Mid-Atlantic Regional Planning Body (RPB) Webinar: Update on RPB Activities

May 22, 2015

Objectives

- Provide update about regional ocean planning activities in the Mid-Atlantic region.
- Review the RPB work plan, specifically the activities of three workgroups
  - Interjurisdictional Coordination
  - Data Synthesis
  - Regional Ocean Assessment
- Receive input and answer questions from stakeholders.

Agenda

11:30 AM	Welcome, introductions, agenda review
11:40 AM	Interjurisdictional Coordination
11:47 AM	Data Synthesis
11:53 AM	Mid-Atlantic Regional Ocean Assessment
12:00 PM	Mid-Atlantic Ocean Data Portal Updates
12:05 PM	Facilitated Public Q&A and Comments
12:25 PM	Wrap up

Opportunities for public comment and feedback

- The Q&A portion of today's webinar.
- Written input provided to ***MidAtlanticRPB@boem.gov***.

What will be posted after this webinar?

The following will be posted on the RPB website (***http://www.boem.gov/mid-atlantic-regional-planning-body***) after the webinar:

- A recording of the webinar
- A transcript of the webinar
- A record of all chat questions and comments from the public
- A list of webinar participants

Recent Activities and Workplan

Gwynne Schultz , Maryland Department of Natural Resources
State RPB Co-Lead

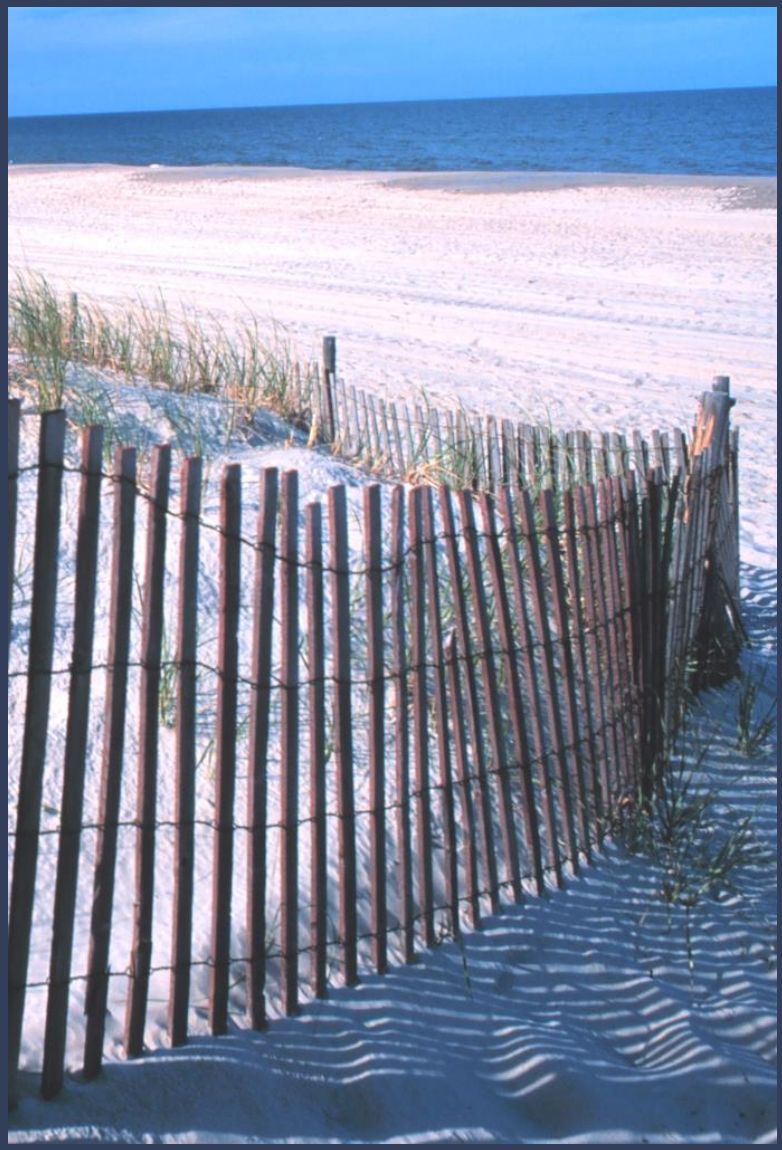
Activities Since January 2015

- Approval of the proposed approach for the Ocean Action Plan (OAP)
- Formation or continuation of RPB Workgroups to support OAP development
  - Interjurisdictional Coordination (IJC)
  - Data Synthesis (DS)
  - Regional Ocean Assessment (ROA)
- Development of the RPB Work Plan
  - Guide RPB activities through OAP development

RPB Work Plan

The Work Plan:

- Will guide RPB activities during the development of the Ocean Action Plan
- Describes workgroup responsibilities and the process each workgroup will follow
- Will be refined and/or expanded to reflect current thinking
- Indicates a target date for release of the draft Ocean Action Plan - June 2016



Upcoming RPB Engagement Opportunities

Examples of near-term opportunities:

- Opportunities to review initial data synthesis methodologies and products
- Discussions with potentially affected communities about draft actions
- Tribal engagement in late summer 2015
- Next RPB in-person meeting in early fall 2015

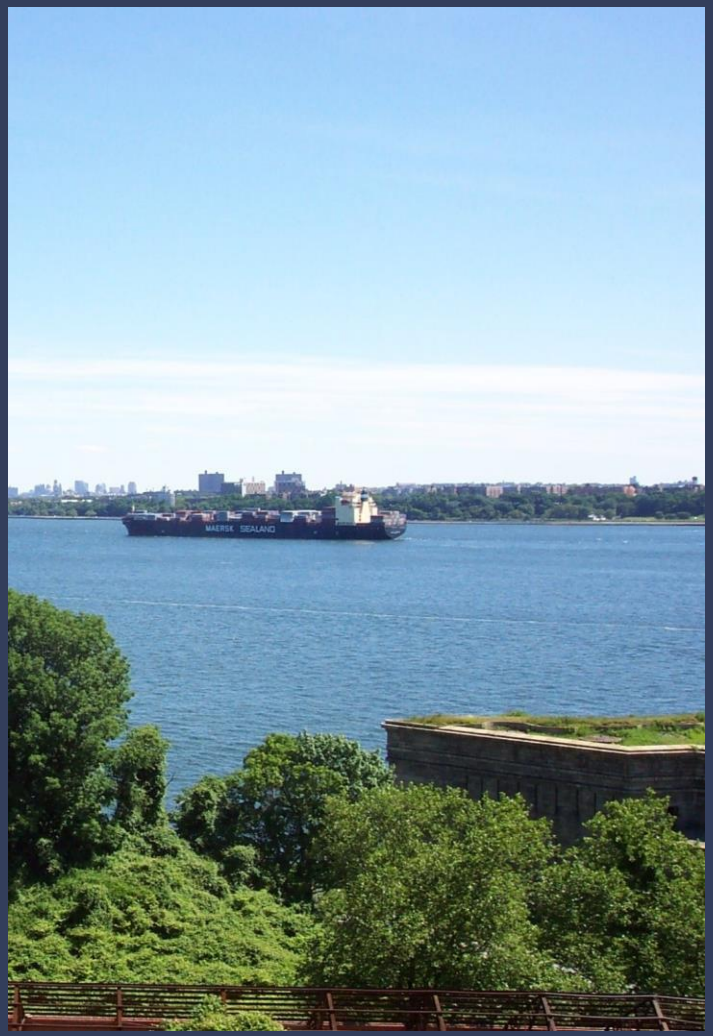
Interjurisdictional Coordination Workgroup (IJC)

Co-Chairs:

- *Bob LaBelle, BOEM, Federal RPB Co-Lead (presenting)*
- *Mike Luisi, Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council*
- *Greg Capobianco, New York Department of State*

