



Summer 2024

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

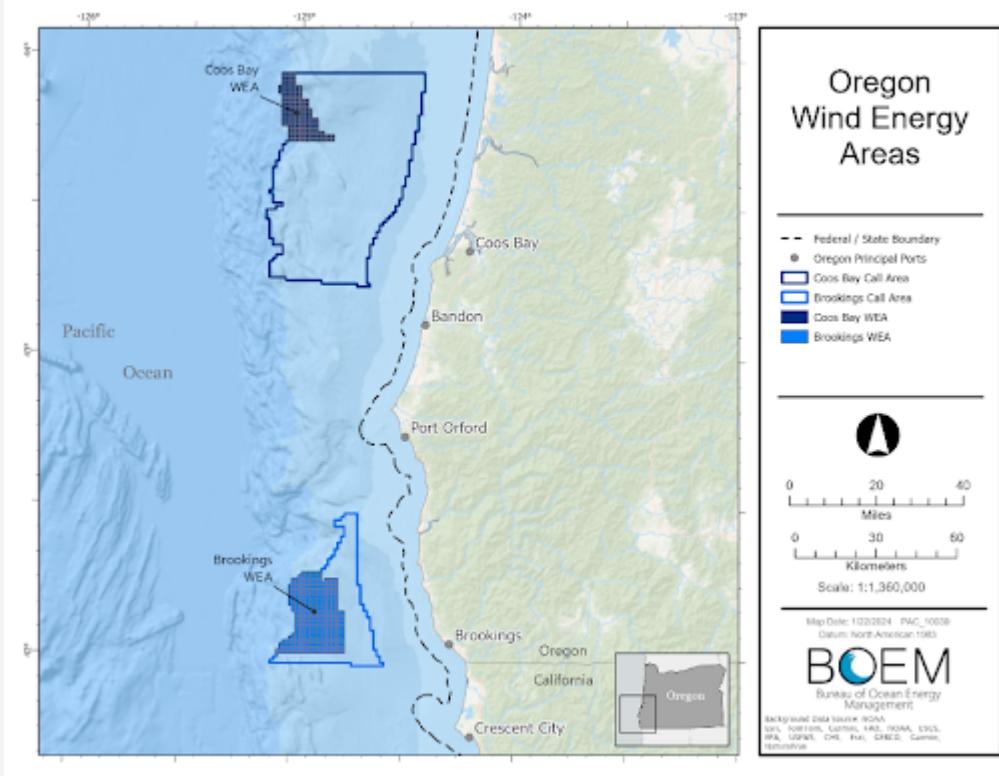
The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) formed the National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science (NCCOS) in 1999 as the focal point for NOAA's coastal ocean science efforts. We provide coastal managers with the scientific information necessary to decide how best to protect environmental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

For the past quarter century, NCCOS has delivered ecosystem science solutions to sustain thriving coastal communities and economies. As we celebrate this milestone in 2024, we stand confident and ready to apply the breadth and depth of our experience to future challenges along our nation's coasts.

Happy 25th anniversary, NCCOS!

Spatial Modeling Informs Designation of Final Wind Energy Areas off Oregon Coast

In a significant step toward achieving the Biden-Harris administration's ambitious renewable energy goals, the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management (BOEM) has announced the designation of two final Wind Energy Areas (WEAs) in Oregon's offshore waters. [Continue reading](#)



[NOAA, MBARI Achieve Groundbreaking Milestone in Use of Uncrewed Vehicle to Monitor Freshwater Algal Toxins](#)

Would you have ever thought it possible to send a mobile, robotic laboratory off into a lake to monitor for harmful algal bloom (HAB) toxins and report results back to you anywhere in the country? Thanks to scientists from NOAA's National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science (NCCOS), NOAA's Great Lakes Environmental Laboratory (GLERL), and partners at Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute (MBARI), this possibility is now a reality.

