

Q: What is OceanReports?

A: OceanReports is a web-based, automated geospatial tool for analyzing and visualizing U.S. ocean space. OceanReports allows users to select an ocean space and instantaneously obtain over 65 unique infographics containing analyses of the location, its energy and minerals, natural resources, transportation and infrastructure, oceanographic and biophysical conditions, and the local ocean economy.

Q: What are the features of OceanReports?

A: Users can select infographics of interest, explore pertinent ocean data through interactive pop-ups and visualizations, toggle each layer related to infographic content, share results, and print reports to inform various offshore activities and ocean education.

Q: Why was OceanReports developed?

A: OceanReports was developed for ocean industries such as such as energy, shipping and transportation, aquaculture, fisheries, and seabed mining to navigate conflicting uses and environmental considerations, and assess economic opportunity in U.S. waters. This new product line adds an analytical and spatial planning capability to MarineCadastre.gov's suite of products.

Q: What is MarineCadastre.gov?

A: MarineCadastre.gov is an integrated marine information system that provides data, tools, and technical support for ocean and Great Lakes planning. MarineCadastre.gov was designed specifically to support renewable energy siting on the U.S. Outer Continental Shelf, but also is being used for other ocean-related efforts. OceanReports is the newest tool within MarineCadastre.gov and draws from over 100 of MarineCadastre.gov's data sets.

Q: Why is OceanReports unique?

A: OceanReports is the most comprehensive spatial assessment tool in the U.S. and the first automated spatial analysis tool for the entire country's oceans. OceanReports contains nearly 100 distinct data layers capable of analyzing energy and minerals, natural resources, transportation and infrastructure, oceanographic and biophysical conditions, and the local ocean economy for any area of the U.S. ocean. There is no other tool in the country that provides this level of spatial analysis.

Q: How does OceanReports enable better decision making about ocean space?

A: OceanReports enables informed decisions about wind energy siting, aquaculture development, and environmental review by providing all of the accessible authoritative data for a specific area of interest.

Q: You mention transparency; how does this tool add to transparency?

A: OceanReports will increase transparency by allowing all stakeholders, from developers to regulators, and from small businesses to large businesses, to access and utilize the same data to make decisions.

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Q: What fisheries or protected resources (marine mammal) data does this tool access?

A: Highly migratory fish species, Endangered Species Act critical habitat, Habitat Areas of Particular Concern, right whale management areas, endangered species, and cetacean biologically important areas.

Q: Who should use OceanReports?

A: OceanReports was made for all ocean industries including energy, shipping and transportation, aquaculture, fisheries, and seabed mining. Additional users of OceanReports include permitting agencies, consultants, conservation organizations, marine planners, physical scientists, policy analysts, and the general public.

Q: How does OceanReports advance the Trump Administration's ocean policy?

A: In June 2018, the Trump Administration issued the *Ocean Policy to Advance the Economic, Security, and Environmental Interests of the United States* (E.O. 13840). This executive order emphasizes improved timely access to data for ocean planning and decision making. OceanReports advances the ocean policy by providing new data to support offshore aquaculture siting and other key ocean and coastal management decision making.

Q: Does OceanReports duplicate regional-scale ocean data portals and tools?

A: OceanReports offers an analytical tool to all geographies, increasing capability to inform decisions across the entire U.S. exclusive economic zone. For those geographies that have invested time and funds to develop a region-specific platform and data products, OceanReports serves as a complementary tool with additional analytic capabilities.

Q: Who Developed OceanReports?

A: OceanReports was developed by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) and Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM). It is part of the MarineCadastre.gov project.