is supported by respectful communication going both ways from both community stakeholders, commercial fishermen, recreational fishermen, as well as the development community, and all of our supplier supply chain go to the next slide. Please. I am not going to spend too much time on this. I know that we have we have we have heard a lot from many developers and I know that we are on a bit of a time crunch. The point here is that this is not a plan that is set in stone.

 Vinayak Ishwar (Invenergy)

1:19:26

It is 1 that evolves over time and has to be responsive to all of our stakeholders. We have some key objectives that we know going in to plan development and just early engagement. What we need to do. It starts off with safety, it goes through that open and transparent communication. We want to make sure that we identify potential impacts and then figure out what the mitigating effects are and strategies are and and we want this to be a 2 way street and we want to be want this to be a very real communication or real relationship that we have developed. As I said, none of this is written stoned. We will be supporting and submitting our plan as per BOM obligations, but that is really the start of the conversation, it is not the end of it, so the next slide, please.

 Vinayak Ishwar (Invenergy)

1:20:16

Several other developers have talked about, you know, what are the specific ways their teams are organized and it is really a catch all approach we want to make this as easy as possible, but at the same time, make sure they are clear avenues of communication that is going to be specific team members who are identified and you know, going to be embedded in the communities that is going to be specific technology that we put up, you know, whether that is website, social media newsletters, project web pages, etc. And then it is also going to be other coordination that we can do when our activity begins. So what does port hours look like, how do we share data between stakeholders as well as developers, um, how do you participate in the relevant working groups and then as stated many times before, what is the claim procedure for potential your damage or loss?

 Vinayak Ishwar (Invenergy)

1:21:04

Again, not an exhaustive list, but the start 1. And finally, I will go to the next slide. I think this might be an old slide. This is my contact information and I can certainly put you in touch with with with our stakeholder team as well as our environmental team. You know Kristen Hislop, who is on jury duty today, is really going to be taking lead on This she is she is based at Santa Barbara and you know is a new member of our team, but is well engaged in the communities and has been in California for a long time. So we we really appreciate the opportunity to start the conversation and look forward to continuing that in the coming years. Thanks, everyone. Thank.

 Kerry Griffin

1:21:46

Thank you, Vinayak. Appreciate it, Mike. I think that brings us to the end of our presentations. And so I am going to turn it over to you to sort of lead off the discussion and

questions and answers and that sort of thing, which we have 35 min for.

 Mike Conroy

1:22:02

Yeah. I can certainly do that. And thanks to the presenters for their presentations, I think they were informative and helpful as we head into this round of questions or conversations. With the presenters, you know, let us let us remind ourselves that this is focused on the communications plans. And while you know Mike know the question that you asked what was important, I do not think it is German to the issue of these communications plan. And I am sure that as the co survey work does and as we start to think about the number of turbines that will be defined in a cop, you know, we can certainly push for answer to those, but but for now, you know, let us just, you know, look at the specifically the fisheries communications plans in information that was provided, you know, and then also remember that there is 2 other communications plan that were not mentioned right there is the Native American tribal communication plan and then there is the agency communication plans which are described pretty well in the leases.

 Mike Conroy

1:23:05

And I will throw a link to 1 of the leases. And Rick, I apologize, I think it is yours. It is available on the boom website, California website. So I familiarize yourself with the language in there about the 3 different communications plans. And with that, I will shut up and leave it to anybody who has questions and or comments.

 Kerry Griffin

1:23:23

Yeah. Thanks, Mike. I agree. We have a short amount of time. So I am mostly interested in hearing about, you know, what the plans are for the communication plans, you know, is there or when is the opportunity for comment and feedback and you know that kind of thing. So let us let us focus on that and then so that This committee can then share that and advise the council itself. Um, yeah, so Mike, I see your hand up. I would say any MPC members if you have questions or comments, then just use the raise hand feature and we will watch for you. And then the next item after this is going to be public comment. So those of You who are not on the marine planning committee, that will be your opportunity to make public comment that typically is not, you know, necessarily a Q a kind of situation.

