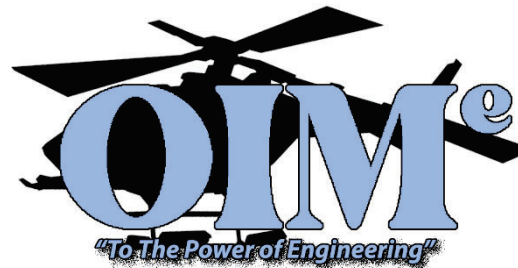


Surveillance and Broadcast Services

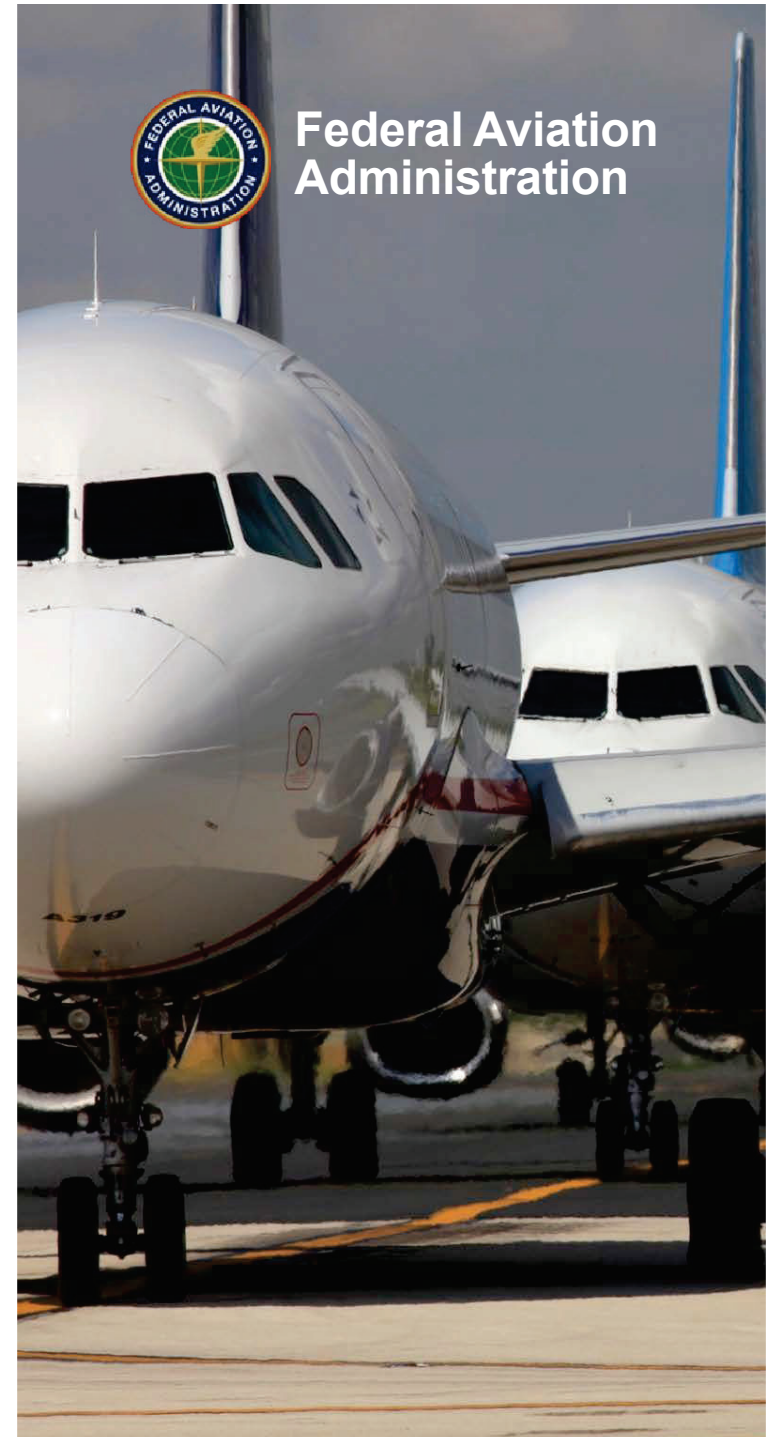
Offshore Infrastructure Management and Engineering



Presented to FAA-Industry Gulf of Mexico
Agreement Implementation Committee

By: Rana Obeid, Federal Lead

Date: October 11, 2023



FAA-Agreement Implementation Committee “AIC”

Why are we here?

- The AIC is a product of the 2006 FAA-Industry Gulf of Mexico Memorandum of Agreement and subsequently carried over by the 2021 Memorandum of Understanding between FAA, HSAC, and HAI for aviation safety in the Gulf of Mexico
- The purpose of the AIC is to foster cooperation, commitment, accountability, and trust to improve and sustain quality Air Traffic Services in the Gulf
- The AIC assists the FAA in strategic planning by providing feedback / recommendations
- The AIC is used to assess the coverage of installed FAA equipment and whether additional areas should be addressed

Safety / Service



Agenda

- Regular Business
 - FAA Infrastructure Projects
 - AWOS, ADS-B, & VHF Comm Coverage
 - Installation Updates
- New Business
 - AIC Decisions
 - Community Awareness

