

Background

- According to OCSLA and Bureau's mission, BOEM should
 - revisit results of past studies
 - consider new research and monitoring efforts to identify
 - environmental changes
 - potential cumulative effects of offshore oil and gas activity on the GOM
- The sum of past and current, as well as future studies forms a strong environmental monitoring framework that guides BOEM management decisions



Relevance to BOEM

- Collect information for assessment and management of impacts on human, marine/coastal environments;
- Predict impacts on marine biota from chronic and large OCS spills, drilling fluids and cuttings discharges, pipeline emplacement, or onshore facilities;
- Monitor human, marine/coastal environments to provide data for identification of significant changes of these environments, and identify the causes of the changes
- BOEM' s interested in ecosystem based management
- Framework to guide management decisions

Objective

Hold a **multi-disciplinary** workshop where a **diverse** group of scientific experts and stakeholders guide BOEM on the direction of future research examining the long-term effects from the oil and gas industry in OCS waters, e.g., GOM.

The workshop will evaluate:

- what previous studies are most valuable for baseline or incremental data
- the best way to utilize that data
- what offshore sites should be (re)examined
- what new techniques or instrumentation should be used to collect new data or analyze previously collected data
- what new data should be collected including needs for new baseline data



Methods

- **Participants:** Academia, private sector, and government scientists and stakeholders
- **Specialties**
Geo- and water-chemistry, chemical oceanography, environmental mineralogy, toxicology, (micro)biology, etc...
- **Themes/sessions**
 - Continental shelf
 - Deepwater
 - Plenary session at the beginning and end to address areas of overlap, synergies, and information needs
- **Duration:** 1.5- 2 days

Products

- Published workshop proceedings
- Framework for next generation of studies for long-term monitoring



- Major Budget Items
 - Chairman~ \$50 K
 - Facilities and equipment rental ~ \$120 K
 - Preparation of workshop proceedings~ \$60 K
 - Travel~ \$20 K
- Total budget \$200-\$300 K



Future ...