 Kerry Griffin

1:24:12

It is up to our presenters if they want to take any additional questions from the public at that point. But usually that is just more of a comment opportunity, but For now, let us focus on the MPC discussion. Use the right hand feature and I see Mike. Oh, with your hand up. So go ahead, Mike.

 Mike Okoniewski

1:24:30

Well, I apologize for that, Mike, if I got off track, but they were talking about the subject, they were related to the subject, so I thought it was fair game. But I do have, I think 4 questions or they are kind of combined in 1 sense and that is what is the framework overall for these communication plans and and what I mean by that is there will be some fishermen that probably I would imagine could be involved in multiple fishing plans and have to kind of navigate through each 1 separately as a standalone plan and that gets a little confusing, I would think if they have to go back and forth and see what materially is different from each plan. So I wonder if there is a central organization with all the plans and I wonder if those plans then are open to the public and I think I got an answer to this already, but a modification basis, adaptive management, I guess might be a term for it, but.

 Mike Okoniewski

1:25:46

The feedback from the fishermen in particular and the processors on an annual basis or something that would allow for modification and again, an annual review in that process, if that is is there is something like that that is would cover that area, I would I would like to know about it or does everybody just stand alone the plans are just amongst those people that are fishing or had been fishing in that area.

 Kerry Griffin

1:26:26

So. Yeah, I mean, that that was not directed to anyone in particular, so I think whoever feels comfortable.

 Mike Okoniewski

1:26:29

I take I I would go to R we Rick because I owe him a little bit.

 Kerry Griffin

1:26:36

Okay. Good enough.

 Rick Robins - RWE

1:26:39

Yeah, Mike, appreciate the opportunity to respond and you will have already touched on a lot of important questions, just an initial reactions. But, you know, I think I think 1 of the 1 of the things you are driving it with you quit or what your question drives at is the opportunity to, you know, find a way to present information in a coordinated way to make it easy for fishermen to find the information they need and and so every developer is going to develop their own fisheries communication plan for their project, but I think that does lead to, you know, the following question about how how can that information perhaps be consolidated somewhere or aggregated in such a way That term in the public can easily access that and I think that is probably a good discussion for us to have with this committee and the council staff, you know, as to whether there might be an opportunity to, you know, if the council could consider hosting those communication plans in 1 part of the council website potentially where they could go and get all the information on the East Coast, the the Mid Atlantic Council has developed a wind page that they essentially share with the New England Fishery Management Council and that is an area where people can go and get the respective contact information for projects etc.

 Rick Robins - RWE

1:27:58

But there, you know, thinking about what that might look like ideally is probably, you know, something for further discussion dialogue, etc. But that might be 1 way also on the East Coast, we are working in coordination with an app, a software app developer to develop an app that would allow for multiple projects to share information on on an integrated dashboard that fishermen could use. I think I think once that is up and running, that will be really helpful for people that might interact with more than 1 project to get real time information about survey operations or offshore operations, e.g.. But you know, we are very interested in the question about coordination because we want to make it easy and find find mechanisms that will that will help make it easier for fishermen to get the information we need.

 Rick Robins - RWE

1:28:47

And I will see if I will see if others want to jump on that or if you have a follow up question.

 Mike Okoniewski 1:28:55


Know that is helpful. If anybody else has anything to add, I would sure like to hear.

 Patrick Tennant, Equinor 1:29:06

Yeah. Hey, this is a Pat tenant with Ecuador. You know, I think just, you know, echoing some of the things that Rick said, I think it is important to be able to, you know, especially in more Bay where we are all pretty tight to be able to consolidate the meetings and make sure that, you know, at least in Our outreach efforts were coordinated simply because, you know, especially with with some of these, you know, fishing fishermen, it is difficult to get to these meetings and it is it is on their own time so we want to make it as valuable as possible to them. So as we move forward, yeah, there will be some coordination between the lies.

 Mike Okoniewski 1:30:01

Yeah. Thank you.

 Jessica Watson (ODFW/MPC) 1:30:10

Thanks everyone and thanks for the presentations. I think this question may be directed a little bit of you Pat and Equinor just because you are the farthest offshore from Mar Bay. I was just curious about thinking about the fishery communication plans and the coordination and engagement with near short fisheries with regards to cabling So like how many cables would be required to bring like a gigawatt to shore? And how would you be communicating both with the fisheries in the lease area as well as those that would be impacted in Shore?

