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Ocean Management Planning DCPC: Planning for Offshore Development

**Policy Committee Workshops
February 4 and 18, 2011**



Ocean Management Planning DCPC



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- **DCPC designated in April, 2010 by county ordinance**
- **Response to state's Ocean Management Plan promulgated January 2010**
- **DCPC is year-long planning process**



Ocean Management Planning DCPC



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- **Planning for Ocean Based Development**
- **Three development types:**
 - Renewable Energy
 - Sand and Gravel mining
 - Cables and pipelines
- **Cape Plan**
 - Refine Ocean Management Plan
 - Visual Impact Assessment
 - Economics of offshore wind energy
 - Define appropriate scale



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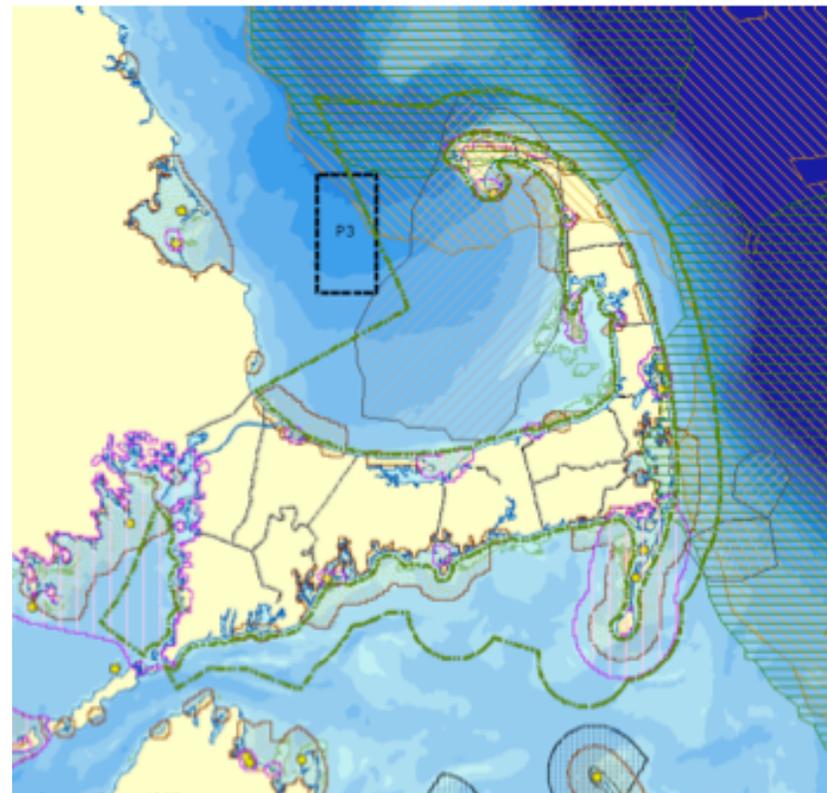
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- **Collecting data**
 - affected environment
 - allowed uses
 - **Working with specialists to review and contribute to fact finding**
 - **Developing Visual Impact Assessment methodology**
 - **Goals:**
 - ID sites for RE projects, and/or “no-go” areas
 - Regulations that define appropriate scale for RE projects
 - Regulations to address impacts of all allowed uses

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- **Online map project**
 - Planning area
 - Data from OMP
 - Data from elsewhere
 - Marine spatial planning
 - Online tool available



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Characterization of Planning area



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- **Describe affected ocean environment**
 - Glacial history
 - Seafloor composition/bathymetry
 - Oceanographic conditions
 - Marine wildlife
 - Fisheries
 - Benthic communities
 - Climate change
 - Submarine archaeological
- **Describe affected land environment**
 - Upland Cape resources

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Identify Priorities for Conservation



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- **Describe priority natural resources**
 - Whales
 - Terns
 - Other seabirds
 - Hard/complex seafloor (habitat)
 - Eelgrass
 - Intertidal flats
 - Important fish resource areas
- **Describe priority cultural resources**
 - Historic resources
 - Cultural landscapes
 - Distinctive natural and scenic areas
 - Archaeological sites

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Identify Human Use Priorities



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- **Describe priority human uses**
 - Areas of high commercial fishing effort and value
 - Areas of concentrated commerce and commercial fishing traffic
 - Areas of concentrated recreational fishing
 - Areas of concentrated recreational activity
 - Commercial and other air traffic
 - Ferry traffic
- **Need for new, allowed activities**
 - Renewable energy
 - Sand and gravel
 - Cables and pipelines

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Characterize Allowed Activities



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- **Allowed Activities**
 - Renewable Energy
 - Sand and Gravel Mining
 - Cables and pipelines
- **Plan Examines**
 - Needs/Constraints
 - Environmental Impacts
 - Visual considerations
 - Community Benefits
 - Renewable energy: factors contributing to appropriate scale

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- **Factors Determining Appropriate Scale**
 - Protection of public trust
 - Protection of public safety
 - Compatibility with existing activities
 - Community Benefit
 - Proximity to the shoreline
 - Visual considerations
 - Environmental considerations
- **Direction from Policy Committee**
 - Is there a defined scale that is appropriate? OR
 - Should scale be established based on consistency with set criteria?

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- **Policy Committee Purpose**
 - Address Wind Turbine Development Potential
 - Cape Cod - 24 (MV - 17, Nantucket - 11, SRPEDD - 10)
 - Configuration
 - Size
 - Location (prohibited area)
- **Direction from Policy Committee**
 - Work through each factor; overlap
 - Recommendations on siting, scale and allocation
 - Regional ordinance and/or local bylaws

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- **Public Trust**
 - Purview of the state legislature and DEP, only

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- **Public Safety**

- Performance standards that establish buffers from resource/use areas
- Performance standards for facility operation, maintenance and decommissioning
- Performance standards for operational controls
- Prohibit development within specified distance from shore (scale dependant?)

