

# Massachusetts Ocean Plan: Data and partnership

Oregon Nearshore Task Force  
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# Oceans Act of 2008

- Directed Secretary to establish ocean plan by December 31, 2009
  - Data/science-based
  - Contain goals, siting priorities, and standards for uses allowed pursuant to Ocean Sanctuaries Act:
    - Renewable energy facilities
    - Pipelines
    - Cables
    - Sand extraction for beach nourishment
  - Plan must identify and protect *special, sensitive, or unique* estuarine and marine life and habitats
- So: spatial plan, enforceable “with teeth”, 18 months start-finish



# Translating the Oceans Act into an ocean plan through spatial data

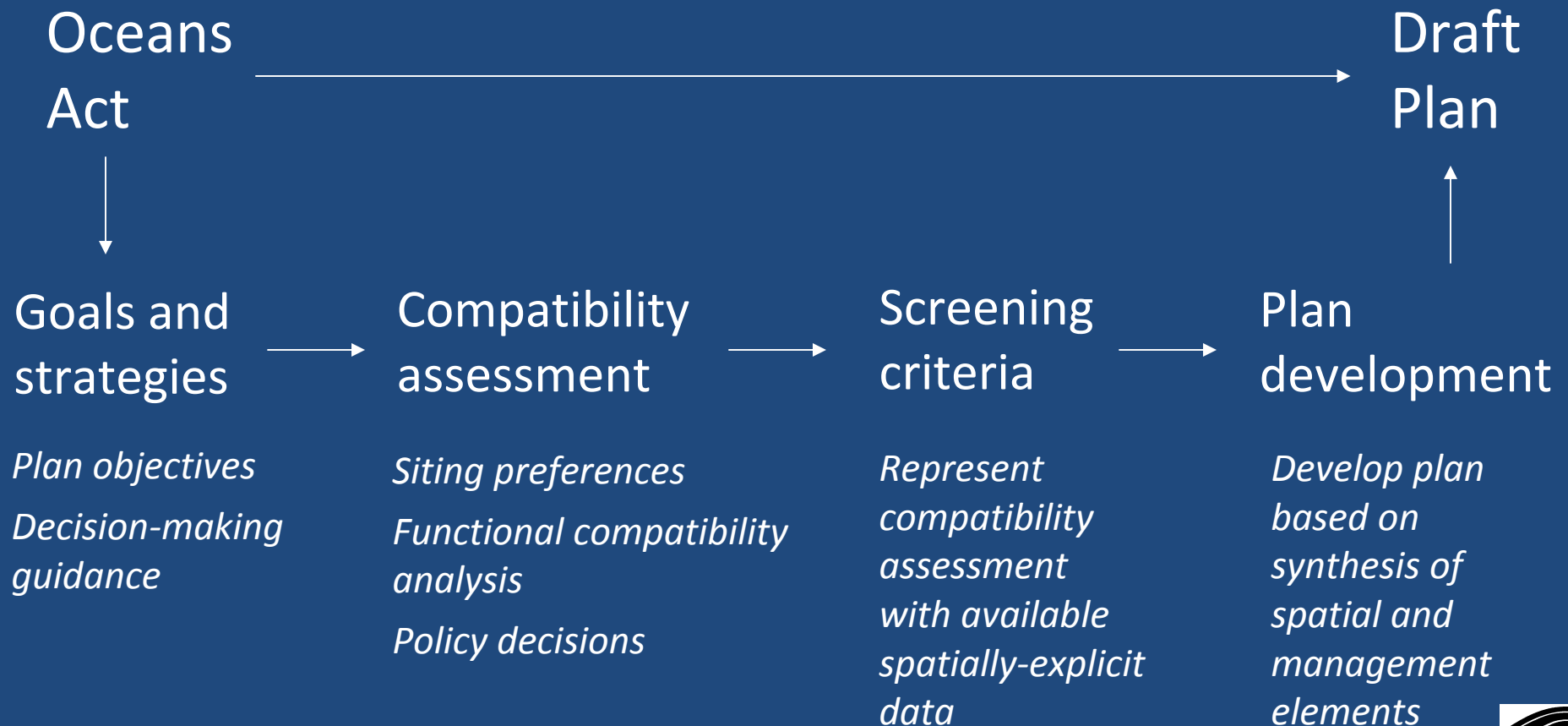
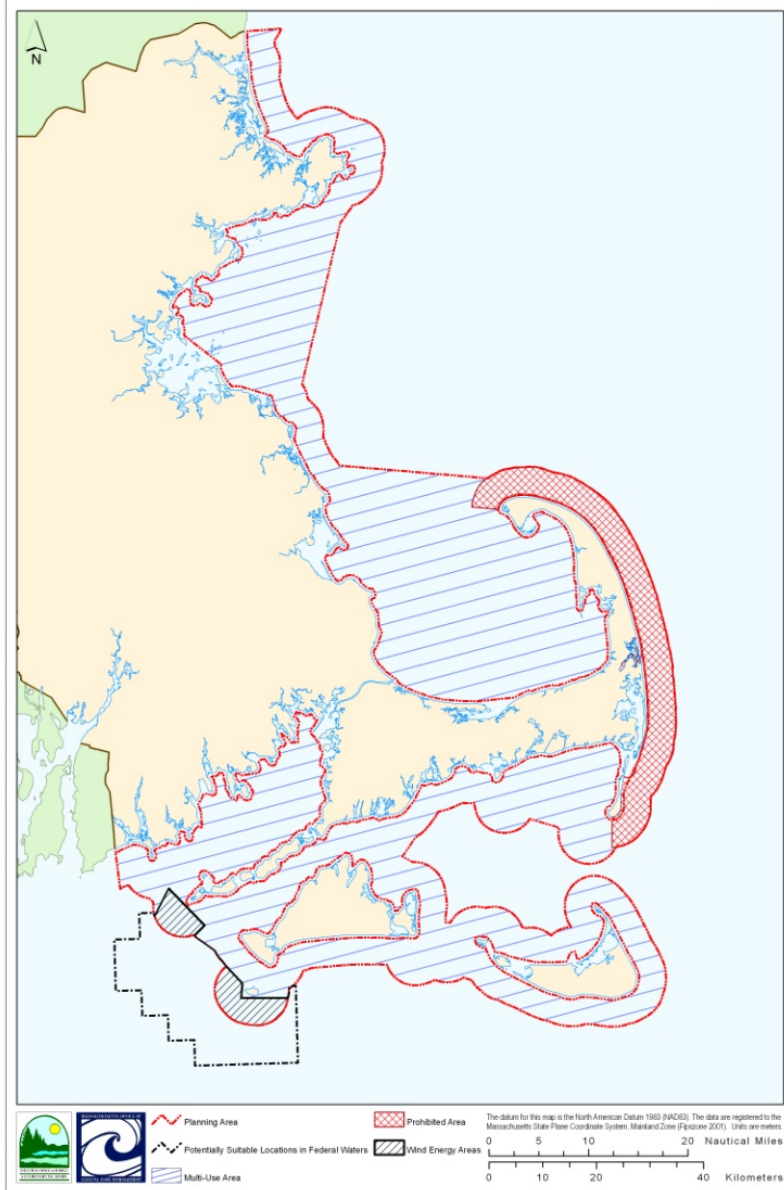


