

# Ocean SAMP Offshore Renewable Energy

University of Rhode Island  
Narragansett, RI 02882

# ATM(2007) Potential Wind Farm Sites

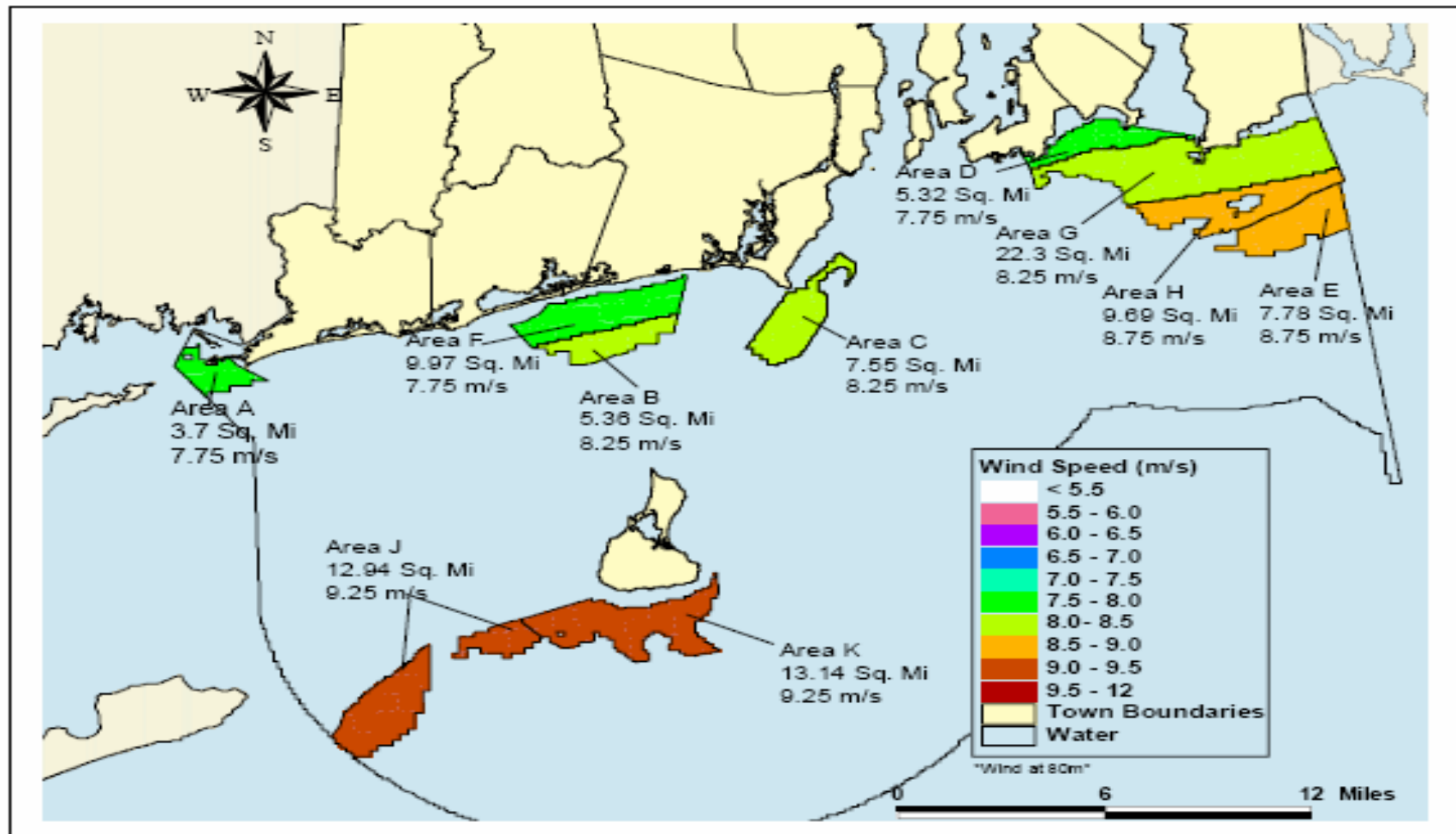
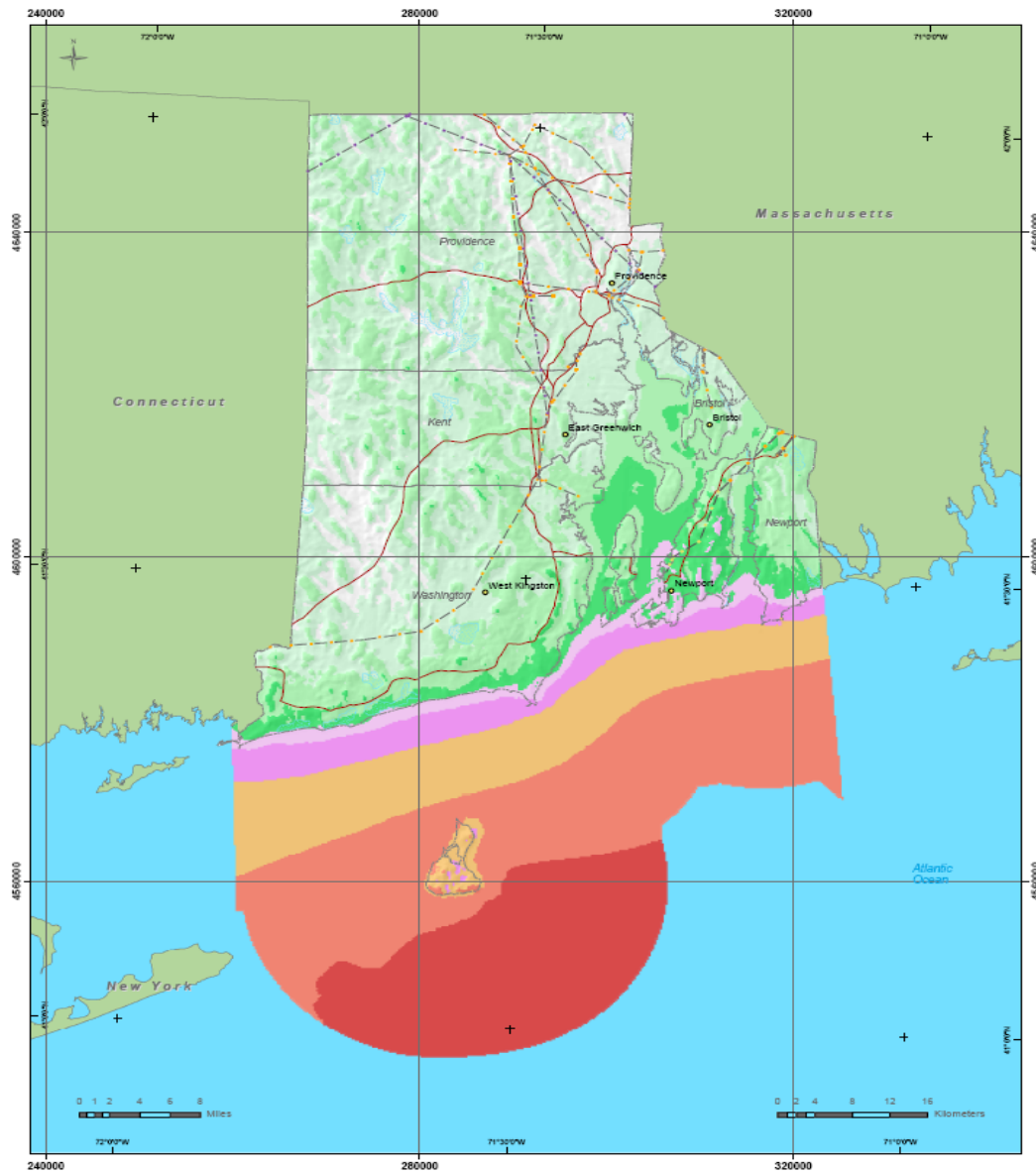
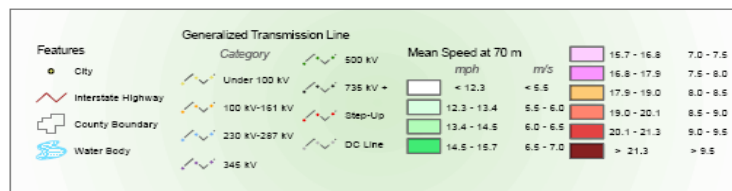


Figure 1 - RIWINDS Report Figure 3.20: Map Showing Post Level 2 Screening Areas Separated by Wind Speed and Final Area Designation

# 70 m winds



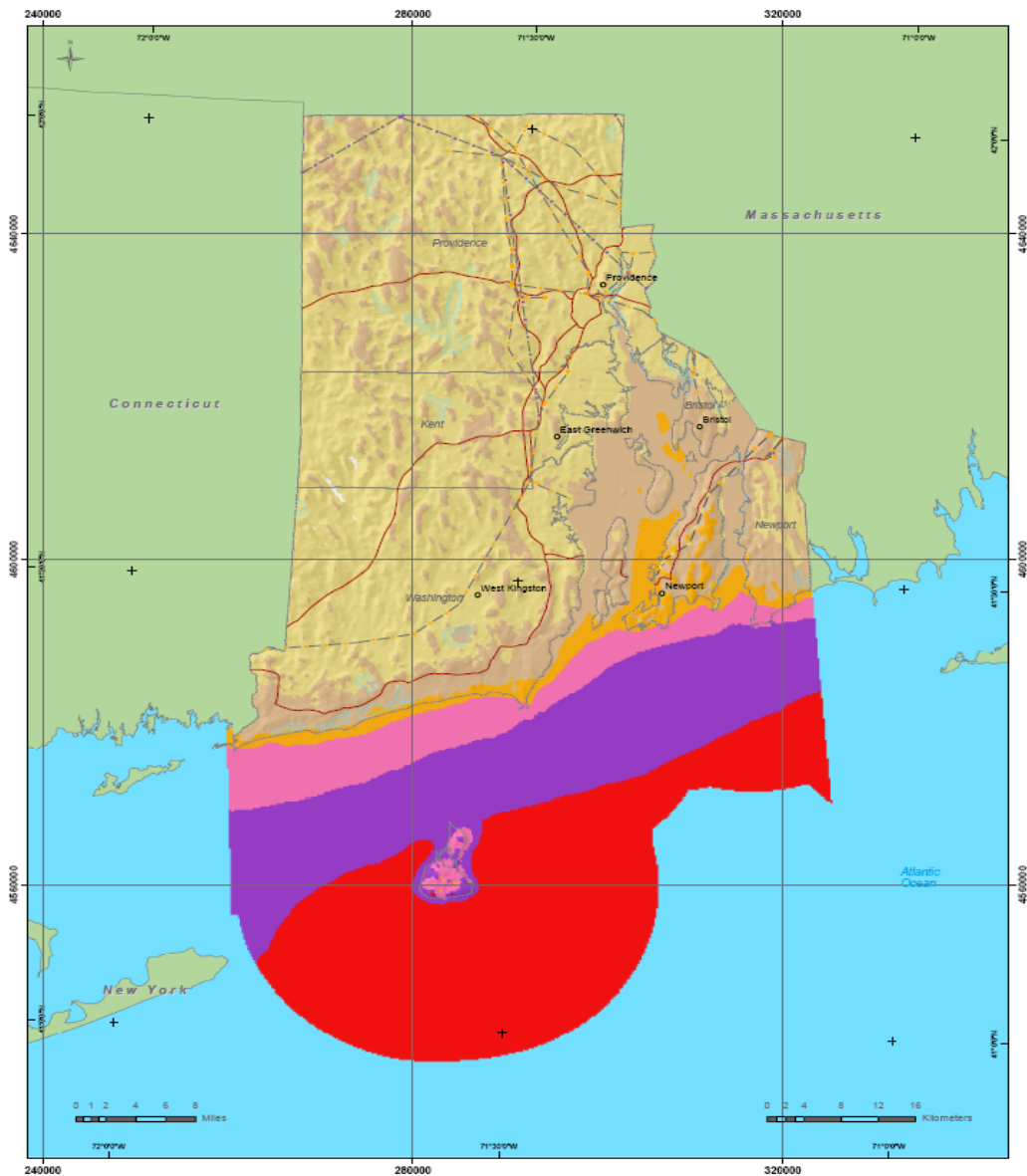
**Wind Resource of Rhode Island** Mean Annual Wind Speed at 70 Meters



Projection: Transverse Mercator,  
UTM Zone 18N WGS84  
Spatial Resolution of Wind Resource Data: 200m  
This map was created by AWS Truewind using the Mesomap system and historical weather data. Although it is believed to represent an accurate overall picture of the wind energy resource, estimates at any location should be confirmed by measurement.

The transmission line information was obtained by AWS Truewind from the Global Energy Decisions Velocity Suite. AWS does not warrant the accuracy of the transmission line information.

