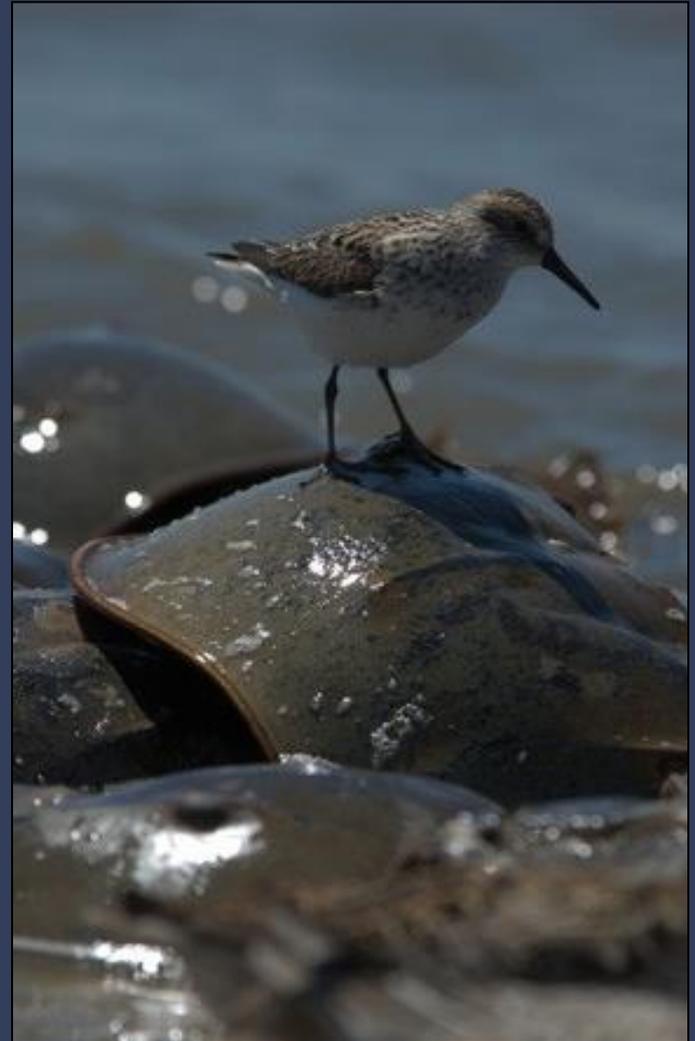


# Mid-Atlantic Regional Planning Body (RPB) Webinar: Update on RPB Activities

*December 8, 2015*

# Objectives

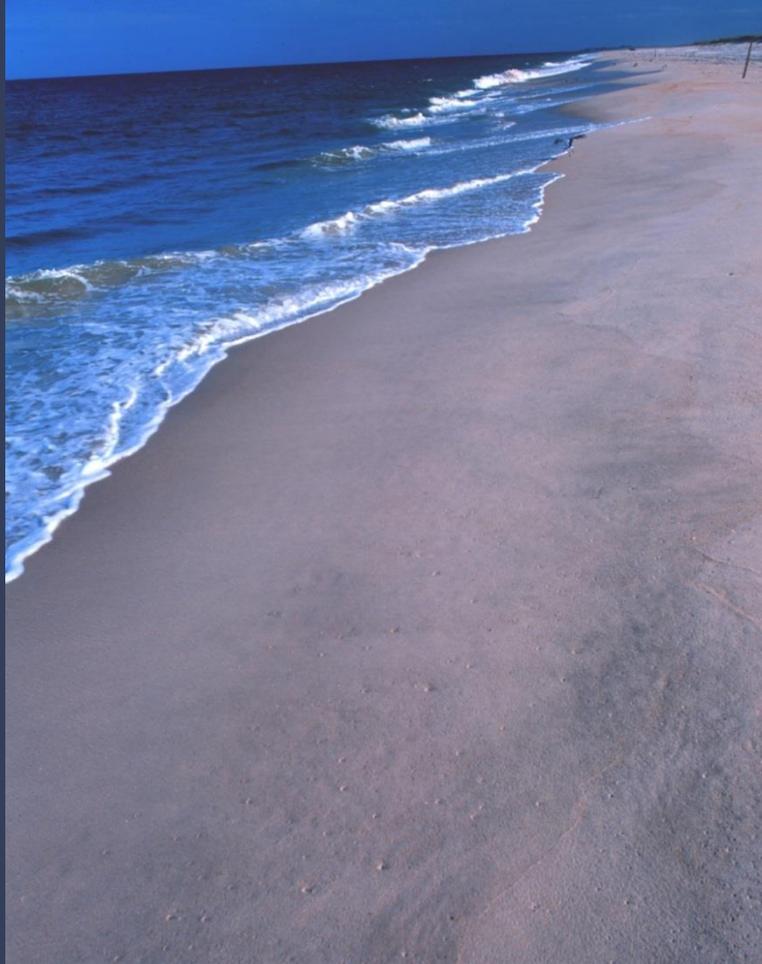
- Provide Mid-Atlantic stakeholders with an update about the development of draft interjurisdictional coordination (IJC) actions for regional ocean planning in the Mid-Atlantic region since the September 2015 in-person RPB meeting.
- Receive input about draft IJC actions.
- Answer questions from stakeholders about draft IJC actions.



# Agenda

- 11:30 AM** Welcome, introductions, agenda review
- 11:40 AM** Implementation of the MidA Ocean Action Plan
- 11:48 AM** Draft Interjurisdictional Coordination Action Overview
- 1:18 PM** Upcoming Stakeholder Engagement Opportunities
- 1:25 PM** Facilitated Public Q&A and Comments
- 1:55 PM** Wrap up

# Opportunities for public comment and feedback



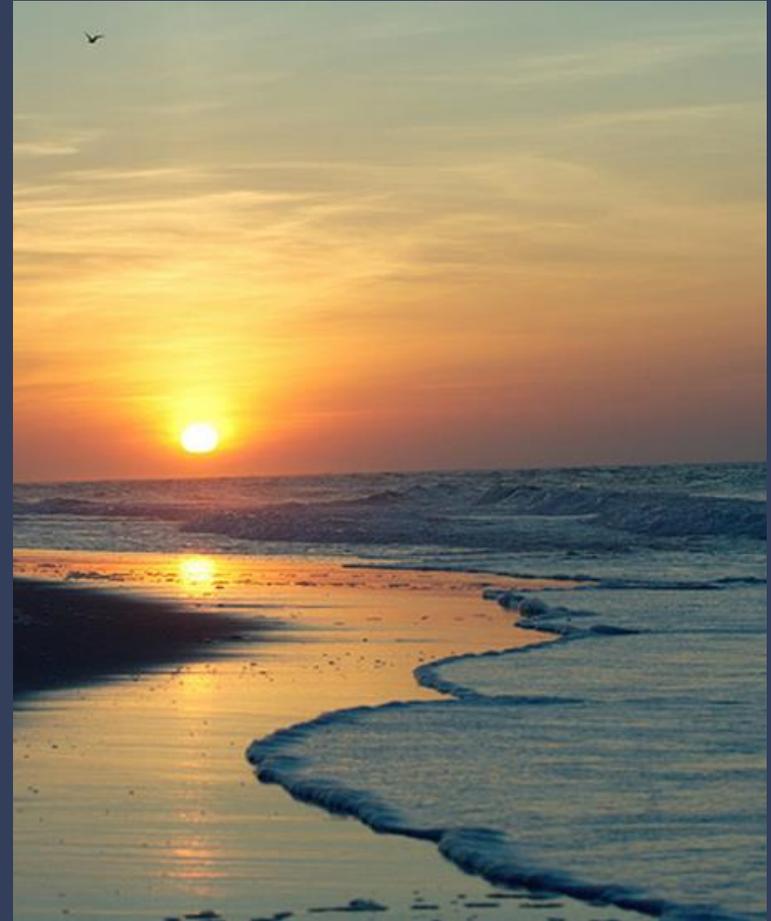
- The Q&A portions of today's webinar.
- Written input provided to ***MidAtlanticRPB@boem.gov.***

