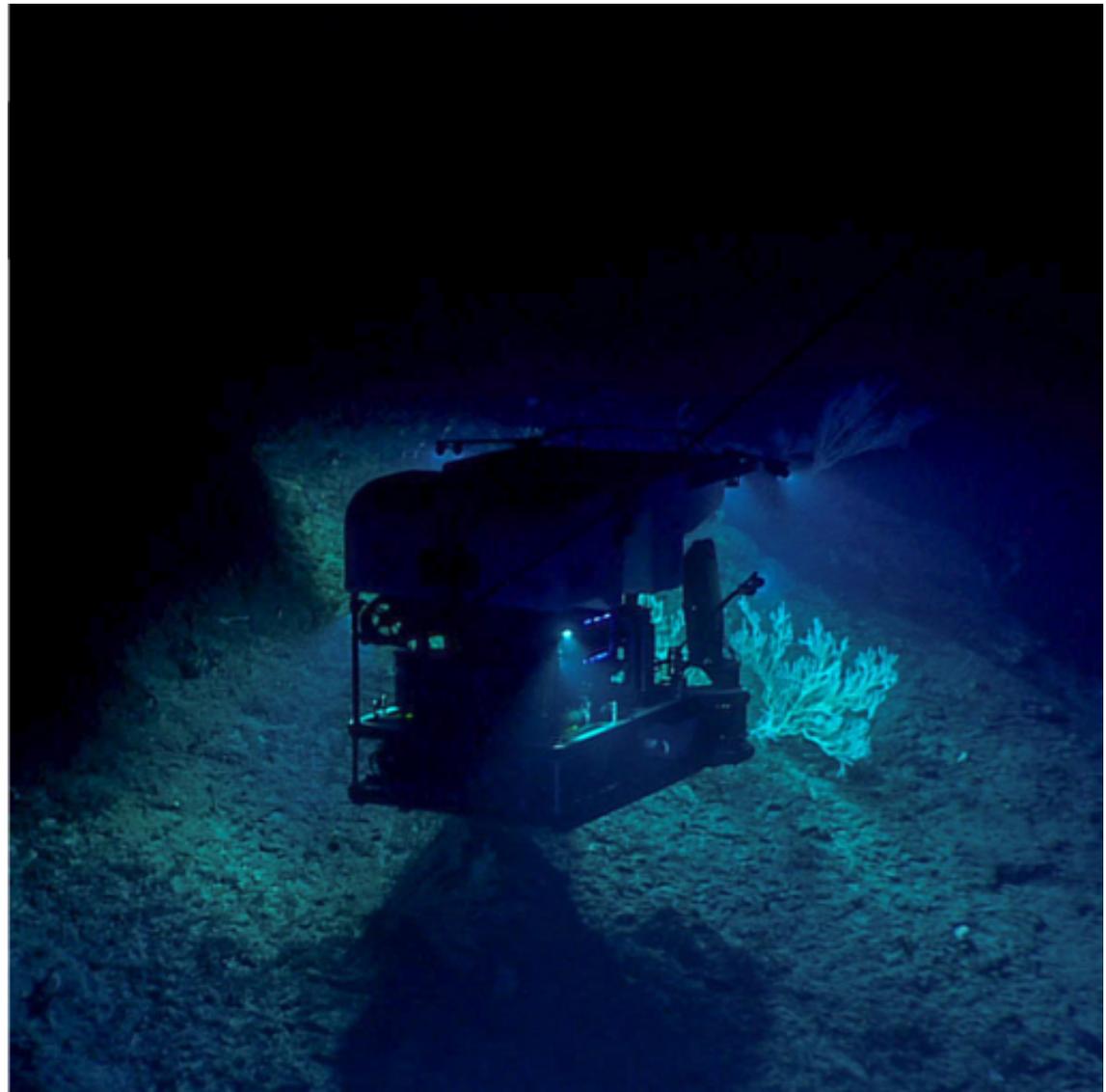
