

Unsolicited Lease Request Areas Within the Area of Mutual Interest

Joint Rhode Island & Massachusetts
Renewable Energy Task Force Meeting
December 10, 2010

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Purpose

- **Receive comments from task force members regarding blocks within Area of Mutual Interest (AMI) that have received interest.**
- **Present two possible scenarios for leasing OCS blocks within the AMI.**

Overall Goal: Move forward with an area to be published as a “Call for Information” in the Federal Register in early 2011.

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Rhode Island: Brief Recap

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Unsolicited Lease Request Area

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Next Steps: BOEMRE Leasing Process

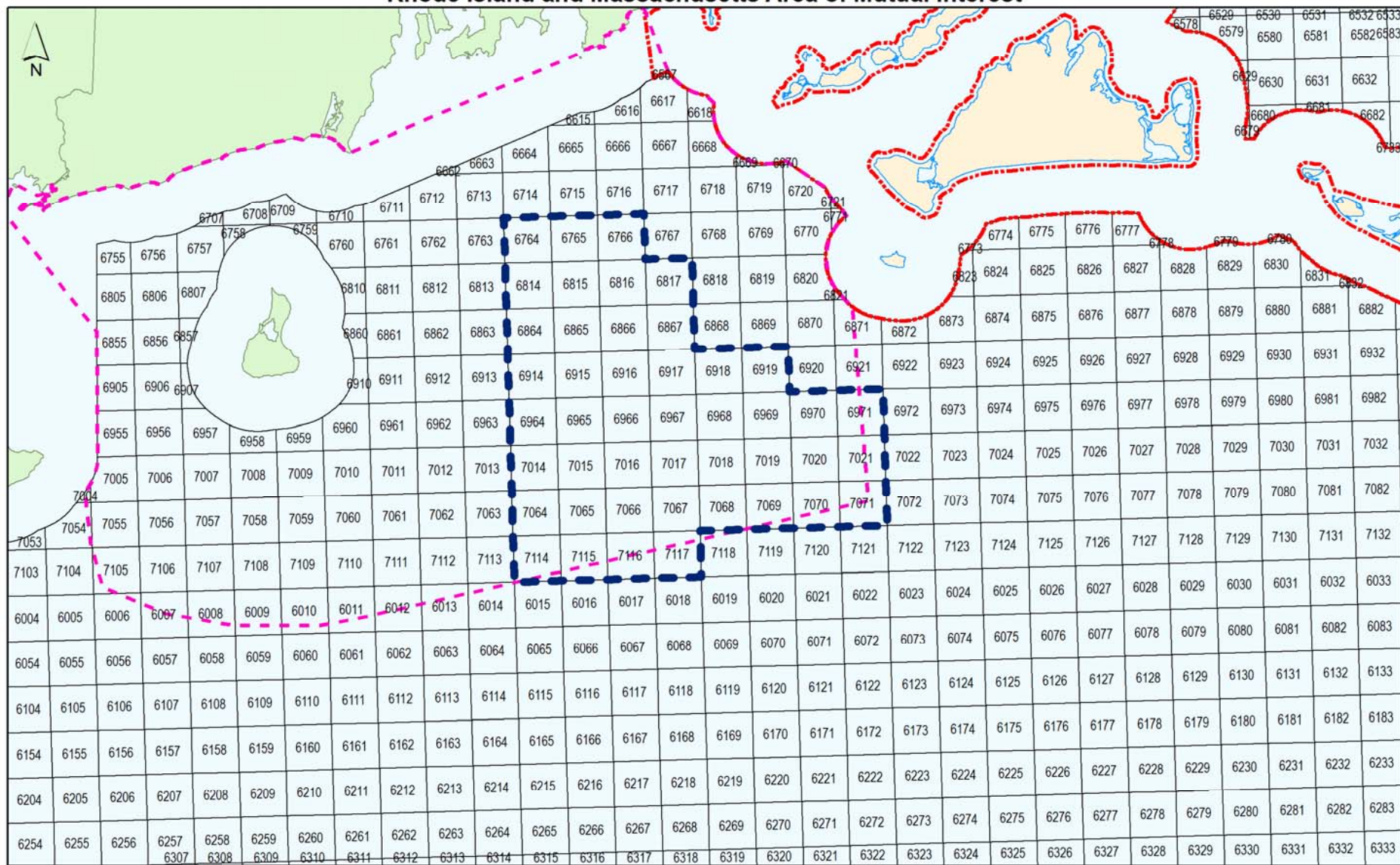
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Feedback from DOD, NMFS, and USCG

