

Task Order	MMS Issue Addressed	Monitoring Hypotheses	Methods	Key Monitoring Result or Parameter for Decision Making
003 – “Sources, Concentrations, and Dispersion Pathways for Suspended Sediment in the cANIMIDA Study Area”	Will offshore oil development and production at Northstar and potential development at Liberty result in increased or chronic loadings of suspended sediment or associated contaminant metals or hydrocarbons?	<p>H1: The chemical composition and morphology of suspended particles, as determined from natural or anthropogenic tracers, is not significantly different in areas of construction activities.</p> <p>H2: The amount of suspended sediments transported to the near-shore environment during spring river runoff is not a significant component of net sediment deposition that also includes inputs from shoreline erosion.</p> <p>H3: The contribution of particulate organic carbon (especially plankton/larvae) to the suspended sediments is not a significant fraction of the total suspended sediments in the water column.</p>	Sensor profiles and discrete sampling of rivers and the coastal Beaufort Sea during the ice-covered and open-water periods with analysis of suspended sediments for metals. Large volume water sample collections for suspended and dissolved phase organic analyses of PAHs, SHCs, and S/Ts.	<p>Annual interpretative report with tabulated data on suspended sediments will be provided, with statistical tests of potential interannual significant differences.</p> <p>Contractor will alert MMS COTR of any important trends or changes.</p>