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COMMISSION

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OCEAN MANAGEMENT PLANNING DCPC

POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS

Cables and Pipelines

Voted July 13, 2011

In order to ensure the protection of many resources significant to the Cape Cod Region, a map establishing areas where Cable and Pipeline installations shall be prohibited, based on the presence of several sensitive resources, shall be adopted as an implementing regulation. An expanded area of North Atlantic Right Whale habitat shall be designated an exclusionary area, where Cable and Pipeline installations are not strictly prohibited, but where the habitat is presumed significant for the protection of the federally endangered North Atlantic Right Whale.

Cape Cod Ocean Management Plan Map of Cable and Pipeline Prohibited Areas

The areas included as prohibited for Cable and Pipeline development include:

- North Atlantic Right Whale core habitat area*
- Fin Whale core habitat area*
- Humpback Whale core habitat area*
- Cape Cod Ocean Sanctuary*

The mapped extents of all the resource areas are taken from the Massachusetts Ocean Management Plan (MOMP).

The area included as exclusionary for Cable and Pipeline development includes:

- North Atlantic Right Whale expanded habitat area from the MOMP*



The Policy Committee makes the following additional recommendations for implementing regulations to address Cable and Pipeline installations:

1	Cables and Pipelines should be located outside of the spatial extents of the whale core habitat areas, and the Cape Cod Ocean Sanctuary delineated on the Cape Cod Ocean Management Plan Cables and Pipelines Prohibited Areas map.
2	Whales, terns, and other highly sensitive species and their habitats should be protected through designation of no-build zones in core habitat areas (as identified by OMP), through TOY restrictions, or through performance standards.
3	Whales, sea turtles, and their habitats should be protected during Cable and Pipeline installations through TOY restrictions, vessel speed restrictions, and other mitigation actions. TOY restrictions should be coordinated with existing state-wide restrictions, including the “ <i>Summary of Marine Fisheries Resource Recommendations for Municipal Maintenance Hydraulic Dredging Activities on Cape Cod and the Islands</i> ”.
4	Important fish resource areas, including diadromous fish runs and shellfish, should be protected.
5	Regulations should ensure that Cable and Pipeline installations do not adversely affect recreational or commercial fishing, including aquaculture.
6	Eelgrass beds and other biologically productive benthic habitats (e.g., hard/complex bottom) should be protected from alteration.
7	Sea duck habitat, including areas less than 20 m depth, should be protected.
8	Turbidity impacts to sensitive marine resources should be minimized during cable and pipeline installations through best construction practices (e.g., turbidity/sedimentation monitoring) and TOY restrictions.
9	Regulations should ensure that shipwrecks, archaeological sites, and paleosols are not adversely impacted.
10	Cable and Pipeline installations should not result in changes to ocean currents or wave conditions that will adversely impact existing coastal landforms, infrastructure, and public or private property.
11	Designated navigation routes should be protected.
12	Regulations should ensure that Cable and Pipeline installations are sited with adequate buffers to existing uses.
13	Regulations should ensure consideration of the cumulative impacts of development activities in the District, and possible changes in the type or quantity of development activities allowed within the district.
14	Regulations for Cable and Pipeline installations should address the impacts to coastal resources of the conduit landfall and landside connections, including



	transition vaults.
15	Cable and Pipeline installation routes should be coordinated with existing routes to the extent feasible.
16	Cable and Pipeline installations should not result in the mobilization of hazardous materials into the water column.
17	Cable and Pipeline installations should utilize the best technology available to minimize impacts to existing resources (e.g. directional drilling).
18	Cable and Pipeline installations should not adversely affect the economic vitality of the host community.



