

**ROSA Advisory Council** December 19, 2024

## Agenda

- 1:00pm Welcome, Introductions, Agenda Review
- 1:10pm ROSA Updates
- **1:35pm** Partner Updates & Shellfish Enhancement Discussion
- 2:45pm Break
- 2:50pm Assessing impact of ROSA's monitoring guidelines on COP development
- 3:05pm ROSA Advisory Council 2025 Planning
- **3:55pm** Action Items, Next Steps, and Other Business
- 4:00pm Adjourn



## Leading Regional Research on Offshore Wind & Fisheries

### **Inception**:

Formed in early 2019 as a 501(c)3 through partnership between RODA and OSW developers

## **Mission**:

The Responsible Offshore Science Alliance (ROSA) is a nonprofit organization that **advances research**, **monitoring**, and methods on the effects of offshore wind energy development on fisheries across US federal and state waters. We serve as an objective resource for all sectors and facilitate the coordination of regional scientific research to collaboratively and efficiently deepen understanding.



## SCIENTIFIC OBJECTIVE COLLABORATIVE TRANSPARENT

# **ROSA AC Executive Committee**



Current Executive Committee includes representatives from:

- Commercial Fishing
  - Peter Hughes
  - Eric Reid

### Recreational Fishing

- Mike Waine
- Willy Goldsmith

### OSW Development

- Jennifer Daniels
- Ruth Perry

### State representative

- Julia Livermore
- Morgan Brunbauer
- Regional Organizations
  - Andy Lipsky
  - Bob Beal

Reminder to EC to review the ROSA Data Policy by Jan 2





# **ROSA Updates**



# **Regional RFP** Tricia Perez

## **ROSA RFP Development Process**





### Advancing Regional Solutions for Fisheries and Offshore Wind ROSA Regional RFP 01

Topic Area	\$\$/TA	# Projects
Supporting Fisheries Access	\$1,600,000	2-3
Understanding Potential Offshore Wind Impacts to Larval Fish	\$1,200,000	1-2
Fisheries Monitoring: Data Integration, Evaluation, & Analysis	\$642,500	2-3
\$3,442,500		

### CONCEPT PAPERS DUE TOMORROW by 5 PM ET

# Full applications due on March 14, 2025 by 5 PM ET

Project selections expected to be announced **June 2025** 





# **Data Governance Program** Mike Pol

# Data Governance Program



**Goal:** To develop guidance for offshore wind fisheries data, **in support of future regional or cumulative impacts assessments**.

**Focus** on data streams from methodologies used in monitoring plans and OSW research

Leveraging data expertise of Intertidal Agency

#### **Outcomes:**

- standardized data management practices
- support interoperability with other data efforts in the region



# Data Governance Program



- Interviews with selected partners completed and draft summary created
- Data glossary in progress
- Data journey for trawls created
- Data meeting with Rutgers scheduled
- Repository review from ROSA report
- Defining repository expectations and criteria
- Discussing regional/cumulative impact assessment framework

# Data Governance Program



- Data/IP Policy
- Data Management & Sharing Plan for RFP
- Launching the DG committee
  - Terms of reference drafted
  - Thirty-four recruits
  - Kickoff meeting for February 11 m
    - Invitations sent
  - Still recruiting contact Mike if interested
- Pursuing additional funding



OSW Fisheries Funder Coordination Meeting Second Meeting - Nov 2024 Tricia Perez

# Offshore Wind and Fisheries Funder Coordination

<u>Objective</u>: Gather Funding Entities on the east coast to optimize research and monitoring dollars for fisheries and offshore wind.

**<u>Participants</u>:** Federal, state, and non-profit funding entities

### **Collective Goals**

- Coordinated research and monitoring dollars of all east coast funders that avoids duplication and aligns solicitation policies.
- Offshore Wind Fisheries Research and Monitoring Data that is
  Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, and Reusable (FAIR) to facilitate regional and cumulative impacts assessments and support meaningful solutions to the challenges surrounding responsible ocean co-use.

### Actions by ROSA

- Maintaining an updated FishFORWRD Database
- Facilitating communication of funded and planned research
- Providing templates and language

# **Regional Research Coordination Resources**



### **Regional Coordination Request**

provides actionable language to promote regional coordination of fisheries and offshore wind research and monitoring efforts via ROSA.

