Recreational Boating Density

(Northeast Ocean Data Portal)

Source: SeaPlan 2012 Northeast Recreational Boater Survey
Recreational Boating Density

**Blue Plan Sector(s):** Recreation & Tourism > Recreational Sailing/Boating/Kayaking

**Summary Description:** Both a random and supplemental sample of Northeast boaters plotted their boating routes through the 2012 boating season using an online mapping application. The density map is derived using only the random sample of survey participants and is intended to show the relative density of boating activity throughout the region using a scale from high (red) to low (green). Areas showing low or no activity does not necessarily mean they are not used for recreational purposes. According to the results of the survey, these areas are likely less trafficked than others. Survey methodology consists of surveying a random sample of selected boat owners throughout the Northeast through a series of monthly online surveys. The surveying period lasted throughout the 2012 boating season (May 1 through October 31, 2012).

**Full Description:**

**Access Instructions:** Go to http://www.northeastoceandata.org/data-explorer/. Go to Recreation > Recreational Boating Density
2013 Pleasure Craft Sailing Vessel Density
(New York Geographic Information Gateway)

Source: Department of Commerce (DOC), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), National Ocean Service (NOS), Coastal Services Center (CSC)
2013 Pleasure Craft Sailing Density

Blue Plan Sector(s): Recreation & Tourism > Recreational Sailing/Boating/Kayaking

Summary Description: Abstract: Automatic Identification Systems (AIS) are a navigation safety device that transmits and monitors the location and characteristics of many vessels in U.S. and international waters in real-time. This map service represents the density of all pleasure craft and sailing vessel traffic in 2013 for the contiguous United States offshore waters from pleasure craft and sailing vessels with AIS transponders in 100 meter grid cells. The data are best interpreted using a high to low density scale and does not represent actual vessel counts.


Access Instructions: Go to [http://opdgig.dos.ny.gov/#/map](http://opdgig.dos.ny.gov/#/map). Go to Transportation > Water Based > 2013 Pleasure Craft Sailing Vessel Density
Recreational Boater Routes
(Northeast Ocean Data Portal)

Source: SeaPlan 2012 Recreational Boater Survey
Recreational Boater Routes

**Blue Plan Sector(s):** Recreation & Tourism > Recreational Sailing/Boating/Kayaking

**Summary Description:** The Northeast Recreational Boater Routes displays recreational boater routes that were mapped by participants in the 2012 Northeast Recreational Boater Survey, which was conducted by SeaPlan, the Northeast Regional Ocean Council (NROC), states’ coastal agencies, marine trade associations composed of many private industry representatives, and the First Coast Guard District. Survey participants mapped routes using an interactive mapping tool. Routes were clipped to the shoreline using the NOAA Medium Resolution Shoreline dataset. The methodology consists of surveying a random sample of selected boat owners throughout the Northeast through a series of monthly online surveys. The surveying period lasted throughout the 2012 boating season (May 1 through October 31, 2012).

**Full Description:**

**Access Instructions:** Go to http://www.northeastoceandata.org/data-explorer/. Go to Recreation > Recreational Boater Routes
Distance Sailing Races

(Northeast Ocean Data Portal)

Source: SeaPlan, Surfrider, and Point 97
Distance Sailing Races

Blue Plan Sector(s): Recreation & Tourism > Recreational Sailing/Boating/Kayaking

Summary Description: The Distance Sailing Race layer depicts race routes as mapped in the Northeast Coastal and Marine Recreational Use Characterization Study which was conducted by SeaPlan, the Surfrider Foundation, and Point 97 under the direction of the Northeast Regional Planning Body. Routes were mapped using a combination of outside research, leveraging existing data sources such as the Rhode Island Ocean Special Area Management Plan (RI OSAMP), and gathering input from race organizers and other industry experts through participatory mapping. For the purpose of characterizing events for this dataset, a distance race is defined as 1) an offshore race starting at one port and ending in another, or 2) an offshore race which begins at a port, has a turning point at a single location, and ends at the same port.

Full Description: http://www.northeastoceandata.org/files/metadata/Themes/Recreation/DistanceSailingRaces.pdf

Access Instructions: Go to http://www.northeastoceandata.org/data-explorer/. Go to Recreation > Distance Sailing Races
Boat Launches

(Northeast Ocean Data Portal)

Source: Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry, Massachusetts Office of Fishing and Boating, New Hampshire Office of Energy and Planning, New York State Office of Parks Recreation and Historic Preservation, Rhode Island Sea Grant Program, Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management, Rhode Island Geographic Information System
Boat Launches

Blue Plan Sector(s): Recreation & Tourism > Sailing/Boating/Kayaking

Summary Description: This layer depicts state, municipal, and privately owned boat launches and marinas within 10 kilometers of the coast. Sites may be ramps suitable for trailered or carried-in boats, or landing facilities. Locations only suitable for shoreline fishing access and not boat put-in were not included in this data set. Data were aggregated from numerous authoritative state sources for coastal waters, lakes, ponds, and rivers. Based on source data, this product may not indicate private or public access for a given launch site and users are advised to determine accessibility prior to using a site. Data sources range from 2008 to 2014.

