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LABEL

CLEAN OCEAN ADVOCATE
February 2018

February 14th: NJ's Citizen Hearing
February 15th: NY's Public Meeting

Speak Out Against Offshore Oil Drilling in the Atlantic, including the NJ Shore & NY's South Shore!

Visit CleanOceanAction.org for more info!

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CLEAN OCEAN ADVOCATE

Defending the Sea Since 1984

Speak Out Against Offshore Drilling in the Atlantic, including the NJ Shore & NY's South Shore!

February 2018

Draft Proposed Program at a Glance

- Includes largest number of offshore leases ever proposed:
- 90% U.S. Ocean Waters
- Florida's Governor Rick Scott objected to new offshore oil & gas drilling and Interior Secretary Zinke said that Florida will be exempt and removed from the final plan. Subsequently, other Governors up and down the coast also voiced opposition and requested the same exemption as Florida. Since then, BOEM officials have stated that Florida is still included in the draft plan. The final outcome is still unknown.

90% of U.S. Ocean Targeted for Drilling 2019-2024 Draft Proposed Offshore Oil and Gas Leasing Program

On January 4th, 2018 the Trump Administration's Secretary of Interior Ryan Zinke announced the next phase of President Trump's New Draft Proposed 5-year (2019-2024) Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Oil and Gas Leasing Program. The plan includes opening the entire Atlantic Ocean from Maine to Florida for drilling including all of the Jersey Shore and NY's South Shore and would allow rigs to come within 3 miles of beaches.

The administration is required to seek public comments for the Draft Proposed Program (DPP) and is also including scoping comments for the Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

Comments are due by March 9th, 2018.
For a sample comment template visit CleanOceanAction.org.

Address comments to Secretary Zinke in one of two ways:

1. Submit comment online via the Federal Register:
www.regulations.gov/document?D=BOEM-2017-0074-0001

2. Mail in an envelope and label:

Comments for the 2019-2024 Draft Proposed National Oil and Gas Program
Ms. Kelly Hammerle
Chief, National Oil and Gas Leasing Program Development and Coordination Branch
Leasing Division, Office of Strategic Resources
Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (VAM-LD)
45600 Woodland Road, Sterling, VA 20166-9216

*Written comments may also be hand delivered at a public meeting to the BOEM official in charge or submitted online at BOEM's Public Meetings via provided laptops.

What happens next?

Following the 60-day public comment period ending on March 9th the Proposed Program will be released, followed by a 90-day comment period. Then the Proposed Final Program will enter a 60-day review by congress prior to approval.

Drilling will:

- Harm or kill marine life
- Pollute our clean ocean economy
- Increase climate change through burning fossil fuel
- Run dry, leaving an oily, dirty mess for our future



Scattered in the entire Atlantic Ocean, based on current estimates of recoverable fossil fuels there are:
229 days of oil and 477 days of gas (based on current U.S. consumption rates)

Tributes

Photo courtesy of Joe Reynolds

In Memory of:

Dery Bennett
Joseph Bernocco
Edward Casaretti
Henry Desch
Bill Feinberg
Grady Fitzgerald
Harold Ford
Jamie Franklin
Addie Gabel
Ben Hamilton
Ryan Hoblitzell
Ed Horgan
Ethel, George & Ronnie Jensen
Samuel Karinja
Linda Lees
Justine W. Lincoln
Abigail Litwin Mooney
Evelyn Murphy
Carol Anne Ross
Lillian Sustick
Ed Swierzbinski
Andrew Thompson
Melvina Walker
Billy Welbourn

In Honor of:

Rosemary & Laura Bagwell
COA's Beach Sweeps
Joel Dixon
Merry Christmas to Ray Dodd
Steven Donohue
Happy Holidays to Dana & Jim Fisher
Congratulations to Sam Friedman for Bar Mitzvah
Merry Christmas to William Gardner
Ben Gilroy
Deborah & Richard Herr
Happy Birthday to Michael Huber
Josh Keller
Happy Birthday to Holly Livingston
Colin Loch
Thomas E. Lynch, Jr.
Nancy Mosquera
Sandy & Bob Nott
James Oliveria
Happy 40th Birthday to Nicole Pavlin
Emily Pederson
Joyce Quick
Happy Birthday to Ken Roberts
Franz von Ziegesar
Engagement of Erin Elizabeth & Jake Weinberg
Eileen Wisor
Cindy Zipf

Mark Your Calendars!

