

ONE OCEAN

TWO INDUSTRIES, ONE OCEAN

EFFECTIVE ENGAGEMENT FOR PROPOSERS AND PARTICIPANTS

*Created by One Ocean for the Newfoundland and
Labrador Offshore Petroleum and Fishing Industries*

ONE OCEAN
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*Formerly One Ocean Protocol for Consultation Meetings: Recommendations for the Fishing and
Petroleum Industries in Newfoundland and Labrador*

ABOUT ONE OCEAN

In 2001, the Canada-Newfoundland and Labrador Offshore Petroleum Board (C-NLOPB) sponsored a series of meetings with industry representatives from the fishing and petroleum sectors to discuss establishing a liaison organization to enhance working relationships between the two industries. Both industries recognized the need for enhanced communication and information exchange as part of developing a cooperative working relationship between the two sectors, leading to the creation of One Ocean.

In May 2002, One Ocean was launched and in 2006, was formally incorporated in Newfoundland and Labrador.

An objective of One Ocean is to assist the fishing and petroleum industries understand each sector's operational activities. An important element of this objective is the timing and location of offshore operations as fishing and petroleum activities may overlap. Effective communication and joint planning helps to ensure both sectors are aware of proposed activities and provide the opportunity to identify and address specific industry concerns and develop mutually beneficial practices and protocols.

One Ocean does not represent the fishing and petroleum industries in Newfoundland and Labrador – it represents the mutual interests of both.

The One Ocean model is unique to the world. It is a proactive entity that enhances the opportunity for information dissemination and progressive joint initiatives for two industries operating in one ocean.

Recommendations in this document have been identified to help improve industry engagement and are not meant to influence, form, or be adopted by regulatory entities or referenced as a requirement.

Any recommendations are intended to apply to engagement processes related to offshore petroleum programs or projects where there is potential for impact and/or interaction with the Newfoundland and Labrador fishing industry. This excludes routine operational activities within a field safety zone.

The One Ocean Recommendations for Effective Engagement is property of One Ocean, strictly for information purposes and as such, One Ocean members assume no liability for its use or application. One Ocean reserves the right to make changes to this document without notice.

I. INTRODUCTION

As the liaison organization for the fishing and offshore petroleum industries in Newfoundland and Labrador, One Ocean promotes and facilitates communication and information exchange between the two industry sectors.

The purpose of this document is to help proponents conduct effective engagement with Newfoundland and Labrador fishing industry stakeholders as related to offshore petroleum programs or projects where there is potential for impact and/or interaction with the fishing industry. The document also offers suggestions on how to be an effective participant in an engagement process.

The fishing industry in Newfoundland and Labrador may be engaged by the offshore petroleum industry in support of activities such as exploration drilling programs, marine seismic survey programs, and other special projects (such as marine scopes associated with the construction of a concrete gravity structure).

Engagement with the fishing industry can be conducted as part of mitigations, recommendations or conditions identified by the operator, the offshore regulator, in regulations, or in project specific assessments. The points of contact for fishing industry stakeholder groups can be found in Appendix A.

Engagement opportunities can take place through a variety of mediums, such as:

- During meetings of the One Ocean Board and Working Group
- Standalone meetings of the proponent and fishing industry representative(s)
- Through committees, that may struck from time to time, specific a special program/project.

II. EFFECTIVE ENGAGEMENT - PROPONENT

Effective engagement involves a two-way exchange in which stakeholders have an opportunity to provide input. To support an effective engagement process proponents should:

- ✓ Clearly articulate the purpose and objectives of the engagement.
- ✓ Ensure relevant and timely information is communicated. The level of detail shared is should be appropriate for the audience and purpose of the engagement.
- ✓ Use plain language and avoid overly technical presentations, industry jargon and acronyms.
- ✓ Ensure transparency. It is important that stakeholders understand how stakeholder input will be used and understand the decision making processes. If some aspects of the program/activity are not subject to change it should be clearly communicated so that stakeholders can focus their efforts and provide meaningful input.
- ✓ Be open to stakeholders' views and opinions. All stakeholders, whether directly or indirectly affected, should have an opportunity to contribute their views.
- ✓ Ensure any opportunities for stakeholder feedback takes place over a reasonable period. Allow sufficient time for stakeholders to become informed, examine the issues, dialogue within their organizations and submit their views.
- ✓ Reintroduce stakeholders to the program/project in the event of a deferral or lapse.
- ✓ Manage the engagement process in a way that ensures that stakeholder time is well spent, and that stakeholders feel that their time investment was worthwhile and meaningful.

III. BEING AN EFFECTIVE PARTICIPANT IN AN ENGAGEMENT PROCESS - FISHING INDUSTRY STAKEHOLDERS

An objective of One Ocean is to assist the fishing and petroleum industries in understanding each sector's operational activities. In addition to conveying the views of their respective organizations and members, fishing industry stakeholders can provide valuable information to proponents including insight into fishing activity in the areas of spatial overlap, along with possible challenges and suggestions for mitigations.

