

# Responsible Offshore Science Alliance (ROSA)

**Lyndie Hice-Dunton, PhD**  
Executive Director

“Building a New Era of Offshore Wind”

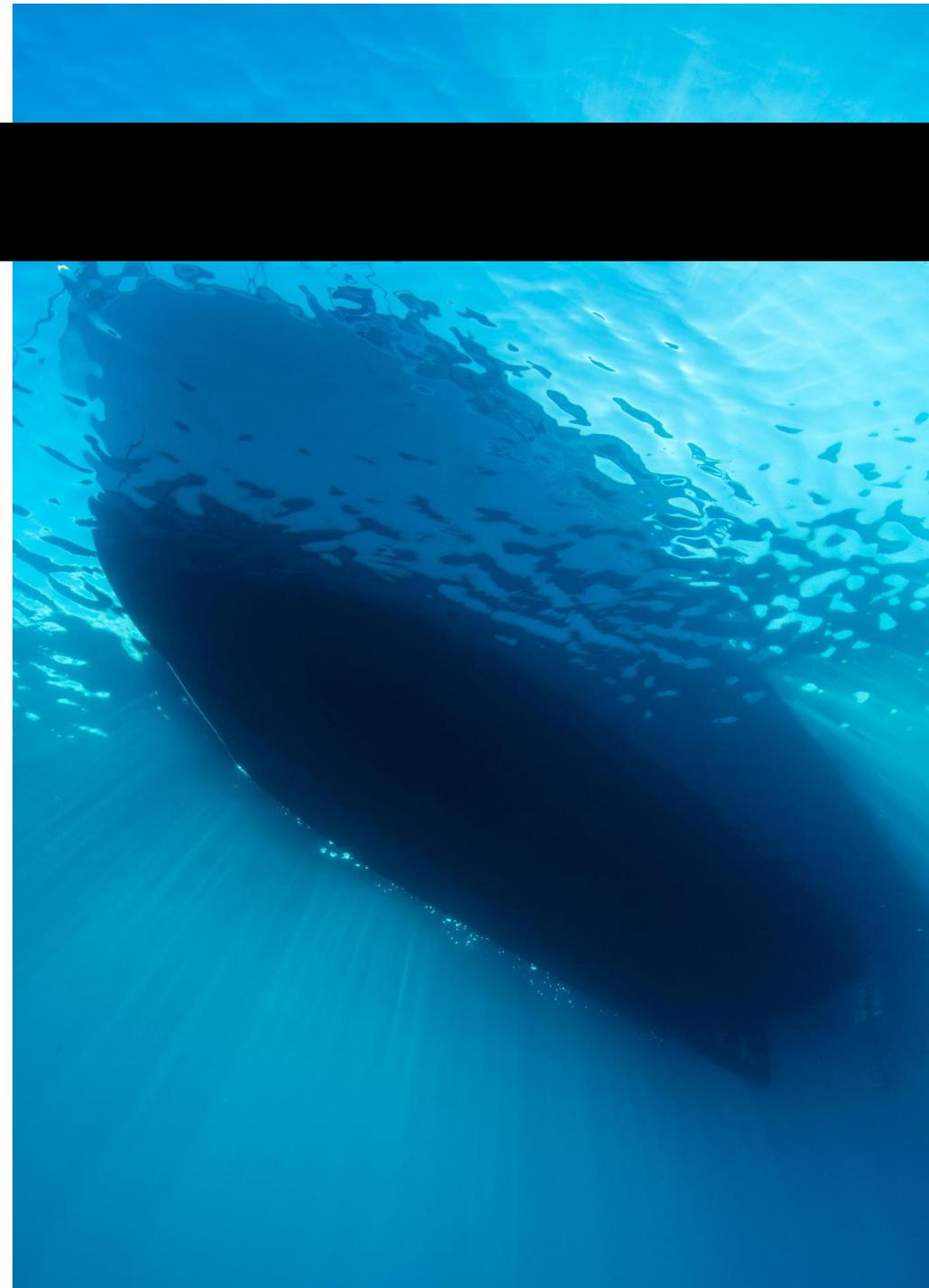
Webinar

May 14, 2020

# ROSA Background

- Recognized need for coordinated regional science related to offshore wind development and fisheries
- Limited capacity within existing groups and agencies
- Forum needed to improve cooperative partnerships
- Need to increase salient and credible data and improve our knowledge of the effects of wind energy development on fisheries and ocean ecosystems

