

Commercial Fishing

Fishing takes place throughout the region using a variety of methods and gear types. The fishing community is a key stakeholder group whose views are actively being solicited and considered as New York State's plans for offshore wind energy development move forward.



New York State's Commercial Fishing Technical Working Group is developing best management practices to minimize risks to fisheries during the siting, construction, and operation of future offshore wind farms. The practices being explored include:

- Requiring developers to provide and abide by a Fisheries Mitigation Plan
- Support and encourage effective stakeholder engagement and communication techniques and practices
- Facilitating the development of industry and fishing collaborative monitoring models to develop trusted baseline data
- Developing and implementing safety procedures
- Requiring developers to consult with the fishing industry and State agencies early in the process and during all phases of development, including decommissioning to support site design and operations
- Hiring a New York State Fishing Liaison to support effective communications
- Supporting scientific research to better understand potential risks to fish and wildlife



In Summer 2019, NYSERDA selected five multi-year projects following a competitive solicitation to further study important environmental and commercial fishing topics to support the responsible development of offshore wind. Commercial fishing research projects include:

- Development of strategies and tools to address commercial fishing access
- Creation of a "data trust" for effective inclusion of fishermen's knowledge in offshore wind energy decision making

For more information about fisheries and offshore wind, visit <https://nyfisheriestwg.ene.com> or email fisheriesandoffshorewind@nyserda.ny.gov