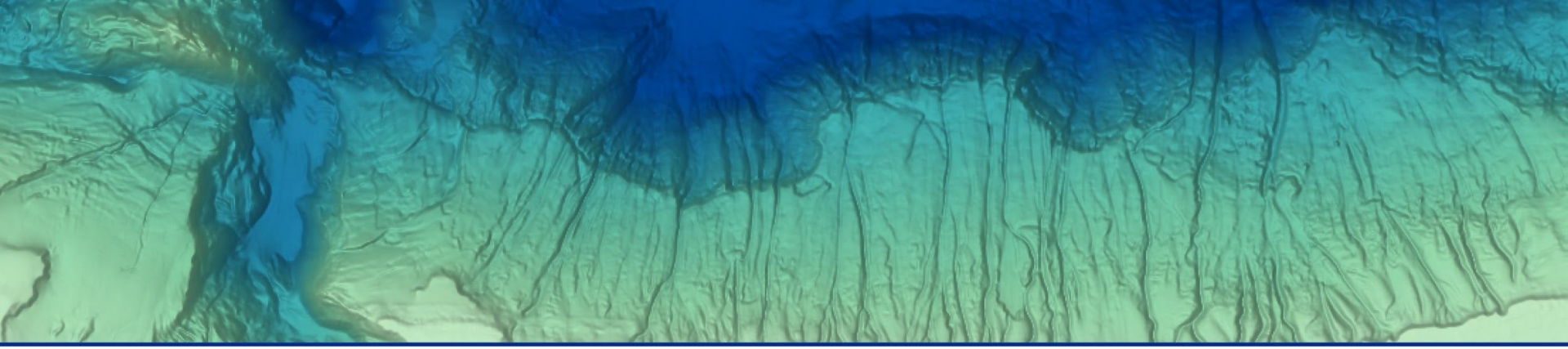

FY27 Brennan Ocean Mapping Fund Informational Webinar

August 14, 2025

NOAA Coast Survey

Meredith Westington
Integrated Ocean and Coastal Mapping

Michael Stephens
Hydrographic Surveys Division

NOAA Coast Survey

Webinar Overview

1. Program Overview
2. Application Process
3. Project Evaluation Considerations
4. Timeline
5. Q&A

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Program Background and Purpose

