



# **Enabling Coastal Solutions through IT: Gulf of Maine Ocean Observing System (GoMOOS)**

Tom Shyka, GoMOOS

RNRF Congress on Building Capacity for Coastal Solutions

December 6, 2004

An aerial photograph of a coastal region, likely the Gulf of Maine, showing a mix of blue water and green land. The water is a deep blue, and the land is a lighter green. The coastline is irregular, with several inlets and peninsulas. The text is overlaid on the image.

## Users

- Fishing industry
- Aquaculture
- Shipping
- Recreational boating
- Military
- Research and monitoring
- Search and rescue

## Issues

- Fisheries management
- Harmful algal blooms
- Coastal development
- Offshore development
- Endangered species
- Security
- Climate change

Need: A sustained system for measuring and predicting conditions in the Gulf of Maine

# GoMOOS Goal

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To provide data and information that serve public and private sector needs to:

- Solve practical problems,
- Predict events, and
- Further understand natural systems...  
...in the Gulf of Maine.

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A Coastal Oceanic Analog of the  
National Weather Service ....

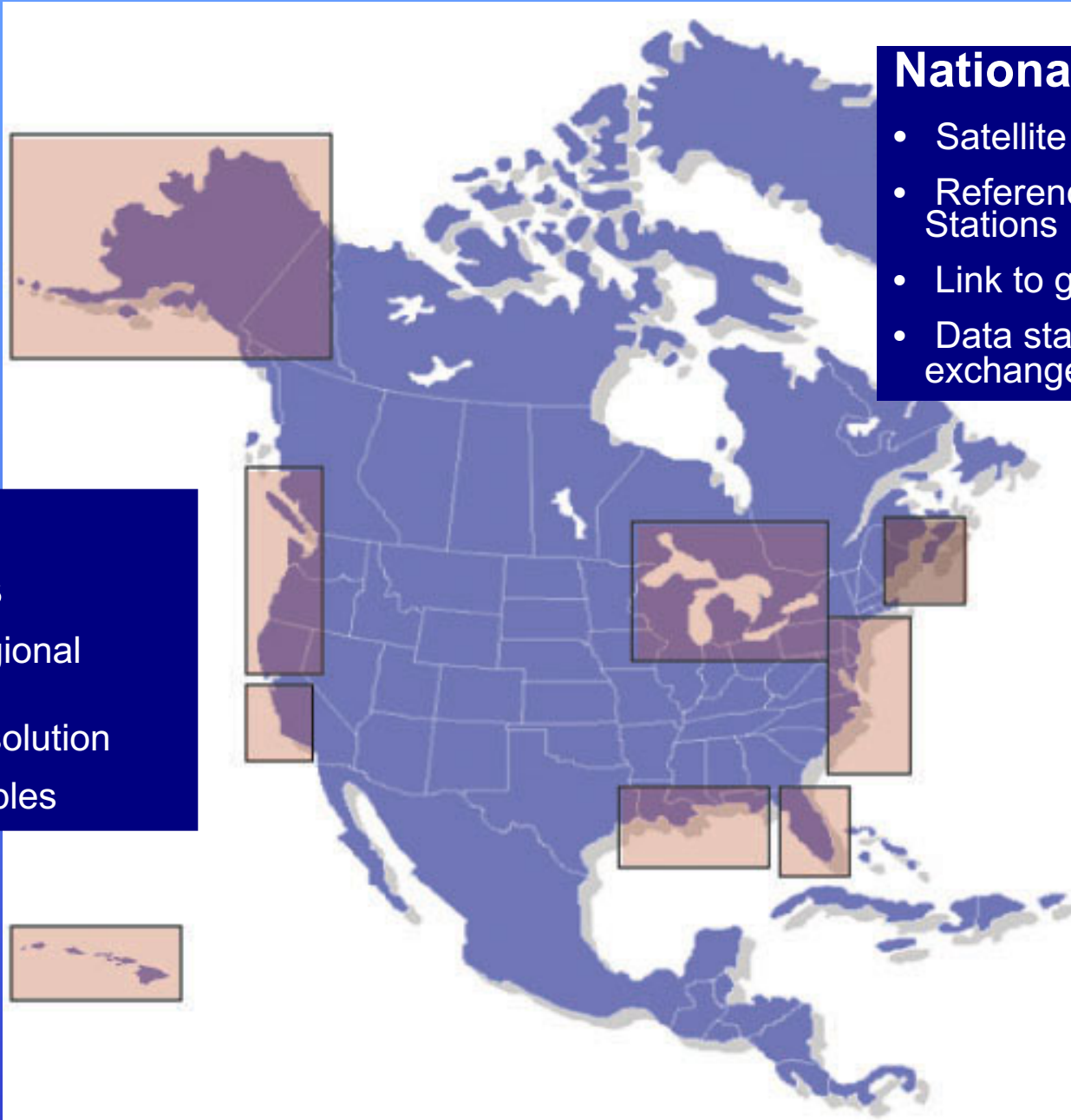
# Integrated Ocean Observing System (IOOS)

## National System

- Satellite remote sensing
- Reference, Sentinel Stations
- Link to global module
- Data standards & exchange protocols

## Regional Systems

- State & Regional Priorities
- Greater resolution
- More variables



# Evolution of GoMOOS

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Began As:

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Ended As:

Research project to  
understand GoM



Utility project to  
facilitate research

Science/PI  
organizational model



Non-profit corporate  
organizational model

Researchers as  
primary users



Researchers as one  
user group among many

# GoMOOS

## A Pilot Regional Ocean Observing System

- Serving all Gulf of Maine – Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, ME, NH, MA
- A public service utility
- Incorporated as a nonprofit entity
- Membership organization – multi-sector
- Governed by a Board of Directors – Elected from membership

Sponsors:







# Membership

## **Research/Education:**

Bedford Institute of Oceanography  
Bigelow Laboratory for Ocean Science  
Dalhousie University  
Maine Maritime Academy

National Undersea Research Center at  
University of Connecticut

Rutgers University

University of Maine

University of Mass. – Dartmouth

University of New Hampshire

University of Rhode Island

Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute

## **Marine:**

Atlantic Pilotage Authority

Eastport Port Authority

Federal Marine Terminals

Penobscot Bay & River Pilots Assn.

Saint John Marine Pilots

Saint John Port Authority

## **Industry:**

Bath Iron Works

Connor Brothers, Ltd.

Horizon Marine Inc.

Maine Lobstermen Association

Mass. Lobstermen Association

NOBSKA Development Corp.

OEA Technologies, Inc.

Portland Pipe Line Corporation

RD Instruments Inc.

Satlantic, Inc.

## **Government:**

Maine Dept. of Marine Resources

Maine Science & Technology Foundation

Maine State Planning Office

MIT Sea Grant

NOAA - Northeast Fisheries Science Center

Mass. Coastal Zone Management

Mass. Water Resources Authority

Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary

USGS – Woods Hole Field Center

## **Nonprofit:**

Gulf of Maine Aquarium

Island Institute

New England Aquarium

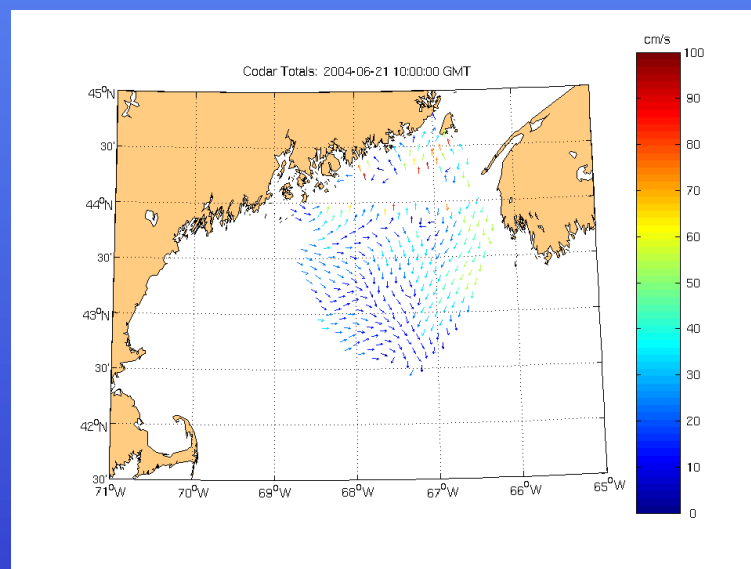
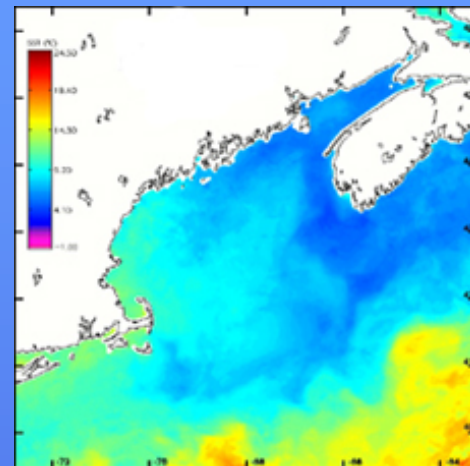
# Data Acquisition