### **Data Policy**

standardized policy designed to advance research utility for decision-making and broaden access to fisheries and offshore wind data.

### **Data Management & Sharing Plan**

formal document that outlines how research data will be handled, stored, shared, and preserved throughout the lifecycle of a project.



# **22 Active Funders of Fisheries Research**



# 26 Active Funders of Research & Monitoring



## rosascience.org/research-coordination



Leadership v Programs v Resources v News v Support Us About v O

### **Regional Research Coordination**

ROSA aims to foster collaboration and streamline efforts across the East Coast to address the complex intersection of offshore wind development and fisheries. Our initiatives aim to bridge gaps in knowledge, promote efficient resource use, and create shared frameworks for research and data management. By prioritizing regional coordination, we support the production of standardized, actionable science needs to support research funders, developers, and the broader community. Explore our tools and programs below to learn how ROSA is advancing collective understanding and supporting actionable solutions.

#### FISHFORWRD

#### 2024 RESEARCH GAPS ANALYSIS

#### **FUNDER & RESEARCHER RESOURCES**



# rosascience.org/research-coordination





## Acoustic Telemetry Committee Update Mike Pol

### Acoustic Telemetry Committee



 Acoustic Telemetry Fact Sheet updated and posted to ROSA website:

> https://www.rosascience.org/ac oustic-telemetry/

- Fact Sheet sent to Acoustic Telemetry Committee for review/revision/reactions
- Next meeting planned for mid-February





**Co-Design Solutions For U.S. Floating Offshore Wind Farms And Fishing Compatibility - Project Update** Mike Pol

## **Co-Design Solutions**

- Project shares experience and knowledge from experienced fishermen with FOSW engineers to evaluate designs for mutual compatibility
- Pls: E. Lozon, R. Davies, K. Ampela (NREL); E. Rzeszowski, D. Brady (UMaine)
- Funded by NOWRDC
- First round of face-to-face interviews completed
  - John Nappo, recreational fishing
  - Dewey Hemilright, pelagic longline, (also bottom longline, gillnetting, fish pots)
  - Four GOM lobster fishermen





## **Co-Design Solutions**



Pelagic longliner, Wanchese, NC



John Nappo

- Interviews were distilled into a report on Priority Focal Fisheries Requirements delivered to NOWRDC in November and approved by NOWRDC and NYSERDA
- Documented spatial requirements, comfort-level ratings, and additional concerns derived from interviews
- Varying amounts of spatial needs across fisheries and between fishermen
- Varying amounts of comfort with fishing close to FOSW infrastructure
- Precision in locations of infrastructure vital to compatibility
- Public report from NREL to be released in the near future
- Engineers will incorporate information and evaluate alternative designs to be shared back to fishermen late 2025





# Partner Updates



# REGIONAL FUND Administrator update

**ROSA ADVISORY COUNCIL** 

**DECEMBER 10, 2024** 

## **Regional Fund Administrator 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	
<b>Carbon Trust</b> Olivia Burke (project manager)	Engagement lead for "1-2-1" conversations, caucus group meeting facilitation	
	Working with local engagement officers for RFA feedback	
	Supporting the convening of caucus group meetings during transition to the RFA	
<b>Consensus Building</b> <b>Institute ("CBI")</b> Pat Field	Convenes the Design Oversight Committee ("DOC")	
	General convening support, strategic advisement, and project management	
	Supports the transition to the RFA	
<b>Special Initiative on</b> <b>Offshore Wind</b> <b>("SIOW")</b> 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	

### **Governing Committees**

### Design Oversight Committee ("DOC")

#### **Commercial Fishing Industry**

- Hank Soule, Vince Balzano, Joe Gilbert, Roy Diehl, Sam Martin, and Spencer Headley
- Alternate Members: Beth Casoni, Jerry Leeman, Bonnie Brady, Jeff Kaelin, and Lane Johnston

#### **States**

- Dan McKiernan, Joe Cimino, and Todd Janeski
- Alternate Members: Erin Wilkinson, Julia Socrates, and Carrie Kennedy