Examples of information fishing industry stakeholders can provide, or flag for awareness*, include:

- ✓ Confirmed or expected opening and closing dates of fisheries in the program/project area.
- ✓ Expected seasonal offshore fisheries.
- ✓ Estimates of the number of vessels or license holders active in the area of spatial overlap, along with volume/quota estimates for the relevant fisheries.
- ✓ Gear (traps, nets, etc.) and gear type (fixed or mobile) used in the relevant fisheries, along with volume of gear, how gear is set (duration and depth).
- ✓ Catch rates/progress of catch for open fisheries in the program/project area.
- ✓ Information about the location of fisheries in the program/project area, as is known and can be shared (this is information outside of commercial fishing data published by DFO).
- ✓ Information and location of historical fishing areas.
- ✓ Information on industry science surveys, such as timing, location and type of survey.
- ✓ Available science specific to the program/project area, such as any emerging new fisheries.
- ✓ Any other special fisheries programs or projects happening in the area that a petroleum operator should be aware (such as gear cleanup programs).
- ✓ Any other relevant insight into fisheries in the program/project area.

**While fishing industry stakeholders can provide some of the above items for awareness, official details may need to be obtained from DFO.*

IV. EFFECTIVE ENGAGEMENT – PROPONENT AND STAKEHOLDERS

A meaningful engagement process provides participants the opportunity to convey industry perspectives, and promotes the identification of mutual best practices and mitigation measures. To aid in successful engagement, all parties should:

- ✓ Be open to sharing and receiving concerns and perspectives.
- ✓ Participate in discussions and communications in a respectful, courteous and professional manner, recognizing the diverse background, skills, and experience of all parties participating in the engagement process.
- ✓ Be open to collaboration. When and where possible work together to reach reasonable solutions to resolve potential issues.
- ✓ Respect confidentiality of information identified as confidential.
- ✓ Ensure respective organizations and memberships remain informed of project activities, locations, plans, advisories, etc.
- ✓ Act in a diligent manner, including preparing for, attending, and actively participate in engagement meetings.

V. NEW OR SPECIAL OFFSHORE PETROLEUM PROGRAMS OR PROJECTS

From time to time, proponents may engage the fishing industry in support of special/non-routine offshore petroleum programs/projects (such as marine scopes associated with the construction of a concrete gravity structure).

For such special programs/projects, it is important to engage with members of the fishing industry most impacted and to meet impacted fisheries stakeholders in their communities. Engagement should begin early in the planning of the project and remain ongoing.

Where appropriate, the formation of a committee, consisting of fishing industry stakeholders along with representatives from the proponent group, should also be considered. Establishing such a committee can provide a forum for the proponent to share information and engage in proactive planning with a representative group of fisheries stakeholders in areas where fish harvesting activities may interact with project marine scopes. Such committees can also facilitate valuable opportunities for collaboration through the course of a project.

For such special committees, it is important to set expectations and to ensure all committee members understand what is required from the committee, including any deliverables and deadlines. It is also important to be aware of the seasonality of fisheries and to plan accordingly for best participation.

For special programs/projects, stakeholder representatives should ensure their respective organizations and memberships remain informed of program/project activities. Developing a communication plan between the proponent and fishing industry for the duration of the project can also be beneficial.

VI. HOLDING A STAKEHOLDER MEETING

From time to time, a program or project may warrant holding a standalone meeting(s) with fishing industry representatives. Prior to holding a meeting, the proponent representative and relevant fishing industry contact(s) should be clear about the purpose and objectives of the meeting. The purpose should also be clear to meeting participants, well in advance of the meeting, to allow them to prepare their participation.

Logistical Considerations

In planning meetings with the fishing industry, it is important to be aware of the seasonality of fisheries and to plan accordingly for best participation. Early spring to early summer is a particularly busy season for fish harvesters in Newfoundland and Labrador with the opening of the snow crab and lobster fisheries in early spring.

The most effective engagement meetings take place in person. Whenever possible, meetings should be held in-person, with a remote option (video conference or phone) available. The meeting host should ensure the necessary AV is available to conduct a hybrid meeting.

In advance of the meeting, the fishing industry contact will organize (as applicable) meeting attendees from their organization and advise the proponent of the expected attendance. Meeting agendas, materials, and forms (such as those required for entrance to a site or office), should be circulated well in advance of the meeting.

Meeting Agenda

The meeting agenda should allow for adequate time for a roundtable of introductions (proponent group, presenters, and attendees), along with sufficient time for questions.

During a stakeholder meeting, the opportunity for informal interaction between proponent representatives and stakeholders plays an important role. Allow time for coffee breaks and informal dialogue with attendees before and after the meeting to provide additional opportunity for attendees to ask questions and share their feedback and concerns. Such opportunities help promote relationship building and mutual understanding of the respective industries.

