



Use of fisheries data in ocean planning

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Outline

- Background and examples from MA Ocean Management Plan (completed in 2010)
- Planned/ongoing work in New England (through Northeast Regional Ocean Council)

Massachusetts Ocean Management Plan

- Mandated by Oceans Act of 2008
 - Comprehensive: siting/management of human uses and conservation
 - Coordinate with fisheries: “reflect the importance of marine waters” to those who fish
- 12 months for draft; 18 months for final
 - Use existing data (mostly)

Massachusetts Ocean Management Plan

- Data and science:
 - Series of workgroups by topic, including fisheries
 - First 6 months to acquire, assess existing data
 - Workgroup technical reports reviewed by Science Advisory Council
 - Significant public review of draft and final products
 - Concurrent consideration of management/policy implications
- Point is: focused effort built into overall planning up front

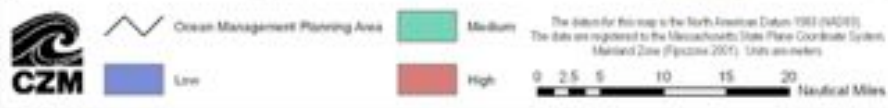
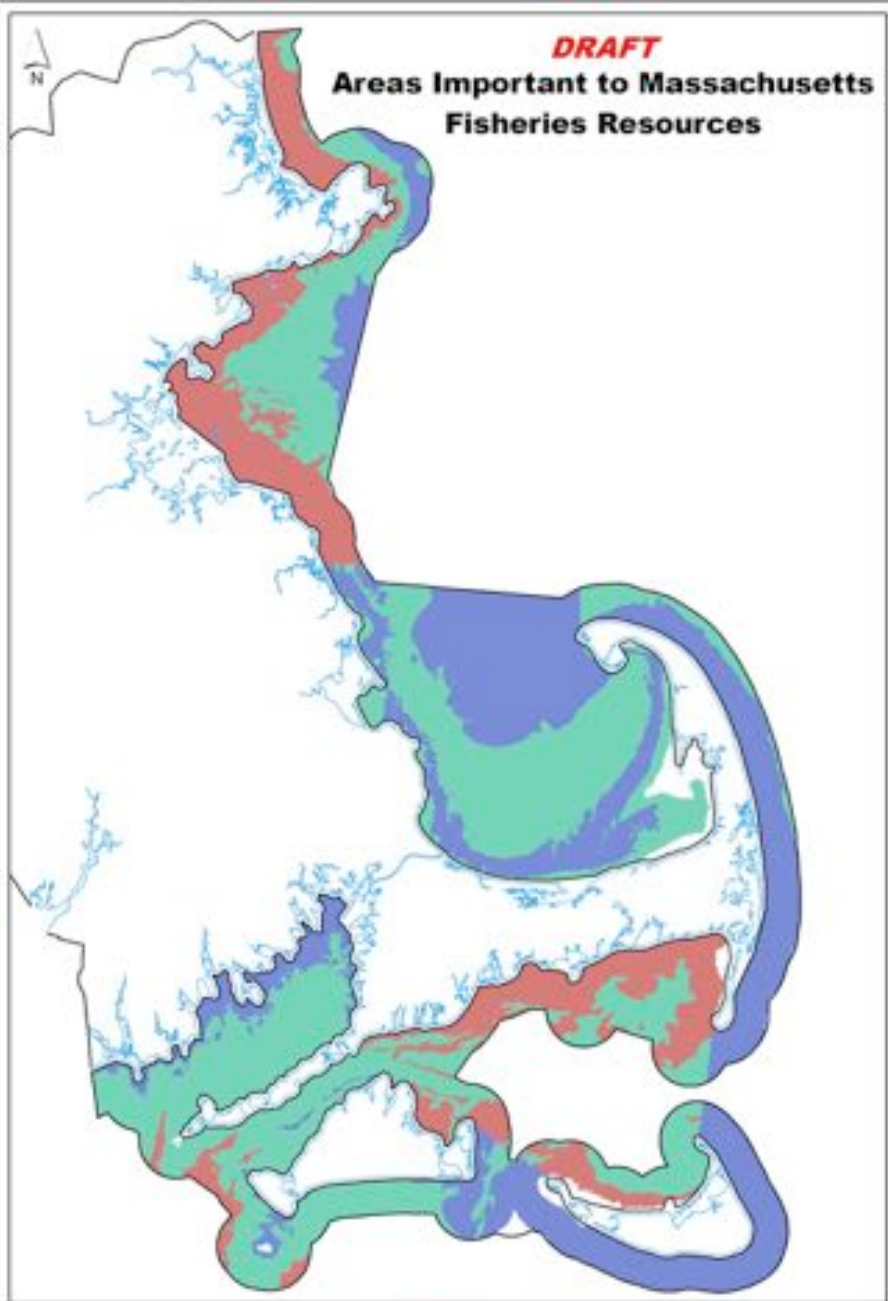


