Environmental Studies



Ongoing:

Integrative Statistical Modeling and Predictive Mapping of Seabird Distribution and Abundance on the Atlantic Outer Continental Shelf (OCS)

- incorporates all available science-quality seabird survey data into high-resolution predictive maps
- provides easily understandable information about the distribution of birds to aid offshore siting decisions to reduce the risk of impacts to birds.
- data is available on BOEM's website

Ongoing:

Socio-Economic Impact of OCS Wind Development on Fishing

- assesses the economic exposure to commercial fishing along the Atlantic coast from wind development
- evaluates potential displacement/fishing effort changes and economic impacts from site development
- Final report is expected in late 2016
- Data available at MarineCadastre.gov



Ongoing:

The Identification of Port Modifications and the Environmental and Socioeconomic Consequences

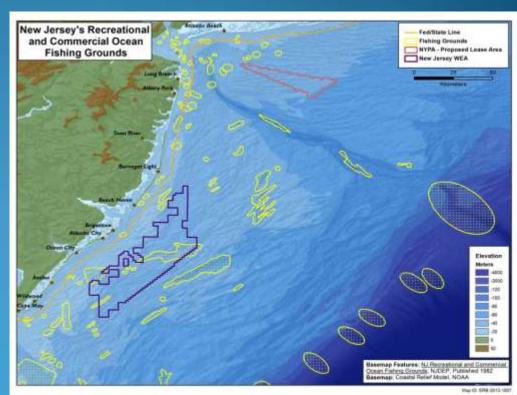
- determines capacity where current ports could potentially handle OSC wind projects
- determines potential environmental and socioeconomic consequences from modifications to ports
- Report to be published May 2016



Completed:

New Jersey's Recreational and Commercial Ocean Fishing Grounds

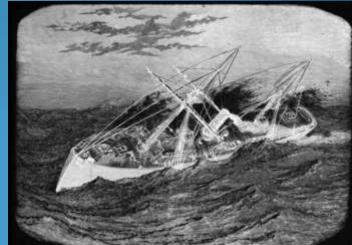
- digital conversion of a fishing grounds atlas published by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection in 1982
- Available at
- MarineCadastre.gov



Completed:

Inventory and Analysis of Archaeological Site Occurrence on the Atlantic Outer Continental Shelf

- evaluates current theories on prehistoric settlement patterns and regional geology on the Atlantic OCS where submerged prehistoric sites might be located
- provides historic context /database of historic shipwrecks within the Atlantic OCS region



Other Data Sources

MarineCadastre.gov

Partnership between NOAA and BOEM 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 OCS

midatlanticocean.org/data-portal

Online toolkit and resource center through MARCO that consolidates available data and enables users to visualize and analyze information such as fishing grounds, recreational areas, shipping lanes, habitat areas, and energy sites, among others

All BOEM Environmental Studies

Contact Information:

Dr. Mary Boatman: Mary.Boatman@boem.gov

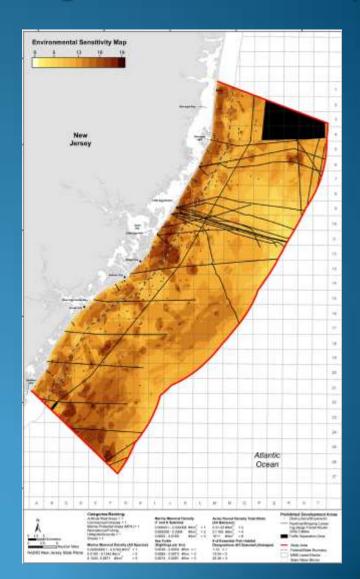
Studies Available:

http://www.boem.gov/Renewable-Energy-Environmental-Studies/

New Jersey Offshore Wind Power Ecological Baseline Study

Overview and Findings:

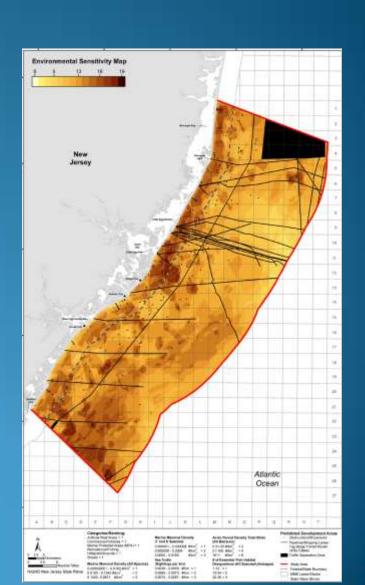
- Study Area: 1,360 square nautical miles (NM²), from Seaside Park to Stone Harbor, out 20 NM from shore.
- Avian densities highest near shore for all seasons; more pronounced in winter than summer (153 species recorded).
- Highest nearshore bird densities occurred near the coastline and at shoals.
- Marine mammals exhibited clear seasonal patterns in distribution.
- Numerous sightings/acoustic detections of endangered large whale species (North Atlantic right whale, fin whale, and humpback whale) detected during all seasons.