#### **Offshore Wind Industry**

- Brian Krevor, Emily Rochon, and Rick Robins
- Alternate Members: Ruth Perry, Doug Copeland, and Ross Pearsall

#### For-Hire Committee ("FHC")

#### **Recreational Fishing Industry**

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

#### **States**

Renee Zobel Alternate Member: Joe Cimino

#### **Offshore Wind Industry** Pending final determination by this caucus

\*\*\* Each Committee will also have ex-officio members as appropriate from at least BOEM, NOAA, NYSERDA (RFA Contract Manager)

### Next few months...

#### **Design and Development Phase Cycle:**





### **Contact Information for Further Engagement**



RFA@BrownGreer.com

The Carbon Trust

Olivia.i.burke@carbontrust.com

NYSERDA

morgan.brunbauer@nyserda.ny.gov

NYSERDA 30

### REWSC Regional Wildlife Science Collaborative for Offshore Wind





# **Research Planning Map**

- <u>https://rwsc.org/map</u>
- Shows the locations of where data are being collected/research conducted
- Includes POC for each effort
- Where available, includes links to:
  - Entry in RWSC Database
  - Where data are stored



Introduction to the RWSC Research Planning Map Webinar Recording Here



# Science Plan and Database



#### https://rwsc.org/science-plan/



#### https://database.rwsc.org/



# AT Research Planning Coordination

# Very collaborative effort

- ACT-MATOS
- OTN
- ROSA
- RWSC Subcommittees
- Researchers
- Industry
- FACT Network





## **DRAFT Acoustic Telemetry Receiver Map Layer**



n =857

# Metadata Pop-Up

When you click on a receiver, the following project information will pop up:

- Operator
- POC and POC Email Address
- Project Name
- Site/Station number
- Latitude
- Longitude
- Exact Locations (Y/N)
- Instrument
- Co Deployments
- Status (Planned/Proposed/Active)

- Deploy Start Date
- Deploy End Date (projected if ongoing)
- Seasonality of Receivers
- Project in RWSC Database
- Date Submitted
- Date Added
- Date Last Updated
- Project in OTN/ACT-MATOS/FACT Network
- Archival or Real Time
- PI and PI Email Address


## Don't See Your Receivers in the Draft Layer?

- Already participate in ACT MATOS and your project is set to public, no action is required!
- Already participate in ACT MATOS and your project is set to private:
  - Email Kim (<u>east.coast.telemetry@gmail.com</u>) and request that your receiver locations be shared with the RWSC for inclusion on the research planning map. Please cc me (<u>jordan.katz@noaa.gov</u>).
- Participate in the FACT Network:
  - Email Joy (<u>joy.Young@thefactnetwork.org</u>) and request the Google Form Link to let FACT know that you would like your project to be included in the map. Please cc me (<u>jordan.katz@noaa.gov</u>).
- Do not participate in a regional node:
  - Email us (<u>admin@rwsc.org</u>) with your receiver locations and the additional information shown on the previous slide. Please cc me (<u>jordan.katz@noaa.gov</u>).



## MATOS Forms Available for Download

- 1. <u>https://matos.asascience.com/</u>
- 2. Click "Submit Data"
- 3. Click "Metadata Templates and MATOS Loading Instructions Hyperlink
- Download TEMPLATE\_ACT\_instrument\_ metadata.xlsx

Search in Drive	主		
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me V	Owner	Last modified 👻	File size
TEMPLATE_ACT_tag_metadata.xlsx	seast.coast.telemetry	Jul 11, 2024 east.coast.tele	97 KB
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X FIELDSHEET_Receiver_Downloads.xlsx	seast.coast.telemetry	Jul 11, 2024 east.coast.tele	16 KB



## Additional Acoustic Telemetry Resources

Acoustic Telemetry Data Management & Storage Recommended Practices GitHub Page

• https://rwscollab.github.io/at-data-mgmt/

Acoustic Telemetry Resources Page

<u>https://rwsc.org/acoustic-telemetry/</u>

Acoustic Telemetry Handout

 <u>https://rwscorg.sharepoint.com/sites/ProtectedFishSpecies/Shared%20Documents/Forms/AllItems.aspx?id=%2Fsites%2FProtectedFishSpecies%2FShared%20Documents%2FInternal%20Files%20%2D%20Protected%20Fish%20Species%20Subcommittee%2FACT%2FAT%20%2D%20one%20pager%20v3%2Epdf&parent=%2Fsites %2FProtectedFishSpecies%2FShared%20Documents%2FInternal%20Files%20%2D%20Protected%20Fish%20Species%20Subcommittee%2FACT&p=true&ga=1
</u>

