Bathymetric Data Licensing
For the NOAA Office of Coast Survey
A “public domain” label?
- Not good enough for many users

Apply open data licenses
- E.g. CC0, PDDL
- A “public domain dedication”
- Legally waives copyright
- Expands data access
- Aligns with Evidence Act
OCS increasingly relies on External Data—critical for meeting national and global mapping objectives
But are there restrictions?

The lack of standardized data handling is one of the biggest impediments to streamlined throughput.
Data License

- Dataset specific
- Terms clearly defined
- Machine-readable
- Better informs users

The National Bathymetric Source, NOAA’s database for best available bathymetry, accommodates data licenses and realizes their full benefits.
Recommended by:

- NOAA Data Strategy
- NOAA Science Advisory Board
- Resources.data.gov
- International Hydrographic Organization
Creative Commons Licenses

- Well-known, internationally recognized
- Recommended for U.S. gov’t data (CC0 1.0)
- Accommodates External Data scenarios

- **Attribution (BY)**—must give credit to provider
- **NonCommercial (NC)**—commercial use prohibited
- **ShareAlike (SA)**—products must maintain license
- **NoDerivs (ND)**—derivative products prohibited
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<th>Survey planning?</th>
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Thank you!