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Learn why we say...

Yes to Wind!

Offshore Wind in Texas: Future Power to Protect People & Wildlife

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Offshore Wind Energy, NWF

Why do we need responsible offshore wind?

Offshore wind energy *reduces our dependence on fossil fuels* and makes our *energy grid more reliable*, making it a key opportunity to *support communities and wildlife impacted by our changing climate*.

Nationally, the U.S. has the potential to develop 3,674 GW of offshore wind power, **nearly five times the current demand!**

Summer, 2025 Peak Demand = 759 GW

Source: Peak electricity demand in the 48 contiguous states set records twice July 2025

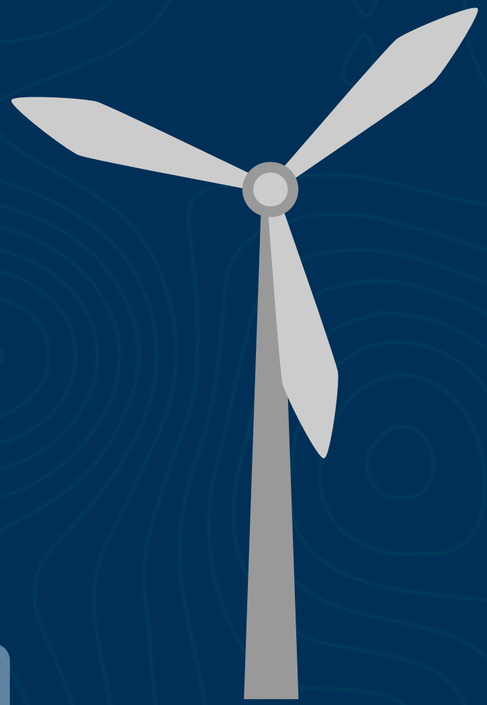


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Wind energy is cleaner energy!

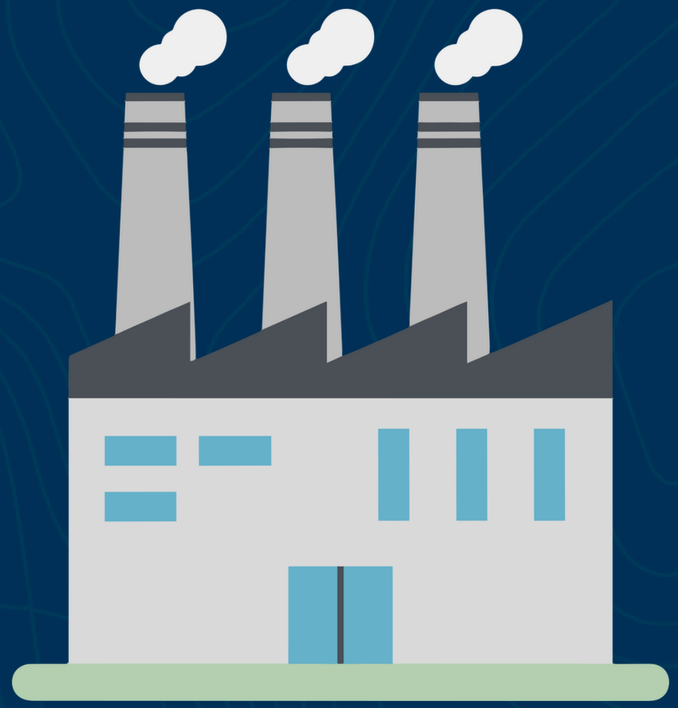
Coal's carbon footprint is almost 90 times larger than that of wind energy, and the footprint of natural gas more than 40 times larger.

How Wind Can Help Us Breathe Easier from the US Department of Energy.



Wind Energy

~11 g of CO_2 per kilowatt-hour (g CO_2/kWh)



Natural Gas

~465 g CO_2 /kWh



Coal

~980 g CO_2 /kWh

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What is 'responsible' offshore wind?

