

Evolution of Ocean Policies and Planning: Positioning for Today

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Evolution Through Four Administrations

- **Bush:** *Envisioning*
 - Energy Policy Act of 2005
 - U.S. Commission on the Ocean/Pew, Oceans Act
- **Obama**
 - National Ocean Council structure
 - National Ocean Policy/Coastal and Marine Spatial Planning
- **Trump**
 - Ocean Policy to Advance the Economic, Security and Environmental Interests of the U.S. (EO 13840, Jan 2018), FAST41
- **Biden**
 - Ocean Policy Committee, America the Beautiful (30x30), All of Government Offshore Wind Strategy; 30GW by 2030 offshore wind, floating wind



Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act (OCSLA)

Ocean and Coastal Marine Hydrography Act

Clean Water Act

National Historic Sites Act

Coast & Geodetic Survey Act of 1947

National Marine Sanctuaries Act (NMSA)

Marine Reserve Fleet (RRF)

Submerged Lands Act

Clean Air Act (CAA) 1990 -

Marine Protected Areas (MPAs)

Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA)

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

National Invasive Species Act

Marine Plastic Pollution Research and Control Act (MPPRCA)

Federal Power Act (FPA)

National Weather Service (NWS)

Marine Mammal Protection Act

Ocean Thermal Energy Conversion Act (OTECA)

Marine Security Act

Research, and Sanctuaries [O Magnus]

Integrated Coastal and Ocean Observing System Act

E.O. 13178 - Western lands Coral



DEFENSE & HOMELAND
SECURITY



SCIENCE



COMMERCIAL
FISHING

RECREATION



AQUACULTURE



CONSERVATION



ENERGY &
INDUSTRY



NAVIGATION



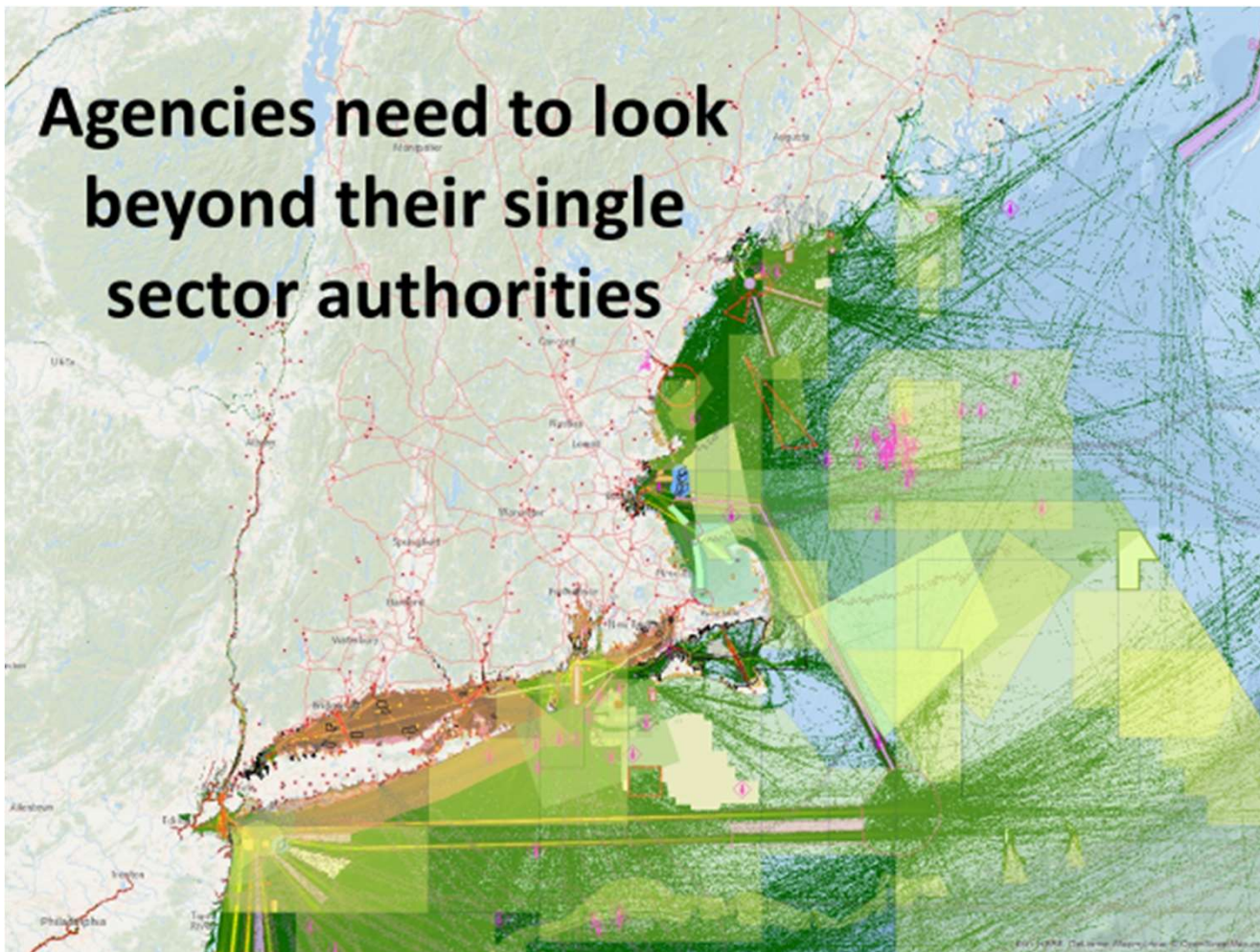
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Agencies need to look
beyond their single
sector authorities



