

### Representing Fisheries Footprints in a Suitability Model for Offshore Wind Energy Planning









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# Offshore wind energy development on U.S. West Coast

- OWE areas identified in California and Oregon by BOEM
- Planning efforts have considered conflicts with other ocean users and environmental resources
- BOEM is using a suitability model (NOAA NCCOS) for recent efforts in Oregon and other regions of the U.S.



### Suitability model for Call Areas off Oregon:





## Suitability model for Call Areas off Oregon:



- Data that describes the spatial importance of each grid cell for each submodel
- Each data layer scored/summarized/ standardized by subject matter experts
- Geometric mean calculated for each grid cell across all data layers within each submodel
- Final suitability score was calculated for each grid cell using the geometric mean across all submodels

## Identify potential conflicts between OWE areas and West Coast fisheries



- We were asked to provide data for the Fisheries Submodel
- NMFS and ODFW worked together to determine what data could best represent the space used by West Coast fisheries
  - What metrics?
  - What fisheries?
  - What years of data?

#### Sectors and Years Analyzed (sum over all years)



• Includes catch landed at all ports on the west coast; otherwise only catch landed at OR ports included.

Effort: fishing coordinates, duration fished & amount of fixed gear from state or federal logbooks or ASHOP

Revenue: state or federal logbooks or WCGOP or ASHOP data matched to PacFIN fish ticket database

Marine Resources

Fish & Wildlife

NOAA

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#### Will the distribution of raw data be problematic?



These very few, really high values **de-emphasize** the amount of space used by the fishery...



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• Are we asking the best question?

"How much fishing is associated with a specific location?"

#### Or:

"What are next-best locations to fish and earn income if good locations become off-limits?"

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"What are next-best locations to fish and earn income if good locations become off-limits?"

• With this second question in mind, we decided to **rank transform** the raw effort and revenue data

## How to capture the most important fishery characteristic?

Considerations

- Effort? Revenue? Both metrics?
- Datasets are generally correlated, but...

Decision

Calculate a single combined metric

- Normalize each ranked metric between 0 and 1
- Select highest normalized value between effort and revenue











124.6°W

124.2°W

Select highest value from effort or revenue layer





#### Combined fisheries submodel using Ranked Importance





#### Application of fisheries footprints

 BOEM used these fisheries data, in addition to spatial data across all other submodels

 Final Wind Energy Areas of the coast of southern Cremoniargely avoided the mast broadlyimportant locations for these nine fisheries.

