

Technical Announcement

U. S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Ocean Energy Management
Gulf of Mexico OCS Region

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Archival Investigations for Potential Colonial-Era Shipwrecks in Ultra-Deep Water within the Gulf of Mexico

OCS Study BOEMRE 2011-004

The Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM), Gulf of Mexico OCS Region, announces the availability of a new study report, *Archival Investigations for Potential Colonial-Era Shipwrecks in Ultra-Deep Water within the Gulf of Mexico*.

Recent discoveries through oil and gas industry sonar surveys in water depths of up to 6,500 feet have revealed some of the most significant archaeological sites in the Gulf of Mexico. Many of these shipwrecks were previously unknown in these areas. Only faint glimpses gleaned from the historic record offered tantalizing clues to the possible existence of these potentially historically significant sites. Taking these discoveries into account, BOEM funded this study to determine what potential exists for shipwrecks from the 16th through the 19th century in ultra-deep water using primary documents and historic records. The recommendations from this study will provide guidance as BOEM applies best management strategies to identify and protect historic significant archaeological resources.

This report is available only in compact disc format from the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Gulf of Mexico OCS Region, at a charge of \$15.00, by referencing OCS Study BOEMRE 2011-004. The report may be downloaded from the BOEM website through the [Environmental Studies Program Information System \(ESPIS\)](#). You will be able to obtain this report also from the National Technical Information Service in the near future. Here are the addresses. You may also inspect copies at selected Federal Depository Libraries.

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