



# Central Atlantic Renewable Energy Planning Area Development

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*Presentation for Environmental NGO Representatives*

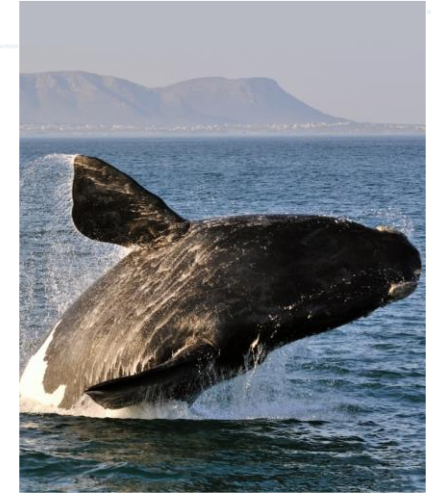
Bridgette Duplantis, Project Coordinator

December 15, 2021



# Objectives

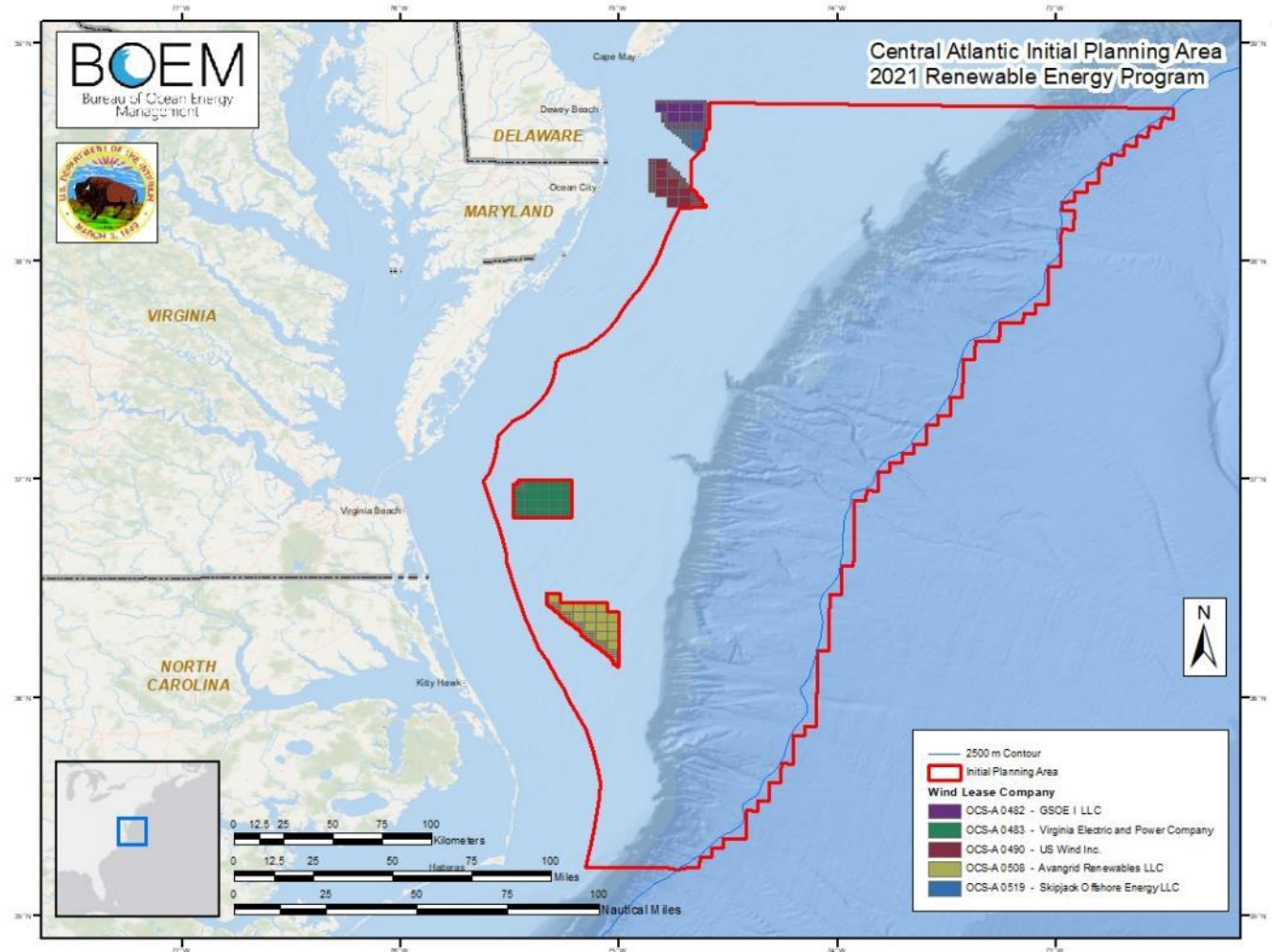
- **Review of BOEM leasing process**
- **Recent engagement activities in the Central Atlantic**
- **Planning Area Development**
- **Next Steps**



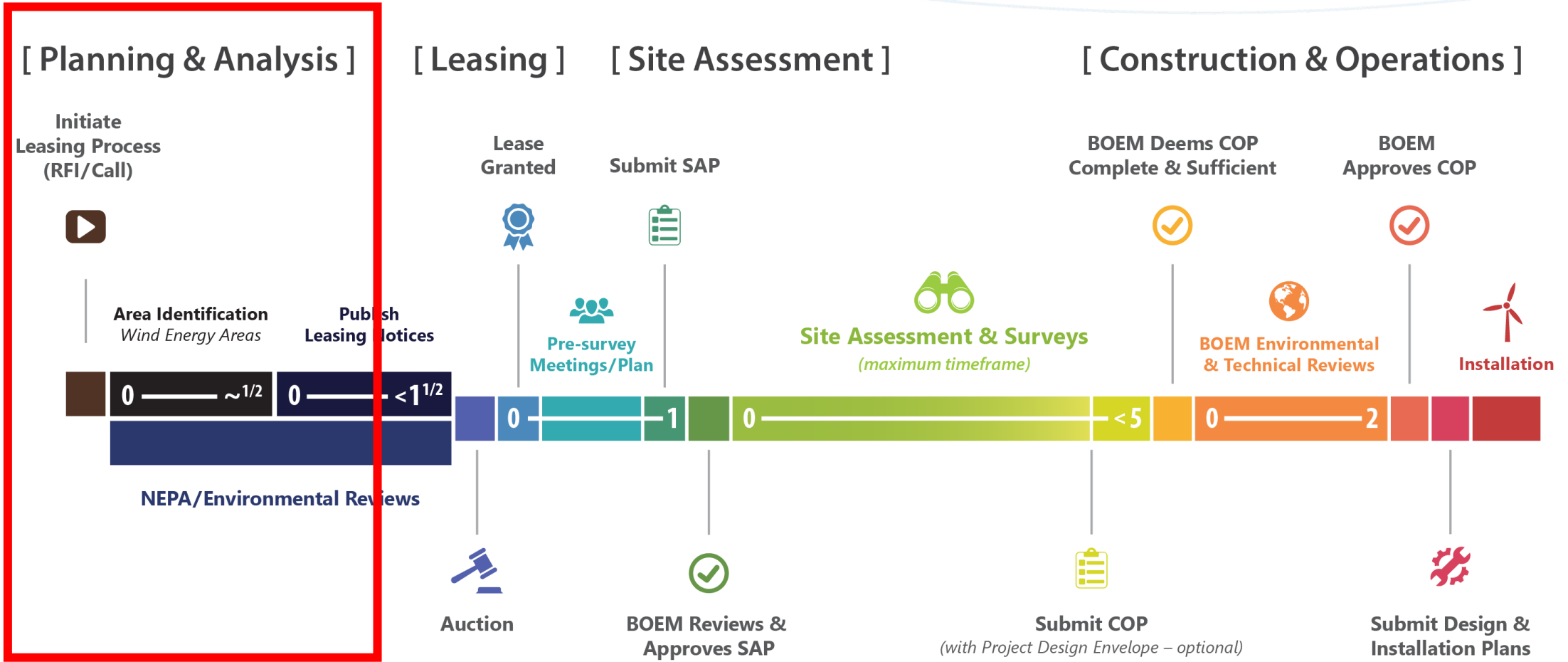


# Central Atlantic

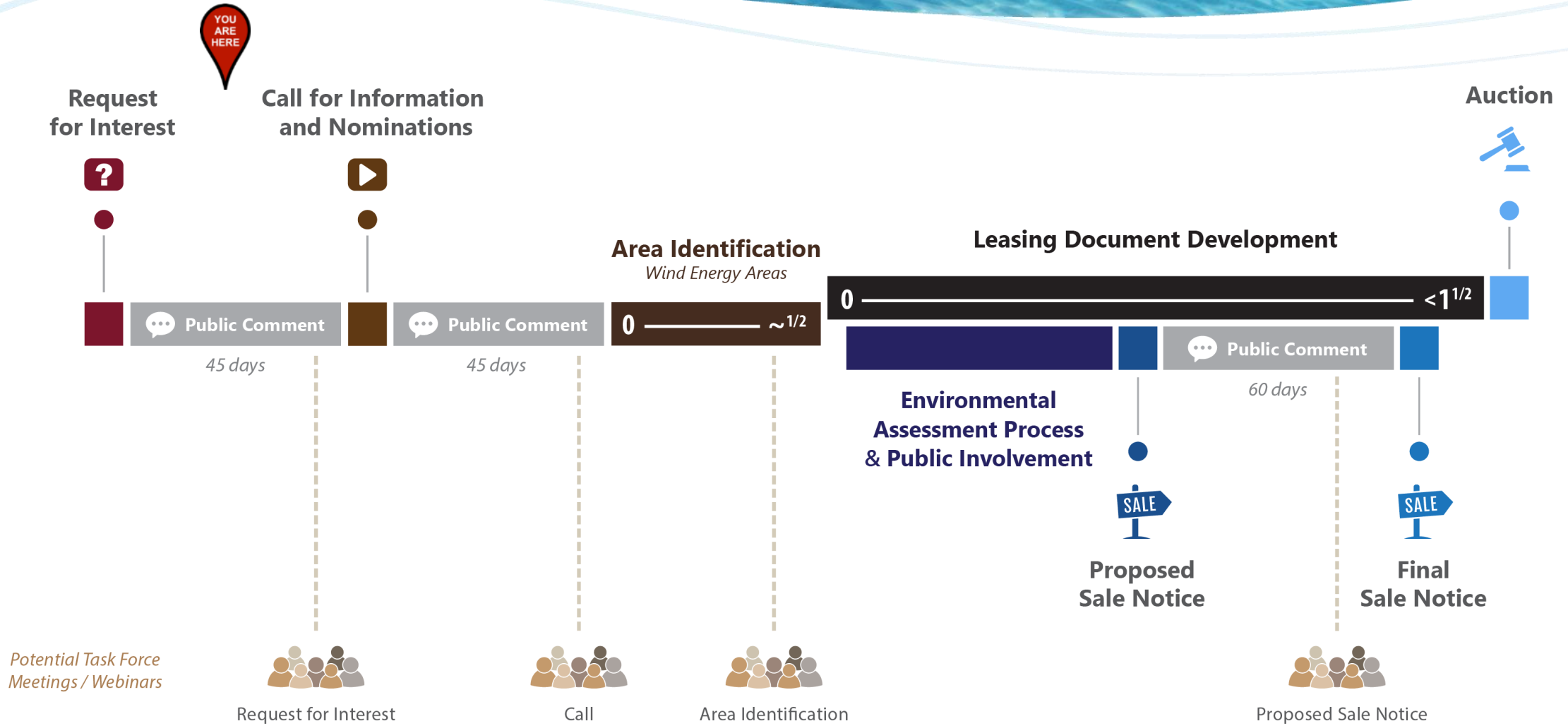
- Central Atlantic
  - Encompasses area offshore Delaware south to Cape Hatteras, North Carolina



