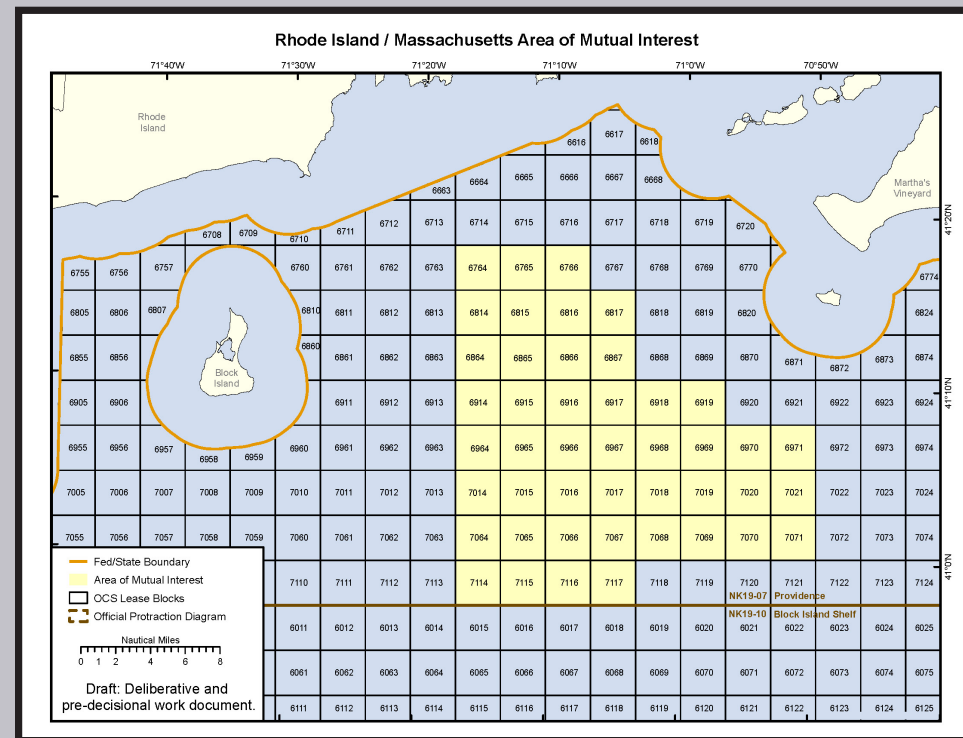


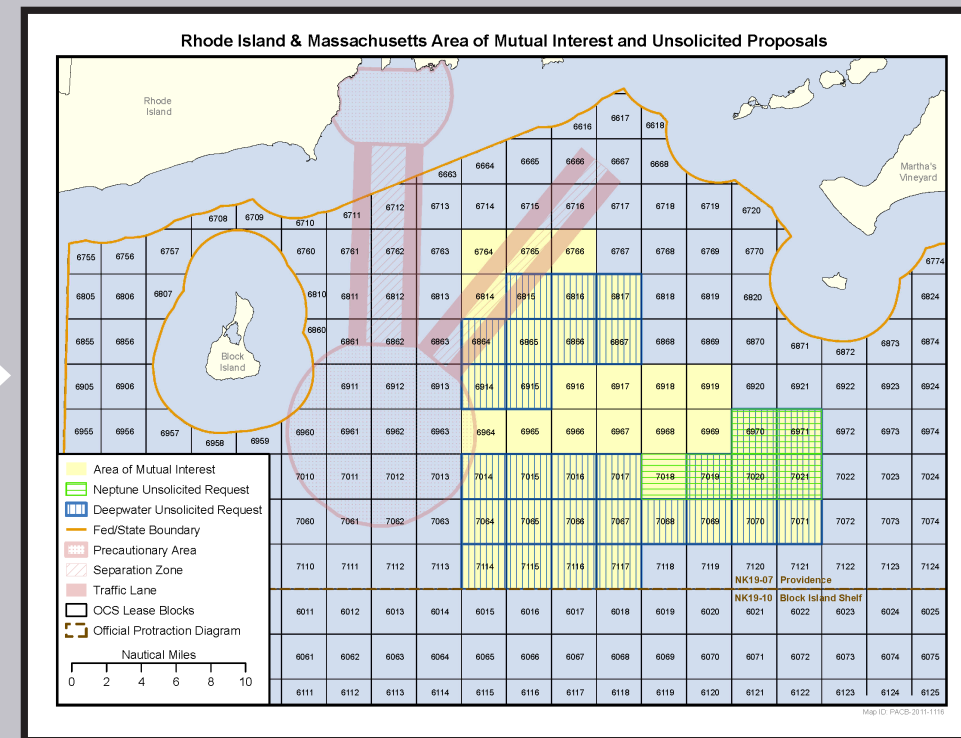
Leasing History

Development of the Rhode Island/Massachusetts Area of Mutual Interest lease area occurred through Intergovernmental Task Force meetings, stakeholder input through a call for information, area identification, preparation of an environmental assessment, and a proposed sale notice.

