



NYSERDA

**Department of
Environmental
Conservation**

Updates on Regional Science Entities

July 22, 2019

ROSA

ROSA

- Presentation by a F-TWG/ROSA participant
 - What is ROSA's overall mission and goals
 - Who has been involved in designing ROSA to date
 - What are next steps in furthering ROSA development
 - Questions from the F-TWG

ROSA Mission and Goals

- *Vision:* An improved understanding of ocean ecosystems that allows for informed compatibility of renewable energy and sustainable fisheries.
- *Mission and Goals:* To provide for and advance regional research and monitoring of fisheries and offshore wind interactions in federal waters through collaboration and cooperation in order to:
 - Increase salient and credible data on fisheries and wind development; and,
 - Increase the understanding of the effects of wind energy development on fisheries and the ocean ecosystems on which they depend.

ROSA Objectives

- **Identify essential regional research** and monitoring needs regarding fisheries and offshore wind development and operations
- **Increase efficiencies**, reduce redundancies, aggregate resources, and improve access to information for the numerous actors involved in fisheries and wind development
- **Facilitate access to data**, analysis, consistent use of existing data and research protocols, and increase compatibility of data collected from numerous sources
- **Undertake and support specific research** and monitoring activities to inform public dialogues and business practices
- **Provide a nexus for existing research monitoring** programs on fisheries, protected resources, habitats, and ecosystem components as they relate to offshore wind energy development and fisheries

ROSA Objectives (2)

- **Explore technologies** that advance co-existence of fishing, fisheries, and offshore wind development
- **Research practices that advance co-existence of fisheries and offshore wind** development, and consider the larger aspects of the ocean environment that offshore fisheries and wind energy facilities occupy, including ecosystem-based fishery management, socio-economic effects, cumulative impacts, and other relevant issues
- **Make the latest research available** to decision-making bodies and affected stakeholders
- **Communicate** issues, findings, and learning to key audiences
- **Advance regional understanding through collaboration**, partnerships, cooperative research to the greatest extent possible, and joint learning

Regional Science Entity for Wildlife

Regional Science Entity for Wildlife

- NYSERDA "jump started" by asking Cadmus and CBI (C&C) explore stakeholder interest in a Regional Environmental Science Funding Entity
 - 7 case studies, 25 interviews, facilitated a workshop on May 15, 2019 among developers, NGOs, states, federal agencies
 - Part of University of Delaware's *Special Initiative on Offshore Wind* workshop in late May, 2019 (management from same entities as May 15 workshop)
- Draft Mission:
 - Our mission is to successfully advance environmentally responsible offshore wind power. We collaborate to produce the relevant, credible, and mutually beneficial regional monitoring and research of wildlife and marine ecosystems needed to support offshore wind development activities in the US.

Regional Science Entity for Wildlife

- Objectives
 - Support consistent **principles, methods or standards** for sampling, data collection, and data management, across projects to ensure comparability and efficiencies in collection and approach.
 - Ensure data and modeling results are **shared among stakeholders and useful** in advancing off-shore wind and sustainable marine ecosystems.
 - Ensure that there is consistent, useful, and sufficient regional **monitoring, predictive modeling and data synthesis** to identify and fill key knowledge gaps and supplement baseline information to better understand trends, changes and regional and/or cumulative effects.
 - Identify and leverage **efficiencies** to avoid redundancy and create joint value, including cost efficient data collection and retiring risk, when appropriate.

Regional Science Entity for Wildlife

- Objectives
 - Identify, prioritize, and support **hypothesis-based science** on key research needs (species and habitat) including, but not limited to behavior, disturbance, avoidance, displacement, injury, or mortality and population-scale effects.
 - Support research to identify and evaluate **avoidance, mitigation and minimization** technologies and practices.
 - **Collaborate and connect stakeholders** across the region and sectors and science, including coordinating with the many **existing organizations and networks** already undertaking ocean and related monitoring and research (e.g. NERACOOS, MARACOOS, aquariums, universities, etc.)
 - Ensure **transparency and accessibility** of process, information and data.



Regional Science Entity for Wildlife

- Next steps

Ask	Next Step
Small group to continue momentum and progress	Coordinating Group formed to continue pushing nuts and bolts
Continue to consult with E-TWG and key stakeholders	Hold regular briefings and discussions with ETWG and stakeholders
Track progress and support communication on existing efforts	Identified leads to continue progress on existing efforts and communication to Coordinating Group and other stakeholders
Provide forum to collectively flesh out further details of potential entity	Host workshop in Fall to bring forward more detailed ideas for broader discussion

Questions/ Discussion