Background

- Key objective of ocean planning is to help RPB member entities better work together to achieve regional goals
- IJC addresses the use of data and coordination processes and mechanisms under entities' existing mandates and authorities
- IJC identifying opportunities and actions



IJC Workgroup Responsibilities

- Identify entity regional priorities, opportunities, and actions to better execute missions under existing authorities
- Recommend draft IJC opportunities and actions to the full RPB
- Link IJC actions and data synthesis products
- Engage potentially affected stakeholders and incorporate feedback into IJC opportunities and actions in the Ocean Action Plan

Process of Developing and Application of IJC Actions

- Potential IJC actions being developed in discussions with individual RPB member entities
- IJC actions will use data and information and interagency coordination to enhance under existing authorities the implementation of:
  - Management programs
  - Environmental and regulatory review
  - Research

Sample Potential IJC Actions

- Themes that have emerged throughout entity-by-entity discussions to date include:
  - Development and enhanced management, use, and integration of data to advance regional ocean management priorities and RPB member entity missions
  - Enhanced management and regulatory coordination

Next Steps for IJC Workgroup

- IJC work group will review and organize potential actions, discuss them among the full RPB, and present recommendations for public review and RPB consideration at the fall 2015 RPB meeting
- Based on RPB direction, the workgroup will continue to develop and formalize actions for incorporation in the OAP through spring 2016

Data Synthesis Workgroup

Co-Chairs:

- *Laura McKay, Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program (presenting)*
- *Mary Boatman, BOEM*

Data Synthesis Work Group

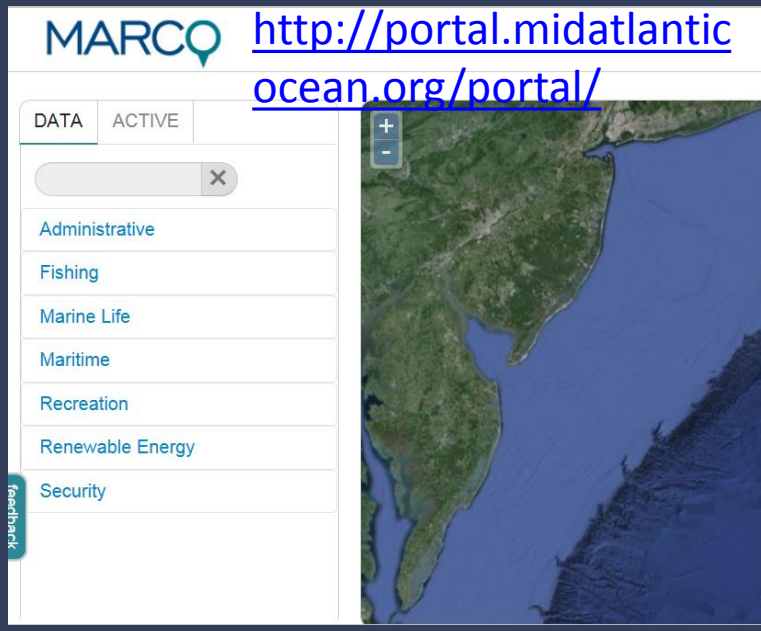
1. Help RPB identify and meet ***data synthesis/analysis needs***

2. Help RPB ***identify areas of ecological and human importance***

3. Help RPB's IJC group to consider the potential use of data products

Why a data synthesis?

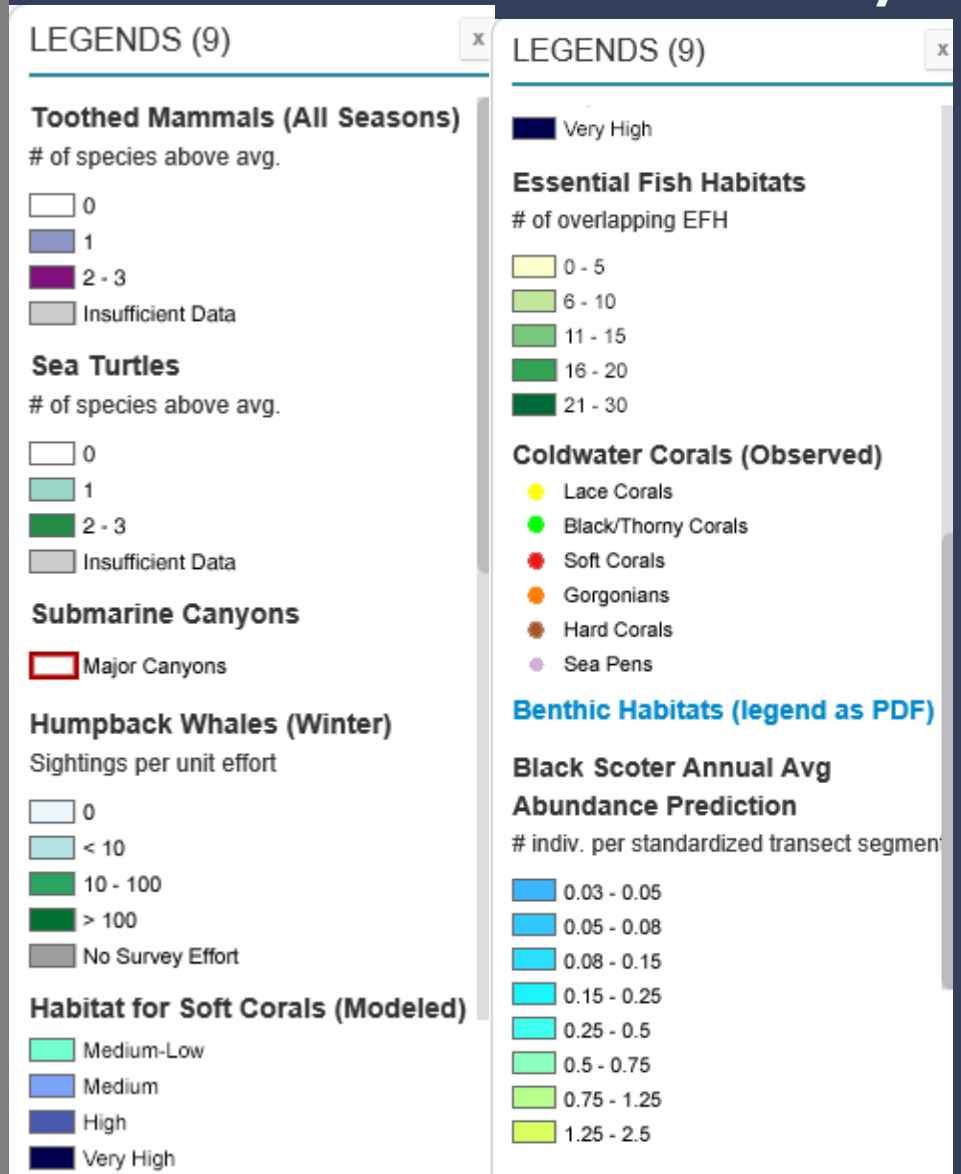
- 94 data layers currently on MARCO Ocean Data Portal and more coming soon

