



Commercial Fishing Transit Lanes and Offshore Wind Energy

in the New York Bight

Background, Process and Fishermen Survey Instructions

Background

With the increase in demand for offshore wind energy development in the New York Bight, ocean users, primarily commercial fishermen, larger vessel recreational fishermen, and others, will need to transit through and around offshore wind project arrays. Transit lanes, while broadly considered in the initial designation of wind energy areas (WEAs), have not been detailed to-date in the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) wind development process prior to the granting of leases.

To address this issue, The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC), New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) and Responsible Offshore Development Alliance (RODA) are gathering feedback and data related to fishing transit throughout the New York Bight. **This information gathering will culminate in a one-day transit workshop scheduled for March 27, 2019 at Danfords Hotel, Marina, and Spa in Port Jefferson, New York. The goal of the workshop is to present information collected on New York Bight transit routes to participants, to gather feedback and ultimately develop a Workshop Report that provides a clearer understanding of where transit lanes would provide the greatest value prior to the delineation of new offshore wind lease areas in the New York Bight.**

Process for Delineating Transit Lanes in the New York Bight

The process for delineating transit lanes in the New York Bight will include the following:

- 1. Review of Existing Data*

RODA and New York State are reviewing existing information to get a better understanding of current transit routes through the New York Bight. This includes gathering vessel monitoring system (VMS) and automatic information system (AIS) data to augment feedback from fishermen regarding current transit routes through the region.

- 2. Fishermen Survey*

RODA is asking for fishermen to complete an anonymous survey to gather firsthand information on current offshore transit routes for different fisheries and gear types. Fishermen's direct experience and knowledge are key inputs to this discussion. The purpose of this survey is to learn more about the individuals and vessels fishing in the New York Bight prior to the workshop to assist in developing a preliminary map of potential transit corridors. **To ensure**



privacy, RODA will serve as the intermediary of individual data, compiling the survey responses without individual attributes in order to maintain the anonymity and privacy of participants' individual data.

3. *One-day Workshop*

Compiled feedback, VMS data and AIS data will be presented and discussed at a one-day workshop facilitated by the Consensus Building Institute (CBI). The workshop will bring together fishermen, offshore wind developers, maritime representatives, and state and federal agency representatives to discuss transit in the New York Bight. Registration is required for participation.

The one-day workshop will include:

- Presentations on the roles of the New York State, BOEM, and the U.S. Coast Guard in designating transit corridors.
- Presentation of aggregated background data (as noted above) on current transit lanes.
- Presentation on outcome from the survey of fishermen.
- Facilitated discussion of:
 - Exploration of interests – why do various users need to get from point X to point Y (for instance, squid fishermen out of Port X need to transit to area B in one season and area A in another)?
 - Exploration of transit corridor design objectives – what objectives or principles need to be met or could be used to evaluate various transit options?
 - Exploration of various routes options and their pros and cons, based on options developed prior to the event.
To the extent possible, explore possible packages of routes in the New York Bight that would maximize the interests of all parties.

A Workshop Report will be developed from the feedback and discussions. The Workshop Report will be shared with all participants, made publicly available and provided to BOEM for consideration in the development of offshore wind lease areas.

Fishermen Survey Instructions

Please fill out the below survey to the degree that you are comfortable sharing information. In addition to these questions, you can use the map provided to draw vessel routes and any other details you would like to include, such as general locations of important fishing areas.

- When marking the map, please try to label each line, circle, etc. clearly. Explain in the legend space provided what lines and shapes represent. For example, draw a line(s) showing the typical route you use from your home port to the general location of your



fishing grounds and from the fishing grounds to where you return to land your catch (if at a different port or state).

