BOEM
Bureau of Ocean Energy Management

Center for Marine Acoustics
Fact Sheet

VISION

Be a **trusted voice** on marine acoustic issues.

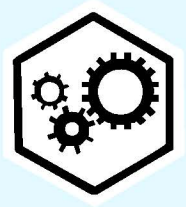
Forming the Center for Marine Acoustics

Understanding the complexity of ocean sound — specifically the impacts of man-made sound on marine life — has been a decades-long priority for BOEM and its predecessor agencies. The task is vitally important to our stakeholders, including the industries we regulate, other federal partners, the research community, and the general public.

In 2020, BOEM launched the Center for Marine Acoustics (CMA) to strengthen the Bureau's role in managing and understanding underwater sound. The CMA will provide expertise and leadership to drive best practices, expand research on underwater sound, seek policy improvements, and improve messaging related to marine acoustic issues. We will push for innovation while championing consistency, high scientific rigor, and efficiency where needed. The CMA's products and services will support BOEM's environmental assessment work. The CMA will also work hand in hand with BOEM's Environmental Studies Program to identify and fill priority data gaps to improve BOEM's decision-making. By building this Center of Expertise, BOEM will establish itself as a driving force within the regulatory community, rather than be driven by external influences.

Below is a list of the primary functions of the CMA.

FUNCTIONS



Modeling. Build models that address current needs and drive improvements in the field.

Knowledge. Track emerging science, fill data gaps, and apply new risk assessment methods.

Policy. Address key policy and management improvements, both internal and external.

Messaging. Improve stakeholder understanding of actual risks.

Strategy. Plan in six-year planning horizons. Adapt based on performance and emerging information.

Partnerships. Develop relationships with domestic and international organizations that advance shared goals.

Please see our website for more information on our latest activities:
https://www.boem.gov/center-marine-acoustics