# Renewable Energy Leasing Process: From RFI/Call to Operation

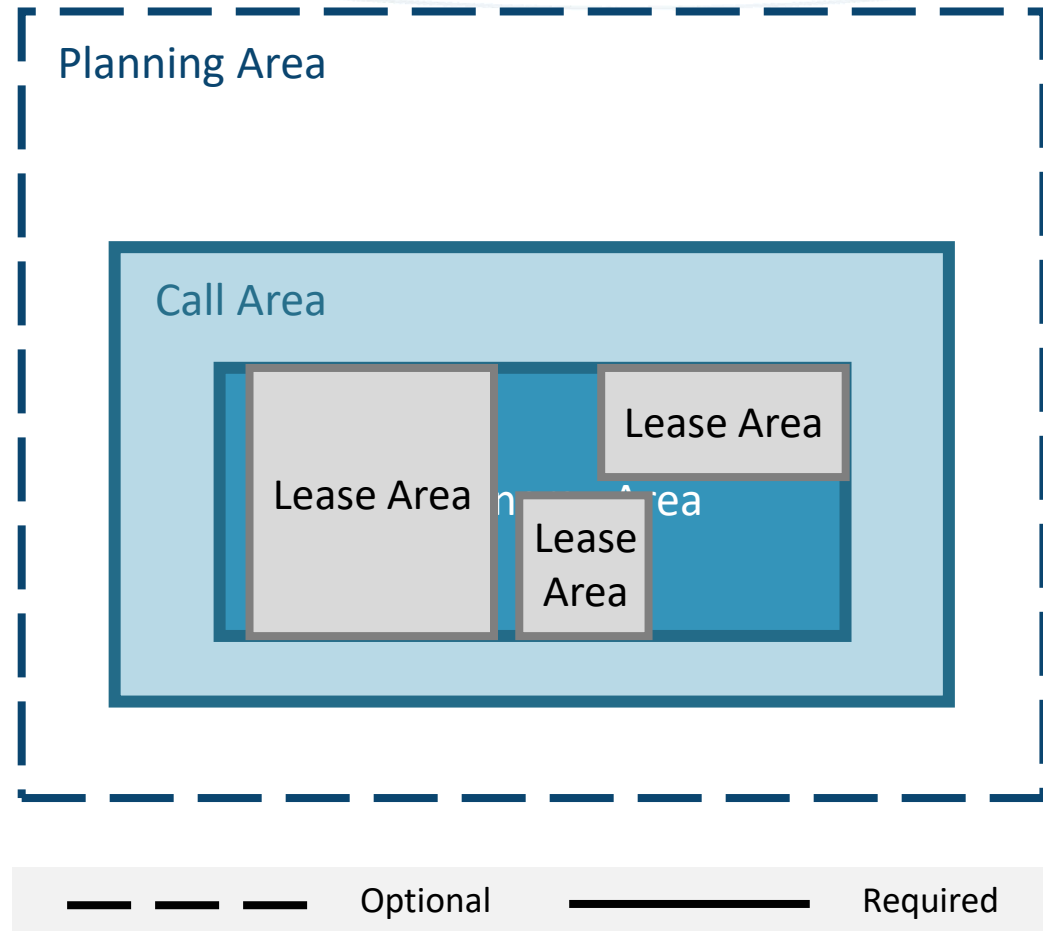


# Renewable Energy Leasing Process: From RFI/Call to Lease Sale



# Area Identification Process: WInnowing

- Currently developing the Planning Area
- Wind Energy Areas (WEAs) have the potential for further division into Lease Areas
- Multiple sales can come from Wind Energy Areas





# Recent Planning Activities

- **Held virtual meetings with each affected State (VA, MD, NC and DE)**
  - Discussed state wind energy goals, progress, concerns and data availability
- **Collected data from States, MARCO, Marine Cadastre, MMIS**
- **Created an AGOL interactive map to examine space-use conflicts**
- **Coordinating with Federal Partners (USCG, NOAA, NASA, USFWS and DoD)**
- **Soliciting feedback at informational meetings**
  - Maritime Industry (December 8, 2021)
  - Tribal Governments (December 9, 2021)
  - Environmental Non-Governmental Organizations (December 15, 2021)
  - Fishery Management Councils and Organizations/Recreational Fishing (January 5-6, 2022)

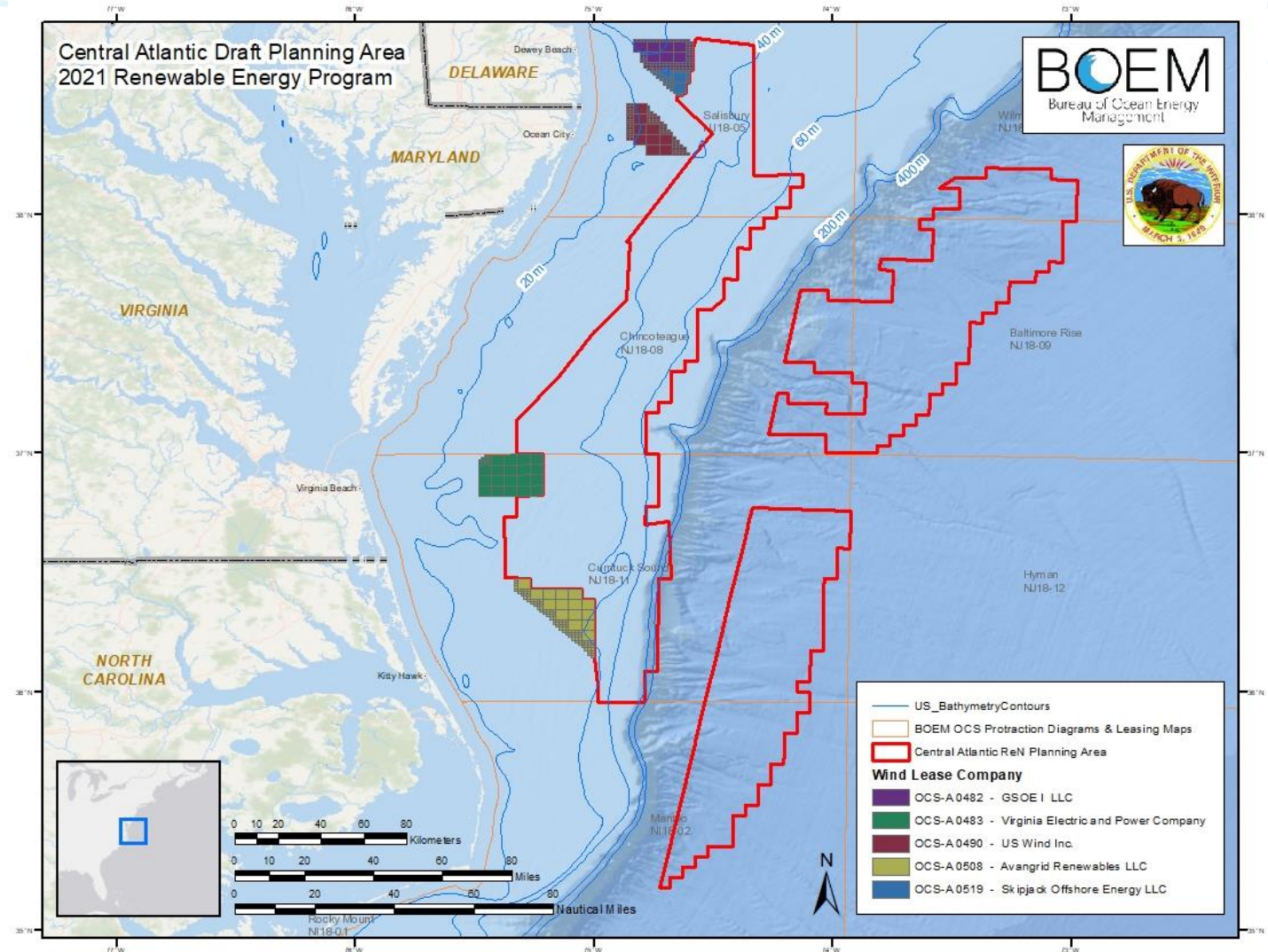
# Future Planning Activities

- **Central Atlantic Intergovernmental Renewable Energy Task Force Meeting**
  - Compiling feedback from Federal partners, States, Tribal governments and informational meetings to create a draft Call for Information and Nominations
  - Opportunity to discuss draft Call Area before publication
  - Meeting: **February 16, 2022**



