

#### **Atlantic OCS Region**

### OCS Scientific Committee Meeting May 13, 2014

Mary C. Boatman, Ph.D.
Environmental Studies Chief
Office of Renewable Energy Programs





#### **Atlantic OCS Region Overview**

Oil and Gas Program

Marine Minerals Program

Renewable Energy Program

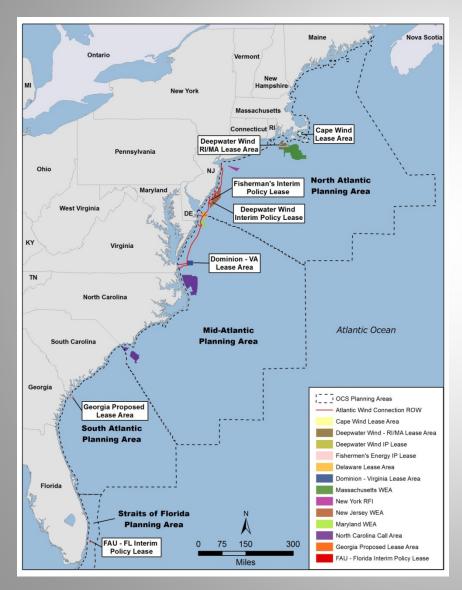


#### Oil and Gas Program

### Geological and Geophysical Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement

- Final EIS Published in March 2014
- Record of Decision in preparation
- Proposes mitigation measures for deep penetration seismic
- Examines geophysical surveys for Renewable and Marine Mineral Programs





#### Wind Energy/Call Areas:

Delaware
Rhode Island
Virginia
Massachusetts
New Jersey
Maryland
North Carolina
New York
South Carolina\*

#### Interim Policy Leases:

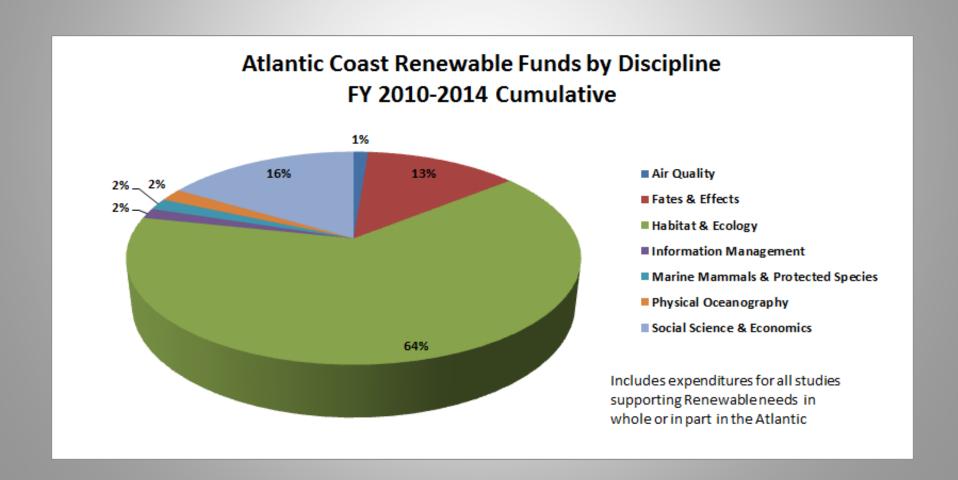
New Jersey Georgia Florida

#### Specific Projects:

**Cape Wind Energy Project Atlantic Wind Connection** 



#### ~ \$26M with the following distribution:





## Stakeholder Input:

- Task Force Membership ~ 600
- Stakeholder List
- Received 40 study ideas
- 10 profiles included in the plan



What's out there? species present

Where and how many?

distribution and abundance

What are they doing?
breeding, feeding, migrating

What are the effects?

