



Mariner's Advisory Committee Minutes September 9, 2021

Chairman Captain Drew Hodgens welcomed approximately 45 members and guests in the room and 20 who are attending remotely to the 3rd Quarterly Meeting.

- I. **Approval of the minutes** from June 2021 meeting: Captain Hodgens moved to dispense with reading the minutes and moved for approval. Roy Denmark made a motion and was seconded by David Cuff.

II. Reports

A. Treasurer's Report – Rick Iuliucci reports a balance of \$13,389.22 as of Sept.8, 2021

B. Membership – Covering for John Gazzola, Captain Drew Hodgens welcomed South Jersey Port Corporation as a new member.

C. Maritime Exchange – New President, Lisa Humber, paid tribute to Dennis Rochford with his unfortunate passing July 31st. She told some anecdotes and reminisced about his even temper and his abilities as a leader as well as a man of vision. We all will miss him.

D. USACE Reports– Delaware River, Philadelphia to Sea – Tim Rooney Project Manager presenting

- The current annual maintenance dredging being performed by Norfolk Dredging Company (NDC) has completed New Castle (NC) Range and NDC is currently working in Marcus Hook (MH) Range.
- The next annual maintenance dredging contract is consolidated with Wilmington Harbor. It has been advertised and bid opening is scheduled for 13 September 2021. Dredging operations will begin at Wilmington Harbor then Delaware River. The ranges anticipated to be dredged in the Delaware River are NC, MH, Cherry Island/Bellevue, and Deepwater Point Ranges.
- An object removal contract has been advertised on 28Aug2021 to remove rock in Bellevue and MH Ranges. There are options for Billingsport widener, obstruction removal, Reedy/Baker and Liston Ranges. Bid Opening is for scheduled for 27Sept2021.
- The Hopper Dredge McFarland is scheduled to be in the shipyard for steel work. The McFarland is anticipated to be out of the shipyard in Spring of 2022.

Delaware River, Philadelphia to Trenton

- A contract (bucket only) to dredge the lower 40-foot project to address edge shoals was advertised on 3 August with bid opening scheduled for 10 September.

Wilmington Harbor

- Maintenance dredging is consolidated again with the Philadelphia to Sea Maintenance Dredging Solicitation advertised on 12 August, with bid opening currently scheduled for 13 September.

E. USCG Reports - Captain Jonathan Theel

- as you find aids that are off station or extinguished please report them into the Command Center. You all are our eyes and ears and any help you can give us is appreciated to get it the attention it needs. The William Tate has been very busy working the aids.
- Got the prep for ice season, we will address that in the November time frame
- Introduction of Jodi Min Chief of Prevention – Hurricane season not slowing down. Keep a look out on Homeport website for plans and notices. With recent severe winds we had to work with our Port Partners and Pilots to come up with safe options. Great communication to make it happen and ensure port safety. COVID continues to be a challenge especially with notifications and ENOA from Masters before entering port. Again, duty teams and port partners have been pivotal in getting action taken to prevent
- LCDR Andrew Cook – Waterways - filling in for LT Jordon Marshall who will be back at the end of the month. Discussion on aging aids and aids that cannot be climbed for service. Raising it up to District level for assistance. Those that can't be fixed we put a buoy there so there are no blanks spot on the radar. Osprey season is over so they will be focusing on fixing the extinguished lights with nests. Also getting the necessary permits to remove unoccupied nests and to relocate nests that are active and can be moved. Two highlights on soon to be published Proposed Final Rulemaking 1- regarding the NJ PARS study plus, 2- the proposed new anchorage separation schemes. Please review the proposed rulemaking and provide comments as that input is critical to the ports acceptance.

ATON

- Aging structures
- Non Federal owned Light Houses
- Funding
- Ospreys



F. NOAA Reports – Ryan Wartick and Christopher DiVeglio

Ryan Wartick is the new Mid Atlantic Navigation Manager – Office of Coast Survey, Tides and Currents and Air Gap, as well as, Emergency Response. NOAA is always working on updating charts so if there is ever any need to fresh survey, Ryan would love to get the feedback. They have full range of vehicles with equipment for requests. They are updating the ENC almost weekly. All local notice to mariner's information gets updated within a week. Raster/Paper charts and related products are getting canceled within the year. Currently 38 charts are on notice to be cancelled within 6 months. Cancellations will also be posted in LNM. NOAA is trying to expand charting dollars for non-federal areas to be charted such as marinas. This program is in its second year and they will respond to any requests and try to get these private areas charted.

