WINDAC AFRICA

BREAK THE GRIDLOCK!
WIRE FOR GROWTH!

SAWEA
South African Wind Energy Association

21 - 23 OCTOBER 2025
8:00 am – 5:00 pm

CAPE TOWN, SA
CTICC 2

2025 PRESENTATION

Navigating Coexistence - Strategies for Offshore Wind and Fisheries Collaboration

Megan Smith

22 October 2025

SPEAKER **OVERVIEW**

Megan Smith

Carbon Trust

Director, Offshore Wind

PRESENTATION **OVERVIEW**

01 • **Introduction to Carbon Trust's offshore wind activity**

02 • **Defining coexistence and co-location**

03 • **Fisheries co-location with floating offshore wind** – learnings from trials

04 • **Environmental coexistence with offshore wind** – UK approach to compensation

05 • **Environmental coexistence with offshore wind** – Netherlands approach to non-price criteria

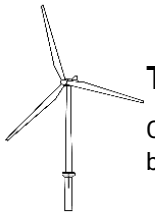
06 • **Collaborative research to encourage coexistence:** Maine Offshore Wind Research Consortium

07 • **Summary**

1 Introduction to the Carbon Trust's offshore wind activities

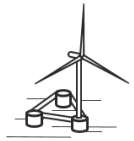
Who we are

- Our mission is to accelerate the move to a decarbonised future.
- Climate pioneers for more than 20 years, partnering with leading businesses, governments and financial institutions to accelerate their route to Net Zero.
- Global network of over 400 experts with offices in UK, Netherlands, Germany, Mexico, Singapore, South Africa.
- Offshore wind work addresses sector and policy scale-up, industrial development, innovation and energy integration.



The Offshore Wind Accelerator (OWA)

Carbon Trust's flagship collaborative RD&D programme for bottom-fixed offshore wind.



The Floating Wind JIP (FLW JIP)

The Floating Wind JIP Overcomes challenges and advance opportunities for commercial scale floating wind

The Offshore Renewables JIP (ORJIP)

Offshore Renewables JIP aims to reduce consenting and environmental risks for offshore projects.

The Integrator

The Integrator is designed to examine the interplay between offshore wind, existing infrastructure, and other technologies to highlight opportunities for innovation investment.

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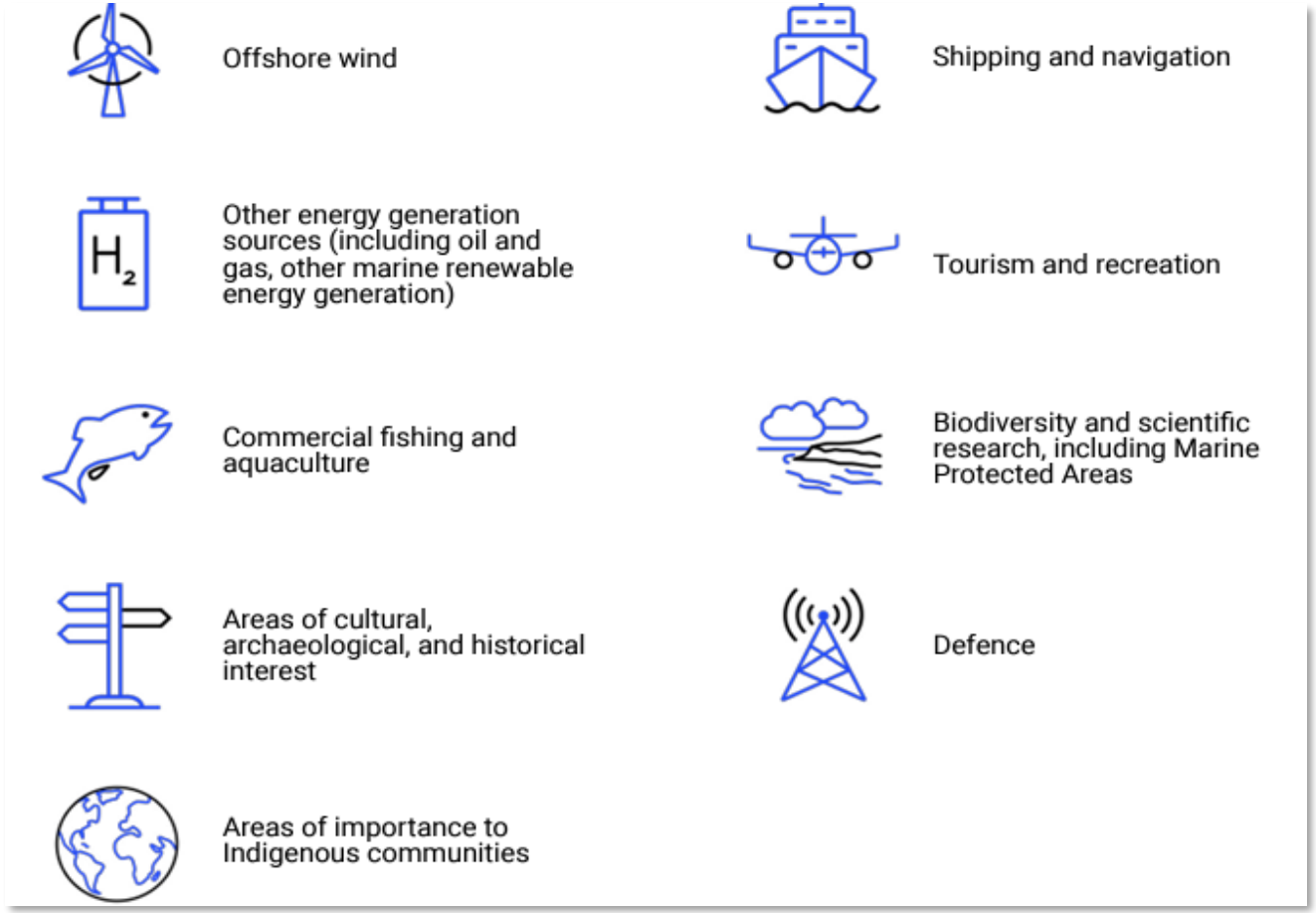
2 Offshore wind must coexist with other marine users, and in some cases this means co-location