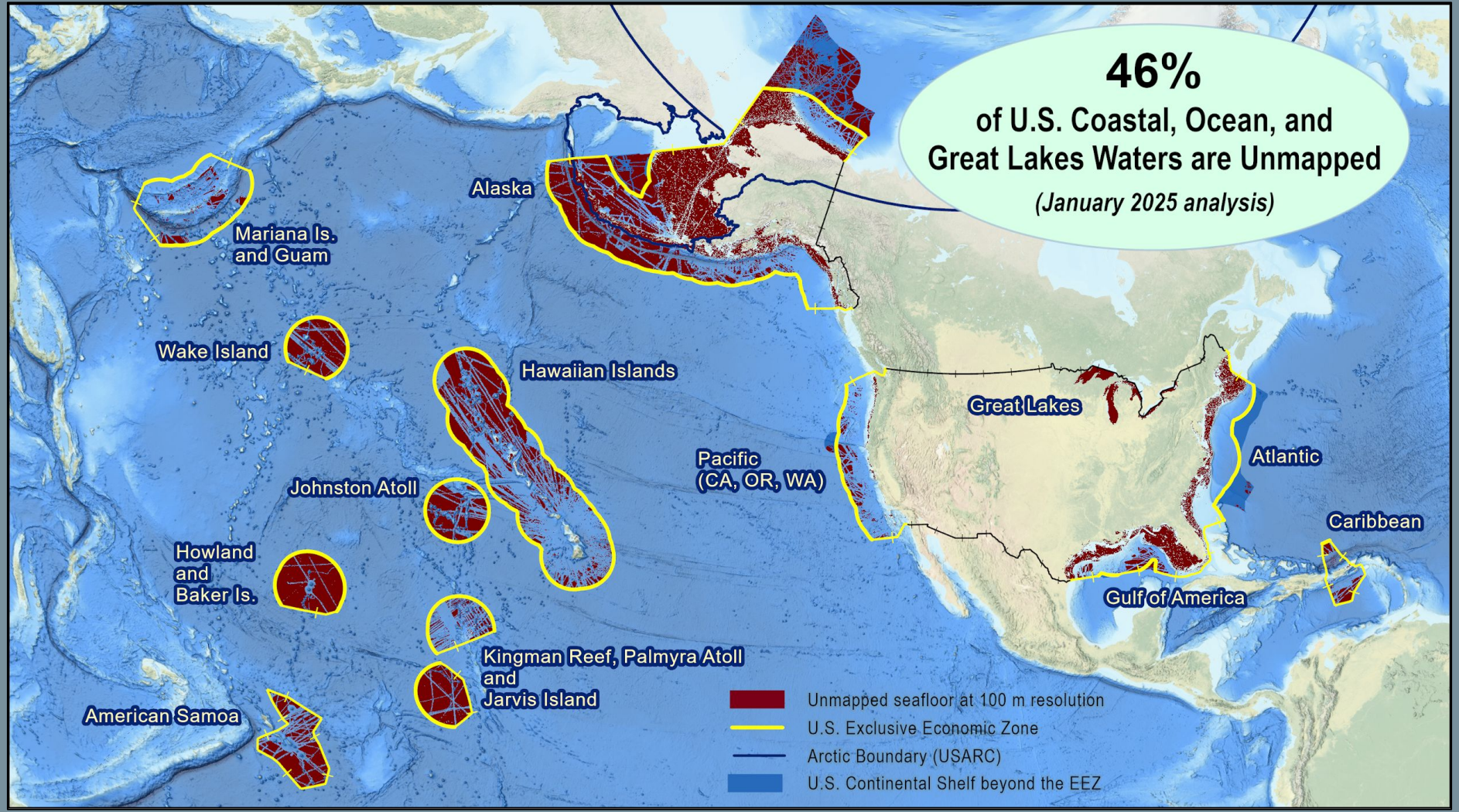
In honor of RDML Richard T. Brennan

Honoring Rear Admiral Richard T. Brennan

Former Coast Survey Director and President of the Hydrographic Society of America

“Brennan Ocean Mapping Fund” named in his honor in reauthorization of Ocean and Coastal Mapping Integration Act (2022)

Advocate for collaborative ocean mapping– cost-effective, cooperative mapping efforts and data sharing to support many needs for ocean and coastal data


46%
of U.S. Coastal, Ocean, and Great Lakes Waters are Unmapped
(January 2025 analysis)
Alaska
Mariana Is. and Guam
Wake Island
Hawaiian Islands
Johnston Atoll
Howland and Baker Is.
Kingman Reef, Palmyra Atoll and Jarvis Island
American Samoa
Pacific (CA, OR, WA)
Great Lakes
Atlantic
Caribbean
Gulf of America
Unmapped seafloor at 100 m resolution
U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone
Arctic Boundary (USARC)
U.S. Continental Shelf beyond the EEZ

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Matching Fund Structure and Eligibility

70%	+	30%	=	$1M*	2-5
NOAA Funding		Partner Match		Project	Expected Projects

Examples of Eligible Non-Federal Entities

- State/local governments
- Tribal entities
- Universities/academia
- Private sector
- NGOs/philanthropic organizations
- Coalitions of non-federal entities