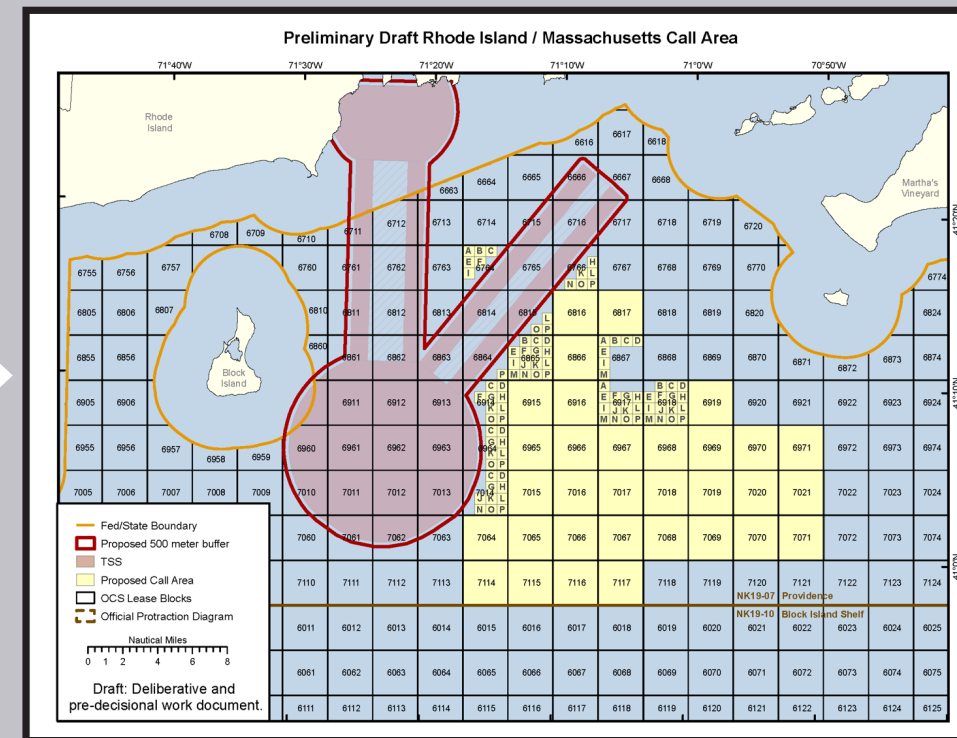
Planning and Call Area



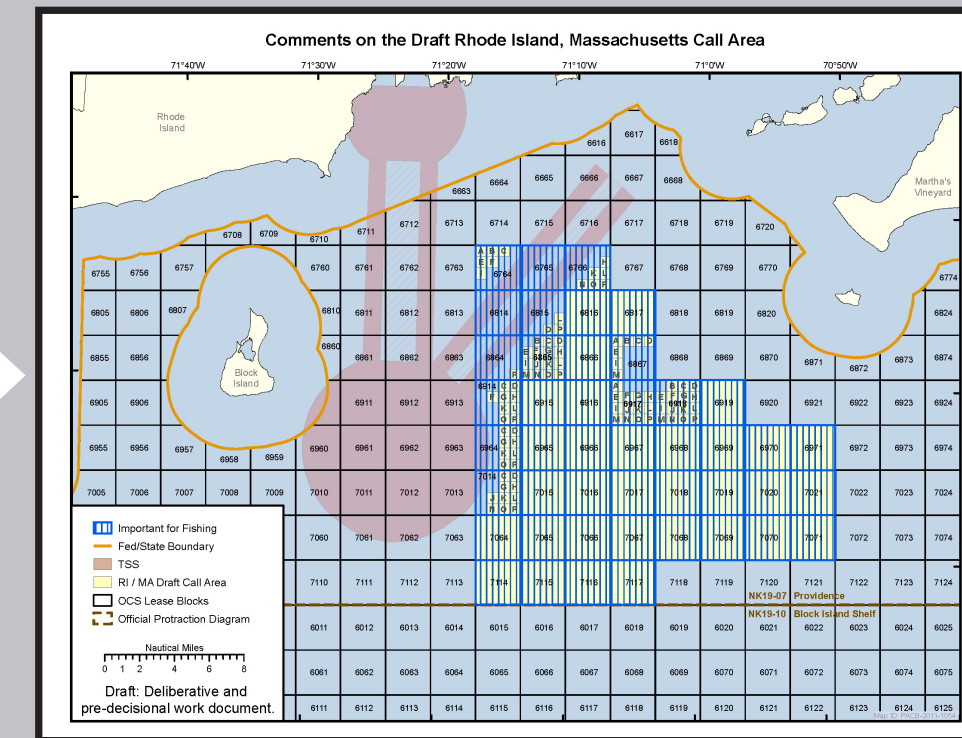
The Area of Mutual Interest (AMI) agreed upon