



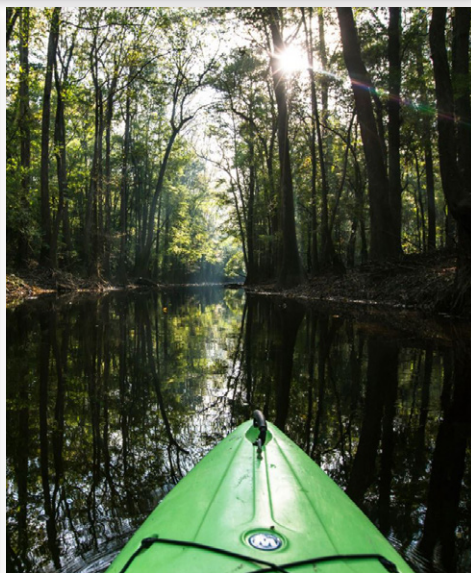
SPECIAL
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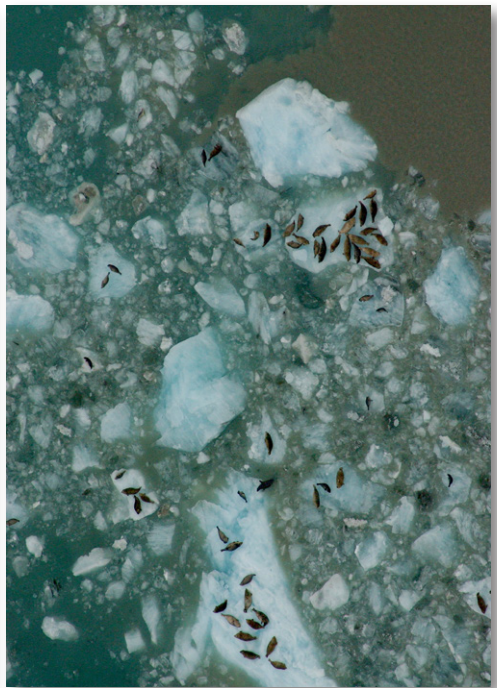
NEWSWAVE

FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR:
OCEAN, GREAT LAKES, and COASTAL PROGRAM

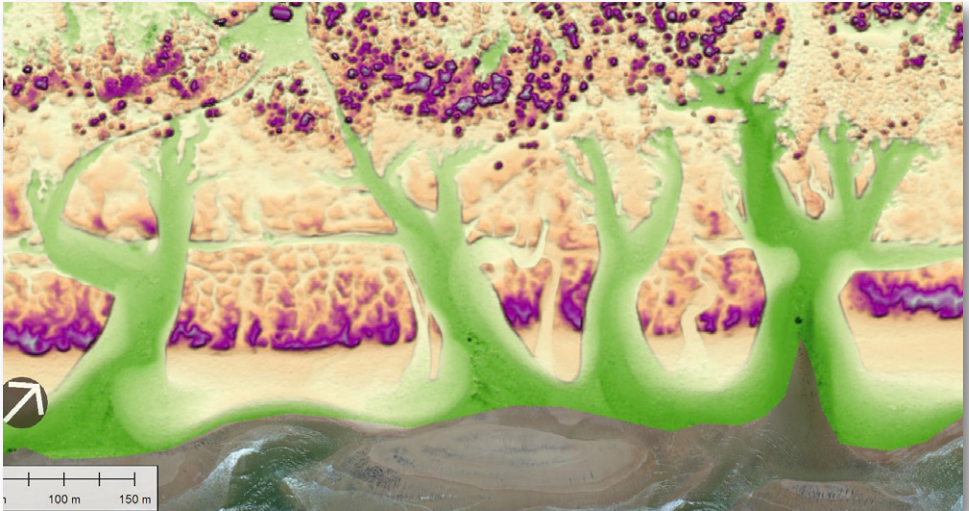
Science-based stewardship—

Summer 2021





The ocean connects Earth's resources globally. DOI's responsibilities extend from inland watersheds to coastal areas nationwide, from the continental shelves to the deepest parts of the ocean floor. Our activities throughout the Nation can have far-reaching impacts across the globe.



