

Ocean Planning Committee (OPC) focus areas

- Coordination and Information Sharing for Ocean Planning Issues
- Best Practices for Ocean Permitting and Management
- Northeast Ocean Data Portal

Coordination and Information Sharing

Offshore Wind Transmission Webinar Series

- Recordings and materials for Jan/Feb webinars:
<https://neoceanplanning.org/issues/offshore-transmission/>
- Potential next steps:
 - Informal discussions between energy/coastal/resource agencies
 - Informational webinars - subsea cable maintenance, siting/installation issues, hard substrate installation, drilling fluids, EMF considerations
 - Data to support cable siting – seafloor habitat; distribution of species sensitive to cable installations
 - National outreach on regional transmission issues

Coordination and Information Sharing

Aquaculture

- Recordings and materials for October 2020 webinar on Aquaculture Opportunity Areas: <https://neoceanplanning.org/news/nroc-ocean-planning-committee-webinar-aquaculture-opportunity-areas-recording-and-slides-now-available/>
- Potential upcoming webinar on federal agency permitting responsibilities

DRAFT Best Practices for Ocean Permitting and Management Processes

1. Outreach and engagement

- Interactive maps depicting boundaries of proposed agency actions on the Northeast Ocean Data Portal
- Guidance on public notification about projects
- Summary of resources to learn more about ongoing projects and related maritime operations

DRAFT Best Practices for Ocean Permitting and Management Processes

2. Agency and Interjurisdictional Coordination

- Identify emerging issues and provide opportunities via NROC for coordination and information sharing
- Identify opportunities to enhance federal agency consultation with tribal governments
- Identify opportunities to enhance coordination between federal and state governments
- Identify opportunities to enhance coordination among federal agencies

DRAFT Best Practices for Ocean Permitting and Management Processes

3. Use of Data and Information

- Develop communication materials identifying data sources and tools to inform decision making and how they can be used at different stages of the regulatory process
- Integrate data collected by project proponents into regional data products and provide access to data collections, as appropriate
- Engage topical experts to inform data requirements and review draft products
- Permitting and licensing agencies encourage use of Northeast Ocean Data Portal as one tool to inform project outreach, coordination, and pre-application materials

DRAFT Best Practices for Ocean Permitting and Management Processes

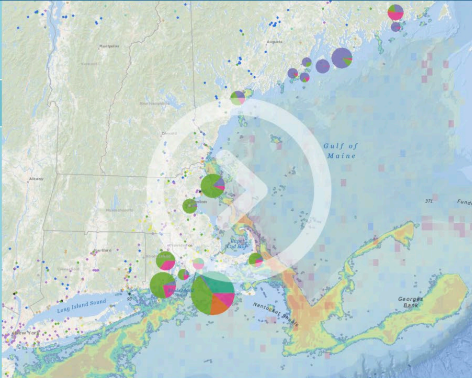
4. Pre-Application

- Develop web pages for project proponents to obtain guidance on pre-application, use of data, and stakeholder engagement
- During a pre-application meeting, create a shared understanding of the regulatory process, including consultations, stakeholder engagement, and timelines

DATA EXPLORER

Define and view any combination of data on one map

LAUNCH DATA EXPLORER



NEWS

Jun 12, 2020
New 2018 and 2019 Vessel Traffic Data, Maps, and Tools Now Available on Northeast Ocean Data Portal

Jun 11, 2020
Supplement to Vineyard Wind 1 Draft Environmental Impact Statement now available for public comment

Jun 8, 2020
Attend a Portal webinar on June 23 hosted by OneNOAA Science Seminar Series

News Archives
List of Data Updates


MAP GALLERIES



Offshore Wind

Maps on current issues

VIDEO TOUR



Introduction to the Northeast Ocean Data Portal

See more tutorials

FOLLOW US

Northeast Ocean Data @NEOceanData
Want to view maps of vessel traffic data by month instead of year, including our newly released 2018 and 2019 data? <https://t.co/TUkVq95Wh>

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Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (@BOEM_DOI) has released a Supplement to its Draft Environmental Impact Statement. <https://t.co/lCzhipUWZ>



THEME MAPS

View curated maps and data on key topics

- Marine Life & Habitat
Mammals & Turtles // Fish // Birds // Habitat
- Commercial Fishing
- Marine Transportation
- Energy & Infrastructure
- Aquaculture
- Recreation
- Restoration
- Cultural Resources
- National Security
- Water Quality

Bathymetry // Eelgrass // Habitat Classification

CASE STUDIES

- U.S. Navy Uses Data Portal to Select Test Site for Unmanned Underwater Vehicle**
Marine Transportation - Recreation
- Coast Guard Uses Data Portal in Waterways Management in the Northeast**
Commercial Fishing - Marine Transportation
- Inspiring K-12 Students to Investigate the Ocean Ecosystem and Ocean Uses**
Aquaculture - Commercial Fishing - Energy and Infrastructure - Marine Life - Marine Transportation - Recreation

More Case Studies

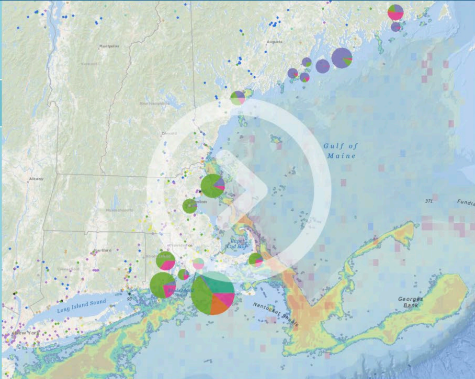
Northeast Ocean Data Portal

- Source of over 5,000 map products showing the footprint and changes over time for economic activities and ecological resources
- Products derived from federal, state, tribal, research/academic, and stakeholder sources
- Informed and vetted by regional experts, agencies, and stakeholders
- Multiple ways to obtain data and information