Buoys -- Near real-time oceanographic and meteorological conditions

Satellite -- Big picture view of the Gulf of Maine

Models -- Forecasts of Gulf wide circulation, temperature, salinity and waves

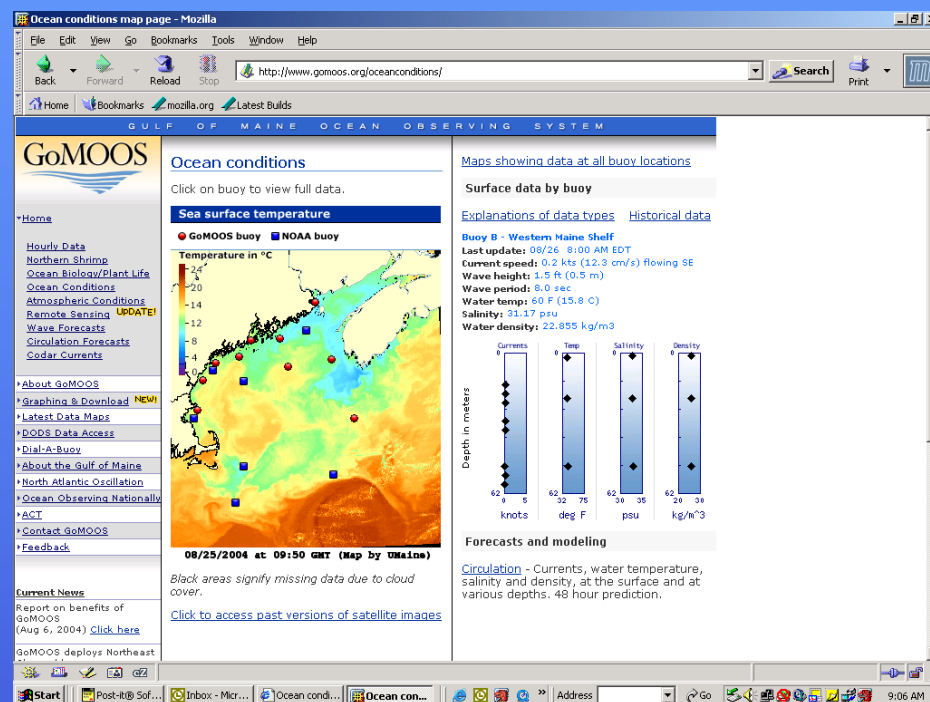
HF Radar -- Hourly maps of surface currents





# Data Management and Product Development

- Data management
  - Processing, distributing, and archiving
- Data/Information product development
  - Identifying users needs
  - Developing tools to meet user requirements



# Requirement from Users and IOOS

- Sharing/Integration of data across organizations
- Addressing IT and organizational/institutional issue around sharing data

# Issues to Integrating Data

- Many organizations collect data but:
  - Data is stored in different formats
  - Limited connectivity between data sets
  - No standard way to discover data
  - Difficulty in integrating data from different sources
  - Unique policies and procedures per institute

# Gulf of Maine Spatial Data Project: Addressing data sharing issues

FGDC/GeoConnections Cooperative  
Agreements Program:

- Create an environment for data sharing in the Gulf of Maine based on adopted international standards
- Demonstrate data sharing between US and Canadian institutions for a common geographic region - the Gulf of Maine

# Gulf of Maine Spatial Data Project Outcomes

- Access and integrate data in real time from multiple sources
- Address dynamic resource management issues using shared spatial data
- Ensure the widest range of potential users of spatial data have access for their specific application

# GoMOOS Proposal and Project Steps

- Identify Partners and Data
- Implementing data interoperability standard
- Develop a portal for sharing and integrating data
- Develop a demonstration tool that uses data for specific issue
- Document project issues and solutions



# Step 1: Identify Project Partners for International Collaboration

## Lead Partners

- GoMOOS
- DM Solutions Group

## Proposal Partners

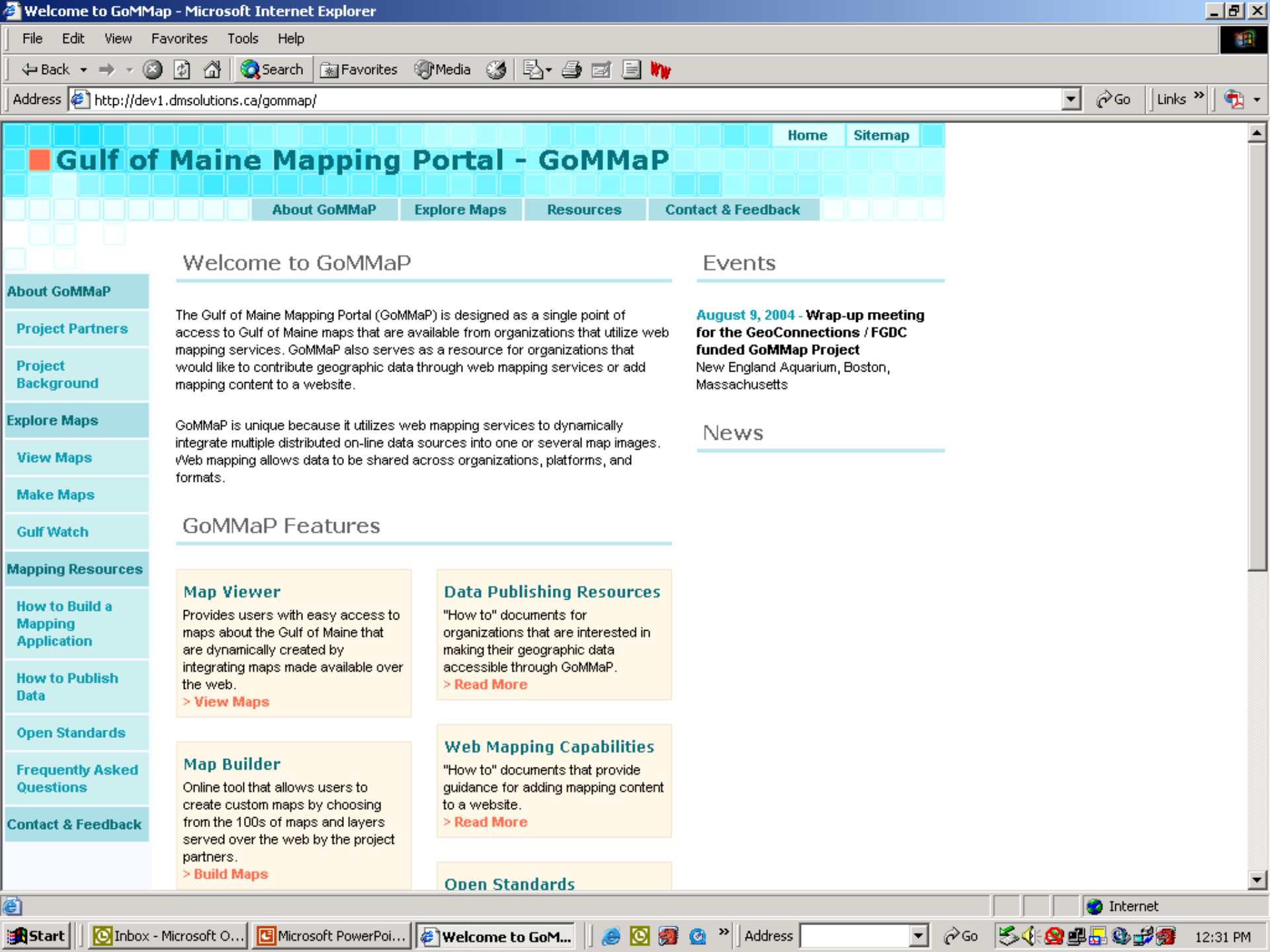
- Bedford Institute of Oceanography
- Canadian Hydrographic Survey
- Census of Marine Life - Gulf of Maine Program
- Geologic Survey of Canada
- Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment
  - Gulf of Maine Mapping Initiative (GOMMI)
- Massachusetts office of Coastal Zone Management
- me3 Technology Consultants
- NOAA - Coastal Services Center
- NOAA - Northeast Fisheries Science Center
- USGS - Woods Hole Field Center