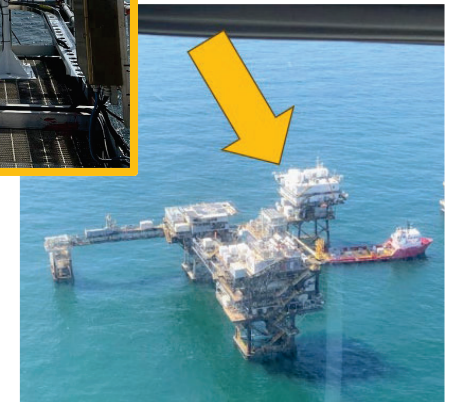


Newly Commissioned AWOS

Chevron's Anchor
Green Canyon 763



Arena's
South Timbalier 52



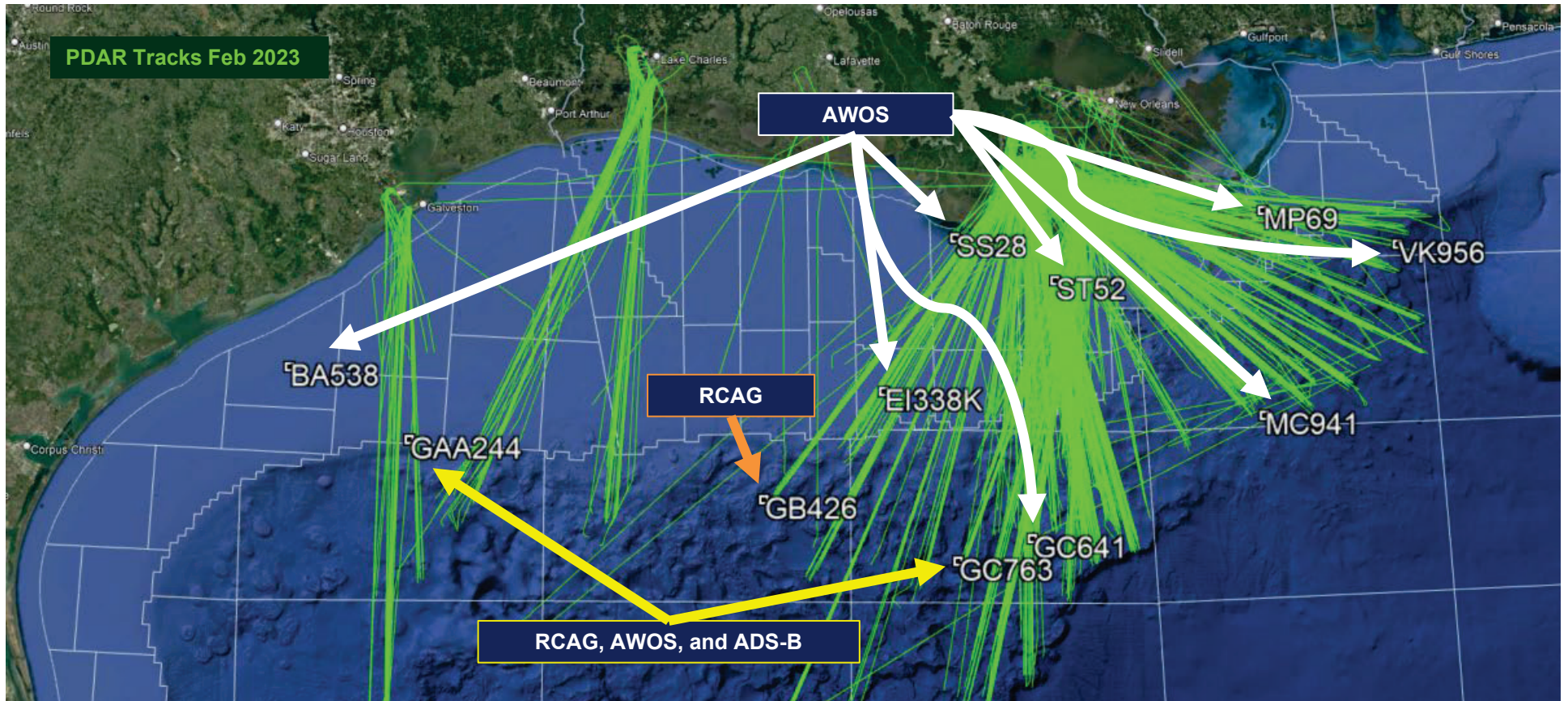
FAA Infrastructure Status

Colleen Ahlers

Implementation Lead



2023-24 Offshore Installation Projects



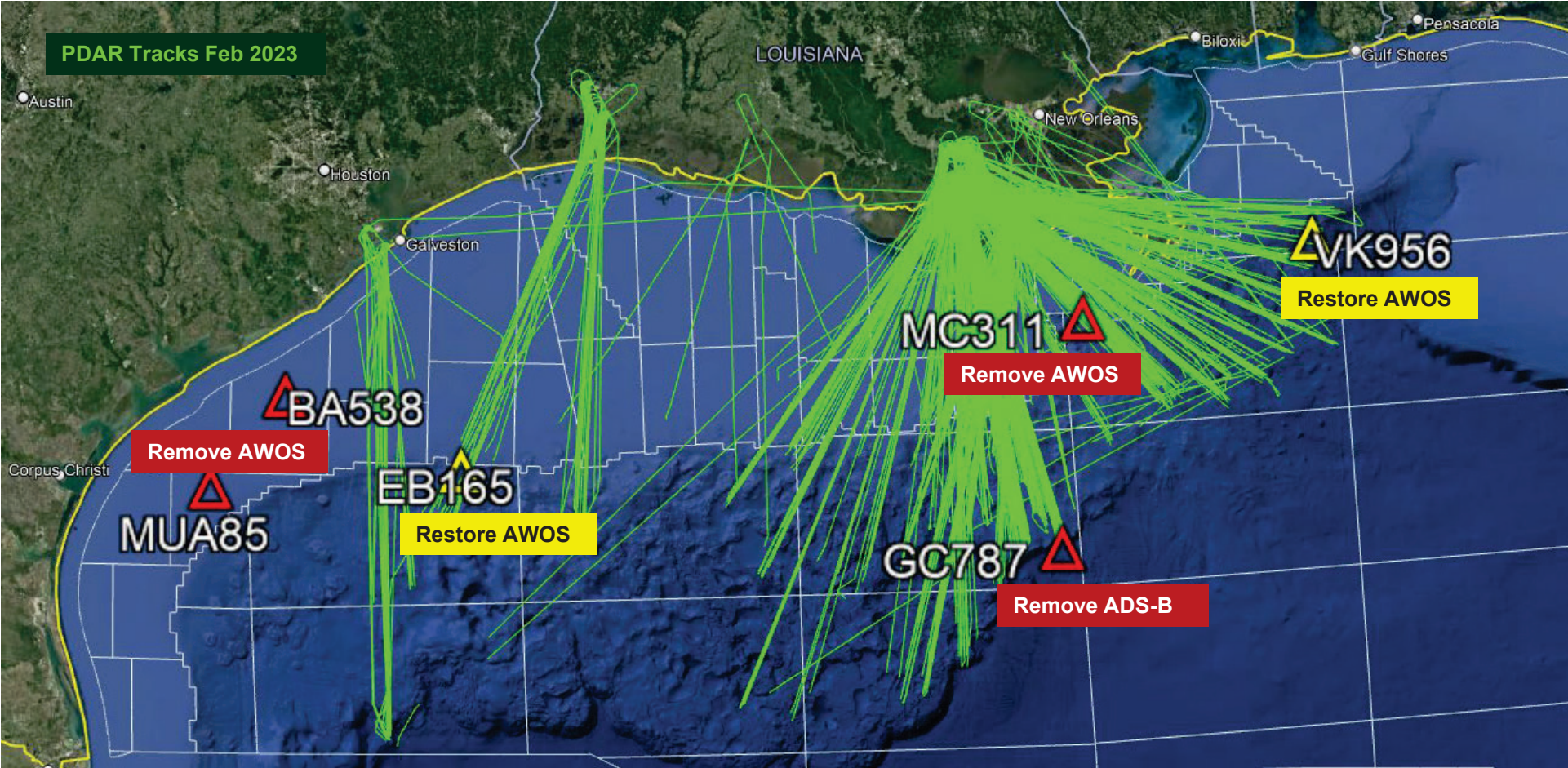
AWOS Projects:

- ✓ Green Canyon 763 (Jun '23)
- ✓ South Timbalier 52B (Jul '23)
- Mississippi Canyon 941 (Nov '23)
- Eugene Island 338K (Feb '24)
- Green Canyon 641 (Mar '24)
- Ship Shoal 28P (Jul '24)
- Main Pass 69B (Jul '24)
- Brazos 538 (Aug '24)
- Viosca Knoll 956 (Oct '24?)
- Galveston A244A ('24?)

ADS-B/RCAG Projects:

- ADS-B, RCAG Green Canyon 763 (Nov '23)
- RCAG Garden Banks 426 (Aug '24)
- ADS-B, RCAG Galveston A244A ('24?)

2023-24 Offshore Sustainment Projects



- ✓ Remove AWOS South Marsh 268 (Jul '23)
- Remove Mustang Island A85A (Oct '23)
- Remove AWOS Mississippi Canyon 311 ('23?)
- Remove ADS-B Green Canyon 787 / ATP (Jan '24)

- Remove AWOS Brazos 538 (Jul '24)
- Restore AWOS East Break 165 (TBD)
- Replace ADS-B Viosca Knoll 956 Building (2024-25)

