



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

Hello Fans of Coastal Ocean Science,

We are happy to announce the launch of *Coastal Ocean Quarterly*, the seasonal e-newsletter of top stories from NOAA's National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science (NCCOS)! Please enjoy your subscription to the quarterly e-publication highlighting the ecosystem science solutions that NCCOS develops to sustain thriving coastal communities and economies.

We welcome your feedback on this new offering. Feel free to send your comments about the newsletter to [nccos.webcontent@noaa.gov](mailto:nccos.webcontent@noaa.gov).

Thank you,

Steve Thur

Director of NOAA's 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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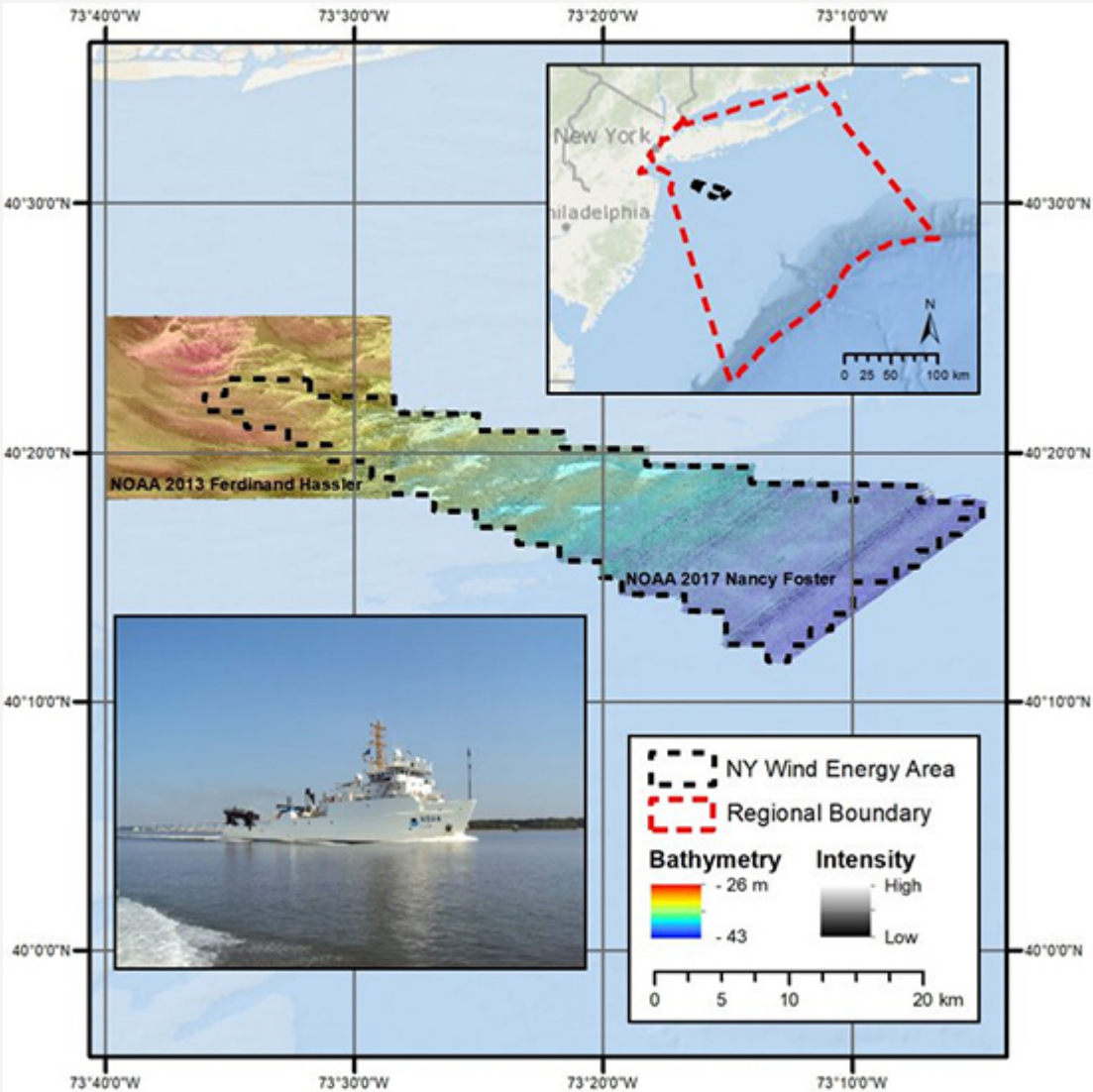
#### **New Tool Available for Aquaculture Siting in Gulf of Mexico**

