

Community Economic Development Grant 2023-24

Row 14

Name of Applicant (Organization)	Midwater Trawlers Cooperative
Mailing Address	PO Box 2352
Name of Contact Person	Heather Mann
Contact Phone	541-272-4544
Contact Email Address	heathermunromann@gmail.com
Name of Project	Ensuring Continued Fisheries Success Through Offshore Wind Energy Development off Oregon
Total Project Budget	\$50,000.00
Amount Requested from this Program	\$15,000.00
Project Description	<p>Offshore wind energy development off the Oregon coast offers opportunities and challenges for Oregon's coastal communities, including Newport and the surrounding areas. Currently there are two draft wind energy areas off southern Oregon that if developed, will negatively impact Lincoln County fishing businesses. This project seeks to build on previous projects to showcase the importance of commercial fishing to Lincoln County, the state of Oregon and the nation and to ensure that offshore wind energy development is done in a transparent and responsible manner that does not harm existing ocean uses such as commercial and recreational fishing. The funding will be used to develop educational materials through the Protect US Fishermen coalition in order to provide outreach to the public as well as decision-makers at the local, regional and national level. Materials could include podcasts, expanded webpage content, advertising in local and regional media, and short videos of fishermen, processors and others who are directly supported by fishing. This project is not about denying climate change or saying no to offshore wind, it is about educating decision-makers and the public about ensuring any offshore wind development projects are informed by the best available information and science - which is currently not occurring within the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) process. Videos produced would be valuable for multi-purposes, and would be made available to others such as the county, port, city and other organizations that want to highlight Lincoln County's commercial and recreational fishing industries. As food providers, the commercial fishing industry in Lincoln County is committed to</p>

sustainable seafood practices. Seafood processed in Newport makes its way around the nation and world, including USDA purchases for food banks and the national school lunch program - feeding kids both in our communities but also nationwide. Seafood is also the lowest carbon footprint protein and eating wild seafood is good for the environment. If offshore wind development is not carried out in a transparent way with authentic stakeholder involvement, our entire industry is at risk - so this project is looking to sustain and even grow our important commercial fishing industry - where in Lincoln County - thousands of jobs and millions of dollars are generated for our coastal economy. Put plainly - Newport boats have harvested millions of pounds of seafood out of the draft wind energy areas and having turbine farms in these areas will eliminate the sustainable fishing that currently occurs there.

Funding	MTC has received a \$35,000 grant from the Oregon Trawl Foundation which was granted earlier this month for work to be completed in 2024 related to offshore wind energy development. I am also looking to use the \$35,000 to leverage additional funding. Additionally, Midwater Trawlers Cooperative has earmarked \$10,000 for this work for 2024 which is in addition to the significant amount of time that Heather Mann puts in on this topic under her MTC salary.
Collaboration	MTC is collaborating with the Protect US Fishermen coalition, a loose coalition of more than 20 fishing organizations which represent all gear types and fisheries in the state of Oregon. Additionally, in the matter of offshore wind energy development, MTC works closely with the Oregon Trawl, Crab, Salmon and Albacore commissions and would continue to do so under this project. We also collaborate with the West Coast Seafood Processors Association.
Viability	We will know this project is successful when the current draft wind energy areas off Oregon are rescinded and the process for offshore wind energy development is done differently off Oregon. As many have advocated - BOEM should use their deconfliction model to map the entire Oregon coast and also consider areas of the ocean that are deeper than 1,300 meters. This project is already underway with the funding from the Oregon Trawl Foundation and Midwater Trawlers Cooperative. The timeline is a bit fuzzy currently. As of now BOEM has received over 1100 comments on the draft wind energy areas and only reports they are working their way through the comments with no estimated timeline for when they will announce their decision on whether to move forward. At the same time, the Governor of Oregon along with several state and federal legislators has asked BOEM for a pause on offshore wind energy development while the state determines their roadmap for future development off the coast. Our goal is to influence both state leadership and BOEM to ensure this project is done in an informed manner, if it is done at all. When the public and stakeholders are authentically consulted on offshore development versus the top-down BOEM approach, we will know we have succeeded. This project will not need ongoing funding.
Desired Start Date	01/01/24
Desired Completion Date	07/31/24
Name of Chief Executive	Heather Mann

Position Title	Executive Director
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Chief Executive Email	heathermunromann@gmail.com
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Tax ID#	93-0881652
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Type of Applicant	501(c)(3) Nonprofit
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Grant Pool	Standard Grant (max \$15,000)
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Date Submitted	12/18/23 12:20 PM
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Source of funds

		Oregon Trawl Foundation	Midwater Trawlers	Lincoln County
videos	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 10,000.00		\$ 15,000.00
educational materials	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00		
pod cast	\$ 5,000.00		\$ 5,000.00	
website materials	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00		
advertising	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	
Total Budget	\$ 60,000.00	\$ 35,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 15,000.00

Any additional funds raised will go towards additional videos