

governor's Energy Office

Floating Offshore Wind in Maine Celina Cunningham, Deputy Director *October 15, 2021*



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CLIMATE COUNCIL GOALS



ENSURE MAINE PEOPLE, INDUSTRIES, AND COMMUNITIES ARE RESILIENT TO THE IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE. Ľ

80% **BELOW 1990 LEVELS BY 2050**





Maine is well positioned to be a global leader in offshore wind, delivering clean energy and good jobs to our state. The Maine Offshore Wind Initiative, led by the Governor's Energy Office, is dedicated to responsible growth of this industry through strategic planning, research, and coordination across Maine, the nation, and world.

An Opportunity for Maine to:



Fight Climate Change



Harness Renewable Energy



Create Jobs & Economic Growth



Sustain Maine's Maritime Heritage

Maine Offshore Wind Initiative

Planning: Maine's **Offshore Wind** Roadmap

Ports: Analysis of Searsport, and other Maine ports to support Offshore Wind



Floating Offshore **Research Array**

Regional Collaboration: Gulf of Maine Task Force (BOEM, ME, NH, MA), Regional Wildlife Science Entity

Public/Private Partnerships: UMaine, New England Aqua Ventus, United Kingdom, National Offshore Wind Research Development Consortium, Business Network for Offshore Wind

maineoffshorewind.org



Research: Gulf of Maine

2021 Maine Legislative **Activities:** A **Balanced Approach** to Offshore Wind

- Prohibition on new offshore wind projects in State waters (3 mi from coast) in heavily fished waters
 - Creation of Maine **Offshore Research Consortium** to advance scientific understanding of OSW in Gulf of Maine, includes fishing industry
 - Support for the proposed research array, including directing PUC to negotiate a **power purchase** agreement for up 144 MW for project



Gulf of Maine Floating **Offshore Wind Research Array**

State Research Lease:

- 12 or fewer floating turbines in federal waters
- Nearly 30 miles from mainland
- 15 square mile lease request

Research is the key driver for project

Public-Private Partnership

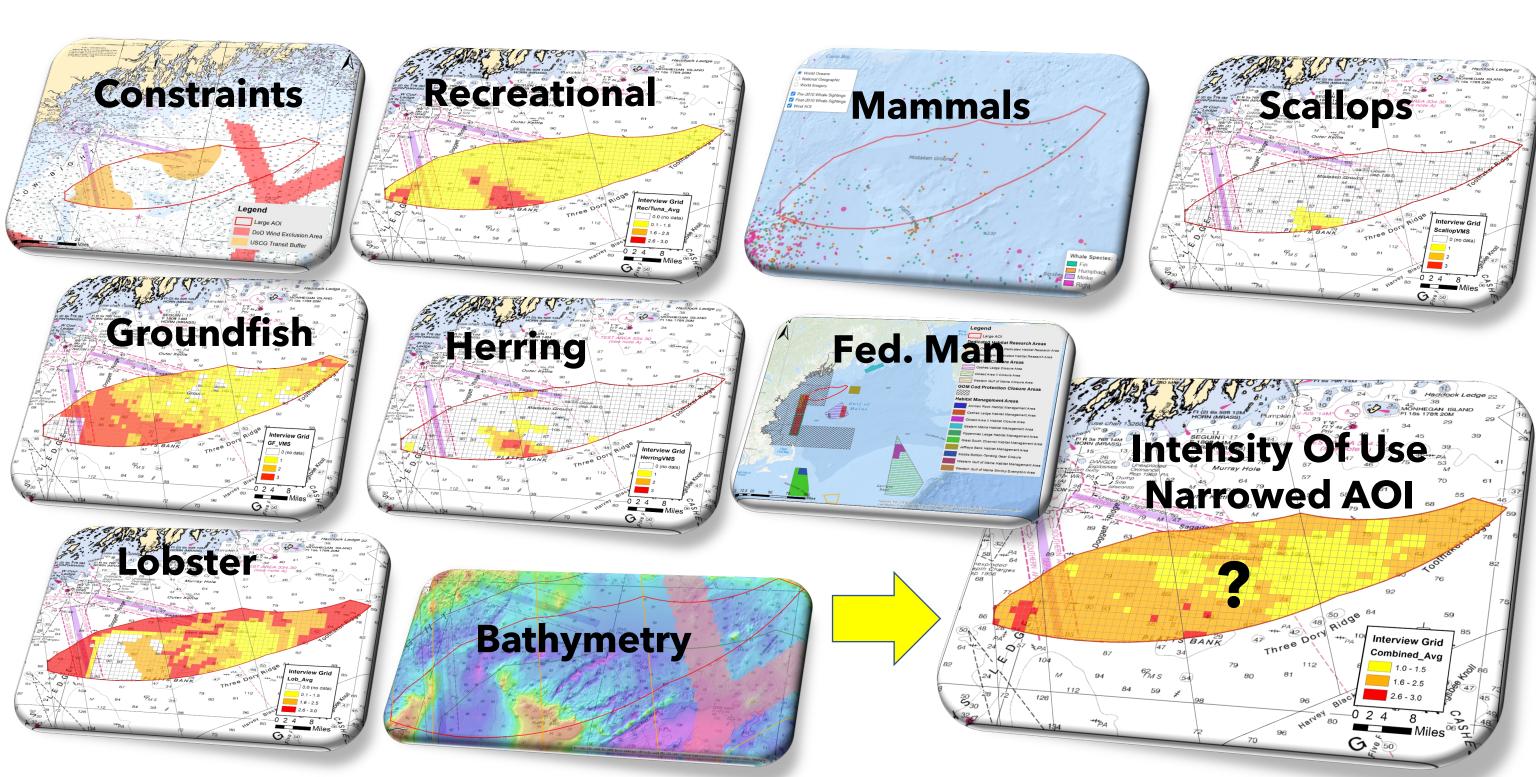
- New England Aqua Ventus joint partnership between RWE Renewables and Diamond Offshore Wind, a subsidiary of Mitsubishi
- University of Maine