Responsible Development of Offshore Wind:

1

Avoids, minimizes, mitigates, and monitors for adverse impacts on wildlife and habitats,



2

Minimizes negative impacts on other ocean uses,



3

Includes robust consultation with Native American tribes and communities,



4

Meaningfully engages state and local governments and other interested and affected parties from the outset,



5

Includes comprehensive efforts to avoid negative impacts to underserved communities, and...



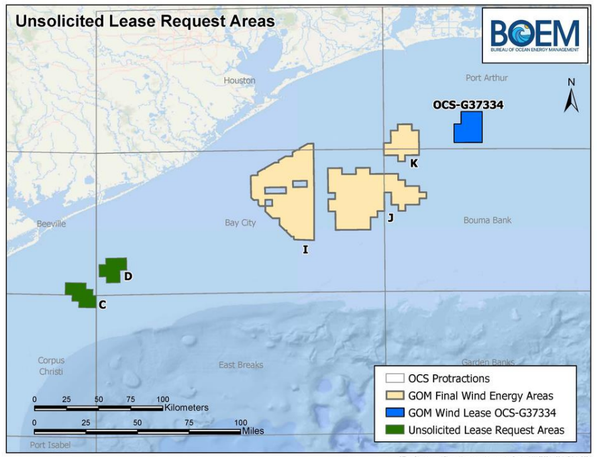
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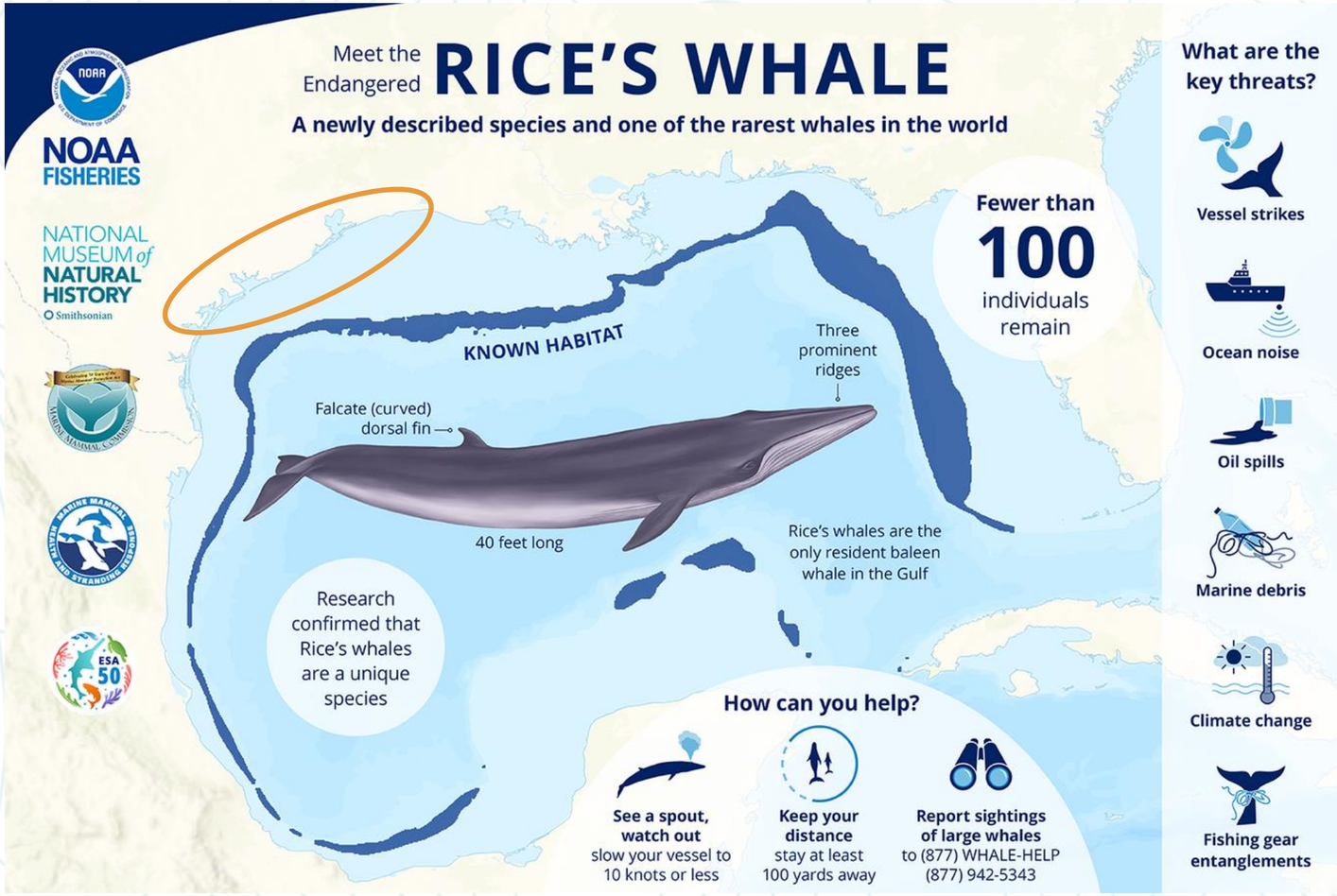
Uses the best available scientific and technological data to ensure science-based community-informed decision making.