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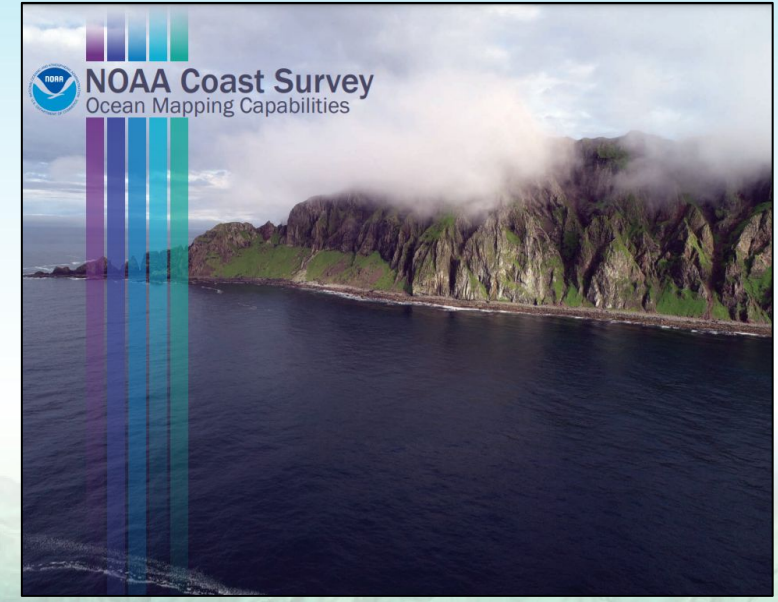
What NOAA Brings

Authority to receive funds (33 U.S.C. 883e)

Contract management and oversight

Hydrographic surveying and shoreline mapping expertise

- Survey planning
- Pre-Qualified vendors
- Data processing, quality assessment and review of all acquired survey data
- Data management and stewardship from ping to hi-res products to archive at NOAA National Centers for Environmental Information



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How Contract Mapping is Executed

Hydrographic Surveying Services

