



DIGITAL COAST

CONNECTIONS

Dear Colleague,

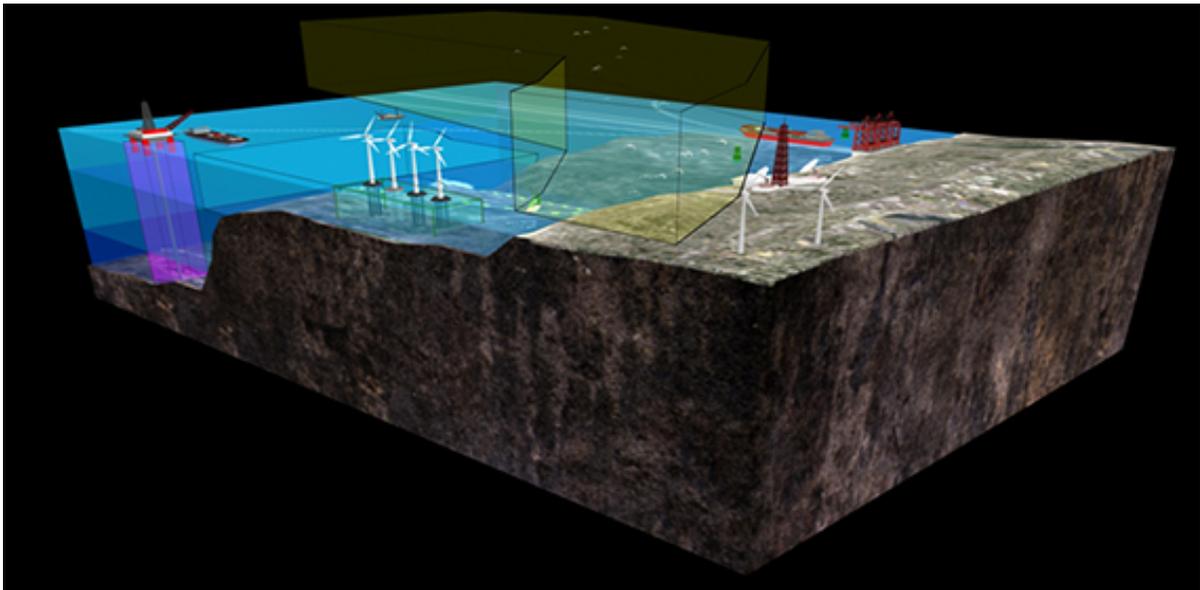
We rely on maps for a variety of reasons, including getting from point A to point B or, with a GIS-based map, helping us understand geography-based data.

But when it comes to the ocean, these two-dimensional maps don't tell the full story. Traditional maps used for the ocean often give the false impression that the marine space is very crowded. In reality, most marine uses are spread out among three dimensions that include the seafloor, water column, sea surface, and air column. Some uses even span a fourth dimension—time.

To help ocean planners get a better view and understanding of how the data points intersect, we developed an [animation](#), [infographic](#), and [podcast](#) that explain this concept. These informational tools, coupled with MarineCadastre.gov's extensive [data registry](#), [online mapping](#) capabilities, and [informational documents](#) can be valuable in preparing ocean planners for the twists and turns associated with ocean-siting tasks. Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "David Stein".

David Stein
Geographer
NOAA Coastal Services Center



When selecting the best site for an ocean project, people use traditional data maps, but they also need to think deeper—in 3-D. Visit [MarineCadastre.gov](https://www.marinecadastre.gov) for data, as well as visualizations to expand your thinking about ocean resources.

Stories from the Field

[Reducing Whale Fatalities on the California Coast](#)

Coastal California is home to four major shipping ports, which means large container ships are constantly traveling through the region's national marine sanctuaries. These sanctuaries, important feeding and breeding grounds for several species of large whales, were seeing an increase in whale fatalities due to ship strikes. Coastal managers worked with partners to use vessel traffic, or Automatic Identification System, data from [MarineCadastre.gov](https://www.marinecadastre.gov) to shift shipping lanes and reduce ship and whale interactions.

[Increasing Resilience in the San Francisco Bay Area](#)

Data

New and Updated Data Includes:

- [Atlantic Seafloor Sediment \(CONMAP\)](#)
- [Atlantic Offshore Seabird Dataset Catalog](#)
- [Federal Emergency Management Agency Regions](#)
- [National Marine Fisheries Service Regions](#)
- [National Park Service Regions](#)
- [US Army Corps of Engineers Civil Districts](#)
- [US Army Corps of Engineers Regulatory Districts](#)
- [Anchorage Areas](#)
- [Undersea Feature Place Names](#)
- [Critical Habitat Designations](#)
- [Unofficial State Lateral Boundaries](#)
- [Tidal Stream Resource Potential – Mean Current](#)

The shorelines of San Francisco Bay are a diverse mix of residential areas, urban waterfronts, critical habitat, and more. All are connected by important infrastructure that unfortunately is vulnerable to sea level rise. To address the issue, the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission used [topographic data](#) to create sea level rise maps and included additional important information, such as social vulnerability index data. All this information was then integrated into community planning efforts undertaken by city and county staff members.

Additional Updates

Stay Up-to-Date on Digital Coast Data

You already love getting updates from us every month about new products, stories, and recent happenings. Why not get the full scoop and subscribe to our new and improved [data newsletter](#)? We'll send information about all the latest additions and updates to our data registry right to your inbox every month.

Looking to expand your knowledge? Check out the [training calendar](#).



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Website

- [Tidal Stream Resource Potential – Mean Power Density](#)
- [2009 Vessel Traffic \(AIS\)](#)
- Earth Explorer
- 2006 FEMA Bare-Earth Lidar: Bristol and Plymouth Counties, Massachusetts

News from our Coastal Colleagues

[Holistic Coasts: A Summary from the National Flood Policy Forum](#) offers a bold vision for coastal resilience.

Compiled by the Association of State Floodplain Managers Foundation from the input of over 100 invited experts, the report promotes individual and collective accountability and responsibility, and balances human use, environment, and economy in a resilient system. Readers of this report will not find all the answers but will see a starting point for creating a sustainable future for our nation.

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Send your product, personnel, or event news to Caitlyn.McCrary@noaa.gov. We'll include it in *Digital Coast Connections*, space permitting. For answers to additional questions, contact csc.info@noaa.gov.