

## Questions and Answers on the Marine Cadastre

The following questions were asked during a Digital Coast webinar on the Marine Cadastre and answered by the Marine Cadastre team.

**Webinar Title:** Supporting Ocean Energy Planning with the Multipurpose Marine Cadastre

**Original Presentation Date:** January 4, 2012

**Webinar Recording:** [www.csc.noaa.gov/digitalcoast/webinar/archive](http://www.csc.noaa.gov/digitalcoast/webinar/archive)

**Q: Are any NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) data included in *MarineCadastre.gov*?**

**A:** Yes, several data sets within the Marine Habitat and Biodiversity section are from NOAA NMFS, including Endangered Species – Critical Habitat Designations, Essential Fish Habitat – Habitat Areas of Particular Concern, and Pinniped Haul Outs – Rookeries (California). The federal fishery management areas are also included. We also have marine mammal density model outputs available for viewing purposes only.

**Q: What kind of data does *MarineCadastre.gov* have for the Great Lakes region?**

**A:** Many of the federal georegulations and federal agency regions data layers, as well as submarine cables, wrecks and obstructions, navigation aids, offshore wind resource potential, protected lands, state marine protected lands, national marine sanctuaries, are available. However, since the lakes are state resources, many of the boundary layers that apply for our outer continental shelf areas do not apply within the Great Lakes.

**Q: What format are the *MarineCadastre.gov* data in?**

**A:** The format of the data within *MarineCadastre.gov* depends on the authoritative source from which the data were derived. Many partners have provided their data in shapefile format. Data created by the Marine Cadastre project team are in a file geodatabase. Web services are also available.

**Q: Does *MarineCadastre.gov* include ocean observation data?**

**A:** We focus on the derived data sets that come from analysis of existing ocean observation products. For example, wind and tidal energy potential data are available now. Wave energy resource potential will be available in the future. Inclusion of real-time observation data is not currently included on *MarineCadastre.gov* and is available from other sources.

**Q: Are there plans to integrate with *Data.gov*?**

**A:** *Ocean.data.gov* and *MarineCadastre.gov* are complementary efforts. The main difference between these two efforts is in scope. *Ocean.Data.gov* will encompass spatial and other data, decision-support tools, and related information to support all ocean, coastal, and Great Lakes planning activities. *Marine Cadastre.gov*'s primary focus is on renewable energy planning and siting as specified in Section 388 of

the Energy Policy Act of 2005. The suite of spatial data and tools in the Marine Cadastre were developed within the context of renewable energy planning, siting, and permit review. Most of the data sets and tools found within Marine Cadastre have broader applicability and will be made available to *Ocean.data.gov* to extend their discovery and use.