NOAA - NOS - CO-OPS

The Center for Operational Oceanographic Products and Services (CO-OPS), an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) National Ocean Service (NOS), is planning an update to NOAA's tidal current predictions for the Delaware River & Bay to help ensure safe navigation. Geographic Scope: We intend to deploy current meters at 34 stations spanning from the mouth of the Delaware Bay upriver to Fieldsboro, NJ. Station locations are shown in the map and listed in the table below.

Project Description: Acoustic Doppler current profilers (ADCPs) will be deployed in order to sample current speed and direction every six minutes over a 45 – 90 day duration. The ADCPs will be primarily housed in bottom mounts (~ 1 m tall or distance to seafloor) with no surface presence or on USCG ATONs (with prior permission) collecting a vertical profile of currents throughout the water column. One station in Mantua Creek will be horizontally mounted on a bridge measuring the currents across the channel at a single depth.

Project Timeline (pending COVID regulations & approval): • July 12 – 24, 2021: The current survey field operations began. ADCPs were deployed at approximately half the stations (18) for a minimum of 45 days. • September 7 – 27, 2021: ADCPs will be recovered from the first set of stations (13) and deployed at the second set (16 stations) for a minimum of 45 days. • November 2 – 22, 2021: Completion of current survey. It is intended that all equipment will be recovered. • 2022: Completion of data analysis. Tidal current predictions and raw data will be available online at tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov

Chris DiVeglio- Maritime Services Program Manager - PORTS

- Air gap and current meter station Instrument performance stats.
- *Criteria - Percentages report of data which*
 - *Passed preliminary Quality Control (public dissemination = ON)*
 - *Data were 18 minutes old or less when populated into the database*

6/1/21- 8/31/21

Reedy Point Air Gap – 99.8 %

Delaware Memorial Bridge Air Gap – 99.8%

Ben Franklin Air Gap – 98.9%

db0301 (Philadelphia) currents – 99.6%

db0501 (Brown Shoal LB10) currents – 93.3% (Was offline for a week in June due to depleted battery. Issue was addressed with full equipment swap.

Other notes:

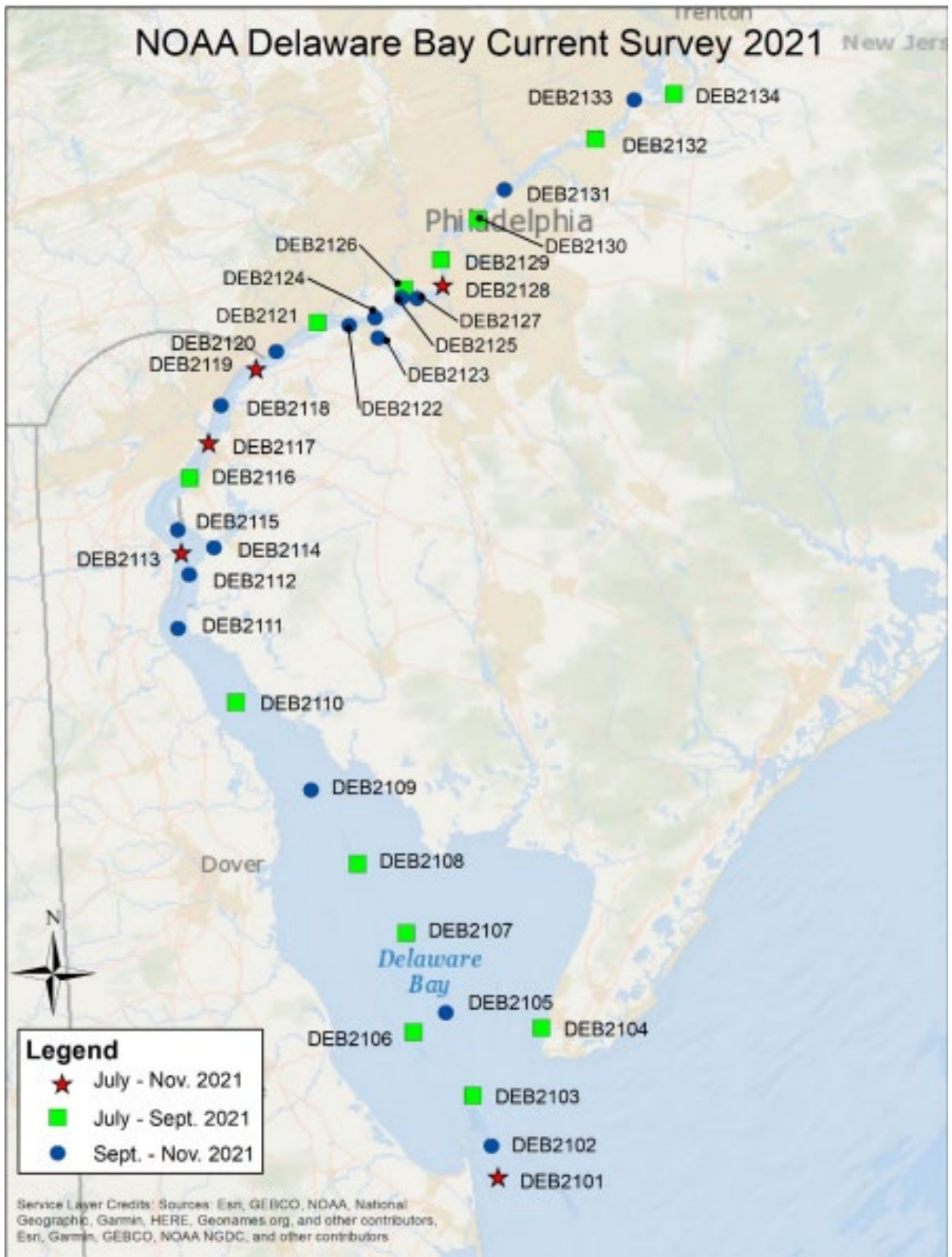
- The Salinity sensor at Cape May was decommissioned this summer. Real time salinity data is no longer available at Cape May. Salinity data will remain at Lewes.
- Ship John Shoal was visited this week. Water level and wind data was brought back online.
- Brandywine Shoal Light station visit to take place this fall. Adding a second water level sensor and replace air thermometer.

NOAA [PORTS® Program](#)

Current Survey -Katy Kirk project lead but for an update since June meeting

- 18 deployments collecting for 45 days
- Deploying the second set of stations between Sep. and Nov.
- Over the winter will be data analysis and publish the data on the website.

NOAA Delaware Bay Current Survey 2021



NOAA Delaware River & Bay Current Survey Stations:

| Station ID | Station Name | Latitude | Longitude | Depth (m) | Deployment Dates |
|----------------|---|----------------|-----------------|-------------|------------------|
| DEB2101 | Delaware Bay Entrance | 38.7813 | -75.043 | 18.4 | July- Nov |
| DEB2103 | Cape Henlopen, 5 mi north of | 38.8834 | -75.0833 | 23 | July-Sept |
| DEB2104 | Cape May Canal, west end | 38.9684 | -74.9724 | 6 | July-Sept |
| DEB2106 | Big Stone Beach Anchorage "G" buoy | 38.9632 | -75.1794 | 19.5 | July-Sept |
| DEB2107 | Brandywine Range at Miah Maull Range | 39.0875 | -75.1913 | 15 | July-Sept |
| DEB2108 | Cross Ledge Light | 39.1747 | -75.27 | 13.5 | July-Sept |
| DEB2110 | Arnold Point, 1.8 nm WSW of | 39.3768 | -75.4662 | 13 | July-Sept |
| DEB2113 | Chesapeake and Delaware Canal Entrance | 39.5644 | -75.5549 | 8.8 | July- Nov |
| DEB2116 | Kelly Point, 0.7nm N of | 39.6568 | -75.541 | 10.5 | July-Sept |
| DEB2117 | Deepwater Point, 0.5 nm NW of | 39.7013 | -75.5106 | 17 | July- Nov |
| DEB2119 | Marcus Hook Bar (north) | 39.7933 | -75.4338 | 10 | July- Nov |
| DEB2121 | Eddystone | 39.8504 | -75.3348 | 10 | July-Sept |
| DEB2126 | Girard Point | 39.8924 | -75.195 | 8 | July-Sept |
| DEB2128 | Gloucester Point | 39.8973 | -75.1322 | 12 | July- Nov |
| DEB2129 | Kaighn Point | 39.9282 | -75.1353 | 12 | July-Sept |
| DEB2130 | Fisher Point | 39.9785 | -75.076 | 11.9 | July-Sept |
| DEB2132 | Edgewater Range at Devlin Range | 40.0778 | -74.8852 | 13 | July-Sept |
| DEB2134 | Newbold Island north of, Main Channel | 40.1337 | -74.7589 | 12 | July-Sept |
| DEB2102 | Cape Henlopen, 2 mi NE of | 38.82 | -75.0533 | 28 | Sept-Nov |
| DEB2105 | Brandywine Shoal Light, 0.5 nm west of | 38.9877 | -75.127 | 14 | Sept-Nov |
| DEB2109 | Ben Davis Point, 3.2 nm southwest of | 39.2671 | -75.3447 | 14.9 | Sept-Nov |
| DEB2111 | Baker Range Channel | 39.4695 | -75.56 | 10.6 | Sept-Nov |
| DEB2112 | Reedy Island Wreck | 39.5367 | -75.5417 | 7.5 | Sept-Nov |
| DEB2114 | Salem River Entrance, east of marker 11 | 39.57 | -75.5017 | 4.2 | Sept-Nov |
| DEB2115 | Pea Patch Island | 39.5922 | -75.5607 | 11 | Sept-Nov |
| DEB2118 | Edgemoor | 39.7473 | -75.4909 | 10 | Sept-Nov |
| DEB2120 | Marcus Hook | 39.8142 | -75.4013 | 8 | Sept-Nov |
| DEB2122 | Crab Point, 0.5 mi East of | 39.8467 | -75.2833 | 11.9 | Sept-Nov |
| DEB2123 | Mantua Creek US 44 Bridge Paulsboro | 39.8314 | -75.2361 | 5.4 | Sept-Nov |
| DEB2124 | Mantua Creek Anchorage | 39.8563 | -75.2417 | 11.5 | Sept-Nov |
| DEB2125 | Schuylkill River Entrance | 39.8813 | -75.1986 | 6 | Sept-Nov |
| DEB2127 | Eagle Point, 0.2 nm northwest of | 39.8803 | -75.1733 | 15 | Sept-Nov |
| DEB2131 | Frankford Range at Tacony Range | 40.0152 | -75.0323 | 12 | Sept-Nov |
| DEB2133 | Florence Bend | 40.1262 | -74.8228 | 12 | Sept-Nov |

Please contact the project lead, Katie Kirk (email: katie.kirk@noaa.gov) if you have any questions and/or concerns.

III. Unfinished Business

US Wind Mariners Briefing – August 12, 2021

These briefings are intended to update mariners on marine operations in and around the US Wind Maryland offshore wind Lease area. Mariners briefings are distributed to interested mariners on our website at: <https://uswindinc.com/mariners/> or can be requested from Benjamin Cooper, US Wind’s Director of Marine Affairs, via email at b.cooper@uswindinc.com.

You may also wish to contact US Wind’s Fisheries Liaison Officers for fisheries specific information:

Wolfgang Rain: 206-427-6553; wrain@searisksolutions.com

Ron Larsen: 570-242-5023; ronlarsen@searisksolutions.com

About Us

US Wind was founded in 2011 and has established its position as Maryland’s leader in offshore wind development. In 2014, US Wind obtained a federal lease for site control to develop approximately 1,500 MW of offshore wind power generation off the coast of Maryland. In 2017, US Wind won an Offshore Renewable Energy Credit (OREC) award to build a 270 MW offshore wind facility in their Lease area.

