

Marine Managed Area Mapping

Creating a comprehensive public resource to explore marine managed areas and their associated rules and regulations

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protectedseas

Mapping Marine Managed Areas - Goal

Fishermen didn't know where
MPAs were located or what
restrictions applied

Improve access and
awareness of MPAs

Map is in beta

Seeking feedback

Would like to connect with
prospective users



Mapping Marine Managed Areas - The Process

Verify and build upon data from NOAA's MPA inventory

Expand and add managed areas outside the scope of NOAA's definition of an MPA - Examples:

- Species-- or gear--specific closures

- Gear restricted areas

- Shellfish closures

- Shrimp sanctuaries

- Whale Reporting Areas

- Speed Restricted Zones for boaters

After legal review is complete, the Geoteam imports and verifies data

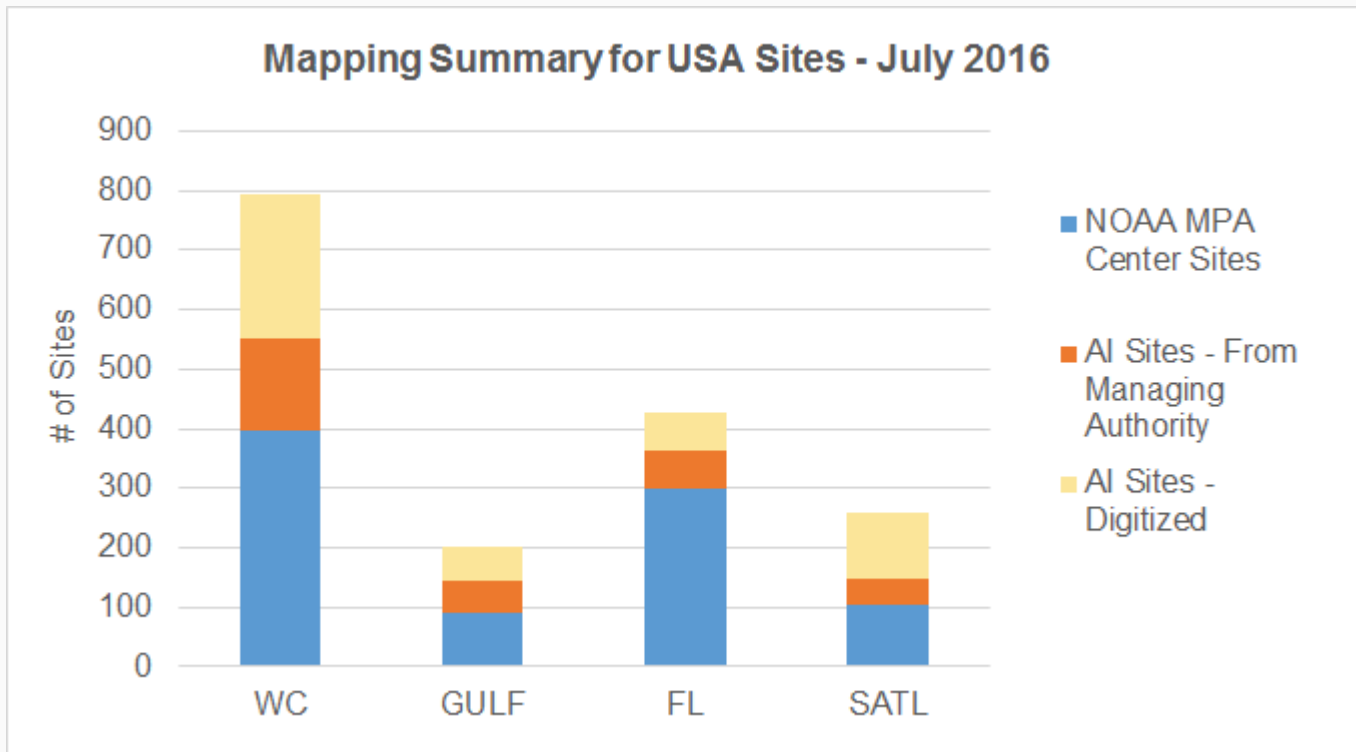
- Collates available GIS data for boundaries