 Patrick Tennant, Equinor 1:30:43

You know that is a great question. And to that point, especially as we are looking at how the cables are going to be coming in crossing across 303 leases and and coming on land, there is still a lot of unknowns for us and especially you know as I mentioned, trying to get out there and get some survey data before we really start putting pen to paper on some of these opportunities, you know, we are going to be looking at, you know, you know, looking to our engineers to really help, you know, drive the conversation. But the New York Shore, yeah, it is going to it is going to be a challenge and we recognize that there is A lot of activity even even even in the offshore areas, we know there is a lot of activity out there as well. So with the floating wind there, there are challenges associated with the structures and and we recognize that ahead of time.

 Patrick Tennant, Equinor 1:31:47

So again, I think we are going to really be looking heavily at that over the next you know, year or so as we start getting more of that data in.

 Jessica Watson (ODFW/MPC) 1:32:01

Thanks. And just a follow up if I may. So is the communication strategy and plan going to then have the different groups of like your plan communicating with offshore versus near shore? Fishery fisheries.

 Elizabeth Marchetti 1:32:14

Yeah, I can jump in Elizabeth, Mark, Ken here for Liz on thank you, Jessica and Patrick. Yes, from a fisheries perspective, we are going to be on the docks on the ground will be hiring and contracting with more fishery support support out in California and have constant engagement with the fishing community along with fishing organizations including Rhoda here on the East Coast, we work closely with with Rhoda on our Empire win layout and incorporated fishermen's feedback and in that layout. So so we will be talking 1 on 1 with fishermen, in groups at the docs, open houses, open forums, you know, speaking with the fishermen and and really consulting with them and And and hopefully incorporating their their feedback into the the developments of the plant.

 Elizabeth Marchetti 1:33:03

Hopefully that helps.

 Jessica Watson (ODFW/MPC) 1:33:06

Yeah. Thank you.

 Jessica Watson (ODFW/MPC) 1:33:18

All good. Thanks, Mike.

 Elizabeth Marchetti 1:33:55

I could jump in again, Elizabeth here from East Coast perspective and experience and especially with Block Island Wind Farm and I kind of envision it for California for the West Coast is probably cable during the cable A. You know, there is obviously going to be some impacts there when the cable is being laid and and obviously conference compensation, you know, will or may be included depending on the time of year and and the fisheries and and and whatnot. There is a lot a lot going into that and you know, that is part of consulting with the fishermen the hot times a year. Can we avoid going there there. So, you know, again, we are all in the initial stages. Of West Coast planning and we look at California very specific. It is not cut and paste here on the East Coast and we know that.

 Elizabeth Marchetti 1:34:45

So that is why we hope to continue and dive deeper into discussions with with California stakeholders that answer the question.

 Elizabeth Marchetti 1:35:33

Yep. So that is we are actually working on that now looking at the the permitting and starting that and and looking at the scheduling and hoping to talk to the Marrow Bay guys

about that soon about schedules. But, um, again, you know, as Travis mentioned, we are going to work with the community as getting guys out there. I time of year, you know, if it is going to be busy time of year on the cable route and can we avoid being on the cable route when guys are out there so, you know, working with the fisherman as a scout scout vessels and and also just consulting with them and and, you know, their expertise out there. So and I would not say the GG is most intrusive, but you know, we have been doing it for years here and proud to say for both of Ecuador's projects here on the East Coast Empire and Beacon, we have had not had any gear claims.

 Elizabeth Marchetti

1:36:21

So so proud of that because our close connection and communications with the fishing industry.