Front cover: top: A Laysan albatross (*Phoebastria immutabilis*) sits with chick at Midway Atoll. Photo credit: Ian Shive, USFWS; **bottom left:** A Basketstar perched on *Paragorgia sp.* deep sea coral. Image credit: NOAA-Office of Ocean Exploration and Research, Deep Connections 2019; Kayaking through an old-growth forest along Cedar Creek in Congaree National Park, SC. Photo credit: Jacob W. Frank, NPS; **This page: top left:** Roseate spoonbill (*Platalea ajaja*) in west-central Florida. Photo credit: Heather Schreppel, USGS; **top right:** Aerial view of seals on sea ice. Photo credit: NPS; **bottom:** A digital elevation model showing drainage channels cut through the dune line (pink areas) on North Core Banks, Cape Lookout National Seashore, NC, during Hurricane Dorian. Data were obtained on 12-13 September 2019. Image credit: USGS

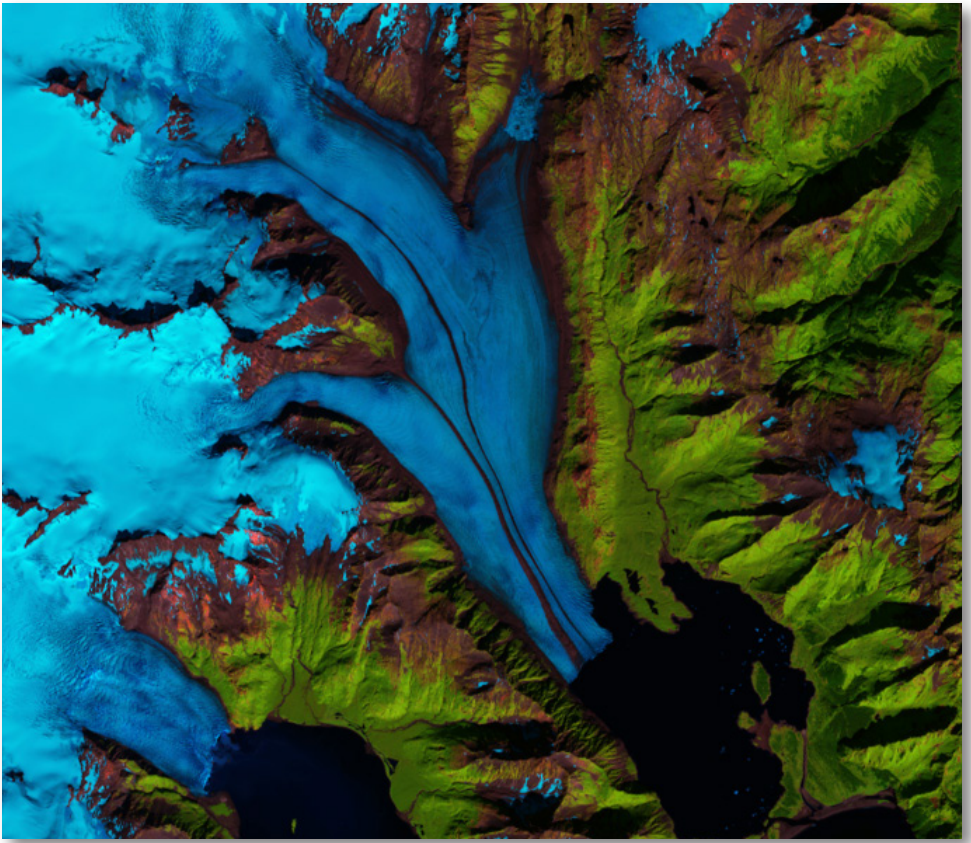


Our 'blue' portfolio provides tremendous economic, cultural, recreational, and biological value to the country. It supports many important resources, history, culture and ways of life.

Science, data and tools, partnerships and adaptive management strategies help ensure these national treasures remain healthy, accessible and sustainable for all Americans into the future.