NCCOS is excited to release the newly created [Gulf Aquamapper](#), a web-based tool for exploration, permitting and siting of offshore aquaculture in the Gulf of Mexico. The Gulf AquaMapper is a geodatabase featuring aquaculture-relevant GIS data for biological, navigational, military, social, economic, physical and chemical parameters. The Gulf AquaMapper can be used as a one-stop screening solution for industry and coastal managers focused on identifying suitable areas for aquaculture development. [Continue reading.](#)



**NCCOS Completes Mapping, Plans Ground Truthing of New York Wind Energy Area**

NCCOS scientists aboard NOAA Ship *Nancy Foster* completed a ten-day acoustic seafloor mapping mission in the New York Wind Energy Area, a proposed offshore wind power site south of Long Island. The team is using data collected on the mission to characterize seafloor habitats, morphology, and topology, as well as fish distributions and abundance within the site. [Continue reading](#)



**Four Different Algal Toxins Found in San Francisco Bay Mussels**

Scientists have identified four kinds of algal toxins in mussels collected from San Francisco Bay. The study, published in *Harmful Algae*, is the first to report the co-occurrence of both freshwater and marine toxins in mussels consumed by humans and animals. The researchers, led by Dr. Misty Peacock while at the University of California Santa Cruz (currently at Northwest Indian College), found nearly all mussels collected from the bay were contaminated with at least one of the detected algal toxins, and 37 percent contained all four—one of which originates in freshwater. [Continue reading](#)





### **NOAA Publishes Findings from Socioeconomic Monitoring of Hawaii's Coral Reefs**

NOAA has released a [report](#) that describes the socioeconomics of human communities adjacent to Hawaii's coral reefs. The publication includes data on human population demographics, human use of coral reef resources, and resident knowledge and perceptions of coral reefs and coral reef management. [Continue reading](#)



### **Assessment of Florida's Mesophotic Coral Reefs Published (video)**

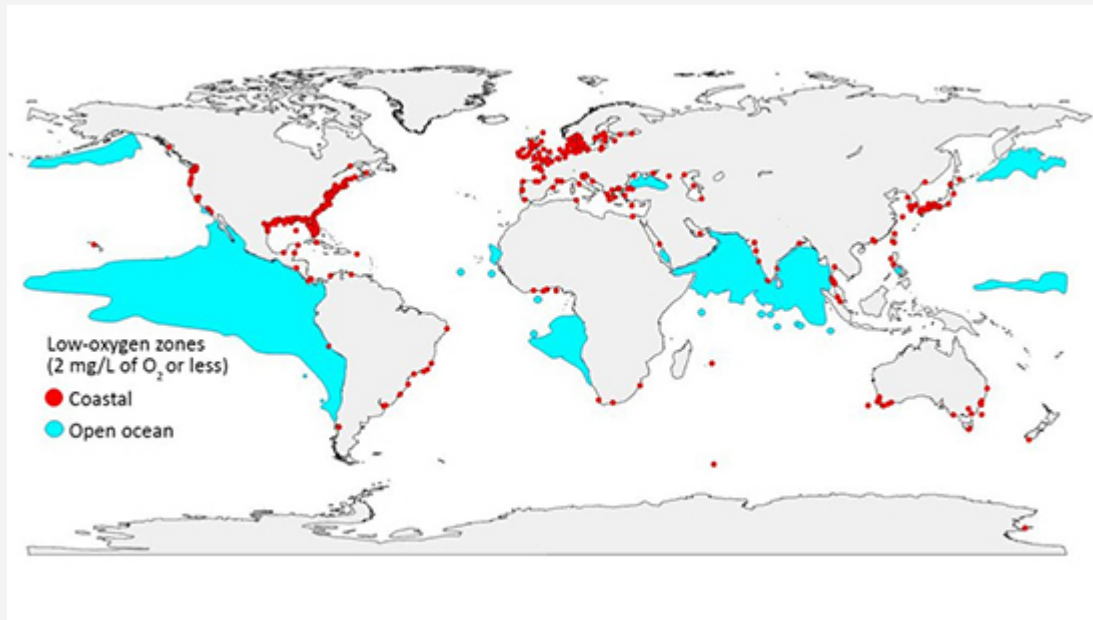
A multi-institutional team of scientists funded by NCCOS has published an [assessment](#) of the mesophotic coral reefs (75–270 feet deep) located roughly 150 miles off of Florida's southwest coast. The report summarizes habitat, macrobiota, and fish population data collected during four research cruises from 2012 to 2015 within and adjacent to the Pulley Ridge Habitat Area of Particular Concern and at... [Continue reading](#)



### **World's Oceans Facing Oxygen Decline**

An international team of scientists, sponsored in part by NOAA's National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science, has published the broadest view yet of declining oxygen in the world's oceans. The article in the journal [Science](#) is the first to take a global perspective

on the causes, consequences, and solutions for low oxygen in the oceans. [Continue reading](#)



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