



# *Science, Regulatory Requirements and Stakeholder Coordination*

Tamara S. Arzt, J.D., M.P.A.

Environmental Protection Specialist/ESA Lead

Division of Environmental Assessment

March 2017



# What BOEM Does?

- *As directed by the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (OCSLA), BOEM manages the responsible exploration and development of offshore energy and marine mineral resources on the U.S. Outer Continental Shelf (OCS).*
- *The bureau promotes energy independence, environmental protection and economic development through responsible management of these offshore resources based on the best available science*





# How BOEM Does This?

- *Conducts environmental reviews and creates compliance documents for each major stage of energy development planning on the OCS*
- *Conducts and oversees environmental studies to inform policy decisions relating to the management of energy development on the OCS*
- *Interacts/engages with the public and stakeholders as critical component for safe and responsible energy development on the OCS*

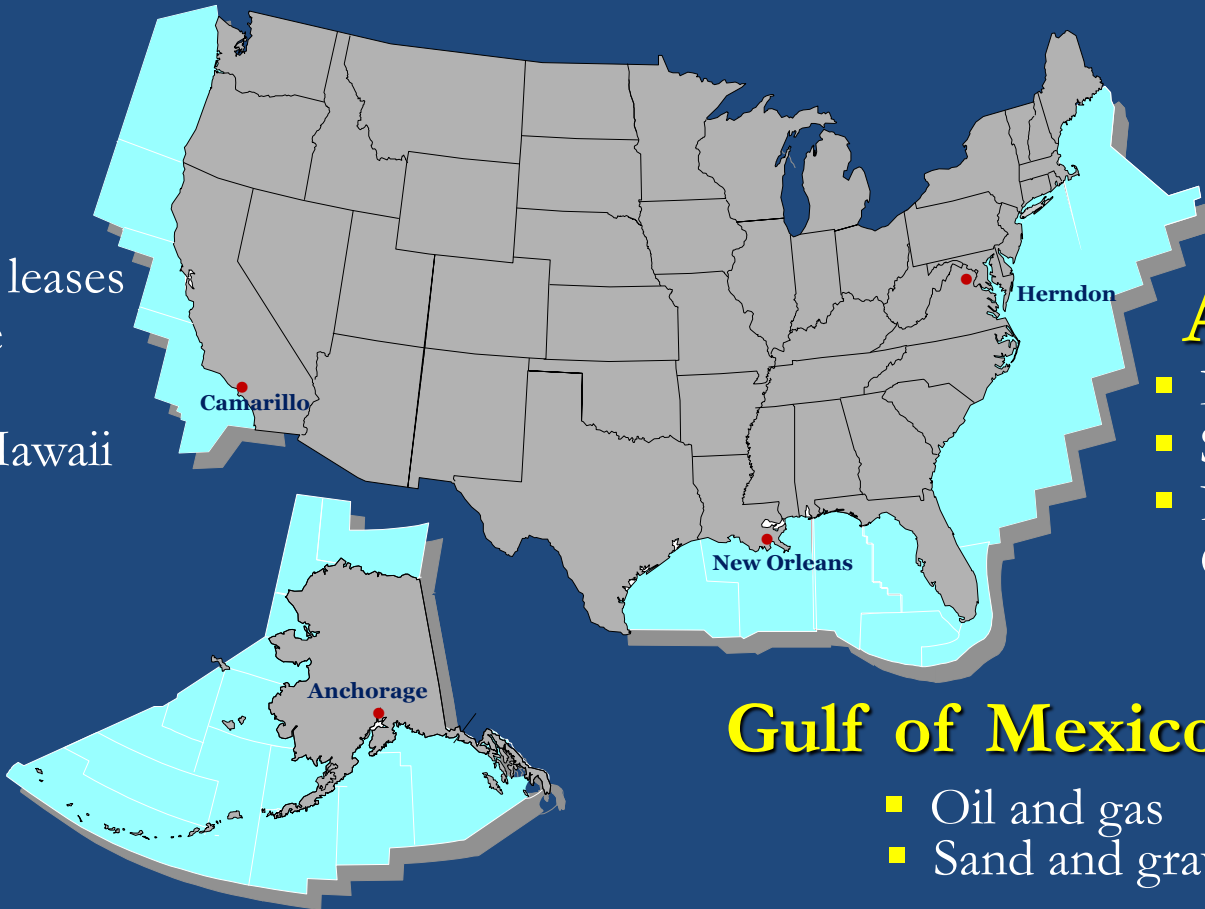


# Three Program Areas

- Oil and Gas
- Renewable Energy
- Marine Minerals



# BOEM Regions



## Pacific

- Producing leases
- Renewable energy
- Includes Hawaii

## Atlantic

- Renewable energy
- Sand and gravel
- Potential Oil and Gas

## Alaska

- Oil & gas in Arctic

## Gulf of Mexico

- Oil and gas
- Sand and gravel



# Environmental Impacts

**Oil and gas, renewable energy, and marine mineral mining on the OCS all impact the environment**

- Oil spills
- Bottom disturbance
- Obstructions to movement & migration
- Noise
- Air emissions
- Lighting
- Vessel traffic
- “Viewscape”



# Regulatory Requirements

**Magnuson-Stevens  
Fishery Conservation  
and Management  
Act**

**E.O. 13186:  
Protection of  
Migratory Birds**

**Endangered  
Species Act**

**E.O. 12898:  
Environmental  
Justice**

**National  
Historic  
Preservation  
Act**

**NEPA  
Process**

**Federal Water  
Pollution  
Control Act**

**Marine Mammal  
Protection Act**

**Clean  
Air Act**

**Coastal Zone  
Management  
Act**



- *Prepares NEPA analyses and documentation;*
- *Conducts statutory consultations with other federal and state agencies and tribal governments;*
- *These analyses and consultations are done for each major stage of energy development planning*





