



Regulating Offshore Wind Energy

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Vision & Harmony

Maritime Transportation is a National Priority

The U.S. Marine Transportation System (MTS) is vital to America's prosperity. The Coast Guard is devoted to safeguarding these national interests, advocating the paramount importance of securing America's vital waterways, and ensuring the safety of mariners.

Unity of Effort

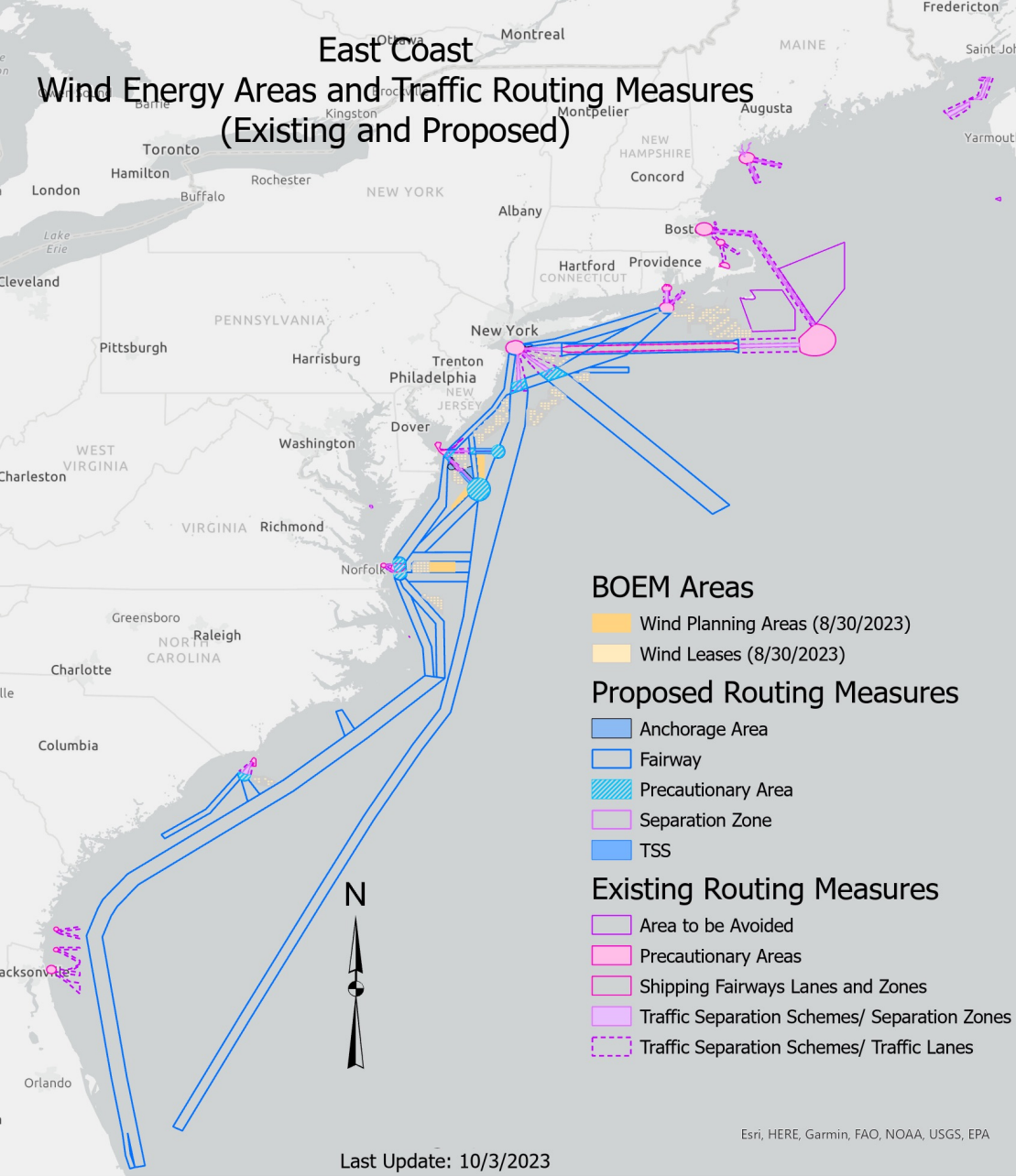
The integration of offshore renewable energy into America's MTS demands an "all of government" approach. Through dynamic partnerships, we are dedicated to forging a harmonious balance between maritime economic competitiveness, renewable energy objectives, and the preservation of safety of life at sea.



