

## David Bigger, Ph.D. Office of Renewable Energy Programs

David.Bigger@boem.gov





## Fishery Physical Habitat and Epibenthic Invertebrate Baseline Data Collection





## Objective

**Develop regional scale** benthic habitat baseline in order to conduct impact assessments, aid interpretation of HRG survey data, and monitor post-development impacts from offshore renewable energy.







## Methodology

- Conduct imaging surveys (still photography and video) of BOEM identified Wind Energy Areas.
- Provide distribution and density estimates of prevalent fauna and a classification of substrate type across the survey domain.
- Classify habitat using a BOEM-specified habitat classification model.



