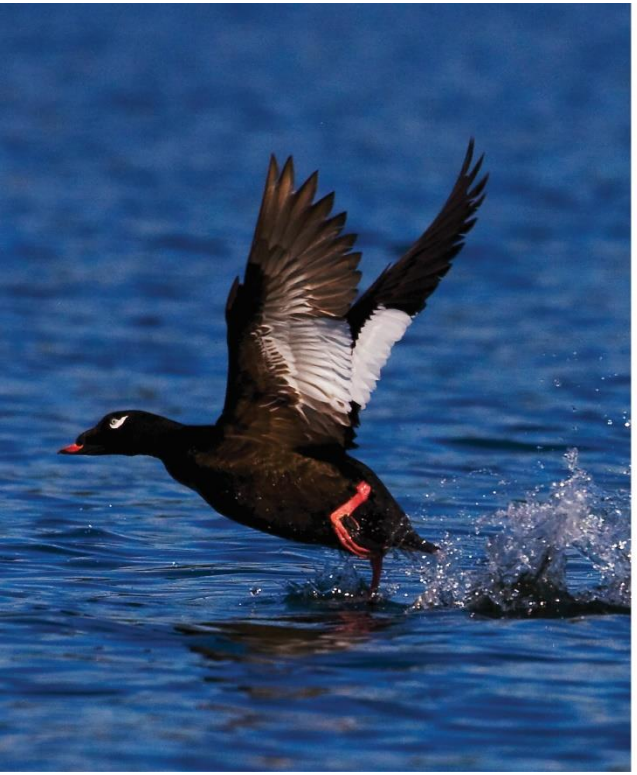





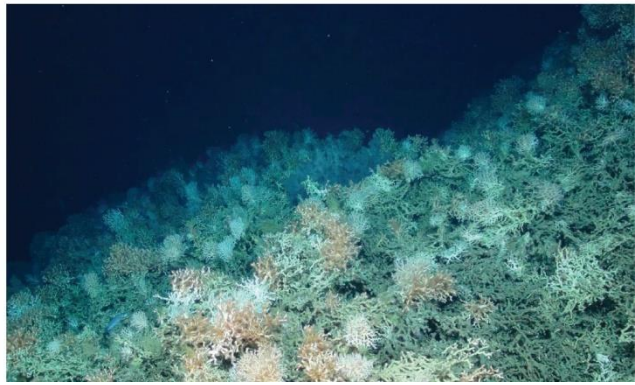

State of the Science Workshop on Offshore Wind and Wildlife 2020: Cumulative Impacts

NEW YORK STATE OF OPPORTUNITY. | NYSERDA

November 16-20, 2020

Workshop Goals and Process

<u>Understand and avoid cumulative impacts to wildlife</u>

> **Goal 1:** Review the state of knowledge

- **Process: Nov 16-20** Plenary presentations and lightning talks

> **Goal 2:** Guide future funding and research

- **Winter 2020/2021:** Work group meetings
- **May 2021:** Culmination webinar

> **Product:** Workshop report with list of priority studies (outline of research agenda)

What we mean by cumulative impacts in this context

Biological rather than regulatory

Only those due to offshore wind developments

Goal for Work Groups

- **Develop a research agenda of key studies that could be conducted in the next 3-5 years to improve our understanding of cumulative biological impacts as the offshore wind industry develops in the eastern United States**
- The main product is a research plan outline that includes brief descriptions from each work group of:
  - Priority research studies that could be initiated in the short term to improve our understanding of cumulative biological impacts; these could focus on a range of geographic or temporal scales and types of stressors and receptors
  - Other priority efforts that could be initiated in the short term to improve our understanding of cumulative impacts, such as research coordination, data sharing, or technology development
  - Longer-term priorities (e.g., information or methodological/technological gaps that may not be addressable in the next 5 years)

Work Group Leads

> Benthos

Technical Lead: Steven Degraer, Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences
Logistical Lead: Carl LoBue, The Nature Conservancy

> Fishes and mobile invertebrates

Technical Lead: Arthur Popper, University of Maryland
Logistical Lead: Lyndie Hice-Dunton, Responsible Offshore Science Alliance

> Birds

Technical Lead: Aonghais Cook, British Trust for Ornithology
Logistical Lead: Jillian Liner, Audubon New York

> Bats

Technical Lead: Cris Hein, NREL
Logistical Lead: Louis Brzuzy, Shell New Energies

> Marine mammals

Technical Lead: Brandon Southall, Southall Environmental Associates, Inc
Logistical Lead: Laura Morse, Ørsted

> Sea turtles

Technical Lead: Gregg Gitschlag, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
Logistical Lead: Ruth Perry, Shell

> Environmental change

Technical Lead: Jeff Carpenter, Helmholtz-Zentrum Geesthacht
Logistical Lead: Sherryll Huber Jones, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation

Work Group Membership

- A technical expert will lead each work group's efforts, with support from a logistical lead and workshop staff
- Workshop participants will be sent an online survey on November 20th asking them to self-select into work groups for winter meetings
  - Link: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BBYQ8HZ
  - Please respond by Monday, Nov. 30
- Group membership may be adjusted to ensure a reasonable group size for discussions based on level of interest and input from technical leads for each work group

Work Group Timeline

- November 2020: form work groups based on survey responses
- December 2020 – January 2021
  - *First Work Group virtual meetings* - Work group leaders review pre-existing data and efforts to identify priorities or conduct research; group members work together to identify key gaps and research/coordination needs to improve our understanding of cumulative impacts
  - Group leads develop draft research and coordination priorities
- January – March 2021
  - *Second Work Group virtual meetings* - Work group leaders present draft research and coordination priorities to their group for input
  - Group leads refine research and coordination priorities based on group input
- ~May 2021
  - *Culmination Webinar* - Work group leaders report back their final list of key studies to the full group of all workshop attendees, followed by cross-group synthesis and discussion
- Summer 2021: finalize workshop report

Goal for Today's Breakout Group Discussions: help scope topics for discussion at winter meetings

- Introduce technical and logistical leads
- Discuss group goals and scope
- Get input on existing research, prioritization, and synthesis efforts that the work group should build from
- If there is time and interest: Discuss work group logistics
- If there is time and interest: start discussions on possible research/coordination priorities

How to Join a Breakout Group

- Navigate to Session 9 in the workshop agenda in Whova
- Select the group you would like to join, and click the Zoom link
- There is a Cadmus Group support person hosting each Zoom meeting
- If you have trouble joining a meeting, email Jacqueline Sharry (Jacqueline.Sharry@cadmusgroup.com) or message her in Whova