

# Collaborative Wind-Wildlife Activities in the U.S. Atlantic

February 2022 Update



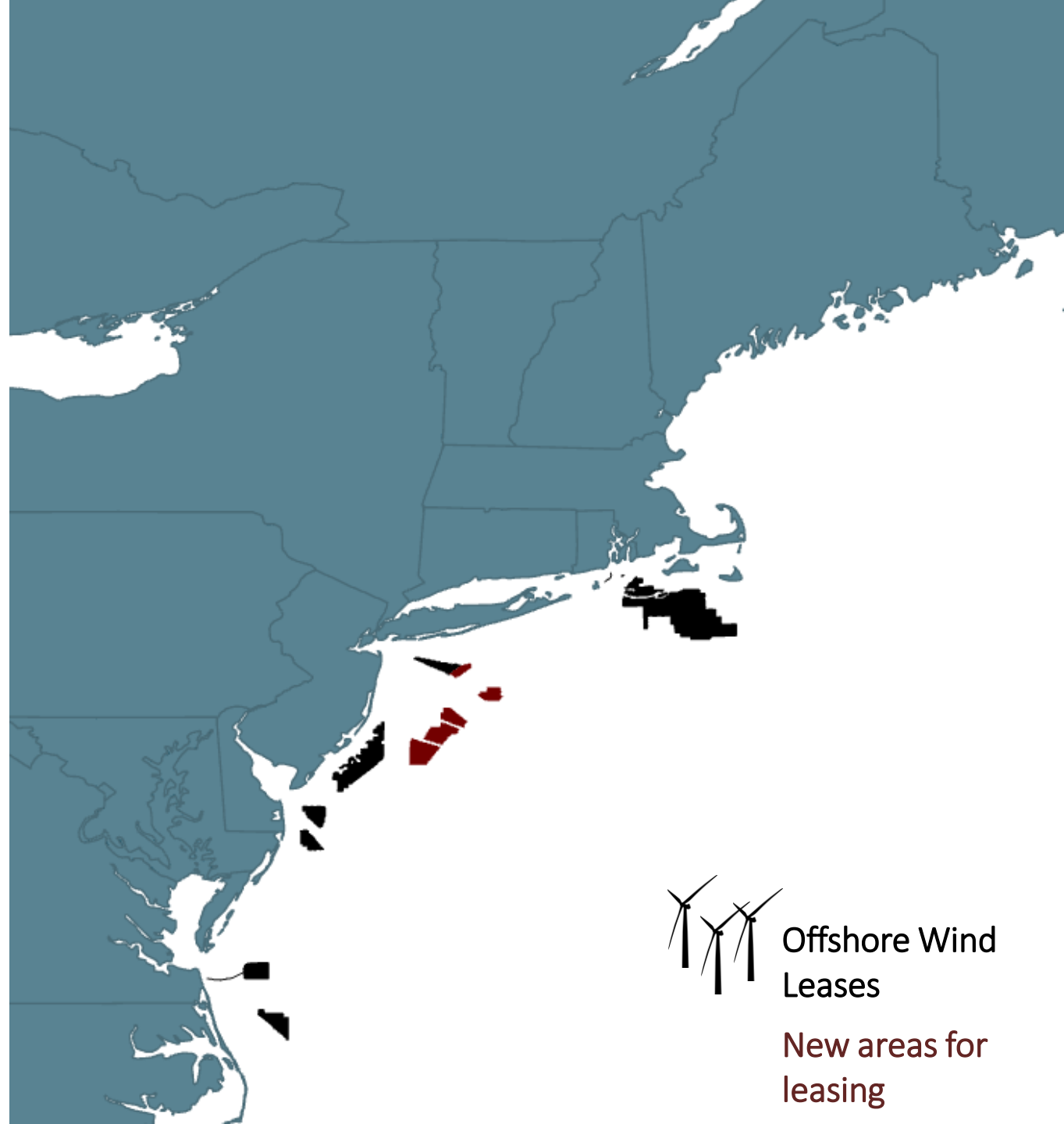