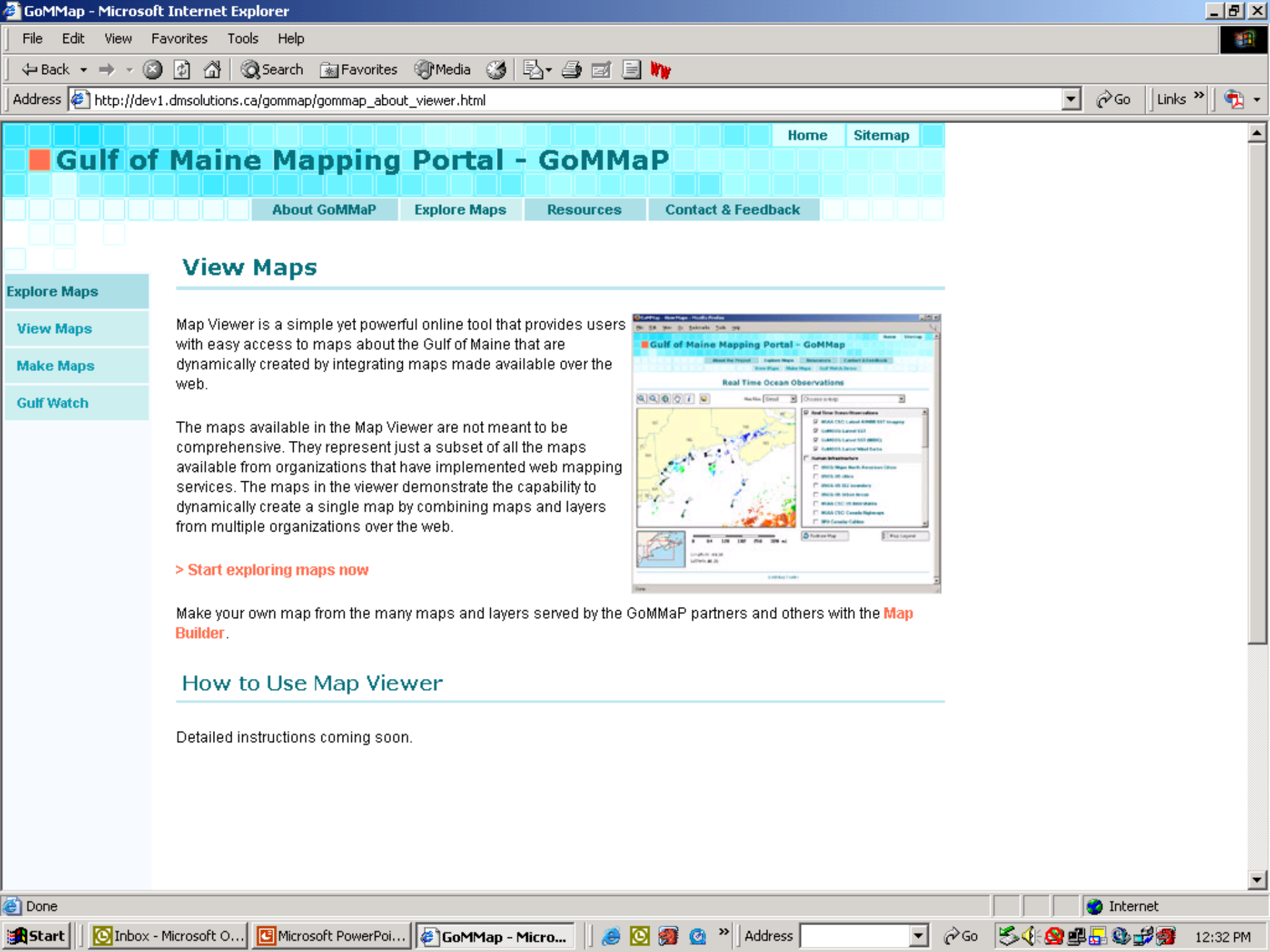
## Step 2: Implement an Interoperability Standard

- Web Mapping Service (WMS)
  - Open GeoSpatial Consortium (OGC)
  - Dynamic sharing of maps via the web
- Implement standard with partners
  - Data owners maintain and provide access to most current spatial data
  - Partners decide on platforms and software
- Provide organizational and technical support by the project leaders

## Step 3: Develop Data Portal and Demonstration Products

- Gulf of Maine Mapping Portal (GoMMaP)
  - Integrating data and resources
- Gulfwatch mapping tool
  - Contaminant mapping
- OpenIOOS mapping tools
  - Putting the “I” in IOOS





# Gulf of Maine Mapping Portal - GoMMap

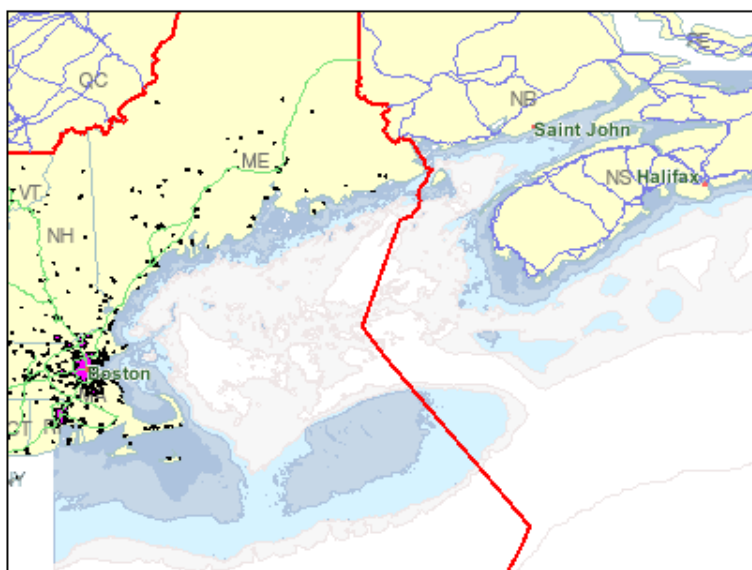
[About GoMMap](#)[Explore Maps](#)[Resources](#)[Contact & Feedback](#)[View Maps](#)[Make Maps](#)[Gulf Watch Demo](#)

## Human Infrastructure



MapSize: Small

Choose a map

☐ Real Time Ocean Observations

- ☐ NOAA CSC: Latest AVHRR SST Imagery
- ☐ GoMOOS: Latest SST
- ☐ GoMOOS: Latest SST (NDBC)
- ☐ GoMOOS: Latest Wind Barbs

☐ Human Infrastructure

- ☒ USGS: Major North American Cities
- ☐ USGS: US cities
- ☒ USGS: US EEZ boundary
- ☒ USGS: US Urban Areas
- ☒ NOAA CSC: US Interstates
- ☒ NOAA CSC: Canada Highways



0 64 128 192 256 320 mi

Longitude: -62.98

Latitude: 45.11

Redraw Map

Map Legend



# Gulf of Maine Mapping Portal - GoMMap

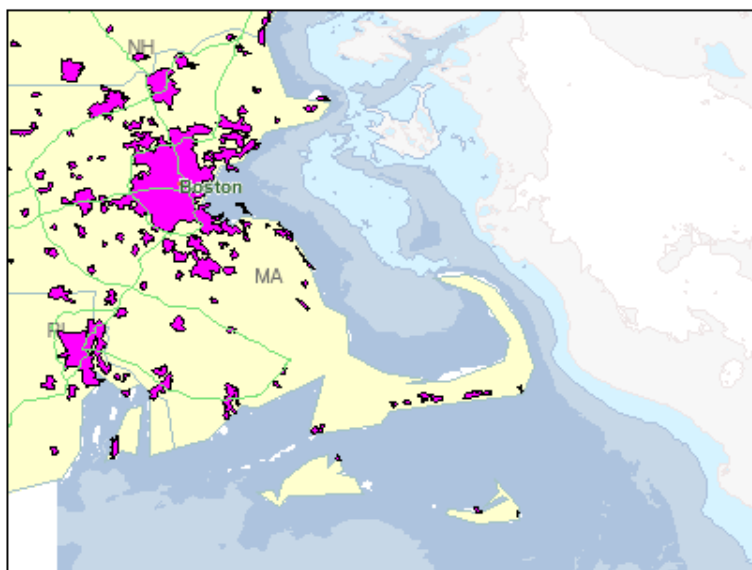
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☐ Human Infrastructure

