

# Lakebed 2030

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## A Comprehensive Approach to Mapping the Great Lakes

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2021 Freshwater Summit

The ocean covers  
~71+ % of our planet

*~20% has been mapped at  
High Resolution*

*Less has been explored*

*The Great Lakes only ...*



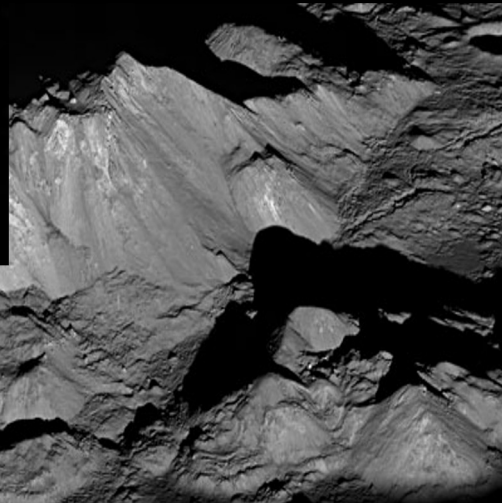
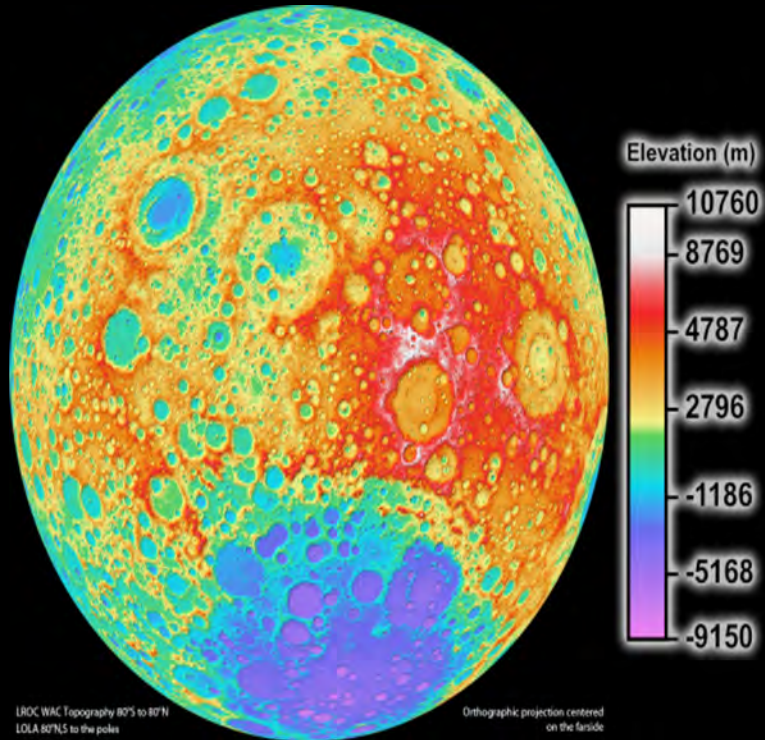
# Current Modern Methods Coverage

