

# Long Island Sound Resource and Use Inventory: public hearing



Sylvain De Guise  
Chair, Inventory and Science  
Subcommittee

May 8, 2018

# Why the Blue Plan?

- The *purpose* of the Long Island Sound Blue Plan is to protect traditional uses, minimize conflicts, and maximize compatibility, now and in the future. This includes preserving Long Island Sound's ecosystems and resources, and facilitating a transparent, science-based decision-making process.

# How to develop the Blue Plan?



# Long Island Sound Resource and Use Inventory

Report by the:  
Long Island Sound Inventory and Science Subcommittee of the  
Blue Plan Advisory Committee

2018



LONG ISLAND SOUND  
**BLUE PLAN**

*Sustainable Ecosystems - Compatible Uses*

# What is the Inventory?

- *“the best available information and data regarding the natural resources within Long Island Sound and the uses of Long Island Sound”* (Public Act 15-66, the “Blue Plan” legislation)
- Objective and stakeholder/expert reviewed information
- Maps with the source of data, narrative, and context
- Focused on geo-spatial information
- In support of the Blue Plan

# The Inventory is *not*

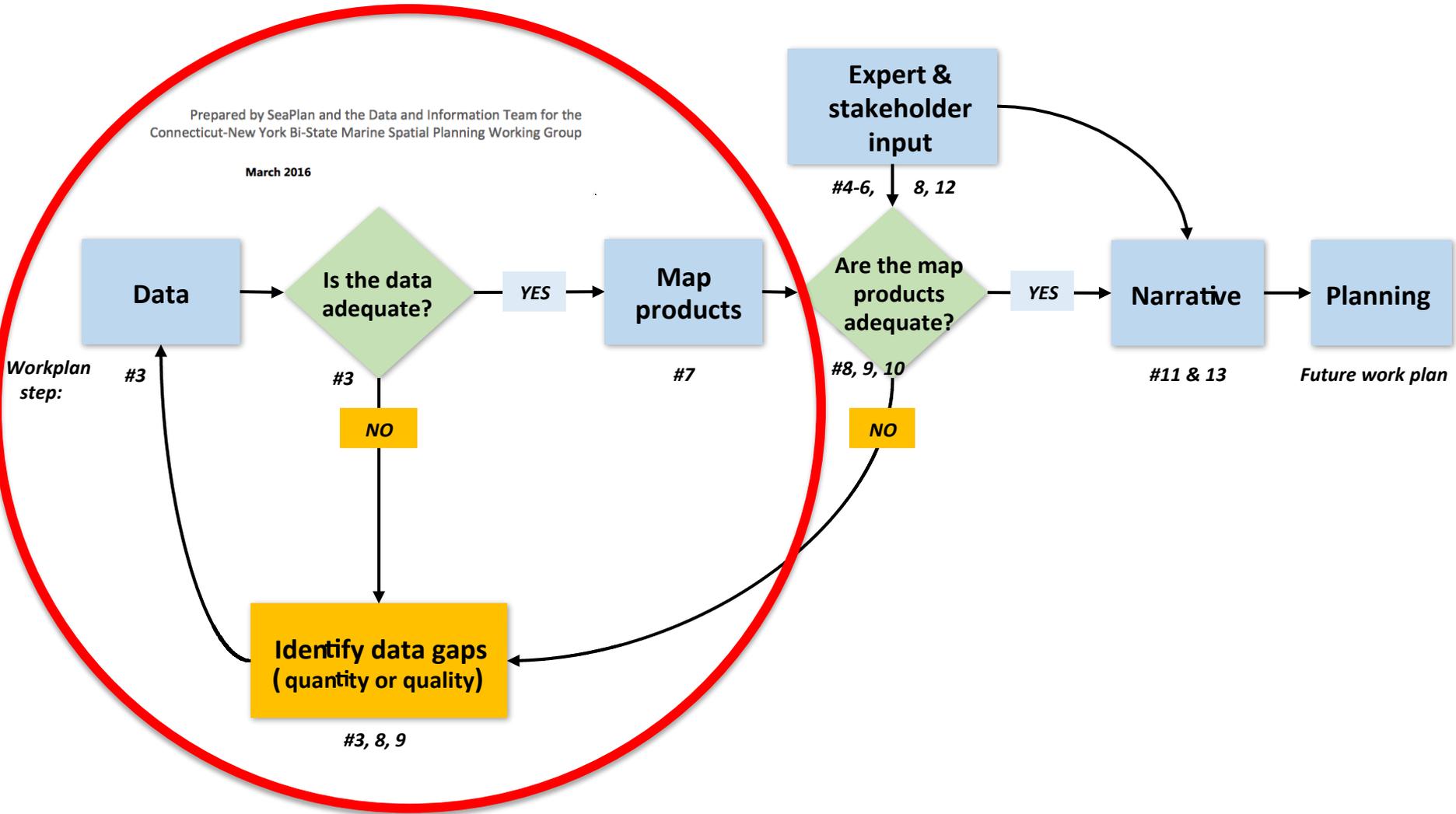
- Interpretations, opinions or judgements on some areas or uses relative to others
- A plan
- New regulations
- Perfect...