- Office of Coast Survey manages this contract vehicle
- For hydrographic data, including multibeam echosounder, side scan sonar, acoustic backscatter, processing of the data, quality control and resulting products

Shoreline Mapping Support Services

- National Geodetic Survey manages this contract vehicle
- For remote-sensing, digital shoreline mapping, surveying, and associated tasks, including collecting geodetic surveys, determining tidal datums, and digital map compilation

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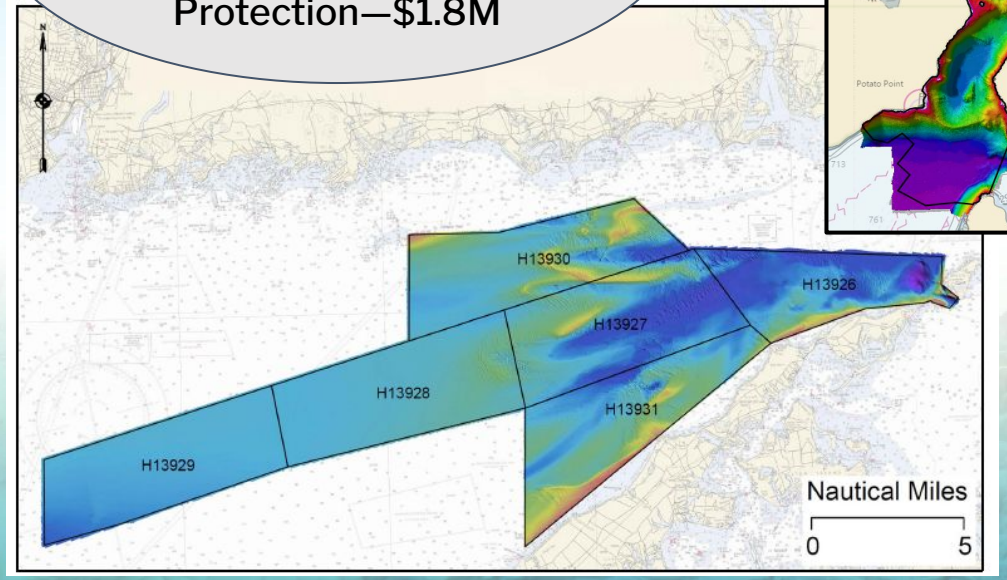
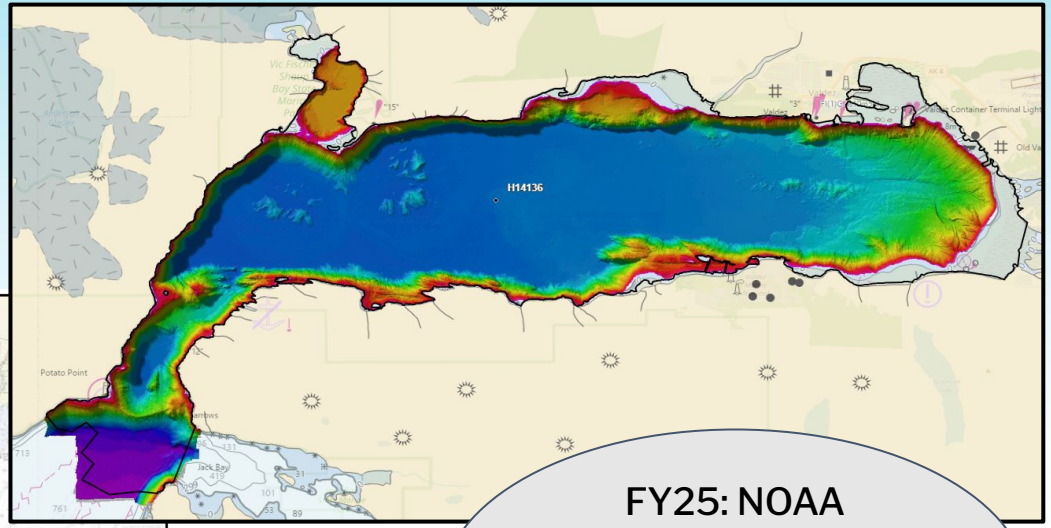
Successful Projects

