



GOVERNOR'S  
Energy Office

# Committee on Marine Resources Offshore Wind Overview February 23, 2021



# CLIMATE COUNCIL GOALS



**12.01.20**  
Climate Action Plan  
Delivered



ACHIEVE STATE  
CARBON NEUTRALITY BY  
**2045**

REDUCE MAINE'S GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS  
BY TARGETS OUTLINED IN STATE LAW

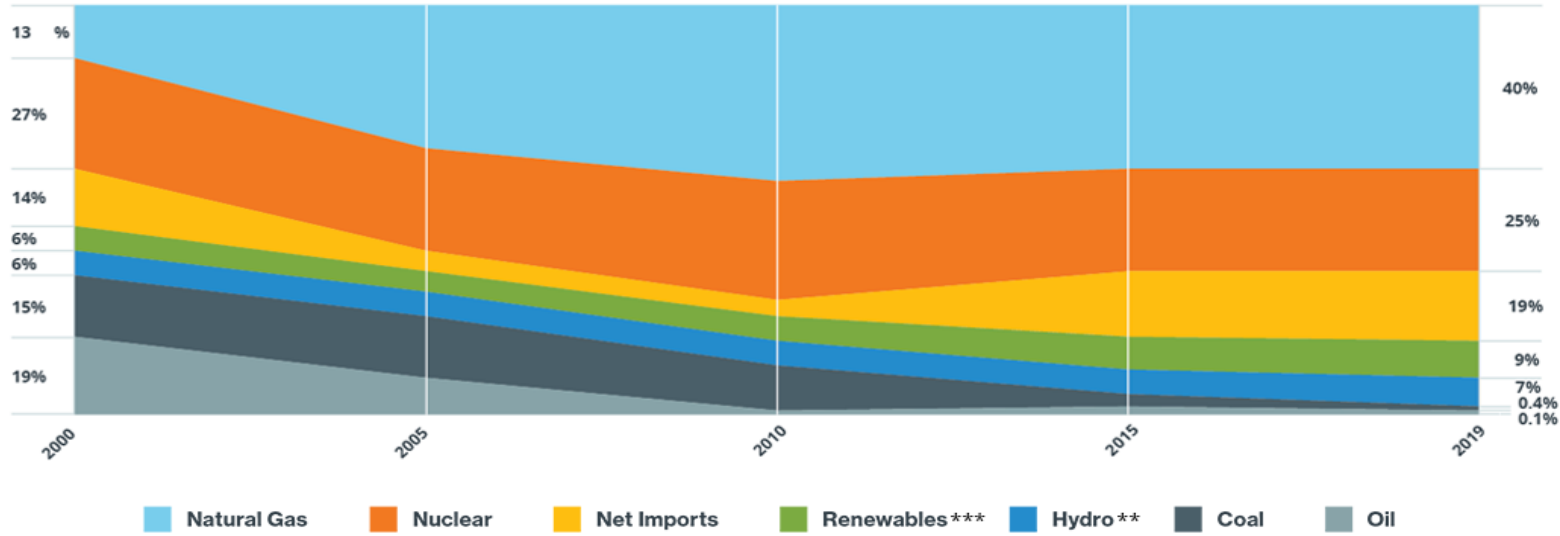
**45%**  
BELOW 1990 LEVELS  
BY 2030

**80%**  
BELOW 1990 LEVELS  
BY 2050



ENSURE MAINE PEOPLE, INDUSTRIES, AND COMMUNITIES  
ARE RESILIENT TO THE IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE.

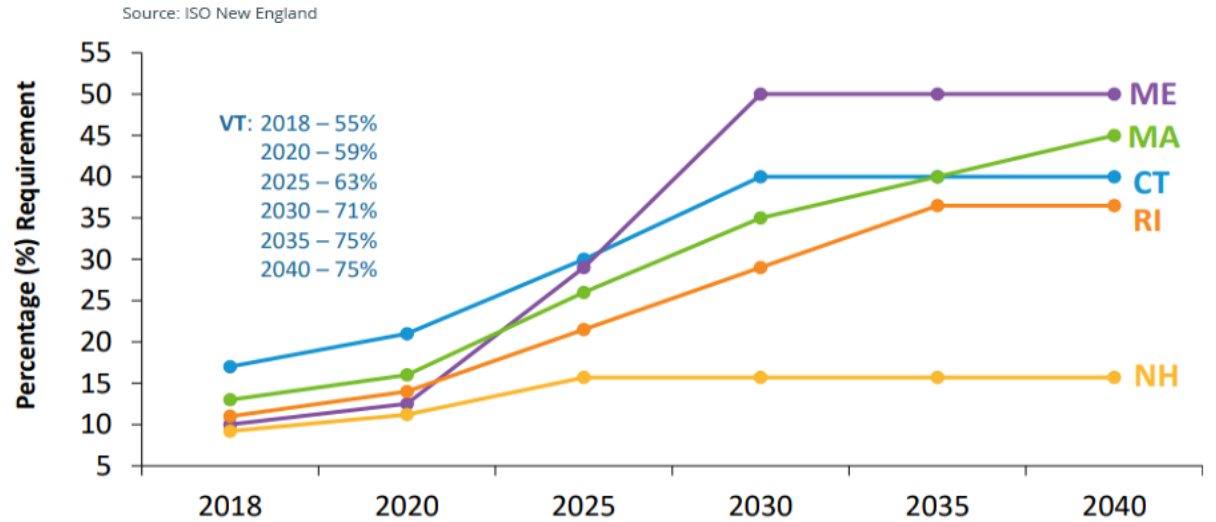
# Percentage of Total Electric Energy by Resource Type



\*Data are subject to adjustments. This chart approximates the amount of generation by individual fuels used by dual-fuel units, such as natural-gas-fired generators that can switch to run on oil and vice versa. Before 2016, generation from such units was attributed only to the primary fuel type registered for the unit.

