

Design for marine life and aquaculture

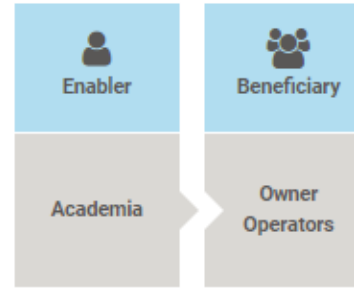
Type of Entry: Innovation Area

<https://offshorewindinnovationhub.com/category/substructures/>

Substructures > Enabling Research > Design

Description

Currently, the design process of a turbine, an array and associated infrastructure does not take into account the potential to enhance marine life (biodiversity), contribute to fisheries sustainability or aquaculture production. This process may have conservation value and may provide nursery areas for commercially relevant fish and shellfish, but there is a need to undertake research to assess the potential value of this process. In the longer term, this could contribute to the sustainability of local fishing opportunities. The use of offshore renewable sites for aquaculture has been explored in principle and through some limited trials, but there are likely to be significant logistical, biological and economic challenges to successful, commercial deployment. There is opposition to renewables developments that are perceived or in reality compromise fishing activity. Developing clear and demonstrable pathways to achieving these objectives could potentially help to streamline consenting and licencing processes and perhaps more importantly secure social license. There are potentially significant cost savings in this process.



Strategic Outcome

- Enabling disruptive innovation
- Commercialising >15MW turbine platforms
- Maximising operational performance of existing wind farms