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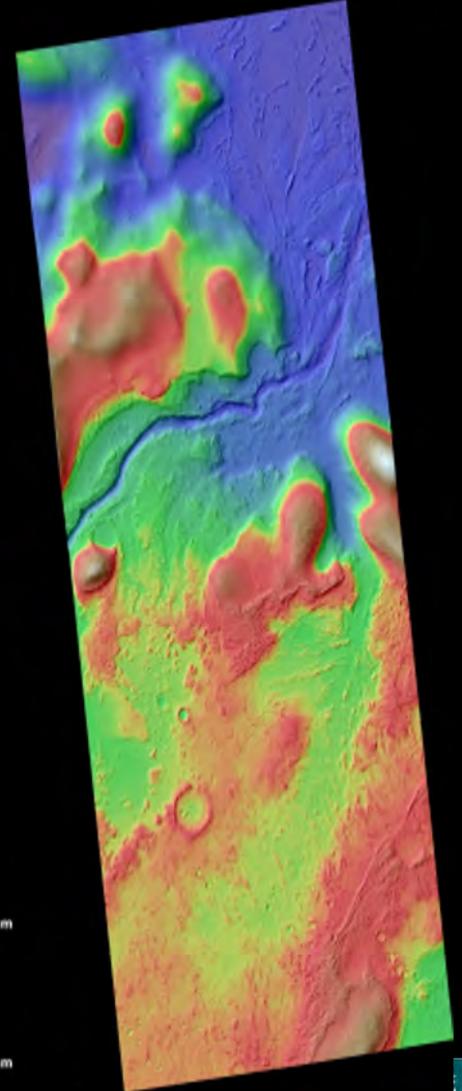
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For the entire Great Lakes

The truth is we know more about the surface of the Moon, Mars and Venus than we do our oceans



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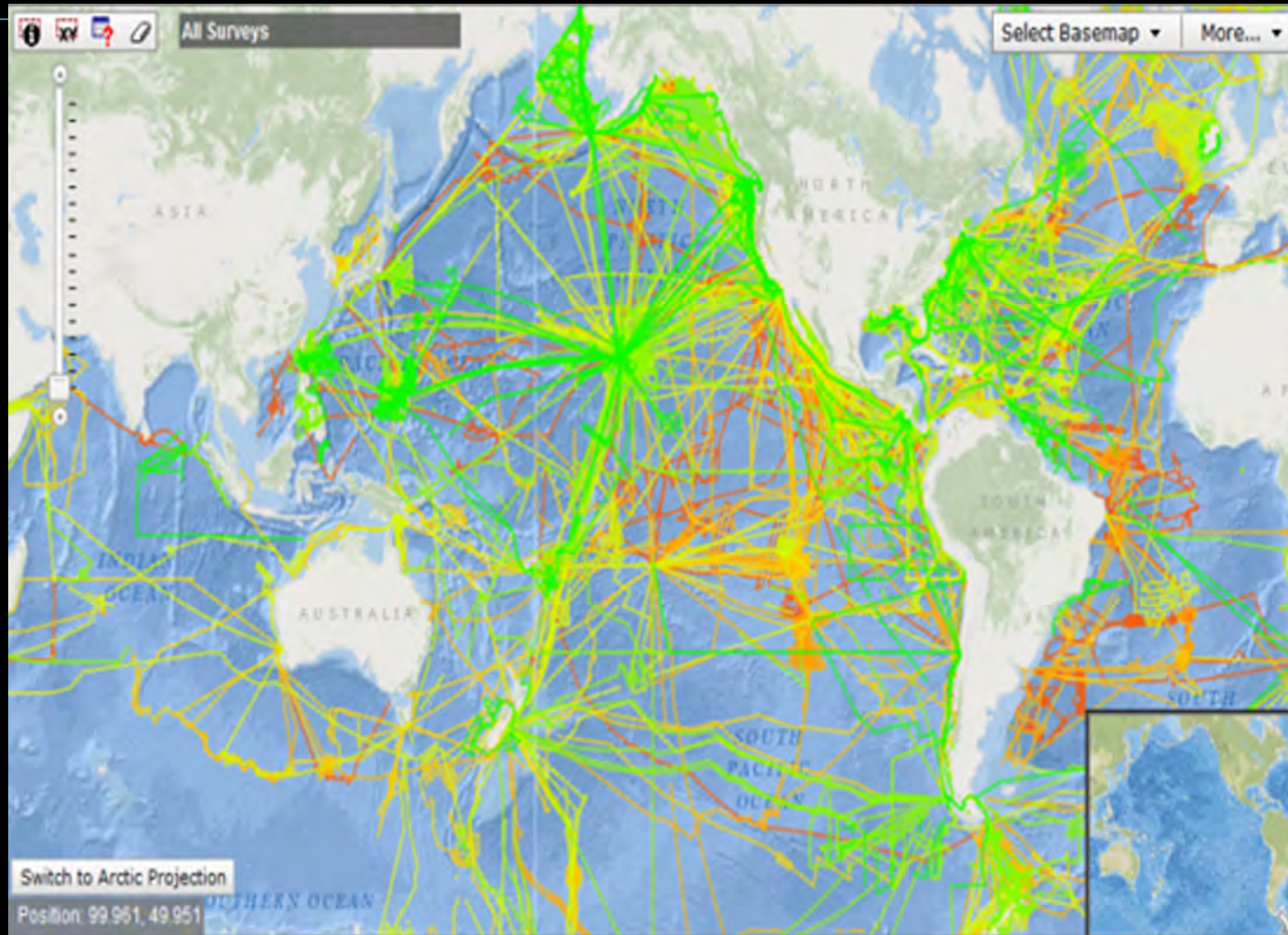
NASA/JPL/University of Arizona/USGS