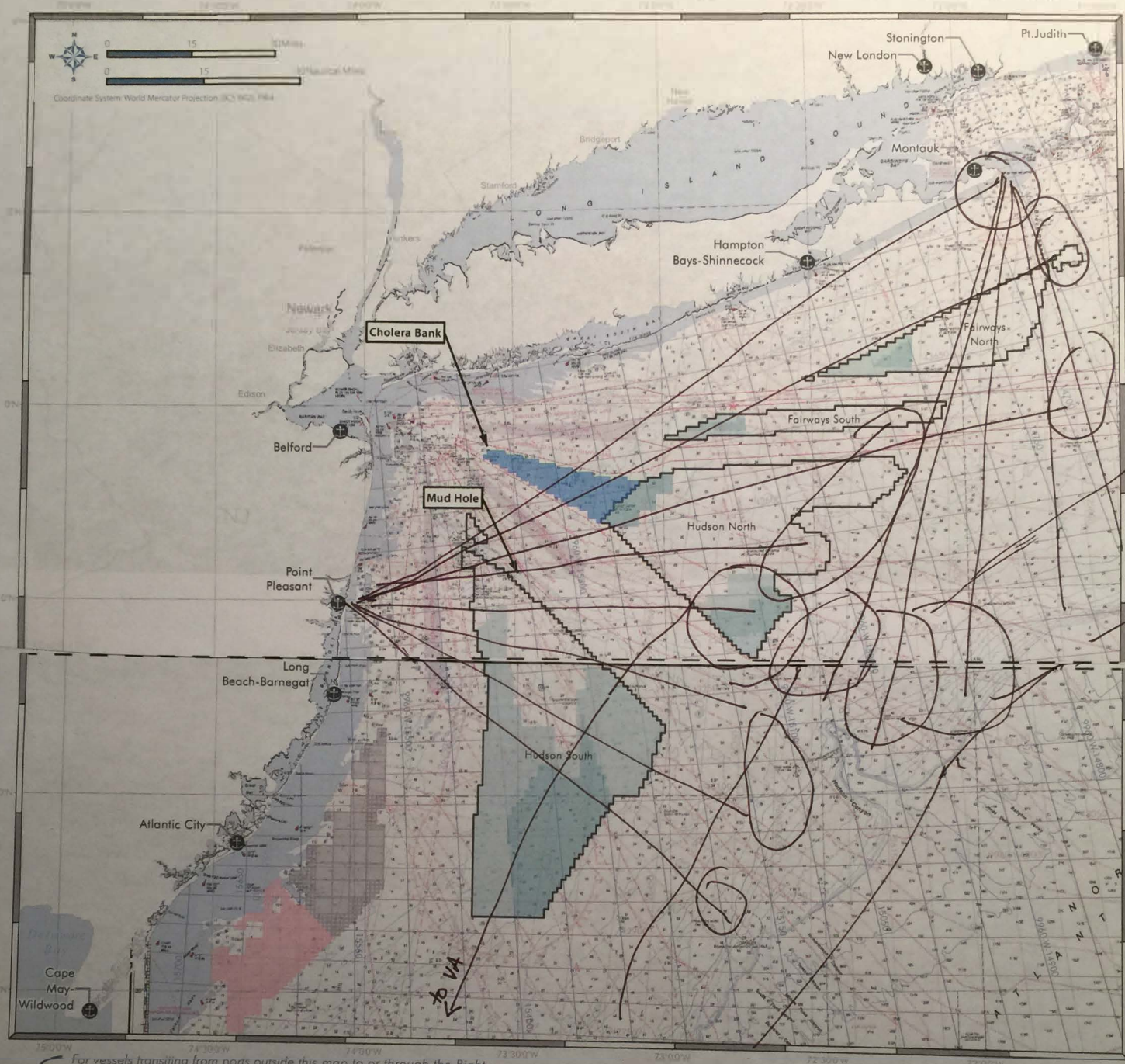
- If there is room try to mark routes- for example, a line may be labeled as “weather route to squid grounds” or “gill net route to Shinnecock from monk fishing grounds”.
- Also note any specific transit routes you consider particularly important. We welcome the submission of multiple maps to cover different seasons, weather conditions, and/or fisheries if it makes it easier to use more than one map. An example map is included at the end of these instructions for your reference.
- Once complete, you can scan the maps and return to **Lane Johnston at RODA (lane@rodafisheries.org)** along with your survey responses. Scanned copies (PDF or JPG) limit the distortion of the map and create an easily readable copy for digitizing.
- If a scanned copy is not possible, you may submit a photo of the map. Please attempt to flatten the map on a clear surface and take the photo straight overhead, as opposed to at an angle.
- You may also mail the map to RODA, P.O. Box 66704, Washington D.C. 20035.
- Maps and surveys should be returned to RODA by **March 1, 2019** for full consideration at the workshop. Submissions will be accepted after that date, but may not be able to be incorporated into the workshop materials.