FIGURE 4-1 MANAGEMENT AREAS

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# Ocean Plan Management Areas:

- Prohibited-13%
- Renewable Energy-2%
- Multi-use-85%

# Ocean plan data management

- Strong data + science basis
  - Best available spatial data for:
    - Human uses (commercial fishing, commerce, etc.)
    - Natural resources (fish, birds, marine mammals, habitat)
  - Over 90 data sets formally incorporated into Plan
  - Needed ability to analyze different spatial scenarios
  - So, needed GIS structure/architecture

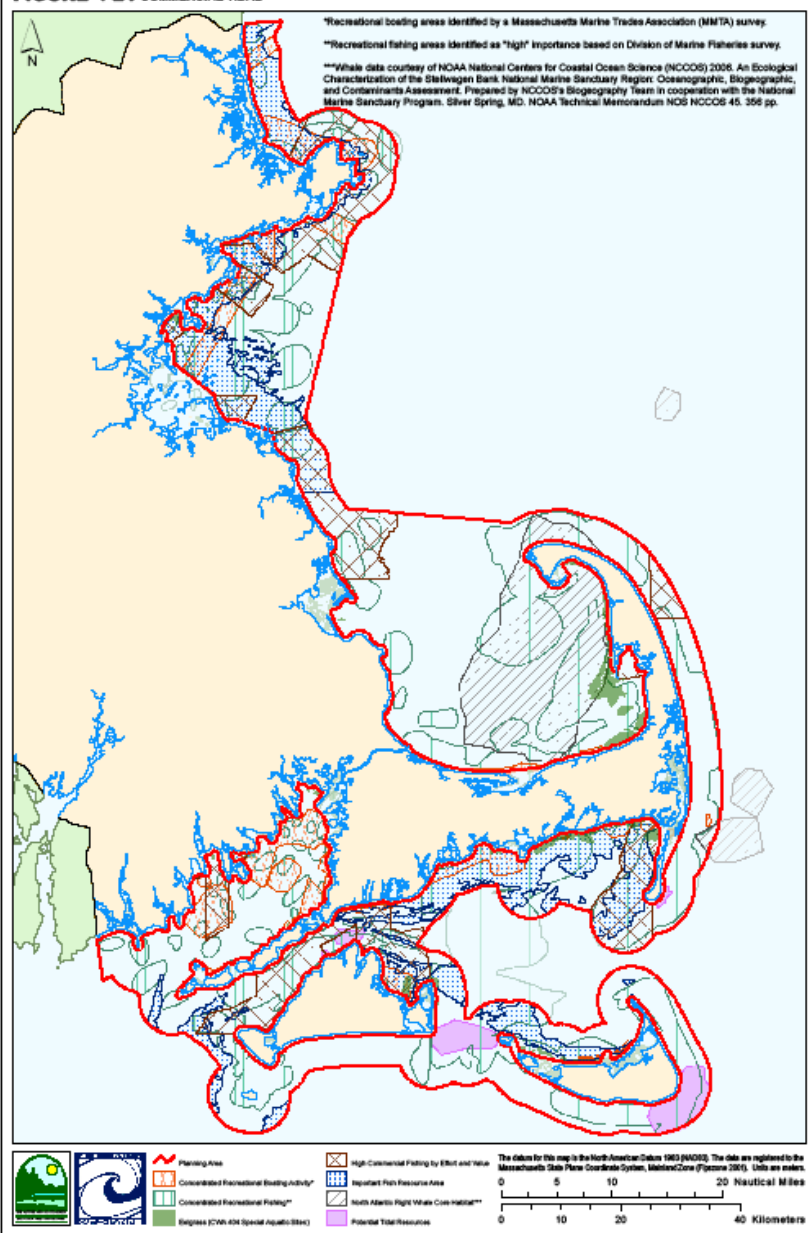
# Ocean plan data management

- MORIS (Massachusetts Ocean Resources Information System)
  - On-line tool in partnership with MassGIS for coastal/ocean data  
[www.mass.gov/czm/mapping/index.htm](http://www.mass.gov/czm/mapping/index.htm)
  - Can create/view/download maps and individual spatial data layers/aerial photographs
  - Three staff (parts of their time) involved in its maintenance



