

US Wind Mariners Briefing – August 12, 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 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.

You may also wish to contact US Wind’s Fisheries Liaison Officers for fisheries specific information:

Wolfgang Rain: 206-427-6553; wrain@searisksolutions.com

Ron Larsen: 570-242-5023; ronlarsen@searisksolutions.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

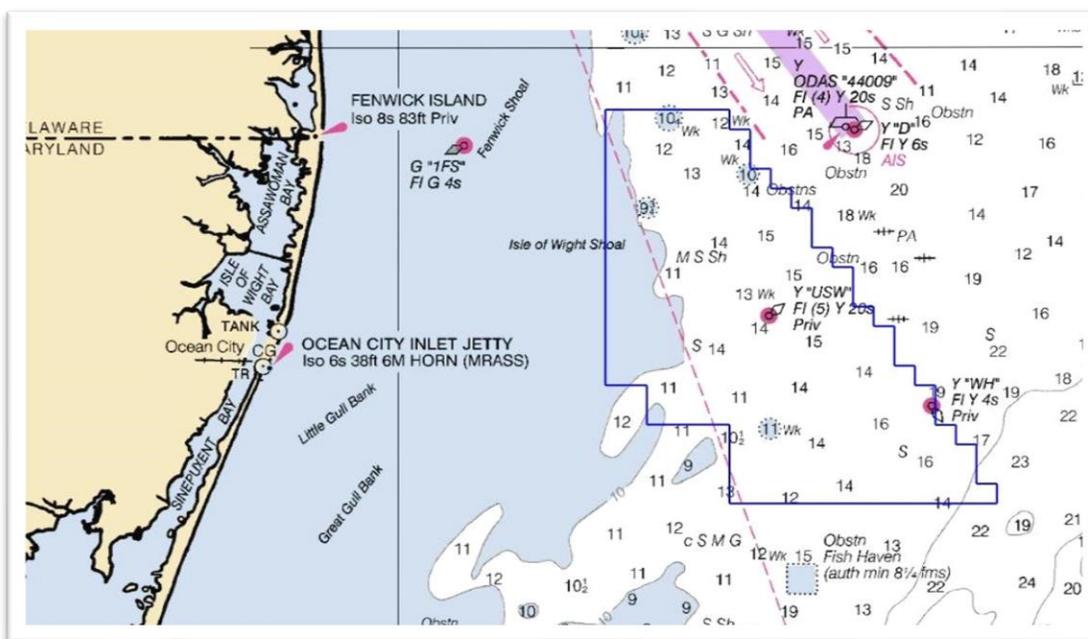


Chart depicting US Wind Lease area off Maryland’s coast (not to be used for navigation purposes)

In July 2021, the U.S. flag Research Vessel *Brooks McCall*, operated by TDI Brooks, Inc., began conducting shallow geo-technical studies in the US Wind Lease area. The R/V *Miss Emma McCall* will continue geophysical survey operations in the area and along the export cable route to acquire data for offshore hazard/site clearance assessments, pipeline/cable routing, seafloor mapping, port and channel conditions, fisheries habitat mapping, and burial assessment studies. Survey activities are expected to continue through September.

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*****

Buoys in the US Wind Lease area

In May 2021, US Wind deployed the “USW” meteorological and oceanographic (metocean) buoy in position **38°21'10.7"N 74°45'12.7"W**, to collect wind and marine life data off the coast of Ocean City, Maryland. The Floating Light Detection and Ranging (“LiDAR”) buoy provided by EOLOS 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.

In June 2021, the University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science (UMCES) research buoy “WH”, known as the whale monitoring buoy, was brought online in position **38°18'10.8"N 74°38'42.0"W**, about 23 miles off the coast to provide daily reports of whales detected off Maryland’s Atlantic coast. The UMCES “WH” buoy will monitor the presence of a wide range of whales, dolphins, and porpoises who either call the Atlantic Ocean offshore Maryland home or pass during migration along the coast. The buoy system includes an underwater hydrophone that will record the marine mammal calls. A detection algorithm will analyze the calls to determine the presence of humpback, fin, sei, and the critically endangered North Atlantic right whale species. The data collected will be transmitted to shore, verified by UMCES scientists, and shared on the [buoy website](#).



USW buoy



UMCES buoy

For more information, please contact:
Benjamin Cooper, Director of Marine Affairs: b.cooper@uswindinc.com or 410-340-9602