



NROC

Northeast Regional
Ocean Council



NORTHEAST OCEAN PLANNING



NORTHEAST OCEAN

Aquaculture in New England Federal Waters: Regulation, Public Engagement & Interjurisdictional Coordination

April 5, 2022

Tech Notes for Today's Webinar

- This webinar will be recorded and posted on NROC's website
- Webinar attendees do not have access to cameras or microphones
- Please use the Q&A feature to submit questions for the presenters
- Please use the chat function for tech questions or other communications
- Emily Shumchenia is also available to respond to tech questions via email at: emily.shumchenia@gmail.com.

Webinar program available at: <https://neooceanplanning.org/planning-issues/aquaculture/>

NROC's October 2020 Aquaculture Webinar

- Status of aquaculture in federal waters
- Overview of the Aquaculture Aspects of the Executive Order on Promoting American Seafood Competitiveness and Economic Growth
- Introduction to NOAA's Spatial Planning for Aquaculture Opportunity Areas (AOAs)

2022 Aquaculture Webinar Series

Webinar 1, April 5

- Status of aquaculture in federal waters and update on AOAs
- Overview of the federal review and authorization process for aquaculture activities

Webinar 2, April 8

- Perspectives on improving the the regulatory process in federal waters
- Panel discussions
 - Tribal, state and fishery management council perspectives
 - Aquaculture industry perspectives
 - Fishing and environmental group perspectives

NROC Ocean Planning Committee (OPC) Goal:

Provide a forum, data and information, best practices, and opportunities to coordinate offshore planning, regulatory, and siting activities to improve ocean and coastal ecosystem health, enhance decision making, and ensure compatibility among human activities.



Best Practices for Ocean Permitting and Management Processes

1. Outreach and Engagement
2. Agency and Interjurisdictional Coordination
3. Use of Data and Information
4. Pre-Application

Best Practices for Ocean Permitting and Management Processes

1. Outreach and Engagement

- Interactive maps depicting boundaries of proposed agency actions on the Northeast Ocean Data Portal
- Public notification about projects and proposed agency actions
- Summary of resources to learn more about ongoing projects and related maritime operations

