# CAPE WIND SUBMERGED AQUATIC VEGETATION DIVER SURVEY



To:

Cape Wind Associates LLC 75 Arlington Street. Suite 704 Boston, MA 02116

**Attn: Leonard Fagan** 

From:

Woods Hole Group, Inc. 81 Technology Park Drive East Falmouth, MA 02536 USA 508 540 8080

**July 2003** 

# **Cape Wind Submerged Aquatic Vegetation (SAV) Diver Survey**

A visual check of the areas specified by ESS Group, Inc. and Len Fagan was conducted on June 17, 18, and July 1, 2003 at sites, AV-SS16, AV-SS56, AV SS58, and AV-EGG (Appendix 1 ESS Scope of Work).

Positioning was obtained by using a Leica 421B DGPS system with a DGPS accuracy of less than one meter.

Two field oceanographers, Robert Morris and Carl Johnsen, dove at each site. George Hampson was on board as a diver and Marine Biologist to help identify the aquatic vegetation. Each search was conducted using a 100-foot search line that was marked every ten feet for reference. The divers spaced themselves at ten foot increments, based on the visibility at each site, and swept 360 degrees. The divers then moved out to the next mark and swept 360 degrees. This was done out to 100 feet. The divers identified the aquatic vegetation as they searched and took photographs and samples for George Hampson to identify.

The eelgrass (*Zostra marina*) areas in the inner harbor area, defined by AV-EGG were mapped to provide a definition of the area covered.

Of the three offshore sites, eelgrass was only found at the site designated AV-SS58. A detailed list of what was found at each site is listed below.

## AV-SS16:

## 41° 30' 56.8545" N

## 70° 20' 50.1448" W

A diver survey was conducted on June 18, 2003 at 0745-0815.

Weather conditions were overcast with rain. Wind was light out of the southeast. Wave height was two to three feet. Water temp was 55 degrees F. The survey found no evidence of eelgrass (*Zostera marina*) or widgeon grass (*Ruppia maritima*). The divers did find sargassum weed (*Sargassum filipendula*) a benthic form, kelp (*Laminaria agardhii*) and codium (*Codium fragile*), all sub aquatic vegetation. Animal life consisted of numerous welk (*Busycon ssp.*), starfish (*Asterias forbsii*), black bass (*Centropristhis striata*), one Fluke (*Paralichthys dentatus*), one Horseshoe Crab (*Limulus polyphemus*), and one 3.5 foot long smooth dogfish (*Mustelus canis*). The bottom was covered with limpids.

## AV-SS56:

## 41° 29' 19.2837" N

## 70° 23' 07.3126" W

A diver survey was conducted on June 17, 2003 at 0715 to 0832. Weather was sunny and calm. Wave height was one to two feet. Water temp was 55 degrees F.

The survey found no evidence of eelgrass (*Zostera marina*) or widgeon grass (*Ruppia maritima*). The divers did find sargassoum, kelp, and codium. Animal life consisted of numerous welk, starfish, and rock bass. The bottom was covered with limpids.

# AV-SS58:

# 41° 30' 03.8600" N

# 70° 22' 37.3232" W

A diver survey was conducted on June 17, 2003 at 1345 to 1432. Weather was sunny and calm. Wave height was one to two feet. Water temp was 55 degrees F.

The survey found eelgrass (*Zostra marina*) at the site (Figures 1, 2 and 3). The eelgrass was located at the center from 10 to 15 feet at a bearing of 45 degrees from the center point in the northeast quadrant. Another large patch of eelgrass was discovered between 40 and 70 feet from the center at a bearing of 45 degrees in the northeast quadrant of the survey area (Figure 1). The width of the eelgrass area was 30 to 40 feet. The coverage within the beds was estimated to be 50 to 70 percent of the area defined. The divers also found *sargassoum* weed, kelp, and *codium*.