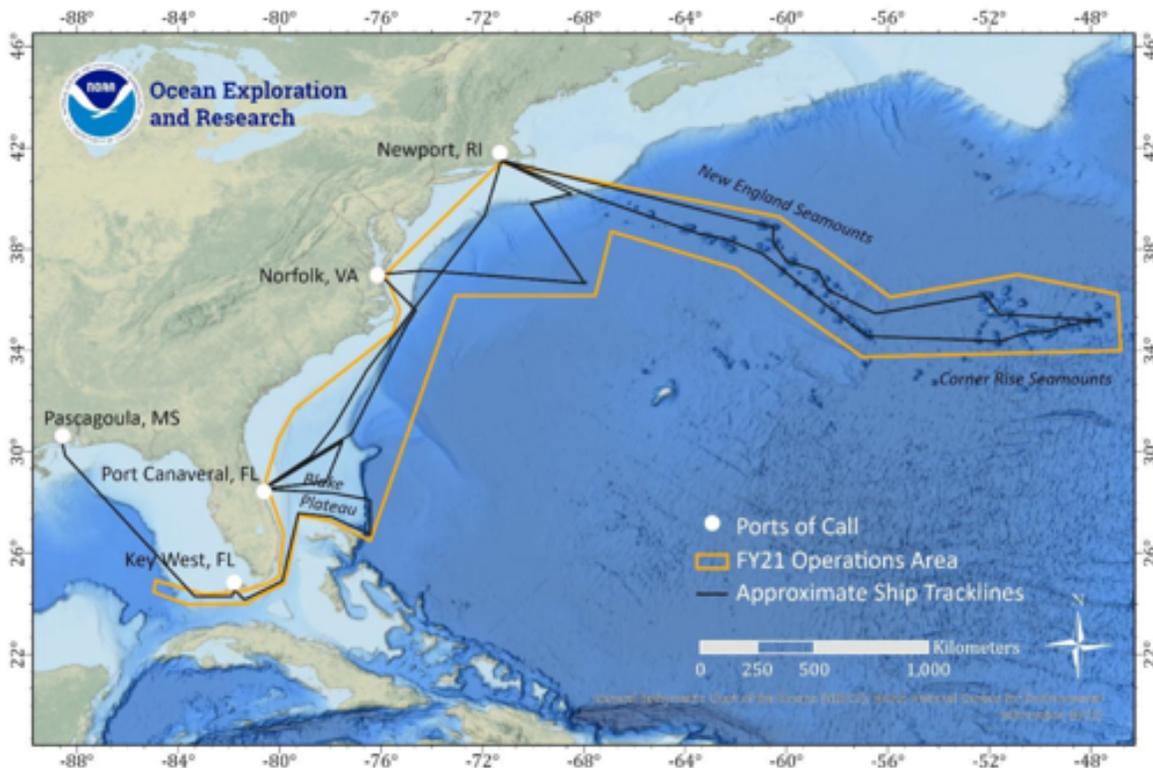

