



NROC

Northeast Regional
Ocean Council



NORTHEAST OCEAN PLANNING



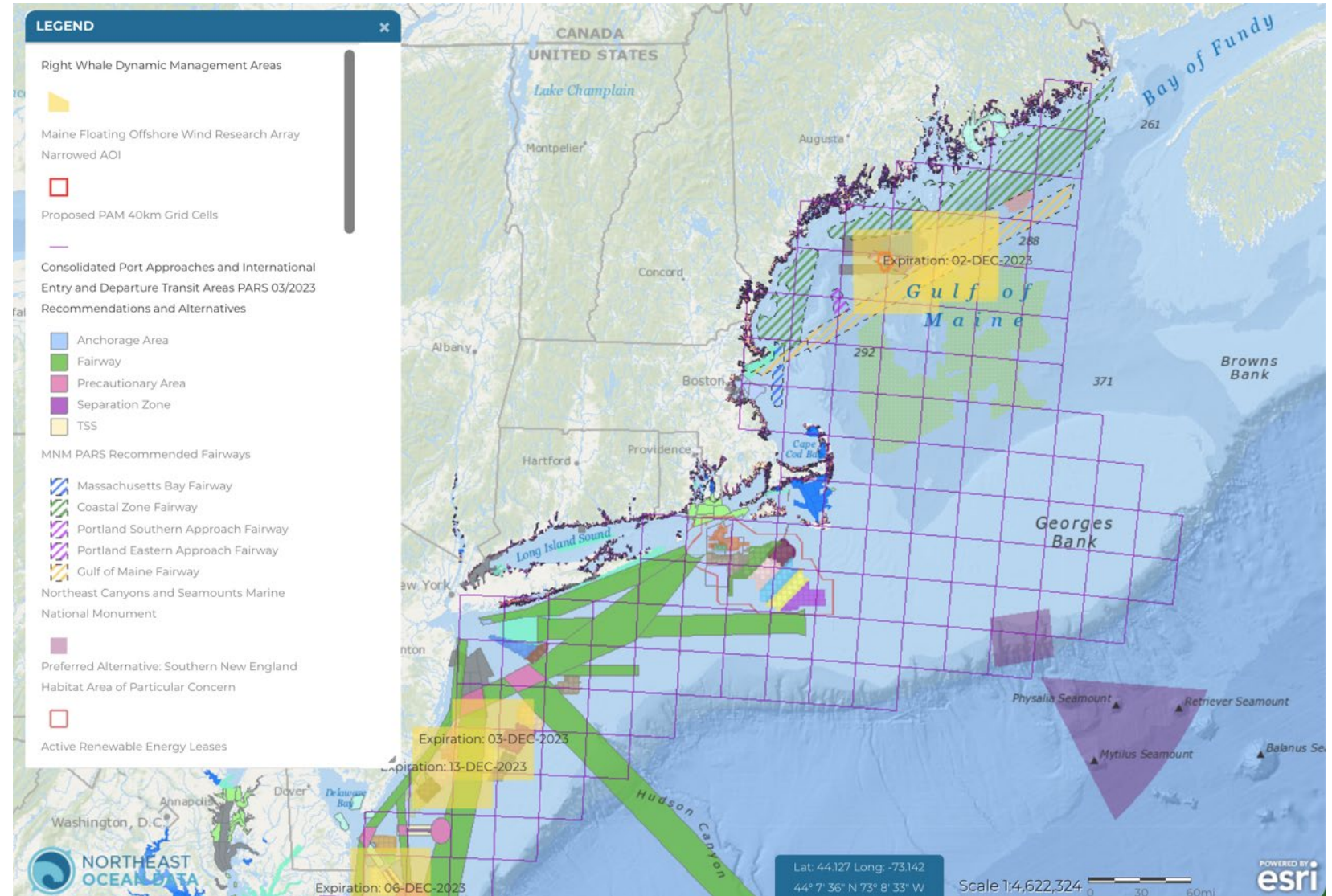
NORTHEAST OCEAN

Portal Update and Potential Projects

November 30, 2023

Recent and Potential Ocean Planning Issues

- Offshore wind leasing
- Offshore wind project development & permitting
- Offshore wind wildlife & fisheries research
- Energy transmission
- Waterways management and navigation
- Telecommunications
- Aquaculture
- Dredged material disposal
- Habitat & biodiversity conservation
- Sand & sediment management



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- CURRENT ISSUES**

 - Offshore Wind Projects
 - Army Corps Public Notices
 - Coast Guard Proposed Actions
 - Proposed SNE HAPC
 - NE Canyons & Seamounts

Archived Map Galleries:

 - > Deep-Sea Corals (Archived)
 - > Ocean Disposal Site (Archived)

DATA EXPLORER

Northeast Canyons and Seamounts

On September 12, 2023, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) jointly released a Draft Management Plan and Environmental Assessment for the Northeast Canyons and Seamounts Marine National Monument for public review and comment. Figures 12-18 in the Draft Management Plan and Environmental Assessment are Northeast Ocean Data Portal maps with relevant data on marine life and ocean uses.