We Help Mariners Get There!



East Coast Wind Energy Areas and Traffic Routing Measures (Existing and Proposed)



Coast Guard

Marine Transportation System Authorities

- Port Access Route Studies
- Shipping Safety Fairways & Routing Measures
- Lighting & Marking
- Safety Zones

Other Coast Guard Missions:

- Search & Rescue
- Spill Response Planning
- Maritime Security
- Vessel Inspections
- Casualty Investigations



PORT ACCESS ROUTE STUDIES

46 USC 70003 (originally the Ports and Waterways Safety Act)



STATUTORY AUTHORITY

Designate Fairways and Traffic Separation Schemes (TSS) in order to Provide Safe Access Routes for Vessel Traffic to and from U.S. Ports



PORT ACCESS ROUTE STUDY (PARS)

Must Undertake a Study prior to Designating Fairways and TSSs.



DISTRICT COMMANDER

Typically conducted by District Waterways Management in coordination w/ Federal and State agencies and considers input from the maritime community.



RULEMAKING

PARS Results in the Issuance of Rules and Regulations to Designate Fairways and TSSs.



Interagency Collaboration

Offshore Renewable Energy Installation (OREI) Memorandum of Agreement (2011)

- Intergovernmental Task Force Member
- Cooperating Agency for Environmental Impact Reviews
- Navigation Safety Risk Assessments

Navigation & Vessel Inspection Circular 02-23: Guidance on USCG Roles & Responsibilities for OREI on the Outer Continental Shelf

- Defines USCG Responsibilities Throughout BOEM's Offshore Wind Leasing Process
- Guidance for OREI Developers to:
 - Conduct Navigation Safety Risk Assessments
 - Comply with Marking & Lighting of Windfarm Structures
- Recommendations for Windfarm Configuration & Layout to Promote Safe Navigation.



