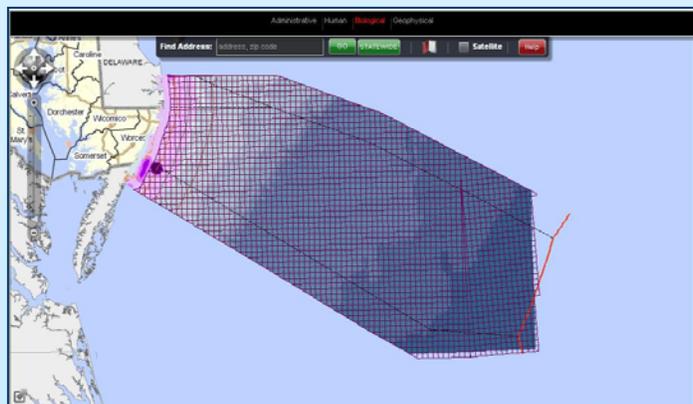


OCEAN PLANNING AND EXAMPLE APPLICATIONS

- Ocean planning, sometimes called Marine Spatial Planning or MSP, is a public process that examines human activities in marine areas over space and time to achieve ecological, economic and social objectives.
- Ocean planning has been used in a variety of ways. Here are just a few examples:
 - To reduce the risk of ship strikes to endangered whales off the Stellwagen Bank in New England. Shipping routes were shifted north reducing shipping strikes of the endangered right whale by 58% and baleen whales by 81%. It also decreased overlap between commercial ships, fishing vessels and whale watch vessels.
 - To document how coastal communities in Maine use and depend on marine resources. This included human uses such as commercial and recreational fishing, boating, near-shore shipping and tourism. Interviews and group meetings were used to gather the use data.
 - Other states in the Northeast, including Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Rhode Island are using this tool to help identify areas for offshore renewable energy



Screen shot from Coastal Atlas. The screen is displaying the ocean area from Maryland's ocean waters out to 200 nautical miles. Some of the visible layers include jurisdictional boundaries, Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) lease blocks, ocean depth and waterbird density.