 Mike Okoniewski

1:37:06

Actually, it was a residual, but I came up with the question. If I can remember what it is I heard in mitigation and the conversation and and it would seem that there might be different activity related to that. You know, there is quite a few different avenues that you might approach it and I am just curious if the mitigation activity would be maybe not tested but reviewed by the fishermen before or in the process. That the communication is taking so communication with the fisherman for feedback by fishermen, I am throwing processors in there too, before it is enacted as just a kind of a solitary, unilateral type of mitigation and what how the communication around that. Mitigation might look,

 Mike Okoniewski


1:38:33

Mike, you are you are in a chair and when I am the chair, if I want to table something, I just do it. So I mean for from LA, my sub panel, so that is it is not going to bother me a bit.

 Steve Joner, Tribal Fisheries


1:38:56

Thanks, Mike. So I will too. I will also stick to the communication plan. I mentioned that, you know, I am with the Maca tribe and they have a treaty right to a number of species, some of which originate in California, so the tribes that fish on the ocean as well as the tribes that fish salmon in the river systems along the west coast are very concerned about the impacts this will have on the on the ecosystem and the and the resources e.g., Pacific Wing that are spawned in California and as a age they move north. So, you know, any any activity that impacts the anywhere along the chain that impacts the production of wing is is going to impact the tribal fisheries and even into Canada. So, you know, we have been we have been expressing this concern to boom for a couple of years at least, yeah, I would say 2 years now and the answer was, well, we will deal with that once the wind areas and lease is identified and the projects will get started.

 Steve Joner, Tribal Fisheries

1:40:14

So so far, I do not think our message has gotten through because there have been activities in California that that have focused on the tribes communicating with the tribes and, you know, the the tribes in Washington with the treaty rights have yet to be directly contact or communicated with and, you know, we do not really have the ability to be chasing after the answers, you know, we the tribes prefer and really appropriately deal With the US government agencies by virtue of those, the federal government's trust responsibility, the tribes, and I found in my my many decades of working with the tribes that there are not a lot of folks that truly understand that have an in depth understanding of the treaty rights and and you know how activities that are outside the Tribal fishing areas impact the tribes, even activities within the tribal areas, so I guess my I am encouraging each of you to try to learn about the tribes that have treaty rights and how, you know, best to communicate with with the tribes.

 Steve Joner, Tribal Fisheries

1:41:46

Obviously, the tribes are not fishing, Washington, Oregon tribes are not fishing in California waters, so are not going to be directly impacted, you know, by the presence of the the turbines or your activities there, but will be directly impacted through the resources, so. I am not going to give a lecture on on the treaty rights and the tribes as managers, but just to tell you, the tribes are co managers with the state and federal agencies and that you need to really learn what how best to communicate with the tribes and, you know, I have heard a couple of times talking to the California industry. So I guess my encouragement is look beyond the the northern border of California and look at it as the California current ecosystem. So, you know, if you if you want to learn more about the the treaty rights process, you know, I am willing to help.

 Steve Joner, Tribal Fisheries

1:42:55

There are civic council workshops that would help you on that. So, you know, I would like to have some in person communication with with each of you because I think that is the best way to really get the message and educate. So anyway, I will leave it at that and just hope that things will develop the way that they need to to avoid problems down the road.

 Rick Robins - RWE

1:43:38

Yeah. Thank you, Mr. Kerry and I just found Mr. Jon comments to be very, very helpful to me. 1 of the I think 1 of the questions for us is, you know, trying to determine how, you know, how do we most effectively think about the in the integration or relationship between the communication with tribal fisheries in the in the context of our fisheries communication plan relative to our tribal communication plans that we will also be developing on a on a broader more holistic basis, you know. So I just appreciate this additional background and context that we have just heard, but I think that that is probably a line of questioning that, you know, we may be interested in following Following up with Mr. Jon on because just trying to try to understand or think through maybe collectively how those things ought to fit together so that we can ensure that our fisheries communication plans appropriately address the issue and put forward a way to communicate effectively on tribal fisheries issues.

 Rick Robins - RWE

1:44:51

And then how does that sort of dovetail into our broader tribal communications plan. So thank you.

