

12 July 2023

RRTII Meeting

NOAA Report Out

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Recent Responses

- MV GRANDE COSTA D'AVORIO vessel fire, Port Newark, NJ July 5, 2023
 - o Trajectory
 - o Resources at Risk
 - o Stakeholder Meeting July 10, 2023

Whale Deaths

There have been an alarming number of whales washing ashore in New York and New Jersey. NOAA has said there is no correlation between offshore wind development and whale deaths:

- At this point, there is no evidence that noise resulting from wind development surveys could potentially cause mortality of whales.
- NOAA Fisheries is supporting our partners in the Stranding Network in conducting necropsies (animal autopsies) of whales when and where it is logistically feasible, and supporting diagnostic analyses of tissue samples collected.
- We are continuing to gather data to help us determine the cause of death for these whale mortalities and are also continuing to explore how sound, vessel, and other human activities in the marine environment impact whales and other protected species.
- NOAA Fisheries' FY24 request includes \$4 million in funding for the Prescott Grant Program Marine Mammal stranding network participants for recovery and treatment, data collection and facility upgrades and funding for \$28.2 million to study, protect and recover NARWs.

Vessel Speed Reduction Rule

Since December 2008, NOAA has required all vessels 65 feet or longer to travel at 10 knots or less in certain areas along the U.S. East Coast at certain times of the year to reduce the threat of vessel collisions with NARWs.

Marine Operations Center Move from Norfolk, VA to Newport, RI

NOAA recently made a determination to move the Marine Operations Center Atlantic from Norfolk, VA to Rhode Island. The Agency determined it is no longer operationally or economically feasible to maintain the Marine Operations Center-Atlantic in Norfolk. The move will result in more efficient ship operations and long-term savings through shared common

capabilities. NOAA's fleet will continue to support Hampton Roads for emergency response such as clearing ports after hurricanes, routine charting, as well as other missions that are critical to the Northeast.

State Historic Preservation Office for a National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) Section 106 consultation

In the event that the USCG and/or USEPA needs to reach out to their State Historic Preservation Office for a National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) Section 106 consultation, below is a link to the National Conference of SHPOs directory which allows you to get in contact with any SHPO in the U.S. + our territories. Please remember that they are typically not "on call" so they may not always answer the phone, especially after hours. Please also remember to document how you attempted to contact them and how often, if more than once. I always attempt to call first. If that doesn't work, leave a voicemail and follow up with an email.

[Directory | NCSHPO](#)

Upcoming Events

NOAA Hosting ERMA Training (virtual and in-person), 26 July from 1300-1500 at Sector Delaware Bay. Training for the two upcoming Sector Delaware Bay and Sector Maryland PREP exercises.

USCG Sector Delaware Bay, Full Scale PREP Exercise, August 7-9, Paulsboro, NJ. POC is Jerry Conrad.

USCG Sector Maryland NCR PREP Full-Scale Exercise, August 15-16. Linthicum Heights, MD POC is LT Jennifer DeVisser.

RRTIII Meeting, 5-7, December 2023. Lancaster, PA.