# 50 m power density

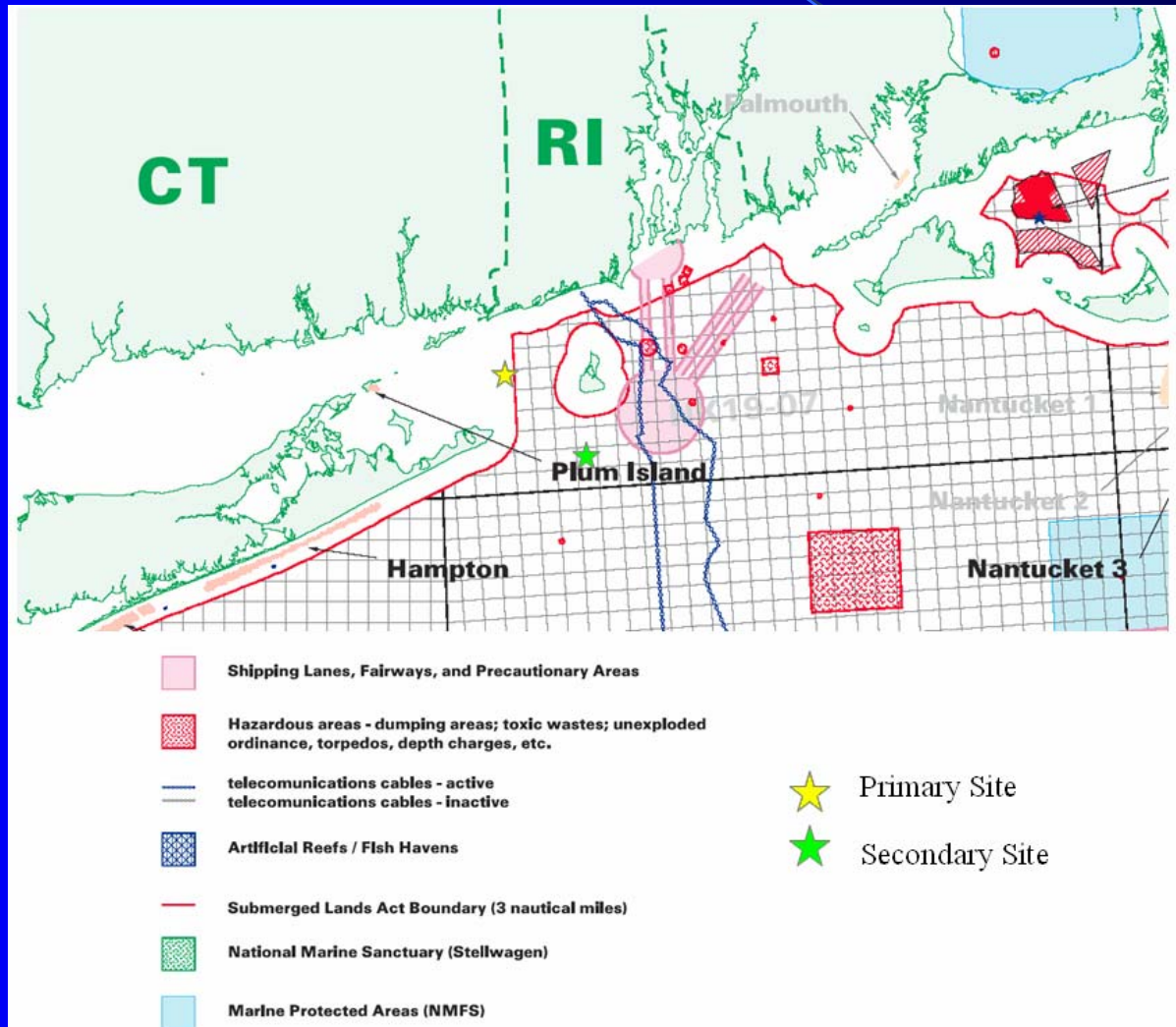


**Wind Resource of Rhode Island** Mean Annual Power Density at 50 Meters

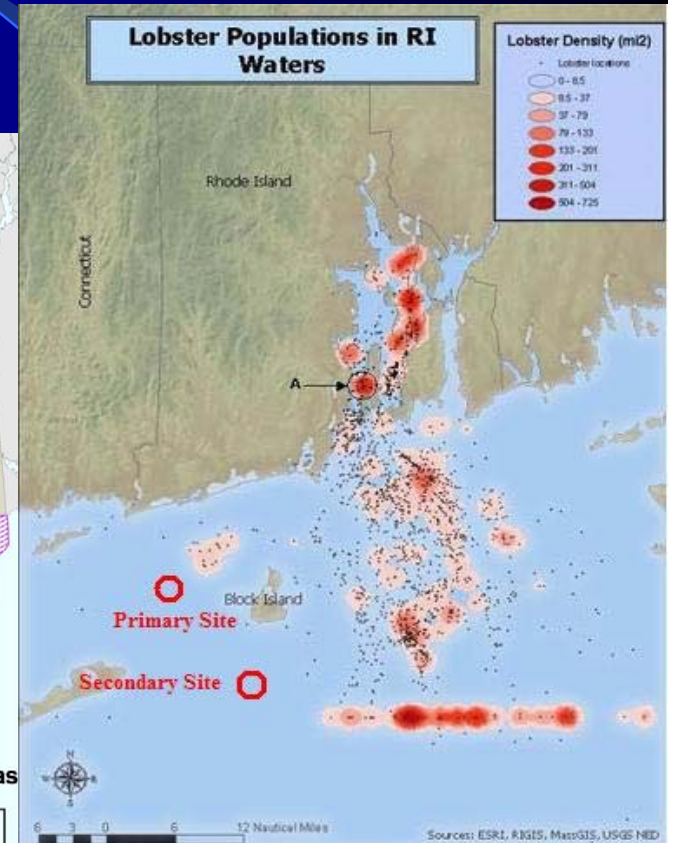
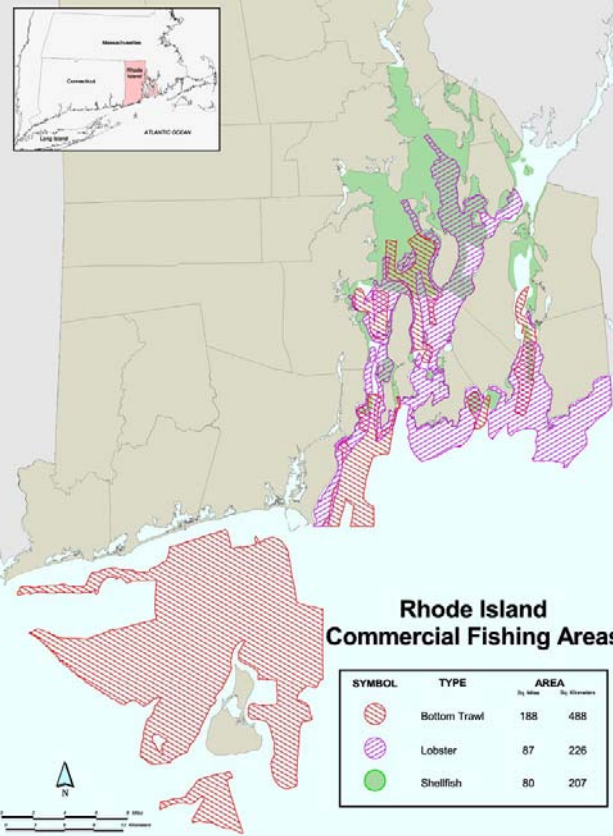
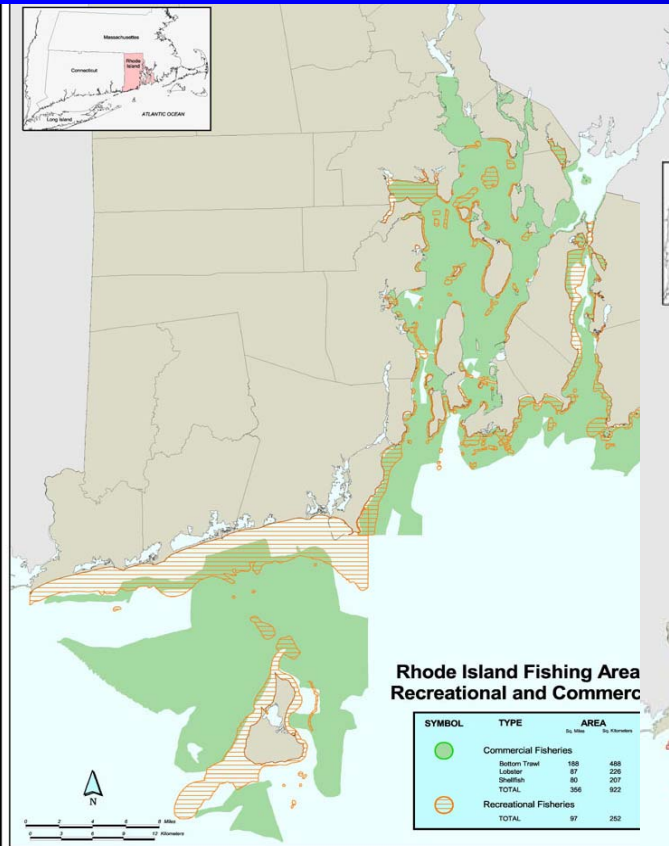
Generalized Transmission Line		Power Density at 50 m	
Category	Symbol	Class	W/m <sup>2</sup>
City	○	1	< 100
Interstate Highway	—	2	100 - 200
County Boundary	—	3	200 - 300
Water Body	—	4	300 - 400
Under 100 kV	—	5	400 - 500
100 kV-161 kV	—	6	500 - 600
230 kV-287 kV	—	7	> 600
345 kV	—		
800 kV	—		
735 kV+	—		
Step-Up	—		
D/D Line	—		

**AWS Truewind**  
 Projection: Transverse Mercator,  
 UTM Zone 18N WGS84  
 Spatial Resolution of Wind Resource Data: 200m  
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 AWS Truewind, LLC

# MMS Use Summary



# Major Fishing Areas (URI, EDC)



# Initial Concerns with Some Sites

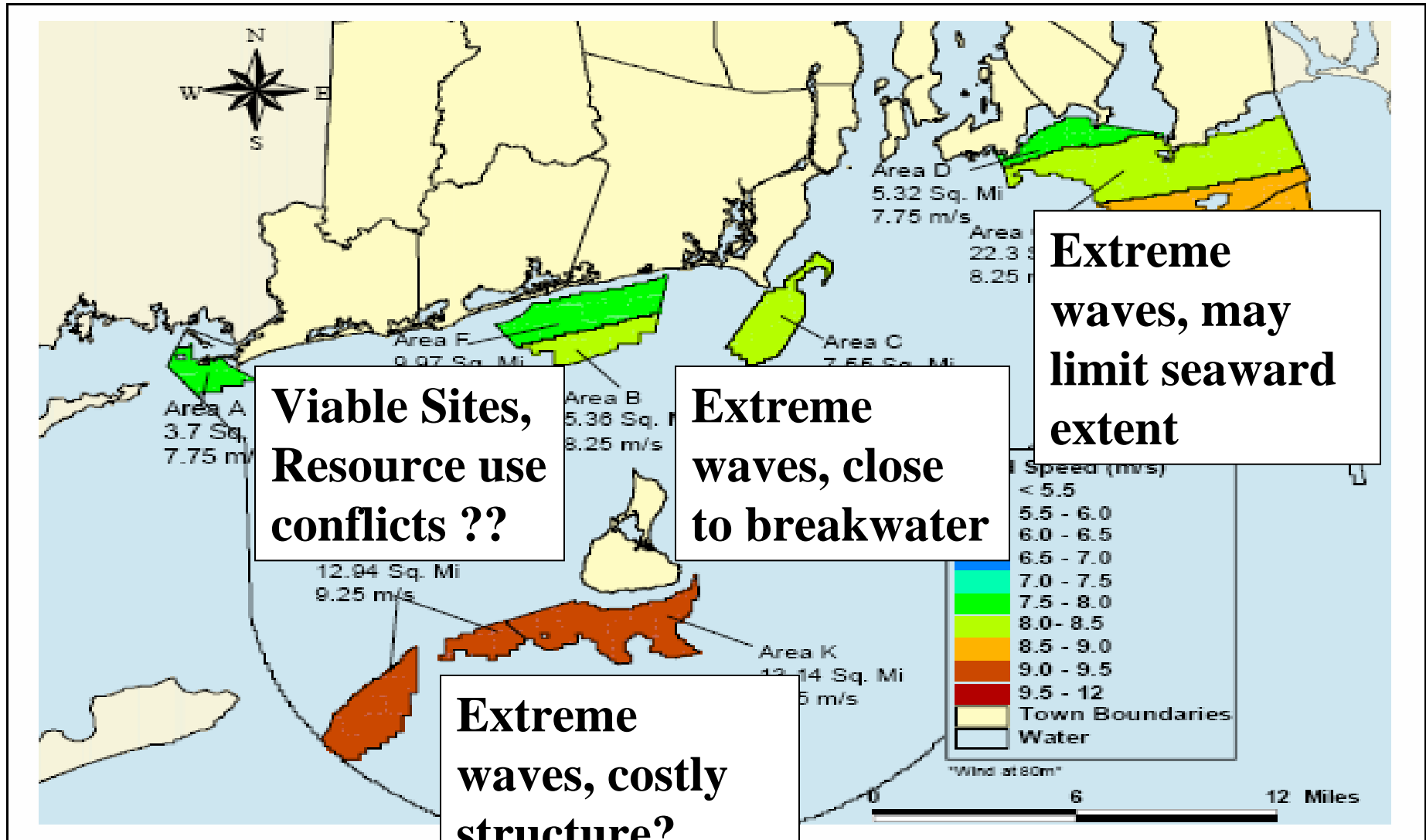
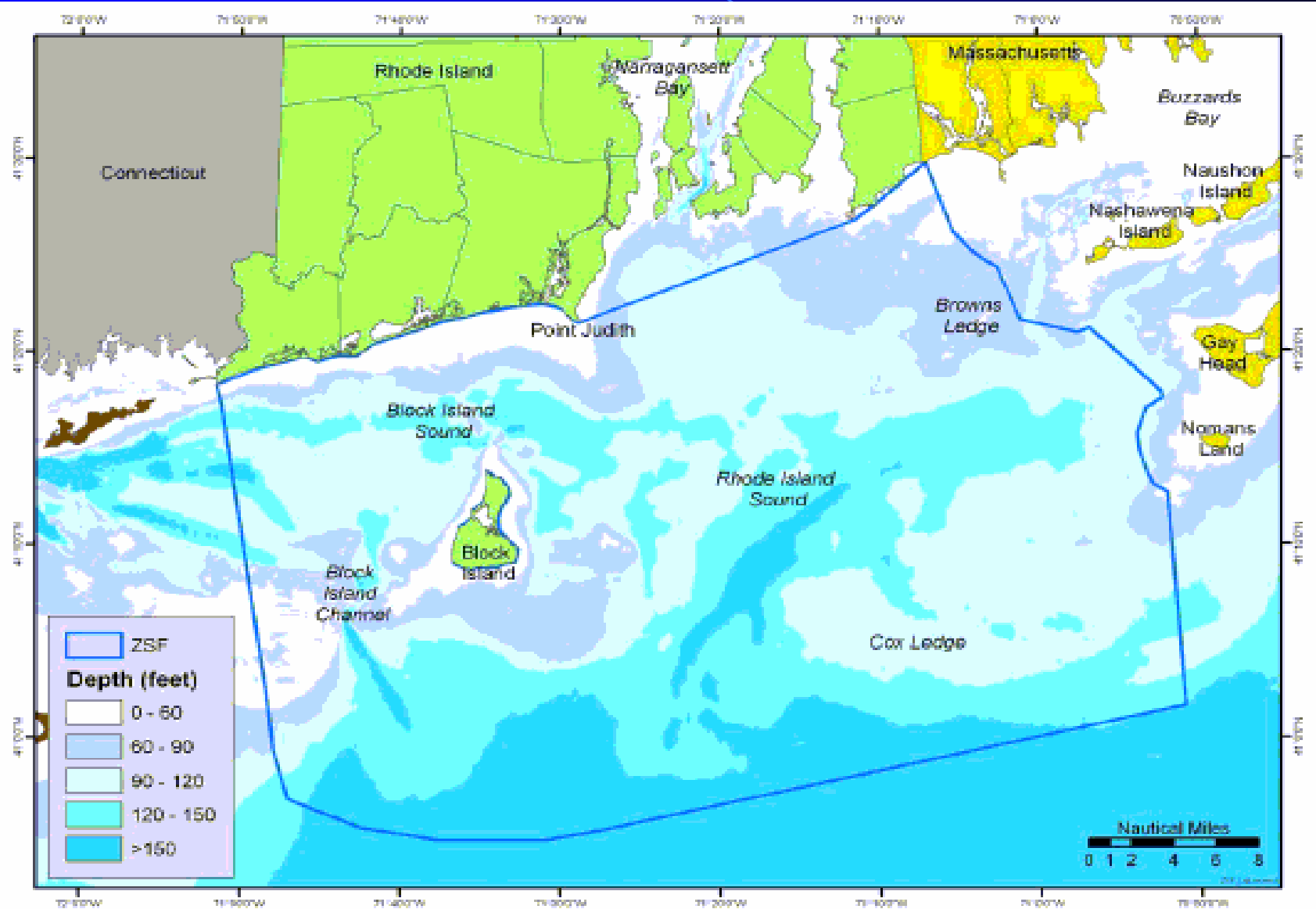


Figure 1 - RIWINDS Report Figure 3.20. map showing Post Level 2 Screening Areas Separated by Wind Speed and Final Area Designation

# Ocean SAMP Study Area





# Study Area Selection

- Include all state and contiguous federal waters
- Include sites for alternative tradeoff analysis required for permitting process
- Consistent with Army Corp Dredged Material Disposal Assessment

# Phased Study

- Phase I - Ocean SAMP and associated supporting studies
- Phase II- Detailed investigations (meteorological and oceanographic observations, high resolution bottom, sub-bottom, archeological, and fish habit mapping)