To support the public comment process, this Map Gallery provides interactive versions of Figures 12-18. Click on a thumbnail image below to go to a web page that has a larger map image, a button to launch the interactive map, and a link to download a PDF version of the map. The deadline to submit public comments was **Thursday, October 26, 2023**. More information

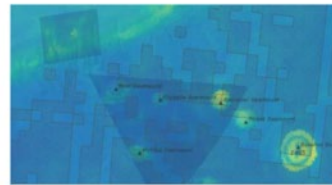


Fig. 12: Estimated offshore/pelagic seabird abundance

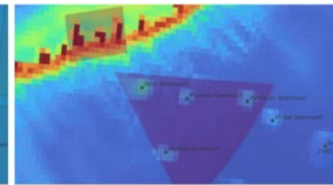
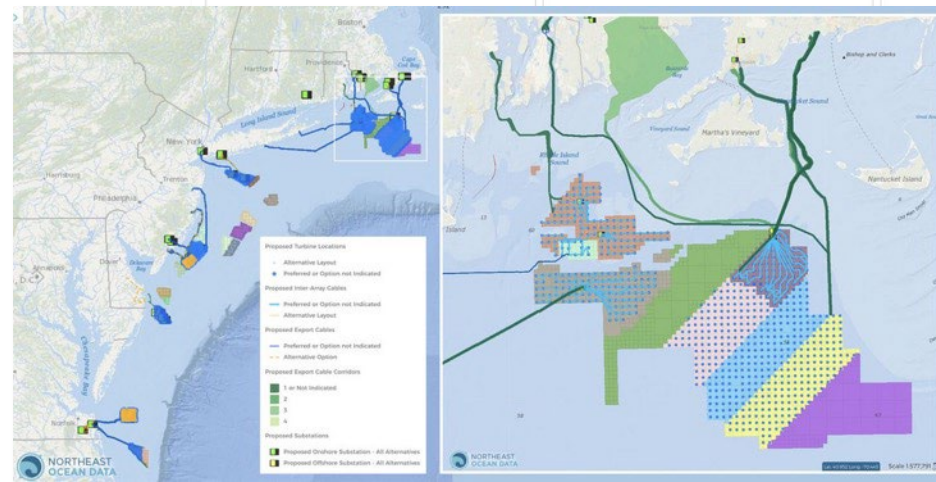