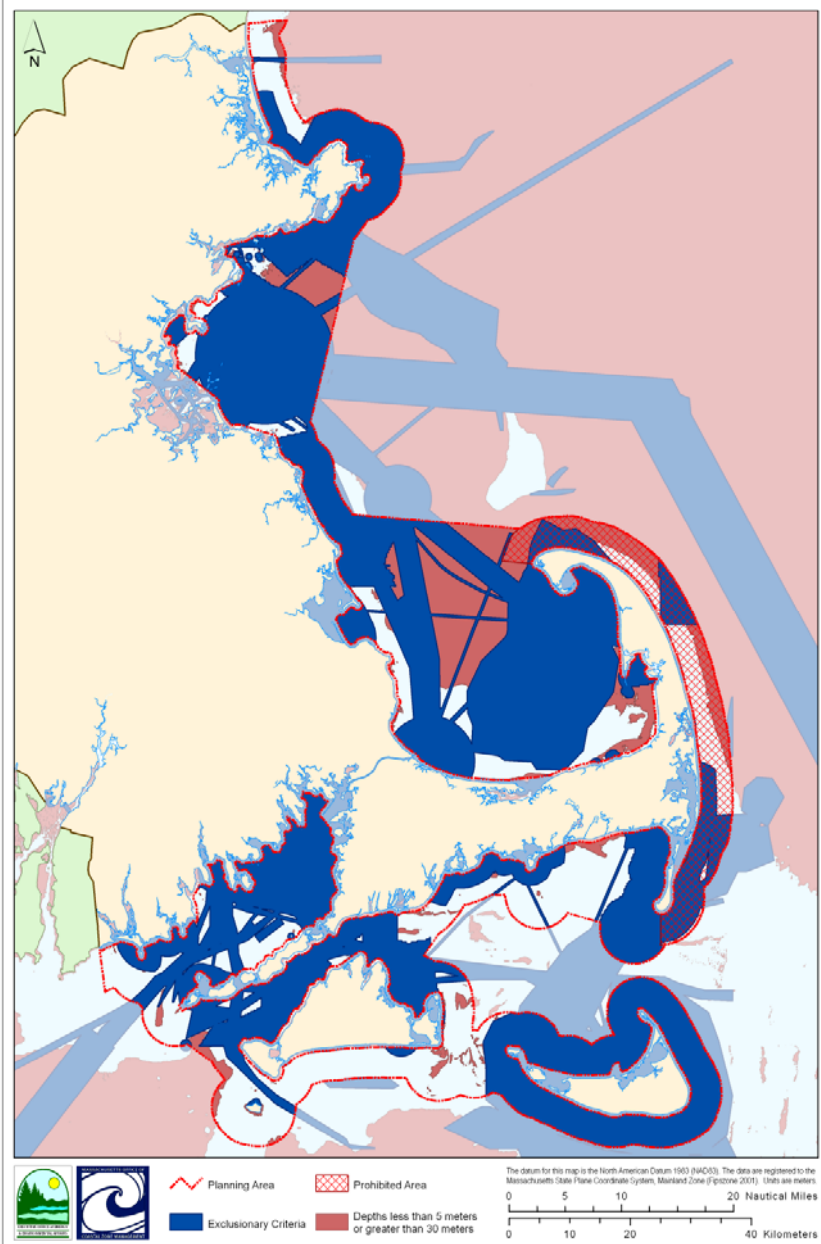
**FIGURE 4-21 COMMERCIAL TIDAL**

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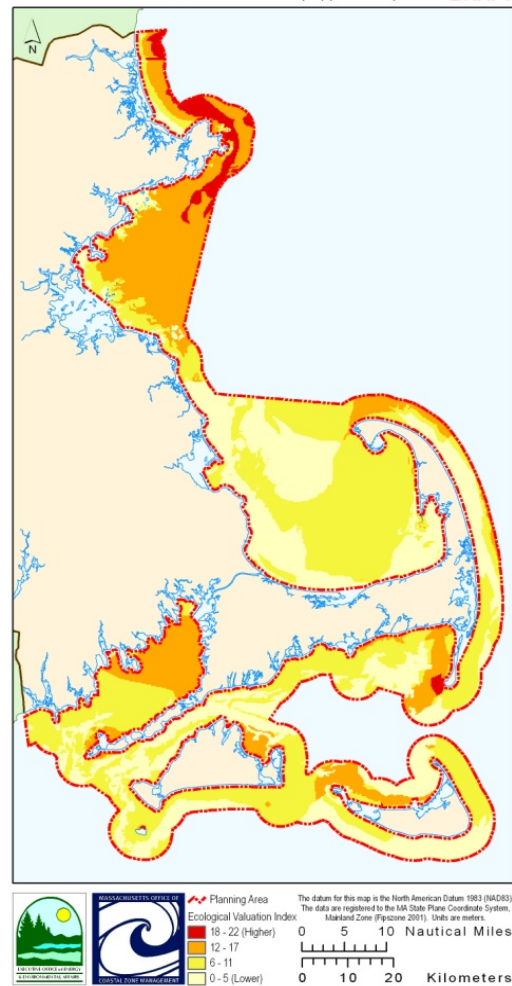
**FIGURE COMPATIBILITY ASSESSMENT: COMMERCIAL WIND**

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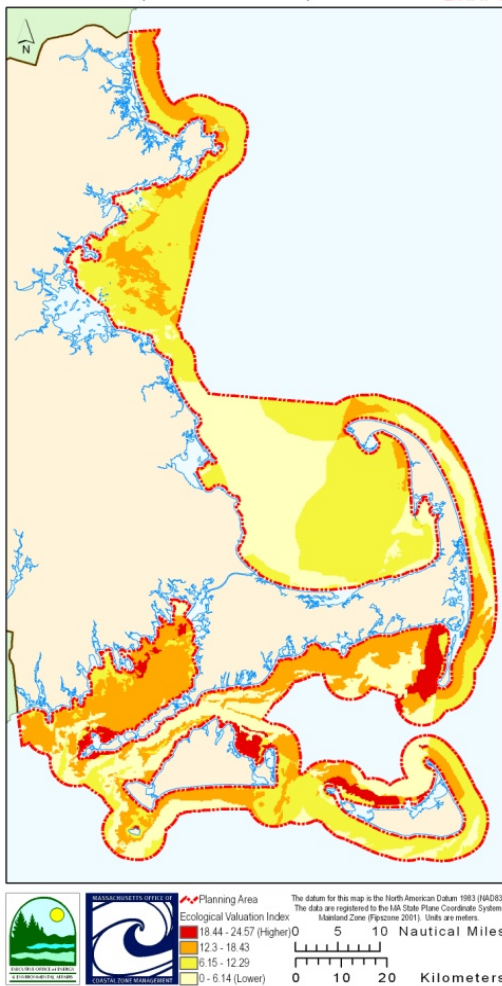




