



DIGITAL COAST

CONNECTIONS

Dear Colleague,

November is a time to reflect on the year and remember reasons to give thanks. NOAA's Digital Coast is thankful for the amazing organizations that help grow this valuable resource.

One federal partner we should all give thanks for is the [Bureau of Ocean Energy Management](#). The long-term partnership between NOAA's Office for Coastal Management and the bureau has provided innumerable data resources for the coastal management community. One example is [MarineCadastre.gov](#), which offers data, tools, and resources for ocean planners. Also important is the recently released [Environmental Studies Program Information System](#). Through this tool, users can now easily discover more than 40 years of environmental studies related to research in U.S waters. Both of these efforts can be found in the Digital Coast under data and tools.

The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management represents one of many Digital Coast contributing partners. If you know of another partner we should connect with to expand the resources available on the Digital Coast, please don't hesitate to let us know.

And happy holidays!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dave Stein".

Dave Stein
Geographer, Science and Geospatial Division
NOAA Office for Coastal Management



Stories from the Field

Digital Coast Data and Tools in Action

Evaluating Potential Impacts of Ocean Energy Projects

Ocean energy projects could provide major benefits to the environment by cutting carbon emissions and generating clean energy. However, these projects still have to be vetted to make sure they aren't doing damage to other parts of the natural world. Data available on the [MarineCadastre.gov National Viewer](https://www.marinecadastre.gov) allow ocean planners to discover potential conflicts and address issues quickly. [See what California did.](#)

Informing Ocean Planning Efforts with Authoritative Data

Ocean planning efforts can affect economic, environmental, security, and social and cultural interests throughout a region. Smart ocean planning includes compiling data from high-quality sources to ensure the best available information. Using [MarineCadastre.gov](https://www.marinecadastre.gov) saves users

Data Updates

New and Updated Data Sets

New Download Tool for Imagery Data

- Beta version will be available this fall, and we're requesting feedback
- See the data, not just the footprint, before ordering
- Lidar and land cover will be added soon

New and updated data available for these categories:

- Birds
- Corals
- Elevation
- Hazards and Climate
- Imagery
- Jurisdictions and Boundaries
- Marine Mammals and Turtles
- Ocean Uses and Planning Areas
- Physical and Oceanographic
- Weather

Additional Updates

time by providing a one-stop shop for ocean data and resources. The Mid-Atlantic Regional Council on the Ocean worked with the MarineCadastre.gov team [to ensure needed data sets were added into the marine cadastre data base](#).

News from our Coastal Colleagues

Great Lakes Water-Dependent Economy Grew Faster Than Other Sectors in 2012

According to a recent [NOAA economics report](#), the [Great Lakes water-dependent economy grew faster](#) than other sectors in the region's economy. The report broke the Great Lakes' water-dependent economy into six sectors and analyzed wages, employment, and gross domestic product (GDP) for each. Read the report for more information, such as Michigan was the fastest-growing state in the U.S. in terms of water-dependent employment; one in five Michigan jobs are tied to water or water innovation; and Michigan's water-dependent GDP grew by \$238 million from 2011 to 2012, about 10% growth.

Prepare for Managing Visitor Use in the Off-Season

Getting visitors to reserves, parks, and sanctuaries is a priority for most managers. But those visitors can have harmful effects on the environment. Now that the visitor season has eased, host [NOAA's training](#) at your facility and get ready for next year.

Keep Up on the Current Coastal Management Fellows

Read the latest in this edition of [Fellow News](#).

Training Calendar See the trainings that are coming up on the [trainings calendar](#).



Facebook



Twitter



Website

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 coastal.info@noaa.gov.

[unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)