by the Governors of RI/MA in July 2010.



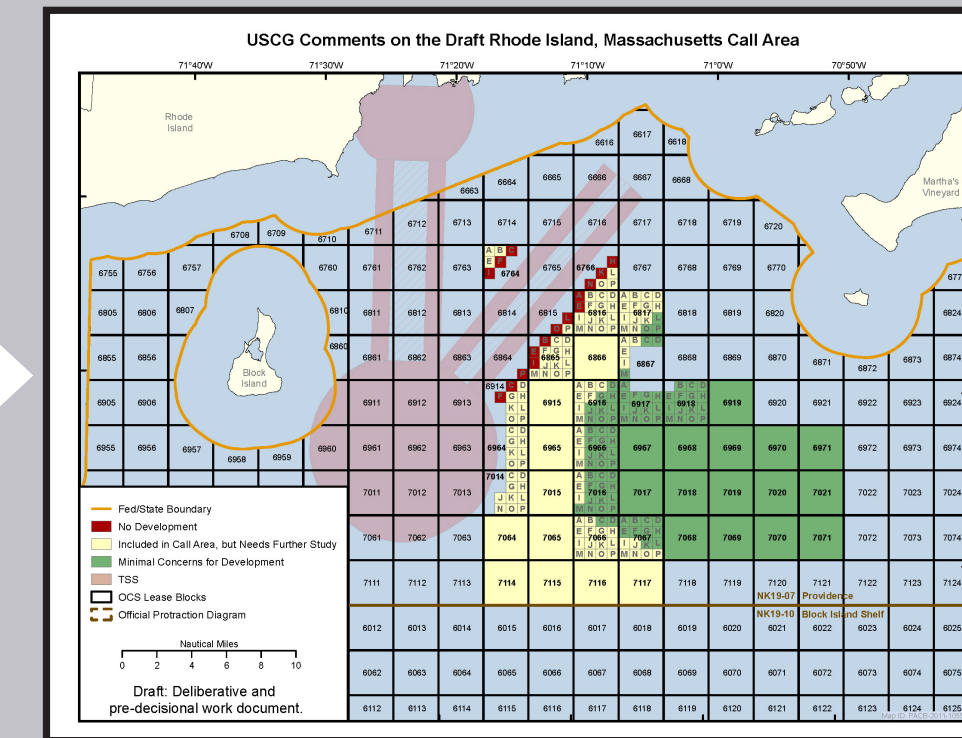
Received two unsolicited requests in October and November 2010.



