

An underwater photograph of a sandy seabed. The sand is dark brown and textured. Scattered across the bottom are numerous oyster shells, some whole and some broken into pieces. There is also some small, indistinct debris. The lighting is somewhat dim, typical of an underwater environment.

# Introduction: Use of Videos

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# What....

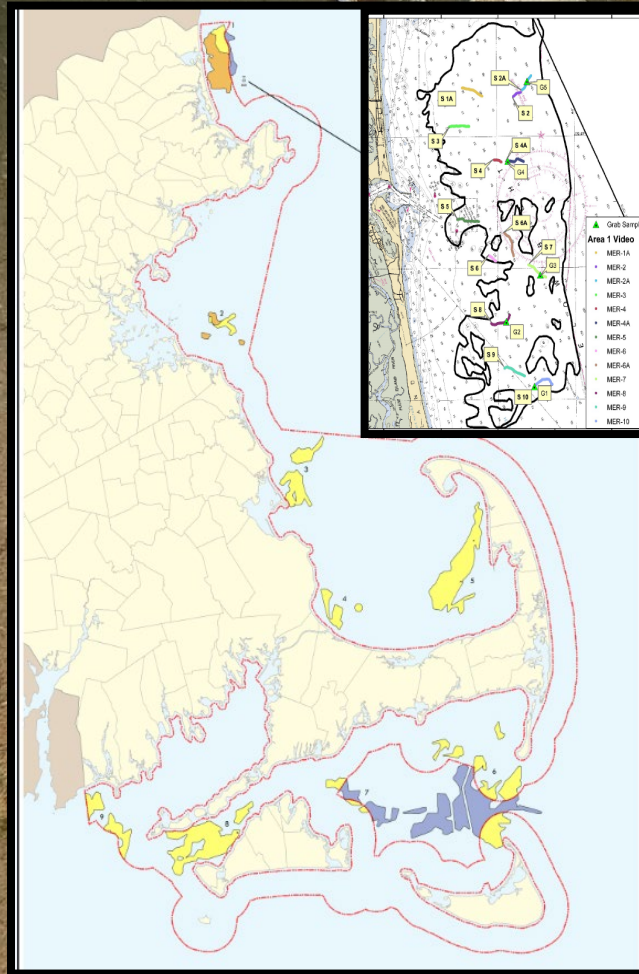
- Videos towed from behind a survey vessel
  - Offshore wind companies
  - CZM-funded survey to characterize offshore sand