MRO/HIRISE



Mars – 6 meter  
Moon – 100 meter  
Venus – 100 meter  
World's Oceans – 5 km  
Chicago would be 2-3 data points in Lake Michigan

# Globally



A world map showing ocean bathymetry. The map uses a color scale from light blue (shallow) to dark blue (deep) to represent the depth of the seafloor. A semi-transparent grey text box is centered over the map, containing the text: "Most of what we know about the shape of the seafloor is *predicted* based on satellite altimetry data".

Most of what we know about the shape of the seafloor is *predicted* based on satellite altimetry data

GEBCO 2014 World Map



# Where it began - Seabed 2030



A collaborative project between The Nippon Foundation and GEBCO to inspire the complete mapping of the world's ocean by 2030 and to compile all bathymetric data into the freely-available GEBCO Ocean Map



Intergovernmental  
Oceanographic  
Commission

-The **Nippon Foundation** is a private Japanese-based, non-profit [grant-making organization](#) with a mission based around philanthropic activities to pursue global [maritime development](#) and assistance for [humanitarian work](#).

-The **General Bathymetric Chart of the Oceans (GEBCO)** organization operates under the joint auspices of the [International Hydrographic Organization \(IHO\)](#) and the [Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission \(IOC\)](#) of UNESCO

Empower the world to *make policy decisions, use the ocean sustainably, and undertake scientific research* that is informed by a detailed understanding of the global ocean floor.

Empower the Great Lakes community to *make policy decisions, use the Great Lakes sustainably, and undertake scientific research* that is informed by a detailed understanding of the Great Lakes lakefloor.



# How has it grown?

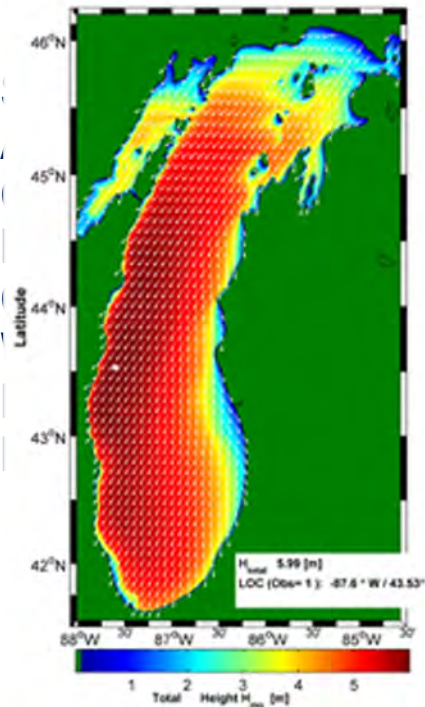
- International exposure through multiple professional societies and annual conferences convening key stakeholders
  - Lakebed Conferences
  - US-Canadian partnerships
  - Bottom Mapping Workgroup
  - THSOA
  - Oceans Conference
- Multiple new mapping initiatives
- Several new organizations and working groups supporting the comprehensive need
- New technologies and new applications of technology
- Map once – Use many times!