# Study Design

- Follow state (CRMC) and MMS regulatory framework for Offshore Alternative Energy Development and Production
- Maximize the use of existing data and access to local expertise (data)
- Minimize cost by contracting with state entity
- Perform supporting studies to fill data and information gaps, only as absolutely required
- Build on *Lessons Learned* from siting of offshore wind farms
- Collect sufficient data to allow Ocean SAMP to be developed and defended

# Study Schedule

- Final site selection study 8 months\*
- Selection of met. tower site 10 months
- Floating zone tool 12 months  
( Developers identified, EIS initiated)
- Kick-off of Phase II, Detailed Investigations  
(meteorological tower\*\*) (optional) 13 months
- Completion of Ocean SAMP 24 months

\* Time from project initiation

\*\* Meteorological observations typically required  
for 2 (3?) yrs

# Phase I - Ocean SAMP

- Development of Plan and Stakeholder Involvement

Legal analysis

Commercial and recreational fisheries  
(Biological oceanography)

Visualization

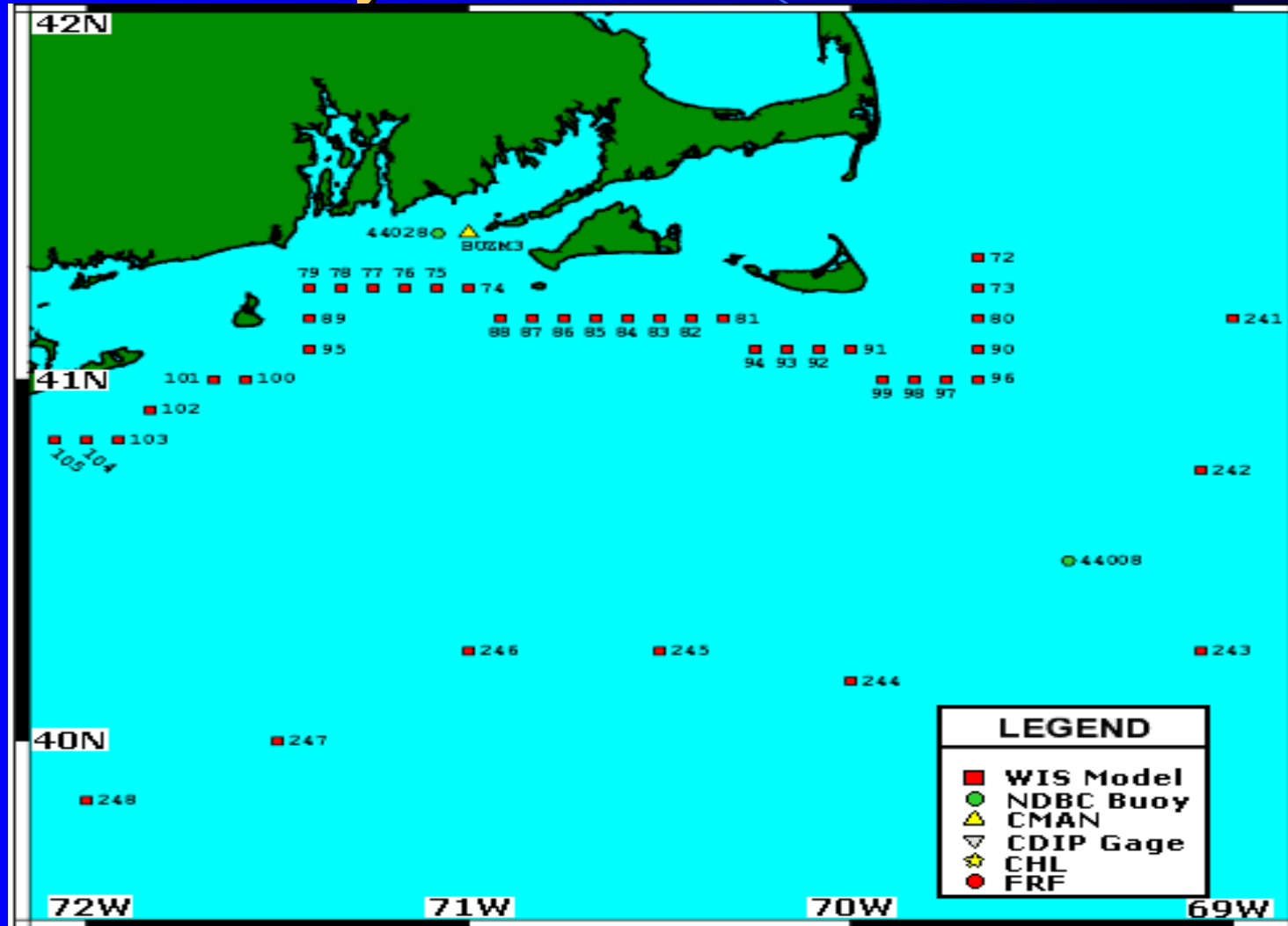
Technical and advisory council

Outreach and communications

# Major Supporting Studies PHASE I Ocean SAMP

- Refinement of Site Selection
  - Wind, wave, and surge analysis
  - Marine transportation (AIS)
- Wind Farm Technology Assessment
- Geology (surficial and sub-bottom), sea bed mapping
- Physical oceanography

# US Army Corp Wave Information Study Hindcast Locations





myiw

WIND & FORECASTS

FORUMS

CAMS

EVENTS

BUY / SELL

MEMBERSHIP

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Home : [CT](#) : [RI](#) : [xt](#) [Atl](#) [MA](#) : [RI- Rhode Island](#) : Wind Obs

**Real-Time Data**

- > [Dynamic Map](#)
- > [Wind Obs Map](#)
- > [Radar + Satellite Map](#)
- > [Wind Obs Summary](#)

**Computer Forecasts**

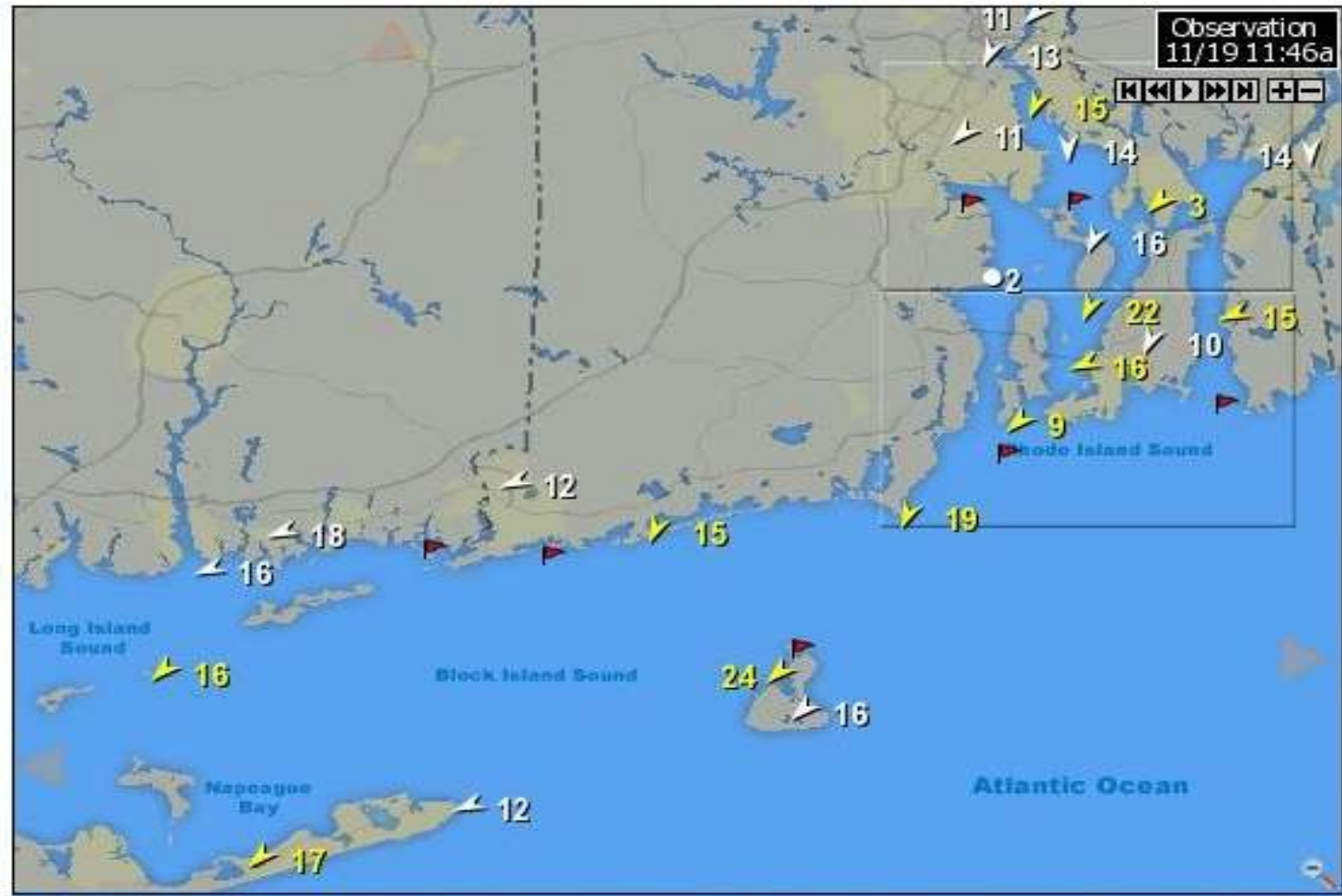
- > [Model Tables](#)
- > [Wind Vector Fx Map](#)

**More Maps**

- Other Resources
- Wind Graphs
- Meteograms

Switch Region

Map Time:



WeatherFlow Sensor   Non-WeatherFlow Sensor   WeatherFlow Forecast   Forecast Only Site



