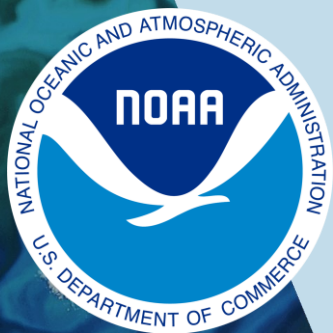


# NOAA NCEI Bathymetry Team: Data Contribution, Sharing, Accessibility and Archive Overview

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Alaska GeoSummit - Anchorage, Alaska

# Who We Are

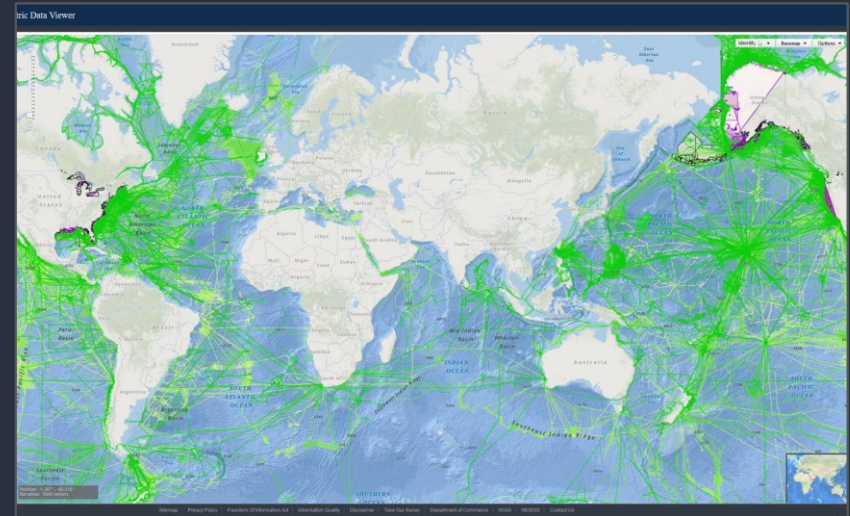
- The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration or NOAA's National Centers for Environmental Information (NCEI) is responsible for hosting and providing access to one of the largest archives of atmospheric, coastal, geophysical, and oceanic data in the world.
- As such, it is the Nation's leading authority for environmental information.



*Proper stewardship of ocean & coastal mapping data maximizes the use & re-use of valuable data.*

# NCEI Multibeam Bathymetry Data Archive

- Archive includes raw and processed multibeam bathymetry data, survey metadata, and supporting ancillary data and products for some surveys.
- Contains over 3,700 surveys spanning 43 years.
- 58 different data sources.
- Total size: 69 TB uncompressed.
- U.S. National Bathymetry Archive and host of the IHO repository for ocean data.

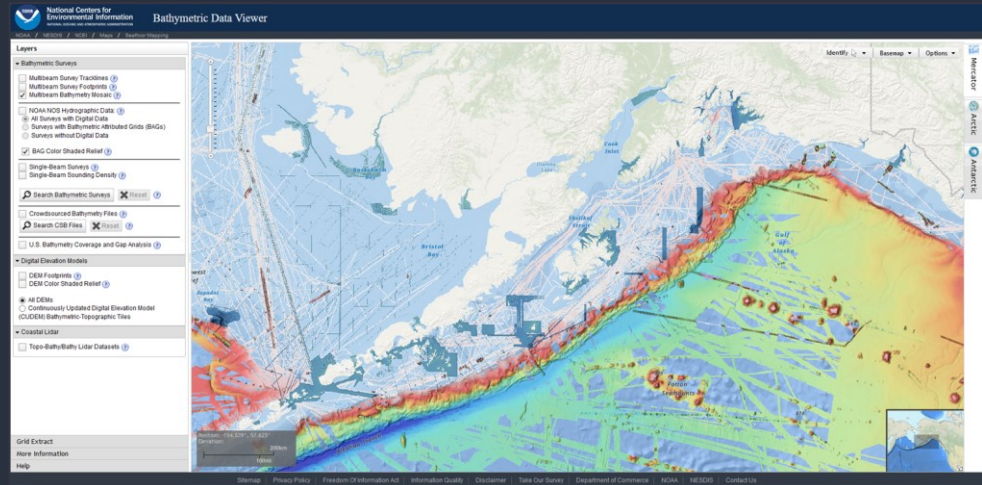


[www.ncei.noaa.gov/maps/bathymetry/](http://www.ncei.noaa.gov/maps/bathymetry/)



# NCEI Multibeam Bathymetry Data Archive

- All data displayed on the Bathymetric Data Viewer are publicly available to download.
- NCEI has developed tools to assist with data visualization, making archived multibeam data more useful and accessible to a broader community of users.

