

# Rampion 2 Wind Farm

## Category 7: Other Documents

### Outline Fisheries Liaison and Co-existence Plan (clean)

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## Document revisions

Revision	Date	Status/reason for issue	Author	Checked by	Approved by
A	04/08/2023	Final for DCO Application	GoBe	RED	RED
B	28/02/2024	Updates for Deadline 1	GoBe	RED	RED
C	01/08/2024	Updates for Deadline 6	GoBe	RED	RED

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# Executive Summary

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This **Outline Fisheries Liaison and Co-existence Plan** (Document reference 7.19) **[REP1-013]** (Outline FLCP) provides an outline of what is to be included in the Final Fisheries Liaison and Co-existence Plan (Final FLCP). It provides an outline of RED's plans to mitigate the impacts of Rampion 2 on commercial fishing, and to support co-existence with the fishing industry throughout all phases of Rampion 2. This Outline FLCP will be submitted as a supporting document with the DCO Application.

In line with anticipated requirements of the DCO deemed Marine Licences (dMLs), the Outline FLCP will be finalised post-consent and prior to the commencement of construction. It is anticipated that the Final FLCP will be subject to approval by the Marine Management Organisation (MMO) following consultation with relevant stakeholders. The FLCP will be reviewed at regular intervals during the lifetime of Rampion 2 and will exist alongside the existing Rampion 1 Fisheries Liaison Plan (FLP) approved pursuant to its marine licences.

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# 1. Background

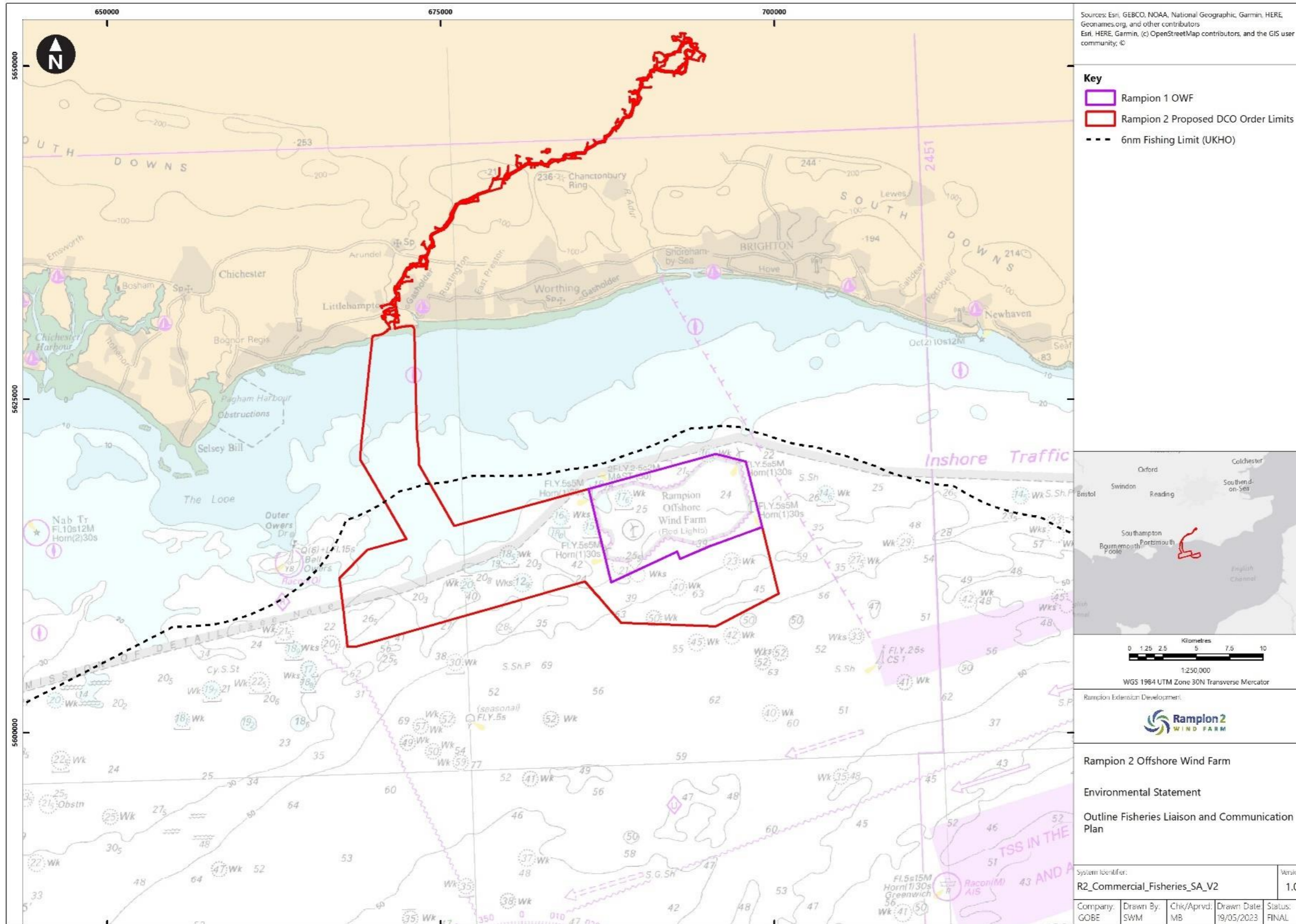
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- 1.1.1 Rampion Extension Development Limited (hereafter referred to as 'RED') (the Applicant) is developing the Rampion 2 Offshore Wind Farm Project (Rampion 2) located adjacent to the existing Rampion Offshore Wind Farm Project ('Rampion 1') in the English Channel.
- 1.1.2 Rampion 2 will be located between 13km and 26km from the Sussex Coast in the English Channel and the offshore array area will occupy an area of approximately 160km<sup>2</sup>.
- 1.1.3 The key offshore elements of the Proposed Development will be as follows:
- up to 90 offshore wind turbine generators (WTGs) and associated foundations;
  - blade tip of the WTGs will be up to 325m above Lowest Astronomical Tide (LAT) and will have a 22m minimum air gap above Mean High Water Springs (MHWS);
  - inter-array cables connecting the WTGs to up to three offshore substations;
  - up to two offshore interconnector export cables between the offshore substations;
  - up to four offshore export cables each in its own trench, will be buried under the seabed within the final cable corridor; and
- the export cable circuits will be High Voltage Alternating Current (HVAC), with a voltage of up to 275kV.
- 1.1.4 The key onshore elements of the Proposed Development will be as follows:
- a single landfall site near Climping, Arun District, connecting offshore and onshore cables using Horizontal Directional Drilling (HDD) installation techniques;
  - buried onshore cables in a single corridor for the maximum route length of up to 38.8km using:
    - ▶ trenching and backfilling installation techniques; and
    - ▶ trenchless and open cut crossings.
  - a new onshore substation, proposed near Cowfold, Horsham District, which will connect to an extension to the existing National Grid Bolney substation, Mid Sussex, via buried onshore cables; and
  - extension to and additional infrastructure at the existing National Grid Bolney substation, Mid Sussex District to connect Rampion 2 to the national grid electrical network.
- 1.1.5 A full description of the Proposed Development is provided in [Chapter 4: The Proposed Development, Volume 2](#) of the ES (Document reference 6.2.4) **[APP-045]** (updated at Deadline 6).

