



Fisheries Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

1. Will commercial and recreational fishing be allowed within the Kitty Hawk Wind Energy Area?

Yes, commercial and recreational fishing will be allowed within the wind energy area.

2. Will there ever be any restrictions on fishing or fishing vessels in the project area?

The only restrictions anticipated will be temporary, limited to the in-water construction operations during the installation of the array, as informed by the U.S. Coast Guard.

3. How were fisheries considered in the selection of the offshore wind lease area?

The Bureau of Ocean and Energy Management (BOEM) worked with the State of North Carolina in a joint task force to identify the best area for an offshore wind lease area. The lease area was refined through the joint task force process, taking into account existing ocean uses, including the U.S. military, shipping, and marine fisheries. As a result, the lease area is sited in an area with relatively low levels of modern commercial fishing effort.

4. How will fisheries be considered in the future phases of the project?

Fisheries will be considered throughout the design and operation of the project. The design process will take into consideration the operational details of the area's historical commercial fisheries, and will also consider fisheries transits.

5. How will the project consider safety as it works to successfully share the space with the fishing fleet?

The offshore wind turbines will be marked and lighted consistent with USCG requirements and IALA standards. AIS and other modern navigation systems are also being considered to mark the array electronically.

6. If I have fished in the project area and want to provide the Kitty Hawk Wind project team with information or have specific fisheries concerns or questions, how can I provide input?

Our fisheries liaison, Rick Robins, is working with individual fishermen to understand the history and relevant details of fisheries in the project area. Please contact him at 757.876.3778 or email rick@fathomedgelimited.com

7. How will the project monitor effects on living marine resources in the wind energy area?

Kitty Hawk Wind is committed to developing an effective pre and post construction fisheries monitoring plan to monitor marine fisheries resources in the project area. As part of its ongoing site assessment planning process, Kitty Hawk Wind is currently conducting aerial surveys of avian, fisheries, and marine mammal resources in the lease area. The project's fisheries monitoring plan will be developed in consultation with the local fishing industry, state and regional fisheries managers, and regional research institutions.