disturbance, displacement, death

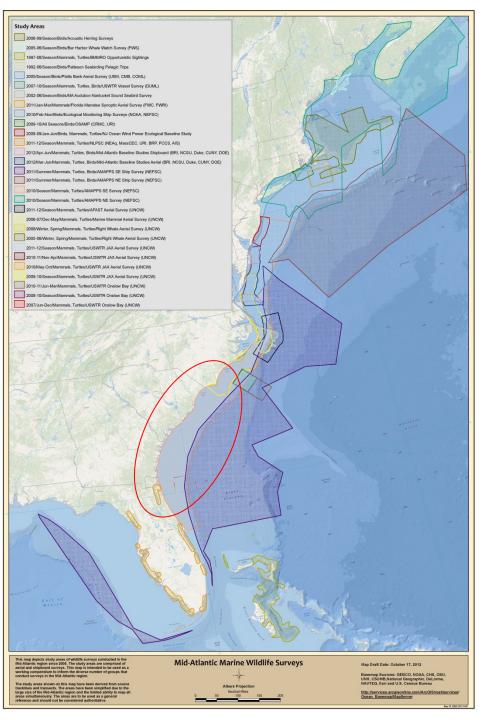


What's out there?

Cetacean and Turtle Assessment Program

Compendium of Avian Knowledge

National Marine Fisheries Service



# pgy/Ecology

#### Where and how many?

Aerial and Boat Surveys

Good Density in the North

Gaps in the South Atlantic









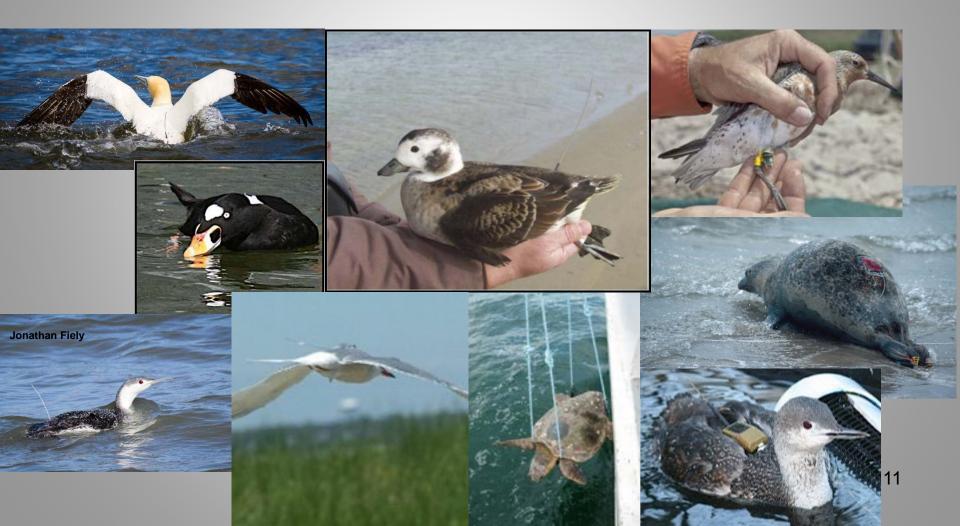
What are they doing and when?

Telemetry – tagging and tracking

**Acoustic Monitoring** 



### Telemetry – tagging and tracking

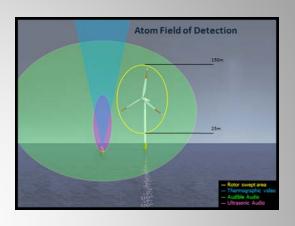




### **Acoustic Monitoring**

## Passive Acoustic Array





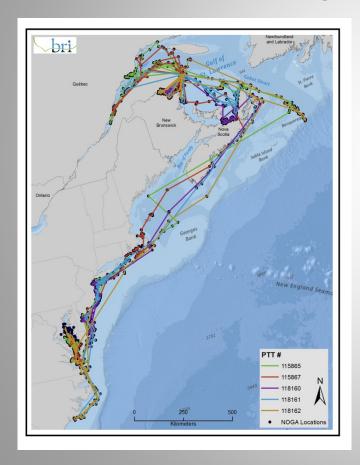
**Acoustic and Thermal Imaging** 



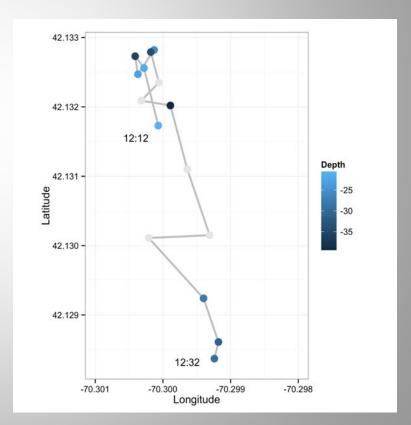
**Marine Acoustic Recording Units** 



#### **Northern Gannett Tracking**



## 3 dimensional tracking of NARW and beaked whales





What are the effects?

