

# Potential Impacts to Commercial Fishing

## Construction Phase

- Displacement of fishing vessels during installation of foundations and during cable laying
- Increased vessel traffic in ports and within offshore work areas

## Operations Phase

The long-term presence of offshore wind structures in the Lease Area could result in:

- Long-term space use conflicts for fishing and transiting within the Lease Area
- Increased risk of allision or collision for fishing vessels in the Lease Area
- Habitat modification in the Lease Area and along submarine export cable corridors
- Potential for gear entanglement and loss due to interactions with exposed cables
- Artificial reef effect may increase density of structure-oriented fish



## Revolution Wind–Committed Environmental Protection Measures (EPMs) to Abate Potential Impacts to Commercial Fishing

- Use a 1 × 1–nautical-mile grid layout of wind turbine generators (WTGs) to allow for safe navigation
- Use a mechanical cutter, mechanical plow, or jet plow to bury cables effectively below seabed
- Use a target burial depth of 4 to 6 feet below seabed
- Site the Project to avoid conflicts with Department of Defense (DoD) use areas and navigational areas identified by the U.S. Coast Guard (USCG)
- Implement best management practices to minimize impacts on fisheries
- Conduct fisheries and benthic monitoring studies before, during, and after construction in collaboration with local fishing industry
- Require all vessels to comply with spill, prevention, and control requirements
- Manage all accidental spills or releases through the offshore response plan
- Mark and light each WTG with approved aviation and navigation markings and lights
- Install Automatic Identification Systems at the Lease Area corners
- Require all vessel operators to implement waste management plans and require yearly marine trash and debris awareness training and certification
- Implement a fisheries communication plan to:
  - Conduct communications and outreach to the commercial and recreational fishing industries
  - Share fisheries monitoring data annually
  - Inform all mariners of construction activities and vessel movements
  - Connect with mariners through a Fisheries Liaison, project website, and public notices (in coordination with USCG)
- Coordinate construction, operations, and decommissioning activities with USCG, Naval Undersea Warfare Center – Newport Rhode Island, the Northeast Marine Pilots Association, and DoD command headquarters
- Coordinate with Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management and National Marine Fisheries Service regarding time of year restrictions