



Fisheries Compensation Program
for Atlantic Coast Offshore Wind

Introduction to the Regional Fund Administrator (RFA)

NEFMC Joint Habitat Committee and Advisory Panel Meeting
September 11, 2025



The Regional Fund Administrator (“RFA”) Team

BrownGreer

Orran Brown, Jr.
(project lead)

Independent third-party administrator emphasizing accessibility and transparency

Design and develop an equitable and transparent framework for Compensation Fund and associated claims process

Seek significant stakeholder input for feedback on design elements

Carbon Trust

Olivia Burke
(project manager)

Engagement lead for “1-2-1” conversations, caucus group meeting facilitation

Working with local engagement officers for broader feedback - Laura Singer and Deirdre Boelke

Supporting the convening of caucus group meetings during transition to the RFA

Consensus Building Institute (“CBI”)

Pat Field

Convenes the Design Oversight Committee (“DOC”)

General convening support, strategic advisement, and project management

Supports the transition to the RFA

Special Initiative on Offshore Wind (“SIOW”)

Kris Ohleth

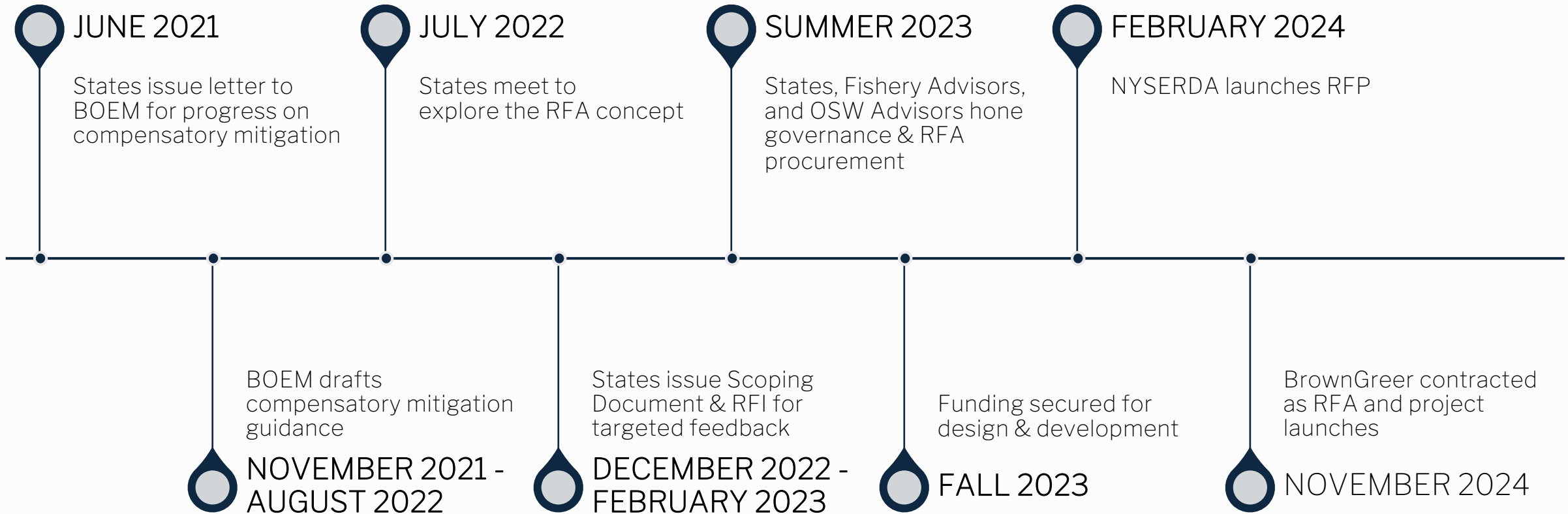
Convenes the For-Hire Committee (“FHC”)

Convenes the 11-States working group

Supports the transition to the RFA

Shares administrative and fiscal oversight with NYSERDA

RFA Origin





Common questions on the RFA

www.rfainfo.com

- ❑ The RFA is tasked with developing a process for distributing financial compensation to address potential economic losses from offshore wind development
- ❑ Compensation is the last step in the overall mitigation hierarchy. Project plans must first provide proposed measures for avoiding, minimizing, reducing, eliminating and monitoring environmental impacts.
- ❑ This process will **not** focus on compensation programs already developed, or how money comes into a regional fund.
- ❑ The scope of this process is focused on developing a framework for how money is distributed out for future compensation programs.

Guiding Program Principles for Regional Design

WORKING DRAFT

Consistent

Consistent in how to apply for, determine, and allocate monies



Fair

Compensation that is fair and reasonable.



Impact

The Program should fairly and reasonably compensate those active fishing enterprises that are directly affected by OSW development.



Intuitive

Intuitive and easy to understand program



Incentives

The Program should reinforce incentives to keep fishermen fishing.



Equitable

Treat impacted fishermen equitably, regardless of fishery, home or landing port, or state affiliation.



