



Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection



Northeast Regional Planning Body (NERPB)

- July 2010 National Ocean Policy directs federal agencies to engage in coastal and marine spatial planning.
- Northeast Regional Planning Body
 - New England States, 10 Federal Agencies, 10 Tribes
 - first met in late 2012.
- Ocean plan for the Northeast US (LI Sound-GOM):
 - Focus on marine waters
 - Be scientifically-based
 - Public involvement is paramount
 - Principled and practical
 - Implement under existing authorities



NERPB Goals

GOAL: HEALTHY OCEAN AND COASTAL ECOSYSTEMS



GOAL : EFFECTIVE DECISION MAKING



GOAL: COMPATIBILITY AMONG OCEAN USES

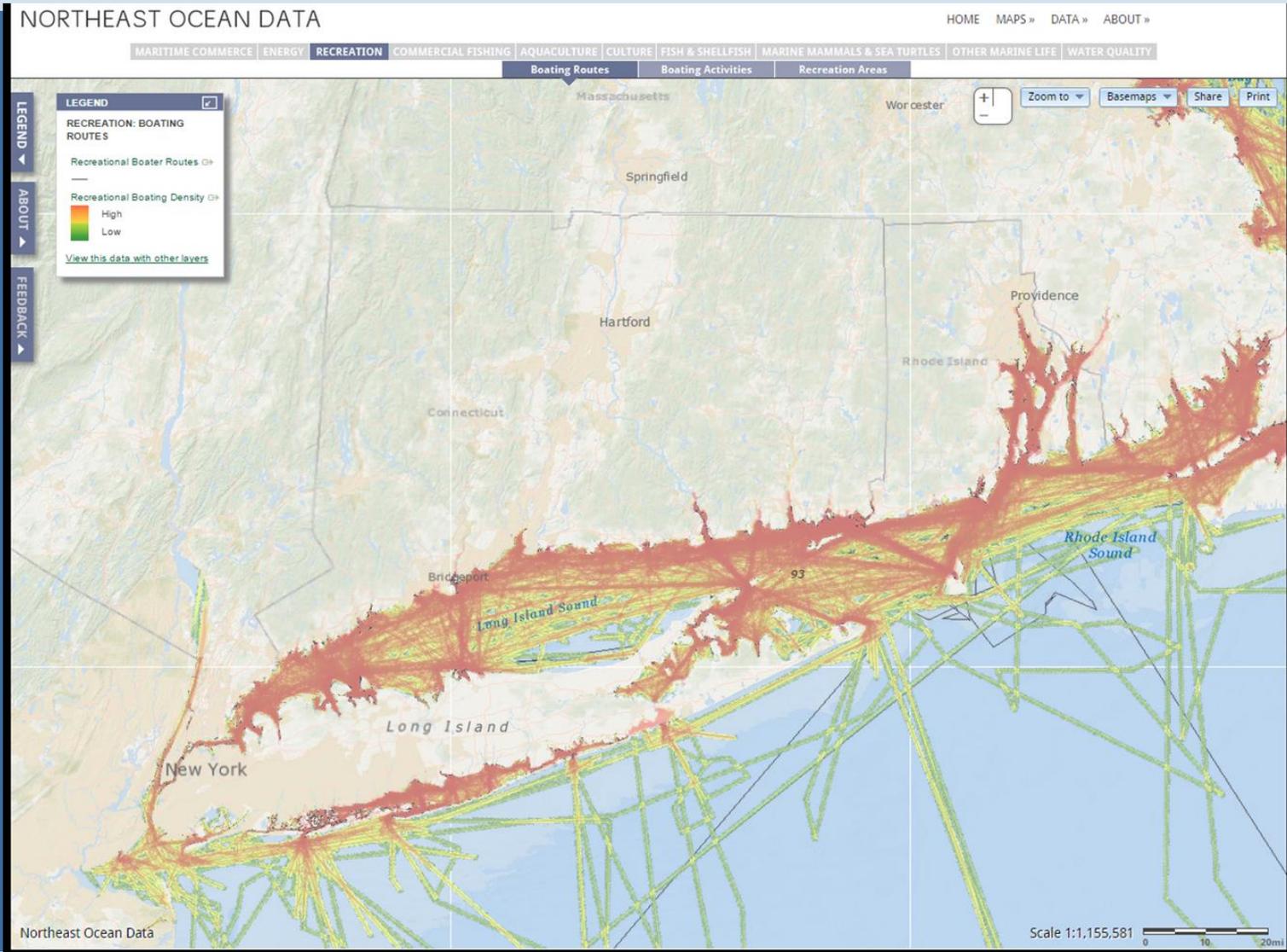


NERPB Progress

- Goals, work plan, plan outline established (see www.neoceanplanning.org), writing underway
- Information development
 - NE Ocean Data Portal (www.northeastoceanandata.org)
 - Human activities, natural & cultural resources
- Outreach
 - Public: Formal RPB meetings; public meetings in each state, stakeholder forum, workshops
 - Targeted: Fishermen, shipping, recreation, aquaculture, energy, environmental community, scientists
 - Online: Website, including public comment portal
- Timeline
 - Draft Plan for Public Comment: April 2016
 - Final Approved Plan: December 2016



NE Data Portal – example product



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Ocean Planning

Coordinating regional planning for ocean industry, conservation, and recreation.

