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OE Program Overview

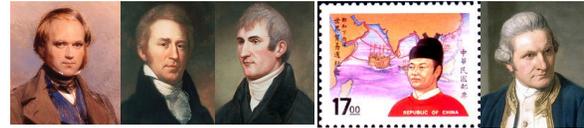
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History and Evolution

What is Ocean Exploration?

True exploration has never been about dashing from A to B but about furthering the bounds of human knowledge by bringing back visual records, scientific data, and samples.

– David M Wilson, polar historian, 2012



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Ocean Exploration Program Review – May 7-8, 2012

What is Ocean Exploration?

Exploration. . .

leaves a legacy of new knowledge that can be used by those not yet born to answer questions not yet posed at the time of exploration.

– President's Panel Report on Ocean Exploration, 2000



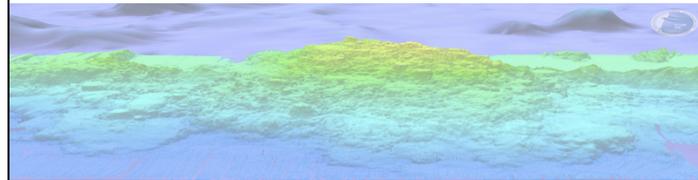
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What is Ocean Exploration?

The NOAA Ocean Exploration Program focuses on unknown and poorly known ocean areas and phenomena, engaging scientists representing multiple scientific disciplines to develop a comprehensive and descriptive characterizations

Our prime objective is to provide a foundation of information to catalyze further exploration and research, to inform management decisions, and to enhance ocean education

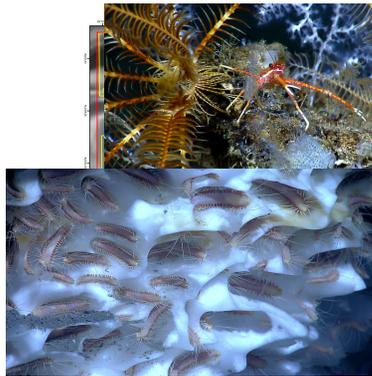


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Outcomes - Results

- Maps and GIS
- Video and still imagery
- Inventories
- Observations – reports
- Environmental data
- Peer-review publications

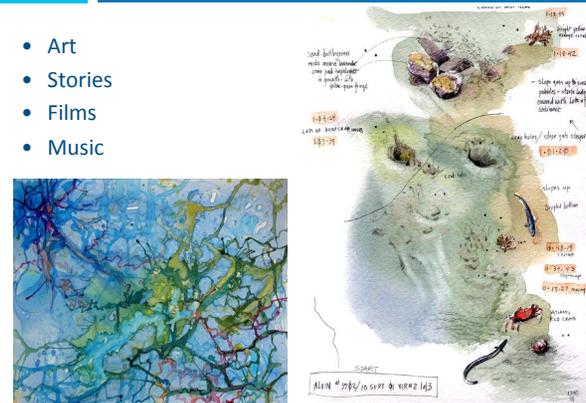


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Outcomes - Results

- Art
- Stories
- Films
- Music

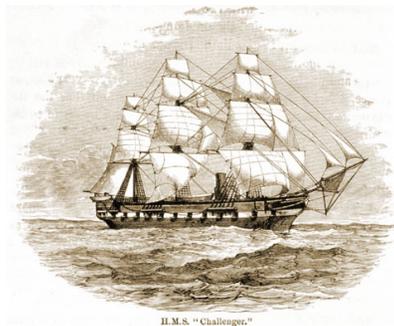


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President's Panel Report – Program Attributes

- Interdisciplinary voyages of discovery



H.M.S. "Challenger."

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President's Panel Report – Program Attributes

- Characterize new areas and phenomena

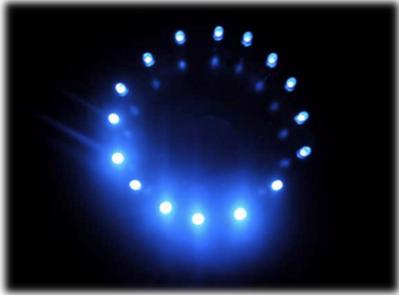


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President's Panel Report – Program Attributes

- Develop new techniques and technologies

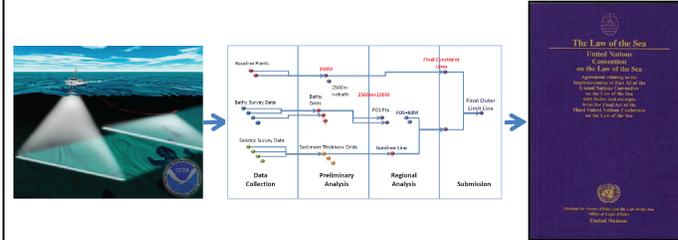


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President's Panel Report – Program Attributes

- Information management and dissemination



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President's Panel Report – Program Attributes

