

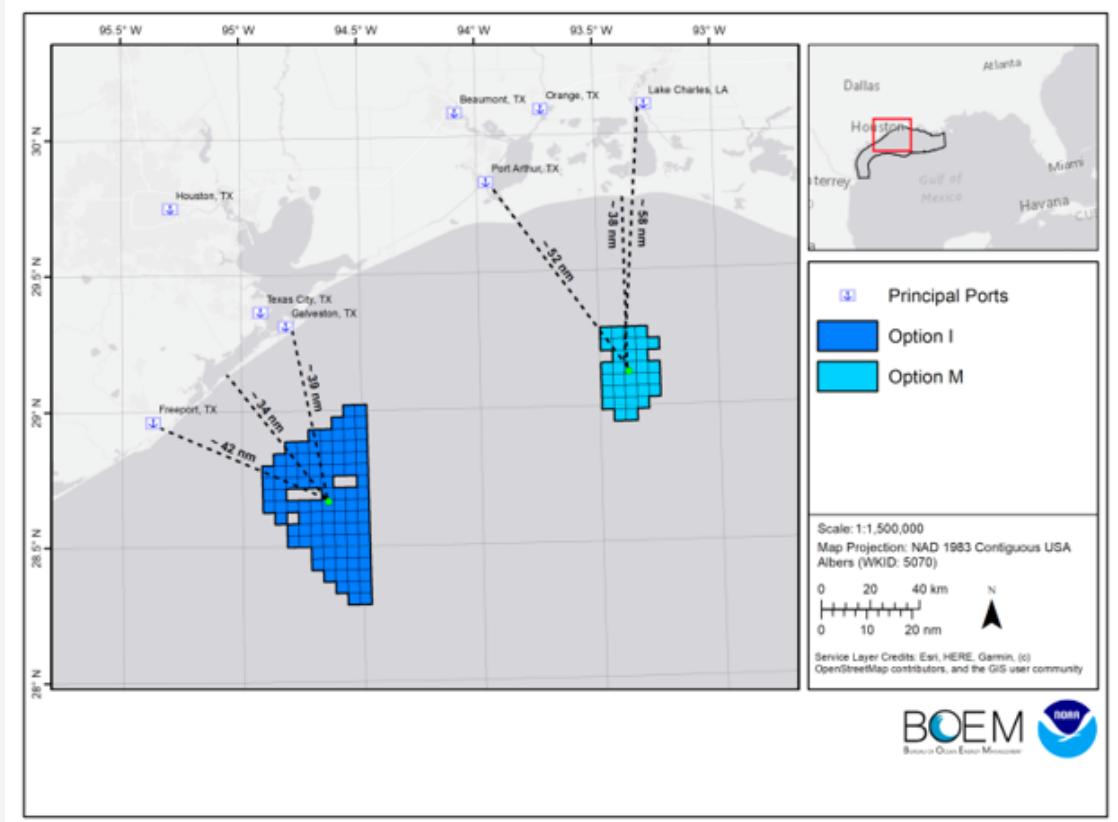


News from the National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) formed the National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science (NCCOS) in 1999 as the focal point for NOAA's coastal ocean science efforts. We provide coastal managers with the scientific information necessary to decide how best to protect environmental resources and public health, preserve valued habitats, and improve the way communities interact with coastal ecosystems.

NCCOS Supports Historic Offshore Wind Energy Auction in Gulf of Mexico

In a big step toward a cleaner and more sustainable future, the Department of the Interior successfully conducted the first-ever offshore wind energy auction for the Gulf of Mexico region. This milestone rested on the foundation of the collaboration between the National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science (NCCOS) and the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM). [Continue reading](#)



[Identifying a Draft Wind Energy Area in the Gulf of Maine](#)

NCCOS is once again working alongside the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM), the lead agency for offshore energy development, to continue expanding offshore wind energy in U.S. waters. [Continue reading](#)



NCCOS Awards \$14.1M for Harmful Algal Bloom and Hypoxia Research

NCCOS is announcing \$14.1 million in funding for harmful algal bloom (HAB) and hypoxia research projects and monitoring activities throughout U.S. coastal and Great Lakes waters. [Continue reading](#)



