

# OUR BLUE ECONOMY

The US Blue Economy | An important and resilient part of the national economy

**THE US BLUE ECONOMY** employs more people than telecommunication, building construction and crop production combined. Employment in the Blue Economy increased by **14.5** from pre-recession levels in 2007 (4.8% overall US economic growth).

US Blue Economy in 2016

**\$304 B**

Gross domestic product

**3.3 M**

Employees

The Northeast Region | The cradle of the nation's ocean and coastal economies

**THE NORTHEAST REGION** hosts a diversity of ocean-related activities, from fishing and lobstering, to shipping and shipbuilding. Tourism and recreation accounts for **50** of the region's Blue Economy, and the living resources sector is growing rapidly.

Northeast Blue Economy in 2016

**\$19.3 B**

GDP

**260 K**

Employees

Massachusetts | The largest single contributor to the Northeast Blue Economy

**MASSACHUSETTS** accounts for over **1/3** of the Northeast's ocean economy employment and GDP, which has increased by **30.7** from pre-recession levels (adjusted for inflation). Suffolk County is the largest Blue Economy employer and producer in MA.

Massachusetts Blue Economy in 2016

**\$7.4 B**

GDP

**95.1 K**

Employees



Six key sectors depend on US ocean, coastal & Great Lakes resources:

- LIVING RESOURCES
- MARINE CONSTRUCTION
- MARINE TRANSPORTATION
- TOURISM AND RECREATION
- SHIP AND BOAT BUILDING
- OFFSHORE MINERAL EXTRACTION

■ HOME TO THE PORT OF BOSTON, MIDDLESEX COUNTY ACCOUNTS FOR 1/3 OF THE GDP IN THE NORTHEAST MARINE TRANSPORTATION SECTOR.

DATA SOURCE | National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Office for Coastal Management. 2019. NOAA Reports on the US Ocean and Great Lakes Economy

# MASSACHUSETTS BLUE ECONOMY

*to enhance the practical use and conservation of coastal and marine resources to create a sustainable economy and environment.*

## Healthy Coastal Ecosystems



### MA COASTAL POPULATION

**4.93 K**

### COASTAL MILES IN MA

**1,519**

Local coastal ecosystems support a diverse range of recreational, commercial and subsistence activities. We support residents, natural resource managers and businesses to protect and restore these habitats for continued ecosystem and public well-being.

## Sustainable Fisheries & Aquaculture

- Advancing community-supported fisheries and shellfish aquaculture
- Social science impact assessments
- Habitat and species research
- Municipal propagation

- Offshore aquaculture research
- Sensors to monitor disease
- Courses: Sustainable Fisheries and Fundamentals of Shellfish Farming
- Tools, gear, platforms, and technologies



## Resilient Communities & Economies



- Coastal hazards assistance to towns (erosion, flooding, storms)
- Community Rating System coordination
- Massachusetts Homeowner's Handbook

**27 COASTAL DISASTERS \$1BN+ IN MASSACHUSETTS SINCE 1980**

- Supporting new tech and industry
- Marsh research to support fisheries and reduce flood risk
- Courses for coastal managers
- Reduced cost flood insurance plans for actions enhance resiliency

## Environmental Literacy & Workforce Development

- K-12 activities and curriculum
- Undergrad and graduate education
- Fellowships, post doctoral research
- Student research mentorship
- Workshops for educators

- Specialized industry training programs
- Citizen science outreach and events

**1,291 JOHN A. KNAUSS MARINE POLICY FELLOWS PLACED IN FEDERAL AND CONGRESSIONAL OFFICES**

