

OCS Scientific Committee Meeting May 2014



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Proposed FY 2015 Studies – Pacific Region

Page	Discipline	Title	Rank
69	BIO	Data Synthesis and High-resolution Predictive Modeling of Marine Bird Spatial Distributions on the Pacific OCS	1
71	BIO	BOEM-MARINe (Multi-Agency Rocky Intertidal Network)	2
73	BIO	Synthesis of Pacific Platform Research	3
75	FE	Consequences of Ocean Energy Projects to Productivity and Trophic Structure in Marine and Coastal Habitats	4
77	FE	Watersipora II: Biological Oceanographic Connectivity of Southern California Reefs and Manmade Structures	5
79	SE	Refining Maps of Ocean Use Compatibility and Cumulative Impacts for Ocean Energy Projects	6
81	BIO	Cross-shelf Habitat Suitability Modeling	7
83	FE	Predicting and Detecting the Effects of Climate Change and Ocean Acidification Using Long-term Ecological Data	8

PO= Physical Oceanography

PS = Protected Species

FE = Fates & Effects SE = Social & Economic BIO= Biology OT = Other





BOEM Information Need:

Implements BOEM's OCSLA mandate to monitor the environment after conventional and renewable energy leasing activities

Relationship to Other BOEM-supported Research:

- Ongoing Study: Pacific Rocky Intertidal Survey and Monitoring (PRISM) provides direct support
- 2) Vouchers from MARINe are coordinated with BOEM's Cooperative Agreement with the Smithsonian Institution

MARINe received the DOI Partners in Conservation Award from the Secretary of the Interior in 2012.

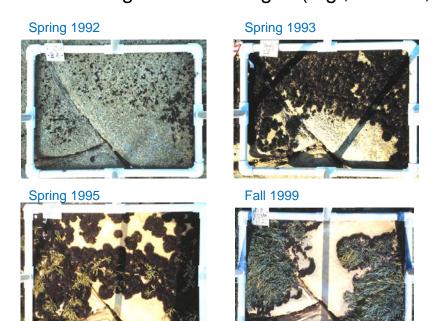


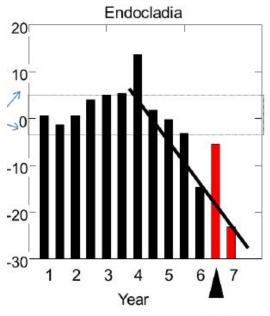




Study Objectives:

- To determine the impacts to the adjacent rocky shoreline from OCS operations;
 for example: impacts from oil spills and wave energy depletion
- 2) To evaluate the cumulative impacts of the Pacific Region OCS program over its life
- 3) To understand potential anthropogenic changes in the context of natural fluctuations and larger scale changes (e.g., El Nino, climate change)







spill



Study Methods:

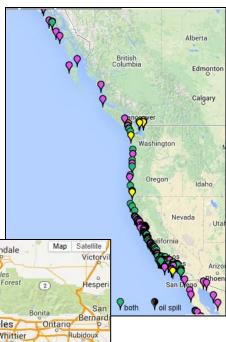
1) Fixed plots at 32 (out of 133) sites to determine trends over time













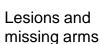


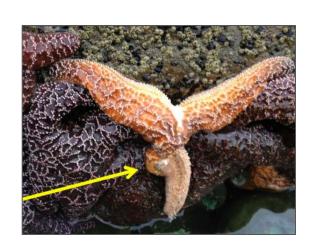
Study Methods:

 Critical support to analyze, distribute, and archive data from this program

Example: Seastar Wasting Disease:







- Website views (past 3 months): 3582
- Press articles (past year): 12
- Data requests (past 2 years): 33
- Publications (past 2 years): 6
- Presentations: 40-70 per year

www.marine.gov





Specific Feedback Sought from Scientific Committee:

Balancing priorities over a large geographic area that has both renewable energy and conventional energy responsibilities:

This year, we are evaluating our protocols in space and time to determine the most efficient way to answer the scientific questions identified by this study. We are also making major upgrades in the database after 13 years in use.

Examples of the science-based questions we are grappling with:

- 1) Can we reduce the spatial and temporal extent of sampling while retaining the statistical power to detect change?
- 2) Our Vertical Distribution Survey is set up to detect changes predicted by climate change and wave facilities; can we simplify this protocol?