NOAA Update DeSSC Meeting June 2021

Rachel Medley
Chief, Expeditions &
Exploration Division
NOAA Ocean Exploration



FY21 *Okeanos Explorer* Operations Overview



April - May: Mapping shakedown and acceptance of the EM304 sonar system, Blake Plateau mapping, *Orpheus* AUV technology demonstration

June - July: ROV shakedown, North Atlantic Stepping Stones: New England and Corner Rise Seamounts ROV expedition

August - September: Blake Plateau Mapping

Technology Demonstration



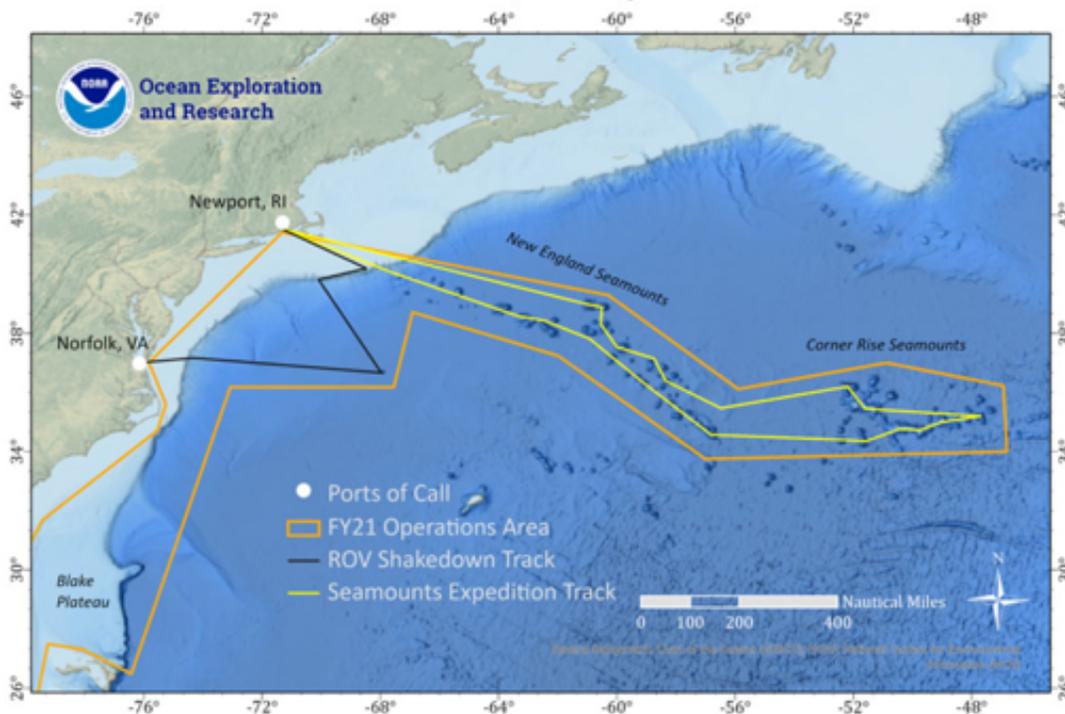
May 14 – May 27, 2021

Expedition dedicated to advancing ocean exploration technologies in collaboration with the [Ocean Exploration Cooperative Institute](#).

Goal: Complete engineering trials for new WHOI *Orpheus* AUV and refine eDNA sampling protocols on *Okeanos Explorer*.

New England and Corner Rise Seamounts

FY2021 Field Season: ROV Shakedown, New England and Corner Rise Seamounts

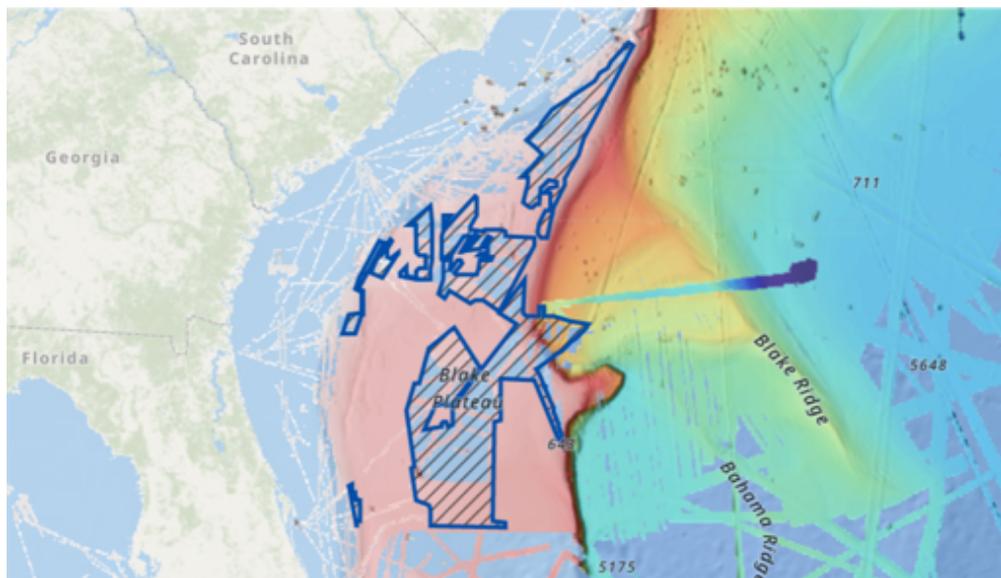


June 30 - July 29, 2021

2021 North Atlantic Stepping Stones:
New England and Corner Rise
Seamounts

Goal: Deliver on **ASPIRE** priorities and
conduct ROV operations along under-
explored high seas seamount chain

