

Addenda #86 – August 2025

Re: Ch. 16, U.N. 30x30 plan

SDG 14 – Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development

Re: Ch. 8, 2050 Net-Zero Emissions; Impossible!!

SDG 7 – Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all

Ref: Addenda #35 – January 2024, Addenda #41 – February 2024

Proposed wind farms 'devastating' for fishers

BBC; September 23, 2024

Proposals to expand planned wind farm sites off the Devon and Cornwall coast could devastate the fishing industry, fishermen have warned. Dave Stevens, who has fished off Newlyn for 30 years, said new offshore wind development would not be good for the industry. It would be a devastating blow if that went ahead.

The Crown Estate said "offshore wind has a critical role to play in supporting the UK's energy transition". It said the sector created "countless new opportunities within communities for skills and jobs, both onshore and at sea".

Cornwall fishermen fear for livelihoods as offshore wind farms pose 'greatest change' the industry has faced

Sky News (UK), January 1, 2025

Fishermen in Cornwall fear proposals for mass offshore wind farms could destroy their businesses and pose the "greatest change" the fishing industry has ever faced.

The Crown Estate - which owns much of the country's seabed - has published plans for what it calls "areas of opportunity" for offshore wind farms in waters off the North East and the Celtic Sea around South Wales, Devon and Cornwall.

David Stevens from the Cornwall Fish Producers Organisation told Sky News fishermen fear they will be squeezed out of already busy waters... "This is probably the greatest change to our fishing patterns and businesses we're ever going to encounter, we're going to be squeezed out of the way... by all these wind farms all of a sudden taking up ground that we traditionally fish."

He added: "I've looked at the proposals to the south where I work and it would completely close down around about 60% to 70% of the area I work. So my business plan - it's gone out of the window."

The offshore wind turbines destroying Britain's fishing trade

The Telegraph; August 9, 2025

"We can't go into the areas between the turbines," Ken Bagley [former Lincolnshire fisherman] says. "If we towed our fishing gear through a wind farm, we'd be snagging on something in no time. And with the tidal currents and winds we get round there it'd get really dangerous."

Around Britain's coast other fishermen tell similar stories of exclusion from fishing grounds where they and their forebears once reaped rich harvests.

The area Ken Bagley is referring to is the Lincs Wind Farm, a 14 square mile wind farm located 5 miles off the coast of Skegness on the eastern coast of England. Lincs Wind Farm consists of 75, 330-foot-tall turbines mounted on 16-foot diameter, 400-ton steel monopile foundations anchored to the seabed. Two underground high voltage cables partially buried under the seabed connect the turbines to an offshore substation.

The Environmental Study prepared by Centrica Energy in 2007, emphasized the “need for renewable energy” due to the UK governments energy policy, which mandates ‘net-zero emissions’ by 2050 and 100% “Clean Power” generation by 2030. The study predicted that there would be habitat loss and disruption resulting in “minor adverse impacts” on organisms and fish due to installation of the turbines and cables but claimed that the spawning and nursery area for fish would not be affected. The report said nothing about the effect the wind farm would have on the fishermen, the fishing industry or the food supply for local communities, because, of course, nothing else matters besides achieving climate goals!

As the Prime Minister has made clear, clean power is an urgent priority for our country. The clean power sprint is the national security, economic security, and climate justice fight of our time – and this plan gives us the tools we need to win this fight for the British people.
Edward Miliband, Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero, U.K., April 15, 2025

The fishermen are still allowed to fish in the areas between the turbines, which are spaced 500-feet apart. But the threats of the tidal currents and collision with the monopiles or other vessels and potentially snagging the high voltage cables buried just 3-feet below the seafloor, means that few fishermen will actually fish there. Fishermen used to profit from once rich harvests of cod, sole, whiting and mussels. They are still there in the waters of the wind farm but are no longer available to the fishermen.