# WHY the GREAT LAKES?

- 6 trillion dollar GDP ( US and Canada)
- 40 million + people drink the water
- 7 billion dollar annual fisheries market
- 1.3 million jobs
- Largest surface freshwater body in the world - ~21%
- Over 7000 km of coastline

# How will we use this?

- Nautical charts
- Fisheries Management
- Renewable Energy
- Coastal hazard assessment
- Underwater cables
- Habitat mapping
- Ecosystem management
- Emergency response

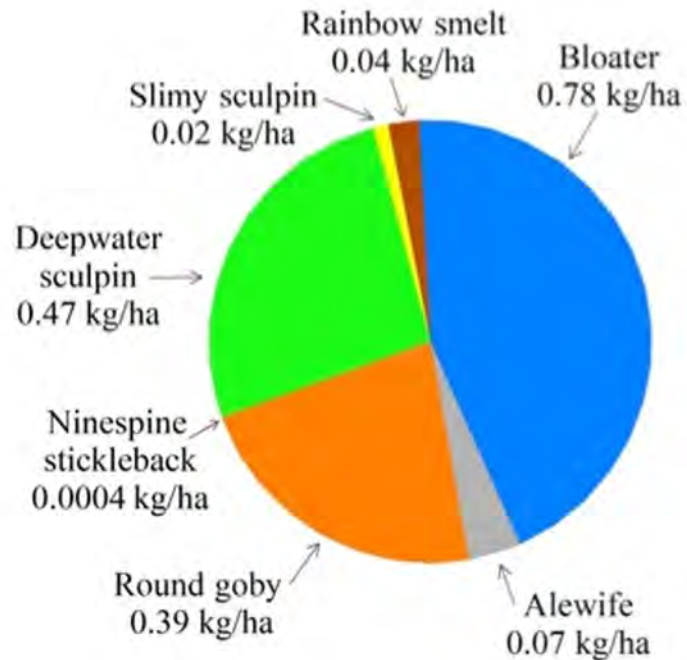


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# Lakefloor Detail Needed for Accurate Data