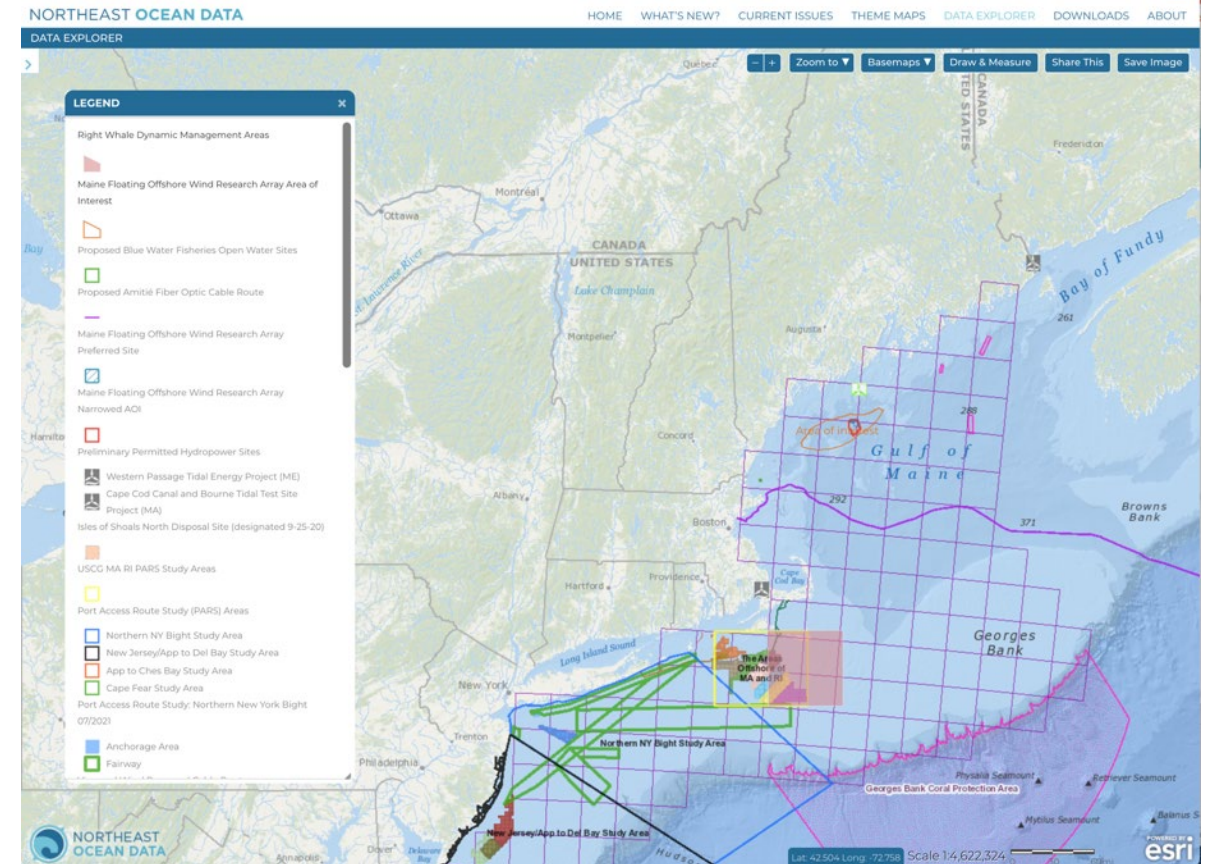


Figure: Proposed projects, planning and management areas, and agency actions that have been represented on the Portal since 2019.

Best Practices for Ocean Permitting and Management Processes

2. Agency and Interjurisdictional Coordination

- Identify emerging issues and provide opportunities via NROC for coordination and information sharing
- Identify opportunities to enhance federal agency consultation with tribal governments
- Identify opportunities to enhance coordination between federal and state governments
- Identify opportunities to enhance coordination among federal agencies

Best Practices for Ocean Permitting and Management Processes

3. Use of Data and Information

- Develop communication materials identifying data sources and tools to inform decision making and how they can be used at different stages of the regulatory process
- Integrate data collected by project proponents into regional data products and provide access to data collections, as appropriate
- Engage topical experts to inform data requirements and review draft products
- Permitting and licensing agencies encourage use of Northeast Ocean Data Portal as one tool to inform project outreach, coordination, and pre-application materials

Best Practices for Ocean Permitting and Management Processes

4. Pre-Application

- Develop web pages for project proponents to obtain guidance on pre-application, use of data, and stakeholder engagement
- During a pre-application meeting, create a shared understanding of the regulatory process, including consultations, stakeholder engagement, and timelines

Turn all Layers Off < >

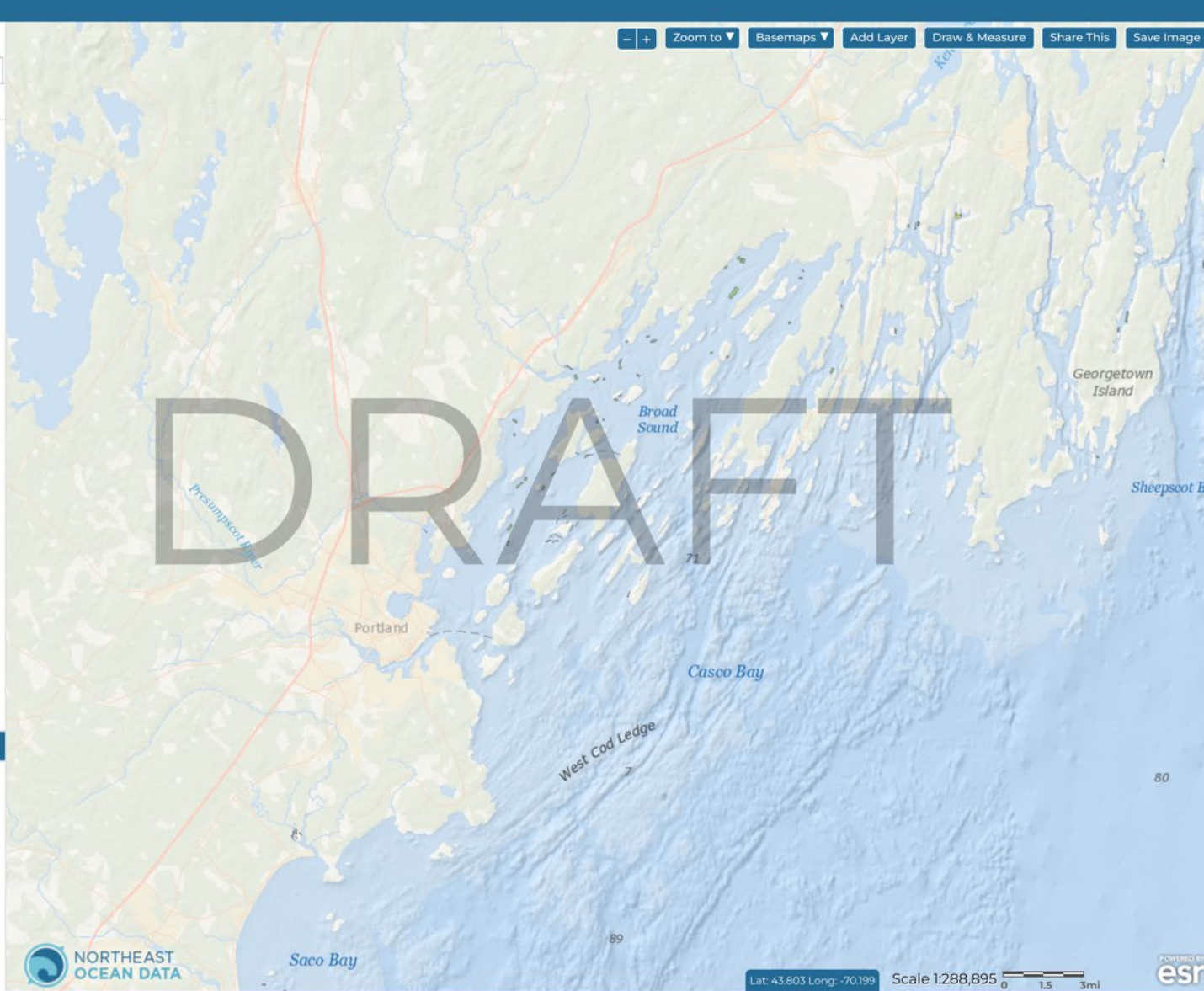
All Layers Active Layers (1)

