

Embedding Natural Resource Communities into Ocean Planning

December 12, 2016



Rebecca Clark Uchenna, The Island Institute

Meredith Mendelson, Maine Dept. of Marine Resources

Jennifer McCann and Tiffany Smythe, URI Coastal Resources Center/RISG

Session Coordinator: Nick Battista

Image: Deepwater Wind ¹

Lessons Learned

- ✓ Engage stakeholders informally but meaningfully
- ✓ Listen to the locals
- ✓ Outreach from Federal agencies is different than states
- ✓ Don't meet your colleagues during a crisis
- ✓ Build a broad base of leadership

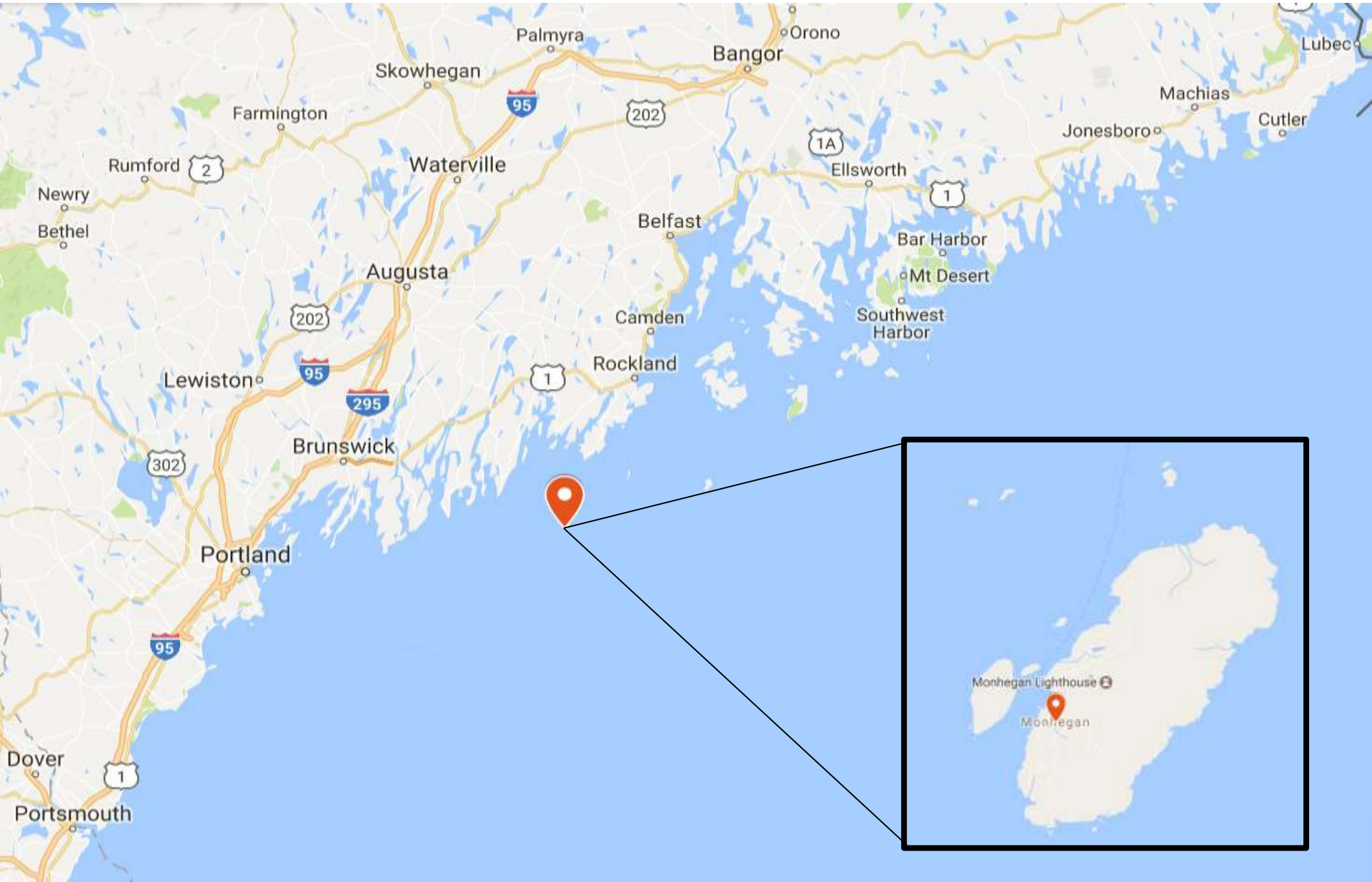


Offshore wind and a small community: The story of how Monhegan Island is engaging in discussions about a potential offshore wind farm

Restore America's Estuaries
December 12th, 2016
Rebecca Clark Uchenna



Monhegan Island, ME



Monhegan Island, ME



Learning opportunities



Learning opportunities



Final outcome



Monhegan Island – lessons learned

Readily Available & Appropriate Information

- Island Institute developed offshore wind fact sheets to address questions, concerns and interests raised during community meetings and presentations
- University of Maine developed visualization tool, conducted public opinion survey and presented results to community

Deliberative Learning Opportunities

- Mapping Working Waters project with fishermen to share local knowledge and provided opportunity for them to learn about wind farms
- Rushed timeline to respond to RFP resulted in lack of clarity among community regarding scope of recent turbine proposal

Timing of Engagement

- Island Institute outreach in fishing communities avoided busiest times of fishing season
- Presentations about OSW in both winter and summer to reach year-round and seasonal residents
- Years of engagement before specific sites chosen

Mindful of Messenger

- Island Institute served as neutral, bridging organization between developers and community

For more information

MONHEGAN ENERGY INFO

An information resource regarding the proposed Maine Aqua Ventus offshore wind project

monheganenergy.info



islandinstitute.org

Thank You

Rebecca Clark Uchenna
Marine Resources Program
Island Institute



rclark@islandinstitute.org