There are 3,000 wind turbines installed across 45 wind farms, covering thousands of square kilometers of ocean. Developers are planning even more offshore wind farms, much larger than Lincs. *Dogger Bank* is being built across a shallow area of the North Sea once among Europe’s richest fishing grounds. It will cover around 1,300 square kilometers [808 square miles] once complete. The UK’s existing offshore turbines have a capacity of about 16 gigawatts – but last week Ed Miliband, the Energy Secretary, confirmed plans to *triple* that capacity by 2030 to meet the U.K.’s 100% Clean Energy production target.



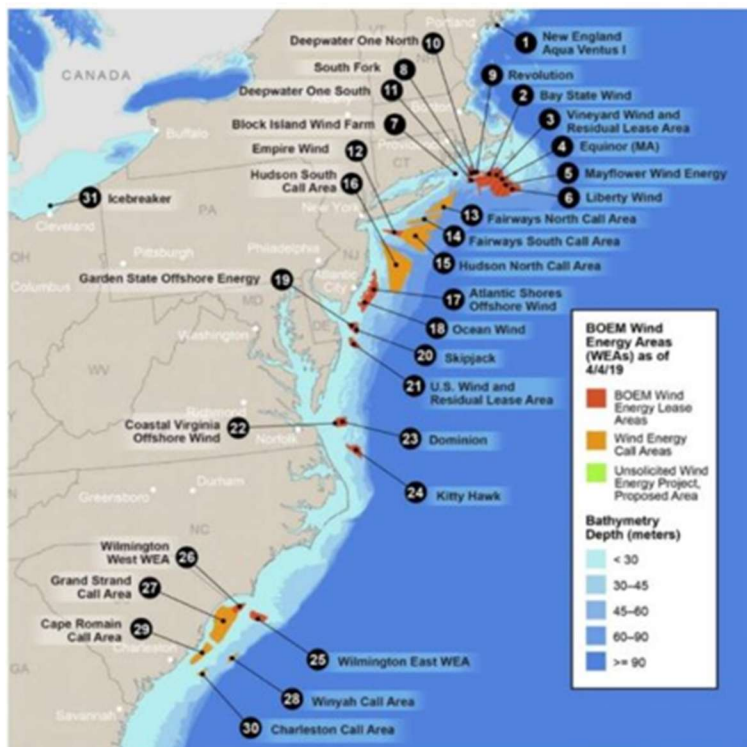
Map of UK operational and planned offshore wind projects
Source: RenewableUK, Energy Pulse

The United Nations 30 x 30 plan calls for the “appropriation” of 30% of all the oceans, making them off limits for human use by the year 2030, to “conserve” and “protect” them. Of course, none of the area owned by the Crown Estate will be “appropriated” to achieve this plan...

President Biden promoted his own version of the U.N. plan in the United States, calling it the America the Beautiful initiative in May 2021. His plan outlined a “locally led and voluntary” nationwide goal to conserve 30 percent of U.S. lands and waters by 2030.

The 2022 *Inflation Reduction Act* set aside \$18 billion for United States Department of Agriculture (“USDA”) conservation programs, to take farmlands out of use, cutting emissions from agricultural use. The Inflation Reduction Act also set aside \$122.5 million for the *America the Beautiful Freshwater Challenge*, which set the goal to protect, restore, and reconnect 8 million acres of wetlands and 100,000 miles of our nation’s river and streams by 2030.

The president declared many historical sites as national parks, to ensure land conservation of those areas. He also canceled multiple mineral leases for copper mines that would have aided the push for renewable energy and electric vehicles, essentially conserving those lands to appease environmental groups and work toward his own 30 x 30 plan goals. The Biden administration also banned oil and natural gas drilling leases for more than 625 million acres of U.S. ocean waters, including the entire East Coast and Eastern Gulf of Mexico.



Instead issuing leases for oil and natural gas production, the Biden administration continued to issue leases offshore wind farm development.