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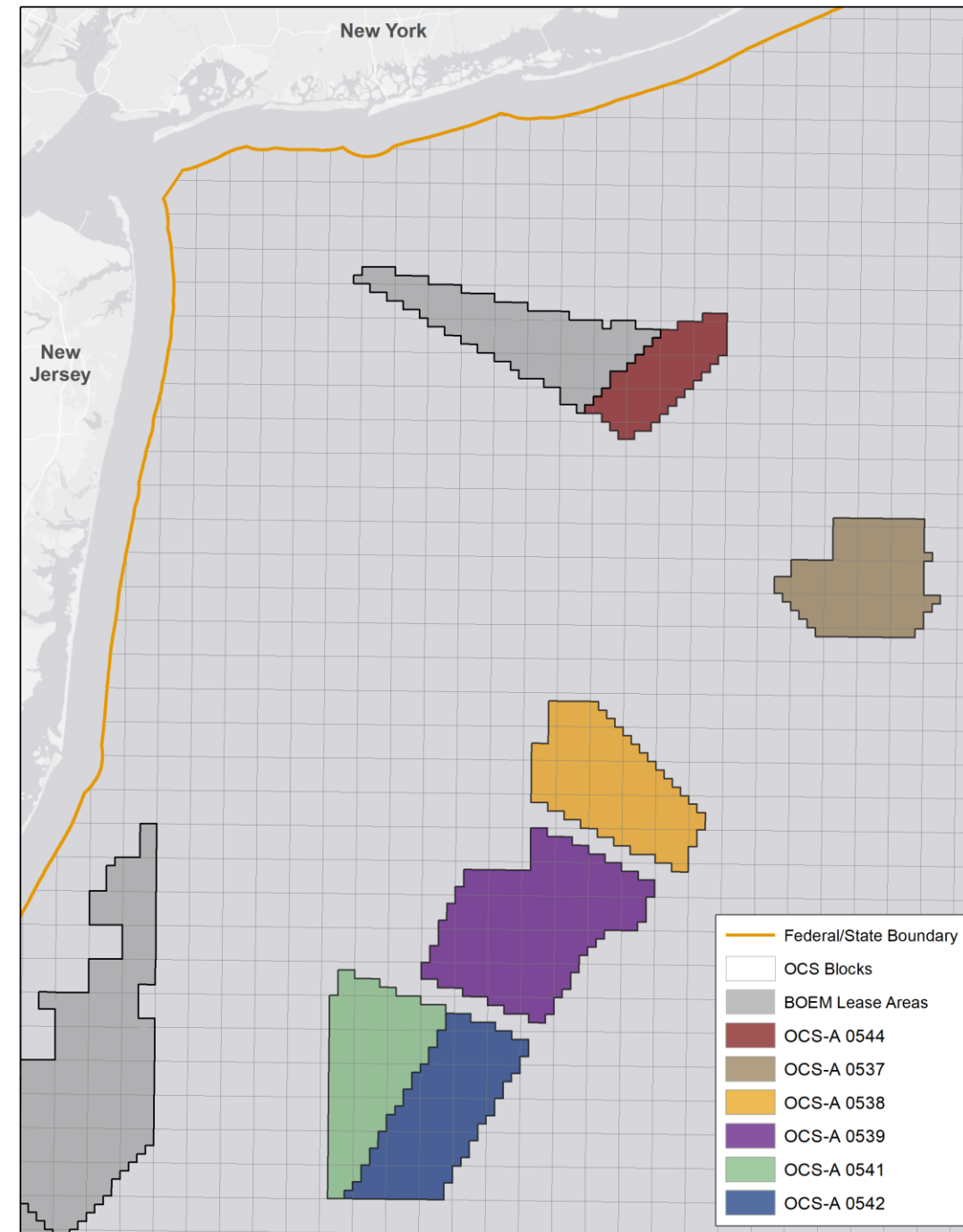
# Regional Ambitions for Offshore Wind