Lake-wide biomass density (in kg/ha) in Lake Michigan in 2019



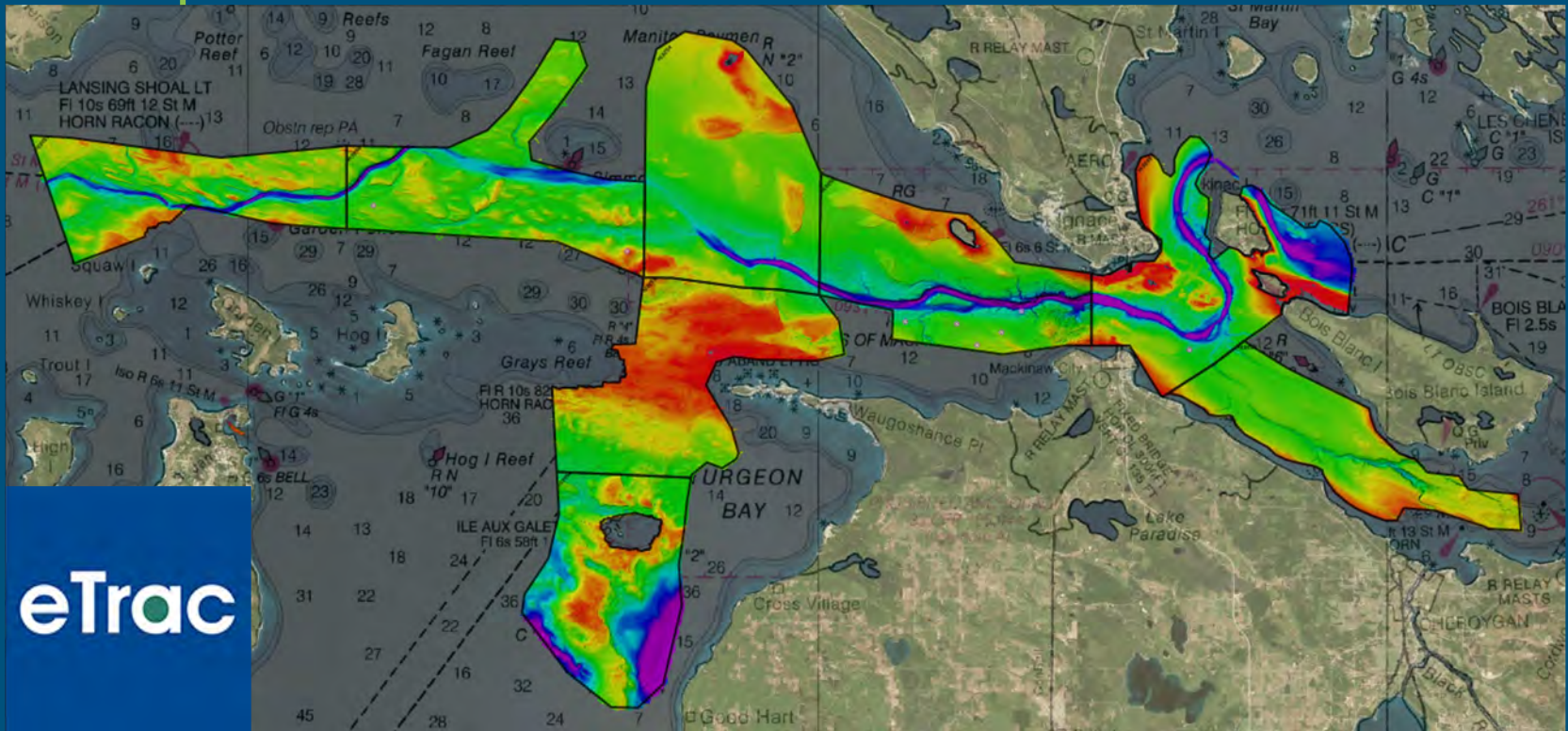
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# Modern Nautical Charting in The Straits of Mackinac

## How Technology is Making a Difference



David Neff - eTrac Inc.