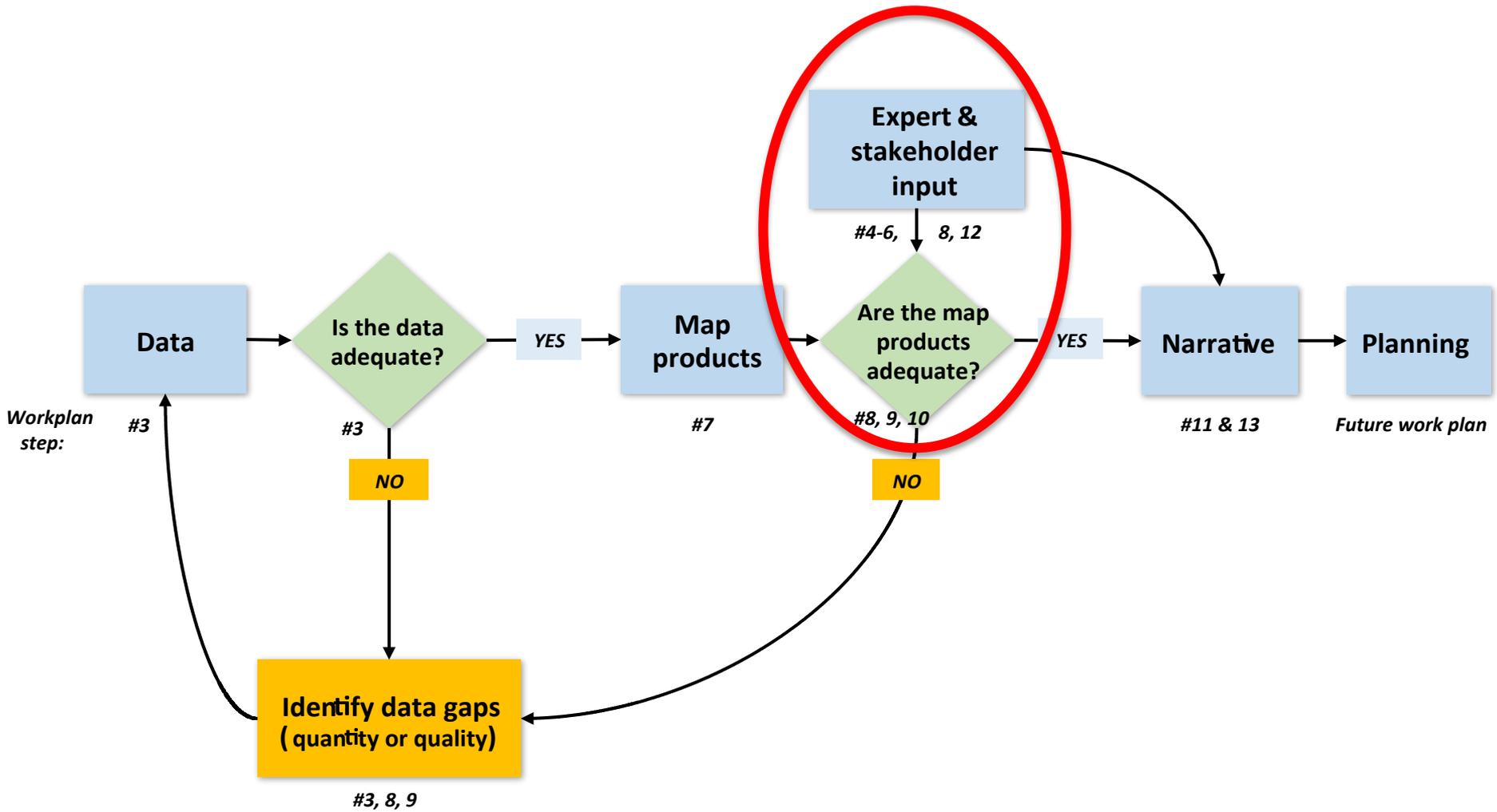
# DATA AND INFORMATION PHASE II FINAL REPORT: QUALITY AND USABILITY

Long Island Sound Marine Spatial Planning Initiative

Prepared by SeaPlan and the Data and Information Team for the  
Connecticut-New York Bi-State Marine Spatial Planning Working Group

