

Draft Ocean Action Plan Description of Actions, Potential Partnerships, Milestones and Status as of January 1, 2017

Action	Description	Lead	Potential Partners	Milestones	Status	Program Type
1	Evaluate, prioritize and remove or modify known impediments to diadromous fish passage.	DEC	ASMFC, NOAA, USFWS, OPRHP, SSER, PEP, LISS, HREP, WCS, MRAC	Short term	Initiated	Base
2	Develop a seagrass management program that will implement seagrass management plans for designated seagrass management areas.	DEC, DOS	NOAA, NPS, OPRHP, municipalities and the Shinnecock Indian Nation	Short term	Initiated	Legislated
3	Monitor tidal wetland loss (trends), water quality and implement restoration in estuaries and embayments.	DEC, USGS	NPS, OPRHP, SUNY SB, TNC, LISS, EPA, NOAA, USFWS, and NYC Department of Parks and Recreation	Short term	Initiated	Base
4	Strengthen criteria for designation of significant coastal fish and wildlife habitats (SCFWH) and designate new areas as SCFWH in state waters (0-3 nautical miles).	DOS, DEC	NPS, NYSEDA, OPRHP, NOAA, USFWS, MRAC, WCS and Shinnecock Indian Nation	Short term	Initiated	Base
5	Implement the Long Island Pesticide Pollution Prevention Strategy to protect groundwater and surface water resources from pesticide-related contamination.	DOH, DEC	Suffolk County Department of Health Services (SCDHS), Suffolk County Soil and Water District, Nassau County Health Department; Cornell Cooperative Extension of Suffolk County (CCE), DAM, EPA, USGS, Long Island Farm Bureau and Shinnecock Indian Nation	Short term	Not funded	Base
6	Recommend solutions for reducing contaminants of emerging concern.	DEC	USGS, NPS, DOH, RFMRP, Shinnecock Indian Nation and local municipalities	Short term	Initiated	Base
7	Evaluate impacts from two sewage treatment outfalls located in ocean waters.	DEC, DOS	NYC DEP, SUNY SB, Shinnecock Indian Nation and municipalities	Near term	Actively seeking funding	New
8	Develop strategies to reduce pathogen and nutrient loads from onsite wastewater treatment systems (OWTS) into the Long Island South Shore Estuary Reserve (SSER).	DEC, DOS, DOH, EFC, municipalities	NPS, EPA, NYC DEP, local watershed groups, and DAM	Short term	Initiated	Base
9	Reduce bycatch in New York fisheries.	DEC, NOAA	ASMFC, MAFMC, SUNY SB, and CCE	Short term	Partially funded	Base
10	Create an inshore trawl survey and monitoring program.	DEC	NOAA, NEAMAP, ASMFC, NPS, and SUNY SB	Short term	Partially funded	Augment
11	Develop and implement a cooperative fisheries research program for state waters.	DEC	NOAA, MAFMC, ASMFC, USFWS, Mid-Atlantic Panel on Aquatic Invasive Species, New York Sea Grant, SUNY SB, CCE, NY Marine Science Consortium and Shinnecock Indian Nation	Short term	Not funded	Augment
12	Monitor abundances for both species of river herring, alewife (<i>Alosa pseudoharengus</i>) and blueback (<i>Alosa aestivalis</i>), in the Hudson River estuary.	DEC	SUNY ESF, ASMFC, WCS and Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries (MA DMF)	Short term	Initiated	Base

