

February 25, 2026
6:30 PM Regular Meeting
Remote SRPEDD Commission Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86925418353?pwd=mEnbgc2YEQZqbWNRFe2BA0vKDIrJrw.1>

AGENDA-REVISED

1. Call to Order, Introductions, and Welcome
2. *Presentation:* Honorable [Mark D. Sylvia, Representative](#)- 10th Bristol (Acushnet, Fairhaven, New Bedford; Marion, Mattapoisett and Rochester)
3. Approval of Minutes – January 28, 2026 * (*Vote requested*)
4. Reports
 - a. Chair
 - b. Executive Director
5. Consent Agenda
 - a. Contracts* (*Vote to receive report and place on file*)
6. Committee Reports
 - a. Finance Committee* (*Vote to receive report and place on file*)
 - *FY'27 Annual Assessment Rate* (Vote requested)*
 - b. Joint Transportation Planning Group/MPO* (*Vote receive, place on file*)
 - c. Environmental Subcmte (inclusive of MEPA report)* (*Vote receive, place on file*)
7. Old Business
 - a. [Technical Assistance](#)* (*Vote to receive and place on file*)
8. New Business
 - a. MA Federal Funds & Infastructure Office (FFIO) [Municipal Technical Assistance Program](#)- Raffi Freedman-Gurspan
 - b. MA [Ocean Advisory Commission](#) (OAC) Report- Janice Robbins
9. Roundtable: Opportunity for Commissioners to provide updates on local topics, projects or matters of regional interest
10. Adjourn

Per MGL c. 30A § 18-25, all meetings posted at: <https://srpedd.org/about-srpedd/meetings/>

FUTURE MEETINGS: Mar. 25, 2026; Apr. 22, 2026; May 27, 2026;
June 24, 2026; July 22, 2026; No Aug. mtg.

NOTE: An Exec. Cmte Meeting will be convened in the absence of a Commission quorum.

*Attached

AGENDA ITEM: Minutes, # 3

SRPEDD Commission Meeting – Draft Minutes
Jan. 28, 2026
Remote Meeting via Zoom

Present:**Commissioners:**

V. Alfaro, Acushnet	S. Elliott, Attleboro	K. Estes, Dartmouth	J. Carvalho, Dighton
D. Aguiar, Fall River	N. Durfee, Freetown	L. Carboni, Lakeville	N. Hills, Marion
J. Robbins, Mattap.	M. Borg, No. Attleboro	M. Clarner, No. Attleb.	C. Sullivan, Raynham
P. Menconi, Raynham	S. Cadime, Seekonk	R. Peirce, Somerset	C. Parayno, Swansea
J. Pateakos, Taunton	J. Moran, Wareham	J. Whitin, Westport	A. Eaton, N.B. A/L
A. Slavin, N.B. A/L			

Guests/Staff:

D. Belknap, SRPEDD	B. Dole, SRPEDD	G. King, SRPEDD	C. Meise-Munns, EOEEA
L. Estrela-Pedro, SRPEDD	K. Porter, SRPEDD	S. Royer, SRPEDD	M. Tinger, SRPEDD
J. Walker, SRPEDD			

Absent:

D. Wojnar, Acushnet	G. Ayrassian, Attleboro	S. Leary, Berkley	K. Robinson, Carver
T. Bott, Carver	C. Haddad, Dartmouth	A. Romano, Fairhaven	J. Fidalgo, Fairhaven
D. Pettey, Freetown	D. Lodge, Lakeville	B. Roche, Mansfield	R. Burke, Marion
L. Bradley, Middleboro	W. Pike, Middleboro	J. Ponte, New Bedford	D. Luciano, Norton
S. Warchal, Norton	C. Desprez, Plainv.	T. Torres, Plainville	L. Ferreira, Rehoboth
M. Shoemaker, Roch.	S. Smith, Seekonk	W. Raposa, Somerset	J. Hansen, Swansea
B. Fitzgerald, Taunton	M. Soares, Westport	C. McDermott, Attl. A/L	G. Saddler, F.R A/L
T. Lobo, Taunton A/L			

- 1. Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 6:32 P.M by Chairwoman Clarner.
- 2. Presentation: Corrin Meise-Munns, EOEEA, on subject of state’s MA Integrated Land Use Strategy (MILUS) initiative:** Ms. Munns introduced herself as the first Land Use Planning Manager for EEA, a role she has held for just under one year. She shared her background as a former Assistant Town Manager and Planning Director for the Town of Longmeadow, and previously as a Senior Regional Planner with the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission. She emphasized that this mix of municipal and regional planning experience informs her approach to the statewide initiative.

Ms. Meise-Munns noted that the presentation was intended to be introductory. While the project is underway, there are no draft analyses or recommendations available yet. Feedback, questions, and early perspectives from Regional Planning Agencies (RPAs) are encouraged and will be shared with the project management team and steering committee. She mentioned that the MILUS initiative is in its early stages. At this time, no draft analyses, maps, or recommendations have been released. The current phase focuses on coordination, data gathering, and establishing shared priorities among agencies. Feedback from commissions, RPAs, and local partners is being collected to inform future phases of the work.

Ms. Meise-Munns reiterated her interest in continued engagement with RPAs and welcomed questions, comments, and concerns as the project moves forward. She answered questions from the Members.

- 3. Approval of Minutes – Dec. 10, 2025:** A motion was made and seconded to approve the Dec. 10, 2025 minutes. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY.

4. Reports:

- a. **Chair:** Chairwoman Clarner stated that Members should all share the information that was received today and have discussions about impacts on our communities and then feed that back to Mr. Walker and his staff at SRPEDD for more discussion.
- b. **Executive Director:** Mr. Walker mentioned the initiative will rely heavily on strong community engagement and meaningful local feedback. Mr. Walker thanked the Member for their insights and commitment to ensuring community priorities are effectively communicated to the state. Mr. Walker mentioned the SRPEDD recently completed its annual audit, with recognition given to CFO, Mr. Horowitz and Assistant Finance Officer Ms. Pontarelli for their work. The audit presentation was thorough and reflected solid financial management as the new fiscal year begins.

Mr. Walker also discussed the upcoming annual MassDOT meeting in Worcester, where MPOs will receive their financial targets for the coming year. These funds are critical for advancing regional transportation priorities. There is optimism about potential funding increases based on population and related factors, with more information to follow after the meeting.

Mr. Walker shared that Environmental Planning Manager Danica Belknap will be departing for a new opportunity, and appreciation was expressed for her contributions. Michelle Tinger, currently Assistant Environmental Planning Director, will assume the Environmental Planning Manager role beginning February 2nd. Additionally, the office has welcomed several new team members, including an Environmental Planning Intern, and a new Senior Environmental Planner, and a fellow from UMass Lowell. He mentioned the organization is well underway with what promises to be another busy and productive year, with multiple initiatives ahead and strong collaboration and momentum across teams.

5. Consent Agenda:

- a. **Contracts:** Chairwoman Clarner referred Commissioners to the contracts listed in the packet and read each contract for approval.

Be it resolved that the SRPEDD Commission authorizes the Chairman, Treasurer, Officers, and Executive Director, as appropriate, to negotiate and execute the following contracts:

1. With the Massachusetts Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities (EOHLC) to undertake the 2026 District Local Technical Assistance (DLTA) work program for an amount not to exceed \$248,495,00.

2. With the Massachusetts Executive Office of Administration and Finance (“A&F”) through its Technical Assistance for Regional Planning Agencies (TARPA) program to support and develop federally funded projects for an amount not to exceed \$165,671.59.
3. With the town of Lakeville to create an Economic Development Plan for an amount not to exceed \$94,000.00.
4. With the town of Fairhaven to create a Housing Production Plan for an amount not to exceed \$55,000.00.
5. With the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources to implement the Farmland Protection Initiative as part of SRPEDD’s Farmland Partnership Program Grant for an amount not to exceed \$118,303.76.
6. With Wildlands Trust, as a subcontractor to SRPEDD, to complete a portion of SRPEDD’s Massachusetts Farmland Partnership Program Grant from the MA Department of Agricultural Resources, for an amount not to exceed \$29,951.93.
7. With Old Colony Planning Council, as a subcontractor to SRPEDD, to complete a portion of SRPEDD’s Massachusetts Farmland Partnership Program Grant from the MA Department of Agricultural Resources, for an amount not to exceed \$27,969.55.
8. With the MA Division of Ecological Restoration to implement water quality protection, water supply preservation and flood management projects in the Assawompset Ponds Complex for an amount not to exceed \$200,000.
9. With McDonald Morrissey Associates, LLC, as a subcontractor to SRPEDD, to complete a portion of SRPEDD’s MA Division of Ecological Restoration grant to implement water quality protection, water supply preservation and flood management projects in the Assawompset Ponds Complex, for an amount not to exceed \$58,560.
10. With up to four Community Ambassadors, to be selected with the Town of Wrentham, to support the Town in implementing its MVP 2.0 Grant, to be compensated at a rate of \$40 per hour, for up to \$16,000 total, collectively for all ambassadors.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the contracts listed above and dispensed of the reading. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY.

6. Committee Reports:

- a. **Finance Committee:** Mr. Hills reported the Finance Committee met on December 17, 2025, at Stoneforge Publick House, 90 Paramount Dr., Raynham. The November 19, 2025, Finance Committee meeting minutes were approved; the Treasurer’s Report for November 2025 was received and accepted; and the warrant for expenses to be paid by paper checks in the amount of \$65,552.08 was approved.

In addition, the Finance Committee received and accepted the November 2025 month-end general journal entries, and reviewed the OPEB trust account statement from Charles Schwab for November 1-30, 2025. Finally, the Finance Committee approved the proposed schedule of year-end merit

bonuses to be paid December 18, as well as a handful of performance-based promotions and merit raises to become effective with the start of the next calendar year.

Mr. Hills shared the Finance Committee also met on January 21, 2026, at the SRPEDD office (88 Broadway, Taunton) and remotely via Zoom. Tanya Campbell and Bridget Costello of CBIZ CPAs presented their FY 2025 audit reports of the District, which were received and accepted by the Finance Committee. The December 17, 2025, Finance Committee meeting minutes were approved; the Treasurer's Report for December 2025 was received and accepted; and the voucher warrant for expenses in the amount of \$62,222.95 (paper checks plus employee expense reports paid via ACH) was approved.

In addition, the Finance Committee received and accepted the December 2025 month-end general journal entries, and reviewed the OPEB trust account statement from Charles Schwab for December 1-31, 2025. The Finance Committee also approved a one-time transfer of \$180,000 from the District's general fund to the OPEB trust account.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the Finance Committee report. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY.

- **FY'26 Q2 Budget Update:** Mr. Walker referred the Members to page 9 and reviewed the FY'26 Q2 Budget Update. He entertained questions from the Commission.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the FY'26 Q2 Budget Update. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY.

b. Joint Transportation Planning Group: Ms. Estrela-Pedro mentioned that the minutes from the JTPG on December 10th and the SMMPO on December 16th can be found starting on page 11. She mentioned the Public Participation Plan as well as the Language Access Plan were both endorsed by the MPO at the JTPG meeting. She stated there were presentations on projects that are being considered for funding in the Transportation Improvement Program, which staff will be developing over the next several months. At these meetings there was discussion on TIP amendments that took place with statewide funding, cost decreases, the inclusion of some projects, as well as discussion on new projects. Ms. Estrela-Pedro entertained questions from the Members.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the Transportation report. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY.

c. Environmental Subcommittee: Ms. Belknap referred the Members to page 24 and reviewed the MEPA Environmental Monitor. She stated the Environmental Committee met on October 14th remotely and the minutes were approved at the January meeting. She mentioned the October meeting focused primarily on DOER's Clean Energy Siting and Permitting Regulations. Draft regulations were released in September, and the members discussed those at length, along with a comment letter that SRPEDD had submitted. Lastly, Ms. Belknap mentioned, as shared earlier by Mr. Walker, that this was sadly her last Commission meeting in order to accept another position, but that with Ms. Tinger taking over the Environmental Department is in good hands. She entertained questions from the Members.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the Environmental report. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY.

7. Old Business:

a. Technical Assistance: Mr. King referred Commissioners to the monthly update on projects contained in the packet on page 28. Mr. King mentioned that he and fellow staff are available to discuss projects as needed by email or calling the office.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the Technical Assistance report. VOTED UNANIMOUSLY.

8. New Business: None

9. Roundtable: Opportunity for Commissioners to provide updates on local topics, projects or matters of regional interest: None

10. Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 7:47 PM. The next Commission meeting will be held on February 26, 2026 at 6:30 PM on Zoom.

Respectfully submitted,

Gloria Saddler, Secretary

Date: 2/25/2026

AGENDA ITEM: Contract Approvals, # 5.a.

Be it resolved that the SRPEDD Commission authorizes the Chairman, Treasurer, Officers, and Executive Director, as appropriate, to negotiate and execute the following contracts:

1. With the town of Westport to review and update the Town's zoning to enable village-style neighborhood development in key areas for an amount not to exceed \$92,000.00.
2. With the town of Mattapoisett to review and revise the Planning Board's Rules and Regulations in a manner consistent with M.G.L. c. 40, c.40A, and all applicable legislation and case law for an amount not to exceed \$67,000.00.

AGENDA ITEM: Finance Committee Report # 6.a.

The Finance Committee met on February 18, 2026, at SRPEDD's office (88 Broadway, Taunton) and via Zoom.

The January 21, 2026, Finance Committee meeting minutes were approved; the Treasurer's Report for January 2026 was received and accepted; and the voucher warrant for expenses in the amount of \$22,463.87 (paper checks plus employee expense reports paid via ACH) was approved.

Cash & Funds: Jan. 1, 2026	\$	1,252,341.81
Cash Receipts: Jan. 1-31, 2026	\$	<u>154,864.36</u>
Total Cash Accounted for:	\$	<u>1,407,206.17</u>
Disbursements: Jan. 1-31, 2026	\$	647,032.26
Cash & Funds: Jan. 31, 2026	\$	<u>760,173.91</u>
Total Cash Accounted for:	\$	<u>1,407,206.17</u>

In addition, the Finance Committee received and accepted the January 2026 month-end general journal entries and reviewed the OPEB trust account statement from Charles Schwab for January 1-31, 2026.

Finally, the Finance Committee recommended that the Commission adopt a FY2027 annual community assessment rate of \$0.0054 per capita, a 2.5% increase over the previous fiscal year.

Southeastern Regional Planning and Economic Development District

*****PROPOSED*****

Community Assessments

For the July 1, 2026 - June 30, 2027 Fiscal Year

Per Capita Rate \$ 0.2173 \$ 0.2227 \$ 0.0054 2.49%

Community	2020 Population	FY 2026 Assessment	FY 2027 Assessment	\$ Change in Assessment	% Change in Assessment
Acushnet	10,599	\$ 2,303.16	\$ 2,360.40	\$ 57.24	2.49%
Attleboro	46,461	10,095.98	10,346.86	250.88	2.48%
Berkley	6,764	1,469.82	1,506.34	36.52	2.48%
Carver	11,645	2,530.46	2,593.34	62.88	2.48%
Dartmouth	33,783	7,341.05	7,523.47	182.42	2.48%
Dighton	8,101	1,760.35	1,804.09	43.74	2.48%
Fairhaven	15,924	3,460.29	3,546.27	85.98	2.48%
Fall River	94,000	20,426.20	20,933.80	507.60	2.49%
Freetown	9,206	2,000.46	2,050.18	49.72	2.49%
Lakeville	11,523	2,503.95	2,566.17	62.22	2.48%
Mansfield	23,860	5,184.78	5,313.62	128.84	2.49%
Marion	5,347	1,161.90	1,190.78	28.88	2.49%
Mattapoisett	6,508	1,414.19	1,449.33	35.14	2.48%
Middleborough	24,245	5,268.44	5,399.36	130.92	2.49%
New Bedford	101,079	21,964.47	22,510.29	545.82	2.49%
North Attleboro	30,834	6,700.23	6,866.73	166.50	2.49%
Norton	19,202	4,172.59	4,276.29	103.70	2.49%
Plainville	9,945	2,161.05	2,214.75	53.70	2.48%
Raynham	15,142	3,290.36	3,372.12	81.76	2.48%
Rehoboth	12,502	2,716.68	2,784.20	67.52	2.49%
Rochester	5,717	1,242.30	1,273.18	30.88	2.49%
Seekonk	15,531	3,374.89	3,458.75	83.86	2.48%
Somerset	18,303	3,977.24	4,076.08	98.84	2.49%
Swansea	17,144	3,725.39	3,817.97	92.58	2.49%
Taunton	59,408	12,909.36	13,230.16	320.80	2.49%
Wareham	23,303	5,063.74	5,189.58	125.84	2.49%
Westport	16,339	3,550.46	3,638.70	88.24	2.49%
Total	652,415	\$ 141,769.78	\$ 145,292.81	\$ 3,523.03	2.49%

DRAFT Minutes for the JTPG Meeting
Held on Wednesday, January 14, 2026, at 2:00 PM
Held via Zoom in Accordance with Massachusetts Open Meeting Law

The following members and alternates were in attendance:

Byron Holmes.....Town of Berkley	Norm Sturtevant.....Town of Raynham
John Woods.....Town of Carver	David Cabral.....Town of Seekonk
Tim Barber.....Town of Dartmouth	Amy Messier.....Town of Somerset
Ralph Vitacco.....Town of Dighton	Katherine Nunes.....City of Taunton
Dan Aguiar.....City of Fall River	Joshua Faherty.....Town of Wareham
Franklin Moniz.....Town of Lakeville	Chris Vitale.....Town of Westport
Norman Hills.....Town of Marion	Alan Slavin.....A/L, NB (Wareham)
Janice Robbins.....Town Mattapoisett	Ashley Eaton.....A/L, New Bedford
TJ Torres.....Town of Plainville	Gloria Saddler.....A/L, Fall River

The following members/alternates were NOT in attendance:

Town of Acushnet	Town of North Attleborough
City of Attleboro	Town of Norton
Town of Fairhaven	Town of Rehoboth
Town of Freetown	Town of Rochester
Town of Mansfield	Town of Swansea
Town of Middleborough	At-Large, Taunton
City of New Bedford	At-Large Attleboro

Also in Attendance:

Jim Howland.....City of Taunton OECD	Phil Viveiros.....Bowman
Daniel McCormack.....Beta Group	Louise Cobb.....Member of the public
Jamie Pisano.....VHB	Sean Hilton.....SRPEDD
Amy Archer.....PARE Corporation	Lisa Estrela-Pedro.....SRPEDD
Emma Yeh.....PARE Corporation	Jackie Jones.....SRPEDD
Bonne DeSousa..... SCBA	Andrea Duarte-Campos.....SRPEDD
Susan Mann.....SCBA	Maya Couto.....SRPEDD
Robert Price.....SCBA	Jon Gray.....SRPEDD
Sandy Medeiros SCBA	Sisar Botelho.....SRPEDD
Brian Wallace.....JC Engineering	Dan Brogan.....SRPEDD
Diane Hayes.....MassDOT	Jen Chaves.....SRPEDD
Christina Mendoza.....MassDOT	Noah Soutier.....SRPEDD
Shaun Handy.....MassDOT	

Handouts:

JTPG Meeting Agenda for January 14, 2026
DRAFT December 10, 2025, JTPG Meeting Minutes
FFY26-30 TIP Proposed Amendment 3
SMMPO Critical Rural and Urban Freight Corridors

AGENDA

1. Call to Order and Roll Call:

Vice Chair Gloria Saddler called the meeting to order at 2:00 PM. Andrea Duarte-Campos asked all JTPG members to unmute themselves so she could call the complete roll call of JTPG members, with the following being present at the time of the roll call:

- Byron Holmes.....Town of Berkley
- John Woods..... Town of Carver
- Tim Barber.....Town of Dartmouth
- Ralph Vitacco.....Town of Dighton
- Dan Aguiar.....City of Fall River
- Franklin Moniz..... Town of Lakeville
- Norman Hills.....Town of Marion
- Janice Robbins.....Town of Mattapoisett
- TJ Torres.....Town of Plainville
- Norm Sturtevant.....Town of Raynham
- David Cabral.....Town of Seekonk
- Amy Messier.....Town of Somerset
- Katherine Nunes.....City of Taunton
- Chris Vitale.....Town of Westport
- Alan Slavin.....At-Large, City of New Bedford
- Ashley Eaton.....At-Large, City of New Bedford
- Gloria Saddler.....At-Large, Fall River

2. Approval of Minutes – December 10, 2025 (Materials Attached & roll call vote needed)

Chair Saddler called for a motion to approve the minutes of the December 10, 2025 meeting. The motion was made by Dan Aguiar and seconded by Alan Slavin. Ms. Duarte-Campos then called the roll:

- | | |
|------------------------------|---|
| Town of Berkley.....Yes | Town of Raynham.....Yes |
| Town of Carver.....Yes | Town of Seekonk.....Yes |
| Town of Dartmouth.....Yes | Town of Somerset.....Yes |
| Town of Dighton.....Yes | City of Taunton.....Abstain |
| City of Fall River.....Yes | Town of Westport.....Yes |
| Town of Lakeville.....Yes | At-Large, City of New Bedford..... Yes |
| Town of MarionYes | At-Large, City of New Bedford.....Abstain |
| Town of Mattapoisett.....Yes | At-Large, Fall River.....Yes |
| Town of Plainville.....Yes | |

THE MOTION PASSED WITH 2 ABSTENTIONS.

3. Public Comments – Opportunity for the Public to address the JTPG

Ms. DeSousa from Mattapoisett and Sandy Medeiros of the Southcoast Bikeway Alliance expressed excitement about the shared use path construction projects in Mattapoisett and Wareham. She hoped that TIP presentations would include more information about where to find information regarding safety concerns in Mattapoisett. Further, she stated that there is concern of how Mattapoisett will connect to neighboring town Marion which is on the upcoming TIP. She noted that they want to make appropriate preparations between Mattapoisett and Marion. She discussed a group in Wareham that would like to continue the promotion of shared use path projects in Wareham.

4. Regional Transit Authorities (RTAs) Report - RTA Updates

RTA representatives were not present at the meeting.

5. Community of Practice Discussion – Opportunity for Members to Share Questions, Project Updates, Challenges, Success Stories, Lessons Learned

No comments were offered.

6. Presentations on TIP Projects

Jackie Jones from SRPEDD explained that during the annual TIP development process, an opportunity is given to TIP project proponents to give a presentation on what their project is proposing, with the goal of providing information to decision makers.

a. Attleboro: 613095 Corridor Improvements on South Avenue (Route 123), from Lathrop Road to Thatcher Street (currently programmed in FY2029)

Mr. Daniel McCormack with Beta Group presented MassDOT 613095 (TIP) South Avenue Corridor Improvements in Attleboro. He provided an overview of existing conditions in the location and a design update. He stated the purpose of the project is to provide ADA/AAB pedestrian accommodations, improve bicyclist accommodations, and provide a median to separate eastbound and westbound lanes. There will be painted bike lanes of 5 feet with a 2-foot buffer. He noted that there will be upgraded utilities like sewers, water, and lighting.

Ms. Saddler asked if there will be backup lighting since the lighting proposed is solar. Mr. McCormack responded that Attleboro wants a hybrid system.

Mr. Jon Gray asked if the speed limit will remain the same. Mr. McCormack said the main priority is to decrease speed along the corridor and that the target speed is 30 miles an hour. Mr. Gray asked if there was consideration of a shared use path. Mr. McCormack responded that they did consider a shared use path, but that emergency code for the city requires at least 20-foot-wide road. Mr. McCormack added that they will be discussing the design further with the city.

b. Mansfield: 614027 TOD Parkway Construction, from Route 106 to County Street (Not currently programmed)

Mr. Pisano, VHB presented the Mansfield TOD Parkway Construction Project. He presented the project history and timeline, relevant stakeholders, layout of the parkway, and proposed cross section. He stated that the goals are to remove commuter traffic in the neighborhood, improve access to the train station, provide access to potential development, and provide access to potential passive recreation. Further, he discussed existing considerations including many stakeholders, railroad requirements, stormwater management, temporary and permanent parking. He stated that there is a potential parking garage planned that attaches to the project area, but it is not in the scope of this project. He mentioned that the younger generation in Mansfield expressed the need for affordable housing.

c. Mattapoisett: 614043 Shared Use Path Construction, from Depot Street to North Street (Phase 2A)

Ms. Archer with PARE Corporation presented a Shared Use Path Construction project in Mansfield. She explained that it is a rail to trail conversion process and that the trail crosses multiple roadways, including Route 6, so they are looking at what they need to do to cross those safely. She stated that the project will be just over a mile, starts at Depot St, and continues along the abandoned railroad corridor to North St.

Mr. Gray asked about a proposed pedestrian hybrid beacon along Route 6 and if that will change depending on the number of lanes. He mentioned that since the nearest traffic signal is 250ft to the East, if there is to be a HAWK with no road diet, there may be some conflict. He inquired about when the Route 6 project would take place. Mr. Gray noted that GATRA does have a Wareham to New Bedford connection bus stop at North St on Route 6. He expressed that it would make sense to relocate the bus stop to the shared use path for better connectivity.

Ms. DeSousa from Mattapoisett seconded Gray's comment on the road diet and expressed that she and others from Fairhaven, Marion, Wareham, Mattapoisett are all interested in road diet for safety reasons and would love to hear more about it.

d. Wareham: 607825 Shared Use Path Construction Adjacent to Narrows Road and Minot Avenue

Mr. Wallace with JC Engineering presented a shared use path project that is running along Narrows Rd and Minot Avenue. He presented project limits and funding sources and explained that it is planned as 8-10 ft wide shared use path for bicycle and pedestrian access along the existing roadways. He continued the goal of the project to improve safety and accessibility for bicyclists along the corridor. Mr. Wallace shared potential challenges associated with environmental permitting and project status.

Mr. Slavin commented that the last time the project was on the TIP, the programmed cost was \$5 million. Ms. Jones clarified that the last programmed cost was around \$7.3 million.

Ms. DeSousa shared that she met with people in Wareham and emphasized that people there expressed that the project is an important connector to Downtown Wareham and Onset, important economic centers.

Ms. Jones noted a missed question from the Attleboro project presentation from Sandy at Southcoast Bikeway and mentioned it may have been addressed under what Mr. Jon Gray had asked about speed and bicyclist protection.

7. Opportunity for JTPG to share other TIP Projects

No updates were provided at this meeting but Ms. Jones announced that this opportunity will also be provided at the next meeting to assist with project decision making.

8. FFY2026-2030 TIP Proposed Amendment #3 (Materials Attached, Roll Call Vote Needed to Recommend to SMMPO for Endorsement)

Ms. Jones from SRPEDD presented FFY2026-2030 TIP Proposed Amendment #3 as follows:

- a. **606527 New Bedford – Bridge Replacement, N-06-020, I-195 (EB&WB), Ramp C&F over ST 18, County Street, State Street, MassCoastal Railroad, Purchase Street, Weld Street, Includes improvements to N-06-021, N-06-022, F-01-088 – Cost Decrease** Ms. Jones discussed a cost decrease of \$73 million due to less funds needed to complete the project than originally anticipated. Frees up funds for other projects.
- b. **S13384 Taunton – Danforth Street Bridge Reconstruction Project – Federal Earmark for Design – add into FY2026** Ms. Jones stated that the project was added to FY2026 to utilize available funds.
- c. **Transit – GATRA – 011969 Wareham - Greater Attleboro Taunton Regional Transit Authority – East Maintenance Facility – Increase in RTACAP funds in FY2026** Ms. Jones stated that this would be funding to add to East maintenance facility. She mentioned that it was included in Amendment #2 to remove a source of match funding and that this amendment increases in RTACAP funds for FY2026 for \$4.6 million.
- d. **610802 Somerset – Stormwater Improvements along Route 103 – Addition of project in FY2026 (Statewide)** Ms. Jones stated that this would add the project in FY2026 due to available funds and readiness.

- e. **613359 Freetown – Freetown Elementary School (SRTS) move from FY2027 to FY2029** Ms. Jones stated that the project is moving from FY2027 to FY2029 due to readiness.
- f. **606089 Freetown – Bridge Replacement, F-09-010, N. Main Street over ST 24 move from FY2027 to FY2028 and Cost Increase** Ms. Jones stated that the project is moving from FY2027 to FY2028 due to readiness and cost increase.
- g. **611980 Somerset – Intersection Improvements at Route 6 and Lees River Ave – move from FY2028 to FY2029** Ms. Jones stated that the project moved from FY2028 to FY2029 due to an influx of comments at public hearings and they want to allow for more time for public engagement.

Ms. Jones asked that the JTPG vote to recommend SMMPO for endorsement.

Ms. Saddler called for a motion to recommend the FFY2026-2030 TIP Proposed Amendment #3 to the SMMPO for endorsement. The motion was made by Norm Hills and seconded by Ashley Eaton. Ms. Duarte-Campos then called the roll:

Town of Berkley.....Yes	Town of Raynham.....Yes
Town of Carver.....Yes	Town of Seekonk.....Yes
Town of Dartmouth.....Yes	Town of Somerset.....Yes
Town of Dighton.....Yes	City of Taunton.....Yes
City of Fall River.....Left early	Town of Wareham.....Yes
Town of Lakeville.....Left early	Town of Westport.....Yes
Town of MarionYes	At-Large, City of New Bedford.....Yes
Town of Mattapoisett.....Yes	At-Large, Fall River.....Yes
Town of Plainville.....No response	

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

9. Critical Rural and Urban Freight Corridor Proposed Considerations (Materials Attached, Roll Call Vote Needed to Endorse)

Ms. Estrela-Pedro with SRPEDD provided an overview of Critical Rural and Urban Freight Corridor Proposed Considerations and asked the group to recommend that the SMMPO endorse the proposal.

Ms. Saddler called for a motion to recommend the critical Rural and Urban Freight Corridor Proposed Considerations to the SMMPO for endorsement. The motion was made by Alan Slavin and seconded by Norm Hills. Ms. Duarte-Campos then called the roll:

Town of Berkley.....Yes	Town of Raynham.....Yes
Town of Carver.....Yes	Town of Seekonk.....Yes
Town of Dartmouth.....Yes	Town of Somerset.....Yes
Town of Dighton.....Yes	City of Taunton.....Yes
City of Fall River.....Left early	Town of Wareham.....Yes
Town of Lakeville.....Left early	Town of Westport.....Yes
Town of MarionYes	At-Large, City of New Bedford.....Yes
Town of Mattapoisett.....Yes	At-Large, Fall River.....Yes
Town of Plainville.....No response	

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

10. Other Business

Ms. Estrela-Pedro provided updates and reminders for the group including:

- **NOFO for FY26 BUILD program (formerly RASIE)**
 - Applications are due by 5pm on February 24, 2026
- **AARP Community Challenge Grants**
 - Annual “quick action” grant program funds local projects that help make communities more livable for people of all ages
 - Due: March 4, 2026
- **Cyber Resilient Massachusetts Grant Program**
 - Applications accepted on rolling basis
- **MassDOT Grant Central Updates & New Grant Programs Launch**
 - Webinar Recording: [MassDOT - Grant Central - MA Federal Funds Partnership December 2025](#)
- **Safe Routes to School Winter Webinar**
 - January 28, 2026 at 12PM
- **Municipal Transition Plan Development & Tracking for Accessibility Training**
 - March 3, 2026 – Virtual
- **Creating Accessible Pedestrian Communities Training**
 - March 11, 2026 – Virtual
- **MA Safe Routes to School E-bike Webinar**
 - March 4, 2026 at 12PM

11. Date and Time for Next Meeting

The date and time for the next meeting is February 11, 2026, at 2:00 PM as a virtual meeting, in which attendees can join via Zoom.

12. Adjourn

Vice-Chair Saddler asked for a motion to adjourn which was made by John Woods and seconded by Alan Slavin. Hearing no objections, the meeting was adjourned at 3:09 PM.

**Draft Minutes of the Southeastern Massachusetts Metropolitan Planning Organization (SMMPO) Meeting
on Tuesday, January 20, 2026, at 1:00 PM - Held remotely via Zoom.**

The following members were in attendance:

Derek Shooster-----Representing Phillip Eng, Interim MassDOT Secretary and CEO, **Chair**
Shaun Handy-----Representing Jonathan Gulliver, MassDOT Highway Div. Administrator
Christopher McDermott—Representing Cathleen DeSimone, Mayor of Attleboro (joined late)
Daniel Aguiar-----Representing Paul Coogan, Mayor of Fall River
Jay Pateakos-----Representing Shauna O’Connell, Mayor of Taunton
Jamie Ponte-----Representing Jon Mitchell, Mayor of New Bedford
Josh Reinke-----Representing Michael Feck, Town of Mansfield
Andrew Romano-----Town of Fairhaven
Sarah Hewins-----Town of Carver
Matthew Chabot-----Representing Jennifer Vincent, Town of Berkley
Marie Clarner-----SRPEDD Commission Chair
Corey Hebert-----Representing Erik Rousseau, Southeastern Regional Transit Authority
Stacy Forte-----Representing Mary Ellen DeFrias, Greater Attleboro and Taunton Regional Transit Authority

No Ex-Officio, non-voting members were in attendance

The following were also in attendance:

Sandra Medeiros-----South Coast Bikeway Alliance
Dr. Gloria Saddler-----City of Fall River/ JTPG At-Large Commissioner/Fall River
Pamela Haznar-----McClure
Steve Findlen-----Howard Stein Hudson
Alan Slavin-----Damien’s Food Pantry/JTPG At-Large Commissioner/Wareham
Diane Hayes-----Massachusetts Department of Transportation
Christina Mendoza-----Massachusetts Department of Transportation
Barbara Lachance-----Massachusetts Department of Transportation
Stephanie Gray-----Office of Congressman Auchincloss
Catarina Perreira-----Office of Congressman Auchincloss
Kian Dana-----Office of Congressman Auchincloss
Norman Watson-----Member of the public
Lisa Estrela-Pedro-----SRPEDD
Jackie Jones-----SRPEDD
Andrea Duarte-Campos-SRPEDD
Dan Brogan-----SRPEDD
Noah Soutier-----SRPEDD
Jen Chaves-----SRPEDD
Sean Hilton-----SRPEDD

Handouts:

SMMPO Agenda January 20, 2026
SMMPO Draft Meeting Minutes December 16, 2025
FFY2026-2030 TIP Proposed Amendment 3
SMMPO Critical Rural and Urban Freight Corridors Presentation

AGENDA:

1. Call to Order and Roll Call-

Chairman Shooster called the SMMPO meeting to order at 1:01 pm. Ms. Andrea Duarte-Campos asked all MPO members and designees to please unmute themselves so she could call the roll for attendance. She then called the complete roll of MPO members, with the following being present at the time of the roll call:

MassDOT Chair-----Yes	Town of Mansfield-----Yes
MassDOT Administrator-----Yes	Town of Carver-----Yes
City of Taunton-----Yes	Town of Berkley-----Yes
City of Fall River-----Yes	SRTA-----Yes

2. Approval of Minutes – December 16, 2025 (Materials Attached and Roll Call Vote Needed)

Chairman Shooster requested a motion to approve the minutes from the December 16, 2025, SMMPO meeting. The motion was made by Dan Aguiar and seconded by Jay Pateakos. Ms. Duarte-Campos then called the roll:

MassDOT Chair-----Yes	Town of Fairhaven-----Yes
MassDOT Administrator-----Yes	Town of Carver-----Yes
City of New Bedford-----Yes	Town of Berkley-----Yes
City of Taunton-----Yes	SRPEDD Commission Chair-----Yes
City of Fall River-----Yes	SRTA-----Yes
Town of Mansfield-----Yes	GATRA-----No response

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

3. Public Comments

Chairman Shooster invited members of the public to make comments, and none were provided.

4. Regional Transit Authorities Report – RTA Updates

Stacy Forte from GATRA stated that GATRA is continuing work on its Wareham facility, which is slightly delayed but should be open in late Spring. She stated that starting with New Year’s Day, GATRA is now running Saturday service on all previously unserved holidays except for Thanksgiving and Christmas. Corey Hebert from SRTA stated that ridership continues to grow, and there are no other big changes at this time.

5. Advance Construction Presentation

Jackie Jones reminded the group that as TIP development and voting season is approaching, staff have had a lot of questions about the “Advanced Construction” funding mechanism. Ms. Jones explained that advanced construction is a flexible budgeting tool available to help manage large transportation projects. She explained that it allows the cost of a project to be spread over multiple fiscal years when the total cost exceeds half of the region’s annual funding target (for example, projects over \$15 million if the target is around \$30 million). This approach does not require a project to be phased or divided in scope; it simply helps keep projects on schedule while maintaining fiscal constraint. Ms. Jones provided examples from recent TIPs where projects with significant cost increases were still able to move forward on time by splitting funding across years, including cases where unexpected cost increases were partially shifted into a later fiscal year without affecting project delivery.

