



OCS Scientific Committee Meeting May 2012

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An Integrated Scientific Approach to Arctic Sustainability: the ArcSEES partnership

Page #	Break-out	Title	Rank
HQ 31	P1	<u>An Integrated Scientific Approach to Arctic Sustainability: the ArcSEES partnership</u> <u>(ArcSEES = Arctic Science, Engineering and Education for Sustainability).</u>	4
<p>**PO = Physical Oceanography FE = Fate & Effect BIO = Biology PS = Protected Species SE = Social & Economic OT = Other</p>			

HQ





An Integrated Scientific Approach to Arctic Sustainability: the ArcSEES partnership

BOEM Information Need:

BOEM needs integrated and multi-disciplinary environmental information including the socio-economic sciences, to be able to soundly feed its regulatory and permitting processes. The sustainability of all, the physical environment, living resources and local communities, is directly linked to BOEM's assessments.

Date Information is Required: FY2013

HQ

Tentative Ranking: 4

A) Relationship with Previous Work/Efforts

This program was put together as a result of decades of research which pointed to the need of approaching Arctic sustainability in an integrated manner while identifying several research gaps.

Background:

B) Relationship with Concurrent/Future Efforts

This partnership involves a simultaneous effort by the following French and US agencies:



Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS), France



National Science Foundation (Lead)



US Geological Survey



Environmental Protection Agency



US Fish and Wildlife Service



Bureau of Ocean Energy Management

Study's Objectives:

- Human interactions, responses and adaptations to a changing Arctic environment.
- Ecosystem's vulnerabilities and resilience so the environmental impact of the oil and gas industry can be minimized through pertinent regulations and leasing decisions.

Study's Methods:

Interdisciplinary, integrated approaches to that combine the use of both, observational and data, will be given higher priority by BOEM.

- Questions?

For this program **sustainability** is defined following the definition of the National Academy of Sciences, in that, information is needed *to meet the needs of present and future generations while substantially reducing poverty and conserving the planet's life support systems*