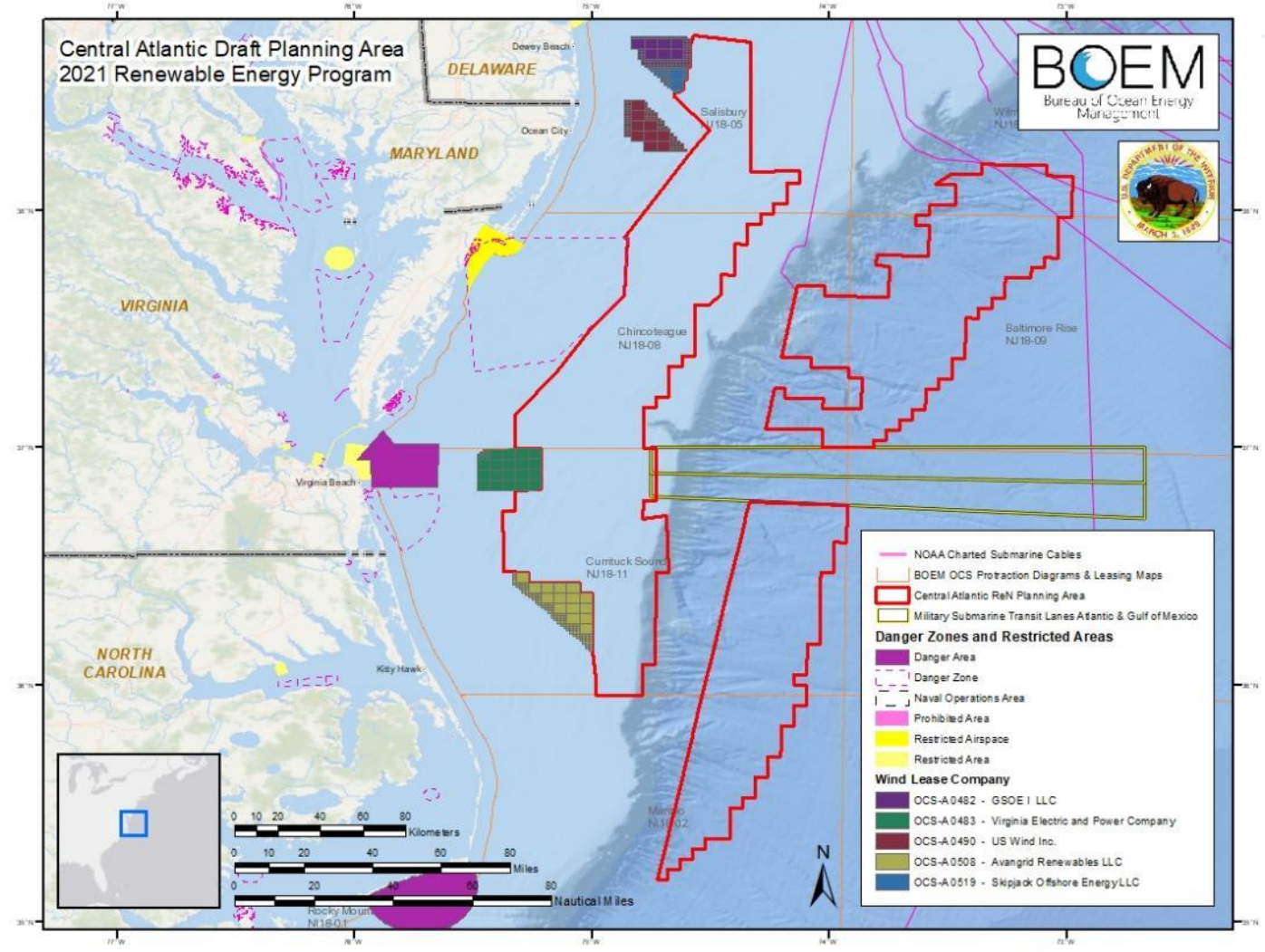
# Planning Area Development

- Active wind energy leases
- Bathymetry
  - 60 meters
  - 2500 meters



# Planning Area Development

- NASA Danger Zone
- Military Submarine Transit Lanes

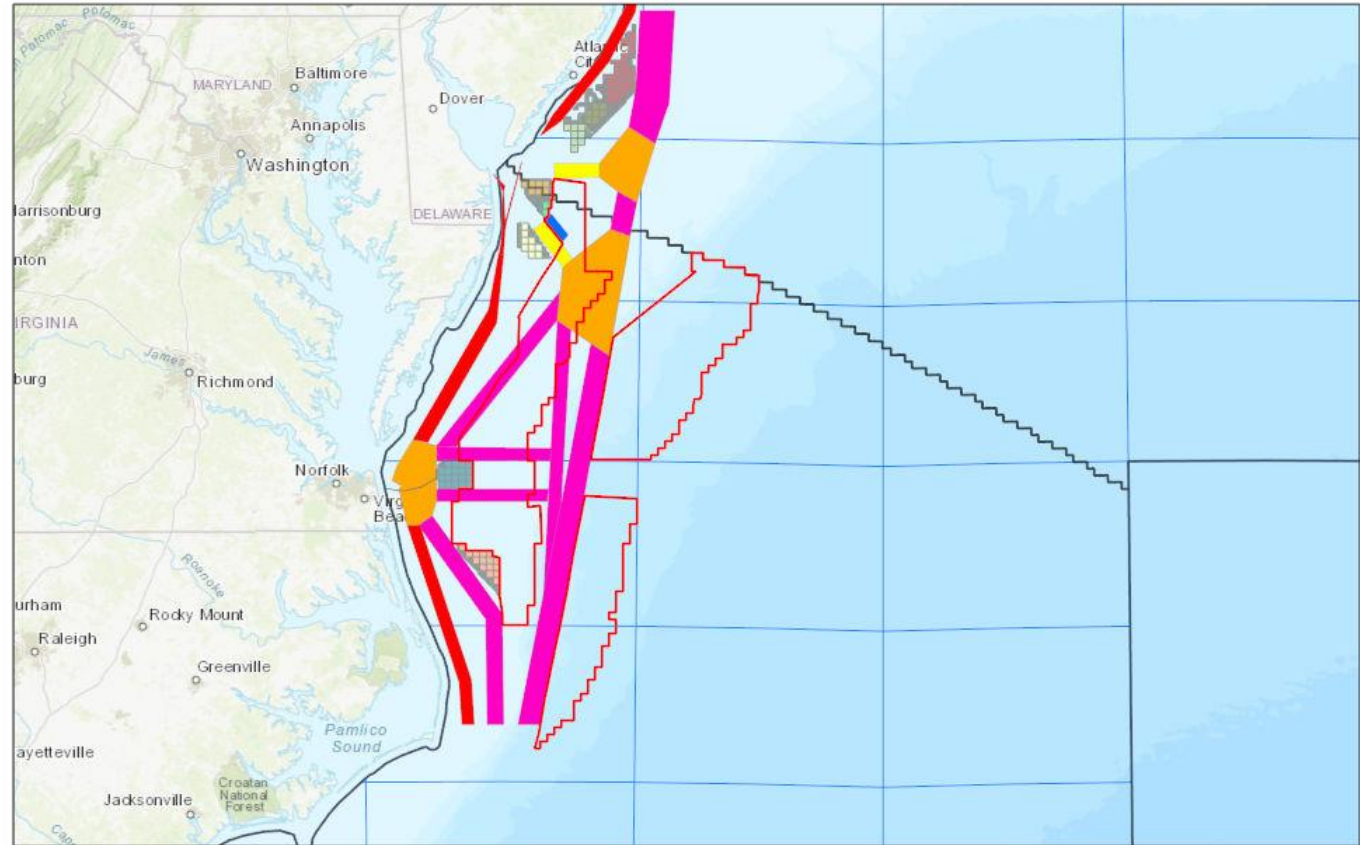




# Planning Area Development

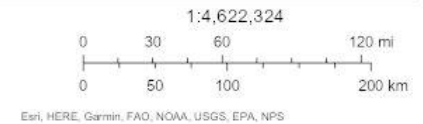
- USCG Proposed Shipping Safety Fairways

Central Atlantic Draft Planning Areas



9/27/2021

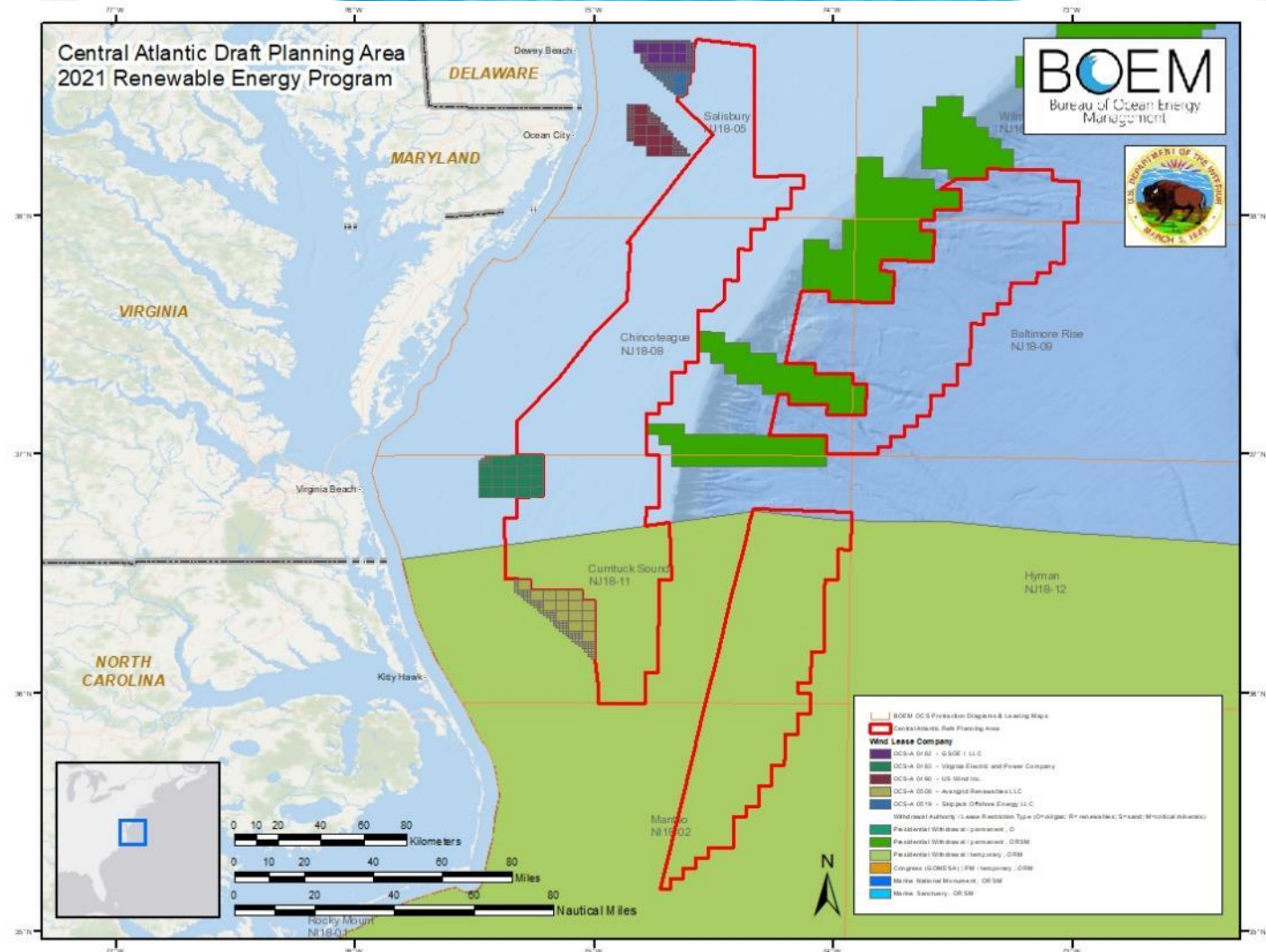
- Call Area Option 2 BOEM Wind Leases
- Call Area Option 3
- OCS-A 0482 - GSOE | LLC
- OCS-A 0483 - Virginia Electric and Power Company
- OCS-A 0490 - US Wind Inc.





