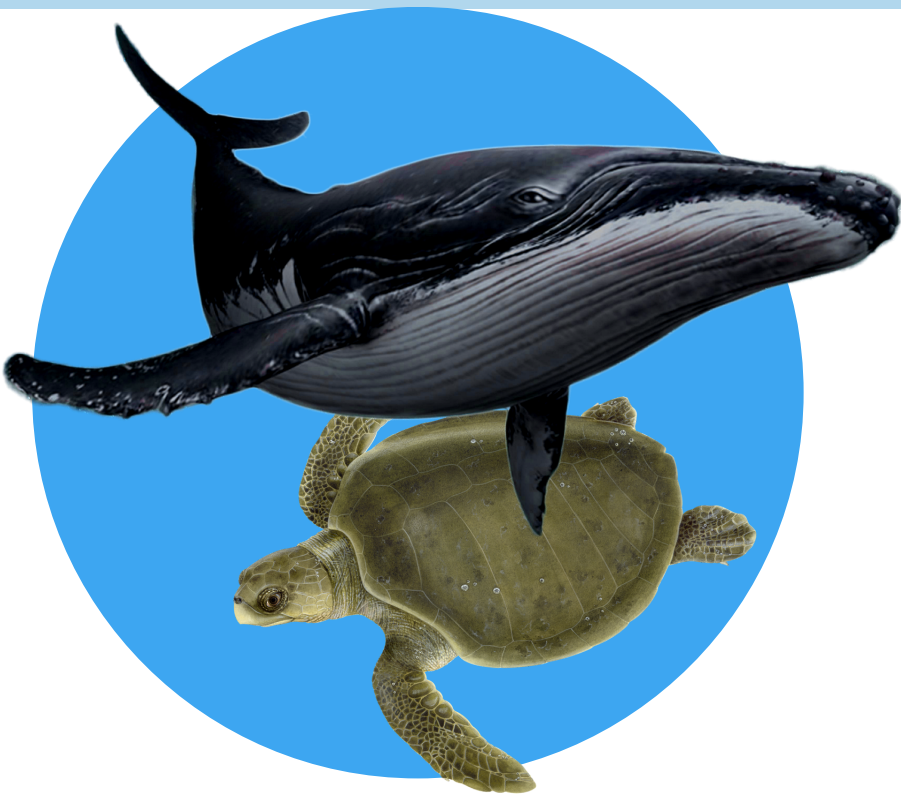
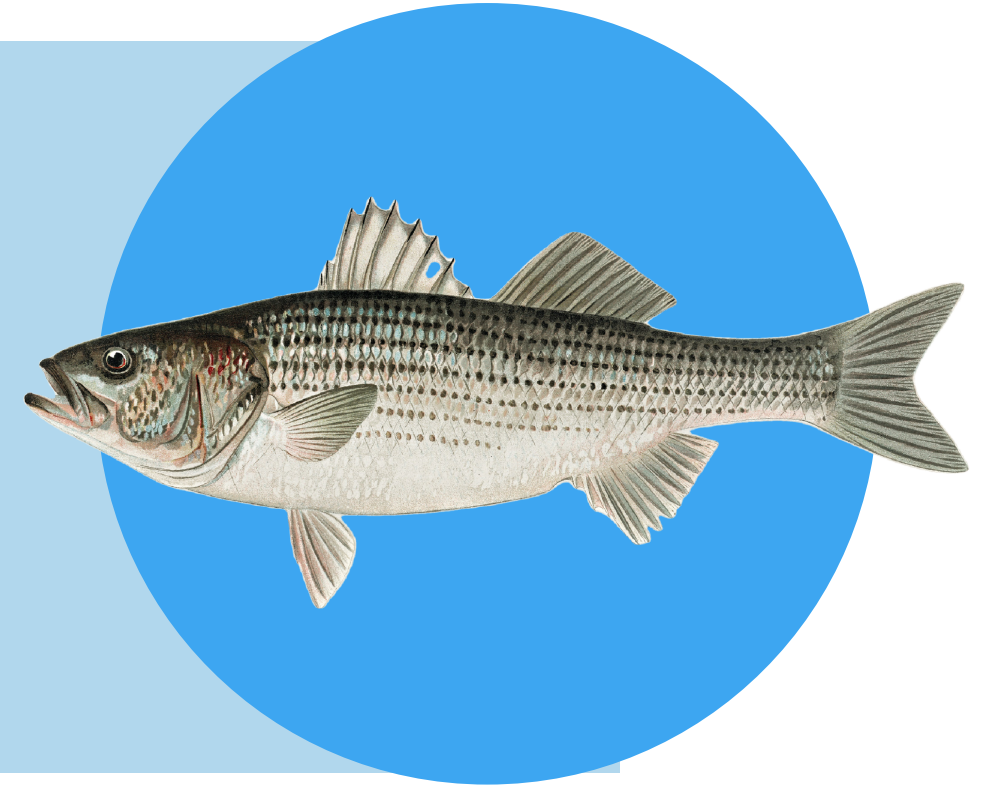