Effects of Sea Level Rise Program Announces FY24 Funding Opportunity

The NCCOS Competitive Research Program is pleased to announce its Fiscal Year 2024 Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for its [Effects of Sea Level Rise \(ESLR\) Program](#). [Continue reading](#)



Request for Information: Identifying Aquaculture Opportunity Areas in Alaska

In June 2023, NOAA and the state of Alaska [announced](#) a collaborative effort to identify Aquaculture Opportunity Areas (AOAs) in Alaska's waters, focusing on sustainable invertebrates (shellfish, sea cucumber, etc.) and seaweed aquaculture. Through advanced analysis and stakeholder input, these AOAs will foster responsible aquaculture that balances environmental, economic, and cultural considerations. In October 2023, NOAA [announced](#) the next phase of this process — a request for data, analysis, and information from the public to aid in the identification of AOAs in Alaska state waters as part of a 60-day comment period. [Continue reading](#)



[**Flood Model Predicts Impacts, Benefits of Different Adaptation Actions in Southern California**](#)

A new [study](#), partially funded by NCCOS, developed a framework for evaluating the physical, economic, and demographic impacts and benefits of engineered, nature-based, and hybrid adaptation strategies to address coastal flooding. The research team applied the framework to two neighboring communities on Santa Monica Bay in Los Angeles County, California, to illustrate its utility for local-scale planning. [Continue reading](#)



Study Finds Oil Sheens Harm Larval Oysters

New [research](#) co-led by NCCOS scientists shows that oil sheens on the surface of seawater can interfere with the survival and development of larval Eastern oysters, a species commonly located along the Atlantic coast and the Gulf of Mexico — a region with many offshore oil wells, platforms, and pipelines. [Continue reading](#)



Design, Distribution of Artificial Reef Structures Affect Fish Abundance (VIDEO)

NCCOS scientists and their partners [found](#) that artificial reef structures with greater horizontal area and vertical relief host more fish than smaller, shorter structures. Also, spatially isolated reef structures tend to have more fish than structures closer to one another. [Continue reading](#)



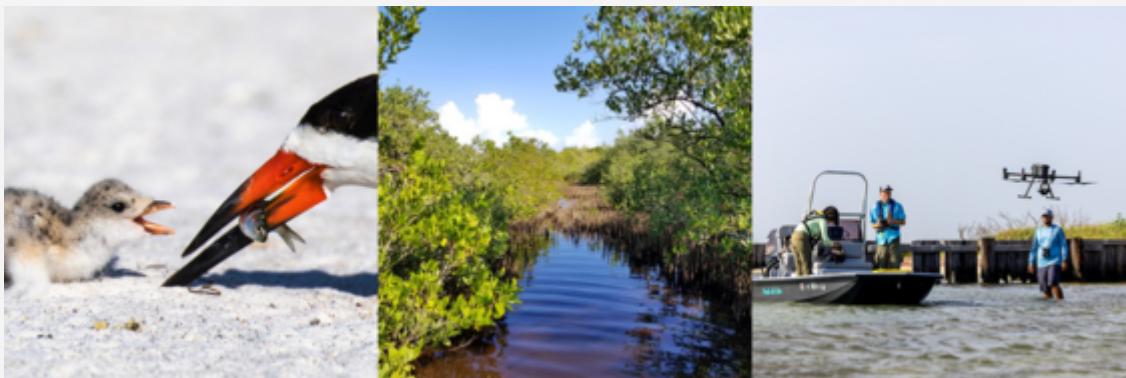
If You Build It, Is It Worth It? The Value of Restoring Coastal Sand Dunes and Wetlands

Coastal dunes and wetlands provide many benefits — protection against storm surge and flooding, critical habitat for wildlife, and recreation opportunities for outdoor enthusiasts — yet they have been greatly degraded over the last century. Habitat restoration is often a costly endeavor that can lead coastal communities to question whether the investment is "worth it." Two NCCOS-supported studies looked at public valuation of two types of restoration in the Pacific Northwest to determine what the public thinks is worth doing. [Continue reading](#)



[NOAA Awards \\$16.8M to Actionable Research in the Gulf of Mexico](#)

NOAA is awarding \$16.8 million to 32 organizations working across 10 projects to conduct collaborative ecosystem science research that will be used by natural resource managers in the Gulf of Mexico. [Continue reading](#)





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