



**BOEM** Bureau of  
Ocean Energy Management

# **BOEM Activity Update to the Highly Migratory Species Advisory Panel**

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**Brian Hooker**

*Office of Renewable Energy Programs*

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# Topics to be Covered

1

Atlantic Project Updates

2

Central Atlantic Call for Information and Nominations

3

Gulf of Mexico Leasing Update

4

Ongoing and Completed Studies





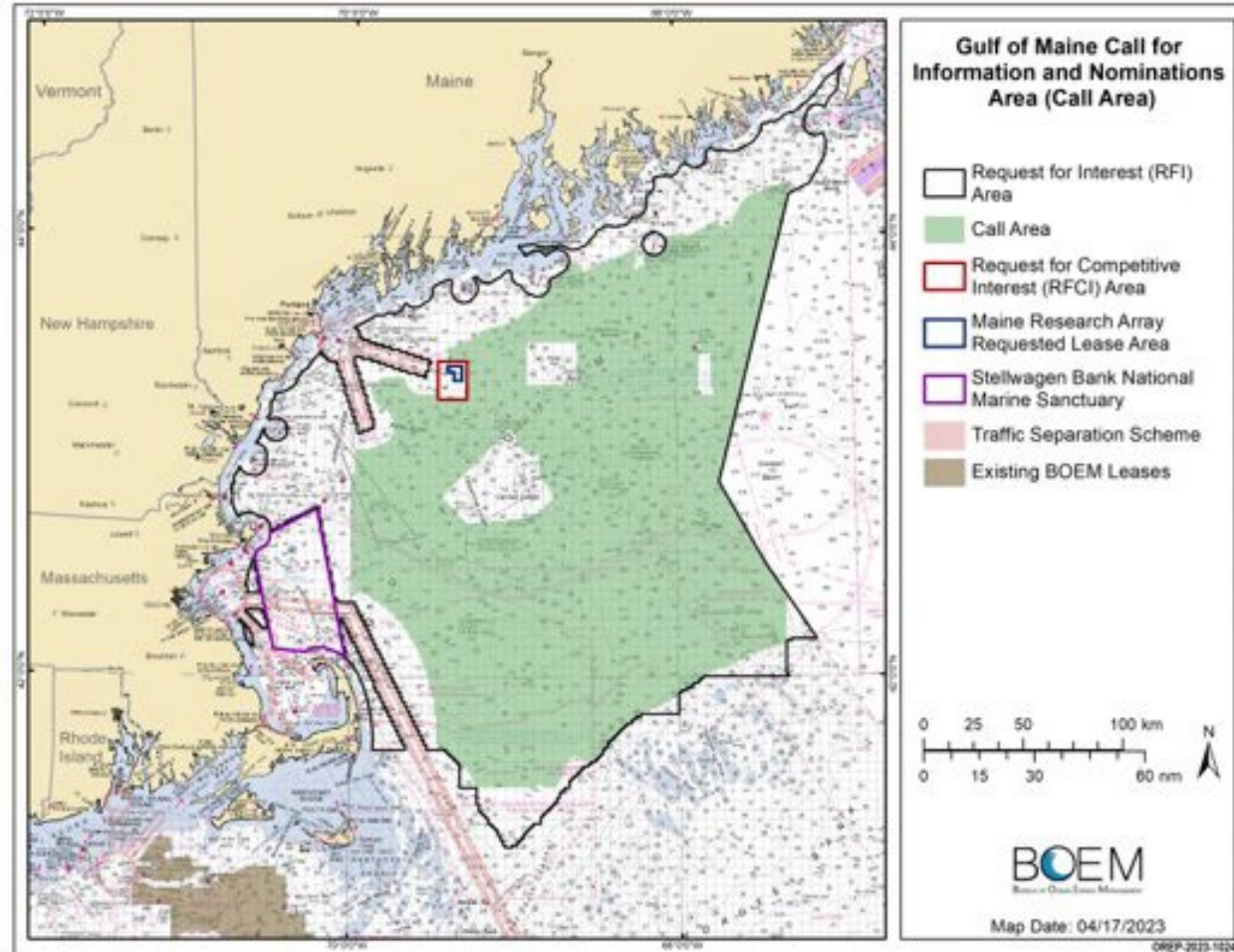
# Renewable Energy Program by the Numbers