Figure 2. Underwater Photograph of Eelgrass (Zostra marina) at AV-SS58





# SAV Survey of AV-EGG:

# 41° 30' 03.8600" N

# 70° 22' 37.3232" W

Survey was conducted on July 1, 2003 at 0653 to 0852. Low tide was at approximately 0800.

Positioning was obtained by using a Leica 421B DGPS system with a DGPS accuracy of less than one meter.

A navigation computer running Hypack MAX software was used to log positions.

George Hampson, Ben Potter, and Rob Morris used a combination of free diving and visual observation, from a small research vessel, to delineate the eelgrass beds.

We detected patchy eelgrass beds at the center point of SAV-EGG. The coverage at these patchy, three to four-foot diameter, areas was 100 percent.

A more continuous eelgrass bed was found north and east of the center point; the coverage was 100 percent and is shown in Figure 4.

A detailed list of the outer extents of the eelgrass bed positions can be found in Table 1.

A detail of general observations of the survey area can be found in Table 2.

Ruppia maritime was not found at this site.

*Codium* was found along the edge of the channel in water depths of 5 to 10 feet.



Figure 4. Location and extent of Eelgrass (Zostra marina) at AV-EGG

## Table 1. Eel Grass Bed Extents, Positions

| Point Description              | Massachusetts State Plane<br>NAD 1983 |            | WG884       |              |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------|-------------|--------------|
|                                | Northing                              | Easting    | Latitude    | Longitude    |
| AV-EGG center point            | 992652.65                             | 2693760.07 | 41.63311275 | -70.26911645 |
| small patch                    | 992621.76                             | 2693717.93 | 41.63299833 | -70.26923167 |
| sparse coverage                | 992627.94                             | 2693573.46 | 41.63260167 | -70.26921667 |
| eelgrass isolated              | 992543.39                             | 2693717.40 | 41.63300000 | -70.26951833 |
| patchy areas                   | 992609.71                             | 2693826.48 | 41.63329667 | -70.26927000 |
| patch 3ft                      | 992586.75                             | 2693804.37 | 41.63323692 | -70.26935514 |
| 5ft patch eelgrass             | 992705.52                             | 2693818.75 | 41.63327167 | -70.26892000 |
| eelgrass                       | 992709.09                             | 2693882.33 | 41.63344600 | -70.26890356 |
| eelgrass patches               | 992771.40                             | 2693926.60 | 41.63356500 | -70.26867333 |
| Eelgrass                       | 992777.34                             | 2693893.89 | 41.63347500 | -70.26865333 |
| large patch                    | 992921.07                             | 2693943.94 | 41.63360667 | -70.26812500 |
| eelgrass                       | 992952.49                             | 2693945.01 | 41.63360833 | -70.26801000 |
| eelgrass inside edge 1         | 992960.18                             | 2693949.37 | 41.63362000 | -70.26798167 |
| eelgrass inside edge 2         | 992990.09                             | 2693960.13 | 41.63364833 | -70.26787167 |
| eelgrass inside edge 3         | 993028.68                             | 2693970.40 | 41.63367500 | -70.26773000 |
| eelgrass inside edge 4         | 993079.19                             | 2693974.78 | 41.63368500 | -70.26754500 |
| eelgrass inside edge 5         | 993116.74                             | 2693962.56 | 41.63365000 | -70.26740833 |
| patchy eelgrass                | 993136.03                             | 2694015.08 | 41.63379333 | -70.26733500 |
| eelgrass outside edge1         | 993093.44                             | 2694029.65 | 41.63383500 | -70.26749000 |
| eelgrass outside edge 2        | 993048.66                             | 2694038.11 | 41.63386000 | -70.26765333 |
| eelgrass outside edge 3        | 992989.17                             | 2694023.89 | 41.63382333 | -70.26787167 |
| eelgrass                       | 992855.79                             | 2693951.51 | 41.63363000 | -70.26836333 |
| eelgrass patch                 | 992891.82                             | 2693949.60 | 41.63362333 | -70.26823167 |
| patch                          | 992854.75                             | 2693929.02 | 41.63356833 | -70.26836833 |
| 15-20ft patch of eelgrass      | 992838.06                             | 2693917.24 | 41.63353667 | -70.26843000 |
| patchy spots 20 ft radius      | 992808.62                             | 2693904.66 | 41.63350333 | -70.26853833 |
| eelgrass patch 20 ft radius    | 992761.50                             | 2693886.37 | 41.63345500 | -70.26871167 |
| eelgrass patchy areas 3-4 ft   | 992722.63                             | 2693864.55 | 41.63339667 | -70.26885500 |
| eelgrass patches               | 992687.46                             | 2693838.53 | 41.63332667 | -70.26898500 |
| patchy eelgrass 20 foot radius | 992648.13                             | 2693816.70 | 41.63326833 | -70.26913000 |
| eelgrass patches               | 992607.10                             | 2693786.35 | 41.63318667 | -70.26928167 |
| eelgrass patch 3 ft dia        | 992573.42                             | 2693751.85 | 41.63309333 | -70.26940667 |