FY24: NOAA partnering with Connecticut Dept of Energy and Environmental Protection—$1.8M





FY25: NOAA partnering with City of Valdez for hazard detection and planning

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Submission Requirements and Process

Six (6) total pages (plus optional GIS files of project areas) and the following **three** components:

1. Project title and executive summary that includes the names and affiliations of the key personnel (not to exceed 1 page)

2. Justification and Statement of Need outlining the survey area and relevance to the strategic areas of focus (not to exceed 4 pages)

3. A project budget that lists the source(s) and amount(s) of funding that the partner would provide as its match to NOAA. Budget must confirm that partner funds can be transferred to NOAA by September 2026 (not to exceed 1 page).

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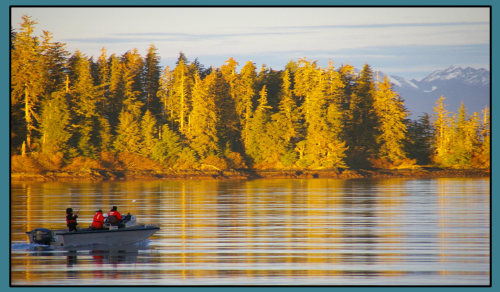
Strategic Areas of Focus



National Strategy

Map, explore, and characterize U.S. coasts and oceans

Goal

All U.S. Waters mapped to modern standards by 2040

Alaska Focus

Expand Alaska coastal data collection

Goal

Alaska coastal priorities mapped to modern standards by 2030

Partnerships

Collaborate to increase ocean and coastal mapping

Goal

Collaborate to increase ocean and coastal mapping

Tools to Use – 1

U.S. Mapping Coordination Site

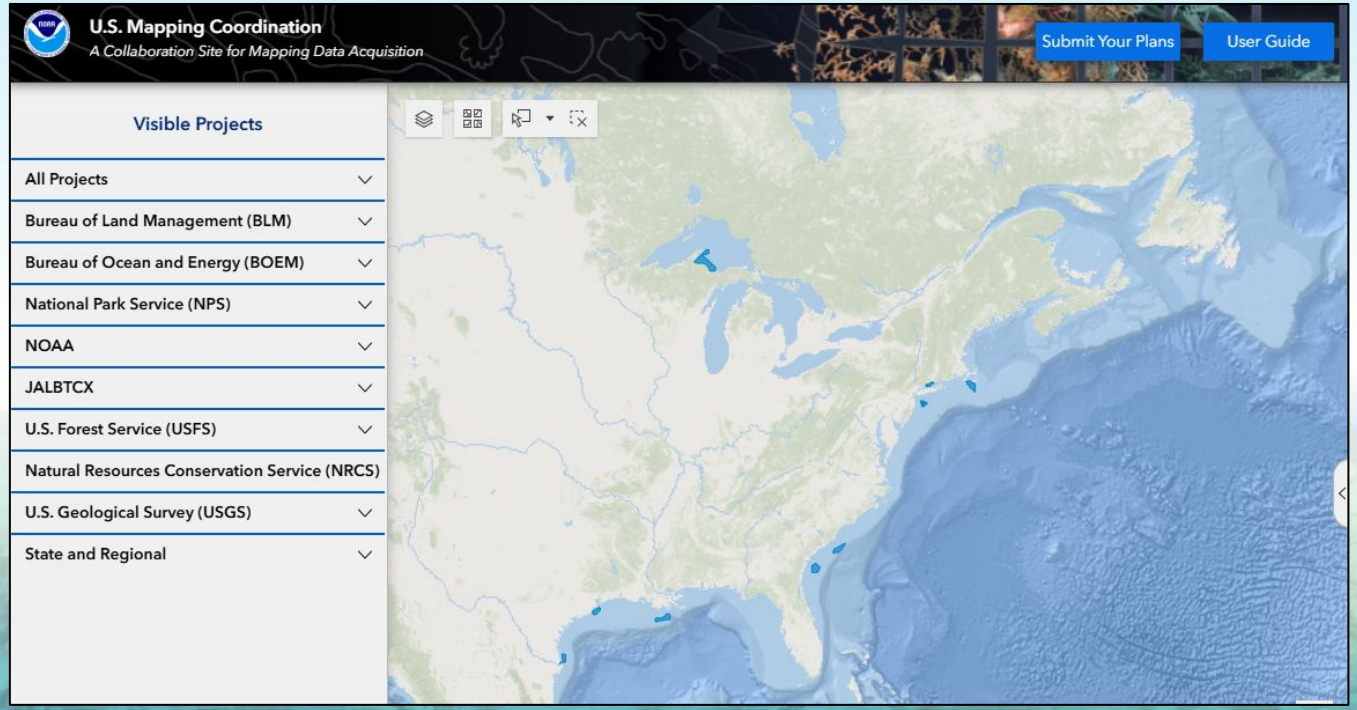
https://iocm.noaa.gov/maps/USMappingCoordination/

