


New York Bight (NYB) Fisheries Work Group

Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council

June 7, 2023

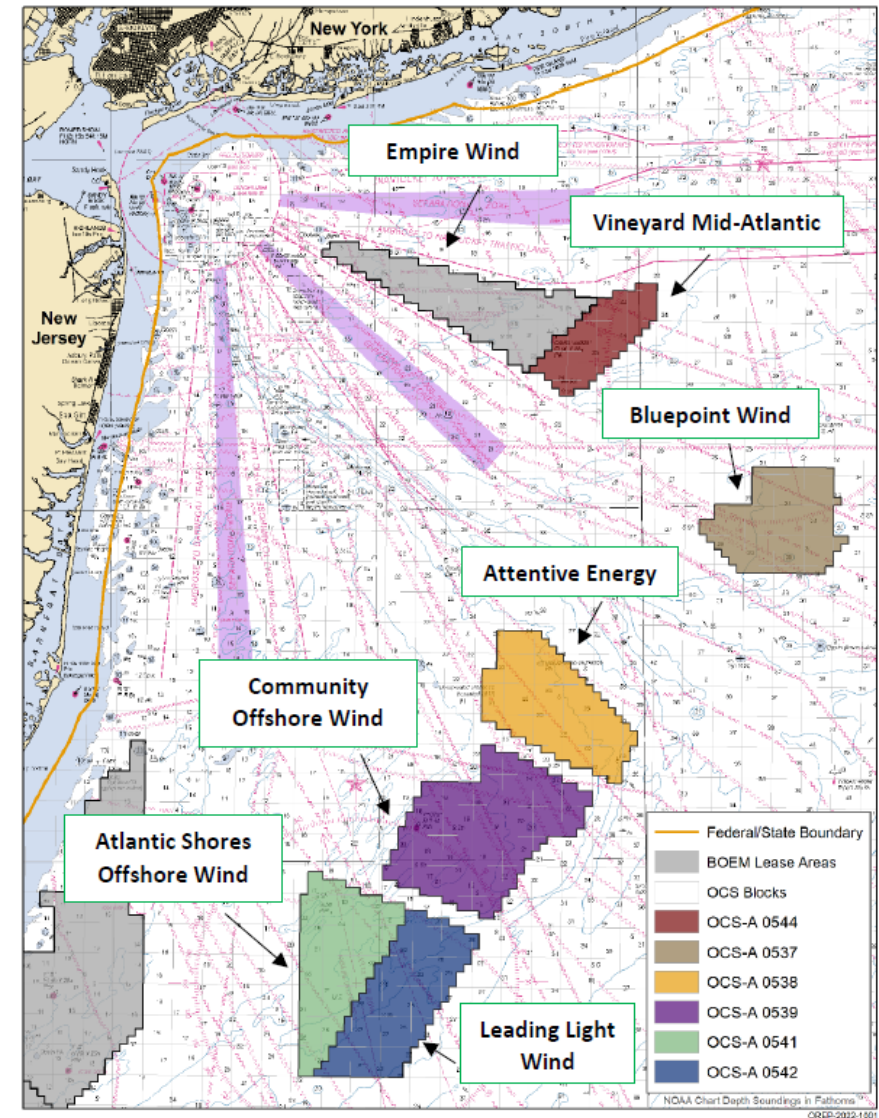
A photograph of an offshore wind turbine in the ocean. The turbine is dark green and stands on a concrete foundation. The sky is blue with some light clouds, and the water is a deep blue with whitecaps. The image is partially obscured by a white and blue geometric overlay on the right side of the slide.

American Clean Power (ACP)

- ▶ Trade association focused on advancing renewable energy industry in the US <https://cleanpower.org/>
- ▶ Formed in 2021 with over 800 land-based and offshore renewable energy companies
- ▶ Multiple sub-committees including marine affairs and fisheries that meet regularly

NYB Fisheries Work Group

- NYB auction in February 2022 brought new group of lease holders to the region
- Widespread desire for more transparency and coordination
- Work group formed in **January 2023**
- **Goal** - to advance engagement and collaboration with fishery participants and other ocean users through increased coordination among lessees in the New York Bight





Initial Coordination Topics

1. Stakeholder outreach
2. Survey coordination
3. Development of monitoring programs

Examples under consideration

- NYB Developers Offshore Wind Update
- Periodic updates at Council meetings and other relevant public meetings
- Summary table with survey activities across projects in the region
- Directory of commercial and recreational vessels interested in offshore wind support services
- Summary of vessel safety and onboarding protocols across developers - *goal of standardization*

MEET THE FISHERIES LIAISONS

In this first edition, we are introducing the Fisheries Liaisons for each of the projects. The role of a Fisheries Liaison is to serve as a point of contact and engagement between the fishing community and a project. Please do not hesitate to reach out to any of these individuals with questions or concerns, recommendations for how and when to communicate, the type of information you would like to receive, mechanisms to provide feedback, and suggestions to promote successful outcomes for fisheries and offshore wind.