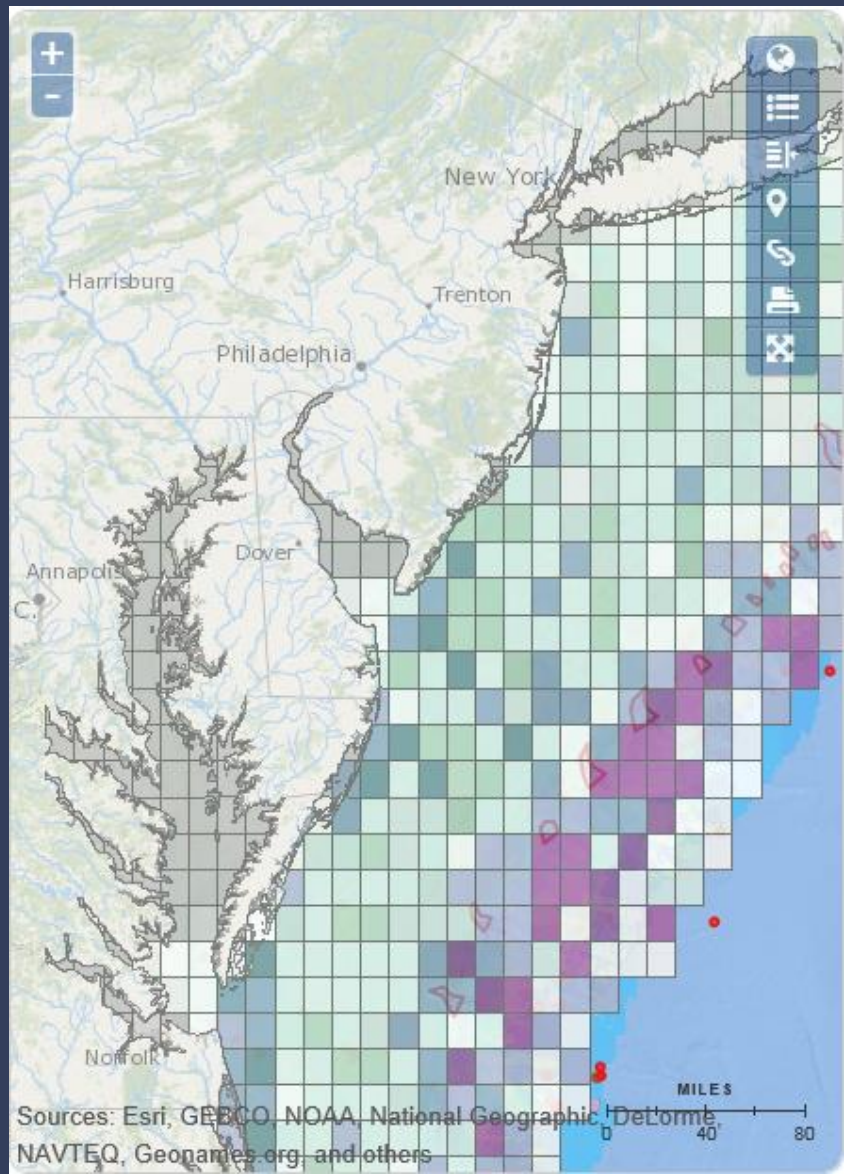


- Combining layers supports Ecosystem Based Management

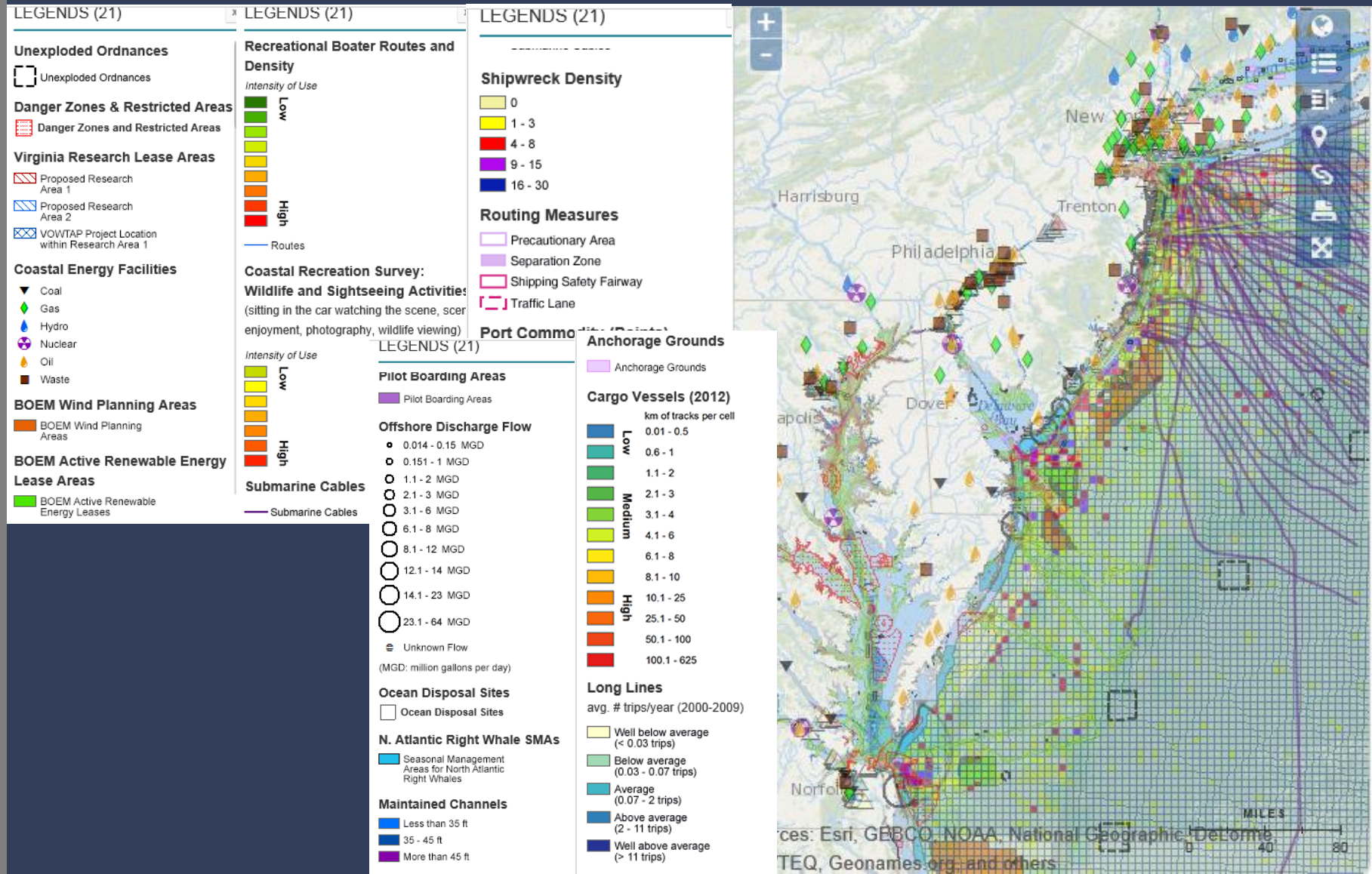
- Synthesis products needed by RPB for planning and by agencies for decisions

Turning on many ecological layers simultaneously obscures data





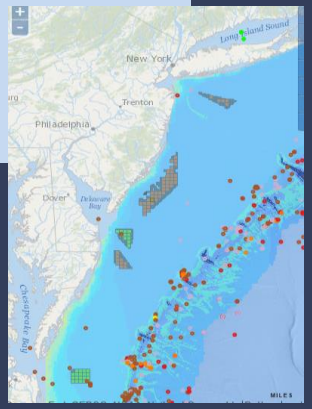
Turning on many human use layers simultaneously obscures data



Two Initial Data Synthesis Products

Region-wide Data Syntheses on:

- Ecological Resources
- Human Use

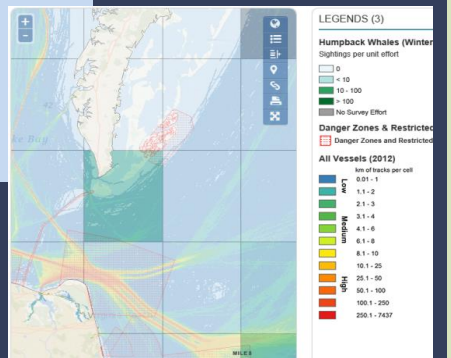


For use in Regional Ocean Assessment as general background information

Can complete initial version by 2016 for inclusion in OAP

Specific Issue or Specific Geographic Area Data Syntheses on:

- Ecological Resources
- Human Use

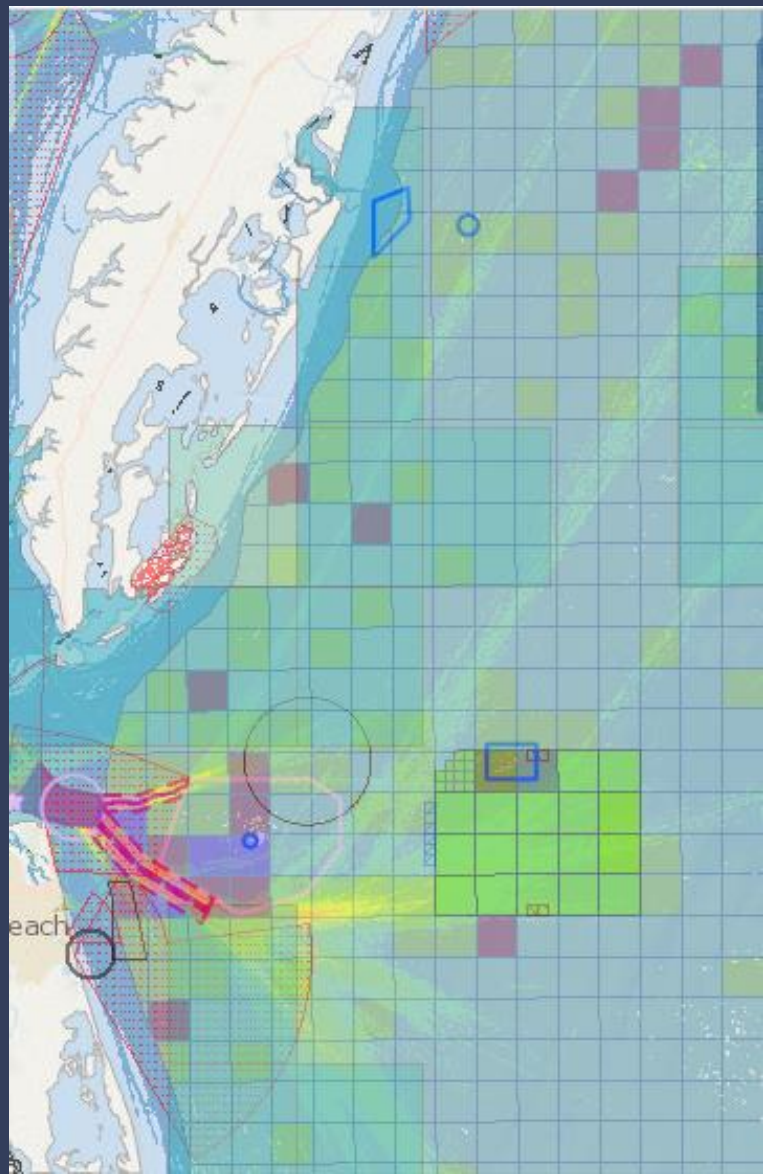


For use in Interjurisdictional Coordination (IJC) as specific issues (e.g. ship strikes on whales) or specific areas (e.g. mouth of Ches Bay) are chosen for improved coordination efforts

Can begin identifying data needed for specific syntheses as soon as IJC actions are chosen

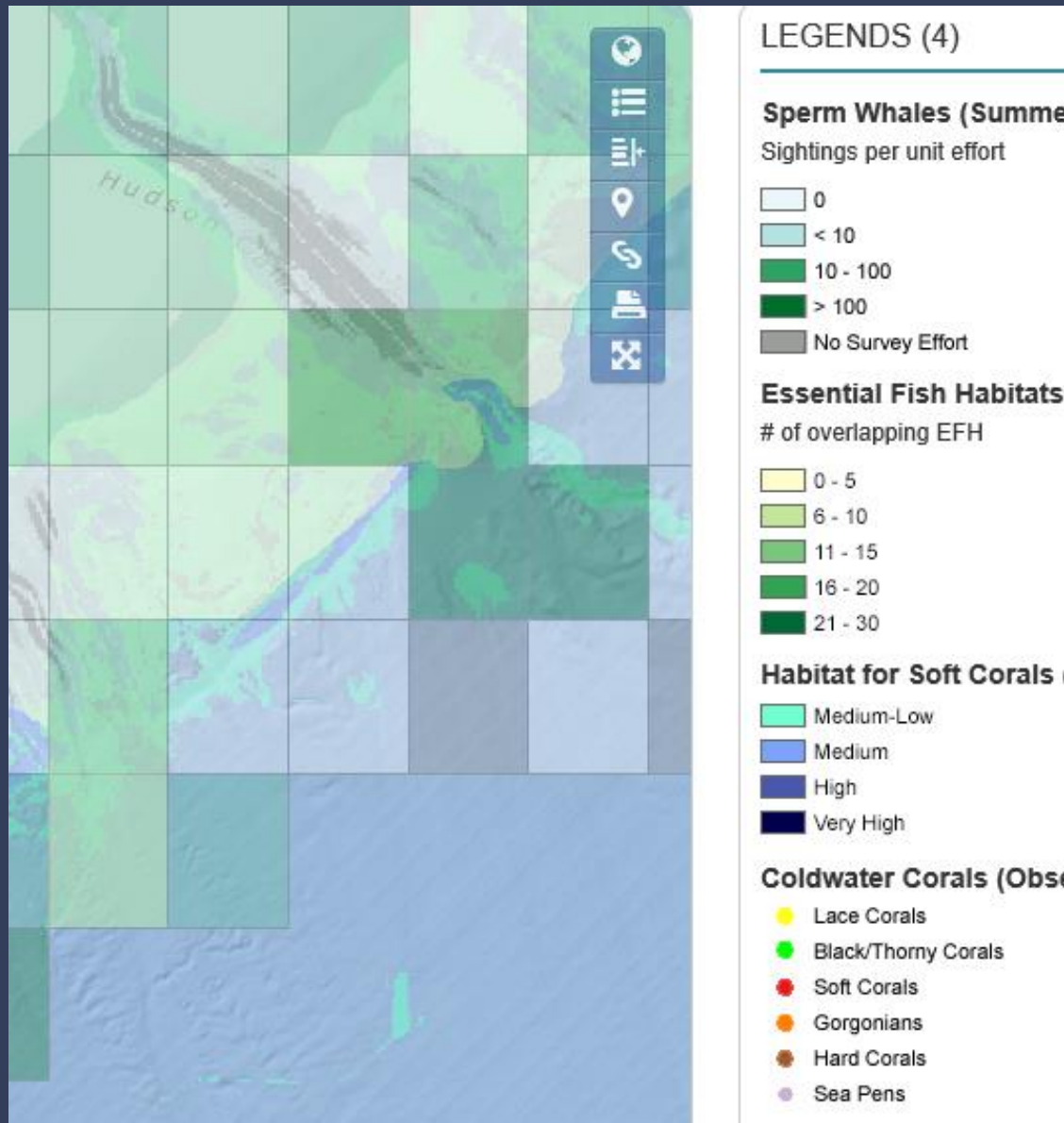
Human Use Data Synthesis

- Synthesize data depicting intensity of use
- Include economic, social and cultural data
- Illustrate areas where multiple uses co-occur
- Signal areas where improved interjurisdictional coordination is needed



Ecological Data Synthesis

- Some work is underway
- Add additional habitat info
- Customize map layers
- Synthesize into single map showing ecological focus areas



Schedule of Work

- May 29 Proposals due for Human Use Synthesis
- June Human Use and Ecological Synthesis work contracted
- Jul-Aug Coordination with IJC, ROA , scientists & stakeholders
- Sep Draft syntheses (ecol & human use) available for stakeholder review
- Dec Products due

MARCO
Mid-Atlantic Regional Council on the Ocean

ABOUT » | SHARED REGIONAL PRIORITIES » | OCEAN PLANNING » | DATA PORTAL | RESOURCES | NEWS & EVENTS » | MARCO BLOG

Careers & RFPs at MARCO

MARCO maintains a full time support staff and regularly issues Requests for Proposals for project-specific contract-based work. Current opportunities are listed here.