Under Development by Beth Bowers and Matt Ogburn (ACT/SERC)

Acoustic Telemetry and Offshore Wind Best Practices Document



## Stay Connected with the Subcommittee



NOAA Fisheries



- See Subcommittee Documents and past meeting materials on our SharePoint page.
- Next full meeting:
  - Wednesday, February 12, 2025 from 1-3pm ET



## Mobile Receivers



- Mobile receivers/gliders outfitted with receivers will be included on the map.
- For recurring glider deployments, planned track lines will be provided

- Stony Brook University
- SoMAS Glider Project
- Charles Flagg and Ashley Nicoll



### **Shellfish Stock Enhancement**

# Atlantic Surfclam Mitigation Workshop Summary

Key Points from the Workshop November 20, 2024

### Workshop Overview

- Date: November 20, 2024
- Participants: 43 stakeholders including fishing industry reps, regulators, developers, and academics.
- Focus: Mitigation for OSW impacts on the surfclam fishery via stock enhancement.
- Funders and Organizers: Atlantic Shores Offshore Wind, MOCEAN, NYSERDA, NJ DEP, Special Initiative on Offshore Wind, Consensus Building Institute and Surfside Foods



## Workshop Objectives



• Review research on stock enhancement viability.

• Establish mitigation standards and stakeholder roles.



• Explore scenarios and practical steps for regional scaling.



• Develop immediate, short-term, and long-term action plans.

## Key Assumptions and Rules

#### Assumptions:

- Surfclam seeding is technically feasible.
- OSW integration is a desired mitigation strategy.

#### **Rules:**

- Focus on solutions, respect, and actionable discussions.
- Avoid debates on OSW or fishing merits.



## Insights from Research



• OSW affects 2.35M acres in the U.S. Mid-Atlantic.



 Revenue loss: \$1M-\$5M annually for surfclam harvesters.



 Hatchery scalability challenges: \$4M-\$15M for 1M bushels.



• To Do: Advances in habitat modeling and seeding technologies.

## **Compensatory Mitigation Standards**



• Mitigation must be in-kind, measurable, and transparent.



• Long-term financial and legal assurances required.



• Regional coordination enhances cost-effectiveness and impact.

## Thought Experiments



## **Actionable Next Steps**



• Transition to long-term mitigation programs.

•

## **Closing Remarks**







• Collaboration is critical for balancing OSW and fishery needs.

• Transparency and stakeholder alignment drive program success.

• A detailed Mitigation Workshop Summary expected complete for distribution January 2025.



# State of Surfclam Stock Enhancement Research

Daphne Munroe & Sarah Borsetti Andrew M. Scheld & Caela Gilsinan

> ROSA Advisory Council December 19, 2024





## Hatcheries to Enhance Wild Fisheries

- Stock enhancement for >180 species globally
  - US released 22 marine species (e.g., 30-40% Alaskan salmon harvest hatchery produced)

Protection

Herding, ranging,

ranching

- Conservation & production motivations
- Common in finfish
  - Salmon hatcheries
  - Japanese scallop
- Is this farming or fishing?

Predation

Hunting, fishing,

scavenging





## Background

- 2.35M acres leased for offshore wind development in U.S. Mid-Atlantic and Northeast
  - Atlantic surfclam fishery revenue losses estimated at 3-15% (\$1M - \$5M annually), concentrated in NJ
  - Hatchery produced Atlantic surfclam could be used to offset impacts  $\rightarrow$  provision of substitute resources (US Council of Environmental Quality, 40 CFR 1508.1(s))



ICES Journal of Marine Science, 2022, 79, 1801–1814 DOI: 10.1093/icesims/fsac109 Advance access publication date: 20 June 2022 **Original Article** 