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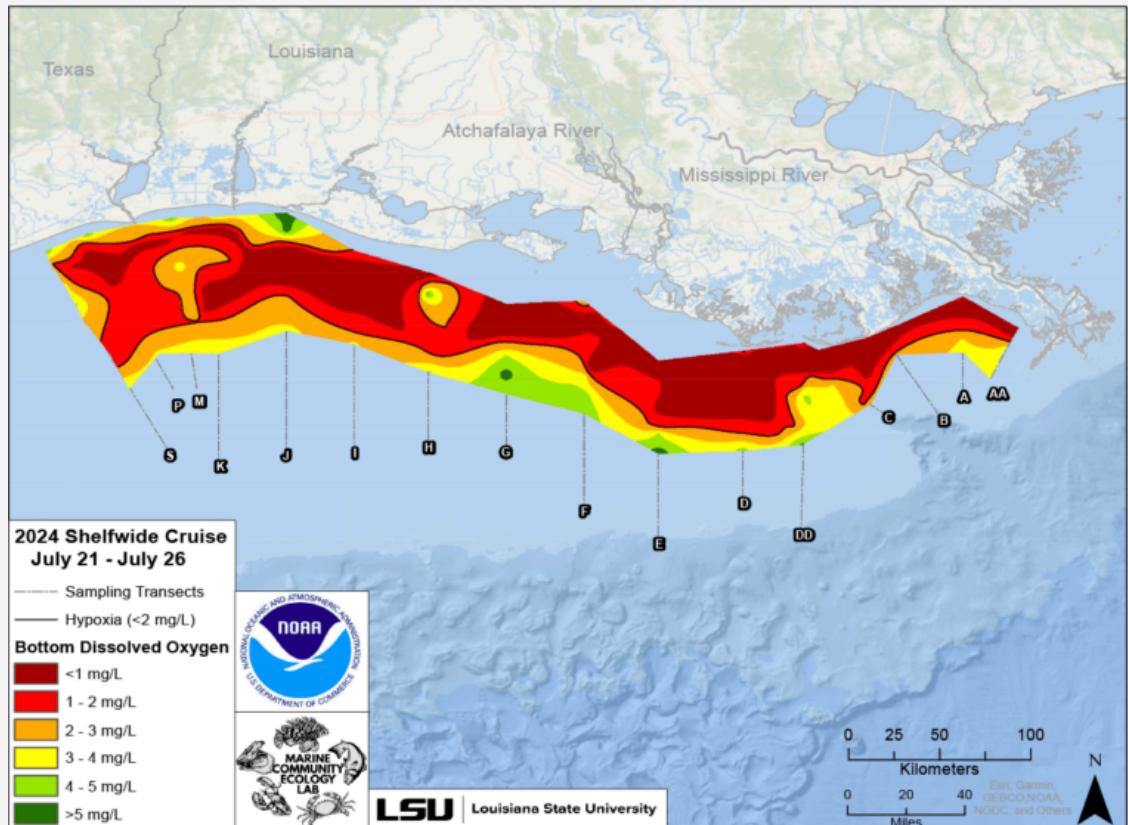
Newly Patented Technology Destroys Forever Chemicals

The nanobubble ozone technology, or NBOT, coupled with ultraviolet (UV) light is now a U.S. patent protected process useful in destroying the forever chemicals, per- and polyfluorinated substances (PFAS). PFAS chemicals are used in many products that humans use daily, including food packaging, adhesives, and non-stick cooking surfaces, and often leach into soils and water bodies. [Continue reading](#)



Above Average Summer 2024 'Dead Zone' Measured in Gulf of Mexico

NCCOS-supported scientists have determined that this year's Gulf of Mexico "dead zone" — an area of low oxygen that can kill fish and marine life — is approximately 6,705 square miles, equivalent to more than four million acres of habitat potentially unavailable to fish and bottom species. [Continue reading](#)



Study Explores Sustainable Siting of Aquaculture at Heavily Trafficked Port

A new publication from NCCOS researchers and partners details innovative spatial planning methods for aquaculture siting. The study, focused on the Port of San Diego, addresses the pressing challenges arising from the rapid growth of ocean-based industries, including shipping, aquaculture, and wind energy. [Continue reading](#)



Survey Identifies Caribbean Residents' Perceptions about Sargassum Seaweed Impacts, Government Response (VIDEO)

Floating *Sargassum* seaweed in the Caribbean provides habitat and nurseries for a variety of marine life. However, in recent years, the region has seen a dramatic increase in the extent and frequency of this brown macroalgae that ultimately washes ashore, often with devastating impacts for coastal economies and ecosystems. [Continue reading](#)



Sea Sponges Reveal Larger Impact of Climate Change on Global Temperature

A newly published study used an unlikely source to determine a more accurate baseline for pre-industrial global temperature — sea sponges. Chemical analyses from the sponges suggest that climate change has resulted in a larger increase in the Earth's temperature than previously thought. Calculations showed that greenhouse gas emissions from human activities have resulted in a 1.7°C temperature increase since 1860, 0.5°C higher than previous estimations. [Continue reading](#)



[Join NCCOS in Celebrating 25 Years of Science Serving Coastal Communities \(VIDEO\)](#)

NCCOS was founded in 1999 to support NOAA's scientific mission and coastal mandates. This year, NCCOS is proud to celebrate 25 years of delivering high-quality science to coastal communities and its federal, state, academic, and public partners. [Continue reading](#)

25 YEARS of Science Serving Coastal Communities

[Bridging the Gap: Workshop Promotes Co-Producing Actionable Science in Florida](#)

The salty breeze billows over glistening sand, which stretches out to meet the gentle laps of the morning sea. A pair of gulls flies overhead, greeting the world with their laugh-like calls. Scattered at the water's edge is a smattering of treasures — mottled scallops, ribbed cockles, butterflied coquinas — just waiting to be discovered. [Continue reading](#)





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@usoceangov (“coastal ocean science” playlist)

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