Full Description: http://www.northeastoceandata.org/files/metadata/Themes/Recreation/BoatLaunches.pdf

Access Instructions: Go to http://www.northeastoceandata.org/data-explorer/. Go to Recreation > Boat Launches
Boat Launches
CTDEEP Saltwater Fishing Resource Map

Source: CTDEEP

State Boat Launches

Town Owned and Privately Owned Boat Launches
Boat Launches

Blue Plan Sector(s): Recreation & Tourism/Recreational Sailing/Boating/Kayaking

Summary Description: Make sure that you are familiar with current sport fishing regulations (open seasons, size requirements, catch limits). Check the Angler’s Guide for summaries of rules and regulations governing sport fishing in Connecticut. You can also view a separate summary of marine sport fishing regulations. For legal purposes, the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies and the General Statutes of Connecticut should be consulted.

More information about Trailered and Car Top/ Carry-In Boat Launches owned and/or operated by the CT DEEP is available in the Connecticut Boaters Guide and on the CT-DEEP website. Boat launches shown in this map provide access to Long Island Sound.

Town-owned and privately owned boat launches are also included in this map. These listings come from the CT Coastal Access Guide.

Full Description: n/a

Access Instructions:
https://ctdeep.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=719fe5662ac145f3b89fe8daf6b86042
All Recreational Boater Activities
(Northeast Ocean Data Portal)

Source: SeaPlan, 2012 Northeast Recreational Boater Survey
All Recreational Boater Activities

Blue Plan Sector(s): Recreation & Tourism > Recreational Sailing/Boating/Kayaking

Summary Description: The Northeast Recreational Boater Activities Layer depicts activity points plotted by participants in the 2012 Northeast Recreational Boater Survey, which was conducted by Sea Plan, the Northeast Regional Ocean Council (NROC) states’ coastal agencies, marine trade associations composed of many private industry representatives, and the First Coast Guard District. Boaters were able to identify locations where they partook in specific activities related to recreational boating, such as fishing, wildlife viewing, SCUBA diving, and swimming. The methodology consists of surveying a random sample of selected boat owners throughout the Northeast through a series of monthly online surveys. The surveying period lasted throughout the 2012 boating season (May 1 through October 31, 2012).

Full Description: http://www.northeastoceandata.org/files/metadatalThemes/Recreation/RecreationalBoaterActivities.pdf

Surface Water Activities
(Mid-Atlantic Ocean Data Portal)

Source: Point 97, Surfrider Foundation, Urban Coast Institute at Monmouth University, and The Nature Conservancy
Surface Water Activities

Blue Plan Sector(s): Recreation & Tourism > Recreational Boating/Sailing/Kayaking

Summary Description: Abstract: The data is displayed using a 1 kilometer by 1 kilometer grid for the U.S. Mid Atlantic coastline and offshore areas. The grid was created in ArcGIS 10.1 using the "Create Fishnet" tool. A polygon shapefile was created covering the extent of the Mid Atlantic region and was used as the feature class the grid was created from. After the grid was created, a union was run to remove the grid cells that fell inland of the medium-resolution NOAA coastline. The final result was the 1 kilometer by 1 kilometer planning unit grid extending from New York down to Virginia, following the coastline, and extending offshore far enough to intersect all activity points. The grouped activity points were merged together and summarized to the planning unit grid, leaving each cell with a value equal to the number of points that fell within that cell. In the attribute table, the number of each individual activity that make up the activity group is available to see what activities took place within that particular cell. Purpose: The goal of this study was to gather data on coastal and ocean recreation spatial use patterns to inform marine planning efforts in the U.S. Mid Atlantic region. The following is a description of the methods used to create the data for the Mid Atlantic Coastal and Ocean Recreation Study. The data were collected through an online survey deployed from July 1, 2013 to December 31, 2013. The survey respondents provided spatial information by placing a marker to indicate where they recreanted on the coast in the last 12 months. The activity points used for this surface water grouping were kayaking/paddling, swimming, windsurfing, kiteboarding, skimboarding, and surfing. This dataset shows a 1 kilometer by 1 kilometer planning unit grid that the surface water-based activity points were summarized to.