# Extreme Wave Heights and Periods ( 1/100yr)

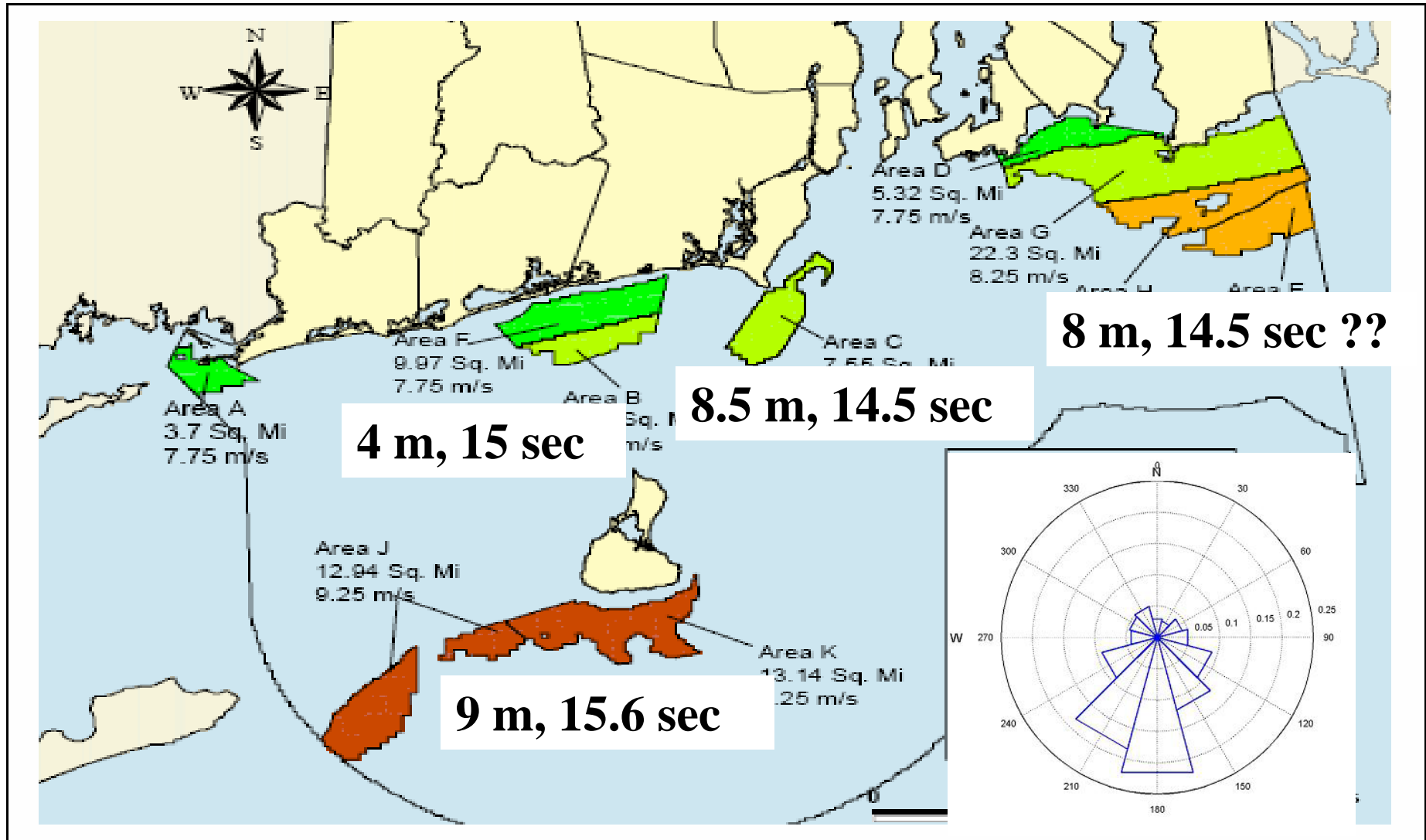
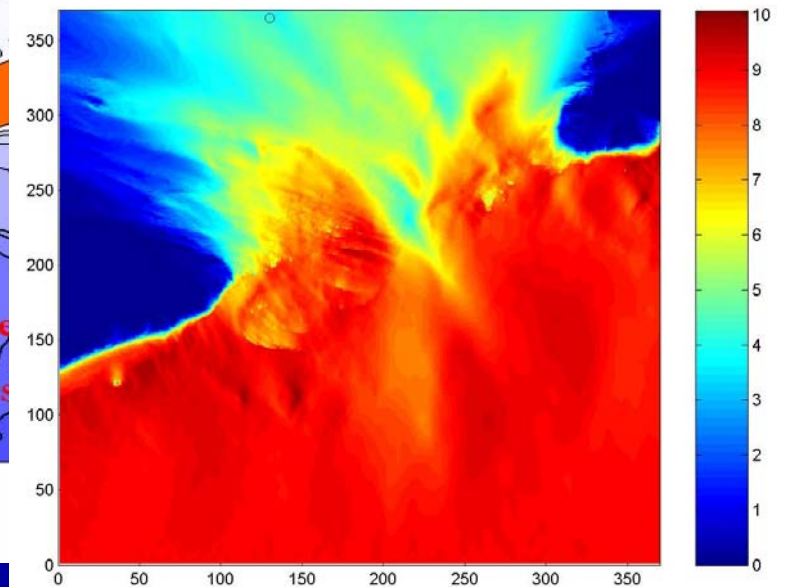
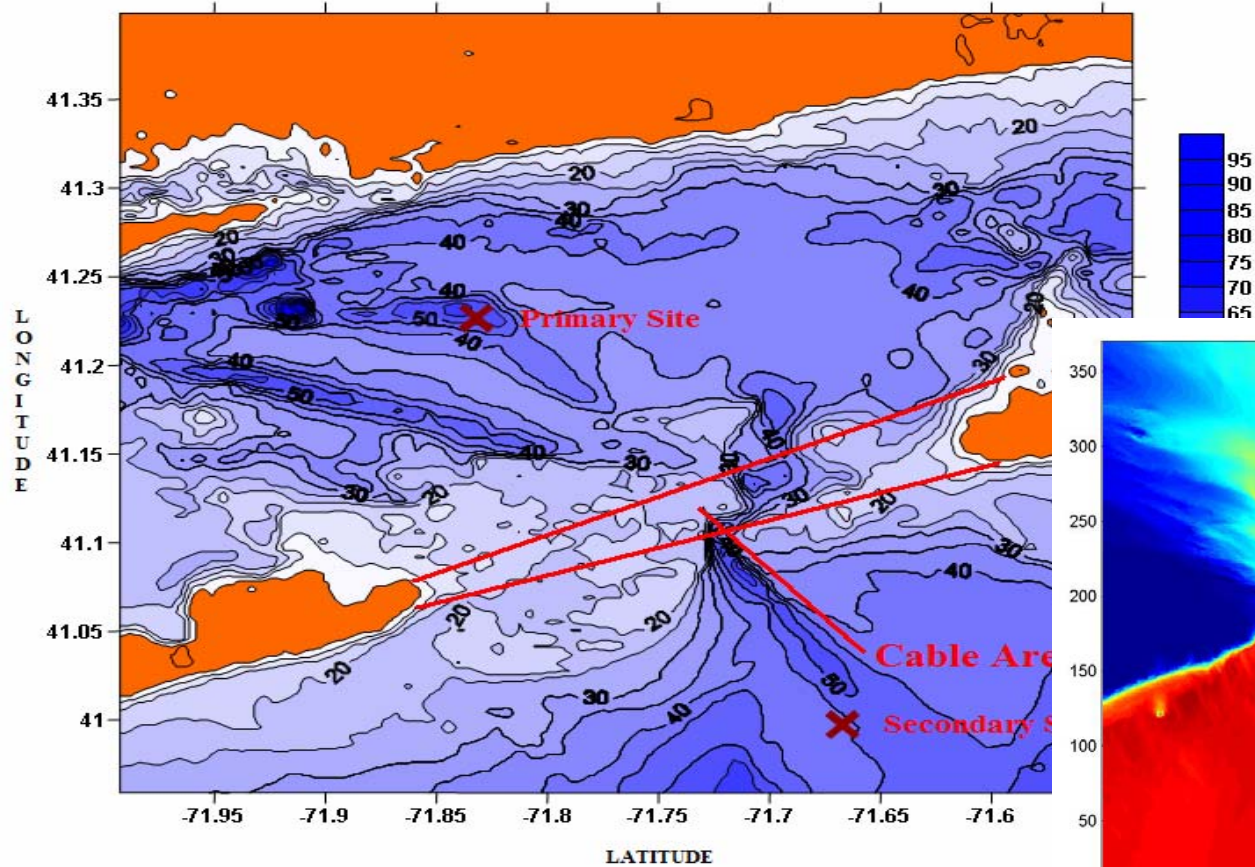
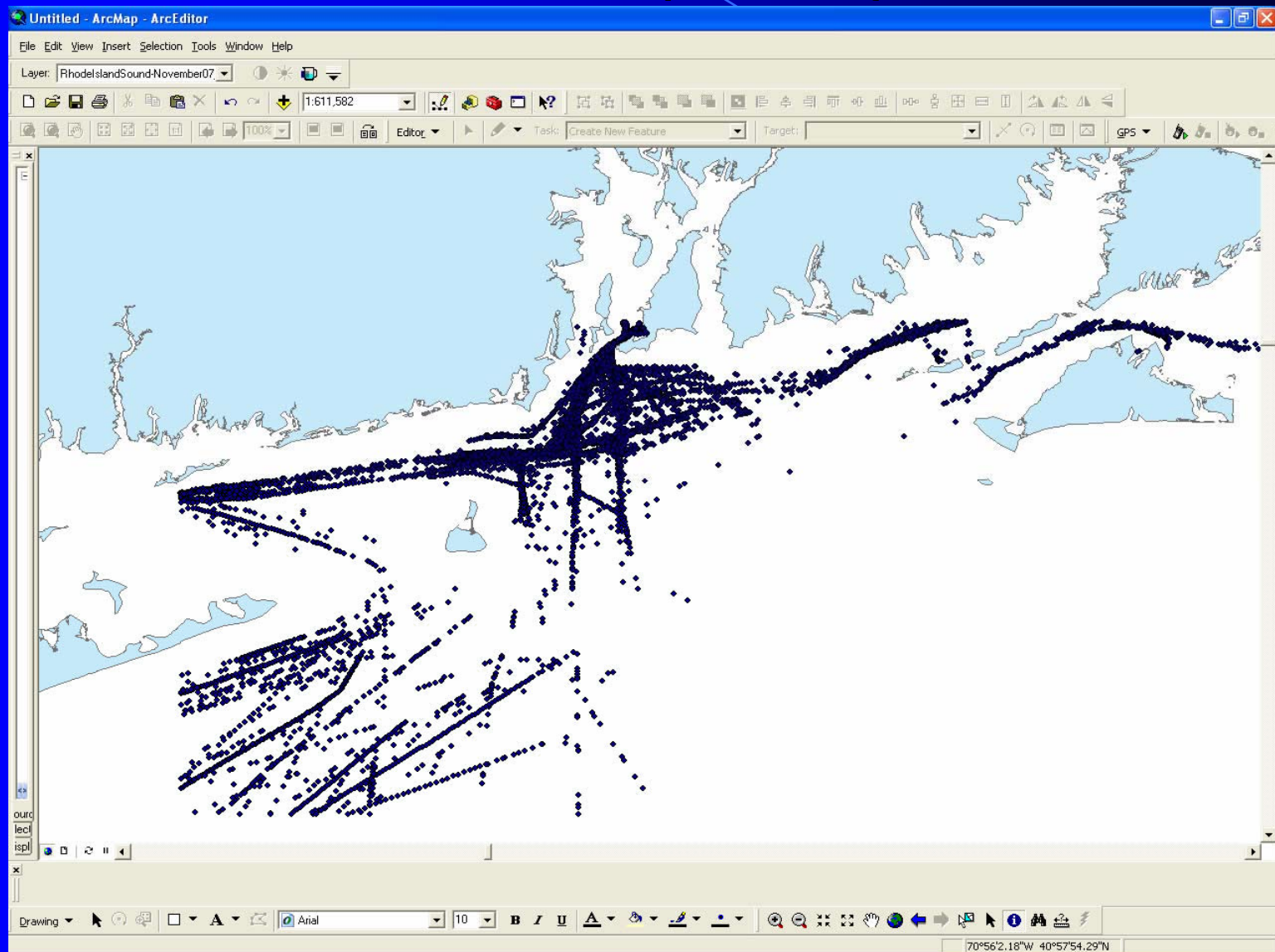


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# NOAA ENC Bathymetry - Wave Prediction (1/100yr)



# AIS Tracks Oct 31 to Nov 26, 2007 (ASA)



# Phase I - Ocean SAMP Supporting Studies

- Meteorology and air quality
- Noise and electromagnetic
- Sea and shore birds
- Marine mammals and turtles
- Cultural and archeological resources

# Phase II Detailed Investigations

- High resolution bottom and sub-bottom mapping
- Ocean observations: winds, currents, and waves



Cape Wind  
Meteorological  
Tower

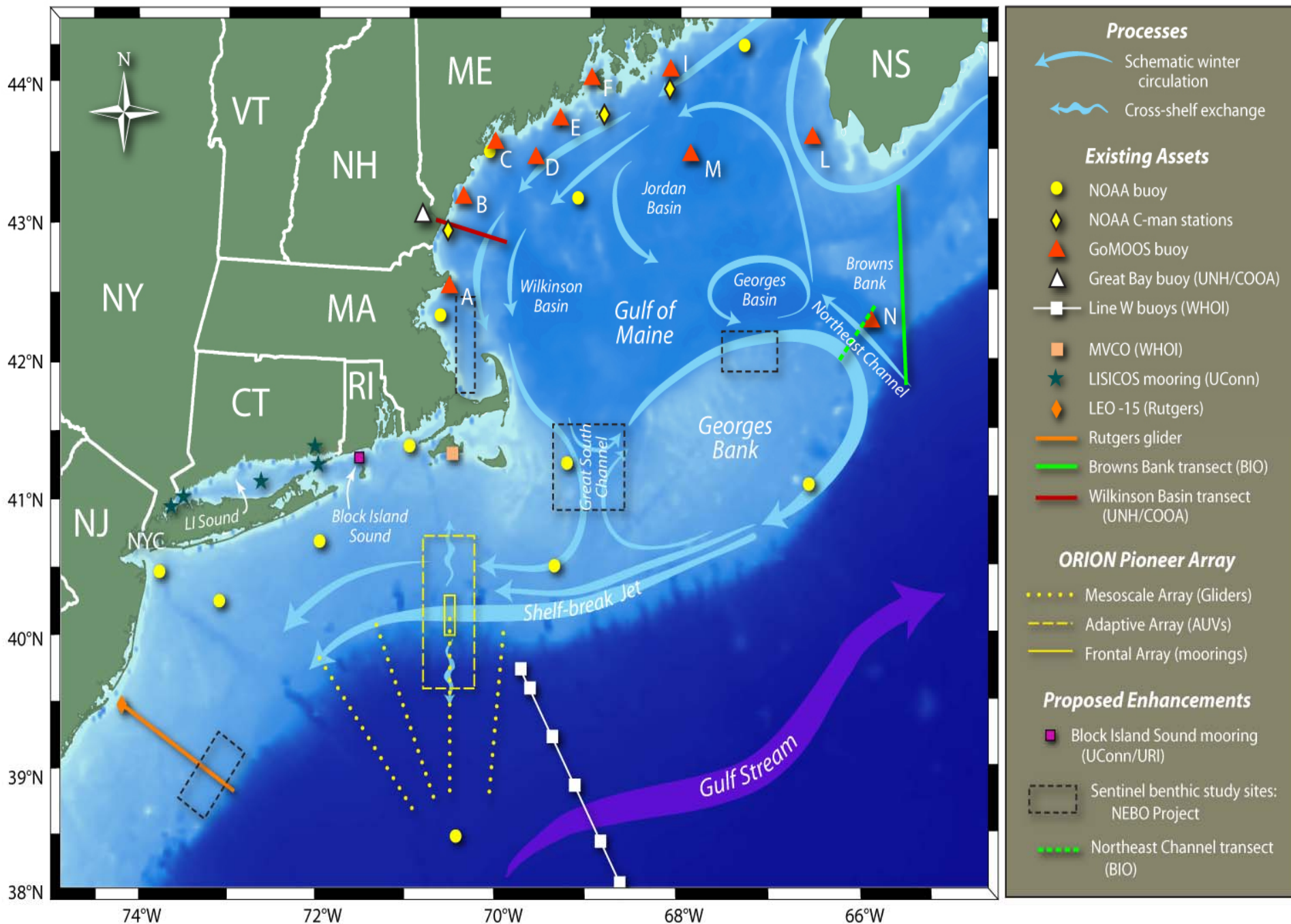
# Meteorological and Ocean Observation Tower

- Meet immediate need for wind farm siting
- Long term plan operated by URI as part of the federal initiative on Integrated Ocean Observing System (IOOS) (Regional Associations, Northeast and Mid Atlantic Bight)

Leverage re-location of GoMOOS buoy

(Coordination with NOAA Surveying Vessel)

