

## Offshore Wind Power and Recreational Beach Use on the East Coast of the United States



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#### Background

- Interest in Offshore Wind Power on the East Coast of the United States
- Concern about Impact on Beach Use & Tourism
- BOEM Required to Document Potential Impacts
- Our Research





#### Study Design

- Internet-Based and In-Person Surveys
- Showing Beach Users and Nonusers Simulations of Offshore Wind Projects to Judge Behavioral Response
  - Effect on Experience/Enjoyment?
  - Change Trip Plans?
- Analyze Choice Data in RUM Model



### Sampling and Analysis

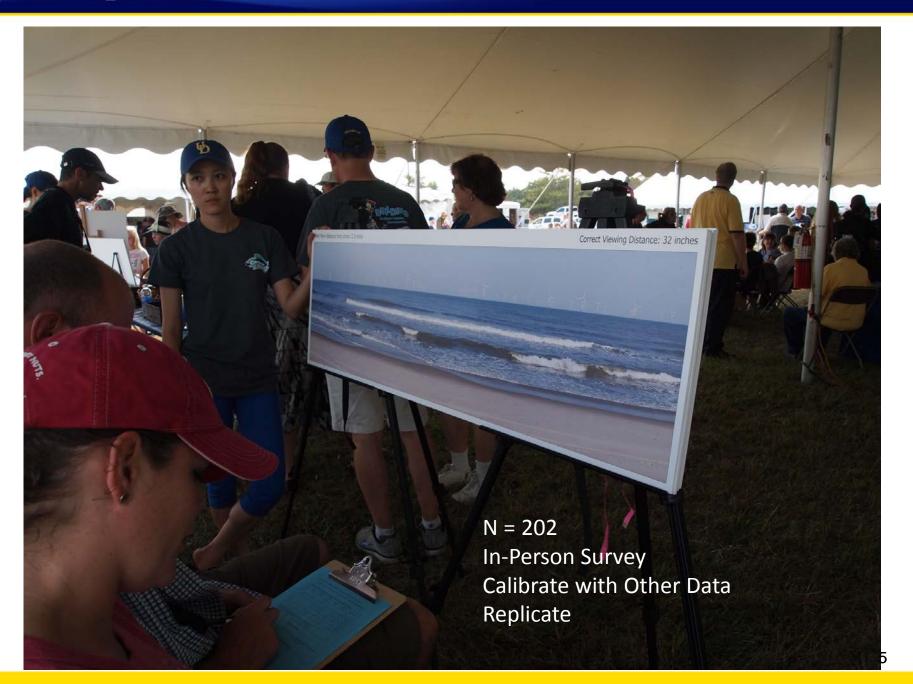
- Internet Survey
  - Beaches from Massachusetts to South Carolina
  - Sampling in 17 States
  - Last Trip Data → Day, Overnight & Side
  - 2.5 to 20 miles offshore in 2.5 mile increments
  - Each participant sees → Clear, Hazy & Night
  - Anchoring



#### Sampling and Analysis

- In-Person Survey
  - Convenience samples
  - Poster panoramas
  - Three survey sites
  - Validity check for the internet survey

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# How Beach Experience is Affected by Distance of Turbines

Distance (miles)	Worse (%)	Better (%)	Neither (%)	Cancel (%)
2.5	69	17	14	29
5	59	22	19	16
7.5	42	26	32	12
10	28	29	43	4
12.5	13	36	51	2
15	11	34	55	1
20	4	38	58	1



#### Modeling

- Travel Cost RUM-Based Choice Models
  - SP Off RP (conditioning)
- Simple Probabilistic Model with Policy-Relevant Site characteristics
  - Developed versus Natural
  - Regional Differences
  - Individual Characteristics
  - Day versus Overnight



#### Next Steps

- Launch internet survey in the fall
- Complete in-person surveys in the fall
- Refining visuals
- Help! Ideas?

