

# Virginia's Atlantic Coast Recreational Use Mapping Project



Mapping  
Recreational Uses  
through  
Participatory GIS

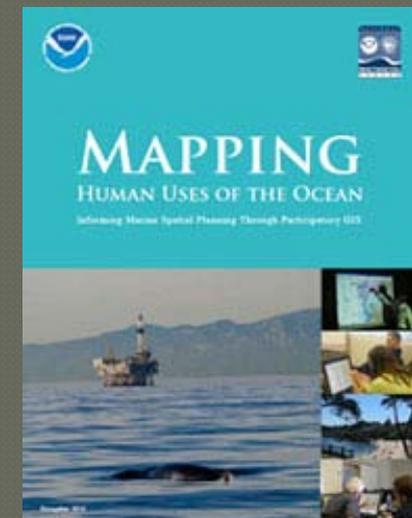
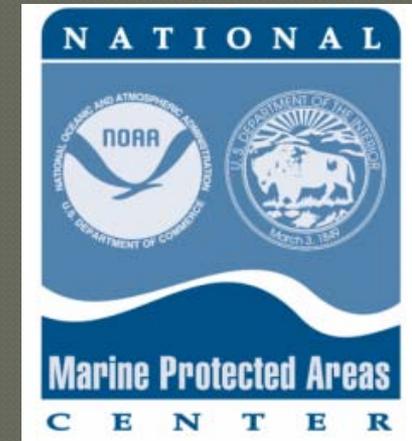
# Challenges in Capturing Recreational Use Data

- Wide range of activity types
- Little spatial data currently available
- Use patterns are difficult to quantify
- Uses are variable in time and/or place
- Use knowledge held by a few key individuals



# Participatory GIS Mapping Method

- NOAA's MPA Center has designed a participatory process to gather ocean use data
- Flexible, transparent, repeatable process
- Relies on local expert knowledge
- Captures broad range of use types
- Applies GIS-based participatory tools
- Yields spatially continuous use data
- Builds stakeholder awareness & support



# Virginia Recreational Uses

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## ◉ Boating for Hire Uses

- Charter trips for fishing, diving & snorkeling, party cruises, wildlife & scenic viewing, & transport

## ◉ Recreational Fishing Uses

- From motorized vessels, from kayak & non-motorized vessels, dive fishing, from the shore

## ◉ General Recreational Uses

- Motorized boating, paddling, sailing, scuba/snorkel/diving, shore use, water sports, swimming

# VA Study Area



Includes:

Atlantic Coast of VA's  
Eastern Shore including  
all seaside bays  
and barrier islands

Follows the CBBT across  
the mouth of the Bay

Captures Lynnhaven Bay

Follows coastline to NC border

Extends to EEZ

# VA's Atlantic Coast Recreational Use Mapping Project – July 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> 2012