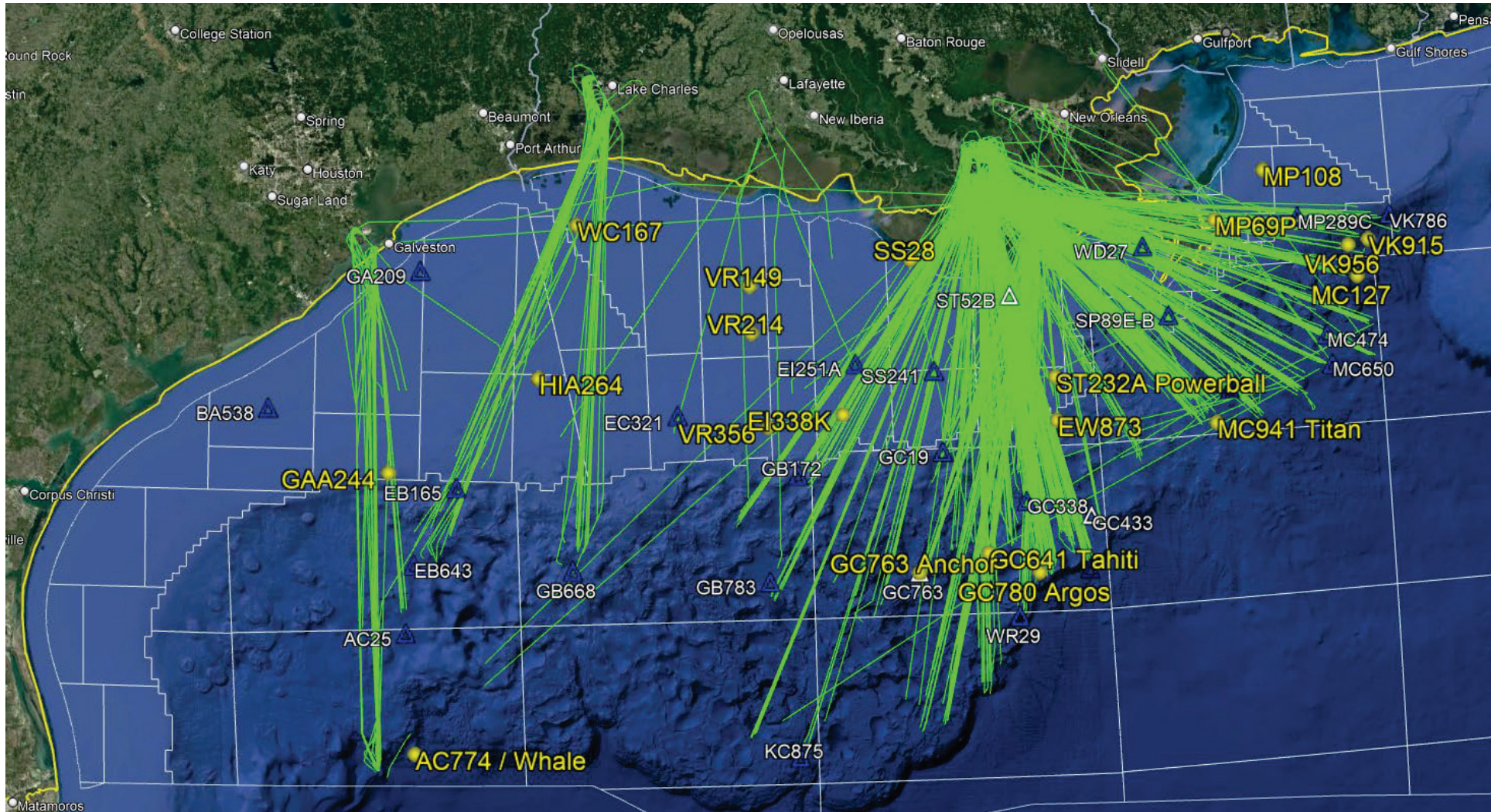


Projected AWOS Losses within 5 Years

1. Alaminos Canyon 25
2. East Breaks 165 - Seeking additional options
3. East Breaks 643A
4. East Cameron 321A
5. **Garden Banks 668**
6. Garden Banks 783
7. **Mustang Island 85A**
8. Main Pass 289C

- = No replacement identified, seeking replacement suggestions
- = Replacement not planned
- = Possible replacement identified