**ROSA formed in early 2019 as a 501(c)3 through partnership between RODA and OSW developers**



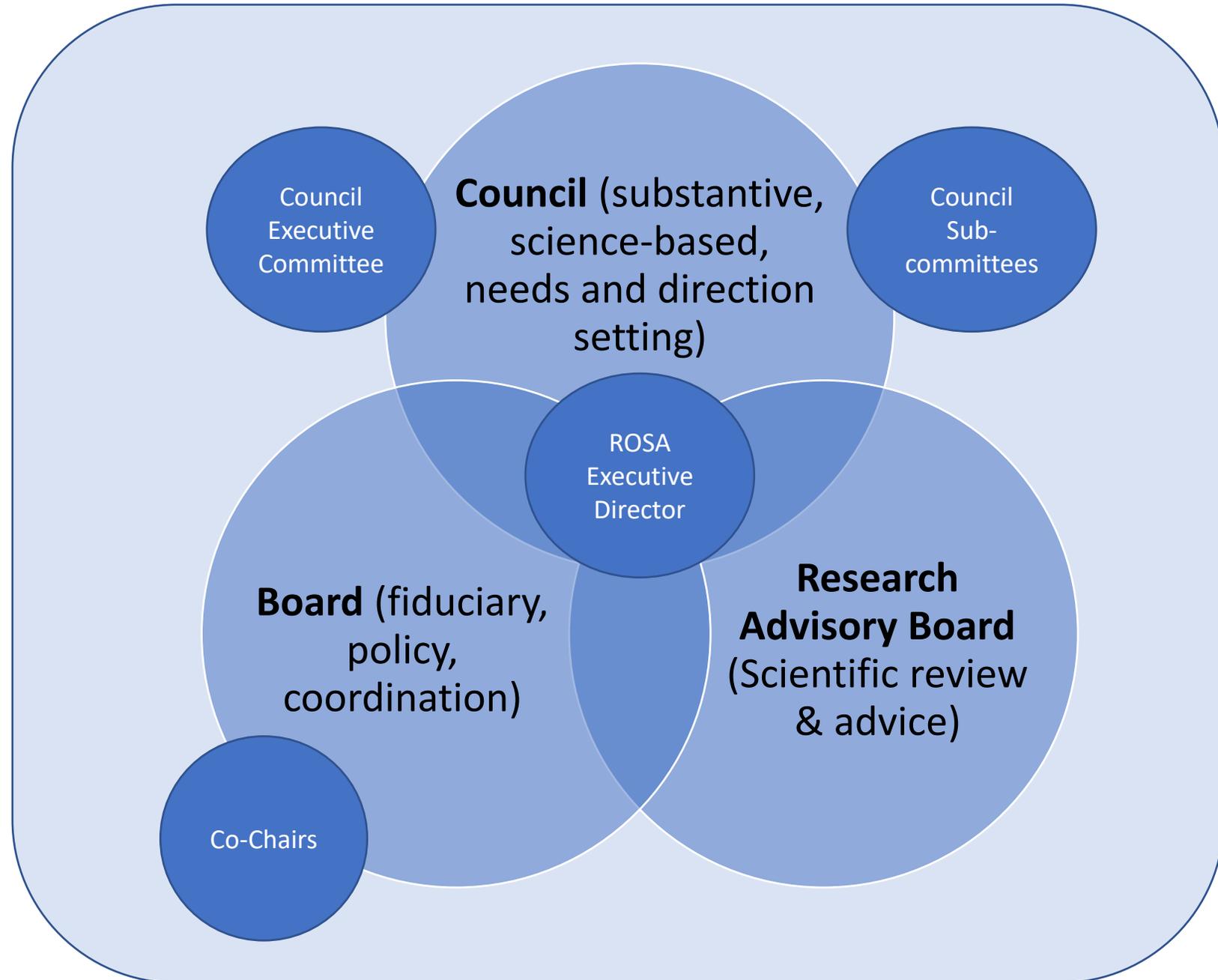
# ROSA Objectives

- Identify regional research and monitoring needs
- Provide a forum for coordinating existing programs
- Advance regional understanding through collaboration, partnerships, and cooperative research
- Facilitate and improve standardization and access to data
- Disseminate research and communicate findings and issues





