



# Maine Offshore Wind Update and Priorities

Gulf of Maine Intergovernmental Renewable Energy Task Force  
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Governor's Energy Office



GOVERNOR'S  
Energy Office



## Offshore Wind Supports Maine's Climate and Clean Energy Targets:

REDUCE  
GREENHOUSE  
GAS EMISSIONS

**45%**

BELOW 1990 LEVELS  
BY 2030

**80%**

BELOW 1990 LEVELS  
BY 2050

TRANSITION TO  
CLEAN ENERGY

**80%**

BY 2030

**100%**

BY 2040

ACHIEVE CARBON  
NEUTRALITY

**2045**

CREATE CLEAN  
ENERGY JOBS

**30,000**

BY 2030

# Maine Offshore Wind Initiative

## Planning & Stakeholder Engagement

- Maine Research Array Siting Process
- BOEM Gulf of Maine Task Force
- Maine Offshore Wind Roadmap
- Ports Studies & Stakeholder Group
- Regional Transmission Planning
- Maine Offshore Wind Research Consortium
- State OSW Mapping Effort

## Research & Innovation

- University of Maine Demonstration Project
- Gulf of Maine Research Array
- Maine Offshore Wind Research Consortium
- Federal investments

## Policy & Legislation

- Bipartisan legislation supporting Research Array, Research Consortium, and prioritizing federal waters for commercial OSW

## Partnerships

- Maine universities and colleges
- Regional Wildlife Science Consortium for OSW
- National Offshore Wind R&D Consortium
- Responsible Offshore Science Alliance
- Business Network for Offshore Wind
- MOU with the United Kingdom
- Plus more local, state, regional, and international partnerships



Maine  
Offshore Wind  
Initiative



Maine Offshore Wind  
**Roadmap**

February 2023



[maineoffshorewind.org](http://maineoffshorewind.org)

**96**

Working Group and  
Advisory Committee  
Members

**78**

Public Meetings  
Held

**9**

Technical Studies  
Produced

**50**

Experts brought in  
to share lessons  
learned elsewhere

**50+**

Other Technical  
Studies Consulted

**1,372**

Participants



# Roadmap Overview

A visual guide to the roadmap's development and objectives.

Maine's Offshore Wind *Roadmap* identifies five key objectives to responsibly advance offshore wind in Maine. Each objective contains a set of specific strategies recommended by the expert members of the Roadmap's Working Groups and endorsed by the Roadmap Advisory Committee.

## Objectives



Pursue Offshore Wind Supply Chain, Infrastructure, and Workforce Investments to Support Economic Growth and Resiliency



Harness Abundant Renewable Energy to Reduce Long-Term Costs, Reliance on Fossil Fuels, and Fight Climate Change



Advance Maine-Based Innovation to Compete in Emerging National and Global Offshore Wind Industry



Support Maine's Vital and Thriving Seafood Industries and Coastal Communities



Protect the Environment, Wildlife, & Fisheries Ecosystem in the Gulf of Maine

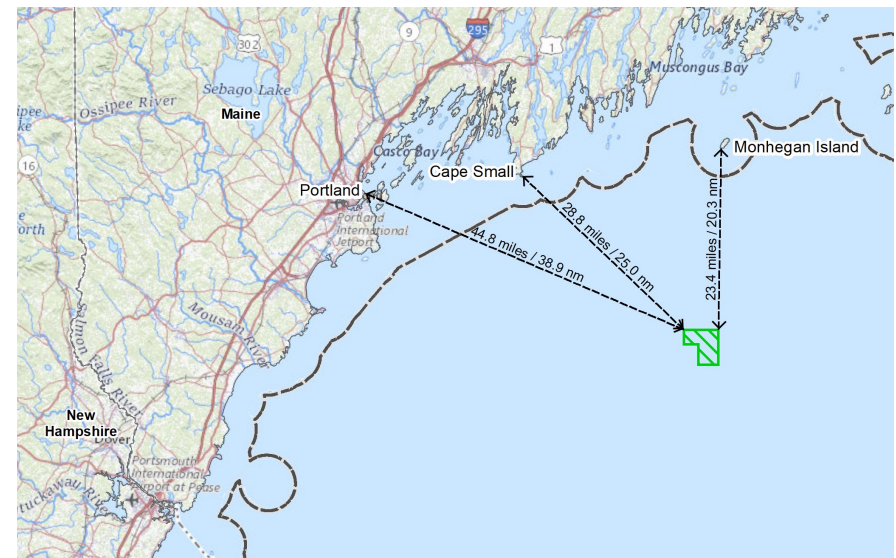
## Cross-Cutting Themes

At the inception and throughout the *Roadmap* development, four cross-cutting themes were deemed essential to the process of creating a *Roadmap* purpose-built for Maine and offshore:

- Stakeholder Engagement & Communications
- Equity
- Transparency & Data-Driven Decision Making
- Regional Collaboration & Coordination

# Maine Offshore Wind Research Array

- **Advance** phased approach to floating technology as seen worldwide
- **Research** the effects of multiple floating turbines on marine life, fishing and more
- **Maximize** research and innovation in floating offshore wind to help grow U.S. floating supply chain
- **Support** UMaine's public-private partnership
- **Work** with fishing, environmental and other marine interests to answer important questions
- **Use** the experience to inform future projects, including lowering the cost of floating wind in the Gulf of Maine



## Research Array By The Numbers

Distance from mainland: **30 miles/25 nm**

Size of array: **12 turbines or fewer, up to 144 MW**

Size of proposed lease area: **15.2 square miles**





## Maine Offshore Wind Research Consortium

**Goal: To build better understanding of local and regional impacts of floating offshore wind power projects in the Gulf of Maine**

The consortium includes representation from fishing industry, ocean experts, and others to inform research priorities, and will work to align with related regional and national efforts.