Land

Habitat

#### The Atlantic surfclam fishery and offshore wind energy development: 2. Assessing economic impacts

Andrew M. Scheld <sup>1,\*</sup>, Jennifer Beckensteiner<sup>1,2</sup>, Daphne M. Munroe <sup>3</sup>, Eric N. Powell<sup>4</sup>, Sarah Borsetti <sup>3</sup>, Eileen E. Hofmann<sup>5</sup> and John M. Klinck<sup>5</sup>



# Gilsinan et al. 2024



- Desktop analysis to evaluate scale needed to produce 1M bushels of market-size surfclam (~50-60% recent landings)
- Considered:
  - Hatchery construction, operation, and maintenance costs
  - Surfclam growth, survival in hatchery & nursery
- Data gathered through literature review & interviews









## Gilsinan et al. 2024



- To support 1M market-size bushels:
  - 374M 2.1B surfclam at hatchery stage
  - 4 18 hatcheries, \$4M \$15M
  - Average costs of ~\$0.01/clam
- Labor was the largest cost
- Analysis did not consider: land acquisition, permitting, hatchery failure, planting & harvest





## Current project: Hatchery and nursery siting to support Atlantic surfclam stock enhancement

- Assess existing hatchery capacity
- Evaluate potential sites for new hatchery development
- Estimate additional costs & production risks
- Explore implications for fishery management



A joint venture of **RWE** nationalgrid

offshore winc

## **Preliminary findings**

- Existing hatchery capacity varied across states
  - 10 (VA) to 0-1 (NH, DE)
  - NY: 3 private, 5 public; NJ: 5 private, 2 public/research
  - Oysters, hard clams, bay scallops most common
  - Interest in new species generally (diversification)



- New hatchery challenges: permitting (water quality), availability of space, public acceptance, workforce
- Hatchery failure is potentially high (~33%), increasing cost estimates





## Seed Survival & Growth

Experiments underway evaluating response of seed clams to ocean environmental stressors, seed growth and survival under various planting densities and sizes, and vulnerability to

predators.

### **More information**

Video: Seed Clams





Iulian Day







Can we Selectively Breed Atlantic surfclams (*Spisula solidissima*) for heat tolerance?







Sustainable Agriculture Research & Education

Heat-Selected-17 (HS)



16°C for 6 hours (3 replicates, 3 clams/replicate)

## 2025 Experiments:

- Field experiments (ocean) to test how survival and growth of seed surfclams varies with density
- Lab experiments to test the predation rates and size preferences of key predators on juvenile surfclams



New Jersey Offshore Wind Research & Monitoring Initiative

## **Design of a Seeding Tool**

• Architectural design complete



# **On the Horizon**

- Optimize the seeding tool
  - Several experiments, at scale, over 3 years
- Use AI and Machine Learning to identify enhancement locations
  - habitat suitability identified from
    - ecological and fisheries datasets,
    - co-existent oceanographic/atmospheric data and models,
    - proprietary commercial fishery spatio-temporal biological data









## Seed Production

A desktop study demonstrated this may be feasibly supported by hatcheries.





Seed Survival & Growth

Experiments underway evaluating response of seed clams to ocean environmental stressors, seed growth and survival under various planting densities and sizes, and vulnerability to predators.



### **More information**

Paper: Seed Production Scale



Video: Seed Clams



# **Seeding Strategies**

Design and optimization of a custom seeding machine is underway. Machine learning planned to identify locations for enhancement.

@MunroeLab

Many Thanks to the Various Funders, Collaborator, Partners.





# MOCEAN







### Workshop on the State of Knowledge Related to Scallop Enhancement



### ROSA Advisory Council December 18, 2024







### The sea scallop resource: A changing footprint



- The footprint of the resource is changing.
  - Warming ocean
  - Changing oceanography
  - Disease/parasites
  - Competing spatial uses
- In aggregate, one potential outlook points to lower resource levels and less access to areas available to the fishery.
- What to do? Can we do more with less?



### Can we do more with less? Global experience



- Many countries have had experience with techniques that represent a spectrum of approaches grow their scallop resources
  - Japan, France, Canada, China, Chile, New Zealand.
- Can any of these approaches be used in the U.S. to stabilize and enhance our resource?