Candidate Sites Identified for AWOS Installation Within Next 5 Years

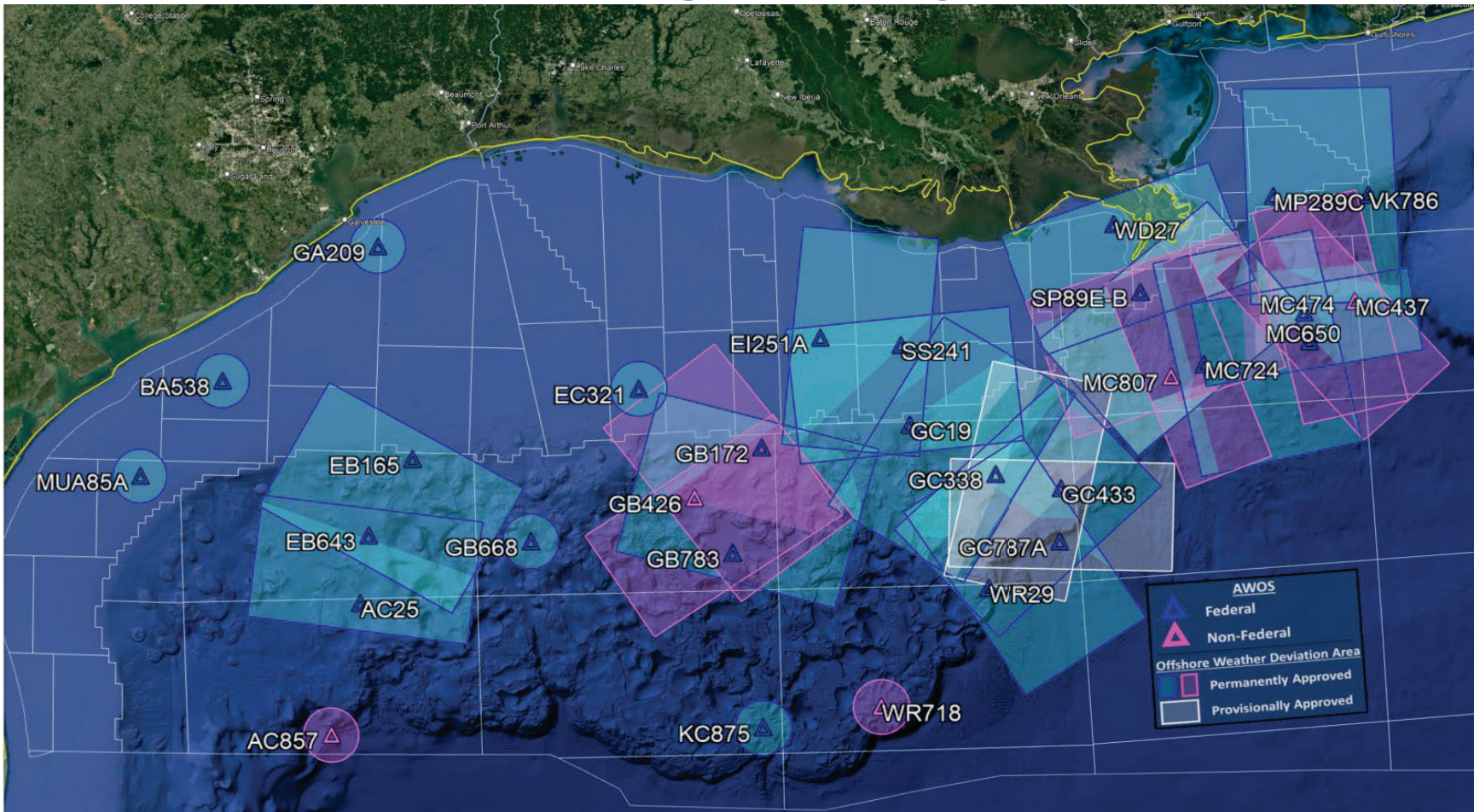


AWOS, ADS-B, & VHF Comm Coverage

William Majeau
Project Manager



AWOS Coverage – May 8, 2023

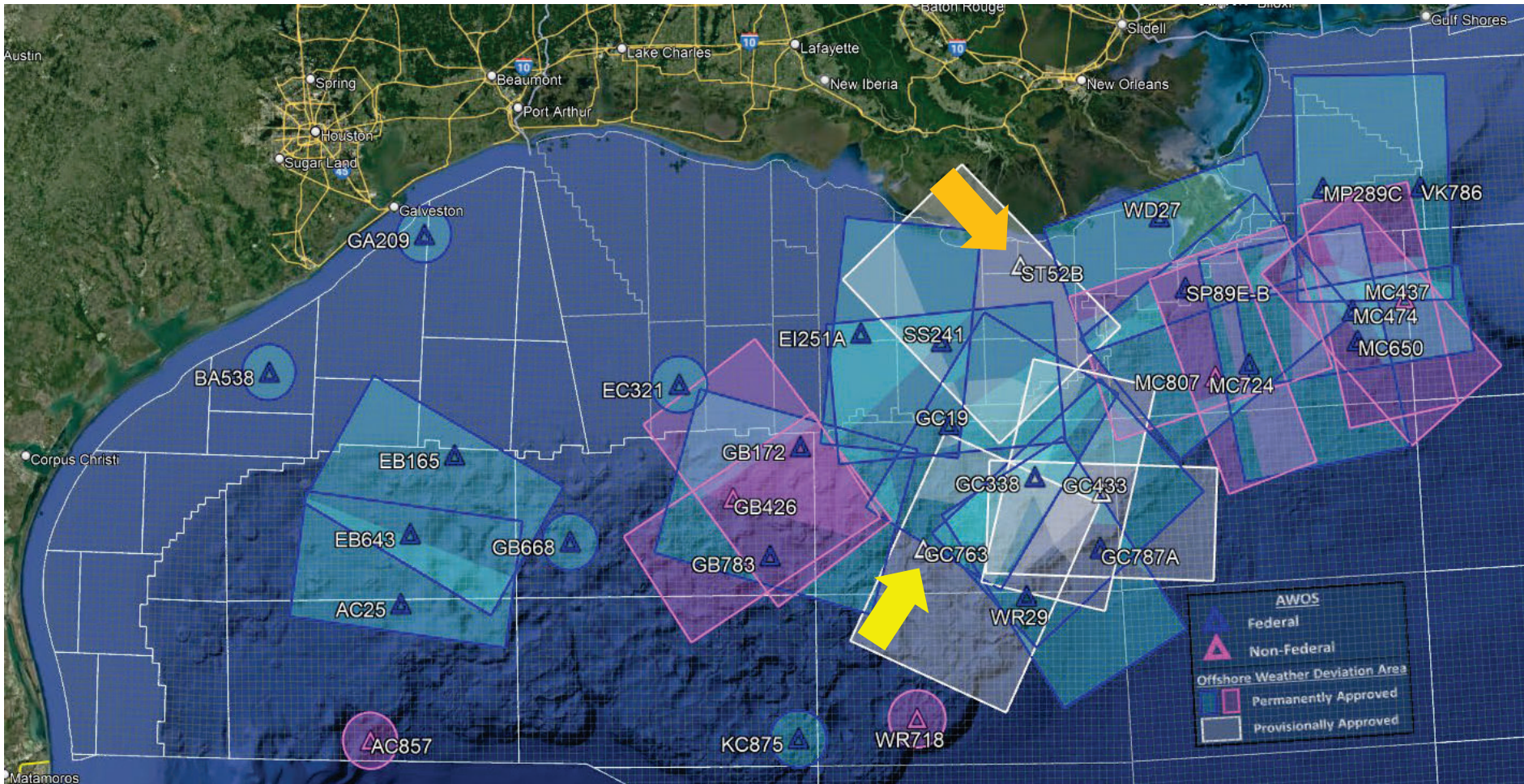


▲ Out of service due to hurricane damage
(none)

Federal AWOS in Operation*: 25/25

*Additional AWOS may be temporarily out of service due to required maintenance

AWOS Coverage – Oct 12, 2023

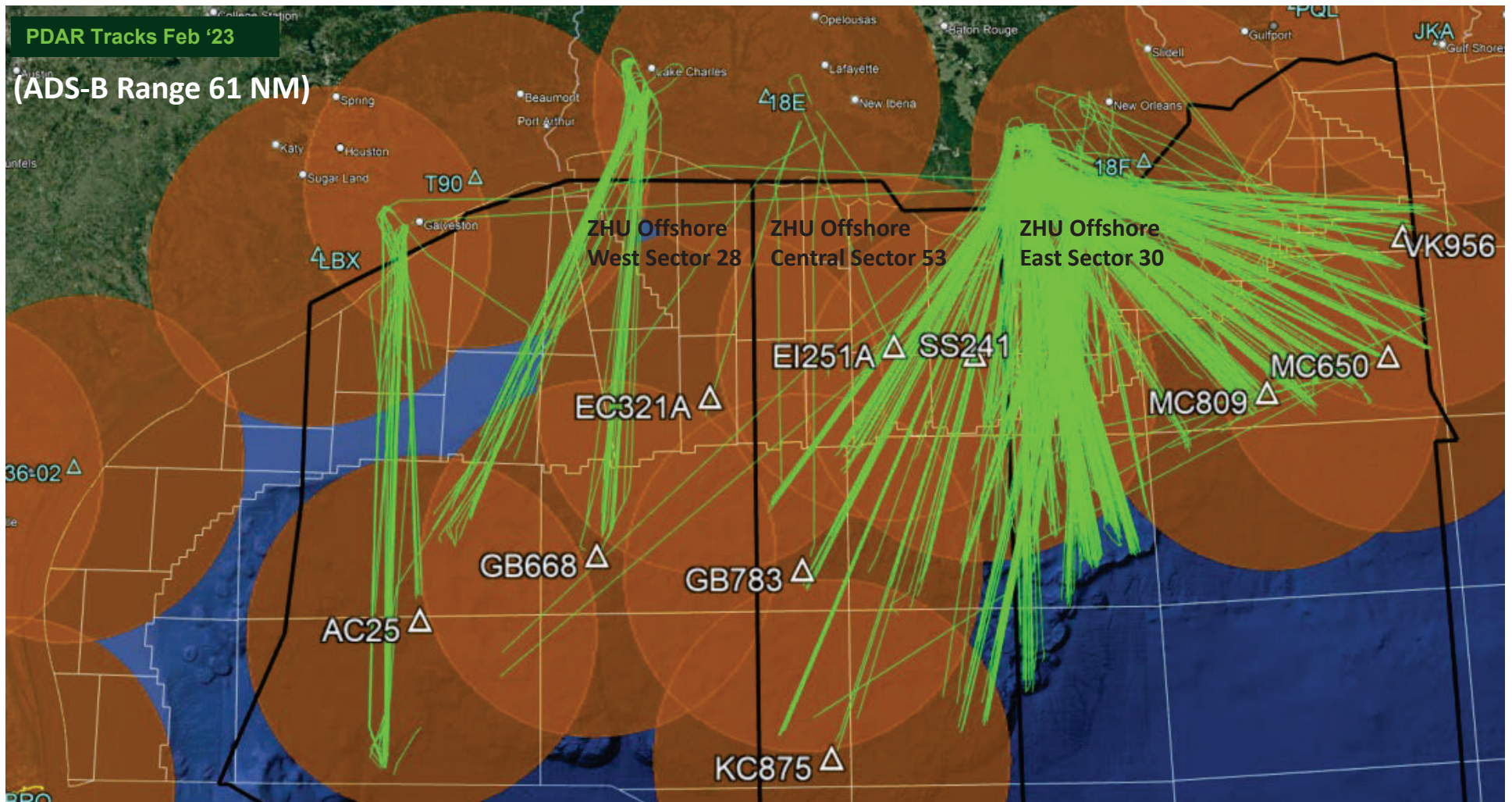


▲ Out of service due to hurricane damage
(none)