# Northeastern Regional Coastal Ocean Observing System



# GoMOOS Buoy Relocated to RI

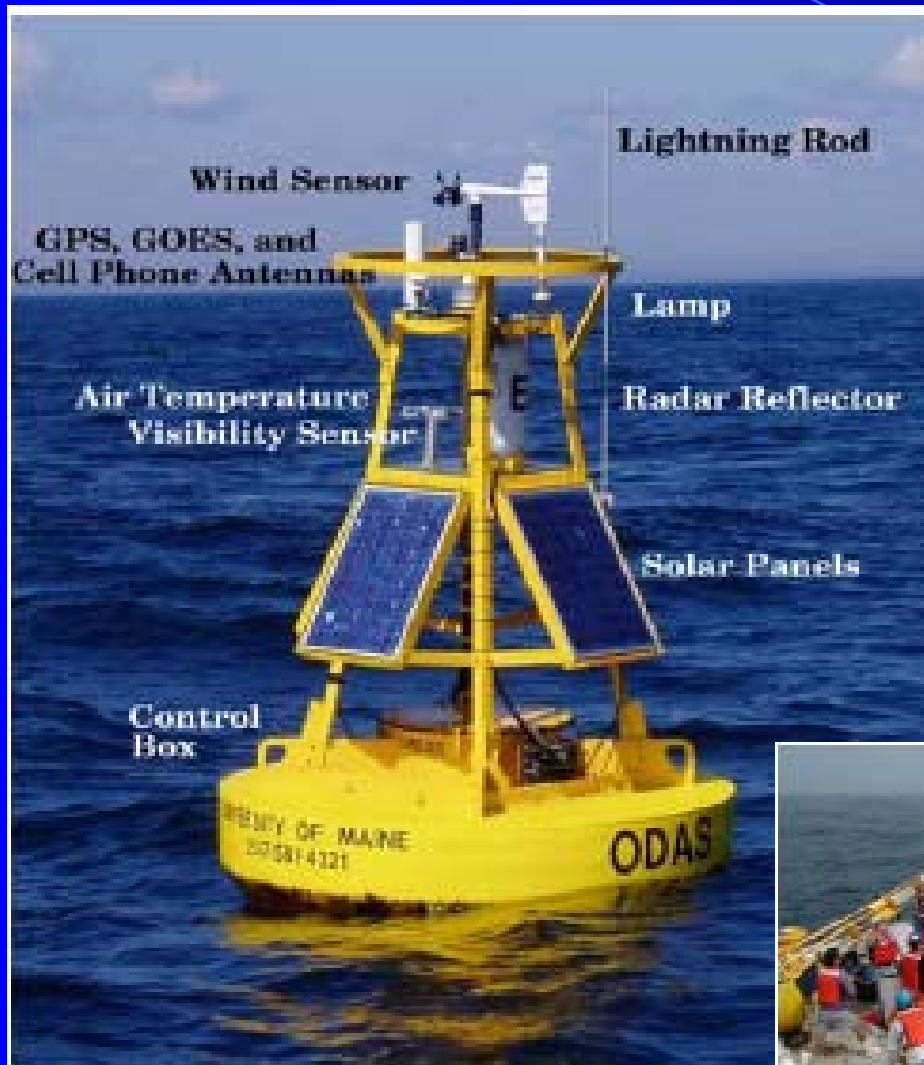
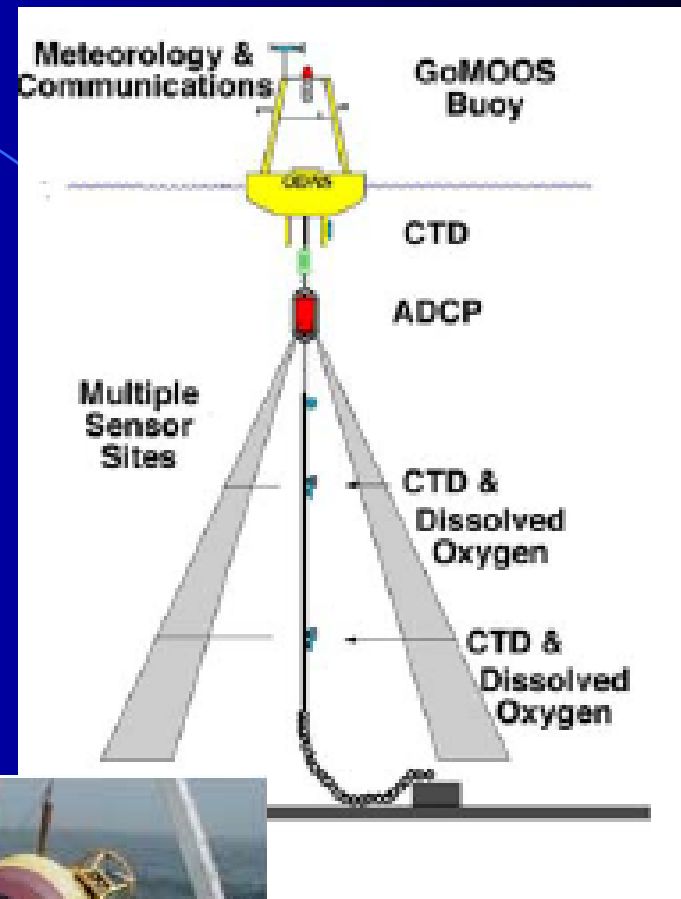
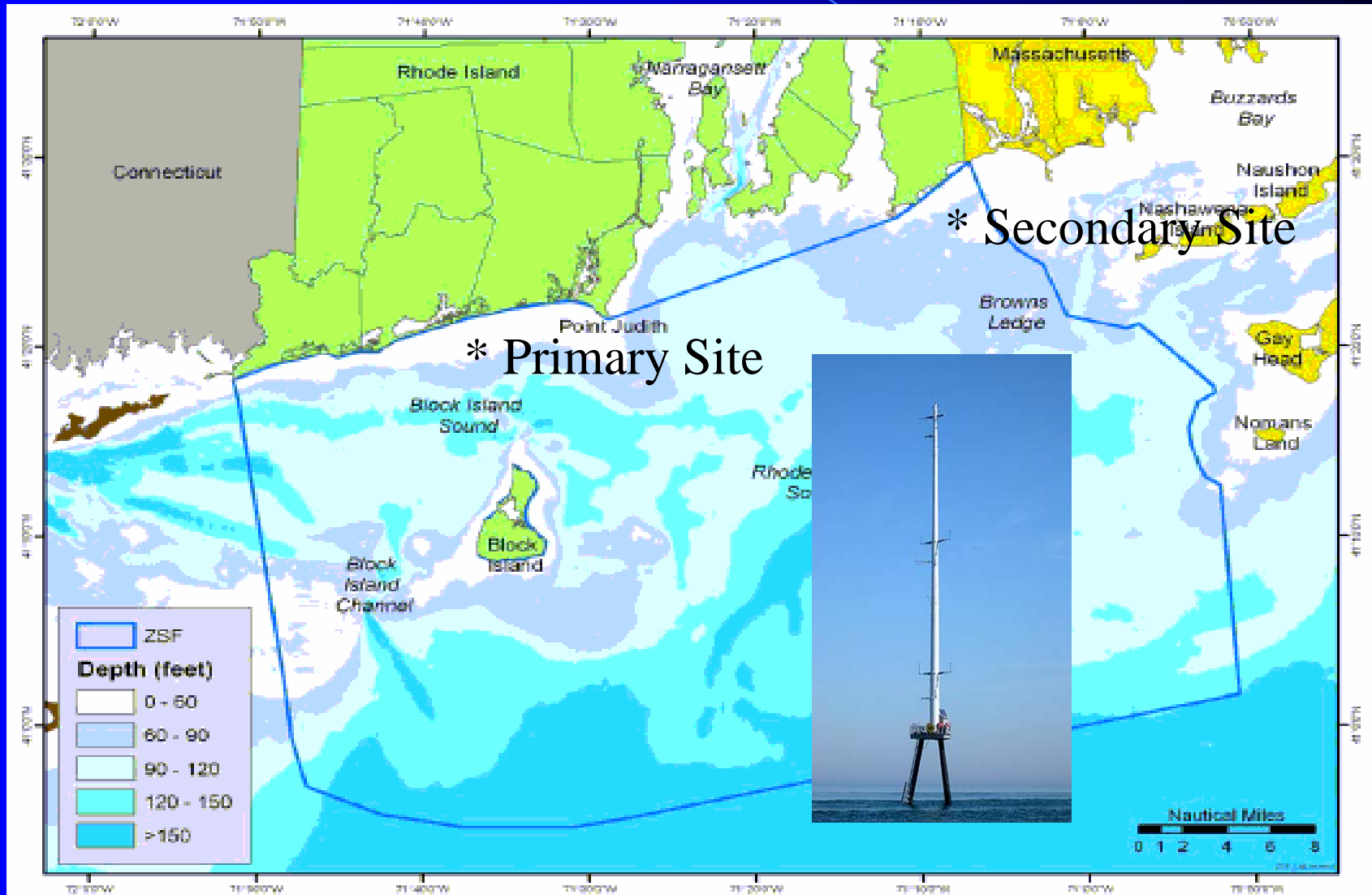


Figure 1. A GoMOOS buoy





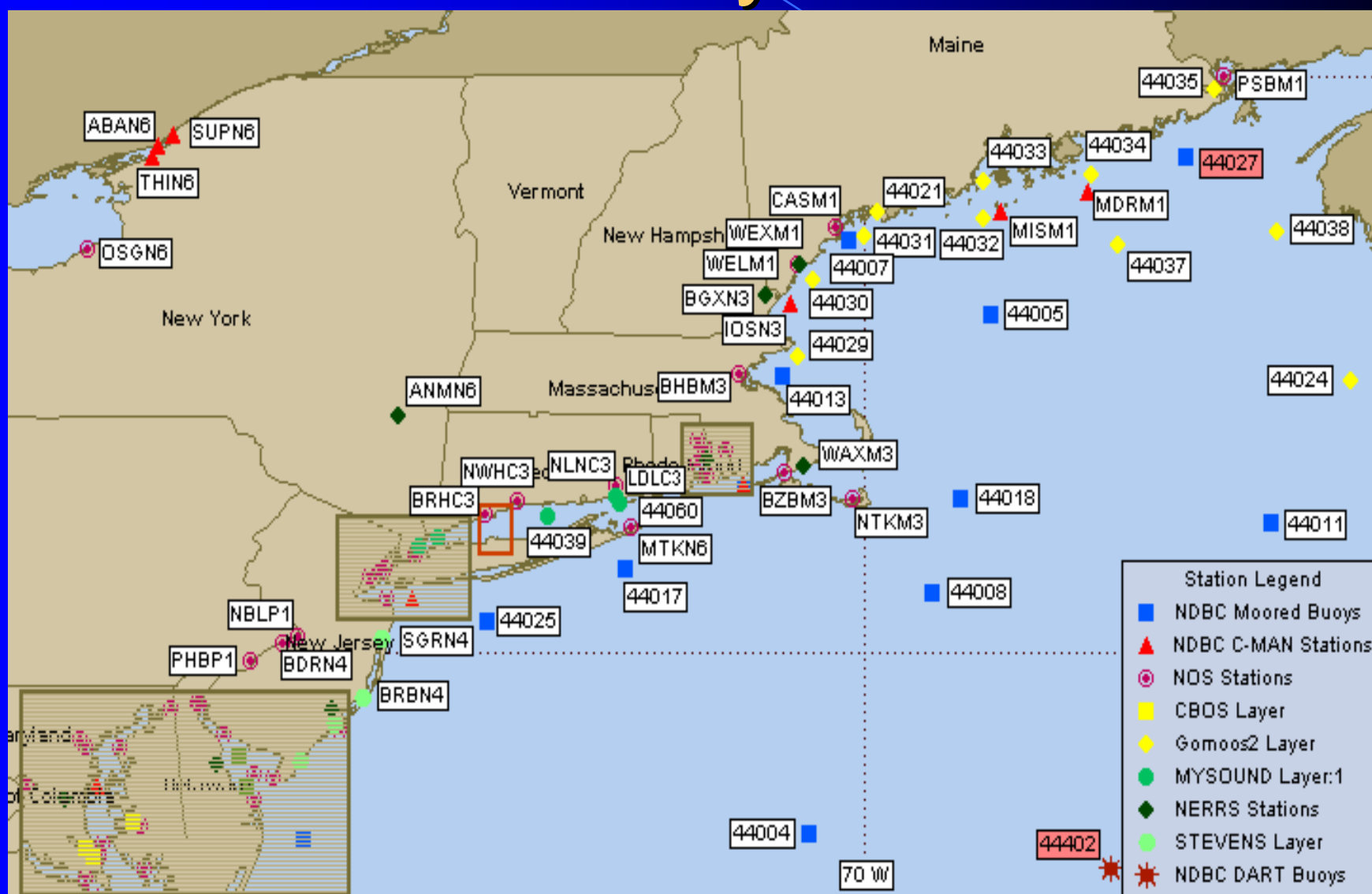
# Ocean and Meteorological Observation Tower (Tentative site)



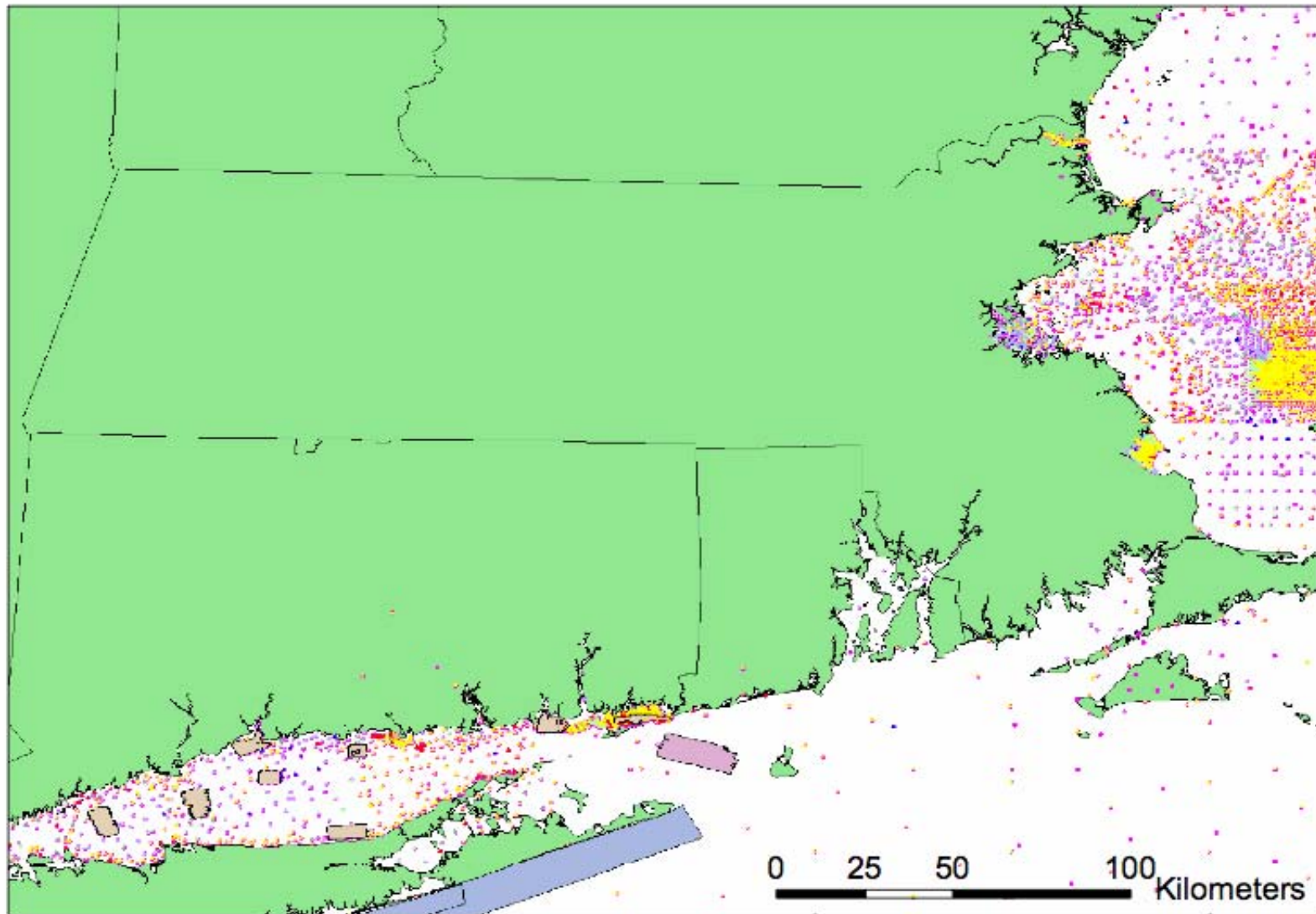
# Availability of Supporting Environmental Data

- Winds – none in RI coastal waters
- Waves and currents – none in RI coastal waters
- Geological parameters – limited, sampling too coarse
- Birds - only coastal observations ( Sachuest and Napatree Points), none offshore
- Marine Mammals – limited data, needs to be synthesized
- Marine Archeological Sites – few observations