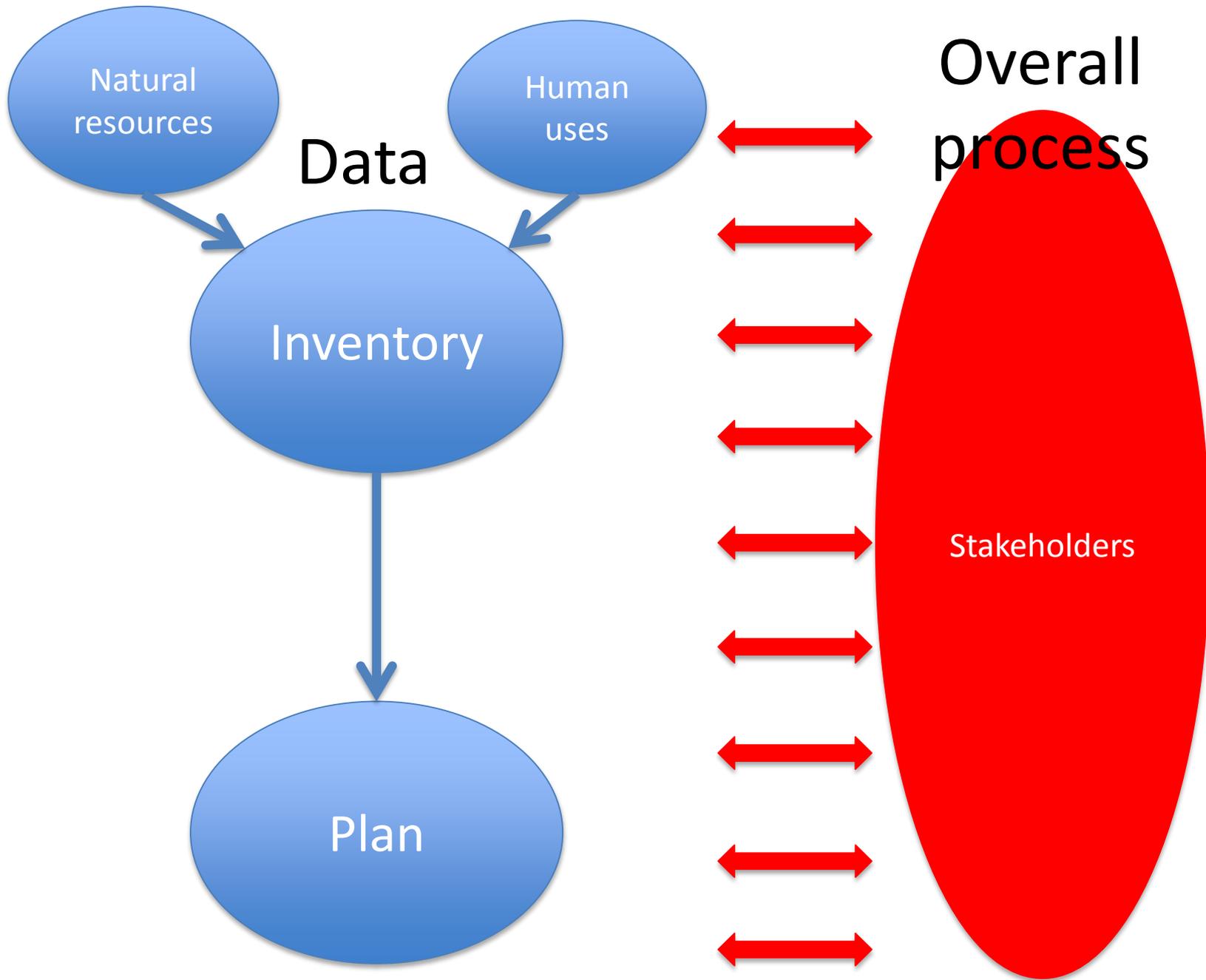
March 2016





# Goals

- Assess map products for:
  - *Accuracy* (science-based and up-to-date)
  - *Representativeness* (of the sum of the collective hands-on knowledge of people involved first hand in the given sectors)
  - *Relevance* (trusted information on which to base the Blue Plan marine spatial planning process)
- Identify critical data gaps, and the availability of data/datasets to address those gaps.