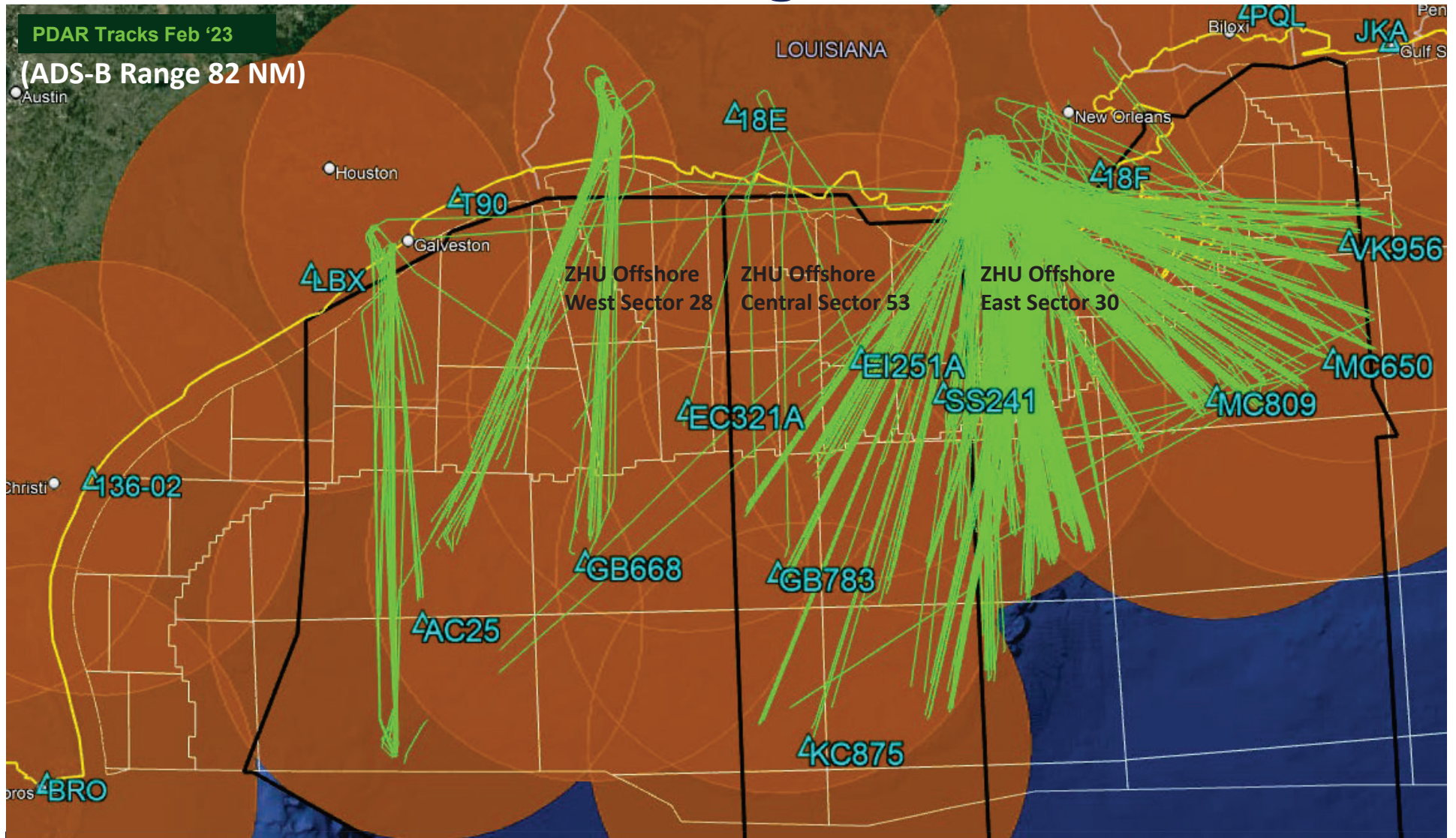
Federal AWOS Commissioned*: 27

*AWOS may be temporarily out of service due to required maintenance

Current ADS-B Coverage 1500' MSL



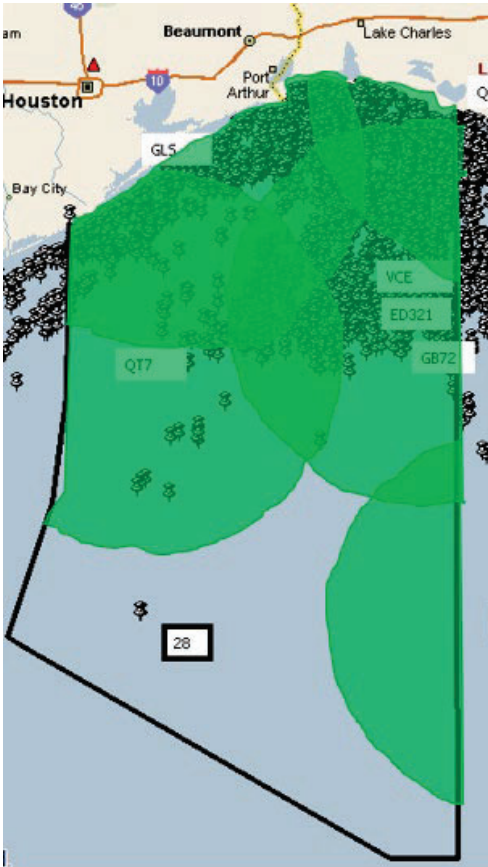
Current ADS-B Coverage 3000' MSL



VHF Comm Coverage 3,000' MSL

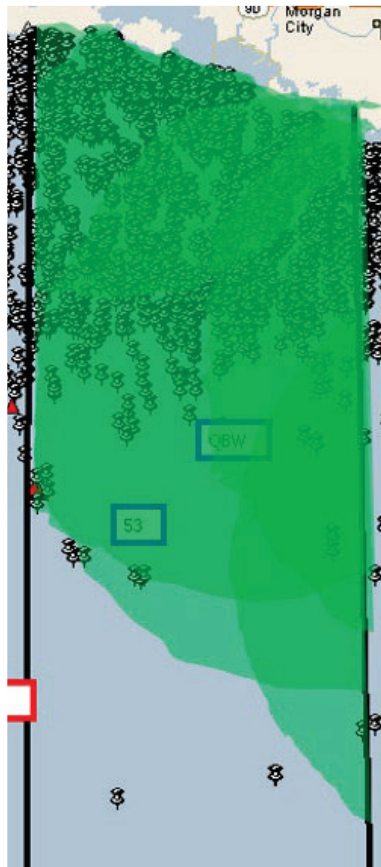
Offshore West / S28

GLS, QIC, QT7, EZP, 18H



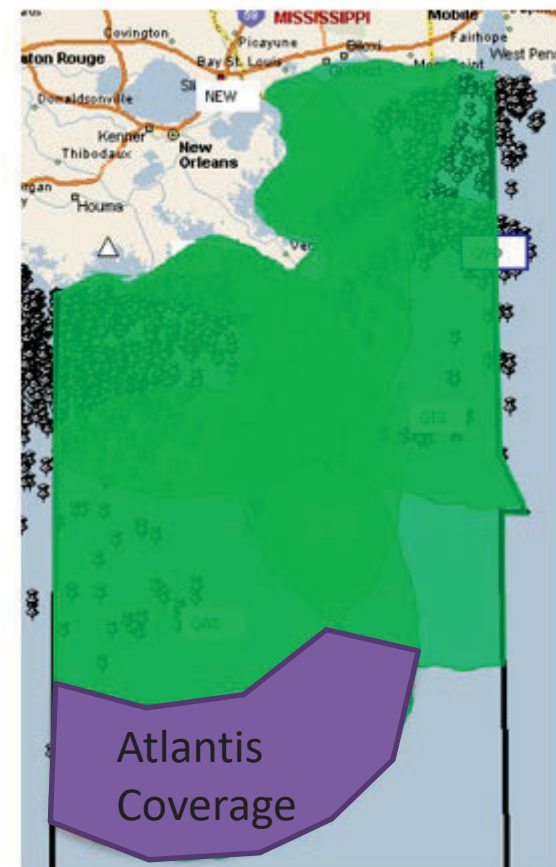
Offshore Central / S53

QIC, EKE, QA8, QBW, 18J



Offshore East / S30

GAO/GNI*, QA8, QVO, QIG, 18J



AIC Decisions

Colleen Ahlers
Implementation Lead



AIC Decision Status Updates

At recent AIC meetings, FAA and industry Stakeholders made the following decisions about AWOS coverage:

1. Decision to install AWOS at SS28P – Unanimous Decision to proceed. **Decision Closed**
2. Decision to install AWOS at MP69B – Unanimous Decision to proceed. **Decision Closed**
3. Decision to site survey ST232 for AWOS - Unanimous Decision to proceed. **Decision Closed**
4. Decision to site survey MC127 for AWOS - Unanimous Decision to proceed. **Decision Closed**
5. Decision to site survey VK956 for AWOS - Unanimous Decision to proceed. **Decision Closed**
6. *Decision to site survey GC613 for AWOS, ADS-B, VHF Comm - Unanimous Decision to proceed. **Decision Closed**
7. *Decision to site survey GC780 for AWOS, ADS-B, VHF Comm - Unanimous Decision to proceed. **Decision Closed**

* If GC613 and GC780 are both found to be feasible, then only one location will be selected

AIC Decisions

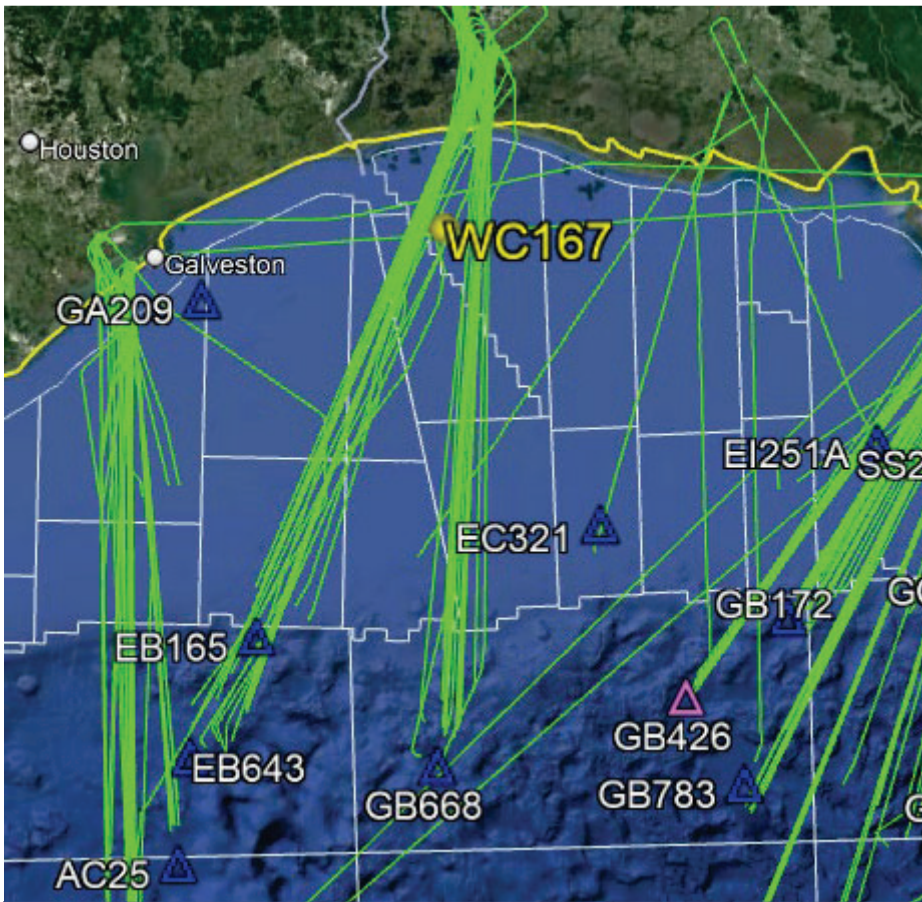
6 Decisions to propose to the AIC

- **3x AWOS Site Survey**
- **1x AWOS, ADS-B, RCAG Feasibility Study**
- **2x Installation Projects**