Effects of lighting schemes

Electromagnetic Fields

Sound from Pile Driving



### Social & Economic Science

#### Collected baseline information about:

**Tourism and Recreation** 

**Historical Properties** 

**Archaeological Sites** 



### Social & Economic Science

#### Focused studies:

Effects on under represented communities

Economic effects on fishing

Attitudes towards offshore wind

Improved methods for identifying submerged cultural landscapes



## Follow Up

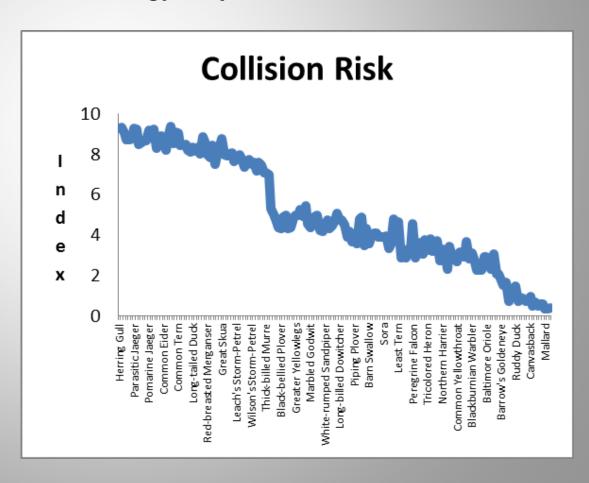
Building a Database to Assess the Relative Vulnerability of Migratory Bird Species to Offshore Renewable Energy Projects on the Atlantic OCS

**Vulnerability Ranks** 

177 species

61 collision

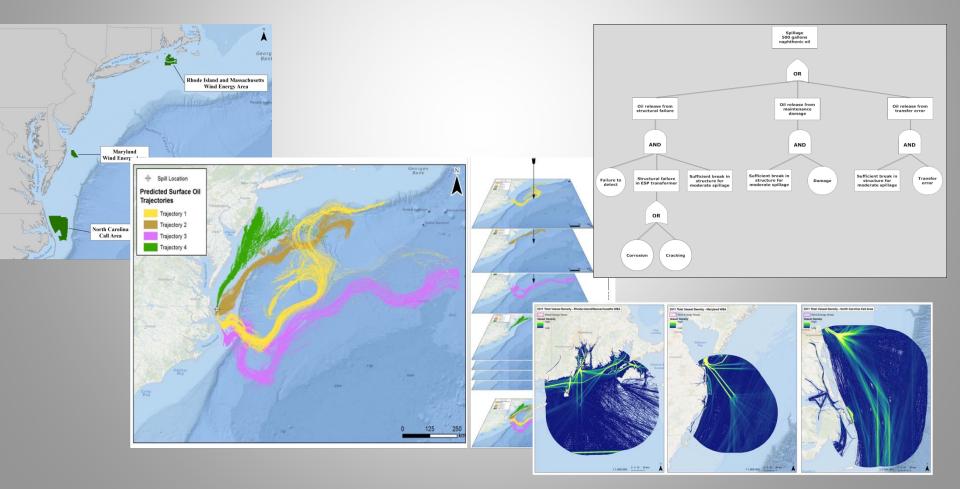
27 displacement





# Follow Up

## Environmental Risks, Fate and Effects of Chemicals Associated with Wind Turbines on the Atlantic Outer Continental Shelf





## Follow Up

Evaluation of Lighting Schemes for Offshore Wind Facilities and Impacts to Local Environments

Information Synthesis on the Potential for Bat Interactions with Offshore Wind Facilities

www.boem.gov/Renewable-Energy-Completed-Studies/



# Questions?

www.boem.gov/Renewable-Energy-Program