1.1.6 **Graphic 1-1** shows the location of Rampion 1 and Rampion 2.



Graphic 1-1 Location of Rampion 2



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## 1.2 Document objectives

1.2.1 This Outline FLCP aims to document and demonstrate how RED will liaise and co-exist with the commercial fishing industry and deliver commitments to mitigation made in the Application, which are intended to avoid or reduce potential impacts of Rampion 2 on the fishing industry. In support of this aim, the objectives of the Outline FLCP are as follows:

- Describe the approach to fisheries liaison, identifying how communication between RED and the fishing industry will take place and confirming liaison roles and responsibilities;
- Set out mitigation measures relevant to the fishing industry and describe how these will be delivered; and
- Set out procedures to manage interactions between RED and the fishing industry, including procedures relating to cooperation agreements and associated payments, to gear loss and gear relocation or removal.

1.2.2 RED regards co-existence as the joint presence of both industries, working together within the Rampion 2 area and believes that co-existence can be achieved by the application of measures that will be set out in the Final FLCP which will be based on this Outline FLCP.

1.2.3 The success of the FLCP in helping to ensure co-existence will require open and transparent communication between RED and the fishing industry and the support and engagement of both parties.

## 1.3 Relevant guidance

1.3.1 This Outline FLCP has been developed in accordance with the following guidance:

- Fisheries Liaison with Offshore Wind and Wet Renewables group (FLOWW) Recommendations for Fisheries Liaison: Best Practice guidance for offshore renewable developers (FLOWW, 2014); and
- FLOWW Best Practice Guidance for Offshore Renewables Developments: Recommendations for Fisheries Disruption Settlements and Community Funds (FLOWW, 2015).

1.3.2 It is noted that at the time of document preparation FLOWW Best Practice Guidance is intended to be revised with revision currently ongoing. Updates to this Outline FLCP will take account of any revised guidance as applicable.

1.3.3 In preparation of this Outline FLCP, other relevant guidance has also been considered, including draft Marine Scotland Guidance on preparing a Fisheries Management and Mitigation Strategy (2020) and Guidelines for Mitigating Impacts to Commercial and Recreational Fisheries (Draft) prepared by the United States Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (2022). Engagement to date with fisheries stakeholders and fishermen (see section 2.3 of this document) and the Rampion 1 FLP has also informed the development of this document. While Rampion 1 and Rampion 2 are separate entities, there is significant overlap in local fisheries stakeholders working in the vicinity of, and with an interest in, both projects. In the

interest of consistency, it was deemed sensible and appropriate that Rampion 2's FLCP was drafted in a way which mirrors the formatting and level of detail of Rampion 1's FLP.

## 1.4 Document structure

This document has been structured to meet the conditions of the dMLs as included in the draft DCO, as outlined in **Table 1-1**. The Final FLCP will follow the same format.

**Table 1-1 FLCP Document Structure**

Section	Summary of Content
<b>1: Background</b>	Identifies the scope and structure of this Outline FLCP.
<b>2: Fisheries Liaison Strategy</b>	Sets out the RED approach to ongoing liaison with the fishing industry and other relevant stakeholders.
<b>3: Fisheries Mitigation Strategy</b>	Sets out the RED approach to mitigation, focused on enabling co-existence.
<b>4: Compliance with the Application</b>	Confirms that the details set out in this Outline FLCP are in accordance with those presented in the Application and assessed in the <a href="#">Environmental Statement, Volume 2</a> (Document Reference: 6.2) (updated at Deadline 6)).

## 1.5 Fishing activity within Rampion 2

1.5.1 This Outline FLCLP has been informed by the data collected to support the [ES](#), together with subsequent engagement with commercial fisheries industry stakeholders.

1.5.2 The gathered information confirms that fishing fleets with which RED may interact include:

- UK potters targeting whelk, cuttlefish, brown crab and lobster;
- UK vessels using nets to target bass, rays, sole and plaice;
- UK vessels using gears with hooks to target bass;
- UK, French and Irish scallop dredgers targeting scallop;
- UK beam trawlers targeting sole and plaice;
- UK otter trawlers targeting mixed demersal species including whiting and bream;

- UK demersal seine vessels targeting mullet, whiting and squid;
- Belgian beam trawlers targeting plaice and sole;
- French otter trawlers targeting whiting, horse mackerel and mackerel; and
- Dutch and German pelagic trawlers targeting highly mobile horse mackerel and herring, which move/shoal throughout the wider southern North Sea.

1.5.3 It is noted that a portion of vessels in the first three fleets listed above form part of a local UK multi-purpose fleet comprised of vessels mainly under 10m in length which switch between fishing gears (for example, pots, nets and gears using hooks) to adapt to seasonal variations in fisheries, market prices and quotas. These vessels primarily operate within the 6nm limit.

1.5.4 The potential for interaction between identified fishing fleets and RED is shown in **Table 1-2** below.

**Table 1-2 Commercial fishing fleets relevant to Rampion 2**

Fishing Gear	Key Target Species	Seasonality	Indicative Presence (shaded)		
			Array Area	Export Cable Corridor	Adjacent Waters
<b>Pots and traps</b>	Whelk, brown crab, lobster	Year-round, slight peak in spring and summer			
<b>Fixed and drift nets</b>	Sole, bass, turbot	Year-round, slight peak in late autumn and winter			
<b>Handlines and longlines</b>	Bass	Year-round, peak from spring onwards			
<b>Dredges</b>	King scallop	Peak in spring and winter			
<b>Pelagic trawls<sup>1</sup></b>	Horse mackerel	Peak in late autumn and winter			

<sup>1</sup> Pelagic trawlers may be occasionally active within the commercial fisheries study area considered in the ES. It is considered unlikely that they are regularly active within Rampion 2 boundaries.

Fishing Gear	Key Target Species	Seasonality	Indicative Presence (shaded)		
			Array Area	Export Cable Corridor	Adjacent Waters
<b>Beam trawls</b>	Sole, plaice	Peak in autumn			
<b>Demersal otter trawls</b>	Sole, plaice, rays, horse mackerel, squid	Peak in late summer and autumn			
<b>Demersal seines</b>	Mullets, whiting, squid	Peak in late spring and winter			

## 1.6 Fisheries stakeholders and fishermen

1.6.1 RED has undertaken statutory and non-statutory consultation with fisheries stakeholders in relation to Rampion 2 since 2020. A summary of consultation undertaken prior to DCO application is provided in **Section 10.3** within **Chapter 10: Commercial fisheries, Volume 2** of the ES (Document Reference: 6.2.10) **[APP-051]** (updated at Deadline 6) Stakeholders have included the National Federation of Fishermen’s Organisations (NFFO), Sussex Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority (IFCA), EU fisheries representatives and local fishermen.