# NOAA Offshore Observation Buoys



## USGS Sediment Sample and sidescan survey locations

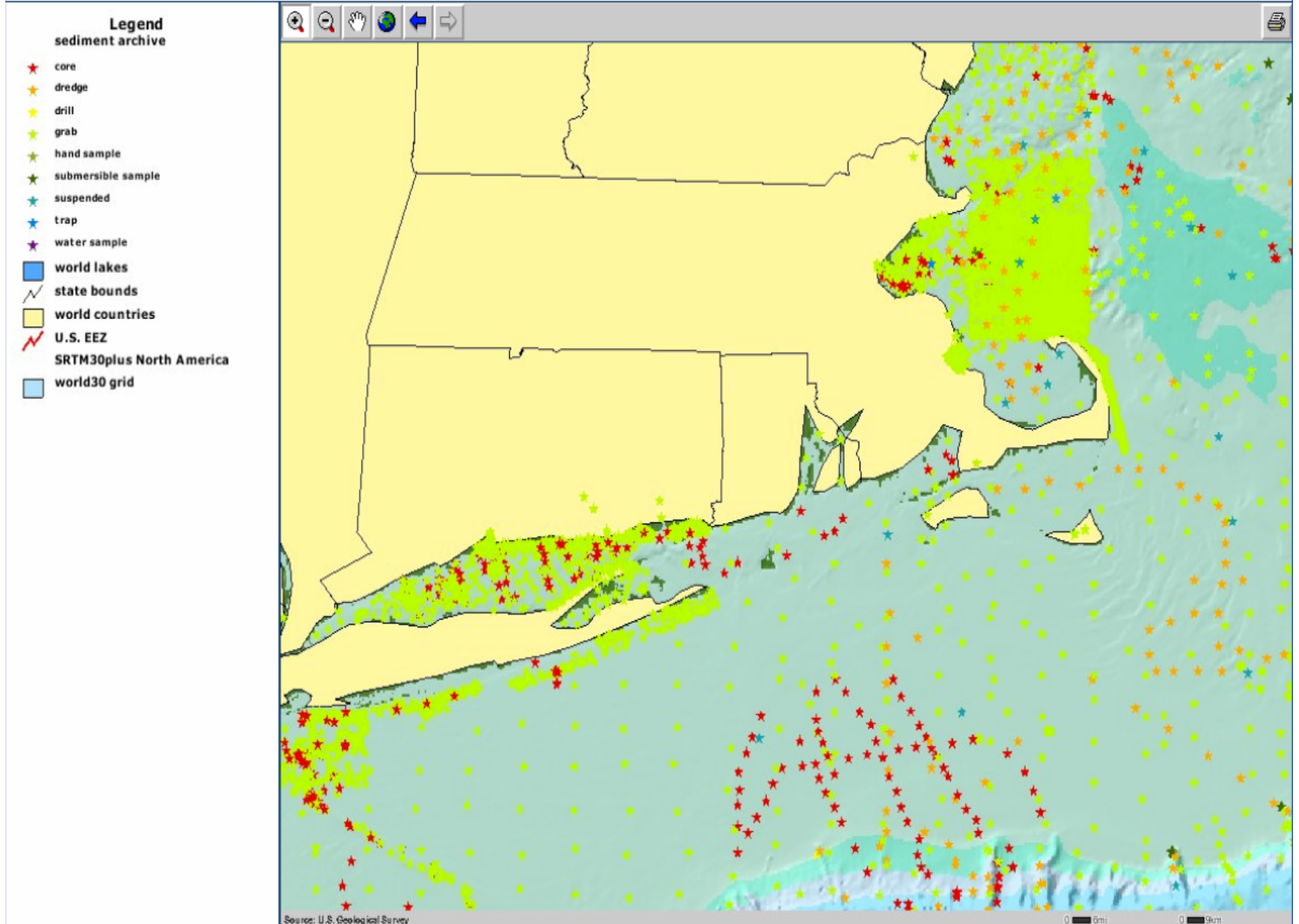


# USGS Sub-bottom survey locations



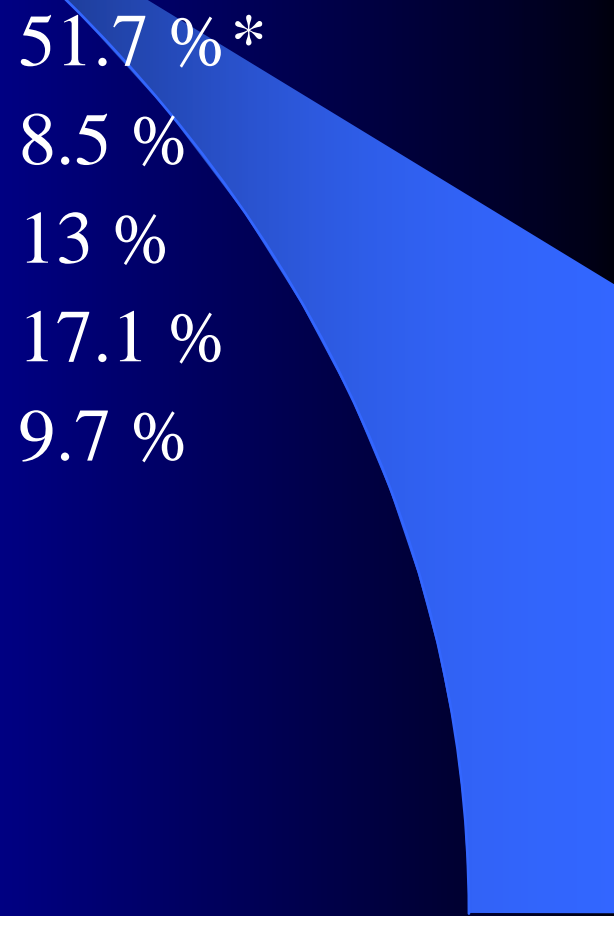


# Woods Hole Science Center Core and Sample Locations



# Cost Summary - Phase I

## Phase I Major Study Elements



● Phase I Ocean SAMP	51.7 %*
● Refinement of Siting Study	8.5 %
● Sea Bed Mapping	13 %
● Birds	17.1 %
● Other Supporting Studies	9.7 %

TOTAL COST -\$4 M

\* Percent of total cost



# Cost Summary - Phase II

## Phase II Detailed Site Investigations

- Meteorological and oceanographic observations (Met tower) 77 %
- Sea bed mapping 23 %

TOTAL COST - \$2.6 M

# Sources of Renewable Ocean Energy in Rhode Island

Malcolm L. Spaulding  
Professor, Ocean Engineering  
Director, Center of Excellence in  
Undersea Technology  
University of Rhode Island  
Narragansett, RI 02882

Briefing to:  
Coastal Resources Management Council  
March 11, 2008

# Sources of Offshore Renewable Energy

- Ocean Thermal Energy Conversion(OTEC)
- Offshore winds
- Waves
- Ocean currents
  - In stream and head (impoundment) based tidal
  - Mean current (e.g. Gulf Stream, river flow)

# Key Issues with Renewables

- Low energy density, many power units distributed over large areas,
- Intermittent power production (1/3 time for wind and waves)
- Connection grid
- Resource use conflicts
- Environmental impacts

# ATM (2007) Offshore Wind Sites

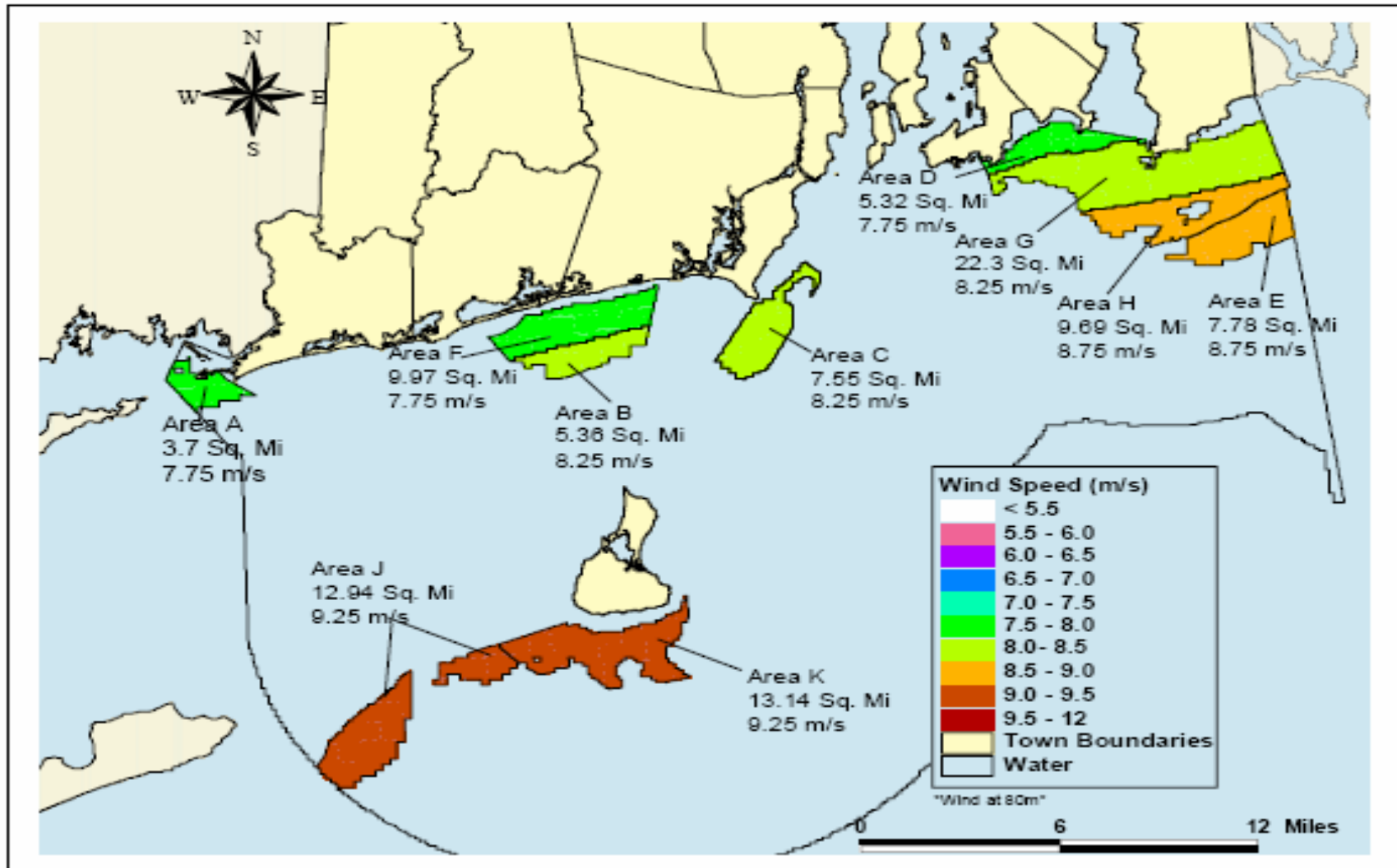


Figure 1 - RIWINDS Report Figure 3.20: Map Showing Post Level 2 Screening Areas Separated by Wind Speed and Final Area Designation

# Summary RI Power Production Potential

- Offshore Energy Production Potential (MW)

OTEC	none
In stream tidal currents	0.01
Waves	
10 to 100 unit farm(s)	0.408-40.8
Winds (all sites)	685
Selected short listed sites	150 - 220
● Renewable Energy Goal	150

# Cost Summary

Cost of power production per MWhr

Winds	\$96 to 137
Waves*	\$630

\* Only power generator capital costs; estimated 2.5 times if all project capitals costs



**OFFSHORE WINDS!**





# In Depth Presentation

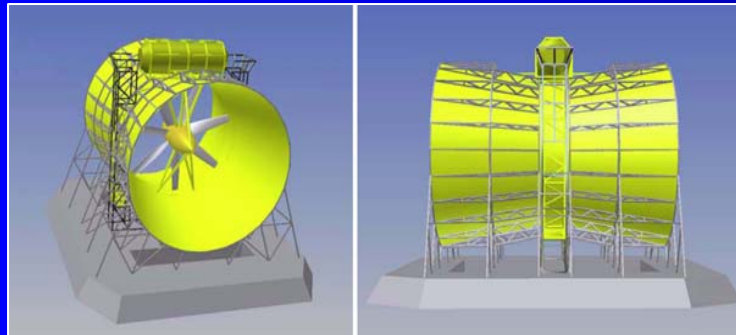
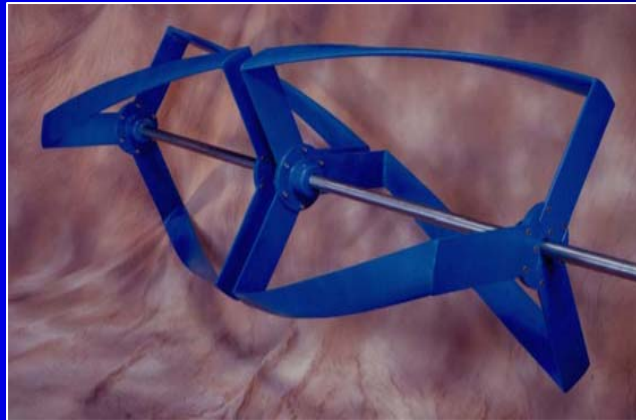
# Ocean Thermal Energy Conversion (OTEC)

# Ocean Thermal Energy Conversion

- Requires deep water, source of cold (deep) water and warm surface water
- No deep water sites exist in RI or southern New England shelf

**NO POTENTIAL FOR RI**

# OCEAN CURRENTS



# Ocean Currents

- No strong mean currents in RI or adjacent waters
- Tidal range in RI waters is modest (1 m) so no possibility for impoundments
- In stream tidal currents typically require current speeds greater than 1.5 to 2 m/sec (3 to 4 kt) to generate power (Turbine cut in speeds – 0.5 m/sec or 1kt)

# In Stream Tidal Currents

- Two potential sites: Sakonnet River Bridge and Warren River (Rte 114 Bridge)
- Sakonnet River not viable, peak current about 1.3 m/sec, no significant power generation potential
- Warren River site limited local potential

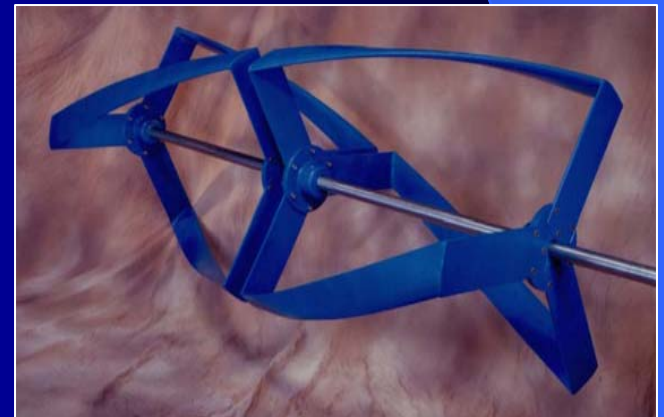
Maximum currents 2.5 m/sec (5 kt)

One turbine ( 1 m diameter, 2.5 m long)

