



# FISHING AMONG GIANTS

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# OFFSHORE WIND ENERGY LEASE & PROJECT AREAS\*

- ① BLOCK ISLAND WIND FARM
- ② REVOLUTION WIND
- ③ SOUTH FORK WIND FARM
- ④ SUNRISE WIND



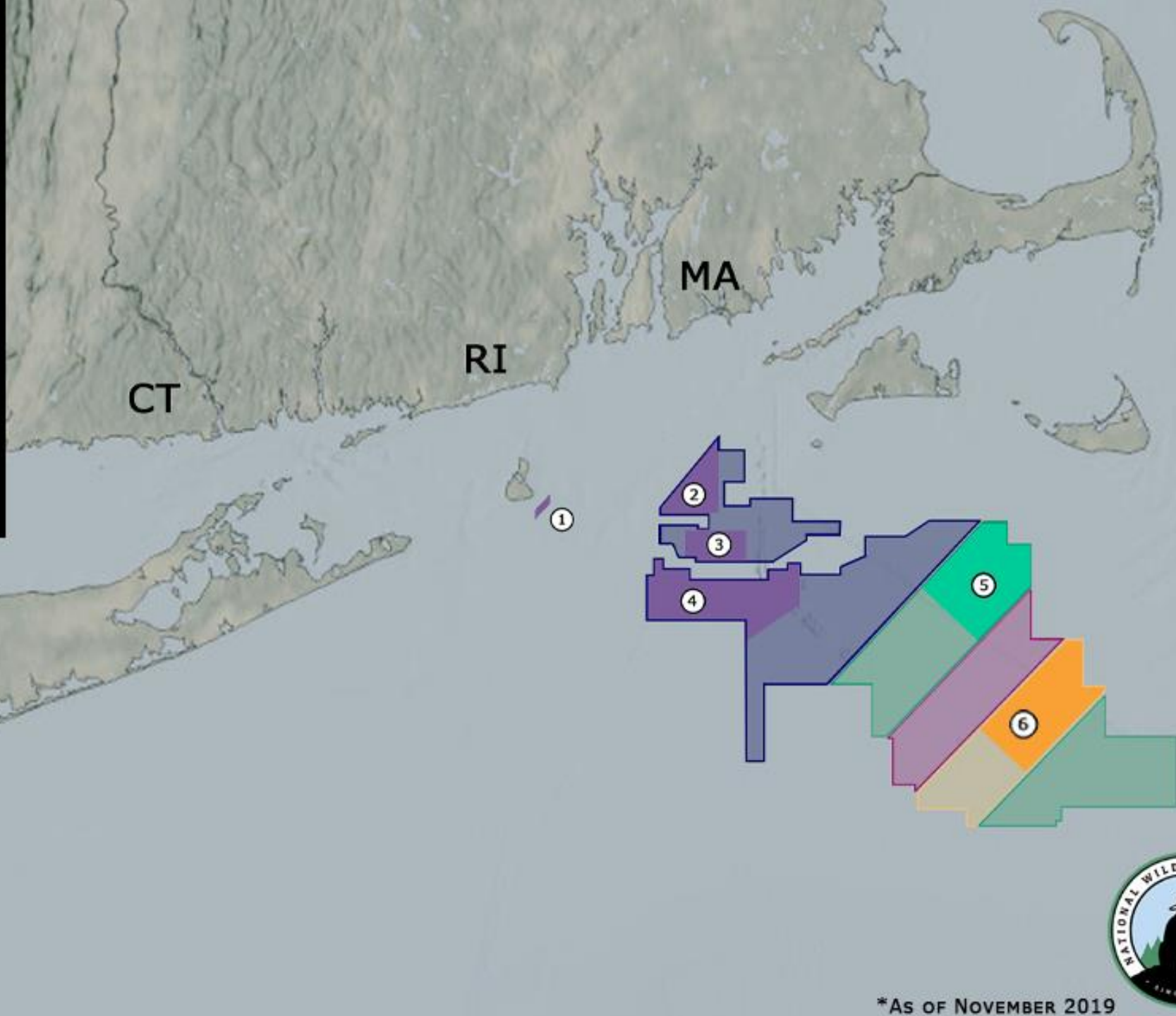
- ⑤ VINEYARD WIND 1



- ⑥ MAYFLOWER WIND



- ⑦ EMPIRE WIND



\*As of November 2019

# FISHING IN THE BIWF



















# STRUCTURE AND FISHING

- I spend most of my fishing days seeking out structure... natural structure like ledges, channel breaks, deep holes, rock clusters, banks or man made like, bridge abutments, jetties, ocean platforms, artificial reefs, etc.
- Know of no structure that has been bad for fishing... natural or man made



