Marine Managed Area Mapping

Creating a comprehensive public resource to explore marine managed areas and their associated rules and regulations

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Mapping Marine Managed Areas - Goal

Fishermen didn't know where MPAs were located or what restrictions applied

Improve access and awareness of MPAs

Map is in beta

Seeking feedback

Would like to connect with prospective users

Mapping Marine Managed Areas - The Process

Verify and build upon data from NOAA's MPA inventory

Expand and add managed areas outside the scope of NOAA's definition of an MPA - Examples:

  - Species-- or gear--specific closures

  - Gear restricted areas

  - Shellfish closures

  - Shrimp sanctuaries

  - Whale Reporting Areas

  - Speed Restricted Zones for boaters

After legal review is complete, the Geoteam imports and verifies data
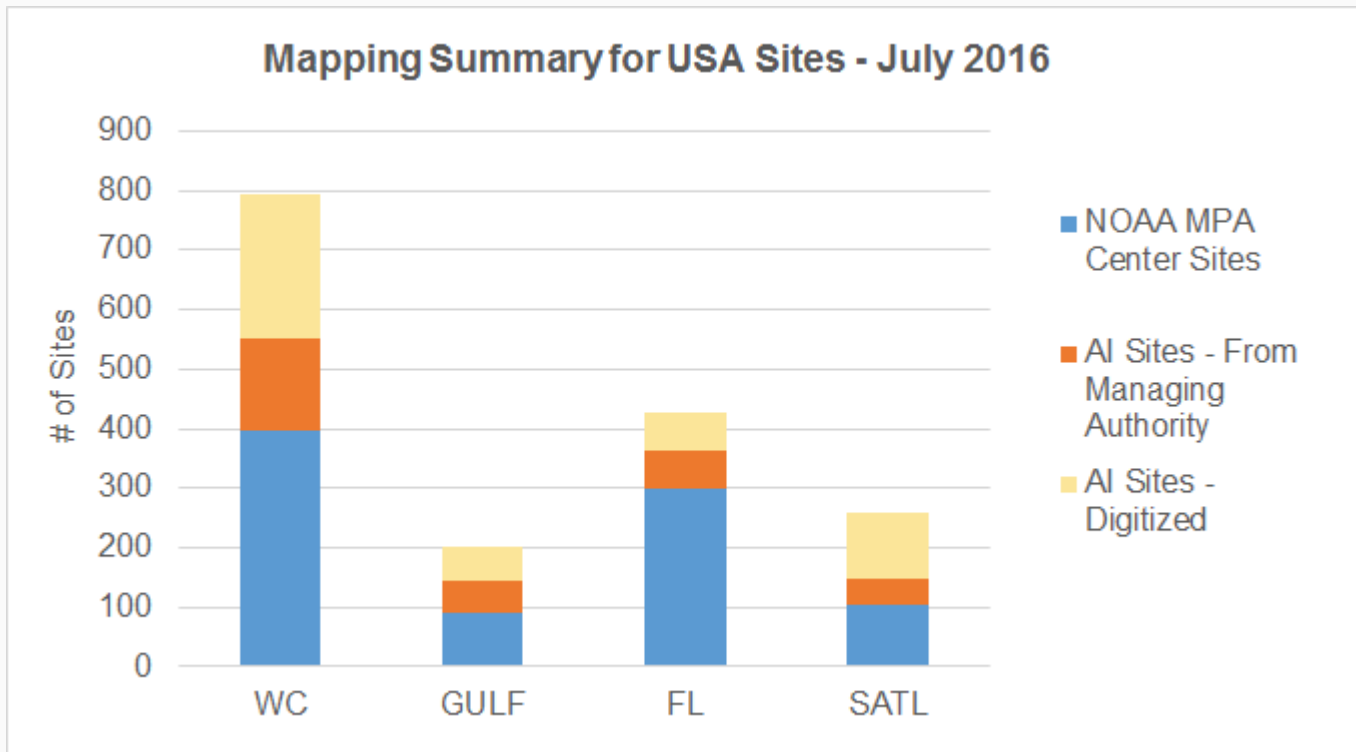
  - Collates available GIS data for boundaries

  - When data is not available, AI Digitizes data or asks managing authorities to provide existing polygons

  - Starts matching boundaries to marine managed areas

Boundaries and metadata are imported into online database

Mapping Marine Managed Areas - The Process

Mapping Summary for USA Sites - July 2016

West Coast (WC) = CA, OR, WA, HI
Gulf of Mexico (GULF) = AL, MS, LA, TX

Florida (FL)
South Atlantic (SATL) = GA, SC, NC

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Mapping Marine Managed Areas - Result

Mapping Marine Managed Areas - Distribution

- On a monthly basis, we update the data and generate a full data download package for each MPA region we have completed

- Partnership with Navionics and Others

  - Navionics is displaying the MPAs in their navigation software to help boaters be aware restrictions where they are

  - We would be glad to entertain exporting in additional formats for new partners

- We provide a free, online interactive map of each region linked from:

  - https://protectedseas.net/mpa-mapping/

  - Map is compatible with smartphones, tablets, and desktop computers
    - Phones: Most Android phones made in last 2-3 years (Galaxy 5, Nexus 6, etc.), iPhones 5s and higher

Combined US Map:

https://mpa.protectedseas.net/

Gulf of Mexico Region:

https://mpa.protectedseas.net/north-america/gulf-of-mexico

Florida:

https://mpa.protectedseas.net/north-america/florida

South Atlantic:

https://mpa.protectedseas.net/north-america/south-atlantic

Mapping Marine Managed Areas - Questions?

Thank you!

To provide feedback or for additional information, please contact us at:

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