# Planning Area Development

- Areas withdrawn from leasing
  - North Carolina
  - Atlantic Canyons



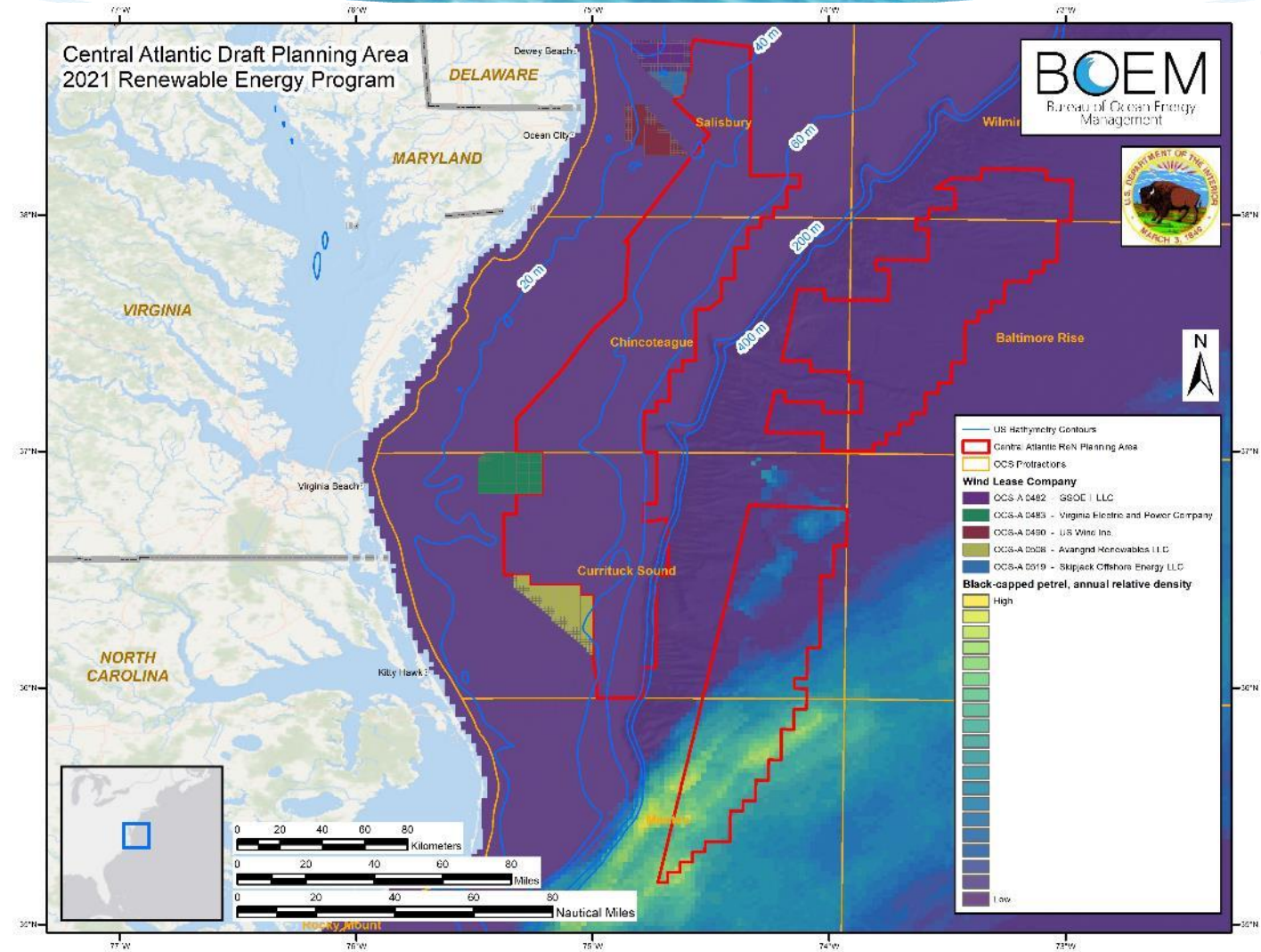
## BIRDS





# Planning Area Development

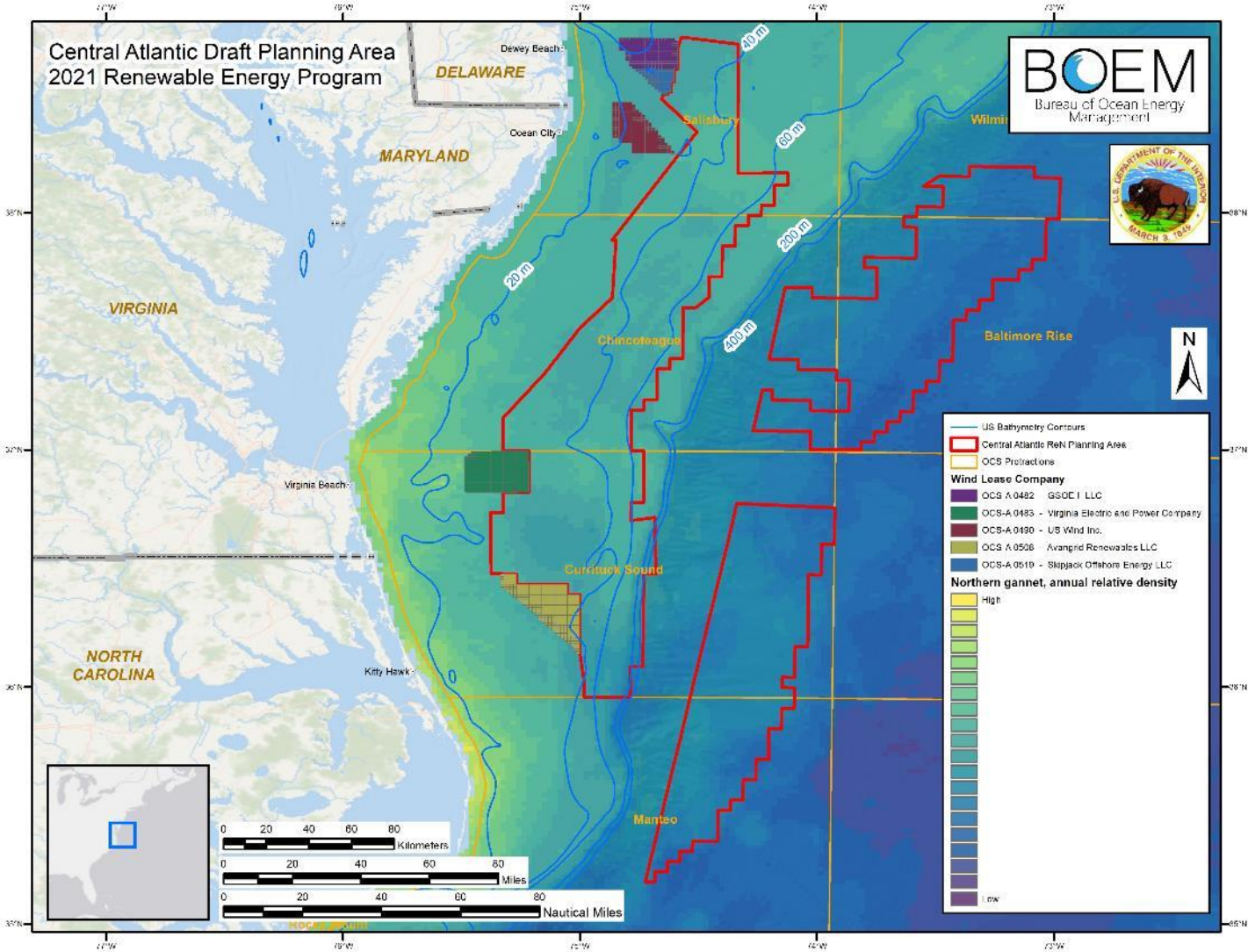
- Black-capped petrel
  - Annual Relative Density





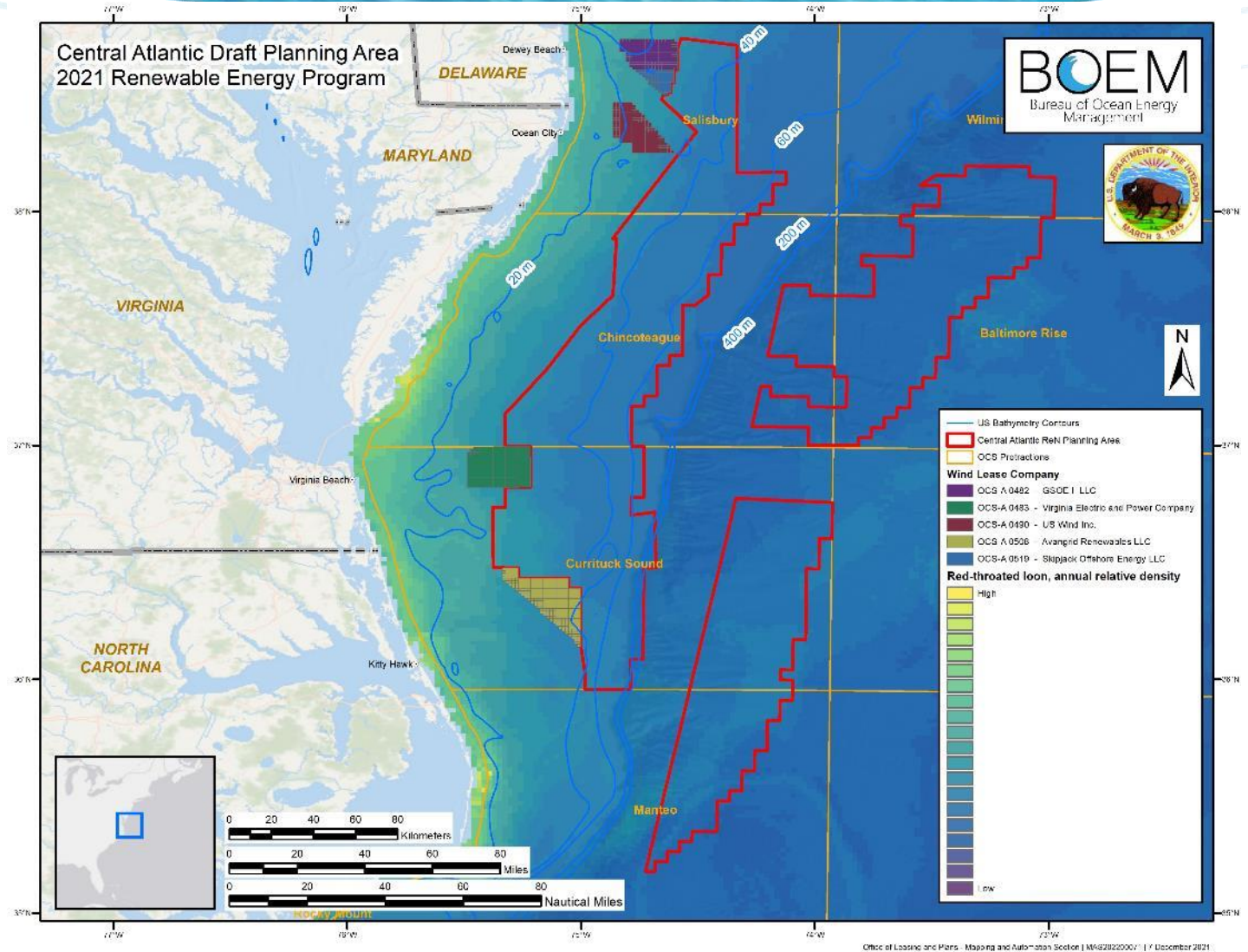
# Planning Area Development

- Northern gannet
  - Annual Relative Density



# Planning Area Development

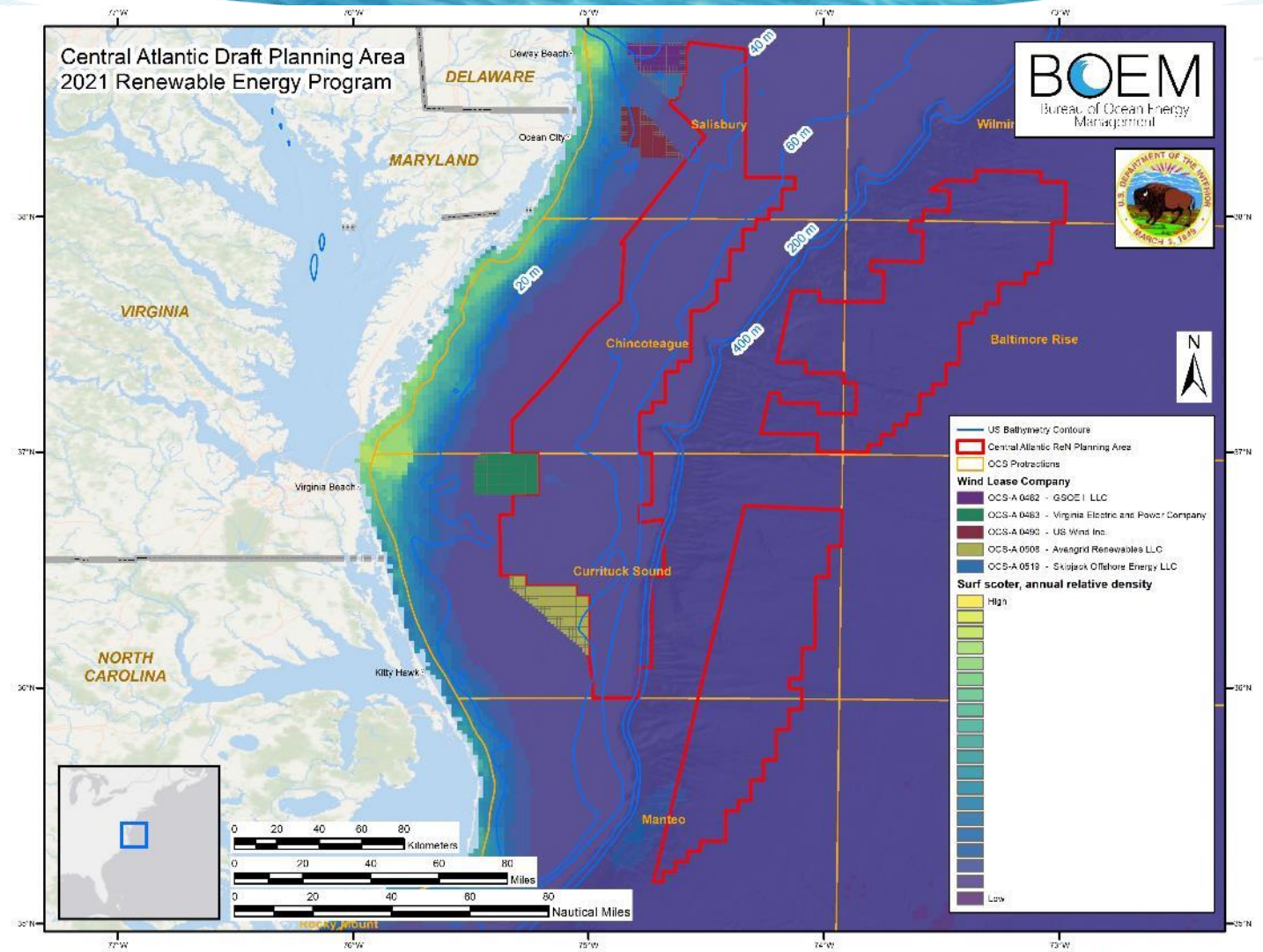
- Red-throated loon
  - Annual Relative Density