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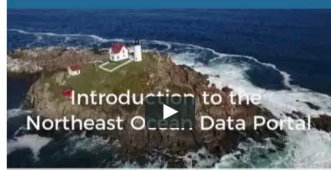
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 **Inspiring K-12 Students to Investigate the Ocean Ecosystem and Ocean Uses**
Aquaculture - Commercial Fishing - Energy and Infrastructure - Marine Life - Marine Transportation - Recreation

More Case Studies

Northeast Ocean Data Portal

Ocean Activities and Economics Themes

- Administrative & management areas
- Commercial fishing
- Aquaculture
- Energy
- Marine transportation & maritime
- National security
- Recreation
- Culture
- Socioeconomic

Ocean Resources and Conditions Themes

- Marine mammals & sea turtles
- Fish
- Birds
- Habitat & other marine life
- Oceanography
- Bathymetry
- Geology, sand & sediment
- Water quality

Current Issues

- Quick access to maps and information for agency actions and proposed projects
- Currently:
 - Offshore wind
 - Offshore disposal (archived)
 - Deep sea corals
- Adding:
 - Marine transportation – proposed anchorages; port access route studies (PARS)
 - USACE public notices
 - Aquaculture?

NORTHEAST OCEAN DATA
Maps and Data for Ocean Planning in the Northeastern United States

HOME WHAT'S NEW? **CURRENT ISSUES** THEME MAPS DATA EXPLORER DOWNLOADS ABOUT

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NEWS

Apr 6, 2021
April 2021 Newsletter

Mar 30, 2021
BOEM announces Wind Energy Areas in New York Bight

Mar 23, 2021
Portal expands and re-organizes its collection of fisheries management maps

News Archives
List of Data Updates

MAP GALLERIES

Offshore Wind

Maps on current issues

Energy & Infrastructure

- Existing infrastructure - cables, pipelines, LNG terminals, onshore transmission
- Planning areas:
 - Wind energy areas and leases
 - Offshore wind project footprint and turbine layout when project gets to certain stage of regulatory process
 - Also pending hydrokinetic projects
- Directory of offshore wind leases, projects, their status, and links to important information and public meetings / comment opportunities
- Reviewed and informed by states, federal agencies, and industry



OFFSHORE WIND PROJECTS

The purpose of this web page is to describe the status of and provide access to more information for individual offshore wind energy projects from Maine to northern North Carolina, using publicly available resources.

For a series of maps related to offshore wind in the Northeast, visit the [Offshore Wind Map Gallery](#).

The U.S. Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) is the lead federal agency authorized to issue leases, easements, and rights of way to allow for renewable energy development on the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS). BOEM describes four distinct phases of their renewable energy program: planning, leasing, site assessment, and construction and operations, with stakeholders being engaged throughout the process. For more detail about these phases, see BOEM's page on [Renewable Energy Regulatory Framework and Guidelines](#). Other entities, including states, also have roles in the development and permitting process, which is beyond the scope of this web page.

1. Planning & Analysis (~2 years)

2. Leasing (~1-2 years)

3. Site Assessment (up to 5 years)

4. Construction & Operations (~2 years) (+25)

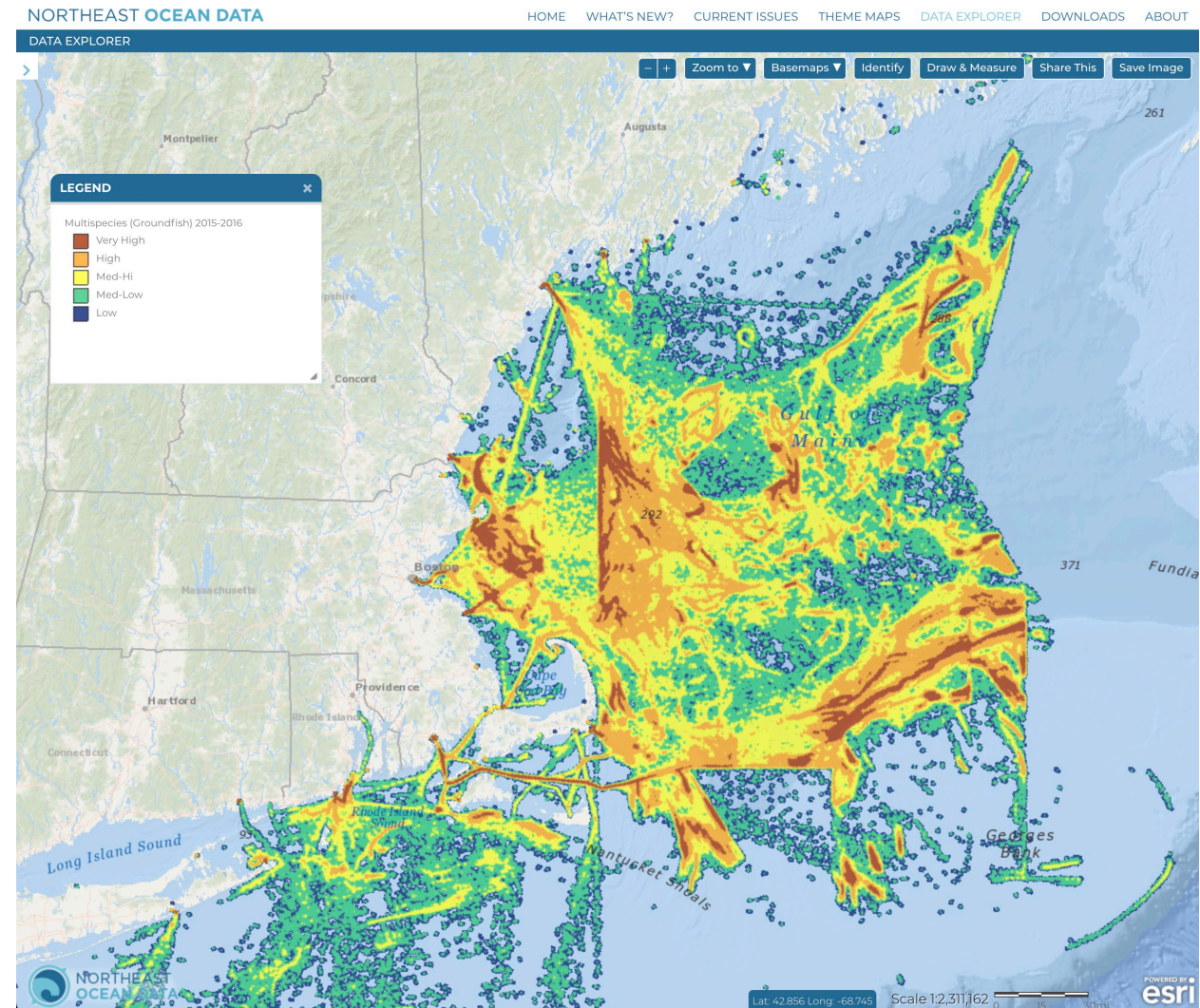
Operational Projects and Projects Under Review (last edit: April 5, 2021)