# Historical Findings



This is directly in the shipping lane

# Archaeology





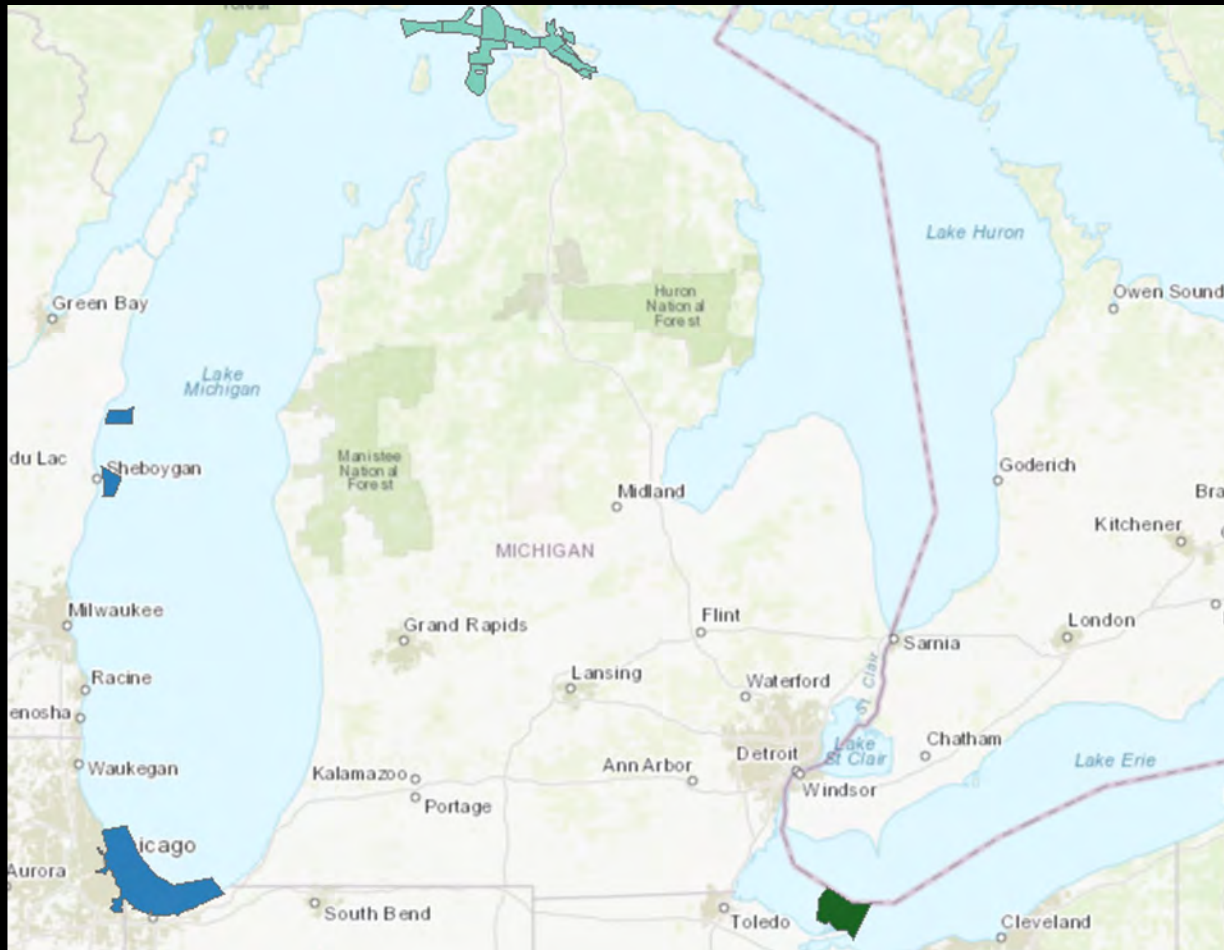
# Nautical Charting and Smart Ships

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- Smart ship routes
  - Better observations provide real time navigation response
- Short Sea (lakes) shipping routes
  - Reduction in carbon footprint
  - Reduction in highway congestion and needed infrastructure
- Smart Ships Coalition
  - Global coalition supporting smart, autonomous maritime trade
  - Marine Autonomous Research Site