## Organizational Approach



# Near Term Goals

Spring 2020

- Build Advisory Council
- Determine approach for interim needs- i.e. research & monitoring guidance

Summer 2020

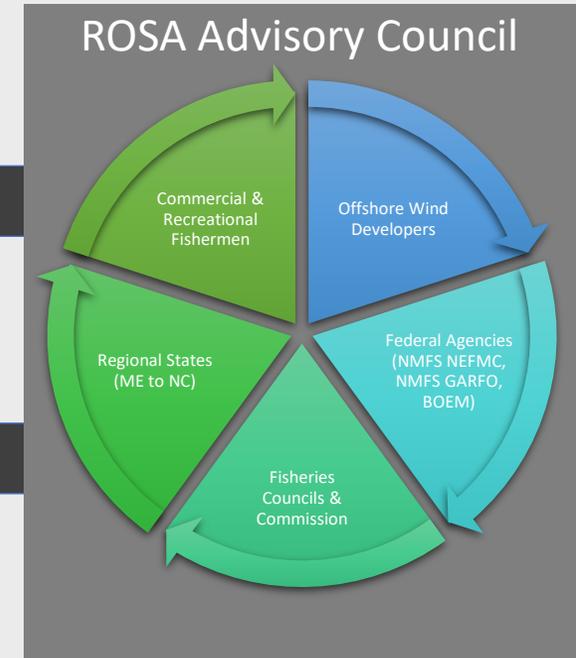
- Advisory Council kickoff meeting
- Discuss role of the Council and strategy for ROSA goals and objectives

Fall 2020

- NMFS/BOEM/RODA State of the Science meeting
- Meeting outcomes will help determine research needs and priorities
- Formation of ROSA Research Advisory Board