# Planning Area Development

- Surf scoter
  - Annual Relative Density



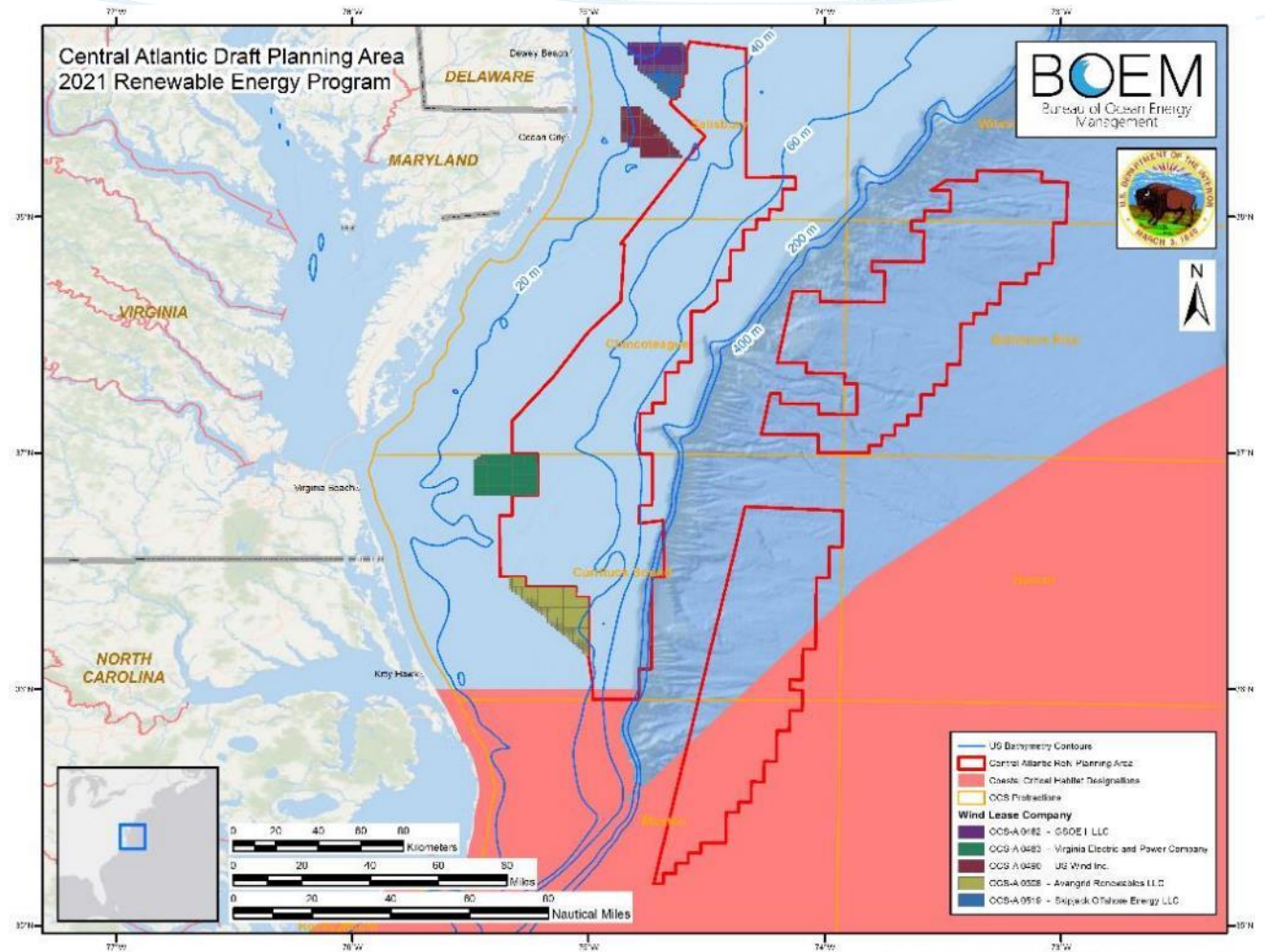


## MARINE MAMMALS AND SEA TURTLES

# Planning Area Development

- Coastal Critical Habitat Designation
  - Northwest Atlantic Ocean DPS of Loggerhead Sea Turtle

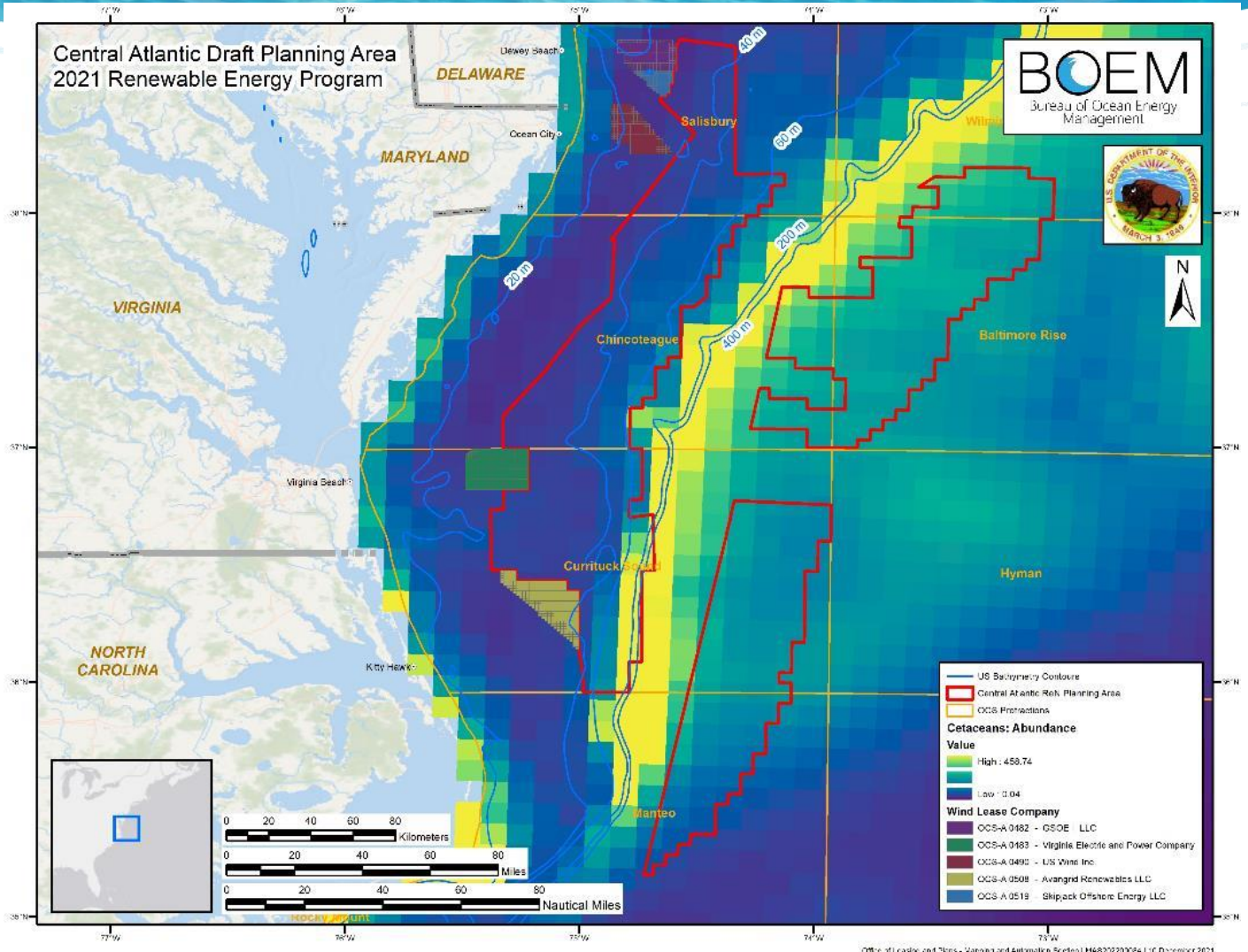
\*Atlantic sturgeon critical habitat also shown





# Planning Area Development

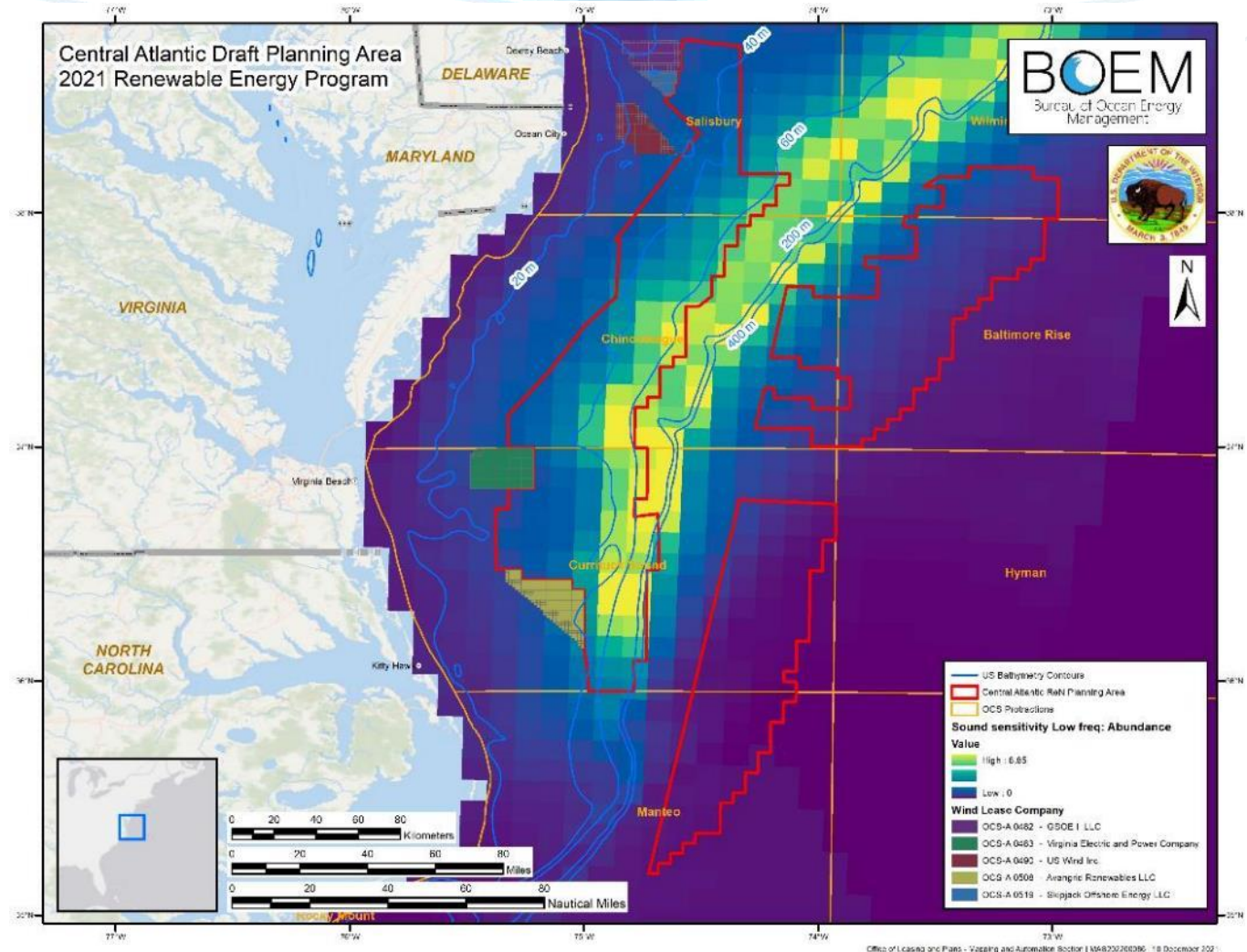
- Mammal Summary Products
  - Cetaceans
    - abundance