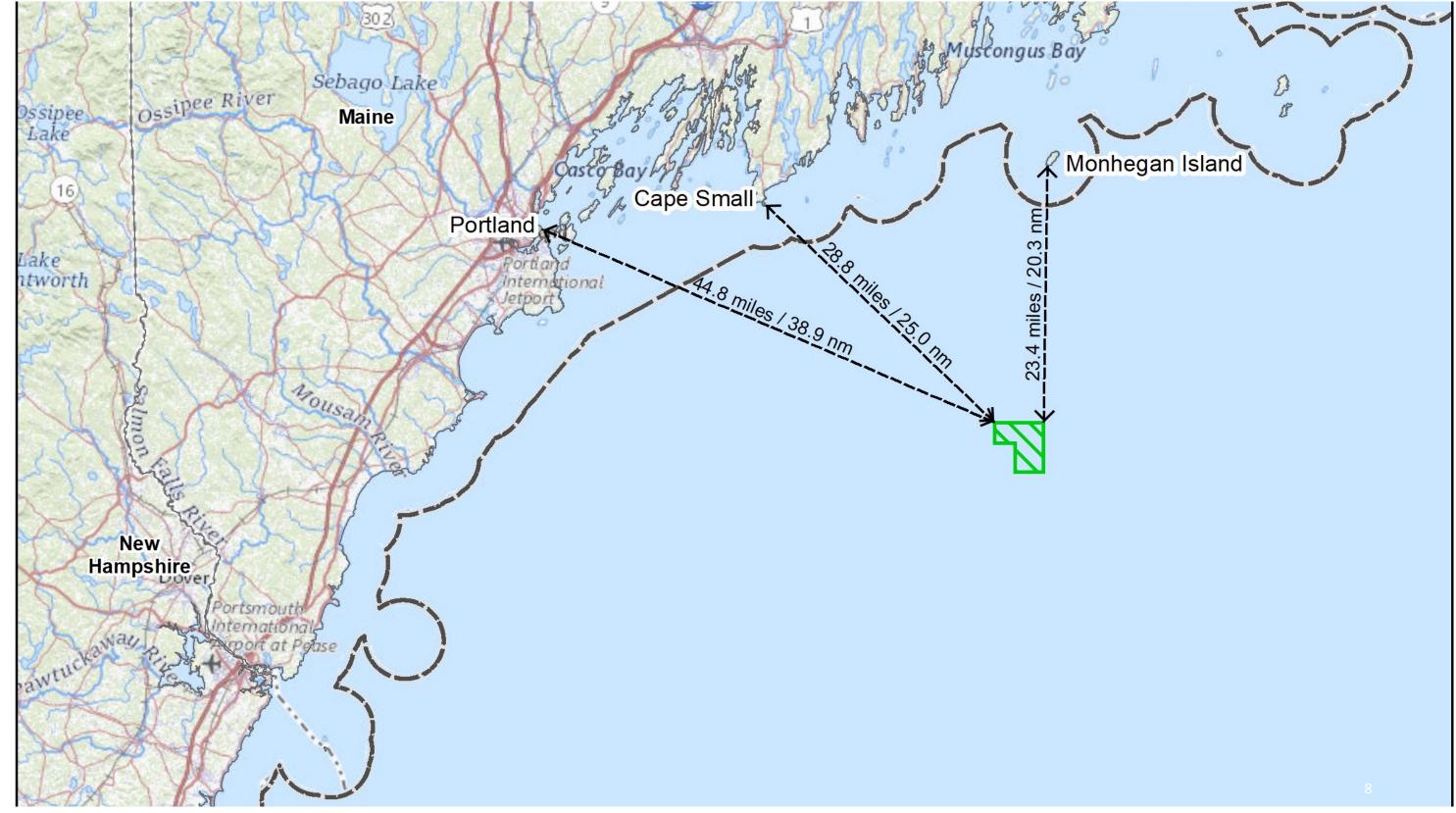
Robust stakeholder engagement and analysis