- Key component of plans to minimize climate change
- States have established more than 39,000 MW of offshore wind procurement targets by 2040
- Developers plan to bring 10,300 MW online by 2026 by developing 12 offshore wind projects



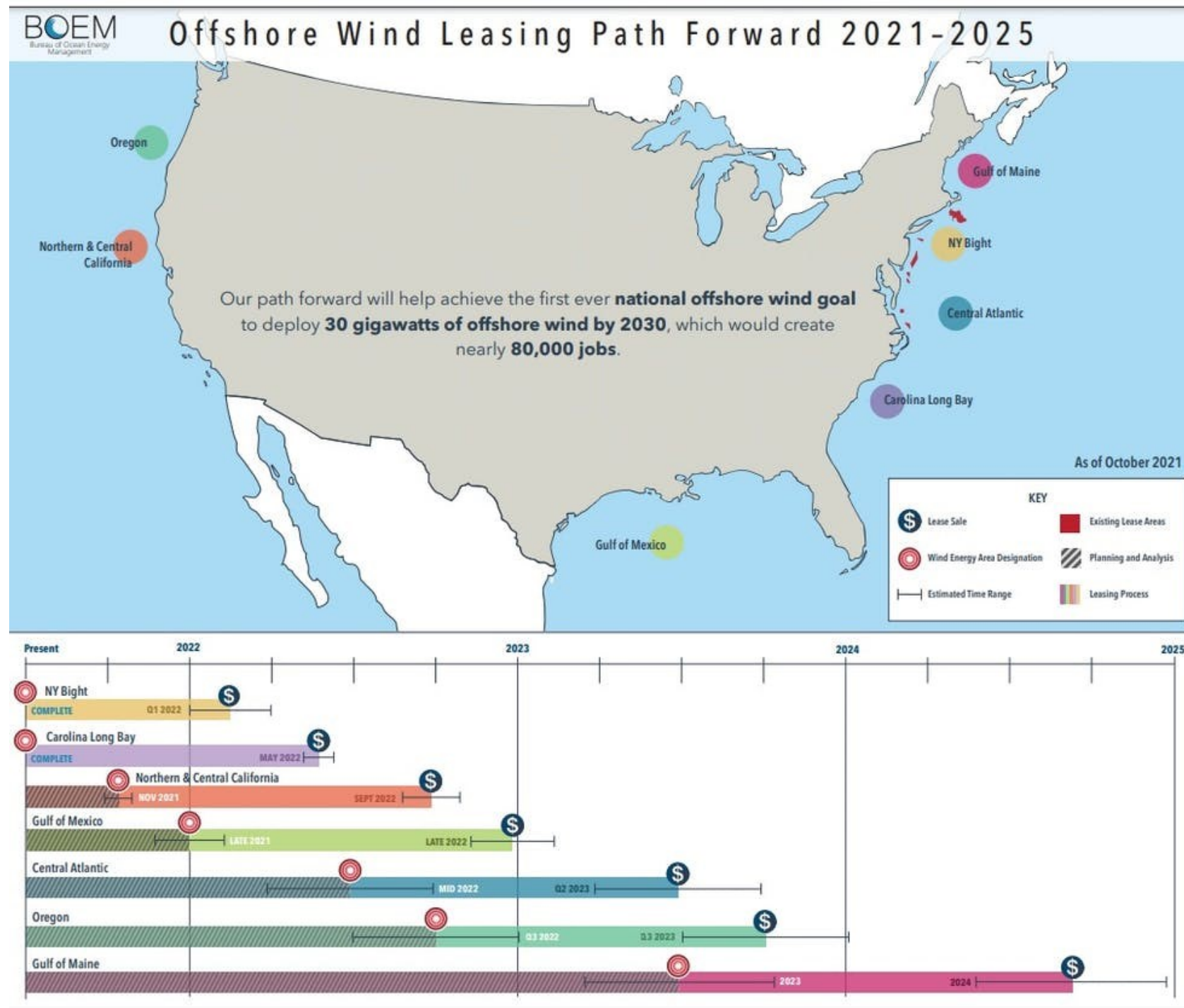
# Recent Federal Activities

- BOEM will hold a wind energy auction on Feb 23 for more than 480,000 acres in the New York Bight