Top: Icicles hang over sea caves at Apostle Islands National Lakeshore on Lake Superior in Wisconsin. Photo credit: Michael DeWitt from www.sharetheexperience.org; **bottom left:** A sreengrab of the San Francisco Bay area from an interactive geospatial mapping tool, supported by the USGS and provided through Our Coast Our Future. Learn more: <https://data.pointblue.org/apps/ocof/cms/> Image credit: USGS; **bottom right:** A black oystercatcher (*Haematopus bachmani*) guards her nest in the San Juan Islands National Wildlife Refuge off the coast of Washington State. Photo credit: USFWS



Top: USGS Landsat 8 image shows the extent of glaciers on Alaska's Kenai Peninsula as of September 4, 2018. Scientists use Landsat's historical archive to study glacial loss. Image credit: USGS; **bottom:** Sea turtles that were cold-stunned in the Texas February 2021 cold weather event were stored in available warm spaces that included office spaces, locker rooms and warehouses to help them recover so they could be released. Photo credit: NPS



Climate change is a global challenge that is integrally linked to the ocean. We bring together leadership in natural sciences and resource management to address climate change and its impacts strategically.

By protecting our ocean and coastal ecosystems and resources, we are also protecting the economies and people that depend on them.



Top: Harbor seal pup on ice at Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve, AK. Photo credit: NPS; **bottom:** USGS Landsat 8 image showing algal bloom in Lake Erie in September of 2017. Landsat's spectral bands allow researchers to see photosynthetic activity that is invisible to the naked eye. Photo credit: USGS



We are committed to conserving resources as well as restoring them. We support science-driven activities that maintain or enhance the health, diversity, and resilience of natural systems.



Top: View of Hanauma Bay Nature Preserve in Hawaii. Hanauma is located along the southeast coast of the Island of Oahu. It is known for its abundance of marine life and is a popular snorkeling location. Photo credit: Heather Schreppel, USGS;
bottom: The whimbrel (*Numenius phaeopus*) is a coastal bird during migration across the Americas. This one was spotted in Chile. Along the way it needs safe places to rest and refuel, protected breeding areas to raise their young, and safe places to spend the long months of the boreal winter. There are only three known breeding populations of whimbrel in the Western Hemisphere. Photo credit: Jane Gamble. Learn more: <https://www.arcgis.com/apps/Cascade/index.html?appid=32f5ed-26c89140dd96ae360844625551>



Top: Izembek Lagoon and Grant Point, Landscape image of tundra, eelgrass, and the edge of Izembek Lagoon from Grant Point. Photo Credit: Lisa Hupp, USFWS; **bottom:** Convict tang (*Acanthurus triostegus*) and bluefin trevally (*Caranx melampygus*) create a vibrant color scheme with colorful coral at Palmyra Atoll National Wildlife Refuge, part of the larger Pacific Remote Islands Marine National Monument. Photo credit: Ian Shive, USFWS



A proud biologist poses with this 240-lb giant lake sturgeon (*Acipenser fulvescens*), recently caught during a Detroit River fish survey in Michigan. The fish, determined to be over 100 years old, was quickly released. Photo credit: Jason Fischer, USFWS



Top: Pelagic cormorants nest on the rock tops and cliff faces at BLM's Yaquina Head Outstanding National Area along the Oregon Coast. Photo credit: Bob Wick; **bottom:** A visitor explores ice caves, just one of many glacier features at Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve, AK. Photo credit: NPS Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve, AK. Photo credit: NPS



We have substantial ocean interests and responsibilities for our Nation.

