

# North Carolina SEA Overview

BOEM proposes to issue up to 3 commercial wind energy leases within the majority of the Wilmington East wind energy area (WEA) of the Carolina Long Bay area. BOEM may issue leases as soon as mid-2022.

## Site Assessment and Characterization Activities

- **Meteorological and Oceanographic Buoys** — temporarily install sensors to collect atmospheric and oceanographic observations
- **Geophysical Surveys** — use remote sensing to collect information about the physical environment, such as archaeological resources, geohazards, habitat, cable routes, sediment characteristics, unexploded ordinance
- **Geotechnical Surveys** — gather information about the physical characteristics of the soil and rocks to determine whether the seabed can support foundation structures
- **Biological Surveys** — understand potential impacts to biological resources (for example, benthic habitat and birds) if wind energy development were to occur.

## Wilmington East WEA

- Area for leasing totals approximately 127,865 acres and includes the majority of the Wilmington East WEA
- Lease blocks overlapping the North Atlantic right whale critical habitat and areas used for training identified by the Department of Defense were removed from leasing consideration
- About 15 nm from Bald Head Island and extends approximately 18 nm in the southeast direction

