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MMS Announces New Publication – *MMS Ocean Science*

The Minerals Management Service (MMS) has launched *MMS Ocean Science*, a new bimonthly magazine highlighting the ocean science and technology that it uses or funds. MMS, an agency of the Department of the Interior, has funded over 600 million dollars of research on the marine environments along the Gulf of Mexico, Alaska, Pacific and Atlantic outer continental shelves through its Environmental Studies Program. *MMS Ocean Science* will report on research, which includes biological resources (fish, turtles, birds, whales), habitat resources (water quality, sediment quality), and socioeconomic resources (communities, archaeology, fiscal impacts).

MMS Ocean Science will also feature articles about MMS funded studies of the different types of technology used by industry to extract offshore mineral resources to evaluate their safety and performance, and the numerous studies conducted to evaluate technologies used to prevent and clean up oil spills.

MMS Ocean Science will also showcase work done by MMS staff scientists and engineers who evaluate data to determine the location of resources, technologies used in the recovery of resources, and safety measures to prevent accidents and spills. The magazine will also cover the MMS program to evaluate the effects of the removal of sand and gravel from borrow sites.

The first issue of *MMS Ocean Science* focuses on MMS, who we are and what we do. Subsequent issues will bring to the readers' information about topics like the deepwater environment, the latest technology in use offshore, the rigs-to-reefs programs, shoreline studies, oil spill prevention, and much, much more! *MMS Ocean Science* is on the MMS website at www.gomr.mms.gov/homepg/regulate/environ/ocean_science/index.html.

Anyone interested in receiving *MMS Ocean Science* can be put on our mailing list or receive an electronic notification with a link to the website by registering at www.gomr.mms.gov/guestbook/gmaillist/oceansub.asp.

The Minerals Management Service is the federal agency in the U.S. Department of the Interior that manages the nation's oil, natural gas, and other mineral resources on the Outer Continental Shelf in Federal offshore waters. The agency also collects, accounts for, and disburses mineral revenues from Federal and American Indian lands. MMS disbursed more than \$8 billion in FY 2003 and more than \$135 billion since the agency was created in 1982. Nearly \$1 billion from those revenues go into the Land and Water Conservation Fund annually for the acquisition and development of state and Federal park and recreation lands.

MMS Main Website: www.mms.gov
Gulf of Mexico Website: www.gomr.mms.gov

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