Keyword Search

- > Administrative Boundaries
- > Marine Transportation
- > National Security
- > Energy & Infrastructure
- > Recreation
- > Culture
- > Commercial Fishing
- > Aquaculture
- > Fish
- > Marine Mammals & Sea Turtles
- > Birds
- > Habitat
- > Habitat & Oceanographic Drivers
- > Sand
- > Restoration
- > Water Quality
- > Physical Oceanography
- > Bathymetry & Imagery
- > Demography and Economy

Legend >

- Aquaculture Leases
- Active
 - Expired
 - Renewal or Standard Application
 - Pending
 - Terminated



Northeast Ocean Data Portal

- Map products showing the footprint and changes over time for economic activities and ecological resources
- Revised draft map of existing aquaculture operations to be released soon

US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS PUBLIC NOTICES

This page provides access to public notices issued by the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), National District for regulatory/permitting, engineering/planning, navigation, and programs/project management. Public notices give local, state, and federal agencies, the general public, Native American Tribes, and interested organizations an opportunity to provide comments or concerns to the Corps. The comment period is typically 30 days but may be longer or shorter. Comments submitted to the Corps are reviewed and are part of the evaluation process before a decision or determination can be made by the Corps on that proposed project, activity, or permit.

Visit the USACE Permit Finder to view maps and status information about jurisdictional determinations and permit decisions by the Corps Regulatory program.

Public Notices with Open Public Comment Periods

Comment Period Closes	Notice	Portal Interactive Maps	State
2022-04-11	RHODE ISLAND DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FUNDING AGREEMENT UNDER SECTION 214 OF THE WATER RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 2000 AND 23 U.S.C. 139(j)		RI
2022-04-20	A permit application from the Town of Falmouth, Massachusetts, to conduct work in waters of the United States at Menauhant Road in Falmouth.	Streets Map Topo Map Satellite Image	MA

Public Notices with Recently Closed Public Comment Periods

Comment Period Closed	Notice	Portal Interactive Maps	State
2022-03-10	A permit application from the Maine Turnpike Authority to discharge fill material below the ordinary high water mark of Goosefare Brook and in adjacent freshwater wetlands at Saco, York County, Maine.	Satellite Image NatGeo Map Streets Map	ME
2022-03-03	A permit application to conduct work in waters of the United States from Endicott College. This work is proposed in Salem Sound at 375 and 413 Hale Street in Beverly, Massachusetts. The proposed work involves bank stabilization.	Satellite Image Streets Map	MA
2022-02-24	A permit application to conduct work in waters of the United States from Running Tide Technologies. This work is proposed in the Atlantic Ocean, 65 nautical miles off the coast of Massachusetts, at Fippennies Ledge. The work would involve the placement of 30 vertical kelp lines for the purpose of advancing research on the use of kelp for carbon sequestration.	Nautical Chart Oceans Map with Bathymetry & Seafloor Habitat	MA

Northeast Ocean Data Portal

- Map products and information about proposed projects and agency actions

Contacts

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NORTHEAST OCEAN DATA



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