1.6.2 Since 2011 a number of local commercial fisheries working groups have been active in relation to the construction and ongoing operation of Rampion 1. The same working groups have also been engaged with in relation to the development of Rampion 2. The groups, representing local fisheries interests, have formed to enable effective communication between the projects and the local fishing industry. These groups include:

- The Commercial Fisheries Working Group (CFWG);
- The Sussex Independent Fisheries Group (SICG); and
- The Shoreham Independent Fisheries Group (IFG).

And the following working groups, which were not engaged for Rampion 1, have now been included:

- The Selsey Fishermen’s Association (SFA); and
- The Littlehampton Fishermen’s Association (LFA)

1.6.3 It is envisaged that these groups will remain active throughout the lifetime of both Rampion 1 and Rampion 2 and provide an ongoing forum for discussions between RED and local fishermen, supported by one-to-one discussions with fishermen as

needed. It is intended that the Final FLCP will be developed in consultation with these local groups.

## 2. Fisheries Liaison Strategy

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### 2.1 Principles of liaison

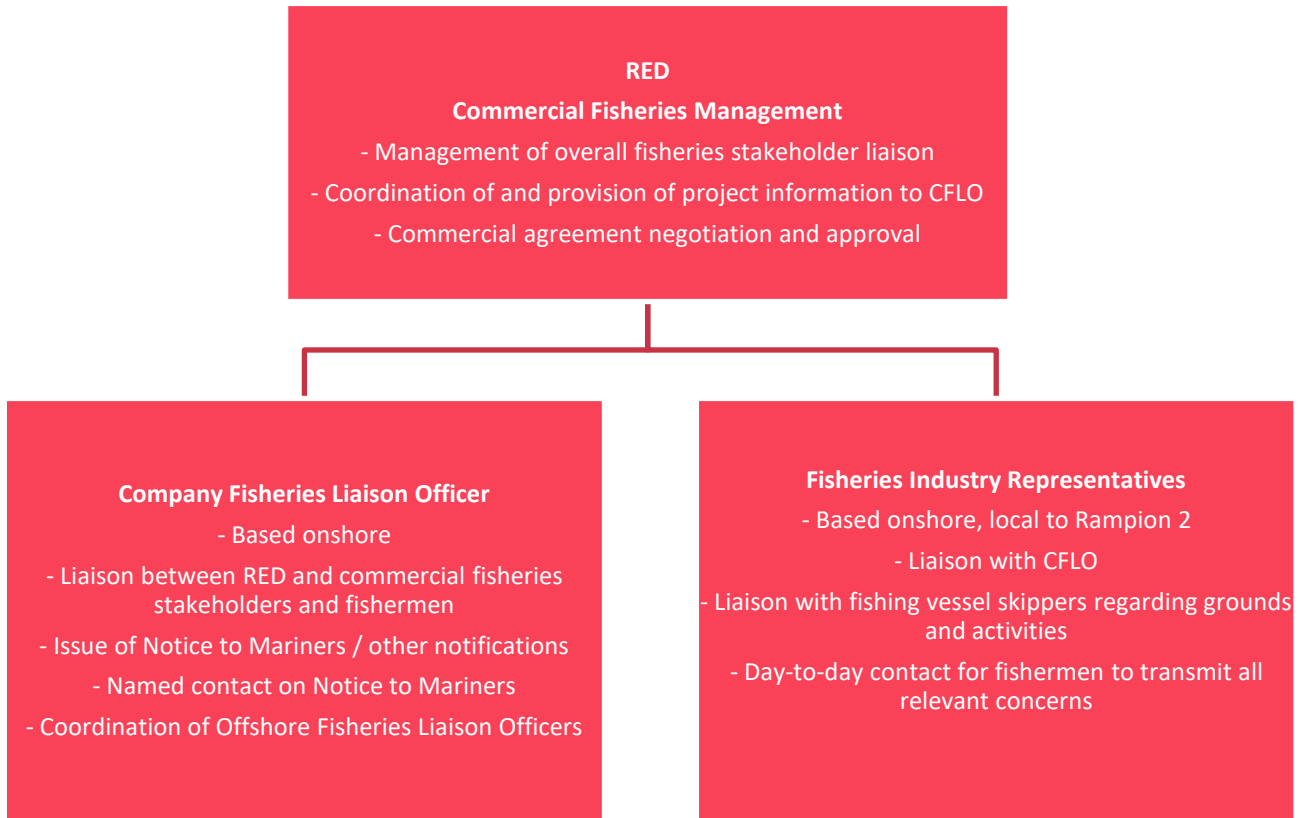
- 2.1.1 The implementation of appropriate communication and information transfer strategies is of key importance to assist in minimising interference and facilitating effective co-existence with the fishing industry.
- 2.1.2 In line with the FLOWW (2014) Best Practice Guidance for Offshore Renewables Developments: Recommendations for Fisheries Liaison, the principles of liaison are that:
- RED will seek to undertake regular and routine communications with the fishing industry to provide reasonable time to enable operational fishing business decisions to be made;
  - RED will continue with the organisation and attendance of meetings with commercial fisheries working groups as the primary forums for engagement with UK commercial fishing stakeholders; and
  - RED will seek to ensure that all communications will be made in a factual manner and with an accurate basis, in order to prevent unnecessary escalation of issues.
- 2.1.3 RED will appoint a Company Fisheries Liaison Officer (CFLO) as the main point of contact for fishermen throughout the lifetime of Rampion 2, as well as engaging a Fishing Industry Representative(s) (FIRs), as appropriate, for day-to-day contact.
- 2.1.4 RED, in undertaking the construction and operation of Rampion 2, will ensure compliance with this FLCP. All Contractors and Subcontractors engaged by RED will be required to comply with the FLCP by condition of contract.
- 2.1.5 In developing the Final FLCP, RED intend to maintain these principles but will take account of feedback received during consultation on the plan and any updates to FLOWW guidance.

### 2.2 Liaison roles and responsibilities

- 2.2.1 **Graphic 2-1** and the following sections outline the relevant roles and responsibilities of RED, the CFLO and Onshore FIRs. Contact details are provided in **Appendix A**.



**Graphic 2-1 Organogram highlighting key fisheries liaison roles and responsibilities**



## RED

2.2.2 The responsibilities of RED in relation to this Outline FLCP are:

- Progress the construction of Rampion 2 with the least disturbance practicable to the local fishing activities;
- Maintain the appointment of a CFLO throughout the lifetime of Rampion 2;
- Aid in the prevention of conflict through the timely provision of information to the CFLO, FIR and fishermen; and
- Provide a detailed level of information (as set out in **Section 2.4**) to the fishing community in relation to construction plans and the timing of project works.