### Workshop on the State of Knowledge Related to Scallop Enhancement Workshop Objective



#### **Objective:**

To convene a workshop with sea scallop stakeholders, scallop enhancement experts and decision makers to synthesize the state of knowledge as it relates to scallop enhancement and explore how scallop enhancement relates to the U.S. East Coast sea scallop resource.


#### Workshop on the State of Knowledge Related to Scallop Enhancement Workshop Structure

- Agenda Development
  - Centered around 4 focal areas
    - Seed Production
    - Planting and Transplanting
    - Ecological Considerations
    - Regulatory and Management Regimes
  - Topic experts from across the globe provided context, perspective and their experience on the varied aspects of scallop resource enhancement.
  - This information formed the basis for an interactive discussion around each theme.





#### Workshop on the State of Knowledge Related to Scallop Enhancement Outcomes

- What do we know, what do we not know and what do we need to know to evaluate the viability of resource enhancement for *Placopecten magellanicus* in the U.S.
- <u>Deliverables:</u>
  - A conference proceedings document summarizing the workshop.
    - A synthesis of information from the workshop for the sea scallop industry, policy makers (NEFMC) and NOAA.
  - A *whitepaper* articulating the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats of scallop enhancement for the U.S. federal fishery for *Placopecten magellanicus*.
    - Identification of priority needs (research, policy) to support the concept moving forward.



#### **Concluding thoughts**

- Sea scallops are facing a myriad of environmental and anthropogenic stressors that may reduce the footprint of the resource in U.S. waters.
- Acknowledging the existing expertise and long-running efforts with sea scallop culture and enhancement in the U.S., we sought to leverage that experience and engage with domestic and international colleagues to build out our understanding of the state of knowledge of enhancement.
- Ultimately, an output of this effort would be to produce an informed roadmap to guide future efforts in the area of scallop enhancement for the U.S. resource/fishery.





#### 10 minute break - return 3:00

# Assessing the Impact of ROSA's Monitoring Guidelines on Offshore Wind Project Development

Delaney McBride Graduate Capstone Project December 19, 2024

#### Offshore Wind Development

The Biden administration has set a goal of deploying 30 GW of offshore renewable energy by 2030.

Ten commercial-scale offshore wind projects have been approved, totaling 15 GW of renewable energy once operational.





#### The Renewable Energy Process: Leasing to Operations



#### **Current offshore wind development**



# **Project timeline**



# **Offshore wind and fisheries**



The impact on regional fisheries is still a topic of research and there has been continued engagement with the fishing industry. Despite outreach and involvement, conflicts still arise between the fishing industry and the offshore wind industry.



A need for neutral, science-based communication between fisheries and offshore wind was identified. Given the requirements for continuous research and monitoring on fisheries, offshore wind development presents an opportunity for cooperative, regional monitoring that can inform policy makers and marine managers.

### **Responsible Offshore Science Alliance**

The Responsible Offshore Science Alliance (ROSA) is a nonprofit organization that advances research, monitoring, and methods on the effects of offshore wind energy development on fisheries across US federal and state waters.

ROSA serves as an objective resource for all sectors and facilitate the coordination of regional scientific research to collaboratively and efficiently



# **Monitoring Guidelines**

ROSA published a framework in 2021 that includes essential elements to incorporate into monitoring plans. This framework includes 'good science' best practices and recommendations for fisheries biological monitoring studies.

The second edition of this framework is currently in development and is expanding to include socioeconomic monitoring studies and benthic habitat monitoring.

#### **Problem statement**

As ROSA is a **nonregulatory non-profit**, the organization can provide guidance but cannot enforce their recommendations. ROSA is increasingly tasked to provide guidance in the fisheries and offshore wind space and consistently works to ensure that they are utilizing the best available science and methods in their recommendations. The Guideline's scope of use has yet to be determined since COPs have been published post-2021.

Thus, an assessment of currently published COPs and their inclusion (or exclusion) of ROSA's guidance for fisheries monitoring and research methods is needed. This assessment will inform ROSA of their impact in COPs and will identify any gaps in their current recommendations.

#### Literature review

Monitoring efforts are not producing ecosystem level data. As the coastal environment continues to be developed, it is important to approach monitoring strategically and **reduce 'data-rich**, **information-poor'** research efforts and to instead focus on producing regionally-relevant data that can inform ecosystem management and regulatory efforts (Wilding et al., 2017).