This information is derived from public sources including BOEM's website and the websites of individual offshore wind developers.

PROJECT	1. Planning & Analysis	2. Leasing	3. Site Assessment	4. Construction & Operations
Block Island Wind Farm (State Lease; Deepwater Wind New England, LLC)	✓	✓	✓	A-C
Coastal Virginia Offshore Wind (Research Lease; OCS-A 0497)	✓	✓	✓	A-C
Vineyard Wind (Vineyard Wind LLC; OCS-A 0501)	✓	✓	✓	A-D
South Fork Wind Farm (Deepwater Wind South Fork LLC; OCS-A 0517)	✓	✓	✓	A-C
Ocean Wind (Ocean Wind LLC; OCS-A 0498)	✓	✓	✓	A-B
Revolution Wind (DWW Rev I, LLC; OCS-A 0486)	✓	✓	✓	A
Bay State Wind (Bay State Wind LLC; OCS-A 0500)	✓	✓	✓	A
Empire Wind (Equinor Wind US LLC; OCS-A 0512)	✓	✓	✓	A
Skipjack Wind Farm (Skipjack Offshore Energy LLC; OCS-A 0519)	✓	✓	✓	A
US Wind (US Wind, Inc.; OCS-A 0490)	✓	✓	✓	A
Kitty Hawk (Avangrid Renewables, LLC; OCS-A 0508)	✓	✓	✓	
Sunrise Wind (Orsted & Eversource; OCS-A 0487)	✓	✓	✓	
Mayflower Wind (Mayflower Wind Energy LLC; OCS-A 0521)	✓	✓	✓	
Beacon Wind (Equinor Wind US LLC; OCS-A 520)	✓	✓	✓	
Park City Wind (Vineyard Wind, LLC; OCS-A 0501)	✓	✓	✓	
Constitution Wind (Orsted & Eversource)	✓	✓		
Garden State Offshore Energy (Garden State Offshore Energy LLC; OCS-A 0482)	✓	✓		
Boardwalk Wind (Equinor Wind US LLC; OCS-A 0512)	✓	✓		