# What will be posted after this webinar?

The following will be posted on the RPB website

(<http://www.boem.gov/mid-atlantic-regional-planning-body>) after the webinar:

- A recording of the webinar
- A transcript of the webinar
- The full slide presentation
- A record of all chat questions and comments from the public
- A list of webinar participants



# Overview of the Mid-Atlantic RPB and Actions

*Robert LaBelle, Federal Co-Lead*

# Overview of the MidA RPB

- **Established in April 2013** to implement and advance ocean planning in the region through collaborative process among Federal, State, Tribal, and Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council representatives in consultation with stakeholders
- **Primary purpose** of the RPB is to improve coordination among its members, to share data, and to build collaborative relationships to address ocean planning issues that require greater integration.
- **Includes representatives of:**
  - Six Mid-Atlantic states: NY, NJ, PA, DE, MD, and VA
  - Federally-recognized tribes in the region: the Shinnecock Indian Nation, the Oneida Indian Nation, and the Pamunkey Indian Tribe
  - Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council
  - Eight federal agencies with ocean interests
  - Connecticut serves as an ex-officio member
- **Website:** [www.boem.gov/Mid-Atlantic-Regional-Planning-Body/](http://www.boem.gov/Mid-Atlantic-Regional-Planning-Body/)
- **Email address:** [MidAtlanticRPB@boem.gov](mailto:MidAtlanticRPB@boem.gov)

# Completed MidA RPB Activities

- **Four in-person meetings:** Sept. 2013, May 2014, Jan. 2015, Sept. 2015
- **2013, 2014, 2015:** Public webinars to discuss draft RPB documents
- **2014:** Two rounds of MARCO-hosted public listening sessions in DE, MD, NJ, NY and VA to obtain feedback
- **May 2014:** Approved *Mid-Atlantic Regional Ocean Planning Framework* identifying goals and objectives to guide the RPB
- **Sept. 2014:** Approved *Mid-Atlantic RPB Charter* (purpose & mission)
- **Jan. 2015:** Approved *Proposed Approach to the Mid-Atlantic Regional Ocean Action Plan (OAP)*
- **2015:** Formed / continued RPB workgroups to support OAP development (interjurisdictional coordination, data synthesis, regional ocean assessment - ROA)
- **2015:** Created and updated work plan to guide OAP development
- **May 2015:** RPB's ROA workgroup prepared a "Brief Overview of the Mid-Atlantic Ocean: Characteristics, Trends, and Challenges"
- **Aug. 2015:** MARCO hosted tribal listening sessions in VA and NY 8

# IJC Action Development Overview

- **Through the September 2015 RPB meeting:**
  - RPB internal workgroups developed ideas for improved interjurisdictional coordination (IJC), and guided development of data synthesis product development and Regional Ocean Assessment efforts (ROA)
  - Provided stakeholder review opportunities on IJC, data synthesis methodologies and products, and the ROA during MARCO's stakeholder workshop
- **Since the September meeting:**
  - RPB workgroups further developed draft IJC actions on healthy ocean ecosystems, offshore wind, sand management, navigation and commerce, national security, fisheries, tribal uses, recreation, and coastal zone management
  - Considered the future of RPB efforts and the Mid-Atlantic Ocean Data Portal
  - Stakeholder outreach including MARCO Stakeholder Liaison Committee meeting in November
  - Feedback from this webinar will help RPB refine IJC actions for the draft Ocean Action Plan (OAP) being developed

# Next Steps for OAP Development

- **In 2016:**
  - Discuss key OAP components during March 2016 RPB meeting
  - Release the Draft OAP for review in June/July 2016
  - Submit the OAP to the National Ocean Council in mid-September 2016 for concurrence by the end of 2016
  - Provide a number of public engagement opportunities

# Implementation of the Mid-Atlantic Ocean Action Plan

*Sarah Cooksey, Delaware*  
*Darlene Finch, NOAA*

# Objectives

- Continue the Mid-Atlantic RPB
- Intergovernmental forum to continue beyond completion of the Mid-Atlantic Ocean Action Plan to
  - Advance actions
  - Monitor, evaluate and modify
  - Engage with stakeholders
  - Foster intergovernmental communication and coordination
- Identify resource requirements to support MidA OAP implementation.
- Design a structure and processes that supports implementation while reducing the administrative burden and enhancing stakeholder engagement opportunities.

# Desired Outcomes

- Fulfill responsibilities assigned to the MidA Regional Planning Body (RPB) to implement, monitor, evaluate and (if necessary) modify the MidA OAP.
- Reduce the administrative burden for operation of the RPB.
- Provide more flexibility for engaging with stakeholders and experts on specific actions.
- Enhance communication about ongoing governmental activities related to the MidA ocean.

# Healthy Ocean Ecosystems

*Laura McKay, Virginia CZM Program*  
*Kevin Chu, NMFS/NOAA*

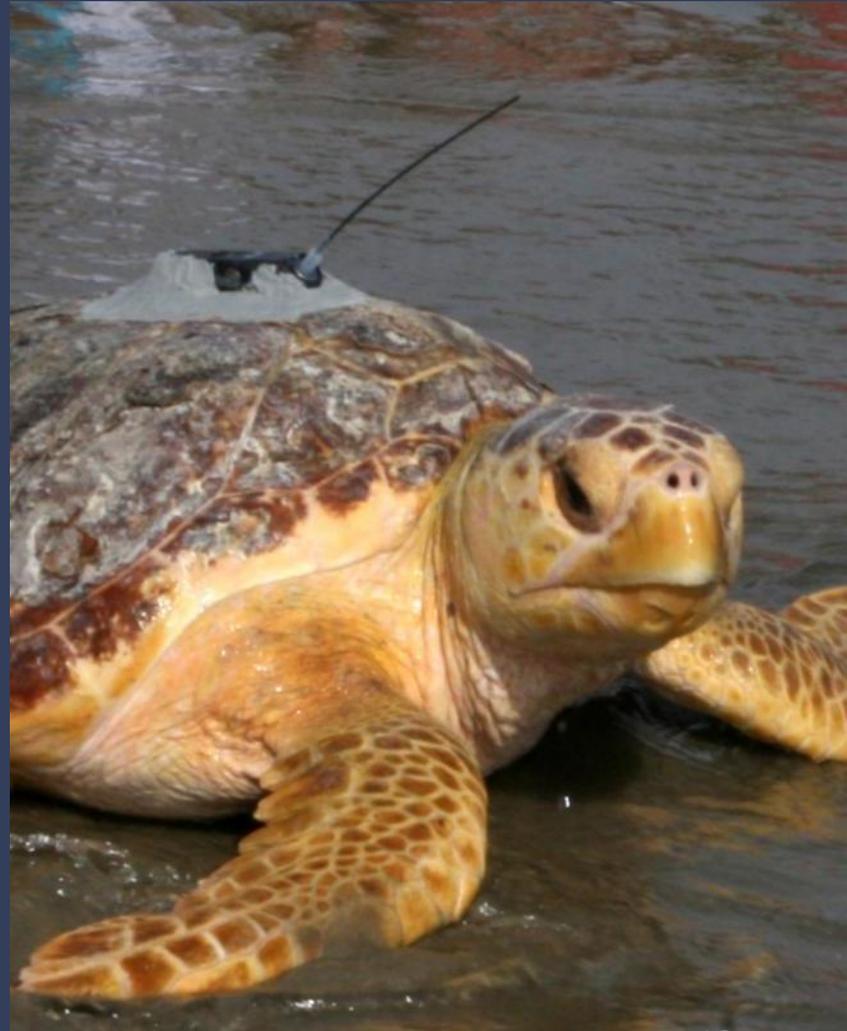
# Healthy Ocean Ecosystem Goal and Objectives from the “Framework”

