Gulf of Mexico Marine Assessment Program for Protected Species

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MEETING AGENDA

- Sign-In Sheet
- Open and Closed Sessions
- Q&A – Introductions & Related Projects
- Opportunity to provide written feedback
Manage ocean energy and mineral resources on the Outer Continental Shelf in a safe and environmentally sound manner.
PROGRAM AREAS

Oil & Gas
5-year leasing plan
Regional lease sales

Renewable Energy
Site identification through stakeholder input and state task forces

Marine Minerals
Through negotiated agreement with state and local entities
ENVIROMENTAL MISSION

Use the best available science to protect the environment while ensuring the safe development of the nation’s offshore energy and marine mineral resources.
ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES PROGRAM

- Funds research to inform decisions on ocean energy and marine mineral activities.
- Initiated in 1973 to support the U.S. DOI offshore oil and gas leasing program (authorized by OCSLA).
- Develop information to help comply with ESA, MMPA, MBTA, and other laws ...
- Community coordination important to identifying opportunities for leveraging.
- Partnerships play a pivotal role towards achieving mutual goals.
GoMMAPPS as a *New* NOPP Partnership
GOMMAPPS GOALS

• Improve information on Gulf marine mammals, sea turtles, and seabirds for mitigation and monitoring of impact-producing factors:
  ➢ Underwater noise
  ➢ Vessel traffic
  ➢ Entanglement
  ➢ Trash and debris
  ➢ Discharges/Produced water
  ➢ Accidental spills

OCS Active Leases
GOMMAPPS METHODS

★ Collect broad-scale seasonal data using aerial and ship surveys to assess species distribution and abundance from nearshore to the EEZ.

- Initial survey design
- Collect habitat data
- Perform genetic analyses
- Conduct satellite tracking
- Model spatially-explicit densities
- Data Management
Improve and Develop Species Density Models

- Provide up-to-date seasonal data for all taxonomic groups.
GOMMAPPS DATA PRODUCTS

- Visual abundance/distribution data
- Automated imagery from camera systems
- Biopsy Samples
- Satellite tagging data
- Passive acoustic sampling from towed array
- Environmental data
- Habitat-based, density models
BOEM INTER-AGENCY AGREEMENTS

- **PLANNING & OUTREACH**
  - NOAA OCM
  - $300,000

- **MARINE MAMMAL FIELDWORK**
  - NOAA SEFSC
  - $3.7M

- **SEA TURTLE FIELDWORK**
  - USGS
  - $1M

- **SEABIRD FIELDWORK**
  - USFWS
  - $2.4M
2017: First anticipated outreach and fieldwork products

- Conceptual Data Model
- Early summer ship and aerial surveys
  - FWS and NOAA aircraft on shelf
  - Vessel surveys out to EEZ
- Hard-shell sea turtle tagging
- BOEM Information Transfer Meeting
National Studies Perspective

Opportunity for standardization and inter-region collaboration

PACMAPPS
Starting

AMAPPS
since 2010

GoMMAPPS
Starting
Moving Forward

We welcome ideas for partnering and leveraging of the GoMMAPPS program to best meet mutual needs across the Gulf of Mexico community ...
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