## Company Fisheries Liaison Officer

2.2.3 The responsibilities of the CFLO are to:

- Provide advice to RED on fisheries liaison;
- Communicate with the fishing industry, any Rampion 2 contractors or sub-contractors, other developers, and other users of the sea through appropriate

channels regarding RED activities and the safe operation of fishing activity on the site of Rampion 2;

- Develop and maintain a strong positive working relationship with the local fishing industry;
- Have and maintain a strong knowledge of the fishing industry local to Rampion 2;
- Understand the interactions likely to occur between the local fishing industry and RED, and any potential impacts on the fishing industry during construction and operation; and
- Ensure that information is made available and circulated in a timely manner to minimise interference with fishing operations and other users of the sea.

2.2.4 To this end, the CFLO's duties are therefore to:

- Maintain the fisheries stakeholder database that contains information on fishing vessel operations (e.g., vessel name, registration and port base, skipper, and crew details etc.) within and around Rampion 2;
- Prepare and distribute (via the FIR(s) where appropriate) the required information and notices (see **Table 2-1**) of all RED activities which could affect fishing stakeholders;
- In collaboration with the FIRs, instruct RED contractors on the fishing activities in the relevant areas of work and provide details on the fishing activities and gear types that may be present, any relevant fishermen's sensitivities and channels and contact details for communicating with the fishing vessels at sea;
- Manage and coordinate OFLOs (ref to **paragraph 2.2.9**) that are supporting surveys and works at sea, including liaising on any fisheries issues at sea;
- Communicate details of any dropped objects to the fishing industry;
- Communicate details of exposed cables and any other safety hazards to the fishing industry; and
- Coordinate the activities and responsibilities of the onshore FIR(s).

2.2.5 Communicate relevant procedures set out in the FLCP (e.g., procedures set out in Section 4.4 relating to gear loss or relocation) to the fishing industry, as required.

2.2.6 The CFLO will be contracted by RED subject to a Terms of Reference and contract Terms and Conditions.

## Fisheries Industry Representative

2.2.7 To further aid the establishment of effective communication channels and to benefit from extensive local knowledge, one or more FIR(s) will be contracted. FIRs will make skippers of fishing vessels aware of any forthcoming project operations and other on-going activities. The primary responsibilities of the role are:

- Liaise with fishing skippers with the objective of providing the CFLO and RED with details of fishing activities in the area and particular sensitivities. In instances where several fishermen are represented by a group it may be agreed that communication will come via a nominated representative rather than individual vessel owners;
- Be the local conduit for liaison, providing the day-to-day point of contact for fishermen to transmit all their relevant concerns in relation to activities associated with RED via the CFLO;
- Log all concerns raised by the fishermen, including date, individual and details related to the type, nature, and location of the concern;
- Assist the CFLO in identifying areas of concern or conflict at an early stage so that as far as is possible appropriate measures can be implemented to address these;
- Assist with the liaison between OFLOs (ref to **paragraph 2.2.9**) and CFLO where necessary, including liaising on any fisheries issues at sea;
- Assist in the distribution of notices and relevant project information to local fisheries stakeholders and;
- Regularly update the contacts database.

2.2.8 The FIR(s) will be contracted by RED subject to contract Terms and Conditions. While a FIR may be associated with a specific organisation or association, they will not be acting to the sole benefit of that association. Should an instance arise whereby an industry association or individual fishermen does not wish to communicate via the FIR for that area, the CFLO will undertake such direct responsibilities to ensure that the association/fishermen still have a line of communication to RED and vice versa.

## Offshore Fisheries Liaison Officer

2.2.9 An OFLO stationed on a survey/works/guard can communicate directly with fishermen and request them to keep works locations and transit routes free from gear / not trawl across the area and risk themselves or the works.

2.2.10 The reasons to use an OFLO rather than the skipper or master of the survey/construction vessel are well understood, and in recent years use of OFLOs has come to be regarded as best practice during offshore construction works for the following primary reasons:

- OFLOs understand fishing practices and limitations of fishing vessels in terms of manoeuvrability, which Vessel Masters may not;
- OFLOs can more easily communicate with fishermen as they understand fishing terms, which Vessel Masters may not; and
- OFLOs can often identify fishing gear, who it belongs to and arrange for the owner or his/her representative to have it moved (through communication via the FIR or CFLO).

2.2.11 OFLO duties are as follows:

- Maintain regular contact with the CFLO, RED contractors and sub-contractors, as required, concerning marine traffic and fishing vessel activity in the vicinity of Rampion 2;
- Maintain watch for marine traffic and fishing vessel activity during marine operations and maintain regular contact with guard vessels and support vessels;
- Communicate with the vessel master in respect of providing any relevant information on fishing vessels, and, when the project related vessel is not engaged in marine operations, work with the vessel master to avoid, where reasonably practicable, any fishing vessels actively engaged in fishing operations;
- Liaise with any fishermen who may have static gear deployed in the vicinity of Rampion 2 or along vessel transit routes;
- Provide the required support to the CFLO in the handling of any claims by fishermen who may have static gear deployed in the vicinity of Rampion 2 or along vessel transit routes;
- Record details of any fishing activity in and around the Rampion 2 site (including fishing vessels, gear and communications with fishermen) and of any events of infringement or movement or damage to static gear; and
- Provide daily update reports via email to the CFLO.

## **Fisheries Support vessels**

- 2.2.12 During, or in advance of periods of offshore work, RED may utilise fisheries support vessels, such as guard vessels or pilot vessels to support safe operations and facilitate close communications with mariners to ensure their awareness of any hazards or activities.
- 2.2.13 Guard vessel(s) and pilot vessels will also be in regular communications with the OFLO and CFLO to exchange information on fishing activity and any static fishing gear in the Rampion 2 area. The OFLO may be deployed on board a guard vessel rather than on a construction vessel.

## **Marine coordination**

- 2.2.14 In addition to CFLO, FIR(s) and OFLO, a Marine Coordinator for RED will be appointed. The Marine Coordinator will be based at the RED Operation and Maintenance base and a team of coordinators will ensure the marine coordination function is delivered continuously 24/7. The Marine Coordinator coordinates all marine operations relating to Rampion 2; including monitoring and managing all construction vessel activity.