6. FFY2026-2030 TIP Proposed Amendment #3

- 1) 606527 New Bedford – Bridge Replacement, N-06-020, I-195 (EB&WB), Ramp C&F over ST 18, County Street, State Street, MassCoastal Railroad, Purchase Street, Weld Street, Includes improvements to N-06-021, N-06-022, F-01-088 – Cost Decrease
- 2) S13384 Taunton – Danforth Street Bridge Reconstruction Project – Federal Earmark for Design – add into FY2026
- 3) Transit – GATRA – 011969 Wareham - Greater Attleboro Taunton Regional Transit Authority – East Maintenance Facility – Increase in RTACAP funds in FY2026
- 4) 610802 Somerset – Stormwater Improvements along Route 103 – Addition of project in FY2026 (Statewide)
- 5) 613359 Freetown – Freetown Elementary School (SRTS) move from FY2027 to FY2029
- 6) 606089 Freetown – Bridge Replacement, F-09-010, N. Main Street over ST 24 move from FY2027 to FY2028 and Cost Increase
- 7) 611980 Somerset – Intersection Improvements at Route 6 and Lees River Ave – move from FY2028 to FY2029

(Materials Attached, Roll Call Vote Needed to Endorse)

Ms. Jones reminded the group that at the last SMMPO meeting, there were a number of proposed amendments to the FFY 2026-2030 TIP, a majority of which were based on a statewide maintenance exercise which adjusted project schedules, costs, and readiness before formal TIP development to help TIP development cycle flow more smoothly. She stated each of the proposed project changes and reasons which were explained at the last meeting. The SMMPO board voted to release the proposed Amendment 3 to a 21-day comment period. A public meeting was held, and there were no comments received there or elsewhere. She asked the body for a vote to approve the Amendment as presented.

The Chair asked if there were any questions on FFY2026-2030 TIP Proposed Amendment #3 and seeing none asked for a motion to endorse it as presented. The motion was made by Dan Aguiar and seconded by Sarah Hewins. The Chair asked Ms. Duarte-Campos to read the roll as follows:

MassDOT Chair-----Yes	Town of Fairhaven-----No response
MassDOT Administrator-----Yes	Town of Carver-----Yes
City of New Bedford-----Abstain	Town of Berkley-----Yes
City of Taunton-----Yes	SRPEDD Commission Chair-----Yes
City of Fall River-----Yes	SRTA-----Yes
Town of Mansfield-----Yes	GATRA-----No response

THE MOTION PASSED WITH ONE ABSTENTION.

7. Critical Rural and Urban Freight Corridor Proposed Considerations (Materials Attached, Roll Call Vote Needed to Endorse)

Lisa Estrela-Pedro reminded the group of the announcement presented at the last SMMPO meeting, explaining that MassDOT is updating its freight plan and, as part of that process, the region was allocated additional mileage for both critical rural and urban freight corridors. These new designations were based on factors such as proximity to industrial parks and truck volumes and are in addition to the existing freight corridors. She explained that the critical and urban freight corridors were shared along with the meeting agenda and discussed at the previous meeting, and any concerns raised—specifically by Carver—were addressed through follow-up discussion. Ms. Estrela-Pedro stated that a public meeting was also held, and no further comments were received on this initiative. She noted that these designations open additional funding opportunities for the affected roadways. She reminded the group that the Joint Transportation Planning Group has already voted to recommend endorsement of the additional corridors and asked the

body for a vote to endorse the freight corridor lists as presented.

The Chair asked if there were any questions on the SMMPO’s proposed Critical Rural and Urban Freight Corridor designations and seeing none asked for a motion to endorse it as presented. The motion was made by Dan Aguiar and seconded by Sarah Hewins. The Chair asked Ms. Duarte-Campos to read the roll as follows:

MassDOT Chair-----	Yes	Town of Fairhaven-----	No response
MassDOT Administrator-----	Yes	Town of Carver-----	Yes
City of Attleboro-----	Yes	Town of Berkley-----	Yes
City of New Bedford-----	Yes	SRPEDD Commission Chair-----	Yes
City of Taunton-----	Yes	SRTA-----	Yes
City of Fall River-----	Yes	GATRA-----	No response
Town of Mansfield-----	Yes		

THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

8. Other Business

Ms. Estrela-Pedro provided updates and reminders for the group including:

- **NOFO for FY26 BUILD program (formerly RAISE)**
 - Applications are due by 5pm on February 24, 2026
- **AARP Community Challenge Grants**
 - Annual “quick action” grant program funds local projects that help make communities more livable for people of all ages
 - Due: March 4, 2026
- **Cyber Resilient Massachusetts Grant Program**
 - Applications accepted on rolling basis
- **MassDOT Grant Central Updates & New Grant Programs Launch**
 - Webinar Recording: [MassDOT - Grant Central - MA Federal Funds Partnership December 2025](#)
- **Safe Routes to School Winter Webinar**
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- **Municipal Transition Plan Development & Tracking for Accessibility Training**
 - March 3, 2026 – Virtual
- **Creating Accessible Pedestrian Communities Training**
 - March 11, 2026 – Virtual
- **MA Safe Routes to School E-bike Webinar**
 - March 4, 2026 at 12PM
- **Complete Streets 201: Designing Your Streets for People-**
 - In Barnstable, January 28, 8:30 AM – 4:00 PM
- **Complete Streets 306: Public Engagement by UMTC/Baystate Roads**
 - In Barnstable, January 29, 8:30 AM – 4:00 PM
- **MassDOT Innovation Conference**
 - May 5-6, 2026, Worcester

9. Date and Time for Next Meeting

The Chair announced that the next SMMPO meeting will be on February 17, 2026, at 1:00 pm, held virtually on Zoom.

10. Adjourn

The Chair asked for a motion and second to adjourn. Dan Aguiar made the motion and Jay Pateakos seconded. The Chair asked that all in favor say aye. All ayes were heard. The Chair thanked everyone, and the meeting was adjourned at 1:19 PM.

MEPA ENVIRONMENTAL MONITOR – PROJECTS IN REGION

Environmental Program Update Brief

Trainings and Events

- MACC’s 2026 Annual Environmental Conference (2/28)
- MLCC Conference (3/13)
- Cooler Middleborough (3/12)
- Lakeville OSRD Workshop (3/25)
- Fairhaven HMP / OSRP Workshop (3/26)
- NEIWPC NPS Conference (4/7 - 4/9)
- RCP Network Gathering (11/5)

Project Community Meetings

- Lakeville OSRD Workshop (3/25)
- Fairhaven HMP / OSRP Workshop (3/26)

Environmental Installations

- Willow Fence Installation (3/13 - 3/15)

MEPA ENVIRONMENTAL MONITOR – PROJECTS IN REGION

Project	Type	Community	Comments Due	RPA Review Components	Site Visit Details (Indicate if Remote Meeting)
New Bedford RiverWalk	ENF	New Bedford	03/13/2026		

AGENDA ITEM: Technical Assistance Report, # 7.a.

Community	Project Name	Status	Department	Project Leads	Funding
Acushnet	Master Plan	Ongoing	Comprehensive	Grant King, Lizeth Gonzalez	CPG, DLTA, MA
Acushnet	Open Space and Recreation Plan Update	Ongoing	Environmental, Comprehensive	Sara Singh, Joe Monet	CPA
Acushnet	Water Resource Management Plan	Ongoing	Environmental	Sara Singh	EEA
Berkley	Section 3A Bylaw	Ongoing	Comprehensive	Lizeth Gonzalez and Chris Welch	One Stop, DLTA
Berkley	Economic Development Plan	Ongoing	Comprehensive	Lizeth Gonzalez and Chris Welch	One Stop, DLTA
Berkley	South Main St @ Porter St and North Main St @ Loct St Counts	NEW	Transportation	Luis de Oliveira	MassDOT
Carver	Economic Development Plan	Ongoing	Comprehensive	Lizeth Gonzalez and Chris Welch	One Stop, DLTA
Carver	Housing Production Plan	Ongoing	Comprehensive	Rob Cabral, Taylor Perez	DLTA
Carver	Open Space and Recreation Plan Update	Ongoing	Environmental	Alexander Bergstrand	local
Carver	South Main St at Tremont St Traffic Signal Warrants	Completed	Transportation	Luis de Oliveira	
Dartmouth	Housing Production Plan	Ongoing	Comprehensive	Taylor Perez, Rob Cabral	DLTA, Town
Dighton	Housing Production Plan	Ongoing	Comprehensive	Taylor Perez, Rob Cabral	CCC, DLTA
Fairhaven	Housing Production Plan (HPP)	Ongoing	Comprehensive	Taylor Perez	One Stop
Fairhaven	Open Space and Recreation Plan	Ongoing	Environmental	Audrey Matthews	DLTA
Fairhaven	Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) Update	Ongoing	Environmental, Comprehensive	Joe Monet, Sara Singh	FEMA
Fall River	Mother's Brook Sewer Upgrades (D&E, Permitting) Project Administration	Ongoing	Comprehensive	Lizeth Gonzalez	EDA

Fall River	Open Space and Recreation Plan Update	Ongoing	Environmental	Lauren Lunetta	local
Lakeville	Economic Development Plan	Ongoing	Comprehensive	Lizeth Gonzalez	One Stop
Lakeville	Clark Shores Long Pond PRB Permitting & Design	Ongoing	Environmental	Karen Pettinelli	TNC
Lakeville	Planning Board Rules and Regulations	Ongoing	Comprehensive	Taylor Perez	One Stop
Mansfield	Green Communities Competitive Grant Management	Ongoing	Environmental	Karen Pettinelli	DOER
Mansfield	Open Space and Recreation Plan Update	Ongoing	Environmental	Lauren Lunetta	DLTA
Mansfield	Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP) Update	Ongoing	Environmental	Audrey Matthews	FEMA
Mattapoissett	Planning Board Rules and Regulations	New	Comprehensive	Taylor Perez	Local
Mattapoissett	Open Space and Recreation Plan Update	Ongoing	Environmental	Alexander Bergstrand	DLTA / Local
Middleborough	ASHE Response Tool Kit	Ongoing	Homeland Security	Kevin Ham	Local
Middleborough	Master Plan	Ongoing	Comprehensive	Taylor Perez, Grant King	One Stop, DLTA
Middleborough	Historic/General Use District Bylaw Amendments	Ongoing	Comprehensive	Grant King, Robert Cabral	MassDOT, SCR
New Bedford	AHA Civic Engagement	Ongoing	Comprehensive	Lizeth Gonzalez	Local, DLTA, MA
New Bedford	North Terminal Extension Phase II and Pier Fendering Project	Ongoing	Comprehensive	Jeff Walker, Lizeth Gonzalez, Grant King	EDA
New Bedford	Marine Commerce Terminal	Pending	Comprehensive	Lizeth Gonzalez	EDA
Norton	Section 3A Technical Assistance Phase 2	Ongoing	Comprehensive	Taylor Perez, Rob Cabral	MHP, Barr Foundation, DLTA

Norton	Green Communities Designation Grant Assistance	Ongoing	Environmental	Audrey Matthews	DOER
Norton	Housing Production Plan (Tier 3, Phase 1)	Pending	Comprehensive	Taylor Perez	DLTA
Plympton	Section 3A Technical Assistance	Ongoing	Comprehensive	Taylor Perez, Rob Cabral	MHP, Barr Foundation
Raynham	Section 3A Technical Assistance	Ongoing	Comprehensive	Lizeth Gonzalez, Robert Cabral	MHP, Barr Foundation
Regional	SRPEDD Regional Resilience Plan (SRRP)	Implementation	Comprehensive, Environmental, Transportation	Michelle Tinger, Lizeth Gonzalez, Grant King	DLTA
Regional	TARPA	Ongoing	Comprehensive, Environmental, Transportation	Michelle Tinger, Lizeth Gonzalez, Grant King	FFIO (A&F)
Regional	Buzzards Bay Water Quality Planning & Regional NPS Coordinator Program	Ongoing	Environmental	Michelle Tinger	MassDEP
Regional	Farmland Protection Partnership Program Grant	Ongoing	Environmental	Karen Pettinelli	MDAR
Regional	Greater New Bedford Regional Refuse Management District Land Alternatives and Reuse Study	Ongoing	Comprehensive	Rob Cabral, Lizeth Gonzalez, Grant King	DLTA, Local
Regional	Regional Outdoor Recreation Inventory	Ongoing	Environmental	Lauren Lunetta	MOOR
Regional	Assawompset Ponds Water Quality Assessment, Snake River Culvert Evaluation and Nemasket River restoration	Ongoing	Environmental	Michelle Tinger, Karen Pettinelli	DER, TNC

Regional	Taunton River Stewardship Council Website Technical Assistance	Ongoing	Environmental	Karen Porter	TRSC
Regional	DLTA and DLTA-A	Ongoing	Comprehensive, Environmental, Transportation	Jeff Walker, Grant King, Michelle Tinger, Lisa Estrela-Pedro	DLTA-A
Regional	Rural Community Section 3A Compliance Efforts	Ongoing	Comprehensive	Rob Cabral, Taylor Perez	EOHLC
Regional	Assawompset Ponds Groundwater Hydrologic & Hydraulic Study	Ongoing	Environmental	Karen Pettinelli	DER
Regional	Assawompset Ponds Sedimentation, Invasive Removal, and Snipatuit Evaluation	Ongoing	Environmental	Karen Pettinelli	ARPA
Regional	Rural Policy Advisory Council	Ongoing	Environmental	Karen Pettinelli	
Regional	Arts and Culture Community Development Initiative	Ongoing	Comprehensive	Lizeth Gonzalez	DLTA
Regional	Justice, Equity, and Community Development (JECD) Initiative	Ongoing	Comprehensive	Taylor Perez	DLTA
Regional	South Coast Administrators Committee	Ongoing	Administrative	Jeff Walker	SRPEDD
Regional	Mass. Assn. of Regional Planning Commissions (MARPA)	Ongoing	Administrative	Jeff Walker	RPAs
Regional	Brownfield Community Wide Assessment Grant	Ongoing	Environmental	Michelle Tinger, Lizeth Gonzalez	EPA
Regional	Regional ADU Bylaw Technical Assistance	Ongoing	Comprehensive	Rob Cabral, Taylor Perez, Grant King	DLTA

Regional	Resilient Taunton Watershed Network (RTWN) facilitation	Ongoing	Environmental	Sara Singh	
Regional	Taunton River Stewardship Plan Update	Ongoing	Environmental	Sara Singh	TRSC
Regional	Taunton River Pocket Map Update	Ongoing	Environmental	Karen Porter	TRSC
Regional	Emergency Management /Evacuation Tabletop Exercises	Ongoing	Homeland Security/Transportation	Kevin Ham	MassDOT
Regional	Rural COA Partnership	Ongoing	Comprehensive	Amber Davis	AgeSpan, EOE
Regional - MassDOT	FFY27-31 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Management Development	Ongoing	Transportation	Jackie Jones, Lisa Estrela-Pedro	MassDOT
Regional - MassDOT	Southcoast Bikeway Technical Assistance	Ongoing	Transportation	Jon Gray	MassDOT, DLTA
Regional - MassDOT	Pavement Management - Fed. Aid Road Network Data Collection & Analysis	Ongoing	Transportation	Luis de Oliveira	MassDOT
Regional - MassDOT	Taunton River Trail Technical Assistance	Ongoing	Transportation	Jon Gray	MassDOT
Regional - MassDOT	Joint Transportation Planning Group (JTPG)	Ongoing	Transportation	Lisa Estrela-Pedro, Andrea Duarte, Jackie Jones	MassDOT
Regional - MassDOT	Southeastern Massachusetts Metropolitan Planning Organization (SMMPO)	Ongoing	Transportation	Lisa Estrela-Pedro, Andrea Duarte	MassDOT
Regional - MassDOT	Food Access & Security in Transportation Plan, Phase 2	Ongoing	Transportation	Noah Soutier, Jon Gray	MassDOT
Regional - MassDOT	Parking Lot Utilization Plan, Phase 2	Ongoing	Transportation	Jon Gray	MassDOT

Regional - MassDOT	FFY26-30 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Management	Ongoing	Transportation	Jackie Jones, Lisa Estrela-Pedro	MassDOT
Regional - MassDOT	Transit Coordination	Ongoing	Transportation	Dan Brogan	MassDOT
Regional - MassDOT	Traffic Counting and Turning Movement Counts	Ongoing	Transportation	Luis de Oliveira, Sisar Botelho	MassDOT
Regional - Green Communities	Regional Energy Planning Assistance (REPA): Annual Reports, Competitive Grant Applications, Regional Technical Consultant and Energy Leadership Exchange	Ongoing	Environmental	All Enviro Staff; Michelle DOER Contract Management	DOER
Regional - MassDOT	South East Regional Coordinating Council on Transportation (SERCCOT)	Ongoing	Transportation	Dan Brogan	MassDOT
Regional - MassDOT	Age Friendly Mobility Plan, Phase 2	Ongoing	Transportation	Andrea Duarte, Dan Brogan	MassDOT
Regional - Providence-Warwick MSA	Climate Pollution Reduction Grant	Ongoing	Environmental	Audrey Matthews	EPA
Regional - SNEP Network	SNEP Network Provider	Ongoing	Environmental	Michelle Tinger	USM/EPA
Regional - SRAC	Homeland Security Program and Project Management	Ongoing	Comprehensive, Homeland Security	Kevin Ham, Grant King	MAPC
Regional - SRAC	Homeland Security Program and Project Management	Ongoing	Comprehensive, Homeland Security	Kevin Ham, Grant King	MAPC, EOPSS
Regional & Dighton, Middleborough	Open Space Residential Design Regional Study	Ongoing	Environmental	Michelle Tinger, Karen Pettinelli	EOEEA
Regional (Berkley, Dighton, Rehoboth)	MBI Municipal Digital Equity Planning	Ongoing	Comprehensive	Maria Jones, Amber Davis	MassTech, MBI