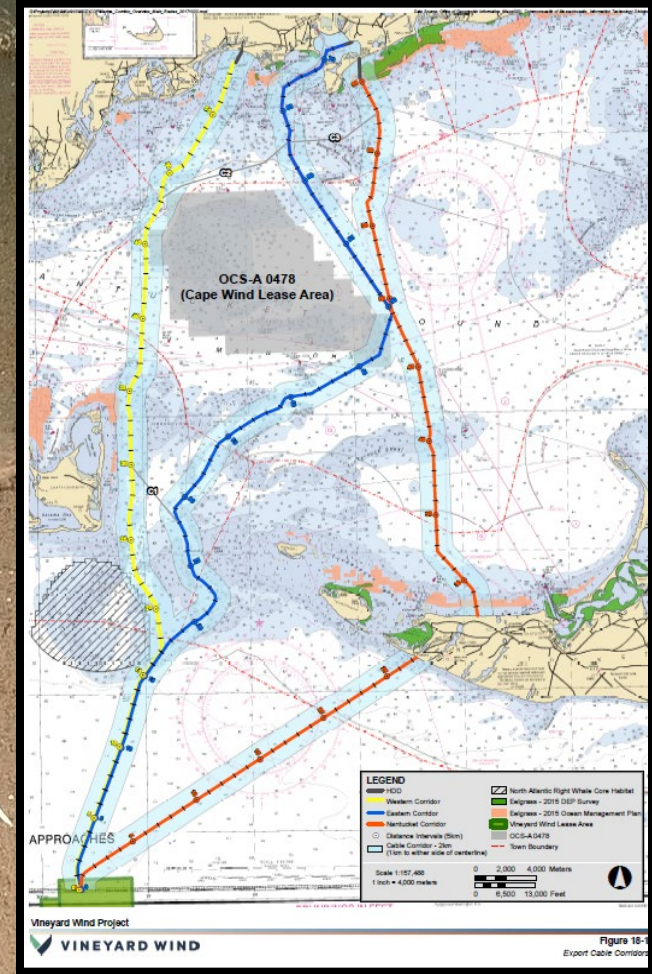
CR Environmental



# Where ....



Offshore Sand Resource Areas  
Aug-Nov 2017

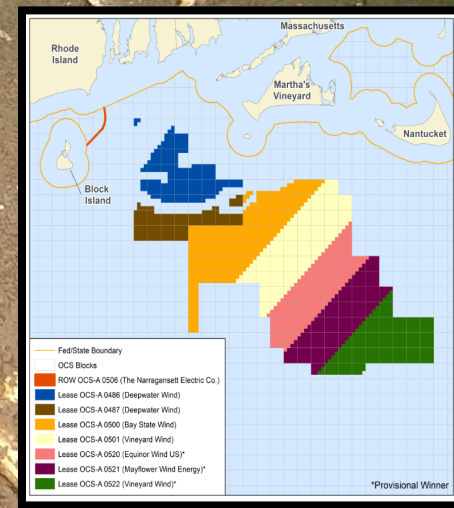


Vineyard Wind Cable Route  
2017, 2018



# Why ....

- MA Ocean Plan: Offshore sand
- Offshore Wind: COP, EIS
- CZM's Seafloor Mapping Program: h/c seafloor



Offshore Wind  
Leases



An underwater photograph showing a dark, sandy seabed. Scattered across the sand are numerous fragments of shells, likely from bivalves or gastropods, and some small pieces of organic debris. The lighting is somewhat dim, creating a moody atmosphere. The text "Sampling Design and Execution" is overlaid in the center in a large, white, sans-serif font.

# Sampling Design and Execution



A detailed map of a coastal area, likely a bay or estuary, showing the coastline and various islands. The map is overlaid with a grid. Numerous locations are marked with yellow boxes containing labels: S 1A, S 2A, S 2, S 3, S 4, S 4A, S 5, S 6, S 6A, S 7, S 8, S 9, S 10, G1, G2, G3, G4, G5, and G6. Colored lines (MER-1A through MER-10) trace paths across the map, connecting these locations. A legend on the right side of the map identifies the symbols: a green triangle for 'Grab Sample' and colored dots for 'Area 1 Video' tracks (MER-1A to MER-10). The map also includes a scale bar at the bottom left and a north arrow at the top left.

- Videos of opportunity
- Offshore Sand
  - 10 lines within each of the 5 areas of interest
  - Transition zones (sand → cobble)
  - 40-130' depth
  - 1000 m length
- Offshore Wind
  - From site to shore every 1 km
  - Video transects perpendicular to cable pathway
  - 15-115'
  - 1000 m length



# Execution

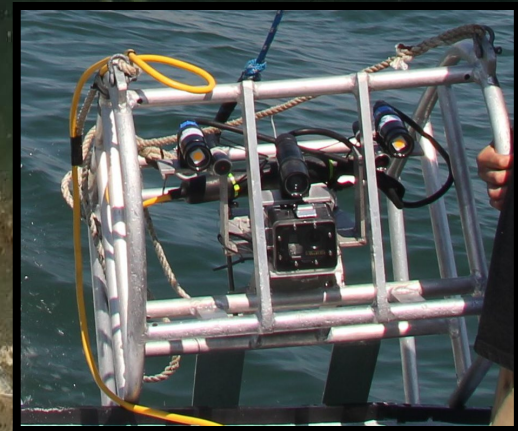
- Data Gathering

- Towed, vessel adrift at 0.5 to 2 knots
- Red lasers 25 cm (9.8" apart) on sled frame
- Outland Technologies (OTI) hi res, low light, color camera
- 2 UWL-401 LED lights w/ variable output
- OTI-960 video recorder and topside monitor