Figure 2-13 Special, sensitive, or unique resource important fish resource areas

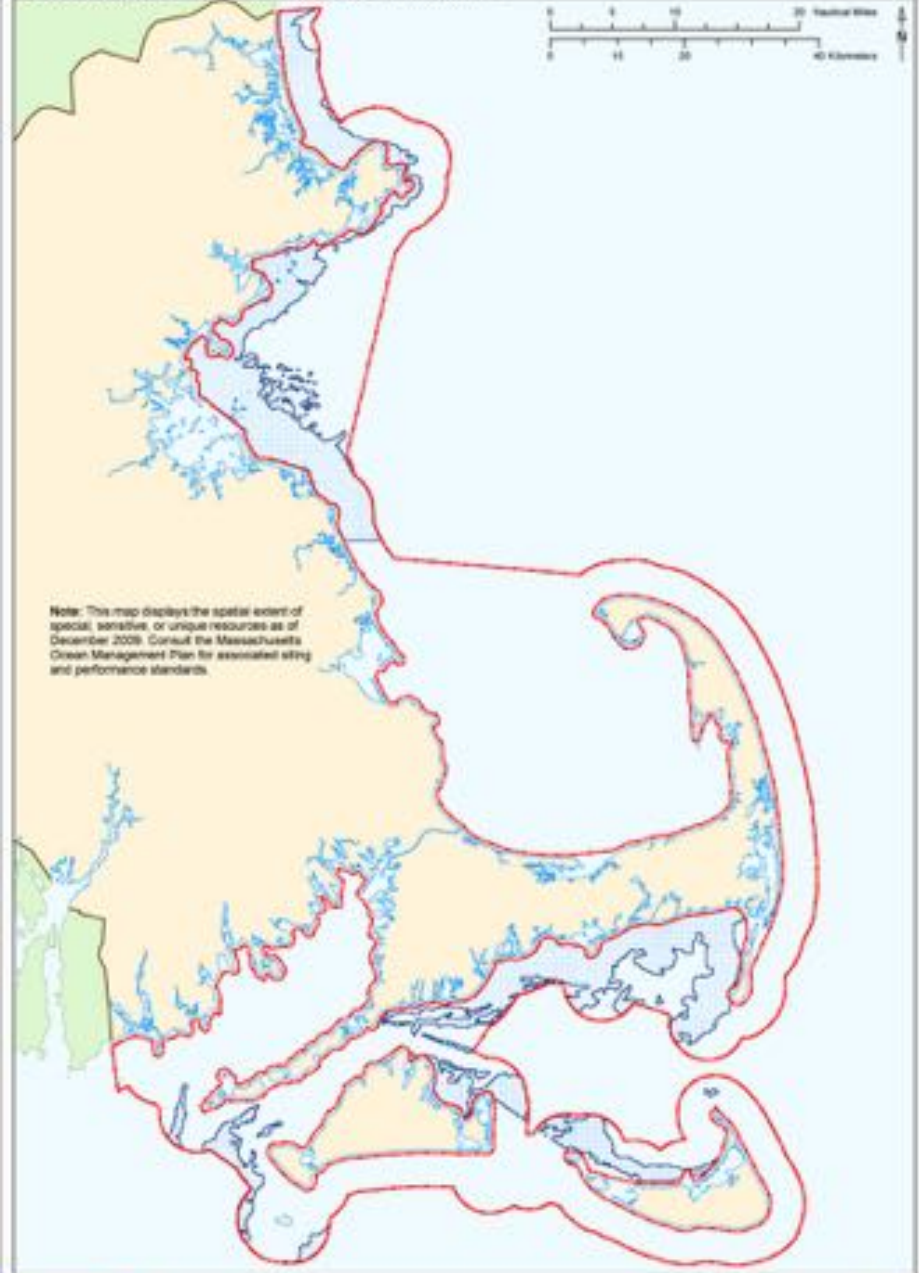


FIGURE 2-11 COMMERCIAL FISHERY ACTIVITY

