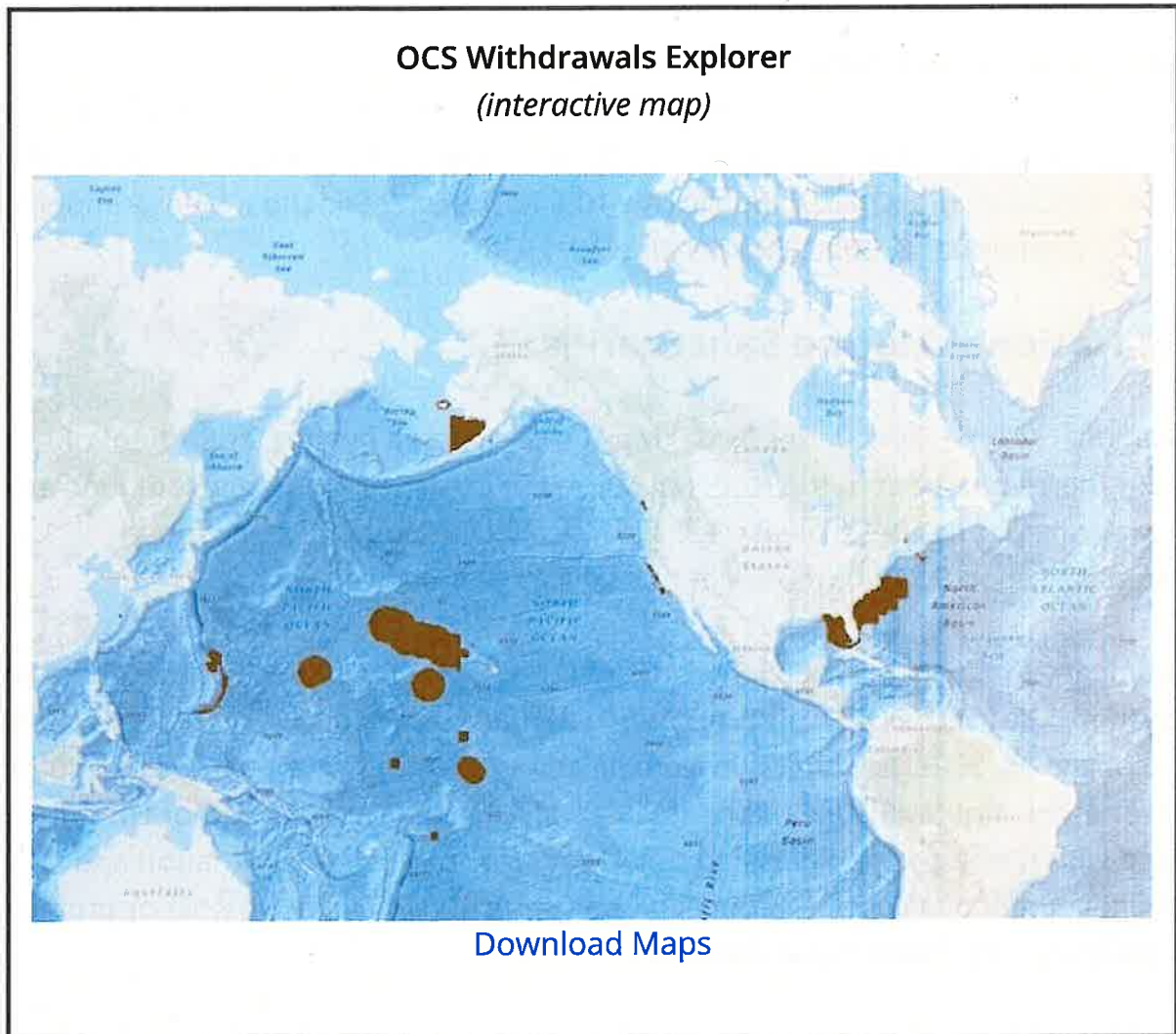


[HOME](#) | [LEASING](#)

Areas Under Restriction



Areas Under Restriction for Oil and Gas Leasing

I. Presidential Withdrawals

Under section 12(a) of the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act, [43 U.S.C. §1341](#), the President of the United States may, from time to time, withdraw from disposition any of the unleased lands of the Outer Continental Shelf.