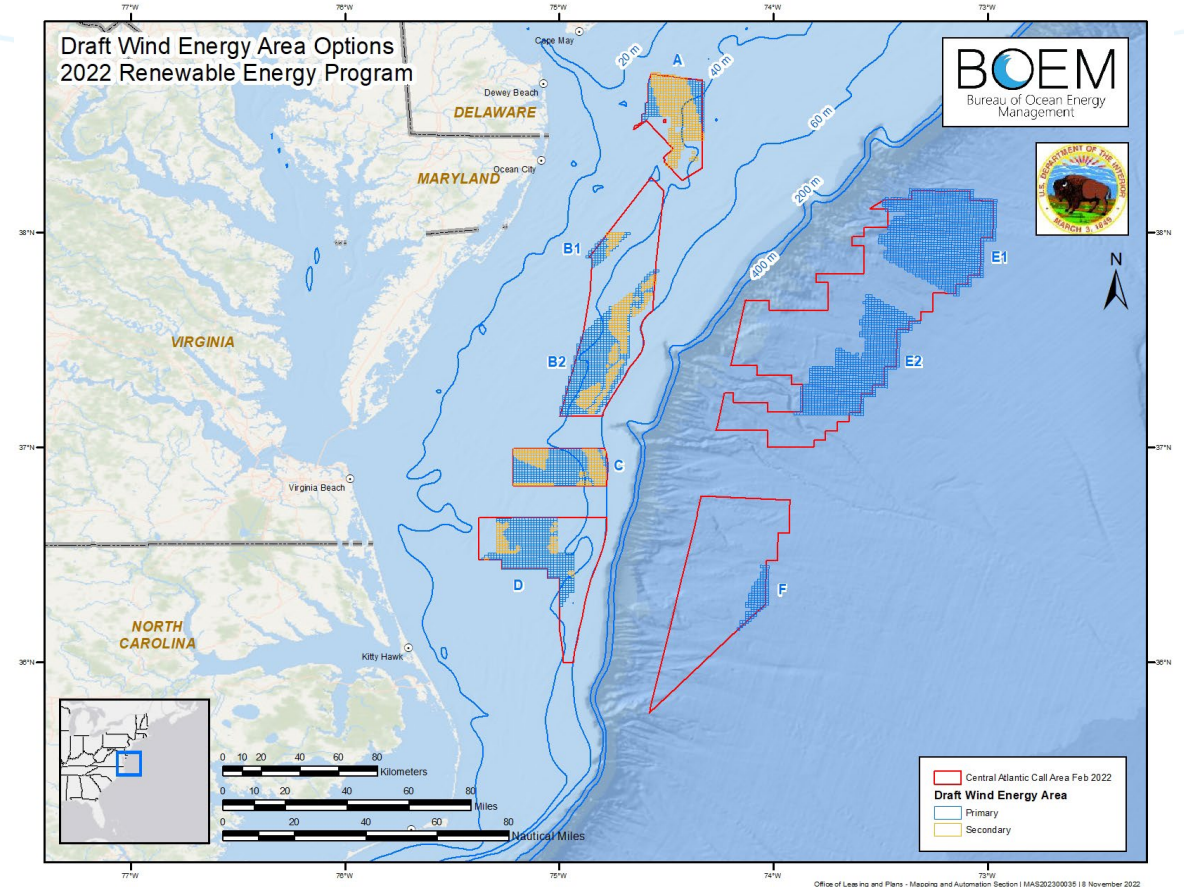
# Gulf of Maine

- Call Area published on April 26<sup>th</sup>
  - initiated a 45-day public comment period.
  - BOEM will accept nominations and comments through 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on Jun. 12, 2023
- Gulf of Maine Intergovernmental Renewable Energy Task Force meeting on May 10-11, 2023
- <https://www.boem.gov/Gulf-of-Maine/>



# Central Atlantic: Draft Wind Energy Area

- Draft WEAs published on November 16, 2022.
- Presentations can be viewed on BOEM's website at 67 comments received on draft WEAs.
- Final WEAs are scheduled for publication in Q2 2023 (possible as early as June). Followed by environmental assessment.
- Lease sale anticipated in 2024. No firm dates yet on when a lease may be held.