Regional (Carver, Lakeville, Middleborough)	MBI Municipal Digital Equity Planning	Ongoing	Comprehensive	Maria Jones, Amber Davis	MassTech, MBI
Rehoboth	Green Communities Technical Assistance	Ongoing	Environmental	Audrey Matthews, Lauren Lunetta	DOER
Seekonk	Housing Production Plan (Tier 2, Phase 1)	Ongoing	Comprehensive	Taylor Perez	DLTA
Somerset	Slade's Ferry Zoning and Design Guidelines and Implementation	Ongoing	Comprehensive	Grant King, Lizeth Gonzalez, Rob Cabral, Maria Jones	Local, DLTA
Somerset	Route 103 Neighborhood Plan	Ongoing	Comprehensive	Rob Cabral	EOHLC
Somerset	Riverwalk and Overlook Concept Design	Ongoing	Comprehensive	Rob Cabral	TRSC
Somerset, Swansea	Wastewater District Assistance	Ongoing	Comprehensive	Lizeth Gonzalez	EDA
Swansea	Route 103 Corridor Plan	Ongoing	Comprehensive	Rob Cabral	EOHLC
Swansea	Municipal Digital Equity Plan	Ongoing	Comprehensive	Maria Jones, Kaitlin Whalen	MBI
Swansea	MVP 2.0 Technical Assistance	Pending	Environmental	Audrey Matthews	MVP
Taunton	ASHE Training Exercise	Ongoing	Homeland Security	Kevin Ham	DLTA, local
Taunton	Lights On Festival Direct Economic Impacts	Ongoing	Comprehensive	Rob Cabral, Lizeth Gonzalez, Grant King	local
Taunton	Section 3A Technical Assistance	Ongoing	Comprehensive	Taylor Perez, Rob Cabral	EOHLC, local
Taunton	MSIP V- Business Park	Ongoing	Comprehensive	Lizeth Gonzalez	EDA
Westport	Route 6 Neighborhood Plan	Ongoing	Comprehensive	Lizeth Gonzalez and Robert Cabral	One Stop

Westport	Open Space and Recreation Plan	Ongoing	Environmental	Karen Pettinelli	DLTA
Westport	Housing Production Plan (Tier 1, Phase 1)	Ongoing	Comprehensive	Taylor Perez	DLTA, local
Westport	Village Zoning Update	New	Comprehensive	Robert Cabral	Local
Westport	Head of Westport Traffic Counts & Historical Data Comparison	Completed	Transportation	Luis de Oliveira	MassDOT
Westport and Wood Hole Group	Beach Management Plan	Ongoing	Comprehensive	Kevin Ham	Woods Hole Group
Wrentham	MVP 2.0 Technical Assistance	Pending	Environmental	Lauren Lunetta	MVP



Federal Funds and Infrastructure Office – Municipal Technical Assistance Programs

About the Federal Funds and Infrastructure Office (FFIO)

Officially created by Executive Order No. 624, and tasked with implementing a whole-of-government to compete for federal funding by:



Identifying and tracking key federal funding opportunities and Massachusetts applications through the State Clearinghouse



Leading bi-weekly meetings of the interagency Advisory Council on Federal Funds and Infrastructure



Leading the Massachusetts Federal Funds Partnership and other meetings to support local governments in their applications for federal funding



Implementing the Federal Match legislation (*Chapter 214 of the Acts of 2024*)

Background:



- FFIO/A&F deployment of technical assistance is **enabled by Chapter 214 of the Acts of 2024** (“***An Act to Provide for Competitiveness and Infrastructure Investment in Massachusetts***” or “the Act”) to support projects for cities and towns across the state.
- The Act enables new resources for local government technical assistance to pursue federal funding opportunities.
- FFIO/A&F has established a Municipal and Tribal Technical Assistance (MTTA) Grant Program, and a Technical Assistance Grant Program for Regional Planning Agencies (TARPA.)

Municipal and Tribal Technical Assistance Program



- **Grant type:** Competitive, direct funding for selected municipalities
- **Funding Cap:** None; decisions made on a rolling, first-come-first-serve basis (up until a fixed amount per year)
- **Covered Services** (related to pursuing federal opportunities): Including but not limited to:
 - Tax assistance (e.g. for Direct Pay) and legal assistance
 - Grant-writing, project scoping and financial analysis
 - Planning and feasibility studies,
 - Demonstration activities
 - Post-award grant management support.
- **Administration:** In coordination with ANF, FFIO will establish and oversee a process to receive requests for technical assistance services and select successful applicants
- **Funding amount:** approximately \$2,500,000 over 2 years

Technical Assistance Grants for Regional Planning Agencies



- **Grant type:** Formula-based, direct funding for all 13 RPAs with grant conditions.
- **Eligibility:** All Massachusetts RPAs.
- **Covered Scope of Work (related to pursuing federal opportunities):** Including but not limited to: hiring in-house capacity to provide technical assistance, grant application support, project development and implementation support such as project scoping and financial analysis, planning and feasibility studies, cost-benefit analysis.
- **Administration:** In coordination with ANF and DLS, FFIO will establish and oversee a process to allocate grant funding to RPAs on *an opt-in basis*. Funding would be tied to specific conditions and reporting requirements:
 - (1) Projects pursuing federal funds;
 - (2) Regular updates to FFIO, and coordination with FFIO as needed;
 - (3) Annual spending reports
- **Funding amount:** \$2,000,000 over 2 years
- **All 13 RPA's have signed up for TARPA including SRPEDD! 😊**

Learn about the technical assistance programs here:



 OFFERED BY [Federal Funds & Infrastructure Office](#)

Municipal and Tribal Technical Assistance Grant Program Application

Apply to the FFIO Municipal and Tribal Technical Assistance Grant Program (MTTA)

This application is for all Massachusetts local governments and federally recognized tribes, as well as regional organizations whose membership is exclusively composed of municipal governments, community development corporations and other development authorities or agencies eligible for MTTA grants. To qualify for funding under this program, applicants must demonstrate:

- mass.gov/MTTA
- mass.gov/TARPA
- mass.gov/FFIO-TA

OCEAN ADVISORY COMMISSION & SCIENCE ADVISORY COUNCIL

JOINT MEETING



February 2, 2026

OCEAN ADVISORY COMMISSION

“...to assist the secretary in developing the ocean management plan.”

Legislators

- Sen. Julian Cyr
- Sen. Dylan Fernandes
- Sen. Bruce Tarr
- Rep. Patrick Kearney
- Rep. Joan Meschino
- Rep. Ken Sweezey

State Agency Representatives

- Alison Brizius CZM Director
- Dan McKiernan DMF Director
- Tay Evans MassDEP designee

Stakeholder Representatives

- Beth Casoni Commercial fishing organization
- Chris McGuire Environmental organization
- Liz Marsjanik Expert in offshore renewable energy

Regional Planning Agency Representatives

- Heather McElroy CCC
- Daniel Doyle MVC
- Jeffrey Carlson NP&EDC
- Jerrard Whitten MVPC
- Dominick Pangallo MAPC
- Janice Robbins SRPEDD

SCIENCE ADVISORY COUNCIL

“... to assist the secretary in creating a baseline assessment and obtaining any other scientific information...”

Academic Institutions

- Kevin Stokesbury UMass Dartmouth, SMAST*
- John Duff UMass Boston, School for the Environment*
- Kristin Uiterwyk UMass Boston, Urban Harbors Institute

Private, Nonprofit Organizations

- Jon Grabowski MA Fishermen's Partnership*
- Priscilla Brooks Conservation Law Foundation
- Jessica Redfern New England Aquarium

Agency Representatives

- Mark Rousseau MA DMF*
- Todd Callaghan MA CZM
- Laura Brothers USGS

OCEAN PLAN SPANS MASSACHUSETTS SECTORS AND PRIORITIES



**Protected
species**



Energy



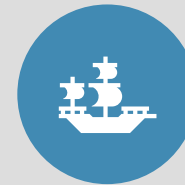
**Coastal
resilience**



**(Sea)food
security**



**Recreation and
public water
access**



**Cultural
resources**



**Responding to
Climate change**

ResilientCoasts

FINAL PLAN



November 2025



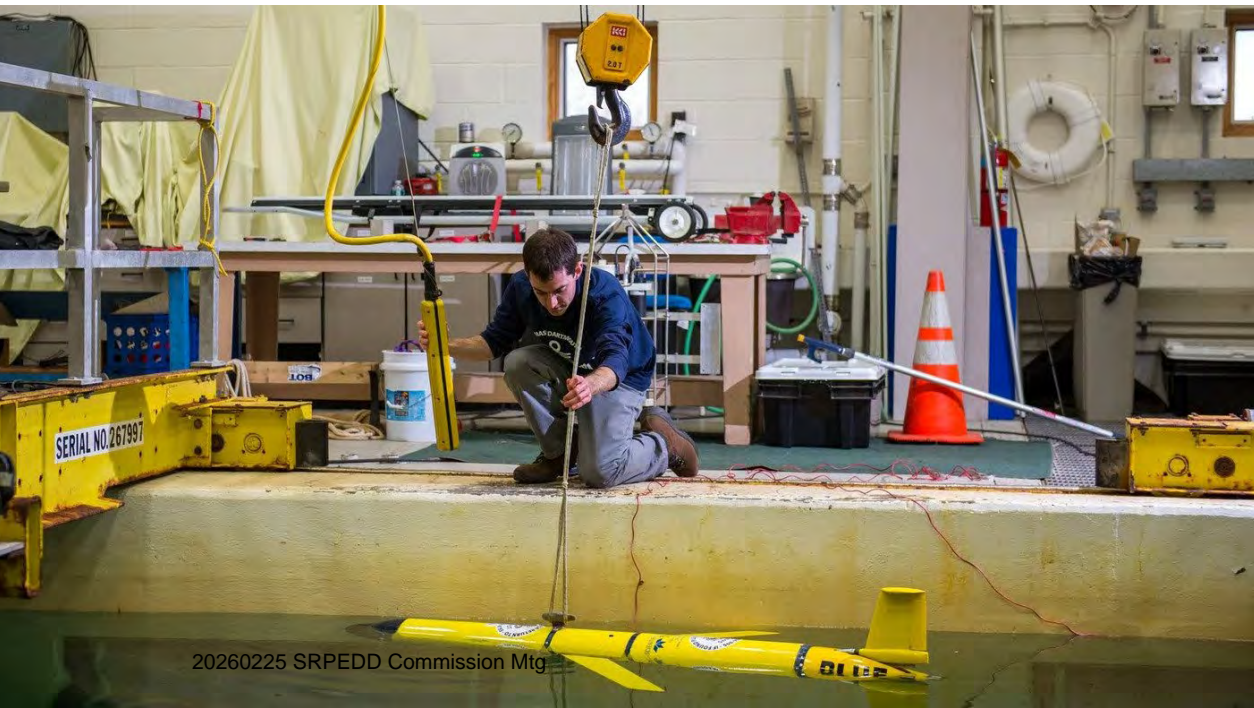
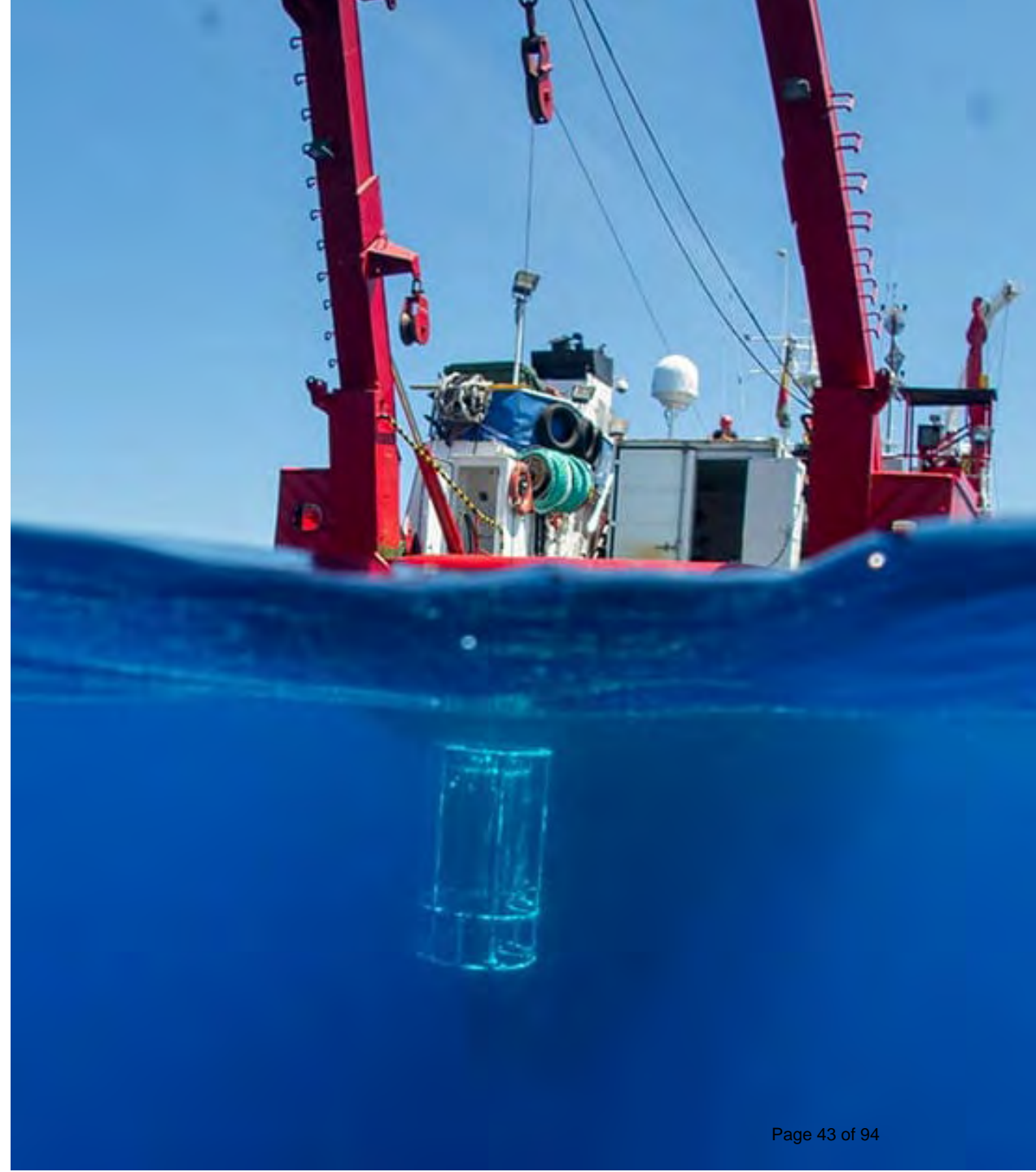


BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION GOALS FOR THE COMMONWEALTH

A whole-of-government approach to conserve biodiversity in Massachusetts for 2030, 2040, and 2050







Todd Callaghan,
CZM Coastal and
Marine Scientist

OCEAN MANAGEMENT IN MASSACHUSETTS

OCEAN MANAGEMENT BEFORE THE OCEAN PLAN



“Use of the state's public ocean resources have historically been determined on a **‘first come, first served’** basis...

...we think that **more careful planning** for the use and protection of our ocean resources is critical to our long term interests.”

- *Massachusetts Ocean Management Task Force, 2004*



MASSACHUSETTS OCEANS ACT (2008)

- Directed Secretary of EEA to develop integrated **ocean management plan**
 - Siting priorities, locations, and standards for allowed uses, facilities, activities
 - Identify and protect special, sensitive, or unique estuarine and marine life and habitats
 - Foster sustainable uses and support infrastructure necessary for economy and quality of life
- All state approvals must be consistent with Plan
- Plan is reviewed at least once every 5 years



MASSACHUSETTS OCEANS ACT (2008)

Created two advisory bodies

- **Ocean Advisory Commission:** “...to assist the secretary in developing the ocean management plan.”
 - Legislators, agency leads, regional planning agencies, stakeholders
- **Science Advisory Council:** “... to assist the secretary in creating a baseline assessment and obtaining any other scientific information...”
 - Academic, non-profit, and agency scientists

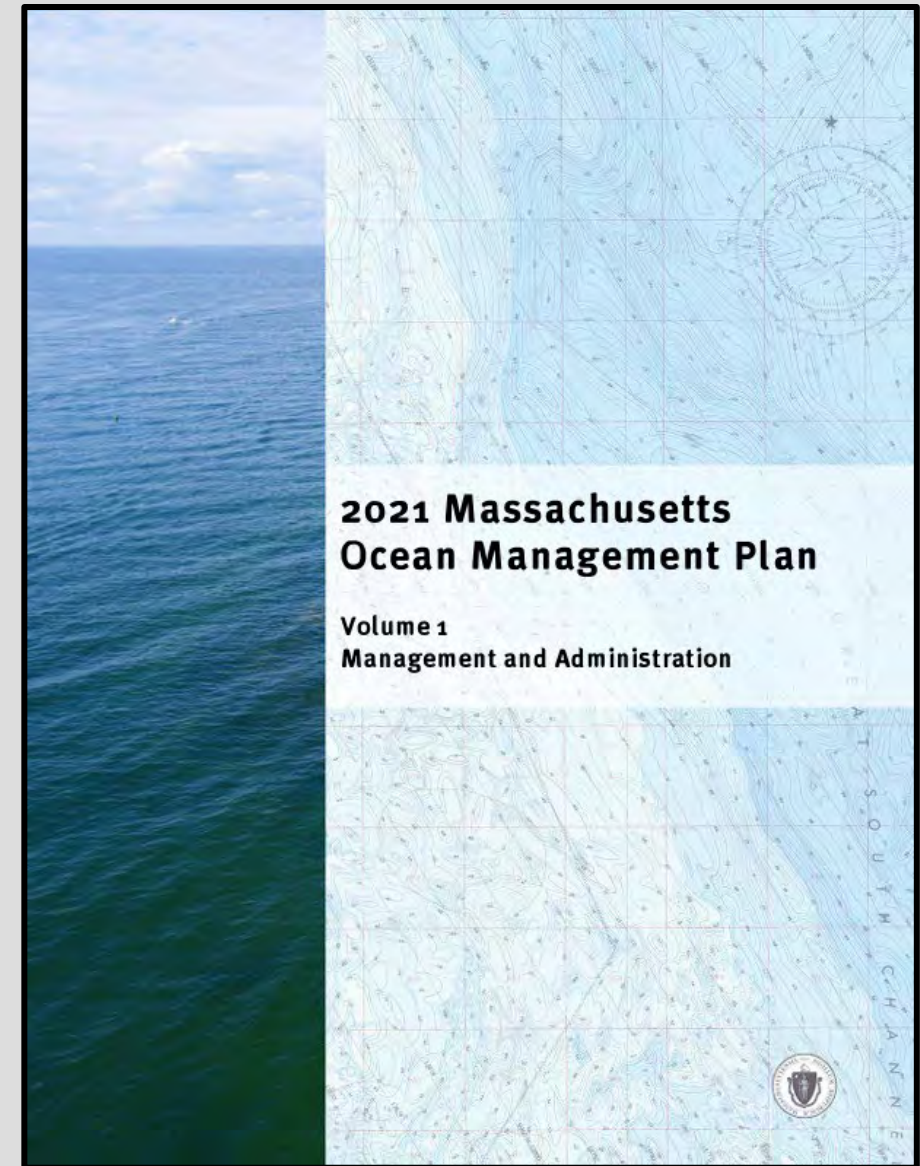


MASSACHUSETTS OCEAN PLANNING AREA

- Defined in Oceans Act of 2008
- 0.3 nautical mile from shore to state/federal boundary
- Does not include harbors, rivers, inlets