\*\*Includes pondage, run-of-river, and pumped storage.

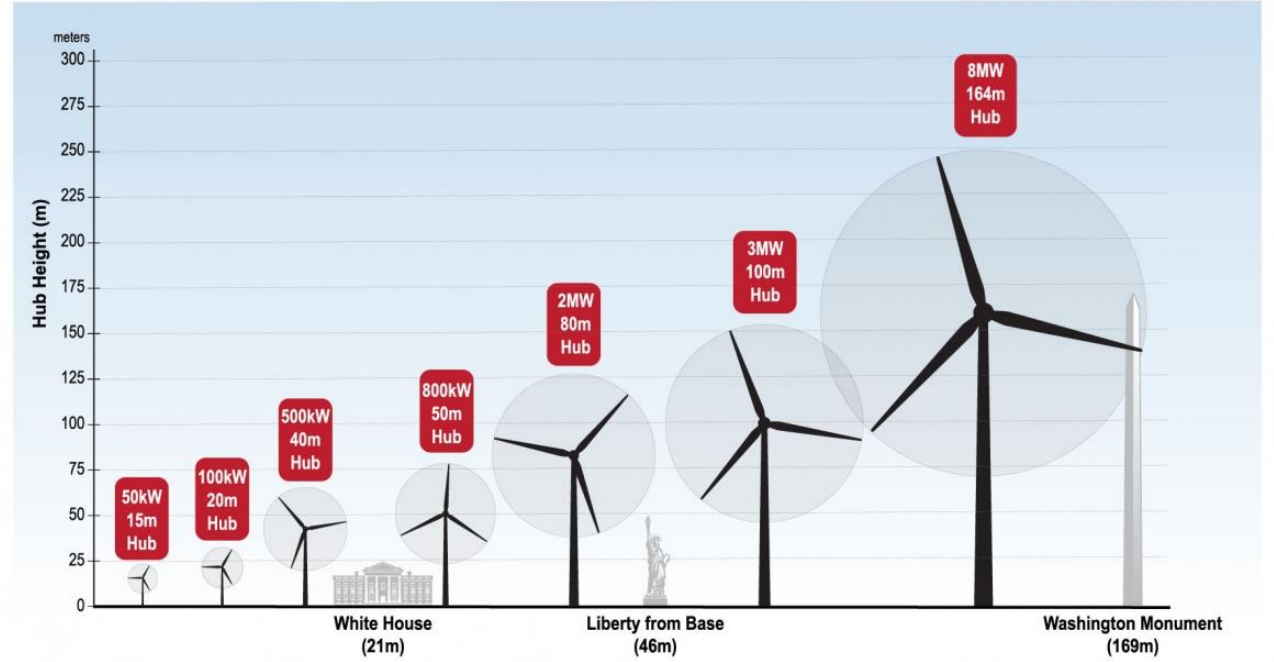
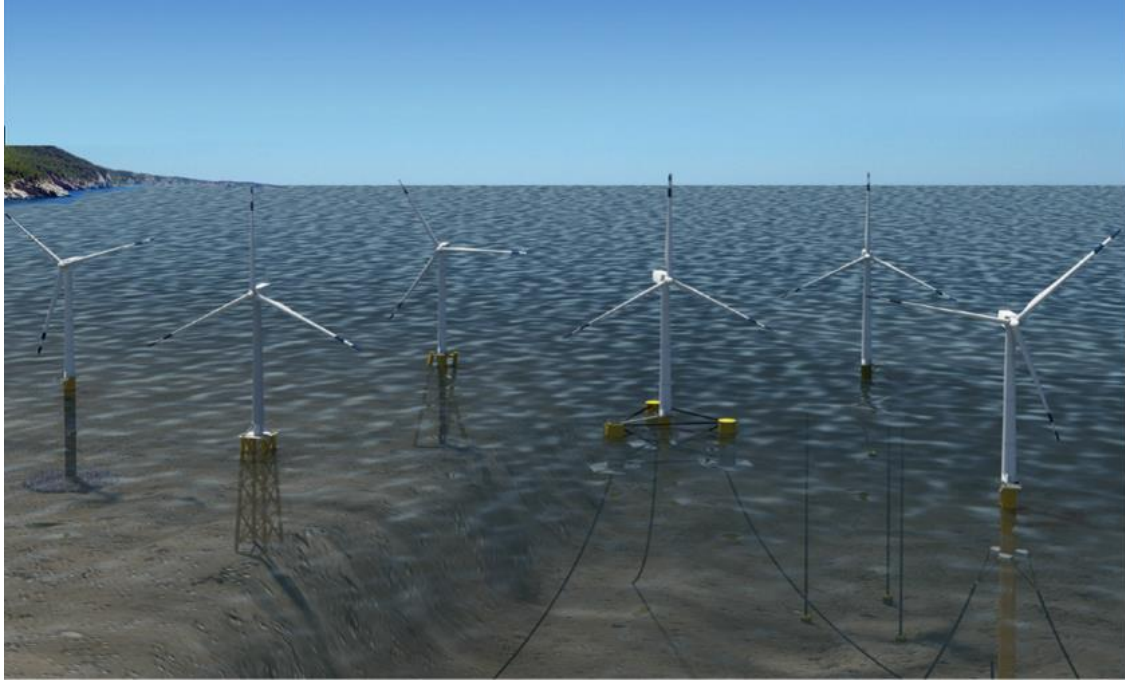
\*\*\*Renewables include landfill gas, biomass, other biomass gas, wind, grid-scale solar, municipal solid waste, and miscellaneous fuels. Hydro is not included in this category primarily because the various sources that make up hydroelectric generation (i.e., conventional hydroelectric, run-of-river, pumped storage) are not universally defined as renewable in the six New England states.