1 kW or 8.7 MWh

Full build out 10 turbines

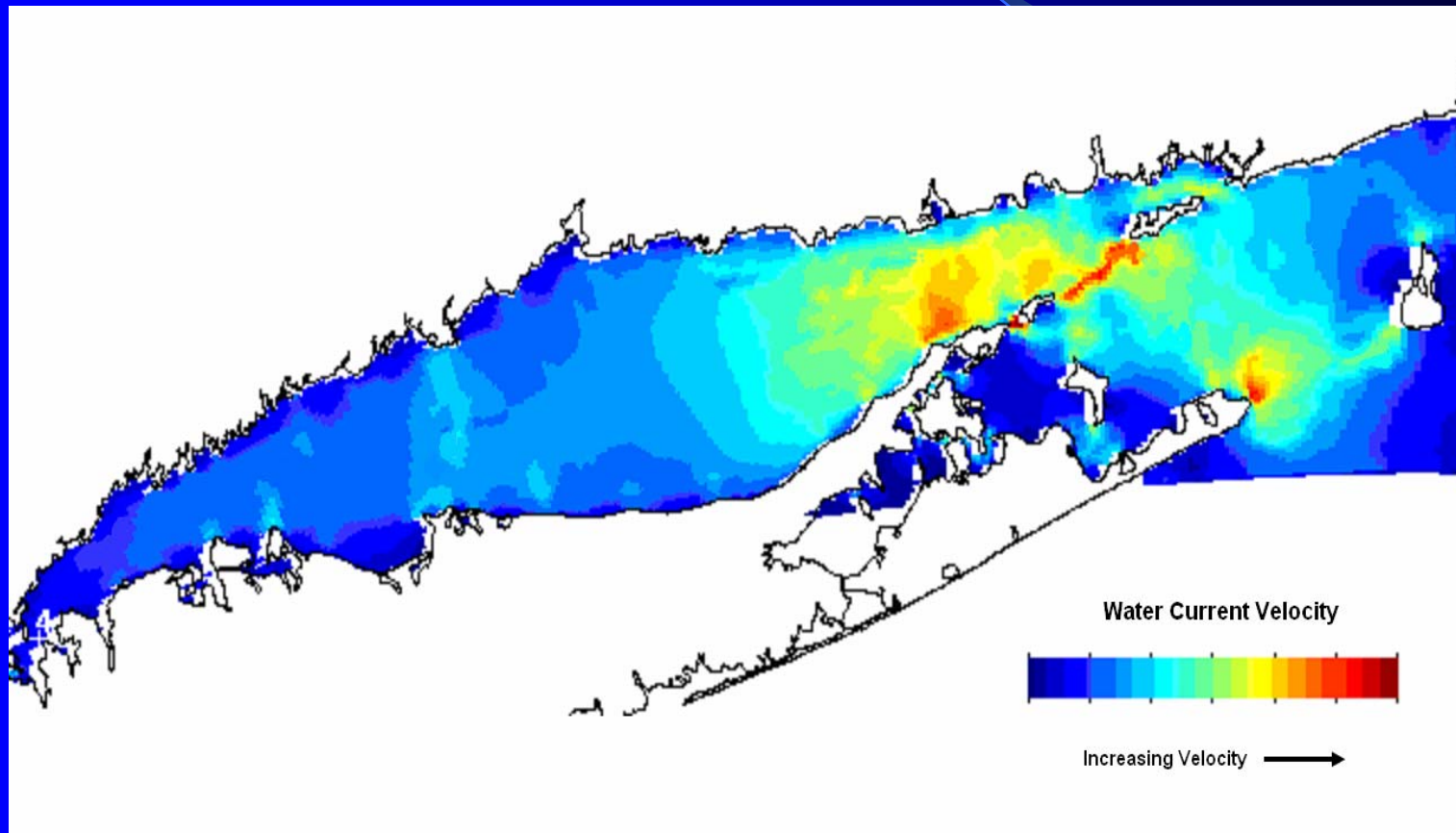
10 kW or 87 MWh



# Warren River Bridge Site

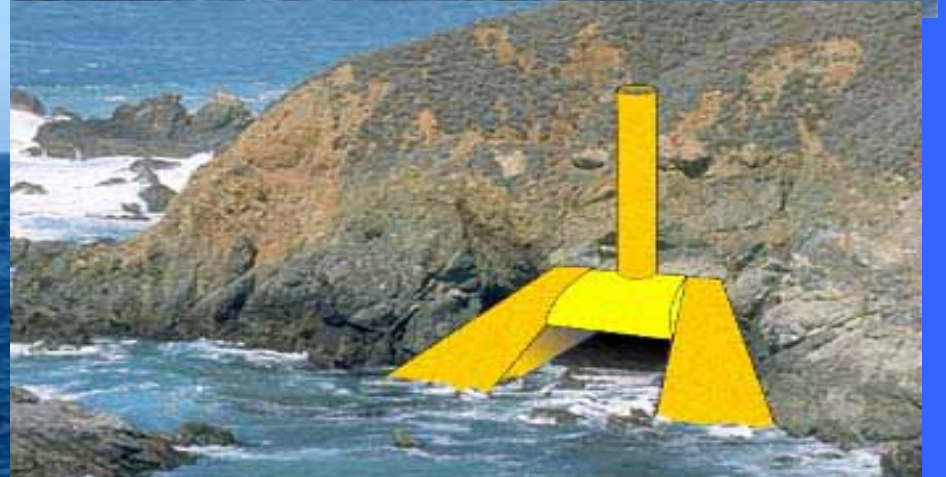
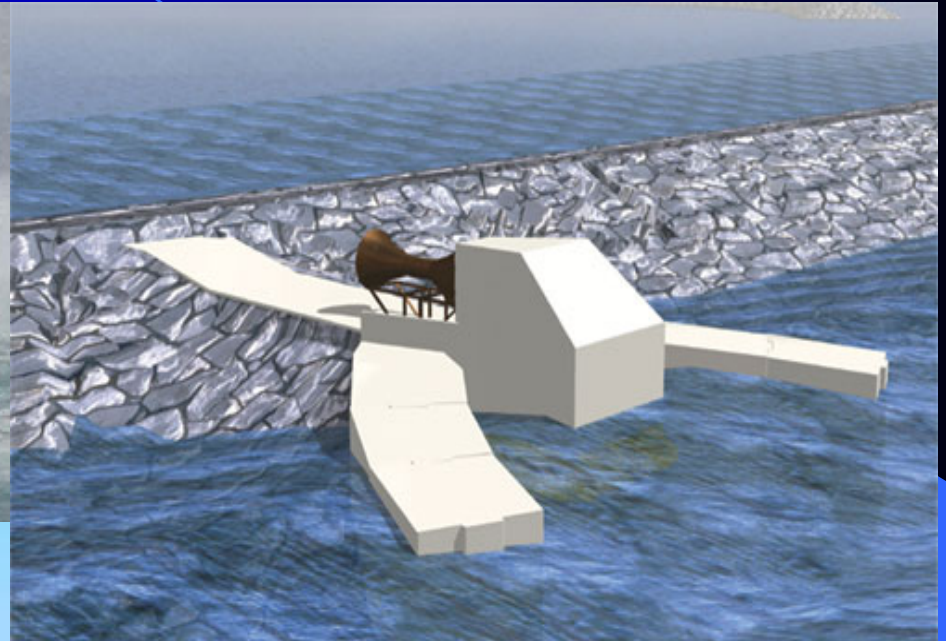


# Nearby Sites for In-Stream Tidal Current Power



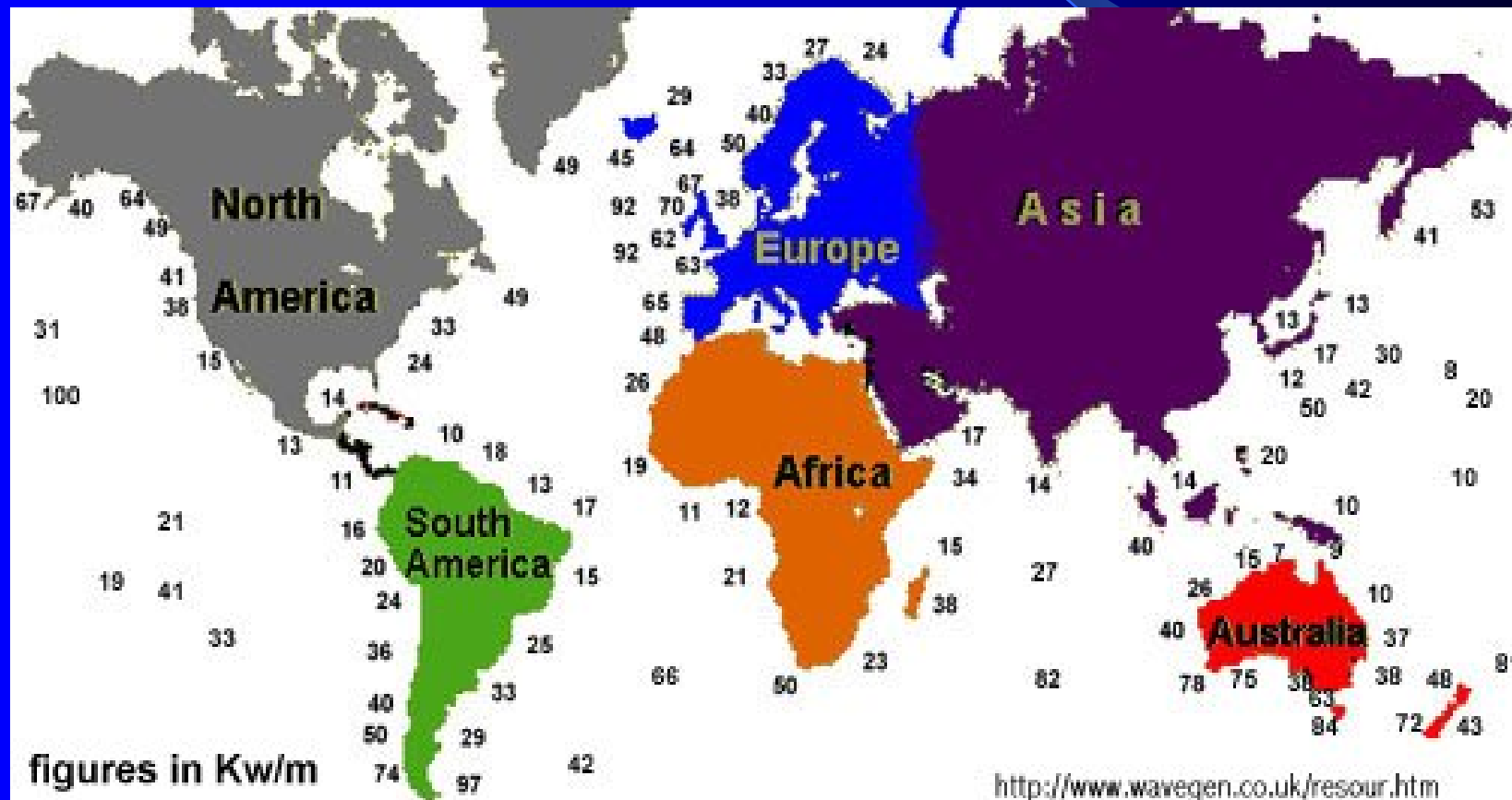


# WAVE ENERGY



# Worldwide wave energy

<http://www.poemsinc.org/FAQwave.html>

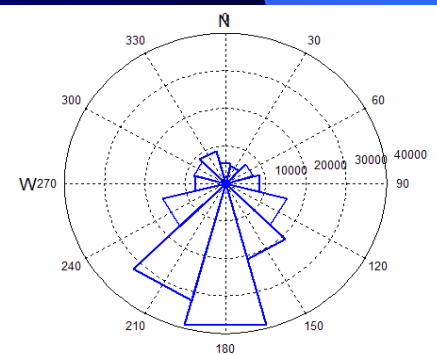


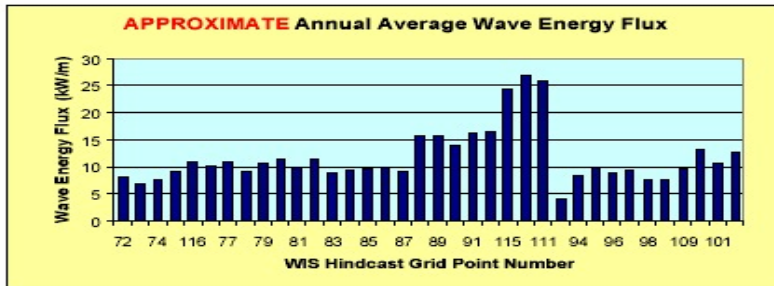
# RI Wave Energy Setting

- Low wave energy density, short fetch distances, and wind blows primarily from west
- Largest (most) waves from south and southwest
- Rhode and Block Island Sound waves

Mean Wave period – 4.5 sec

Mean amplitude – 1.04 m





**Annual Average Wave Energy Flux**

Offshore exposed = 25 kW/ m

Nearshore exposed = 15 kW/m

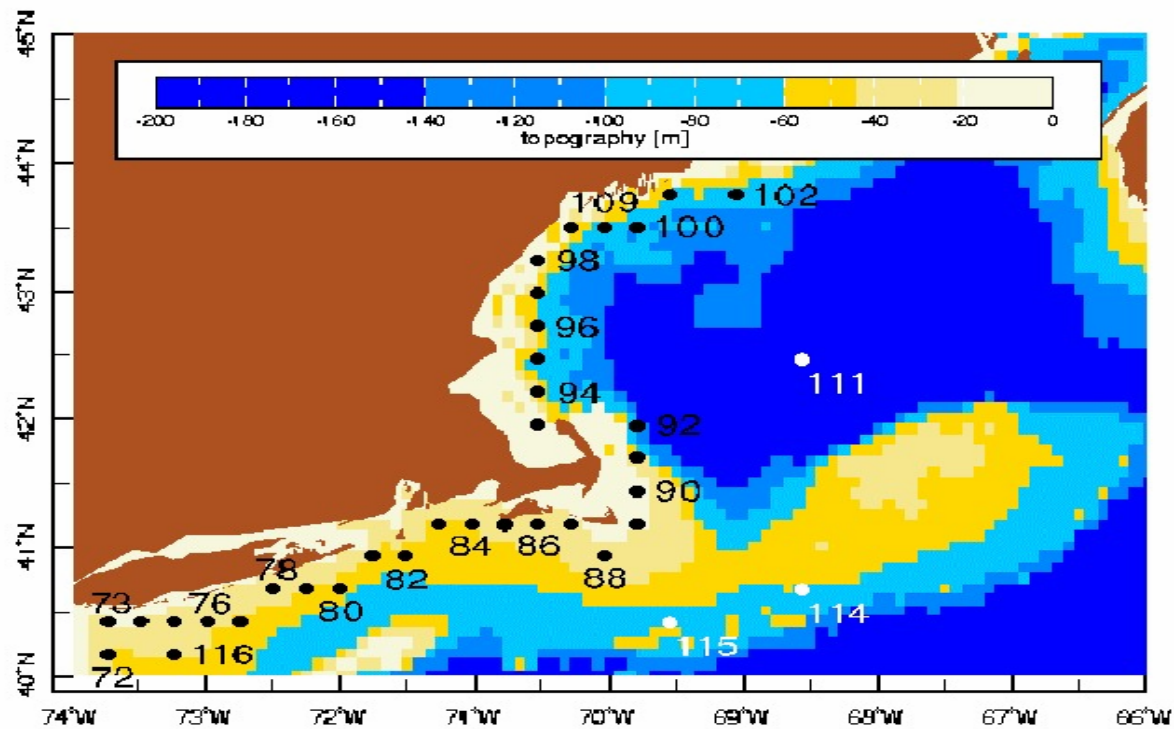
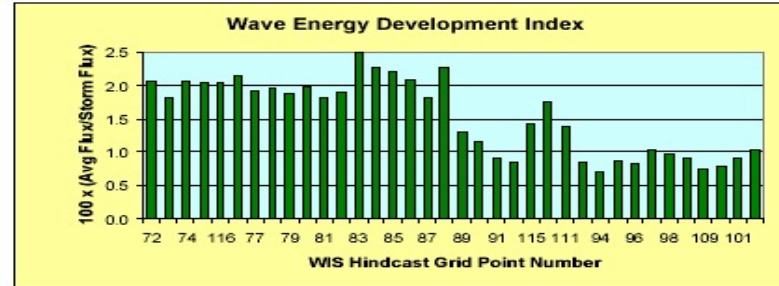
Nearshore sheltered by Nova Scotia or by Cape Cod and the Nantucket Shoals ~ 10 kW/m

**Nearshore Wave Energy Development Index**

Newport, RI to due south of Nantucket Island = 1.8 to 2.5

West of Newport, RI ~ 2

North of Nantucket Shoals = 1



**Figure 5.** Geographic distribution of mean incident wave energy flux and wave energy development index off southern New England.