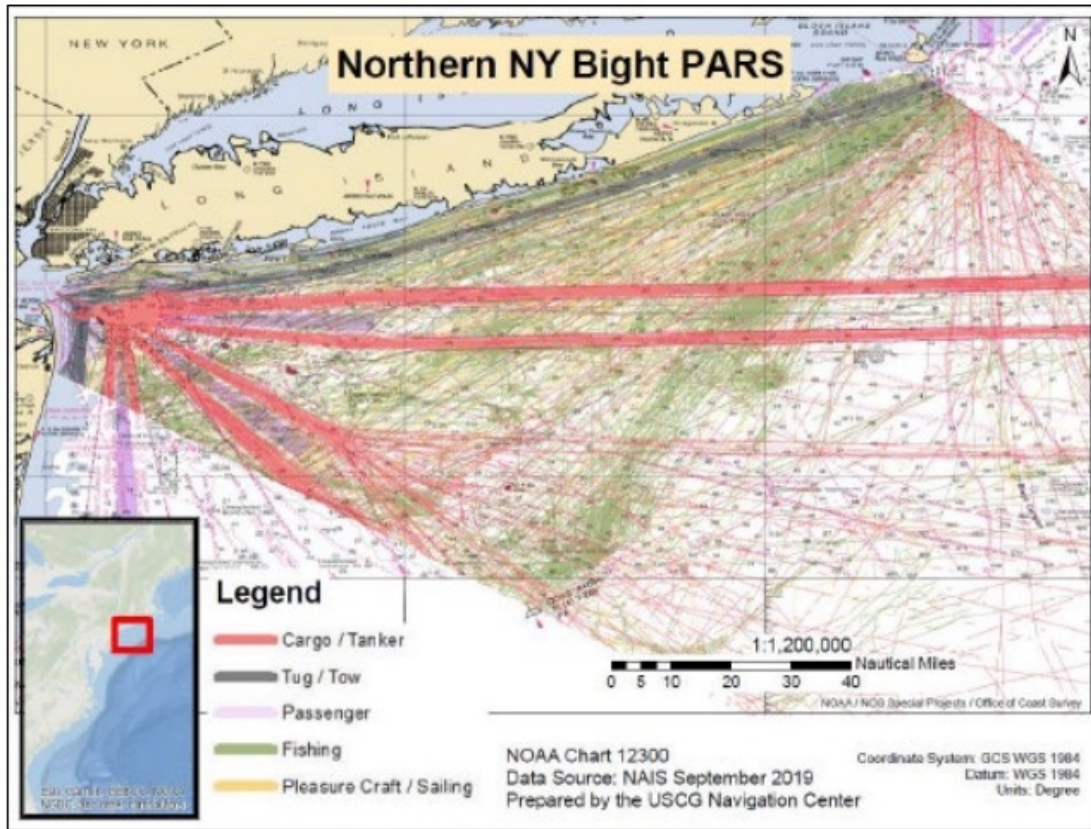


Figure 6 September 2019 Vessel Tracks

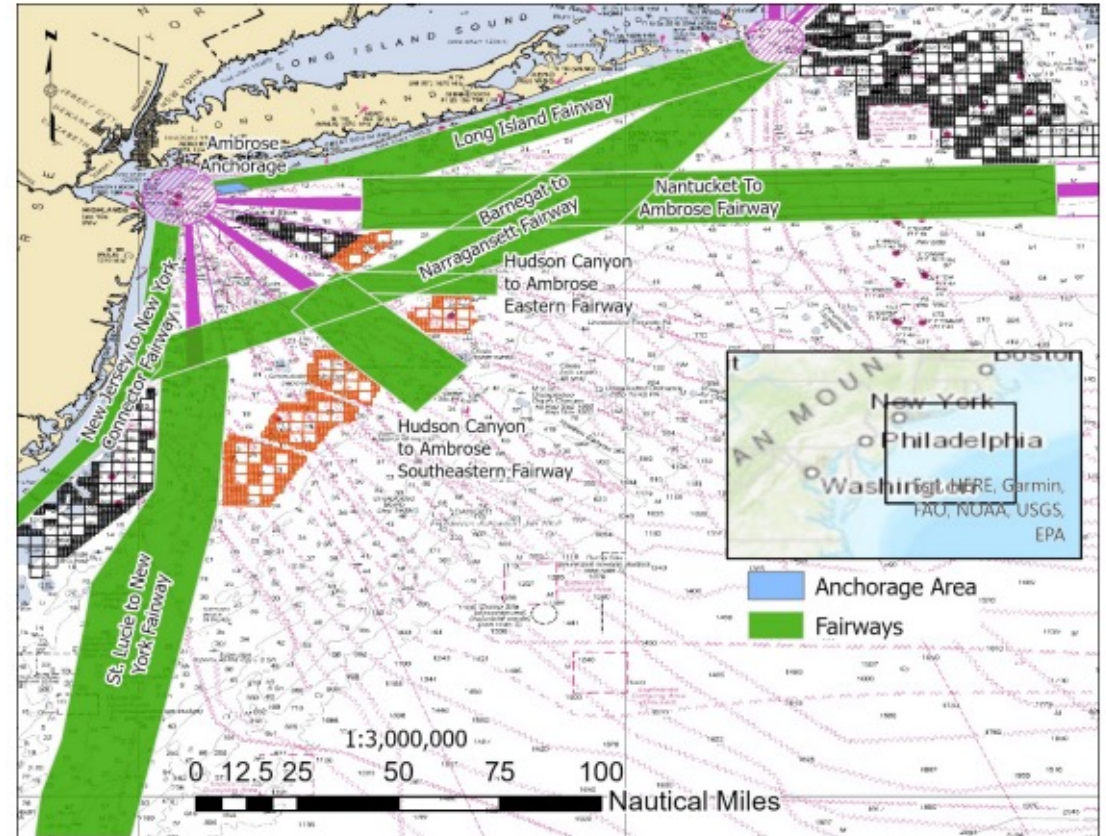


Figure 2: Northern New York Bight PARS Recommended Actions



U.S. Coast Guard Realities and Opportunities

Realities

- USCG authority to designate fairways is separate from BOEM's authority to issue leases.
- USCG does not have authority to approve Construction & Operations Plans, including layout and configuration of windfarms.
- Present and future offshore renewable energy technologies may restrict vessel navigation and impact emergency response efforts.
- New authority and evolving stakeholder relationships creates need to update Memorandums of Understanding/Agreement.

Opportunities

- New Memorandums of Understanding/Agreements.
- Enhance real-time Maritime Safety Information through Inter-Agency and industry collaboration.
- Leverage research to study new technologies for improving safe navigation and mitigating impacts to other Coast Guard missions, such as Search & Rescue.
- Collaborate with maritime stakeholders to improve our processes and achieve smart marine planning.



Thank You