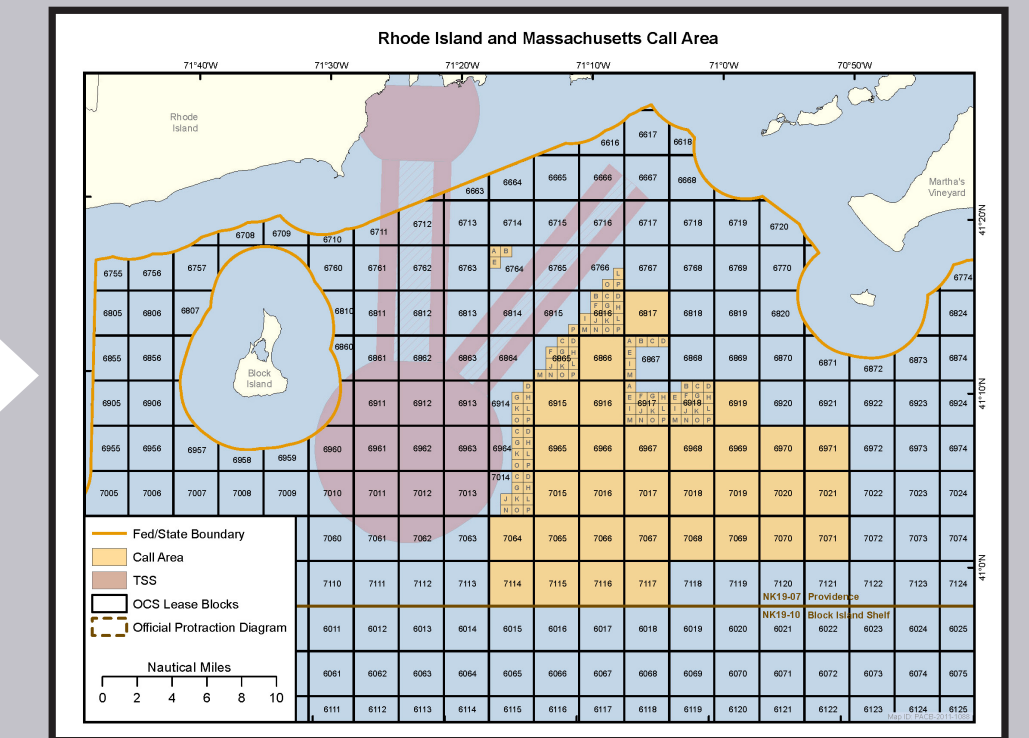
Removed areas due to the Traffic Separation Scheme (TSS) and initially recommended a 500-m buffer zone from the TSS.



Included input regarding the importance of fishing and fishery resources from the commercial and recreational fishing community as well as information from the special area management plan.