Blake Plateau Mapping

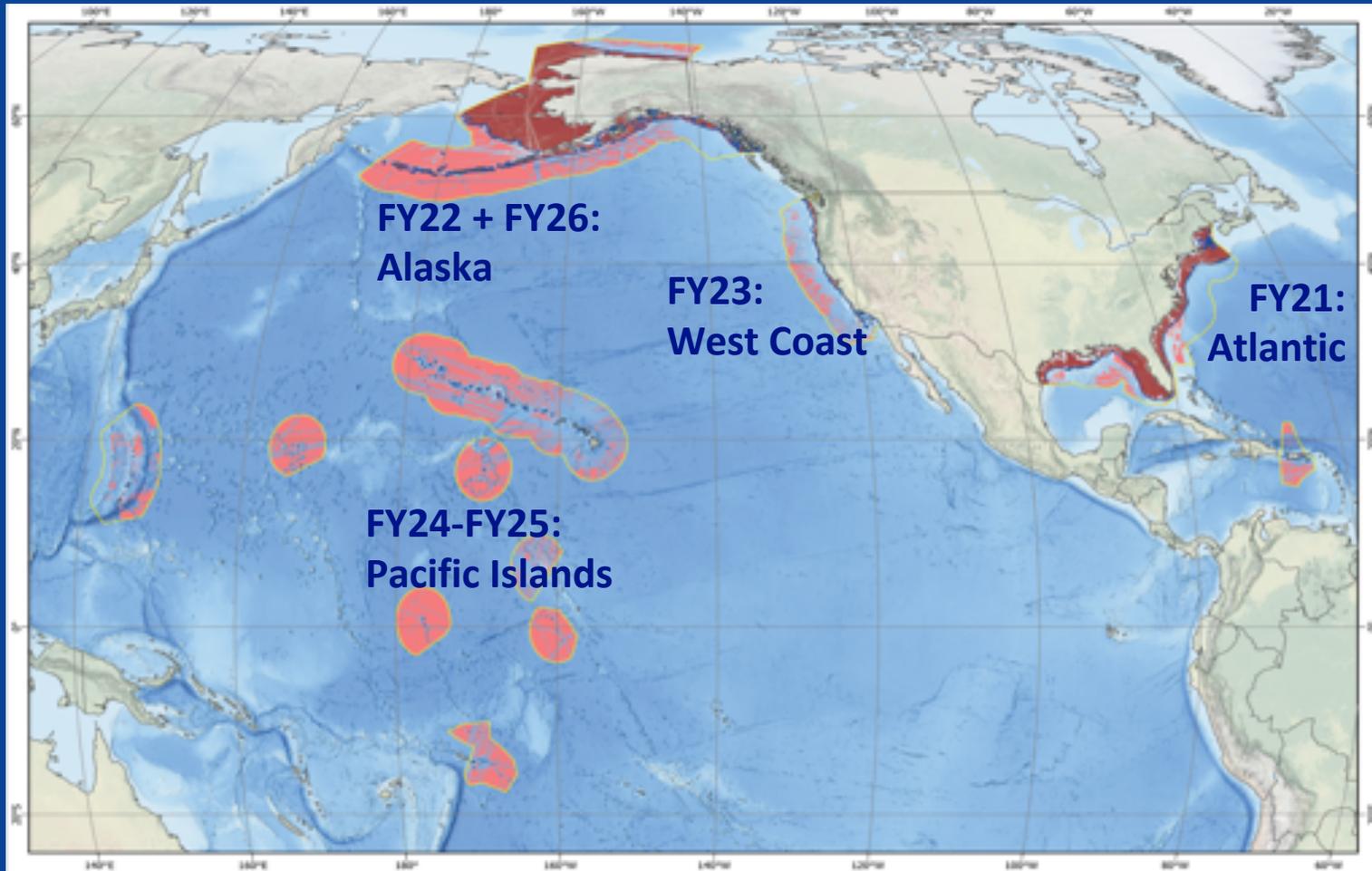


**August 13 – August 31, 2021 and
September 4 – September 28, 2021**

Blake Plateau Mapping

GOAL: To complete or nearly complete deepwater mapping (>200m) coverage along the Blake Plateau.