We welcome any information you would like to provide, and thank you in advance for taking the time to submit important input throughout this process. Please contact Lane Johnston at RODA (lane@rodafisheries.org) or Lyndie Hice-Dunton at Ecology and Environment (lhicedunton@ene.com) for questions regarding the workshop or fishermen survey.

Detailed agenda, registration information, and travel details for the transit workshop to follow. Information will be posted on the RODA website at www.rodafisheries.org and the New York State Fisheries Technical Working Group website at www.nyfisheriestwg.ene.com.

Example Map

For vessels transiting from ports outside this map to or through the Bight, please draw lines starting on the edge of this map and indicate the home port.



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Transit Map Legend

- | | | |
|----------------------------------|--|--------------------|
| Fishing Ports | Shipping Fairways Lanes and Zones | Equinor Lease Area |
| State Boundary | Traffic Separation Schemes | W Station |
| Territorial Sea Boundary - 12 nm | Traffic Separation Schemes/Traffic Lanes | X Station |
| State/Federal Boundary - 3 nm | Traffic Separation Schemes/Traffic Lanes | Y Station |
| New York Bight Call Area | Atlantic Shores Offshore Wind Lease Area | |
| Primary Recommendation | Orsted Lease Area | |
| Secondary Recommendation | | |

User Legend...

Circles - fishing areas
lines - transit to ports

User Notes...

Additional details about the map are in the survey response.



Commercial Fishing Transit Lanes and Offshore Wind Energy in the New York Bight Fishermen Survey

We are asking fishermen to fill out the below questionnaire to help us understand the transit information being collected.

1. Are you a:

- Commercial fisherman
- Recreational fisherman (including charter or for-hire)
- Other: _____

2. Please fill out the following table with information about your vessel(s) and home port. This information will allow us to identify any data gaps that pertain to representation of participants within the fishing industry. All participants will remain anonymous.

Vessel(s) Type	Number of Vessels	Vessel(s) Size	Home Port



3. In which states do you land your catch when fishing in the New York Bight?

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> ME | <input type="checkbox"/> NJ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> NH | <input type="checkbox"/> DE |
| <input type="checkbox"/> MA | <input type="checkbox"/> MD |
| <input type="checkbox"/> RI | <input type="checkbox"/> VA |
| <input type="checkbox"/> CT | <input type="checkbox"/> NC |
| <input type="checkbox"/> NY | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

4. To ensure that we have information representing most fisheries in the region, please tell us which fisheries you primarily target that would lead you to fish or transit within the area designated on the map provided?

5. Which types of gear do you use (check all that apply).

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bottom trawl < 65ft | <input type="checkbox"/> Clam dredge |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bottom trawl > 65ft | <input type="checkbox"/> Gillnet |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Midwater trawl | <input type="checkbox"/> Longline |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Scallop dredge | <input type="checkbox"/> Pots and traps |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Scallop trawl | <input type="checkbox"/> Hook and line |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ | |



6. Do you have any additional thoughts regarding transit through the proposed New York Bight wind energy areas?

OPTIONAL: Provide your contact information if you are willing to be contacted if we have questions related to the map(s) and information provided.