Empire Wind (Lease 0512)

- Elizabeth Marchetti (emarc@equinor.com)
- Actively and passionately working with the commercial fishing communities as a field scientist and fisherman from Block Island Wind Farm Fisheries Liaison.
- Bachelor of Science Degree in Marine Biology from

Bluepoint Wind (Lease 0537)

- Calvin Alexander (fisheries@bluepointwind.com)
- Over 25 years of experience working with the commercial fishing community on quality assurance of seafood, fisheries extension, data collection, cooperative research,
- Fisheries Observer and Trip Trainer in the Northeast Fisheries Observer and Watch Chief on multiple industry-based fishing surveys and projects for NOAA Fisheries.
- Bachelor of Science in Aquaculture and Fisheries Technology from the University of Rhode Island

Attentive Energy (Lease 0538)

- Sebastian Velez (sebastian.velez@attentiveenergy.com)
- Worked as a Fisheries Liaison for the Attentive Energy Program and reported to the Attentive Energy Program Manager.
- MSc in Biological Sciences from the University of North Carolina
- Extensive understanding of fisheries and community across the region.

Vineyard Mid-Atlantic

- Crista Bank (cbank@vineyardmidatlantic.com)
- Fisheries biologist who spent 10 years on fishing vessels working on commercial fishing operations.
- Sailed on traditional sailing vessels and earned her 100-ton Captain's License.
- Holds a bachelor's degree in Marine Biology from the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth.

- Travis Lowery (tlowery@vineyardmidatlantic.com)
- Fisheries biologist who spent 6 years on fishing vessels working on commercial fishing operations.
- Spent over 300 days at sea as chief scientist on various projects. He most recently led the vessel on the Wind 1 lease area.
- Holds a bachelor's degree in Environmental Science and Sociology from the University of Massachusetts Boston and a master's degree in Living Marine Resources Science and Management from the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth.

Community Offshore Wind (Lease 0539)

- Deirdre Boelke (DeirdreB@communityoffshorewind.com)
- Over 20 years as staff to the New England Fishery Management Council, 10 years as Sea Scallop Plan Coordinator, 5 years as Herring Plan coordinator.
- Staff lead on various habitat projects and extensive experience in cooperative research as lead for the Scallop Research Set-Aside (RSA) program.
- Bachelor of Science in Biology from Georgetown University, Masters degree in Marine Affairs from the University of Rhode Island.

- Michelle Duval (MichelleD@communityoffshorewind.com)
- 10 years with NC Division of Marine Fisheries, served as state representative on South Atlantic Fishery Management Council and Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission.
- Member of Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, New England Fishery Management Council Sea Scallop & Habitat Committees
- Bachelor of Science in Biology from the University of Michigan, Ph.D. in Marine Ecology from Duke University.

Atlantic Shores Offshore Wind (Lease 0541)

- Kevin Wark (kevin.wark@atlanticshoreswind.com)
- Owner Operator Commercial Fisherman with 42 years experience in the fishing industry.
- Participated for 4 decades on numerous advisory panels at the Mid-Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission and Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission.
- Marine Fisheries Council councilman.
- Continued Participation with NOAA on Take Reduction Teams working on technology advancement for Atlantic Sturgeon, Large Whale and small whale.
- Recipient of National Fisherman Highliner award in 2012 for industry spent over 300 days on ocean going research projects and initiatives at universities for a better understanding of fishing gear and the ocean.

Leading Light Wind (Lease 0542)

- Sarah Hudak (shudak@seariskolutions.com)
- Sarah Hudak represents Invenery's Leading Light Wind Project on the coast of New Jersey.
- Sarah worked for four years as a fisheries observer onboard commercial fishing vessels between Alaska and Hawaii.
- Sarah studied estuarine and marine science along the coast of North Carolina graduating from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Thank you!

Please feel free to reach out to the Fisheries Liaisons below with any questions or suggestions regarding this and future New York Bight Offshore Wind Updates. For more information on outreach in the New York Bight, please see the following links to each project's Fisheries Communications Plan.

[Empire Wind Fisheries Communications Plan](#)

Initial Feedback



- ▶ Which aspects of offshore wind development would you like to see NYB developers coordinate on? Which topics should this work group focus on first?
- ▶ Which methods of engagement work best? Best practices, lessons learned?
- ▶ Would periodic updates across NYB projects be useful? How often?

Questions?