

LARGEST EXPANSION IN HISTORY

In 2018, New York built six artificial reef sites using recycled materials, including boats and barges, old Tappan Zee Bridge materials, trusses, steel pipes, concrete panels, steel girders, and more. The Governor's initiative continues today with six more artificial reef sites being built this summer.

SAFE AND SUSTAINABLE

Before material can be deployed at artificial reef sites it must be inspected and cleaned of any hazardous substances. The New York State DEC works with multiple federal agencies to ensure material meets strict standards and is appropriate to use in marine environments.

MARINE LIFE MOVES IN

As quickly as the material settles on the sea floor, the reef structure begins to fill with marine life. Fish like blackfish, black sea bass, scup, fluke, hake, and cod move in to check out the new structure. Lobsters and crabs also take up residence in artificial reefs, and encrusting organisms like barnacles, sponges, anemones, corals, and mussels cling to and cover the material.

FIND OUT MORE ONLINE



For more information about New York's artificial reefs, visit:
on.ny.gov/artificialreefsny



Find our interactive reef map here:
<https://arcg.is/1aPi8G0>



Take the DEC survey and share your reef experiences:
<https://arcg.is/0PC85j>

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Andrew M. Cuomo
Governor

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Commissioner

ARTIFICIAL REEFS

Long Island's Sunken Treasure

Long Island beaches are a national treasure, world-renowned for fine white sand, spectacular waves, miles of boardwalks, beach trails, restaurants, picnic areas, and beautiful sunrises and sunsets.

Just a few miles offshore, visitors can find Long Island's "Sunken Treasure," 12 artificial reefs developed by New York State to improve sport fishing and provide new and exciting recreational opportunities. Long Island's artificial reefs shelter fish and other marine life that attract popular fish species like sea bass, fluke, cod, and blackfish.

For years, fishermen and divers advocated for the expansion of Long Island's artificial reefs, and that is why, in 2018, Governor Cuomo directed the largest expansion of artificial reefs in State history. New York's expanded artificial reefs will provide better fishing and diving opportunities, support businesses that depend on recreation, and provide jobs for thousands of Long Islanders.

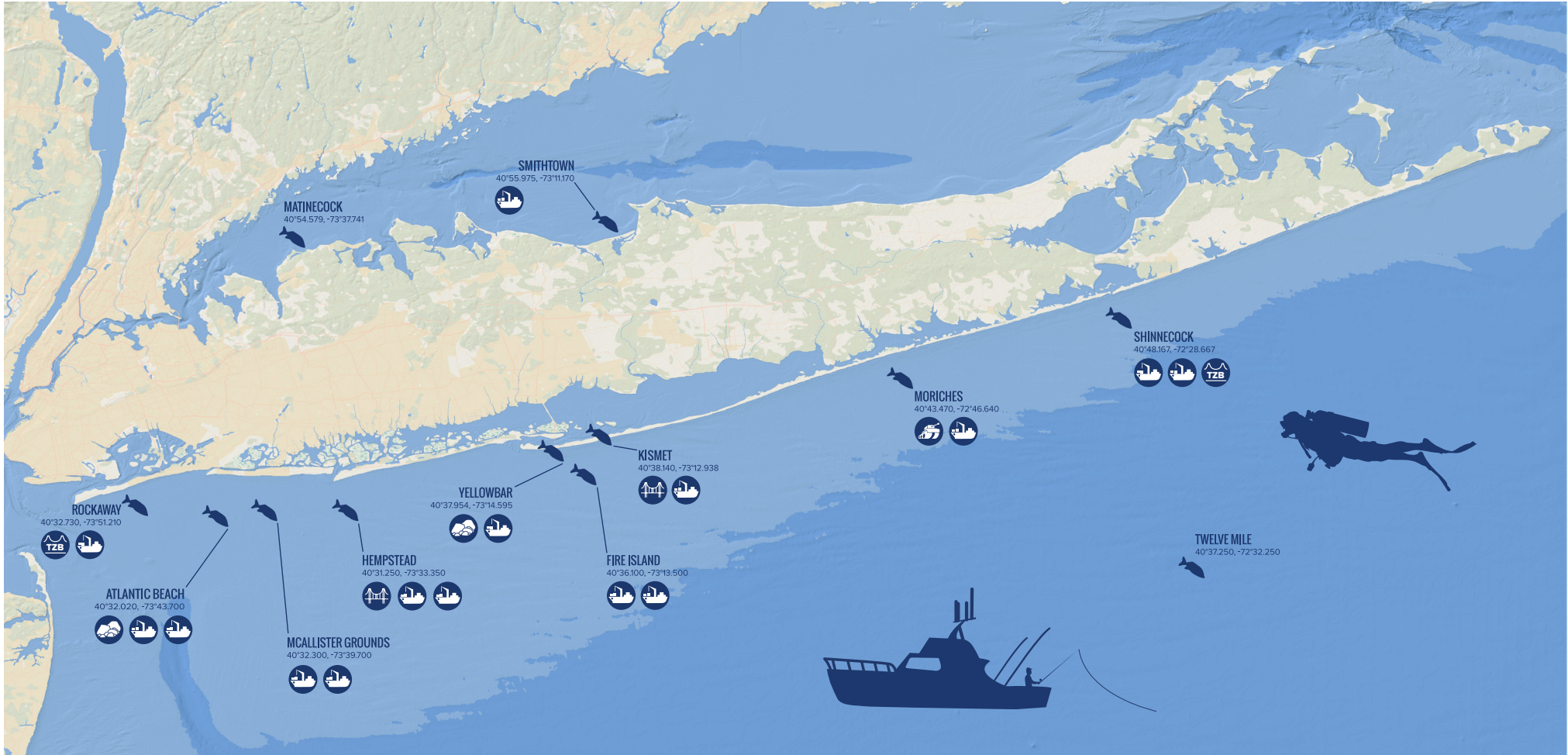


Department of
Environmental
Conservation

ARTIFICIAL REEFS LONG ISLAND'S SUNKEN TREASURE

New York State is building 12 artificial reefs off the shores of Long Island, the largest expansion of artificial reefs in state history. The materials for the reef expansion are strategically placed to improve New York's diverse marine life and boost Long Island's recreation, sport fishing, and diving industries.

12 GREAT REEFS TO EXPLORE



“New York’s artificial reefs are benefiting my business and New York’s fishing public by improving marine life and creating more and better opportunities to fish and dive the nearshore waters of the Atlantic Ocean and Great South Bay. Expanding Long Island’s artificial reefs is good for our shared environment and our bottom line, but especially for communities that depend on recreational fishing and diving to thrive and succeed.”

-Captain Neil Delaney. The Captain and his *Laura Lee* crew have been fishing the waters of Great South Bay and Fire Island since 1974.

LEGEND

- Rocks/Concrete
- Armored Personnel Carrier
- Bridge Material
- Boat/Vessel
- Tappan Zee Bridge Material

FIND YOUR
ADVENTURE