Run the Hook

May 13th, 10am, Sandy Hook, NJ
Run for Mother Ocean this Mother's Day!

Hands Across the Sand

May 19th

Join hands against offshore & deepwater drilling, and offshore seismic testing
Stay tuned via COA's website & social media for details!

March for the Ocean

June 9th, Washington D.C.
The ocean is rising and so are we!

NJ's Only Public Meeting & Citizen Hearing

February 14th, 3-7pm

Hilton Garden Inn, Hamilton, NJ

Show your Ocean Emotion this Valentine's Day by attending NJ's Hearing to oppose offshore oil in the Atlantic!

POLICY

Tory Woods, Development Director, Development@CleanOceanAction.org

Widespread Offshore Oil Drilling Opposition



On January 4th, Trump opened 90% of U.S. ocean waters to proposed drilling in the new draft OCS 5-year drilling plan. Reaction from elected officials was swift and furious, and is growing. Over 35 US Senators and over 130 US Representatives in Congress oppose the plan—including 100% of the NJ congressional delegation. Nearly every state Governor (including Murphy and Cuomo) on the Atlantic and Pacific (except Maine and Georgia) have opposed the proposed offshore drilling plan, and have demanded the “Florida exemption” to be removed from further consideration. While Florida is officially still under consideration, Secretary Zinke has promised that it will be removed in the future.

NJ unites in leadership and action against Trump’s new proposed draft 5-year Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program.

Blizzard of opposition: Within 24 hours of announcement, and following a snowstorm, NJ leaders join then Governor Elect Murphy to oppose the plan.



Pictured above (from left) Jeff Tittel, New Jersey Sierra Club Chapter, US Rep. Frank Pallone, NJ First Lady Tammy Murphy, US Senator Bob Menendez, New Jersey Governor Phil Murphy, Cindy Zipf Clean Ocean Action, Assemblyman Eric Houghtaling, Amy Goldsmith Executive Director Clean Water Action, NJ Senator Vin Gopal, and Doug O’Malley Environment NJ.

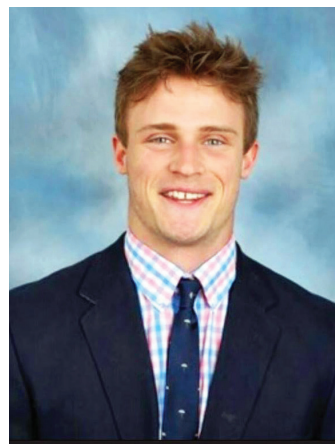
COA Welcomes Spencer Munson, Program and Resource Coordinator

Spencer Munson, who was COA’s Nonprofit Management Intern for the summer of 2016, re-joined the staff in January as Program and Resource Coordinator, a new position. Spencer is a recent graduate of James Madison University (JMU) College of Business with a B.B.A. in Management and a minor in Nonprofit Studies.

Past experiences include Community Outreach Coordinator for the Harrison Education Foundation, Honor Board Member for the Sigma Nu Fraternity, Big Brother for Big Brother Big Sisters of Harrisonburg-Rockingham County, and a Senior Writer for The Breeze (JMU School Paper).

Spencer “has always had a strong connection to the outdoors and developed an incredible fascination for the ocean. By accepting this position at COA, I feel that I will be continuing my journey to protect the natural resources that I hold dear and will work to inspire others to do the same.”

Surfing, hiking, camping, art, and reading are enjoyable ways for Spencer to unwind and relax. Spencer’s past experience with COA coupled with his academic knowledge and passion for the ocean will help improve and promote COA’s programs to protect the ocean. Welcome Spencer!



SCIENCE

Swarna Muthukrishnan, PhD, Staff Scientist; Science@CleanOceanAction.org
Alison McCarthy, Watershed Protection Coordinator; Outreach@CleanOceanAction.org

COA Visits the Shrewsbury River Maintenance and Beach Replenishment Site in Monmouth Beach



The dredged slurry of 90% sand is pumped through pipelines and is temporarily held in a sludge dewatering zone on the beach so that it can dry and be suitable for placement as beach fill.

