

## SEISMIC AIRGUN BLASTING IS DANGEROUS

### *Harmful to Marine Wildlife*

According to government estimates, proposed seismic airgun blasting in the Atlantic could injure and disturb dolphins and whales hundreds of thousands of times.

### *Widespread Opposition*

More than 260 East Coast municipalities, over 1,600 elected officials, every East Coast governor, and an alliance representing over 46,000 businesses and 500,000 fishing families all oppose seismic airgun blasting in the Atlantic Ocean.

### *First Step to Offshore Drilling*

After seismic airgun blasting, exploratory drilling is required to confirm the presence of oil and gas. The BP *Deepwater Horizon* rig that gushed over 200 million gallons of oil into the Gulf of Mexico was an exploratory well.

## #BlockTheBlast

Oceana is using every tool available to prevent seismic airgun blasting in the Atlantic Ocean.

[OCEANA.ORG/BLOCKTHEBLAST](http://OCEANA.ORG/BLOCKTHEBLAST)



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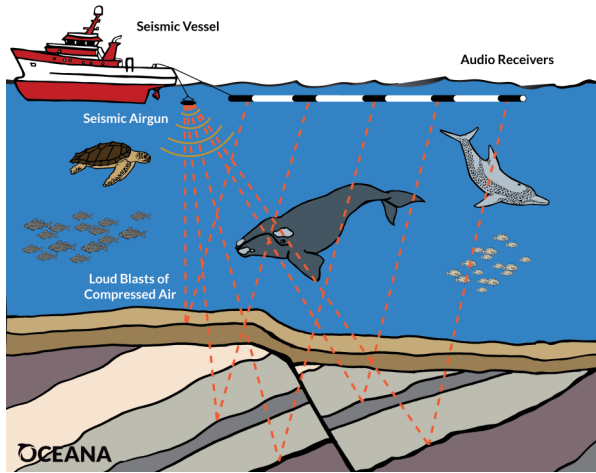
## SEISMIC AIRGUN BLASTING THE FACTS





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## WHAT IS SEISMIC AIRGUN BLASTING?

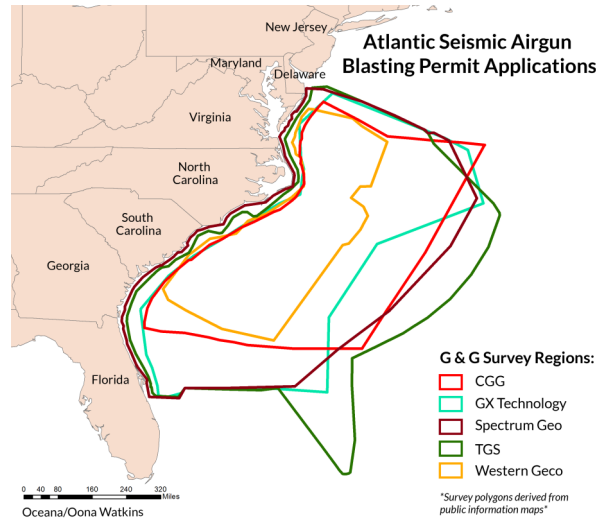


*Seismic airgun blasting is a dangerous and extremely loud process used to search for potential oil and gas deep below the seafloor.*

-  Blasts are repeated as often as every 10 seconds for days, weeks or months at a time.
-  Seismic airguns create one of the loudest manmade sounds in the ocean.
-  Noise from seismic surveys can be heard underwater nearly 2,500 miles from the source, approximately the distance of a flight from New York to Los Angeles.
-  Blasting in the Atlantic could occur for up to 850 combined days amounting to more than 5 million total blasts.

## WHERE IS IT BEING PROPOSED?

*Oil exploration companies are proposing seismic airgun blasting in an area twice the size of California, stretching from New Jersey to Florida, but its impacts could be felt along the entire East Coast.*






## THREAT TO COASTAL COMMUNITIES

*Tourism, recreation and fishing are major drivers of coastal economies.*

-  Offshore drilling activities along the Atlantic coast threaten over 1.5 million jobs and nearly \$108 billion in GDP.
-  These activities threaten the Atlantic coast for only seven months'-worth of oil and six months'-worth of gas.

## WHAT DO THE EXPERTS THINK?

*Noise from seismic airguns can disturb, injure or even kill ocean animals, from tiny zooplankton, the base of the food web, to large whales.*

-  The blast zone is home to important commercial and recreational fishing grounds.
-  The blast zone includes the only known calving ground for the critically endangered North Atlantic right whale.
-  Endangered and threatened sea turtles live in the region's waters and nest on its beaches.

### 75 marine scientists have issued a dire warning:

*"...the proposed seismic activity is likely to have significant, long-lasting, and widespread impacts on the reproduction and survival of fish and marine mammal populations in the region, including the critically endangered North Atlantic right whale...Opening the U.S. east coast to seismic airgun exploration poses an unacceptable risk of serious harm to marine life at the species and population levels..."*