

Stakeholder Forum

October 20, 2015

NE Ocean Plan Chapter 5. Science and Research Priorities

*Note the following science and research priorities responsibilities are being provided as examples to elicit ideas and feedback

Science and Research Priorities

- 5.1 Natural and Cultural Resources
- 5.2 Human Activities
- 5.3 Ecosystem Based Management
- 5.4 Changing Conditions

Science and Research Priorities

- 5.1 Natural and Cultural Resources
 - 5.1.1 Marine Mammals and Sea Turtles
 - 5.1.2 Birds
 - 5.1.3 Fish
 - 5.1.4 Habitat
 - 5.1.5 Historic and Cultural Resources

Science and Research Priorities

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 - 5.1.5 Historic and Cultural Resources

For each:

- Updates to Ocean Plan Data Products
- New Research
- Programs and efforts to leverage

Science and Research Priorities – Some examples

5.1 Natural and Cultural Resources

5.1.1 Marine Mammals and Sea Turtles

A. Product Updates

- Incorporate additional survey data into the model and update plan products
- Develop a companion data product showing survey effort over time

B. New Research

- Identify geographies and times requiring additional observations and provide model criteria for use in designing any new survey to ensure data are used
- Study the effects of various disturbances and develop products for species groups sensitive to those disturbances

Science and Research Priorities – Some examples

5.1 Natural and Cultural Resources

5.1.5 Historic and Cultural Resources

A. Product Updates

- Update the map of National Register of Historic Places as sites are added

B. New Research

- Continue and expand research to identify submerged paleocultural landscapes
- Expand efforts to incorporate traditional knowledge, specifically:
 - Develop a database of navigational place names
 - Develop a database of tribal traditional knowledge to be accessible along with other data/information products

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Science and Research Priorities

5.1 Natural and Cultural Resources

5.2 Human Activities

5.2.1 Marine Transportation

5.2.2 National Security

5.2.3 Commercial Fishing

5.2.4 Recreational Fishing

5.2.5 Recreation

5.2.6 Energy and Infrastructure

5.2.7 Aquaculture

5.2.8 Sand and Gravel

Science and Research Priorities – Some examples

5.2 Human Activities

5.2.1 Marine Transportation

A. Product Updates

- Update AIS vessel density products annually
- Expand on monthly time series data to better understand variation in intra-annual traffic

B. New Research

- With industry input, develop and implement a methodology for counting unique transits
- Develop a tool to select areas with a certain number or percentage of unique transits

Science and Research Priorities – Some examples

5.2 Human Activities

5.2.3 Commercial Fishing

A. Product Updates

- Update VMS vessel density products annually

B. New Research

- Filling gaps, for example by exploring and potentially developing methods to characterize fishing effort using VMS, VTR, state permit information, and/or by developing new data.
- Develop a method to link areas of fishing effort to specific communities

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Science and Research Priorities – Some examples

5.1 Natural and Cultural Resources

5.2 Human Activities

5.3 Ecosystem Based Management

- Organizational structure to evolve as the subject advances through the EBM Work Group and the RPB
- Science and research priorities may depend on how far the plan can take any specific topic
- Initial ideas:
 - Habitat classification
 - Important Ecological Areas organized into its components (biodiversity, primary productivity, life stage – feeding/breeding/spawning)
 - Ecosystem service production and value
 - Cumulative impacts – stressors, vulnerability, method to quantify impacts

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