- Goal: Promote ocean ecosystem health, functionality, and integrity through conservation, protection, enhancement, and restoration.
- Objectives:
  1. Discover, understand, protect, and restore the ocean ecosystem
  2. Account for ocean ecosystem changes and increased risks



# Overview of Proposed HOE Actions

1. Conduct and publicize in-depth reviews of ecologically rich areas (ERAs) and region-wide ecological features (REFs)
2. Establish Mid-Atlantic Ocean health indicators and metrics
3. Develop an interagency ocean research forum and research agenda
4. Address specific climate change issues
5. Collaborate on regional approaches to marine debris reduction



# 1. Conduct and publicize in-depth reviews of ERAs and REFs

- Coordinate definitions of ERAs and REFs with NE RPB and MDAT for use by federal agencies
- Describe in the OAP, a process to take the following steps:
  - With stakeholder and expert input, and based on availability of high quality data, identify potential ERAs/REFs for in-depth review (Note: Jan 29 2016 event in Delaware to begin reviewing MDAT maps)
  - Better understand human uses within ERAs/REFs by overlaying human use data and reaching out to stakeholders to understand their interests
  - Document ecological functions and values where sufficient data exist
  - Document current agency management practices, local and traditional knowledge in these areas



# 1. Conduct in-depth reviews of ERAs and REFs (cont'd.)

- Identify trends in health of ERA s and REFs and how they may be changing
- Discuss draft findings with stakeholders, scientific experts and resource managers. Disseminate final findings to all potentially interested parties
- Update & re-run MDAT model as new data become available

**Desired outcome:** Opportunities for improved management of ERAs and REFs



## 2. Establish Mid-Atlantic Ocean indicators/metrics

- Convene an interagency Indicators Work Group
- Review and evaluate parameters of ocean health being measured in the Mid-Atlantic
- Hold a workshop to consider the suite of indicators presented by the work group and include opportunities for public and scientific/technical input
- Finalize the set of indicators to be used
- Establish procedures for review and updating of data to website “dashboard” by agencies responsible for collecting the data
- **Desired outcome:** An enhanced program for ecosystem monitoring in the Mid-Atlantic



### 3. Develop a research forum and agenda

- Establish a forum to share current and planned Mid-Atlantic Ocean research
- Conduct an interagency workshop to identify research needed to better understand ocean attributes in the region
- Develop mechanisms to use new research findings to improve management
- **Desired outcome:** Targeted list of research needed to address specific management issues relative to ocean uses and resources



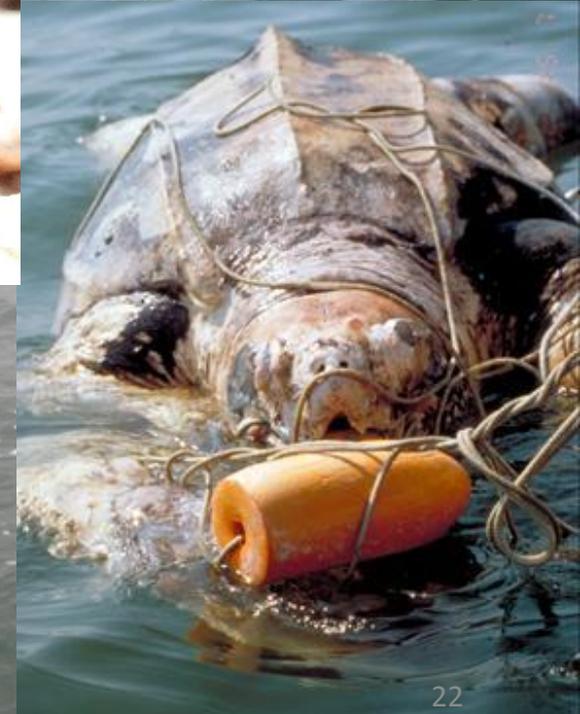
## 4. Address specific climate change issues

- Foster establishment of an ocean acidification monitoring network
  - Review existing efforts/identify gaps
  - Identify funding stream
  - Ensure a robust, integrated Mid-Atlantic network is in place
- Map projected shifts in species distributions
  - Review existing efforts/identify gaps
  - Map projected species/habitat shifts
  - Post maps on Mid-Atlantic Ocean Data Portal
- **Desired outcome:** Management agencies better prepared for climate change effects



# 5. Collaborate on regional approaches to marine debris reduction

- States and tribes will collaborate with NOAA's Marine Debris Program to develop regional approaches to marine debris reduction



# Marine Commerce & Navigation

*Doug Simpson, DHS, USCG*

*John Kennedy, DOT, MARAD*

*Greg Capobianco, New York Department of State*

# Overview of Marine Commerce and Navigation

- RPB objective (from the framework):
  - Ensure new and updated maritime commerce and navigational information is available at the local and regional levels for integration into regional ocean planning
  - Enhance institutional awareness of the impact maritime commerce exerts on the national and Mid-Atlantic economies

# Ensure availability of maritime commerce and navigational information

- Identify navigation trends to understand traffic patterns over time
  - Continue to provide AIS data for use on MARCO Portal
  - Add functionality to assess traffic month-to-month and year-to-year
  - Establish a process to ensure “type of vessel” categories represented in existing AIS data layers adequately represent marine transportation system use
  - Goal: Ensure primary maritime traffic patterns are available to decision makers for planning and permitting activities
  - Goal: Ensure shifts in seasonal or long-term navigation trends are available to decision makers for improving marine transportation system
  - Who: USCG & MARAD

# Ensure availability of maritime commerce and navigational information

- Maintain reliable, relevant data sets
  - Provide in the OAP a process for recurring review of portal data to ensure:
    - Emerging mid-Atlantic use activities (e.g., aquaculture) are represented in data layers
    - Existing data layers are sufficiently current
  - Goal: Ensure marine commerce decision makers and stakeholders are armed with best data
  - Needed resource: Data developers, data portal
  - Who: RPB working group