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Species of Concern: RICE'S WHALE





Top - Offshore Wind Energy Areas (Credit: BOEM) Right: Infographic about the Rice's whale habitat (Credit: NOAA Fisheries)

Check out our blog on the threats to Rice's whale!

NWF IN ACTION: During the process to determine the location of the first lease areas in the Gulf, NWF and our partners provided guidance to BOEM to avoid the areas where Rice's whales are most likely to be present. As a result of these early comments, BOEM eliminated areas that included known Rice's whale habitat from consideration for offshore wind development.

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US Offshore Wind Timeline

2016

Block Island Wind
30 MW
Rhode Island
10 Years of Offshore Wind!

2020

CVOW-Pilot
12 MW
Virginia

2024

South Fork Wind
132 MW (~70K Homes)
New York

2026

Vineyard Wind I
800 MW (~400K Homes)
Massachusetts
Will reduce yearly carbon emissions by 1.6 million metric tons!



PROJECTS UNDER CONSTRUCTION

2026

Revolution Wind
704 MW (~350k homes)
Rhode Island & Connecticut
Will save New England ratepayers $500 million a year in wholesale costs!

~2026

Empire Wind I
816 MW (~500k homes)
New York
70% Completion.

~2027

CVOW-Commercial
2,587 MW (~660k homes)
Virginia
90% Completion. Already sending power to the grid!