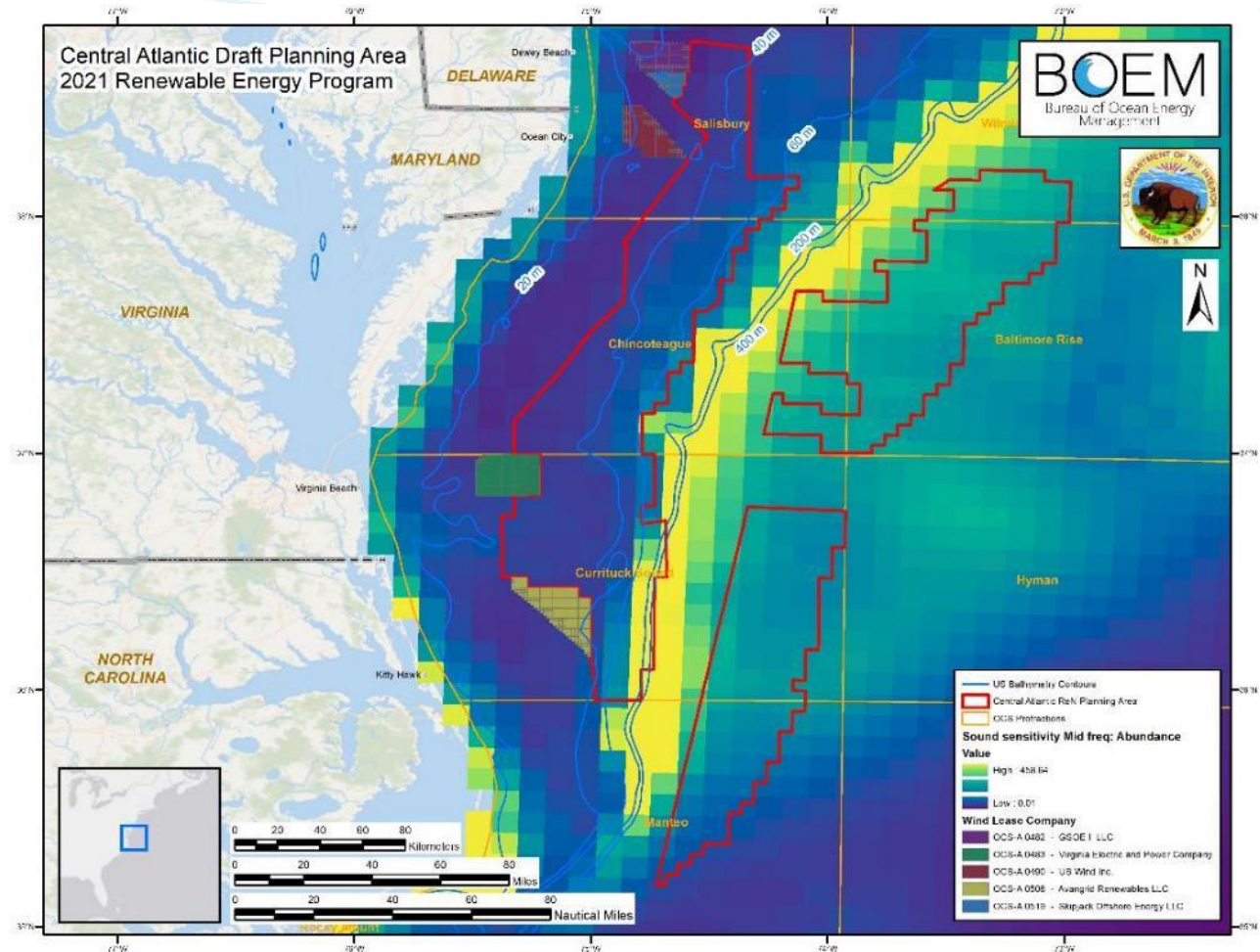
# Planning Area Development

- Mammal Summary Products
  - sound sensitivity low freq
    - abundance



# Planning Area Development

- Mammal Summary Products
  - sound sensitivity mid freq
    - abundance

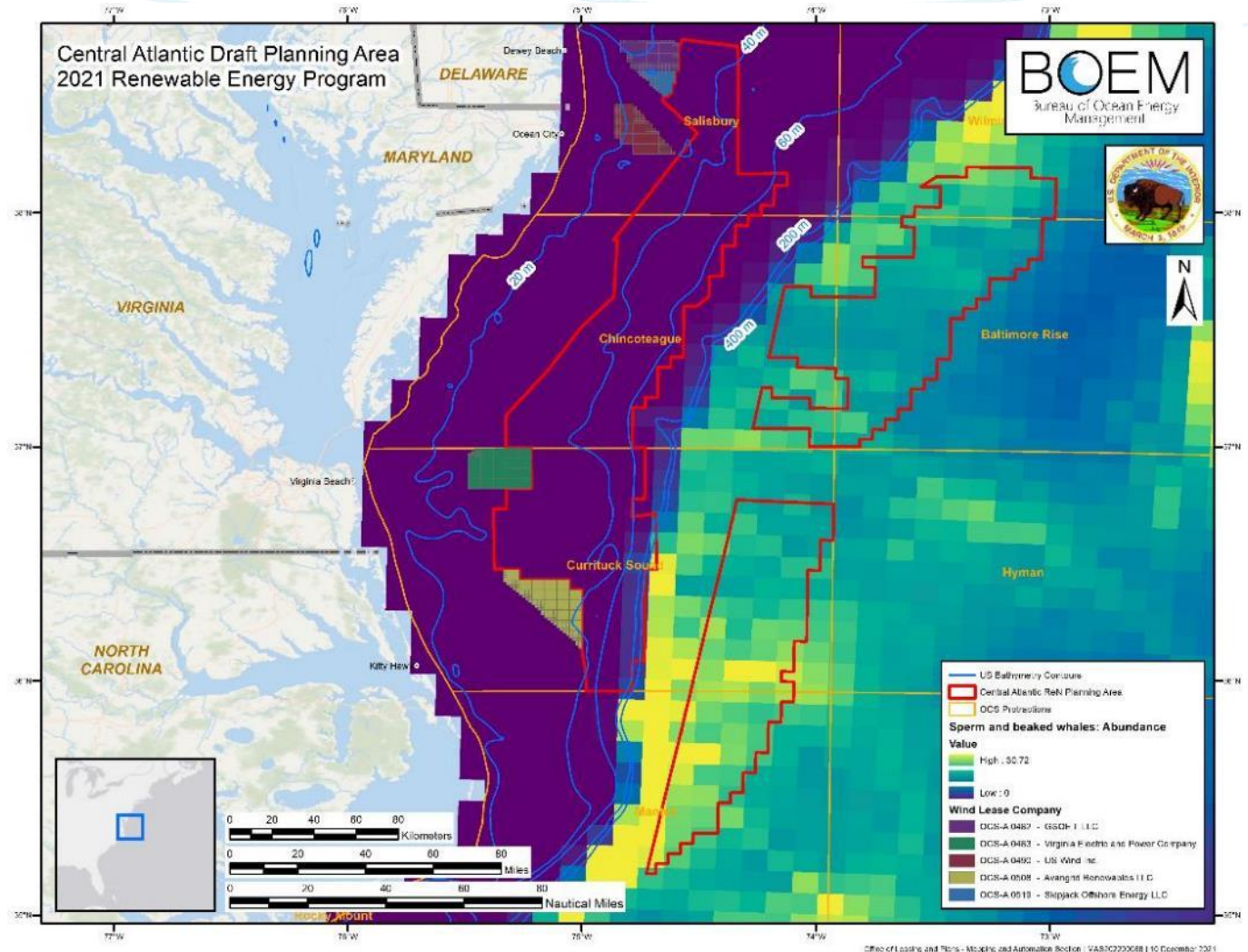


Office of Logistic and Plans Mapping and Automation Section | MMS20220002 | 13 December 2021



# Planning Area Development

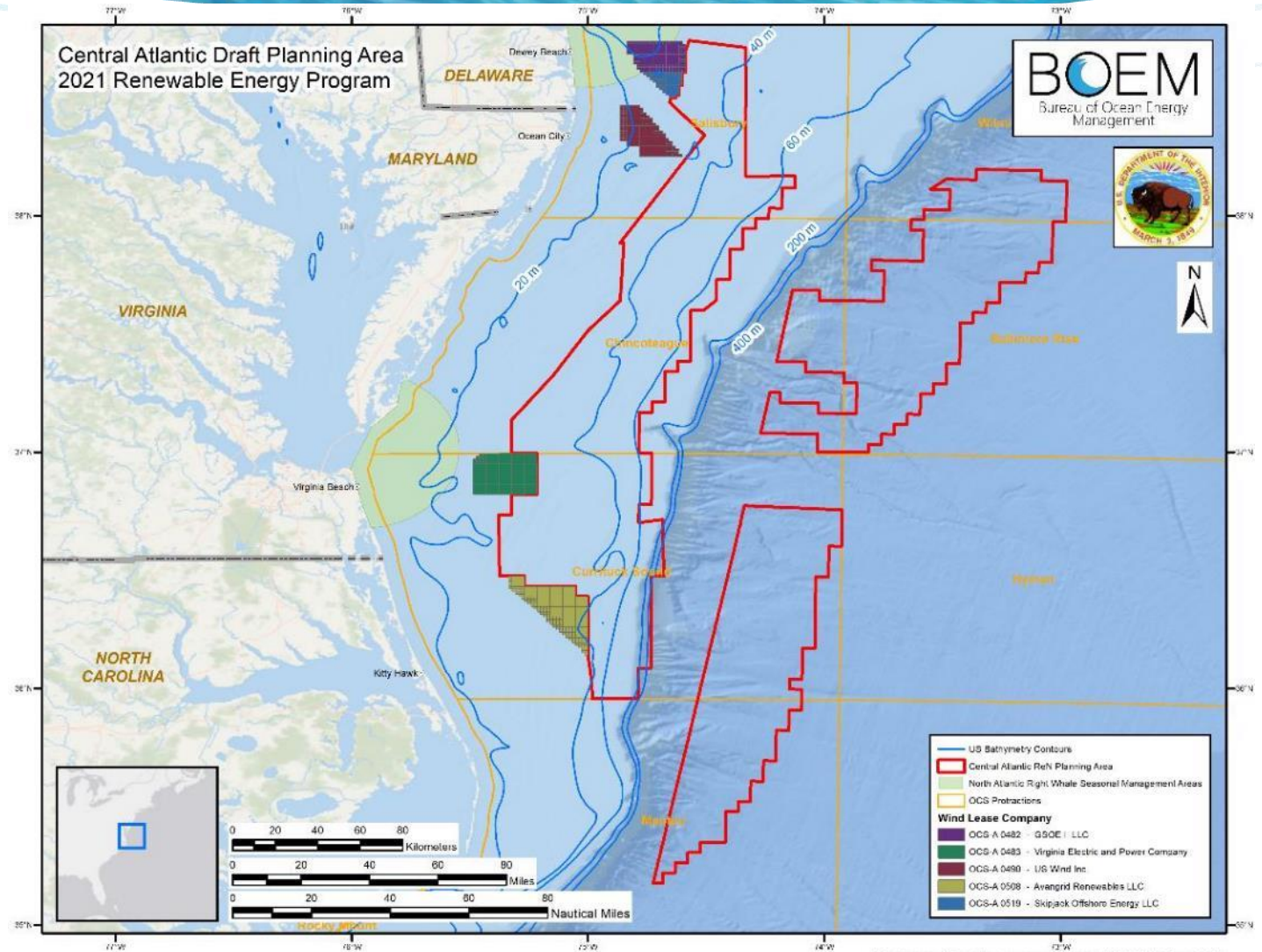
- Mammal Summary Products
  - sperm and beaked whale
    - abundance