Ongoing Survey Activities in Maryland Offshore Lease area

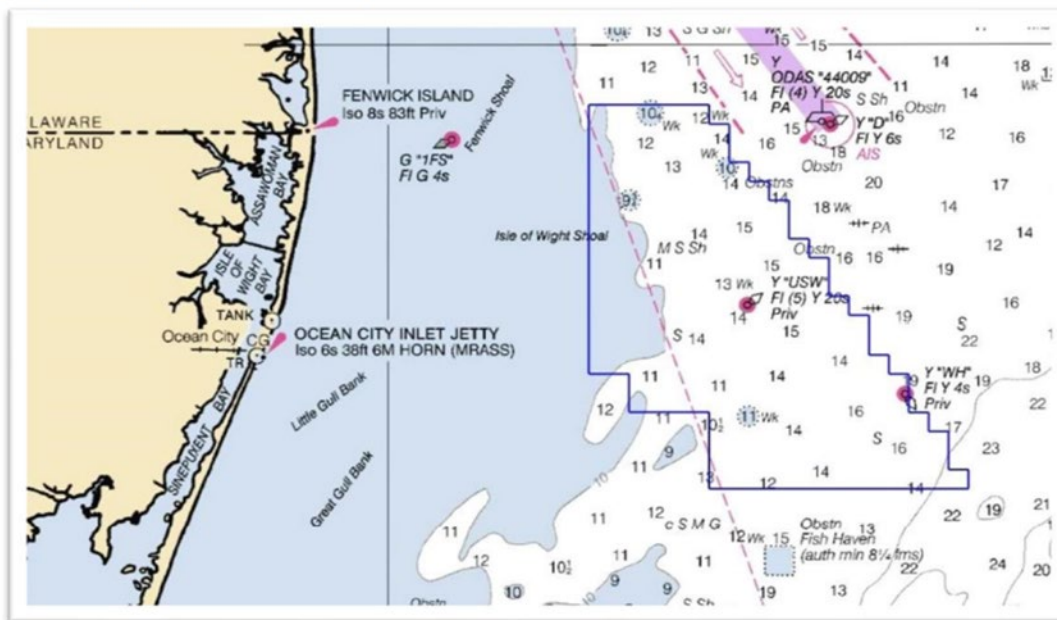


Chart depicting US Wind Lease area off Maryland's coast (not to be used for navigation purposes)

In July 2021, the U.S. flag Research Vessel Brooks McCall, operated by TDI Brooks, Inc., began conducting shallow geo-technical studies in the US Wind Lease area. The R/V Miss Emma McCall will continue geophysical survey operations in the area and along the export cable route to acquire data for offshore hazard/site clearance assessments, pipeline/cable routing, seafloor mapping, port and channel conditions, fisheries habitat mapping, and burial assessment studies. Survey activities are expected to continue through September. US Wind continues to implement extensive efforts to minimize impacts to marine life during survey operations. Expert Protected Species Observers are aboard each vessel to monitor for the presence of protected species, such as the North Atlantic right whale, and to ensure that appropriate measures are taken to protect these species.



R/V Miss Emma McCall – LOA 153'; Call Sign: WDG8742; MMSI: 338100000 (top) R/V Brooks McCall – LOA 160'; Call Sign: WCZ7811; MMSI: 338257000 (bottom) **All Mariners transiting or fishing in the survey area are requested to give a wide berth to survey vessels as they may be limited in their ability to maneuver and may be towing gear out to 300 yards behind the vessel. Vessels in the vicinity of the survey vessels should operate in a manner that will not endanger the vessel or associated equipment**

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Buoys in the US Wind Lease area In May 2021, US Wind deployed the “USW” meteorological and oceanographic (metocean) buoy in position 38°21'10.7"N 74°45'12.7"W, to collect wind and marine life data off the coast of Ocean City, Maryland. The Floating Light Detection and Ranging (“LiDAR”) buoy provided by EOLOS uses an eye-safe, continuous wave laser to measure wind speeds and direction across the turbine height. These measurements, along with surface meteorology and ocean condition observations will help inform US Wind’s energy production estimates and project design.