- ☒ USGS: Major North American Cities
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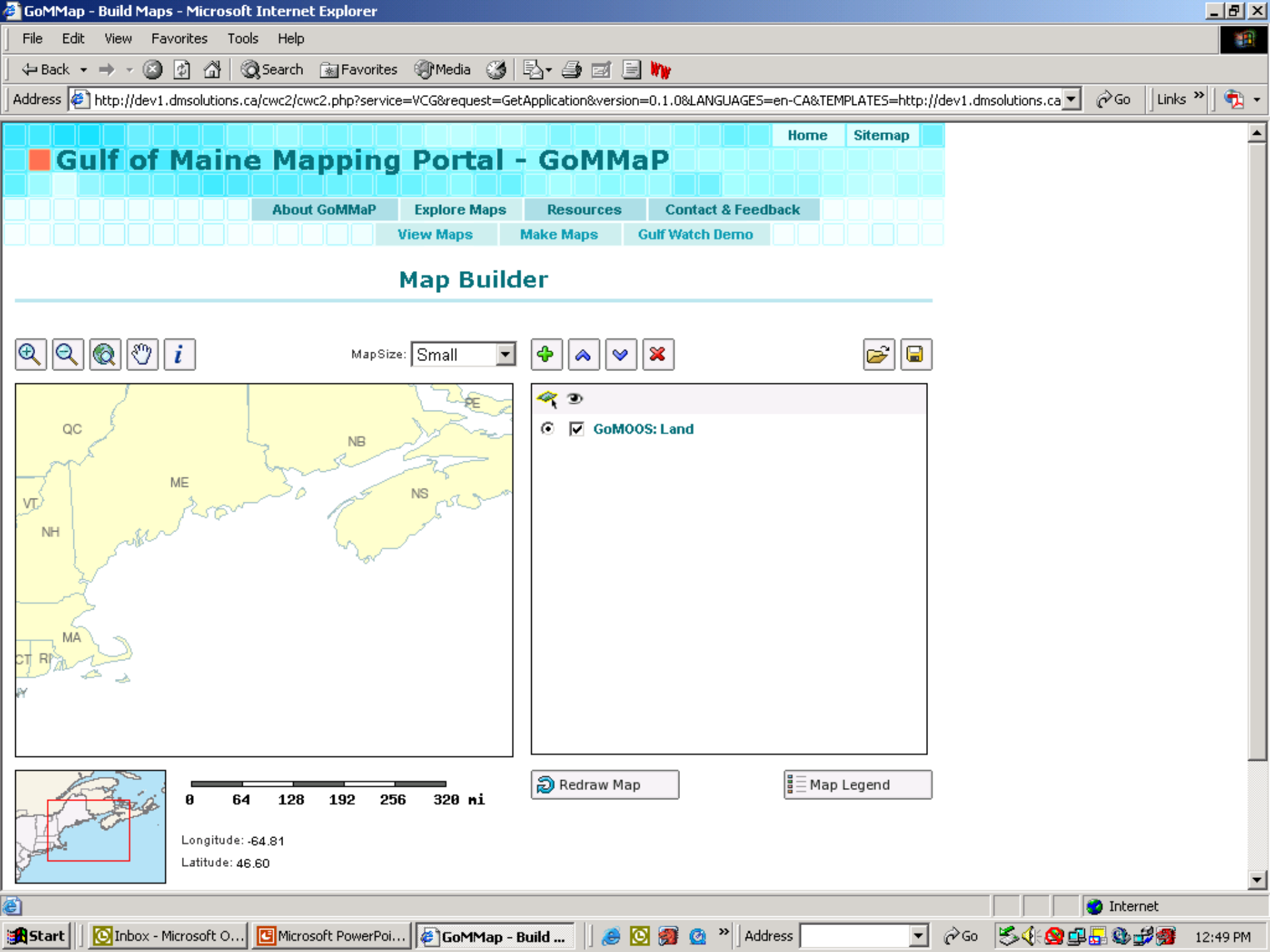
0 18 36 54 72 90 mi

Longitude: -69.180

Latitude: 41.109

Redraw Map

Map Legend



GoMMap - Build Maps - Microsoft Internet Explorer

File Edit View Favorites Tools Help

Back Forward Stop Home Search Favorites Media

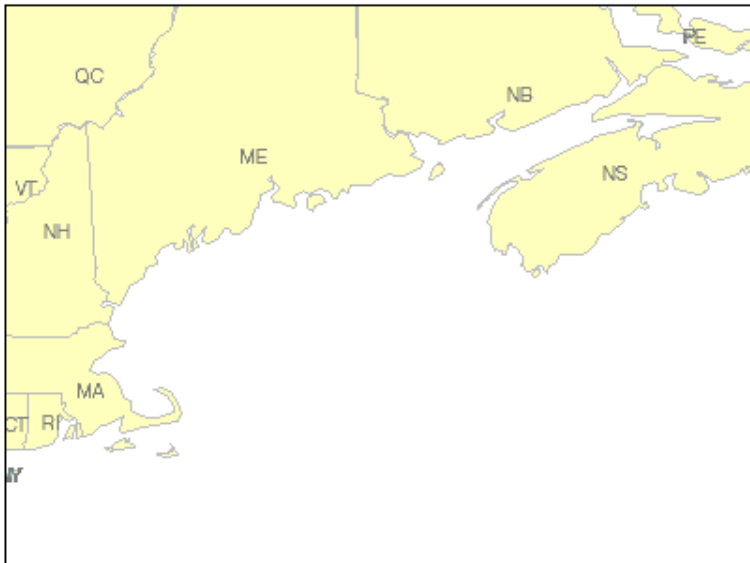
Address <http://www.gommap.org/cwc2/cwc2.php?service=VCG&request=GetAp>

## Gulf of Maine Mapping Portal

About GoMMap Explore Maps View Maps


### Map Builder

MapSize: Small



0 64 128 192 256 320 mi

Longitude:  
Latitude:



Map Browser - Microsoft Internet Explorer

### Explore WMS Layers

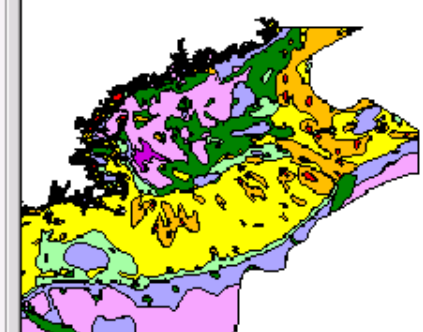
**BROWSE:** Select a server in the list below to browse its WMS layers.  
**SEARCH:** Supply search terms in the field below and click the search button.  
Select 'Search Results' from the list at any time to browse the found WMS layers.  
**ADD TO MAP:** Click the 'add to map' button at the bottom of this dialog to add the selected layer.

USGS - Woods Hole Servers

enter search terms Search

WMS Map Server

- Gulf\_of\_Maine
  - map\_extent
  - Canada
  - NOS80k
  - State Bounds
  - Water features: bay, estuary, stream, lake
  - Lakes
  - US urban areas
  - Major Water (rivers, lakes)
  - US cities
  - Continental Margin sediment distribution**
  - US EEZ boundary
  - Fed/State boundary



**Abstract:** Continental Margin sediment distribution  
no abstract

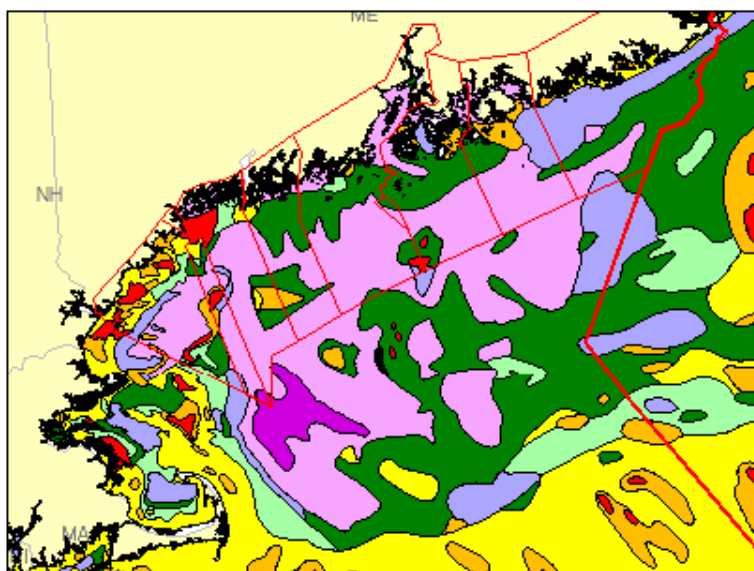
+ Add Layer X Close

[Home](#)[Sitemap](#)