The Division of Marine Resources is tasked with preserving public access to New York's marine species and habitats and guaranteeing their long-term availability for future generations.

Fish and Fisheries:

The Division of Marine Resources reviews offshore wind project activities for compatibility with spawning sites, areas of high fishing activity, habitats of particular concern, migratory routes, high-density areas, and areas of high productivity. We also review for impacts on fish species due to sound, electromagnetic fields, sedimentation, and potential direct mortality.

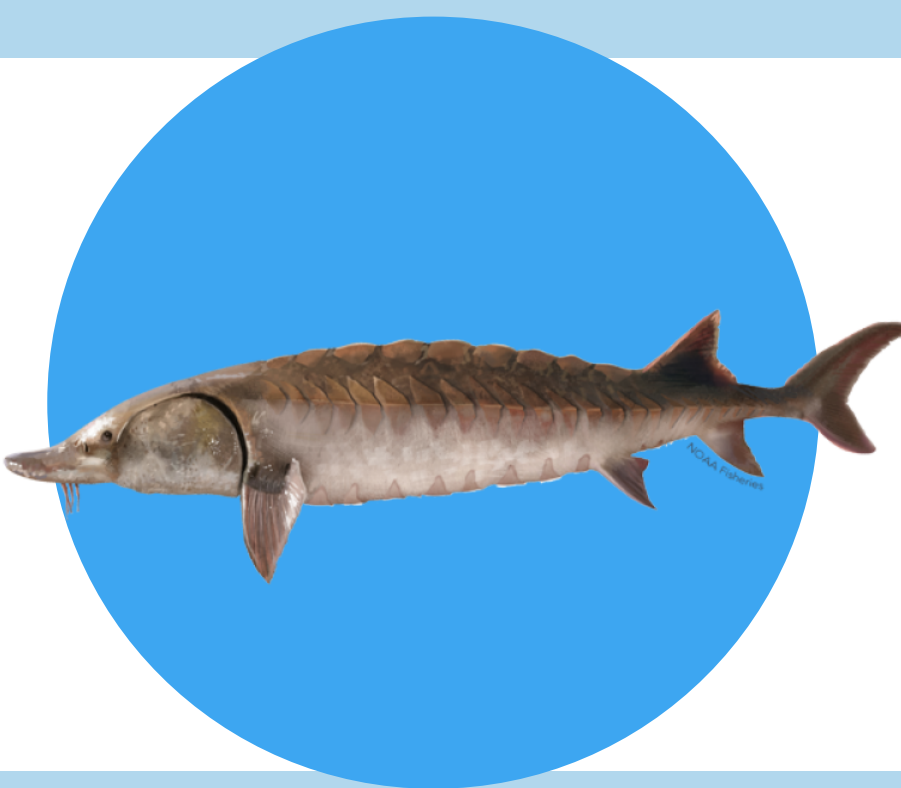
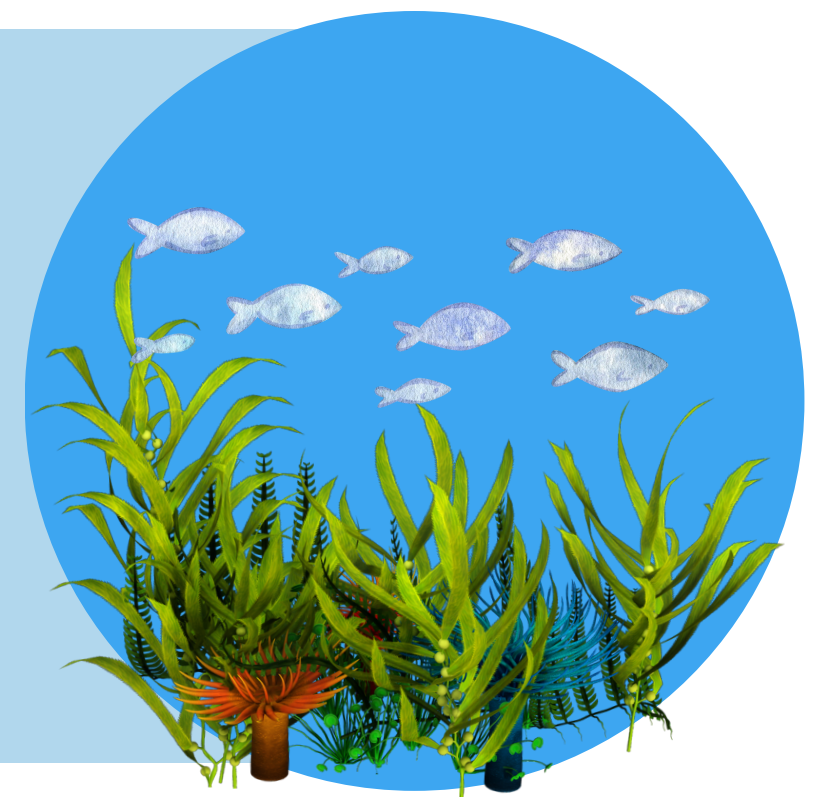


