

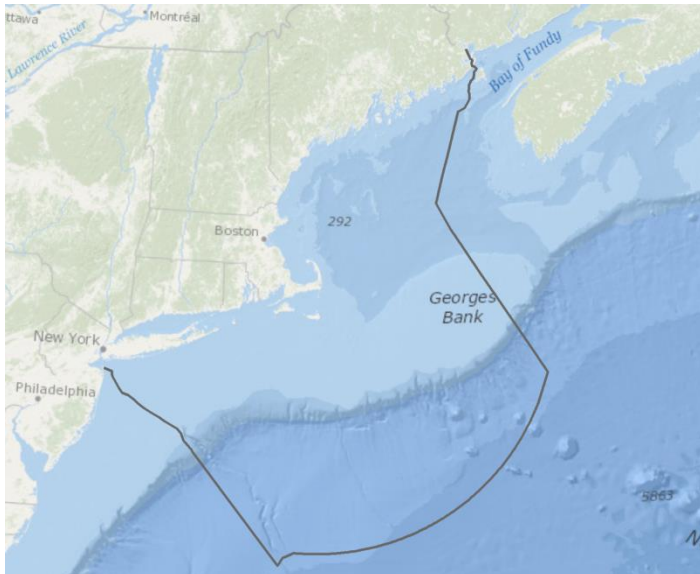
Draft Northeast Ocean Plan

AAPA 2016 Energy and Environment Seminar
September 2016
Vancouver BC



Northeast Regional Planning Body

- Six New England states
- Six federally-recognized tribes
- Nine federal agencies
- New England Fishery Management Council
- Two ex-officio members, NY and Canada



NORTHEAST OCEAN DATA PORTAL



NORTHEAST OCEAN DATA

Maps and data for ocean planning in the northeastern United States

[HOME](#)

[MAPS](#) ▾

[DATA](#) ▾

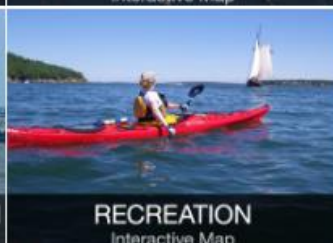
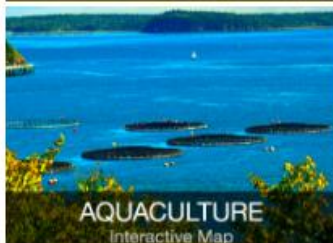
[ABOUT](#) ▾



DATA EXPLORER

Interact with any combination of data in the Data Explorer — Human Activities, Marine Life, and Environment

Human Activities



Marine Life



Environment



1

Northeast region and need for ocean planning

2

Plan process and development of Data Portal

3

Using plan data in regulatory and management decisions across 10 ocean management topics

4

Plan implementation

5

Future science and research priorities

Plan Describes Ten Primary Ocean Resources and Activities

1. Overview of **importance** of each ocean resource or activity to ocean management
2. **Regulatory and management landscape** of that resource/activity
3. Peer-reviewed **maps and data** available on portal
4. Regulatory and management **actions** identified by RPB agencies
 - ✓ Maintain, update and develop additional data for the Portal
 - ✓ Inform regulatory/environmental review and management decisions
 - ✓ Identify potentially affected stakeholders and resources
 - ✓ Enhance interagency coordination