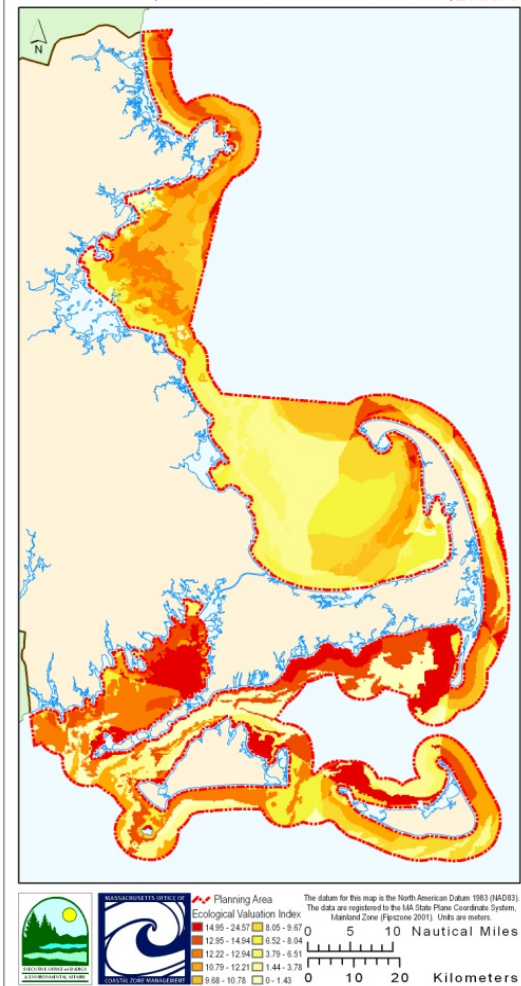
**FIGURE 3-2a ECOLOGICAL VALUATION INDEX (EVI) (QUARTILES)** DRAFT



**FIGURE 3-2b EVI (BINNED BY GUILD, QUARTILES)** DRAFT



**FIGURE 3-2c EVI (BINNED BY GUILD AND BROKEN INTO INTERVALS OF 10)** DRAFT





# Next steps for MORIS....

- Address certain bugs + annoyances (e.g., have to download metadata separately)
- Technical advances (move from current Java-based application)
- Expand capability to serve data and/or develop links to other servers
  - E.g., UMass-Dartmouth oceanography model FVCOM
- These enhancements possible through MOP partnership



# Massachusetts Ocean Partnership

- Followed the 2004 Massachusetts Ocean Management Task Force
- Funded by the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation since 2006 through the UMass-Boston
- Members are cross-sectoral, include public-private: must endorse MOP Strategic Plan
- 15-member Governing Board directs staff



# Massachusetts Ocean Partnership

- Assisted EEA in development of ocean management plan through:
  - Public involvement
    - Listening sessions, workshops, MOP partner events, public hearings
    - Meeting organization, facilitation, posting of on-line videos
  - Science/data research
    - Data processing
    - Convening of national marine science experts
    - Socioeconomic analysis of commercial fishing, recreational activities



# Massachusetts Ocean Partnership

- Assisting EEA in plan implementation through:
  - Addressing identified priority science/research needs in Ocean Management Plan “Science Framework”
    - Data network (including updates to MORIS)
    - Habitat mapping
    - Human use mapping (recreation, recreational fishing)
    - Ecosystem services modeling
    - Cumulative effects analysis

# Massachusetts Ocean Partnership

- EEA-MOP relationship presented issues and opportunities
  - No additional state funding, so MOP \$ helped with outreach, data, etc. and helping to accomplish priority science/research
  - Desire to be seen as “honest broker”
  - Collaboration on recent grant proposal

# Massachusetts Ocean Partnership

- EEA-MOP relationship presented issues and opportunities
  - Identification of roles/responsibilities (internal)
  - Public demarcation of EEA responsibilities, MOP role
  - Recent organizational changes
  - Additional coordination element = time + effort

Thank you

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[www.mass.gov/eea/mop](http://www.mass.gov/eea/mop)