Coordinator), and Dr. Swarna Muthukrishnan (Staff Scientist), along with Dave Stickle (Monmouth Beach Councilman) and Brian Williams (Monmouth Beach Environmental Commission) visited the NJDOT field office in Monmouth Beach to view the dredging/beach replenishment activity where they met with DOT personnel and onsite contractors.

NJDOT explained the dredging operation in the river and associated activities. The dredging, which takes place each day for a total of 12 hours, is continuously monitoring by the onsite crew.

Check out COA’s blog for COA’s full dredging report!



A trash trap in the dewatering zone helps to remove any debris that is transported with the dredged material from the river. According to NJDOT, daily maintenance activities include cleaning and flushing pipelines and removing and cleaning the trash trap every day.

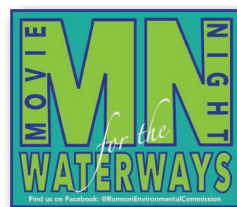
First Rally for the Navesink Meeting of 2018



The first public Rally for the Navesink meeting of 2018 was held on January 25th at Bingham Hall in Rumson. At this meeting, COA’s Staff Scientist Dr. Swarna Muthukrishnan presented water quality results from October-December as part of the Navesink River Ambient Source Track Down program. Alliance members also provided updates on their programs, which included a presentation on ice boat sailing from Monmouth Boat Club.

Water sampling in the Navesink River watershed was briefly suspended due to frigid temperatures at the beginning of January, but it didn’t keep the bald eagles from enjoying the river! Volunteer water quality monitors resumed sampling on January 17th. Thank you volunteers!

Save the Date: Movie Nights for the Waterways



The next Movie Night for the Waterways will be coordinated by KC Sullivan, Middletown High School South science teacher and Environmental Club advisor. Join COA and the Environmental Club on February 27th at Russell and Bette’s in Rumson for this special event! For more information, visit COA’s Facebook page or email outreach@CleanOceanAction.org.

Last month, on January, 23rd, Kristen Hall, member of Rumson Environmental Commission, coordinated a viewing of WALL-E along with Forrestdale Environmental Club and COA at Surf BBQ in Rumson. The event was a huge success with over 60 people attending this family friendly event!

OUTREACH & EDUCATION

Amanda Wheeler, Volunteer & Education Coordinator; Citizens@CleanOceanAction.org

Freezing Temperatures Outdoors = Sizzling COA Education Programs Indoors!

It’s always sunny and warm when students of all ages are learning how to become ocean advocates and take better care of the marine environment by participating in Clean Ocean Action presentations.

Students in Constantin Ballos’ AP Environmental Science class at Woodbridge High School learned how water quality is affected by human behavior throughout a watershed. Many thanks to Samantha, a member of the class and of the Ecology Club, who followed up by expressing interest in volunteering with COA and who is inspired to contact our elected officials about her concerns regarding water pollution issues.

The Environmental Club at Carl Sandburg



Carl Sandburg Middle School’s “Under the Sea” mural made with recycled bottle caps

Middle School in Old Bridge learned about COA’s Beach Sweeps and how they can get involved. Kacey Corsentino and Liz Georger, the Club Faculty Advisors, are looking forward to participating in the Beach Sweeps this spring and possibly bringing the Club to the Student Summit at Sandy Hook.

Shrewsbury Pack 50 Cub Scouts, led by Michael Merrill, will also be joining the Spring Beach Sweeps after hearing about the importance of the data and debris collection and the impact that Sweeps volunteers have on improving the marine environment.

For more information about COA’s educational programming, contact Amanda Wheeler at citizens@cleanoceanaction.org



Middle School students from Carl Sandburg School in Old Bridge check their answers to the Dirty Dozen Quiz

30th Annual Spring Student Summit Application Available



The 30th Annual Spring Student Summit Application is available on our website. Middle School teachers from Central and North



Exciting, sandy adventures!

Jersey counties can apply up until March 30th to bring up to 30, 5th – 8th graders to Sandy Hook to get their feet on the beach and their hands in the sand to celebrate marine science and ocean advocacy. For more information, click on the Education Programs tab on our website. Feel free to contact Amanda Wheeler at citizens@cleanoceanaction.org if you have questions or concerns.



Marine Science—up close and hands-on!

Internships Available!
Visit CleanOceanAction.org for details!