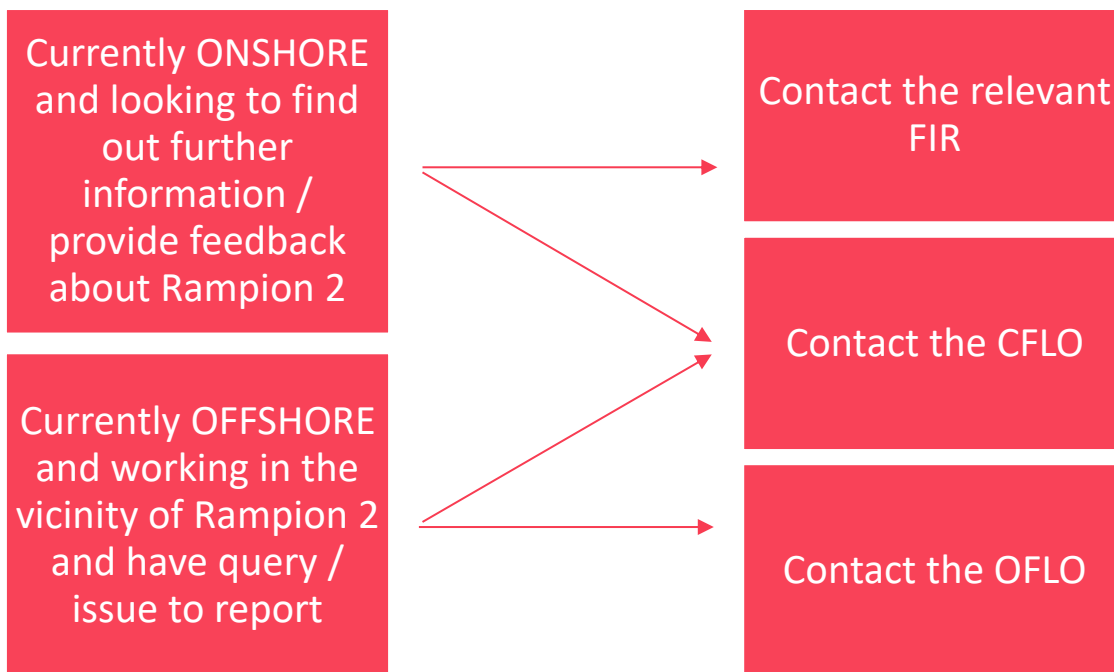
## Guidance for Fishers and Expectations

- 2.2.15 The success of the FLCP in helping to ensure co-existence will require open and transparent communication between RED, and the fishing industry and the support and engagement of both parties.
- 2.2.16 RED will make every effort to minimise disturbance of fisheries stakeholders and to provide accurate and timely information. RED kindly ask the fishing community to take steps to reduce the chances of conflict or interaction with infrastructure and working vessels. It would be appreciated if they could also share accurate details about their fishing activities in areas of mutual interest.
- 2.2.17 Commercial fishers active within the RED array area or the export cable corridor are requested to comply with the following standards;
- Contact the Marine Coordinator and CFLO before entering the array area (transiting or fishing) during periods of notified works and throughout the entirety of the operational phase;
  - Contact the Marine Coordinator if fishing gear is lost or snagged within the windfarm array area of the export cable corridor;
  - Refrain from deploying fishing gear within 50 meters of wind turbines, the offshore substation platform or any vessels conducting operational and maintenance activities;
  - Fishers are requested to allow lay-off for tidal flows and wind;
  - Take note of Notices to Marines (NtM) and be considerate of information or requests in these notices;
  - Avoid locating fishing gear in areas where offshore activities are due to take place and avoid purposeful obstruction or damage to RED vessels, equipment and infrastructure;
  - Communicate and provide accurate information on fishing activity undertaken and gear used to the CFLO/OFLOs on request;
  - Take heed of information relayed through the relevant VHF radio channel from RED survey, construction and operation vessels;
  - Raise any issue through the CFLO and participate in constructive discussion with the CFLO to address potential areas of conflict;
  - Marking of deployed gear should comply with standards set out by the government and good practice;
  - Observe the requirements of COLREGs including the correct display of lights and appropriate sound signals; and
  - Observe the requirements of International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS), 1974.

## 2.3 Liaison scenarios

2.3.1 Example liaison scenarios are presented in **Graphic 2-2**. It is understood that alternative or more specific scenarios may occur, but the principles remain in that a fisheries stakeholder or fishermen currently onshore and wishing to communicate with RED should contact the relevant FIR and/or CFLO; where they are offshore and working in the vicinity of Rampion 2 with a more immediate issue or concern, they should contact the CFLO and/or the OFLO.

**Graphic 2-2 Fisheries contacts in example scenarios**



## 2.4 Information dissemination

2.4.1 RED will disseminate information to the fishing community via the CFLO, Marine Coordinator, OFLO (as appropriate) and appointed onshore FIRs. Notices and information for fishermen (including survey and construction schedules, notification of any major maintenance activity, notices and activity specific information) will be distributed to all relevant fisheries interests. OFLOs that accompany survey and works vessels will communicate directly with fishing vessels as appropriate. Details of information dissemination by activity type is provided in **Table 2-1**.

**Table 2-1 Means of information dissemination**

Activity	Means of Information Dissemination	Timing and Frequency
<b>Pre-construction surveys (e.g. geophysical)</b>	Notice to Mariners Kingfisher Bulletin	Issued prior (14 days where possible) to survey mobilisation, as required

Activity	Means of Information Dissemination	Timing and Frequency
	<p>Dropped Objects Form</p> <p>Offshore Fisheries Liaison Officer</p>	<p>during survey, and upon completion of survey.</p> <p>Dropped Objects reporting as required.</p> <p>Provision of information to fishing vessels at sea as required.</p>
<p><b>Pre-construction activities (e.g., seabed clearance)</b></p>	<p>Notice to Mariners</p> <p>Kingfisher Bulletin</p> <p>Dropped Objects Form</p> <p>Offshore Fisheries Liaison Officer</p>	<p>Issued prior (14 days where possible) to activity mobilisation, as required during survey, and upon completion of activity.</p> <p>Dropped Objects reporting as required.</p> <p>Provision of information to fishing vessels at sea as required.</p>
<p><b>Construction activities (e.g., foundation installation, turbine installation, cable lay and burial)</b></p>	<p>Notice to Mariners</p> <p>Kingfisher Bulletin</p> <p>Weekly Notice of Operations</p> <p>Dropped Objects Form</p> <p>Offshore Fisheries Liaison Officer</p>	<p>Issued prior (14 days where possible) to activity mobilisation, as required during survey, and upon completion of activity.</p> <p>Weekly construction status updates.</p> <p>Dropped Objects reporting as required.</p> <p>Provision of information to fishing vessels at sea as required.</p>
<p><b>Post-construction surveys (e.g., geophysical)</b></p>	<p>Notice to Mariners</p> <p>Kingfisher Bulletin</p> <p>Dropped Objects Form</p>	<p>Issued prior (14 days where possible) to survey mobilisation, as required during survey, and upon completion of survey.</p> <p>Dropped Objects reporting as required.</p>

Activity	Means of Information Dissemination	Timing and Frequency
	Offshore Fisheries Liaison Officer	Provision of information to fishing vessels at sea as required.
<b>Operation and Maintenance activities (e.g., scheduled or unscheduled maintenance)</b>	Notice to Mariners	Issued prior (14 days where possible) to activity mobilisation, as required during survey, and upon completion of activity.
	Kingfisher Bulletin	
	Dropped Objects Form	Dropped Objects reporting as required.
<b>Other</b>	Working group meetings	Up to four meetings per year during the pre-construction and construction phases and two per year during the operational phase.
	Confirmation of final installed locations	On completion of works.



## 3. Fisheries Mitigation Strategy

3.1.1 This section of the document presents measures – in addition to fisheries liaison (see **Section 2**) - that will be put in place by RED to promote co-existence between RED and fishing activity.