<https://www.boem.gov/renewable-energy/state-activities/central-atlantic>

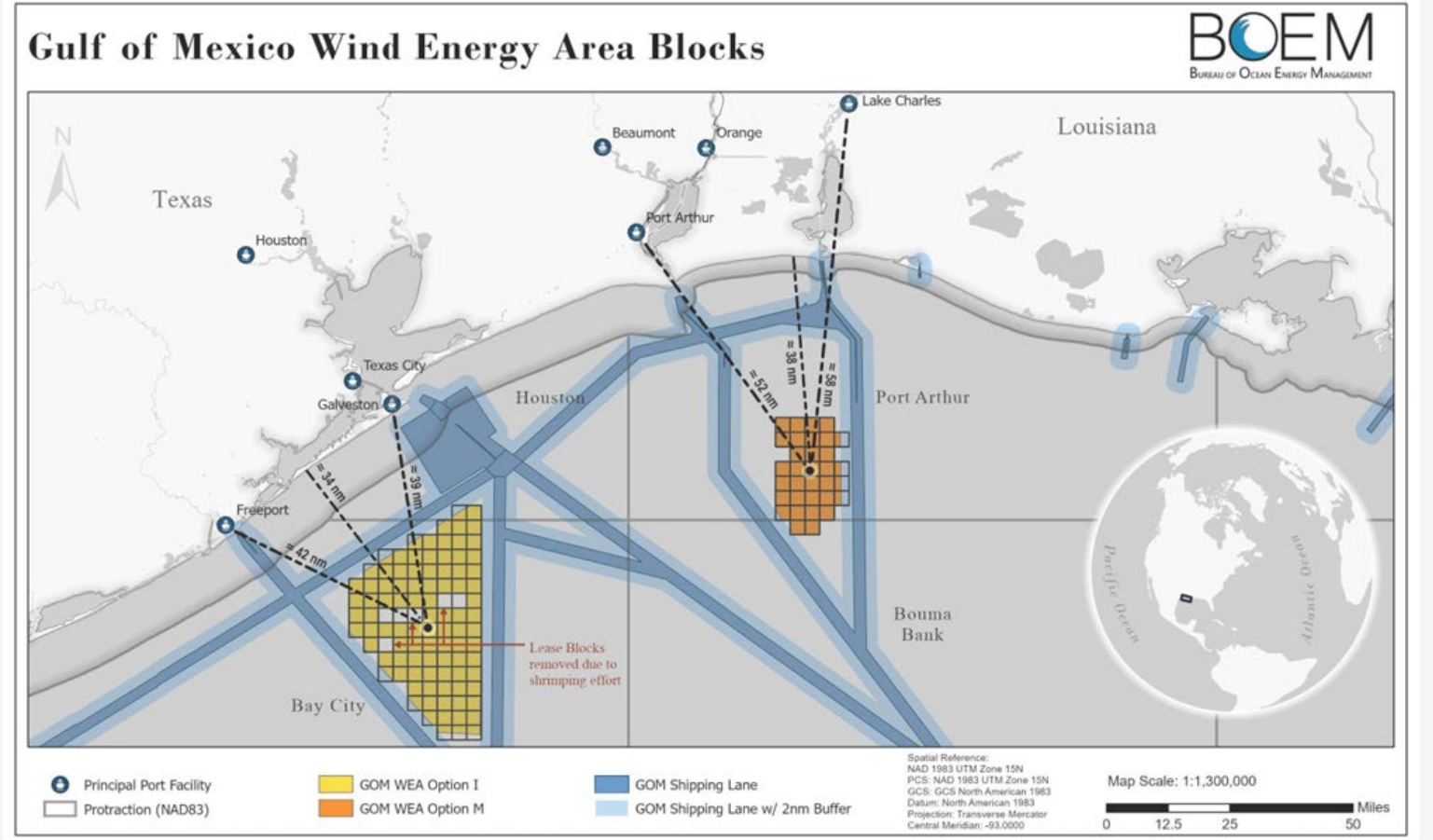
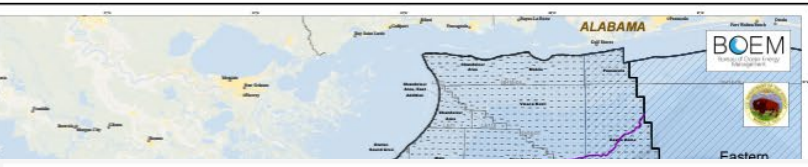
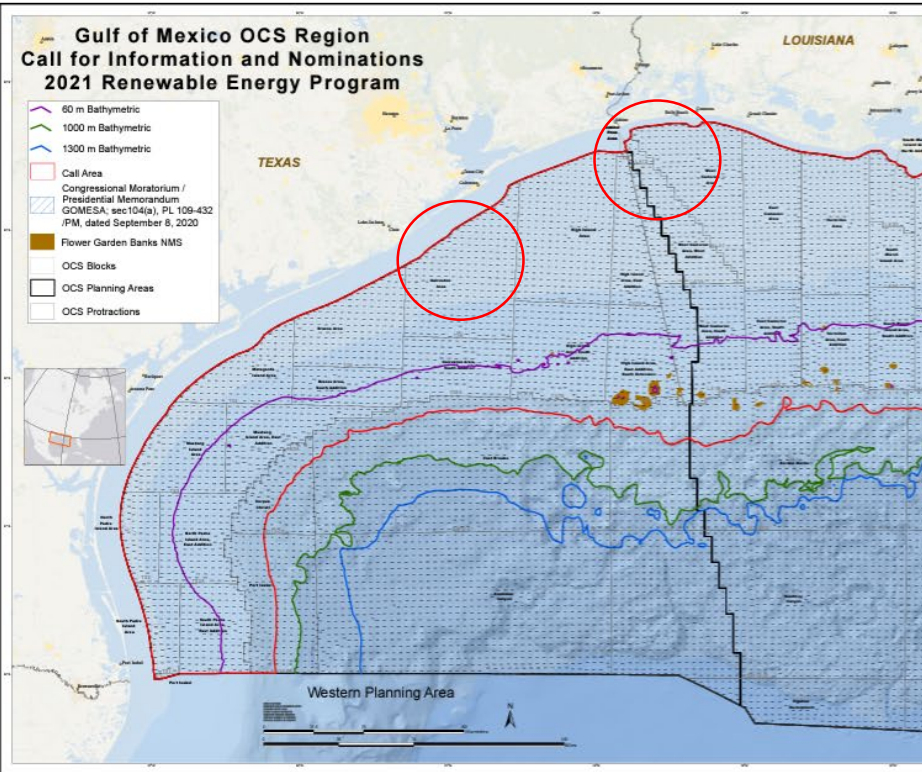