Future Priority Regions for NOAA Ocean Exploration



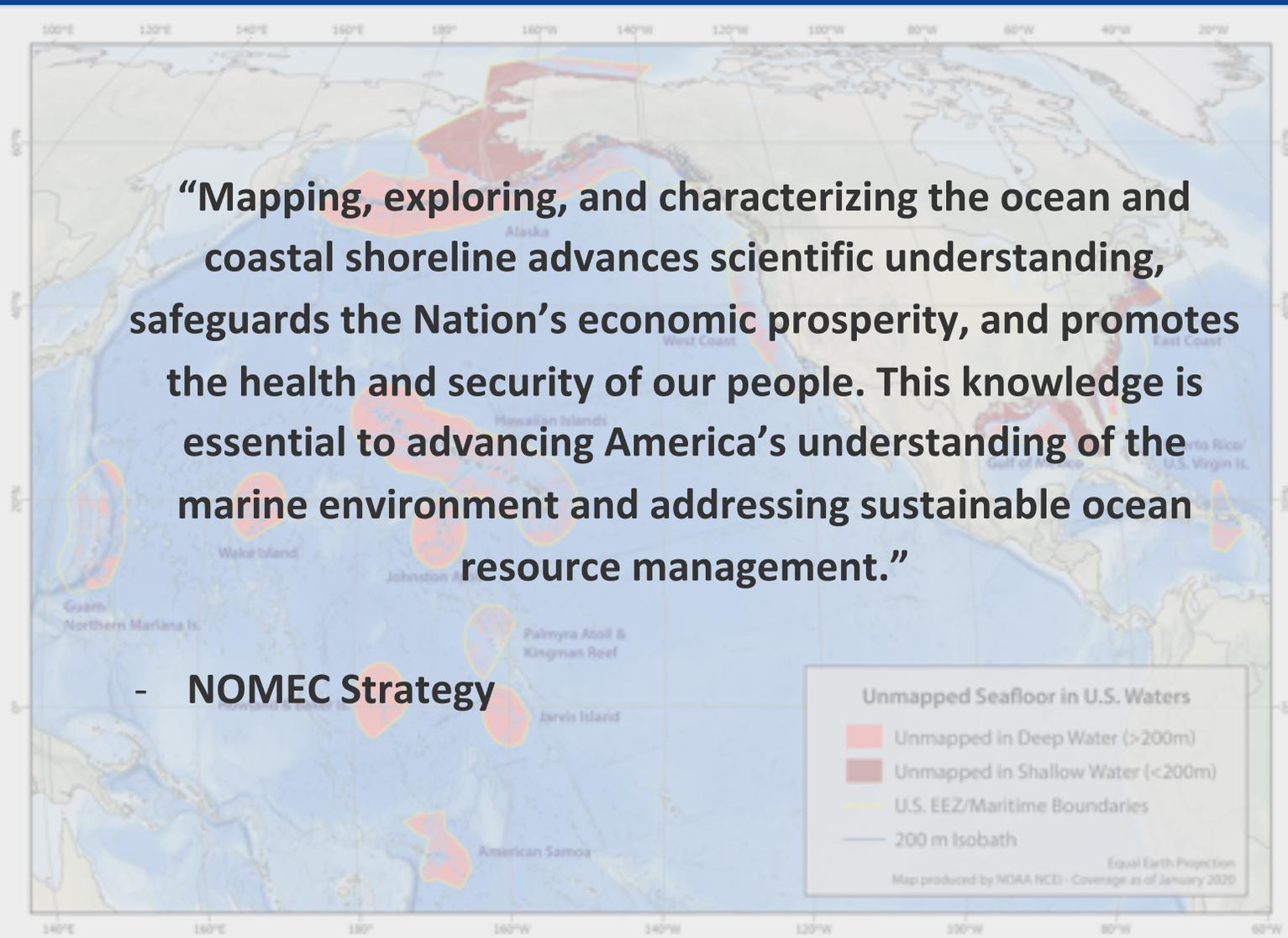
FY22 Notice of Funding Opportunity

NOAA Ocean Exploration is soliciting proposals to conduct or support ocean exploration resulting in outcomes that provide or enable initial assessments about unknown or poorly understood regions of U.S. waters.