### 3.2 Principles of mitigation

3.2.1 In line with the FLOWW (2014) Best Practice Guidance for Offshore Renewables Developments: Recommendations for Fisheries Liaison, the principles of mitigation are that:

- RED will minimise the size and duration of advisory safety distances or fisheries exclusion areas during surveys and other works where safe and practicable to do so;
- Safe working practices underpinned by appropriate safety management systems are expected from all vessels undertaking operations related to RED. Vessels employed by RED will only undertake activities prescribed in their line of work;
- RED will provide local fisheries stakeholders with procedures for registering claims for loss of/damage to fishing gear in association with surveys, construction activities and during the operational phase of Rampion 2; and
- Vessels involved in the construction, and operation and maintenance of Rampion 2, including guard vessels and survey vessels, will be provided with guidance on appropriate interaction with fishers and relevant lines of communication (as outlined within this document) to minimise disruption to fishing vessels undertaking their normal activities.

### 3.3 Embedded mitigation

3.3.1 As part of the project design process, a number of designed-in measures were provided within the **ES** (Application Reference Number 6.2) to which RED remain committed (**Table 3-1**). Full details of all the embedded environmental measures can be found in the **Commitments Register** (Document Reference 7.22) [**REP5-086**] (updated at Deadline 6).

**Table 3-1 Commitments to mitigation provided within the ES**

Topic	Commitment	Coverage in Outline FLCP
<b>Cable burial</b>	C-45 Where possible, subsea cable burial will be the preferred option for cable protection. Cable burial will be informed by the cable burial	<b>Section 3.4</b>

Topic	Commitment	Coverage in Outline FLCP
	risk assessment and detailed within the Cable Specification and Installation Plan.	
<b>Information dissemination</b>	C-46 Advance warning and accurate location details of construction, maintenance and decommissioning operations, associated Safety Zones and advisory passing distances will be given via Notices to Mariners and Kingfisher Bulletins. The undertaker must ensure that a local Notice to Mariners (NtM) is issued at least 14 days prior to the commencement of the authorised Proposed Development or any part thereof advising of the start date of each activity and the expected vessel routes from the construction ports to the relevant location.	<b>Section 2.4</b>
<b>Fisheries liaison</b>	C-47 Ongoing liaison with fishing fleets will be maintained during pre-construction, construction, maintenance and decommissioning operations via an appointed Fisheries Liaison Officer and Fishing Industry Representative to ensure that the fishing community are fully informed of any offshore activities and works. Also see C-91, C-92 and C-93.	<b>Section 2</b>
	C-90 RED is committed to ongoing liaison with fishermen throughout all stages of the Proposed Development, based upon FLOWW (2014, 2015) guidance.	<b>Section 2</b>
	C-91 Appointment of a company Fisheries Liaison Officer (FLO) will be undertaken to maintain effective communications between the project and fishermen, in line with C-47, C-92 and C-93.	<b>Section 2</b>
	C-92 Appropriate liaison will be undertaken with relevant fishing interests to ensure that they are fully informed of development planning and any offshore activities and works, in line with C-47, C-92 and C-93.	<b>Section 2</b>
<b>Safety zones</b>	C-56 RED will apply for Safety Zones post consent. Safety Zones of up to 500m will be sought during construction, maintenance and decommissioning phases. Where appropriate, guard vessels will also be used to ensure	<b>Section 3.4</b>

Topic	Commitment	Coverage in Outline FLCP
	adherence with Safety Zones or advisory passing distances, as defined by risk assessment, to mitigate any impact which poses a risk to surface navigation during construction, maintenance and decommissioning phases. Such impacts may include partially installed structures or cables, extinguished navigation lights or other unmarked hazards.	
<b>Lighting and marking</b>	C-62 The Proposed Development will comply with legal requirements with regards to shipping, navigation and aviation marking and lighting.	<b>Section 3.4</b>
<b>FLCP</b>	C-194 (updated at ES) RED will develop an Outline FLCP for submission with the DCO Application. The FLCP will capture all commitments made by RED relevant to commercial fisheries. The FLCP will be finalised prior to the commencement of project construction.	<b>This document</b>

3.3.2 Additional to those measures identified in the table above, RED have reduced the array area design significantly in order to reduce potential impacts as far as practicable. The Offshore Order Limits area has been reduced from 304km<sup>2</sup> to 196km<sup>2</sup>, a reduction of 35% from the design put forward for consultation in the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) (RED, 2021), in response to feedback received from stakeholders, including the fishing industry. The maximum number of turbines was also reduced from 116 to 90, a reduction of 22% when compared to PEIR stage. As part of the offshore boundary refinement wind farm separation zones have also been established to the west and south of Rampion 1 where any surface infrastructure is excluded.

### 3.4 Good practice measures

3.4.1 RED is committed to employing industry-standard good practice measures during all phases of development. Those measures relevant to fisheries co-existence are described below. The Final FLCP will take account of any additional measures identified during consultation on the plan or resulting from new guidance.

#### Code of good practice for contracted vessels

3.4.2 When RED appoints Contractors, these will be contractually required to follow a code of good practice (as required under dML Condition 11 of Schedules 11 and 12 of the DCO) in order to ensure external communication is accurate and to aid co-existence with the fishing industry. This will include the following considerations:

- Ensure that any project related debris accidentally dropped during construction and maintenance activities is removed as practicably and safely, as is feasible;
- Ensure all vessels under contract for RED adhere to Convention on the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea (COLREGS) and The International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS) requirements;
- Ensure all vessels working under contract for RED do not engage in any commercial or recreational fishing activities whatsoever;
- All vessels under contract with RED will maintain polite, proactive and professional communications with fishing vessels during offshore operations;
- All vessels under contract with RED will monitor at all times the required Very High Frequency (VHF) channels so as to receive communications directly from fishing vessels;
- All vessels contracted to undertake RED specific work will have undertaken appropriate risk assessments in respect of potential interactions with commercial fishing vessels and their gears;
- Where appropriate, for vessels using anchored positioning, Contractors will be obliged wherever possible to adopt anchor release procedures to minimise the size of anchor mounds and where necessary undertake remedial actions to level any significant anchor mounds;
- All vessels contracted by RED to have on board fishing liaison/interaction guidance;
- Where appropriate, suitably qualified, and certified OFLOs will be on board certain RED vessels; and
- Vessels transiting to Rampion 2 shall follow specified transit routes when safe and practical to do so.

## Navigational safety measures

### Cable burial

- 3.4.3 Cable burial is the preferred means of cable protection. Details of planned cable burial will be confirmed in a Cable Specification Plan (CSP) (as required under dML Condition 11 of Schedules 11 and 12 of the DCO) to be prepared by RED and approved ahead of construction. The CSP will be informed by the cable burial risk assessment and provide detail on the final routing on the seabed of all cables, confirming target cable burial and protection measures where target burial cannot be achieved. The CSP will also set out an approach to surveys of cables and any protection during the operational life of Rampion 2, and measures to be taken in the event of cable exposure.

