

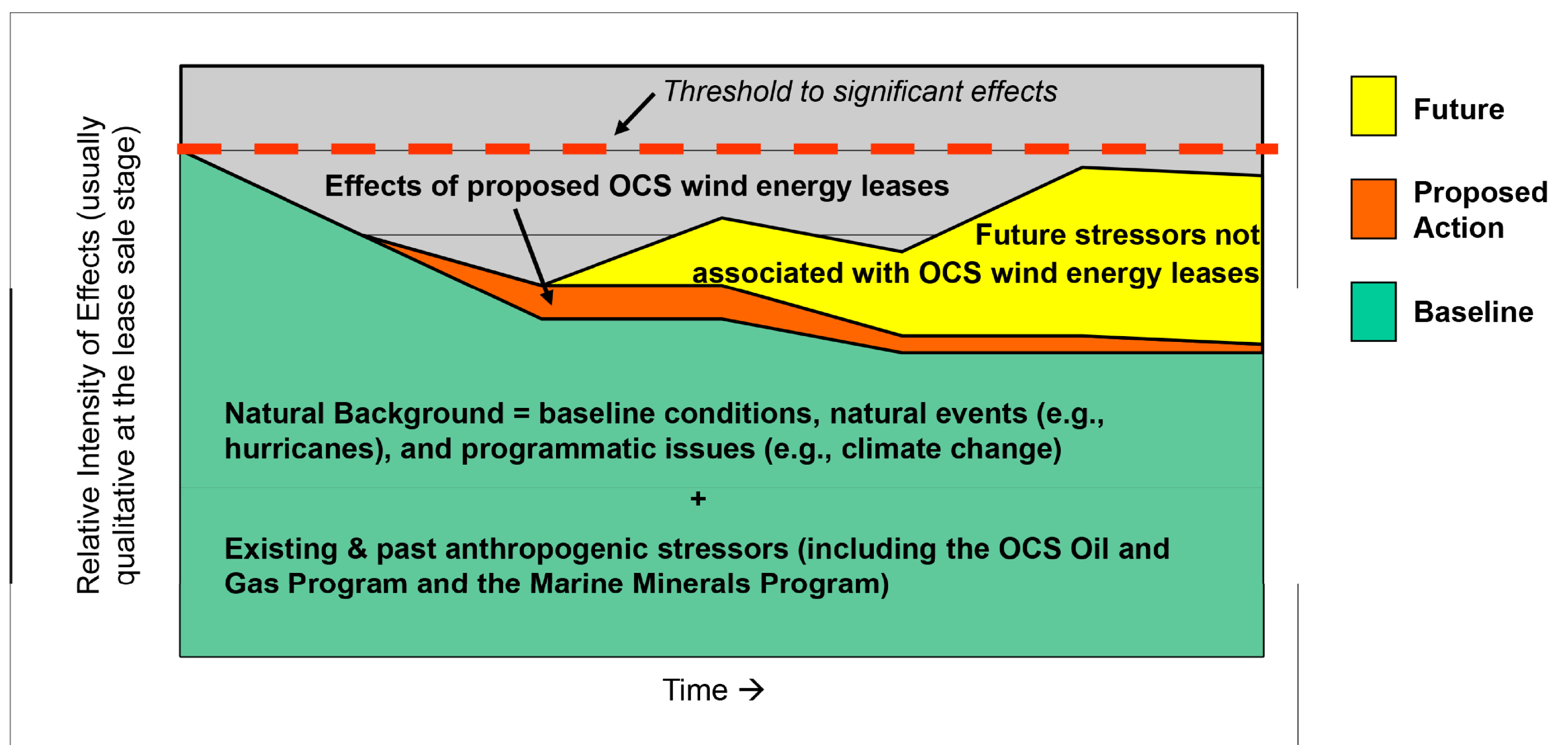


GULF OF MEXICO CALL AREA

Potential Impacts of Alternatives

• Marine Mammals and Sea Turtles

BOEM analyzed the potential impacts of the Proposed Action in this EA. The analysis includes a description of the baseline conditions of the affected environment and the impacts of past and present stressors on each resource. The analysis also includes the potential incremental impacts of site assessment and site characterization activities on the resource and compares those potential impacts to the cumulative impacts affecting the resource (past, present, and foreseeable future activities in the Gulf of Mexico).



The figure to the left shows a visualization of the baseline environment (green), impacts of future activities not associated with OCS wind energy leases (yellow), and the potential impacts of the Proposed Action (orange). Cumulative impacts are the sum of the Proposed Action (orange), baseline environment (green), and impacts of future activities not associated with OCS wind energy leases (yellow).

The table below summarizes the potential impacts of site assessment and site characterization activities to Marine Mammals and Sea Turtles under Alternatives A, B, and C. Impacts from the Proposed Action were then compared to the cumulative impacts from the same impact producing factors (IPFs) for Marine Mammals and Sea Turtles to put those impacts into perspective.

Magnitude of Potential Impact for Site Assessment and Site Characterization Activities

		Range of Incremental Impacts for Site Characterization and Site Assessment Activities for a Single OCS Wind Energy Lease and 18 OCS Wind Energy Leases			
Resource	IPFs Impacting Resource	Protective Measure	Alternative A (No Action)	Alternative B	Alternative C
Marine Mammals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Noise Strikes and Collisions 	Range of Impacts from All IPFs			
		WITHOUT Protective Measures	None	Moderate	Moderate
		WITH Protective Measures	None	Negligible to Minor	Negligible to Minor
		Range of Incremental Contribution of Impacts from All IPFs Compared to Cumulative Impacts			
		WITHOUT Protective Measures	None	Minor	Minor
		WITH Protective Measures	None	Negligible	Negligible
Sea Turtles	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bottom Disturbance Noise Unintentional Releases to the Environment Strikes and Collisions 	Range of Impacts from All IPFs			
		WITHOUT Protective Measures	None	Negligible to Minor	Negligible to Minor
		WITH Protective Measures	None	Negligible	Negligible
		Range of Incremental Contribution of Impacts from All IPFs Compared to Cumulative Impacts			
		WITHOUT Protective Measures	None	Negligible	Negligible
		WITH Protective Measures	None	Negligible	Negligible

