



OSC Scientific Committee Meeting May 2013

Dave Moran

Marine Biologist

Gulf of Mexico Region



Page #	Break-out	Title	Rank
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<p>**PO = Physical Oceanography FE = Fate & Effect BIO = Biology PS = Protected Species SE = Social & Economic OT = Other</p>			

Gulf of Mexico Region



BOEM Information Needs:

- **Need to know seabird baseline state (distribution and abundance) and prediction of its future for waterbirds Gulf-wide for NEPA needs**
- **Need to know waterbird distribution and abundance inshore and in large embayments Gulf-wide for OSRA, NEPA, and state agency needs**

Date Information is Required: As soon as possible

Gulf of Mexico Region

Tentative Ranking: N/A



Background:

A) Relationship with Previous Work/Efforts

- No recent Gulf-wide surveys of inshore waterbird distribution and abundance have been done
- Only one model (done by MMS) of seabirds in the Gulf has been done
- That model was only for the eastern planning area
- That model only covered a small number of species



Gulf of Mexico Region

Tentative Ranking: N/A

Background:

B) Relationship with Concurrent/Future Efforts:

- **No other comprehensive bird studies are currently underway or planned**
- **Basin-wide coupled biogeochemical ecosystem model is proposed that could be combined with the model in this study in the future**

Gulf of Mexico Region

Tentative Ranking: N/A

Study's Objectives:

- **To predict seabird species abundance and distribution Gulf-wide**
- **To map waterbird abundance nearshore and in large embayments for OSRA and other BOEM information needs**

Gulf of Mexico Region

Tentative Ranking: N/A

Study's Methods:

- **Survey and map waterbirds inshore and in large embayments Gulf-wide**
- **Model baseline state of the ecosystem and its influence on the food web and seabirds**
- **Model seabird species distributions**

Gulf of Mexico Region

Tentative Ranking: N/A



Comprehensive Nearshore and Offshore Avian
Surveys in the Gulf of Mexico

Addition *Pertinent* Information

Gulf of Mexico Region

Tentative Ranking: N/A