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Greetings,

Please see below for offshore wind updates for June 9, 2020.

Featured:

The Responsible Offshore Science Alliance (ROSA) is seeking commercial and recreational fishermen to serve on their Advisory Council, which will provide substantive direction and strategic guidance to ROSA. More information is available <u>here</u>. The deadline to apply is July 15.

General Updates:

The Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council will discuss offshore wind during the habitat update portion of their webinar meeting on June 17. More information is available <u>here</u>.

The New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) is hiring a temporary fisheries liaison to support a geophysical survey, which is scheduled to commence in July 2020. The deadline for applications is June 11. More information is available <u>here</u>.

The Coastal Virginia Offshore Wind (CVOW) project completed installation of monopiles for two 6 MW wind turbines off Virginia Beach. This is considered a pilot project and is the first offshore wind project to be constructed in U.S. federal waters. More information is available <u>here</u>.

Ørsted is seeking input on stakeholder outreach through an online survey (available <u>here</u>). The survey may be completed at any time and applies to all Ørsted projects in the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic.

The U.S. Coast Guard announced two updates related to Port Access Route Studies to determine whether existing or additional vessel routing measures are necessary in certain areas to improve navigation safety due to a variety of factors, including offshore wind energy projects.

- The Coast Guard is conducting a **Port Access Route Study along the seacoast** of **New Jersey and approaches to the Delaware Bay**. A public comment period on this study is open through July 6. More information is available <u>here</u>.
- The Coast Guard announced the completion of The Areas Offshore of Massachusetts and Rhode Island Port Access Route Study. More information is available <u>here</u>. The full report is available <u>here</u>.

The Department of Energy is soliciting input from industry, academia, research laboratories, government agencies, and the public on high-priority research needs, gaps, and opportunities regarding environmental impacts of offshore wind energy development and related monitoring and potential mitigation technology. This is solely a request for information and not a funding opportunity announcement. More information is available here.

Research Updates:

The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management released a report on striped bass and sturgeon movements through the Maryland Wind Energy Area. The full report is available <u>here</u>. A technical summary is available <u>here</u>.

The NOAA Fisheries Habitat Conservation Division in the Greater Atlantic Region recently developed recommendations for mapping fish habitat in wind energy areas. More information is available <u>here</u>.

The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management and the states of Massachusetts and Rhode Island recently awarded \$1.1 million for four regional fisheries studies to guide offshore wind development. More information on the funded projects is available <u>here</u>.

The Science Center for Marine Fisheries funded two projects related to offshore wind energy development and fisheries. More information is available <u>here</u>.

Wind Developer Outreach to Fishermen:

Fisheries liaisons for offshore wind projects are currently unable to hold face-to-face meetings with fishermen due to the COVID-19 pandemic; however, they are available to talk with fishermen via phone or email. Contact information for all fisheries liaisons is listed <u>here</u>.

Ørsted will host virtual outreach meetings with fishermen every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 8:00 am until 12:00 pm until they are able to resume face-to-face outreach. More information is available <u>here</u>. Ørsted owns or is a partner in leases for <u>multiple</u> <u>offshore wind projects</u> in the Mid-Atlantic and Southern New England.

Upcoming Webinars:

Rhode Island Sea Grant, ICES, and the University of Rhode Island Graduate School of Oceanography are hosting a webinar titled Offshore Renewable Energy in the US: Learning as We Go on June 15 from 9:00 am to 10:30 am. More information is available <u>here</u>.

The Mid-Atlantic Regional Council on the Ocean will host a webinar with the U.S. Coast Guard on the New Jersey and Delaware Bay Port Access Route Study (see above) and a proposed anchorage area near the approach to the Cape Fear River in North Carolina. The webinar will take place on June 16 at 2 pm. More information is available <u>here</u>.

The Wind Turbine Radar Interference Mitigation Working Group is hosting the third in a series of webinars on offshore wind turbine radar interference mitigation strategies and research needs. The webinar will take place on June 29 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. More information is available <u>here</u>.

OES-Environmental is holding a series of webinars throughout June on renewable energy development and the marine environment. More information is available <u>here</u>.

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Updated notices to mariners regarding offshore wind projects of Massachusetts through North Carolina have been posted <u>here.</u>

Open public comment opportunities related to offshore wind energy development are posted <u>here</u>.

For information on specific offshore wind projects, please see the individual developer webpages linked at: <u>http://www.mafmc.org/northeast-offshore-wind</u>.

If you wish to suggest an item for inclusion in the next update, please email jbeaty@mafmc.org.

Select wind updates from the New England Fishery Management Council are included in their periodic news roundups. To sign up for New England Fishery Management Council updates, please email Janice Plante at <u>jplante@nefmc.org</u>.

Thank you for your interest in this topic.

Julia Beaty

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