



2020 Ocean Mapping Data Team (OMDT) Progress Report

Reporting Period: January 2020 - December 2020

Work Group Webpage: <https://www.midatlanticocean.org/ocean-planning/work-groups-collaborative-efforts/ocean-mapping-data-team/> and <https://portal.midatlanticocean.org/>

Work Group Leads: Laura McKay (VA)

Work Group Members: Work group membership is open to government and non-governmental entities operating in the five Mid-Atlantic states and the District of Columbia that are willing to participate in work group activities. Members are expected to contribute on monthly work group calls and assist with project implementation.

Current Members Include:

| Last Name | First Name | Organization |
|----------------|------------|--------------|
| Albino Hegeman | Melissa | NY |
| Barnes | Jerry | USCG |
| Battey | Hoyt | DOE |
| Blair | Devon | NJ |
| Bognar | John | Portal Team |
| Bowman | Sarah | DOD |
| Bozzi | Rhianna | NY |
| Bristow | Avalon | MARCO |
| Bruce | Chris | Portal Team |
| Clouse | Peter | NY |
| Coakley | Jessica | MAFMC |

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| Cole | Kim | DE |
| Creelman | Matt | USCG |
| Edmonds | Ed | MD |
| Finch | Darlene | NOAA |
| Ford | Mary | MARACOOS |
| Hassell | Kevin | NJ |
| Herter | Jeff | NY |
| Innes | Mina | NY |
| Jackson | George | DOT/MARAD |
| Janeski | Todd | VA |
| Jones | Michael | DOD |
| Kuska | Gerhard | MARACOOS |
| Lathrop | Rick | Portal Team |
| Leonard | Kelsey | Shinnecock Tribe |
| Light | David | EPA |
| MacDonald | Tony | Portal Team |
| McKay* | Laura | VA |
| Meade | Nick | VA |
| Morrison | Marianne | DOD |
| Napoli | Nick | Portal Team |
| Ortiz | Pablo | USCG |
| Pendleton | Elizabeth | USGS |
| Pletta | Maggie | DE |
| Register | Katie | VA |
| Ribera | Marta | Portal Team/TNC |
| Simpson | Doug | USCG |
| Smith | Jeremy | BOEM |
| Spiegel | Caleb | USFWS |
| Taylor | Christine | BOEM |

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|------------|-------|-------------|
| Toschik | Pan | USFWS |
| Trembl | Megan | NOAA |
| Trimble | Jim | Portal Team |
| Turner | Lora | BOEM |
| Vilacoba | Karl | Portal Team |
| Wadlington | Josh | BOEM |
| Wilson | Doug | MARACOOS |

* Lead

Work Group Goals, Objectives and Actions: The OMDT is a group of state, federal, and tribal agencies as well as consultants working to promote and develop data products for the MARCO Ocean Data Portal. The 40-member OMDT meets quarterly and advises the MARCO Management Board on data and tools to be added to the Portal. There is a wide range of [ocean data presented on the Portal](#) including (but not limited to): administrative boundaries, marine life abundance, oceanography, and human uses.

ACTIVITY 1 - Update existing maps on the Portal to keep them current and ensure they reflect the latest available data.

Expected Completion Date: Ongoing

A1 Progress Period: January 2020 – June 2020

The following maps were updated to reflect the latest data in the June 2020 reporting period:

- Submarine Canyons
- Pilot Boarding Areas
- National Park Service Boundaries
- BOEM Active Renewable Energy Lease Areas

A1 Progress Period: July 2020 - December 2020

The following is a sample of the maps/datasets that were updated during this reporting period:

- Individual layers depicting three Coast Guard Port Access Route Study (PARS) areas in the region were combined with a new one for the Northern New York Bight

PARS to form a single map layer. The previous PARS layers were for the New Jersey Seacoast/Delaware Bay approaches; the approaches to the Chesapeake Bay; and the North Carolina Seacoast, including the approaches to the Cape Fear River and Beaufort Inlet. Those individual maps have been retired.

- No longer in the “proposed” stage, the USCG Lower Chesapeake Bay Anchorages layer was changed to become a companion layer that automatically activates when the Anchorage Areas layer is turned on. When the federal service for the Anchorage Areas is updated to include these new zones, the companion layer will be retired.
- The Average Annual Wind Speed layer was replaced with a new version from the National Renewable Energy Laboratory based on more recent data.
- The NCEI TopoGraphic/Bathymetric Mosaic and Okeanos Explorer Bathymetry layers were updated to point to newer federal services.

ACTIVITY 2 - Add new data/maps to the Portal.