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13	Monitor distribution and habitat requirements of Atlantic surfclams in New York state waters.	DEC	SUNY SB	Short term	Partially funded	Base
14	Investigate population declines of American lobster inshore, offshore and in estuaries.	DEC	ASMFC, CCE, SUNY SB and Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (CT DEEP)	Short term	Actively seeking funding	Base
15	Monitor Ocean Acidification and investigate the impacts of ocean acidification on shellfish and crustaceans.	DEC	NOAA, Mid Atlantic Regional Planning Body, MARACOOS, NPS, SUNY SB, Shinnecock Indian Nation and municipalities	Short term	Initiated	New
16	Assess blue crab (<i>Callinectes sapidus</i>) abundance and life history characteristics and predict future population trends in Great South Bay and other marine waters.	DEC	NPS, SUNY SB, and University of Maryland-Chesapeake Biological Laboratory	Short term	Initiated	Augment
17	Monitor whelk abundance and movements inshore, offshore and in estuaries.	DEC	SUNY SB and CCE	Near term	Not funded	Augment
18	Investigate Atlantic sturgeon (<i>Acipenser oxyrinchus</i>) habitat association in the Hudson River, inshore, offshore and in estuaries.	DEC	NOAA, USFWS, USGS, SUNY SB, and Delaware State University	Near term	Initiated	New
19	Design and implement a monitoring survey to determine baseline trends for large whales in the New York Bight.	DEC	NOAA, US NAVY, USFWS, AMAPPS, BOEM, DOS, NY Natural Heritage Program, Cornell University, RFMRP, SUNY SB, WCS and NGOs	Short term	Initiated	Augment
20	Design and implement long-term monitoring surveys for large whales to investigate the impacts of human activities and for effective conservation planning.	DEC	NOAA, BOEM, US NAVY, USFWS, ASMFC, MAFMA, DOS, NYSERDA, PANYNJ, USCG, NOAA, Harbor Ops Committee, New York Shipping Association, Pilots Associations, Riverhead Foundation, New York Aquariums, WHOI, Cornell University, SUNY SB, WCS and NGOs.	Near term	Not funded	Augment
21	Design and implement a Monitoring Survey for Sea Turtles in the New York Bight.	DEC	RFMRP, NOAA and SUNY SB	Near term	Partially funded	Augment
22	Monitor distribution and relative abundance of finfish, large pelagics, and endangered and threatened marine species inshore, offshore and in estuaries.	DEC, DOS	BOEM, NOAA, SUNY SB, RFMRP, and WCS	Near term	Actively seeking funding	Base
23	Expand the New York Natural Heritage Program to include additional marine species and offshore habitats.	NHP	DEC, SUNY ESF and WCS	Short term	Initiated	New
24	Evaluate horseshoe crab (<i>Limulus polyphemus</i>) abundance and connectivity inshore, offshore and in estuaries.	DEC	NPS, SUNY SB and CCE	Short term	Initiated	Base

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25	Reduce the incidental catch of marine mammals, sea turtles, seabirds and Atlantic sturgeon.	DEC	Delaware State University, SUNY SB, NOAA, ASMFC, TNC, CCE, RFMRP, WCS and NGOs	Near term	Partially funded	New
26	Establish an aquatic invasive species monitoring network for the ocean.	DEC	USFWS, Mid-Atlantic Panel on Aquatic Invasive Species, OPRHP, WCS, Other state wildlife agencies, EPA, NOAA, Shinnecock Indian Nation and municipalities	Near term	Actively seeking funding	Augment
27	Examine predator-prey dynamics within foraging hotspots located in estuaries, inshore, and offshore.	NOAA, DEC	SUNY SB, SUNY ESF, ASMFC, MAMFC, WCS and NGOs	Near term	Not funded	New
28	Investigate natural and anthropogenic factors that are potentially contributing to winter flounder declines within New York embayments.	SUNY SB, DEC	NOAA, ASMFC and MAMFC	Near term	Not funded	Base
29	Increase New York's participation at regional and interstate fisheries management meetings.	DEC	ASMFC, NOAA, USFWS, MAFMC, NEFMC, MRAC and CCE	Short term	Not funded	Base
30	Promote improved management of deep-sea corals and sponges within the New York Bight.	NOAA	MAFMC, BOEM, DOS, DEC, WCS, and NGOs	Short term	Initiated	Base
31	Integrate avian conservation into research, management and offshore planning.	DEC, NALCC, NYSERDA	BRI, USFWS, BOEM, NOAA, USGS, NPS, DOS, OPRHP, CUNY, Audubon New York, NHP, WCS and NGOs	Short term	Not funded	Base
32	Establish a baseline ocean monitoring system for the New York Bight.	DEC, DOS	NOAA, BOEM, USGS, USEPA, USACE, NYSERDA, NYSG, Academia, USGCRP, CCE, Shinnecock Indian Nation, WCS and NGOs	Short term	Actively seeking funding	Augment
33	Develop an ocean indicators system for the New York Bight.	DEC	DOS, NYSERDA, NYSG, Academia, USGCRP, NOAA, USGS, USACE, EPA, BOEM, Shinnecock Indian Nation, NGOs, and estuary programs	Short term	Initiated	Augment
34	Publish a State of the Ocean report.	DEC, DOS	NOAA, USEPA, USGS, BOEM, USACE, New Jersey, NYSERDA, NYMSC, NYSG, SUNY SB, WCS and NGOs	Near term	Initiated	Augment
35	Assemble and analyze resource and use data for offshore planning.	DOS	DEC, NYSERDA, PSC, OPRHP, PANYNJ, NY Natural Heritage Program, Harbor Ops, Shinnecock Indian Nation, BOEM, NOAA, USFWS, US NAVY, USCG, EPA, USACE, ASMFC, MAFMC, municipalities, CCE, NGOs, Stone Environmental Inc., New England Aquarium and University of Rhode Island, NROC, MARCO.	Short term	Initiated	New

