

**Mid-Atlantic Regional Planning Body
Ecologically Rich Areas (ERA) Workshop**

Agenda

November 2, 2017

8:45 am- 4:30 pm

Maryland Historical Trust
100 Community Place
Crownsville, Maryland 21032

Webinar information:

http://noaacsc.adobeconnect.com/midatlanticworkshop/event/event_info.html

Workshop objectives:

1. Present updated MDAT models for birds and marine mammals
2. Explain how input on data layers to depict the five ERA components was gathered from stakeholders, scientists and agencies and how key takeaways on ERA components shaped development of synthesis options;
3. Present and explain the three ERA Component Synthesis Options;
4. Answer clarification questions about synthesis options;
5. Collect input from stakeholder as to which option they prefer; and
6. Summarize next steps and timeline for further consideration of the ERA action by the Mid-A Regional Planning Body.

Workshop findings will be reported to the full RPB at the next meeting.

Background materials:

- Mid-Atlantic Marine Life Data Analysis Team (MDAT) Presentation (January 2016) <http://midatlanticocean.org/video-presentations-from-the-jan-29-marco-ocean-data-forum-now-available-online/>
- Aug 2016 MDAT Workshop Summary report http://midatlanticocean.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/August-2016-ERA-Workshop-Summary-Report_Final.pdf
- December 2016 final Mid-Atlantic Ocean Action Plan <https://www.boem.gov/Mid-Atlantic-Regional-Ocean-Action-Plan/>
- May 2017 ERA Workshop Summary <http://midatlanticocean.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/ERA-May-19-2017-Workshop-Summary.pdf>
- Final Framework for Identifying ERAs (June 2017) <https://www.boem.gov/Final-Framework-for-Identifying-ERAs/>
- ERA Data Guide <http://midatlanticocean.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/ERA-Data-Guide.pdf>
- Synthesis Options Paper <https://www.boem.gov/ERA-Component-Synthesis-Options/>
- Summary of the review process, feedback received, and remaining questions for draft data products and methods relevant to the components of ecologically rich areas (from the Ecologically Rich Areas Framework in the Mid-Atlantic Ocean Action Plan) <https://www.boem.gov/ERA-data-methods-review-results/>

AGENDA

- 8:40 am Public webinar opens
- 8:45 – 9:00 am Welcome; Overview of the ERA action in the Ocean Action Plan; Final Framework for Identifying ERAs and Overview of Agenda
Laura McKay, Co-Lead, Ecologically Rich Areas Work Group
- 9:00 - 10:05 am MDAT data – brief history and current status
- *Overview of MDAT data products and updates*
- ERA Components – History and how they were developed
- *Overview of five ERA components and four types of ERAs*
 - *Progress in developing data synthesis products*
- Overview of the feedback process to collect input from Mid-Atlantic and Northeast on potential ERA data and methods
- *Discussion of outreach methods and summary of responses*
- Pat Halpin and Jesse Cleary, Marine Life and Data Analysis team, Duke University*
- 10:05 – 10:20 am Question and Answer
- 10:20 – 10:35 am Break
- 10:35 - 11:35 am Presentation of data layers available for each component and details on the range of responses received regarding further synthesis of those layers. Discuss remaining questions/issues for each component.
- *Productivity*
 - *Abundance*
 - *Biodiversity*
 - *Rarity*
 - *Vulnerability*
- Pat Halpin and Jesse Cleary, Marine Life and Data Analysis team, Duke University*
- 11:35am – 12:00 pm Question and Answer
- 12:00- 12:30 pm Review of the three proposed options for further data synthesis
Q & A on the options. *Public webinar ends.*
- 12:30- 1:30 pm Lunch

1:30- 1:40	Charge to break out groups. Each group will consider all 3 options providing input on: <ul style="list-style-type: none">● <i>the pro's and con's of each option</i>● <i>potential next steps for each option for the next one to two years.</i>
1:40- 3:00 pm	Small Group Discussions (80 minutes)
3:00 - 3:15 pm	Break
3:15- 4:00 pm	Reconvene, report out and discuss
4:00 – 4:30pm	Wrap-up <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Next steps - how today's input will be relayed to the full Mid-Atlantic Regional Planning Body and next steps for the Regional Ocean Action Plan's goal of better understanding ERAs.
4:30 pm	Adjourn