# RI Coastal Wave Energy Estimate

- Estimate of power production potential
  - 5.7 kW/m Annual avg wave power per m of wave front off Block Island
  - 3.4 kW/m Annual avg wave power for waves greater than 5 sec, 0.5 m height from southern sector( max wave exposure) ( produce power)

# Wave Power Estimate RI

1.36 kW/m Annual avg wave power  
after adjustment for  
operational efficiency (40%)

40.8 kW for typical unit ( 30 m ;100  
ft) wide

357 MWhr per year per unit

(52 households) (\*6909 kWhr per  
household)

**OPERATES ONLY 37% OF THE TIME  
SIMILAR TO WIND TURBINES**

# Wave Power Estimate RI

- Typical Wave Farm in RI – 10 plants  
408 kW(0.408 MW) or 3.570 BWhr
- RI Project, 15 MW Generation Capacity, ( 6 MW actual generation), 10 units, Total capital cost - \$45 M, 1.5 MW per unit, 20 yr life span (52.560 BWhrs per yr)  
Cost\* = \$42.80 per MWhr ( \*\*Est -\$107 per MWhr)
- Estimated cost using RI wave data  
Cost \* = \$630 per MWhr (\*\*Est. \$1575 per MWhr)  
*Difference --- 15*

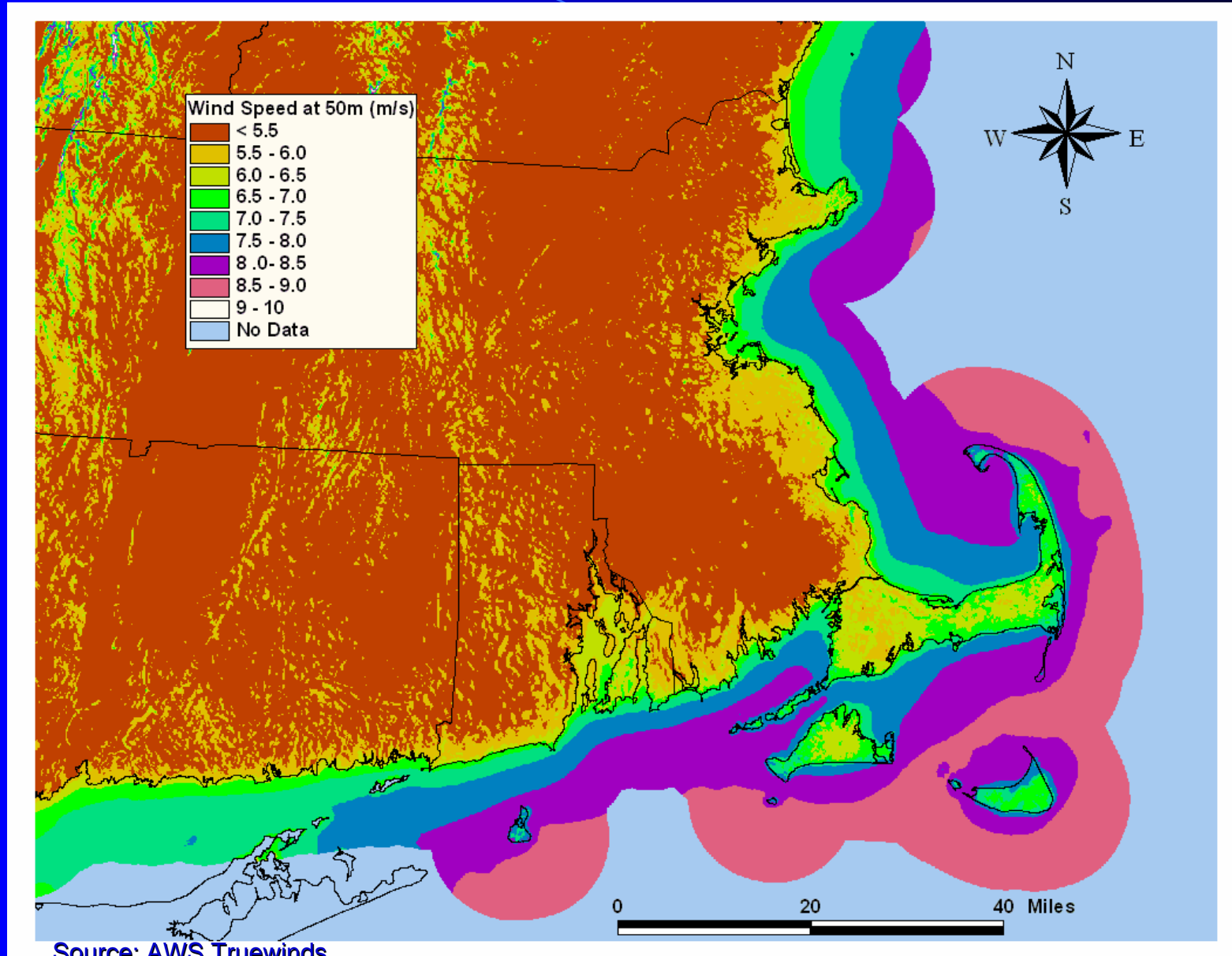
\*Considering facilities costs only \*\* Total capital cost =2.5 x facility cost

# OFFSHORE WINDS





# Wind Resource in the Northeast



Source: AWS Truewinds

# ATM (2007) Offshore Wind Sites

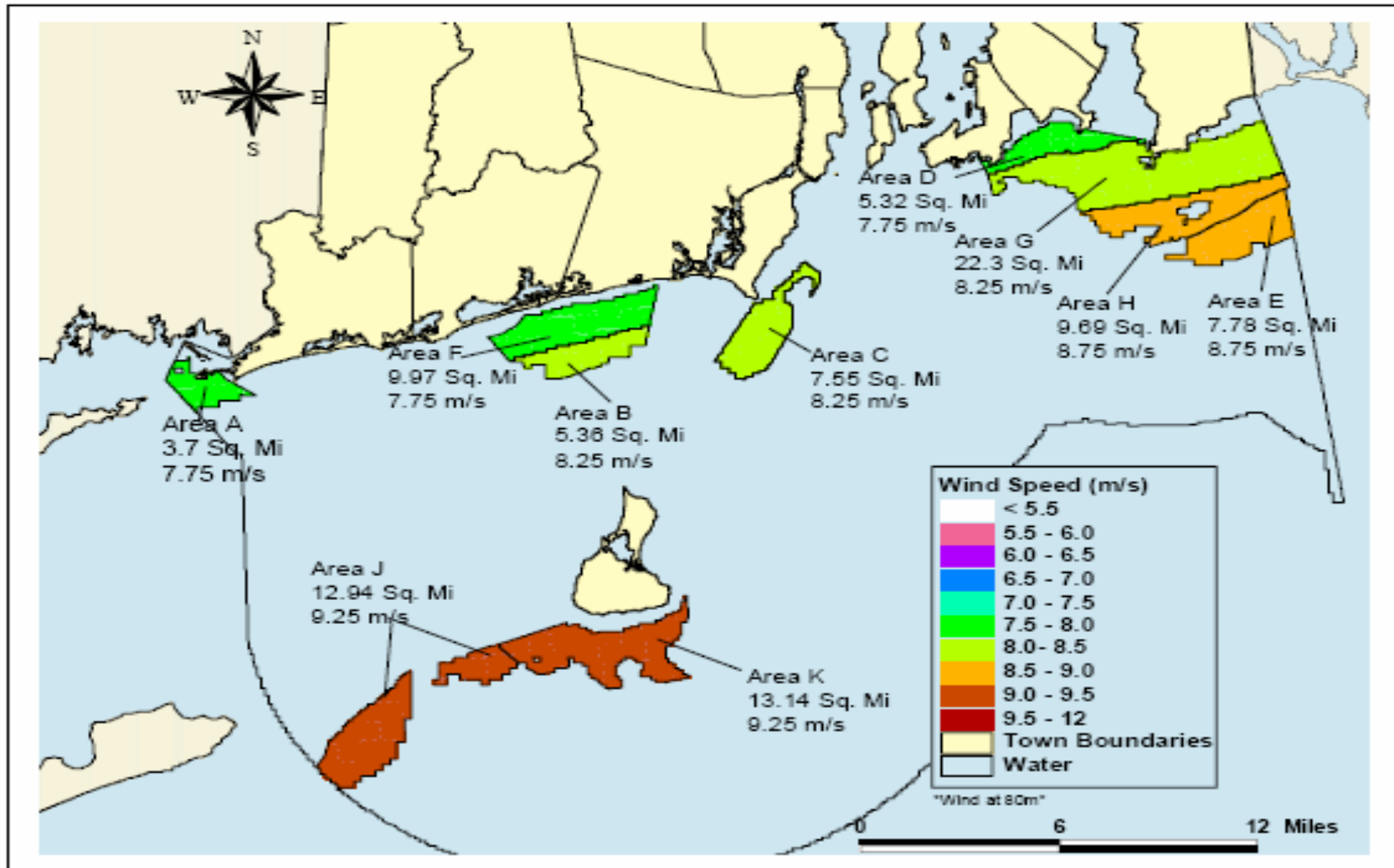


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# ATM(2007) Potential Energy Estimates

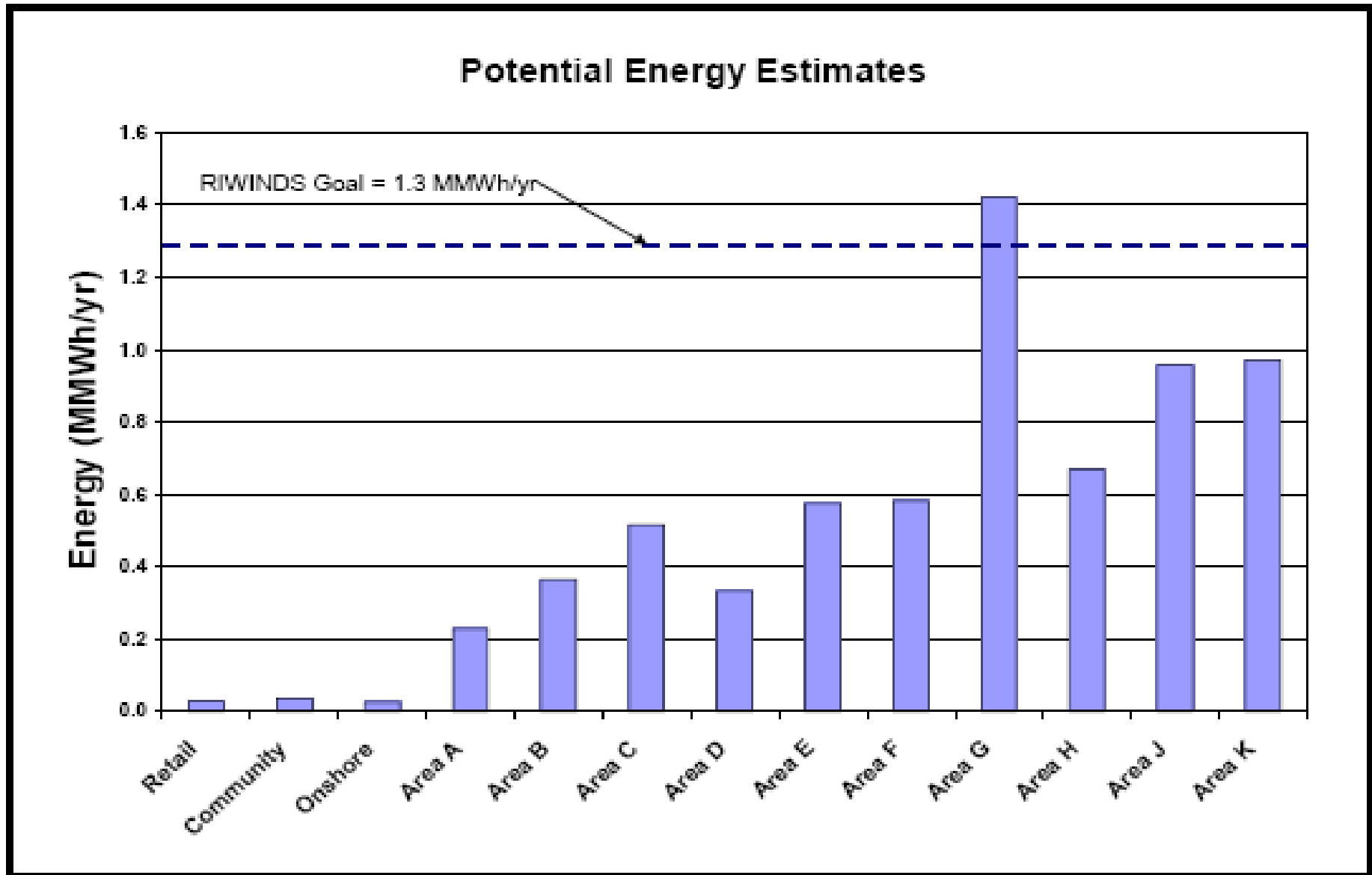


Figure 2 - RIWINDS Estimated Energy Generation for Each of the Identified Offshore Areas

# ATM(2007) cost summary

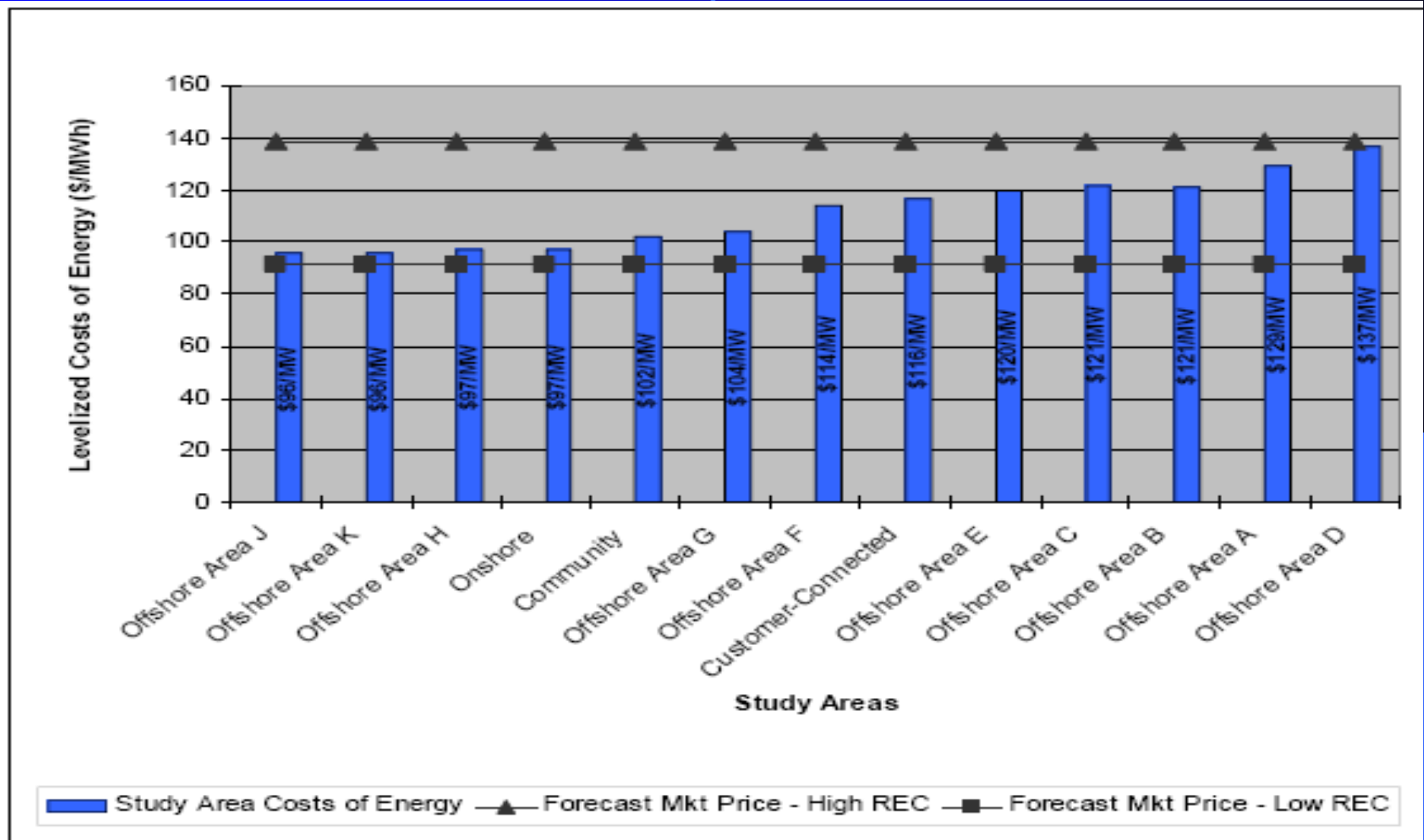


Figure 3 - RIWINDS Report Figure 6.2: Estimated Levelized Cost of Energy Compared to Levelized Wholesale Electricity Price Forecasts

# Wind Energy Summary

All offshore areas

685 MW

Sub-areas

J, K - 220 MW

E, H - 140 MW

H, K - 187 MW

Renewable Energy Goal 150 MW

Cost Range - \$96 to 137 MWhr

# Summary Power Production Potential

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\* Only capital costs for generator



**OFFSHORE WINDS!**





Turbines at one of Britain's offshore wind farms at Caister on Sea produce electric power.