Fig. 13: Modeled marine mammal abundance

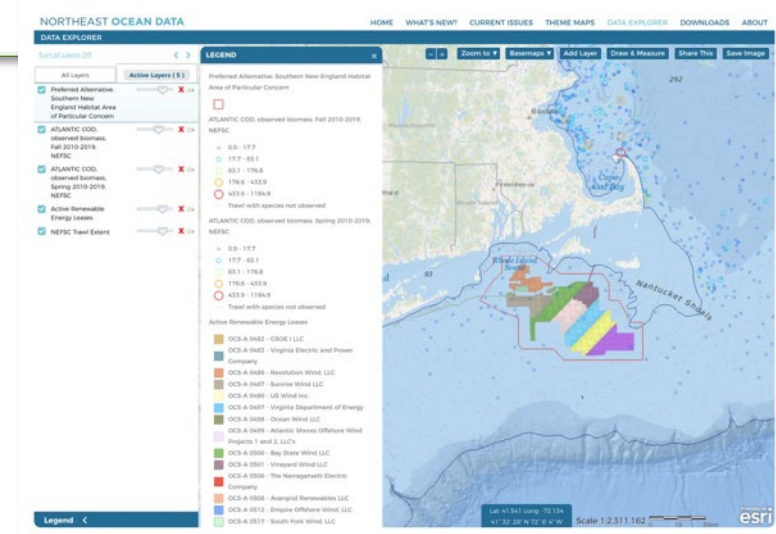


Fig. 14: Pleasure boating activity



Proposed Southern New England Habitat Area of Particular Concern

October 11, 2023

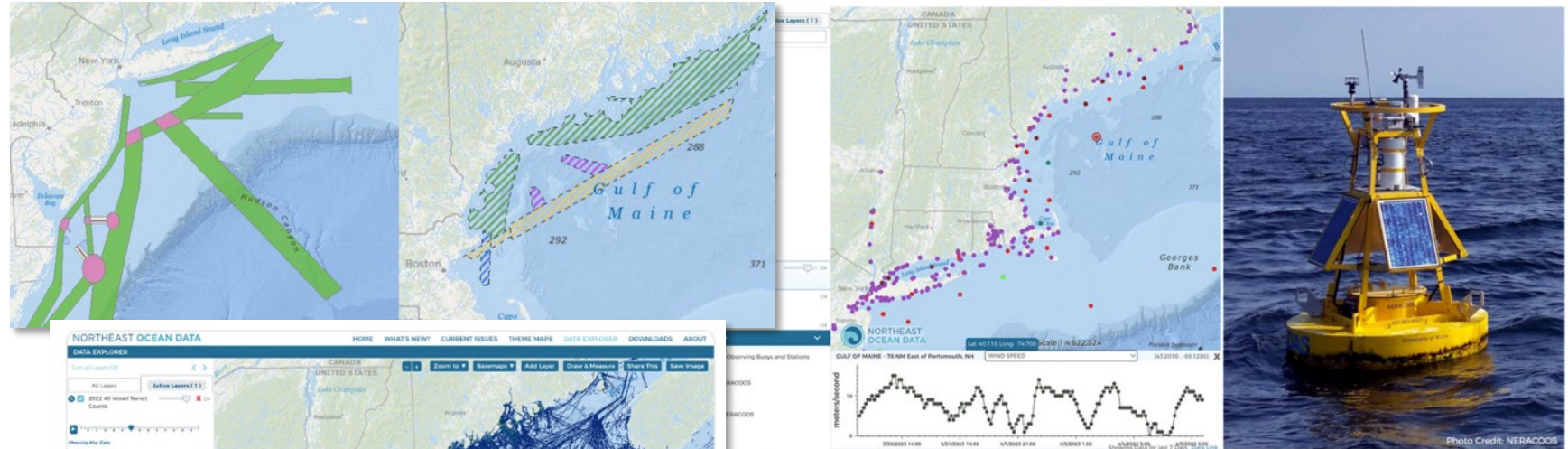


Screenshot of Data Explorer displaying the proposed Habitat Area of Particular Concern (red outlined area), along with the Active Renewable Energy Leases map layer (colored blocks) and NEFSC data on fall and spring Atlantic cod biomass from 2010-2019 (colored circles).

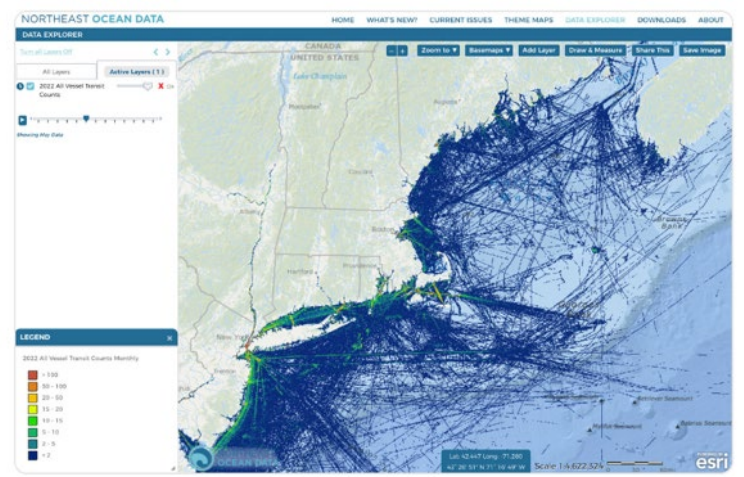
New Map of Ocean Observing Buoys and Monitoring Stations Features Live Feed of Recent Ocean Conditions

April 11, 2023

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Screenshot of Federal Ocean Observing Buoys and Stations map layer and seven days of wind speed data from Gulf of buoy (circled in red on map). Right: Example of an ocean observing buoy equipped with instruments to collect data on conditions above, at, and below the sea surface.