At the end of any stakeholder meeting, it is important to summarize (as applicable): key information, decisions, action items and any agreed “go forward” process. It is also important to have a record of the meeting. Meeting notes, recorded by the proponent, should be shared with attendees as part of the follow-up process.

Additional Considerations

The inter-industry engagement process may not be limited to one meeting. It may be useful to schedule follow-up meetings to report on items discussed.

Stakeholder participants should ensure their respective organizations and memberships remain informed of project activities, locations, plans, advisories, meeting outcomes, etc.

PROPONENT PRESENTATIONS SHOULD INCLUDE

- ✓ Who – proponent company profile, explaining who is involved in the activity.
- ✓ What - details of the proposed program/project, associated activities, why and how it is being conducted. Ensure the level of detail is appropriate for the audience, avoiding overly technical presentations, industry jargon and acronyms.
- ✓ Where - location details for the proposed activity, maps and coordinates.
- ✓ When – timing/timeline of the proposed activity.
- ✓ Mitigation Measures - safety practices and mitigation measures specific to fishing industry interest.
- ✓ Adequate time for questions and comments, (throughout and at the end of the presentation).

VII. IMPORTANCE OF MAPS

Maps and coordinates are an essential piece of communication for the fishing industry. To provide meaningful context to potential fisheries interactions, maps should include:

- ✓ The Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO) divisions to identify the fishing area of the proposed activity location.
- ✓ Locational descriptors (such as production, exploration or significant discovery license number, well name, basin name, distance from shore, depth of water at the project site, etc.).
- ✓ Coordinates of the program/project location, with the location/coordinates of any safety zones.
- ✓ 200nm limit (EEZ) boundary.
- ✓ Marine refuges or closures.
- ✓ Bathymetry details illustrating slopes and shelf break.

Proponents can also illustrate awareness of fishing activity through including fisheries data in the area(s) of the program/project.

Program/project locational area coordinates, safety zone information/coordinates, and transit routes/coordinates are also essential pieces of information for the fishing industry and should be shared early in the engagement process and re-circulated should updates/changes be made.

APPENDIX A: FISHING INDUSTRY CONTACTS

Fish, Food and Allied Workers Union (FFAW-Unifor)

Contact: Katie Power, Industry Relations Representative

Office: (709) 576-7276 Ext. 221 Email: kpower@ffaw.ca

Address: 368 Hamilton Avenue P.O. Box 10 Station C, St. John's, NL, A1C 5H5

www.ffaw.ca

About: *Since 1971, the Fish, Food and Allied Workers Union has played a vital role in shaping the economic, social and cultural landscape of Newfoundland and Labrador. FFAW-Unifor represents 14,000 workers in Newfoundland and Labrador, including 10,000 inshore fish harvesters and 4,000 members in the Industrial/Retail/Offshore Sector.*

Association of Seafood Producers

Contact: Renae Butler, Manager of Collective Bargaining

Office: (709) 726-3730 Email: rbutler@seafoodproducers.org

www.seafoodproducers.org

Address: 10 Fort William Palace, Suite 103, Baine Johnston Centre, St. John's, NL, A1C 1K4

About: *The Association of Seafood Producers (ASP) is a not-for-profit industry trade association representing seafood producers in Newfoundland and Labrador. ASP Members operate processing plants throughout rural Newfoundland and Labrador and source raw material mainly from independent harvesters in the NL inshore fishery, as well as externally. ASP members are also involved in directed harvesting activities in the offshore fishery.*

Ocean Choice International (OCI)

Contact: Rick Ellis, Director, Fleet Operations

Office: (709) 782-6244 Email: rellis@oceanchoice.com

www.oceanchoice.com

Address: 1315 Topsail Road, P.O. Box 8190, St. John's, NL, A1B 3N4

About: *A fully vertically integrated company, OCI offers the widest variety of species to customers, including snow crab, lobster, cold-water shrimp, scallops, Atlantic cod, flounder & sole, redfish, Greenland halibut, mackerel and capelin. OCI has sales offices in North America, Europe and Asia and each year sell over 100 million pounds of product to over 30 countries.*

Atlantic Groundfish Council

Contact: Vanessa Byrne, Director of Fisheries Management and Science

Office: 782-640-6639 Email: vanessabyrne@atlanticgroundfish.ca

<https://atlanticgroundfishcouncil.ca/>

About: *The Atlantic Groundfish Council (formerly known as the Groundfish Enterprise Allocation Council), represents year-round groundfish harvesters in Atlantic Canada. The Atlantic Groundfish Council is committed to a balanced, sustainable groundfish industry that puts the responsible management of the resource first and foremost.*

Proponents should also include One Ocean in notices and correspondence to the fishing industry.

Contact: Ashley Woodford, Managing Director, One Ocean, email: Ashley.Woodford@mi.mun.ca