 Steve Joner, Tribal Fisheries

1:45:04

No, I am good with that and I will just I will put a plug in for the marine resource, the marine resource education program that the council is active in and we have a workshop the end of September in Santa Cruz. It is 5 day workshop, but 1 of the 1 of the presentations I give that is on the tribes, the tribe's role as co managers. So, you know, that would be an opportunity if you wanted to try to take that in or, you know, 101 thing as co managers and our and self regulating tribes, you know, the each tribe has its own very active fisheries management program and so, you know, we do have people It is not something we commonly do is to reach out and work with, you know, private companies, but I will leave it that we do what we need to to get the job done.

 J. Lilah Ise - NMFS WCR

1:47:16

Thanks, Mike. Yeah, I have a few questions. First, do you include fisheries managers on these communication the fisheries communications plan? So I am thinking specifically of the Pacific Fishery Management Council, Nance and the state D. F. W. Or are these fisheries communication plans just for the fishing industry fishing reps? I am just going to run through my questions here real quick. Another question is, do You use the US. Coast Guard notice to Mariners in terms of getting out more messages to fishermen and how far in advance do you tell people that you will be doing surveys? Is it like, you know, a few months in advance or just a couple of weeks? And finally, how will you

communicate about you X OS you might find during your survey operations or construction activities, communicating that both to fishing industry and agencies.

 Elizabeth Marchetti

1:48:29

I could jump in. This is Elizabeth from Ecuador, all good questions, so I am probably going to miss a couple of them. But yes, we definitely use the local notice to Mariners and that could be broadcasted. You know what, whenever a survey or installation schedules are confirmed, it could be a month out, it could be 2 months out. Or 2 weeks, so really dependent on the project, but I we try to make it as far in advance as possible, same with the you OS. We are actually undergoing a you survey now come mid June for Empire getting the word out there to our fishing and Ingrid wraps the fishing community through our app different avenues and then of course, the the Coast Guard. And then what was the I think there was 1 more I am missing.

 J. Lilah Ise - NMFS WCR

1:49:21

Um, the do you include fisheries managers on these fisheries communications plans?

 Elizabeth Marchetti

1:49:25

That is right. Yep. So we we will consult with our fishing industry representatives and fishermen and we do share it. I with with other fishing organizations, I do not think in the past we have we have gone to agencies or bone but we do use bone bombs best guidance and practices and again, we we consult with our fishing industries on that and and again, California is different, so I am always eager for new ways to help California think it is it would be best to work. Is that answer your question?

 Travis Lowery

1:50:03

And just this is Travis Louie. Vineyard offshore just to add to that. So for Vineyard Wind, we do send a weekly Mariner update. So every Monday of all the construction that is going on and that is sent via email and text. And on social media, we have also been working with a company. It is the waterfront app. I think someone threw it in the chat. They are hoping to launch their app this month and it is really just a way for someone to can see all the different activity happening with all the different developers. It gets a little confusing when you have different developers and relying on their Mariner updates. So this waterfront kind of keeps everything in the same place. So that could be a tool going forward. And then I will send it in the group, I will put in the chat.

 Travis Lowery

1:50:50

You can just sign up for Vinet Offshore Mariner updates if you would like.

 Rick Robins - RWE

1:51:19

Yeah, just quick. Thanks, Mike. Just quickly, yeah, we do update the regional office and national fishery service. 1 of the 1 of the things we also coordinate on once we are active with offshore survey work, we you know, we do try to coordinate with all the regional fisheries science operations that might be going on in the area. So if a regional fishery science center, e.g., is running a bottom tal survey or 1 of their ecological surveys, we maintain close communication with them so that we can coordinate and work around them so that we are not not disrupting their existing trial survey work, and we do the same thing with academic scientists that are conducting surveys that are part of the mix of regional science. So that is that is sort of another aspect of it.

 Rick Robins - RWE

1:52:07

But the the communications that we developed for that type of work, you know, they they go has been pointed out. It is not just a notice to Mariners because we know that a lot of people do not look at that As to Mariners, so we developed tailored communications for the fishing industry and then we developed that through a communications network and and like how we build out those networks. I mean, that will be that that will be something for us to talk about, I think and and you will see those eventually reflected in the communication plans. Thank you.

