



**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**
New England District
**696 Virginia Road
Concord, MA 01742-2751**

PUBLIC NOTICE

Comment Period Begins: December 26, 2018

Comment Period Ends: January 28, 2019

File Number: NAE-2017-01206

In Reply Refer To: Christine Jacek

Phone: (978) 318-8026

E-mail: Christine.M.Jacek@usace.army.mil

ANNOUNCEMENT OF PUBLIC MEETINGS AND REQUEST FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

The New England District Corps of Engineers has received a permit application to conduct work in waters of the United States from Erich Stephens representing Vineyard Wind LLC 700 Pleasant Street, Suite 510, New Bedford, Massachusetts 02740. This work is proposed in the Atlantic Ocean off the coast of Martha's Vineyard and within Nantucket Sound. Work regulated by the Corps will include the construction of up to 100 offshore wind turbine generators (WTGs), scour protection around the base of the WTGs, up to two electrical service platforms (ESPs), inter-array cables connecting the WTGS to the ESPs, inter-link cables between ESPs (if two ESPs are placed), and two offshore export cables within a single 23.3 mile route. The cable route will begin at the Vineyard Wind lease site OCS-A 0501, will either take the Western Muskeget Channel Route or the Eastern Muskeget Channel Route, and will make landfall at either Covell's Beach in Barnstable, Massachusetts or at New Hampshire Avenue in Yarmouth, Massachusetts. An overview of the proposed wind project is shown on the attached project plans entitled "VINEYARD WIND PROJECT" on twelve (12) sheets and dated "NOVEMBER 26, 2018".

Project Purpose: The purpose of the project, in regards to the Corps review, is the construction, maintenance, and operation of a commercial scale wind energy project and associated transmission lines for renewable energy generation and distribution to the Massachusetts energy grid.

Avoidance, Minimization and Compensatory Mitigation: The applicant has designed the Vineyard Wind Project to avoid and minimize impacts to Waters of the United States. No impacts to onshore wetlands are proposed as part of the Vineyard Wind Project. In offshore areas where impacts to marine resources are unavoidable, the applicant has avoided all Corps defined special aquatic sites (SAS) including eelgrass beds, intertidal mud flats, coral reef complexes, etc. Impacts are anticipated to consist of structures and temporary construction impacts with no permanent losses of Waters of the United States. Compensatory mitigation requirements are under consideration.

The United States Army Corps of Engineers neither favors nor opposes the proposed construction work.

The Bureau of Ocean and Energy Management (BOEM) is the lead Federal agency for this project. The project is identified as Docket No. BOEM-2018-0069. As the lead agency, BOEM has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Assessment (DEIS) in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The DEIS includes a review under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. 1531) and Section 106 of the

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National Historical Preservation Act (NHPA), as well as other applicable Federal regulations. The DEIS was issued and published in the federal register on December 7, 2018. The DEIS is available for review at <https://www.boem.gov/Vineyard-Wind/>. Comments may be submitted directly to BOEM at <https://www.regulations.gov/docket?D=BOEM-2018-0069>.

BOEM will hold public comment meetings on the DEIS for the proposed Vineyard Wind Project.

The dates and locations of the meetings are as follows:

| Date | Location |
|--|--|
| Tuesday, January 8, 2019 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Q & A at 6:00 p.m. | New Bedford Whaling Museum 18 Johnny Cake Hill New Bedford, MA 02740 |
| Wednesday, January 9, 2019 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Q & A at 6:00 p.m. | Narragansett Town Hall 25 5 th Avenue Narragansett, RI 02882 |
| Tuesday, January 15, 2019 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Q & A at 6:00 p.m. | Double Tree Hotel Cape Cod Room 287 Lyannough Road Hyannis, MA 02601 |
| Wednesday, January 16, 2019 5:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m. Q & A at 6:00 p.m. | Nantucket Atheneum 1 India Street Nantucket, MA 02554 |
| Thursday, January 17, 2019 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. Q & A at 6:00 p.m. | Martha's Vineyard Hebrew Center 130 Center Street Vineyard Haven, MA 02568 |

AUTHORITY

Permits are required pursuant to:

- Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899
- Section 404 of the Clean Water Act
- Section 103 of the Marine Protection, Research and Sanctuaries Act.

The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit which may reasonably accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered, including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are: conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, cultural value, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, flood plain value, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food production and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New England District (Corps), is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, state, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. The Corps will consider all comments received to determine

whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

Where the activity involves the discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States or the transportation of dredged material for the purpose of disposing it in ocean waters, the evaluation of the impact of the activity in the public interest will also include application of the guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, U.S Environmental Protection Agency, under authority of Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act, and/or Section 103 of the Marine Protection Research and Sanctuaries Act of 1972, as amended.

ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT

The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, as amended by the Sustainable Fisheries Act of 1996 (Public Law 104-267), requires all federal agencies to consult with the National Marine Fisheries Service on all actions, or proposed actions, permitted, funded, or undertaken by the agency, that may adversely affect Essential Fish Habitat (EFH). Essential Fish Habitat describes waters and substrate necessary for fish for spawning, breeding, feeding or growth to maturity. Further consultation with the National Marine Fisheries Service regarding EFH conservation recommendations is being conducted by BOEM as the lead federal agency and will be concluded prior to the final decision.

NATIONAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION ACT

Based on their initial review, the BOEM has determined that the proposed work may impact properties listed in, or eligible for listing in, the National Register of Historic Places. Additional review and consultation to fulfill requirements under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, will be ongoing as part of the permit review process.

ENDANGERED SPECIES CONSULTATION

As the lead federal agency, BOEM is reviewing the project for potential impacts on Federally-listed threatened or endangered species and their designated critical habitat pursuant to section 7 of the Endangered Species Act as amended. BOEM is coordinating with the NMFS and/or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service on listed species under their jurisdiction and the ESA consultation will be concluded prior to the final decision.

OTHER GOVERNMENT AUTHORIZATIONS

The states of Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Rhode Island have approved Coastal Zone Management Programs. Where applicable, the applicant states that any proposed activity will comply with and will be conducted in a manner that is consistent with the approved Coastal Zone Management Program. By this Public Notice, we are requesting the State concurrence or objection to the applicant's consistency statement.

The following authorizations have been applied for, or have been, or will be obtained:


- (X) Permit, license or assent from State(s).
- (X) Permit from local wetland agencies or conservation commissions.
- (X) Water Quality Certification in accordance with Section 401 of the Clean Water Act.

COMMENTS

In order to properly evaluate the proposal, we are seeking public comment. Anyone wishing to comment is encouraged to do so. Comments should be submitted in writing by the above date. If you have any questions, please contact Christine Jacek at (978) 318-8026, (800) 343-4789 or (800) 362-4367, if calling from within Massachusetts.

The initial determinations made herein will be reviewed in light of facts submitted in response to this notice. All comments will be considered a matter of public record. Copies of letters of objection will be forwarded to the applicant who will normally be requested to contact objectors directly in an effort to reach an understanding.

THIS NOTICE IS NOT AN AUTHORIZATION TO DO ANY WORK.


Barbara Newman
Chief, Permits and Enforcement Branch
Regulatory Division

If you would prefer not to continue receiving Public Notices by email, please contact Ms. Tina Chaisson at (978) 318-8058 or e-mail her at bettina.m.chaisson@usace.army.mil. You may also check here () and return this portion of the Public Notice to: Bettina Chaisson, Regulatory Division, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 696 Virginia Road, Concord, MA 01742-2751.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

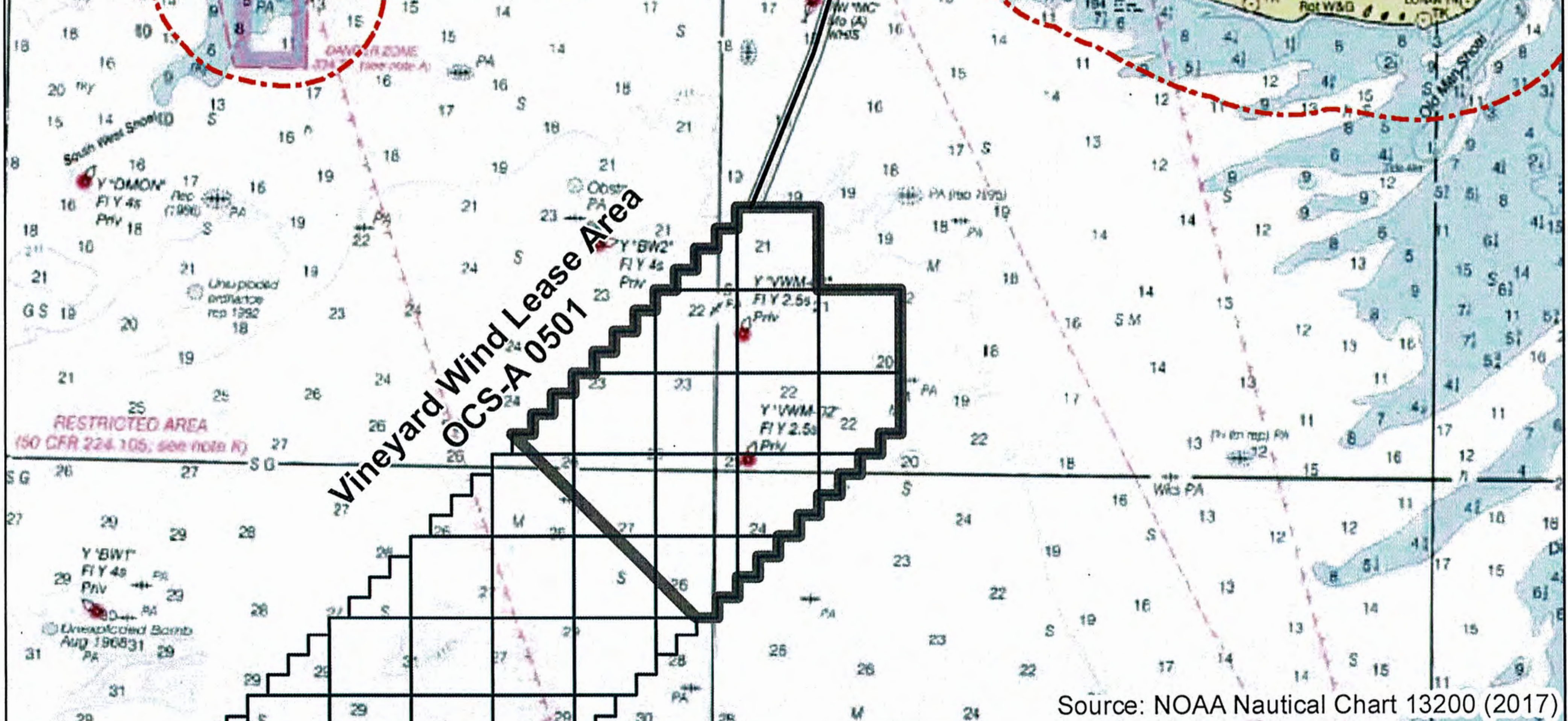
PHONE: _____

LEGEND

- Export Cable Corridor
- State/Federal Boundary
- Vineyard Wind Lease Area by OCS Block Number
- Wind Development Area

Covell's Beach

New Hampshire Avenue



Source: NOAA Nautical Chart 13200 (2017)