Transparent

The Program should be clearly explainable, its methods publicly available, and its aggregated results publicly shared.



Efficient

Administratively and limit burden.



Authentic

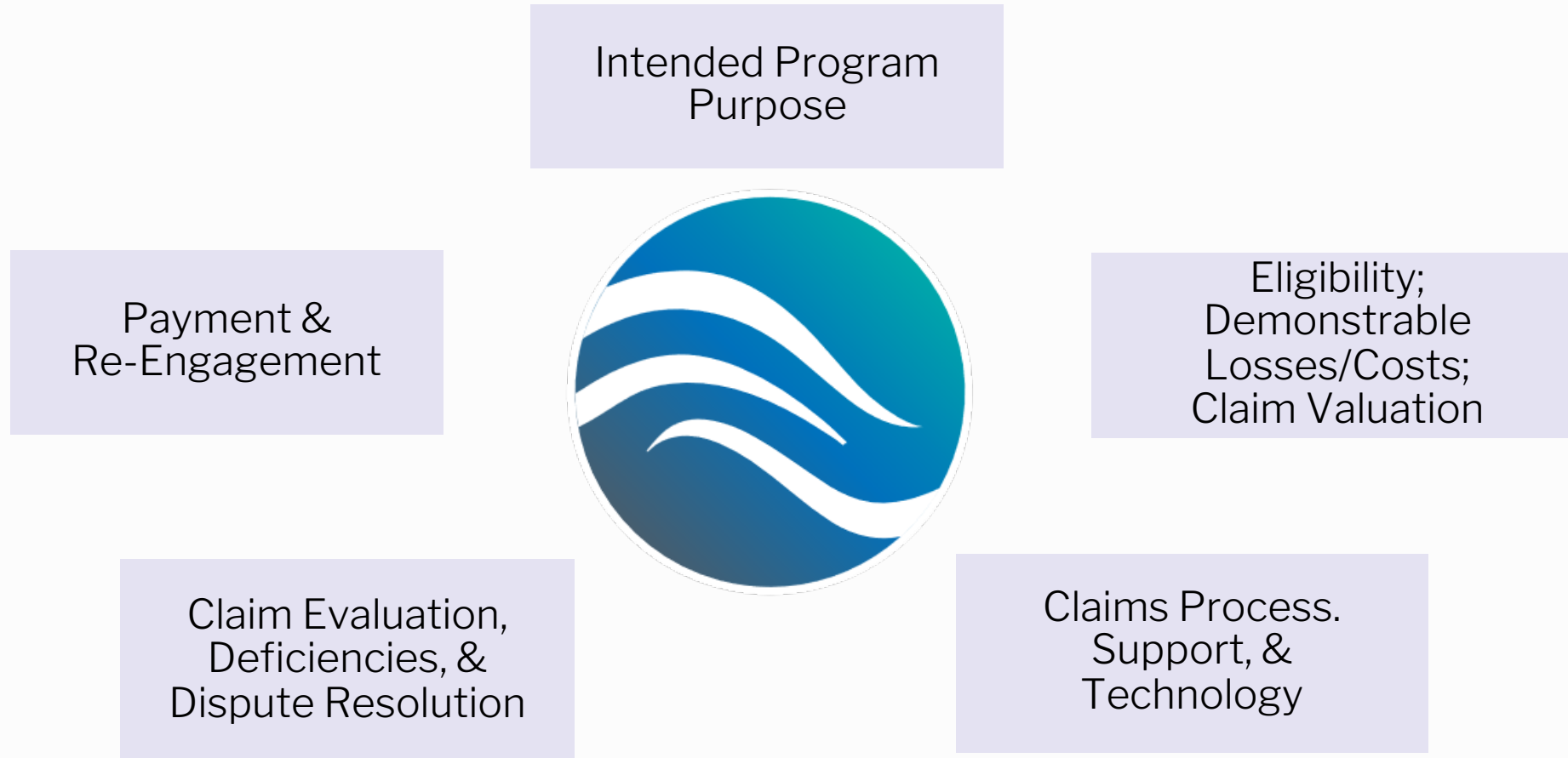
The Program should rely on an evidence-based approach and best available data and discourage manipulation that would disadvantage affected fishing businesses