Source: ISO New England



# Offshore Wind - Technology



## Offshore Wind Innovation and Cost Trajectory

# Floating Wind Energy Costs Follow Fixed-bottom Offshore Wind Trends

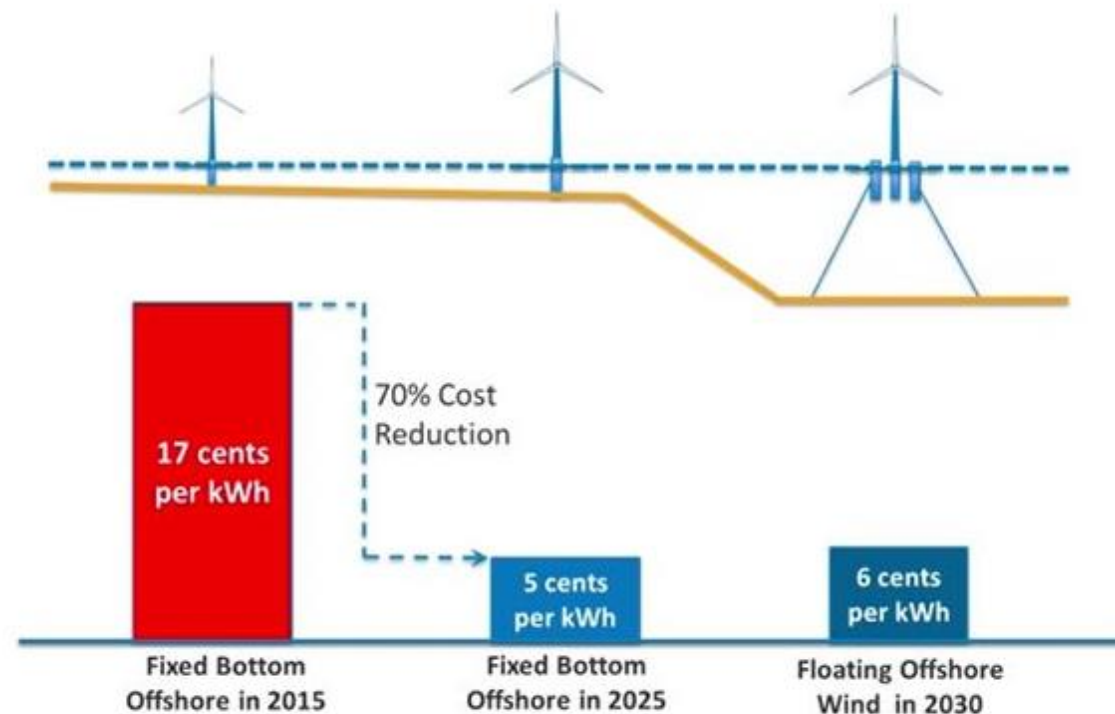
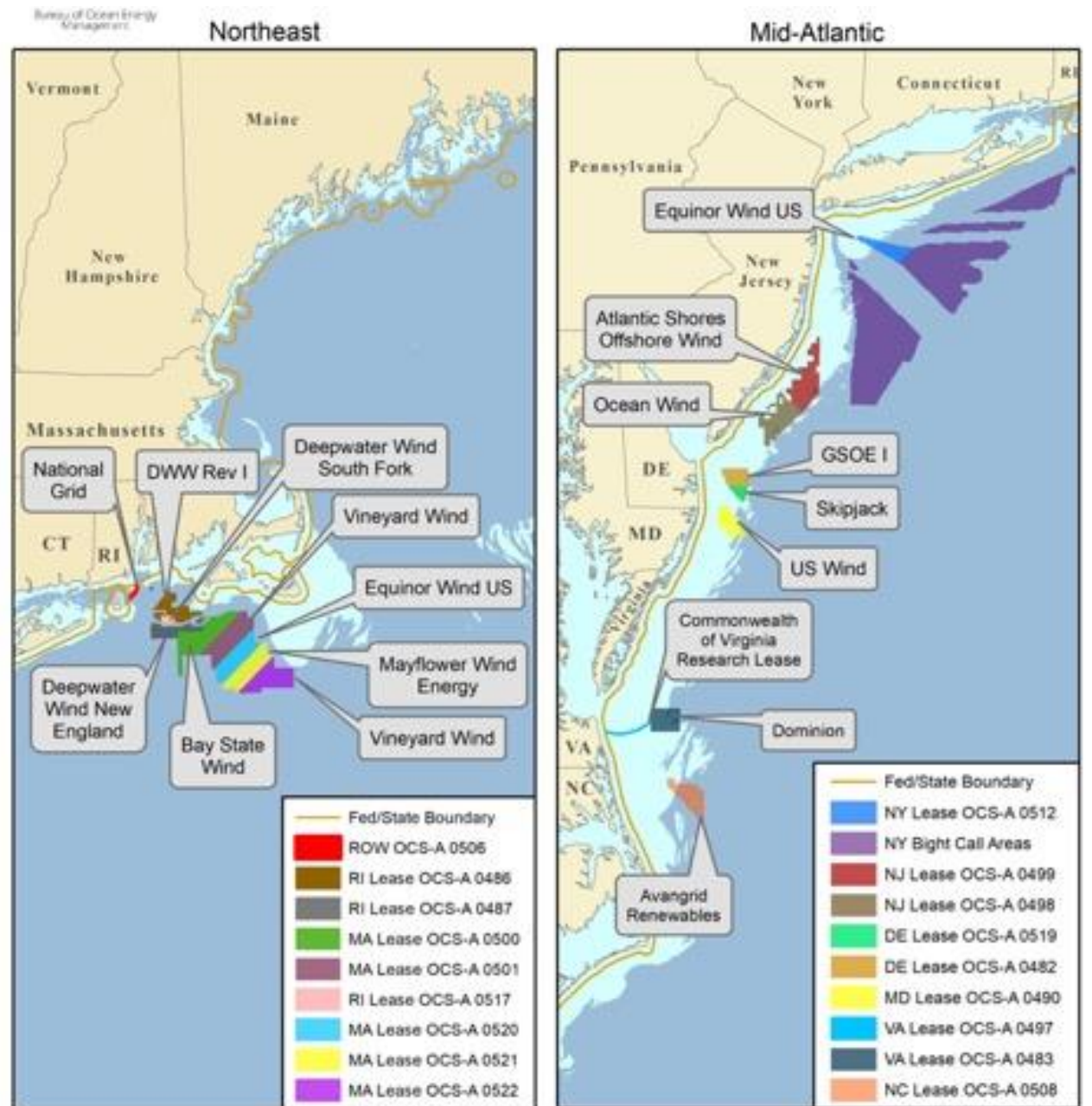


