Outline

1. Project updates
2. GoM Regional Task Force Meeting Takeaways
3. PDT science and monitoring discussion
4. Meetings and scientific initiatives
5. RODA Updates
6. MARIPARS Updates
Project updates

• A number of COPs at BOEM or coming soon; BOEM sufficiency reviews take months, generally
  • Can answer timing questions on specific projects, as needed
• NOI (to prepare EIS) follows determination of sufficiency; should see some of these in first half of 2020 – comment opportunity
• Many developers have surveys and opportunities for feedback ongoing; see wind website. Some highlights:
  • Avangrid Fisheries Communication Plan for Kitty Hawk
  • Equinor layout brochure for Empire Wind
  • Monthly port hours for FLs representing MA/RI wind projects
Project updates

- Vineyard Wind SEIS
  - Brian Hooker will update Council on 1/28
  - Likely available around June, FEIS in November?
  - Ongoing meetings with NMFS
  - Note that NEPA analysis of impacts of development on NMFS surveys part of cumulative effects updates
- Still no timeline on NY Bight leasing
- Activity off Carolinas; NMFS SERO working with BOEM on southern projects; connections with GARFO/NEFSC to ensure consistency across NMFS
GoM Task Force Meeting

- December 12, 2019 in Portsmouth NH
- Very well attended (Tom Nies and I were there, and Tom presented; Council is not a task force member)
- Much enthusiasm for development from some attendees
- Discussion of onshore issues like transmission and infrastructure that will take time to work out
- Point was made that fisheries will not be able to work around floating turbines
- Desire to understand floating tech better
- More info including a summary, recording, presentation slides: https://www.boem.gov/Gulf-of-Maine

January 22, 2020
PDT Science and Monitoring Discussion

- Council may wish to consider engaging on refinement of benthic habitat and fisheries survey guidelines
  - NMFS currently working to augment/refine benthic guidelines
    - PDT can look at NMFS proposals; Council might endorse later?
    - Need data to be able to estimate potential effects on EFH
  - No major efforts (that PDT was aware of) to update fisheries guidelines
    - Related but distinct from impacts to NMFS surveys
    - Need to not just be able to detect change, but identify source
    - Importance of study design, power analysis

- Overarching need to coordinate across developers
  - Role for ROSA, but surveys are happening now
Meetings/science initiatives

- ROSA ED announcement – soon?
  - There have been discussions about how to best include recreational interests; will be ongoing

- State of the science meeting – early planning stages, sometime this spring (NMFS, RODA, BOEM)

- Baird Symposium, April 24 @ URI: Offshore Renewable Energy Interactions with the Environment: Lessons Learned from Europe

- ICES Working Group on Marine Benthal Renewable Energy Developments (WGMBRED)
  - Session at ICES ASC in fall 2020
RODA updates

- Recent Joint Industry Task Force meeting, and then separate workshops with Equinor and Ørsted to discuss design layouts
- Kicked off the Fishing Industry Knowledge Trust project
- CBP finalized Jones Act interpretive changes. See page 84.
- Initiated West Coast Committee; have several members
- Involved with upcoming offshore wind event at MFF
- Still need responses to the NY Bight transit survey
- Lighting and marking comment letter (Council letter in correspondence)
- Working with data portals on fishing effort updates (Council is participating in discussions)
MARIPARS update

- Understand that MARIPARS will be released soon; will brief Council when available
- Relationship to
  - RODA transit lane proposal (sent previously via email)
  - Developer spacing proposal released in November (see here)