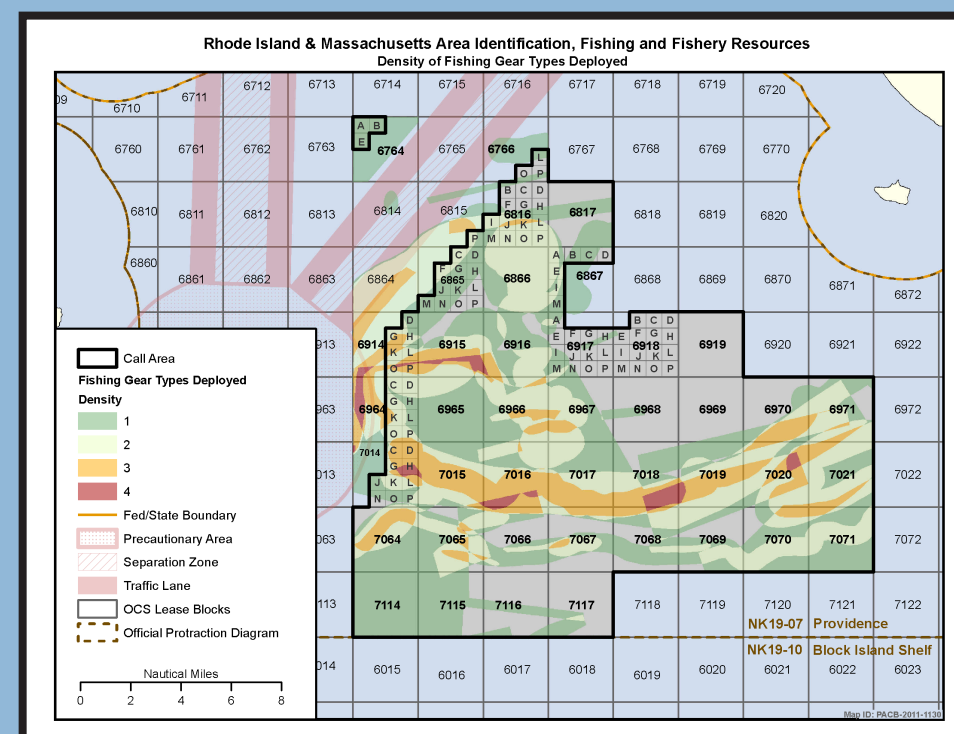


Further refined the area in consideration of navigation and safety based on input from the U.S. Coast Guard.

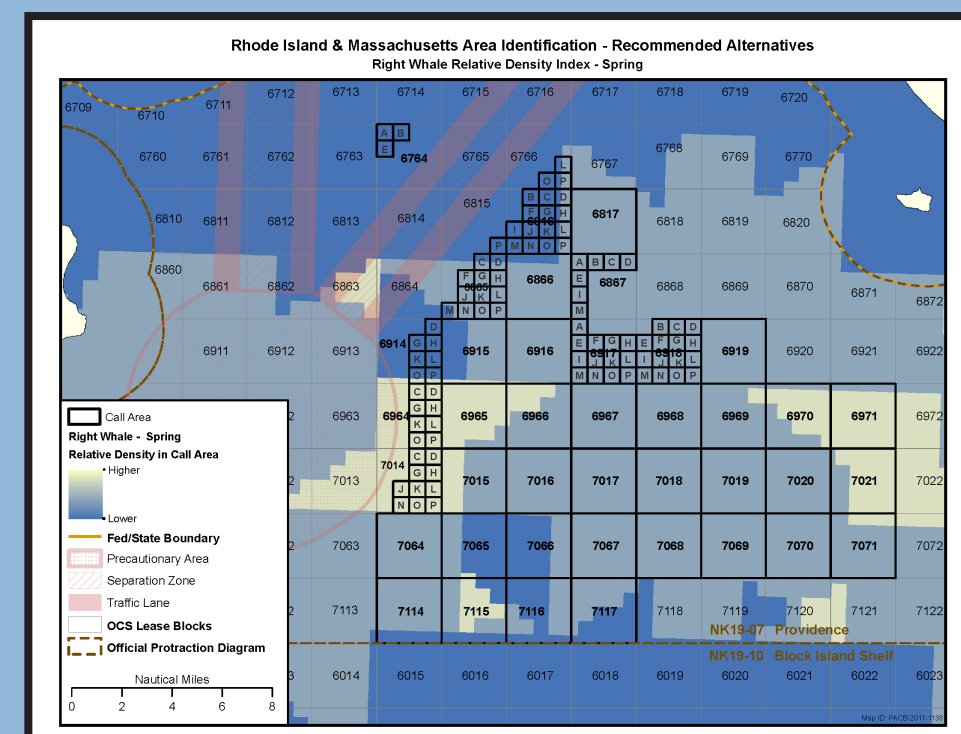


A call for information, including the call area, was published in the *Federal Register* on August 18, 2011, for public input.