In June 2021, the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science (UMCES) research buoy “WH”, known as the whale monitoring buoy, was brought online in position 38°18'10.8"N 74°38'42.0"W, about 23 miles off the coast to provide daily reports of whales detected off Maryland’s Atlantic coast. The UMCES “WH” buoy will monitor the presence of a wide range of whales, dolphins, and porpoises who either call the Atlantic Ocean offshore Maryland home or pass during migration along the coast. The buoy system includes an underwater hydrophone that will record the marine mammal calls. A detection algorithm will analyze the calls to determine the presence of humpback, fin, sei, and the critically endangered North Atlantic right whale species. The data collected will be transmitted to shore, verified by UMCES scientists, and shared on the buoy website.



USW buoy



UMCES buoy

Orsted Offshore Vessel Updates – Marine Affairs Sept 2021 – Kara Gross presenting

GP=Geophysical / GT=Geotechnical

Ocean Wind 1 & Ocean Wind 2 NJ

- OCW01 – NOI issued from BOEM to start environmental review
 - GP survey activity has concluded for this season
 - No current plans for GT surveys this year
- OCW02 – project awarded by NJ BPU
 - 2 GP survey vessel actively operating
 - Cable route
 - Lease area
 - 1 GT survey vessel expected to come on site in October

INTERNAL

NOT FOR NAVIGATION

Orsted

2 [Click to add source or notes](#)

Skipjack Wind MD/DE

- 120 MW project awarded
- Submitted bid for up to an additional 760 MW of power
 - Bid is under PSC review
 - Award expected Dec 2021
- 3 GP survey vessels active for project
 - 1 offshore in lease area
 - 2 nearshore along project cable route options
- 3 GT survey vessels scheduled for fall
 - 1 currently active offshore
 - 2 will come online in October
- 2 benthic surveys
 - Inshore Indian River
 - Offshore in lease area and along project cable route options

INTERNAL

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21 November 2021

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3 [Click to add source or notes](#)

Question: What will the lighting or RACONS be like on the wind turbine structures especially in the high traffic areas. **Answer:** Our lighting will be consistent with USCG ATON regs. Amber lights pointed toward about 5 miles visibility. The tops of the structures will blink red with aviation sensors when aircraft is nearby. Anchorages affected will be 2 offshore with IMO approval drawn on the charts.

Peter Kelliher – Right Whales / Marine Mammals update.

The Right whales will be making their way south along the Atlantic coast, mostly females and we will be in a Seasonal Management mode beginning Nov 1st. The females will begin to give birth to late November to Feb/March off the Florida waters. Seasonal Management occurs every year vessels 65' and greater must slow to 10 knots or less. Outside of seasonal is Dynamic Management which is voluntary and usually put in place when whales are observed. Please visit <https://www.whalealert.org/> and you can find updates or report sighting in your area. For assistance or more information contact Peter.Kelliher@NOAA.gov

IV New Business

Eric Holt, from Holt Logistics - Chief Commercial Officer – Stopping ships docking Wed to Friday night. Situation is very fluid, but Philly is in the same boat as other major marine ports. Productivity and labor is the issue. Labor is severely restricted about 20% short. We haven't been able to move the containers, so they have had to cut the week by three days. Lack of capacity and chassis too. Hoping to back up to normal soon will have to wait and see.

Nathan Hauser from Moran Towing Philadelphia wanted to bring up the subject of debris in the river after heavy severe weather. Operational difficulties from Ida and other severe storms this year affecting terminals and harbor tugs. It is creating a hazard to their assist boats due to cort nozzles. All tractors in the port has felt the effects of these hazards especially getting stuck in the nozzles. He opened the subject up to the group for any input or know of any resources to reduce hazards. Discussion began about Army Corps debris pick up vessels in other ports. Roy Demark stated we have been dealing with this for several years. Mike Landis reported it would be difficult here due to funding and equipment. Corps does do it in select locations. He would like to talk about it as something we might be able to justify. It was agreed we should revisit this subject as we look for the possible solutions to the problem.

Finally, Captain Drew Hodgins wanted to make an announcement that Scott Anderson will be retiring and wanted to thank him for his dedication. He has worked at the Maritime Exchange for 41 years we appreciate all his dedication and hard work for the MAC during that time. Scott responded with his thanks and appreciation saying it has been a pleasure to work for the MAC.

Next MAC meeting will be Dec 9th at Popi's and on Zoom

Meeting adjourned.