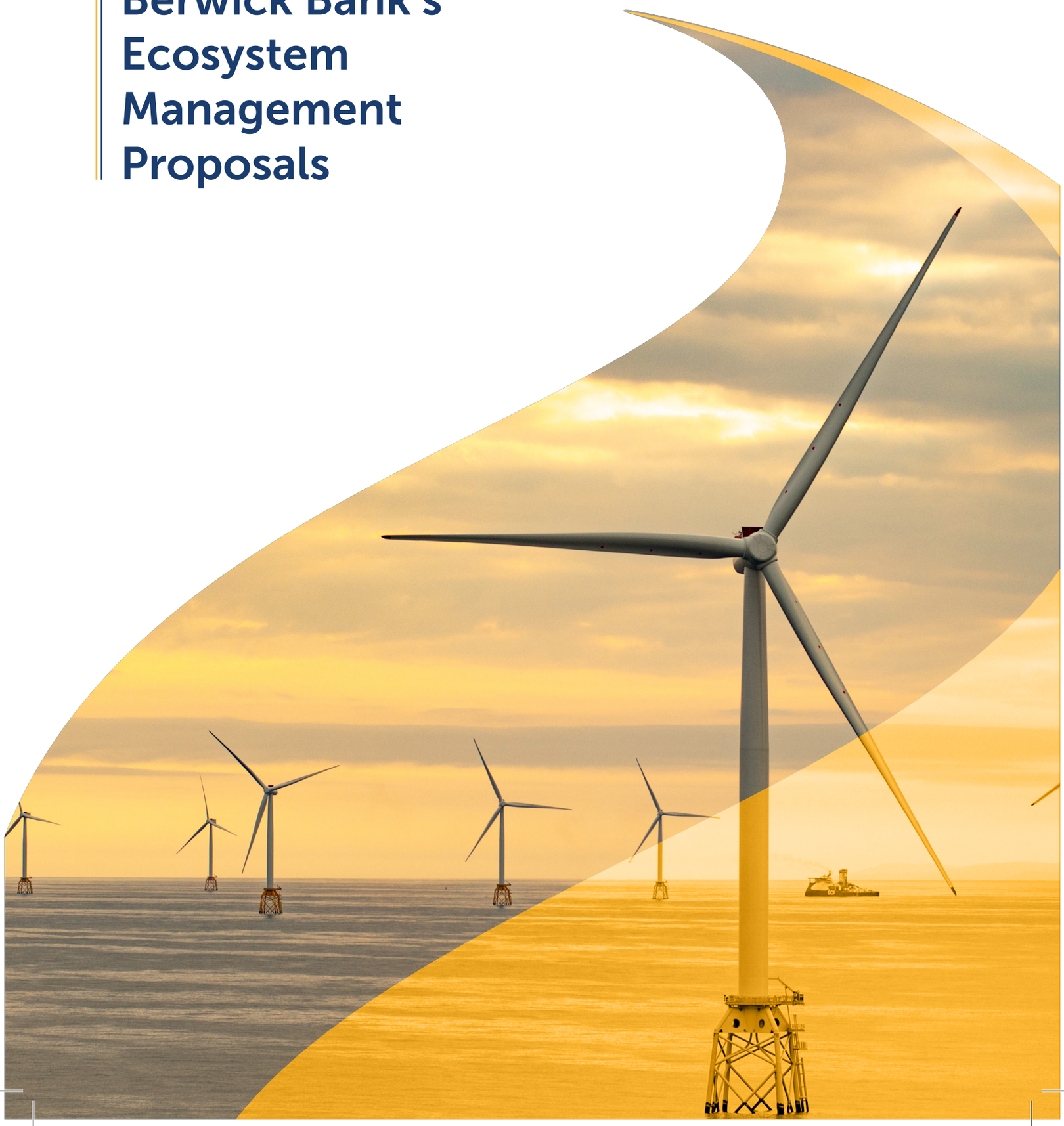
ADDRESSING THE CLIMATE AND NATURE EMERGENCIES

Introducing Berwick Bank's Ecosystem Management Proposals

sse Renewables

Berwick Bank Wind Farm



BACKGROUND

Located in the outer Firth of Forth, Berwick Bank Wind Farm has the potential to deliver up to 4.1 GW of installed capacity, making it one of the largest offshore opportunities in the world.

We are in the midst of a climate and nature emergency and the real harm human actions are having on the climate have never been clearer, or more impactful on the world in which we all live. A key part of this impact has been felt in nature and across a variety of habitats.