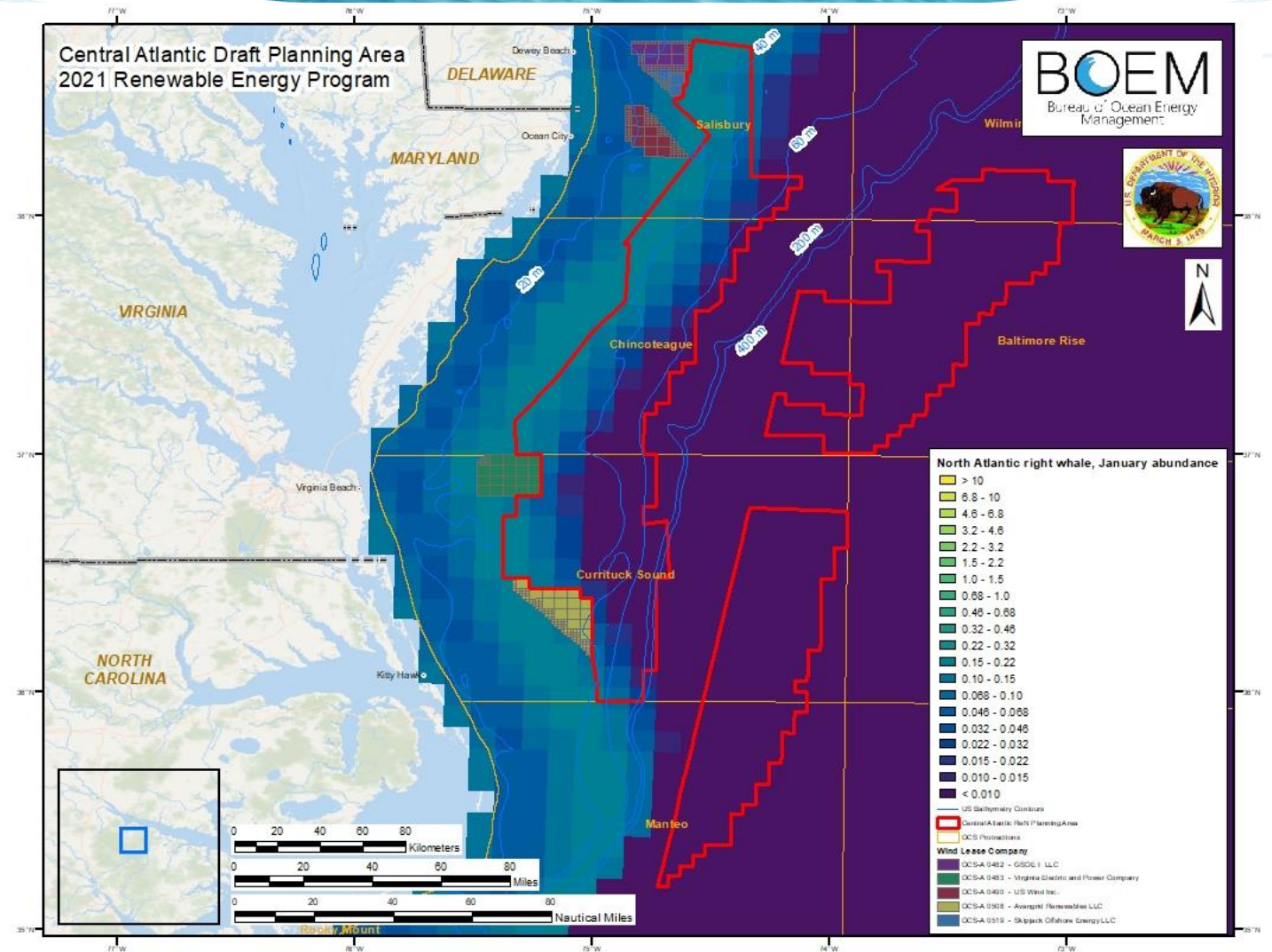
# Planning Area Development

- North Atlantic Right Whale
  - Seasonal Management Areas
  - Addition protective measures for right whales during vessel operations and HRG surveys can be found on BOEM's website:  
<https://www.boem.gov/renewable-energy/nmfs-esa-consultations>



# Planning Area Development

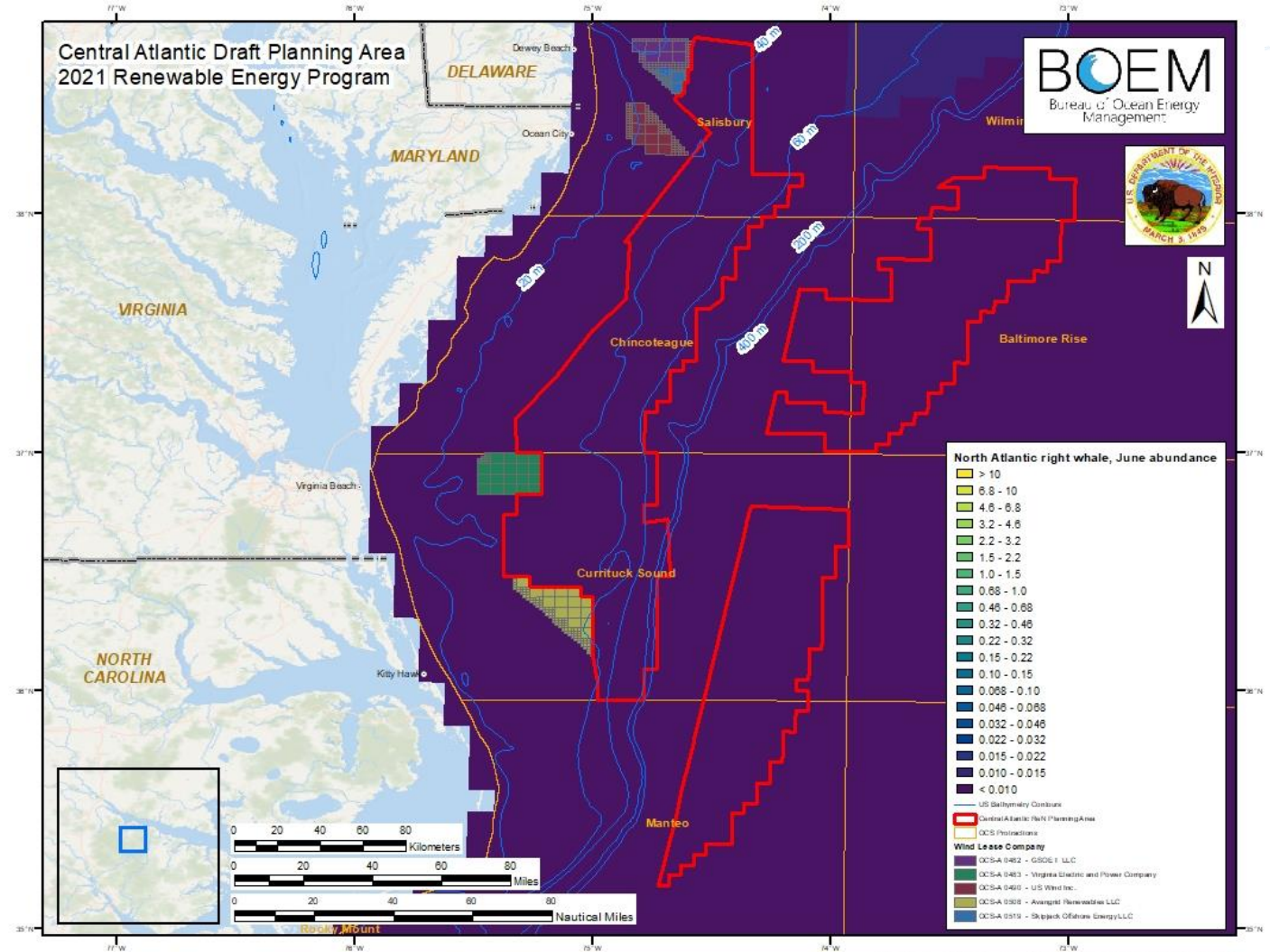
- Mammal Abundance
  - North Atlantic Right Whale
    - January