Figure credit: NREL

- Shared supply chains
  - Turbines
  - Array and export cables
  - Regulations
  - Ports and Infrastructure
  - Operations and Maintenance
- Floating cost reductions lag fixed-bottom offshore wind cost by 5 -7 years
- Floating cost are likely to converge with fixed-bottom wind

# Growth of Offshore Wind in the U.S.

|               | State target (MW) | MW selected (offtake) |
|---------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| Massachusetts | 3,200             | 1,600                 |
| Rhode Island  | 430               | 430                   |
| Connecticut   | 2,000             | 1,100                 |
| New York      | 9,000             | 1,826*                |
| New Jersey    | 7,500             | 1,100*                |
| Maryland      | 1,200             | 368                   |
| Virginia      | 5,200             | 2,652                 |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>28,530</b>     | <b>9,076</b>          |



## Bathymetry

- Up to 30 meters
- More than 30 meters

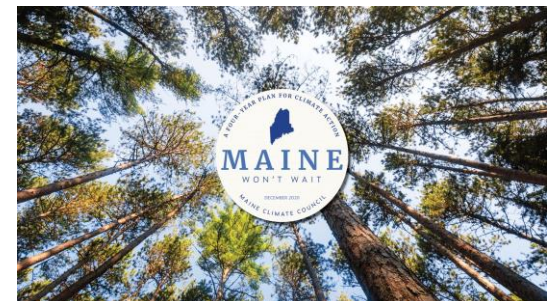




# Offshore Wind in Maine



Data Source: AWS Truepower 0-50nm; NREL WIND Toolkit beyond 50nm.



## **Maine's Approach to Offshore Wind**

- **Measured and deliberative**
- **Answering questions and exploring opportunities**
- **Regional coordination and partnerships**
- **Commitment to listen and engage with stakeholders**





# Maine Offshore Wind Initiative

- Pursues strategic opportunities for additive economic activity and innovation across various sectors and regions of Maine
- Maximize compatibility with existing marine uses and fisheries and take a data-driven, inclusive, transparent approach
  - Maine fisheries: \$674M in Maine's commercial fishing landings in 2019 (\$485M in lobster landings alone, most valuable single species fishery in US); 2X commercial fishing trips out of Maine than any other state on the east coast
- Support Maine engagement in BOEM Task Force and regional coordination

# Maine's Floating Offshore Wind Roadmap

October 2020

US EDA Grant: \$2.167 million for a strategic roadmap to develop offshore wind industry in Maine, focusing on:

- Ports and infrastructure
- Manufacturing, supply chain, workforce
- Innovation
- Research array and research priorities
- Ocean and environmental data
- Stakeholder engagement



# Gulf of Maine Intergovernmental Task Force & BOEM Process

- Federal/Tri-State Task Force (ME, NH, MA) to inform federal offshore decisions
- Maine joined Task Force in 2019
- December 12, 2019 inaugural meeting
- Focus on commercial leasing for one or more large scale leases





# Port Infrastructure and Market Potential Assessment: Searsport

- In March 2020, Governor Mills identified the Port of Searsport as a site to support the transportation, assembly and fabrication of offshore wind turbines and called for a study to further analyze the opportunity.
- Will outline options and investments required to maximize existing port assets.
- ***US Offshore Wind Study: \$70 Billion Supply Chain Opportunity***



# Maine Offshore Wind Projects

**2013**

1/8 Scale Pilot Project - 1 turbine (Castine - UMaine, Cianbro, MMA)



**2023**

10 MW Demonstration Project - 1 turbine (Monhegan - NEAV LLC, UMaine)



**2025+**

Research Array - 12 turbines or less (State, UMaine, NEAV LLC)