Marine Mammals and Sea Turtles:

The Division of Marine Resources undertakes a thorough assessment of offshore wind project activities to ensure that they are compatible with marine mammal and sea turtle migratory seasons and high-feeding areas. We also evaluate the potential short and long-term impacts of noise, electromagnetic fields, and direct injury and mortality on marine mammals and sea turtles. Such impacts include fine-scale displacement, large-scale distributional shifts, auditory masking, vessel strikes, changes in prey availability, and navigational disruptions (specifically for sea turtles).

Marine Habitat:

The Division of Marine Resources reviews offshore wind project activities to avoid impacts on sensitive habitats, such as tidal wetlands, complex hard-bottom, sand waves, mud and sandflats, submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV), cold-water corals, natural and artificial reefs, and estuaries.



Protected Fish Species:

The Division of Marine Resources is responsible for examining offshore wind activities that impact protected fish species. This involves evaluating the "take" of a species under our Part 182 regulations, as well as implementing time-of-year restrictions to limit interactions. Any negative alterations to the species' habitat such as areas used for breeding, reproduction, feeding, overwintering, sheltering, migration, or movement are subject to mitigation measures.

Shellfish and Shellfisheries:

The Division of Marine Resources reviews offshore wind activities for impacts to shellfish species, shellfishing, and aquaculture. This includes avoiding impacts to areas of high shellfish productivity, minimizing impacts to areas active to shellfisheries, monitoring contaminant exposure that could impact health and safety, and avoidance of areas with active or potential aquaculture leases.