Filters

Project Status
- ★ Proposed
- ★ Planned

Calendar Year
- ★ 2027

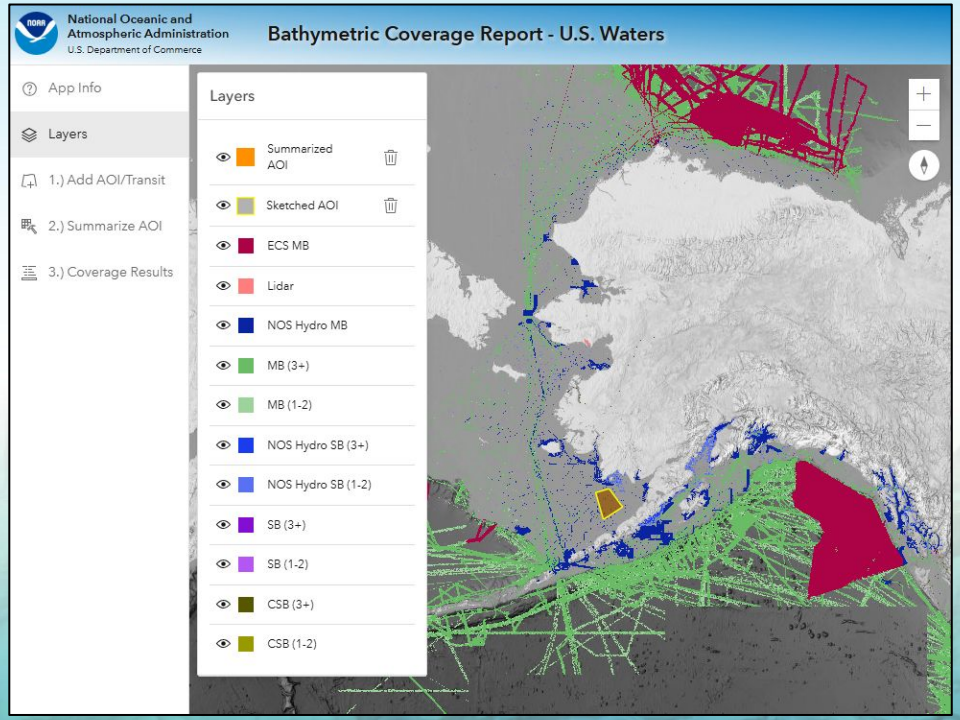
3DEP and 3DHP Priorities
- ★ No

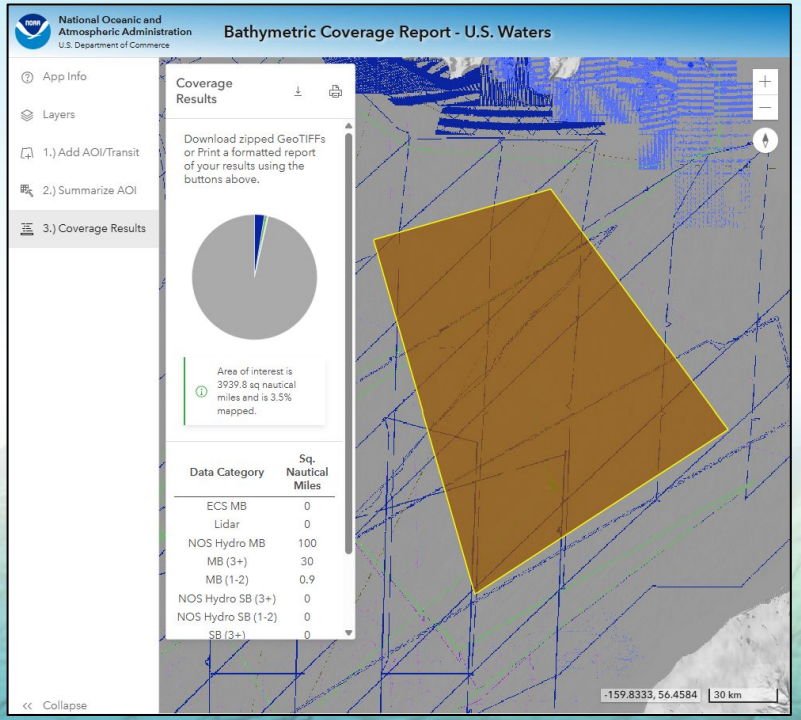


Tools to Use – 2

U.S. Bathymetric Gap Analysis and Coverage Report Tool

https://iocm.noaa.gov/seabed-2030-bathymetry.html

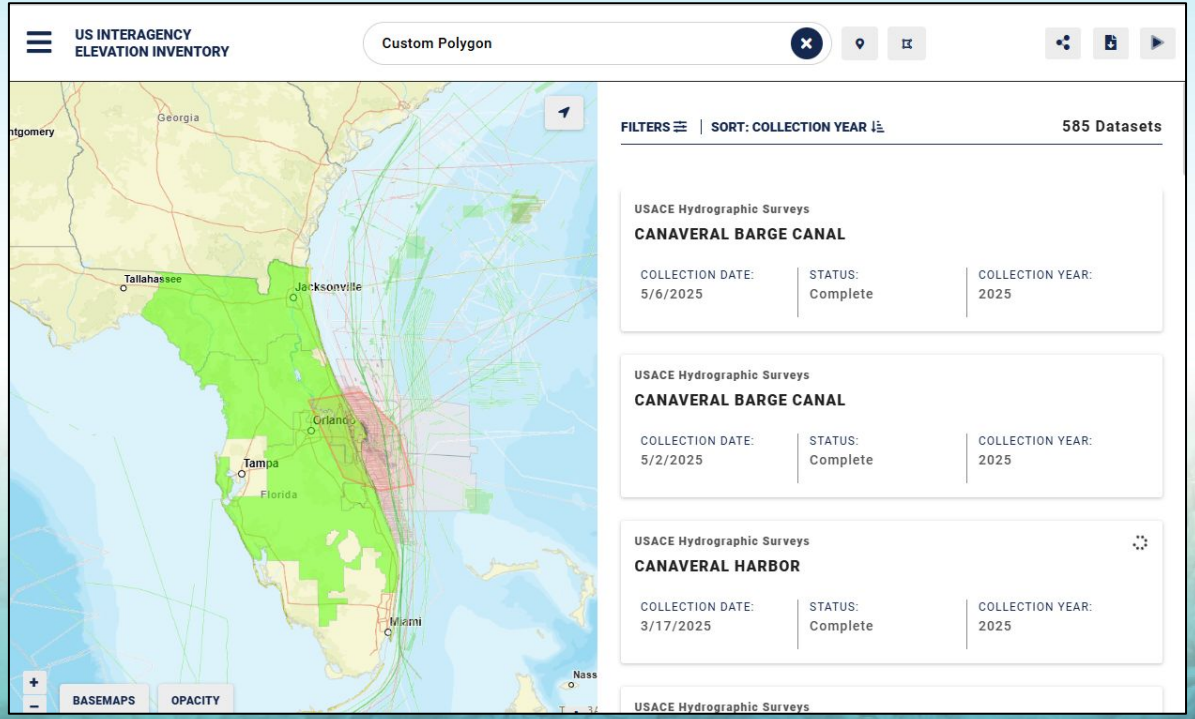




Tools to Use – 3

US Interagency Elevation Inventory

https://coast.noaa.gov/inventory/



United States Interagency Elevation Inventory

- Topographic, Topobathy, Bathymetric Lidar, IfSAR, and other Bathy Surveys.

NOAA

- NOAA Hydrographic Surveys, Non-hydro Multibeam Bathymetry, and Trackline Bathymetry