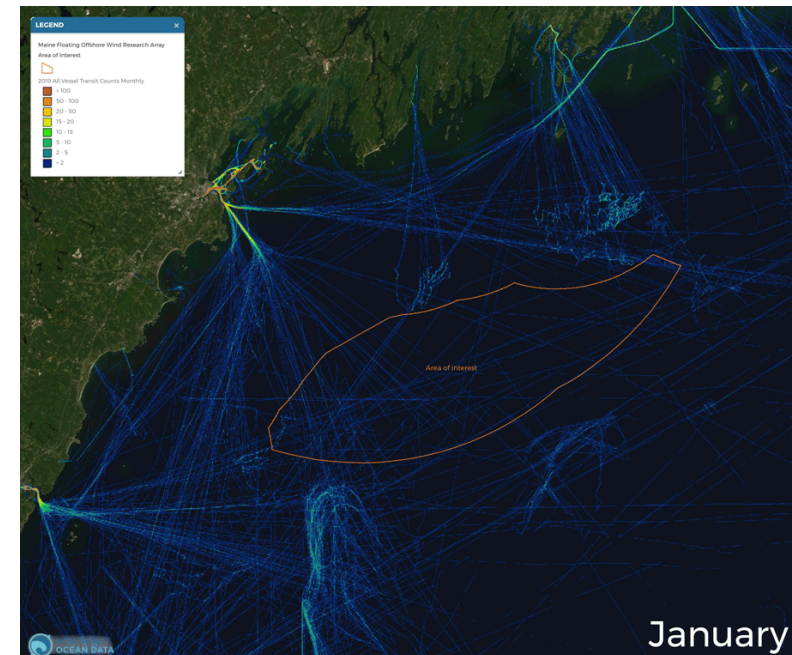
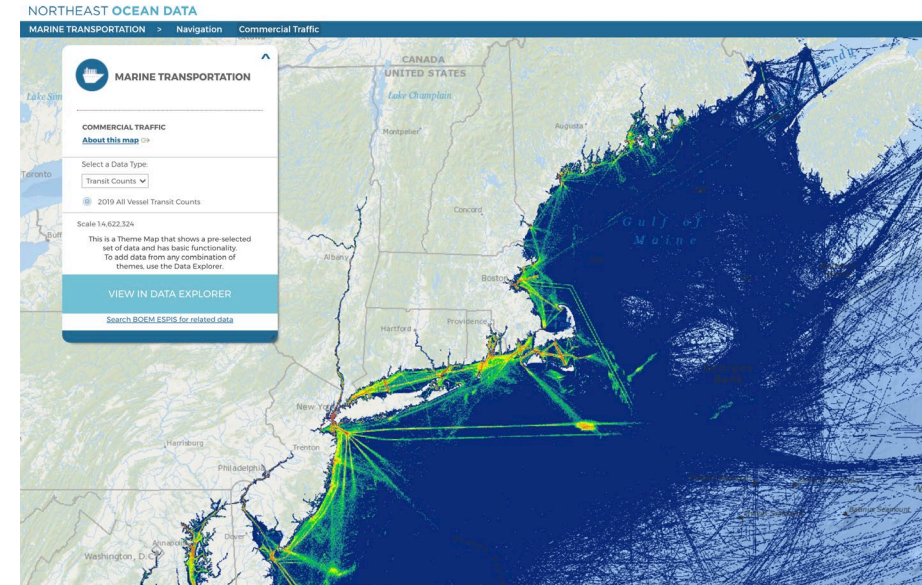
Commercial fishing

- Current data:
 - Fishing (Communities at Sea based on VTR) and fishing vessel transit (VMS) activity by fishery and gear type
 - Fisheries management areas
- Recent and pending additions:
 - More comprehensive set of management areas
 - Lobster data from Maine
- Recommendations from project with RODA
 - Updating VMS to match fishing season
 - Considering how to integrate NMFS Fishing Footprints
 - Potential reorganization of all data by fishery



Marine Transportation

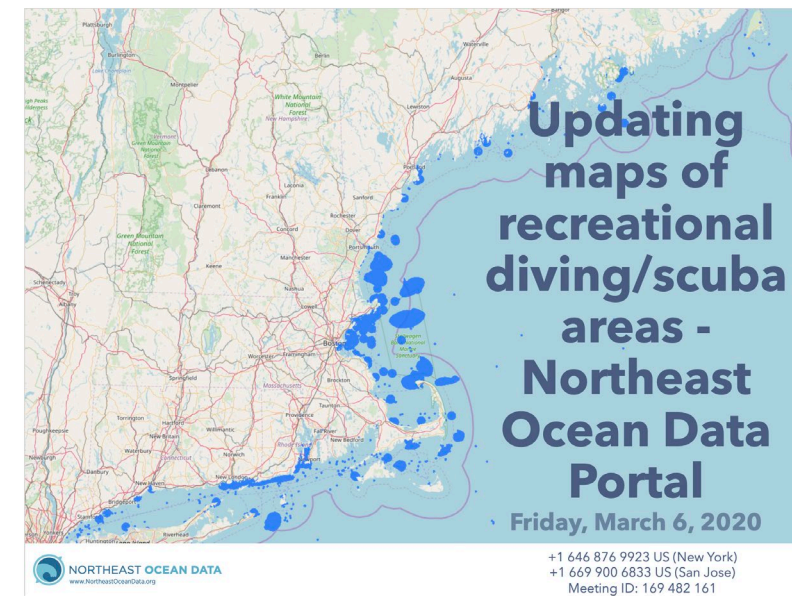
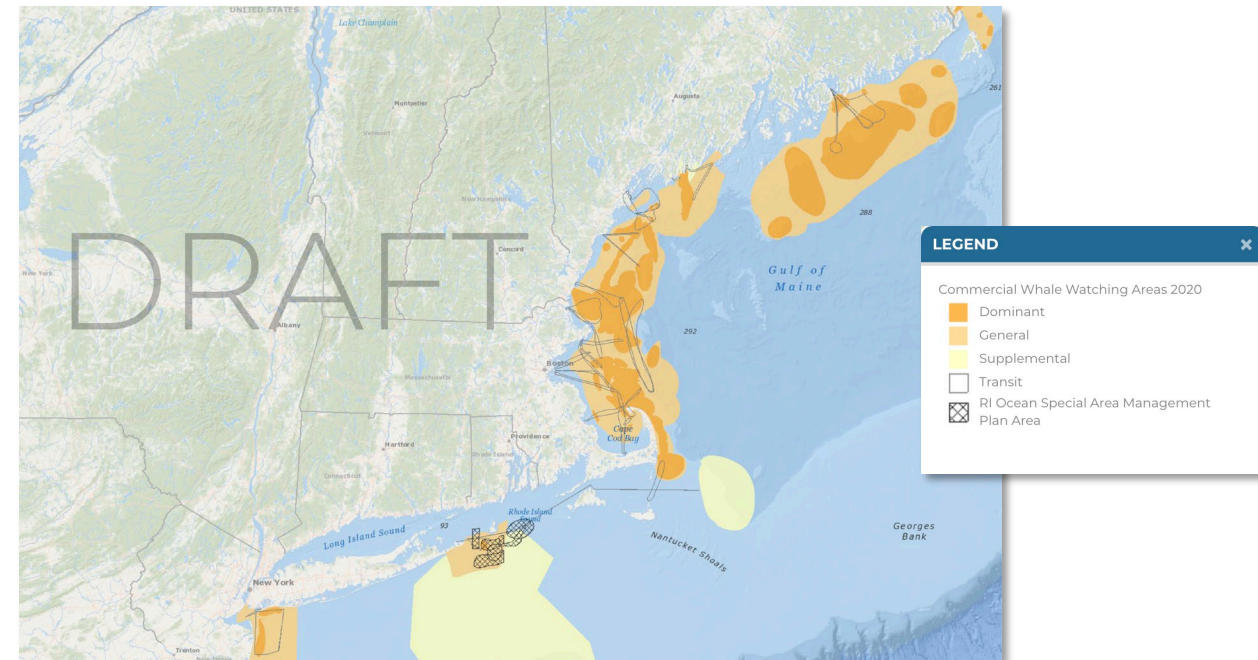
- Ports, navigation, vessel traffic, and proposed areas and studies
- Monthly vessel traffic by vessel type and year (2013-2019); 2020 in progress
 - Cargo
 - Passenger
 - Tug-tow
 - Fishing
 - Tanker
 - Pleasure craft
- Outreach to USCG, NOAA, BOEM, port operators groups, and safety and security forums