- Proposals should be focused on the themes of ocean exploration, marine archaeology, and technology
- Pre-proposals are due June 21, 2021; full proposals are due October 8, 2021
- \$3 million in anticipated funding
- Questions may be directed to oer.ffo2022@noaa.gov
- The Notice of Funding Opportunity can be found [here](#)
- See our [website](#) for answers to FAQs and other relevant information

“Mapping, exploring, and characterizing the ocean and coastal shoreline advances scientific understanding, safeguards the Nation’s economic prosperity, and promotes the health and security of our people. This knowledge is essential to advancing America’s understanding of the marine environment and addressing sustainable ocean resource management.”

- NOMECS Strategy

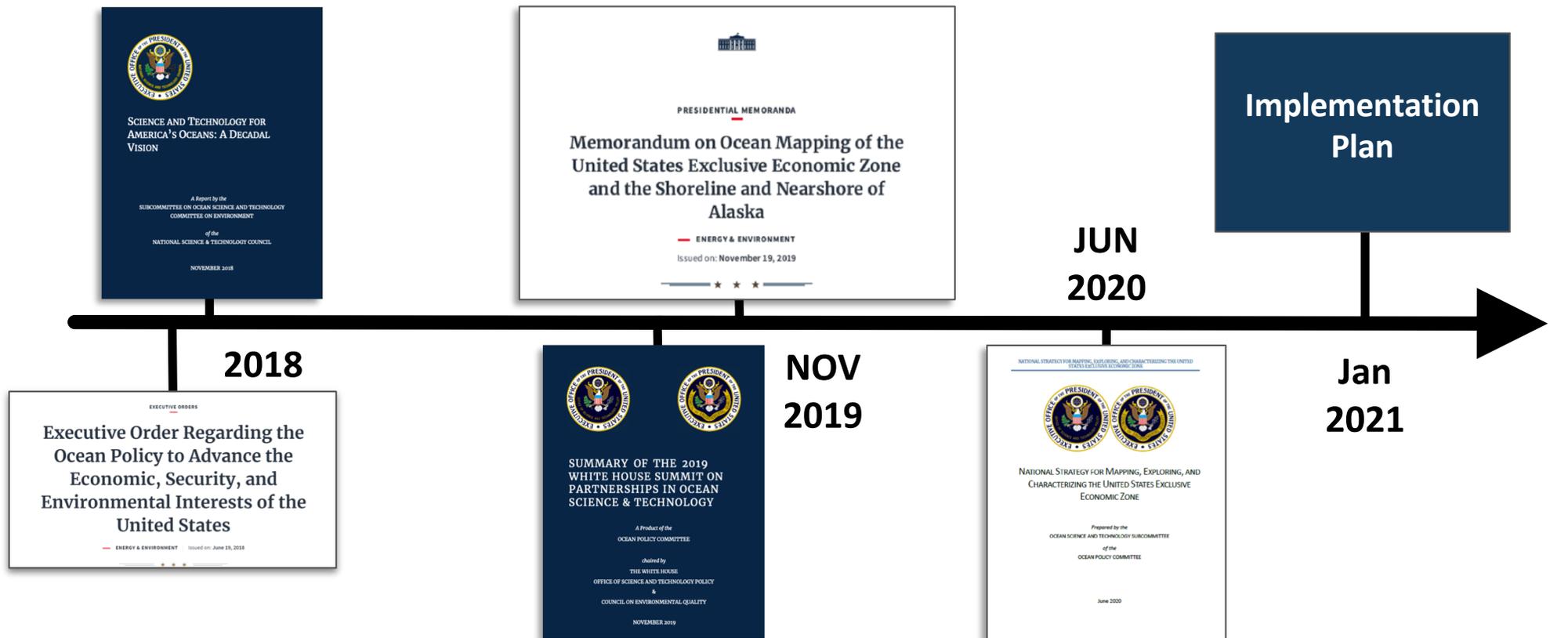


National Strategy Goals

GOALS

- 1 Coordinate Interagency Efforts and Resources to Map, Explore, and Characterize the United States EEZ
- 2 Map the United States EEZ
- 3 Explore and Characterize Priority Areas of the United States EEZ
- 4 Develop and Mature New and Emerging Science and Technologies to Map, Explore, and Characterize the United States EEZ
- 5 Build Public and Private Partnerships to Map, Explore, and Characterize the United States EEZ

Drivers for the National Strategy



Questions?

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301-789-3075

oceanexplorer.noaa.gov



OCEAN
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