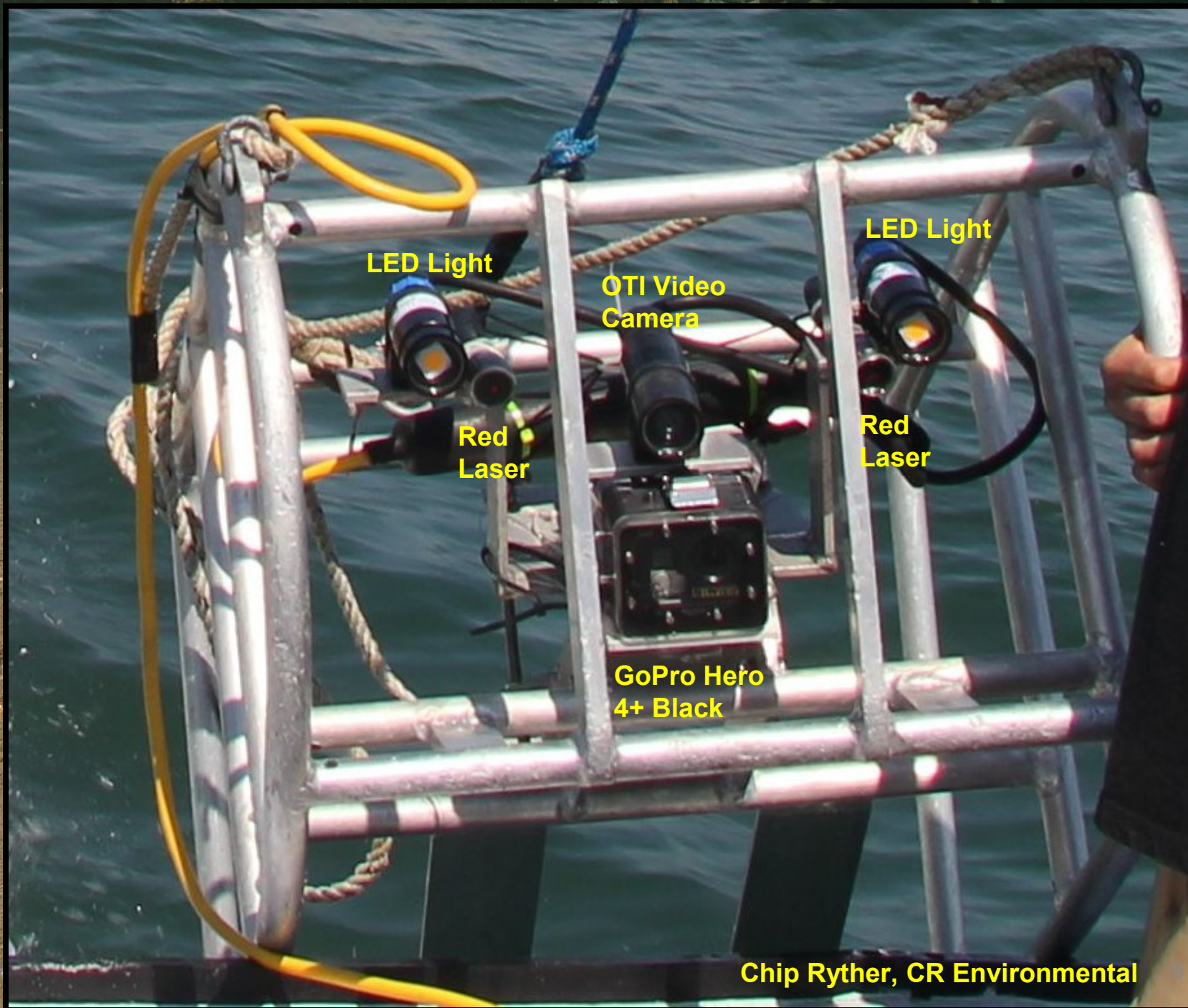
Also,

- Hi def GoPro Hero 4+ Black in a Nimar deepwater housing
- Mounted below OTI housing
- Recording HD video at 1080P resolution, 30 fps
- AND 12 Megapixel stills every 5-10 secs


- Both cameras synched to each other and navigation computer











# Data Management

- Simply use the file names provided by collector
- Data on hard drives (external and shared CZM server)
- 350 GB for offshore sand videos
- 1 TB for Vineyard Wind videos
- Use Excel for analyzed photos data





# What worked well, and what didn't ...

- Need to do tows in Cape Cod Bay Jan 1-April 30 to avoid lobster gear
- Transect “lines” are actually nonlinear b/c of drift & avoidance
- GoPro is a good backup when OTI fails



An underwater photograph of a sandy seabed covered with numerous seashells and debris. The shells are mostly light-colored, possibly white or cream, and are scattered across the dark brown sand. Some shells are whole, while others are broken into pieces. The lighting is somewhat dim, creating a moody atmosphere. The text "Data Analysis" is overlaid in the center in a large, white, sans-serif font. There are a few small red dots visible on the sand, possibly from a laser pointer or a small light source.

# Data Analysis





# Approach

- Data Processing w/ VLC Media Player
- Staff or student time
- View video with spreadsheet at hand
- Drop boxes with local possibilities for easier entry
- Use stills to estimate densities (sand dollars)



# Results

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	Biotic Subclass	Biotic Group	Co-occurring Element 1	Co-occurring Elements	Associated Taxa 1	Associated Taxa 2
2	Soft Sediment Fauna	Sand Dollar Bed	Diverse Soft Sediment Epifauna (blood star)	Burrowing Anemones, Scallop Bed (Sea Scallop), Mobile Mollusks on Soft Sediments (moon snail), Mobile Crustaceans on Mixed Substrates ( <i>Crangon</i> , <i>Pagurus</i> )	Mysid shrimp	Skate
