

Mariners Briefing

South Fork Wind Fisheries Monitoring Activity

Ventless Lobster Trap Survey:

Date of Notice: May 5th, 2022

Overview:

From May through November 2022, the Commercial Fisheries Research Foundation will be working with Rhode Island based commercial fishing vessels to complete a pre-construction ventless trap monitoring survey for lobster and Jonah crab. Sampling will occur inside South Fork Wind and in two control areas to the northeast and northwest of South Fork Wind (see attached chart). No catch will be sold from this study; all animals will be returned to the water as quickly as possible after biological sampling is complete.

Survey details:

Purpose: To assess the impacts of offshore wind activities in SFW on the abundance and demographics of lobster and Jonah crab compared to the control areas.

Vessels: *F/V Amelia Ann, F/V Ashley Ann II and F/V Erica Knight* (see below for vessel details)

Sampling frequency: Traps will be sampled twice a month. Traps will be left in place, unbaited, from May through November to ensure consistent sampling locations.

Gear configuration: 10 trap trawls with 6 ventless and 4 vented traps with approximately 100 feet between traps. Trawls are fishing on 5-night soaks. Trawls in all areas will be set in northeast/southwest direction.

Gear marking: The western control area will be marked with yellow buoys, the eastern control area will be marked with green buoys and the South Fork Wind buoys will be marked with yellow and white buoys. All areas will have a large buoy with a stick on the northeast end and two small buoys on the southwest end and will be labelled as research gear.

Communications: VHF channels 13 & 16 will be monitored as all times.

For more information, please contact:

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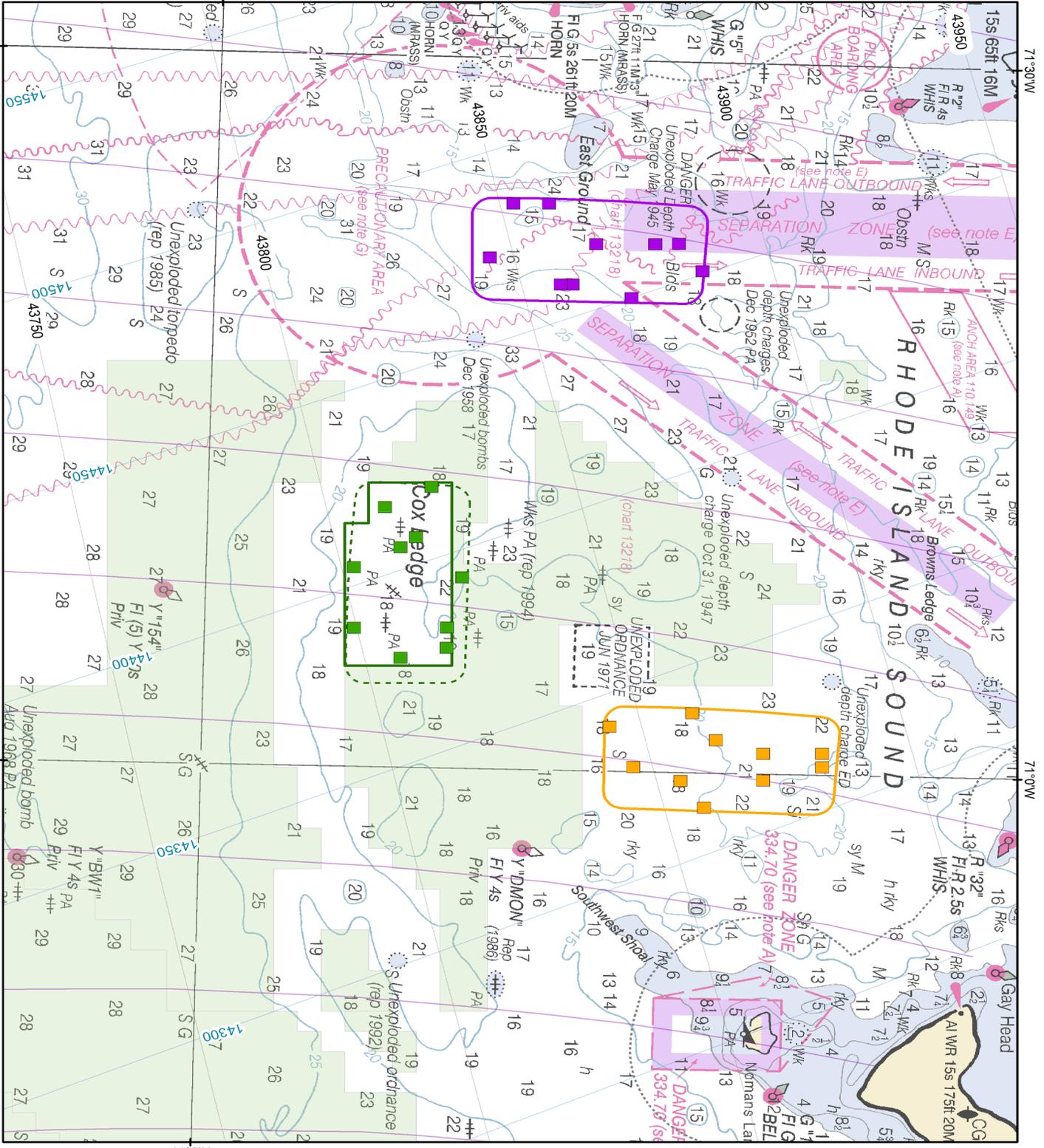
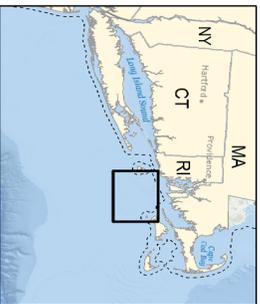
F/V Amelia Anne
Captain: Greg Lisi
Homeport: Point Judith, RI



F/V Ashley Ann II
Captain: Brian Thibeault
Homeport: Point Judith, RI



F/V Erica Knight
Captain: Mark Sweitzer
Homeport: Point Judith, RI



3 Nautical Mile State Waters
 Boundary
 Other Lease Areas
 South Fork Wind Lease Area (OCS-A 0517)
 South Fork Wind Maximum Work Area
 Eastern Control Area
 Western Control Area
 SFW Ventless Trap Preliminary Sampling Locations
 Lease Area Station
 West Control Station
 East Control Station

Depth Soundings in Fathoms
 Source: BOEM, NOAA Chart 12300
 Projection: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 19N (meters)
 Date: 5/5/2022 SFW01

0 1 2 Nautical Miles
 0 1 2 3 4 5 Kilometers