**TBD\***

Commercial Development - BOEM Leasing and Permitting



# University of Maine Technology

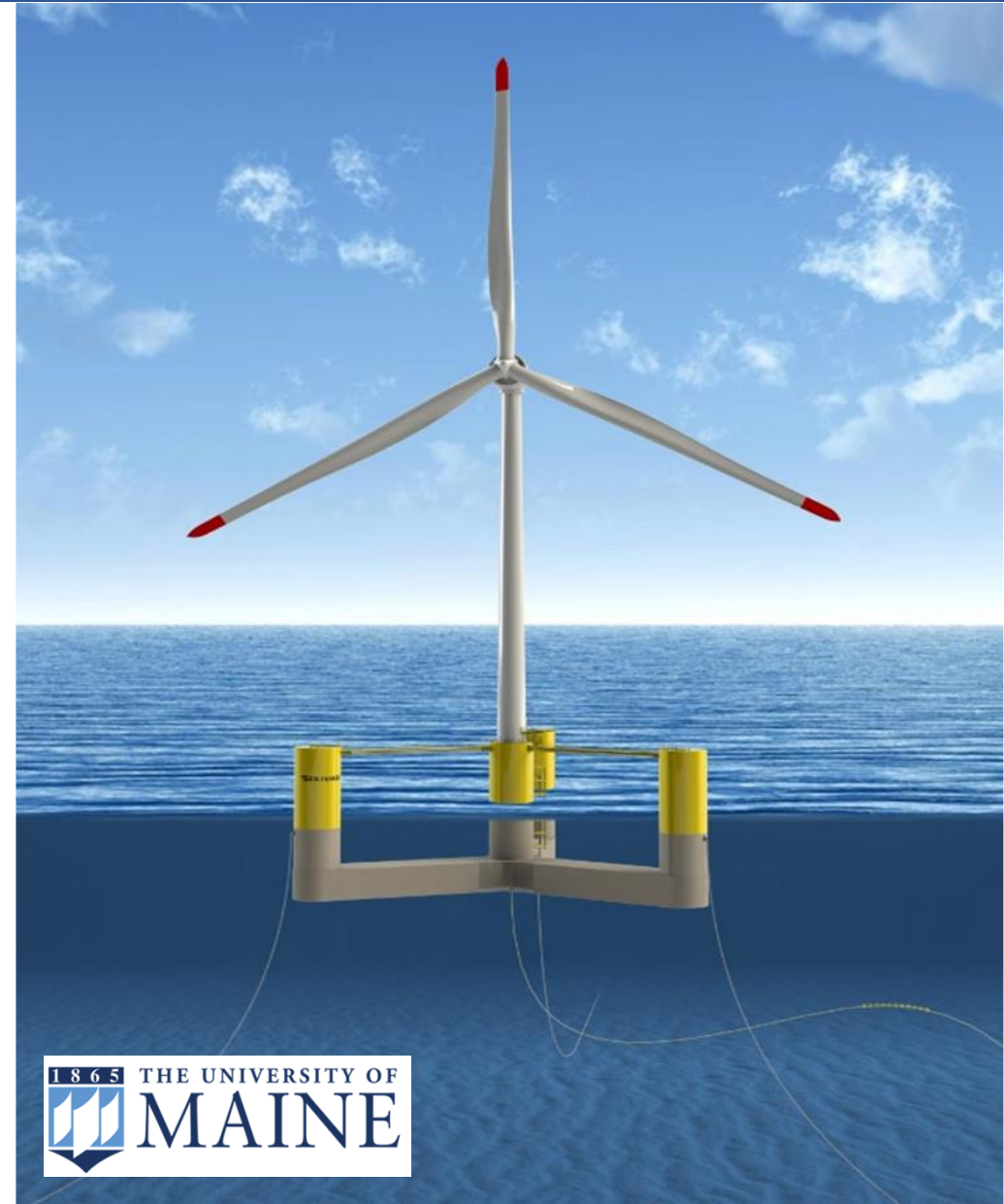
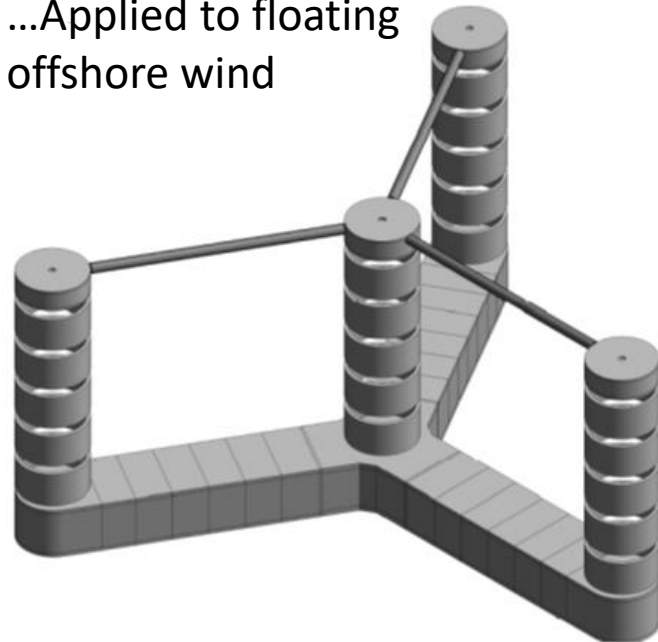
## Optimized for Maine

- Can be built in Maine
  - Concrete / not steel
  - Modular construction
  - Creates jobs in Maine
- Fits Maine's waters
  - Suited for mid-depth waters
  - Very stable & shallow draft