Gulf of Maine
Floating Offshore
Wind Research Array
Area of Interest
with 2019 All Vessel
Traffic, Monthly

Recreation

- Recreational boating, SCUBA, whale watching, coastal recreation areas
- Pending updates to SCUBA and whale watching activity based on feedback from industry webinars in 2020

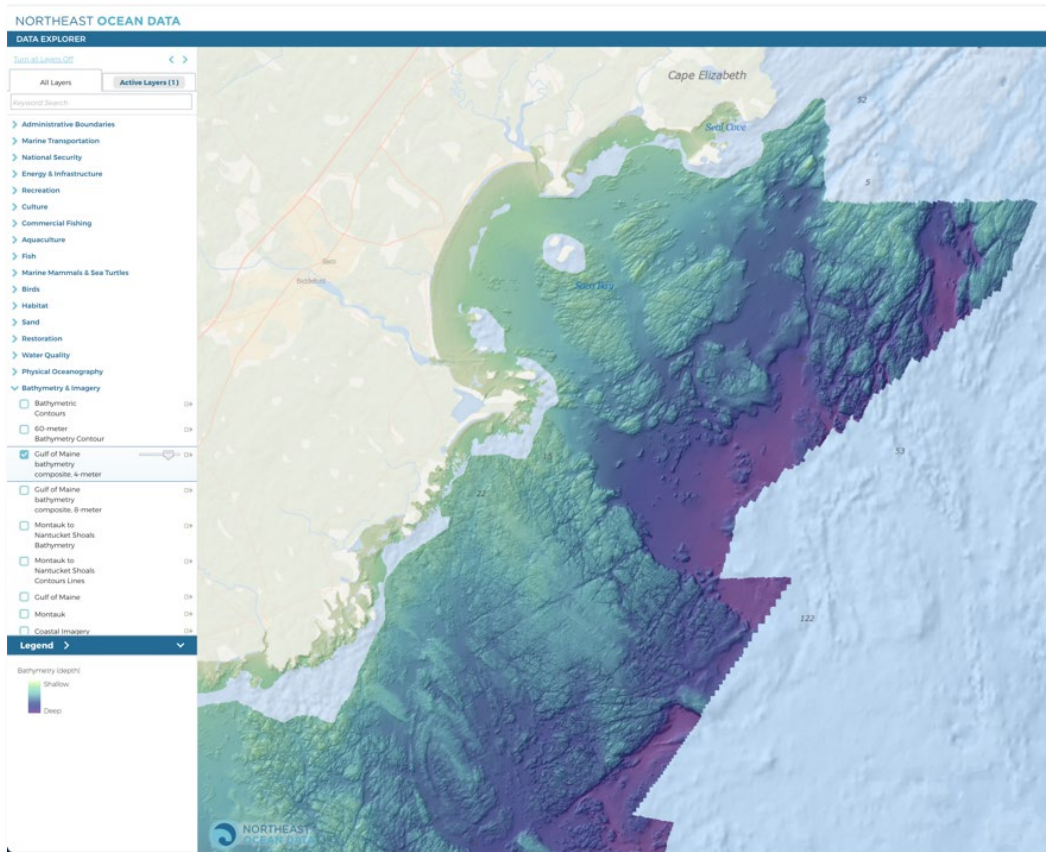


NROC Seafloor Habitat Data Work Group

Project: Developing standard approaches to synthesizing, visualizing, and disseminating high-resolution acoustic and imagery data to advance benthic habitat mapping in the wind energy areas of the Northeast Funding: To INSPIRE Environmental from: MassCEC, BOEM, RI DEM

Project outputs

1. Standards for a set of specific habitat data products relative to the various phases of offshore wind development and operation (pre-application, environmental impact review, monitoring)
2. Improved understanding of habitat distributions across the region
3. Use Northeast Ocean Data Portal to disseminate standard set of intermediate scale habitat data products for each project