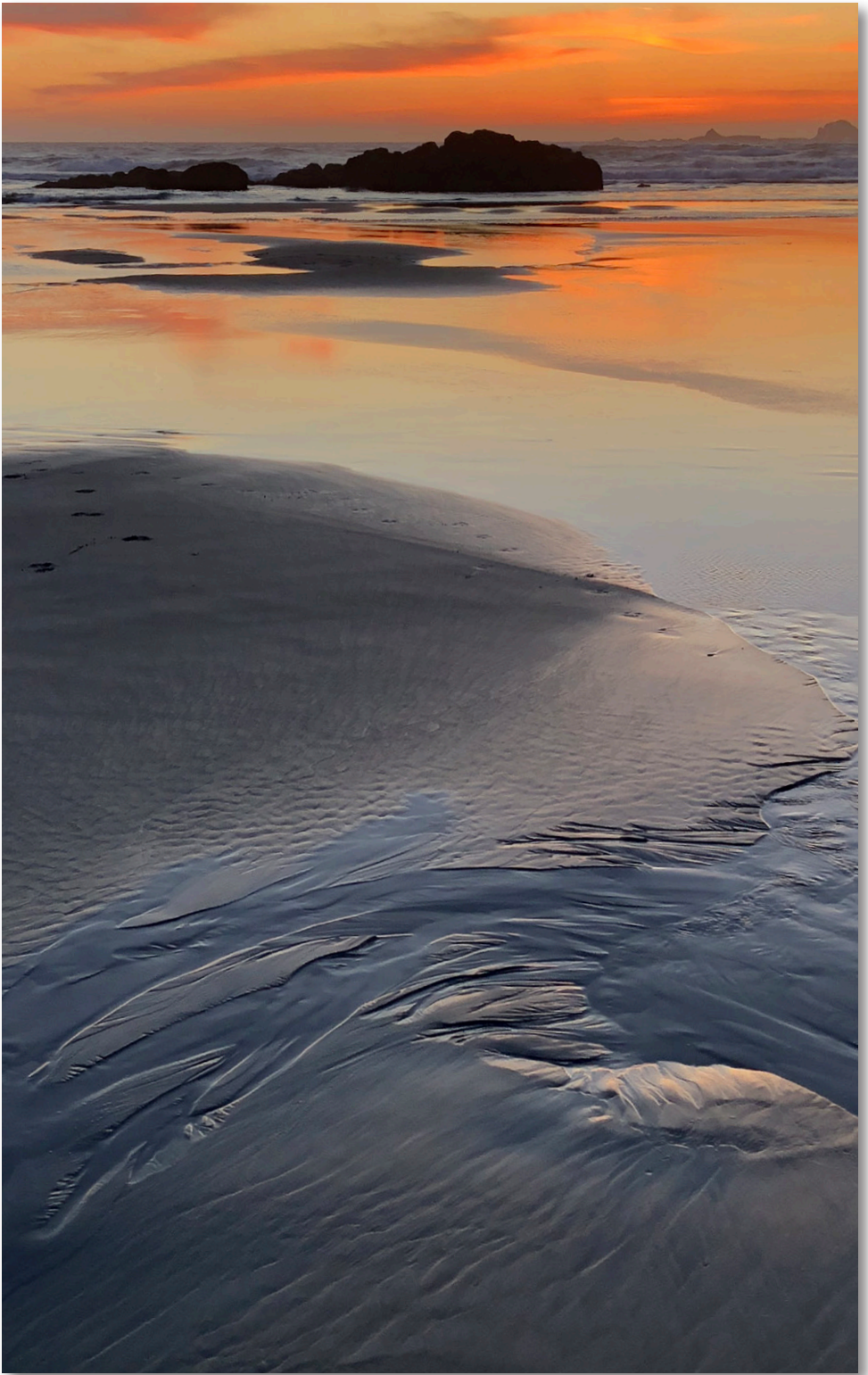


Top: Sunset over offshore wind turbines. Photo Credit: BOEM; **bottom:** An American oystercatcher (*Haematopus palliatus*) feeds its chick. Photo credit: Ray Hennessy; **Opposite page: top:** Sunset in the Arctic. Photo credit: BOEM; **bottom:** A snorkeler ventures across shallow coral reef on Rose Atoll. Image credit: Ian Shive, USFWS



And there are vast areas yet to be explored.