Rhode Island State Efforts - Recap

- **July 2009** – Secretary Salazar responds affirmatively to Governor Carcieri's request to establish an BOEMRE Rhode Island Task Force
- **November 2009** – BOEMRE holds first task force in Narragansett, RI. A draft RFI shared with task force members for review and comment.
- **December 2009 through July 2010** – Governors of Massachusetts and Rhode Island work on formalizing agreement to resolve the boundaries of each states' RFI areas.
- **July 26, 2010** – MOU signed between governors of both states
- **October 19, 2010** – R.I. Coastal Resources Management Council (CRMC) approves the Ocean Special Area Management Plan (SAMP)
- **End of October, 2010** – BOEMRE receives two unsolicited lease applications for OCS blocks within the AMI

Rhode Island and Massachusetts Area of Mutual Interest



-  Massachusetts Ocean Management Planning Area
-  RI/MA Area of Mutual Interest Boundary
-  OCS Lease Block
-  RI Ocean SAMP Study Area

The datum for this map is the North American Datum 1983 (NAD83). The data are registered to the Massachusetts State Plane Coordinate System, Mainland Zone (Fipszone 2001). Units are meters.

0 5 10 20 Nautical Miles

0 10 20 40 Kilometers

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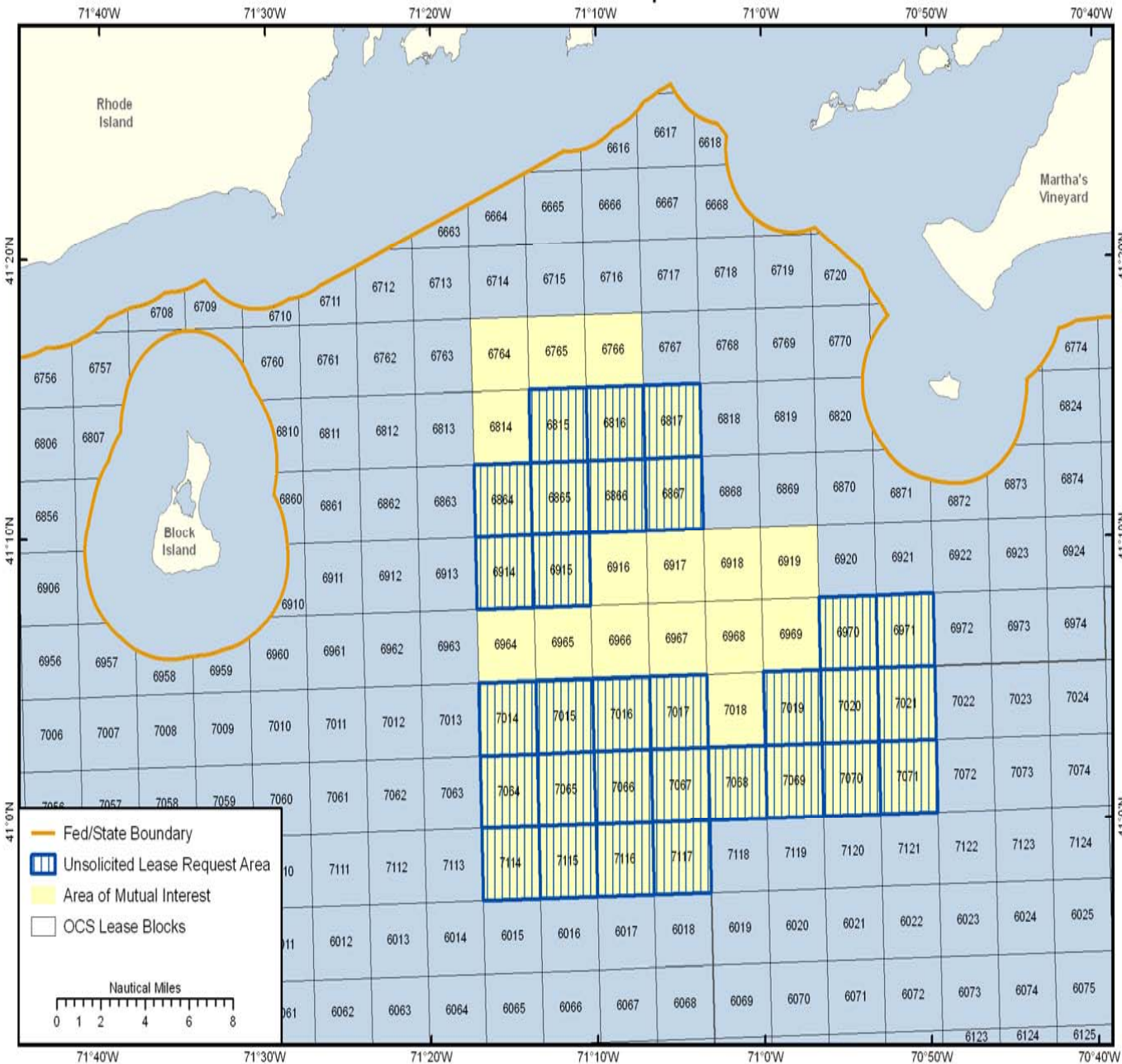
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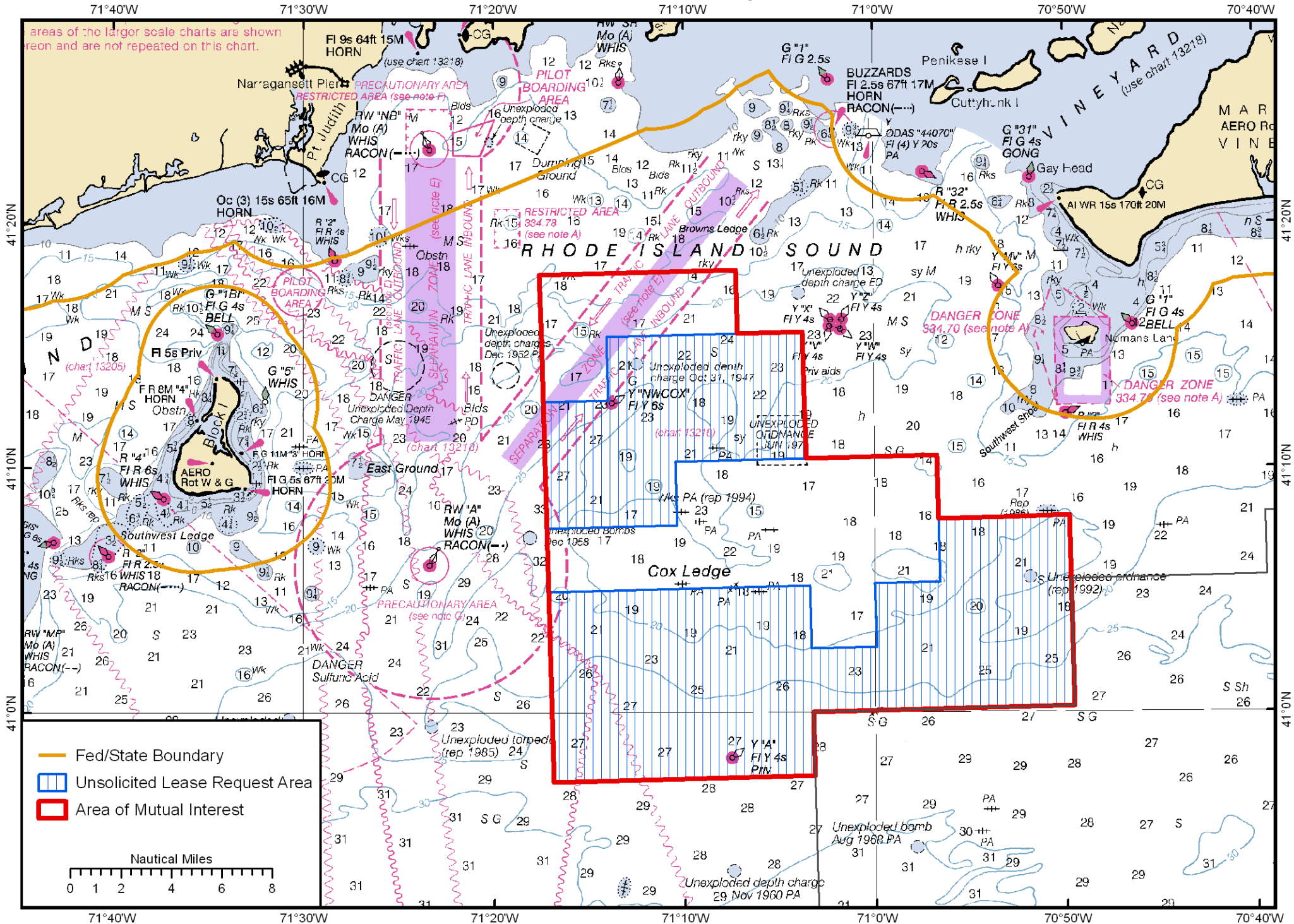
Unsolicited Lease Requests

