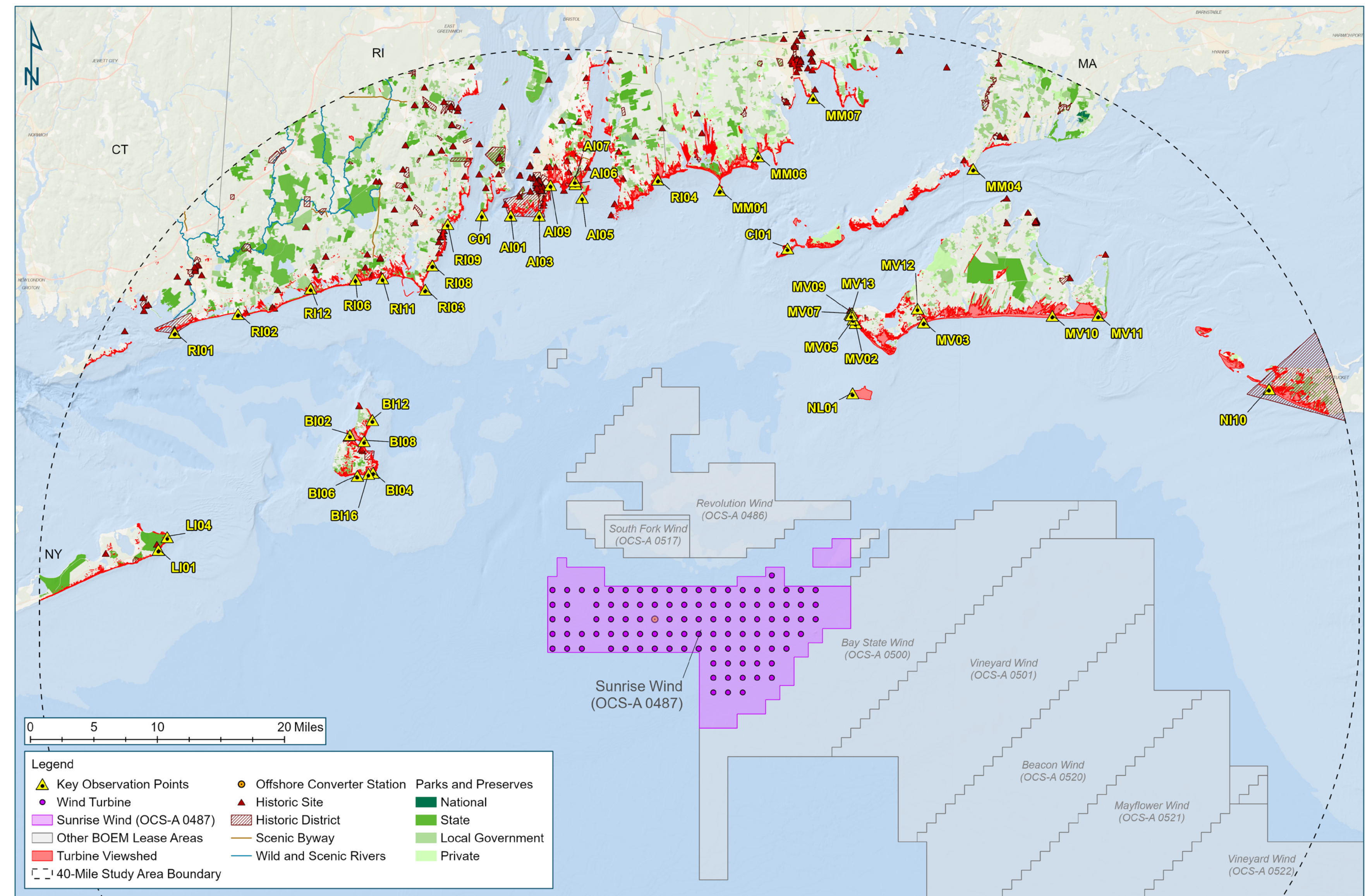




Sunrise Wind Offshore Wind Farm

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

- A conservative 40-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, buildings, and earth curvature.
- Wind turbines were determined to be visible if the model indicates that the line of sight is unobstructed.
- Model results were verified through field investigation and photographic documentation of existing conditions at KOPS.
- 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, prominence, and horizontal occupation of the proposed turbine array were assessed from each KOP (Key Observation Point).
- 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 proposed action and in combination with other planned offshore wind projects that are visible from KOPs.



Potential Visual Impacts Resulting from the Sunrise Wind Farm

Sources

Esri, NaturalVue, GEBCO, BOEM, NYS, NPS, USCB, USGS, CTDEEP, URI, RIGIS, USFS, MassGIS