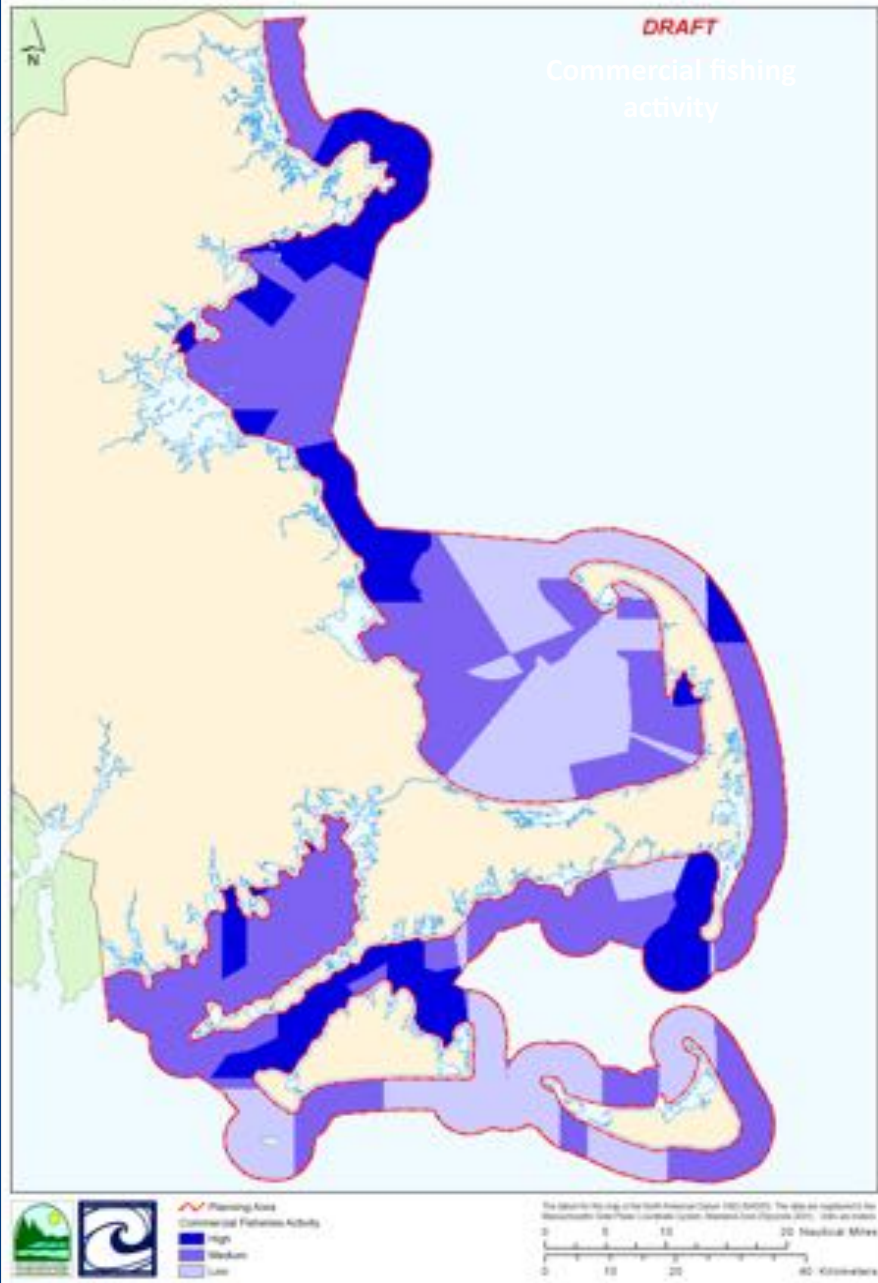


Figure 2-14 Areas of existing water-dependent uses: high-commercial fishing by effort and value