1 INCH = 40,000 FEET

0 20,000 40,000

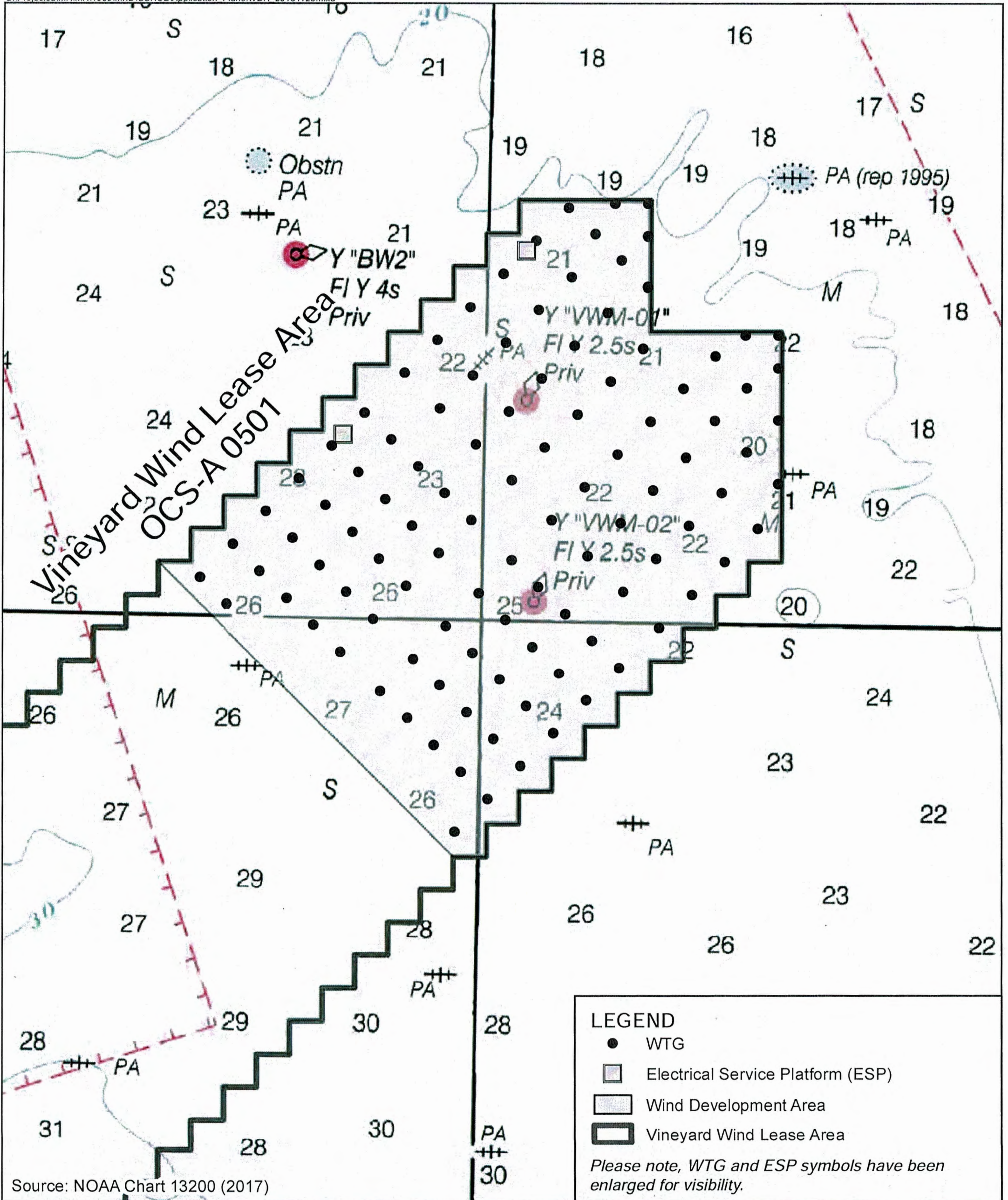
FEET

VINEYARD WIND PROJECT

VICINITY MAP

IN: ATLANTIC OCEAN AND NANTUCKET SOUND
 AT: SOUTHEAST MASSACHUSETTS
 SHEET 1 OF 12
 NOVEMBER 26, 2018

VINEYARD WIND



Source: NOAA Chart 13200 (2017)

LEGEND

- WTG
- Electrical Service Platform (ESP)
- ▨ Wind Development Area
- ▭ Vineyard Wind Lease Area

Please note, WTG and ESP symbols have been enlarged for visibility.



1 INCH = 16,000 FEET

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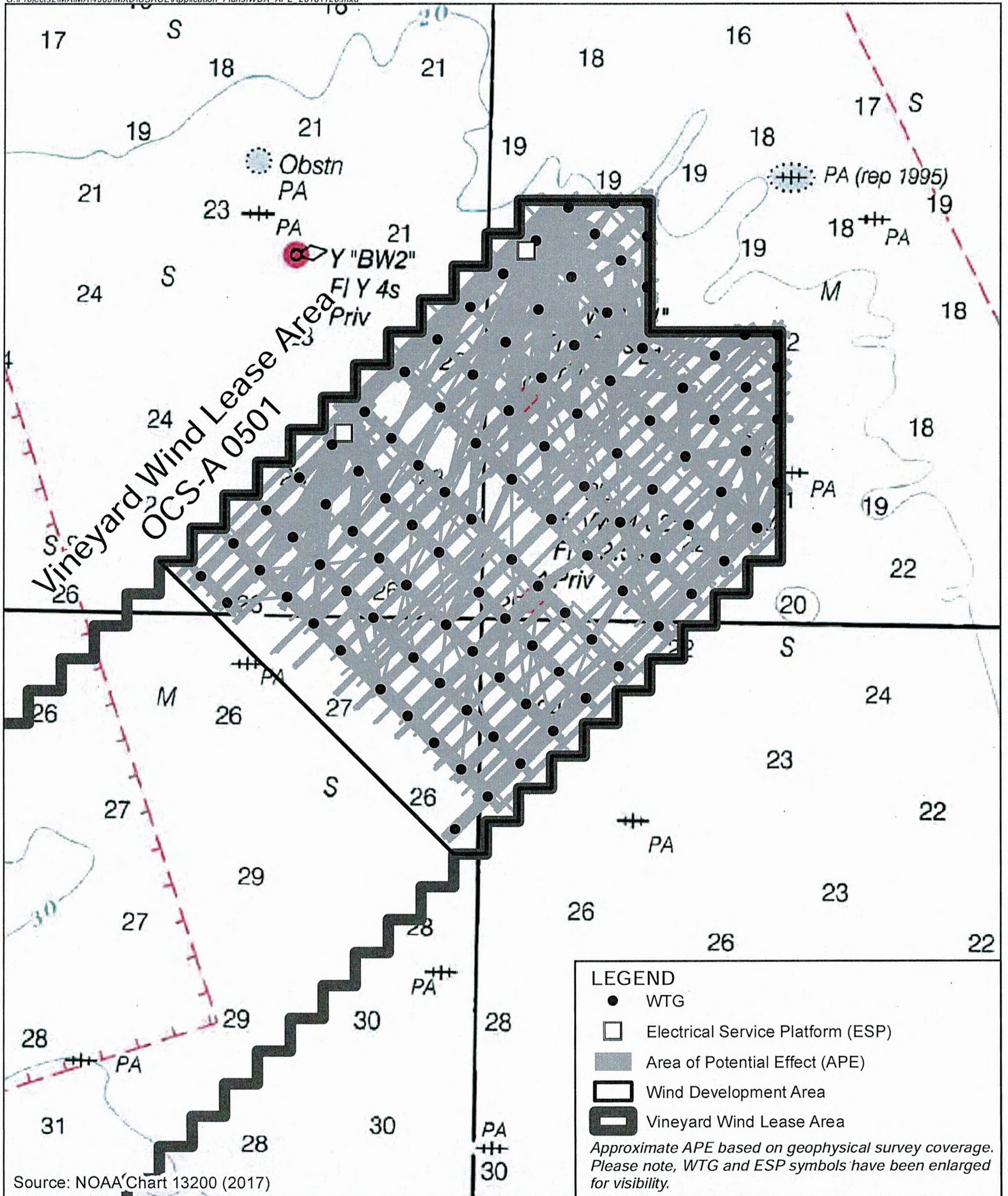
FEET

VINEYARD WIND PROJECT

VINEYARD WIND TURBINE LAYOUT

IN: ATLANTIC OCEAN AND NANTUCKET SOUND
 AT: SOUTHEAST MASSACHUSETTS
 SHEET 2 OF 12
 NOVEMBER 26, 2018






Source: NOAA Chart 13200 (2017)

LEGEND

- WTG
- Electrical Service Platform (ESP)
- ▨ Area of Potential Effect (APE)
- ▭ Wind Development Area
- ▭ Vineyard Wind Lease Area

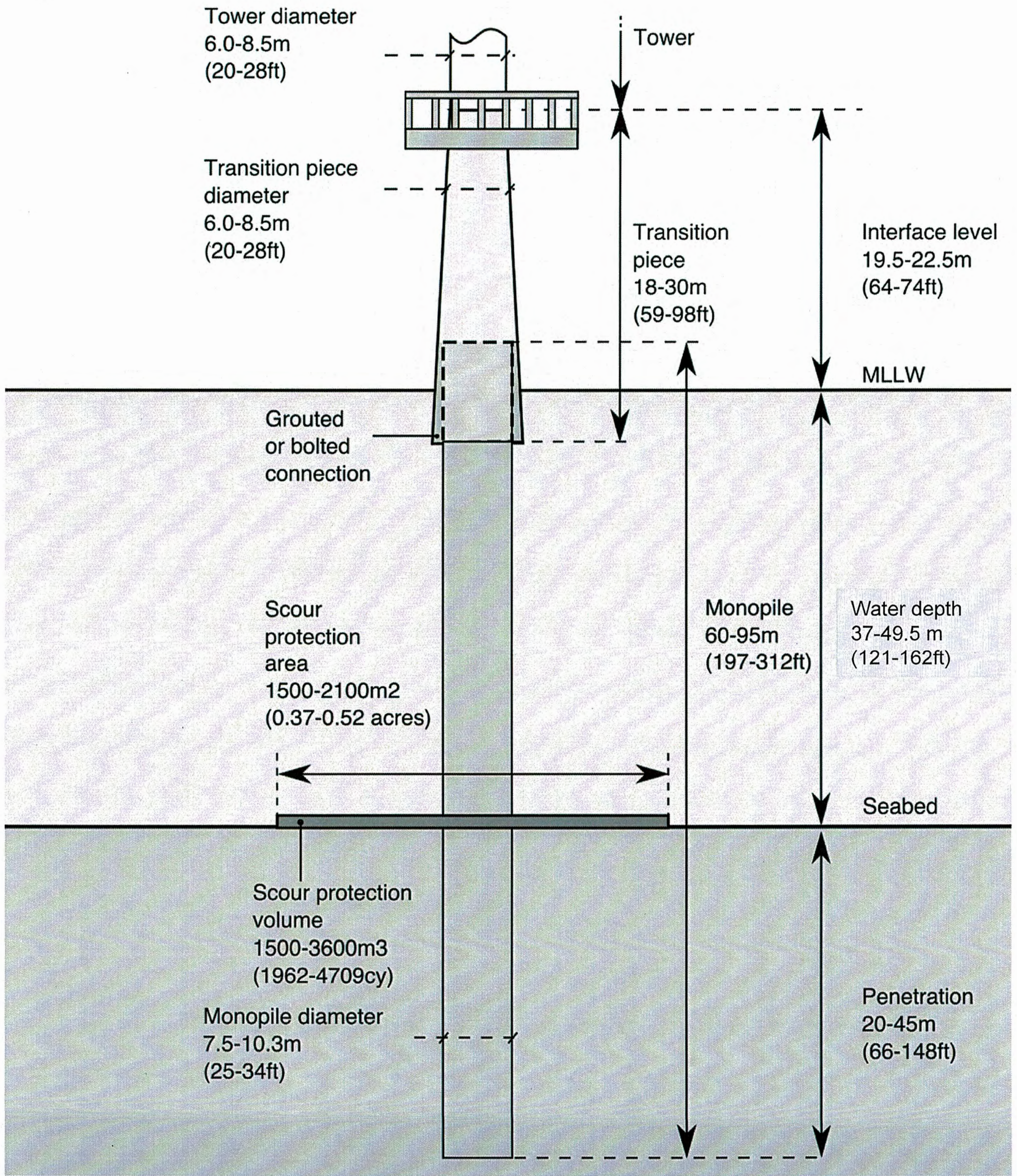
Approximate APE based on geophysical survey coverage. Please note, WTG and ESP symbols have been enlarged for visibility.


