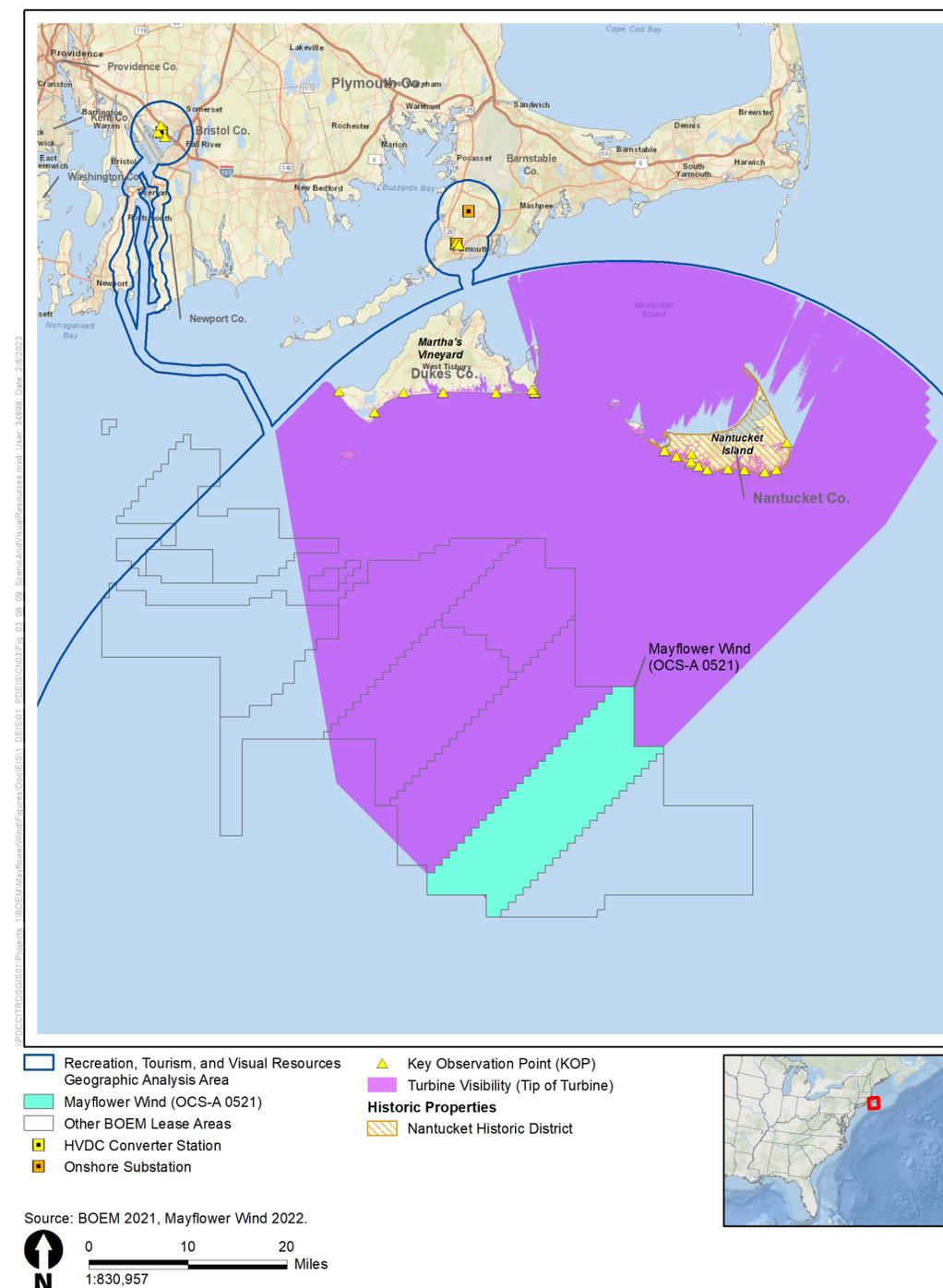


SouthCoast Wind Project (formerly Mayflower Wind Project)

How did BOEM assess visual impacts to scenic resources and viewers of the SouthCoast Wind Project?

- A conservative 42.8-mile radius around the turbine layout defines the theoretical limit of Project visibility.
- Scenic resources and Key Observation Points (KOPs) within the study area were identified.
- A GIS-based viewshed analysis was used to assess potential visibility using surface models that account for topography, vegetation, buildings, and earth curvature.
- Wind turbines were determined to be visible if the model indicates that the line of sight is unobstructed.
- Visual simulations were developed to illustrate the appearance of the proposed turbine array from KOPs.
- Wind farm distance, earth curvature visibility, field of view, contrast, scale, and prominence of the proposed turbine array were assessed from each KOP.
- Impacts to scenic resources' seascape, open ocean, and landscape character units were assessed.
- Impacts on viewer experience from each KOP were assessed.
- Visual impacts were assessed for the action alternatives alone and in combination with other planned offshore wind projects that would be visible from KOPs.



For more information on BOEM's Renewable Energy Program, visit www.boem.gov/Renewable-Energy or the Assessment of Seascape, Landscape, and Visual Impacts of Offshore Wind Energy Developments on the Outer Continental Shelf of the United States available at <https://www.boem.gov/sites/default/files/documents/environment/environmental-studies/BOEM-2021-032.pdf>