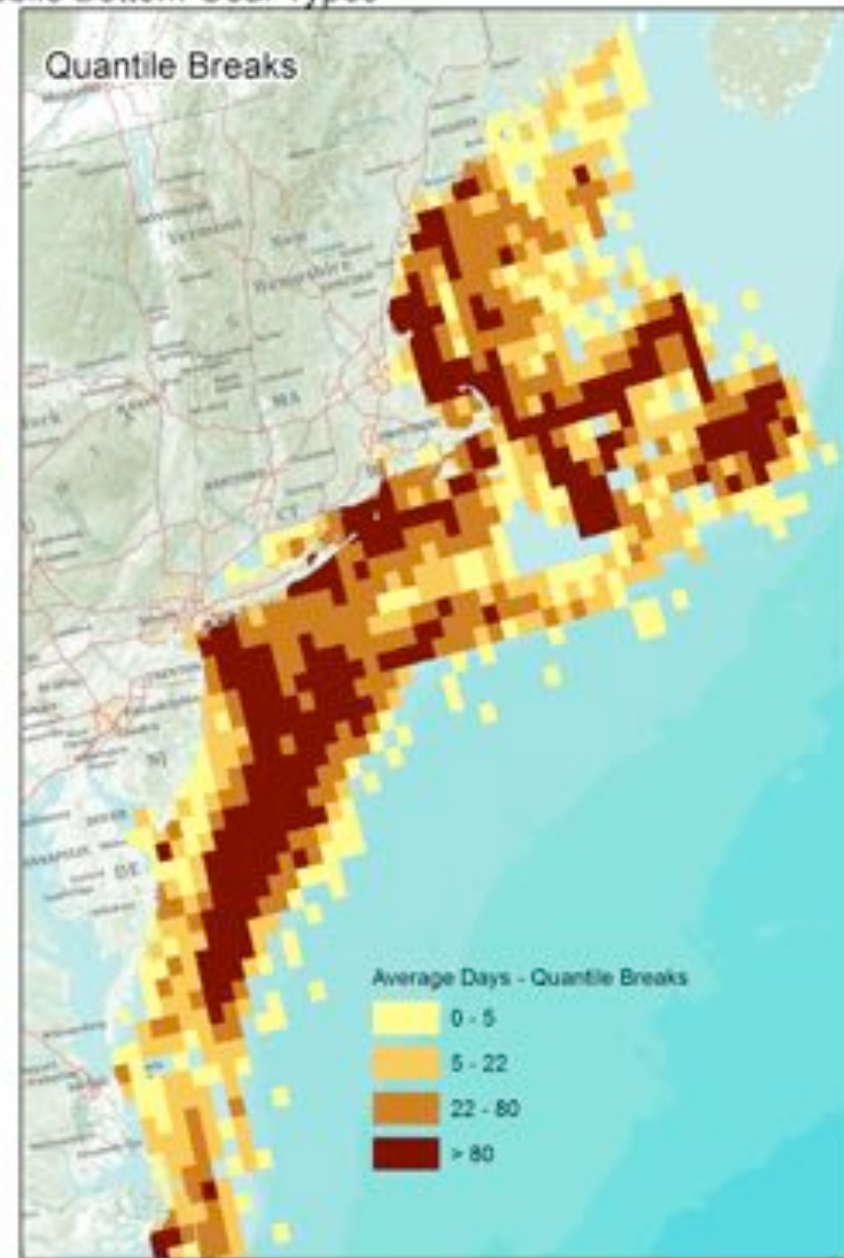
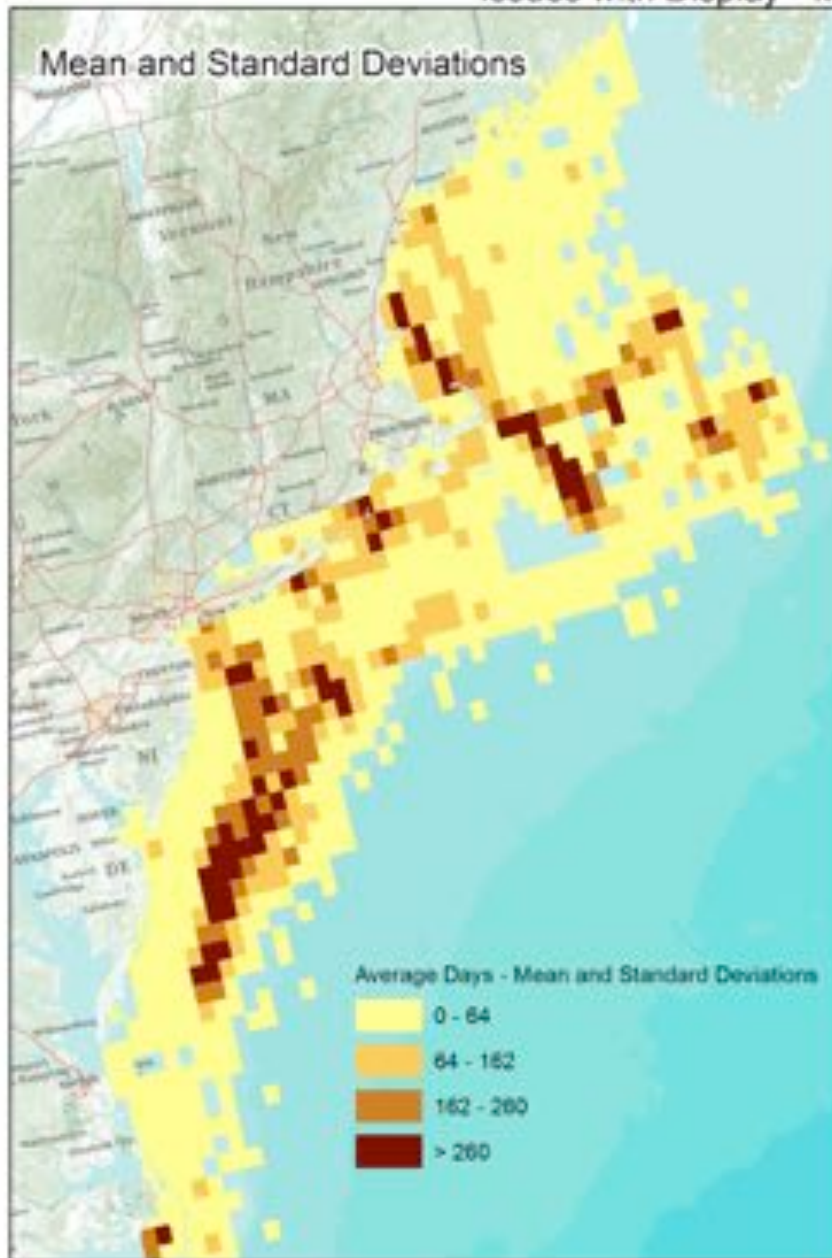
Northeast Regional Ocean Council

- NE Governors established in 2005 to address regional ocean issues
- Have been thinking about regional ocean planning for some time; National Ocean Policy fits
- Several aspects of integrating with fisheries:
 - Fishing-related spatial data (existing sources—VTR, VMS, observer?) and fill gaps
 - Habitat-related data/models
 - Industry participation (through Council, agencies, advocacy, individuals)
 - Alignment of policy initiatives