 1 INCH = 16,000 FEET
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VINEYARD WIND PROJECT
 WDA AREA OF POTENTIAL EFFECT

IN: ATLANTIC OCEAN AND NANTUCKET SOUND
 AT: SOUTHEAST MASSACHUSETTS
 SHEET 3 OF 12
 NOVEMBER 26, 2018



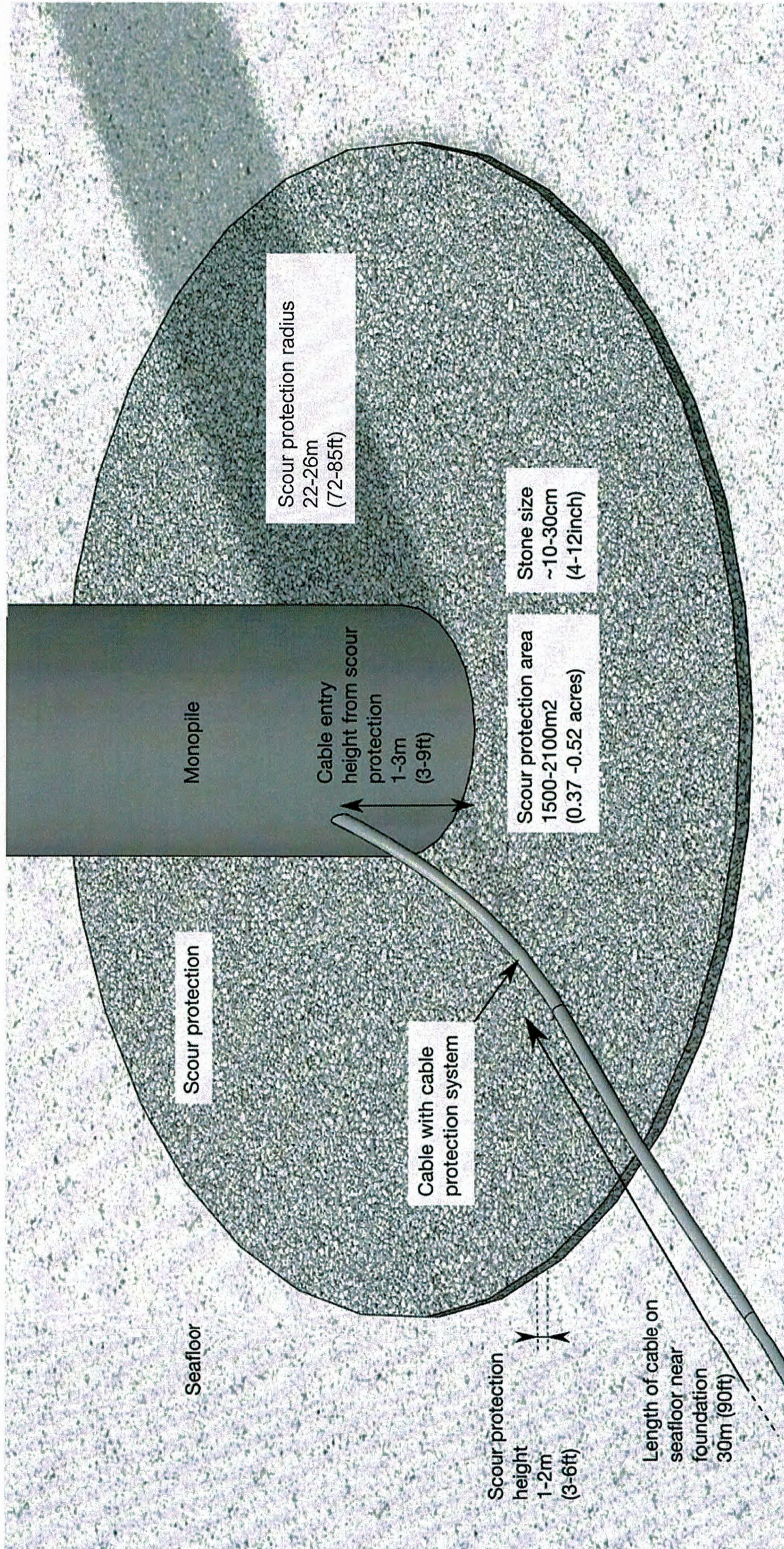


TYPICAL DIMENSIONS PROVIDED. NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION.

VINEYARD WIND PROJECT
WTG MONOPILE FOUNDATION DETAIL

IN: ATLANTIC OCEAN AND NANTUCKET SOUND AT: SOUTHEAST MASSACHUSETTS
SHEET 4 OF 12
NOVEMBER 26, 2018



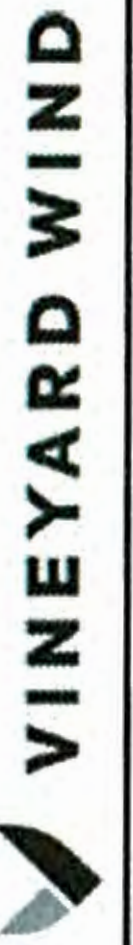


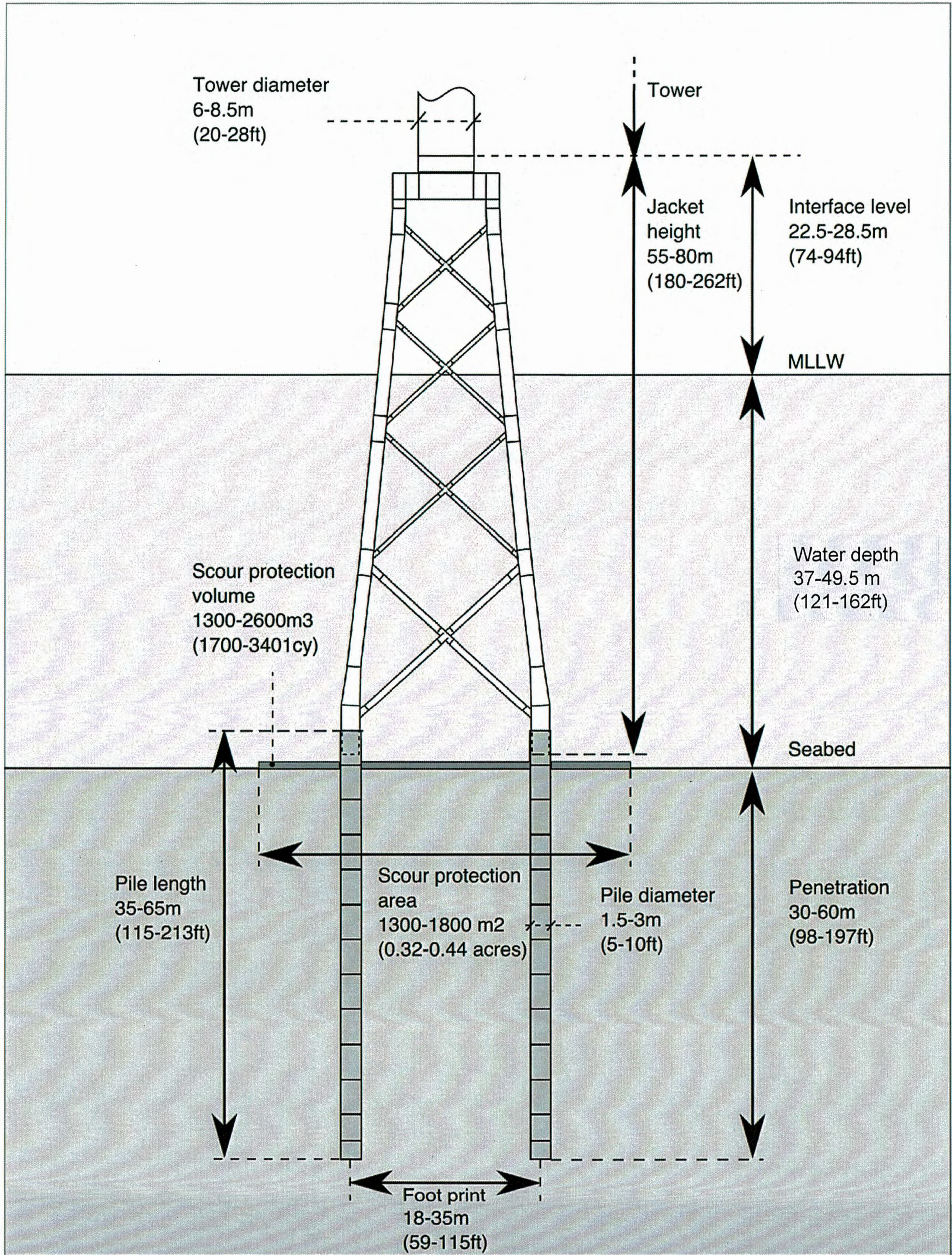
VINEYARD WIND PROJECT

SCOUR PROTECTION DETAIL FOR MONOPILE

TYPICAL DIMENSIONS PROVIDED.
NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION.

IN: ATLANTIC OCEAN AND NANTUCKET
SOUND AT: SOUTHEAST MASSACHUSETTS
SHEET 5 OF 12
NOVEMBER 26, 2018



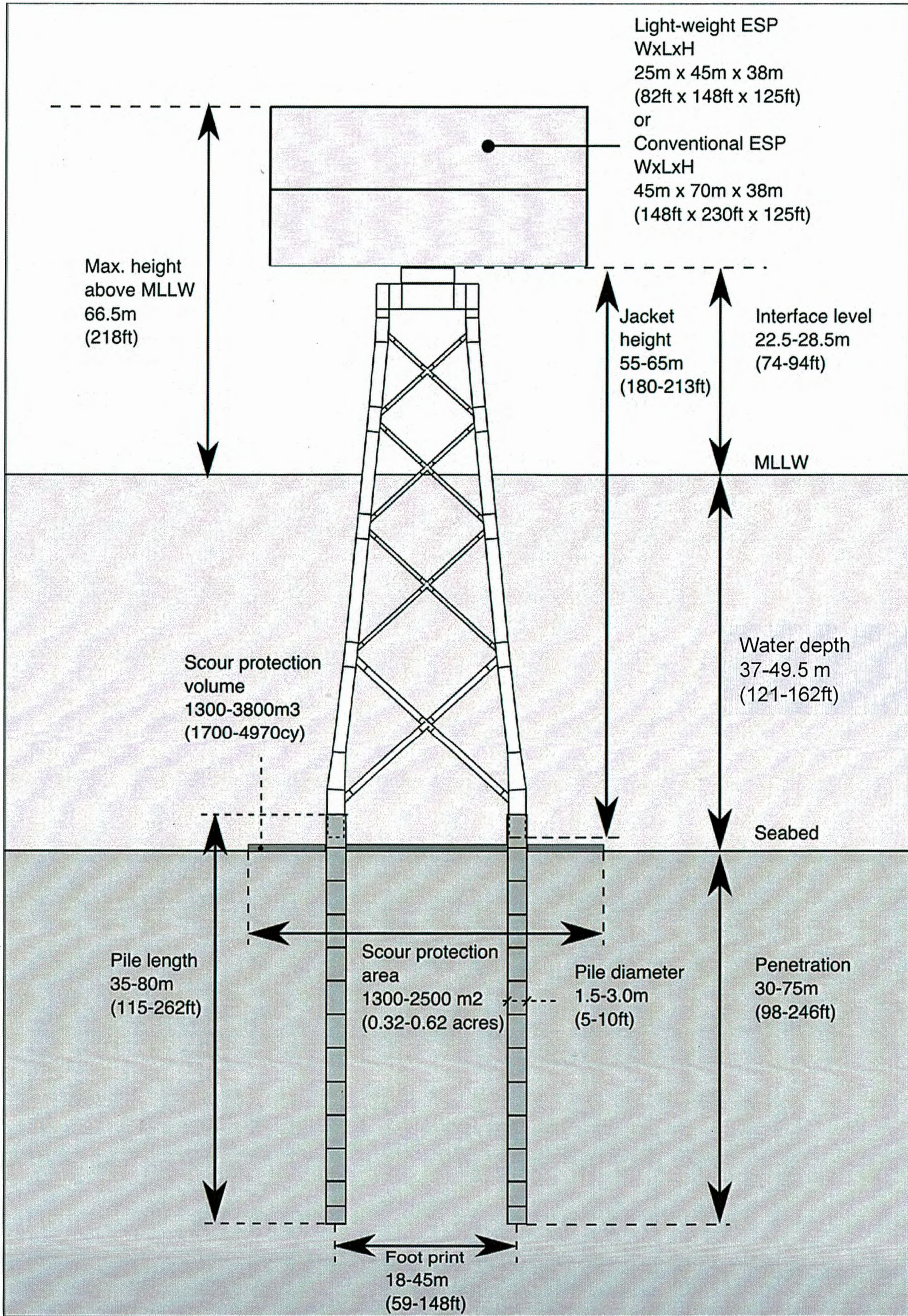


TYPICAL DIMENSIONS PROVIDED. NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION.