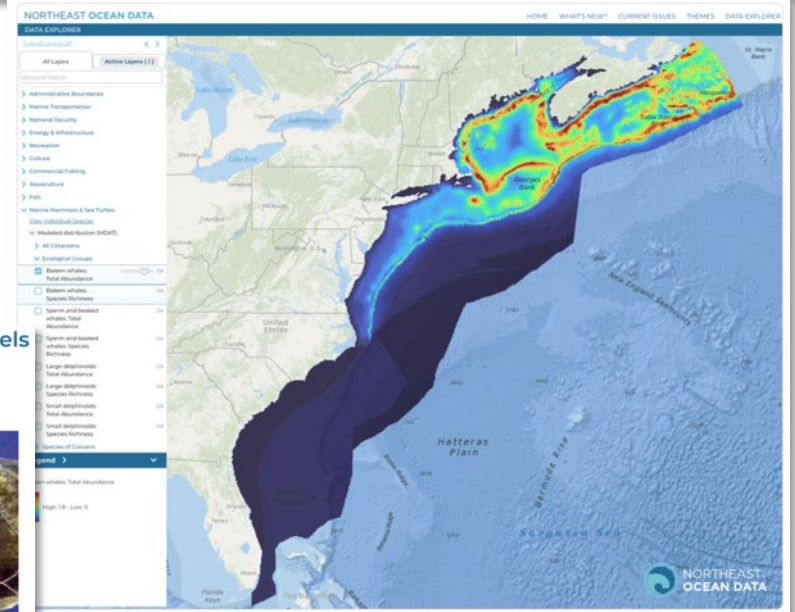


All Vessel Transit Counts (Monthly): May 2022

Marine Life Library Expands to Include New Sea Turtle Density Models in U.S. Atlantic Waters
September 15, 2023



