



# Offshore Wind and Fisheries Interactions: Synthesis of the Science



Project leads: RODA/NMFS/BOEM

- Planning began with signing of MoU in March 2019
- Facilitation and workshop organization by Consensus Building Institute
- Planning committee includes RODA, BOEM, GARFO, NEFSC, NMFS HQ, ROSA, and Shell

Two-Part Effort:

1. Workshop (Oct. 14-16 and 30)
2. Report (completion in late spring): Section leads from project team coordinating groups of authors, reviewers, and fishing industry expertise

Goals:

1. To describe the current state of science, existing research and monitoring programs, data gaps, and solicit input into priority research questions
2. Model best practices to successfully engage the fishing industry in complex scientific processes and setting research and monitoring agendas
3. Advance the Responsible Offshore Science Alliance's (ROSA) regional science efforts

[MORE INFO: www.rodafisheries.org/synthesis-of-the-science](http://www.rodafisheries.org/synthesis-of-the-science)



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Recordings for Day 1 & 2 available on RODA website (Day 3 forthcoming)

Large collaborative effort: We warmly welcome research teams and experts involved in fish/fisheries/OSW research to participate!

Best practices emphasize the importance of including fishing industry experts to:

1. Increase credibility/legitimacy of studies through enhanced information-sharing, ensure needs & opinions of affected parties are addressed, build capacity for effective joint work
2. Obtain the best available information from on-water observations, enhance existing and future data collection efforts, improve data interpretation
3. Reduce conflicts between fisheries & OSW



# General Topics

## 1. Ecosystem Effects

- Benthic habitat modification
- Physical habitat modification
- Physical oceanographic process modification
- Ecosystem synthesis – Biological impacts

## 2. Fisheries Socio-Economics

- Distribution of effort
- Navigation
- Safety
- Impacts to coastal communities (secondary/tertiary impacts)
- Gear loss
- Ports/infrastructure
- Opportunity costs

## 3. Fisheries Management and Data Collection

- Fishery Dependent Data Collection
- Fishery Independent Data Collection
- Impacts on Management

## 4. Methods and Approaches

- Cumulative impacts
- Integrated ecosystem assessment
- Innovative monitoring approaches and technologies
- Regional science planning



# Next Steps & Role of ROSA



- ROSA formed in 2019, organizational buildout in 2020
- Mission and goals:
  - To provide for and advance **regional research** and **monitoring** of **fisheries** and **offshore wind** interactions through **collaboration** and **cooperation**
- Outcomes of Synthesis of the Science white paper and other regional efforts, including the work groups formed after this meeting, will help identify priority research in Spring 2021
- ROSA will also work with our Advisory Council to identify near-term needs
  - i.e. Interim Monitoring Guidance
- **Large collaborative effort:** We warmly welcome research teams and experts involved in fish/fisheries/OSW research to participate!
  - ROSA Council meetings are open to the public (next on Nov. 23)
  - Currently looking for Research Advisors
  - See <https://www.rosascience.org/>