# Gulf of Maine Mapping Portal - GoMMap

[About GoMMap](#)[Explore Maps](#)[Resources](#)[Contact & Feedback](#)[View Maps](#)[Make Maps](#)[Gulf Watch Demo](#)

## Map Builder

MapSize: Small

- ☒ **Maine lobster zones**
- ☒ **US EEZ boundary**
- ☒ **Continental Margin sediment distribution**
- ☒ **GoMOOS: Land**



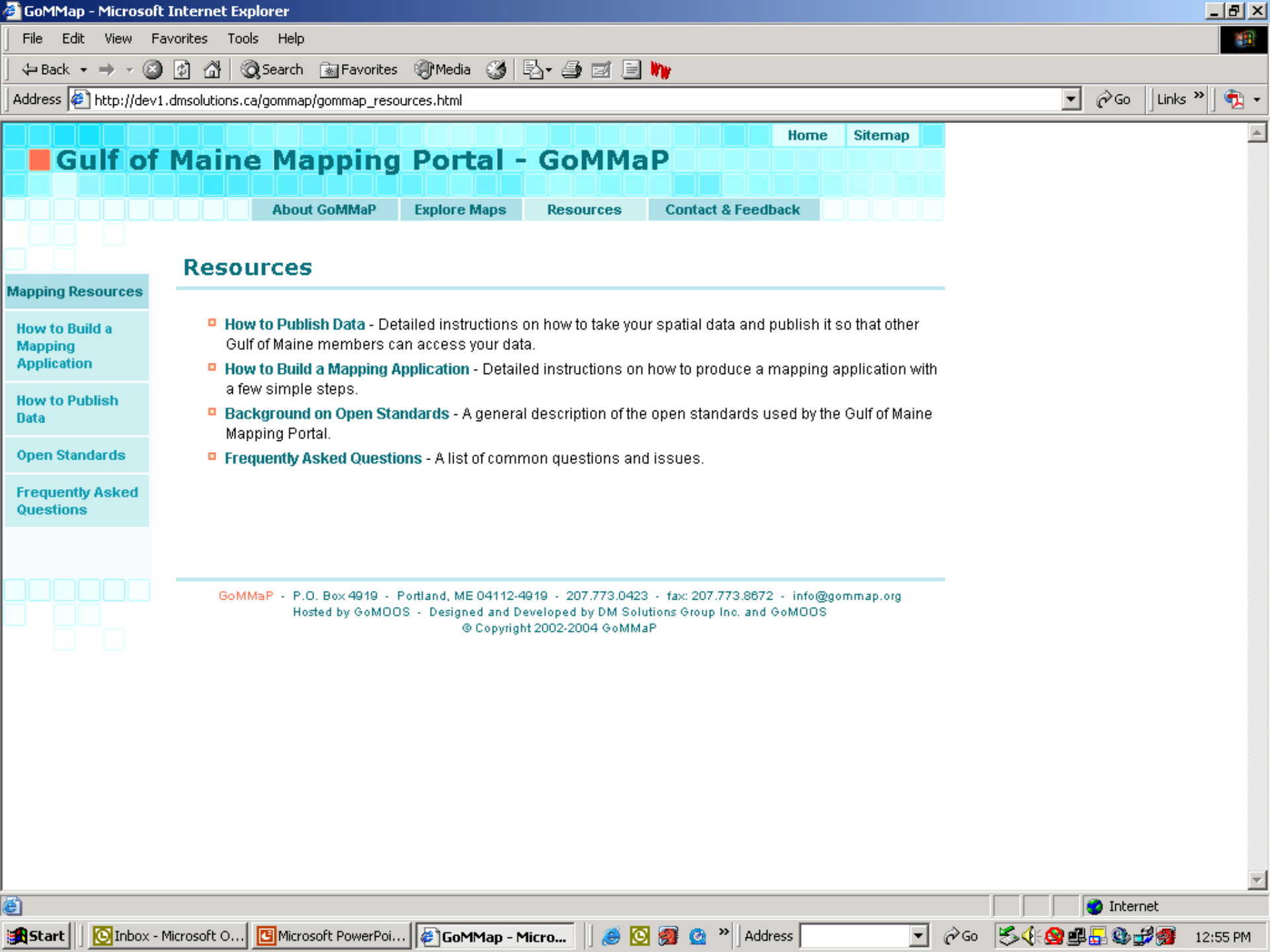
0 32 64 96 128 160 mi

Longitude: -66.76

Latitude: 43.16

Redraw Map

Map Legend





## Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment

Promoting cooperation to maintain and  
enhance environmental quality

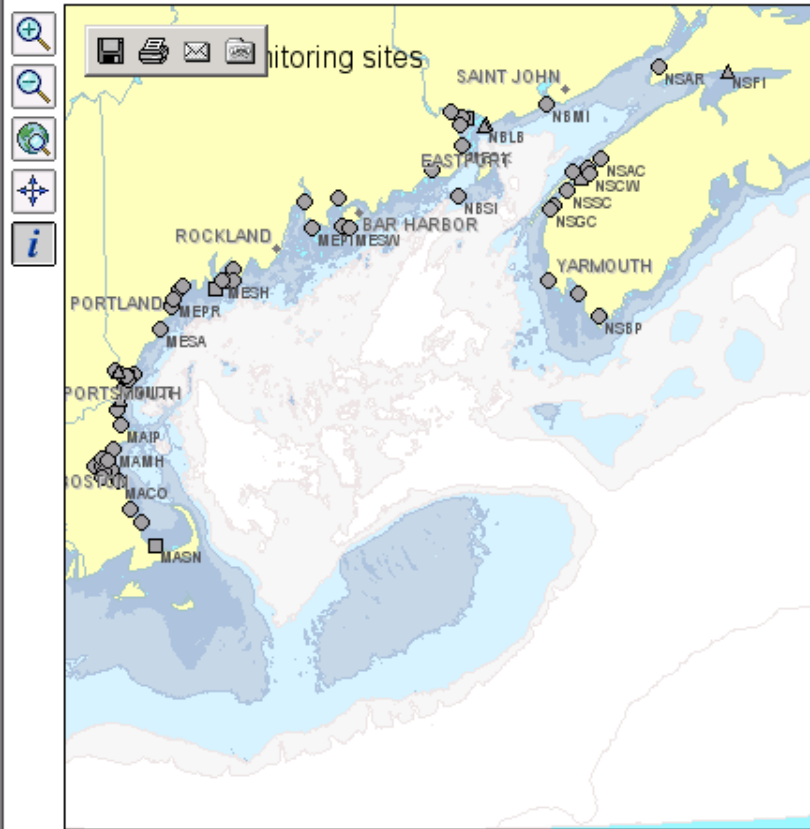
### Gulfwatch Contaminants Monitoring Program > Mapping Tool

An interactive map for displaying data on contaminants in blue mussels since 1993

DATA

GRAPHS

ABOUT



#### Select Data:

Year:

Contaminant:

Select year

Select contaminant

View Sites

Update Map

Map Layers

#### Zoom to region:

Select zoom region

**Gulfwatch** is a chemical contaminants monitoring program organized and administered by the Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment.

#### Gulfwatch monitoring sites for the 9-year review

A total of 38 sites between 1993 - 2001 have been used to collect blue mussel (*Mytilus edulis*) tissue to be analyzed for a variety of contaminants. Sampling program consisted of three types: those sampled annually (5 benchmark sites); those sampled every three years (27 rotational sites); and some multi-year sites (6) were sampled 4 to 6 years. Since 1991, Gulfwatch has collected blue mussels at 14 other sites (data not shown here) on a less frequent basis.

