



News from the [National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science](#)

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*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.*

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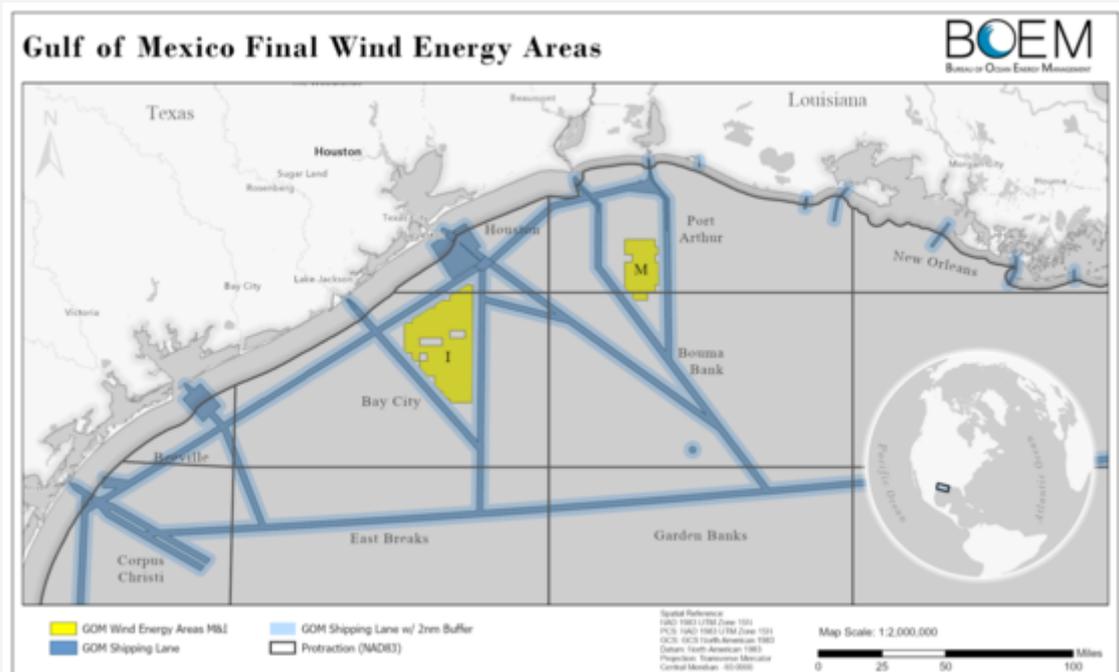
**NCCOS Awards \$16.1M for Harmful Algal Bloom Research, Monitoring, and Control**

NCCOS is announcing \$16.1 million in funding for harmful algal bloom (HAB) research projects and monitoring activities throughout U.S. coastal and Great Lakes waters. HABs can produce toxins or cause other harmful effects that can damage ecosystems, disrupt our seafood supply, impact economies, and threaten human health. [Continue reading](#)