VINEYARD WIND PROJECT
WTG JACKET FOUNDATION DETAIL

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SHEET 6 OF 12
NOVEMBER 26, 2018



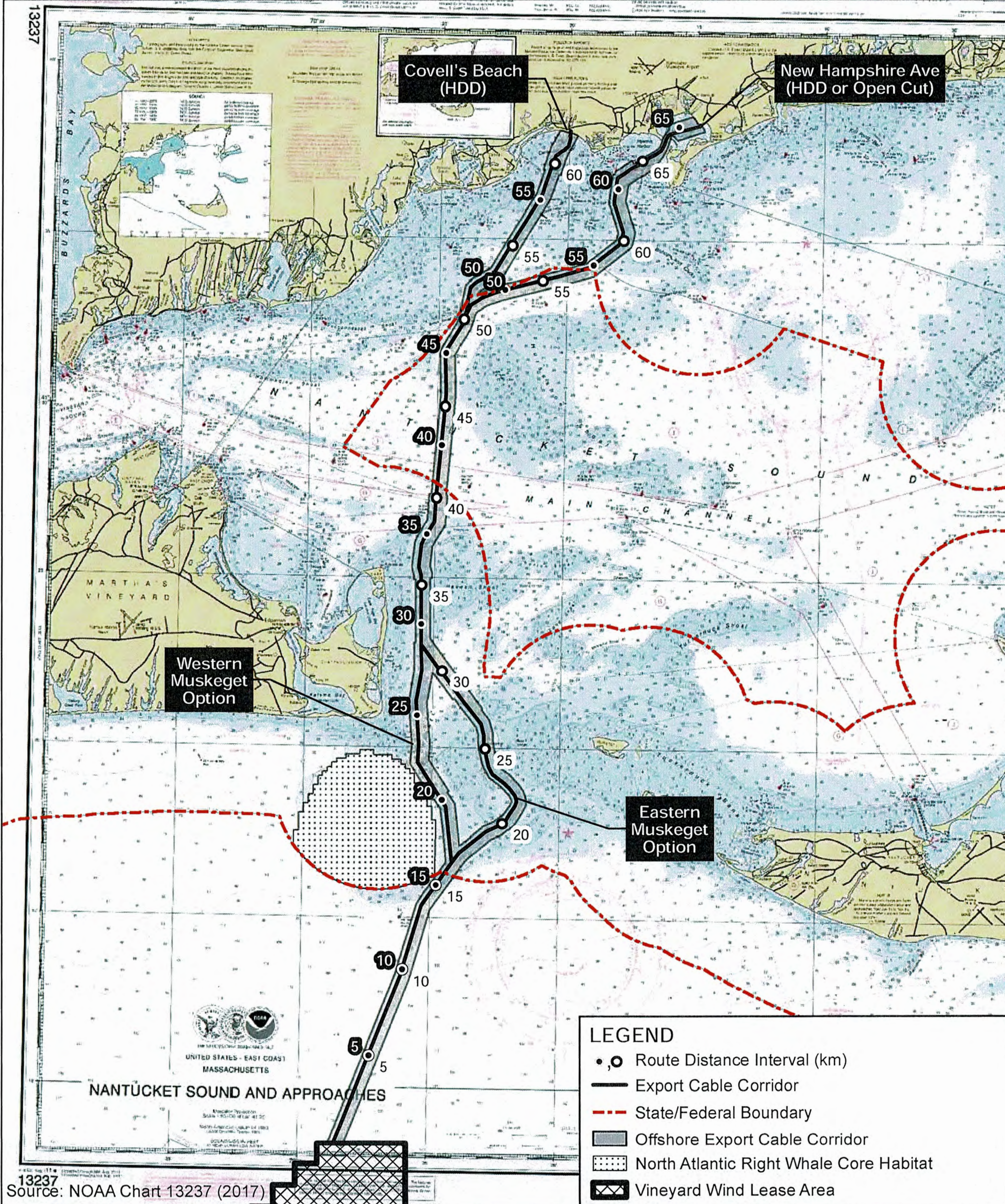


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CONSTRUCTION.

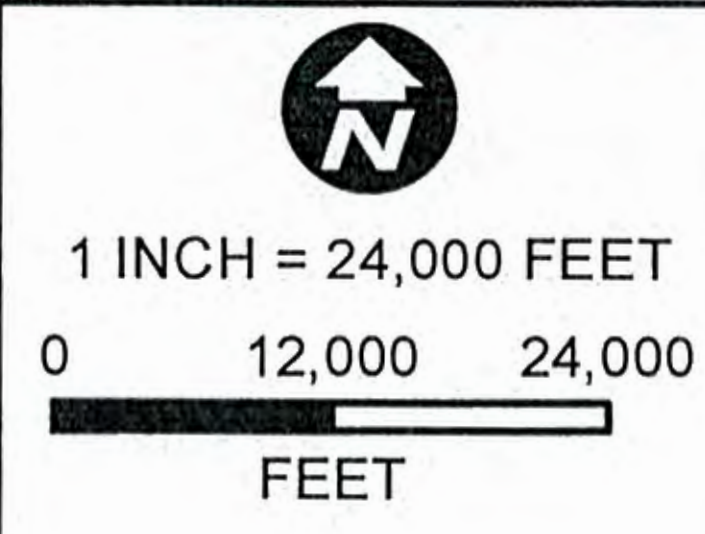
VINEYARD WIND PROJECT
ESP JACKET FOUNDATION DETAIL

IN: ATLANTIC OCEAN AND NANTUCKET
SOUND AT: SOUTHEAST MASSACHUSETTS
SHEET 7 OF 12
NOVEMBER 26, 2018





Source: NOAA Chart 13237 (2017)