## Table 2. SAV-EGG Detail Positions of SAV Observations

| Point Description             | Massachusetts<br>NAD 1 |            | WG          | <b>38 84</b> |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|------------|-------------|--------------|
|                               | Northing               | Easting    | Latitude    | Longitude    |
| No eelgrass                   | 992855.64              | 2693393.92 | 41.63210000 | -70.26839333 |
| No eelgrass                   | 992990.39              | 2693592.66 | 41.63264000 | -70.26789000 |
| large patch                   | 992921.07              | 2693943.94 | 41.63360667 | -70.26812500 |
| eelgrass                      | 992952.49              | 2693945.01 | 41.63360833 | -70.26801000 |
| eelgrass inside edge 1        | 992960.18              | 2693949.37 | 41.63362000 | -70.26798167 |
| eelgrass inside edge 2        | 992990.09              | 2693960.13 | 41.63364833 | -70.26787167 |
| eelgrass inside edge 3        | 993028.68              | 2693970.4  | 41.63367500 | -70.26773000 |
| eelgrass inside edge 4        | 993079.19              | 2693974.78 | 41.63368500 | -70.26754500 |
| eelgrass inside edge 5        | 993116.74              | 2693962.56 | 41.63365000 | -70.26740833 |
| No eelgrass                   | 993144.54              | 2693993.94 | 41.63373500 | -70.26730500 |
| patchy eelgrass               | 993136.03              | 2694015.08 | 41.63379333 | -70.26733500 |
| eelgrass outside edge1        | 993093.44              | 2694029.65 | 41.63383500 | -70.26749000 |
| eelgrass outside edge2        | 993048.66              | 2694038.11 | 41.63386000 | -70.26765333 |
| eelgrass outside edge 3       | 992989.17              | 2694023.89 | 41.63382333 | -70.26787167 |
| eelgrass                      | 992855.79              | 2693951.51 | 41.63363000 | -70.26836333 |
| No eelgrass                   | 992935.97              | 2694048.02 | 41.63389167 | -70.26806500 |
| codium                        | 992957.79              | 2694051.38 | 41.63390000 | -70.26798500 |
| No eelgrass                   | 993073.16              | 2694077.34 | 41.63396667 | -70.26756167 |
| No eelgrass                   | 993168.03              | 2694070.81 | 41.63394500 | -70.26721500 |
| No eelgrass                   | 993288.73              | 2694042.8  | 41.63386333 | -70.26677500 |
| No eelgrass                   | 993323.43              | 2693975.27 | 41.63367667 | -70.26665167 |
| No eelgrass                   | 993317.25              | 2693929.63 | 41.63355167 | -70.26667667 |
| No eelgrass                   | 993222.46              | 2693930.69 | 41.63355833 | -70.26702333 |
| eelgrass center               | 993122.34              | 2693984.51 | 41.63371000 | -70.26738667 |
| eelgrass center1              | 993098.18              | 2693985.38 | 41.63371333 | -70.26747500 |
| eelgrass center2              | 993068.08              | 2693987.37 | 41.63372000 | -70.26758500 |
| eelgrass center3              | 993043.44              | 2693989.44 | 41.63372667 | -70.26767500 |
| eelgrass center4              | 993019.81              | 2693984.85 | 41.63371500 | -70.26776167 |
| eelgrass center5              | 992996.6               | 2693982.69 | 41.63371000 | -70.26784667 |
| eelgrass center6              | 992972.55              | 2693975.67 | 41.63369167 | -70.26793500 |
| eelgrass center7              | 992956.23              | 2693969.96 | 41.63367667 | -70.26799500 |
| eelgrass center8              | 992926.18              | 2693968.31 | 41.63367333 | -70.26810500 |
| eelgrass patch                | 992891.82              | 2693949.6  | 41.63362333 | -70.26823167 |
| patch 3-4 ft dia              | 992854.75              | 2693929.02 | 41.63356833 | -70.26836833 |
| 15-20ft patch of eelgrass     | 992838.06              | 2693917.24 | 41.63353667 | -70.26843000 |
| patchy spots 20 ft radius     | 992808.62              | 2693904.66 | 41.63350333 | -70.26853833 |
| eelgrass patch 20 ft radius   | 992761.5               | 2693886.37 | 41.63345500 | -70.26871167 |
| eelgrass patchy areas3-4 ft   | 992722.63              | 2693864.55 | 41.63339667 | -70.26885500 |
| eelgrass patches              | 992687.46              | 2693838.53 | 41.63332667 | -70.26898500 |
| patchy eelgrass20 foot radius | 992648.13              | 2693816.7  | 41.63326833 | -70.26913000 |
| eelgrass patches              | 992607.1               | 2693786.35 | 41.63318667 | -70.26928167 |
| eelgrass patch 3ftdia         | 992573.42              | 2693751.85 | 41.63309333 | -70.26940667 |