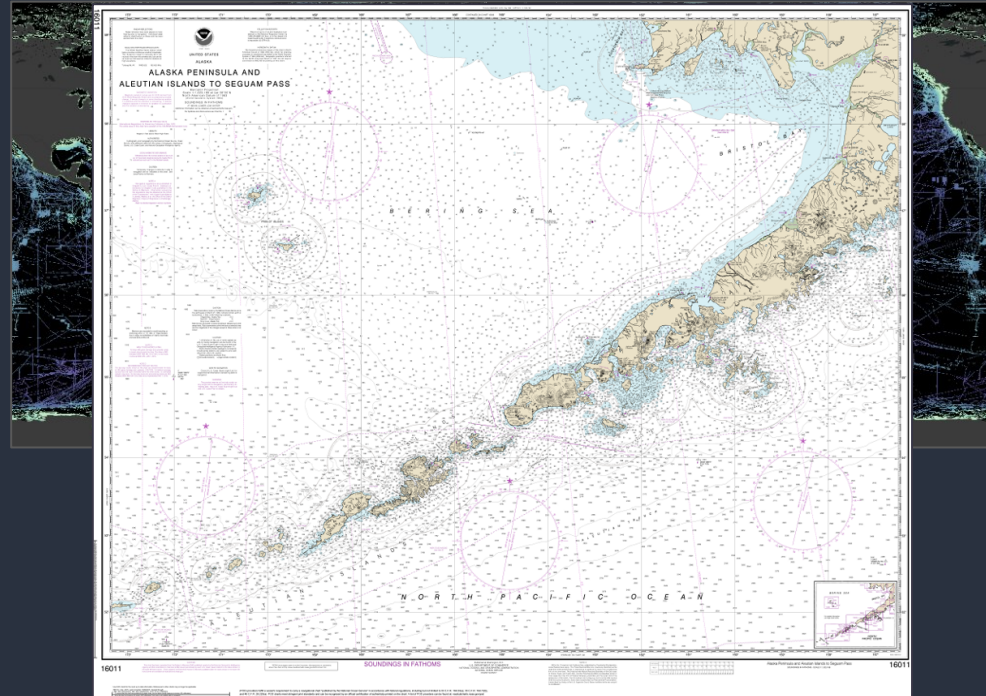


# NCEI Multibeam Bathymetry Data Archive

NCEI is the primary repository for several regional, national, and global seafloor mapping campaigns.

Data contributed to NCEI directly supports these campaigns and the creation of fundamental bathymetry products such as:

- General Bathymetric Chart of the Ocean (GEBCO) grid
- Updates and improvements to NOAA navigation products.



# Involvement in Mapping Campaigns

NCEI's Bathymetry Data Management team is involved in mapping campaigns to:

- Establish and document best practices for data stewardship
- Support data providers
- Assist data users with data access and discovery
- Collaborate with the community to improve archive procedures and our data access tools
- ... And more!

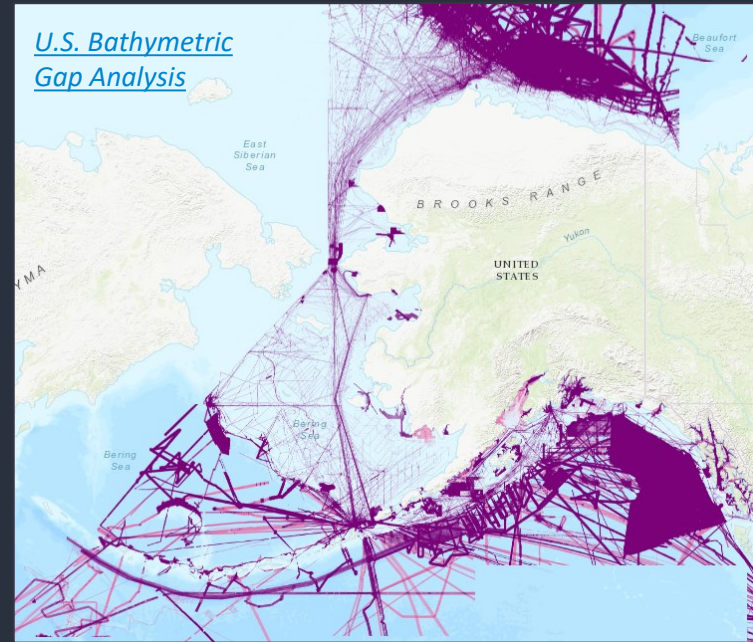


# Seascope AK: Data Management Technical Team

Established August of 2021

## General Purpose

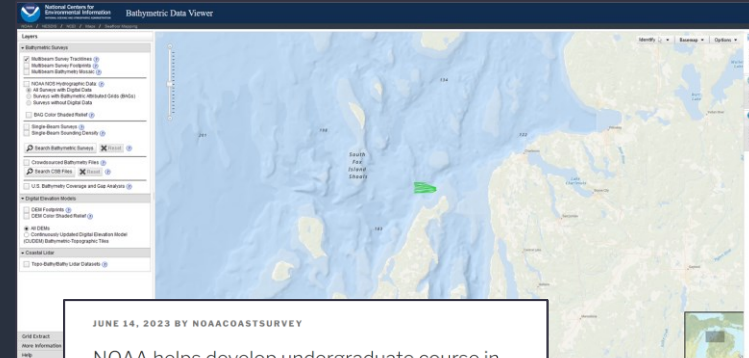
- *Identify bathymetry data needs for [Seascope Alaska](#)*
- *Review the Bathymetry Gap Analysis (BGA) and identify data that can fill gaps*
- *Create footprints for any data missing from the BGA that should be accounted in support of planning Mapping, Exploration, and Characterization projects*



