



Sound Waves

A Monthly Newsletter from Save Our Sound

AUGUST 2024

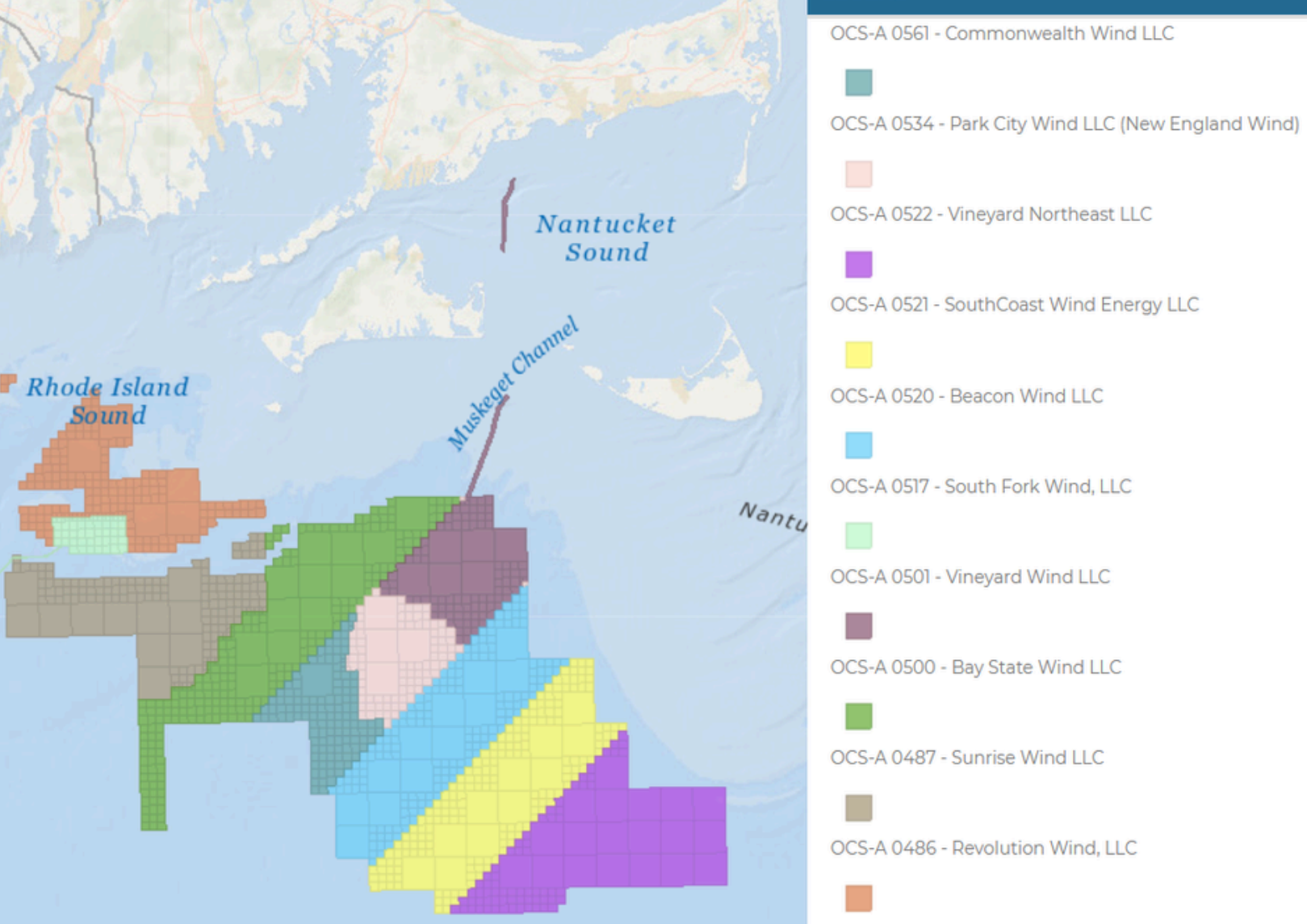
Alliance News & Notes



We hope you are enjoying your summer and the beautiful weather. In recent days, many of our supporters have reached out to us with their concerns regarding last month's local turbine failure and the resulting environmental and public safety impacts. For those of you unfamiliar with this incident, on Saturday, July 13th, part of a 351-foot blade broke off a wind turbine that is part of the Vineyard Wind project located 15 miles south of Martha's Vineyard, outside of Nantucket Sound (see map on page 2).

On Thursday, July 18th, the entire blade detached and fell into the water, posing further risks to area waters and the coastline. Debris of varying sizes washed ashore on the south-facing beaches of Nantucket, as well as on Chappaquidick Island off Martha's Vineyard and Monomoy Island in Chatham. As a result of this blade failure, Nantucket temporarily closed all south-facing beaches, and federal agencies suspended Vineyard Wind operations indefinitely to limit further hazards.