# Block Island Wind Farm: Doing it Right

- Worked closely with stakeholders including commercial & recreational anglers to guarantee success



# DONE RIGHT WITH RESEARCH

- Research done before, during and after construction
- Southern New England Offshore Wind Energy Science Forum 50 scientists present findings.
- BIWF has had no remarkable adverse effects on the environment, fish, habitat, mammals, birds and people.
- Scientists at the Forum also said that the cumulative effects of hundreds of turbines in the same area are unknown (positive or negative)

## FISHING & RESEARCH (CONT.)

- March 2019, a peer-reviewed study titled, ["Meta-analysis of fish abundance at offshore wind farms,"](#) was published in *Fisheries Science & Aquaculture* magazine.
- Conclusion: So far offshore wind farms have had a positive impact on the abundance of finfish within their boundaries compared to control areas outside the windfarms.



# FISHING & RESEARCH (CONT.)

- Recreational fishing good, perhaps a bit better, even with 200% increase in pressure
- Gillnets set right in wind farm area, commercial fishermen trawl along side, rec. and com. rod & reel fishermen fish right up to pylons, just as it should be
- Seven-year peer reviewed study at BIWF (2022), showed greater abundance of cod and black sea bass than in two control areas south and east of the wind farm. All other species were even e.g. summer flounder (fluke), squid

# CLIMATE IMPACTS ON REC. FISHING & BOATING, URI GRADUATE SCHOOL OF OCEANOGRAPHY BAIRD SYMPOSIUM

Register for Session II - April 13!



Effects of  
Climate Change on

## REC FISHING & BOATING

March 23 & April 13, 2022



# PANEL DISCUSSIONS WITH FISHING EXPERTS MIXED WITH CLIMATE/OWE INFORMATION



# KEY LEARNINGS

- Impacts expeditious
- Warm water fish arriving in greater abundance such as scup, black sea bass and cold water fish winter flounder, lobster leaving
- Robust bait profiles: maceral, hearing, silversides, squid, At. menhaden, sand eels
- Bait close to shore bringing large fish and mammals close to shore:
  - Giant bluefin tuna (30 caught 9.18.22 two miles off Narragansett/Newport)
  - School tuna (with enhanced fishing pressure)
  - Large whales (humpbacks close to shore in shipping lanes off NJ and NY)
  - Porpoise (300-400 dolphin in Bay, four feeding at Sabin PT last week)
  - Sharks
  - Exotic warm water fish such as mahi, cobia, etc.











# WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE?

- Need for enhanced climate research, robust stock assessments and enhanced NOAA funding get handle of shifting stocks
- Engage each project with anglers at hearings providing input and advocating for research and monitoring plans
- National Academy of Sciences asked to be independent research sounding board for BOEM on needed research
- Communicate understanding between federal government, anglers and developers on access... fishing is allowed
- Organize coastwide to develop a recreational industry voice that developers can reply on

# THANK YOU





# BLOCK ISLAND WIND FARM

- Commissioned in 2016
- Five- SIX megawatt turbines total of 30 MW system
- Provides power to 17,000 homes and businesses on BI
- Remainder of power is sent to Rhode Island
- Fishing access for commercial and recreational is allowed right up to the bases
- The first offshore wind turbines in the USA
- 17 miles from Point Judith, R.I. and 3 miles off BI SE