# APPENDIX 1. EES EELGRASS SURVEY SCOPE OF WORK



888 Worcester Street, Suite 240 Wellesley, Massachusetts 02482 p 781.431.0500 f 781.431.7434

## MEMORANDUM -

TO: Robert Catalano – Woods Hole Group

FROM: Ann McMenemy, PWS

DATE: June 9, 2003

SUBJECT: Scope of Work – Eelgrass Survey

PROJECT NO.: E159-004.1

COPY TO: Terry Orr, Heather Heater

As previously discussed with Heather Heater (ESS Group, Inc.) and Len Fagan (Cape Wind Associates), ESS would like your divers to conduct a field identification of Submerged Aquatic Vegetation (SAV) beds in the vicinity of the proposed Cape Wind project site. The coordinates of four suspected SAV beds, identified by either MassGIS mapping or the results of side-scan imaging, were previously forwarded to your attention by Len Fagan and are attached to this memo. The following Scope of Work for the proposed field investigation is required:

- **Spot Check:** Confirm whether SAV beds are present within a 100-foot radius of the coordinates identified on the attached table. If present, specify the location of the SAV bed (either on a coordinate system or as a distance and direction from the coordinates given in the attached table), and an approximate water depth.
- **Photographs:** Take photographs of the ocean floor at the coordinates specified and at any SAV beds identified in their vicinity (i.e., within a 100-foot radius).
- **Identification:** If SAV is present in the vicinity of the coordinates, determine whether the species is eelgrass (*Zostera marina*), widgeon grass (*Ruppia maritima*), or a combination. Descriptions and photographs of each species are attached. If there is any question regarding the identification, please collect a sample of the plant (including both roots and leaves), place it in a bottle or "Ziploc"-style bag with seawater, and deliver to ESS as soon as possible for identification.
- **Delineation**: For the SAV bed near Egg Island only (Target AV-Egg), delineate the extent of the bed with a GPS unit (3 meter accuracy or better). GPS data should be post-processed and converted into a form compatible with GIS mapping (e.g., .csv file).