About MARCO

Established by the Governors of the five coastal Mid-Atlantic states in 2009, the Mid-Atlantic Regional Council on the Ocean (MARCO) is a partnership of Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, and Virginia to enhance the vitality of the region's ocean ecosy
regional priorities fo
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MARCO uses regiona
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MARCO Email List

Sign up to receive MARCO ne
announcements.

Stay Connected

RFPs

- Request for Proposals Mid-Atlantic Regional Ocean Assessment (ROA) Project. Proposals due May 15, *2015*
- Request for Proposals Regional Human Use Data Synthesis Project. *Proposals due May 29, 2015.*

Current Opportunities

Job Openings

- Project Coordinator. *Applications due on May 15, 201*

RFPs

- Request for Proposals Mid-Atlantic Regional Ocean Assessment (ROA) Project. Proposals due May 15, *2015*
- Request for Proposals Regional Human Use Data Synthesis Project. *Proposals due May 29, 2015.*
- Request for Proposals Advancement of Shared Mid-Atlantic Priorities for Climate Change Adaptation. *Proposals due June 12, 2015.*

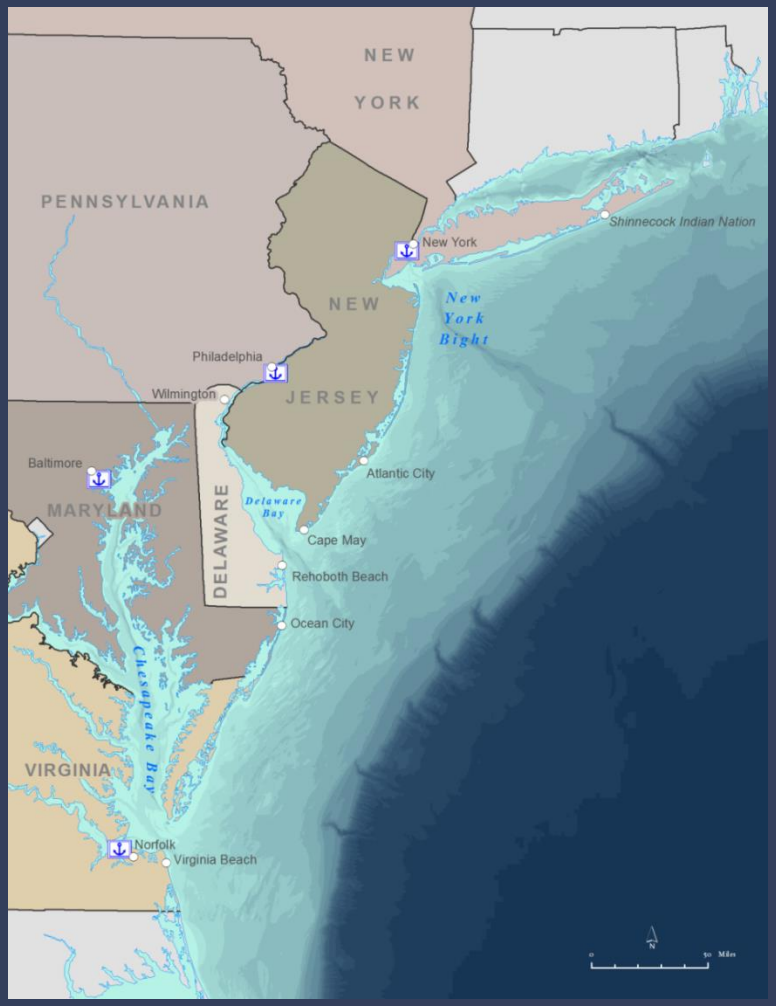
Regional Ocean Assessment Workgroup (ROA)

Co-Chairs:

- *Sarah W. Cooksey, Delaware Coastal Programs (presenting)*
- *Kevin Chu, NOAA*

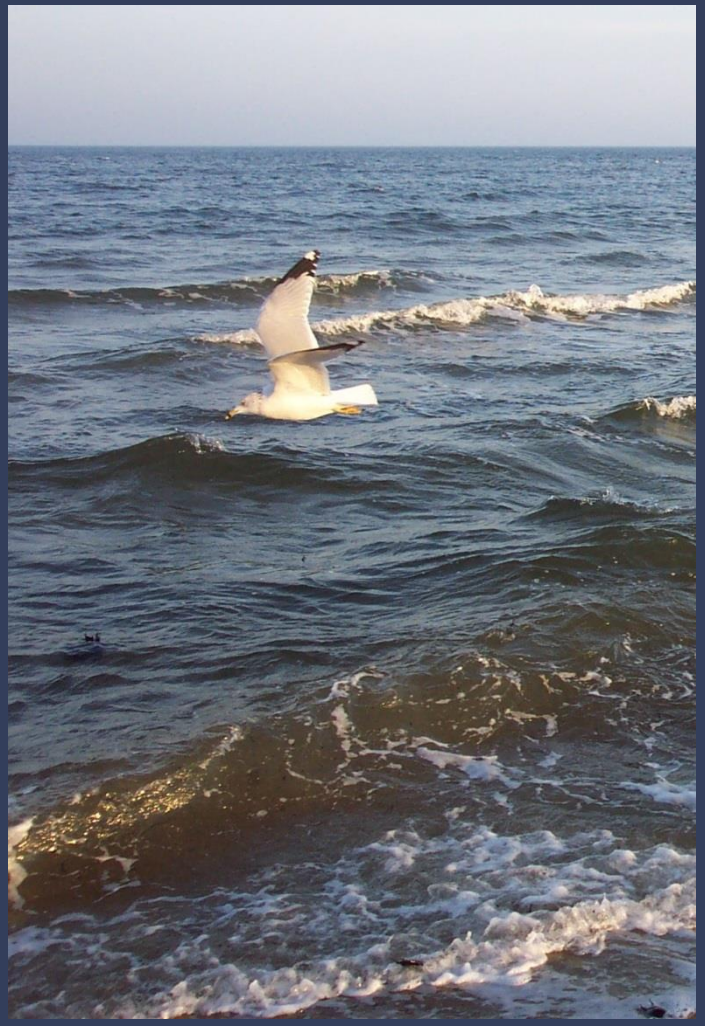
Overview

- ROA accomplishments to date:
  - Completion of a White Paper
  - Issuing a Request for Proposals (RFP)
- What to expect next:
  - Timeline for development of a Regional Ocean Assessment



Development of a White Paper

- New charge at January 2015 RPB meeting
  - ROA Workgroup charged with developing a White Paper highlighting what makes the Mid-Atlantic Ocean special and the value of ocean planning in the region.
- Multi-agency effort to develop a White Paper by April 2015



Content of the White Paper

- ROA Workgroup completed a White Paper: ***"A Brief Overview of the Mid-Atlantic Ocean: Characteristics, Trends , and Challenges"***
  - Highlights of the Mid-Atlantic region:
    - Over 34 million people call the Mid-Atlantic coastal counties their home
    - Sandy beaches draw residents and tourists for rest, refreshment, and recreation
    - Rich cultural and historical sites
    - Vibrant coastal communities and metropolitan cities
    - Strong ocean economy that provides sand for our beaches, transportation for goods, and food for the table

