Some ongoing and upcoming BOEM-funded studies: Chukchi & Beaufort Seas

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Office of Environmental Programs
Environmental Studies Program

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BOEM manages development of the nation’s offshore resources in an environmentally and economically responsible way.

BSEE develops and enforces safety and environmental regulations.
Environmental Studies Program

Applied science for informed decisions on ocean energy

Mission:
Provide the information needed to predict, assess, and manage impacts from offshore energy and marine mineral exploration, development, and production activities on human, marine, and coastal environments.

Annual budget: ~ $35 M
Interagency Agreements

More than 40 years of Applied Environmental Research

Partnering and Leveraging Resources is Good Government

Subcommittee on Ocean Science and Technology
Interagency Working Group on Ocean Partnerships

Smithsonian Institution

National Oceanographic Partnership Program

Coastal Marine Institute
Partnering Awards

Interagency Excellence in Partnering Award

2007 Archaeological and Biological Analysis of World War II Shipwrecks in the Gulf of Mexico
2012 Lophelia II study

DOI Cooperative Conservation Award

2007 - Investigations of Chemosynthetic Communities on the Lower Continental Slope of the Gulf of Mexico (Chemo III)
2008 - 15 Year Partnership with UAF-CMI
2009 - Flower Garden Banks Long Term Monitoring Program
2009 – Battle of the Atlantic
Titles:

- Characterization of the Circulation on the Continental Shelf Areas of the Northeast Chukchi and Western Beaufort Seas
- Applications for Mapping Spilled Oil in Arctic Waters
- Hanna Shoal Ecosystem Study
Characterization of the Circulation on the Continental Shelf Areas of the Northeast Chukchi and Western Beaufort Seas

Project Field Work Timeline - All Dates Are Subject to Change Due to Weather and Logistics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TASKS</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HFR Systems Operational</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Drifters Deployed</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Glider Surveys</td>
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<td>Towed Survey with Mooring</td>
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Applications for Mapping Spilled Oil in Arctic Waters
Field Activities in 2014 & 2015

Dye Release Area
Hanna Shoal Ecosystem Study
Mooring retrieval in 2014
Titles:

- MARES (Marine ARctic Ecosystem Study)
- Enhanced Verification and Interpretation of Arctic Ice Break-up and Freeze-up for the Beaufort and Chukchi Seas
• Operational forecasts
• Field & Remote (SAR, MODIS) Observations + Modeling
• Chukchi and Beaufort Seas
• Field seasons: 2015 and 2016
• Interagency Agreement
MARES (Marine ARctic Ecosystem Study)
Field seasons in 2015 & 2016

• Integrated ecosystem dynamics & monitoring (physics, chemistry, biology, social) through coordinated observational & modeling efforts in Beaufort Sea.

• It will be implemented in coordination with NPRB’s PAGES in Chukchi Sea.

• Relevant to: ecosystem dynamics, environmental protection, climate change and monitoring, oil spill risk analysis, and exploration and discovery.

• It will facilitate the incorporation of technological innovations through TFORT

• MARES is aligned with the National Ocean Policy, the Interagency Arctic Research Policy Committee’s 5-year research priorities, and USGS report recommendations.

More partners welcome!