# US Offshore Wind Powers Jobs, Synergies with O&G

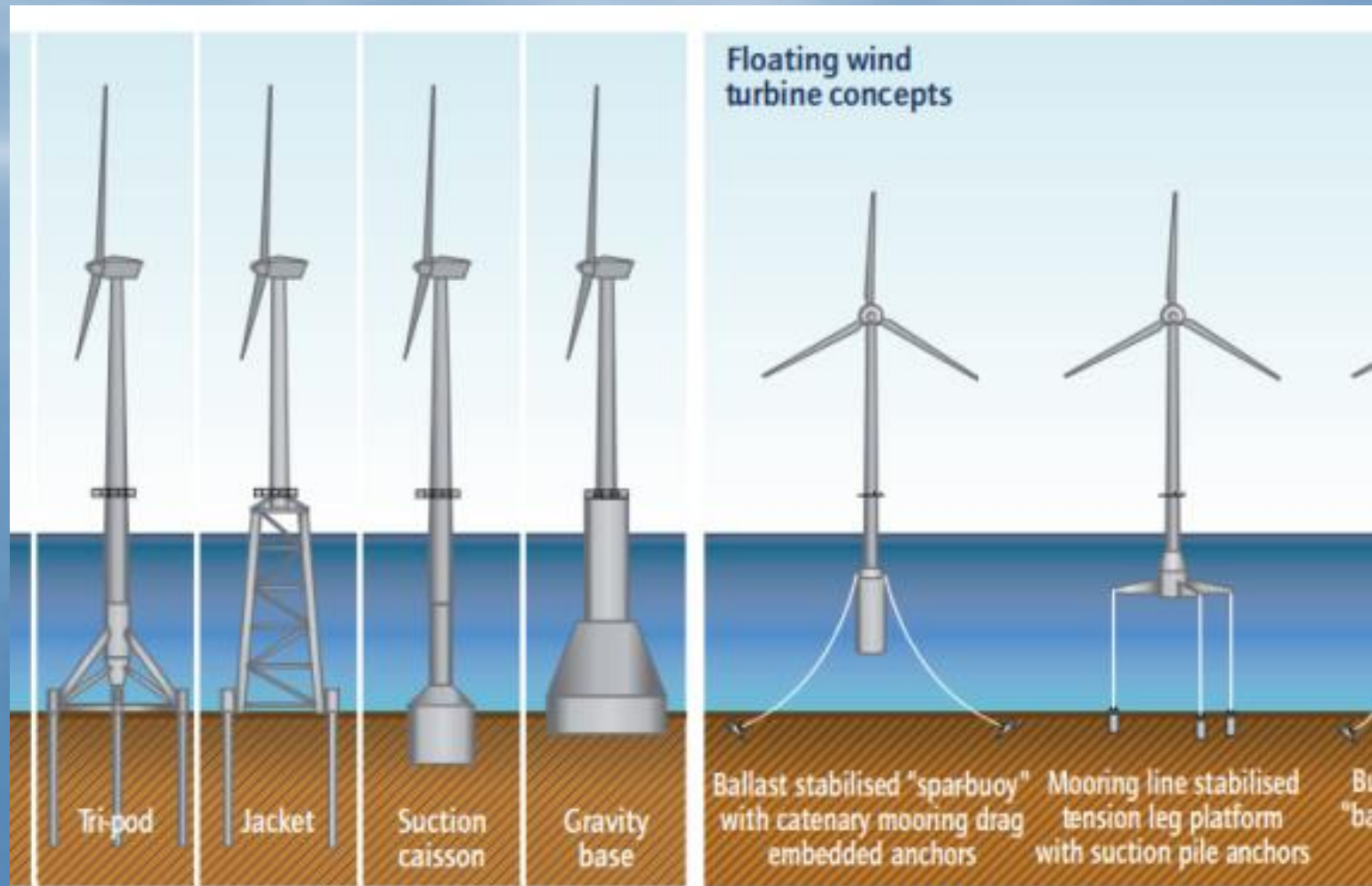
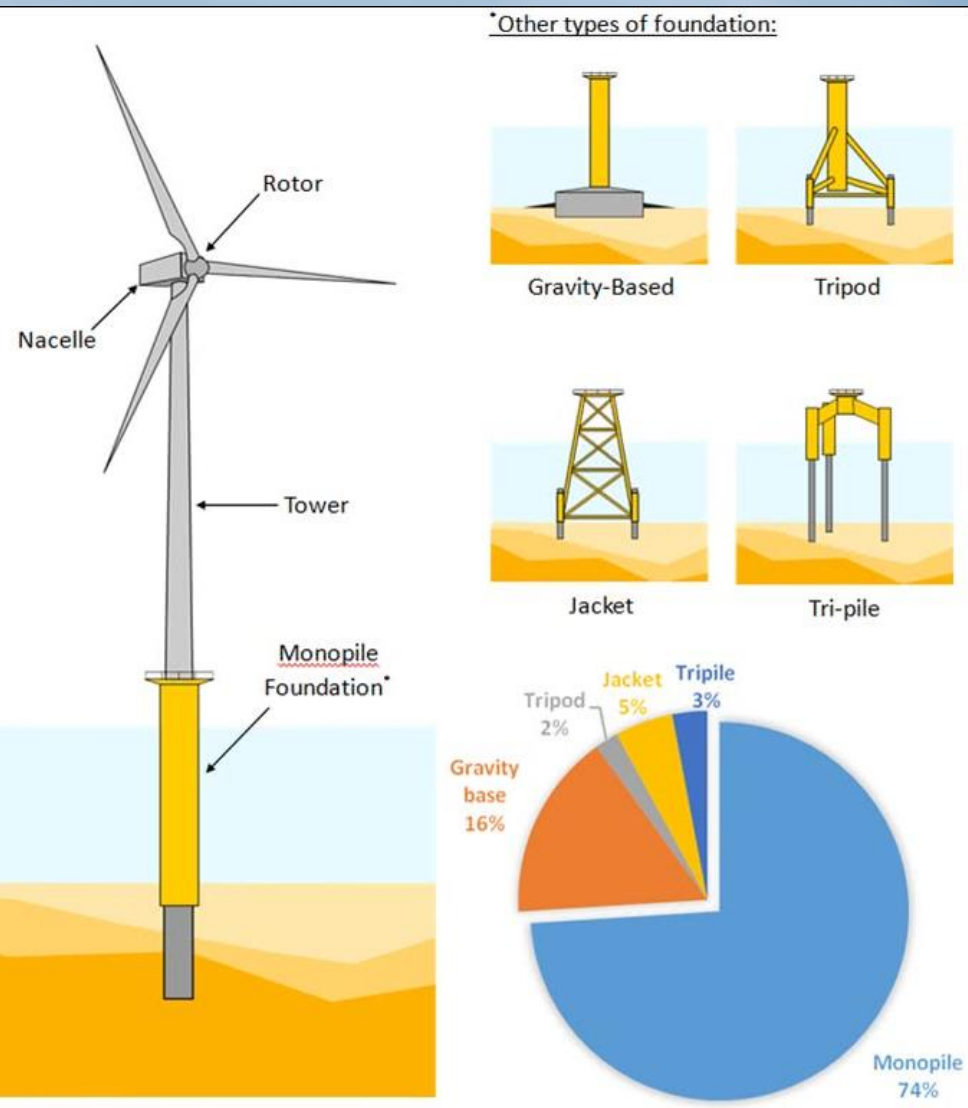
Almost 10 GW of offshore wind power (OSW) has now been approved or committed for development in six states off the Atlantic coast. This will create:

- ▶ Almost 40,000 full-time U.S. jobs by 2028 and 500,000 full-time U.S. job years through 2056.\*
- ▶ More than \$50 billion CapEx by 2030 and strong synergies in OSW supply chain with oil & gas and onshore wind sectors, extending from the East Coast to Gulf of Mexico and Central U.S.
- ▶ Key synergies include project management, array cables, substation structures, foundations, steelwork, cable installation and maintenance.

By 2050, DOE projects that 86 GW of U.S. OSW will support 160,000 U.S. jobs.

*\*"US Job Creation in Offshore Wind – Report for Roadmap Project for Multi-State Cooperation on Offshore Wind" by New York, Massachusetts, Rhode Island & the Clean Energy States Alliance.*





ser et al., 2011.