AMI - Unsolicited Lease Request Area

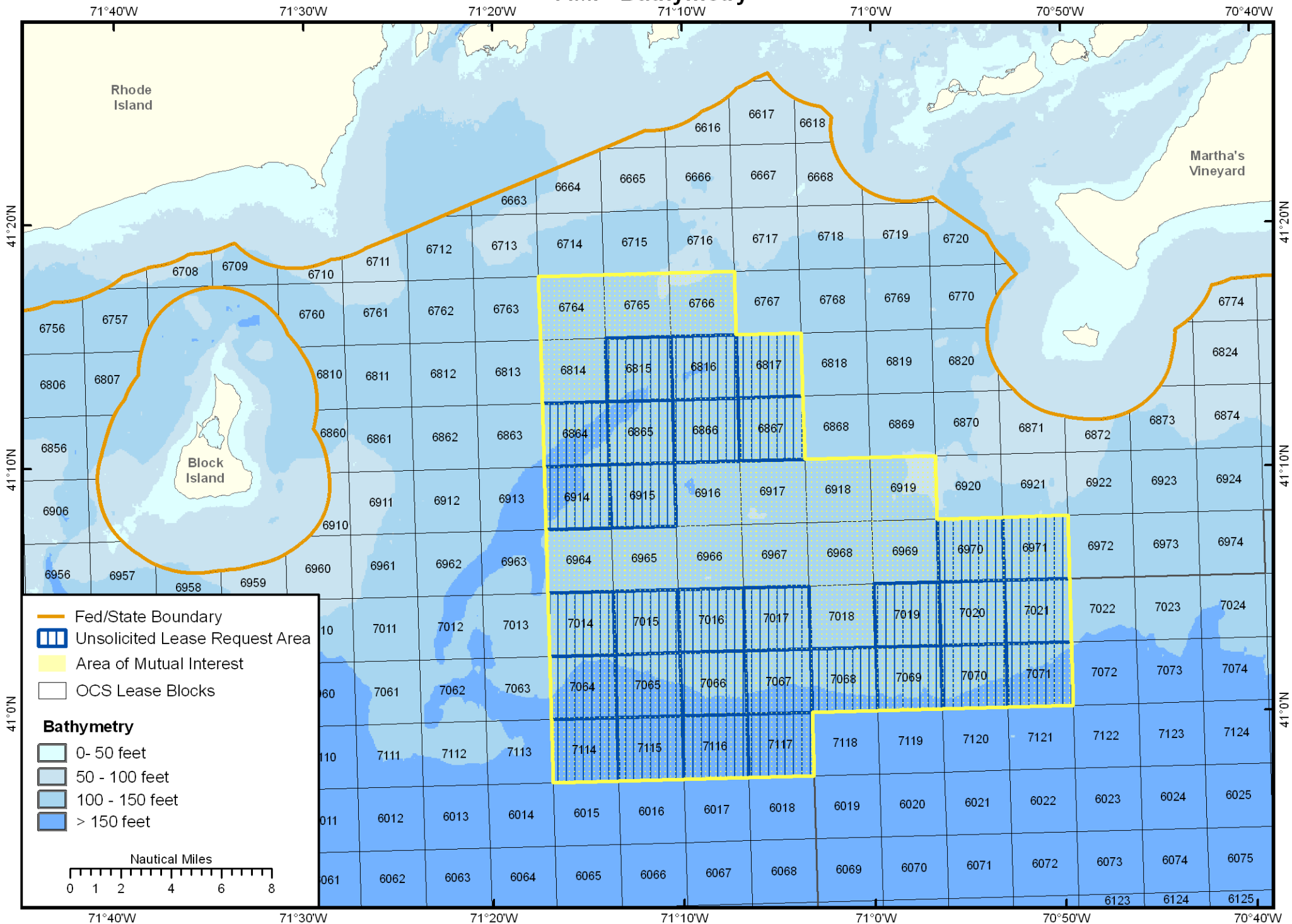


- BOEMRE received two unsolicited lease applications to construct commercial wind energy projects:
- Deepwater Wind New England, LLC
- Neptune Wind, LLC

AMI - Unsolicited Lease Request Area



AMI - Bathymetry



Qualifications Review

- BOEMRE has deemed both applicants as “legally qualified” to hold an OCS Lease
- Current reviewing both applications for “technical” and “financial” capability
- Legal, Financial, and Technical Qualifications Guidance; Provides greater detail to the requirements in §285.106&107

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Next Steps: BOEMRE Leasing Process

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BOEMRE Next Steps & Scenarios

Steps

Target Dates

1. BOEMRE Concludes
Technical and
Financial Quals Review

- Early February, 2011
- Task Force Engaged

If competitive
or non-competitive scenario:

2. Call for
Information and
Nominations

- Early March, 2011
- Published in Federal Register; 45 Day Comment Period Starts

BOEMRE Next Steps & Scenarios contd.

Steps

Target Dates

Determination of
Competition or No
Competition

- Mid-April, 2011
- Task Force Engaged

If competitive
scenario:

Area
Identification

- End of April, 2011: NEPA begins
- Environmental Assessment (Lease+SAP) ~8 to 12 months

BOEMRE Next Steps & Scenarios contd.

Steps

Target Dates

Determination of
Competition or No
Competition

- Mid-April, 2011
- Task Force Engaged

If non-competitive
scenario:

Applicant
Submits SAP or
SAP/COP

- End of April, 2011:
BOEMRE Reviews and
Prepares EA or EIS (NEPA)
~2 Years

Opportunities for Task Force Involvement

- Call for Information and Nominations
- Determination of Competition or No Competition
- Scoping Meetings
- Draft EA/EIS
- Public Hearings
- Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI)/Final EIS
- Proposed Sale Notice (if competitive)
- Final Sale Notice (if competitive)
- Lease Terms and Conditions, Mitigation Measures

Environmental Review Process

- Whether the leasing process is competitive or noncompetitive, it will include opportunities for the public to provide input and will be conducted in conformance with all applicable laws and regulations
- Environmental compliance reviews will be conducted under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) for major actions:
 - Lease Issuance
 - Plan Approval (Site Assessment, Construction and Operation, or General Activities)
 - Decommissioning Activities