Should you have any questions regarding this Scope of Work, please do not hesitate to contact me at (781) 489-1130.



# **RECOVERY OF SUBMERGED AQUATIC VEGETATION** Points identified for sampling

| ID      | Location                                      | Latitude         | Longitude        |
|---------|---|------------------|------------------|
| AV-SS16 | 5000' NW of Met-Tower-<br>Survey Line G6      | 41° 30′ 56.8454″ | 70° 20′ 50.1448″ |
| AV-SS56 | SW of Met-Tower-Survey<br>Line G1             | 41° 29′ 19.2837″ | 70° 23′ 07.3126″ |
| AV-SS58 | W of Met-Tower-Survey<br>Line G17             | 41° 30′ 03.8600″ | 70° 22′ 37.3232″ |
| AV-EGG  | W of Egg Island on Edge<br>of Federal Channel | 41° 37′ 59.2059″ | 70° 16′ 08.8187″ |

\*Targets AV-SS16, AV-SS56, and AV-SS58 were identified as locations containing submerged aquatic vegetation in OSI's "Marine Geophysical Survey and Sediment Sampling Program for Nantucket Sound."

\*\*Target AV-EGG is a location mapped by the Mass DEP as containing Eelgrass.

# Ruppia maritima



Name: Widgeon Grass (*Ruppia maritima*)

**Distribution:** Moderate to high salinity waters of Chesapeake and Coastal Bays.

**Description:** Very fine, much branched plant with numerous bristle-like alternate leaves 3 to 10 cm long and 0.5 mm wide with stiff, fibrous roots. From July through September, distinctive flowers are visible in the leaf axils, and following germination the spadix elongates and the beaked fruits appear as if on an umbel appear. There are two forms of this plant; an upright plant with free floating branches and a prostrate type.

**Similar Species:** <u>Sago pondweed</u> (leaves 0.5 - 2 mm wide), <u>slender pondweed</u> (leaves with a visible midrib), <u>horned pondweed</u> (opposite leaves).

## Reproduction: By seed

**Comments:** One of the most abundant species of SAV in Chesapeake and Coastal Bays, widgeon grass undergoes large fluctuations in abundance from year to year. A prolific seed producer, Widgeon grass can colonize large areas very rapidly.

If you don't think your plant is represented above try going **<u>back a level</u>** and choosing again.

If you have questions regarding Bay Grasses please contact DNR's <u>Mike Naylor</u> at 410-260-8652 or <u>mnaylor@dnr.state.md.us.</u>

Return to the **Bay Grass Restoration** Web Site

Return to the Chesapeake Bay Web Site

# Zostera marina



If you don't think your plant is represented above try going **<u>back a level</u>** and choosing again.

If you have questions regarding Bay Grasses please contact DNR's <u>Mike Naylor</u> at 410-260-8652 or <u>mnaylor@dnr.state.md.us.</u>

# APPENDIX 2. LEICA DGPS SPECIFICATIONS



The World's Smartest GPS/DGPS Receiver/Antenna... A Complete Solution

The latest Leica Marine GPS/ DGPS receiver is going to be a surprise to everyone, not the least our customers. It doesn't look like a receiver, it doesn't even really look like an antenna, because it's not either, it's both.

### Leica and IBM Join Forces

Put quite simply, there is no other GPS/DGPS receiver-antenna on the market that is so advanced; with IBM's SiGe Technology, a built in 12 channel GPS receiver, and Leica's proprietary multi-path mitigation technique.

## Built to Withstand The World's Oceans

The Smart Antenna is also extremely rugged with a well sealed, waterproof enclosure and a heavy duty connector. It's built to withstand the toughest environments.

### **Top Quality Antenna**

The Smart Antenna features superior multi-path rejection, and boasts RF jamming resistance and uncompromised phase center stability. the Smart Antenna is backed by Leica Geosystems, with the largest service and support network of any survey instrument manufacturer in the world. Contact us today to learn more about this revolution in the making.

