

# Massachusetts Ocean Plan: Data integration and management options

Ocean Advisory Commission  
Public Workshop  
May 2 and 6, 2009

# Purpose of workshops

To present and discuss spatial material and management options for the ocean plan:

- preliminary screening of ocean data based on goals and strategies
- conceptual management measures

# Outline of presentation

- Introduction – process to date, next steps
- Framework – translating the Oceans Act through spatial data
- Use screening
- Use management options
- SSU screening
- SSU management options

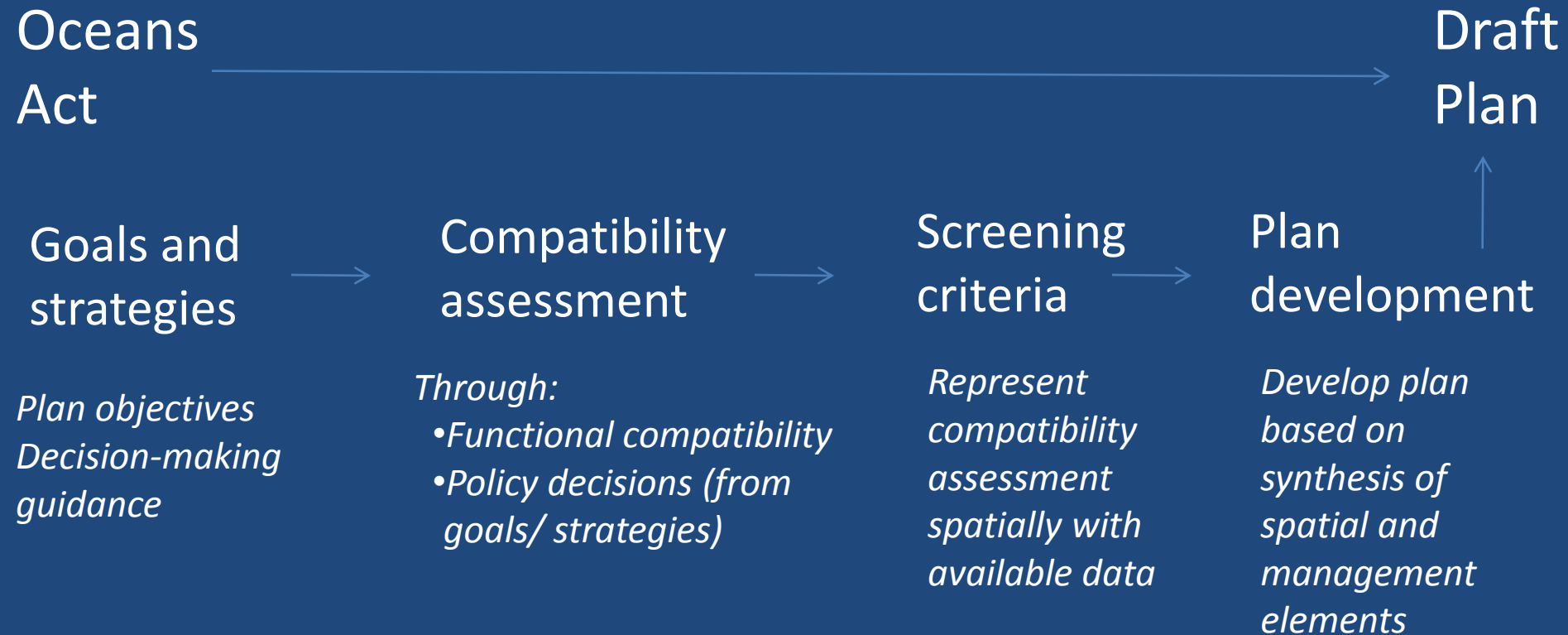
# Process to date/next steps

- Public/stakeholder comment and information, workgroup data, research
- Goals/strategies/outcomes, data acquisition and development, public workshops, ecological valuation index, interagency planning and regulatory teams
- Develop and review planning options, public workshops, and final OAC meeting end of May, draft plan June 30

# Review of select contextual data

- Bathymetry
- Navigation:
  - AIS raw and >50 boats per year
  - VMS raw and >25 boats per year
- DMF and MMTA rec fishing and boating
- DMF commercial fisheries activity (high, medium, low)
- Special status species: all and nesting, staging and critical foraging habitat for roseates; core habitat for Rights
- Rugosity
- usSEABED

