

## Mid-Atlantic Regional Ocean Assessment: Outline (DRAFT)

### 1. Introduction

- a. Need for Ocean Planning
- b. Overview of Mid-Atlantic Regional Ocean Planning Process
  - i. Use of Traditional Knowledge in Ocean Planning
- c. Overarching Goals for Mid-Atlantic Regional Ocean Planning
- d. Purpose and Structure of the Regional Ocean Assessment

### 2. Ocean Ecosystem and Resources

- a. Characterizing the Mid-Atlantic Ocean Ecosystem
  - i. Oceanographic Setting and Processes
  - ii. Important Biological, Chemical and Physical Attributes
  - iii. Living Marine Resources
    1. Overview
    2. Important or Sensitive Species, Guilds, and Habitats
  - iv. Human Settlements Relative to the Ocean
  - v. Ecosystem Services
  - vi. Ecosystem Responses to Climate Change
- b. Toward Ocean Planning Objectives: Status and Trends
  - i. Key Ocean Characteristics and Indicators

### 3. Ocean Uses

- a. Characterizing Mid-Atlantic Ocean Uses and Values
  - i. Overview of Human Uses and Values
  - ii. Overview of the Mid-Atlantic Ocean Economy
- b. Toward Ocean Planning Objectives: Status and Trends
  - i. Tribal Uses
  - ii. Commercial and Recreational Fishing
  - iii. Critical Undersea Infrastructure
  - iv. Maritime Commerce and Navigation
  - v. National Security and Military Uses
  - vi. Non-consumptive Recreation (e.g., boating, sailing, wildlife watching, diving)
  - vii. Ocean Aquaculture
  - viii. Ocean Energy
  - ix. Offshore Sand Management for Resilience Planning
  - x. Scientific Research

### 4. Strategic Objectives for Mid-Atlantic Regional Ocean Planning

- a. Adapt to Climate Change
- b. Build a Stronger Network of Monitoring and Science
- c. Maintain and Improve Sustainable Fisheries in a Changing Environment
- d. Manage Offshore Sediment for Coastal Resiliency
- e. Prepare for Expanded Shipping and Port Activities
- f. Site Ocean Renewable Energy Facilities
- g. Support Maritime Heritage
- h. Sustain Ecologically Rich Areas and Linkages