# Enhance institutional awareness of maritime commerce impacts

- Catalogue intersections between federal agencies and between federal, state, and tribal agencies
  - Identify the intersections of navigation and maritime commerce with other sustainable ocean uses
  - Identify and catalogue coordinating agreements between RPB entities and assess for gaps
  - Provide RPB entities with list of gaps in coordinating agreements
  - Goal: Ensure decision makers have processes needed for coordinated governance relating to marine commerce and navigation
  - Who: RPB working group

# Enhance institutional awareness of maritime commerce impacts

- Identify impacts to navigation and port infrastructure stemming from the Panama Canal expansion
  - Identify port areas undergoing or planning deepening and widening projects to accommodate “post Panamax” vessels
  - Assess adequacy of offshore approaches for deeper draft vessels
  - Assess port cargo and commodities transit data to identify growth or shifts in cargo patterns
  - Goal: Ensure decision makers have data need to optimize maintenance for an efficient post-Panamax marine transportation system
  - Who: Marad, USCG and other stakeholders

# Outreach and Validation

- Publish the Atlantic Coast Port Access Route Study and affiliated marine planning guidelines with opportunity for public comment
  - Goal: Provide opportunity for stakeholders to review and provide feedback for navigation safety along the Atlantic seaboard
  - Goal: Provide navigation safety guidelines for decision makers to employ when considering planning and permitting decisions
  - Who: USCG

# Outreach and Validation

- Leverage navigation advisory committees
  - Provide process for regional navigation safety committees to review data and findings.
  - Provide mechanism to access national level marine commerce and navigation related advisory committees as needed
  - Goal: Assess data and recommend updates and/or revisions
  - Goal: Optimize data to meet regional needs
  - Goal: Enhance regional and national consistency for data use
  - Who: USCG, MARAD, and other stakeholders

# Offshore Wind Energy

*Department of the Interior, BOEM*  
*New York Department of State*

# *“Framework”* Goal and Objective

- **Under the “Sustainable Ocean Uses” Goal:** Plan and provide for existing and emerging ocean uses in a sustainable manner that minimizes conflicts, improves effectiveness and regulatory predictability, and supports economic growth
- **Ocean Energy Objective:** Facilitate greater collaboration around ocean energy issues with Mid-Atlantic states, tribes, and federal partners
  - The MidA RPB is focusing on offshore renewable energy

# Desired Outcomes/Output

- More efficient, predictable and informed process that supports effective coordination
- Provides more meaningful participation for affected states in a shorter timeframe
- Enhances agency management and environmental and regulatory review processes, and advances state, tribal, and federal wind energy development objectives

# Updated Proposed IJC Actions

- Increase coordination and develop a more informed process, including intersections of federal programs and statutes
- Develop agency guidance on Best Practices for Data Portal use in management, environmental, and regulatory reviews
- Partner in on-going and planned studies; identify knowledge gaps; increase access to research planning cycles

# Coordination and Management

- Enhance **coordination and management** to develop a more informed process, including intersections of federal programs and statutes; leverage networks
- Create a chart of leasing, environmental review, and regulatory processes; how programs intersect, who is involved and when in the process
- Outline where and when relevant authorities play a role in decisions

# Use of Data

- Develop agency guidance / Best Practices that addresses how **data** will be used in management, environmental, and regulatory reviews
  - Seek agency commitments to using Mid-Atlantic Data Portal to support their NEPA analysis and consultations
- Agree on data sets that would inform responsible entities for use in their reviews
- Collaborate on shared data sets
- Better engage fishing industry through specific mechanisms and improved data

# Studies and Research

- Partner in on-going and planned **studies / research**
- Identify knowledge gaps
- Increase access to research planning cycles
- BOEM working to link its new geo-referenced studies system with the Mid-Atlantic Ocean Data Portal
- BOEM solicits and considers state, tribal, and public input into its annual national environmental studies list
- Engage states and tribes in developing BOEM research agendas, including earlier input
- Work with the National Oceanographic Partnership Program (NOPP) toward creating an integrated regional ocean research agenda

# Implementation Mechanisms

- White House establishing interagency offshore wind working group
  - Will ensure effective coordination among federal agencies
- Programmatic Agreements and Post-Review Discoveries Clauses with Tribal Partners
  - These allow Tribes to be involved in every step of BOEM's renewable energy decision-making process
- BOEM inserted post-review discoveries clauses in its leases and rights of use and easement grants

# Stakeholder Input

- BOEM requesting public feedback on the state of the offshore renewable energy industry
  - *Federal Register* notice published Sept. 30, input due Dec. 29
  - Seeking input from industry and other stakeholders, including state and local agencies, on potential challenges to continued development
  - Feedback will inform BOEM's strategic planning efforts
  - Information will be used in determining whether or how BOEM should change its existing renewable energy processes, including regulations
- DOE and DOI holding workshop Dec. 10 to inform the 2016 "National Offshore Wind Strategy"
  - Seeking stakeholder input to inform efforts to update and refine the 2011 "A National Offshore Wind Strategy"

# Offshore Sand Management

*Department of the Interior, BOEM*

*New York Department of State*

*Virginia Dept. of Environmental Quality*

# *"Framework"* Goal

- **"Sustainable Ocean Uses"**: Plan and provide for existing and emerging ocean uses in a sustainable manner that minimizes conflicts, improves effectiveness and regulatory predictability, and supports economic growth

# Sand Management Objective

- Facilitate enhanced participation among coastal jurisdictions, federal and state regulatory agencies, and tribal entities to identify and prioritize the use of Mid-Atlantic sand and gravel resources for coastal adaptation, resilience planning, and implementation

# Outcomes/Output

- Enhance coordination among local coastal jurisdictions, federal and state regulatory agencies, and tribal entities to share data and help identify short- and long-term sand resource projects
- Facilitate coordination among stakeholders with offshore wind, sand, and fisheries interests

# Updated Proposed IJC Actions

- Support planned restoration and resilience projects
- Support sustainable management of offshore sand resources by identifying best practices
- Inform decision-making by sharing data
  - Consider using existing sand projects as pilot demonstrations on how MidA RPB efforts might be of assistance

# Coordination and Management

- Identify and improve existing state / federal interactions and cooperative agreements in the Mid-Atlantic
- Develop an inventory of sand resources to support planned and future restoration and resilience projects, and provide availability for emergency use
- Conduct studies to support sustainable management of offshore sand resources by identifying best dredging practices, and ways to minimize impacts

# Use of Data

- Inform decision-making by sharing BOEM geospatial database that will contain data from over 20 years of cooperative agreements, nearly 13 leases and agreements, and new data being collected from the Hurricane Sandy-funded Atlantic Sand Assessment Project
- Link BOEM's geo-spatial database with the Mid-Atlantic Ocean Data Portal
- Share data model with states when available in FY 2017

# Studies and Research

- Support sustainable management of offshore sand resources by identifying best dredging practices and ways to minimize impacts to seafloor habitat and threatened and endangered species
- Conduct studies planned in collaboration with USACE examining dredging best management practices and multiple uses of borrow sites