## Ecological Characterization

### Plants

-Phytoplankton, Macroalgae, Eelgrass, and Submerged Aquatic Vegetation

### Animals

-Marine Mammals

-Sea Turtles

-Birds

-Fish, Pelagic Invertebrates, Shellfish, and Zooplankton

-Benthic Invertebrates

### Habitats

-Coastal Wetlands

-Bathymetry and Seafloor Complexity

-Sediments and Geochemistry

-Physical Oceanography, Meteorology, and Water Quality

-Ecologically Notable Places and Ecological Marine Units

### Ecologically Significant Areas

-Ecologically Significant Areas

## Human Use Characterization

### Fish and Shellfish Activities

-Aquaculture

-Commercial Fishing

-Recreational Fishing

-Charter/Party Boat Fishing

### Recreation and Tourism

-Recreational Boating and Sailing

-Harbors and Marinas

-Non-Consumptive Recreation

-Waterfowl Hunting

### Cultural Resources and Education

-Historic and Archaeological Marine and Coastal Cultural Resources

-Research, Monitoring, and Education

### Marine Transportation, Infrastructure, and Security

-Marine Transportation, Navigation, and Infrastructure

-Energy and Telecommunications

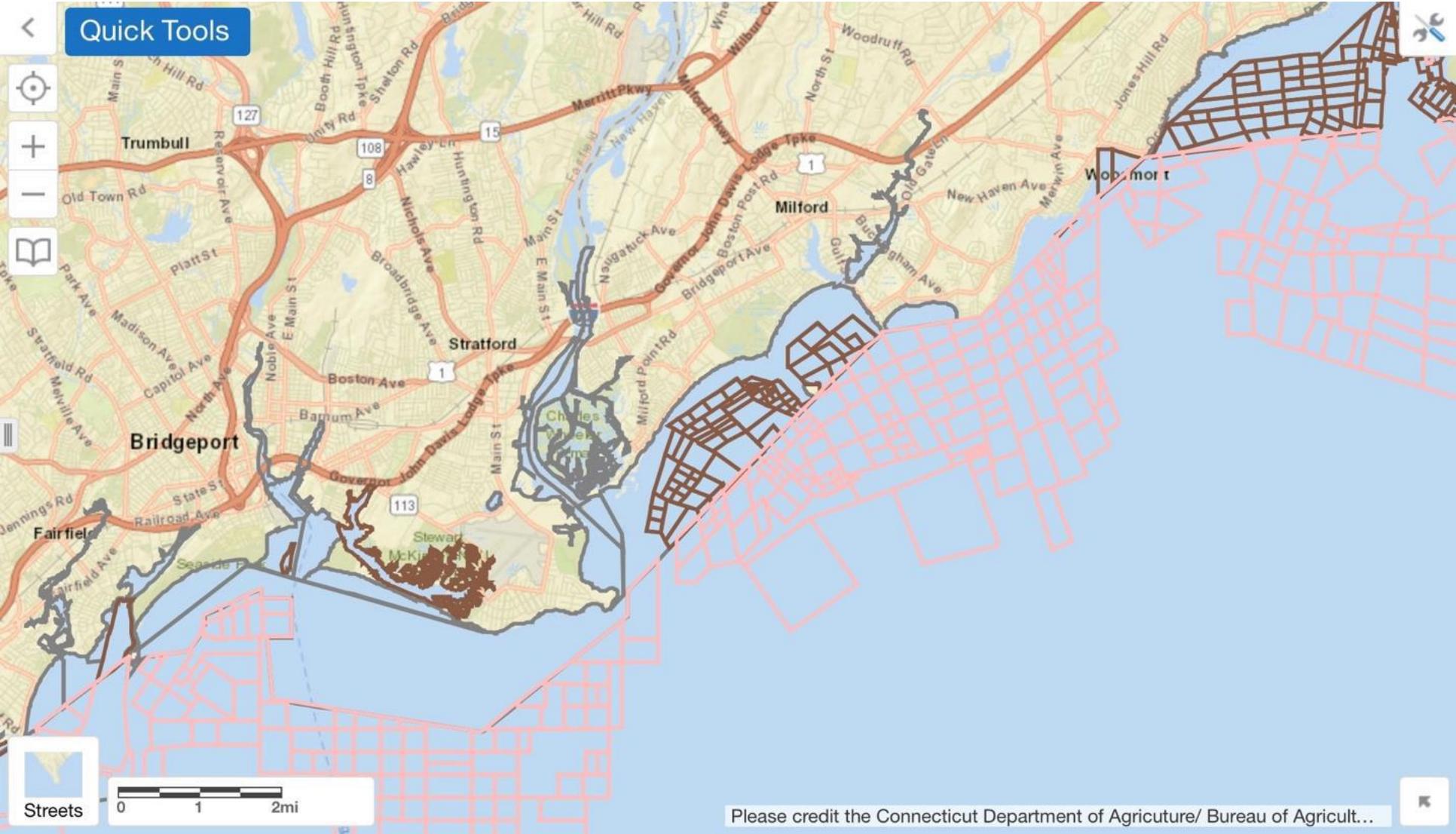
-National Security

	<b>Sector Expert</b>	<b>Assigned Staff</b>	<b>Other resources</b>
Marine Transportation, Navigation, and Infrastructure	Evan Matthews	Brian Thompson <a href="mailto:brian.thompson@ct.gov">brian.thompson@ct.gov</a>	Bruce Beebe
Recreational Sailing, Boating, Kayaking	Bill Gardella	Nathan Frohling <a href="mailto:nfrohling@tnc.org">nfrohling@tnc.org</a>	
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Waterfowl Hunting	Sid Holbrook	David Blatt <a href="mailto:david.blatt@ct.gov">david.blatt@ct.gov</a>	