### **Topics of study include:**

- Opportunities and challenges to existing uses in the Gulf of Maine, including how to best support co-existence with the fishing industry
- Methods to avoid and minimize impacts on ecosystems and existing uses
- Ways to realize cost efficiencies in commercialization



# Next Steps for Maine

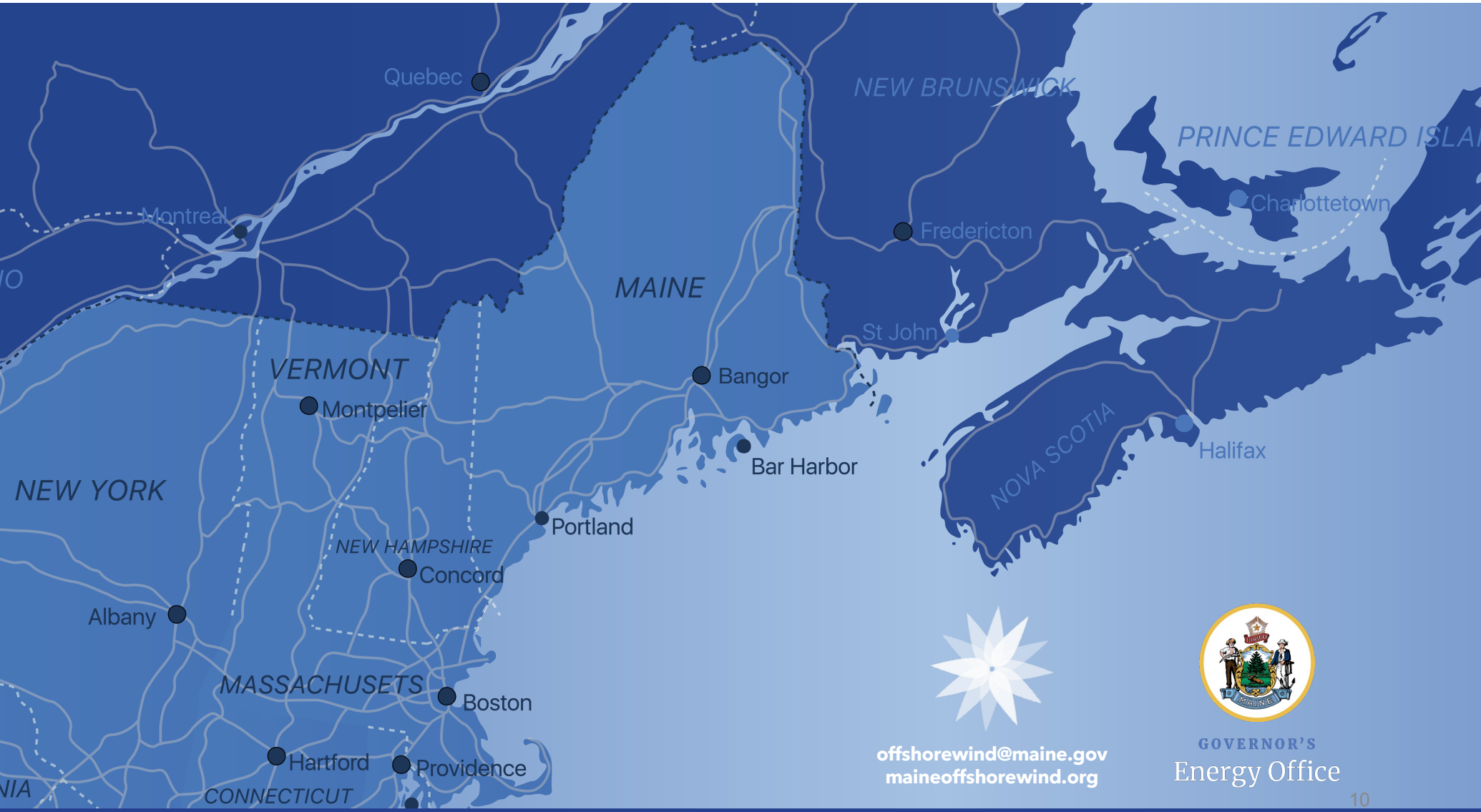
- Continue implementation of the Maine Roadmap
  - Port investments
  - Workforce investments
  - Stakeholder engagement
  - Business development
  - Data collection, research
  - Advance the Research Array
  - Support the Research Consortium
  - Continue transmission planning efforts
  - Coordinate regionally and with federal agencies





## Key Priorities for Maine & the BOEM Process

- Re-emphasize Maine's RFI comments
- Support BOEM's exclusions to date, continue to advance the winnowing process and seek meaningful input prior to release of draft WEAs
- Provide additional information on areas identified in Call (e.g., Platt's)
- Include information on need for offshore wind to meet climate and clean energy requirements
- Receive timely input from USCG and DoD and other federal agencies to inform current discussion
- Continue engaging in Task Force process, informed by Roadmap and stakeholder input



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