

National Ocean Policy Implementation Plan

Offshore oil and gas

Our country depends on safe and responsible domestic oil and gas production for energy security and as a driver of its economy. Offshore oil and gas is among the existing ocean industries that understand the value of efficient planning, effective stewardship, and reducing conflict between multiple uses.

The National Ocean Policy Implementation Plan outlines how Federal agencies will support businesses that depend on the ocean, protect and restore ocean health, and save Americans time and money.



Priorities identified by Federal agencies in the Implementation Plan will benefit the offshore oil and gas industry, including:

- Provide more accurate charts for safe and efficient navigations;
- Collect and provide better data and information for identifying suitable potential development sites and improving decisionmaking; and
- Conduct Waterway Analysis and Management System and Port Access Route Studies to support decisions on waterways management and other navigational priorities.

The Implementation Plan also supports voluntary regional marine planning, which brings together ocean users to share information to plan how we use and sustain ocean resources. Neither the National Ocean Policy nor marine planning creates or changes regulations or authorities.

The vision of the National Ocean Policy is an America whose stewardship ensures that the ocean, our coasts, and the Great Lakes are healthy and resilient, safe and productive, and understood and treasured so as to promote the well-being, prosperity, and security of present and future generations.

National Ocean Policy Implementation Plan

Oil and gas

Excerpts from the Implementation Plan:

“Offshore energy industries will benefit from better data and information to identify potential development sites, more efficient leasing and permitting processes, and planning that facilitates safe access, safe operations, and reduced conflicts with other uses.”

“Improved mapping, charting, and associated products will enhance the efficiency of maritime commerce through safer navigation and better accident-avoidance, and updated hydrographic charts and seafloor maps will support marine industries such as offshore energy.”

The Appendix of the National Ocean Policy Implementation Plan lists the specific actions Federal agencies have committed to take.

The Implementation Plan and Appendix are available online at www.whitehouse.gov/oceans.