

Supporting Conventional and Renewable Energy - 2013

Discipline	Title	Rank
FE	<u>Understanding the Role of Offshore Structures in Managing Potential <i>Watersipora subtorquata</i> Invasions</u>	4
Needed now to perform timely environmental review for decommissioning decisions and renewable energy development		



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BOEM Information Need:

Elucidate the role that offshore artificial structures may have in affecting biological communities and to comply with the duties of federal agencies that are outlined in Section 2 of Executive Order (EO) 13112 (Invasive Species)

Relationship to Previous BOEM-Supported Research:

This study builds upon the extensive body of work investigating oceanographic patterns, platform fouling communities and decommissioning issues



OBJECTIVE

Understand the role of offshore structures in managing potential *Watersipora subtorquata* invasions, and to incorporate this information into environmental reviews regarding ongoing operations and decommissioning of oil and gas platforms and potential renewable energy facilities



BOEM



MASON GULF LLC

METHODS

- 1) Quantify the existing distribution and abundance of *Watersipora subtorquata*
- 2) Document the seasonality of *Watersipora* settlement at platforms and in harbors
- 3) Assess the effectiveness of mitigation measures that would prevent establishment of *Watersipora* in uncolonized habitats

Ship hull cleaning



Growth abatement devices