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Recreational Fishing	Bruce Beebe	Christian Fox <a href="mailto:christian.fox@tnc.org">christian.fox@tnc.org</a>	
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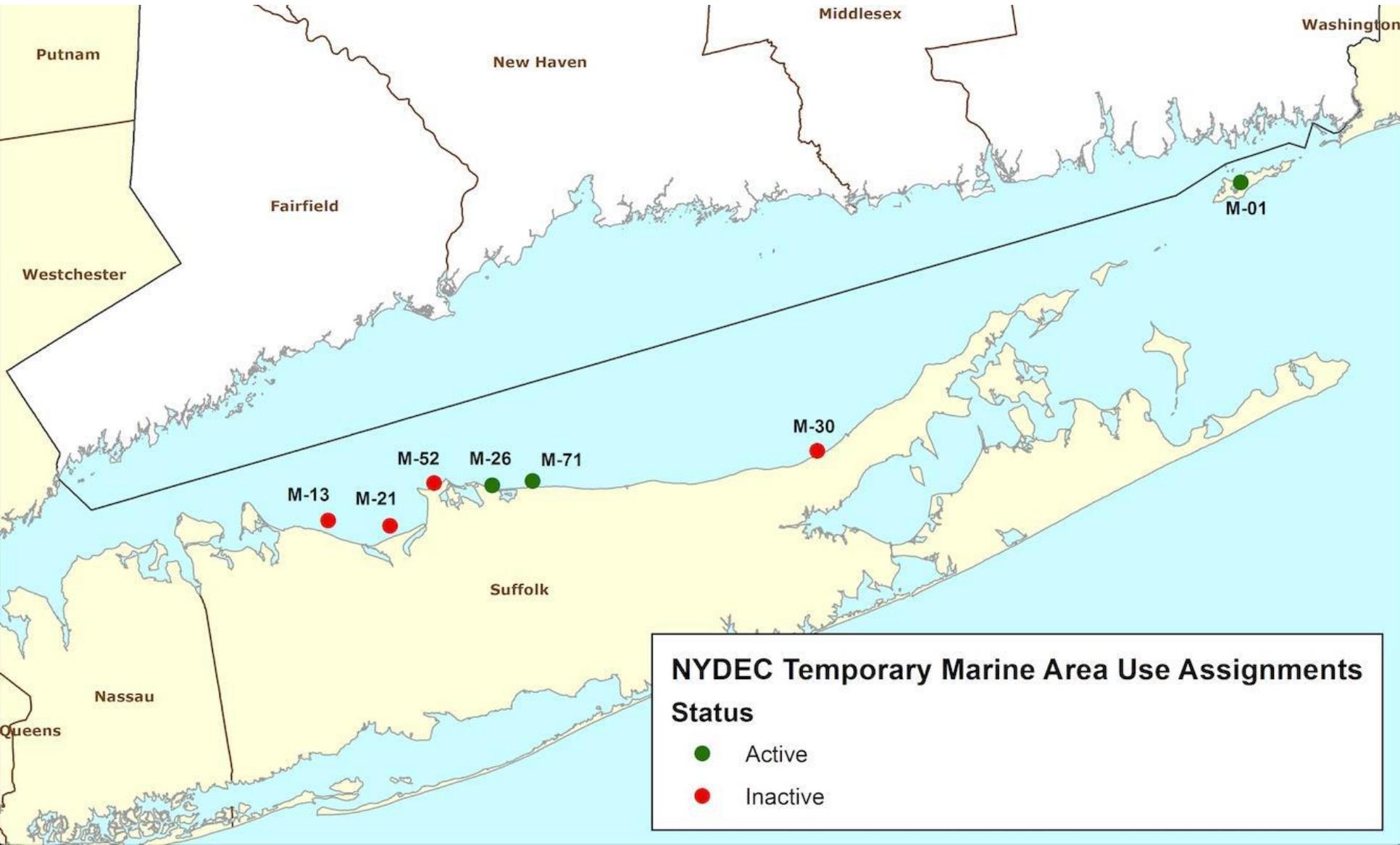
# Inventory format

- Short introduction
- Map products and narrative summarizing the information
- Assessment of data “quality”
  - Source and quality of data and meta-data
  - Accuracy, representativeness, and relevance (stakeholders and technical experts)
  - Data gaps, availability of data/datasets
- Relevance (non-spatial data)
  - Historical importance, socio-economic context
- Appendices
  - Individual map products supporting the summary map products
  - Notes on stakeholders engagement