Development of a Regional Ocean Assessment

- Worked with MARCO to issue an ROA Request for Proposals (RFP)
  - Contractor to develop an ROA that includes a baseline characterization and assessment of ocean uses and resources in the Mid-Atlantic
  - Designed to be available primarily in a dynamic digital format that can be updated over time
- ROA Timeline
  - First draft of ROA in November 2015
  - Final ROA in January 2016

Feedback on the ROA

- The White Paper is available on the RPB website: ***http://www.boem.gov/A-Brief-Overview-of-the-Mid-Atlantic-Ocean/***
- The ROA Workgroup is interested in your thoughts on the White Paper, especially if there are significant topics the RPB should consider that are not addressed in the document
- Comments can be submitted through the RPB email: ***MidAtlanticRPB@boem.gov***

Mid-Atlantic Ocean Data Portal

http://portal.midatlanticocean.org/portal/

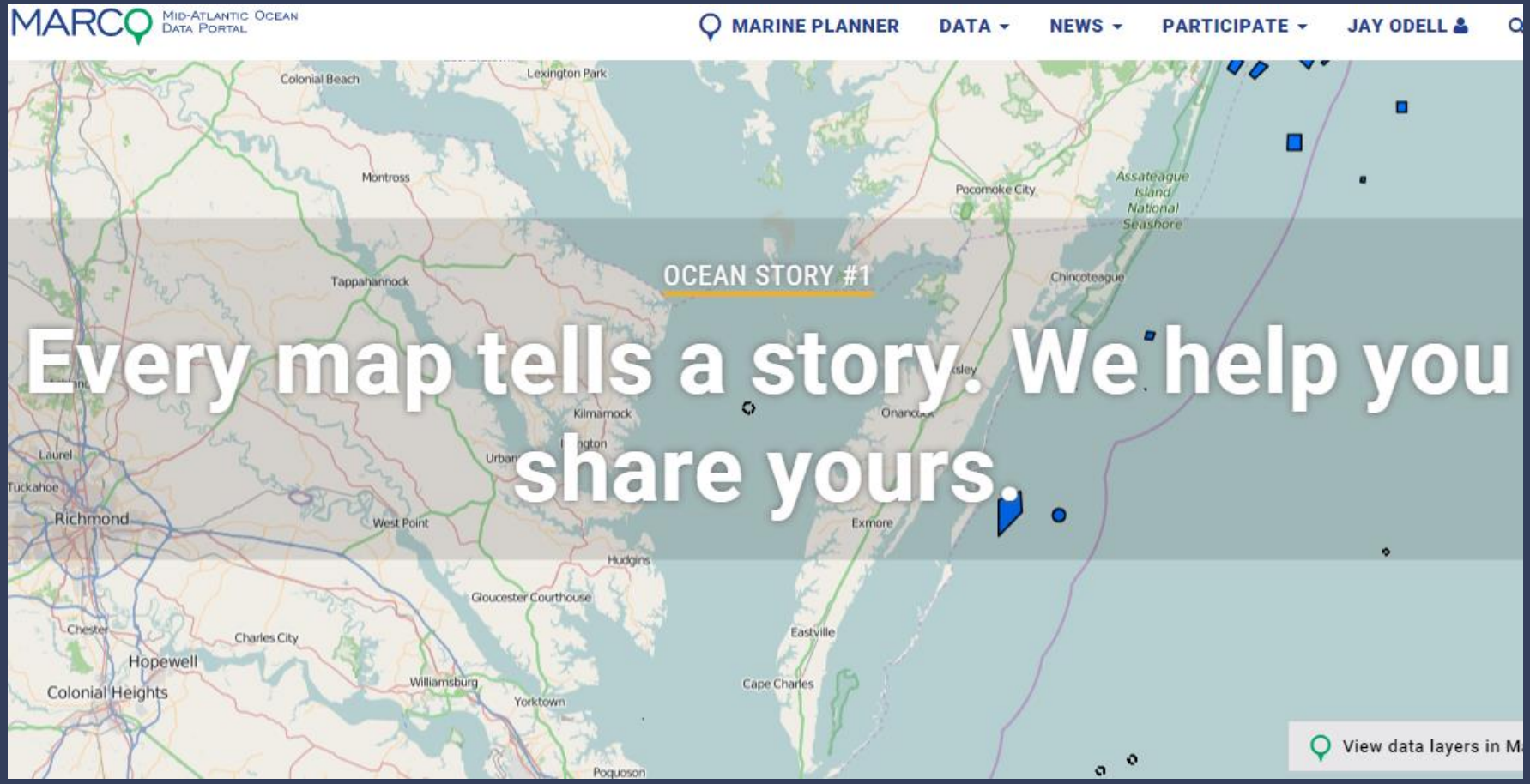
Sign Up – Comment – Participate

Tony MacDonald, Monmouth University - Urban Coast Institute · Portal Team Lead

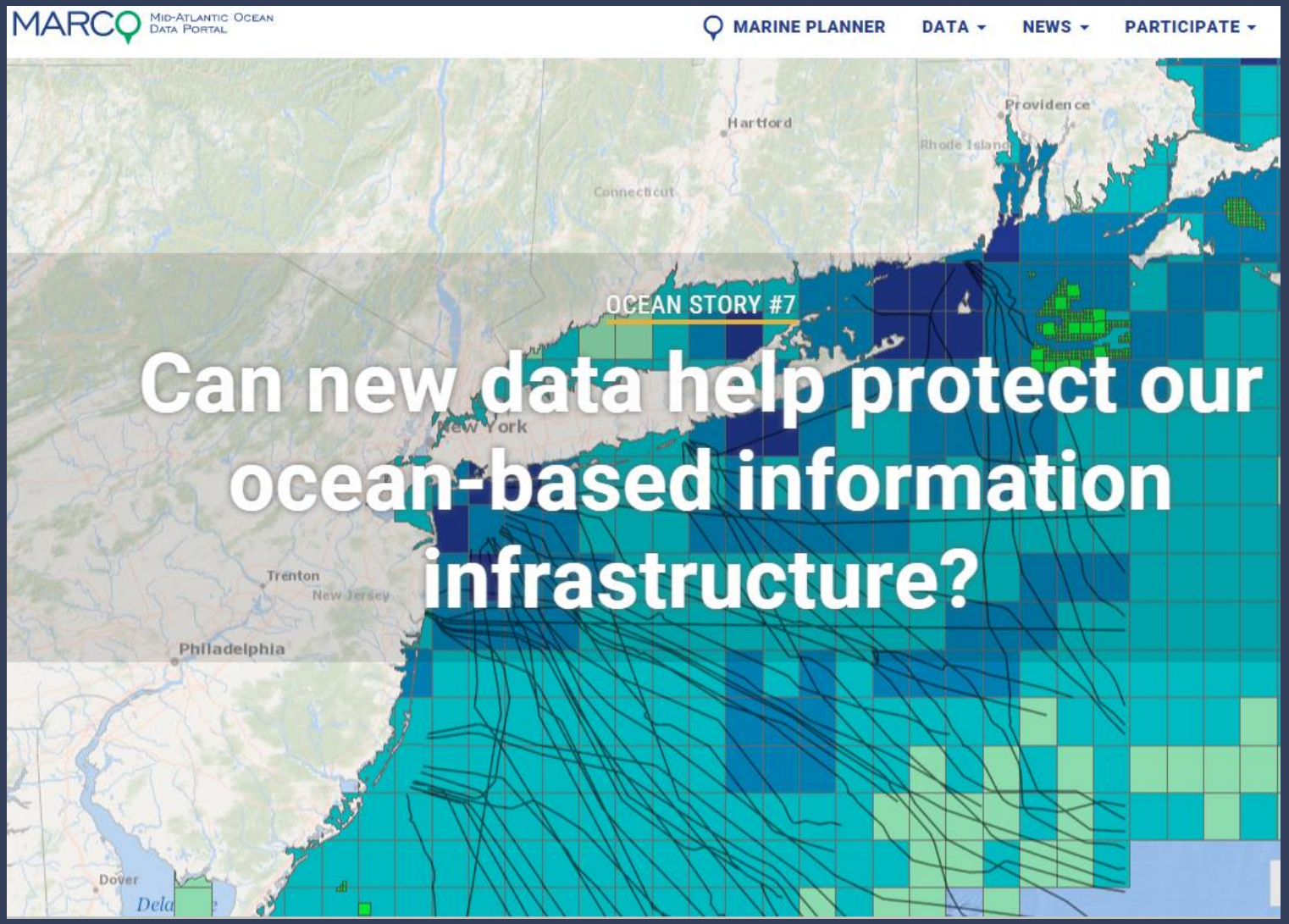
New Developments

1. **Portal 2.0** Enhancements and Redesign
    A. Ocean Stories
    B. Collaboration
    C. Customization and Interactivity
        i. Profiles
        ii. Groups
        iii. Sharing
2. Stakeholder Engagement and Planning Support

Portal 2.0
Ocean Stories



Portal 2.0
Ocean Stories



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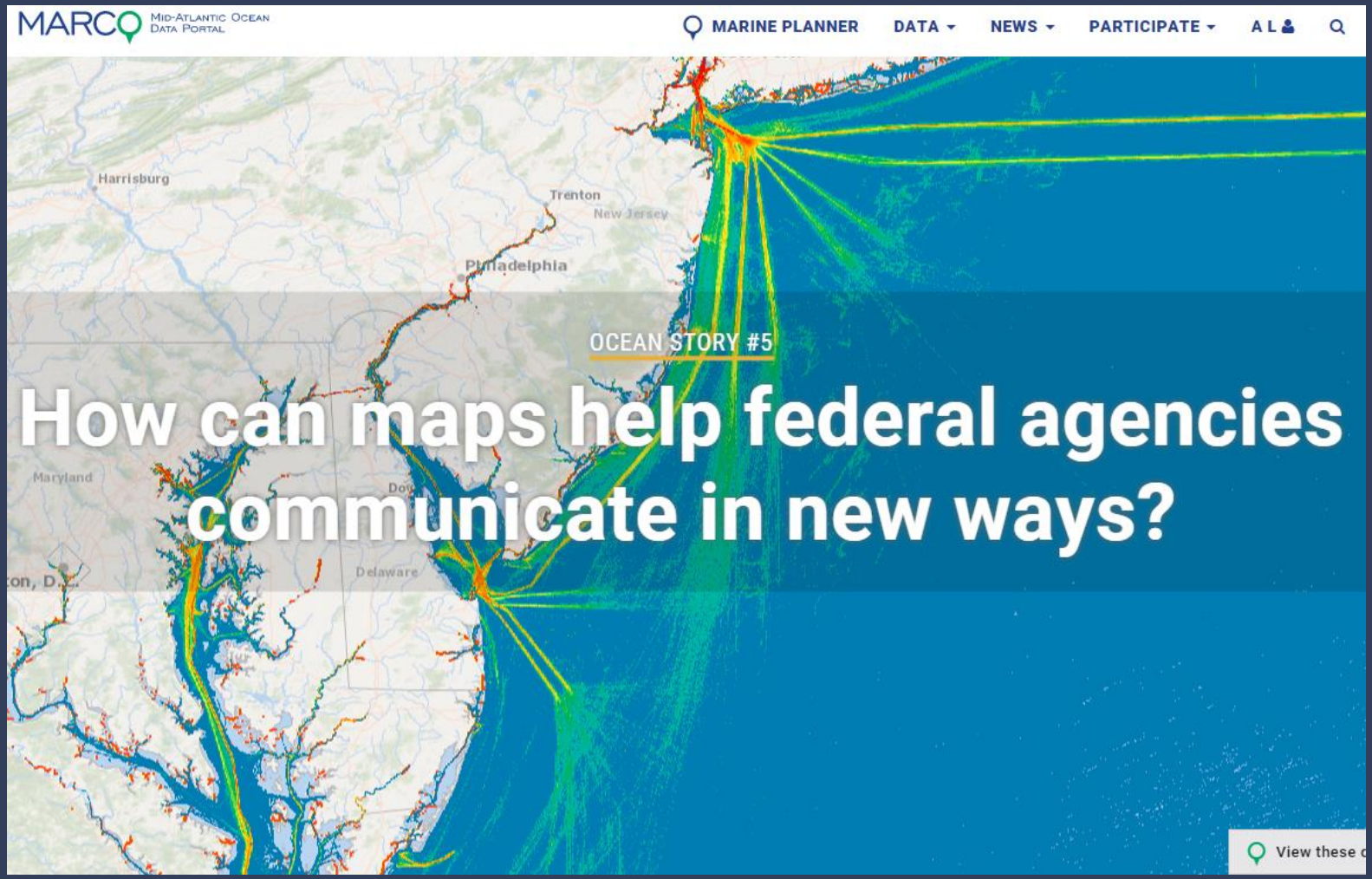