# Successful Collaboration Outcomes

NCEI's involvement in Lakebed 2030 has led to:

- First Great Lakes MB survey on the Bathy Viewer!
- A first-time partnership with USGS, slated to bring 20 TB of public data to the Great Lakes
- Helping a data collector in the region establish data stewardship best practices



JUNE 14, 2023 BY NOAACOASTSURVEY

NOAA helps develop undergraduate course in lakebed mapping

As the [New Blue Economy](#) grows along with demands for a [climate-ready workforce](#), NOAA is connecting the dots between climate resilience and the need for a workforce skilled in science and technology supporting ocean and coastal mapping. Exposure to key disciplines, from geodesy, oceanography, and science data management to modeling, hydrography and GIS-based cartography, is critical to building robust interest, opportunities and expertise in the government and industry geospatial careers supporting climate resilience. NOAA works with a variety of partners to advance workforce development in these foundational geospatial areas. In particular, hydrography – measuring water depths, locating hazards, and describing the seafloor – is a challenging but exciting field dependent on skilled technicians, surveyors, and scientists to acquire mapping data using state-of-the-art technologies. With only 50% of [U.S. coastal, ocean and Great Lakes waters mapped](#), there is a lot of work to do! Read on to learn about a hydrographic





# Submitting Data to NCEI

- Data Provider Responsibilities:
  - Data Processing (optional)
  - Data Packaging
  - Metadata Creation
  - File Transfer Protocol (FTP) or hard drive delivery to NCEI
- NCEI Responsibilities:
  - Confirm successful submission
  - Archive and publish data to the [NCEI Bathymetric Data Viewer](#) and the [IHO DCDB Viewer](#) within 90 days of submission
  - Publish an ISO Metadata Record for each dataset

## Submitting Marine Geophysical Data to the NOAA National Centers for Environmental Information & the co-located IHO Data Center for Digital Bathymetry

### Introduction

This document describes current procedures to prepare various marine geophysical data sets (multibeam bathymetry, sidescan profile, water column sonar, singlebeam bathymetry, side-scan sonar and supplemental data) for submission to [NOAA National Centers for Environmental Information \(NCEI\)](#) & the co-located [IHO Data Center for Digital Bathymetry \(DCDB\)](#)

### File Formats

#### 1. Multibeam Bathymetry

##### General Information:

The multibeam bathymetry database at NCEI/IHO DCDB primarily maintains raw (as collected) data files in the instrument's vendor specific format (e.g., .all, .57k, .ase). However, other supplemental data (sound speed profiles, tides, vessel offsets, cruise reports, etc.) and/or processed versions or products of the multibeam data are also accepted. In all submissions, the data files and cruise/survey should be well documented using metadata.

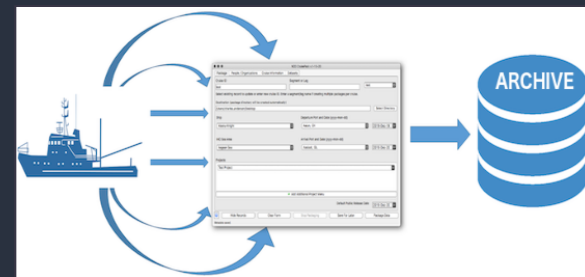
##### MB Data File Formats:

NCEI can accept bathymetric data from most of the commercial multibeam sonars and acquisition systems. The multibeam bathymetry data management pipeline at NCEI relies heavily on the open source software suite, [MB-System](#). Data formats supported by the software are listed on their [website](#). Data submitted in unsupported formats will still be accepted but will not be discoverable through the web services provided at NCEI ([Bathymetric Data Viewer](#)). These data can only be accessed from the archive upon request to [mb.info@noaa.gov](mailto:mb.info@noaa.gov).

Processed data (if submitted) need to be delivered in an MB-System processed format or other non-proprietary format. The majority of processed data in the multibeam bathymetry database are processed MB-System, XYZ, or GSF format.

If your data are not in one of the supported formats or you would like to contribute bathymetric data products, email [mb.info@noaa.gov](mailto:mb.info@noaa.gov) to discuss the options available at NCEI for your data.

### Submitting Marine Sonar Data to NCEI



*CruisePack Data Packaging Tool*

# Final Thoughts

## *Map Once, Use Many Times!*

1. Make your data and/or map services available to the public!
2. How can we help you...
  - a. **Contribute** data to NCEI
  - b. Find and **access** data from NCEI?
  - c. How can we better support the needs of the AK Mapping Community?



A topographic map of a coastal region, likely the Pacific Northwest, showing land in shades of brown and green and water in shades of blue. Contour lines are visible across the landmass, indicating elevation. The map is centered on a white rectangular box containing text.

# Thank you!

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