# Translating the Oceans Act into an ocean plan through spatial data



# The plan shall:

- I. set forth the Commonwealth's goals, siting priorities and standards for ensuring effective stewardship of its ocean waters held in trust for the benefit of the public;
- II. adhere to sound management practices, taking into account the existing natural, social, cultural, historic and economic characteristics of the planning areas;
- III. preserve and protect the public trust;
- IV. reflect the importance of the waters of the Commonwealth to its citizens who derive livelihoods and recreational benefits from fishing;
- V. value biodiversity and ecosystem health;
- VI. identify and protect special, sensitive or unique estuarine and marine life and habitats;
- VII. address climate change and sea-level rise;
- VIII. respect the interdependence of ecosystems;
- IX. coordinate uses that include international, federal, state and local jurisdictions;
- X. foster sustainable uses that capitalize on economic opportunity without significant detriment to the ecology or natural beauty of the ocean;
- XI. preserve and enhance public access;
- XII. support the infrastructure necessary to sustain the economy and quality of life for the citizens of the commonwealth;
- XIII. encourage public participation in decision-making;
- XIV. adapt to evolving knowledge and understanding of the ocean environment; and
- XV. identify appropriate locations and performance standards for activities, uses and facilities allowed under the Ocean Sanctuaries Act, including but not limited to renewable energy facilities, aquaculture, sand mining for beach nourishment, cables, and pipelines.

15 requirements of the Act

GOALS

STRATEGIES

OUTCOMES

Integrated management



Integrated ocean management plan

Effective stewardship (protection, use)



Special, sensitive, unique areas identified and protected



Areas for development of renewables and other uses identified w/ performance standards

Adaptive framework



Plan for Plan 2.0: science, stakeholder, policy

15 requirements of the Act

GOALS

STRATEGIES

OUTCOMES

Integrated management



Integrated ocean management plan

Effective stewardship (protection, use)



Special, sensitive, unique areas identified and protected

Areas for development of renewables and other uses identified w/ performance standards



Adaptive framework



Plan for Plan 2.0: science, stakeholder, policy

# Strategy for effective stewardship: use

## Specifically applicable requirements of the Act:

- preserve and protect the public trust;
- preserve and enhance public access;
- reflect the importance of the waters of the commonwealth to its citizens who derive livelihoods and recreational benefits from fishing;
- foster sustainable uses that capitalize on economic opportunity without significant detriment to the ecology or natural beauty of the ocean;
- support the infrastructure necessary to sustain the economy and quality of life for the citizens of the Commonwealth;
- identify appropriate locations and performance standards for activities, uses and facilities allowed in Ocean Sanctuaries;
- address climate change and sea level rise

# Strategy for effective stewardship: use

## Specifically applicable requirements of the Act:

- preserve and protect the public trust;
- preserve and enhance public access;
- reflect the importance of the waters of the commonwealth to its citizens who derive livelihoods and recreational benefits from fishing;
- foster sustainable uses that capitalize on economic opportunity without significant detriment to the ecology or natural beauty of the ocean;
- support the infrastructure necessary to sustain the economy and quality of life for the citizens of the Commonwealth;
- identify appropriate locations and performance standards for activities, uses and facilities allowed in Ocean Sanctuaries;
- address climate change and sea level rise

# Strategy for effective stewardship: use

- Strategy:

spatial

- Minimize conflict with commercial fishing by siting incompatible uses outside areas of significant fishing effort and value
- Minimize conflict with recreational fishing by siting incompatible uses outside areas of concentrated recreational fishing activity
- Minimize conflict with significant interconnections between homeports and grounds
- For specific projects developed pursuant to the ocean management plan, develop methodology to identify impacted fishery and assess economic impact of specific development projects
- For specific projects developed pursuant to the ocean management plan, develop framework for mitigation

# Strategy for effective stewardship: use

- Screening criteria and data:

policy + data

- Areas of significant commercial fishing effort and value: high fishing activity by effort and value

- Data: Fisheries Workgroup

- Areas of concentrated recreational fishing activity

- Data: MMTA recreational fishing/boating survey, DMF recreational fishing survey

- Direct transit navigation routes for shipping and

- Data: AIS, VMS

end