- **Alaska Presidential Withdrawals:**

- [North Aleutian Basin Planning Area](#); see [Presidential Memorandum](#), dated December 16, 2014.
- **Atlantic Presidential Withdrawals:**
 - [South Atlantic and Straits of Florida Planning Areas](#); see [Presidential Memorandum](#), dated September 8, 2020. Expires June 30, 2032.
 - [North Carolina portion of the Mid-Atlantic Planning Area](#); see [Presidential Memorandum](#), dated September 25, 2020. Expires June 30, 2032.
- **Gulf of America Presidential Withdrawals:**
 - [Portions of the Central and Eastern Gulf of America Planning Areas](#) (area formerly designated by section 104(a) of the [Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act of 2006](#), or GOMESA, Public Law 109-432); see [Presidential Memorandum](#), dated September 8, 2020. Expires June 30, 2032.

II. National Marine Sanctuaries

National Marine Sanctuaries (NMS) may be designated by the Department of Commerce pursuant to the [National Marine Sanctuaries Act](#). For information and maps on specific NMSs, please see the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) website at <https://sanctuaries.noaa.gov/>.

Pursuant to the July 14, 2008, [Presidential Memorandum](#) issued in accordance with section 12(a) of the OCS Lands Act, any national marine sanctuary that was designated as of July 14, 2008, is withdrawn from oil and gas leasing for a time without specific expiration. Any NMS created or expanded after that date is not withdrawn from oil and gas leasing per se. Rules and regulations governing the designation and management of a specific national marine sanctuary may also restrict or prohibit certain activities within that sanctuary.

The following national marine sanctuaries are located on the OCS:

- **Pacific NMS**
 - [NMS of American Samoa](#) (designated 1986, expanded 2012)
 - [Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale NMS](#) (designated 1999)
 - [Monterey Bay NMS](#) (designated 1992, expanded 2008)
 - [Channel Islands NMS](#) (designated 1980, expanded 2007)
 - [Olympic Coast NMS](#) (designated 1994)
 - [Cordell Bank NMS](#) (designated 1989, expanded 2015)
 - [Greater Farallones NMS](#) (designated 1981, expanded 2015)
 - [Chumash Heritage National Marine Sanctuary](#) (designated 2024)

- **Atlantic NMS**
 - [Gray's Reef \(designated 1981\)](#)
 - [Monitor NMS \(designated 1975\)](#)
 - [Florida Keys NMS \(designated 1990\)](#)
 - [Stellwagen Bank NMS \(designated 1992\)](#)
- **Gulf of America NMS**
 - [Flower Garden Banks NMS \(designated 1991, expanded 2021\)](#)
 - [Florida Keys NMS \(designated 1990\)](#)

III. Other Restrictions

- **Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge**

The [Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act \(ANILCA\)](#), signed into law December 2, 1980, created the [Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge](#) by combining the Clarence Rhode National Wildlife Range, Hazen Bay National Wildlife Refuge, Nunivak Island National Wildlife Refuge, and lands withdrawn under the Federal Land Policy and Management Act on February 11, 1980. A portion of the refuge extends into Federal waters. For additional information on the refuge, click [here](#).

- **Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge**

President William H. Taft established the Aleutian Islands Reservation in 1913 ([Executive Order 1733](#)) as a breeding ground for native birds, propagation of reindeer and furbearers, and encouragement and development of fisheries. The Aleutian Islands Reservation was later renamed the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge, and then, in 1980 with passage of the ANILCA, the refuge became the Aleutian Islands Unit of the newly created [Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge](#). The act outlined five major purposes for this new refuge, with a primary purpose of conserving fish and wildlife populations and habitats in their natural diversity. A portion of the refuge extends into Federal waters. For additional information on the refuge, click [here](#).