New Jersey Offshore Wind Power Ecological Baseline Study

Overview and Findings:

- A thorough review of fish and fisheries resources was conducted, which includes:
- Overview of the ichthyofauna (fish species designated with essential fish habitat [EFH]) of the Mid-Atlantic Bight (MAB) and Study Area
- Ancillary fishes observed during the shipboard and aerial surveys.
- •In addition, physical parameters within the Study Area were measured, including wind speeds, water temperature, salinity, depth, chlorophyll, and dissolved organic matter.



New Jersey Offshore Wind Ecological Baseline Study (NJ OWPEBS)

Contact Info:

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New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection
Division of Science, Research, and Environmental Health
(609) 984-6070

Data and Reports Available:

http://www.nj.gov/dep/dsr/ocean-wind/index.htm

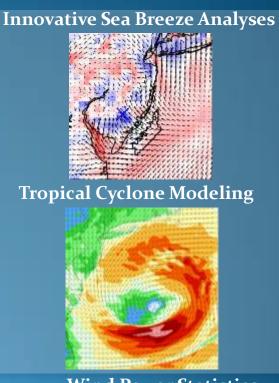




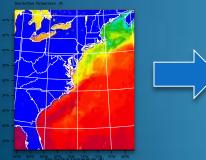
Ongoing:

Modeling & Evaluation of New Jersey's Offshore Wind Resource (Rutgers Univ.)

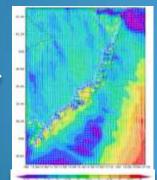
- Atmospheric/oceanic modeling of NJ Offshore Wind Lease Areas
- Hourly 3D modeled wind speed 2011-present



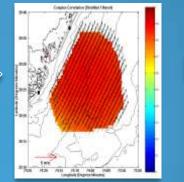




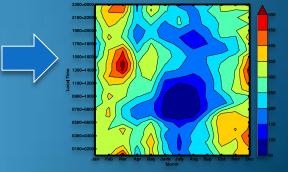
Hi-Res Weather Model



Spatial Validation Data



Wind Power Statistics



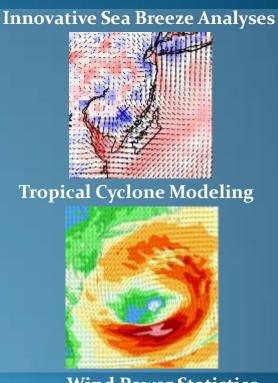




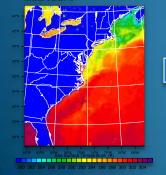
Ongoing:

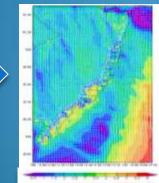
Modeling & Evaluation of New Jersey's Offshore Wind Resource (Rutgers Univ.)

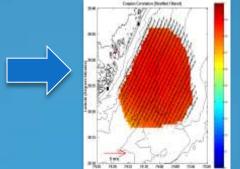
- Hourly kWh data, net capacity factor for hypothetical wind farm scenarios
- Connections with economic models at RU CEEEP

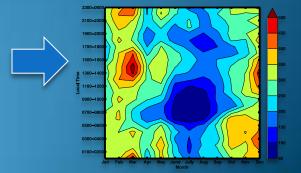












Modeling & Evaluation of New Jersey's Offshore Wind Resource

Contact Information:

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Data and Reports Available:

http://rucool.marine.rutgers.edu/bpu



USCG 5th Coast Guard District – ACPARS

Mr. Doug Simpson – (757) 398-6346 – douglas.c.simpson@uscg.mil



Atlantic Coast Port Access Route Study

www.uscg.mil/lantarea/acpars

Significant outcomes

- Marine Planning Guidelines (Encl 2)
- ➤ ID Alongshore Towing Routes (App VII)
- > ID Deep Draft Routes