# Recent Federal Activities

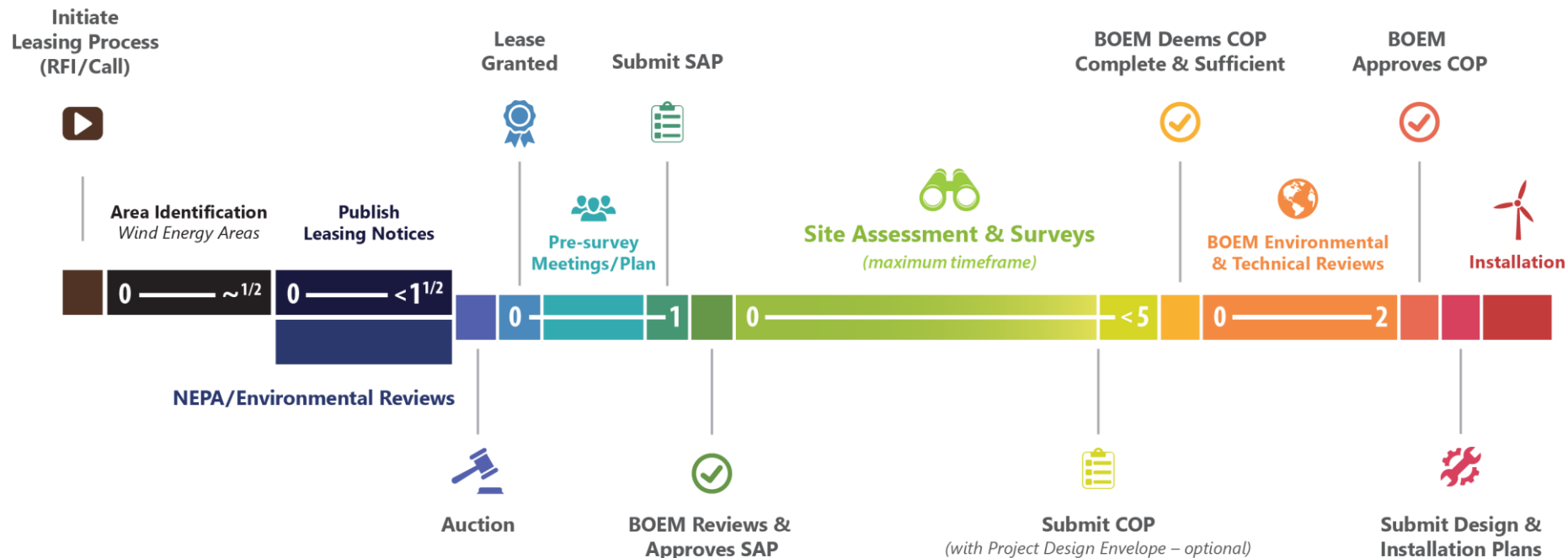
- BOEM will hold a wind energy auction on Feb 23 for more than 480,000 acres in the New York Bight
- BOEM announced offshore wind leasing timeline for 2021-2025 to meet Biden-Harris administration's goal to deploy 30 GW of offshore energy by 2030



# Recent Federal Activities

- BOEM public comment periods throughout permitting process:
  - Wind Planning Area identification and environmental assessment
  - Proposed Sale Notice
  - Site Assessment Plan (SAP)
  - Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)

More information on opportunities for public comment and stakeholder outreach can be found at: <https://www.boem.gov/renewable-energy/state-activities>



# Offshore Wind Project Timelines

| Lease Number     | Year | Company                             | Acres            | State | Current Status   |
|------------------|------|-------------------------------------|------------------|-------|------------------|
| OCS-A 0482       | 2012 | GSOE I, LLC                         | 70,098           | DE    | SAP Approved     |
| OCS-A 0519       | 2018 | Skipjack Offshore Energy, LLC       | 26,332           | DE    | SAP Approved     |
| OCS-A 0483       | 2013 | Virginia Electric and Power Company | 112,799          | VA    | COP Under Review |
| OCS-A 0486       | 2013 | Revolution Wind, LLC                | 83,798           | RI/MA | COP Under Review |
| OCS-A 0517       | 2013 | South Fork, LLC                     | 13,700           | RI/MA | ROD Approved     |
| OCS-A 0487       | 2013 | Sunrise Wind, LLC                   | 109,952          | MA    | COP Under Review |
| OCS-A 0490       | 2014 | US Wind Inc.                        | 79,707           | MD    | SAP Approved     |
| OCS-A 0498       | 2016 | Ocean Wind, LLC                     | 160,480          | NJ    | COP Under Review |
| OCS-A 0499       | 2016 | Atlantic Shores Offshore Wind       | 183,353          | NJ    | COP Under Review |
| OCS-A 0500       | 2015 | Bay State Wind LLC                  | 144,842          | MA    | SAP Approved     |
| OCS-A 0501       | 2015 | Vineyard Wind 1 LLC                 | 65,296           | MA    | ROD Approved     |
| OCS-A 0534       | 2015 | Vineyard Wind, LLC                  | 101,590          | MA    | COP Under Review |
| OCS-A 0508       | 2017 | Avangrid Renewables, LLC            | 122,405          | NC    | COP Under Review |
| OCS-A 0512       | 2017 | Equinor Wind US LLC                 | 79,350           | NY    | COP Under Review |
| OCS-A 0520       | 2018 | Equinor Wind US LLC                 | 128,811          | MA    | SAP Approved     |
| OCS-A 0521       | 2018 | Mayflower Wind Energy, LLC          | 127,388          | MA    | COP Under Review |
| OCS-A 0522       | 2018 | Vineyard Wind LLC                   | 132,370          | MA    | SAP Approved     |
| OCS-P 0560 (MHK) | 2021 | Oregon State University             | 4,270            | OR    | FERC License     |
| <b>Total</b>     |      |                                     | <b>1,746,522</b> |       |                  |