Loggerhead sea turtle

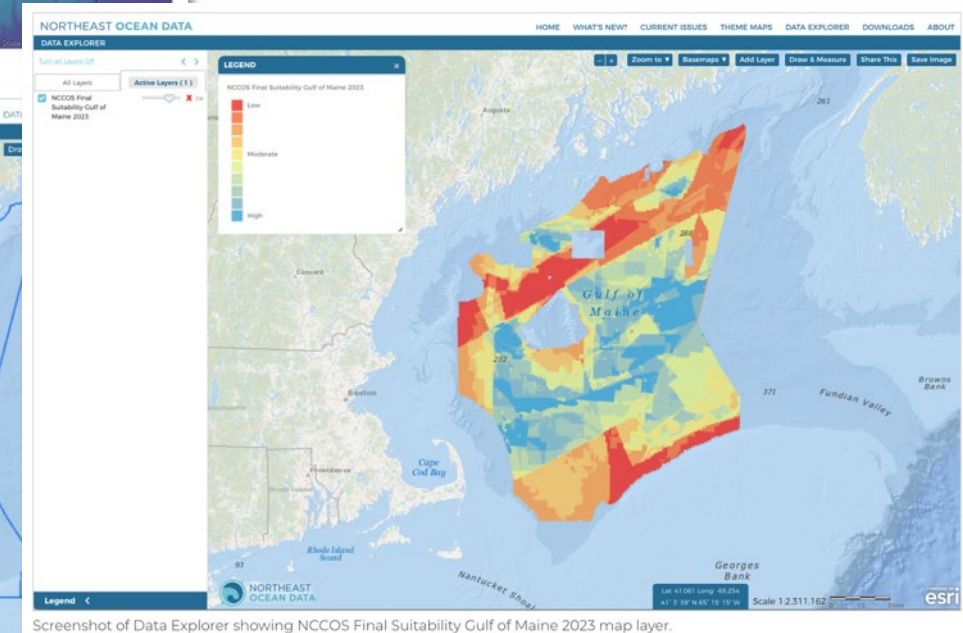
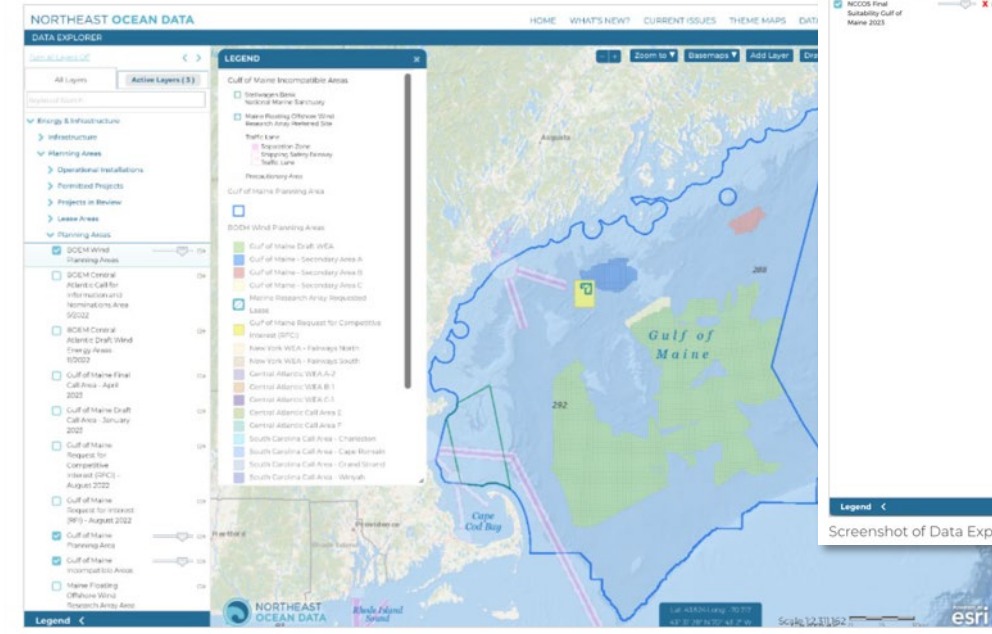
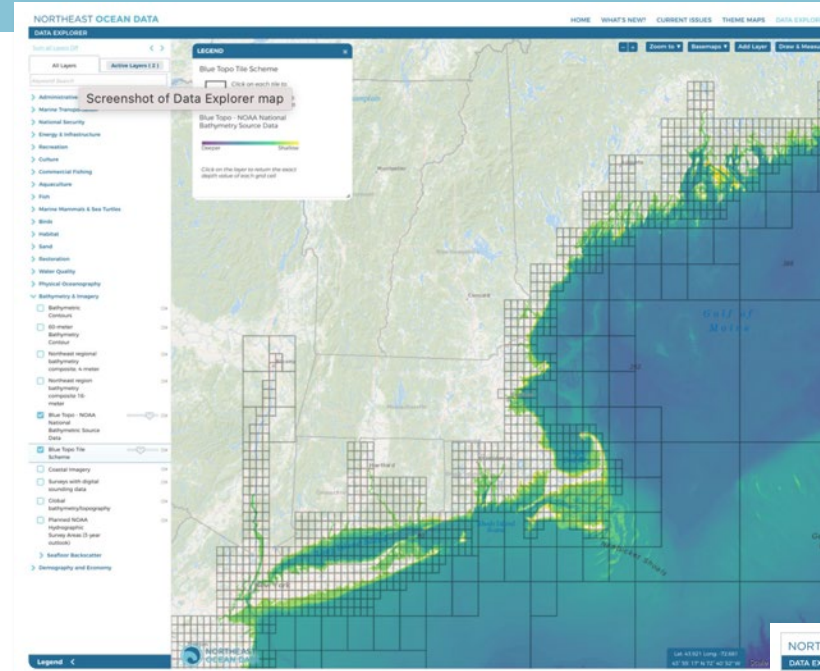


Baleen Whales: Total Abundance

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New Maps Depict Coastal Vegetation Blue Carbon Reservoirs from Maine to Long Island

July 13, 2023



Screenshot of Data Explorer showing NCCOS Final Suitability Gulf of Maine 2023 map layer.

Portal in Action

Portal Provides In-Person Support for BOEM Offshore Wind Planning Meetings

February 14, 2023



Karen Baker, chief of the BOEM Office of Renewable Energy Programs, welcomes attendees to the Gulf of Maine Information Exchange meeting in Portsmouth, NH, on January 18, 2023. One of the live Northeast Ocean Data Portal displays used in the meeting is visible to her right.



- Portal-hosted webinars on new data/tools
- Gulf of Maine Task Force
- Environmental Business Council Ocean and Coastal Resources Work Group
- Regional Wildlife Science Collaborative Subcommittee meetings
- New England Fishery Management Council meetings
- Port operator groups and safety forums
- CoastalGeoTools (biennial)
- American Clean Power Offshore Windpower
- Coastal and Estuarine Research Federation (biennial)
- Northeast Arc Users Group
- Regional Association for Research in the Gulf of Maine
- National Marine Educators Association
- New England Ocean Sciences Education Collaborative
- Northeast Aquaculture Conference (biennial)
- Boston Sea Rovers
- Maine Fishermen's Forum
- NOAA Office for Coastal Management Regional Ocean Data Sharing Work Group