# Implementation Mechanisms

- BOEM working now to establish a Mid-Atlantic Regional Sand Management Working Group to meet in early 2016 that will:
  - Discuss needs for offshore federal sand, data, and future environmental study needs;
  - Discuss regional environmental issues related to offshore dredging; and
  - Address local government and near-shore issues
- BOEM has five marine mineral studies proposed for FY 2016 through its Environmental Studies Program

# Stakeholder Input

- Public input from the MARCO stakeholder workshop included suggestions to:
  - develop best management practices for coastal sand mining with respect to fisheries and monitor their success;
  - increase participation of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in the RPB process
  - improve the use of Essential Fish Habitat consultation processes, and
  - better coordinate among stakeholders with wind, sand, and fisheries interests

# Fisheries Science and Management

*Michael Luisi, Maryland Department of Natural Resources and Mid-Atlantic Fisheries Management Council*

*Kevin Chu, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration*

# Goals and Objectives

- RPB Framework Goal: Sustainable Ocean Uses
  - *Plan and provide for existing and emerging ocean uses in a sustainable manner that minimizes conflicts, improves effectiveness and regulatory predictability, and supports economic growth*
- Objective: Commercial and Recreational Fishing
  - *Improve communication among fisheries managers and foster greater understanding of the needs of the Mid-Atlantic fishers and fishing communities in the context of the full range of ocean uses and conservation efforts*

# Proposed Actions

1. Support dialogue between NOAA and State Fisheries Managers
2. Collaborate on climate change studies (Science / Managers / Planners)
3. Work with the MAFMC Ecosystems and Ocean Planning Committee
4. Improve collaboration with Tribes
5. Get fishermen more involved in ocean planning
6. Investigate ways to strengthen Essential Fish Habitat protections
7. Improve understanding of recreational fishing

# Background

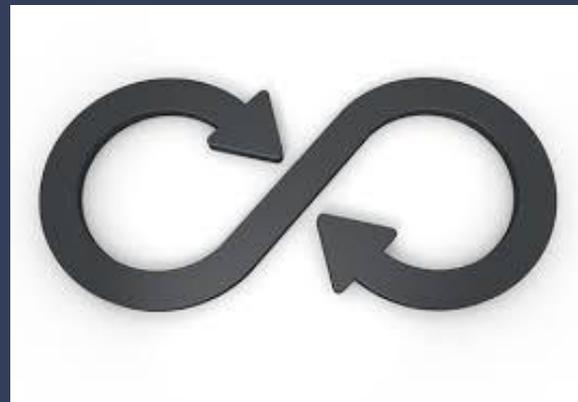
- Current collaboration:
  - *Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council*
  - *Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission*
  - *Atlantic Coastal Cooperative Statistics Program*



# Proposed Actions

## *Support Dialogue Between NOAA and States*

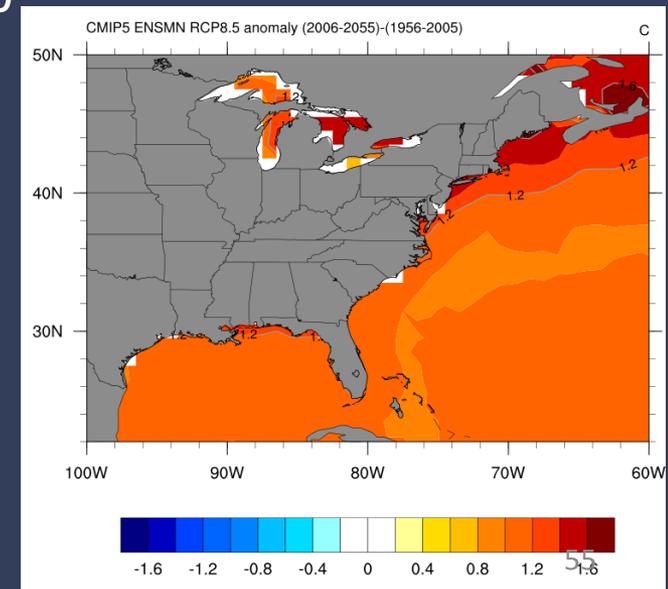
- State Fisheries Directors and NOAA/NMFS
  - *Face to face*
  - *At least once per year*
  - *Coordinated with a meeting of ASMFC*
  - *Discuss positions and develop ideas for collaboration*



# Proposed Actions

## *Climate Change & Fisheries*

- Workshop for scientists and managers
  - *Predict movement of fish stocks*
  - *Discuss changes in habitats*
  - *Consider management implications of shifting populations*
  - *Develop collaborative research projects*
- NOAA climate strategy
  - *Regional Action Plans*



# Proposed Actions

## *RPB Collaboration with MAFMC*

- MAFMC Ecosystems and Ocean Planning Committee
  - *Impacts of other activities on fishing*
  - *Impacts of fishing on the environment*



- ACTION: RPB members to participate on Committee's Advisory Panel

# Proposed Actions

## *Improve Collaboration with Tribes*

- NOAA and States will offer to meet with all coastal Tribes that they recognize to share perspectives on fishery management .
  - Each Tribe will determine whether it wishes to participate
- RPB members will be invited to participate.

# Proposed Actions

*Get fishermen more involved in ocean planning*

- RPB will work to engage the fishing community in ocean management
  - Identify ways to reflect fishers' knowledge in regional ocean planning and data products.
  - Discuss ways to alert fishermen to upcoming ocean management decisions
    - Ask fishermen about their preferences for learning about upcoming activities and document examples of successful engagement.

# Proposed Actions

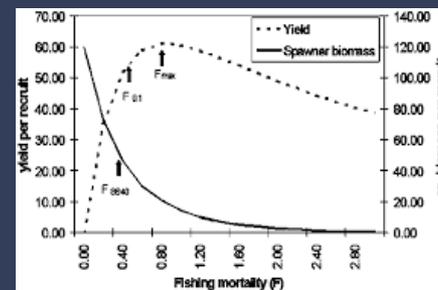
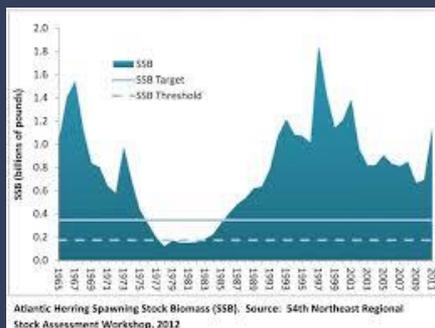
## *Improve Collaboration on EFH*

- NOAA and MAFMC to discuss ways to improve Essential Fish Habitat consultation process
- NOAA to provide training to staff in other Federal agencies on Magnuson Stevens Act requirements and how to conduct EFH assessments

# Proposed Actions

## *Improved Understanding of Recreational Fishing*

- Workshops for leaders in recreational fishing organizations
  - *Topics to include fishery science and management*
  - *Discussions allow sharing of stakeholder, state and Federal perspectives*



# Member Entity and Stakeholder Involvement

- Member Entities
  - *NOAA*
  - *Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council*
  - *States*
- Stakeholder comments:
  - *Email to:*
    - *kevin.chu@noaa.gov*
    - *michael.luisi@maryland.gov*

# Tribal Uses

*Kelsey Leonard, Tribal Co-Lead, Shinnecock Indian Nation*

*Kevin Chu, NMFS/NOAA*

*Kathryn MacCormick, Pamunkey Indian Tribe*

# Tribal Uses Goal and Objectives from the “Framework”

- Goal: Recognize and respect the right of Tribal Nations to free, prior, and informed consent while taking into account important Tribal uses and submerged cultural resources in the planning process.
- Objectives:
  1. Increased coordination among Tribes, states, and federal entities for integrated management efforts.
  2. Document and foster shared understanding of ocean and coastal sites important to Tribal use, beliefs, and values related to the Mid-Atlantic Ocean.