Common modular construction

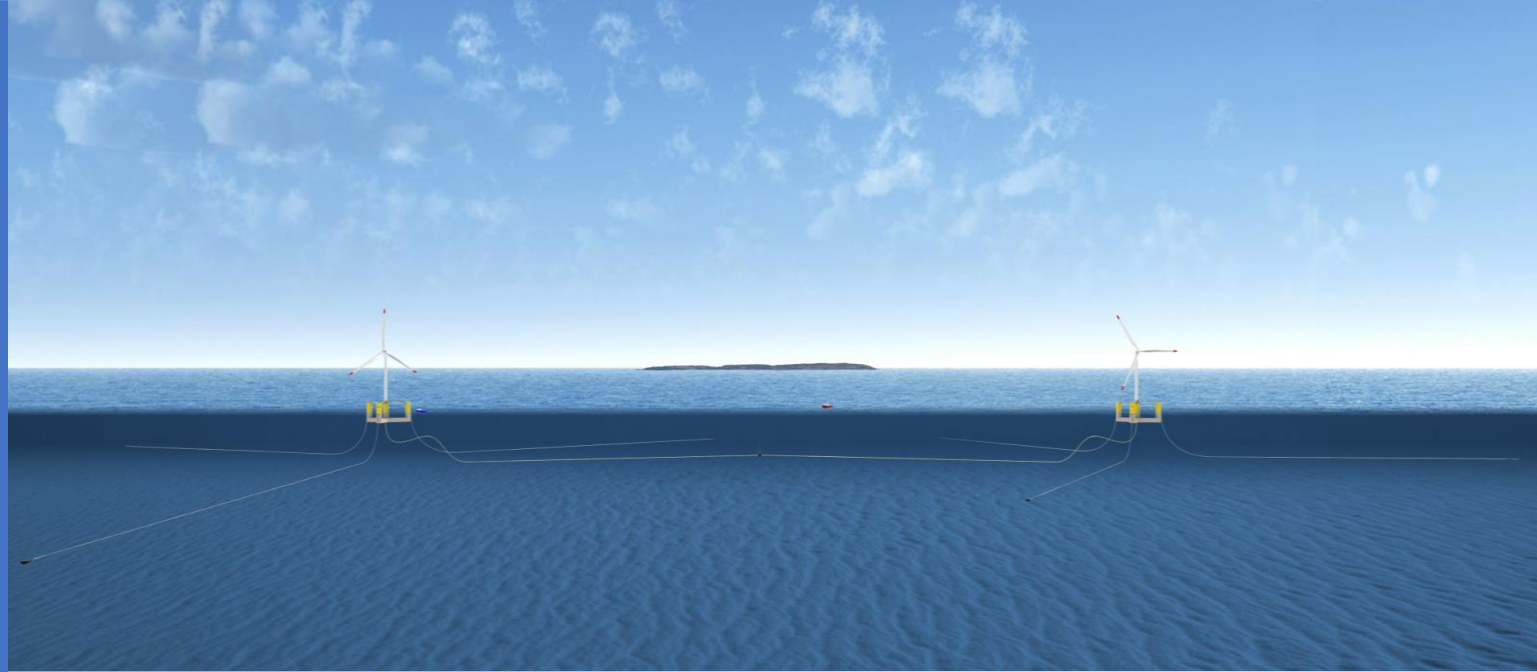


...Applied to floating offshore wind





# Offshore Wind Research Array





## Research Array By the Numbers



**12** floating turbines or fewer

**16** square miles or smaller

# State of Maine

- Governor's Energy Office (lead)
- Department of Marine Resources
- Governor's Office of Policy Innovation and the Future
- Department of Inland Fish and Wildlife
- Department of Environmental Protection
- Department of Economic and Community Development
- Consensus Building Institute (Consultant - Facilitator)

