



BOEM Bureau of
Ocean Energy Management

Gulf of Mexico Regional Office Fisheries Outreach in Support of Offshore Wind

April 26, 2023

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Presentation Overview

- History of fisheries outreach efforts in support of the Gulf of Mexico Regional Office's (Gulf of MexicoRO) offshore wind program
- Current and future fisheries outreach efforts





Fisheries Outreach History



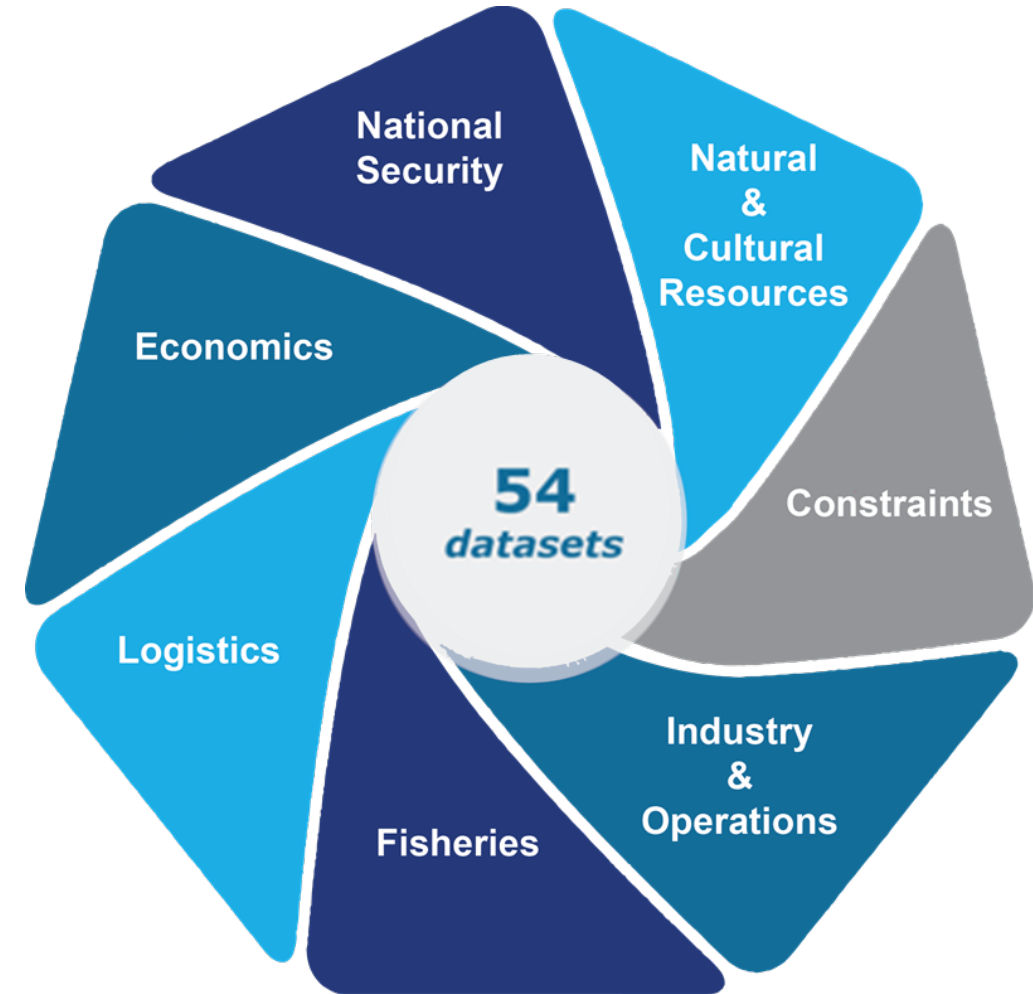
- Presentations to regional fisheries management entities
 - Gulf of Mexico Fishery Management Council Gulf States Marine Fisheries Commission
 - State fishery task forces
- Development of fisheries outreach strategy and database
- Engagement with individual fisheries stakeholders and fishermen associations
- Discussions with NOAA's National Centers for Coastal Ocean Sciences (NCCOS) about collaboration to site offshore wind developments using spatial suitability modeling