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- **Compatibility with Existing Uses**
 - Prohibit in mapped high-use areas
 - Performance standards
 - No regulation (which assumes 24 turbines has no significant impact)

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- **Environmental Protection:
Minimum Recommendations**
 - Marine Mammals
 - Prohibit development in core whale habitats
 - TOY restrictions for construction
 - Vessel speed restrictions
 - Adopt SSUs as prohibited areas (except eelgrass, hard/complex bottom)



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- **Environmental Protection:
Minimum Recommendations**

- **Birds, Bats**

- Avoid siting turbines in water <20m
- Avoid siting in important sea duck feeding, resting, staging areas
- Restricted operations during migrations, weather



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- **Environmental Protection:
Minimum Recommendations**
 - Sea Turtles
 - TOY restrictions in habitat
 - Vessel restrictions in known habitat



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- **Environmental Protection:
Minimum Recommendations**
 - Fisheries
 - TOY restrictions in known spawning habitat
 - Avoid high commercial fisheries activity

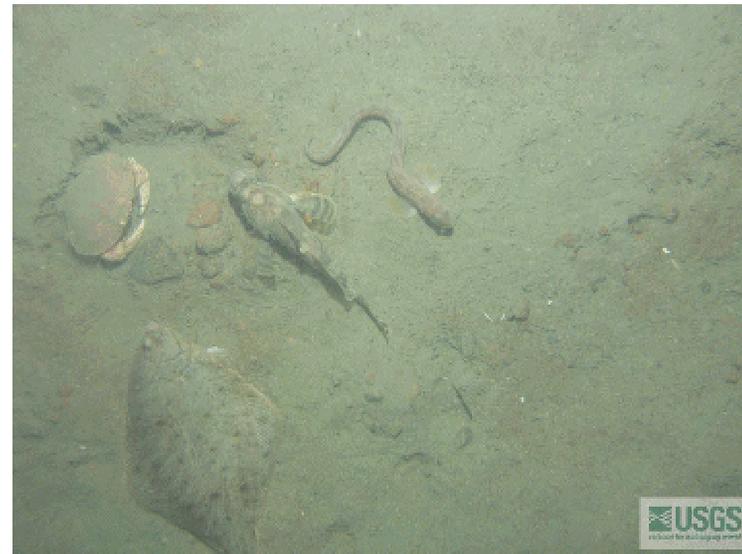


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- **Environmental Protection:
Minimum Recommendations**
 - Benthic Habitat
 - Avoid hard/complex bottom
 - Avoid eelgrass
 - BMPs to avoid turbidity



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- **Community Benefit**
 - Measured by several criteria:
 - Local ownership
 - Community Fund
 - Direct job creation
 - Energy import substitution
 - What types of projects have a community benefit?
 - Should they show consistency with some or all of the criteria?

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- **Proximity to shore**
 - Establish prohibited area
 - Establish prohibited area which varies based on seascape sensitivity
 - Review each project case-by-case
 - identify areas where projects are presumed to be appropriate scale, either require limited VIA or no further review

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- **Appropriateness of Technology and Scale**
 - Technology: Develop regs just for wind?
 - Scale:
 - Establish prohibited area
 - Establish prohibited area which varies based on seascape sensitivity
 - Review each project case-by-case
 - identify areas where projects are presumed to be appropriate scale, either require limited VIA or no further review

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- **Regional Allocation of Turbines**
 - First come - first served
 - Allocate 1 - 2 turbines per town
 - Allocate turbines as a group

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- **Local Participation in Project Review**
 - Which towns should participate in review? (BOS vote)
 - All towns
 - Only towns affected by project review?
 - Should participation depend on scale of project?
 - Define “affected”
 - Towns located within ZVI
 - Only towns where project is located, plus adjacent towns

DCPC: Next Steps



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- **Policy Committee meetings/workshops**
- **Policy Committee recommendations to Cape Cod Commission**
- **CCC Action**
- **Implementing regulations to be adopted by May 5, 2011**
 - Possible 90 Day extension
 - Vote to recommend extension to August 3, 2011

Technical Advisory Workgroup



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- Renewable Energy
 - Dan MacDonald, UMass Dartmouth
 - Nils Bolgen, Mass Clean Energy Center
 - Joe Soares, Senior Power Supply Planner, Cape Light Compact
 - Joe Feraci, Interconnection Specialist, NSTAR
 - Ryan Christenberry, Planner, CCC
 - Dan Dray, Economic Development Officer, CCC
 - Leslie Richardson, Economic Development Officer, CCC
 - Geoff Cowles, SMAST/UMass Dartmouth
 - Jack Wiggin, UMass Boston

Technical Advisory Workgroup



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- Visual Assessments
 - Richard Smardon, PhD, RLA, SUNY Syracuse
 - Sharon Rooney, Chief Planner, CCC
 - Phil Dascombe, Senior Community Design, CCC
 - Sarah Korjeff, Historic Preservation Specialist, CCC

Technical Advisory Workgroup



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- Natural Resources
 - Walter Barnhardt, USGS
 - Graham Giese, Provincetown Center for Coastal Studies
 - Pat Hughes, Provincetown Center for Coastal Studies
 - Trevor Lloyd-Evans, Manomet Center for Cons Sciences
 - Steve McKenna, Coastal Zone Management
 - Jo Ann Muramoto, Barn. County Coastal Resources Comm.
 - Matt Pelikan, The Nature Conservancy
 - Karen Stamieskin, Provincetown Center for Coastal Studies
 - Megan Tyrrell, Cape Cod National Seashore
 - Heather McElroy, Natural Resources Specialist, CCC
 - Andy Walsh, Coastal Resources Specialist, CCC