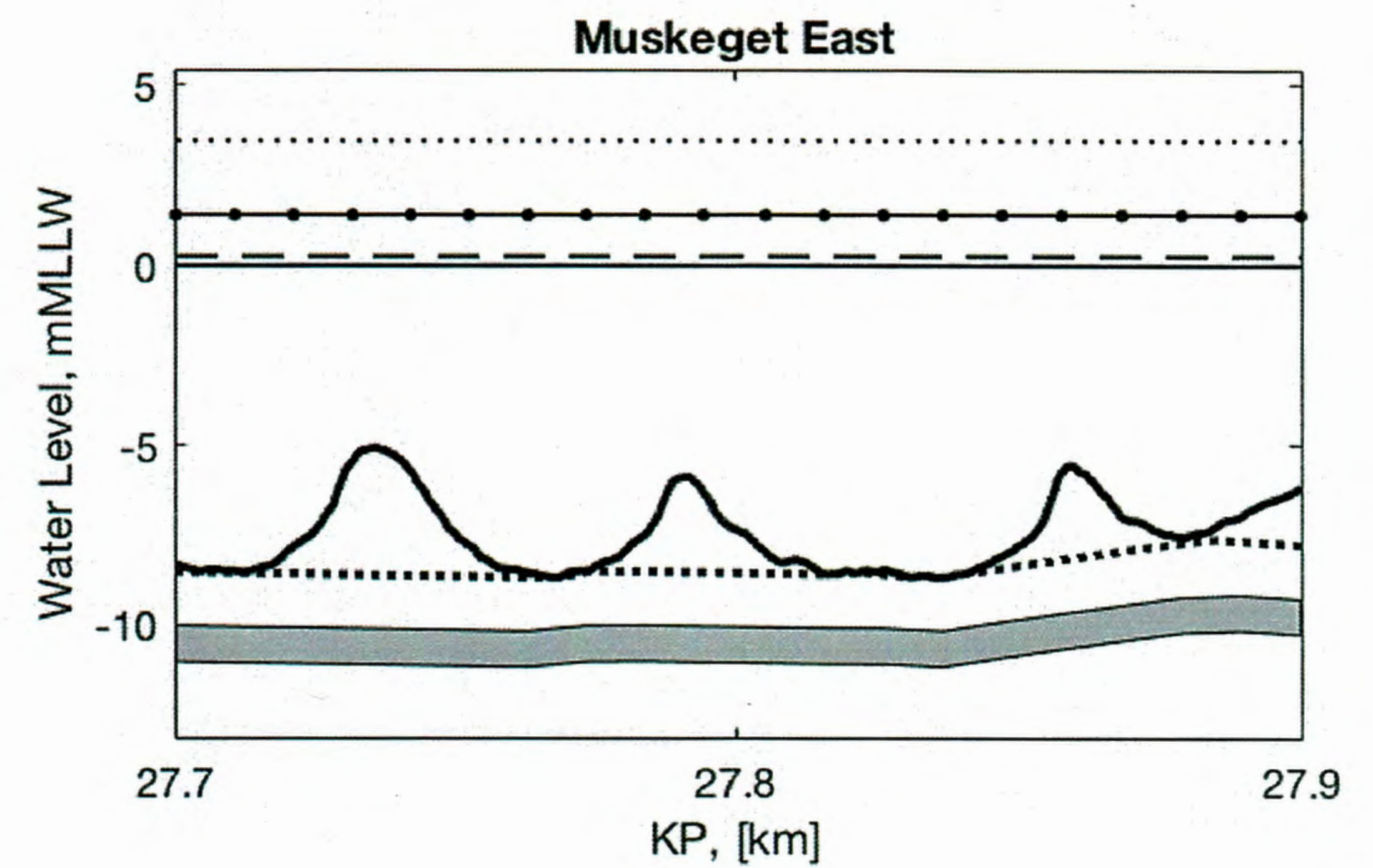
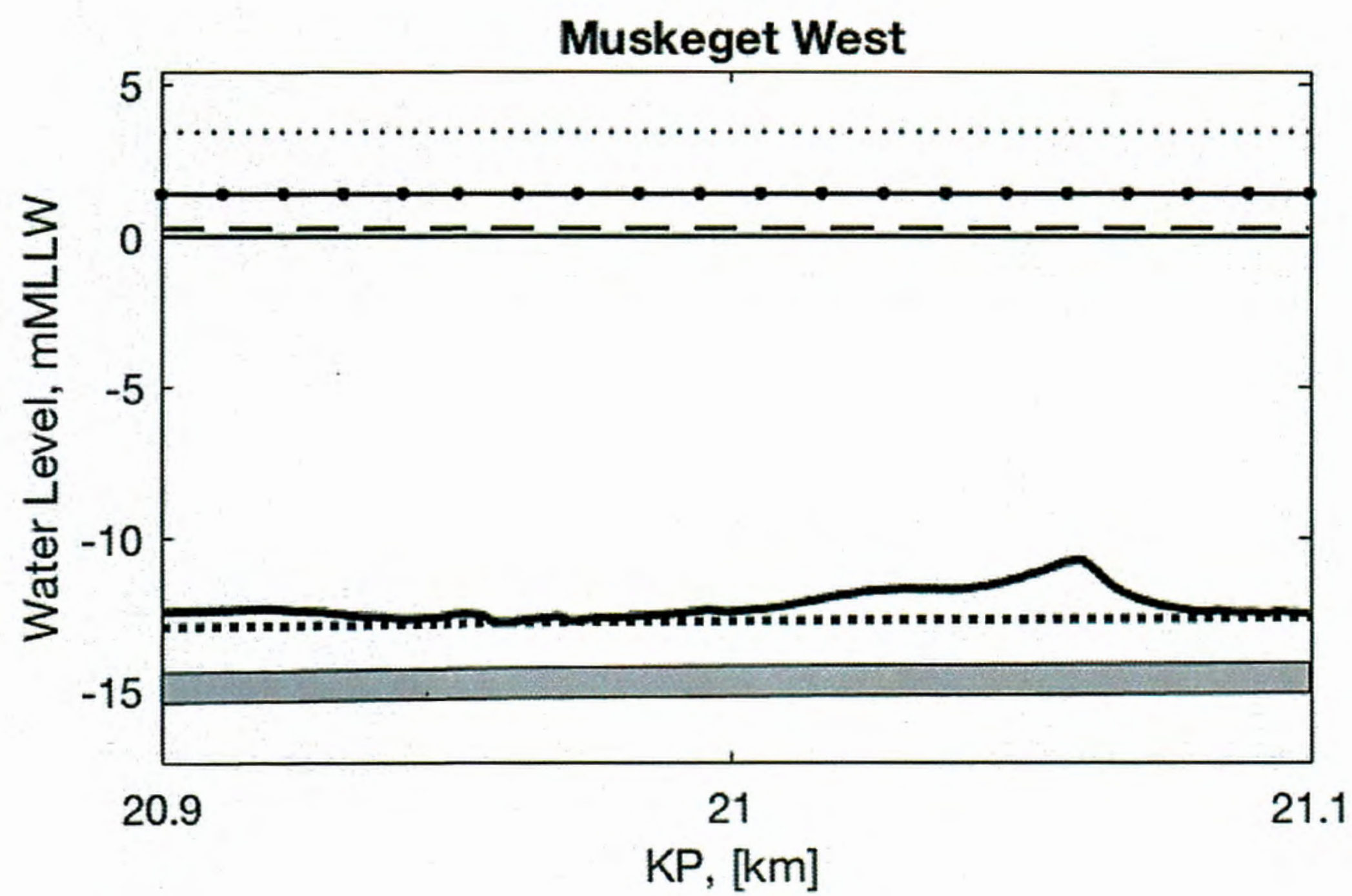
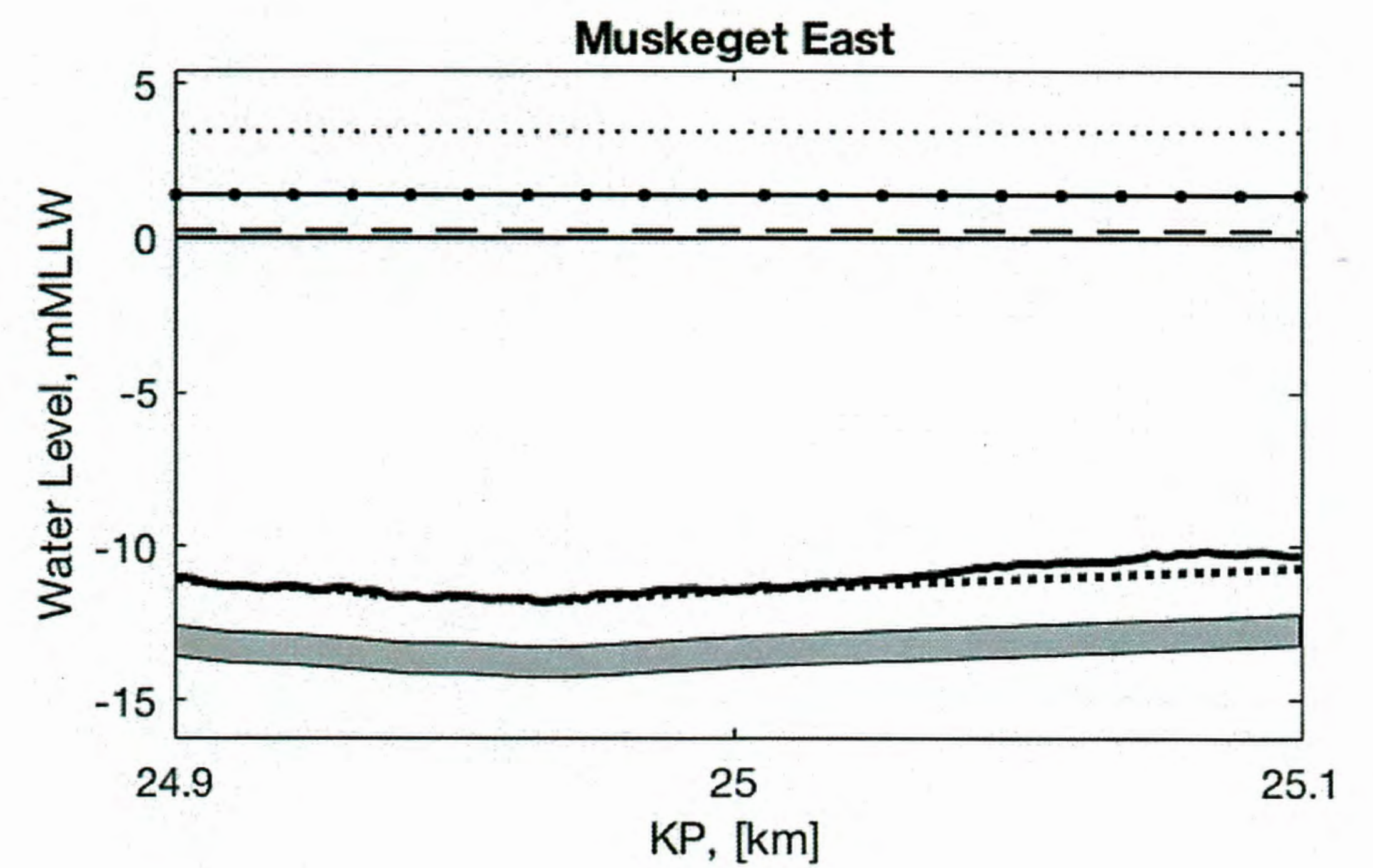
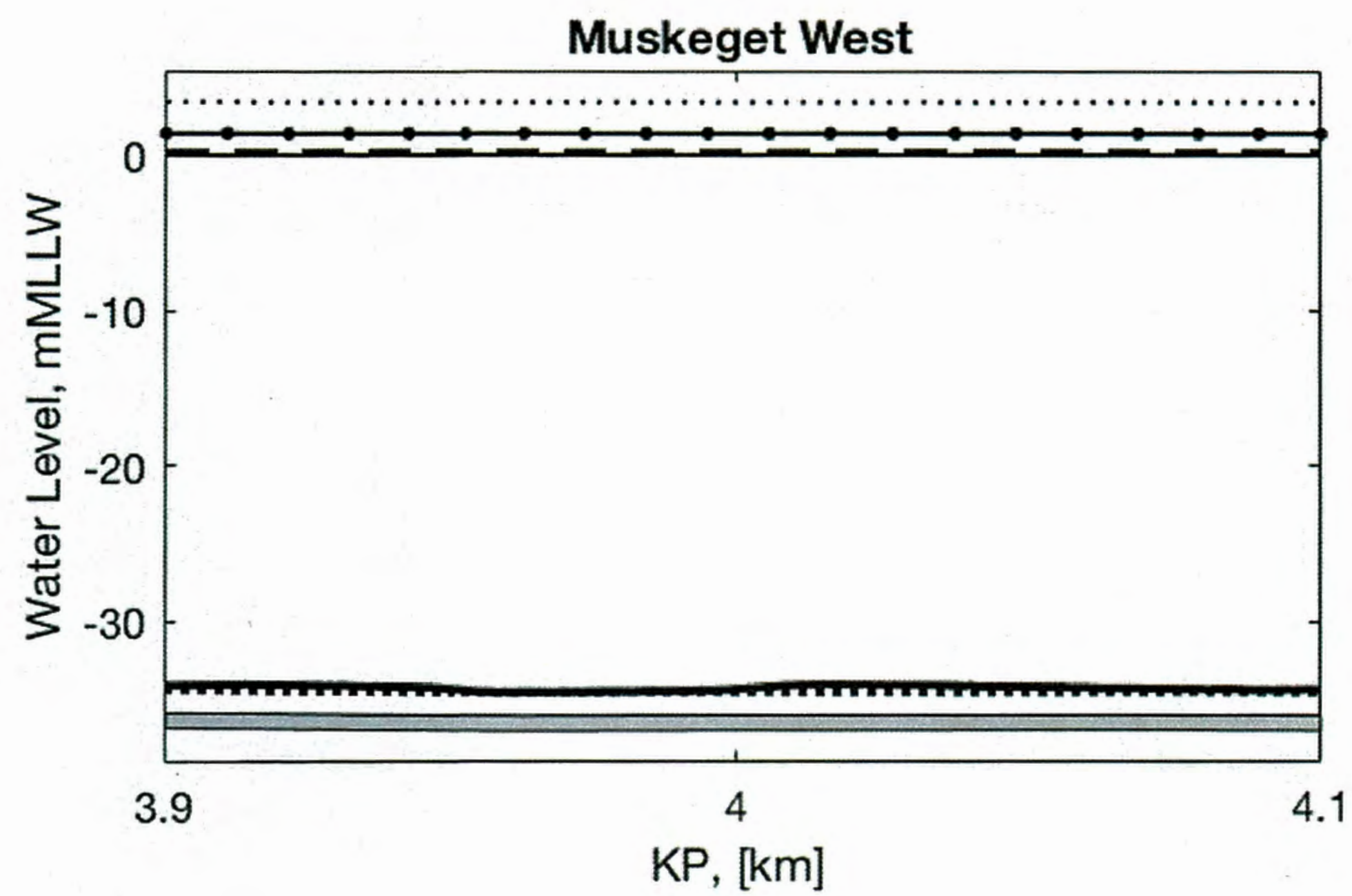
VINEYARD WIND PROJECT
OECC OVERVIEW PLAN

LEGEND

- Route Distance Interval (km)
- Export Cable Corridor
- - - State/Federal Boundary
- ▨ Offshore Export Cable Corridor
- ▤ North Atlantic Right Whale Core Habitat
- ▩ Vineyard Wind Lease Area