Full Description: http://portal.midatlanticocean.org/static/data_manager/metadata/html/CoastalRec_overview.html

Access Instructions: Go to http://portal.midatlanticocean.org/. Go to Recreation > Coastal Recreation Survey > Surface Water Activities
Board and Paddle Events
(Northeast Ocean Data Portal)

Source: Surfrider, SeaPlan, and Point 97
Board and Paddle Events

**Blue Plan Sector(s):** Recreation & Tourism > Recreational Sailing/Boating/Kayaking

**Summary Description:** This layer depicts the point locations of competitive board and paddle events as mapped in the Northeast Coastal and Marine Recreational Use Characterization Study which was conducted by SeaPlan, the Surfrider Foundation, and Point 97 under the direction of the Northeast Regional Planning Body. This study mapped event locations through an online opt-in survey, which allowed participants to map the locations of stand up paddleboard (SUP) races, surf contests, triathlons, and kayak, canoe or row boat races. The survey was live from March 31st to May 25th, 2015 and utilized Google Maps and a nautical chart interface which allowed users to map a polygon depicting the spatial footprint of the event. Increasing in popularity with spiking trends in ocean recreation participation, these nearshore events are held year round and are primarily scheduled during warmer months.

**Full Description:**

**Access Instructions:** Go to http://www.northeastoceandata.org/data-explorer/. Go to Recreation > Board and Paddle Events
Water Trails
(Northeast Ocean Data Portal)

Source: Bronx River Alliance of Connecticut, Rhode Island Blueways, The Nature Conservancy, Maine Island Trail Association
**Water Trails**

**Blue Plan Sector(s):** Recreation & Tourism > Recreational Sailing/Boating/Kayaking

**Summary Description:** This data set shows the coastal water trails for the states of Connecticut, Maine, New York, and Rhode Island. (Here displayed primarily for the Long Island Sound). A water trail is an officially designated water route, or blueway, that is maintained by an agency or association that manages the trail location and any pertinent information. Water trails are coastal if they are located within or have an endpoint in a saline water body. Information on water trails was obtained from a number of difference sources which manage individual trails or which aggregate information about multiple trails in one virtual location. Source data included online web maps, static maps in pdf form, textual descriptions, and direct conversations with partnering agencies.

**Full Description:**

**Access Instructions:** Go to http://www.northeastoceandata.org/data-explorer/. Go to Recreation > Water Trails
Marinas by County, 2013
(Northeast Ocean Data Portal)

Source: Economics: National Ocean Watch
Marinas by County, 2013

**Blue Plan Sector(s):** Marine & Coastal Infrastructure > Harbors & Marinas

**Summary Description:** This layer depicts the estimated number of marinas serving the Northeast’s recreational boating community in coastal counties from New York to Maine. Results are based on research from the Center for the Blue Economy and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s 2013 Economics: National Ocean Watch (ENOW) database. ENOW provides time-series data on the coastal and ocean economy from 2005 to 2013 derived from national accounts of the Bureau of Labor Statistics and the Bureau of Economic Analysis. ENOW’s four economic indicators are the number of business establishments, number of people employed, wages paid to employees, and contribution to gross domestic product.

**Full Description:**

**Access Instructions:** Go to http://www.northeastoceandata.org/data-explorer/. Go to Demography and Economy > Marinas by County 2013
Theme - Recreation

*(Mid-Atlantic Ocean Data Portal)*

**Source:** Mid-Atlantic Ocean Data Portal project team organization and partners
**Theme - Recreation**

**Blue Plan Sector(s):** Recreation & Tourism > General

**Summary Description:** Abstract: The Mid-Atlantic Regional Council on the Ocean (MARCO) contracted with RPS Applied Science Associates (dba RPS ASA) in partnership with SeaPlan to develop synthesized spatial products characterizing human use in the Mid-Atlantic (Mid-A) region using existing data products. This project was referred to as the Human Use Data Synthesis (HUDS) in order to promote ocean planning priorities and goals as laid out in the draft Regional Ocean Action Plan (ROAP) Framework for the Mid-A region, defined as New York to Virginia from the coast out to the Exclusive Economic Zone. RPS ASA and SeaPlan developed a human use mapping approach that borrows from existing efforts while honoring the goals of MARCO and constraints inherent to the available data. The MARCO web portal was the primary source of data throughout the project, however additional data was incorporated from other sources such as the Marine Cadastre, the U.S. Navy, and from the Northeast Regional Ocean Council’s (NROC) parallel ocean planning efforts. All available data were mapped to a 10 km grid within the region.

This product is a companion dataset to the master ‘HUDS All Data Synthesis’ product and summarizes information specific to data presence. This dataset contains a list of attributes which denote data presence for the 64 source datasets included in the analysis. Each field identifies whether a given data layer occurred within a grid cell; cells with data were assigned 1 while cells without data were assigned 0. An additional set of fields tallies the total number of layers per cell and the total number of layers for various themes to better identify regional human use trends. There were five main themes: maritime, fishing, recreation, energy, and security. Each source layer is included in only one of these themes. Four additional themes break out the data by all activities, all infrastructure, physical infrastructure only, and regulatory infrastructure only. The sum of the physical-infrastructure and regulatory-infrastructure fields should equal the number for all-infrastructure.

