

WEDA Eastern Chapter Annual Meeting | Industry/Corps Hopper Dredge Management Group 12 October 2017 | Providence, Rhode Island









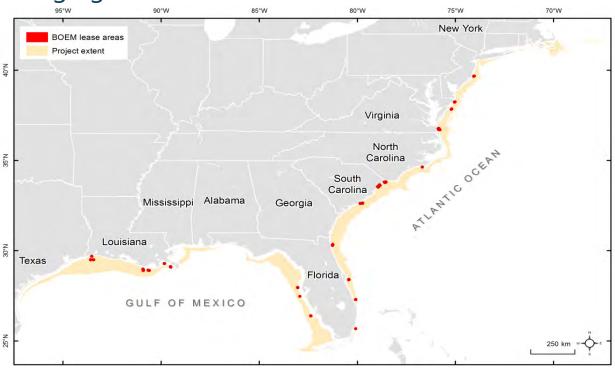
# **PURPOSE**

Sea Turtle Decision Support Tool

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management

# Develop a geographically and temporally based decision support tool for BOEM's use to:

- Support risk based planning
- Standardized and consistent across a regional scale to assess projectspecific dredging entrainment risk within a common framework



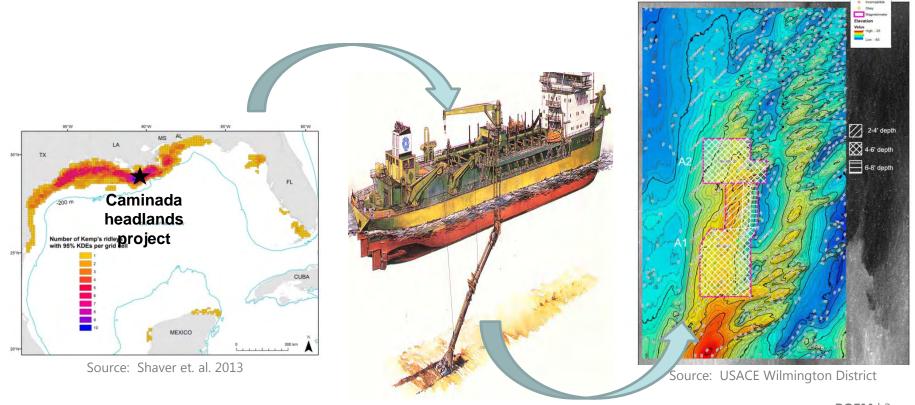
# **OBJECTIVES**

Sea Turtle Decision Support Tool

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management

### Identify risk factors and authoritative data sources for tool development

- Temporal and spatial relationship of sea turtle behavior
- Borrow area design relative to efficacy of existing mitigations



# **COLLABORATION**

**Partnering with Stakeholders** 

Sea Turtle Decision Support Tool

Bureau of Ocean Energy Management

### **Technical Expert Meetings**

- Dredging Industry (13 September 2016)
  - Variables affecting dredging efficiency
- Sea Turtle Scientists (12 October 2016)
  - Variables affecting sea turtle distribution/behavior
- Summary
  - 21 variables with accessible data
  - Suite of mitigation options























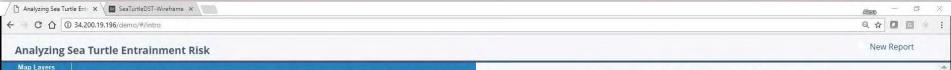


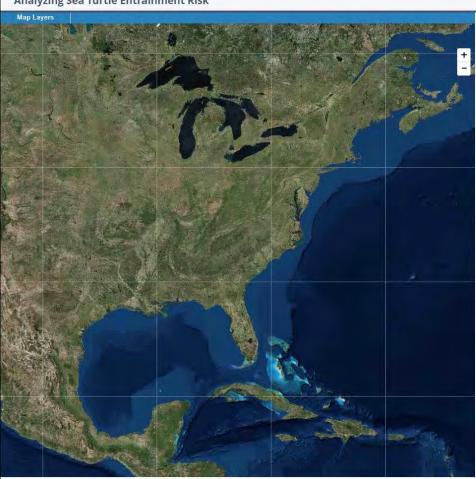












#### Analyzing Sea Turtle Entrainment Risk

The Analyzing Sea Turtle Entrainment Risk Decision Support Tool integrates multiple data sources within a simple and standardized user interface to supposrt risk based planning decisions. ASTER enables users to qualitatively analyze project specific sea turtle entrainment risk associated with Trailing Suction Hopper Dredges.

#### How to get started

- · Pan and Zoom to your area of interest using the interactive map on the left side of the screen.
- . Use the Map Layers button at the top left of the map window to interact with available data layers.
- . Once the area of interest is defined, create a new analysis by clicking the button below.
- After creating a new analysis the user will be guided through a 4 step process to "ANALYZE" relevant data, "DEFINE" absolute risk thresholds, "MITIGATE" risk, and generate a final "REPORT."

The results of the analysis will be available for export as both a PDF and related data.

#### Links

Analyzing Sea Turtle Entrainment Story Map MarineCadastre.gov Marine Minerals Information System









- Support tool NOT a decision tool
- Simple and standardized user interface and work flow
- User defined process
- Transparent, repeatable, and defensible
- Proactive regional and/or project specific planning
- Automated Summary output reports
- Infrastructure supports a "learning" environment
- Ex: Dare County, NC
  - 73 sea turtles relocated (61 loggerheads, 10 leatherbacks, 2 Kemps)
  - Seasonal/migratory trends
    - May 22<sup>nd</sup> -July16<sup>th</sup> 65 turtles relocated (18-24°C)
    - October 6<sup>th</sup> 2 turtles relocated (22°C Fall migration?)
  - 2 lethal loggerhead takes to date and > 3MCY
  - Tagging animals to better understand behavior





Photo: Coastwise Consulting, Inc.



"Using available science, data, and dredging operational knowledge to inform decisions"

\*See "Story Map" for More Information: http://arcg.is/298s5BO