AIC Decision 1 of 6

Upon a successful assessment of initial technical feasibility, decision to site survey for AWOS at West Cameron 167:

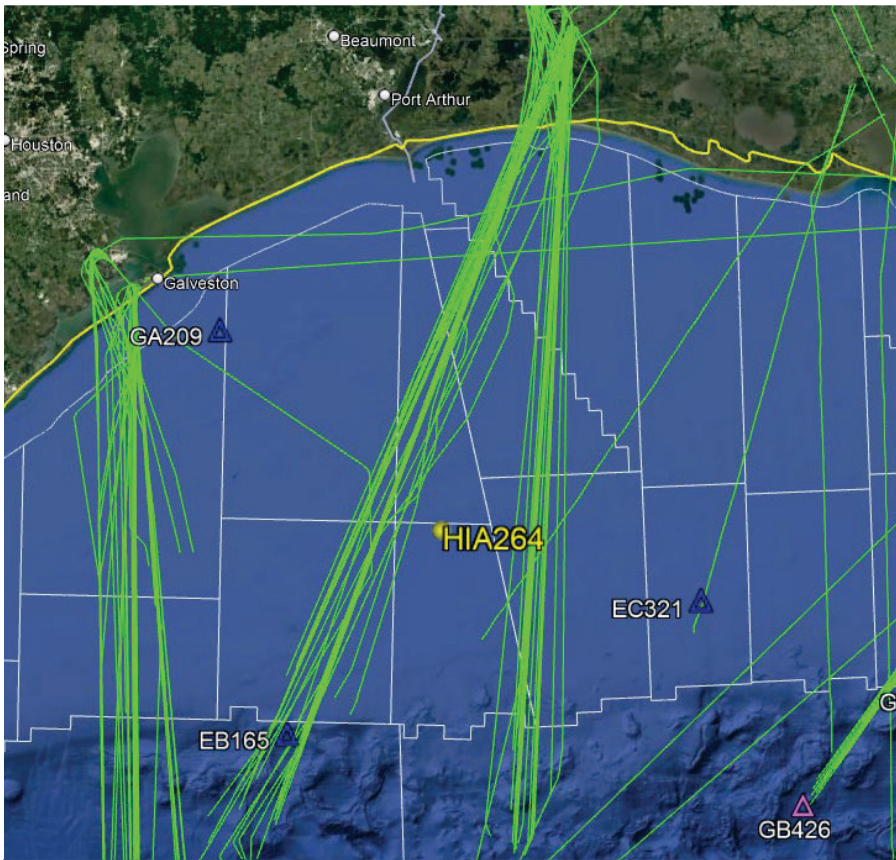


Benefit:

Provide primary coverage near-shore south of Cameron, LA – mainly supporting VFR traffic

AIC Decision 2 of 6

Upon a successful assessment of initial technical feasibility, decision to site survey for AWOS at High Island A264A:



Benefits:

Provide primary coverage mid-water south of Cameron, LA – mainly supporting VFR traffic

AIC Decision 3 of 6

Upon a successful assessment of initial technical feasibility, decision to site survey for AWOS at Vermillion 149:

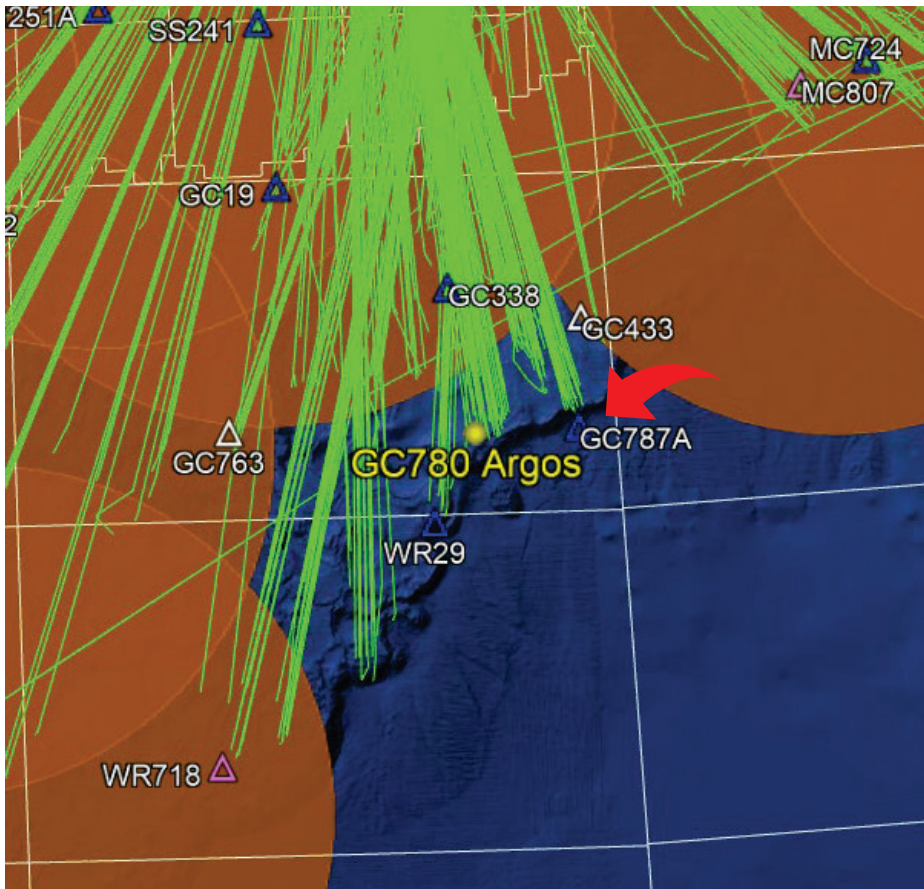


Benefits:

- Provide primary coverage mid-water south of Abbeville, LA – mainly supporting VFR traffic
- Replaces South Marsh 268

AIC Decision 4 of 6

Decision to conduct a feasibility study for ADS-B, AWOS, and VHF Comm at Green Canyon 780 / Argos:

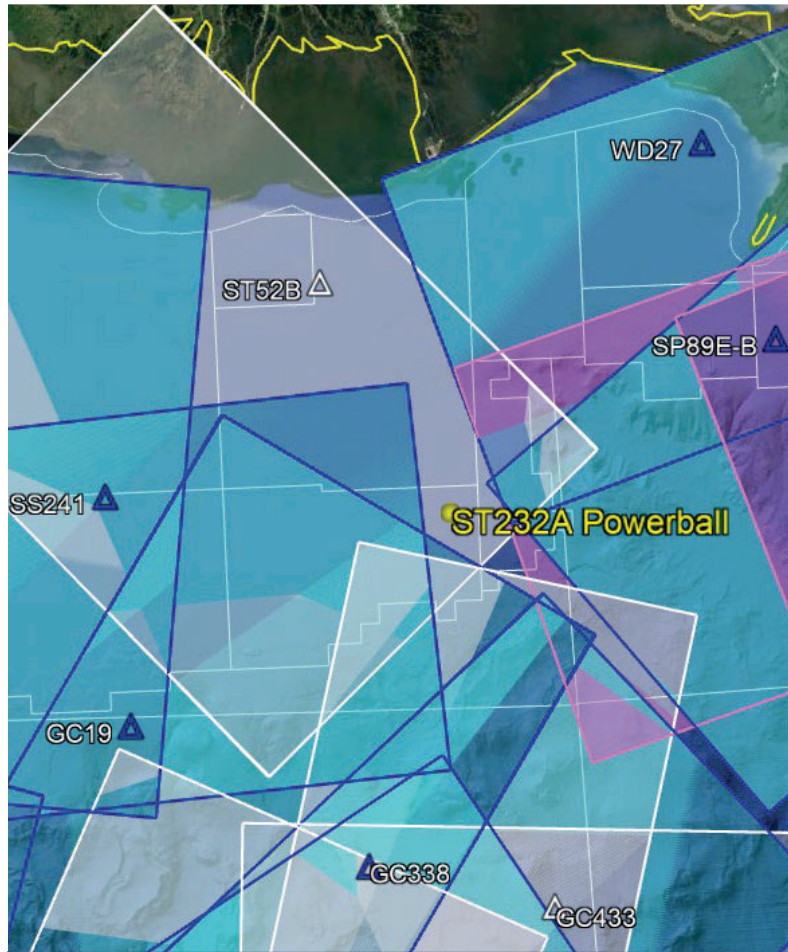


Benefits:

- Invest smaller funding amount to assess feasibility
- Candidate Site to replace infrastructure currently located at Green Canyon 787 / Atlantis
- Fill ADS-B coverage gap
- Replace aging VHF comm

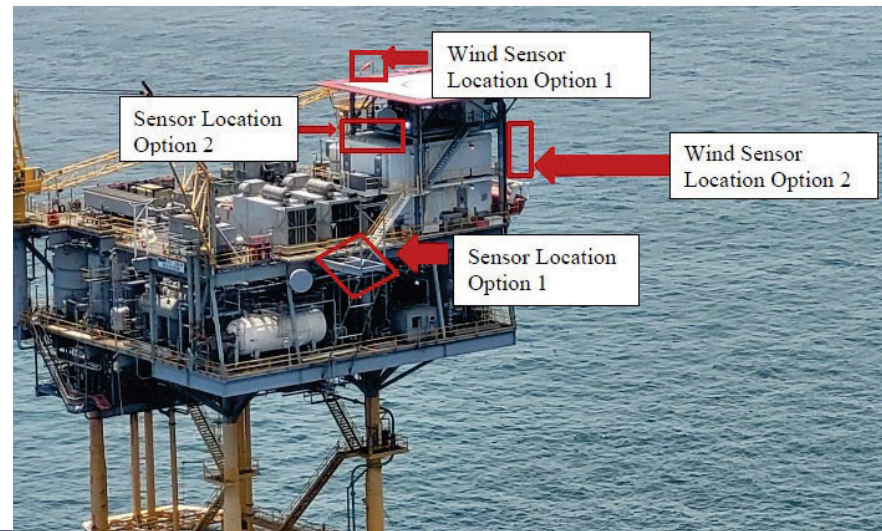
AIC Decision 5 of 6

Decision to Install AWOS at South Timbalier 232 / Powerball:



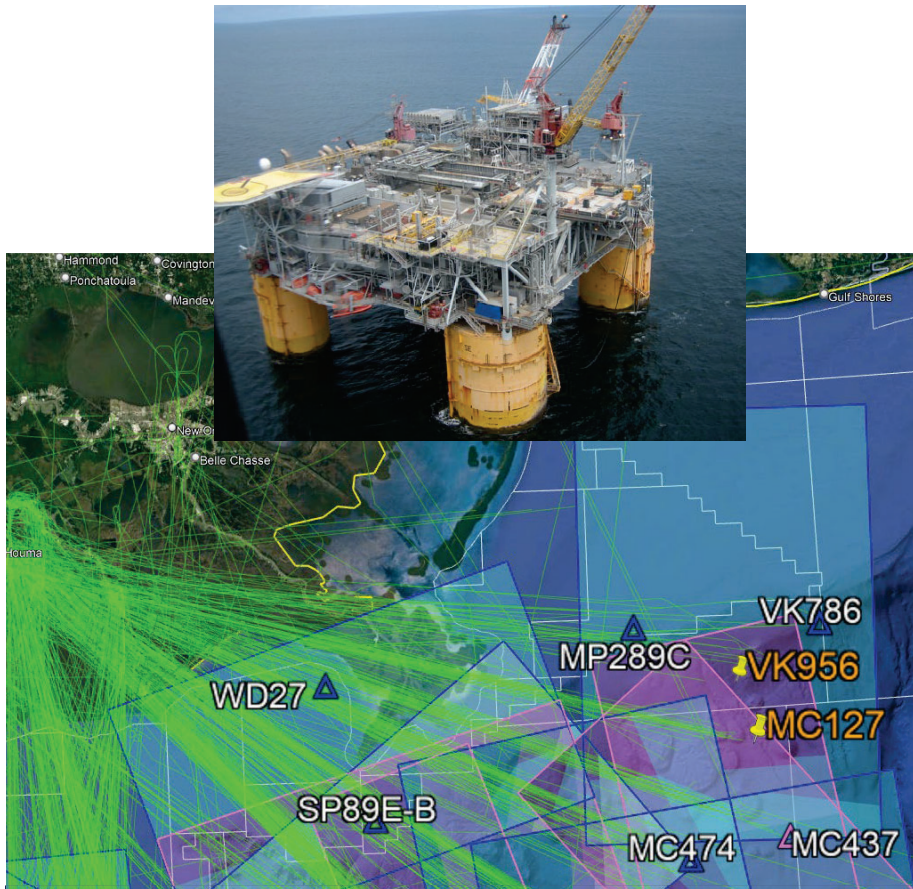
Benefits:

- Provide coverage redundancy in high traffic area south of Houma, LA
- Create 1 new weather box with South Timbalier 52



AIC Decision 6 of 6

Decision to install an AWOS and replace the ADS-B building and infrastructure at Viosca Knoll 956 / Ram Powell Platform:



Benefits: Supply redundant weather coverage; create up to 4 new weather boxes; offer potential opportunity to complete tech refresh of ADS-B and integrate AWOS into infrastructure design and implementation