IN: ATLANTIC OCEAN AND NANTUCKET SOUND
AT: SOUTHEAST MASSACHUSETTS
SHEET 8 OF 12
NOVEMBER 26, 2018





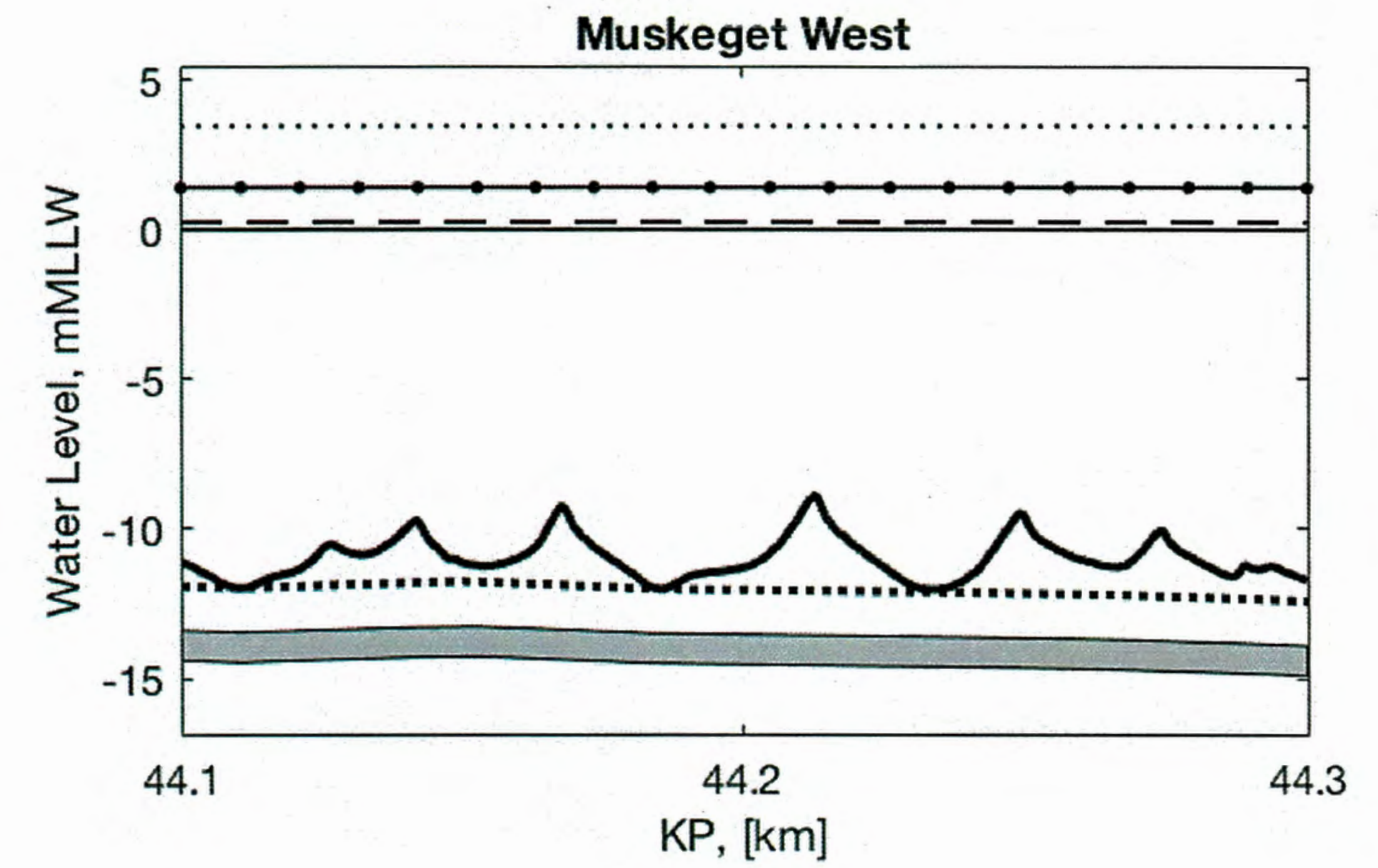
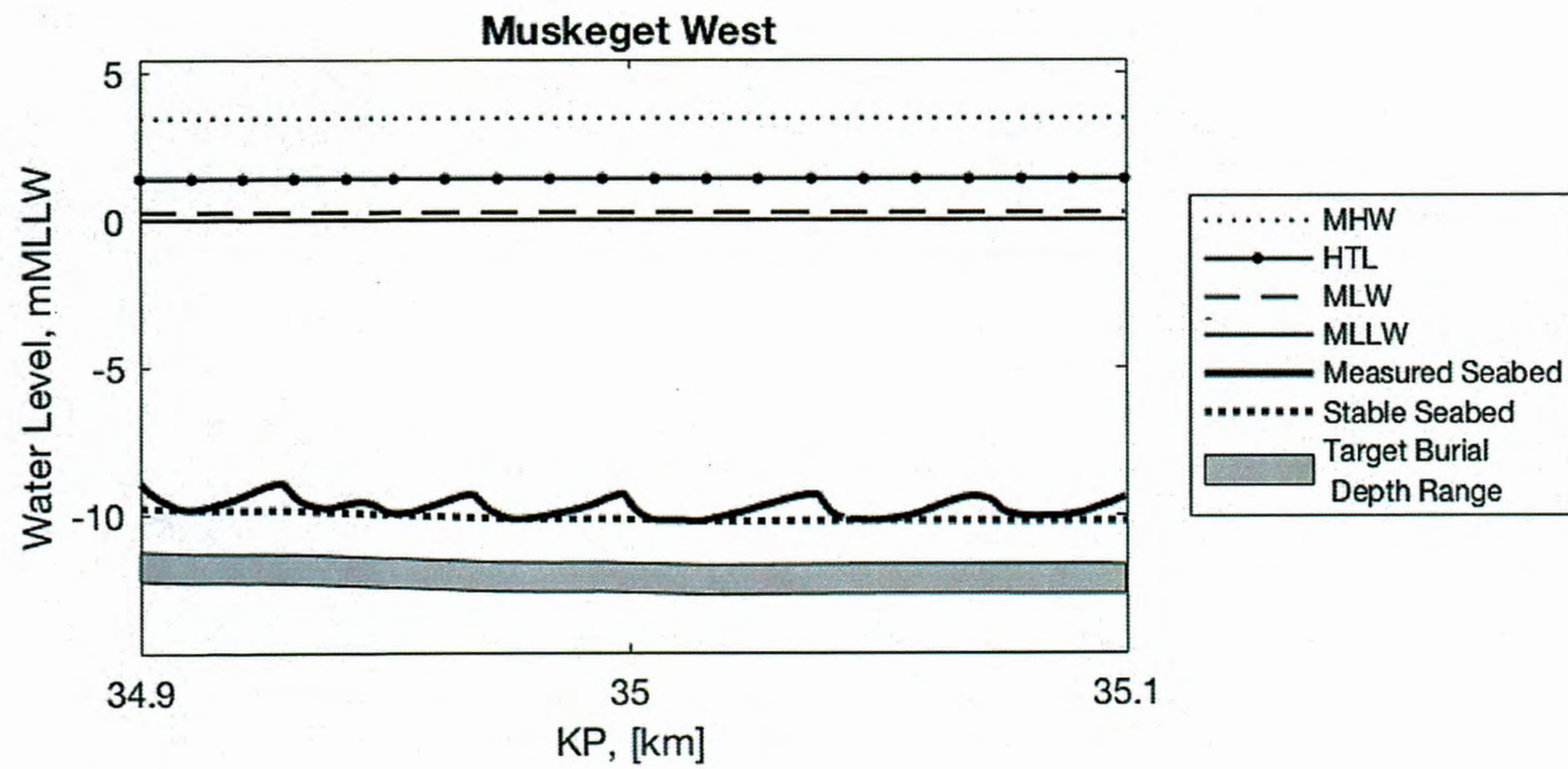
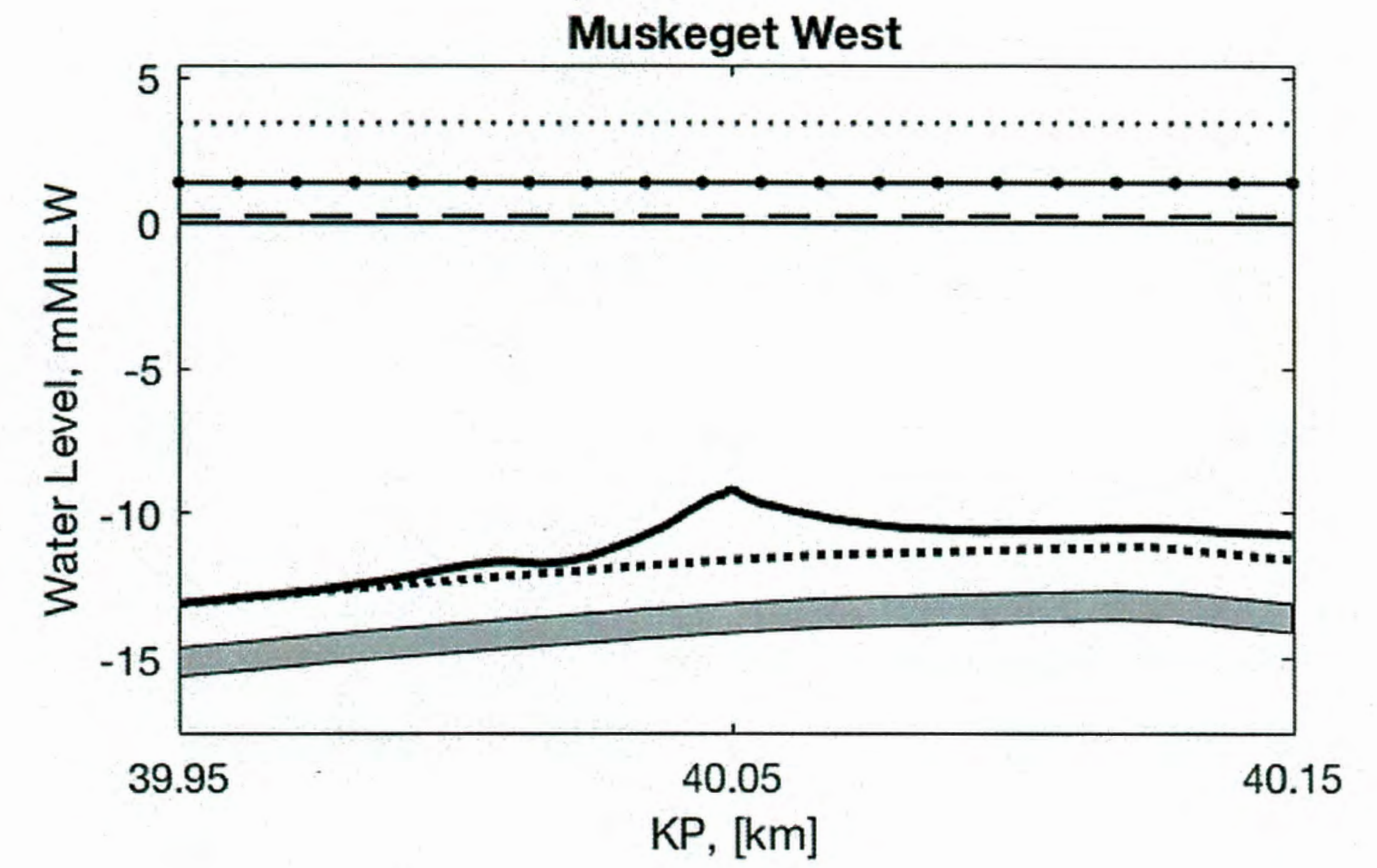
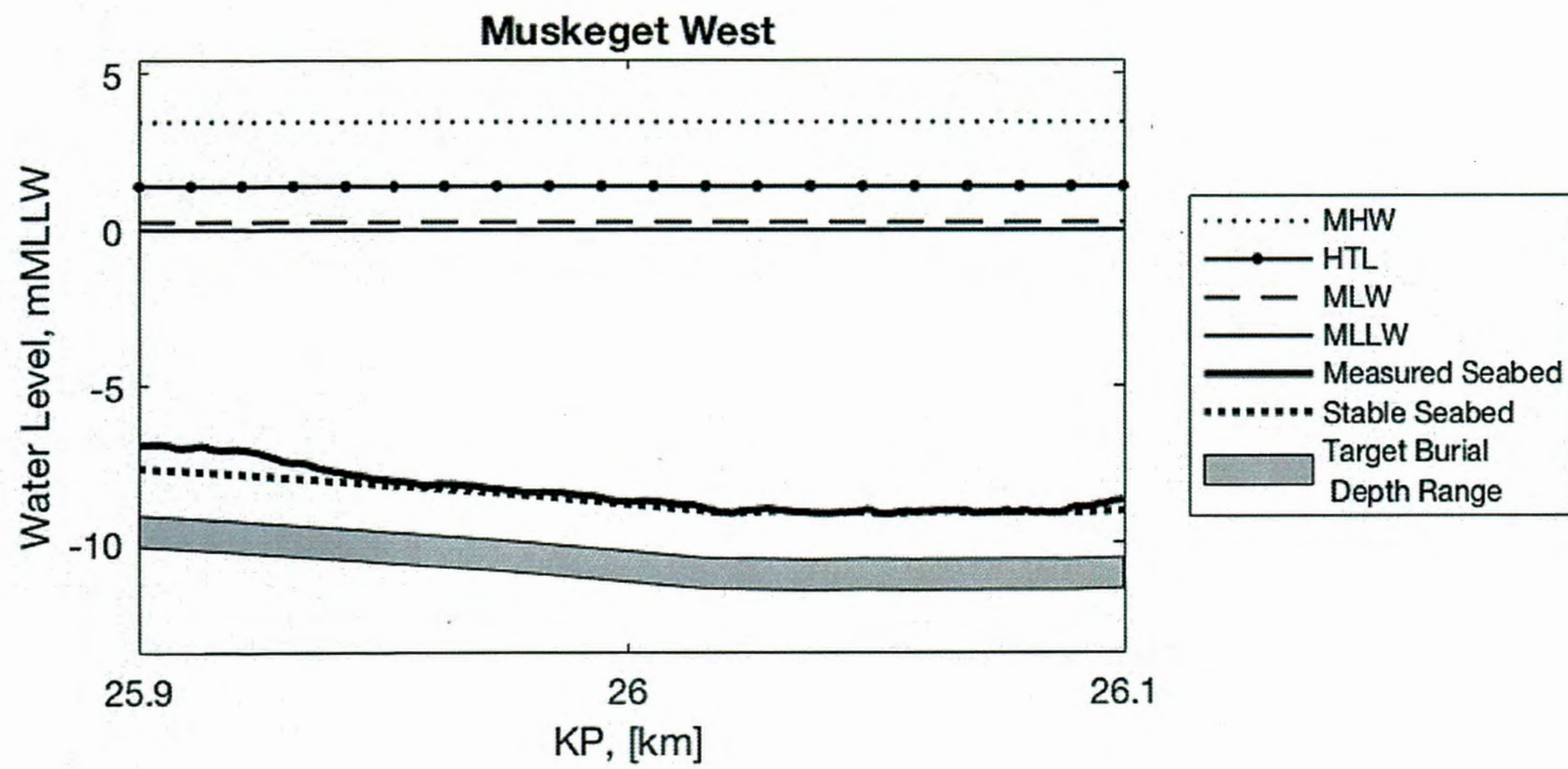
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NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION.