# Overview of Proposed IJC Actions

1. Identify best-practices for increased coordination among tribes, states, and federal entities for marine planning
2. Improve ability of RPB entities to use traditional knowledge for planning, management and decision-making purposes
3. Identify data gaps pertaining to tribal uses and develop research agenda to address the need

# 1. Best Practices for Consultation

- Identify, review and, if appropriate, suggest updates to tribal consultation policies as they pertain to ocean planning.
- **Desired Outcome:** More comprehensive consultation policies contribute to ensuring free, prior and informed consent of tribal entities in the ocean planning process.



## 2. Increase Coordination & Management

- Develop tribal and agency 'marine planning' contact directories.

- Desired Outcome: A list of agencies and programs related to marine activities from the feds/states and a corresponding list of tribal contacts. The goal of this directory is alleviate communication obstacles and increase coordination among RPB entities.



- Work with Tribes to develop Tribal Ocean Planning Network (TOPN) to facilitate coordination between Mid-Atlantic and Northeast Tribes in the ocean planning process.
  - Desired Outcome: Tribes build relationships for developing their own long-term ocean and/or coastal management plans, research agendas, and Regional Ocean Planning goals. TOPN aims to increase tribal participation in the MidA RPB.

## 2. Increase Coordination & Management

- Federal and state RPB entities will commit to seeking informal meetings with Tribal government officials.



- **Desired Outcome:** The purpose of these meetings is to share perspectives, discuss best practices for government to government consultation, and engage tribal traditional knowledge holders. These meetings will enhance formal consultations by building relationships and mutual understanding.

# 3. Traditional Knowledge

- Develop best practices for identifying and incorporating Traditional Knowledge of Tribes in MidA Regional Ocean Planning.



- **Desired Outcome:** Tribal Nations, States, and Federal entities have tools necessary to incorporate TK in planning and decision-making enabling a fair and balanced ocean planning process; Encouraging tribal participation in the RPB; and Respecting the value and benefits that traditional knowledge offers for good ocean planning.

# 4. Data and Research

- Identify and address data gaps pertaining to tribal use of the ocean
  - Conduct pGIS workshops
  - Develop a 'tribal use' research agenda
  - Develop a 'tribal needs' research agenda
  - Develop a "submerged cultural resources" research agenda



- **Desired Outcome:** Place Tribal data on the MARCO Portal and other regional, state, or federal planning portals as approved by Tribes. Any Tribal data on these portals will increase the visibility of Tribes in the planning process.
  - Data contributed by Tribes is solely for the purpose of ocean planning and may be subject to advance security protocol for the protection of Tribes.

# The Ocean Action Plan promotes a Mid-Atlantic Regional Ocean Planning culture that:

- Honors the inherent sovereign status and reserved rights of Tribes.
- Recognizes state and Federal trust responsibilities.
- Supports Tribes in pursuing the vitality of their culture and economy as these relate to the ocean.
- Promotes collaborative ocean and cultural resource management.
- Supports the use of traditional knowledge.
- Respects Tribal connections to traditional lands and waters.
- Seeks to enhance and maintain important relationships with Tribes, Fishery Management Councils, state, and federal agencies.

# National Security

*Joe Atangan, Joint Staff, U.S. Fleet Forces*

*Mike Jones, Dept. of Defense, Navy Region Mid-Atlantic*

# Overview of National Security

- **RPB objective:** To ensure National Security interests in the Mid-Atlantic are accounted for through enhanced coordination, increased transparency, and sharing of information across agencies
- **Desired outcome:** An established, efficient, and informed process that supports effective coordination; leverages existing processes, practices, and programs; and facilitates addressing National Security impacts/concerns throughout the agency management and environmental and regulatory review processes

# Proposed Interjurisdictional Actions

- **Coordination and management:** Leverage existing processes, practices, programs, and groups to assess potential National Security impacts of proposed actions, identify potential mitigations, facilitate decision making
  - Navy At-Sea Environmental Compliance Program
    - Atlantic Fleet Training and Testing EIS/OEIS – Phase III to be completed by Summer 2018
    - Integrated Comprehensive Monitoring Plan
  - Coordination task forces and planning groups, including:
    - Wind Energy Task Force
    - OSD Clearinghouse
    - Area Maritime Security Committee (AMSC)
    - Ocean Observing Systems Security Group (OOSSG)

# Proposed Interjurisdictional Actions

- **Data:** Identify authoritative, publically releasable data for use in management, environmental, and regulatory reviews.
  - Navy is in the process of providing national security data layers and metadata to the Mid-Atlantic Portal

# Proposed Interjurisdictional Actions

- **Issue Areas:** Focus on use compatibility issues and potential impacts on National Security
  - Identify paths for entities proposing activities to coordinate with DoD to review for potential National Security impacts.
  - Include Points of Contact in the Data Portal
    - Examples: FACSFAC VACAPES for activities in VACAPES Operating Area; Naval Seafloor Cable Protection Office for activities in cable laying areas

# Member Entity and Stakeholder Involvement

- RPB member entities working together to further develop the details of the proposed actions
  - DoD, USCG
- Anticipated stakeholder engagement to further develop the actions is ongoing
  - Seeking input from DoD Regional Environmental Coordinators, OSD Clearinghouse, intergovernmental task forces and targeted stakeholders

# Non-Consumptive Recreation

*Elizabeth Semple, NJ DEP, Office of Coastal & Land Use Planning  
Doug Simpson, USCG, 5<sup>th</sup> District Waterways Management Branch*

# Overview of Non-consumptive Recreation

- RPB objective (from the framework):
  - Account for the importance of near-shore and offshore non-consumptive recreational uses, and their local and regional economic contributions in the Mid-Atlantic
  - In the management of other ocean uses and resources, consider impacts on non-consumptive recreational activities, (e.g., surfing, boating, whale watching, birding, diving)

# Encourage Awareness of NCR Use & Value

- Continue developing NCR data for MARCO Portal use.
  - Assess NOAA's Digital Coast financial data set for inclusion in Portal
  - Work with partnering entities to further develop existing use data
  - Goal: Ocean planners and decision makers armed with NCR use and economic impact data will better understand how proposed changes impact the NCR community
  - Who: RPB working group
  - Needed resource: Data developers, data portal

## ▼ Recreation

COASTAL  
RECREATION SURVEY

RECREATIONAL  
BOATING SURVEY

RECREATIONAL BOATING DENSITY (1KM)  
RECREATIONAL BOATING DENSITY (5KM)  
RECREATIONAL BOATING POINTS  
RECREATIONAL BOATING ROUTES AND DENSITY



