



National Park Service

Roles and Responsibilities for Offshore Wind

Central Atlantic 2 Task Force Meeting
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NPS Mission

The NPS preserves unimpaired the natural and cultural resources and values of the National Park System for the enjoyment, education, and inspiration of this and future generations in accordance with the NPS Organic Act and other laws.
(54 U.S.C. Subtitle I)





NPS Jurisdiction and Special Expertise

Legislation

NPS Organic Act

NPS Unit Enabling Legislation

NPS General Authorities Act

National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966

Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965

Wilderness Act of 1964

Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968





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NPS Jurisdiction and Special Expertise

Examples

- National Parks
- National Seashores
- National Monuments & Memorials
- National Historic Landmarks
- National Heritage Areas
- National Heritage Corridors
- Land & Water Conservation Fund Grant Sites
- Wild and Scenic Rivers
- National Trails
- Wilderness Areas





Roles and Responsibilities Related to Offshore Wind

Advise, provide comments and resource protection recommendations for areas NPS has jurisdiction or special expertise:

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA):

Cooperating or Participating Agency

National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA): Consulting Party

Where we have jurisdiction or program responsibility:

Right of Way and Special Use Permitting

Land and Water Conservation Fund Conversion Approval

Interagency Coordination and Permitting

Title 41 of Fixing America's Surface Transportation Act (FAST-41)





Park Resources and Values



Viewsheds and Air Quality

- Unimpaired views are a hallmark of many parks
- Construction processes can cause dust, leading to air quality impacts.



Night Skies

- Natural lightscapes, including dark night skies, are fundamental to many parks.



Cultural & Archeological Resources

- Many parks are rich in cultural and archaeological resources and have the responsibility to preserve and interpret that history.



Park Resources and Values



Soundscapes

- The acoustical environment, or soundscape, includes both natural sounds (wind, water, wildlife) and cultural and historic sounds (quiet reverence) and is an important aspect of the park and visitor experience.



Fish, Wildlife, Vegetation and Habitat

- Many parks contain and preserve habitat for populations of threatened and endangered species, and the NPS works to support recovery of those species.



Water Quality

- The availability, quality, and clarity of park water resources define the health of park ecosystems.



Park Resources and Values



Geologic Resources

- Many parks protect globally unique geologic features.



Natural Processes

- Many parks protect natural processes, for example Coastal parks rely on complex natural systems to maintain shorelines.

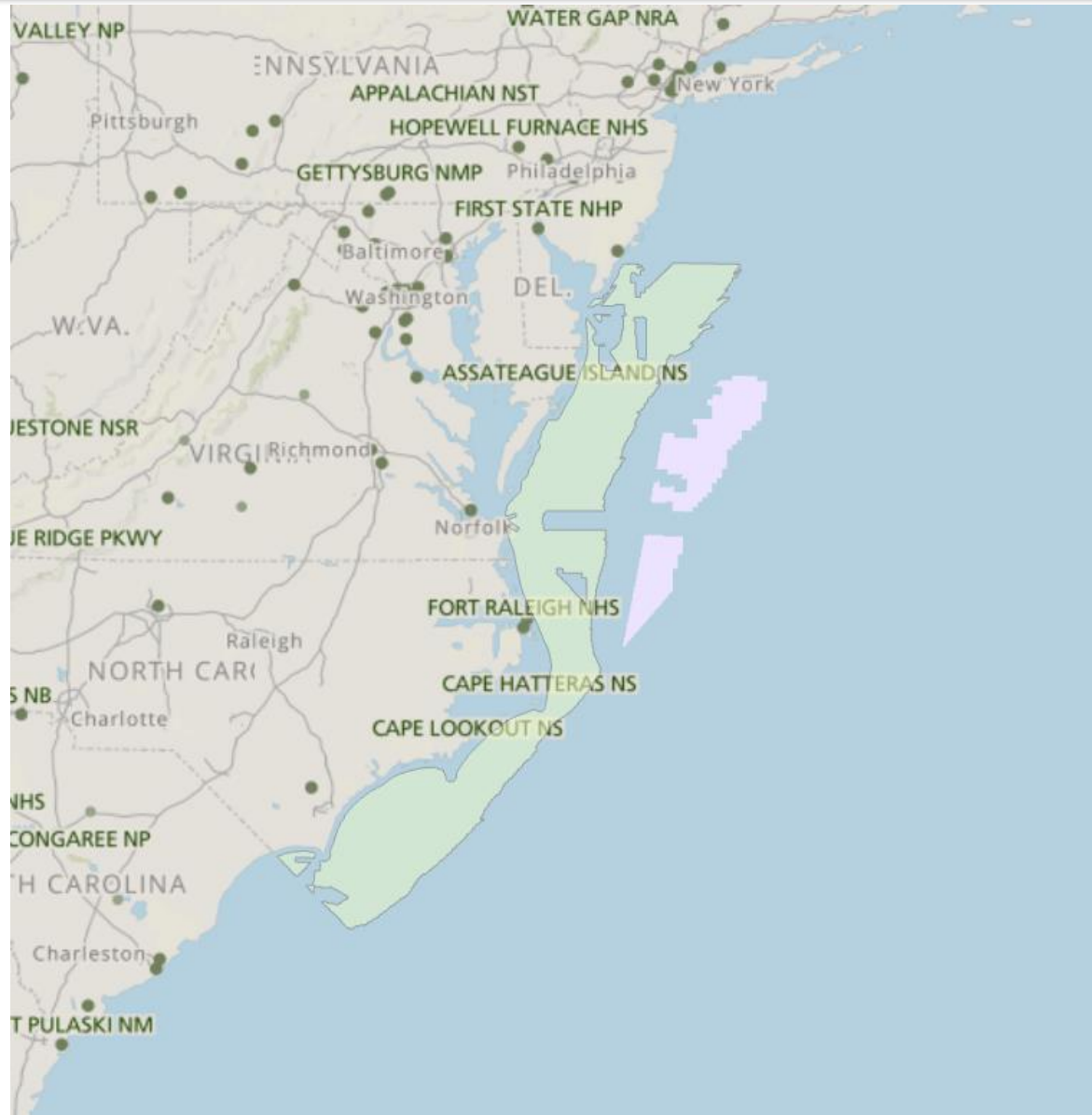


Visitor Experience

- The visiting public has a high expectation of unimpaired resources and access to recreation activities, and park-related tourism is an important economic factor for surrounding communities.



NPS Units and the Central Atlantic 2 Call Area



- Great Egg Harbor River
- Colonial National Historical Park
- Assateague National Seashore
- Wright Brothers National Memorial
- Fort Raleigh National Historical Site
- Cape Hatteras National Seashore
- Cape Lookout National Seashore



Lessons Learned

- **Communication:** early, often, and candid.
- **Visual Simulations:** though they have limitations, visual simulations are very helpful for the NPS and its stakeholders to understand the potential impact of offshore wind developments on resources and values in areas where we have jurisdiction and special expertise. Early coordination with us is also important for those simulations to have the most value for our interests.
- **Challenge of technological change and changes in potential impacts over time:** our assumptions in the lease planning process may not have kept up with changes in the OSW industry, particularly the size of WTGs, when projects are proposed for development.





End of

Thank you!

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