- **Navassa Island National Wildlife Refuge**

The Island of Navassa became a U.S. insular area in October 1857, pursuant to the Guano Islands Act of 1856 ([48 U.S.C. Ch. 8 §§ 1411-19](#)). On September 2, 1999, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service established the [Navassa Island Wildlife Refuge](#). For additional information on the refuge, click [here](#).

- **Rose Atoll National Wildlife Refuge**

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service established the [Rose Atoll National Wildlife Refuge](#) on July 15, 1973, for the purpose of conserving and protecting fish and wildlife

resources. This 20-acre marine protected area is completely encompassed by the Rose Atoll Marine National Monument.

- **Biscayne Bay National Park**

[Biscayne Bay National Park](#) was established as part of the National Park System under [Public Law 96-287](#) (1980), and a portion of the park extends into the OCS. Pursuant to the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, as amended ([30 U.S.C. § 181](#)), the park is withdrawn from leasing. For additional information on the park, click [here](#).

- **Phillip Burton Wilderness Buffer Zone**

Leases for exploration, development, or production activities are not permitted within 15 miles of the boundaries of the [Phillip Burton Wilderness Area](#) pursuant to [2021 43 U.S.C. §1341\(h\)](#). For additional information, click [here](#).

- **Santa Barbara Channel Ecological Preserve and Buffer Zone**

The [Santa Barbara Channel Ecological Preserve and a buffer](#) of submerged lands adjacent to the preserve is withdrawn from leasing and is reserved for scientific, recreational, and other similar uses as an ecological preserve pursuant to Public Land Order 4587, dated March 21, 1969; see [34 FR 5655](#).

- **Marine National Monuments**

There are five designated Marine National Monuments (MNM), four in the [Pacific](#) and one in the [Atlantic](#). MNMs can be designated through Congressional legislation or through Presidential Proclamation pursuant to the Antiquities Act, [54 U.S.C. § 320301](#). Management responsibilities are shared jointly between the Department of Commerce's NOAA and the Department of the Interior. These five designated MNMs specifically prohibit oil and gas leasing and development activities:

- [Marianas Trench Marine National Monument](#); see [Presidential Proclamation 8335](#) dated January 6, 2009.
- [Northeast Canyons and Seamounts Marine National Monument](#); see [Presidential Proclamation 9496](#) dated September 15, 2016.
- [Pacific Islands Heritage Marine National Monument](#); see [Presidential Proclamation 8336](#) dated January 6, 2009, and [Presidential Proclamation 9173](#) dated September 25, 2014.
- [Papahānaumokuākea Marine National Monument](#); see [Presidential Proclamation 8031](#) dated June 15, 2006, and the amended [Presidential Proclamation 8112](#) dated February 28, 2007.
- [Rose Atoll Marine National Monument](#); see [Presidential Proclamation 8337](#) dated January 6, 2009.

Areas Under Restriction for Renewable Energy Leasing

I. Presidential Withdrawals

Under section 12(a) of the OCS Lands Act, [43 U.S.C. § 1341\(a\)](#), the President of the United States may, from time to time, withdraw from disposition any of the unleased lands of the OCS. Pursuant to the [Presidential Memorandum](#) issued on January 20, 2025, the President temporarily withdrew all areas within the OCS, as defined in section 2 of the OCS Lands Act, 43 U.S.C. § 1331, from disposition for wind energy leasing. The withdrawal became effective on January 21, 2025, and remains in effect until such time that this Presidential Memorandum is revoked.

II. Protected Areas

Pursuant to the OCS Lands Act at 43 U.S.C. § 1337(p)(10), and BOEM's implementing regulations at [30 CFR 585.204](#), BOEM cannot offer renewable energy leases in any area within the exterior boundaries of any unit of the National Park System, National Wildlife Refuge System, or National Marine Sanctuary System, or any National Monument.