- Coexistence and co-location shouldn't be used interchangeably
- Offshore wind already does coexist with other marine users
- Offshore wind can be co-located with other marine activities, but research is needed
- There are roles for policy and planning, project design, and technology innovation to support coexistence and co-location



3 Floating wind brings specific technical challenges for fisheries co-location

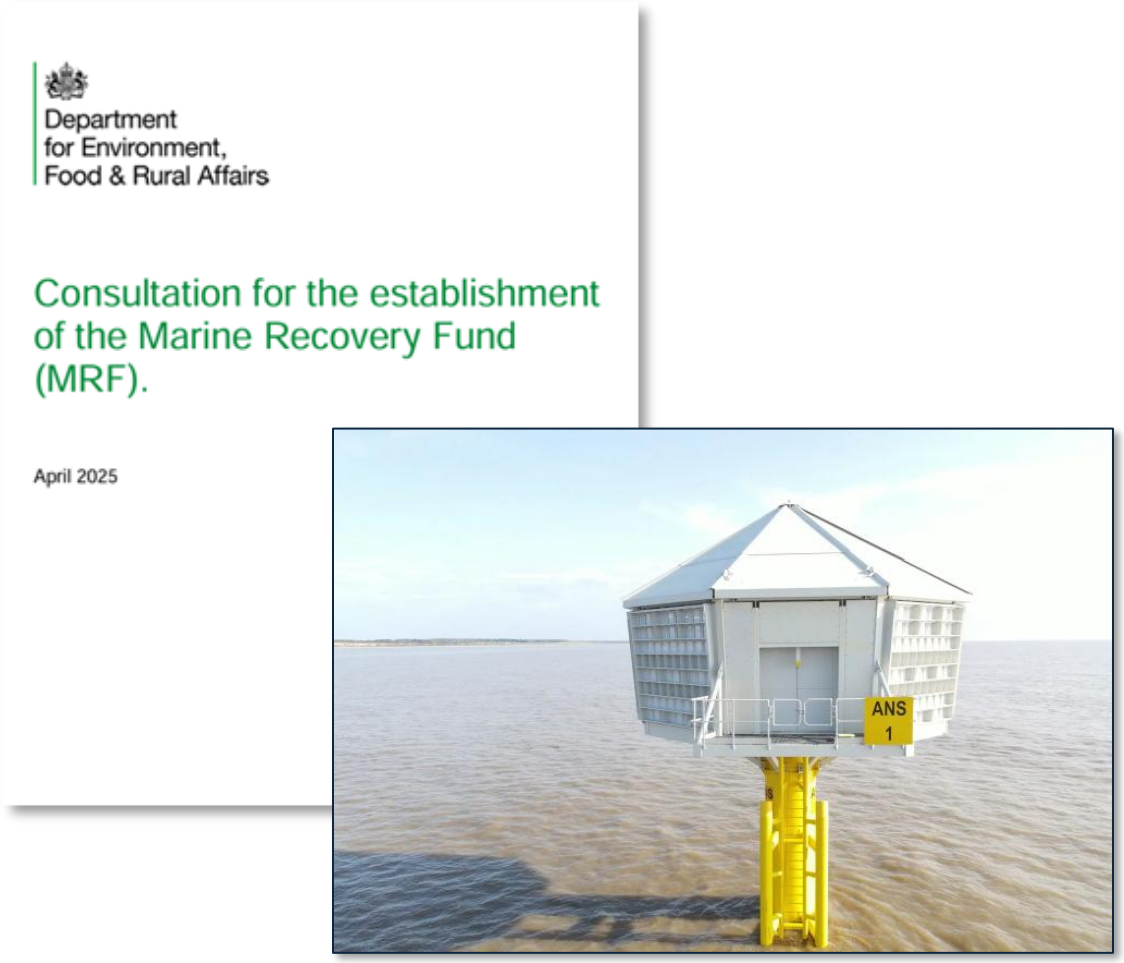
- Static fishing trial at Hywind, Scotland revealed some specific challenges for co-location of fisheries and floating offshore wind.
- There is a greater need for accurate spatial location data for mooring chains, dynamic cables, and anchors
- Designation of specific ‘fishing areas’ (with minimum distances from infrastructure) may be appropriate to reduce risks if co-location is to proceed
- Communication requirements may be of greater importance for good working relationships and fast emergency response
- Infrastructure in the water column (dynamic cables, mooring lines) may increase risk of entanglement of ghost fishing gear