- ☐ Sampled every year (benchmark site)
- ☒ Sampled every 3 years
- ☐ Sampled every 4 - 6 years

Click any site on the map

[List of site locations](#)







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### Gulfwatch Contaminants Monitoring Program > Mapping Tool

An interactive map for displaying data on contaminants in blue mussels since 1993

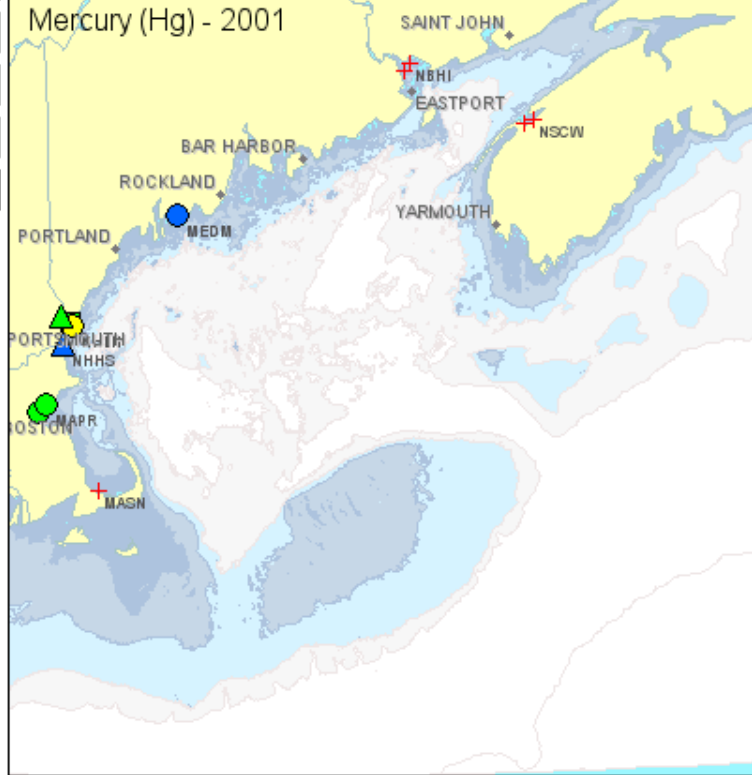
DATA

GRAPHS

ABOUT



#### Median Concentrations Mercury (Hg) - 2001



#### Select Data:

Year:

2001

Contaminant:

Mercury (Hg)

View Sites

Update Map

Map Layers

#### Zoom to region:

Select zoom region

**Gulfwatch** is a chemical contaminants monitoring program organized and administered by the Gulf of Maine Council on the Marine Environment.

#### Mercury (Hg)

(ug/g dry weight)

Click any site on the map for detailed information.



0 - .2



.21 - .4



.41 - .79



.8 - 1.19



1.2 - 1.48



&gt; 1.48



Sampled very year



every 3 years



every 4 - 6 years



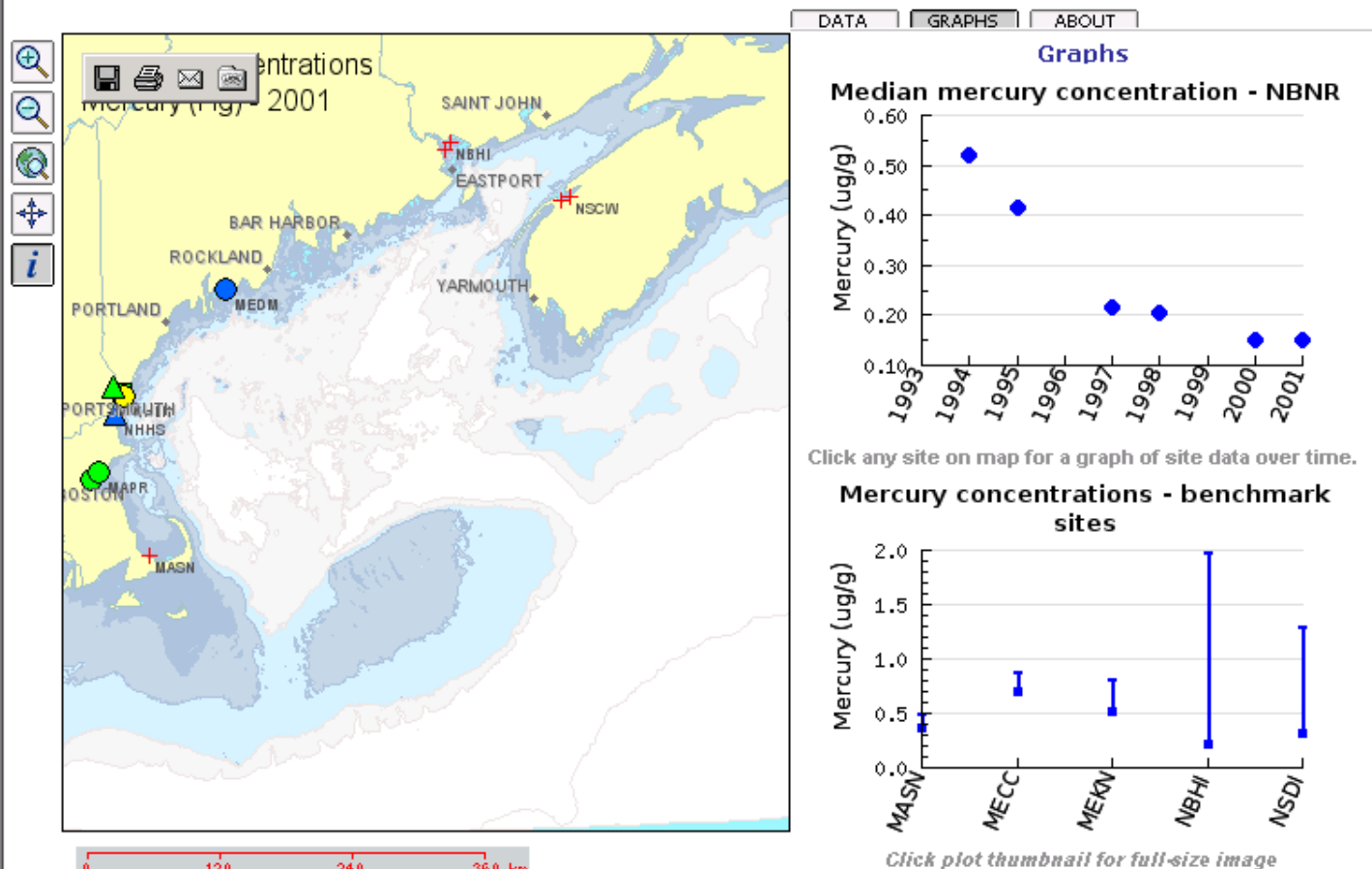
Statistically significant trend

Concentrations are micro or nano-grams per gram of dry weight of mussel tissue. Colors represent different ranges for different contaminants.



## Gulfwatch Contaminants Monitoring Program > Mapping Tool

An interactive map for displaying data on contaminants in blue mussels since 1993





Gulf of Maine  
Council on the  
Marine Environment

Promoting cooperation to maintain and  
enhance environmental quality

## Gulfwatch Contaminants Monitoring Program > Mapping Tool

Contaminants from mussel tissue in the Gulf of Maine



Median Concentrations  
ppDDE - 1999



DATA GRAPHS ABOUT

### Select Data:

Year: 1999 Contaminant: ppDDE

Update Map

Map Layers

### Zoom to region:

Select zoom region

### ppDDE

Nano-grams / gram dry weight (ng/g dry wt.)

- + ≤ 1.2
- > 1.5 and ≤ 5
- > 5 and ≤ 10
- > 10 and ≤ 15
- > 15 and ≤ 20
- > 20

Warning: Bubble size represents different  
concentration ranges for different contaminants.

*Click on a site for more information.*

Layer Manager - Microsoft Internet Explorer




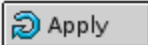
File Edit View Favorites Tools Help



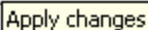
Back Forward Stop Home Search Favorites Media

### Layer Manager

1) The column of radio buttons selects an "active" layer. Use the promote and demote buttons to move an active layer up or down in the draw order. Use the delete button to remove an active layer from the map composition.  
2) The column of checkboxes toggles the layer visibility in the map composition.  
3) Click the apply button to apply changes to the map composition.

Active Layer

#### Mass\_GIS\_WMS

- ☐ MA Major Ponds (Mass. GIS WMS)
- ☒ MA Major Watersheds (Mass. GIS WMS)
- ☐ MA Shellfish sampling stations (Mass. GIS WMS)
- ☐ MA Shellfish growing areas (Mass. GIS WMS)

#### Canada\_Atlas\_WMS

- ☐ Pop. Place Labels (CA Atlas WMS)
- ☐ Pop. Places (CA Atlas WMS)
- ☐ Water 1:2M (CA Atlas WMS)
- ☐ Drainage 1:2M (CA Atlas WMS)
- ☐ Drainage 7.5m (CA Atlas WMS)

#### USGS\_WMS

- ☐ Gulf of Maine 10m bathymetry (USGS WMS)


#### NOAA\_WMS

- ☐ Pop. Places (US NOAA WMS)

Promoting cooperation to maintain and enhance environmental

PHS ABOUT

Contaminant:  
pDDE



n:  
n

am dry weight (ng/g dry wt.)