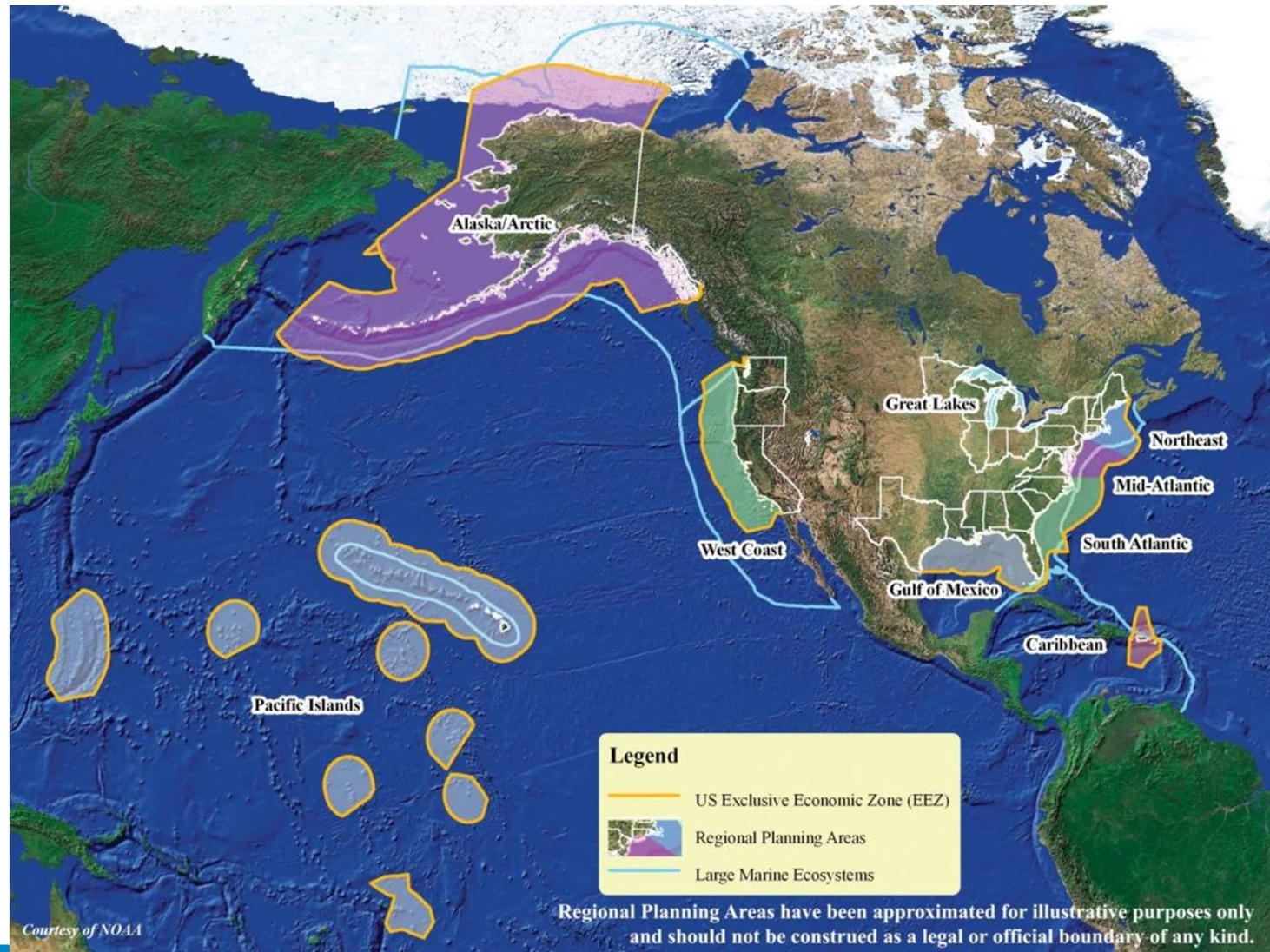
THE WHITE HOUSE COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