Ocean Resources & Activities



MARINE LIFE +
HABITAT



RESTORATION



CULTURAL
RESOURCES



MARINE
TRANSPORTATION



NATIONAL
SECURITY



COMMERCIAL &
RECREATIONAL
FISHING



RECREATION



ENERGY &
INFRASTRUCTURE



AQUACULTURE



OFFSHORE SAND
RESOURCES



MARINE LIFE & HABITAT

Marine Life & Habitat

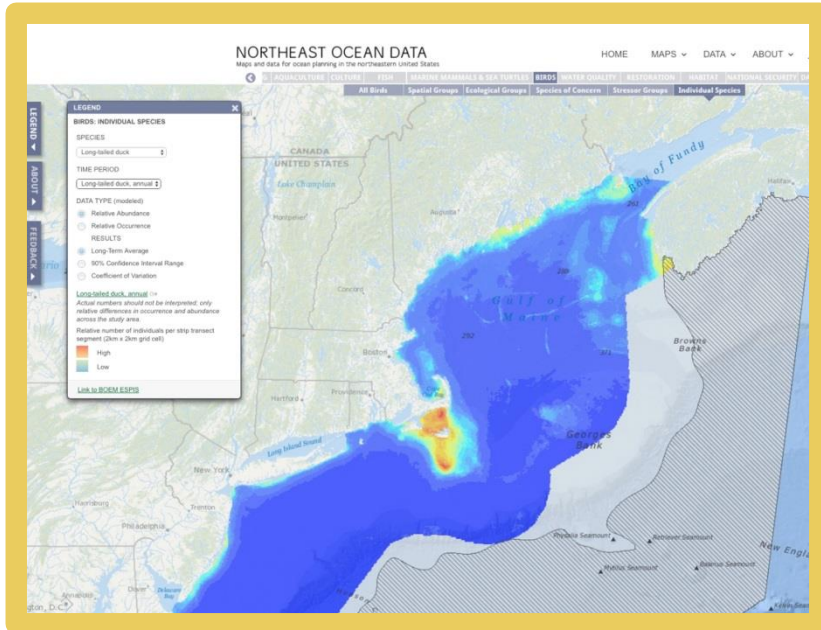
Describes the library of regional data products characterizing marine life and habitat:

- Maps of species
- Maps of habitat types
- Draft maps of species groupings developed to assist decision-making

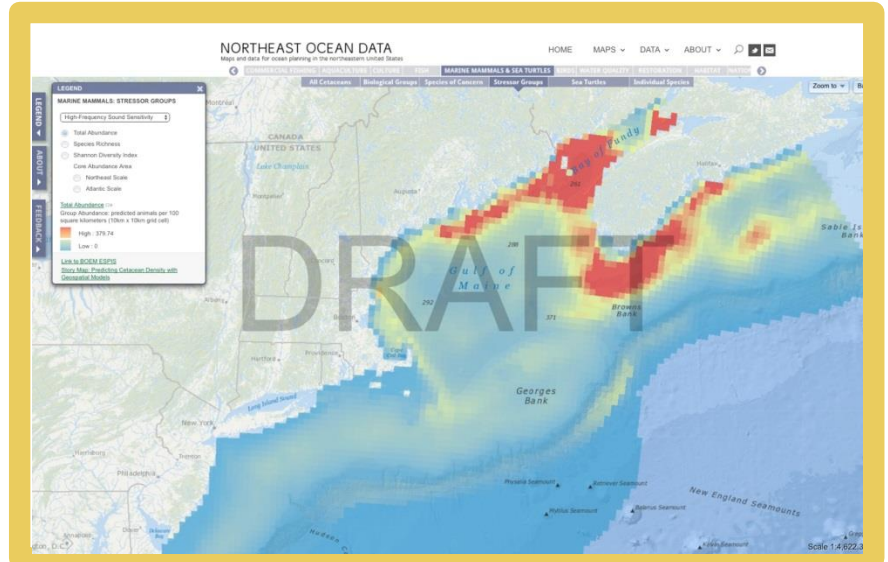
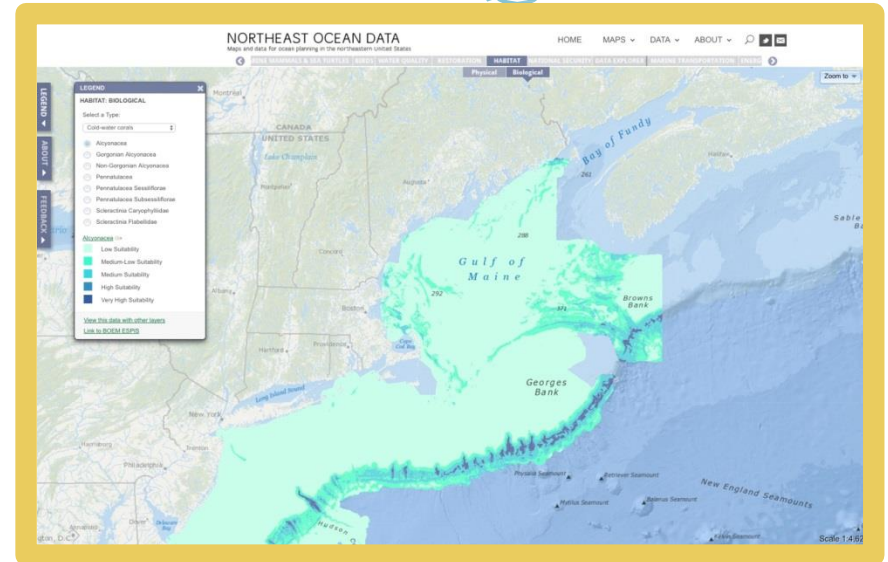


