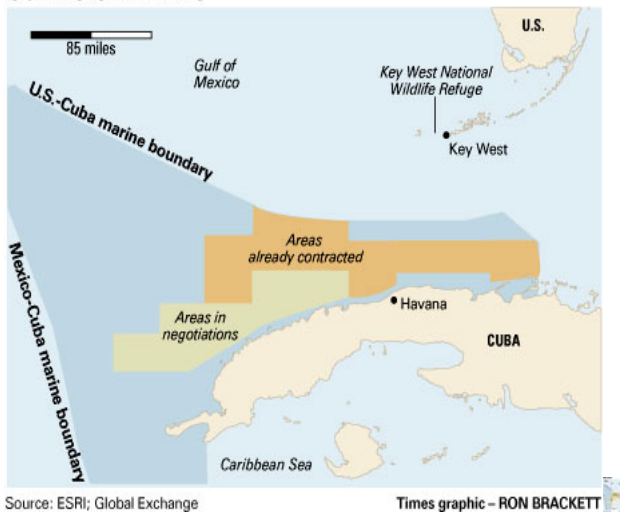


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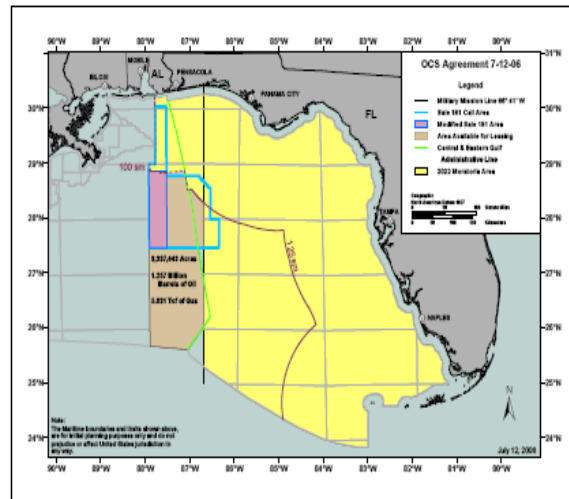
Four suggested recommendations to mitigate risks related to windstorms and hurricanes:

- 1) Pass a Memorial by the Florida Legislature in support of the National Hurricane Research Initiative (NHRI) and Hurricane Intensity Forecast Improvements and impacts Projections (HiFi). The rationale is that there is an urgent and critical need for improved hurricane forecasting and warning. Both the National Science Board's report of January 12, 2007 entitled, "*Hurricane Warning: The Critical Need for a National Hurricane Research Initiative*" dated (see: <http://www.nsf.gov/nsb/committees/hurricane/initiative.pdf>) and the HiFi materials make sufficient supportive arguments (see materials provided today by Dr. Greg Holland and in the HiFi web site: <http://www.nova.edu/ocean/hifi/index.html>).
- 2) Develop a HiFi Implementation Plan with the HiFi Principal Investigators (Drs. Greg Holland, Roger Lukas, and Alex Soloviev) and other scientists through a grant to the HiFi Regional Project Office at Nova Southeastern University.
- 3) Define potential impacts of offshore oil and gas development on Florida's coastline via funding the DIOOS planning and initial efforts. The FY 2007-2008 Florida Oceans and Coastal Resources Council Annual Science Research Plan (http://www.floridaoceanscouncil.org/meetings/files/Research_Plan_FY07-08.pdf) includes, as a priority (48th out of 50), the efforts necessary to define potential impacts of offshore oil and gas development on Florida's coastline with an emphasis on the effects on fish, wildlife and their habitats. A Drilling Impacts Ocean Observing System (DIOOS) has been proposed to respond to the hurricane and other threats to Florida's ecosystem posed by the expansion of oil and gas drilling recently authorized in the Gulf of Mexico (see: [H.R. 6111](http://www.congress.gov/110/hr/6111/) and <http://blog.nam.org/archives/OCS%20Map%207-12-06.pdf>) and the decision last February 2005 to open the northern coastal waters of Cuba to oil and gas drilling operations (http://www.sptimes.com/2006/05/08/Worldandnation/Cuba_seeks_oil_near_K.shtml).

CUBA'S OIL FIELDS



AUTHORIZED DRILLING IN THE GULF OF MEXICO LOOP



- 4) Develop a Florida Hurricane and Tornado Warning Improvement Program (Florida HTWIP). This would be an ongoing effort to identify strategies and research initiatives to reduce Florida's windstorm and hurricane risks, losses, and the related insurance rates and other hurricane related threats to the Florida economy. Such work, such as the further study of Energetic Internal Oscillations in the Straits of Florida or similar observational tools, would be reviewed by the Division of Emergency Management and other governmental entities and recommended for state support or would be recommended as a state-supported federally funded initiative. A report would be made each year to the Governor and the Legislature on how best to study and reduce Florida's windstorm and hurricane risks, losses, and the related insurance rates and other hurricane related threats to the Florida economy.