## New England Aqua Ventus

- Diamond Offshore  
Wind/RWE Renewables

## University of Maine

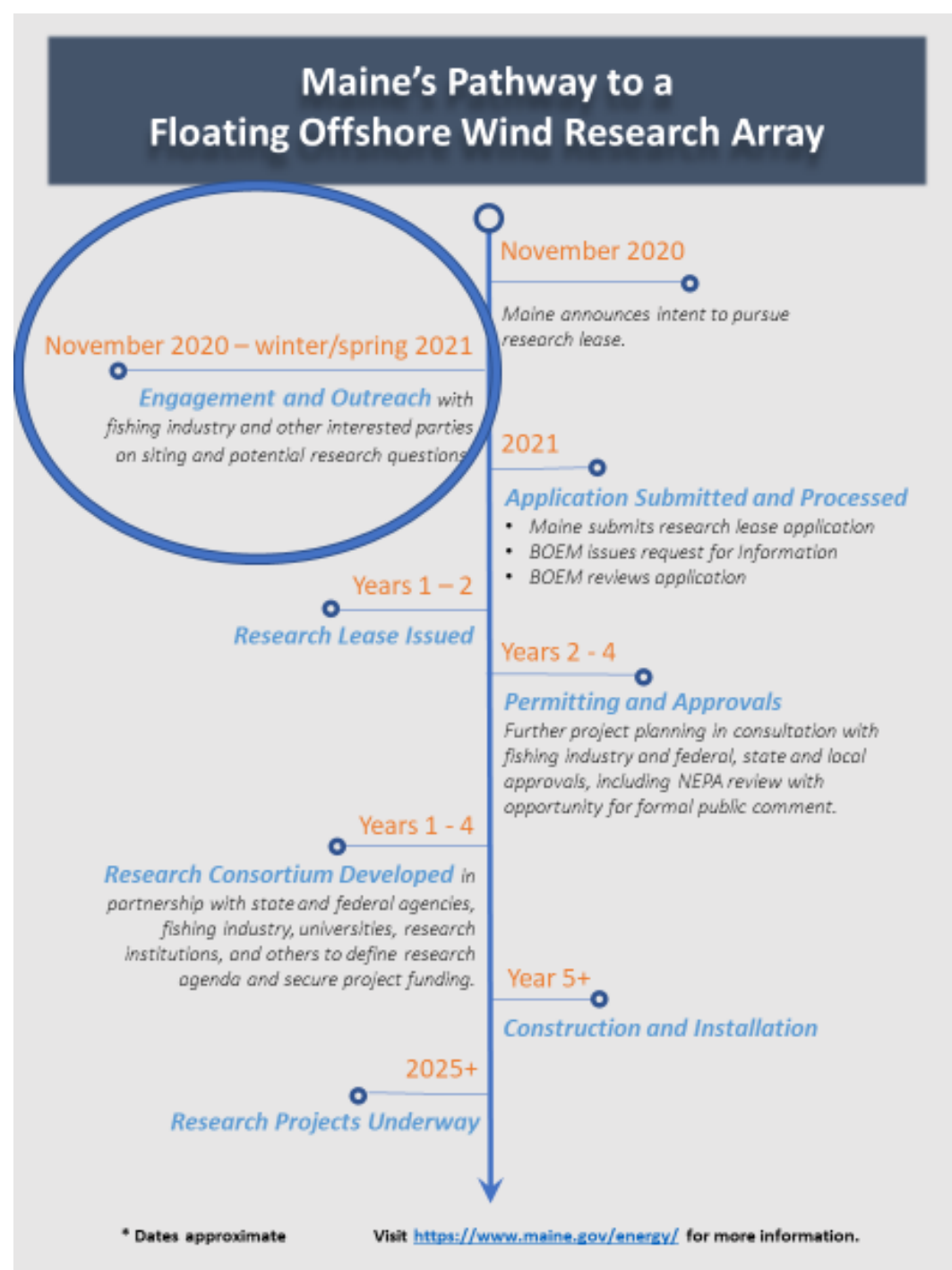
- Technology

## Federal Agency and MA/NH State Agency Coordination

**Who is Involved?**



# Preliminary Project Timeline



# Listening and Adapting



## In response to fishing industry concerns, Gov. Mills announced the following:

- Support for 10-year moratorium on new offshore wind in **state waters**
- Additional time for planning and discussion, prior to lease application
- A review of applicable state laws





# Siting Criteria

## Initial Siting Criteria

**20-40** statute miles offshore

**150** feet of water or deeper

**Southern** half of ME interconnect

**Bottom** type gravel and/or mud

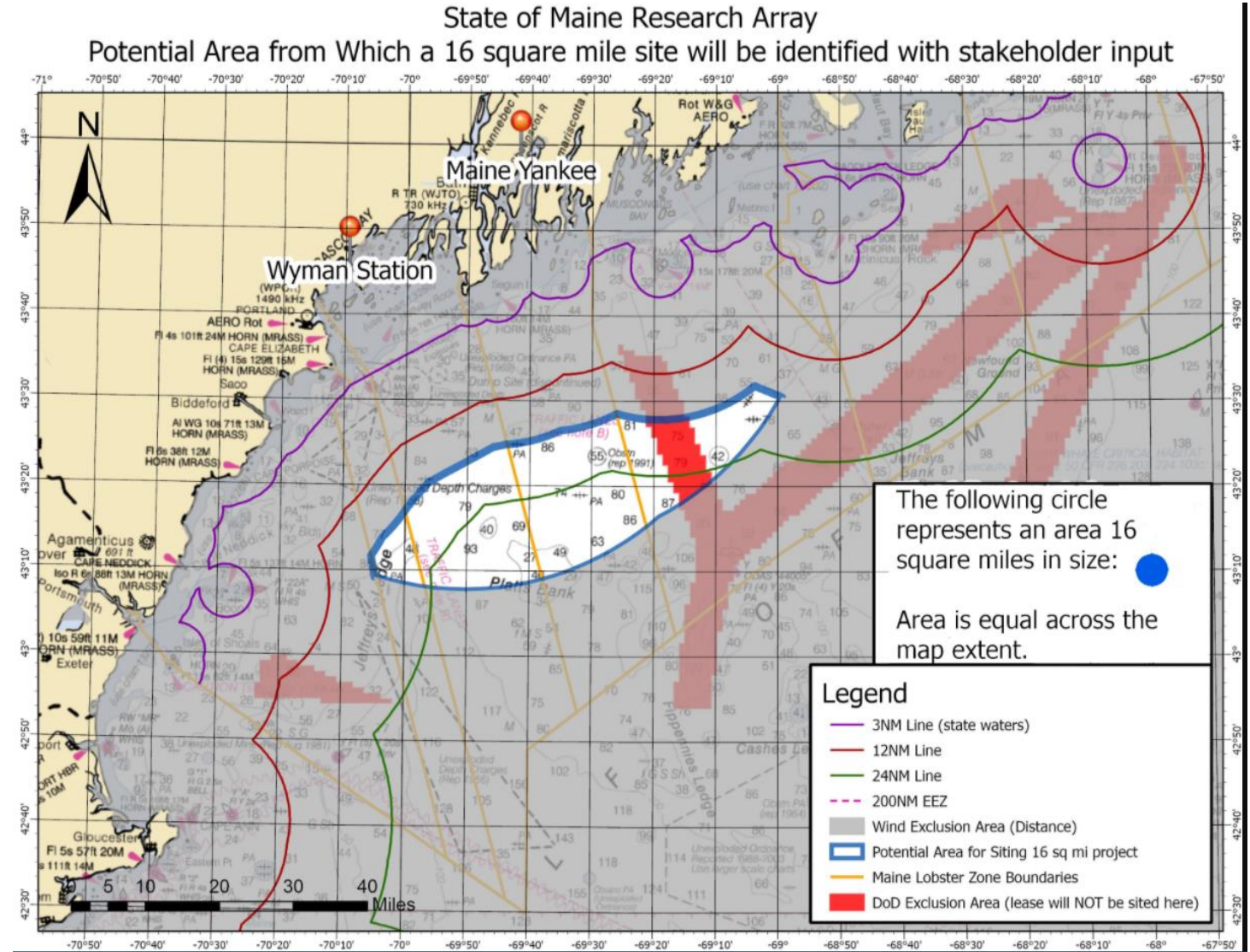
**Minimal conflicts** with known  
fishing grounds