A recently published review article found that 86% of possible offshore wind farm effects on ecosystem services is unknown or not well understood in the peer-reviewed literature (Watson et al., 2024).

### **Research questions**

How are developers and consultants utilizing (or not utilizing) ROSA's framework in their COPs?

What aspects of the guidelines are most relevant to developers?

What management strategies can ROSA adopt to better engage with the fisheries and offshore wind community to improve future guidelines?

# **Research design**

The influence of monitoring and mitigation guidelines in OSW project development



## **Data description & methods**

I analyzed nine COPs and coded the references to ROSA using a SLR approach to determine how often ROSA is included and in what capacity they are included in COPs.

COP sections of interest:

- 1. Project description
- 2. Fisheries communication and outreach plan
- 3. Essential fish habitat assessment
- 4. Fisheries mitigation and monitoring
- 5. Fisheries and benthic monitoring plan
- 6. Summary of agency and stakeholder engagement

#### **Identified themes**

#### Collaboration

Monitoring & Research Design Standardization

#### Scientific Best Practices

Stakeholder Engagement & Outreach Data Storage & Sharing Protocols

#### Results

#### Seven out of nine COPs referenced ROSA

	Theme				
Wind Project	Collaboration	Monitoring & Research Design Standardization	Scientific Best Practices	Stakeholder Engagement & Outreach	Data Storage & Sharing Protocols
Ocean Wind 1	X				
Atlantic Shores South	x	x		x	
Atlantic Shores North		X	x	X	X
Sunrise wind		x		x	x
Empire Wind	X	x			x
South Fork Wind				x	
CVOW-C				X	

### **Research questions answered**

How are developers and consultants utilizing (or not utilizing) ROSA's framework in their COPs?

Developers most consistently refer to ROSA as a fisheries stakeholder and collaborator. ROSA is also
referenced extensively as developers discuss their commitment to standardizing research and monitoring

#### What aspects of the guidelines are most relevant to developers?

• Developers reference the guidelines when discussing trawling and survey techniques. Developers also mention the guidelines as a heavily-referenced framework that informed their monitoring design.

What management strategies can ROSA adopt to better engage with the fisheries and offshore wind community to improve future guidelines?

 Continued buy-in from developers and consultants in the revision process will ensure all parties are aware of current best practices.

#### Recommendations

Develop data storage and data sharing protocols to foster communication across projects to enhance regional ecosystem knowledge

Leverage collaboration to develop a stakeholder-centered approach to research design with ecosystem – level data collection in monitoring plans

Collaborate with state agencies and stakeholders in emerging projects in VA, NC

#### References

About the Responsible Offshore Science Alliance. ROSA. (2024, April 16). https://www.rosascience.org/about/

Allen, Michael C. & Campo, Matthew. (2020). Ecological Monitoring and Mitigation Policies and Practices at Offshore Wind Installations in the United States and Europe. Retrieved

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Gill, A. B., Degraer, S., Lipsky, A., Mavraki, N., Methratta, E., & Brabant, R. (2020). SETTING THE CONTEXT FOR OFFSHORE WIND DEVELOPMENT EFFECTS ON FISH AND FISHERIES. Oceanography, 33(4), 118–127. https://www.jstor.org/stable/26965755

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#### https://doi.org/10.3390/s22082822

Lindeboom, H., Degraer, S., Dannheim, J. *et al.* (2015). Offshore wind park monitoring programmes, lessons learned and recommendations for the future. *Hydrobiologia* 756, 169–180. https://doi.org/10.1007/s10750-015-2267-4

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# Thank you! Questions?

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### Action Items, Next Steps, and Other Business



- Other business
  - Mike appointed to National Academies of Science Standing Committee on Offshore Wind and Fisheries
- Upcoming ROSA Events
  - Cooperative Research Summit Jan 28, Portland, ME
    - ROSA Booth
  - NEFMC Meeting Jan 29, Portsmouth, NH
    - ROSA Hosting Research Symposium
  - FishFORWRD Update (Jan)
  - Data Governance Kickoff Meeting (Feb)





# Happy Holidays!

**ROSA Advisory Council** December 19, 2024