*Final Recommendations
Of The
Interagency Ocean Policy
Task Force
July 19, 2010*



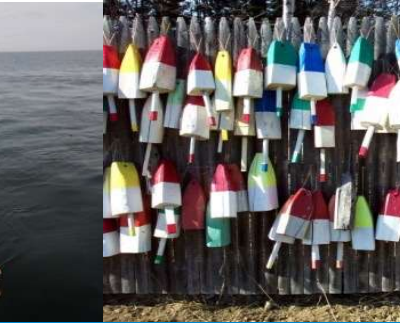
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A Regional Approach



Northeast Ocean Plan

- Makes accessible an unprecedented amount of integrated ocean information
- Commits federal agencies to use information in their decisions
- Helps identify conflicts, compatibilities, and potentially affected stakeholders
- Encourages government to work better together and engage the public
- Identifies future priority science and research needs



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- **Trump: *Augmenting Data***
 - Ocean Policy to Advance the Economic, Security and Environmental Interests of the U.S. (EO 13840, Jan 2018), FAST41
- Biden
 - Ocean Policy Committee, America the Beautiful (30x30), All of Government Offshore Wind Strategy; 30GW by 2030 offshore wind, floating wind



Top Ten Data Themes Needed Across Regions (NOAA Dewberry Study)

- Jurisdictions and regulated areas (various agencies)
- Abundance and distribution of marine species (NOAA, DoD, BOEM, FWS)
- Synthesized oceanographic parameters (NOAA IOOS)
- Commercial fishing effort - Vessel Monitoring System (VMS) (NOAA NMFS)
- Vessel traffic - Automatic Identification Systems (USCG, MARAD)
- Human and cultural use areas (NPS, BIA, NOAA)
- Commercial fishing effort - Vessel Trip Report (VTR) (NOAA NMFS)
- Bathymetry (NOAA, USGS)
- Sand and borrow sites (BOEM, USACE)
- Species and habitat locations (NOAA, BOEM, USGS, FWS)



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- **Biden:** *Applying data and knowledge to projects*
 - Ocean Policy Committee, America the Beautiful (30x30), 30GW by 2030 offshore wind, floating wind



Best Practices for Ocean Permitting and Management

- ❖ Inclusive Outreach and Engagement
- ❖ Agency and Interjurisdictional Collaboration
- ❖ Accessible and Credible Data and Information
- ❖ Pre-Application Coordination