NROC Seafloor Habitat Data Work Group

Jan 22: Work Group Kickoff Meeting

Feb – April: Discussions with Work Group members to identify specific benefits of the project to offshore wind companies and agencies and potential mechanisms for data sharing

Next: Articulate specific benefits, potential standard data types/products, examples of how high-resolution data would be used/integrated

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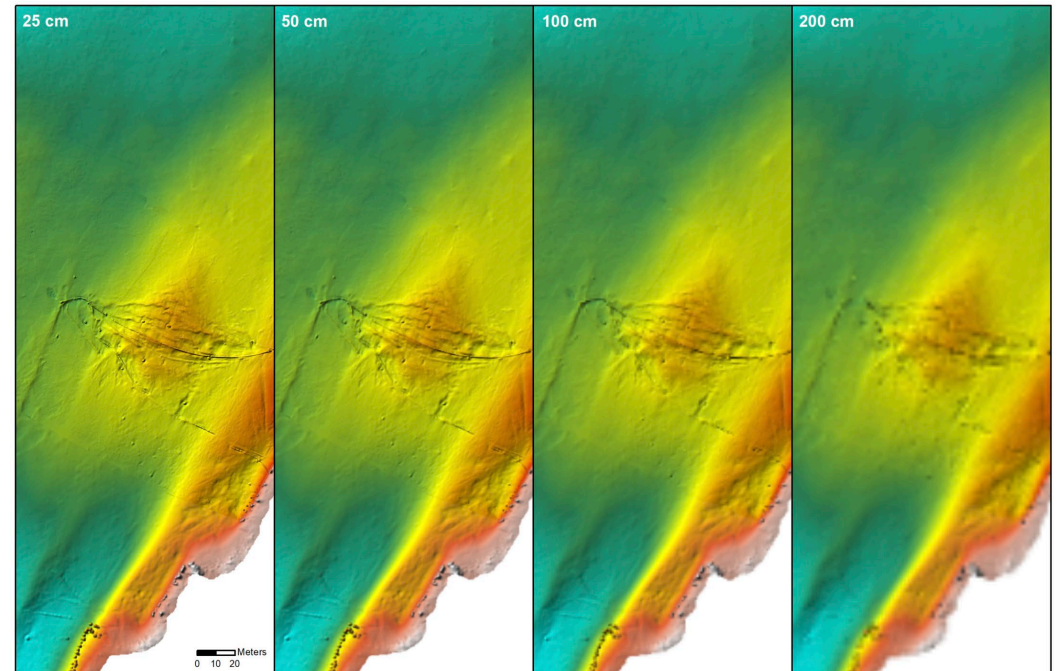


Image courtesy of INSPIRE Environmental

Marine Life

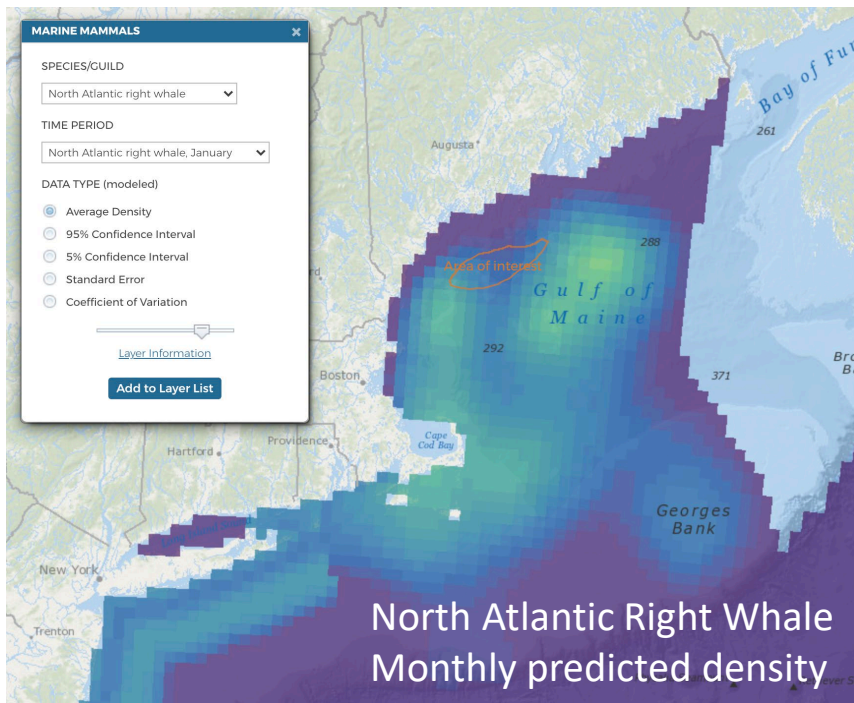
NROC-MARCO Marine Life Work Groups Marine life Data & Analysis Team (MDAT)

Coordination with variety of active marine life-focused work (e.g., NYSERDA State of the Science Work Groups, BOEM Environmental Studies Program)