- Engage everyone

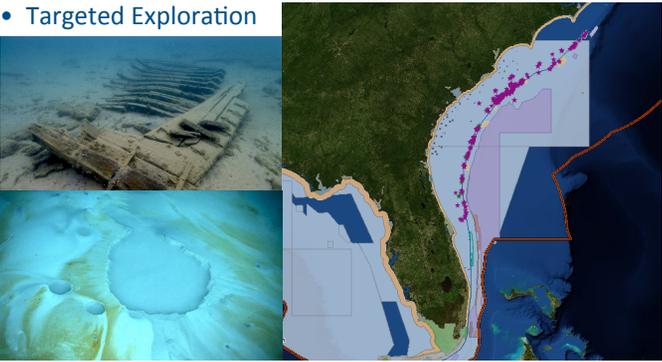
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Evolution of the Program

- Targeted Exploration

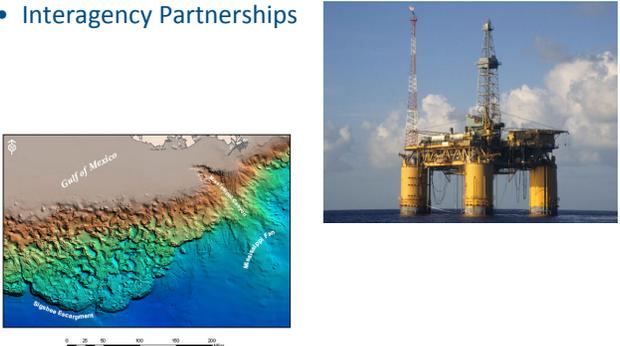


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Evolution of the Program

- Interagency Partnerships



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Interagency Partnerships BOEM - OER



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Evolution of the Program

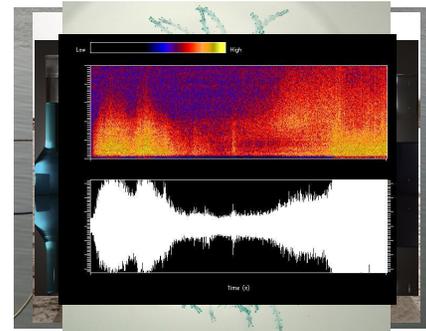
- National Initiatives:
Extended Continental Shelf
Mapping



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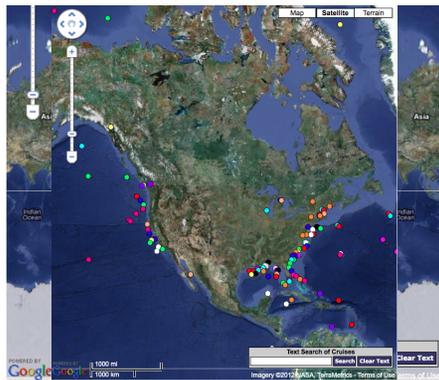
Scope and Diversity



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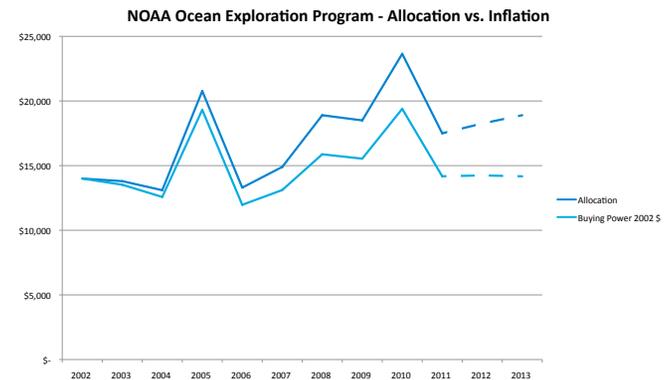
Geographic Distribution



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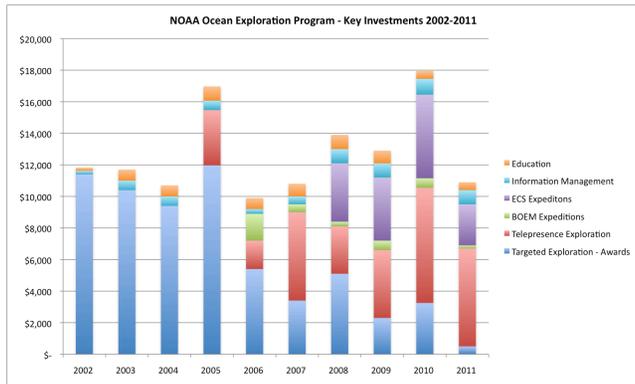
2002-2013 Funding Trends



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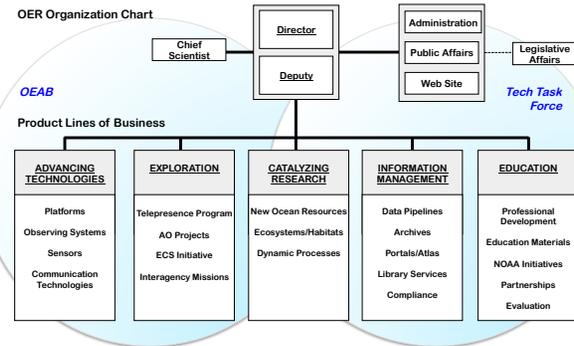
2002-2011 Key Investments



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Program Organization



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In Summary. . .

- Foundations have been laid
- Cornerstones have been set
- Partnerships have been developed
- Results have catalyzed research
- Engagement is growing



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Thoughts and Considerations

- Ocean exploration and the economy
- Establishing a National and international identity
- Maintaining flexibility
- NOAA relevance vs. serving as a catalyst
- Providing a legacy



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