As of July 2025, there are three operational offshore wind farms on the eastern coast of the U.S. with a combined generation capacity of 174 MW.

Lease areas #7, #8 and #22.

Three additional wind farms are currently under construction, with a combined generation capacity of 4,150 MW.

Lease areas #3, #9 and expansion of #22.

Twelve additional wind farms off the eastern coast have received operations approval from the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management and are in various stages of development. Their combined generation capacity is 14,428 MW. Five additional leases totaling 373,267 acres off the coast of California were mapped out, but no development has been done on these yet.

I'm sure that every environmental study done during the process of receiving permitting approvals from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) had claims similar to the Lincs Wind Farm study. The Block Island Wind Farm (lease area #7 on the BOEM lease map) was the first commercial offshore wind farm in the United States, located 3.8 mi from Block Island, Rhode Island in the Atlantic Ocean. The five turbine, 30 MW project has been providing electricity to Rhode Island residents since December 2016, so there is a definite timeframe over which to understand the effects of offshore wind projects on the environment, versus the claims made in the original permitting documents, below.

1.1.2. Marine Mammals in the Action Area

The proposed activities could adversely affect the following marine mammal species under our jurisdiction: Atlantic white-sided dolphins (*Lagenorhynchus acutus*), short-beaked common dolphins (*Delphinus delphis*), harbor porpoises (*Phocoena phocoena*), minke whales (*Balaenoptera acutorostrata*), fin whales (*Balaenoptera physalus*), humpback whales (*Megaptera novaeangliae*), North Atlantic right whales (*Eubalaena glacialis*), gray seals (*Halichoerus grypus*), and harbor seals (*Phoca vitulina*).

1.2. Purpose and Need

The MMPA prohibits “takes” of marine mammals, with a number of specific exceptions. The applicable exception in this case is an authorization for incidental take of marine mammals in Section 101(a)(5)(D) of the MMPA.

Section 101(a)(5)(D) of the MMPA directs the Secretary of Commerce (Secretary) to authorize, upon request, the incidental, but not intentional, taking of small numbers of marine mammals of a species or population stock, by United States citizens who engage in a specified activity...

Purpose: The primary purpose of our proposed action—the issuance of Authorizations to Deepwater Wind—is to authorize (pursuant to the MMPA) the take of marine mammals incidental to Deepwater Wind’s proposed activities.

Source: Final Environmental Assessment on the Issuance of Incidental Harassment Authorizations to Deepwater Wind for the Take of Marine Mammals Incidental to Construction of the Block Island Wind Farm and Block Island Transmission System; National Oceanic and Atmosphere Administration, August 2014

Fact #1: The NOAA determined that several marine mammal species “could” be adversely affected during construction of (and possibly the operation of) the Block Island Wind Farm.

Fact #2: All marine mammals listed above, fall under the Marine Mammals Protection Act, to protect them from declining populations due to human activities. It prohibits the hunting, capturing, and harassment of marine mammals in U.S. waters. In addition, most of the species that “could” be adversely affected, are on the *Endangered Species* list.

Critically Endangered - North Atlantic right whale; fewer than 500 in existence, 400 of them in the North Atlantic

Endangered/Depleted – fin whale

Endangered/Recovering – humpback whale

Special Concern – harbor porpoise

Secure/Stable – grey seals, harbor seals

Fact #3: The NOAA approved permits presented by the Block Island Wind Farm developer to allow the “harassment” of marine mammals on the endangered species list during the yearlong construction of the wind farm, which would result in the “temporary modification” of those protected and endangered mammals but “no injury or mortality” is *anticipated*. **

Fact #4: There are multiple threats to marine mammals during the construction of any wind farm. These mammals can be injured or killed by strikes from ships moving or installing foundations and turbines, and underwater noise levels from construction can cause irreparable hearing damage, considered as “harassment” by the NOAA.

After construction is complete, the electromagnetic field produced by underwater cables transmitting the high voltage to substations on shore, has been shown to adversely impact various underwater species.