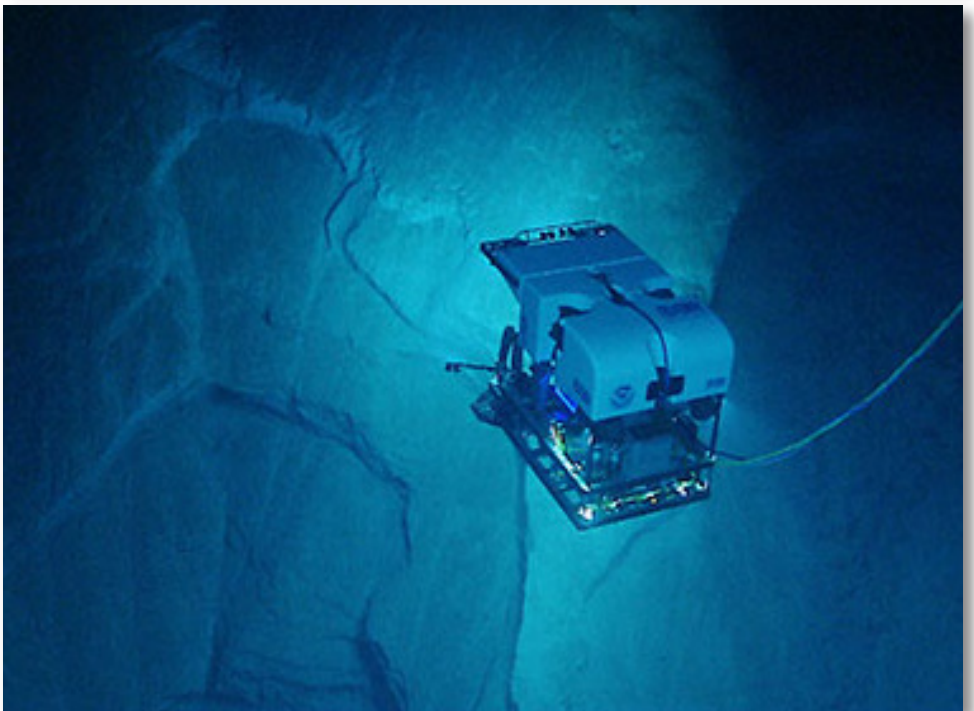
Opposite page: Sunset during low tide along the Oregon coast. Photo credit: Ann Tihansky, USGS; **This page:** A tidewater glacier and ice in a fjord in Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve, AK. Photo credit: NPS



We are dedicated to the wise stewardship of our ocean resources so they will continue to sustain all of us into the future.



Top: One of three traditional carved spruce canoes paddled ashore as part of the Huna Tribal House Dedication ceremony on August 2016. The canoe landing initiated a powerful day of ceremonies that blended Tlingit traditions old and new. Photo credit: NPS; **bottom:** USGS scientists conduct ocean acidification sampling in the Arctic Ocean. Photo credit: USGS; **Opposite page top:** Extensive inland flooding in Texas associated with Hurricane Harvey in 2017. Photo credit: Steve Fitzgerald, Harris County, Texas, Flood Control District; **bottom:** Scientists rely on technology like ROVs to explore deep sea environments like this submarine canyon wall during an expedition on the NOAA R/V *Okeanos*. Photo credit: NOAA-OER





Join us!

Help us fulfill this important stewardship mission for our Nation's ocean, Great Lakes and coastal resources.



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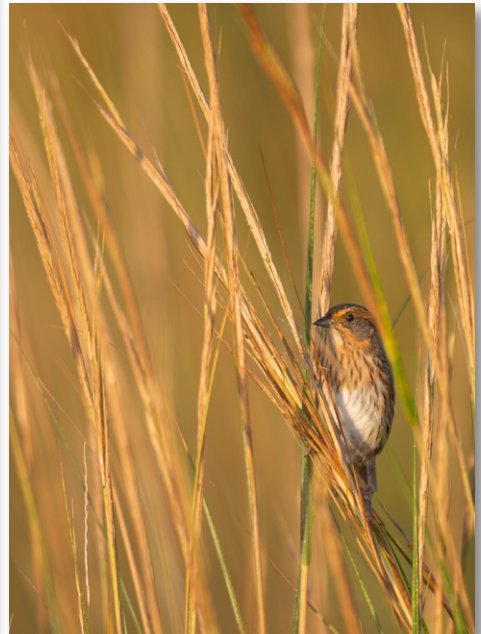
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Clockwise from top left: BOEM staff reach out to youth during a science education conference. Photo credit: BOEM; Trained volunteers help release recovered cold-stunned turtles in Texas waters. Photo credit: NPS; A saltmarsh sparrow perches on marsh grasses; Anglers fishing for stripers in the Chesapeake Bay. Photo credit: Ann Tihansky, USGS