



NSGLC News

— December 2024 —



NSGLC's monthly e-newsletter with publication and research highlights, as well as news alerts on other major activities.

Publications

Check out the December 2024 issue of the *Ocean and Coastal Case Alert*! The Case Alert is a monthly newsletter highlighting recent court decisions impacting ocean and coastal resource management. This month features a decision by the First Circuit Court of Appeals upholding the federal government's approval of Vineyard Wind, the first utility-scale offshore wind project in U.S. waters, located 14 miles south of Martha's Vineyard.

[View Case Alert](#)

Research



PFAS Policy and Litigation: Key Developments in the Southeast State

NSGLC Ocean and Coastal Law Fellow Amy Kraitchman wrote "PFAS Policy and Litigation: Key Developments in the Southeast State," a report on policymaking approaches, agency actions, and key litigation in the Southeast region. Find the report here!

[Download PFAS Policy and Litigation Memo](#)

□ **Calling upper level law students and early career professionals!** □

Maryland Sea Grant and the University of Maryland Agriculture Law Education Initiative are excited to announce a unique opportunity for upper-level law students and recent graduates to publish a peer-reviewed article in NSGLC's *Sea Grant Law & Policy Journal* and present their research at a symposium on **April 2, 2025, in Washington, D.C.**

[View Application Details](#)

NSGLC Presents



Building Consensus Around State Marine Aquaculture Policy: Project Kickoff Webinar

The NSGLC and its partner researchers at Florida State University received funding for a workshop series to bring together state marine aquaculture managers, select federal partners, and other policy experts to identify best practices in state aquaculture policy, discuss barriers to adoption, and develop tools to support policy transfer among states. On December 12th, the NSGLC hosted a webinar on the initiative.

[View Webinar](#)

Top Tweet of the Month



Sea Grant Law Center

@SGLawCenter

The December 2024 'Ocean and Coastal Case Alert' is now available!

View the complete list of cases for the month:

nsglc.olemiss.edu/casealert

FIRST CIRCUIT

Seafreeze Shoreside, Inc. v. U.S. Dep't of Interior, No. 23-1853, 2024 WL 4986216 (1st Cir. Dec. 5, 2024).

The First Circuit Court of Appeals upheld the federal government's approval of Vineyard Wind, the first utility-scale offshore wind project in U.S. waters, located 14 miles south of Martha's Vineyard. The court rejected challenges from commercial fishing entities and a nonprofit that claimed federal agencies failed to adequately consider the project's environmental and industry impacts. The court agreed with the district court's opinion that some plaintiffs lacked standing under the Endangered Species Act and that those claims were moot due to a superseding biological opinion. The court also held that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' and Bureau of Ocean Energy Management's permitting decisions were neither arbitrary nor capricious. The court held that the agencies properly evaluated alternatives, impacts, and mitigation measures while satisfying their obligations under various environmental laws.

National Sea Grant Law Center

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