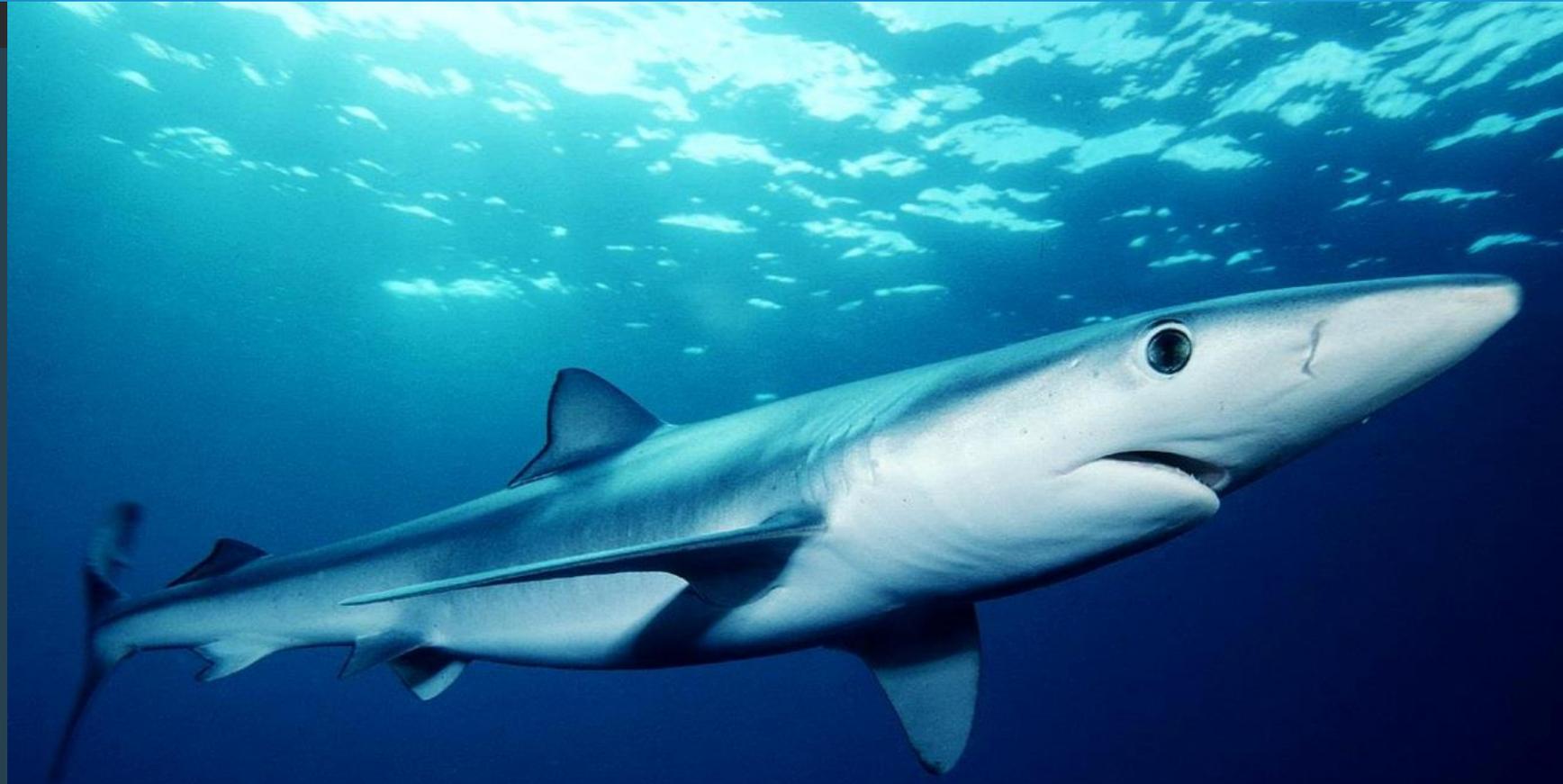
Late 2020/  
Early 2021

- ROSA moves science goals forward through guidance of ROSA Advisory Council and Research Advisory Board



# Offshore Wind Considerations for Fish & Fisheries

- “Fisheries” are complex
- Many vessels travel throughout the region to fish and land their catch
- Concerns vary by sector or fishery
- Considerations for mobile gear (dredges, trawls, etc.) may be different than fixed gear (pots, traps, etc.)
- Some gear operates on or within the sea bottom- hydraulic clam dredges, for example, fluidize upper layers of sediment
- Need to consider impacts to entire ecosystem, fishing, and shoreside infrastructure (ports, processors, etc.)



# Potential Stressors and Effects

## Potential Stressors

- Bottom Disturbance
- Sensory disturbance- EMF, vibration, heat, sound, visual
- Long-term structures
- Scouring
- Changes in vessel traffic

## Fisheries-Specific Stressors

- Effects on fishery target species
- Impaired Safe Fishery Access
- Insufficient communication with fishermen
- Loss of Fishing Grounds