Photo credit: Kirsty Wright

- *These include some key conclusions from a trial of static fishing within Hywind floating offshore wind farm (SeaShare, Equinor 2022).*

4 Several approaches for environmental coexistence with offshore wind

- In the UK, Defra are undergoing a consultation for a Marine Recovery Fund to deliver compensation for offshore wind impacts
- Currently approved compensation measures are limited to:
  - Designating Marine Protected Areas for benthic compensation
  - Predator reduction, eradication, or exclusion
  - Offshore artificial nesting structures for kittiwakes



Picture sources: (L) Defra 2025, (R) Ørsted Hornsea 3

5 Netherlands using non-price criteria in seabed/subsidy auctions to support coexistence

- In Netherlands, the use of **non-price criteria in auctions encourages innovation** to reduce environmental impacts.
- 'Sustainability' NPC includes: carbon footprint, waste, circularity, biodiversity, nature inclusive design, coexistence
- If not introduced correctly, NPC can be open to interpretation. Tender rules should offer clear guidance on how to compete the required criteria.
- There is a need for more innovation and demonstration of mitigation measures.

Netherlands Enterprise Agency

Criteria	Weighting
Price	15%
Technical capability	10%
Contribution to energy supply	10%
Social corporate responsibility	10%
Environmental impact	10%
Positive ecosystem contribution	45%

Environmental impact	1.Circular design of the wind farm 2.Use of alternative materials 3.GHG footprint 4.Knowledge sharing

6 Collaborative research to encourage coexistence: Maine Offshore Wind Research Consortium

- The **Maine Offshore Wind Research Consortium** aims to create a common understanding of the local and regional impacts (negative and positive) of floating offshore wind in the Gulf of Maine.
- Consortium prioritizes, scopes, commissions, and/or find collaborative partners to **implement scientific studies** on the ecological, technological, economic and social impacts to achieve this goal.
- Objectives:
  - Explore **opportunities and challenges that floating offshore wind** poses to current and future uses in the Gulf of Maine, including how to best support co-existence with the fishing industry.
  - Identify **methods to avoid and minimize impacts** on ecosystems and existing uses of the Gulf of Maine.
  - Investigate ways to **realize cost efficiencies in commercialization** of offshore wind to reduce potential costs to ratepayers.
- Legislature allocated $1M/year for two years to establish Consortium and begin to support research. A Fund has also been established that can accept federal, state or private resources.

7 Summary

- With wider industry challenges, demonstrating offshore wind's potential for coexistence is hugely important.
- Offshore wind is already coexisting and co-locating with other marine users.
- Environmental impacts are becoming increasingly understood, and alternative approaches (encouraging mitigation, compensation) can reduce delays in consenting process and increase investor confidence.
- Cost impacts are genuine and need to be considered.
- Clear need to continue with research and collaboration to understand and monitor impacts and demonstrate positive impacts of OSW.

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THANK YOU FOR LISTENING!

CONTACT DETAILS

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