THE OCEAN MANAGEMENT PLAN: VOLUME I

- Volume I – Management Framework:
 - **Special, Sensitive, or Unique** resources (habitat)
 - **Water Dependent Uses** (e.g., traffic, fishing)
 - **Siting and performance standards** for projects (cables, pipelines, renewable energy, sand mining, others) to protect those areas
 - Consistency with Ocean Plan Standards determined through MEPA



THE OCEAN MANAGEMENT PLAN: PROTECTED AREAS

Protected Area	Community Scale Wind	Commercial Tidal Energy	Sand for nourishment	Cables	Pipelines
North Atlantic Right Whale	X	X	X	X	X
Humpback Whale	X		X	X	X
Fin Whale	X		X	X	X
Roseate Terns	X		X		
Special Concern Terns	X				
Sea Ducks	X				
Leach's Storm Petrel	X				
Colonial Waterbirds	X				
Hard/Complex Seafloor			X	X	X
Eelgrass	X	X	X	X	X
Intertidal Flats	X	X	X	X	X
Important Fish Resource Areas		X	X		X
High Comm. Fishing Effort & Value	X	X	X		X
Recreational Fishing	X	X	X		X
Traffic	X	X			
Fishing Traffic	X	X			
Recreational Boating	X	X			
Fixed Fishing Facilities	X	X	X	X	X

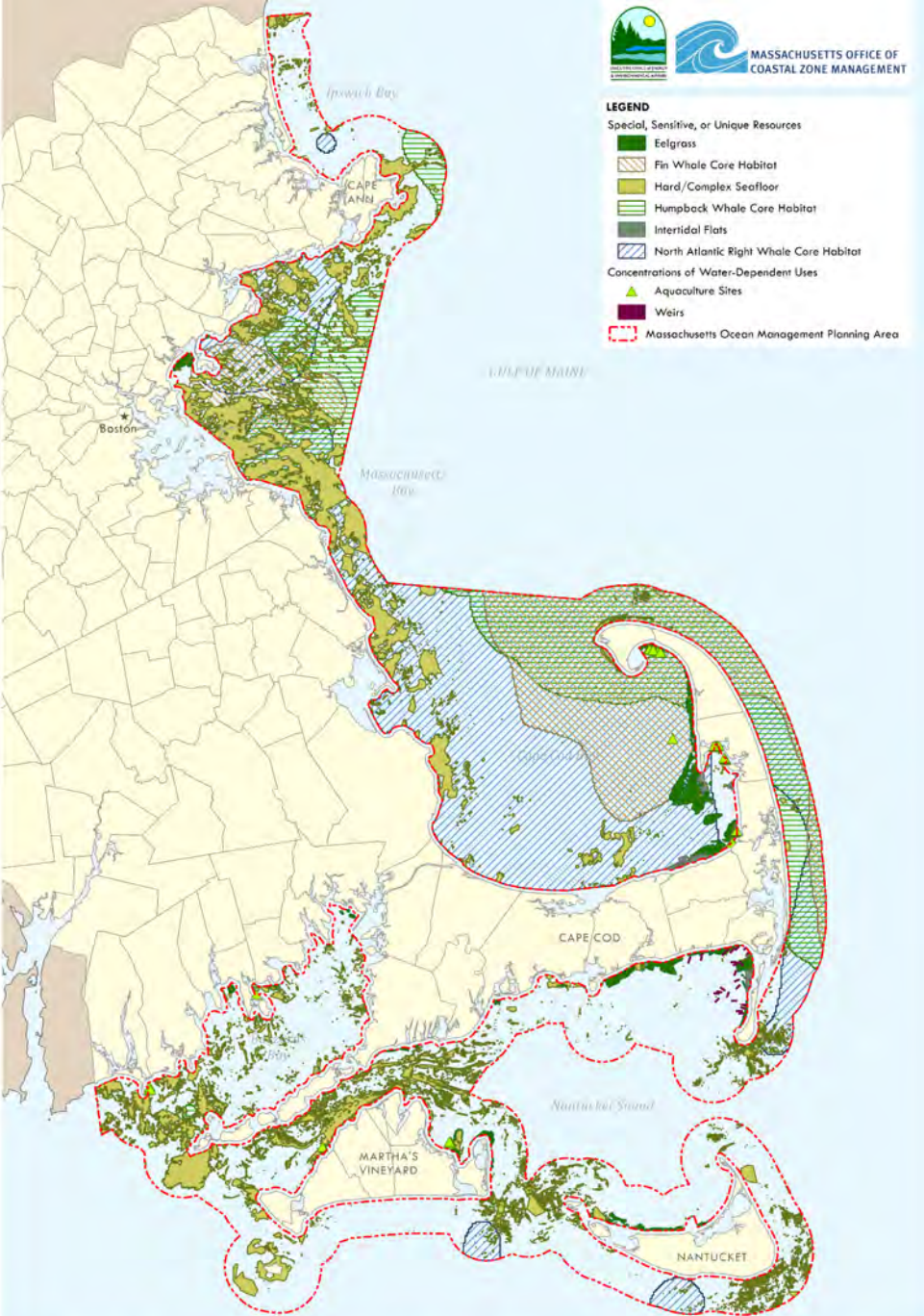
PROTECTED AREA PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

SSU: SPECIAL SENSITIVE OR UNIQUE RESOURCES (HABITATS AND PHYSICAL FEATURES)

- Projects presumptively excluded
 - Rebuttable by:
 - 1) demonstrating there is no less environmentally damaging practicable alternative, and
 - 2) there will be no significant alteration of resources, and
 - 3) public benefits outweigh public detriments
 - OR show maps mischaracterized the area

WDU: CONCENTRATED WATER- DEPENDENT USE AREAS (HUMAN USES)

- Projects must demonstrate avoidance, minimization, and mitigation through permitting

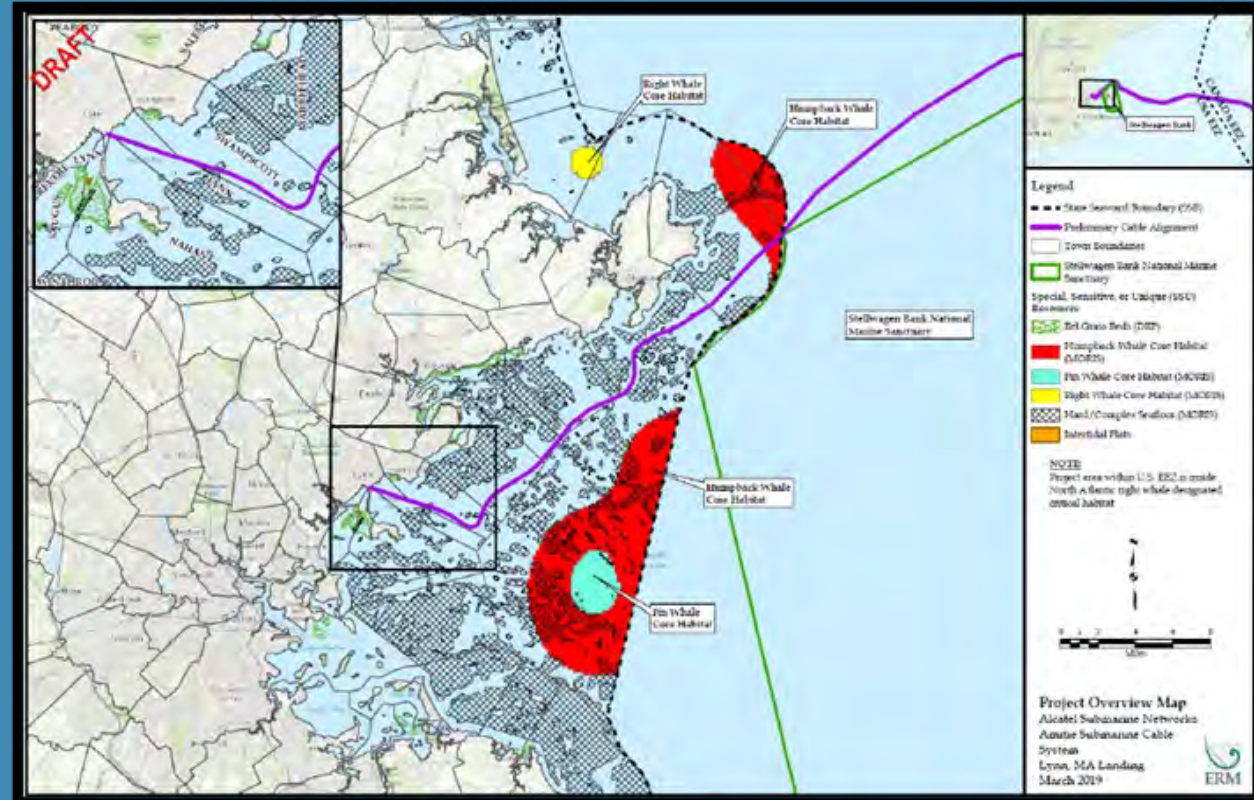


EXAMPLE USE OF PLAN: PROJECT REVIEW OF CABLE PROJECT

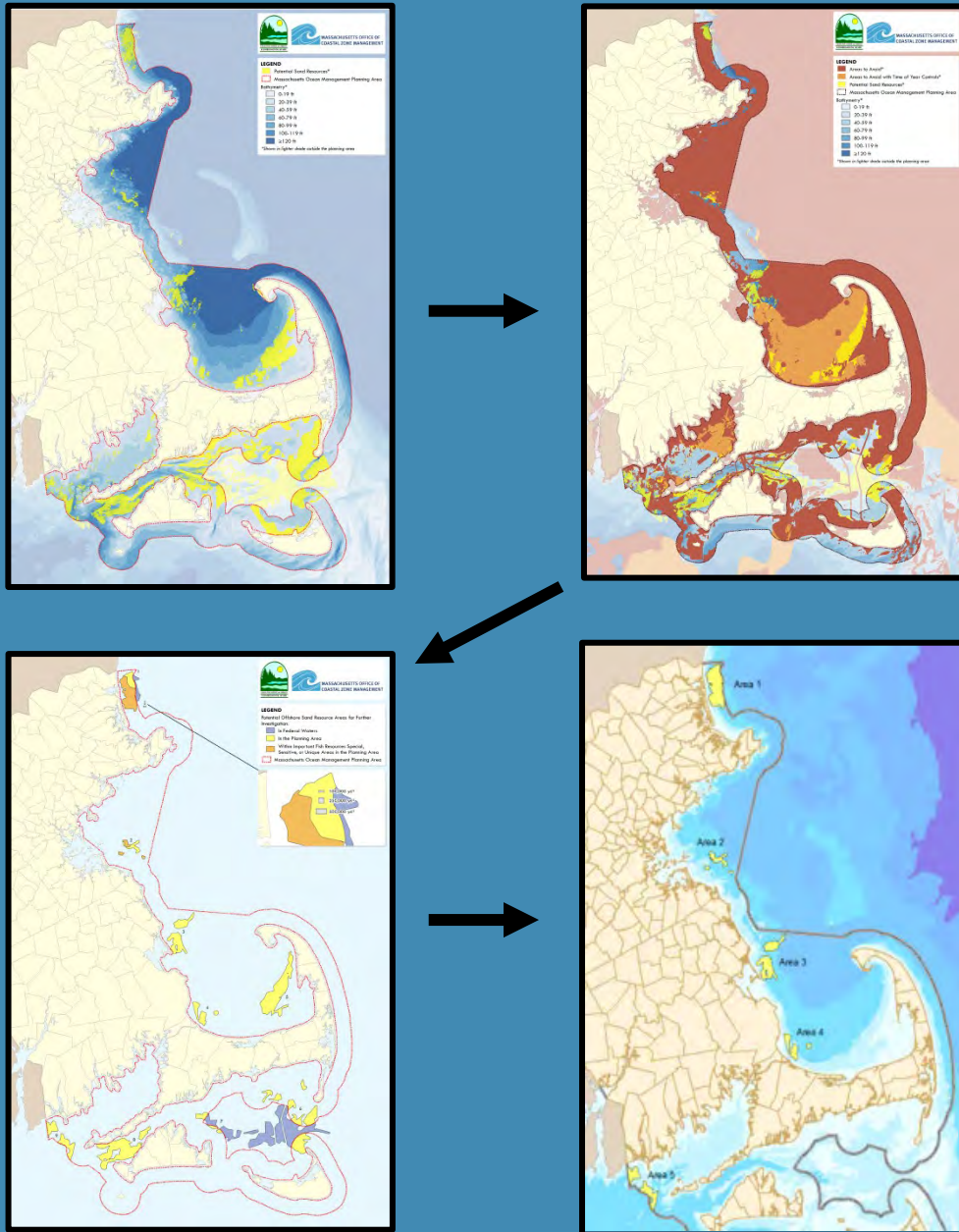
- SSUs/WDUs Addressed for Cable projects
 - Eelgrass
 - Fin, Humpback, Right Whale Core Habitats
 - Hard/Complex Seafloor
 - Intertidal Flats
 - Fixed Fishing Facilities

EXAMPLE USE OF PLAN: AMITIE TELECOMS CABLE

- 4,200 km cable from Europe to Lynn, MA
- 1.3" cable
- 500 m construction corridor
- Crosses N. Shore and S. Essex ocean sanctuaries
- Avoided hard/complex seafloor, whale SSUs



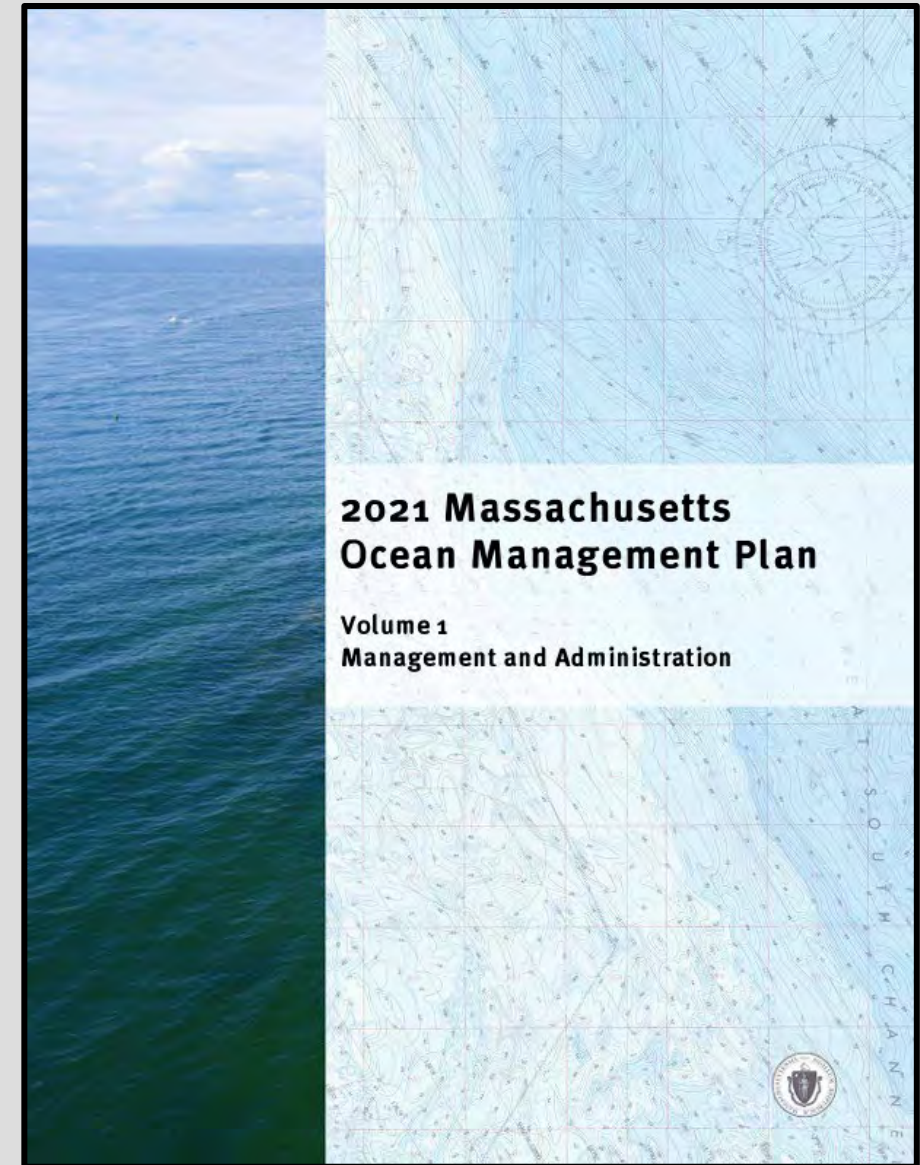
EXAMPLE USE OF PLAN: SPATIAL PLANNING FOR POTENTIAL OFFSHORE SAND RESOURCES



- Started with all known published sand areas
- Used exclusionary criteria to filter out areas not appropriate
- 5 Preliminary offshore sand areas became a focus for study
- 52 cores + 174 nm geophysical survey = potential 165 M cy of sand at least 1.5-3.0 m thick

THE OCEAN MANAGEMENT PLAN: VOLUME I, CONT'D

- Volume I – Management Framework:
 - Ocean Development Mitigation Fee**
 - Fee schedule based on scope, scale, and effects of project
 - Ocean Resources and Waterways Trust Fund**
 - Funds are to be used for the restoration, enhancement, or management of marine habitat