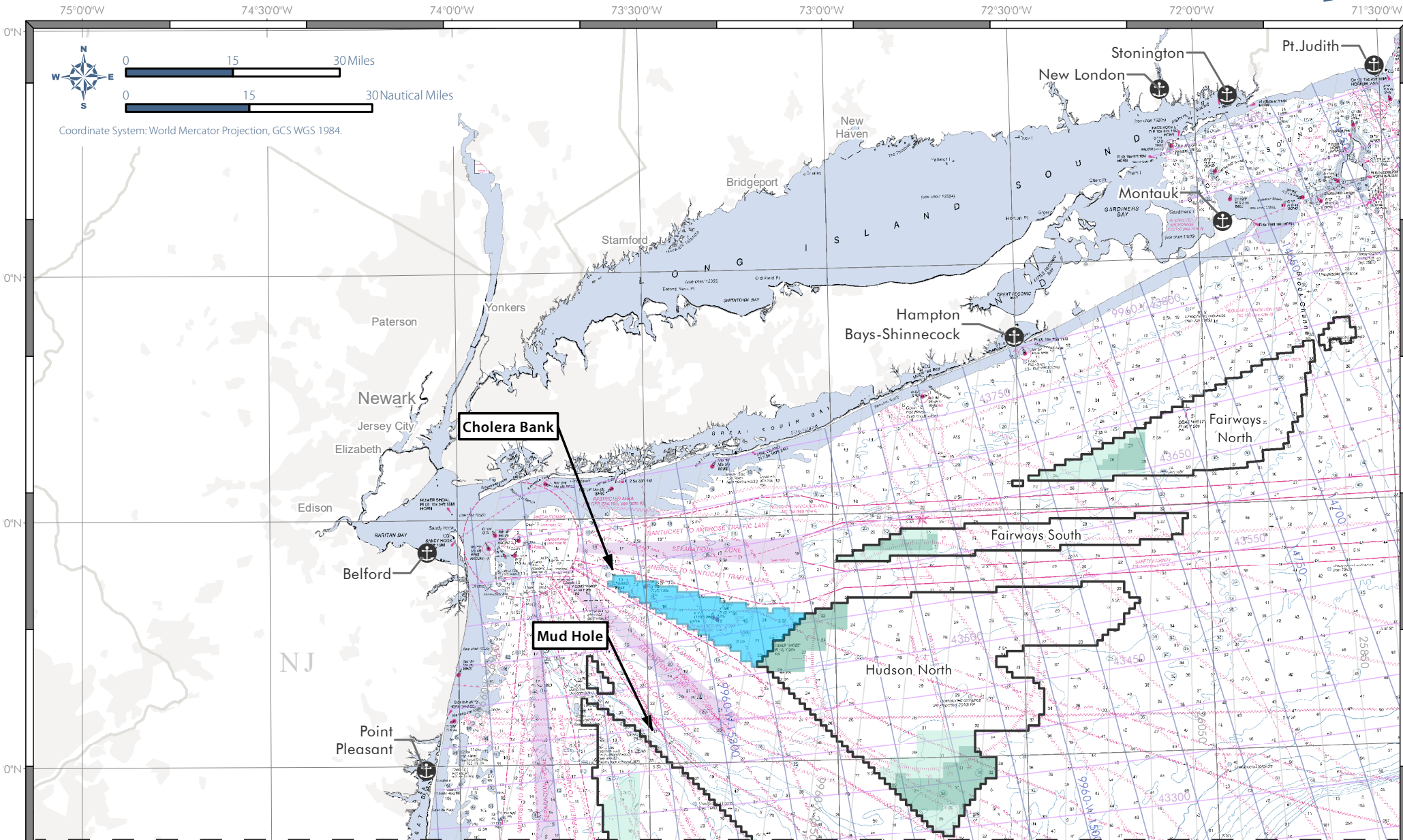
Name: _____

Email address: _____

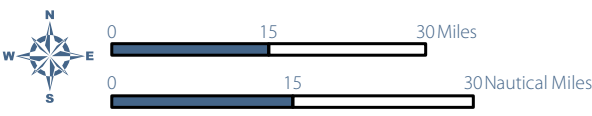
Phone number: _____

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For vessels transiting from ports outside this map to or through the Bight, please draw lines starting on the edge of this map and indicate the home port.