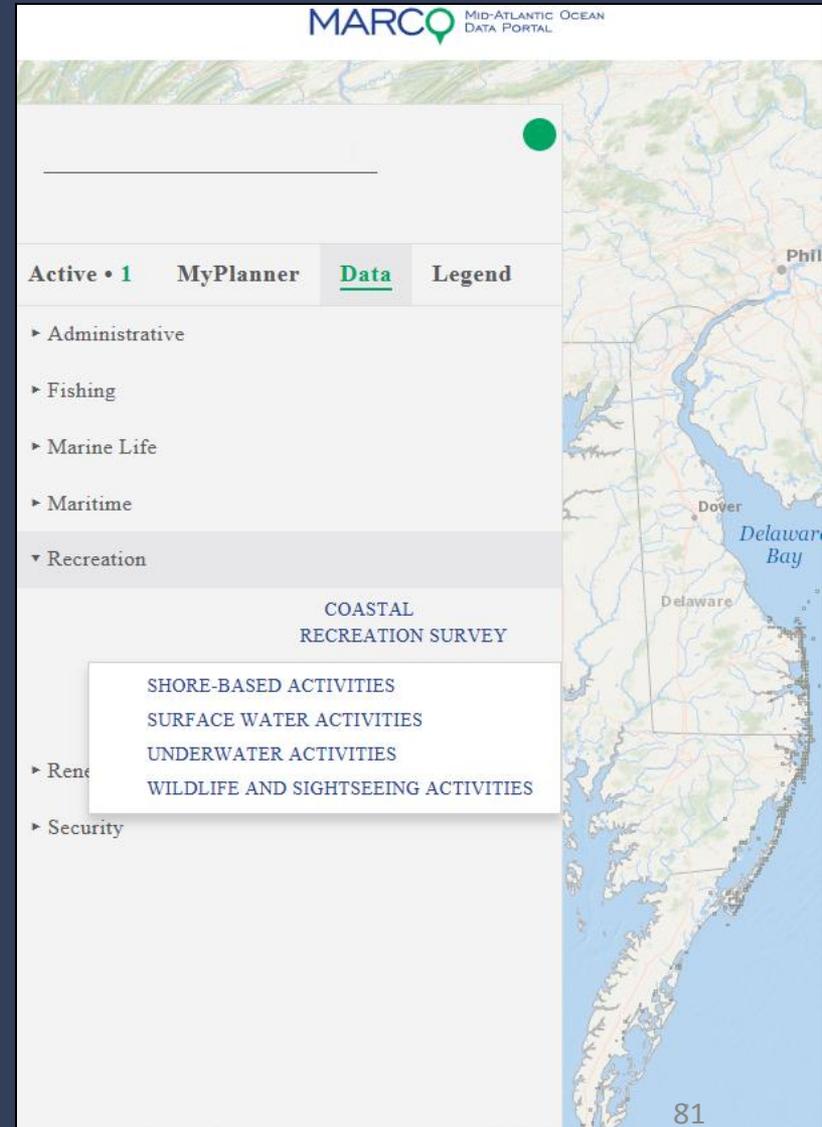
# Encourage Awareness of NCR Use & Economic Impact Data

- Identify potential impacts and use conflicts to high value areas
  - Identify locations where known and proposed uses may adversely impact NCR
  - Identify mitigation strategies for use conflicts.
  - Goal: Anticipated conflicts between NCR and other ocean uses can be addressed and resolved early in planning & permitting processes
  - Who: RPB working group with assistance from stakeholders



# Improve NCR Stakeholder Participation in Planning Processes

- Identify and catalogue current federal/state/tribal processes, authorities, and regulations which influence NCR
  - Goal: Improve understanding of current authorities and processes related to NCR issues
  - Who: RPB working group with assistance from stakeholders

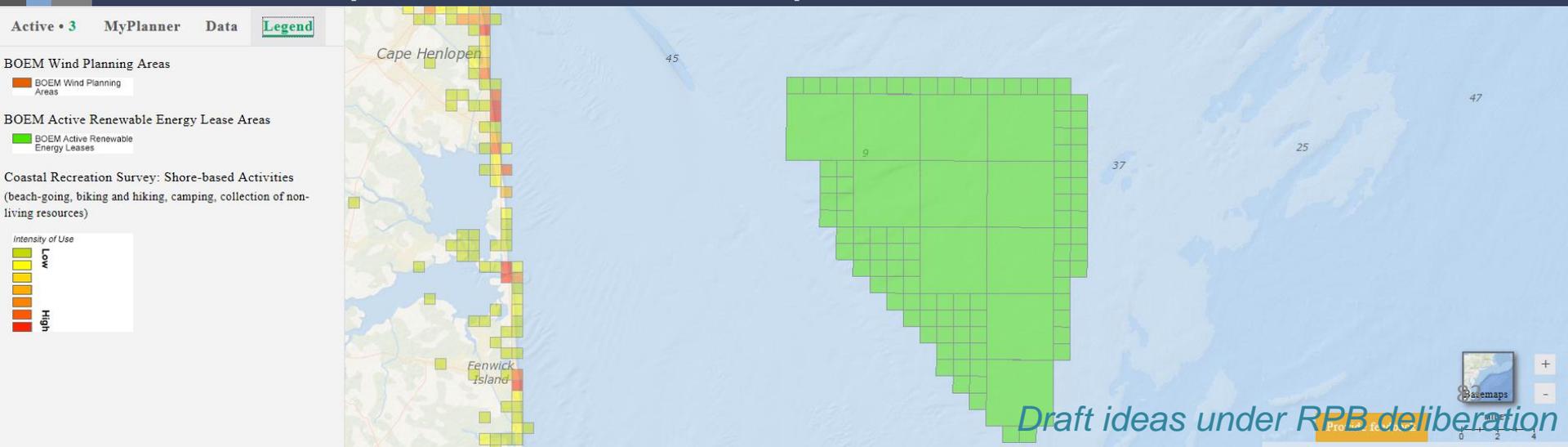


# Improve NCR Stakeholder Participation in Planning Processes

- Identify potential improvements to processes including making more NCR information available and enhanced stakeholder engagement
  - Review planning and permitting processes related to NCR
  - Identify whether NCR is adequately considered in processes.
  - Goal: Provide entities with opportunities to improve inclusion of NCR data and stakeholder engagement
  - Who: Mid-Atlantic RPB members with input from stakeholders

# Outreach and Validation

- Host sector workshops in each state for public & NCR stakeholders
  - Goal: Collect and validate data on NCR uses and value
  - Goal: Identify unaddressed NCR uses
  - Who: State RPB members supported by agencies with processes that impact NCR uses