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36	Identify essential ecosystem services in the New York Bight and assess their vulnerability to impacts from human activities and climate change.	Academia	DEC, DOS, BOEM, NOAA, USGS, EPA, other federal agencies, MAFMC, WCS, NGOs and Shinnecock Indian Nation	Near term	Not funded	New
37	Develop and evaluate alternative future use scenarios and tradeoffs between ecosystem services and ocean use.	Academia	DEC, DOS, BOEM, NOAA, USGS, EPA, other federal agencies, MAFMC, and Shinnecock Indian Nation	Near term	Not funded	New
38	Identify goals for environmental assessments to better understand effects of offshore renewable energy development on wildlife.	NYSERDA	DEC, DOS, USFWS, NOAA, BOEM, USGS, CCE, Biodiversity Research Institute, WCS and NGOS	Short term	Initiated	New
39	Assess the effectiveness of BMPs and other measures used to mitigate adverse effects of anthropogenic sources of underwater noise.	NOAA	BOEM, USACE, PANYNJ, DEC, DOS, NYSERDA, WCS, and NGOs	Short term	Partially funded	Augment
40	Represent New York's interests in the Mid-Atlantic Regional Planning Body (MidA RPB) ocean planning process.	DOS, DEC	Mid Atlantic Regional Planning Body, New England Regional Planning Body, Long Island Sound Blue Plan Advisory Committee	Short term	Initiated	New
41	Develop a New York aquaculture policy and improve the regulatory framework to promote sustainable best management practices.	DAM, DEC	NOAA, DOS, DOH, OGS, ESD, NYSG, NY Aquaculture Industry, Long Island Farm Bureau, East Coast Shellfish Growers Association (ECSGA), Shinnecock Indian Nation and municipalities	Short term	Not funded	New
42	Support the New York artificial reef program and identify suitable sites for future reef placement.	DEC	SBU, USACE, NOAA, OGS, DOS, NYSG	Short term	Partially funded	Base
43	Promote and develop New York's existing ocean economy and identify new opportunities for growth in New York's working waterfronts.	DOS	NOAA, OPRHP, GOSR, NYS REDCs, PANYNJ, ESD, PANYNJ, DEC, NYSERDA, NYS DOT, USACE, NYC DCP, and CCE	Near term	Initiated	Base
44	Assess and predict the vulnerability of the coastal areas to climate change.	DEC	EPA, NYS RISE, NOAA, USFWS, NPS, DOS, Hudson River Environmental Conditions Observing System, HRNERR, NYSERDA, OPRHP, NYCDEP, LISS, NYC DPR, NYC DCP, Shinnecock Indian Nation and municipalities	Short term	Initiated	Legislated
45	Identify, assess and prioritize flood-prone areas at risk due to climate change.	DOS, DEC	NYSERDA, NYS RISE, USGS, NOAA, EPA, OPRHP, NYSERDA, SUNY SB, NYSG, NYC DCP, Shinnecock Indian Nation and municipalities	Near term	Initiated	Legislated
46	Examine the impacts of increased coastal flooding and sea-level rise on wastewater, stormwater and other vulnerable infrastructure in New York City and Long Island.	DEC, DOH	NYS RISE, USGS, EPA, OPRHP, DOT, DOS, NYSERDA, EFC, PANYNJ, MTA, NYSG, NYC DCP, Shinnecock Indian Nation, municipalities, WCS and NGOs	Near term	Not funded	Legislated

