



U. S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Ocean Energy Management  
Gulf of Mexico OCS Region

## Technical Announcement

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### *EcoSpatial Information Database: U.S. Atlantic Region*

#### [OCS Study BOEM 2014-058](#)

The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM), Gulf of Mexico OCS, announces the availability of a new study report, *EcoSpatial Information Database: U.S. Atlantic Region*.

The EcoSpatial Information Database (ESID) was developed to support BOEM's science-based decision making process related to offshore energy development. In 2009, through a contract with AMEC Environment & Infrastructure, Inc., work began on this new electronic library, which features a map interface complete with full text and geographic search options. The ESID was initially created to make ecological data for the Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) of the U.S. Atlantic Coast readily accessible through advanced geographic and content data search techniques. The database was designed to house ecological and environmental information for all marine and coastal areas of the U.S., beginning with the east coast region, to inform renewable energy development. The goal is for ESID to centralize access to and geo-referencing literature resources.

The ESID project area consists of Federal waters within BOEM's Atlantic OCS Region, which extends from Maine to central Florida (specifically, the North Atlantic, Mid-Atlantic, and South Atlantic Planning Areas). The resources to be included were geology, water quality, pelagic ecology, and benthic ecology. The project team conducted extensive searches of literature and datasets to incorporate into the ESID: over 27,000 scientific papers and environmental reports, and approximately 10,000 web links to identify scientific datasets. It was determined that a total of 3,101 resources, spanning years 1884-2010, were relevant to the ESID. These resources were geospatially referenced and included in the system.

Public access is now available through a cloud-hosted website ([esid.boem.gov](http://esid.boem.gov)). The full text resources allow users to conduct keyword searches; using the ESID map interface users can search graphically because every resource is geo-referenced. Users can generate reports of search results for bibliographic information and download associated files, such as data files and GIS files, when available.

This report is available on CD from the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Gulf of Mexico OCS Region, for \$15.00, and free of charge as a pdf file downloaded from the BOEM website. Copies can also be viewed at selected Federal Depository Libraries. The addresses are listed below.

To order a CD, use the Gulf of Mexico OCS Region contact information below and reference OCS Study BOEM 2014-058. To download a pdf copy, use the Environmental Studies Program Information System and search using the study report number:

[http://www.data.boem.gov/homepg/data\\_center/other/espis/espismaster.asp?appid=1](http://www.data.boem.gov/homepg/data_center/other/espis/espismaster.asp?appid=1)

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