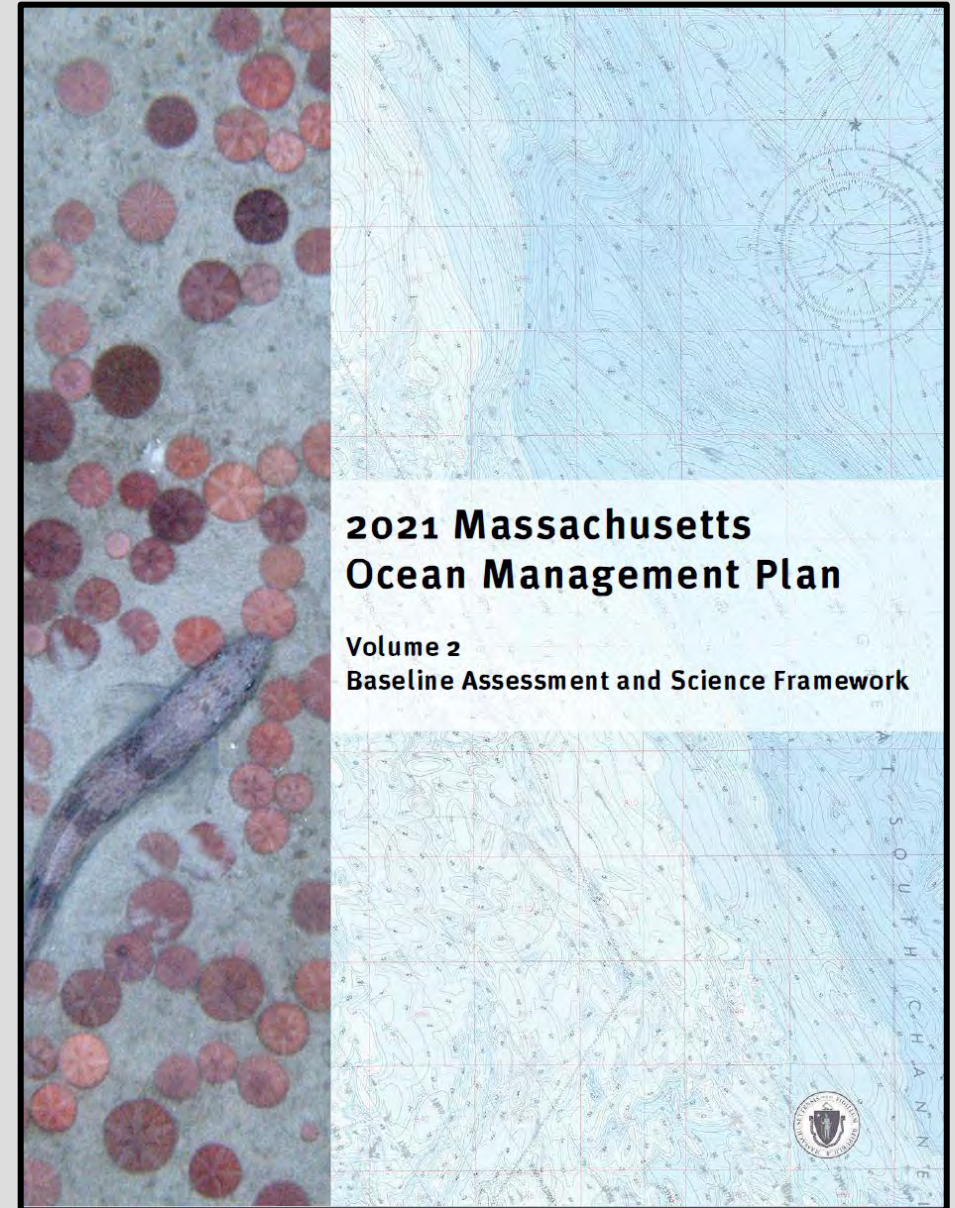
OCEAN PLAN IMPLEMENTATION

- Since 2009, 6 cable projects have been reviewed under the plan
- ~\$1.5M deposited into the Ocean Resources and Waterways Trust Fund
- Trust has funded data collection and analysis related to mapping seafloor habitats, marine mammals, and benthic infauna



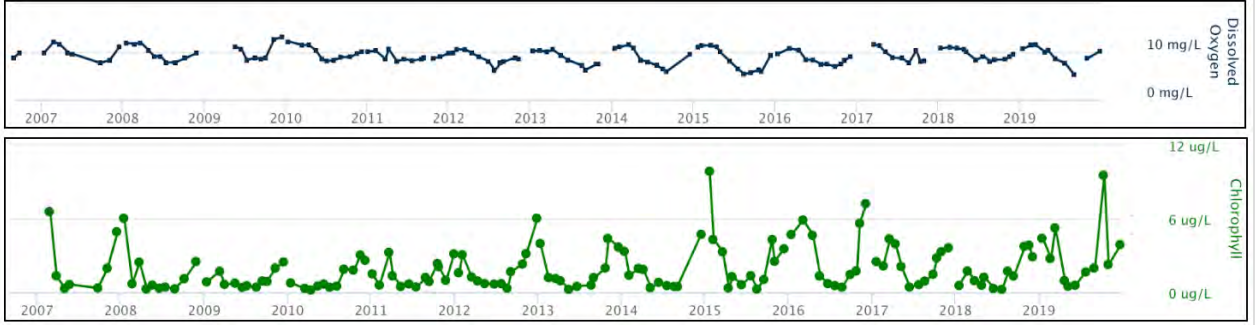
THE OCEAN MANAGEMENT PLAN: VOLUME 2

- Volume 2:
 - **Baseline Assessment**
 - Characterizes the Ocean Planning Area, including tracking trends
 - **Science and Data Priorities**
 - Lays out Science/Management priority areas and data needs for next 5 years

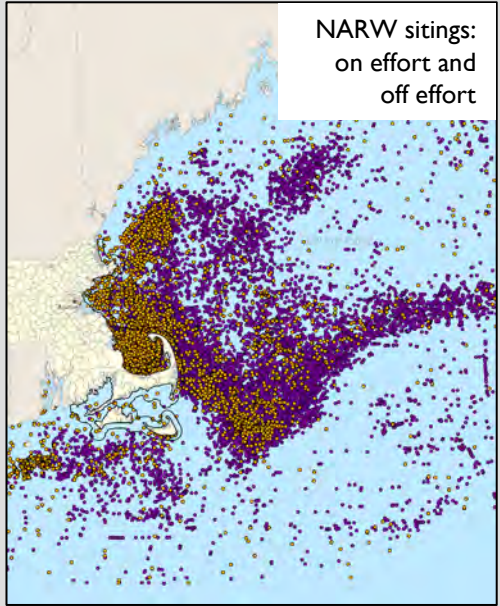


BASELINE ASSESSMENT

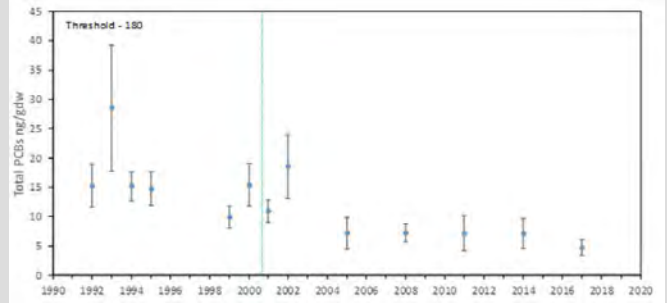
Water Column Features



Habitat



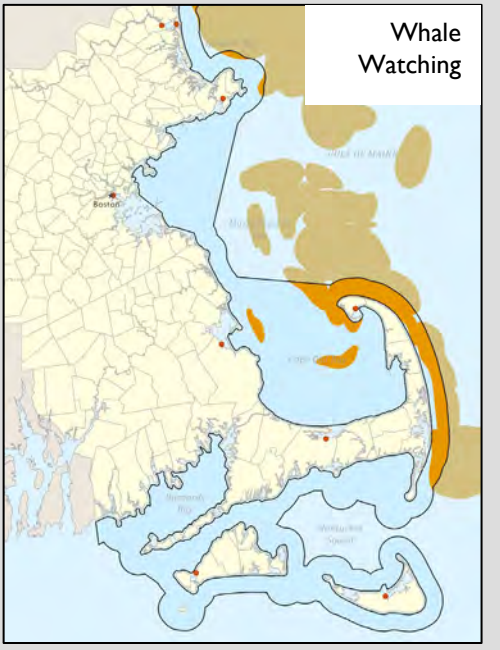
Seabed Features



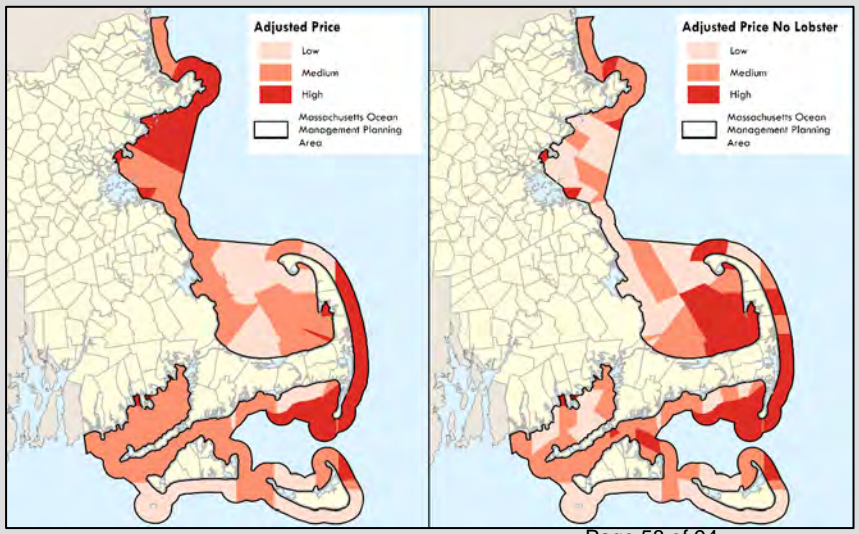
Archaeological Landscape and Cultural Heritage



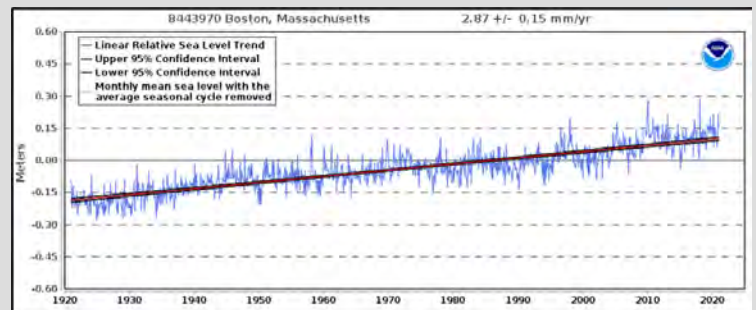
Human Uses



Economic Impact of the Marine Sector



Climate Change



OCEAN PLAN: 2021 SCIENCE PRIORITIES

1. Continue to support the development of offshore wind projects
2. Further characterize offshore sand resources
3. Further characterize cultural resources and identify recreational hotspots
4. Continue seafloor and habitat mapping initiatives
5. Adapt the management framework in response to the most recent science and geospatial data

QUESTIONS?

Hollie Emery, CZM
Offshore Project
Review Specialist

OCEAN MANAGEMENT PLAN REVIEW PROCESS

OCEAN MANAGEMENT PLAN: ADAPTIVE BY DESIGN

- Oceans Act (2008) directs EEA to review the plan and baseline assessment at least once every 5 years
 - Newest science and information characterizing uses and resources
 - Emerging management needs and spatial planning priorities
- Process has 2 phases, each taking 12+ months:
 1. Develop a formal review
 2. Amend or Update the plan

PHASE I: THE REVIEW

Informing the Review:

- Lessons learned from implementing the management framework
- Progress towards science and data priorities
- New understanding of/change in protected resources and managed uses
- Evolving priorities and needs of the Commonwealth

Key Finding: is a plan update/amendment needed?

Law requires: "...provisions for the review of the ocean management plan, its baseline assessment and the enforceable provisions of relevant statutes and regulations at least once every 5 years."
(M.G.L. c. 21A, § 4C)

Scope of review determined by secretary (CMR 28.07(3))

PHASE 2: UPDATE OR AMENDMENT

Update

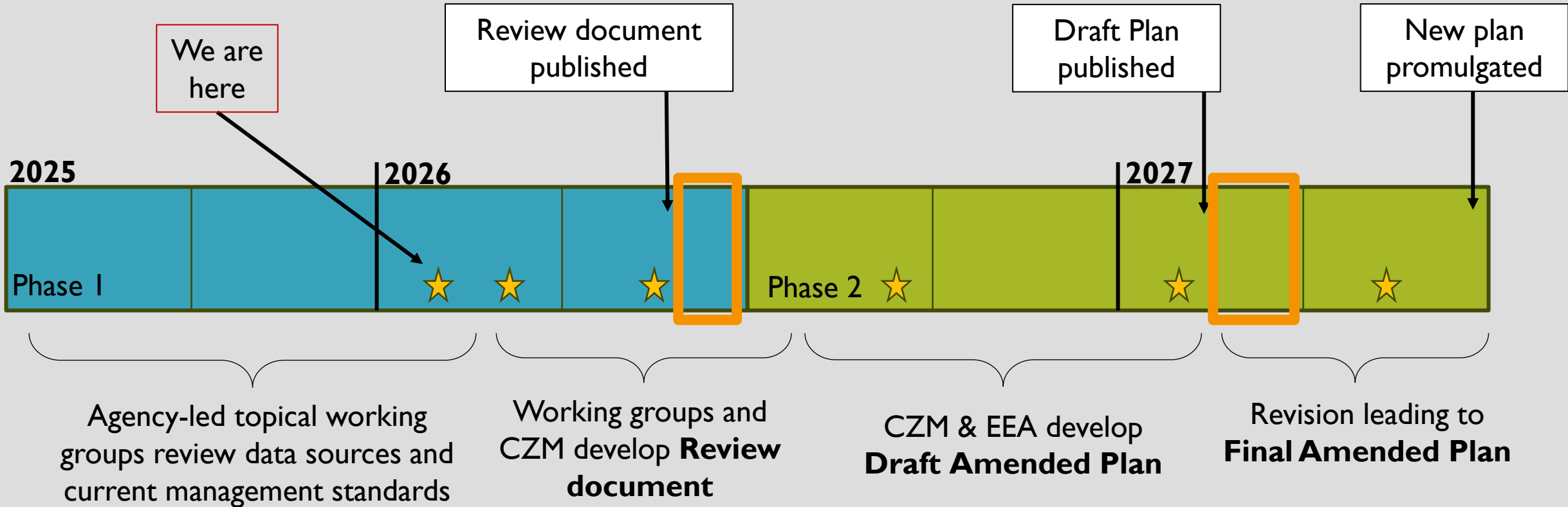
- Scope:
 - Corrections, clarifications
 - Minor boundary shifts to management areas
 - Updates to extent of SSU or WDU areas based on new data
- Process:
 - Request made to Secretary
 - Agencies, OAC and SAC review
 - 30-day public comment period, hearings optional

Amendment

- Scope:
 - New or substantially revised management standards
 - New or substantially revised management areas
 - Add or subtract SSU or WDU areas
- Process:
 - OAC and SAC consulted
 - Draft amendment released, 4+ public hearings
 - 60-day public comment period after last hearing

OCEAN PLAN REVIEW TIMELINE


- ★ OAC and SAC meetings
- Public Comment Periods




OCEAN PLAN ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES

- Governor – appoint OAC
- EEA – promulgate Ocean Plan, appoint SAC
- CZM – implement Plan, support reviews and revision
- OAC – advise EEA/CZM on Plan management framework
- SAC – advise EEA/CZM on Baseline Assessment and Plan data
- Working groups – provide subject matter expertise on relevant topics
- Stakeholders – provide feedback during public hearings and comment periods

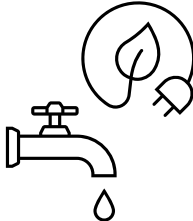
TECHNICAL WORKING GROUPS



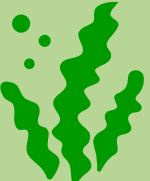
Sediment
& Geology




Culture &
Recreation




Energy &
Infrastructure




Habitat



Fisheries



Transportation &
Navigation



Ocean Tech &
Innovation


BREAK

Meeting will resume

Hollie Emery, CZM
Offshore Project
Review Specialist

2021 OCEAN MANAGEMENT PLAN: SCOPE AND FOCUS OF REVIEW


TECHNICAL WORKING GROUPS



Sediment & Geology

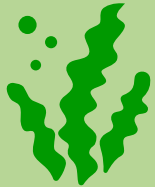


Culture & Recreation




Energy & Infrastructure


- Working groups composed of experts and led by EEA agencies began meeting in 2025
- Each group was assigned a list of tasks based on current and past Ocean Plans and on current management needs




Habitat



Fisheries



Transportation & Navigation



Ocean Tech & Innovation

WORKING GROUP TASKS

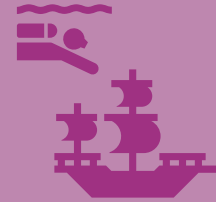
- Identify any changes to the **spatial extent** of protected areas identified and mapped in the last Plan: SSUs and WDUs.
- Review **siting and performance standards** intended to avoid, minimize, and mitigate impacts to SSUs and WDUs from ocean development.
- Identify and characterize **trends** in the status or condition of resources and uses, including
 - SSUs and WDUs mapped in the last plan and
 - items in the Baseline Assessment (Volume II).
- Identify and summarize any new information that advances the characterization of the planning area and its uses and resources, especially applied science with spatial data.
- **Review the science and data priorities** in the last ocean plan (Volume II, Science Framework) and any work done to date to address those priorities, and make recommendations for the priority science and data actions for the next five years

TECHNICAL WORKING GROUPS: KEY OPPORTUNITY AREAS



Sediment & Geology

Offshore Sand for Coastal Resilience



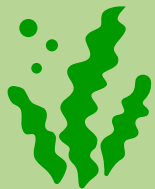
Culture & Recreation

New shipwreck or diving SSUs



Energy & Infrastructure

- POTW standards
- Cable routing



Habitat

Biodiversity Initiative:
New/revise SSUs



Fisheries

- Add nuance to SSU & WDU
- Aquaculture standards
- Apply lessons from OSW: cables, scientific surveys



Transportation & Navigation

- New Tech:
- Electrification
 - Autonomous vehicles



Ocean Tech & Innovation

How can the plan support innovation?

