

## **ScotWind Engagement meeting – Fisheries – 19 January 2020**

### **Present:**

Ms McAllan, Minister for Environment & land Reform

John MacFarlane (Spads)

### **Fishing Industry**

[Redacted] - Scottish Fishermen's Federation (SFF)

[Redacted] - Scottish Pelagic Fishermen's Association

[Redacted] - Western Isles Fishermen's Association / Outer Hebrides Regional Inshore Fisheries Group

[Redacted] – West Coast Regional Inshore Fisheries Group

[Redacted] - North & East Coast Regional Inshore Fisheries Group

[Redacted] - Orkney Fisheries Association

### **Marine Scotland Officials**

Annabel Turpie, Mike Palmer, [Redacted], [Redacted], [Redacted]

([Redacted], *Community Inshore Fisheries Alliance*, and [Redacted] *Scottish White Fish Producers Association* were invited but did not attend)

### **Main points raised:**

- The scale of the ScotWind announcement, in relation to the 10GW Sectoral Marine Plan Offshore Wind (SMP), was a surprise and disappointment for the fishing sector. Noted 80% of search areas are now lease options. Concerns on coexistence particularly in relation to floating wind and future challenges.
  - 25 GW of leasing options, consenting process to be followed and attrition before actual build out of wind-farms.
  - Positive momentum from offshore wind industry opportunities for Scotland.
  - Welcome Fishing sectors continued input on our consideration of shared marine space, Just Transition, National Marine Plan, planning and consenting processes.
- Concerns on cumulative marine spatial squeeze. Potential fishing displacement for scallopers and other fishing methods to other sea areas.
- Need for a strategic approach that will consider multiple spatial pressures on the fishing sector from Offshore wind, MPAs, HMPA and aquaculture.
- Fishing sector were involved in the SMP process and want to be involved in the review of the plan later this year.
- Need for real, meaningful dialogue that listens and acts on fishers' concerns and results in mutually beneficial outcomes.

- There is a frustration that the fishing sector has taken part in groups such as the ‘Commercial Fisheries Working Groups’ with little progress. Would welcome the SG:
  - Setting expectations on developers
  - A strategic discussion on cumulative spatial pressures (i.e. in parallel across various policies).
- Need for a ‘reset’ and suggestion that INTOG is weaved into any reset – there is a need to maximise opportunities for Scotland but to protect the fishing industry, major socio economic importance not only to Scottish fishers, but to ancillary operations and the communities it supports.
- Concerns raised on collective impacts from Scotwind and INTOG on fisheries. Confirmation that fishing views captured as part of planning process and SG issuing INTOG response soon.

### **Actions for Marine Scotland**

- Consider how best to action a ‘Reset’ – how to facilitate strategic engagement on cumulative marine spatial pressures and ensuring developers have meaningful engagement backed up with timely action on fisheries matters.
- Consider ‘What does meaningful engagement look like?’
- Check if there are any outstanding INTOG queries by SFF and respond as appropriate.
- INTOG - issue response to consultation following clearance by Ministers.
- Progress Just Transition.
- Include fishing sector in SMP review later this year.

Note will be copied to DECC colleagues - Andy Hogg, [Redacted], David Stevenson and [Redacted], and also [Redacted] from Finance and Caro Cowan. [Redacted], [Redacted], [Redacted] [Redacted], [Redacted], [Redacted] and SG meeting attendees.