3	Soft Sediment Fauna	Sand Dollar Bed	Burrowing Anemones	Diverse Soft Sediment Epifauna (bushy bryozoan, hermit crab, moon snail)	Mysid shrimp	Skate
4	Soft Sediment Fauna	Sand Dollar Bed	Burrowing Anemones	Burrowing Fauna (amphipods), Diverse Soft Sediment Epifauna (bushy bryozoan, sea star), Mobile Mollusks on Soft Sediments (moon snail), Mobile Crustaceans on Mixed Substrates ( <i>Cancer</i> , <i>Crangon</i> , <i>Pagurus</i> )	Mysid shrimp	Juvenile Winter Flounder
5	Soft Sediment Fauna	Sand Dollar Bed	Clam bed (quahog)	Burrowing Fauna (amphipods), Clam Bed (mussel), Diverse Soft Sediment Epifauna (sea star), Mobile Crustaceans on Mixed Substrates ( <i>Cancer</i> , <i>Crangon</i> , <i>Pagurus</i> )	Mysid shrimp	Winter Flounder
6	Soft Sediment Fauna	Sand Dollar Bed?	VERY TURBID VIDEO	VERY TURBID VIDEO	Mysid shrimp	
7	Soft Sediment Fauna	Sand Dollar Bed	Burrowing Fauna (amphipods)	Clam Bed (quahog, razor clam)	Mysid shrimp	
8	Soft Sediment Fauna	Sand Dollar Bed	Clam bed (quahog, sea scallop, surf clam)	Burrowing Anemones, Diverse Soft Sediment Epifauna (bushy bryozoan, sulfur sponge), Mobile Mollusks on Soft Sediments (moon snail), Mobile Crustaceans on Mixed Substrates ( <i>Cancer</i> , <i>Pagurus</i> ), Fecal mounds (worm castings)	Mysid shrimp	Winter Flounder
9	Soft Sediment Fauna	Sand Dollar Bed	Burrowing Fauna (amphipods)	Diverse Soft Sediment Epifauna (bushy bryozoan, sea star), Mobile Mollusks on Soft Sediments (moon snail), Mobile Crustaceans on Mixed Substrates ( <i>Cancer</i> , <i>Pagurus</i> ), Fecal mounds (worm castings), Egg Masses (skate)	Mysid shrimp	Windowpane Flounder
10	Soft Sediment Fauna	Sand Dollar Bed	Clam bed (quahog)	Diverse Soft Sediment Epifauna (burrowing anemone, bushy bryozoan, Mobile Mollusks on Soft Sediments (moon snail), Mobile Crustaceans on Mixed Substrates ( <i>Cancer</i> , <i>Crangon</i> , <i>Pagurus</i> ), Fecal mounds (worm castings)	Mysid shrimp	Juvenile Winter Flounder + Skate