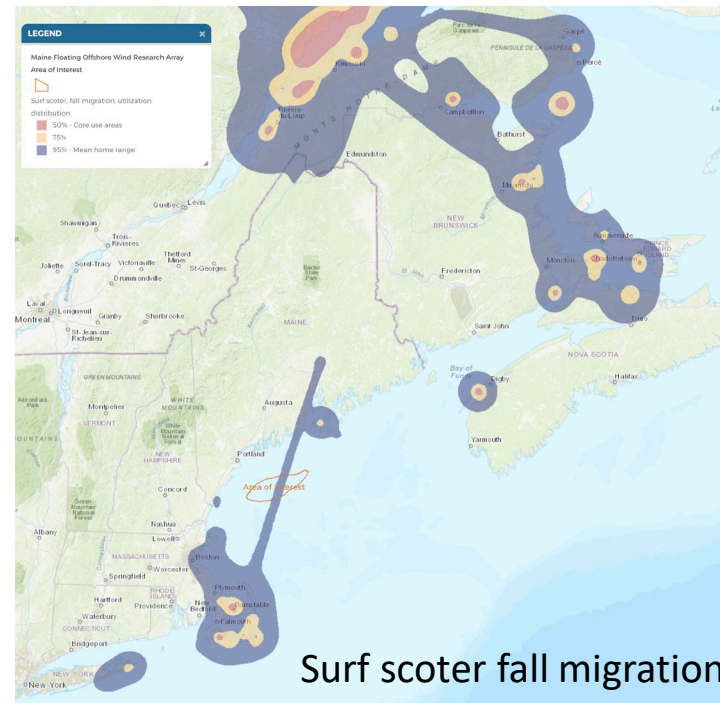
New data & updates in 2021

Current distributions and species range shifts

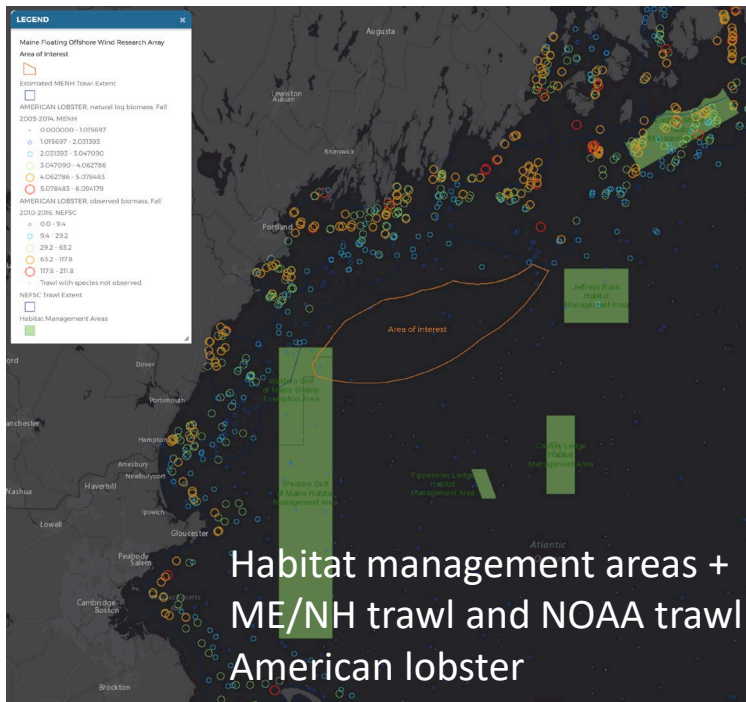
- Updating right whale, sea turtle data
- Updating fish trawl products, new historical products
- New avian movement/migration data products
- New products for sensitivity to stressors:
 - Cetaceans and climate change
 - Cetaceans and ship strikes
 - Fish and submarine cables



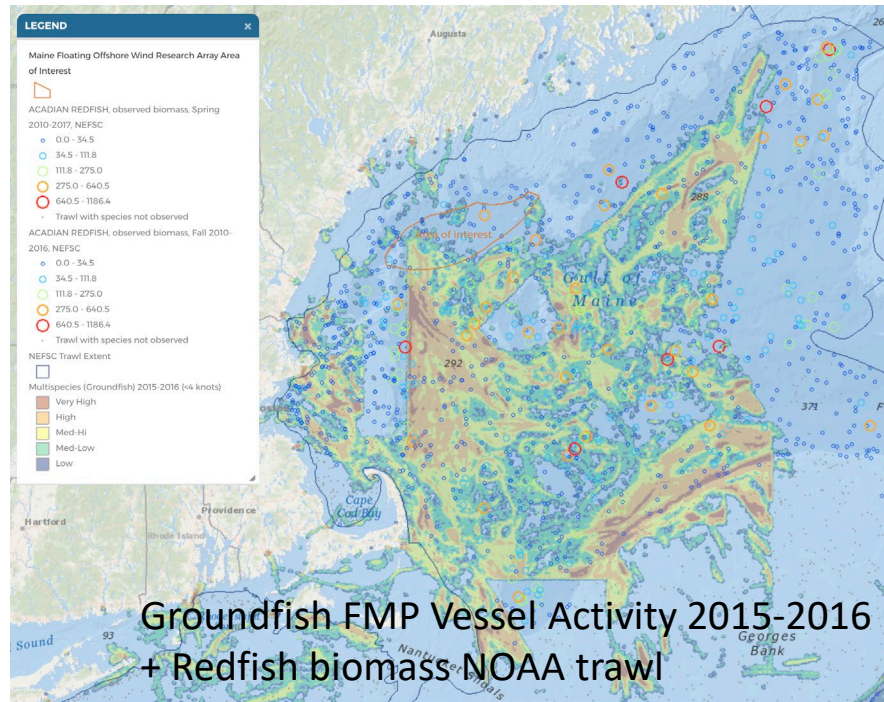
North Atlantic Right Whale
Monthly predicted density



