

Ocean Exploration

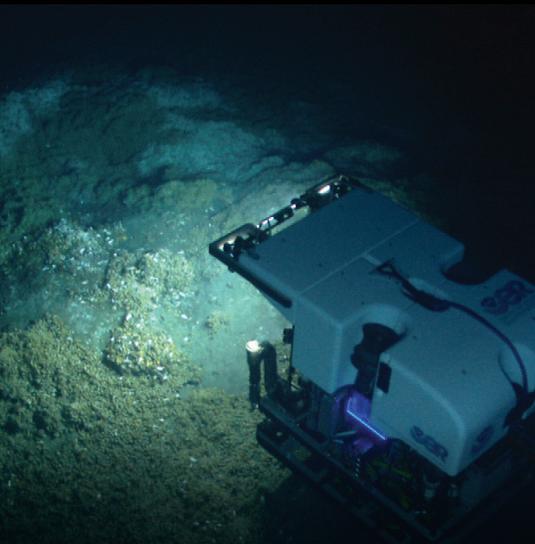
A National Priority

A healthy ocean and its resources are critical to a strong America, yet significant gaps exist in our basic understanding of U.S. deep waters and seafloor and the resources they hold. By leading national efforts to explore our ocean and making ocean exploration more accessible, the **NOAA Office of Ocean Exploration and Research (OER)** is filling gaps in the basic understanding of U.S. deep waters and seafloor, providing critical deep-ocean data, information, and awareness needed to sustain and accelerate the economy, health, and security of our nation.



**Ocean Exploration
and Research**

EXPLORE



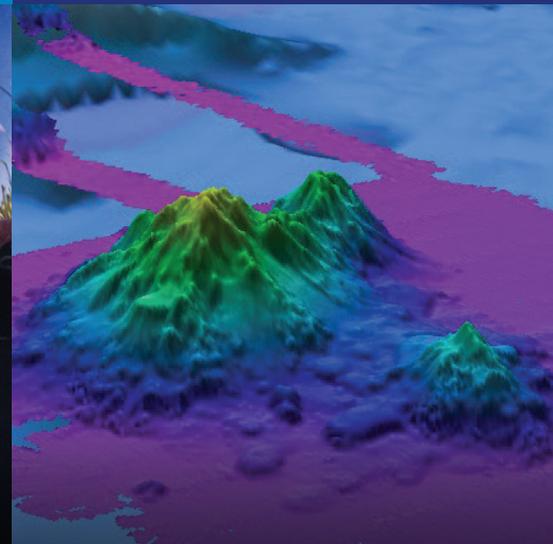
OER **explores** previously unknown areas of our deep ocean using the latest tools and technology, making discoveries of scientific, economic, and cultural value.

EXPERIENCE

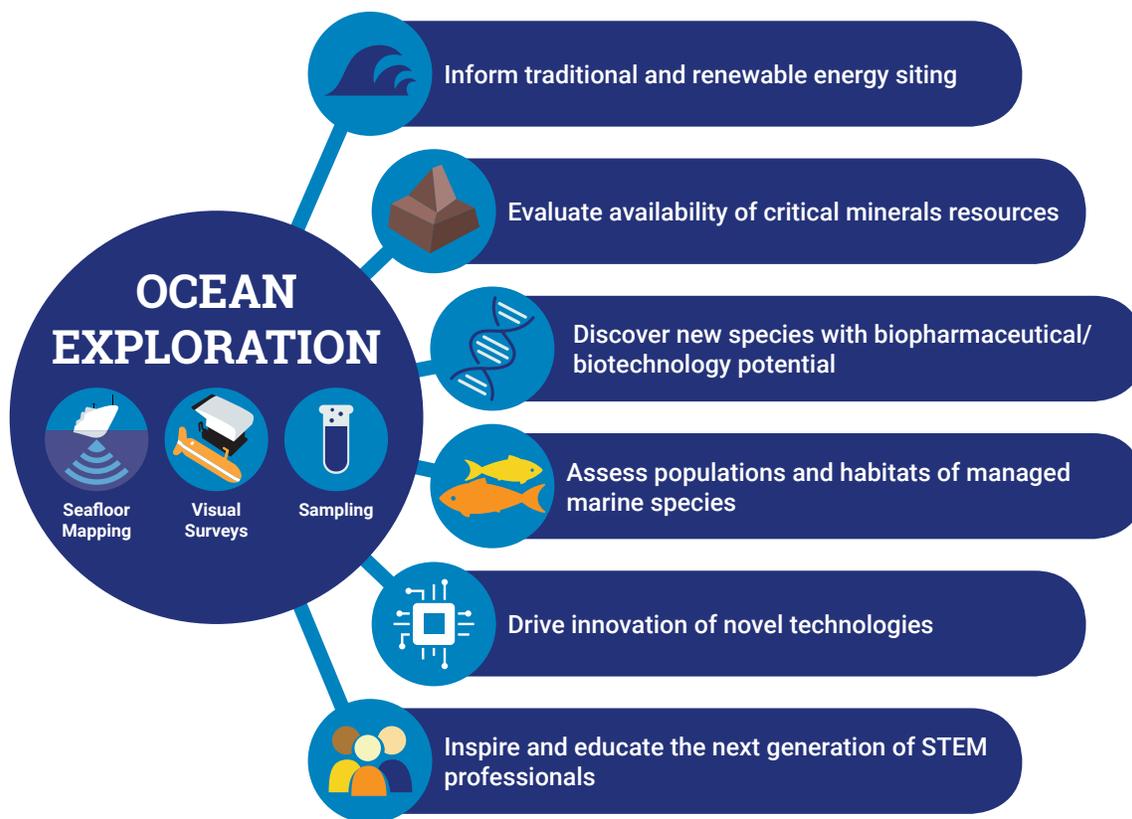


OER provides opportunities for more people to **experience** ocean exploration, from scientists participating in expeditions from shore, to the next generation of ocean explorers, to members of the public.

UNDERSTAND



OER makes data needed to **understand** our ocean publicly available, providing a unique and centralized national resource of critical ocean information.



OER products are science-based and community-driven and contribute directly to furthering research and innovation in ocean science, balanced economic and sustainable uses of ocean resources, safe navigation, and enhancement of life along the coasts.

Looking Ahead: Ocean Exploration and Research Priorities

- **Explore, map, and characterize the U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ)** in conjunction with partners to develop a more complete understanding of the ocean resources over which the United States has jurisdiction and responsibility.
- **Push the boundaries of technology and operations** to achieve ocean exploration and characterization objectives, including continued advancement of ship-based technologies and the development of robotic vehicles that will allow us to more effectively and efficiently map the U.S. EEZ and describe and characterize the ocean environment.
- **Deliver data and information** in increasingly innovative and accessible ways quickly to anyone who needs or wants it in order to maximize the value of ocean exploration data and ensure information is available to better understand deepwater areas and more effectively target future research efforts.
- **Share the excitement** of ocean exploration and inspire the next generation of scientists, engineers, and leaders through live exploration video, online resources, training opportunities, and public events.

 oceanexplorer.noaa.gov

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Ocean Exploration and Research