WORKING GROUPS: REVIEW DOMAINS

Sediment & Geology

Other Maps & Datasets

Submerged paleolandscapes

SSU:
Hard / Complex Seafloor
(sediment) (wrecks)

Use:
Sand for Nourishment

Cultural & Recreational

Tribal Use and Access

Public Access

Rec. Diving

Whale Watching

Scenic Landscapes

WDU:
Rec. Boating

Other (shipping lanes, etc)

Transportation & Navigation

WDU:
Commerce Traffic

Ocean Tech & Innovation

Energy & Infrastructure

Energy needs

Uses:
Energy Generation (2)

Uses:
Cables & Pipelines (2)

Intakes and Discharges

Fisheries

WDU:
Rec. Fishing

WDU:
Fishing Traffic

WDU:
High Comm. Fishing
Effort & Value

WDU:
Fixed Fishing

Other Maps & Datasets

Habitat

Other Maps & Datasets

SSUs:
Whale Core Habitats (3)

SSU: Eelgrass

SSUs:
Bird habitats (5)

SSU:
intertidal flats

SSU:
Fish Habitat

Key:

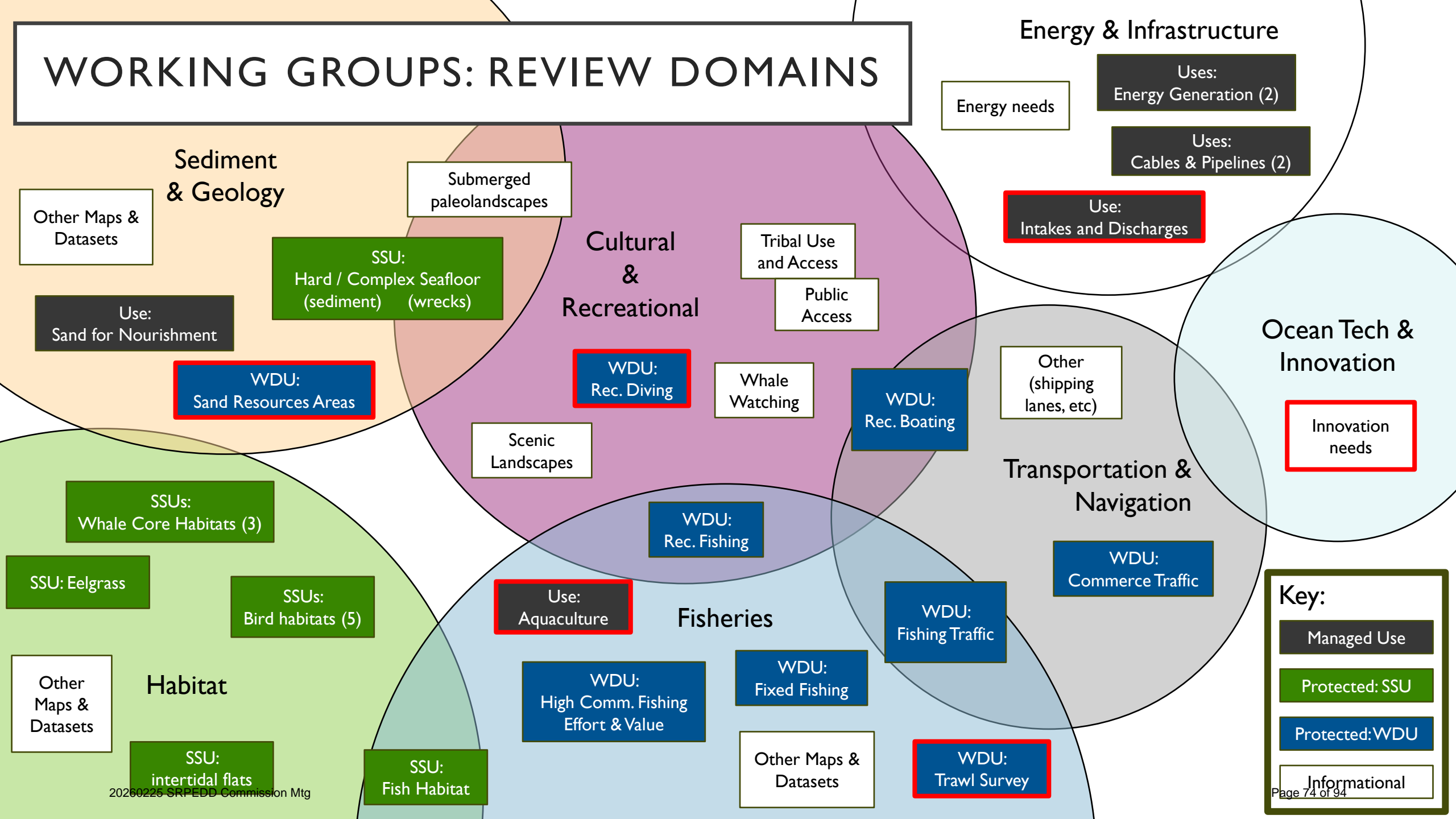
Managed Use

Protected: SSU

Protected: WDU

Informational

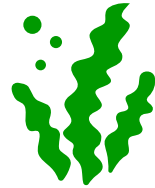
WORKING GROUPS: REVIEW DOMAINS



Key:

- Managed Use
- Protected: SSU
- Protected: WDU
- Informational

HABITAT



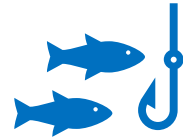
Name	Affiliation
Hollie Emery, group lead	CZM
Brooke Hodge, GIS lead	CZM
Erin Burke	DMF
Danielle Cholewiak	NOAA
Phil Colarusso	EPA
Leah Crow	DMF
Tay Evans	MassDEP
Carolyn Mostello	NHESP
Daniel Palacios	Center for Coastal Studies
Jessica Redfern	New England Aquarium
Forest Schenck	DMF

Assigned Scope:

- 10 SSUs - review data and maps:
 - 3 whale core habitats
 - 3 bird core habitats + 2 important bird nesting areas
 - Eelgrass, intertidal flats
- Consider additional SSUs if sufficient data exist (whales, sea turtles, kelp, biogenic reefs...)
- Assess merits of SSUs shifting to a seasonal schedule
- Check Progress on Science Priority #4: Continue seafloor and habitat mapping
- Baseline Assessment Chapters (45+ variables)



FISHERIES



Assigned Scope:

- 4 Protected Areas – review data sources and maps:
 - Important Fish Resource Areas (IFRA) SSU
 - High Commercial Fishing Effort and Value (HCFEV) WDU
 - Recreational Fishing WDU
 - Fixed Fishing Facilities WDU
- Consider:
 - Refining IFRA to reflect variability by species, over space and time
 - Refining HCFEV into multiple areas by gear type
 - Creating a new Trawl Survey WDU
 - Potential new standards such as defining aquaculture as managed use
- Baseline Assessment: Fisheries chapter (~20 variables)

Member

Micah Dean, group lead

Alex Boeri

Nick Buchan

Tara Dolan

Ben Gahagan

John Logan

Mark Rousseau

Brad Schondelmeier

Steve Wilcox

Affiliation

DMF (Fisheries Biology)

DMF (Shellfish)

DMF (Statistics)

DMF (Groundfish)

DMF (Recreational Fisheries)

DMF (Habitat)

DMF (Habitat)

DMF (Offshore Wind)

DMF (Surveys)



Photo: stock

SEDIMENT & GEOLOGY



Assigned Scope:

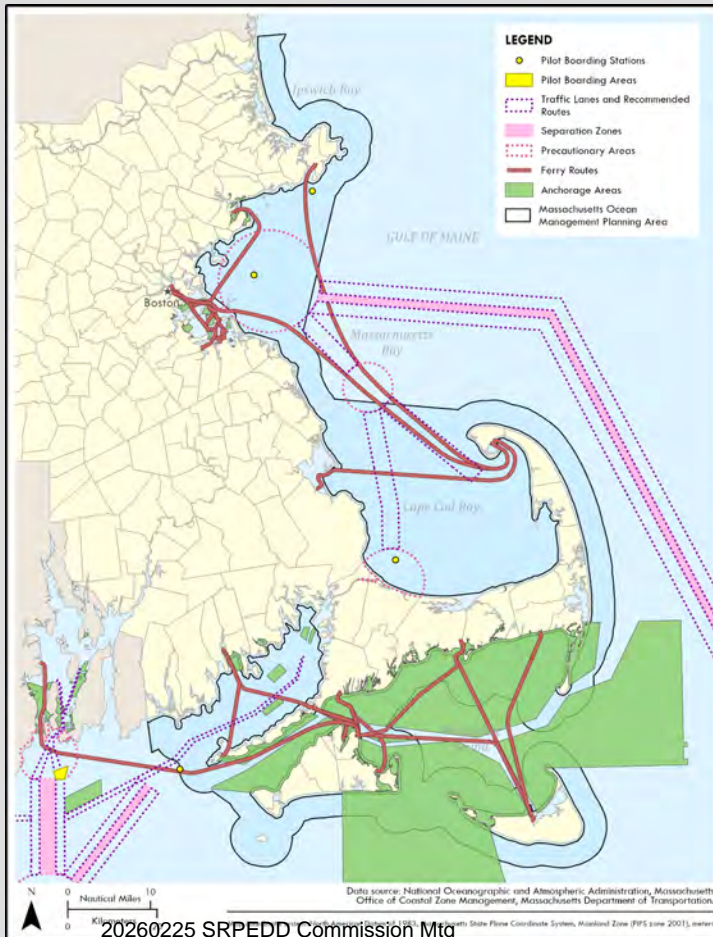
- Hard/Complex SSU – review data sources and maps
- Identify opportunities to refine management of sand resources. Evaluate possibilities for:
 - New WDU for Potential Sand Resource Areas
 - Guidelines / management framework for nourishment projects
- Progress on **Science Priority #2**: Further Characterize Potential Offshore Sand Resources
- Baseline Assessment: ~10 variables

Name	Affiliation
Todd Callaghan, group lead	CZM
Sean Duffey	CZM
Rebecca Haney	CZM
Julia Knisel	CZM
Margot Mansfield	CZM
Deanna Moran	CZM
Dan Sampson, GIS lead	CZM
Laura Brothers	USGS
Patrick Bryce	APTIM
Max Cantrell	Offshore Construction Assts
Lealdon Langley	MassDEP
Mark Reid	Great Lakes Dredge & Dock Co
Beau Suthard	APTIM



Photo: Courtesy of Prassede Vella
Page 77 of 94

TRANSPORTATION & NAVIGATION



Name

Sean Duffey, group lead
Hollie Emery, GIS lead
Sylvie Agudelo
Gordon Carr
Mark Cutter
Kate Korotky
Tyler Miller
Tess Paganelli
David Perry
Greg Robbins
Collen Roche
Richard Stover
Jen Thalhauser
Joanna Yelen
Chris Zuffante

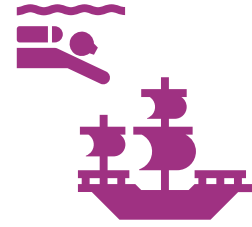
Affiliation

CZM
CZM
MassDEP, Waterways
NBPA
USCG
USCG
Massachusetts Marine Trades Association
MBTA
MBTA
DCR
NOAA
Boston Harbor Pilot Association
USACE
CZM
MassPort

Assigned Scope:

- 3 WDUs – review data sources and maps:
 - Commerce Traffic, Commercial Fishing Traffic, Recreational boating
- Consider a new WDU for traffic lanes and ferry routes
- Baseline Assessment: ~7 variables

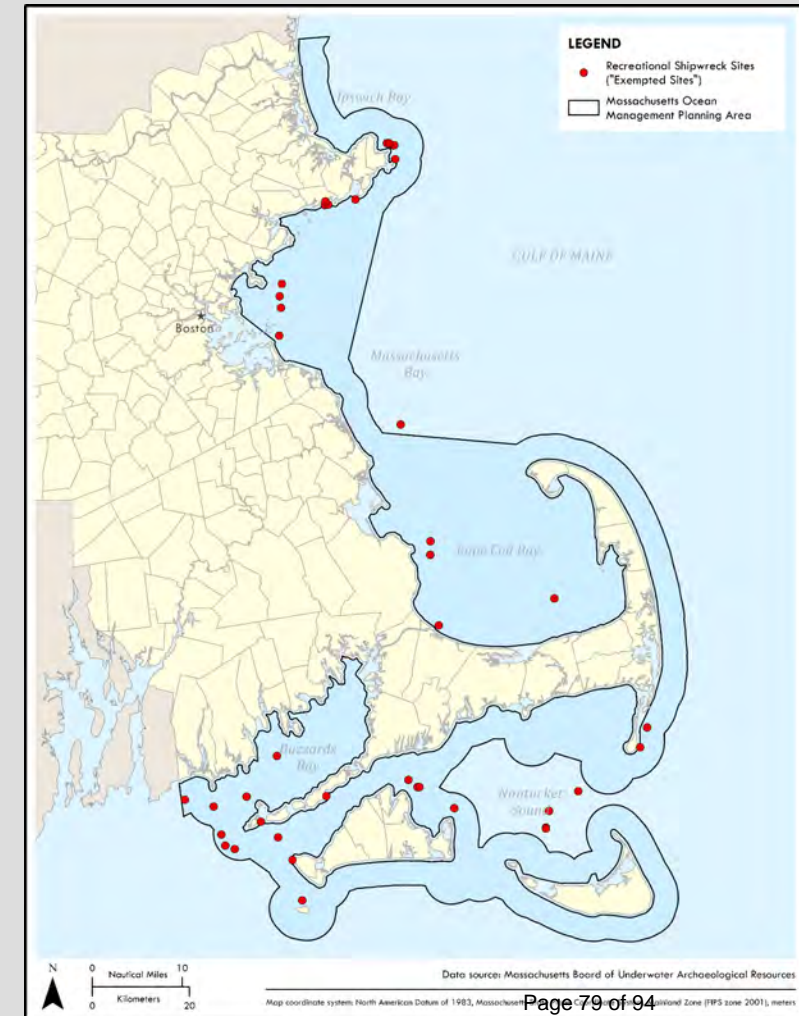
CULTURAL HERITAGE & RECREATIONAL RESOURCES



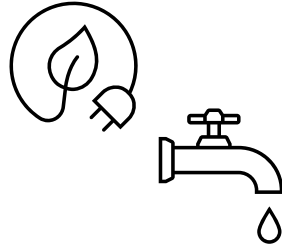
Name	Affiliation
Todd Callaghan	CZM
Hollie Emery	CZM
Paul Jahnige	MOOR
David Robinson	BUAR

Assigned Scope:

- WDUs – review data sources and maps:
 - Co-review Rec Boating WDU
 - Co-review Rec Fishing WDU
 - Co-review Hard/Complex SSU (shipwreck data)
- Consider a new WDU for dive sites if data support it
- Evaluate progress on Science Priority #3: mapping cultural resources and recreational hotspots
- Baseline Assessment: ~6 variables



ENERGY & INFRASTRUCTURE



Assigned Scope:

- Evaluate management framework: first experiences with offshore wind
- Ensure management framework can remain nimble as technology updates
- Consider:
 - Addition of standards for intakes and discharges
 - New WUDs for infrastructure
- Evaluate progress on Science Priority #1: Continue to Support the Development of Offshore Wind Projects
- Baseline Assessment: ~5 variables

Name

Chris Connolly, group lead
Hollie Emery, GIS lead
Nicole Benoit
Todd Callaghan
Marissa Ribeiro Dahan
Shannon Dennehy
Lisa Engler
Whitney Fenwick
Kirsten Holland Nantz
Lealdon Langley
Liz Marsjanik
John Miller
Weezie Nuara
Katherine O'Malley
Lauren Peloquin Shea
Vandana Rao
Matthew Waldrip

Affiliation

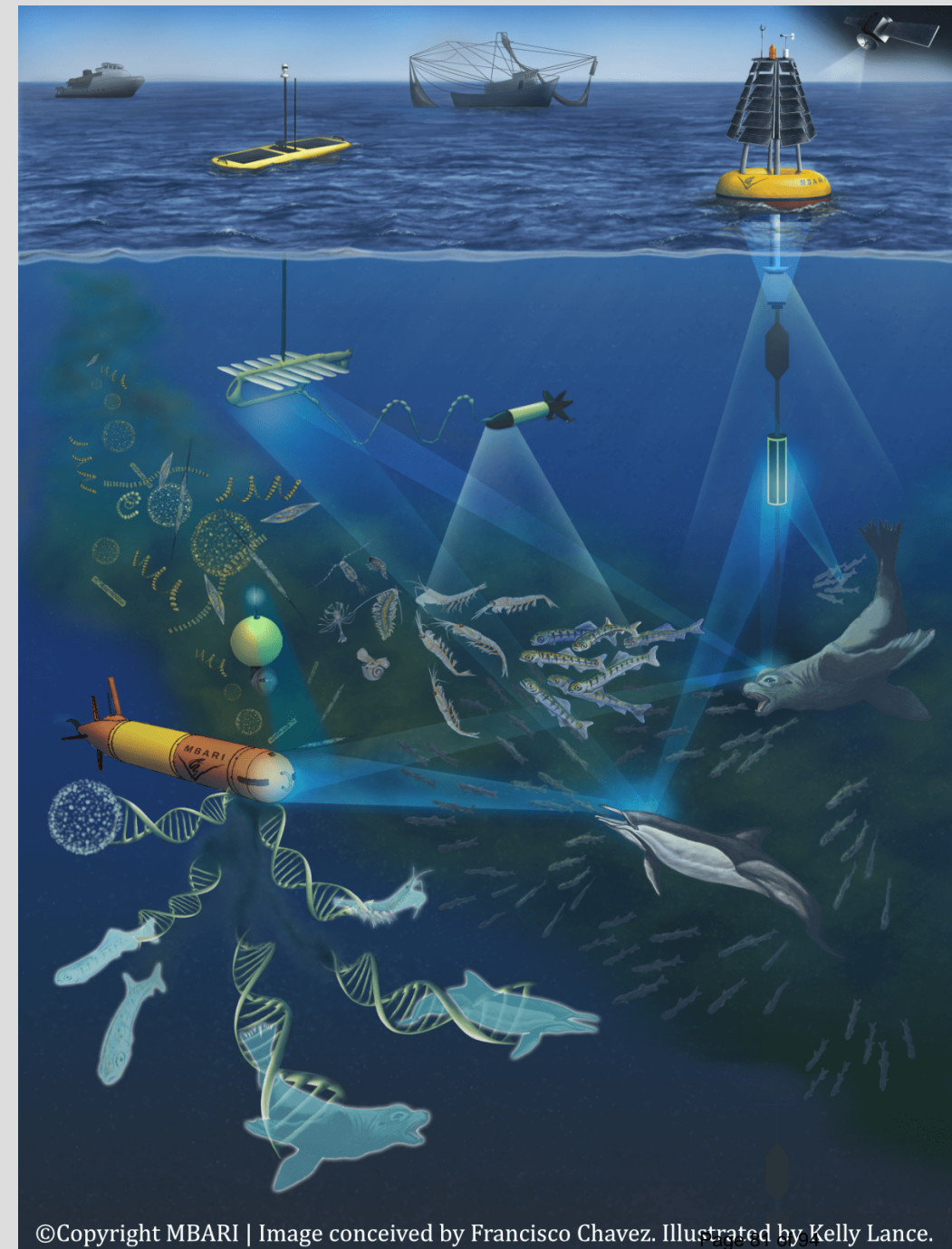
DOER
CZM
MWRA
CZM
ISO-NE
DPU
MassCEC
MassDEP
Orsted
MassDEP
Vineyard Wind
MREC
FREA
OET
National Grid
EEA Water Policy
Eversource