### **NCCOS Model Guides Designation of Wind Energy Areas in Gulf of Mexico**

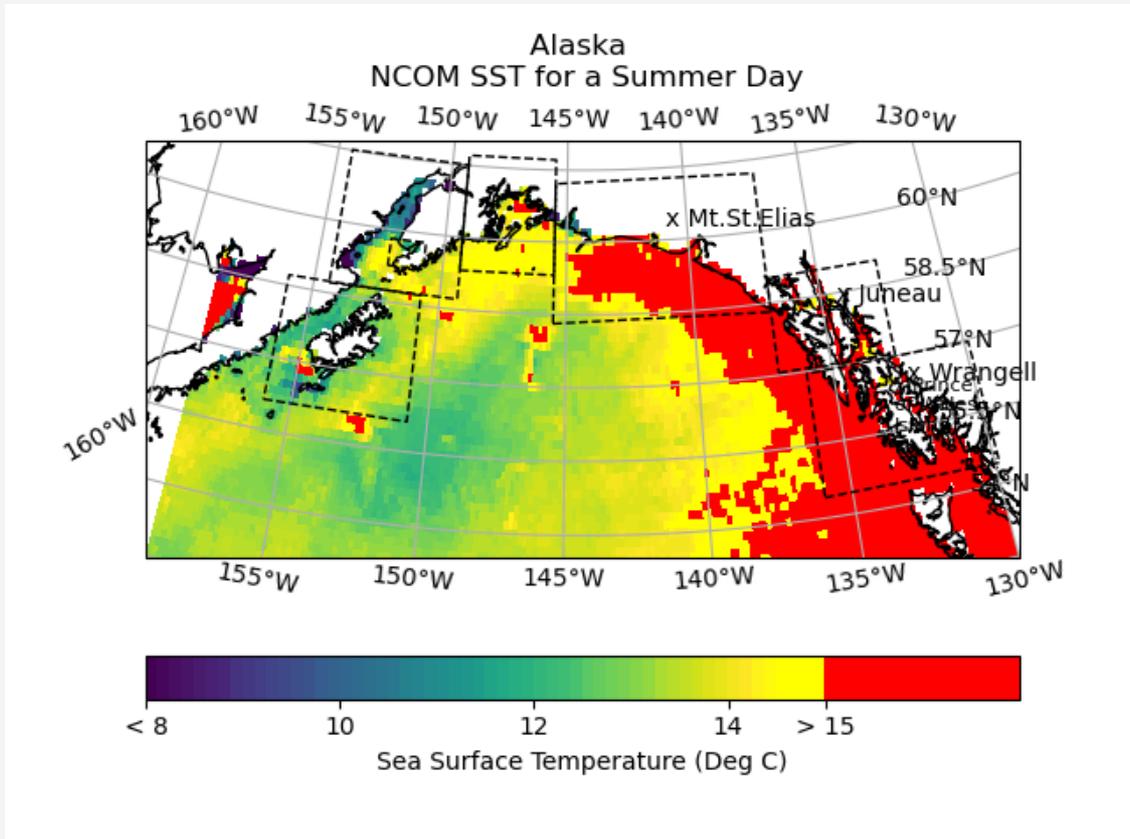
Drawing on results of a spatial suitability model developed in partnership with NCCOS, the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) this week designated two Wind Energy Areas (WEAs) in the Gulf of Mexico with the potential to produce enough renewable energy to power nearly three million homes. [Continue reading](#)



### **New Tools Predict Sea Surface Temperature to Inform Safe Harvest of Alaska Oysters**

Two new tools — now available to growers, farmers, and managers in Alaska's coastal waters — will alert users when surface waters reach temperatures that favor *Vibrio* growth. The first tool uses satellite observations to determine the maximum sea surface

temperature (SST) reached over the last week. The second tool predicts SST over the next four days. *Vibrio parahaemolyticus* are naturally occurring bacteria in coastal waters. Eating raw or undercooked seafood with high levels of *Vibrio* can cause infection. [Continue reading](#)



### **Researchers Transfer Threatened Coral Larvae from Florida Reefs to Culture Facility**

NCCOS scientists have successfully transferred and settled fertilized elkhorn and mountainous star coral larvae — two species listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act — from reefs in the Florida Keys to NOAA's Hollings Marine Laboratory in Charleston, South Carolina. The larvae are continuing their development in the lab's coral culture facility, where researchers will investigate impacts to their vulnerable, early stages of life. [Continue reading](#)



### **New Publication Highlights Role of Islands in Coastal Resilience**

Coastal islands protect the mainland from storm surge and shoreline erosion and provide habitat for a variety of wildlife, making them an attractive engineering option for restoration projects. However, there is uncertainty about how to build them to achieve these benefits and complement the environment. [Continue reading](#)



**Scientists Train Underwater Gliders to Find, Track Harmful Algal Blooms**

The dynamic nature of the ocean, including its many chemical and biological processes, makes it challenging to monitor microscopic, marine algae in real time, but NCCOS-funded scientists have shown it can be done. [Continue reading](#)



### **[Cape Lookout National Seashore Environmental Quality Report Released](#)**

NCCOS scientists have released a [final report](#) assessing the environmental quality of sediment and water at Cape Lookout National Seashore, North Carolina. [Continue reading](#)



### **[A Puzzle with Missing Pieces: Marine Mammals in the Gulf](#)**

With fewer than 50 individuals remaining, Rice's whales have the distinction of being one of the world's rarest whales. They are also the only known baleen whale that live in the Gulf of Mexico year round — the other 21 whale and dolphin species in the Gulf have teeth instead of the bristly baleen plates that filter plankton and small fish from salty ocean waters. [Continue reading](#)



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