Demonstrations and trainings for agencies, industry groups, and other entities

Current IJA funding through November 2024

Updates and enhancements to Northeast Ocean Data Portal map interfaces, website, data services, and IT infrastructure

- Many years, significant increases in portal use, and many new website and mapping requirements since the last complete overhaul and redesign in 2015
- Upgrade user mapping and visualization tools and enhance connections to core external data providers
- Improve integration of Portal webpages and contextual information with map interfaces and data products
- Increase the ability for users to view select data products at multiple geographic scales
- Provide ability for place-based or specific management focused tools and analyses

The screenshot displays the Northeast Ocean Data Portal website. At the top, the logo for "NORTHEAST OCEAN DATA" is visible, with the tagline "Maps and Data for Ocean Planning in the Northeastern United States". A navigation menu includes links for HOME, WHAT'S NEW?, CURRENT ISSUES, THEME MAPS, DATA EXPLORER, DOWNLOADS, and ABOUT.

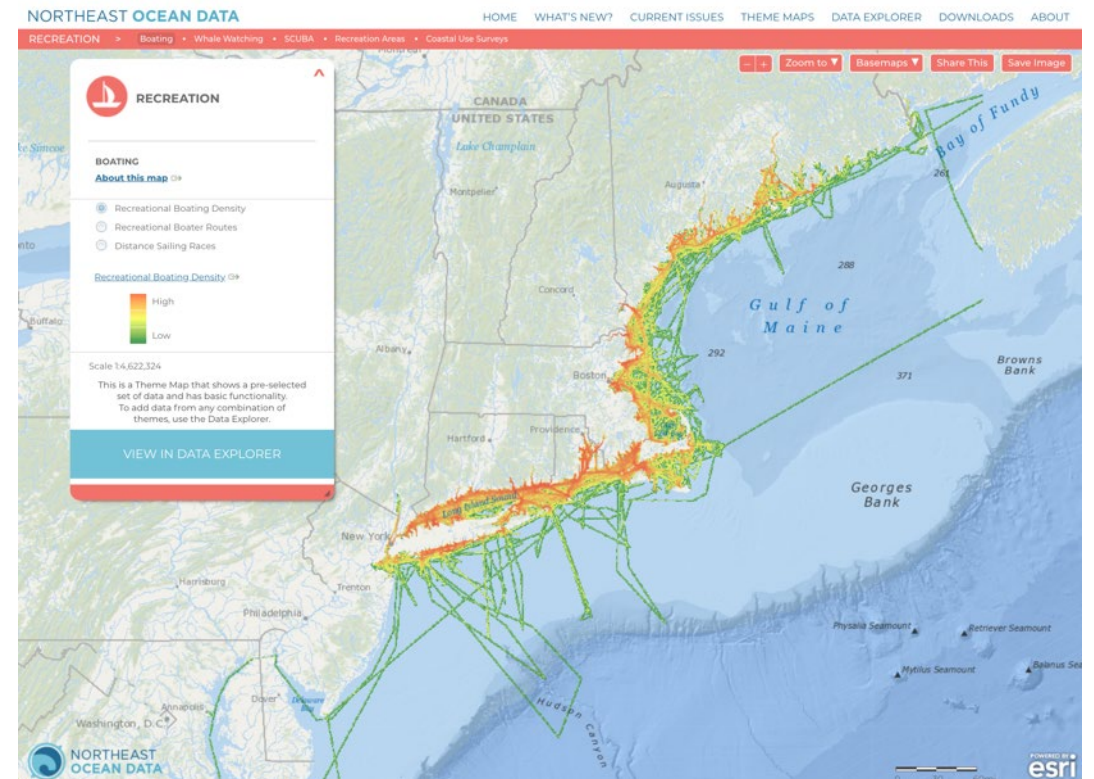
The main content area is divided into several sections:

- DATA EXPLORER:** A large map of the Gulf of Maine region is shown, overlaid with various data points and layers. A sidebar on the left contains the text "Define and view any combination of data on one map" and a "LAUNCH DATA EXPLORER" button.
- THEME MAPS:** A section titled "View curated maps and data on key topics" featuring a grid of icons for different themes: Marine Life & Habitat (Marine Mammals, Sea Turtles, Fish, Birds, Habitat), Commercial Fishing, Marine Transportation, Energy & Infrastructure, Aquaculture, Recreation, Restoration, Cultural Resources, National Security, and Water Quality. Below the grid, there are links for "Bathymetry", "Eelgrass", and "Habitat Classification".
- NEWS:** A list of recent news items, including "NOAA NCCOS Ecosystem-wide Spatial Suitability Model Outputs for the Gulf of Maine" (Nov 7, 2023), "Draft Wind Energy Area in the Gulf of Maine" (Oct 20, 2023), and "Proposed Southern New England Habitat Area of Particular Concern" (Oct 11, 2023). It also includes links for "News Archives" and "List of Data Updates".
- CURRENT ISSUES:** A featured article titled "Offshore Wind Projects" with a sub-header "Maps and information on current issues".
- CASE STUDIES:** A section titled "Balancing Deep-Sea Coral Protection and Commercial Fisheries" (Commercial Fishing - Marine Life) and another titled "U.S. Navy Uses Data Portal to Select Test Site for".

Potential IJA Projects 2025-2027

- **Recreational boating, party/charter fishing, and private recreational fishing**
- Maritime industry
- Commercial fishing
- Marine life and habitat
- Seafloor mapping data archive
- Unexploded ordnance
- Energy transmission planning
- Marine carbon dioxide removal
- Research planning data and applications

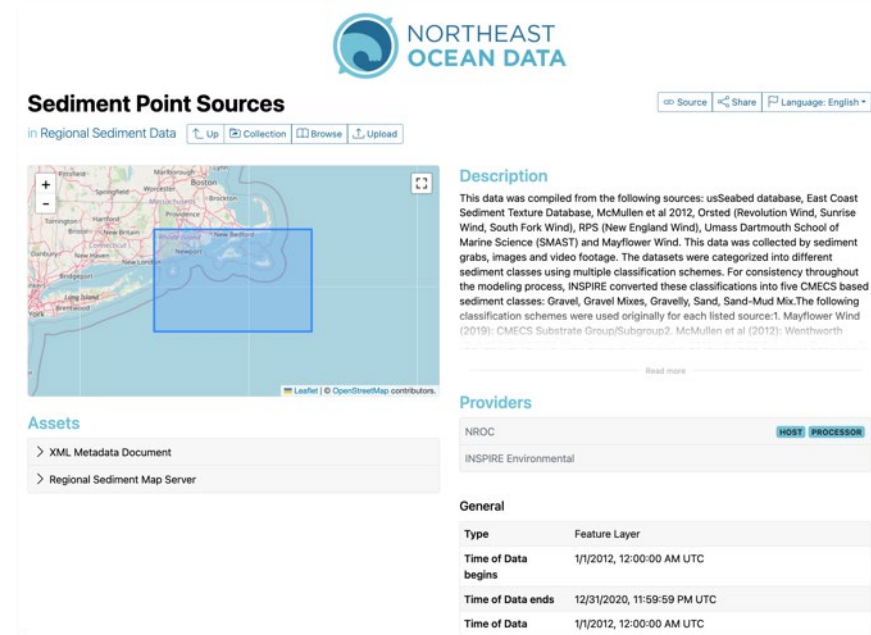
- Data that inform these layers are >10 years old
- Requires lots of outreach



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- Pilot application derived from NROC/INSPIRE seafloor data standardization project funded by BOEM, MassCEC, RIDEM
- Review and development with NROC and RWSC Habitat & Ecosystem Subcommittee, includes offshore wind developers



NORTHEAST OCEAN DATA

Sediment Point Sources

in Regional Sediment Data

Source Share Language: English

Up Collection Browse Upload

Description

This data was compiled from the following sources: usSeabed database, East Coast Sediment Texture Database, McMullen et al 2012, Orsted (Revolution Wind, Sunrise Wind, South Fork Wind), RPS (New England Wind), Umass Dartmouth School of Marine Science (SMASST) and Mayflower Wind. This data was collected by sediment grabs, images and video footage. The datasets were categorized into different sediment classes using multiple classification schemes. For consistency throughout the modeling process, INSPIRE converted these classifications into five CMECS based sediment classes: Gravel, Gravel Mixes, Gravelly Sand, Sand-Mud Mix. The following classification schemes were used originally for each listed source: 1. Mayflower Wind (2019): CMECS Substrate Group/Subgroup 2. McMullen et al (2012): Wentworth

Read more

Providers

NROC	HOST PROCESSOR
INSPIRE Environmental	

General

Type	Feature Layer
Time of Data begins	1/1/2012, 12:00:00 AM UTC
Time of Data ends	12/31/2020, 11:59:59 PM UTC
Time of Data	1/1/2012, 12:00:00 AM UTC

