

NOIA's Top 45 U.S. Offshore Milestones



- 1896:** First offshore rig built - *California*
- 1947:** First successful well drilled out of sight of land in Gulf of Mexico (GOM)
- 1953:** Outer Continental Shelf (OCS) Lands Act and Submerged Lands Act signed by President Eisenhower
- 1954:** First OCS lease sale held in GOM
- 1954:** World's first mobile jack-up drilling rig launched in GOM - *Rig 51, Transocean*
- 1957:** First U.S. gas flows ashore from GOM - *Shell*
- 1961:** First self-positioning drillship launched in GOM - *Eureka, Shell*
- 1962:** World's first semi-submersible drilling rig launched in GOM - *Bluewater, Shell*
- 1963:** First OCS lease sale held offshore California
- 1968:** First Pacific OCS production - *California*
- 1970's:** Offshore oil & gas industry begins using untethered Remotely Operated Vehicles (ROV)
- 1972:** NOIA formed
- 1974:** First subsea production system installed in GOM - *McDermott for Exxon*
- 1975:** First discovery in deepwater (1,000+ ft.) in GOM - *Cognac, Shell*
- 1976:** First Alaska lease sale held
- 1980:** First 5-year OCS oil and gas leasing program initiated
- 1986:** Rigs to Reefs Program established
- 1986:** Deepest well drilled to date in GOM (25,001 ft.) - *Apache*
- 1987:** First ultra-deepwater well (5,000+ ft.) drilled in GOM - *Mensa, Transocean for Shell*
- 1990's:** 3-D seismic imaging developed, increasing number of discoveries
- 1995:** The Deep Water Royalty Relief Act passes - *NOIA endorsed*
- 1996:** World's first ultradeepwater tie back (5,300) in GOM- *Mensa, Shell*
- 1996:** World's first spar production platform installed in GOM (1,851 ft. of water) - *Oryx Energy*
- 1998:** First drilling and production spar launched in GOM - *Genesis, Chevron*
- 2000:** The tallest freestanding structure in the GOM (2,000 ft. in 1,754 ft. of water) is installed in GOM - *Petronius, Texaco*
- 2001:** First Alaska OCS production - *North Star, BP*
- 2001:** Largest find to date in GOM - *Thunder Horse, BP & ExxonMobil*
- 2003:** First well in water deeper than 10,000 ft. in GOM (10,011 ft.) - *Transocean for Chevron Texaco*
- 2003:** Congressional exploration moratorium lifted for Bristol Bay, AK - *NOIA endorsed*
- 2005:** World's deepest Tension Leg Platform (4,674 ft) installed in GOM- *Magnolia, ConocoPhillips*
- 2006:** Gulf of Mexico Energy Security Act (GOMESA) signed into law, allowing for exploration in new areas of Gulf - *NOIA endorsed*
- 2006:** First renewable energy member joins NOIA - *Cape Wind*
- 2007:** World's deepest Semi-Floating Production Unit (7,918 ft) begins production in GOM - *Independence Hub, Anadarko*
- 2008:** Executive & Congressional exploration moratoria lifted for OCS - *NOIA endorsed*
- 2010:** Davy Jones Shallow Water (20 ft.) Ultra-Deep (28,000+ ft.) discovery in GOM - *McMoran Exploration*
- 2010:** World's deepest spar production platform to date (8,000 ft.) begins production in GOM - *Perdido, Shell*
- 2010:** MWCC & Helix deepwater response and containment systems developed in GOM
- 2011:** U.S. government approves a plan to build Cape Wind offshore wind farm off Massachusetts
- 2012:** First production from a Floating Production Storage and Offloading (FPSO) unit in GOM - *Chinook-Cascade, Petrobras*
- 2013:** US and Mexico sign Transboundary Agreement - *NOIA endorsed*
- 2015:** More than 470 rigs used in Rigs to Reefs program
- 2016:** World's deepest offshore floating facility (9,500 ft) begins production in GOM- *Turitella, Shell*
- 2016:** Pemex awards first contract to a private firm - *BHP Billiton*
- 2016:** First US offshore wind farm goes online - *Block Island Wind Farm, Deepwater Wind*
- 2017:** President Trump signs the "Implementing an America-First Offshore Energy Strategy" Executive Order - *NOIA endorsed*