# Aquaculture



# Aquaculture



## NYDEC Temporary Marine Area Use Assignments Status

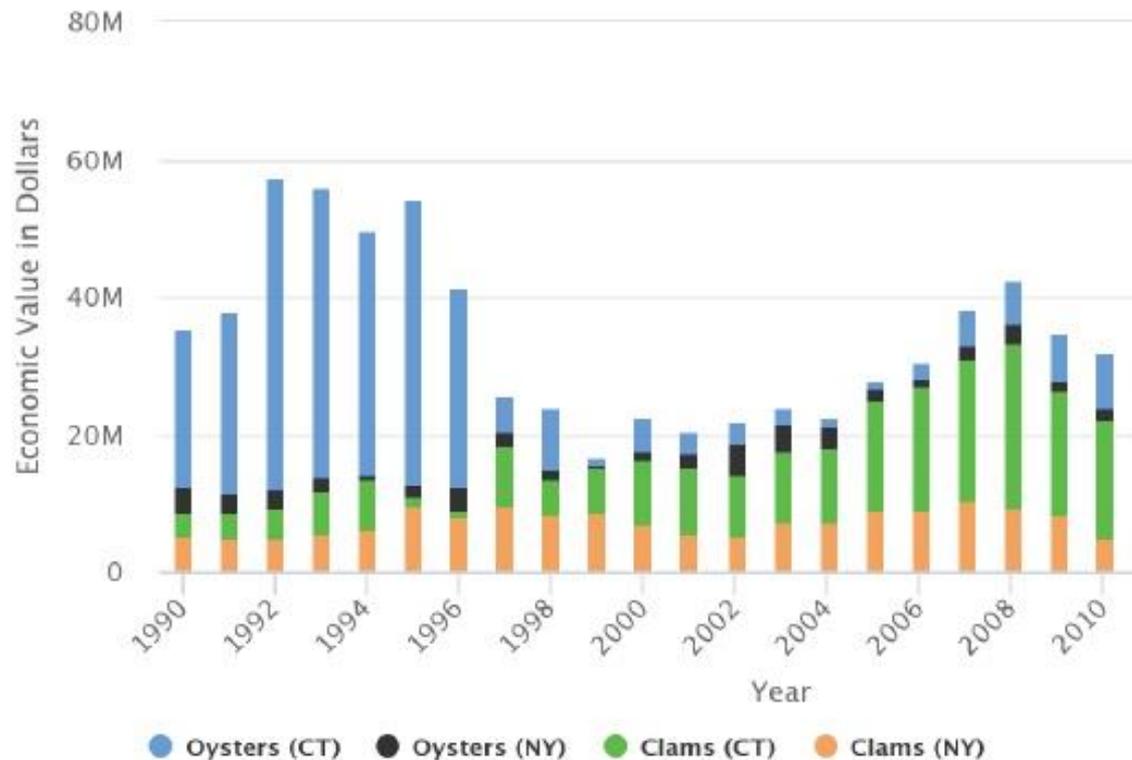
- Active
- Inactive

# Aquaculture

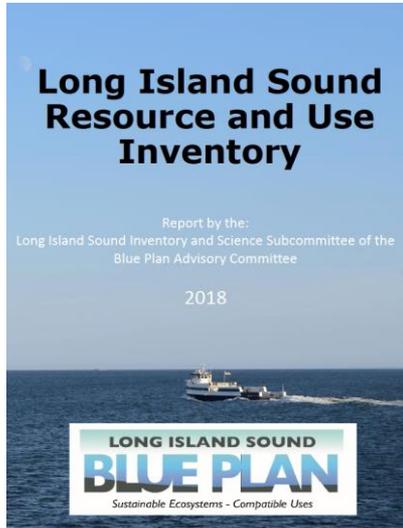
- Data from industry standards in the format the industry uses and is familiar with
  - accurate, representative, and relevant
- Data gap: Not similar availability of data in NY

# Aquaculture

- Historically and culturally important (pre-colonial)
- Economic:



# Review process



V 1.0

Blue Plan  
Advisory  
Committee



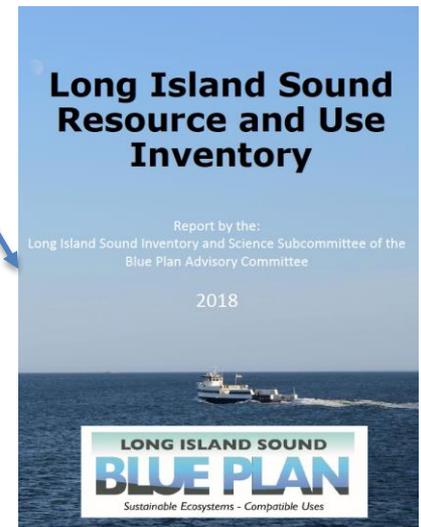
V 1.1

Informal  
public  
review



V 1.2

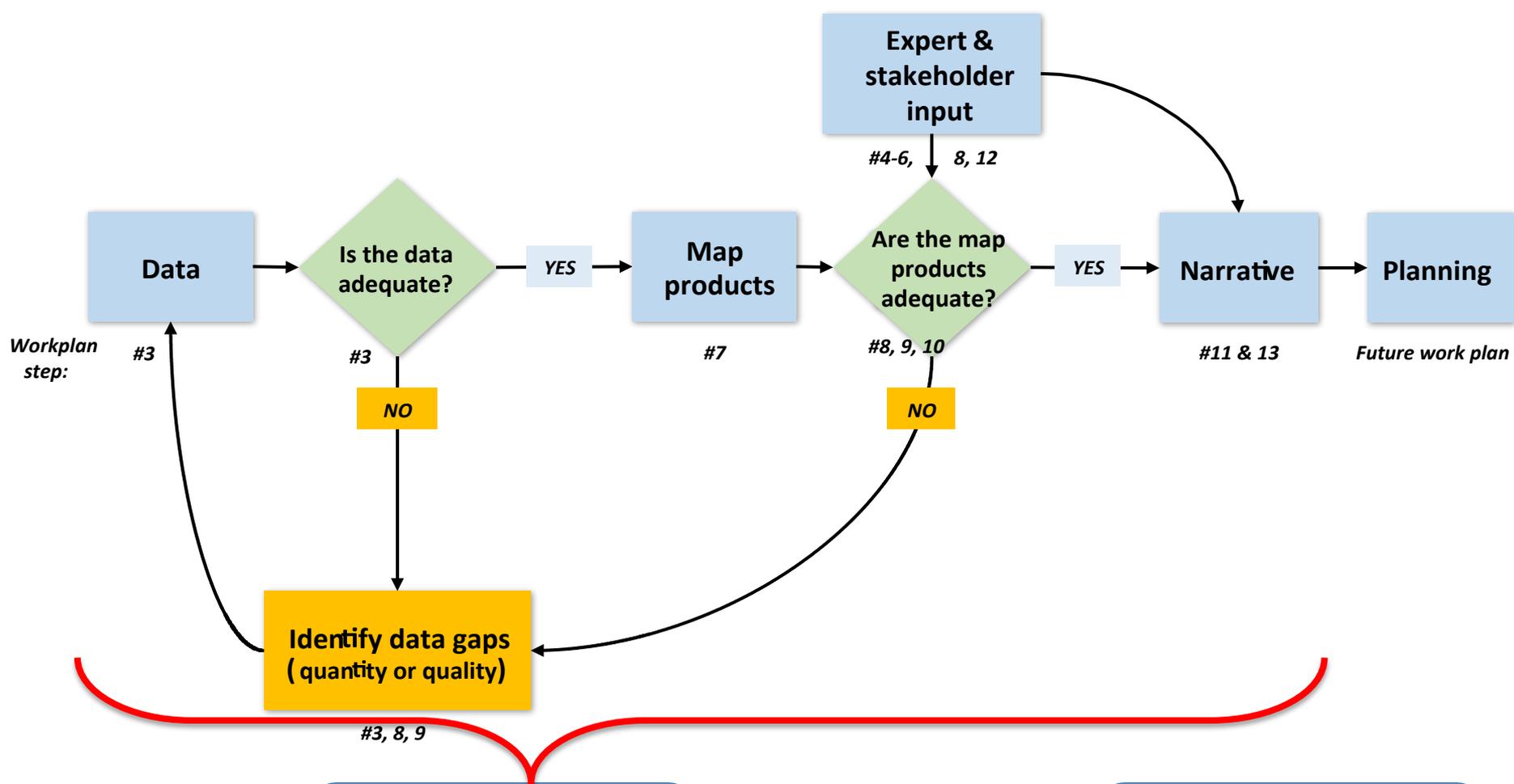
Public  
hearing



“Final”

# How many people were involved?

- 44 meetings or webinars
- 14 government entities
- 301 topical experts or relevant stakeholders
- 55 other interested parties
- 230 members of the public
- Summarized in 329 page Inventory



**Inventory**  
(geospatial data and narrative)

**Plan**  
(policy, social, economic considerations)

July 2015

December 2017-May 2018

March 2019

# We want to hear from you

- <http://www.ct.gov/deep/lisblueplan>
- Google: *Long Island Sound Blue Plan*

## Long Island Sound Blue Plan

Blue Plan Advisory  
Committee  
Agendas - Minutes

Comment on  
the Blue Plan

Blue Plan  
Frequently Asked  
Questions (FAQs)

Blue Plan  
Related Links

A **public hearing** to gather input on the **Long Island Sound Blue Plan Resource and Use Inventory** will be held at DEEP Marine Headquarters, 333 Ferry Road, Old Lyme on **May 8, 2018 from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm** in Conference Room Building 3, behind the main building.