Assets

- > XML Metadata Document
- > Regional Sediment Map Server

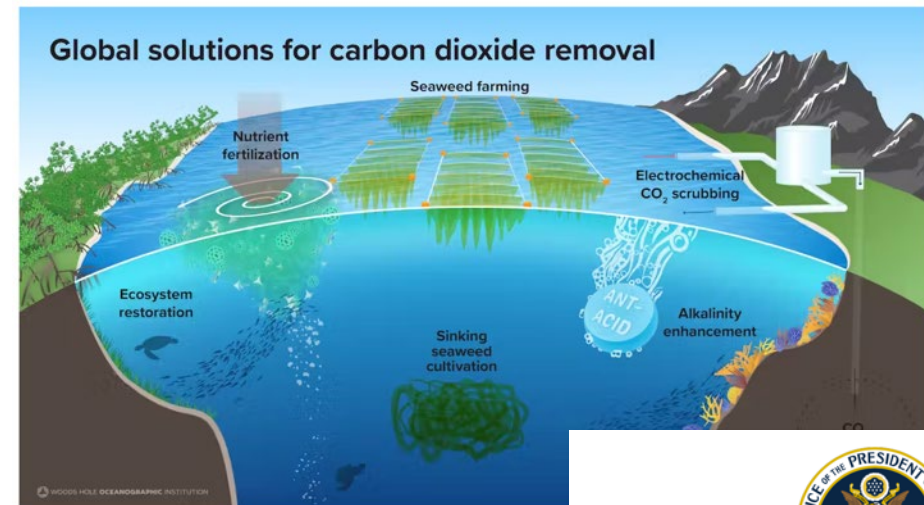
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- Each offshore wind developer provides data when new or moved ordnance has been discovered.
- It is currently unknown whether these data are integrated into a comprehensive map that could be used in planning.
- Could be addressed by NOAA.

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- A forum or webinar in 2024 will likely include a discussion on specific data requirements for better understanding mCDR projects, their potential impacts, and potential benefits.



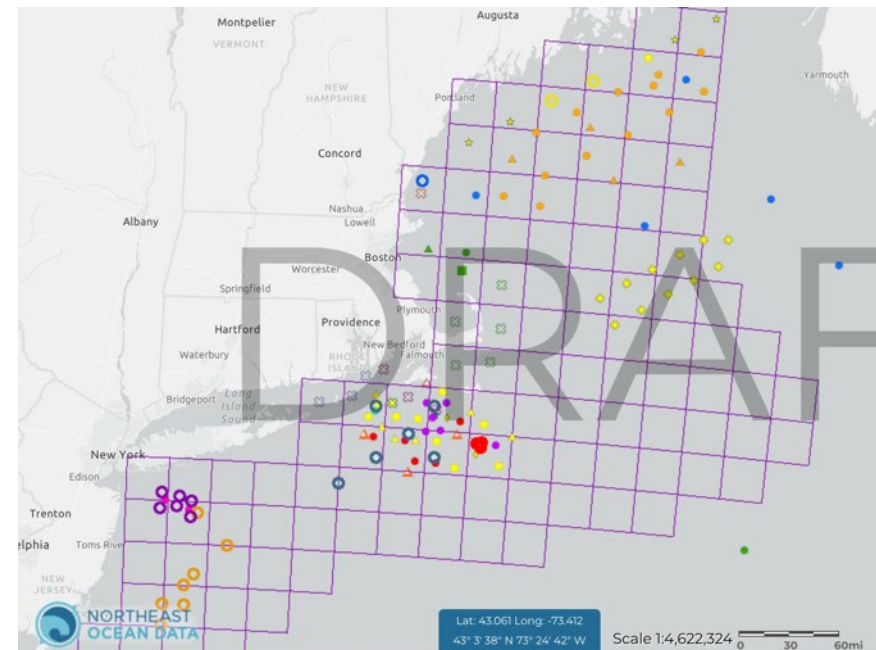
Methods of ocean carbon storage. Natalie Renier/©Woods Ho



CHARTER
of the
MARINE CARBON DIOXIDE REMOVAL FAST TRACK ACTION COMMITTEE
OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON OCEAN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
NATIONAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY COUNCIL

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 - **Research planning data and applications**
- Track monitoring and research activities and provide single-point access (data catalog) to the many existing data archives – for multiple NROC Committees' work
 - Leverage RWSC funding for map tool



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Questions?