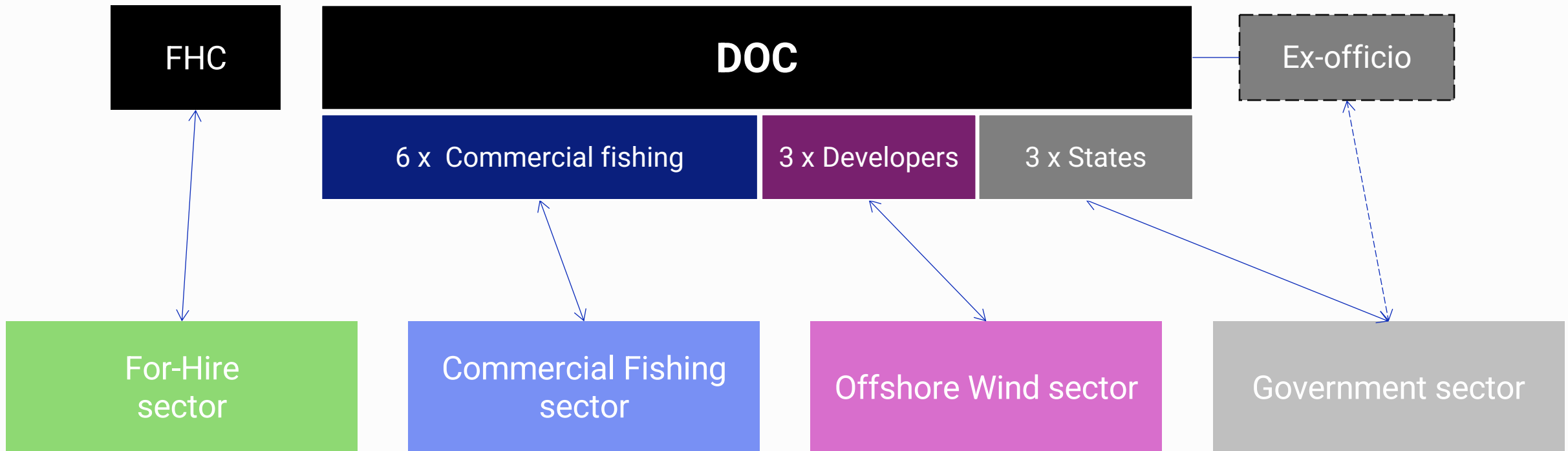
Comprehensive

The Program's rules should reflect inclusiveness of the vast majority of likely claim scenarios and should afford restrained flexibility for outlier cases.

Overview of Program Components



Relevant Stakeholders for the RFA Project



- We will help to facilitate regular meetings between DOC members and their sectors
- Fisheries sector includes stakeholders from diverse fisheries, regions and ports



Governing Committees

Design Oversight Committee (“DOC”)

Commercial Fishing Industry

- **Hank Soule, Vincent Balzano, Joe Gilbert, Roy Diehl, Sam Martin, Wes Townsend**
- *Alternate Members: Beth Casoni, Jerry Leeman, Bonnie Brady, Jeff Kaelin, Lane Johnston*

States

- **Brad Schondelmeier, Joe Cimino, Todd Janeski**
- *Alternate Members: Erin Wilkinson, Julia Socrates, Carrie Kennedy*

Offshore Wind Industry

- **Brian Krevor, Emily Rochon, Rick Robins**
- *Alternate Members: Ruth Perry, Ross Pearsall, Samuel Asci*

For-Hire Committee (“FHC”)

Recreational Fishing Industry

- **Rick Bellavance, Bob Rush, Rom Whitaker**
- *Alternate Member: Mike Cerchio.*

States

- **Renee Zobel**
- *Alternate Member: Joe Cimino*

Offshore Wind Industry

- **Brian Krevor**
- *Alternate Member: Ron Larsen*



Project Timeline

Timeline for the RFA Project - design and development of the regional compensation fund	
November 2024	Project set-up and initiation
December – January 2024	Launching the DOC / FHC, kick-off meetings, development of Terms of Reference
February – April 2025	Introducing the RFA Project to the wider sectors
May – August 2025	Consultation on claim eligibility – <i>Who is eligible for compensation?</i>
August – November 2025	Consultation on loss eligibility and valuation – <i>What types of losses does the program pay? How is compensation calculated?</i>
November – January 2026	Consultation on documentation requirements for claimants – <i>What must claimants submit to prove their eligible losses?</i>
February – June 2026	Finalizing fund design and reporting on results – <i>What processes/systems are needed to administer the Program?</i>

Example Questions the DOC is discussing

- **Eligibility:**

- From when, and how far back should the Program look at a fishermen's history in an affected area to assess whether that history is qualifying?
- In how many of those lookback years, and how frequently within a year must a fisherman have fished to be eligible?

- **Loss:**

- Must a fisherman prove he or she experienced an economic loss? What losses are compensable? How do you determine and calculate economic loss?
- Must a fisherman prove an economic loss was caused by an offshore wind project? How do you determine whether an economic loss was caused by an offshore wind project?
- If no proof of loss is required, how should you determine what compensation a fisherman receives?

Do you have initial feedback to share?



Contact Us

Fisheries Compensation Program

Important Dates and Deadlines

August 12, 2025, 6:00 pm ET
FHC Meeting

July 11, 2025, 9:30 am ET
DOC Meeting

April 1, 2025, 8:00 am ET
FHC Meeting

See All

Important Documents

DOC/FHC Terms of Reference

DOC Meeting Summary (July 11, 2...

DOC Meeting Presentation (July 11,...

See All

- **Public meeting links posted in advance**
- **List of DOC members and their contact details**
- **Common FAQs**
- **Summary of current topics under discussion**

RFA Website

www.RFAInfo.com
contact@rfainfo.com

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