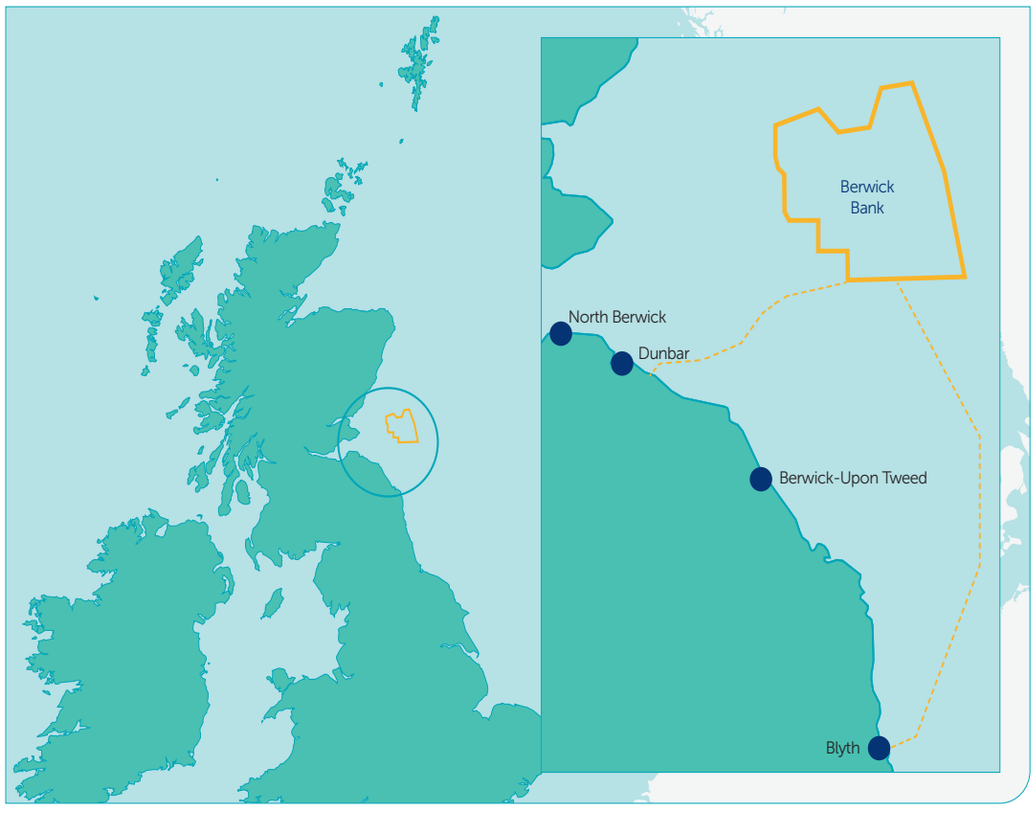
The key challenge to both our planet and our ecosystems is climate change.

Seabirds play a crucial role in our ecosystem and we know that since records began in the 1980s, seabirds have declined by approximately 49 percent.

We believe that Berwick Bank Wind Farm presents a huge opportunity to help address both the climate and nature emergency we are all facing.

As part of SSE Renewables consents application for Berwick Bank Wind Farm, we will be ensuring that we propose the most environmentally sensitive design feasible.

A key part of achieving this, is to ensure that we submit a proposal that compensates for any potential residual adverse effects on protected seabird populations that could occur after design based mitigation measures have been implemented.



WHAT CAN WE DO?

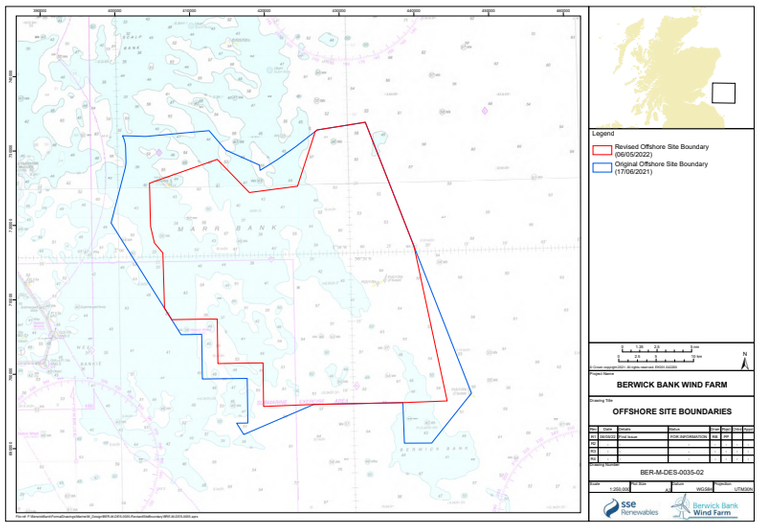
To ensure that we compensate for any potential impacts we may have on seabirds, SSE Renewables have already made significant changes to our proposals. Over the past two years we have carried out one of the world's largest aerial bird surveys to help inform decisions we make on the project.

