Vineyard Wind 1 Fisheries Compensatory Mitigation Program

Vineyard Wind 1 LLC (Vineyard Wind) is constructing an 800 MW offshore wind project located in Lease Area OCS-A-0501 approximately 15 miles south of Martha’s Vineyard. The lease area (also referred to as the Wind Development Area or WDA) is approximately 63,000 acres and where 62 wind energy turbines and one electrical platform will be installed in a grid pattern spaced one nautical mile apart in a north/south/east/west direction.

Vineyard Wind has created a fisheries compensatory mitigation program with a primary objective to provide fair, equitable compensation to commercial fishermen for economic losses attributable to Vineyard Wind 1’s construction, operations, and decommissioning activities.

Three escrow funds have been established to compensate affected fishermen in Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Other States (Connecticut, New Jersey, and New York). Compensation may also be available to shoreside businesses in Massachusetts and Rhode Island.

For commercial fishermen, the first phase of the program will be the eligibility phase, which will require commercial fishing vessel owners to qualify for compensation payments based on defined eligibility criteria. Once qualified, a commercial vessel owner may elect to participate in either an expedited claims process or an individual claims process, both of which are based on a commercial fishing vessel owner’s historic revenue dependence on the WDA but require different levels of proof. Fishermen will not need to demonstrate economic impacts from Vineyard Wind 1 to qualify for the program or receive compensation payments.

The Vineyard Wind 1 Fisheries Compensatory Mitigation Program is scheduled to be launched on March 4, 2024. Information about the program, including how to apply, will be available on the program’s website: www.vw1fisheriescomp.com. Once the program launches, commercial fishermen will be able to apply to the program to establish eligibility. The program’s eligibility criteria for commercial fishing vessel owners are provided on the following page.
Open house and tabling events will be hosted in March to help fishermen apply for the program. Currently scheduled events include the following:

- **March 20**: Superior Trawl, 55 State Street, Point Judith, Rhode Island (9 AM – 1 PM)
- **March 21**: New Bedford Port Authority, 123 MacArthur Drive, New Bedford, Massachusetts (9 AM – 1 PM)
- **March 22**: Massachusetts Lobstermen’s Association Annual Meeting, 35 Scudder Ave Hyannis, Emerald Resort Conference Center (9 AM – 4 PM)

The latest information about these events will be posted on [www.vw1fisheriescomp.com](http://www.vw1fisheriescomp.com) after the program is launched.

**Eligibility Criteria for Commercial Fishermen**

- Commercial fishing vessel owners/operators homeported in Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New Jersey, or New York
- Valid 2023 commercial fishing permit from NOAA Fisheries
- Current government-issued vessel registration showing ownership, or a vessel lease agreement
- Documented fishing activities within the WDA in at least three of seven years during the baseline period (2016 – 2022). Fishing activities can be established by submitting information that includes, but is not limited to, the following:
  - Vessel Trip Reports
  - Vessel Monitoring System information
  - AIS information
  - Fishery observer or At-Sea Monitor information
  - NOAA Cooperative Research Study Fleet information
  - Chart plotter data/images
  - Logbooks
  - Other trip-level reporting information that establishes fishing activity in the WDA

Information on how to submit fishing activity data requests to the NOAA Fisheries is provided on page 3 of this document. A map of the WDA along with lat/long coordinates and Loran C positions are provided on page 4 of this document and will be available for download at [www.vw1fisheriescomp.com](http://www.vw1fisheriescomp.com).

- Documented net or gross annual revenue from fishing activities in the corresponding three years. Annual revenues can be established by submitting information that includes, but is not limited to, the following:
  - Internal Revenue Service Form 1099 and/or other tax documents that include reported income
  - Sales receipts
  - Dealer slips
  - Dealer compilation reports
  - Other income information that establishes income from fishing activities
Submitting Fishing Activity Data Requests to NOAA Fisheries

General Guidance for Data Requests

NOAA Fisheries has provided the following guidance for fishing activity data requests:

- Be very clear about what data you are requesting
- Ensure your request includes all of the necessary information:
  - Contact information for the person requesting the data
  - Permit number and vessel name for data requested
  - Data requested (e.g., logbook landings, fishing revenue, permit issuance)
  - Date range for the data requested (e.g., fishing or calendar years 2016 – 2022)
  - Area to which the data applies (e.g., logbook data when fishing in the WDA)
- Identify expected data output (e.g., spreadsheet or map)
- Specify if data are needed by a certain date

Contacts for Data Requests

NOAA Fisheries has provided the following contacts for fishing activity data requests:

- Logbook and fishing footprint data requests: NMFS.GAR.Data.Requests@noaa.gov
- VMS data requests: ole.helpdesk@noaa.gov
- Northeast Fisheries Observer Program data requests: chris.tholke@noaa.gov
- GARFO permit data requests: NMFS.GAR.Permits@noaa.gov
WDA Map and Location Information

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*Loran C positions are included for reference but are not intended for plotting due to conversion errors.