**Avoid** highly trafficked areas

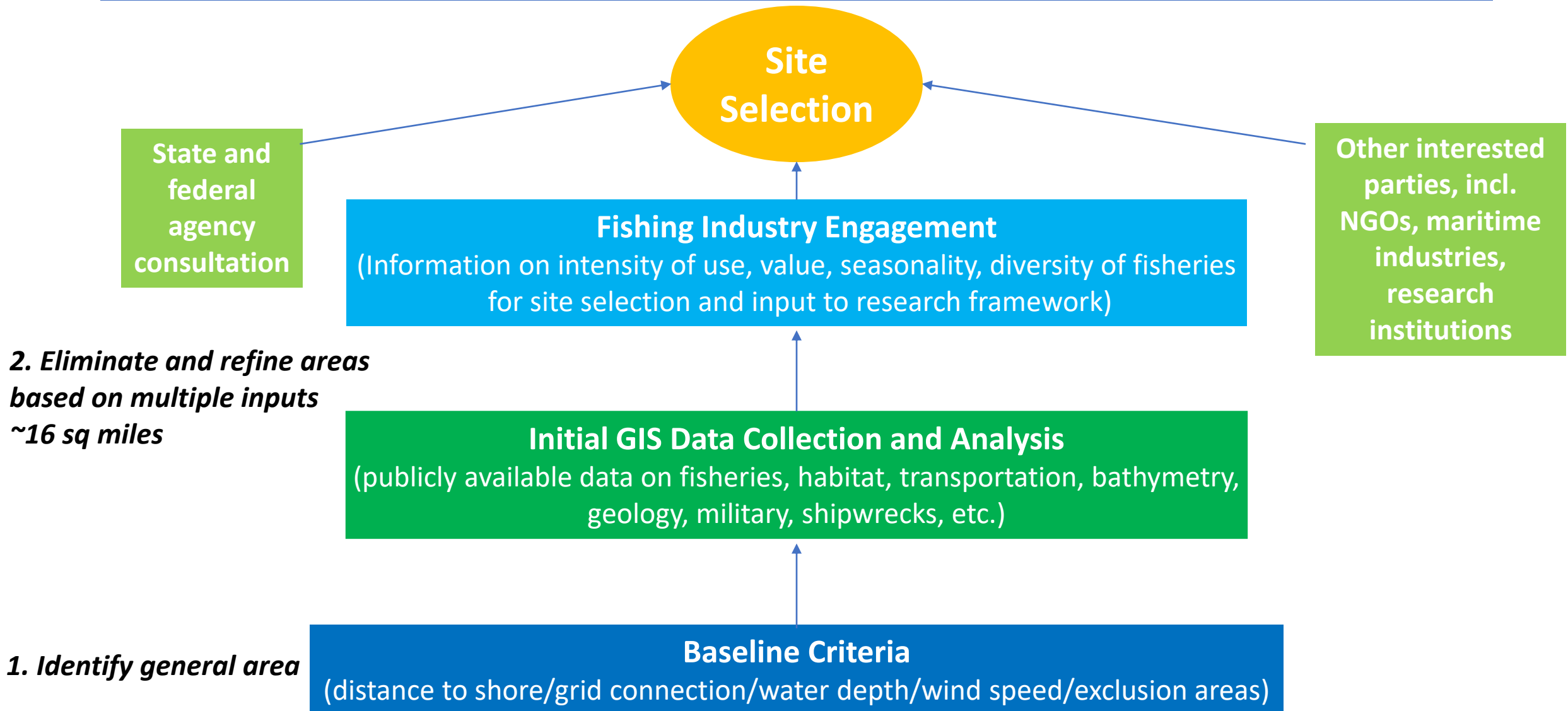
**Limit** visibility from shore



# Research Array General Area of Interest



# Site Selection Process







# Research Approach



# Research Approach

- Research is the key driver for the array.
- Research objectives will inform:
  - Siting process and decision
  - Project design, layout and operations

## **Overall research process:**

- Key themes in initial application
- Further develop research approach through roadmap effort
- Stand up formal consortium, with diverse interests at the table
- Seek broad funding opportunities
- Open source data

# Research Approach



- Environment and ecological interactions
- Interactions with fishing activity
- Navigation
- Technology research and demonstration, including mooring systems
- Workforce education and training
- Others?





# Maine Research Array Process 2021

# Research Array Process Elements

## State of Knowledge Workshop

- Setting stage
- Building common information

## Webinars

- Build understanding across sectors

## Work Sessions

- Detailed dialogue on data, siting, and research approach

## Dockside and Informal

- Direct engagement with fishermen
- Direct engagement with interested others

## Joint workshops

- Coordinating and refining advice from wildlife, fisheries and other



**For information:**

**[www.maine.gov/energy/initiatives/offshorewind](http://www.maine.gov/energy/initiatives/offshorewind)**

**Questions?**

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**207-530-0366**

**How Do I Stay  
Informed?**