Ocean Stories



Portal 2.0 Calendar

Calendar of events

JUNE 2

June How Tuesday

Join us for a guided tour of the Portal's new tools and enhanced features that are helping to make your stories and maps part of the regional ocean planning process. Bring your questions, be ready to share your examples, or te... us what would help you t...

CAPITOL HILL OCEAN WEEK 2015

JUNE 9

CHOW 2015

Held annually in conjunction with World Ocean Day on June 8th, the purpose of Capitol Hill Ocean Week, better known as CHOW, is to provide a neutral forum where a diverse spectrum of ocean science and management expertise, stakeholde... and policy makers

JULY 7

July How Tuesday

Join us for a guided tour of the Portal's new tools and enhanced features that are helping to make your stories and maps part of the regional ocean planning process. Bring your questions, be ready to share your examples, or te... us what would help you t...

AUG. 4

August How Tuesday

Join us for a guided tour of the Portal's new tools and enhanced features that are helping to make your stories and maps part of the regional ocean planning process. Bring your questions, be ready to share your examples, or te... us what would help you t...

SEPT. 1

September How Tuesday

Join us for a guided tour of the Portal's new tools and enhanced features that are helping to make your stories and maps part of the regional ocean planning process. Bring your questions, be ready to share your examples, or te... us what would help you t...