Coastal Hazards Resilience

Providing data and tools to prepare for storms, erosion, and inundation.

Ocean and Coastal Ecosystem Health

Promoting sustainability through science-based management.

Northeast Ocean Data Portal

Easy-to-use interactive maps and downloadable data for ocean planning.

Northeast Regional Planning Body

The Regional Planning Body has the responsibility of developing an ocean management plan for New England. NROC will be an important resource and contributor to the plan.

Subscribe to the NROC Mailing List

Receive news and announcements about NROC's activities.

News

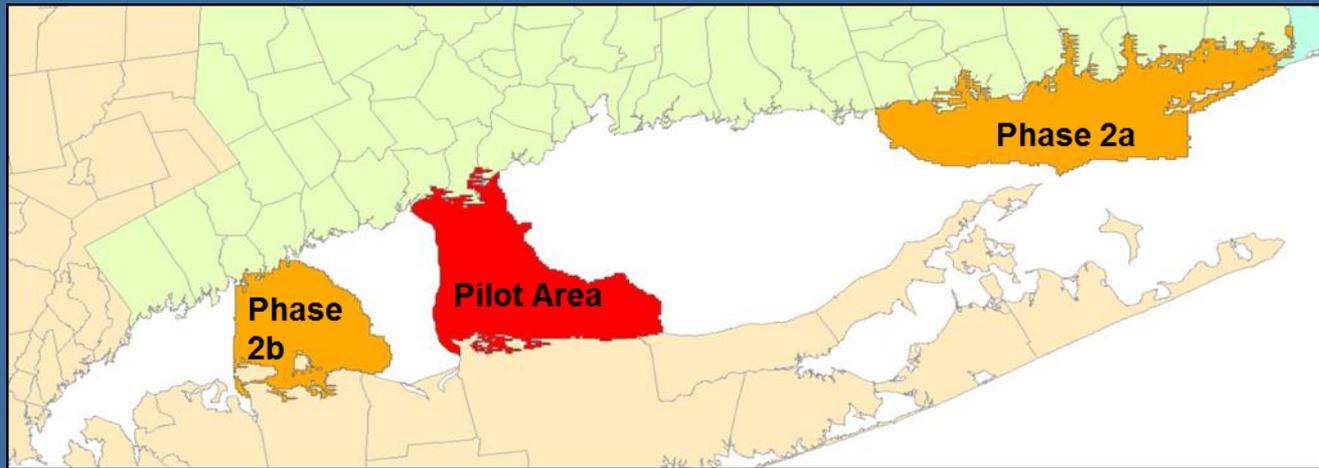
[NROC Winter Meeting – March 15th](#)

[NROC 10 yr Anniversary!](#)

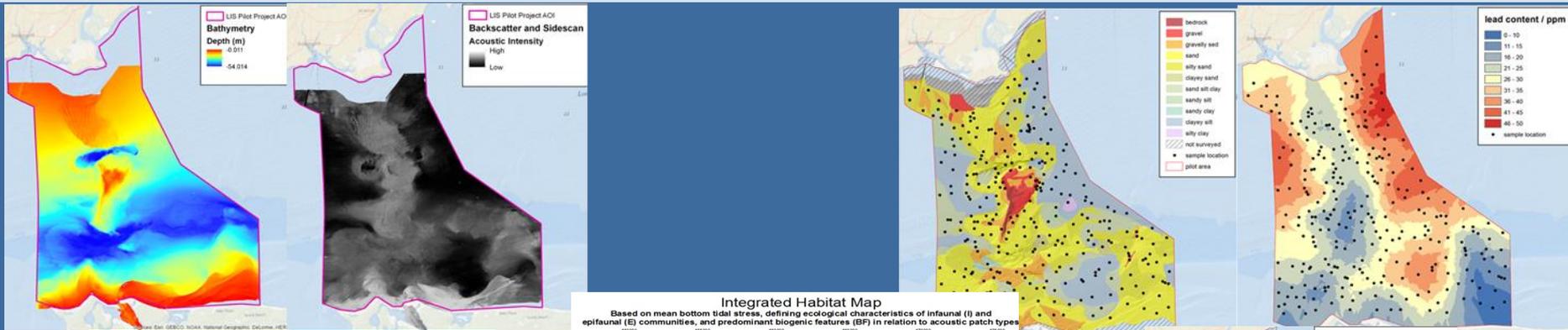
[NROC News – November 2015](#)

Long Island Sound Seafloor Mapping

- Priority Goal – benthic mapping for resource management, infrastructure siting
- Steering Committee CTDEEP, NYDEC, EPA 1&2, CT & NY SeaGrants, NYDOS
- NOAA, UCONN, Columbia Univ. are contract leads
- Pilot Area Completed in 2015
- Planning for Phase 2a in progress



LIS Seafloor Mapping Products



Integrated Habitat Map
 Based on mean bottom tidal stress, defining ecological characteristics of infaunal (I) and epifaunal (E) communities, and predominant biogenic features (BF) in relation to acoustic patch types