- When data is not available, AI Digitizes data or asks managing authorities to provide existing polygons

- Starts matching boundaries to marine managed areas

Boundaries and metadata are imported into online database

Mapping Marine Managed Areas - The Process



West Coast (WC) = CA, OR, WA, HI
Gulf of Mexico (GULF) = AL, MS, LA, TX

Florida (FL)
South Atlantic (SATL) = GA, SC, NC

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Mapping Marine Managed Areas - Result

Marine Managed Areas: All Published

Leaflet | Imagery from MapBox — Map data © OpenStreetMap, MPAs from AI and the National MPA Center

North Carolina
South Carolina
Georgia
Florida

Atlanta
Charlotte
Wilmington
Myrtle Beach
Charleston
Vannah
Brunswick
Jacksonville
Tallahassee
Apalachicola
Orlando
Tampa
St. Petersburg

Map Legend:
No-Take/No-Entry
Removal of Marine Life
More Restrictive
Less Restrictive

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About Link Search...

waters not addressed in this map. Note that multiple restrictions may apply at once.

SHOW BY

Area Name	Management Authority	Restrictions
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MARINE RESTRICTED AREAS ✕

Gray's Reef National Marine Sanctuary Research Area ▶

Gray's Reef National Marine Sanctuary ▼

MPA ID: NMS7
Site Name: Gray's Reef National Marine Sanctuary [Feedback](#)

Managed By: National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Marine Sanctuaries

Purpose: Gray's Reef National Marine Sanctuary off the coast of Georgia is one of the largest near-shore "live-bottom" reefs of the southeastern United States. "Live bottom" is a term used to refer to hard or rocky seafloor that typically supports high numbers of large invertebrates such as sponges, corals, and sea squirts. These spineless creatures thrive in rocky areas, as many are able to attach themselves more firmly to the hard substrate, as compared to sandy or muddy "soft" bottom habitats. Within the Gray's Reef National Marine Sanctuary there are rocky ledges with sponge and coral live bottom communities, as well as sandy bottom areas that are more typical of the seafloor off the southeastern U.S. coast.

Restricted: The following activities are prohibited:

1. Dredging, drilling into, or otherwise altering in any way the submerged lands of the Sanctuary (including bottom formations).
2. Discharging or depositing any material or other matter except:
(a) Fish or fish parts, bait, or chumming materials;
(b) Effluent from marine sanitation devices; and
(c) Vessel cooling water.
3. Injuring, catching, taking, or collecting, or attempting to injure, catch, take, or collect, any marine organism, or any part thereof, living or dead, within the Sanctuary by any means except by use of rod and reel, and handline gear. There shall be a rebuttable presumption that any marine organism or part thereof referenced in this paragraph found in the possession of a person within the Sanctuary has been collected

Mapping Marine Managed Areas - Distribution

- On a monthly basis, we update the data and generate a full data download package for each MPA region we have completed
- Partnership with Navionics and Others
 - Navionics is displaying the MPAs in their navigation software to help boaters be aware restrictions where they are
 - We would be glad to entertain exporting in additional formats for new partners
- We provide a free, online interactive map of each region linked from:
 - <https://protectedseas.net/mpa-mapping/>
 - Map is compatible with smartphones, tablets, and desktop computers
 - Phones: Most Android phones made in last 2-3 years (Galaxy 5, Nexus 6, etc.), iPhones 5c and higher

Combined US Map:

<https://mpa.protectedseas.net/>

Gulf of Mexico Region:

<https://mpa.protectedseas.net/north-america/gulf-of-mexico>

Florida:

<https://mpa.protectedseas.net/north-america/florida>

South Atlantic:

<https://mpa.protectedseas.net/north-america/south-atlantic>

Mapping Marine Managed Areas - Questions?

Thank you!

To provide feedback or
for additional information,
please contact us at:

support@anthinst.org

