



MID-ATLANTIC  
COMMITTEE  
ON THE OCEAN



## 2023 Ocean Mapping and Data Team (OMDT) Work Plan and Progress Report

**Reporting Period:** January 2023 – June 2023

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

**Work Group Leads:** Laura McKay, Virginia DEQ (through June 2023)  
Kevin Hassell, New Jersey DEP (effective July 2023)

**Work Group Members:** 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.

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**Work Group Goals, Objectives and Actions:** This work relates to the Ocean Action Plan's Sustainable Ocean Uses goal and related objectives focused on fostering coordination, transparency, and use of quality information to support existing, new, and future ocean uses in a manner that minimizes conflict and enhances compatibility. MARCO and the OMDT member agencies recognizes that a robust ocean data and information management system that includes a wide range of human use, environmental, socioeconomic and regulatory data will provide the building blocks for multi-use, regional-scale ocean planning. The Portal serves as a platform to engage all stakeholders in ocean planning from the five-state Mid-Atlantic region—putting essential data and state-of-the-art mapping and visualization technology into the hands of the agencies, industry, and community leaders. To learn more about planned data additions and updates, tool enhancements, and outreach activities, visit the [Portal 2023 Work Plan](#).

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**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 2023 - June 2023

The following maps/datasets were updated to reflect the latest data for the January - June 2023 reporting period:

- All MDAT marine mammal species and group products found in the Marine Life and Marine Life Library (Species Specific) themes
- Aids to Navigation
- Balloon and Other Debris Mid-Atlantic Beach Monitoring Surveys maps
- BOEM Renewable Energy Lease Areas
- Munitions and Explosives of Concern
- Replaced Military Operating Area Boundaries, Regulated Airspace, Ship Shock Boxes, Special Use Airspace, Surface Grid Areas with new services provided by Marine Cadastre. Retired Submarine Transit Lanes layer per Department of Defense request; replaced Unexploded Ordnance Areas and Locations maps with Munitions and Explosives of Concern map.
- South Fork Wind Farm
- Vineyard Wind 1 wind farm
- Coastal Zone Management Act Boundary
- Federal Consistency Geographic Location Descriptions
- NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service Regions
- Congressional districts

**A1 Progress Period:** July 2023 - December 2023

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

**Expected Completion Date:** Ongoing

**A2 Progress Period:** January 2023 - June 2023

The following maps/datasets were added in the January – June 2023 reporting period:

- 2022 AIS monthly and annual vessel transit counts
- Atlantic Wave Height and Climate
- Avangrid Renewables LLC (aka Kitty Hawk North Wind), Atlantic Shores Offshore Wind Projects I and II, and SouthCoast Wind Energy project envelopes
- Gulf of Maine Call for Information and Nominations
- Consolidated Port Approaches and International Entry and Departure Transit Areas Port Access Route Studies (CPAPARS) recommendations
- Proposed offshore wind turbine, interarray cable, export cable, substation and export cable corridor locations
- Ratio of Summer Peak to Off Peak Leisure & Hospitality Sector Employment
- Bathymetric Contours

**A2 Progress Period:** July 2023 – December 2023

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**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 2023 - June 2023

The following tool and site enhancements were made in the January – June 2023 reporting period:

- Replaced retiring versions of ocean basemap and NOAA Nautical Chart; implemented solution for labeling error with Esri ocean basemap.
- Continued work with Monmouth University students to develop mobile version of Marine Planner.
- Introduced signal to users when they must adjust zoom levels to view layers.
- Added alias Portal URLs to capture traffic from those who enter similar but incorrect name.
- Bug fix to enable more accurate presentation of decimals in pop-up window upon click.
- Work to ensure AGOL service types were compatible with Marine Planner.
- Numerous small bug fixes.

**A3 Progress Period:** July 2023 – December 2023

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**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 2023 - June 2023

The following outreach was conducted during the January - June 2023 reporting period:

- January 12: Lightning talk at Rutgers Offshore Wind Symposium
- January 12: Mid-Atlantic/Northeast portals training for Invenergy staff
- January 18: Staten Island School for Civic Leadership teachers training
- January 30: New York Aquarium Inspiring Marine Protection and Careers for Teens (IMPACT) training
- January 31: Portal demo on the MARCO Marine Sanctuaries webinar
- February 2: Monmouth University Coastal Zone Management class
- February 8: Coastal GeoTools tool showcase
- March 21: ASBPA 2023 Coastal Summit panel “Collaborative Strategies to Minimize Conflicts Between Offshore Wind Development and Sand Resources” in Washington, DC
- May 17-18: Portal table and presentations at Mid-Atlantic Ocean Forum in New York City

**A4 Progress Period:** July 2023 – December 2023

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