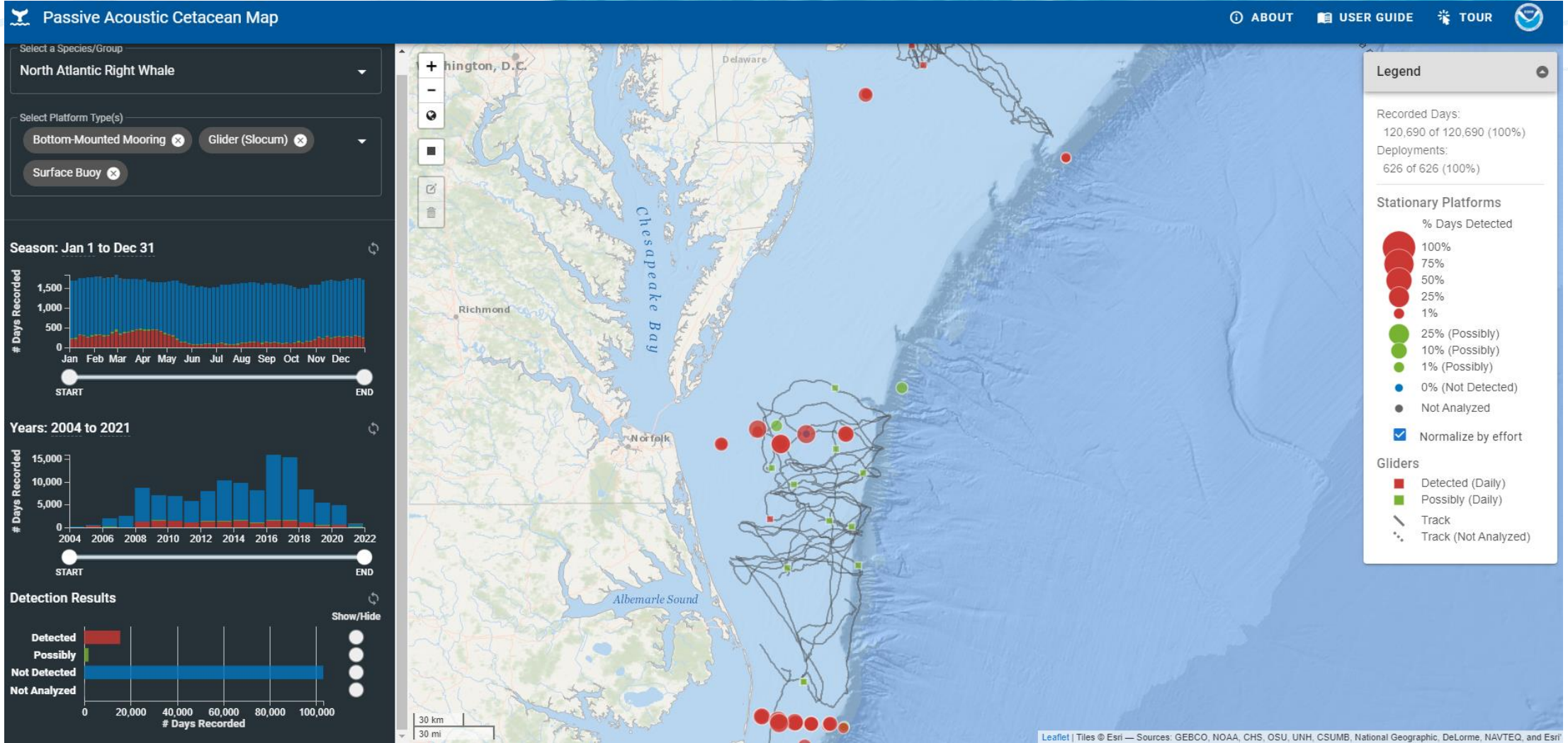
# Planning Area Development

- Mammal Abundance
  - North Atlantic Right Whale
    - June



# Planning Area Development

## Acoustic Detections North Atlantic Right Whale



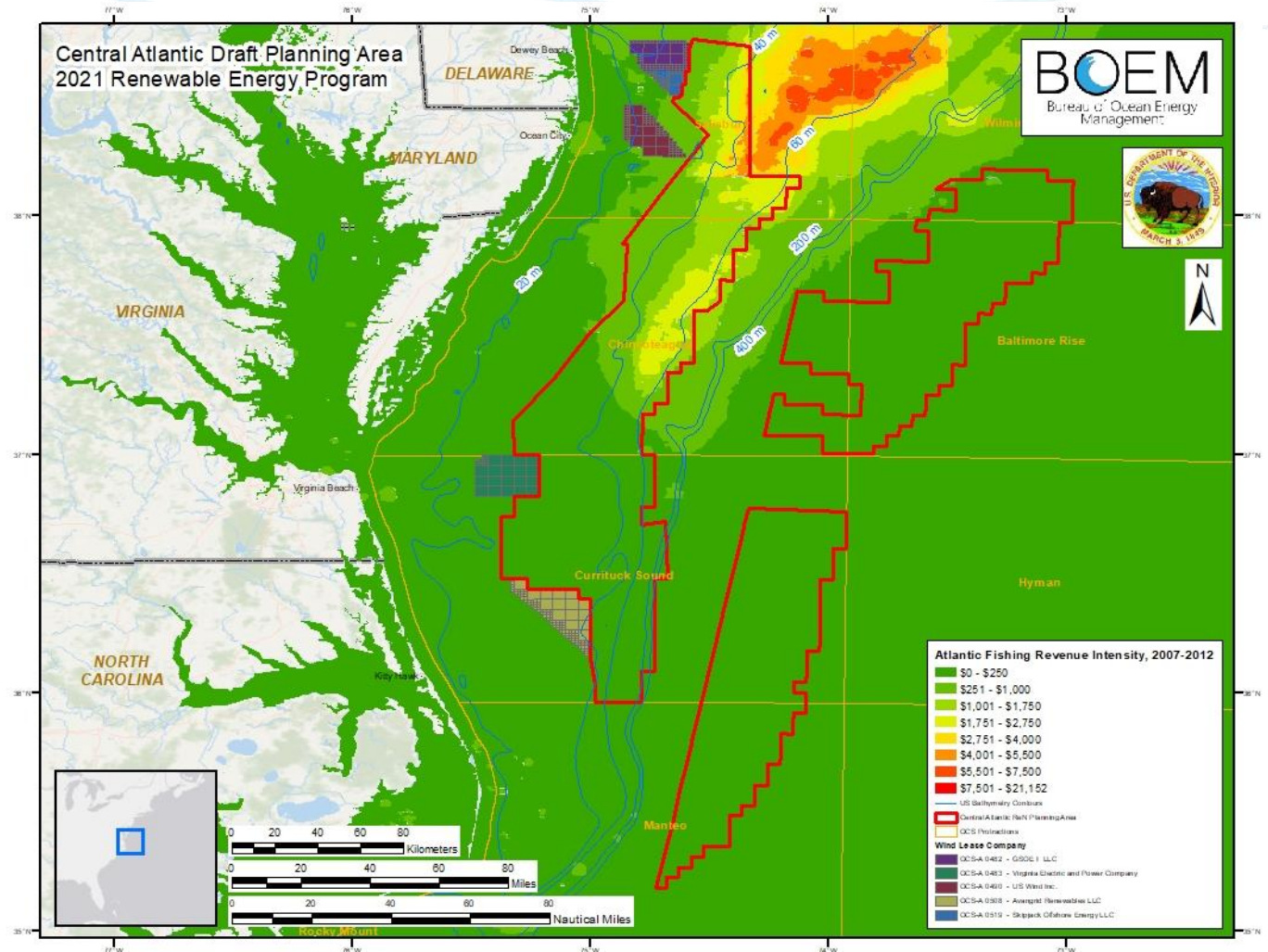


## FISH



# Planning Area Development

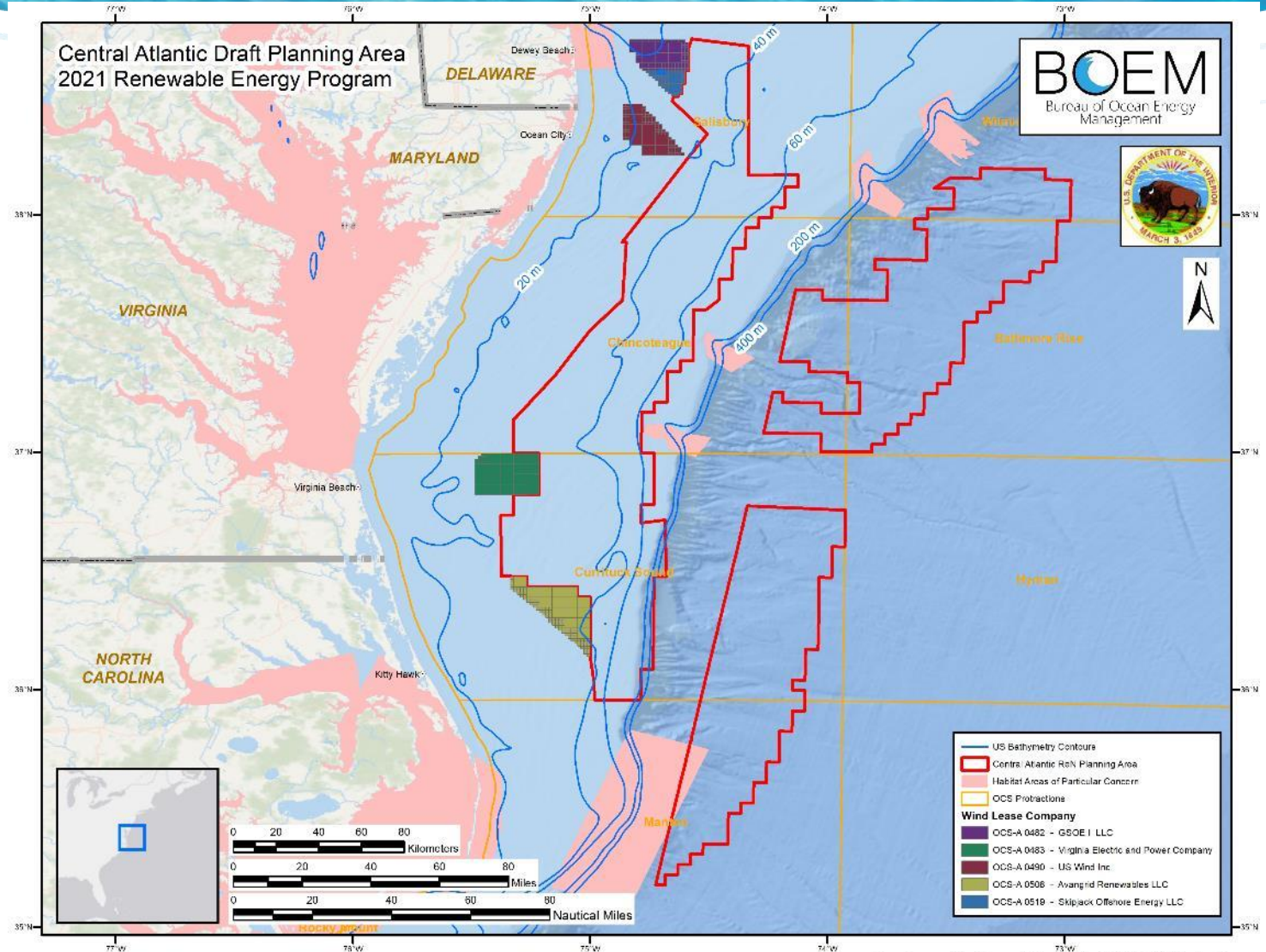
- Atlantic Fishing Revenue Intensity, 2007-2012





# Planning Area Development

- Habitat Areas of Particular Concern

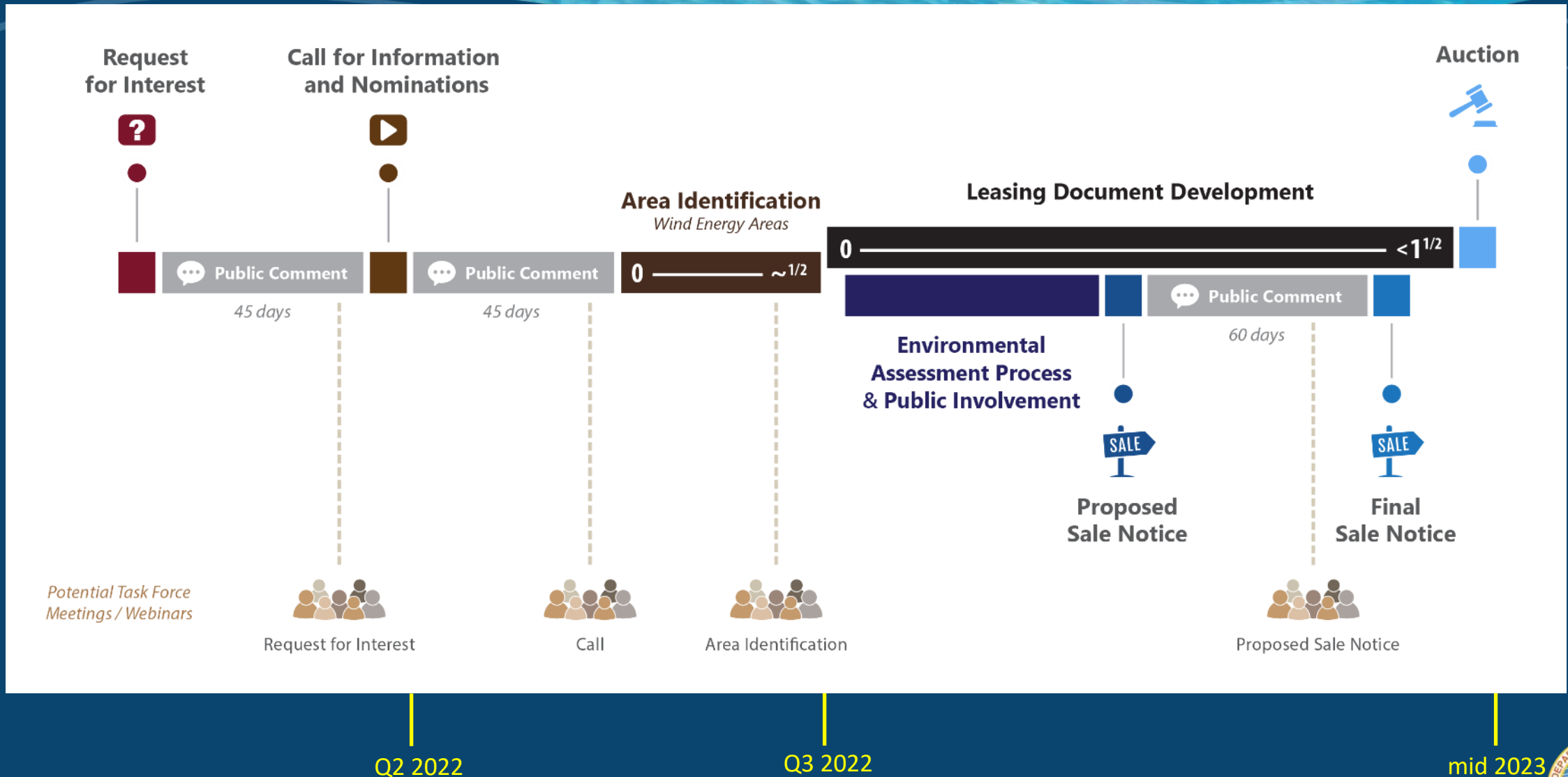


# Central Atlantic Milestones

Milestone	Action	Target Date
Draft Call Area to Task Force	Initiate Federal/State Partner Reviews	September 2021
	Distribute to Task Force	January 2022
Tribal Engagement	Informational Meeting	December 9, 2021
Fisheries Engagement	Sector based meetings (4)	January 5-6, 2022
Task Force Meeting	Hold virtual meeting	February 16, 2022
Publish Call for Information and Nominations	Publish Call	Q2 2022
	45-Day Comment Period	Q2 2022
Area Identification	Identify Wind Energy Area(s)	Q3 2022
Lease Sale	Proposed Sale Notice	Q4 2022
	Final Sale Notice	Early/Mid 2023
	Hold auction	Mid-2023



# Central Atlantic Milestones



# Feedback? Comments?

If you have additional feedback or comments not discussed in today's meeting,  
please send them to:

Bridgette Duplantis

[Bridgette.Duplantis@boem.gov](mailto:Bridgette.Duplantis@boem.gov)

No later than December 31, 2021



The background of the image is an underwater scene showing sand dunes on the ocean floor. The water is clear and blue, with sunlight filtering through from above, creating a shimmering effect on the sand. The dunes are rhythmic and extend across the entire width of the frame.

# BOEM

Bureau of Ocean Energy  
Management

[BOEM.gov](http://BOEM.gov)