Associated Taxa 2 = commercially important species



# Results

L6 <i>fx</i> Gastropod Reef													
	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S
	Substrate Group	CZM Barnhardt Sediment Class	Co-Occurring Element	Biotic Class	Biotic Subclass	Biotic Group	Biotic Community	Primary Co-Occurring Element	Other Co-Occurring Elements	Associated Taxa 1	Associated Taxa 2	Associated Taxa 3	Associated Taxa 4
1													
6	Crepidula Rubble	Fine	None	Reef Biota	Mollusk Reef Biota	Gastropod Reef	Crepidula/Codium	Leathery/Leafy Algal Bed		Juvenile Black Sea Bass	Juvenile Whelk	Anomia	Anachis
7	Fine	Fine with Gravel	Crepidula Rubble	Faunal Bed	Attached Fauna	Soft Sediment Fauna Attached Fauna Mollusk Reef Biota Inferred Fauna Worm Reef Benthic Macroalgae Aquatic Vascular Vegetation Mat/Film Forming Microbes	Crepidula	Filamentous Algal Bed					
8	Fine	Fine with Gravel	None	None	None	None	None	None					
9	Fine	Fine	Crepidula Hash	Aquatic Vegetation Bed	Benthic Macroalgae	Filamentous Algal Bed	None	Sessile Gastropods	Burrowing Fauna				
10	Fine	Fine	None	Microbial Communities	Mat/Film Forming Microbes	Bacterial Mat/Film							
11	Crepidula Rubble	Fine with Gravel	None	Faunal Bed	Attached Fauna	Attached Sponges							
12	Crepidula Rubble	Fine with Gravel	None	Aquatic Vegetation Bed	Benthic Macroalgae	Leathery/Leafy Algal Bed	Crepidula/Codium	Filamentous Algal Bed					
13	Crepidula Rubble	Fine with Gravel	None	None	Attached Fauna	Sessile Gastropods	Crepidula/Codium	Leathery/Leafy Algal Bed					
14	Fine	Fine	None	None	None	None	None						
	Fine with			Aquatic	Benthic	Leathery/Leafy							



# What worked, and what didn't ...

- Shell “reef” vs. “rubble”
  - Conglomerated, self-adhered, particle size 4096 mm or > in any direction
  - Living or nonliving shells w/ median particle size of 64-4096 mm
  - There is no way to see “particles” this size via video





An underwater photograph showing a dark, sandy seabed. Scattered across the sand are numerous fragments of shells, likely from mollusks or bivalves, some appearing as small white or light-colored pieces, others as larger, more complex fragments. The lighting is somewhat dim, creating a moody atmosphere. The text is overlaid on the left side of the image.