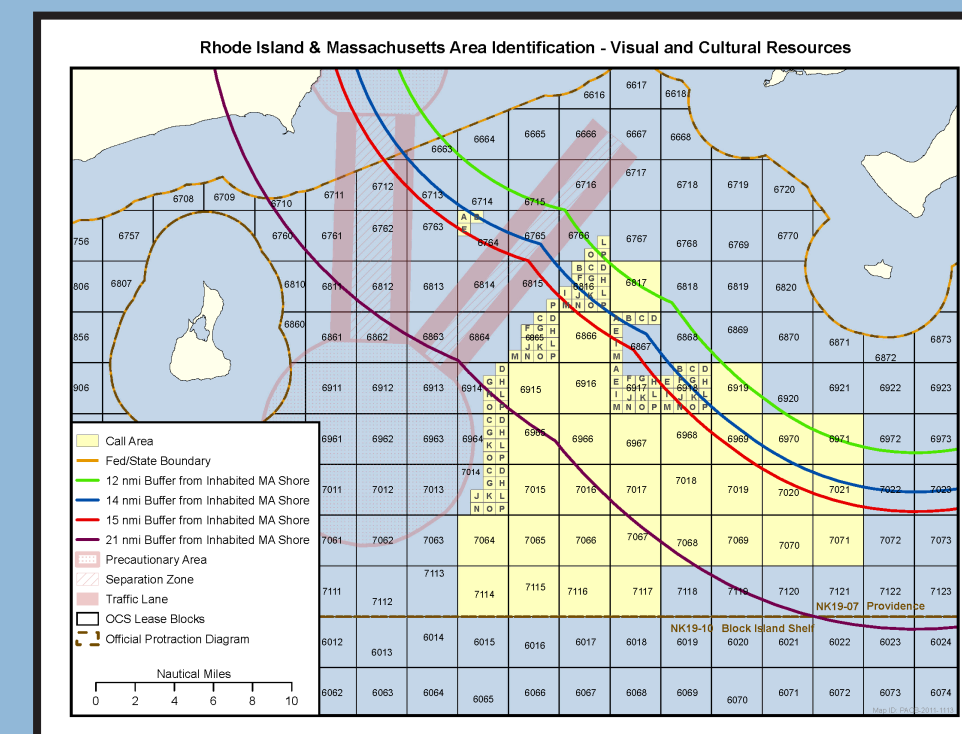
Area Identification



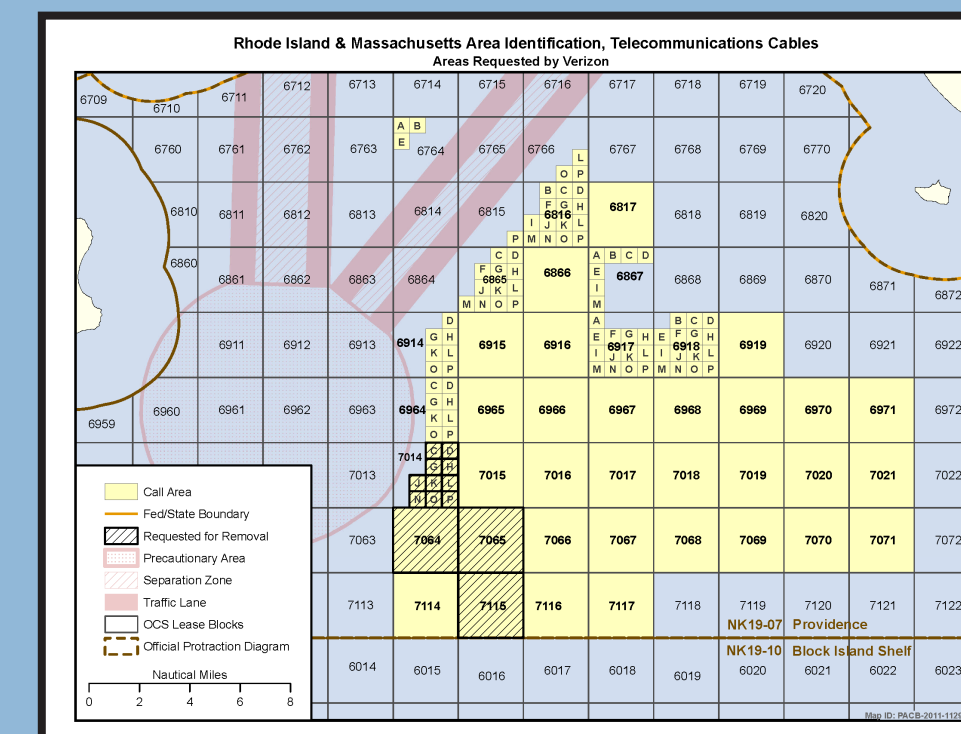
Evaluated comments from fishing community.



Evaluated North Atlantic right whale presence and alternative from the environmental assessment.