 Mike Okoniewski

1:52:41

Yeah, Mike, going back to something you and Steve we were talking about, there is Albacore is definitely a, you know, highly migratory species and it moves great distances, but there is other fish in the ocean that maybe not to the degree Alba Corey, but they they have a plagic type background and sardines used to for The most part migrate up and down the coast every year and there is there is others. So I guess that idea of that you are talking about the effects of 1 area could be affects in another area, you know, up and down the coast. So, I do not think it is necessary to get into it too much more now. But I think it is a consideration that if communication can be helpful and that it would be informative to the fishermen that are maybe going to fish on that same species at a different time of the year.

 Mike Okoniewski

1:53:45

Thank you.

 Scott McMullen

1:54:23

Yeah. No problem. Thank you, Mike, and thank you to our presenters. Appreciate their informative presentations. I did have a little bit of a comment on the presentation plan. While advanced far, far in advance, notice is good. It it can not take the place of real up to date information as it gets close to the project. E.g., when they Do submarine cable survey cable route surveys? We might have an estimate early on that says there is there will be a ship here in middle of August. But as a lot of things go with maritime activities, there is delays. Sometimes sometimes the schedule moves up and and it comes earlier, but it is not it is not really fair to Ask fixed gear fishermen to clear gear out of an area based on an estimate that may, you know, a month out or or 2 months out.

 Scott McMullen

1:55:27

So what I would just like to encourage is that there would also be a, you know, a real up to date to say, you know, right now it looks like the schedule for the survey ship is is going to be here 1 week from today and begin survey operations and we will need a swath exact, you know, give the the coordinates so that any fixed care fishermen have an opportunity to get gear out and they do need a little time to get to move gears. So just like I really like the idea of a dashboard where companies that are both operating in an area could combine their efforts and make sure fishermen just had 1 spot to go to get up to date information. Thank you.

 J. Lilah Ise - NMFS WCR

1:56:28

2 follow ups, 1 for Travis on that central communication hub or app, is that also something that fishermen can go to and report an issue because like if something comes up, they might not be able they might not know which developer to contact. So, um, yeah, question about that if that is like also a 2 way sort of tool.

 Travis Lowery

1:56:58

Yeah.

 J. Lilah Ise - NMFS WCR

1:56:58

And then I have 1 more question, but I will let Travis answer first.

 Travis Lowery

1:56:58

So if you are. Yeah, if you are referring to the waterfront app, uh, there is not anything currently to put in, you know, a concern or, you know, an issue. So I do talk with the developers pretty frequently. So that is that is good feedback and I can have, you know, a section in the app that would, you know, put that in and For and I get it it is confusing when there is a bunch of different boats and a lot of guys do not even know like what developer to contact. So, yeah, and they are all using, you know, similar boats with the geophysical and geotechnical as well. But what I have been seeing for mostly concerns they reach out to the scout vessel so we hire a local fishermen, for instance, in Vineyard Win 1 it was a local k fisherman and he knew everyone already he knew who fished in the area.

 Travis Lowery

1:57:51

When guys had an issue or had wanted more information, they would actually reach out to him. He, um, so that I feel Like having someone that is, you know, out on the water in the fishing community and has that information and can spread the word. I feel like it just streamlines it very well and fishermen, you know, relate to fishermen, so just having that communication it has has helped for us.

 J. Lilah Ise - NMFS WCR

1:58:17

Thanks, Travis and Rick, I really appreciated your comments about the NIP scientific surveys and trying to coordinate with with NMS on, you know, the in the surveys that you will be doing to. So that is definitely something we will want to talk about, I guess with our agency communication plan, but that was also sort of why I was Asking about the, you know, if fisheries managers are included in the fisheries communication plan to because that might be something that, you know, the folks running our surveys might want to make sure they are all signed up on those things as well for the purposes you mentioned.

 Rick Robins - RWE

1:59:01

Yeah, I appreciate that and if I made real quickly, so and that might be an area where there could be some overlap, I guess between the agent so called agency communication plan that we have to develop, but we would execute on that in an operational sense as we are coordinating survey work directly with the science centers.

 J. Lilah Ise - NMFS WCR

1:59:23

Be.

 Rick Robins - RWE

1:59:56

Yes, Mike. Yeah, yeah, right. So.