Source: Final Environmental Assessment on the Issuance of Incidental Harassment Authorizations to Deepwater Wind for the Take of Marine Mammals Incidental to Construction of the Block Island Wind Farm and Block Island Transmission System; Office of Protected Resources/National Marine Fisheries Service/National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, August 2014

Opponents say Block Island wind farms are causing problems across prime fishing grounds
National Wind Watch; March 17, 2018

“It’s true that the area where the turbines are, have created a habitat that attracts fish, which is good; but in the area where the cable lines extend to the mainland, it’s completely devoid of fish,” said Michael Pierdinock, chairman of the Massachusetts Recreational Alliance, which represents about 50,000 recreational fishermen. “These used to be fruitful fishing grounds.” The fishermen also raised questions about the impact of electromagnetic waves pulsing across the seafloor on species such as sharks, which navigate and hunt in part by sensing electrical currents, and how rotating turbine blades could impede their ability to navigate with radar.

Wind power companies have dismissed most of their concerns, and fishermen have become increasingly frustrated, saying that they’re being ignored... “There’s zero scientific evidence for that,” said Aileen Kenney, vice president of permitting and environmental affairs at Deepwater Wind. “We’ve heard of no decline of fishing activity around the project.”

There has been an increasing “back and forth” argument between opponents and supporters of wind farms regarding increasing numbers of dead whales washing up onto coastal beaches. In 2022 alone, there were more than 60 recorded whale deaths of all species on the eastern coast, a number which has increased markedly ever since the offshore wind industry started to ramp up in 2016.



Wind farm supporters claim there is no *scientific evidence* (where have we heard *that phrase* before???) that offshore wind turbines are responsible. Wind farm opponents, including environmental activist groups, claim whale deaths are *strongly correlated* with wind industry activity.

Acoustical surveying of the ocean floor, pile driving to install the 400-ton monopile turbine supports and cable laying ship ‘thrusters’ can cause deafness which can lead to the deaths of mammals in the construction areas. Or it can drive mammals into areas that have higher shipping traffic, leading to deadly collisions; ship strikes, and entanglement are the two leading causes of whale deaths. Environmentalists have said the solution to these accidents and deaths is to restrict the number of harassment authorizations developers apply for. After all, power generating plants have restrictions on the amount of greenhouse gases they can emit. But this would make the building of wind farms more expensive and lengthen the time it takes to complete them.

While the BOEM and NOAA may refuse to approve “incidental take” permits, the routinely approve “harassment permits.” The Block Island wind farm developers requested authorization for the “incidental, but not intentional, taking of “small numbers of marine mammals” in the form of harassment, in their permit applications.

Table 8. Deepwater Wind’s estimated take for the BIWF project.

Common Species Name	Maximum Seasonal Density (per 100 km ²)	Estimated Take by Level B Harassment	Maximum Seasonal Density (per 100 km ²)	Estimated Take by Level B Harassment	Total Estimated Take
Atlantic white-sided dolphin	7.46	201	1.23	13	214
Short-beaked common dolphin	8.21	221	2.59	28	249
Harbor porpoise	0.47	13	0.74	8	21
Minke whale	0.44	12	0.14	2	14
Fin whale	1.92	52	2.15	23	75
Humpback whale	0.11	3	0.11	2	5
North Atlantic right whale	0.04	2	0.06	1	3
Gray seal	14.16	77	14.16	30	107
Harbor seal	9.74	53	9.74	21	74

Block Island wind farm developer, Deepwater Wind, estimated that 484 dolphins and porpoises, 181 seals and 97 whales would suffer “temporary modification” of their behavior as the NOAA described it.

Deepwater Wind’s numbers don’t distinguish between 97 whales being harassed once, or 1 whale being harassed 97 times, leading to hearing loss and deafness.

The difference could be fatal for the whales affected long-term, which rely on hearing for navigation, communication and feeding.