### Safety Zones

- 3.4.4 As per **Table 3-1**, RED will apply for Safety Zones. Temporary Safety Zones of up to 500m will be sought during construction, maintenance, and decommissioning phases. Where appropriate, guard vessels will also be used to ensure adherence

with Safety Zones or advisory passing distances, as defined by risk assessment, to mitigate any impact which poses a risk to surface navigation during construction, maintenance, and decommissioning phases.

- 3.4.5 Safety Zones will be communicated to other marine users via Notice to Mariners (NtMs) (as required under dML Condition 13 of Schedules 11 and 12 of the DCO).

#### Vessel movements

- 3.4.6 RED vessel activity will be managed by the Marine Coordinator via a Permit to Work system. Once the location of RED working ports is confirmed, indicative vessel transit routes to and from the works area will be identified and vessels will adhere to these routes wherever possible. Vessel anchorage areas, and areas to be avoided, will also be identified and contractors will be instructed to comply. The Applicant will organize a pre-construction CFWG to discuss avoidance areas with stakeholders.

#### Marking and charting

- 3.4.7 During the construction phase, the RED construction area will be clearly marked using buoys.
- 3.4.8 All construction vessels and installed infrastructure will be appropriately lit and marked.
- 3.4.9 All installed infrastructure will be marked on United Kingdom Hydrographic Office (UKHO) Admiralty Charts.

#### Dropped objects

- 3.4.10 In the event of a dropped object offshore, RED will notify the MMO and other relevant stakeholders using the standard Marine Licence Dropped Incident Report proforma (as required under dML Condition 9 of Schedules 12 of the DCO).
- 3.4.11 Should the dropped object pose a navigational risk, a NtM and Kingfisher notice will be issued once the location and details of the object can be established.
- 3.4.12 Any further steps as required in consultation with the MMO will be notified through a NtM where applicable.

### Procedure in relation to Gear Fastening or Loss

- 3.4.13 The Kingfisher Information Service - Offshore Renewable & Cable Awareness project (KIS-ORCA) is a joint initiative between Subsea Cables UK and RenewableUK and is being managed by the Kingfisher Information Service of Seafish. All RED project details will be provided within KIS-ORCA data (as detailed in **Table 2-1**), which should be downloaded onto a vessel's fishing plotter. To reduce the risks of fishing near offshore structures, it is essential to be up to date with KIS-ORCA information.
- 3.4.14 As per the Seafish *et al.* 2016 guidance on reducing the risks while fishing:

*“In the interests of fishing safety and to prevent damage to subsea structures, fishermen are advised to exercise caution when fishing in the vicinity of subsea cables and renewable energy structures. If it is suspected that gear has snagged a subsea cable, DO NOT endanger vessel and crew by attempting to recover gear. If gear is snagged and it is thought prudent to slip or cut the fishing gear in an attempt to clear a subsea structure, the gear should always be lowered to the seabed first. To slip or cut anything bearing excessive weight should never be attempted.”*

3.4.15 The following procedure replicates that which has been in place in respect of the UK offshore oil & gas industry and describes the steps that should be undertaken in the event of fishing gear becoming fastened within the RED area:

- If the fastened gear is not easily retrieved, fishermen should not apply excessive winch, line or net hauler loads or engine powers in attempts to retrieve fastened gear;
- Fishing vessel should advise the coastguard or the Marine Coordinator, giving an accurate position of the vessel and/or lost gear;
- If the coastguard or the Marine Coordinator, confirms that the vessel is in the immediate vicinity of a cable, serious consideration will be given to the slipping of the gear and buoying and recording its position;
- After buoying off the gear, the position should be confirmed with the coastguard or the CFLO;
- On return to port, the local Fishery Office should be contacted, and the incident registered in the normal manner; and
- On no account should skippers grapple in an attempt to recover fishing gear lost or cut away in the vicinity of the export cables.

3.4.16 The following procedure should be followed in the event of fishing gear becoming lost or damaged within the RED area:

- On discovery of the lost or damaged gear at sea, the fisherman must record the date, time, location (coordinates) and description of the gear lost, or the damages sustained within the vessel log book;
- On return to port, the fisherman must report the incident to the CFLO within 5 days and if possible, provide photos of the damaged gear;
- Once the CFLO has been informed of the incident, the CFLO will provide a gear loss or damage claim form to the fisherman. An example form is included at **Appendix B**. The fisherman will be asked to complete the fishing gear loss or damage claim form which will provide the relevant details for assessment of the likely cause of the loss of or damage to the gear, the value of the lost or damaged fishing gear and any subsequent loss of earnings which incurred as a result of the incident;
- Once completed, the fishing gear loss or damage claim form should be sent to the CFLO as soon as possible. This should be supported with photographs of the damaged fishing gear; evidence of the earnings from fishing at the time of the incident, and a quote of the cost for either repair of the damaged fishing

gear by a third party or the costs of labour and materials should the skipper and crew undertake replacement of gear themselves; and

- Following the receipt of this fishing gear loss or damage claim form, RED will review the information provided and carry out appropriate further investigations. RED will respond to the claim via their CFLO as soon as possible.

3.4.17 Claims for loss or damage to fishing gear will not be considered where a skipper of a vessel has ignored notices, guard vessel communications, NtM, FLO communications, infringed Safety Zones, or purposefully undertaken actions with the deliberate purpose of damaging or losing gear in order to submit a claim.

## Procedure for gear relocation or removal

Procedure for gear relocated / removed by gear owner:

3.4.18 During construction and operational maintenance works, Safety Zones around construction and maintenance works will be determined and communicated to the commercial fishing industry using the notifications set out in **Table 2-1**. The owner of gear within the offshore Safety Zones will be requested by RED and/or its related parties or its contractors to relocate or remove gear from within the Safety Zone provided that:

- Safety Zones are communicated to the affected recipients within a reasonable period to allow gear to be relocated / removed prior to works being undertaken; and
- The gear owner is reimbursed for gear relocation / removal based on acceptable evidence, where it appears to be justifiable, fair, and reasonable.

Procedure for gear relocated / removed from within Safety Zone

3.4.19 Should fishing gear belonging to a recipient be located in the offshore Safety Zone during the exclusion period (i.e. the owner that has entered a cooperation agreement with RED to relocate gear – see **Section 3.5** - has not done so as requested), then RED and/or its related parties or its contractors (e.g. a guard vessel) shall make arrangements for such fishing gear to be moved/relocated provided that:

- The gear owner is notified of the discovery of located gear and subsequent action;
- The vessel carrying out the removal is equipped with appropriate hauling equipment;
- All reasonable care is taken to remove the fishing gear in a manner that minimises the risk of damage to the fishing gear or any damage to the catch, which will be immediately returned to the sea;
- The location, detail of gear (e.g., number of pots/fleets), condition of fishing gear, date and time when recovered is recorded, including photographic evidence of gear condition;

- Arrangements are made to relocate the fishing gear outside of the offshore exclusion area or to store gear in a secure location onshore; the gear owner is notified of the relocation of the gear as soon as possible, or if onshore, of a time it can be collected from secure storage; and
- The gear owner is reimbursed for damage to fishing gear, if caused during recovery, based on acceptable evidence, where it appears to be justifiable, fair, and reasonable.