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Next Steps: BOEMRE Leasing Process

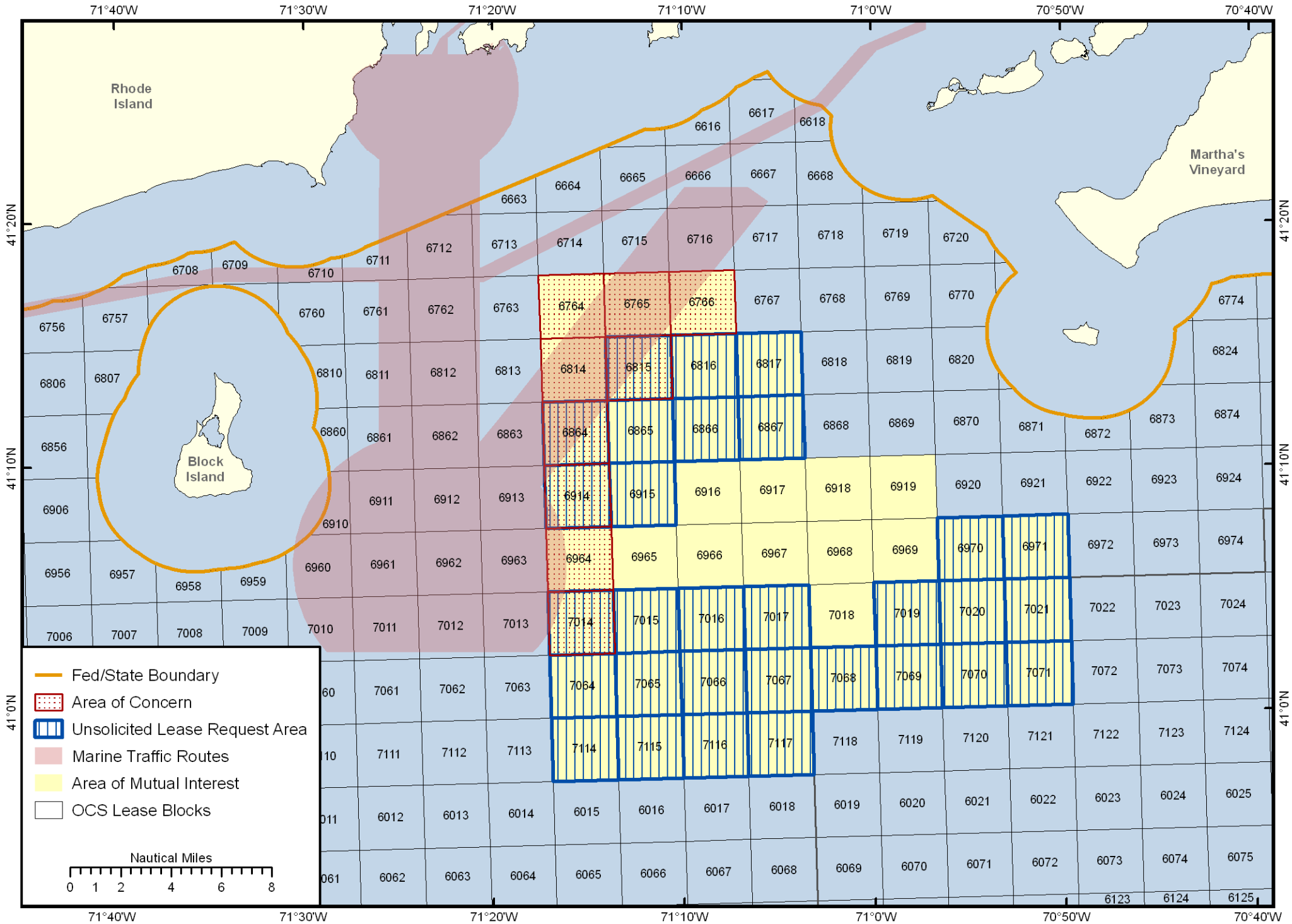
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