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# *Environmental Technical Working Group*

*A Stakeholder Engagement and Advisory Process to Advance the  
Environmentally Responsible Development of Offshore Wind Energy for New  
York State*



**NEW YORK**  
STATE OF  
OPPORTUNITY™

**NYSERDA**

*29 June 2021*

# Introductions



## > E-TWG Lead: NYSERDA - 518-862-1090

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## > Technical Support: Biodiversity Research Institute (BRI) - 207- 839-7600

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- Julia Gulka x303, [Julia.gulka@briwildlife.org](mailto:Julia.gulka@briwildlife.org)

## > Facilitation Support: CBI and Cadmus

- Bennett Brooks 212-678-0078, [bbrooks@cbi.org](mailto:bbrooks@cbi.org)
- Farrah Andersen 703-247-6017,  
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# Meeting Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions
- Grid Study Discussion
- Updates
  - State of the Science Workshop
  - Guidance on regional research and monitoring
  - Guidance on pre- and post-construction monitoring
- Wrap Up & Next Steps





Icebreaker



# Grid Study Discussion



A photograph of a large colony of seals, likely California sea lions, resting on a rocky beach. The seals are of various shades of brown and tan, some sitting upright and others lying down. The rocks are dark and jagged. In the background, the ocean waves are breaking against the shore. A small white bird is perched on a rock in the middle ground. A black circle is overlaid on the top left corner of the image, containing the text "Networking Break" in white.

# Networking Break

# Updates



# State of the Science Workshop

## Workgroup Reports

- Draft reports are available for viewing at: [www.nyetwg.com/2020-workgroups](http://www.nyetwg.com/2020-workgroups)
- Reports will be finalized and available for download by mid-July

## Culmination Webinar

- May 21 webinar brought together the leads from the seven workgroups for presentations on outcomes and panel discussion
- ~375 webinar participants




**Environmental Change**

**Technical Lead**  
Jeff Carpenter  
Helmholtz-Zentrum Geesthacht




**Fishes & Mobile Invertebrates**

Focus: Sound and Vibrations  
**Technical Lead**  
Arthur Popper  
University of Maryland and  
Environmental BioAcoustics LLC  
**Co-lead**  
Lyndie Hice-Dunton  
Responsible Offshore Science Alliance



**Bats**

**Technical Lead**  
Cris Hein  
National Renewable Energy Laboratory



**Sea Turtles**

**Technical Lead**  
Gregg Gitschlag  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Admin.  
**Co-lead**  
Ruth Perry  
Shell New Energies



# State of the Science Workshop

## Next Steps

- Workshop proceedings
- Some workgroup leads are interested in pursuing peer-reviewed publication
- Workgroup outcomes can help inform regional- and site-specific research and monitoring guidance
- Workgroup outcomes can inform other research prioritization efforts (RWSE, SEER, etc.)



# State of the Science Workshop

## Process Debrief

Breakout groups of 3-4 people to discuss the following:

- Was this an effective first step in thinking about cumulative impacts?
- What is the next step (if any) that you would like to see the E-TWG pursue to address this topic?



# State of the Science Workshop

## Next Workshop

- General state of the knowledge of offshore wind and wildlife (open call for abstracts)
- Aiming for summer of 2022 – coordinating with other wind/wildlife conferences
- Hoping to take a hybrid approach
- If interested in being on the planning committee, please email [Edward.Jenkins@briwildlife.org](mailto:Edward.Jenkins@briwildlife.org)





# Regional Research and Monitoring Guidance

- Proposed 9-month timeline (6-12 months; TBD with SC)
- Coordination with the RWSE
- E-TWG volunteers?

[illegible]

# Guidance for pre- and post-construction monitoring

- Recognized need for coordination with federal agencies
  - BOEM
  - NOAA
  - USFWS



# Update to NYSERDA Environmental Research Program Plan

- Area #4: Marine Wind and Wildlife
- Developed via stakeholder engagement survey and expert elicitation process with state/federal agencies (2015)
- 2021 update (integrated with development of guidance for regional research and monitoring)

[www.nyserdera.ny.gov/All-Programs/Programs/Environmental-Research/Research-Planning](http://www.nyserdera.ny.gov/All-Programs/Programs/Environmental-Research/Research-Planning)





# Wrap Up & Next Steps

## Next Steps

- Online survey for future meetings/workshop logistics
  - Please complete this survey if you haven't already! [www.surveymonkey.com/r/NDQ9BW5](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NDQ9BW5)
- Specialist Committee formation for regional monitoring guidance effort
- Continued discussions/planning around site-specific monitoring guidance
- Topics for future E-TWG meetings:
  - Additional information on R&D Consortium projects
  - NY Phase 2 projects (Empire Wind 2 and Beacon)
  - Environmental Mitigation Plans for Phases 1-2 projects

## Upcoming Meetings

- Next E-TWG meeting – August 17, 1-4 pm EDT – probably will be canceled. EMP meeting in September?