5  
0  
15  
20

size represents different  
anges for different contaminants.

a site for more information.

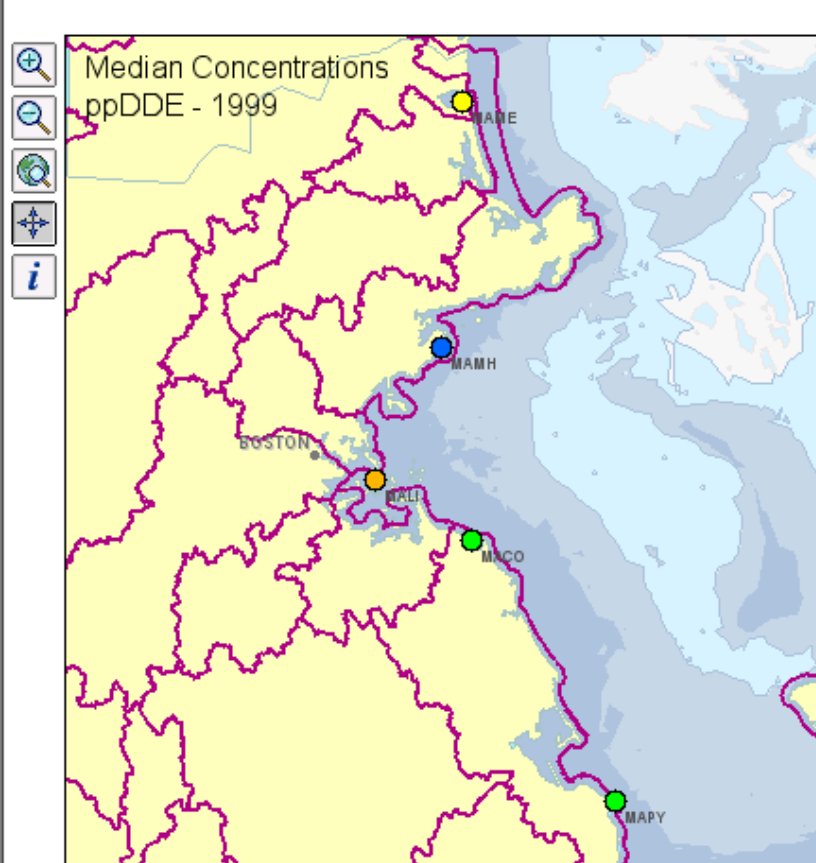


Gulf of Maine  
Council on the  
Marine Environment

Promoting cooperation to maintain and  
enhance environmental quality

## Gulfwatch Contaminants Monitoring Program > Mapping Tool

Contaminants from mussel tissue in the Gulf of Maine



DATA GRAPHS ABOUT

### Select Data:

Year: 1999 Contaminant: ppDDE

Update Map

Map Layers

### Zoom to region:

Select zoom region

### ppDDE

Nano-grams / gram dry weight (ng/g dry wt.)

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Warning: Bubble size represents different  
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*Click on a site for more information.*



## Welcome to [www.openioos.org](http://www.openioos.org)

### About OpenIOOS.org *...where standards enable innovation*

This fairly new site is an information center for a community effort to demonstrate interoperability using [Open GIS Consortium](#) (OGC) standards. Here you will find information, news and links for our interoperability demo. We update the site frequently, so check back often. For detailed project information visit the [project wiki](#).

### About IOOS

This demo supports a national effort to create an Integrated Ocean Observing System (IOOS). The [OceanUS](#) office plans and coordinates the IOOS in cooperation with the [NOPP](#) Federal agencies and the [National Federation of Regional Associations](#). The OceanUS [Data Management and Communications \(DMAC\) plan](#) provides the framework for interoperability.

### Latest News



[Click here](#) for the new Hurricane version of the IOOS Interoperability demo. The demo is still in development but represents the efforts of many organizations to provide and integrate data relevant to Atlantic hurricanes.

[Click here](#) for the latest version of the Interoperability demo. It is still under development and reasonably stable. Detailed information about this version of the demo can be found on the [here](#) on the project wiki.

### Links

[Latest update of the Interoperability Demo](#) showing SST and wind observations from multiple partners. This application uses WFS to retrieve data, using a PostGIS database as the local cache. The result is an application that is fully OGC compliant, with the performance of a local data source.

The [original Interoperability Demo](#) shows SST and wind observations from multiple partners using WMS.



IOOS OGC Compliant  
Prototype Hurricane Observations

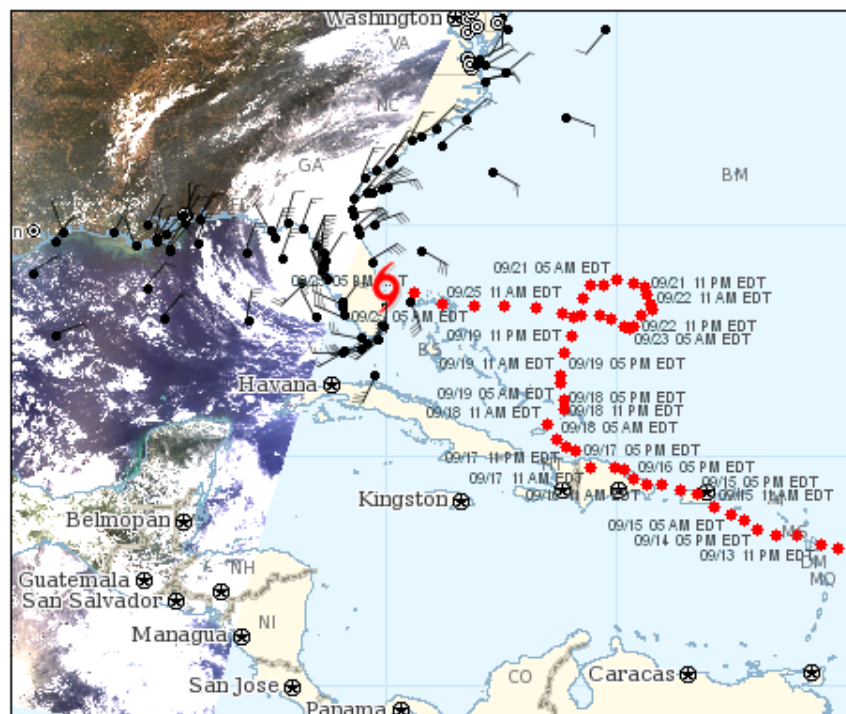
Zoom to: North America



Filter by Time and Date

Date: September 26 2004

Time: 3:00:00 Time Zone: -04



0 290 580 870 1160 1450 mi

This is an experimental product and should not be relied on for official hurricane information.  
For official National Weather Service products go to [The National Hurricane Center website](http://www.nhc.noaa.gov).

Legend

Apply

- ☐ Hurricane Storm Tracks
  - ☒ 6 Hurricane Jeanne Latest Position
  - ☒ Hurricane Jeanne Storm Track
  - ☐ Hurricane Ivan Storm Track
  - ☐ Hurricane Frances Storm Track
- ☒ In-Situ Wind Observations
  - ☒ Wind Observations
- ☐ Satellite Imagery
  - ☒ MODIS Low Resolution RGB
  - ☐ MODIS High Resolution RGB
  - ☐ QuikSCAT Winds
  - ☐ Optimally Interpolated SST
  - ☐ MODIS SST
  - ☐ AVHRR SST
  - ☐ CoastWatch AVHRR SST
  - ☐ MODIS CHL-A
- ☐ Radar
  - ☐ Texas Mesonet Radar
- ☐ Model Output
  - ☐ ETA 10 Meter Winds Model Output
  - ☐ ETA Sea Level Pressure Model Output
- ☐ Storm Surge
  - ☐ Storm Surge (NOAA)
- ☐ In-Situ SST
  - ☐ Sea Surface Temperature