75°00'W 74°30'W 74°00'W 73°30'W 73°00'W 72°30'W 72°00'W 71°30'W



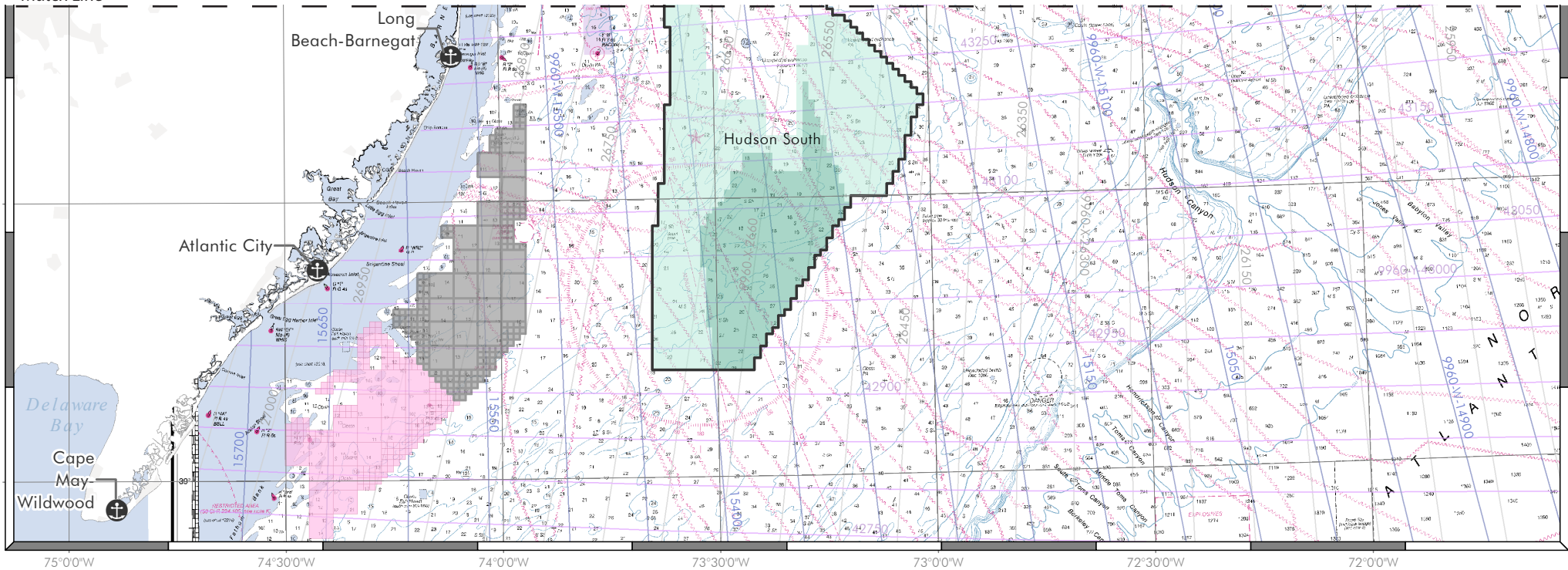
Coordinate System: World Mercator Projection, GCS WGS 1984.

Cholera Bank

Mud Hole

Match Line

Match Line



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- Fishing Ports
- State Boundary
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- New York Bight Call Area
- Primary Recommendation
- Secondary Recommendation
- Shipping Fairways Lanes and Zones
- Traffic Separation Schemes
- Traffic Separation Schemes/Traffic Lanes
- Atlantic Shores Offshore Wind Lease Area
- Orsted Lease Area
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- X Station
- Y Station

User Legend

User Notes