

THE OCEAN NEEDS PERMANENT PROTECTION FROM POLLUTION & HARMFUL INDUSTRIALIZATION

Join the Cause for the “COZ”!

Not so long ago, with eight ocean dumpsites, the New York/New Jersey “Bight” was the “Ocean Dumping Capital of the World.” The NY/NJ Bight is defined as the waters from Montauk Point, NY, to Cape May, NJ, offshore to the outer edge of the Continental Shelf (to depths of 1,000 fathoms). The Bight shows the results of this legacy of pollution: fish advisories from contaminated sediments, beach closures from runoff, storm drains, and raw sewage discharge, and littered beaches.



Over the last 30 years, Clean Ocean Action has led campaigns to end ocean dumping, reduce pollution and garbage wash ups, and blocked numerous proposals for oil and gas drilling, and other fossil fuel projects. We have come a long way and the ocean is now thriving.

The NY/NJ Bight is an essential economic, ecologic, and aesthetic resource of the United States, but it is now at risk from past and present threats, including climate change. Most alarming is the looming massive industrialization dangers. The ocean must be protected. The diversity of life in the NY/NJ Bight is unique in the world; more than **300** species of fish, nearly **350** species of birds, **5** species of sea turtles, and many marine mammals (including **33** species of whales and dolphins, **1** species of porpoise, and **4** species of seals) frequent this region. In addition, habitat in the NY/NJ Bight serves as an essential migratory pathway for species. Plus, a healthy ocean is the number one buffer against climate change. In short, if we want to save the planet, we must keep our ocean safe and healthy.

NOW MORE THAN EVER, A COMPREHENSIVE LAW IS NEEDED TO PROTECT THE OCEAN:

Unfortunately, laws and regulations are woefully inadequate to protect the vast ecological and economic value of this ocean region and its living marine resources from polluting and industrial activities. Battles to protect the ocean are fought permit by permit, which is time-consuming, unproductive, and exhausting. It is time to lock-in the tremendous path of progress which has led to far-reaching improvements in our ocean water quality and lock-out environmentally harmful activities, thereby ensuring the continued protection of the ocean today and for future generations.

**TAKE ACTION TO
SUPPORT THE
CLEAN OCEAN ZONE!**

**LOCK-IN PROGRESS,
LOCK-OUT POLLUTION &
INDUSTRIALIZATION**

The time is now to lock-in
protections for the ocean off
the NY/NJ coast.

**BE AN OCEAN REBEL
FOR THE COZ!**



Sign-up to be an ocean voice
to help lead the Clean Ocean
Zone campaign as a
community leader, grassroots
organizer, petition leader, or
to share information.

For more information:
www.CleanOceanAction.org

After fighting threats to the ocean for decades, Clean Ocean Action (COA) developed a holistic approach and initiative to protect the Bight by creating a zone in the ocean where pollution and industrialization are prohibited. In 2011, COA led a campaign for legislation called the **Clean Ocean Zone (“COZ”)** where harmful industrialization is locked out and clean ocean economy uses (e.g., fishing, boating, responsible renewable energies) are supported. However, the bill never passed. Today, industrial proposals and new technologies have accelerated at a massive scale and beyond imagination 15 years ago.

The Clean Ocean Zone, NOW!

Given this ocean peril, COA has renewed and revised the COZ initiative to permanently protect this critical ocean realm. COA seeks the power of the people to help demand the Clean Ocean Zone to:

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REDUCE POLLUTION:

1. Prohibit new ocean dumpsites where waste material, or dumping of chemicals is disposed or discharged by vessels into or within the ocean.
2. Mandate capping the Historic Area Remediation Site (HARS) -- formerly the Mud Dump Site -- with progressively cleaner sediment to ensure its remediation and cleanup and to protect against adverse ecological effects.
3. Prohibit new point sources of pollution (under the federal Clean Water Act definition) and increases of discharge capacity (e.g., wastewater discharge outfalls, industrial discharges) or by industrial injection.

PROTECT MARINE ECOSYSTEMS:

4. Protect valuable sand and gravel resources by prohibiting industrial strip-mining, while allowing beach replenishment activities, and prohibit mining of other mineral resources.
5. Prohibit industrial and non-renewable energy facilities and infrastructure, including oil and gas exploration, development, and production, and liquefied natural gas import/export facilities.
6. Allow renewable energy development based on the precautionary principle and only if it is reasonable, responsible, and sustainable, and responsible regulations and pilot studies are established to determine limitations with comprehensive monitoring and enforcement for siting, construction, operation, maintenance, and decommissioning. These specifications must be based on an independent, scientifically, and comparatively valid pilot scale project to ensure that that any leases, easements, rights-of-way, or permits issued to establish a renewable energy facility do not endanger human health and safety or the marine environment as measured by sustaining the current rich biodiversity and populations of marine life, individually or cumulatively, including endangered species and sensitive species at sensitive life stages.

SUPPORT MARINE RESOURCES & USES:

7. Support recreational and commercial fishing by acknowledging that federal and state laws for fisheries exist. Prohibit the COZ legislation from being used to adopt or enact fisheries management actions for recreational or commercial fishing.
8. Support approved federal and state artificial reefs, and support underwater scientific and historic research and exploration that does not adversely affect the ecosystem.
9. Support, celebrate, and sustain maritime activities that depend on a healthy and clean ocean, such as boating, underwater diving, fishing, surfing, swimming, and the enjoyment of the sea. The COZ legislation will not be used to restrict or limit these activities.

SUPPORT THE CLEAN OCEAN ZONE! GO TO CLEANOCEANACTION.ORG FOR COZ UPDATES