BOEM Information Need:

- Expanding locations (e.g., Arctic and Pacific) as well as backlog
- Essential element of biological quality assurance allowing informed protection.
- Scientific credibility important to stakeholders' acceptance of decision-making
- National treasure of biological knowledge impossible to replace
- Provides access to invaluable collections to the U.S. and world

Date Information is Required:

Additional funding for remainder of current 5-year sole-source contract 2013-2014

BOEM OCS Region National

Tentative Ranking: 1

Background:

- **Expansion of existing archiving program to meet growing needs**

- **Ongoing since 1979; current contract 2009-2014**

- **Annual funding approximately $210,000**

- **Planned additions from north Pacific renewable energy studies, new Arctic Beaufort Sea Boulder Patch coop, Pacific MARINe rocky intertidal vouchers**

- **Continuing backlog (106,408 sample lots)**

- **To date, over 400 species new to science have been identified in the BOEM collections**

BOEM OCS Region National

Tentative Ranking: 1

Study's Objectives:

- Provide quality assurance for biological data generated through the BOEM Environmental Studies Program and the credibility of offshore energy and mineral resources decision-making.

- Preservation of Federally-funded biological samples and providing for their availability for scientific study into the future.

Study's Methods:

Collections received and maintained according to the strict guidelines of the NMNH including:
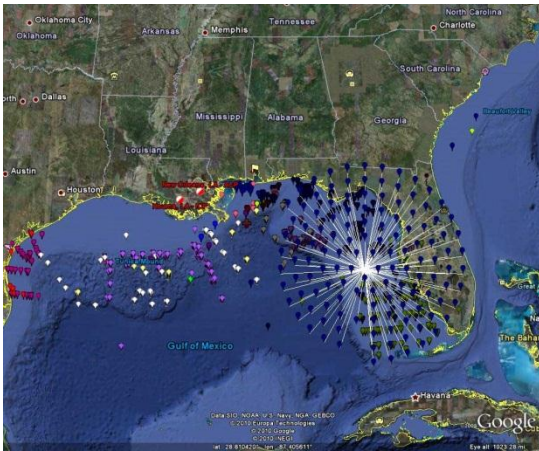
- Acquisition
- Data management
- Administration
- Cataloging

- Curation
- Sorting
- Identification

- Collections made available to other researchers

- Quarterly, Semi-annual and Annual reports

BOEM OCS Region National

Tentative Ranking: 1

- Data base access to all BOEM invertebrate collection data.

http://invertebrates.si.edu/boem/boem.htm

- Link to download Google Earth plug-in interactive map viewing of all archived sample locations allowing expansion to show individual sample records with additional data links.

http://invertebrates.si.edu/boem/files.htm

BOEM OCS Region National

Tentative Ranking: 1