← Fully permitted

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# Offshore Wind Project Timelines

- Vineyard Wind 1



- Received final permitting approval in May 2021
- Onshore construction – started in November 2021
- Offshore construction – 2022
- Begin operations – 2023

- South Fork Wind



- Received final permitting approval in January 2022
- Onshore construction - 2022
- Offshore construction – summer 2023
- Begin operations – end of 2023



# The Environmental Technical Working Group



- > Mix of stakeholders with technical expertise
- > Overarching objectives:
  - Better understand and manage potential effects of offshore wind development on wildlife
  - Develop collaborative processes to address priority issues
  - Reduce permitting risk and uncertainty for developers
- > Initiates Specialist Committees to work on specific needs



# Bird- and Bat-Related Efforts

Current  
E-TWG  
Efforts

2022 State of the  
Science Workshop

Synthesis of regional  
research priorities and  
recommendations

Upcoming  
E-TWG Efforts

Site-specific guidance for  
pre- and post-construction  
avian monitoring

Other Related  
Efforts

NYSERDA Webinar  
Series and E-TWG  
Webinar Library

Project WOW

# 2022 State of the Science Workshop



## July 26-28, 2022

- **Goals:** 1) inform interested stakeholders about the state of knowledge regarding wildlife and offshore wind energy development, 2) promote regional coordination and collaboration through information exchange
- **Theme:** Building on existing knowledge and emerging collaborations
- **Call for symposia and abstracts is open until 14 March, 2022 (registration will open shortly)**
- Virtual and in-person participation options



Learn More

[www.nyetwg.com/2022-workshop](http://www.nyetwg.com/2022-workshop)

# Synthesis of regional research priorities and recommendations



NYSERDA

E-TWG effort in 2022 to provide interim guidance for regional-scale research and monitoring efforts in the eastern U.S.

- Broad in focus (multi-taxon and habitats)
- Two primary end-products
  - Database of research needs and data gaps identified from pre-existing sources
  - Interim guidance for regional-scale research, including key terminology, general recommendations on study design and data transparency, prioritization criteria
- Opportunities for stakeholder input:
  - Stakeholder workshop in ~summer 2022
  - Comment period on draft interim guidance and database



Email

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# Site-specific guidance for pre- and post-construction avian monitoring



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## E-TWG committee chaired by FWS in 2022

- Goal: develop interim guidance for pre- and post-construction monitoring to detect changes in marine bird distributions and habitat use (displacement, attraction, macro- to meso-scale attraction)
- Committee is currently being formed – please let us know if you are interested in contributing your expertise!



Email [Kate.Williams@BRIwildlife.org](mailto:Kate.Williams@BRIwildlife.org)  
or [Caleb\\_Spiegel@fws.gov](mailto:Caleb_Spiegel@fws.gov)

# NYSERDA Activities



## “Learning from the Experts” Webinar Series

NYSERDA’s Offshore Wind team is hosting an educational webinar series to connect the public with independent experts in key topics in offshore wind, including wind farm technologies, development practices, regulatory processes, and research initiatives.

## E-TWG Webinar Library

With input from the E-TWG, NYSERDA has developed a library of free, publicly available webinars related to offshore wind energy development and wildlife to serve as a resource for stakeholders.



Learn More:

[www.nyserda.ny.gov/osw-webinar-series](http://www.nyserda.ny.gov/osw-webinar-series)

[www.nyetwg.com/webinar-library](http://www.nyetwg.com/webinar-library)

For more information, contact:

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# Wildlife and Offshore Wind

A Systems Approach to Research and Risk Assessment for Offshore Wind Development from Maine to the Carolinas



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF  
**ENERGY**

**BOEM**  
Bureau of Ocean Energy  
Management

Environmental Research, Validation of Tools and Methods, and Multi-Year Evaluation of Impacts of Offshore Wind Energy Development on Wildlife in U.S. Atlantic Waters (\$7.5 million)

# Wildlife and Offshore Wind (WOW) Project

- 5 year project (~mid-2022 to 2027)
- Bird/bat-focused project team within the broader consortium
  - BRI, Stony Brook, Tetrattech, URI, plus federal agency scientists
- Strategy:
  - Develop frameworks to guide research now and into the future
  - Focus on analyzing data being collected by OSW developers and others – build off of other field efforts wherever possible



- Lead PI: Douglas Nowacek, Ph.D.  
[doug.nowacek@duke.edu](mailto:doug.nowacek@duke.edu)
- Multi-institution consortium with varied expertise
- <https://offshorewind.env.duke.edu>

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