These surveys have provided invaluable data, such as highlighting Kittiwake hot spots for feeding within our site boundary. As a result of this we have reduced our site boundary by approximately 20 percent, this is in addition to a 10 percent reduction that was already made in 2021.

In addition, our surveys have provided us with detailed information on the flight height and patterns of seabirds within the proposed wind farm area. This information has allowed the Project team to increase the height of our turbines to provide a greater gap between the blade tip and the sea to allow flight passage of birds, reducing their risk of collision.

Alongside these mitigation measures, we are actively exploring a suite of complementary measures to further compensate any impacts Berwick Bank Wind Farm may have on important bird populations.

Below: overall site reduction



COLONY MEASURES

Colony measures are a direct measure that we can implement right away to provide benefits to the existing seabird population. These may include proposals such as providing additional wardens and support at key seabird colonies or controlling the population of known predators, such as rats, to increase the chances of successful breeding at colonies.

We are also exploring how we can reduce the impact of plastic pollution and how we can provide supplementary feeding for chicks.

FISHERY MEASURES

We want to work alongside the UK and Scottish Governments, key environmental bodies, and the Scottish fishing industry to propose a solution to the climate and nature crisis that can benefit all parties.

One of the best measures that can be implemented to help increase seabird populations involves changes to the way part or all of the North Sea sandeel fisheries are managed within British waters.

As part of our planning application we will be recommending an extention to the Scottish Governments current closure of Scotland's largest sandeel fishery – SA4 to allow full recovery of the sandeel stocks, followed by management of the stock that fully accounts for the requirements

Sandeels are vital to supporting the viability of seabird populations in the North Sea and sandeel closures would halt and help reverse the declining sandeel population.

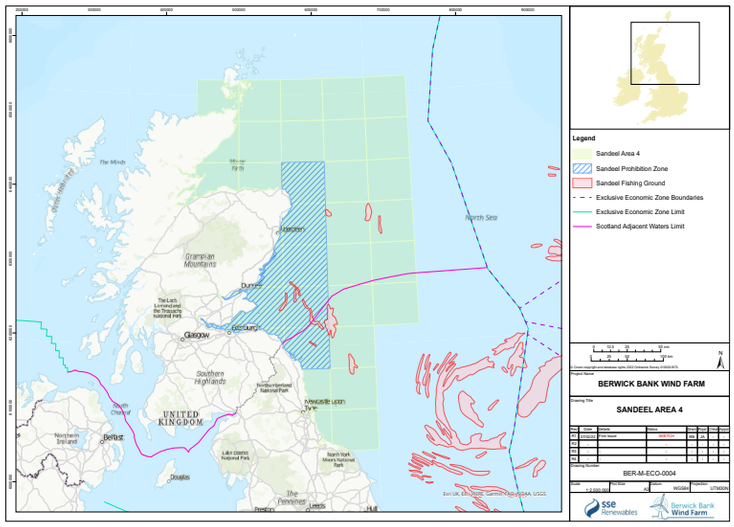
Sandeels are one of the main sources of food for seabirds during the breeding season and like seabirds, sandeels are also in a steady decline. One of the main reasons for this decline is thought to be because of the impacts of climate change and fishing pressures on the species by international fishing vessels.

This decline in sandeels directly contributes to the reduced breeding productivity and adult survival of certain seabird species, notably kittiwakes. By temporarily closing sandeel fisheries, we can allow the population to recover.

This not only can provide a benefit to seabirds but may also lead to an increase in white fish, creating better fishing conditions for the Scottish fishing fleet.

Berwick Bank Wind Farm is deliverable now and by implementing compensation measures such as these, we can pave the way for future developments to come, allowing Scotland to help solve both the nature and climate emergencies we all face.

For more information and to keep up to date visit www.berwickbank.com



Above: map showing SA4 fishing zone