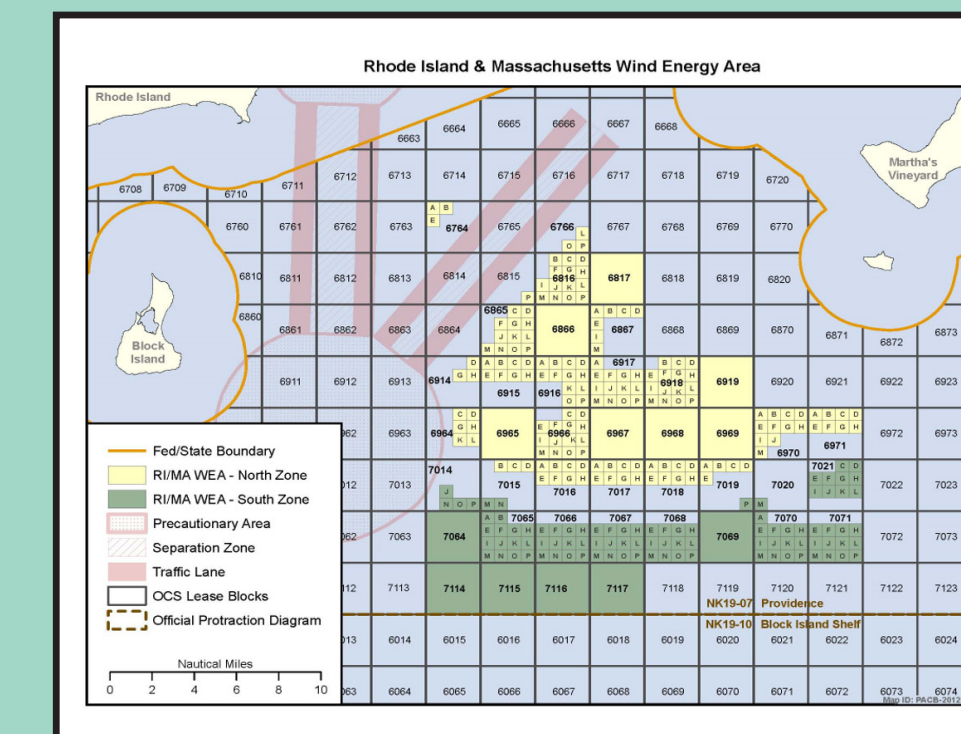


Evaluated visual and cultural resources.



Evaluated telecommunications locations from Verizon.

Lease Sale



Areas offered for lease on July 31, 2013.