SEPT. 29

2015 AWEA Offshore Wind Powe... & Exhibition

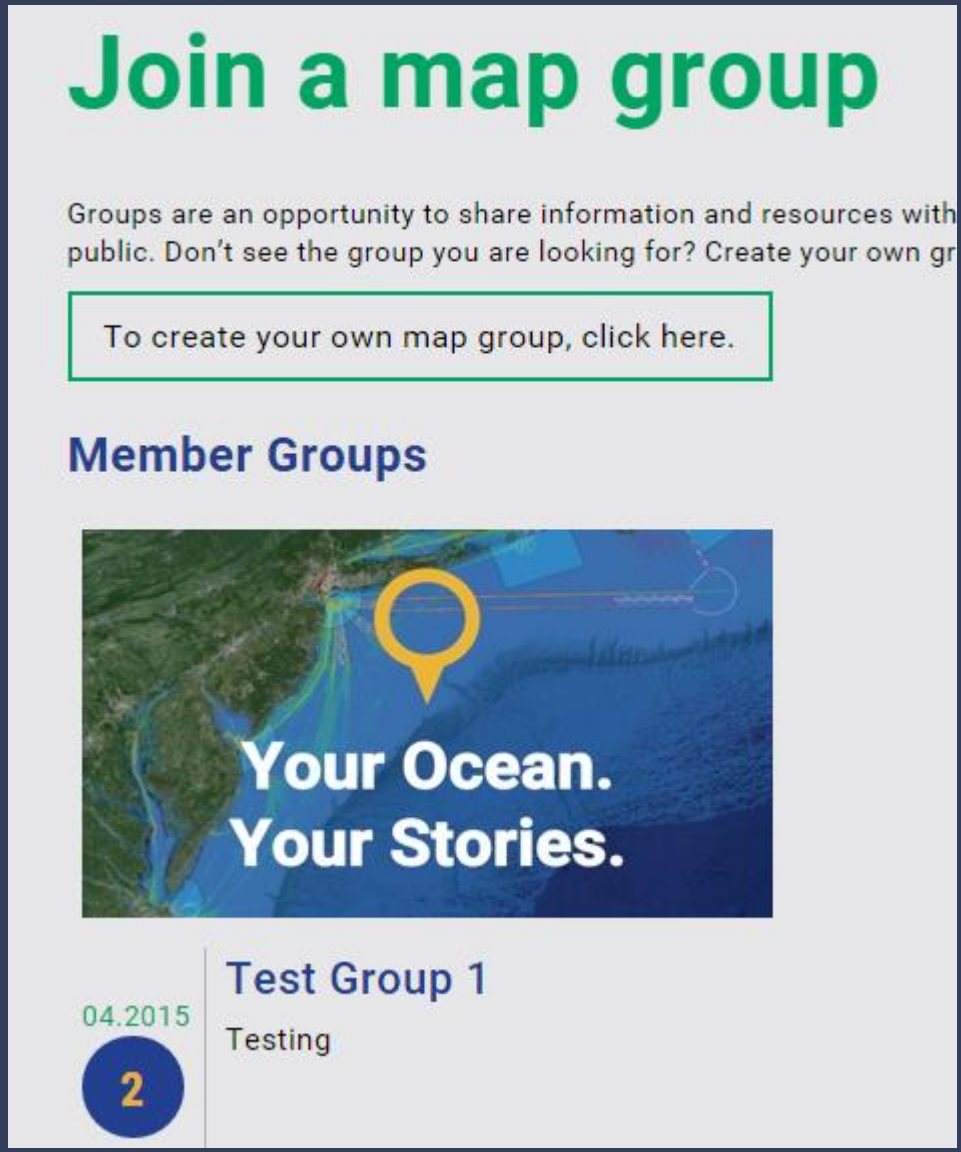
The American Wind Energy Association (AWEA) will be hosting the Offshore Windpower 2015 Conference and Exhibition in Baltimore, Maryland. This event is a meeting ground for all people who

Portal 2.0
Collaboration

Find other stakeholders with common interests

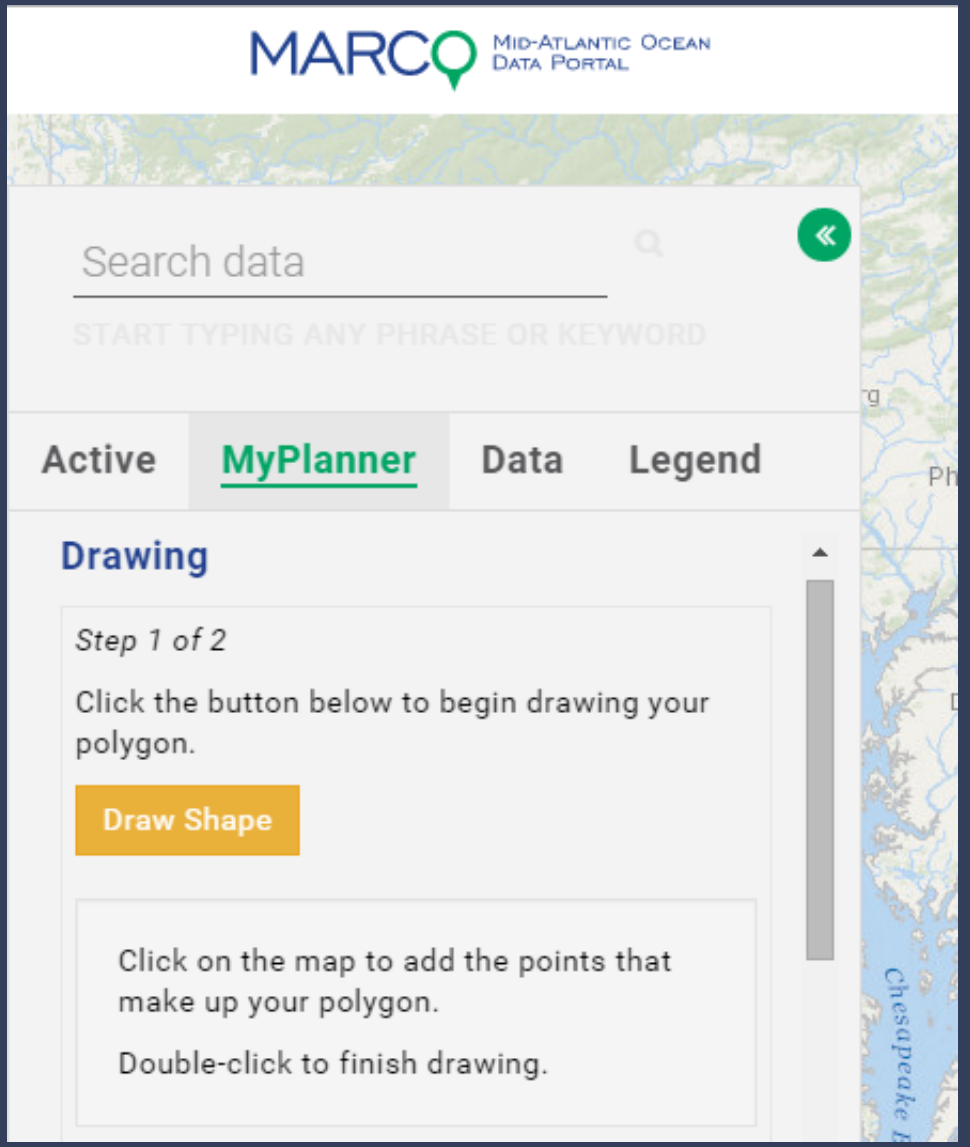
Share maps and ideas with group members

Collaborate with colleagues and stakeholders



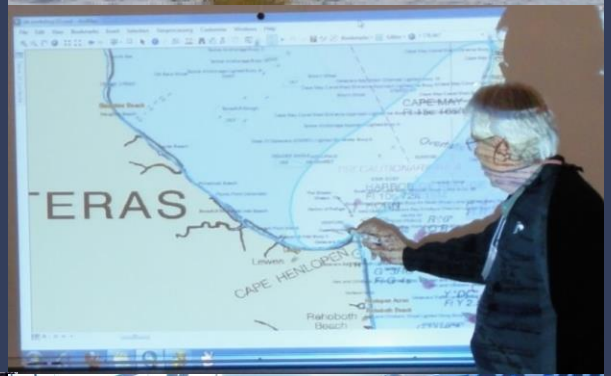
Portal 2.0
Custom Maps

- Import map data from external sources
- Identify and document areas of interest using drawing tools
- Export drawings as GIS files & share custom maps with anyone



Portal 2.0
Stakeholder Engagement

- Coastal recreation
- Recreational fishing
- Commercial fishing
- Maritime transportation
- Submarine cables
- Multi-stakeholder



Questions? Comments?

Please submit your questions or comments via the webinar Q&A function.

Webinar recap materials

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- A recording of the webinar
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Thank you!

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