

Project Partner Meeting - EFF Project:
Shellfish Aquaculture in Welsh Offshore Wind Farms

Date: Wednesday, 22nd May 2013

Venue: Fishmongers' Hall, London

Present:

James Wilson (Deepdock Ltd.)

Elaine Hayes (Sea Fish Industry Authority)

Alex Adrian (The Crown Estate)

Neil Auchterlonie (CEFAS)

Colin Charman (Natural Resources Wales)

John Holmyard (Offshore Shellfish Ltd.)

Martin Syvret (ASL)

Craig Burton (Seafood Scotland)

Agenda

1. Feedback on SAGB Conference presentation (MS)
2. Deliverables update (MS)
3. Socio-economic study development (MS)
4. RWE Npower planning meeting; overview of approach to aquaculture planning with WFO (MS)
5. Development of a commercial-scale offshore shellfish aquaculture project; potential, funding, mechanism to take this forward (MS)
6. Final stakeholder meeting – venue / date / content (MS)
7. Management & Administration; Project end date (MS)
8. Any Other Business

**Shellfish Aquaculture in Welsh Offshore Wind Farms –
Action Points & Notes from 22nd May 2013.**

Action Points & Notes	Who	By
<p>1. Feedback on SAGB Conference presentation; The presentation on Day 1 of the Annual Conference appeared to have been well received. Various new contacts had been made after the presentation including MMO Marine Planning, University of Hull, Holderness Fishing Industry Group, The Fish Site. Various dissemination opportunities had been identified including The Fish Site (which has a renewable energy publication within its organisation) as well as through Trade publications such as The Grower and Shellfish News.</p> <p>AP1. MS to upload the presentation to the Co-location page on the ASL website http://www.aquafishsolutions.com/?page_id=83</p>	MS	31/05/13
<p>2. Deliverables update: An overview was given on progress so far with the two deliverables for this project. MS explained how the emphasis of the project work so far had been towards the ‘risk based planning approach’ that was being developed with RWE Npower Renewables Ltd.’s Operation and Consent Teams. A further planning meeting was scheduled to be held in early June (see Item 4). The Project Team were targeting the end of June for completion of the draft deliverable report including the Policy Driver review by Matt Ashley at Plymouth Marine Laboratories. This combined report (see Item 7) would then be distributed to Project Partners and other Stakeholders for comment and feedback. After feedback had been incorporated into the draft report, then the finalised report would be presented at a Final Project Meeting (see Item 6). MS described how the Project Team were hoping to be able to develop a ‘Protocol-type approach’ to describing the development and implementation process for a proposed aquaculture operation in an Offshore Wind Farm. Whilst this was not a requirement of the original scope of the project work, it was felt that this type of schematic, even if basic in the first instance, would be helpful in taking this work forward after the current project had finished. It might also be useful as a tool for attracting funding for follow-on work (see Item 5).</p>		

<p>3. Socio-economic study development; Andy FitzGerald (AF) of the Project Team was currently working on an overview and costings for a Scoping Study to help inform the development of a Socio-economic Study. This overview for a Scoping Study was to be sent to Alan Storer at Welsh Government for comment. A conference call had also been scheduled with the Senior Community Investment Officer at RWE Npower Renewables Ltd. to discuss the workings of their community benefit fund and also to gauge interest in a potential Socio-economic Study.</p>		
<p>4. RWE Npower Renewables Ltd. planning meeting; overview of approach to aquaculture planning with WFOs; AF and MS of the Project Team were due to meet with Ben Furlong (Operations) and Paul Carter (Consents) on the 3rd June 2013 to further develop the risk-based approach to planning potential aquaculture operations in Offshore Wind Farms. The results of this meeting would form part of the final deliverable report.</p>		
<p>5. Development of a commercial-scale offshore shellfish aquaculture project; potential, funding, mechanism to take this forward; MS summarised the need that had been described by Prof. Buck (AWI, Germany) for commercial-scale trials to test and ground-truth the research to date on offshore aquaculture in Offshore Wind Farms. Discussion took place on possible funding mechanisms to help develop such commercial-scale trials. The Offshore Shellfish Ltd. proposed rope-mussel trials in Lyme Bay were highlighted as one possible site that could be used in this respect. The Interreg funding mechanism was put forward as a possible vehicle for funding some trials and would be suitable for the development of a Protocol-type 'tool kit.'</p> <p>AP2. Colin Charman to forward information on Interreg to MS.</p>	<p>CC</p>	<p>31/05/13</p>

<p>6. Final stakeholder meeting – venue / date / content; MS reported how the scheduling, preparation for and holding of one-to-one meetings with Wind Farm Operators as part of the development of the planning approach had resulted in an increased time expenditure by the Project Team in preparing the final deliverable report. In order to allow sufficient time for dissemination and review of the final deliverable report, the Project Team requested that the Final Steering Group/Stakeholder meeting be held in July rather than June 2013. This change of date to July 2013 for the Final Project Meeting was agreed by the Project Partners.</p> <p>AP3. MS to prepare Project Variation Form for submission to the SMU to undertake project management/administration changes.</p>	MS	10/06/13
<p>7. Management & Administration;</p> <p>Combined report: MS described how in terms of the deliverable reports, it had become clear that there was merit in combining the two aspects (aquaculture review/options and operational/practical guide) into one report as this will greatly simplify cross-referencing and will allow readers to understand more fully how the project work was undertaken/developed and how the final conclusions were reached. MS explained that in combining the reports the Project Team would ensure that all agreed elements of the deliverables are still clearly identifiable. This change would be covered under the PVF described in Item 6.</p> <p>Project end date: In order to allow adequate time for the Scheme Management Unit to receive/review the final deliverable report, claim documentation and to carry out the necessary final administration, it was also proposed that the Project End Date be changed to the 31st October 2013 to allow completion of the administration (see AP).</p>		
<p>8. Any Other Business; There was no other business and so the meeting was closed.</p>		