# Gulf of Mexico

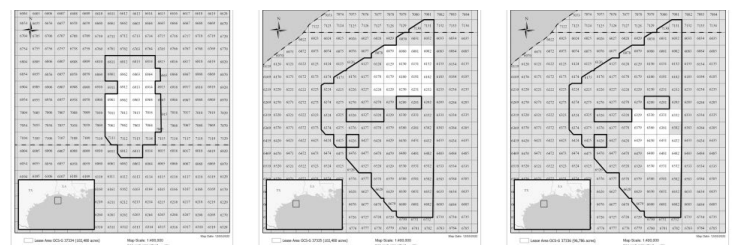
## ○ Gulf of Mexico

- The Final Area ID Memo was published on October 31, 2022.
- Proposed Sale Notice (PSN) published in the Federal Register on February 24, 2023. Comment period ended on April 25, 2023.
- Auction Seminar was held on Thursday, March 23, 2023.
- The fourth Task Force Meeting was held on April 11, 2023 and had approximately 285 attendees.
- Final Environmental Assessment and Final Sale Notice scheduled to publish summer 2023.
- First wind lease auction in Gulf of Mexico is planned for late August 2023.
- Stay informed about BOEM's GOM activities at
- <https://www.boem.gov/renewable-energy/state-activities/gulf-mexico-activities>.