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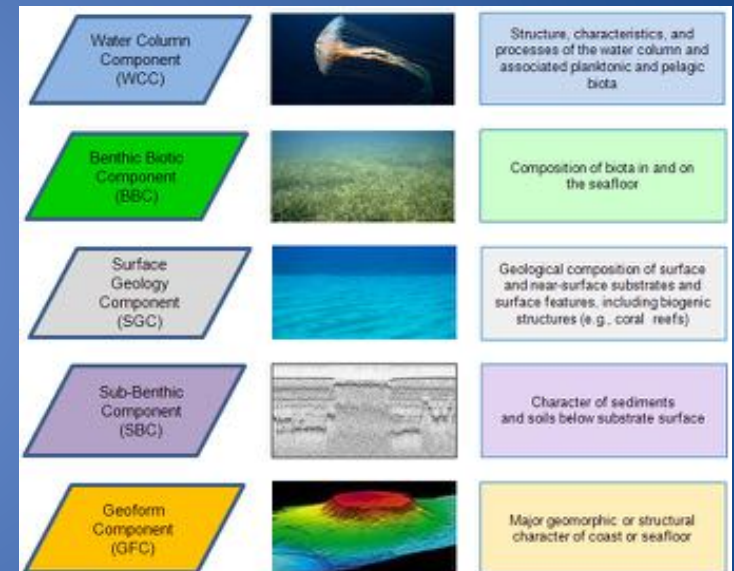
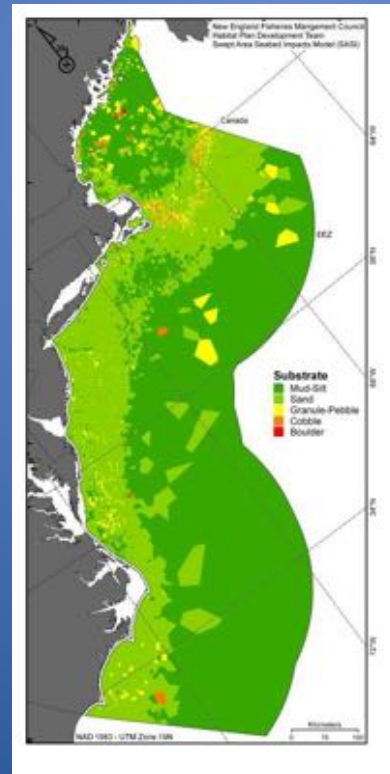
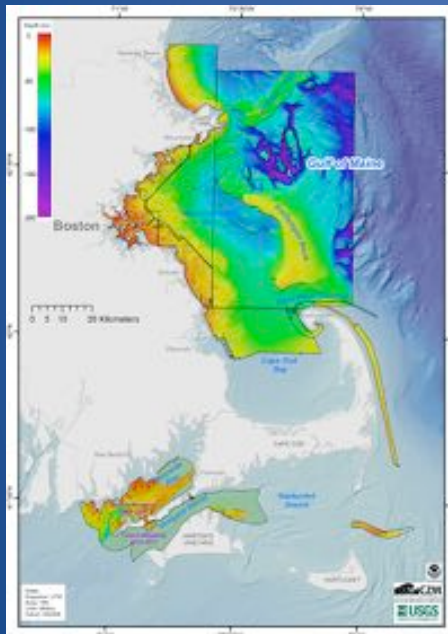
- Spatial data re: fishing
 - Build on existing state efforts (RI, MA)—recognize regional aspect
 - Use model of: develop draft data, review with industry, and discuss implications (i.e. incorporate into overall engagement strategy)
 - Close coordination with fisheries agencies (state and federal), industry advocates, and individuals

Issues with Display - Mobile Bottom Gear Types



Northeast Regional Ocean Council

Habitat classification/modeling



Conclusion

- Multiple benefits to working with fisheries managers and the industry
 - Data
 - Science
 - Engagement with those who are on the water
- Push the envelope (but be grounded in data/science)

For more information:

MA plan: www.mass.gov/eea

NROC: <http://collaborate.csc.noaa.gov/nroc/>

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