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47	Support the use of living shorelines as a tool to reduce coastal erosion and flooding while providing better environmental services.	DEC, DOS	USACE, USEPA, OPRHP, SUNY SB, NYSG, NYC, HRNERR, NOAA, DCP, municipalities and Shinnecock Indian Nation	Near term	Initiated	Augment
48	Evaluate and periodically revise the breach contingency plan.	USACE, DEC, DOS	SUNY SB, OPRHP, NPS, USGS, USEPA and OGS	Near term	Initiated	New
49	Update current community planning practices to include coastal resiliency strategies that effectively minimize the impacts of extreme weather events and sea-level rise.	DOS, DEC	USEPA, NYSEDA, NYS RISE, OPRHP, NYSG, Consortium for Climate Risk in the Urban Northeast, NOAA, USGS, EPA, Shinnecock Indian Nation, municipalities, WCS and NGOs	Short term	Not funded	Legislated
50	Encourage coastal municipalities to participate in the Climate Smart Communities Program.	DEC, municipalities	DOS, NYSEDA, DOT DOH, and PSC	Short term	Initiated	New
51	Improve policies for sediment resource management, particularly for dredging and use of clean dredged sand from state waters.	DEC, DOS, USACE	BOEM, NPS, OPRHP, OGS, NYC DCP, NGOs, Shinnecock Indian Nation and municipalities	Short term	Not funded	New
52	Identify and assess sand resources within state and federal waters.	BOEM, USACE, DOS, DEC, SUNY SB	NPS, OGS, OPRHP	Short term	Partially funded	Augment
53	Develop a formal stakeholder engagement process for promoting the ocean action plan's long-term agenda.	DEC, DOS	NYMSC, NYSG, SUNY SB, WCS, USACE, and NGOs	Short term	Actively seeking funding	Augment
54	Establish an ocean advisory committee.	DEC, DOS	NYMSC, NYSG, SUNY SB, Shinnecock Indian Reservation, WCS and NGOs	Short term	Actively seeking funding	Augment
55	Establish a biannual OAP stakeholder workshop.	DEC, DOS	NYMSC, NYSG, SUNY SB, WCS, NGOs	Short term	Not funded	Augment
56	Develop a statewide campaign to increase ocean literacy.	DEC	DOS, OPRHP, New York State Museum, NOAA, NPS, Local School Districts, RFMRP, NYSG, NYMSC, NYSMEA, WCS and NGOs	Short term	Not funded	Augment
57	Promote diverse stakeholder participation in ocean outreach and advance awareness of environmental issues in underserved communities.	DEC	NPS, DOS, Shinnecock Indian Nation, NYSG, DOH, WCS and NGOs	Short term	Not funded	Augment
58	Create an updated recreational marine fishing guide.	DEC	NYSG, DOH, WCS, and NGOs	Short term	Initiated	Augment
59	Install 20 informational kiosks at major public recreational fishing access sites.	DEC	OPRHP, NYSG, Shinnecock Indian Nation, municipalities and NGOs	Short term	Partially funded	Base
60	Implement best management practices to reduce, mitigate or remove marine debris.	NGOs, DEC	NOAA (MDP), OPRHP, NYSG, NYMSC, DOS, USEPA, CCE, American Littoral Society, Shinnecock Indian Nation and municipalities	Short term	Not funded	Augment

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61	Promote responsible wildlife viewing activities for marine mammals within the New York Bight.	NYSG, DEC	NGOs, DOS, NOAA, OPRHP, OGS, ESD, Shinnecock Indian Nation, municipalities, WCS and NGOs	Short term	Not funded	Augment

Short term = Initiate within 2 years

Near term = Initiate within 5 years