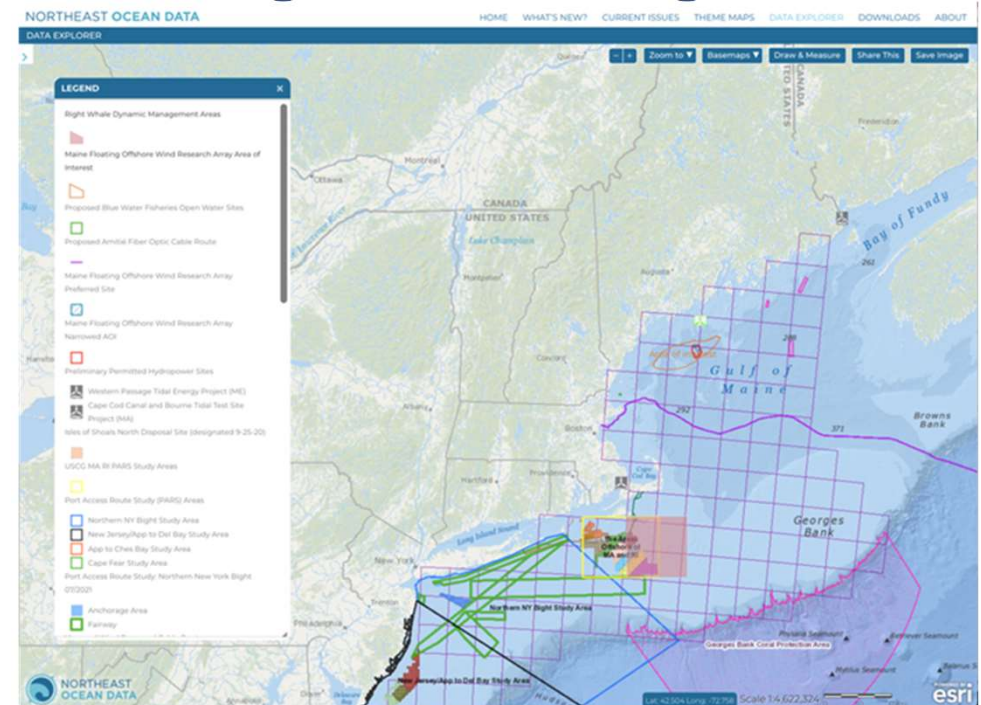


Figure: Proposed projects, planning and management areas, and agency actions that have been represented on the Portal since 2019.



Best Practices for Ocean Permitting and Management

- Offshore wind leasing, project development & permitting
- Offshore wind wildlife & fisheries research
- Energy transmission
- Waterways management and navigation
- Telecommunications
- Aquaculture
- Dredged material disposal
- Habitat & biodiversity conservation
- Sand & sediment management

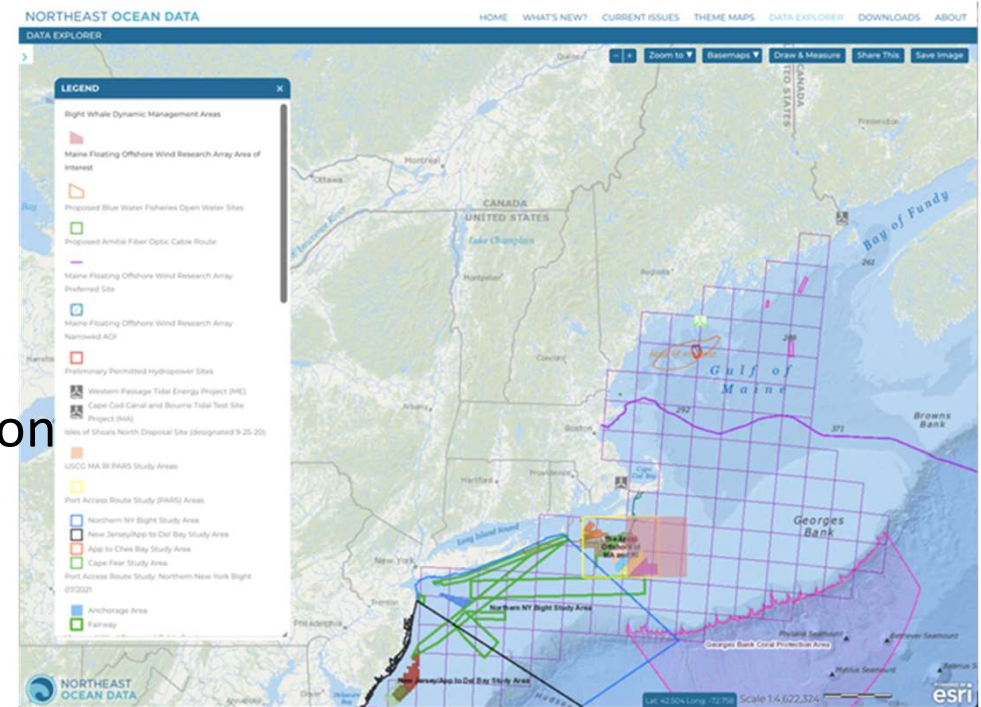


Figure: Proposed projects, planning and management areas, and agency actions that have been represented on the Portal since 2019.





Marine Spatial Toolbox



Data

- Primary Data
- MarineCadastre.gov
- Topical geodatabases
- Regional Ocean Portals
- IOOS - Regional Associations



Modeling

- Characterization analyses
- Constraints modeling
- Suitability modeling
- Scenario modeling
- Trade-off analyses



Tools

- Site Reporting
- Data Processing
- Site Assessment
- Risk Assessment
- Data Visualization

Lessons for Continued Progress in Ocean Planning and Management

- Focus on credible data and science to inform decisions
- Maintain forum to discuss ocean issues at different scales
- Institutionalize best practices within agency mandates
- Relationships at regional scale promotes long term accountability
- Track efficiencies, positive outcomes and consequences, transparent decisions, case studies