# What is Planned?

## NOAA Hydrographic Survey Projects 2019-2021



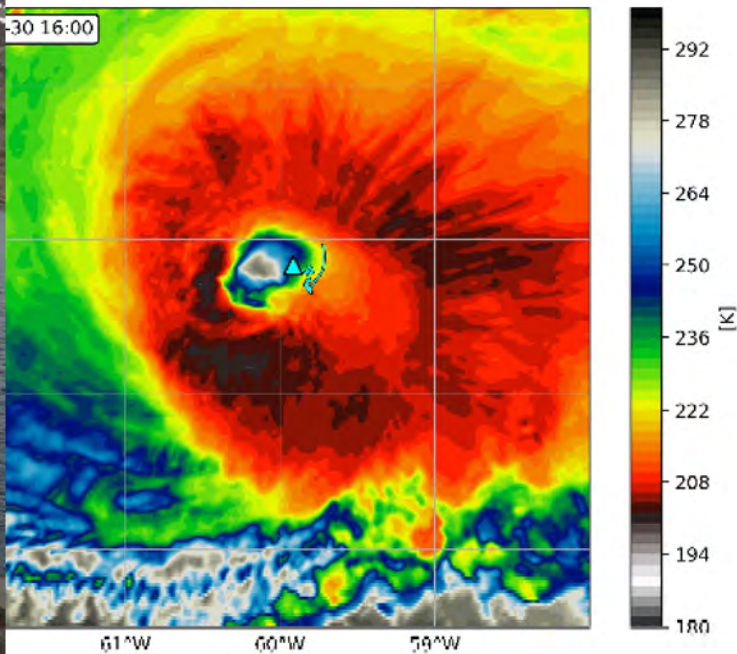


# How Can We Get There Faster? Power of the Crowd

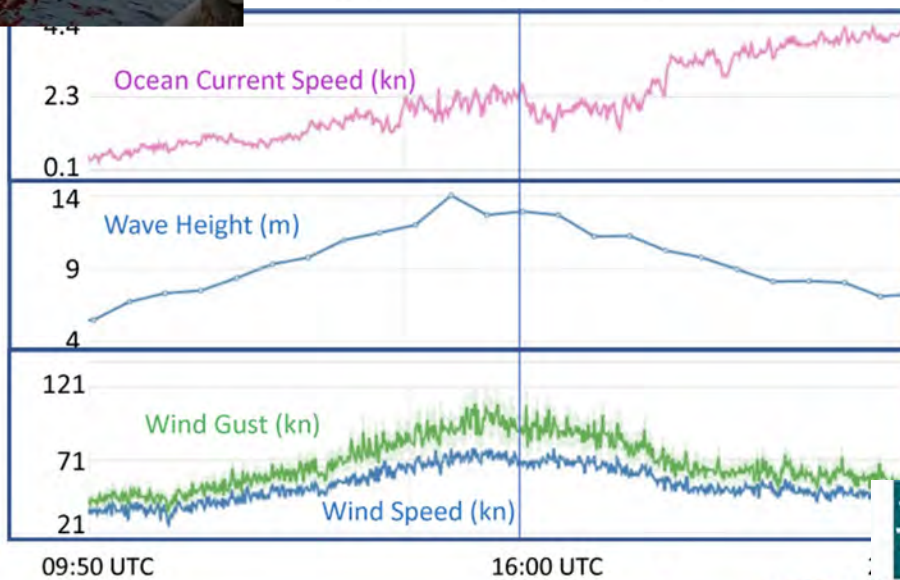


- Government
  - Survey Vessels
- Academic
  - Research Vessels
- Industry
  - Survey Vessels
  - Cruise Ships
  - Cargo Ships
  - Fishing Boats
- Public
  - Private Boats and Yachts





# Saildrone and other Autonomous Systems



# Saildrone by the numbers

- 59 day mission
- 51,000 square kilometers of high resolution data
- 400 liters of fuel
  
- 24/7 Mapping Capabilities
  
- Area of Lake Michigan - ~ 60,000 square kilometers

# What are the Challenges?

An aerial photograph of a coastal area, possibly a bay or estuary, with a complex network of green lines overlaid. The lines represent various data paths or boundaries. Some areas are filled with multi-colored polygons (red, blue, yellow, green, purple). The background is a grayscale aerial view of water and land.

- Sparse data
- Multiple devices
- Varying resolution
- Different datums
- Variable quality
- Data sharing policies

# What are the Opportunities?

- Building a sustainable Great Lakes for future generations
- Michigan and the Great Lakes becoming a leader in the New Blue Economy
- Job creation and technology development
- Building the workforce of today and tomorrow

# Lakebed 2030 - from Vision to Reality

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- Great Lakes mapping and observation data is limited across all the lakes
- There is no cohesive network for sharing information
- New technological developments will be key
- Commercial and recreational vessel traffic are both an artifact of need and a opportunity for new
- Critical for decision making processes and validating scientific models



# The Science We Need for the Great Lakes We Want

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Thank you

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