MARINE LIFE &
HABITAT

Corals



Long-tailed duck; predicted annual relative abundance



Mammals sensitive to high frequency sound



MARINE LIFE &
HABITAT



NORTHEAST OCEANPLAN

OVERVIEW ACTIONS

ML-1 Update marine life data

ML-2 Update habitat data

ML-3 Identify opportunities to update marine life and habitat data every five years

ML-4 Advance the mapping of Important Ecological Areas

ML-5 Use marine life and habitat

data as key inputs to monitor ecosystem health

ML-6 Use marine life and habitat data to inform applicable review processes under federal environmental and regulatory laws

ML-7 Use marine life and habitat data to inform responsibilities within managed areas

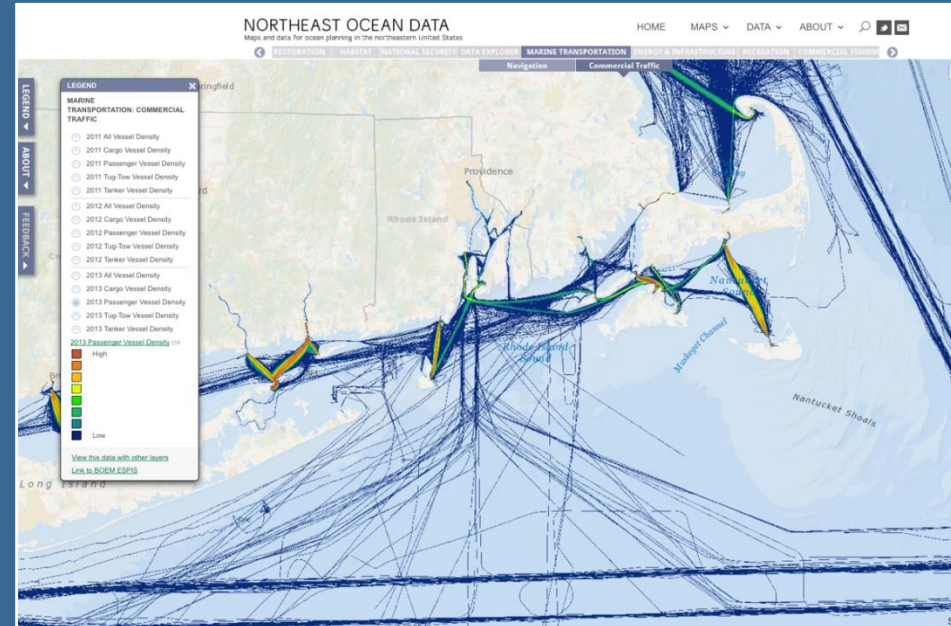
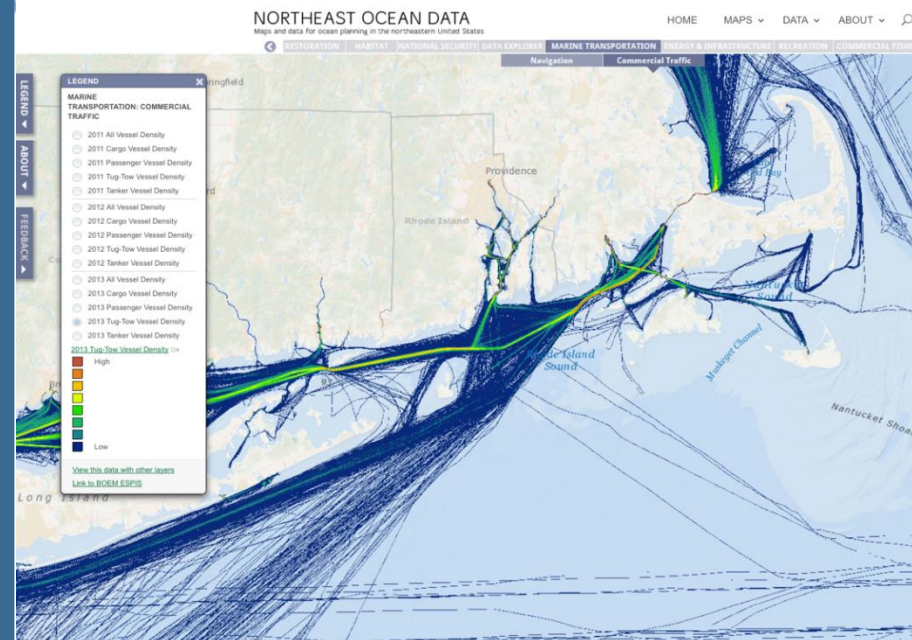
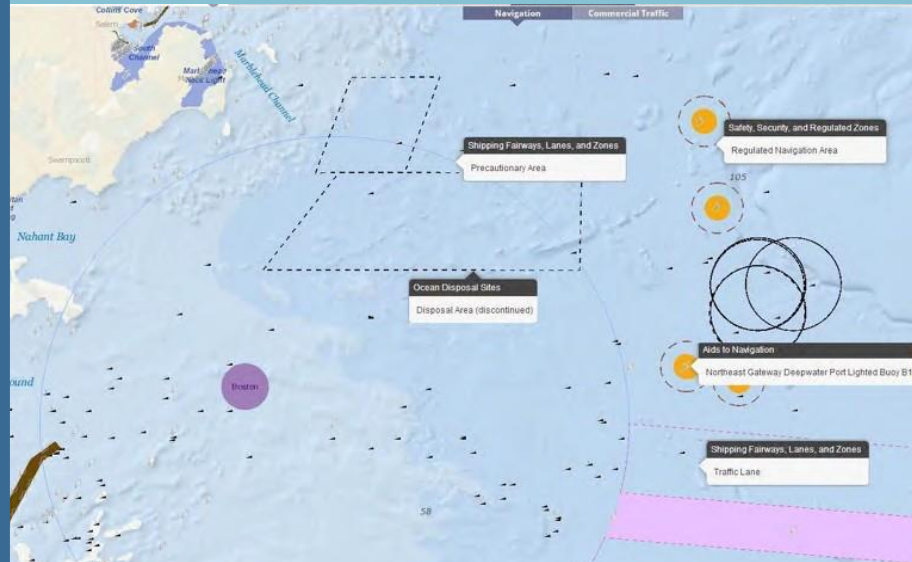
ML-8 Use marine life and habitat data to inform other management activities