USACE

- Hydrographic Surveys

USGS

- Inland Bathymetry Surveys

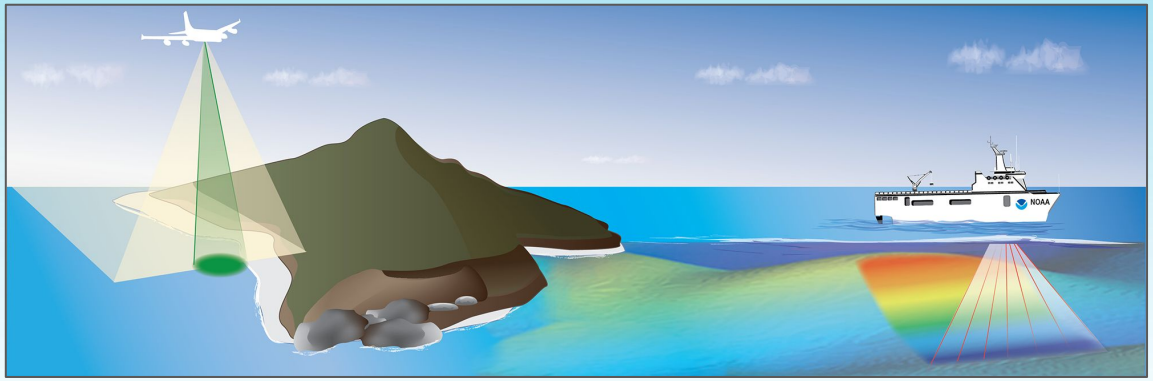
Cost Estimator Worksheet

Email iwgocm.staff@noaa.gov

Rough Order of Magnitude costs for hydrographic/bathymetric surveys and topobathy lidar/imagery

Available upon request

Selecting Your Project Approach



Lidar - shallow water, limited turbidity, cheapest per SNM

Multibeam Sonar - shallow to deep, full point cloud of sea floor. Swath width increases with water depth, so more SNM achievable per dollar in deeper areas

Side Scan Sonar - paired with multibeam in shallow areas to reduce costs, provides image of seafloor without corresponding elevation data

