



## US Wind Mariners Briefing – May 24, 2021

These briefings are intended to update mariners on marine operations in and around the US Wind Maryland offshore wind lease area. Mariners briefings are distributed to the fishing community and interested mariners on our website at:

<https://uswindinc.com/mariners/> or can be requested from Benjamin Cooper, US Wind's Director of Marine Affairs, via email at [b.cooper@uswindinc.com](mailto:b.cooper@uswindinc.com).

### About Us

US Wind was founded in 2011 and has established its position as Maryland's leader in offshore wind development. In 2014, US Wind obtained a federal lease for site control to develop approximately 1,500 MW of offshore wind power generation off the coast of Maryland. In 2017, US Wind won an Offshore Renewable Energy Credit (OREC) award to build a 270 MW offshore wind facility in their lease area.

### Ongoing Survey Activities in Maryland Offshore Lease Area

Maryland-based offshore wind developer, US Wind, began an extensive oceanographic research campaign in the Maryland offshore wind lease area in early April that continues into July 2021. The company has deployed a team of scientists and other experts aboard two U.S. flagged research vessels to conduct detailed geophysical surveys of the offshore wind lease.

Offshore geophysical surveys provide a detailed image of the seafloor to inform decisions on project design, including types of foundations, turbine locations, and cable burial routes. Geophysical surveys are also used to better understand the geological issues that may exist with project development and ensure safe and long-term operations and performance of offshore wind facilities. The survey program includes data collection along a tartan-pattern survey grid throughout the lease area.

Approximate WGS84 Coordinates (Lease Area OCS-A 0490)					
	Latitude N	Longitude W		Latitude N	Longitude W
1	38 27.998	74 51.747	5	38 17.608	74 46.827
2	38 27.990	74 46.795	6	38 17.614	74 50.120
3	38 14.985	74 36.138	7	38 18.913	73 51.764
4	38 15.013	74 46.835			

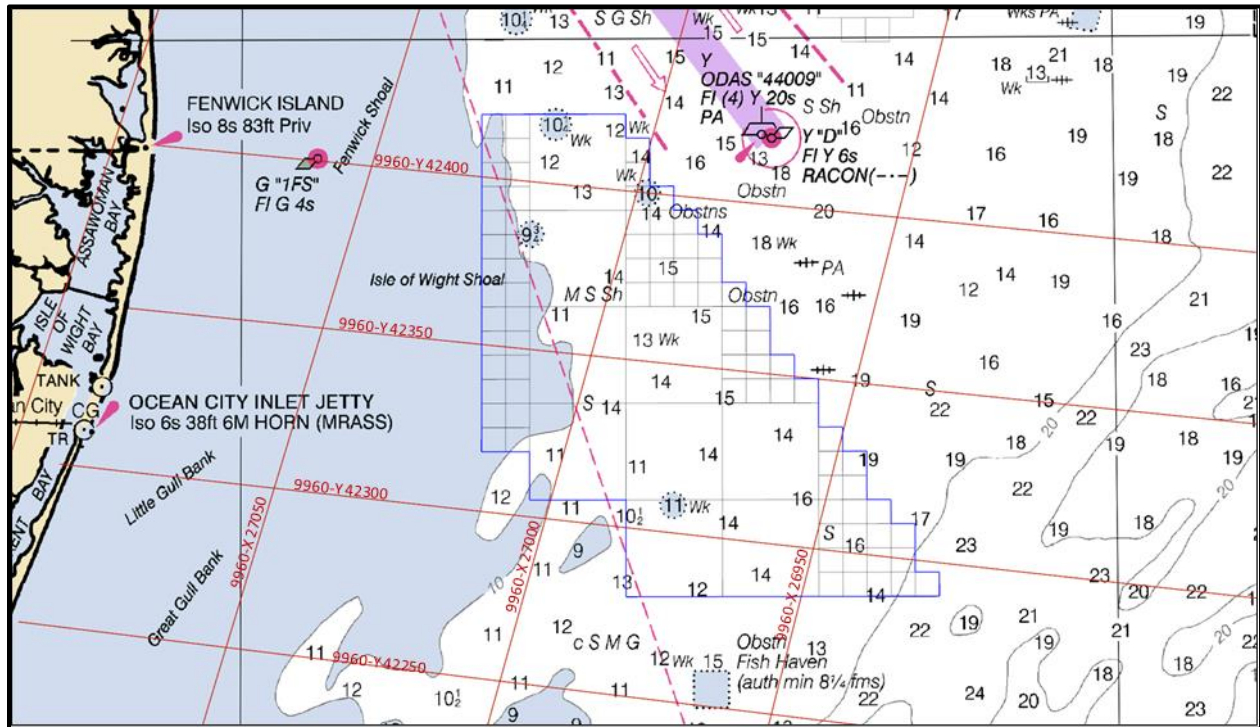


Chart depicting US Wind lease area off Maryland's coast (not to be used for navigation purposes)

The geophysical survey operations are conducted by the U.S. marine research vessels R/V Brooks McCall and the R/V Miss Emma McCall, operated by TDI Brooks, Inc.

Both multi-use oceanographic research vessels are equipped to acquire geophysical surveys for offshore hazard/site clearance assessments, pipeline/cable routing, seafloor mapping, port and channel conditions, fisheries habitat mapping, and burial assessment studies.

US Wind has already begun an extensive outreach effort to local fishermen to inform them of these survey activities. US Wind's dedicated fisheries outreach specialists at Sea Risk Solutions regularly updates local fishermen on the expected activities of the survey vessels. There will be no restriction on fishing in the offshore wind lease area due to these survey activities.

US Wind continues to implement extensive efforts to minimize impacts to marine life during survey operations. Expert Protected Species Observers are aboard each vessel to monitor for the presence of protected species, such as the North Atlantic Right Whale, and to ensure that appropriate measures are taken to protect these species.



**R/V Miss Emma McCall - LOA 153'; Call Sign: WDG8742; MMSI: 338100000 (top)**

**R/V Brooks McCall - LOA 160'; Call Sign: WCZ7811; MMSI: 338257000 (bottom)**

*\*\*All Mariners transiting or fishing in the survey area are requested to give a wide berth to survey vessels as they may be limited in their ability to maneuver and may be towing gear out to 300 yards behind the vessel. Vessels in the vicinity of the survey vessels should operate in a manner that will not endanger the vessel or associated equipment\*\**



### Meteorological Ocean Buoy Deployed

US Wind deployed a meteorological and oceanographic (metocean) buoy in the Maryland offshore lease area on May 19, 2021, to collect wind and marine life data off the coast of Ocean City, Maryland. The Floating Light Detection and Ranging (“LiDAR”) buoy uses an eye-safe, continuous wave laser to measure wind speeds and direction across the turbine height. These measurements, along with surface meteorology and ocean condition observations will help inform US Wind’s energy production estimates and project design.

The buoy was deployed in position 38°21'10.74"N 74°45'12.66"W. It will allow US Wind to collect an array of advanced environmental and wildlife data through sensors that enable the monitoring of bats, birds, fish, and other marine mammals to determine the presence, frequency, and distribution within the lease area. Subsets of the metocean observations will be posted publicly on US Wind’s website. Cleanly powered by solar panels and wind turbines, along with an onboard fuel cell and battery back-up system, the buoy will be deployed within the lease area for two years.



For more information, please contact:  
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