NYSDEC's Role in the Review of Offshore Wind Projects

Offshore Wind Project Review

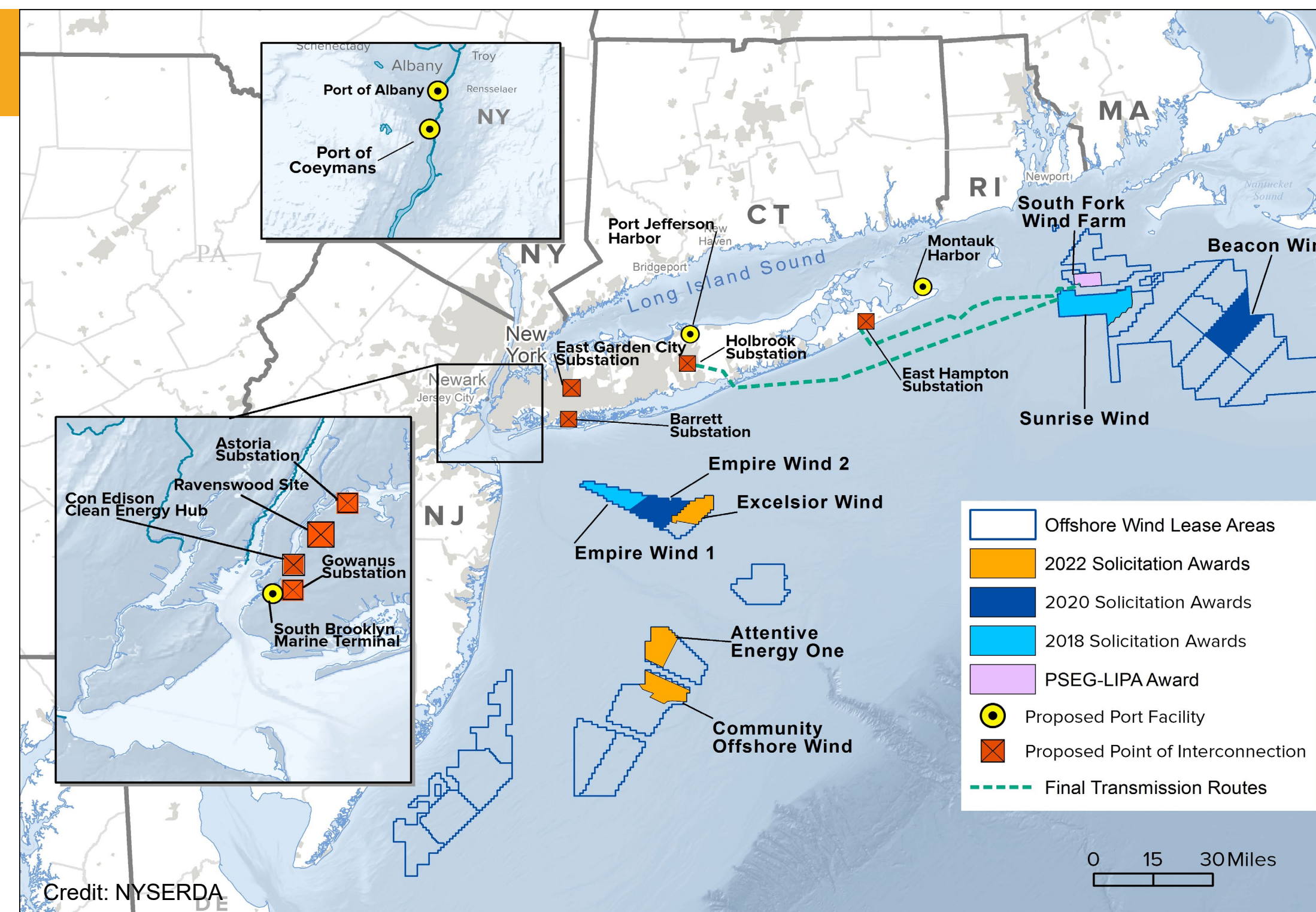
NYSDEC is involved in many aspects of offshore wind including the planning and siting of projects in New York State (NYS) and federal waters. NYSDEC participates in multiple NYS interagency working groups, several technical working groups (TWGs), and participates as a cooperating agency under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) for projects that have a connected action in NYS.

During the review and siting of offshore wind transmission cables and port infrastructure projects, NYSDEC reviews all project elements in NYS both onshore and offshore out to 3 nautical miles, ensuring that impacts to environmental and natural resources are avoided and minimized to the greatest extent possible. All project activities must be consistent with the Environmental Conservation Law (ECL) and its implementing regulations in Title 6 of the New York Codes, Rules and Regulations (NYCRR).

A single offshore wind project can have many components that impact numerous resources. The NYSDEC Division of Environmental Permits works to coordinate the review of these projects into a representative voice for NYSDEC to ensure agency concerns are addressed in the siting of these projects.

Primary Resource Areas of Concern Include:

Water Quality	Sediment Management	Benthic Resources
Fisheries	Stormwater	Protected Species
EMF	Wetlands and Waterbodies	Invasive Species



Offshore Wind Ports

Offshore wind port facilities support the manufacturing, assembly, staging, operation and maintenance of offshore wind farms. NYSDEC retains permitting authority over these elements, requiring all projects to meet permit issuance standards, and coordinates application review with federal and state agency partners. Environmental reviews are conducted under the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) and applications are reviewed under the Uniform Procedures Act (UPA).



Offshore Cables

NYSDEC participates as a statutory party in the Public Service Law's Article VII process. Article VII requires the review and assessment of the environmental impact of the siting, design, construction, and operation of major electric transmission facilities in New York State. NYSDEC's key role in the Article VII process is to negotiate conditions with other parties to be included in the *Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need (CECPN)*. The CECPN needs to be obtained prior to commencement of construction activities. NYSDEC ensures that transmission projects meet the requirements of the ECL and its implementing regulations. While the New York Public Service Commission (PSC) makes the final decision regarding all applications, Article VII establishes the forum in which community residents can participate with members of state and local agencies in the review process.