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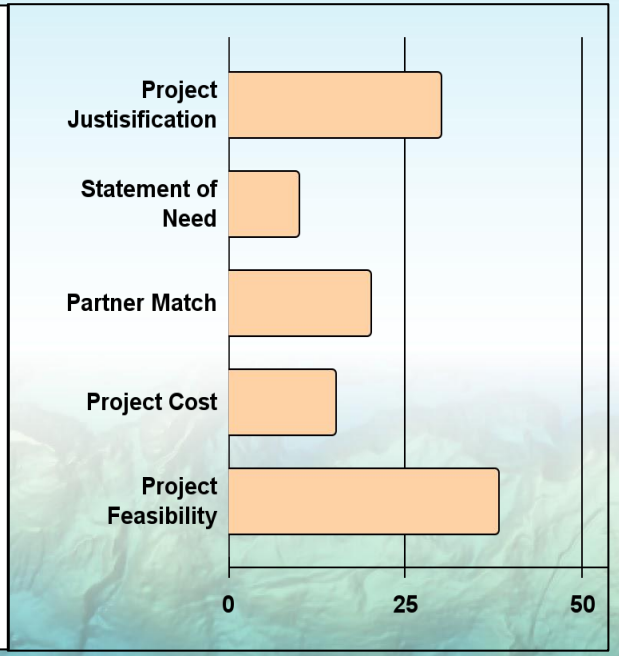
Selection Criteria and Evaluation

Proposals will be evaluated by the Brennan Ocean Mapping Fund Management Team using five weighted criteria totaling 100 points for comprehensive assessment.

- Project justification demonstrating intrinsic IOCM value and relevance to national priorities (30 points)
- Statement of need assessing clarity of project requirements and public benefit (10 points)
- Specified partner match evaluating funding sources and partnership structure (20 points)
- Project costs determining realistic budget and resource allocation (15 points)
- Project feasibility assessing likelihood of success and environmental compliance (25 points)



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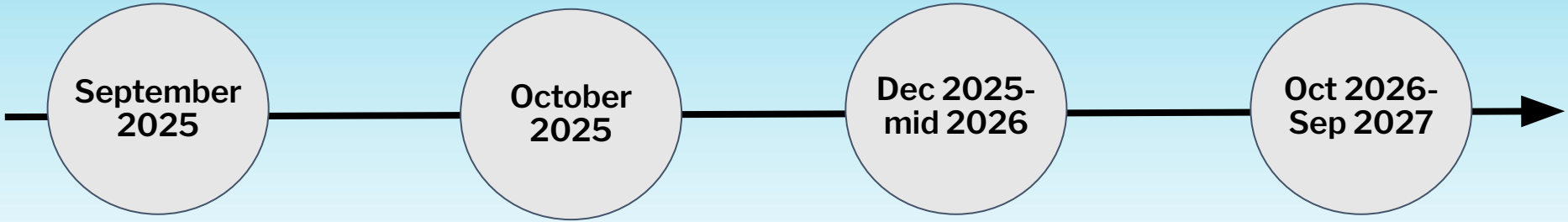
Timeline



Virtual Office Hours

September 19, 2025

10 AM and 5 PM ET

Email to iwgocm.staff@noaa.gov by 11:59 ET on September 17

Proposals Due

October 10, 2025

5 PM ET

Email to iwgocm.staff@noaa.gov

Project Finalization

December 2025
NOAA decides on proposals

Jan - Sept 2026
Agreement on project scope and transfer of funds to NOAA

Contract Execution

October 2026
Partner funds at NOAA

Jan - Sept 2027
NOAA refines project and issues task orders to contractor

Questions?

Proposals and LOIs must be submitted in PDF format
to **iwgocm.staff@noaa.gov**
by **5pm ET, October 10, 2025**

One page letter of interest (LOI):
Tell us what your timing hurdles are, where/what you are interested in, potential partners if more time, etc.

If you have outstanding questions, you can also join us for office hours on September 19
by emailing iwgocm.staff@noaa.gov

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