Four whales die in 4 days: Wind farms creating ‘death zone’ at sea says ex-Greenpeace boss
New York Post; May 8, 2023

The four-day run of death began in Eastham, on Cape Cod, Mass., on Thursday, with a second minke found at York, Maine, on Friday, and the final corpse at Gloucester, Mass. on Sunday.

At least 36 “large” whales have washed up along the East Coast since Dec. 1, according to data from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

This year’s mortalities are on pace to shatter 2017’s tally of 34, federal data shows.

2017–2025 North Atlantic Right Whale Unusual Mortality Event

Since 2017, dead, seriously injured, or sublethally injured or ill North Atlantic right whales have been documented, necessitating an Unusual Mortality Event declaration and investigation.

Marine Life in Distress; NOAA Fisheries website

The NOAA article noted 41 “confirmed deaths”, 39 serious injuries and 77 injuries or illnesses of North Atlantic right whales between 2017 and 2025. Coincidentally, this is the time period in which wind farm projects were under construction from Maine to Virginia.

2016–2025 Humpback Whale Unusual Mortality Event Along the Atlantic Coast

Since January 2016, elevated humpback whale mortalities have occurred along the Atlantic coast from Maine through Florida.

Marine Life in Distress; NOAA Fisheries website

This NOAA article noted 257 “confirmed deaths” of humpback whales between 2016 and 2025, 149 of them occurring in waters where active construction of wind farms was taking place. Only 8 of the deaths were south of the lease areas shown on the BOEM map.

Study finds human-caused North Atlantic right whale deaths are being undercounted

A study co-authored by scientists at the New England Aquarium has found that known deaths of critically endangered North Atlantic right whales represent a fraction of the true death toll. This comes as the death of a calf and recent sightings of entangled right whales off the southeastern United States raise alarm.

New England Aquarium; Press Release, February 24, 2021

The New England Aquarium study found that 83% of right whales entangled or injured initially survive, but their health becomes compromised, and they eventually die and sink so their carcass is never found or counted. Granted, all this “scientific evidence” cannot be directly linked to offshore wind farm construction, but the numbers of deaths and timeframe would indicate there is a connection between them.

In 2022, nine Atlantic coast states began working to establish the *Regional Fisheries Compensatory Mitigation Fund*, to “provide financial compensation for economic loss created by offshore wind development off the Atlantic Coast.

With a growing investment in renewable energy and the development of offshore wind energy systems, there is a recognizable need to offset potential losses and/or costs incurred by the surrounding fishing industries with mitigation measures, including financial compensation.

“Scientific evidence” cited by the wind industry claims that construction and operation of wind farms will not have long-term “adverse effects” on marine mammals or the fishing industry. But coastal states were finally admitted this was *not* true and agreed to provide financial compensation to the fishing industry and communities affected by wind farms. Developers of offshore wind projects will be assessed fines for the damage their projects have done, and consumers of that “clean energy” will be assessed additional “System Benefit Charges” so the developers can recover that money and continue with those projects. After all, net-zero emissions and “affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all” is a non-negotiable goal of Agenda 2030. It MUST be achieved at all cost!!

Are there any effects on the environment other than to birds, fish and mammals? Of course there are, but you will never hear about them in the mainstream media or from supporters of “clean, green” sustainable and renewable energy.

See also Addenda #63 – September 2024; *Protecting the Environment, Protecting and Halting Biodiversity Loss??* For examples of approved “takes” and habitat destruction in the construction of solar farms.

Special Investigation: Toxic wind turbines

National Wind Watch; March 23, 2014

Damning evidence of wind farms polluting the Scottish countryside can today be revealed by The Sunday Post.

Scotland’s environmental watchdog has probed more than 100 incidents involving turbines in just six years, including diesel spills, dirty rivers, blocked drains and excessive noise.