## 3.5 Further mitigation measures

### Cooperation agreements and associated payments

- 3.5.1 The **ES** identified potentially significant effects on the local UK potting fleet during the construction phase of RED resulting from temporary reduced access to or exclusion from established fishing grounds. In response to this, it was identified that further mitigation beyond that described in **Sections 2, 3.3 and 3.4**, and specific to the local UK potting fleet during construction, may be required to address the potentially significant impact. Significant impacts on other fleets during construction are not anticipated. Significant impacts on fishing fleets during the operational phase of RED are not anticipated given there will be no restriction on fishing activity with the exception of within any Safety Zones. The full justification for these assumptions is provided in the **ES** (Document Reference: 6.2).
- 3.5.2 As per the FLOWW (2014) guidance, if co-existence is not possible, mitigation for disruption and displacement of fishing during construction is considered in the first instance, with commercial disruption payment only being used as a last resort when there are significant residual impacts that cannot otherwise be mitigated.
- 3.5.3 RED is committed to following FLOWW (2014) and FLOWW (2014, 2015) guidance in respect of commercial fishing activity. Co-operation agreements and associated disruption payments will only be established on the basis of factually accurate and justifiable claims to achieve a position whereby fishing interests are neither advantaged nor disadvantaged, in accordance with the FLOWW (2015) guidance. Affected fishermen will be required to provide evidence to corroborate any claims (FLOWW, 2014 and FLOWW, 2015).

#### Principles for disruption payment (refer to **paragraph 3.5.5**)

- 3.5.4 Claimants will be asked to submit the form provided in **Appendix C**.
- 3.5.5 All claims must satisfy the following points:
- Claims will be paid only claims evidencing valid losses directly caused due to the construction of RED;
  - All claims should be reasonable and justified based on demonstrable economic loss **of each individual fisher**;
  - Evidence must be provided to support the claim; and



- Disruption payment will be paid **for valid claims** only if business is being carried out within the relevant legislation (i.e., the vessel is licenced to operate as a commercial fishing vessel and adheres to fisheries legislation).
- 3.5.6 If mutual agreement cannot be reached then both parties should seek to undertake Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR), in line with FLOWW (2015) guidance. Either party can activate the ADR process in relation to any stage of the disruption payment process, prior to reaching agreement, in an attempt to resolve disagreements or stalemates generated through the process of establishing cooperation agreements, so that a mutually agreed position can be reached. Both parties have to agree to refer their dispute to ADR, which will be undertaken by a mutually agreed third party by both sides of the dispute. ADR will be considered as an escalation process and an effort to avoid any contentious and unpreferable legal procedures. Mediation is the preferred ADR mechanism, which is confidential in nature.
- 3.5.7 The Marine Management Organisation will not act as arbitrator or be involved in any commercial negotiations with any association/organisation, and/or individual fishermen.

#### Evidence base

- 3.5.8 The following documentation and data are expected to be required to form an evidence base to support any claim for disruption payment. The purpose of the evidence base is to document active fishing across the area of works and demonstrate the level of economic loss that is expected over the period of works.
- Copy of certificate of registry for each vessel for which a claim is being made;
  - Copy of a valid Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA) certification or equivalent;
  - Copy of the relevant vessel fishing licences and entitlements;
  - Sight of vessels' fishing charts or GPS plotter records to provide clear historic evidence of potential disruption in the area of the operations. Alternatively, where such data is not attainable, provide annotated admiralty charts indicating areas fished, this may be undertaken with assistance from the CFLO who will provide graphics and work with the claimant to understand the areas fished;
  - Evidence of monthly sales notes for the three-year time period prior to the claim;
  - Annual fishing accounts of the vessels concerned for a three-year time period or equivalent evidence of annual earnings e.g., self-assessment tax return; and
  - Monthly fishing vessel landings data or and/or fisheries landings data held by fisheries authorities (requiring declaration from vessel owner for release of individual records).

## **3.6 Alternative mitigation measures**

- 3.6.1 RED is committed to continued exploration with the fishing industry of potential alternative mitigation measures; the Final FLCP will explore additional mitigation measures if demonstrated to be required.

## 4. Compliance with the Application

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- 4.1.1 The Application and **ES** (Document Reference: 6.2) set out a number of commitments (refer to **Commitments Register** (Document Reference: 7.22 **[REP5-086]** (updated at Deadline 6)) in relation to various aspects of Rampion 2. The effects of Rampion 2 on commercial fishing activities were assessed in **Chapter 10: Commercial fisheries, Volume 2** of the ES (Document Reference: 6.2.10) **[APP-051]** (updated at Deadline 6)) on the basis that these commitments would be implemented. The commitments were made to ensure that RED followed good practice in relation to its interaction with commercial fisheries interests. **Table 3-1** provides an overview of the commitments made in the Application and **ES** (Document Reference: 6.2) with respect to commercial fisheries, and highlights where these commitments are carried through in this Outline FLCP.



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## 5. References

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## 6. Glossary of terms and abbreviations

**Table 6-1 Glossary of terms and abbreviations**

<b>Term</b>	<b>Definition</b>
<b>ADR</b>	Alternative Dispute Resolution
<b>CFLO</b>	Company Fisheries Liaison Officer
<b>CFWG</b>	Commercial Fisheries Working Group
<b>COLREGS</b>	Convention on the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea
<b>CSP</b>	Cable Specification Plan
<b>DCO</b>	Development Consent Order
<b>DESNZ</b>	The Department of Energy Security and Net Zero
<b>dML</b>	Deemed Marine Licence
<b>ECC</b>	Export Cable Corridor
<b>EIA</b>	Environmental Impact Assessment
<b>ES</b>	Environmental Statement
<b>FIR</b>	Fisheries Industry Representative
<b>FLCP</b>	Fisheries Liaison and Co-existence Plan
<b>FLOWW</b>	Fishing Liaison with Offshore Wind and Wet Renewables Group
<b>FLP</b>	Fisheries Liaison Plan
<b>HDD</b>	Horizontal Directional Drill
<b>MCA</b>	Maritime and Coastguard Agency
<b>MMO</b>	Marine Management Organisation
<b>NtM</b>	Notice to Mariners
<b>OFLO</b>	Offshore Fisheries Liaison Officer
<b>PEIR</b>	Preliminary Environmental Information Report
<b>RED</b>	Rampion Extension Development Limited

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<b>Term</b>	<b>Definition</b>
<b>SOLAS</b>	The International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea
<b>UK</b>	United Kingdom
<b>UKFEN</b>	UK Fisheries Economic Network
<b>VMS</b>	Vessel Monitoring System

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# Appendix A

## Contact Details

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# Appendix B

## Claim form for damage/loss of gear

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# Appendix C

## Claim form for disruption payment

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