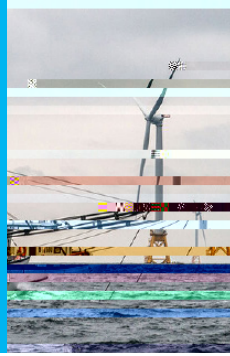


7 Myths About Offshore Wind and Commercial Fishing



As offshore wind is set to take off as the next clean energy resource in the United States, it is crucial to understand potential impacts, plan carefully, and engage with other ocean users throughout the planning and project development process. That's exactly what has happened in the case of U.S. offshore wind.

ACP sets the record straight about seven common myths about offshore wind and commercial fishing. Bottom Line: U.S. offshore wind, fisheries, and other ocean users can coexist. The U.S. offshore wind industry will continue seeking ways to work with other ocean users while seizing the generational opportunity to revitalize our economy and combat climate change.

MYTH

Offshore wind developers can develop wherever they want in the ocean and have done little-to-no outreach to the commercial fishing community

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MYTH

BOEM is rushing to build projects without considering their impacts.

FACT

Since the [Energy Policy Act of 2005](#) gave BOEM the authority to lease o shore wind areas on the Outer Continental Shelf, Intergovernmental Renewable Energy Task Forces have been identifying areas that are most suitable for o shore wind development.

Fishing groups have provided input in to the planning and development phases even prior to leasing. Fishermen are invited to provide input at various stages, even before the taskforces are convened and including during BOEM (leasing and environmental review), state, and local permitting processes. Federal and state governments hold numerous additional meetings and [workshops](#) to take input from Regional Fishery Management Councils, state-led fishery advisory groups, and others. Additional information on how to provide input in the o shore wind leasing process can be found in the [O shore Wind Public Participation Guide](#), BOEM's [Stakeholder Engagement and Partnerships website](#) and the New England Fisheries Management Council and the Mid-Atlantic Fisheries Management Council's jointly managed o shore wind [webpage](#).

MYTH

Fishermen will be banned from fishing between turbines.

FACT

There are no plans in place to bar fishermen from fishing between U.S. turbines. BOEM does not have the authority to restrict vessel traffic in and around o shore wind facilities, and the Coast Guard has stated that safety zones may be implemented during construction, not operations.

The 1 x 1 nautical mile spacing between turbines in the Massachusetts-Rhode Island wind lease areas is significantly larger than in Europe and was made specifically to