# MARCO's

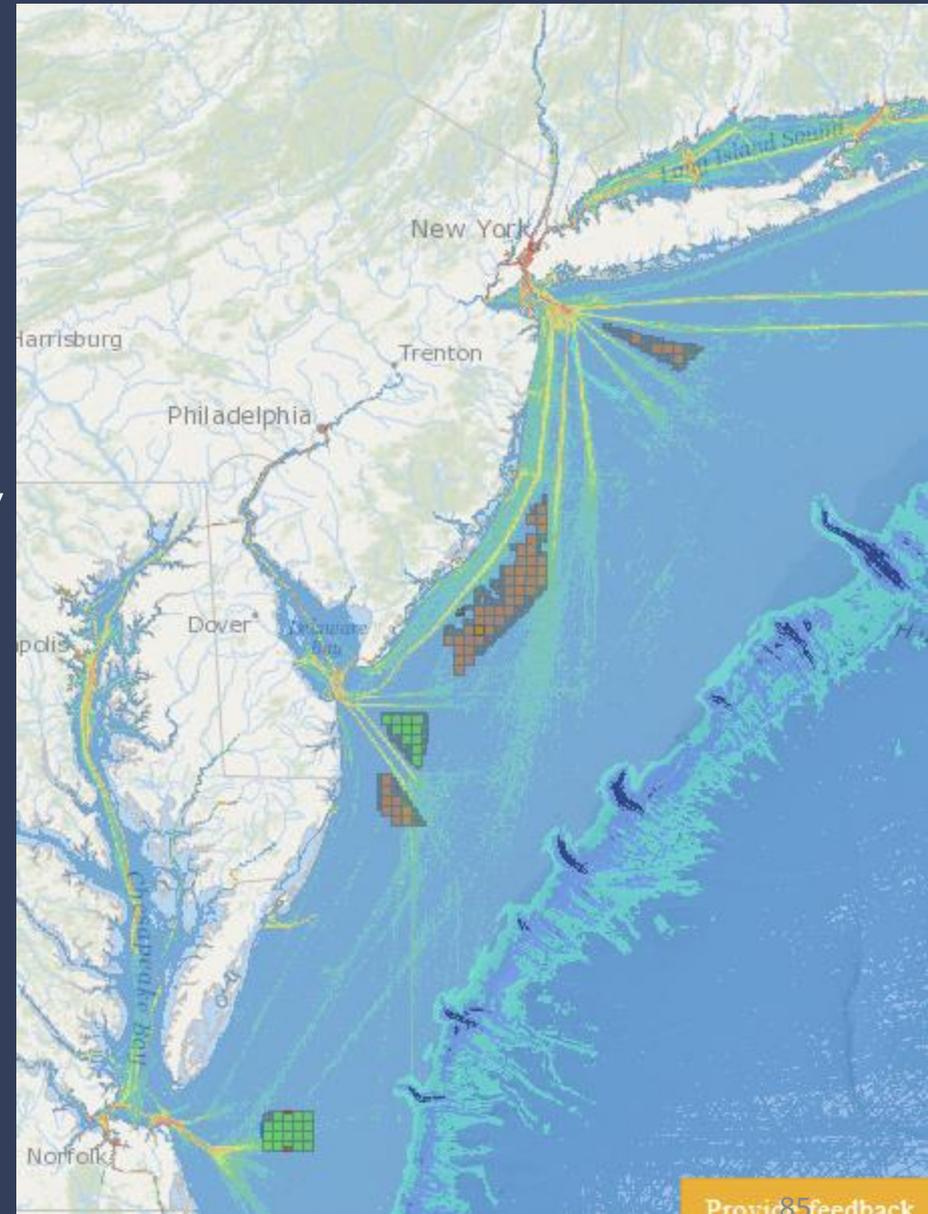
## Mid-Atlantic Ocean Data Portal: Providing Regional Data to Support Ocean Action Plan Development and Implementation

*Laura McKay, Virginia CZM Program*

*Kevin Chu, NOAA/NMFS*

# Proposed Actions

- Maintain operational components including data development, management, and web maintenance
- Expand public engagement to enhance data and functionality
- Review and add new data and mapping products as they evolve
- Transition from short-term funding to long-term stable funding



# Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA)

*David Kaiser*

*Senior Policy Analyst, Office for Coastal Management, NOAA*

# Description

- Opportunities to enhance CZMA federal consistency process and help meet Mid-Atlantic RPB's sustainable ocean uses and ocean ecosystem health goals.
- Objective could be identified in Ocean Action Plan and details determined later

# Outcomes

- Enhancing Federal Notice to States and Tribes
  - Potential Use of Data Portal
  - State and Tribal List Serves
- Helping Make Coastal Effects Determinations
  - Use of Data Portal to help make “causal connection”
  - Regional Options for Geographic Location Descriptions
- CZMA Federal Consistency Agreements
  - Exclude some federal actions from CZMA reviews
  - Establish thresholds or conditions for CZMA review

# Steps

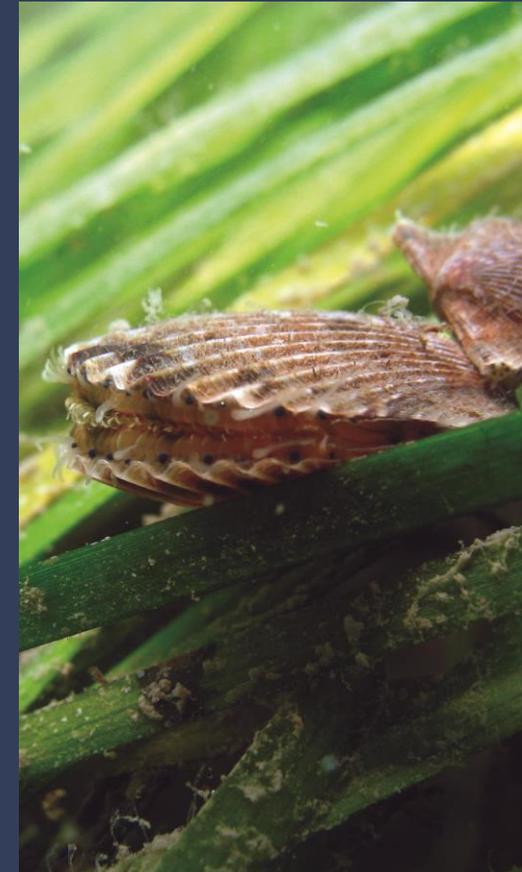
- Establish federal, state, tribal CZMA work group – include Data Portal experts
  - Substantive, procedural and technical needs for each of three options
  - Meeting CZMA regulatory requirements, including public participation
- Work group facilitated by NOAA's Office for Coastal Management

# Stakeholder Engagement

*Gwynne Schultz, MidA RPB State Co-Lead  
Maryland Department of Natural Resources*

# Stakeholder Engagement

- January 29, 2016 – Dewey Beach, DE
  - MARCO contractors present ecological and human use data synthesis and Regional Ocean Assessment products
- January – March 2016
  - Targeted outreach and engagement
- March 2016
  - MidA-RPB meeting with a public workshop
- Mid-June through July 2016
  - Comment period on draft Ocean Action Plan (via webinar, public listening sessions and on-line)
- September 2016
  - MidA-RPB meeting and public comment



# Questions? Comments?

*Please submit your questions or comments via the webinar Q&A function.*

# Webinar recap materials

The following will be posted on the RPB website (<http://www.boem.gov/mid-atlantic-regional-planning-body>) after the webinar:

- A recording of the webinar
- A transcript of the webinar
- The full slide presentation
- A record of all chat questions and comments from the public
- A list of webinar participants



# Thank you!

*<http://www.boem.gov/mid-atlantic-regional-planning-body/>*

*[MidAtlanticRPB@boem.gov](mailto:MidAtlanticRPB@boem.gov)*