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## One Stop Shopping and Legendary Leica Geosystems Service

As your requirements change, Leica Geosystems will continue to provide you with new, innovative solutions, whether you're a fair weather sailor or a seasoned mariner you've got it all covered. All the cables and fixtures are included and, of course,

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# Smart Antenna Specifications

#### Features At A Glance

Leica's latest GPS technology developed jointly with IBM brings you the "World's Most Accurate Smart Antennas".

- Built-in high precision 12 channel GPS receiver.
- Submeter DGPS accuracy and better than 3 meters in autonomous GPS mode.
- Optional 5 Hz update of position (MX421B).
- **Optional 1 PPS output.**
- Output of raw data, code and phase (MX421L).
- Integrated dual channel beacon receiver and unique toroidal H-field beacon antenna design (MX421B).
- Rugged enclosure.
- Stainless steel threaded insert.
- Entirely waterproof.
- Flush or pole mount.

#### **Configurations:**

| MX421:  | Autonomous GPS sensor for connection          |
|---------|---|
|         | to any NMEA device.                           |
| MX421L: | Autonomous GPS sensor for output              |
|         | of raw data (code and phase) in               |
|         | compressed binary format, referred            |
|         | to as Leica Binary (LB2).                     |
| MX421B: | DGPS sensor for connection to any NMEA        |
|         | device. Can also be set to output GGA at 5Hz. |
|         |   |

## GPS Receiver:

L1 frequency, C/A Code (SPS), 12 channel Type: Leica receiver, manufactured with IBM's leading SiGe Technology. Employs Leica's famous technology for multipath rejection, ionosphere modeling and robustness in positioning. -143 dBM Costas threshold. Sensitivity:

## DGPS Beacon Receiver/Antenna:

| Frequencies:<br>Minimum Signal:    | 283.5 – 325 kHz in 500 Hz steps.<br>15 _V/m.         |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Station Selection:                 | Automatic or manual on the primary receiver channel. |
| Dynamic Range:<br>Adjacent Channel | 90 dB.   |
| Rejection:                         | 40 dB (500 Hz).                                      |
| Antenna:                           | H-field, toroidal (Patent pending).                  |
| System:                            |  |
| Accuracy:                          | GPS better than 3 meters RMS.                        |
|                                    | DGPS 1 meter RMS.                                    |
| Position output:                   | 1 Hz. Optionally 5Hz (MX421B).                       |
| Output:                            | NMEA GGA, GLL, GRS, GSA, GSV,GST,                    |
|                                    | RMC, VTG, ZDA, MSS (MX421B),                         |
|                                    | Leica Binary, LB2 (MX421L).                          |
| Input:                             | GLL, ZDA, MSK (MX421B), Setup                        |
|                                    | commands, Leica Binary, LB2 (MX421L).                |
| Environmental:                     | IEC 60945 compliant "exposed category".              |
| Physical:                          |  |
| Operating                          |  |
| Temperature:                       | -25 to + 60 degrees C.                               |
| Mount:                             | Stainless Steel Insert 1"x 14 threads per            |
|                                    | inch, Flush mount or pole mount.                     |
| Cable:                             | 10 meters (25) Feet. Shielded 8 conductor.           |
| Power:                             | 10.5 to 32 VDC, 200 m/A at 12 VDC. 230 m/A           |
|                                    | at 12 VDC.   |
| Weight:                            | 660 g (MX421B).                                      |
|                                    | 200 g (MX421).                                       |
| Size:                              | H x Dia. 3 inch (89mm) x 7 1/8 inch (182mm).         |
| Physical:                          | Rugged well sealed enclosure.                        |
|                                    | Heavy-duty connector.                                |
|                                    |  |

### **Options and Accessories:**

F

| Extra cable.    |                                  |
|-----------------|----------------------------------|
| Connector box:  | 1PPS output.                     |
| Antenna Mount:  | Stainless steel precision mount. |
| Antenna Pillar: | Stable antenna base.             |
|                 |                                  |



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