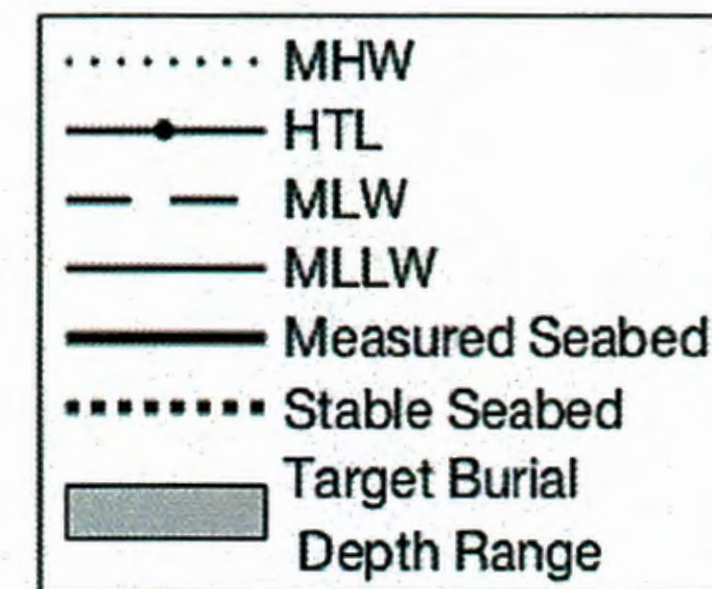
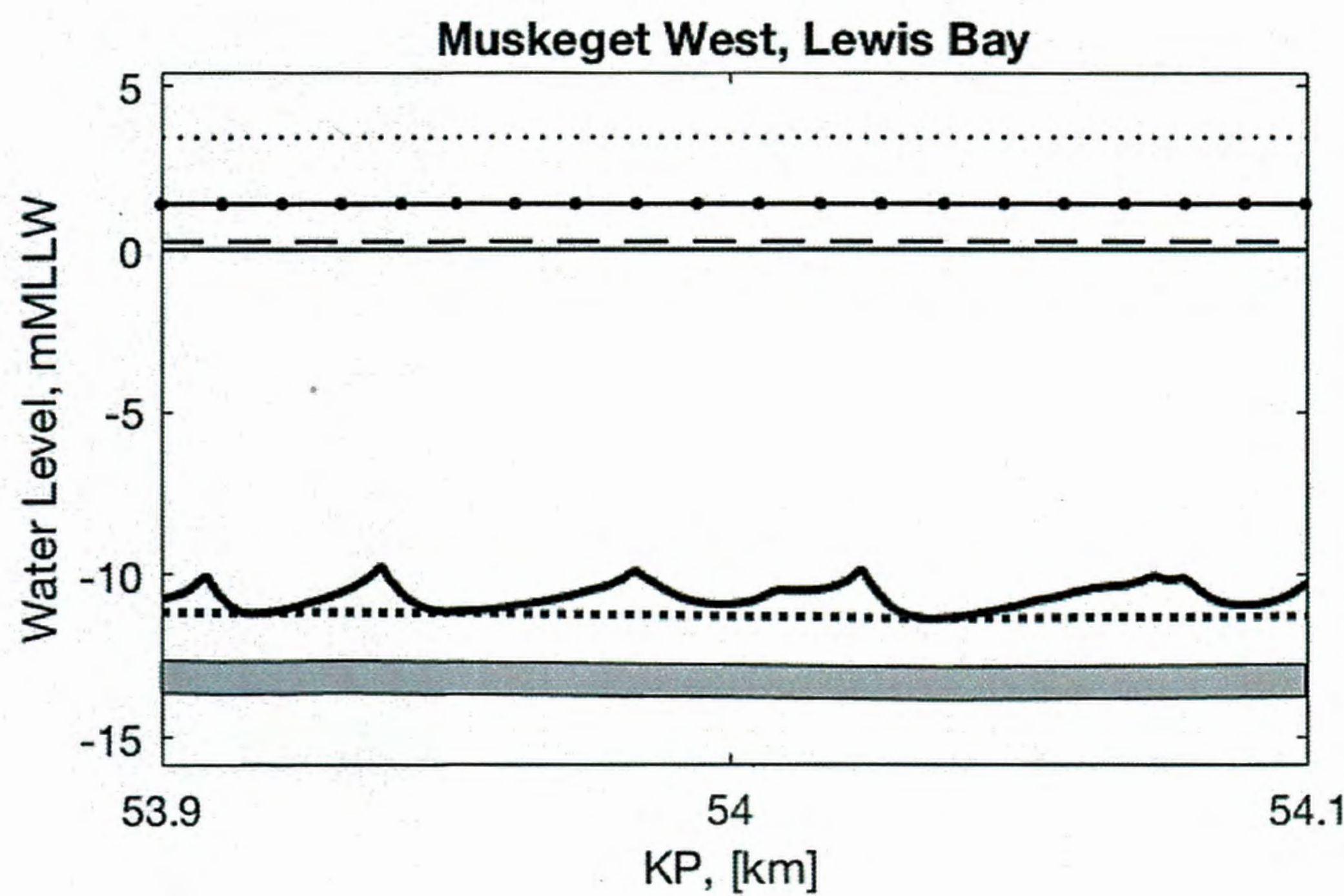
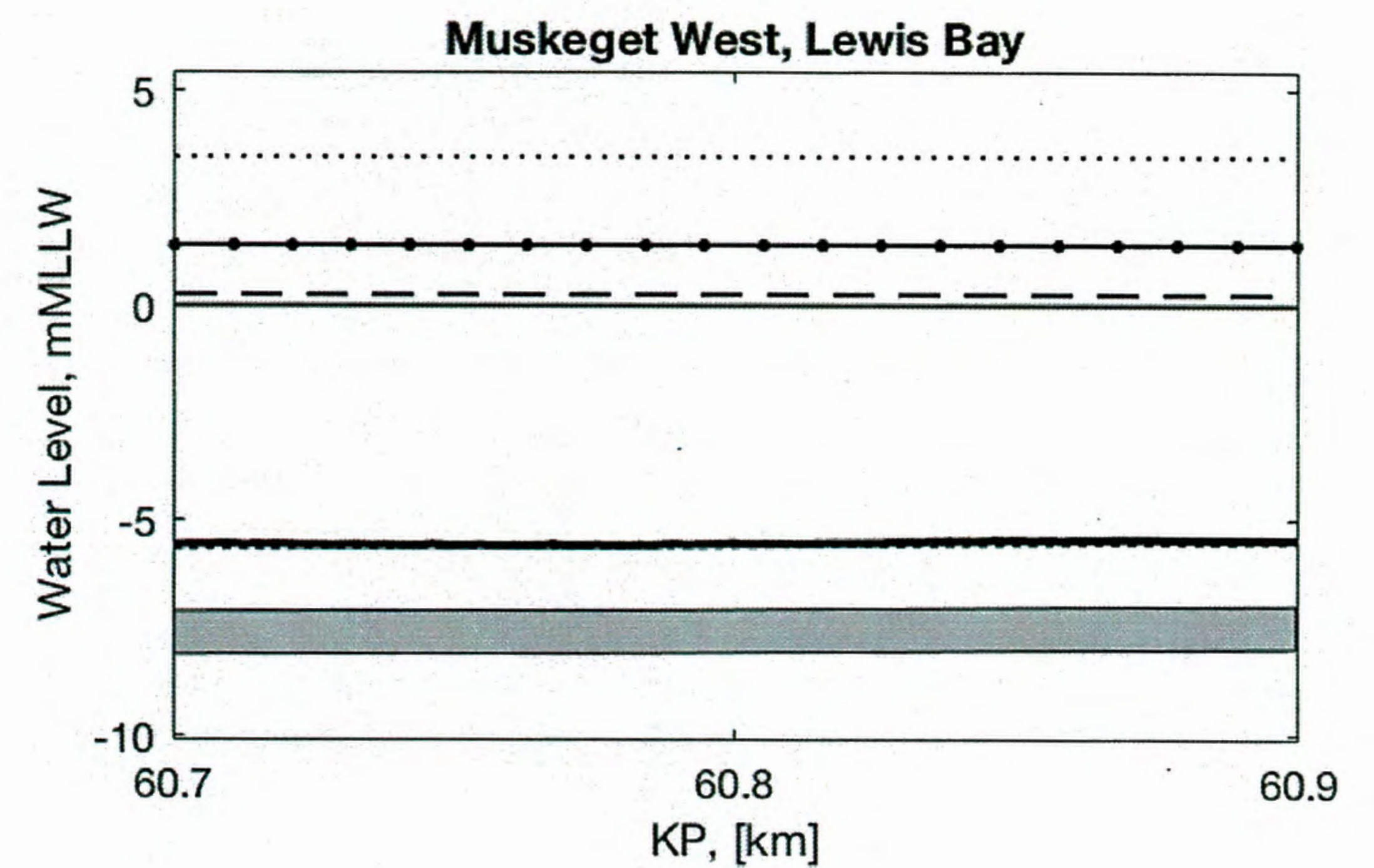
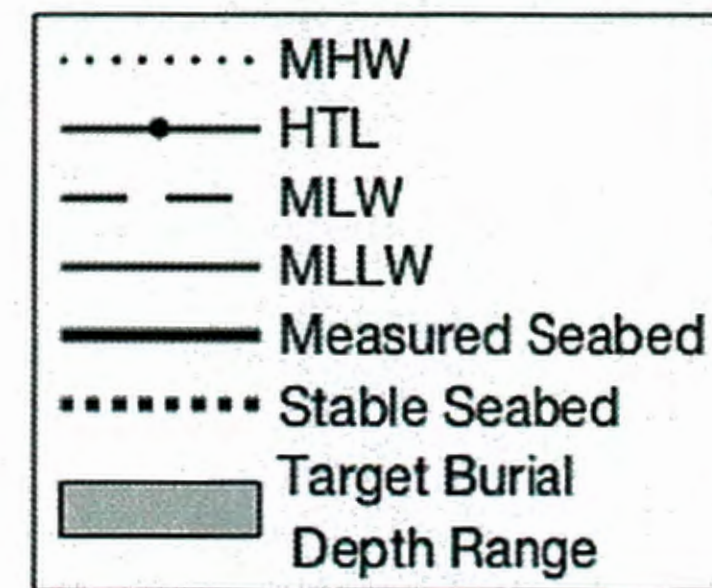
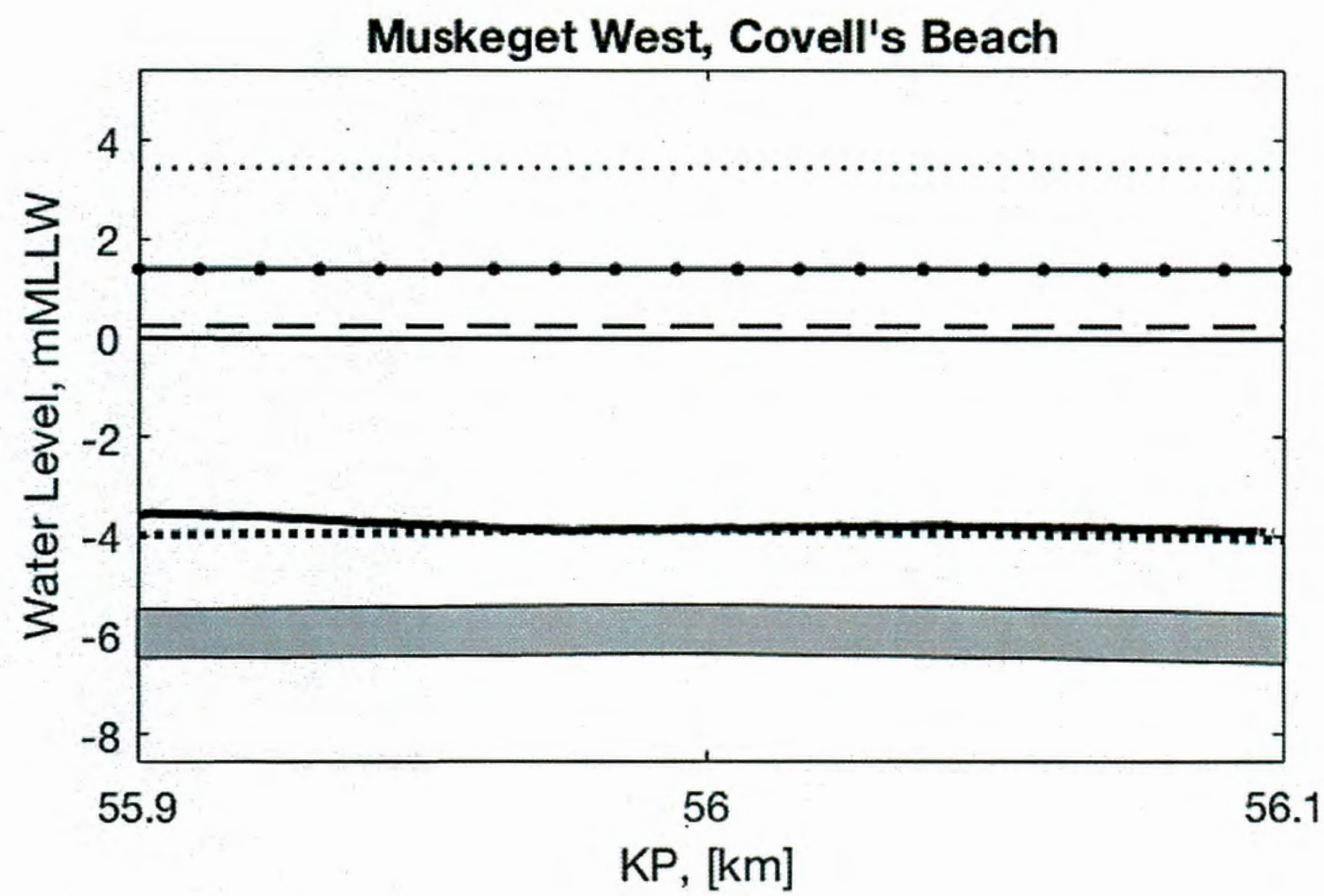
VINEYARD WIND PROJECT