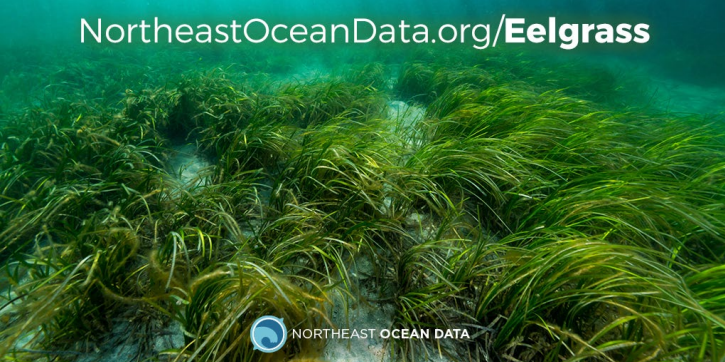
Surf scoter fall migration



Habitat management areas +
ME/NH trawl and NOAA trawl
American lobster



Groundfish FMP Vessel Activity 2015-2016
+ Redfish biomass NOAA trawl



Coastal Vegetation Blue Carbon Initiative

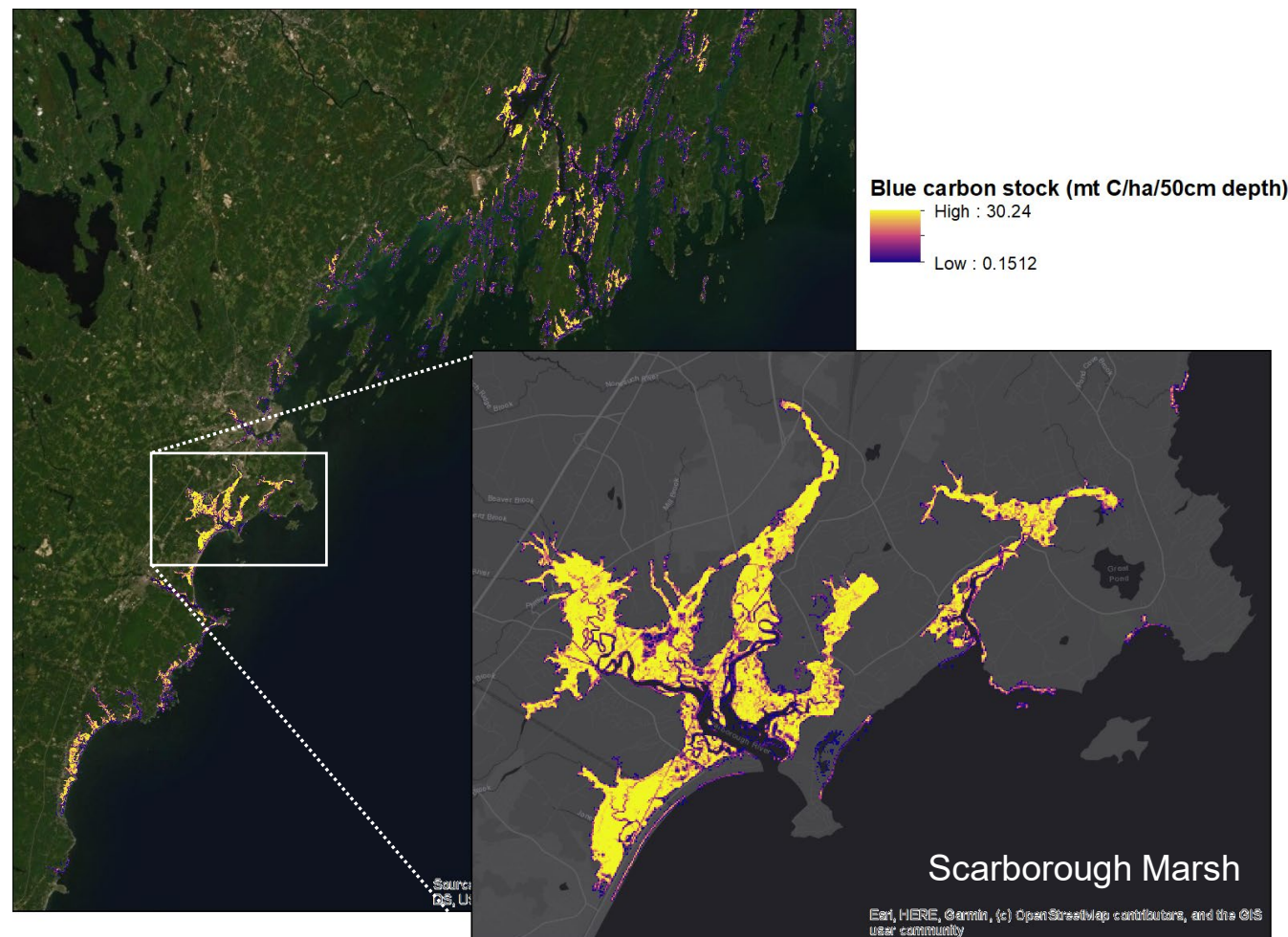
Funding from EPA Region 1, Phil Colarusso lead

Methods

- EPA Region 1 coordinates expert work groups
- Apply generalized carbon stock values or multipliers for eelgrass and salt marsh habitats in various environmental settings with the goal of developing a blue carbon “heat map”.

Goals, by...

- Updated regional composite seagrass layer and historical seagrass layer **APRIL 2021**
- Updated regional composite coastal wetlands / tidal marsh vegetation layer **APRIL 2021**
- Generalized blue carbon “heat map” for eelgrass and salt marsh habitats **FALL 2021**



DRAFT / PROOF OF CONCEPT maps for work group review; include high and low marsh vegetation only