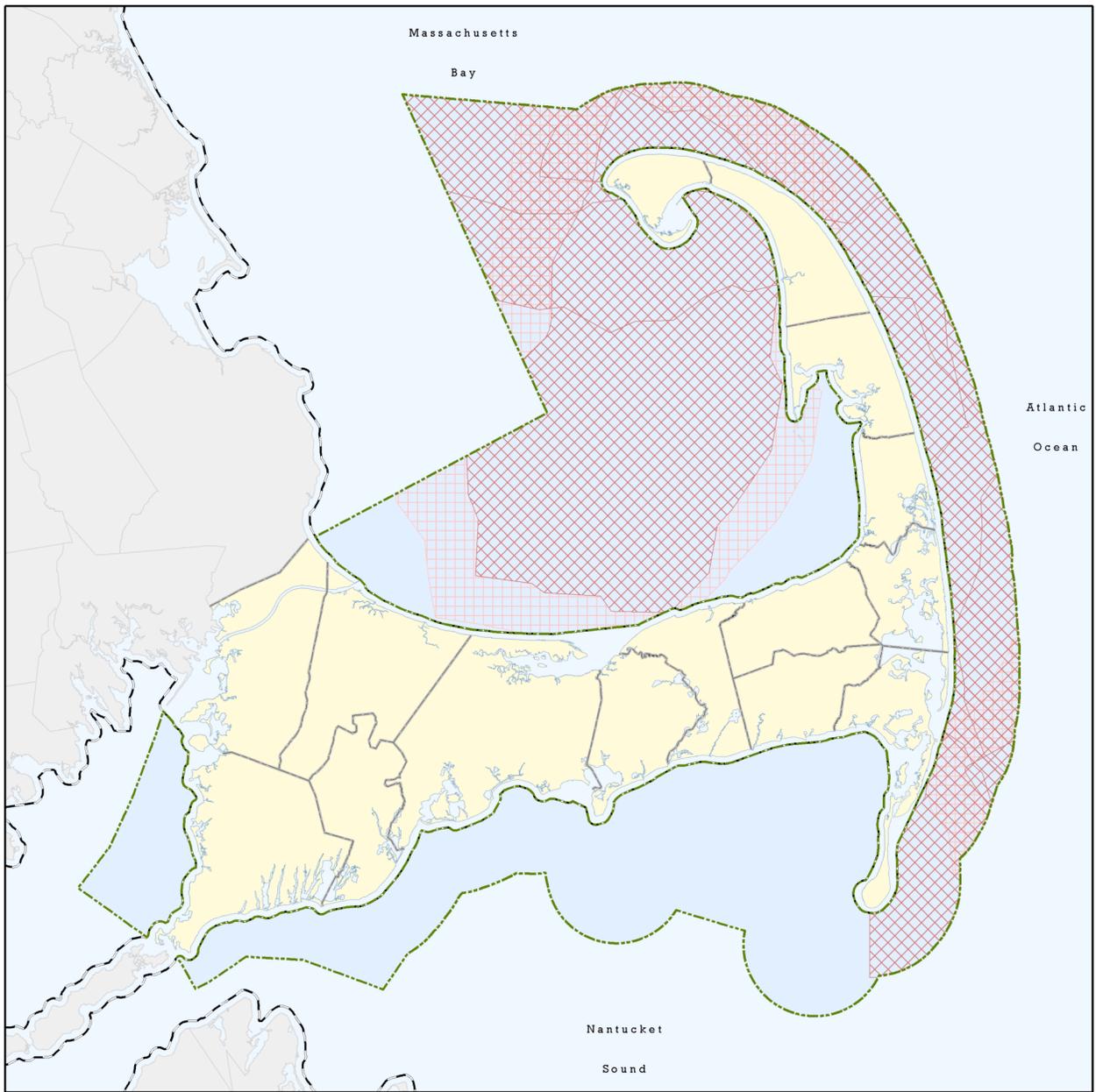


Exhibit D: Cape Cod Ocean Management Plan
Map of Cable and Pipeline Prohibited Areas

Legend

- Cape Cod OMP and Ocean DCPC Boundary
- Nearshore Mass. Ocean Management Plan Boundary
- Prohibited Areas
- Exclusionary Areas
- Provisional Areas