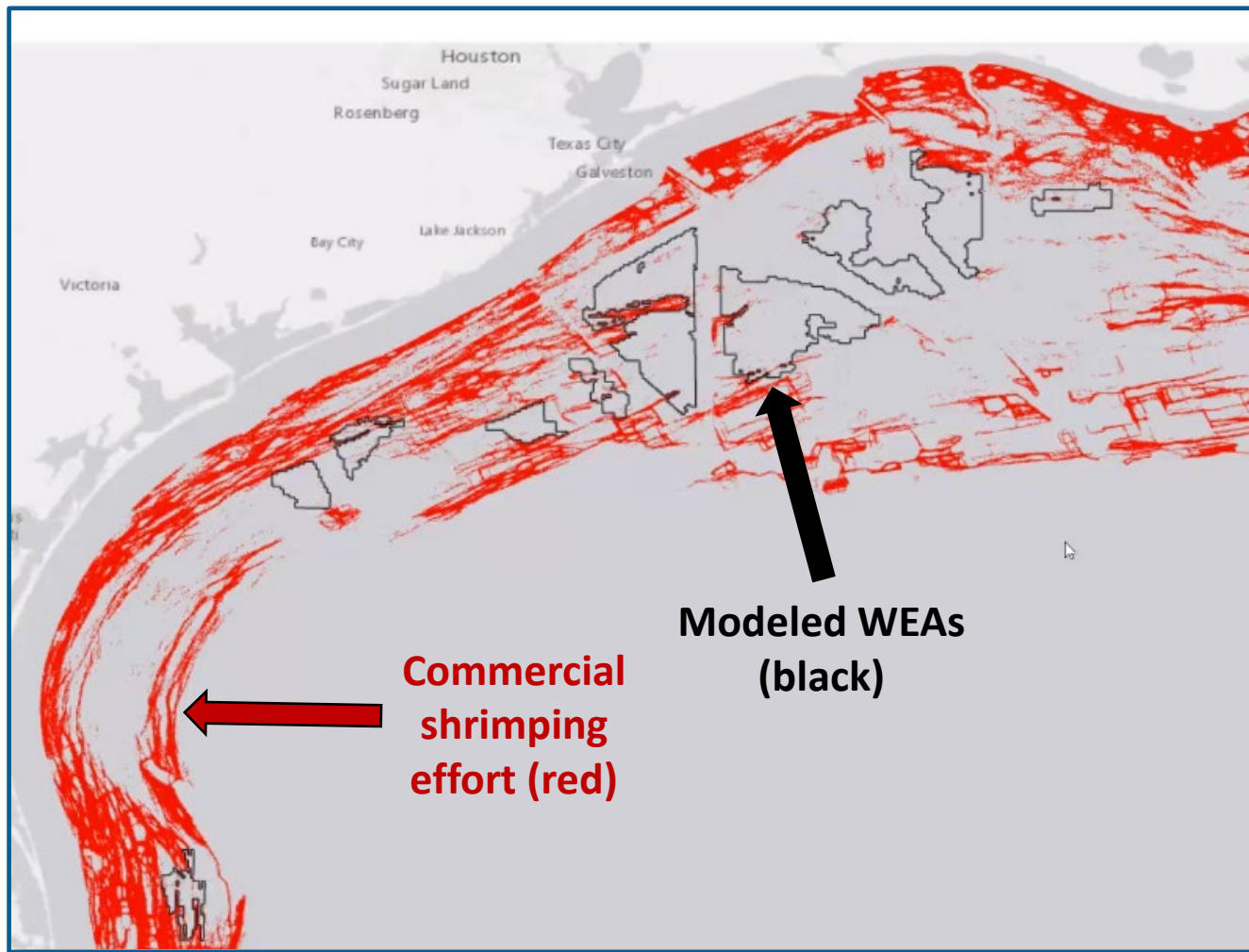
Fisheries Outreach History

- Collaborative development of a spatial suitability model between BOEM's Gulf of Mexico RO and NOAA's NCCOS
- BOEM's Gulf of Mexico Fisheries Summit (Jan. 2022)
 - Offshore Wind leasing process, NEPA process, spatial suitability model, fisheries/Offshore Wind FAQ, Q&A and comment period
 - Development of Fisheries/Offshore Wind FAQ handouts
 - <https://www.boem.gov/renewable-energy/state-activities/gulf-mexico-fisheries-summit>
- Continued presentations to regional fisheries management entities on Offshore Wind status
- Meetings with fisheries sectors to discuss data inputs and use for spatial suitability model





Fisheries Outreach History: Deconflicting Offshore Wind Siting in the Gulf of Mexico