- Beginning in late 2020, held more than a dozen public meetings and work shops
- Conducted extensive data, one-on-one interviews

Maine submitted lease request Oct. 2021

DMR's Assessment Process







Maine Offshore Wind Roadmap

Led by Governor's Energy Office with Support from Other State Agencies 18-month process



Advisory Committee

GEO, Working Group Co-Chairs and Other Public, Private and Non-governmental Leaders



Working Groups Technical knowledge and subject matter expertise



Renewable Energy Strategy & Markets



Environment & Wildlife



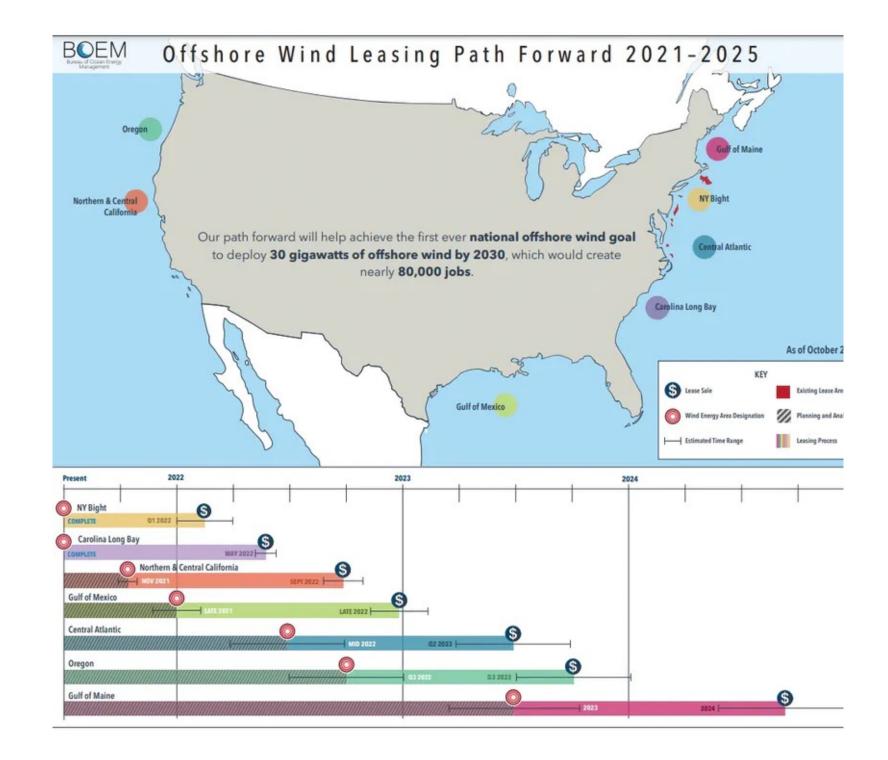


Working Groups

Key topic areas

- Opportunities in floating industry
- Potential OSW scenarios for Gulf of Maine
- Socio-Economic Analysis
- Market and deployment strategies
- Transmission Study
- Assessment of Maine's assets and strengths
- Ports strategy
- **Preparing Maine's workforce**
- **Floating Research Array consortium,** ۲ monitoring, and research
- Siting considerations for commercial leasing
- Additional research and data needs
- **Best practices for mitigation,** minimization, and communication

Gulf of Maine Intergovernmental Renewable Task Force



For More Information

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