

Interdisciplinary Studies

2011 OCS Scientific Committee

Interdisciplinary Studies

- 6 studies, wide variation in scope
- Several required for leasing
- Others useful in providing information access

Enhancement of the Environmental Studies Program Information System(HQ)

- Good to organize and make available all previous studies, especially grey literature
- Valuable making the data available, not just the summaries
- Develop ability to access very large datasets

Support for Providing ESP Data within the Multiple-Purpose Marine Cadastre (HQ)

- “ESPIS will be linked to the Multipurpose Marine Cadastre to create a tool to search geospatially for reports and data from completed environmental studies”.
- Useful for locating information
- Cadastre implies Ocean Zoning. Appropriate term?

Environmental Consequences of Port Expansion and Operations Associated with Offshore Commercial Wind Energy on the Atlantic OCS (ATL)

- “Identify ports most suited to supporting OCS wind energy development and operations, and the associated social and environmental impacts supporting BOEMRE’s mandated mission to oversee renewable energy development on the OCS”.
- Seems to be duplicating USACE Port Improvement Study, DOE Market Barriers study, and DOE turbine blade manufacture location competition.
- Industry may have already conducted a study (ask Gamesa)

US-Canada Transboundary Fish and (Lower) Trophic Levels (AK)

- High cost due to ship time
- Planned study is too short to provide adequate inter-annual variability data
- Area of interest has lack of data
- Needed for long-term development plans?
- Integration with other arctic research

Use of the Chukchi Sea by Endangered Baleen and other Whales (AK)

- Westward expansion of BOWFEST
- Necessary for information on cetacean use of Chukchi
- Validate with information on prey base
- Duplicates other studies?

Impact of Oceanic Biophysical Feedbacks on the Alaskan Arctic State: A Sensitivity Study (HQ)

- Important to understand complexity of climate change in arctic
- Needs targeted observations to validate the modeling data
- Put into scale the variables that drive ocean heat budget

Studies Ranking

- Ranking should be within Regions
- 3 HQ studies
- 2 AK studies
- 1 ATL study