

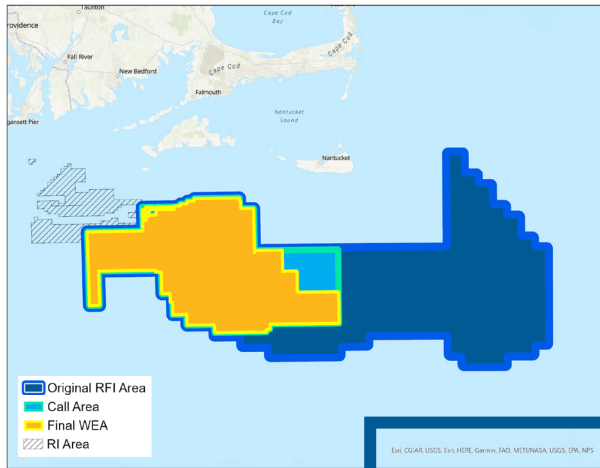
MASSACHUSETTS CASE STUDY:

Planning Offshore Wind Projects with Input From Fishermen & Marine Stakeholders

BOEM Process

2010-2011

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION (RFI) AND INTERGOVERNMENTAL TASK FORCES



Wind Leasing Process Offshore Massachusetts

(the RI wind energy area to the west was a separate process)

1,884,920 acres

, an area about twice the size of Rhode Island, were under consideration in the 2010 MA RFI Area to gauge wind developer interest in constructing offshore wind ([75 FR 82055](#)).

In 2011, BOEM removes the area east of the 70 degree longitude line (the area in dark blue) from the MA RFI to protect valuable fisheries resources and address navigational concerns ([77 FR 5820](#)).

2012

CALL AREA



942,460 acres

were left under consideration in the BOEM 2012 [Call for Information and Nominations](#) after BOEM reduces the area by 50 percent. The Call provides the public the opportunity to provide comments about site conditions, resources, or uses.

2012

WIND ENERGY AREA



753,968 acres

were under consideration in the Wind Energy Area identified in May 2012. [BOEM reduced](#) the RFI area by an additional 10% to reduce potential conflict with commercial and recreational fishing as well as an area of high sea duck concentration.

2015

LEASES

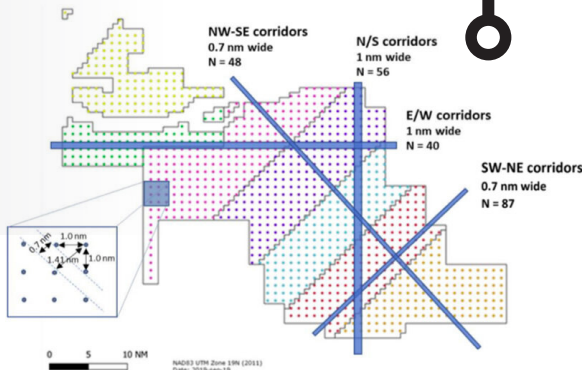


742,000 acres

, an area smaller than the state of Rhode Island, was [announced](#) by BOEM and the state of Massachusetts to be included in a January 2015 lease auction.

2019

Cross Industry Alignment After the BOEM Process



30% of the New England Wind Energy Area's potential energy production was removed by developers in 2019 after purchasing their leases, to establish a [1x1 nautical mile layout](#) throughout all 5 adjoining lease areas. This common layout between competing companies' leases created over 200 transit lanes to address commercial fishing industry concerns.