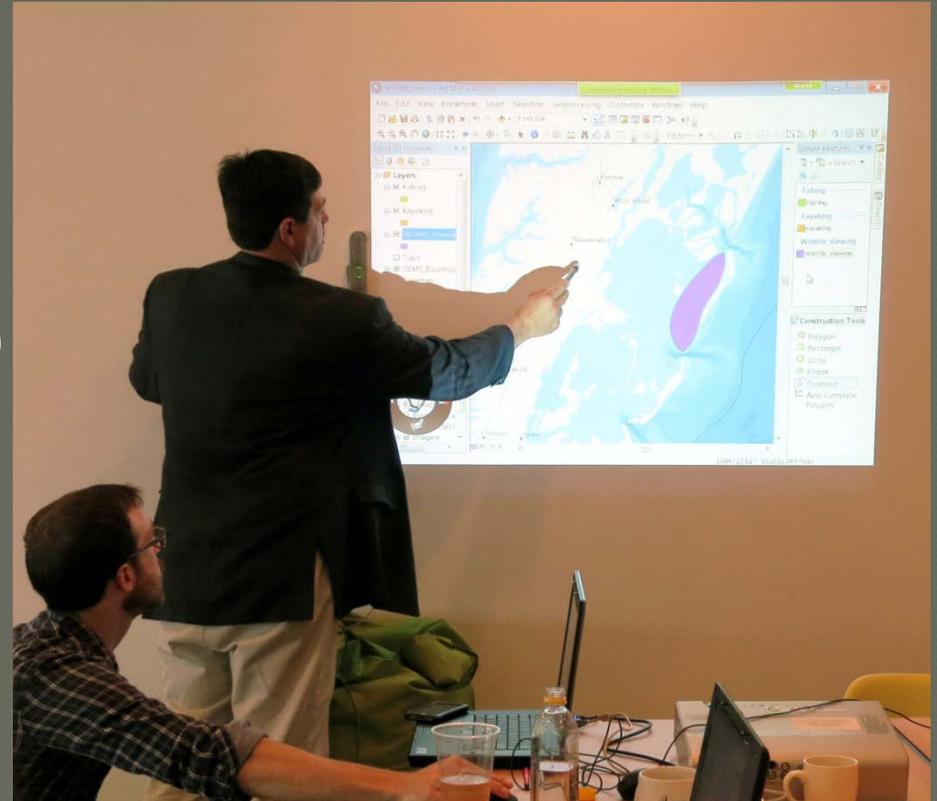
# Participatory Mapping Workshop

## ● Break Out Groups:

- Process Facilitator
- GIS Specialist
- Expert Participants (8-10)

## ● Equipment:

- Laptop with GIS
- Digital Whiteboard
- Variety of basemaps
- List/definitions of uses



# Participatory Mapping Workshop

- Local experts help to map each use
  - location (*spatial range*)
  - intensity (*dominant vs. general*)
  - other use characteristics
- Workshop facilitators & GIS specialists help convert local knowledge into readable maps



**General Use Analysis**  
Areas where the use is shown to occur with some regularity (over the past 3-5 years) regardless of its frequency or intensity.  
The general use patterns show red areas where the use typically deep or false or where it might occasionally occur now or in the future.

**Recreational Use Area**  
Areas where the use is shown to occur with some regularity (over the past 3-5 years) regardless of its frequency or intensity.

**Recreational Fishing from motorized vessels**  
Areas where the use is shown to occur with some regularity (over the past 3-5 years) regardless of its frequency or intensity.



A man with a beard, wearing a green and white plaid shirt, is sitting at a desk in the foreground. He is looking at a laptop screen that displays a map similar to the one on the projection screen. He has his hands on the keyboard and is typing. The desk also has a yellow cup and some other items on it. The man is sitting in a white office chair. The background shows the projection screen and the other people in the room.

Two other people are visible in the room. One man is standing on the right side of the room, looking at the projection screen. Another person is sitting at a desk in the foreground on the right, also looking at a laptop screen that displays a map. The room appears to be a meeting or training room, with people working on computers and looking at a large projection screen.

# After the Workshop

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- ① Compile, review and process use data
- ② Create draft maps from processed data
- ③ Solicit feedback on the draft maps

# Feedback on the Draft Maps

## Virginia Atlantic Coast Recreational Use Maps Review Form

Virginia Atlantic Coast Recreational Use Maps Review Form					
Recreational Use Category (Description in Parentheses)		Please Indicate Your Response by Checking One Box			Comments
		This map accurately reflects my knowledge of this use.	This map is <b>somewhat accurate</b> but I have hand-drawn corrections to it and am returning it to you via email or mail.	This map does not reflect my knowledge of this use and I would like to speak with or meet with project staff to update and revise the information.	
1	Charter Fishing - Six Pack Boats				
2	Charter Fishing - Head Boats				
3	Charter Diving/Snorkeling (charter activity related to recreational dive or snorkel charters)				
4	Charter Party Cruises (charter activity for cruises)				
5	Charter Wildlife Viewing (charter activity focused on wildlife viewing)				
6	Charter Scenic Viewing (charter activity focused on scenic or natural area viewing, photography, historic perspective)				

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- Questions?

- [Nick.Meade@deq.virginia.gov](mailto:Nick.Meade@deq.virginia.gov)