# Major Federal Agencies Involved in OCS Activities



U.S. Coast Guard



Environmental Protection Agency



Fish and Wildlife Service



Army Corps of Engineers



Federal Aviation Administration



U.S. Geological Survey

National Marine Fisheries Service

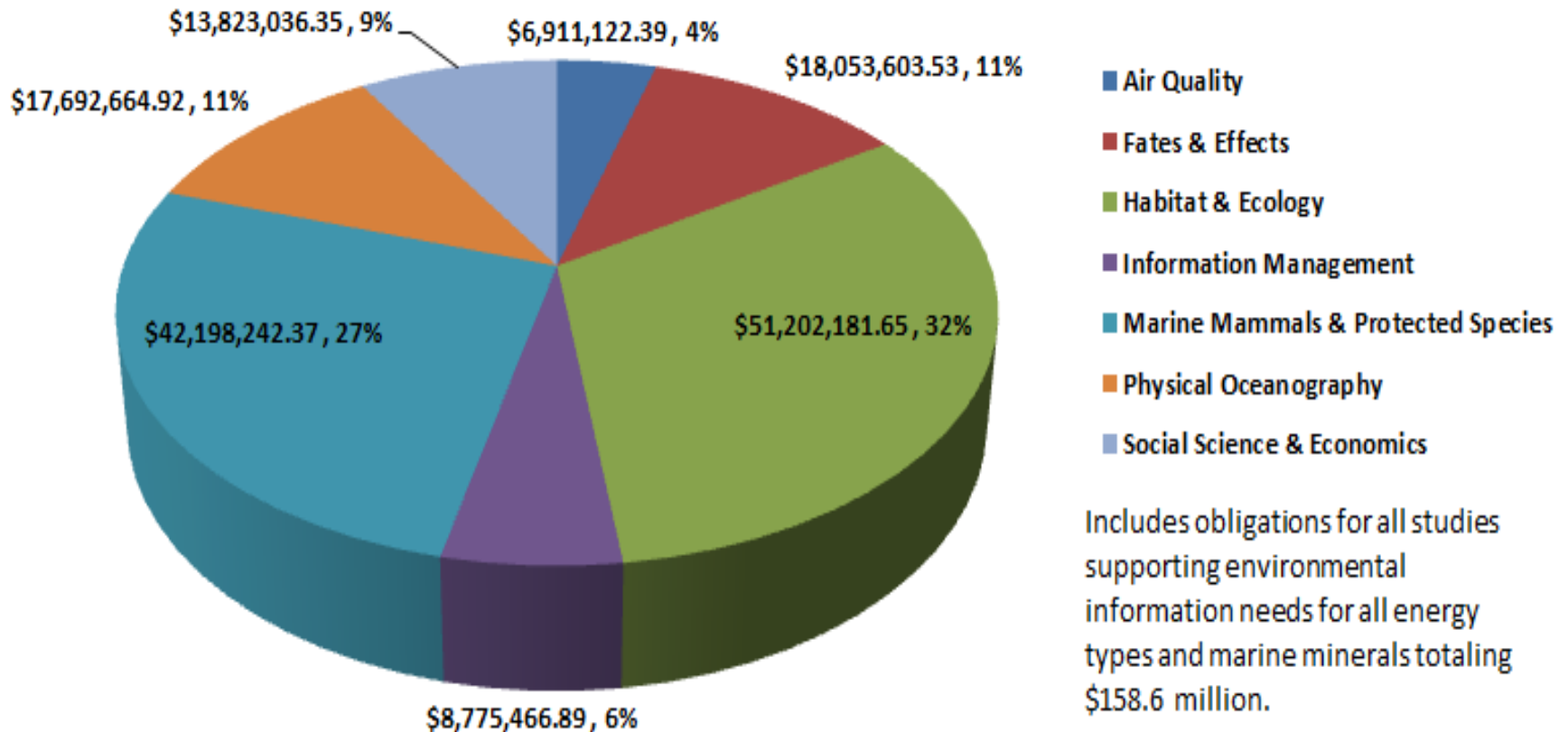


- *Establishes the information needed for assessment and management of environmental impacts on the human, marine, and coastal environments of the OCS and the potentially affected coastal areas*



# ESP Spending by Discipline

## Environmental Studies Program Funds by Discipline FY 2012-2016 Cumulative



# Multiple Stakeholders

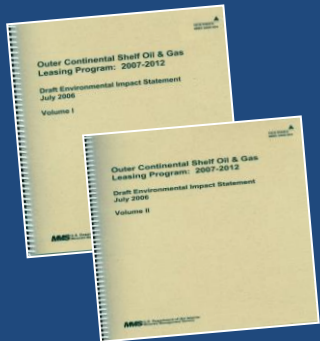
- **Federal, State and Local Government**
- **General Public**
- **Non-Governmental Organizations**
  - **Environmental**
- **Academia**
- **Industry**
- **Military**
- **Tribal Governments**



# Stakeholder Involvement and Coordination

- **The NEPA Process**
  - *Public Comment/Public Participation*
- **Rulemakings**
  - *Public Comment*
- **Conferences and Workshops**
- **Research Collaborations**
- **Informational Meetings**
- **Informal Meetings between BOEM and Stakeholders**

# An Integrated Process





*Thank you!*