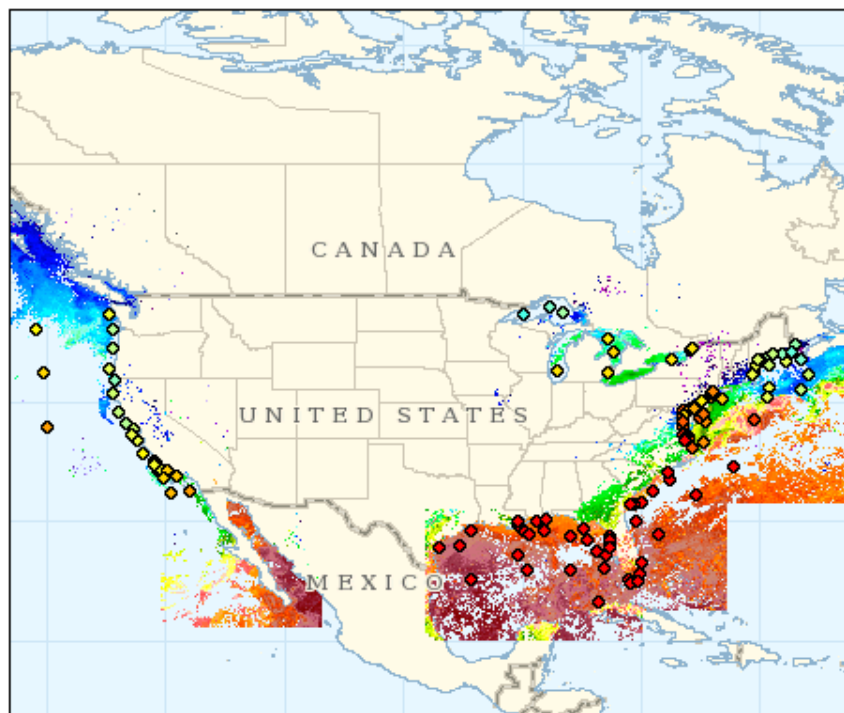
IOOS OGC Compliant WMS and WFS  
Prototype Wind and SST Observations

Zoom to: North America



Filter by Time and Date

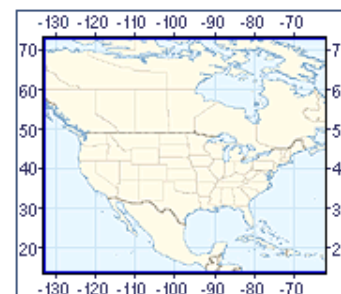
Date: October 1 2004  
Time: 8:00:00 Time Zone: -04



0 560 1120 1680 2240 2800 mi

Legend

- Show layers by: Apply
- ☒ In-Situ SST
    - ☒ Sea Surface Temperature
  - ☐ In-Situ Wind Observations
    - ☐ Wind Observations
  - ☐ In-Situ DST
    - ☐ Deep Sea Temperature
  - ☐ Satellite Imagery
    - ☒ CoastWatch AVHRR SST
    - ☐ Latest COOA - MODIS SST
  - ☐ Base Layers
    - ☒ Base Layers
    - ☐ Bathymetry Contours
    - ☐ SST Color Ramp
- Key to reading map symbols



# IT can do a lot, but there are limits...

- IT is only a tool
- Information  $\neq$  Knowledge
- Need organizational support to develop, implement, and maintain
- Requires commitment across institutions for the sharing of data

## **One step towards a Solution: Gulf of Maine Ocean Data Partnership**

- International effort to promote and coordinate the sharing, linking, electronic dissemination and use of data from the Gulf of Maine region.
- Provide access through a public internet portal to multiple databases from agencies in the US and Canada collecting information about the Gulf of Maine
- Enable more complete and easier to understand data integration for both science, management and policy making

# Conclusions

- IT can enhance information sharing and lead to better decision making
- Institutions can implement existing interoperability standards for spatial data to allow for dynamic access to information needed for decision making
- Community involvement is needed in developing new standards e.g. Marine Metadata Initiative (MMI)
- Institutional barriers can be overcome by commitment to long term partnership and working together to develop joint IT solutions



*Photo by John Wallinga, January 2004*



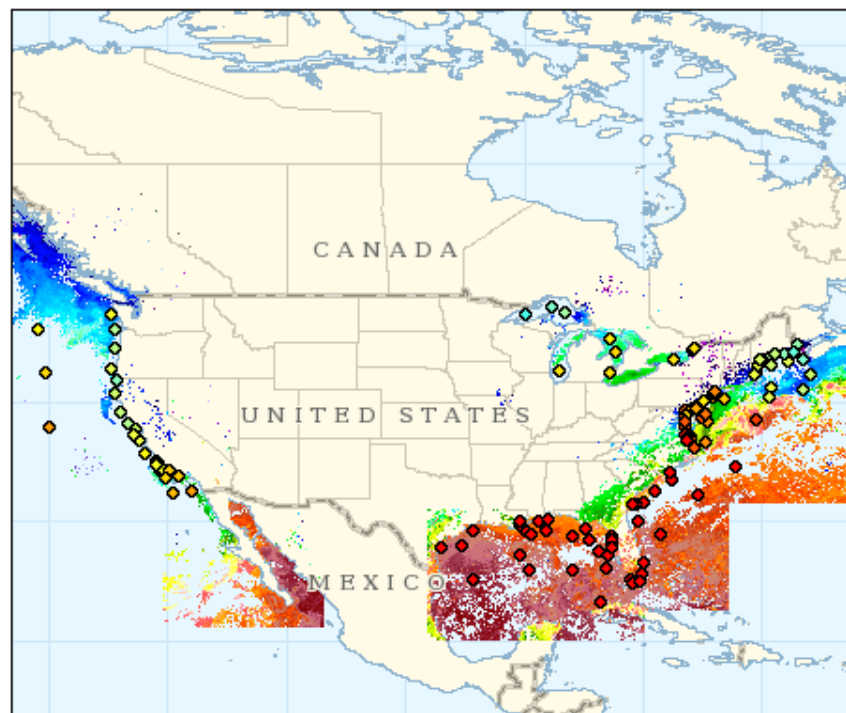
IOOS OGC Compliant WMS and WFS  
Prototype Wind and SST Observations

Zoom to: North America

Filter by Time and Date

Date: October 1 2004

Time: 8:00:00 Time Zone: -04



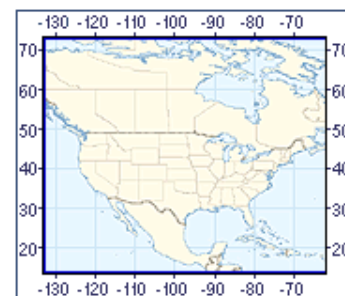
0 560 1120 1680 2240 2800 mi

Legend

Show layers by: Apply

- ☒ In-Situ SST
  - ☒ Sea Surface Temperature
- ☐ In-Situ Wind Observations
  - ☐ Wind Observations
- ☐ In-Situ DST
  - ☐ Deep Sea Temperature
- ☐ Satellite Imagery
  - ☒ CoastWatch AVHRR SST
  - ☐ Latest COOA - MODIS SST
- ☐ Base Layers
  - ☒ Base Layers
  - ☐ Bathymetry Contours
  - ☐ SST Color Ramp

• Key to reading map symbols

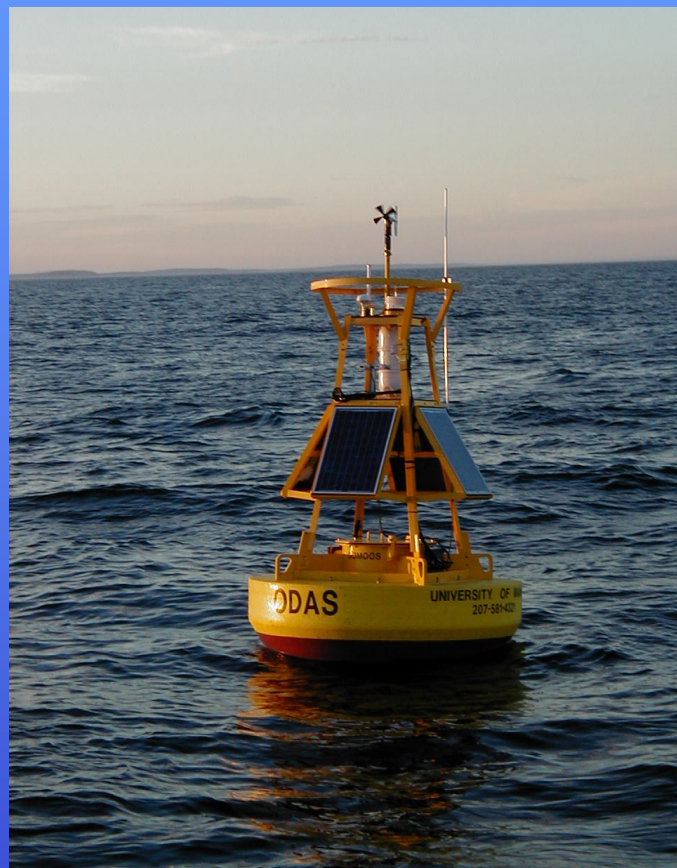


# Thank you



[www.gomoos.org](http://www.gomoos.org)





Thank you

[www.gomoos.org](http://www.gomoos.org)