# Gulf of Mexico: From RFI to Call to Wind Energy Areas




## Draft Lease Areas in PSN





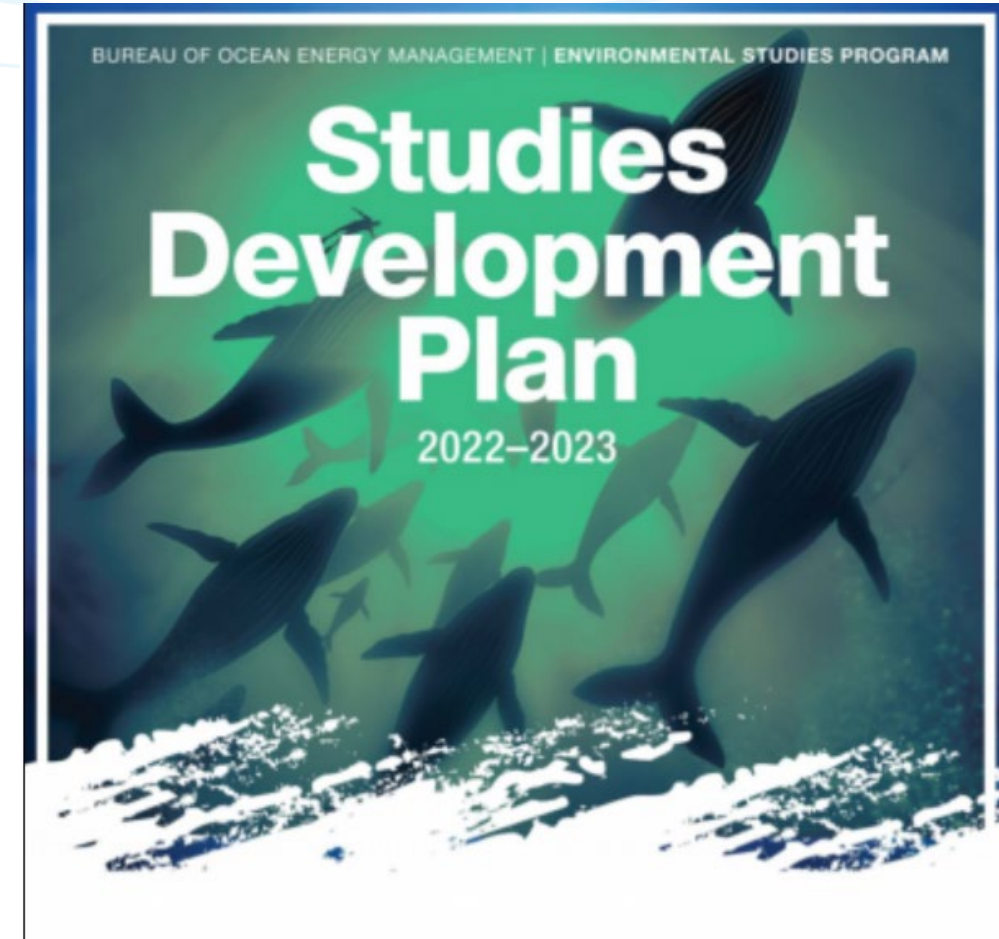
# Fisheries Mitigation Guidance Development

- **November 23, 2021**, BOEM published a “Request for Information” to request information and perspective to BOEM to inform BOEM’s development of draft guidance on avoiding minimizing and, if needed, compensating for impacts from offshore wind energy projects to commercial and recreational fisheries.
- **June 2022:**
  - BOEM published the draft guidance document and opened a 60-day comment period which concluded on August 22, 2022. In total, 88 comments were received from 79 organizations and 9 individuals. .
- **Summer 2023:**
  - Consultation with Tribal Nations.
- **TBD:** Issue final guidance.
  -  <https://www.boem.gov/renewable-energy/request-information-reducing-or-avoiding-impacts-offshore-wind-energy-fisheries>



# Environmental Studies Program

- BOEM publishes a Studies Development Plan annually and posts approved projects on a National Studies List.
- Study ideas are reviewed by the Standing Committee on Offshore Science and Assessment (COSA) convened under the National Academy of Sciences
- Results of studies are incorporated into BOEM environmental assessment and decision-making process





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**Thank you!**

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