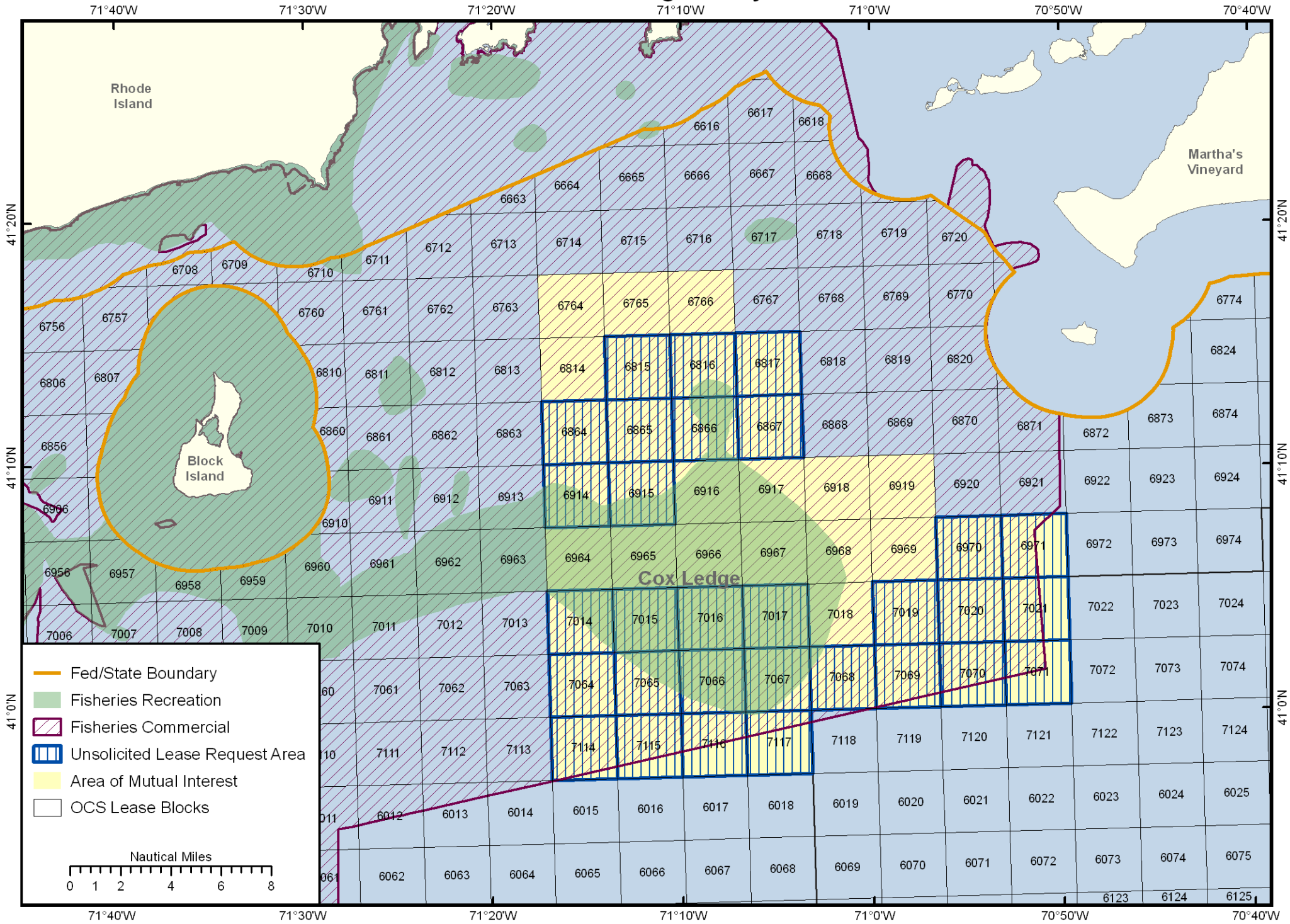
Initial Feedback...



AMI - Marine Traffic Routes



AMI - Fishing Activity



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