



This is exactly the justification that Secretary Zinke used to carve Florida's Gulf coast out of the Trump Administration's proposal. He pointed out that other states like Louisiana, are 'working coasts' that are "very much different than a recreation-centric coast that's in Florida." And it was for the very reasons I've articulated today, and Secretary Zinke so well expressed when exempting Florida from the Administration's proposal, that I strongly oppose the Trump changes. Should the Administration insist and proceed with what the overwhelming majority of my constituents and I believe is a very bad idea, then it should carve out the invaluable, highly protected and cherished Delaware coast and similar areas along the Atlantic from any efforts to change the current plan.

As they say, "what's good for the goose, is good for the gander." Secretary Zinke has clearly established in Florida the standard that should apply to any coastal additions to the five-year offshore leasing plan: if it's coastline where natural values, fishing, recreation, tourism and other uses yield greater economic value, and where local communities are solidly opposed, then do not add them to any oil and gas leasing area. This rule is especially easy to apply at a time where our need for these additional energy resources is minimal.