This unfortunate occurrence reinforces the need for greater protection for the entirety of Nantucket Sound, the body of water surrounded by the shorelines of Cape Cod, Martha's Vineyard, and Nantucket. Today, the state waters of Nantucket Sound, which extend three miles from the shores of the Cape and Islands are protected under the Massachusetts Ocean Sanctuaries Act, but the federal waters in the center of the



Sound remain vulnerable and open to development.

The Alliance, along with a broad and diverse coalition of stakeholders including Cape and Islands municipalities, tribal interests, environmental groups, historic preservation organizations, chambers of commerce, and many others, is seeking a **National Historic Landmark** designation for Nantucket Sound to permanently protect this vital natural resource. Our primary goal is to recognize the Sound’s rich tribal and maritime history, protect its pristine environment and unique habitat, and preserve traditional uses like fishing and recreation.

We encourage our neighbors who call the Cape and Islands their home to support our cause to protect Nantucket Sound in perpetuity as a **National Historic Landmark**. The Alliance remains committed to safeguarding this important body of water for future generations.

Thank you for your continued support. - **Audra Parker, President**

Discover Nantucket Sound



Brant Point Beach

Just a short walk or bike ride from town on the island of Nantucket, **Brant Point Beach** offers a picturesque escape with its stunning views of Nantucket Sound and its rich history. While the beach is indeed suited for swimming, its strong current and high boat traffic make it more ideal for just relaxing and enjoying the bustling harbor activity.

Brant Point is also home to the iconic **Brant Point Lighthouse**, the second oldest lighthouse in the United States and the oldest in Massachusetts. This scenic lighthouse, established in 1746 and automated in 1965, has been guiding mariners for centuries and remains a beloved landmark. It's also a prime spot for photography, fishing, and watching the ferries come and go.

Known as one of the most photographed locations on the island, **Brant Point Beach** is perfect for waving goodbye to friends and family departing on the ferry. Whether you're there to soak in the scenery, capture the perfect shot, or simply enjoy a peaceful moment by the water, **Brant Point Beach** is a must-visit destination on Nantucket Sound.

If you are looking for something to do or sites to see in and around Nantucket Sound, visit the [Discover page](#) on our website, which provides you with information on beaches, parks, historic sites, and more - a great resource to create your very own Nantucket Sound Bucket List!



Sound Spotlight



This month, we put a spotlight on Nancy Wolf. Nancy is the Founder and Managing Partner of The Wolf Group, a global boutique human resource consulting firm based in Greenwich, CT. She has held numerous non-profit and board positions, including President of the Israel Putnam House Association, early founder and first Vice President of the Greenwich Point Conservancy, member of The Selectman's Nominating Advisory Committee in Greenwich, CT, Planning and Zoning Board member in Juno Beach, FL and Education Docent at the Loggerhead Marine Center in Juno Beach.

Nancy is married to Jacob Rosengarten. They have three children and have owned a home on Martha's Vineyard for 24 years. Nancy is passionate about environmental education, land conservation, studying and collecting American art, and distance swimming.

1. What does Nantucket Sound mean to you?

I grew up in Pittsburgh, PA where we had three rivers and lots of streams for recreation. We would travel to the seashore for vacation where I first experienced the real feeling of freedom while swimming in the ocean. As a young adult I found my way to Martha's Vineyard and visited every beach. It was the gentle and pristine waters of Nantucket Sound that were so inviting, that I returned again and again. I am 64 years old now, and I have come to understand the winds, the tides, the marine life of Nantucket Sound. The Sound has taught me well; it has been patient, healing, and wondrous.

2. Why do you support the Alliance to Protect Nantucket Sound?

I first heard of the Alliance working to protect the Sound from industrial development in a postcard that found its way to my kitchen counter. I was awakened to the fact that the waters in the center are federal waters, and they can be leased for large scale industrial development. It had never occurred to me that we could lose the Sound as we know it, and I felt a bit ashamed that I had been taking Nantucket Sound for granted. I feel I have an obligation to pass on what I was freely given and to put forward some time and treasure to protect the Sound. I am grateful that the Alliance exists, and we can all participate in this preservation effort.

3. What are your favorite spots to visit in and around Nantucket Sound?

Nantucket Sound has many charms and bestows many blessings on her admirers, but I would have to say that my favorite spot is the Bend in the Road Beach in Edgartown. The clouds run fast, though the current is gentle. The Sengekontacket Pond is to the west, Cape Pogue light to the east, sailboats racing offshore, and just up the beach, the "Jaws bridge" where jumping off is a rite of passage for all who dare! Further out, the ferries carry passengers from Oak Bluffs to Nantucket or Hyannis. As I swim out in Nantucket Sound, I can hear children's laughter and sea gulls answering back on shore. Looking out, I see sand bars and a horizon where water meets sky with too many shades of blue to describe. Worth saving? Ask the whales, the children, the sailors, fishermen, artists - and the swimmers.

Help us preserve Nantucket Sound

Visit our website and sign the petition supporting the
Nantucket Sound Historic Landmark Act

PETITION. PRESERVE. PROTECT.

www.saveoursound.org/petition

[The Alliance to Protect Nantucket Sound](#)

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saveoursound.org