OCEAN TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION



Name	Affiliation
Todd Callaghan, group lead	CZM
Hobie Boeschstein	SeaTrac
Ed Cesare	SeaAhead
Jennifer Downing	New Bedford Ocean Cluster
Lisa Engler	MassCEC
Chris Ilsley	InnoVenture Labs
Katie Kahl	UMass Amherst Gloucester Marine Station
Anthony Kirincich	WHOI
John Miller	MRECo
Tim O'Donnell	GMGI
Alissa Petersen	SeaAhead
Rob Vincent	MIT Sea Grant
Lena Weiss	New England Aquarium Balance Blue lab
Scott White	Montserrat Strategies

- New Working Group for this review cycle
- Looking for ways to support this emerging use



OTHER TOPICS



Administration of the Ocean Plan:

- Oceans Act requires review of “relevant statute and regulations” with this process
 - Clean Energy Siting and Permitting reforms
- Biodiversity Initiative Implementation Goal: assess alignment of nearshore boundary with Ocean Sanctuaries
- Science Priority #5: Update Management Framework

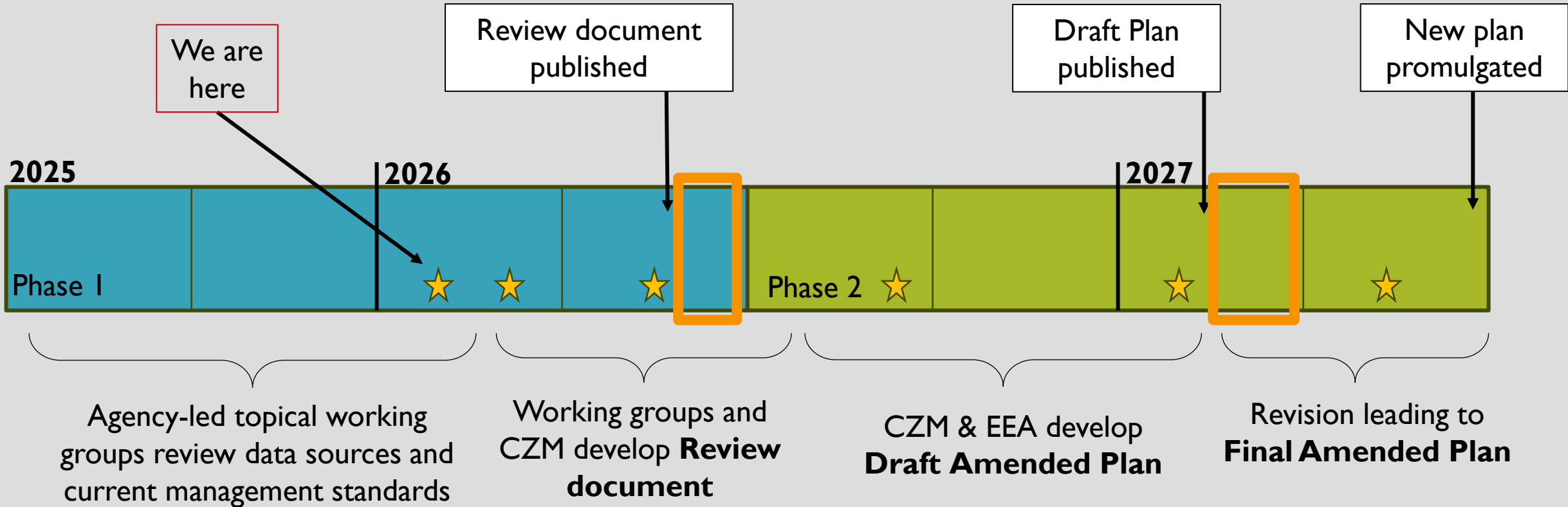
NEXT STEPS

Follow-up meetings:

- SAC meetings to review working group findings and recommendations for SSUs & WDUs updates, science priority progress
 - Fisheries
 - Habitat
 - Sediment & Geology, Cultural & Recreational
 - Ocean Tech & Innovation, Energy & Infrastructure, Transportation & Navigation
- OAC to review and discuss administration and management framework

OCEAN PLAN REVIEW TIMELINE

- ★ OAC and SAC meetings
- Public Comment Periods



QUESTIONS?

- What revisions would you like to see explored?
- Are there any new data sources, trends, etc we should include?
- Are there any groups we should engage?

2021 OCEAN DEVELOPMENT MITIGATION FEE SCHEDULE

Activity Class	Project Scope, Scale, and Effects	Fee
Class I	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited in scale, size, and footprint: <6 acres and generally confined to the seafloor • Effects are temporary, primarily during construction/installation • Negligible or minor effects on resources and uses 	\$12,000- \$50,000
Class II	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moderate in scale, size, and footprint: 6-20 acres and may extend into a limited amount of water column, water surface, and/or area above the ocean • Effects extend beyond construction/installation, or are recurrent • Moderate effects on resources and uses 	\$100,000- \$350,000
Class III	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large and/or complex in scale, size, and footprint: >20 acres and may extent into a moderate/major amount of water column, water surface, and/or area above the ocean • Effects are frequent, recurring, and/or continuous in duration and permanent/lasting • Major effects on resources and uses 	\$600,000- \$6,000,000

THE FUND SINCE THE LAST PLAN

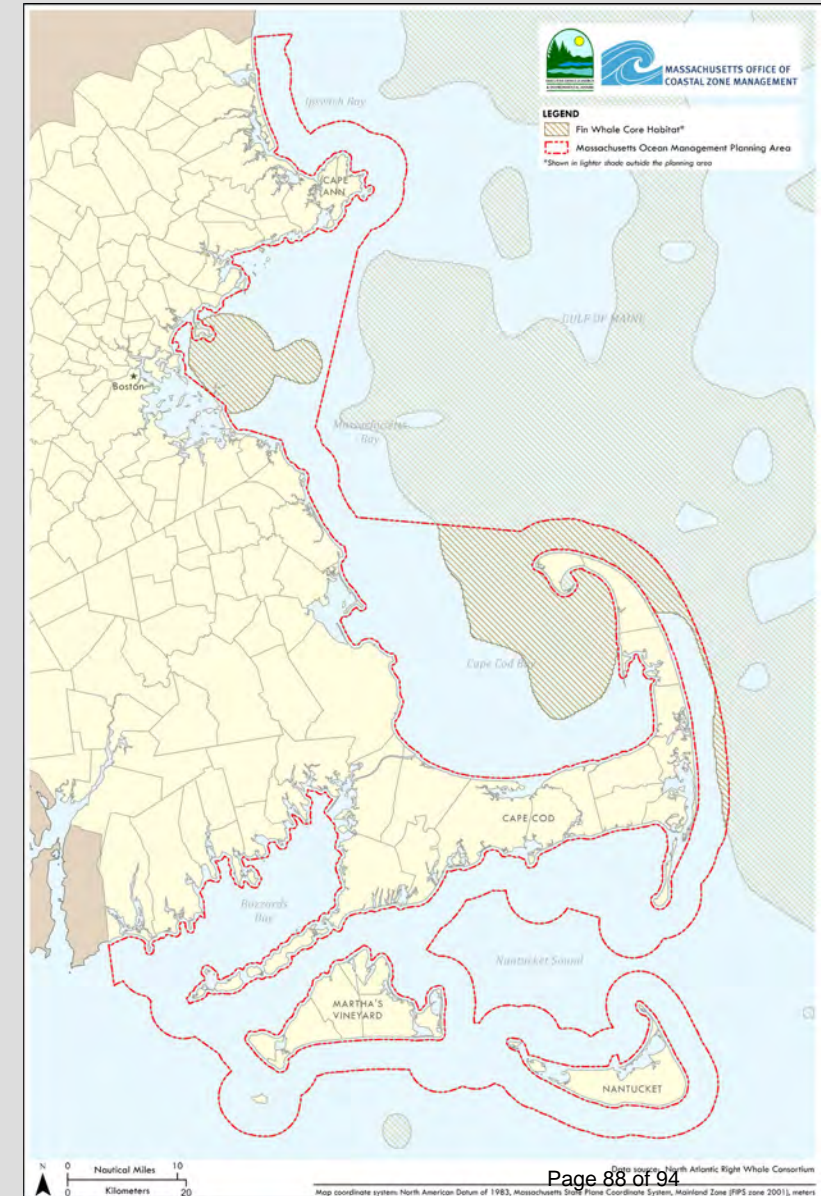
Year	Amount	Source	Deposits
2024			
	\$100,000	Ocean development mitigation fee for the Eversource electric cable through the Cape and Islands ocean sanctuary from Falmouth to Tisbury.	
	\$100,000	Ocean development mitigation fee for the Eversource electric cable through the Cape and Islands ocean sanctuary from Falmouth to Oak Bluffs.	
2021			
	\$240,000	Ocean development mitigation fee for the Vineyard Wind offshore export cable through Nantucket Sound.	
	\$25,000	Ocean development mitigation fee for the Amitie communications cable through the North Shore and South Essex ocean sanctuaries to Lynn.	

Complete list of deposit and expenditures:

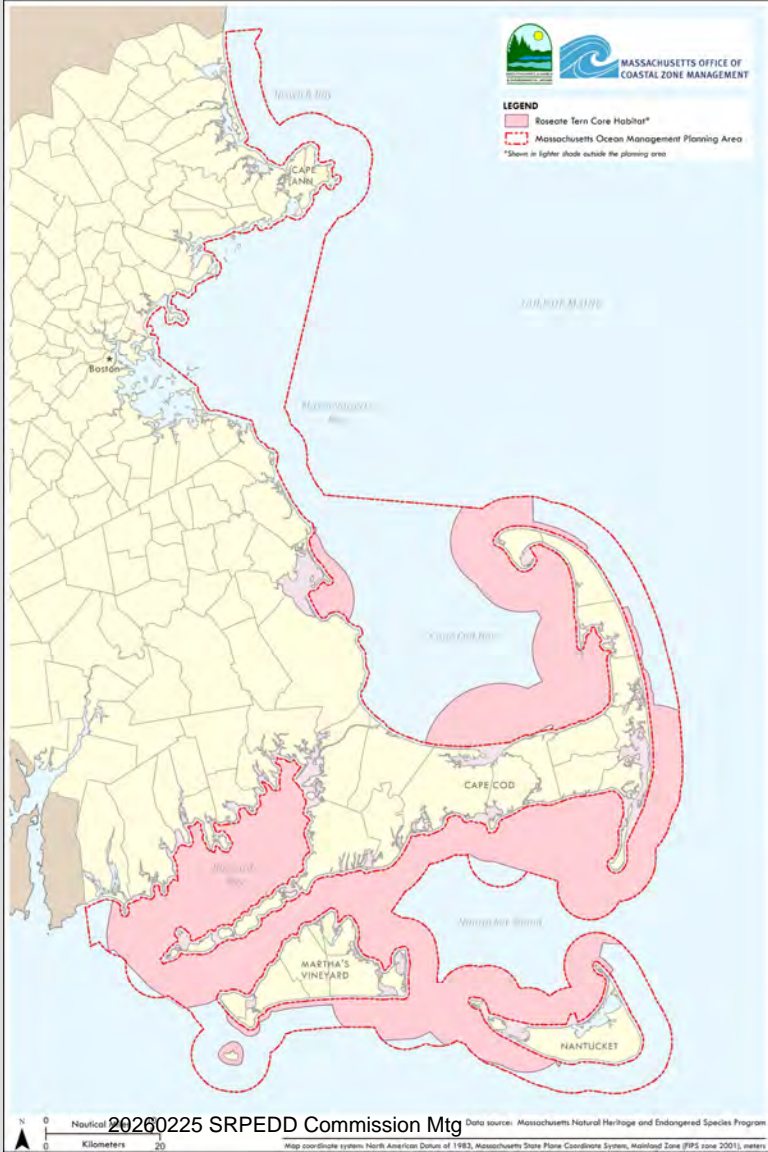
<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/ocean-resources-and-waterways-trust-fund-deposits-and-expenditures>

Year	Amount	Project	Expenditures
2025			
	\$200,000	Additional geotechnical and geophysical characterization of five potential offshore sand resources areas.	
2022			
	\$33,450	Statewide benthic infauna sampling and analysis by the MassBays National Estuary Partnership to support the MassDEP Coastal Condition Assessment (2022 samples).	
	\$30,270	Statewide benthic infauna sampling and analysis by the MassBays National Estuary Partnership to support the MassDEP Coastal Condition Assessment (2021 samples).	
	\$972	Renewal of the TerrSet integrated geospatial software license for mapping and analyzing resources and uses in Massachusetts waters and the Gulf of Maine.	
	\$743	Acquisition and data processing of North Atlantic right, humpback, fin, sei, and minke whale densities in and around Massachusetts waters and the Gulf of Maine from 2015-2020 to convert observations to sightings per unit effort for each species in a five minute by five minute grid.	
	\$1,626	Providing public notice of the availability of the draft and final 2021 ocean plan for review and comment and printing of ocean plan for limited public distribution.	

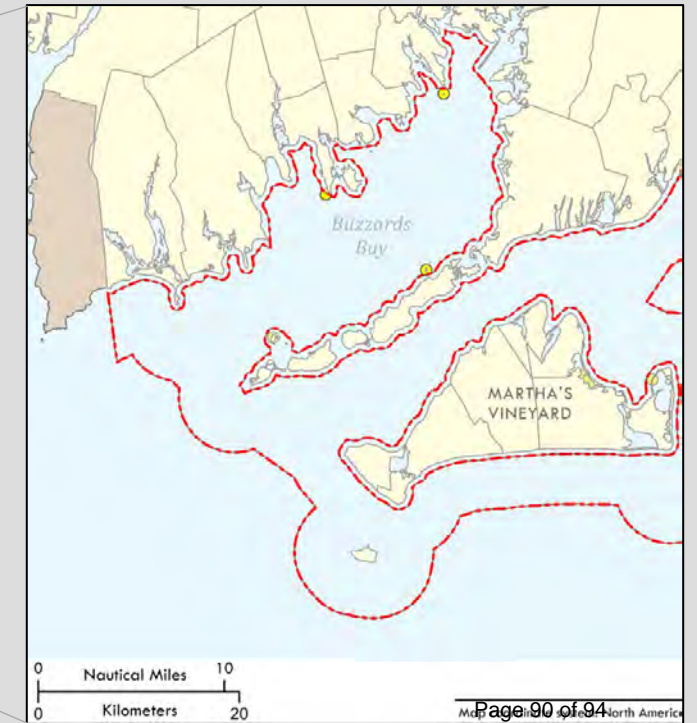
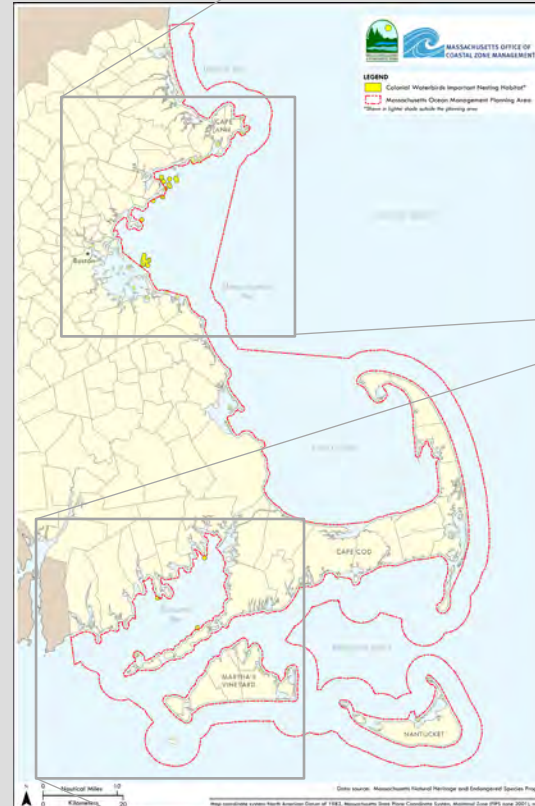
WHALE CORE HABITATS (2021 PLAN)



AVIFAUNA CORE HABITAT (2021 PLAN)



AVIFAUNA NESTING AREAS (2021 PLAN)



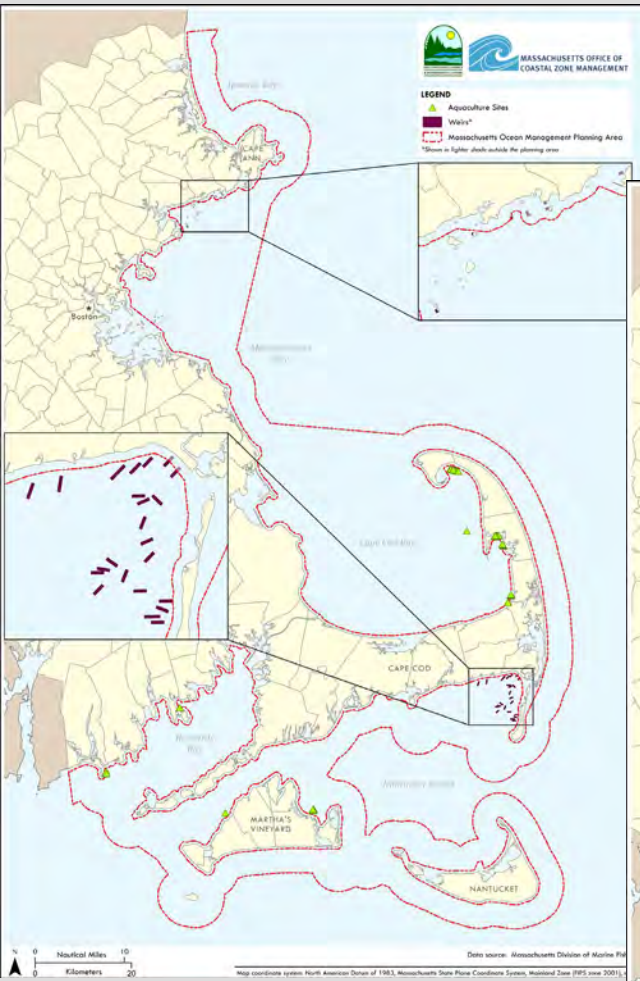
EELGRASS AND INTERTIDAL FLATS (2021 PLAN)



SEDIMENT RESOURCES (2021 PLAN)



FISHERIES PROTECTED AREAS (2021 PLAN)



TRANSPORTATION PROTECTED AREAS (2021 PLAN)