The companion product ‘HUDS All Data Synthesis’ contains more detailed information beyond a simple count of uses, such as descriptive information and spatial statistics for the areal, linear, or point coverage for every layer within each cell. The companion product also includes a “use intensity” metric that accounts for variation in the distribution of data across cells, which retains more of the signal in the original datasets without reducing it to 0 (absence) or 1 (presence) by instead scaling data presence from 0 to 1. This metric is based on selecting a pertinent attribute from each individual layer (e.g. count of infrastructure points, length of lines), summing this attribute within each grid cell, and scaling these summed values from 0-1 to allow for direct comparisons across layers. The result is a more nuanced view of data presence.

**Full Description:** http://portal.midatlanticocean.org/static/data_manager/metadata/html/HUDS_Summary_Data_Presence.html

**Access Instructions:** Go to http://portal.midatlanticocean.org/visualize. Go to Human Use Data Synthesis > Theme - Recreation
Coastal Access Sites

(CT Aquaculture Mapping Atlas)

Source: CT DEEP
Coastal Access Sites

**Blue Plan Sector(s):** Recreation & Tourism > General

**Summary Description:** This layer displays public coastal access sites along the Connecticut shore. The general public may freely use these lands and waters, whether they are beach, rocky shore, or open water, for traditional public trust uses such as fishing, shellfishing, boating, sunbathing, or simply walking along the beach. In Connecticut, a line of state Supreme Court cases dating back to the earliest days of the republic confirm that private ownership ends at mean high water line, and that the state holds title to the lands waterward of mean high water, subject to the private rights of littoral or riparian access.

**Full Description:**

**Access Instructions:** Go to [https://clear3.uconn.edu/viewers/shellfish/](https://clear3.uconn.edu/viewers/shellfish/). Go to Coastal Access Sites
LIS Recreational Fishing Activity - 2016
CT DEEP Fisheries

Source: CT DEEP Marine Fisheries, updated 2016
LIS Recreational Fishing Activity - 2016

Blue Plan Sector(s): TBD

Summary Description: This layer shows general areas along CT shoreline and in CT waters of Long Island Sound known to be popular saltwater recreational fishing areas based upon CT Marine Fisheries Division staff knowledge and aerial surveys in the mid-1980's. The layer was created in 2014 and updated in 2016. This layer contains polygons derived from two sources: 1) MFD Staff knowledge, 2) Aerial surveys conducted in 1986 and 1987. Data from both sources are displayed together for the most comprehensive representation of available information. CT DEEP has received numerous requests for GIS map layers of areas in Long Island Sound that are important for recreational fishing. Areas in this layer are represented as polygons; the polygons are NOT meant to be interpreted as precisely accurate but as general locations (recommended zoom level 1:25,000 - 1:100,000). Polygons were created with digital images of navigational charts created in 2003; if different background or basemap layers are added, features may not line up (the shoreline changes over time and navigational aids are sometimes moved). Absence of a polygon does not mean an area is unimportant; there may be other areas important to recreational fishing as well. No assurance of catching fish is implied. (VERSION variable = MFD Staff 2003) In 2003, CT DEEP Marine Fisheries Staff marked nautical charts to show areas along the CT shoreline and in CT waters of Long Island Sound they knew to be popular fishing areas for saltwater recreational anglers. These polygons were digitized and the marine fish species known to attract recreational fishing effort were noted. No attempt was made to digitize areas in NY waters of Long Island or Fishers Island Sounds. (VERSION variable = Aerial Survey 1986 and 1987) Areas important to marine recreational fishing in Long Island Sound were also identified by aerial surveys the Department conducted in the mid-1980's. In 2014, GIS staff collaborated with biologists who participated in the aerial surveys to digitized features on NOAA navigational charts to approximate recreational fishing areas sampled by the historical aerial surveys. Data used to create these polygons include aerial surveys conducted on 21 days in 1986 and 4 days in 1987, primarily along the Connecticut coast, Connecticut waters of Long Island Sound and the vicinity of Race Point, New York. (VERSION variable = MFD Staff 2016) In 2016, CT DEEP Marine Fisheries Staff reviewed the compilation of MFD staff-identified polygons and Aerial Survey polygons and added areas and/or species that had been missed, or that had become important more recently, to update the layer. Staff members edited the layers directly, in ArcMap and in ArcGIS online. Areas in the immediate vicinity of Fishers Island that are known to be important to CT-based recreational anglers were added.

Full Description: Contact CTDEEP marine Fisheries for FGDC metadata: deep.marine.fisheries@ct.gov

Access Instructions: TBD