Analyzing Ocean Data to Effectively Plan Subsea Cables

TE SubCom – Maine Liaison Manager – Sydney Sheridan
Over 95% of global communications, internet, and commerce transported via subsea telecom cables
Marine Liaison Responsibilities

- Route risk assessment from anchoring and bottom contact fisheries
  - Routing and burial recommendations
- Cable awareness outreach campaigns
  - Meeting with commercial fisheries, harbor masters, coast guards, shipping agencies
- AIS monitoring
MAREA cable installed in 2016
MARCO Data Portal
Scallopers
Gillnets - high intensity inshore
Pots and Traps
Fishing Risk Assessment - Summary

• Through the data portal and cable awareness campaigns to the VA beach region to commercial fishing companies and NOAA offices, the presence of fixed fishing gear was able to be identified and mitigated.

• Contacts with local commercial fisheries were established and we were able to hire a local guard vessel to help with operations.

• Through AIS monitoring and the cable awareness campaign, liaison with shipping and transport companies like MAERSK was conducted. Proper charting has helped mitigate accidental anchoring over the cable.

• Burial and continued outreach continue to help protect the system for its 25 year lifespan.
Upcoming System