OECC CROSS SECTIONS

IN: ATLANTIC OCEAN AND NANTUCKET
SOUND AT: SOUTHEAST MASSACHUSETTS
SHEET 9 OF 12
NOVEMBER 26, 2018







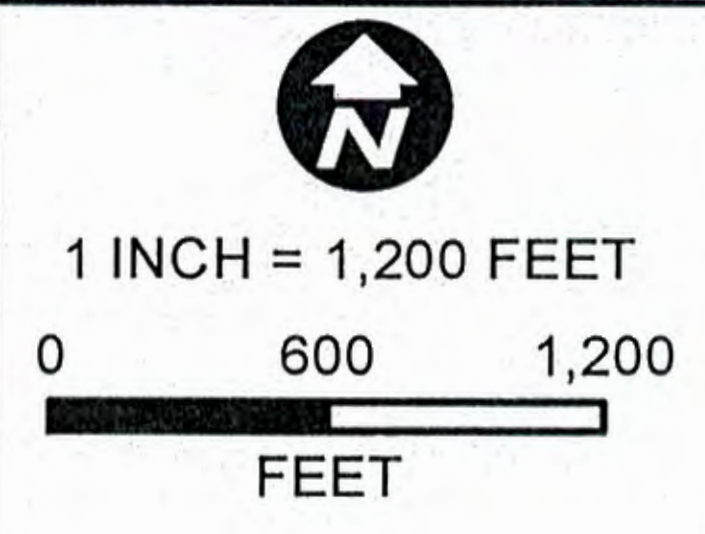
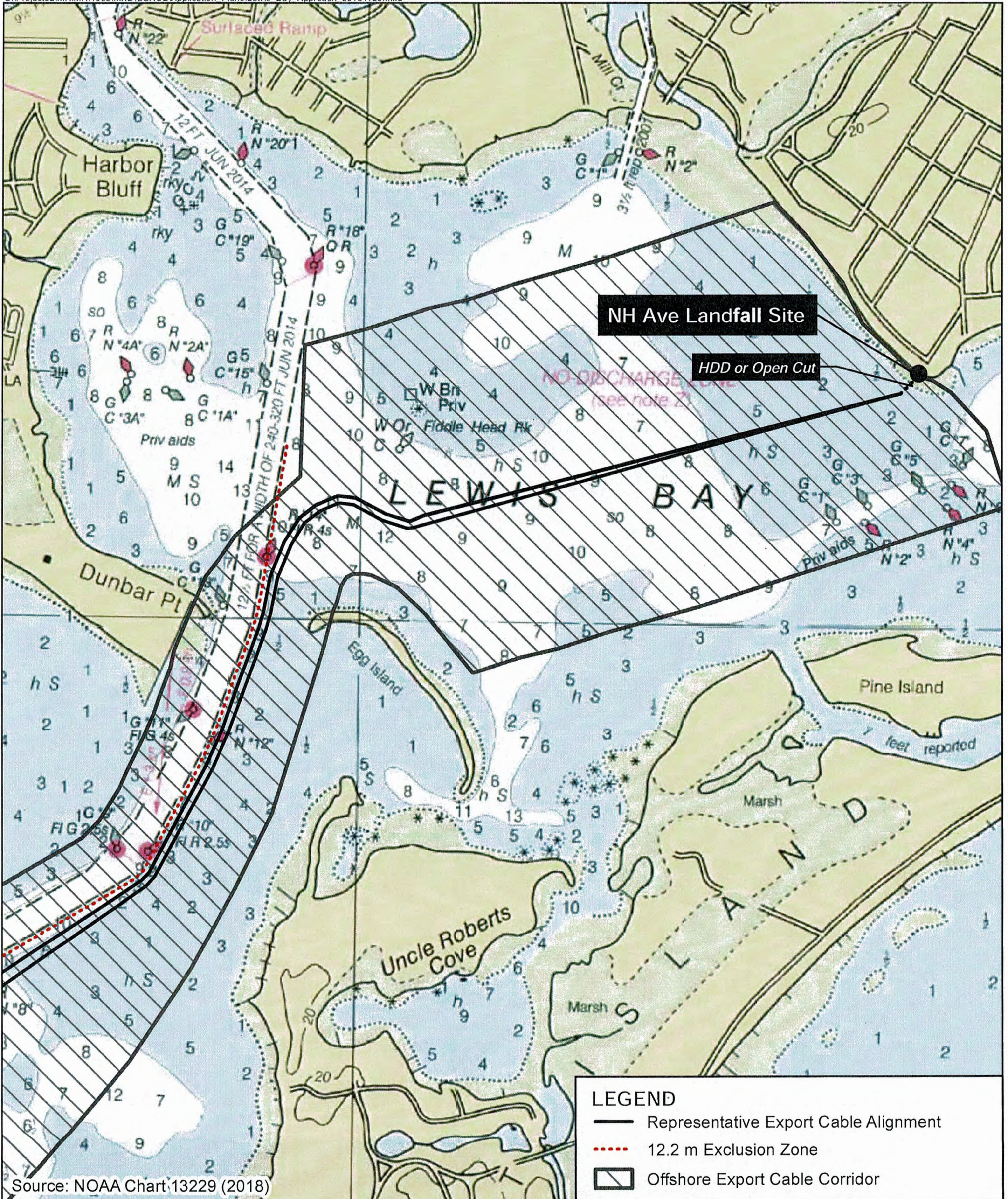
TYPICAL DIMENSIONS PROVIDED.
NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION.

VINEYARD WIND PROJECT

OECC CROSS SECTIONS

IN: ATLANTIC OCEAN AND NANTUCKET
SOUND AT: SOUTHEAST MASSACHUSETTS
SHEET 11 OF 12
NOVEMBER 26, 2018





VINEYARD WIND PROJECT
LEWIS BAY APPROACH

IN: ATLANTIC OCEAN AND NANTUCKET SOUND
AT: SOUTHEAST MASSACHUSETTS
SHEET 12 OF 12
NOVEMBER 26, 2018