MARINE TRANSPORTATION



Approach to Boston Harbor



Passenger vessels

Tug Tow vessels



MARINE
TRANSPORTATION



NORTHEAST OCEAN PLAN

OVERVIEW ACTIONS

- MT-1 Maintain existing maps and data on the Portal
- MT-2 Provide additional data through new analyses
- MT-3 Use the Portal and Plan to inform regular operations and management of the MTS
- MT-4 Use the Portal and Plan to identify potential conflicts, impacts and potentially affected maritime stakeholders during permitting and leasing for new proposed activities
- MT-5 Use the Plan to inform dredging and federal navigation projects
- MT-6 Continue outreach to maritime stakeholders to understand current trends and the potential effects of new activities to the MTS



OCEAN RESOURCES & ACTIVITIES



MARINE LIFE &
HABITAT



NATIONAL
SECURITY



AQUACULTURE



RESTORATION



COMMERCIAL &
RECREATIONAL
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OFFSHORE SAND
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MARINE
TRANSPORTATION



ENERGY &
INFRASTRUCTURE



Plan Implementation

EARLY AGENCY COORDINATION

Entities that participate in early agency coordination in the Northeast typically include (or should include) some combination of the following:

- DOI (including BOEM, USFWS, NPS, USGS)
- FERC
- USACE
- NOAA (including NMFS)
- USEPA
- DHS (including USCG and FEMA)
- Navy
- DOT (MARAD)
- NEFMC and Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (depending on location)
- State agencies (permitting, wildlife, and fisheries agencies, CZM programs, SHPO). Fisheries agencies may also coordinate through NEFMC, MAFMC, or ASMFC.
- Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission
- Federally-recognized tribes

SCIENCE AND RESEARCH PRIORITIES

1. Improve understanding of marine life and habitats
2. Improve understanding of tribal cultural resources
3. Improve understanding of human activities, coastal communities, socioeconomics, and interactions between uses
4. Characterize the vulnerability of marine resources to specific stressors
5. Characterize changing environmental conditions, particularly resulting from climate change, and characterize resulting impacts to existing resources and uses
6. Advance ecosystem-based management (EBM) by building on the previous priorities and also including cumulative impacts and ecosystem services



What's next?

- Public comment period concluded July 25th
 - Support from maritime community, in general
 - Suggestions for continued work on AIS data
- The RPB will submit revised plan to National Ocean Council for review and certification, at which point the plan will be in effect

Summary: What Does the Northeast Ocean Plan Do?

- Provides unprecedented amount of ocean information
- Commits federal agencies to use information in their decisions
- Helps identify conflicts and compatibility on the water
- Encourages government to work better together and engage ocean users
- Identifies future priority science and research needs





Thank you

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