Expected Completion Date: Ongoing

A2 Progress Period: January 2020 – June 2020

The following is a sample of the data/maps added through the June 2020 reporting period:

- USCG Proposed Delaware Bay Anchorages
- USCG Proposed Lower Chesapeake Bay Anchorages
- USCG Chesapeake Bay Port Access Route Study (PARS) Area
- Electric Transmission Lines: Voltage
- Electric Transmission Lines: Max Voltage
- Bird Seasonal Migration and Utilization Distribution (9 seasonal maps)
- Tagged Loggerhead Sea Turtle Density Monthly Slider (12 maps)
- MARACOOS HF Radar Seasonal Surface Currents
- USCG North Carolina Seacoast PARS
- Pilot Boarding Stations
- Undersea Feature Place Names
- USCG New Jersey Seacoast/Delaware Bay Approaches PARS
- USCG Proposed Cape Fear Approaches Anchorages
- Monitor Marine Sanctuary
- Mallows Bay/Potomac River Marine Sanctuary
- Carl Schuster Horseshoe Crab Reserve
- US Congressional Districts

- 2018 and 2019 AIS Vessel Transit Count data, including annual maps by vessel type and monthly sliders (200+ maps total)
- USCG Proposed Fairways
- USCG Atlantic Coast Port Access Route Study Areas (consolidated map of all PARS, including new Northern NY Bight PARS)
- “Ocean Stories” feature on MARCO-funded deep-sea canyons research

A2 Progress Period: July 2020 - December 2020

The following is a sample of the maps/datasets that were added during this reporting period:

- Virginia Offshore Wind Turbine Locations
- Coastal Zone Management Act Boundary
- Hurricane Tracks Since 1980 in the North Atlantic Slider
- Hurricane Tracks Since 1980 in the North Atlantic
- Tropical Cyclone Wind Exposure (North Atlantic, 1900-2016)
- Monthly Offshore Wind Speed Slider
- Potential Fairways
- Port Access Route Study (PARS) Areas
- An Ocean Stories profile of a charter boat captain in New Jersey was created

ACTIVITY 3 - Add new or update existing tools to ensure the Portal is user friendly and best accommodates users' work needs.

Expected Completion Date: Ongoing

A3 Progress Period: January 2020 – June 2020

The following is a sample of the updates made to the Portal’s tools in the June 2020 reporting period:

- Bookmarks tool upgraded to save layers generated by external queries (e.g. Marine Life Library species layers, Communities at Sea ports) and ArcREST Services Input Tool
- Added grey basemap to Marine Planner and replaced streets, satellite and physical basemaps with new Esri versions
- Upgrades to slider/animations tool coding to improve speed and performance

A3 Progress Period : July 2020 - December 2020

The following is a sample of the tool and site enhancements made during this reporting period:

- The Portal’s technology stack was updated from OpenLayers 2 to OpenLayers 6, a change that will boost the site’s performance, security and unlock the potential for

new tools/capabilities. Work is now being conducted to rebuild custom tools from the old site to make them compatible with the current version.

- The Portal was migrated from a WebFaction to an Amazon Web Services server in conjunction with the OpenLayers conversion.
- The Portal's zoom level was increased, enabling users to view close range nautical charts such as those for inland bays and rivers.

ACTIVITY 4 - Conduct public outreach, demonstrations and trainings to build awareness of the Portal and its features.

Expected Completion Date: Ongoing

A4 Progress Period: January 2020 – June 2020

The following is a sample of the public outreach conducted during the June 2020 reporting period:

- January 10: Joint Northeast-Mid-Atlantic Portals webinar on diving bird map products
- January 17: Information exchange webinar with Canadian portal developers (COIN Atlantic)
- January 30: Presentation to NOAA NOS Assistant Administrator Nicole LeBouef and Coastal Zone Management class at Monmouth University
- February 20: MARCO/MACAN presentation at Ocean Sciences Meeting 2020, San Diego, CA
- February 22: Jersey Shore Surfcasters 2020 Surf Day, Brookdale Community College
- March 11: Online training for Equinor/Empire Wind staff
- March 12: COIN Atlantic Data Sharing for an Atlantic Canada Marine Bioregional Atlas workshop
- April 14: How Tuesday webinar focused on data developed in partnership with MARACOOS
- April 22: Earth Day webinar on shifting fish species data
- June 5: Fisheries data on portals webinar for commercial fishing stakeholders with NROC, MARCO, RODA and MAFMC
- June 10: Tutorial demo for team at Industrial Economics (IEc), working with state of Delaware to estimate the economic impacts of potential oil spills in Mid-Atlantic
- June 16: How Tuesday webinar with USCG on NJ Seacoast/Delaware Bay PARS

A4 Progress Period: July 2020 - December 2020

The following is a sample of the outreach conducted during this reporting period:

- Three Mid-Atlantic/Northeast Portal training sessions for the staffs of offshore wind organizations
- Portal demo for a University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science oceanography class
- September 15 Intro to the Portal How Tuesday webinar (recording posted)
- Tutorial for Monmouth University marine GIS class
- October 8: MACO/Coast Guard navigation safety and PARS webinar (recording posted)
- New York GIS Association demo