Alarmingly, they also include the contamination of drinking water and the indiscriminate dumping of waste, with warning notices issued to a handful of energy giants.

Lubricant leaks from Essex wind turbines; raises concerns over maintenance, accountability
CTV News (Canada); April 16, 2025

Wind turbines in the Town of Essex are drawing fresh scrutiny from local officials after reports of lubricant leaks, with municipal leaders raising concerns about long-term maintenance and the future of aging infrastructure.

Mayor Sherry Bondy said residents have been reporting issues with turbines for years, but more questions are surfacing now about what happens as the structures age and contracts begin to expire.

The AIM Harrow Wind Farm, which has 24 turbines in operation, is one of the wind energy facilities in the area. Its CEO, Denny Richard, confirmed lubricant staining was identified on 11 turbines over the past couple of years... “The cause of the staining has been investigated by the manufacturer and maintenance service provider of the turbines, who identified a loss of a limited amount of lubricant, which is commonly used in turbines, as the cause,”

Windmill Aflame: Why Wind Turbine Fires Happen, How Often and What Can Be Done About it

Interesting Engineering (scientific news publisher); November 21, 2015

According to an article published by Fire Safety Science, the peer-reviewed publication of the International Association of Fire Safety Science, one of the major challenges faced by the global wind energy industry is the tendency of wind turbines to catch fire, a problem that the article claims is not being fully reported... The research team found that ten times the number of fires are occurring worldwide than are actually being reported....

“Wind turbines are viable sources of renewable energy that can assist the world to reduce emissions and help wean us off fossil fuels. However, fires are a problem for the industry, impacting on energy production, economic output and emitting toxic fumes. This could cast a shadow over the industry’s green credentials.

There are hundreds of thousands of wind turbines that have been installed in a global effort to reduce carbon emissions, and there will be hundreds of thousands more installed in coming years, as we get closer to those 2030 – 2050 climate alarmist dates. I’ve already detailed some of the issues with wind turbines, which include decommissioning and recycling and blade failures. But perhaps the most disturbing environmental problem created by wind turbines is pollution from the fossil fuels that these turbines use to create that “clean green” sustainable energy.

Ironical, isn’t it, that in the effort to destroy the oil industry and replace fossil fuels, no one will admit they are an integral part of wind turbines? The fact is that each wind turbine contains as much as 370 gallons of oil for lubrication, hydraulics and gear box operation, and there is the potential for leaks despite all safety precautions. The U.S. Department of the Interior published a 2013 report titled, *Environmental Risks, Fate, and Effects of Chemicals Associated with Wind Turbines on the Atlantic Outer Continental Shelf*. The report identified the volumes and types of chemicals present in offshore wind turbines and calculated the environmental impacts of potential “catastrophic spill” scenarios.

Besides the hundreds of gallons of lubricants in the turbine itself, offshore electrical service platforms which transmit power to an onshore substation or power grid contain tens of thousands of gallons of other contaminants including electrical insulating oil and diesel fuel. The report calculated multiple “spill-causing events”, including normal operation, maintenance and transfer of fluids, spills from vessels transporting fluids to and from the wind farm, collisions, hurricanes, earthquakes and other natural disasters. The report stated that “under an extremely unlikely spill scenario, a total of 68,000 gallons of oil in the entire complex could be released into the environment.”

Another study published in 2025 by the Bureau of Ocean Management titled, *Assessment of Oils and Chemicals Associated with Offshore Wind Facilities and Potential Environmental Impacts on the Atlantic Outer Continental Shelf*, concluded “The MMPD (maximum most-probable discharge) for Mixture 1 oils (hydraulic oil, synthetic ester oil, and diesel) could contaminate tens to hundreds of kilometers of shorelines above thresholds.” As the design of wind turbines advances, more turbines are being built with greater generating capacity. By the mid-2030s, offshore wind turbines are projected to grow to 500-feet in height and generate as much as 17 MW, requiring even more lubricants and potentially more spills...