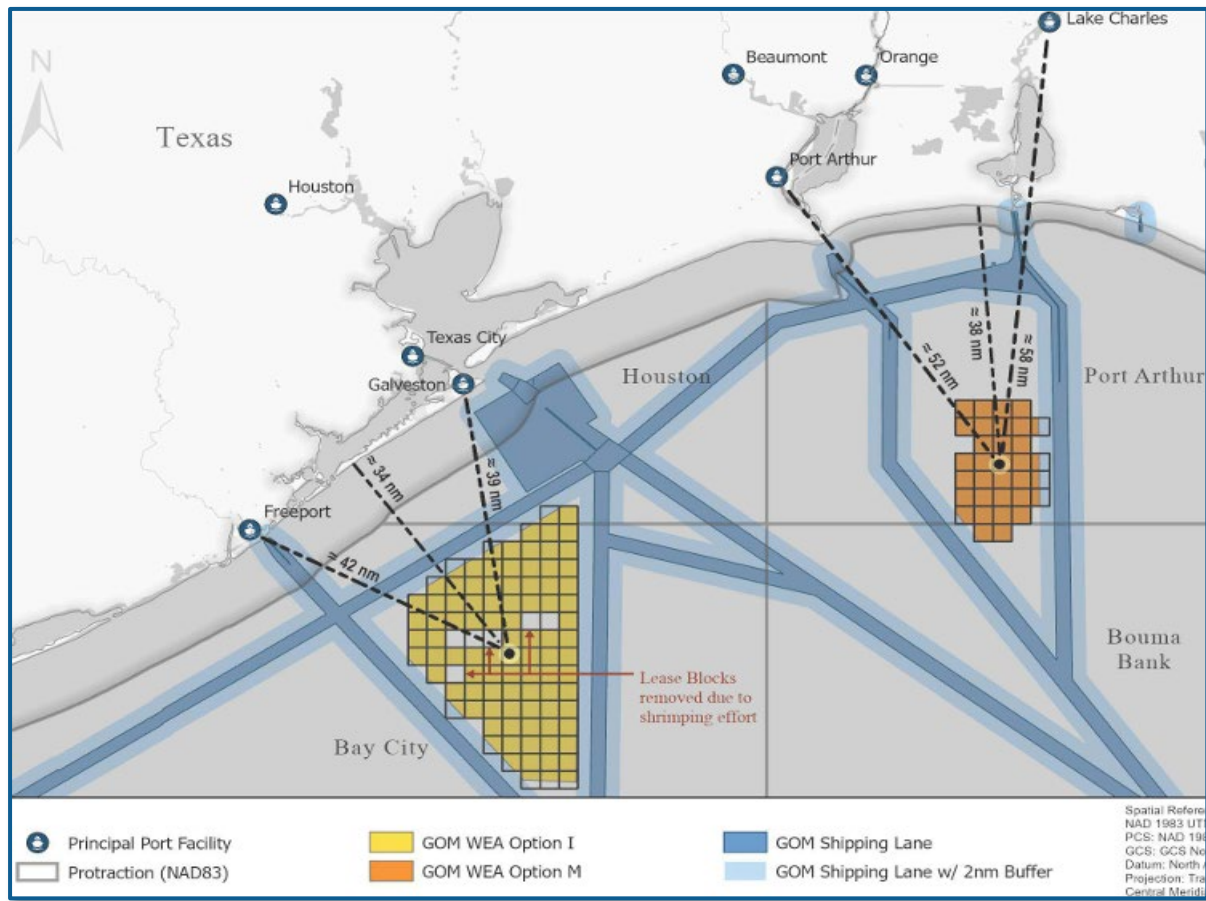


- Incorporated commercial fishing data into the spatial suitability model to create deconflicted WEAs
- Outreach with Gulf of Mexico fishers before, during, and after WEAs were identified





Current Fisheries Outreach Efforts and Next Steps



- Continued presentations to regional fisheries management entities on Offshore Wind status
- Public Sale Notice (PSN) published in Federal Register (Feb 24, 2023; comments closed April 25, 2023.)
 - Fisheries Compensatory Mitigation Fund bidding credits
- Offshore Wind Fisheries Summit in Galveston, TX (March 7, 2023)
- Next steps...
 - Continue engagement with fishing communities
 - Update Fisheries/Offshore Wind FAQ handouts
 - Continue working with NOAA's NCCOS to deconflict potential export cable routes
 - Plan for environmental studies
 - Respond to public comments from the PSN
 - Hold Gulf of Mexico's first Offshore Wind lease sale (August 2023)

Gulf of Mexico Wind Lease Blocks





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