Community Awareness

Colleen Ahlers & Billie (BJ) Dye

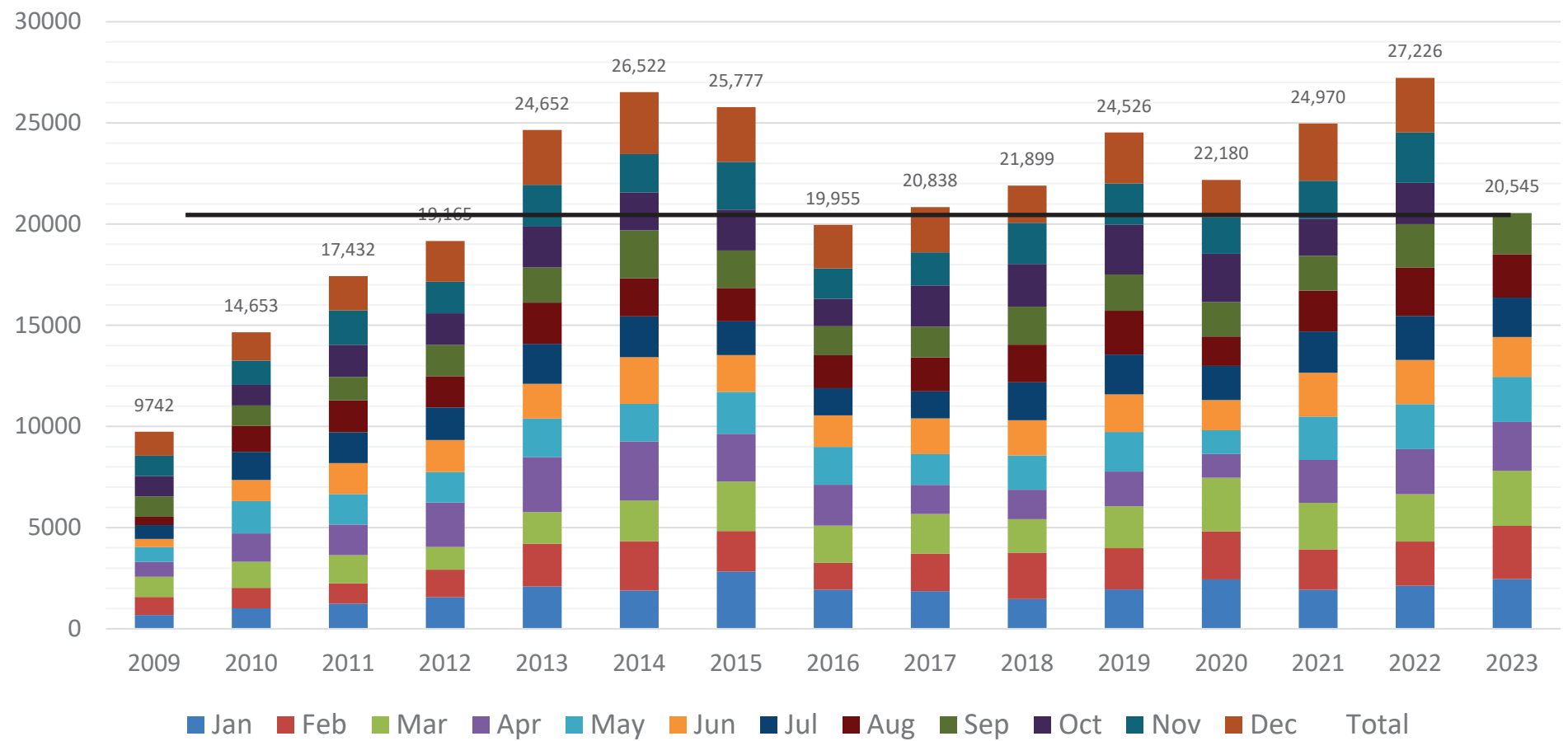
Implementation Lead

Gulf Coast Group District
Facilities Manager,
Technical Operations

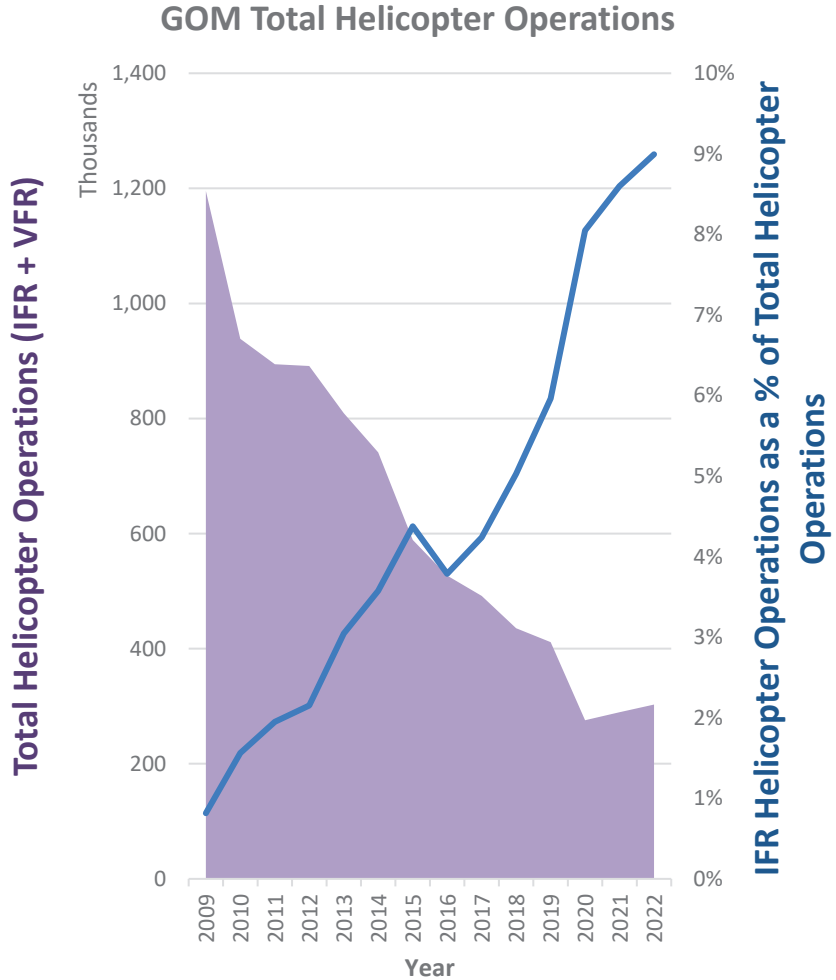
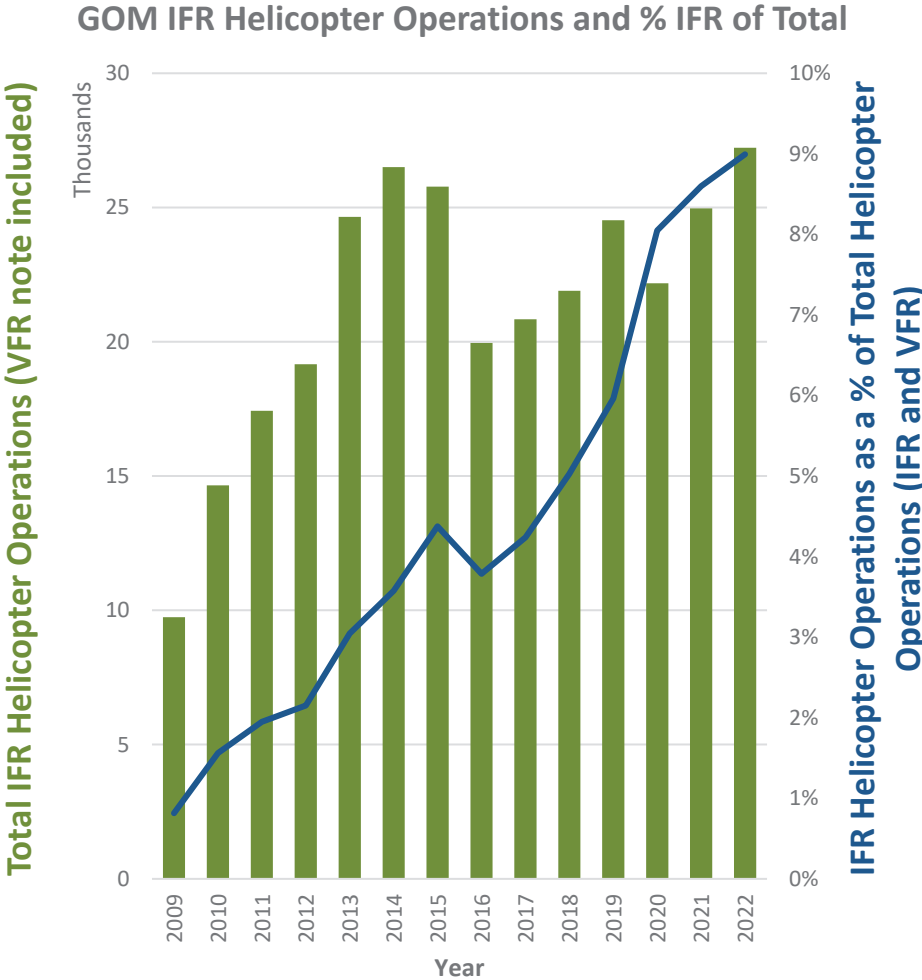


ZHU IFR Offshore Traffic Count Chart

IFR Offshore Helicopter Operations (ZHU), as of September 30, 2023



IFR Offshore Helicopter Traffic Trends



Community Awareness

An effort is under way to investigate and develop a plan for removal of DC BUS (battery banks) or battery charger on deployed VHF Comm assets with a primary and secondary availability of the platform's existing system.

Initiative would be to not replace DCBUS systems or batteries moving forward.
Bypass DCBUS or Charger systems if possible and remove equipment.

Benefits to Platform Owners:

- Eliminates associated hazardous material
- Reduces net weight of FAA equipment
- Regain useable space
- Decrease maintenance visits

Next Steps:

- Internal FAA Discussion
- Fact-Finding
- Outreach to Platform Owners

Battery Bank



Battery Charger



Community Awareness

1. Discussions with ForeFlight for enhancements to Gulf of Mexico AWOS features have stalled



Closing Comments

Rana Obeid

Project Lead



Closing Comments

FAA Infrastructure Status

- 2023 will be a very productive installation year! We will sustain / install:
 - 33 AWOS sites
 - 12 ADS-B sites
 - 11 VHF Comm sites

Closing Comments Continued...

1. **Houston Center (ZHU) Visit Coordination**
 - a. Reach out to us (Bob Herak)

2. **Resumed in-person outreach**
 - a. Helicopter operators – Ongoing
 - b. Energy companies – Ongoing
 - c. Industry conferences – NWS, HAI Heli Expo, OOC, COS

3. **Weather Box Expansion - Supporting Flight Standards (AFS)**

4. **Aggressive efforts to install new locations and identify locations for possible equipment installations**
 - a. 3 Agreements in coordination = 3 projects to start soon!
 - b. 5 site survey efforts

FAA OIM^e Team

Offshore Infrastructure Management and Engineering Team

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