

## **Archiving of OCS Invertebrate Specimens and Genomic Tissue Samples**

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In its over 35-year partnership with the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM), the National Museum of Natural History, Department of Invertebrate Zoology (NMNH-IZ) provides professional collection management services for the long-term curation of marine invertebrate specimens taken during the environmental baseline surveys of various oil and gas lease sites on the US East and Gulf Coasts, and the US West and Alaskan Coasts. In this time period, more than 383,000 lots of sorted and identified material and 20,000 lots of unprocessed samples or mixed taxa have been received. In 2017, the partnership was expanded to include acquisition, cataloging, and barcoding of legacy and incoming Outer Continental Slope (OCS) marine organism genomic tissue samples, and deposition of the material into the NMNH Biorepository. Data acquired from these activities will assist in the management of the OCS, including building a reference library for future environmental DNA analyses.