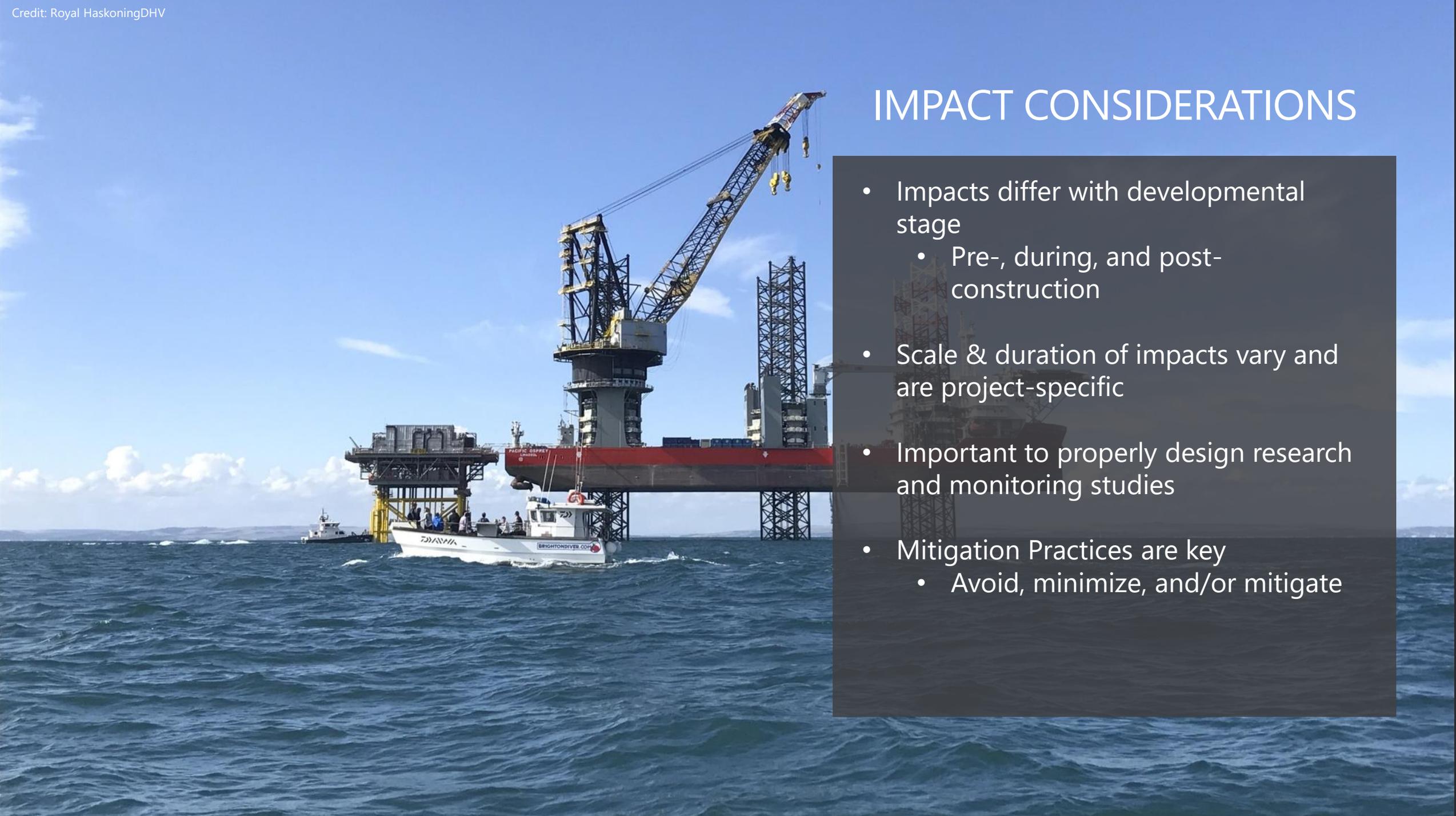
## Potential Effects

- Behavioral Disturbance
- Displacement
- Attraction
- Habitat Fragmentation/Modification
- Injury/Mortality
- Community Alteration/Invasive Species
- Change in Fishing Effort
- Loss of Fishing Revenue



# IMPACT CONSIDERATIONS

- Impacts differ with developmental stage
  - Pre-, during, and post-construction
- Scale & duration of impacts vary and are project-specific
- Important to properly design research and monitoring studies
- Mitigation Practices are key
  - Avoid, minimize, and/or mitigate



# Examples of Transmission Mitigation Practices for Fish & Fisheries

- Early & ongoing engagement with fishermen
- Creation of state and regional advisory boards and working groups
- Cable layout, design, burial
  - Orientation of cables
  - Proper burial and insulation of cables
  - Cable crossing strategies
- Pre- and post-construction ecological surveys
  - Regional to project-specific
  - Improvements in regional coordination



*With proper planning, siting, permitting, and fishermen engagement, offshore wind can coexist with fish and fisheries*

Thank you!



info@rosascience.org  
<https://www.rosascience.org/>

