

Configured, Not Coded: Rethinking How the General Public Discovers Environmental Science

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To better serve the public, the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management's Environmental Studies Program (ESP) is rebuilding its science dissemination tool, the Environmental Studies Program Information System (ESPIS). The target audience for this tool are users with little knowledge of ocean science and the engaged government agencies. Built on the ArcGIS Online (AGOL) hub, the tool uses large format infographic cards to give users options to browse among four science topics: Physical, Chemical, Biological, and Social Sciences. Under each science topic, the user can select from a dozen or more themes. Under each theme, the user will find a templated theme page that uses website widgets to search, sort, and filter curated lists of research projects, products, and applications. This buildable, sustainable interface enhances the public's discovery of environmental science information.

Title

Theme pages have catchy titles that help users navigate from science topics to themes.

Studies List

These are all the studies that contribute to the theme, and users can interact with all the map section tools to search, sort, and filter this list.

Study

Studies cards include the study title and program number elements. When the user selects a study card, the user actions function highlights the related study product.

ESPIS Presents: Platform Monitoring Theme Page

Oil and Gas development has been active for decades in the Pacific and Gulf of Mexico OCS environments, and over this time, scientists have come to appreciate oil and gas platforms as an important artificial habitat, hosting unique assemblages of benthic invertebrates and demersal fish. The ESP has funded platform monitoring research to elucidate the impacts and benefits of Oil and Gas activities on the inhabitants of this artificial habitat, and linking what is happening on oil and gas platforms to ecological processes at other manmade and natural habitats in the region.

Region Bookmark

The region widget enables users to quickly navigate to a predefined map extent and reduces the number of cards in the map section to the ones from the bookmarked region

Introduction

When users first navigate to the theme page, the header section presents them with this text element, which helps them glean the contents of the theme page.

Map

The user interacts with tools to browse studies and related content. The user can select a map feature to highlight the corresponding card from a map section list.

Related Content List

These derived products and webpages use a study product and/or combine parts of multiple study products to create value-added scientific information. When the user selects a related content card, the user actions function highlights the related study product(s).

Study Products

The user can discover all the products resulting from ESP studies that contribute to a theme. If the user first selected a card in the map section, then the related study product(s) will automatically highlight.

Documents List

The user can search, filter, and sort the list of documents published by the ESP

Publications List

The user interacts with the list of journal publications by using the search, filter, and sort tools.

Recommender

The recommender section includes one or more button widgets that link to similar theme pages, in case users find this theme page useful, and so they do not have to navigate back to the science topic theme list in order to find these other relevant theme pages

Theme Page? You might also enjoy these other Theme Pages, which have similar content.

Platform Decommissioning

DWH Oil Spill Modeling