~2027

Sunrise Wind
924 MW (~600k homes)
New York

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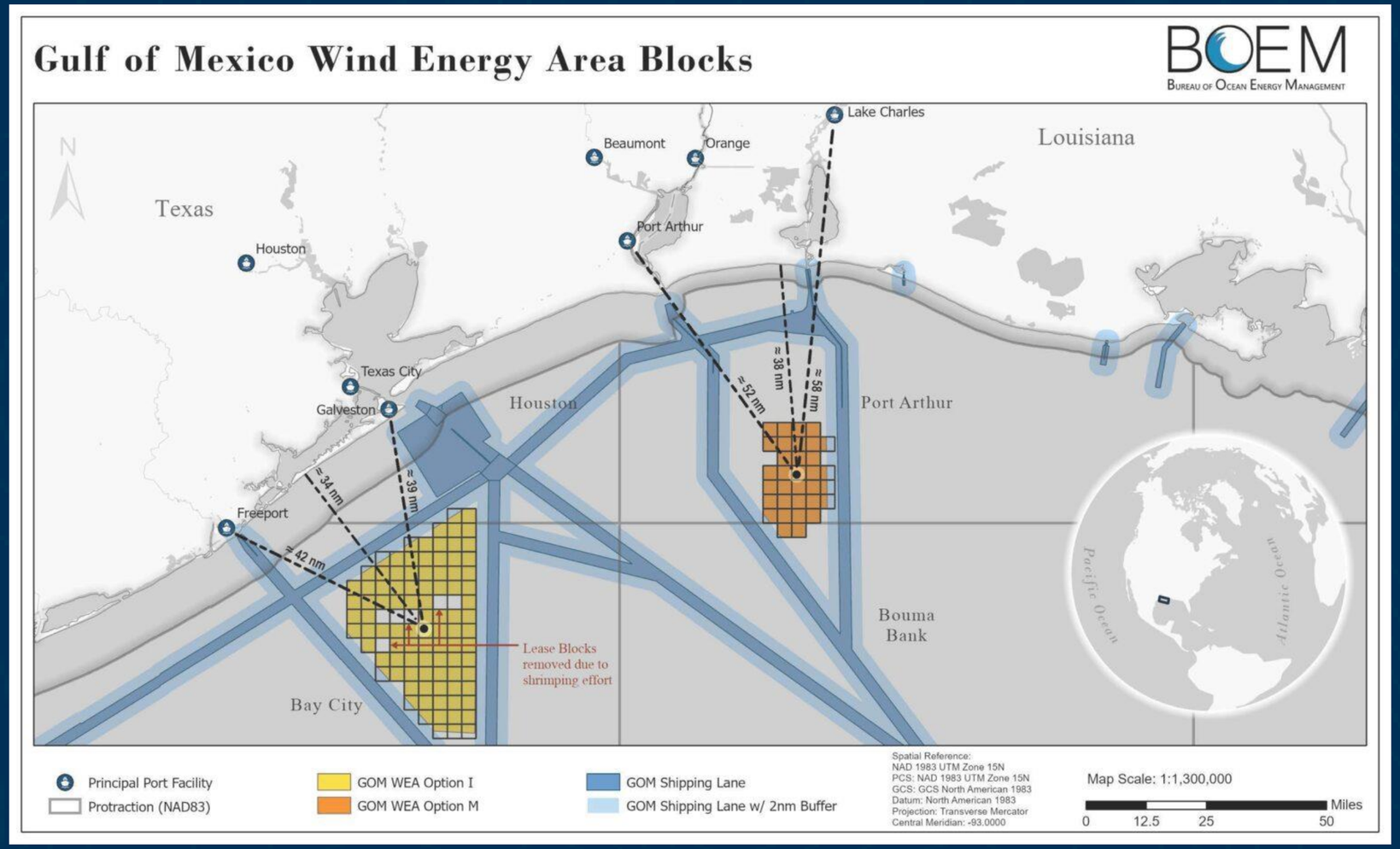
For up-to-date project information, visit the Power Hub at www.offshorewindpowerhub.org.

2023 Offshore Wind Lease Sale

Unlike many other coastal states we work in, Texas does not have an offshore wind goal.

The Biden era auction (in yellow) for Texas lease areas had no bids.

There was 1 Gulf lease area off the coast of Louisiana near the Texas border that would have sent power to the Golden Triangle, but the Trump administration reached a deal with RWE for a buyout.



Credit: BOEM

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2025 Legislative Session: SB 383

In the 89th legislative session, Sen. Mayes Middleton filed SB 383, a bill that would amend the Utilities Code to prohibit interconnection of offshore wind power to the Texas electric grid.

NWF and our partners across the state testified in opposition to this proposal. The bill did not reach Calendars before the end of session.

A similar bill will likely be filed in the upcoming session.

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SAY...

Yes to Wind!

Let's stay connected! Tell us your interests.

Support responsible offshore wind energy in the Gulf!