**From my Student Aashi:**

**Burrowing in sand:**

- Small burrows in the sediment as well as little heaps with a hole in the middle
- Does it matter if we can see the organism or just the hole?
- Size of burrow (Biotic Group = “Tunneling Megafauna”)



**What to do with sponge that is  
functionally cobble?**





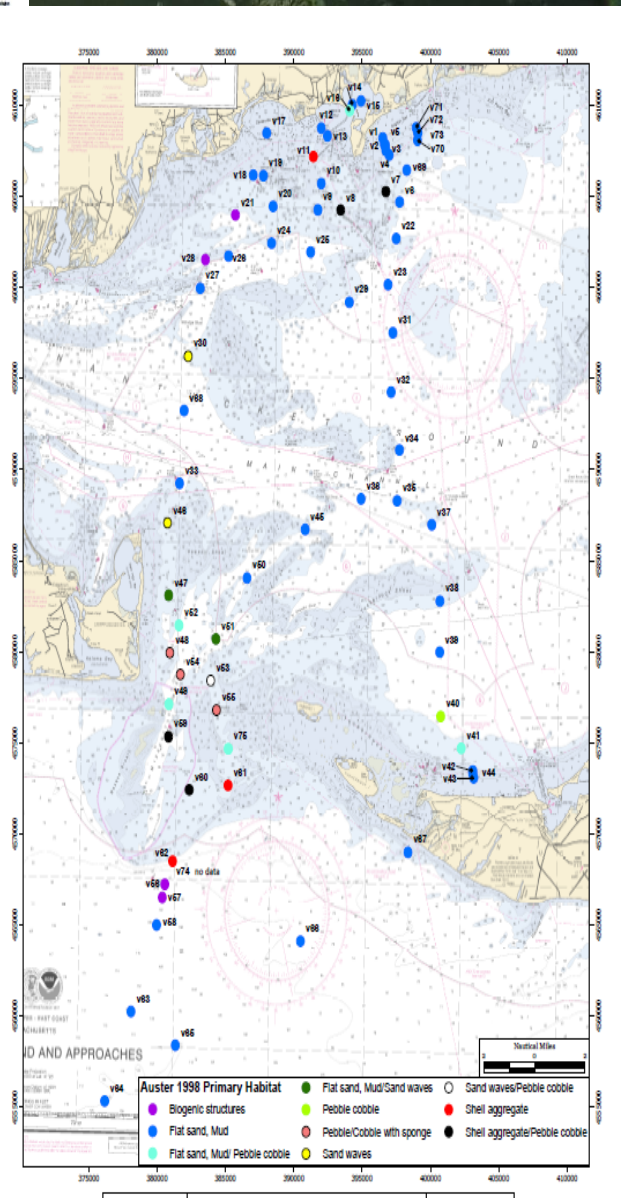
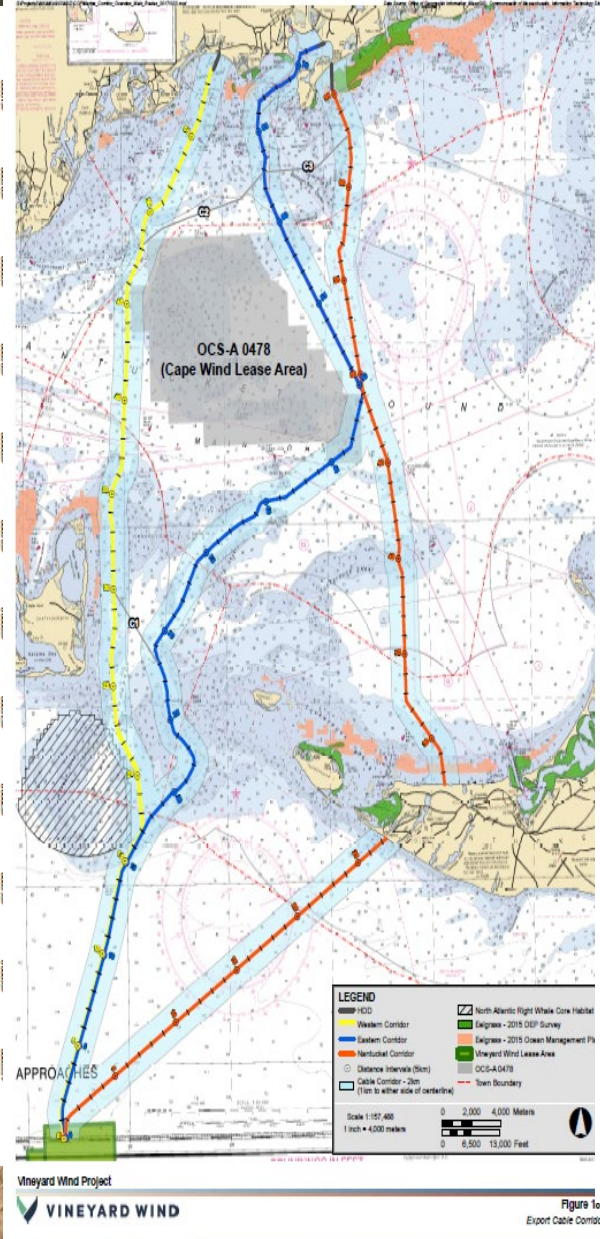
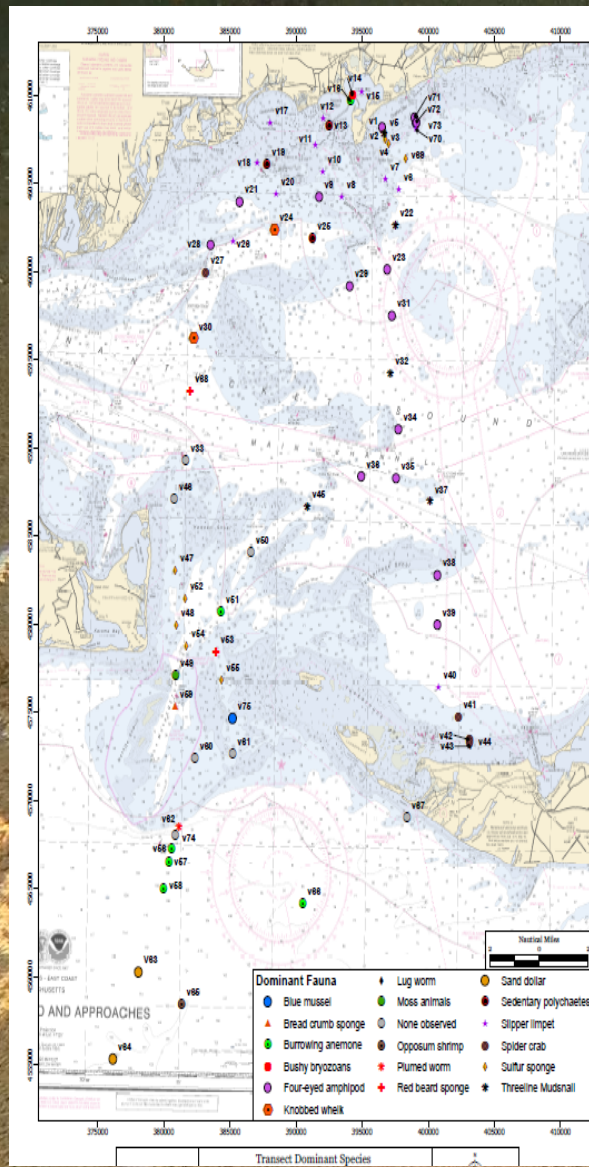


Figure 1e-1  
Export Cable Corridors